THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

VOL. 68. No. 3,445. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1904. PRICE SIXPENCE

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"COUSIN KATE"	(S.),	Salisbury,	Oct. 6
"SATURDAY TO MONDAY"	(N.),	Edinburgh,	Oct. 3.
"SATURDAY TO MONDAY"	(S.),	Woking,	Oct. 3.
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"THE GIRL FROM KAY'S"	(S),	Darlington,	Oct. 3
"DUCHESS OF DANTZIC"	(S),	Ipswich,	Oct. 3.
"THE ORCHID"	(S),	Woolwich,	Oct. 3.
"A COUNTRY GIRL"	(N),	Cork,	Oct. 3.
"A COUNTRY GIRL"	(S),	Swansea,	Oct. 3
"A COUNTRY GIRL"	(M),	Paisley,	Oct. 3.
"A CHINESE HONEYMOON"	(N),	Sheffield,	Oct. 3
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"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Those who are interested in "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" will derive much valuable intelligence by reading Mr Albert Strong's book bearing the above title, published at "The Era" Office.—Pelican, Aug. 3d, 1901.

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MISS HILDA CLYDE (H.O.C.),
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MISS MARA COLLINGE,
Lead, Heavies, Comedy, Disengaged.
Wire, T. L. G., 18, Russell-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MISS ITALIA CONTI
at Liberty.
Address, care of Charles Fahey, Esq., Meads, Eastbourne.

MISS DORCAS CORSBIE.
Address,
care of "The Era."

MISS MILDRED COTTELL,
Heavy Lead and Comedy. Permanent address, 27, West-square, St. George's-road, S.E.; or, A.A.

MISS MAY CULL.
Address,
10, Marmora-road, Honor Oak, S.E.

MISS MARIE DAVENTRY,
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Castleford.
Permanent, 27, Witherington-road, Highbury, N.

MISS LENA DELPHINE
Disengaged Oct. 17.
Letters, 1, Kempson-road, Fulham.

MISS HILDA DENISON,
Mrs Seymour, "One of the Family."
Oct. 3, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

MISS ELLA DIXON
concluded Special Engagement, Iolanthe, "King René's Daughter." Thanks Mrs Mather. Dis. A.A.

MISS LYDIA DONOVAN,
Star Lead, in "Driven from Home."
Address, en route; or, A.A.

MISS ELSPETH DUDGEON,
Messrs Bright and Maxwell's Co., "Little Mary."
Oct. 3, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

MISS CORA DUNCAN,
Soubrette, at Liberty. Musical Comedy or Drama.
Also Pantomime, Principal Boy. Grand Theatre, Luton.

MISS EAST-ROBERTSON,
Starring, "A Woman's Pluck."
Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

MRS. WALTER EDWIN and Miss EMILY EDWIN. Offers invited.
35, Aschurch-park-villas, Ravenscourt-park, W.

MISS CONSTANCE ELGIN
(Mrs Douglas Cecil). All communications, care of Mr Cecil, Theatre Royal, Smethwick, near Birmingham.

MISS M. E. ELLIS,
Released by Mr Norman V. Norman.
Address, A.A.

MISS BESSIE ELMA,
Engaged by Mr J. H. Clyndes to create Leading Part, "A Royal Revenge." A.A.

MISS DAISY ENGLAND,
Comedy or Drama, Disengaged.
73, Lower Richmond-road, Putney.

MISS ALMA EVELYNE, Madame Jan, in "The Fisher Girl" (Dramatic Soprano). Offers for Panto. This week, Broadway Theatre, Deptford. A.A.

MISS GUSSIE EVERITT
(Mrs H. C), Heavy Lead, "Why Woman Sins."
Address, T. R., Birkenhead; next, Burton-on-Trent.

MISS SYDNEY FAIRBROTHER,
Miss Lena Ashwell's Company.
Oct. 3, Court Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS AMY FANCHETTE
Disengaged. Old Women, Comedy and Character Parts. Address, 12, Danby-street, Peckham, S.E.

MISS BERNICE FEILDING
at Liberty now. Lead, Heavy Lead. Address, J. P. Dryden, To-day, Q, Leeds; next, T. R., Scarborough.

MISS DORA FELLOWES
Disengaged. Address, care of Mrs Carter, Broomhaugh House, Riding Mill-on-Tyne.

MISS BARBARA FENN (Mrs. Kenyon Musgrave), Disengaged, Lead or Heavy Lead.
Address, Ballast Quay, Wivenhoe, near Colchester.

MISS MARIE FLORENCE,
Marie De Brisson, "The Face at the Window" Company. Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

MISS VERA FORDYCE,
Address,
26, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MISS CRISSIE FRANCESS.
Permanent Address,
Muddledom, 20, Caroline-place, Bayswater, London, W.

MISS KATE FROUDE.
Engaged by H. Eglington, Esq. Heavy Lead,
"When the Lights are Low." Theatre Royal, Windsor.

MISS MARY FULTON,
Lead, "Sin of Her Childhood" Company,
Oct. 3, New Theatre, King's Lynn.

MRS. WILLIAM GIFFARD.
Address, for letters only,
55, Stockwell-park-road, S.W.

MISS INA GOLDSMITH,
Mr Nat Goodwin' Company.
Care of Low's Exchange, 1,123, Broadway, New York.

MISS LOUISA GOURLAY.
Address,
care of "The Era" Office.

MISS LOUISE GRAEME,
Mr F. R. Benson's Autumn Tour.
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MISS DORA GRAY
carried everything before her.—The Era. Title-rôle, "Jane." Oct. 3, Worthing; Oct. 6, Maidstone.

MISS MURIEL GRAY, on Tour. At Lib.
Spring, Soprano Parts, Musical Comedy. Town or Good Tour. Letters, 9, Girdler's-road, Brook-green, W.

MISS MARY GRIFFITHS
(Mrs Arthur Lyle) as Mrs Bannerman, "The Money-Makers." Stoke Newington.

MISS HALLING.
Address,
1, Cromartie-road, Crouch-end, London, N.

MISS LOUISE HAMPTON
(Mrs Edward Thane).
Lead, New King's Theatre, Hoxton, N.

MISS CLAIRE HARFORD.
10, King-street,
W.C.

MRS. S. HAY, Madame Deprets, "Proof;" Madame Deschappelles, Penelope, "Garrick." Oct. 3, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

MISS ROSALIE HEATH,
Nisbe, in "A Night Off,"
Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.

MISS MILLIE HENDERSON,
Lyric Theatre,
Hammersmith.

MISS GWYNNE HERBERT.
Address,
10, Brunswick-square, W.C.

MISS LILLIAN HERRIES
Thanks Maurice Bandmann, Esq., Cecil Barth, Esq., &c., for offers. Liberty late Autumn. 5, Blake-rd., Fulham.

MISS HULO HODGSON,
Principal Comedienne in Messrs W. and F. Melville's Stock Season at Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe.

MISS DORA HOLE
at Liberty owing to the sudden abandonment of Tour. 62, Longridge-road, Earl's-court.

MISS BEATRICE HOMER,
Starring with Mr Walter Melville's "A Girl's Cross Roads" Co. Address, Prince's Theatre, Accrington

MISS NELLY HOWITT
(Mrs. W. Ruddle Brown) Disengaged Oct. 8.
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, S.W.

MISS EMILY HUGHES,
Original Part, The Mother Superior, Fredk. Melville's "Her Forbidden Marriage" Co. T. R., Leicester.

MISS MARIETTE HYDE,
Messrs John Atkin and Walter Howe's Company.
Grand, West Hartlepool.

MISS AGNES IMLAY
Disengaged. Leading Business.
10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MISS HELEN INGELOW,
Heavy Lead, "Her Fatal Past."
Letters, 49, Hyde-Vale, Blackheath, S.E.

MISS ALICE INMAN
Disengaged for Lead.
22, Marshfield-street, Bradford, Yorks.

MISS ISABEL INNES.
Care of Mr John Humphries,
Theatre Royal, Harrogate.

MISS CLARA JECKS.
Address,
care of "The Era" Office; or, A.A.

MISS ISA JOHNSON
Disengaged.
A.A., 10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MISS RHODA KILDARE
at Liberty for Town or good Tour.
Address, 4, Bloomsbury-square, W.C.

MISS WINIFRED LEESON
as Lavinia, in "Trumpet Call,"
Grand, Islington, Oct. 3.

MRS. HENRY LEIGH.
Change of Address,
2, The Woodlands, Langton-road, Vassall-road, S.E.

MISS STELLA LEIGH
Disengaged, Lead in Comedy or Drama.
5, Upper Westbourne-terrace, W.

MISS MINNIE LESLIE Disengaged now and Pantomime. Offers invited. Louie Freear Parts, Boys, &c. Devonport Fold, Harwood, near Bolton.

MISS ADELINE LESTER, Mr. Percy Hutchison's Co., Lady Diana Porchester, "Saturday to Monday," Woking and Sittingbourne.

MISS GRACE LESTER,
Starring as Nell Gwynne and Jane Shore.
Address, Royalty Theatre, Chester, until Oct 8.

MISS HENRIETTA LEVERETT,
Miss Denbigh, in "The Bugle Call." Messrs Bright and Maxwell's "Little Mary" Co. En route, or, A.A.

MISS EMILY LEVETTEZ,
"A Country Mouse" Company.
Oct. 3, Metropole Theatre, Birkenhead.

MISS MIRIAM LEWES,
Miss Fortescue's Company,
Lincoln and Leamington (Three Nights each)

MISS KITTY LOFTING,
with Leonard Rayne, Esq., South Africa.
Address letters, Actors' Association.

MISS VIOLET LUDDINGTON,
Juvenile Lead, "A Path of Thorns" Company.
Oct. 3, Royal Court Theatre, Warrington.

MISS MAUD M. MAGRATH,
Engaged by Mr Leon M. Lion,
Mrs De Trafford in "The Edge of the Storm."

MISS MABEL MAINWARING,
Princess Pitti-Pat (Lead), "A Chinese Idyl."
Oct. 3, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

MISS BESSIE MAJOR
at Liberty.
Address, 2, St. Mary's-square, Paddington, W.; or, A.A.

MISS GLADYS MAKEHAM
Concluded Third Engagement with Arthur Bourchier, Esq. 330, New-cross-road, S.E.

MISS MARA MALTBY
at Liberty.
10, King-street, W.C.

MISS ALICE MANSFIELD.
Address,
18, Munster-road, Fulham, S.W.

MISS EVELYN MARRABLE,
Juvenile Lead,
"That Woman from France," en route.

MISS BEATRICE MARSDENE Concludes
Special Weeks as Sweet Lavender, Esther, "Caste."
At Liberty for Ingénues, Juveniles, &c. Address, A.A.

MISS BEATRICE MAY,
Star Lead, "In a Woman's Grip,"
Oct. 3, New Century Theatre, Motherwell.

MISS LIZZIE MAYNARD
Teaches every Description of Stage Dancing.
Flat 2, Oxford-house, 87, Great Titchfield-street, W.

MISS CONNIE MEADOWS
Disengaged. Soubrette (Sing and Dance) Ingénues.
110, Cecil-street, Greenheys, Manchester.

MISS BERYL MERCER,
Miss Lena Ashwell's Company. On Tour.
Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS BEATRICE MERVYN,
Special Fortnight, "Jim the Penman," "School for Scandal," West Pier, Brighton, Oct. 3.

MISS SASH MILLWARD
at Liberty for Amateur or Special Engagements.
126, Nicholas-street, Norwich.

MISS LOUISE MOODIE,
Returned from America, Disengaged. Address, letters only, 68, Weltje-road, Ravenscourt-park, W.

MISS HELEN MOSLEY,
Juvenile Lead, Disengaged.
6, Monkton-street, Kennington-road, London.

MISS DAISY MURCH, Edward Terry's Company, Emotional Lead, Marion Burnside, &c., T. R., Bury. Vacant Dec. 12. Agent, Blackmore.

MISS TESSA MYERS
Disengaged. Ingénues, Light Comedy.
Demesne-road, Alexandra-park, Manchester.

MISS FLORENCE NELSON
(Mrs J. A. Atkin), Lead, Heavies, Comedy,
Disengaged. 73, Munster-road, Fulham, S.W.; or, A.A.

MISS GERTRUDE NETTERVILLE,
Messrs Harrison and Maude's Company,
New Theatre, W.C.

MISS MARIE NEWELL.
Letters,
132, Savage-gardens, New Beckton, North Woolwich.

MISS CLARA NICHOLLS,
Mrs Callender, "The Christian."
Oct. 3, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

MISS LILLA NORDON,
Kitty Spencer, "One of the Best."
Oct. 3, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

MISS BLANCHE NORMAN
Disengaged until December. Principal, Chorus.
Address, 4, Burleigh-mansions, Charing-cross, W.C.

MISS BERTHA NORTHAM,
Louise Davenport, in "An Actor's Romance."
Oct. 3, Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth.

MISS YVONNE ORCHARDSON, Beatrice, "A Fool's Paradise," Hyacinth, "The Tyranny of Tears," &c. This, Morecambe; next, Llandudno.

MISS KATE OSBORNE,
Concluding Third Tour with "Whitewashing Julia" Co. Dis., Oct. 5. 17, Osborne-ter., Clapham-rd., S.W.

MISS HELEN PALGRAVE
Address,
37, St. Stephen's-mansions, Westminster.

MISS ADA PALMER,
Agatha Pearce (Original Part), "A Modern Judas."
78, Merton-road, Wimbledon; or, Royal, Croydon.

MISS MARGARET PARKER,
Smudgee, in "The Never-Never Land."
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Ashton.

MISS EMILY PATTERSON,
Touring South Africa. Returning early Spring.
Address, care of "The Era" Office.

MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT
Disengaged.
Address, 239, King's-road, Chelsea.

MISS LOUISA PEACH,
Lead, "Harvest of Sin."
Oct 3, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

MISS MOLLY PEARSON.
Season at Royalty Terminated.
Address, Chertsey, Surrey.

MISS IDA PHILLIPS,
Lyric, Hammersmith.
Permanent address, 1, Tavistock-square, W.C.

MISS ADELINE RABY,
Grace Curtis, "A London Fireman" Company.
En route; or, 96, Hereford-road, W., London.

MISS LYDIA RACHEL
Disengaged. Comedy or Character.
14, Courtney-gardens, Wimbledon-park, S.W.

MISS ROSE RALPH
concluding Special Engagement with Mr Penrhyn Forster. At Liberty. T. R., Wednesbury, Staffs.

MISS "LITTLE" MAUDE RAY.
Toto, Mrs Lewis Waller's "Zaza" Co. Oct. 3, Queen's Theatre, Manchester. At Liberty for Christmas.

MISS ETHEL RAYNER Disengaged, now and Panto. Last Christmas, Girl Babe, Mr G. B. Phillips's Panto. 32, Rutland-gardens, Harringay, N.

MISS VARA RENNY,
Mr Edward Terry's Company.
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Bury.

MISS GRACE RICHARDSON
Disengaged.
Glentworth, Palmer's-green, N.

MISS MARIE RIGNOLD
Disengaged. Juvenile or Heavy Lead,
Permanent address, Blaxland House, Hornsey, N.

MISS CONSTANCE ROBERTSON,
Engaged by E. Harcourt Williams, Esq., for Beatrice, Rosalind, &c. Rosetti-mansions, Cheyne-walk, S.W.

MISS LILIAN ROSEBERY,
Lola Vane (Lead), "A Traitor Prince."
Oct. 3, Grand, Chorley.

MISS ETHEL RUSSELL,
Miss Smith, "Why Smith Left Home." Theatre Royal, Bedford, three nights; G. T., Luton, three nights.

MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL,
Maria, "Flood Tide" Company.
Theatre Royal, Preston; or, 14, Elgin-avenue, W.

MISS NESTA SANDFORD
Disengaged shortly, Lead or Heavies.
2, Erskine-road, Walthamstow.

MISS NELL M. SARGENT
Vacant Now and for Autumn. Juvenile, Comedy, Character, Drama. Golden-grove, Douglas-road, Cork.

MISS GERTRUDE SCOTT,
Leading and Heavy Leading Parts with Mr F. R. Benson. 3rd, New Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MISS LUCY SIBLEY,
Donna Lucia, Mr W. S. Penley's "Charley's Aunt" Company. 7, Gainsborough-house, Lithos-road, N.W.

MISS FLORENCE SMITHERS,
989th Performance as Jane, "Dandy Doctor" Tour.
Tunbridge Wells. Pantomime, Prince's, Manchester.

MISS FLORENCE SMITHSON,
Prima Donna. Great success Nanoya,
"The Cingalee." Theatre Royal, Bradford.

MRS. HARRY STARR
(Miss Ethel Danbury), "Otto, the Outcast" Co.
Oct. 3, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

MISS BLANCHE STEELE,
W. H. Hallatt's "Two Little Sailor Boys" Co.
Theatre Royal, Castleford, Oct. 3, Six Nights.

MISS CONSTANCE STEPHENS,
Lavinia, "Why Smith Left Home."
Grand, Luton; County, Bedford.

MISS MARION STERLING,
Aristocratic Old Women. Disengaged.
53, West-square, St. George's-road, S.E.

MISS EDITH STEWART
Disengaged. Light Comedy, Juvenile Lead, &c.
Address, 26, Dancer-road, Fulham, S.W.

MISS GWEN STEWART, Dual-rôle, Lady Margaret Luttrell and Mistress Grey in Miss Faith's "No Cross No Crown" Co. Oct. 3, Worksop (Three.)

MISS EMMA STOCKLEY
Disengaged. Lead.
Coningsby House, Staines.

MISS MAUD E. STONER
Disengaged.
39, Hampton-place, Brighton.

MISS MARY STUART.
Address,
144, Alexandra-road, S. Hampstead, N.W., and A.A.

MISS JULIE TEMPLE
Disengaged, Lead, Character, or Comedy. Offers invited. 114, The Grove, Hammersmith, W.

MISS AGNES THOMAS
Disengaged. Town only or Special Week.
5, Great James-street, Bedford-row, W.C.

MISS MURIEL THOMPSON,
Heavy Lead, "Judy" Company.
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.

MISS IVY ELLAINE THORNE,
Frank Lindo's "Home, Sweet Home."
Widnes.

MISS MARGUERITE THORNE,
Miss N. THORNE-HALLAM, "The Greatest Scoundrel Living" Company, Theatre Royal, Bristol, Oct. 3

MRS. JAMES F. THURLOW Disengaged.
Aristocratic or Comedy Old Woman. Drama, Musical Comedy, or Pantomime. 10, The Albany, Camberwell.

MISS MAUDE TREMAYNE.
Address,
Japonica House, Carlton, R.S.O., Yorks.

MISS MARION TURNER, as Henriette, Messrs Dottridge and Longden's "King of Crime" Company. Next week, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

MISS ELLA VANE
Recovered from illness. Disengaged.
Fern Villa, Southbank-road, Southport.

MISS HILDA VAUGHAN.
Address,
Wyndham's Theatre, W.

MRS MARY VERE Disengaged. Comedy, Character, or Pathetic Old Woman. Address, 13, Bryan-street, Spennymoor, County Durham.

MISS ETHEL VERNE
Disengaged for Autumn.
19, Finfold-road, Streatham, S.W.

MISS LUCIE VERRIER
Disengaged.
14, Cicada-road, Wandsworth-common; or, A.A.

MISS MARION WAKEFORD,
Joan, in "Home, Sweet Home."
Address, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

MISS HELENA WALBRAN,
as Alice Cavanagh (Lead), "A Victim of Villainy."
Oct. 3, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, Six Nights.

MISS LAURA WALKER,
as Cigarette, "Under Two Flags"
Oct. 3, Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

MISS ANENA WALTON,
Can-Can, "The Traitor" Company.
King's, Nottingham.

MISS WARD,
Honor Symes, in "Her Fatal Past."
Address, New Theatre, Stanley.

MISS GERTRUDE WARDEN,
care of Messrs Burchell, Wilde, and Co., Solicitors Members'-mansions, Victoria-street, S.W.

MISS MARGARET WATSON
Disengaged Oct. 17, Leading Business.
Letters, 23, Netherton-grove, Chelsea, S.W.

MISS DAVIES WEBSTER Returned to Town. Disengaged for Town, for Good Tour, or for Special Performances. Care of "The Era."

MISS FRANCES WETHERALL
Disengaged.
6, Rectory-chambers, Church-street, Chelsea.

MISS ETHEL WEYBURN
Disengaged.
113, Southdean-gardens, Wimbledon-park-road, S.W.

MISS FRANCES WHITE Thanks Mr. Marriott for present Engagement. Specially Engaged by Mr Hill-Mitchelson for New Production.

MISS KATHLEEN WILLOUGHBY,
"Harvest of Sin" Company.
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

MISS GRACE WILSON.
At Liberty for Pantomime. Principal Girl only.
Care of Tom H. Taylor, Standard Theatre, E.

MISS OLIVE WILTON,
Mr Edward Terry's Tour.
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Bury.

MISS AMY WOOD and LITTLE AMY MANFREE, Tabitha and Cissy Denver, "The Silver King" Company. Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

MRS. CHAS. WOOD,
Biddy Maloney, Mr J. F. Elliston's "Alone in London" Company, Ramsgate. Oct. 3, Cambridge.

MISS MAY WYNIARD,
Menzies and Wyniard's "A Rogue's Daughter" Co
Oct. 3, Ebbw Vale, Three; Abertillery, Three.

MR. and MRS. FRED ACTON, also Miss WINNIE ACTON, "A Fight for Millions" Company. Theatre Royal, North Shields.

MR. HARRY AGAR-LYONS,
De Coucou, "Grip of Iron" Company,
Queen's Theatre, Dublin, Six Nights.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED,
Tigellinus, Mr W. Greet's Company.
Oct. 3, Opera House, Perth.

MR. S. KING ALEXANDER
invites offers for Colonies or America.
New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

MR. DALLAS ANDERSON,
Letters Forwarded,
17, Granville-square, W.C.

MR. EDWARD E. ASHLEY,
Juvenile Lead, "A Woman's Pluck" Tour.
Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Six Nights.

MR. WILLIE ATOM, Small Comedian, 4ft. 4in., no Deformities, Comedy Boy Parts Specialty. Sing and Dance. Coms. to 26, St. George's-road, Brighton.

MR. ALBAN ATWOOD,
Light or Eccentric Comedy.
3, Parsifal-road, Hampstead, N.W.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE,
Horace Parker, 'A Message from Mars," Starkey's Co. At Liberty in March. Yvanhoe, Brixham, S. Devon.

MR. FRANK AYRTON,
"In a Woman's Grip." Miss MADGE SEYMOUR. Offers invited. New Century, Motherwell.

MR. MAURICE E. BANDMANN,
Annual Tour of the World.
Addr ss, care of "The Era"

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY,
Manager of the Palace, Walthamstow.
Address, Parkside, The Drive, Walthamstow.

MR. HARRY BARFORD,
Oct. 17, Stock, Pavilion Theatre, E.
Address, Actors' Association.

MR. and MRS. H. H. BARRINGTON
(Miss Florence Lovell),
Standard Theatre, E.

MR. J. J. BARTLETT
Disengaged. Town or Good Tour.
Address, 12, Angel-road, Hammersmith.

MR. A. W. BASKCOMB,
as Terence Reilly and Lord Plumleigh, in "Little Mary." Oct. 3, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR BAWTREE,
General Ivanoff, "The Broken Melody."
Oct. 3, Opera House, Kidderminster.

MR. and MRS. RONALD BAYNE,
Leading Business,
Eighteenth Month, "Priest of the Temple."

MR. LESLIE BEAUFORT Disengaged.
Lead or Heavies To-day, T. R., West Stanley.
Next, 12, Brookfield-avenue, Roundhay-road, Leeds.

MR. CHARLES B. BEDELLS,
Lead Robert Ure, "The Christian."
Prince's Theatre, Bradford, Six Nights.

MR HOWARD BEDFORD,
Celebrated Tenor Vocalist. 12, Oddfellow-street, Blackpool. South Yorkshire preferred.

MR. HENRY BELDING,
Mr James Welch's Company, "The New Clown,"
Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Oct. 3.

MR. IVAN BERLYN,
"Madame Sherry" Tour.
Theatre Royal, Newcastle.

MR ARTHUR BOLTON, Re-engaged by
Messrs Hart and Armitage, Tom Hewley, "The Never-Never Land," Oct. 3, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. J. H. BOOTH,
Jim Price, in "A Path of Thorns,"
Address, en route.

MR CHARLES BOULT,
Captain Harold Montrevor, "When Darkness Falls" W. Bourne, Esq.'s, Co. 20, Great Eastern-rd., Stratford, E.

MR. EDWARD H. BOWEN, Completing
Special Fortnight with Leonard Pagden, Esq. At Liberty Oct. 3 for Juveniles and Light Comedy. A.A.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN,
"Old Heidelberg." Disengaged November.
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

MR. and MRS T. B. BRABAZON,
Hop-picker and Mrs Buzzard, "In the Ranks."
Prospect House, Park View-road, Bradford.

MR. RICHARD BRENNAND
Disengaged.
Address, 11, Windmill-street, W.; or, Agents.

MR. E OSWALD BROOKS,
on Tour with own Co., "The New Housemaid,"
Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

MR. and MRS. W. RUDDLE BROWN
(Miss Nelly Howitt) at Liberty.
10, Clarendon-gardens, Maida-vale, W.

MR. T. BROWN-ELLIOTT, Character,
Old Men, Acting or Stage-Management. Dis. Offers invited. Address, 23, Eglinton-s'., North, Sunderland.

MR. WILLIAM BURCHILL
on Tour with Miss Olga Nethersole. Oct. 3, Prince of Wales's, Kennington. Address, 118, Pall-mall, S.W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. BURDETT,
Own Tour with "The Indian Mutiny."
Oct. 3, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

MR. ARTHUR BURNE
Disengaged.
Address, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham-junction.

MR. HENRY BUTE,
Jenhcot and Stage-Manager, in "A Country Mouse," Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

MR. JOHN CABOURN
at Liberty.
1, Lancaster-road, Hampstead, N.W.

MR. VERNON WILLOX CADOGAN
Disengaged Oct. 6, Termination of "Whitewashing Julia" Tour. 99, Albert-bridge-road, S.W.

MR. DENIS CAMPBELL, Irish Comedy
and Character, Dis. Oct. 15. Offers forwarded. Shakespeare T., Clapham, London, Oct. 3, Six Nights.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE.
H. C., Mr Willard's Tour. Mrs Cane at Liberty.
Town or Suburbs. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.

MR. and MRS. G. CANNINGE.
Address,
124, Whittington-road, Bowes-park, N.

MR. LESLIE CARTER,
as Jim Larrabee, "Sherlock Holmes."
Oct 3, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. DOUGLAS CECIL,
Captain Darville, "Two Little Vagabonds."
Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

MR. GORDON CHASEMORE,
Costume Designer,
Foy Boat Hotel, Ramsgate.

MR. ARTHUR CHESNEY,
now Playing Mr Bourchier's Part in "The Conversion of Nat Sturge," Garrick Theatre.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE CHILD
(Frances Bruce) Disengaged. Aristocratic or Comedy Old Men, Juveniles or Heavies. 1, Milton-rd., Hanwell, W.

MR. J. H. CLYNDES,
"A Royal Revenge."
Theatre Royal, Ton-y-pandy.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS,
as Jack Felton (Lead). "The Worst Woman in London." Letters, care of "The Era."

MR. JOHN R. COLLINS,
Messrs Coventry and Collins's "Thoroughbred" Company. Address, The Sheaves, Surbiton.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON,
as George Mainwaring, in "The Harvest of Sin,"
Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON, Principal
Comedy, Disengaged Christmas. William Tipton, in "Jane." Oct. 3 Worthing, Three; Maidstone, Three.

MR. MARTIN COMSTOCK
now Disengaged, Management or Advance
The Abercromby, Bootle-street, Manchester.

MR. T. E. CONOVER,
Principal Comedian. Disengaged Oct. 10. C. o. Penrhyn Forster, Esq., 11, Buckingham-st., Strand, W.C.

MR. TOM W. CONWAY
at Liberty for Pantomime, Dame. Two Years T. R., Manchester. 9, Elm-park-road, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. BERNARD COPPING, Lead;
Miss ISA BELLINGTON, Lead and Comedy.
Address, Century Theatre, Motherwell, N.B.

MR. J. W. CORDINER,
Oct. 3,
Theatre Royal, Eastbourne.

MR L. CORY-THOMAS,
as Hawkshaw and Jacques.
Oct 3, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

MR. EDWARD A. COVENTRY,
Messrs Coventry and Collins's "Thoroughbred" Co En route.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE,
Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, Oct. 3.
Disengaged end of November. Offers Invited.

MR. REGINALD CROFT,
Engaged by Norman V. Norman, Esq., Autumn Tour.
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

MR. JULIAN CROSS,
Standard Theatre. Disengaged December.
Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
Disengaged.
108, Alderney-street, Warwick-square, S.W.

MR. ROBERT J. DANSON,
Captain Larolle, "Under the Red Robe." Relinquishing Engagement with N. V. Norman. Crouch End.

MR. COLEMAN DAVIES Dis. Panto.
Last Xmas, Baron, Princess's, Glasgow. Great success. 1, Seagrave-street, Newcastle, Staffs.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE,
Mr St. Alban's "Les Cloches." Londesborough, Scarborough. Disengaged Christmas.

MR. DAVID DENARD,
Halton, "Are You a Mason?"
Letters, care of Actors' Association.

MR. FRANK H. DENTON.
Address,
Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. J. O. DEPONE,
Character, Comedy, and S.-M. Disengaged now and for Pantomime. 75, Lodge-lane, Liverpool.

MR. CLARENCE DERWENT, F.R.
Benson's Principal Co. Feste, Horatio, Duncan, Oliver, Hastings, Tranio, Backbite. T. R., Middlesbrough.

MR. GEORGE DESMOND,
Returned from Australia. Disengaged.
Glenholme, Mansfield-road, Ilford.

MR. JOHN W. DEVERELL
Disengaged.
23, Clarence-gate-gardens, Regent's-park, N.W.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and
MARY AINSLIE. All Arrangements complete Communications, 2, St. George's-square, Regent's-park, N.W.

MR. STANLEY DREWITT
at Liberty.
Address, 8, Burnfoot-avenue, Fulham, London, S.W.

MR. LOUIS DUDLEY,
Character, Comedy, and Juvenile,
Disengaged. Care of "The Era."

MR. and MRS. JOHN DUNBAR
(Miss Madge Willis),
Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Business Manager, Mr George Dance's
"The Orchid" Company. Address, en route.

MR. J. MALCOM DUNN.
Address, care of George Musgrove, Esq.
Princess's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. T. W. DUNSCOMBE,
Paul Gouffet, "The Face at the Window."
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

MR. FELIX EDWARDES,
Engaged to support Mr Nat Goodwin. Letters, care of Low's Exchange, 1,123, Broadway, New York City.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST C. EDWARDS
(Miss Bella Power), Comedy Old Men, Women, Character. At Liberty Christmas. T. R., South Shields.

MR. WILL ELLYTHORNE,
Spriggins, "Alone in London." Disengaged Nov. 28.
Address, 673, George-street, Aberdeen.

MR. JAMES ENGLISH, Character Lead,
"At Break of Day" Co. Vacant Oct 10. On. Character, Pathetic, or Comedy Old Men. T. R., Wednesbury.

MR. ARTHUR FAYNE, Polonius,
Capulet, Aguecheek, Adam, Gremio, Crabtree, Shallow, &c., Mr F. R. Benson's North Shakespearian Co.

MR. EDWARD FENTON,
Autumn with Mr Alderton,
"A Soldier and a Man." A.A.

MR. RICHARD FIELDING,
in "The Chevaleer."
Garrick Theatre, W.C.

MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD,
Captain Stent, "The Edge of the Storm,"
Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MR. HUGH FLEMING,
Advance Director (Seventh Year), G. Musgrove's "Belle of York" Company, T. R., Cardiff.

MR. WOLSTON FOSTER,
Captain Darville, in "Two Little Vagabonds," No. 1 Company. This, Bristol; next, Llanelly.

MR. FRANK H. FRANCE
Disengaged.
Address, 39, Morval-road, Fffra-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. GEORGE FRANKLIN.
Address,
Grand Theatre, Derby.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE.
Address,
Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD FULTON
(Miss Gertrude Evans), Lazare, Madeleine and Adrienne, in "Procf." Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS,
as Captain Lebaudy,
"The Mariners of England" Co. T. R., Mansfield, Notts.

MR. W. V. GARROD,
the Spider, "The Silver King."
Theatre Royal, Darwen.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY
(Kitty Jones) Disengaged Oct 9. Joint or Single.
53, Spencer-street, Chesterfield.

MR. and MRS. CLARMONT GASKELL
(Maude Steward), Joseph Smudgley and Waif, "City of Millions" Co. Osborne, Manchester.

MR. JOHN GERANT.
Address,
Junction Theatre, Manchester.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD, Playing
Prince Karr, Mr Tree's North Company, "The Darling of the Gods." Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MR. and MRS. LEWIS GILBERT
(Lina Nazeby), Star Lead and Heavy, "I Defy the World." Offers invited. Oct. 3, T. R., Coatbridge.

MR. FRANCIS GLYNN,
Tenor, The Close, Stratton St. Margaret, Near Swindon, Wiltshire. Telegrams, "Glynn, Stratton St. Margaret."

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
Lead, in "A Sailor's Sweetheart,"
Opera House, Coventry.

MR. PHILIP GORDON,
Stage-Manager and Principal Comedian, De Quincey Répertoire Company, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

MR. J. LYNWARD GRAHAME,
Szentes Istvan, "The Edge of the Storm."
Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MR. V. L. GRANVILLE,
Mr Tree's Company.
Address, His Majesty's Theatre, W.

MR. HERBERT GREVILLE,
"The New Clown."
Oct. 3, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

MR. HARRY A. GRIBBEN
Disengaged for Pantomime.
Oct. 3, Grand, Blackpool.

MR. LAURENCE GROVE,
Frank Fenton's "If I Were King" Company.
Oct. 3, Pier, Eastbourne; 6th, T. R., Worthing.

MR. EDMUND GWENN,
in Australia until October. Address, care of Arthur Chesney, 9, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

MR. CHARLES HALLING,
Colonel Jules Meuron, "Napoleon the Great."
Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

MR. ST. JOHN HAMUND
Kindly Released from Panto. by J. F. Elliston, Esq Re engaged Christmas and Spring by George Dance, Esq.

MR. FRANK HARDING
Disengaged End of November.
33, Beaufort-street, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. W. HARGREAVES
as Cattermole, "Private Secretary," Farewell Tour. Disengaged 1905. Letters, en route; or, Agents.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
"A Country Mouse" Company.
Oct 3, Metropole Theatre, Birkenhead.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. HARRINGTON,
on Tour with own Company.
West London Theatre, W.

MR. JULIAN HARTLEIGH
Disengaged.
Address, 121, London-road, Croydon.

MR. FORRESTER HARVEY,
Ratty Gabbitt, in "A Path of Thorns."
To-day, Opera House, Northampton; Oct. 3, A.A.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY. Arrangements
complete. Thanks Mr G. Brydon Phillips for renewed offer for Panto. Freemasons' Club, Richmond.

MR. EDWARD HEANLEY
Disengaged Oct. 9.
Address, Actors' Association.

MR. and MRS. HENRY HERNE
(Miss Ida Millais),
Oct. 3, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

MR. DALZIEL HERON.
Address,
39, Harpenden-road, West Norwood, S.E.

MR. H. HESSLEGRAVE,
Gaffer; Mrs H., Nurse, "Two Little Vagabonds,"
Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

MR. HARRY HILLER
Disengaged.
Address, 13, Maude-terrace, Walthamstow.

MR. A. T. HILTON
Disengaged. Old Men, &c.
Address, 31, Crowdale-road, N.W.

MR. E. BASIL HOBSON,
Acting-Manager. "As Midnight Chimes,"
King's Theatre, Cardiff; Oct. 10, U. T., Boscombe.

MR. ALFRED H. HOOK,
Acting-Manager, Mr A. B. Cross's "Manxman" Tour. Oct. 3, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE, Eccentric and
Light Comedian, Disengaged in December. Good Offers, Musical Comedy, Panto. 5, Elders-st., Scarborough.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE HOWARD
(Miss Clara Earle), with Edward Terry, Esq.
Oct. 3, Opera House, Bury, Six Nights.

MR. WILSON HOWARD and MISS
CARLOTTA ANSON. Lead and St.-Man. and Heavy Lead. Christmas Offers invited. 1, Uncle-street, Paisley.

MR. CHARLES HOWITT,
Lord Culvert, "Saturday to Monday." Disengaged Christmas. 88, Brockley-road, New-cross.

MR. A. B. IMESON,
Offers Invited.
A.A., 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. R. SEATH INNES,
Character Comedy and Old Men, Osmond Tearle Company. Grand Theatre, Nelson, Lancs.

MR. FRED INWOOD,
Re-engaged by C. E. Hamilton, Esq., Dr. Watson, "Sherlock Holmes." Address, A.A.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner), Nathalie and Joly, Mrs Lewis Waller's "Zaza" Company. Oct. 3, Q. T., Manchester.

MR. GEORGE JAMES, Comedian,
playing Rum Ohmyo, in "The Belle of Bangalore."
Address, next week, Post-office, Salisbury.

MR. POWELL JAMES, Business-
Manager and Capt. Salem, Chas. A. Chandler's "Belle of Haslemere" Company. Next, Greenwich Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. E. JOHNSON,
Business-Manager and Lead,
"Heart of a Hero," Edmonton.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Orsino,
Horatio, Backbite, Oliver, Lorenzo, Faulkland, Benvolio, &c., Mr F. R. Benson's North Company.

MR. and MRS. S. MAJOR JONES,
with Mr Leonard Rayne's Company.
Opera House, Cape Town.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES,
Touring "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "The Girl of My Heart." Perm, 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. F. JOYNSEN-POWELL
Disengaged.
49, Waldemar-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MR. CHAS. M. JULIAN,
General Manager, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.
Directing "I Defy the World" Tour.

MR. WHITFORD KANE,
Jacky, in "Sunday" (North Company).
Address, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.

MR. KIT KEEN (the Coon),
Sept. 26, Haymarket, Liverpool; Oct. 3d, Hippodrome, St. Helens. Bawn's Agency.

MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
Charlmont, Western-parade, Southsea.

MR. HENRY KEMBLE,
General Manager, Palace Theatre, Cork, and Chester's Agency. Letters to Cork.

MR. C. B. KESTON,
Paul De Vigne, "Human Nature."
Oct. 3, Grand Theatre, Derby.

MR. CLAUDE KING,
Leading Business, "A Path of Thorns" Company.
Oct. 3, Royal Court Theatre, Warrington.

MR. and MRS ARTHUR KNIGHT
(Miss Edith Knight)
King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

MR. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
Starring as Jules Delarney, "A Disgrace to Her Sex" Company. Address, Theatre Royal, Lowestoft.

MR. PHILIP F. KNOX
Disengaged for London only.
19, Southfield-gardens, Strawberry-hill, S.W.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.
Address,
10, King-street, London, W.C.

MR. FRANK LACY,
Captain Fitz, in "The Money Makers."
Oct. 3, Alexandra, Stoke Newington.

MR JAMES R. LA FANE, Manager
and Stage Director, Mr Moulilot's "Geisha" and "Greek Slave" Company. His Majesty's O. H., Blackpool.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY
(Jessie Price) Disengaged shortly. C. L., Elephant and Castle Theatre, 180, New Kent-road, S.E.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD LEROY (Miss
Edith Mumford), Heavy Lead, Business-Management, and Juvenile Lead, "Klondyke Nugget." En route.

MR. LEONARD LESLIE
Musical Director, "My Lady Molly" Co (South).
Next Week, Camden Theatre.

MR. ALFRED LESTER
Sam Hallett, Hardie and Von Leer's "A Path of Thorns" Co. Panto. settled. Next, Court, Warrington.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING, Baron
Bonelli and Stage-Manager, in "The Eternal City" on Tour. Oct. 3, T. R., Merthyr Tidvil, One Week.

MR. HAROLD B. LEWIS,
the Hunchback, in "A Royal Revenge,"
Oct. 3, Ton-y-Pandy.

MR. BERNARD LIMPUS,
Juvenile Lead, Mr F. R. Benson's North Company,
Oct. 3, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

MR. ARDENE LINDEN,
Oct. 3, New Theatre, Ashington, Northumberland.
Oct 10, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

MR. GEORGE W. LINDSAY,
Manager, "My Lady Molly" Company,
Grand Theatre, Leeds.

MR. EDWIN LING and MISS NELLIE
LING. Offers invited Christmas. Char., Chambs. E. L., Rev. Toop, "Saturday to Monday." Fairholme, Esher.

MR. FRANK LISTER
Disengaged Pantomime. Standard Theatre; or,
15, Elmhurst-mansions, Vernon-road, Clapham, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON,
Rev. Arthur Graham and Acting-Manager,
"When Darkness Falls" 3d, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
New Theatre, W.C.
28, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. STUART LOMATH,
Lead, "The Fatal Wedding" (North Company).
Oct. 3, Opera House, Wakefield.

MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY,
as Lord Obeyne, in "Three Little Maids,"
Grand Theatre, Hull.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE,
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Company.
Address, en route; or, 41A, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. FREDERICK LOVD
(Miss Florence Oresgh), Heavy Lead and Lead, "Her One Great Sin" Co., Theatre Metropole, Hoyland.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW,
Touring "The London Fireman." Address, care of M. Auguste Van Biene, Theatre Royal, Kidderminster.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG.
Address,
Comedy Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY,
on Tour with own Co., "Wearin' o' the Green."
En route; or, Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM MACLAREN
(Miss Lily C. Bandmann), Touring own Company.
Oct. 3, Miners' Theatre, Ashington.

MR. H. F. MALTBY,
Lieut.-General Coventry, in "One of the Best."
Oct. 3, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER.
Address,
Theatre Royal, Preston.

MR. PERCY MARMONT,
Playing Jack Woodford, in "An Actor's Romance."
Oct. 3, Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth. A.A.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Carbury, "Lady of Ostend," &c.
Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.

MR. HERBERT MAULE,
on Tour with Mr Leonard Rayne's Company.
Address, Opera House, Cape Town, South Africa.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
Address,
Care of "The Era"

MR. C. J. M'CARTHY.
Offers invited for Touring or Resident Management.
Address, pro tem., Metropole, Birkenhead.

MR. LONNEN MEADOWS and MISS
ADA TILLEY, "Alone in London" Company.
New Theatre, Cambridge.

MR. GEORGE MILLER.
Address,
Theatre Royal, Leamington.

MR. and MRS. J. MILNE-TAYLOR,
"The Golden Ladder" Company,
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY,
MARIE HAROOURT, Napoleon and Marcel, in "Napoleon the Great," Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
Heavy Lead, "The Convict's Daughter" Co.
Disengaged December. Theatre Royal, Bolton.

MR. F. F. MORLAND,
Address,
11, Bernard-street, Russell-square, W.C.

MR. TOM MOWBRAY,
Messrs Edwardes and Frohman's "Are You a Mason?" Company. Oct. 3, Marlborough Theatre, N.

MR. QUINTON M'PHERSON,
Re-engaged by Mr Charles Frohman for Mr William Gillette's Season. Empire Theatre, New York.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST MUNRO
(Miss Marie Jones), E. M., Messrs Haddon and Loader's Company. Theatre Royal, Bristol.

MR. HENRY NELSON Disengaged
Autumn and Pantomime. Robust Character, Old Men, or Stage-Management. 79, Walcot-square, S.E.

MR. JOHN NESBITT
Disengaged.
62, Delancey-street, Gloucester-gate, N.W.

MR. GEORGE NORMAN-BURT,
"Under Two Flags."
Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
"Silver King" Company.
Theatre Royal, York.

MR. and MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
(Dorothy Carington),
Address, 113, Stamford-street, Blackfriars, S.E.

MR NORMAN A. OVERTON
Disengaged Oct. 17. Lead, Heavy Lead.
30, Harrington-road, Workington.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN,
Tide-o'e, "Jim the Penman."
West Pier, Brighton, Oct. 3.

MR. and MRS. ROBSON PAIGE
(Mabel Syringa), Character and Ingénue, Disengaged. Joint or Single. Address, 10, Ospringe-rd., N.W.

MR. DONALD PATERSON,
General Wilford, "Not Peace, but a Sword,"
Alexandra Hall, Ilfracombe.

MR. and MRS. E H. PATERSON
(Miss Adelaide Grace) Disengaged. Address,
Hillcrest, Southdean-gardens, Wimbledon-park, S.W.

MR. DOUGLAS PAYNE,
Playing Iou, Mr Tree's N. Co., "The Darling of the Gods." Oct 3, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE,
Adelphi Theatre.
Permanent address, 65, Radcliffe-road, South Kensington.

MR. F. PENNINGTON-GUSH
Resting.
21, West-hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

MR and MRS FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq), Address A. A.;
or, Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, Australia.

MR. and MRS. HAROLD PERRY
(Miss FLORENCE BRANDON), the "Boup La Girl" Company. Next week, Theatre Royal, Limerick.

MR. EDWARD S. PETLEY just Con-
cluded Tour (Lead), Fred Sinclair's Co. Lia., Heavies or Juveniles. 119, King Edward's-road, Birmingham.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY
(Miss Gertrude Price), Lead, "At Midnight Chimes" Company. Oct. 3, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP,
representing Miss Ada Reeve.
Perm nent Address, 37, Grosvenor-park, S.E.

MR. FELIX PITT,
Terriss Theatre, S E, Nightly.
Letters, 86, St. George's-road, S.E.

MR. DONALD PRICE-EVANS,
Spalding, "Private Secretary," P. O. W., Richmond.
Miss MARCELLA HUDSON (Mrs D. P.-E.) Disengaged.

MR. STANLEY PRINGLE.
Address,
13, Clanricarde-gardens, W.

MR. GUY RAMSDEN
Disengaged. Light Comedy, &c. Disengaged.
Communications, 32, Kelvedon-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. SIDNEY RENNEF
(Miss Lillian Warren), General Manager and Nellie Stubbs, "A Sister's Sin," Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

MR. PERCY RHODES,
on Tour with "A Modern Judas."
Permanent Address, 10, Elmstone-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. GWYN RICHARDSON
(Grace Harlington) at Liberty. Light Comedy, Character, Soubrettes, Boys. Mordington, Richmond, S.W.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON
Disengaged.
Address, 129, Lavender-sweep, Lavender-hill, S.W.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD,
Oct. 3,
Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD,
Ratty and Stage-Management, "A Path of Thorns."
Royal Court Theatre, Warrington.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON,
Starring Engagement, Stephen Merrick, "The Lightning's Flash." Theatre Royal, Tyldesley.

MR. DAN F. ROE,
Bellcose Betterton, "Nell Gwynne," &c.
Royalty Theatre, Chester.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS
Disengaged. General, Business, or Stage-Management. Her Majesty's Theatre, Carlisle.

MR. FREDERICK ROSS, Lead, Milton
Bode's "Tommy Atkins" Company. Disengaged December. Address, Oct. 3, Opera House, Dudley.

MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE
(Miss Mary Jocelyn),
on Tour with Own Company, "A Night Off."

MR. CHARLES E. SCUTT
concludes Four Years' Engagement with Henry Dundas, Esq. 72, Chestnut-grove, Balham, S.W.

MR. CHARLES SENNETT,
Emotional or Strong Character Part, Disengaged.
13, St Paul's-road, Camden-square, N.W.

MR. and MRS. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
(Miss Alice Arden).
Oct. 3, Opera House, Cheltenham.

MR. FRANK SHERLOCK,
Roberts, "The Lady Slavey."
Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall. Disengaged Christmas.

MR. GEORGE SHIRLEY
Disengaged. Acting Management.
65A, Long-acre, London, W.C.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Comedy and
Character, Disengaged Dec. 10. "Money Makers' Company, Alexandra T., Stoke Newington, London, N.

MR. E. W. SILVERTHORNE,
Business-Manager, Disengaged.
13, Rutland-gardens, Hove.

MR. JULIUS SIMPSON,
Manager,
Sadler's Wells Theatre, E.C.

MR. FRED SINCLAIR,
Barrasford Tour.
Grand Theatre, Manchester.

MR. JAMES SKEA, Character Actor,
Dis. now and Panto. Recovered from Indisposition. Address, c.o. Bennett, 1, North Claremont-st., Glasgow.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY,
General Manager for "San Toy."
Oct. 3d, Harrogate; 6th, Buxton.

MR. HARRY STARR,
Carl, Otto, Schwenk.
Oct. 3, Prince of Wales's, Salford.

MR. ATHOL STEWART Disengaged.
Address, 18, Essendine-road, Elgin-avenue, W.
Re-engaged for matinées of "Candida," Court Theatre.

MR. SYDNEY STIRLING
"A Country Mouse."
Metropole Theatre, Birkenhead.

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN
Mr Walter Groves' Company.
The Empire, New-cross.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (Tenth Year),
Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
General Manager, "The Fatal Wedding" (North) Company. Oct. 3, Opera House, Wakefield.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS
(and Miss KATE PARRY), Business-Manager, Milton Bode's "Tommy Atkins" Co. Opera House, Dudley.

MR. TAPPING,
Brighton Season, Oct. 3, Répertoire.
Letters, 28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR
Flamant and Stage-Management, Miss Olga Nethersole's "Sapho" Company. Dalston Theatre, London, N

MR. L. FRED TENAUR,
Moses Mendoza, "A London Actress" Co.
Oct. 3, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

MR PAUL E. TEULON,
Mgr and Business Manager, J. Stillwell's "Queen of the Night." Oct. 3, Pavilion, Edinburgh.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE
(Louise Hampton). Mr T. Disengaged. Heavy Lead. Town only. 9, Muston-road, Clapton, N.E.

MR. FOWLER THATCHER,
Gobo (2,000 times), "Les Cloches." Thanks for offers. Londesborough, Scarborough.

MR. E. W. THOMAS.
Address, Opera House, Cape Town;
or, A.A.

MR. CHARLES THORBURN,
General Manager, George Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Pavilion Theatre, E.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Alphonse, "Woman and Wine." Disengaged Christmas. Oct. 3, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. ALFRED C. TOONE,
Musical Director, Royal Victoria Pav., Ramsgate.
Permanent address, 21, St. Dunstan's-rd., W. Kensington.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Duke of St. Kitts, "A Country Mouse."
Disengaged Oct. 24. Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

MR. GEORGE F. TULLY,
Karl Heinrich, in "Old Heidelberg."
Disengaged in November. Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE
(Miss Kate Hallam), E. V. B., Bus.-Man., "Broken Melody" Co. K. H., Dis., Lead. O. H., Kidderminster

MR. and MRS. CHARLES B. VAUGHAN.
Mrs Vaughan, Miss Fortescue's Co. Mr Vaughan, "Sunday" (North) Company. P. O. W. T., Grimsby.

MR. ALBERT VERNON,
Musical Director, 'Kitty Grey."
Oct. 3, Court, Wigan.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
Napoleon, "A Royal Divorce."
Opera House, Leicester.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Miss Lucy Beaumont).
Next, New Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Six Nights.

MR. ARTHUR WALCOTT
Disengaged.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, W.C.

MR. EDWIN WALTON,
Sir Sidney Barraclough, "The Bank of England."
Oct. 3, New Theatre, Consett.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM,
Playing the Biggest Scamp on Earth,
Opera House, Dunfermline.

MR. ALBERT WARD,
Starring Lead with Frederick Melville, Esq.
Oct. 3, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE
Disengaged.
47, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

MR. WARDEN-REED,
Touring Own Duologue.
No Vacant Dates this Year.

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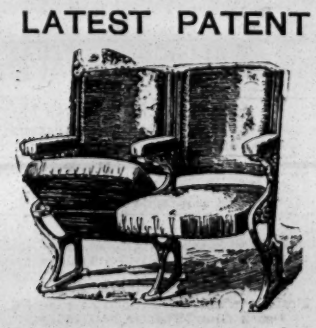

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, contains, as usual, many items and statistics of use and interest to all connected with the stage, and, in addition, a number of sketches and short stories by leading artistes, managers, and others. Among the contributors are J. L. Toole, Dan Leno, George R. Sims, George Robey, Huntley Wright, Harry Randall, Bransby Williams, A. W. Pinero, Louie Freear, Little Tich, George Mozart, and Douglas Crichton. The publication is cheap at a shilling.—Birmingham Daily Gazette, Jan. 16th, 1904

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual for the current year preserves all the features which have made it popular among actors and actresses in the past—short stories, some of them very good and some of them not so good, by well-known entertainers, countless photographs, and a list of plays produced during the year which should make it useful to students of stage history. It is a sign of the times that Omar Khayyam should be quoted on the first page of the almanack.—Morning Post, Jan. 23d.

AMUSEMENTS IN PITTSBURGH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PITTSBURGH, PA, SEPT. 17.—BIJOU THEATRE.—Mr A. H. Woods' company, under the direction of Mr Sam Myers, presented Martin Hurley's melodrama in four acts, entitled *Dealers in White Women*. The play deals with the wicked doings of a Hindoo doctor named Salsya (Mr Edward Walters), who, with the assistance of an American sailor (Mr Lawrence Merton) suffering from a derangement of the mind (the result of a wound received during the battle of Manila Bay) and some other villains, entraps and robs innocent white girls and sells them to the highest bidder. He chances to find out that Hilda Murivale (Miss Clara Knott), as well as a cripple named Elsie Dean, is coming in for a fortune, and he decides upon selling one and murdering the other in order to get possession of the money. His attempts are repeatedly foiled by Barney Branton, king of cracksmen, a notorious safe-robber, who for the love he bears for Hilda Murivale, decides to reform and marry her. A deep laid plot enables Salsya to get the two girls into his power, and he is about to sell them when he discovers that he is also smitten with Murivale, and asks her to become his mistress. This proposal the girl scornfully rejects, and Salsya therefore decides to force his love upon her, when Branton and his friends, who have been doing their best to save the girls, break into the house in time to take them out of the clutches of the miscreant, and bring the latter to book. There is a very realistic scene in the second act, when Murivale is induced to get into a cab under a pretext and is driven off at full gallop to Salsya's den. The play proved very interesting to the numerous audience and was continually applauded. A minor character, that of Isie Cohen (Mr Harry Fields), supplied all the fun.

NIXON THEATRE.—Henry W. Savage's company occupied this theatre performing the comic opera in two acts entitled *The Yankee Consul*, from the pen of Henry Blossom, jun., music by A. Fred G. Robyn. Mr Raymond Hitchcock in the title-rôle proved a great attraction, and was much appreciated.

DUQUESNE THEATRE.—*Flo-Flo*, a musical comedy, in two acts, by Collip Davis and Howard Whitney, was presented by Messrs E. D. Stair and George H. Nicolai's company on these boards. Thanks to the delightful performance of Miss Stella Mayhew the play proved very successful, and small wonder, when one considers the cleverness, charm, grace, archness, and brimful humour of Stella. The plot, which is very thin and deals with the sale of a certain coral-reef somewhere in the Pacific, gives her sufficient opportunities of showing the many-sidedness of her talent, and she is not slow to avail herself of them. Albert Farrington, as Lieutenant Barry, of the battleship Teddy, was also well received.

EMPIRE.—*New York Day by Day*, a comedy-drama, in four acts, written by W. J. Thompson and revised by Charles P. Rice, was effectively produced by a company under the management of Mr George W. Winnett. It tells of the misfortunes that befell a poor blind girl who was known to the villain to be an heiress, and therefore persecuted by him. With the aid of her sweetheart, Jack Waters, a young American sailor, and Rags, a street gamin (Miss Mamie Lincoln Pixley), she is saved from the various traps that are laid for her by the villain, a broker called Richard Blakely (Mr Charles P. Rice) and his accomplices, and finally succeeds in bringing him to book and marrying her lover. Miss Grace Welby as the blind flower girl, Polly Horne, was very pathetic, and spoke her lines tellingly. Miss Ivan Cravan as Mother Cantwell, a footpad's wife, was convincing in her cruelty, whilst Mr John Morris as Dennis Fogherty, Policeman 1854, was very amusing.

ACADEMY.—Al Reeves' big beauty show company was seen at this place of entertainment in a one-act skit entitled *Otto Kubelic's Troubles*, which proved very attractive. Wm. Cherry and M. Q. Bates did some clever trick cycling. Fanny Thatcher and Belle Williams sang and danced. Andy Lewis and company presented an original character creation entitled *Tout*, which gave the audience an opportunity of enriching their vocabulary of "turf slang." Al Reeves himself delighted the habitués with his excellent banjo performance and witty songs. The performance concluded with a spirited rendering of the burletta *Whirl-I-Fun*, in which Miss Louise Auber as Flossie Fleeceum took first honours.

AVENUE.—Harry Davis's stock company produced Madeline Lucette Ryley's four-act comedy *The Altar of Friendship*, with William Courtenay as Richard Arbuthnot and Jane Kennark as Sally Sartoris.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Miss Mabel M'Kinley, a niece of the late President, headed the list on Monday, and sang feelingly, among other songs, one of her own composition, namely "I can but think of you," and "Karama." The Mansfield-Wilbur company in a vaudeville called *The Shadow* received warm applause. The Brobst Trio sang and danced. The Chameroys did some clever acrobatic work. John Geiger, the trick violinist, proved deserving of his name (Geiger means violinist in German). Swan and Barnbard did some eccentric drilling. A very enjoyable number was Marcel's living art studies and bas reliefs. Jack Norworth, Zeno, Carl and Zeno, Matthews and Ashley, and Cooper and Robinson contributed pleasing items.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

9,911. Mirrors, tables. Patentee, Larson, J. L., Butte, Montana, U.S.A. Dressing-tables and like toilet stands are provided with several mirrors independently adjustable for multiple reflection. The stand base is made obtuse-angled and provided with corner posts, which are connected in order by base bars and top bars, to form frames for mirrors. One mirror is provided with pintles, for engagement in socket members on the bars. Another mirror is swung on a vertical bolt, which passes through lugs on the mirror and on a bracket mounted on the post, and is provided with a thumb nut. The third mirror is swung on a horizontal bolt in a bracket on a post, and the bolts are provided with nuts, and the mirror is returned to the vertical position by means of a spring on releasing the nut of a bolt.

17,069. William Benson, 17, St. Ann's-square, Manchester. "A resonance chamber or device for increasing and purifying the volume of sound applicable for theatres, orchestras, band-stands, platforms, and the like."

10,908. Chairs. Patentees, Runtz, E. A., and Ford, G. M'L., Brook House, Walbrook, London. Two or more seats or chairs of the fauteuil type, for use in a theatre, public hall, church, or similar building, are constructed side by side, and with the inner arms in contact or combined. Across the backs are fitted upper and lower shelves, the former for opera-glasses, fans, programmes, &c., are fitted with a central dwarf railing, and the latter for hats, shawls, &c., and fitted with hooks for umbrellas, sticks, &c. Under the seats and to the back legs is detachably fitted a tray for macintoshes, overcoats, umbrellas, &c. Extra shelves and trays may be fitted.

18,950. Florence Bozgis, professionally known as Mdlle. De Dio, Messrs T. Shaw and Co., 18, Adam-street, Strand, W.C. An improved method of and means for displaying stage representations, advertisements, and for other purposes.

19,994. William Pritchard-Morgan, 1, Queen Victoria-street, London. Improvements in and relating to the ventilation of theatres and other buildings.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Mr Edward Neville's company is here this week in *The Anarchist Terror*. Mr J. Nelson Turner is good as Silas Washington Goldstraw; Mr T. E. O'Connor makes a manly Lieut. Armstrong; Mr Edward Neville in his many rôles is all that can be desired; the part of Ishmael is portrayed in an able manner by Mr Gus Bowerman; Mr Will White is amusing as Mikey Doolan, being ably seconded by Miss Lois Esmond as Kitty Malone; Miss Cecile Byrne does well as Zara; Miss Annie Brunette makes an excellent Marita; and Miss Frances Waring as Columbia Goldstraw shows ability.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—*The Girl from Kay's*, by Mr George Dance's company, has proved very popular this week. Mr H. C. Barry plays most amusingly as Hoggenheimer, and Miss Simeta Marsden shows much talent in her presentation of Winnie, while Miss Alice Russon makes an excellent appearance in the part of Nora Chalmers. Miss Maisie North is successful as the Maid, and Mr Fred Rolph achieves a decided success as Joseph, the hall porter. All the other parts are capably played. The chorus throughout was strong and well balanced, and the orchestral work was also effective.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—The versatile Sisters Sprightly are warmly appreciated, and the Vernon Troupe show conspicuous talent as vocalists, dancers, and instrumentalists. The Tokio Trio also make a distinct success, and Mr George W. Fyvie, an old favourite, dances and sings as effectively as on his former visits. A pleasing element of variety is introduced by Captain Devereaux with his sagacious and highly trained dogs, and among the other artists who appear with success are Mr Frank Cumminger, a popular comedian and dancer, and the Swift Trio, in an extremely dexterous cycling turn. The Palace Bioscope retains its popularity as a notable feature of the entertainment. Miss Jenny Belmore, who is billed for this week, was unable to appear on Monday on account of her luggage having gone astray.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—This week there is an entire change of programme, the bill of fare being supplied by a variety company. The Sylvines Trio, triple trapeze artistes, and the Manzanares in their horseshoe balancing speciality fairly brings down the house. Miss Fanny Humber, soubrette and instrumentalist, is a charming and clever turn. Mr Frank Tyrrel, speciality dancer; Miss Nellie Vance, serio; and Urquhart, foot balancer and juggler, are pleasing in their respective turns. Mystery Gauze completely mystifies the audience, and receives rounds of applause. Baby Lloyd, the child vocal star, is another clever little artiste who adds considerably to the evening's enjoyment. Sandy and Carl please greatly with their comedy knockabout business.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—Mr Frank Lindo and company opened here on Monday with *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr George F. Black gave an excellent reading of Steven Armitage; Mr Frank Lindo submitted a good performance as David Armitage; Mr Dalton Robertson must be complimented on his acting as Solomon Keary. Miss Marion Wakeford gave a capital rendering of Joan; Miss Ellaline Thorne was at home as Sybil Fay; Miss Fanny Thorn good as Lady Summerton, and Miss Ivy Rochfort an Ideal Dora.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—There have been one or two amendments in *A Chinese Honeymoon* since the last visit, which still further add to the attractiveness. In the dressing, too, there is brightness everywhere, and the excellence of the many musical parts of the performance is noticeable. Miss Gwennie Harcourt as Fi-Fi is exceedingly funny, and she sings a new song about "Methuslem" which is well received. Mr Helier Le Maistre's is a fine impersonation of the Emperor, his powerful voice being heard to advantage. Mr Gus Wheatman's is a capital piece of acting as Pineapple, his funny rendering of "In that happy land" provoking much amusement. Mr Rudolph Kloss gives an excellent enactment of Chippie Chop; a charming Soo-Soo comes from Miss Nellie Wigley; and Mrs Pineapple has a winsome and capable exponent in Miss Dot Stephens. Mr Lennox Barry does well as Hi-Lung. A meritorious impersonation of Tom Hatherton is given by Mr Clifford Morgan; whilst as the official mother-in-law Miss Elsie Carew's efforts are acceptable.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr Bert Coote is revisiting here this week with his company in *The Fatal Wedding*. Miss Gwynn Herbert as the wrongfully divorced wife acts with much tenderness. Miss Gertrude Harrison finds admirable scope for the portrayal of the worst trials of woman's nature as the adventuress, and quite succeeds. Mr Creagh Henry is sufficiently heartless and callous as the villain, and the drollery of Mr E. Morgan as a French butler, Mr W. Westwood as a German lodging-house keeper, and of Miss Marie Hassell as Bridget, an Irish cook, is irresistible. As the child actress, Jessie, known as the little mother, Miss Rosie Dane plays with remarkable confidence and exceptional intelligence.

ASHTON HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot.—The Bros. Artois, in their comedy bar act, are the main feature of the programme here this week. Very amusing are the ditties of Eric Graham; the Weirs are expert vocal duettists and dancers; Almon, the hand jumper, is remarkably clever in his novel act; Susie Harris charms as a descriptive artiste; the Albano Troupe furnish a most interesting item with their refined musical speciality act; Mollie Doon warbles her songs with evident delight to her admirers; Johnny Holland and company take the audience greatly with a screaming absurdity entitled *My Friend the Boots*; and the Hippodrome Bioscope projects some interesting pictures.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—With his London successes thick upon him, the Scottish miracle-worker and electrical wonder, Dr. Walford Bodie, inaugurated a six nights visit on Monday most auspiciously, both as regards the welcome from the front of the house and his own work, for he was successful in curing a little girl of a paralysis of four years' standing. Her right leg and arm were quite limp, useless, and shrunken, but in the course of a very few minutes, and in full view of the audience, he had the limbs so far restored as to enable the little one to swing her arm round and move her foot. The cure was completed by the application of electro-magnetism, or, as the Doctor styles it, Bodic force, whereby electricity was transmitted to the affected limbs through the doctor himself. All the time in which the cure was being effected the little girl's face was radiant with pleasure, and after the first few steps, aided by Dr. Bodie, she broke from him in her joy and ran to her father, who was waiting in the wings. This climax brought down the house, and enhanced the reputation of Dr. Bodie as a miracle worker. During his séance he had some fifteen persons under the mesmeric influence, and much amusement was got out of them, particularly one, whom the Doctor made to believe he was no less a personage than Lord Rosebery. As the Doctor says, he gives full value as an entertainment before he appears himself, and for this variety show he has a very capable company with him. Tom Dewar, comedian, was refreshingly novel in his style, and his songs were well received. The same may be said of Norman Mills, who has a hearty, breezy manner, and is smart and neat in his patter and business. The Sisters Lyle were well received, and their dancing was very clever. La Petite Bella sang her action songs with vigour and go, and received an enthusiastic recall. Little Dolly Robson, the Coatbridge child wonder, sings like a thrush—a truly wonderful voice in one so young—but she has over and above a delightful presence, and can dance daintily. The Garden Troupe of pipers and dancers were well received, and a novelty, as far as this town is concerned, was found in Les Fontaines' marionette palace, where on a stage upon the stage, with full scenery and settings, the dolls were cleverly manipulated, and the smart work of those handling the strings was cheered loudly on the drop of the miniature curtain.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—Mr Ian Maclaren's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday with *A Fatal Crown*. The part of Lord Guildford Dudley is taken by Mr Ian Maclaren, who submits a powerful interpretation of the leading rôle; Mr Leonard R. Montgomery as Herne, the wizard, gives a capital delineation of the character; Mr Max Jerome as the Earl of Northumberland is acceptable; Simon Reynard is capably portrayed by Mr Henry Howard; Mr Harold Batt as Izzod Clay supplies the comic element; and Mr Willie Atom as Xit is amusing. Miss Margaret Savill undertakes the rôle of Lady Jane Grey with telling force; Miss Maude Anderson is sufficiently dignified as Mary Tudor; Miss D. Mackenzie makes a pleasing Barbara; and Miss Maud Esmond gives an amusing rendering of Dame Placida.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Messrs E. H. Knight and George Denham's company is paying a return visit with *The Grip of Iron*. The Jagon of Mr Fred Powell is again a most distinguished and masterly performance; Mr George Denham is a very good Paul Blanchard; and Mr Charles Grant a fine Lorentz De Ribas. Mr Harry Agar-Lyons as Alphonse De Coucou and Mr John Brittain as Dodot play with much verve and agreeable contrast in style. Miss Annie Thomas as Mdlle. Delaney, Miss Georgie De Lara as Cora Simmonet, Miss Nellie Grant as Sophie Blanchand, Miss Hilda Baynton as Marie Guerin all play with grace and spirit, and Miss Mabel Middleton is an acceptable Babbette.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Henri Abdis, with his canine circus, tops the bill here this week, and his dogs go through an amusing performance; Marvello's cockatoos and macaws perform some clever feats; Atroy gives a good show as a juggler; Viola submits a refined musical entertainment, which is well received; and Ray Stella, comedienne; Cattle and Shadow, with amusing patter, and Will Hubbard, comedian, also contribute.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—Mr Mouillot's company is here in *Old Heidelberg*. Congratulations have been showered upon Mr George F. Tully for his admirable presentment of Karl Heinrich. Mr Clifford Bown as Dr. Jüttner was excellent; Mr Lionel Gadson was amusing as Lutz; and Mr Ivan Mavis played well as Schölermann. The officials of the Court were carefully portrayed by Messrs Eric Phillips, Frank M. Cross, Alexander Shinnie, and W. Prince Wells. Others who deserved praise were Mr Alec Murray (Kellermann) and Mr A. M. Moore (Rudler). Kathie had a pleasing and vivacious representative in Miss Irene Lavington.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—The Seltina Troupe of acrobats do their daring feats here with ease and finish; the rope dancing of the Australian Twin Sisters Anderson proves very entertaining; Gwennie Hasto is a bewitching comedienne; the vaulting of the Bros Levett is watched with interest; the Sisters Jonghmann's harmonised singing is above the usual standard; Fred Dunstone, eccentric comedian, is a "big" favourite; Steeley and Dowton cause amusement by their acrobatic comedy act; and Blanche Haddon sings a couple of ballads with success.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company in *Defending his Honour* is here this week. Mr John Davidson as Douglas Bryce submits a fine delineation; Mr Clifton Boyne is good as Stephen Graid; George Duncan is ably played by Mr Charles H. Herbert; Jack Damish is safe in the hands of Mr John Hignett; Mr F. L. Arthur is responsible for Richard Verison; and Mr Kenneth Black, jun., appears as Dick Verison. Miss F. Melrose-Millet plays excellently in the rôle of Ethel Bryce; Mrs Verison is embodied with much success by Mrs Edmond Lyons, and Miss Lilian Matthews is at home as Trixie Lucien.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr Jasper Redfern.—In addition to the pictures at this hall the following artistes contribute:—Sleath and Aldin, in a refined sketch, entitled *Dashing Duval*; Sisters Volbecque, duettists and dancers; John Callan, comedian; Miss Helene Stewart, soprano vocalist; Charlton Howarth, in illustrated songs; Tom Green, vocal comedian. "The Relief of Pekin," a juvenile military spectacle, in which fifty local children take part, completes the programme.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr C. Lubbock's company is here, in *The Flood Tide*. Madame De Naugaze is prominent with a clever rendering of the Baroness Pitchioli, and Miss Kathleen Russell as Marie Pitchioli is also admirable. Captain Jack Champion is spiritedly performed by Mr William Seguin, the Earl of Sutton is creditably enacted by Mr Conrad Franklyn, and Mr Alec Flood is a typical Dick Champion. A competent cast also includes Mr Maitland Marler, Mr E. W. Maule Cole, Miss Marie Wright, and Miss Seymour Hodges.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—George Harris and Fred Terriss's company, in *Why Woman Sins*, is meeting with success here. Mr William Campbell plays Lieut. Harry Maxwell with much skill; Captain Herbert Carlton is well embodied by Mr Fred Terriss; and Jim Rainbird is in the capable hands of Mr Lionel Ellis. Miss Gussie Everett is a realistic and efficient Ida Valetti, and other parts are in good hands.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Bella and Bijou, the popular and entertaining vaudeville artistes, are fulfilling one of many engagements here, and well maintain their excellent reputation. Mr Percy Honri, a talented concertina soloist and a versatile artiste, is a decided acquisition, and the Glenroy Troupe of dancers present a most acceptable turn. Mr and Mrs Finden are well received in their sketch, *A Desperate Remedy*, and the New Macs, capital knockabouts; the Dorrells, duettists and dancers; Mr A. G. Spry, comedian; Miss Frances Haskoll, in the "Vocal Chameleon;" and Mr E. J. Sheldon, comedian, also contribute materially to the programme. Mr Ernest Denney is musical director.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—For the first three nights of this week Mr Frederick E. Philpott's company is presenting *The Girl from Japan*, by Wilfred Carr. Mr Colet Dare, the composer, is acting as musical director. Mr S. Lockridge is well suited to the part of Lord Allenbury, Mr Alfred Wood capably undertakes the rôle of Sir Mulberry Flippington, the difficult part of General Baugh is well sustained by Mr Percy Baverstock, and the Rev. John Smith finds a good exponent in Mr Ernest Spalding. Mr Tom E. Sinclair makes an excellent Horatio Blinks. Miss Nellie Jackson ably impersonates Polly Perkins, and Miss B. Deane as Countess De La Rue leaves nothing to be desired. Miss Nellie Valentine is a decided success as Violet Meadows. *The Belle of New York* came on Thursday.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—We are favoured this week with a visit from the charming actress Miss Nina Boucicault and her company in the play entitled *A Man and His Wife*. Miss Boucicault appeared in the rôle of Mrs Ainslie, and achieved much success by her remarkably clever acting. Mr C. Aubrey Smith furnished a very skilful impersonation of Roger Ainslie. It would indeed be difficult to excel Mr C. M. Hallard in his impersonation of Sir Noel Drage, and he deservedly shared the honours by his finished study of the wealthy young baronet. Mr E. H. Kelly submitted a humorous impersonation of Lord Francis Hillyer. Miss Blanche Wilmot and Miss Beatrice Coleman acquitted themselves with distinction as Lady Wickham and Violet Antrobus; and praise must be accorded Miss Enid Spencer Brunton's conception of the rôle of Adela Antrobus. Other rôles were capitally sustained by Miss Annie Hill and Messrs Reginald Dance, Charles Ware, and George Silver. *Jerry and a Sunbeam*, a capital little curtain-raiser, was played with much success by Miss Annie Hill and Mr Reginald Dance.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—Mr Charles Matthews heads the bill at this popular theatre, and his extraordinary jumping feats have been hailed with enthusiasm. The Caledonian Boys' Orchestra has been very successful in this its second week, the various selections being vociferously encored. The cycling performance by Lotto, Lilo, and Otto is certainly marvellous. Mr Nat Travers, in his unique coster creations, is worthy of much commendation, and the Brothers Lang, funny knockabouts, evoke roars of laughter with their boxing act. The acrobatic act provided by the Brothers Lavelle pleases immensely, and a fine exhibition of dancing has been submitted by Miss Bouverie Pleydell. Others in this first-class bill are Miss Ada Cerito, a vivacious comedienne, and Miss Katie Weston, comedienne.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—The bill here is headed by Selma Braatz, whose wonderful juggling performance has been most successful. The fine baritone voice of Mr Hamilton Hill has been heard with great pleasure in his various songs, and Carl and Carmanelli appear in their clever musical transformation act. The Olive Trio command success with their vocalism, and a big hit has been made by that droll comedian Mr Ernest Rees. Mr Harry Bickley's eccentric songs are also a feature, and the bill is completed by the Sisters Oswald, duettists and dancers; and Miss Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress. Mr Brock's benefit took place on Thursday, a well-deserved compliment to his courtesy and efficiency.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The chief attraction at this old-established hall is provided by the Okito Family, who appear in their wonderful act, which has been remarkably successful. Miss Ada Marjutti is a clever contortionist, her feats being graceful and finished; and the comic songs of Mr Harry Grey are decidedly amusing. The acrobatic performance of the Brothers Ferras forms an immense attraction, and Mr Shirley Leggins's tuneful voice has been heard to great advantage. The wonderful pyramid and spar performance by Messrs Marti and Juliette creates enthusiasm, and Carr and Rose are unquestionably a most entertaining duo. Also appearing with every element of success are Miss Lena Banff, a vivacious comedienne, and Mr Fred Cairburn, comedian.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—*Fiends of London*, presented by Mr Herbert Fuller's company, is the attraction here, Mr Fuller himself cleverly undertaking the part of Bob Archer. A good portrayal of Laurie Christie is given by Miss Agnes Collier, Mr D. C. King's Captain Crawley proves interesting, capital service comes from Mr H. Evan Gibbon as Peter Shaik and Mr Hugh Carmichael as Joe Ormerod, and as the gipsy Sophie Slade Miss Nelson Ramsay wins golden opinions. On Friday *The Sorrows of Satan* was underlined for presentation.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—A welcome visitor here is Mr Edward Terry, whose presence this week along with an able company is attracting large audiences. *The House of Burnside* was selected for Monday night, and Mr Terry supplied a masterly portrayal of Richard Burnside. He was well supported by Mr Arthur Cornell as Robert Parminter, Miss Daisy Murch as Marion Burnside, Miss Beatrice Terry as Margaret, Mr A. Hylton Allen as Jack Morrow, and Miss Beatrice Selwyn as Betty. *Sweet Lavender* was played on Tuesday, when Mr Terry was seen at his best as Dick Phenyl, and Miss Beatrice Terry was sweet and charming in the title-rôle. *The Passport*, *Love in Idleness*, *The Telephone*, and *Bardell v. Pickwick* have also been played.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—*Madame Sherry*, played by Mr George Dance's company, is the fare provided here this week. Mr J. Robert Hale plays the part of Andrew M'Sherry with considerable success, and Mr F. W. Ford does well as the gallant Colonel M'Sherry. Miss Georgina Delmar sings sweetly as Catarina, whilst Miss Mabel Sealby acquits herself well as Mistigrette and Miss Lily Elsie makes a suitable Barbara. Mr Ivan Berlyn (Gustave) and Mr Arthur Stroud (Leonard) do as much as possible with their respective parts. The chorus is exceptionally powerful.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.; Manager, Mr T. P. Duignan.—Fred Ginnett with his amusing sketch, *Rejected Remounts*, tops the bill here this week. Another clever sketch is supplied by the Three Missouris; Cribb and Cribb appear in an original burlesque, entitled *After the Ball*; the Vivians contribute a musical travesty; and Les Belles Americaines are a charming quartet of vocalists and dancers. Edie Maddison, comedienne; Resford and Hunt, comedians; Hurman, juggler; Rose Waller, vocalist; Katawela, cycle expert; and Wat Tyler, character vocalist, are also in the bill.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—A programme of all-round excellence is supplied here this week. Edwin Barwick, in his scenas, is retained another week. Florence and Lillian give a clever musical turn. Arthur Albert sings well, and Henri Cazman does not belie his comprehensive description as "the one man music hall." Venie Clements, comedienne; Florence Yeaman, comedienne; Brothers Onda, acrobats; Lanton and Lane, singers and dancers; Brothers De Wynne, athletes, and Will Onda and Co., in a sketch also appear.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*The Orchid*, with its rich colouring and clever, capable cast, naturally came in for a hearty welcome on its reappearance here on Monday. Miss Coralie Blythe is dainty, mellifluous, and always delightfully charming as Lady Violet. Miss Gertrude Gillian as Josephine acts and sings in a captivating manner. Miss Irene Verona is richly humorous as Caroline Vokins, and Miss Ethel Griffies is successful as Zelie, the adventuress. Mr George Gregory purveys the humours of Meakin in a rich and irresistible fashion. Mr Sidney Vincent as Zaccary wins himself a high place in the cast. Mr Ellis Ogilvie as Mr "Chesterton" is cordially recognised, and Mr Lawrence Grossmith as the Hon. Guy adds considerably to the humour.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr V. Turner.—*Joseph Entangled* is viewed with much favour here, and the excellent character studies contained therein have afforded true delight. Mr H. B. Warner as the "innocent suspect," Joseph, acts his part blamelessly, and Miss Mona K. Oram is no less perfect as Lady Verona. Other true types are found in Mr and Mrs Harry Tavender, respectively played by Mr Horace Lane and Miss Shelley Calton with much attention to detail; Jermyn Pycroft, excellently rendered by Mr Lawrence Grant; Gerald Fanmere, the "go-between," acted with much success by Arthur Bell; Prof. Tofield, well enacted by Mr Cecil Brooking; and Hardolph Mayne, played by Mr Stanley W. Ashworth, who could scarcely be excelled in the part. Mr Everard Digby and Miss Claire Cavendish shine in their parts, and the curtain-raiser, *As Played Before His Royal Highness*, is much relished.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*The Temptress*, which is played by Messrs Gordyn and Gelling's company, has stirred and beguiled the patrons of the Alexandra to the utmost degree. Miss Violet Craufurd as the beautiful but unscrupulous Stella moves the audience to admiration as well as indignation by her powerful acting. Miss Vashti Wynne is sympathetic and popular in the rôle of Marion. Miss Ada M. Ryder gives a powerful presentment of the mad wife. Mr Percy Ballard arouses much resentment by his clever acting as Lucas Denbigh, and Mr George Dalper as the hero is heartily cheered. Mr Henry W. Hatchman presents the lion-tamer in a picturesque manner, and Messrs Herbert Williams, Allen Charles, Johnny Chippendale, and Miss Mattie Everett provide the lighter and brighter moments.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*A Disgrace to Her Sex* proves fully as engrossing a production as any of Mr Melville's previous studies, and received the full support and applause of a crowded house. As Hilda Valley, the "disgrace to her sex," Miss Grace Heywood is not altogether despised; on the contrary, great admiration is expressed for the clever actress. The Misses Winnie Tempest and Nellie Lucas are charming in their respective rôles of Mabel and Mildred. Mr Phil Harper well sustains the part of Jack Dawes, Mr Augustine Knight ably acts the part of a blackmailing French tutor, and Mr Eugene Santley is successful as David Carrington. Some clever comedy is supplied by Miss Madge Yates and Mr A. Byron as Bella and Barnaby respectively.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*Mafeking* thoroughly justifies the good report that preceded it, a report probably based on Mr Henry Bedford's other good works. As Colonel Playden Howell, commanding at Mafeking, Mr Bedford makes a powerful impression, and is enthusiastically cheered. Mr Robert Seymour as the spy, Van Haag, gains a full measure of success. Miss Bessie Bedford idealises the part of Alice Leigh with her delightful acting; and Mr Sid Bedford in a comical rôle, that of Tommy Atkins, wins much applause. The piece is excellently staged.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*The Best Must Win*, which is now being played here with the utmost success by Messrs Draycott and Peppin's company, affords exciting sensations. Mr Charles Draycott essays the leading part of "the Panther," and the volume of hisses which greet his nefarious deeds are a tribute to his powers of dissimulation. The "Panther's" satellite, Juan Minos, is cleverly delineated by Mr Oliver Round, vice Mr H. B. Peppin, who now acts in front of the house. Mr Robert Watson plays the hero Paul with sterling ability. Miss Lilian Loyde as the heroine Denise acts with a charming grace that begets much sympathy, and Mr Harry Harrop as Jacques and Miss Maude Elliston as Suzette divert the audience with some clever comedy scenes.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—Chung Ling Soo, the Chinese conjuror, who is well-known in Birmingham, mystifies large audiences here. The sketch presented by the Desmores is highly amusing; Carrie Lawrie and her Juveniles are paying a return visit; Dan Crawley and Frank Seeley are amusing comedians; Tambo and Tambo, in their musical entertainment, are much admired, as also are Ford and Hanson. Some smart Creole dancing is performed by the Pueblo Bros. Lilian Bishop, male impersonator, and Harry Sheldon, tenor, are also worthy of mention.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—Ray Wallace is repeatedly encored for impersonations of various artistes; De Dio in her creation, "Terpsichore's Dream," is greatly admired; the George Bonhair Troupe of Risley acrobats are among the best we have seen; and Bobby and Blank, in their musical act, are entertaining. Charles Austin, W. H. Clemart, ventriloquist; May Henderson, Fred Lincoln, Ted Lambert, and a series of animated pictures complete the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford.—An attractive programme is submitted this week, the most prominent turn being Rosina Casselli, with her Chihuahua dogs. De Gracia's elephants are most interesting; George Gilbey and the Waldrons are loudly applauded; Marie Gibson has an excellent soprano voice; the Sisters Silcott appear with their usual success; some smart acrobatic work is performed by Sibb and Sibb; and the Three Dagmars, D. W. Watson, posthorn player; and Grahame and Harrington in a dramatic episode are also in the bill.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edw. Foster.—George Fuller Golden is the star turn this week, his humorous stories being greeted with applause. A smart acrobatic and musical turn is supplied by the Two Tees; Pauline Cook and May Clinton perform some clever sharp shooting; the dances by the Three Cape Girls are far above the average; and Bert Dansie, comedian; Williams and Brown, Phyllis Harewood, Ethel Ra Leslie, Ruth Dorris, and Fred Neiman's animated ventriloquial minstrels are all excellent turns.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Good.—Mr Edmund Tearle, supported by Miss Kate Clinton, has once more paid a successful visit here. Opening on Monday with *The Three Musketeers* the well-known tragedian was seen to great advantage as D'Artagnan, Miss Clinton ably undertaking the rôle of Miladi. On Tuesday *Ingomar* was played, and drew a large audience. *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Jeannie Deans*, *Macbeth*, and *Virginius* are included in the week's bill. Prominent in the company are Miss Mary Campbell, Messrs T. W. Benson, Frederick Barlow, Edward Grogan, and William J. Miller.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—After a long absence, *The New Barmaid* is paying a return visit here. The fine voice of Mr Harrison Brockbank is heard to advantage in the part of Captain Lovebury; as Bertie White Mr J. B. Montague is the life and soul of the piece; Mr Alexander Loftus as Bertie's brother, William, is also very good; and as Bonsor Mr Albert Weston contributes some eccentric dancing, in which he is ably seconded by Miss Violet Osmund as Dora Heather. The New Barmaid finds an efficient representative in Miss Gladys Elvey. Miss Hilda Blanche (Brenda Louth) and Miss Jean Gilmore (Lady Moulton) are deserving of praise. The company is under the direction of Mr Alexander Loftus.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Page.—*The London Fireman* is the attraction here. The names of Arthur Shirley and George Conquest are sufficient guarantees for a well-constructed drama, which is presented by a well-selected company, amongst whom may be mentioned Mr Albert Pringle, Mr E. L. Garside, Mr Frank Hertlie, and Mr Forbes Knowles. The comedy interest is well sustained by Mr Charles Preece and Miss Nellie Garside. Miss Violet Temple and Miss Adeline Raby are also excellent in their respective parts.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Murray.—Charles Lee's monkeys and Jake Friedman, the one-man opera, are the principal attractions here this week. The other turns are supplied by Bicknelle, clay manipulator; Ted Young, Ada Twibell, Lily Black, the Bros. Ashley, and Ruby Winston.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—A return visit of Mr C. P. Levilly's company with the comic opera *Amorelle* is being made here. Mr Eric Thorne, in his impersonation of Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow, keeps the house in continual laughter; Miss Stella Gastelle successfully appears in the part of Amorelle (Ripples); Miss Kitty Cavendish is a dainty Lesbia; Miss Madge Avery gives a clever and amusing impersonation of Marina; and Mr F. Seymour is very good as old Father Dotard. Other characters are in the hands of Messrs Robert Fairbanks (the Count of Cideaux), William Griffin (Boissey), John Doran (Jules), Newton Ide (François), Gerald Clifford (Lupin), Maurice Carlton (Alphonse), and Miss May Bradbury (Jeanette).

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—On a strong bill the principal turn is Miss Julie Mackay, who is on a return visit with a new répertoire of songs, as well as some old favourites; and supporting her are W. J. Churchill, comedian; Will H. Fox, in his satire "Paddy-whisky;" the Dainton Girls, refined character comedians; Frank Staley, actor-vocalist; the Brothers Redmond, knockabouts; Daisy Morell, vocalist and burlesque artiste; Rowland Hill, curious comedian; the Picquays, in their unique and picturesque acrobatic display; and the Imperial Bioscope.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—A great event for local playgoers has been the visit here this week of Miss Ellen Terry and her company in a répertoire, of which *Much Ado About Nothing* was chosen for Monday. As it is quite impossible to say anything new in praise of Miss Terry's inimitable rendering of the rôle of Beatrice, one can only record that she cast the spell of her charming presence over the audience no whit less surely than she has always done by her vivacious embodiment of the character. Miss Terry, too, was well supported by her company. Mr Charles Thursby made an excellent impression as Don Pedro, and Mr T. A. Shannon's sinister Don John was in admirable contrast. Mr E. Harcourt Williams was a capital Claudio, and Mr Matheson Lang's Benedick was a great success. Mr George Fitzgerald gave a good rendering of Leonarto. Mr John Willes raised many a hearty laugh with his Dogberry, and excellent also were Mr J. S. Hamilton as Antonio and Mr Alfred Bucklaw as Borachio. Mr Pendred Price sang well as Balthazar. The quiet sincerity of Miss Hutin Britton's impersonation of Hero showed her to great advantage, and a word of praise must be given to the beautiful scenery and rich dresses with which the production is provided. *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Good Hope*, and *Nance Oldfield* are also billed.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is paying a first visit with *The Money-Makers*. Mr Allen Thomas gives a capital impersonation, and is characteristically Scotch as Matthew M'Dougall; Mr Frank Lacy plays easy and self-possessed as Captain Archie Fitzgerald; Mr Edward Bonfield acts with excellent effect the rôle of Charles Clifton; Mr Edward Sidney is highly amusing as the sporting Fred; Mr Townsend Whitling scores in the character of a Butcher; and Mr C. H. Hartley as Inspector O'Hara, Mr George L. Wilson as Sergeant-major Dolan, Master L. Lock as a Messenger Boy, and others in the male cast contribute to the general success. Miss Muriel Ashwynne is natural and charming as Dot; Mabel is acted with spirit and verve by Miss Lorna Lawrence; Miss Frances Davie's Bella is instinct with mischief-making spirit and gaiety; and Miss Mary Griffiths is well suited as the housekeeper, Mrs Bannerman. Miss Violet Ley as Baby Berkeley delivers her long speech in the second act with elocutionary effect.

SHAFTESBURY HALL.—Mr T. J. West's "Living Pictures" have entered upon their last week, and much regret is felt at their approaching departure. New subjects have been again added of local and general interest.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes.—Mr C. Emlyn-Jones, tenor, and his Emerald Ladies' Quartette had a flattering reception on Monday from a large and appreciative audience. Plenty of amusement was provided in the sketch, *Billy's Blunders*, by the Schallers. Frank Caffrey, Irish character vocalist; Les Sprays (Marie and Minnie), Continental dancers; Billy Tucker, ball puncher; Amy Elvira, burlesque actress; Robert Gilbert's troupe of dogs and cats; Esme Gordon, comedienne and dancer; and Walter Gurney, comedian, also do well in their various turns. The new series of films on the Matagraph are excellent.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company is presenting *A Sailor's Sweetheart* here this week. Lieutenant Chas. Clive, R.N., is represented in a manly and telling manner by Mr Alfred Goddard; Mr Chas. Stafford is a decided success as Admiral Sefton; and Mr Wm. Stoneham does well as Captain Mayland, R.N.R. Philip Pemberton, the villain of the piece, is played effectively by Mr Robert Faulkner; Tim Kelly, A.B., is suitably placed in the hands of Mr Edwin Millins; and Mr C. Douglas Carlile as Stephen Lucas thoroughly realises his responsibilities. Mr C. A. Johnstone is pathetic as the Rev. Robert Clive; Mr A. C. Blunt as John James and Mrs J. W. Braithwaite as Mrs Penbury are both the cause of much mirth; Miss Evelyn Shaw is good as Phœbe Pembury; and nothing but praise can be given to Miss Adah Barton for her finished and winsome acting as Grace Mayland. The scenes are striking and effective.

BRADFORD.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—Mr George Dance's company is paying a return visit here this week with *A Country Girl*, and the popular musical comedy had a capital reception on Monday. Mr St. John Hamund as Mr Raikes gives an excellent rendering; as Barry Mr Chas. R. Walenn is diverting, and with Miss Maud Prenton in the part of Madame Sophie he makes a hit in the "Chick" duet. Miss Daisy Le Hay, with much brightness, fills the part of Nan; Miss Maud Boyd renders the charming songs allotted to Marjory Joy with excellent effect; Miss Ethel Negretti is charming as Princess Melaneh; Sir Joseph Verity is a capable effort on the part of Mr Joe Nightingale; Mr Robert Michaelis is capital as Geoffrey Challoner; and the other characters are satisfactorily filled.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—Mr John Wainwright is appearing here once again as Tom Robinson in the evergreen drama *It's Never Too Late to Mend*. Mr Alfred Calver ably fills the part of the hero, George Fielding; as Susan Merton Miss Kitty Carew is charming and convincing; Jackey is a clever impersonation by Mr Fred Owen; and Miss Millie Milton wins sympathy as the waif. As the Rev. Francis Eden Mr Hornby Warburton is effective; and the tyrannical Hawes is well represented by Mr W. R. Wilson.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—The Werner-Amoros Troupe in *An Artiste's Studio* introduce some smart juggling and acrobatic work. Good turns are also submitted by Juan and M'Que, and the Parros Brothers, smart equilibrists; Cassie Walmer, in clever sand-dancing; Ida Brophy, comedienne; the Wartenburg Brothers, double-foot experts; George Reeves, comedian; Brett and Orford, in their well-acted sketch, *Love Birds*; a monologue by Mr R. H. Douglass; the Welburns, with "patter" and humour; and the Oallaw Trio, who are on a return visit.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr E. Harrison.—Lottie Lennox, the smart and clever comedienne, has made a hit here this week with her well-chosen and well-rendered songs. Grey and Welford, comedians, give a merry turn as burlesque boxers; Dubois, the "man-monkey," is distinctly clever; and Lily Lassah is a dainty comedienne. The St. Johns are seen to advantage in a comedy musical act and speciality dance; and capital turns are submitted by Lauri Wylie and George Prince, the Clayton Twins, and E. B. Seener's Charkassan Troupe of vocalists and dancers.

BRIDLINGTON.

Royal Victoria Theatre.—Manager, Mr Charles Palmer.—The patrons of this theatre have had a treat this week by the visit of the Moody-Manners' opera company, who opened on Tuesday night with Gounod's opera of *Faust*. The company is an excellent all-round one, and fully sustains the reputation which has been deservedly gained by Mr Manners for his thorough attention to every detail of the works he presents to his patrons. The chorus is well up to its work, and the scenery and the orchestra, under the direction of Herr Frankenstein, has been well rehearsed. Mr Beulah Cox gave an admirable rendering of Faust, both singing and acting with artistic effect. Mr Frederick Clendon was good as Mephistopheles, his fine voice being heard to advantage. The character of Valentine found an able exponent in Mr Wilfred Heath, and Miss Gertrude Alexander gave full effect to the part of Siebel, her singing being greatly admired. Miss Grace Nicholl was a charming Marguerite, and received quite an ovation at the conclusion of the opera, as did also Mr Coe and Mr Clendon. Miss Lyle scored as Martha, and Mr Sandbrook was a good Walter. On Wednesday that favourite opera *The Bohemian Girl* was played, with Mr Harry Thornton as Count Arnheim, Mr James Macklane as Thaddeus, and Mr F. Clendon as the Devilshoof. Miss Ethel Cadman was the Arline, and Miss Eileen Hope the Queen of the Gipsies. On Thursday *Il Trovatore* was the attraction, with Mr Coe as Manrico, Mr Heath as the Count, Miss Grace Nicholl as Leonora, and Miss Alexander as Azucena.

Royal Prince's Parade.—Manager, Mr Charles Palmer.—The Royal Viennese Orchestra, under Herr Winternitz's bâton, commenced the last week of its season's engagement on Monday, when large audiences assembled to listen to their excellently rendered programmes, and to the songs so capitally sung by Mr Herbert Brown, whose musical baritone voice quickly established him as a favourite.

New Spa and Gardens.—Manager and Secretary, Mr Henry Hague.—Mr Sydney James and his Strolling Players are again the attraction here, and their varied programmes of songs, dances, and sketches are capitally rendered; Miss Madeline Rossiter's songs and dances are always redemanded, and she is an accomplished banjoist; Mr G. Desmond's songs and dances are excellent; Mr Oldbury Brough's musical sketches are well done; and Miss Seymour James is a great favourite.

People's Palace.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Morgan.—The Waterloo Pierrots having finished their season at the Summer Gardens are appearing here this week with success. They give some clever turns. George Hyam is a very eccentric comedian; Charles Danton gives a really good speciality act called *Night Duty*; J. Bath is a clever paper manipulator; Syd Hinds' character songs are well rendered, and J. W. Ellison is an admirable descriptive vocalist. That really original comedian, Charles Beanland, gives some amusing items, and the company appears in a round of laughable farces. The Edison George Cinématograph shows some well taken pictures; and prizes are given nightly for persons who recognise their own features in a series of snap-shot pictures thrown on the screen.

BRIGHOUSE.

Albiet Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr T. Morton Powell; Business-Manager, Mr M. Manley.—Mr Horace Stanley and his powerful company in the sensational drama entitled *The 10 30 Down Express* are again the attraction here. Mr Stanley is as funny as ever as Sam Wagstaff, and excellent also are Messrs Harry T. Wood, Scott Leighton, and Misses Adelaide Clare and Evelyn M. Walton.

BRIGHTON.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr Laurence Irving and company are here this week with *Richard Lovelace*. Mr Laurence Irving gives an excellent impersonation of Richard Lovelace; Miss Mabel Hackney is a charming Lucy Sacheverell; Mr W. E. Ashcroft acquits himself effectively as Col. Martin Hawley, Mr Michael Sherbrooke makes a capital Mr Porter; Miss Campbell Bradley is successful as Mistress Porter; while Mr Henry Brocker renders good service as Alderman Sacheverell. The play is preceded by *Daisy's Escape*.

Grand Theatre.—Under the control of Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Mr Ernest Carpenter may be warmly and deservedly congratulated upon the improvement he has effected in this theatre. Good houses are the rule; and there is no exception this week, where *Under the Russian Flag* occupies the boards, and is represented by Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's No. 1 Company. Mr Walter Howard gives a masterly impersonation of Captain Demetrius; Mr F. W. Freeman is a vigorous Ivan Romanoff; Mr George Arthur is forcible and realistic as the villainous Michael Romanoff; Miss Ada Champion is a refined and sympathetic Vera Vassiloff; Miss Agnes Howard makes a bright and charming Ogarita; and Miss Ellen Snow displays finished acting as Luka Marischka. Mr Frederick Harker's Wolf Marischka is well played, and much amusement is afforded by Mr Hal Ford as Peter Poluski and Mr Alfred Bennett as Alexis Skopolopki.

Aquarium.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—The I.D.K. Minstrels are fulfilling a return engagement here this week, and are attracting large audiences. The varied and pleasing programmes are sustained by Mr W. W. Whitlock, Mr Walter J. Stevens, Mr Wally Scott, Mr Herbert Norton, Mr Arthur Withers, Mr Paul Gallois, Mr Warren Lawson, Mr Harry Watson, and Mr W. Clements.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Miss Winifred Hare, charming burlesque actress; Charles Lilburn, eccentric comedian; Edie Rivers, comedienne and dancer; J. W. Rickaby, character comedian; Queen and Le Brun, comedy artistes and dancers; Belle Davis, assisted by her trio of "Pickchick actors;" Katie Butler, character comedienne; Gintara, juggler and top-spinner; Kloof and Ram; sey, comedy artists; Melot Hermann, French conjuror; and the Alhambra Pictures.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Arthur Roberts and company, in *Where's the Count?* Marie Blythe, vocalist; Monks and Wood, in a musical duologue, *Mr Nobody*; the Lombarts, in their gymnastic speciality; Miss Amy Augarde, the burlesque actress, in her Napoleon scene; A-Ba-Be, child poseuse; Wills and August, comedy jugglers; Russell Wallett, society entertainer; the Four Sisters Merkel, graceful gymnasts; and animated pictures.

New Palace Pier.—General Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—*Still Waters Run Deep* is performed here this week. Mr Matthew Brodie gives an admirable portrayal of John Mildmay; Miss Annie Stalman (Mrs Drew Mackintosh) is distinctly successful as Mrs Sternhold; Miss Nancy Harding's Mrs Mildmay is a pleasing impersonation; Mr Riddell Robinson makes a capital Captain Hawksley; while Mr Tom Macfarlane's Dunbilk and Mr Coningsby's Mr Potter are well played. The comedy is preceded by *A Queen's Messenger*, in which Mr Drew Macintosh and Miss Annie Stalman are highly effective.

West Pier Pavilion.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr Leonard Pagden's company is here this week with *John Dunford, Bachelor*. Mr Leonard Pagden achieves conspicuous success as Mr Dunford; Miss Madge M'Intosh makes an admirable Cynthia Mallowes; Mr Alfred Holles is highly successful as Robert Oxberry; Miss Katie Johnson makes a pleasing Maud Embden; and other characters are ably sustained by Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere, Mr Jas. P. E. Hussey, and Mr Edward H. Bowen.

Concert Hall, West-street.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope exhibition of animated pictures is still here, and proves very attractive.

BRISTOL.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—Mr Forbes-Robertson and company are here this week. On Monday evening *Mice and Men* was played. Mr Robertson presented a fine exposition of Mark Embury, and Miss Gertrude Elliott distinguished herself by a clever and interesting impersonation of Poggy. Mr George Simner was blunt and hearty as Roger Goodlake; Mr Frank Gillmore acted well as Captain George Lovell; Miss Auriol Lee played with much care and consistency as Joanna Goodlake; and Miss Ada Milton was capital as Mrs Deborah. The smaller parts were carefully sustained by Mr Leon Quartermaine, Mr J. H. Ryley, Mr Ernest Cosham, Mr Guy Lane, Miss Minnie Griffin, and Miss Dorothy Paget. For Thursday and Friday *The Light that Failed* was billed.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is here with *Two Little Vagabonds*. The play is well staged, and it is also well played. Miss May Hart and Miss Dorothy Marsden both distinguish themselves by their clever impersonations of Dick and Wally. Mr J. W. Henson gives a good performance of George Thornton; Mr W. Forster is successful as Captain Darville; Mr Alfred Russell is sufficiently aggressive as Bill Mullins; Mr Basil Hillier is successful as John Scarth; and Dido Bunch and the Cough Drop are ably taken by Mr Frank Gordon and Mr Fred Archer. Miss Laura Hansen acts well as Marion Thornton; Miss Nell Oliver does full justice to the rôle of Barbara Scarth; and Miss Marie Pritchard is capitally placed as Biddy Mullins. The parts of lesser importance are all carefully played.

Palace.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—Arthur Lennard, vocal comedian, tops the bill this week. He has some good songs and is much appreciated. The Three Romas present a fine gladiatorial exposition; "The Little Colonel," a musical and dramatic scena, is nicely played by Ernest Montefiore and company; Charles Vincent comedian, obtains applause; the M'Connell Trio are successful with a musical sketch 4 0 *a.m.*; the Sisters Dacre, duettists, do a pleasing turn; Miss Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne, obtains appreciation; Miss Eily Adair is a capable and vivacious comedienne and dancer; Burnett, quick-change character musician, is successful; and Miss Georgie May sings ballads in good style. The performance concludes with a fine display of Vernon's animated pictures.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Miss Ethel Arden and Mr George Abel are presenting here a capital sketch, *Three of a Kind*, supported by a competent company. Mr and Mrs Edward H. Lucas highly distinguish themselves in character sketches from Dickens; Ned Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford have an amusing comedy sketch, *Getting Even*; Jules Keller does some clever feats, including a sand dance on his hands; Vansart performs several strong acts in the way of bending tenpenny nails, &c., and also presents some fine poses to display his muscular development; Edward Clode sings baritone songs in approved style; Dion Wade, comedian, has some quaint songs; and Miss Marie Elsie is a pleasing serio and dancer. The performance concludes with some interesting animated pictures.

Drill Hall.—There is a good and extensive exhibition of home appliance here, including many interesting novelties. Excellent programmes are arranged by the Royal Artillery Mounted Band, under the direction of Mr Henry Sims; and the Cecilian Glee Singers provide a number of songs and quartets.

BURY (LANCS.)

Theatre Royal and Opera House, Limited.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Mr Fred Karno's company is playing the musical comedy *From Saturday to Monday* here this week. The company is a strong one, and includes several good comedians. Mr Tom Wallace is good as John Willie Jaggs, and is ably assisted by Mr Austin Lenton as John Willie Jaggs, jun. Mr W. Bentley, Mr Douglas Fox, Mr Percy Parkins, Miss Aggie Morris, and Miss Gladys White. The Daisy Dancing Girls give several good exhibitions of their art.

COATBRIDGE.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr Fred C. Somerfield's company opened here on Monday with *A Life's Revenge*. Mr John F. Traynor manfully portrays Paul Starovitch; Mr Somerfield powerfully enacts Prince Boris; Mr Walter Roberts displays ability as Michael Orloff; and Nicholas is ably presented by Mr Sidney Ernest. Miss Dagmar excels in the rôle of Princess Vanda; Miss Katherine Eckhart makes a scheming Marcia Vittoria; Miss May Davis is a clever Daphne Dashaway; and the remaining characters are well cast.

CAMBRIDGE.

New Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—A further attraction for the vacation was presented here on Monday by the appearance of Miss Mary Austin and Mr E. Vivian Edmond's company, in *The Golden Ladder*. Mr Harry Cullenford as the Rev. Frank Thornhill made an excellent exponent of the straightforward clergyman; Miss Mary Austin played the part of Lilian Grant naturally and gracefully; Mr E. Vivian Edmonds as Michael Sevour made a handsome villain; Mr John Owen was amusing as Samuel Peckaby; Miss Nellie Graham made the most of the small part of Mrs Peckaby; and Mr Graham Winsford was successful as M. Peranzo. The scenery was excellent.

CARDIFF.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—*The Belle of New York* is paying its farewell visit here this week. The musical comedy is presented by Mr George Musgrove's company, as on previous visits, and is as attractive as ever. Mr Harry A. Meymott proves an able comedian, and gets plenty of fun out of the character of Ichabod Bronson; Miss Beatrice Lamotte as the Belle sings well and acts charmingly; Mr Philip Leslie plays Harry Bronson in easy style; Mr Frank Lawton as Blinky Bill has a flattering reception in his whistling scene; Mr Max Copland as the polite lunatic is full of quaint humour; and Messrs Selby and Sealy are amusing as the Portuguese Twins. Miss Winnie Browne is a dashing Cora Angelique, and Miss Lillian Digges daintily impersonates Fifi. Mr Cecil Burt is capitaly suited as Doc Sniffkins.

King's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General-Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—As a change, the management has secured the engagement of *A Trip to Rum-Fum* company, which presents that musical comedy with great success. The company is under the direction of Miss Cissie Moxon. Mr Willie Garvey as Larry O'Hooligan, a son of Erin, is a first-rate Irish comedian, while Mr W. S. Hutchinson as Biddy O'Hooligan acts a difficult rôle with much credit. Miss Moxon as Flossie Kixie has a part which particularly suits her. The rest of the cast is in capable hands.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—Mr Ernest Shand's songs were fully appreciated and applauded here on Monday. Tom Edwards, the modern Valentine Vox, provided an excellent turn. The Harvey Boys are as smart as ever with the gloves, and prove a decided "hit." The programme is of unusual strength, and includes the Three Laurels, in their orignal speciality on the ping-pong table; Nina Martino, chanteuse; O.H.M.S., in a novel and pleasing performance, introducing their cleverly trained animals; Lio Lill, American-Indian coon artiste; Miss Maud Mortimer, in her ably rendered scena entitled "Destiny;" the two Brothers W. and W. Ethairien, with songs and patter; and Andy Burn, character comedian and high-class dancer.

CASTLEFORD.

Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—*The Indian Mutiny* is being played here this week by Mr Frank E. Burdett's company. Mr H. Ryeland Leigh undertakes the part of Lieut. Manley, and wins much applause for his vigorous and clever portrayal. Mr H. G. Brandon represents Captain Manley, and does well in the rôle. Major Ingleby is ably impersonated by Mr W. S. Tindall. Miss M. Digby has a trying part as Ghuznah, and acquits herself in a powerful and artistic manner. Kate Ingleby is played by Miss Agnes Kingston, who is excellent in the part, while Mrs Major Ingleby is cleverly acted by Miss Kate Bruce. Mr Villier Stanley vividly draws the desperate and unscrupulous character of the traitorous Nebu Singh. From Mr Ernest Keand comes a telling portrayal of Ra Goonga. Abul Khan is well played by Mr J. S. Shedden. Mr Fred Denman's genial humour is very popular as Terry O'Brien.

CHELTENHAM.

Opera House.—General Manager, Mr H. Oswald Redford.—This week *The New Clown* pays a return visit. Mr Stanley Cooke in the title-rôle gives an accomplished performance; Mr Herbert Greville submits a clever study of the bewildered and vulgar circus proprietor; Miss Kate Yates is a graceful equestrienne; Mr Fred Lake a bibulous clown; Mr Fred Paul as the boisterous human animal is excellent; and Mr James Benwell as the lovelorn Modern Hercules is good. The other parts are in capable hands. *The Test* is an effective curtain-raiser.

Victoria Rooms.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. B. Shenton.—Miss Dorothy Oswald's company in *East Lynne* is a strong attraction this week. Miss Oswald enacts Lady Isabel with every appreciation of the pathetic situations; Mr Herbert Barrs as Archibald Carlyle is good; and Mr Pascoe Bioletti as Francis Levison does well. Mr George Beel as Lord Mountsevern, Mr H. Kennedy as Lawyer Dill, Miss Maggie Stewart as Joyce, Miss Tilly Stewart as Barbara Hare, and the other members of the company are appreciated.

CHESTER.

Royalty.—Proprietor, Mr Milton Bode; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Burgess Harries.—This week an Indian drama entitled *Wep-ton-no mah*, is being staged. It is full of exciting incidents of Indian life. The leading lady, Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, an American Indian, besides being a very capable actress, is also the authoress of the play. She is supported by a good company.

CHORLEY (LANCS).

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—Mr Henry Furnival is presenting here *The Harvest of Sin*. Mr Charles H. Lester appears in the dual rôle of Harold Mainwaring and his half-brother Arnold, and his acting is marked by exceeding cleverness. Paul De Brisionere is powerfully rendered by Mr E. Valentine and he is ably assisted by Mr J. F. Millard as Silas Logan. Miss Louisa Peach is very successful as Grace, Paul's wife, and May Mainwaring is charmingly portrayed by Miss P. Hastings. The respective characters of Harold and Gladys Mainwaring are well sustained by Miss Maggie English and Miss K. Willoughby. Mr S. Compton is good as George Mainwaring.

COLNE.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Gerald Harding.—The attraction here the first four nights of this week was the thrilling play *At Twelve Midnight*, played by Mr and Mrs Charles Clifford's company. Mr Clifford sustains the part of the Wolf in a creditable manner, and as Dick Holland, the detective, Mr H. Griffiths deserves a word of praise. Mr Harry Cooke is amusing as Sammy Bimbo; Miss Maud Camfield in the rôle of Hazel Dene is well received; and as Gertrude De Sage Miss Trevalyan plays well. On Friday and Saturday nights the play *On Circumstantial Evidence* was staged.

COVENTRY.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—The old favourite *Two Little Vagabonds* is being played by Hardie and Von Leer's company at this house, and is still a great source of attraction. George Thornton is well represented by Mr Talbot Homewood, and Captain Darville finds a capable exponent in Mr Douglas Cecil. Bill Mullins, alias the Gaffer, is in the hands of Mr H. Hesselgrave. Miss Elene Lonsdale is very sweet and pathetic in her rendering of Marion Thornton, while Miss Edna Eden is responsible for Barbara Scarth. Miss Eleanor Papera makes a capital Biddy Mullins, and Miss Kate Hesselgrave appears as the hospital nurse. The two little vagabonds, Dick and Wally, are represented respectively with great credit by Miss Freda Ettrick and Miss Violet Carr.

CONSETT.

New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—Messrs Darcy and Little's company is here this week with *On the Stroke of Twelve*. Mr Fred Rivers and Mr Fred Guinness as Jack Rutledge and George Bainbridge respectively are most creditable in their respective parts, and as James Horton, the villain of the piece, Mr Creagh Hunt plays well. Mr Harry C. Robinson is good as Henry Rutledge, and as Moses Levi Mr Karl H. Edwards is an excellent Jew. Mr Fred J. Little is the life and soul of the piece as Jasper, and is well supported by Mr Will Bass as Pat Cahill. Miss Nellie Moore is most pleasing as Jess Bainbridge, and Miss Bertha St. Ruth is satisfactory as Doris Rutledge. Miss Elma C. Turner is successful as Marie Bergerre. The variety turns introduced in act three by Mr Fred J. Little, Messrs Bass and Guinness, and Mr Karl H. Edwards are a feature in the play, whilst the singing of Miss B. St. Ruth and the dancing of Miss Nellie Moore is deservedly applauded.

CORK.

Opera House.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Mr Silvanus Dauncey and Mr Charles V. France's company opened here in the new comedy, *Whitewashing Julia*. As Julia Miss Ruth Maitland won great favour and applause in her rendering of the part. Miss Kate Bishop as Lady Pinkney was successful, and gave a good portrayal of the part. Miss Marie Lohr was successful as Trixie Blenkinsop. As William Stillingfleet Mr H. Asheton Tonge gave a clever impersonation. As the Hon. Edwin Pinkney Mr Willox Cadogan pleased, and Mr Carter Bligh filled the part of the Hon. Bevis Pinkney with distinction, and Mr Archibald M'Lean as Mr Samways, the lawyer, was successful. The minor parts were well sustained.

CREWE.

Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—Mr J. Gar Kiddie's company has presented this week, for the first time in Crewe, the musical comedy entitled *A Chinese Idyl*, and it has met with a cordial reception. The author, Mr Fred Danvers, is exceedingly well placed as the Viceroy, and performs the duties of stage-manager very satisfactorily; Mr D. Dewick as Tang-a-Lang joins to the full in the rollicking fun in which the comedy abounds, and his humorous patter causes much amusement; Mr F. H. Dundas makes a dashing sailor, Lieut. West; the character part of Ching-Foo is powerfully portrayed by Mr J. G. Maine; Pitti Pat is well presented by Miss M. Mainwaring, who is the fortunate possessor of a sweet voice; Miss B. Frank gives an up-to-date picture of Belle Brighton; and Princess Stephanie is embodied by Miss E. Milsted in an exceedingly vivacious manner. The orchestra is ably conducted by Mr Bevan.

CROYDON.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—A welcome visit is being paid here by Mr George Dance's company in *The School Girl*, which is full of melody and interest. The dresses are bright, and the chorus is attractive. Mr Leslie Holland is full of animation, and submits a whimsical rendering of Sir Ormesby St. Leger; Mr Charles Adeson gives a grotesquely amusing portrayal of General Marchmont; Mr Alfred Leslie is an active and humorous Tubby Bedford; Mr Cameron Carr makes the most of his chances as Peter Overend; Mr Frank Sutton is a quaint Corner; Mr Lister Morrah sings with good effect as Edgar Verney; and a meed of praise is due to Messrs Frank Lennard, F. M. Rickards, and Ernest Milward as Jacques De Crevert, George Sylvester, and Adolphe Delapols. Miss Ethel Beech, an enchanting Lilian Leigh, sings and dances in exquisite style: Miss Gracie Sinclair has a pretty method as Cicely Marchmont; Miss Grace Winon is a commanding Mrs Marchmont; Miss Nell Hope is a buxom Saafreda; Miss Molly Walbran looks charming as Mamie Rockfeller; Miss Eleanor Seveal is refreshing as Marianne; and Miss Mildred King's voice is heard to advantage in the rôle of the Mother Superior. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr Edward H. Whitehall.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy* is being staged here by Mr Henry Swinerd's company. Miss Kathleen Garnon is charming as Ruth Montrose; Miss Marjorie Cecil is all that can be wished as Dorothy Montrose; and Misses Mabel Blake and Lillie Blake are excellent as Rosy Ann and Polly. Mr Walter Boyce capitally enacts the rôle of General Carston; Mr W. F. Green acts and sings creditably as Captain George Fielding: Mr Henry C. Ward is praiseworthy as Captain Edward Dudley; Mr A. Stretton does well as Hawkins; Mr Arthur Verne creates plenty of fun in the character of Silas Crump; and Mr Frank L. Oliver deserves a word as Featherstone Haugh. The varieties introduced in the piece are a pleasing feature.

Palace Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The entertainment here is excellent. Miss Flo Melville is a burlesque artiste who is making rapid strides to the front rank; Dezmonti and Mora, in their triple bar act, are exceedingly smart; Harry Champion is a comedian of resource; Jessie Preston is an accomplished comedienne; Sable Fern, serio, is much liked; Cyrus and Maude and donkey Bess are well worth seeing; Harry Cotton, comedian, hits the mark; Terry and Lambert, in comedy turn, are applauded; Christo is a clever illusionist; Grove and Chalmers are an untiring comedy pair; Los Granadas are eccentric gymnasts; and Marie Burdell is a taking comedienne.

DARLINGTON.

Royal.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—Mr George Dance's excellent company is here again in the popular musical play *A Chinese Honeymoon*. As Mr Pineapple Mr Harry Brayne is exceedingly humorous. Very excellent representations of their respective parts are given by Mr Frank A. Wood, Mr F. Allerton Turner, Mr Lougard May, and Mr Percy Yorke. As Mrs Pineapple Miss Jesse Collins soon establishes herself a favourite with the audience; whilst as Soo-Soo Miss Marie Adair acts with grace and sings in a pleasing manner. Miss M. Sadie in the character of Fi Fi is a great success, and Miss Alice Drummond as Mrs Brown and Miss Annie Crisp as Mi-Mi add considerably to the success of the production.

DARWEN.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr E. Ormsby.—*The Two Little Sailor Boys* is being admirably played here by Mr W. H. Hallatt's company. Miss Blanche Steele makes a strong part of Lola Grey, an adventuress; an admirable contrast is the Mildred Grey of Miss Marie Daventry; Lucy Wilson, Mildred's maid, is spiritedly played by Miss Hilda Taylor; Mr W. H. Hallatt as Commander Treguthen has a good part, of which he makes the most; Lieutenant Redstone has a good exponent in Mr Leonard Booker; and Mr George Cecil Murray as Admiral Grey is very successful. The Two Little Sailor Boys are capitally played by Miss Ethel Francess and Miss May Day.

DONCASTER.

New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Limited.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—A great success has been scored by Mr E. St. Alban's opera company, in *Les Cloches de Corneville*. The Marquis de Corneville was played with great acceptance by Mr George A. Fox, who sang well. Mr E. St. Alban as Gaspard secured the plaudits of the audience; Mr George Delaforce gave a masterly touch to his representation of the Baillie; and Mr Fowler Thatcher was quite at home in his assumption of Gobo. Miss K. Farrell was a fascinating Germaine, and possesses a rich, mellow, soprano voice. Serpolette was daintily embodied by Miss Lucy Fitzroy.

DERBY.

New Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—*The Cherry Girl*, played by Mr C. Lubbock's company, by arrangement with Messrs Gatti and Frohman, is the attraction here this week. Mr Frank Lincoln as Moonshine and Happy Joe displays remarkable versatility, and scores heavily all round. As the Queen Miss Elsie Molloy, a gifted and graceful artiste, plays and sings admirably, and Miss Ethel Hart is a delightful Pansy. Miss Dorothy Frostick does some excellent work as Pas-Bas; Mr Hew Walker is quite successful as Starlight and the Squire of Homewood Hall; and some capital fun is provided by Mr Albert Fellno, who appears as Esau, the monkey, in the first act, and in the second as a gee-gee. Miss Rita Ravensberg as Sylvia in the first act, and as Millicent in the second, also acquits herself with gratifying success, and sings several good songs. The Steinway Quartet richly merit special mention for their excellent vocalism, as also do Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers, figuring as the Four Chameleons, for their clever terpsichorean illustrations and burlesque cake-walk. Children's parts are wonderfully well taken by Master Harry Williams as Snowball, the sweep, Miss Rosie Campbell as Dimples, his sweetheart, and Master Sidney Grata as the Rose of the Riviera. Messrs C. A. James and Alfred Ibberson are highly diverting in both acts, and, indeed, the company in every detail is one of first-rate excellence. The dresses are exceedingly effective, and the scenery is of an unusually high-class character.

Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—The Three Ferganas form the star turn here this week, and their acrobatic novelty, *Tumbling on a Car*, is very well received. American speciality artistes in the persons of Winona and King submit a unique entertainment, Winona presenting some remarkable rifle-shooting. The Three Sisters Selwyn are charming vocalists and dancers, and meet with hearty approbation. Charles Somers, a quaint comedian, is a success. Matt Wilkinson and company, who appear to advantage in an amusing sketch entitled *That French Woman*, are well worthy of commendation. Fred Horsfall, Yorkshire comedian, is very entertaining; Betma is a skilful magician and illusionist, and the Padleys are diverting in a comedy act, *A Private Lesson*.

DEWSBURY.

Theatre Royal.—Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—The Milton Rays are here paying a third visit with their *Hot Night* company. The artistes are again carefully selected, and the whole performance is one of incessant humour. As Whiffles Mr Rolando Martin, an excellent comedian, is the mainstay of the performance; Mr Arthur Milton continues a warm favourite as Frank Frith; the parts of Mark Maybury and Fontenoy Flutterwig are cleverly portrayed by Messrs H. T. Butler and H. Hope; and Mr Alfred Wellesley is to be commended for his excellent delineation of Sheerman. The Sisters Madge and Jessie Wrae play the rôles of Fanny Frith and Mary Maybury with their accustomed charm; Miss Susie Beaven as Polly Drake and Miss Clara Reid as Lucy Lorimer are energetic in their efforts to please; and a notable feature is the vocalisation of Mr Herbert Morgan, who is deservedly encored.

Hippodrome and Varieties.—General Manager, Mr G. Weldon.—The bill here continues to be of sterling merit. Miss Katie Holloway is a dainty comedienne, and a refined comedy act is that of Grey and Grace. Tom Stuart, actor-mimic, is good; and Goliath and Walford are strong attractions. The Abadaroffs in a comic acrobatic turn render good service; and Franz A. Crisp is a capital baritone. Paddy, in a new venture, is still popular.

DOVER.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Fred C. Dew.—*The Naval Detective*, a new dramatic musical comedy, presented by Mr Fred J. Kirke's company, has proved an undeniable attraction this week. Mr Arthur Hickman, a remarkably versatile actor, plays the hero, Jack Beresford, in a most able manner, and is repeatedly encored. Mr Robert Gilbert is in every respect an effective Dr. Schreiner, and Mr J. Noble as Hans Winklepump is exceedingly amusing. Captain Hustle portrayed by Mr Sid Hearns, in a capital make-up, is a clever performance, and Mr Walter Langford as the Hon. Bertie Fairlox is responsible for some excellent banjo songs. Miss Louie Fountaine, a sympathetic Phyllis Leslie, renders her songs with much expression, Miss Edith Claris (Mrs Fred J. Kirke) gives an amusing impersonation as Susan Scrubbs, and Miss Iris Banfield, the possessor of a charming voice, is heard to advantage in the pretty musical numbers of Lulu Kaufmann. The Quakeress, Rebecca Gentle, finds a good exponent in Miss Lily Seymour, and Miss Mamie Walsh and Miss Elsie Paul display remarkable cleverness in their graceful acrobatic dances. The play is well staged, the orchestra being under the able control of Mr Omar Dene.

DUNDALK.

Town Hall.—Proprietor, the Urban Council.—Mr Norman Macowan's company, under the management of Mr Payne Seddon, is presenting *Monsieur Beaucaire*. It is one of the best all-round companies we have had in Dundalk for a long time. As Beaucaire Mr Norman Macowan is most successful. Miss Violet Sterne is very good indeed as Lady Mary Carlisle, and proves herself a talented actress. Mr Stewart Wilson as the Duke of Winterset and Mr P. R. Forman as Captain Badger are all that can desired; and Mr H. A. Young as Beau Nash is capital. The remaining parts are well played, and the play is finely mounted, the costumes being very beautiful.

DUNDEE.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—*A Country Girl* pays a return visit here. Miss May Glen made a vivacious Nan, Miss Maud Harvey as Marjory Joy sang her solos excellently, Miss Veronica Brady, an old pantomime favourite, shone in the character of Sophie, Miss Aimee Roberts as the Princess Melaneh sang well. Mr Johnny Osborne as Barry kept the fun going all the time, Mr Vincent Bowyer as the Rajah acted with good effect, Mr Cyril Thompson as Geoffrey Challoner created a most favourable impression, and Mr George Mudie as Sir Joseph Verity was very amusing.

People's Palace.—Acting-Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—A great attraction this week is the appearance for the first time in Dundee of Chirgwin, "the White-eyed Kaffir." His performance fairly took the immense assemblage by storm on Monday, especially in his rendering of "My fiddle is my sweetheart." The Five Foys scored an unmistakable success with their sketch, *A Yorkshire Lad in London*, and their well-known sketch, *A Tourist Agent*. The Bros. Obo pay a return visit, and again meet with much approval. Louie Hurman and Violet Wilton score with their song and dance business, and Jack Foley concludes a fine show.

Empire.—Proprietors, Dundee Empire Company, Ltd.—*The Biggest Scamp on Earth* is the production on the boards here this week. Mr P. Carne Waram as Derrick Knight is the acme of villainy. Miss Frances Delaval proves herself to be a skilful artiste, and Miss Dorothy Mahomed makes a success as the heroine, Irene May.

Gaiety.—Proprietors, Messrs Dundee Gaiety Company, Limited.—*The Bank of England* is being staged here this week. Mr Hubert S. Chambers shows ability in the character of Sherlock Holmes; Mr Edwin Walton makes a capital Sir Sydney Barraclough; and others in the company include Mr Alfred Hilliard as Eric Dane, Mr Juan De Alberti as the Bank Director, and Miss Ada Collins as Sylvia Barraclough.

DOUGLAS (ISLE OF MAN).

GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Alfred Hemming; Acting-Manager, Mr T. R. Wood.—This week is the closing period of a too-short season at the Grand. Mr Walter Melville's play, *The Worst Woman in London*, is the attraction. The part of Frances Vere is treated by Miss Constance Medwyn with artistic audacity and success. The Jack Felton of Mr E. J. Collins has all the requisites of dashing appearance, elocutionary power, and a sense of proportion which enables the hero of such plays to maintain his importance. Miss Lilian Ross was pleasing and pathetic as Ruth Milford. The comedy relief was well taken care of by Miss Helen Rigby as Matilda Parker and Mr George Asquin as Bob Goldfinch. Mr Roy Byford was dignified as the man of affairs somewhere in the City. Vincent Lyle is played sincerely and with vraisemblance by Mr Paul Lewers. The scenery is a marvel of mechanical adroitness.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Palace and Derby Castle, Limited; Secretary and Manager, Mr Charles Fox, jun.—The value of Mr Fred Karno's company of comedians, in the pantomimic farce entitled *His Majesty's Guests*, has been duly estimated by the portion of the community they desire to please. The sole end and aim of this particular vehicle for the amusement of the public is to induce laughter. The Sergeant Lightning of Mr Harry Roxbury shows he possesses a vein of comedy entirely his own. He is quaint and adroit. Mr George Claremont is well placed as Mr Miffin. The Harry of Mr L. Sterling makes for popularity. Mr Victor Thomas causes Bunker to be of service. Mr Frank Morton has a capital manner, and sings, acts, and dances with effect. His Lord Easem evokes wholesome laughter. Mdlle. Edith Agor, Julie Renals, and Nellie Richard on play useful characters with prettiness, and Miss Florence Burns endows Lady Easem with charm, and renders her songs effectively. The audiences appreciate the company, the songs, the dances, the cleverly conceived pantomimic business. The scenery and appointments are all that could be desired, and the Empire Quintet made a distinct success.

THE programme at the Palace this week, which is concerned with cake-walks for local amateurs to which prizes are attached, has attracted large audiences.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Lessee, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—Mr Louis Calvert's company commenced a six nights' engagement here on Monday with *Sunday*. Miss Nita Faydon in the title-rôle gives a charming portrayal; Colonel Brinthorpe is rendered by Mr J. Edward Pearce in a highly satisfactory manner; Miss Elizabeth Watson submits a pleasing impersonation of Mrs Naresby; Mr Ernest A. Douglas as Tom Oxley acquits himself with credit; and as the Nun Miss Olive Adair is effective. The part of Arthur Brinthorpe is adequately played by Mr Charles B. Vaughan, and Mr Frederick Powell is successful as Towzer.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—*The Darling of the Gods* was presented here on Monday by Mr Tree's company. Miss Frances Dillon gives a clever portrayal of the rôle of Yo-San, and as Zakkuri Mr Robert Pateman is highly successful; as Kara Mr Douglas Gerrard displays much ability; Mr Ivan F. Simpson presents a careful study of the part of Saigon; Mr Arthur Vezin capably fills the rôle of Tonda-Tarji; and Miss Eve Muriel is seen to advantage as Rosey Sky. As Madame Asani Miss Rhoda Ray is effective, and Mr Douglas Payne is creditable as Inu. Miss Edith Deverill is excellent as Setsu (Yo-San's maid), and as Hassebe Soyemon Mr Alexander Haviland is capital.

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—A full house was present on Monday to witness *Napoleon the Great* by Mr Frank M. Thorne's company. Mr Hugh Montgomery in the rôle of Napoleon scores a distinct success; as Mdlle. Leonie Marboeuf Miss Maud Russell is excellent; Colonel Lavarennes is ably played by Mr Henry Earlesmere; and Miss Florence Thorne makes an effective Mère Doumont. The part of Pierre Pomponnet has an able exponent in Mr Frank M. Thorne; Mr C. W. Spencer is capital as Sergeant Choupin; Mr Charles Halling makes an acceptable Colonel Jules Mewron; and Miss Marie Harcourt is good as Marcelle Choupin. As Paul Lackinska Mr M. Morley Carroll is satisfactory, and Miss Crissie Dunbar is pleasing as Marie Walewska.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—The strong bill presented here this week is headed by Harriett Vernon, whose clever songs are encored nightly. Nellie Coleman, styled the only lady comedian, is a clever turn; Brown and Le Clerq in their Negro absurdity, *A Dark Night Before Us*, cause roars of laughter; Tatten Hall is a smart burlesque comedian; the Two Graces are a vivacious pair of duettists and dancers; and Dome, the clay modeller, is a capital show; Stave is an acceptable comedy artist, and the Empire Pictures are also good. Pat Rafferty also appears.

TIVOLI THEATRE —General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.— Ara, Zebra, and Vora and the Squaw Buffalo, in their novelty act, "Indian Pastimes," top the bill here this week, and are well received. Lily Morris, who makes her first appearances here, is a chic comedienne, and Charles Coverdale is quaint. Royal Best, facial expert, in his impersonations of celebrities, is an entertaining turn; Princess Lulu is a graceful transformation danseuse; Belrose and Develin are excellent operatic duettists; and Tell and Tell, comedy acrobats, are highly amusing. Mephisto, society contortionist, and the Lebars, comedy gymnasts, are also in the bill, and the Bioscope pictures are attractive.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr Auguste Van Biene, supported by a powerful company including Miss Lena Burnleigh, is here in *A Broken Melody*. Mr Van Biene once more enthralled his audience by his powerful portrayal of Paul Borinski. Miss Burnleigh is refined and pathetic as Mabel; Miss Ida Chapman assumes with stately grace the rôle of the Duchess De Verviers; Mr T. P. Haynes deserves unqualified praise for his humorous impersonation of Dudley Mortimer; Mr Chas. A. Morgan is pompous and dignified as Dixon, being ably assisted by Miss Avis Graham as Mrs Dixon; Mr Arthur Bawtree is distinctly good as General Invanoff; and two amusing characters are furnished by Mr E. Laceby and Miss Morton as the Honourable Richard and Mrs Spinacker. Mr Edward Van Biene is the capable and courteous business-manager.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—The turns here this week include Johnson and Bert, in a novel act entitled *A Queer Customer*, in which some very clever and amusing work is done. The Howards, comedy artists, are smart, and the Three Novels, society acrobats, are again delighting Dudley audiences. Wilson Hallett is exceptionally clever in his imitations of little children; Larry Lewis, comedian, sings good songs; and Arthur Forrest, comedian and dancer; Rose Newport, comedienne; and Olive Armidale, descriptive vocalist, are also in the bill.

DUMFRIES.

THEATRE ROYAL —Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Pott.—W. Payne Seddon, with Mr Charles Macdona's company, in *Are You a Mason?* was here the first three nights of the week. Mr Edward Thirlby as Amos Bloodgood gives a good portrayal of the character. Mr Arthur Claremont scores as Frank Perry. Mr William Pringle as George Fisher shows conspicuous ability. Mr Stanley Bell is a very creditable Ernest Morrison. Miss C. Groves as Mrs Caroline Bloodgood is all that could be desired. Miss Leila Russell as Eva is extremely natural. Miss Levens as Annie and Miss Pearl Keats as Lulu are charming. Miss Nell Douglas as Lottie, the maid, is smart The piece was well received. Good houses.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE-PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr A. Standen Triggs.—Mr Louis Calvert and Mr Herbert Ross's company has been appearing here, in *Sunday*. Miss Marie Polini, who as the heroine, is sweet and charming, is always equal to the many demands made upon her. Miss Maude Henderson is a very good Mrs Naresby, and Miss Dorothy Gordon does all that is necessary as the Nun. Mr W. Edwyn Holloway does capable work as Colonel and Arthur Brinthorpe; Mr Arthur Willoughby is a distinct and effective Tom Oxley; and Mr David Curtis is a capital Davy. Mr Arthur Somers gives a strong, capable performance as Jacky, and he grips the audience throughout; and able exponents of Towzer and Lively are Mr Henry Stephenson and Mr Alfred Phillips.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—*The Bells of Haslemere* has been presented here. Mr Leonard Yorke gives a fine, manly portrayal of Frank Beresford, and gains unstinted applause for his admirable efforts; Mr Montague Turner is a polished and effective John Silkstone; Mr Charles A. Chandler gives a good account of the rôle of Captain Vere; Mr C. Cecil is a favourite as Reuben; and Mr Douglas Hamilton and Mr Fred F. Allen do good work as Matthew and Joseph Thorndyke, Miss Mary Hardacre is a refined Evelyn; Miss Lilian Rignold is a bright, lively Dorothy; Miss Stafford Smith is a subdued and earnest Mary; and Miss Florence Chambers does all that is necessary as Nora. The drama is well staged.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—A good variety programme is given here. Mason and Bart supply an exceedingly clever and daring gymnastic performance, which well deserves the hearty applause it obtains. The Wallys are skilful comedy jugglers; Mr Cyrus Dare does an original turn with his child-studies, and proves popular; the Sisters Anderson are expert feet equilibrists; Mr Nelson Hardy does a clever ventriloquial act; Mr J. D. Hunter scores with his songs; Maxwell and Frances are bright singers and dancers; Mdlle. Alencon gives a good conjuring exhibition; the Brothers Harrison are funny singers and smart dancers; and Mabelle May, a pleasing artiste, completes the company. At a matinée on Wednesday Mr Laurence Irving and his company appeared in *Richard Lovelace*. A very polished and appealing performance of Richard was contributed by Mr Laurence Irving, Mr William E. Ashcroft was a powerful and dramatic Colonel Hawley, and Miss Mabel Hackney was a tender, sweet Lucy.

TOWN HALL. — Manager, Mr W. Kennard.—A refined, varied, and interesting entertainment is being given here during the week by Madame Lloyd's choir. Miss Mary Young has an excellent voice and appearance, and her songs are admirably given. Il Floretta, with the aid of coloured sand and smoke, rapidly produces pictures in a clever, novel way. The cornet solos of Miss Ida Macqualter prove very popular; Miss Cissie Senior is a sweet double-voiced vocalist; Miss Jess Thorne amuses with her songs, and Miss Myra Bennett and Herr Gustave Tobler contribute Swiss duets in an effective manner. Excellent violin solos are played by Mr H. W. Galpin, Mr Gilbert Childs sings comic songs well, and attractive animated pictures conclude the performance.

EBBW VALE.

KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Manager, Mr Arthur Knight.—Last week, during the concluding three days, Mr W. Penrhyn Tester's company was accorded a hearty welcome in *At Break of Day*. Mr James English as Richard Thorneycroft was responsible for a fine impersonation, and Miss Annie Thomas, a popular favourite, as Henrietta Stubbs and Mr T. E. Conover in the pleasing part of Jeremiah Stubbs were the life of a very smart performance. On Monday Mr Beresford Innes's company, with *The Black Mask*, opened to good business. Mr Beresford Innes gave a weird performance of Henri Lenoir, and the other parts were all well sustained.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Hague; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—Mr George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company is here this week in *Judy*. Mr Kirk gives an impressive and original rendering of Grip, the detective. In the dual-rôle of Alice and Polly Miss Neil proves herself an accomplished actress, and is loudly applauded. Miss Florrie Groves is vivacious in the title-rôle and Miss Muriel Thompson is thoroughly efficient as Blake. Mr Carlton Wallace as the villain Duburg is villainous enough for anything, and Mr Wm. Vane is good as the hero Sterling. Mr Will Casey should not be forgotten for his portrayal of Jim.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Ltd; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—The last play written by the late Mr Wilson Barrett is the welcome attraction at this theatre this week, and on Monday evening *Lucky Durham*, as presented by Mr William Greet's company, was received with every mark of favour by a well-filled house. Mr William F. Grant appeared with great success as the hero John Durham, his acting throughout being full of strong dramatic feeling and restrained power. Mr Henry De Solla gave a careful and finished rendering of the unsympathetic part of Lord Mountfallon, while Mr Paul Belmore introduced some bright touches of comedy as the Hon. Reginald Steighton in a happy and effective manner. Mr Stanley Harrison was a gentlemanly Arthur Walcomb, and Mr Daniel M'Carthy made a clever study of Richard Vallerton. Other parts were all in capable hands. As Helen Vallerton Miss Phyllis Ralph won all hearts by her charming and unaffected acting, her graceful presence and sweet voice adding greatly to the success of her performance. Another winsome personation was the Margaret Steighton of Miss Jessie Winter, while Miss Nellie Bonser displayed much tenderness as Mrs Durham. Misses Mary Relph and Gertrude Robins were capital exponents of Lady Mountfallon and the Duchess of Hovecourt. The play was completely and beautifully staged, and the rich and handsome costumes were quite a feature of the production.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—On Monday a large audience welcomed Mr John Hare and company in Mr J. M. Barrie's latest comedy, *Little Mary*. It is needless to say the play had an admirable rendering, and the author's marvellously clever and witty dialogue was followed by attention and appreciation by the audience. Mr John Hare, who had a most cordial reception, had a congenial rôle in the Earl of Carlton, and his rendering was marked with that completeness of artistic detail and suavity of manner so characteristic of that celebrated actor; the vein of tenderness which underlies the character of the Earl was also effectively displayed by Mr Hare in his scenes with Moira. Mr Carter Pickford acted in a natural and earnest manner as Lord Rolfe, and Mr Eric Maturin showed promise as the schoolboy Earl of Plumleigh. Mr Fred Grove gave a realistic picture of the old chemist, Terence Reilly, while Messrs Rudge Harding and Clifford Brooke were dignified and satisfactory as Sir Jennings Pyke and Dr. Topping respectively. Mr Edgar B. Payne completed the cast as Mr Deighton. Among the ladies the chief honours of the evening fell upon Miss Hilda Trevelyan, who at once proved herself an actress of many gifts. She was eminently suited to the rôle of Moira Loney, and whether as the child-mother in the prologue, or the girl healer in the play, her acting was replete with girlish charm. Miss Helen Rous played the Countess of Plumleigh with much dignity and repose, and Misses Kathleen Gordon-Lee and Beatrice Kelstone appeared to advantage as Lady Milly and Eleanor Gray. The scenery and appointments were all that could be desired. The one-act play *'Op o' me Thumb* preceded, in which Miss Hilda Trevelyan essayed her original part of Amand Afflick.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Mr R. A. Roberts, the Protean actor, heads a strong company this week, and on his appearance in his dramatic sketch, *Dick Turpin*, had a warm reception. By his versatility and clever ability as a quick change artist Mr Roberts caused much interest, and was the recipient of loud applause. The famous coster comedian Alec Hurley was well received in *The Coster's Friendly Lead*, a sketch in which he was seen to great advantage. He also delighted the house with one or two of his coster songs. Gertrella, the charming gymnast, proved herself a graceful dancer, and "In Cupid's Garden" also did a clever trapeze act. Leo Tell gave a capital turn as a mimic, and Howard and St. Clair, American comedy artistes, appeared with much acceptance. The Devona Sisters gave a daring exhibition in the air; while Ben Albert, a smart comedian; Harry Coates, the singing navvy; Phil Hermann, character comedian; and Woodhouse and Wells, clever comedians and dancers, complete the company.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—The stirring melodrama *Sins of a City*, by Miss Nita Rae, was presented here on Monday by Miss Winifred Maud's company. There was a capital house, and the piece was well received. Mr Royce Carlton was a manly and stirring Sandy M'Donald; while Messrs Norman V. Overton, Du Cane, and J. W. Baxter gave admirable support. Miss Winifred Maud played the heroine, Seaweed, with naive sweetness and much power, being enthusiastically applauded. The drama was realistically staged.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—Miss Emma Hutchison's company occupies the boards here this week with *Cousin Kate*. Miss Lillias Earle takes the title-rôle with considerable success; Mr Yorke Stephens handles the part of Heath Desmond with much ability; Mr Walter Ringham makes an excellent Rev. James Bartlett; Master Vyvian Thomas is commendable as Bobby; Miss Helen Leyton gives a pleasing rendering of Mrs Spencer; Miss Hilda Honiss is well suited as Amy Spencer; and Miss Betty Castle deserves praise as Jane. *A Case for Eviction*, an agreeable curtain-raiser, is played exceedingly well by Mr W. Ringham, Miss Betty Castle, and Miss Hilda Honiss.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt —For the first three nights of the week here the drama was *The Still Alarm*, by Mathew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company. Mr Glenville in the character of Jack Manley made a heroic lover. As Elinore Fordham Miss Mary Lovett realised the part of the loyal daughter. John Bird, the villain, was particularly well taken by Mr Paul Lovett; Miss Mabel Verlton was well placed as Mrs Manley; Miss Hettie Zillwood was a pronounced success as Carrie Wilber, and she and Mr Tom Beasley as Willie Manley provided much entertainment. The Doc Wilber of Mr Fred Osmond was well worthy of special praise. *Quality Street* was staged on Thursday.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr and Mrs Kendal and company in *A Scrap of Paper*, *The Elder Miss Blossom*, and *Dick Hope* were here for the first three nights of the week. On Tuesday *The Elder Miss Blossom* was played. Mr Kendal gave a capital rendition of Andrew Quick; Mr Ernest Hendrie cleverly portrayed Christopher Blossom; Mr Bassett Roe was excellent as Major Twentyman; Mr Leonard Hubert acted the Rev. Arthur Leacroft in a most capable manner; Miss Elise Clarrens was a charming exponent of Sophia Blossom; Mrs A. B. Tapping made a capable Cooper; Miss Lola Duncan was a satisfactory Mrs Wells; and Mrs Kendal as Dorothy Blossom acted the part in her well-known clever manner. Mr Charles Frohman and company in *Little Mary* were billed for the last part of the week.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs Keith Prowse and Co., Limited.—A capital programme includes Miss Lilian Gardner, a pleasing soprano; Mr Lawrence Crisfield, a baritone who is much appreciated; Mr Gurney Russell, a clever humourist; Mr Preston Woods, ventriloquist; and Mr Harry Hemsley, a versatile entertainer.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr Frank Seabrook.—Miss Mildred Jones, contralto, and Mr F. T. Studd, ventriloquist, are paying a welcome return visit here this week. Their vocal and ventriloquial efforts bring much applause. The ladies' band and the animated pictures are pleasing features.

GAINSBOROUGH.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robt. Kirk —Mr Finch-Hatton's company reappeared here for three nights last week in *From Scotland Yard*, Mr Hatton again giving his impersonation of Jack Dale, the detective. He was well supported by Mr C. H. Matthews as Dean Fordyce, the forger; Miss Marion Forrester as Mabel, Mr Jack Armitage, Mr F. C. Glenville, and Miss Renee Glendower. Songs and dances were introduced by Mr Jas. Hirste, Mr Jas. F. Fifth, Mr Mike Johnson, and Miss Nelly Hook.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—A strong variety bill, headed by the amusing sketch *Sensations*, is being submitted here. The Sisters Russell (Ida and Lil) provide an interesting turn; Bliss and Bliss are responsible for much amusement; Flo Villar, male impersonator, gives a really good turn; and Steel and Leing, the versatile couple, keep the house in roars of laughter; The musical motorist, Gus Barra, gives a good turn, and the Gladenbecks are a pair of exceedingly clever hand-balancers and ring experts. Dan Conroy, comedian; and Madame Louie, in a second-sight entertainment, also provide good turns.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL —Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—Miss Rose Faith and company opened here on Monday in the romantic play *No Cross, No Crown*. As Lady Clare Miss Faith plays a difficult part admirably. Miss G. Stewart, with womanly feeling and devotion, cleverly acts the dual rôle of Lady Margaret and Mistress Gray. The villainies of Austin Blake are depicted with much force by Mr L. Darra. Mr J. M'Bride is exceptionally good as Sir Francis Luttrell; his acting is marked by earnestness and sincerity. Mr H. Chapman does well as Professor Nebb. Mr H. Clifton causes much merriment as Dr. Ashby. Mr C. George plays the part of Rawson Haines with marked success. Little Mary Warden is delightful as Dorris, and Miss M. Elliott amusing as Dame Priscilla.

GUERNSEY.

ST. JULIAN'S HALL.—Lessee, Mr C. Robert Perkins.—*If I were King*, well staged and admirably acted by Mr Frank Fenton's excellent company, is the attraction here. Mr Fenton holds the audience intensely interested by his fine impersonation of Francois Villon. Another cleverly studied and finished performance is the Louis XI. of Mr Clive Currie. Mr Ernest Marsh is effective as Oliver le Dain, Mr Fred Garrett efficient as Tristran l'Hermite, and Mr Noel M'Gucken is a successful Noel le Jolys. Miss Marion Grey gives a dignified and stately delineation of Katherine De Vaucelles, Miss Una Gilberte is the Mother Villon, and Miss Louise Vanssiter submits a bright and spirited rendering of Huguette De Hamel.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphrys.—As Marguerite, in *La Montansier*, Miss Lena Ashwell has carried her audiences heartily with her this week. Mr Frank Mills as Neuville gives an excellent rendering, and shares the honours. Mr Charles Groves as St. Phar is well placed, and is heartily welcomed. As Barelle Mr Harry Halley makes a decided hit. Mr Thos. Holding as the Marquis De Pommeuse and Messrs Edward Knox, H. Pelden, and C. P. Peel as his aristocratic friends lend able support. Mr Charles A. Doran as St. Just acts ably. Miss Marie Hudspeth as Madame Brunet, Miss Beryl Mercer as Gertrude, and Miss Sydney Fairbrother as Mdlle. Senedar are noteworthy. The play is staged with much attention to detail.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—*The Duke of Killiecrankie* is here this week, played by Messrs Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's company. Mr Langhorne Burton is admirable in the title-part, and very successful is Mr Arthur Grenville as Pitt-Welby. Miss Doris Templeton is a charming Lady Henrietta. Miss Aida Jenoure succeeds well as Mrs Mulholland. As the Countess of Pangbourne Miss Ellen Standing is capital. Mr Howard W. Cochrane ably fills the part of Hicks, and good acting is done by Mr Guy B. Watson and Miss Helen Kay Robertson as the M'Baynes, the other servants being well represented by Misses Clarke and Ilene Hamilton and Messrs Guy Newall and J. F. Anson. In *A Case for Eviction* the characters are amusingly sustained by Miss Margaret Damer, Mr Howard W. Cochrane, and Miss Helen Kay Robertson.

KING'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—Mr Lewis Waller's company is here in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. As Captain Peyton Mr Thomas Kingston is undoubtedly successful, and the Major is finely represented by Mr Hilliard Vox. Mr George Mallet is a courtly Mr Valentine, and Mr J. Attfield makes much of the part of Edwards. As Black Sam and Cuff Messrs Tom Taylor and F. Perry, with Miss Edith Elton as Molly, contribute quite the requisite amount of fun. As Mrs Williams Miss Alys Rees makes much of the rôle. Miss C. Valetta as Brenda in the prologue is commendable. Miss Elly Malyon as Miss Elizabeth is charmingly attractive.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch. —*Laughter Land* proved just the entertainment for holiday week, and the marvellous Craggs in their acrobatic and funny business won much hearty applause from large audiences.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Mascard.—Mr J. Car Kiddie's company is here with *A Little Coquette*. Miss Lizzie Payne's Celia and Miss Flo Warner's Robin make a bright and engaging pair of lovers, and the Ann Teeke of Mr J. W. Groves, the Constable of Mr George Hestor, and the knock-about soldiers of Messrs Joe Bell and Jim Clarence keep the house in constant merriment. The Gabriel Grabbe of Mr Forsyth Bruce is a realistic study, and in their respective parts of Nevermind, Crowquille, and Longpull, Mr E. H. Bertram, Miss Nellie Butt, and Mr L. J. Headlam prove themselves singers of ability. The Milsted Quartet of dancers is still popular, and good work is done by the chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr E. C. Brierley.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—*The Voice of the People* is being presented here by Messrs Harris Fineberg and John F. Preston's company. The rôle of Walter Meredith is well portrayed by Mr Ernest R. Allen. Mr George R. Mountford does well as Steve Morris, and is ably supported by Mr Frank A. Osborne as Jem Butterworth. Mr John F. Preston appears to advantage as Barry Phelps. Mr Roy Thomas enacts Adolphus Green with great success, and the parts of Morris Morris and Captain Goodman are ably sustained by Mr Arthur Hartley and Mr Hardy Macro. Miss Gertrude Godart as Liz and Miss Hilda Shirley as Mary Maynard show ability. The acting of Miss Mabelle F. Barlow as Maggie Miggs and Miss Polly Taylor as Sal Jenkins is very natural, and the Tim Toosh of Mr Harry Benson is praiseworthy. The part of Lady Longthorpe is in the able hands of Miss Gladys Davidson, and Messrs Ernest Waghorne and Albert Wade are excellent as the sanitary inspector and the superintendent of police.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—Mr Charles Mackey is paying us a visit with *The Shaughraun*. His Conn is a fine impersonation, instinct with humour and racy of the soil. Excellent support is given by his company, including Miss Adele Liddon, Miss Kathleen L. Russell, and Mrs Chalmers Mackey, and by Messrs Reginald Garland, Harry Danson, Conway Hastings, and H. Sainsbury.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr George Green.—On Monday Mr James Stillwell and company presented *Queen of the Night* here. Mr Stillwell does good work as Philip Stoneleigh, and is ably assisted by Miss V. St. Lawrence as Pauline. Mr A. C. Campbell does justice to the rôle of Frank Cavendish, and Miss Katherine Burnett as Maud Sylvester is exceptionally good. Old Briskett has a good exponent in Mr F. Thorpe-Tracey. The comedy parts are well looked after by Mr Bert Atherton as Adolphus Briskett and Miss Polly Denville as Kitty White. A fine character sketch was Mr Paul E. Teulon's David Pentreath. Miss Marie Moore is judiciously cast as Mrs Briskett, as also is Miss Irene Tracey as Dick. The scenery and appointments are effective.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited.—Miss Vesta Tilley is again delighting Glasgow audiences by her varied repertory, and all her songs are heartily appreciated. The Haytors contribute one of their lively sketches, which goes smartly; the artistic dancing of My Fancy is enjoyable; Arthur Reece has several "catchy" songs; and Little Ganty's quaint "funniments" are highly popular. The M'Kays repeat their smart painting and comedy business; Brothers Damm are clever acrobats; Frank Hemming and Marie Free do an enjoyable double turn. Good items are contributed by Stewart and Morgan, the Three Sisters Chester, the Lannons, and Clown Ferreros.

TIVOLI, LIMITED —Managing Director, Mr Barney Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred C Ewing.—Katie Lawrence, in all her latest ditties, including "Oh, Charlie!" is very welcome here. Astley's American Circus provides much amusement, and the mule, pony, and revolving table keep up the excitement; Chas. Bignell is here with many new ditties; Grell and Grey do a clever lawn-tennis and athletic act; Slade Murray, J. A Cassells, George Barron, and Cullen and Carthy all score heavily as comedians; and Harry Zetter and Bendon's Bioscope contribute to a varied programme.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford.—Minni Letta's novel turn on the moving track is still the principal item on the bill here. Radford and Valentine are clever American comedy acrobats; Lottie Siegenberg's scena "The Lazy Slavey," with its quick-changes, goes well; Cullane Trio give a lively sketch, *The Dude's Dilemma*; the Arthur Saxon Trio display marvellous strength; Mdlle. Dora is a graceful young gymnast; the Three Prestons do a comedy turn of much humour; and Baker Belphor, baritone vocalist, is much appreciated.

QUEEN'S, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr T. J. Colquhoun; Acting-Manager, Mr B. M. Armstrong, Jun. —Leonard Barry, in his smartly worked-up scena, "The Moocher's Walk," is "going strong" here. The Jansons give a daring gymnastic display. Jack Charman, boy vocalist, is a sweet singer; Dainty Daisy Dormer again pleases the audiences by her neat and graceful dancing; Walter Stockwell is a comedian who always takes well here; Shavo, juggler; Linton, Harry Weldon, the Walkers, and Bendon's Bioscope complete a first-rate bill.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr William Biggam.—Henderson and Stanley, in their musical act, are clever, and have made themselves favourites; the Dunvilles are loudly applauded for their musical duologe, "Mansion Domestics." Miss Lena Brunton in her imitations shows exceptional talent; and J. H. Harris made a hit. George Wexland is responsible for much merriment. Roberts, dancers, are popular; Shavo's juggling meets with approval; Little Barney, comedian; J. M. Louie, tenor, and Clara A. Butler, complete the programme.

GLOUCESTER

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—*The Cherry Girl*, played by Mr C. Lubbock's company, is here this week. Miss Katie May gives a charming and artistic performance of the Queen, singing and dancing in first-class style, Mr H. Herbert is an excellent Moonshire, his Datas burlesque going capitally. Starlight is well sustained by Mr C. St. John Medley. As Grab and Snatchem Messrs Charles Seymour and Fred Delane are very droll. Miss Dorothy Frostick deserves high praise for neat dancing and acting as Mdlle. Pas Bas, as do Master Harry Williams as Snowball and Little Decima Brooke as Dimples. Miss Nina Gray plays admirably as Pansy; Master J. Saxo, with his horse (Mr Fred Le Franc), adds materially to the comedy; the Avondale Quartet (Messrs N. Ballard, Ford Robinson, E. Gordon, and F. Bentley), are responsible for some humorous and tuneful part-songs; and Miss Lottie Stone's Troupe of dancers score with graceful dances. Mr Clement Locknane presides over the orchestra, and the chorus is highly satisfactory.

GREAT GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—A new American drama, *An Actor's Romance*, has been presented here this week by Mr Cecil Barth's company, and its many novel features have drawn crowded houses nightly. Mr Guy Hastings fills the part of Harold Davenport, the actor, most successfully; as the wife, Louise Davenport, Miss Bertha Northam admirably realises all the requirements of the part. The exacting rôle of Florence Hastings is undertaken by Miss Beatrice Bevan with distinction, and as the gentleman burglar Mr Ernest Ruston is quite satisfactory. Some excellent light comedy is provided by Miss Charteris as Dottie Dillingham and Mr E. H. Dobell as Charlie Cummings. Commendation may also be accorded to Mr Percy Marmont as Jack Woodford, Mr John Detliv as Isidore De Valois, Mr Carl Lyle as Ikey Isaacs, Mrs Louise L'Estrange as Sal Wiggins, and little Marie Ada Dowsing as Phyllis.

HIPPODROME.—The performing animals owned by Mdlle. Luba De Sarema have provided a turn quite out of the ordinary at the Hippodrome this week. Her troupe includes midget ponies, dogs, a donkey, and an educated bull. Asra's juggling speciality, "A Juggler in a Billiard Parlour," has been very favourably received. Mdlle. Pollo Jerome has given an exhibition on the trapeze that was remarkable both for gracefulness and skill. The Marblesque Trio have presented some effective statuary tableaux, whilst other good turns have been contributed by Ethel Loftus, double-voiced vocalist; the Two Eltons, knockabout comedians; Johnny Gilmore, Australian comedian; and the Countees, humorous duettists.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

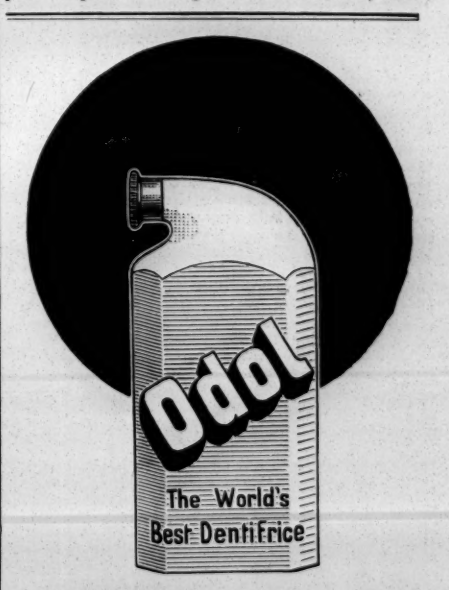
ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—*In the Ranks* is paying a return visit, and is admirably interpreted by Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage's company. Mr Edward Lloyd gives an earnest and manly rendition of the rôle of Ned Drayton; Mr Herbert Cecil is very successful as Gideon Blake; Ruth Herrick is sympathetically portrayed by Miss Edith Blair-Staples; Miss Ella Wilmer is excellent as Barbara Herrick. Other members of a long cast render adequate assistance.

HIPPODROME.—The last week of the season here is a time of benefits, and special attractions are provided each evening. The ordinary programme includes the Franz Family of acrobats; Julo Salmo, the Golden Mephisto; Helen and Emilon, Continental gymnasts; Jalvans, Oriental entertainers; Barker's performing dogs, monkeys, &c.; Downs, coloured ballad vocalist; and Maud Vera, the miniature Marie Lloyd.

BRITANNIA PIER PAVILION. — Managing-Director, Mr J. W. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr Edward Gray.—Miss May Sieber gains unstinted applause for the melodious and sympathetic rendition of her songs; Miss Maud Dewey gives a clever exposition of whistling; the Sisters Gatti amuse as American humourists; Phroso, the mechanical doll, puzzles and mystifies the audience; Tony Iveson causes plenty of laughter; and Madame Angless' Band plays excellent selections of music.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL —Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr Julian Malvern's company is here this week with the drama *I Defy the World*. Mr Lewis Gilbert gives an excellent impersonation of Leon Darville; Mr Joseph W. Worley is a capable exponent of Count De Beaulieu; Mr Chas. Conway enacts Laroche with success; and the part of General Delaporte is well played by Mr N. Denning Mr Horace E. Herbert is effective as Andre, and as Samuel Wozzle Mr Charles M. Julian is a general favourite. Miss Guinevere Shilton gives an excellent portrayal of Pauline Delaporte; Miss Lina Nazeby submits a powerful piece of acting as Blanche Darville; Miss



Odol is the first and only preparation for cleansing the mouth and teeth which exercises its antiseptic and refreshing powers not only during the few moments of application but continuously for some hours afterwards.

Maud Lillian fills the rôle of Marie Wozzle acceptably; and Little Vera Guyon is interesting as Fanchette.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—This week's company here includes the Dunvilles, smart vocalists and instrumentalists; Magna, in her statuesque tableaux; Onda and Leon, comedy triple bar experts; Percy Maye, a first-class lady impersonator; the Bransbys, comedy duettists; Rodin, eccentric cyclist; Sam Thomson, Scotch comedian; and Marcello Sanchez, in some amazing dental feats.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling — Mr George Edwardes's *San Toy* company, which is here this week, is giving universal satisfaction. The principals are all well up to their parts, the chorus is numerous and efficient, and the staging and dressing leave nothing to be desired. Chief honours rest with Messrs John Humphries (Yen-How), E. S. Staples (Li), Colin Coop (Emperor), Reginald Kenneth (Bobby Preston), and Misses Fanny Dango (a sprightly and attractive San Toy), Maud Darling, Louie Collier, and Alice Lethbridge.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil. — The latest American mystery, "Electro," is causing much curiosity here. It is a lay figure, over 6ft. high, which is produced from a small wooden box, and which goes through a series of evolutions and movements. G. H. Elliott, a particularly effective singer of coon songs, is very well received; Wood and Bates, musical comedians, give a good show; Burg, Haud, and Wise, comedy acrobats, do their work well; Walton and Lester are a funny couple, their burlesque conjuring being distinctly humorous; Mark Anthony is smart, versatile, and amusing; Sybil Montague sings her songs with taste; and Ray Maskell, comedienne, is chic and smart.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—*Quality Street* is being presented this week to capital audiences. Mr J. M Barrie's comedy is admirably enacted by Messrs A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman's company. Miss Grace Armytage Noble contributes an artistic reading of Phœbe Throssell; Miss May Whitty as Susan Throssell acts the part admirably; and Miss Lizzie Scobie as Patty is most successful. Miss Willoughby is well portrayed by Miss Rollo Deas; Miss Bertha Woolcote is a smart representative of Miss Fanny Willoughby; Miss Henrietta Turnbull finds a capable exponent in Miss Eveleen Mills; and Miss Alma Reeves Smith is a capital Charlotte Parrat. Mr David Glassford as Valentine Brown displays much ability; Mr A. Carlaw Grand as Ensign Blades is well placed; Lieutenant Spicer is capably acted by Mr Arthur H. Hill; and Mr Gordon Tomkins as the Sergeant is excellent.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—Troba heads the bill this week in his marvellous juggling performance; Sam Mayo is once more a huge success in his funny songs; the Borghetti Troupe are excellent in their acrobatic turn; Cora Casselli is a smart comedienne and dancer; Rex Fox on the wire is much appreciated; the Four Trees are an artistic success; the Phydoras in their musical act are smart and clever; Harry Taft scores a huge success; the Lupino Brothers are well received; Stella Stanley sings her songs admirably; and the Grand pictures are always interesting.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—Fred Karno's company of comedians in the pantomimic absurdity, *Hilarity*, heads the bill here. The barrel jumping by the Mozondas is a wonderful act. Hanvarr and Anna Lee are old favourites, as are also Mona Macdonald, a charming comedienne; Bert Weston, the swell comedian; and Joe Humphreys, character comedian, and all are having a hearty welcome. The Scotch funniosities of Wal Croft are irresistible, and a good all-round programme is completed by Hicks' Clerks and Burns' Bioscope.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock.—On Monday Mr Geo. Edwardes's company, in *The Toreador*, opened here for three nights and a matinée. The company is an excellent one, and the scenery and dresses were very smart. Mr Lional Victor as Sammy Gigg was exceptionally clever; the part of Sir Archibald Slackitt, Bart., was well played by Mr T. W. Volt; Mr W. H. Powell as Pettifer was good; and Mr John Donald as the Toreador acted and sang well. Miss Daisy Wallace made a charming and effective Dora Selby; the Susan of Miss Daisy Stratton was likewise a clever and graceful performance; and the dance by Miss Bessie Maddox was a pleasing item.

KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr H. J. Dacre.—The Municipal Orchestra has now been reduced for the remainder of the season, but the concerts continue to be well attended. Mr Nelson Jackson is the entertainer.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Geo. H Gaze.—On Monday a return visit of Mr Frank Fenton's company in the romantic play, *If I Were King*, found abundant favour at the hands of a large audience. Mr Frank Fenton played forcefully the important rôle of Francois Villon. The part of Louis Onze was impressively acted by Mr Clive Currie, Mr Ernest Marsh scored as Olivier Le Dain, and good work was done by Mr Leonard Maxwell as Thibaut D'Aussigny and Mr Lawrence Grove as Noel De Jolys. Miss Marion Grey's embodiment of Katherine De Vaucelles was very interesting, and Miss Louise Vansittber did excellently as Huguette De Hamel. The Mother Villon of Miss Una Gilbert was also a notable performance.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles H. Hawker.—The season's engagement of Ashton's Italian orchestra is drawing to a close, but judging from the attendance the interest is still maintained. Miss Gertrude Snow, soprano, sings with much sweetness and expression, whilst a Welsh vocalist, Mr Dan Thomas, contributes some fine tenor songs to the programme.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Local Manager, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Mr F. S. Gilbert's opera company is the attractive feature here. In the selected operas Mr F. S. Gilbert takes the principal character. His rich, clear tenor is a treat to listen to His rendering of the part of Tony, in *The Daughter of the Regiment*, is a capital performance. Equally successful is Miss Vera Vizard as Marie in the title-rôle. This lady possesses a voice of considerable power and sweetness. The Countess is a natural representation by Miss Ella Ross. Mr Karl Mora gives a decidedly military bearing to the part of Sergeant Sulpice. The interpretation of the other operas, *Il Trovatore*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, and *Maritana*, in the hands of Mr Gilbert's company, is in every way adequate.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—A well-selected company is attracting good houses here. The programme is varied and original. Miss Rose Cabani, comedienne and graceful dancer, is well received. Mr Hector is clever on the slack wire. Great amusement is caused by the eccentricities of Mr Harry Conlin, comedian. Meir and Mora give a skilful exhibition of ball punching. The vaudeville artists Spry and Austin afford great fun in their comic sketch. Some excellent representations of characters from Dickens are shown by Mr E. Forss. The Three Sisters Slater, vocalists and dancers, score a decided success. Larola, the funny man, has established himself a general favourite. Great laughter is caused by Mark Melford and company's farcical sketch entitled *Non-Suited*. Some excellent up-to-date pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson.—Mr John Cassidy's company, in the farcical absurdity *The New Muldoon's Picnic*, is proving an attraction here this week. As Michael Mulcahy Mr Edwin Garth plays the part with tact and ability; Mr W. G. Wesley leaves nothing to be desired as Denis Muldoon; and Miss Madge Cassidy as Kitty Muldoon is excellent. Mrs Muldoon is in the capable hands of Mr Leo Whambould; Johnny O'Brien falls to the lot of Mr W. H. Montgomery; and Gussie Tearle is successfully represented by Mr G. Cromwell. A pleasing impersonation of Captain Mishla is given by Mr H. Gilbert; Mr A. Selwood does well as Dr. O'Rafferty; Juno Smith is embodied by Mr Reg. Kloof; and the Jack Donovan of Mr H. Halliday is also very good. Ada M'Loughlin is admirably portrayed by Miss Grace Woodleigh, and Cora Muldoon finds an agreeable exponent in Miss Norah Waylet.

HORWICH.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Arthur Sandiford; Acting-Manager, Mr Alfred Holles.—Miss Marie Menzies' company, in *A Rogue's Daughter*, is the attraction this week. Mr Richard Ferris as Colonel Foster, a most unscrupulous scoundrel, looks and plays the part to the life. Mr A. Willis's representation of Sir George Mynard is decidedly good. Mr Wilfrid Blair's Frank Tyler is a capital performance, Mr Will Wilson fairly revels in the part of Ebenezer Dunnem, Jack of all trades, his songs and eccentric dancing being highly applauded. Mr A. Hall Menzies as Ercules creates roars of laughter, his weight-lifting business being extremely funny. Miss May Wyniard as Lady Mynard plays a difficult part admirably. Miss Marie Menzies gives an artistic and sympathetic rendering of Letty Gray. Dicky the Waif is cleverly represented by Miss Mabel Hall, her songs receiving unstinted applause. Priscilla Jenkins, Ebenezer's sweetheart, is excellently embodied by Miss Millie Doris, whose comedy business and singing and dancing are decidedly clever. The minor parts are in good hands.

HOYLAND.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr G. S. King.—Mr Hugh Osborne's company occupies the boards here this week in the sensational melodrama, *The Sins of the Fathers*. Mr Max Coutts as Sebastian Brandt is very good. Mr Arthur Traill as Mr Harmsworth, and Mr Wallace Eastlake as George Armitage are also deserving of praise. Mr Cecil Ravinswood sustains with ability the part of Jim Hewitt. Miss Dorothy Routh as Edith Harmsworth and Miss Beryl Ravenswood as Camille Leblanc are both good.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—The attraction for the local feast is provided by Mr Arnold Bell and his company with *Ben-My-Chree*, *The Shaughraun*, and *The Octoroon*. In the first-named piece, with which the week opened, Mr Bell gave a vigorous rendering of the part of Dan; Miss Francis Campbell was a sympathetic Mona; Mr F. C. Robson, a capable Ewan; Mr Frank C. Robson, a satisfactory Deemster; Mr H. M. Clifford, a dignified Bishop; Mr Wm. Reid, a smart Davy Fayle; and Mr Joe Bardsley, a quaint Hommy Begg. Miss Violet Campbell as Kitty and Miss Lilian Carle as Liza were adequate in their support.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; General Manager, Mr W. F. Morton —Mr Arthur Bourchier's company in *The Fairy's Dilemma* is the attraction this week, and one welcomes with pleasure the cleverness of the dialogue, which is so distinctly Gilbertian. As Colonel Mauleverer Mr C. V. France has a part to which he does the utmost justice. The part of Lady Angela finds an excellent interpreter in Miss A. Horner, and Mr F. Collins does capitally as Mr Justice Whortle.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wyn Miller.—*The Earl and the Girl* pays its first visit this week, and is one of the finest productions yet seen here. With Mr Wm. Stephens as Jim Cheese the fun runs fast and furious. Miss Aimée Grey nightly sings herself into public favour, and Miss Dot Carey, favourably known in Hull, scores very heavily. The chorus is as strong as it is pretty.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; General Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—*The Convict's Daughter* is appealing to the patrons this week, and when last here met with great success. Mr J. K. Watton is the Fred Neville, and acts with force and consistency. The piece meets with a favourable reception.

PALACE THEATRE. — Moss Empires, Limited; Local Manager, Mr A. Graham.—Harry Randall, ever welcome, is once more in our midst. Rafayette gives a very good dog show; and Les Brunins are good in a speciality act.

ALHAMBRA —Resident-Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet Perry.—Warden Reed and Dora Glenny top the bill in a farcical duologue, *Married or Photographed*, whilst the Brothers Donar bottom in a smart equilibristic acrobatic act. Ben Nevis scores as a step-dancer, and Merton and Rydon make a big hit in a vocal and dancing speciality act. Ed. Avon and Ethel Crest appear in a comedy act, and others supporting include Harry Meir and Gilbert and May.

CIRCUS.—Manager, Mr E. Emerson.—Dr. and Madame Vint, supported by a strong company, are concluding a successful two weeks' stay here.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—Mr Harry Starr's company opened here on Monday to a capital audience with *Otto the Outcast*. As Otto Mr Harry Starr displays distinct originality, and is the life and soul of the piece. As a vocalist he is a great success, his yodel and descriptive songs being vociferously applauded. Lara has a charming and clever exponent in Miss Ethel Danbury, who has no difficulty in ingratiating herself into the hearts of the audience. The craft and subtlety of Roderique D'Estalier, a kind of French Jonathan Wild, is graphically depicted by Mr Richard Harris, who scores with his song "Glittering gold." Mr William Miller submits an ingenious and well studied sketch of the miser, Daddy Bruneau, and Mr Conrad Clerke gives a finished performance of the Marquis Marcella De Laporte. Corinne has a capable impersonator in Miss Rita Rosslyn; Mr J. Turner is excruciatingly funny as Augustine Carrotte; and Miss Edna Lester is a bright and vivacious Susette.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr L F. A. Rogers.—Mr Bert Coote's company is here with *The Fatal Wedding*, which is received nightly with great enthusiasm. Mr Ernest Outtrim is an able exponent of the easy-going Howard Wilson, Mr Oliver Rogers is mildly villainous as Robert Curtis, Mr W. R. Chewd gets in some good work as Toto, and Mr John Wheatman as the genial German, Peter Schwartz, is highly amusing. Miss Helen Russell plays the pathetic part of Mabel Wilson with sympathetic power, Miss Doris Gilham as Cora Williams portrays the adventuress to perfection, and Miss Maud Locker gives an excellent character sketch of the Irish cook, Bridget. As Jessie Miss Maidie Andrews is natural and pathetic.

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL — Managing Director, Mr Cameron Burgess.—Mr Chas. Macdona's company is here this week in *A Country Girl*. Mr Jack Fortescue does well as Sir Joseph; Mr Jack Parson is very successful as the Rajah; as Geoffrey Chaloner Mr Percy Davison sustains his part in excellent style; and as Barry Mr Harry Emerie is as lively as can be desired. Miss Clara Judge acts admirably as Marjory Joy; Miss Lily Shaw makes a captivating Nan; and the part of Madame Sophie has a charming exponent in Miss Marjory Moore.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—A company under direction of Mr F. H. De Quincey and Miss Simo Seruya commenced a week's engagement here on Monday, *The Twin Sister* being played on the opening night. *Richelieu* and *The Red Lamp* have also been presented.

HIPPODROME.—The following are the attractions in this week's programme:—The Brothers Dryon in a burlesque musical act; Messrs Keen and Wallad, acrobats; Ray and Calden, comedians; Frank Weatherby and May Ellis, duettists; Haig and Novel, Miss Winnie Scott, serio; Hughes and Ellis, dancers; Marie Winsee, male impersonator; Miss Croft, vocalist; and the Hippograph with new films.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Secretary, Mr William Y. Oakes.—Mr W. Greet's company is here this week with *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr F. B. Woulfe gives an admirable rendering of Marcus Superous, while Mr A. B. Turner is well placed as Nero. Mr Charles Aldred gives a powerful portrayal of Tigellinus; Mr J. Wetherall is good as Lucinius; Miss Evelyn D'Alroy is excellent as Mercia; and Miss Ivy Millais is effective in the part of Stephanus. Mr Robert Hare is a manly Favius.

KEIGHLEY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Barnes.—Mr C. St. John Denton's company, in *Kitty Grey*, is proving a strong attraction here this week. The performance of Mr Leslie Harris as Lord Plantagenet is exceptionally clever. Mr Robert Selby enters thoroughly into the rollicking fun of the piece. Mr Robert Whyte, jun., is amusing as the King of Illyria. Miss Hilda Guiver worthily fills the title-rôle. Mrs Bright is in the able hands of Miss Emily Stevens, who scores heavily. Miss Constance Hamilton also deserves praise.

KENDAL.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr R. F. Chorley; Manager, Mr J. W. Butler.—Mr W. T. Rushbury's company occupied the boards Saturday and Monday with *In the Ranks*. Mr Bradford Crosby acts admirably as Ned Drayton Captain Holcrott as played by Mr Wilson Roberts is all that can be desired. Miss Madeline Hurst in the part of Ruth Herrick is seen to advantage. The company is a capable one, the other prominent members being Mr Edwin Firth, Mr C. H. Seaton, Mr Fred Luard, Miss Kitty Norton, and Miss Lillian Murray.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE —Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—Messrs Moule and Nicholls' company is here this week in *The Life that Kills*. Mr Hugh Metcalfe gives a manly interpretation of the hero, Hector Rodney, and Mr E. D. Nicholls is responsible for some good acting as the Rev. Theodore Rodney. Mr H. Sidney presents a powerful rendering of Kendal Croat, and Mr Morris Maud is sufficiently villainous as Valentine Telford. Jack Jolliffe is admirably played by Mr Harry Howe, and the comicalities of Mr Wilton Drury as Samuel Flatfoote are well received. Miss Vivian Montgomery is a sympathetic Laura Linden, Miss Cathleen Cavanagh is successful as Brenda Croat, and Miss Mabel Kessler portrays the dual characters of Tom and Johanna Dicks most artistically, her cornet solos being heartily applauded.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—The attraction here this week is Mr Ernest R. Abbott's company, who on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday appeared in the naval drama entitled *The Mariners of England*, while on Thursday and Friday *East Lynne* was staged. In the first mentioned play Mr Ernest R. Abbott as Lord Nelson was very realistic, while Miss Ada Abbott as Mabel Talbot faithfully portrays her part.

LANCASTER.

ATHENÆUM —Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—Mr Howell Webb's company in *The Convent Bell*, paying a return visit this week, proved a big attraction on Monday. Mr Howell Webb gave a capital impersonation of Henri Casella, and was ably supported by Mr Oliver Birrell as Philip Vautier, Mr Charles E. Howell as Colonel Vautier, Mr Lewis Thompson as Captain Drummond, and Miss Ella Sennett as Marguerite Courier. The staging was excellent.

LEAMINGTON.

JEPHSON GARDENS —Messrs Adeler and Sutton bring their short autumn season here to a close this week. Charlie Harvey, the comedian, stars the troupe, and with him are Miss Elsie Steadman, comedienne; Miss Emille Talt, soprano; Mr John Green, baritone; Mr J. Scotland, bass; and Mr Peter Flitcraft, pianist.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—The management of this cosy place of amusement has again returned to the drama, and has for this week secured the services of Mr Robert Perris's company in the American drama entitled *A Fight for Millions* Mr Robert Perris gives a capital impersonation of Tom Manley; Mr J. Newton Cowling in the character of Hudson Rivers is excellent; Mr W. S Stevenson does fine justice to the part of Richard Dudley, the villain of the play; Mr Larry Clements is successful as Willie Neverwork; and Mr Fred Acton scores as Solomon Moses, whilst Mr Nicholas Conway is well suited as Harold Hobbs. Miss Eva Purcell is charming as Pearl Rivers, and as Mrs Hudson Rivers Miss Fanny Williams plays the part in a satisfactory manner. Miss Evelyn Robson is very sympathetic as the deserted wife, Helen Dudley, and as Little Madge Miss Winnie Acton deserves praise.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—A good bill is topped by Geo. White's Arabs, who are well received for their singing and acting, as are also Turner and De Gray, in their comedy and dramatic episode, *Down on his Luck*. Mdlle. Haydee, with her Magical Electric Mannikin Theatre, is very pleasing; Mr Harry Glynn, with his company of comedians, still keeps the house in roars of laughter; La Belle Sylvia, child vocalist and dancer, Katie Le Blanche, vocalist, &c., are good; Andy Kerr, coon comedian, is well received; and the Hippodrome pictures complete a good all-round programme. To add to the attractions there is a local cake-walk competition for some valuable prizes.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King —Mr Douglas Bruce's company in *A Girl's Cross Roads* created a good impression here on Monday. Miss Lily Hammersley as Barbara Wade presented a terribly realistic picture of the dipsomaniac; Miss Ethel Bracewell is a sweetly pathetic Constance; Miss Kate Walfred puts fire into the rôle of Nellie Meadows; and Miss Gladys Newcombe is very amusing as Tilly. Mr W. E. Griffiths as Farmer Meadows supplies a fine piece of character acting, especially in his closing scene. Mr G. Glasford is good as Livingstone, as is Mr E Eardley-Howard as Dr. Weston; and Mr Will Currie arouses and sustains the merriment of the audience as Toby. Mr W. Fraser Brunner is well cast as Lumley, and Mr John Rogers merits appreciation as Ramsden.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur.—J. W. Rowley, the well-known comedian, is on a visit here, and his clever songs create much merriment. The Leggett Combination, with their sketch *The Maid of Athens*, present an entertaining turn; and a pair of eccentric comedians appear in Nell and Torp. Howe and Ardie are as funny as of yore; Harrigan and Holt earn the same encomium; and the talented Watson Family, the Cecils, and R. W. Russell complete a smart programme.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—That most prominent of recent successes, *The Cingalee*, opened here on Monday, and Mr George Edwardes' star company gave a capital interpretation of a charming play. Mr Frank Danby, a great favourite here, is a continual source of hilarity in his comical portrayal of the native lawyer, Chambhuddy Ram; and Miss Florence Smithson is a dainty Nanoya. Excellent vocal work characterises the Lady Pat of Miss Anna Hickisch; and Miss Mabel Russell is a charming and attractive Peggy Sabine. Mr F. Pope Stamper does all that is possible with the somewhat meagre part of Harry Vereker. Mr W. J. Manning has a rôle well to his liking as the peppery Sir Peter Loftus; whilst one of the best successes of the show is Mr Jack Cannot's Bobby Warren.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—An enthusiastic welcome was extended at Monday's performance to the new and sensational drama, *In the Shadow of Night*, from the pen of Mr James Willard. The author's company is a strong one. Mr Hamilton Deane does some powerful acting as Clifford York, and Mr Howard L. Tracy is no less effective in the rôle of Gordon Allington. The heroine of Miss May Richardson is a charming portrayal. Miss Nellie Sheffield evinces high ability in her delineation of Molly Woodstock, whilst other leading rôles are ably acted by Mr George Harvey and Mr Chisholm Taylor and Miss Millie Gordon.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush. — *A Woman's Pluck* is the attraction at this theatre. The author, Mr James Willard, is a member of Dottridge and Longden's capital company, and makes an effective central figure in his clever creation of Dick Darrell. Miss East Robertson has the leading feminine part of Grace Daremont, and her spirited acting evokes great enthusiasm. Mr Charles P. Wentworth is to the fore with good work as Sir Noel Fordyce, the acting of Mr J. P. Dryden in a difficult dual-rôle is likewise of a very high order, and of a company of all-round excellence Mr Edward Ashby, Mr William Hayward, and Miss Helen Elmar are also particularly prominent.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—A clever pair of comedy artistes, Clark and Hamilton, are at the top of the bill, whilst at the other end we have the Kellinos, with an expert acrobatic and Risley act. The Tribune Trio are here again with their familiar act *The Cheerful Idiot*. Of the comedians, Josh Dixon is doing very well, as are also those old favourites, the Brothers Elgar. The clever Lilliputian act of the Mayvilles is well received; Lee and Kingston subscribe comedy business; the dancing speciality of Espinosa and Neilson is cleverly executed; and Stelling and Revell, acrobatic comedians; and Dolly M'Calla, a juvenile artiste, are responsible for the remainder of the programme.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Mr Charles Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.— The most enjoyable turn in this week's bill is done by Miss Annie Purcell, a recruit from musical comedy, whose refined and accomplished vocal work is much appreciated. Mirzah, the man in green, gives a novel and entertaining musical act; a clever sketch entitled *Chums* is given with great success by George Leslie and company; the contributions of Dorothy L. Clark, vocalist, are most enjoyable; that clever juggler, Walter Bellonini, makes a welcome reappearance; Alice Lorette presents her remarkably fine statue dog; and Madge Grey, an accomplished dialect comedienne; George Foyle, comedian; and Ward Bros., a pair of amusing eccentrics, also contribute.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting Manager, Mr S Jones —The wonderful illusion "Lilith" is presented here by Fred Harcourt, and this most mysterious act is arousing great interest. Those popular comedians Rich and Rich are also here, and enhance a big local reputation. Another favourite artiste, F. B. Fayne, scores his usual big success. A good reception is accorded Elsie Roby, a clever comedienne; Francis and Melli subscribe a novel musical act; comedy business by Cline and Clark is decidedly successful; Dan Karnell makes a big hit as an eccentric comedian; and Lilian Warren, the pictorial songstress, gains much favour.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—*The Never-Never Land*, the last play written and produced by the late Wilson Barrett, is the attraction here this week. The company presenting the play is Messrs John Hart and H. Armitage's. Miss Carry Barrett is in every way excellent as Sybil, and Miss Blanchette Grand is also well placed as Lorna Mannerley. Miss Julie Kennard is clever as Sal Berker, and both Miss Marion Fawcett as Lady Walgrove and Miss Margaret Parker as Smudge are to be complimented. Mr Edmund F. Kennedy gives a telling and clever performance as Jack Mowbray, and Mr Edward Rochelle is conspicuous with a good sketch of Nat Rudder. Mr Arthur Bolton is capital as Tom Hewley. Mr John Hart as Brudds, Mr Simon D. Ord as Raphael Moses Wolff, Mr Selby Burrell as Caerwon Moody, Mr Cecil Elgar as Lord Thurland, and Mr Stephen Bancroft as Spurdy should also be singled out for well-played embodiments. The play is staged in good style, and is being accorded a hearty reception.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke —A warm reception awaited Miss Olga André's No. 1 company on Monday, when it presented for the first time in Leicester the new and original drama *The Mockery of Marriage*. Included in the company are the clever acrobats the Four Aces, who, besides giving a smart display, arouse great enthusiasm when they rescue the heroine from the railway lines before an approaching train by making a human rope of themselves from the parapet of a bridge. This scene is cleverly contrived and well carried out. Miss Florence Zillwood is conspicuously successful as Alva Kenyon, and Miss Lydia Audrey as Rose Vernham is very good. Mr Arthur Wimpenny as the evil genius Dick Kenyon and Mr Harry Stebbing as Jack Stanley, the hero, play most effectively. Mr Frank Dalton is capital as Seth Pearce. In a lighter vein Mrs Sidney Halling as Mary Ann Barnicoat and Mr Will Skelton as Toby Wright are responsible for much hearty laughter. The drama is well staged.

PALACE THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal. —At the top of this week's excellent bill are the Colibri Midgets, whose unique and sensational performances evoke unstinted applause. These little people give a "show" that is really remarkable. At the other end are the Two M'Naughtons, as funny a comedy team as visits Leicester. They keep the audience in a continual roar of laughter. Alice Lloyd is a vivacious comedienne who is always well received, her songs, "Louie didn't know" and "Another pair of stockings on the line," being rendered in a captivating manner. Herr Fritz nightly astounds and bewilders the audience with his remarkable illusions, which are done in a neat and deft manner. J. W. Hall returns, and scores his usual big success with his funny songs. The British Quartet of speciality vocalists and glee singers are good, and other turns that gain the favour of the audience are Marie Weston, vocalist, banjoist, and dancer; J. A. Wilson, the "black oracle;" and Bijou Russell, sand dancer.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—Aldridge, who possesses a good tenor voice, stars this week. The Four Jumels are very popular in their musical act. Mr and Mrs Blake Adams score a success in a dramatic episode entitled *The Last Pitch*. Fred Herbert, topical vocalist, receives his usual hearty welcome. Walter H. Pallister shows some entertaining films on his American Bioscope. Other turns are submitted by Alicia Mayne, song illustrator; Marcelle Maurys, lady illusionist; and Teddy Denham, a funny comedian.

LIMERICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Robert Fogerty. —We have a musical treat this week in the reappearance of the Hilton St. Just grand opera company. On Monday *Il Trovatore* was well received, and Tuesday was set apart for *Maritana*, with Mr G. Hilton St. Just as Don Cæsar De Bazan, a rôle in which he scored most unmistakably. The music of Don José was capitally rendered by Mr Frank Land, and as the King of Spain Mr George Neilson was heard to advantage. As Lazarillo Miss Fannie Emmerson's rich contralto met with applause, and the title-rôle was in the hands of that sweet soprano Miss Louise Van Dalle.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE — Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—*The Bread of the Treshams* is being presented here, for the first time in Liverpool, by Mr Martin Harvey and company, The part of Karesby the Rat, a fortune-hunting soldier, almost seems to have been written round Mr Martin Harvey, it suits him so well; and he handles the character with wonderful skill. Mr Harvey is also capably supported, praiseworthy enactments being offered by Mr A. E Raynor as Lord Dorington; Mr Chas. Glenney as Col. Hungerford; Mr Milton Rosmer as Francis Tresham; and Miss Coleridge as Margaret Hungerford. The play is staged admirably, every regard being paid to completeness in detail. As might be expected, Mr Harvey has been accorded most flattering receptions, and at the close of the initial performance he briefly expressed his thanks, remarking that he had never met anywhere more kindly criticism and more sincere and responsive feeling than in Liverpool.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—Mr Arthur W. Pinero's latest problem play, *Letty*, forms the attraction here, and the company which Mr Chas. Frohman has brought from the Duke of York's Theatre includes Mr H. B. Irving and Miss Irene Vanbrugh. Mr H. B. Irving sustains the difficult rôle of Nevill Letchmere in an admirable manner, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh presents a clever study as Letty. Mr Scott Craven appears in the part of Bernard Mandeville, the brutal stockbroker, and Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson gives a delightful rendering of Marion Allerdyce, and Miss Eleanor Sonray is highly amusing as Hilda Cumming. Others worthy of praise are Mr Leslie Victor as Richard Perry, Mr Vernon Steel as Coppinger Drake, and Miss May Blayney as Mrs Ivor Crosbie. The play is beautifully staged and mounted.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun. — Mr Milton Bode's company is appearing here in the stirring military drama entitled *Tommy Atkins*, and nightly it is witnessed by delighted audiences. The production is being rendered additionally realistic by the appearance in the Church Parade scene of the band of the 1st Lancashire Artillery. All the characters are in capable hands, and the piece is elaborately staged.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—A A capital programme is to be enjoyed at this popular theatre. Maggie Duggan, who tops the bill with new songs and one or two of her old favourites, quite easily captures her audience; Lanos and Montes cause roars of laughter and rounds of applause for their decidedly daring and comical acrobatic act; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe are clever trick cyclists; Tom Lloyd, in his new song "Dead of Bill Bailey," is very laughable; the Abd'el Kader Trio, lightning sketch artists in colours, are loudly applauded; Collins and Rice, in their comedy act, are amusing; Geo. Bernard is a clever actor-vocalist; Baby Violet Macfarlane is a popular little vocalist; and Davis and Davis are good dancers.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—That romantic drama *Why Men Love Women*, as presented by a company organised by Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard (the author), is proving immensely successful. Miss Annie Saker is cast as the heroine, Violet Livingstone, which character she sustains with finished grace. Mr A. Paumier gives a capital portraiture of Gerald Fielding, the hero, and others worthy of mention are Mr S. Herbert-Humber, Mr Edwin Lever, Miss Beatrice Sinclair, and Miss Marie Glynn.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—*The City of Millions*, a spectacular and sensational drama by Messrs William Bailey, jun., and Charles Berte, is attracting large audiences here. Miss Madge Girdlestone, who portrays Rosa De Valois with consummate skill, is supported by an excellent company. Mr Martin Sabine offers a most acceptable performance as Captain Wilfred Dread. The scenic effects are a special feature, and in the second act the band of the 1st (V.B.) King's Liverpool Regiment renders a popular selection, an item which is received with enthusiasm. The Bioscope pictures between the acts are as popular as ever.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A Cook.—A most attractive programme is provided here, the principal turn being given by that popular comedienne Marie Lloyd, whose latest success "The Coster's Wedding" is received with enthusiastic applause. The Lukushima Troupe of equilibrists, including Otora San Lukushima, give a remarkably clever display; Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes contribute a highly amusing sketch, entitled *A Matrimonial Substitute*; and Jerry Hart and Beatrice Leo appear in a song-scena *Follow the Croud on a Sunday*. Others are Albert Christian, baritone vocalist; C. F. Best, an exceedingly funny man; Frank Lynne, comedian; the Caselli Sisters, soubrette artistes and eccentric dancers; Will Cornish, unique musical speciality; Abel and Welsh, grotesque comedians; Ella Lane, comedienne; Katie Cohen, ballad vocalist; Silent Tait the eccentric wizard; and James Grant, eccentric comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Richard Sawade again heads the bill here, and his performance with lions, tigers, bears, and dogs, is received with gusto, the manner in which the animals go through their antics demonstrating Sawade's complete control over them. Joe Almasio, the jumping juggler, is particularly good, and his funny servant highly amusing; the Bob Hanlon Troupe display marked ability as flying trapeze artistes; and the patter of Tray and Rich is mirth-provoking. Ida Gladstone, Canadian contralto comedienne; the Brothers Pim, comic gymnasts; Harry Walker, comedian; Dave Marlon, American comedian; Rhoda Paul, "the miniature Vesta Tilley;" and the Kimberley Boys, eccentric comedians and dancers, all

and Miss Nellie Clare as Mrs Lydia Brock. Tonini, a Continental illusionist of great skill, is earning wide popularity on this his first appearance in Liverpool, and the Sisters Brownie, who are also now paying a first visit, have been enthusiastically received. Others include Billy Richardson, the noted stump orator; Chris Masters, character vocalist; and Alfred Poynton, a clever impersonator. The latest films are exhibited by the British Imperial Company's Bioscope.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin Smith.—Mr Henry Carlton, the popular comedian, and his talented comedy team are causing no end of fun by their absurdity entitled *Obliging a Lady*. Excruciatingly funny is Mr Carlton's portrayal of Billy Wilks. Blarney and Kennard are also contributing a laughable comedy act, in which they introduce their waltzing dog; Prof. Hulbert gives an interesting exhibition with his life-size mechanical figures; Frank Spring is a clever boy jumper; Alice Maple is adding to her popularity as a burlesquo actress and dainty dancer; Bessie Lind is a highly pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Mons. De Lil, a clever illusionist and card expert. New pictures are presented by means of the Royal Bioscope.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan.—The Vyponds (Fred and Maude) are causing merriment by their patter absurdity, *Engaging the Servant*. Kydd and Kydd, comedians, vocalists, and dancers, are quaint, clever, and original. Barnard's life-like marionettes are exceedingly good, and Les Prinellas (Joe and Leilee) contribute *A Country Flirtation*, a laughable vocal scene. Acceptable items are also given by the Brooklands (Ethel and Bella), dancers and vocalists; Lee and Arden, in the musical comedy sketch, *The Watchman*; and the Percys (Harry and Lillie), vocalists and dancers.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—Gilbert Girard, who heads the bills here, is proving himself a marvellous animal and instrumental mimic, his performance delighting large audiences each evening. A laughable domestic absurdity *In Possession; or the Trials of a Broker's Man*, is produced by the Alleyn Trio, and provokes much merriment; the cake-walk competitions are immensely popular; and Frank Stephens and Madge North are highly successful in the comedy skit "Oh! the Bells, the Bells, the Bells." Others contributing to the programme are Jimmy Shields, comedian and one-legged dancer; Dingo Jack, the Paderewski of the Australian bush; Fred Curran, comedian; the Sisters Hall, vocalists; the Sisters Isabelle, characteristic vocalists and dancers; Holger, American paper manipulator; Guy Rider, boy whistler and comedian; and Mr Bob Stephenson, Irish comedian and dancer.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—An amusing item entitled "Is it You?" is presented here, and causes much amusement, as snapshots of people in the neighbourhood are included. The Emmersons (Will and Maggie), comedy duettists and pantomime artists, dance and sing well; Chas. Bradford renders new songs; the Two Stars (Lottie and Gerty) are charming dancers and vocalists; and others are Wallace Whitney, character comedian; Nellie Gannon, English and Irish vocalist and dancer; Harry Martell, comedian; Harry Wright, extempore vocalist; and Beattie Foster, vocalist. Up-to-date pictures are exhibited by means of the Bioscope.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—*The Message from Mars*, by Mr Gordon Starkey's company is being played here this week. Mr Cyril Austen Lee as Horace Parker is very good; the part of the Messenger from Mars is capably filled by Mr William Lockhart; Miss Violet Auberies is a satisfactory Miss Parker; and Miss Edith Cuthbert is a dainty Minnie Templar. Mr Alan Birch plays Arthur Disey well, and the Tramp of Mr Percy Tyler is decidedly good.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. S. Howard.—Edward Marris's company is here for the first time with *As Midnight Chimes*. Mr Melville Bickford gives a finished portrayal of Luke Dezzard; Witty Wattie Walton keeps the house in a roar with his droll rendering of Tat Spavvin; and Miss Annie Megson as Suzette ably assists him. Mr Frank E. Petley as Dave Stannard is very good; Mr Henry Beaufort plays with bluff vigour as Ezra Gamble; Miss Iris M. Ward pleasingly embodies Zamora; Miss Minnie Ethel acts with favour as Little Davy; and Miss Gertrude Price represents with feeling the part of Mary Stannard.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Ernest A. Smith.—This week we had the first appearance of Messrs Murray King and Clark's company, in *Sweet and Twenty*. Miss Rosalie Jacobi appears as Joan Trevelyan and submits a finished piece of acting. Others worthy of note are Messrs George Miller (Rev. Jas. Floyd), Robt. Milsted, Lionel Glenister, Murray King, Miss May Mulvey, and Miss Edith M'Clure. *You and I* is the curtain raiser.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr Pearce Butler.—The bill this week includes Frank Craig, the "coffee cooler;" Miss Omega, on the silver thread; Mdlle. Angelina, the female Cinquevalli; Geo. Antil, the "evening shadow;" Three Sisters Lee, acrobats; Cruickshanks; The Onatis troupe of jugglers; Prof. M'Cann and his performing dogs; and Signor Pepi, a really clever turn, &c.

MACCLESFIELD.

ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—Mr Henry Hare and company opened here on Monday with *The Girl from Chicago*. Miss Lily Beverley as Flora Boomer acts with considerable success; Mr B. Clair is suited for the part of Judge Ananias Hussel; Mr H. Hare's General Boomer shows a good deal realism and power as Percy Montmorency; Mr D. Vigors plays with much acceptance; Mr E. Dodds scores as Billy M'Guffin; Miss Lucy Beaumont as Mrs Sweetlove does well; the part of Lucretia Flatfoot is faithfully embodied by Miss Nellie Vicott; Mr C. Ibbotson is well received as Brother Obadiah Caccles; as Sammy Tibabit Miss Nellie James is good, and in conjunction with Miss Lena Adams as Lottie Longsox and Miss Madge Shaw as Dora Doolittle is well received in some speciality dancing.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. E. Bawtree.—Mr George Edwardes's company was here this week for the first three nights, with the musical comedy, *San Toy*. The company was an excellent one all round, Miss Don Harradine being especially noticeable in the title-rôle. Mr Alfred Beers was good as Li, and Mr Edmund Sherras made a capable Capt. Bobby Preston. Mr Alfred Clark put in some good work as Yen How, and Mr G. J. Williams was an efficient Sir Bingo Preston. Mr Cliff Davies gave a good account of himself as the Emperor, whilst Miss Mabel Lavalle was an enchanting Poppy. On Thursday evening the bill was changed for *The Lady of Ostend*, and for Friday evening *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally* was on the bill.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business-Manager, Mr Charles E. Hardy.—For the current week Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company has been providing a fund of amusement for the patrons of this place of amusement with another visit of *The Private Secretary*. Mr Donald Price Evans gives a capital impersonation of the Rev. Robert Spalding; Mr W. Hargreaves plays well as Mr Cattermole; and the part of his nephew, Douglas, is an admirable presentment at the hands of Mr Austen-Leigh. Miss Cecily Wade is a typical landlady as Mrs Stead, and Miss Dora Gray is a charming Edith Marsland. Mr Raymond Chester as Mr Marsland and Mr Vivian Gilbert as Harry Marsland are good.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—A large audience assembled here on Monday to witness the performance of Thomas Raceward's play, *Sunday*, by Mr Fred Terry, Miss Julia Neilson, and their London company.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Mr Frederick Mouillot's company, in *My Lady Molly*, is giving patrons of this theatre a treat during the current week. The piece is one of the brightest of comic operas, the lyrics and the music being especially tuneful and pleasing. Mr John T. M'Callum is in the part of Mickey O'Dowd, the humour of which he is thoroughly capable of exploiting to the full. Miss Beatrice Edwardes's fine voice is heard to great advantage in the title-part, and Miss Rita Everard's rendering of Alice Coverdale is exceptionally pretty and charming. Mr Harry T. Davies as Captain Romney and Mr Ernest Mozar as Lionel Bland are capable exponents of the heroic element, and Mr Augustus Cramer gives a capital rendering of Sir Miles Coverdale. Other notable parts are in the hands of Miss Kitty Upton, Miss Amy Cooper, and Mr Frederick Silverston.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mr Frederick Melville's company is here this week, in *Between Two Women*, after a week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—Mr George Dance's company, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, is the attraction here for a second week.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—An attractive programme is submitted here this week, the principal turns being Carl Mysto, who gives an excellent exhibition of handcuff breaking, &c., and Flora Lumiere's Fairy Grotto, which is not inaptly described as "the most beautiful and charming act" of its kind on the stage. Other good and enjoyable turns are Lennie and Hast, in a musical sketch; Oliver Conroy, eccentric comedian; Annie Cohen, comedienne; Stanley and Vandyke, a capital comedy couple; Will Ellerslie, comedian and mimic; the Sisters Aindow, musical artistes; the Rosaire Boleros Troupe of comedy acrobats; Wallis and Walton, comedy artistes; Fiorrie Bray, comedienne; and Tom Hayes, juvenile comedian and mimic.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Barry.—The attraction here this week is Mrs Lewis Waller in *Zaza*. Mrs Waller's depiction of the central character makes this unedifying play enjoyable, at least so far as she is concerned, the part providing her with plenty of opportunities to exercise her dramatic and emotional gifts. Mr Eric Mayne is quietly effective as Dufresne, and some good work is put in by Mr Edmund Lea as Cascart and Mr T. Spurling as the Duc De Brissac. Miss Kate Kearney is very amusing as Aunt Rosa; Miss Lena Macnaghten figures well as Florianne; Miss Minnie Rayner makes a satisfactory Nathalie; Miss Maudie Ray gives a commendable version of Toto; and a striking interpretation of the brief part of Madame Dufresne is given by Miss Ethel Warwick.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The principal item here this week is Mdlle. Florence's globe-walking performance, which is decidedly clever, and meets with much approval. The Pender Troupe of pantomimists are excellent laughter-makers, their absurdity *Hands Up* being most amusing. A very novel turn is that of the Continental Troupe of ten stilt-walkers; Arthur Gilbert is a capital comdian, with good songs; Harry Maxam, the popular comedian, is as funny as ever; Cabaret introduces some cleverly-trained dogs; and smart dancing is done by the Floradora Girls. Other enjoyable items are Rappo and Ella, in hand-balancing and equilibristic feats; Forrest and King, eccentric acrobatic dancers; Barton Howard, a clever mimic; Paul Courtney and company, in short sketch *The Doctor*; and the animated pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A very pleasing and well-received performance is given here by Akimotos plucky Japs, a troupe of clever equilbrists, jugglers, and balancers. The dancing and comicalities of Jack and Evelyn also gain much applause, and a good reception is accorded Craig, Rose, and Craig, gymnasts and "dental" athletes. A good display of barrel jumping is given by the Wynford Brothers, and George Foster, an eccentric vocal comedian, causes much laughter. Amy Anderson and company appear in a novelty, entitled *A Coster Incident*, and other good fare is provided by Leo Montague, comedian and dancer; Ray and Miles, comic jugglers; Charles Denton, comedian; Tate and Tate, comedy acrobats; the Sisters Terry, duettists and mimics; and a series of animated pictures, depicting a dramatic incident, "Remorse."

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Millie Hylton provides the star turn here this week, and meets with a warm reception. Well received also are the turns of Emmie Ames, a pleasing comedienne, and Wright and Elton, in original speciality eccentricities, introducing some neat dancing. Other good turns are Walter Clyde, tenor vocalist, who sings well; Marcus Boyle, eccentric comedian; Edward Ind, comedian; Lanney and Dode, in comedy act, "The Athletic Domestics;" Will Letters, comedian; Ada Whitton, male impersonator; and Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—Excellent turns here this week are the Jackson Family, in their delightful refined musical entertainment; Cussac-Talma, assisted by Mdlle. Yvonne De Forge, the Protean artiste, in a surprising box trick; and N. T. Kioto, a talented Japanese equilibrist, in a most daring act. Other turns are provided by Vera Mayne, a burlesque actress with plenty of "go;" Will Godwin, actor-vocalist; Patty Yole, comedienne, who dances nicely; the Waltons, equilibrists; Len Lever, coon vocalist and dancer; and the Jurgens Trio, acrobats on the rolling globes. A series of animated pictures complete.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Owing to its success, *Over the Sticks* remains here another week, with Joe Elvin, the popular London comedian, in the chief part. T. E. Dunville, as usual, makes a great hit with his eccentric methods and amusing songs. Very good also is George Formby, "the Mon fro' Lancasher;" and Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and a delightful dancer. The Brothers Lloddge give a finished performance as modern athletes and acrobats; Evans and Lawrence, vocal and descriptive artistes, are good singers; Francis does some capital cannon ball juggling, and is ably assisted by a humorous satellite, Alfred; Rose and Calvert are entertaining comedy artistes; Phillips and Terry are seen to advantage in their latest success *The Revolt of Man*; and Charlie Craston is a capital comedian. A pleasing selection by the orchestra and a series of interesting pictures complete the programme.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Collins.—Full houses are the rule here again this week, and the programme is good all round. Horace Goldin, assisted by Miss Jean Fransida and company, present in breathless succession a series of most astounding tricks and illusions, which completely mystify the audience. Another smart turn is that of Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler in a capital sketch *Hooked by Crook*. The Fleury Trio are extremely graceful and dainty dancers, their butterfly waltz being a most beautiful creation. Ella Retford also dances neatly and sings two songs in fine style. Peppo's Monkeys show careful and clever training; and considerable amusement is caused by Heeley and Meely, comedy acrobats and eccentric dancers. The Hoopers, in ridiculous and other juggling, are highly amusing, the hoop manipulations also being very smart. The Three Ramoniers appear in a meritorious combined bar-balancing and trapeze act; and last, but not least, the clever and dainty comedienne Minnie Cunningham sings two good songs in a most artistic manner.

MELTON MOWBRAY.

EXCHANGE HALL.—Lessee, Mr Andrews.—What promises to be an exceptionally good season was inaugurated here on Monday by Miss Maggie Morton's *Two Little Drummer Boys* company. Of the carefully selected company the following deserve special mention: Messrs Jules Shaw, Percy Wright, Charles Barratt, Claude Aymond, H. Rammell, Conn Allister, and the Misses Francis May, Mildred Eversleigh, Florence French, May Douglas, and M. Wright, not forgetting the splendid juvenile bugle band directed by Mr Norton.

MERTHYR-TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—Laughter reigned supreme at this house on Monday, when Mr John Leopold's company made a welcome reappearance, after an absence of over nine years, in *Frivolity*. A special feature of the Leopold combination is the smart manner in which each and all work together for the general success. Mr John Gerant as the Stockbroker and Mr Bert Lloyd as his stepson are responsible for incessant humour. Jules Vermiglio is admirably interpreted by Mr Wilfred Vaughan; Mr Tony Leopold is a capable Professor Fumble; Mr John Leopold, jun., is good as Daniel Teething; and Miss Ruby Wyndham as Madame Cobweb, Miss Amy Hall as Lucy Buckwheat, Miss Vera Violatta as Vinnie Moreland, and Miss Queenie Bronte as Nanchette do excellent work. The Brothers Valle, clever acrobats, render valuable assistance.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr C. Finch-Hatton's company is this week presenting *When London Sleeps*. Mr Tom Ronald gives a manly interpretation of David Engleheart; the Captain Rodney of Mr R. S. Trelawney is a powerful representation; Mr Horace Wheatley, jun., makes a most acceptable Furnaby Fuller; Mr P. Graydon does well as Bob Jones; Mr D'Arcy Kelway gives a capital and amusing impersonation of Sammy Blyth. Miss Ella Sennett gives thoughtful and refined treatment to the rôle of Queenie Carruthers; Miss Grace Baring skilfully depicts Hilda Carode; Miss B. Clarke does well as Carrie Jones; and Mrs B. Clarke is an interesting Signorina Jonesio.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Theatres, Limited; Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Mr E. S. Willard and his company were here for three nights, in *The Cardinal*, *The Professor's Love Story*, and *The Middleman*. Mr Willard, in the title-rôle of *The Cardinal*, was responsible for a fine portrayal; Mr Charles H. Fenton was capital as Bartolommeo Chigi; and Mrs Russ Whytal effectively sustained the character of the Cardinal's mother. On Thursday Mr Fred L. Connyngham's company appeared in *The Follies of Youth*.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Mr James Welch and company are making their first appearance before a Middlesbrough audience in *The New Clown*. Mr James Welch in the title-rôle is very funny, Mr G. H. Snazelle is characteristic as Mr Dixon, and Captain Trent is adequately impersonated by Mr Cyril Harcourt. Miss Audrey Ford in the part of Rosie Platt is admirable. The comedy has been preceded by *The Man in the Street* and *Angelina's Lover*.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—The stars at the Empire this week include the Seven Savonas and the Cycling Elliotts, who occupy the leading positions on the bills. Owing to the length of time taken to set the stage, the Seven Savonas only give one performance a night, the Elliot Troupe doing likewise. The musical act is really magnificent, introducing some fifty instruments, and the overture to *William Tell* is most effectively rendered. As the Elliotts they give a most daring and clever bicycle performance. The Five Whitleys are smart acrobats; Ergotti and King Luis, Risley acrobats, elicit considerable applause; Jimson's animals create much laughter; and an amusing turn is submitted by Fred Poplar. Will Musgrave, an old Teeside favourite, maintains his popularity; Miss Kitty Wagner, comedienne, scores well; and Ian Colquhoun, baritone, sings some effective songs.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr William Ainsworth.—Alf Gibson, comedian, heads the bill here. Other turns include the Cabiacs, eccentric comedians; Miss Dolly Harmer, comedienne; Doody and Wright in a comedy act; Patty Bros., acrobats; Miss Bessie Willow, comedienne; Cavern and Cave, in *An Early Morn Dip*; and Hill, Barry, and Lang, comedians.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—Mr J. W. Turner's opera company opened here on Monday in *Maritana*. Mr Turner acted admirably as Don Cæsar De Bazan, and delighted the audience by his fine singing. Mr Tom Griffiths was very good as Don Jose, and as King Charles II. Mr Sidney Clifford could scarcely be improved upon. Miss Jessie Dennis was pleasing as Lezarillo, and the title rôle is admirably filled by Miss Alice Boaden. Benedict's charming opera, *The Lily of Killarney*, was staged on Thursday, and Mr Turner was a great success as Miles. Mr Chas. Le Sueur gave a good impersonation of Hardress Cregan, and Mr Griffiths' Danny Mann was also successful. Miss Constance Bellamy in the part of Elly quite captivated the audience. The other operas for the week are *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Puritan's Daughter*, and *Faust*.

NORWICH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr George Dance's company in the musical comedy *The Duchess of Dantzic* occupies the boards this week. Miss Rita Presano as Sans-Gêne delighted the audience with her charming singing and powerful acting; Miss Alice Coverick was very successful as Renée De Saint-Mezard; Mr Frederick Moyes was excellent as Napoleon Bonaparte; Mr Albert Chapman as François Lefebvre was very good in singing and acting; and Mr Thos. C. Maxwell equally so as Adhemar Vicomte De Bethune. Mr Colin Mackay was amusing as Papillon; Miss Mabel Bailey made the most of the part of the Empress Josephine; Miss Edyth Carlyle as Caroline Murat and Miss May Harris as Pauline, sisters of Napoleon, were were very characteristic; Miss Amy Binton was capable as Lizette; and Mr Ralph Forster deserved mention as Captain Regnier.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby.—A pleasing programme is presented this week. The Eight Lancashire Lads head the bill and delight all with their excellent singing and dancing; the Three juggling Geraldos are clever, especially in club manipulation; F. V. St. Clair gets a splendid reception for his extempore songs; Charles Tempest creates much laughter; Fenton Cross exhibits talent in his pictures in smoke and coloured sand; and Mabel La Blanche and Master Bert render some pleasing American songs. S. L. Spry, quaint comedian, is very successful; and Ida Fair, comedienne, is well received. Verne and Palmer appear in a skating scene; the Four Estrellas are very clever gymnasts; and Captain Selby and his band deserve compliments for their assistance during the evening.

NEW BRIGHTON.

GRAND TOWER THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Albert Bulmer.—The star attraction here this week is the ever-popular Marie Loftus, who fairly catches the large audiences with her latest London successes. The other members of a capital company comprise Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte, in an original comedy duologue *Saucy Maid*; Mignon Tremaine, dainty comedienne and dancer; Will Hebden, comedian, in his latest successes; Solari Duo, vocalists and instrumentalists; Lily Lever, ballad vocalist and burlesque actress; and the Five Bon-Bons, in their laughable pantomime trap scene, "A Hot Time for One."

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Miss Olga Nethersole and her company are paying a return visit. On Monday *The Second Mrs Tanqueray* was staged, with Miss Nethersole as Paula Tanqueray, a part for which she is eminently fitted, and her impersonation was much praised. It is as Sapho, however, in the play of that name that she appeals more particularly to her local admirers, and on Tuesday we had another opportunity of witnessing her remarkable embodiment of the unhappy woman who exercises such a baneful influence over those who fall into her toils. One of her victims is Jean Gaussin, a character acted with considerable ability by Mr Edward Fielding. Mr Harry Dodd gave a good performance as the light-hearted, genial Uncle Cesaire, while Mr G. S. Titheradge as Dechlette and Mr Berte Thomas as Flamant gave useful impersonations. Miss Francis Ivor appeared with credit as Madame Hettema; Divonne had a capital representative in Miss Winifred Pearson; and Miss Madge Field made a pleasing Irene. *Magda* was down for production on Thursday.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—Mr Charles Macdona's company is this week appearing in the musical play *Three Little Maids*. Miss Janet Reeve as Ada Branscombe acts with charm and sings pleasantly, as also does Miss Nora Guy as Edna, while Hilda has a bright and engaging representative in Miss Gertrude Melville. Miss Kate Forster is, as usual, quite successful as the pompous Lady St. Mallory. Miss Laura Wright as Gretchen dons sabots, and sings and dances with a freedom which is quite exhilarating. Attractive appearances are made by Misses Jennie Edgar, Ethel May, and Ella Daincourt as titled ladies. Mr Arthur Longley presents with a good deal of humour the part of Lord Cheyne, whose "fearful past" is apparently not sufficient to subdue his capacity for present enjoyment. His confrères, Brian Molyneux and M. De L'Orme, are agreeably impersonated by Mr Haddon Cave and Mr Alec Chentrens respectively. Mr Gus Oxley as Cupid does well, and Mr Chas. Leverton as Rev. Mr Branscombe appears in a different style of part from that in which we have been accustomed to see him. He also stage-manages the production.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W Rowe.—*The Face at the Window* is again making its appearance here, and Messrs Armadale and Warren's company is engaged in presenting the successful drama. Mr E. Hoggan Armadale continues to give full effect to the striking character of the Chevalier Lucio Delgado, a part he is stated to have played over 1,500 times. As Paul Gouffet, the detective, Mr T. W. Dunscombe gives an excellent impersonation, and the support generally is good.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—A very enjoyable and well-varied programme is submitted here this week. *Drummed Out* is again in the bill, and Mr A. C. Lilly and company present the interesting sketch with unabated success. Warm Newcastle favourites in the Poluski Brothers have given us a further taste of their qualities as humorists, and their efforts in all manner of enjoyable fooling have evoked the heartiest laughter. Manning's entertainers engage themselves in comedy business of a mirthful nature, and their acrobatic work calls for unstinted praise. A charming vocalist in Florence Esdalle leads off with the "Soldiers' Chorus" from *Faust*, after which she sings a medley of favourite airs, and for all of which she is applauded. Will English gives humorously exaggerated illustrations of various styles of walking, and displays much smartness generally. An expert juggler is Henry Kaiser, whose tricks are performed with neatness; and the Sisters Govell in song and dance are well appreciated. Hal Forde's abilities as a comedian meet with full recognition. Those popular entertainers, Charles Chard, comedian; and Annie Casey, comedienne, appear to advantage, as also does Beatrice Willey, vocalist. Some good animated pictures are exhibited.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Limited; Managing Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—This week there is a capital programme at this house. The top turn is Payne's Little Vagabonds in a refined act entitled *Blue Coat Boys*, in which some capital singing, whistling, and fun are introduced. The Two O'Malleys cause unbounded mirth. Another exceptionally smart turn is that of Deacon and Rankin, whose wheezes and dancing are warmly applauded. The Brothers Attilla, the well-known strong men, give a bright and entertaining performance; and other turns are given by Miss Maud Rose, an exceptionally smart dancer; Ryder Slone, a comedian with a good song; Learto and his clever dog Babs; Will Mitcham, a capital comedian; Primavesi, a smart juggler; and the wonderful performing bears of W. Permane.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—*When Woman Hates* is being played here this week by Miss Nettie Ware and company. The lady who, in this case, is animated by feelings of strong ill-will, is Cora Daintry, and Miss Nettie Ware has her hands full in successfully realising the malevolent disposition of the character. Fred Rokeby, the object of her hatred, has a manly exponent in Mr John B. Shinton. Mr Will Percy as an Irish Prison Warder supplies some enjoyable comedy acting, and Mr Bensley Evans as an American gives a characteristically cool and sangfroid impersonation.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr W. H. Boardman.—The entertainment at this favourite place of resort this week is of a first-class nature, the programme being headed by Grant and Grant, American speciality artistes, who introduce several taking items, their dancing in particular being well received. Fred Cary is a comedian likely to win a leading position in his profession; his vocalism is of a high order, and he also displays much humour as a story-teller. The Valdares introduce some cycle specialities which are both novel and daring, and the Zanettos, Japanese jugglers, score in an original act. A prominent feature is Harry Edson and his canine friend, Doc. Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo piccaninnies contribute the usual medley entertainment. Arthur Boyne, described as "the funny man;" Jenny Hartley, soubrette; and a series of animated pictures are also among the attractions.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Mr Arthur Hart's company is delighting good houses here this week with *My Lady Molly*. Mr Arthur Powell is a great favourite as Micky O'Dowd, acting with skill; Miss Maud Thorne makes a charming Alice Coverdale, sustaining the part with girlish grace; Miss Mabel Lait successfully portrays the title-rôle, and both Miss Lait and Miss Sybil Thorne as Hester either as boys or girls make a fascinating pair. Sir Miles Coverdale is admirably represented by Mr Walter Ashley. Mr Frank Stather as Lionel Bland sings his number very effectively. The dancing of the Misses Marie Majilton and Maud Lucy captivate the house. The costumes, floral decorations, and the scenic production are on a lavish scale.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—Quite a large house assembled here on Monday, when a pleasing bill was presented. Miss Lilian Lowe, with a sweet voice and fascinating stage presence, was accorded quite an ovation; Miss Fannie Erris, a character comedienne; and the popular favourite Miss Florrie Gallimore were also well received. Will Evans and Martin Conway were a source of much amusement with their witty sayings and songs. Miss Trixie Gilfain gave a clever rendering of Scotch airs on the bagpipe, and her little sketch in association with Mr Austin Boyd is much appreciated. Alexander, trick cyclist, and Fred Karno's *Jail Birds* are also strong attractions.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's company with *The Assassin* opened here on Monday. As Prince Demetri Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson gave a clever and able representation; Mr John C. Carlyle was a satisfactory exponent of Ivan Ipanoff; Mr Theo Balfour was effective as Duke Karl; Mr Edward Swinton presented a good study of Baron Alphonse; Mr Arthur M'Cullock acted well as General Nicholai; Mr Fred Wilberforce was advantageously placed as Captain O'Neil; and Mr Fred Yarnold scored as Peter. Miss Ruth Sheppherd gained the good opinion of her audience as the Countess Wanda; Miss Grace Almers took a prominent position as Nita; Miss Dora Woodward was seen to advantage as Olga Stadt; Miss Ada Douglas was a clever Nadia; and Miss Alice Barber did well as Connie.

BOROUGH THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—This place of amusement was opened on Monday, and an attractive programme was headed by the Four Herberts, the Californian farmers, who scored a great success. Mr James Brady, eccentric comedian, also came in for a hearty reception, and the Brady and Johnson sketch party caused much laughter. The Atkens Trio of vocalists were greatly appreciated. Miss Florence Hilton, male impersonator; Rozello, in his comedy bar act; Mr Harry Adams, comedian; Miss Marie Santoi, comedienne; and Mr Ted Clifford, baritone, are also billed.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager Mr William Mould.—The management here has again a strong bill-of-fare, the principal item being Messrs Nano, Leo, and Kinto, comedy trio, who introduce a clever act. Mdlle. De Rose, lady baritone, is as popular as ever; and Wee Mona, child vocalist and actress, has made a hit; Messrs Drum and Major, bâton manipulators, are smart; Wanotee, gymnast and contortionist, is loudly applauded; the Carcassi Duo, in their musical speciality, come in for a good reception; Mr J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, is well received; and the Bio-photoscope is still meeting with success.

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs S. Golden; Manager, Mr Percy Webb.—Mr Sydney Vereker's company in *The Red Signal* is occupying the boards of the above theatre this week. As Jack Darkwood Mr Alfred Allen makes a good impression; Mr Charles V. Sandford gives a fine reading of the difficult part of Sir Otto Darkwood; the comedy business is quite safe in the hands of Mr Sydney Vereker, who causes roars of laughter. He is ably supported by Miss Berta Hall. Miss Rosa Lehmann makes a pretty heroine, and Miss Norah Caronne gives a fine interpretation of the wronged woman, Florence Culver. A novel departure is the introduction of songs by Miss Marion Edwardes, the Welsh gold medallist, between the acts. Her beautiful voice causes the intervals to pass all too quickly.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—Miss Fortescue was accorded a hearty welcome on Monday, when she appeared in the society play, *Moths*. The part of Fuchsia Leech is well adapted to bring out the comedy ability of Miss Fortescue, and the underlying "grit" of the character was capitally indicated, evoking hearty applause. Miss Miriam Lewes gave a fine performance of the Duchesse De Sonnaz, looking and acting the part to perfection. Miss Madeline Meredith grasped the "butterfly" nature of Lady Dolly with skill, and Miss Eugenie Vernie made a dignified Princess Nadine. The pathetic rôle of Vere Herbert had a charming exponent in Miss Gladys Jesson. Mr Conway Wingfield played Prince Zouroff with characteristic vigour, and Mr Da'ziel Heron made an excellent Lord Jura. Mr Francis Burdett was a pleasant interpreter of the Duke of Mull, and Mr Cecil Newton as Correze was convincing throughout. During the week was also presented *School for Scandal*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and a new play, by W. S. Gilbert, *Ought We to Visit Her?*

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Chas. P. Cooke.—Mrs Hy. Mayhew and Mr Charles Herrick's company appear this week in *The Triumph of Truth*, and large audiences show themselves thoroughly delighted with the play. Mr Edward E. Louis hits the right note in his manly portrayal of Captain Jack Eversleigh, and Mr J. A. Keogh makes an agreeable representative of Sir Charles Eversleigh. The scheming and villainous Count D'Orville is capably embodied by Mr T. R. Lockwood, and Mr Frank Radcliffe as his tool plays with care and efficiency. Mr Charles Herrick skilfully treats his part as the Avenger, and Mr T. A. Ellis is successful as Inspector Danvers. Miss Marie Auckland essays the dual-rôles of Lilian and Violet Anstruthers with the best results, showing power and earnestness in her emotional scenes. Miss Lilian Ramsdale is a vivacious Coralie, and Miss Rosabel Dodd makes a callous Blanche le Croix. The comedy parts are creditably taken by Miss Lily Rogers (Katie Bright) and Mr John Clegg (Tommy Woodhead).

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr H. W. Bull.—*From Scotland Yard* is being performed here. Mr C. Finch-Hatton is a great favourite, and as Detective Dale assumes disguises that are both clever and amusing. Mr C. H. Matthews excites keen repugnance as Dean Fordyce, and Mr Jack Armitage gives a careful study of Richard Drake. Miss Renee Glendower plays with striking effect as Mad Marie, and Miss Marion Forrester renders the part of Mabel with tenderness and pathos. Miss Annie Agar acts with spirit as Sybil, and the heartiest of laughter is roused by Miss V. Gould-Bourne (Mrs Ruggles), Miss Nelly Hook (Dolly Beetles), Mr James Hirste (Bliss), and Mr James F. Fitth (Joe Staggers).

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—We have another wrestler here in the personage of Yukio Tani, a smart little Japanese, whose wonderful skill has surprised all with whom he comes in contact. The "turn" is exceedingly popular, and is drawing crowded houses. A pantomimic sketch, entitled *A Zoological Comedy*, by the Donaldson Brothers and Ardel, creates the utmost hilarity, and the Brothers Egbert furnish some excellent fun by their patter and amusing oddities. The vocalism of the Manhattan Comedy Four calls for unstinted praise. Brown and Robinson quite captivate the audience by their rendering of "The Village Blacksmith." The Mascotte Trio give a graceful trapeze act in a dexterous manner, and the Mackeys have struck an original item in their antics on the wire. Miss Norah Emerald contributes a dainty song and

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Musical Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

Mr Charles Harrington's company is paying a return visit in the above play, a fairly good house being present on Monday to renew their acquaintance with it. The day is long since passed when anything of a critical nature need be written, it being sufficient to remember that the novel of the same name was one of those rare books which help to make history. Mr Harrington's company, which is a very large one, comprises a good crowd of coloured ladies and gentlemen, and their presence helps to a realistic picture. Mr J. Carr as Uncle Tom once again sustains the part with an air of quiet dignity that is in entire keeping with the rôle, and he made a most favourable impression on the audience. Mr Charles Harrington, too, as Fletcher gave a quietly humorous performance that was to the taste of the audience. Mr B. Lenton was commendable as Mr St. Clair, and acted with obvious sincerity; Mr Guy D. Ellis as George Harris was particularly good. We were pleased with his vigorous acting and excellent delivery. Mr John Henry Rogers once more played the repulsive part with his customary thoroughness, his make-up being excellent. Mr J. H. Renney as Dan Haley scored in a swell part, and Mr Frederick Charles as Marks caused much amusement. Miss Hettie Johnston as Eliza Harris was pleasing and satisfactory. Miss Sylvia Stella as Popsy played the rôle in a broad vein of comedy and was successful. Miss Hero Hathaway was adequate in the minor part of Mrs St. Clair. Miss Ida Fane caused some amusement by her portrayal of Aunt Ophelia, and Little Minnie was very precocious as Little Eva. Miss Zerlina Zerbini (Mrs Harrington) was responsible for a good reading of the part of Cassy, playing with intensity. In the great plantation scene Miss Sylvia Stella, Will Petitt, Shorty May, W. H. Nott, and Iky Jones appeared with great success. Mr Davey's early door programme included a topical feature of great interest, Mr A. St. George appearing in a special scena entitled "Beck; or, the English Dreyfus." The scena, which comprised a song and an eloquent verbal appeal, was delivered by Mr St. George in the costume of a barrister, and scored a great hit.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, Libretto by James T. Tanner, Lyrics by Adrian Ross and Percy Greenbank, Music by Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE ORCHID."

Times have changed at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile End, otherwise known as "the Drury-lane of the East," and now the attractions at that excellently managed house are no longer confined to melodrama which at one time was considered the only fare suitable to the theatrical palates of the masses in that teeming quarter. This week the sprightliness, musical jingle, prettiness, irresponsibility, and frivolity of musical comedy are fascinating the Mile-enders, who have been applauding very heartily from gallery to stalls *The Orchid*, with which capital piece, it will be remembered, Mr George Edwardes opened the new Gaiety in October last. The company shows great capability, as one would naturally expect from any combination associated with the name of Mr George Dance. Miss Ethel Bryant is conspicuous for grace, chic, and style in the rôle of Violet Anstruther, and scores tremendously in all the favourite numbers of the part, into which she infuses much archness. This is especially the case with "Little Mary." There are several amusing bits of business between Lady Violet and Meakin, and herein Miss Bryant is partnered by Mr Bertie Wright, who seems to be endowed not only with the gift of humour but with the discretion to make proper use of it. It must be confessed that the author has made of the little gardener a diverting character, but his eccentricities could scarcely be more drolly realised than they are by Mr Wright, who is *au courant* with every opportunity of gagging, and is up-to-date in every way. Mr G. Davey Burnaby as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeaur has all the well-bred vacuity to which we have become accustomed in stage dudes, but he has also genuine acting ability, and though his performance is apparently modelled on that of Mr George Grossmith, jun., there is no slavish imitation of that comedian's methods. He is breezy, alert, and does justice to all the numbers allotted to him. Miss Madge Lucas is not afraid of being broadly comic in her rendering of Caroline Vokins. The part demands it, and Miss Lucas gives it a liberal endowment. Mr Edmund Page increases the fun very considerably by his decidedly droll impersonation of the Count Raoul De Cassignac, who is as splenetic as one would expect a fire-eating stage Frenchman to be. The duel scene has "gone" with screams of laughter during the week. It is just one of those situations the fun of which is obvious enough for the masses to enjoy. Mr Arthur Hemsley as Zaccary, the orchid hunter, may be said to be saturated with Gaiety traditions, and gives to the lines and business of his part that animation, point, and drollery which enables him to score most unmistakably. He is particularly happy in his rendering of the popular number in the second act. There is plenty of cleverness in the performance of Mr Ernest Darrell as Aubrey Chesterton, who is made up so as to strongly resemble a famous political personage; Miss Eve Melville makes a fascinating adventuress of Zelie Rumbert; and Miss Poppy Wilkinson dances daintily as Thisbe. The fascinating chorus includes a number of pretty girls endowed with good voices, and the performance is directed most successfully by Mr Thomas Tunbridge.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Sept. 26, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by F. Brooke Warren, entitled
"MYSTERIES OF THE THAMES."

Richard Brandon	Mr Roy Fortescue
Captain James Denbigh	Mr F. Brooke Warren
Jack Hammond	Mr Gilbert Hall
Bill Bosco	Mr Elton Morgan
Peter Waggles	Mr Dan Hardie
Ben Lorrimer	Mr George Arthur
Dave Goodyear	Mr Edgar Thorne
Sol Crockett	Mr Robert Vincent
Wary Mike	Mr Tom Herne
Martin	Mr Frank White
Sergeant Powen	Mr F. C. Randall
Bertie Fitzgerald	Miss Claire O'Sullivan
Helen Price / Grace Rochdale	Miss Gwynne Warren
Kate Brandon	Miss Lallah Shelton
Little Doris	Miss Nellie Palmer
Emma Seaton	Miss Flo Norman

In the class of play which comes under the description of sensational drama, *Mysteries of the Thames* is distinctly above the average in point of merit, and it also enjoys the advantage of being represented by an excellent all-round company. The author has for the most part carefully avoided glaring improbabilities, the dialogue is well-written, and the comic relief is never overdone or unpleasantly obtrusive. Altogether *Mysteries of the Thames*, which was originally produced on July 20, 1901, at the Grand Theatre, Stalybridge, is a sound play that rivets the attention of an audience from the beginning to the final curtain fall. The first scene represents the home of Richard Brandon, a wealthy merchant's manager. Brandon is a victim to the vice of intemperance, and has unfortunately fallen under the evil influence of a scoundrel of gentlemanly appearance, named Captain James Denbigh, alias "the Hawk," the leader of a gang of burglars. Denbigh has obtained possession of the keys of the merchant's offices, which he proposes to "burgle." Brandon, now a ruined man, has fits of remorse, and in one of these resolves to end his miserable existence by means of a revolver, when his little child, Doris, enters, and prevents him carrying out his cowardly intention. The Captain and his gang break into the offices, and when Grace Rochdale, a crippled girl, bravely interferes Denbigh remorselessly kills her. Brandon appears upon the scene and attempts to prevent "the Hawk" from throwing the body into the Thames, but is overpowered and rendered unconscious. The first scene of the second act is the wine vaults of the "Black Jack," the haunt of Denbigh and his associates in crime. While a game of cards is being played—a foolish youth named Bertie Fitzgerald being the victim of the gang—Brandon enters and calls for a glass of brandy, his favourite tipple. His wife follows and begs him to return home, but in his half-drunken condition he accuses her of being faithless to him, his unfounded suspicions having been aroused by a young lawyer named Jack Hammond, who has from pure kindness of heart befriended her. After his wife's departure Brandon joins in the game of cards and wins at first, but soon throws up the cards. He quarrels with Denbigh, and denounces him as a murderer. The Captain, picking up a bottle, hurls it at his accuser, but, missing him, it strikes on the forehead Little Doris, who has come with the object of inducing her father to return home. The third scene of the act reveals Doris lying ill in bed in a wretched attic in Whitechapel. She is being tended by her mother and is visited by Helen Price, otherwise known as "Flash Nell," who is Denbigh's mistress and the twin sister of the girl murdered by the Captain. By the way, it does not seem probable that a sensible mother would give her child a dose of neat brandy to send her to sleep. In the absence of his wife Brandon, who has been suffering from delirium tremens, enters the room and struggles with imaginary demons. He sees the bottle of brandy on the table, and is about to again succumb to the temptation when his daughter, who has woke up and left her bed, intervenes, and, throwing away the contents of the glass, he vows never to touch the stuff again. Doris faints, and he fears that she is dead, but is reassured by her mother. At this moment Denbigh enters with two constables, and gives Brandon in charge for the murder of Grace Rochdale. The third act is devoted to depicting the cruel treatment of the unfortunate convicts on board the ship "Success," the captain of which is no other than the villain Denbigh. Amongst the prisoners is Brandon, and "the Hawk" tells him that his wife is living with another, and his child is dead. To increase Brandon's sufferings, Denbigh directs the unhappy youth Bertie Fitzgerald, also a convict, to be tortured and then flogged at the masthead. Brandon, unable to bear the sight, interferes, and uses the cat-o'-nine-tails upon the captain. This leads to a general rising, and Brandon and other prisoners make their escape. Brandon finds himself in London on Christmas Eve, homeless and starving. He must have food at any cost, and makes his way into the bedroom of a house in Russell-square. Little Doris, who has recovered, is lying asleep in this room, and, waking up, thinks that the intruder is Santa Claus. Brandon discovers that the little girl is his own child, and the pathos of the scene becomes even more accentuated when the mother enters and recognises her husband. Brandon is again accused of being an escaped murderer, but Flash Nell, who has sworn to be revenged on the man who killed her sister, shoots Denbigh on being convinced that he and no other was responsible for his death. Mr Roy Fortescue gave a powerful rendering of Richard Brandon. In the early scenes he graphically depicted the physical and mental results of dram drinking, and the scene where the loving clasp of his child's hand banishes the terrible phantoms of his drink-sodden brain proved most pathetic. Later Mr Fortescue showed determination and manly spirit as the convict who defies "the Hawk" to do his worst. Mr F. Brooke-Warren, the author of the play, though considerably handicapped by a cold which affected his voice, gave a sound and convincing embodiment of Captain Denbigh, whose unrelieved cruelty and hardness of heart make him a most unpopular personage with the audience. Mr Gilbert Hall played with commendable firmness and decision the part of the young lawyer Jack Hammond, who befriends Mrs Brandon. Mr Elton Morgan was excellent as Bill Bosco, a burglar who displays grim humour and eventually turns King's evidence against his leader, "the Hawk." Mr Dan Hardie also enlivened the play by his sallies as Peter Waggles, another member of the gang. Miss Gwynne Warren was successful in doubling the parts of the twin sisters. As "Flash Nell" she acted with earnestness, and made good use of her opportunities. Miss Lallah Shelton as the unhappy wife and mother had the full sympathies of the audience with her throughout, and Miss Nellie Palmer deserves much praise for her intelligent acting as Little Doris, more particularly in the scene where the child imagines that Santa Claus is her visitor. Miss Flo Norman was a sprightly Emma Seaton, a maid; Mr George Arthur was a sufficiently brutal chief warder on the convict ship; Miss Claire O'Sullivan faithfully realised the sufferings of the ill-treated Bertie Fitzgerald; and other parts were carefully impersonated by Messrs Tom Herne, Frank White, Edgar Thorne, Robert Vincent, and F. C. Randall.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Sept. 26, Bizet's Opera, in Four Acts, entitled
"CARMEN."

The Moody-Manners grand opera company is delighting the musical public of Bayswater here this week by giving them the opportunity of hearing English opera, a treat which, judging by the crowded house on Monday, it is evident they mean to avail themselves of to the utmost. In the title-rôle Mdlle. Zelie De Lussan was in excellent voice, her acting also being very fine. It is indeed difficult to imagine a more capable exponent of an arduous part such as Carmen is than Mdlle. De Lussan. Mr Joseph O'Mara was Don Jose, and right well did he acquit himself, his singing being one of the successes of the evening. As the peasant girl Michaela Miss Kate Anderson sang with great taste and charm, and, moreover, looked exceedingly pretty. The smaller parts of the two Cigarette Girls (Frasquita and Mercedes) were well filled by Miss T. Addington and Miss E. Arnold respectively. Escamillo was capably played by Mr William Dever, who sang the world-famous "Toreador" song with great effect. The largely augmented orchestra, which was under the able direction of Herr Richard Eckhold, left nothing to be desired. The following operas have been performed during the week, and in some both Madame Moody and Mr Chas. Manners appeared:—*The Jewess*, *Faust*, *Mignon*, *Tannhäuser*.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Sept. 24, the Play, entitled
"UNDER TWO FLAGS."

Mr Robert Arthur and his energetic manager, Mr Leslie Hughes, are leaving no stone unturned to add to the popularity of this theatre, and this week, in addition to Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company, in *Under Two Flags*, we have the special engagement of La Loïe Fuller, with her wonderful serpentine dance. The beautiful colour effects that are shown are artistic in the extreme, and the fire dance has proved a potent attraction. This is a return visit of *Under Two Flags*, and Mr Mark Blow again appears as Bertie Royellieu, and gives a careful rendering of the character. As Cigarette Miss Laura Walker is decidedly good, her easy manner and light-heartedness enabling her to hit off the character of the vivandière capitally. Mr R. H. West makes a suitable Barklie, and Lord Rockingham is carefully portrayed by Mr G. Norman Burt. Miss May Pardoe is an exceedingly attractive Princess Corona, a part she fills with dignity and grace; Mr Will Hook acts Rake in a commendable manner; and Mr Charles D. Pitt depicts the sinister Colonel Chateauroy in a creditable way. Mr Albert Rogers deserves mention for his neat sketch of Baroni, the moneylender; and another small part, that of Babazun, is cleverly represented by Mr F. Curtiss. Among others may be mentioned the Misses Joan Stean and Bertha Kingston; also Messrs Charles Brooke and Sidney Riche, who lend valuable support. The other parts are without exception in safe hands. The play is preceded by an amusing farce, entitled *Aunt Rebecca*, in which Mr Will Hook scores heavily. The play was well mounted, and the stage management leaves nothing to be desired. Mr Morris Harper is the business-manager of the company.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Sept. 26, Shakespeare's Comedy, entitled
"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR."

The habitués of Mr Mulholland's superb playhouse will have no reason to complain of the fare put before them this week by Mr Beerbohm Tree's Shakespearian company, who have been appearing in the *Merry Wives of Windsor* and *Julius Cæsar*. It does not often occur that Shakespeare is vouchsafed the artistic treatment meted out by Mr Tree's combination, and the audience at the King's on Monday night were not slow to show their appreciation to the full with the acting, music, scenery, and dancing, which form in the whole an unqualified success. The woodland dance in the last act with its dainty music met with an enthusiastic reception, and the audience demanded its repetition so often that the artists taking part therein must have been quite exhausted by their efforts. The company is exceedingly talented, and it would be difficult to have picked upon any single performer who did not play his or her part with true Shakespearian spirit. Mr Eardley Turner, wonderfully well made up, gave an exceedingly popular impersonation of the boastful knight, Sir John Falstaff. Master Fenton was intelligently rendered by Mr V. L. Granville, and Mr Arthur Machen did credit to Mr Justice Shallow. The poet, Master Slender, was a praiseworthy performance by Mr Reginald Ian Penny, and mine host of the Garter Inn was well played by Mr E. A. Warburton. Mr William Haviland, temporarily transferred from His Majesty's Theatre, was a tower of strength in the character of the jealous Master Ford, and Mr Herbert Bunston's enactment of Master Page was excellent. Mr J. C. Taylor and Mr Charles Bibby were humorous representatives of Dr. Caius and Sir Hugh Evans. The needy fellowers of Falstaff — Bardolph, Nym, and Pistol—found capable exponents in Messrs Allan Wilkie, Arthur Bruce, and E. A. Anson. A dashing Robin was Miss Phyllis Canton, and Mr Kenneth Blackmore as Simple and Mr George Robertson as Rugby furnished laughter. Miss Cicely Richards, from whom something clever is always expected, was no disappointment, for her rendering of Mistress Page was a delightful piece of acting. The Mistress Ann Page of Miss Miss Margaret Halstan was highly successful. Miss Constant Collier endowed the part of Mistress Ford with artistic excellence, and quickly earned popularity. A singularly clever Mistress Quickly was Miss Ethel Harper. The incidental music provided by Sir Arthur Sullivan, Mr Raymond Roze, and Mr Norman Bath was of great assistance; the costumes were of Mr Percy Anderson's able designing; and the beautiful scenery by Hawes Craven, Telbin, and Walter Johnstone cannot be too highly praised. *Julius Cæsar* was given during the latter portion of the week.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Drama, by George Conquest and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"THE WORK GIRL."

A delectable bill-of-fare is being provided this week at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, and crowded houses every evening testify to the palatable nature of the entertainment placed before them by the energetic manager of the theatre, Mr Ernest E. Norris. *The Work Girl* is a play that appeals in every way to the mass of everyday toilers, and the life-like scenes and incidents without doubt touch strongly a spot in the breast of many a weary worker. Villainy is associated with the drama throughout each act, only to meet with its merited reward in the last scene, when justice extends her long arm and brings about the downfall of her defiers. A prime favourite is Mr George Conquest, who resumes his original character of Loo Genesis. His acting carries with it the trait of naturalness and his efforts meet with spontaneous appreciation. Mr Conquest, too, is responsible for much hearty laughter during the evening. Mr Ernest E. Norris enacts the part of Frank Belton, and once again gives a striking display of his undoubted usefulness as an actor of sterling worth. Mr Harry Paulton, jun., works energetically and humorously as Natty Nobbs. Mr Jo Monkhouse gives a finished performance of the arch-scoundrel, Silas Sephton. Mr Chas. Langley as the Hon. Edgar Drayton acts very natually, and Tom Courtney at the hands of Mr Paige Lawrence receives every attention and care. Mr J. C. Aubrey is excellent in the character of Keeley Rendale. Mr Norman Clark is effective as Captain Bracknell, and Mr Woods Laurence is efficient as Watty Wibbles; whilst Mr Edward Snow gives quite a professional touch to the part of Dr. Pearson. Mr W. H. Terry is good as Inspector Graham. Mrs Bennett, as usual, acts with all her accustomed charm and sincerity; and in the dual-rôle of Mary Belton and Claire Belton speedily gains the sympathy of the house with her artistic performance. Miss Agnes Paulton makes a sprightly and vivacious Jenny Wibbles, and Miss Judith Kyrle in the part of Evelyn Sephton gives a good representation of a young lady with ideas of a somewhat advanced character. Miss Ethel Houldsworth makes a dignified Madame Lamarshe. Miss Marion Hall resumes her original part of Harriett, which, though small, is sufficient to prove that she is a comedienne of undoubted merit, a fact that quickly becomes patent to the house. Numerous minor characters are all intelligently treated, and the general mounting of the drama is excellent in every way.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Opera, by W. S. Gilbert and the late Arthur Sullivan, entitled
"THE MIKADO."

The D'Oyly Carte opera company has been appearing this week at Brixton's ably managed theatre. Messrs Gilbert and Sullivan's operas seem as popular as ever, and on Monday, the night of our visit, a very large house assembled to renew their acquaintance with the always-enjoyable *Mikado*, whose hold on public favour continues, apparently, unimpaired. The various rôles were each and all admirably sustained. Mr Alfred Kavanagh is well suited both physically and histrionically to the character of the bombastic Mikado of Japan. As Nanki-Poo, the wandering minstrel, Mr Pacie Ripple sang and acted in good style; as Ko-Ko, Lord High Executioner, Mr C. H. Workman showed a keen sense of humour, keeping the audience in roars of laughter; and Mr Fred Billington as the gigantic Pooh-Bah, Lord High Everything, added laurels to his already famous reputation. As the three little maids the Misses Norah Maguire, Jessie Rose, and Mabel Burnege sang in a bewitching manner and acquitted themselves admirably. As Katisha Miss Theresa Rassam was suitably cast. Mr T. Silver conducted.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Farce, in Three Acts, from the German of Laufs and Kratz, entitled
"ARE YOU A MASON?"

A return visit from Messrs George Edwardes and Charles Frohman's company in *Are You a Mason?* opened here on Monday to an appreciative house, which received the play with great cordiality, laughter being incessant throughout the three acts into which the piece is divided. The company present the farce with considerable briskness and smartness, and as each succeeding act is funnier than its predecessor, a merit not always to be found in farcical plays, the final fall of the curtain finds the audience in excellent humour. Mr Harry Ashford, who appears as Amos Bloodgood, is the life and soul of every scene in which he is concerned, and his ripe and finished performance is of incalculable value to the production. Mr Anthony Fawcett is the George Fisher, and is most successful in the scenes in which he appears in feminine attire. As Hamilton Travers, the broken-down tragedian, Mr Frank Ridley has a conventional part to play, but he makes the utmost of it. An excellent sketch of the Yorkshireman, John Halton, comes from Mr Tom Mowbray, and the Frank Perry and Ernest Morrison of Messrs Stephen Wentworth and Valentine O'Connor respectively are both well-played parts. Mrs Caroline Bloodgood is made duly acrid and forbidding by Miss Harriet Trench, and the Lotty of Miss Lucy Edwin is a clever and artistic character study. The Bloodgoods' three daughters, Eva, Annie, and Lulu, find a trio of charming representatives in Misses Violet Graham, Lily Beagle, and Isla Glyn, and the parts of Mrs Halton and Fanchon Armytage are done full justice to by Misses Mabel Younge and Gertrude Spencer. The longer piece is preceded by W. Hall's comedietta *Hushed Up*, in which Messrs Valentine O'Connor and Tom Mowbray and Misses Isla Glynn and Mabel Younge appear.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Farcical Comedy,
"WHY SMITH LEFT HOME."

Why Smith Left Home was presented here for the first time on Monday before a good audience. Despite the fact that Mr Horace Lingard has taken the leading part of John Smith nearly 1,100 times, he still appears as young and fresh in the part as ever, playing throughout with great effect and humour. Among others deserving special mention is Mr Herbert Dickeson as the hen-pecked General Billetdoux. He convulses the house with laughter at his humorous methods. Mr Joseph Hudson makes a good Major Duncombe, and Mr Robert Grey as the amorous Count Von Guggenheim is a great success. Mr Henry Grey is amusing as Robert Walton; and Mr Harry Punter impersonates the waiter, James, in a successful manner. A smart bit of acting comes from Miss Hilda Stericker as Mrs John Smith, and as Rose Walton Miss Rue Daryll is quietly effective. Miss Mary Bates never fails to make the most of her opportunities as Mrs Billetdoux, and Miss Ethel Russell cleverly enacts the rôle of Miss Smith. As Julia Miss Marie Vere highly distinguishes herself, and a very capable exponent of the part of Lavinia (cook lady) is found in Miss Constance Stephens. As a diverting curtain-raiser W. H. Dragnil's play in one act, *The Admiral*, is ably performed by Messrs H. Lingard, Robert Grey, Miss Mary Bates, and Miss Marie Vere.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Seymour Hicks and George Edwardes, entitled
"ONE OF THE BEST."

The popular parts of the spacious Borough Theatre were well patronised on Monday night, when Mr Robert Arthur's company in the military drama, *One of the Best*, commenced a week's return engagement. Of intense interest is the "drumming out" spectacle in the barrack square, in which the services of a large number of auxiliaries and two military bands are utilised, which considerably enhance the local colour of the scene, but the discontinuance of the impressive "rogue's march," with which it was wont to conclude, somewhat detracts from the effectiveness of the scene. Mr Stanley Bedwell acts with all the necessary virility and declamatory power as Dudley Keppel, and makes a very popular hero. Mr E. Bellenden Clarke fulfills all requirements as the unscrupulous and crafty Philip Elsworth, and Mr. H. F. Maltby is a soldierly and alert Lieut.-General Coventry. Mr George Hart makes a dignified Sir Archibald M'Gregor, and Mr Wilfred Beckwith acts throughout in impressive manner as the Rev. Dr. Penrose. Jules De Gruchy is safely entrusted to Mr W. Templar Powell; Jason Jupp is cleverly realised by Mr Charles Medwin; and Sergeant Hennesy is smartly played by Mr Beard Randall. The rôle of Esther Coventry is skilfully handled by Miss Helen Haye; and a sympathetic embodiment of Mary Penrose comes from Miss Jeanette Le Gros. On the lighter side of the drama Mr Herbert Darnley does excellent work as the irrepressible Private Jupp; and he is ably supported by Miss Lilla Norden, bright and sprightly as Kitty Spencer. Mrs Spencer is naturally embodied by Miss Nellie Gilmore.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Sept. 26, for the First Time in London, the Historical Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur H. Ward, entitled
"THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS;
OR, ANNO DOMINI 670."

Wulfere	Mr Robert Ayrton
Ulfred	Miss Flo Leighton
Rufi	Miss Edith Tempest
Chad	Mr H. Pyne-Warburton
Edgar	Mr Vincent Carlyle
Egbert	Mr Ellerslie Pyne
Oswy	Mr Henry Melville
Ralpho	Mr Louis Prescott
Bartolphe	Mr Jack Hamer
Ptolemy	Mr Hylton Warde
Ethelinda	Miss Evelyn Clare
Edelgitha	Miss Violet Terry
Caleda	Miss Emmeline Lewis
Werebode	Miss Adria Hill

Melodrama will out, whatever its setting, and though the new piece, which was played for the first time in London on Monday at Stratford, deals with the ancient times when the Christian Church in England was in its infancy, the incidents of the play are none the less boldly coloured and sensational. The ecclesiastical episodes are a little uncanonical, and the representation of a bishop officiating at the altar minus his vestments but wearing a mitre gives a chance to the irreverent; but many of the situations of the play are dramatic and stirring, the dialogue is often well written, and the comedy is of the sort that a popular audience can take with relish. The story begins with the home-coming of Wulfere, King of Mercia, who has been victorious over the Danish invader. He learns on his arrival at his palace at Uttoxeter that the Christian sect have increased enormously, the Queen herself having become a convert. She is absent from her place when the King arrives owing to the presence at the Court of an adventuress named Werebode, who has stolen the King's love, and whose aspirations reach even to the throne. Werebode's welcome to the King is affectionate, and after pledging her in a bumper, he orders his sons to drink to her health. Ulfred, the elder, refuses, and toasts his mother, the absent queen, instead, and the King is so incensed that he draws his sword and advances to cut the boy down, but the blade is intercepted by Edgar, a yeoman, of Hough Farm. The King's rage is boundless, but he is an admirer of bravery, and bids Edgar speak. The yeoman is a Christian, and has come to petition that the persecution of his compatriots shall be abated. The king remains firm in his determination to exterminate the sect, and in order to further his plans, decides to strike at Edgar through his wife. He accordingly sends Egbert, one of his captains, to secure the yeoman's wife, who is anxiously awaiting her husband's return. Egbert and his accomplice are about to lay hands on the lady when Edgar appears and sends both ruffians flying. Numbers tell, however, and Edgar is in imminent peril until the interposition of Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, stays the murderous deed. The Queen petitions the King to restore her to her rightful position, but her prayer is in vain, and she leaves to pray at the foot of the altar, where her boys presently follow her. Meanwhile the King, who is inclined to relent, is told by Werebode that there is a plot on foot for his assassination, so that the Queen may hold the reins of Government through her son. Wulfere is infuriated, and rushes off to the Christian settlement to put everyone to the sword. He butchers his two sons, whom he discovers in the sanctuary, and when the Queen is loud in her upbraidings, the Bishop bids her pray that the murderer may be forgiven. Wulfere is so touched by these charitable words that he determines to render justice. Convinced that Werebode has deceived him, he bids her depart, but before going, she asks him to drink to her welfare. She gives him a cup which she thinks contains poison, but Edgar has been on the watch and changed the goblets, so that it is Werebode who quaffs the deadly draught. Edgar calls for vengeance upon Egbert, who has connived at Wulfere's death, but the Pagan monarch, recalling the words of the Christian prelate, bids Edgar pray that his enemy may be pardoned. So deeply affected is the King at the bloodshed that has been wrought that he contemplates suicide, but he is saved from a watery grave by Edgar, and finally espouses the new religion and dies a Christian, his last moments being solaced by the vision of his wife and children beneath the protecting Shadow of the Cross. Miss Adria Hill and Mr Robert Ayrton's company acquit themselves admirably of the responsibilities of the production. Mr Robert Ayrton makes of King Wulfere a bluff and hearty monarch, impulsive in thought and quick in execution. His sonorous tones are well employed in the noble sentiments he has to expound, which become very impressive by virtue of his delivery of them, and his performance, never overladen with passion, is an artistic one throughout. As the wanton Werebode Miss Adria Hill has opportunities for the exercise of both the tragic and the comic mood, and while her intensity in the former is all that can be desired, her touches of grim humour frequently move to hearty laughter. Mr Vincent Carlyle is a brave stalwart of the faith as Edgar. His clarion voice has the ring of sincerity, and the manly vigour of his style and his sound dramatic acting make his success certain. Mr Ellerslie Pyne realises in the glare of his eye and the ferocity of his countenance the iniquitous nature of the Captain of the Guard, Egbert, though he would be more effective if he were to moderate the ardour of his villainy. The persecuted Queen is sympathetically played by Miss Evelyn Clare, who is skilful in the portrayal of emotion, and Miss Violet Terry makes a pathetic picture of Edelgitha, Edgar's wife. The chances for fun are seized by Mr Hylton Warde, who as the Royal cook creates a diversion in the kitchen, assistance in that department being rendered by Miss Emmeline Lewis, a sprightly kitchenmaid, and a good word should be added for Miss Flo Leighton, who makes a comely and well-spoken lad as the King's son Ulfred, and for Miss Edith Tempest, who plays naturally as the boy Rufi. Mr Harry Pyne-Warburton delivers the lines of the Bishop of Lichfield with due solemnity, and as Ralpho, a seneschal, Mr Louis Prescott should be commended for a well-studied rendering. The mounting and dressing of the piece is elaborate, and though the chorus could with advantage be reinforced, there is enough excitement and interest in the play to secure it an extended run.

EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Melodrama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's excellent company is here with *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, Tom Taylor's celebrated melodrama, in which Mr Henry Neville is seen in his original character of Bob Brierley, a Lancashire lad, which he plays with his usual high ability. Mr L. Cory Thomas as Hawkshaw, the detective, submits a fine piece of character acting, deserving full credit for his embodiment. Mr Wm. Devereux, who portrays James Dalton, alias the Tiger, is capital. He quite realises the peculiarities of an expert cracksman, being assisted in a clever manner by Mr T. W. Rawson as Melter Moss. Mr Wm. Mallalieu, the benevolent old Mr Gibson, is responsible for a creditable portrayal; Mr F. G. Thurstans creates roars of laughter by his eccentricities as Green Jones; and the bright Miss Adie Boyne, in the part of Sam Willoughby, is very popular. The fascinating Miss Evelyn Weeden enacts May Edwards with considerable ability; and Miss Emma Victor is very funny as the motherly Mrs Willoughby. Mr John Mason as Maltby is good; and the minor parts of a waiter and Brunton are in the capable hands of Mr L. St. Clair and Mr J. W. Leighton. *The Two Orphans* was played by the same company on Thursday and Friday evenings.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Domestic Drama, by Walter Howe, entitled
"A VICTIM OF VILLAINY."

It is a somewhat highly seasoned bill-of-fare that is presented to the patrons of the Dalston Theatre this week in the shape of the domestic drama, by Walter Howe, entitled *A Victim of Villainy*. Mr Howe undertakes the part of Frank Manton, a marine engineer, and he succeeds in getting on good terms with the audience. He is admirably supported by Miss Marietta Hyde, who appears as Manton's wife. Mr Sydney Arnold as Stephen Cavanagh, the head of a firm of shipbuilders, fully sustains the interest of an important character in the story. Miss Helena Walbran as Alice Cavanagh, Miss Marjorie Carroll as Jane, a maid in the employ of the Cavanagh family, and Mr Conway Forbes as Sidney Downham each represent human links in the chain of events that form the story of the drama. Miss H. E. Russell is Mrs Leckie, and Mr Arthur Staples is Tom Leckie, her nephew. Arthur Lennox, M.D., finds a suitable representative in Mr John Wybrell, and Mr Leonard Howe is Walter Lennox, a younger brother. Mr T. W. Hart as Dick Carson, Mr T. R. Fenton as Patrick Maloney, a police officer, and Mr Alfred Reid as John Davis, a milkman, are all representative characters; and the audience are much amused by Mr Howard Stephens as Sam Blobbsby, a London loafer, and Miss Blanche Nicholls as Marie Blobbsby, "a candidate for the black list." Both these are admirable character sketches, and as such are duly appreciated. Others in the cast include Miss Nita Barton, who gives a vivid representation of a music hall artiste, Miss Cissie Besant, Mr Albert Cremer, Mr Cecil Allpress, and Mr C. Leighton. The scenery, notably representations of the exterior of a metropolitan music hall, the cells at Marylebone Police-court, and the entrance to Pentonville Gaol, is attractive in the sense of being reproductions of typical London scenes.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Play, entitled
"THE EDGE OF THE STORM."

Mr Leon M. Lion's capable company is presenting Mrs Margaret Young's romantic play here for the first time, and great interest is evinced in the lurid scenes depicting interesting episodes in the stirring times of Hungary's war of independence, and, later, of the Indian Mutiny. Mr Henry Renouf as the high-minded Englishman, Jim Poulett, plays the rôle with ease and polish, in which sincerity is the dominant note. Mr Linward Grahame is emphatic as the Magyar leader, Szentes Istvan; as the impulsive Hungarian youth, Bakonyi Ferenz, fiery of revenge, yet restrained by love, Mr Frederick Annerley is imbued with the romance of the period; the pig-headed Indian officer, Major De Trafford, is capitally portrayed by Mr Alan Borthwick; Mr Arthur Fitzgerald makes an excellent Captain Stent; Mr Louis Palgrave is amusing as Ensign Partridge; Mr Gerald Malvern is grim of visage as Mahomet Ali; Rootooswami, in the hands of Mr Leon M. Lion, is a further example of the possibility of making a small part an important one; Mr Arthur Whitehead is a jovial Captain Hodges; as the gallant French Governor, M. Pierre Duchamp, praise is due to the methods of Mr Julius Hagen. The unrelenting Szentes Wilma is finely portrayed by Miss Ada Marius; and the Szentes Leta of Miss Jean Sterling M'Kinlay is a truly charming effort, the joys and sorrows of the gentle Hungarian refugee being delineated with infinite

grace. Miss Maud M. Magrath is a capable Mrs De Trafford; Miss Nannie Hume is properly hoydenish as the young English "miss," Katie De Trafford; and Miss Mima Renouf causes hilarity by her oversensitiveness concerning the days of her youth. Some beautiful scenery and effects are employed, and the general excellence of all concerned is noticeable.

OPERA HOUSE. CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Romantic Play, in Four Acts, entitled "UNDER THE RED ROBE."

This popular play is attracting appreciative audiences here this week. Mr Robert Hilton devotes his attention to the study of two characters, Cardinal Richelieu and Henri De Cocheforêt, and his performance deserves commendation. Mr J. Forrest submits a humorous interpretation of the Marquis De Pombal. Mr Eric Mason is a capable Sir Thomas Blunt. Mr Norman V. Norman is conspicuous in the responsible rôle of Gil De Berault. Mr Norman Leslie scores as Lieut. Manet. Mr Robert J. Danson does useful work as Captain Larolle. Miss Kathleen Rind shows experience and skill as Madame De Cocheforêt. Miss Lilian Kevill-Davies is well placed as Madame Zaton. Miss F. Glossop Harris is a piquant Susette. As the heroine, Renée De Cocheforêt, Miss Beatrice Wilson displays considerable dramatic ability, and her emotional acting appeals strongly to the audience. The minor parts are in competent hands, and the staging is a commendable item. On Wednesday the same company played *Nell Gwyn*, and on Friday *David Garrick*.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled "THE FATAL WEDDING."

Mr Bert Coote's company has been here this week with *The Fatal Wedding*, and has given in all respects a thoroughly good representation of this interesting drama. Miss Marie Housley was admirably suited with the sympathetic part of the much-wronged Mabel Wilson, portraying with true feeling the poor woman's love for, and determination not to be separated from, her children. Miss Beatrix De Burgh was very successful as Cora Williams, the adventuress, and spoke her lines with a force and, when necessary, a malignant intensity admirably in keeping with the character. A clever performance was that of Miss Ida Valli, who won all hearts as Jessie, "the little mother," and whose song and dance in the third act was repeatedly encored. As Howard Wilson Mr Wilfred Payne had a strong part, and made the most of it; both in portraying Wilson torn by conflicting emotions and in showing him affectionately playing with his children, Mr Payne's acting was perfectly natural and true to life. Mr Leyton Cancellor as Robert Curtis was responsible for an excellent representation of this parasitic man about town, while the character was hit off throughout with a nicety which betrayed careful study. Mr Cancellor was at his best in the drunken scene in the third act. Miss Harriet Clifton was genuinely funny as Bridget, and with the help of Mr C. H. Kenny as Toto caused much amusement. Mr Fred Dobell as Peter Schwartz and Mr H. Welbeck as O'Reilly did well in their respective parts. A notable feature was the chorus of specially trained children, whose singing and dancing were much appreciated.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Drama, by Henry Arthur Jones, in Five Acts, entitled "THE SILVER KING."

Still as popular as ever it was, *The Silver King* drew a big audience at the Kingston playhouse on Monday night, when the first of six performances was given by a most capable company, under the direction of G. M. Polini and Austin Melford. The drama was admirably acted, and was followed with keen interest. Mr Melford himself played the title-rôle, and gave a powerfully impressive rendering of the part. Miss Emelie Polini appeared as Nellie Denver, and sustained the rôle most effectively. Both were soon en rapport with the audience, who were not chary in expressing approval of their united efforts. A pretty piece of character acting was that of Mr C. C. Grattan as Daniel Jaiker, and Miss Amy Manfree and Master Jack Evan made a host of friends by the intelligent and natural way in which they behaved as the children Cissy and Ned. Captain Skinner, Henry Corkett, Elijah Coombe, and Cripps found capable exponents in Messrs Charles Lovey, James L. Power, Arthur Rooke, and C. P. Amalia respectively, and the detective of Mr Warriss Lindon and the Frank Selwyn of Mr Phil Redmayne deserve passing notice. In the subordinate parts mention should also be made of Miss Phyllis Dailly as Olive Skinner, Mr A. Shoesmith as the railway porter, and of Miss Amy Wood as Tabitha Durden. In respect of scenery and stage appointments nothing was lacking.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Sept. 26, "QUALITY STREET."

Mr J. M. Barrie's fascinating play *Quality Street* has been presented here this week by Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's No. 1 company. Mr George A. Brandram is an excellent Valentine Brown, and plays throughout in just the right spirit. Ensign Blades is amusingly rendered by Mr Arthur C. F. Lysons, and Mr Herbert Chown is distinctly good as Lieutenant Spicer. The Recruiting Serjeant finds an able exponent in Mr Dan Dyer, and Master George Hollom is a delightful specimen of the impish schoolboy Arthur Wellesley Tomson. Miss Grace Edwin is fully equal to the demands made upon her by the part of Miss Susan Throssell. The prying Misses Willoughby are capitally played by Miss Isabel Merson and Miss Mary Dennett, and Miss Frances Leslie is equally good as Miss Henrietta Turnbull. Miss Lillian Rogers plays prettily as Miss Charlotte Parratt. Miss Gwyneth Galton is a humorous Patty. The all-important part of Phœbe Throssell is entrusted to Miss Florence Jackson, who deserves much commendation for the way she acquits herself in it. Whether weeping or laughing, teaching or dancing, Miss Jackson carries all before her. The play is excellently mounted and dressed.

A STATUE of Talma, Napoleon's favourite tragedian, has been erected at Polx, France, in the Department of the Nord. It was here that he passed his boyhood. He was born in Paris, and his father was a dentist. Talma was the first French actor to play Shakespeare, and a celebrated picture represents him in the rôle of Hamlet. He was the first also to see the absurdity of the convention that compelled every actor, no matter whether his part was modern or classical, to play in the costume of the Court of Louis XIV. Thus Cæsar appeared on the stage arrayed in the white satin of a Court gallant with long hair tied up with bows of ribbon. When Talma substituted the bare arms and toga and the ancient footwear of the Romans in playing Proculus in *Brutus*, he scandalised his contemporaries But it was the day of revolution (1789), and his ideas triumphed. Talma had a perfect command of English, and played in London. A curious portrait of the tragedian as Hamlet, painted by Lagrenée, adorns the staircase of the Comédie-Française. He is represented in a tunic with a loose species of toga, which serves to hint at the semi-womanly note that is found in Hamlet's temperament.

MADAME PAULINE VIARDOT, although eighty-three years old, continues active in the cause of music. She has recently composed an operetta for performance by her pupils, and completed a third volume of vocal studies, entitled "Une Heure d'Etude," as well as collected a number of her father's MSS. compositions. Mr Albert Garcia, son of Mr Gustave Garcia and great-nephew of Madame Viardot, after a course of instruction under the care of his venerable relative, has made his appearance at the Promenade Concerts.

OPENING OF NEW THEATRE, LYNN.

Lynn people are indeed to be congratulated upon having in their midst Mr J. B. Howard, who, on Monday night, entered upon his lesseeship and management at the New Royal Theatre. Mr Howard is well known in the theatrical world as the managing director of Ben Greet's companies and as chairman of the Touring Managers' Association, and his wide experience in such matters eminently qualifies him for the management of provincial theatres, several of which he has already undertaken. Since Mr J. B. Howard has been in possession of the theatre a transformation has taken place, and the only trace of the old building is the outside walls and roof; everything else has been changed for the better. Great praise is due to Mr W. H. Brown of Lynn, who is responsible for the structural alterations, and Messrs Dean and Co., of Birmingham, for the upholstering and decorations, which have been carried out in such a manner that Lynn now has one of the prettiest and cosiest theatres in the eastern counties. The decorations are in cream and gold, the seats in circle and pit stalls are the patent tip-up upholstered in red velvet. Two boxes have been added, the one on the left-hand side will be known as the Royal box, and hopes are entertained that members of the Royal family may occasionally honour the theatre with their presence.

On Monday night the house was crowded from floor to ceiling with an audience that included many of the leading residents of the town and district. An interesting feature of the opening proceedings was the appearance of Mrs Beerbohm Tree, who came down specially to speak the inauguration prologue, which had been written by Mr Holcombe Ingleby, of Heacham Hall, Norfolk, a gentleman well known in local dramatic circles, for the occasion. It ran as follows:—

What wonders doth the curtain bring to view,
For, Phœnix-like, its ashes doth renew
This Royal Theatre, this pride of Lynn,
Striving your plaudits and your praise to win.
Let each among you play his proper part,
Let some be actors, some encourage art;
Without your aid we cannot thrive or live,
Yet have we something of our own to give.
Here shall contentious aching bones have rest,
Resisters here be welcomed and caressed;
Here dust and din of politics shall cease,
And rival candidates lie down in peace;
Prime actors here shall tread the classic board,
And in your plaudits find their chief reward.
We trust to see the Mayor and Corporation,
Their hatchets bury at our instigation.
No burning question here of rival sites
Shall one iota mar of your delights;
And every shillingsworth we give out hence
We promise you is worth full eighteen-pence.
But cast your eyes around from floor to ceiling!
Have we not done our part with taste and feeling?
However much you may incline to heckle,
You cannot say we've spared a single shekel.
In solemn truth we've done our very best,
And what we've done we've done with zeal and zest.
We've tried with judgment, waiting on celerity,
To add our mite to dear old Lynn's prosperity.
With J. B. Howard pulling at the strings
You'll revel in a crowd of wondrous things,
And you who see *La Poupée's* splendid greeting
Will say that Phil Ben Greet requires some beating.
Enough! Enough! I must no longer stand
'Twixt you and your enjoyment; may the hand
That hath this gorgeous edifice renewed
For ever prosper! May the Fates imbued
With kindly spirit, grant this kingly town
Recurring laurels and increased renown!
May roof and rafters with your plaudits ring,
And happiness to these our actors bring.
And if I might one little prayer let fall,
These heartfelt words I'd say, "God bless you all."

After which Mrs Tree formally declared the theatre open, and introduced Mr J. B. Howard, who on coming forward was vociferously received.

Mr HOWARD then made the following speech:—Mrs Tree, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—Firstly, Mrs Tree, allow me to thank you on behalf of the Lynn public and myself for the kind words you have said about our new theatre. It gives us very great pleasure to see you on this stage, and although the theatre is practically a new one, this fine old ancient stage still remains. The foundation-stone of this theatre was laid in 1813, so I believe the stage you now stand upon is ninety-one years old. I only wish it were possible that your distinguished husband could have been here with us to-night, but I am afraid the London public at present require his services. However, although absent, he has not forgotten us, for he has sent me a very kind telegram. Again I thank you for the kind service you have rendered here this evening in speaking the prologue, so kindly written by Mr Holcombe Ingleby, and declaring the theatre open, and we all look forward to your appearance to-morrow afternoon and to hearing you in the work you love so well. Ladies and gentlemen, I assure you after the right royal reception you gave me a few minutes ago, that I am in the midst of friends and well-wishers in my new venture. During the short time I have been amongst you in Lynn I have received every kindness and encouragement at your hands, and I should like to specially thank the press for the kindness they have extended to me through the medium of their valuable columns since I came to Lynn. We all know in the past this theatre has not been comfortable for you. It has been no encouragement to you to support the drama, and I feel confident that now I have provided you with what I hope you consider a theatre worthy of your old and ancient borough, you will show your appreciation by supporting and helping me to make this one of the most successful theatres in the Eastern Counties. I am pleased to tell you that I have succeeded in booking for the first year what I consider a unique record of good companies. It is my intention as far as possible to provide you with musical plays and operas for the first three nights of each week and good dramas for the last three. Of course, ladies and gentlemen, my endeavour is to try and satisfy you all. It is not everyone who appreciates melodrama, but there are many of my friends in the pit and the gallery who like a good wholesome play—and why not? Amongst the musical plays I have booked are *A Chinese Honeymoon*, *The Belle of New York*, *Three Little Maids*, *Les Cloches de Corneville*, *The Earl and the Girl*, *A Country Girl*, *Sergeant Brue*, and *Florodora*. I have already booked the following well-known and successful dramas:—Next Thursday, Friday, and Saturday a play that was performed in London last week with enormous success, *That Woman from France*. The following week local interest will be centred in the visit of Mr and Mrs Gamble, professionally known as Mr and Mrs Campbell, who will appear in a new play written by Mr Gamble, and which has met with a splendid reception in every town it has visited. Later, we have the visit of my dear old friend, Mr Ben Greet's company, who will perform Hall Caine's great play *The Eternal City*, also by arrangement with Mr Tree, *The Darling of the Gods* will be played. *Sherlock Holmes* will also appear amongst us, *The Fatal Wedding*, and the late Wilson Barrett's great drama *The Silver King* These are only a few of the good plays coming. We shall have Mr Penley's No. 1 company in the ever-successful comedy *Charley's Aunt*, and Mr Chas. Frohman's company will bring *Are You a Mason?* I am also well provided with pantomime. At Christmas I have booked *Dick Whittington* for a week, also a week of *Cinderella*, and a little later a week of *Babes in the Wood*. Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, you will see we are to have what I consider a splendid list of attractions. I am pleased to tell you that the following distinguished list of actors and actresses have presented me with a photograph for the walls of our theatre:—Miss Ellen Terry, Sir Henry Irving, Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr George Grossmith, and last, but not least, Mrs Tree. I should also like to thank Mr Page for lending me the beautiful set of old Shakespearian pictures which are now hanging at the back of the circle. I will not take up much more of your time as I see Mr Smith is waiting to photograph you all. I will take this opportunity of asking you at the conclusion of my speech to remain seated while a photograph is being taken of this very interesting occasion. Mr Smith also asks me to mention that he does not want you all to look straight at the camera. Before concluding I can only say that I shall do my best to merit your approval by bringing good plays and good companies to the theatre, and if you are pleased with the arrangements I have made for you both on and off the stage, I am grateful. Before I finish I should like to congratulate on your behalf as well as on my own your respected townsman, Mr William Brown, on the way he has carried out his duties in the rebuilding of this theatre. It is a great credit to him. It was no easy undertaking, and I believe I am right in saying that this is the first theatre he has been connected with. Has he not done well? Another one to congratulate is the architect, Mr Bertie Crewe. He is an old hand at this kind of work, but Mr Crewe, being a friend of mine, said "I intend to design for you a theatre that the Lynn public will be proud of." And I think he has succeeded. Last, but not least, our praises must be given to the upholsterers and decorators, Messrs Dean, who have done their work in a lavish and tasteful manner. Also a word of praise is due to your local artist, Mr Seonce, for the beautiful act-drop he has painted. I have also great pleasure in introducing to you my manager, Mr Leonard, who will, I am sure, look after your comforts when I am away. In conclusion, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to thank you once again for the hearty reception you have given us, and on behalf of us all I can only add the few lines that you will see painted above this proscenium, "Our true intent is all for your delight."

The preliminaries included the photographing of the audience by flashlight by Mr T. Smith, and then, after the overture, the curtain rose, and *La Poupée* occupied the boards for the rest of the evening. It is sufficient to say that the charming comic opera was performed by Mr Ben Greet's No. 1 company. All the members worked hard, and did full justice to their respective parts, many of the items being redemanded over and over again.

Mr Howard has a very able assistant in Mr Herbert Leonard, the dramatic author, who was for many years associated with the late Mr George Conquest, at the Surrey Theatre, and who has taken up his residence in Lynn as Mr Howard's local manager.

On Thursday and following nights Mr Campbell's No. 1 company in *That Woman from France* was announced to occupy the theatre. Arrangements have been made with the railway company to run late trains for the convenience of country visitors.

DEATH OF MR. MEL B. SPURR.

By the sudden death in Melbourne on Sunday of Mr Mel B. Spurr, the popular profession of entertaining has lost one of its most successful exponents. Unlike the late Corney Grain or George

Photo by R Brown.

THE LATE MR. MEL B. SPURR.

Grossmith, Mr Spurr was a provincial, and his class of entertainment appealed very peculiarly and successfully to the provinces, where he was universally known and appreciated. When quite recently he took Melbourne by storm, it was a matter of curiosity whether the "Mel" stood by chance for that city. It was Melancthon Burton Spurr, however, who was born in Selby, Yorkshire, on March 1, 1852, though he lived most of his youth and early manhood in Hull. After a brief career as a solicitor in his father's office and elsewhere, he deserted the law, having seen Corney Grain, and determined to "go and do likewise." From a boy he had been precociously clever at the piano, and as an amateur mimic and actor; and when thirty he finally became a full-blown professional entertainer. The chief characteristic of Mr Spurr's performance was its length; his own greatest triumph his versatility. He almost invariably performed for a full two hours, with the briefest interval midway, and was equally successful with the humorous song, the serious recitation, the musical parody, the zither solo, and the musical sketch. Of the many songs for ever associated with his name one may recall "The Tin Gee-gee," which he rewrote and popularised; "The Nipper's Lullaby," of which he was the author; "When I was a boy at school," "The world went very well then," and the "After dinner" sketch. He wrote also a volume of recitations, including the favourite "If We Only Knew," and another, in which nursery rhymes were parodied in the styles of popular poets.

After many years of steadily increasing popularity in the provinces, Mr Spurr won his way to London, appearing at the Court Theatre before *The Amazons* of Mr Pinero, and subsequently spending five years with Mr Maskelyne at the Egyptian Hall. In February, 1903, he left England for South Africa, and so unmistakable was his success there that a tour was at once planned, covering Australasia, India, and the United States. After winning golden opinions in Australia, and breaking the records of "one-man shows," he visited Tasmania and New Zealand with equal success, and was on his return visit to Melbourne when his death took place. Details are not yet to hand, but it was probably a case of heart failure, although recent letters had declared that he was in the best of health and spirits. Mr Spurr's genial face and kind, hearty manners will be sorely missed by the many many friends whose lives, private or public, he has so often brightened by his wholesome fun and unflagging spirits. Mr Spurr leaves a widow and one daughter.

AT the Theatre Royal, Leigh, on Thursday afternoon, Mr Robt. Perris copyrighted a "new and beautiful drama of the soul," in three acts and five scenes, entitled *Beyond*. Edgar Allen Poe Lenore were in the list of dramatis personæ, but there was no mention of a Raven in the cast. One of the scenes was the Elysian Fields.

A BLIND ACTOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—An exceedingly sad case of distress in our profession has been brought to my notice by my old friend and brother actor, Mr E. M. Robson. It is that of Mr Henry Crisp, who, being fifty-one years of age, and having been an actor for thirty years, is now totally blind, and has been so from the end of October, 1903. He acted up to the last, and played for two years with the vision of one eye quite gone, while that of the other was gradually going. Out of his thirty years' experience he has held engagements as follows:—With Mrs Scott Siddons, three consecutive engagements; with Miss Jennie Lee, five consecutive years; with Mrs Langtry, four consecutive years; with Mr Penley, twelve consecutive years; with Mr Willard, three tours, and as stage-manager with Mr Tree (*Captain Swift* Co. 1). This makes very nearly thirty years, and shows that he must have been reliable and steady to have secured so many re-engagements. His salaries have always been small—£3 to £4 per week—once only reaching £8, so it is not surprising that he has no savings to fall back upon. He has a slender private income derived from the rents of three small houses. The property is mortgaged, and is in the hands of the mortgagees, who work it and allow him 15s. per week. His rent for a top room in the Kennington-road is 8s. per week, and the 7s. left has to find all the necessaries for himself and his wife, and he is not in arrears with his rent. Two years ago he was six months idle on account of illness, chiefly connected with his affliction. The expenses incurred by this, added to fees paid to various doctors in the different towns he visited on tours, reduced his income and savings considerably. He has been an inmate of the Westminster and Ophthalmic Hospitals, but with no benefit, though he speaks gratefully of the kindness shown him by a certain well-known doctor, who treated him gratuitously and secured his admission into the hospitals. There is no hope of his ever seeing again. One eye is quite gone, and is replaced by an artificial one, and the other is past being operated upon. His debts are very few and small; I have a list of them. All he possesses is pledged, but a few pounds would redeem everything. He is a Mason. His mother Lodge is Asaph 1,319. He has paid up and left, owing nothing. He has no Lodge now, and has not applied to his former Lodge for assistance in his distress or to any other. His address is 145, Kennington-road, S.E.

I have spoken about his case to Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr Pinero, Captain Marshall, Mr Alexander, Mr Bourchier, and Sir Squire Bancroft, all of whom are deeply interested in the case, and express their willingness to help him. I have every hope eventually of organising a concert for his benefit at the Queen's Hall. In the meantime may I ask for the kind consideration which you have always shown for cases of distress in our profession, and beg you to open a subscription list on his behalf, kindly putting me down for £5?

Yours faithfully, CYRIL MAUDE.

Sept. 24, 1904.

Mr Edward Ledger will be pleased to receive subscriptions for this distressing and heart-rending case, and all cheques forwarded will be duly acknowledged.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.	£	s.	d.
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0

"TAPS."

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT).

Zapfenstreich, a drama of German military life, by Franz Adam Beyerlein, was the success of the season last year at the Irving-place Theatre. The English translation, which bears the above title, was made by Charles Swickard, and the play, in four acts, was produced at the Lyric Theatre, New York, on the 17th ult. In America when the bugler sounds "taps" it means "lights out," having the same significance as the bugle call known as "the last post" in England. The drama deals with the love affairs of Clara, the daughter of Sergeant-Major Volkhardt, who has an honourable record of thirty-three years in the service. Clara has been engaged to Corporal Helbig, who has been attending a riding school in another town for two years. During his absence the girl has fallen in love with young Lieutenant Von Lauffen. Helbig returns, and Clara treats him coldly. Von Lauffen has persuaded her to visit him in his apartments after "taps," and by putting two and two together Helbig takes a pretty correct view of the situation. His suspicions are confirmed in a strong scene at the close of the second act. At a late hour he demands admittance to the private quarters of Lieutenant Von Lauffen, and warns him not to trifle with Clara. Von Lauffen orders Helbig to leave, and the latter becomes convinced that the girl is secreted in an adjoining room. In a burst of jealous rage, Helbig attacks his superior officer and is placed under arrest. Clara is a silent witness to this scene, the door between the two rooms having been forced open. The third act is taken up with the trial of Corporal Helbig by court-martial. He conceals the real cause of the quarrel, and Von Lauffen supports him, both denying that there was any woman mixed up in the affair, and allowing the Court to infer that Helbig's conduct was due to intoxication. But Clara is called before this testimony is sworn to, and to save her lover from committing perjury the girl makes a clean breast of the affair. Her father springs at Von Lauffen like a tiger, but is held back by the other officers. In the last act Volkhardt seeks the betrayer of his daughter, and forgetting in his rage as a father his position as a non-commissioned officer, demands the satisfaction that would be due to an equal in rank. But Von Lauffen will not fight, nor can he marry the girl. Clara interrupts them, and declares that she alone is to blame—that she threw herself at Von Lauffen. And Volkhardt, made furious by her words, draws his revolver and shoots her.

The play was received with marked approval by a large audience. The scene of the court-martial, vivid and true in every detail, proved intensely interesting, and the conditions peculiar to German military life were reproduced in a lifelike manner throughout. Mr Herbert Kelcey as Sergeant-Major Volkhardt portrayed a character entirely different from any that he has been wont to assume, and scored a success of the first magnitude. In manner, voice, and gesture he was the old soldier to the life, and his impersonation has brought him once more into well-deserved prominence. Miss Effie Shannon made a very good impression as Clara. Mr Robert Loraine as Von Lauffen and Mr Paul Everton as his fellow-lieutenant Von Hoewen gave excellent representations. The Sergeant Quiess of Mr Aubrey Noyes was a clever character sketch, and Mr Charles Swickard, the translator and stage-manager, also played one of the minor parts satisfactorily.

THE London Academy of Music, founded in 1861, and for some time carrying on operations at St. George's Hall, has joined forces with the London Music School, the Metropolitan College of Music, and the Forest-gate College of Music. These united institutions will henceforth be known as the London Academy of Music, the headquarters being at 22, Princes-street, Oxford-circus, with branches at Kensington, Brighton, Forest-gate, Southend, Leytonstone, and elsewhere. The direction of the enterprise—which has been registered as the United Music Schools, Limited, with a capital of £12,000—will be in the hands of Dr. Yorke Trotter, Mr H. Beauchamp, Mr L. Denza, Mr W. Harding Bonner, and Mr Carl Weber.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"LETZTE STUNDEN."

Play, in Three Acts, by Karl Strecker, Produced at the Berliner, Sept. 22.

Julie De Saint-Florent ..	Fräulein HRUBY
Marquis D'Arcy	Herr WRIGHT
Reanier	Herr MISCHKE
Tellelier	Herr CONNARD
La Fresnais	Herr BERGER
Abbé Clément	Herr L'ALLEMANN
Count Ferté	Herr KUHNERT
Vernay	Herr WEHRLIN
De Torcy	Herr STARNBURG
De La Rivière	Herr SCHINDLER
Guillaumin	Herr ROHLAND
Jaquinnant	Herr CHONY
Tinayre	Herr KOCH
Perreuse	Herr HASSKERL
Metzger	Herr LUDECKE
Alte Boulanger	Fräulein BERGER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, SEPT. 29.—Herr Strecker has drawn his play, he tells us, from a *motif* of Ernest Renans. It is somewhat more than merely a *motif*; it is the story of the Abbess of Jouarre—which is known to most people—pure and simple. The dramatist has added a little, and, it must be admitted, has made a very interesting play of the whole. It met with a cordial reception, the Prison scene, where the young Abbess and the doomed Marquis D'Arcy confess their love, arousing enthusiastic applause by open stage. The interpretation of the piece was not quite even, but the rendering of many of the rôles was excellent. Herr Connard gave a first-rate account of the actor Augustin, and Fräulein Hruby was sympathetic and convincing in the part of the Abbess; the clever young artiste was, moreover, in the necessary scenes, full of considerable dramatic power.

HERR FRANK WEDEKIND'S tragi-comedy *Erdgeist* was given last week at the Neues with a fair measure of success. The author delivered a prologue which he had specially composed for the occasion, and, appearing in the multi-coloured garb of the manager of a travelling menagerie before the curtain, created a sensational effect. The characterising of each of the figures of the play as wild animals is an original idea, bizarre as are most of Herr Wederkind's ideas. Chief among the tragi-comic impersonations was the Snake of Frau Eysoldt; it was a wonderfully realistic and clever piece of acting. The piece is not new; it has merely been retouched and "done up," and has been already detailed in your columns.

AT the Belle Alliance Theatre there was an interesting jubilee last Friday. Herr August Junkermann celebrated his fiftieth year of public life. The famous character actor is, perhaps, at his best in the Low-German comedies of Reuter, and for this occasion a performance of Reuter's *Onkel Brasig* was selected, Herr Junkermann giving the name-part in his own incomparable manner. It was a highly successful evening, the popular artist being called and recalled and awarded floral tributes *ad fin.*

THE Thalia, which has been subjected, like many sister houses, to a beautifying process during the holidays, has reopened under capital auspices. *Der Weiberkönig (King Among Women)* was the initial piece. It is still running and probably will run for some time to come. It is a musical farce, or burlesque, of the brilliant kind we are accustomed to at the Thalia. Three well-known "fun-makers"—Herr Kren, Herr Schoenfeld, and Herr Ely—have combined to write the work, while the bright music is by Herr Eilödshofer. Plot there is none to describe, but the scenes are, one and all, amusing, if the whole is a little confusing. The cast is so good that it could not well be better. Herr Thielscher is once again the hero of the evening, and many and varied are the phases in which the delighted audience see him. Herr Helmerding, Fräuleins Dora and Abarbanell, Herr Reif, and others shared well-deserved applause, and a word of commendation must not be omitted for the very effective mounting of the piece.

LUDWIG AUZENGRUBER'S peasant-comedy *Der Kreuzelschreiber*, was given on Saturday at the Schiller N., making an excellent impression. The house was—as it nearly always is—very well filled, and the audience was a most appreciative one. Great pains had been expended upon the interpretation, which was good all round. Herr Pategg, Herr Rolan, and Fräulein Schumowska in the principal rôles acted exceedingly well.

THE Lessing Theatre produced a few nights ago a very old play, Calderon's *Der Richter von Zalamea*. It is naturally too well known to need description, having been translated from its original Spanish into most modern tongues. The present translation is a new one, by the talented playwright, Herr Rudolf Presber, and it is admirable. The work created its customary profound impression, for the interpretation was as good as it could well be. Herr Reicher gave a masterly rendering of the part of Crespo, Fräulein Triesch was faultless as Isabel, and Herr Bassermann had a rôle in Don Lope that suited him exactly. The Knight of the Sorrowful Countenance, Don Mendo, found a humorous and judicious exponent in Herr Meinhard. The audience applauded to the echo, and "called" the chief artistes repeatedly, but all efforts were vain, it being against the laws of the Lessing for the actors to appear before the curtain.

"ÄENNCHEN VON THARAU," three-act drama, by Willibald Alexis, is running successfully at the Deutsche Volkebühne. Alexis is well known, but his *Aennchen von Tharau* is new to many. It is a well-written play, of a simple volks-piece character, and it met with a very cordial reception. Cast and mounting were alike good.

THE Lustspielhaus—which opens on Oct. 1—has an excellent draw for the first night. A new play by Otto Erich Hartleben, entitled *Ein Wahrhaft Guter Mensch*, has been acquired by the management. Three days later there is to be a second novelty—Herr Robert Misch's comedy, in three acts, *Biederleute*. Among the excellent company which has been engaged for the new theatre is the clever versatile actress Frau Schneide-Nissen.

"DIE FERNE" is the name of a new three-act drama, by Eugen Brull, which was given for the first time at the Imperial Burg Theatre, Vienna, last week. It is a play with a strong moral, chiefly directed against the practice of duelling. The frequent and spontaneous applause plainly showed the feelings of the audience on this much-discussed subject.

MAXIM GORKI'S latest production—a series of loosely-connected scenes in the manner of *Nachtasyl* entitled *Datschniki*—has been acquired by Herr Reinhardt, manager of the Neues and Kleines Theatres. Herr Scholz is the translator and adaptor. The work has not been acted anywhere at present, and will be given almost simultaneously at Moscow and Berlin.

HERR SIEGFRIED WAGNER'S new opera, *Bruder Lustig*, will not be produced here, as was generally believed. It is the Stadt Theatre at Hamburg that will have the honour, and the production, I hear, has been postponed until next summer.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association, held last Tuesday, Dorothy Garth, Rita Tomkins, and Eva May Young were nominated as candidates for election as members. The honorary solicitors reported progress in several matters. Ten easy-chairs have been added to the furniture of the Association. A case referred to arbitration has been amicably settled between the parties concerned, and the arbitrators were therefore released from their duties.

IN our notice of the performance of *My Sweetheart* at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, last week, instead of speaking of the Sisters Anna and Flora Temple, we should have said that Anna and Flora, two of Tina's playmates were represented by Miss Jennie Temple and Miss Alice Temple, skilful and accomplished dancers.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The most sensational theatrical event of the week has been the production, at the Savoy Theatre on Thursday, of *The Golden Light*, a play by Mrs Brown-Potter's sister, Madame Raoul Duval. The piece was originally written in French, and was then translated by the authoress into English. Madame Duval is the writer of several of the poems which Mrs Brown-Potter recited on her recent concert tour. Each of the costumes in *The Golden Light* was intended to have "a soulful meaning," and they are marvellously tasteful and artistic, the hats being charmingly picturesque. Mrs Potter wore a particularly big one in the third act, and it, unfortunately, fell off in the middle of a heart-rending love-scene. The costumes, however, were the only thing remarkable in the production, which fell decidedly flat. If the great attraction of the stage in the future is to be "pretty frocks," it will be bad for the lovers of real dramatic art.

Miss Kitty Gordon, who has created such a favourable impression by her acting in the part of Agatha (Madame Coquenard) in *Veronique* at the Apollo Theatre, is to be married on Wednesday next to the Hon. Henry Beresford, son of Lord Decies. Miss Gordon, who, it may be remembered, appeared with conspicuous success in *Kitty Grey*, *The Duchess of Dantzic*, and *The Girl from Kay's*, is a charming and talented actress. Mr Beresford, who was until recently a captain in the 13th Hussars, served through the late South African War, and is very popular in society and military circles. He is a great huntsman and traveller, and for a young man has seen a good deal of the world The wedding is to be a very quiet affair, and for that reason the name of the church is withheld. The bride and bridegroom will spend their honeymoon in Paris.

A strong reception committee, headed by the mayor, has been formed at Sunderland to entertain Sir Henry Irving on his forthcoming visit to the town. It was at Sunderland that he made his first appearance on any stage. The following Christmas he played in a comic pantomime, and during the day the young actor used to go over to Roker, the neighbouring seaside resort, and rehearse his part to the waves from the beach.

Mr Henry Crisp, who is fifty-one, and has been on the stage for thirty years, has been totally blind since October last. He acted for two years with the use of one eye entirely lost. Mr Crisp earned but a small salary, and, therefore, was able to make but imperfect provision for old age; and the heart-rending trouble which has come upon him must appeal to the theatrical profession, which is always full of pity and generosity. Mr Cyril Maude has asked us to open a subscription list on poor Crisp's behalf, and has headed it with £5; and Mr Edward Ledger, who has given the same sum, will be pleased to acknowledge all amounts sent to him at this office.

Mr Beerbohm Tree will give, on Tuesday, Oct. 25, a special matinée of *Trilby* at His Majesty's Theatre, for the benefit of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Mr Tree's beautiful and accomplished daughter Viola will play the title-part. The committee are obliged to appeal to the London managers for matinées in order that assistance may be continued to the numerous applicants to the funds for help.

Mr Frederick Harrison and Mr Cyril Maude will dissolve partnership at the end of their next summer season, after which Mr Harrison will continue in management as lessee of the Haymarket Theatre, and Mr Maude will probably start management elsewhere with his wife, Miss Winifred Emery, who will return to the stage next year. *Beauty and the Barge* will be transferred in January to the reconstructed Haymarket, where Mr Maude will remain until July. It is stated that Mr Forbes Robertson and his clever wife, Miss Gertrude Elliott, will join Mr Harrison in management.

Mr Sam Sothern, who is playing in *The Catch of the Season*, tells an amusing little story of his first appearance in America. His manager was the well-known actor, John T. Raymond, and when the young Englishman made his first entrance the older man, whose talent was equalled by his eccentricity, suddenly laid his hand on his shoulder and turned him round to the audience. "This is young Sam Sothern," he explained, to the astonishment of everybody on and off the stage, "And because we all remember his father so well, I know you will give him a hearty welcome. Sam, my boy, fire away!"

Mrs Lane-Joynt, who plays Miss Le Gay, a racy society adventuress, in the new play *The Golden Light*, which was produced on Thursday at the Savoy, is a popular member of Irish society, well-known in Dublin Vice-regal circles, and has the reputation of being one of our best lady golfers. On the death of her husband, Mrs Lane-Joynt gave up golf and began to study for the stage. Her first chance came two years ago through Mr Beerbohm Tree, who secured her for the part of Princess Natashi in a provincial tour of Tolstoi's *Resurrection*. She was then known as Miss Maud Cleveland, but she has decided to retain her own name in future. She has quick intelligence, a handsome face, and an elegant figure.

Mr Frank Cooper, who will be leading man when the Avenue opens this month, is an accomplished painter, as well as an actor of over twenty years' standing. The two brothers, Frank Cooper and Cooper Cliffe, are descended on their mother's side from Mrs Siddons, and their father was a theatrical manager. Mr Cooper was a Lyceum man even before "the great days," for he has a vivid recollection of standing in the wings to watch Sir Henry Irving rehearse Hamlet—he himself was cast for Laertes—when all the good old actors connected with the theatre looked on the future head of the profession as "a mere boy."

Mr William T. Stead commenced his study of the stage in the front row of the pit of His Majesty's Theatre on the night of the 23rd ult., accompanied by Miss Elizabeth Robins. After the performance Mr Stead and Miss Robins were received by Mr Tree on the stage.

Mr Frank Dyall, who is cast for the part of Sir Ralph Ingram in the forthcoming production of *His Majesty's Servant*, is a son of Mr Dyall, of the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool. In his early days the young actor was a prominent member of the best amateur dramatic club in that city, and his first attempt on a real stage was at the St. James's, under Mr Alexander, for whom he subsequently stage-managed at the Royalty. Mr Dyall has been associated with a great many of Mr Lewis Waller's former productions.

Mr A. E. George, who is to play a character rôle in *His Majesty's Servant*, is an actor who rarely, if ever, "rests." He holds a record of over twelve years' work without a single break. Born in Lincolnshire, he started life as a choir boy, afterwards becoming—like Mr Herbert Waring and Mr Cairns James—a schoolmaster. He is a remarkably quick study, as the following incident goes to prove. While fulfilling an engagement at the Criterion Sir Charles Wyndham sent for him one Friday night after the performance, and quietly asked him whether he could play a big part at the matinée on the following day. It is needless to say that Sir Charles himself fully appreciated the difficulties, and so did Mr George—but he played the part.

Mr Joseph Jefferson is ill at his country home in Buzzard's Bay, Mass., and has cancelled all engagements for the season. Mr Jefferson, though seventy-five years old, has enjoyed excellent health, and is very vigorous for a man of his years. He has limited his dramatic work to two short tours in the year—sometimes broken by a few weeks' holiday—and passes a great portion of the leisure months in open-air sport. He has, therefore, retained to a remarkable degree his youthful strength, and bids fair to devote many years to come to a profession in which he takes great delight. Recently, however, while at Buzzard Bay Mr Jefferson was attacked by what appeared to be somewhat serious indigestion, and after a consultation with his physician he decided to abandon all thought of an appearance in public this season. Mr Thomas Jefferson, a son of the veteran actor, has begun a thirty weeks' tour in *Rip Van Winkle*. His supporting company includes his daughter, Miss Lauretta Jefferson, who has just made her début as Meenie. Thus three generations of Jeffersons are now represented on the stage.

Mr J. Bannister Howard last Monday night at King's Lynn received over 100 "wires" of congratulation on the reopening of the new Theatre Royal, including telegrams from Mr J. L. Toole, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr Tree, Mr George Alexander, Mr George Edwardes, Mr George Grossmith, Mr W. S. Penley, Mr Ben Greet, and Mr W. B. Redfern.

Mr Aubrey Fitzgerald, who made such a hit with his song to a looking-glass in *The Girl from Kay's*, and is now appearing in *Veronique*, is an Irishman who comes of an old Kerry family. All his character sketches on the stage are elaborated studies from real life. He confesses to a perfect mania for new styles of make-up—or slight, subtle alterations of old styles. On one occasion his enthusiasm made him dart across the street and grasp the hand of a casual acquaintance, who was talking with some ladies at the time, with the unusual greeting:—"How are you? Excuse me, but I really must use your hair at the first opportunity!"

Mr Conway Tearle, who has been cast for an important part in Mrs Tom Kelly's historical play called *The Master of Kingsgift*, to be produced at the Avenue on Oct. 17, is a stepson of the late Osmond Tearle, and was born and educated in America. He married about five years ago, and is still on the sunny side of thirty. His first London success was in *The Best of Friends*, at Drury-lane, when he played the part of a young Boer, and his professional experiences include the "creation" of Ben Hur in Australia and many tours in the English provinces.

Both Miss Topsy Sinden and her only brother, Bert, are members of Mr George Edwardes's companies. The former is at Daly's and the latter at the Gaiety. Miss Sinden is a pupil of Madame Katti Lanner, and made her début long before she was seven, afterwards becoming one of the most attractive "Gaiety girls" at the old house in the Strand. She is a skilful fencer, and is very proud of having won a prize in a running match. In her childhood Miss Sinden was known by the pretty pet-name of Deerfoot.

Sir Henry Irving has been asked by the Corporation of Bath to perform the ceremony of unveiling the memorial tablet to James Quin, at 4, Pierrepont-street, and to attend luncheon afterwards. He has fixed Friday, Feb. 17 next, when he will be playing his farewell visit to Bath, for the ceremony.

Miss Marie Auckland (Mrs Charles Herrick), who has made quite a success in her dual rôle of the twin sisters in *The Triumph of Truth* on tour, has never been out of a "bill" through illness in her life, and attributes her excellent health to hard work and love of outdoor sports.

Mr Charles Fry will have his eleventh season of Shakespearian matinées at the Court Theatre. The plays performed this year will be *Othello*, *Love's Labour Lost*, and *King Henry VIII.*, and they will be given on the Saturday afternoons in November on a draped stage. Mr Fry will again have the services of Miss Olive Kennett.

Mr J. F. Elliston, before a full meeting of the Watch Committee held in the Bolton Town Hall, on Thursday, made his twenty fifth consecutive application for a dramatic licence for the Theatre Royal in that town. In making the application Mr Elliston explained that it created a record, not only for Bolton, but England. As a matter of fact, he said, no other theatrical manager in England living was in a position to say that for a quarter of a century he had controlled the dramatic destinies of one town. His first application for a dramatic licence was made on Sept. 28, twenty-five years ago. The licence, both for the Theatre Royal and the new Grand Theatre, was granted unanimously.

Last year a party of municipal pilgrims from Southwark visited Stratford-on-Avon, and an intimation has now been received that a seedling from the famous mulberry tree in the garden attached to the house in which the poet died, which has been presented to the borough of Southwark, awaits removal to its new quarters. Arrangements are being made to have it planted in front of the Southwark Town Hall, a site which does not give much promise of its developing into the proportions and stamina of the parent tree. A far better position would be Southwark-park, where the seedling would enjoy purer air, and might expect to receive more skilled attention.

Herr Sandor, the manager of the National Theatre, Buda-Pesth, has obtained Sir Henry Irving's permission to use the music written for him by Mr Edward German in his production of *Henry VIII.* The National Theatre enjoys a subvention from the Hungarian Government of a million kroner per annum.

"The Prayer of the Sword," at the Adelphi, is now played in four acts, and, although it commences at 8·15, is over by 11·0 o'clock. The compression adopted is all to the advantage of the play, which possesses an artistic value and a poetic beauty that are as rare as they are welcome.

Miss Camille Clifford, the original Dana Gibson girl, who has been appearing in *The Prince of Pilsen*, is to be one of the Gibson girls in *The Catch of the Season*. Miss Clifford, it is understood, sat to Mr Dana Gibson, and she and Miss Kaye will play opposite to each other as two exact types.

The forthcoming season of grand opera at Covent-garden is under the personal direction of Mr Henry Russell, the principal professor of the Rome Conservatoire of Singing, at whose suggestion some of the influential and wealthy members of Neapolitan society have formed a syndicate and raised the necessary funds to enable the orchestra, chorus, and company of their famous San Carlo Opera House to be heard in Covent-garden this winter. Mr Russell, who has arranged to be in London during the opera season, has just returned from Italy, having signed contracts with most of the Italian celebrities, including Signor Caruso. Signor Puccini has promised to be present, and perhaps will himself conduct either *La Tosca*, *Manon Lescaut*, or *La Bohême*.

Mr Leslie Faber, who is playing in *The Garden of Lies* at the St. James's Theatre, is an old Bensonian. He is of Danish descent, and has chiefly got his experience in small character parts in Mr Henry Arthur Jones's plays. He is the husband of Miss Winifred Arthur-Jones.

Miss Cecilia Loftus recently denied that there was any such thing as the evolution of a music hall "top-liner" to a legitimate star as far as she was concerned. In art there was no long step for her to take, but there was an extraordinary long one in the minds of the American public, and because she had been a music hall artist she had found it hard to get a footing on the legitimate stage. The prejudice is strong in America, but in England, Miss Loftus said, she had not met with this discrimination. Not only were the New Yorkers hard to please, but they had such false notions of things, and imagined that vaudeville actors and actresses were rude, vulgar, and untaught. Miss Loftus knew better, and remarked that it required harder and more volatile work to be a successful vaudeville artist than to be a star in a society play. But "bluff" was the keynote of success on the American stage. One must bluff on the stage and off the stage, and keep on bluffing all the time.

Miss Loftus said that Mr Zangwill was supposed to have written *The Serio-Comic Governess* for her and around her, but he had never seen her when he wrote the play, and she was not at all the sort of person he had written about. The dressing-room in the music hall described in his play had not existed for at least thirty years, that sort of sordid, vulgar affair being quite as unknown in England as in the United States. "We had some rather vigorous talks about it afterwards," Miss Loftus continued, "and I tried to explain to Mr Zangwill that I should have more practical knowledge of music halls than he, as I had played in any music hall of any consequence, both in England and America; but the only person that can argue successfully with the author is the manager, and I was only the star. However, Mr Frohman has wielded a blue pencil as a crushing argument, and without three thousand miles of cable being hitched to the end of it, either."

Miss Loftus considers that her best and most popular imitation is that of Miss Ada Rehan, and that the worst ones she has ever attempted were those of Mr Arthur Roberts and the late Mr Dan Daly. The latter never forgave her, and she couldn't blame him. Mr Roberts had yet to be heard from. It was much easier to give an imitation than to play in the legitimate, for the mimic hid behind someone else's personality while the actress had to stand alone. "I shall stick to the legitimate," Miss Loftus concluded, "as long as the public will let me get my bread and butter out of it. If they don't want me, I'll become a music hall artist again. I have never seen my ideal of a play yet. It is a play of actuality, in which the men and women are real people, and not preposterous stage folk. If that sort of play ever comes my way, I hope I shall have a chance to be in it."

Sir Charles Wyndham and his company, including Miss Mary Moore, will sail for New York on Oct. 19, and will open there on Nov. 14 at the New Lyceum Theatre with a revival of *David Garrick*. In the course of his American season Sir Charles and his company will appear in *Mrs Gorringe's Necklace* and *The Case of Rebellious Susan*. He will bid a temporary farewell to his friends at a matinée at the New Theatre, on Tuesday, Oct. 18, in the character of David Garrick, one of his best parts. He has engaged Mr Gilbert Farquhar for his American tour.

For the revival at the Court Theatre on the 29th inst. of Kit Marlowe's *Faustus* by the Elizabethan Stage Society, it is understood that a special version of the play will be prepared. The first edition of "The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus" was published in 1604, and there was another in 1609. There is practically no difference between these two editions; but in 1616 a third edition appeared with new scenes and many alterations. It is doubtful if any of these additions were made by Marlowe himself.

Mr Charles Frohman will on Monday present Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company at the Brixton Theatre in *Little Mary*, with Mr Arthur Holmes-Gore as Lord Carlton and Miss Christine Silver as Moira Loney. This will be the first visit of the piece to suburban London.

Mrs Oscar Beringer, who has resumed her dramatic writing again, and has been hard at work finishing two one-act plays, and also a four-act play, sails for St. Petersburg on Oct. 8 by the s.s. Irkutsk, belonging to the Brothers Lassman Line. Mrs Beringer will stay with her son, who occupies a high official position in St. Petersburg, and will also visit Moscow during her holiday.

Mr W. Scott Phipp has been engaged by Mr Wilfred Cotton to represent Miss Ada Reeve during the autumn tour of *Winnie Brooke, Widow*, which finishes its run at the Criterion to-night.

"An Artist's Love Story," will treat of the relations of Sir Thomas Lawrence with the Siddons sisters, Sarah and Marie, with both of whom he was in love, and whom he alternately courted and jilted. The book will contain all the long-suppressed letters that passed between the painter and Mrs Siddons and her daughter, edited by Mr Oswald Knapp.

Mr Sam S. Shubert, the American manager, has engaged Miss Fola La Follette, daughter of Governor La Follette, of Wisconsin, to play small parts in *The School for Scandal*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *The Country Girl*, with Miss Ada Rehan's répertoire company in the coming season. Miss La Follette, who is young and pretty, graduated at the University of Wisconsin. She has spent much time abroad, and it was while studying German in Munich that she made her first appearance on any stage, acting in *Einer Muss Heirathen* and *Die Hochzeitreise*. Later on, in America, she appeared in *Nance Oldfield*, *A Scrap of Paper*, and *Sunset*.

A military novel entitled "The Queen's Scarlet" will shortly be published by Messrs S. C. Brown, Langham, and Co. The book is from the pen of Mr Horace Wyndham. The story commences at an Army crammer's in South Kensington, and concludes in South Africa. Mr Wyndham, who is the author of two other military books, "The Queen's Service" and "Soldiers of the Queen," recently toured through the provinces with Mr E. S. Willard.

The many friends of Mr Fred C. Chapman, son of the late G. R. Chapman, for so many years musical director at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, will learn with regret that ill-health compels him to leave England, and he sails shortly for Australia. By the kindness of Mr James Macready Chute, a special matinée has been organised for Mr Chapman's benefit at the Prince's Theatre on Tuesday, Oct. 25. Many of his friends, prominent members of the "profession," have already volunteered their services.

The Marquis of Anglesey's theatrical costumes and jewellery are to be sold by Messrs Robinson and Fisher, in conjunction with Messrs Dew and Sons, of Bangor, at Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's, on Tuesday, Oct. 11, and following day at one o'clock each day. The sale of these effects is by direction of the trustees of the Marquis, and have been removed from Anglesey Castle for convenience of sale.

Miss Ella Vane, we are glad to hear, has completely recovered from her dangerous attack of gastritis. During her illness many kindnesses were shown her by her brother and sister artistes in the way of gifts of flowers and books, and she desires heartily to thank them for their sympathy.

Sir Henry Irving, at the close of his farewell visit to Cardiff, which terminated on Saturday night with *The Bells*, was again and again recalled by the enthusiastic Welshmen and women who crowded the theatre. In response to incessant calls for a speech, Sir Henry Irving said that, in thanking them for the more than generous, inspiring, and delightful greeting they had extended to him during the week, he found it a little difficult to say the word farewell. Nothing could exceed the graciousness of their welcome, and it filled him with very keen regret that professionally, though he hoped not otherwise, he was not to have the opportunity and privilege of again appearing before them. But life had many compensations, and he had many compensations in the very generous, friendly, and affectionate welcome which the Cardiff people had given him for many years.

Mr Henry Arthur Jones, the dramatist who has often insisted on the educational value of the stage, was fifty-three on Wednesday. Born in Buckinghamshire, he was the son of a yeoman farmer, to whose prescience Lord Beaconsfield paid perennial homage. Mr Jones studied bucolic habits and dialogue in his youth, and this is perhaps the reason that his rustics are always so interesting. His early impressions of country society and village magnates are to be found in many of the characters of his earlier plays, and his caustic satire is often the outcome of personal experience. Mr Jones shares birthday honours with his own Mrs Dane, for Miss Lena Ashwell also was born on Wednesday.

Miss Marie Tempest is to have a season at the Criterion at the close of the run of *The Duke of Killicrankie*, which will be put back there on Monday from Wyndham's Theatre. This change of venue is due to the fact that Mr A. W. Pinero's new comedy, *A Wife Without a Smile*, will be produced at Wyndham's in about ten days' time, and that Captain Robert Marshall's amusing comedy continues to attract large audiences. Miss Tempest originally intended to appear at the Avenue, after her successful American tour, but she was persuaded to postpone her season until she could secure a comedy house like the Criterion. It is understood that her opening piece will be *The Freedom of Suzanne*, a comedy by her husband, Mr Cosmo Gordon Lennox.

Mr J. Comyns Carr has now completed the poetical drama which he has been writing for Mr Lewis Waller, and it is to be produced by Mr Waller in the course of the present season. The title of the play, which is in verse, is *The Lonely Queen*, and the title-part will be played by Miss Evelyn Millard.

Miss Follie Emery is to play Biddie in the new play at the Imperial on Thursday. Miss Emery is a daughter of Mr Frank Emery, formerly manager of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool. It was there that she made her first appearance and distinguished herself, on the first night, by a very peculiar form of stage fright. She absolutely and calmly refused to speak; the entreaties of the company and her friends were of no avail. It is true that she consented to be pushed on, but not a word would she say! Since that time Miss Emery has made her name in Australia in all sorts of parts, and in England as an original and screamingly funny stage "slavey," notably in *Lady Huntworth's Experiment*.

Miss Annie Hughes will commence an autumn tour on Monday at the Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, in her original parts of Angela Muir, in *A Country Mouse*, and Saucers, in *A Bit of Old Chelsea*. The tour will be under the management of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison.

Poor Mel B. Spurr, the news of whose sudden death reached London this week, used to tell a capital story of his first appearance before a Scottish audience. He was engaged to give a performance at a literary institute. A tall, severe member of the entertainment committee met him at the hall and asked, "Weel, what do they ca' you?" "Spurr," was the answer. "Spurr!" repeated the Scotchman, "Weel, I hope you'll win 'em!" In the middle of the programme, while the entertainer was taking a short rest, he looked in at the dressing-room door, with a slight expression of approval on his long, lantern-jawed face. "Weel, you're doin't!" was all he said. Mr Spurr made his usual big success, but when he met his serious friend afterwards, his only remark was an emphatic "Weel! You've dune't!"

Mr George Daventry, we are sorry to hear, is lying dangerously ill at his home in Highbury. His condition is considered most critical.

During Miss Ada Reeve's recent absence from the cast at the Criterion Theatre, owing to a severe cold, her part of Winnie Brooke, Widow, was successfully undertaken by Miss Kitty Clinton, who was presented by Miss Reeve with a handsome diamond bracelet in recognition of her—Miss Clinton's—services as understudy.

Mr Charles Cruikshanks, the secretary of the Actors' Association, attended at the Scarborough police-court on Tuesday, on the adjourned hearing of the case against W. G. Monkhouse, to watch the proceedings in the interests of the association. Monkhouse, who was charged on remand with having obtained from Robt. Harcourt, of Scarborough, £15, by advertising for an amateur to learn acting, was committed to take his trial at the Quarter Sessions, bail being allowed in £50 and one surety of £50, or two sureties of £25 each.

Mr John H. Clarke, during his lesseeship of the old Floral Hall, and later as general manager of the Theatre Royal, Leicester, has been well known both locally and throughout the profession as an enthusiastic collector of modern works of art. These pictures have been acquired by him with much care and judgment. Finding his time and energies are now so fully absorbed with his professional duties, he has decided to disperse the whole of his beautiful collection at a sale by auction on Monday, Oct. 10 Messrs Langham and Holland, two of the oldest and most respected auctioneers in Leicestershire, will conduct the sale at their mart, 30, Belvoir-street, Leicester. Doubtless many readers of *The Era*, and the large number of proprietors of companies to whom the works of art have been a source of much pleasure, and who have admired Mr Clarke's collection from time to time, will strive to make an effort to attend or send their representatives to this important sale, as we understand the whole of the collection will be sold without reserve.

Mr Tim Sullivan is mourning the death of his thirteen-year-old son Tim, who had travelled with his father in the provinces since 1900. The deceased lad took the part of the paper boy in *The White Heather*, and was also understudy for Donald, in *Hearts are Trumps*, in which he was call-boy in the music-hall scene. In *Sporting Life* he was a stable hand, and in *The School Girl* a newsboy. Poor little Tim was born on Aug. 17, 1891, and died on Sept. 20. He was buried on Monday. He was much liked. His father has received much kindness and sympathy from the ladies and gentlemen of the Prince of Wales's company.

Mr J. B. Mulholland, to avoid any unnecessary clashing with the Christmas attractions at neighbouring theatres, has announced the pantomime subject to be treated at the King's Theatre. "Red Riding Hood" is the story that will give excuse for pretty scenery, bright music, and tasteful dresses; and no more charming representative of the heroine of nursery lore could have been chosen than Miss Empsie Bowman, one of the clever Sisters Bowman, who is no stranger to the fascinating part.

Mr Lewis Waller will produce on Thursday, at the Imperial Theatre, the new romantic drama, *His Majesty's Servant*, with a cast including, besides himself, Mr H. V. Esmond, Mr Henry J. Carvill, Mr Norman M'Kinnel, Mr Owen Roughwood, Mr Patrick Digan, Mr Frank Dyall, Mr John Beauchamp, Mr M. Elphinstone, Mr S. B. Brereton, Mr A. E. George, Mr Arthur Lewis, Mr Eric Scott, Mr John Byron, Mr Frank Woolfe, Mr E. Saville, Mr F. H. Dale, Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Mary Lewis, Miss Pollie Emery, Miss Darragh, and Miss Evelyn Millard. The play will be produced under the direction of Mr Henry Hamilton.

Mr Frank Curzon has commissioned Mr George R. Sims and Mr Cecil Raleigh to collaborate on the libretto of a musical comedy, the music of which is to be written by Mr Howard Talbot.

Mr Beerbohm Tree will give each member of the audience at the fiftieth performance of *The Tempest* at His Majesty's Theatre, as a memento, a copy of Shakespeare's play, with notes and many illustrations. No other copies of the souvenir will be procurable at any price.

At the Avenue Theatre, on Monday, Oct. 17, will be produced an historical play, in four acts, called *The Master of Kingsgift*, written by Mrs Tom Kelly. The action of her piece takes place in the time of Charles II. Mr Frank Cooper, Mr Conway Tearle, Mr Maurice Mancini, Mr Wilfred Foster, Miss Ruth Mackay, Miss Ruby Chester, Miss Helen Palgrave, and Miss Ida Morris will be in the cast.

At the Kingston Theatre, on Monday, a "frivolous" farce, in three acts, called *The Value of Being Extinct*, by Charles James and Charles Goodhart, will be produced, preceded by a one-act play by the same authors, entitled *A Soldier of the Czar*. Mr Graham Browne will produce both pieces; and Mr Clarence Blakiston, Mr H. Tripp Edgar, Mr Charles Goodhart, Miss Elsie Chester, and Miss Madge Mackintosh will be in one or other of the casts.

It is a curious circumstance that all the actors and actresses who appeared in the *Demi-monde*, written by the younger Dumas, on the first night, at the Comédie-Française, in March, 1855, are not only dead, but that most of them had melancholy endings. Francis Berton, one of the dead players, whose son is a prolific playwright, passed away a wreck in Dr. Blanche's private asylum. Dupuis, who was the ideal Olivier De Jalin, died of paralysis of the brain. Villars, another actor in the play, drowned himself in the Seine owing to a disappointment in love. Landrol, also an actor in the *Demi-monde*, died very poor a few years ago. As to the actresses, Rose Cheri, who was the first Baronne D'Ange in the play, fell a victim to a contagious illness caught at the bedside of a sick child. Two actresses, Madame Figeac, who was Valentine De Santis, and Melanie, who was the Vicomtesse De Vernières, died in ordinary circumstances. Not so Mdlle. Laurentine, who acted as Marcelle. She had the most awful ending of all, as she fell into a trance and was actually buried alive.

The Playgoers' Club gave a reception on Sunday last at the Hotel Cecil to Mr Douglas Story, the well-known war correspondent, who is the first correspondent to arrive home from the theatre of war, where he had been with the Russian army under General Kuropatkin. The lecturer confined his remarks chiefly to "gushing" descriptions of the virtues and amiability of the Russian officers, many of whom were his personal friends. He said nothing that was good of the poor Japanese.

Mr George Davey has engaged Madame Pauline Rivers and number of dancers from the Tower, Blackpool, for the ballet in the pantomime of *The Babes in the Wood*, to be produced at the Grand Theatre, Islington, at Christmas. The parts of the Babes will be played by a brother and sister of the name of Whyte. Mr Hal Collier will appear as Friar Tuck, Miss Julia Kent as Robin Hood, Miss Tots Davis as Marion, and Miss Ivy Dawn wille be the second principal girl.

Some time ago a circular was sent about Boston, America, signed by Henry L. Higginson, the benefactor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra; Lorin F. Deland, the husband of Margaret Deland, a novelist, and others. They wished to obtain co-operation in the building and establishment of an endowed theatre. The Castle-square Theatre, Boston, has now been leased by a syndicate, headed by Mr Deland; and a stock company, including Mr Howell Hansell and Miss Lillian Kemble, will be engaged. Every playwright in Boston will send in his MSS. to the Castle-square Theatre as soon as he learns that this step in the direction of an endowed theatre has been taken.

Mr Francis Laidler, who was well known in Bradford business circles before he became lessee and manager of the local Prince's Theatre, was waited upon last Monday by a numerous and influential deputation, representative of all the Conservative interests in the West Ward, to invite him to contest the ward at the next election. Mr Laidler accepted the position, and placed himself unreservedly in the hands of the deputation.

Mr Alfred C. Toone, at the conclusion of a five years' engagement with Mr J. B. Mulholland at the Metropole, Camberwell, and King's Theatre, Hammersmith, has been appointed Musical Director at Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate, but will continue his London engagements.

Messrs Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth, who, on Friday night, opened the ninth season of their fancy dress balls at Covent-garden, will celebrate their 100th ball in a few weeks' time. An interesting circumstance in connection with the season which has now commenced is that it has been found possible so to arrange matters as not to interfere with the performances of the San Carlo company from Naples. While, however, those who attend the balls will find no curtailment of the conveniences and privileges hitherto enjoyed, the audiences to be attracted by the Italian artists will be interested to learn that on alternate Fridays the Opera House will be given up to dancing. Of course, on the night of the balls there will be no operatic performances, but immediately the dancers have left the house a small army of workmen, in the early hours of Saturday morning, will be put to the task of removing the dancing floor, replacing the stalls, and re-arranging everything in readiness for the night's performances.

Dan Godfrey's grand orchestra, as hitherto, has been engaged to furnish the music for the fancy dress balls. The members of the orchestra are seated in a handsomely-arranged Italian ballroom, brilliantly illuminated with electric light candelabra, a very pretty effect being gained. The first prize on Friday night was a magnificent diamond and opal crescent, and a score of other valuable awards were offered, including a handsomely chased fruit and flower stand, an oak canteen case fitted with cutlery and plate, a silver toilet set in case, an oak escritoire, and an afternoon tea-service in case.

The magnificent full-toned orchestrian, which may fitly be described as a marvel in melody, and which proved so popular last season, will once again be heard in the grand foyer. Its répertoire is varied and inclusive, ranging from *The Country Girl* to *Tristan and Isolde*, from Chopin to the latest cake-walk, and including within those extremes comic operas, dances, and song-melodies, presented with the power and completeness of a human orchestra of seventy players.

"THE GOLDEN LIGHT."

An Original Play, in Four Acts, by George Daring, Produced at the Savoy Theatre on Thursday, Sept. 29.

Henry Dane	Mr W. L. ABINGDON
Sir Charles Sargeant	Mr GILBERT HARE
George Dane	Mr LORING FERNIE
Gerald Ansel	Mr LESLIE STILES
Bobby Metcalfe	Mr RALPH NAIRN
Comte De Sorlande	Mr EDWARD OVERRINGTON
Professor Cleeves	Mr SYDNEY HAMILTON
Dr. Williams	Mr ARTHUR APPLIN
Mr Matthew Vascan	Mr J. EDWIN
Lord Dumpling	Mr HAROLD BROOKE
Coles	Mr R. S. BOLEYN
Rose Sneed	Miss MABEL BEARDSLEY
Miss Le Gay	Mrs LANE JOYNT
Lady Crayton	Miss MABILIA DANIELL
Mrs Sneed	Miss SARA DE GROOT
Francine	Miss AMY RAVENSCROFT
Lizzie	Miss MAUD YATES
Clare	Mrs BROWN-POTTER

The audience at the first performance of *The Golden Light* at the Savoy Theatre on Thursday behaved with admirable taste and discretion. It is not, indeed, the absolutely hopeless play which creates the most irritation and evokes the most energetic "booing" from the pit and gallery. The English dislike to "hit a man when he's down" comes in when there is no question as to the fate of a drama; and why, argue the first-nighters mercifully, throw tiles upon the head of a drowning person? So evidently felt those who filled the Savoy Theatre on Thursday; and, when the curtain fell, they simply "folded their tents like the Arabs and silently stole away." It will be well for us to imitate them in the mildness and brevity of their verdict. *The Golden Light* is an immature and amateurish work, and at times is so childish in treatment as to be quite comical. The audience absolutely refused to take it seriously. The heroine, Clare, is the wife of one Henry Dane, an author and a bookworm, who spends his time in literary labour in a gloomy apartment in his house in Pont-street. His wife, a lovely creature, full of the "joy of living," tries in vain to woo him from his work. Then her cousin, George Dane, arrives from abroad, and as he is active, adventurous, and young, he and Mrs Dane discover that they share affinities. Thenceforward events follow their natural course. Mrs Dane and George cherish the fond allusion that their feelings are platonic, up to the point at which he embraces her in a garden at Henley and implores her to run away with him. The husband enters "at back;" there is a harrowing scene of mutual reproaches; and finally Henry Dane, overpowered by his wife's eloquence, falls down in a fainting fit.

In the last act, which takes place at a villa at Ajaccio, he is seen in an invalid condition, and George, after a while, reappears. Nothing further, however, happens, and the piece ends, in the Ibsenian manner, on a "note of interrogation."

It would be mere insincerity to congratulate any of the artists who took part in the performance of *The Golden Light* at the Savoy on Thursday. Most of them simply had no chances of distinction or success. Mrs Brown-Potter, who has greatly improved, and whose delivery is commendably strong, was quite "handicapped" by the silliness of many of the speeches allotted to Clare, and by the general weakness of the part. The only opportunity offered to her was at the end of the third act; and here she rose to really dramatic expressiveness in her delivery of the reproaches addressed by the neglected wife to her hard and cold husband. Mr W. L. Abingdon, an admirable actor who has given repeated proofs of his talent, could do nothing with the rôle of Henry Dane, but persevered pluckily to the end. That Mr Loring Fernie's task of depicting George Dane was very trying will be realised when we mention that, on the return of the lover in the last act, the pit and gallery gave him an ironical cheer—an incident enough to unnerve any actor. The only male artist who can be congratulated was Mr Gilbert Hare, whose dialogue as Sir Charles Sargeant was in many cases neat and crisp. Mr Hare acted with fine finish and polish, and considerable effect, though even he was almost overcome by the deadly influence of Sir Charles's superfluous reminiscences in the third act. Mr Leslie Stiles was efficient as Gerald Ansel, and Mr Ralph Nairn did praiseworthy work as Bobby Metcalfe. Mr Sydney Hamilton being painstaking and careful as Professor Cleeves. Miss Mabel Beardsley played a "frisky" society girl with a "coming-on disposition" with considerable vivacity and smartness. Mrs Lane-Joynt was bright, dashing, and spirited as Miss Le Gay, a cigarette-smoking, up-to-date young woman. Miss Mabilia Daniell looked pretty in a coronet as Lady Crayton; and Miss Sara De Groot was quite satisfactory as Mrs Sneed. The minor rôles were sufficiently well sustained. The most important part of the production is the dresses. Each of the gowns worn by the heroine is supposed to express an emotion felt by her. In the first act Mrs Potter appears in a dress which has long flowing and clinging draperies of chiffon, and silk nets in a tint of green that has a tone of dissatisfaction. Introduced with these greens is "the pure real blue that expresses the very human woman," and a touch of mauve gives a suggestion of passion. This gown is entitled "The Awakening of Hope." In the second act Mrs Potter's dress, which is an illustration of the poem which she recites, expresses the fate of a fallen star, which, on alighting on earth, is transformed into the modest flower. White chiffons compose this dress, blended with touches of faint pink and gorgeous tints of yellow; and delicate hints of gold and silver express the glory of the fallen star. This costume is entitled "The Story of the Daisy." The heroine's awakening to the reality of human passion is denoted in shades of imperial purple, toning to blue, with magenta and red, in a gown entitled "In Passion's Thrall." In the fourth act, the resignation of the heroine to her fate is indicated by tones of grey. Sad undertones of pale mauve are merged into other flowing draperies showing that, although sadness is uppermost, hope and happiness of human love are still present, though in small quantities. Mrs Potter wears over this dress a long black garment of chiffon that shuts out the mauve glow of hope and love revealed in the flowing folds of the grey dress. This gown is entitled "Consolable Sorrow." A comic song, composed by E. Bucalossi, was well rendered by Mr Ralph Nairn in the second act; and Mr R. M. Crompton had cleverly arranged a little dance, which was done by a bevy of young ladies in pink costumes and black silk stockings. Mrs Brown-Potter delivered an interpolated poem about daisies with her usual fervour and intensity, and it was applauded on both sides of the footlights. We fear, however, that these accessory items will prove powerless to save *The Golden Light* from being soon extinguished. Even if the "light" does not go out, we do not think there is any "gold" in it.

"THE BRAND OF CAIN" company is drawing good houses this week at Edmonton. This drama, by Violet Sims, has made a decided hit. Miss Sims sustains the part of the heroine with great skill and effect.

MR GEORGE MUSGROVE'S *Belle of New York* company has ousted drama next week from its great stronghold, the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, where a "farewell visit" is to be paid with Miss Beatrice Lamotte in the title-part and Frank Lawton, of whistling fame, in his original rôle. Mr Hugh Fleming again controls advance affairs, and the general management is in the expert hands of Mr Charles Thorburn.

A NEW theatre, to be called the Theatre Royal, is to be built in Packe-street, Loughborough, by Messrs Payne Seddon and George Robertson, who have rented the Town Hall for several months past. The proprietors anticipate opening the house in the first week in January.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"MADAME X . . ."
Vaudeville, in Three Acts,
by MM G. Marot and E. Depré,
Produced at the Palais-Royal, Sept 22.

Robinet	M. GUYON *fils*
Jack Sheppard	M. TREVILLE
Dubourg	M. HAMILTON
Bassinot	M. SOUTHORN
Etienne	M. OSSY
Auguste	M. GARNIER
Olympia	Mdlle. PIERNOLD
Clotilde	Mdlle. EVELINE JANNEY
Victorine	Mdlle. JANE FABER
Adrienne	Mdlle. CHESNEL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, SEPT. 29.—The Palais-Royal management have themselves to blame if their playhouse has become an ill-starred one, for we really wonder how men with the least knowledge of the stage could have accepted and produced a work like *Madame X . . .* We all know that according to an unwritten law a vaudeville requires neither a head nor a tail; but in the above piece even the body is missing. And this is all the more surprising as the authors, MM. Marot and Depré, are experienced men who have done some capital work. The flimsy plot is as follows:—Jack Sheppard, a somewhat shady individual, has been waiting in a private room of a restaurant for Madame Pastourel, a young married woman, when suddenly we hear the cry, "Open in the name of the law!" It is Madame Pastourel's husband, accompanied by the Police Commissary, who wants to catch his wife with her lover. Then a door opens and we see a lady rush through and escape. Who is that lady? Is it Madame Pastourel? Nobody knows. It is Madame X . . . But Jack has been taken to the police commissariate, whence he escapes by knocking down Robinet, the official in charge, as he is anxious to get home before his wife, whom he dreads, hears of his escapade. Unfortunately Robinet has discovered the man's address, and informs him that he will be charged with having committed adultery. Nor will Robinet listen to Jack's protestations of innocence. If Jack—as he says—is innocent he need only disclose the name of Madame X . . . And in the end the mystery is solved. In the first act we see an Englishman divest himself of his coat and waistcoat; Mdlle. Janney take off her corset; and we also catch sight of M. Guyon taking a bath. But even these manifold attractions failed to make the piece a success. The good all-round company fought pluckily against overwhelming odds.

THE Théâtre Déjazet has given us a revival of MM. Paul Gavault and Victor De Cottens' extraordinary farce *Cheri*. The three acts are intensely funny, and we cannot help admiring the inventive powers of the authors, who show us Laubergeois, a scientist, in love with his housemaid Caroline, who, thanks to him, becomes Madame De Saint-Galmier, a famous *cocotte*. The scientist's wife, having a liaison with a certain Leon, shuts her eyes to her husband's pranks. But when Madame De Saint-Galmier is tactless enough to covet also Leon things become serious. The revival met with an excellent reception.

THE Théâtre Déjazet intends producing a long string of novelties this season. The first will be *Tire au Flanc*, in three acts, by a young author, M. Mouezy-Eon; after which 113, *Rue des Cerisiers*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Paul Autier and Saverne; *Pour Marier Gisèle*, by M. Paul Gavault; *Petite Garnison*, by M. Guillaume Livet; and *La Déléguée*, by MM. Multzer and Darqué.

THE worm has turned. Our supers have held a meeting, wherein it was decided to claim from the managements of the various theatres:—(1) The suppression of all intermediaries between themselves and the management. (2) The same remuneration for rehearsals as for performances. (3) Minimum salary of one franc for the men and two francs for the women.

"LA PETITE SŒUR GRISE" is the title of a heroic-comic piece in five acts, in verse, to which M. Lucien Mayrargue is now putting the finishing touches. The plot is partly based on *Les Brigands*, a work published by M. Frantz Funck-Brentano last year. One of the principal personages in the play will be Cartouche, the brigand, famous for his crimes and his numerous love affairs.

THE Bouffes-Parisiens will inaugurate the season with *L'Embarquement pour Cythère*, wherein Mdlle. Léonie Yahne will interpret the chief rôle.

THE management of the Cluny Theatre have received a new vaudeville, in three acts and four tableaux, by MM. Nancey and Armont. This work, *Le Truc du Brésilien*, will be immediately put into rehearsal.

IN addition to the above we are promised the following novelties:—

AT the Gymnase, *Le Goût du Vice*, by M. Henri Lavedan, with a rôle specially written for Madame Simone Le Bargy.

AT the Nouveautes, a new farce by MM. Paul Bilhaud and Maurice Hennequin, called *La Gueule du Loup*.

AT the Palais-Royal, a farcical comedy by M. Berr De Turique.

AT the Théâtre de L'Œuvre, *Le Jaloux*, with Madame Suzanne Devoyod and M. Henry Burguet in the chief parts.

THE Alpinée have modified their programme. After *Le Prince Consort*, which has run for three hundred nights, the management intended to bring out *La Petite Milliardaire*. But, owing to some misunderstanding between author and manager, this work has been put back for the present, and its place will be taken by *Chiffon*, comedy in three acts, by MM. Peter and Danceny, to be produced towards the middle of October.

MM. JACQUES DHUR, CLAUDE ROLAND, AND DELPHI FABRICE have just finished a melodrama called *Le Forçat Innocent*.

M. SAMUEL, of the Variétés, intends to make a tremendous hit with a revival of Jacques Offenbach's famous operette, *Barbe-Bleue*. The work will be gorgeously mounted, with a wonderful display of pretty girls. The strong cast comprises MM. Chapuis, Prince, André Simon, Baron, Petit, and Mesdames Pariol Baugé, Eve Lavaillère, Leonie Laporte, and Melsa.

AT the Opéra a little storm has been brewing among the members of the ballet, in connection with the performances of *Faust*. Much to the ladies' surprise the management is continually making changes in the great Walpurgis Night ballet. Without any apparent reason an important rôle is taken away from one artist and given to a younger one. Thereupon, the dressing-rooms became a hotbed of conspiracy; threats fell from rosy lips; and it is even rumoured that the word "strike" was mentioned. But the excitement soon gave way to satisfaction when it was explained to the ladies that the object of these changes is to give also the younger members of the ballet an opportunity of distinguishing themselves.

M. ALBERT CARRE'S venture to give popular performances in other parts of the capital will prove a boon to the inhabitants of these districts. On Oct. 8 *Mireille* will be produced in the Montparnasse Theatre by the Opéra-Comique company. A week later this company will perform in the Grenelle quarter, whence they will migrate to the Gobelins. The prices are—stalls, two shillings; gallery, fivepence!

PREPARATIONS are being made at Oberammergau, Bavaria—where the famous Passion Play is produced every ten years—for a religious drama to be performed next summer called *The School of the Cross*. The production is an adaptation of a play of the same name which used to be given at Oberammergau 150 years ago, with the object of training the younger players in their work in the Passion Play. No fewer than 700 persons, men, women, and children, will take part in *The School of the Cross*. It is proposed to give eighteen representations.

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

"If your eyes were blocked with pitch and you were buried twenty feet under the ground you would see just as much as I do."

These pathetic words came from Mr Henry Crisp, a well-known and experienced actor who has had the misfortune to become totally blind. Two years ago last January he suffered from a little inflammation of the left eye; but previous to that, although always somewhat short-sighted, his vision had troubled him but little. Mr Crisp went to see a doctor in Longton, who was a director of the theatre where he was playing. The doctor in question found that it was a malady he could not deal with, but he gave the actor a letter of introduction to Dr. Foker at the North Staffordshire Infirmary. The latter gentleman advised Mr Crisp to go into the hospital at once, and he did so. After having been an in-patient for six weeks, Mr Crisp was informed that the case of his left eye was absolutely hopeless, that he would never be able to see with it again, and that in all probability, if it were not removed, the sight of the other eye would be affected. He consented to have his left eye taken out, and a glass eye put in its place. For a time his powers of seeing seemed to improve, although he only had one eye left. He resumed his part of Stephen Spettigue, in *Charley's Aunt*; but one morning in August of last year, while appearing at Eastbourne, there came an unpleasant revelation. Rising about half-past eight or nine o'clock, when the sun should have lit up the room with the brilliance of its rays, and probably did, he saw no light—it was all mist. He remarked to his wife that he could not see across the room. In his anxiety he called upon Dr. Rook, of Eastbourne, who immediately recommended the treatment of the well-known eye-specialist, Dr. Brookbank James, who paid a weekly visit to the town. Dr. Brookbank James proved exceedingly kind, for he declined to take a fee, and attended to Mr Crisp on several occasions. This went on until the beginning of November, when the specialist obtained a bed for Mr Crisp in the Westminster Hospital. At the time of his entering that institution Mr Crisp had just a perception of light in the right eye. After five weeks he came out, though but in a small degree improved, and some weeks later visited the South London Ophthalmic Hospital, where he remained only a week. Mr Crisp has been totally blind since January of this year, and, as the funds at his command are exceedingly limited, we invite the co-operation of the profession in an appeal on his behalf.

Mr Crisp has had a most interesting stage career. He entered the ranks of the profession just after he had attained his majority, thirty-one years ago. After some useful experience gained in stock seasons at Norwich, Cambridge, Greenock, and elsewhere, as well as in a few trifling engagements, he joined Miss Jenny Lee's company, in *Jo*, to play the part of Mr Chadband, a character Mr Crisp sustained for 1 500 performances. After appearing

Photo by Bertin.

MR. HENRY CRISP.

with Mrs Scott-Siddons for some time he became a member of Mrs Langtry's company, playing with that lady for a couple of years in America, and for a similar period at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, the pieces produced being *Pygmalion and Galatea*, *The Unequal Match*, *The Hunchback*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, &c., in which Mr Crisp played comedy and old men's parts. Later on he was for a couple of years with the Vaughan and Conway comedy company, who opened at the Haymarket Theatre, and toured through the provinces. When Mr William Farren severed his connection with this enterprise, Mr Crisp took his place. He then travelled with Mr Beerbohm Tree's company in *Captain Swift*, enacting the rôle of Seabrooke. This was followed by three tours with Mr E. S. Willard's *Middleman*, in which Mr Crisp appeared as Chandler, and in addition, attended to the stage-management. He was next seen with the Charles Dickens company, personating such characters as Micawber, John Browdie (*Nicholas Nickleby*), and Sampson Brass. On Feb. 29, 1892, he opened at Bury St. Edmunds with Mr Penley in *Charley's Aunt*, and since that date he has been with Mr Penley nearly all the time, taking the part of Stephen Spettigue.

Of course, having entirely lost the use of his eyes, Mr Crisp has not been able to do any work for practically a year. We feel that few words of ours are needed to move the great heart of the profession for a brother who has been drawn, through no fault of his own, into the path of affliction. It is not that he has fallen on evil days because of something he could have prevented. His career as an actor tells a different tale from that. Nor is it that he has lost his ability as an actor; nor is it a question of age, for he is scarcely an old man yet. Neither can there be levelled against him a charge of disinclination to continue his stage labours, for Henry Crisp would work if he could. In the destruction of his eyesight he has lost something more than merely the means of livelihood. All that is beautiful in nature to the clear-sighted will be for ever a blank to him. Think of this—his Day has been turned into Night. And his Night is blacker than the night we see, for it is as if a dark curtain had been drawn across the inverted stage of the sky and had blotted out from his vision the wonderful mystery play provided by the twinkling of the stars and the broad glare of the moon in a scene set high in the firmament. It is to make that Night sweeter to Henry Crisp that we venture to ask for the support of members of the theatrical profession.

All donations sent to Mr Edward Ledger for the poor blind actor will be gratefully acknowledged in these columns.

MR HARRY NASH, for many years associated with the Theatre Royal, Windsor, as a member of the firm of Nash and company has been appointed acting-manager of that theatre, taking up his duties this week.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."

A Romantic Drama, by Adrian O'Connell, J. Fox, and Eugene M'Carthy,
Produced at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, on Monday, Sept. 26.

Estevan Alvarez	Mr J. H. CLYNDES
Nicholas Vargas	Mr EDWARD ALDWORTH
Manuel Mondega	Mr CHARLES JORDON
Michael Sancha	Mr JACK BIGWOOD
Azan Ben Musid	Mr HAROLD B. LEWIS
The King of Spain	Mr JOHN MACFARLANE
Pedro De Castro	Mr J. H. CLYNDES
Friar Dominic	Mr RICHARD WEBB
Count Ulric Uzeda	Mr HAROLD B. LEWIS
Don Juan D'Almeida	Mr ARTHUR LOWRY
Don Felix	Mr CATHCART HILL
Don Ferdinand	Mr DONALD KOAN
Pedrillo	Mr G. H. LEONARD
Carlos	Mr THOMAS COLE
Inez Alvarez	Miss BESSIE ELMA
Cora Casilda	Miss EVELYN OMMUNDSEN
Paquita Marcela	Miss AIMEE GRATTAN
Mother Maria Teresa	Miss LIZZIE LENNON
Angela	Miss BESSIE ELMA
Eulalie	Miss EVELYN SHANNON
Carmen	Miss FRANCIS HUGO
Elvira	Miss MILLIE MATTHEWS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This romantic drama was produced here by Mr J. H. Clyndes' company, with new and elaborate scenery, costumes, and other accessories. The story is one of adventures, intrigues, and other stirring incidents at the period of the Armada, and connected with the dissolute Court of the King of Spain; and the play abounds in strong situations, very dramatically worked out. Estevan Alvarez, going to the wars, leaves behind him a beautiful young wife, Inez, and child. Azan Ben Musid, being madly in love with Inez, intrigues with Nicholas Vargas, an old miser, uncle to Estevan, to get access to her, with the hope of luring her away. Being repulsed by Inez, he accepts the offer of Nicholas ("Old Nick") to defame her to her husband. On the latter's return the miser tells him his wife is unfaithful, and, by previous arrangement with Azan, brings the husband upon the scene when Azan is again forcing his attentions upon Inez. Despite her denials and appeals, Estevan believes the story, and discards her. The child is torn from her and given to a gipsy to be drowned or otherwise destroyed. Flashes of lightning blind the miser and disable his accomplice, Azan Ben Musid. Inez is supposed to be dead, and Estevan, the husband, is suspected of having killed her.

In the second act the King is seen incognito, with companions at a village hostelry, and the interior of a convent is also disclosed in which there dwells a strange lady—Angela, the Unknown, who has been found wandering by the nuns, and who is half bereft of reason. Manuel Mondega, a young soldier of noble birth, introduces to the Superioress, his aunt, a gipsy dancing girl, Cora Casilda, to whom he is betrothed, and who seeks refuge in the convent from the licentious advances of the King. For her Count Ulric Uzeda, a hunchback, "the King's jackal," is searching.

In act three the King commands, under threats of severe consequences, his Prime Minister, Pedro De Castro, to compel the nuns to deliver Cora up to his messengers. Pedro De Castro is a friend of Manuel Mondega, and strives to turn the King from his desire, but in vain, and after a fearful inward struggle between honour and humanity and duty to his sovereign the Prime Minister issues the order, hoping still to save the girl. Then the hunchback, who is none other than the villain Azan Ben Musid, interviews Pedro De Castro, who is really Estevan Alvarez, accuses him of the murder of Inez, threatens to denounce him to the King, and tells him that Cora, the gipsy dancing girl, for whom he has despatched emissaries, is his own daughter. Meanwhile the King, with courtiers and officers, himself goes to the convent, and, on Cora refusing to yield to him, has her forcibly abducted. Pursuing her to the room where she is imprisoned, the King is about to resort to violence, when Pedro De Castro bursts in and rescues his daughter. In the fight that ensues the hunchback is killed in "retributive justice." In the concluding scenes Inez, whose reason gradually returns, and Cora discover their relationship to each other; Estevan and Inez, each of whom has mourned the other as dead, are reunited with their daughter; the King behaves magnanimously to his Prime Minister and everyone else, and all ends happily at last.

Mr J. H. Clyndes is a fine, vigorous actor, and in the double part of Estevan Alvarez and Pedro De Castro displays great emotional power and highly developed histrionic ability. Mr John Macfarlane presents a dignified, stately King, more concerned, however, with unworthy pleasure than the affairs of his kingdom. Mr Edward Aldworth makes a capital, grasping, and unscrupulous old miser, and Mr Charles Jordan plays the character of Manuel Mondega, soldier and lover, with grace and earnestness. Mr Harold B. Lewis, both as Azan Ben Musid, the Moor, and Count Ulric Uzeda, the villainous hunchback, plays ably and effectively. The Friar Dominic (the King's Confessor) of Mr Richard Webb is an excellent conception of a stern, ascetic, ghastly priest. Mr Arthur Lowry is satisfactory as Don Juan D'Almeida, the King's faithful and servile companion; and Mr Jack Bigwood as Michael Sancha, an innkeeper, and Miss Aimee Grattan as his wife Paquita, provide excellent light humour and merriment. With such trying vicissitudes as the character of Inez Alvarez involves from the beginning to the end, Miss Bessie Elma has a severe task, but alike as Inez and as Angela, the Unknown, she exhibits capacity of the highest order, rendering the deeply emotional passages and incidents of her impersonation with delicate finish and convincing naturalness. Miss Evelyn Ommundsen assumes the rôle of Cora, the gipsy dancing girl, with pleasing skill and refinement, and with marked success, especially in her interview with the King and her restoration to Estevan and Inez. Miss Lizzie Lennon makes an admirable Mother Maria Teresa. All the other parts are satisfactorily enacted, and the drama has been exceedingly well received, and pronounced a distinct success.

"THE TEMPESTS" OF THE PAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Your correspondent in last week's *Era*, writing of Charles Kean's revival of *The Tempest*, in 1857, has fallen into a curious error by describing Mrs Charles Kean as the representative of Miranda. My remembrance is distinct of Carlotta Leclercq as having played the part, and played it charmingly. Kate Terry's Ariel was delightful, and could scarcely be inferior to Priscilla Horton in the part. Mrs Kean, an admirable actress of matronly parts at that date, could not have ventured on Miranda.

I well remember the effect of the closing scene of the play, one of Kean's most successful revivals.

Yours faithfully, E. Y. LOWNE.
London, Sept. 26.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Thank you for the excellent notice you gave to my letter of last week. I fear I did not write so plainly as I should, or might, have done. The lady playing Ariel in Charles Kean's production of 1857 was Miss Kate Terry, sister of Ellen Terry. She was very young at the time. It was one of her earliest successes at the Princess's Theatre.

Yours faithfully, J. FROST.
Carlyle Society, Anderton's, Fleet-street,
Sept. 27.

M. COQUELIN the elder has been forbidden by his doctor to appear on the stage for the next few weeks, in consequence of the operation he underwent a fortnight ago. The actor has not therefore been seen in Brussels this week, as expected.

REOPENING OF LEAMINGTON THEATRE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

After having been closed for some months, during which the interior aspect has been entirely transformed, the Theatre Royal, Leamington, the new lessees of which are Mr Edward Compton and Mr Milton Bode, reopened on Monday night. There was a very large and appreciative audience, and many favourable comments were passed on the improved conditions under which the local public can now enjoy their dramatic food. The whole of the theatre has been redecorated in excellent taste, a considerable portion reseated, and a sadly needed heating apparatus has been installed. Mr Reginald Taylor is now resident-manager. The play this week is Clyde Fitch's version of *Sapho*, rendered in a thoroughly artistic manner by Miss Olga Nethersole's company.

Before the first act the curtain rose on Mr EDWARD COMPTON, who was greeted with applause. He made an interesting statement as to the future of the theatre in the following words:—Ladies and Gentlemen,—In the words of the immortal bard, in whose delightful country we are, salutation and greeting to you all. On Mr Milton Bode's behalf and on my own, I bid you welcome to your renovated theatre. It is only a short month or so since we entered into possession of this pretty building, and I hope and think you will allow that we have utilised that time to the best advantage in putting our house in order. The auditorium has been thoroughly overhauled and freshened up, an extra exit from the stalls has been provided, new tip-up seats have been introduced into that part of the house and elsewhere, the lighting arrangements both before and behind the curtain have been reformed altogether, extensive redecorations have been carried out here, there, and everywhere, and last, but not least, a complete heating apparatus is being rapidly installed, so as to make the theatre in the winter, as well as the rest of the year, a comfortable and cosy corner. With practically no companies booked when we took the theatre over, it has been no easy task to arrange a good autumn season, but I make bold to think that under the circumstances both management and public have every reason to congratulate themselves on what has been accomplished. To-night and all this week we have, as you know, the version of Daudet's *Sapho*, which will be followed in quick succession by such potent attractions as *Sweet and Twenty*, Miss Fortescue, *Florodora*, *The Chinese Honeymoon*, *One of the Best*, *The Tyranny of Tears*, *The Duke of Killicrankie*, *Little Mary*, and other good things. This will bring us up to Christmas, when the Compton Comedy company will pay you a visit headed by—I shall forget my own name next. The New Year will bring you Mr Milton Bode's pantomime of *Dick Whittington*, and possibly *The Babes in the Wood* as well; while three dramatic treats are then and there in store for you in Mr Martin Harvey, *The Darling of the Gods*, and Mr and Mrs Kendal. Many and varied bookings besides those I have mentioned may be looked forward to, but as they are at present in negotiation only, I do not feel justified in giving their names, merely contenting myself with assuring you of their great excellence. And now, ladies and gentlemen, our future here lies entirely in your hands. You may be quite certain that we shall secure for you the best produce the theatrical market affords, but it you don't walk into our warehouse, or rather playhouse, and invest in our "good goods" liberally and frequently, why our wares are after all but "perishable articles"—here to-day, and gone next week, and it will be impossible for us to keep our dramatic shop open and stocked with the latest delicacies of the season unless you enable us, by your steady patronage and support, to balance our ledger at the end of the year on the right side. Don't be afraid to be seen in your own theatre, but support it all you can. Make it what it should be, one of the institutions of Leamington; and if you are ever required to defend it, do so in the words of the gentle blind dramatist O'Keefe, who wrote:—"I understand the origin of plays was religious mysteries; that, freed from the superstitions of early and the grossness of later days, the stage is become the vehicle of rational amusement and instruction. This being so, to hear a good play is taking the wholesome draught of precept from a golden cup embossed with gems." Of course we cannot give you new musical comedies, or the latest London successes, or the high-class combinations every week of the year. There are not enough of them to go round. And even if we could and did it would be asking too much of one particular section of the theatrical community. We shall, therefore, be compelled to leaven our dramatic pudding with the occasional serving-up of drama, and, maybe, hot and strong melodrama. The latter, I fear, many of us have not much sympathy with, but if certain of the public demand it, I suppose we managers, who cater for all classes, must swallow our artistic conscience and give it to them. There are, however, dramas and dramas, and I don't think even the dress circle and stalls would fail to appreciate and take away with them pleasant memories were they to come and witness such human plays as *The Silver King* and *The Two Orphans*, and many others possessing similar sterling qualities which I could mention. Please do not think I am impertinent enough to be attempting to direct the taste of theatre-goers either here or anywhere else. It is not my desire, and certainly not my business to do so. I only want to say that we shall always endeavour to bring you the best things on the road, and to signify, if I may be allowed to do so, that the more worthily you support us in this endeavour, the more worthily we shall be enabled to cater for your best interests, and now, ladies and gentlemen, I will keep you no longer. Our motto in the future will be "Deeds not words." But while I ask you to remember that "our mere intent is all for your delight," I must also beseech you not to forget that

The drama's laws the drama's patrons give,
And those who live to please, must please to live.

I thank you for your presence to-night, for the patience with which you have listened to my well-intended remarks, and beg to wish "a kind good-night to all."

Sapho then commenced. Miss Cecil Cromwell gave a most vivid portrayal of the title-part, and Mr Arthur Royston as Jean gave a very fine rendering of a difficult role. The minor characters were all in equally good hands. At the end of the powerful second act Miss Cromwell received a perfect ovation, being called before the curtain again and again. She was presented with a handsome bouquet by Herr Meisenheimer, the conductor of the orchestra.

A telegram from the Countess of Warwick, regretting her inability to be present, and promising to attend the theatre during November, was received, and Miss Fortescue wired wishing success.

SATURDAY, the last day of the Cardiff Festival, brought forward another novelty, *The Victory of St. Garmon*, a cantata for baritone solo and orchestra, words by Mr H. Elvet Lewis and music by Mr Harry Evans. The composer is a young Welsh musician of great talent and promise, who is well known as a trainer and conductor of choirs. The festival has altogether been highly successful, and great credit is due to all who have been responsible for its preparation. Mr W. A. Morgan's excellent analytical programmes were much appreciated.

MR CLARENCE BLAKISTON, who is playing a leading part in the new farce, called *The Value of Being Extinct*, to be presented for the first time, on Monday, at Kingston, is a Belfast man, who spent the first six years of his working life at sea. His first *nom de guerre* on the stage was "Mr Vernon," afterwards changed to "Mr Harold Clarance," but with his first successes he adopted his own name. He is the brother of Miss Minna Blakiston.

ON THE ROAD, OCT. 3.

Actor's Romance.—Aquarium T., Yarmouth.
Anarchist Terror.—Ularence T., Pontypridd.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona)—Galashiels.
Ashwell, Miss Lena.—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
Assassin.—Theatre Royal, Stockton.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.—T. R., Gloucester.
Bank of England.—Theatre Royal, Consett.
Beautiful Avenger.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Beautiful Fiend.—Metropole T., Birmingham.
Belle of New York (Howard)—Norwich.
Belle of New York.—Pavilion Theatre, E.
Benson, Mr F. R. (A).—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Benson, Mr F. R. (B)—P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.
Best Must Win.—Eden T., Bishop Auckland.
Biggest Scamp on Earth.—Dunfermline.
Bulmer, Mr.—Theatre Royal, Greenock.
Carl Rosa.—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
Cherry Girl.—Opera House, Southport.
Chinese Honeymoon (M.)—T. R., Huddersfield.
Chinese Honeymoon (N.).—T. R., Sheffield.
Chinese Honeymoon (S.)—T. R., Bath.
Chinese Honeymoon (N.)(Macdona).—King's Lynn
Chinese Honeymoon (S.) (Macdona).—Dorking.
Chinese Idyl.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
Convict's Daughter.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Country Girl (Dance) (M.).—Paisley.
Country Girl (Dance) (N.).—O. H., Cork.
Country Girl (Dance) (S.).—G. T., Swansea.
Country Girl (Macdona) (N.).—Peterhead.
Country Girl (Macdona) (S.).—Taunton.
Country Mouse (N.).—Birkenhead.
Cousin Kate (N.).—Plymouth.
Cousin Kate (S.).—Salisbury.
Dan the Rake.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Eastbourne.
Darling of the Gods (N.).—T. R., Belfast.
Darling of the Gods (S.).—T. R., Brighton.
De Quincey Repertoire.—T. R., Exeter.
Disgrace to Her Sex.—M. T., Lowestoft.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—L. T., Ipswich.
Duchess of Dantzic.—T. R., Nottingham.
Earl and the Girl.—King's T., Glasgow.
Edge of the Storm.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
Eternal City (Howard).—T. R., Merthyr.
Executioner's Daughter.—Grand T., Falkirk.
Fairy's Dilemma.—Grand Theatre, Croydon.
Fatal Wedding (Howard).—Arbroath.
Fatal Wedding (M.).—T. R., Barnsley.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—O. H., Wakefield.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—P. O. W. T., Richmond.
Female Swindler.—Boscombe.
Fight for Millions.—Theatre Royal, N. Shields.
Florodora (Howard).—Kelso.
Frivolity.—Junction Theatre, Manchester.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Farnworth.
Geisha.—His Majesty's Theatre, Blackpool.
Gipsy Jack.—Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
Girl from Japan.—Grand Theatre, Luton.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—H. M. T., Dundee.
Girl from Kay's (S.).—T. R., Darlington.
Girl's Cross Roads (Bruce).—Q. T., Keighley.
Girl's Cross Roads (Melville).—Accrington.
Golden Ladder.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
Greek Slave.—H. M. Theatre, Blackpool.
Grip of Iron.—Queen's Theatre, Dublin.
Harvest of Sin.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
Harvey, Mr. Martin.—G. T., Birmingham.
Henry Neville.—Sunderland.
Her Fatal Past.—New Theatre, West Stanley.
Her One Great Sin.—Metropole T., Hoyland.
Hughes, Annie.—Bournemouth.
I Defy the World.—Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.
In Dahomey.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
Indian Mutiny.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
In the Shadow of Night.—M. T., Glasgow.
Irving, Henry.—P. O. W. T., Birmingham.
Joseph Entangled.—Prince's Theatre, Manchester.
Judy.—Theatre Royal, Atteroliffe.
King of Crime.—Prince's Theatre, Preston.
Kitty Grey.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Cirencester.
Lady of Ostend.—Opera House, West Bromwich.
Lady Slavey (Greet).—H. M. Theatre, Walsall.
La Poupee (Howard)—Malden.
Laughter-Land—Lyceum Theatre, Govan.
Les Cloches de Corneville.—Scarborough.
Life's Revenge.—Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.
Lights o' London.—Bedford.
Lightning's Flash.—T. R., Tyldesley.
Little Coquette.—Opera House, St. Helens.
Little Mary.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Colne.
Lucky Durham.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
Madame Sherry (N.).—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
Man to Man.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Manxman.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
Marriage of Kitty.—O. H., Crouch-end.
Message from Mars.—Opera House, Burnley.
Midnight Mail.—Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.
Modern Adventuress.—T. R., Jarrow.
Modern Judas.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Money-Makers (N.).—Alex. T., Stoke Newington.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—O. H., Harrogate.
Moody Manners (A).—Broadway Theatre, S E.
Moody Manners (B).—Grand Theatre, Margate.
Moody Manners (C).—Northallerton.
My Lady Molly (Red).—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
My Lady Molly (White).—Camden T., N.W.
Napoleon the Great.—Colosseum, Oldham.
New Clown.—Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.
New Clown (Greville).—Lyceum T., Newport.
New Mephisto.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Night Off.—Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.
Old Heidelberg.—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
One of the Best.—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
One of the Family.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
On the Stroke of 12 0.—C. T., Spennymoor.
Orchid.—Grand Theatre, Woolwich.
Orchid (Edwardes)—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
Otto the Outcast.—P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.
Path of Thorns.—Court Theatre, Warrington.
Preston Repertoire Co.—R. T., Chester.
Private Secretary.—Maidstone.
Proof.—Miners' Theatre, Ashington.
Quality Street (Bright).—O. H., Northampton.
Quality Street (Frohman).—B. T., Stratford.
Royal Divorce (Kelly) (S.).—O. H., Leicester.
Royal Revenge.—Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.
Sailor's Sweetheart.—Opera House, Coventry.
Sapho (Miss Annie Bell).—T. R., Whitehaven.
Sapho (1).—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Sapho (2).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Saturday to Monday (N.).—Edinburgh.
Saturday to Monday (S.).—Woking.
Scarlet Woman.—Chesterfield.
School Girl (S.).—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Sherlock Holmes.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
Sign of the Cross.—Opera House, Perth.
Silver Cross.—Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.
Silver King (N.).—Theatre Royal, Darwen.
Silver King (S.).—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
Sin of Her Childhood.—N. T., King's Lynn.
Sins of a City.—Theatre Royal, Workington.
Still Alarm.—Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.
Stranger in a Strange Land.—T. R., Hull.
Sunday (N.).—P.O.W. Theatre, Great Grimsby.
Swiss Express.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Tearle, Osmond.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
Terry, Edward.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Terry, Ellen.—Grand Theatre, Southampton.
Three Little Maids (S.).—Shrewsbury.
Three Little Maids (1).—Hull.
Tommy Atkins.—Opera House, Dudley.
Traitor.—King's Theatre, Nottingham.
Traitor Prince.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
Trip to Chinatown.—Irving Theatre, Seacombe.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Castleford.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—T. R., Llanelly.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—T. R., Smethwick.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—W. London T.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Tully).—T. R., Margate.
Under the Russian Flag.—Loughborough.
Under Two Flags.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Victim of Villainy.—G. T., West Hartlepool.
Village Blacksmith.—Treherbert.
Waller, Mrs Lewis.—Queen's T., Manchester.
Warner, Grace.—Opera House, Weymouth.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Grand T., Glasgow.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., South Shields.
When Woman Hates.—T. R., Dewsbury.
Whitewashing Julia.—Opera H., Londonderry.
Why Men Love Women.—A. T., Birmingham.
Willard, Mr. E. S.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
Woman and Wine.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
Woman's Pluck.—Scarborough.
10·30 Down Express.—Theatre Royal, York.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Codman.—Sept. 24, at Wilton-street, Liverpool, the wife of Professor Codman (Punchinello), of a son.

Hassan.—Sept. 13, wife of Walter Hassan (manager Royal Hippodrome, Liverpool) of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Martin—Roze.—Sept. 28, at Liverpool, E. D. Martin, J.P., of Killoskehane Castle, Tipperary, to Lella Roze, burlesque actress.

Monks—Woods.—On Sept. 24, at St. Pancras, Bert Monks, of Manchester, to Lucie Woods, of Westgate-on-Sea.

DEATHS.

Newsome.—Sept. 25, at 25, Cosgrove-street, Cleethorpes, Madame Pauline Newsome, in her seventy-ninth year, beloved wife of James Newsome. Deeply mourned by her sorrowing husband and daughters (Marie Newsome, Mrs Jackaway, Mrs Alec Lambie); also her two grandsons, John Clyde Lambie and baby Frank Eldred. Sleep on, dear mother.

Reano.—In loving memory of Archie Reano, who died Sept. 24 in Newcastle, N.S.W. Never forgotten by his sorrowing father, mother, brothers, and sisters.

Spurr.—Sept. 25, in Melbourne, Australia, Mel. B. Spurr. Deeply mourned by his loving wife and daughter, Marie Brenda.

Sullivan.—Sept. 20, Master Tim Sullivan, boy actor, aged thirteen.

In Memoriam.

Mellor.—In loving memory of Robert Hague Mellor, founder of the firm of R. H. Mellor and Sons, who died Sept. 30, 1899. Gone, but not forgotten.

A talented company has been playing the musical piece, *My Lady Molly*, at the Princess of Wales, Kennington, this week, and the patrons of the local theatre have attended in large numbers to renew their acquaintance with the music and story in which her adventure is enshrined. They liked the manner in which Miss Edmee De Dreux impersonated the wayward lady, and had every justification for their partiality. Miss Zoe Gilfillian, too, shared their goodwill, her merry jesting with her feminine sweetheart being thoroughly appreciated. Miss Mabel Carr looked extremely well in male attire as Hester, and many envied Mickey O'Dowd the favour in which Hester held him. That same O'Dowd was played with any amount of gusto, and yet with an excellent suggestion of Mickey's plentiful lack of artlessness, by Mr Stephen Fitzgerald, who made the character one that might have stepped out of one of Charles Lever's rollicking novels. The audience laughed consumedly at his drolleries. Captain Harry Romney and Lionel Bland were safe in the hands of Mr Leicester Jinks and Mr Harold Payne, who made a capital pair of lovers and sang well; Mr H. Godwin Hunt as Sir Miles Coverdale contributed a sound embodiment of the old squire; while Mr M'Closkie appeared as Judge Romney. Mdlle. Ebba Darcier sang well as Mdlle. Mirabeau; and the cast was completed by Mr Dan O'Regan, Mr H. Beresford, Mr V. Gally, Mr H. Cashell, and Miss D. Vivian, Miss Violet Lingard, and Miss Kitty Holmes. The chorus did well, and the orchestra fulfilled its duties efficiently under the baton of Mr Leonard Leslie.

Messrs Maskelyne and Cooke's company is giving a celebrated mystical entertainment at the Small Town Hall, Reading, during this week with great success. Mr David Devant distinguishes himself by his very clever feats of legerdemain, &c. Mr Masyelyne's famous magical romance *Will, the Witch, and the Watchman* again excites unbounded wonderment. An excellent series of living pictures is being presented, and the entertainment is varied by the performances of the Chamounix Alpine Singers and Swiss Orchestra.

Mr Harry E. Rickett, hitherto acting-manager of the Theatre Royal, Windsor, has been appointed manager of the Theatre Royal at Croydon, and has already taken up the duties of his new post.

Miss Maidie Andrews, who made such a success as Alice, in *Alice in Wonderland*, at the New Theatre, is now playing "The Little Mother" in Bert Coote's interesting production *The Fatal Wedding* on tour. Last Tuesday was her birthday, and she was the recipient of many presents and congratulations. Her pretty face, sweet disposition, and her marvellous ability as a juvenile actress—she is only eleven years old—have won the hearts of all who have seen her act.

The Iroquois Theatre, in Chicago, where the terrible fire occurred last December, has been reopened as a vaudeville house under the management of Messrs Hyde and Behman. At the first performance the house was filled with an audience that was apparently unaffected by any recollection of the great catastrophe of last year. Thousands of citizens signed petitions against the reopening, but to no avail.

Mr John Nicholas Gallatin, who has been a florist and a broker in New York, has arranged to appear in a new musical comedy, shortly to be produced there by M. Emile Bruguière, a young and wealthy Californian, who has recently become a theatrical manager. He was married in June, 1902, to Miss Pauline Cory, who divorced him in August of the same year. She afterwards married Mr Joseph Ulman, a member of the Lambs, Strollers, Fencers, and other clubs.

Frau Agnes Sorma, of the Neues Theatre, Berlin, met with an unpleasant accident one evening last week. On leaving the stage at the close of the play, the popular actress slipped down a step and broke her left arm at the elbow. Frau Sorma is going on well, but has been suffering a good deal of pain.

"Candida" has been revived at the Berkeley Lyceum Theatre, New York, known last season as the Vaudeville, by Mr Arnold Daly and his company. Mr Daly has produced a new play, by George Bernard Shaw, entitled *How He Lied to Her Husband*, which is described as a burlesque on *Candida*.

Messrs Longmans, Green, and Co. have sent us a most interesting and useful book called "Styles in Furniture," written by Mr R. Davis Benn, and illustrated by W. C. Baldock. The work will be valuable to all theatrical managers, as it gives a simple and condensed description of the different styles, the illustrations greatly assisting the explanations of the author. His remarks upon the furniture of the various "periods" are shrewd and practical; and Mr Benn shows a thorough comprehension of the constructional as well as of the artistic side of old furniture. The pages relating to famous makers like Sheraton, Heppelwhite, and Chippendale are fresh, bright, and appreciative; and, altogether, "Styles in Furniture" is a book which will be warmly welcomed by those who know something about this fascinating subject and would like to know more.

AT THE TIVOLI, CAPE TOWN.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

From the days of Tom Carlton at the Royal, the veteran "Charlie" Morton at the Alhambra, and later of the Palace Theatre, Swanborough, at the Pavilion, and Slater and Hitchins at the Empire, never has the presiding genius of direction received a more flattering tribute to his business capacities and genial worth as a good fellow than Mr E. A. Pickering, general manager of the Tivoli, on the occasion of a complimentary benefit given him on the evening of Friday, Aug. 26 last, when the bijou theatre of varieties was filled to its utmost capacity by a representative Cape Town audience eager to show its appreciation of the bénéficiaire, who, since the inception of the house about twelve months ago, has ever been to the fore in providing first-class entertainments or assisting any deserving case of charity before the public. In addition to the usually strong bill-of-fare a flavour of Bohemianism was imparted to the proceedings by the kindly appearance of Mr William Cromwell, from the theatre "over the way," Mr E. O. Freshwater, and Mr Frank Barclay; the local element being represented by Mr Harry Hearne, a comic of no mean order. The first item in an excellently varied programme was contributed by Miss Lyndale (a coster song), Mr E. O. Freshwater next obliging, with a fervour all his own, with a rollicking sailor song, "Portrait next my heart." An excellent balancing act by the Rhoda Brothers followed, to be succeeded by Mr Frank Barclay in "The Cosy Corner Girl," from *The Earl and the Girl*. "Good Pals," from Miss Madeline May, introduced the local promenade's favourite, Harry Hearne, who was well received in a humorous rendering of "Courting—married." The first part of the programme was brought to a conclusion by World and Kingston in a side-splitting sketch, *The Crushed Tragedian*. During the interval the business facile princeps of the evening was introduced by Mr F. L. St. Leger, one of the directors, who, accompanied on the stage by Mr Pickering, said he had a very pleasing duty to perform. The little theatre had now been open for nearly twelve months, and before it was opened the directors were fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr Pickering. When they secured him, they did the best day's work they ever could have done. When he came he had a great deal of very hard work to get through in order to start to time, and with hard work and perseverance he succeeded. Since then he had carried on the work to their entire satisfaction, and the directors, to show their appreciation in a small way, had decided to give him a benefit. Mr Pickering's many friends in Cape Town had decided not to let the occasion pass without showing some sign of their regard, and they had asked him (Mr St. Leger) to present Mr Pickering with an address and a purse of gold value £170. In conclusion he hoped Mr Pickering would decide to make South Africa his home.

In replying, Mr Pickering expressed his hearty thanks, and said that he had never regretted

Photo by Symmons and Harris.

MR. E. A. PICKERING.

coming to Cape Town, and his whole time here had been nothing but pleasant. He could not guarantee that the purse would stay with him very long, but the address would stay with him all his life.

A further presentation of a handsome silver shaving set was made by his Tivoli "intimates."

The programme was now adverted to, Les Frasettis instrumentalising to sustained plaudits. The appearance of the popular comedian Mr William Cromwell was the signal for a unanimous outburst from the audience, his "Don't jump at that conclusion" bringing down the house, his parting sally of "But I'm only a waiter here; over the road I'm a lord, what ho!" convulsing his hearers. Miss Maise Ellinger successfully mashed "Sammy" in one of the private boxes, and Tom Woottwell received his quota of approval in three songs. Le Ray, Talma, and Bosco gave their usually finished performance. The Seddons in their comic juggling turn were followed by Miss Lillian Hubbard, who warbled of "Egypt." After a dance turn by Miss Chrissie Leonard Mr Manfred Russell exploited a remarkable good tenor voice in excellent style. "I want to be a lady" was well given by Miss May Audrey; the Collins Quartet introducing the finale, the Tivolioscope, the programme of twenty-two turns eclipsing any previous record in Capetown.

As a man of many parts Mr Pickering made his début with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company twenty years ago, and after dabbling in the Moore and Burgess Minstrels he took over the management of the Lyric Variety Agency, producing shortly after the now well-known tableaux vivants in conjunction with Mr Charles Morton at the Palace Theatre of Varieties. With an experience alternating, amongst other engagements, at the London Empire, Koster and Bial's, New York, an eighteen months' trip in the East, including a visit to Abyssinia and Somaliland, and back again to the "smoke" as acting-manager of the Alhambra, it will be seen that in selecting Mr Pickering to guide the reins at the Tivoli the late Mr Frank De Jong was bringing no novice at the game out to South Africa, his judgment being more than ratified by the continual success attending his efforts in placing so varied and attractive an entertainment before the Cape Town public.

On Saturday Mr Tom Carrick gave his farewell concert at the Mechanics' Hall, Scarborough. The large audience testified by unstinted applause their appreciation of the excellent programme provided, and encores were numerous. One of the successes of the programme was Mr Tom Carrick's "dame" song "How to settle 'em." During the course of the evening Mr Carrick made a telling little speech, in which he expressed his gratification at the reception he and his troupe had met with, and ventured to hope that in 1905 he would have the pleasure of conducting his eleventh Scarborough season if not on the beach then under other, and perhaps more favourable, conditions.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 11.)

NORTHAMPTON.

Opera House.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—*A Path of Thorns*, presented by Hardie and Von Leer's company, has met with a good reception here. Mr Cyril W. Mackay as the Rev. Frank Salby is good; Mr Claude King ably portrays the trials and troubles of John Edmunds; Mr Alfred Lester is clever as Sam Hallett; Mr Cecil Du Gué as Jonas Deane; Mr G. Mayor Cooke as Edward Langley; Mr A. C. Clark as Mr Pickford, Mr Harry F. Wright as Dr. Gaye, Mr J. H. Booth as Jim Price, and Mr Forrester Harvey as Ratty Gabbitt all do well. Miss Mary Raby and Miss M. Stanley Burt are excellent as the Sisters Constance and Nellie; Little Mabel May is commendable as Lucy; Miss Amy Rogerson is very good indeed as Jane Adelaide; and Miss Violet Luddington plays with sympathy the part of Bessie Edmunds.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—May Lillian Levey is a big success on her return visit here; Kitty Tims is a sweet ballad vocalist; the Sisters Charnley, duettists and dancers, are a pleasing pair; Eily Endon is a smart acrobatic dancer; and Mr J. Graham, ventriloquist; the Coopers, speciality instrumentalists; Smith and Johnson, coloured duettists; and Mr Harry Phillips also entertain.

OLDHAM.

Empire, Limited.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—The annual visit of the Royal Carl Rosa opera company was welcomed by a crowded and appreciative audience on Monday, when *Lohengrin* was selected for presentation. Herr Julius Walther in the title-rôle combined vocal ability with dramatic excellence. Miss Lizzie Burgess in the part of Elsa displayed a beautiful and powerful soprano voice. Herr Charles Victor as Telramund, Mr Arthur Winckworth as Henry the Fowler, Mr Frank Arthur as the Herald, and Madame Augusta Renard as Ortrud embodied their parts with marked ability. The orchestra was under the bâton of Mr Eugene Goossens. *Carmen*, *Maritana*, *Don Giovanni*, *Tannhäuser*, *The Bohemian Girl*, and *Faust* are also underlined for presentation.

Royal.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—This theatre still maintains its standard of excellence in variety. The Selbinis in their acrobatic, bicycle, and musical pot-pourri act, are a great success; Alec Kennedy, actor-vocalist, is well received; Lady Mansel and her clever juveniles are entertaining in their "Concert Rehearsal;" Weston and May (Fred and Julie) are smart in a musical comedy; Coram, ventriloquist, is well received in an amusing entertainment; the Brothers O'Brien, triple-bar experts, give a clever performance; and the Sisters Lunelle (Louie and Nellie), soubrettes and dancers; Herbert Shelley, actor-vocalist; and Herbert La Martine, legmania artist, add to the success of the bill.

Gaiety.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—An attractive programme is being presented here this week. Kahn and Kahn as the star turn give a capital performance of modern necromancy; Muir and Bartlett's sketch, *A Clerical Complication*, supplies fifteen minutes of rollicking fun; a clever ventriloquial entertainment is given by Prof. Dunning; Stanley and Tich Bourne, comedians, amuse the audience with their patter; Miss Flo Wood, operatic soprano, is very successful; and Raymond's Bioscope concludes with some interesting pictures.

OXFORD.

New Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company is this week paying us a visit with *A Royal Divorce*. Mr Frederic Victor looks and acts the part of Napoleon to the life. Mr C. Agnew gives a careful and well-balanced performance of Talleyrand. The Marquis De Beaumont, Augereau, Murat, and Dr. Corvisart find most capable exponents in Messrs T. Lowe, A. Grenville, E. G. Batley, and H. J. Powell. Mr D. Bryan gives a clever sketch as the innkeeper, Grimaud, and Messrs Martin and Herrick are amusing as Antoine and Pierre. Miss Edith Cole gives an effective performance as the Empress Josephine, and holds her audience right through the play with a firm grip; Miss Ethylle Murray is good as Marie Louise; and Miss Helen Richmond is delightful as the mischief-loving but faithful Stephanie De Beauharnais. *A Royal Divorce* is capitally staged.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—On Monday Messrs Marston and Buckstone's company commenced an engagement here with *The Silver Cross*. Mr F. A. Marston plays Ben Adams in effective fashion; Mr Syd Bazley is responsible for the fun as Tomkyns Quinton; Mr Buckstone does well as Rev. Nicholas Frewin; and the half-brothers Arthur Merton and Philip Frewin are played by Messrs C. Allen and H. Glenny. Miss Cissy Glenney is good as Laura Beechcroft, Miss Poppy Danby is a bright and amusing Sally Beedles, and Miss Maud Western is well suited as Little Sunshine. Duets and dances are contributed by the Sisters Vell.

PAISLEY.

Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—*The Executioner's Daughter* is being presented by Messrs Fred D'Arcy and Fred J. Little's company. Mr W. H. Sharpe as Kretch deserves special mention, his acting being admirable. Mr George Beverley as the scheming villain is very good, and his acting, despite the repulsiveness of the part, is much admired. Mr Edward M. Hamilton proves himself thoroughly competent in his assumption of Mons. Roche; particularly effective is the portraiture of Paul Rovel submitted by Mr Wilson Howard; Mr E. W. Avery furnishes an excellent impersonation of Tom Holmes; and Mr Sinclair Holden carefully acts Vivian Ormonde. Miss Dorothy Riddell as Annette, the heroine, wins sympathy by some pathetic acting; Miss Carlotta Anson plays powerfully and ably as Felice; Miss May Rosine is amusing and clever as Sally King; and Christina, the crippled child, is admirably sustained by Miss Bertha Moore.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—A strong variety company is in possession this week, the specialists including Major Sitherland, lightning and whirlwind gun-spinner; Flo Banks, burlesque artiste; Will Hunter, singing and novely ventriloquist; the Boultons, comedy artistes, musicians, and dancers; Mdlle. Bartenelli, graceful lady bender and gymnast; and Will Candlish, Negro comedian.

Town Hall.—Proprietors, Magistrates and Council.—Harry Lauder, the famous Scottish comedian, with a specially selected company of variety artistes, paid his annual visit here on Saturday, and was rewarded with a big house. The turns of Mr Lauder clearly demonstrated his great popularity.

PENTRE.

Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Crowded houses are the rule here this week. The variety turns include the Achmed Ibrahim Bedouin Arabs, whose marvellous acrobatic feats are astounding. Earle and Earle, the American banjoists, are highly appreciated; May Geraldine is a charming comedienne and dancer; Bob Vokes earns praise as a character comedian; Cyclo, the postman cyclist, gives a clever performance; Lauri Brothers' droll acrobatic feats are admirable; Lily Turner's vocal abilities are of a high order; Kyoto, in his new act, "The Mysterious Japanese Box," creates a great deal of mirth; and the Sisters Brand, comediennes and dancers, add to the success of the show.

PENZANCE.

St. John's Hall.—Mr Chas. Macdona's *Country Girl* company, under the personal direction of Mr Julian Graham, appeared here on Tuesday and Wednesday. Miss Florence Burdett is a vivacious Nan; Miss Florence Hallam is a captivating Marjory Joy; Miss Sadie Neville makes a piquant Madame Sophie; Miss Lucie Lever, who plays the Princess of Bhong, has a beautiful voice, which she uses with artistic effect; Miss Kate Graham-Beck has a fine presence, and invests the character of Mrs St. Quinton with stately dignity; Mr Richard Telford's Barry is full of humour and fun; Mr Bernard Vaughan scores distinctly as the Rajah; and Mr W. O. Billington makes Sir Joseph Verity highly amusing. Mr Guy Williams is a manly Geoffrey Chaloner, and sings and acts with telling effect. Mr Harry Playfair is cleverly characteristic as Granfer Mummery.

PERTH.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr Charles March, with a powerful company, is here this week in *The Priest of the Temple*. The play and music are written and composed by Mr March himself, who appears in the rôle of Valerius with considerable success. Mr Ronald Bayne powerfully enacts Decus Fronto, chief of the Temple, as also does Mr Henry Moxon that of Appius Herdonius; and Mr Stanley May is an excellent exponent of Hermanus. The several minor parts are ably undertaken by Messrs W. Clark, W. Fitzroy Temple, John Simpson, Whit Rogerson, Alf Lockhart, Henry Oakley, R. Tyson, Arthur Senate, and Wilton Cross. Miss Evelyn Hope shows considerable dramatic power as Polita, a Tiberian lady; and Miss Marie North evinces no mean talent in the rôle of Præstantia.

PETERBOROUGH.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr A. Darville Brown.—*One of the Family*, presented by Mr Henry Eglington and company, forms the attraction here this week. Miss Madeline Du Val's dainty and artistic manner is seen to advantage in her impersonation of Kate Denny. Miss Hilda Waldorf makes a charming Emily Fansbawe. Mr Kenneth Scott is effective as Captain Lightfoot. Mr Henry Eglington is an excellent Terry O'Flanaghan, and equally good is the portrayal of Mathias Magge by Mr A Leslie Martin. Mr Harry Ray does well as the Hon. Hubert Berkley. Mr William Gardiner revels in the part of Bartlemy Crowe. Others in the company of whom special mention is due, are Miss Florry Billington, Miss Blanche Drew, Miss Kitty Cygnet, Miss Marion Staveley, and Miss Nelly Arline, who acquits herself admirably as Susan.

PLYMOUTH.

New Palace.—Manager, Mr J. Field; Acting-Manager, Mr Carlton.—An attractive bill-of-fare this week is drawing crowded patrons. The premier turn is that of the Kaufmann Troupe of lady cyclists, who are graceful and clever. As vocalists and dancers the Superba Quartette excel; quaint and amusing to a degree, Edwin Boyde has made a big hit as a comedian, whilst heartier laughter has rarely been evoked than that caused by the Albert and Edmunds Troupe in the sketch entitled *The Locket*. Slippère, the blind novelty pianist and baritone, is deservedly a warm favourite. Other contributors are Reilly and Taylor, dialect comedians; Alma Obrey, comedienne; Bob Baxter, and Frank Cass, comedians.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—That charming musical play *The Geisha*, played by Mr Mouillot's principal company, is doing good business here this week. In the rôle of Mimosa Miss Aimé De Leska is very bright and engaging, whilst Miss Florrie Saunders makes a charming Molly Seymour, her dancing winning high encomiums. As Reginald Fairfax Mr Arthur Cartwright acts and sings with exceptional merit. Very amusing is Mr E. Carlton in the part of Wun-Hi, and able assistance is forthcoming from Miss Violet Kenyon, the French interpreter; Miss Aubrey Ashton as Lady Constance; Mr J. Hornby, Captain Katana; and Mr Lionel Braham, the Marquis Imari. On Friday *A Greek Slave* was staged.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—*A Modern Judas* holds the boards here this week, and much cleverness characterises the acting. Especially can this be said in the case of Mr Percy Rhodes as the villain of the piece and Mr Frank Beresford as the hero. Essaying the difficult part of Claire Rivers Miss Violet King came out of the ordeal with credit, and received capable assistance from Miss Dolly Harcourt as Polly Hopkins and Miss Kate Walbran as Elise. Miss Ada Palmer and Mr Willie Scott provoked much mirth.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Carlton.—Mrs Bandmann-Palmer's company is appearing this week in an extensive répertoire comprising *Mary, Queen of Scots*, *East Lynne*, *Sapho*, *Nell Gwynne*, and *Jane Shore*. Mrs Bandmann-Palmer is supported by a reliable company, and the staging leaves little to be desired.

PONTYPRIDD.

Royal Clarence Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—The attraction here this week is Mr Charles H. Phelp's company in the comedy-drama *One Woman's Wickedness*. Mr Charles H. Phelps as Jem Craggs displays great ability; Mr Lawrence Brien submits a manly and powerful rendering of Philip Beaufort; Mr Hubert Humphreys is a decided success as Paul Roque; Mr George Byrne is highly diverting as the aristocratic amateur detective; Mr Howard Ward is admirable as Limpy Larry; Janet Raymond is ably characterised by Miss Florence Lloyd; Aunt Crasy is well sustained by Miss Florence M. Daly; and Miss Louis Davis is to be congratulated on her assumption of Lillian Craggs.

PRESTON.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—Mr Milton Bode's company, under the direction of Mr Stanley Rogers, is here this week with *Gentleman Joe*. In the title-rôle Mr Kennedy Allen scores a great success; Mr Robert Vincent capably impersonates Lord Donnybrook, rendering his songs in good style; Mr G. Wyley as Hughie Jackson, Mr W. H. Moore as Mr Ralli Carr, Miss Edith Benson as William, and Mr Sydney Benson as Dawson commendably fill their respective parts. Mr Harry A. Gribben is a versatile and amusing representative of Mr Pilkington Jones. Mr J. Gardner (Uncle Bones) and Mr W. Peters (Uncle Ned) deserve praise for their vocal efforts and dancing. Miss Hebe Bliss acts and sings well as Mrs Ralli-Carr; the Hon. Mabel Cavanagh has a pleasing exponent in Miss Mabel Kerridge; and Lalage Potts is suitably delineated by Miss Edna Burman. Miss Enid Russell, Miss M. Linscott, and Miss Marie Hadyn as the Sisters Pilkington-Jones are seen to advantage. Miss Maud Mario is a charming Emma, her singing, dancing, and dainty bearing winning much favour. The Edingale Trio of dancers are well appreciated.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr J. Rice Cassidy and company are appearing here this week in *Dan, the Rake*. As Dan Donnelly Mr J. Rice Cassidy gives an admirable performance; Colonel Flamer is well taken by Mr Frank Orchard; Mr Frank Copeland (Lieut. Kavanagh) deserves praise; Mr Frederick Biron ably portrays the villainies of Captain Tom Cooper; Mr Norman Hall evokes much laughter in the part of Achille, a French cook; Miss Lilian Clare is clever in the rôle of Madge; and Mr Chas. Crosby (Trooper Jackson), Miss F. Halton (Helen Flamer), Miss A. Roscoe (Mrs Donnelly), and Mr Stephen Crossley (General Lake) render valuable assistance.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—On Monday Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, opened a six nights' engagement in *The Eternal City*. Mr D. Lewin Mannering shows much ability as Baron Bonelli; Mr Henry Deas gives an excellent account of David Rossi; Miss Edith Anton Laing is decidedly good as Donna Roma; Mr Leonard Grey deserves credit for his fine impersonation of Pope Pius XI; Mr E. Sharp is an able representative of Commendatore Angelelli; Mr A. E. E. Edwards is successful as Minghelli; and as Father Pifferi Mr Edward Dowes is well placed.

PORTSMOUTH.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—The American sporting comedy-drama *In Old Kentucky* is presented this week by Mr J. F. Elliston's company, under the direction of Mr Charles Herman. Madge Brierly, the heroine, is a very breezy and piquant character capitally portrayed by Miss Amy F. Hermann; Miss Beatrice Shirley as Barbara Grafton is a clever personation; the Frank Harley of Mr Geo. F. Steel is a manly and vigorous piece of work; Mr Alfred S. Banks is amusing as Colonel Pebly Beauchamp; Mr Eric Hueson as Jasper Grafton, alias Lem Lindsey, ably acts the villain; and Joe Lorey, a stalwart Moonshiner, is strongly played by Mr Gerald Kennedy.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The company here this week includes Miss Nellie Wallace, eccentric comedy artiste, who fully deserves the cordial reception accorded her. Sadie Simpson, comedienne and coon artiste, is clever and painstaking. Jack Collinson and company are appearing in two sketches each evening, viz., *Archibald Jones, the New Hamlet—A Bit of Nonsense* and *The Club Raid*, both giving every satisfaction. Pat Carey, Hibernian comedian, is in great demand and gaining much applause. Edwards and Espinosa, instrumentalists and dancers, give a very pleasing turn. Also appearing are Zasma and De Loule, refined gymnastic act; Florrie Carlow, soubrette; and W. H. Liddy, Irish vocalist.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—Messrs H. B. Levy and J. Walter's juvenile company still continues to enjoy success as pronounced as it is well deserved. Master Paddy Mills as Long Jim, proves himself an able and original comedian, and together with Master Joe Conway as Short Tim fairly convulses the house. Masters Dan Dougherty and George Swinhoe as the two Ugly Sisters are admirable, and Master T. Halton scores as Baron Smallcash. Miss May Gilson as Silver Star is endowed with an excellent voice and her graceful movements are charming. Miss Kitty Rafferty in the title-rôle is a dainty little lady. Miss M. Hardacre as Prince Charming has the necessary dash. Miss La Pettie La Ray does good work as Will Scarlet, and Miss Lottie Harper is efficient as Maid Marion. As Tommy Tucker and Marjorie Daw, Misses K. Trewhit and Isa Gibson do well, and Miss Dorothy Milnthorpe as Billy Buttons, and Miss Molly Rafferty as Nancy Lee deserve a word of praise. Miss Nellie Valvona is a capital solo dancer. The Marguerite Quartette give some clever speciality dances.

RAMSGATE.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General-Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company has been giving effective performances of *Alone in London* here this week. Miss Madge Devereux acts in an accomplished style as Annie Meadows; the John Biddlecombe of Mr Henry George is capital; Mr Stephen Ewart is appropriately villainous as Richard Redcliffe; and Mr Lonnen Meadows does well as Charley Johnson.

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE AND PAVILION.—Proprietors, Corporation of Ramsgate; Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Herbert Jay; Business Manager, Mr N. Arthur Hornby.—On each evening of the week an attractive entertainment has been carried out by a variety company, which has consisted of Alexandre and Hughes, musical eccentrics; Stanley and Greenop, banjoists; Mr James Singleton, the singing collier; Miss Minnie Dare, comedienne and dancer; James Ferguson, Scotch comedian and dancer; Miss Bertha Vere, ballad vocalist; Sisters Gilbert, duettists and dancers; and Oakley and James, a very versatile pair.

MARINA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Marina Pier and Lift Company; Business Manager, Mr H. Smith.—Billie Bint's clever company, including the entertaining Billie himself, Miss Fannie Robina, the Two Weimars, and others, have been giving excellent shows here during the week. The contributions by Cassie Corelli, Dan Idle, Jappo, Garnet, Chandler, and Florry Cooper have also been considerably appreciated.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—Mr W. H. Kirby's company is this week paying a welcome visit in *The New Mephisto*. Mr W. H. Kirby is as inimitable as ever as Dick Pilgrim, creating rounds of applause for his fine interpretation. Mr Fred Lyne as Mephistopheles, &c., gives an excellent display of versatility in totally dissimilar characters. Mr Willie Vernon as Major Bantam and Mr Herbert St. John as Lord Hummingtop are responsible for much applause and laughter, and Mr H. P. Carr proves an acceptable Captain Meredith. As Dolly Miss Lily Cullick makes a favourable impression, singing, acting, and dancing in delightful style; Miss Marion Armitage as Becky keeps the house convulsed with laughter; and Miss Dorothy Cecil, Miss Leah Howard, and Miss Marion Keeley as the three goey widows also contribute largely to the success.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson and company are filling the bill here this week with *The Scarlet Woman*. Mr J. E. Crawford is a manly Richard Marchant, Mr Edward K. Burke gives a capital rendition of the part of Philip Gordon, Mr Bert H. Ross as Will Raymond is callous as the villain of the play, being well seconded by Messrs J. E. Cowell and Tom Wheeler as Joe Cartwright and Jack Cartwright. Mr Mat Melrose is a humorous Samuel Hopkins and Mr James Thompson an effective Jacob Isaacson. Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson in the title-rôle is responsible for a highly finished representation of the rôle. Miss Muriel Allyne is pleasing as Margery Honour, Miss Ruby Hamilton-Belasco scores as Charlotte Simpkins, and Miss Lalla Cowell is a sprightly Fanchette, Miss Gracie Walker as Jeanne speaks her lines with much intelligence, and Miss Lalla Cowell and Mr Mat Melrose are responsible for some effective dances.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—Messrs Perry and Stanton's company is here this week with *The Sporting Girl*. Mr George Perry as Penton Hook, of Chicago, gives an excellent rendition. He is well seconded by Mr Charles Sanders as Jack Garling and Mr Charles Phillips as Gerald Haynes. Mr Horace Moseley is amusing as the Rev. John Bunyan; Mr Marcus Grey as Marco Castellino is very effective; and Mr James H. Sterling gives a carefully studied rendering of George Dewitt; Miss Maggie Stanton scores an unqualified success as Kitty Fitzroy, the sporting girl; and Miss Glady St. Ledger as Martha is most amusing. Miss Marjorie Tennant is good as Mrs Owen, and Miss Clara Knowles as Amy Beddoe is worthy of praise.

Continued on Page 19.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. HEATON.—*We believe not. There is a Star Music Hall at Bermondsey.*

A. MORTIMER.—*Write to S. French, theatrical publisher, Southampton-street, Strand.*

SKETCH.—*(1) We do not think so. (2) Yes.*

M. C. H.—Joseph Entangled, *by Henry Arthur Jones, was produced at the Haymarket Theatre on Jan 19 last. The cast was as follows:—Sir Joseph Lacy, Mr Cyril Maude; Hardolph Mayne, Mr Herbert Waring; Harry Tavender, Mr Sam Sutton; Gerald Fanmere, Mr Kennenth Douglas; Jermyn Pyecroft, Mr Charles Sugden; Professor Tofield, Mr Edmund Maurice; Knapman, Mr Fredrick Volpe; Staddon, Mr Rudge Harding; Footman, Mr A. G. Onslow; Lady Verona Mayne, Miss Ellis Jeffreys; Lady Joyce Fanmere, Miss Winifred A. Jones; Mrs Harry Tavender, Miss Beatrice Ferrar; Mrs Knapman, Mrs Charles Calvert.*

H. J. WILLIAMS.—*The marriage of Mr Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss took place on Oct. 3, 1893.*

JOHN E.—*(1) At Drury-lane Theatre. (2) Aug. 24, 1877.*

H. D.—David Garrick *was revived at the Criterion in June, 1897.*

W. T. J.—Little Christopher Columbus *was first produced at the Lyric, Oct. 10, 1893.*

EDGWARE ROAD.—*The principal parts in the original cast of* The Times *when it was produced at Terry's, Oct 24, 1891, were allotted thus:—Percy Egerton-Bompas, M.P., Mr Edward Terry; Howard (his son), Mr H. V. Esmond; Denham, Viscount Lurgashall, Mr T. W. Lovell; Hon. Montague Trumble, Mr W. G. Elliott; Timothy M'Shane, M.P., Mr Fred Thorne; Countess of Repston, Miss M. Talbot; Beryl, Miss Annie Hill; Mrs Hooley, Miss Alexes Leighton; Honoria, Miss Laura Barradell; Miss Cazalet, Miss Helena Dacre; Lucy Tuck, Miss Hetty Dene; and Miss Egerton-Bompas, Miss Fanny Brough.*

ANXIOUS.—*In all probability you are entitled to the whole of the money, subject to funeral expenses and debts, if any, being paid. You had better consult a solicitor.*

L. L.—White Heather *was produced at Drury-lane Sept. 16, 1897.*

LEX.—*You certainly have no rights in the matter, and no court would be likely to interfere.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars admitted to this List.

Adair, Mr Frank
Amandus
Anderson, Miss Mary
Andre, Miss Olga
Apollo, Mr
Ashwell, Miss Lena
Avolo, Miss J.
Bailey, Mr T. G.
Barlowe, Mr Fred
Beatty, Miss Maude
Beaufort, Mr Louis
Bell, Mr Cyrus
Beltram, Mr Besley
Biddall, Mr
Bisera, Mr
Blakey, Mr Paul
Bohee, Mr G. B.
Boland, Mr Harry
Bon Bon, Mr Harry
Boucicault, Mr Dion
Boyd, Miss May
Bratz, Mr
Brighton, Mr Jack
Brownie, Miss Vesta
Burnett, Mr B. T.
Byron, Miss Maggie
Caird, Mr Lawrence
Callan, Mr John
Campbell, Mr J. A.
Capita and More
Carew, Mr Arthur
Carey, Mr Charles
Carlos, Mr Fred
Carver, Mr Geo.
Case, Mr Walter
Cavalho, Miss S.
Chalmers, Mr K.
Chater, Miss D.
Chichester, Miss Maud
Clark, Miss Dorothy
Clark, Colonel W.
Clavering, Mr N.
Coffin, Mr Hayden
Conyil, Mr John
Cook, Miss Cissie
Cranston, Mr Ottley
Crawford, Mr T.
Crawshaw, Mr T.
Crocker, Messrs
D'Alroy, Miss Dolly
Danby, Mr J. J.
Danbys, The
Danvers, Mr. Chas.
Davis, Mr Sidney
Delmar, Mr Bert
Diablo, Mons.
Dobito, Mr Fred
Dobraza, Miss H.
Duncan, Miss C.
Durant Brothers
Earle, Mr Burt
Eldiablo, Mr
Ellicott, Miss V.
Elliott, Miss Violet
Everard, Mr Walter
Ferrar, Miss Ada
Ferris, Mr J. N.
Fieldhouse, Mr Wm.
Fontain, Mr Victor
Fordwych, Mr Herbert
Fredericks, Mr C.
Freedman, Mr Tony
French, Miss Phyllis
Gibbons, Mr Arthur
Golden, Mr Horace
Goodliffe, Mr J.
Gordall, Mr J.
Green, Mr W. Travis
Grey, Miss Nellie
Grime, Madame Elster
Groves, Miss Louise
Grovini, Miss M.
Grovini, Mr James
Harper, Mrs
Harrington, Mr George
Harris, Mr Gus
Hart, Mr P.
Hayton, Mr Harry
Hazelwood, Mr J. G.
Henry, Mr Valentine
Holloway, Mr W. J.
Howard, Mr Fred
Hughes, Mr William Pete
Hunt, Miss Delia
Ibrahim, Mr M.
Iris, Miss Lily
Jervis, Mr
Kenton, Mr
Kevill-Davis, Miss
Kildare, Miss
Klein, Miss Anna
Kreegers, The Musical
Laing, Mr James
Lawson, Mr Webster
Lawton, Mr Alf
Le Barr, Mr Tom
Le Blanc, Mr
Le-Grand, Chevalier
Lennol, Mr Jack
Leo, Miss Hettie
Leon and Leoni
Leslie, Brothers
Leslie, Miss Fanny
Levante, Madame
Levey, Miss A.
Levey, Miss M. L.
Leybourne, Mr Arthur
Linde, Mr W.
Lindsay, Madame
Loftus, Miss Kitty
Loftus, Mr A.
Lorenzo, Signor
Lundgreens, The
Mack, Mr E. C.
Mappleback, Mr J.
Maree, Mr F. De
Martin, Miss Amy
Martin, Mr M.
Mason and Keeler
Maura, Mr J. F.
May, Miss Melinda
Mayon and Marle, Messrs
M'Carthy, Miss Lillah
Mirzah, Mr
Money, Mr A.
Montrose, Miss Maud
Moore, Mr H. A.
Moore, Miss Maggie
Mueller and Coyne
Neale, Mr
Neiss, Mr Theo.
Nelson, Mr Frank
Noel, Miss Cossie
Norman, Mr
Nye, Mr Wm.
O'Connor, Mr M.
O'Grady, Mr and Mrs H.
Ondre, Mr Victor
O'Neill, Mr Edward
O'Neill, Mr Frank
O'Neil, Mrs Nora
Orme, Miss Ilda
Ott, Miss Zelia
Panlo, Mr Frank
Parrost, Mr Fred
Paull, Miss Ethel G.
Peece, Mr Frank
Pnipps, Mr Ralph
Phydora, Mr H.
Pinder, Mr F.
Piper, Mr F.
Prescott, Mr Cyril
Pringle, Mr Ralph
Raleigh, Mr F. F.
Ransom, Mr H. A. V.
Redgrave, Miss Sheela
Revell, Mr H.
Roberts, Mr Ralph
Roberts, Mr Joe
Robertus and Wilfredo
Robinson, Master Harry
Robinson, Mr T.
Rose, Mr Charles
Rosenberg, Miss Lillie
Rosenberg, Miss Mabel
Russell, Miss Daisy
Faxo, Mr H.
Scott, Mrs Walter
Seeley, Mr W. R.
Shawlene, Mr
Shine, Mr J. L.
Shipley, Mr Sam
Shrapnel, Mr Leonard
Sillward, Mr Edward
Simme and Simms
Sinclair, Miss Tiny
Sivado, Mr C.
Sivroni, Mr
Smith, Mr C. J.
Soldene, Miss E.
Souper, Mr G. K.
Stanley, Mr
Stewart, Miss Nellie
Stewart, Mr H.
St. Julian, Sisters
Style, Mr
Summers, Mr Walter
Swain, Mr Alex. A.
Sydney, Miss Ethel
Templeton, Miss Doris
Terriss, Mr T.
Terry, Mr Wm.
Thorne, Mr George
Towers, Miss Cissy
Trevosper, Miss M.
Tyndall, Mrs L. E.
Vane, Miss Edith
Vezzie, Miss Unity
Vint, Mrs L.
Vox, Mr Barney
Walker, Mr Frank
Walker, Mr J. A.
Wallis, Miss M.
Warton, Miss Flo
Wayne, Mr G. B.
Weatherby, Mr Frank
Weaver, Mr Ted
Weekly, Mr Alfred
Wells, Mr Arthur
Williams, Miss Poppy
Wills, Miss Dot
Woodleigh, Miss G.
Woodward, Mr George
Wright, Mr Henry
Wylford, Miss M.
Zento Troupe

At the Town Hall, Welshpool, Miss Maggie Morton's company, under the direction of Mr J. Herman, appeared on Wednesday night in *Two Little Drummer Boys*. Eric and Jack were well played by Miss Gladys Hope and Ethel M. Wright. Miss Florence French was amusing as Molly Meadows; Miss Grace Monson was a sweet and sympathetic Alma Kingsley; Miss Mildred Everaleigh gave a powerful rendering of Margaret Rivers; Mr Jules Shaw was a capable General Kingsley; Mr Claude Raymond was a most effective Captain George Darrell; Captain Frank Carsdale was all that could be desired in the capable hands of Mr Chas. Barrett; Mr D. O'Keefe and Mr Percy E. Wright were capital exponents of low comedy as Quiney O'Quirke and Timothy Trimmer; and Mr Frank Courtney sustained the part of Major Kilkerren creditably.

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Belle Davis and Piccaninnies, Terry and Bentley, and a New Series of Bioscope Pictures.
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All Artistes are notified that they must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1·0 o'clock, Mondays. All Artistes engaged must attend. Artistes not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at the option of the Management.

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Mr Tom Tinsley's Benefit on Thursday, Oct 27 next.

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Oh, heigh oh! for thus and thus we go,
An ankle revealing half way to the ceiling,
And so, and so, and so!
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And so, and so, and so!
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Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the Regulations of the London County Council and Lord Chamberlain.
By A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1904.

THE CHARITY MATINEE ABUSE.

We have been asked by a Mr T. H. ROBERTS to oblige Mr L. GODFREY-TURNER and himself by inserting a letter from the latter gentleman. We do so with pleasure, and will, in addition, add a few comments on the practice of which it is an example.

The following is the letter :—

THE BALACLAVA JUBILEE MATINEE.

Dear ——

I sincerely trust that the decision of certain public performers to appear for charity in future only on payment of fees does not render useless my present appeal for your generous services for the concert which will be given at the Alhambra on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 22, to assist the needy survivors of the Light Brigade Charge.

The occasion will mark the jubilee of the famous charge, and Mr T. H. Roberts, the organiser of the fund which keeps the otherwise neglected veterans from the door of the poorhouse, is very anxious (particularly as the fund is in danger of extinction, owing to the small subscribed support from the public) that this special effort of his on their behalf shall meet with your sympathy.

If you will be good enough, in your reply to this note, to state what time after two o'clock in the afternoon you can appear, every endeavour will be made by our stage-manager to prevent waits, and it would further assist in the organisation of the performances if you would kindly let me know the nature of the "turn" you would propose contributing.

With kind regards, and hoping soon to receive a favourable answer from you,

I am,
yours sincerely,
L. GODFREY-TURNER.

158, Fleet-street, E.C.

The above circular is evidently intended to be forwarded to many members of the profession, in order to induce them to promise contributions to the matinée in question. The blank is obviously left for the insertion of the name of the artist who is to be begged to "assist." The wording of the first paragraph is extremely quaint. Mr GODFREY-TURNER "sincerely trusts" that the decision of "certain public performers" to appear for charity in future only on payment of fees, will not render useless his appeal to the artists whom he is addressing in his note. On cursory inspection, this might be taken to mean that Mr TURNER hoped that the committee of the Balaclava Light Brigade Charge Survivors' Relief Fund, of which Mr T. H. ROBERTS is the "founder, secretary, and hon. treasurer," had made up their minds to pay for the services of the artists whom they might induce to appear at the matinée. This conclusion, however, would be incorrect. The general public have subscribed altogether over £4,000 since 1897 to the Fund; and there is a balance in hand of £406. The object of the charity is one which touches the heart of every Englishman. The Balaclava Charge is the exploit of the Crimean War which appeals very strongly to the imagination of the public. Lord RAGLAN deplored at the time that the showy nature of the disastrous exploit would cast into the shade the equally courageous and much more useful charge of the Heavy Brigade against an enormous mass of Russian cavalry. It is useless, however, to argue against popular whims. There is not the least reason, except a fanciful one, why the survivors of the Balaclava Charge should be looked after more carefully than the "survivors" of SCARLETT'S Charge just alluded to, or the "survivors" of the Alma or of Inkerman. If the public, however, like the brilliant and the sentimental better than the practical feats of warfare, it is quite reasonable that they should have their way. Those who pay the piper have a perfect right to call the tune; and, inconsistent as it may be to devote attention to the veterans of a particularly small section of the British Army, to the exclusion of the whole, the £4,000 given has undoubtedly done good to several scores of old soldiers. But we cannot understand why the theatrical profession should be pestered with requests like that of Mr GODFREY-TURNER in the letter which we have printed. We observe that one of the items of the statement of the Fund up to the end of December is "Advertising." £29 10s. is set down as having been expended in this way in advertisements in the leading London journals and in a Sussex paper. Why should artists be asked to give assistance to the Fund for nothing, when wealthy daily newspapers are paid to the last penny? If there is any responsibility for the maintenance of these old heroes of the Dragoons, Hussars, and Lancers it rests with the War Office. There is an old saying to the effect that "charity begins at home," and it is shameful that the good-nature and generosity of the profession should be abused in the way that they are abused, by actors and actresses being begged and coaxed to "give their services" for nothing to this and that cause. We object most strongly to the implied sneer in Mr GODFREY-TURNER'S letter at the very sensible artists who, driven into a corner by the unconscionable demands made upon them time after time, have decided not to appear for charity, except on payment of fees. Mr TURNER refers to them somewhat contemptuously as "certain public performers;" and, with a seductive allusion to the "generous services" which he hopes to get from the person to whom he is sending the circular, hopes that the individual addressed will not be influenced by the "decision" alluded to. Our "trust" is exactly opposite in its direction. We have firm faith that the time has come when not only "certain public performers," but the mass of the profession is rebelling against the system of civil imposition under which they have been so heavily taxed in time and labour for the benefit of charities in which they have only a very indirect interest. At the present moment the theatrical profession, chiefly owing to its being overcrowded by amateurs and juveniles, is distressed by an unusual amount of poverty and want. Its charities cannot possibly cope with the heavy demands upon their funds; and private gifts—often made by those who can ill-afford to make them, being themselves only a little better off than those helped—have to supplement official aid. At this juncture the members of the profession are begged to "give their services" to all manner of charitable institutions and objects. We have nothing to say against the majority of these. Their aims are, of course, entirely benevolent. But, after all, one's first duty is to one's own class and calling; and the spectacle of actors and actresses working hard of an afternoon at—say—a benefit for a Home for Lost Dogs, while so many of their brother and sister artists are cold and starving is not one which can be regarded with complacency. We "trust" that Mr GODFREY-TURNER'S insinuating request will meet with many denials and refusals.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen :—

Kate Bishop, actress—Saturday, Oct. 1.
Horace Gilmer—Saturday, Oct 1.
Walter Bellonini—Saturday, Oct. 1.
H. Cee Mee, jun.—Saturday, Oct. 1.
Amy Tilley—Sunday, Oct 2
Harrison Brockbank, actor—Sunday, Oct. 2.
Cronow—Sunday, Oct. 2.
Rose Faith—Monday, Oct. 3
Clara Denman—Monday, Oct. 3.
Elena Lonsdale—Monday, Oct. 3.
M. E. Braddon, novelist—Tuesday, Oct. 4.
Nellie Clarence, actress—Tuesday, Oct. 4.
Kate Winstanley—Tuesday, Oct. 4.
Ernest J. Fare—Tuesday, Oct. 4.
Venie Clements—Tuesday, Oct. 4.
Rene Douglas—Wednesday, Oct. 5.
Mrs Beerbohm Tree, actress—Wednesday, Oct. 5.
Mrs Bernard Beere, actress—Wednesday, Oct. 5.
Marie Collins, music hall artist—Oct 5.
W. H. Vernon, actor—Wednesday, Oct. 5.
Horace Fontain—Thursday, Oct. 6.
Miss Bateman, actress—Friday, Oct. 7.
R. G. Knowles, music hall artist—Friday, Oct. 7.
Walter De Frece, variety agent—Friday, Oct. 7.
Harry Cane, actor—Friday, Oct. 7.

THE Liverpool magistrates have issued forty-two new rules for the regulation of theatres and music halls. Of these sixteen have reference to the provision of fire appliances and means to be adopted for the prevention of fire. One rule prohibits obstruction in gangways or passages by chairs, seats, or persons, and provides that "no person, except an official of the theatre, shall be permitted to stand, sit, or remain (except as mentioned in proviso) in any vestibule, staircase, lobby, corridor, gangway, or vacant space forming part of any exit." The magistrates, however, reserve to themselves the right to sanction the use of any vacant space to be used as standing room, and to limit the number of persons who may utilise it. Other rules provide against the admission of known bad characters, the accumulation of rubbish or inflammable material, the exhibition of dangerous beasts, and any perilous performance without the consent of the justices. Managers will be pledged to see that all doors and barriers shall open outwards and yield to slight pressure from the inside, and after the rules come into force on Oct. 25 theatres must be lit by electricity, and gas must be provided as a "standby, and kept lighted." Woodwork is to be painted with non-flammable paint, and after July 1, 1905, all scenery must be rendered and kept as fire-proof as possible, while there must be direct communication between the stage and the nearest fire station. A regulation has been made that "No offensive personalities or offensive representations of living persons shall be permitted on the stage."

A FOUR-ACT play by the Danish author Rosenkranz, translated into German by E. Schlack, was produced with much success at Stuttgart a few days ago. The piece—entitled *Ruth*—is one of the realistic type so much in vogue at present. It treats of the marriage between a nobleman and a Jewess, and all the fatal consequences of a mésalliance. The work is said to be well and convincingly written, but it would have seemed more natural if one Guildenstern had joined with the author in collaboration.

A COMMITTEE meeting of the Touring Managers' Association will be held at 3, Bedford-street on Friday, Oct. 7, at 12·30 o'clock.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 17.)

RHYL.

QUEEN'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr P. J. Ashfield; Secretary, Mr E. W. Parry.—On the 22nd ult. the manager's benefit took place. It must be most gratifying to Mr Ashfield to know that his efforts during the season have made him so popular. He was rewarded with a full house. A capital programme was arranged, and Mr Ashfield received an ovation for a recitation which he gave with dramatic power. This week the Rhyl favourite, Barney Stuart, is paying a return visit, and his artistic extracts from the Deemster and Brigadier Gerard are always appreciated. Prince Fee Lung introduces some clever illusions. Vere and Royal, vocal and comedy artistes, Sisters Grahame, and Little Beatie complete the bill.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*The Girl from Kay's* is paying a first visit here this week. It is one of the brightest, prettiest, and most laughter-provoking musical plays we have seen here. The company is an exceptionally strong one, and makes the performance a pronounced success. Miss May Morton is winsome as Norah Chalmers; Miss Polly Prim delights the audience by her singing and graceful dancing in the part of Ellen; Miss H. Champion makes a capital Mrs Chalmers. The title rôle is entrusted to Miss Lily Lingard, who invests the part with a charming piquancy that wins all hearts. Her reception is most flattering. Mr Garnet Wilson sustains the part of Harry Gordon with conspicuous ability; Mr Tom Shelford creates much merriment by an excellent portrayal of the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; Mr Sam Lyons submits a characteristic delineation of the fussy Theodore Quench, Q.C., and Mr Johnnie Schofield as Max Hoggenheimer is irresistibly funny. The staging is admirable, the dresses and scenery lending a charming effect to the whole performance.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr Lee.—A capital programme is submitted to full houses here this week. Violet Grey is a refined vocalist with a sweet voice; the Evremonds, comedy duettists; Achilles has a fine physique, and knocks heavy weights about with the utmost ease; Stern and Stern, comedians and patterers; Lillie Le Briton, trapeze gymnast; George Wyres, comedian; Dorothy Quartette, acrobatic and speciality dancers; Fred Erick, comedian; and H. C. Reval, electric juggler, with a most effective display, complete the list.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—Chanti, lightning change artist, astonishes the audience by the remarkably quick changes he makes; Nita Rose, vocalist, is an old favourite here; Daisy Almer, serio and dancer; Flo Winstanley, burlesque artist and male impersonator; Frank Whiteley, character comedian; Charlie Bayman, Negro comedian; Alice Oakley, ballad and descriptive vocalist; and the Four M.P.'s, military musical experts, complete an attractive bill-of-fare.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Mr S. F. Cody's company is occupying the boards with *The Klondyke Nugget*, and is proving a pronounced draw. Mr Edward Leroy is energetic in the heavy part of Sam Deats; Mr Vivian Cody makes the most of Joe Smith with success; and Mr Leon Cody gives a striking picture of Waco, the Redskin. Mr Tom Gilmore is quaint as Paddy O'Donohue. Miss Edith B. Mumford is a finished actress in the part of Rosie Lee.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—*A Beautiful Fiend* on Monday evening drew a crowded house, and the performance by Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company was well received. Miss Sidney Crowe has made a decided impression in the title-rôle. Mr Montague Beaudyn as Ivan Paulovitch, Mr A. G. Polson as Fedor Karateff, and Mr A. F. Dudley as Sergius Strogoff give powerful and earnest assistance. Mr Charles Kean as Christopher Crackles causes much laughter, as also does Mr F. H. Stanley as Nicholi Troleki. Nadine Karateff is pleasingly and capably presented by Miss Irene Munro, and Miss Annie Clunn is a bright and attractive Patty Woodlands.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—Harry Houdini, the handcuff king, heads an excellent programme this week. His latest exploit was escaping on Monday from the police cells at the Salford Town Hall. The other turns are Alf Aubyn, impersonator of coon comedy and acrobatic gavotte dancer; Geo. Rennie, ventriloquist; Charles R. Whittle, versatile comedian; Martine and Son, American song illustrators; Johnny Danvers, comedian; Vandenoff, lightning artist, who paints five large pictures in ten minutes; Carola's miniature circus; and Ted Cowan, popular comedian; with the animated pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—Both performances on Monday were witnessed by large houses, and the programme was of the usual good quality. The Dayton Family do a marvellous Risley act; the Katos' Komical Kidgets, in their amusing automatic theatre, cause much laughter; Howard and Collinson, in their absurdity *The Porter and the Parcel;* Selby and Myers, comedians, patterers, vocalists and dancers; Edie Gray and coons, pleasing vocalists; the comical clowns, the Leotards; Inez Clough, ballad vocalist; Billy Williams, Australian comedian; Minto's trick mandolinist and equilibrist; Jack Hylton, eccentric comedian, and Doris Lilian, comedienne and acrobatic dancer, also give interesting turns. The pictures are good.

L. AND N.W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—Mr Tom Witt, comic, heads this week's bill which also includes Mr Jack Martin, descriptive vocalist; Mr Harry Leader, comic vocalist; Miss Hilda de Grey, serio, and Mr Sam Higham, comedian.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—The animated picture world entered on its third and final week here on Monday. Great success as it has undoubtedly proved, it is compelled to give place to other musical and dramatic engagements. Amongst the special local films a panoramic view of the Mersey, showing the principal Atlantic liners, coasters, and ferry-boats, is deservedly popular. The intervals between the pictures are suitably filled by Giilin, a clever and original ventriloquist; Frank Darwin, baritone and song illustrator; and Mill May, comedienne.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—*The Two Hussars* occupies the boards here this week, the company being Messrs Wilson Benge and Fred J. Webb's. Mr Benge as Harry Alford is seen to advantage; the rascally Paul Villiers is realistically played by Mr Webb; Mr Louis Nanton gives an amusing study of Robert Runn; and Mr G. Paradise as Sergeant M'Finnie also adds to the humorous element. Ellen Maythorne is prettily played by Miss H. Danvers-Smith. Miss Lallah Price skilfully performs as Molly Cutts. Miss Sadie Smith as Marie is very good. Mr H. Rutland as Harry Maythorne, Mr H. Wilson as Joe Giles, Mr J. E. Cunnington as Bob Trott, Mr Chas. Fynes as Counsel for the Crown, and Mr S. James as Counsel for the Defence ably support the principals.

SCARBOROUGH.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr J. T. Carpenter.—Mr Norman Macowen's company has been here in *Monsieur Beaucaire.* Mr Herbert Cornish was an excellent Major Molyneux; Mr Stuart Wilson was effective as the Duke of Winterset; Miss Millie Hamer was a refined Lucy Rellerton; Miss Violet Sterne was a graceful Lady Mary Carlisle; and as Robert Beaucaire Mr Norman Macowen greatly distinguished himself.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietress, Mrs Henry Mayhew; Business-Manager, Mr F. P. Morgan.—The stage here is occupied by Mr Lester Collingwood's company in *When London Sleeps.* Miss Maud Hastings is good as Queenie Carruthers; Miss Bella Power as Signorina Jonesio and Miss Effie Mackintosh as Carrie put in good work; Mr Victor Mason and Mr Frank Eden as Sammy Blyth and Bernard Broomhead succeed well; Mr Franklyn Grahame plays with ability as Captain Haynes, and David Engleheart is in the capable hands of Mr W. H. S. Samp.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—Mr Tom B. Davis's ever-welcome company opened on Monday in *Florodora.* Mr Edward Lewis, as usual, was the incarnation of mercurial spirits as the eccentric professor, and he kept the audience in roars of laughter all the evening. Mr Fred Winn was a mirth-provoking Cyrus Gilfain. Mr Leonard Russell again made a manly Frank Abercoed, and his fervid singing of "The sheltering palm" was applauded to the echo. Miss Lena Maitland was a handsome and picturesque Dolores, and her fine vocalism gave great pleasure. The Lady Holyrood of Miss Isabella Dillon was a smart and vivacious personage, and her "Tact" song was heartily encored. The large chorus acquitted themselves to the satisfaction of the audience, and band, scenery, and dresses were all up to the high standard expected by the patrons of the palatial Royal.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—The visit here of Mr George Edwardes's company, from the Lyric Theatre, in *The Duchess of Dantzic,* has been eagerly looked forward to by all lovers of tuneful music, artistic display, and thoroughly refined entertainment. It was therefore not surprising that on Monday the spacious Lyceum auditorium was packed at raised prices from pit to gallery. Mr George Edwardes's exquisite taste in *mise-en-scène* is so well known that the scenery and dresses need no comment. There was a large chorus, the band was augmented, and the leading rôles were acted by artists whose representations are world-wide. Miss Evie Greene achieved a positive triumph as Catherine dramatically. Miss Adrienne Augarde was a pretty and melodious Renée, and Miss Billee Burke made a piquant Lisette. The Napoleon of Mr Holbrook Blinn was a notable contribution to the gallery of stage portraits of the famous "Little Corporal." Mr Herbert Clayton was good as Lefebvre. Mr Courtice Pounds's agreeable personality made the humour of Papillon vastly agreeable to every section of the audience. Mr Leonard Mackay acted and sang effectively as Viscount De Bethune, and Mr Morgan Williams did good service as M. D'Allegro.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—Mr Walter Melville's strong company began a welcome return visit here on Monday in the thrilling drama *Her Second Time on Earth,* which, well staged and acted, was again received with enthusiasm by a crowded audience. That graceful and clever artist Miss Hilda Beverley repeated her fine impersonation of the beautiful but morally repulsive Dora Grey. It was a realistic portrayal of feminine viciousness, and at times Miss Beverley's dramatic intensity touched the tragic key. That Royal pantomime favourite Miss Pollie Marsh submitted a striking sketch of a drunken virago in the character of Mrs Burke, and Miss Nana Flensburg was a lively representative of Kitty. Mr Charles Franmore was good as Captain Norman. An effective bit of acting was the Beppo of Mr Wilton J. Selby. Mr Cecil Melton was frank and earnest as Jack Carlton. Mr Percy Horton made a characteristic medico as Dr. Ridley; Mr Fred Ingram caused much mirth as the irrepressible Teddy; Mr Charles Girdlestone as Guy Brand and Mr Stuart as Tom Norman did good work; and Miss Elaine Vanbrugh was charming and sympathetic as Laura.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—Mr George Lashwood is once more singing his catchy songs with characteristic verve and polish; Mr Horace Mills and Mr W. H. Rawlins appear in a smart sketch, entitled *Mashing the Missus;* and other pleasing artists are the Petras, comic jugglers; Harry Dent, comedian; the Alaskas, in a novel comedy act; Sisters Cora, duettists; Les Voces, soloists, &c; Max Milian, athletic equilibrist; De Kook Brothers, acrobats; Baker and Balfe, instrumentalists; and Charles Prinz, with his seventeen lions.

ALBERT HALL.—Manager, Mr Auguste Lyons.—The Saturday variety concerts here are proving a great success. The artistes billed this week include the Parez Sisters, instrumentalists; Yapp and Napp, burlesque actors; the Fays; Le Phred's Fantoches; Prof. Knott's Punch; Carl and Carr, comedians; and Alex. Fay, illusionist.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Engaged here are Bennett and Martell, comedians; Allis and Cassati, grotesque entertainers; Mdlle. Martha, a daring gymnast; Cliff and Kean, comedians; Bogg and Bogg, eccentrics; and Grace Vernon, serio.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—The Moody-Manners opera company is giving lovers of opera a great treat this week. The répertoire consists of *Faust, Maritana, Carmen, The Daughter of the Regiment, Pagliacci* and *Cavalleria Rusticana, Tannhauser,* and *The Bohemian Girl.* The performance of *Faust* on Monday met with universal approbation. Miss Enriqueta Crichton as Marguerite gave an artistic impersonation, and another most successful performance was the Faust of Mr Edward Arthur. Mr Chas. Tidbury as Mephistopheles was responsible for a finished portrayal, Mr David Fuller was prominent as Valentine, as also was Miss Teify Davies as Siebel.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company is presenting here this week *The Drama of Life.* Mr Gerald Ord gives a most realistic portrayal of Harry Beech; Walter Beech is capitally enacted by Mr John J. Hooker; Mr Owen Remonde as Dobson Wilde furnishes the humour, being well assisted by Miss Muriel Inglis as Lady Jane Wilde. Mr Walter Steele makes a noteworthy Richard Brenton; Miss Cissie Bellamy gives a good impersonation of Sylvia Beech; Miss Nellie Daly is well suited as Betty Black; and Miss Marie Murry portrays well the character of Master Robert Beech.

THE KURSAAL.—General Manager, Mr J. Sydney Childs.—The variety programme this week is an excellent one, and large and appreciative audiences find plenty of enjoyment. Miss Unity Vezzey has been retained for this week, and merits praise for her clever concertina playing and her musical dogs. Bros. Sweet are two really clever comedians and dancers, Clara Nisbett is a refined vocalist, a good extempore vocalist is found in Tom Vine, the Sisters Vincent are charming and clever duettists and dancers, and the Balzens and Pei-ho give a good juggling show. The Bioscope is still going strong with new films, and the Café Chantant entertainments are ably carried out by Captain Towyn Thomas's Royal National Glee Singers.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Mr Frank Wilson's company, by arrangement with Mr Frank Curzon, presented *The Marriage of Kitty* here on the first four nights of this week. Mr Frank Wilson played with considerable ability as Sir Reginald Belsize, Bart.; Mr Sydney Orton as the perplexed John Travers was extremely good; Mr J. F. Leighton was successful as Norbury; Mr Royston Keith, jun., as Hampton acquitted himself creditably; Miss Kate Harwood in the somewhat thankless rôle of Madame De Semiano acted spiritedly and well; as Miss Katherine Silverton Miss Vera Fordyce was graceful, naive, and effective; and Miss Averil May was a capital Rosalie.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—*The Lady Slavey* is paying a return visit here this week, after an absence of two years, and comes with an air of distinct freshness. Mr W. Greet's company is a most capable one, and the dresses and scenery are very good. Mr Harry Walsh is droll as the impecunious Major O'Neill; Mr Allan Morris, an acceptable New York millionaire, scores a success with his song "In Friendship's name;" the brokers' man Roberts and the vacuous Lord Lavender are represented in skilful and humorous manner by Mr Frank Sherlock and Mr Walter T. Hybert respectively; Miss Addie Lennard is a vivacious Phyllis; and among other excellently played parts we must single out the Flo Honeydew of Miss Millicent Marsden for mention. Dances are introduced by Misses Jean Van Dalle and Ethel Ashton.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE (WINTER GARDENS).—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—On Monday a large audience greeted the return visit of *A Message from Mars,* presented by Mr Mouillot's principal company. Mr Rawson Buckley submitted a successful interpretation of Horace Parker; Mr F. G. Dunn effectively portrayed the character of Arthur Dicey; the messenger had an artistic representative in Mr W. E. Brougham; and the tramp was ably impersonated by Mr Bruce Lindley. Miss May Saker gave a highly creditable representation of Minnie Templer; and Miss Flora Parker was effective in the part of Miss Parker.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is paying a visit here for the first time in the pleasing comedy *A Country Mouse.* Mr Sidney Stirling presents a suitable Hon Archibald Vyse; Mr Charles Harley cleverly sustains John Bowlby, M.P.; and the Duke of St. Kitts is amusingly acted by Mr Arnold Lucy. Mr Wilson Lumley as Lord Wykeham lends capital support; Miss Dido Drake is an acquisition to the company, her pretty, simple, naive ways being greatly in harmony with her delightful exposition of the title-rôle; Miss Dorothy Drake creditably acquits herself as Lady Sylvia; Miss Eve Erskine is a charming Violet; and Mrs Cropper and Butler of Miss Emily Levettez and Mr J. E. Watson are good impersonations. George Mudie's one-act farce, entitled *His Landlady,* precedes.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—An excellent programme is headed by the popular Mark Sheridan, eccentric comedian. His versatile ability is rewarded by roars of laughter and enthusiastic hand-clapping. The Anartos contribute an amusing musical sketch; *The Lie Alarm* is the title of a sketch wherein the Smythsons appear with great success; Tally-Ho Trio score heavily by their rendition of pleasing and genuinely funny ditties; Tennyson and Wallis are funny comedians; and the songs and dances of Edie King are appreciated. Eva Nelson is conspicuous for her singing and dancing. Gus Gauntlett is an able character comedian; and James Kurrie, eccentric comedian, is good.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—Billy Ross and company, in a laughable sketch *A Hot Member,* is the star turn this week. That old favourite J. H. Kavanagh secures a warm reception by his clever imitations. Other excellent turns are furnished by Ethel Payne, ballad vocalist; W. H. Morgan, society vocalist; Earle and Melville, patter comedians and dancers; Nellie Ward, comedienne and vocalist; Schack Seebold, the Switzerland instrumentalist; and the Fordyces, the nimble nippers.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—*Proof* is the attraction at this theatre this week, and is admirably played by a capable company under the leadership of Mr and Mrs William Maclaren. The deeply injured hero, Pierre Lorance, could not be entrusted to abler hands than those of Mr Maclaren, and his performance proves acceptable in every way. Miss Lily C. Bandmann acts with power, tact, and discernment as Valentine. Miss Gertrude Evans as Adrienne is charming. Mr Richard Fulton as Lazare makes a picturesque villain, and comports himself in a manner befitting the character he sustains. Mr Ardene Linden finds himself performing a congenial task in impersonating the loyal, but quaint, Chamboran. As the Duke Mr Kingsford Pearce is sufficiently aristocratic, and Mr Alfred Wareing distinguishes himself as Victor. The Duchesse is ably handled by Miss Wynne Handley, Madame Deprets finds a spirited representative in Mrs S. Hay, and Julie is adequately dealt with by Miss Nellie Bilbe. On Friday evening *The Lady of Lyons* was staged for Miss Bandmann's benefit.

STAFFORD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Jas. Elphinstone.—Mr F. R. Benson's north company is here for the week in a selection of plays including *Romeo and Juliet, The Merry Wives of Windsor,* and *The School for Scandal.* On Monday *The Taming of the Shrew* was presented to a crowded and delighted audience, and among the excellent cast special mention must be made of the scholarly readings of Mr H. Herbert as Petruchio, Mr F. Owen Chambers as Baptista, and Mr B. Limpus as Lucentio. The study of Katherine by Miss Dorothy Green was of a distinctly high order, and Miss Christie Lawes played Bianca with delicacy and taste.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—Audiences are being delighted here this week with *A Trip to Chinatown,* excellently performed by Mr Leslie Norman's company. Mr Charles Seguin as Welland Strong proves himself to be a capable comedian; as Ben Gay Mr Jerrold Manville is highly successful; Mr Leslie Norman does well as Rashleigh Gay; and Mr Oswald Gray is good as Saxon Blood. Miss Harriet Fawn makes a captivating and tuneful Mrs Guyer; Miss Dorothy Vicott is a vivacious Flirt; and Miss Florrie M'Innes is a winsome and clever Tiny Gay. Other characters are ably sustained by Mr Will Smith, Mr S. Champion, Mr Ewart Drake, Misses Winifred Davies, Frances Erroll, Vera Grange, Daisy Cotton, and Maisie Stanley. Mr Augustus T. M'Innes is an efficient conductor, and the whole entertainment is thoroughly enjoyable.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Miss Ella's lions are proving a strong attraction here. Mr Walter Munroe, Irish comedian, meets with a hearty reception. Mr Walter Emerson, comedian, evokes well-merited applause. Other good turns are Miss Flo Delghton, vocalist; Codge, siffleur; Mr Bob Gardner, vocalist; Hilton and Hilton, in a comedy bar act; Miss Edith Sylvesto, contortionist; and Fyne and Hurley, comedians.

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MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

Mr Charles Morton is taking a rest, but he has been up every day during the last week for several hours, and has occasionally visited the Palace Theatre for a short space. In answer to our inquiries at Mr Morton's residence in the Oval-road, Regent's-park, we learnt that on Thursday afternoon he took a carriage drive, and that he has much improved in health. There is, therefore, no ground for the alarmist reports current in the daily press. During his absence Mr Alfred Butt, the acting and business-manager, is officiating, and welcomed an immense house on Monday.

At the eleventh ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Palace Theatre, under the chairmanship of Count Max Hollander, sympathetic reference was made to the absence of Mr Charles Morton, owing to infirmity, which was only to be expected in a man of such advanced age. They hoped soon to see him back in excellent health. The veteran manager had expressed his unqualified satisfaction with the manner in which the house had been managed during his absence by Mr Alfred Butt.

The total receipts during the year amounted to about £3,500 less than in the previous year, while the expenditure was about the same as last year. The law expenses included nearly £200 in connection with the sketch prosecution. Owing to the state of the Stock Markets, and for the purpose of adjustment, the directors had reduced their Consols to par, representing a wiping off of about £1,000. The profits during the year amounted to £11,757, and, together with the balance brought forward from last year and other items, there was a total of £25,639. Out of that the directors had already paid an interim dividend of 7 per cent., and they now proposed a dividend of 5 per cent., making in all 12 per cent. for the year, carrying forward the sum of £14,839. The report was adopted unanimously, and Mr T. Ernest Polden, who moved its adoption, was re-elected a director.

An interesting outcome of the sketch trouble is the revival of the duologue on the music hall stage. To this form of stage play apparently the Theatrical Managers' Association has no objection, though we have yet to learn that the attitude of the representatives of the legitimate drama is more conciliatory. The duologue flourished a quarter of a century since, with such farceurs as Harvey and Connolly, Yates and Clifton, Keegan and Elvin, and many others, and they were severely let alone, while four and five part sketches were assailed through the action of the common informer. Notwithstanding legal alarums and excursions, *The Fighting Parson* is running merrily at the Oxford.

The scheme with which the directors of the Palace Theatre were associated for a new music hall to be built opposite the gallery entrance of the Oxford in the Tottenham-court-road has been abandoned so far as they are concerned. The plans prepared by Mr W. G. R. Sprague, architect of the Coronet, Camden, and Duchess, Balham, will possibly be carried out by a well-known firm of builders. The Palace members of the syndicate withdrew on a question involving an increased expenditure of £10,000 upon the building.

Mr B. Pearce Lucas, the managing-director, has determined on important structural alterations at the Bedford, High-street, Camden-town. There is a large stalls bar at the left-hand side of the hall, which is to be walled in, and will in future be occupied by the patrons of the pit. For the exclusive use of the stalls a new bar will be erected at the right-hand side of the auditorium. For the comfort of the waiting queue in wet weather a canopy is to be erected over the circle entrance and along the exterior side wall. These alterations will be carried out without in any way interfering with the entertainment given twice nightly under the management of Mr A. F. Lovesy.

Mr Harry Randall will be adding to the gaiety of London immediately. J. Bernard Dickson has furnished him with yet another of those delightful studies of cockney character, in which humour is blended with originality, and it is probable that the great comedian will essay a new comic song, entitled "There must have been a fire somewhere!" by Edgar Bateman and Sam Richards.

Mr E. E. Giles will be welcoming a large crowd to the Battersea Empire on Thursday evening next, when in association with a cohort of friends and well-wishers he will celebrate the second anniversary of that popular house under the new régime. The hall has had a chequered career; but it is now floating on the tide of a deserved prosperity, to which the popular "Teddy" has contributed not a little by his tactful energy and business experience. The special entertainment will be contributed to by a number of variety favourites.

Madame Mealy, who made her first appearance at the Palace Theatre on Monday, is well known here, for she sang in London in 1894. A pupil of Capoul, the Parisian favourite has in succession been a member of the Eldorado, the Menus-Plaisirs, and the Variétés companies. She is making a great hit in her laughing song, "Fou Rire," in which she ripples up and down the scale with perfectly true intonation. In the last verse she assumes the senile tones of an ancient beau, and is loudly applauded. When hearing Méaly one is irresistibly reminded of the lamented Alice Atherton, who made a hit in a similar song about eight years ago. In "Bon soir, Madame La Lune," the accomplished Frenchwoman, who is an artist *au bout des ongles*, shows an excellent command of the *mezza voce*, and she is altogether delightful. She wears a lovely Parisian frock, which we will not attempt to describe.

The eighth annual general meeting of the members of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at Gatti's, Westminster-bridge-road, commencing at 11·30 prompt. Mr Harry Mountford will occupy the chair. The attention of members is particularly called to the fact that those wishing to serve on the Executive Committee for the ensuing year must send in their names to the chairman of the committee on or before Tuesday next. Also that any member desirous of placing any proposition before the general meeting must send the same to the secretary on or before the same date, so that it can be placed on the agenda paper.

When Professor Dewar first gave a demonstration of the marvels of liquid air the whole world was startled, because the ocular demonstrations given upset all previous ideas of natural laws, but Dr. Maxim Boyd, D.Sc., will go further in these experiments on Monday afternoon next at the London Hippodrome, and produce a scientific entertainment, entitled "The Mysterious Kettle." Besides performing such ordinary feats as cooking a steak on ice, he will show how it is possible to wash linen in a silk hat without the aid of water, to light a cigar with the vapour from the liquid air, to poach eggs in a frying-pan on a block of ice in less time than it takes to tell, and to make ice-cream on a bright fire in a frying-pan. He will also petrify flowers and fruit supplied by the audience. Perhaps the most extraordinary thing in this connection is the marvellous way in which a quantity of quicksilver placed in a red-hot vessel is converted into a hammer by solidification.

The third English Magic Kettle company sailed from New York on Wednesday, and Mr Benjamin F. Taylor, who holds all the patent rights in connection with the act, intends sending other similar combinations into our own provinces shortly.

The Britannia Music Hall, Glasgow, is unable to open its doors on Monday next, as arranged, owing to the licensing authorities stepping in at the last minute and demanding extensive alterations.

The Manchester Palace of Varieties is the latest provincial hall to adopt the bi-nightly programme, and the new order of things will start on Monday the 31st inst. It will also be interesting to our readers to know that Mr Peter Watson has completed an arrangement whereby he will book in connection with the Barrasford tour.

The question of the licence of the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, again came before the Watch Committee of the Salford Corporation on Monday, Sept. 26. This theatre has been converted into a variety house, and consequently comes under the restriction of the Council that intoxicating drink must not be sold on the premises. On Monday Mr Desquesnes appeared for the management of the theatre and asked for an extension of the existing excise licence, pointing out that certain contracts had been entered into which, if broken, would mean a big financial loss to the parties concerned. He asked the committee to grant them six months' time. The application was granted. Mr F. Brocklehurst appeared for certain debenture holders.

Owing to the kindness of Mr Richard Thornton, proprietor of the Empire Palace, South Shields, a contingent of 500 tars from the Channel Fleet stationed, at the time of writing, at the mouth of the Tyne, under the command of Lord Charles Beresford, were entertained at a special matinée on Wednesday. The overture march, "Go to Sea" (Trotère), dedicated to Lord Charles Beresford, was given in fine style by the Empire orchestra, under Mr C. P. Loller's experienced bâton.

The Great Yarmouth Corporation, which owns the Wellington Pier Pavilion and Gardens in that popular watering-place, has reason to be proud of its enterprise this year. The entertainments have been so well attended that nearly £2,000 more has been taken this season than last, and it is hoped that £500 will be voted towards the reduction of the rates.

The Bloatertown Corporation secured a smart manager in Mr Harry Tunbridge, who resigned his seat on the Town Council to take the appointment. He was responsible for the initiation of the Thursday fêtes, strong variety programmes, and good band attractions. He is now already filling his book with engagements for next season. How difficult that task is may be gauged by the fact that stars are booked ahead for the next four or five years.

Herr C. Adolf Seebold is relinquishing the tenancy of the Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea, which he has held for about five years. He has taken over the Worthing Theatre, which will be opened in November.

Mr George Knowles, the acting-manager of the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, has had a busy time with the local magistrates and his applications for children's licences. The recent application for the two youngest of the Kremo Family was refused on the Saturday previous to their advertised appearance on Monday. But Mr Knowles was not to be defeated, and his strenuous efforts and persistency prevailed. He submitted their certificates, proving their scholastic ability, and the licence was granted.

Vere and Royal and Barney Stuart, who are appearing this week at the Queen's Palace, Rhyl, were responsible for some very acceptable fun at the cycle carnival held at the Welsh watering-place this week. In the parade Barney Stuart, got up as an old Irishwoman, wheeled in an old-fashioned perambulator Percy Vere, dressed as a baby with the necessary milk bottle, &c. The "infant" was labelled "The long-lost son, Bill Bailey."

During the past season the Alexandra Palace has made a profit of £1,000. Hitherto there has always been a loss. It is pleasant to know that the public appreciates the capital musical and dramatic fare provided in this beautifully situated people's palace on the northern heights.

Miss Tina Transfield, daughter of Mr T. G. Transfield, proprietor of the Hippodromes, Maidstone, New Brompton, and Sheerness, has again had the misfortune to lose another valuable horse. The animal some few days ago received a nasty kick, but was just recovering, when on Wednesday it unfortunately slipped and fell in the stable, breaking its hind leg. With much regret the poor beast had to be at once destroyed.

Messrs Walton and Lester, "The World's Worst Wizards," will return to town next week after a lengthy provincial tour, and will appear in the forthcoming pantomime at the Brixton Theatre, playing the Two Chinese policemen in *Aladdin*. They are first in the field with a skit on the latest sensation, "The Magic Kettle," and demonstrate the wonderful feat of boiling the ice in the kettle.

The Brighton Corporation will be relieved probably of the burden of its responsibilities in connection with its Aquarium. Having lost more than £10,000 on this municipal enterprise in four years, the managing committee decided to obtain offers for renting the institution. They have now received a favourable proposal from Mr Sallmayor, an American gentleman, which they unanimously recommend the Town Council to accept. Mr Sallmayor offers to pay a rental of £1,000 a-year, with four per cent. on expenditure for necessary improvements, and also a heavy insurance premium. He intends to rely chiefly on the piscatorial attractions. High-class musical entertainments will also be provided.

A pleasing incident took place at the Hippodrome, Norwich, on Saturday night, when the Sheriff of Norwich, Colonel Leathes Prior, attended and made a formal presentation to Corporal William Jenkins—a Crimean veteran—of a bag containing £5. The Colonel, who came on to the stage, accompanied by Mr F. W. Fitt, explained that Mr Leyton, during his professional engagements, had made a practice of endeavouring to assist those who had served their country in war, and had been instrumental in obtaining £600 for deserving veterans. As the result of the week in Norwich, he (the Sheriff) had much pleasure in handing to Corporal Jenkins a bag containing £5, while, in addition, he had received for the Norfolk Veterans' Association funds a further sum of £8.

Colonel Prior also announced that he had been handed—as the result of the recent anniversary performance at the Hippodrome, when the entire proceeds of the first house were promised for charity—a cheque for £33 11s. 8d. This, with the approval of Messrs Bostock and Fitt, he proposed to divide between the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and the Jenny Lind Infirmary. On behalf of the citizens he tendered thanks to the proprietors, mentioning that this was the second instance of their liberality, as £33 had been given to the Norfolk War Memorial Fund on the occasion of the opening. The ceremony concluded with thanks to the Sheriff and the "Jolly good fellow" chorus, followed by hearty cheering.

The 374th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Harry Mountford presiding. The secretary reported that thirty-four new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,582. The procedure to be adopted at the general meeting was discussed, after which the meeting was adjourned.

Mr and Mrs Charles Coborn left Liverpool for Canada on Friday per the Cunard liner Etruria, and will return early in November in order that Mr Coborn may be able to fulfil engagements on the Moss Empires tour and other business.

It is good news to hear that Chirgwin, the humorist in "black and white," is returning to town after a tour in the land of the heather. The popular Kaffir has always sung most respectfully of the thistle, and his receptions in Aberdeen and other Scotch towns have been something tremendous. He will make a stay of four months in London—welcome news, indeed, for the lovers of variety.

The Grand Theatre, Fulham, which is to be opened as a variety house on the bi-nightly system, is now under the management of Mr Jack De Frece, who has not yet been able to fix a date for the starting of variety. Licensing and other difficulties will cause him to postpone the reopening until some time in November.

Mr J. E. Pickering, the valued box-office manager of the Empire for the past twenty years, has no intention of leaving his post; in fact, his services are so much thought of by the directors that they would not hear of any such change. We are requested by Mr Pickering to correct the statement that Mr H. Fox, of the Grand Hall, Clapham, has been offered the post at the Leicester-square Empire, and we regret its appearance in *The Era*.

Mr Leopold Wenzel, the composer, who was for so many years the orchestral chief of the Empire, where he wrote the music for many of the most successful ballets produced there, has been engaged by Mr George Edwardes as musical director for the American production of *The Duchess of Dantzic* in New York, in January.

The anniversaries at the Canterbury always possess an historical interest, and Mr Fred Miller will endeavour to make the fifty-second event of the kind a worthy successor to the many that have gone before. The celebration is fixed for Friday, Nov. 25, when we may expect to see an immense gathering of leading music-hall proprietors and financiers in the front, and a very large contingent of volunteer entertainers on the stage.

Mr Fred Millis, the popular ventriloquist, whose interest in the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association has been proved by much unobtrusive work, will take his departure from these shores a day or two before Christmas for his beloved Australia, where he will fulfil a series of engagements with Mr Harry Rickards. Mr Millis will be revisiting familiar scenes after an absence of twenty years. In the days of his youth he had adventurous tours in the land of the Southern Cross and in New Zealand as a member of a company playing the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. He is very popular in our newest republic and in the land of the Maori.

Mr Leon Zeitlin, who is the new secretary and acting-manager at the Chelsea Palace, has been for some time filling the post of secretary to Mr Henri Gros at the Metropolitan. He has learnt much under the guidance of Mr Jack Edgar, and has the goodwill of a number of friends in his new position. Mr Zeitlin has the glorious privilege of youth, and has plenty of energy and capacity for hard work. He has received many congratulations on his appointment.

Mr Chris Davis, the author of *A Day at the Races*, *Blue-Eyed Sarah*, and other monologue burlesque dramas for Mr George Mozart, has collaborated with Mr Harry Castling in a new satirical scena entitled *Callers* for the same comedian. Mr Davis has also waitten *Won by a Neck*, a racing skit that will burlesque the familiar situations of *Flying Scud* and other famous turf dramas. Mr George Mozart has taken to golf, but his experiences with Mr George Lashwood at Hull last week were not altogether fortunate, as he injured his knee while playing at Brough, just outside the town on the Wash. He was, however, sufficiently recovered from his accident to appear at the London Pavilion on Tuesday.

Mrs J. E. Cheevers, the popular wife of Mr J. E. Cheevers (of Cheevers and Kennedy), entered the Hospital for Women in Soho-square this week preparatory to undergoing an operation. We join with the lady's many friends in wishing her a complete recovery.

Park's Eton Boys escaped what might have been a most serious accident on Saturday. Whilst crossing the tram lines on their journey to the Empress, Brixton, from the London, the off-side wheel of their trap collapsed, throwing the boys in a heap in the road. Mr Willie Benn, their manager, jumped from the driver's box, got the boys safely out, and they were able to catch their turn. Although shaken up, the youngsters performed with their usual brilliancy.

Many will regret to learn of the serious accident which befel Miss Maud Walsh (the lady partner of Mountford and Walsh) last Saturday. After the Oxford matinée, and while leaving Frascati's, after dinner, Miss Walsh had the misfortune to slip and break her elbow. She was instantly removed to the Middlesex Hospital, where she now lies in a bad condition.

M. Antoine Cloetens, the new *chef d'orchestre* at the Tivoli, has been twenty-seven years in this country, and therefore his sympathies are quite English. For his musical training the Brussels Conservatoire is responsible, and at this admirable school he mastered the principles of harmony and orchestration, and became an excellent violinist, being a pupil of the now deceased M. Colleynes. At a later period he became musical director at the Eldorado. He was engaged for the Royal Aquarium orchestra by M. Charles Dubois, who succeeded Mr (afterwards Sir) George Mount in the conductorship, and he was for many years leader with the Cavaliere Del Bono, the last to hold the position of director of the music at the now defunct place of entertainment in Tothill-street. M. Cloetens's position at the Tivoli is not altogether a new one, as he conducted the orchestra there during Mr Maurice Jacobi's illness, and has occupied the position of leader. He took up his duties on Saturday evening. We should add that before his departure from the Tivoli the members of the orchestra presented their departing chief with a handsomely mounted silk umbrella, the gift being accompanied by many good wishes for Mr Jacobi's success in his new sphere of operations at the London Coliseum.

Mr Arthur J. Barclay, the popular manager of the Walthamstow Palace, has just been the recipient of a very pleasing testimonial from the Wood-street Philanthropic Society. It may be remembered that some weeks ago Mr Barclay kindly granted the use of the Palace for a ticket benefit in aid of the local hospitals, organised by the Society. The benefit proved a big success, and the funds of the charities were materially assisted. In return for the generous treatment they received from Mr Barclay on that occasion the members of the committee have had themselves photographed by Messrs Wright, of Walthamstow, and the result has been presented as a memento of the occasion. The group rejoices in a beautiful Florentine frame of English gold, and will form no inconsiderable ornament to Mr Barclay's private picture-gallery. A tablet attached to the frame bears the inscription:—"Presented to Arthur J. Barclay, Esq., by the Members of the Wood-street Philanthropic Society as a token of esteem, Sept. 20, 1904."

After an absence of over two years, Miss Harriett Vernon is paying a welcome return visit to Dublin. She opened at the Empire last Monday, and was accorded a hearty reception. Her songs were sung with sweetness of expression and style, and her dresses were a revelation in stage costumery.

Miss Lily Burnand is by way of making a departure from town for many weeks, and will commence her tour on Monday at the Tivoli, Manchester, following on to the Moss Circuit. The lovely Lily's return will be looked for by her numberless admirers in town. She has secured a very warm place in the hearts of audiences at the London, Shoreditch.

Miss Maude Courtney, who has just returned to the Palace Theatre after an absence of nearly two years, is an American, and was responsible for not a little of the first popularity of "The honeysuckle and the bee." She has recited and sung snatches of songs all her life, but her professional début may be said to have come about by accident. She was asked to help at a benefit in New York. A manager in search of unconventional talent happened to be in "front," and showed his approval of the vivacious amateur by offering her an engagement. She made her first hit—like Trilby—with the old English ballad, "Sweet Alice Ben Bolt."

Miss Millie Lindon, who is working four halls a-night, singing her first song at Collins's at the beginning of the programme and her last at Hammersmith at the very end, with the Tivoli and the London, Shoreditch, in between, is a cousin of the talented group of sisters who are so well-known on the stage by the quaint, assumed names of Millie Hylton, Letty Lind, Adelaide Astor, Fanny Dango, and Lydia Flopp. Miss Lindon made her début, after a few weeks on tour, at the London Pavilion about ten years ago, when she was a little girl in short frocks, and gave imitations of R. G. Knowles and poor Bessie Bellwood. One of her souvenirs of this engagement, which lasted for four months, is the characteristic crush hat, somewhat dilapidated in appearance, that the American humourist presented to her to wear for her imitation of himself, and another is a hat and shawl that belonged to Miss Bellwood, also presented with the idea that it should be used on the stage.

Although Miss Lindon works all the year round—she is going to play principal boy next Christmas at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, to the Cinderella of Miss Ida Rene—she finds time to motor, swim, ride, cycle, and play golf. A Londoner by birth, she is very fond of country life, and never so happy as when she is tramping over a links in Scotland, wearing the high strong boots, short skirt, knitted blouse, and tam-o'-shanter of a vigorous golfer. She is much attached to animals and birds, and her pets include a fox-terrier, a pug, a big green parrot and a couple of red Cardinals, very pretty birds that a friend brought to her from South America. Another of her hobbies is collecting odd pieces of old silver and souvenir spoons. Miss Lindon has one sister, whose stage name is Miss Gwen Howard.

Happy Fanny Fields made a welcome reappearance at the Tivoli and the Oxford this week, with new songs, patter, dances, and the prettiest little Dutch costume made of pale pink silk, with a tiny lace apron, and a big white cap adorned with a scarlet bow. She has been spending ten weeks in America, having visited the St. Louis Exposition, Chicago, and Detroit. Miss Fields recently bought some land in New York city, on which she has built a very pretty house, but as she is booked for a provincial tour at the end of her London season it will probably be a long time before she will have an opportunity of seeing it again. Having started her career in musical comedy before she went on the variety stage Happy Fanny thinks of returning in the future to that branch of professional work. She is now studying singing with that end in view.

Miss Gipsy Woolf, who made such a brilliant success in the last Christmas pantomime produced at the Britannia, is advancing her claims as a bright and bewitching burlesque artiste at Mellini's Theater, Hanover. So favourable is Continental opinion concerning her abilities that she is topping the bill—a position of which she is naturally very proud. Miss Woolf appears with six piccaninnies in a most delightful scena. She is a very attractive brunette, and is the daughter of Mr J. Woolf, of Wonderland, Whitechapel.

For some length of time Mr J. Woolf, the proprietor of Wonderland, has been making collections on behalf of various hospitals and charities, and some three months ago he handed over to the London Hospital the sum of £38, for which he was made a life governor. Last week six more of his boxes were opened, and instead of giving all the money to the one hospital, Mr Woolf decided to distribute it to various hospitals and charities. Of course he did not forget professional needs, and sent £2 12s. 6d. to the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and the same amount each to the Music Hall Home and the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Mr Woolf is continuing this good work, in which he is very enthusiastic.

Miss Amy Leggett, who gives so charming a performance as the electrified statue in the comedy-sketch played by the Leggett Combination under the title of *The Maid of Athens*, is leaving the combination in a week or two, and, in conjunction with her husband, Mr Eric Calcott, will be working an entirely new act, the twain henceforth being known as the Calcotts. Miss Leggett's talents as an actress are too well known to need any compliment, whilst her graceful and artistic movements in her clever dancing once caused an enthusiastic admirer to eulogistically describe it as "the perfection of the poetry of motion." Her husband (who is a brother of Mr W. Scott Phipp, the popular theatrical manager) is a clever comedian and gifted musician, who is equally at home with the pianoforte, 'cello, and banjo. The act is quite unique in its versatility, and already has secured numerous contracts.

Mr R. G. Knowles, who finished a highly successful engagement at the Tivoli and Oxford on Saturday, commenced at the Hackney Empire, on Monday, a ten weeks' tour of the Stoll circuit. He will cross the streak early in December, and open in New York on Dec. 19, remaining there till March 18, and opening again in London on March 27.

The directors of Collins's have carried out the Tivoli idea of a joint acting-management, and Mr Harry Lyons and Mr Norman Mills are the gentlemen who are, between them, presiding over the fortunes of the house. In regard to Mr Harry Lyons, it may be mentioned that he has had a varied professional career. Starting in the minstrel and diorama business, he subsequently drifted into resident management, filling the position of acting-manager at the Queen's Theatre, Birmingham, for nine years. He also ran a dramatic agency in that city. As far back as 1885 he worked in conjunction with Mr Harry Battersby, and together they had the control of a variety agency in Liverpool.

Curiously enough, the first music hall Mr Lyons ever visited as a member of the public was the very establishment which he is now assisting to manage. Mr Lyons thinks that it is a strange fate that has brought him to a theatre within half-a-mile of where he was born, and after he had spent twenty years in the provinces. Since leaving Birmingham he has only had one engagement. He was the only English business manager for the Williams and Walker *In Dahomey* company when that attraction went on tour. Mr Lyons is a very popular man in professional circles.

Miss Lil Hawthorne has accepted a very pretty song, written by Mr G. R. Sims, and composed by Mr Garnet Wolseley Cox, entitled "Lily of Lisson Grove. Mr Sims some time since wrote very sympathetically concerning "Liza of Camden Town," an interesting young person who used to dance on the pavement in the moonlight.

So well pleased are the patrons of the Empire with the new edition of *High Jinks* that there seems little need for a new ballet much before Christmas, the subject of which is now under the consideration of the directors. Next week there will be some changes in the programme of the variety theatre in Leicester-square, as, in addition to Mdlle. Marguerite Cornille with a répertoire of new songs, Mr Sweet as the musical burglar, Syd May with his amusing imitations of popular artists, the clever performances of Georges Schindler on the mouth organ, and the up-to-date Biograph, there will be Melot Herman, the prestidigitateur, and Tom Browne, the whistler, both old favourites with Empire audiences.

A novel attraction in the Tivoli bill next week will be Dr. Jules Angelo and company in representations of groups of Sèvres and Dresden China; and among the old favourites to be welcomed will be Harry Randall, Will Evans, Nellie Wallace, the Twin Andersons, and the Glenroy Troupe.

Mr David Day has received permission from Boosey and Co. to use a few bars of the music of that beautiful Irish ballad "Come Back to Erin." This was one of the most successful of the many scored by the gifted melodist who in the sixties and seventies poured forth from a country parsonage a number of songs that were sung in every concert-room where the English language was understood. The portions of "Come Back to Erin" that are permitted have been introduced into a song that is to be produced shortly by Mr Michael Nolan, and which Messrs Murphy and Castling have written

Messrs C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton when they provided Miss Victoria Monks with her song, "Ain't I no use, Mister Jackson?" undoubtedly put her in possession of an excellent number. The song is being received at the Palace Theatre nightly with great applause, the habitués of Mr Morton's house having taken more than kindly to the song, which, by the way, is published by Charles Sheard and Co. Miss Monks has another number in study by the same writers.

Never has a larger audience assembled at the Queen's Palace, Rhyl, than that which patronised the benefit given to Mr Percy Ashfield, the popular managing-director, on Thursday, the 22nd ult. Not the least acceptable item in a very attractive programme was the recitation "The Queen's Defence," given by Mr Ashfield. It was declaimed with great force and elocutionary skill. Afterwards Mr Ashfield, who came in for a cordial reception, took the opportunity of thanking the audience for so generously supporting his first benefit, and also thanked the artistes who had given their services, many of them having come specially from Liverpool and Manchester.

At the conclusion of the performance of *For the Honour of the Regiment*, by Mr Frank Hardie and company at the Metropolitan on Saturday, that date being the fifth anniversary of this popular sketch, Miss Irene Carlton was presented with two beautiful baskets of flowers. It is a noteworthy fact that Miss Carlton, Messrs Frank Hardie, William Felton, and George Grahame, who still represent the characters of this interesting little piece, are all members of the original cast.

Mr George Gilbey has just acquired a new dialogue-song, which deals very humorously with an individual named "Spouty." It is from the prolific pen of William Hargreaves, who was the writer of Mr Gilbey's well-known success, "Why?" The same writer has also supplied Miss Queenie Leighton, who is principal boy this year at Drury-lane, with a number entitled "The Lighthouse fell into the water."

Hackenschmidt's farewell appearances in England, prior to his departure for Australia on Monday last, occurred at the Palace, Manchester, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week. The most notable of his achievements during the three performances was the overthrow on Friday evening of Axa, the German champion, who stands 6ft. 5in., and weighs nineteen stone. This he accomplished in less than eight minutes, after a keen struggle. Hackenschmidt returns to England in June next.

Mr Ernest Bridgen, acting-manager of the Granville, has been relieving many worthy people of a great deal of uneasiness. A Mr Arthur Norris, who has been giving much anxiety to his friends by his sudden disappearance, had, it appears, placed himself under the care of Mr Ahrensmeyer, the cowboy hypnotist, for treatment for nervousness. The parents of young Norris knew nothing of this, and could not account for his sudden departure from his home at Bath. A portrait in a daily contemporary, however, enabled Mr Bridgen to identify Mr Norris as the wanderer, and he communicated with the distracted father, who feared his son had committed suicide. Mr Bridgen is intensely practical, but he is also very kind, and until proper provision has been made for young Norris's care at home he is his guest.

Mr Harry Mountford (of Mountford and Walsh), who has been performing solus since the lady member of this popular duo sustained an unfortunate accident, has just acquired for immediate production two social song satires from the joint pens of Messrs John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn, entitled "Popularity" and "Has that ever occurred to you?" Other songs are being prepared for Mr Mountford by the same prolific author and composer.

Mr Horace Marriott, the indefatigable secretary of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, reports that Mr Frank Weeks has forwarded £4 16s. 9d. from the South London pence boxes. This amount, together with previous sums forwarded, makes a grand total of just upon £50. If every manager in the United Kingdom would help the fund to the same extent there would be little necessity for seeking subscriptions elsewhere.

Mr F. W. Venton, who has been associated for some years with the conductorship of the Empress, Brixton, orchestra, relinquishes his position at that house this evening. He was for some time leader at the old Cambridge, when under the management of Mr E. V. Page, and he succeeded Mr Fred Riddle in the position of *chef d'orchestre* on that gentleman's death. He is one of the most popular "arrangers" in the profession.

Mr and Mrs Edward H. Lucas deputised on Saturday at the Britannia in consequence of the unavoidable absence of Sinclair and Whiteford. At ten minutes' notice they put on an original sketch entitled *Cough-Mixture*, which was so successful that Mr T. Barrasford, jun., asked them to repeat it in the second house.

Miss Lydia Yeamans and her husband sailed from Liverpool on Thursday by the White Star liner Runic for Australia. Harry Wright went on board to bid them bon voyage to the new republic.

Mr Whit Cunliffe opens with Mr Tom Barrasford at the Hippodrome, Brighton, on Monday. His latest success, "Up in Scotland," published by Francis, Day, and Hunter, has already been sold to Howard and Wyndham for three pantomimes.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE PARAGON.

Fun abounds in the current programme arranged by Mr George Adney Payne for the delectation of the inhabitants of the far Orient who seek the necessary relaxation from toil within the four walls of the fine palace in the Mile-end-road. We have comedy, extravaganza, bright farce, pantomimic humour, and eccentric comedy, and surely no lover of variety could require more. Mr Charles Beecham, who overseers the entertainment, has a genuine appreciation of a smartly worked programme. He has, therefore, eliminated the term "waits" from the catalogue of possibilities, and from the time Mr A. Grimmett and his orchestra start the overture until the strains of "God Save the King" float over the departing crowd there is no such thing as a dull moment. Early in the evening Mr Will Dalton sings amid many manifestations of hearty sympathy a song that has been suggested to its author by the much-discussed Beck case, which is still *sub judice*. The Lyons Trio of pantomimists and dancers are particularly happy in their exposition of whimsical business, and are loudly applauded from stalls to gallery. Versatility and breeziness mark the doings of the New York Nippers, who are endowed with sweet voices and a genuine gift for Terpsichorean revels. The antics of the youngsters in their dormitory have the touch of obvious humour which appeals most irresistibly to to the Paragonians. There are surprises galore in the versatile turn of Starr and Leslie, described as speciality artists. The term is a particularly vague one; but in this instance it might be supposed to indicate to the audience that Mr Starr is a particularly clever juggler with clubs, and that he has a quaintness and quietness of method in his fun which is certainly irresistible. He is apparently seated on the bough of a tree when the curtain goes up, and his manœuvres are almost as funny as those of our mimic army when it invades our coasts. There is a wonderful lamp in the act, which changes colour even more quickly that a rustic maid, and Miss Leslie sings very charmingly. Another sentimental vocalist whose songs are received with the heartiest applause is Miss Grace Merton, known as the "street singer." There is a romance attached to this lady, which has already been told in these columns; but her vocal attainments are sufficient to secure her fame without any extraneous aid. She chooses ballads that are not in the ordinary groove, and makes a decided hit with the late Frank L. Moir's "Down the Vale," which is poetic in conception and very melodious, without being commonplace. Mr Austin Rudd, an eccentric comedian who is extremely popular here, has a parody on "Pansy Faces," which may be called "Fancy Places." Its comicality is easily "understanded of the people," and it secures the singer many recalls. The Boisset Troupe return to the Paragon time after time with the same speechless farces, but it must be confessed that East-end audiences welcome these productions with the same heartiness as if they were entirely new. *The Evening Party*, in some shape or other, has always been a strong card with the combination, and its humours seem to afford as much delight as they did ten years ago. The diminutive comedian who plays the professor is the exponent of quaint vagaries which keep the house in a roar, and the adventures with a sticky flypaper keep the audience in one vast, substantial smile. The great attraction of the bill is the appearance of Mr Joe Peterman's company of comedians and burlesque artistes in the musical extravaganza, in three episodes, *The Belle of the Orient*, to the representation of which a long cast does complete justice. Mr Joe Peterman himself gives humorous effect to the part of Ike Novinski; Mr Foster Courtenay may be unreservedly praised for his artistic efforts as Alfonso; and Miss Madoline Rees is a decidedly attractive representative of Ruth Verney. The dance of the harem girls is a fascinating feature of a pretty show, which is well illustrated by some excellent scenery from the artistic brush of Mr Francis H. Bull. Other turns in the fine and large programme are the Zaro acrobatic troupe of ladies and gentlemen; Mr Ormond Penstone and Madame De Vernet, illusionists; Mr Bob Hutt, a comedian with eccentric notions that are heartily enjoyed; and Mr Richard Mackway's London Glee Men, who are heard to advantage in such part-songs as Purcell's "Oh! who will o'er the downs," Elizabeth Stirling's "All among the barley," and "Hail, smiling morn."

THE METROPOLITAN.

On Tuesday, at this hall, was produced a duologue, by Charles Windermere, entitled

"WHAT UNCLE DID."

Charlie Spotter..... Mr CHARLES WINDERMERE
Dorothy Meadows ..... Miss CLARE MANIFIELD

This brightly written little piece, which had a favourable reception upon its production at the Metropolitan on Tuesday evening, was originally produced at the Duchess Theatre, Balham, under the title of *Clause No.* 6, on Dec. 29, 1902. Charlie Spotter has become a property owner through the decease of an uncle, an old gentleman of an eccentric turn of mind. This property consists of some half-dozen cottages in the country, to each of which their late owner had given a Biblical name. Clause six of the old man's will directs that his nephew Charlie shall only retain possession of the cottages on condition that he marries his cousin, Dorothy Meadows, whom he has never met. Charlie, while pondering over the strange clause in his deceased uncle's will, is interrupted by a visit from a charming young lady, who informs him that she is the tenant of one of his cottages, known as Ararat. The place, she says, is in a disgraceful condition, unfit for any one to live in, and she proceeds to give a long account of its many defects. The new landlord laughs at her recital, and she vexed at his unconcern bursts into tears. He offers her an apple obtained from "the garden of Eden," the name of another of his cottages, and it is quickly evident that the young people entertain a mutual admiration for each other. Charlie thinks seriously of setting at defiance clause six of his uncle's will, for it is a case of love at first sight, but is restrained by motives of prudence. He promises that her grievances shall receive attention, and she retires; but he recalls her, and then a chance remark reveals the fact that his visitor is no other than his cousin Dorothy. Thus clause six of the avuncular will is manifestly in the way of being fulfilled to the letter. The author of the duologue played briskly the part of Charlie Spotter, and Miss Clare Manifield represented Dorothy Meadows very naturally and pleasantly. Amongst the general company engaged here is Mr Sid Bandon, who has a descriptive song, the heroine of which is Nell, a signalman's daughter. An obstruction had been placed upon the line by some wicked person, and Nell, by means of her father's lamp, is enabled to stop an approaching train, and save the lives of the passengers. Mr Bandon, in the character of an engine-driver, gives a most effective rendering of the song. Miss Florrie Forde does well with the song, "What is the use of a man?" and is even more successful in her second selection, the ditty which draws attention to the delights of the famous "Bull and Bush" at Hampstead. The audience takes up the chorus with vigour, and, being again recalled with much enthusiasm, she gives "Mary had a little lamb," a modern version of the old nursery rhyme. Mr George Robey, who receives a hearty greeting, has a capital song in "Say no more about it," and his embodiment of a Roman gladiator is one of the funniest features of the evening's programme. His appearance alone is sufficient to cause a shout of merriment. Mr Charles Adams, comedian, does a clever imitation of a mild curate, a Jew, and a coster as seen and heard under various circumstances. Miss Dora Grieve, who comes next, sings with appropriate expression "I want someone to love me," and on her second appearance she gives "You want a little white girl," assisted by a lad in the circle, who sings the refrain. Miss Maud Esmond must be credited with a charming rendering of "Ma lily of the valley," and Miss Lillie Soutter has a ditty concerning a "very respectable, nice young man" named Joe, who proposes to buy a pub at Kew. Miss Soutter, who has a bright, merry style, also makes a hit with "I'm a lady all the time." Mr Charles Faning gives an extremely amusing account of an interview with Mr Plowden, the magistrate, and his subsequent incarceration in one of His Majesty's prisons. Mr James Stewart displays his musical ability as the "tramp at he piano," and the clver performance is heartily applauded. Miss Amber Austa wins favour as a coon singer and dancer. The couple known as Booker and Narbis do well in a duologue called *The Interviewer*. Miss Lilian Doreen, the charming contralto, makes good use of her excellent voice, one of her selections being the religious song, "Abide with me." Mr George Newburn's clever mimicry is greatly appreciated, and Mr Fred Russell with Coster Joe is as amusing as ever. Mr George Gray and company are appearing in *The Fighting Parson*, and Captain Bevan's New York Zouaves are seen in their remarkable drilling and wall-scaling act entitled *The Handy Man*, concluding with the sensational performance entitled "Storming the Fort." The front of the house is carefully looked after by Mr J. W. Edgar.

CHELSEA PALACE.

The Chelsea bill may be said to teem with variety. Novelty showmen, eccentric comedians, soubrettes, a wonderful mule, clever dogs, and acrobats vie with each other in the attractions presented, and the excellent bill winds up with a new stirring dramatic episode entitled *Right's Right*, which is cleverly presented by Messrs Adderley Howard and company, and proves to be interesting and well written. Squire Darkley, the principal villain of the piece, seems to be the wicked uncle of the story, for some years previous to the raising of the curtain he had hired a ruffian named Buster to "lose" a couple of children. Buster had left one on London-bridge, but the other he has always kept with him. She goes by the name of Venus, and we see her a ragged little tramp devouring turnips purloined from a neighbouring field. The other foundling has been adopted by a benevolent farmer named Watson, and is known as Cherry. It is this girl that Darkley is now anxious to find, as in a locket which she wears round her neck is secreted her mother's marriage certificate, and, what is more desirable still, a diamond of considerable value. By the aid of Buster, Darkley gets Cherry into his power, and the poor girl is immured in a bare cold chamber. Venus is willing to aid the unhappy girl, and the two are about to escape when Buster enters and tells Venus that Cherry is her sister, at the same time taunting the unkempt one with the difference in their appearance. This has the desired effect, and for a time Venus is inclined to roughly handle her gentler sister, but in a powerful and well-acted scene the two orphans are reconciled, and both determine to escape together. Their plans are again fustrated by Buster; but Farmer Watson, who has been put on the right track, forces an entrance, and takes the two sisters away. In the next scene—a pretty rural set—Venus has undergone a complete transformation—at least to all outward appearances. Darkley plays his last card when he sends Buster to impersonate the father of the girls; but the shrewdness of Venus easily penetrates the disguise, and she gives Buster a lively time with a pitchfork. The happiness of the virtuous is effectually secured before the curtain falls. The sketch has a domestic atmosphere, and though there is sufficient excitement, it is by no means highly sensational, and is plentifully besprinkled with humour. To the drolleries of Venus Miss Dolly Elsworthy does complete justice, and in the more serious passages, where the undisciplined temper of the neglected waif is allowed to have full play, the young actress is intensely dramatic. Miss Fay Vayne displays refinement and gentleness in the part of Cherry; Mr G. Wareham acts effectively the callous Squire Darkley; Mr Adderley Howard makes Farmer Watson an embodiment of geniality and kindliness; Mr Frederic Monti puts plenty of colour into the part of Buster; and the Artful Dodger of Mr Charles Wilson has a repentant mood that is warmly encouraged by the Chelsonians The humour of the variety portion of the programme is largely increased by the stage behaviour of Miss Lily Soutter, who sings of being "A lady all the time," and acts as "sich." The Bostons prove conclusively that the cake walk has gone to the dogs by the clever performance of the canines they have trained. The "Bull-fight" is still a strong card with these performers, and a clever step-dance by the younger Boston is loudly applauded. Miss Emma Don and her black and white quartet are extremely popular. There are two coloured and two white kiddies, and one of them sings very successfully "I want to see the dear old home again." Miss Don herself is sympathetic and telling in her rendering of "You have to take the sunshine with the rain." The quartet sing and dance, and the whole entertainment meets with success. Mr Dan Thomas is popular in a female impersonation; and Miss Kitty Neville sings "Oh, poor Bertie, he must have been a jay" with much unction. The Andreassen Brothers show marvellous strength of arm as acrobats, somersaulters, &c.; and Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, with their whimsical mule, submit a capital bit of fooling. Mr Leon Zeitlin has been appointed acting-manager and secretary here in the place of Mr Harry Bawn, who has gone to the Grand, Clapham. Mr Edward Swanborough is a majestic figure and a popular manager; and Mr Angelo Asher directs an excellent band.

MISS NELLIE WILSON, who makes so charming a principal boy in pantomime, has just returned from a short provincial tour, and appears on Monday at the Paragon. One of Miss Nellie Wilson's pantomime hits was at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

WILKIE BARD, the seriously quaint comedian, who we all know has made a tremendous success in his particular line of business, has just been booked to appear at the Lyceum for several dates, together with the entire Barrasford tour, at a weekly salary running into three figures. This has been achieved by the well-known Harry Day, the man who, according to rumour, "never sleeps."

LARRY LEWIS, Harry Day's latest find, has been engaged by Mr Richard Waldon as principal comedian at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow. This artist has no vacant dates till 1907, being booked for all the chief tours by this astute firm of agents.

MR DAN THOMAS, having received over forty weeks' contracts from Day's Agency, has resolved to place his business entirely in their hands.—Mr Geo. Rydon, who lately played Hoggenheimer, in *The Girl from Kay's*, for three tours, has made a success on the Barrasford tour with his clever little wife, Miss Nellie Merton. Some of their bookings reach into 1908.—Henry Carlton, comedian, after a successful provincial tour, returns to town on Monday, opening at the Palace, Hammersmith.

MISSES GEORGE AND JOCK PRESTON (of the Three Prestons) have been engaged by Mr Rich Waldon for his forthcoming pantomime at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, Jock playing principal Scotch comedian. They come from a good stock, being brothers of the clever Sisters Preston (Jessie and Georgina).

MR TOM WOOTTWELL will sail away from South Africa on Wednesday next per ss. Briton, and soon after his arrival in London he will commence rehearsals for pantomime at Drury-lane. He has been an immense attraction at the Tivoli, Cape Town.

CHIRGWIN IN "BONNIE DUNDEE."

EVERY SEAT FILLED.

Dundee music hall patrons know a good thing when it comes their way, and they are not slow to appreciate it. A visit to the city of a star of the variety firmament of such brilliance as G. H. Chirgwin is not an everyday occurrence, and, with the prospects of a special treat in store, an audience that filled every seat in the spacious theatre assembled in the Palace last night to welcome the renowned "White-eyed Kaffir." Nor were they disappointed, for Chirgwin was in fine form, and his performance received the spontaneous applause of the whole house. Indeed, after he had been nearly half-an-hour on the stage, it was with the greatest reluctance that the audience allowed the curtain to descend. After a skirl on the bagpipes, he introduced himself in his own inimitable

G. H. CHIRGWIN.

way, and at once ingratiated himself, but when he took up his violin and sang in his own sweet and sympathetic style "My fiddle is my sweetheart" the audience went into ecstasies In "The poor blind boy," with a 'cello accompaniment, he was equally successful, his fine voice, with its remarkable range, being heard to the best advantage. Another item in his entertainment which fairly caught on was the manipulation of two churchwarden pipes on a tray in imitation of a clog dance and a Highland fling. Bright flashes of humour were thrown in here and there, and these, together with his many eccentricities, combined to give a special charm to the whole turn.—*Evening Telegraph* (Dundee), Sept. 27.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

Sir,—In consultation with several old friends of the late Herbert Campbell, it was unanimously considered that a memorial to his memory should be obtained, and placed, if possible, in the vestibule of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, which was the scene of so many of his triumphs, and in which theatre he had amused and delighted so many thousands of persons.

It is thought the best way to perpetuate the memory of this very generous and genial artiste is by the erection of a marble or bronze bust, and through his old friend, Mr Arthur Collins, the directors of the Drury-lane Theatre have been approached, and they have agreed to the suggestion, and, in addition, have generously promised the sum of £10 10s. towards the fund.

A meeting will shortly be held, of which due notice will be given, and it is desired that as many as can make it convenient to attend will kindly do so.

Being so well and universally known, myself and those interested think that there are very many of his old friends and fellow-artistes who would like to contribute to this memorial, and several subscriptions have already been promised. Mr Edward Ledger has kindly consented to receive and acknowledge any sums which may be sent for the above object.

Yours faithfully, HENRY JOYNER.
Camberwell Palace of Varieties, Limited,
Camberwell, S.E.

The following subscriptions have already been promised:—

Directors of Drury-lane Theatre, per Mr Arthur Collins	10	10	0
Mr Arthur Magnus	10	10	0
Mr Henry Joyner	5	5	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0
J. Sparrow	1	1	0
Mr Arthur W. Bray	1	1	0
M. M'Neill	0	2	6

MISS LELIA ROZE MARRIED.

Miss Lelia Roze, the charming burlesque artiste and exponent of the heroines of musical comedy, was married to Mr Edward Downes Martin, J.P., of Killoskehane Castle, Tipperary, at the Pro-Cathedral, Liverpool, on Wednesday morning. Miss Roze, who lives at Shrigley Hall, situated in a pretty part of the County Down, commenced her

MISS LELIA ROZE.

career on the variety stage in her early teens. Her fine voice, her pretty face, and her exquisite figure, aided by a natural gift for the stage quickly placed her in popular favour, and from the small halls she soon graduated to the leading palaces in England, Scotland, and Ireland. In the last-mentioned country she is an immense draw, and especially so at Belfast. In London her chief strongholds are the Metropolitan and Oxford, where she has appeared during the last twelve months. Miss Roze's appearances on the regular stage have not been restricted to pantomime, for a short time since she fulfilled a most successful engagement on tour, when she played the part of Kitty Grey in the successful musical comedy of that name. She is very popular in the profession, and has been the recipient of many good wishes from brother and sister artistes, to which we may add our own.

THE MIDDLESEX.

The Middlesex programme, always interesting and up to date, contains some specially attractive turns this week. A keenly appreciated item which comes early in the evening is the popular and humorous little coster duologue presented by Mr Arthur Godfrey and Miss Minnie Duncan, entitled *Me and 'Er*, both parts being exceedingly well played. The pathetic touch introduced at the conclusion, when Bill learns that the news of his sudden accession to wealth has no foundation in fact, and his loving wife puts back into the box the much-befeathered hat Bill has chosen for her, is highly effective, and Middlesex audiences have laughed heartily over the many slangy expressions of the coster, whose joy at the prospect of being rich "beyond the dreams of avarice" is of such brief duration. Sketches of this kind, with the pathetic and the humorous elements cleverly combined, and the characters well played, are always welcome at the variety halls. The programme is opened by Keith and Merson, acrobatic singing comedians, who first appear as a couple of josser huntsmen, and succeed in amusing the audience with their humorous patter. They afterwards perform some smart acrobatic feats, and are rewarded by loud applause. Miss Odeyne Spark, a comedienne with a good appearance and style, pleases greatly with her ditty, "It's hot, very very hot," followed by a song and dance, very neatly done. The Three American Idols, a trio of shapely and attractive young ladies, win favour with a pretty coon song and sand dance. They also give a wonderful high-kicking, bending, and acrobatic dance which is received with many demonstrations of delight. Sylvo, the tramp comedy juggler, entertains quite as much by his funny business and humorous asides as by his cleverly performed tricks. In the same line is the quaint clown, Griff, who has a valuable assistant in the youth known as Alpha. The last-mentioned varies the turn by introducing some difficult tricks with hoops, but Griff always acknowledges the applause—because he "taught him that." Park's Eton Boys, a smart, well-trained troupe of youngsters who are favourites wherever they appear, give their popular vocal turn, and are listened to with evident pleasure by the audience. "Rosie," "The Ugly Duckling," and a pretty song, "Bluebell," are amongst the admirably rendered numbers given by the boys, who are carefully accompanied at the piano by their principal. They are invariably encored. Acceptable vocalism, a little comedy from a "cullud" gentleman, a series of pictures, and attractive scenery with electrical effects are combined in *Tibet; or, the Forbidden City*, presented by Moir and Cragg. Miss Agnes Hazel, charmingly gowned, is scoring with the ditty "Oh, you men!" She also contributes a pretty song descriptive of a married couple's quarrel over a letter, followed by satisfactory explanations and a happy reconciliation. Mr Thomas Finglas, a Negro comedian, has a characteristic song in "Rosalind." He also appears in a scena, *Maisie*, in which he has the assistance of a young lady. Mr Maurice H. Hoffmann's company is seen in the sketch adapted from Marie Corelli's novel, entitled *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr Hoffman gives a sufficiently striking portrayal of Prince Lucio Rimanez, and Miss Ethel King does very well as Lady Sybil Elton. Sanford and Lyons, comedians and dancers, come in for a good reception, and the Five Olracs combine acrobatism and comedy with excellent results. Mr Michael Nolan is a favourite Irish comedian, and the pictures shown by the new Bioscope are interesting and well varied. The first and third prize winners of the recent Lottie Lennox singing competition have been specially engaged this week, Louie Gable singing "Killarney" and "Bold Robert Emmet" and Annie Smith following with "The Factory Girl." These successful competitors have had a most encouraging reception. Mr Graydon was unable to engage Ethel Frost (the winner of the second prize), as she is under the age of ten.

DUCHESS, BALHAM.

The wants of Balham are fully met by Mr Walter Gibbons, who seems to have touched nothing in music hall enterprise that has not been fertile of success. He has brought prosperity to the pretty Duchess Theatre, which under the management of Mr Clifford King, is now firmly established as the amusement centre of a first-class neighbourhood, drawing the liberal support of a thriving suburb by entertainments carefully selected to satisfy the large audiences who twice nightly fill the house. The programme presented on the occasion of a recent visit bore evidence of the care exercised in its composition, a monster production of which was the sketch *Saturday to Monday*, played by Fred Karno's company of comedians. Its extravagant gaiety allows no time for anything but laughter, and its absurdities appeal to the dullest mind or quicken the comic perceptions of the more intellectual. Mr Fred Kitchen was the resourceful bridegroom John Willie Jaggs, and his grotesque antics aroused continuous laughter. He was capably supported by Miss Cossie Noel as the not unreasonably blushing bride; by Miss Gladys White, who made a winsome Violet; and by Miss Ada Maskell as the whimsical Aunt Skinner. Among those who also shared prominently in the fun-making were Mr Henry Kitts as the bride's father, Mr Charles Baldwin as the Best Man, and Mr Frank Haylett as the smart detective, while Messrs Dick Harcourt and Lepo and Master Fred Bentley and C. Griffiths added to the hilarity as the young hopefuls of the bridegroom. A strong chorus took part in the various animated scenes, which, being laid at a railway station and a seaside pier, gave opportunity for fun of which the most was made. What remained of the programme was composed of first-class items, each of which reaped a rich harvest of applause, notably so the comedy melange of the Kings, in whom youth and talent are allied. They make a comely pair as a messenger boy and a lady artist, who come into conflict and provide a merry time. Miss Jennie King is a charming comedienne, the delicacy and grace of her style being captivating, and she added a neat dance to her song of "Irish Life" to which her partner supplied a playful accompaniment. Mr King in his pretty ballad "Won't you come back to me?" gave pleasing evidence of a melodious voice, taking some remarkable notes in the course of his rendering. Both artistes shared equally in the work of entertaining and in the hearty recalls which awaited them. Reilly and Taylor's German dialect display is extraordinary. They make a good deal of amusing capital out of the concoction of a love letter, and their malformation of the King's English is a study in linguistic art which was productive of irresistible mirth, while a mock Tyrolean duet was in itself an oddity. Miss Jennie Venton is a dainty brunette, and with her song of "Angelina" she took the ear of the audience, who rendered willing service in the refrain, their admiration being secured by the grace and neatness which distinguished her dancing in her coon song "My girl's a dandy." The comic contrivances of Ross and Grayson are many and various, no opportunity for forcing the fun being neglected. The work of the eccentric gentleman at the piano is worthy of all praise, more especially when he performs a sand dance while accompanying himself on that instrument, earning an encore that was richly deserved. The name of Mr Austin Rudd is a guarantee for merriment, which was never lacking during his turn, and the thrilling feats of the Andys, acrobats, created excitement. An excellent orchestra, conducted by Mr T. A. Hannavy, rendered the accompaniments well, and made of the overture descriptive of "A Motor Ride" a most pleasurable experience.

THE speciality dances in the new production early next month at the Parisiana, Paris, have been arranged by Miss Lizzie Maynard, and will be performed by eight of her pupils.

THE TIVOLI ANNIVERSARY.

Some years ago it was a stock saying among financiers that a music hall in the Strand would never pay, and when the first Tivoli company failed in 1890, this contention seemed to be borne out by facts. However, there were possibilities in the place that were recognised by the late Mr Newson-Smith, and in 1891 the establishment was put upon a sounder basis, and it has never looked back since. The present year of grace, from various causes, has been scarcely so prosperous as usual; but the excellent business that has been the rule since the management was entrusted to the joint keeping of Mr James Howell and Mr Arthur Yates is an earnest of a dividend on the old scale during the coming year. Wide experience, keen judgment, and high business capacity are the three qualities most necessary to the successful management of a hall, and such is the rapid upward trend of the chosen entertainment of the people that to these essentials must be added refinement and good taste. Mr Howell has had an experience that dates back to the days of the old Polytechnic; and Mr Yates, whose youthful aspect seems to belie the fact of his long association with music halls and theatres, can point to very successful administration at the Grand, Clapham. The combination, therefore, is a happy one, and both gentlemen were heartily congratulated on Friday, the 23rd ult., when the thirteenth anniversary of the Tivoli was celebrated. The programme presented on the occasion had a special significance, as no artiste's name was allowed to appear in the list unless he or she had given a positive promise to appear. There were, of course, a number of extra turns. Mr J. E. Sullivan, who made such a hit as the polite lunatic in *The Belle of New York* at the Shaftesbury Theatre, made effective use of the Dutch-American dialect in his lecture on fiscalitis, the police, and other topics from which comic capital can be derived. Many of Mr Sullivan's allusions were exceedingly happy; but though Tivolians have had some education in the peculiar ungrammatical and topsy-turvey patois adopted by the comedian they did not quite catch the point of all his jokes. Nevertheless, there was much appreciation among the stallites, and with a little modification we see no reason to doubt the future popularity of the soliloquies of Sullivan. A performance in every way grateful to the lovers of music was that of the Mackway glee singers, who were heard to distinct advantage in the favourite part songs, "O who will o'er the downs so free," "The Cloud-capt Towers," and "All among the barley," the last mentioned a capital combination of harmony and fun. Miss Fanny Wentworth, who has been very appropriately termed "a Corney Grain in petticoats," is a skilful entertainer who can turn a popular melody to excellent account by her treatment vocally or on the piano—an instrument of which she is a charming exponent—as was evinced by her rendering of Mendelssohn's Spring Song. One of the most popular comedians on the anniversary night was Mr Wilkie Bard, who has been a strong attraction of the bill for some weeks past. His burlesque on the difficulties of the extempore vocalist, who almost invariably fails to rhyme with reason or sense, were capitally burlesqued by the Tivoli Bard, whose mock solemnity was a great aid to the laughter-compelling power of a bit of genuine fooling. He was admirably supported by a young gentleman with whom he had an altercation. Wilkie was several times recalled. Mr Harry Tate is another artiste whose reputation as a humourist has advanced lately by leaps and bounds, and his sketch that so quaintly sets forth the difficulties of a motorist who has to deal with a break-down has evoked roars of laughter in all parts of the country, its success in the provinces being as great as in London. Mr Tate as a mimic was unapproachable; but his confidence in the higher gift of comedy has been completely justified by results; for *Motoring* may be seen again and again without any possibility of one becoming tired of its amusing situations. He was ably assisted by his company, the lad who played the mouth organ with such irritating persistency having a keen sense of fun. Little Tich and R. G. Knowles are other immense favourites in the Strand, and the former as a Toreador displayed those oddities of behaviour that make for laughter. The latter was responsible for much amusing cynicism in his favourite song, "The Girl, the Woman, and the Widow." The spindle side of the company had a great element of strength in Miss Nellie Wallace—quite irresistible in her skit on the sentimental vocalist, the title of the number "Mingle your eyebrows with mine" being sufficiently indicative of the fun that was forthcoming when this quaint comedienne "let herself go." Her command of funny business kept the audience in roars of laughter. Miss Lily Soutter also tapped the springs of laughter in her impersonation of one of the weaker sex who prides herself on being a "lady all the time." Miss Lily Burnand disguised her blonde beauty to represent a lady of uncertain age who in a large crinoline declaimed against the backwardness of the men of the present generation. Miss Maud Venn, who looked chic and fascinating in a becoming costume, put plenty of comedy into her song concerning "Hints;" Miss Sable Fern enlisted a large cohort of chorus singers when she gave out the pretty melody of "She's ma lily of the valley;" and Miss Millie Lindon in her own sweet way enchanted everyone by her delightful rendering of "The rain came pitter-patter down." Datas again proved himself to be a walking encyclopædia of dates; the Five Delevines, in their legmania and musical act, scored their customary success; Griff's original notions of humour and hoop manipulation were once more voted extremely funny, the quaint clown receiving excellent assistance from Alpha, his "boy in buttons;" Gillihan and Murray were quite in touch with their audience; and *The Dandy Thieves* kept everyone laughing, the vagaries of Mr Dan Rolyat as Sergeant Lightning being screamingly funny. Other turns were submitted by Madge and Morton, musical specialists, Cyrus Dare, the Three Amaranths, Miss Daisy James, Lee and Bentley, Mr Harry Phydora, and Mr Fred Earle, comedian. Mr George H. Dyball, the stage-manager, worked the special programme very smartly, and Mr Maurice Jacobi's orchestra accompanied most artistically. The finely tinted programme was adorned with excellent portraits of Mr James Howell and Mr Arthur Yates, and the house was brightened by pretty bouquets in the boxes. Among those who came to congratulate the directors and managers were Messrs Henry Tozer, Emanuel Warner, Sydney Hyman, Albert Gilmer, Harry Lundy, George Peel, Tom Claxton.

A COMEDY DUOLOGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I notice that Mr Fred Sinclair is playing a comedy duologue in which, in order to straighten the tangled skein of domestic discord, the wife resorts to the disguise of a former lover, and the husband does ditto, with the usual results. Though *Family Jars* was not the vessel from which I obtained my inspiration, it is a coincidence that I produced a duologue with that self-same plot at the Britannia Music Hall, Glasgow, on June 22, 1903. I have since played this sketch at the Middlesex, London, during the week of Aug. 3, 1903. Though it does not occupy a very prominent place in my répertoire, it is possible that I may play it occasionally, and I mention the matter to prevent misunderstanding.

Yours faithfully, HUBERT BARTLETT
(Muir and Bartlett).

Gaiety, Oldham, Sept. 28.

MISS EDNA CRAGGE has been compelled to refuse a big offer for America, owing to her being previously engaged as principal boy for 1904-5.

"SING A SONG OF SIXPENCE."

To-day is the first anniversary of the issue of the sixpenny popular editions of Messrs Francis and Day's musical copyrights, or, as they are now known the world over, the "Sixpenny Pops," and to signalise the occasion Manager John Smith has added to the already extensive catalogue no fewer than thirteen new numbers—namely "The Patchwork Garden" and "The Man Behind," from *The Earl and the Girl*; "Kiss me good-night, dear love," introduced in *Merely Mary Ann*; "The Church Parade," "Molly O'Halloran," and "Cigarette," sung in *The Catch of the Season*; "Maisey! my Maisey!" "Navaho," "You are a white little girl," "There's nobody just like you," Dan Godfrey's celebrated "Holly-Bush Polka," Leoni Lacoste's "Heliotrope Waltz," and the "Inspiration Veleta."

The movement has come to stay, as evidenced by the twelvemonth's experiment of this celebrated house, who justly claim to be the pioneer publishers of this form of musical publication. The essay commenced on Oct. 1, 1903, and during the dozen months just ended the firm has issued no fewer than 120 numbers, besides, by way of further experiment, a few parodies as twopenny editions. The list includes successful numbers from *The Orchid*, *The School Girl*, *The Earl and the Girl*, *The Cherry Girl*, *Sergeant Brue*, *Merely Mary Ann*, *The Lady Slavey*, and other musical plays; the ever-popular "Brookiyn Cake-walk," by T. W. Thurban, Bernard Phelps's "Choristers'" waltz, little Max Darewski's "Le Rêve" waltz, the universal favourites "Pansy Faces" and "Blue Bell," those gigantic hits, "Skylark" and "I've made up my mind to sail away;" ballads by St. Quentin and Clifton Bingham, and innumerable successes popularised by such well-known artists as, among others, Arthur Lennard, Tom Costello, Ernest Shand, G. H. Chirgwin, Marie Lloyd, Marie Kendall, George D'Albert, George Bastow, George Brooks, G. H. Elliott, Sam Mayo, Harry Randall, Marie Loftus, George Lashwood, Alec Hurley, R. G. Knowles, Harry Bedford, Harry Lauder, Vesta Tilley, Paul Mill, Millie Lindon, Wilkie Bard, and Winifred Hare.

The success attending the venture can be seen at a glance from the following figures just compiled:—

Number of works issued in sixpenny popular form	120
Number of copies actually sold from Oct. 1, 1903, to Sept. 30, 1904	2,025,141
Number of reams of paper used (quadruple music demy)	2,026
Amount earned as royalties, paid to authors, composers, singers, and brother publishers	£5,153 15 0

The result has given entire satisfaction to the firm's clientèle, who, together with the whole musical world, are all intensely interested in the further development of this enterprising endeavour to supply the public want of good cheap music.

A similar experiment was made by the firm no fewer than twenty-five years ago, when the early songs of the late Charles Godfrey and of the Mohawk Minstrels were issued in a sixpenny series. They had not the good fortune to meet with success at that time, but the fact that they made the bid for it shows conclusively who were the pioneer publishers of popular editions for the people.

GRAND, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

Mr Walter Gibbons, the proprietor and lessee of this popular theatre of varieties, has adopted the two-houses-nightly system, and the first performances under this arrangement were given on Monday. Mr Harry Bawn has been appointed manager, and the valuable experience he has gained as assistant under Mr Edward Swanborough at the Chelsea Palace well qualifies him for the position. Conducted upon an up-to-date policy, which, of course, includes a strong programme all the year round, the Grand should, from the present time, enter upon a new era of prosperity. Everything is done to promote the comfort of the patrons of the Palace, which, too, enjoys the great advantage of occupying a central situation, easily accessible to the inhabitants of the surrounding districts. One of the principal items in this week's bill-of-fare is the sensational sketch entitled *The Night Alarm*, in which the late Mr Charles Godfrey used to play the leading part—the sailor who, returning from a voyage, finds that his wife and child have fled from their home, the former leaving a curt letter which does not explain the reason, though she appeals to him to trust her. He joins the London Fire Brigade, and in a scene representing the interior of a Metropolitan Fire Station is shown with what expedition the men harness the horses and drive away to a burning building. Jack, the fireman, laments that a year has passed and he has failed to find his wife and child, but a letter arrives explaining the cause of their hurried flight. Then comes the call to a fire, and the lurid spectacle of a house in flames. As the hose plays upon the building the gallant fireman mounts the ladder, and at the risk of his life rescues a mother and her child, who prove to be the dear ones he has been seeking since his return. This scene, remarkably realistic and true to life, reflects much credit on the stage-management. Mr Ernest Ball, so long known as a useful and clever member of the Surrey Theatre stock company, gives a bold and manly embodiment of the gallant fireman, and the songs introduced he renders in excellent style. He is supported by a capable company, and the revived sketch is well received. Amongst the single turns here is Miss Alexandra Dagmar, who sings with spirit "The big brass band," and appears in her scena burlesquing *The Duchess of Dantzic*. She gives a successful impersonation of the famous washerwoman, Madame Sans-Gêne, Napoleon being represented by a youth who has only a thinking part. There is some amusing comedy in Miss Kitty Clover's sketch *Not a Word*. The lady cleverly represents a very voluble wife, whose flow of talk prevents her husband giving any explanation of some events which have excited her jealousy. He has received from a lady a cheque for £1,000 and her photograph. The foolish wife refuses to listen to what her spouse has to say, and burns the cheque. A letter explains that both cheque and portrait came from her own sister, an actress. However, it was only a property cheque, so it does not matter in the least. Miss Flo Schuberth has a pleasing style, and has a capital song in "Take her, she's yours." The young lady known as Virginia and her four piccaninnies vary the programme with their singing and dancing. All the children are boys, but two of them are dressed as girls, and one of these specially distinguishes himself in a cake walk. Mr Tom Leamore comes on in the character of an amateur Hackenschmidt, and the relation of his experiences as a wrestler causes much merriment. Exceedingly comical, too, is Mr Leamore's embodiment of the dude, Clarence Fitzgerald, the dance with which he concludes his turn being also a smart piece of work which is loudly applauded. The Four Dandies, consisting of two ladies and two gentlemen, give a musical entertainment which is both refined and pleasing, and which consists chiefly of imitations of various types of song, including the coon, the patriotic, the Spanish, &c. They have the assistance of a lady who presides at the piano. The Three Sisters Leigh are applauded for their smart skipping-rope dancing, and Mr Michael Nolan, Irish comedian, has some excellent songs, one having for its subject a lazy son of Erin being specially good. Mr Chris Richards scores both as a comedian and eccentric dancer. There is a hardworking, efficient orchestra, under the able direction of Mr James Sale.

Mr Wilkie Bard's newest song, entitled "A, B, C, D," by Jas. Hargreaves, is in the press, having been secured by Mr David Day.

GATTI'S (ROAD)

The task of providing for the variety lovers who dwell on the southern banks of the Thames has been fully grasped by Mr Tom Tinsley, who for many years has furnished at the old-established hall in the Westminster-bridge-road an entertainment that has won the steady patronage of appreciative audiences. A warm welcome has been extended to Cheevers and Kennedy, "the Originals," a couple of entertainers who, after a considerable lapse of time, have again joined forces, and are presenting with all their old success their clever Dutch, Irish, and Negro quick-change speciality act. To the majority of the audience at Gatti's on the night of our visit it must have been a novelty, and that it has lost none of its attractiveness was soon apparent. The Hibernian and darkey impersonations were especially appreciated, song, dance, and patter alike being of a most enjoyable nature, and the happily associated couple were loudly acclaimed at the conclusion of their smartly worked and exhausting turn. Another favourite item in the excellent bill-of-fare was the clever ventriloquial turn of Mr Horace White, whose two mechanical figures are exceptionally well worked and admirably voiced, the many amusing remarks of the cheeky boy and the vocalism of the lady being much enjoyed. Mr White is also a finished pianist, and gave a Polish dance and some excellent imitations on the piano of a drum and fife band and a street organ, his entire turn giving much satisfaction. The Zenary Brothers possess wonderful strength of wrist and arm, their marvellous hand-balancing and various difficult feats of acrobatism calling forth the loudest of applause; and Mr Charles Faning is a humourist blessed with some really funny patter and a droll style, his two songs also affording amusement. The attractive dancing turn of Miss Ruby Bijou, a dainty little lady, was appreciated at its true worth, her representation of an American cake-walk evoking much enthusiasm; and admiration was freely bestowed on the Two Bells, attractive young ladies, who first appeared as bewitching colleens; also contributing a couple of other numbers and dancing with much expertness and neatness. Altogether a turn of decided daintiness and smartness. The De Breans, Japanese jugglers, were responsible for a neat and skilful exhibition of that art, also giving an amusing and well-worked shadowgraph entertainment; and Miss Alice Carney's three selections appeared to give entire satisfaction, her low-comedy ditty "What ho, Martha Murphy!" and "The Lady from Quality Street," being her two best numbers. Mr Julian Ross, a vocalist with a good appearance and an excellent voice, was loudly cheered for a song exactly suited to a popular audience, "The best friend I've ever had;" "After the curtain's rung down" and "Girls, you've a lot to answer for," also being admirable numbers. Continuous merriment was evoked by Mr Neil Kenyon, the funny Scotchman, with his really droll stories and singing, his imitations of a swell, a coster, a Jew, and one of his own countrymen reciting "The Charge of the Light Brigade" being a clever and amusing contribution. Such was the enjoyment his turn afforded that he was persistently recalled, and gave a laughter-compelling mock melodrama. The favourite burlesque actress, Miss Julia Kent, in conjunction with Mr Alexander Keith, gave a cleverly worked trifle, in which she appeared as a fetching little barmaid, her partner taking the part of a very forward waiter. Much humorous repartee was indulged in by the pair, and they contributed an amusing and smartly worked duet in which they imitated the manners and conversation of various people at the play. The interlude enabled both Mr Keith and Miss Kent to exhibit their versatility and undoubted ability as entertainers, and was a most enjoyable feature of the bill. The animated pictures shown on the screen by the Mutograph included that humorous and popular picture Off for the Holidays, the duel scene from Percy Murray's sketch *An Affair of Honour*, an interesting picture; the Magician, and many others, and also in the programme were Mr Will Pinchin, a comedian who is also enabled to display his ability as a dancer in his song "Nancy O'Rafferty's Ball," and Clara Urwin, serio-comic vocalist. The musical arrangements are quite safe in the hands of the experienced Mr I. W. Baker and his capable little company of instrumentalists.

At North London Police-court, on Monday, Mr Rundle, solicitor, renewed his application for a licence for the three youngest members of the Kremo family of acrobats to perform. This time it was for the Holloway Empire, and Mr Adams, the manager, brought Dr. Bulger, the divisional police surgeon, to give evidence as to the physical fitness of the children. Dr. Bulger said the lungs and hearts of the children were sound, and their sallow complexions were not unnatural. They were Swiss-German. Mr Dickinson—Do these children form part of a pyramid? Mr Rundle—No; they do tumbling on the stage, and are only on three or four minutes out of the twelve the turn lasts. Mr Dickinson—Personally, I have a very strong objection to children taking part in acrobatic performances; because, if they happen to fall and break a limb, they would probably be miserable for life. Mr Rundle—If they did not begin young there would be no acrobats. Mr Dickinson—Who wants acrobats? However, I will license these children for one house. Mr Rundle—Won't you allow them to appear in both houses? Mr Dickinson—No, I will not; and I shall expect them to go on early. The law very properly says that there must be four hours' interval between the two performances, and you cannot do that. My licence is only for one house. Mr Dickinson also asked as to the education of the children, and was shown the copy-books in English and German, which appeared to be satisfactory.

THE MAGIC KETTLE.

A CHAT WITH B. F. TAYLOR.

The theatres of variety have been largely responsible for the introduction of many innovations, inventions, and novelties. The cry nowadays is for something new, something original, even if its enjoyment only lasts for a short time, which in the majority of instances is not so. The Bioscope is a case in point. Animated pictures were first brought prominently before the public on a variety stage, and their popularity has developed with increasing years.

The latest wonder to take the field is what is known as the Magic Kettle, now drawing crowded houses to the Palace Theatre. Had anyone suggested twelve months ago that it was possible to petrify a rubber ball and make it as brittle as an egg-shell within the space of a few seconds, he would have been laughed at. Or had he gone further and said it was possible to light a cigar by means of vapour his hearers would probably have cast out hints as to the lunacy statistics.

Mr Benjamin F. Taylor, who is at present showing the marvellous doings of the Magic Kettle at the Palace, is the holder of the patent rights and international copyright. The act was first presented in New York at the Eden Musée about nine months ago, and Mr Hollams, the president of that firm, stated that it was the most wonderful thing he had ever seen. The Magic Kettle was next engaged for Proctor's Circuit of music halls. It was originally booked for a few weeks, but the weeks turned into months, and at one of Proctor's houses alone the act was presented for six weeks. There are now two Magic Kettle shows running in the United States, one at Cleveland's Theatre in Chicago and another, which opened last Monday, at Taylor's Opera House, New Jersey. Mr Josef Yorrick, who was the gentleman who produced the first show in New York, is superintending the arrangements at Chicago. Mr Deane, who came over from the States to give the initial performance in London, gave the Magic Kettle its début in Paris at the Alhambra Theatre last Saturday, Mr Barrasford states that the Parisians are greatly pleased with this new attraction. A third English company sailed for New York last Wednesday, and additions are in course of formation.

Photo by Campbell Gray, Ltd.

LIGHTING CIGAR WITH MAGIC KETTLE.

But the question which has troubled the minds of many people is this: What do the contents of the magic kettle consist of? Mr Taylor, in his remarks to the audience during the act, says that he will leave the unravelling of the mystery to their imaginations. Some folk, however, who are more scientific than imaginative, have given it as their opinion that liquid air is responsible for these modern miracles. And Mr Taylor doesn't deny that it is liquid air. That may seem a very simple statement, and, perhaps, an almost ridiculously easy explanation; but ask the average man in the street how he would produce liquid air, and you will probably get the reply that he does not know what it is made of nor how it is made. We cannot here go into the matter from a scientific point of view, and it is not necessary that we should do so. It will be sufficient for our purpose to say that to obtain this remarkable creative, or recreative, force, a compression of air to the extent of 2,400lb. to the square inch is necessary. In the rapid expansion which follows when the water is being used on the stage the liquid air cools to freezing point. Of course, special and intricate machinery is employed in the different stages of manufacture, the experiments in connection with which are very costly. After the liquid air is made it is put in flasks, each holding about five quarts, the flasks consisting of a glass bulb within a glass bulb. The inner bulb is annealed to the outer one at the neck, and there is a space at the base between the two bulbs in which a perfect vacuum is obtained by means of a vacuum pump. In this way a non-conductor is formed, preventing the heat affecting the air inside the receptacle. The bulbs are covered both inside and outside with quicksilver to reflect the rays of light.

Of course Mr Taylor's act opens out many possibilities of further developments. In fact, one wonders what it would not be possible to do with liquid air. Mr Taylor informs us that he already has ideas regarding no less than 200 different experiments, and that the changing of the various items in his programme is merely a question of time limit. Altogether, seven people are required to work the act, only two of whom appear on the stage. In addition to these, we are told that a big factory is maintained for the production of the liquid air.

Mr Charles Morton is one of the most enthusiastic admirers of this show. He remarked the other day that in all his sixty years' experience of theatrical affairs he had never seen anything to equal in novelty the Magic Kettle, the results obtained by it being simply amazing to him. It would not be far wrong to say that very few music hall attractions have been so well advertised in town, as the Palace management has brought the Magic Kettle prominently to the notice of Londoners. From forty to one hundred sandwich-men are sent out every day, while, in addition to a couple of 15ft. and other large posters exhibited outside the Palace Theatre, a number of magic kettles can be seen merrily steaming away on the huge glass awning which surrounds the Shaftesbury-avenue music hall. The Magic Kettle has, indeed, created a sensation, and it has come to stay.

"BUSINESS IS BUSINESS."

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Octave Mirbeau's powerful drama *Les Affaires Sont les Affaires* has been translated into English and adapted to the American stage under the above title by R. S. Hichens, and the play was produced at the Criterion Theatre, New York, on the 19th ult., with Mr Wm. H. Crane in the rôle of Isadore Lechat, played in Paris by M. Féraudy. Mirbeau describes his chief character as "a man of business, fifty-seven years old, stout and coarse, vulgar in bearing, and with sinister eyes that contrast with a continuous hurly-burly of movement and gesture." When the play begins Lechat has reached the top notch of prosperity after a questionable bankruptcy or two. He has ruined his rivals and sent them to their death, and his name has become a by-word. He has bought a newspaper that exists only to serve his political ends, being a promising candidate for a seat in the Chamber of Deputies. His wife is a quiet, insignificant creature of very simple tastes, who looks upon him as a demi-god. His son, Xavier, the darling of his heart, squanders his money at cards and assorts with courtesans. There is also a daughter, Germaine, a girl of decided character, who knows how her father has built up his fortune, and despises him for it. Germaine is in love with Lucien Garraud, a young civil engineer. Lechat wishes to enlarge his estate by acquiring the lands of his neighbour, the Marquis De Porcellet, on whose property Lechat holds a mortgage. The Marquis calls on Lechat to borrow more money. Lechet begins by refusing. But the Marquis persists. He is at his last gasp. He promises to use his influence in various ways to Lechat's advantage, but Lechat will only grant his request on one condition. The Marquis must consent to a marriage between his son and Lechat's daughter, Germaine. The old aristocrat agrees to Lechat's proposition when the latter threatens to foreclose the mortgage. Lechat calls his wife and daughter and tells them that the Marquis asks Germaine's hand for his son. Germaine refuses point blank, declaring that she has a lover, and Lechat awakes from his dream of social advancement. After a stormy scene he turns his daughter into the street, and she disappears with her lover. Her mother takes her part. "Ha!" roars Lechat, "everybody is against me."

For the first time in his life he is confronted with an obstacle that neither his money nor his indomitable will can overcome, and the brute in him leaps out. He abuses his family, and mocks at all the world, but inwardly he cannot understand, and perplexity and fear creep over him. Then comes a worse blow. His son, on whom all his hopes are built, is thrown from his automobile and killed. For the first time Lechat's spirit is broken, and a pair of schemers, seeing their opportunity, submit for his signature a contract, by the terms of which they will have everything their own way, while Lechat will be ruined. Outside the servants are bringing in the dead youth's body, Lechat is as a man whose world has crumbled in an instant. He is about to collapse, but even now his dominant principle asserts itself. A saving clause is written into the contract, and the schemers are forced to sign. "Business is business." Lechat staggers towards the door, catching at chairs and tables, the tricksters watching him in speechless confusion as the curtain falls.

In a rôle entirely different from anything that he has previously attempted Mr Crane succeeded beyond general expectation, and gave a masterly impersonation of the brutal money king, Lechat. Miss Katherine Grey scored as the daughter, Germaine, and Mr Walter Hale, Mr Joseph Wheelock, jun., and Mrs Harriet Otis Dellenbaugh distinguish themselves in other rôles.

Artistes visiting the Bristol Empire, and People's Palace during October and March, and wishing to arrange an enjoyable, social game of Association football any Saturday afternoon on Clifton Downs, may have use of tackle by applying to Harry Hare (Bristol X, L.C.R. Athletic Club), 35, Salisbury-road, Redland, Bristol.

The house in which Beethoven died, in Vienna, having been demolished, that of Haydn is, so we are told, about to disappear. The Austrian capital was always a harsh stepmother when musicians were concerned.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

At Glossop feast the exhibits were in the hands of Messrs W. Wright and Chapman, while the machines, which formed the principal part of the fair, were the steam horses of J. Hibbert and J. Walker, Hibbert's gallopers and swings, and Shaw's steam swings. The cokers, shies, and shooting saloons were those of Booth, Whatmore, Sutherland, Wood, Thomas, Glenn, and White.

Dumfries Fair proper was on Sept. 28 and 29; business, however, commenced on the 21st. The following concerns have worked Thornhill and Castle Douglas, in conjunction with Dumfries:—Mrs E. Pinder-Ord's Continental Circus, "Scotch" Biddall and Son's electric ghostoscope, Mrs Sarah Johnson and Son's circus of varieties, Mr George Green's local pictures (manager, Mr George Monte), Messrs Chipperfield's French menagerie, Sahib Leo's Egyptian hall, the Mystic Haydns, Mr Henry Chapman's British birds and hares, Mr James Lavin's school of arms, Prince Samouda's Oriental illusions, Horatio's giant horse, the first-class photographic concerns of Mr Frank Walton, No. 1, Messrs F. Walton and James Eden, W. Gothard, J. Maley, W. Hammond, and H. Kelly. The machine list included the superb careering cockerells of Mr Geo. Green, under the Coronation canopy, Messrs J. Wilmot and Sons' Royal Caledonian hunters, Mrs C. Howard's twin tugs, Mr James Wilmot's gondolas, Mr Peter Swallow's poultry farm, Mr Joe Wingate's safety bicycles, Mr T. Day's three-abreast gallopers, Morris tubes and shooting-galleries of Messrs J. Wilmot, jun., J. Day, E. Sheeran, and the expert S. J. Rostron. All the fun of the fair, in the form of Krugers, Emmas, window breakers, squares, &c., supplied by Messrs Sol Macintosh, H. Irvin, C. Harper, W. Slater, J. Ross, J. Hughes, J. Wilson, J. W. Kelly, W. Harris, J. Palmer, W. Merrick, A. Knight, A. Testo, J. Brookley, A. Carroll, Mrs Moore, Blind Nelson, and many others.

The British Women's Temperance Association held their annual tea and meeting at Dumfries on Sunday evening. This is an institution anticipated with great pleasure by the people on the Fair Ground, and this year was as successful as usual. Many leaders in the movement were present, and many notable Fair Ground faces, including Messrs Geo. Green and Wilmot. A very pleasant and profitable evening was spent by all who attended the meeting.

Mr Charles James, proprietor of the World's Fair, Dublin, is presenting the following artistes here:—Jim Cookson, ventriloquist; Frank Bentley, descriptive vocalist; Charles Moore, comedian and dancer; Carr and Roll, duettists and dancers; and George Harcourt, tenor.

Robert Fossett and Sons' Circus gave two performances at Gainsborough on Tuesday. Mr R. Fossett, jun., was responsible for a smart exhibition of jockey act riding; Mdlle. Emmie introduced some clever haute école business; and the Bonello Troupe presented an artistic series of living statuary.

At the Kingston-on-Thames Borough Bench on Wednesday Andrew Purchase and Thomas Rayner, of Reading, were summoned at the instance of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for alleged cruelty to a lion while in captivity, by using a whip and hot iron on Aug. 27. Andrew Purchase, one of the defendants, said he brought the lion from Messrs Wombwell as a performing animal when it was eighteen months old, and it had gone through the same performance every day for over eleven years. On the occasion in question when he walked round the outside of the cage the animal followed him, and when he went into the cage it ran round him several times without any fear. It was absolutely fond of him, and would not hurt him on any consideration. The hot iron was placed, not in the cage where the lion was, but in what was called a safety cage. The chairman intimated that the Bench did not wish to hear any more evidence, as they had decided there was no case for a conviction, and the summons would be dismissed.

At High Wycombe, on Monday, undiminished interest was manifested in the old-fashioned Michaelmas Hiring Fair. Observed in accordance with immemorial custom, it is the oldest in Buckinghamshire, and one which annually attracts hundreds of persons to the borough. Throughout the morning large numbers of farmers and others associated with the agricultural industry assembled in the Market-place, where labourers of all descriptions offered their services for the ensuing twelve months. The gathering was strikenly unique, and the traditional customs of past generations were well maintained. Shepherds decorated themselves with tufts of wool, while ploughmen displayed whipcord, and waggoners and others utilised horsehair and showy ribbons to demonstrate their respective callings. Farm servants and visitors to the fair journeyed from various parts of Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, and Oxfordshire, to the old-fashioned town, which assumed quite a holiday appearance, and was singularly animated. The hirelings out-numbered the demands of employers of labour, although many changed hands, some at slightly better wages, but the majority at unaltered terms. The Pleasure Fair, relegated some years ago from the streets of the town, was held in a meadow in the Oxford-road, and was attended by thousands from a very wide area.

Colonel Cody with his Wild West show visited Lancaster on the 23d ult., and had a most flattering reception. The weather was delightfully fine, and the attendance in the afternoon reached twelve thousand, and in the evening nearly ten thousand. This is a record attendance for Lancaster.

With Woodhouse Feast terminating on Tuesday last, the Leeds circuit of feasts now draws to a close. There was a great gathering of showmen, amongst whom we noticed Mr William Murphy's "Golden Venice, P. Collins's (Ltd.) farmyard roosters, Hamilton's four-a-breast gallopers, Aspland's Venetian gondolas, Lieskie's big wheel sensation, Collins's cycle track, Batty's steam horses, Captain Dobson with his ocean-wave sensation, Waddington's men-of-war boats; steam and hand-propelled swings of Messrs Corrigan, Proctor, Dobson, Morley; and miniature horses of Messrs Kayes, Doubtfire, Church. Amongst the many rows of stalls were Messrs Doubtfire, Forsett, Baines, Fetl, Wilson, Johnson's well-known concerns. In the exhibition line were Mander's No. 1 King's menagerie, who have made a welcome reappearance; Monte Bros., with the world in films; Rhodes, Yorkshire theatre; Testo, Cinématograph; Hastings, two concerns; Le Neve, the wrestler; Powell's fine art, Birch's midgets. The ground was set out and arranged by Messrs Campbell and Whitehead for the lessee, Mr Wm. Murphy, 102, Holly-avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

At Astwood Bank we have Messrs Herbert and Son's great World's Fair, steam roundabouts, park swings, bottle shooters, cokernut gardens, stalls, mollies, pipe smashers, and other numerous attractions. Extra good business has been done.

At Jennings' Alexandra Theatre, Evesham, this week, the following plays have been performed:—*A Fight for Life*, *East Lynne*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *'Twixt Love and Duty*, *The Green Bushes*, and *The Scarlet Mark*.

Holloway's Empire Theatre has opened at Headless Cross for a short season.

At Mrs Sinclair's Victoria Theatre, Pershore, this week, the following programme has been played:—*The King of Criminals*, *In the Shadow of the Cross*, *The Child Witness*, *Trilby*, *Aunty's Lovers*, and *The Stowaway*.

The outbreak of glanders in East Suffolk is exciting alarm at Newmarket. At a meeting on Tuesday afternoon of the County Committee under the Diseases of Animals Acts the Urban Council called attention to the great danger to valuable race-horses which had thus arisen, and asked that a

circus, to which some suspicion attached, should be prevented from visiting the town. The committee decided to send two veterinary surgeons immediately to inspect the horses of the circus.

South Shields this week has been very busy owing to the Channel Fleet having paid the place a visit. On the ground in Ocean-road we have Prof. Mitchell's mystic creations, in Collena's Morgue, Mdlles. Hurculine and Mephisto, demon strong ladies, together with the usual number of stalls, &c. Eagle Davis, with his lady knife-throwers, are at Collena's Variety Exhibition, Market-place, and are doing record business on their return visit.

William Hancock, a show proprietor, was at Barnstaple yesterday fined £2 and costs for allowing Sophia Barrett, the orphan child of his niece, to perform a skirt dance in a cage containing lions. The girl, who is under fourteen, was said by Hancock to be so fond of lions that she would enter the cage out of childish fun when he was out of the way. A further fine of 10s. and costs was imposed for allowing the child to dance outside the show. Mr Hancock contemptuously added an extra guinea to the fine.

The meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union at Nottingham Fair next week is one of more than usual importance. We refer our readers to our advertising columns for the date and time of the gathering.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

BRUSSELS, SEPT. 29.—The theatrical season opened on the 23rd inst., at the Theatre Royal du Pare, with Madame Réjane in *L'Hirondelle*. The performance was received with well-deserved applause.

AT the Vaudeville *La Frousse* has been the attraction. It was called formerly *Les Apaches*, and was found too tame at the Palais Royal in Paris last December. M. Bisson remodelled it and rechristened it *La Frousse*, which means "the fright." In its new garb the piece runs more smoothly and is more laughable.

THE Galleries are still sheltering the wonderfully protean Fregoli, who scores every night, especially in his clever skit *Faustino*, in which he impersonates Faust as a cobbler, Margaret and Valentine as a huntsman and a roaster, and Mephistopheles—the whole in four scenes.

THE Olympia is playing *La Rabouilleuse*, Emile Fabre's fine play, which was so successful at the Paris Odéon. It is well acted by Madame Mégard, Messrs Gémier and Dieudonné.

"LA JOUESE D'ORGUE" is in the bill at the Alhambra, and the poor organ-grinder's misfortunes seem to be a great attraction to the Brussels audiences.

THE Palais d'Eté company includes the Troupe Palmer; Mdlle. Lopez; the equilibrist, Tony Nelson; the gymnasts, Alexandre and Bertie; the mad musician, Vasco; the celebrated American singer, Miss Amélie De Lagrèze, a vocal phenomenon; Cole De Losse Duo, American eccentrics; the Three Flying Zagas; Cooke and Miss Rothert; and the juggling Piroscoffis.

IN Antwerp the Theatre des Variétés, the new palace of entertainment, has just opened with "anvers-variétés," a local "revue."

AT the El Bardo a touring company is playing Geo. Ancey's play, *Ces Messieurs*, a satire on politics and religion, which had a noisy reception in Brussels last season.

THE Theatre Flamand is giving a translation of *Sherlock Holmes*.

AT the Scala, Manager Gainnet is presenting a fine programme, including the names of the duettists, Raphaël Colombel; the Japanese equilibrists, Yamamotos; the Dorans, and those elegant acrobats, the Great Tumars.

MR MAURICE JACOBI relinquished his position as musical director of the Tivoli on Saturday evening, and will rest until the time arrives for him to conduct the orchestra at the London Coliseum, now approaching completion.

MR HARRY B. WINCOTE, the able assistant to Mr Frank Weeks at the South London Palace, returned last Monday from a pleasant holiday spent in the neighbourhoods of Brighton and Portsmouth. Mr Wincote indulged in a good deal of motoring.

MISS MILLIE LINDON has been secured at a very big salary for principal boy at the Prince's, Manchester. The popular lady has just accepted two pretty songs by Clifford Harris and Jas. W. Tate, who were jointly responsible for her successful numbers, "The rain came pitter patter down" and "So did Eve."

MISS ADELINA A. LEVEY, who has produced her novelty *The Fencing Girl; or Beauty and the Blade*, has been engaged by Mr Jesse Sparrow for the Camberwell Palace, after that gentleman had seen a full-dress rehearsal. Miss Levey has, therefore, been giving the scena at Camberwell, in addition to her turn with the Sisters Luverny.

MR FRED EARLE, who seems little the worse for his nasty trap accident of Wednesday in last week, has a huge hit in his new song, "My little bit of seaweed," written by himself. The ditty, which caused some of the heartiest laughter of the evening at the Tivoli anniversary, deals with the vagaries of seaweed as a barometrical prognosticator of forgone conclusions.

"MR TODD OF LONDON" will not be produced until Monday, Oct. 24, when Mr John Lawson will be giving the Bristolians some curious revelations as Vanderdecken Todd. There are mysteries and properties galore, and these will be unfolded for the first time at the local Palace in the western city. To enliven the terrors of Vanderdecken with the horrors of Sweeney Todd is a task that requires some ingenuity; but Mr Lawson is nothing if not mysterious and weird, and his impersonation should not be lacking either of these essentials. It is generally understood that the cutthroat barber was a mythical personage, and that he was never heard of until Mr Lane produced the piece at the popular "Brit." The production was "Englished" from a French drama, which set forth the malpractices of a Parisian barber, who once carried on business in the Rue de la Harpe. The name of the original barber is not obtainable, but his cook was a man and not a woman.

MIGUEL MONTERITO, a Spanish bullfighter, met with an ugly accident while taking part in a performance which was organised on Sunday in the velodrome of the Sporting Union at Montlucon, in the Department of the Allier. The Spaniard was endeavouring to stick a banderillo in a bull, but the animal became so furious that he had to fly for his life. The man was chased around the ring, and in vaulting over the barrier in order to get into a place of safety the point of the banderillo stuck in his throat. Monterito was taken home, and he is reported to be in a critical condition. At Nimes, on Sunday, 12 000 persons witnessed the bull-fights in the arena. Six bulls were killed.

AT the Palace and Winter Gardens, Tynemouth, Mr W. L. Murray remains under engagement, and continues to please with his feats of strength; the Ragamuffins in their clever musical turn secure a flattering reception; Mdlle. Yvonne Lamor, in "The New Rake's Progress;" Little Marjorie, singer and dancer; and Ashton's Italian Orchestra also contribute.

CRICKET.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS C.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Sept. 17. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band C. C.—H. Hare, b O'Connor, 2; T. Smith b O'Connor, 1; J. Lewis, c Reardon, b O'Connor, 5; E. Bowman, b Nicholls, 0; A. Hamlin, b O'Connor, 1; H. Belding (captain), b Nicholls, 21; L. Clayton, run out, 1; J. Aubrey, b Nicholls, 14; E. Belding, b Nicholls, 2; H. Slade, b Nicholls, 0; A. Cox, not out, 0; extras, 9; total, 56

Music Halls C.C.—T. Neagle, b H. Belding, 7; D. O'Connor, run out, 16; J. Stuart (captain), b H. Belding, 5; F. Hansford, b Hare, 1; W. Hinder, b Hare, 7; T. Denton, run out, 1; F. B. Nicholls, b H. Belding, 10; B. Cullen, b Hare, 1; F. Boyce, l b w, b H. Belding, 0; P. Reardon, b H. Belding, 6; W. Meadows, not out, 4; extras, 11; total, 69.

MISS LILLIE BELDING'S ELEVEN v. HARRY BELDING'S GENTS ELEVEN

Played near Bristol, on Sept. 24. The gents batted with broomsticks. During the evening an enjoyable smoking concert and dance was arranged, the following contributing to the programme:—Misses L. Carter, I. Bowman, L. Belding, Messrs F. Thorne, A. Hamlin (violin solos), H. Edwards (cornet solos), P. Hewlett (flute and piccolo solos), A. Mattock ('cello solos), H. Hare (piano solos), S. Carter, E. Belding, T. Austin, H. Clarke, J. Edmunds, and B. Davis. H. Hare was the accompanist. The Bijou Orchestra played selections from *The Earl and the Girl* and *The Cingalee* and also for dancing. Scores:—

Miss Lillie Belding's Ladies Eleven.—Miss N. Bailey, b H. Belding, 4; Miss E. Bowman, b H. Belding, 0; Miss W. Bradley, run out, 2; Miss L. Belding (captain), b H. Belding, 1; Miss I Bowman, b H. Belding, 6; Miss C. Fowler, b Bailey, 14; Miss K. Montgomery, b H. Belding, 11; Miss M. Fisher, b H. Belding, 3; Miss L. Carter, b H. Belding, 0; Miss A. Bernard, b Bailey, 12; Miss E. Francis, b H. Belding, 0; total, 53

Harry Belding's Gents Eleven.—J. Lewis, b Miss Bradley, 7; A. Cox, b Miss Bradley, 1; W. Miller, b Miss Bradley, 0; H. Belding (captain), b Miss Bradley, 9; S. Carter, b Miss Bradley, 2; E. Belding, b Miss Fowler, 7; J. Aubrey, b Miss Bradley, 2; A. E. Bailey, b Miss Bradley, 17; E Bowman, Miss Fowler, 10; T. Smith, b Miss Bradley, 0; L. Clayton, b Miss Bradley, 0; total, 55. At the conclusion of the match Miss W. Bradley was cheered for her splendid bowling.

AT Marylebone Police-court, on Saturday, James Adolph Auerbach, better known as James Behrens, twenty-eight, no home, a Danish subject, was charged, on remand, before Mr Curtis Bennett with stealing the sum of £295 in Bank of England notes belonging to Charles Prinz, a lion tamer, his employer. It appeared that the prosecutor was at the time lodging at Manor-place, Paddington. He went out, leaving his pocket-book containing the notes on the table. When he returned the book and the notes were gone, and the prisoner was missing. The latter was arrested by Detective Entiknap at Brighton, and he then said that he took the notes in a moment of sudden temptation and changed them at Paris, Copenhagen, and other places. A further charge was now preferred against him of stealing £7 belonging to George Hof, a baker, of Upper Charlton-street. Detective-inspector Ward said that the prisoner's correct name was Behrens. He had been imprisoned for six months at Hamburg for fraud, and he was wanted there now on a charge of embezzlement. He had also undergone thirty days' imprisonment in Scotland for fraud. Mr Curtis Bennett sentenced him to six months' hard labour on each charge, and said that when he came out of prison the prisoner would probably be arrested on the other case referred to.

THE Terriers will have their first social of the season at the headquarters, the Dover Castle Hotel, on Sunday night, when members and friends are cordially invited.

M. JULES CLARETIE, who receives daily an enormous mass of letters in his capacity as Administrator-general of the Comédie-Française, Paris, lately found in his correspondence an epistle from Manchester. It was written in dubious French, and the translation is as follows:—"Ashton Old-road, Openshaw, Manchester. Sir,—Have you a place next winter for a company of eight English acrobatic dancers, the eight Sisters Skipjack? For eight dancers, 70f. a-day, you to find the costumes and also pay for the voyage from Manchester to Paris. (Signed) GERTIE WHITTAKER." This letter, whether authentic or the work of an idle joker like one of those who occasionally pester busy people with idiotic anonymous communications, will in all likelihood be placed as a curiosity in the archives of the Comédie-Française.

PRELLE'S dogs will make their first appearance in London at the Alhambra on Monday. This animal act comes from the Continent with a big reputation, a rather novel feature of the "turn" being that the dogs wear masks in caricature of human beings.

THOMAS MOORHEAD, medical student, Chestnut Lodge, Booterstown-avenue, Dublin, was charged on Tuesday with being disorderly, using profane language in the Empire Theatre, Dublin, and with assaulting Mr Figgis, the manager. The accused, with two other gentlemen, was sitting in a box on Monday, throwing lighted matches and ignited cigarette ends on to the stage and into the auditorium. Mr Figgis remonstrated with them, whereupon the two friends retired, but the prisoner made a rush at Mr Figgis and caught him by the throat. There was a tussle, in which Mr Figgis secured the prisoner until arrested. Mr Drury, the stipendiary, spoke very strongly on the conduct of the accused. The only doubt he had in his mind was whether he should not send the prisoner to gaol for such conduct without the option of a fine; but he would fine him £5 or two months' imprisonment.

MR CHAS. BEST, known to fame as Mac Bunker the Mountebank, whose quaint appearance and business have been the cause of so much merriment for the last twenty-two weeks on the Moss and Stoll tours, commences his first engagement with Mr Frank Macnaghten at the Palace, Lincoln, on Monday.

MR CARL FREDRICKS concluded his al fresco concerts at Teignmouth and Dawlish this week, the last three performances being given in the Pavilion and at the Assembly Rooms to excellent audiences. His benefit concerts at Dawlish and Teignmouth resulted in record houses, crowds being turned away. He is now touring Devon with his company until Nov. 2, when he is specially engaged for the great Plymouth Exhibition, and for pantomime at the Opera House, Torquay.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday Mr Harry Kenyon, acting-manager of the Grand Theatre of Varieties, Bolton, was the recipient of a very handsome solid silver cigarette box, with engraved monogram "H.K." on top, from Georges Hackenschmidt (who was then appearing at the Palace Varieties, Manchester), together with a letter couched in feeling terms, and stating that it was sent as a souvenir prior to his (Hackenschmidt's) departure for Australia.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

CHAT WITH CHEEVERS & KENNEDY.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

In all professions experience counts for a great deal, even in this age of sudden evolutions, fickleness, and rapid transitions. And while it has in some cases to be admitted that in the evening of one's days, and as the shadows creep along the wall, it were better, perhaps, to steer clear of the floodtide, ship one's oars, and drift easily into the backwater of life, it is undeniable in many instances that almost overwhelming inducements to again put off from the banks and compete with the traffic of the stream are offered to men who have been favoured more or less with the mantle of Methusaleh. Probably in no other calling than the theatrical does the man of great and lengthy experience become more popular and of increased value as a money-maker with advancing years.

Take the case of Mr Joseph E. Cheevers and Mr Edward J. Kennedy, who have worked in conjunction with one another for a long period. Neither of these gentlemen can lay claim to great age, but

Photo by Charles Russell.

MR. J. E. CHEEVERS.

they certainly can lay claim to great experience. Their work is as much admired now as it was twenty years ago, and that is talking "pretty considerable." Both of them citizens of the United States, they started together in the variety business as youngsters, calling themselves the Buffalo Boys. They were the originators of their own particular line, their speciality being quick changes with songs, patter, and clog, hornpipe, and sand-dancing. After performing for some years in the States, they came to this country and opened at the London Pavilion, which they left at the end of two weeks. The then manager told them that they would be glad to come back at half the salary he had given them, but, as a matter of fact, they returned to the Pavilion some months later at exactly double the remuneration they had received before. A fourteen months' stay at the Cambridge followed, and here their success was so great that a special gallery had to be built to accommodate a number of people who could not otherwise have got into the house. The ensuing Christmas season saw them at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, where they presented their specialities in a pantomime in which Mrs John Wood was the principal boy, the Walton Family doing the harlequinade. Going on to the Grafton Theatre, Dublin, the roll of triumph was resumed, and a new gallery had to be erected in this establishment. The Dublin people were so enthusiastic in their praise of Cheevers and Kennedy that the late Mr Michael Gunn, of the old Theatre Royal, Dublin, engaged them for the last two weeks of his pantomime, in which they appeared about ten o'clock each night. Mr Gunn made the boast that he took £20 a night more after half-past nine than he did during the whole run of the pantomime, in which, by the way, Mrs Gunn played Dick Whittington, the Lauri Family attended to the harlequinade, and Mr Charles Lauri was the cat. A trip to Paris, where they appeared at the Fantaisies, brought further good fortune to

Photo by Hana.

MR. E. J. KENNEDY.

Cheevers and Kennedy. Then came a return visit to the States, where they opened with Carncross and Dixey's Minstrels at the New Eleventh-street Opera House, Philadelphia.

Their start in the dramatic line was with an adaptation of Captain Marryat's "Japhet in Search of a Father." After running the piece for a little while they were notified of an engagement at Maguire's Opera House, San Francisco, some 3 000 miles from Philadelphia and a seven days' journey. On their arrival they were informed that the hall was going to close, and that proved to be the truth. All that they did there was to give a performance at the benefit of a friend, as they thought they might as well do something. It was, however, the laugh in professional and even other circles that Cheevers and Kennedy travelled 3 000 miles to 'Frisco to perform at a benefit! After appearing with Billy Emerson's Minstrels for a couple of months, Cheevers and Kennedy sailed for Australia. They broke their journey on the way at Honolulu, intending to perform there for one month, as the boats only called once in four weeks. One of the sailing companies had a disagreement, and the next boat did not stop at Honolulu, the result being that the two comedians were detained on the island several weeks longer than they should have been. However, they tell us they spent a fairly nice time, what with being invited out to dog dinners by the native chiefs. This was considered a great honour, but Cheevers and Kennedy did not appreciate at a very high estimate having a savoury piece of dead dog placed before them for a meal. The night before they sailed for Australia a benefit was given to them at the Royal Hawaiian Theatre, Honolulu. The placed was packed, for they had made so many friends in the town, and the King's box was sold seven times. Their first place of opening in our Antipodean colony was at the Victoria Theatre, Sydney, where they made such a big hit that the proprietor offered them £100 a week for twelve months. They sent out under their own name minstrel and other companies throughout Australia, doing very good business and remaining in the colony some four years. Then came a short separation between the two entertainers who had worked side by side for so many years. Mr Cheevers came to England and worked as a single turn in London and the provinces, but later on he was rejoined by Mr Kennedy, and together they played in the Birmingham Theatre Royal pantomime of *Dick Whittington*, with Miss Vesta Tilley in the title-rôle, others in the cast being Mr J. H. Milburn, Mr Charles Coborn, Mr Fred and Mrs Marlow, and Miss Alice Harvey. For the following year they were engaged by Mr Michael Gunn to appear as the Emperor and Empress of China in his pantomime of *Dick Whittington* at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, and the ensuing Christmas season they played similar characters at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester. After running a piece called *An Irish Elopement* for some little time, Mr Kennedy got married and settled down, the partnership existing between the two men being thus broken. Mr Cheevers purchased the Phœnix Music Hall, Dover, which he successfully managed for six years, then selling it at a good price. He next took the Savoy Palace Hotel in the Strand, but after two and a half years he gave it up. The old comrades have once again united forces, and but a few days ago opened at Gatti's and the Metropole. Curiously, Mr Ike Baker, the present musical director at Gatti's, was their first conductor when they made their *début* in London at the Pavilion. After the show was over last Monday night, Mr Baker offered his congratulations to Messrs Cheevers and Kennedy, stating that he saw no difference in their entertainment, and that they certainly were as good as ever. Their business now consists of Dutch, Irish, and nigger songs, entitled respectively "The Jealous Deitcher," "Pat and Bid," "Quit dat ticklin' me." These popular ditties have been written and composed by the clever couple who sing them, and in this respect they copy no one, but are entirely original in whatever they do before the footlights. They have always followed out their own ideas on the stage. Mr Cheevers, by the way, was the first boy clog-dancer in America, and as a single turn his great song successes have been "The Convict" and "I'm so happy." "Take me home," a Salvation Army ditty, which both of them sang at one time, was extremely popular both in England and the States.

Asked for a comparison between British and American variety establishments, Mr Cheevers said:—"American music halls are not in it with the English ones. The vaudeville houses in the States do not possess a full orchestra, and one has to be satisfied in the majority of cases with a piano accompaniment. It is so different from the condition of affairs here, where there is a nice band to assist an artist. Another thing is that the English managers give an artist a better chance of showing what he can do than is afforded by the American entrepreneurs. When we first came over to London we had a seven months' engagement at the Oxford."

We have no doubt that London amusement lovers will have an opportunity of seeing Messrs Cheevers and Kennedy for some time to come, and as they are first-rate performers it is not unlikely that the West-end will claim them for some time.

THE condition of Miss Florrie Zola, the daughter of Little Zola, we regret to hear, shows no improvement. She has been lying in St. Thomas's Hospital for one month, and all that care and skill can accommplish is being done for her.

CHAS. COVERDALE, the colloquial comedian, is paying his first visit to Dublin, where his yarns and imitations and extempore gagging are very successful.—Mr M'Askell, comic conjuror, is still detained at Scarborough in consequence of his wife's illness. He hopes, however, to take her home to-day, and will then be able to fulfil an engagement at the Circus, Rochdale.—Mr Leo Montague, comedian and dancer, leaves England on Wednesday next to fulfil a special engagement at Malta, returning in December to open on the Livermore tour.

M. CHAPLAIN, a cyclist, who was doing the "cercle de la mort" at Juliano's menagerie, Paris, now installed at the Fair of the Belfort Lion, in the Montparnasse district, had a bad fall last Sunday night. While going around he seems to have lost the track, and fell on some of the people who were looking at him. The cyclist has been hurt chiefly in the hands. The people on whom he fell were contused in the shoulders and arms.

THE Vinolia Company's soaps have obtained such a world-wide reputation that there is no need to dwell upon their many excellent qualities. But there is still something to be said concerning the genuine artistic taste and ability that are shown in the way these soaps are prepared for the retailer. The company's newest products include the "Wallflower," the "Violet," and the "Peau d'Espagne." The sweet-scented flowers of the cruciferous plant are accurately depicted on the wrappers and the boxes containing the tablets of the "Wallflower," the artist having hit the truly typical colour, and arranged his stalks around a display of the name of the soap and the company in a most pleasing manner. The fancy scrolls and the central designs which they lightly surround are rendered more effective by a general green and gold honeycomb setting. The boxes of the "Violet" soap are distinguished by an exquisitely chaste configuration. The dainty flower of the popular violet centrally depicted on a delicate spiral stalk is an exceptionally fine achievement in high-class colour printing. In Savon "Peau d'Espagne" (Vinolia) neatly combined chocolate and gold are presented in a form creating an impression of reliability and solid worth, and chemists would be well advised to include a few of this pattern in assortment with those above described.

"BURNING TO SING; OR, SINGING TO BURN," an operetta, libretto by R. H. Burnside, music by Gustave Kerker, was on Thursday produced, for copyright purposes, at the Lyric Theatre.

DR. J. C. OLIVER, Oriental magician, and Mdlle. Jeanetta, the original queen of handcuffs, terminate a successful tour of four months in Scotland to-day.

MISS AGNES HANSON, daughter of the original Johnny Hanson, has made a success at Salisbury this week in a new and original song entitled "Oh, the Photograph," by A. C. Shelley, and composed by Louis Dalroy.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your correspondent's report of *The Fatal Wedding* at Boscombe is mentioned my daughter, Little Nora. She has not been a member of the company since the first week in August. Yours faithfully, FRED RILEY. 4, Albert-road, Peckham, Sept. 28.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

THE specially summoned meeting of the Society of Theatrical Carpenters, held last Sunday evening in the Salisbury Hotel, was well attended. Mr Andrew Mather, formerly master carpenter at the Gaiety Theatre, was elected a member of the society. The new bye-laws, by which the society will become a branch of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, were discussed in detail and unanimously adopted. It was agreed that the bye-laws should come into operation on and from Oct. 1. It was also agreed to provide additional benefits, and the former scale of contributions was revived. The new rules will provide for two classes of membership. Class A: Contribution, 2d. per week; and Class B, 4d. per week. The contribution to the Benevolent Fund will be 1d. per month. The society had not previously a funeral fund, but it has been decided to divide its existing funds between a general fund, a funeral fund, and a benevolent fund. At one time most of the theatrical carpenters in London were members of this society, and the committee hope that all members who have allowed their membership to lapse will rejoin or apply to be reinstated.

MESSRS A. PALMER, R. Andrews, master carpenter, Wyndham's, and Mr G. Hughes, master carpenter, Court Theatre, were appointed to represent the carpenters' branch on the joint concert committee.

IT is stated that the Registrar has returned the agreement arrived at by the members of the Dramatic and Musical Fund with regard to the dissolution of that society for all members to attach their signatures. From this it may be assumed that the Registrar approves the agreement, and that it will take effect before Christmas.

THE members of the Sick and Funeral Fund of the No. 1 Branch have agreed, by a majority of two to one, to accept members of the working staff connected with the Dramatic and Musical Fund, irrespective of age, and give them a clear card for all benefits of the branch. The contributions of such members so transferred will be 6d. per week thereafter—a subscription paid by all other members of this fund.

THE Joint Concert Committee met on Tuesday at 29, Wellington-street, Strand, the committee of the No. 1 Branch N.A.T.S.E. having placed their offices at the disposal of the Concert Committee. All members were present. The question of prices of tickets was carefully considered, and it was decided that they should be from 6d. to £1 1s. The committee adjourned until Tuesday next at 10 o'clock.

THE other day a fire occurred in some chambers in Maiden-lane, and a number of the employees of the Adelphi Theatre, *The Earl and the Girl* company staff, got out the fire hose and succeeded in putting out the flames before the firemen arrived. Mr William Greet has requested Mr M'Kenzie, the master carpenter, to distribute £5, given by Mr Greet, among the members of the staff who exerted themselves.

A MEETING will be held to-morrow evening at the Freemasons' Tavern, Long-acre, to receive donations in respect of the case mentioned in this column last week. Among those who are giving their support to the appeal are Mr James Cullen, Mr H. Elliott, Mr Sheldon, Mr E. Wilks, Mr J. Russell, Mr A. Wood, and others.

A MEETING will be held in the Royal Standard, Fleming-street, Kingsland-road, to-morrow evening from 8 0 to 9 0 o'clock. Mr C. Thorogood and Mr Wm. Johnson will be present.

A MEETING of the Newcastle Branch members of the National Association will be held at 7 30 to-morrow night in the Percy Arms, Percy-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR H. LAWRENCE HARRIS asks us to state that his duties as secretary to the Scenic Artists' Association will not preclude his entertaining offers for engagement as business-manager of a West-end theatre.

MR W. TELBIN and MR THOS. E. RYAN have joined the Scenic Artists' Association.

NOTICES and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

FOOTBALL.

MR JACK LEONARD'S XI. v. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS ATHLETIC CLUB

Played at Eastville on Wednesday, Sept. 21. The following were the teams:—

Jack Leonard's XI.—H. Clarke, goal; F. Thorne, and A. Lucas, backs; F. Stevens, B. Austin, and S. Carter, half-backs; E. Bowman, J. Leonard (captain), T. Edmunds, H. Edwards, and A. English, forwards.

Bristol Early Closers Athletic Club.—B. Yandell, goal; F. Wyatt and G. Hedges (captain) backs; B. Green, W. Lloyd, and T. Brooks, half backs; A. Rossiter, F. Conners, W. Denty, E Belding (Bristol X.L.C.R. Athletic Club), and S. Coombes, forwards.

Referee, J. Aubrey (of Bristol X.L.C.R. Club). Linesmen, H. Hare and P. Hewlett. Result:—Jack Leonard's XI., nil; Bristol Early Closers, A.F.C., two goals. B. Green and S. Coombes scored for Bristol Early Closers, A F.C.

MR ALFRED CAPUS, one of the most successful of latter-day French dramatists, was the chairman of an international congress of dramatic authors, critics, and composers which assembled at Nancy on Monday. The assembly has been called Le Congrès de l'Art Dramatique, and also Le Congrès de Théâtre. There were present at the congress Frenchmen, Spaniards, Flemings, Swiss, and Alsatians. Papers were read on popular and open-air theatres, and on the means to be adopted for enabling young and obscure dramatic authors to get to the front. A Swiss delegate announced the approaching organisation in his country of a popular theatre, which would be of the itinerant kind, good plays being taken around large, and even small, towns. The congress was concluded by the usual banquet, without which such assemblies would be rather commonplace. There was a congress of this sort in Paris during the Exhibition of 1900, but it led to nothing practical, and had no influence whatever on the managers of theatres.

TWO numbers from *The Belle of the Orient* are being issued by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter. They are "In the Good Old Days of Yore" and "My Poster Girl," written in conjunction with Paul Knox, by Clifford Harris and Jas. W. Tate. The latter two writers have likewise published with the same house a song-scena "Down among the Pumpkins."

AT the Large Town Hall, Reading, Ralph Pringle's North American Animated Photo. Company is giving an excellent entertainment to crowded houses. Selbo, the juggler, is specially engaged. Miss Le Clair sings in good style, and the Reading Borough Band plays selections at each performance.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your notice of the Royal Albert Music Hall you mention a Thomas Cecil as appearing. It should have been, yours faithfully, TOM CECIL. 58, Mayes-road, Wood-green, N., Sept. 28.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 19.)

STALYBRIDGE.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Leighton Rooke.—Miss Ida Millais and company are here with *No Man's Land*. Mr Henry Herne acts with good effect as Harry Oaklands. Mr Williams as Mat Marsden and Mr Fred Conyers as Silas Moore give powerful delineations. The comedy element is well looked after by Mr S. H. Morton as Solomon Jacob, Mr Claude Haviland as Dr. Buxton, and Miss Kate Maynard as Mrs Poodle. Miss Ida Millais is a popular favourite as Mary Bathurst. The theatre has recently undergone thorough redecoration in white and gold, and a new and complete electric installation is now being fitted throughout, special attention being paid to the lighting of the stage. These improvements are largely appreciated.

STOCKPORT.

New Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—The attractive character of *Sherlock Holmes*, though quite familiar here, has been amply shown by the large audiences, who have witnessed the representations with every degree of pleasure. Mr H. A. Saintsbury's impersonation of Sherlock Holmes is most impressive, and commands everyone's admiration. Dr. Wilson is a pleasing character in the hands of Mr Lawrence Leyton, and Mr M. Macdermott as John Forman fills his part with marked ability. Mr W. F. Stirling makes a capital Professor Moriarty, and Mr Leslie Carter is an able James Larrabee. Miss Vera Langdon acts most charmingly as Alice Faulkner, and Miss Maud Linden portrays the character of Madge Larrabee with success.

Ohmy's Circus.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Ohmy.—The exceedingly clever Grovini Troupe of lady and gentlemen acrobats head a lengthy list of varied talent, which includes Kavardos, juggler; Mons. Hanlon, expert bar performer; and the comical clowns and popular favourites, August and September.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—A new play with the alluring title of *A Modern Adventuress* is presented here by Messrs Carson and Granville's company. As Harry Delby Mr Charles Stirling is successful; Mr W. R. Winning scores as the villain Wallace Danton; Mr Evan Rowland's John Crompton shows humour and a good grasp of the Yorkshire dialect; Steve Meredith, as done by Mr Charles Herberte, is very clever; as Walter Beal Mr Geo. P. Lester is well fitted for his various disguises; Mr Leonard Aardale is good as Pietro Donelli; Miss Mimi Fisher's Sally Hodges is full of fun; Miss Alice Defoe's Vivette Delby is very creditable; and Miss Beatrice M. Anderson's Violet Meredith is acted with considerable power.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr John Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—This week the top turn here is given by Herr Wilhelm Linde's Imperial Boys' Orchestra, a combination of juveniles it would be difficult to beat; Gus Hindell, a local favourite, in good sensible songs; the Violas, in a clever act of mental telepathy; Ike Scott and Son, in their humorous singing act; Shang Hia, in Chinese conjuring; Geo. Collins, comic; Payne's up-to-date Bographic pictures; and Los Angelos, lady duettists with capital vocal abilities.

STOKE.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—Mr Frank Coyne, who heads the bill here, is a tremendous success; Mr Claude Ginnett's company in *Rejected Remounts* is excellent; Alexander Royal is smart, Herbert Maden sings his songs well, and Jackson and May in "Swooping the Swoop" are entertaining. Charles Serra in his acrobatic novelty is good; Ryde and Beeman are contortionists extraordinary; and Frank Dunlop is a clever mimic.

STOURBRIDGE.

Alhambra Theatre.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—The melodrama, *A Wrecker of Men*, played by Mr C. Watson Mill's company, is proving a great attraction here. Mr C. Watson Mill as Jim Murley is in good form, and Mr Alfred Maurice as Guiseppe Strangi gives a capable impersonation. Mr Charles Yorke as Pharosaphus does full justice to a difficult rôle, and the same can be said of Mr J. W. Ryder, who undertakes three parts. The chief character in the piece is entrusted to Miss Rosalind Tate, who in the character of Risca Mallison gives a delightful delineation. Miss Victoria May as Dorris Melville plays in a winsome manner, while Miss Kitty Melville is highly amusing as Vavasole Slopper.

SWANSEA.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce.—Sir Henry Irving and his fine company played *The Merchant of Venice* here on Monday evening. The great actor's reading of the difficult part of the Jew Shylock was masterly to a degree. Miss E. Wynne Mathison, too, as Portia proved herself a finished artist. Her voice was exceedingly sympathetic and musical, and the lines allotted to her received their just due. The scenic arrangements were a great feature of the performance, which compelled rapt attention, and led to enthusiastic recalls at each act-curtain. At the close of the performance, Sir Henry thanked the audience for the reception accorded to him and his company, and assured them of his deep gratitude, mentioning that he had that day received a telegram from his "dear friend" Mr Toole, asking to be remembered to all Swansea friends, and also one from Mr Frank Mouillot, regretting his inability to be present. This is the famous actor's last appearance in Swansea. On Tuesday Sir Henry presented the late Lord Tennyson's *Becket*. Miss Maud Fealy took the part of Rosamund De Clifford. Her acting was very fine. A piece of finished representation was the Henry II. of Mr Gerald Lawrence. The Queen Eleanor of Mrs Cecil Raleigh was another outstanding feature of the performance. The curtain was twice raised at the end of the four acts. It was a triumph.

SWINDON.

Queen's Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr F. H. Lucas.—Miss Grace Warner's company is presenting here *The New Commander*. The piece is under the direction of Mr Couch-Johns, and a large, well-balanced chorus and augmented orchestra are ably conducted by Mr Caffyn Baxter. Miss Grace Warner plays the part of Violet Flintheart with inexhaustible freshness. Mr George Gordon as Lieutenant Frank Harding is a conspicuous success, and Mr B. Couch-Johns as Lieutenant Jack Tremingway is earnest and dignified, his fine voice making him a firm favourite. Miss May Dallas is very pleasing as Vivette; Miss Maud Warburton does well as Freddie; Mr Millar Anderson submits a quaint impersonation of Tittums; and Mr St. Bernard Wyntour as the Sultan and Mr Francis Serle as Mr Matthew Flintheart are also seen to advantage. The Primrose Quartet of lady dancers work hard throughout.

SUNDERLAND.

Avenue, Limited. — Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr F. R. Benson and his Shakespearian company are paying a return visit here this week. On Monday *Hamlet* was presented, Mr Benson appearing in the title-rôle and Mrs Benson as Ophelia. As Claudius Mr B. A. Pittar was successful, and a like remark applies to Mr Clarence Derwent as Horatio. Mr Cyril Keightley was an excellent Laertes.

Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—*At War With Women*, a sensational drama, by Mr Frank Bateman, is being played here this week. Miss Lizzie Montague as Auriel Romanoff, Mr Clinton Baddeley as Antolski, Mr Edward Ouston as Alex. Romanoff, Miss Marion Warren, and Messrs Shaun Glenville, Fred Vaughan, and T. F. Kent are equally good in their respective parts.

Palace Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—Mr John Lawson, in *Humanity*, is the premier attraction here this week. May Evans and May Milburn, comediennes, each contribute pleasing turns, and the performances of Victor Travis, comedian; Robins and Collier, sketch artistes; Charles Stevens, vocalist; La Belle Nello, contortionist; and Zertho's dogs complete an excellent programme.

TORQUAY.

Theatre Royal. — Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr R. Smerdon; Secretary, pro tem., Mr Arthur Pearce.—An enthusiastic reception was accorded Mr George Dance's company, which is here on a first visit with *A Country Girl*. Mr Fred W. Pattrick, an old favourite, was welcomed as the Rajah of Bhong, and was repeatedly encored in his topical song. Mr Francis Ludlow made an exceedingly favourable impression as Geoffrey, and Mr Harry Buss as the irrepressible Barry was excellent. His duet with Miss Rosie Begarnie, whose Sophie was a clever girl, was admirable. Miss Nellie Cozens was a great favourite in her spirited representation of Nan, a Devon lass; and the singing of Miss K. Comber and Miss Ernestine Desborough delighted an appreciative house.

WAKEFIELD.

Royal Opera House.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr Frank Nelson's company in the farcical comedy, *Trooper Hunt's Widow*, is here this week. Mr Howard Cridland in the title-rôle gives a capital rendering; Mr Roy Milton is successful as Richard Hunt; Mr Edgar Kent acts well as Harry Fraser; Mr Henry Osman is capable as Gordon Ryder; and Mr Cecil Fowler does well as Nathaniel Sapp. Miss Amy Edmunds makes a charming Francis Gresham; Miss Susie Oak depicts ably the part of Bessie Wood; and Miss Ella Kitson wins favour as Mrs Watson.

WALSALL.

Her Majesty's Theatre, Limited.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr Tom E. Murray and company, in *Our Irish Visitors*, opened here on Monday. As Colonel M'Mahon Mr Tom E. Murray is exceedingly good; Mr J. W. Braithwaite capably takes the part of Mr O'Brady; Mr Alfred D. Adams is most successful as Gilly Softsolder; Mr P. Piercy Watson fills the part of Jack Hyson in a creditable manner; and Miss Amy Knott is good as Mammy. The Imperial Troupe of lady dancers are well received.

Grand Theatre.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Company, Limited; General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Messrs E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company is paying a visit here this week with *The Traitor*. Mr Wellesley Draper gives a good representation to the dual rôle of Prince Rudolph and Colonel Nervi; Mr Stephen E. Scanlan is capital in the title-rôle; Miss Hettie Senior is well placed as Elsie Duprey; Miss Theresa Osborne is satisfactory as Zula; and as Countess Zicka Miss Lily Roselle does well.

WALTHAMSTOW.

Palace. — Managing-Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slater.—The programme here includes Mr Wal Robbins, black and white artiste; the Sisters Morgan, lively duettists and dancers; Musical Silvo, whose manipulation of all manner of eccentric instruments, is exceedingly clever and tuneful; Miss Hetty King, who is charming in her two impersonations; the Great Northern Troupe, in their dainty exhibition of International dancing; Mr Harry Tate, in *Motoring*; Lord, Murray, and Lord, in their clever athletic act, *The Intruder*; Miss Gladys Mavius, coon singer and dancer, and Mr Fred Maxwell and his company in *Anarchy*.

WARRINGTON.

Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is here this week in *A Traitor Prince*. A special feature is the dances of the Geisha acrobatic dancers. Mr Austin Mortimer acts with skill and dash as Lieut. Frank Derrick; Prince Rao finds an able impersonator in Mr G. M. Montanini; Mr E. Carter Livesey imparts much humour to the part of Billy Bright; and an acceptable Hon. Bobbie is Mr T. G. Vane. Miss Lilian Rosebury acts charmingly as Lola Vane, and Miss Beatrice Western is good as Vashti. Miss Maudie Grayson as Pansy Blossom and Mrs E. C. Matthews as Mrs Martha Blossom complete an efficient cast.

Royal Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Wilmot.—Jimmy De Voye and his educated pony are proving a capital draw at this house. Billy Farrell scores with his songs, and Harry Osmond, musical comedian; Mexican Mac, sharpshooter; Lily Lonsdale, vocalist; Ernie Myers, comedian; and the Hayes Brothers make up an excellent programme.

WEDNESBURY.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Cranston.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company is presenting the up-to-date drama entitled *A London Actress* here this week. Mr Stuart Cleveland as Sergeant-Major Crawford is responsible for some clever work. Mr Chas. E. Leicester acts the part of Lieut. Kingston in an efficient manner. Mr Fred Tenaur as Moses Mendoza gives a capital rendering of the part. Mr Sam Wilford supplies a humorous portrayal of Pat Maloney. Miss Emma Litchfield displays ability in the rôle of Hilda Mannering. As Elsie Roberts Miss Phyllis Crawford is seen to advantage. Miss Louise Millward as Biddy Maloney is very good, as is also Miss Maud Steeples as Mrs Skinner. As the Policeman Lewis Mr Jack Clyde is all that can be desired.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Grand.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Fred Conneaux.—The attraction this week is *A Stranger in a Strange Land*, which is being played by a strong company under the direction of Mr C. W. Somerset and Mr Lionel Rignold. The latter in the rôle of Charles Dudley is very amusing. Mr Victor Widdicombe capitally represents the character of Nathaniel Daniel Boller. The rôles of the pseudo Indians are admirably sustained by Mr Wylie A. Thompson as Arthur Lowe and Mr Harry Newman as Inspector Harrington. Jack Thorndyke has a capable representative in Mr J. A. Bentham, and Ta Mo Nee is well embodied by Mr Ernest Percy. Of the ladies praise must be awarded Miss Laura Clement, who works unflaggingly and successfully as the Hon. Mrs Barton Halcombe; and to Miss Agnes Russell as Grace Halcombe; and a capable representative of Alice Wellington is found in Miss Miriam Nesbitt.

Palace. — Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Phillips and Lorenzi are filling in a second week with their original absurdity *The Saucy Kipper*. Blake and Granby, in an amusing comedy sketch, earn unbounded applause. The balancing act of Iben Obed is one that holds the audience spell-bound, so apparently delicate and difficult are the feats that are performed. The white coon, George Bendon, gives in excellent voice and style some coon songs. Rosie Bartlett renders some very acceptable songs. Morny Cash, in patter and jokes, is a favourite. Herman Friscari, who has appeared here on several occasions, is watched with as great an interest as ever. Fox and Melville, after their absence, are gaining much applause for their song-illustrations, and Minnie D'Aubyn, a pleasing burlesque artiste, completes the programme.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House.—Manager, Mr W. Payne.—Mr Alfred B. Cross's company is paying a return visit here this week in *The Manxman*. The Pete of Mr A. B. Cross is the embodiment of all that is manly and heroic. Mr Richard Vane is a praiseworthy Philip Christian, and Mr Hilton Francis is an excellent Cæsar Cregeen. Mr Edward M'Lean makes the most of Ross Christian. Mr C. H. Ogden (Dr. Mylchreest), Mr John Allen (Tom), Mr E. Cartell (Monty Missit), and Mr Douglas Cottell (Professor Mawley) all deserve praise. Miss Minnie Watersford's Kate Cregeen is a convincing impersonation, and Miss Rosie Kearn's Nancy merits the highest commendation. Miss Muriel Clay is extremely good as Miss Christian.

WEST STANLEY.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Lindon.—Mr Sanderson Moffat and his company are here this week with *A Woman Adrift*, and the following powerful cast are giving entire satisfaction:—Mr Leslie Beaufort is good as Sir John Ingleby; Miss Violet Keand scores as Lady Ingleby; Mr W. A. Mackersey as Dr. Cameron; Miss Cissie Bell as Nurse Cooper; Miss Phyllis Hamilton as Cora Leigh; and Mr Sanderson Moffatt as Don Leo Castro also do well.

Victoria Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr T. C. Rawes; Resident Manager, Mr David Williams.—The attraction here this week is *The Girl from Bond-street*, played by Messrs Woodbridge and Rendell's company. Mr J. W. Woodbridge is very good as Seacombe, and as Fielding and Maynard Messrs S. Liddiard and G. Watts respectively fill their parts well. Miss Phyllis Manners is deservedly applauded for her rendering of the part of Mrs Harvey, and Miss V. Varcoe is pleasing as Lucy. Miss B. Bartlett is a capable Lady Fielding, and Miss L. Besant is pleasing as Lottie.

WIGAN.

Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—The comic opera *Amorelle* has been presented here this week by Mr C. P. Levilly's company. Miss Empsie Bowman as Amorelle gives a charming rendering of the character; Mr Leon Simkin plays admirably the comedy part of Dr. Crow; and all the other characters are well represented. The chorus both in volume of tone and technique is good, and the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr W. H. Davin, makes up a musically perfect ensemble. The opera is admirably staged and dressed.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—Duncan's well-trained collie dogs give a capital performance; and Lillie Langtry is a vivacious and highly amusing comedienne. Grace Compton, vocalist; Arthur Slater, whistling comedian and mimic; Barton and Franklin, musicians; and Walter Curtis, humorous entertainer, are well received. The Falcons, comedy acrobats; Baroni and Kemp, quick-change artistes, &c.; Bert Woodward, in cycling comedy; and Rita and Roma, vaudeville entertainers, also furnish excellent turns.

WORCESTER.

New Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton; General Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—Mr Henry Dundas's company is here this week in the drama entitled *Human Nature*. Mr Dundas gave a powerful impersonation of Captain Temple, and the part of Mrs Temple was cleverly portrayed by Miss Batho Griffiths. Mr Henry C. Cooper was good as the villainous solicitor, and Mr Sidney Young as the clerk caused considerable merriment. Miss Lilian Dundas was deserving of praise for her acting as Cora Grey; Mr Reginald Weighell was capital as Joe Lambkin; and the children's parts were well taken by Miss Daisy Cooke and Miss Marion Ryder.

WORKINGTON.

Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr C. F. Porter.—Messrs Scudamore and Richmond on Monday presented *The Beautiful Avenger* to a large and appreciative house. Mr L. Scudamore was successful as the villain. Mr A. Syms was agreeable and dignified as the hero. As Herman Mr G. Diamond was satisfactory. In the part of Jim Mr F. Withers was droll. Miss Cissie Podmore gave a spirited rendering of Baldie. Miss H. Meade was excellent in her dual embodiments. Miss Mabel Scudamore essayed the character of Edna, securing applause; and Miss L. Hawkins was a capable Arabella.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr H. Wright.—Silvester and Sansome's *Cissy* is paying a return visit, and meeting with approbation. Mr F. Sansome as Titus causes roars of laughter; Mr F. Gillions is good as Victor; as the adventurer Mr G. E. Butt is forceful; Miss R. Dramaundy is an effective Olive; and Miss F. Barnes is much liked as Cissie.

WORTHING.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr A. B. Dixon.—Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr Banister Howard, is here this week with *The Belle of New York*. Mr Arthur Ricketts is very clever as Ichabod Bronson. Mr Harold Wardroper is excellent as Harry Bronson, his fine vocalisation being greatly admired. Mr Walter Emro causes roars of laughter as Karl Von Pumpernick. Mr Guy Ford is good as "Doc." Mr Mack Ollive is cleverly typical as Blinkey Bill. Mr R. L. Cody and Mr Lionel Yeoman as the twin Portuguese are entertaining. The remaining male rôles are capably portrayed. Miss Mora Hersee as the Salvation lassie possesses a capital voice and uses it to advantage. The Fifi of Miss Helen Rose is an excellent performance. Miss Rose sings and dances well and soon installs herself a general favourite. Miss Ida Grandison deserves commendation as Cora Angelique. Miss Florence Hersee is vivacity personified in her dual part of Kissie and Mamie. On Thursday *Glittering Gloria* was presented by Mr William and Mr Philip Glyn's company.

WREXHAM.

Empire Music Hall.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls. — The company consists of E. J. Wilkes, a smart comedian; Harris and Worth, eccentric comedians; the Schumans, comedy artistes and dancers; Rosie Morn, comedienne; the Two Vervains, vocalists and quick-change artistes, and Tom Dalton, comedian and dancer.

YORK.

Royal.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—The ever-popular play, *The Silver King*, has drawn large audiences during the week. In the title-rôle Mr Lauderdale Maitland is particularly successful. Miss Lilian Bethell is an especially attractive Nellie Denver, Little Violet St. Clair makes a particularly pleasing Cissy, and the Jaikes of Mr Edward J. George is an excellent character study. Mr W. V. Garrod is an excellent Spider, Mr Arthur Wright does well as Coombe, and Mr Philip Renouf as Corket and Mr A. Northway as Cripps are alike excellent. Miss Lorna Treherne is sympathetic as Olive Skinner.

Opera House and Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke.—The management here is fortunate in securing Mr Tree's company in the famous play *The Darling of the Gods*, for three nights. A large and distinguished audience witnessed the play on Monday. Miss Lilian Stafford gave a fine exhibition of acting as Yo-San; Mr Ernest Stallard as Kara looked the part, and was frequently applauded for his clever acting; Mr G. W. Anson as Zakkuri gave a scholarly rendering; and Mr Robert Gray was a dignified Banza. Miss Rhoda Strauss made an excellent maid, and the remaining parts had ample justice done to them. On Thursday Mr George Edwardes' company in *The Toreador* occupied the boards.

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Fred Granville.

LONDON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre Reports Weekly of the Pavilion T., E. Address, "Dramaticus," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

LONDONDERRY.—OPERA HOUSE.
Proprietor, W. Payne Seddon.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, and 19, Jan. 2, and February, on.
It was not originally intended to fill these dates, but owing to the immense success of this theatre under new management, all dates will now be filled. Late Theatre Trains are now run weekly by the Midland, Great Northern, and Lough Swilley Railways to Strabane, Letterkenny, Limavady, and Bunerana, thus doubling the population hitherto available for theatrical purposes.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Proprietors,
Messrs Payne Seddon and George Robertson.
This handsome New Brick Theatre, fully Licensed, Lighted by Electricity, and Stage large enough for any Production, will be Opened at Christmas. Required, First-class Companies only, Feb. 9, 16, March 2, and on. Can be booked in conjunction with T. R., Peterborough.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

Still the Mascotte of South Wales.
MERTHYR, THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Freeholder, and Manager, Will Smithson.
The Business Capabilities of this Theatre are well known.
Bookings include:—Geo. Dance's "Chinese Honeymoon," "San Toy," "Toreador," "My Lady Molly," Van Biene, The Leopolds, "The Eternal City," F. R. Benson and Company, "New Mephisto," "Sherlock Holmes," William Greet's "Sign of the Cross," "Floradora," "The Christian," &c., and a host of First-class Attractions. Nothing booked but Big Successes. First-class Band, Electric Lighting, Good Stock of Scenery, and Real Live Management, W. S., on spot.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — TEMPERANCE HALL. — Accommodates 2,000. New Heating Apparatus and Electric Light. Best Hall in the Town. 200,000 people within reach. Choirs, Minstrels, Exhibitions, &c. Apply for special terms to the SECRETARY.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE. Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN; General Manager, CHAS. M. JULIAN.— Easter Vacant for Musical Attraction. Address, Mr JULIAN, Oct. 3, T. R., Coatbridge.

NORTH SHIELDS. ROYAL. Lessee and Manager, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House.

NORWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.— Enlarged, Redecorated, Lighted throughout by Electricity, Upholstered by Dean and Co. No Vacant Dates this year. Now Booking 1905. Address, FRED MORGAN, as above.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE. Manager, CHARLES P. COOKE. Big Attraction Required Easter week. Must be First-class. Silence a courteous negative.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.— Holding Capacity, £200. Telephone, 362. Feb. 6, 13 open for First-class Pantomime. Transfer of a London Production Preferred. All communications to ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.— Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr THOMAS LUCAS, J.P., Managing-Director. Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — GRAND THEATRE. — Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class Attractions only. For Dates, apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

PORTSMOUTH, NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. BOUGHTON. Open throughout the Year. First-class Companies. Weekly Matinées.

PORTSMOUTH.—EMPIRE PALACE.— Oct. 3, Cooke and Clinton, B. Kent, T. Collins, Barrett and Knowles, E. Mayne, Smith and Johnson, C. Ulrick, Nash and Noel, New York Quartette, Kitts and Windrum. Rehearsal at 2·0 p.m. All communications to the SECRETARY.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing Director, W. MARLOW. Manager, W. MARLOW, Jun. The Prettiest and Most Popular Place of Amusement in the Town. Bookings include:—Mrs Lewis Waller, in "Zaza;" Mabel Love, in "Sweet and Twenty;" Miss Louie Freear, in "Boy Bob;" the Moody-Manners Opera Company, Mr Geo. Dance's Companies, in "The Country Girl," "The School Girl," "The Girl from Kay's," &c. Managers of First-class Companies please address, W. MARLOW, Jun., as above.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE. — Nov. 14 and 28 Unexpectedly Vacant. Now Booking 1905. Apply, ALFRED HEMMING, Manager.

SOUTH SHIELDS. THEATRE ROYAL. Lessees and Managers, J. and F. COULSON. Vacant Nov. 14, April 17, May 8. Address, J. and F. COULSON, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

STOCKPORT, THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. Sole Owner and Manager, Mr CHARLES REVILL. Will hold at ordinary Popular Prices £120. Bookings include "Amorelle," "The Earl and the Girl," "The Never-Never Land," "The Girl from Kay's," "Florodora," "Lucky Durham," "Duchess of Dantzic," "The Orchid," "The Cherry Girl," "My Lady Molly," "A Chinese Honeymoon." "Three Little Maids," &c. Vacant, Dec. 5, Jan 9, Feb 6, onwards, with exceptions. THE THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, Six Miles Distant, Booked in Conjunction Will hold at ordinary Popular Prices £140. All communications, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—VICTORIA HALL. —Seats about 750. Balcony, small stock Scenery, Proscenium, Tableaux Curtains. Only Hall with Dramatic Licence in the Town No sharing. Address, JOHN MORTON, Hallkeeper; W. J. LANGDON, Esq., J.P., Hon. Manager.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE OPERA HOUSE and THEATRE ROYAL. Managing-Director, CHAS. E. MACHIN. General Manager, PERCIVAL CRAIG. Only Vacant Dates: AVENUE. April 10, May 1, 8, 22, 29. ROYAL. Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 13, 20, 27, &c. Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred. Apply, C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, THE WALSALL THEATRES Co., Ltd; Secretary and Manager, W. H. WESTWOOD — Holds £180. Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. Vacant Oct. 17, Nov. 14 and 28, and Dec. 12.

WEST BROMWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Open All the Year Round. Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre. Vacant Jan. 2. All communications to JAMES P. MOORE.

WOKING.—PUBLIC HALL.— JOHN SMYTH, Secretary. The Hall is fitted with Electric Light, Scenery by Hinton, Tip-up Seats by Deans, of Birmingham. The Stage has recently been Enlarged. Good Attractions only Required. J. LEWIS, Manager.

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Address, the PUBLISHER, Forty-nine, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C. "Wire," "The Era, London." "Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.

WANTED, Companies for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. Nov. 14, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 23, 30, on.

MANAGERS PLEASE NOTE. WE HAVE NO BILL ORDERS OR FREE LIST OF ANY KIND WHATEVER (PRESS EXCEPTED AT DALSTON THEATRE.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING. Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 19 (Three Nights), Feb. 27, on. ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Nov. 7, Feb. 6, 20, 27, March 13, on. (Musical Companies preferred.) GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, Feb. 23 (Three Nights), 27, March 13, 27, on. CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD. Vacant, April 3, 17, on. THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD. Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 16, 23, on. OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. Vacant, Feb. 13, 27, March 13, 20, on. THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON. Vacant, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, on. Leamington Bookings include "Little Mary," Miss Nethersole's "Sapho," "Sweet and Twenty," Miss Fortescue, "Florodora," "One of the Best," "Duke of Killiecrankie," "The Tyranny of Tears," "Darling of the Gods," Martin Harvey, Edward Compton, Mr and Mrs Kendal, "Chinese Honeymoon." Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.

WANTED, Important Attractions, for STANDARD THEATRE, Spring, 1905. TERRISS THEATRE. Dec. 5 and Spring. METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 5. Address, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies, OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Oct. 24 Vacant. THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON, Nov. 14, Dec. 12. GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL, Dec. 26, on. Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, GRAND THEATRE, LUTON. The above are only Booked Three Nights each in conjunction. Vacant Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, onwards. THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY. Vacant Oct. 13, Nov. 10, 24, Dec. 1, 26, Jan. 19. VICTORIA THEATRE, SHEERNESS. Stage now being Reconstructed, and will be capable of taking any Production. Vacant Nov. 14, onwards. Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR. Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.

WANTED, Musical Comedy, Oct. 31 and Dec. 5, through cancelling. The Theatre has been Thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and the Electric Light (Three Colours) installed. H. VERE...

WANTED, First-class Companies for Nov. 28 and Dec. 26. J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.

WANTED, First-class Attractions (Musical Preferred), for Weeks of Oct. 17 and Nov. 21. Wire, to-day, KELLY, New Theatre, Oxford. Next week, Opera House, Leicester.

LYCEUM THEATRE, SHEFFIELD.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Jan. 9. Apply, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.

WANTED, Good Attractions, Nov. 7, 14, and on (Three or Six Nights); also First-class Pantomime, Dec. 26 (One or Two Weeks). Address, C. M. JULIAN, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.

WANTED, High-class Companies Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Jan. 5 (Three Nights), 16, 23 (Three Nights), 30, onwards. Silence polite negative. H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.—Lessee, Mr E. MACKNIGHT; Business-Manager, CHARLES E. HARDY.

WANTED, Companies for Oct. 17, Nov. 7, and onwards, with exceptions.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY. Vacant Dec. 5, 19, and 26.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Address, LINGFORD CARSON.

WANTED, Company (owing to a transfer), Oct. 31, at the Grand Theatre, Hull. Musical Attraction preferred. Wire, JOHN HART, Theatre Royal, Bradford.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARWEN.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, or Musical Comedy, Oct 24, unexpectedly Vacant through the illness of Charles Hartley, Esq Also Dec. 5. Only Vacant Dates till end of February, 1905. Silence a polite negative. E. L. ORMSBY.

The Bonniest Theatre in Scotland. NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.

WANTED, Strong Dramas or Musical Comedies, Nov. 14, 28, and Dec. 5. S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devor.

WANTED, First-class Drama, Musical Comedy, &c., Oct. 17, 24, and 31. Address, H. SNELSON, Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.

WHITEVALE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, for Nov. 7 and 14, First-class Dramatic Attractions. Apply, GEO. GREEN, Sole Proprietor.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES. ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES. ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES. ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W. EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W. EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W. EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W Vacant, Dec. 12, Feb. 13, 27, March 27.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER. THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER. THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER. Vacant, Jan. 23, March 13, 20, 27

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT. METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT. METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT. METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT. Vacant, June 5, 12, 19, July 31.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. Vacant, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE. GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE. GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE. GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE. Vacant, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6, April 3.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH (Late Albert). KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH (Late Albert). KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH (Late Albert). KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH (Late Albert). Vacant, Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 9, 23, 30.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY. HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY. HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY. HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. Vacant, Oct. 31, Dec. 26, Feb. 6, April 3.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE. LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE. LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE. LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE. No Vacancies.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE. KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE. KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE. KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE. Vacant, Oct. 13 (Three Nights), Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 2.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY. METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY. METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY. METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY. Vacant, Oct. 10, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 9, 16.

All communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY. Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.

WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 5, 12, and 19, Opera or Musical Comedy, Jan. 2 and Feb. 6. It was not originally intended to fill these Dates, but owing to the Immense Success of this Theatre under new management the remaining Vacant Dates will now be filled. The nightly receipts since the Theatre reopened have varied from £60 to £30, but no company has played to under £30. Late theatre trains are now run weekly by the Midland, Great Northern, and Lough Swilly Railway Companies, thus doubling the population hitherto available for theatrical purposes. This Week, "A Message from Mars;" Next Week, "Whitewashing Julia." W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS. Vacant Dates through misunderstanding, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Companies only.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE, Oct. 24, Nov. 14, and on. THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH, Nov. 28, Dec. 12. GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE, Nov. 7 (?), 14. Apply, FREDK MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C. Wire, "Lutanist, London."

WANTED, Pantomime (Six Nights) or Musical Comedy, Minstrel Troupe, or other Really Good Attraction (Three Nights), Dec. 26. State lowest sharing terms and full particulars, HAGUE, Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

WANTED, for Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, First-class Company with Répertoire, for Nov. 21. Actual lowest certainty to HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.

WANTED, Good Pantomimes for Dates in January and February. Address, HENRY BOWMAN, Manager.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe, Cheshire, First-class Attractions for October, onwards. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

KING'S THEATRE, CARDIFF.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, Best Dramas only. FRANK BATEMAN.

WANTED, Oct. 24, through Cancelling, Dec. 12, Good Pantos., Jan. 2, 9, Radcliffe; also Nov. 21, Good Pantos., Jan. 2, 9, 16, Chorley. Address, SANTS, Opera House, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.

WANTED, Good Company, Oct. 17, through obliging. Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, Palace Pier, Brighton, First-class Attractions, Musical preferred, Nov. 14 and 21, Weeks, Six Matinées and Two Nights. Christmas, Open for Good Pantomime. Full particulars, DREW MACKINTOSH, Palace Pier.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Nov. 7, Dec. 12, 19, 26, and Jan. 2. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

GAIETY THEATRE, BURNLEY.

WANTED, Big Dramatic Companies, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12 (through obliging). J. E. CULLEN.

COMPANIES WANTED

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES. Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.

THE FINEST TOUR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. A FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICAL SUCCESS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.

GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE. LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE. CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE. FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE. KIRKCALDY, KILMARNOCK, GREENOCK } At present in course of Construction. { KING'S THEATRE. KING'S THEATRE NEW THEATRE. All communications re dates to R. C. BUCHANAN, General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

POOLE'S THEATRES, GLO'STER and SOUTH WALES.

WANTED, the Best Companies Only for the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, now One of the Prettiest, Cleanest, and Smartest Theatres in the Empire. Electric Trams from all Parts. The Only Theatre in the City.

Opera House, Porth, the Largest and Most Successful in the District, now in the Full Tide of Success.

Opera House, Treherbert. Top of the Valley. Another fine Theatre, where everything before, behind, and outside is done well. Extensive building now going on directly opposite. The pits sunk, the coal found. Directly they start the Population doubles. Now good, then excellent.

Town Hall Theatre, Maesteg. Another coming Eldorado. More pits sunk, fine coal found. Hotels, business establishments, and streets rebuilt.

"The Christian" took at Maesteg, in three nights, in an off pay, £118, and in three nights at Treherbert, £130, and we mean to double these receipts. Splendid Bookings. Only a few Dates left. Every inquiry solicited.

Theatre Royal, Pontypool, at present to Let on Share or Rental. Apply, for all Theatres, C. W. POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

NEW THEATRE, KING'S LYNN. Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD

WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 27, 28, 29, Nov. 24, 25, 26 (Three Nights Each). Also Jan. 23, 24, 25 (Drama), Feb. 2, 3, 4, onwards. 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE. Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.

WANTED, Good Companies for Three Nights Once a Month. No Opposition. N.B.—The Theatre will only be Open Three Nights each Month, so that excellent business should be done. 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

HOWARD and WYNDHAM, Limited.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, and 19, Glasgow. Address, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

Two of the best-paying Properties on the N. W. Coast. THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN. Lessee, Mr JOSEPH CLARK; Manager, Mr FRED L. CLARK. And THEATRE ROYAL, WORKINGTON. Lessee and Manager, Mr HELSBY WRIGHT. Both Theatres Booked in Conjunction Fare, 6½d.

WANTED, First-class Attractions. THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN: Oct. 24, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Dec. 19, 20, 21, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13. THEATRE ROYAL, WORKINGTON: Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Dec. 22, 23, 24, Feb. 13, 20, March 13, 20; and few Later Dates. Please address all communications re T. R., Whitehaven, FRED L. CLARK, Banklands, Workington. Re T. R., Workington, HELSBY WRIGHT, T. R., Workington. Telegraphic addresses, "Clark, Banklands, Workington;" "Wright, Theatre, Workington."

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Nov. 7, 21, and Dec. 5 and 12. Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-st, London, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES

WANTED, High-class Companies (Musical preferred), Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 9, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.

WANTED, for Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 7, on, with exceptions, Drama, Répertoire or Musical. Christmas and New Year Vacant. R. ADDISON, Limited.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.

WANTED, Good Drama, Last Three Nights, Oct. 24 week. EDWARD MARRIS, Proprietor.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, April 3, and onwards, with exceptions. Address, T. EDWARDES.

WANTED, Comedy or Musical Companies Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness. CAMERON BURGESS, Manager.

WANTED, Companies Vacant, Oct. 20 (Three Nights), Nov. 7, and Dates on; good Panto for Christmas. ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WIGAN.

WANTED, Known, that Nov. 28 and Dec. 5 are still Vacant through Obliging Managers. First-class Attractions only Entertained. Address, J. WORSWICK, as above.

WANTED, Musical Comedies and Good Plays for Autumn and Spring Seasons. Apply, H. E. BRAMMALL, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Musical Comedies and First-class Plays. Apply, H. E. BRAMMALL, Crystal Palace.

THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE. Sole Lessee and Manager, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, High-class Companies Oct. 17, and on with exceptions. Address, Post-office, Dunfermline.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK. Lessees, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.

WANTED, Companies, Nov. 14, 21, and Dec. 3. Last Three Days of Each Week only Booked. W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, Good Dramas, Comedies, Choirs, &c, Oct. 10, onwards. Good Panto. Required. Collieries Working Well Wire, MANAGER, V. T., Wingate.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY. Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, Known, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, Christmas Week Vacant. Seat 1,000. Dramatic Licence. Good Minstrel Troupe or Company with own Scenery write in. Silence polite negative.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, METHIL, FIFE.

WANTED, Good Company, Oct. 10, through obliging Manager, Three or Six Nights. Refer King and Davis, J. F. Preston's "Secrets" Co. LIVERICK.

WANTED, Fit-up Companies, Town Hall, Holyhead, Oct. 10, 17, 31, on. Three or Six Nights. Shares. Wire, UNCLE, Glen, Holyhead.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 7. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, 14, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 3, 10, 24, Nov. 7. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

WANTED, Important Theatres for Walter Melville's New Play, Oct. 10, 31. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 24, Nov. 14 (?), and on. Christmas Vacant. FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, for "Her Forbidden Marriage," Fredk. Melville's Latest Production. Nov. 23, Dec. 5 (?), and a Few Dates Onwards. FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, 19, and January Dates. DOUGLAS BRUCE, Century Theatre, Motherwell, N.B.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."

WANTED, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Christmas. DOUGLAS BRUCE, Century Theatre, Motherwell, N.B.

WANTED, Theatres, 1905, for Important New Play. DOUGLAS BRUCE, Century Theatre, Motherwell, N.B.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Nov. 7, Dec. 26, and Jan. 2. Wire, to-day, KELLY, New Theatre, Oxford; next week, Opera House, Leicester.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, Dec. 26. CHARLES HARRINGTON, West London Theatre.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR, "THE WEABIN' O' THE GREEN."

WANTED, Oct. 31 (?), through Kirkcaldy Theatre not being ready for opening; Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 20, 27, and March 6. Grand Theatre, Glasgow, Oct. 3, Six Nights.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"

WANTED, Week or Two Three-Night Towns, Oct. 10, to follow Crystal Palace. Wire. Wire. Wire. Also Oct. 31, to follow A. T., Scarborough; and Nov. 28, to precede T. R., Sheffield. C. R. STONE, Crystal Palace, Sydenham.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 30, on, with exceptions. TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, Big Theatres, Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return), March 6 and 13, to follow Stratford (Return). Address, CHARLES M. JULIAN, Sept. 26, Theatre Royal, Greenock; Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge (Return); Oct. 10, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MR ROBERT PERRIS'S COMPANY, in the Successful Musical Comedy-Drama, "A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS." "A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."

WANTED, Oct. 31 (North) and Nov. 21 (South) Wanted, Oct. 31 (North) and Nov. 21 (South). Mr Harris Fineberg, after the performance at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, on Saturday Night last, Booked an early Return Visit. Address, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED, for "Bigamy," Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26. "THE LIFE THAT KILLS." Wanted Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and Few Spring. "THE GRIP OF THE LAW," Wanted Jan. 16, 23, April 10, and on. FRED MOULE, Athenæum, Lancaster.

"THE NEW BOY."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Onwards. Mr TAPPING, 28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED, Oct. 10, Oct. 10 for "If I Were King," Through Obliging a Manager. Wire, FRANK FENTON, Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

"THE ASSASSIN."

WANTED, Oct 31, through Transfer, Star Company, including E. Hill-Mitchelson. Address, Theatre Royal, Stockton.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION," from Pavilion Theatre, London. Entire Scenery carried for this Production. Elaborate Plant of Pictorials. The above will be Toured in First-class Style by ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.

WANTED, Jan. 9 (Week), 16 (Three Nights), 23, Feb. 13, Midlands and various, onwards. All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON, Grand Theatre, Walsall; or, RUGGLES and REES, 1, Stockwell-avenue, Brixton.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES, "A SISTER'S SIN."

WANTED, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, for this Popular Attraction. Again beating our first visit to this town. SIDNEY RENNEF, Middleton Monday, Avenue, Kettering. Fit-up Rights to Let or Sell.

"WHY SMITH LEFT HOME."

WANTED, Oct. 27 (Three, Precede Boscombe), Nov. 7 (Three, Precede Tunbridge Wells), Nov. 21, Midlands or North, Dec. 5, North. Mr Horace Lingard and No. 1 Company. All Communications, JOHN A. WALKER. To-day, Marlborough, N. Next, Grand, Luton.

EDMUND EDMUNDS' COMPANY OF COMEDIANS. "BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, Jan. 30, Feb 6, 13, 20, 27, March 6. The Company will include the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Maude Nelson as Principal Boy, and other First-class Performers Total strength of Company, Forty. Four Weeks' Christmas Season already Booked at important London Theatre. Coms., W. SCOTT PHIPP, 37, Grosvenor-park, London, S.E.

ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Christmas, "Why Men Love Women." New Fireproof Scenery just completed. PAUMIER, Alexandra, Birmingham.

"THE GIRL FROM CHICAGO."

WANTED, for above Success, now in Twenty-seventh Week of Tour, Oct. 17 (Three Nights, in conjunction with New Theatre, King's Lynn), Nov. 7 (follow P. O. W., Liverpool), Nov. 14 and 21 (precede Gloucester), also Dec. 26 and Jan. 2 in Midlands or S. Wales. Bookings including G., Blackpool; G., Margate; &c. Specially selected as opening attraction at new King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield. H. HARE, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

No. 1 "OUR BOYS," "CASTE" COMPANY.

WANTED, Oct. 10, on. Great success, Opera House, Norwich, and all Leading Suburban London Theatres. Mr Chas. Otley as Middlewick and Eccles. Wire, 13, Champion-grove, Denmark-hill, S.E.

"BRAND OF CAIN."

A genuine, successful, sensational money-making drama. Only staged a few weeks—Vide Press. Played to £110 on the week.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28 (Midlands and North), Dec. 19 and 25. Address, next week, G. SIMS, 39, Fairfield-road, Edmonton.

MARY B. BUCKSTONE and I. K. COX'S COMPANY. "THE SEAL OF SILENCE."

WANTED, Oct. 10, Onwards; Feb 27, to follow Edinburgh. Refer Francis Laidler, Esq., R. E. Liston, Esq., C. P. Cooke, Esq., Lingford Carson, Esq. H. G. WYNN, Theatre Fleetwood.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," Christmas, New Year, Jan. 9, 16, 23, March 20, onwards. C. CLIFFORD, T. R. Hucknall (Return).

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Oct. 31 (South).

Mr Gore Ousley's No. 1 Company.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

First-class Company and Chorus.

Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.

Entirely New Dresses and Scenery.

"THE LADY'S MAID"
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

Magnificent Plant of Printing.

Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.

Late Prima Donna with
"THE DANDY FIFTH."

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

Reproduced by
Joseph Wilson, Esq.

Miss Noel Neville.
Miss Noel Neville.

From "THE LOVE BIRDS,"
Savoy Theatre.

Wanted, Oct. 31 (South).
Wanted, Oct. 31 (South).
Wanted, Oct. 31 (South).
Wanted, Oct. 31 (South).

GORE OUSELEY,
6, Panton-street, Haymarket, W.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Dec. 12, Midlands or North;
Dec. 26 (Christmas Week), Midlands or North
March 20, Newcastle District,
to oblige Manager by transferring;
April 24 (Easter Week). Suburbs or South.
Address, CECIL BARTH,
Royal Princess's Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Nov. 7,
In or Near London,
to Oblige Mr A. F. Henderson.

ERNEST P. CLIFF,
110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London."

Miss GRACE WARNER and COMPANY,
in
"THE NEW COMMANDER."
Successful Musical Comedy.

WANTED, Oct. 24 and Nov. 7,
Oct. 24 and Nov. 7.

GRACE WARNER,
this, Queen's, Swindon;
next, Opera House, Weymouth.

"THE FASCINATING MISS KEMP."
"THE FASCINATING MISS KEMP."

WANTED, Nov. 21, for this Production of
New Comedy.
EUGENE BERTRAM, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

FRANK BERTRAM'S COMPANY,
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER"

WANTED, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13,
and on. No Vacant Dates this Year.
This week, Alexandra, Hull; next, T. R., Bolton.

MR WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."

WANTED, Oct 17 (follow Dalston),
Oct. 31 (follow Nottingham),
Nov. 28 (precede Liverpool),
Christmas and onwards with Exceptions.
An Established Financial and Artistic Success.
Refer to F. W. Purcell, Esq., William Bailey, Esq., F. Fredericks, Esq.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Theatre,
Oct. 31, Oct. 31.
"THE FAIRY'S DILEMMA."
The Entire London Production.
Address, Mr SILVANUS DAUNCEY, Lyceum T., Sheffield

GUS C. LIVESEY'S CO., "THE CRIMSON CLUB."
Thirty-sixth Week of Continuous Tour. A Proved Success.

WANTED, Oct. 13 (Three Nights, Midlands),
Nov. 14, 28, Dec 26 Jan. 9, and a few on.
Managers please refer before offering Dates.
GUS C. LIVESEY, To-day, Cradley; next, Mexborough.

"THE TRIUMPH OF TRUTH."
Success. Success. Success.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct 31, Nov 7, 21,
Jan. 16, on. MATHEW and HERRICK, T. R., Dover.

"NO MAN'S LAND."

WANTED, Oct. 31 (North preferred).
HENRY HERNE,
To-day, Stalybridge; after, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."

WANTED, for this Really Remarkable
High-class Attraction.
J. H CLYNDES, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."

WANTED, Nov. 7 (?), Dec. 26,
Jan. 9 (owing to Carlisle fire), 16, 23.
Address, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

THE PRESTON and DOHERTY REPERTOIRE CO.
Under the Direction of F. B. Woulfe.
"LADY GODIVA."
"JANE SHORE,"
"NELL GWYNNE."

WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, and on, with exceptions. Christmas Week Vacant.
F. B. WOULFE, Opera House, Perth.

"SILVER KING" COMPANY.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Christmas
Week, Jan. 2, 23, April 3, 17, 24, and all May, 1905.
Address,
G. M. POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
Oct. 10 (vacant through transfer).

Wire! Wire!! Wire!!!
WINIFRED MAUDE, Theatre Royal, Workington.

WANTED, Known, "Queen of the Night,"
including Miss V. St. Lawrence, Vacant Oct. 24,
owing to Transfer. JAMES STILLWELL, Pavilion, Edinburgh.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."

WANTED, First-class Theatres for
Dec. 5, between Croydon and Stratford,
Dec. 26, and Jan. 2, onwards.
Address, STANLEY HOPE,
Monday, Oct. 3, Queen's T., Liverpool, Six Nights.

WANTED, Dec 5, 12, Jan 30, Feb. 13,
March 6, April 24, June 12, for Mrs Lewis Waller,
in "Zaza," or Répertoire. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON,
Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by Wilson Barrett.

WANTED, Theatres, Christmas, Jan. 9
and 16 Vacant. W. V. GARROD, T. R., Darwen, Lancs

WANTED, Theatres for First-class
Attractions, Nov. 14, 21, and 28.
Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

Including the
Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her
over 700 nights
in London.

WANTED, Oct. 24,

Oct. 24,

Nov. 14, 21, 28,

Dec. 5,

Dec. 26,

Jan. 2,

and on, with exceptions.

Mr Kirk thanks J. W. Boughton, Esq.,
for Return Contract for
Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth;
also J. B. Ormerod
for Return Contract,
Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

Now Booking 1905.

Refer to any of the following
Bookings and Rebookings:—

Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton;
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates, for
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
Nov. 14, 28, Jan. 16, 23, 30.

"GREED OF GOLD."
Nov. 28, Jan. 2, 9, 23, 30.

"WOMAN'S DEVOTION."
Dec. 5, 12 19, Jan 9, 16, Feb. 13, 20
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
"UNDER THE RED ROSE."
"THE THREE MUSKETEERS."
Shakespearian and Classical Répertoire.
Special Scenery carried.

WANTED, Oct. 24, Dec. 5,
EDMUND TEARLE, Spring Lodge, Lister-rd., Liverpool.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
by Frank Lindo.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, for this
Great Attraction.
Booked and Rebooked at all the best Drama Houses.
Success greater than ever. Kindly refer Managers.
Vacant Nov. 7 (Three Nights), 14; also Christmas
and New Year Weeks (Midlands or North).
Rapidly filling 1905.
Address,
FRANK LINDO, Alexandra, Widnes

"THE MARINERS OF ENGLAND; or, The Days of Nelson." The Successful Patriotic Play, now in Seventh Year of Tour.

WANTED, Oct. 17th, London or Midlands,
for this Sound Attraction. This is Trafalgar Anniversary Week. The Best Date of the Year. ERNEST R. ABBOTT, Victoria Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, for "The Beautiful Avenger,"
Scudamore and Richmond's
Magnificent Production and Powerful Company,
Oct. 17, and Christmas.
Address,
Mr RICHMOND,
Theatre Royal, Blyth, Oct. 3, Six Nights.

MR and MRS CALVERT ROUTLEDGE'S COMPANY,
"A NIGHT OFF." Eighth Consecutive Tour.

WANTED, Oct. 10, and Onwards, with
exceptions. Wire, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, To-day,
Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood. Oct. 3, Lyceum, Eccles.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, 11, 12,
precede Dumfries, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth,"
by F. A. Scudamore. Miss Frances Delaval's Splendid Company. Oct. 17, 24, N., Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 26.
Wire To-day, Empire, Dundee.
Next, Opera House, Dunfermline.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN,"
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, 21.
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
Strong Cast. Fine Printing.
E. L. GARSIDE, Theatre Royal, Colne.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."

WANTED, Nov. 21, follow Plymouth.
Wire, J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Royalty, Morecambe.

"ONE OF THE FAMILY," Musical Comedy,

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10 (London or
Midlands), Oct. 31, Nov. 28. HENRY EGLINTON,
Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

"WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 31, Nov. 28,
Dec. 26. H. EGLINTON, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

"DISHONOURED."

WANTED, Big Theatre, Nov. 14, follow
Devonport. J. L. JACKSON, Royalty, Morecambe.

WANTED, Theatres for
"The Fire Witch."
The Great Mystic Drama.

THOMAS THORNE and COMPANY.

WANTED, Nov. 3 (Three Nights), Nov. 7
and 14. RUSSELL ROSSE, 10, King-street, W.C.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Easter, Whit
Week. FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, Greencok.

THEATRES WANTED.

CARSON-GRANVILLE and THORNE'S
TOUR.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."

WANTED, for This Magnificent
Production,
Oct. 24.
Oct. 24.
Oct. 24.
Oct. 24.
A Gorgeous Production.
Everything Carried.
Company of Seventeen Capable Artists.
Mr Hugh Montgomery
as
Napoleon.

Address,
FRED GRANVILLE,
Queen's, Liverpool.

MURRAY KING and CLARK,
introduce
"SWEET AND TWENTY,"
with
Robert Milsted and Lionel Glenister,
George Miller and Murray King,
Rosalie Jacobi and Edith M'Clure,
May Mulvey and Gladys Huxley.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10 and Onwards.
Owing to Tour being Prolonged.
Wire or write,
MURRAY KING and CLARK,
Theatre Royal, Leamington.

HARDIE and VON LEER'S
"A PATH OF THORNS" COMPANY.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Nov. 7, only Vacant Date this year.
Magnificent Cast, including:—
Claude King, Cecil Du Gué, W. L. Rignold, Miss Violet Luddington, Miss M. Stanley Burt, &c.,
and Thirty Children in Song and Dance.
Enormous Advertising Plant. Two Advance Agents.
Splendid Business Everywhere.

ERNEST P. CLIFT,
110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C. Wires, "Vagancy, London."

"HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, 17.
Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 30,
Feb. 6
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, 28,
Dec. 5.
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Dec 5,
Jan. 2 and 9.
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

WANTED, Managers of Theatres,
Capable of Holding Good Money,
with really First-class Pantomime,
to communicate with
J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

MR JOHN LEOPOLD'S
"FRIVOLITY" COMPANY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Nov. 21,
Good Theatre.
JOHN ELLERY, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."

WANTED, March 27, April 3, May 1,
June 15. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Court, Warrington.

"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."

WANTED, Christmas, Jan 16, Feb. 13,
20, 27. Everything carried.
ALFRED PAUMIER, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Oct. 10, 17, Oct. 10, 17,
and onwards, with exceptions.
"Parson Thorn." "Parson Thorn."
Special Printing. First-class Company. Wire for Oct 10.
Rewritten and Brought Up to Date.
Entirely New Scenery throughout.
HALDANE, To-day, Scunthorpe; next, M. T., Bootle.

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND."

WANTED, Christmas Week for this Grand
Production. E. ST. ALBAN, Londesborough, Scarborough. Good, sober Carpenter, for "Cloches," write.

WANTED, Immediately, First-class
Theatres for Mr Fred Karno's Great Attractions.
"HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS,"
Oct. 17 and 31,
Nov. 7 and 14.
"SATURDAY TO MONDAY,"
Nov. 14 and 21,
Dec. 26.
FRED KARNO,
28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.
Telegrams, "Karno. Camberwell."

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash,"
Oct. 31, Christmas, and on.
Theatre Royal Tyldesley, Return.

MR FRANK WILSON'S No. 1 CO. "THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."

WANTED, Oct. 31 (South or Midlands).
Wire, WILSON, O. H., Crouch-end.

THE WELLESLEY LYNN CONCERT AND ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY of First-class Artistes, in an entirely New and Up-to-date Entertainment of Mirth, Music, and Mystery, introducing Quick-Change Sketches, Spirit Manifestations, Songs, Solos, Musical Sketches, &c., as Played at Buckingham Palace before their Majesties the King and Queen, the Royal Aquarium, St. James's Hall, Queen's Hall, Moore and Burgess Minstrels, Palace Theatre of Varieties, Chevalier Recitals, Crystal Palace, &c.

Dear Mr Lynn.—I was most delighted with your entertainment. You should meet with great success.—Yours truly, GEORGE GROSSMITH.

Dear Mr Lynn.—Your entertainment is an excellent one. You ought to do well, and I feel sure you will. All good wishes.—Yours sincerely, ALBERT CHEVALIER.

WANTED, Managers and Proprietors to
Send for Vacant Dates Now fast Booking. Rent or Share. Good Stock of First-class Printing.

Sole Proprietors, Mr T. WELLESLEY LYNN (Son of the late Dr. Lynn, Founder of the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly) and F. S. HAZELL.
General Manager, Mr RICHARD MAYNARD,
to whom all communications should be addressed at
18, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

ARTISTES WANTED.

MILTON RAY'S COMPANIES.
Musical Comedy, "A HOT NIGHT"

WANTED, Leading Lady for Polly Drake.
Must be Good Vocalist.
Wanted, Leading Actress for Character Part,
Mrs Flutterwig.
Must be Tall and Stout.
Rehearse Oct. 6. Open Oct. 10.
Address, ARTHUR MILTON, 45, Broadgate, Preston.

WANTED, a Full Company for Romantic
Costume Drama, for Matinée. Write immediately to X., care of Mr A. WOOD, 59, St. Mary's-road, Peckham, S.E.

"DISHONOURED."

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, open Nov. 7.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Royalty, Morecambe.

WANTED, Artistes, Dramatic Musical,
Variety, Sundays, Mid-days. Al Frescos. Details, stamped address; Interviews, appointment only. Correspondents Wanted. AMUSEMENT, 6, Whitefriars, London.

WANTED, Tall Lady for Birdie, "Why
Men Love Women." Wire, PAUMIER, Star T., Liverpool. Write, Alex. T., Birmingham. Rehearse Tuesday.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."

WANTED, First-class Juvenile Man.
Terms, photos., full particulars,
STANLEY HOPE,
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dutch Comedian, to Sing One
who can Act a little Preferred.
Address, To-day, J. H. LYNCH, King's Theatre, Cardiff.
Next Week, Corporation Theatre, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Comedian and Tenor Vocalist
(Fit-up Tour). Rehearse Monday, Open Thursday. Terms, references, &c., Ramsdale's, Leigh-on-Sea.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Known, a Vacancy Occurs for a
Lady and Gentleman of Refinement as Pupils in one of the most established Classical Répertoire Companies Touring. Thorough Tuition in every Branch of the Profession, with Small Parts and Understudies. Full Investigation Invited. For Full particulars, apply in first instance to DRAMA, care of the Roker Hotel, Sunderland.

"DANDY DOCTOR" COMPANY.

WANTED, One or Two More Chorus
Ladies.
Photos., &c.,
EDWARD MARRIS, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

WANTED, Amateurs (Comedienne and
Contralto) desiring experience to join High-class Concert Party. First-class Voices and Appearance absolutely essential. Photo., &c. Also Baritone would Finance Established Concert Party with good Bookings for next Season. Particulars treated confidentially. An Engagement as Secretary or Assistant-Manager, Theatre or Pavilion, Required by Gentleman. Young, good appearance, knowledge of French. Would Invest Small Capital if absolutely bonâ fide Investment. KAYE, care of BARCLAY PAYNE, Malvern House, Malvern.

WANTED, a Number of Good-Looking
Ladies capable of Learning Stage Dancing.
Paul Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Attractive Lady Amateurs,
Those with Voices desirable, to apply Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Girls over Fourteen for Singing
and Dancing. Apply, Paul Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Miss Elsie Shelton, Concerts,
&c. Good Refined Dancer.
16, Archibald-road, Tufnell-park, N.

WANTED, by Miss Elsie Shelton, Concerts,
&c. Good Refined Dancer.
16, Archibald-road, Tufnell-park, N.

WANTED, by Bass Vocalist (Young),
Engagement, any line. Two Years' experience, Grand Opera; Two Years, Male Voice Quartet.
Address, FRANK HALPIN, Pier Pavilion, Exmouth.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Panto-
mime next Christmas (London and the Provinces) to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Dancers Disengaged for Panto-
mime next Christmas to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks's Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for
Pantomime. Pianist-Conductor, Chorus and Ballet Ladies. Age, height, ladies' photos., references, and lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Dancers, Thoroughly Expe-
rienced, for Mr Frank Macnaghten's Pantomimes. Must be young, pretty, and of average height, possessing good figures. It is absolutely necessary to send photo., height, age, references, and lowest terms, to R. ERNEST LISTON, Manager, T. R., Leeds. Marked "Dancer."

WANTED, Principal Girl, Cat, Small
Troupe of Dancers, Male Quartette, Musical Director to arrange, Stage Carpenter, Wardrobe Mistress, and Fifty Tall Chorus Ladies. Photos., lowest, and all particulars to Geo. Aytoun, Pantomime Agent, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E. Telegrams, "Antics, London." Telephone, 1949 Hop.

WANTED, Principal Boy and Girl
Comedians for Dame and Page; Conductor, Acrobatic Dancers, &c. Apply, Empire Theatrical Agency, St. James's Hall, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Pantomime by Miss Joey
Preston (Three Prestons), Principal Boy or Girl. En route, Barrasford Tour.
Permanent address, 41, Lansdowne-gardens, Clapham.

WANTED.—Little Elsie Videau owing to
Termination of Tour, Disengaged Oct. 8, for Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood" or "Little Red Riding Hood." Permanent address, care of STATIONMASTER, Clapham-road Station, S.E.C Ry., London, S.W.

WANTED, Pantomime by Sam Mitchello,
Eccentric Comedian and Dancer, Dame, Page, or Ugly Sister. Address, Tivoli, Glasgow.

WANTED, Pantomime for the Great Anthy,
in his Marvellous and Refined Wire Speciality, also Comedy Part. Address, 31, Queen's-square, Queen's-road, Clapham-junction, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle,
Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Pantomime.
Last Two Years, Grand, Nottingham.
Thanks John Tiller, Esq., Lester Collingwood, Esq., for Offers.
Address, Palace, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Three
Escaladers, Hand Balancers and
Double Ladder Experts,
Speciality, and Animal Parts.
Communications, 15, Harford-street, St. James's, Bristol.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a Smart Joint Couple,
Husband Resident Acting Management,
Wife to Look after Bars.
Send absolute lowest terms and references,
F. L. CONNINGHAMS,
36, King's-road, Windsor.

WANTED, Carpenter Combine Baggage,
must have own Tools and able to play Small but Important Part. Join immediately. Must be 5ft. 8in. in height. Wire, FRED LITTLE, Theatre, Consett, To day; after, Theatre, Spennymoor.

WANTED, Stage Carpenter. Must be
steady and a good disciplinarian. Apply, with references, MANAGER, H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

Scotland's Provincial Theatres.

WANTED, Electrician. Thorough Practi-
cal Man. Must be steady, and have First-class Theatre references. Address, stating terms, to
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, a Youth from the North of
England who has previously been employed in the Property Room of a Theatre.
Apply, Box 8,461, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Resident Wardrobe Mistress
Must be able to Cut and Make. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, a First-class Resident Wardrobe
Mistress, capable of Superintending Several Pantomimes. Apply, Box 8,487, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Albert Jones is at
Liberty for Business or General Management for Roundabout Proprietors. Wire or write, 26, Coupland-street, Owens College, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Stage
Manager is Open to Produce Comedy and Farcical Comedy for Amateurs. For terms and particulars address, Box 8,479, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Assistant-
Manager, Stage-Manager, and Bill-Inspector, &c., by Dan Armstrong. Suffolk Hotel, Aldeburgh-on-Sea.

WANTED, Engagement, Theatre or Music
Hall, Advertising Department, Bars, or Money-taking, &c. Young Man Box 8,499, care of "The Era" Office.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement, by Huxley Harrison,
Advance. Late Forbes-Robertson and Wilfred Cotton's "Mice and Men," "Resurrection," and "Kitty Grey." Care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Man
(Twenty-four), as Clerk or Assistant Manager. Good Bookkeeper, Stocktaker, &c. Four Years' Experience. Box 8,482, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, J. I. Keith, Scenic
Artist, shortly at Liberty to accept Engagement, Resident, Stock, or for Special Scenery.
London and Provincial Experience.
170, Hampton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist,
Engagement or Contract. References.
Address, 43, Elgin-terrace, Maida-vale, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Practical Electrician,
Appointment. Ten Years' Thorough Experience in Theatres and Workshops. Any class of work. Pantomime Effects, &c. Address, Box No. 8,495, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Electrician,
Stage-Manager. Sixteen Years' London and Provincial Experience. Thorough Mechanic. Highest refs.
Box 8,477, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Experienced Electrician and
Operator, Situation in Music Hall. Age Twenty. Three Years with well-known Co. Box 8,490, "The Era"

WANTED, Joint Engagement as Baggage,
&c., by Two Young Men. Just finishing G. A. Seeboid, Esq. Address, JOHNSON and WATTS, Rowland, Oban-road, Southend.

WANTED, Known, Handy Man, Young,
Energetic, Abstainer, Requires Situation as Carpenter and Painter. Good at Repairs. Can Paint, Line, and Scroll Vehicles. Suit Tenting Circus or Roundabout Proprietors Settled for Winter Season. Liberty November. Thirty-five shillings. Address, Box 8,480, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, Bill-Inspecter or Bill-
poster. Could manage Branch; Sixteen Years' experience. Good references.
BRADELL, 25, Bell-road, Enfield Wash, Middlesex.

WANTED, Engagement as Dresser to
Gentleman in Theatre or Music Hall,
in Town or Touring.
Address, E. C. VICTOR, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Offers for Musical Comedy and
Pantomime, as Wardrobe Mistress. Own machines. Madame E. BROWN, 22, Eton-street Regent's-park.

WANTED.—Lady Companion-Housekeeper
(Middle-aged), ex-pro, desires Engagement as above to First-class Actress, where servant is kept. Can offer highest musical education to same. Moderate salary; comfortable, happy home indispensable. Best references. E., care of 10, Fairhazel-gardens, N.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leader (£2), Euphonium (30s),
for Tenting, to commence immediately. Sober men only apply. Wire, TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Violinists, 'Celloists, Pianists,
and Double Bass Players for Cafe Work.
First-class Male Performers only.
State age, references, and List of solos.
Box No. 8,476, care of "The Era."

WANTED, First Violinist, must be well
up in Variety Business. Lowest terms, references, BENJAMIN PARRS, Musical Director, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie,
Cornet Leader, terms, 35s; also Solo Cornet, 30s.
Address, North Shields, Saturday;
Whitley, Monday and Tuesday,
Northumberland.

WANTED, Solo Cornet (Good). Sober and
reliable. Open Oct. 17. Lowest terms, references, A. E. COOPER, Conductor, Empire Palace, Dudley.

WANTED, Cornet and Bombardon, for
Town Band. Terms, Shares. Apply, SECRETARY, Band, Marquis of Granby Inn, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, thoroughly Experienced Cornet,
Flute, and Piccolo, and Double Bass Players, for Avenue Opera House, Sunderland. Must have Experience in First-class Theatres and exceptional references.
Apply, with lowest terms, to
PERCIVAL CRAIG, Manager, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WANTED, Solo B Flat Clarionet Player
(Good) also Solo B Flat Cornet Player
to Join
Leicester Police Force and Band.
Military journals.

Apply, BANDMASTER,
Police Band, Leicester.

WANTED, Solo Clarionet and Double
Drums, for Town Band, Pitching. Shares.
F. PHILLIPS, 12, Market-place, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Clarionet Player, one Used to
Variety Business. Evening Dress Necessary.
State Lowest Terms, Age, and References,
T. EDWARDES, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Bassoon Player, must be
young and smart-looking man, for a Permanent Band on the South Coast,
with plenty of good Engagements.
Apply, M. R., care of HAWKES and SON,
Denman-street Piccadilly-circus, London.

WANTED, Bass Trombone (First-class) for
the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra, to Commence Immediately. Used to High-class Music Four and a-Half Hours Daily. No Sunday Work. Permanent Engagement. Apply, with terms and references, to Mr DAN GODFREY, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

THE CHAS. W. POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.

WANTED, Trombone (Good) to commence
Oct. 17. Must be steady and competent, and Assist with Fittings when Travelling. State age.
Apply, J. R. JONES,
Temperance Hall, Pembroke Dock.

WANTED, Harp, 'Cello, Flute, Clarionet,
Bassoon, Tympani,
for Winter Orchestra,
commencing Nov. 20.
VAL MARRIOTT, Pevensey-road, St Leonards.

PALACE THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
Proprietor, Mr FRANK MACNAGHTEN.

WANTED, Good 'Cello, to Open Monday,
Oct. 10. Thorough Experience in Variety Business and Sobriety Essential. Permanency, if suitable. Other Instrumentalists write. Apply, with terms and recent refs., to GEO. CLOUGH, Conductor.

WANTED, 'Cellist (Good), for Orchestra of
the Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Must be well up in Opera and Musical Comedy. Open Oct. 3 Apply, with refs. and lowest terms for permanency, to REGINALD YORKE, Manager.

WANTED, 'Cello also Violin, for Hotel,
Six Hours Daily. Terms and references to
M. D., 42, Queen Victoria-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Oboe for a Provincial Theatre.
Must be steady and used to the business.
Apply, stating terms, to Box 8,488, care of "The Era"

WANTED, from Oct. 23, Smart Young
Single Gent. Pianist (do other Turn). Read, Transpose, Accompany well at Sight; strictly genteel. Refs., &c., to FARNWORTH, Post-office, Mablethorpe, Monday, Tuesday; Barton-on-Humber, Wednesday.

WANTED, Young Lady Pianist, Short
Time Daily, in return for Lessons in Dancing and Stage Tuition. Letters only, 2, Oxford-house, 87, Great Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, Double Drummer (all Effects),
Monday, Oct. 3, Lynn Theatre. Permanency. State lowest terms. DOWELL, 38, Checker-street, King's Lynn.

WANTED, to Augment Band, Three
Nights, Oct. 6, 7, 8, Drums and Effects, also Flute. Lowest inclusive, ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

County Asylum, Whittingham, Preston.

WANTED, Musician Attendants (Strings), and Solo Tenor Slide Trombone. None but thoroughly competent Players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum, increasing to £38 in the First Year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion to £50 and £65, with board, lodging, washing, uniform. MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, Known, the A. M. U. Musical Agency, Proprietors of the Famous Imperial Bands, have Booked several important Engagements for the coming Season. Military and Orchestral Bands on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet, containing full particulars, to the Manager, C. JESSON, The Institute, 96, Longacre, W.C. Telephone, 9,827 Central.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, Managers of First-class Theatres to Note that a well-known and highly popular Provincial Conductor is desirous of making a change, owing to climate of present town not agreeing with his health. Advertiser is Experienced in all Lines of Business, thoroughly reliable, and has all the necessary Musical Qualifications. Address, Box 8,497, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Musical Director (Violinist), Smart, Up-to-date, Re-engagement. Any business Have Excellent Library, including the Latest Popular Publications. Terminating the Fourth Season on the 8th inst; at Liberty for Monday, the 10th. Experienced and Reliable. Address, VINCENT C. WHITE, H., Scarborough.

WANTED, by Conductor, Composer and Arranger, Experienced in Comic Opera, Musical Comedy, Variety, &c., an Engagement. Violin and Piano. Extensive Library. Address, JESSE WILLIAMS, 74, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Albert Perry, the Popular Composer and Arranger, Engagement. Musical Conductor, Violin, Piano. Moderate terms. 83, Cowley-road, Brixton.

WANTED, by Musical Director (Violin), Engagement. Any Business. Terms moderate Excellent references. M'KENZIE, 51, Castle-road, Kentish-town, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Musical Conductor, Solo Pianist, Engagement. Songs and Sketches. Offers for Musical Comedy, Concert Party, or Perm. CRAWSHAW CRABTREE, I.S.M. 6, Bence-street, Colne, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Musical-Director (Violin), Engagement, thoroughly experienced, sober, reliable, references. SYDNEY DAVIES, 56, Bond-st., Dudley.

WANTED, by Conductor-Pianist (Young), Engagement Brilliant Soloist. Excellent Library. Vac. Oct. C. SEVA, Cardigan Villas, Mochdre, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, by Bandmaster (Certificate), Engagement. Volunteer, Yeomanry. Can find Players for Annual Training. Box 8,386, "The Era."

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Engagement, Varieties or Theatre. Thoroughly experienced. First-class references. Box 8,464, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by First-class Leader or First Violin, Re-engagement. Experienced in any line. A. KORSCHIK, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, by Sam Cryer, Leader or First Violin. Re-engagement. Any line. Highest references. Write or wire, 1, Addi-street, Bradford.

WANTED, by Musical Director (Violin), Experienced Engagement. Excellent references. Also Pianist, combine Trombone. ERNEST KENT, 12, Cardiff-grove, Luton, Beds.

WANTED, Known, Peter Flitcroft Conductor-Pianist at Liberty, Oct. 3. Exper. in Mus. Comedy, &c. Perm., 11, Dean-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Engagement, as Musical Director (Violin, Piano) Could Orchestrate entire Musical Play, or undertake all Musical Arranging for Pantomime, &c. Box 8,483, care of "The Era."

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WANTED, by First or Second Violin, Engagement. Good refs. Any business. VIOLINIST, 13, Standard-street, New Kent-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Violin or Leader, Engagement, any Business. Excellent references. C. ZELUTI, 65, Colebrook-row, Islington, London.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Permanent Engagement, aged Twenty-five, reliable; moderate wage desired. G., 40, Ordnance-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Violinist (Lady), Engagement, with Experience in Orchestra or as Soloist. M. H., 6, Dennington-park-road, West Hampstead.

WANTED, by Violinist (Experienced), Permanent Engagement Steady and Reliable. Good references. Address, Box No 8,468, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violin or Viola, Deputising or Engagement in London. Excellent references. Apply, F. D., 80, Trafalgar-road, Peckham.

WANTED, by First Violin (Good) or Leader, Engagement. Any Business. Experienced Also Good Viola. First-class Dance Leader. ALF JONES, 6, Moreton-street, Pimlico.

WANTED, by Violinist (First or Second) Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced, Reliable. VIOLINIST, The Vine, St. Benedicts, Norwich.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. At Liberty Oct. 3. Experienced in Opera. References. JENKINSON, 88, Hurst-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Solo Cornettist, Disengaged Oct. 10, Engagement or Deputising. London preferred. CORNETTIST, Pier Pavilion, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Cornettist (Good), Engagement. Experienced in Dramatic and Varieties. Will terminate Season, Opera House, Buxton, Oct. 8. WILLIE KAYE, 9 St. James's-street, Buxton.

WANTED, by Lady, Aged Twenty, Engagement for December. Combine Cornet, Violin. Miss WALKER, 10, Mansfield-road, Pleasley-hill, Mansfield, Notts.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagements Theatrical, Variety, or Military, &c. Good refs. GEO. DUST, High-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Clarionet (Diplomé), Engagement as Second in London Theatre or other Orchestra. Deputyship or Permanent. Box 8,422, c/o "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Clarionetist (Excellent), Engagement, Season closing. Competent and reliable. J. GARDNER, De Jong's Orchestra, O. H., Buxton.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet (Southport Corporation Band), Engagement. Disengaged Oct. 2. JARVIS, 13, Hope-street, Southport.

WANTED, by Clarionettist, Engagement. Eight Years, Pavilion Orchestra, Buxton. References, Ed De Jong, Conductor, Pavilion. Address, A. EDWARDS, Pavilion, Buxton.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement. Theatre, Variety, or Circus. Late the Grand T. Refs. JAS. DUKE, 54, Alexandra-road, Llandudno, N.W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement. Experienced any capacity. KING, Ashville-avenue, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Clarionet (combining Bass Clarionet), Engagement, any bus. Young, reliable, good refs. CLARIONET, 62, Kennington-park-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Any business. Just finished Summer Season. Wire, COOPER, Peechie Villa, St. Andrew's-road, Cleaton-on-Sea.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Finish Cleaton Band Stand Oct. 2. Afterwards, 29, Billington-road, New-cross-gate, London.

WANTED, by D. Bass, Engagement, any business. Long experience. Late Cremona Orchestra. 10, St. George's-terrace, Herne Bay, Kent.

WANTED, by Bass and Cornet (Two Ladies), Engagement. Address, LILIAN SMITH, 7, Beckett's-buildings, South Market-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Music Hall, Theatre, or Deputising. Good references and experience. Address, 459, Caledonian-road, N.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement Any Business. Finish Buxton Pavilion Orchestra, Oct. 8. MASON, 15, South-avenue, Buxton.

WANTED, by Bombardon, Engagement. Just finished Fourth Season at New Brighton Tower. Steady and reliable. Any Business. M'DONALD, 34, Edgar-street, Birkenhead.

WANTED, by Second French Horn Player, Violin (Good). Engt. Exper. Opera and Symphony. KARL HEBER, 39, Sedelscombe-road, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Viola, Engagement. Experienced in Theatre and Variety work. Steady and reliable. Refs. S. WATERMAN, Bowness, Worthing.

WANTED, by Viola, Permanent Engagement. Experience, Dramatic and Variety. W. HALEY, 40, Newport-road, Manningham, Bradford.

WANTED, by Viola, an Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Steady and reliable; good references. J. FRANCIS, 585, Garscube-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, French 'Cello Player would exchange his Six Months' Engagement (renewable each year) in South of France watering-place, commencing Nov. 1, against a Good Engagement as Soloist in England. Letters, care of COHNHOFF, 28, St. Paul's-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Engagement. Good Sight Reader. Well recommended. Apply, E. G., 29, Ladywell-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, by 'Cello (Experienced), Deputising or Permanent Engagement in or near London. A. SMITH, 264, New North-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl, on 'Cello. Mr CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road.

WANTED, by Oboeist, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Aged Thirty. Steady and reliable. Good references. Box 8,463, "The Era."

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age Seventeen), Engagement. July 4 to Oct. 2, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth. MAUD GRUNDY, 18, Lawn-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, by Harpist-Pianist, Engagement (New Erard) Open for Good Panto. or will Tour Abroad. GIBSON, 164, Bayswater-house, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Flute and Piccolo at Liberty for Re-engagement Oct 8. Address, R. S. BALLANTINE, 10, North Marine-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Flautist (Experienced), Engagement, any Business, or Deputising. FLAUTIST, 80, Galmford-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement (Experienced Soloist) in Theatre or with Concert Party. Sings Tenor. Plays Mandoline and Banjo. R. VERNON PIERSON, Cambridge Villa, Wellesley-road, Cleaton-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class), Sight Reader, &c., Mezzo Vocalist. Address, Miss NITA SMITH, 10, Hilary-park, Douglas, Isle of Man.

WANTED, by Pianist and Sight Reader (Brilliant), Engagement in Theatre or Music Hall. Excellent references. Address, CARR, 34, Cambridge-road, Mile-end, London.

WANTED, by Pianiste (Clever, Young, Variety), Re-engagement, any Business. Quick Reader, and Good Appearance. Call or write, ETHEL ASHTON, 24, Trafalgar-square, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, by Pianiste (Young Lady, Intermediate and Advanced Grade Cert., Guildhall School of Music), Engagements during Winter Months, near London preferred. E. D., 92, Chrisp-street, Poplar.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement Cultured Musician (Gifted Composer in opinion of eminent authorities). Box 8,465, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Pianist and Accompanist, First-class Orchestral, Engagement. Any business. Musical Director or otherwise. Transpose and Arrange. Lib. for Monday. COULTON, 115, Langney-rd., Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Any capacity. Good experience. Young. Disengaged Oct. 9. HANSON, 3, Berens-road, Kensal-green.

WANTED, by Pianist (Gent.), Engagement for Dance, Concert, or Orchestra. Experienced Sight Reader. London Preferred. H. HUNTER, 22, Calthorpe-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced in Variety and Dramatic Business. L. MAJOR HORNSBY, 2, Aughton-st., Fleetwood, Lancs.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Good Reader, Steady, Reliable. Good refs. Self or Orchestral. NEWTON ROBINSON, 67, Princess-road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Lancs.

WANTED, by Experienced Tympanist and Double Drummer. Effects. Season Finish with Lieut. Forrest. Theatre (Dramatic or Varieties). Address, DRUMS 12, Hawley-street, Lambeth, London.

WANTED, by Drums, Engagement, Herr Rawaher's Corporation Band and Dover Military. NEVILL, 13, Augusta-road, East Cliff, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, with Effects (experienced), Engagement. Now at Liberty. References. Wire or write, 21, Portland-street, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, by C. H. Anderson's Imperial Military Band, Engagement. Splendid musical Library and Band Equipment, with Four Different Styles of Uniform Third successful Season Broadstairs. At Liberty September. CHAS. HENRY ANDERSON, Musical Director, 21, Gladstone-road, Broadstairs.

WANTED, Engagements, by Mr. H. E. Angless's Celebrated Red Band. Disengaged end of October. Victoria Pavilion, Ilfracombe. Engaged Series of Exhibitions, Royal Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Skilled Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Tzacki's Casino Band desires offers for next Season. Compare this Band with others. 12, Coverdale-road, London, W.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
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" Re Advertisement
" 'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
" Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
" Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
" Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
" Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
" Littlehampton."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Herr Wilhelm Morgann's Original Blue Hungarian Band is Open to Good Offers.

This is the Band that performed to Record Audiences at the Glasgow Exhibition, Cork Exhibition, Middlesbrough Exhibition, Sheffield, Blackpool, Crystal Palace, Tynemouth, Newcastle, Brighton, Bridlington, Manchester, Hull, Liverpool, New Brighton, &c., and most of the principal Society functions during the London Season, and now performing with the greatest possible success on their Return Visit at the Bradford Exhibition.

All communications should be made to HERR WILHELM MORGANN, 81, Albert-street, Regent's-park, London, N.W.

WANTED, by the Victoria Ladies' Quartette, Violin, Piano, 'Cello, Bass, Engagements, Oct. 17. Miss A. SUTCLIFFE, Leas Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Six Musicians, comprising Three Cornets, Horn, Euphonium, and Bass, open for Engagements at Shows, Fairs, Fêtes, &c. Own Music. Terms, 33, Waterway-street, Nottingham.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

BUENOS AYRES, SOUTH AMERICA.

THEATRO CIRCO, COLISEO ARGENTINO (SOCIEDAD ANONIMA).

WANTED, Artistes of all Descriptions.

The above Theatre Circus, now in course of construction upon the same lines as the London Hippodrome, will be inaugurated about April, 1905, and will be under the General Management of Mr Frank Brown, and will be kept open all the year round.

The Coliseo Argentino will have a Large Stage and Circus Ring combined, Water Tank under Ring 7ft. deep, and all up-to-date facilities for every class of Entertainment.

See "The Era," Sept. 17.

Mr Frank Brown is now in Europe booking Artistes for the First Company, which will leave for Buenos Ayres about the middle of March, 1905.

Mr F. Brown will be pleased to hear from Artistes in all Branches of the Circus, Variety, and Aquatic Professions, either direct to FRANK BROWN, Holmhurst, 65, Catford-hill, London, S.E.; or to H. B. MARINELLI, 20, Rue Taitbout, Paris, and 134, Long-acre, London, W.C.

Please state if and when last appeared in Buenos Ayres. All Artists for First Company must be new to Buenos Ayres.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY, HIPPODROME, SCARBOROUGH.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Best Specialities, Novelties, and Variety Artists. Present and Future Dates.

Give full particulars as to Bookings, &c,

Geo. Zalva's Agency, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

KING OHMY'S GRAND NEW CIRCUS and VARIETY HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

WANTED, the Greatest Talent under the Sun Notice.—The Grand New Building Opens Monday, Oct. 3, with the Greatest and Grandest Circus Company ever placed under one roof. Licence Granted and Permission by the Mayor and Corporation for Six Months. King Ohmy returns home on Monday next, Oct. 3, and the good people of Bolton are waiting to receive him with open arms, knowing they have the Only Show of the Kind in England.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME, BELFAST.

WANTED, for the Opening of the Belfast Circus, November next, Performers of every description, including Lady and Gentlemen Riders, Clowns, Bar Performers, good Animal Acts, Sensational Flying Shows, Acrobats, Juvenile Spectacles, in fact, any Acts suitable for Circus Ring. Particulars, with lowest terms, and state if new to Belfast, Bosco, Hippodrome and Circus, Belfast.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Specialities of Every Description; also Equestrians, for Nov. 7 and on. All Artistes engaged Monday next please note Rehearsal 10 o'clock sharp. Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, Known, Artistes who are Engaged to Appear at The NORWICH HIPPODROME, after Jan. 2, 1905, and would like a Date at The IPSWICH HIPPODROME (3s. 9d. Journey), to Precede or Follow, should write, E. H. BOSTOCK, 233, Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Transfield's Hippos., Maidstone, New Brompton, and Sheerness, Big and Sensational Novelties, Variety Sketch Artistes for Ring and Stage. Sheerness, Oct. 17 and 24; New Brompton, Nov. 7, 14, and 21; Maidstone, December. Address, Sheerness.

ACCRINGTON HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Talking and Tumbling Clowns, with Funny Entrées, also Animal Acts, and Novelties, for Oct. 10 and 17. Apply, Paul Vandy, Sole Agent, Lyric, Liverpool, until Saturday, Oct. 8.

WANTED, Young Man as Second Mounter for well-known Troupe. One that can tumble preferred. State Salary and particulars to Box 8,462, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Young Man or Lady that can Tumble or do the Tight Wire, for First-class Halls. Must be smart. Address, M. C., Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Good Comedy Acrobat, One Week, London. Longer if suitable. Tom Oval wire. POWELL, 42, Eldon-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, a Smart Tumbler. All particulars to Box 8,502, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS on Tour. Manager, G. SCOTT.

WANTED, Known, John Scott and Family will be at Liberty from Dec. 5, Onwards, for Winter Season, with a First-class Circus Company, including the Imperial Bioscope if Required. For terms, &c., address, 22, Berkley-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED.—John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, Pigeon Charmers, and Foot Equilibrist. Liberty from Monday next, with Own Horse and Good Dresses. We thank Messrs Delbosz and Spampani for Offers for India. Address, 144, High-street, Deptford, London.

WANTED, Known, the Sloan Family just returned from the Continent. Great success at Cirque Medrano, Paris. For Vacant Dates, address, H. SLOAN, Algie's Circus, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Andrew Whelan, Equestrian, at Liberty in November. Now on Tour, Riding one of the Finest and Smartest Jockey Acts ever done in the business. Favourite everywhere. Address, Compasses Inn, Longton, Staffordshire.

WANTED, Known, Yelding, Premier Jockey Act Rider, with a number of First-class Acts. Also Miss L Scott, Wire and Globe Artist, at Liberty shortly. All letters, Mr R. YELDING, the Circus, Nailsworth, Glos.

WANTED.—Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with Good Entrées, Vacant, Monday. Wire, 50, Portland-street, Kilmarnock, Scotland.

WANTED, Known, Jolly Juba, the Boss of all Circus Comedians, also Talking Dancing Knockabout Clown, is not dead yet, but at Liberty for Long or Short Engagements. Look out, my so-called Pals. Address, 53, Frost-street, Tyne Dock, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Ping-Pong, the Circus Little Tich. Eighth Season with Lord John Sanger. Vacant November. Address, Sanger's Farm, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Known, Alec Condon, Clown and Agouste, with First-class Comic Entrées. Liberty Monday. Address, 73, Charles street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Jackaway, Touring America with Ringling Bros, World's Greatest Shows, at Liberty for Winter Season, commencing December. For terms and Acts, write or wire, JACKAWAY, 12, Naylor-street, Newton, Oldham-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Varno and Nano, Grotesque Knockabout Gymnasts. For all vacant dates apply, Bull Inn, Winslow, Bucks.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte (Lady and Gent.), Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Act, Free Oct. 10, 17. Address, Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Harland and Rollison. Monday, Hippodrome, Accrington. Vacant, Oct. 10, 17, 24.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Premier Equilibrists and Acrobats, Oct. 3, 10. Wire, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED. Known, Bono, the Acrobatic Equilibrist, Vacant Monday, also Oct. 10. Llandelyn, Lmloch, N. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Bernardo, Comedy Juggler, at Liberty Monday next; also Oct. 10, 17. Panto. settled. Wire, 10, Goldsmith-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Monday next, Les Bois, Premier Burlesque Jugglers. Sure success guaranteed. Wire or write, 18 Melbourne-street, Leeds. Agent Wanted.

WANTED, Known, the Tarras, Double Jugglers; also Miss Dahlia, Lady Gymnast. Two Turns Liberty Oct. 10, 17. Hippodrome, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio (Two Ladies, One Gentleman), Funny, Novel Bicycle Speciality. Vacant, Monday Next, between Aberdeen and Carlisle. Wire, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Oct 24, by Balzens and Pei-Ho, Japanese Variety Wonders. One Lady, Two Gentlemen. Kursaal, Southend.

WANTED, Engagement, by W. Vilroe, Weight Lifter, Wrestler, Handcuff Manipulator. Address, 37, Infirmary-road, Sheffield. Good Agent Wanted.

WANTED, Known, First-class Bearer and Catcher at Liberty to join good Acrobat Troupe, can join at once. ACROBAT, 5, Lansdown-place, Upper Norwood.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE PALACE VARIETY THEATRES. Booked in Conjunction with Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance. Always Vacancies for Star Turns. ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

Barney Armstrong's Scotch Tour. Tivoli, Glasgow; Queen's, Glasgow; Palace, Kilmarnock; also Sixteen Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour.

WANTED, Artists to send Full List of Bookings, terms, &c, Armstrong's Agency, Tivoli Palace, Glasgow. Big Acts Required for Immediate Dates.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION. Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts. Instituted 1869. Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artists, All Lines, for Town near Newcastle, Oct 10, 17, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19. Good break going North. State actual lowest in first letter. Pantomime artists Vacant, write. John R. Fennett, 102, Rusholme road, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every Description. Immediate Dates for Suitable Numbers. Only High-class Acts Represented. J. Tysoe-Smith, 15A, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, to Complete Company for Oct. 10, Six Nights. Terms must be low. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, for the Greatest Picture Show on Earth, Variety Artists and Specialities doing Two Acts. Six Months' Tour. KENNEDY, P. H., Worcester.

NEW PAVILION, MAIDENHEAD.

WANTED, for the above Hall, Variety Artists in all Lines, for Oct. 10 and onwards Good Specialities for Top and Bottom of Bill. Comedians, Serios. Nothing too Big. One Show Nightly. No Fancy Prices. Send absolute lowest terms to Sole Agent for the above Hall, STARR, New Pavilion, Maidenhead.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Park Palace, Paddington Palace, and New Tivoli, Liverpool. Proprietors, PALACES, LIVERPOOL, Limited. Wanted, First-class Artistes in all Lines. Booking Agents, Empire Theatrical Agency, Limited, St. James's Hall, Manchester, to whom please apply direct. P.S.—Artistes working Manchester and District please call.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, Comedians, Serios, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Sketches, Novelties, Big and Little Turns, but must be Good, or useless. Send List of Bookings, terms, dates, photos., Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

Saturday Concerts.

WANTED, Artistes, All Kinds, October to March. State terms and vacant dates to SECRETARY, Temperance Hall, Middlesbrough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines. Clients, please Note New Address.

James Fioni's Agency, James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

Telephone, 1,686, Royal

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."

WANTED, Artistes, in Every Line. Papa Brown, Agent, 30, Streatham place, Brixton, S.W. Please note all Contracts made by me for the Palace, Belfast, stand good. It does not close Business. Great contracts await Ella's Lions, Lockhart's Elephants, Three Laurels, Stern and Stern, Cee-Mee Troupe, J. K. Coyle, Flora Lumiere, Harry Rochez, Americus, Keith and Merson, Bale Troupe, Nellie and George Hanlon, Joe Elvin's Company, and the Magic Kettle. Papa Brown, Agent, 30, Streatham-place, Brixton, S.W. 'Phone, 233 Streatham. Telegraphic address, "Jibbers, London."

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.

WANTED, Artistes, October, on. Rehearsal, Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Dayton Family, Charles Woodward, Stern and Kiton, Foldi and Bolds, Les Valdos, Three Millfords, M'Askell, Juno Salmo. Letters, S. L. LEE.

WANTED, for the Reopening of the Winter Gardens, Plymouth, Oct 22 and onwards, Artists in all Lines, good Troupes and Specialities, good Talking Knockabout Clowns; also good Male and Female Bareback Equestrians. W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Summer-court, Saturday and Monday; Newquay, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday next.

WANTED, Artistes, Single Turns, Two Weeks, Oct 10, 24; Single and Double Turns, Nov. 7, 21. Marionettes write re eight weeks' engagement for Christmas. CHAS A JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin. Freaks and Novelties write.

WANTED, Artistes for Five Small Halls (South). Lowest, Leslie's Agency, Frankfort-buildings, Plymouth. Contracts waiting Amy Forrest, Joe Cookson, Roy Tracey, Victoria Cross, Reis and Rex, Tom Warren, Black Apollo, Saxo, Major Clarke, Sisters Rosairs, Stanley Howard, Snowdon and Conway, Fred Mason, Sisters Love Wire addresses.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines. State lowest terms, Bookings, Lithos., &c. Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, Morecambe. Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe."

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now on. Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Oct. 10 and 17, onwards. W. BIRCHALL, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines; also Bioscope, for Autumn Tour, Theatres. Good Circus Acts write. JOE HASTINGS Mumbles, Swansea.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, Oct. 10 and 17. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Artistes of all Descriptions, Suitable for Carnivals at Olympia, Sunderland. Apply, CARR, for RICHARDSON BROS., Limited.

SCARBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Artists doing Two Acts and Novelties, Oct. 17, on. Address, QUINTON GIBSON, Tivoli House, Scarborough.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, First-class Artistes only, in all Lines, Oct. 10, onwards. Full particulars. Cadle's Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Bioscopes of the Highest Order. In fact, nothing Too Big or Too Little. Enclose memos, lithos., photos., and permanent address, for immediate and future dates. Lennox and Co., Dramatic, Variety, and Circus Agents, Castle-chambers, Houndsgate, Nottingham.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for Immediate and Future Dates. Nothing too Big. Always room for Big Acts, Good Animal Shows especially. Contracts waiting for Valvero, Hughes and Magrety, Dale and Vale, the Marmons, the Greegsons, Otto Schuman. Barnard and Deetrich, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL. Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and J. W. CRAGG. General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to Burns's Agency only, London, Hartlepool, and Manchester. Telephone 0,231; Telegrams, "Burns."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Oct. 3:—Ando's Happy Little Japs, Flo Hilton, Gladenbecks, Fred Casburn, Burns's Bioscope, Geo. Rapley, Marie Santoi, the Rozells, Nellie Coleman, and Dome. 1 0 o'clock prompt.

All Artists not sending in their Bill Matter Two clear Weeks before Opening, besides standing risk of having their Contracts Cancelled for same may rely on prompt action at law being taken as per Rule No. 6. (Signed) HARRY BURNS, General Manager.

TIVOLI MUSIC HALL, HIGH SHIELDS.—Proprietors, Councillor J. K. HALL and Jos. SWINNEY. —General Manager, HARRY BURNS. Address all communications to Harry Burns, Empress, Hartlepool. Burns's Agency only. Telephone, 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Oct. 3, 2·0 o'clock prompt, Sisters Russell, James Brady, F. Clifford, the Atkins Trio, Flo Banks, Prince Ishmael, Grapho and Jackson, and Bert Kemp. Bookings in connection with North Tour also note barring clause, which will be strictly adhered to. (Signed) HARRY BURNS.

WANTED, Artistes holding Engagements Alhambra, Belfast, to write in Fourteen Days before Opening H. T. DOWNS, Manager

WANTED, Clients to Note my Address. M'ASKELL, 9, Staindrop-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Liverpool, St. Helens, Warrington, and Ashton, Stars and Novelties, Oct. 17, onwards. F. WILLMOT, Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Stars in all Lines, for Newcastle and Gateshead.

Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, Oct. 3, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c., Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076, Royal.

WANTED, Stars Vacant Oct. 3, onwards, to communicate with Cavill and Co., 15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone, 2140, Royal.

WANTED, Palace Theatre, Cork, Star Turns, Specialities, Sisters, Bar Acts Animal Shows. Novelties, Comediennes.

Full particulars, lithos., and terms to HENRY KEMBLE, General Manager.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Stars of Every Description,
Immediate and Onwards.
Absolute lowest
in First Instance,
or no notice taken of Applications.

Booking
Every Hall of Note
in England.
Also
Booking throughout Germany.

Harry Burns,
Sole Proprietor Burns's Agency,
Empress Theatre of Varieties, Hartlepool.
Telephone, 0,231 Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Burns."

WANTED, Star Turns, Tops of Bill, for London and Provinces.
Also Good Comedy Numbers, for a West-end Hall.
Exclusive Engagement. State where Performing, and will See Act, whether in England or Continent.
Distance no Object for Big, Reliable Numbers.
Day's Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6 915 Gerrard.
Telegraphic address, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

BORO' THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
NORTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, ARTHUR JEFFERSON.
WANTED, High-class Acts of every Description. Booking Agent, Harry Burns, Empress, E. Hartlepoo', to whom please apply direct. A. J.

WANTED, Big Speciality Act New to Wigan, Oct. 10. Wire, till Saturday Night, ONDA, Palace, Blackpool. Also artistes, all Lines, Oct. 17, near Bolton. Address,
WILL ONDA, Kenwyn Villa, Penwortham, Preston.

WANTED, Oct. 10, onwards South Wales and West, Variety Acts, all Lines. Say where Booked. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Christmas Week,
Big Speciality.
Also
Pantomime Sketch.
Address, FRANK EGERTON,
Manager, Collins's Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Specialities of Novel Description for Northampton, Four Days, June 12, 1905. Fullest particulars, M'ASKELL, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Good Novel Speciality, Oct. 31
Absolute Lowest Terms to Cosmopolitan Agency, 24a, Islington, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Cosmo, Liverpool." Hanco communicate.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN-ON-TYNE.
Lessee and Manager, W. A. JACKSON.
WANTED, Big Top-of-Bill, also Artistes in all Lines, Oct. 17. Large Stage.

WANTED, to Rehearse, about Oct. 10, for High-class Eccentric Sketch (Halls), Dainty Soprano Actress for Principal Girl part; Burlesque Dramatic Actor for Baron; Eccentric Dude for Burlesque Juvenile Lead; Eccentric Comedian for Dame; Comedian and Legmania Dancer; Boy Contortionist for Oat. Must be experienced. Men for Animals. Fullest particulars, salary, Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Monday and Onwards, Sisters doing Doubles and Singles,
Musical Turns, Illustrated Songs.
Hall and Stage very small.
KATE ALLEN, Empire, Halesowen.

WANTED, a Pair of Sisters (Musical Act) for One or Two Years' Tour. State number of Instruments, and where can be seen working, and terms. Also Pair of Sisters (Acrobatic Show, not Aerial). Full particulars, 44, Prince's-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Chic Serio and Buck Dancer, must be capable of playing Part. Full particulars, COMEDY ACT, 66, High-street, Blue Town, Sheerness

ACCRINGTON.—HIPPODROME.
WANTED, a Star Comedian for Oct. 10 and 17, and any Novelty New to Accrington. Call for Oct. 3 at one o'clock.—Geo. Schicklay's Bears, Abadaroffs, New Bioscope, Carlo and Male, Molly Doon, Will Aubrey, Silent Tait, Harland and Rollison, Salmon.
Also Full Band and Staff.
No Excuses, all Contracts are Stamped.
Agent, Paul Vandy, Lyric, Liverpool, Monday, till Oct. 8.

WANTED, First-class Cinematograph Operator,
for London. Permanency. Electric.
With or without own outfit.
Lowest salary,
LEIVERS, Clifton-chambers, Blackpool.

WANTED, Expert Cinematograph Operator, one with own machine preferred. Permanent job to suitable man. Apply, stating experience, &c., to Box 8,474, care of "The Era."

WANTED, First-class Operator for Cinématograph. Open at once. State full particulars and lowest terms to BELL, care of White's Carnival, Aberdeen. Second-hand Films also Required.

WANTED, Known.—Hypnotic Subject wants Engagement. Smart, reliable, and of good appearance Age Twenty. Apply, ROBERTS, 84, Mawson-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, for Graceful Grace Compton, the Popular Singer of Sensible Songs, Monday next and onwards. Wire, quick, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Baby Lloyd, the Only Baby Dancing on One Leg. The Great Coon. At Liberty Oct. 10, 17, 24. Also Nellie Vann, Serio and Dancer. Big Success, Theatre, Abertillery. Monday next, Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash, where wire.

WANTED, Known, Eva Reed, Comedy Comedienne and Grotesque Dancer, Vacant Oct. 10, on, Open for Pantomime. Wire, Theatre Royal, Workington.

WANTED, by Lady Novice, Tall, Attractive Appearance, Engagement, immediate. London Hall. Salary required. B. L., 22, Upper Montagu-st., Montagu-sq., W.

WANTED, all Engaging Musical Acts to see the Parez Girls (Three). Hear them Play the Handbells, Bagpipes, &c. Free Oct. 3, 17, 24, on, and Pantomime. 32, Mill-lane, Warrington.

WANTED, Engagement, George Barton, Descriptive and Coon Vocalist and Rag-time Dancer. A Sure Turn. Address, 34, Cambridge-road, Mile-end, London.

WANTED, Known, Jim Enip, the Lancashire Lad, Comedian and Patter Vocalist. Lib, Oct. 3, 17. 2, West-street, Hucknall, Notts

WANTED. Wanted, Oct. 3.
WAL CROFT, Scotch Comedian.
Wire, Empress, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Oct 10 and 24, by Stirtevant Swift, the Swell Coon. This week, Hippodrome, Sheerness Wire, 790, Romford-road, Manor-park.

WANTED, by Miraclo, Musical Novelty Artiste, Monday next. Original and Refined.
Wire, Esplanade, Bangor, Ireland.
Finishing To-night Record Season.

WANTED, Engagements, Judge Bolton, High-class Variety Entertainer. Two Distinct Acts. Apply, 41, Prince's-road, Hull.

WANTED, Oct. 3 and 10, by Fred Erick, Comedian. This week, Circus of V., Rochdale. All coms. to 428, Liverpool-st., Seedley, near Manchester.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, Engagement Monday next. Wire, 2, Rumford-place, Rumford-street, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED.—Picitt, Handcuff King and Jail-breaker, Big Top of Bill Sensation, Exciting enough for a Circus, Refined enough for the Concert Platform. The Genuine Show. No Trick Boxes, no Faked Fetters, no Confederates, Chain and Iron me how you like, absolutely no Conditions, Searched from Head to Foot. I commence where others leave off. Tremendous outside show of Irons used in my Act. Attracting enormous crowds. The Nottingham Police threatened proceedings if not discontinued. This week, Mechanics' Large Hall, Nottingham; next, Mr J. D. Hunter's Tour. Address, Pier, Hastings, to be forwarded. Vacant Oct. 24, onwards.

WANTED, Known, Cyril Demane, the Modern Illusionist and Wonder Worker, at Liberty Monday next. Thanks to Mr Pearce, Mr Mack, and Mr Dempsey for offers. Managers with disappointments wire. DEMANE, 32, Rutland-street, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Leslie H. Murray, Magician and Card Manipulator, Monday next, also Oct. 10. Wire, 65, Sussex-road, Southport.

WANTED, Monday next, North, by Atlas and Vulcana.
Wire, 18, Grenville-street, South, Liverpool.

WANTED, Oct 3 and 10, by Charles Tempest, Comedian. Also Miss Ida Fair.
Wire, one or both, Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Rex Carvell, Novel Ventriloquist, and Alma Dora, Comedienne and Speciality Dancer. Wire, 34, Bentley-st., Gravesend.

WANTED, Monday next, Oct. 3; also 10, 17, 1904, by the Great Kyoto, the Original Comedy Japanese Mysterious Box. Causes roars of laughter and applause (Inquire). Also Miss May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer, Hippo., Tor-y-Pandy. Wire until Saturday; after, 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, Oct. 3, the Dunvilles, Great Comedy Musical Act, "Mansion Domestics." Gorgeous Fit-up. Sure Success. Wire, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Oct. 3, 17, 24, by Carl and Carr, Comedians, in Refined Comedy Act, "Workhouse." Terrific success, Topping Bill, Albert Hall, Sheffield. Wire, quick, for above dates. Panto. settled. Ealing Theatre.

WANTED, Known, the Warlocks, Vacant Monday next; also 10th, 31st. Offers invited.
90, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Immediate Dates, by Engist and Orsa, German, French, and English Musical Patter Comedians. 17, Berwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Golden and Grey in future will play duo, "The Missing Will," as Pollard and Grey. Empire, Dover.

WANTED, Known, Earle and Melville, Comedians, big success, Tivoli, High Shields. Vac. Oct. 10, 17, 24. Ad., 39, Keswick-st., West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Monday, by Dale and Fargan, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurors,
Wire, 16, Laird-street, Greenock.

WANTED, Monday next, Oct. 3, by Stanley and Tichbourne, Duettists and Patter Comedians. Wire, wire, Gaiety, Oldham.

WANTED, Monday Next, also Oct. 10, by Snowden and Conway (Will and Winnie), Refined Comedy Act; also Winnie St. Ives, Serio. One Turn or Both. Wire, Victoria Theatre, Littleborough, Lancs. See Card.

WANTED, by the Carcassi Duo, in their Great Musical Speciality, Monday next, also Oct. 10. Wire, Palace, North Shields

WANTED, Monday; also Oct. 24, by Goliath and Walford. Goliath, the Strongest Youth in the World. Wire, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Oct. 10 and 17, by the Elvins, Dramatic and Comedy Sketch Specialities.
Address, 13, Queen's-terrace, Alexandra-rd., Portsmouth.

WANTED, by the Great Marconis, Monday next, through altering Dates
Wire, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED.—Comical Walker, Local Nippers; Mons. Reklaw, Gl be Performer, Two Turns, Vacant Monday. Wire, 50, Portland-street, Kilmarnock.

WANTED, Known, the Villions, Vacant Oct. 31, and Four Weeks, Dec. 26.
Communicate to
W. VILLION,
Palace, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, to Agents and Managers, the Boultons and Mdlle. Bartenelli, on and after April 3, 1905, will be known as Boulton and Bartenelli. Two Big Acts rolled into one. Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, by the Albano Troupe, Musical Speciality, Monday next and Oct. 10, through Hall not opening. Wire, wire, wire, wire, for this the Greatest Refined Musical Act. A Drawing Card. Pronounced by Proprietors and Managers as one of the Greatest Musical Acts.
Wire, the Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne. See Cards.

WANTED, by the Service Quartette, in their attractive Vocal Scena, entitled "Welcome Faces," a really First-class Number, Oct. 10, on. Coms. to HEBBERT 5, Osborne-road, Gillingham, Kent.

WANTED, Oct. 10 and 17, Driscoll and Beattie's Comedy Sketch Company.
Address, Empress, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Agar and Drew's Company, "The Happy Tramps," introducing Songs, Dances, Knockabout, and Instrumental Selections. Wire, 16, Sydney-st., Manchester, for Oct. 3, 10, 17, and Various Later Dates

WANTED, Bookings from Oct. 24, for the Royal Entertainers (Five Artistes). Salary or Share. Mr HARRY LISTON, Egyptian Hall, London, W.

WANTED, Monday Next, and Oct. 10 by the Rose Combination, Greatest Comedy Act on the Stage. Starring, Tivoli, South Shields Wire.

WANTED, by Continental Marionette Entertainment. Dates from Dec. 12, onward. Long or Short Show, thoroughly up to date. Particulars, Box 8,442, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Mdlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome, Oct. 3 and 10. Absolutely the Finest and Smartest Act worked by a Lady in the World. Electrically Illuminated. 20, Beaver-road, Falcon-road, Battersea.

WANTED, Oct. 10, other Dates, Chard's Dog Circus, King of all Dog Shows
Public Hall, Preston.

WANTED, Bookings for Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscopes. Everything Up to Date. All Pictures used on my Shows are my own Property, and have hundreds of Secondhand Films for Sale.
Address, 54, Daleview-road, Stamford-hill, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Harmon's Bioscope, Up-to-Date Comic and Trick Films Twenty Minutes to Two Hours 101A, Penwith road, Earlsfield.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Engagement for Imperial Bioscope. Latest War and Comic Pictures. At Liberty Oct. 3, onwards. 16, Clova-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, Oct. 31, or Later, for Bioscope Pictures; also Troupe of Dogs, High Diving Dog. A sure draw. LE CLAIR, 4, Daniel-street, Ryde.

WANTED, Oct. 10, "Is it You?" Snapshot Competition, Bioscope and Comedian; Illustrated Songs. BIOSCOPE, Paddington P., Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Oct 3, onwards, for Bioscope, Russo-Jap War and Comic Films. SAYERS, 16, Clova-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Monday, Oct. 10, Cinématograph Operator; also Lucy Lovelace, in Illustrated Songs. Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Cinématograph Operator, Engagement in London, with or without own Machine. F., 93, Munster-road, Fulham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Immediate and Future Bookings for the Edison Paul Animated Pictures, not the best, but among the very best. Special Pictures for Sundays Large Stock of Latest and Best Films to Hire on Reasonable Terms to Responsible Managers.
First-class Show at Liberty for Tour or Pantomime.
Satisfaction Guaranteed,
with Lime or Electric.

Wire, for Monday,
PAUL, Shildon.
Letters,
F. M. PAUL,
Empire Theatre, Shildon, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Known, Young Man (Aged Twenty-one) seeks Situation with Travelling Electrical Cinématograph Show as General Handy Man. Can join at once. OLIVER COLBERT, Brampton, Huntingdon.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, that the Next Meeting of the
British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union
will be held at Nottingham
on Thursday, Oct. 6,
at 1 0 p.m. sharp,
when all Members are requested to attend.
Signed,
T. HURST,
Secretary.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire,
on Tour or otherwise,
anywhere in the United Kingdom.
For particulars apply to
F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

The World's Fair and Exhibition,
66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.
WANTED, Side-Shows of all Descriptions to open in above building.
Side-show, 33ft by 24ft,
lit up by Electricity and Gas.
Terms, Share or Rental.
All letters to be addressed to
OWEN BAGAN,
66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Living Novelties, Freaks, &c., for Belfast. Note the position. 43, North-street, near the Alhambra. Pleased to hear from all Novelties who have been with me before. Also steady, respectable Young Man Wanted, used to the business. CAPT. MEDECIA, 43, North-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Novelties for Stewart's Waxwork Exhibition.
High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Sensational Novelties and Freaks, open Monday. Wire, Shares or Salary. Three Weeks. COLLENA, 4, Market-place, S. Shields. Eagle Davis at Lib. with Knife-throwing Exhibition.

WANTED, Absolute Novelties, Big Acts and Specialities. Write full particulars, Van Biene and Phillips' Agency. See Card.

WANTED, all Kinds of Novelties, Freaks, &c., for Capt. Medecia's Novelty and Freak Museum. Shares or certainty. 43, North-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Novelties, Attractions, Porth, Ton-y-Pandy. Open Oct 3, on. Sharing terms. PHILLIPS, Novelty Hall, 7, Dumavon-st., Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, to Open Oct. 10, and future Dates. Share or Salary. Ad., WALLSER, Wonderland, Octagon, Plymouth.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, suitable for Waxworks, Exhibition, for Oct. 3 and future dates. Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-road, Belfast.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties Best shops in Wales. Mountain Ash, Merthyr, and other towns. Wire, Prof. LYONS, Post-office, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, a Good Phrenologist. Sharing terms for One Month. Apply on Monday, first, to JAMES PATTISON, Prize Model Exhibition, Briggate, Leeds.

WANTED, a Phrenologist, well up in his Business. Good Money to be taken.
Apply, MANAGER, 4, Church-way, South Shields.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady Assistant.
PICKARDS, Rifle Range,
74, King-street, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, an Auctioneer. One well up in the Knowledge of Gold and Silver Jewellery.
Apply, COHEN, 7, Palatine-buildings, Blackpool.

WANTED, for Travelling Auction Mart Smart Planksman, must be Good Comedian. Also Practical Watchmaker, who can Play Piano. Address, Box 8,478, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy close Garden Party, Hartington, this week. Monday next, Macclesfield. Address, Buxton, Derbyshire. Chair up.

WANTED, Known, Fleta, New Improved Flying Lady, at Liberty Nov. 28 Turn or Side Show. Halls and Good Exhibitions only entertained.
BERT STEWART, Box No 8 445, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Harry Renard, Pianist and Ventriloquist, at Liberty for Auction Marts or Cinématograph Shows. Up-to-date Business Write, RENARD, 13, Hamilton-street, Landore, Swansea

WANTED, Known, Theo Daniels, Comedian, Planksman, Handseller, Liberty shortly. Mountain View Hotel, Penmaenmawr. 11, Finney-st., Rhosddu, Wrexham.

WANTED.—Charles Cuninghame, Business-Manager, Advance Agent, and Lecturer, late of Italian Exhibition, Earl's-court (Gigantic Wheel), Crystal Palace, Waverley Carnival, Edinburgh, &c., Disengaged. Wire or write, 22, Tunstall-road, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Lady Palmiste Disengaged. Certificated.
Shares or Salary.
Wire, MADAME, 33, Nelson-street, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities.
SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON,
66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds,
Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

Chiappa and Sons, Limited, of 6, Little Bath-street, Clerkenwell, London, and 17, Milton-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.
Sole Representatives of Messrs Gavioli and Cie, of Paris.

WANTED, all Showmen to Know that every kind of repairs at reasonable prices and best workmanship, guaranteed to give satisfaction, are now undertaken at both the above addresses. Every description of Organ Playing by Cardboard Music sold at reduced prices, and all kinds of Cardboard Music supplied at once. A large stock of Second-Hand Organs, all newly done-up, with purchaser's own tunes, for Sale from £15; also large size Organs with Drums, thoroughly renovated, from £60.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Second-hand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermillionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Write for price list or call, Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Buy Buttercotch with Fortunes in silver paper; 3s. per gross. GREEVES, 104, Belgrave-gate, Leicester.

WANTED, Immediately, Experienced Man to Sell Unbreakable Pens, &c., on Shares. Pen Stall, Trades' Exhibition, Town Hall, Winsford, Cheshire.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES, OCTOBER, 1904.
IN ENGLAND

Oct. 1. Atherton
Oct. 1. Bracknell
Oct. 1. Braintree
Oct. 1. Croydon
Oct. 1. Downton
Oct. 1. Glodwick
Oct. 1. Kineton
Oct. 1. Lambourne
Oct. 1. Liskeard
Oct. 1. Lymington
Oct. 1. Middleton (Leeds)
Oct. 1. New Wortley (Leeds)
Oct. 1. Pilsley
Oct. 1. Retford
Oct. 1. Wendover
Oct. 3. Dudley
Oct. 3. Hounslow
Oct. 3. King's Norton
Oct. 3. Macclesfield
Oct. 3. Nottingham
Oct. 3. Peterborough
Oct. 3. Peterchurch
Oct. 3. Selby
Oct. 3. Tamworth
Oct. 4. Alcester
Oct. 4. Woodstock
Oct. 4. Yarnboro' Castle
Oct. 5. Alvechurch
Oct. 5. Horwich
Oct. 5. Hungerford
Oct. 5. Kirby Lonsdale
Oct. 5. Ilkeston
Oct. 5. Pontefract
Oct. 5. Wibsey
Oct. 5. Winsford
Oct. 6. Alnwick
Oct. 6. Brough Hill
Oct. 6. Wobourn
Oct. 7. Bicester
Oct. 8. Aylesbury
Oct. 8. Barkerend
Oct. 8. Beverley
Oct. 8. Hartlepool
Oct. 8. Houghton-le-Spring
Oct. 8. Pinxton
Oct. 8. Stoney Middleton
Oct. 8. Tapton
Oct. 10. Abingdon
Oct. 10. Chipping Norton
Oct. 10. Cirencester
Oct. 10. Fazeley
Oct. 10. Gosport
Oct. 10. Grimsby
Oct. 10. Halesowen
Oct. 10. Lancaster
Oct. 10 Leicester
Oct. 10. Mitcheldean
Oct. 10 Sherbourne
Oct. 10. Tewkesbury
Oct. 11. Basingstoke
Oct. 11. Bridport
Oct. 11. Burwell
Oct. 11. Daventry
Oct. 11. Faversham
Oct. 11. Henley-in-Arden
Oct 11. Highworth
Oct. 11. Hingham
Oct. 11. Hull
Oct. 11. Kingsclere
Oct 11. Ledbury
Oct 11. Lingfield
Oct. 11. Lowestoft
Oct. 11. Marlborough
Oct. 11. Nuneaton
Oct. 11. Ramsbury
Oct. 11. Sittingbourne
Oct. 11. St. Ives
Oct. 11. Thame
Oct. 11. Tring
Oct. 11. Tunbridge Wells
Oct. 11. Whitney
Oct. 11. Wooler
Oct. 12. Axminster
Oct. 12. Bedford
Oct. 12. Colne
Oct 12 Hitchen
Oct. 12. Inkberrow
Oct. 12. Needham Market
Oct. 12. Stratford-on-Avon
Oct. 12. Tavistock
Oct 12. Warwick
Oct. 12. Wymondham
Oct. 13. Ashton-in-Makerfield
Oct. 13. Ockley Heath
Oct. 13. Shipton-on-Stour
Oct. 13. Torrington
Oct. 14. Caistor
Oct. 14. Workington
Oct. 15. Banbury
Oct. 15. Buckingham
Oct. 15. Burley-in-Wharfdale
Oct. 15. City-road, Bradford
Oct. 15. Farnsfield
Oct 15. Wantage
Oct. 17. Christchurch
Oct. 17. Luton
Oct. 17. Southam
Oct. 18 Harwich
Oct. 18. Hatfield
Oct. 18. Maidstone
Oct. 18. Salisbury
Oct. 19. Leominster
Oct. 19. Market Bosworth
Oct. 20. Devizes
Oct. 20. Sawbridgeworth
Oct. 20. Slesford
Oct. 21. Chichester
Oct. 21. Chorley
Oct. 21 Lichfield
Oct. 21. Oundle
Oct. 21. Prince's Risborough
Oct. 21. Stratford-on-Avon
Oct. 21-22. Bridlington
Oct. 22. Clitheroe
Oct. 22. Dalton-in-Furness
Oct. 22. Winchester
Oct. 24. Cinderford
Oct. 24. Market Drayton
Oct. 24. Skegness
Oct. 24. Upper Ottery
Oct. 25. Gainsborough
Oct. 27. Bingham
Oct. 27. Ely
Oct 28. Exmouth
Oct. 28. Great Marlow
Oct. 28. Horncastle
Oct. 28. Totness
Oct. 28 Warminster
Oct. 28. Wellington
Oct. 28. Wigan
Oct. 29. Disley
Oct. 29. Edwinstow
Oct. 29. Falmouth
Oct. 29. Heath
Oct. 29. Holmefirth
Oct. 29. Kirby
Oct. 29. Oxcroft
Oct. 29. Stanfree
Oct. 29. Wingerworth

IN SCOTLAND
Oct. 1. Cupar Fife
Oct. 1. Dunfermline
Oct. 1. Haddington
Oct. 1. Sinclair Town
Oct. 8. Dundee
Oct. 8. Greenock
Oct. 8. Kilmarnock
Oct. 10. Alloa
Oct 31. Selkirk

IN WALES.
Oct. 1. Fishguard
Oct. 1. Maesteg
Oct. 1. Mold
Oct. 5. Maesycwmmer
Oct. 8. Pembroke
Oct. 8. Pont-y-pool
Oct. 21. Llandovery

WANTED, Travellers to Buy
Ammunition,
Saloon Rifles,
Repeaters,
Glass Globes and Bottles,
Balls for Water Fountains,
from the Prompt Firm,
BUCK and PATERSON, Limited,
66, Union-street, Borough,
London, S.E.
Wires, "Targettier, London"

WANTED, to Sell, a Complete Waxwork Exhibition, consisting of Fifty-one Figures, and divided into Nine Tableaux. Directly imported from the famous Musee Grevin, Paris, for exhibition at Earl's-court, where it is now on view. Some of the tableaux may be separated. All communications, by letter, to SORG, care of STRAKER and Co., 190, Edgware-road, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Complete Waxworks Fifty Up-to-Date Figures, Scenery, Curtains, and all Requisites. Bargain for immediate cash. Also Two Mechanical Theatres of Art. Suitable for Side Shows. £6 each. Address, Box 8,481, "The Era" Office, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Waxwork and Variety Exhibition, up to Date, Cheap, £60 to Immediate Purchaser. Address, MANAGER, Church-street, Walsall.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Love-letter, Husbands, Babies, Black List, Marriage and Liars' Licences, &c. MEURICE, 20, Bidborough-st., W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of all Kinds. Best and Cheapest in the Trade.
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WANTED, to Sell, Latest Money-taking Automatic Novelties, New and Second-hand; Photo. and Fortune Cards, all kinds; Automatic Working Models. Send for Lists, HAYDON, Islington, London.

WANTED, to Sell, a Great Bargain, Rail Waggon, 16ft. long by 7 wide, Shuttered Booth, and Front and Inside Proscenium. Worth £50. will take £15 for lot. Can be seen at Nottingham. Apply, W. SHAW, 81, Oldham-street, Manchester.

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WANTED, to Sell, a Body of a Living Rail Waggon, an Egg and Fountain Shooter, and Double Tube Shooting Gallery, with accessories All in Good Condition and Working Order. Mrs HERBERT, Pandy Field, Ton-y-Pandy, Wales.

WANTED, to Sell, Brann's Pattern Electric Engraver, with Battery Equal to New. £2. Also Studio Camera, Nine Acromatic Lenses, for Gems and Victorios, suitable for Exhibition use, 35s. R BOLTON, 49A, Poulton-street, Kirkham, Lancashire.

WANTED, to Sell, Avery's Chair-Weigher and Height-Measurement Machine. Prints Ticket of Weight. Cost £30. Will take £10, or close offer. MINERVA AUTOMATIC Co., 120, York-road, King's-cross, N.

WANTED, to Sell, an Auctioneer's Van, All necessary Fittings attached. To be disposed of reasonably. Apply, COHEN, 7, Palatine-buildings, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Up-to-Date Set of Jumping Horses, Twisted Brass, Good Organ and Engine, all New, Trucks go by Rail, also Electric Light Plant to light up same; also small Frame. Three Loads, go road or rail, in perfect working order. Will sell cheap for cash. Hobby Horses, Templemore, Ireland.

WANTED, to Buy, Carved Front, not less than 22ft., Good Condition; also Good Size Load Waggon. Cheap for cash. Prof. RUBY, X-Rays Exhibition, Stuart's Fair, Gloucester.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces. The most popular place of amusement, Drill Hall, Portsmouth. Grand Winter Carnival, Second Year. Few Spaces Vacant. Stalls, Darts, Spot, Wire, Rings, Tobacco, &c., opening shortly. Proprietor-Lessee, GERALD LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead, N.W.

WANHED, to Let, Spaces, Optician, Engraver, Shoo r, &c. Touring Exhibition, open Monday, Oct. 3, Town all, Winsford, Cheshire. MANAGER.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted
Showmen,
Roundabout Proprietors,
Stall
Owners,
and
other
Travellers
to know
I have Ground
to Let
at
the
following
Places:—

Leicester New Fairground,
Oct. 12.

Sheffield Cattle Market,
Oct. 20.

Rotherham Statute,
Two Weeks,
commencing
Oct. 28.

Queen's-road,
Manchester,
Nov. 11.

Liverpool,
Nov. 18,

Five
Different
Grounds
And
Christmas
and
New Year Holidays,

Birkenhead,
Hyde-road,
Manchester.

Shore Fields,
Liverpool.

Stanley-road,
Liverpool.

Overton-street,
Liverpool.

Walton-on-the-Hill.

Also
the
Covered-in
Haymarket,

which
I
have
Leased
from the
Corporation
of
Liverpool
to
Hold

Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
for
the
Christmas Holidays.

Price
and
particulars
Apply,
JOHN COLLINS,
20, Rufford-road,
Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Roundabout Proprietors, Stall-Holders, Travellers, &c.,
We have Grounds to Let at our Principal Back-end and Winter Feasts, Fairs, and Wakes, viz.,
Handsworth and Tamworth, Oct. 3;
Leicester, Oct. 10;
Smethwick, West Bromwich, Great Bridge, Netherton, The Lye to follow.
Wolverhampton and Birmingham for Christmas; also other good well-sheltered and Dry Grounds for Winter over.
Terms moderate to any First-class and Well-Conducted Concerns.
Dates, price, and particulars,
P. COLLINS, LIMITED,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telegraph address, "Gondola, Walsall."
Telephone 80 Walsall.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, for Shows, Side Shows, Stalls, &c., for Canterbury Great Pleasure Fair, commencing Oct. 7, until Oct. 22, in the Agricultural Hall, and Field adjoining Hall, one Space in Hall, 30ft. by 30ft.
All applications to be made to
F. MACKLIN,
63, St. Peter's-place, Canterbury;
or, to the Agent, W. Waghorne,
Nelson House, Godinton-road, Ashford, Kent.

To Showmen and others.
WANTED, Known, the World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, London, N., will Open on Christmas Eve for Six Weeks, with an Astounding Array of Talent, including First-class Circus Artistes, Aerial Gymnasts, Wire Walkers, &c. The Lessees and Managers, Messrs T. and T. E. Read have Spared no Expense in Securing the Best of Talent. Spaces can now be Let for First-class Shows, viz., Ghost, Dog and Monkey, Wax, Marionettes, Illusions, or any other First-class Show or Novelty.
Also Spaces for Fancy Stalls, &c.
Apply to the LESSEES, as above.

WANTED, Spaces in First-class Carnivals, World's Fairs, for Several Continental Shows (inside preferred), from Nov., onwards. Box 8,356, "The Era"

Whips. Whips. Whips.
WANTED, Auctioneers, Hawkers, and Saddlers to know the Cheapest House for every description of Whips, Steel-lined being a speciality. Only Leading Lines kept suitable for the business. Note address, the old firm, NEWMANS, 541, Stratford-road, Birmingham. Send Ten Shilling Postal-orders for Sample of Special Lines. Established Fifty Years

WANTED, Known, the Seventy Thousand Showmen who use the Columns of "The Era" and are moving about should know that they can make "The Era" Offices their Permanent London Address. Letters received will be held till called for, or immediately readdressed according to instructions. Address all communications respecting the Letter Department to the PUBLISHER, "The Era" Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED Showmen who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

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To Capitalists and Financiers.
A Unique Opportunity.
WANTED, to Sell, a Complete Freehold Property in the High-street and Centre of a Provincial Manufacturing Town of 30,000 Population
The Site is intact with a Frontage on the main business thoroughfare, also Rear Frontage in back street accessible from right to left. Suitable for Theatre or Variety Business.
N.B.—No Variety Hall in the Town.
Plans and Particulars,
Box 8,390, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Sell, Two Extra Large Leather-covered Travelling Baskets. 10s. each.
Box 8,460, "The Era."

WANTED TO SELL.

WANTED, to Sell, the Leases and Good-will of a fully Licensed London Suburban Theatre, situated in one of the Principal Districts, 'Bus and Trams pass the Door from all Parts. Holding capacity, 2,500. Fully fitted up with Up-to-date Scenery, Tip-up Seats, &c. Four Refreshment Bars, fully licensed. Lighted throughout Electricity and Gas. Population drawn from all parts of London and Suburbs, the surrounding population alone being about 750,000. The Theatre is open all the Year round, and doing a large business. It is recognised as the next best Pantomime House, and can be shown to take with Matinées, £1,200 per week. The Stage Accommodation is excellent and first-class. No notice will be taken of any communications unless accompanied by Bank or Solicitor's reference showing their bona fides. Apply, WOODBRIDGE and SONS, 5, Serjeants-inn, Fleet-street.

For Investment or Occupation.
Clacton-on-Sea.
Very eligible Freehold Building Land and Family Residences, in the best situations, in this famous and rapidly improving health resort.

WANTED, Known, Weatherall and Green will Sell by Auction, at the Mart, E.C., on Monday, Oct. 17, at 2 0 o'clock,
the following Freehold Properties:
1. Important Freehold Building Land, 1¾ acres in extent, on the West Cliff, facing the sea, suitable for erecting
Residences, Hotel, Public Buildings, Theatre, Kursaal &c.
2. Freehold Family Residences, known as Helensholme, Naunton, and Crumlin, Holland-road, near Station and Sea, in a choice position. Total rental values £275 per ann.
3. Three areas of Building and Garden Land in Holland-road.
Messrs Chamberlayne and Shilton, Solicitors, 9, Gracechurch-street, E.C.;
Messrs Chamberlayne and Elwes, Solicitors, Clacton-on-Sea.

Particulars of the Auctioneers, 22, Chancery-lane, London, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, a First-class Theatre in an important City. Capitalists with Bankers' references only need apply.
Address, Box 8,486, care of "The Era."

Willis's Rooms, King-street, St. James's-square.
By Direction of the Trustees of the Marquis of Anglesey,
Removed from Anglesey Castle for Convenience of Sale.
The Whole of the Valuable Theatrical Costumes and Jewellery.

WANTED, Known, Messrs Robinson and Fisher will Sell, in conjunction with Messrs W. Dew and Sons, of Bangor, on Tuesday, Oct. 11, and following day, at 1 0 o'clock precisely each day, the whole of the Valuable Theatrical Costumes and Jewellery. Catalogues may be had of Hugh C. Vincent, Esq., Solicitor, Bangor; George Browning, Esq., Chartered Accountant, 58, Coleman-street, E.C.; Frederick S. Salaman, Esq., Chartered Accountant, 1, Oxford-court, E.C.; W. H. Herbert, Esq., Solicitor, 10, Cook-street, W.; Messrs Hicks, Arnold, and Mozley, Solicitors, 3½, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.; Messrs Field, Roscoe, and Co., Solicitors, 36, Lincoln's-inn-fields, W.C.; and of the Auctioneers at their Rooms as above.

The Mart,
30, Belvoir-street, Leicester.
WANTED, Known, Langham and Holland are favoured with instructions
from Mr John H. Clarke,
late of the Floral Hall Art Galleries,
but now General Manager
of the Theatre Royal,
Leicester,
to Sell by Auction,
on Monday, Oct. 10,
his Valuable Collection of
Oil Paintings
and
Water Colour Drawings.
The Collection will be on View at the Mart, 30, Belvoir-street, on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 7 and 8, from 10 0 to 6 0 p.m. each day.
The sale will take place on Monday, Oct 10, at 11 0 a.m.
This Sale will be reserved for Pictures the bonâ-fide Property of Mr Clarke, and therefore no other lots will be included.

Italian Exhibition, Earl's-court, London
To Outdoor Entertainers, Proprietors, and others.
WANTED, to Sell, the whole of the Magnificent Outdoor Scenery, painted by Richard Douglass, T. Ryan, and others. Also the Scenery by Telbin, the real Venetian Gondolas, with Fittings Complete, and the Elaborate Properties of "Venice by Night."
Can be treated for either as a whole or in Lots
Address, SECRETARY, London Exhibitions, Limited, Earl's-court.

WANTED, to Sell, a Quantity of Scenery, the property of the late Miss Sarah Thorne. Must be cleared. No reasonable offer refused. Apply, E. MACKNIGHT, Theatre Royal, Margate.

WANTED, to Sell, Large Quantity of Pantomime Scenery, Dresses, Great Trap Scene, Village Palace. J. WOOLF, Wonderland, Whitechapel.

WANTED, to Sell, Panto. Scenery, Wardrobe, Scrip, Music, Properties. Any subject. Also Portable Wardrobe and Scenery. Room required. GUSTAVE, Ladywood Palace, Birmingham.

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WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, I shall in future be known as George Scott, Comedian.—Signed, HAL CROUESTE, Oct. 1, 1904.

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WANTED, Known, to Managers and others.—Miss Flo Atkins is no longer connected with my Musical Act (Signed) ROYAL ZERBINIS. See Card

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HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.
ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.
Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
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CALLS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1904.

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Twice Daily, at 2·0 and 7·45 p.m.

"Siberia," Bard and O'Brien, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Max Welson Troupe, Felix De Marce, Alfonso Trio, The Mysterious Kettle, Wille Bros., Salamonsky, Paul Conchas, Carl Hertz, Paul Cortault, Sisters Trentanovi, Chas. Baron, Marceline.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Newhouse and Ward, Daisy Dormer, Dan Crawley, Lilian Bishop, Hart and Leo, Frank Travis, Minnie Cunningham, The Petras, Erett and Orford, Chung Ling Soo.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Marie Lloyd, Bros. Edgar, Marba and Verity, Cassie Walmer, Will Cornish, Ella Lane, George Formby, De Kock Bros., Sybil St. Elmo, Gilbert Rogers, St. James' Quintette.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Gus Elen, Silent Tait, Stave, Laurie's Kindergarten, Brown and Le Clerq, Griffiths Bros., Stewart and Morgan, Kellinos, Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes, Stelling and Revell, James Grant, Tatten Hall, Staley's Transformation.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Vesta Tilley, Lannons, Juan and M'Que, Alaskas, Ida Brophy, Rafayette, Frank Lynne, Phillips and Terry, R. H. Douglass, Wedburns, Werner-Amoros Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for T. E. Dunville, Dot Hardy, Ford and Hanson, Josh Dixon, the Densmores, Sisters Lonnen, Austin and Cowan, Harry Dent, Max Millan, Mills and Rawlins.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Marie Kendall, the Maningos, Dutch Daly, Goggin and Davis, Four Milons, Imperial Quartette, Zarmo, Lawrence Barclay, Steve M'Carthy, Mabel Hind

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EMPIRE THEATRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Bransby Williams, Harry Ford, Albert Whelan, The Bandurrias, Cavallini Bros., Die Schutzenlieserl'n Quartette, Marguerite Broadfoote, Barrere and Jules, Belle Braham.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Ernest Shand, Tom Edwards, Ethairien Bros., Harvey Boys, Three Laurels, Carl and Mary Ohm, Nina Martino, Maude Mortimer, "Woman in White."

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Karno's "Mumming Birds," Max Renard, Florrie Gallimore, Boyd and Gilfain, Bioscope, Alexander Bros. Durant, Lilian Lowe, Fanny Erris.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Brothers De Wynne, Cora Caselli, Burns and Evans, Geo. Reeves, Zeta Gray and Co., in "The Lancashire Lass;" Billy Tucker, Cline and Clark, Brothers Webb, Mabel Vine, Eight of Hearts.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artistes holding Engagements with this Company at the Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are requested to note that, in accordance with Rule 6 in their Contracts, they undertake not to appear at any Place of Entertainment within Ten Miles of that City. Any Artistes infringing this rule will do so at the risk of having their Contract for the whole of the Tour cancelled.

Carefully note that Byker and Gateshead are within One Mile of the Newcastle Empire.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out;" Espinosa and Neilson, Sisters Cora, Mayvilles, Les Voces, Wartenburg Brothers, Baker and Balfe, Tribune Trio, Venola Bros., Onllaw Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Alec Hurley, Leo Tell, Ben Albert, Gertrella, Henry Kaiser, Tennyson and Wallis, Devona Sisters, Anartos, Three Sisters Sprightly, the Haytors, Phil Herman, Harry Coates, Paul Sandor.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Mark Sheridan, Edie King, My Fancy, Howard and St. Clair, Bert Weston, Prinz's Lions, Parros Bros., Tally Ho Trio, Smythson Comedy Company, Bros. Obo, Hume, Rees, and Lewis, R. A. Roberts.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for Geo. Fuller Golden, Annie Casey, Manning's Entertainers, Chas. Chard, Lukushima Troupe, James Kurry, Brothers Damm, Bioscope, Clown Ferreroe, Clark and Hamilton.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for R. G. Knowles, Verno & Voyce, Young America Quintette, Geo. Brooks, Florador Quartette, Rezene and Robini, Princess Pauline, Marie Reeve, the Ashers, Lizzie Daniels.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Kremo Family, W. C. Fields, Walter Groves and Co., Horace Wheatley, Burt Shepard, Walter King, the Rayfords, Amy Russell, Fred Earle, Alice Ormonde.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Eugene Stratton, Tina Clements, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Scottish Meisters, Two Bees, Lizzie Valrose, Bert Byrne, Arthur Melrose, Walter Stanley.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Lil Hawthorne, J. E. Coyle, James's Strolling Players, Victor Stevens and Co., Beppo's Monkeys, Bioscope, Harry Anderson, Paul Mill, Grace Merton, Winnie Derson.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Winifred Hare, Tom Costello, Mason and Keeler, Wal Pink and Co., Athas and Collins, Baldwin Brothers, Arthur Rigby, the Wheelers, Frank Maura, Alf Hurley, Jessie Albini.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Donaldson Bros. and Ardell, Manhattan Comedy Four, the Mackweys, Egbert Bros., Brown and Robinson, Bioscope, Mascotte Trio, Johnny Dwyer, Nora, Flo Burris.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Caledonian Boys, Marion Scott, Olive Trio, Harry Bickley, Ernest Rees, Georgina Leonard, Brothers Redmond, Two Graces, Selma Braatz.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Harriett Vernon, Ganty, Woodhouse and Wells, Amy Sullivan, Arthur Reece, Three Sisters Chester, Frank and Free, Pat Rafferty.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Poluski Bros., Bert Dansie, Florence Esdaile, Kavados, Rousbey's Electrolytes, Bioscope, Billy English, Flo Melville, Phil Ray.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal at 3·0 o'clock for Grais' Baboons, Ray Wallace, Robertus and Wilfredo, Herr Fritz, Four Olympians, Zanfretta and Naplo, Bijou Russell, Marie Weston, British Quartette, Tourbillon Troupe, Northern Troupe.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr Oswald Stoll, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr Frank Allen, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope.
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CALL for Monday, Oct. 3, 1904.

George Lashwood, Wilson Hallett, Pictures, Ian Colquhoun, Lotto, Milo, and Otto; Ada Cerito, Charles Cardow, Alfred Bray, Frances Earle, Joe Elvin and Co., in "The Wrong House."

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Permane's Bears, Dot M'Carthy, Linton, Bendon's Pictures, Harry Jennings, The Jansons, Onda and Leon, Blind Jimmy, Dora Lindsay, Leonard Barry and Company.
QUEEN'S.
Harry Pleon, Violet Wilton, Bros. Lang, Bendon's Bioscope, Frank Coyle, Grell and Gray, Bouverie Pleydell, Gusto, Lidden and Hayward, and Ashley's American Circus.
Rehearsals.—Tivoli, 12·30; Queen's, 12·0 o'clock.
All communications,
Barney Armstrong, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

COLLINS'S HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Proprietor, Mr P. Collins. Manager, Frank Egerton, to whom all communications should be addressed.
Twice Nightly, 7 0 and 9 0.

CALL, for MONDAY, OCT. 3.—Miss Ethel Arden and Mr George Abel, in "Three of a Kind;" Alf Bishop, Sisters Valmore, Sid Bandon, Francis and Melli, Dan Karnell, Len Lever, Six Lancashire Lasses.

Rehearsal at 12·30 prompt.

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THE OXFORD,
OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 30 o'clock.
George Robey, George Gray and Co., Wilkie Bard, Kelly and Gillette, Queenie Leighton, The Boissetts, Happy Fanny Fields, Nellie Wallace, Doherty Sisters, The Stella Troupe, Bessie Featherstone, Harry Freeman, Bella and Bijou, Andie Caine, Myra Stansfield, W. H. Clemart, J. A. Wilson, Woodbee Wonders, Rita Resdan.
Manager, Albert Gilmer.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Little Tich, George Robey, Wilkie Bard, Datas, Harry Tate, Fanny Wentworth, Happy Fanny Fields, Millie Lindon, Doctor Jules Angelo, Will Evans, Nellie Wallace, Bella and Bijou, Starr and Leslie, The Twin Andersons, The Glenroy Troupe, The Lyons Trio, Amy Clevere.
Joint Acting-Managers { James Howell. Arthur Yates.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
The Demon Kettle, Marie Loftus, Edgar Romaine, Sisters Caselli, Starr and Leslie, Zaro Troupe, Collins-Stella Troupe, George Robey, Dezmonti and Mora, Ormonde, Penstone and Vernet, Ernesto, Four Estrellas, Victoria Monks, The Boissett Troupe, in "The Dock Strike."
Manager, Fred Miller.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno's Company of Comedians, Miss Cossie Noel, and Band of 1st Regiment Estrellian Guards, in "Saturday to Monday;" The Finneys (James and Marie), Marie Loftus, Alexandra Dagmar, Will Poluski, Jun., Duncan and Godfrey, Orpheus, The Glenroy Troupe, Harry Bedford, Adrien and Oram, Myra Stansfield, Goldman, Hollis, and Co., Nellie Wilson, Maud Ford, and other Artistes.
Manager, Charles Bencham.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE.
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
E. Ball and Co., in "Night Alarm;" Daunton-Shaw Troupe, Amy Allnutt, Bros. Lloyd, Clark and Argyle, Bert Gilbert, The Grahams, Ethel Esther, Downs and Langford, Fred Dice.
Manager, Frank Weeks.

EUSTON.
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Joe Peterman, "The Belle of the Orient;" Harry Randall, Margaret Ashton, Wilkie Bard, Dubois and Ramza, James Stewart, Mignon Tremaine, New York Nippers, Rita Resdan.
Manager, Fred M'Avoy.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
The Great George Chirgwin, James Fawn, Victoria Monks, Dandy George and Rosie, Peggy Pryde, Will Evans, Jessica Grace, Two Bells, Geo. Newburn, Rosie Archer, Driscoll and Beattie, Sterling and Love, Daunton and Shaw, Duncan and Godfrey, Chas. Fanning.
Manager, Nelson Francis.

THE GRAND,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 0 o'clock.
The Great Ahrensmeyer, Cowboy Hypnotist; Kate Carney, Florence, Fred Herbert, G. Newburn, Ross and Grayson, Thornbury, Rosie Lloyd, Tom Brantford, The Maples, Kelly and Gillette.
Manager, Mr Harry Bawn.

THE ROYAL,
HOLBORN.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Cliffe Berzac's "Old English Sports," Will Evans, in "The Barmaid's Lament;" Beattie Herbert, Jack Lane, Sam Mayo, James and Marie Finney, Three Gregsons, Morris, Blind Collier Boy, T. C. Callaghan.
Manager, H. Ketterman.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,
UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1·0 o'clock.
Chirgwin, "The White-Eyed Kaffir;" Sisters Wingrove, Sam Mayo, The Dandies, Edgar Budden, Dinah Morris and Picos., Millie Lindon, George Mozart, Valoni.
Manager, W. Spearman.

DUCHESS PALACE
HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
Rehearsals on Monday at 1·30 o'clock.
Miss Lottie Collins and Co., in "Bill Bailey in Japan;" Harry Tate, in "Motoring;" Macgregors, Flo Schuberth, Charles Mildare, Harry Freeman, Lyons Trio, The Morton Trio.
Manager, Clifford King.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,
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Band Rehearsal, which all Artistes must attend, on Mondays, at 3·0 o'clock.
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Manager, J. W. Edgar.

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Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Paul Martinetti and Renowned Pantomime Co., in "My Wife;" Daisy Davidson, Ambrose Thorne, Two Bells, Edgar Romaine, Vi Holmes, J. Archer, Donators.
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PAVILION THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Carl Reinsch, Dora Martine, Three Prestons, Cumminger, Imro Fox, Neil Kenyon, Billy, Algie, and Reggie, Les Belles Americaines, Pictures, Ergotti and King Luis

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Austin Rudd, Marie Blythe, Kimberley Boys, Harry Edson, Mr and Mrs Lucas, Jules Keller, Vansart, the Durvals, Arthur Slater, Pictures, Wills and August.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
"Doon the Watter," Lottie Siegenberg, Bros. Pim, R. Trobs, Lowell and Lowell, H. A. Zetto, Pictures, Boswell's Circus, Fred Cary.

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HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
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TIVOLI, LEEDS.
Sawade, Ida Gladstone, Merton and Rydon, Bros. Donar, Will Godwin, Vera Patey, Cuilane Trio, the Waltons, Pictures, W. J. Churchill,

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No. 663.

THE NIGGER BOY'S REVENGE

A little Nigger boy reclines indolently in a hammock. But that hammock is wanted for a coloured lady, who comes along in the company of a white gentleman, and the boy is summarily ejected. The black lady is duly installed in his place, and the gentleman who is with her, and is much smitten with her sable charms, sits down beside her and talks of many things, what time a native minstrel discourses more or less sweet music with a banjo. But the little Nigger boy has his feelings also, and they have been outraged by his treatment. Seizing a huge slice of water-melon to comfort himself withal, he quietly climbs the tree from which the hammock is suspended, and at the psychological moment severs the cord with his clasp knife. Tableau!!!
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904

The veteran J. L. Toole has a good story in "The Era" Annual (49, Wellington-street, Strand) a publication which is highly valued by all who have anything to do with the stage. He says:—I was once playing in "Dearer than Life" with Irving and Billington at Leeds. After the performance several gentlemen were in the general room of the hotel where we were staying, and among them a certain Mr Jones, who professed to have a large acquaintance in the profession, and who appeared to have a local reputation as a judge of ages.

"Well, how old," said someone, "would you take Mr Toole to be?'

"Well," said he, "sixty-five, if he's a day."

"Do you know him?" I asked.

"Oh, yes; I know him very well indeed."

"Ah! and how old should you take me to be?"

"Well, I should take you to be forty, if you're a day."

Irving asked Mr Jones if he didn't think Mr Toole was nearer seventy-five than sixty-five. "No," he said; "sixty-five, if he's a day," and the company present seemed to put it down that that would be my age. They had most of them been to the theatre and seen me—for the first time probably—playing an old man; and as it was my first visit to the town, and we were going on by the mail train that night, I had a fancy not to go away and leave them under the impression that I was this very old gentleman. I found that Jones was a decent sort of fellow, and I said to Irving that before I went I should just give him my card and let him know what a mistake he had made. By and bye, when our cab arrived, we said good night to our casual acquaintances, and, taking Mr Jones aside, I handed him my card, whereupon he said "Oh, indeed!" in a very offensive manner, turned upon his heel, and walked away.

"Well," I said to my friends as we drove away, "that's the most impertinent fellow I think I ever met." Whereupon Billington and Irving went into fits of laughter, and confessed that they had warned Mr Jones that I was continually passing myself off as Toole, and he was to be quite prepared for my handing him a card and trying the imposition upon him.—Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury, Friday, Jan. 22d, 1904.

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BRADLEY and TRUMAN. Address, Red Lion, Costock, nine miles from Nottingham.

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BRETT, HARRY, The Genial Comedian. Alhambra, Sandgate. Vacant, Oct. 17, 24.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Expert Dancers. Usual success, Hippodrome, Coventry.

BREWSTERS. Transfield's Circus and Hippodrome, Sheerness-on-Sea.

BRIGHTON GIRLS, NEW, Vocalists and Speciality Dancers. Continental Tour. All letters, care of "The Era" Office.

BRIGHTON GIRLS, THE, Lance and Sword Experts, and Acrobatic Dancers. This, G., Wolverhampton; next, G., Nottingham. "Swiss Express" Co.

BRITISH QUARTETTE, THE (JOHN BULL, SANDY, PAT, and TAFFY), Speciality Vocalists. Oct. 3, Empire, Ardwick, Manchester.

BROADFOOTE, MARGUERITE, Oct. 3d, Empire, Newport. All communications, E. Edelsten, 164, Drury-lane, W.C.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA). Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. Present Arrangements Complete. Oct. 3, P. P., Liverpool.

BROOKS, BROS, SISTERS BRAND. Sisters Brand Vacant for an Early Turn. Wire, 113, Lilford-road, Camberwell.

BROWN and ROBINSON, "The Bricklayer and his Labourer," "Harmony in the Kitchen." Oct. 3, Palace Leicester.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Palace, West Hartlepool.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Pembroke Dock, S. Wales.

BURNELLS, Palace, Bow, and Bedford ("On the Links") Open for Pantomime. Get together, boys; get together.

BURNSS, HARRY, AGENCY, Empress Varieties, Hartlepool; and at Manchester and London. Manager, C. Ferrier. Telephone, 0231. Telegrams, "Burns."

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BURTON'S Concert and Variety Agency, Sheffield. The best way to Educate a Bright Young Man is to put him to Work.

BUSH and RICHIE, in their Musical Scena, entitled "The Beggar's Corner," At Liberty Oct. 10, 17, 24. Queen's Varieties, Ilkeston.

BUXTON, FREDERICK Pantomime with Jas Kiddie, Esq., Rotunda, Liverpool. Thanks Dottridge, Esq., for offer Re-engagement.

BUXTON, MABEL, Pantomime with Jas Kiddie, Esq., Rotunda, Liverpool. Thanks Dottridge, Esq., for offer Re-engagement.

BUXTON'S Douglas, I.O.M., Pierrots just finished a Record Money-making Season. Brains, gentlemen, brains! not bosh.

CAINE, ANDIF, Oxford, Collins's, Camberwell. Further particulars see Small Bills.

CARL and CARR, Comedians, terrific success with Comedy Act, "Workhouse." Topping Bill, Albert Hall, Sheffield. Required, Oct. 3, 17, 24.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team, Palace, Hammersmith.

CARMEN, HARRY, Polyglot Comedian, Parthenon, Liverpool. Vacant Oct. 10. Wire above.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), in their Original Vocal Comedy Act, "Their First Quarrel." Big Success, A., Belfast. Next, Tivoli, Dublin.

CARY, FRED, Comedian, Zoo, Glasgow.

CASBURN, FRED, Evening Dress Eccentric Alhambra, Belfast; next, Empress, Hartlepool. Oct 31 Vacant. Agent, Harry Burns.

CASSIE, CHARLES, Comedian, at Lib. Pantomime, with Electric Dancing Speciality. Address, Cassie, Staines (Telephone 21 Staines).

CAVILL'S AGENCY, 15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone 2,140, Royal.

CECIL, TOM. Comedian Concertising in Scotland. Ninth Season. Serpentello's Agency, 28, Wellington-street, London.

CEE-MEE FAMILY, London. Care of "The Era" Office.

CHANT and CHANT Comedy Vocalists and Patterers. Great Success, South London Palace, S.E. Vacant Monday. Wire above or Aytoun.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. Public Hall, Preston. Free Oct. 10. Write.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE), Palace, Northampton. Monday, Palace, Blackburn.

CHATHAM, GEORGE, Character Vocalist. Smart, Clean Turn. Agents note, Permanent, 25, Edge-lane-road, Oldham.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Monday, Olympia, Sunderland. Annual Visit.

CHEVALIER, FLO, Vocalist and Comedienne, Disengaged Panto. Offers invited. Principal Girl preferred. 739, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Schumann Circus, Berlin.

CHIRGWIN, Grand, Clapham, and Empress. "Friends," please refrain from Copying.

CLARENCE and BELL in J. Gar Kiddie's "A Little Coquette" Company. Oct. 3, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

CLEMENTS, VENIF, in "Last Night's Party." This Week, Palace, Blackpool; next, Palace, Aberdeen.

CLIFFORD, FRED, the Renowned Baritone Vocalist, big success this, Borough Theatre, North Shields; next, Tivoli, South Shields.

COHEN, KATIE, Vocalist. On Moss Tour. Empire, Middlesbrough. At Liberty Christmas. London only.

COLASSIS, THE, in their Great Chinese Act, "Pekin Pastimes." At Liberty end of October for same. Address, "The Era."

COLLEYS (BERT and ERNO), Continental Comedy Speciality Artists, Vacant Oct 10. Post-office, King's-heath, Birmingham.

COLLIER, MR. HAL, Professor Ginnifer, "The Trumpet Call," Grand Theatre, Islington, N., Oct. 3.

COLLINS, GEO., the Funny Star Comedian, Grand, Stockton. Address, 67, Mersey-road, Walthamstow, London, E. "I wish I was," by Collins and Castling.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE (Mrs James W. Tate), All coms., to 18, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway, N.

COOKE, STEVE, Comedian, on Tour. Public Hall, Barnsley; or, 173, Essex-road, Islington, London.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. Next, E., Sheffield. Stoll Tour and Coliseum settled, 1906 7-8.

COVERDALE, the Colloquial Comedian. Splendid receptions at Tivoli, Dublin. Instantaneous Talking Success (8 8 and 10 16). Oct. 3, A., Belfast.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Fowers. Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Transformation and Character Dancer, Empire, Liverpool.

CREW, J. H., and the Original MAUD MARLOW. One Week's well-earned rest. Communications, 21, Newnham-ter., Lambeth, London, S.E.

CUMMINGER, the Acknowledged World's Record Sand Dancer, usual success. Barrasford Circuit, Oct. 3. Regards to Big Brother Billy.

CUTHBERT, MAUD Serio and Ballad Vocalist. Address letters, A. Robini, 3, Gatton-house, Pleasant-place, Essex-road, London, N.

DAGMARS, THREE, Acrobats and Tumblers. Monday next, Empire, Bristol (Barrasford Tour). Panto. Required.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Gipsy and Character Duettists, big success. G., Bolton. Monday, Empire, Rochdale. Agents, J. T. Smith and J. Verno.

DALTON'S AGENCY. First-class Acts always Required. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Negrors, in many Original Characters and Expert Dancers. Address, Bk. 63, Sherbourne-road, Birmingham.

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DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. Next, E., Brixton, and South London. Letters 22, Bickerseth-rd., Tooting.

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 116, Loughborough-road, Brixton S.W. Always Vacancies for Stars and Specialities.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Pedestal Risley Performers. Oct. 3, Circus Varieties, Rochdale.

DE GRACIA'S Assam Elephants. Finest Elephant Act's, "Cricket" and "Le Coiffeur." Barrasford Tour, Hippodrome, Liverpool.

DE BENAU and MOLLE. ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. 3, Winter-street, Liverpool.

DE LEVINES, FIVE. "Flirtation," Gaiety, Birmingham.

DEMI and SEMI, Musical Act, Banjos, Mandolines, Guitar, Patter, Dancing. Liberty Monday. Wire, Theatre Royal, Llanelly, South Wales.

DENBY and DENT, Monday, Olympia Varieties, Bury, Lancs. Free for Pantomime.

DENHAM, TEDDY, Pavilion, Leicester. Oct. 3, Grand, Sheffield.

DENMARK PAIR, THE (FRED and FLORRIE), Premier Cross Talkers. Vacant Monday. Wire, 23, Queen-street Camden-town.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil, Actor-Vocalist, Opera House, York.

DEVERE, SISTERS (LILY and NORA), Leading and Juvenile Soubrettes, Dainty Comedy Artistes and Dancers Per., 72, Rylston-rd. Fulham, S.W.

DEVERAUX'S Dramatic and Trick DOGS The Greatest Animal Sensation in the World. All communications People's Palace, Dundee.

DE VOYE, JIMMY, and BILLY, the most Wonderful Educated Performing Pony breathing. Oct 3, Pavilion, Glasgow.

DEZMONTI and MORA, Paragon Bar Act. Canterbury, Paragon.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. Sadler's Wells, London.

DODDY and BELLE, the Great Comedy Couple, Liberty for Pantomime, Principal Comedy. Address, "The Era" Office.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Oxford, Middlesbrough. Oct. 3, Palace, West Hartlepool.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Queen's, Glasgow. Oct. 3, Empire, Birmingham. Sole Agent Tom Claxton.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Gigantic success, Palace, Bordesley.

DOVE, ETHEL, Gaiety, Chatham. Pantomime Settled.

DROLL and DRYAN, Eccentric Patter Comedians, at Liberty Monday, onwards. Wire, 28, Blenheim-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Gilbert's Circus, Exeter.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler, Hippodrome, Grimsby. OSWALD, Equilibrist, Hand Jumper, &c., Gaiety, Oldham.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness, a success, Standard, Pimlico. Communications, Fred Durham or Sam Hart.

DUNNING and KAHN and KAHN, Colosseum, Stoll, Moss, and Payne-Gibbon Halls, 1904-5 6-7-8. Monday, Palace, Croydon.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE, Gaiety, Oldham; Oct. 3, Resting; Oct. 10, Victoria, Broughton, Manchester. Offers invited. Prin. Boy. Agent, Bentley.

ELLA'S, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Oct. 3, Olympia, Bury.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, Comedian; FLORRIE BRAY, Comedienne, Open for Pantomime. This, Metropole, Manchester. Next, Palace, Attercliffe.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Panto. Barons Note—Dunville's "Earl of Fandangle-see" is the Real Thing. Rights, £2 2s. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Palace, Blackpool.

ELTONS, TWO, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians, Liberty Oct. 10. Monday next, Palace, Attercliffe.

ELVO and EVLYN, in future Known as MAYON and MARLE. Agents, Fortune and Granville. Communications, 203, Kennington-road, S.E.

ENDON, EDIE, Comedienne and Dancer. Terrific Success, Palace, Northampton. Vacant Oct. 3. Sole Agent, Jess Verno.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer, E., Kilburn, next, Fifth Engagement. 3 Ivy-lane, Hoxton, N.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Vacant Oct. 3 and 10. Communications, 15, Harford-street, St. James's, Bristol.

ESDALE BROS, Vacant Oct. 17, 24. Thanks to Cazman, M'Askeil, and James Dubois for Contracts. Mon., Paddington, Liverpool. Mack write.

EVANS, WILL. Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond.

FANSHAW and LEWIS, Frisco's Comedians and Dancers. Regards Vacant Dates, add., 2, Jubilee-st., Liverpool. Good Agent Required.

FAWN, ADA, Big success of New Song, "No other girl shall take your place," by Will Letters. Oct. 3, Resting.

FERRIS and FARNLEY, Every Evening, Queen's, Poplar. Vacant Pantomime, Principal Comedy Parts only.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Park Keepers. Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. All communications to Verno, Verno, Verno.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS. London and Collins's. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

FITZROYS, Society Gymnasts. Nov. 1, One Month, Nouveau Cirque, Paris. Agent, Macdermott.

FLORADORA GIRLS, Liberty Monday, Oct. 3, through disappointment Wire, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester. Write, 41, Caroline-street, Saltaire, Yorks.

FLORENCE, MDLLE., the Famous London to Brighton Globe-Runner, assisted by Mdlle. QUEENIE. 7, Marlboro'-grove, Hulme, Manchester.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Empire, Bradford.

FORREST'S, EDGAR, Comedy Company. This week, London. Monday, Grand, Hanley.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. (Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FOY, TOM, and COMPANY, Palace, Dundee, for Two Weeks.

FRANCE and FRANCIS, Comedians and Knockabout Grotesques. Vacant Pantomime. Post-office, Gloucester.

FRANCISCO, Juggler, and MAY MOODIE, Piccolo Soloist. This week, Palace, Southampton; next, G., Oldham. For Vacant Dates, Pacey and Reeves.

FRANTZ TROUPE, Ladies and Gentlemen Society Artistes. All communications direct to M. Frantz, care of "The Era."

FREDRICKS', CARL, Royal Olympian Entertainers, Twelve Artistes. Until Wed., Moreton Hampstead; until Sat., T. H., Chudleigh.

FRERE TROUPE, THE, Acrobats, Tumblers, Double Risley, Living Carrousel (Original). Continental Tour. Perm., 34, Rue de la Procession, Paris.

FRENCH, GEORGE, London, 9 35; Collins's, 10 5. Re-engaged Panto., Dottridge and Longden, Principal Comedian. Albert Hall please write.

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue, Queen's-park, London, W.

FRIDKIN'S, BORIS, Cossack Troupe. Touring America with Barnum and Bailey. Address, 25, W. Thirty-fourth-st., New York.

FYVIE, G. W. Saturday, Oct. 8, Western Concerts, Glasgow. All letters, next week, 27, Skene-square, Aberdeen.

GANNON, NELLIE. Monday, Palace, Aberdeen. New Songs, New Wardrobe. Same old successes. HARRY WRIGHT, doing well.

GARLAND, PROF. T. C., Welsh Ventriloquist, Smart, Refined, Clever. Requires Oct. 10, 17. Five Figures that work. Address, Wrexham.

GERALDOS, THREE JUGGLING,
This week, Hippodrome, Norwich.
Next week, Hippodrome, Brighton.

GERTRELLA,
Dancer-Gymnast, concluded Nine Weeks, London Hippodrome. Empire, Glasgow.

GILBERT'S Marvellous Dogs and Cats conclude, success, Victoria Theatre, Broughton. Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Warrington.

GILL, ARTHUR, the Yokel Speciality
Comedian, with many Voices.
Address, Bank House, 53, Banks-street, Blackpool.

GILLIN,
Ventriloquist. "Me Hat's Off"
Irving Theatre, Seacombe. Monday, Grand, Bolton

GLADSTONE, IDA,
Oct 3, Tivoli, Leeds.
Pantomime Settled, Principal Boy.

GOLD, HARRY, Versatile Comedian.
"Gold." Animated Song and Chorus. "Gold."
Hippodrome, Wigan.

GRAHAM, ERIC; MILLIE HARRIS,
Sept. 19, Empire, Burnley, Second Time in Three Months, not Weeks. Next Week, Hippo., Blackpool

GRAHAM, WALTER, the Human Marionette, "the Kiltie are coming," written and composed by Minto. I'm first. Please Mr Pirate. Egyptian Hall, W.

GRAHAME, MISS GRACIE
(of "Oh! Charlie" fame).
Empire, Johannesburg.

GREEN, BRUCE, Comedian.
concluded Terific Success, Littlehampton. Playing Rahab, "Belle of Bangalore." G.P.O., Salisbury.

GROVINIS,
on tour.
Address, care of "The Era" Office.

HAIG and NOVEL,
Hippo., Ipswich. "Silence is Golden." Next week, Lyric, Liverpool, and Thousands of Halls to follow

HALES, ALF., Character Comedian and Actor Vocalist. "Forward, Japan." All coms., 68, Sayers-street, Elephant, S.E. Tois, Crystal Palace.

HALL'S, TOM, Burlesque Acrobatic Nippers Monkey, Dog, and Cat. First Vacancy Nov. 7. Comp., Geo. Aytoun, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell.

HAMILTON, BOB, Scotch Comedian and Instrumentalist, enormous success, Hippo., Scarborough Communications, Fioni, Liverpool

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Comedians and Dancers.
The Hit of the Show. Scotch Tour.

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"The Golfer and the Maid,"
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"King of the High Rope."
Address, 126, Doggett-road, Catford, London.

HARLAND and ROLLISON.
Monday, Hippodrome, Accrington.
Vacant Oct. 10, 17, and 24.

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Star, Bermondsey. No Vacancies.
Day's Agency, Effingham House, W.C.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Library-road (opposite Brixton Theatre), Brixton. Telephone Number 1,018, Hop

HARTS, THE, the Star Comedy Number,
Finish To-night, 9·15, Gatti's (Road) Monday, Barnard's, Chatham The Star Comedy Number.

HARVEY BOYS,
the Unrivalled Boxing Comedians.
Sensation Stoll Tour. Empire, Swansea.

HASTINGS, G. W., and KITTY GOWER,
Baritone Vocalist and Quick-change Artiste.
Vacant 3, 10, 17. Free Trade Hall, Manchester.

HASTINGS, JOE, Famous Jumper, and Orator, General Manager, Lloyd's Circus CLARA HASTINGS, Refined Comedienne Mumbles, Swansea

HEATH, JACK, Comedian. Concludes To-night, Britannia, Hoxton, Big Success. Liberty Panto, Dame or Com. 1, Southwell-terr., Lewis-rd, S.E.

HEATON, PROF. TED, the World's Greatest Diver and Swimmer.
Perm., 80, Gloucester-road, Newsham-park, Liverpool.

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QUARTETTE, in their Up-to-Date Acrobatic Musical Act. 6, Sidney-street, Manchester.

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International Dance Artistes, Oxford, Middlesbrough.
Booked by Harry Burns. Open for Pantomime.

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the Original Henri, Electric Equilibrist,
Poole's Tour. Pacey and Reeves.

HENRIETTE, the Beautiful Young 'Cellist, &c. Electric Effects. Grand Xylophone Solos. Vacant Dates, Refer, Verno, Liverpool.

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Liberty for Panto; also for Nov. 14 and Dec. 5.
Address, Theatre, Longton. Boy Required, for Acrobat.

HERBERT. FRED
Premier Topical Vocalist. Grand, Clapham, and Palace, Croydon. R. Warner.

HIAWATHAS, EIGHT,
Great Musical Act and Indian Encampment.
Palace, Hammersmith. 43, Marsala-road, Lewisham.

HILL, BARRY, and LANG,
Eccentric Knockabout Comedians, big success, Oxford, Middlesbrough. Monday, Boro. T., N. Shields.

HILL, ROWLAND, the Curious Comedian,
Grand Theatre, Byker, Newcastle.
Pantomime settled.

HILTON, FLORENCE, the Pocket Vesta
Tilley. Big Success again this Week, Boro' T., North Shields. Monday next, Empress, Hartlepool.

HILTON and HILTON,
Comedy Bar Comedians, this Hippodrome, St. Helens.
All communications, 47, Nuttall-street, Liverpool.

HIND, MABEL, Great Success of New Scena, "From the Land of the Rising Sun."
This, Empire, Shepherd's-bush; next, Empire, Cardiff.

HINTON and WOOTON,
Sail for Capetown
Oct 7.

HOLLAND, ARTHUR, Character and Descriptive Vocalist, just concluded a successful season with Bliss's Renowned Pierrots. Resume shortly.

HOUDINI,
the Jail Breaker.
Address, care of "The Era."

HOWARDS, THE
(RALPH and NELLIE),
Empire, Wolverhampton.

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Inimitable Sketch Comedians For Open Dates, address, 12, Patteson-street Kensington, Liverpool.

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Vocalists and Expert Dancers. Still Vacant Oct. 3, Nov 21, 28. Wire or write, 184, New Kent-road, S.E.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and **DE LIL,**
Illusionist. Two Distinct Acts. Vacant Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 21. Letters, 5, Union-road, Macclesfield.

HUMBER, FANNIE, Concludes Abertillery, Oct. 8, Hippo., Mountain Ash; 10th, T. R., Ton-y-pandy. Diccott, Ltd., 6, John-st., Strand London.

HUNTER, G. W.,
Comedian and Raconteur,
Standard, Pimlico.

HURMAN, Juggler and Hoop Manipulator,
this week, Hippodrome, Blackpool. Next week, Palace, Glasgow. No vacancies. Exclusive, Day's Agency.

HURST, W. G., the Wonderful Cat,
at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas, Two Acts.
Address, Osborne-terrace, New Brighton.

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Apollo Theatre,
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concludes Fourth Successful Season at Bridlington. Mon., Pav., Leicester. Also NELLIE ROSE, Comedienne

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the Dusky Dandy, just concluded Twenty Weeks, R. P. P., Aberystwith Mon., Hip., Queen's-pk., Manchester.

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Exclusive Agent, George Barclay, 221, Brixton-hill, S.W.

JUDGE, SISTERS,
with their Marvellous Performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. Oct 3, Tivoli, Kidderminster. Vacant Oct 10.

JULIAN,
Demon Contortionist, on Tour. Liberty November. Come., 126, Nightingale-road, Hitchin. M'Askell, Agent.

KARDOC, Jail-breaker, Handcuff, Packing-case, and Coffin King. Monday, Hippo., Norwich. Required, Oct. 10, on. Papa Brown, Agent. Wire.

KASHMA, Contortionist and Equilibrist,
Twentieth Week of Tour with Silvani's Circus, touring Ireland. Vacant November. P.O., Bandon, Cork.

KATOS, THE,
Komikal Kidgets,
Argyle, Birkenhead.

KAVADOS, Juggler, Ohmy's C, Stockport; FLO MELVILLE, Burlesque Artiste, Palace, Croydon. Monday, Empire, South Shields.

KEENE, BILLY, and JESSIE ADAMS,
Artistic Duettists and Dancers.
Perm. Address, 27, Phœbe Anne-street, Liverpool

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on Provincial Tour.
Permanent address, 9, Halley-road, Forest-gate, Essex

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Refined Ballad Vocalist,
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KERNO, LOUIS, Vocalist and Dancer.
Coms., Boro', N. Shields; Gateshead, Newcastle, S. Shields, Middlesbro', Hartlepool, Stockton, London, &c.

KIOTO,
Original Jap Equilibrist.
Oct. 3, Empire, Rochdale.

KLOOF and RAMSAY,
busy taking curtains at Alhambra, Brighton, and receiving wedding cake No Vacancies. Monday, H., Wigan

KNOWLES, J. W., Author and Composer of "O, O, Capital O." Look out for my Principal Boy's Song for Pantomime Empire, Portsmouth.

KYDD and KYDD,
Comedians. Next Week Resting.
Address, all communications, 11, Woodsley-grove, Leeds

KYOTO, the Original Comedy Jap; also MAY GERALDINE, Comedienne. Success, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy. 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-ter., London, S.E

LANG, GENTLE BROTHERS,
Oct. 3,
Queen's, Glasgow.

LANG, R. M., Patter Comedian, Burlesque Conjuror, and Dancer, in New Comedy Sketch. Lib. Monday. 106, Palmerston-st., Beswick, Manchester.

LANTON and LANE,
Comedians.
Monday, Pier, Southport.

LAROLA and ROSE CABANI
This Week, Hippodrome, Hastings. Next Week, Hippoprome, Ipswich. Agents, George Barclay and Co.

LASSAH, LILLIE,
this week, Palace, Bradford;
next week, Palace, Lincoln.

LEARTO and Clever Dog BABS,
Musical Eccentrics, Liberty Panto. Speciality and Part. Next Week, Sylvester's Empire, Hull.

LE BRETON, LILLIE, Graceful Gymnast,
Big Success, Circus, Rochdale. Liberty Panto., Part and Speciality. Royal Varieties, Breck-road, Liverpool

LE BRUN and IRENE, Novel Double
Juggling and Gymnastic Musical Pot-Pourri.
Address, 21, Shirley-street, Hove, Brighton

LEE, THE Original THREE SISTERS,
Acrobats. Big success Hippodrome, Lowestoft.
Next Week, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

LE FRE, ALBERT,
Shaftesbury Theatre.
Specially Engaged to play Français.

LE GRAHAM, THREE SISTERS,
big success, Queen's Palace, Rhyl. Vacant for First-class Pantomime. Address, Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

LEIGH, THREE SISTERS,
Entertainers, Enormous Success at Clapham and Walham-green. Vacant Pantomime. 107, Brixton-road, S.W.

LEIGHTON and MONA,
the Smartest of all Piano Acts,
Oct. 3, Palace, Southampton.

LENNOL, JACK, Humoresque Individual, with Eyeglass and Gloves. The original Amateurs and Copyists Note. Pier Pavilion, Bognor, Oct 3.

LEO, CLOWN, and Funny, Performing Animals, Conclude Twelve Weeks, Kursaal, Southend. Now Vacant, 20, Whitman-st, Wavertree, Liverpool.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI, the Fat Girl from Leytonstone. Monday, Opera House, Doncaster. Also MELITA. Agent, Jess Verno.

LESLIE, BROTHERS,
Australia's Representative Musical Team. Glorious success on the Continent. Oct 1, Mellini's T., Hanover.

LEVITE'S, Celebrated Sketch Company, in their funny Pantomime, "Gee-Gees;" also BELLE IDA, Comedienne. 103, Acre-lane, Brixton.

LEYBOURNE, GEORGE,
General Manager, Alhambra, Sandgate.
Artistes communicate Fred Durham's Agency.

LIZZETTE, The FOUR SISTERS,
Lady Acrobats. ELSIE RUBINA, Wire Dancer.
On Tour. Assembly Rooms, Rotherham.

LODDGE, BROS., Modern Athletes,
terrific success, P., Manchester; next G., Stockton Free Nov. 7; also Panto. Address, above. Agent, Fioni

LOYD, BABY, the Star Vocalist; and NELLIE VANN, enormous success, Met. T., Abertillery. Monday, H., Mountain Ash Liberty Oct. 10.

LONNRNS, LIVELY,
Duettists and Dancers. Next Week, Bradford
Agent, Chas. B. Cochran, 12, Henrietta-street.

LOTTO, LILO, and OTTO,
Trick Cyclists.
2, Lambeth Palace-road, S.E.

LUCAS, MR. and MRS EDWARD H.,
in "Scenes from Dickens." Next Week,
Hippo., Birmingham. Agents, Anger and Bauer.

LUMIERE'S, MDLLE., Electrical Fairy Grotto, tremendous success on Broadhead Tour.
Communications, Metropole T., Openshaw, Manchester.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR,
American Song Illustrators. Hippodrome, Scarborough. Monday, Paddington, Liverpool.

LYONS, HARRY, Auctioneer,
with Star Company, still to the front.
Address, Market-yard, Sligo, Ireland.

MACCANN, Concertina King, Vacant Oct. 3. Instruments value £500. Permanent address, 16, Dunkeld-street, Liverpool. Tel., 0 500 Anfield.

MACDONALD, MISS MONA,
This week, Empress, Hartlepool.
Next, Palace, Dundee.

MACFARLANE, BABY VIOLET,
the Great Comedy Child Actress.
A Big Success, this week Lyric, Liverpool.

MALCOLM, FREDDIE,
Specially Engaged by Miss Kate Carney.
No Vacancies.

MALVA, J. H.,
Ventriloquist. "My Birthday Party." Returns again Monday, Palace, North Shields. Very good indeed.

MARCONIS, THE Great, Greatest Act on Earth, Liberty Monday through changing Dates. Wire, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

MARJUTTI, ADA,
the Flexible Venus; MARTI and JULIETTA, the Flying Spar, &c. Monday, Tivoli, Dublin.

MARNEY, LILY,
Empire,
Liverpool.

MARTINETTES, THE THREE, Musical Knockabout Patter Comedians. Rochdale. Monday, Theatre Royal, Liverpool. Lib. Oct. 10, 17, also Panto

MARTINO,
The
Frog.

MASKELL,
Comic Conjuror, concludes 1000th Performance at Aquarium, Scarborough. Monday, Circus, Rochdale.

M'AUBER, BROTHERS
Triple Bar Comedians. Sept. 16 to Sept. 30, Sarrasani's Circus, Frankfurt, Germany.

MAXWELL and FRANCES
(TOM and VIRGINIA)
Oct. 3, Palace, Camberwell.

MAY, QUEENIE,
the Greatest Juvenile Comedienne, Britannia, Hoxton. Sole Agents, Hart and Co. and E. Cranston.

MAYE, PERCY.
An excellent impersonator.—Leigh Chronicle, Empire, Greenock. Address, en route; or, Agents.

MAYNE, ALICIA,
Australian Dramatic Songstress, with Beautifully Coloured Photo-Illustrations. This week, Leicester.

MEIER and MORA,
this week, Third Return, H., Hastings Next week, Canterbury, London. Will shortly Produce a Big Surprise.

MELLOR, ALBERT, and SIDNEY
JUKES, remarkably busy producing Laughter Sparks for the Million. Business coms., Duke of York, Salford.

MEPHISTO, the Ideal Contortionist,
this week, Tivoli, Dublin.
Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Blackpool. W. Sley or H. Day.

MERRIE, CECIL,
"Mirth and Matrimony; or, The Ten Years' System."
71, Kennington-road, S.E.

MERRY, MISS FLO. Second Week,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Heckmondwike, Yorks.
Liberty Panto. Thanks to Mr John Walters for Offer.

MESSER, G. F.,
The Enterprise, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell, S.E.
Fred Karno and Companies' House of Call.

MILES-STAVORDALE QUINTETTE
(the Original Act). Hippodrome, London.
Agents, Anger and Bauer.

MILSTED, Miss EMMIE, the Big Hit as Princess Stephanie (Coloured), in "A Chinese Idyl." Oct. 3, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

MILTON'S MARIONETTES,
For Vacant Dates, address Arthur Milton, the Marionette King, Post-office, Oswestry.

MIRZALA, the Marvel, Cycle Spiral
Ascensionist and Trick Cyclist.
Terms, Canterbury Hotel, Great Yarmouth.

M'KAYS, THE,
Tivoli, Barrow (Return)
Permanent, Oddfellows' Arms, Bradford.

MONTAGUE, LEO,
Queen's-park Hippodrome, Manchester.
Sails Oct. 5.

MONTGOMERY, ALFRED,
Entertainments of every kind Provided, Cheap.
51, Cornwallis-road, Upper Holloway, London, N.

MORCASCHANI (La Belle Creole),
Coloseum Theater, Vienna.
Manager, G. Kaczka.

MORELL, DAISY,
Grand Theatre, Bolton.
Vacant Monday. Wire above.

MORTIMER, MAUDE, Originality. Panto., Glasgow, R. Courtneidge, Esq. Oct. 3, Empire, Swansea. Panto. Song, "Nancy My Fancy." £2 2s. each Town.

MUELLER and COYNE,
great success, Glasgow Concerts.
Oct 3, Empire, Paisley.

MUIR and BARTLETT,
in their Répertoire of High-class Comedies
To-night, Oldham; Monday, H., Norwich.

MUNROE, MR. WALTER,
Success, Success,
Hippodrome, Wigan.

MURRAY, LESLIE H.,
Magician and Card Manipulator.
Address, 65, Sussex-road, Southport.

MURRAY, LOUIS,
Recuperating after Season with Dare's Minstrels, and Re-engaged. Coms., 17, Head-road, Douglas, I.O.M.

MYERS, ERNIE, and LILY LONSDALE,
Theatre Royal, Warrington.
Monday, Borough Theatre, North Shields. No Vacancies.

NEIMAN'S, FRED,
Ventriloquial Minstrels.
Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

NELSON, MISS EVA.
Usual success, Provinces Nightly.
Agent, Mr G. Aytoun.

NELSON and THOMAS,
"On the Ra-Ta." Thanks Harry Phillips, Esq., for Contracts. This, Hip., Sheerness. Monday, Empire, Dover.

NEWBURN, MR. GEORGE,
the King of all Mimics.
Oct 3, Grand, Clapham, and Empress, Brixton.

NEW CENTURY ANIMATED
PICTURES, the Finest in the World. For terms, apply, Sidney H. Carter, St. George's Hall, Bradford

NEWHAM and LATIMAR,
going Stronger than ever.
Palace, Northampton.

NEW YORK QUARTETTE, THE Original.
Manageresses, Miriam Sanford and Flo Farmer.
Oct. 3, Empire, Portsmouth. Fortune and Granville.

NICHOLLS, ARTHUR, Operator,
Raffell's Imperial Bioscope.
Aquarium, Brighton.

NOVELLS, THE THREE, Society Acrobats, this, E., Dudley; next, Queen's park Hippo., Manchester. Vacant Oct. 17, 23, and 30; also Panto.

OAKDENE, Novelty Ventriloquist,
Gigantic success of New Act. This week, Spilsby. After Sunday, address, 32, Cornbrook-park-rd., Manchester.

OBO, BROTHERS, Laughing Comedians,
big success, Aberdeen and Dundee. Next, Empire, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Fortune and Granville.

O'CONNOR and BRADY.
Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, and Lyceum, Pentre. Several offers in hand for Panto. Still Vacant.

OLIVE TRIO,
This Week, Empire, Belfast;
next Week, Empire, Dublin.

OLIVER, DR. J. C., Illusionist, and Mdlle. JEANETTA, Queen of Handcuffs Completes Four Months' Scottish Tour to-day. Care of "The Era."

OLIVAS, THE,
Marvels of Second Sight, on Tour with P. Blakey, Esq.
Next week, Eastrick, Yorks

O'MALLEYS, THE,
the Celtic Comedians.
Liberty Pantomime. Empire Theatre, Greenock.

ONDA and LEON,
Conversational Gymnasts.
Queen's Music Hall, Glasgow.

O'NEILL, TOM, E.,
Thanks F. Allen, Esq., H. Kemble, Esq., for Dates, also Mr Jordison for Offer of Panto. Geo. Aytoun.

OSBORNE, CHARLIE,
the Author, Composer, and Light Comedian.
54, Fortess-road, London, N.W.

PACKER, TOM, 75in. of Clean Comedy,
at Liberty Oct. 3, 10.
Communications, 101, Kennington-road; or, F. Higham.

PADLEYS, PADLEYS, Great Comedy Act. Return, Monday, Hippodrome, Grimsby. Thanks to Henri Cazman for Contracts.

PALMERS, MUSICAL.
Monday next, Hidpodrome, Ashton.
Also Miss DAISY PALMER, Serio and Dancer.

PALMERSTON, MINNIE,
on
Tour.

PAREZ GIRLS, THREE, Splendid Handbell Ringers, Bagpipe Players. First-class Musical Act. See Wanted column. Add., 32, Mill-lane, Warrington.

PARK'S ETON BOYS,
The Champions. The Champions. Next Week, Lyric, Liverpool. Manager and Agent, Willie Benn, Esq.

PARR, Impersonator of Celebrities, Clay Modeller, Sand, Rag Pictures, Vent., Pot-pourri Act.
Vacant Oct 17, 24. 9, Wolsley-road, Blackpool.

PAYNE'S LITTLE VAGABONDS
Always successful. Grand, Newcastle.
Monday, Boro', North Shields. Claxton.

PAYNE'S, WALTER, Bio-Photoscopes,
Success Guaranteed, and always Open for Work.
Address, 54, Daleview-road, Stamford-hill, London, N.

PHILLIPS and TERRY
finish To-night (Saturday), Palace, Manchester.
Monday next, Empire, Leeds

POLLARD, FRED, and KITTY GREY,
in American Vaudeville, "The Missing Will."
Vacant Oct. 31. Paddington, Liverpool.

POLUSKI, WILL, Jun.,
Comedian,
Canterbury.

PONCHERY, High Rope and Wire Act
(Lady and Gent.).
Address, Red Lion, Cirencester.

POOLE, DAVID,
the Original Novelty Ventriloquist.
This Week, Empire, Burnley; Next, Empire, Dudley.

PRIMAVESI,
Unique Juggler.
Monday, Metropolitan. Booked through Bawn's Agency.

PRINELLAS, LES, Scoring a Triumphant Success with our New Novel Act, "A Country Flirtation," Palace, Liverpool. Next, Empire, Wrexham.

PROCTOR. King of Irons, completed Six Months' Tour Lloyd's Circus, Ireland. Big success. Required, Oct. 10. P.O., Louth, Lincolnshire.

PRYDE, PEGGY,
Pert and Peerless.
Stoll Tour.

RADIUM GIRLS,
Duettists and Speciality Dancers.
Oct. 3 Queen's, Poplar.

RAFFIN'S
Monkeys.
Temperance Hall, Bolton.

RALSTON, BROTHERS, Greenwich
Oct 3, Woolwich. More heavy booking through Wal Bentley. "Blind leading blind," bigger than ever.

RAPPO and ELLA, Continental Equilibrists, the Smartest Act of its kind before the public. Monday, Queen's, Poplar. Agent, R. Cass

RAY, HARRY, and LILLIE CALDEN,
Starring Success, Hippodrome, Ipswich.
Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Norwich. Comedy all hot.

RAYMOND, MR. WILL. "Oh! isn't she lovely," Leading Comedy, "Fisher Girl" Company.
Vacant Pantomime. Next week, Peterborough.

READ and WRITE,
just Concluded Four Months' Successful Tour.
Usual Hit, Palace, Hammersmith; Monday, E., Bow.

REGAN and RYAN,
Continued Success, Palace Theatre, W., 9 30.
Continued Success, Palace Theatre, W., 9 30.

RESDAN, MISS RITA, London's Dainty and Realistic Male Impersonator Huge success, Oxford and Duchess, Balham. Mon., Euston and Oxford

REX and FORD,
Eccentric Patter Comedians. Liberty Panto., Parts and Specialities. All coms., 47, Talbot-st., Nottingham.

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"Jenny, my own true love."
Grand, Stockton. Agent, Barclay.

RITA and ROMA, Versatile and High-class Vaudeville Entertainers, H., Wigan. Address all letters, 42, Overstone-rd., Hammersmith, London, W.

RITTER, VICTOR.
Musical Grotesque. Vacant Oct. 17 and Nov. 7 (North). Address, 242, Dalston-lane, London, N.E.

ROBINA, FLORRIE,
the English Rose, going greater than ever.
Sole Agents, R. Warner and Co.

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Grand, Stockton.
Christmas, Marlborough Theatre, London.

ROWLEY, MR. J. W.,
Glasgow Concerts;
also for Miss ELLA DEAN.

ROZELLS, THE,
Great Comedy Bar Act. Usual success, Boro' T., North Shields. Monday, Empress T., East Hartlepool.

RYLAND, CLIFF,
Palace, Dundee, Monday next.
Mr Fred Higham, Sole Agent.

SABINO Concludes To-night, Empire, Kilburn. Returns Christmas Week. At Liberty Oct. 3 (One Week). 1, Oxford-road, Kilburn, London.

SAKER, ALFRED,
Author and Composer,
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SALAMBOS, THE.
Touring the World.
Address, Tivoli, Sydney, New South Wales.

SALMON, W., Trick and Musical Cyclist.
More Novelties than any other Cycle Act.
Next, Hippodrome, Accrington. Vacant Oct. 10.

SANDY and CARL
Big success Metropole Abertillery; Monday, Hippodrome, Ipswich. Still at Liberty for Pantomime.

SANFORD and LYONS,
"Who killed Bill Bailey?" What a Song for Panto.
Monday, Palace, Blackburn. Agent, Tom Shaw.

SAN-REMO GIRLS,
Vocalists and Speciality Dancers.
This week, Royal and Metropole.

SANTOI, MARIE,
another great success Borough Theatre, North Shields. Monday, Empress, Hartlepool.

SAUNDERS, HARRY, Variety Agent and Caterer, Military Entertainments, 1st Army Corps, Aldershot. Tintern Villa, Grosvenor-road, Aldershot.

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Adam and Eve, High-street, Peckham. House of call for Professionals. Artists send along your photos.

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Specially Engaged. S. M. Hyman, Limited

SCOTT, GREAT, the Ladder King, Marvellous Equilibristic Juggler. The London (Return). For Vacancies, apply, Agent, Geo. Foster, 4, Garrick-st.

SCOTT, MISS WINNIE,
This Week, Hippodrome, Ipswich.
Monday next, Hippodrome, Manchester.

SELBY and MYERS,
big success, Hippodrome, Salford.
Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

SERPENTELLO'S DRAMATIC and VARIETY AGENCY, 28, Wellington-st., Strand, W.C. Tele add., "Serpentello, London." 'Phone, 12,605 Central.

SEYMOUR, MOLLIE,
the Versatile Vocalist and Violin Virtuose.
Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Scarborough. Vacant Oct. 10.

SHIPLEY, SAM, and BEATIE WORTH,
Liberty Oct. 3, 10. Wire, Grand, Sheffield; after Sunday, 1, Goodwin-street, Pendleton, Manchester.

SILBON'S AMERICAN VAUDEVILLE
CIRCUS. Greatest Animal Act.
Hippodrome, Liverpool.

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Permanent address,
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SILL and SILLCOTT, Silent Comedians, Extravaganza, "Left Luggage." Big success, Empire, Wolverhampton. Permanent, 5, Shaw-street, Oldham.

SILVO, MUSICAL,
Inventor of the Silvochimes and Bamboo Bells.
Oct. 3, Grand, Clapham.

SIMPSON, SADIE.
"I've brought you my soldier boys," Published by F., D., H. Argyle, Birkenhead.

SIVANE and FIELDON,
"Comedy Park-keepers." Keep off the Grass. All coms., 48, Boundary-street East, C.-on-M., Manchester.

SLONE, MR RYDER,
Oct 3, Theatre Royal, Oldham.
Hugh J. Didcott and Co.

SMITH and JOHNSON,
Success, Palace, Northampton. Oct. 3, Empire, Portsmouth. "The Indian and the Coon," T.V.B.T.

SMYTHSONS, THE,
this Empire, South Shields.
Next (Oct. 3), Empire, Newcastle

SNOWDON and CONWAY, Refined Comedy Artists; also WINNIE ST. IVES, Serio, Vacant Oct. 3 and 10. Victoria T., Littleborough.

SOLO and MAVO, the Quaint Quaker and Saucy Soubrette, in their Eccentric Dances.
Oct. 10, Tivoli, Manchester. Vacant Pantomime.

SOMERS, FELIX,
Facial King. "People We Know."
Amity Hall, Poole.

SOULS, W., Laughing Comedian. Latest success "Why do we marry the girls?" by A. All. "This is how he laughs," by A. All.

SOUPLESSI, OSSI,
the Great Flying Serpent.
Oct 3, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

SPENCER, C. G., and SONS, Balloon Manufacturers, 56a, Highbury-grove, London, N Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." Tele., 1,893 Dalston.

STARS, TWO (L. and G. WRIGHT).
Monday, Palace, Aberdeen. Dad's with us and we are all doing great, really.

ST. AUBYN, CARLTON,
Returning to Town.
All communication, at present, care of "The Era" Office.

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Comedians.
Agent, Tom Shaw.

STEINWAY GLEE SINGERS.
A feature of the performance—Daily Telegraph.
"Cherry Girl," Opera House, Southport.

STERN and STERN,
the Versatile Comedians. Vacant Pantomime.
Returns Monday, Grand, Sheffield.

STEVENS, KIRBY,
Comedian. New Song, "The Yodelling Wife."
Coms., Haymarket, Liverpool.

STEVENS and STEVENS,
Comedy Artists and Dancers.
London nightly. Pantomime settled.

ST. JOHNS, THE, Comedy, Musical, and Dancing Act. Successful Everywhere. Free Oct. 10, 31, and for Pantomime. P.O., Hope-st., Glasgow.

STRANGE, ERNIE, the X'entric Fellow,
Success of Song "Joyful" and "Policeman's Life," by Strange and Parry, Central Pavilion, Morecambe

STUART QUARTETTE,
Lady Vocalists and Dancers, on Tour.
All letters to 6, Roxburgh-terrace, Edinburgh.

SYLVESTER, SYD,
Purveyor of Comedy. This, Pier, Aberystwith; next, Empire, Birmingham. Agents, Cochran and Co.

SYLVESTO, EDITH, Novel Lady Contortionist, this, Hippodrome, St. Helens; next, Lyric, Liverpool. Liberty November. Agents, Sley and Cass.

TAIT, SILENT.
No Vacancies this year; a few next. This week, Empire, Liverpool; next, Hippodrome, Accrington.

TARRAS, THE, Double Jugglers; also Miss DAHLIA, Lady Gymnast, in New Stage Act, Liberty Oct. 10, 17. Address, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

TAYLOR and WHITE, Patter Comedians and Expert Dancers, with Davies' Circus, Irish Tour. Liberty Nov. 7, on. 41, Westmoreland-street, Belfast.

TERRY, VINNIE, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer, Monday next, Empire Theatre, Shildon, Co. Durham. Dis. Oct. 10 and 17. Offers invited.

TEXAS, CAPTAIN and MADAME,
World's Champion Rifle Shots (the Modern William Tell). Liberty Oct. 10. Address 23, West-port, Lanark.

THEOBALD'S, BERNARD, Up-to-Date
Bio-Tableaux. Continued success.
Transfield's Hippodrome, Sheerness.

TOWEROGRAPH ANIMATED
PICTURES, T., Blackpool, and Hippo., Douglas, I.O.M. Now Booking. O. T., Robinson, 27, Birley-st., Blackpool.

TRAVERS, NAT, and Company,
in Scena, "Life in an East-end Hotel."
Monday, Gaiety, Birmingham.

TRAVERS, VICTOR,
Palace, Sunderland; Next Week, Gatti's and Granville.
Geo. Barclay.

TRISCUTTS, THE, Handcuff Kings, Jail Breakers, and Trunk Illusionists. Liberty Oct. 10, and on. 61, Ashburnham-grove, Greenwich, London.

TUDOR, FREDA, the Dainty Young Male Impersonator. Big Hit with New Songs, "Sweet Minerva," by Alf Valmore. Coms., 33, Derby-street, Hulme.

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Premier Triple Trapeze Artistes.
Third Week, Hamilton's Excursions, Bolton.

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Circus of Varieties,
Rochdale.

VALOUR, the Gymnastic Marvel. Permanent, Adaline House, King's-heath, Birmingham.

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VELYANTI DUO, Acrobatic Comedy Jugglers, made the Greatest Success known in America. All communications, 25, Lambeth-road, S.E.

VENTOR, Comedian, Thanks Messrs. Black and Heyworth, Anthony and Carroll, and Bert Delmar for Contracts. Will De Joint call Sunday?

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VERNON, MISS MAY, Comedienne and Dancer. A sure success everywhere. Agent, George Brookes.

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VINE, MABEL, the Coming Star. The Coming Star. Next week, Empire, Bordesley. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

VIOLAS, THE, conclude Grand, Stockton Monday, Fourth Return, Metropole, Gateshead, for Three Weeks. No Vacancies. Sley, Manchester.

VIOLI, Lady Instrumentalist. Grand, Clapham.

VIVIANS, THE Original, Hippodrome, Blackpool. Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Ashton. Re Giant Post Cards, address, 46, Grove-lane, Camberwell, S.E.

VOLBRECQUES, TWO (DAISY and ROSIE), Clever Comedy Duettists, P. H., Barneley. Re-engaged week longer. Few Dates open, 1905.

WAGNER, Magician; **LILLIE HUSTLER,** Soubrette and Dancer. Great success, Albert Hall, Sheffield. Mon., Pavilion, Altrincham, Manchester.

WALKER, COMICAL, Local Nippers; Mons. REKLAW, Globe Performer. Vacant Monday. Wire, 50, Portland-street, Kilmarnock, Scotland.

WALLIS, W. H. (Tennyson and Wallis), the Successful Song-Writer. Monday, Oct. 3, Empire, Glasgow.

WARNER, SISTERS (LULU and SADIE), Duettists and Acrobatic Dancers. Next, City Varieties, Leeds. Pacey and Reeves.

WATSON, D. W., the Clever Cornet Soloist, Vocalist, and Posthorn Player. Monday, Barrasford's Hippodrome, Bristol.

WATSONS, of Vocal, Musical, and Comedy Fame. New Songs, &c. Big Hit. Conclude splendid return, Palace, Lincoln. Monday, City, Leeds.

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WEDBURNS, Comedians, Vocalists, &c., Big success at Bradford. Monday, Empire, Leeds. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

WEIRS, THE (FRANK and LOTTIE), the Comedian and Incomparable, Clever Dancer, and so Refined. This, H., Ashton; next, Hay, Liverpool.

WHITELEY, FRANK, and ALICE OAKLEY, E., Rochdale. Monday next, 31, Westminster, Liverpool. Liberty Oct. 24 and 31. Offers invited.

WHITNEY, W., BEATIE FOSTER, Comedian. Comedienne. Success, P. P., Liverpool; Next, Metropole, Gateshead.

WILDER BROTHERS, Pyrotechnic Artists, Gala and Fête Agents, &c. 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

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WILLIAMS and BROWN conclude To-night Palace, Bordesley. Monday, Pier Pavilion, Ramsgate.

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WINDER, BERTHA, the Dancing Marvel, Champion Clog and Big Boot Dancer. Pavilion, Leicester.

WINSOME, MISS MARIE, this Week, Hippodrome, Ipswich. Monday next, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WINSTANLEY, ROSE, Contralto Vocalist, Male Impersonator, Pier Varieties, Llandudno, until further notice.

WISPER and BEATTIE BLOOM Monday, Hippodrome, Hastings. Monday, Hippodrome, Hastings.

WOODFORD'S, KITTY, Canine Circus and Orchestra; also Latest American Illustrated Songs. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Town H., Holyhead.

WOODWARD, CHAS., Finishes To-night Twenty-one Weeks, Reynolds' Concert Party, Colwyn Bay. Monday, Circus, Rochdale.

WOOLF, GIPSY, with Her Six Piccaninnies. Great Continental success. This week, Winter Gardens, Leipzic.

WRIGHTS, THE (FRANK and DOLLY), the Popular Fun-makers. Vacant Nov. 14. All communications 20, Mill-street, Wem, Salop.

YAMAMOTO and KOYOSHI, Celebrated Japanese Equilibrists, the Unique Feats. Palais d'Ete, Brussels. Perm. address, 10, Rue Saulnier, Paris.

YORICKS, THE, Unique Eccentrics. Monday, Royal, Oldham.

YORKE, MISS ETHEL, the Charming Vocalist, Alhambra, Hull. Free Oct. 10, wire; also Pantomime, Principal Girl. Voice, Ability, Appearance.

YORKSHIRE MILL LASSES, Original and Only. This, Sadler's Wells; Oct. 3, Tivoli, Kidderminster.

YOUNG, TED, and ADA TWIBELL, Palace Theatre, Halifax. Ada Twibell at Liberty for Pantomime. Principal Boy.

ZAROS, THE Original, Canterbury and Hammersmith. Liberty Oct. 24. Address, 47, Larkhall-rise, Clapham, S.W.

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ZERTHO, CLOWN, New Original Act. Palace, Sunderland.

ZETTER, HARRY, Oct. 3, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester. Vacant Pantomime. Will Buy Good Comic Songs.

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C. DOUGLAS STUART, Secretary.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' RAILWAY ASSOCIATION.

Statutory Notice. THE EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on TUESDAY, OCT. 18, at GATTIS MUSIC HALL, WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, at 11 30 o'clock prompt. Doors open at 11·0. Chairman, Mr HARRY MOUNTFORD.

Rule 8.—Any Member of the Association being a bonâ-fide Music Hall Performer, and whose Membership shall have Exceeded Twelve Months, is eligible to be nominated as a Member of the Committee, such nomination to be Signed by not less than Two Members of the Association, and to be sent to the Chairman of the Sitting Committee not later than Fourteen Days prior to the Annual General Meeting, with the exception of the Outgoing Committee, who are accepted as nominated.

Rule 10.—That a General Meeting of Members of the Association be held Annually during the Month of October, the exact date to be determined by the Committee. At this General Meeting the Report of the Committee and the Balance-sheet for the past year shall be submitted to the members. A copy of the Balance-Sheet will be sent to any Member on receipt of stamped envelope. Due notification of any Resolution for discussion at the General Meeting must be sent in writing to the Secretary Fourteen Days prior to the date fixed for the meeting, so that it can be placed on the Agenda, but at the General Meeting no matter shall be discussed which has not been placed on the Agenda.

Admission can only be obtained by presentation of Membership cards. Lady Members of the Association are earnestly invited to attend.

C. DOUGLAS STUART, Secretary.

28, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

THE TERRIERS' ASSOCIATION.

Registered Office, 1, HERCULES-ROAD, S.E.

Registered pursuant to the Friendly Societies Act, for the Mutual Benefit of Bonâ-fide Music Hall Artistes.

TERRIERS. All communications to Harry Lester, Secretary.

NEW ARRIVALS AT CROSS'S ZOOLOGICAL TRADING ESTABLISHMENT:—4 Leopard Cubs, 2 Lapunda Apes, 27 Rhesus Monkeys, 15 Indian Pythons, 1 Very Fine Double-hump Camel, 2 Spotted Hyenas, 1 Brown Bear, 1 Polar Bear, 2 Large Anubis Baboons, 9 Dog-face Baboons, 2 Cherry-crown Sooty, 3 Jew, 1 Mona, 4 Caratrix, 2 Mandrill and 1 Ring-tail Monkeys; 3 Opossums, 2 Bush Cats, 1 Pacca, 2 Agoutis 1 Pair Bulldogs, 1 Bull Terrier, 1 Dalmatian and 2 Irish Terriers, 1 Paradoxure Cat, 17 Mongoose, 2 Tame Mongoose, 1 Pair Little-pond Herons, 5 Pair Blue Herons, 1 Pair Goliath Herons, 12 Pair Common European Storks, 3 Pair Purple Galinules, 5 Pair Common and 3 Pair Japanese Peafowl, 3 Pair Blacknecked, 3 Pair Black, 10 Pair White, 2 Pair Coscoroba, and 1 Pair Bewicke Swans; 10 Pair Egyptian, 3 Pair Chinese, 2 Pair Canada, 3 Pair White-Fronted, and 1 Pair Australian Magpie Geese; 2 Pair Red-Billed Tree, 2 Pair Fulvous Tree 4 Pair White-faced Tree, and 10 Pair Wandering Tree Ducks; 2 Pair Garganey, 3 Pair Rosy-bill, 5 Pair Mandarin, 1 Pair Carolina, 3 Pair Pochard, 5 Pair Widgeon, 10 Pair Teal, 3 Pair White Muscovy, 5 Pair White Call, 3 Pair Brown Call, 3 Pair Tufted, and 3 Pair Chilian Pintail Ducks; 4 Pair Common Sheldrakes and 2 Pair Ruddy Sheldrakes, 10 Young African Grey Parrots, 3 Pair Cockatiels, 5 Pair Cochin China Banded Parrakeets, 12 Rock Parrots, 20 Pair Budgerigars. Also 1 very massive Carved Ivory Group of Four Pigs, three very fine Bronze Models of Elephants about 7ft. High, on very large Tree Stand; 1 very fine Bronze Koro, 1 Bronze Crayfish (natural size), 1 Solid Group of Beautifully Carved Ivory Rats; also 7 Other Small Ivory Carvings, Representing Various Figures.

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4 BOOMER KANGAROOS, 2 Red Kangaroos, 1 Wallaby, 1 Cape Gannet, 4 Ring-tailed Lemurs, 1 Tame Brown Bear, 1 Tame Zebra, 1 Pair Nylghaies, 1 Persian Gazelle, 2 Peruvian Tortoises, 2 Kinkajous, 1 Coati, 1 Armadillo, 1 Kangaroo Rat, 1 Moustache Monkey, 4 Capuchin Monkeys, 2 Pairs Bronze-winged Pigeons, 3 Wonga-Wonga Pigeons, 3 Pairs Crested Pigeons, 1 Pair Demoiselle Cranes, 1 Marabon Stork, 7 Double-fronted Amazons, 6 Canary-winged Parrakeets, 1 Red-vented Parrot, 2 Eclectus, 5 White Cockatoos, 3 Macaws, 2 White-crested Pekos, 4 White-throated Jay Thrushes, 4 Pied Mynahs, &c.; 62 Japanese Carved Ivories, 40 Wood Carvings, 7 Inde Carvings, 8 Gongs, 12 Idols, 4 Lac Boxes, 2 Lac Panels, 300 Netsukis, &c.

Albert Edward Jamrach (late Charles Jamrach), 180, St. George-street East.

I LEAD. FOLLOW WHO CAN. THE MONEY MAGNET. THE RECORD BREAKER.

THE SENSATION OF LONDON.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, M.D.

Just finished a Phenomenally Successful Appearance in London, finishing at the

CANTERBURY AND PARAGON,

where I again played to Record Business, both places being Packed to Suffocation Nightly.

Not Hundreds, but Thousands, turned away Nightly at both Halls.

Rebooked for Three Dates at all the Syndicate Halls, having made the Greatest Hit of any Living Artiste of Modern Times, and receiving the Biggest Salary ever paid an Artiste in London.

Now on my Tour through

BONNIE SCOTLAND

with my own Combination, Playing to Packed Houses Nightly everywhere.

Photo by Laird.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, M.D., and the Young Laird.

Read! Read!! Read!!!

Free Lance, Sept. 10, 1904.

I went to the Canterbury Music Hall on Wednesday night, and being favoured by Mr Fred Miller, the manager of the most celebrated of London halls, with a capital seat, I saw some wonderful things—not in the general programme, mind you, excellent as that was, but in the special turn provided by Dr. Walford Bodie, the interest of which is so absorbing that, like Aaron's rod, it swallows up that of all others. . . . Let me give some of my reasons for calling this unique turn a budget of wonderful things. In the first place, Dr. Bodie occupies the stage, roughly speaking, for about an hour—that is wonderful in a London hall, where ten to fifteen minutes is considered a lengthy period of scintillation for even the brightest of stars . . . The audience was wonderful, for it was packed to suffocation, and was moved now and then to bursts of frenzied excitement and applause, such as I have never witnessed, not even in the pandemonium of a political meeting. . . . Dr. Bodie is a young, handsome, and well set-up fellow, his stage manner is perfect, his voice pleasing, his enunciation distinct. His figure and bearing are graceful, and had he chosen as his vocation to be a romantic actor it is more than probable he would have been a ladies' idol. On his entrance I felt quite sure that he was conscious of his physical advantages, for he was habited in a doctor's gown, the voluminous folds of which "became him mightily." It was not long, however, before I was undeceived in this respect. For nearly three years in the "Free Lance" I have criticised music hall turns in their infinite variety, but in presence of such an exhibition as that given by Dr. Walford Bodie criticism is dumfounded, comment a'one is possible, but even that is difficult, because it must be voluminous to be comprehensive or even approximately adequate. . . . When I left the Canterbury it was raining hard, but a large crowd was waiting outside to see Dr. Bodie pass to his carriage, and cheered him lustily as he drove away. . . .

Many thanks to Managers and Agents for Offers; also many thanks to Thomas Barrasford, Esq., the Pioneer of Music Halls, for other Contracts for all his places, 1906, Two Weeks each Town with my Own Company; also Four Weeks Glasgow Zoo and Four Weeks, Hippodrome, Liverpool, at the Record Salary of

£175 PER WEEK

and a Big Share of the Gross Receipts for my own Act alone, without my Company. Surely that speaks for itself. Mr Barrasford knows a good thing when he sees it, and is not afraid to pay a price for what the Public want. With my share of the receipts it will mean about £300 per week—the biggest salary ever paid to any performer in this country.

Now, then, my so-called friends, does this not worry you a bit, eh? But it serves me right. Managers will persist in making me take Big Money, and I don't like to refuse, as I might cause offence.

More anon.

No Vacant Dates till 1907.

Look out for the Beautiful

MYSTIC MARIE,

THE REAL TRILBY. The Sensation of the Age.

London Agent, Mr George Foster, 4, Garrick-street.

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Return to London at Christmas to wake the City up again.

10,000 SERVANTS WANTED,

also their

MASTERS AND MISTRESSES,

PROPRIETORS, MANAGERS, AND AGENTS,

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New Farcical Absurdity,

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Pantomime Sketch,

A QUIET NIGHT

A QUIET NIGHT

A QUIET NIGHT

COMPANY,

Concludes To-night,

PALACE, BLACKPOOL.

Monday next, Oct. 3,

TIVOLI, DUBLIN.

Address all communications,

WILL ONDA,
Kenwyn Villa, Penwortham,
Preston.

ATROY, Society Juggler, the Originator of the Rolling Hoops, GRAND, CLAPHAM. Vacant Oct. 17 and 24; also Pantomime.

CAICEDO, King of the Wire. GRAND CIRCUS ALLEGRIA, BARCELONA, SPAIN. Address, care of "The Era."

ZANETTOS, the Merry Japs, Oct. 3, PALACE, GLASGOW.

VALAZZI, L'Inimitable Speciality Act, "Sloping the Slope" on a Cannon Ball. Address, Care of "The Era."

GINTARO. Oct. 3, PALACE, HALIFAX.

"Our Father and Mother were English." The Little Japan-easy and the Russian on the Rush. **REZENE and ROBINI,** Monday next, EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY. At Liberty for Panto. Agents, R. Warner and Co.

THE FOUR RAMLOS, Great Comedy Gymnasts and Comic Tumblers. The Funniest Act on Earth. Liberty Oct. 3 and 10; also Pantomime. Letters, 27, Shelgate-rd., Clapham-junction, London; or, Agent, Collins, 44, Prince's-road, Liverpool.

FAMOUS GROVINIS. Tremendous Success in New Act, Ohmy's Circus, Stockport. Liberty for Christmas Circus Pantomime or Spectacle. Now can be seen working at KING OHMY'S CIRCUS, BOLTON.

Notice to Managers and Agents. **THE ACHMED IBRAHIM TROUPE** of Ten Bedouin Arabs, Proprietor, Achmed Ibrahim, Toured since 1876, wish to give notice to all Managers and Agents that from this date, Aug. 8, 1904, Milot Ibrahim, lately acting as Business Manager, ceases to have any connection with the Management or Booking of this Troupe.

Address, all communications, to Achmed Ibrahim, 1, Major-road, Bermondsey, London, S.E. Oct. 3, OXFORD, MIDDLESBROUGH; 10, Hippodrome, Coventry.

Notice to Proprietors, Managers and Agents. **THE DELAMERE TRIO** THE DELAMERE TRIO, THE DELAMERE TRIO, THE DELAMERE TRIO, the Original Comedy Equilibrists, in Marvellous Feats of Equilibrium, intermixed with Comedy. A Refined and Novel Act. THE DELAMERE TRIO, the Original Comedy Equilibrists, have a Few Immediate Vacancies. Managers having need of a First-class Novel Act, are Requested to communicate, Delamere Trio, North-road, Hotel, Preston.

MDLLE. FLORENCE, the Champion Sensational Globe Performer of the World. Has no equal for Tricks, Style, Grace, Dresses, and Properties. Open to challenge anybody for Long-distance Running on the Globe. At Liberty for Long or Short Engagements for home or abroad. Vacant Oct. 3, 24, and 31. Great Speciality for Panto., Florence and Queenie. Florence, 7, Marlborough-gr., Upper Moss-lane, Hulme, Manchester.

The Laughter-makers. **TELL and TELL,** Eccentrics, Tickling the Audience this week, Tivoli, Dublin. Monday next, ALHAMBRA, BELFAST. For Vacancies apply above; or, James Fioni, Agent.

ASTLEY AMERICAN CIRCUS. **ASTLEY AMERICAN CIRCUS,** Yells, Screams, and Roars of Laughter. Vacant Oct. 17, for One Month, through misunderstanding. ASTLEY AMERICAN CIRCUS. Address, Queen's, Glasgow.

DUNEDIN TROUPE, World-famed Cyclists. On Tour, SOUTH AMERICA. Jas E Donegan, Managing-Director.

The Great and Only **MORIS,** Comic Conjuror and Chain Breaker (Combined). A Novel Performance. Just Returned to England after Six Years Touring the World. Open for Immediate Engagements. Address, 67, Newman-street, London, W.

I have only given up Letters for Fetters—Vide Press. I appear on the Stage in my Postman's Dress. Who? **JAS. DAY,** England's Postman Handcuff Marvel and Prison Breaker, introducing his Famous and Original Hamper Mystery. £1,000 Challenge to the World. Breaking all records and Starring Everywhere. A Novelty. A Twentieth Century Wonder. A Draw. Admitted by Press and Public to be the only Rival of the great Houdini. Oct. 3, BRITANNIA, GLASGOW. Vacant Oct. 10, 17, and 24. Dates, Mr J. Fioni, The Laurels, Derwent-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."

Perfection of Training. **DE GRACIA'S** ASSAM ELEPHANTS. Finest Performing Elephants now before the Public, in their Game of Cricket and Laughable Sketch, "Le Coiffeur," Marvellous Sensational Acts. De Gracia, Owner and Trainer. Going with Great Success (Second Season), Barrasford Tour. HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.

M'CANNS Famous Performing Irish Terriers and World's Champion Leaping Dogs. Complimented by Mr F. Higham and Mr T. Shaw, and don't forget, they know. Address, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. Fourteen Dog Artists. No Toys. The Greatest and Smartest Dog Act yet Known. Big Draw Everywhere. Free Oct. 10. Chard, PUBLIC HALL, PRESTON.

MADAME COLLARD'S DOGS, Just Concluded Metropole, Camberwell, with Great Success. This Week, Palace, Greenwich. Monday next, HIPPODROME, DEWSBURY.

Very enjoyable, too, is the performance of Madame Collard's dogs, which have been trained to accomplish a series of skilful and exacting feats. The manner in which the "turn" is put on gives it a superiority to many similar turns. The idea is of Robinson Crusoe being amongst his favourities, and to carry this into effect the dogs wear gear to represent lions and tigers, all the accessories used are of a rustic character, and Crusoe's man Friday "nips" quietly about the stage rendering what help is neccessary. It is a capital idea, well executed, and the feats of the dogs evoke very warm enthusiasm.—Grimsby Daily News.

Vacant Oct. 24, Nov. 7, 14, and December.

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The Immobile Comedian.

SAM MAYO,

"She cost me Seven and Sixpence," absolutely the Funniest Song of the Year. Pantomime Rights, £2 2s. each Town. Apply, Francis, Day, and Hunter.
Monday next,
ISLINGTON, ROYAL and WALHAM-GREEN.

TOM DAVIES TRIO,

"Whirling the Whirl," Cycling in Mid-Air, including TOM DAVIES, Champion Cyclist (Winner of £3,000 in Prizes). Return the Week, Middlesex.
Re-engaged to return to London in April.
Sole Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

THE TWO GRACES,

Refined Duettists and Dancers,

EMPIRE, DUBLIN.

"Bill Bailey's Ghost," T. F. Robson.

GEORGE RAPLEY,

Burlesque Comedian,
big success, Empire, Burnley.
Monday, EMPRESS THEATRE, HARTLEPOOL.

HERBERT LE MARTINE,

Bâton Swinger and Eccentric Dancer,

HIPPODROME, LOWESTOFT.

TERRY & BENTLEY,

Comedy Act,

PALACE, BLACKPOOL.

STERLING & LOVE,

Musical and Vocal
Comedy Act,

LONDON.

Morton's Man of Memory.

DATAS,

Finished Big Success in New York.

Monday, TIVOLI (Sixth Week).

"Alphabetical Rhymes." "Alphabetical Rhymes."

ERNIE MAYNE,

This week, Royal, Euston, and Islington, great hit.
Monday, EMPIRE, PORTSMOUTH.
Thanks to H. Blackmore, Esq., for suggestion to place me at Drury-lane for Pantomime.

W. H. DOWNES,

the Australian Coloured Tenor,

GRAND THEATRE, STOCKTON.

G. H. ELLIOTT,

the Original Chocolate-Coloured Coon.
Great Success of Latest Songs by Lawrance and Gifford.
PALACE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

TOM HUGHES,

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One of the Upper Ten.
LONDON, Nightly.

The Original

THREE LAURELS,

Comedy Acrobats on the Ping-Pong Table,
EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Great Success of "Don't stand there," by Lawrance and Gifford. Published by Francis and Day.

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EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
The only Agents, fourth year, Pacey and Reeves.

LITTLE CLIFFE,

the Smartest of all Juvenile Comedy Artistes,

CIRCUS, EXETER.

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Specialty Ventriloquist,

GRANVILLE, WALHAM-GREEN.

(MINNIE) (ARTHUR)

DUNCAN & GODFREY.

An Enormous Hit, "Me and 'Er."
EUSTON and CANTERBURY.

VINCENT,

Acrobatic Table Expert and Arab Tumbler,

LYRIC, LIVERPOOL.

Pantomime settled.

EDGAR BUDDEN,

Comedian and Skate Dancer,

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FRED CLEMENTS,

Comedian,

CAMBRIDGE and MIDDLESEX.

ANNIE LAURIE,

Refined Comedienne and Dancer,

LONDON, Nightly.

SISTERS HALL,

High class Vocalists,

ROYAL THEATRE, OLDHAM.

PECKHAM FAT BOY.

Macnaghten
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Manager, J. H. Winson.

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En Route to
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The New Comedian.

WILL HARVEY,

Refined and Original,

MIDDLESEX

The Evening Shadow.

GEO. ANTILL.

An Enormous Success This Week,
Palace, Bristol.
Next Week,
HIPPODROME, NORWICH.

FRANK & VIOLET PAYTE

in their Successful Duologue
"Also Ran,"

HIPPODROME, LOWESTOFT.

MINNIE D'AUBYN,

Burlesque Actress,

PALACE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

ALL THE ABOVE BOOKED ONLY BY PACEY AND REEVES.

Novelty. Novelty. Novelty.
A Sensation. A Draw.

ADRIM and ORAM,

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ADRIM and ORAM,
Eccentric Novelty Act.
A Big Hit on any Programme.
See Adrim's Great Leap over a Squad of Soldiers with Fixed Bayonets Firing a Volley.
A Sensation.
The Audience Spellbound.
Managers who are in want of a Sensational Novelty for Pantomime communicate.
Causing great excitement this week at the Empress, Brixton.
Monday, Oct. 3d,
PARAGON.

"Who killed Bill Bailey" by Harry Castling, Published by Francis and Day. Hurry up and get it for Panto. If you miss it, don't blame us.

SANFORD and LYONS,

the Comedians and Dancers. No Vacancies.
Pantomime settled. Agent, Tom Shaw

THE DENSMORES,

in their most Laughable Pantomime Sketch,
"An Early Morning in the Kitchen."
Only Vacant Dates this Year, Nov 28, Dec, 5, 12, 19.
At Present Moss Tour.
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the Greatest Musical Novelty.
Moss Tour, Fourth Time.
All letters, Midland Hotel; or, Fred Higham.

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FERRIS and FARNLEY.

London's Popular Patter Comedians.
Vacant Panto. Vacant Panto. Principal Comedy Parts only. Monday, QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

All Scotch.

M'TENNYSON and M'WALLIS,

North British Comedians.
Monday next, Oct. 3,
EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Vacant
Pantomime.
Agents, R. Warner and Co.

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Great Acrobatic Comedy Merchants.
On Tour.
Address, "The Era."

HARRIGAN and HOLT.

HIPPODROME, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
At Liberty for Pantomime.
At Liberty for Pantomime.
Sole Agents, Fortune and Granville.

After us, please.

THE NEW MACS.

The Palace Theatre. The New Macs had a great reception last night, and certainly maintained their reputation as the funniest comedians on the variety stage. Their singing, patter, and dancing act was excruciatingly funny, and was as clever as it was original, and fully merited the applause it received.—Evening Gazette, Aberdeen. Great success Birkenhead this week.
Monday next, ARGYLE, BIRKENHEAD (Second Week).
Oct. 10, Empire, Islington, and Grand, Clapham.

"Sing us a song of Homeland."
"Heroes of the Lifeboat Crew." Both by F. V. St. Clair.

FOX and MELVILLE,

the Great Transatlantic Song Illustrators.
Monday, METROPOLE, GATESHEAD.

London's Favourite Duettists and Dancers. The Famous

LANNONS,

the Greatest Duettists and Dancers before the Public.
Monday, MOSS' EMPIRE THEATRE, LEEDS.
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PRINCE FEE LUNG,

Real
Chinese Conjuror
and
Equilibrist.

Concludes To-night,
Queen's Palace, Rhyl.

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All communications,
James Fioni's Agency.
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Telephone, 1,686, Royal.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."

HICKS'S CLERKS.

Another big success,
Empress, Hartlepool.
Most Versatile Show before the Public.
Monday, HIPPODROME, WIGAN.

"MR TODD OF LONDON."

JOHN LAWSON.

PALACE,
SUNDERLAND.

"Here she goes, there she goes," by Jas. Howard.

THE HAYTORS

(EDIE, ARTHUR, and FRANK).
Address, Empire, Glasgow (Second Week);
or, Macdermott's Agency.

FIVE DELEVINES, FIVE,

"Flirtation."
Just Concluded most Successful London Season.
Monday { GAIETY, BIRMINGHAM. GAIETY, BIRMINGHAM.
Agent, F. Higham, 9, York-road, London, S.E.

"TWO RUNAWAY GIRLS."

Running from GATTI'S, WESTMINSTER (9·10) to STANDARD, PIMLICO (10·40),
Chased by Brien M'Cullough and Company.
Booked and Rebooked. Verb. sap.

Incomparable
Juvenile
Spectacles.

SELKIRKS

"All Scotch"
conclude To-night, Two Weeks, Canterbury, London.
Monday, PALACE THEATRE, GLASGOW,
with the Up-to-Date Production, "Japan's Handy Men."
No Vacancies.
Business Managers, G. and F. Peel.

"Death of Bill Bailey," Harry Castling.

TOM LLOYD.

Oct. 3,
ALHAMBRA,
HULL.
Agent, G. Barclay.

Quod petis hic est.

HARRY NATION,

the Versatile Character and Laughing Comedian.
Just concluded a most Comfortable and Successful Season with Will Newman, the Fair Dealer.

J. W. BRAY,

Character Vocalist.
Monday next, REGENT, SALFORD.
All communications to Sole Agents,
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"Bill Bailey's Come Home."
"Follow the Tram Lines."
"Bravo, Japan!"
In Preparation, Scena, "Sporting Hebrew."

CHARLIE DEANE,

LONDON, SHOREDITCH.
All Engagements made through my Sole Agent,
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Telephone, 12 706 Central.

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Comedian with a voice.—Vide Press.
At Liberty Oct. 3, 10, and 17.
Livermore Tour to follow. Also Vacant Panto. Wire and write for terms, 36, Lansdown-gardens, Stockwell, SW.

A Phenomenal Draw.—The Era.

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"IT BOILS ON ICE."

THE VAUDEVILLE SENSATION OF THE AGE.

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The Ever-popular and Up-to-date

GLENROY TROUPE

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The Greatest Pantomime Speciality before the Public.
Always something New, Novel, and Original.
Enormous Success of New Specialities.
At Liberty for Pantomime.
At Liberty for Pantomime.
A certain Success in any Production.
Oct. 3, TIVOLI and PARAGON.
Agents, Messrs Nathan and Somers.

TOM FOY

and COMPANY.
Screams of laughter in Dundee caused by
TOM FOY,
in the great Comedy Sketch, "The Yorkshire Lad."

STERN and STERN,

the Versatile Comedians.
Finish To-night Fourth Season of Twenty Weeks, Llandudno. Oct 3, Return, GRAND, SHEFFIELD.
Vacant Pantomime.

Veni, Vidi, Vici.
Accepted by His Majesty the King.
"My little Palace is my home."
For Tragedy, Comedy, and Pathos see

WILL GODWIN.

in "Repentance," in Three Scenes
Taken from one of George R. Sims's Poems.
Monday next, TIVOLI, LEEDS. Agent, Harry Day.

"The Man with the White Hat."
"Saving up my pennies." Nat Clifford.
Great Success.
"Cuckoo." Lawrance and Gifford.
Great Success.

EDGAR ROMAINE,

OXFORD,
COLLINS'.
H. J. Didcott, Esq.

"The Up-to-Date Doomsday Book," by Mack and Parry, Sung by Hal Forde and

JULIAN MACK,

the Perpetual Patterer,
This, Rhyl; Mon., WINTER GARDENS, SOUTHPORT.
Disengaged for Pantomime.

PERCY FARRIMOND,

Lancashire's Only Singing Collier.
The Smartest Act of its kind in the Business.
For Dates and Terms apply,
Rapid Agency, Century Buildings, London-rd., Liverpool.

MUSICAL SILVO.

The turn given by Musical Silvo must come as the treat of the evening. This gentleman is the inventor of the Silvo chimes and bamboo bells, and from his own creation he draws forth some most exquisite tones. His medley, made up of current popular songs, and played on the musical glasses, is especially well done.—Standard, Sept. 20, 1904.

Oct. 3,
DUCHESS, BALHAM.

MR. LEO DRYDEN,

IN

"AN ACTOR AND A MAN."

A MASTERPIECE OF SINGING, COMEDY, AND PATHOS.

Mr Leo Dryden, in a scena entitled "An Actor and a Man," essays to outrival Sir Charles Wyndham in the vivacious veteran's pet part, David Garrick. Mr Dryden, all unaided, contrives, in ten or twelve minutes, to give the story of Robertson's adaptation, or all of it that is really vital. Short as it is, this scena affords Mr Dryden much scope for powerful acting, fine baritone singing, and reckless furniture (glass) smashing.—*Referee*, Sept. 11, 1904.

PALACE THEATRE, BATH.

AGENT, G. FOSTER, 4, GARRICK-STREET, W.C.

Wilkie Bard.

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OXFORD,

TIVOLI, AND

EUSTON.

BUSINESS MANAGERS,

G. AND F. PEEL.

MISS MARIE LLOYD,
EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
George Ware.

KATIE LAWRENCE,
PALACE, CROYDON.
"Why shouldn t we fight for our own?"
Apply, Francis, Day, and Hunter for Pantomime Rights.
All communications to Fuller and Co., 20, York-road, S.E.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE,
EMPIRE,
NOTTINGHAM.
Sole Agent, Florian Fretelli.

MISS DAISY DE ROY.
Usual Big Success, THEATRE, LLANELLY, with own Company. Christmas Arrangements nearly Complete with own Pantomimes "Sinbad" and "Whittington." Principal Boys, Edna Cragge and Mdlle. Lucretia.
Address, 77, Nunhead-lane, London.

A Vesta that strikes everywhere
MISS VESTA VICTORIA,
PALACE,
BLACKPOOL.
Permanent address, 14, Stockwell-park-road, S.W.

MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR,
PARAGON
and
WALTHAMSTOW.
Agent, Geo. Foster.

LOVELY LIVELY LILY BURNAND,
TIVOLI and BALHAM.
Enormous Success of "Cheek, Cheek, Cheek,"
by Bennet Scott.
Agents, Nathan and Somers.

The Inimitable.
NELLIE WALLACE,
Terminating Starring Engagement To-night,
Empire, Portsmouth. Greater success than ever.
Instantaneous Hit of New Songs.
Oct. 3, TIVOLI, OXFORD, and METROPOLITAN.

The Dainty Dancer.
MISS RUBY BIJOU,
Monday, OXFORD, MIDDLESBROUGH.
Communications direct.

MISS MAY MILBURN,
PEOPLE'S PALACE, BRISTOL.
Vacant for Pantomime.
Apply, Hartley Milburn,
22, Leicester-square, W.C.

"What do you want for those two blue eyes?"
by Wilfred Tizard.
DORA GREVE,
Oct. 3, EMPIRE, DUDLEY.
Open Pantomime. Warner's Agency.
Per. address, Bramley, Guildford. Tel. No. 132, Guildford.

FANNY ROBINA and FLORRY COOPER,
after a Splendid Time at Ramsgate, business and pleasure combined, will Open at the Palace, Croydon, Oct. 10. Then right away till May, 1905.
Address, 41, Effingham-street, Ramsgate.

"'Neath the shadow of Great Big Ben."
Terrific Success. Enormous success.
EMMIE AMES,
Usual Reception, Tivoli, Manchester.
Monday next, Oct. 3, PALACE, BRADFORD.
Plenty to follow.

Many imitations, but none can equal
MISS SABLE FERN,
"the" English Singer of English Songs.
MIDDLESEX.
Frank Lee's Songs. G and F. Peel's Contracts

MISS MAY HENDERSON,
the Dusky Comedy Queen.
Usual Success at the Gaiety, Birmingham.
Monday, ARGYLE, BIRKENHEAD.
New Songs by Albert Mellor and Sidney Dukes.
No Vacant Dates.
Agents, Tom Shaw and Billy Henderson.

The Great Original, Funny, Little
NELLIE COLEMAN,
Tremendous success in Dublin
EMPRESS THEATRE, HARTLEPOOL.
DOME, the Comedy Clay Man

An Actress of the Nellie Farren type.
MISS DOLLY HARMER,
COLLINS'S, LONDON;
and PALACE, CAMBERWELL, Oct. 3.
Didcott.

MISS DAISY JAMES.
Miss DAISY JAMES.
Miss DAISY JAMES.
PALACE, TOTTENHAM.
Many Thanks to Geo. Adney Payne for Permission to Appear at the above.
Communications, Hartley Milburn.

The Original
MISS GRACIE GRAHAME
(of "Oh! Charlie" fame)
EMPIRE,
JOHANNESBURG.

HETTIE CHATTELL
New and Specially Written Songs by
Messrs Harrington and Le Brunn
Communications, 145, Hamlet-gardens, Ravenscourt-park, W.; or to Messrs Nathan and Somers.

"Woman, Lovely Woman" by Pelham and Richards.
Principal Boys Note.—This Song is a sure success Pantomime Rights, £2 2s. each town. Sure success
MISS DAISY SILCOTT, Ideal Boy.
Liberty Panto Principal Boy.
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"Under the Anheauser Bush."
"Under the Anheauser Bush"
MISS CASSIE WALMER.
the Dusky Princess, great success of "Anheauser Bush," E., Bradford. Next week, E., SHEFFIELD.

F. V. St. Clair, "The Concert in the East."
LIZZIE VALROSE,
Stoll Tour, concludes Empire, New-cross.
Monday, EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Agent, Cadle.

MISS ROSE HAMILTON.
Specially Engaged to Produce "Six Little Japs."
HIPPODROME,
COVENTRY.

MISS JENNIE BELMORE
Vacant Pantomime, Principal Boy.
Monday, PALACE, DUNDEE
Business Managers, G. and F. Peel

ADA TWIBELL,
PALACE THEATRE, HALIFAX.
At Liberty for Pantomime.
Principal Boy.
Offers invited. All communications to above.

Latest Successes,
"The Hero of the Road," "Come, Love, to Me,"
J. Tabrar, E.q.
ETHEL RA-LESLIE,
Great Character Vocalist,
on Tour,
"Snacks from Grand Opera." Protected No. 2,102.
Agent, Geo. Foster.

An Ideal Principal Boy.
MARIE LISTON,
a Lady with a Voice, Appearance, and Delivery.
My Latest Success is the Hit of Every Programme.
On Tour. Offers invited for Pantomime.
All communications, care of "The Era."

Note.
Bright, Clever, Refined.
KATE GOURLAY,
Dainty Coon Singer and Great Buck Dancer.
GRAND, MANCHESTER, Oct. 3d.

MISS NORA MOORE,
Burlesque Actress, from the Lyric Theatre, London.
Great Success at the EMPIRE, JOHANNESBURG.
Returning to England in November. Communications, care of Brooke's Agency, 86, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

HARRIETT VERNON,
EMPIRE, BELFAST.
New Songs. New Dresses. Instantaneous success of "Karama."
A Japanese Love Story.
Miss Vernon has acquired the Sole Music Hall Rights of the above Song from the Publishers, Messrs B. Feldman and Co., to whom application should be made for Pantomime Agent, T. Shaw. Communications, care of Mr A. Marsh, 150, Oxford-street, London.

MISS VESTA TILLEY.
Oct. 3,
EMPIRE, LEEDS.
Communications, Walter De Frece,
20, Wellington-street, Strand.

MISS MILLIE HYLTON,
EMPIRE THEATRE,
BURNLEY.

MISS RACHEL LOWE,
Singer of Novelty Songs,
"What's the use of that, huh?"
"Lucky Duck" "Any Rags."
Permanent Address, 10, King-street, Covent-garden.

ADA CERITO,
"Someone in Society," by Cecil Lidden.
"Past, Present, and Future," by Cecil Lidden.
"Wondering," by Cecil Lidden.
Oct. 3, PALACE, MANCHESTER.
Agent, Hugh J. Didcott.

MISS CONSTANCE MOXON.
Letters addressed,
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MISS LELIA ROZE.
Address,
Shrigley Hall, Killyleagh, co. Down.

Terrific Success of New Production.
Terrific Success of New Production.
"The Mouth-Organ Brigade,"
"The Mouth-Organ Brigade,"
"The Mouth-Organ Brigade,"
Written and Composed by Castling and Collins.
Special Scenery and Effects of the Welsh Harp at Hendon.
Now Playing to Record Business.
Sure to become
the Rage of London.
KATE CARNEY,
HAMMERSMITH, "Mouth-Organ Brigade."
GRAND, "Mouth-Organ Brigade."
CLAPHAM. "Mouth-Organ Brigade."
Sole Agents, George Barclay and Co.,
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A Novelty.
Laughter and Tears Emphatic Success of
MISS LOUISE BEAUDET,
in her Musical Scena-Sketch
"Touring the Varieties,"
Written by H. Chance Newton,
Songs by John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn.
Resumes Tour in a few Weeks.

The result is seen in unchanging prosperity, a happy state of affairs which has been particularly striking this week at the Stratford Empire, where immense audiences have enjoyed a bill-of-fare of surpassing strength. A novelty is furnished in the new scena entitled "Touring the Varieties," written by Mr H. Chance Newton, with music by Robert Coverly, for Miss Louise Beaudet. It introduces a young actress who, having discovered that variety is the essence of entertainment, proceeds to supply it. She begins with "The Darlings in the Band," dedicated to the orchestra, several of whom are addressed in endearing terms by the bewitching comedienne, each object of her blandishments, from the fife to the fiddle, the cornet to the bass drum, giving an example of his powers. The song is drolly conceived and wittily written, and is rendered by Miss Beaudet with such charm, verve, grace, and spirit all combined that its success is immediate and complete. A descriptive song, entitled "The game of sham called Life," forms the next item, in which comedy and tragedy alternate, the final essay being the touching story of a London flower girl, whose mother is dying for the want of nourishment, and who goes almost crazy with joy at the receipt of a sovereign given by a stranger for one of her posies. Miss Beaudet renders the piece with rare fervour and profound intensity, and the sympathy of the audience is with her until the close, when their appreciation is enthusiastically bestowed.—The Era, Sept. 17, 1904.

Representative, Chas. B. Cochran, Limited,
12, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden.

In a scena entitled "A Schoolgirl's Holiday"
GERTIE GITANA
scores a great success. She is a clever actress devoid of artificiality. Her facial expressions and bodily poses are exceedingly clever, and she possesses a clear and powerful voice, which she uses with pleasing effect.—Vide Wolverhampton Express, Sept 20 1904
Oct. 3, LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE and
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY, Nightly.
An ideal Cinderella or Red Riding Hood. Vacant Xmas.
Communications, J. O'Connor, Hippo, Ton-y-Pandy.

MISS LILLIE SOUTTER,
Portrayer of Comedy Characters.
Monday next, METROPOLITAN, every Evening.
Monday next, LONDON, every Evening.
Didcott's Agency only. 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

LOTTIE SIEGENBERG,
in her Original Quick Change Musical Sketch,
"The Lazy Slaver."
Big success, Palace, Glasgow.
Monday next, PAVILION, GLASGOW.

LILY TURNER
making a Success to be proud of.
Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.
Next week,
OPERA HOUSE, DONCASTER

Great Success, "Good-bye, my lady-love." Great success. Geo. Gaskin's latest American hit.
ALMA OBREY,
PALACE, BRISTOL
Lib. Panto., Principal Boy. Also BOB BAXTER (Dame).

MISS ADA WHITTON,
Burlesque Actress
and Impersonator of Male Characters,
EMPIRE, BOW, LONDON.
At Liberty for Pantomime, Principal Boy

Unapproachable Baby Mimics.
SISTERS TERRY
(BELLA and MINNIE)
Usual hit, Queen's Park, Manchester.
Monday, WESTMINSTER, LIVERPOOL.

The most versatile and talented sisters in the variety world.—Vide Ernest Sheldon, Esq.
SISTERS (THREE) SPRIGHTLY
(MAUD, FLORRIE, and LILY)
Conclude To-night Enormously Successful Four Weeks' Starring Engagement at Dundee and Aberdeen.
Topping the Bill, Second Week.
Topping the Bill, Second Week.

Notwithstanding strong counter-attractions, the Palace Theatre was crowded last night. Particular gratification was afforded by the re-engagement of the Three Sisters Sprightly, whose charming talent is warmly appreciated in Aberdeen. The versatility of the trio is remarkable.—Aberdeen Journal, Sept. 27, 1904.
The Three Sisters Sprightly commenced the second week of their Aberdeen engagement with immense success, and the audience would not let them depart under five turns. Their splendid little song-sketches, well sung and acted with great spirit, are such as one never gets tired of.—Aberdeen Free Press, Sept. 27.
The talented trio, whose portraits appear above, are again scoring a huge success this week, contributing no less than five items nightly from their extensive répertoire, and, after occupying the stage three-quarters of an hour, the audience seems loth to let them go.—Bon Accord, Sept. 29

THE THREE SISTERS LUVERNY.
Enormous success. Booked Camberwell, Gatti's (Road), the London, Collins's, &c. Vacant Oct 3 10, 17, and November. Wire, Adelina A. Levey (Telephone 4,141 Gerrard), Camberwell Palace of Varieties, S.E.

NELLIE MERTON and GEORGE RYDON,
Vocal Speciality Artistes.
Great Success on the Barrasford Tour
Return Dates with every Manager Visited. D. J Clarke, Esq., Three Years; J. F. Elliston, Esq., Four Years; W. C. Horner, Esq., Three Years; J. Kiernan, Esq., Three Years (Starring). Vacant March 6, on, with exceptions.
TIVOLI, LEEDS; or, James Fioni, Liverpool.

England's Greatest Burlesque Actress.
MISS MARIE LOFTUS.
PARAGON
and
CANTERBURY.
H. Milburn.

Has no rival for sprightliness and liveliness.
MISS L. LANGTRY, the Smart and Up-to-date Comedienne. Monday, PALACE CAMBERWELL, CAMBRIDGE, and WALHAM-GREEN. Thanks for numerous offers for Panto. Christmas Arrangements Complete. Always open to buy Original Songs. R. Warner, Agent.

The Inimitable
PATTY YOLE,
Enormous Success,
This week, Grand, Manchester.
Communications, 128, Islington, Liverpool.

LIL HAWTHORNE,
EMPIRE,
HACKNEY.
Representative, John E. Nash.
Address as above.

The queen of sand dancers.—Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq.
The greatest sand dancer in the world.—Vide W. Batty, Esq.
MY FANCY,
EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE.
Bawn's Agency. 'Phone, 178 Balham.

"My dear old pal," by J. F. Lambe and Thurban.
Published by Francis and Day.
EDNA CRAGGE.
Fairfield Villa, Childebert-road, Balham, S.W.
Pantomime (Principal Boy), Settled.

MISS AGNES HAZEL,
a Bonnie Bough of British Beauty,
London's successful Comedienne
Empress Brixton..... 8·20. Great
Middlesex..... 9·20. Success.
Monday next, METROPOLE, 8·0 and 9·15. Barclay and Co.

MISS MARIE WESTON,
Stoll Tour. Stoll Tour.
Monday, EMPIRE, ARDWICK, MANCHESTER.
Vacant Pantomime, Principal Boy or Girl.
All communications direct.

The Lady who Deceives and yet Charms Everyone.
MISS RITA RESDAN
Opened at the Oxford and Duchess, Balham, on Monday and scored a Huge Success. Managers and Agents invited to see her turn on Monday next at the EUSTON and OXFORD.

BESSIE FEATHERSTONE,
OXFORD,
Nightly.

GWENNIE HASTO,
Oct. 3,
PALACE, SHAFTESBURY-AVENUE
and PALACE, WALTHAMSTOW.
Agent, E. De Vere.

MISS ROSE HARVEY,
the Popular Burlesque Lady,
Disengaged for Pantomime.
ALHAMBRA, BRIGHTON.

"If you can't buy a motor-car, buy a motor cap"
Published by Francis and Day.
MISS NELLIE WILSON.
PARAGON,
ROYAL.
Principal Boy, at Liberty for Pantomime.
Communications, 19, Cranworth Gardens, Brixton, S.W.

Novel Song,
"The Fencing Girl;
or, Beauty and the Blade,"
presented by
ADELINA A. LEVEY,
late Three Famous Levey Sisters
(Adele, Carlotta and May Lilian).
Sole Managers, the "Topical Times" Bureau,
12, Henrietta-street, W.C. Tel., 4,141 Gerrard.
Vacant Oct. 3, 10, 17, and November.
Vacant Pantomime, P.B. and T.R. Enormous success, CAMBERWELL PALACE OF VARIETIES, S.E.

MISS QUEENIE LEIGHTON,
THE
OXFORD,
10 0
o'clock.
Eight
Weeks.
Exclusive
engagement.

MABEL LA BLANCHE
This, Hippodrome, Norwich.
Next, HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
No Vacancies.
Christmas Arrangements Complete.

MABEL VINE,
enormous success last Week, Royal.
Next Week, EMPIRE, BORDESLEY, Starring.
Open for Pantomime. Thanks Mr Willie Benn for Twenty-two Weeks' work in One Week. Manager, Mr Willie Benn. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

MISS AGNES HANSON,
Comedienne, Vocalist, and Speciality Dancer.
Masters, Mr John D'Auban and the original Johnny Hanson, my father.
Open for Special Lines in Pantomime,
Dainty Juvenile, Babes, Princesses, Second Girls, &c.
Permanent, 61, Frith-street, Soho, W.C.

AUSTIN and COWAN
commence Provincial Tour, Twenty-three Weeks; then, South Africa, Fifteen Weeks. Absolute First Vacant Date, Jan. 8 1906. Oct. 3, EMPIRE, BRADFORD.
The Energetic James Fioni, Agent.

"The World's Worst Wizards."
WALTON and LESTER
Return to Town after Seventeen Weeks' Tour.
SADLER'S WELLS, Bow, Foresters', Camberwell, Metropolitan, Middlesex, Cambridge, Granville, Croydon, &c. Panto. Rehearsals to follow at the Brixton Theatre, S.W. All Dates full.
Our latest Skit, "The Wonderful Kettle"
(Boiling the Water on the Block of Ice).
All communications, Bawn's Agency, Balham-hill, S.W.

The Original Two.
CHEEVERS and KENNEDY,
Great Success
Great Success
in their Specialities,
in their Specialities,
Dutch, Irish, Negro.
Dutch, Irish, Negro.
THE LONDON, 9·40.
THE LONDON, 9·40.

WEDBURNS,
Comedians, Vocalists, &c.,
Terrific success at Empire, Bradford, known to Pros. as Lapland. Kept the Audience Roaring with Laughter for Twelve Minutes, finishing with Applause, for which we had to take Three Calls. Although the Smallest Name on the Bill, the Biggest Success in the Programme.
Press says:—The Wedburns are comedy artists of repute, their patter being exceedingly funny, and their reward is great.
EMPIRE, LEEDS.
Fortune and Granville, Agents.

The World-renowned
HULINES,
Creators of Curious Comicalities.
Oct. 3, PALACE, NORTHAMPTON.

BROTHERS EDGAR,
Comedians.
Conclude To-night, Empire, Leeds.
Open Monday, EMPIRE, SHEFFIELD, One Week.
Stoll Tour to follow. Still Open for Pantomime.

The Cross-Talk Comedians,
WILLIAMS and BROWN,
Conclude to-night, Palace, Bordesley.
Monday, PIER PAVILION, RAMSGATE.

MR. HARRY RANDALL.
THE OXFORD, TIVOLI, &c.

MR. GUS ELEN,
EMPIRE, LIVERPOOL.
G. Barclay and Co., Representatives.

MR. J. W. HALL,
THE HIPPODROME,
LIVERPOOL.

"Skylark," by E. W. Rogers.
"Three make jolly fine company," by Chas. Collins.
"That's what the organ played."
MR. ARTHUR LENNARD,
GAIETY
PALACE,
BIRMINGHAM.
"The Chirp of the London Sparrow," E. W. Rogers.
"The Chirp of the London Sparrow," E. W. Rogers.
Agents, Messrs Tom Shaw and Co.

"And his day's work was done," T. W. Connor.
Pantomime settled, London, 1904-5.
MR. GEORGE BROOKS,
Miss LIZZIE DANIELS,
EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY.
Letters, care of Fred Higham, 9, York-road, London, S.E.

MR. JAMES BRADY,
the vocal joker, received a most flattering reception, contributing six good songs in fine style.—Shields News, Sept. 27. Big Hit, Borough Theatre, North Shields.
Monday, TIVOLI MUSIC HALL, SOUTH SHIELDS.

MR. ALF GIBSON,
CITY, LEEDS.
Returns to the Oxford and principal London Halls, Nov. 28, for Three Months.
Sole Business Managers, Messrs G. and F. Peel.

That prince among Irish comedians.—The Era.
MR. MICHAEL NOLAN,
who is an Irish comedian if ever there were one.—Morning Leader. Publishers, Francis, Day, and Hunter. This week, Grand, Clapham, 7·0 and 9·15; this week, Middlesex, 10·30. Monday next, METROPOLITAN and GATTI'S (ROAD). Only Agents, Geo. Barclay and Co.

"Why should I?" W. Hargreaves.
MR. GEORGE GILBEY,
ARGYLE,
BIRKENHEAD.
"Little Arthur." "Little Arthur." "Little Arthur."

"Girls wouldn't be wanted at all."
The Rage of the Town.
MR. W. J. CHURCHILL,
the Great Patter Comedian.
Oct. 3, TIVOLI, LEEDS. I have been here before.
Latest Success, "Up in Scotland," Secured by Howard and Wyndham for Newcastle, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. Pantomime Rights, £2 2s. F., D., and H.; or,
MR. WHIT CUNLIFFE,
Hippodrome, Brighton.

MR. WALTER CURTIS,
the Humorous Entertainer,
TIVOLI, BARROW.

The only Act of its kind in the World.
MENDEL,
the Marvellous Blind Pianist.
EMPIRE, BATTERSEA.
Permanent, 63, Ravensdale-road, Balham, S.W.

MR. FRANK CASS,
Vocal Comedian.
This, Palace, Plymouth; Monday, PALACE, BRISTOL. Successful in every Town.
Open London for Six Weeks, Oct. 10.

"He of the laughs."
DAN THOMAS,
Oct. 3, CITY VARIETIES, LEEDS.
Sole Agent, Harry Day, Esq.
Pantomime Settled, Dame, John Tiller, Esq.

"The Pretty Lady," by Albert Hall. A Stormer.
"Poor Mother Eve," Albert Hall. A Winner.
MR. FRANK COYLE,
the Continuous Comedian,
concludes Palace, Dundee. A Gigantic Success.
Monday next, TIVOLI PALACE, GLASGOW.

"Little Jap Horner." "Little Jap Horner."
Usual Terrific Hit, Hippodrome, Norwich.
MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR,
in Great Chorus and other Songs
MACNAGHTEN'S PALACE THEATRE, LINCOLN.

MR. ARTHUR SLATER,
Sifflleur and Mimic,
Hippodrome, Wigan
Monday, HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Business Manager, Mr Harry Day.

Our Pat.
MR. PAT CAREY
Concludes, Empire, Portsmouth,
singing Five Songs Nightly.
Vacant Monday next. Wire as above; or,
Oliver and Holmes.

Comedian and Patterer.
MR. JOHN E. COYLE,
Bottom of Bill, Stoll's Empire, Hackney.
Pantomime, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow. Fourth Year.
Oct. 3, EMPIRE, HACKNEY. A hit everywhere.

"Hooch aye! diffuses an "aroma" of fun.
Frame by night outshines the moonlight.
MR. W. F. FRAME
Crowded the Great St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, To-night, in the Capital of Bonnie Scotland.

MR. ARTHUR BOYNE,
Barrasford Tour,
Oct. 3, REGENT, SALFORD, Oct. 3
Pantomime, King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
All communications, Messrs Macdermott's Agency.

Latest Songs, "Bed," by Murphy and Lipton;
"Lost in London," Hargreaves and Castling.
MR. MORNY CASH,
Monday, PALACE, LINCOLN.
Liberty for Pantomime.

"The Up-to-Date Doomsday Book,"
by Mack and Parry.
MR. HAL FORDE.
WINTER GARDENS, SOUTHPORT.

RUSSELL WALLETT
Tremendous hit at BRIGHTON.
A Truly Marvellous Make-Up.
Refined, Clever, Funny.
Present Tour Booked by G. and F. Peel.

MR. SYD MAY,
EMPIRE, LEICESTER-SQUARE (Eighth Week),
9·30.
Agent for Empire, F. P. Hyatt.

"Have you seen my girl?" Mills and Scott.
MR. WALTER MUNROE,
HIPPODROME, WIGAN.
Willing to buy Really Good Funny Songs.
"What you love about an Irishman." Barnes.

MR. H. O. WILLS,
the Man with a Curious Voice
Haymarket, Liverpool.
Monday, HIPPODROME, ST. HELENS.
Sole Agent, Verno.

The Man who Created the Cake-walk.
THE Great ONE BILLY FARRELL.
The Great ONE BILLY FARRELL.
The Great ONE BILLY FARRELL.
The Great ONE BILLY FARRELL.
New Songs:—
"Lucky Fellow" and "Not my Meaning."
"Lucky Fellow" and "Not my Meaning."
"Lucky Fellow" and "Not my Meaning."
"Lucky Fellow" and "Not my Meaning."
On Tour.
On Tour.
On Tour.
On Tour.
Agents,
Didcott and Claxton.

MR. DAN LENO,
LONDON PAVILION.
Address, Springfield, Clapham-park, S.W.
"Over the Sticks."
"I'm obliging my brother."
"Over the Sticks."
"I'm obliging my brother."
Written by Wal Pink. Music by Geo. Le Brun.
JOE ELVIN,
Enormous Hit, Huge Success,
PALACE, MANCHESTER.
"Over the Sticks."
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LONDON: Printed and Published at "The Era" Offices, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, in the City of Westminster, by F. H. Pedgift. Saturday, October 1, 1904. Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.
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Disengaged.
Carysfort, Beaumont-road, West Kensington.

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Adelphi Theatre.

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Oct. 17, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

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Oct. 10, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR KNIGHT
(Miss Edith Knight).
King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

MR. PHILIP F. KNOX
Disengaged, London only.
19, Southfield-gardens, Strawberry-hill, S.W.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE.
Offers invited, Heavy or Character. 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard; 10, King-street, London, W.C.

MR ARTHUR LAW-RAYNOR,
General Manager for Mr Bert Coote, "The Fatal Wedding" South Company, Borough Theatre, Stratford.

MR. EDMUND LEA
as Varensky, in "Vilma."
Queen's, Manchester.

MR. FRED LEIGHTON,
Advance, at Liberty.
Care of "The Era" Offices.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD LEROY,
Business-Management and Heavy Lead. Mrs E. L. (Miss Edith Mumford) Juvenile Lead, "Klondyke Nugget."

MR. ALFRED LESTER.
Sam Hallett, Hardie and Von Leer's "A Path of Thorns" Co. Panto. settled. Next, P. O. W., Grimsby.

MR. LEONARD LESLIE,
Musical Director, "My Lady Molly" Co. (South).
Next, Coronet, Notting-hill.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING, Baron
Bonelli and Stage-Manager, in "The Eternal City" on Tour. Next week, Maesteg and Treherbert.

MR. BERNARD LIMPUS,
Juvenile Lead, Mr F. R. Benson's North Company,
Oct. 10, Opera House, Dudley.

MR. ARDENE LINDEN,
Chamboran, in "Proof."
Oct. 10, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe, Six Nights.

MR. GEORGE W. LINDSAY,
Manager, "My Lady Molly" Company,
Grand Theatre, Hull.

MR. EDWIN LING and Miss NELLIE
LING Dis. Christmas, Char., &c. F. L., Rev. Toop, "Saturday to Monday," S. Co. Fairholme, Esher.

MR. GEORGE H. LIOT.
Address,
8, Cornwall-street, St. George's-square, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON,
Mad Parson and Acting-Manager,
"Man to Man." 10, Prince of Wales's, Southampton.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
New Theatre, W.C.
28, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. STUART LOMATH
Lead, "The Fatal Wedding" (North Company).
Oct. 10, Theatre Royal, Hull.

MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY,
as Lord Cheyne, "Three Little Maids,"
Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE,
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Company.
Address, en route; or, 41A, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. FREDERICK LOVD
(Miss Florence Creagh), Heavy Lead and Lead, "Her One Great Sin" Co., Assembly Rooms, Pontefract.

MR. HENRY LUDLOW,
Touring "The London Fireman."
Address, Opera House, Coventry.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG.
Address,
Comedy Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY,
on Tour with own Co., "Wearin' o' the Green."
En route: or, Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR and MRS. WILLIAM MACLAREN
(Miss Lily C. Bandmann), Touring own Company.
Oct. 10, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

MR. H. F. MALTBY,
Lieut.-General Coventry, in "One of the Best."
Oct. 10, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER.
Address,
Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

MR. PERCY MARMONT.
Address,
4, Esmond-road, Bedford-park, W. A.A.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Carbury, "Lady of Ostend," &c.
Oct. 10, Opera House, Kidderminster.

MR. HERBERT MAULE,
on Tour with Mr Leonard Rayne's Company.
Address, Opera House, Cape Town, South Africa.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
Oct. 10,
County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.

MR. C. J. M'CARTHY.
Offers invited for Touring or Resident Management.
Address, pro tem., Metropole, Birkenhead.

MR. LONNEN MEADOWS and MISS
ADA TILLEY, "Alone in London" Company.
Theatre Royal, Colchester.

MR. GEORGE MILLER.
Address,
10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. and MRS. J. MILNE-TAYLOR,
"The Golden Ladder" Company.
Royalty Theatre, Barrow.

MR. ROBERT MINSTER,
Address,
care of Charles Frohman, Daly's Theatre, New York.

MR. ANDREW MONEY, Resigning
Heavy Lead in "Rich and Poor of London." At Lib. Oct. 17, Lead, Heavies, or Character. Star T., Liverpool.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY,
MARIE HAROOURT. Napoleon and Marcel, in "Napoleon the Great" Co. Queen's Theatre, Longton.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
Heavy Lead, "The Convict's Daughter" Co.
Disengaged December. Oct. 10, T. R., Attercliffe.

MR. F. MORLAND
Address,
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Major Strangeways, "Between Two Women" Co.
Engaged for Pantomime. Care of Post-office, St. Albans.

MR TOM MOWBRAY,
Messrs Edwardes and Frohman's "Are You a Mason?" Company. Oct. 10, Metropole T., Birkenhead.

MR. QUINTON M'PHERSON,
Re-engaged by Mr Charles Frohman for Mr William Gillette's Season. Empire Theatre, New York.

MR. FRED MULVEY,
"Gay Parisienne," Co. Pantomime, J. F. Elliston's "Dick Whittington." Barrasford Tour to follow.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST MUNRO
(Miss Marie Jones) Disengaged Dec. 10.
Address, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

MR. GEORGE CECIL MURRAY,
Character, Comedy, and Aristocratic Old Men.
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MR. and MRS. J. MYRON-HOWARD
(Dorothy Wallace) Monday, Seventy-fifth Performance, Dick Redcliffe and Nan, "Alone in London."

MR. HENRY NELSON Disengaged
for Autumn and Pantomime. Stage-Manager, Character, or Old Men. 79, Walcot-square, London, S.E.

MR. JOHN NESBITT
Disengaged.
62, Delancey-street, Gloucester-gate, N.W.

MR. GEORGE NORMAN-BURT,
"Under Two Flags,"
Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
"Silver King" Company.
Olympia Theatre, Newcastle.

MR and MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
(Dorothy Carington) Disengaged for Christmas.
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Special Weeks, "Our Boys" or "Caste." Disengaged. 13, Champion-grove, Denmark-hill, S.E.

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Cupid, "Three Little Maids" Company.
Prince's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. ROBSON PAIGE
(Mabel Syringa), Character and Ingénue, Disengaged. Joint or Single. Address, 10, Ospringe-rd., N.W.

MR. and MRS. E. H. PATERSON
(Miss Adelaide Grace) Disengaged. Address, Hillcrest, Southdean-gardens, Wimbledon-park, S.W.

MR. DOUGLAS PAYNE,
Playing Inu, Mr Tree's N. Co., "The Darling of the Gods." Oct. 10, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE,
Adelphi Theatre.
Permanent address, 65, Redcliffe-road, South Kensington.

MR. F. PENNINGTON-GUSH
Disengaged.
21, West-hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

MR and MRS FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq), Address A. A.;
or, Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, Australia.

MR. EDWARD S. PETLEY Disengaged.
Juv. or Heavies. Concluded Tour Lead F. Sinclair's "False Lights." 119 King Edward's-road, Birmingham.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY
(Miss Gertrude Price), Lead, "As Midnight Chimes" Company. This, King's, Cardiff; next, Grand, Boscombe.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP,
representing Miss Ada Reeve
Permanent Address, 37, Grosvenor-park, S.E.

MR. DONALD PRICE-EVANS Resigning
Spalding owing to Vacations in Tour. Thanks Eugene Stafford for Engagement. 10th, Richmond.

MR. STANLEY PRINGLE.
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Communications, 32, Kelvedon-road, Fulham, S.W.

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At Liberty.
Address, 10, Lawrence-road, Southsea.

MR. and MRS. SIDNEY RENNEF
(Miss Lillian Warren), General Manager and Nell Stubbs, "A Sister's Sin," Star, Swansea.

MR. PERCY RHODES,
on Tour with "A Modern Judas." Disengaged at Christmas. Letters, 10, Elmstone-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR RICH
has not Left the Stage. Disengaged 17th and Christmas. P. O. W., Southampton, next week.

MR. and MRS. GWYN RICHARDSON
(Grace Harlington) at Liberty. Light Comedy, Character, Soubrettes, Boys. Mordington, Richmond, S.W.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON
Disengaged.
Address, 129, Lavender-sweep, Lavender-hill, S.W.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD,
Oct. 10,
Theatre Royal, Leeds.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD,
Ratty and Stage-Management, "A Path of Thorns."
P. O. W., Grimsby.

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Starring Engagement, Stephen Merrick, "The Lightning's Flash." Grand, Nelson.

MR DAN F. ROE,
Bellicose Betterton, "Nell Gwynne," &c.
Theatre Royal, Leamington.

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Emotional or Strong Character Part, Disengaged.
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MR and MRS. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
(Miss Alice Arden).
Oct. 10, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

MR. FRANK SHERLOCK,
Roberts, "The Lady Slavey."
Theatre Royal, Bilston. Disengaged Christmas.

MR. GEORGE SHIRLEY
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General Manager for "San Toy."
Oct. 10, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

MR. HARRY STARR,
Carl, Otto, Schwenk.
Oct. 10, Court Theatre, Wigan.

MR. ERNEST STERN,
Oct. 17, Pavilion Theatre.
Address, A.A.

MR. SYDNEY STIRLING,
"A Country Mouse."
Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN,
appearing with Mr Walter Groves,
Empire Theatre, Stratford, E.

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (Tenth Year),
Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
General Manager, "The Fatal Wedding" (North) Company. Oct. 10, Theatre Royal, Hull.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS
(and Miss KATE PARRY), Business-Manager, Milton Bode's "Tommy Atkins" Co. Shakespeare T., Clapham.

MR. TAPPING,
Brighton Season, Répertoire.
Letters 28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR,
Flamant and Stage-Management, Miss Olga Nethersole's "Sapho" Company. Address, Actors' Association.

MR. L. FRED TENAUR,
Moses Mendoza, "A London Actress" Co.
Oct. 10, Grand, Rawtenstall.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD THANE
(Louise Hampton) Mr T. Disengaged. Drama with Printing to Let. 9, Muston-road, Clapton, N.E.

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or, A.A.

MR. CHARLES THORBURN,
General Manager, George Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Alphonse, "Woman and Wine." Disengaged Christmas. Oct. 10, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. ALFRED C. TOONE,
Musical Director, Royal Victoria Pav., Ramsgate. Permanent address. 21, St. Dunstan's-rd., W. Kensington.

MR. TRUEMAN TOWERS, General
Manager, Mr John Denton's "Modern Judas" Company. Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Duke of St. Kitts, "A Country Mouse."
Disengaged Oct. 24. Broadway Theatre, New-cross, S.E.

MR. CLAUDE TREVELYAN, Stage and
Gen. Bus.-Manager. Returned Foreign Tour. At Liberty Oct. 24. Care of "The Era;" or, A.A.

MR. GEORGE F. TULLY,
Karl Heinrich, in "Old Heidelberg."
Disengaged November. Opera House, Cork.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE
(Miss Kate Hallam). E. V. B., Bus.-Man., "Broken Melody" Co. K. H. Die., Lead. O. H., Coventry.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES B. VAUGHAN.
Mrs Vaughan, Miss Fortescue's Co. Mr Vaughan, "Sunday" (North) Company. O. H., Northampton.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Miss Lucy Beaumont).
Next, Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

MR. ALBERT WARD,
Starring Lead with Frederick Melville, Esq.
Oct. 10, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE
Disengaged.
47, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY,
Manager John F. Sheridan's South African Tour. Care of S. and F. Wheeler. Good Hope T., Cape Town.

MR. ALBERT VERNON,
Musical Director, 'Kitty Grey."
Oct. 10, Blackburn.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
Napoleon, "A Royal Divorce."
Victoria Theatre, Burnley.

MR. ARTHUR WALCOTT
Disengaged.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, W.C.

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"Sunday" (South) Company, en route;
or, Zephyr Cottage, New Barnet.

MR. CHARLES WEIR
Disengaged for Christmas.
15, Digby-mansions, Hammersmith, W.

MR. EDWIN WALTON,
Sir Sidney Barraclough, "The Bank of England."
Oct. 10, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

MR PERCY CARNE WARAM,
Playing the Biggest Scamp on Earth, Miss Delaval's Company. Theatre Royal, Dumfries.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
The Professor, "A Hot Night." Dis. for Panto. Dame preferred. Worcester House, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. C. A. WHITE
Disengaged. Comedy, Character, Stage-Management. Address, Park House, Harewood-rd., Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S.,
General Manager
(Fifth Year) for Messrs Little and Darcy, en route.

MR. and MRS TOWNSEND WHITING
(Miss Violet Ley), Stage-Manager and Baby Berkley, "The Money-Makers." Gaiety Theatre, Hastings

MR. ALLAN WILKIE,
Mr Tree's Répertoire Company. At Liberty Dec. 10.
Permanent address. 28 Oxford-gardens, W.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS,
Bob Tanner, "The Temptress."
Oct. 10, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS,
Juvenile Lead, "That Woman from France."
Permanent address, The Blorenge, Taunton.

MR. GEORGE WILLOUGHBY.
Address,
care of Messrs Harvey and Harvey, Solicitors, Southsea.

MR. FRANK WILSON,
200th Performance, Sir Reginald Belsize, "The Marriage of Kitty." Oct. 13, L. T., Scarborough.

MR. A. WOOD.
Address,
59, St. Mary's-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. GRAHAM WOODS,
"Between Two Women" Company.
Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

MR. F. B. WOULFE,
as Marcus Superbus.
Paisley Theatre, Paisley.

MR. STEWART D WRIGHT, A.A.,
Disengaged now, on. Excellent refs. Letters to care of F. Welch, Esq. Morning Star Hotel Liverpool

MR. LIONEL YEOMAN,
Count Ratzi, Ben Greet's "Belle of New York" Co. Oct. 11, King's Lynn; Oct. 13, New T., Cambridge.

MR. H. A. YOUNG,
Beau Nash, in "Monsieur Beaucaire."
Oct. 10, Opera House, Crouch-end, N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MASTER WALTER CROSS,
from Haymarket Theatre, London, S.W., Boy Actor. Disengaged for Christmas. 6, Harrington-street, N.W.

MASTER CYRIL SMITH,
as Geoffrey, in "Becket," with Sir Henry Irving, on Tour. Address, 75, Strand, W.C.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF

ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Name.	Date.
Adams, the Late Mr Bert ..	April 23, 1904.
Adams, Miss Nina Blake	September 17, 1904.
Aldred, Mr Charles	May 7, 1904.
Alexander, Mr George	March 12, 1904.
Alleyne, Miss Frances	May 14, 1904.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs	May 7, 1904.
Bard, Mr Wilkie.....	September 10, 1904.
Barrett, Mr Oscar	March 26, 1904.
Barrett, the Late Mr Wilson.	July 23, 1904.
Barrow, Mr Tracy.....	February 20, 1904.
Barth, Mr Cecil	June 11, 1904.
Bartlett, Mr J. J.	July 2, 1904.
Barton, Miss Adah.....	April 16, 1904.
Beaufort, Mr Lealie	March 12, 1904.
Bertram, Miss Celestine	July 2, 1904.
Billington, the Late Mr John	September 10, 1904.
Bint Mr Billie	September 3, 1904.
Blake, Mr Harry	February 6, 1904.
Bland, Mr R. Henderson....	March 12, 1904.
Blande, Miss Edith	June 25, 1904.
Bodie, Dr. Walford, M.D. ..	April 9, 1904.
Booth, Mr J. H.	August 6, 1904.
Bourchier, Mr Arthur	February 20, 1904.
Boyne, Miss Adie	February 13, 1904.
Bracewell, Mr Joe.....	May 14, 1904.
Brayne, Mr Harry	July 16, 1904.
Browning, Mr Charles	May 21, 1904.
Burdett, Mr Frank E.	March 19, 1904.
Butt, Mr Alfred	July 30, 1904.
Cabourn, Mr John.....	August 13, 1904.
Campbell, the Late Mr Herbt.	July 23, 1904.
Carne, Mr Joseph	May 7, 1904.
Cathie, Mr Leslie Roy	May 21, 1904.
Charles, the Late Mr Fred ..	August 6, 1904.
Cheevers, Mr J. E.	October 1, 1904.
Chippendale, Mr James	September 17, 1904.
Claremont, the Late Miss L.	February 6, 1904.
Clyde, Miss Hilda	May 21, 1904.
Coleman, the Late Mr John..	April 23, 1904.
Colona, the Late Don Edgardo	August 20, 1904.
Cox, the Late Mr Douglas ..	February 6, 1904.
Dale, Mr Arthur.....	February 27, 1904.
Danbury, Miss Ethel.....	September 17, 1904.
Dance, Mr Reginald	February 13, 1904.
Dansey, Mr Herbert.....	March 5, 1904.
Davis, Miss Flora	September 10, 1904.
Dent, Mr Bert.....	April 16, 1904.
Deverell, Mr John W.	May 21, 1904.
Dobler, the Late Herr	March 26, 1904.
Doherty, Mr Pat	April 9, 1904.
Dowsett, the Late Mr Vernon	April 9, 1904.
Draco, Mr Kay	June 4, 1904.
Dryden, Mr Leo	July 16, 1904.
Du Gue, Mr Cecil	February 13, 1904.
Dunbar, Mr John	February 27, 1904.
Dunrobin, Mr L. Race	July 9, 1904.
East, Mr John M.	February 6, 1904.
Edmunds, Mr Edmund	September 3, 1904.
Edwin, Mr Walter.....	March 26, 1904.
Elgin, Miss Constance	February 27, 1904.
Ellis, Miss Carrie	February 13, 1904.
Entwistle, Mr Harold	May 14, 1904.
Farrell, Miss Cissy	July 2, 1904.
Farren, the Late Miss Nellie.	April 30, 1904.
Farrington, Miss Helen	April 9, 1904.
Felber, Mr H. H.	August 13, 1904.
Franks, Mr Wilfred	May 7, 1904.
Freebar, Mr Sydney	July 30, 1904.
Fulton, Miss Violet	February 6, 1904.
Fysher, Mr Edwin F.	September 3, 1904.
Gallimore, Miss Florrie	February 13, 1904.
Gascoigne, Mrs Henry	May 21, 1904.
Gelderd, Mr James	July 2, 1904.
Garrod, Mr W. V.	July 16, 1904.

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CONFIRMATION.

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STAGE THREE.

INSPIRATION.

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Motor to catch 10·35 a.m. to South Shields.

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CONSIDERATION.

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STAGE FIVE.

REALIZATION.

'PHONE FROM HALIFAX. 6·0 p.m., MONDAY (Lena Riley speaking).

"Is that you, Mr Harris?"—"It is."

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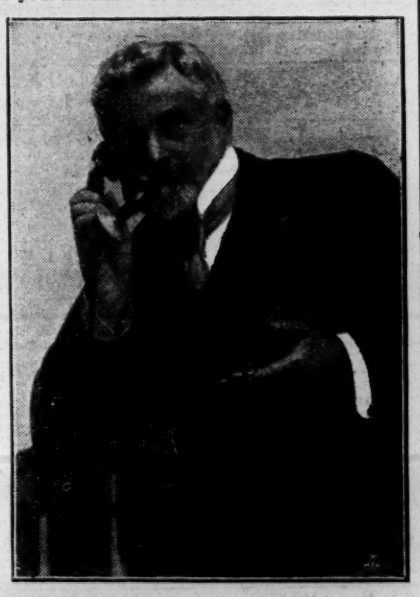

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

On Tuesday the London County Council resumed its sittings after the annual recess at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

CARLTON THEATRE.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that at a recent inspection of the Carlton Theatre, Greenwich, it was found that one of the outer exit doors at the back of the pit was fastened by a wedge during the presence of the public. The committee were of opinion that, in order to enable the Council to take proceedings should there be any repetition of this dangerous practice, a notice under the forty-fifth section of the Metropolitan Board of Works (various Powers) Act, 1882, should be served on the person keeping open the theatre. They recommended accordingly. Agreed to.

LONDON COLISEUM.

The committee reported that they had considered plans, submitted by Messrs F. Matcham and Co., showing a slight extension of the London Coliseum. They recommended "That Messrs F. Matcham and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection, so far as its regulations under section 12 of 41 and 42 Vict., Cap. 32, are concerned, to the arrangements shown on the two plans, dated Sept. 10, 1904, submitted by them with regard to the proposed extension of the London Coliseum." Adopted.

LONDON EXHIBITIONS.

The committte had considered a plan submitted by Mr A. O. Collard, showing the proposed arrangements in connection with the Gas and Furniture Exhibitions to be held at the London Exhibitions, Earl's-court, from Nov. 19 to Dec. 17, 1904, and from Feb. 28 to March 9, 1905, respectively. The committee recommended "That Mr A. O. Collard be informed that the Council has no objection, so far as its regulations under section 12 of 41 and 42 Vict., cap. 32, are concerned, to the arrangements shown on the plan, dated Sept. 10, 1904, submitted by him with regard to the proposed arrangements in connection with the Gas and Furniture Exhibitions to be held at the London Exhibitions, Earl's-court, from Nov. 19 to Dec. 17, 1904, and from Feb. 28 to March 9, 1905, respectively, provided the following conditions be complied with:—(1) That all gas pipes used in connection with the special arrangements for the Gas Exhibition be of iron or brass. (2) That the enclosures of the covered way be rendered fire-resisting, and that the flights of steps at each end be constructed to the satisfaction of the Council. (3) That all awnings, &c., be rendered fire-resisting." Approved.

PROPOSED THEATRE, LEWISHAM.

The Council on July 14, 1903, approved plans, submitted by Messrs Briggs and Jeyes, of a theatre to be erected at the corner of High-street, Lewisham, and Hither-green-lane, such approval being subject to a condition, *inter alia*, that the erection of the premises should be commenced within six months. An application having been made for an extension of the time for a further six months, the Council gave its consent thereto on Feb. 2, 1904. When the site was recently inspected, however, it was found that the work had not been commenced, and the Council's approval has therefore lapsed. They recommended "That Messrs Briggs and Jeyes be informed that the approval by the Council of the plans submitted by them with regard to a proposed theatre at Lewisham has lapsed." Agreed to.

SPORTSBANK HALL, CATFORD.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Mr H. Lewis-Upham, on behalf of Messrs H. and G. Taylor, of the Sportsbank Hall, Catford, in respect of which premises it is desired to obtain a licence for music and dancing at the forthcoming licensing sessions. The hall on the ground floor will accommodate 900 persons, and that on the first floor 284 The committee recommended—That Mr H. Lewis-Upham be informed that the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate under section 12 of 41 and 42 Vict., cap. 32, with regard to the Sportsbank Hall, Catford, on being satisfied that the work shown on the three plans, dated Sept. 14, 1904, submitted by him has been completed and that certain specified conditions have been complied with." Approved.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, LANGHAM-PLACE.

The Council on June 21, 1904, approved plans submitted by Messrs Vaughan, Brown, and Co., of the fire resisting-screen proposed to be fitted to the proscenium opening at St. George's Hall, Langham-place. The space between the two faces of the curtain was shown on the plans referred to as to be filled with silicate cotton with wirework on each side. Plans showing very extensive alterations to this hall (including the provision of a fire-resisting curtain) were submitted by Mr J. G. Buckle and approved by the Council in May, 1903, and the Council did not then require the curtain to be packed with silicate cotton. Mr Buckle had written asking that, in the circumstances, the Council will not insist on the silicate packing to the curtain. The committee recommended "That Mr Buckle be informed that, in view of the special circumstances of the case, the Council will not insist on the fire-curtain at St. George's Hall being packed with silicate cotton." Adopted.

INSPECTION OF THEATRES, &c.

Mr DOLMAN moved "That it be an instruction to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee to present a half-yearly return as to the inspection of places of entertainment by the Council's officers, showing the number and nature of the offences reported." There was no opposition to the proposal, and it was seconded and carried without comment.

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES TEAM v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Clifton Downs on Saturday, Oct 1. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss E. Francis and Miss I. Bowman, backs; Miss L. Belding, Miss C. Fowler (captain), and Miss M. Leonard, half-backs; Miss G. Leonard, Miss A. Bernard, Miss N. Bailey, Miss T. Maynard, and Miss B. Godfrey (forwards).

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss A. Gibbs and Miss M. Hamilton, backs; Miss L. Norris, Miss G. Thomas, and Miss L. Coles, half-backs; Miss F. Hooper, Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss R. Davis, Miss M. Burgess, and Miss K. Montgomery, forwards.

Referee, Miss L. Carter (of Miss Cecilia Fowler's Team). Result:—Miss Cecilia Fowler's XI., nil; Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club, two goals. Misses G. Thomas and L. Norris scored for Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club, M. Fisher playing a splendid game in goal.

AT the Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, the attraction this week is *Sapho*, the play being presented by the New Sapho Syndicate (Limited). Miss Annie Bell appears in the title-rôle, and her performance is in every way a most creditable one. The character of Jean Gaussin has a capable exponent in Mr Horatio Sinclair; and Mr A. Helsby gives valuable support as Dechelette. Mr G. Antley is amusing as the fussy uncle Cesaire; and Mr P. Roberts is good as Flamant. Mr H. Langford as Caoudal and Mr J. A. Storey as Legrand are both convincing in their respective parts; and a clever child study is given by Miss Lottie Ray as Joseph.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "Larola" preserves the Skin and Complexion from the effects of the sun, wind, and hard water. Removes and prevents all roughness, redness, chaps, irritation, tan, &c., and Keeps the Skin Soft, Smooth, and White at all Seasons. Delightfully Soothing and Refreshing after dancing, cycling, tennis, motoring, &c. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores, or Post-free from the Makers, M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[Advt.]

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS)

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—Messrs Preston and Doherty's company, in *The Rich and Poor of London*, is a great attraction here. Miss Dora Dench is extremely good as May Braithwaite; Miss Belle Tilbury scores a success as Ruby Redgrave; Miss Marie Ramez is very good as Auntie Scrimp; Miss Sybil Viney does well as Polly Philpot; Little Arline T. George gives a capital rendering of Seadrift; and Dixie is also well placed in the hands of Master B. Dench. Mr S. Cranston gives a capital impersonation of Gussie Lamb; Mr Sydney Dench makes a capital Daniel Drake; and Spider Jack was well represented by Mr J. Laurier.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—Mr Walter Melville's company opened here on Monday with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Mr Wingold Lawrence must be complimented on his masterly performance of Jack Livingstone. Mr Edwin J. Wild as John Meadows was a performance of the highest order. The comedy was in the safe hands of Mr Jack Hitchins as Toby Turvey. Mr Wilton Reed gave an excellent embodiment of Cuthbert Lumley. Mr John Brooks was good as Luke Ramsden. Miss Beatrice Homer as Barbara Wade proved herself an admirable actress. Nelly Meadows was a part played to the life by Miss Octavia Noel. Miss Violet Barton Aston was good as Constance Cornell. Miss Emily Custance was particularly clever as Tilly Vane.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr Paul Vandy.—This house opened on Monday with an excellent company, including Will Aubrey, comedian and patterer. The Abadaroffs, the prehistoric mountebanks; Molly Doon, dainty comedienne and dancer; Carlo and Male, comedy acrobatic and wire act; Balmon, trick cyclist; George Schickley's bears and the New Bioscope are also in the bill.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—*The Silver King*, a drama that is always heartily welcomed in Aldershot, is on a return visit, an excellent interpretation being given by Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company. Mr Austin Melford gives a capital portrayal of Wilfred Denver, his clever acting causing the rôle to stand out with prominence. Miss Emelie Polini's is a fine enactment of Nellie Denver. As the faithful old servant Jaikes Mr C. C. Gratton is good, and cleverly portrayed rôles are Messrs Charles Levey's Spider, Jas. Power's Corkett, Arthur Rooke's Combe, and C. Amalia's Cripps. A capable young actress is Miss Amy Manfree as Cissy. Miss Phyllis Dailly as Olive is acceptable, and others who do well are Misses Dolly Norton, Margaret Rooke, and Messrs Arnold Palmer, Warriss Lindon, Phil Redmayne, and Eric Store.

ARBROATH.

NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Mr J. Bannister Howard presented here on Saturday and Monday evenings Mr Ben Greet's company in *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr G. E. Clive gave a fine portrayal of the manly character of Howard Wilson. Mr Cecil A. Collins as Robert Curtis was excellent as the villain. Mr W. Rushton Evan was amusing as Toto. Miss Eva Moss played with telling effect the injured wife, Mrs Howard Wilson. Miss Beatrice Whitney as the villain's accomplice helped greatly to sustain the interest of the play. Miss Maisie Richardson as Jessie, the little mother, was sympathetic, and was loudly applauded.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—*The Never-Never Land*, by the late Mr Wilson Barrett, is being presented here this week by a thoroughly competent company, under the direction of Messrs Hart and Armitage. Unquestionably the part of Jack Mowbray stands out prominently as outlined by Mr E. F. Kennedy, and important characters are enacted by Messrs G. M'Kenzie, A. Bolton, Edwd. Rochecle, H. Morgan, Cecil Elgar, S. Bancroft, Simon D. Ord, Geo. Joy, Jno. Hartt, and others. The ladies of the cast also merit commendation, particularly the Misses Caroline Barrett, Julie Kennard, Marion Fawcett, Blanchette Grand, and Margaret Parker.

ASHTON HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot.—Two performances are still maintained at this popular pleasure resort nightly. The talented Wayne and Larmer, singing, talking, and leg-mania artistes, head the bill, and meet with great favour. Daisy Almer is a sprightly serio and dancer; Harrigan and Holt are funny singing comedians; and Billy Farrell is an astonishing rag-time song and dance artist. The star turn is the Four M.P.'s, the military musical experts, who are nightly well received. Oma and Calderon are Continental funny acrobatic tumblers, while the Original Vivians do well in their musical travestie *Life's Reverie*. The Hippo. Bioscope continues to be an attractive item.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—*Quality-Street* is being played here by Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company. That talented little lady Miss Nellie Bowman as "Miss Phoebe of the ringlets" played with rare appreciation of the part. She had admirable support from Miss Maud Townsend, who seconded her efforts as Miss Susan Throssell. The parts of Mrs Willoughby, Miss Fanny Willoughby, Miss Henrietta Turnbill, and Miss Charlotte Parratt were admirably taken by Miss Millie Emden, Miss Rhoda Beresford, Miss Margaret Nybloe, and Miss Mabel Taylor respectively. The Patty of Miss Violet Vivian was simply delightful. Mr F. Vernon Travers was a manly Valentine Brown. Ensign Blades was made sufficiently ludicrous and funny by Mr Edward Jepheson, and Mr Charles Pullen made a very good recruiting sergeant.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—The successful musical play *A Chinese Honeymoon* is once again here, presented as before by Mr George Dance's excellent South company. Miss Gwennie Harcourt's performance of the waitress, Fi-Fi, still retains all its former quaintness and mirth-provoking qualities; Mr Helier Le Maistre continues to enact the Emperor in his usual amusing fashion; while Miss Nellie Wigley remains a fascinating Soo-Soo. Mr Rudolph Kloss as Chippie Chop and Mr Lennox Barry as Hi Lung both give sound renderings of their respective characters. The new faces are Mr Warren Foster, a capital Tom Hatherton; Mr Gus Wheatman, a truly humorous Mr Pineapple, who has a trim and smart associate in Miss Dot Stephens as Mrs Pineapple. Miss Elsie Carew could hardly be improved upon as the Official Mother-in-law, Mrs Brown. The chorus deserve their share of praise, as does the orchestra under the bâton of Mr C. Claus Bunz.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—Starring here is the well-known vocal character actor, Leo Dryden, who nightly scores a big success with his latest song-scena "An Actor and a Man." Quite in the front rank of ventriloquists is Horace White; Adelaide Yohe is a prepossessing ballad singer who meets with a cordial reception; the Brontes in their comedy duologue *Saucy Maud* create much laughter. Such old favourites as Howe and Ardle, in their gymnastic speciality *Up in a Balloon;* the Langdons, song illustrators; Little Dando, the dwarf comedian; and Harry Conlin, comedian and patterer, all return to gain fresh laurels and new admirers.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—Mr F. Brooke Warren's company is the attraction here this week in the sensational drama *Mysteries of the Thames*. Mr Roy Fortescue, who takes the part of Richard Brandon, secures the sympathy of the audience; as Captain James Denbigh Mr F. Brooke Warren frequently elicits hisses for his systematic harshness in that character; Little Miss Nellie Palmer plays the part of Little Doris most intelligently; Miss Flo Norman appears as Emma Seaton; and Miss Lallah Shelton acts with much feeling as Brandon's wife. Miss Clare O'Sullivan does well as Bertie Fitzgerald; the dual-rôle of Helen Price and Grace Rochdale is well rendered by Miss Gwynne Warren; Mr Elton Morgan is good in the grotesque low comedy of Bill Bosco; Mr Dan Hardie as Peter Waggles keeps the audience in good humour; and Mr Gilbert Hall as Jack Hammond appears to advantage.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—*The Fatal Wedding* is paying another visit here. Howard Wilson is played with tact and ability by Mr Ernest Owttrim; Mr Oliver Rogers is a capable Robert Curtis; Mr W. R. Chewd is decidedly good as Toto; Peter Schwartz is well impersonated by Mr John Wheatman; and O'Reilly is smartly acted by Mr Jack Waring. Miss Helen Russell is most effective as Mabel Wilson; Cora Williams is excellently portrayed by Miss Doris Gilham; Miss Maud Locker makes a fine character of Bridget; and the Little Mother, Jessie, is prettily enacted by Miss Maidee Andrews.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr Jasper Redfern.—This week's company includes Stanert and Yondi in a comedy musical act; Steve Cooke, comedian; Sisters Volbecque, duettists; Miss Helene Stewart, soprano vocalist; Charlton Howarth, vocalist; Tom Green, comedian; and *The Relief of Pekin* by local children under the arrangement of Mr J. Clarke.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr Fred. Karno's company, in *His Majesty's Guests*, is paying a return visit here. Mr Harry Roxbury now plays Sergeant Lightning, and is really very clever, his patter being good. Mr Frank Morton as Lord Easem makes a happy criminal, and sings well; and Mr Geo. Claremont plays Miffin with much go. Mr Gus Le Clerq plays spiritedly as Mr Minks, and Miss Julie Renals is a capital and accomplished Miss Manly. Miss Florence Burns as Lady Maud Easem is exceedingly bright and clever.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—A sensational sketch, *Conscience*, is admirably worked by Mr J. K. Reynolds as principal. Mr Walter Curtis gives a humorous entertainment; Gladys Mavius, the Canadian coon, has a good voice and dances well; and Barney Vose distinguishes himself ventriloquially. A good turn is that of the Two M'Kays, oil painters and comedy duettists. Leo Montague, comedian; Lily Foy, comedienne; and Bessie Lind, comedienne, are also good, and Vernon's Bioscope shows interesting pictures.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—The attraction here this week is the new Japanese play, *The Darling of the Gods*, presented by Mr Tree's company. One can speak in the highest terms of the acting of the company, and no one is entitled to more praise than the clever actress, Miss Frances Dillon, whose striking impersonation of the hapless Princess Yo-San was remarkably successful. As the crafty and unscrupulous Zakkuri Mr Robert Pateman's ripe experience enables him to present a remarkably vivid impersonation, his acting being most effective throughout. Mr Gerald Kay Souper was a picturesque and manly Kara, and the rôle of the dumb slave was admirably presented by Mr Douglas Payne. Mr Ivan F. Simpson filled the rôle of Saigon with much acceptance; and as the misused Rosie Sky Miss Eve Muriel acted with power and intensity. Mr Hubert Druce made the most of his opportunities as the faithful Kato. Excellent service was also furnished by Miss Dorothy Brunt as the singing girl, Nu; and Miss Rhoda Ray as the beautiful Ucisha quite looked the part. Miss Edith Deverell was bright and convincing as Setsu, and Miss Alice Gordon was amusing as Kaede, a teacher of manners. Other rôles were faithfully presented by Messrs Arthur Vezin, Alex. Haviland, Lambert Plummer, Percy Vere, &c.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—Mr Fred Karno's company heads the bill at this popular theatre, and appears with every element of success in the musical extravaganza entitled *The Dandy Thieves*, with Mr William Rokeby as Sergeant Lightning. Mr Frank Coyne, the well-known comique, is paying a return visit to Belfast, and his humorous songs have been received with much enthusiasm. The Picquays appear to advantage in their unique acrobatic display. Baker and Rose, clever speciality comedians, delight all with their original act entitled *The Waif's Ambition*. Miss Blanche Gerard's artistic vocalism gains her a flattering reception, and the Summersons (Will and Maggie), comedy duettists, make a big hit with their novel act. The programme is completed by the Palace pictures, which are most attractive.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—Miss Harriet Vernon, the popular comedienne, is starring here, and her reception nightly is enthusiastic. Mr Arthur Reece is a versatile comedian with good songs and a capital style, and Ganty is aptly described as "the little lump of fun." Mr Frank Hemming and Miss Marie Free are an entertaining duo, and praise is due to the three Sisters Chester for their vocalism and smart dancing. Messrs Woodhouse and Wells are funny comedians, and the bill is completed by Miss Amy Sullivan, comedienne; and Mr Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—Miss Lily Morris, a charming comedienne, is the star here. Weisker Brothers' Bioscope presents a set of new pictures with every element of success. The operatic vocalism of Belrose and De Velin is quite delightful, and Michel and Polo, described as Herculean acrobats, perform some difficult feats. Mr Charles Coverdale is a really funny comic, and the Le Barrs, comedy gymnasts, have been quite as successful as they could desire. Menva, the society magician, is a conjuror of much excellence, some of his feats being marvellous; and also appearing are Tell and Tell, comedy acrobats; Vasey and Ramsey, clever speciality artistes and expert dancers; and Mr Clive Watts, a good dancer.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Good.—Messrs F. A. Scudamore and Arthur Richmond's company has occupied the stage here with the sensational drama entitled *The Beautiful Avenger*. In the title-rôle Miss Nannie Meade wins favour, and the whole company gives satisfaction. Good staging and mounting add much to the success of the piece.

BRIGHOUSE.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. Morton Powell; Business-Manager, Mr M. Manley.—This week Mr Arnold Bell and company are in possession here. The production of *Ben-My-Chree* on Monday and Tuesday was attended with great success. Mr Bell is admirable as Dan Mylrea; and Mona is most feelingly interpreted by Miss Frances Campbell. The staging of the play is on a lavish scale.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—In *Bound to Win* Mr F. G. Kimberley capably impersonates Harry Lyndon. As Gladys Arme Miss Lottie Addison proves to be artistic, being well supported by Mr Adam Alexander (Squire Forbes), Mr Frank Strickland (Philip Avre), Mr James Hont (Ned Oakley), and Miss Nina Blake Adams (Marion Forbes), who each and all contribute to the success. In the lighter vein Mr Edgar Morgan (Horatio Buffett), Mr Horace Custin (Willie Wilkins), and Miss Edie Marklin (Winnie Oakley) provide acceptable diversion.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchinson's company, in *A Country Mouse*, is proving an undeniable attraction here. As Angela Miss Dido Drake is a pronounced success, playing the part with much acceptance. The Duke of St. Kitts is admirably assumed by Mr Arnold Lucy; the Hon. Archibald Vyse is capitally undertaken by Mr Sidney Sterling; and the eccentricities of Lord Robert Wykeham are well represented by Mr Wilton Lumley. Mr Charles Harley is well suited as John Bowlby, M.P.; and Miss Dorothy Drake as Lady Sylvia Bowlby and Miss Eve Erskine as Violet Aynsley are both unexceptionable. The piece is liberally produced. The comedietta *His Landlady* serves as a curtain raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr Henry Furnival's combination, in *The Harvest of Sin*, is appearing with considerable success. Mr Charles H. Lester appears to advantage in the dual rôle of Harold Mainwaring and Arnold Mainwaring; the rascalities of Paul De Brisionere are well depicted by Mr Edward Valentine; and Silas Logan is cleverly enacted by Mr J. Fulton Millar. Miss Louisa Peach is highly efficient as Louise, and a capital cast also includes Miss Pattie Hastings and Miss Kathleen Willoughby. The production is carefully produced.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Mr George Gilbey, the popular comedian, is renewing previous successes, as also is Miss Julie Mackay, a comedienne with a large following here. Miss May Henderson, the dusky queen, is again a huge success; the Selbini Troupe of cyclists present an excellent entertainment; and Mr and Mrs Nell Litchfield, in a well-sustained sketch, are well received. Miss Sadie Simpson, a charming serio; Miss Leola, juggler; the Kotos, living marionettes; and Coram, ventriloquist, strengthen the company. The New Macs, knockabouts, and the Dorrells, duettists and dancers, remain from last week.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—Sir Henry Irving continues his triumphal tour, and enthusiasm follows in his train. Birmingham, which remembers some of his earliest efforts, seemed most anxious to testify its admiration and respect for our actor-knight, and his reception on Monday, both from within the theatre and without, was a worthy tribute. Shylock was the rôle chosen, and his performance thereof was every whit as powerful and successful as ever. Considerable interest and importance was also attached to Miss Edith Wynne Matthison's appearance as Portia, and it proved that her conception completely realised the hopes of all friends present, local and otherwise. Miss Grace Hampton proved an engaging Nerissa, and Mrs Cecil Raleigh realised the character of Jessica, the Jew's daughter. Mr Gerald Lawrence as Bassanio, Mr James Hearn as Antonio, Mr H. B. Stanford as Gratiano, Mr Vincent Sternroyd as Lorenzo, and Mr Charles Dodsworth as Launcelot have also been found able and loyal supporters of their chief. Besides *The Merchant of Venice*, *Becket*, *The Bells*, *Waterloo*, and *The Lyons Mail* have figured in the répertoire. *Becket* on Tuesday wrought such scenes of enthusiasm that the actor, as on Monday, was compelled to concede a speech, and Miss Maud Fealy was a success on this, her first appearance here, as Rosamund; Miss Cecil Raleigh was again cast to advantage as Eleanor, and Mr Gerald Lawrence as the King was successful. It is gratifying to see, and it is an indisputable fact, that the visit has drawn the biggest business of the year. Mr Bram Stoker is with the company.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr V. Turner.—*The Breed of the Treshams* now occupies the Grand, to the delight of its patrons, who have beheld Mr Martin Harvey in his latest character with much pleasure. As "the Rat" Mr Harvey is cheered most enthusiastically, the vices and virtues of this comprehensive character being limned in a truly distinct and forcible manner. The rôle of Colonel Hungerford engages the well-known and proven abilities of Mr Charles Glenny, who right well discharges his task; and Cornet Tresham is well enacted by Mr Milton Rosmer. Miss Coleridge is charming and sweet as Margaret; Miss N. De Silva gives a clever impersonation of the devoted boy, Batty; and the rest of the cast is in capital accord.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*Why Men Love Women* has been accounted for by Messrs Paumier and Howard's company with every sign of satisfaction from Mr Collingwood's ever increasing clientele. Mr Alfred Paumier plays in a responsible part, that of the hero, with much tact and power. Mr S. Herbert Humber as Serge Staniloff successfully delineates all the necessary and froward traits of the character, and Miss Annie Saker is warmly eulogised for her sympathetic acting as Violet. Mr Harwood Roberts supplies genuine "comic relief" as Orlando Figgins; Matilda Figgins is represented with true humour by Miss Marie Glynne; and the Misses Ruth Zillwood and Violet Godfrey give able support.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*A Beautiful Fiend* continues to attract where and whensoever it appears. Especially so is this at the Metropole, where Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is now appearing. Miss Sidney Crowe as Wanda attains perfection, and though she does not gain the good graces of the audience she never fails to win their heartiest applause. Mr A. G Polson Turner as the Count gains inexpressible odium by the ability and force of his acting; Mr Montague Beaudyn as the hero, Ivan Paulovitch, inspires his auditors to great enthusiasm; and Miss Irene Munroe wins the affections of the house as Nadine Karateff. Mr Charles Kean is successful in the comic element as Crackles.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*One Woman's Wickedness* provides much that will interest, and the serious parts are well relieved by some capital comedy scenes. Mr Lawrence Brien is well approved as the hero, Philip Beaufort; Mr Hubert Humphreys depicts the rascality of Paul Rogue in a most complete manner; Miss Louie Davis is speedily singled out as the heroine, and, like several of the other principals, delivers herself of some clever speciality songs, &c.; much diversion is caused by Mr Howard Ward in the comic rôle of Limpy Larry; and Mr George Byrne as Fitznoodle is a worthy associate.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*Our Irish Visitors* opened here on Monday, when Mr Tom E. Murray and company received a most cordial welcome. Mr Murray's memorable success in a Royal pantomime has clung to him consistently and persistently, and his present efforts are calculated not only to preserve but also to enhance his reputation. Mr Murray as Col. M'Mahon is supported by Mr J. W. Braithwaite as Mr O'Brady, Mr Alfred W. Adams as Gilly Softsolder, Mr P. Piercy Watson as Jack Hyson, and Mr Edward Raymond as Tom O'Grady. The ladies include Miss Augusta Tullock as Mrs Softsolder, Miss Helena Coe as Miss M'Mahon, and the Imperial Troupe of lady dancers.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—Chung Ling Soo, the marvellous Chinese conjuror, remains another week and is delighting large audiences. Some exceedingly smart trick cycling is performed by Newhouse and Ward; Minnie Cunningham contributes songs in her happiest manner; Jerry Hart and Beatrice Leo receive loud applause for their quaint entertainment; the Petras are amusing jugglers; and Dan Crawley, Brett and Orford, comedians; Lieutenant Travis, in his transformations; and Daisy Dormer, comedienne, add to the mirth of the evening.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—The strong bill this week is headed by Arthur Lennard, who displays all his old attributes to popularity. The Five Delevines, in their musical scena *Flirtation*, are well received; a capital quick-change musician is found in Burnetti; Juma's Octoroons are highly entertaining; as also are the Sisters Lunelle and Georgie May, comediennes. Golden Michilini in an equilibrist display; Lizzie Fletcher, a clever comedienne; and Nat Travers and Katie Weston are very popular.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford.—The patrons of this popular house are being treated to scenes from Dickens's works by Mr and Mrs E. H. Lucas. Vansart displays strength; and Harry Edson, with his dog; Austin Rudd, the popular comedian; the Kimberley Boys, Wills and August, Marie Blyth, the Durvals, and Jules Keller complete the programme.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edward Foster.—Zeta Grey and company present a humorous burlesque of *The Lancashire Lass*, which is well received. The clever athletic display of the Brothers De Wynne is decidedly smart; Cora Caselli sings and dances well; as also does Mabel Vine. Other popular items are the Brothers Webb, musical comedians; Cline and Clarke, Burns and Evans, George Reeves, comedian; Billy Tucker, ball-puncher; and the Eight of Hearts Troupe of village maidens.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—Mr E. Lockwood's No. 1 company, in *La Poupée*, is paying a farewell visit here. Mr Arthur Reynolds causes great amusement in his capable representation of Hilarius. Mr T. A. Shale as Lancelot, Mr E. Skinner as Father Maxime, and Messrs Fred Walsh and Chas. M'Lagan are all very good in their respective parts. A pleasing representation of Alesia is given by Miss Midge Clarke. A well-balanced chorus adds to the effectiveness of a good all-round performance.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—The attraction here this week is *Mafeking*, which is produced under the direction of the well-known actor Mr Henry Bedford, supported by a powerful company. As the hero, Colonel Playden Howell, Mr Bedford gives a finished performance. The remainder of the parts are in capable hands.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray.—A powerful vaudeville company is here this week, amongst whom may be mentioned Mr Chas. T. Aldrich, the American entertainer; the Phydoras, Messrs Bates and Wood, Sanford and Lyons, Fyne and Hurley, Sisters Charaley, and the Clayton Twins.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Another of Mr Mouillot's companies is here this week with *The Geisha* and *The Greek Slave*. The principal parts are admirably rendered by Miss Aimée De Leska, O'Mimosa San and Mala; Miss Florrie Sanders, Molly Seymour and Iris; Mr Arthur Cartwright, Fairfax and Diomed; and Mr Edward Carlton, Wun-Hi and Heliodorus. The minor rôles are also in efficient hands, and there is a strong chorus under the able bâton of Mr Frank Barrett.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—*Gentleman Joe* pays still another visit here, conducted by Mr Milton Bode's company. The title-rôle is in Mr Kennedy Allen's hands, and a more capable exponent could not be desired. The songs and dances of Miss Hebe Bliss as Mrs Ralli Carr are well given, whilst Messrs G. Wylie, W. H. Moore, R. Vincent, and Misses Mabel Kerridge, Enid Russell, and Eida Burman also do well in their respective parts. The Edingale Trio introduce a special dance, which is well received.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.; Manager, Mr T. P. Duignan.—A. Bo-Kon, the great juggler, tops the bill here this week, and has met with a cordial reception. De Henau, the man who paints with his toes, wins loud applause for a very remarkable turn. Millie Harris, vocalist; Frank Dunlop, comedian; Rex Fox, wire artist; Eric Graham, comedian; Aladina, with her cockatoos; Ray Stella, comedienne; Barney Stuart, mimic; and Mephisto, contortionist, also appear.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—Another excellent programme is provided here this week, and the enterprise of the management is meeting with just reward. Vesta Victoria sings catchy songs, which compel encores nightly; W. L. Murray, the winner of the Sandow competition, is another very popular turn; and Percy Honri is welcomed here, as everywhere. Chanti, the marvellous electrical Protean artist; A. G. Spry, comedian; Ailsa Douglas, vocalist; E. J. Sheldon, comedian; Jubal and Joyce, patterers and dancers; Hayes Brothers, comedians; and Vernon's Imperial Bioscope also have a place in the bill.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—Mr Frank Bertram's company is here with the domestic drama, *The Convict's Daughter*. Mr Bertram plays very cleverly in the part of Michael Grahame (Weary Willy). Other characters are capably undertaken by Messrs J. K. Walton, T. W. Hurst, G. Moreton-Williams, Alfred Terriss, and Misses Maud Osmond, Julie Alexander, and Edith M. Savery.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—There is a very heavy programme here, headed by the Six Brothers Luck, who appear in *The Hermit's Den*, *The Demon of the Cellar*, and *The Hotel Grande*. Other clever turns are Charles Bignell, comedian; the Brothers O'Brien, triple bar experts; Gillin, entertainer and ventriloquist; Fred Horsfall, vocal and instrumental mimic; the Herald Comedy Four, in a comedy dancing speciality, *The Indians and the Sailor;* Mabel Thorne, soubrette; Mdlle. Pollo Jerome, gymnast on the trapeze; Hetty King, in a scena, "My English Sailor-man," and the Imperial Bioscope.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—Mr Ohmy opened for the season on the Wholesale Market-ground with a good circus company on Monday. The programme contained among others the names of Miss Lilly, equestrienne; Minnie and Happy Harry, gymnasts; Ray and Miles, jugglers; De Carteret, equestrian Bashi Bazouk; Ariel and Astarte, trapezists; Mons. Fossett, with performing mule and dogs; Mons. Hanlon, on the triple horizontal bars; Craig, Rose, and Craig, chain performers; Zoza, bareback rider; and the Grovinis, acrobats, &c.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes.—The programme here includes Miss Lily Black, burlesque artiste, who causes much laughter; Mr Alec Kennedy, a good singer; Miss Evelyn Taylor, a good male impersonator; Fredo, illusionist; Miss Florence Gwyn Howard, funny in her impersonation of a stage-struck servant; Mr Herbert Shelley, a capable descriptive vocalist; the statuary act of Mdlle. Diane De Fontenoy; Ike Scott and Son; and some pictures.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr Tom H. Taylor's company is paying a visit here this week with *A Female Swindler*. Mr W. S. Hartford gives an excellent rendering of Jack Coulson, the criminal investigator; Mr Luke Forster is good in the many sided character of Billy Binks, and Mr Weldon Atherstone gives an effective representation of the villainies of Geoffrey Warden. Mr George Unwin makes a creditable Harold Travers, and Miss Florrie Kelsey is to be congratulated on her impersonation of May Andrews, while Miss Wills is capital as Mrs Poppem. Miss Violet Ellicott is eminently successful as Lu Valroy, the lady to whom the title refers.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *A Country Mouse*. Miss Annie Hughes's Angela Muir is a delightful impersonation. Mr Charles Esdale acts the part of the Hon. Archibald Vyse with consummate ease and self-possession. The Duke of St. Kitts is amusingly portrayed by Mr George Traill. Mr George Trollope is highly successful as Lord Robert Wykeham. Mr Henry Bute contributes a good character sketch of Jephcot. Miss Madeline Maude acts with distinction the rôle of Lady Sylvia Bowlby. Miss Ida Richardson is animated and pleasing as Violet Aynsley. Miss Adie Boyne affords laughter as the garrulous Mrs Cropper. *A Bit of Old Chelsea* precedes. Miss Annie Hughes distinguishes herself in her original character of Alexandra Victoria Belchamber, alias Saucers. Mr Charles Esdale gives a finished performance as Jack Hilliler.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—Mr George Edwardes's latest success, *The Cingalee*, was presented to a large audience on Monday. Mr Harold Thorley's acting and vocalism as the planter, Harry Vereker, are alike excellent; Mr Leedham Bantock is an amusing figure as Boobhamba Chetter Bhoy. As the bombastic Sir Peter Loftus Mr W. J. Manning is capital, Mr Jack Cannot plays Bobby Warren brightly, and Mr Frank Danby, with his funny derangement of epitaphs as Chambhuddy Ram, is a source of continuous laughter. Miss Florence Smithson's vocalism is excellent, and she is very charming as the little tea-girl, Nanoya; as Peggy Sabine Miss Eva Sandford is vivacious and clever; and Miss Anna Hickisch makes an attractive Lady Patricia Vane.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—Mr Wentworth Croke's No. 1 company presented, for the first time at this theatre on Monday *The Christian*. Mr Harry Scott gave a skilful interpretation of the character of John Storm, and the Glory Quayle of Miss Grace Chalmers was a charming presentation. Father Lamplugh was an excellent effort on the part of Mr Stanley Radcliffe; Mr C. B. Bedells effectively represented Lord Robert Ure; Polly Love was capitally played by Miss Lily Crammonde; and other impersonations having claim to special recognition were the Parson Quayle of Mr Charles Hill, the Archdeacon Wealthy of Mr C. E. Dering; the Horatio Drake of Mr Jackson Wilcox, and the Faro King of Mr Bert Conway.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—T. E. Dunville tops a good bill here this week, and, as usual, elicits roars of laughter. Horace Mills and W. H. Rawlins, too, are responsible for much hilarity in a comedy-oddity *Mashing the Missus*. Dot Hardy is diverting, and Ford and Hanson are capital in a burlesque musical turn. Josh Dixon, comedian, and the Densmores keep the fun going. The Sisters Lonnen contribute pretty dancing; Austin and Cowan's vocalism is acceptable; Harry Dent submits an amusing song; and Max Milian toys with heavy weights.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General-Manager, Mr E. Harrison.—"The chocolate-coloured coon," G. H. Elliott, had a fine reception and many encores for his vocalism on Monday, and the Brothers Ashley provided mirth with their comedy boxing turn. The Cecils made a successful début here, and Oliver Conroy contributed two good character songs. Johnny Alexander's pantomime company, in an amusing absurdity, elicited much laughter; in her scena, "'Neath the Shadow of Great Big Ben," Miss Emmie Ames won favour; the Leggetts were most diverting in their comedy sketch, *Maid of Athens;* Harry Bancroft, actor-vocalist, gave a distinctly entertaining turn; and a novel performance by Clown Zertho and his dogs completed the programme.

BRIDLINGTON.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr Charles Palmer.—The Royal Viennese Orchestra, under the conductorship of Herr Sigmund Winternitz, concluded their season on Sunday evening. This week Mr Palmer has engaged Mr Tom Carrick and his White Musketeers, who are appearing in a special musical and humorous entertainment. Included in the company are Miss Lily Carrick, a charming soubrette and dancer; Mr Jack Bangs, coon vocalist; Mr Squire Day, sketch artiste, in a clever act, "The Mechanical Doll;" Mr Fred Marks, comedian and pianist; and Mr Tom Carrick, in his cleverly executed songs and dances. On Monday evening the members of the Viennese Orchestra had a benefit in the theatre, when they were rewarded with a bumper house.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr Tree's company opened here on Monday with *The Darling of the Gods*, which was admirably staged. Mr G. W. Anson gave a forcible and artistic impersonation of Zakkuri; Miss Lilian Stafford submitted a charming and graceful portrayal of the Princess Yo San; and Mr Alexander Calvert achieved distinct success as Kara. Miss Augusta Haviland's Rosy Sky, Mr Robert Gray's Banza, Mr P. R. Goodyer's Tanda Tanji, and Mr A. P. Kaye's Saigon were well played; Miss Lorraine Stevens sang in pleasing style as Nu, and able support was given by Mr Ernest Stallard, Mr Cecil Tresilian, Mr Irma Foldi, and Miss Rhoda Strauss. The incidental music, by Mr William Furst, was delightfully rendered; and the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr A. L. Spittle, acquitted themselves admirably.

GRAND THEATRE.—Under the entire control of Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Mr Fred Karno's company is here this week with *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr Dan

Eugene and Willie, acrobatic musical grotesques; Harry Clifford, comedian; Rose Harvey, burlesque artiste; the original O'Learys, in their Oriental burlesque entertainment; the Zenary Brothers, in *A Meeting at the Club*; Flo Challis, in her latest successes; Florrie Moore, the comedy girl; Arthur Norton and Jack Knibb, who appear in Jeffery Martin's new and original act, *Wrestling Illustrated*; and the Alhambra Pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo piccaninnies; Wal Robins, black and white comedians; J. H. Scotland, baritone vocalist; Geraldo, juggler; Whit Cunliffe, comedian; the Three Romas, gladiatorial marvels; Mason and Bart, novelty gymnasts; the Valdares, in a cycle speciality; Mabel La Blanche, burlesque actress; John Terry and Mabel Lambert, in an entracte of melody, wit, and sparkle; and animated pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER.—Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—A company, under the direction of Messrs W. T. Elworthy and Mr J. Buckley, is here this week with *A Pair of Spectacles*. Mr Orlando Barnett gives an admirable impersonation of Benjamin Goldfinch; Mr W. T. Elworthy is very successful as Gregory Goldfinch; and Miss Beth Elliott is seen to much advantage as Mrs Goldfinch. The other characters are creditably sustained. *The Unforeseen* was underlined for the latter half of the week.

WEST PIER PAVILION.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr Alfred Tapping's company is here this week with *Jim the Penman*. Mr Tapping achieves great success as Baron Hartfeld, Miss Alice Farleigh is an admirable Mrs Ralston, Mr Leonard Pagden gives an excellent impersonation of Jim the Penman, Mr J. G. Taylor is effective as Captain Redwood, and other parts are satisfactorily undertaken by Mr W. R. Staveley, Mr Alfred H. Majilton, Mr C. Levison Lane, Mr King Fordham, Miss Beatrice Mervyn, and Miss Nona Hoffe.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—Mr and Mrs Kendal and company are here for the week. On Monday *A Scrap of Paper* was played to a large and appreciative audience. Mrs Kendal pleased all parts of the house with her humorous and artistic exposition of Susan Hartley, and Mr Kendal was highly successful as Colonel Blake. Miss Elsie Clarens was interesting and effective as Lady Ingram; Miss Mary Jerrold was well placed as Lucy Franklyn; and Miss A. B. Tapping was sufficiently amusing as Mrs Penguin. Mr Bassett Roe gave a good performance of Sir John Ingram; Mr Ernest Hendrie was successful with Dr. Penguin; while the remainder of the cast was in capable hands. *Still Waters Run Deep*, *The Elder Miss Blossom*, and *Dick Hope* have also been played during the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs Haddon and Louder's company is here with *The Greatest Scoundrel Living*, the drama being capitally staged and well played. Mr Jack Haddon acts well and with considerable power as Percival Haynes; the parts of Frank Fielding and Rosa Moulton are taken in convincing style by Mr Ernest Munro and Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam; and the comedy parts of Tom Masters, Sam Grub, and Bessie Bright are sustained with much spirit by Mr Wilton Bedford, Mr Harry Liddle, and Miss Lottie Pearce. Other characters are carefully performed by Miss Marie Rayner, Miss Marguerite Thorne, Messrs J. Cecil, Will Hadlow, George Herbert, W. H. Domony, Henry Watson, Walter Pringle, and James Thompson. The display of Oriental jewels is imposing.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—The Kaufman Troupe of lady cyclists head the programme with a very expert turn, their various feats being both neat and clever. The Albert and Edmunds Troupe create much amusement with their comedy sketch, *The Taylor*. The Three Sisters Jonghmans present a pleasing vocal turn; Frank Cass, vocal comedian, is successful; Alix Lukos, vocalist and reciter, obtains applause; Reilly and Taylor amuse with their patter, &c.; Slippere, blind pianist, presents a good turn; Charles Vincent, comedian, has some new songs; Miss Nancy St. John, comedienne and dancer, is pleasing; Bob Baxter, comedian, is well received; Miss May Milburn, comedienne and dancer, obtains applause; and Miss Alma Obrey, comedienne, is successful. The entertainment concludes with a good display of animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Here we have a good company, including the Phillipi Brothers in their clever and amusing acrobatic speciality, "Shunting;" Joe Almasio, jumping juggler, who performs some difficult feats; Grahame and Harrington in a good dramatic sketch, *A Daughter of Pleasure*; Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, society entertainers, in a refined turn of song and story; Miss Rhoda Paul, a juvenile character vocalist of much promise; the Three Dagmars, clever acrobats and equilibrists; Miss Ella Rose, a pleasing vocalist; D. W. Watson, vocalist and cornet soloist; and Harry Walker, comedian. The performance concludes with some new animated pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Messrs George Harris and Fred Terriss's company is appearing here this week in the naval drama, *Why Woman Sins*. Mr Wallace Campbell plays with vigour as Lieut. Harry Maxwell, the hero of the piece. Captain Herbert Carlton is a past master of villainy and is well placed in the hands of Mr Fred Terriss. Mr George Harris is amusing as Cecil Spencer, and Mr Lionel Ellis, Mr Bob Herrick, Mr F. Newburn, Mr Forbes Harrison, and Mr Charles Herberte, all shine in their respective rôles. Miss Winifred Preece represents Lily De Vere, a music hall star, in a pleasing and natural manner, singing nicely, and Miss Gussie Everett as Ida Valette, a woman with a past, is clever and convincing. Special mention should be made of Miss Effie Bartlett, who as Nell Desmond shows exceptional ability, and in her emotional scenes visibly affects the audience. Miss Georgina Thomas as Jack Smith, a waif, and Miss Mary West as Nancy Nibble both do well. The piece is effectively mounted.

BURY (LANCS.)

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Mr Edward Terry's company is providing excellent dramatic fare here this week. *Sweet Lavender* was played to a good house on Monday. Mr Terry's Dick Phenyl is as good as ever; Clement Hale was played by Mr Hylton Allen with conspicuous ability; Mr Allan Pollock effectively portrayed the character of Horace Bream; Mr George Howard was a suitable Geoffrey Wedderburn; Miss Beatrice Terry a charming Sweet Lavender; Miss Olive Wilton an effective Minnie Gilfillian: and Miss B. Selwyn an attractive Mrs Gilfillian. *The House of Burnside*, *The Passport*, *Love in Idleness*, and *The Trial of Bardell v. Pickwick* are also in the bill.

OLYMPIA CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—This house reopened for the winter season on Monday. Miss Ella and her educated lions are the star turn. La Bella Nello, contortionist; A. P. Boswell, a Negro comedian; Denby and Dent, comedians; Tom Drum and Kitty Major, Charles Stevens, and Florence Yayman and Willie Haigh are also in the bill.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On each evening this week Mr J. F. Elliston's company has appeared in *Alone in London*. Mr Henry George is an accomplished actor, and as John Biddlecomb he does himself full justice; Miss Madge Devereux acts Annie Meadows in an acceptable style; Mr Stephen Ewart is sufficiently villainous as Richard Redcliffe; Mr Lonnen Meadows is also good as Charley Johnson; as is Mr Stafford Smith as Mr Burnaby.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—*Old Heidelberg* has been presented here this week by Mr Mouillot's company, by arrangement with Mr George Alexander. Mr George F. Tully as Karl Heinrich gives a portrayal that leaves nothing to be desired. The Kathie of Miss Irene Lavington is an impersonation of much charm, her more serious work being worthy of warm praise. Mr Clifford Bown gives a natural and easy rendering of Dr. Jettner; Mr Lionel Gadsden as the dignified Lutz supplies a good share of the merriment; and a fine piece of character acting is contributed by Mr Alec Murray as Kellermann. The staging deserves a word of praise.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General-Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—Mr Edward Marris's company ably presents at the popular King's this week a new and successful drama entitled *As Midnight Chimes*. The favourite comedian, Witty Wattie Walton, makes his appearance as Tot Spavvin, and with his irresistible humour and happy smile adds to his reputation among Cardiffians. A fine piece of acting is the interpretation of the rascally Luke Dezzard by Mr Melville Bickford; Mr Frank E. Petley is a manly Dave Stannard; and a capital portrayal of Ezra Gamble is given by Mr Henry Beaufort. Miss Gertrude Price as Mary Stannard acts with an affecting pathos; Miss Annie Megson as Suzette displays ability; and the trying part of Zamora is safe in the capable hands of Miss Iris M. Ward.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—A particularly strong programme here has the following list of well-known names:—Marie Kendall, in old and new songs; Dutch Daly, the clever raconteur, with his concertina; the Maningos, exceptionally smart acrobats and equilibrists; the Four Milons, in an equally clever equilibristic act; Lawrence Barclay, humorous comedian; Goggin and Davis, in a versatile comedy acrobatic act; the Imperial Quartet of vocalists and dancers; Steve M'Carthy, the Irish coon; the droll Zarmo, in his comedy juggling; and Mabel Hind, in a pretty little scena entitled "A Little Japanese."

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; General Manager, Mr C. Algie.—This popular place of amusement was reopened on Monday on the two-houses-a-night system, each house being literally packed. During the vacation considerable alterations and improvements have been effected, and a successful season is anticipated, Mr Algie having arranged for many startling novelties to appear. This week we have the Imperial Boys' Orchestra heading the bill, and their performances are highly appreciated. H. Sloan gives a fine equestrian act; Santo and Santa excel as acrobats; the Tarras present an interesting double juggling act; Mdlle. Dahlia meets with great applause for her gymnastic display; and Princess Annie and Sloan, in a double horse act, are much appreciated. Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope concludes an excellent programme.

CASTLEFORD.

ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—Mr W. H. Hallatt and company are presenting *The Two Little Sailor Boys* here this week. The play is well staged and mounted. Mr Hallatt submits a capital picture of Commander Noel Tregarthen. Mr Leonard Booker is a sufficiently villainous Lieut. Redstone. Captain Tom Yorke is well played by Mr Edward Warden. A capital portrayal of Admiral Grey comes from Mr George Cecil Murray. Mr Sid Cotterell and Miss Hilda Taylor keep the audience amused with the courtship troubles of Ben Baxter and Lucy Wilson. Mr Oscar Power makes an amusing Jack Jolly. Miss Blanche Steele displays considerable force in the part of Lola Grey, and suggests with subtle skill the selfish and pitiless character of the woman she represents. Miss Marie Daventry's performance of Mildred Grey abounds with some of the most tender touches of natural and womanly feeling possible. Mr Ambrose Horton is distinctly successful in his study of Jim Royston. The two sailor boys, Cyril Grey and Tom Yorke, find clever representatives in Miss May Day and Miss Ethel Francess.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—Mr Julian Malvern's company occupies the boards here this week with *I Defy the World*. Mr Lewis Gilbert plays Leon Darville with conspicuous ability; Mr Joseph W. Worley scores heavily as Count de Beullen; Mr Charles Conway makes an able Laroche, and Andre is cleverly acted by Mr Horace E. Herbert. Miss Lina Nazeby exhibits great talent in the rôle of Blanche Darville; Miss Carrie Ellis is a delightful Pauline Delaporte; Miss Maud Lillian renders excellent service as Marie Wozzle; and the Fanchette of Little Flo Bevan is much admired. The drama is produced under the direction of Mr Charles M. Julian.

CHESTERFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holbery Hardy.—Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson and company occupy these boards this week with *The Scarlet Woman*. Mr J. E. Crawford as Richard Marchant gives a manly portrayal; Mr Edward K. Burke well renders the part of Philip Gordon; Mr Bert H. Ross shows up the villainy of Will Raymond, being ably seconded by Messrs J. E. Cowell and Tom Wheeler as Joe Cartwright and Jack Cartwright respectively; Mr Matt Melrose amuses as Samuel Hopkins; and Mr James Thompson makes an effective Jacob Isaacson. Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson gives a true interpretation of the title-rôle; Miss Muriel Allyne makes a pleasing Margery Honour; Miss Ruby Hamilton-Belasco does good work as Charlotte Simpkins; Miss Lalla Cowell makes a vivacious Fanchette; Miss Gracie Walker is an intelligent Jeanne; and Miss Lalla Cowell and Mr Mat Melrose execute some clever dances.

MEMORIAL HALL.—Lessee, Mr S. L. Urwick.—Miss Cissie Moxon's company pays a welcome return visit here with *A Trip to Rum-Fum*. Mr Willie Garvey as Larry O'Hooligan scores a great success; Mr W. S. Hutchinson as Biddy O'Hooligan enacts the part in a capable manner; Miss Moxon as Flossie Kixie fills a rôle which is well suited to her.

CHORLEY (LANCS).

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey are presenting a drama this week entitled *A Traitor Prince*. The play is excellently mounted. As Prince Rae Dalmierez Mr G. M. Montanini displays considerable talent, while Mr Austin Mortimer as Lieut. Frank Derrick gives an able and artistic rendering. Mr T. G. Vane is good as Hon. Bobby Dalrymple. Mr Carter Livesey plays Billy Bright with infectious humour, and in conjunction with Miss M. Crayson as Pansy Blossom keeps the audience in capital spirits. Mr Edward Hall undertakes the part of a half-caste. Mr A. M. Longford capitally represents the dual-rôle of Richard Vane and Colonel Vane. Miss Beatrice Western acts Vashti with exceptional power and effect, Miss Lilian Rosebery charmingly portrays the character of Lola Vane, Miss E. C. Matthews is capable as Mrs Martha Blossom, while Miss Annie Carrier and Miss Florence Bryne contribute some clever acrobatic dances.

CLYDEBANK.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—The attraction here this week is *The Still Alarm*, presented by Glenville and Osmond's company. The part of the hero, Jack Manley, is ably sustained by Mr Matthew H. Glenville; the heavy rôle of John Bird gets careful handling from Mr Paul Lovett; Miss Mary Lovett looks and acts charmingly as Elinore Fordham; Miss Mabel Veriton makes a good Mrs Manley; Mr Tom Beasley is highly entertaining as Willie Manley; and the same may be said of Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carrie Wilber and Mr Fred Osmond as D. Wilber.

COLNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr G. Harding.—The Carside, Knowles, and Ludlow company is here this week in the drama entitled *The London Fireman*. Mr J. F. Knowles as Hal Curtis, a young fireman, is well received. He plays his part in a creditable manner. Miss Mona Gray as the fireman's wife displays her talents to advantage. In the rôle of Countess Fleming Miss Violet Temple leaves little to be desired, and as Viscount Fleming Mr A. Pringle is decidedly good. The scenery is of a bright and pleasing character.

CONSETT.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—Mr Henry Johnson's company is here this week with *The Bank of England*. Mr Hubert Chambers as Sherlock Holmes sustains the part in an admirable manner; Mr Edward Walton is good as Sir Sidney Barraclough, and as Bertie Burlington Mr Charles Gallier is satisfactory; Mr Juan De Alberti does well as Stephen Hartley, and the part of Gordon Isaacs is well filled by Mr Charles Ninian. Miss Amy Ellam does full justice to the rôle of Margaret Dane, and as Sylvia Barraclough Miss Ada Collins is all that could be desired. Miss Marie Loreth is excellent as Aminta J. Bean. The comedy element is well sustained by Mr Charles Goff as Tommy Sprouts and Miss Dorothy Normandale as Lucy Lockett.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—*A Country Girl* is here for the first time. As Marjory Miss Maud Boyd sings well. As Princess Melaneh of Bhong Miss Ethel Negretti renders "Under the Deodar" in a finished manner. The part of Nan is taken by Miss Le Hay, who portrays the character in admirable style. Miss Maud Prenton cleverly sustains the part of Madame Sophie. As Geoffrey Challoner Mr Robert Michaelis is excellent and sings well. Mr Charles R. Walenn in the part of Barry creates much laughter. Mr Joe Nightingale capably fills the part of Sir Joseph Verity, and Mr Arthur Leysham is good as Granfer Mummery.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Messrs Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux are presenting Mr Arthur Bourchier's company in *The Fairy's Dilemma*. Mr Charles V. France does wonders with the rôle of Colonel Sir Trevor Mauleverer; Mr C. Herbert Hewetson acts cleverly the part of the Demon Alcohol; Mr Frank Stanmore gives a quaint and curious rendering of the Rev. Aloysius Parfitt; Mr Frank Collins is of valuable assistance as Mr Justice Whortle; and useful aid is given by Messrs Morris Harvey and Frank Norman as a shopman and trooper in the Life Guards. Miss Elise Cooke is a fascinating little Fairy Rosebud; Miss Ada Homer is charming as the Lady Angela Wealdstone; Miss Gertrude Hope makes a hit as Clarissa; and Misses Frances Wood and Florence Adale complete the cast as Mrs Grumble and a nursemaid. In the first piece, *The Conversion of Nat Sturge*, Mr Charles V. France gives a neat study of the Bishop of Minterweir; Mr Frank Collins is remarkably good as Nat Sturge; Miss Eva Turnour is praiseworthy as Julia; and Mr Morris Harvey is adequate as Raddles. Mr Leonard Gautier is a capable chef d'orchestre.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—*A Modern Judas* is the attraction here. Mr Percy Rhodes gives a noteworthy performance as Captain Melbourne; Mr Frank Beresford submits a fine, robust rendering of Jack Vavasour; Mr Willie Scott is very funny as Tom Hopkins; Mr Harry Brown is capital as James Rivers; Miss Violet King just touches the right note as Claire Rivers; Miss Ada Palmer makes a merry Agatha Pearce; Miss Dolly Harcourt is careful as Polly Hopkins; Miss Kate Walbran is skilful as Elise; and the remaining parts are in good hands.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The amusements here are of the best. Len Young is a rising character comedian; Harry Calvo's fine voice is heard to advantage; Edwards and Espinosa are a clever pair of speciality artistes; Professor Dunning is a smart ventriloquist; the Sisters Pine are amusing in a comedy act; Henri Bekker is an expert conjuror; Fred Herbert's topical songs are applauded; Ada Vernon is a favourite burlesque actress; Ross and Grayson score in their comedy turn; Katie Lawrence, comedienne, has some capital selections; the Four Andys are skilful acrobats; the turn of Bob and Jennie Leonard is much relished; Kahn and Kahn are entertaining in modern necromancy; and the Palace animated pictures still attract.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—*A Sailor's Sweetheart* is being produced at the above house this week by Miss Ida Molesworth and company occupy these boards this week with *The Scarlet Woman*. Mr J. E. Crawford as Richard Marchant gives a manly portrayal; Mr Edward K. Burke well renders the part of Philip Gordon; Mr Bert H. Ross shows up the villainy of Will Raymond, being ably seconded by Messrs J. E. Cowell and Tom Wheeler as Joe Cartwright and Jack Cartwright respectively; Mr Matt Melrose amuses as Samuel Hopkins; and Mr James Thompson makes an effective Jacob Isaacson. Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson gives a true interpretation of the title-rôle; Miss Muriel Allyne makes a pleasing Margery Honour; Miss Ruby Hamilton-Belasco does good work as Charlotte Simpkins; Miss Lalla Cowell makes a vivacious Fanchette; Miss Gracie Walker is an intelligent Jeanne; and Miss Lalla Cowell and Mr Mat Melrose execute some clever dances.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—Mr Frank E. Burdett's company has been the attraction here this week. Miss Maud Digby in the arduous character of Ghuznah acquits herself excellently. Nebu Singh in the capable hands of Mr Villiers Stanley is an admirable portrayal. Lieutenant Manley is exceedingly well played by Mr H. Ryeland-Leigh, and Captain Manley has a good representative in Mr H. G. Brandon. Terry O'Brien finds a humorous exponent in Mr G. Scully. Mr E. Keand gives a forcible rendering of Ra Goonga. Mr W. S. Tindall is excellent as Major Ingleby, and Mr S. S. Sheddon scores as Abul Khan. Miss Bruce is an imposing Mrs Ingleby, and Miss Kingston finds favour as Kate Ingleby.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Wallace Davidson.—This week we have a return visit of Messrs Silvester and Sansome's company in *Cissy*. Miss Florence Barnes makes a dainty Cissy, a rôle she sustains with grace and piquancy, and Mr Harry Lovell does well as Victor. Mr Fletcher Sansome contributes a droll character study as Titus Thomas, B.A., and Miss Nellie V. Warden is a clever Mary Mopps.

DARLINGTON.

ROYAL.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—Few musical plays meet with a better reception here than *The Girl from Kay's*, and this company of Mr George Dance's is an excellent allround one. In the rôle of Winnie Harborough Miss Lily Lingard is piquant, and sings and acts in a vivacious style. Miss May Marton creditably portrays the part of Norah Chalmers, and as Ellen, her maid, Miss Pollie Prim plays with considerable dash. The eccentricities of Max Hoggenheimer could not be more humorously depicted than they were by Mr Johnnie Schofield, who is ably supported by Mr Tom Shelford as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle. A capital representation is given by Mr Garnet Wilson of the character of Harry Gordon. The choruses throughout are well sung, and the dresses and effects are extremely good.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. L. Ormsby.—The ever popular play *The Silver King* is being performed here this week, by a capable company. Mr Lauderdale Maitland's portrayal of Wilfred Denver is indeed excellent, and was greatly appreciated by the audience on Monday. Miss Lillian Bethell is good as Nellie Denver, playing with feeling in the pathetic parts. Miss Violet St. Clair is also capital as Cissie, Denver's daughter. Daniel Jalkes is faithfully portrayed by Mr Ed. J. George. Mr W. V. Garrod, who appears as Captain Herbert Skinner, alias "Spider," is admirable, as is also Mr A. Wright as Elijah Coombs. Mr Philip Renouf plays the part of Henry Corket very well and Mr Byron makes a good detective.

DERBY.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Mr Hunry Dundas and company is this week appearing in the familiar Drury-lane drama *Human Nature*. As Captain Temple Mr Henry Dundas submits a thoroughly successful depiction, and Miss Lilian Dundas makes a charming Cora Grey, her acting being an outstanding feature of the performance. Mr Henry C. Cooper is satisfactory as Matthew Hawker, and Mr C. B. Keston does well in the unenviable rôle of Paul De Vigne. In the equally undesirable parts of Joe Lambkin and his wife Mr Reginald Weighill and Miss Esther Carthew are praiseworthy. Miss Batho-Griffiths is to be complimented on her depiction of Nellie Temple, and Mr George Franklin and Miss Magdalene Douglas are in every way effective as the Rev. Arthur and Mrs Lulworth. The two juvenile characters are well played by Marion Ryder and Daisy Cooke, while the comedy element is mirthfully upheld by Mr Sydney Young as Spofkins and Miss Rose Hélene as Wilkins. The remaining characters are all in good hands. The Trafalgar-square scene has the added advantage of a full military band, and the scenic effects throughout reflect credit on all concerned.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—The Akimotos, as the star turn, are paying a return visit here this week, and as Japanese jugglers, balancers, and equilibrists of extraordinary ability are cordially received. Clown Alfred Barker, assisted by Miss Roziska, with his equestrian dogs, monkeys, donkey, and pony, cause much fun. Johnny Gilmore, the quaint Australian, scores an all-round success; and Lue Lord renders her songs in a charming manner. The Bendons, in their latest success, "That's how they say goodbye," are very amusing. Rennie, the singing ventriloquist, gives a creditable entertainment; and Ray and Rodney are diverting eccentric comedians. The Bioscope submits several interesting features.

DEWSBURY.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr Geo. Wildon.—Silly Billy Elliott is here starring, and has had a big reception. Souplessi, on the silver rings, gives a smart show, and Charles Clifford is also good with his harp selections. Saletos Trio have an excellent speciality, and the Stuart Quartet of lady vocalists go strongly. Will Letters, character vocalist, pleases, and Paddy has a new act. The Bioscope has a novel selection of pictures, and Miss Lucy Lovelace, singer of illustrated songs, also scores.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—A variety combination is put on the boards this week. Capt Alfonso Gerard's lions and tiger dogs go through their tricks cleverly; Lily Turner is popular as a vocalist; the Two Leons provide a good turn as duettists and dancers; Mdlle. Melita, international dancer, is good; Law and Norman, in their act, *On Active Service*, are droll; Mitzi is an able Japanese juggler; and Bill Bailey as an eccentric comedian and dancer is well received. Mat Wilkinson and company's sketch, *The Registry Office*, concludes the programme.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Fred C. Dew.—Miss Marie Auckland and company are paying a return visit to Dover this week, and presented *The Triumph of Truth* on Monday. Miss Auckland displays emotional power in the dual part of Violet and Lillian Anstruther, and her performance was received with much applause. Blanche Le Croix is played with intensity and passion by Miss Rosa El Dodd; Little Lena is made a pathetic study by Miss Nellie Kenneth; and Miss Lilian Ramsdale is audacious and versatile as Coralie. Mr Edward L. Louis acts with restrained power as the hero, Captain Jack Eversleigh, and Mr J. A. Keogh is successful as Sir Charles. Mr T. Renaud Lockwood as Raoul D'Orville is a brilliant if somewhat conventional villain; Mr Frank Radcliffe is amusing and makes the most of his opportunities as Pierre Choppard; and Inspector Danvers, the English detective, in the clever hands of Mr T. Arthur Elliston is a further example of the possibility of making a small part an important one. Mr Charles Herrick is vigorous and energetic as the revengeful Vitto Mascagni, and Miss Lily Rogers as Titty Bright and Mr Johnny Clegg as Tommy Woodhead enliven the play by their amusing interpretations.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessee, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—Mr George Edwardes's company is paying a return visit here this week with *The Orchid*, which has been heartily enjoyed. Miss Coralie Blythe as Lady Violet Anstruther wins applause for her pleasing and excellent portrayal; Miss Irene Verona has in Caroline Vokins a part that suits her admirably; Miss Ethel Griffies in the rôle of the adventuress, Zelie Rumbert, is clever; and Mr George Gregory is exceedingly funny as Meakin. The part of the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour is in the capable hands of Mr Lawrence Grossmith; Mr Sidney Vincent displays ability in the character of Zaccary; and Mr Ellis Ogilvie acts with skill the part of Mr Aubrey Chesterton. The Countess Anstruther is charmingly played by Miss Katie Leechman, and Miss Gertrude Gilliam gains favour for her excellent singing in the rôle of Josephine Zaccary. Mr Donald Hall gives a good reading of Dr. Ronald Fausset, and Messrs E. G. Woodhouse and E. Rutland are both amusing as the seconds. Miss Luna Love is an effective Thisbe. The gorgeous dresses make a pretty show.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—*The Cardinal*, by Mr Louis N. Parker, was presented here on Monday by Mr E. S. Willard, who appeared in the title-rôle, and displayed considerable power and ability. Mr William Sauter gave a fine reading of Andrea Strozzi, and Mr A. S. Homewood was capital in his representation of Giuliano. Mr Charles H. Fenton acted well as Bartolommeo Chigi, and Filiberta was cleverly enacted by Miss Maud Hoffman; and Mr Walter Edmunds sustained the character of Guido Baglioni with great success. Mrs Russ Whytal submitted an impressive and effective portrayal of Claricia De Medici, in the rôle of Honoria Miss Edith N. Tombes was very good; and as the bellringer Beppo Mr Ulick Burke deserved praise. The costumes and the mounting were particularly fine.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—*The Grip of Iron* is being played here this week by Messrs C. H. Knight and George Denham's company. In the dual part of Simmonet and Jagon Mr Fred Powell meets with his usual success, and Miss Georgie De Lara is admirable in the rôle of Cora. The part of Alphonse De Cousou is ably sustained by Mr Harry Agar Lyons; as Marie Guerin Miss Hilda Baynton is most effective; Mr George Denham makes a capital Paul Blanchard; and Miss Nellie Grant is good as Sophie Blanchard. Mr Charles Grant is satisfactory as Lorentz De Ribas, and as Mdlle. Delaney Miss Annie Thomas is acceptable. Dodot is played in a capable manner by Mr John Brittain, and Miss Mabel Middleton makes the most of the part of Babette.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—Attractive fare is submitted here this week in the shape of the Caledonian Boys, whose clever orchestral performances elicit applause. Another interesting turn is Selma Braatz, in a smart juggling act, and Georgina Leonard is a pleasing burlesque actress. The Olive Trio are excellent comediennes, and Ernest Rees is quaint. The Brothers Redmond do an acrobatic turn of more than average merit; Marion Scott is a chic comedienne. The Two Graces, duettists and dancers, score a success; Harry Bickley is an acceptable comedian; and the Empire Pictures are also showing.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—The Okito Family in their Chinese magical wonder act are the attraction here this week, and are well received; Will Onda's sketch company, in *A Quiet Night*, causes much laughter; Maude Vera is a capital coon artiste; Harry Grey is successful as a society entertainer; and Billy Williams, comedian, is as good as ever. Carr and Rose, vocal comedy couple, are an excellent turn, and Clifton and Gibson do well as eccentric comedians. Marti and Julletta, spar experts; Jack Charman, boy vocalist; and Ada Marjatti complete the programme.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr C. A. James.—The following artistes are appearing here this week:—Jim Cookson, ventriloquist; Frank Bentley, descriptive vocalist; Charles Moore, comedian and dancer; Carr and Roll, duettists; and George Harcourt, vocalist.

DUDLEY.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—The Four Trees, comediennes and dancers, deserve first mention this week; Dora Grieve is a charmingly sweet speciality comedienne; Fraser and Mac have some exceedingly good patter; and David Poole is an up-to-date ventriloquist, his dialogue and manipulation of figures being extremely clever. Other good turns are supplied by Vosper, illusionist; Jimmy Shields, comedian and dancer; the Percys, speciality performers and dancers; and George Neno, comedian.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Monteflore.—*The Girl from Kay's* is paying a welcome return visit. Miss Simeta Marsden in the title-rôle has lost none of her charm. Mr H. C. Barry is still the Hoggenheimer, and his efforts to amuse meet with due reward. Mr Leslie Roy Cathie as Percy Fitzthistle gives a wonderful impersonation of a dude. Mr Charles Hanbury as Harry Gordon and Miss Alice Russon as Nora are alike excellent. Mr Fred Rolph makes the part of the porter stand out prominently.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—Mr Cliff Ryland occupies the top of the bill, but appeared only on Monday and Tuesday. The Five Foys are the principal attraction again, and repeat their success of last week. The Sivronis made a successful appearance in their comedy sketch, *Opera Gone Mad*; Devereux's dogs go through a clever performance; Calile and Walker are amusing; Mona M'Donald sings well; Jennie Belmore meets with a hearty reception; Marie Reviere, serio; and Sardou, illusionist, also figure in the bill.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Dundee Empire Company, Limited.—Mr Sydney Vereker and company are here in *The Red Signal*. Mr Vereker supplies the comedy element, which so strongly dominates the piece. Mr C. V. Sandford and Mr Alfred Allan as the Bros. Darkwood are outstanding characters. Mr Cowell Clarke as Richard Culver has made a good impression. Miss Florence Culver is the character portrayed by Miss Norah Carrone. Miss Rose Lehmann is a captivating May Sorrell.

GAIETY.—Manager, Mr S. King Alexander.—Miss Marie Dagmar and company are appearing here in *A Life's Revenge* this week. The company includes Miss Dagmar, who as Princess Vanda Ivyala proves herself to be a skilled actress. Miss Catherine Eckhart as Marcia Vittoria gives a powerful delineation. Mr Walter Roberts deserves high praise for his portrayal of Michael Orloff, and as Prince Strogoff Mr Fred C. Somerfield has made an excellent impression. Mr John F. Traynor is a capital Paul Starovitch.

EBBW VALE.

KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Manager, Mr Arthur Knight.—Frequenters of this place were exceptionally well catered for during the first three nights of the week, when Miss Marie Menzies' company presented *A Rogue's Daughter*. The scenery, dresses, and general effects

left nothing to be desired. Messrs Alex. Wills, Wilfred Blair, Richard Ferris, Charles Stimson, Will Wilson, and A. Hall Menzies were particularly prominent in the male portion of the cast. Misses Millie Doris, Mabel Hall, K. Blair, and Marie Menzies also deserve special mention. For the concluding portion of the week Messrs Sidney C. Cranston and Sidney Dench's company played *The Rich and Poor of London*.

EASTBOURNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—Mr Henry Swinerd's company is appearing this week in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Miss Marjory Cecil is an attractive Dorothy Montrose, and she uses a capital voice of high compass in very effectively contributing her numerous songs. Miss Kathleen Gordon is completely satisfactory as Ruth, and Miss Nellie Harcourt is brimful of gaiety and brightness as Judith, and her dances are commendably smart and nimble. Miss Mabel and Miss Lily Blake are accomplished dancers, and thereby obtain very hearty applause, particularly with their "mirror" dance. Mr Arthur Verne as comedian, singer, and dancer is very much in favour, and as Silas Crump he is conspicuously successful. Mr Francis Green sings and acts in admirable style as Harold Vivian; Mr H. C. Ward does excellent work as George Fielding; and Mr Frank L. Oliver is a good Featherstone. Mr Arthur Lester is the musical conductor.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—For the first three evenings of the week Mr Fenton and his company have been appearing here in *If I Were King*. Mr Frank Fenton, with a distinct delivery and a handsome appearance, contributes a picturesque and attractive performance as François Villon. A striking and successful rendering of the part of Louis XI. is cleverly given by Mr Clive Currie. Mr Fred Garrett is an effective Tristam, Mr Leonard Maxwell a strong Thibaut, Mr Lawrence a light and effective Noll, and Mr Will Barrett a very good Turgis. Mr Max Gordon does his little very well as Tolson D'Or, Mr John Franklin is a capable Colin, and Mr Richard Jackson a satisfactory Trois Echelles. Miss Marion Grey is a sympathetic and individual Katherine; Miss Louise Vansitter is entirely successful as the Abbess; Miss Una Gilbert is a very appropriate Mother Villon; and the remaining small parts in a long cast are suitably sustained.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Ltd; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—Mr James Welch and company paid a return visit to this city on Monday with the successful farce *The New Clown*. Mr James Welch sustained his original part, Lord Cyril Garstone, with unflagging zeal and quaint humour. He was ably seconded by Mr G. H. Snazelle as the rollicking and kindly circus proprietor. Mr Cyril Harcourt was very acceptable as the Hon. Jack Trent, and Mr Harry J. Crane depicted the cunning ways of Thomas Baker in a clever manner. Messrs Leopold Profeit and Henry Belding were also good in their respective parts. Miss Audrey Ford was a bright and engaging Rosie Platt, and Misses Estelle Winwood and Alexandra Carlisle made successful appearances as Maud and Winnie Chesterton. Mr Louis N. Parker's one-act play, *The Man in the Street*, preceded the farce on Monday. *Angelina's Lover* has also been played as a curtain-raiser.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—Mr George Alexander's latest success, *Saturday to Monday*, was presented at this theatre on Monday. The comedy received an excellent rendering by Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's talented company, and the dresses and scenery were complete in every detail. Mr Stuart Champion acted with finish and ease as Lord Culver, his love making being natural and simple. Mr Dallas Welford hit off the foppish mannerisms of Stanley Pidding to a nicety; Mr Thomas A. Braidon was an excellent Probyn Dyke, and Mr Thomas Sidney gave a good account of himself as the Rev. Samuel Toop. As Mrs Wendover Miss Moyra Creegan played with much fascination and brightness; Miss Madeline L'Estrange acted the rôle of Lady Diana Porchester with comic effect; and Angela was sweetly played by Miss Nancy Beresford. The parts of Ursula Toop and Miss Skeat were cleverly undertaken by Misses Josephine Raye and Ida Lawrie. Miss Olive Loftus Leyton was a neat and effective Thompson. A capital representation of *Judged by Appearances* preceded the comedy.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—George Fuller Golden, American raconteur, appeared here on Monday night before a full house. Mr Golden possesses the art of imitation and story telling to a very high degree, and kept the audience convulsed with laughter. Clark and Hamilton made a welcome reappearance; the Lukushima Troupe, Japanese equilibrists went through some marvellous feats; and Manning's entertainers, in *A Hotel Boots*, caused great amusement. The Bros. Damm gave an interesting exhibition of acrobatic feats; the Bioscope showed some novel animated pictures; James Kurry and Charles Chard contributed acceptable items; and Annie Casey, comedienne, and Clown Ferroeros, in a musical act, completed a good programme.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—The attraction this week is the drama, *Queen of the Night*, by Messrs F. Tracy and Ivan Berlin. On Monday it had a highly efficient rendering by Mr James Stillwell and company, and the many dramatic situations were received with much applause. Mr Stillwell enacted the villain, Philip Stonsleigh with dramatic power, Mr Oswald Douglas was equally good as the hero, Frank Cavendish, M.D., Messrs Bert Atherton and F. Thorpe Tracey were responsible for the comic element; and Miss V. St. Lawrence acted with much ability as Paulina. Miss Pollie Denville was a bright and piquant Kitty White.

MUSIC HALL.—The announcement that Mr W. F. Frame, the popular Scottish comedian, was to give a concert at this hall, drew an overflowing audience on Saturday evening last. Mr Frame was in his merriest humour, and delighted his hearers in a host of new comic songs and characters. He was supported by a strong variety company, which included Miss Helen Martin, vocalist; Mr Austin Mahony, tenor soloist; the Norman and Leonard Trio, Miss Bessie Travis, lady ventriloquist; and the Jetneys, coloured comedians. Mr David Frame Flint presided at the organ.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—The boards are occupied here this week by Mr F. H. De Quincey and Miss Sime Seruya's répertoire company. On Monday *Richelieu* was successfully produced, the portrayal of Louis XIII. by Mr W. Henry Hargreaves being carefully studied. Gaston was successfully depicted by Mr Harold Weston, a resourceful and capable Baradas being found in Mr Montague Lane. In the name-part Mr F. H. De Quincey was seen to distinct advantage. Mr Baliol Holloway created an excellent impression as Chevalier De Mauprat, and Messrs Gordon, Chalmers, and Coates did well as Beringhen, Joseph, and Huquet respectively. Miss E. Stuart Innes was a picturesque François, Miss Sime Seruya charming as Julie De Mortemar, and Miss Lydia Busch well placed as Marion De Lorme. *The Twin Sister* will also be presented during the week.

VICTORIA HALL, LIMITED.—Secretary and Manager, Mr J. Dunsford.—On Monday Gilbert's Circus commenced a short season here. Mr T. Culeen, the manager, has made excellent arrangements. Eugene Cooke opened the performance with some clever equestrian achievements; Dubois, the man monkey, followed with an excellent imitation of the antics of a baboon; a fascinating jugglery exhibition was given by the Jalvans, their tricks being both neat and smart. The leading feature, however, is the appearance of the Colibris, a troupe of Lilliputian artistes, whose turn comprises trapeze and gymnastic displays, juggling on horseback, and an excellent musical entertainment. Little Rabbit proves as popular as ever, and further wit is provided by the antics of a couple of intelligent baby clowns.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—The theatre this week has been visited by Mr J. W. Turner and his English opera company, whose répertoire consisted of *Maritana*, *Bohemian Girl*, *The Puritan's Daughter*, *Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Faust*. This visit proved a decided attraction, and good houses were the order. The singing of Mr Turner as Don Cæsar De Bazan afforded the audience on Monday evening great pleasure, and for his rendering of "Let me like a soldier fall" he was rapturously encored. Miss Alice Boaden, whose voice was eminently suited for the numbers she was called upon to render, gave an intelligent and artistic rendering to the part of Maritana. As Lazarillo Miss Jessie Dennis sang very sweetly, particularly "Alas, those chimes." The heavy part of Don José was exceedingly well taken by Mr John Ridding, who was recalled for his rendering of "In happy moments." The singing of Mr Sidney Clifford as Charles II., King of Spain, gave every satisfaction. The chorus singing was delightful, and was assisted by a specially augmented orchestra.

FARNWORTH.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell.—Mr Charles Macdona's company is here with *The Gay Parisienne*. Miss Jennie Richards wins admiration by her vivacious portrayal of Julie, and the Ruth of Miss Madge Soutter is decidedly smart. Mr Charles A. Maynard as M. Pompier works hard for the distinction he gains, and together with Mr Tom May (Ebenezer Honeycombe) they keep the house constantly amused. Mr Arthur Watts makes much out of the part of Major Fossdyke, and the Imperial Glee Singers are heard to great advantage in several quartets.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company, in *Under Two Flags*, has attracted large houses here this week. Mr Mark Blow is in every way well suited as Bertie Cecil Royellieu; Mr Reginald Harley West acts with judgment as Barklie Cecil; Mr Chas. Brooke does well as Lord Royellieu; Mr Geo. Norman Burt is meritorious as Lord Rockingham; Mr Will Hook is great as Rake; Mr Chas. D. Pitt excels as Colonel Chateauroy; Mr Fred Hilliard as Abe-el Kan has an impressive manner; Miss Celia Gordon scores in the rôle of Princess Venetia; Miss Joan Stean acts charmingly as Countess Olga; Miss Bertha Kingston as Lady Beatrice is all that could be desired; Miss Daisy Carlton is seen to advantage as Lavinia; and Miss Laura Walker is most charming as Cigarette.

VICTORIA PIER.—Lessees, Messrs Keith Prowse and Co., Limited; General Manager, Mr H. De Manche.—The artistes performing here this week include Miss Gertrude Williams, soprano, who renders several pleasing songs; Miss Mabel Manson excels as a New Zealand soprano; Mr Ernest Meads never fails to please; Mr Edgar Coyle, baritone, is much liked; and Miss Irene Asdale does well as an accompanist.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr Frank Seabrook.—The vocalist here is Miss Alice Burriston, soprano, who is the possessor of a pleasing voice; Mr Oldbury Brough is a clever entertainer; and the Ladies' Band and the Animated Pictures are very popular.

GAINSBOROUGH.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robt. Kirk.—Mr Harry Foxwell's company appeared here for three nights last week in *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr Howell Travis gave a good rendering of Tom Cooper; Mr Chas. Vivian supplied the villainous element as George Benson; Mr Arthur Tomlin was successful as the detective; and Mr Foxwell and Miss Mollie Mona were amusing as Abe Nathan and Biddy Roonan respectively.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—A strong variety bill here is headed by Hanvarr and Anna Lee, who provide an amusing comedy-juggling act entitled *The Golfer and the Maid*. The pantomime absurdity *Nicodemus* is productive of much amusement. The Violas provide a clever mysterious act; Tony Iveson, the "aristocratic ragman," gives an interesting turn, as does also Wallace Whitney, eccentric comedian. Fox and Melville, song illustrators; Fred M'Arthur, dialect comedian; the Boston Twins, comedians; and Miss Beattie Foster, ballad vocalist, also entertain.

GLASGOW.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphrys.—Considerable interest is being taken in the visit of Mr Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore, who opened here on Monday, in *David Garrick*. Mr Wyndham's acting was marked by the characteristic spirit which has made his portrayal of this character famous. Miss Mary Moore charmed the house by the sympathy, grace, and freshness of her Ada Ingot. Mr Alfred Bishop as Simon Ingot presents a clever performance; he has a fine grip of the character, and plays the part well. Mr Frank Atherley as Squire Chivey brings the part into due prominence. Mr Bertram Steer gives a good impersonation of Mr Jones. Mr Gilbert Farquhar is successful as Mr Smith, while Mr Brown has a worthy representative in Mr T. W. Rawson. Miss Ethel Maryatt makes the most of her opportunities as Araminta Brown, and Miss Emily Vining is a capable Mrs Smith. On Tuesday and Thursday *Mrs Gorringe's Necklace* was played, while Wednesday and Friday were reserved for the presentation of *The Case of Rebellious Susan*, preceded each evening by the lively comedietta *The American Widow*, in which Miss Lillas Waldegrave scores as Mrs Vanbright.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—Mr John Hare and company opened here on Monday with *Little Mary* and *'Op o' My Thumb*. In the Barrie play Mr Hare's acting of the Earl of Carlton was all that could be desired, the Moira of Miss Hilda Trevelyan also pleasing the audience immensely, while character studies of exceptional merit were seen in the Sir Isaac Pike of Mr Rudge Harding and the Terence Reilly of Mr Fred Grove. Miss Helen Rous looked and acted the part of the Countess of Plumbleigh admirably, and in their respective parts of Lady Millie and Eleanor Gray Miss Kathleen Gordon-Lee and Miss Beatrice Kelston gave valuable support. Mr Carter Pickford made a handsome Lord Rolfe, and Mr Eric Maturin achieved success in the part of the Earl of Plumbleigh, the Dr. Topping of Mr Clifford Brooke and the Deighton of Mr Edgar B. Payne completing an excellent cast. In *'Op o' My Thumb* Miss Hilda Trevelyan appeared in her original part—Amanda Affleck—the Horace Greensmith being Mr Rudge Harding, the other parts having able exponents in Misses Helen Rous, Emily Grove, Innes-Ker, and Florence Wetherall.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—A crowded house on Monday welcomed the latest musical comedy, *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr Wm. Greet's company includes many clever artistes, and among them Mr William Stephens as Jim Cheese catches the fancy of the audience right away. His songs and dialogue are given with much humour; and he is ably seconded by Miss Dot Carey as his faithful donah Liza. Miss Aimée Grey is a charming and vivacious Elphin Haye, and acts and sings with much distinction; her songs and business with Mr Percy Carr, who is excellent as Dick Wargrave, are specially good. Miss Florence Imeson is a bright and animated Daisy Fallowfield, and her sporting song and "Sammy" are well received. Miss Gladys Fontaine as the massive Mrs Shimmering Black forms an amusing contrast to the diminutive Jim Cheese. Mr Tom Redmond makes a genial host of the Fallowfield Arms, and the three searchers for the missing Earl are cleverly acted by Mr William Walshe, Mr Will Hindson, and Mr J. C. Graves. Mr Bertie White as the inane dude Boodle is amusing; and Miss Helen Langton is a picturesque Virginia Bliss. A large and tuneful chorus and the augmented orchestra under Mr Evelyn Baker do every justice to the concerted music. The piece is beautifully staged, the setting of act one—the Fallowfield Arms—being particularly good.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—Mr Milton Bode's company provides the attraction with *Woman and Wine* this week. The part of Dick Seymour as played by Mr Frank R. Robertson is strongly dramatic and full of interest; Mr Fred Mace is powerful as the heart-broken father, Hugh Seymour; Alphonse Beaudet, a strong part, is strongly played by Mr Walter Thornton. Another interesting character is that of Professor Sawter, embodied by Mr Tom Tindall, whose son Charles is a humorous character in Mr Percy Dawsone's hands. Mr Herbert Landeck is admirably suited as Caliban. Miss Edith Blande as Marcel, the adventuress, is eminently fitted for a part that calls for much dramatic skill, and as Mary Andrews Miss Ernestine Holker is graceful and sympathetic. Miss Muriel Vox as Janet has a thorough grasp of all she has to do, and with Charles Sawter (Mr Dawsone) sustains what humour is in the play. As La Colombe Miss Nellie Lauraine sustains the interest with Marcel in several strongly dramatic situations. Madame Perinet (Miss Rose Galloway), Suzanne (Miss Lucy Langley), Phineas Collins (Mr Frank Eaglesfield), and Mark Perkins (Mr E. R. Beaumont) contribute to the success of the play. Particularly good are the Duke and Bob Tipton by Mr Henry Compton and Mr Ralph Lynn respectively. The Edene Troupe of lady dancers are deservedly recalled.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Mascard.—Mr and Mrs Chalmers Mackey's company is appearing here in *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr Chalmers Mackey himself takes the part of Barney O'Hea, and from start to finish sustains that rollicking character in his well known droll style. Shamus M'Dermott finds a strong exponent in Mr Reginald Garland, and Mr H. Sainsbury scores as Sir George Courtenay. Mr Conway Hastings is especially good as Connor Martin, and Mr C. Guilfoyle Seymour is an excellent Michael Kenny. The Norah M'Garth of Mrs Chalmers Mackey is all that could be desired, and Miss Lalla Stanhope is very taking as Biddy M'Ginn. Mr Henry Danson as Gerald Courtenay and Miss Adele Liddon as Mrs M'Dermott are specially well suited.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—Mr James Willard's company is here in the spectacular drama *In the Shadow of Night*, in which Miss Nellie Sheffield plays with much sprightliness the rôle of Molly. Mr Chisholm Taylor as Tom Nainby also adds to the comedy of the play. Miss May Richardson as Violet makes a charming heroine, while Miss Milly Gordon as a boy tramp is excellent. Mr George Harvey as Squire Allanton acts with quiet dignity, while Mr Howard L. Tracy gives a strong impersonation of Gordon Allanton, the squire's son. Mr Hamilton Deane as the villainous Clifford York varies the usual dramatic rascality by an admixture of jocular cynicism. Mr Fred Norburn gives a powerful representation of a poacher. Mr Archie Selwyn is amusing as a clergyman of the bandbox carrying variety, also doubling the part of a deaf old country postman. Mr Ern Carlton interprets naturally the part of a jolly farmer, and Mr Harry Ford makes a characteristic London cabman. Mr George Stoney as a waiter and Mr Dick Bird as a railway porter—with a few others—complete a strong cast. A big fire at a London dock and a plunge into real water are realistic effects.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—After a successful week at the Princess's the Craggs are delighting the Govan playgoers in *Laughter Land*. Mr Cremorne Cragg is very amusing as Billy. Mr Harry B. Lewis as Professor Wood and Mr Harry Rowley as Dick Marlow are responsible for most of the fun. Many bright songs and dances are introduced, and the acrobatic item by the Craggs is extremely clever.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green.—Mr Bert Wentworth's company is drawing good houses here with *That Woman from France*. Mr Jerrold Heather acts with much power in the exacting part of John Beaumont; Miss Marie De Roos makes a stately Camille Nichol; Mr H. Leonard Williams is well placed as the young lover, Cecil Charrington; the unscrupulous Philip Charrington is played with vigour by Mr Annesley Hely; Miss Evelyn Marrable infuses much pathos into the part of the young heiress, Beryl Stancliffe; Mr Bernard Dunstan is an amusing Latimer Louder; and the part of Winnie is brightly played by Miss Amy Maitland. Miss Lola Tempest as the housekeeper, Mr John B. Murray as Sir Esmond, and Mr William Artaud as the lawyer all give able assistance. The play is well mounted.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited.—There is a large and varied programme here this week. Alec Hurley gets a great reception in the "Coster's Friendly Lead;" the Haytors contribute a clever sketch, which causes much amusement; the gymnastic feats of the Devona Sisters are smart, and the juggling of Henri Kaiser is really clever; the patter of Tennyson and Wallis is responsible for much laughter, as also is that of the Anartos in their musical sketch; Harry Coates, the singing navvy, is well received; and the Three Sisters Sprightly give a smart and lively turn. The other members of the company, who are all deserving of notice, are Phil Herman and Ben Albert, both comedians; Leo Tell, the exponent of the equine language; and Gertrella, in her nicely staged scene "In Cupid's Garden."

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; Managing Director, Mr Barney M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred C. Ewing.—A good programme is provided here this week, and includes several novel items, notably W. Permane's educated bears. Another interesting item is that of Leonard Barry and company, in the comedy scena, *The Moocher's Walk*. The other members of a strong company include:—Harry Jennings, comedian and dancer; the Jansons, gymnasts; Dora Lindsay, vocalist; Linton, tight-rope artist; Tokio Trio, musical Japs; Bendon's Bioscope; Onda and Artell, comedy bar performers; and James O'Neill (Blind Jimmy), who accomplished the feat of walking from Cambuslang to London.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford.—Large and delighted audiences find their way to this popular house. Miss Annie Purcell, of operatic and musical comedy fame, sings in a charming style several equally charming songs; Mdlle. Clothilde once more delights with her clever and pretty parrots and cockatoos; and a pleasing musical turn, vocal and instrumental, is given by Nellio and Nora, their violin and pianoforte duet earning much applause. Japanese juggling is well illustrated by the Zanettos, and an eccentric and funny knockabout act is given by the Bros. Ward. Dion Wade is to the fore in Frank Leo's quaint melodies; Tray and Rich, black and white comedians, are an excellent and attractive turn, and win much favour; the contortionist, Mons. D'Musto, displays amazing agility; the Freydos are gymnasts of ability, grace, strength, and uniqueness; Bert Leslie is a good comedian. *Japan's Handy Men* is a spectacle at once interesting, amusing, and exciting, and Mr W. Selkirk has credit for the innovation. The lads take well. The ever-popular Bioscope is a fine close to the entertainment.

QUEEN'S.—Lessees, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; Manager, Mr T. J. Colquhoun; Acting-Manager, Mr B. M. Armstrong, Jun.—Harry Pleon, comedian, tops the bill here, and is still in the front rank in his line of business. On account of the indisposition of Frank Coyle, the management secured the services of Blind Jimmy (James O'Neill). A clever sketch is submitted by Cecil Lidden and Elsie Haywood, entitled *A Quiet Rehearsal*. The rest of the company include Bros. Lang, comic boxers; Sehilla Barrett, comedienne; Bouverie Pleydall, comedienne; Grell and Grey, burlesque artistes; Astley's circus; and Prince Bendon's Bioscope.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr Wm. Biggam.—This popular series of concerts are now fairly under weigh for the season. On Saturday the artistes were Miss Bessie W. Matheson, soprano; Mr Peter A. Hope, who sang baritone songs in good style; the Lindsay Trio, pierrots and musicians of ability on many instruments; the Murray Troupe of international dancers; and Mr Alexander Still and pupils in their popular turn with clubs, &c. Mr Harry Clyo and Miss Rose Rochelle appeared in a comedy act; Messrs Baker and Rose in a similar turn; and Mr Billy Mueller and Miss Clara Coyne proved clever variety entertainers.

GLOUCESTER

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Mrs Bandmann-Palmer, supported by a clever company, is being welcomed here this week. The répertoire consists of *Mary, Queen of Scots*, *Sapho*, *East Lynne*, *Nell Gwynn*, and *Jane Shore*. The first-named was presented on Monday, when Mrs Bandmann-Palmer appeared in the title-rôle, her scholarly rendering evoking frequent applause. Mr F. Skelu made an admirable Earl of Leicester, and the Earl of Shrewsbury was excellently played by Mr Boyd Pearson, and Lord Burleigh was adequately sustained by Mr Sydney Bland. Miss Katharine Herbert gave proofs of her undoubted ability as Queen Elizabeth; Mr G. Munro was good as the Earl of Kent; and Mr C. Kingsley did well as Sir Amyas Paulet. Sir Edward Mortimer had a praiseworthy exponent in Mr William Trant.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr Robert Ayrton's company is here for this week with the historical play entitled *The Shadow of the Cross*. Mr Robert Ayrton powerfully renders the part of Wulfere, King of Mercia, and the rôle of Edgar finds an excellent exponent in Mr V. Carlyle. Mr E. Pyne as Egbert acts with rare dramatic effect, and Mr H. Pyne-Warburton is admirably suited to the part of Chad, Bishop of Lichfield. The rôle of Werebode, a courtesan, is capitally portrayed by Miss Adria Hill. Miss V. Terry makes the most of her opportunities as Edelgitha, whilst Miss E. Clare displays the necessary dignity required in the part of Ethelinda, the Queen. Mr H. Ward as Ptolemy Geezer and Miss E. Lewis as Caleda are responsible for the comic element. *Under Two Flags* was played on Thursday and Friday.

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Captain H. E. Davis; General Manager, Mr David Hart.—At the top of an interesting bill, Albert Wyndham, the Shakespearian star, shines in *Prince Arthur*; Mdlle. Lucretia, refined burlesque artiste, captivates her audience; Arthur Royce, clever comedian, scores heavily; Cyrus Dare, in his unique performance, is highly appreciated; Eva Hamilton, styled La Belle Parisienne, is a brilliant dancer; H. F. Wilson, vocalist, renders some delightful tenor ballads; and Lord, Murray, and Lord, in their comedy "The Intruder," give a clever and amusing athletic performance.

GREAT GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Mr Lewis Calvert's company has presented the charming play, *Sunday*, here this week, with Miss Nita Faydon in the part of Sunday. Miss Faydon's impersonation of the character is greatly admired, and her picture of the bright, unaffected Western girl is delightfully refreshing. The parts of the four "boys," as Sunday terms them, are admirably realised by their respective exponents. Mr Frederick Powell is decidedly impressive as Towzer; Mr John H. Manley makes an excellent Davy; Mr T. Norman Walter causes much amusement as Lively, whilst Mr Whitford Kane wins everybody's favour as Jacky. The character of Colonel Brinthorpe is played with distinction by Mr J. Edward Pearce, and the good-for-nothing brother, Arthur Brinthorpe, is admirably represented by Mr Charles B. Vaughan. The work of Mr Ernest A. Douglas as Tom Oxley, Miss Elizabeth Watson as Mrs Naresby, and Miss Olive Adair as the Nun is also to be highly commended.

HIPPODROME.—At the Hippodrome Charles Morrit has considerably mystified the audiences with his wonderful illusions. He has also presented his Blind Man, whose memory is simply prodigious, he being able to answer questions relating to dates of historic occurrences, and to give a vast amount of other information immediately demanded. A clever display of hand and wire equilibristic work has been given by the Three Alberts. Excellent dancing and charming singing has been contributed by the Sisters Selwyn. An exhibition of the peculiar but extremely pretty art of paper-tearing has been another interesting turn, for which Tony and Flo Vernon are responsible. Some smart club swinging has been accomplished by Duncan, whilst Bert Holmes has given an entertaining vocal turn, and comedy has been supplied by the Padleys in a speciality, "The Private Lesson."

KING'S HALL.—Tom Birchmore's variety company, including Satsuma, the Japanese juggler, opened here for a season on Monday.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—Mr Cecil Barth's company is here this week with the new American drama, *An Actor's Romance*. Miss Constance Elgin gives an earnest and powerful rendition of the rôle of the adventuress, Florence; Mr Guy Hastings is spirited and manly as Harold Davenport; Robert Livingstone is well represented by Mr Percy Ruston; Mr Percy Marmont is excellent as Jack Woodford; Mr E. H. Dobell is effective as the dude, Charlie Cummings; Mr John Detliv is Isidore De Valois; Mr Albert Wainwright as John Lennon; and Mr Maurice Lenton as Lester Bond are all good in their respective parts. Miss Bertha Northam is sympathetic and tender as Louise Davenport. Miss May Chatteris is bright and vivacious as Dottie Dillingham. The scenery is picturesque.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—This week we have Mr Fred Bulmer's *Sentenced for Life* company. The drama is excellently represented, and is being performed nightly to appreciative audiences. Mr Richard Bosco is admirable as Sir Wallace Stilwell. Captain Derrick is capitally represented by Mr Ernest Vaughan, Mr Harry Lloyd fills the rôle of Lieut. Stilwell satisfactorily, the part of Rev. Martin Orris receives excellent treatment from Mr Chas. Whitlock, and Mr E. D. Allen is effective as Percy M'Gentle. Messrs Arthur Marchmont and Edward Finley are clever as Bill Sharkey and Toby respectively. Mr Lake Warden does well as George Wade, and Mr Hugh Faulkiner acts the part of Sir George Grey capably. Miss Georgina V. France is charming as Adele Grey, Miss Madge Douglas gives a realistic portrayal of Kate Rennel, and Miss Mary Dalby as Lady Stilwell deserves praise.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—Mr Skivington has provided an excellent company at this theatre this week. Abel and Welsh, grotesque comedians, are amusing; J. A. Cassells, Scotch comedian, is applauded; the Stanleys, vocalists and dancers, do well; Slade Murray, actor vocalist, gives an entertaining turn; the Boultons, sketch artists, are well received; Mdlle. Bartinelli is seen in a number of contortionist movements; Nellie Farrell, the Star of Erin, sings well; and the O'Malleys are genuinely funny.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—The Karnos' musical comical absurdity, *Saturday to Monday*, is here this week, and is serving its purpose by causing almost continual laughter. The piece is well put on, staged and dressed with effect, and the principal artistes are efficient in their respective rôles. Misses Aggie Morris, Gladys White, Carlotta Blondin, and Messrs Tom Wallace, Douglas Fox, Wilton Shale, Herbert Lewis, Henri Duval, and James Fletch play the principal characters admirably.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—Miss Lottie Lennox heads the bill here this week and is proving a great success. Her songs are rendered with discrimination and she is very popular. The other items on the programme include Gray and Welford, comedians; Ada Twibell, vocalist; Ted Young, comedian; Ruby Winstone, comedienne and dancer; Steely and Dowton, in a singing, dancing, comedy, and legmania act; Gintaro, a clever juggler and top-spinner; and Teb's monkeys.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—Following closely upon the heels of *The Earl and the Girl* comes Mr George Dance's company, in *The School Girl*. The piece affords ample chances for the artistes engaged, and all the parts are admirably acted. The scenic effects leave nothing to be desired, and the chorus is strong and well balanced. Miss Grace Sinclair as Cicely sings cleverly and acts with much grace. Miss Mildred King as the Mother Superior gives a truly excellent performance; Miss Ethel Beech is seen to advantage in the title-part; Mr Lister Morrah as Edgar Verney acts with ease and sings capitally; Mr Cameron Carr's interpretation of Peter Overend is good; Sir Ormesby St. Leger finds a really fine exponent in Mr Leslie Holland; Mr Chas. Adeson as General Marchmont is interesting; and Tubby Bedford is capably sustained by Mr Alfred Leslie.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—A fine house on Monday witnessed the Pantzer Bros. in their wonderful feats of hand and head balancing; Fred Ginnett's company, in their highly interesting sketch, viz., *Rejected Remounts*, are well received; Edgar Forrest's sketch artistes are seen to advantage; Bob Hutt, comedian, causes roars of laughter; Miss Dorothy Clark meets with an enthusiastic reception; and La Tostia contributes several cleverly rendered items on the mandoline; Fred Lincoln pleases everyone with his songs; Charles Mathews as a jumper is most entertaining; and the Grand pictures are full of interest.

HARTLEPOOL

EMPRESS.—Proprietor, Councillor Everton; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—Ando's Happy Little Japs are creating quite a furore here this week with their amazing acrobatic performance. The company is a strong one all round. Nellie Coleman, the well-known female comedian, adds greatly to her already high reputation, her dancing and patter being very clever. The Gladenbecks are doing wonders on the silver rings; Dome, clay modeller, takes the house by storm; and Geo. Rapley and Fred Cathburn, comedians, are each enthusiastically received. The Rozells are captivating as well as smart on the comedy bars; Flo Hilton is a capital male impersonator; and Maria Santo is a good comedienne. Burns's Bioscope completes the bill.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Mr George Dance's company in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, on a return visit, met with an enthusiastic reception, opening on Monday evening. Encores to all the popular numbers were demanded, and the piece went briskly right through. Miss M. Sadie as Fi-Fi was very funny, and fairly roused the house to boisterous hilarity with her comicalities. Miss Marie Adair played gracefully and sang effectively as Soo-Soo. Miss Jose Collins showed much spirit as Mrs Pineapple, and Miss Alice Drummond was austerity itself as Mrs Brown. Mr Harry Brayne worked hard and successfully as Pineapple. Mr Percy Yorke was a manly Tom Atherton. Mr Frank A. Wood invested the part of Hang Chow with a certain humorous dignity. Mr Leonard May put in some smart work as Hi-Lung, and Mr P. Allerton Turner made the most of his opportunities as Chipple Chop. A marked feature was the bright, crisp, and tuneful singing of a particularly alert chorus. The dressing and general mounting of the piece were tasteful and complete.

HULL.

ALHAMBRA.—Resident-Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet Perry.—Tom Lloyd is a successful top turn in some smart songs; the Waldrons are responsible for much laughter in some smart burlesque and dancing; Charles R. Whittle is another turn that suits the taste of the audience; Walter Bellonini, the juggler, performs some clever tricks; Ethel Yorke is a successful singer and dancer; and Alf Aubyn is a smart coon vocalist and dancer. Johnny Danvers, comedian, and Professor Welsen complete an all-round good company.

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HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr George H. Gaze.—Messrs Louis Calvert and Herbert Ross's company on Monday gave a capital presentment of Thomas Raceward's play, *Sunday*, for the first time in this borough. Miss Marie Polini submitted a fine performance of Sunday, showing a thorough grip of the character. Nothing but praise is due to Messrs Henry Stephenson, David Curtis, Alfred Phillips, and Arthur Somers for the support they respectively afforded her as Towser, Davy, Lively, and Jacky. Miss Dorothy Gordon played the Nun impressively, and Miss Maude Henderson ably impersonated Mrs Naresby. Arthur Brinthorpe was successfully impersonated by Mr W. Edwyn Holloway, and Mr Arthur Willoughby efficiently enacted Tom Oxley.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner.—This week finishes the engagement of Ashton's Italian orchestra. These farewell concerts are augmented by the excellent contralto vocalist Miss Lilian Harvey and the popular humorist Mr Ronald Bagnall.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh. — A superior quartet of vocalists, under the title of "The Roman Singers," in characteristic costume, are holding the boards here this week, including Miss Amy Aifford, an Australian soprano; Miss Maisie Riversdale; and Messrs Charles Edwards and Groves Watson; Mr Broughton Black being the humorist. They are artistes of a very high order, and their well-trained voices blend most harmoniously in burlesque opera and various musical selections.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—An excellent company is here this week. The programme is opened by Miss Millie Denham, an attractive burlesque artiste. Mr Wisper is a remarkably clever and expert juggler; Miss Beattie Bloom, comedienne, obtains a flattering reception; Miss May Belfort, a sweet singer, is accompanied by some charming dark-hued vocalists in an interesting Negro scena; the Carlyles, in Spanish costume, are original in their dancing; the eccentric comedian Mr Charles Lilburn creates great amusement; the acrobatism of Messrs Hall and Earle is exceedingly smart and clever; an attractive feature also is the Bioscope up-to-date pictures.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson.—Messrs George Mitchell and John Belton's company in *The Conscript* is appearing here this week. In the rôle of Karl Truevitch Mr Geo. Mitchell meets with distinct success. Ivan Manioff has a capable exponent in Mr Walter Spinner, and Count Paul Hardiski is cleverly embodied by Mr Fred H. Constable. Mr John Belton, who scores as Dor Doggeritch, is an actor of ability. A pleasing representation of Nadia Truevitch is given by Miss Mary Dawson. Miss Elizabeth Doone is admirable as Catherine Silka, and Miss Ivy Chandos gives an agreeable rendering of Wanda. Mr Frank Harvey as Michael Andreitch, Mr Frank Liliput as Tretch Trotoff, Mr Edw. Hill as Maxim Fredka, Mr Geo. Oliver as Wolf Stilvitch, Mr F. E. P. Case as General Korshoo, Mr W. F. Armytage as Commander Jolly, and Mr Harold Holmes as Captain Perston are also artists worthy of note. Little Elsie Baston does well as Little Karl, and Miss Maud Ranford makes the most of her part as Dame Katinda.

HORWICH.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Arthur Sandiford; Acting-Manager, Mr Alfred Holles. — Mr Hugh Osborne's company in *The Sins of the Fathers*, is here this week. The piece is very elaborately staged. Mr Cecil Ravenswood as Jim Hewitt gives a fine manly performance, Mr Max Coutts pictures Sebastian Brandt in lurid colours, Mr A. Traill makes an aristocratic Mr Harmsworth, and Mr Wallace Eastlake as George Armitage has a very hard part and does full justice to it. Mr Harry E. Thorpe as Deuteronomy Smith is very amusing, Mr Chas. Lock as Justice Thyme is responsible for some good dancing, and Mr Harry Leach is a stalwart Constable Thomas. Miss Dorothy Routh's impersonation of Edith Harmsworth is a fine sympathetic performance. Miss Edith Le Ray as Polly Popplethwaite is vociferously encored, Miss Beryl Ravenswood's portrayal of Camille Leblanc is most artistic, and little Miss Lulu Bowes in the dual-rôle of Nellie Hewitt, a dying child, and the Nipper, a juvenile coster, display great promise. The minor characters are in capable hands.

HOYLAND.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr G. S. King.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester Jackson's company is here in *Her One Great Sin*. Miss Florence Creagh shows much ability as Grace Warhurst; Mr Sam Arthur does well as Reuben Warhurst; Mr Harold B. Ford is an amusing Jack Hundle; and Mr Fred Hodson as Jerry Jumble and Miss Nellie Lambert as Nancy support the comedy element. Arnold Thornhill is well played by Mr Frederick Lloyd; Dan and Bet Hundle are good studies by Mr C. E Lambert and Miss Louie Walton; and Mr F. Morton-Wright is a satisfactory Ben Barkley. The staging is very good.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—A third and very successful visit is being paid here this week by Mr W. H. Kirby and company in *The New Mephisto*. As Dick Pilgrim Mr W. H. Kirby is exceedingly droll, and with Miss Marion Armitage, who appears as Becky Pilgrim, causes roars of laughter. Successful also in the mirth-provoking line are Messrs Herbert St. John and Willie H. Vernon as Lord Hummingtop and Major Bantam respectively. As Mr Mephistopheles, &c., Mr Fred Lyne displays remarkable versatility. Miss Lily Gullick is a charming Dolly, and sings and dances in a highly pleasing manner; and Mr H. P. Carr makes a manly Capt. Meredith, and scores as a vocalist. The three goey widows find vivacious exponents in the Misses Dorothy Cecil, Leah Howard, and Marion Keeley.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr L. F. A. Rogers.—Messrs Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' company is paying a welcome return visit this week with *The Life that Kills*. Mr Herbert Sidney gives a wonderfully life-like picture of the unscrupulous bookmaker, Kendal Croat; Mr E. D. Nicholls sustains the part of the Rev. Theodore Rodney, Lord Kelmarsh, with masterly tact, and Mr Hugh Metcalfe and Mr Morris Maud in their respective parts of Hector Rodney and Valentine Telford display marked ability. Mr Robert Lord is natural as Captain Montague, Mr Harry Howe is hilariously funny as Jack Joliffe, and the Samuel Flatfoote of Mr Wilton Drury is exceedingly droll. In the dual part of Tom and Johanna Dicks, Miss Mabel Kessler is seen to great advantage, her cornet and post-horn solos evoking applause; Miss Vyvyan Montgomery is powerfully pathetic as Laurie Linden; and the Brenda Croat of Miss Cathleen Cavanagh is artistically portrayed.

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL — Managing Director, Mr Cameron Burgess.—Messrs J. F. Preston and P. E. Doherty's company, with *Secrets*, is here this week. Mr George Davis does well as Lieutenant Markham; Mr Henry Rutland is capable in the rôle of Nouredin, and Mr J. Templar Ellis ably acts the part of Ibrahim. Miss Ellen Beverley is an admirable Zulieka, and Miss May Carlton does exceedingly well as Ismalia.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—*The Duchess of Danzic* has been played here this week by Mr George Dance's company. Miss Rita Presano was a charming representative of the Duchess, while Mr F. Moyes did full justice to the part of Napoleon. Mr Albert Champion was an admirable Lefebvre, his acting and singing being equally good; and Mr Colin Mackay was a humorous Papillon. Other members of the company who added to the success of the piece were Messrs Thomas C. Maxwell and Mesdames May Harries, Mabel Bailey, Amy Burton, and Edyth Carlyle.

HIPPODROME.—This place of amusement has attracted large audiences at two performances each evening. Duncan's Royal Scotch collies by their wonderful intelligence evoke much applause, while a couple of acrobatic artists called Cubicas do some marvellous feats. Other new turns include La Rola, a clever juggler; Harry Best, whose personation of London stars is well applauded; Rose Caban, a fine ballad singer; Miss May Lilian Levy, comedienne; Sandy and Carl, knockabouts; and Charles Paver, comedian. The Hippograph with new films is an attractive item in the programme.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Secretary, Mr William Y. Oakes.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company is here with the drama entitled *A Modern Adventuress*. Mr Geo. D. Knight gives a good account of the rôle of William Delby, and Mr Charles Stirling is a manly Harry Delby; the part of Wallace Danton is done full justice to by Mr W. R. Winning; Mr Leonard Aardale submits a first-class portrayal of Pietro Donelli; Mr Geo. P. Lester is well placed as Walter Beal; and Mr Evan Roland is quite at home in the rôle of John Compton. Miss Beatrice M. Anderson is excellent as Violet Meredith, Miss Alice Detoe plays with great judgment the part of Vivette Delby, and Miss Mimi Fisher scores as Sally Hodges.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—Mr and Mrs Kimberley's company is here in *A Sister's Sin*. Mr J. P. Royston played the hero in good style, and Mr Sidney Rennef is admirable as Walter Hastings. Mr Raymond Thomas is satisfactory as the unscrupulous George Oakley, and the Ikey Moses is effectively portrayed by Mr Ernest Frere. The comedy parts are in excellent hands. Mr Cecil Morand as Larry Murphy and Mr Elwin Kisby as Theophilus Hope keep the audience in good humour, and they are ably assisted by Miss Mabel Ray as Floss Perks and Miss Lillian Warren as Nellie Stubbs. Miss Cora Linda gives a charming rendering of Minnie Hastings, Miss Clara Santley is responsible for a fine performance as Charsel, and Miss Grace Jones is deserving of praise as Redempta. Masters Tiny and Dot Pape also add considerably to the success of the piece.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, Jun.—Mr Auguste Van Biene, the well-known actor musician, and company are here in the play, entitled *The Broken Melody*. As Paul Borinski Mr Auguste Van Biene is excellent. He is ably supported by Miss Lena Burnleigh, who is admirable in the rôle of Mabel, wife of Borinski. Mr Arthur Bawtree effectively portrays the character of General Ivanoff, a police spy. The piece is mounted in first-class style.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Herbert Leonard. — Mr Chas. Macdona's company, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, opened on Monday to a crowded house. Mr Lester Carey makes a majestic Hang Chow; Mr Percy Stephens as the Lord Chancellor is good; Mr Geo. P. Ascot gives a droll rendering of Mr Pineapple; Miss Dorothy Vane acts and sings well in the part of Mrs Pineapple; Miss Cissy Schofield keeps the house in continuous roars of laughter with her comicalities as Fi-Fi; Miss Mamie Finbow makes a charming Soo-Soo; and Miss Julie St. George as Mrs Brown gives a capital impersonation.

LANCASTER.

ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—*Bigamy* is being presented here this week by Mr Morton Powell's company. Miss Alwynne Ermon gives a vivid and realistic portrayal of Diana De Courcelle, and receives excellent support from Mr E. S. Earle as Edgar Craven. Another good character sketch is that of Lionel Craven by Mr E. J. Fare, and Miss Elsie Capel gives a clever study of Sylvia Dresden. There is plenty of humour introduced by Mr Fred Moule as Rufus Cherryball and F. Searle as Voltaire, a Frenchman.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Edward Compton and Milton Bode; Manager, Mr Reginald Taylor.—The attraction on Monday and the two following nights was Messrs Murray King and Clark's company in *Sweet and Twenty*. Miss Rosalie Jacobi gave a dainty impersonation of Joan, and Mr Lionel Glenister as the erring but manly Douglas was well placed. Mr Robert Milsted came out of the difficult part of Eustace with flying colours; and the other parts were capably handled. *Sweet and Twenty* was preceded by that uproarious musical playlet *You and I*. For the latter part of the week Miss Fortescue and company in *Moths* and *Ought We to Visit Her?* are announced.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart, General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—The charming comic opera, *My Lady Molly*, is the attraction here, and Mr Frederick Mouillot's company do the piece full justice. Miss Beatrice Edwards fills the title-rôle with distinction; Mr Harry Davies plays the dashing Captain Romney in effective style; and Mr Augustus Cramer is no less successful in his portrayal of Sir Miles. Mr John T. M'Callum wins great favour by his clever work as the comical servant, Micky O'Dowd; Miss Rita Everard is noticeable for a neat and artistic effort as Alice Coverdale; and capital presentations of other leading rôles go to the credit of Miss Kitty Upton, Miss Amy Cooper, and Mr Ernest Mozar.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston. — The thrilling detective drama *From Scotland Yard* is being played here by Mr C. Finch-Hatton's company, and this well-known actor himself portrays Detective Jack Dale in effective fashion. Miss Renee Glendower renders capital assistance as Mad Marie; Mabel is an interesting study by Miss Marion Forrester; and the part of Dale's sister, Sybil, is equally well taken by Miss Mabel Verne. The villainous Dean Fordyce has an effective exponent in Mr C. H. Matthews; some welcome comedy business is introduced by Mr J. F. Firth; and Mr Mike Johnson and Mrs Nellie Hook also play a prominent part in the general success.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—The visit of Mr Tom B. Davis's company with *Florodora* is always a big attraction here. Mr Edward Lewis is again the irrepressible Tweedlepunch, and keeps his audience in a state of continual hilarity. Mr Fred Winn presents the part of Cyrus Gilfain in satisfactory style. Mr Leonard Russell acts and sings extremely well as Frank Abercoed, and Miss Lena Maitland is a charming exponent of the part of Dolores.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—A flattering reception has been accorded Miss Vesta Tilley, whose visit after an absence of two years is a most popular one. At Monday's performance a budget of new songs were sang in quite her best style, but still a delighted audience clamoured for more, whereupon Miss Tilley responded with a charming little speech. A good company supports, including R. H. Douglass, in a clever monologue; Phillips and Terry, with their amusing sketch, *The Revolt of Man*, and the Alaskas, in an expert comedy and acrobatic act. The Werner Amoros Troupe present their pantomimic sketch with great success. The Wedburns, patter comedians, appear again, and other interesting items are submitted by Rafayette, with clever performing dogs; Juan and M'Que, knockabout comedians; Ida Brophy, comedienne; and the Lannons, duettists and dancers.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Charles Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—Richard Sawade heads the bill here with his remarkably fine animal show, the troupe including lions, tigers, bears, and dogs. A popular comedian, W. J. Churchill, also finds great favour; whilst that clever vocal comedian, Will Godwin, is also a successful contributor. Vera Patey is an accomplished character-comedienne; the Cullane Trio submit a smart entertainment, *The Dude's Dilemma*, with good success; the Bros Donar are seen in an expert acrobatic and equilibristic act; the Waltons also appear in a similar line; and the programme is completed by Ida Gladstone, contralto vocalist; Merton and Rydon, vocal artistes; and the ever-popular animated pictures.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—A clever and amusing comic juggling act by Radford and Valentine is the leading turn here. The Watson Family present their musical and vocal entertainment with success. Of smart comedians there are no less than four appearing, namely, Alf Gibson, Dan Thomas, Tom Yorke, and Gus Hindell, and all are exceedingly clever in their own particular line. The Four Skandias perform gymnastic feats, and the Sisters Warner sing and dance in good style.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—*A Royal Divorce*, presented by Mr W. W. Kelly's excellent company, is fulfilling a return engagement here this week. Miss Edith Cole makes a conspicuous success as the Empress Josephine, her whole embodiment calling for the highest praise. Miss Ethyle Murray is an admirable Marie Louise, and Miss Helen Richmond as Stephanie De Beauharnais is also good. Mr Frederick Victor plays in a most powerful and effective manner as Napoleon. Mr Claude Agnew does well as Talleyrand, and Mr Trevor Lowe as the Marquis De Beaumont, Mr Alfred Grenville as General Augereau, Mr Ernest G. Batley as Marshal Murat, and Mr H. J. Powell as Dr. Corvisart are to be complimented on their respective delineations. As the innkeeper, Grimaud, Mr Dennis Bryan is capital. The play is well staged.

THEATRE ROYAL — Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—*Her Forbidden Marriage*, by Frederick Melville, met with a good reception here on Monday; Mr Horace Hunter as George Maddison, and Mr Clarence Hague as Charles Devereux the evil genius, are prominent with very clever portrayals. Mr C. Carte is good as Sir Geo Lancaster; Miss Doris Brookes does well as Lady Lucretia Lancaster; Miss Emily Hughes is effective as the Mother Superior; and Miss Isla Garnet Vayne as Lucy is satisfactory. Miss Marie Kildare as Pattie Lovejoy and Mr Harry Elliston as Timothy Tuttutt cause much merriment.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal. —The premier turn here this week is Donaldson Bros. and Ardel and company, who cause the heartiest laughter with their pantomimic sketch, *A Zoological Comedy*. The Manhattan Comedy Four give a most enjoyable turn; The Brothers Egbert, the "happy dustmen," are very smart; Brown and Robinson are always sure of a flattering reception here; and the Mackweys score a success with their singing; the Mascotte Trio are seen to advantage in a clever and graceful gymnastic display; Johnny Dwyer, comedian, goes well; and Miss Norah Emerald and Miss Flo Burris also add to the enjoyment. The American Bioscope includes a capital film "Off for the Holidays."

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—Johnny Holland and company, who star here, are giving with the greatest success their absurdity *My Friend the Boots*. Bertha Winder, the remarkably clever all-round dancer, is at the other end, and is having a splendid reception. Mdlle. Martha gives a graceful gymnastic display; Geo. Hyam, comedian, is very good; the Sisters Adelaide, duettists and dancers, are popular; the Mozandos give a capital show, the male member being a clever barrel jumper and tumbler; Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer, is also entertaining; Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope is retained over another week, showing "Off for the Holidays" and other entertaining pictures.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—Messrs Gordyn and Gelling's company, in *The Temptress*, is paying a return visit here this week. As the Temptress Miss Violet Crauford is seen to great advantage, and combines grace with fiendish malignancy; Mr Percy Ballard as Lucas Denbeigh, the mesmerist, acquits himself admirably; and the acting of Mr Henry W. Hatchman as Pedro Gonzales, the wronged husband, is marked by fine distinction. Miss Ada M. Ryder as Madge Denbeigh exerts herself to the utmost in the exposition of a trying rôle. Mr George Daiper as Philip Melford, the hero, puts plenty of energy into his heroic speeches. Miss Vashti Wynne, the heroine, delivers her lines with much tenderness. Mr Herbert Williams creates much amusement as Bob Tanner, and much assistance is rendered by Mr Allen Charles as Francis Fitz-Fluke, Mr John Chippendale as Gregory, and Miss Mattie Everett as Rhoda Brown are all that can be desired. Mr Arthur Sheldon as the banker, Sir Oswald Fordyce, is commendable, and Mr Will Chanter makes a fine detective. The remaining parts are also well filled.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—The company here includes Mr T. W. Barrett, comedian, who fully deserves the cordial reception accorded him; Les Bollingers, in their novel act, "The Rag Painters of Paris," are very good and smart; Mr W. Richardson, stump orator, an old favourite, is as amusing as ever; Arthur M'Nab, tenor vocalist, has a sweet voice; and Cinizelli, in an eccentric acrobatic act, is clever and amusing. Fred Collins, comedian; Miss Curtis, serio; Holger, novelty paper tearer; and the Hippodrome pictures make up a good programme. There is also a local sentimental singing contest.

CIRCUS.—Buffalo Bill's Wild West visited this town on Monday, and was well patronised.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—Miss Fortescue, after an absence of several years, reappears to repeat all her old triumphs locally. In *Moths*, on Monday, Miss Fortescue as Fuchsia Leach was completely successful, impersonating the character charmingly. Excellent support was forthcoming from Miss Gladys Jesson as Vere, Miss Madeleine Meredith as Lady Dolly, Miss Miriam Lewes as Duchesse De Sonnaz, and Miss Eugenie Vernie as Princess Nadine. An admirable portrayal of Zouroff was given by Mr Conway Wingfield; Mr Dalziel Heron excellently played Lord Jura; and Mr Cecil Newton was a decidedly good Raphael De Corrèze. On Tuesday *The School for Scandal* and on Wednesday *She Stoops to Conquer* attracted large houses.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur; Assistant Manager, Mr Brandon Blake.—F. V. St. Clair, virile and versatile as ever, is singing up-to-date political and topical songs with any amount of dash and vim. The Villions, smart cyclists, are contributing a sensationally clever turn, and well-accepted items are also given by such old and new favourites as Lily Lassab, the Bransbys, Kittie Wager, Morny Cash, Charles F. Best, Fred Poplar, and Allis and Cassati.

LICHFIELD.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—On Monday night Mr Chevalier appeared here and drew an excellent house. His programme included several of his new impersonations and not a few of his old favourites. His concert party was attractive, the accompanist, as usual, being that clever pianist Mr West.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE — Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—A cordial welcome has this week been given to Miss Lena Ashwell, who is not unknown in the city on the Mersey, her present visit possessing special interest by reason of the fact that she has undertaken the responsibilities of managership. The work she presented is an adaptation from the French, *La Montansier*, termed *Marguerite*. Although the play cannot claim any particular strength, Miss Ashwell with her emotional talent infused into it immense interest, and won for herself hearty recognition. In the hands of an actress of less power the part of the heroine would have been a tame thing indeed. She was well supported by a capable company. Mr Frank Mills as the actor, Neuville, presented a noble and sincere lover, and shared the honours of the evening. Other principals included Mr Charles Groves, Mr Harry Halley, Mr G. Drayton, Mr Thomas Holding, Miss Helen Macbeth, Miss Beryl Mercer, and Miss Marie Hudspeth. The costumes and setting were admirable.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED —Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—*The Duke of Killicrankie* made his initial appearance here this week, and received a warm greeting. The company is that of Messrs Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh. Mr Langhorne Burton made a capital Duke; Mr Arthur Grenville was exceedingly funny as the fortune-hunting M.P.; Miss Doris Templeton gave a delightful portraiture of Lady Addison; and Miss Aida Jenoure's Mrs Mulholland was highly diverting. Miss Ellen Standing was the Countess of Pangbourne; and the other members of the cast worthily filled their small but necessary parts with credit. *For Value Received* was the curtain-raiser.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessee and General Manager, Mr J. H. French —This old-established theatre, on the stage of which many old time comedians have often strutted, reopened its doors on Monday under the management of Mr John H. French, who recently gave up the Irving Theatre at Seacombe. The Prince of Wales's has had many viscissitudes, and for some considerable time has been closed. A few weeks ago the place was put up for auction, and withdrawn at £10,000, since which time nothing was known of its future until the announcement was made that Mr French had resolved to try his luck. The piece selected for the opening of what one can only wish may prove a successful season, was a three-act farce entitled *Why William Lied*. The author, Mr Philip Clifford, was a capital stockbroker, Mr Theo Jones, the colonel, other parts being taken by Mr G. Percy, Mr E Coutts, and Mr L. P. Hamer. Miss Alice Hunter created great amusement as the confused widow, Miss Lilian Piercy impersonated a Chicago heiress, Miss Mansfield was the Colonel's wife, and Miss Kathleen Clifford the heroine.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun. — Charles Frohman's company is here this week with the ever-attractive play, *Sherlock Holmes*, with the result that large audiences have attended the popular north-end theatre and followed with interest the skilful working of the celebrated detective. Mr H. A Saintsbury held the title-rôle, which he has played 700 times, and certainly gave a masterly rendering for which he won well-deserved applause. He received large support from the gifted actress, Miss Vera Longden, who presented a graceful Alice Faulkner, whose strange case had to be investigated; Mr W. F. Stirling was a capital Professor Moriarity; and Mr Leslie Carter proved a good James Larrabee. The minor characters were in the hands of capable artists.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—Claud Ginnett's sketch *Rejected Remounts* tops the bill here. Lily Marney delights the audience with her songs; the Great Vincent does some daring somersaults from the top of piled-up tables; Benson and Geoffreys, in their sketch *A Bit of Bacon*, are laughable; Paul Vandy is a clever juggler; Haig and Novel are smart and amusing dancers and acrobats; Thomas E. Finglas scores with coon songs; and Ada Devine is a singer of no mean merit.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—A strong attraction is here this week, and on every evening crowded audiences have been the rule. The Indian actress, Go-Won-Go Mohawk, has paid many previous visits to Liverpool, and, especially at the Star, has always been received with enthusiasm, but this week *Wep-Ton-No-Mah, The Indian Mail Carrier*, which is from her pen, has been particularly well patronised, and has aroused much interest. The cast is a good one, and among the lady's principal supporters are Mr C. W. Charles, a dignified Colonel Stockton; Miss Minnie Goepel, Mr George Thorne, a villainous desperado; Miss Jessie Hart, and Mr Theo. Alker. Although the work is replete with daring episodes, a great deal of humour and songs and dances are introduced. The scenic effects are striking and exceedingly picturesque, and are illustrative of actual views in the Far West of America.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—The powerful work entitled *The Master Criminal* is being given here this week for the first time in Liverpool, the company responsible being that of Mr Stanley Hope. The principal rôle of Telford Lestage, the master mind in a villainous combine, was undertaken by Mr Robert Forsyth with dramatic effect; while his partner in crime, Cecile, alias Lady Travennes, found an admirable exponent in Miss Nellie Thearle. Credit is due to Mr Herbert Skardon and Miss Enid Edoni for their well-rendered characters of Philip Manners and his wife, a persecuted couple; and also to Messrs Julius Wright and Stanley Hope as Ben Beauday, a detective, and Gentleman Jim respectively. The clever child actress, Miss Marjorie Lawrence, displayed much ability for her years, and the comic element was in the good hands of Mr Tod Squires and Miss Bella Bashall. The staging was effective.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—A capital evening's enjoyment is provided here, the programme being comprehensive and diversified. At the top we have Gus Elen, a Liverpool favourite, whose humorous coster representations are a source of keen delight. During the week he has been in good form and received much applause. Staley's Novelty Transformation company, introducing Cass, Andrew, and Miss Ada, provided a good turn. Their musical act, representative of a smithy, in which melodious sounds are produced in various ways with a quick change to a drawing-room, with its violin music and dancing, received the appreciative attention of pleased auditors. Stewart and Morgan render a number of songs illustrative of "Leaving Ireland," and show themselves to be vocalists of a high order. Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq, black-faced comedians, create laughter in plenty, not only by their strange contrast in size, but by their antics in *A Dark Night Before Us*. Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes are a source of much merriment with their sketch, *A Matrimonial Substitute*. Carrie Lawrie's juveniles give a diverting kindergarten show; the Griffiths Brothers are seen in a smart burlesque entertainment; and others in the programme are "Silent" Tait, eccentric wizard; Stelling and Revell; the Kellinos with their speciality *Venetia*; Stave, the Indian comedy artiste; and James Grant and Tatten Hall, comedians.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Crowded houses twice a night are the rule here, and this week especially has the patronage been great. The principal attraction is the popular Arthur Roberts, who brings his own company, with the musical sketch *Where's the Count?* The well known comedian received a hearty welcome, and his diverting playlet aroused much amusement. Another important engagement is that of Captain Woodward's performing seals and sea lions, which, although having been seen here many times, are as great an attraction as ever. Another set of performing animals is brought by De Gracia, who introduces a number of well-trained elephants. Miss Amy Augarde, an accomplished and graceful vocalist, proved herself a favourite with her sweet songs; the Four Sisters Merkel go through a neat gymnastic pot-pourri; a good turn is presented by Martina and Son, American song illustrators; Carola's miniature circus of trained ponies and dogs is watched with interest; and others in the bill are Daisy Martell, J. W. Hall, Will Johnson, and the Lombarts.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—Achilles, "the premier British athlete," is here this week, and gives an exhibition of his great strength. The Three Martinettes are able comedians, whose actions are followed by much laughter; their act *The Trainer and the Two Tramps; or, The Troubles of an Elephant*, is as funny as it can possibly be. Included in the lengthy programme are Philip Percival, late of Moore and Burgess Minstrels, baritone and actor-vocalist; the Evremonds, comedy duettists; Miss May Fallowfield, coon songstress; the Two Dominos; George Wyres, comedian; Miss Issa Steel, ballad vocalist; Will Saunders; and Miss Lillie Le Breton.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin Smith. This neat little place continues to enjoy public approval and each week popular programmes are provided. At present we have the Three Missouris, with their screamingly funny sketch, *Captain Kettle and His Mates*. The well-known acrobats have a deservedly good reception. Rose Tilley, the favourite burlesque actress, renders a number of acceptable songs; James Shingleton, the singing collier, earns loud applause for his efforts; and the remainder of the bill is filled by Edie Maddison, comedienne and dancer; Harry Carman; and Alf Stelling, actor-vocalist.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan.—The company here this week is a strong one, and among the attractions are a number of photographic snap-shots of persons in the street, which are thrown on a screen. Anyone present detecting his or her picture is given five shillings. The idea has aroused some considerable interest. Agnes and Arthur Lynch present some neat sketches and sings stirring songs; George and Edwards are acceptable and able comedians; Pollard and Grey submit a racy and laughable burlesque; and others are Charles Bradford, Tronini, a man of mystery; and Harry Conder.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery. —Principal here this week is the mystifying performance of Aga, the suspended flying maiden; Baroni and Kemp are a capital turn, introducing exceedingly quick change in their lively speciality, "Fun on Furlough;" Pulo, as a boy whistler, is wonderfully expert; the Sisters Terry are a couple of popular duettists and mimics; and others on the bill are Bandoni, Alice Maple, Carl Osmond, Lily Martell, Frank Whitely, and Guy Rider.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—The first appearance in Liverpool of Auto Atlas, a strong man, has been the great attraction here. Included in his feats is the lifting by means of his teeth of a motor car containing three people. The Sivado Troupe of trick acrobatic cyclists is a clever combination, and prettily perform some astounding movements. The Brooklands are a couple of dainty comediennes and dancers; the Esdale Bros. provide a refined entertainment; and others are Georgie Beaufort, vocalist and dancer, and George Mack, comedian.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—Hardie and Von Leer's company in *Two Little Vagabonds* is playing here this week to delighted audiences. As Dick and Wally Miss May Hart and Miss Dorothy Marsdin are exceptionally clever and charming; as George Thornton Mr J. W. Henson gives a capital representation; Mr Basil Hillier as John Scarth is very good; Mr W. Forster as Captain Darville, and Mr Alfred Russell as Bill Mullins are both most capable; the parts of Dido Bunce and the Cough Drop are well taken by Messrs Frank Gordon and Fred Archer; as Barbara Scarth Miss Nell Oliver does exceedingly well; Miss Laura Hansen is very good as Marion Thornton; and Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy Mullins does well. The play is excellently staged.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—*Whitewashing Julia* was played here on three nights at the beginning of the week. Mr H. Asheton Tonge was very good as William Stillingfleet, and Mr Willox Cadogan as Edwin Pinkney was capital. Samways was cleverly portrayed by Mr Archibald M'Lean, Miss Kate Bishop was excellent as Lady Pinkney, and Miss Ruth Maitland as Julia Wren gave a praiseworthy rendering of the part. Miss Marie Lohr was a delightful Trixie Blenkinsop, and Miss Kate Osborne was an admirable Mrs Benbow.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. S. Howard. —In *A Chinese Idyl* the management has secured a bright attraction. To Messrs Dawson Dewick as Tang-a-Lang and Fred Dawson as the Viceroy must be accorded premier positions for their grotesque and mirth-provoking impersonations. Mr J. G. Maine as Ching-Foo presents a clever character sketch; Mr F. H. Dundas as Lieutenant West sings his "ditties" very ably; Miss Mabel Mainwaring as Pitti-Pat has a sweet voice, and uses it with distinction; as Belle Brighton Miss Bessie Frank gives a vivacious representation; and Miss Emmie Milsted as Princess Stephanie pleases the house with her sprightliness and dancing. The chorus is a strong one, and the Henrique Troupe of acrobats do well.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Ernest A. Smith.—Mr Walter Melville's company is here in the drama *A Disgrace to Her Sex*. The piece is well dressed and staged, the scenery being exceptionally good. Previous to the rising of the curtain some very interesting views are shown by means of the Biograph.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert; Manager, Mr Pearce Butler.—The bill this week includes Luis Hardt, the boy Samson; Fred Gilbert, Little Clipp, Brothers Cooke, Helene and Emilon, Herbert Le Martine, and the Five Olracs, acrobats.

LUTON.

GRAND.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. Graham Falcon; Assistant-Manager, Mr Louis J. Beard.—Mr John A. Walker's company, in *Why Smith Left Home*, occupied the boards here for the first three nights this week. Mr Horace Lingard well sustains the part of John Smith. Mr Joseph Hudson's Major Duncombe is a capital performance, and Mr Robt. Grey scores as Count Von Guggenheim. Mr Herbert Dickeson is to be commended for his portrayal of the part of General Billet-doux. Mr Henry Grey is a diverting Robert Walton, and Mr Harry Panter is well placed as James. Miss Hilda Stericker ably acts the part of Mrs John Smith. Miss Marie Vere distinguishes herself as Julia, and Miss Mary Bates is responsible for the part of Mrs

Billetdoux. Miss Rue Daryll is a successful Rose Walton, and Miss Ethel Russell is a pleasing Miss Smith. Miss Constance Stephens deserves well-merited praise as Lavinia. Mr Herbert Hollister's company appeared in *The Lights o' London* on Thursday and Friday.

MACCLESFIELD.

ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—*The Silver Cross* is being presented here by Messrs Marston and Buckstone's company. Mr Syd Bazley as Tomkyns Quinton gives a humorous portrayal. Mr Bazley, who is an old Macclesfield favourite, is well placed, and his eccentricities are the life and soul of the piece. Mr Cliff Allen as Arthur Merton is particularly effective. Mr Frederick A. Marston as Ben Adams deserves special mention. Mr Harry Glenney as the scheming Philip Frewin is very good. Miss Maud Western as Ida Adams wins sympathy by some pathetic acting. Miss Poppy Danby as Sally Beadles is both amusing and clever. Laura Beechcroft is admirably sustained by Miss Cissy Glenny. The Sisters Vall win favour with some good duets and dances. Mr Buckstone does well as the Rev. Nicholas Frewin.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—The Royal Carl Rosa opera company have occupied the stage here this week in a popular répertoire, beginning on Monday wioh *Tannhauser*, which drew, as usual, a crowded and appreciative house. A very fine rendering of the title-part was given by Mr E. C. Hedmondt, whose dramatic style is well suited to the extraordinary demands of the music; and Madame Sobrino's Elizabeth left nothing to be desired in point of range and expression. Madame Augusta Renard gave a telling interpretation of Venus; Mr Lewis James's Wolfram, Mr Edward Davies's Walther, and Mr Arthur Winckworth's Landgrave were each conspicuously well delivered; and the chorus and orchestra, exceedingly well handled by Mr Eugene Goossens, contributed a large share towards the total success. Tuesday's programme was *Don Giovanni*, an opera which has not been played in Manchester for some time, and in this three prima donnas—namely, Miss Lizzie Burgess, Madame Una Bruckshaw, and Madame Sobrino—were heard to excellent effect. Herr Charles Victor figuring to advantage as Don Giovanni The remaining pieces in the week's programme were *The Bohemian Girl*, *Lohengrin*, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, *Carmen*, and *Faust*. Mr Walter Van Noorden shares with Mr Eugene Goossens the responsibilities of conductorship.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Messrs Sylvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux's company is once more at this theatre in Henry Arthur Jones's clever and interesting comedy *Joseph Entangled*. A capital performance was given on Monday, Mr H. B. Warner as Sir Joseph and Miss Mona K. Oram as Lady Verona playing very well up to the niceties of the situation, and adequate assistance being rendered by the remainder of the cast, of whom Mr Lawrence Grant as Jermyn Pyecroft, Mr Cecil Brooking as the Professor, Mr Horace Lane as Harry Tavender, Miss Shelley Calton as Mrs Tavender, and Miss Claire Cavendish as Mrs Knapman, may be singled out for special praise. A pleasing comedietta, *Papa's Wife*, precedes.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A powerful attraction is here this week in the shape of Miss Madge Girdlestone and her company in a spectacular and sensational drama, entitled *The City of Millions*. The play contains a good story, which is cleverly worked out, and the whole of the cast are equal to a really excellent rendering. Miss Madge Girdlestone is especially successful as Rosa De Valois, a woman of the world, and other notable successes are Mr Vernon Sansbury, Mr Martin Sabine, Miss Agnes Verity, Mr Sam Wilkinson, Mr Graham Herington, Mr Clairmont Gaskell, and Miss Gladys Vernon. The play is excellently staged.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett: Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—A capital attraction is here in the shape of *The New Barmaid*, one of the most popular of musical comedies. The company is under the direction of Mr Alexander Loftus, and includes such well-known performers as Mr Joseph B. Montague in his original part of Bertie White and Mr Harrison Brockbank in his original part of Captain Lovebury. These are admirably supported by Mr Alexander Loftus as William White, Mr Albert Weston as Mons. Bonsor, and Mr Herbert Cottesmore as Colonel Claymore; while Miss Gwadys Elvey, Miss Hilda Blanche, Miss Violet Osmond, and Miss Jean Gilmour are all successful in prominent parts. The piece is enlivened by numerous good songs and effective specialities.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Good business is being done here this week with an excellent and attractive programme. The Paulastos, eccentrics, head the bill, and Will Hebden, comedian, is also particularly prominent. Other enjoyable turns are Victor Newman, a clever actor and mimic; Howard and Collinson, in a comic sketch; Tate and Tate, comedy acrobats; George Foster, comedian; Happy Attwood, the human oddity—a novelty in comic singing and mimicry; Forrest and King, in a speciality act; and the Wynford Brothers, barrel jumpers. The Metropole pictures are included as usual.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mr John Leopold's company, embracing the Original Leopolds, are here this week in their well-known farcical attraction, *Frivolity*. The piece is right up to date, and goes with a fine swing, Mr John Gerant figuring prominently among many who render valuable assistance to the Leopold Troupe.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—Mrs Lewis Waller produced here on Monday a new play, entitled *Vilma*, a notice of which appears in another column.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Rosemont and Claris's Philadelphian Vaudeville Company of American coloured artistes top the bill here this week, and contribute coon songs, cake walks, and sand dances in a pleasing and successful manner. Another capital item is Fred Southern and company in a highly amusing sketch entitled *His Lordship's Birthday*. The Sisters Andersen give a graceful and finished display of foot balancing; Edie Grey and Coons sing remarkably well; George Prince, the "crazy" comedian, makes a decided hit; and exceedingly clever are the Babusians, in their head-balancing feats. Smart patter and business is provided by Cribb and Cribb; Marie Winsome is a popular male impersonator; and Harry Zetter does some first-rate grotesque dancing. Other good turns are Winnie Scott, comedienne; Private Clark, the soldier vocalist; and the Hippodrome pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Warden Reed and Miss Glenny are seen to advantage here this week in an amusing farcical comedy entitled *Married or Photographed*. Bliss and Bliss create much laughter with their smart patter, and the comedy act of Avon and Crest is most diverting. Very clever items are provided by the Leotards, who do some surprising things in hat-throwing and balancing, and the Lulane Darrels, a troupe of gymnasts, whose ring performance is somewhat unique. Good turns are also those of Bennett and Martell, excellent knockabouts, with droll patter; Arthur Gilbert, who sings three songs in a cheerful style; T. W. Johnson, comedian and sand dancer; and the Toree Novells, society acrobats and tumblers. Kone and Kolly, comedians, who figure on the programme, did not appear on Monday night. Some enjoyable animated pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—An excellent programme is provided here this week, including that lively and popular comedienne, Lily Burnand, and Jake Friedman, the well-known Anglo-German comedian, both meeting with a hearty reception. Well received also is Maude Venn, a charming and clever comedienne, who makes a great hit with "The house where the shutters are green," which is delightfully rendered. Mark Anthony is an amusing story-teller, vocalist, and mimic. Dan Conroy is a first-rate comedian with good songs, and other pleasing turns are A. C. Reveil, a smart up-to-date "electric" juggler; the Four Magnets, vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Lil Gorman, comedienne; and Geo. Globe, comedian.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—The programme here is good all round this week. Grant and Grant, American speciality artistes, charmingly attired, give a pleasing turn, their singing and dancing being excellent. Considerable amusement is caused by Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford, in their comedy-sketch, *Getting Even*, and George W. Leslie and company are successful in a sketch entitled *Chums* Madge Grey, a talented dialect comedienne, makes a great hit, and gains tremendous applause; Kate Gourlay is responsible for a neat sand-dance; Keith and Merson are good acrobatic vocal comedians; Jenny Hartley, a juvenile soubrette, scores with some capital mimicry; Charles Somers, comedian, is quietly effective; and Baker Belphor, baritone, has a good voice.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—George Lashwood figures at the head of the bill here this week, and scores his usual success with a series of characteristic songs. Another attractive item is the appearance of Joe Elvin and his company (after a fortnight in *Over the Sticks*) in a sketch entitled *The Wrong House*, a piece in which this popular comedian finds congenial exercise for his humour. Good turns are given also by Charles Cardow, a clever comedian; Ian Colquhoun, an effective baritone vocalist; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, the well-known trick cyclists; Ada Cerito, a pleasing comedienne; Wilson Hallett, a smart whistler and child mimic; Alfred Bray, coster comedian; and Frances Earle, comedienne and dancer. The orchestra contribute a Wagnerian selection, and the programme is completed by a entertaining series of Palace pictures.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Collins.—A most delightful turn here this week is Miss Ray Wallace, the well-known voice mimic of music hall and other stars, who is accorded much deserved applause. A novel performance is given by the Grais' Baboon Prodigies, one of which loops the loop on a bicycle. Herr Fritz presents, with considerable success, some marvellous illusions; and the Tourbillon Troupe are first-rate cyclists whose tricks are decidedly daring. Some exceptionally good international and speciality dancing is done by the Northern Troupe; and a pleasing musical turn is provided by Zanfretta and Naplo, Continental grotesques, assisted by Mdlle. Vilbert. The British Quartet, speciality vocalists, are excellent glee singers; Robertus and Wilfredo and a clever dog are expert ball manipulators. Other good and enjoyable items are Marie Weston, an attractive vocalist, banjoist, and step-dancer; Bijou Russell, a capital sand-dancer; and the Four Olympian Stars, burlesque vocalists and dancers.

LESSER FREE TRADE HALL.—Mr and Mrs Victor André, the European Mahatmas, opened here on Monday for a short season. A first-rate programme is provided, Mr André himself contributing largely to its success. He appears in a highly amusing ventriloquial sketch, and presents with surprising rapidity a series of bewildering conjuring tricks, including manipulations and pure sleight of hand; and subsequently introduces a cleverly arranged illusion. Mrs André's "Dream Visions" are perhaps the chief attraction, being a remarkable demonstration of a wonderful gift, which is stated to be quite natural, and her thought-reading performance is also very interesting. Another good item is that of Yoko and Hama, clever exponents of Japanese magic; and the handcuff and other feats of Mr Victor André, jun., are smartly done. A humorous medley is rendered in fine style by Mr and Mrs Joe Hodgson, and subsequently Mr Hodgson appears with decided success as a female impersonator and as a child imitator. Enjoyable turns by Miss Grace Olivia, vocalist; Miss Edith May Ayrton, violin soloist; and a pleasing selection by the orchestra complete the entertainment.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Lovers of opera have had ample opportunity of indulging their tastes by the presence here this week of the Moody-Manners Opera Company. On Monday Wagner's *Tannhäuser* was played, the following night *Il Trovatore* was the attraction, and on Wednesday the programme was again changed for *Pagliacci*, followed by the attractive opera *Cavalleria Rusticana*. For Thursday *Lohengrin* was billed, succeeded on Friday night by *Mignon*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business-Manager, Mr Charles E. Hardy.—Mr John Tully's company has been visiting here this week with the drama *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The piece has been well produced and received with the favour and cordiality which have generally been accorded it in Margate.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—*The Eternal City*, presented by Mr Ben Greet's Company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, opened on Monday to a full house. Mr Henry Deas plays David Rossi with much power and emotional ability; Mr D. Lewin Mannering was remarkably cool and convincing in his impersonation of Baron Bonelli; Pope Pius XI. was impressively played by Mr Leonard Grey; and Mr P. L. Julian presented a good study of Bruno Rocco. The Donna Roma of Miss Edith Laing was a capable performance.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr Gus C. Livesey's company is presenting *The Crimson Club* here this week. Mr Gus C. Livesey gives a fine rendering of Richard Fenton; Mr Lionel Thompson presents a striking picture of villainy as Philip Garside; Mr Herbert Belmore plays creditably as Herbert Selby, as does Mr H. C. Gilpin as Silas Craddock; as Reg. Adolphus Garside Mr Percy Shaw displays rare humour and much ability as a siffleuse; Miss Bertha Cousins fills the rôle of Julia Marsden in good style; Miss Elsie Mesnerd invests the part of Muriel Lockwood with grace and charm; and Miss Lily Day is a capital Soponsiba, and contributes an excellent song and dance.

MORECAMBE.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut Julian Malvern; General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Julian.—During the last three nights last week excellent business attended the visit of Mr Norman Macowan with *Monsieur Beaucaire*. An admirable representation of this successful costume play was given, and especially charming was the Lady Mary Carlisle of Miss Violet Sterne, an actress of ability and promise. This week Mr E. Oswald Brooks's No. 1 company has been appearing in Charles Windermere's *The New Housemaid*, a well-constructed and highly diverting farce, in which Mr Ralph Roberts takes the fullest advantage of the many opportunities afforded by his assumption of the attire and manners of a slavey.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Mr F. R. Benson and his Shakespearian company are fulfilling a week's engagement here. On Monday night *Othello* was presented. Mr Benson in the title-rôle was much admired. He played the part with his usual careful attention to details. Mrs Benson made an excellent impression as Desdemona; Mr Keightley appeared as Cassio; and Mr Arthur Whitby gave a clever reading of Iago. Miss Gertrude Scott was charming as Emilia, and as Bianca Miss Steddall submitted an effective representation. On Tuesday *Richard II.* was played, on Wednesday *Romeo and Juliet*, Thursday *As You Like It*, and Friday *The Rivals* was billed.

OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee, Mr T. Hopcutt.—Mr George Edwardes's principal company in *The Toreador* is here. Mr Lionel Victor as Sammy Gigg keeps the house in continuous roars of laughter, and Mr W. H. Pavell makes a decided hit as Pettifer, while Mr T. W. Volt as Sir Archibald Slackett is a most amusing Duke. Miss Nellie Bouverie as Mrs Walter Hoppings is deserving of much praise, and Miss Alice Oppitz is a clever Donna Teresa, Miss Daisy Stratton as Susan scores a decided success. Dora Selby is in the capable hands of Miss Dasie Wallace.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—The Seven Savonas Troupe, in their musical turn, and the Cycling Elliotts are here for another week, and still maintain their popularity; Will H. Fox, a skilful burlesque pianist, is a great favourite; and Charles Austin is a capital comedian; Lady Mansell's juveniles in their speciality act give a clever and refined performance; equally pleasing is the smart acrobatic show of the talented Trapnell Family; and Albert Christian, a singer of much talent, renders baritone songs in effective style; Ted Cowan has some good songs, and Miss Katie Cohen's vocal contribution pleases everyone.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr William Ainsworth.—The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of acrobats are the principal turn here; the Countees also are harmonious and humorous singers; Ward and Adams are acrobats of much talent; and Prince Fee-Lung's conjuring and juggling are very clever; Fatmah Diard renders some classical songs effectively; and the Royal Victorian trio of dancers are popular; Tom Hayes is a talented mimic; Miss Ruby Bijou is a pretty dancer. The Bio pictures complete the programme.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—Mr Douglas Bruce's company is here in the drama entitled *In a Woman's Grip*. Mr Herbert Pearson is all that could be desired as the hero, Frank Haydon, and as Maurice Stanton Mr Bernard Copping is very good. Mr John H. Firman acts well as Ephraim Lambert, and Mr James W. Manning scores as Ralph Sharkey. Mr Frank Litchfield deserves praise for his portrayal of Dick Langley, and Mr Robert Purdie gives a grand display as the Mad Doctor. Miss Daisy Meynard as Molly Smithers and Mr Frank Ayrton as Joe Butters help to keep up the comic element of the play. Miss Marguerite Trevosper gives a pleasing representation of Lillian Fairley, and Little Dot Whitmore is lively and graceful as Little Mary. In the title-rôle Miss Beatrice May secures sincere and general admiration by her acting as Mary Langley, Convict 43, and the beautiful Princess Zaroff.

NELSON.

NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs T. Greenwood Croft; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Mudd.—On Monday the Osmond Tearle Shakespearian company had the usual lusty reception on its ever-welcome appearance in Nelson. A capital programme includes *As You Like It*, *The School for Scandal*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Merchant of Venice* (matinée), and *Lady of Lyons*. Mr Alexander Marsh received the well-merited plaudits of thronged houses for his vigorous and well-studied impersonations of Orlando, Sir Peter Teazle, Romeo, Young Marlow, Brutus, Shylock, and Claude Melnotte. Miss Carrie Baillie, an old favourite here, won the hearts of all by her beautiful and unassuming style as Rosalind, Lady Teazle, Juliet, Miss Hardcastle, Lucius, Portia, and Pauline. Mr William Lowe, Mr John Burton, Mr R. S. Innes, Mr George Tearle, Mr Malcom Tearle, Miss Fannie Chamberlain, and Miss K. Magee go far in bringing the performances to successful issues. All the plays are well mounted and superbly dressed.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—An interesting engagement is being fulfilled here by Mr H. B. Irving and Miss Irene Vanbrugh, who are appearing in *Letty*, and the performance of Mr Pinero's latest play has been followed with rapt attention. As Letty Shell, the lady clerk with ambitions, Miss Vanbrugh has material worthy of her high attainments, and her characterisation is at all times remarkable for its truth and accuracy. Nevill Letchmere scarcely wins our sympathies, and the rôle is handled with considerable effect by Mr H. B. Irving, who succeeds admirably in bringing out the finer traits of the man's nature. Mr Scott Craven as the wealthy "bounder," Bernard Mandeville, submits a capital piece of acting, and those two worthies, Neale and Ordish, have capable exponents in Mr Charles Troode and Mr Tom Heslewood respectively. Mr Leslie Victor does well as the enthusiastic photographer, Richard Perry. Miss Eleanor Souray hits off very cleverly the matter-of-fact disposition of Hilda Gunning, and her more earnest-minded colleague, Marion Allardyce, is skilfully enacted by Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—Here we are introduced to *Madame Sherry*, which musical play, attractively staged and costumed, is being successfully performed by Mr George Dance's company. Mr J. Robert Hale as Andrew M'Sherry acts with a lively humour, while as a dancer he excels. Miss Mabel Sealby's ability is amply demonstrated in the course of her bright performance as Barbara. It should be mentioned that Miss Sealby was called upon to play the part at short notice on Monday. Catarina has a spirited representative in Miss Georgina Delmar, who sings capitally. Much business of a mirth-provoking nature is introduced by Mr Fred Walton as Joseph and Mr Albert Bruno as Fritz, while Miss Nellie Dade creates laughter as Maud. Mr F. W. Ford as Colonel M'Sherry makes the most of the part. Favourable mention must also be made of Messrs Arthur Stroud, Ivan Berlyn, Frank Lennard, Misses Kathleen Grey, Ada Binning, and Ethel Darsley. The orchestra is directed by Mr Ernest Vousden.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—Mr Walter Melville's company is paying a return visit with the successful drama *Her Second Time on Earth*. Miss Hilda Beverley, who repeats her able impersonation of Dora Grey, has seldom been seen to better advantage. Prominent parts are well sustained by Messrs C. A. Melton, Chas. Franmore, Chas. Girdlestone, Wilton J. Selby, St. John Stuart, Percy Horton, and F. Ingram; Misses Elaine, Polly Marsh, Alice Wellmore, K. Garrett, and Nana Flensburg.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—A prime attraction here is the appearance of Mark Sheridan, who is in great form, and his reception has been of the heartiest. R. A. Roberts again successfully presents his sketch *Dick Turpin*, wherein his quick changes are accomplished with marvellous celerity. A comedian with an excellent voice and style is Bert Weston, who is furnished with capital material in the song "At the Play," in which he hits off very adroitly various typical personages to be found in an audience. Charles Prinz appears with no less than seventeen lions under his control, and Miss Marcella gives a fire dance in the midst of the troupe. The Parros Bros. are decidedly smart equilibrists, and the dexterous dancing of My Fancy is again a feature. The Tally-Ho Trio are primarily noticeable for their excellence as vocalists, and their comedy business proves enjoyable. Howard and St. Clair, American comedy artists, make a welcome reappearance, and the Smythson comedy company merrily rattles through an amusing sketch. The Bros. Obo earn favour as laughing duettists, and Edie King is a smart comedienne and dancer.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Limited; Managing Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—There is a particularly strong company here this week, headed by Sims and Sims, two expert musical comedians, who give a very smart turn. The Eugene Family submit an exceedingly smart gymnastic performance; Wee Mona, a clever child comedienne, is very smart in a couple of songs; Bessie Willow, a vocalist with a good voice, sings in first-class style; Harry Sheldon, in a couple of catchy songs, meets with a flattering reception; and other artists are Rowland Hill, comedian; King and Rose, in a sketch, entitled *Brother for Brother*; Hill and Cox, in a comedy act; and May and Belle, duettists and dancers.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—Mr Fred Jarman's company is appearing here in *In Dark Siberia*. Mr Fred W. Mussett as the British officer, Captain Gordon, gives a spirited impersonation, and "heavy" business has a capital exponent in Mr Chas. Osborne as Major Waroff. Miss Helen M'Culloch as Princess Orloff submits a praiseworthy impersonation.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr W. H. Boardman.—The first visit to this city of Miss Minni Letta's Sporting Girls is proving a very great attraction, and the various competitions introduced evoke much interest and excitement. Miss Letta herself is a great favourite, and exhibits unusual powers as a lady pedestrian. Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas are prominent in a musical sketch entitled *Her Birthday*. They display marked abilities as vocalists. The Arthur Saxon Trio of strong men perform some marvellous feats; Brown and Nevarro, who make their first appearance in England, contribute several American songs; the musical entertainment provided by the Four Maisanos is original and amusing; De Biere's tricks are of a sensational nature; the Bros. Kragg do some sensational work on the trapeze; and others who appear are Lily Cole, vocalist; T. W. Royal, champion dancer; and Marriott Edgar, vocalist. The Pavilion pictures are still a popular item.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company is here this week in *Quality Street*. Mr George A. Brandram gives a finished impersonation of Valentine Brown, Miss Florence Jackson is most admirable in the part of Phœbe Throssell, Mr Arthur C. F. Lysons is quaintly amusing as Ensign Blades, Mr Herbert Chown as Lieutenant Spicer is good, Mr Dan Dyer as the Recruiting Sergeant supplies a fine bit of character acting, Miss Grace Edwin plays well as Susan Throssell, and Miss Gwynneth Galton is an amusing Patty.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—The beauty competition is proving a great attraction here. The decision will be given at the first house to-night. The first prize is £5 in cash. Constance Juno is a vocal comedienne with an excellent voice and good songs; Nancy Renshaw is a clever Negro comedienne and bone soloist; the Hulines are good vocal and instrumental comedians; the Du Gros Trio give their clever act with great success; Herbert Maden scores in his songs; Newham and Latimer make a big hit; and Harry Benet, comedian, and Little Uno also furnish good turns.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr Robert Perris's company, with *A Fight for Millions*, which has had a hearty reception. The character of Tom Manley finds a capable exponent in Mr Robert Perris, and Mr J. Newton Cowling presents an admirable portrayal of Hudson Rivers. Mr W. S. Stevenson's depiction of Richard Dudley is satisfactory; Mr Larry Clements scores Willie Neverwork; Mr Fred Acton makes quite a hit as Solomon Moses; and Mr Nicholas Conway is well placed as Harold Hobbs. Miss Evelyn Robson is clever as Helen Dudley; Miss Ida Purcell plays the part of Pearl Rivers in finished style; Miss Fanny Williams makes a capital Mrs Hudson Rivers; and Miss Winnie Acton is pleasing as Little Madge.

BOROUGH THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—The bill-of-fare at this comfortable resort is headed by Burn's Scamps, who have come in for a hearty reception. The Walleys, expert jugglers, present a skilful performance, and Messrs Weston and May, in their comedy act "Married Life," afford great fun. Mr W. H. Morgan, descriptive vocalist, has made a hit; Mr Ernie Myers, comedian, is smart; Messrs Varley and Sinclair, operatic vocalists, score a decided success; and Mr Will Lytton, comedian; Messrs Hill, Barry, and Lang, in their comedy act; and Mr J. W. Benwell, comedian, are all well received.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—The Sisters Phillips and Brothers Lorenzi, with *The Cook's Birthday*, are meeting with much favour here. Mr J. H. Malva, the popular ventriloquist, is clever, and Mr Percy Hannan, baritone and actor-vocalist, is a great favourite. The Brothers Anderson, the Danish midshipman acrobats, are smart, and Mr Teddy May, comedian; Messrs York, Mack, and York, comedians; Little Marie Katusha, comedienne and dancer, are also successful.

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs Golden; Manager, Mr Percy Webb.—A welcome visit has been paid this week by *The Rojah of Ranjanpore*, and the company which Mr Morton has engaged for the representation is an excellent all-round combination. The selected music is bright and tuneful, the dresses are in good taste, and the piece from beginning to end goes with great éclat. Mr Alvin Sawyer gives a humorous presentation of the part of Horatio Chicks. He finds an able second in Mr Tom Breen as Thistles; Mr F. E. Welch deserves favourable mention for his depiction of Ted Perkins; Mr Sidney Bryant acquits himself creditably as Mr Stubbs; Mr Arthur Reid puts in good work as Captain Hertage; and Mr Charles E. Linney displays artistic talent as Ernest Travers, also proving himself to be a baritone singer of no mean order. Edith, principal boy in Chicks' company, is safely placed in the hands of Miss Minnie Blackmore; Eliza is undertaken with tactful vivacity by Miss Marion Walker; and Miss Nell Ascot displays intelligence in her rendering of Primrose. The Verona Troupe of dancers are clever exponents of the terpsichorean art.

NORWICH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, is appearing here this week in *The Belle of New York*. Mr Ricketts as Ichabod Bronson is highly successful; Mr Harold Wardroper is equally so as Harry Bronson; Mr Walter Emro is good as Karl Von Pumpernick; Mr Guy Ford is satisfactory as Doc Snifkins; and Mr Walter Uridge capable as Kenneth Mugg. Mr Mack Ollive deserves praise as Blinkey Bill M'Quirk, especially in his whistling turns. Miss Mona Hersee is charming both in voice and acting as Violet Gray. Miss Florence Hersee represents Kissie Fitzgarter and Mamie Clancy with much vivacity; her dancing with Mr Mack Ollive is particularly attractive, and she receives a well-deserved recall for her song "Sammy." Miss Helen Rose deserves praise as Fifi, as does also Miss Ida Grandison as Cora; whilst Mr R. L. Cody as Count Patsi Rattato and Mr Lionel Yeoman as Count Ratsi Rattato ably acquit themselves. Miss Hilda Corelli is exceedingly good in a coon song and dance in the last act.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt.—The chief attraction this week is Kardoc, the gaol-breaker. Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, in their sketch, *After Covent-garden Ball*, create endless fun. The Brothers Bellong are clever as bicyclists and equilibrists; the Mezettis in their triple-bar performance are a good turn; the Llewelyns, operatic vocalists, are well received; Muir and Bartlett are mirth-provoking in their sketch, *The Lady and the Lunatic*; Beanland and Bath, cartoonists, display much artistic ability; the Haywards in their speciality act, "A Dress Rehearsal," are very successful; Ray and Calden in an act entitled "An Artist's Ambition," secure much commendation; and George Antill proves an excellent comedian.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr F. R. Benson's North company is giving a repertory of Shakespearian and other plays here. Each piece is capitally played, and good houses have been the order of the week. Monday opened with *The Taming of the Shrew*. In this play those gaining special favour were Mr Bernard Limpus as Lucentio; Mr Henry Herbert, Petruchio; Mr G. Wallace Johnston, Hortensio; Miss Dorothy Green, Katherina; Miss Christie Lawes, Bianca; and Miss Maud Garth, the widow. *Romeo and Juliet*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *As You Like It*, and *The School for Scandal* are also in the repertory.

(Continued on Page 25.)

A MUSICAL STUDENT

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DAINTY SAMPLE FREE.

DADDY CRISP.

In a recent number of the *Fortnightly Review* Mr J. B. Firth has a readable article concerning a dramatic author who, as he wrote only one play, and that not a success, does not possess sufficient claim to receive notice in any ordinary biograph. It has been left to Mr Firth to supply some highly interesting details concerning this unknown dramatist. It is his connection with the drama—slight though it be—that makes his character and career of interest to the readers of a theatrical journal. Samuel Crisp was a friend for many years of the once famous Fanny Burney, the author of "Evelina" and other novels; and, "but for her," says Mr Firth, "he would have remained unknown to posterity, save for a few lines in the annals of the London stage, a chance reference, perhaps, in a 'Life of Garrick,' and a glowing epitaph, in heroic couplets, that adorns the walls of an out of the way country church in Surrey. Probably not many visitors make their way to Chessington, between Epsom and Surbiton, and the casual stranger who happens to find the epitaph *in situ* may recall Dr. Johnson's famous saying, 'In lapidary inscriptions a man is not upon oath,' and smile indulgently as he reads. Who then was this paragon of a Samuel Crisp, who, as this tablet tells us, died on April 24, 1783, at the age of seventy-six? Curiously enough, until the late Mrs Ellis first edited fifteen years ago the 'Early Diaries of Fanny Burney,' his parentage had remained a mystery even to some of his contemporaries, who gave him a wrong Christian name and credited him with being in Holy Orders. Samuel Crisp was a great grandson of the Rev. Tobias Crisp, rector of Brinkworth, in Hampshire, in the days of Charles I, and he succeeded at the age of ten to his share of his father's estate at Merton and Malden, and to other property in Gloucestershire and Somerset which he inherited from his mother."

It was at Fulke Greville's house near Andover that Charles Burney met Samuel Crisp, and a lifelong friendship began. "Crisp was a polished and cultured man of taste, singularly free from the artificialities of his age, an ideal companion for a youth in the position of young Burney, who, in later years, described him as 'the guide and tutor of my early youth whose word was wisdom and whose wisdom truth.' Moreover, Burney called his friend 'Daddy.' Fifteen years afterwards Burney's children were to do the same.

"Burney's marriage and removal to King's Lynn in Norfolk separated the two friends. Crisp remained in the fashionable world, and wrote a tragedy on the familiar episode of Appius Claudius and Virginia. Through the influence of the Earl of Coventry the play was submitted to the elder Pitt, who returned it with a few words of praise, and the manuscript was sent on to Garrick. The actor-manager kept it by him without returning a definite answer. Crisp grew impatient and played his trump card. His friend, Lord Coventry, induced the Countess to take a copy of the tragedy and drive to Garrick's house in Southampton-row. She sent in word that she had a moment's business with the actor, who hastened to the side of her carriage. 'There, Mr Garrick,' she said with a smile, as she proffered the manuscript, 'I put into your hands a play which the best judges tell me will do honour to you and the author.' How could Garrick refuse such an invitation from the lips of the younger Miss Gunning, whose beauty was such that the King granted her a guard of soldiers to keep back the people who thronged to see her when she walked in the Mall? *Virginia* was put into rehearsal at once.

"Garrick wrote a lively prologue and epilogue, and did his very best for the success of *Virginia*. This was frankly acknowledged by Crisp in his preface to the published version of the play, where he thanks him for 'his masterly performances in the representation (that is nothing new) and for the friendly advice by which the play was rendered much more dramatic than it was at first' Garrick himself took the part of Virginius, the father of the heroine; Appius, the Decemvir, was played by the 'iron-throated' Irishman, Mossop; Johnson's friend. Tom Davies, the actor-bookseller, played Claudius, the tool of Appius. As Marcia, sister of Claudius, Mrs Graham, afterwards Mrs Yates, made her début, and her great beauty—it is said that Garrick was not at first very favourably impressed by her acting—helped to give attraction to the piece. Finally Virginia was played by Mrs Cibber, the most fascinating actress of her day.

"The play ran for eleven nights, which secured the author his 'three benefits,' and justifies Madame D'Arblay's statement that '*Virginia* neither succeeded nor failed.' But it is evident that it was only saved from utter failure by the genius of the actors. Crisp, however, was bitterly annoyed when it was taken off, and continually pressed Garrick to give it a second trial. He made various emendations, and was prepared to make more, but Garrick was obdurate, and knew his business best. If Crisp, as Madame D'Arblay says, really thought that 'the performers had been negligent, Mr Garrick unfriendly, and the public precipitate,' he provides but another instance of the extraordinary incapacity that clever men often display in judging their own work. To his last day Crisp considered that he had been badly treated by Garrick—'his soul was little,' he said bitterly, many years afterwards—and he carefully treasured the manuscript of his play, which is still in existence, written in a beautifully fine Italian hand, with the parallel passages from Livy printed with the pen as footnoter. Mortified at what he considered his failure, and also finding that the expenses of fashionable life in London had made serious inroads into his capital, Crisp retired to Hampton. Subsequently he found a refuge at Chessington—then spelt Chesington—in a tumble-down mansion belonging to an old friend of his own named Christopher Hamilton. Chesington Hall became Crisp's 'fugitive sanctuary' from 1764 down to his death in 1783.

"Burney transplanted his family to London in 1760, and settled in the now dingy Poland-street, on the south side of the Oxford-road, and close to the Pantheon. Of the four Burney girls, Fanny was Crisp's special favourite. Her father used to speak of him as 'Fanny's Flame.' Crisp liked her old-fashioned ways—even as a child she was called 'the old lady'—and, when she grew up, the affection deepened.

"The success of Evelina gave Fanny Burney the entrée into the best literary society of the day. It led especially to her intimate friendship with the Thrales and Dr. Johnson—though she had already met them at her father's house—and with all the members of the Streatham circle. Fanny was delighted, quite naturally, at the cordiality of her welcome, and her letters to Crisp bear witness to her pleasure. Fanny's new friends had urged her to write a comedy—they all declared that with her skill in dialogue and her genius as a 'character-monger,' it was bound to be a success. Mrs Montagu, the Queen of the Blue Stockings, begged to be allowed to see the play in manuscript and make suggestions; Sheridan eagerly offered to accept it on trust before it was written. When it was finished, Fanny gave her comedy the name of *The Witlings*. The Streathamites praised it, but from Chesington there came an adverse verdict, in a letter which Fanny describes as 'a hissing, groaning, cat-calling epistle.' Crisp did not like the play, and prophesied failure—whether rightly or wrong we cannot tell, for the manuscript has not survived.

"Fanny replied that she would 'a thousand times rather forfeit her character as a writer than risk ridicule or censure as a female,' but it is evident from her 'Diary' that she was more than a little disappointed that her Chesington Daddy did not like her first and only essay at comedy. None the less, she bowed to his judgment, and her play never saw the footlights."

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS MARIE CLAVERING.

Miss Marie Clavering was originally trained for grand opera. A combination of circumstances intervening, however, she turned her attention to drama, making her first appearance at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, immediately scoring a success as Diana Vernon, in *Rob Roy*; Lilian, in *New Men and Old Acres*; and in many plays produced during that season. After many engagements in the best dramatic companies, where Miss Clavering played all manner of parts, she was engaged by Mr J. Emmerson for stock season at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, adding greatly to both her experience and reputation, playing important rôles in Shakespeare, burlesque, farce, and comedy. On her marriage with Mr David Wood (a musician of some note, and the elder son of the late Mr C. Wood, managing-director, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool), Miss Clavering for a time left the stage, returning, after her husband's death, to play Henriette, in the late Chas. Dornton's *Two Orphans* company. Next came a tour with one of our finest tragediennes, Miss Bateman (Mrs Crowe). Miss Clavering relates how she used to study the methods of this admirable actress, and wonder if she would ever be able to play Leah with such effect as Miss Bateman. She had her opportunity a few years later, however, when the Press and public were alike unanimous in their praise. More stock followed in the summer of 1890, this time at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, in a round of all the famous Irish dramas. In 1891 Miss Clavering made a notable success as Jane Shore, playing the part for over 200 nights. After touring with Messrs Roberts, Archer, and Bartlett in old English comedies and making several "hits" (notably as Lady Teazle), Miss Clavering was engaged by Miss Emma Hutchison to play leading parts in her Criterion comedy company. This engagement was in every way most successful, lasting four years. Some of Miss Clavering's signal successes in this well-known company were Lady Maggie, in *Pink Dominos*; Mrs M'Manus, in *Betsy*; Effie, in Bronson Howard's *Brighton*; and the leading parts in *Truth*, *Covent-garden Ball*, *Hot Water*, &c. 1897 again saw Miss Clavering in drama, this time playing the leading part in Frank Harvey's *The World Against Her*, after which came an engagement by the late John Coleman to play Katty, in his Drury-lane drama *The Duchess of Coolgardie*. This was an Irish character part, and Miss Clavering's early training in Irish plays stood her in good stead, she making a great success, so much so, that Mr Coleman invited her to create the part of Oona in *Soggarth Aroon*. One incident of the late John Coleman is worth recalling. On Miss Clavering being approached previous to the second tour of *Duchess of Coolgardie*, she wrote saying she would rather play the Duchess. Mr Coleman's reply was characteristic of the man. He wrote, "I can get a dozen Duchesses. There are only two Kattis. You are one of them." Mr F. Jarman selected Miss Clavering to play the title-rôle in *The Rebel's Wife*, a part which she was extremely fond of, and which she played for 400 nights. Amongst her latest successes are included Marcia, in *A Life's Revenge*, and that difficult part the "Worst Woman in London."

Photo by Lafayette.

MISS MARIE CLAVERING.

MISS MAUD HILDYARD.

MISS MAUD HILDYARD.

Miss Maud Hildyard's first engagement was under the management of Messrs Morell and Mouillot in September, 1893, to play lead in *The Dark Continent*. She also played Lady Stutfield in *A Woman of No Importance* under the same management; then she toured with Messrs Saintsbury and Macdonald's *Eleventh Hour* company; after that she played heavy lead with Mr Warwick Major's *Verdict* company. She was engaged by Mr Leonard Boyne to play Kitty in *Sporting Life* on tour, being re-engaged by him for the heavy leading part of Mrs De Carteret on his next tour. Miss Hildyard also had two tours with Messrs Dottridge and Longden as Henriette, the leading part in *The King of Crime*, and she created the leading part of Nell Resdale in Messrs Connor and Carson's *Heart of a Hero* company. She then toured with her own company in *A Beautiful Fiend* for upwards of three years, in which she created the title-rôle. This resulted in Mr Walter Melville offering her the part of the Worst Woman in London for his London season at the Adelphi Theatre. This she was unable to accept owing to having to fulfil contracts in connection with her own tour, but he engaged her to play the leading part of Dora Grey in *Her Second Time on Earth* at the Adelphi; afterwards she created the part of Barbara Wade in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, Mr Melville's autumn production at the Standard Theatre, which piece ran for upwards of nine weeks to crowded houses nightly. During this engagement Mr Michael Morton (Mr Tree's representative) witnessed her performance, which resulted in Mr Tree engaging her to create the part of Rosy Sky in *The Darling of the Gods* at His Majesty's Theatre.

MR. EDOUARD JOSE.

Mr Edouard Jose was born in Rotterdam, Holland, in 1865. Educated in Paris, he left the Conservatoire with a first prize for piano, but much against his father's desire, who—a great musician himself—intended his son for the concert platform, he entered the dramatic profession, and at the age of twenty had already gained laurels in France, Holland, and Germany, where, being an exceptional linguist, he played leading work in the respective languages of those countries. In 1896 he came to England to learn our language, and after six months was engaged by the late Henry T. French to appear at the American Theatre, New York, where he made so favourable an impression that he remained in the United States for several years under the managements of Messrs Klaw and Erlanger, Edward E. Rice, Ziegfeld, and Evans and Mann. Then it became his heart's desire to appear in London, and being a distant relative of Mr Auguste Van Biene he accepted that gentleman's offer to become his business-manager and understudy him in the part of Paul Borinski, in *The Broken Melody*. Soon after Mr Van Biene became ill, and Mr Jose played Paul at the Wakefield Theatre, replacing the 'cello with the piano, with such success that he was immediately engaged by Mr George Day to create the important part of Carl Navourac, in *A Woman of Impulse*. The success he achieved in that character was extraordinary. Then Mr Jose received offers from Sir Charles Wyndham to appear in *The End of the Story* and from Mrs Langtry, but owing to his contract with Mr Day, was unable to accept either. After the termination of the provincial tour, Mr Jose rejoined Mr Van Biene for his South African tour. He, however, did not return with the *Broken Melody* company to England, but remained in South Africa, where he accepted a flattering engagement as manager for the important B. and F. Wheeler firm. In this capacity Mr Jose has piloted Mr George Giddens through the new colonies, and in combination with the management played foreign dialect parts in Mr Giddens' répertoire with marked success. Mr Jose will remain in South Africa for some time, but he has not altogether given up the hope of appearing in London some day.

Photo by Parker.

MR. EDOUARD JOSE.

Photo by Million Photo Co.

MR. ARTHUR KNIGHT.

MR. ARTHUR KNIGHT.

Born in Birmingham, Mr Arthur Knight was intended for a commercial career, but after a varied experience as an amateur, he eventually took to the stage, and made his first professional appearance at Day's Music Hall (now the Empire), in a sketch called *Khartoum*. Afterwards, he had a short tour as Harry in *The Private Secretary*, and then was engaged by Mr Walter Bentley for small parts and understudy, in Shakespeare and old English comedy. He remained six months with Mr Bentley, gaining invaluable experience. Next followed a tour as Prof. O'Sullivan, in *Jack-in-the-Box*, after which a special engagement to play Lord Woodbie, in *The Flying Scud*, led to several engagements with the late Mr Andrew Melville for parts in his productions. Then came a tour as Tom Hall, in *The Diver's Luck*; a tour as Lord Woodbie, in *The Flying Scud*, under the management of Mr Alfred Davies; a tour with *The Dark Continent*, Mr Knight playing the Jew, Solomon Gartman; followed by a four years' engagement with *The Silver King*, under the late Charles Dornton's management. During this long engagement Mr Knight played Baxter, Coombe, and various other parts, and was also stage-manager. A short season with Mr Thomas Sidney at Brighton was followed by a special engagement with Mr Charles Arnold in *Captain Fritz* at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester. Then came a tour with Mr Harry Starr, Mr Knight playing heavy lead in *Carl the Clockmaker*, and a tour with Mr Fred Connynghame, during which he played the title-rôle in *The Hand of Iron*. An eighteen months' engagement with *A London Mystery*, Mr Knight playing Nat Travers and doing the stage and general management, was followed by a stock season at the Metropole, Glasgow, under the Morell and Mouillot management. He stage-managed and played such parts as Nathan, in *Leah*; Wild Murtogh, in *The Green Bushes*; Jem Dalton, Nicodemus Nobbs, &c. From this season Mr Knight was engaged by J. M. Hardie, jun., to produce and play Mad Marks, in *The Two Mothers*, afterwards touring with the piece. Then followed two tours with Mr H. E. Chattell as stage and acting-manager for *When London Sleeps* and *The Worst Woman in London*. A stock season at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, with Mr F. W. Warden—Mr Knight stage-managing and playing heavy lead—was followed by a tour as Jasper Grafton, in *In Old Kentucky*, with Mr J. F. Elliston's company; a summer tour as stage-manager with *Our Boys* and *Caste*, with Mr Charles Otley; a tour with Mr T. Morton Powell as general manager, and playing Gabriel Garth, in *Honour Thy Father*; two tours as general manager of Mr Walter Bellian's *The Wicked City* company. A short engagement for heavy lead in *Her Second Time on Earth* was followed by a re-engagement as Rodney Haynes, in *When London Sleeps*. Mr Knight has recently concluded a stock season with Mr Douglas C. Phelps, producing and playing lead and principal character parts in *The World Against Her*, *Fallen Among Thieves*, *East Lynne*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, and *Woman of the People*. His favourite parts are character comedy or strong character rôles, which he combines with stage or general management.

"MACBETH" AT CLIFTON.

The members of the Clifton and Bristol branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society gave a reading of *Macbeth* at the Victoria Rooms on the 29th ult.

The Bishop of Bristol, who took the chair, said that was the first public appearance here of a new society. The society was formed some time ago in London, and had already spread to one or two important towns and cities; and, of course, if that was so, they were bound to have it in Bristol. The president of the society was Sir Henry Irving, and the vice-presidents were the Bishop of Ripon, an old friend of his, and some others. The patrons were the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. It was therefore a most respectable society, at any rate. It was called the British Empire Shakespeare Society, as these various important persons had formed it in order to spread a knowledge and love of Shakespeare among all the English-speaking race, beginning with the children. He was very anxious indeed that all their children should be brought up with a knowledge and love of Shakespeare; it was the bringing up he himself had, and he never regretted it should have been so. He then read the objects of the society from the prospectus, which stated among them the writing of essays on the plays of Shakespeare and readings by members and associates of the society. The Bristol branch was formed about ten months ago, and it was a hard-working branch. He was told that it met for the study of Shakespeare and the rehearsals of parts of his plays every week in St. Saviour's Schoolroom, and that evening it was going to bring before a large audience, and he was sure an interested audience, the fruit of some of those rehearsals. They were favoured by the presence of some who were not Bristol persons, but in the next performance, *Twelfth Night*, they would have nothing but Bristol amateurs, though they were glad that some very important persons had come down now to help them. His lordship, before retiring from the platform to take his place among the auditors, remarked that some of them had brought books of the play, and he would say that many parts were cut out, and if they found a whole scene was cut out they could pass on to the next and very soon take up the thread. The reading was then commenced.

The characters in the play were discriminated as follows:—Duncan (King of Scotland), Dr. T. M. Carter; Malcolm and Donalbain (his sons), Mr Cuthbert Hicks and Miss Hazel Butt; Macbeth and Banquo (Generals of the King's Army), Mr Acton Bond and Mr W. G. Harrison; Macduff, Lennox, and Ross (Noblemen of Scotland), Mr Geo. H. Holloway, Mr R. W. Mercer, and Mr C. E. Eyres; Fleance (Son of Banquo), Miss Gladys Gough; Siward, Earl of Northumberland (General of the English forces), Mr J. F. Holloway; Seyton (an Officer attending on Macbeth), Mr M. O. Pragnell; a Porter, Mr J. F. Holloway; a doctor, Rev. Professor Baynham; first Murderer, Mr M. O. Pragnell; second Murderer, Mr A. D. B. Parsons; Attendants, Mr R. W. Mercer; Lady Macbeth, Miss Greta Morritt; Gentlewoman (attending on Lady Macbeth), Miss V. K. Herapath; first Witch, Miss A Bishop; Second Witch, Miss Powell; Third Witch, Mrs F. W. Rogers; First Apparition, Mrs R. W. Mercer; Second Apparition, Miss Gladys Gough; Third Apparition, Miss Hazel Butt. The stage directions were read by Dr. E. H. Cook, and the reading was under the direction of Mr Acton Bond. The reading was quietly but intensely enjoyed. Mr Acton Bond artistically delivered the rôle of Macbeth, and Lady Macbeth has a careful exponent in Miss Greta Morritt. Between parts I. and II. of the reading a pianoforte solo was played by Miss Ianthe Brunt.

At the conclusion of the reading Mr Acton Bond was presented with a silver cigar case, in recognition of the services rendered to the local branch of the society, by the Bishop on behalf of the members.

The Bishop, in tendering the thanks of the audience to the members of the society, said he would not add for their entertainment only but for their instruction as well. They had shown not only the great power of the English language, but also the mastery over it which Shakespeare possessed. There were two great links between all English-speaking people—the English Bible and Shakespeare. They might, respecting the play, ask themselves, after hearing it read and seeing it acted (in the latter being lifted out of themselves by scenic accessories), which was the preferable. He thought it did them more good to listen to the reading than to having it acted. He would remind them that *Macbeth* was not a historical play, but it took its moral from the tragedy; as he believed Macbeth had a better right to the throne than Duncan, and they knew from history that he was a very able monarch. Neither was the play correct geographically, as he could tell, having lived for six years in the district; but all the more was the play valuable as its interest centred in the tragedy.

"THE CORONET OF THE DUCHESS."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by Clyde Fitch,
Produced at the Garrick Theatre, New York, on Sept. 21.
(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT).

The wicked English noblemen who exchange their titles for American dollars and carry off all the nice American girls have "caught it" this time, and no mistake. It is a popular tradition in the States that all the aristocrats who figure in these international marriages are blasé roués, spendthrifts, and wife beaters, that the married pair go "dead broke" in a few years, and that the wife finally has to return home to "mommer." America's most prolific playwright, in *The Coronet of the Duchess*, accepts this hypothesis, and tries to show us how it works out. The play begins in the library of a millionaire's mansion in New York. Millicent Hampton (Miss Clara Bloodgood), the daughter of a Wall-street "manipulator," is in a transport of delight over her engagement to the Duke of Sundun (Mr Ernest Lawford). Mrs Stafford, a discerning old aunt, asks the girl if she loves her intended husband, and Millicent replies that of course she does, but doesn't auntie know people are not so romantic nowadays as when she was a girl. In the second act the author shifts his characters to the stalls of a charity bazaar in the Queen's Hall, London. Millicent is now Her Grace the Duchess of Sundun. Wedded a year, she already begins to wish that she had spurned the Duke for Jim Burrell, a New York lawyer, who had admired her from childhood. Strange people come to the bazaar. The Duchess wears a string of pearls which the Duke has given her on the first anniversary of their marriage. Pussy Hawkins, a manicurist, who tarries at her stall, is also wearing pearls, and when the two necklaces are compared they are found to be exactly alike. The Duke has bought a double string of pearls, and given half to Pussy. Millicent raises a rumpus in front of her stall, and the Duke doesn't hesitate to admit that his "past" has been decidedly shady. In the third act the ducal pair engage in a fierce wrangle, which ends with Millicent realising that she loves her-plain-spoken American lover, Jim Burrell, who has turned up in London as an automobile agent. Divorce is talked of, and the Duke proposes a bargain. Pussy demands $10,000. If this amount be paid to her the Duke will let his wife go free. The aunt says she will gladly pay anything to secure Millicent's happiness, so the Duke makes himself scarce, while Millicent returns to America to obtain a divorce and marry Jim Burrell.

Miss Annie Hughes will appear on Monday and during the week at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, playing her original parts of Angela Muir, in *A Country Mouse*, and Saucers, in *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, under the management of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison.

NEW ENGLISH & FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we shall publish from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purposes. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"A HERO."

Satirical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Edmond Fleg.

Un Héros while a comedy of provincial manners, is a tragedy of the fickleness of fame, and shows the instability of such greatness as was thrust on one François Bidault. Bidault, the engineer of the firm of Laurier *père*, is a man of ingenious mind, frank, brave heart, and of silent tongue. Misfortune comes to him under the guise of popular fame for his brave deed in saving Laurier's little son from death.

ACT I.

The play opens with a short scene portraying French provincial characteristics after a good déjeuner that Laurier has given the Préfet and other friends Pasquier and Jacques have both eaten, &c., not wisely but too well, and indulge in small talk with Frederick, Laurier's eldest son. As soon as he can, Frederick secures Suzanne, Bidault's wife, for a conversation. He had, previous to her marriage, made love to her himself, and now tries to get her to consent to be his mistress. She repulses him and shows contempt for his poetic attempts at love-making. While they are speaking, her brother Jacques enters, and misunderstands her; Frederick slinks off, whereupon Jacques warns Suzanne as to the character of Frederick. She declares she needs no warning to make her detest Frederick, and goes out on the verandah to her friends gossiping there. The Préfet and Laurier *père* enter, the Préfet discoursing patriotism pompously and promising Laurier the Legion of Honour. Jacques, who is a socialist, joins in the conversation to their disgust. Suddenly a gardener rushes in shouting "Little Paul has tumbled into the mill-stream and is drowned!" Great commotion and terror, all are hastening off in confusion, when joyful cries proclaim the child's safety. François Bidault, at great risk, has saved the boy's life and become un héros! Everyone now showers benedictions and praises on Bidault. He has in a moment become the greatest hero of the century. The Préfet declares with emotion their country is the chosen mother of great heroes; such deeds of heroism belong specially to France. And the nation loves to honour its brave. He will obtain the Legion of Honour for Bidault. The little hero François enters in Laurier's clothes. Everybody wants to embrace him. Laurier strives hard to make a speech but fails; he then takes Bidault to his heart and declares he is no longer an employee of the firm but henceforward becomes a partner in the business for having saved the life of Paul. The Préfet makes another florid speech congratulating Bidault, congratulating Laurier, congratulating everybody as belonging to a wonderful Department of France; and the Act ends by everybody cheering for and embracing everyone, while the sarcastic Jacques remarks, "Let's wait to see the end of this."

ACT II.

The scene shows the sitting-room at Bidault's the next (Sunday) morning. Madame Durantin, whose one occupation in life is her knitting, sits and portentously knits, when Bidault, in slippers and carelessly dressed, enters and tries to engage her cheerfully in conversation. The precise old dame quickly gives him to understand he must live up to the reputation he acquired yesterday. Bidault goes out demurely to change his clothes and don his Sunday "best" as becomes a hero, although he prefers his old clothes. Suzanne, whose head has been turned by her husband's fame, comes in full of gush expecting to find him. Her mother takes her to task for the rumpus and confusion that has been introduced into their quiet little house; and then goes off in a fury exclaiming that Suzanne has spoiled her knitting. Bidault re-enters in his best clothes and new shoes, which pinch him horribly. Suzanne rushes to him like a playful kitten, purrs on him, fondles him, bores him terribly, while his new shoes are the very devil to his feet. As Suzanne is dancing round him like a spoiled child, the brother, Jacques, calls to sympathise with Bidault in his doleful greatness. She is forced to leave her husband, which she does regretfully begging him to get rid of his brother Jacques promptly so that the two of them can be alone all day. Jacques commiserates Bidault because people have made him a hero, and warns him of the perilous position he occupies, telling him he had better get ready to go with him (Jacques) to Tunis. Bidault receives this badinage in bad sort, and asserts that people appreciate rightfully all talent, bravery, &c. Jacques goes off smiling. Suzanne rushes back immediately to continue her gambols. She plays about her husband; then wants him to speak to her, to speak eloquently as befits a hero. Poor Bidault declares he cannot so speak; but at last he begins to talk on commonplace matters, greatly to Suzanne's annoyance. Moreover, he cannot stand his new shoes any longer, and goes off to change them, leaving her angrily exclaiming in her exasperation—"Et il va changer de souliers!" Laurier and his son, Frederick, are announced. They have come to pay Bidault a visit of congratulation. During the night old Laurier has been thinking how foolish it was to make Bidault his partner. He tells Frederick he has resolved that Frederick shall also be a partner. In that way Bidault will only get one-third profits of the business. He is annoyed, moreover, that Bidault should be named for the Legion of Honour before himself, and doubts whether he will now get it at all. When Bidault enters he finds them rather discontented. Thinking to amuse them, Bidault reads from the local Socialist papers a laughable attack on Laurier. Laurier is furious, and turns on Bidault most insultingly, making use of this article as a means to force Bidault to relinquish the partnership. The father and son depart in high dudgeon. Suzanne enters, disturbed, and upbraids her husband. There is a quarrel between them. He treats her with firmness. At last she begs him to restore their former peaceful, happy, humble life, and the curtain falls as Bidault exclaims—"Aie confiance en moi, Suzanne, aie confiance."

ACT III.

The scene opens as in the preceding Act II., Madame Durantin at her eternal knitting in Bidault's sitting-room. Frederick Laurier, incited by passion for Suzanne, comes in expecting to find her, but is disconcerted to see her mother, and a sarcastic little talk ensues. Suzanne quickly enters, and Madame Durantin, grumbling, goes off, leaving them together. There is a long dialogue between Suzanne and Frederick, who uses all his art of eloquence to captivate her. His fluent, sonorous periods fill her with admiration. Her silent husband sinks to a low degree in her esteem when contrasted with this eloquent word-spinner, and at last she acclaims Frederick as the veritable hero, her ideal, because he utters lofty, brave thoughts so eloquently. He begins now, of course, to press her with his love vigorously, but she runs off in fear—pretence of fear—as his father, old Laurier, is about to enter. Old Laurier has come determined to rid himself of Bidault as a partner. He has brought Pasquier and Jacques, his parasites, with him as allies, that the three of them may browbeat and overawe his quondam employee. Frederick does not care to be mixed up in this attack on Suzanne's husband, and he hastily goes away. Laurier converses in a half hypocritical way of his regard for Bidault, and how difficult he finds it to get on with a hero as partner. The two parasites easily take the cue, and poor Bidault is ridiculed for his pretensions and Laurier is exhorted to be firm. On Bidault entering he is upbraided for absenting himself from the works that morning, now that he is a partner. He replies that he is no longer willing to remain a partner in the business, greatly to Laurier's secret joy. Briefly then Bidault gives Laurier to understand that not only does he cease partnership but that he will never enter the works again. This angers Laurier, for he has no wish to lose his clever engineer while there are so many contracts on hand, and he retorts insultingly. His parasites continue a duet of sneers and insults until Bidault is roused to anger and orders them indignantly out of his house. Laurier wants to stay and contend further, but the others are afraid of Bidault, and take the old man away. Suzanne has entered and witnessed the end of the dispute. Her husband in a few words explains what occurred. She breaks out in long tirades, taunting him, accusing him of conceit, pride, vanity, &c., and there is a sharp scene between them which ends by Bidault deciding to go to Tunis with her brother, Jacques; she must accompany them there. She is furious at this, indignantly declares she will never go, and calls her mother to her aid. Bidault has a hard time between them, but remains firm. Suzanne, after declaiming Frederick's eloquent nonsense about the true heroism, at last submits to her husband and exclaims she is afraid to remain alone in France. Jacques enters to congratulate Bidault on his act of renunciation. While they are speaking the Préfet comes to announce that Bidault has the Cross of the Legion of Honour. Very gracefully the hero refuses the cross, bidding the Préfet to bestow it on the true hero, Laurier. The play ends with the Préfet politely congratulating everybody. "Felicitez-vous donc avec moi, que . . . nous ayons su sortir de l'ordre si noblement, et y rentrer si heureusement."

NEW MUSIC.

MESSRS ENOCH AND SONS, Great Marlborough-street, have recently published the following works:—"Love's Anthem," written by Frederick E. Weatherly, composed by Reginald Somerville, is a song in the spirit of "The Devout Lover." The sentiment of "Love's Anthem" is faultless, and Mr Reginald Somerville has set the pleasant verses to music worthy of them, at the same time without any technical difficulties to cause the vocalist trouble. The song is simple flowing, and sweet in melody, and the change of tempo in the second part is effective. The transition from common time to 6 8 time is quite natural and will not puzzle the amateur. "To the Fairies" is a song by Jeanne Malcolm, a young composer who has already made her mark under the more familiar name of Jeanne Langtry, being, we believe, daughter of the popular actress, Mrs Langtry. The fair composer does credit to her celebrated mother in the graceful and sprightly melody and artistic accompaniment of her fairy-like ditty. We have but one comment to make, and it is this—why should a talented young composer trouble about fairies when musical people have long ceased to believe in them? Let Miss Langtry take as her theme some incident of actual life and feeling, and we guarantee her success as certain. We say this not in disparagement, but merely pointing the way to popular recognition of ability which amateurs and professionals will readily endorse. "In the Far Beyond" is a song with organ accompaniment, composed by N. Zarde. It is one of the songs now so much in vogue which, without being exactly religious in character, have a sacred tone sure to be appreciated in the domestic circle. The verses of Mr Teschemacher well express the yearning for the "far beyond" which goes far to console us in the troubles of life. "A Portrait" is a vocal waltz by that delightful composer Mdlle. Chaminade, set to the French verses of Pierre Reyniel, the English version being by Mr Elkin. There is little need of eulogy in any composition of Mdlle. Chaminade. Everything she writes is artistic and musicianly. "United" is a song composed by Mr Herbert Bunning to verses by Arthur Chapman. It is an agreeable song with a pleasing sentiment. Another by the same composer has a more effective subject. It is "The Drummer," set to words from the *Century Magazine*. The "Rub-a-dub" refrain has much spirit, and would be warmly applauded by a music hall audience. "April's Here" expresses in a genial fashion a similar sentiment to that of the poet Browning, who says, "Oh, to be England now that April's here." The joys of spring are delightfully carolled by Mr Landon Ronald in a pleasing melody in the key of G major, with a bright, running accompaniment which without being really difficult requires to be played neatly and *in time*; otherwise the singer will not find the accompaniment helpful. With a little care in this respect, "April's Here" will be found a charming ditty. In Mdlle. Chaminade's "Waltz-Ballet" there are many elegant passages, melodious and effective always, and written in musicianly style. A portrait of the fair composer sitting at the pianoforte in a thoughtful mood adorns the title-page, and does justice to the expression and amiable countenance. Mr Herbert Bunning's "Impromptu Les Konigans" makes an excellent study for the pianoforte, and may be recommended to teachers of the instrument, who, however, must remember Mr Conder's admirable advice to be always in advance of the pupil. The "Picturesque Studies" for the pianoforte by Mr George H. Clutsam fulfil the purposes intended, and realise their title in every way. They are of various degrees of difficulty, but Mr Clutsam, like the excellent musician he is, does not weary the youthful student with passages merely cranky and eccentric.

MESSRS FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER, who have done so much for the musical world, and who are so often cheated out of their just rights, have published Kopski's March, a composition played by the composer throughout the world.

MESSRS LEONARD AND CO. send "Maid Marion," by J. Warwick Moore. An odd name is that of "Maid Marion" for a pianoforte caprice, but a high authority has remarked "What's in a name?" and we certainly shall not object to the title of a clever piece. Mr Moore is evidently "master of his tools" as the French say. "White Heather," by Alfred Morland, is a sketch for the pianoforte not wanting in ability. Students will be pleased with its simplicity. Mr Josef Holbrooke is one of our rising composers who might be contented with an English-spelt Christian name. His "Marche Militaire" also shows foreign tastes, but his march is spirited and effective, and the change of key in the second part from B flat to E flat is cleverly managed, and makes a pleasing contrast. "Tumble to Rest" hardly suggests the title of a song, but it is intended for baby ears, and the author of the words, Mr Tischemacher, has supplied a fanciful theme for the composer, Geoffrey Lockhart, who has done his work in an agreeable manner. "Humoreske," by F. C. Maker—how often we meet with "Humoreske" as a title without discovering much of the *humoreske* quality in the music! Perhaps the best example is Beethoven's Caprice called "Anger over a lost penny," the most original piece of the kind with which we are acquainted. Mr Maker, if not particularly *humoreske*, writes fairly well, and in his "Polonaise" and "Grand March" are excellent pieces for the pianoforte. The same composer's "Woodland Voices" and "Silver Streamlets," if a little conventional, are good studies, which will repay the practice required. In "Murmures Evliennes" the composer has possibly been inspired both in the title and the music by the Parisian pianist and composer Ascher. Mr Maker has not slavishly followed the French musician.

MR FRANK ELLIOTT has been engaged by Mr Wilfred Cotton as Miss Ada Reeve's representative on her forthcoming tour.

HISTORIC PROVINCIAL PLAYHOUSE.

BY T. H. BARROW.—IV.

Baker died on Easter Sunday, 1770, largely involved in debt. He was an artist of some repute. Among his works were paintings of York Minster and Lincoln Cathedral, which became popular as colour prints. The responsibility of management devolved upon Tate Wilkinson, who signalised his sudden accession to supreme authority by spending £500 in new scenery. After a brief tour which included Newcastle-on-Tyne and Leeds, he reopened the York Theatre in January, 1771, with the York stock company. In July the same year Mr and Mrs Hitchcock, clever exponents of the histrionic art, left the Norwich circuit for that at York, and were soon warmly received by the best society in the metropolis of the north of England. Mrs Hitchcock made her first bow to a York audience as Rosetta in *Love in a Village*. Her husband was a

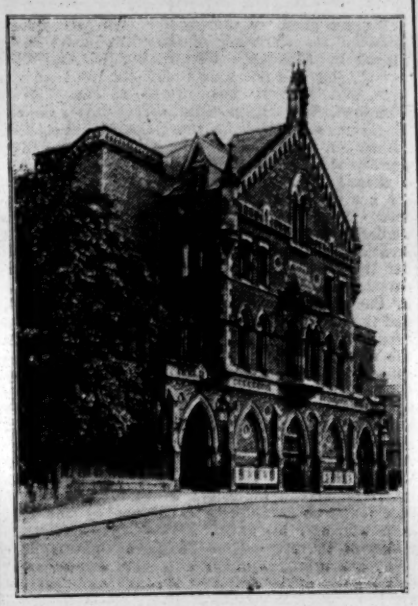

Photo by Debenham and Co., York.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.

dramatic author. His comedy, *The Macaroni*, produced in York in the spring of 1773 was well received. He proceeded to Dublin in 1781, becoming equally successful at the Dublin Theatre. His daughter married Sir Jonas Greene, Recorder of Dublin, and became the mother of the distinguished juris consult Sir Richard Greene, a Baron of the Exchequer in Ireland.

For Tate Wilkinson's benefit in 1774 the Rev. Canon Mason, a precentor of York Minster, wrote a piece called *Elfrida* — probably historical. At that time there appears to have been a close connection between Church and Stage. Three years later Mr Mason had produced for Mr Suett's benefit a play called *Caractacus*, also historical. I should imagine both pieces were in blank verse, for the grave and reverend poet was present and expressed his approbation of the performance. *Caractacus*, it is recorded, was a bold attempt to revive a taste for the ancient drama; though unsuccessful as a play, the odes it contained secured for it great admiration. Mr Mason was regarded at the time as "the greatest living poet in this country."

Mr Suett was undoubtedly a distinguished member of the profession, as his name was invariably starred in the bill. I have at hand a day-bill a hundred and twenty-four years old, which may be considered worthy of reproduction:—"For the benefit of Mr Suett. At the Theatre, York, on Saturday evening, March 4, 1780, will be acted a second time by desire a musical prelude called *The Grenadier*. The Grenadier, Mr Hudson; Ralph, Mr Suett; Jenny, Mrs Thornton. After which will be performed the favourite comedy called *'Tis Well It's No Worse*. Don Carlos, Mr Kemble; Don Ferdinand, Mr Inchbald; Don Pedro, Mr Burgtall; Don Guzman, Mr Oram; Octavio, Mr Hudson; Drunken Coachman, Mr Leng; Lazarillo, Mr Death; Muskato, Mr Suett; Marcella, Mrs Inchbald; Aurora, Miss Emerson; Leonarda, Mrs Leng; Beatrice, Mrs Hudson. To which will be added a musical entertainment called *Belphegor; or, The Three Wishes*. Booze, Mr Suett; Belphegor, Mr Inchbald; Justice Soloman, Mr Oram; Collin, Mr Tyler; Farmer Wheatear, Mr Bowles; Dame Din, Mrs Leng; Phœbe, Mrs Thornton; to begin at 6 0 o'clock; tickets as usual, and of Mr Suett at Mr Barker's in Grape-lane."

Kemble, whose name figures in the above cast, was a poet as well as an actor, and on occasion no mean hand at both. Many of his printed sonnets showed the versatility of his mind. Here is an example (published in 1786):—

A rich'y-sailing, dimpled Boy,
Son of Venus, God of Love,
Grant my heart the feat of joy,
May thy Temple ever prove.

This is a trifle involved: the next is better:—

Let me sing and laugh all day,
Sweetly pass my nights away,
Then arising taste with you
Blessings lasting, raptures new!

He was a popular actor at Leeds as well as York, visiting that town as a member of one of the circuit combinations. In 1786 he wrote "an occasional

Photo by Arthur and Co., York.

THE OLD CRYPT,
THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.

prologue to a play acted for the benefit of the Infirmary at Leeds" Excellent in the sentiments expressed, it concludes with these lines:—

Where praise is merited let praise be giv'n—
To honour virtue is to act like Heav'n.
And sure your generous deeds may well demand
That angels sing them to the list'ning land;
For mindful ever of wealth's first best end,
You bid the Poor in you behold a friend.

Mrs Siddons, who had failed to gain the appreciation of London audiences at Drury-lane Theatre, made her debût at York on April 15, 1777, in *The Grecian Daughter*, and played during the rest of the season, which was concluded on May 17, when she took a benefit. With north country audiences she soon became a well-established favourite. Dr. Johnson said of her: "Neither praise nor money, the two powerful corruptors of mankind, seem to have depraved her." Mrs R. Trench in her "Romans" (1822) wrote: "There is no giving an adequate impression of the might, the majesty, and grace she possessed, nor of the effect on a young heart of the deep and mysterious tones of her voice." Samuel Rogers in his memorable work, "Table Talk," said that after Mrs Siddons left the stage she, from want of excitement, was never happy. "If you ask me what is a queen," said Tate Wilkinson, "I should say Mrs Siddons." Mrs Charles Mathews declared that, though a tragedy queen, Mrs Siddons had a strong bias towards comedy. So, too, had John Kemble, who formed the serious intention of performing Falstaff before his retirement, and actually rehearsed the part, but finally abandoned the idea.

A York magazine published in 1786 has the following, which, I feel sure, will be read with intense interest by provincial managers throughout the kingdom:—"The curiosity of the public was, perhaps, never more excited than by the appearance of Mrs Siddons at the Theatre Royal in this city. Her performances were received with that unbounded applause to which they were justly entitled. More company of the first distinction attended the Assizes than was ever known on a similar occasion. The following is an authentic statement of the receipts each night of her performing:—

		YORK.	£	s.	d.
July	29.	Isabella	94	8	0
July	31.	Jane Shore	129	5	0
Aug.	1.	Lady Randolph	154	6	0
Aug.	4.	Lady Macbeth	167	17	6
*Aug.	3.	Belvidera	192	9	6
Aug	5.	Mrs Beverley and Fine Lady, in "Lethe."	171	0	0
†Aug.	8.	Zara	103	9	6
		HULL.			
Aug	14.	Euphrasia	91	11	6
Aug.	15.	Zara	107	13	6
Aug.	17.	Belvidera	131	13	0
Aug.	18.	Isabella	117	16	6
		YORK.			
Aug.	22.	Euphrasia	140	1	6
Aug.	24.	Elwina	169	9	0
Aug.	16.	Calista	142	12	6
‡Aug.	18.	Margaret of Anjou	71	7	6
		Total	£1,885	0	6

*To the credit of the inhabitants of this country we must remark that the sum received this evening exceeded what was ever taken in any theatre in the Three Kingdoms (those of London alone excepted)

†Mrs Siddons complimented Mr Wilkinson with her performance this night for his sole emolument.

‡In this character Mrs Siddons played for the benefit of her brother Mr Stephen Kemble, and the prices were reduced to those taken in the winter season, viz, 3s., 2s., 1s. 6d., and 1s.

(To be continued.)

THE OVERTON ENTERTAINER.

London: DEAN and SON, LIMITED.
160A, Fleet-street, E.C.

Reciters, both professional and amateur, are under under a debt of obligation to Mr Robert Overton for supplying them with suitable material for the drawing-room and public entertainments. Many of the characters whose acquaintance we first made in the pages of "Queer Fish," "A Round Dozen," and "Ten Minutes" have become popular alike on the platform and in the home, and several of the best, known recitations have been translated into Continental languages The work under notice has been compiled from the three volumes just mentioned, with the addition of a number of Mr Overton's latest written sketches for public and fireside reading or recitation. With three exceptions these selections are in prose, and comprise both serious and humorous recitations. "All Along the Line!" is a stirring ballad of the American Civil War, telling of the gallant deed done by Colonel Gray, who brought an order for the men of Vermont to charge "all along the line!" The paper containing these words was, however, clasped in a dead man's hand, for the brave bearer of the message had been shot as he sped across the plain, and fell lifeless from his horse:—

Next eve, when peaceful sunbeams gleamed the field of battle o'er,
The corse of gallant Colonel Gray with tender hands we bore:
A soldier's hasty sepulchre some sad-faced warriors made—
Where friend and foe together lie our valiant dead we laid.
No costly monument we reared to mark his place of rest,
But just these words we wrote upon the slab above his breast:
"He being dead yet speaketh"—and our meaning well they know
Who hear how by a dead man's word we charged against the foe,
All along the Line!

Prose narratives of heroism and self-sacrifice are to be found in such sketches as "Our Pardner," the story of a negro who loses his own life to save that of a little child, and "Jim: a Hero," a story told by a curate. *The Bride of Audley Brow* is the title of a playlet in which there are five characters. The plot reveals how Squire Burwash's son, Harry, falls in love with his father's amanuensis Vivie Cardigan, who, as she is a proud and penniless girl, refuses his offer of marriage. She, however, brings about a reconciliation between the gouty, crusty old squire and his brother Jack, who has returned with a fortune from abroad. Squire Burwash had intended that his son should marry a wealthy widow, but as Uncle Jack promises that Harry, on the day he brings home Vivie Cardigan as his bride, shall have fifty thousand pounds, the difficulties in the way of the young man's union with the squire's charming secretary are removed, and this paves the way to a happy ending. During the winter season now fast approaching, this volume is likely to prove most useful to the elocutionist in search of effective recitations and readings.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

10,251 Ozonising air, &c. Patentees, C. Wokes, 66, Brook-street, and F. H. Street, Humber Chambers, Prince's-dock-street, both in Kingston-upon-Hill. Consists of apparatus for producing ozone by electrically treating oxygen, and for purifying atmospheric air, mixed with oxygen or not, by the generation of ozone, such apparatus being applicable for use in connection with hospitals, theatres, dwelling-houses, and other places. An outer casing is provided with inwardly projecting rings, discs, ovals, or the like, while an inner insular casing carries external projections intermediate with the projecting rings, and internal projections opposite the spaces, between which rings, &c., mounted on an insulated or solid shaft are interposed. The air or oxygen in passing through the apparatus is ozonised by the silent discharge occurring between the electrodes, the outer casing and spindle being connected to the terminals of the source. Any number of concentric casings may be employed, and a modification is described in which one casing and a spindle are used for supporting the electrodes. These latter may be in the form of a helical projection, or of longitudinal strips or of other forms, instead of transverse to the barrel axis. The electrodes, of any suitable metal, alloy, or good electric conductor may also be so arranged that the edges or outer peripheries of the rings, &c., are opposite the edges of the rings, &c., and so on, instead of being opposite the spaces between them. The casings may be mounted on a loose support, with a bell mouth, but may be directly connected with pipes for conveying and delivering the air, &c., before and after treatment respectively.

THE second fancy dress ball of the season will take place at Covent-garden on Friday, Oct. 14, when six special and sixteen other prizes will be given for the best costumes.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"TRAUMULUS,"

Play, in Five Acts, by MM. Holz and Jerschke, Produced at the Lessing, Sept 26.

Professor Niemeyer	Herr SASSERMANN
Frau Niemeyer	Fräulein SCHIFF
Fritz	Herr GRUNWALD
Von Kanneberg	Herr PATRY
Mollwein	Herr SAUER
Brunner	Herr RICKELT
Kleinstüber	Herr WERTHMANN
Goldbaum	Herr MEINHARD
Falk	Herr IWALD
Hoppe	Herr MARR
Lydia	Fräulein EBERTY
Schimke	Herr PAULY
Schladebach	Herr REICHER
Olga	Fräulein PEPLER
Von Nedlitz	Herr STIEBLER
Klausing	Herr ZIEHER
Poehlmann	Herr NEUSS
Frommelt	Herr P. MARR

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, OCT. 6.—This is a piece of which there is not so much to say as is the rule about a Lessing première. It is a play which must be seen to be appreciated, and, above all, it appeals chiefly to an entirely German audience. Since *Alt Heidelberg* we have been satiated with pieces written round student life; Herren Holz and Jerschke go one better, and have produced a number of effective scenes, in which the German *gymniast*, or grammar-school boy, plays the principal part. There is exceeding humour in these scenes, and they pleased the audience the most The serious part of the plot is as follows:—"Traumulus" (the dreamer) is the nickname given by his pupils to Professor Niemeyer, headmaster of the college. Niemeyer is the kindest-hearted man in the world. He is full of ideals, an excellent pedagogue, and a devoted husband, but he is too confiding and too impractical. His trusting nature is abused on every side; his wife is unfaithful to him, and his pupils take advantage of him, yet he remains blind. The awakening comes with the action of one of the eldest boys, Niemeyer's favourite and most trusted pupil, who had been specially given into the head master's charge. The youth, Von Nedlitz, has a nocturnal rendezvous with a frivolous little actress, and it is the talk of the small provincial town in a trice. Niemeyer is censured by everyone; his prestige is lost, and driven to desperation he finally commits suicide. The development of events is excessively cleverly depicted, and the majority of the audience were deeply interested. There were, notwithstanding, a goodly number of malcontents present, who mingled their hisses with the boisterous applause. The acting was faultless in each case, particular commendation being due to Fräulein Eberty, Herr Bassermann, and Herr Reicher. The joint authors were called repeatedly before the curtain, and the play may, on the whole, be considered a success.

THE event of the week was the opening of the Lustspiel-Haus in the Friedrichstrasse on Saturday. Out of an old-fashioned dancing-room and adjacent buildings has sprung a handsome, well-appointed theatre, which takes its place triumphantly among our first houses. The lessee is Dr. Martin Zickel, formerly director of the Secessions-Bühne, mentioned frequently in your pages, and the new theatre could not well be in better hands. Dr. Zickel has got together a first-class company. Not the least deserving of consideration is his wife—a daughter of the famous opera singer Fräulein Mallinger, later Baroness Von Oye. Dr. Zickel is catholic in his programme; he promises us the best of every country, and has made arrangements for several English and French plays already. The initial performance was that of Otto Erich Hartleben's new comedy *Ein Wahrhaft Guter Mensch* (a really good fellow), which—though in some respects falling short of his other works—met with a cordial reception. It is the story of Josef Osterberg, a wealthy young man, with so many plans for bettering humanity in general that he fails in his duty to his own family, thereby very nearly losing his charming wife Valeska. That all comes right in the end is perhaps unnecessary to say. The several characters are drawn by Hartleben's unerring hand with the skill and humour to which we are accustomed. The figure of Valeska's happy-go-lucky father, Stanislaus—who, after trying his hand at many things, runs a variety show on his son-in-law's money — is particularly good, and that of Osterberg's friend — a loose-principled painter—is equally happily conceived. The cast was wonderfully even, the artistes all of best repute. Fräulein Mallinger (Frau Dr. Zickel) gave the difficult rôle of Valeska with much grace and power; Herr Fischer (formerly of the Deutsches) was capital in the name part; and Herr Schoenfeld gave a clever character study, full of humour, of the painter—one of the vampires who prey upon Osterberg. The Lustspiel-Haus stands well back from the road, with an imposing court. It is thoroughly up to date, is comfortable and luxurious, while everything has been done for the safety of the public in the way of exits. The theatre seats 600 persons, and is composed of stalls, or "parkett," as it is called here—really stalls and pit on equal lines—and one circle. The colours of the auditorium are a tasteful blending of crimson, white, and gold. The stage is a good size, and furnished with the newest and most approved requirements. All in all, the Lustspiel-Haus is a decided acquisition, and the long line of carriages before the doors each evening proves the interest and appreciation of the public.

A VERY fine performance of *Rienzi* was given at the Royal Opera on Monday evening. The evening was one long triumph for Dr. Muck, the conductor, who had to bow his acknowledgments repeatedly. Herr Grüning was admirable in the title-rôle. He has seldom been heard to such advantage. Frau Goetz and Frau Herzog sang beautifully in the parts of Adriano and the Herald of Peace, Fräulein Reisl made her mark as Irene, and the same may be said of Herr Joern as Baroncelli. The mounting of the opera was tasteful, and testified to the skill of Herr Droescher, the head stage-manager of the Imperial theatres.

A DISAPPOINTMENT was felt by public and managers last week, when, at the eleventh hour, the new National Theatre was declared to be unsafe by the fire police authorities, and the opening delayed for several days. When the necessary alterations had been made, the house was permitted to open, which was done with much éclat on Thursday last. It is a handsome building, and all arrangements appear to be good. The opening performance of *Il Trovatore (Der Troubadour)* was highly satisfactory, and a crowded audience applauded liberally.

AT the Luisen Theatre L'Arronge's most popular volks-play, *Mein Leopold*, has been received with customary success. The title-rôle was created here years ago by the late comedian Emil Thomas, and played by him many hundreds of times. He had been cast for it again the week he died, and an element of sadness prevailed in the theatre where he was last engaged, for Herr Thomas was as popular among his colleagues as he was with the public. The chief rôle was well rendered by Herr Huener, who understood how to make the utmost of each well-known point. The remaining characters were all satisfactorily sustained

THE Trianon is giving *Ihr Zweiter Mann*, the capital comedy by MM. Sylvane and Froyey, with which they closed last season.

"PERGOLESI" a three act opera by Guglielmi, has been obtained by Herr Prasch, and will be produced at the Theatre des Westens in a few days. On Saturday *Die Kleinen Lämmer* is to be given at that theatre. The bill there this week is a very varied one—*Undine*, *Rigoletto*, *Traviata*, and *Der Freyschütz*, so that all tastes may be suited.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

C

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Drama, in Four Acts, by George R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, entitled "THE TRUMPET CALL."

The revival of this ever popular drama has a special local interest, the 4th V. B. Royal Fusiliers taking up this popular theatre on Monday and Tuesday, as before, for the purpose of raising money for their prize funds. The selection of such a military play was excellent, as the interest of the performance itself was augmented on the first two nights of the week by various extra items contributed by detachments of the battalion, together with the bugle and military bands. Mr Davey, with his accustomed thoroughness in all matters pertaining to the theatre, had spared no expense in ensuring the object in view. The house both inside and out was most tastefully decorated with flags &c., and the opening performance was patronised by the officers and men of the battalion, together with a packed audience. The drama was produced under the watchful supervision of Mr Oswald Brand. Mr Ernest Leicester, who has established himself as a great favourite locally, gave an excellent performance as Cuthbertson. As Richard Featherstone Mr Joynson-Powell was equally commendable, his portrayal of the despicable character being very cleverly presented. Mr Hal Collier made Professor Ginnifer as humorous a character as could be desired; Mr Frank Stone was particularly good as Milligan, his brogue being effectively sustained; Mr Arthur Estcourt as Redruth showed intensity; and Mr Richard Mayne and Mr George Derrick were adequate in small parts. Miss Helen Bancroft in the singular rôle of Astrea again gave a performance of great merit and artistic value. Miss Kate Brand was also good as Constance, depicting the pathetic element in the character with much skill and judgment. Miss Winifred Leeson as Lavinia was again very pleasing, and Mrs Stanislaus Calhaem as Mrs Ginnifer gave another exceedingly good character study. Miss Sadie Gold was intelligent as the young son, and the remaining smaller parts were all in very good hands. The drama, which was succeeded by a historic pageant representing the development of the regiment, was received with every sign of cordial approval. Mr Davey's early door programme includes Mr Millis, the Australian ventriloquist, in his well-known performance, together with the Bioscope.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Arthur Shirley, entitled "THE GRIP OF IRON."

This highly successful and sensational drama is the attraction at the Standard this week, and if one is to judge by the enthusiastic reception the performance gained on Monday night, it is safe to say that the production continues to be a conspicuous success. Nor is this to be wondered at, for the artistes who sustain the various rôles have been carefully selected, and they all perform their duties admirably, leaving nothing to be desired. The mounting and staging of the piece are complete in every detail. For Mr Frank Lister as Jagon, alias Simmonet, we have nothing but praise. The character is one in which full scope is given to this clever actor to prove his histrionic ability, and without a doubt he makes the most of every opportunity that is offered, and gives a performance of the highest grade of excellence. As an effort in declamatory elocution his method and enunciation are of a high order, and his acting is impressive throughout, holding the close attention of the audience from beginning to end. Mr Frank Adair plays with considerable energy and skill as Lorentz De Ribas, and is very successful. Mr Frederick Melville thoroughly deserves the applause he gets as Paul Blanchard. He plays with all the pathos required in the part of the man falsely condemned, and is everything that could be desired. Mr Julian Cross cleverly depicts the business-like detective Alphonse De Coucou, whilst Mr J. T. Macmillan acts Dodot, a detective of the old school, in a decidedly humorous manner. Much laughter is caused by the untiring efforts of these two. Mr Cyril Vernon is well suited to the rôle of Robert De Belfort, and M. De Beaudin is fittingly portrayed by Mr Alick Macmillan. Mr Andrew Emm contributes a droll rendering of Loustalot, better known as the "Smiler," and squeezes a large amount of fun from the character. Miss Eva Dare speaks her lines well and plays admirably as Sophie Blanchard, and every praise is due to Miss Olga Audré for her fine interpretation of Cora, Simmonet's daughter. The rôle of Marie Guerin receives careful treatment from Miss Maud Stewart Drewry, who acquits herself with every sign of success. The minor characters are adequately treated by other members of the company.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled "THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

Although this is the farewell visit of Mr George Musgrove's company in *The Belle of New York*, it is the first time it has appeared at the Pavilion, and it is playing to crowded houses this week. The piece is handsomely dressed and lavishly mounted, and the bright and successful work of the principals is ably supported by a large and capable chorus, whose work under the bâton of the musical director, Mr Leonard Hornsey, is very creditable. Several fresh numbers have been introduced, and the whole entertainment goes with such a delightful swing that it is quite refreshing. Miss Beatrice Lamotte gives a charming representation of Violet Grey, and Miss Lillian Digges is chic and fascinating as Fifi Fricot. Miss Winnie Browne makes a dashing Cora Angelique, and Miss May Angus-Young does well as Mamie Clancy. Miss Kitty Lindley is sprightly and animated as Kissy Fitzgarter, being encored for the inevitable "Sammy" in the second act. Mr Harry A. Meymott, a diverting Ichabod Bronson, takes full advantage of the humorous possibilities of the part, and is a great favourite with the audience. Mr Philip Leslie is well suited as Harry Bronson, although a little more vigour infused into the character would be acceptable. As Karl Von Pumpernick Mr Max Copland gives a really clever performance, and Mr Frank Lawton in his original part of Blinky Bill "brings down the house" with his admirable whistling and bone solos. Mr Cecil Burt is remarkably good as Doc Snifkins, and Mr Paddy Dupres gains favour as Kenneth Mugg. Mr Alfred Selby and Mr Albert Sealy are alert and nimble as the Portuguese Twins, and a word of commendation must be given to Mr Charles for his portrayal of the gateman at the railway station.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Play, in Five Acts, entitled "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

A most enthusiastic reception by a crowded house was given to Mr Charles Harrington's company on a welcome return visit to Mr Bailey's popular theatre. In these days, when the decadence of the drama is so much discussed, it is indeed gratifying to find that a clean, wholesome play told in homely fashion, still possesses all its old attractions for playgoers. That this is so, the case of *Uncle Tom's Cabin* supplies convincing proof; for, despite the lapse of years since this play was first produced, its drawing powers are as great as ever, and audiences are still as eager to laugh and cry in sympathy with the joys and sorrows of Little Eva and poor Uncle Tom. Mr J. Carr gave his usual telling impersonation of Uncle Tom, a part that he is peculiarly fitted for. In the rôle of the slave owner, Legree, Mr John Henry Rogers acted in realistic style, bringing the brutal points of the character well into play. Mr B. Lenton did exceedingly well as Mr St. Clair; Mr Guy P. Ellis was particularly pleasing as George Harris; Mr John Gibson was a capable Mr Wilson; and Mr Charles Harrington secured his usual mead of recognition as the quaker, Phineas Fletcher. Miss Hettie Johnson sustained the rôle of Eliza Harris with a dignity and refinement that were most noticeable, and Miss Ida Fane was quite at home as Aunt Ophelia. As Emmeline Miss Emma Stuart deserves a good word, as does Miss Hero Hathaway as Mrs St. Claire. Little Minnie portrayed Little Eva in a gentle and effective way; Miss Sylvia Stella made a great hit as the shrewd but somewhat cunning Topsy; Mrs Carr was well suited as Aunt Chloe; and Miss Zerlina Zerbini (Mrs Harrington) gave her usual telling performance of Cassy. The play was staged and mounted in irreproachable fashion. In the Plantation scene the beautiful voice of W. H. Nott, the coloured tenor, was heard to great advantage, and a meritorious banjo solo by W. Pettit also calls for special mention.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Drama, by Paul Merritt and George Conquest, entitled "MANKIND."

A capital representation of this favourite drama is being given this week at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, and, despite the many years that have elapsed since the play first saw the light of day, its vitality is apparently undiminished. The stock company succeed in giving an enjoyable performance, and their efforts have met with warm appreciation from large audiences. Mr George Conquest resumes the character of Daniel Groodge, and his acting throughout is handled with rare skill and judgment. Mr Conquest had capable assistance from Mr Ernest E. Norris, who in the part of Peter Sharpley (Groodge's partner) scored a success. In the Strangling scene in the fourth act both Mr Conquest and Mr Norris gave a distinctly clever piece of work, and thoroughly deserved the encomiums bestowed upon them by the delighted house. Mr J. C. Aubrey gave a capital impersonation of the villainous Edmund Sharpley, and Mr Jo Monkhouse as Richard Pimpool seemed quite at home in the part. Philip Warren received a manly and vigorous interpretation at the hands of Mr Paige Lawrence; and as George Melton Mr Norman Clark was very successful. Mr Harry Paulton, jun., worked indefatigably in the character of Barnaby Bright. Mrs Bennett was delightful as Alice Maitland, and played with all her accustomed skill and charm. Miss Agnes Paulton as Arabella Bright was most acceptable, her bright and vivacious manner being much to the liking of the house. Miss Judith Kyrle was a good exponent of the part of Mrs Bickerton; and Miss Ethel Houldsworth was earnest and sympathetic as Constance Melton. Miss Marion Hall renders a good account of Jane Agnes Frisby; and Miss Christine Williams played very naturally as the child. Numerous minor characters all received careful treatment; and the general mounting of the drama was of a high standard of excellence.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Comic Opera, in Two Acts, Book and Lyrics by G. H. Jessop, Additional Lyrics by Percy Greenbank and Charles Taylor, Composed by Sidney Jones, entitled "MY LADY MOLLY."

The Camden-town folk on the first visit of *My Lady Molly* immediately took that fascinating young lady to their hearts, and by their reception of her this week on her second visit it is quite certain that they have not forgotten her charm, her piquancy, or her many melodious graces. It is now some eighteen months since she first made the West-end of London ring with her praises, and her career at Terry's was one long triumph from beginning to end. The opera, which is the work of many hands, has but one composer, and Mr Sydney Jones's excellent credentials, earned in such a tuneful work as *San Toy*—to mention only one of the many—make it a certainty that his score is melodious. The numbers given to the principal characters are grateful to sing, and have just that lilting character that is a sine quâ non of music destined to become popular with the masses. The period of the opera is in the picturesque days of squirearchy, when heroes were as chivalrous as they were bold in love, and when maidens had perforce to employ stratagem in order to evade the stern dictates of their sires. It is an artful ruse of the heroine that supplies the basis of the plot of *My Lady Molly*; and the simplicity and directness of the dramatic scheme are among the opera's chief recommendations. The company entrusted with the representation is under the direction of Mr Frederick Mouillot, the musical arrangements being in the capable keeping of Mr Leonard Leslie, who directs an augmented orchestra very skilfully. The title-rôle is entrusted to Miss Edmée De Dreux, whose archness and vivacity are of immense value in such a part. Miss De Dreux looks extremely well in her disguise, and her singing is always bright and expressive. She is often encored, and is heard to especial advantage in the number "Once too often." Miss Zoe Gilfillan is dainty and expressive in her impersonation of Alice Coverdale, and shows a keen appreciation of the humour of the situations with the disguised Lady Molly. She is particularly dainty and fetching in her rendering of "My Aunt's Elopement" Miss Mabel Carr is genuinely effective as Hester, looking particularly well and acting with decided grace and refinement. Mdlle. Ebba Darcier presents a vivacious portrait of the governess, Mdlle. Marabeau, and scores by her bright exuberance and Gallic coquetry. Mr Leicester Tunks makes a personable hero of Captain Harry Romney, being dashing and debonair. He secures a very decided demand for an encore for his rendering of "At my lady's feet. Mr Stuart Alexander's Lionel Bland was attuned to the spirit of romance, and his love-making passages with Miss Zoe Gilfillan are interesting episodes that are much appreciated. Mr H. Godwin Hunt is as splenetic, full-blooded, and unreasonable as one expects the squires of the good old days to be, and his Sir Miles Coverdale is a capital portrait. The reliance placed by the librettists on the humours of Mickey O'Dowd is amply justified by the favouritism accorded to that broth of a boy by the Camdentonians, among whom there are apparently no members of any Hibernian society to formulate objections to the stage Irishman. Mr Stephen Fitzgerald, to whom the part is assigned, is not unconscious of the happy effect produced by a timely and up-to-date gag, and his humorous business elicits loud laughter. He scores most unmistakably, too, in his rendering of "Mickey O'Dowd." Mr Dan O'Regan as Reuben Oats, Mr H. Beresford as the head groom at the Coverdale Arms, and Mr M'Closkie (who stage-manages) as Judge Romney are responsible for capable work; and Misses D. Vivian, Violet Lingard, Kittie Holmes, and Messrs Gally and Cashell are seen to advantage in minor parts. Miss Minnie Blanchard dances with surprising grace and deftness, and the lady members of the chorus look extremely attractive in their picturesque costumes. Mr Leslie Hughes is the courteous representative of Mr Robert Arthur, who is directing with much enterprise this fine suburban house, which is not surpassed for comfort anywhere in this overgrown London of ours.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the comic opera, by Audran and Stuart, entitled "LA POUPEE."

Audran's justly-celebrated comic opera was received on its first representation at the King's on Monday evening with the enthusiasm it deserved, the pretty melodies and comical story earning all possible praise, and causing one to regret that there are so few real comic operas of this class. Mr C. P Levilly is to be commended for maintaining the standard with regard to the artistes and the elaborate scenery and dresses, everybody and everything being beyond complaint. Even two of the original Prince of Wales' Theatre company are included in the cast to revive pleasant memories of the original production, Mr Eric Thorne being a most humorous and painstaking Hilarius and Miss Stella Gastelle a handsome and talented Alesia. Their efforts alone would have won success for the opera. Mr Gerald Clifford as the simple Lancelot gains popularity by his pleasant singing and easy acting, and the Father Maximæ of Mr Newton Ide was in every respect a worthy performance, his singing of "A Jovial Monk am I" justly deserving the encore it obtained. Mr William Griffin as Loremois, and Mr Fred Seymour as Baron Chanterelle proved an amusing couple, quite to the taste of the audience. Mr Vernon Read made a staid Balthazar; Miss Madge Avery presented a pleasing picture as Madame Hilarius; Miss May Bradbury made an attractive Guduline; and Henri was brightly rendered by Miss Kitty Cavendish. The chorus is quite up to the work, the orchestra is well controlled by Mr Harry Rushworth, and the scenery and costumes are in admirable taste.

PRINCESS OF WALES'S, KENNINGTON.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Play, in Four Acts, by Arthur W. Pinero, entitled "THE SECOND MRS TANQUERAY."

We are given to understand that Mr Pinero intended the character of Mrs Tanqueray to be played by Miss Olga Nethersole; but, unfortunately, she was not able to fill the part at the time, and that it was offered to Mrs Patrick Campbell, with the result that the latter in the character established the foundation of her successful career. Miss Nethersole, who has frequently represented the frail heroine in the provinces, gave a chance to her numerous London admirers to see her in the character on Monday at Kennington. It is not necessary to compare the two renderings—so essentially different—of the great creation of the dramatist. The "accidents" of her life, the enslaving conditions of fate and circumstance may have been and were probably due in Paula's case to the faults of temperament, and the dramatist shows by a sequence of merciless events that she should never have ascended from the muddled atmosphere of the half-world to a sphere whose cold conventions chill her very marrow. Mrs Tanqueray is not a reasoning, tactful woman. If she had been, we could imagine her taking up district visiting with Mrs Cortelyon and making up a whist party with the vicar. Aubrey expected something of this sort, or else he would never have dumped her down, soon after his marriage, among the frigid country society that was found so completely satisfying by the first lady who bore his name. Miss Olga Nethersole makes of the character a déclassée whose refinement has been lost in her numerous *amours*, and this reading of the character is consistently carried out in her interview with Mrs Cortelyon, in which the rudeness of the hostess of Highercombe was so accentuated on Monday that the guest might have reasonably departed in a state of indignation instead of adopting an attitude of pained disappointment. Miss Nethersole's greatest triumph comes in the scene with Ardale at the end of the third act. The implacable destiny that follows her, the sequence of unlucky circumstances that dogs her footsteps seem to strike her with horror, and the quiet despair of the distraught woman is powerfully presented. There is no lack of tenderness either in the scene of reconciliation with Ellean. Wistfulness, with an occasional sarcastic intonation, marks Miss Nethersole's delivery of the passage in which Paula, just previous to the final catastrophe, foretells to her husband the inevitable result of Time's ravages upon her physical charms. Throughout Miss Nethersole makes it palpable that Paula should never have broken away from her former life of excitement to become satiated with the dulness of respectability, but she gives one the impression that licence has coarsened her manners and robbed her of the refinement which should be innate in any woman chosen by Aubrey Tanqueray, whatever her past. Altogether the revival may be hailed as a most interesting one, as it enables London playgoers to witness an actress of great gifts in a part that has appealed to the dramatic instincts of such artists as Duse and Jane Hading, and Kennington playgoers watched the experiment on Monday with an air of keen expectancy, that developed into whole-hearted admiration as the play progressed. Miss Nethersole was well supported by Mr G. S. Titheradge, whose experience in the part of Aubrey Tanqueray served him well. He was restrained and convincing, the easy good nature of the part not being overdone. Mr Berte Thomas was clever and amusing as Cayley Drummle; Miss Frances Ivor sounded the right note of maternal solicitude and matronly dignity as Mrs Cortelyon; and Miss Madge Field made a cold and impassive Ellean—a reading of the character that quite accounted for that young lady's complete indifference to the advances of her step-mother. Mr Edward Fielding played exceedingly well as Hugh Ardale; and Lady Orreyed was effectively handled by Miss Rosalind Ivan. Mr Slaine Mills, Mr Harry Dodd, Mr Gerald Aylmer, and Mr A. E. Maskell were correct and adequate in their delineations of the other characters.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Play by J. M. Barrie, entitled "LITTLE MARY."

This "uncomfortable play" has been charming large houses at Brixton's popular theatre this week. So much has been written of the piece that further comment is unnecessary. Of the company engaged by Mr Chas. Frohman we cannot speak too highly. As the Earl of Carlton Mr Arthur Holmes Gore submitted an exceptionally clever reading of this trying rôle; as Lord Rolfe Mr Arthur Kightley was suitably cast; Mr A. W. Baskcomb as Terence Reilly was commendable; the erratic and learned physician Sir Jennings Pyke was in the always capable hands of Mr George Mudie; as the Earl of Plumleigh Mr Baskcomb caused much amusement; as Dr. Topping Mr Ean Macdonald was seen to conspicuous advantage; whilst Mr. F. T. Watts was well cast as Mr Deighton. As the Countess of Plumleigh Miss Elspeth Dudgeon submitted a suitably bombastic embodiment. Of the ladies we must accord first honours to Miss Christine Silver, as Moira Loney was charming, her every movement, her every word, indeed, her every gesture was a study in histrionic art. Miss Silver created a gigantic success. As Eleanor Gray Miss Faith Reynolds was admirable, as also was Miss Evelyn Neilida as Lady Milly.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Farce, in Three Acts, by George Rollitt, entitled "THE MONEY MAKERS."

For the third week in succession farce fills the bill at the Alexandra, Mr George Rollitt's amusing play *The Money Makers*, only recently withdrawn from the Royalty, having been presented during this week by Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company. The adventures of the two young ladies who seek fortune by "tipping" winners have been followed by Mr Purcell's patrons with the greatest enjoyment, and the audiences that have assembled here this week have thoroughly appreciated the entertaining programme that Mr Purcell has put before them. Mr Frank Lacy, who appears as Captain Archie Fitzgerald, proves himself an admirable light comedian, and although the part is not a long one, his skilful treatment of it renders it a very prominent one. Miss Muriel Ashwynne plays Dot very cleverly indeed, Mabel being quite successfully presented by Miss Lorna Lawrence. Bella, the parlour-maid, who is largely responsible for all the trouble, is played with considerable spirit by Miss Frances Davie, and to these three ladies is due no small amount of credit for the large share they contribute to the general success of the performance. Mr Allan Thomas supplies a finished and clever piece of character acting as the old Scotchman, Matthew M'Dougall, and Miss Mary Griffiths contrives to give quite an original touch to the very ordinary part of the interfering housekeeper, Mrs Bannerman. Charlie Clifton is lightly and brightly played by Mr Edward Bonfield, and some clever character sketches come from other members of a very lengthy cast, those given by Messrs Edward Sidney, Townsend Whitling, Fred Porter, and Misses Violet Ley and Nita Alexander being specially noteworthy. The first item on the programme is Mr A. E. Drinkwater's smart little comedietta, *Two in a Trap*, in which Mr Frank Lacy and Miss Violet Ley are seen to decided advantage.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Oct. 3, "ARE YOU A MASON?"

Hearty laughter is being indulged in here this week by capital audiences at *Are You a Mason?* as interpreted by Messrs Geo. Edwardes and Charles Frohman's company. Mr Harry Ashford succeeds in keeping the house convulsed with laughter by his most humorous reading of Amos Bloodgood. He is most capably supported by Mr Stephen Wentworth, who undertakes the part of Frank Perry with considerable success. Exceptionally clever, too, is Mr Anthony Fawcett as George Fisher, especially in his impersonation of a female, being sufficiently piquant without overdoing it. Mr Tom Mowbray gives a clever study of the retired farmer, and the eccentricities of Hamilton Travers, impersonated by Mr Frank Ridley (stage-manager, by the way), never fail to entertain the audience. Mr Valentine O'Connor does well as Ernest Morrison. As the exacting Mrs Caroline Bloodgood, Miss Harriet Trench is very convincing, and a better choice would be hard to make than the Misses Lily Beagle and Isla Glynn, who enact the rôles of Annie and Lulu Bloodgood. Miss Violet Graham gives a good and thoroughly painstaking interpretation of Eva (Mrs Perry), and Miss Mabel Yonge is by no means wanting in merit in the character of Mrs Halton, although it is only a small part. Miss Lucy Edwin scores as Lottie, and Miss Gertrude Spencer is also deserving of praise for her Fanchon Armytage. As curtain-raiser Mr W. Hall's comedietta *Hushed Up* is presented with considerable success by Miss Mabel Yonge, Miss Isla Glynn, and Messrs Valentine O'Connor and Tom Mowbray.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Adaptation, in Three Acts, of Alphonse Daudet's Novel, entitled "SAPHO."

Miss Olga Nethersole's company is appearing this week at the Dalston Theatre in *Sapho*, an adaptation of Alphonse Daudet's book of the same name. It is claimed for *Sapho* that it is, after all, nothing more than an interesting sermon, as sermons are generally preached from the stage—but showing in most interesting form the worst side, or, at any rate, the most frivolous side of life. It is undeniably a most telling "discourse," and no one is likely to go to sleep during the delivery. The part of Fanny Le Grand (Sapho) is taken by Miss Cecil Cromwell, who brings a considerable degree of power of expression and intense emotion to bear upon the representation. Miss Cromwell's assumption of the impulsive, passionate, but at the same time devoted Sapho is in every sense skilful and artistic. It would also be impossible to accord Mr Arthur Royston too much commendation for his rendering of the character of Jean, whose life is so bound up with that of Sapho all through the play. Mr Arthur Poole is well placed as Déchélette; Mr Cremlin is quietly effective and at times decidedly humorous as Uncle Césaire; and Mr Hodgson Taylor's career as Flamant, a forger, is watched with interest. Others in the very effective cast include Mr James Kenning, Mr Frank Melrose, Mr John Barnum, Mr John Crome, Mr Lawrence, Mr J. Masters, and Mr Knox Monk. In addition to Miss Cromwell in the title-role, the ladies appearing also include Miss Jessie Melville as Madame Hettema, Miss Florrie Rutter, Miss Maud Parry, Miss Jessie Melville, Miss Isabel Derrie, Miss Gertrude Wynter, Miss Rosa Sullivan, Miss Clara Halkin, Miss Minnie Summers, Miss Ethel Pearson, and Miss Beatrice Fairfax.

EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Owen Hall and Paul Rubens, entitled "THE MEDAL AND THE MAID"

The Medal and the Maid was presented here for the first time by Mr Tom B. Davis's excellent company on Monday with great success. The mounting and dressing of the piece are good, and the full chorus of pretty and daintily dressed ladies help to secure the popularity this comedy deserves. Mr Tom Fancourt as Simon Pentweazle, who was recognised at once, being an old local favourite, played with his usual ability, and kept the audience in roars of laughter. Miss Rita Leonhardt as Merva Sunningdale sung songs which were appreciated, and greatly distinguished herself in the role. Miss Cissie Sephton as the fascinating Miss Ventnor cleverly enacted her part; she also has a sweet voice, which is used with effect. Josephine, the flower girl, was capably undertaken by Miss Maude Lake, and Miss Edith Blanche smartly displayed her skill in the portrayal of Mrs Habbicombe. Mr Tom Graves scored in the character of Levanter, which proved most amusing; Mr Campbell Bishop, the dignified Admiral Lord Belton, acted naturally; and Mr Cecil Kingsley played Allen Blyth in a commendable manner. The Misses Florence Cameron and Scott gave a graceful and artistic dance, which was received with applause, and Miss Lillie Learoy played prettily as Elsie Habbicombe. The Sergeant of Mr J. M. Dougall and the Kingsley of Mr Greville Hayes deserve passing notice, and a word of praise is due to Pauline Newton, who is a capable dancer and makes the most of her opportunities.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Oct. 3, Dion Boucicault's Irish Drama, in Four Acts, entitled "THE SHAUGHRAUN."

This favourite old play has been attracting good houses during the past week, Mr Henry Wright as Conn being the life and soul of the piece. Miss Florence Wilton ably assisted him as Moya; Mr Percy Standing gained great applause for his excellent and soldierly rendering of the part of Captain Molyneux, while Mr Arthur Burn as the hunted Robert Ffolliott gave an acceptable rendering of the part Mr George Traverner made a fine-looking Parish Priest. Mr Frank Harding as Corry Kinchela, both in his make-up and the vigorous style of his acting as the villain, left nothing to be desired, the occupants of the cheaper parts of the house especially showing their detestation of him with unmistakable vigour. Harvey Duff, his companion in crime, received an amusing and capable interpretation at the hands of Mr Dennis Campbell. Miss Nellie Shirley made a handsome and pathetic Arte O'Neal, and Miss Nellie Howitt a sprightly Claire Ffolliott. Miss Emily Dowton was satisfactory as Mrs O'Kelly, as was also Mr E. Boddy as Sergeant Jones. The other parts were all in capable hands. The scenery and staging were effective.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Drama, by Dion Boucicault, entitled "THE OCTOROON"

The management, having determined on a short stock season, could not have given the direction of things to one more able to undertake the duties than Mr J. M. East, so long and popularly known in this district, and it was pleasurably noticed that he had enlisted in his company several of the favourites of former stock seasons. With *The Octoroon* as the pioneer, the stock season may be said to have successfully opened the ball, for Boucicault's drama attracted a large audience on Monday evening, who thoroughly enjoyed the sensationalism of the old play. Mr John D. Saunders rendered the rather melancholy George Peyton in manly fashion, and Mr Charles A. East gave an altogether interesting representation of the rough diamond, Salem Scudder. Mr J. J. Bartlett was quite at home revelling in the villainies of the rascally Jacob M'Closkey, while Mr J. Nelson Ramsey provided Wahno-tee with the necessary impressiveness. The boy, Paul, was excellently played by Miss May Henderson, and Mr Fred Groves deserves praise for his Mr Sunnyside. Mr Charles Groves was an emphatic Captain Ratts and Mr John Henderson acted capitally as "ole uncle," Pete. Miss Essex Dane renewed her hold upon the affections of the theatre patrons by her sincere portraiture of Zoe, the octoroon girl. Mrs Peyton was bravely enacted by Miss Meta Pelham, and Miss Ida Phillips gave a fascinating performance of Dora Sunnyside. The services of real Negroes were enlisted to illustrate the plantation choruses and dances, and they met with much approval.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Comedy, in Four Acts, by J. M. Barrie, entitled "QUALITY STREET."

Dwellers in London's Eastern suburb may prefer their dramatic fare served in somewhat more solid form than in the presentment of such a graceful and fragile play as *Quality Street*, but those to whom this class of piece appeals are receiving it with unbounded delight, and its return engagement this week at the Stratford Borough Theatre is a wise stroke of policy on the part of Mr Fred Fredericks, who well succeeds in his aim to provide variation in catering for the delectation of his numerous patrons. Messrs A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman's company is nearly identical with that seen here before, and the same high standard is maintained in the way of dressing and mounting. Mr David Glassford as Valentine Brown makes the young soldier as handsome and as debonair as ever, and repetition only seems to add, if possible, ripeness to his performance. Miss Grace Armytage Noble's embodiment of Miss Phœbe Throssell is a delightful piece of acting, and Miss May Whitty merits every praise for her enactment of Miss Susan Throssell. Mr A. Carlaw Grand cleverly realises the idiosyncracies of Ensign Blades; Mr Arthur T. Hill is capital as Lieutenant Spicer, Mr Gordon Tomkins makes a smart recruiting sergeant, and a Waterloo veteran is safely entrusted to Mr T. Langton Lane The Misses Willoughby are admirably portrayed by Miss Rollo Deas and Miss Bertha Woolcote; Miss Evelyn Mills does well as Miss Henrietta Turnbull; and Miss Charlotte Parratt is brightly played by Miss Alma Reeves Smith. Miss Lizzie Scobie is a most amusing Patty; and Miss Daisy Lee as Isabella and Miss Mabel Wynne as Harriett are quite satisfactory; while an intelligent rendering of Master Arthur Wellesley Tompson comes from Master Robbins.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Drama, in Four Acts, by William Bourne, entitled "WHEN DARKNESS FALLS."

Time has developed *When Darkness Falls* into a first-class dramatic attraction, and Monday night, which ushered in its third visit to Stratford, saw the piece gain an enthusiastic reception from a well-filled house. The drama is interpreted by a strong cast, and is mounted appropriately and with a due regard for detail. Mr Charles Boult is virile and earnest as the sorely-tried Captain Harold Montrevor; and Mr Frank Liston plays with sincerity and conviction as the Rev. Arthur Graham. Mr Ellis J. Preston contributes a sterling performance as the rascally James Woodruffe; and Mr Will Clement is responsible for unlimited mirth by his droll impersonation of the Hibernian Mike Cavanagh. Bertin is convincingly played by Mr Tom Roydon; Mr Dan Osborne makes an alert Inspector Digby; and Mr Henry Heyes fulfils all requirements as Willoughby. Miss Maud Buchanan plays with charm and sympathy as the much persecuted Helen Mortrever, in direct contrast to whom is the virago Mrs Woodruffe, whose jealous and vicious nature is portrayed with much dramatic power and feeling by Miss Amy Vennimore. Miss Lydia Hart has a capital part as the generous young vagabond Jim, whose depravity is more due to fate than nature, and she makes the utmost of her opportunities; and the well-intentioned youngster Harry receives most effective treatment at the hands of Miss Alys Eden. Miss Emmeline Glover gives a quite satisfactory rendering of Jenny.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Play in Three Acts, from the French, entitled "THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."

This welcome return visit of Mr Frank Wilson's company has proved a great attraction this week. The piece needs no praise from us, its reputation having long ere this been established. The cast is a well chosen one, and the mounting—notably the scene of acts two and three—calls for recommendation. As the fickle-minded baronet Sir Reginald Belsize Mr Frank Wilson imparts an amount of vigour to the interpretation which is refreshing. Mr Sidney Orton as John Travers presents a good picture of the legal luminary; and Mr J. F. Leighton as Norbury and Mr Royston Keith, jun., as Hampton are both capable exponents of their respective rôles. Miss Averil May piquantly plays the French maid Rosalie; the impersonation of Madame De Semlano by Miss Kate Harwood is thoroughly amusing, and as the heroine of the play Miss Vera Fordyce's portrayal is worthy of the highest praise.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Drama, entitled "ONE OF THE BEST."

A return visit is being made here this week by Mr Robert Arthur's company in Seymour Hicks and George Edwardes's stirring play. Mr Stanley Bedwell in the part of the wrongfully-convicted officer, Dudley Keppel, displays sound acting and elocutionary powers; Mr E. Bellenden Clarke plays with power as the rascally Philip Elsworth; good character work is contributed by Charles Medwin as the garrulous gravedigger, Jason Jupp; Mr Herbert Darnley once again delights an audience with his free and humorous impersonation of the Anglo-Scotch soldier, Private Jupp. Mr H. F. Maltby is excellent as General Coventry; Mr George Hart is a dignified Sir Archibald M'Gregor; quiet and impressive is the tone of Mr Wilfrid Beckworth's Dr. Penrose; Mr W. Templer Powell is incisive as the French spy, De Gruchy; and Mr Bland Randall scores well as Sergeant Hennessy. Miss Helen Haye shows good dramatic power as Esther Coventry; Miss Jeanette Le Gros is pathetic as Mary Penrose; Miss Lilla Norden is clever and pert as the lady's-maid, Kitty Spencer; and Mrs Spencer has a capable representative in Miss Nellie Gilmore. Intelligence marks the acting in several minor parts, and the stage-management is excellent.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Drama entitled "THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE."

Messrs Henry Pettitt and Sidney Grundy's excellent drama is ably interpreted by Mr Charles A. Chandler's capital company. Mr Chandler himself makes a notable success in the part of Captain Vere, and his death scene is most effective. Mr Leonard Yorke is a manly and earnest Frank Beresford, and plays throughout with unflagging energy and spirit. He is cleverly supported by Mr C. Cecil, whose Reuben Armstrong is a great feature of the production, and by Mr Douglas Hamilton, whose Matthew Brookfield proves him to be an actor of ability. Mr Montague Turner gives a clever and incisive rendering of the part of John Silkstone—always consistent and never exaggerated; Mr Fred F. Allen is good as Joseph Thorndyke; Mr Charles Clark is a competent Patrick Desmond; and Captain Salem is safe in the hands of Mr Powell James. The remaining male parts are well acted by Messrs Ted Stone, George Roberts, J. G. Kelly, Harry James, H. White, W. Stevens, and James

Bode. Miss Mary Hardacre is a charming and pathetic Evelyn Brookfield; Miss Stafford Smith plays Mary Northcote admirably; Miss Lilian Rignold is a bright and pleasing Dorothy Tremble; and Miss Florence Chandler is excellent as Norah Desmond. The play is well mounted.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct 3, the Drama, by Dion Boucicault, entitled

"THE COLLEEN BAWN."

Mr Dion Boucicault's famous drama, *The Colleen Bawn*, is the principal attraction at this theatre this week, and very good business is being done. Mr Newman Maurice is very amusing as Myles-na-Coppaleen, keeping the audience in a perpetual state of merriment during the time he occupies the stage. Hardress Cregan is remarkably well impersonated by Mr Felix Pitt, who thoroughly enters into the spirit of the part. Mr Lionel D'Aragon, who appears as Kyrle Daly, plays with an energy and will that are much appreciated. Miss Eugenie Magnus has excellently conceived her rôle of Eily O'Connor, and carries out the conception most effectively. A clever sketch of Sheelagh is presented by Miss Hulo Hodgson, and Miss Rosemary Rees gives a good reading of Anne Chute. The rest of the characterts are suitably cast. The production is preceded by what is described as a "mirth-provoking absurdity" entitled *Out You Go*, in which the principal part is essayed by Mr Newman Maurice. The variety element consists of Mr George Scott, a very capable comedian; and Jacko, the man monkey.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Musical Play, entitled "THE ORCHID."

Mr George Dance's company has been here this week, and has been playing to excellent business, for the people of Woolwich have not been slow to seize this, their first chance of seeing the latest Gaiety success at their own theatre. Miss Ethel Bryant was charmingly vivacious as Lady Violet Anstruther, and soon danced and sang herself into general favour. Her greatest success was undoubtedly her rendering of the "Little Mary" song, which was received with rounds of applause and repeated demands for encore verses. Miss Madge Lucas made a hit as Caroline Vokins, rattling through her part with great spirit, and fairly bringing down the house with some of her songs. Miss Irene Desmond was a graceful Josephine Zaccary, and has a nice voice, which was several times heard to considerable advantage. As Zelie Rumbert, an adventuress, Miss Eve Melville acquitted herself admirably; Miss Ida Chichester was a distinguished-looking Countess Anstruther; and Miss Poppy Wilkinson looked bewitching and danced gracefully as Thisbe. As Meakin Mr Bertie Wright was in his element, and kept his audience in a continual ripple of laughter, his sayings and doings being followed with the most eager attention throughout. The duel scene was a most ludicrous performance, and Mr Wright's final dash across the stage, armed with a huge two-handed sword, was received with uproarious laughter. Mr G. Davy Burnaby contributed a clever piece of acting as the Hon. Guy Serymgeour, and his duet with Mr Wright, "When will justice be done?" was loudly encored. Mr Ernest Darrell, cleverly made up to resemble a well-known statesman, was very successful as Aubrey Chesterton, his "pushful" song being one of the hits of the evening. Mr Edmund Page was amusing as De Cassignat. Mr Arthur P. Hemsley scored heavily as Zaccary, singing well and dancing marvellously. Mr Edmund Hollick made the most of his opportunities as Dr. Fausset, and Messrs W. Simpson and C. Campbell were amusing as the two seconds. The chorus was pretty and tuneful, and rendered the concerted numbers with good effect.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

The D'Oyly Carte principal répertoire company has been drawing crowded houses nightly at this theatre. Commencing the week with the ever-popular *Mikado*, the company gave an excellent performance of *Iolanthe* on Tuesday. In this opera Mr H. White was a most effective Lord Chancellor, and Mr Fred Drawater and Mr Pacie Ripple were equally successful as the Earl of Mountararat and Earl Tolloler. Mr Fred Billington was very diverting as Private Willis, of the Grenadier Guards. Mr Albert Kavanagh sang and played in irreproachable style in the part of Strephon, an Arcadian shepherd. Miss Theresa Ransam was very imposing as the Queen of the Fairies, and possesses a fine voice, which she used to great effect. As Phyllis, an Arcadian shepherdess and ward in Chancery, Miss Nora Maguire looked enchanting, and was a great favourite throughout. Miss Jessie Rose in the title-part sang prettily, and added greatly to the evening's enjoyment. The parts of the fairies—Celia, Leila, and Fleta—were admirably played by Miss Bessie Mackenzie, Miss Mabel Burnege, and Miss Maggie Marshall respectively. The chorus sang wonderfully well, and the orchestra was ably conducted by Mr T. Silver.

"THE MUSIC MASTER."

A Comedy-Drama, in Three Acts, by Charles Klein, Produced at the Belasco Theatre, New York, on Sept. 26

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Since he became a prominent figure in New York theatricals Mr David Warfield's skill has chiefly lent itself to depicting certain "East-side" Hebrew types. But now, as Herr Anton Von Barwig, in the play under notice, he has set aside the old characterisations and made his appearance in a line of work entirely new. Von Barwig was the director of the opera in Dresden. His wife deserted him, taking their little daughter with her to America. To find them becomes the one object in Von Barwig's life, for which he throws all else aside. He emigrates to America, and the proprietor of the Liberty Café engages him as leader of the orchestra, with the three members of which he lives in lodgings on the "East-side," leading a sort of happy-go-lucky bohemian existence. Circumstances bring his own child, now grown to beautiful young womanhood, and living in luxury with her supposed father, the man who has betrayed the old musician, to these lodgings to arrange for music-lessons. Von Barwig goes daily to her home, and from this point onward the dramatic interest centres in the two personalties, father and daughter, and the play of emotions when Von Barwig realises that his pupil is his own child; when he comes face to face with the man who has spoilt his life; and when he decides not to disclose his identity because it would ruin his daughter's prospects of happiness in her approaching marriage. With patient resignation Von Barwig decides to go away. But the daughter has begun to suspect the truth. She comes to him, and, in an affecting scene, succeeds in breaking down his resolution of self-sacrifice.

Mr Warfield gave a faithful portrayal of the old German maestro, and the critics have praised his performance very highly, pronouncing him one of the finest character-actors on the American stage. The play was produced in an admirable manner by Mr Belasco, who made a speech, in which he paid his respects once more to the combination of managers known as "the syndicate."

MR EDWARD GORDON CRAIG, has been commissioned to paint scenery for the Lessing Theatre, Berlin.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per BOX.—[ADVT.]

"THE VALUE OF BEING EXTINCT."

A New and Original Frivolous Farce, in Three Acts, by Charles James and Charles Goodhart Produced for the First Time at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston, on Monday, Oct. 3.

Alfred Wormsworth	Mr CHARLES GOODHART
William Shave	Mr SEBASTIAN SMITH
Austen Lee	Mr CLARENCE BLAKISTON
Fowler Lloyd	Mr H. TRIPP EDGAR
Kennington Butts	Mr REGINALD J. BARKER
W. Devereux Brown	Mr J. BRABOURNE
Jenkins	Mr G. BREWER
The Hon. Mrs Edward Littlejohn	Miss ELSIE CHESTER
Christabel Vere	Miss MADGE M'INTOSH

There is a good deal in Messrs James and Goodhart's farce, appropriately described as frivolous, that was not apparent to the audience that witnessed its first production at the riverside theatre on Monday night. As a skit upon poets, sculptors, critics, and book publishers, it is clever in its way, and, in addition, it is enriched by a plethora of smart sayings and poetic quotations that ought to command the admiration of the ordinary onlooker; but, unfortunately, these two features—and, apart from the plot, they constitute its chief charm—were lost upon the bulk of the audience.

The plot, briefly described, is as follows:—A certain Alfred Wormsworth, a book publisher, has a young poet of the name of Austen Lee in his following, whose works, however, never seem to take with the public. The poet of a rival publishing firm dying, and, as is frequently the case, his erstwhile unknown works becoming very much in demand, the mercenary idea occurs to Mr Wormsworth that if his poet could be prevailed upon to die also he might reap a rich return for the losses he has sustained. So the two confer together, and agree that young Lee shall pretend to have committed suicide by leaving his clothes on a canal bank and then disappearing, whilst Wormsworth will cheer his solitude with a substantial cheque out of the proceeds of the increased sale of his latest book, "Marsh Mallow and Silversand."

In the first act, in which this agreement takes place, we are introduced to the Hon. Mrs Edward Littlejohn, a lady with a sympathetic leaning towards all poets, and a young lady, Christabel Vere, her ward, who reflects this characteristic of her guardian in an exaggerated degree. The literary world is startled by the news of the supposed lamentable end of young Lee, and the astute publisher discovers, as he expected, that his book is greatly in demand by the public. By no one, however, is the book more eagerly read than the Hon. Mrs Edward Littlejohn and Miss Vere, the latter always carrying a copy of the precious volume with her wherever she goes, and quoting from its pages in season and out. But their grief at the tragic end of the author, whose works, by-the-way, they never thought much of when he was alive, is poignant, and in the second act preparations have just been completed to unveil a statue to his memory in the grounds of the elder lady's mansion. Amongst the company invited to witness the ceremony is a Mr Ernest Lee, who represents himself to be the brother of the departed. In reality, however, he is the poet himself, who, hearing of the new-born affection of the young lady for him and his book, has come to put the lady's affection to the test by declaring himself. The publisher prevails upon him to remain silent a little longer, but the youth's impetuosity cannot altogether be restrained, and so he announces that it was he who wrote the much-talked-of book, though he used his dead brother's name. This apparent attempt to tear the laurels from the brow of the dead only recoils upon his own head, for everyone upbraids him for it and leaves him, and then in a moment of anger he knocks off the head of the luckless statue of himself, which turns out to be made of plaster of Paris. Christabel is nearly distraught at the outrage, and in the third act, she is found talking words of love to the plaster of Paris head, as if it were a live thing, and heaping kisses upon it in the intervals. Two grotesque proposals of marriage by the critic and the sculptor do not at all tend to assuage her grief, and it is only when young Lee once more comes on the scene that her heart is touched. This time he comes dressed in his usual garb, and declares his real identity. The lady coquettes, and says that her love for the poet was only an intellectual love, and that it was his brother, Ernest Lee, who had really won her heart. But she is utterly disarmed when Lee discloses that he and Ernest Lee are the same. When everybody, except the publisher, seems very happy at the return of the young poet to life, a page boy makes the startling discovery that the much-talked-of book, "Marsh Mallow and Silversand," was a plagiarism after all.

Mr Reginald J. Barker's company, who appeared in the farce, did it every justice. Chief honours are due to Miss Madge M'Intosh for a charming impersonation of the impressionable Christabel Vere. Mr Clarence Blakiston also acquitted himself with distinction as the poet. Excellent work was done by Mr Charles Goodhart as Wormsworth, the publisher, and Mr H. Tripp Edgar and Mr J. Brabourne gave capital character sketches as Fowler Lloyd, the critic, and W. Devereux Brown, the sculptor. Miss Elsie Chester was an admirable Mrs Littlejohn, and the part of a page boy, William Shave, found a capable exponent in Mr Sebastian Smith.

The play was preceded by a new one-act play entitled

"A SOLDIER OF THE CZAR."

General Ivan Nickovitch	Mr CHARLES GOODHART
Captain Denhoff, A.D.C.	Mr FRANK HARRIS
Lieut. Alexis Garki	Mr H. TRIPP EDGAR
Sergeant Jasnisky	Mr G. BREWER
Madame Zuroff.....	Miss MADGE M'INTOSH

In this clever morceau the action takes place at the War Office at St. Petersburg, where we find a young captain of the name of Denhoff sentenced to death by General Nickovitch for allowing a prisoner to escape. Madame Zuroff, the general's mistress, pleads fervently for the young man's life, but unavailingly, except that, when the lady has left, the General gives Denhoff the opportunity of taking his own life. Denhoff retires, thankful for thus escaping the shame of a public execution, when the lady returns and renews her pleading, and it is only when she finds that the General is adamant that she declares that the condemned man is the offspring of their illicit love. But it is too late, for at that moment a shot is heard. Miss Madge M'Intosh was impressive as Madame Zuroff, and Mr Frank Harris gave a fine manly interpretation of the part of the young captain.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—How vividly exemplified is the Scriptural allusion, "straining at gnats and swallowing camels," when the present mode of procedure compels us on a Monday morning to apply for a licence to enable a young girl of well over thirteen years of age to appear for a few minutes on the stage in *Sapho*. This child, together with her mother and myself, are sometimes compelled to wait half an hour or more listening to the most sordid details of the charges at an ordinary police-court on a Monday morning. My contention is—far more harm is done to a child hearing and seeing all this than half an hour's appearance in a well-conducted theatre, surrounded by ladies and gentlemen of the profession, and her every comfort attended to.

Why cannot these applications be made in the magistrate's private room, or, at any rate, at the commencement of the proceedings

Yours faithfully, HENRY TWEEDIE,
Manager, Miss Olga Nethersole's *Sapho* company.
Dalston Theatre, Oct. 5, 1904.

FAMOUS SCENIC ARTISTS.

MR. HAWES CRAVEN.

Mr Hawes Craven was born at Leeds, in Yorkshire. His parents were both in the profession. They were in the York circuit, so that he had plenty of moving about, and very early began to understand how things were done in a theatre. The dresses and the scenery had a wonderful fascination for him, so he began with a pencil to smake sketches of the characters, then the costumes, and the incidents of the various plays that touched his fancy or imagination. His mother soon gave up acting and took to writing for the local papers and stories for the magazines. His father still adhered to the theatrical work, and took his son with him about from place to place, ultimately to London, where they joined the old Marylebone Theatre, thence to the Strand Theatre, then called "Punch's Playhouse," under the management of Mr Copeland, of Liverpool. Young Craven had strong ideas of what he should like to be, and used to watch Dearlove, the scene painter, by the hour. One day he caught the lad peeping through the crack of the door. After asking him some questions, Mr Dearlove advised him to go to the School of Design, Marlborough House, and learn to draw. At the end of two years the youthful artist had carried off all the prizes for drawing in outline from the flat and the round. Then he got himself apprenticed to a clever scene painter, named John Gray, at the Britannia Theatre in Hoxton. Here he obtained a good deal of practice. They only did the special work such as the pantomime, a new piece, for Easter, and an autumn drama. Mr Gray having attracted attention by some really fine work, was offered a West-end engagement, and took young Craven with him to the Olympic Theatre, under the management of Alfred Wigan, which merged into that of Emden and Robson. Mr Craven recollects that the first piece they did was *Catching a Mermaid*, and a burlesque called *The Discreet Princess*. Having made some progress, he was offered the engagement of second painter. Then commenced his real experience, which came about through Mr Gray being seized with rheumatic fever. To use Mr Craven's own words:—"One day some gentlemen came up to the painting room concerning the production of a new piece, and the preparation of scenery for it. Mr Emden, who was manager of the theatre then with Mr Robson, asked me if I thought that I could do the work myself. The new scene was to represent the interior of a lighthouse. Another gentlemen who was looking through a portfolio of my sketches from nature, questioned me very closely. Had I ever seen a lighthouse? I said yes. Among my holidays I had been to Plymouth, and been to the Eddystone, further I had taken sketches, not only of the exterior, but the interior of the lighthouse and of its predecessors, which were hung and framed in the living room there. My old habit of drawing everything I saw stood me well then. They said they would like to see my sketches. Next day I brought them,

Photo by Emberson.

MR. HAWES CRAVEN.

and they came to see them. One of these gentlemen was Mr Charles Dickens, who passed them over to another gentleman, who decided they were of some merit, and to his knowledge particularly truthful—in fact, just what they wanted, the action of the play taking place in the living room of the Eddystone Lighthouse, a night scene with a violent storm. It was agreed that I should do the scene. As soon as this was settled the gentleman who had my sketches in his hand, produced one of his own—Eddystone Lighthouse during a storm, with a wild moonlight sky, a passing vessel, and some wreckage in the wild waters. This was one of the finest things I had then seen, and no wonder, it was Clarkson Stanfield himself I was talking to—Clarkson Stanfield, the great scene painter, the Royal Academician, the finest marine painter living. He said 'I want you to copy this, young man, for me, but do it large and do it in scenic colours on scenic canvas, that I may form my judgment. I will come in a couple of days to see it.' How I did work! I was at it early and late. I made a sketch 10ft. by 8ft. They all came to the appointment—Mr Clarkson Stanfield, Mr Charles Dickens, Mr Wilkie Collins, Mr Emden, and Mr Frederick Robson, the famous actor. 'Bravo,' said Stanfield, 'you shall paint that again—larger. You shall paint it as an act drop for this play for this theatre, as an idea of my own.' And I did. I also painted the scene and made my first success. Mr Stanfield gave me his own drawing as a reward, and the management raised my salary."

Thinking to improve himself, Mr Craven next joined the celebrated William Beverley at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, then under the management of E. T. Smith. The work done for the pantomimes at that period was quite Mr Craven's idea of what scenery should be. On one occasion, when the pantomime was in full swing and they were approaching Christmas, some disaffection occurred amongst the assistants, and most of them suddenly left, there being no written engagements. Mr Craven remained. Mr Beverley said nothing, but he did something. Every painting frame was filled at once with scenery to be painted which would have fallen to the lot of the assistants up to Christmas. Beverley worked on for fifty-six hours. Mr Craven is proud to be able to say he stood by his side working all the time. After that they worked a week the regular time, 10 0 a.m till 10 0 p.m. Again they had fifty-six hours consecutively. For refreshments they had sherry and eggs, dry toast and tea, nothing else. This went on till arrears were caught up and all was as if nothing had happened. These long hours reminded Mr Craven of an anecdote of an old scene painter at the Adelphi, named Tom Pitt, a worker who conscientiously ignored everything but what he had to do. He was hard at work for the new piece for Boxing Night—the night was Christmas Eve. Midnight was then striking. The bells from the churches round rang out their joyful peals. Poor old Tom Pitt—he heard them—gave a grim but determined smile, put down the brush, and said "No, I will have *one* evening to myself."

Another anecdote of a similar character. Mr Craven was working hard at Covent-garden, and had heard the midnight hour, then the hour of one, then the hour of two. He then gave up, and was leaving the theatre by the stage-door when he met Mr Augustus Harris, the father of the late Sir Augustus Harris. He stopped short, and, regarding Mr Craven with a surprised look, said "What, Craven, you're not going to leave off yet, are you? The new opera comes out next week. I am just going to begin." He went back with Mr Harris. They had sardines, dry toast, and a bottle of claret, and they both went to work till the next night, leaving off together as the clock struck midnight.

When the pantomime was over at Drury-lane, Mr Beverley and Mr Craven went regularly to Covent-garden Opera House. He recollects well when it had just been rebuilt after the fire. The new painting room was the largest and highest in all England. Then commenced Grand Opera. During the management of Frederick Gye, the well-known impresario of Covent-garden, he did then all the scenery for the great operas—*Huguenots*, *Robert the Devil*, *Der Freischutz*, *Norma*, *Dinorah*, *Marta*, and many others.

After some years Mr Craven joined Charles Fechter, and did most of the work for *Monte Cristo*, *The Duke's Motto*, *No Thoroughfare*, *Black and White*, *Bel Demonio*, *The King's Butterfly*, until the end of the Lyceum seasons under Fechter. In due course he was engaged by Mr H. L. Bateman for the Lyceum Theatre. Upon the death of Mr Bateman Henry Irving became manager, and the work that has been done at the Lyceum since that time speaks for itself, and is known the world over. The list includes *Richelieu*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Belle's Stratagem*, *Philip*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Faust*, *Charles I.*, *Becket*, *King Arthur*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Olivia*, *Coriolanus*, *Cymbeline*, *Richard III.*, *The Amber Heart*, *The Dead Heart*, *The Cup*, *Eugene Aram*, *The Bells*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Louis XI.*, *Vanderdecken*, *King Lear*, *Corsican Brothers*, *Queen Mary*, *The Lyons Mail*, *Werner*, *Ravenswood*, and many others. Sir Henry Irving considered it necessary that Mr Craven should visit the several countries wherein the scenes of the plays were laid, so that the impression of fidelity might be given to all the characteristics, only obtainable by working from the real thing, a practice Mr Craven has followed all his life, as necessary to success.

COVENT-GARDEN BALL.

The first fancy dress ball of the season, under the management of Messrs Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth, took place at the Royal Opera House, Covent garden, on the night of the 30th ult. Judging by the attendance these festive gatherings will be as popular this season as they have been in the past. Glitter and gaiety were the predominating features, and the pretty and picturesque costumes of the ladies gave that attractive quality to the scene which makes these balls pleasant entertainments for those who do nothing but look on from the tiers of boxes. Mr Dan Godfrey's fine orchestra again discoursed charming music to which nimble and willing feet gracefully responded. Messrs Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth had made many small improvements, dictated by the experience of years, for the comfort and convenience of their supporters, and the supper tables, in particular, which now command such a fine view of the ballroom, quickly found eager occupants. The inventiveness and ingenuity in design of the modern costumier were again strongly in evidence. Amongst the dresses which attracted special attention was one called "The Last Days of Pompeii," a handsome costume, supplied by Mr W. Clarkson. The skirt was of white satin, with frills of grey chiffon representing smoke, and was trimmed with jewels and red and white roses; the gaieties of Rome, a fight with the gladiators, and the Coliseum were portrayed on hand-painted panels. The bodice was of shaded chiffon, to represent fire and smoke, and was decorated with jewels. A striking headdress cleverly suggested a burning volcano, folds of chiffon, shaded to represent falling lava, depending from it. On the cloak was painted a volcano in eruption, with people rushing for safety to the seashore. The costume was brilliantly lit up with electric lights, which greatly enhanced its bizarre appearance. Other noticeable dresses supplied by Mr Clarkson were a charming dress depicting various episodes of 1904, the headdress taking the pretty form of a calendar, flowers in season each month representing them; "Nell Gwynne, Orange Girl," and "Harlequina." Though, as usual, gentlemen had not donned fancy dress as generally as might have been wished, there were various handsome and amusing disguises. Amongst the latter a gentleman in navvy dress, with tar and bricks as appropriate accompaniments, picturesquely represented that constant cause of annoyance to Londoners—Roads Up. Other gentlemen's costumes were the Marquess of Anglesea, Charles II, and "Sunny Jim." The first prize was well worth the winning, and so were the others, but the diamond and opal crescent brooch was the object which most fascinated the eyes of the fair section of those who were present. Mr Clarkson was successful in gaining second prize for "The Last Days of Pompeii;" also prizes for "Charles II." and Nell Gwynne," "Episodes of 1904" (fourth prize), "The Far East," "Encyclopædia Britannica." "London County Council Improvements—'Roads Up,'" &c.

A FAREWELL POEM.

The following verses were addressed to Sir Henry Irving at the close of his recent farewell visit to Wales.

Farewell, good Friend and gifted. We shall miss
Thy noble face and presence from the stage,
Thy strong endeavours and thy counsel sage,
The art that showed us what true acting is.
Thou leavest England's drama worthier far
Than when in olden days thou trodst the boards;
And this the lesson that thy life affords—
The stately waning of thy glorious star.
To seek perfection ever; not content
With things that brood upon the common plane;
But raise and purify to live again,
And gleam the brighter for new radiance lent.
"The utmost for the highest"—such the spell
Of thine own weaving. Let the memory be
Like to thyself, all greatness, purity
And truth. Good Friend, a lingering, long farewell.

NEWS has been received of the death in Paris of M. Samuel Rousseau, the well-known composer, after a long and painful illness. He was fifty-one years of age. He wrote *Dinorah* for the Opéra Comique, and then *Mérovig*, a lyrical drama, which was produced at the Grand Theatre, in the Rue Boudreau. In 1888 his *Cloche du Rhin* was performed for the first time at the Grand Opéra. The *Dernier Bandit*, composed by Rousseau at the request of M. Albert Carré is his last work. It is derived from the novel by M. Emanuel Arène, and its production at the Opéra Comique is looked forward to as one of the musical events of the coming season.

THE astute Mr Frank Curzon has acquired a powerful and original new song written by Herbert Shelley for Mr Farren Soutar, in *Sergeant Brue*.

AT the Opera House, Treherbert, Messrs Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is appearing this week with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr Sam Livesey as the Blacksmith is most effective; Mr Joseph Carter takes the part of Captain Leo in a distinctly clever manner; and Mr George V. Campbell causes laughter. Miss Ethel Kay as the blacksmith's wife takes her part exceedingly well; Miss Maggie Edwardes sings "Alice, Where Art Thou?" with good effect. The wrestling match is exceptionally exciting.

THEATRICAL ANECDOTES.

(BY AN ACTRESS OF EXPERIENCE)

IN playing *Called Back*, a young actor also essayed the part of the absent juvenile, and the Gilbert was to have said, "Her body goes to England with me, but her soul—is with the dead man in his grave."

The comforter should say "Take courage, Gilbert; things will end happily."

"It may be so," rejoins Gilbert, "if I could think so."

Cheerfully the comforter replies, "Let us hope so, Gilbert."

Now, Gilbert stopped at "*her soul is with the dead man in his grave*," and the comforter replied as above, hoping that it was so. It rather twisted things.

IN the last act of *A Pair of Spectacles*, as everybody knows, the whole plot rests on the return of *the* pair of spectacles, and then the owner takes a roseate view of life, and all ends amicably.

Without these identical specs, with conspicuous gold rims, the point is lost. I discovered no gold-rimmed spectacles could be found. No specs! What could be done? Happy thought! I rushed on the stage mysteriously. The actor playing the part stared at me—thought me mad, no doubt. Mysteriously I beckoned him. He came, looking much surprised. I bent down and whispered, "Where are the specs? I cannot find them."

"In my pocket," said he, sotto voce.

He also bent down; then he drew the specs from his pocket (concealing them) and said, "Oh, yes, yes, Joyce, here the keys are. Take them."

"Thank you, sir," said I, and popped off. One line and I returned with the specs. "If you please, sir, here are your specs," &c., and the piece finished happily as usual.

These are little bits of fun of which the audience never wots unless someone reveals the joke as I now do. By-the-way, this happened at Clacton-on-Sea. What a hot summer! What a price for digs!

IN *The Stranger* one of the characters should say, "How fast you walk, Mrs Waller; do you think I'm like the Sultan with the marble legs?"

But he was nervous, and said instead, "Zounds, Mrs Waller, do you think a—a—ahem—do you think I've got marble legs?"

ON one of our vacation tours in Scotland, some half-dozen of our company elected to walk. The ladies went in a waggon or any conveyance that could be got; no railway was near.

Naturally, the quickest walker got on ahead, and found himself far beyond his companions. He was a nice fellow, quiet, never in scrapes or any arguments. He simply would *not* quarrel. Well, he found himself in rather a bleak place; the rain steadily continued to fall. He tried standing under a tree. Not comfortable, so he decided to climb up, chose a nice seat, and got his book out. Feeling sure the other actors would pass the tree, resolved to have a little joke.

Sure enough, two presently appeared, and sheltered under the identical tree.

"Well, I'll not be sorry when the rain stops,' said one.

Up above, our actor gave a terrible groan.

"What's that?" said one, a bit nervous.

This he repeated till the joke was thin; then he called out, "Here we are again," and discovered his whereabouts.

"Good gracious" said one. "The good young man; *the* one—we've found him up a tree at last!"

He never heard the last of that. If I mistake not, Mr W. Glenney was the actor under the tree.

"No good opening to-night, there's a circus billed. Well, all meet at my house, and have a jollification." So spoke our manager.

Now, we were rather short of cash, but had the wherewithal to have a jolly time, as Widdy's sister's young man, who was something in the provision line, had sent Widdy some tinned meats and fish and other edibles. How we blessed Widdy' sister's young man! and how funny Widdy was! How he rang a big bell, and got people in to see our show! But I wander from the subject.

We had a lovely night at home. Well, next day the manager inquired, "How did the circus do last night?"

"Oh, they didn't show. They saw a theatrical company billed so they thought it no good. They just passed through the town, and put up with the cost of the billing."

Each frightened the other away. This happened in a little town not a hundred miles from Wincanton.

WE were playing *After Dark*, or was it *The Scamps of London?* I forget now, anyhow, one Herbert has an appointment to meet the Jew—the heavy man—at a certain dark archway. Our heavy man was rather careless of the cues he gave.

Our juvenile man was ill, so our baggage man, Beverley, undertook to play the part of Herbert. They joked him a great deal, but he was an earnest little fellow, and replied, "I *shall* speak the lines; I'll *not* be imperfect. You can say what you like, I shall study the *words* and *speak* them."

Now, when Herbert enters the Jew should say "You're here, my dear, you're here. *They said you would not come.*"

"Tis false!" Herbert should reply.

What the Jew *did* say was this:—"Ah here he is—here he is! Ma tear, glad to see you, you're *here*, my tear!"

The Herbert placed one hand dramatically in his coat, and said in a loud voice "'*Tis false!*"

WHEN the late Barry Sullivan, the tragedian of the provinces, was playing Richard III. he arranged business as follows. After a big fight to rush down stage, sword in hand, and strike down the actor who stood extreme left *down* stage, waiting to receive the blow and be disarmed.

"You might do this, Howse," said Barry Sullivan to our comedian, William Howse. "Hold your sword firmly. I strike it down and disarm you."

Now, William Howse was a quiet, nice fellow—a little eccentric, perhaps, nervous or shy, or perhaps both, and was perhaps a little nervous of Mr Sullivan. And Sullivan was a strong, robust man, and very severe if any business he arranged was not done exactly as he wished.

Well, Howse was very nervous. That I saw. He was walking about rubbing his hands (an accustomed action with him when nervous), he would drop his head, look up timidly with his big, black eyes, and rub his hands most cheerfully, no matter what he did wrong. I think no one could have been cross with him; his manner disarmed severity. Well, the cue came; that is, the cue for Howse to rush on and firmly grasp his sword down stage. He did so. Sullivan (Richard) took one wild rush down, waving the sword frantically. Quicker than thought, before Richard could reach him, poor Howse *dropped* the sword, and ran. Away he went to his dressing-room.

Meanwhile the curtain fell. Barry Sullivan, the manager, and Cathcart—an old tragedian well known to many even now—were standing together, almost speechless. At last said Sullivan:—

"Where is that man!"

Poor Howse, who had been thinking that he must meet Mr Sullivan and excuse himself, had decided to return and apologise.

"*Where is that man?*" demanded Sullivan.

"Here, sir," said a faint, weak voice, and poor Howse entered from the extreme top of stage, his hands briskly employed in rubbing themselves together, his head down, his eyes up, with such an expression of shamefacedness, a mixture of remorse, apology, and timidity, that the whole trio roared with laughter.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

At a special meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association, to be held on Oct. 20, the question of smoking in theatres will be discussed, and the advisability of applying to the authorities for an alteration of the clause that prohibits smoking in theatres will be strongly urged by certain provincial and suburban managers. There is no law against smoking, which is merely prohibited by the will of the Lord Chamberlain.

By the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act, 1904, which came into operation last Saturday, it is ordained that any person who causes or procures any child under the age of eleven years, or, having the custody, charge, or care of any such child, allows that child to be at any time in any street, or in any premises licensed for the sale of any intoxicating liquour, or in premises licensed according to law for public entertainments, or in any circus or other place of public amusement to which the public are admitted by payment, for the purpose of singing, playing, or performing, or being exhibited for profit, or offering anything for sale; or causes or procures any child under the age of sixteen years, or, having the custody, charge, or care of any such child, allows that child to be in any place for the purpose of being trained as an acrobat, contortionist, or circus performer, or of being trained for any exhibition or performance which in its nature is dangerous—that person shall, on summary conviction, be liable, at the discretion of the court, to a fine not exceeding twenty-five pounds, or alternatively, or in default of payment of such fine, or in addition thereto, to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding three months. The only exception is made in the case of an occasional sale or entertainment for the benefit of a school or charitable object.

It is also enacted that a Petty Sessional Court, or, in Scotland, the School Board, may, notwithstanding anything in this Act, or in the Employment of Children Act, 1903, or any bye-law made thereunder, grant a licence for such time and during such hours of the day, and subject to such restrictions and conditions as the Court or Board think fit, for any child exceeding ten years of age to take part in any entertainment or series of entertainments to take place in premises licensed according to law for public entertainments, or in any circus or other place of public amusement as aforesaid; or to be trained as aforesaid; or for both purposes; if satisfied of the fitness of the child for the purpose, and if it is shown to their satisfaction that proper provision has been made to secure the health and kind treatment of the children taking part in the entertainment or series of entertainments, or being trained as aforesaid, and the court or board may, upon sufficient cause, vary, add to, or rescind any such licence. Any such licence shall be sufficient protection to all persons acting under or in accordance with the same.

At the recent appearance of the "Kilties" at the Albert Hall a boy of eight years old, Master Max Darewski, conducted the orchestra. It must have been very galling to the members of the band, many of whom are musicians who have given their whole lives to the patient practice and study of their art, to be "directed" by a mere child, whose knowledge of conducting is in the elementary stage. What with the increase of infants and amateurs the members of the profession have a very poor chance of obtaining permanent engagements.

Mr Frank Lawton, the popular whistler of *The Belle of New York*, has received a great many letters of congratulation this week on the birth of his little son, who was born in London on the last day of September. He has been given the name of Frank, but it is too soon to say whether he has inherited his father's extraordinary talent for whistling and eccentric dancing.

Mr Richard Douglass took the chair at a meeting of the committee of the Scenic Artists' Association held at 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, on Monday. Mr J. Davies Massey, of Stoke Newington, Mr Harry Pierse, of Leeds, Mr H J. Craven, of Walworth, Mr J. I Keith, of Birmingham, and Mr Richard H. Halley, of Ealing, were elected members. The secretary, Mr H Lawrence Harris, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, was instructed to appeal to theatrical managers, scenic artistes, and others for loan of stage models, sketches of scenes, and articles of historical interest connected with the stage for the Scenic Artists' Association first annual exhibition, which it is proposed to hold at an early date in the west-end of London. The secretary reported that the engagement bureau of the Association was working very successfully.

Mrs Lewis Waller appeared on Monday at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, in a new Russian drama, by Paul Berton, called *Vilma*. A leading incident of the piece is a rape committed on an innocent girl by some military officers. The piece has been altered by order of the Censor; but, even with these modifications, the theme is not, in our opinion, a pleasant one, nor is such a play likely to elevate the drama.

Mr Leonard Boyne, who makes such a manly and expressive Prince Cyril in *His Highness My Husband* at the Comedy, is a thorough sportsman. Before he went on the stage, at seventeen, his ambition was to ride the winner of the Grand National. When he was on tour with *Sporting Life* he used three of his own horses in the play, and rode a race against a certain provincial sporting man who denied that Mr Boyne's steeplechasers were the horses mentioned in the bills. Mr Boyne won the race easily.

"Merely Mary Ann" at the Duke of York's Theatre is delighting all who witness it, and is drawing excellent houses. This is not surprising, for Miss Eleanor Robson's Mary Ann is full of sympathy and pathos, and Mr Henry Ainley, with his fine voice and picturesque appearance, makes Lancelot a most interesting and effective character. Mr Israel Zangwill's piece, with its domestic sentiment and real humour, ought to become a great favourite with provincial audiences; and, being inexpensive to mount, should prove very profitable on tour.

"The Prayer of the Sword," at the Adelphi, has been advantageously compressed since the first night, and is now presented in four acts. Mr Otho Stuart, who is making such a spirited bid with this fine poetic play for the patronage of the intellectual public, must be complimented on his high artistic endeavour, and if Mr James Bernard Fagan's cultured and deeply interesting work does not succeed it will be because its literary qualities make it soar above the heads of the playgoing masses. The representation throughout is admirable. Finer acting than that contributed by Mr Oscar Asche, Miss Lily Brayton, Mr Alfred Bryrone, Mr Lyall Swete, Mr Charles Rock, and Mr Walter Hampden has not been seen on the London stage. Mr Walter Hampden, who plays the chivalrous young monk Andrea, with his fine voice and warm, impassioned style, is a distinguished recruit to the profession.

Miss Kitty Gordon, who has been playing the part of Agatha in *Veronique* at the Apollo Theatre, was married on Thursday to the Hon. Henry Beresford, son of Lord Decies. The wedding was a very quiet affair, and we understand that the happy couple are spending their honeymoon in Paris. During Miss Gordon's absence her part in *Veronique* will be taken by her understudy, Miss Mabel Medrow.

The estate of the late Mr John Billington has been sworn for probate by his widow and executrix, Mrs Adeline Billington, at £374.

Mr Zangwill's play, *The Serio-Comic Governess*, has failed to please the New York critics, who pronounce it decidedly inferior to his *Merely Mary Ann* and find fault with the author's propensity for punning. The *dramatis personæ* are mostly caricatures, and one could not help wondering what an experienced actor like Mr Herbert Standing really thought of the character he was called upon to portray—that of Montmorency Josephs, nicknamed "Fossy," a music hall manager the like of whom never existed since the world began. When he means "suite" he says "suet;" collaborate he pronounces "colloborate;" and Hamlet is "Am-er-let."

In the third act Miss Cecilia Loftus, who as Eileen O'Keefe is employed as governess by Mrs Lee Carter, who dwells in Mayfair, is also known as Nelly O'Neill, of the music halls, and during an interview with "Fossy" in Mrs Carter's drawing-room Miss Loftus gives some of the imitations of prominent players which made such a hit at the vaudeville houses. This is the most interesting feature of the performance, and about the only one upon which the New York newspapers have bestowed any praise.

Miss Loftus has expressed her opinion of Mr Zangwill's "pictures" of music hall life pretty freely in an interview published in a New York newspaper. She says:—"I told Mr Zangwill his music hall people were impossible. I pointed out to him that no sane people ever behaved on or off the stage as he intended his music hall people to behave in the play. I told him that I and my mother before me had been familiar with the music hall stage all our lives, but there was no moving him. His conception of music hall artists was the public's conception. When the public expects flashiness and vulgarity in certain personages it should not be given repose and good manners. In his opinion the public would consider these attributes incongruous.

"He preferred to be true to traditions than to be true to life. The result is that the play is spoiled. Instead of acting spontaneously in it I have to act against the grain—against myself. I have to portray emotions which are contrary to my nature and to the nature of the character which I am supposed to portray. Imagine a musician compelled to play discords through the caprice of a composer. How can he play them with conviction or convincingness? There it is in black and white; he knows it is a false note, a crime against harmony, and yet he must strike that note. I feel just that way when I have to speak lines which I know are not human. Naturally I get out of myself and of the character and become consciously artificial. It's awfully hard on me, really."

Miss Cecilia Loftus has been telling an interviewer in New York what a hard struggle she had to get into the "legitimate." "Oh, it was a long time coming," she began; "for a year I went about from manager to manager offering my services—nay, begging imploring for a wee bit of a part with a dozen lines to it. 'Yes,' they said. 'You are rather clever at mimicking, but, don't you know, acting is different, and, of course, while you are all right on the music hall stage, you'd never do in straight cut-and-out comedy or drama Stay where you are.' No matter to whom I went it was always the same story. It seemed after awhile as if they had rehearsed that speech between them in anticipation of my visit. And I so wanted to get on, I was willing to do anything; I believe I would have accepted a position of wardrobe woman had I thought there was a possibility of my graduating from that into some small part or other.

"Finally one day after I had seen them all, and been refused by them all, I went to Madame Modjeska and poured out my heart to her. I told her that I did not want to be a mimic in perpetuity, that I thought there was more in me than that, that I believed I could act, and that I wanted to act. All the managers had refused to give me an opportunity; what was I to do? Madame Modjeska mothered me a bit and urged me to take heart. I had only seen her once before that, and I was not prepared to have her take so much interest in me. I convinced her that I had some talent, however, and she got up a performance of *Twelfth Night* for me.

"I was Viola and Mr Daniel Frohman was in the audience. That was the beginning. He signed me as a member of the Daly company, and I bade farewell to the music hall stage. I had little inoffensive parts in *Lady Huntworth's Experiment* and *The Man of Forty*, and then I joined Mr Sothern's company. I stayed with him three seasons, and then went with Sir Henry Irving. Now I am by myself, on the stage all the time, and in a play written especially for me.

"When I am in America," said Miss Loftus, "I prefer the British audiences, and when I am on the other side I prefer the American. There is one thing in England, however, which an actor or actress misses here—it is the personal relation which he or she establishes and maintains with his or her audience. When I was acting in England with Sir Henry Irving, in *Faust*, the curtain calls after the Dungeon scene were for me. If I failed to acknowledge the applause there would be cries of 'Loftus!' 'Loftus!' from the pit and the galleries. The actor's individuality is better recognised over there."

Messrs Perkins and Bacon, printers, are leaving their old house in Fleet-street this month after a residence in it of many long years. It was in this establishment that the late Wilson Barrett had his first situation, and old hands still remember his connection with the house. Perkins and Bacon printed bank notes before the Bank of England produced such interesting "editions."

Miss Ada Dwyer, who gives such an exceedingly clever performance of the Cockney landlady in *Merely Mary Ann* at the Duke of York's, has long been as well known in America as she now is in London. Born in the far distant State of Utah, she studied at the Boston School of Oratory, and became a reciter and amateur actress before playing her first professional part in *The Private Secretary* at the Madison-square Theatre, New York. Her second successful attempt was the Cockney boy in *Alone in London*. Although she had not visited "the old country" at that time, Miss Dwyer considers that her knowledge and love of Dickens's books helped her not a little in realising a character of the Poor Jo type. In private life Miss Dwyer is Mrs Harold Russell. She has one little daughter, and her home is in Salk Lake City, Utah. It is rather an interesting coincidence that the only part, except the Cockney landlady, that Miss Dwyer has played in England was in another of Mr Zangwill's dramas—Malka, the business woman, in *The Children of the Ghetto*. Her favourite character so far has been that of Roxy in Mark Twain's *Pudden-Head Wilson*. She played it for three years.

A special general meeting of the Royal General Theatrical Fund will be held at the St. James's Theatre, by the kind permission of Mr George Alexander, who will take the chair, at 2 0 p m., on Thursday, for the purpose of making an additional clause to the "N B" of Rule 10 The present "N B." of Rule 10 reads:—"No notice to be given to defaulters; the possession of a copy of the rules being deemed and declared sufficient notice;" and the proposed addition is:—"But the directors are empowered, in their discretion, to suspend the operation of the clause respecting arrears and the non-payment of fines, in any deserving case, for so long and on such terms as they shall deem fit."

"The Girl Who Lost Her Character," an entirely new play, will be seen at the Standard Theatre, for the first time on any stage, on Monday. It is written by Walter Melville, the author of *A Girl's Cross Roads*, *The Worst Woman in London*, *Her Second Time on Earth*, and *The Female Swindler*. Mr Melville has secured for the cast Miss Olga Audre, Miss Maud Hildyard, Miss Eva Dare, Miss Stewart Drewry, Mr Frank Lister, Mr Frederick Melville, Mr Andrew Emm, Mr Frank Adair, and Mr Julian Cross. The scenery is by Mr Richard Douglas, and the play will be produced under the personal direction of the author, Mr Walter Melville.

During the stay of Mr Melville's *Her Forbidden Marriage* company at the Coliseum, Oldham, last week, it was announced that a gold wedding ring would be presented to two young people in the town who were married within that week and within the conditions of the proposal. A youthful couple, after having witnessed the presentation of the play, claimed the ring offered, as they were getting married last Saturday. The wedding duly took place, and the happy pair were escorted to the church by Mr Gilbert Heron, the acting-manager of the Coliseum Theatre, and Mr Frank Mundo, the manager of the company.

Mr W. S. Gilbert was struck off the ownership list at a Revising Barrister's Court recently held at Harrow. The great satirist shared the fate of 128 persons who were similarly removed through a technical error on the part of the overseers, who had described them erroneously.

Mr Charles Frohman writes from New York:—"I believe the movement for an international memorial to Shakespeare will meet with a hearty and ready response from the entire civilised world. The debt of gratitude owed by the cultured and educated everywhere to the great English dramatist is openly confessed. There is not only no desire to shirk it, but I am convinced that an opportunity of the sort your suggestion offers, which will permit an acknowledgment, even in the humblest degree, of the obligation due will be quickly and generously embraced, and a tribute secured that will surpass anything of like character the world has ever known. What form this tribute should finally assume—whether a statue, a magnificent tomb, or a splendid memorial edifice—can be determined by a committee representative of the different branches of recognised art. There will be no trouble about obtaining the money to make it worthy of the man and his achievements, and I have no doubt that a committee chosen as suggested would be careful to devise a monument that would be fully expressive of the breadth and depth of the multitude of subscribers' meaning. The only place for this tribute, of course, is Stratford-on-Avon, where the thrills that now come to human hearts at sight of the present personal and local reminders of the poet might be given a grander and deeper sweep by the adjacence of an imposing monument in which the reverence of all humanity would be splendidly and convincingly expressed."

In *How He Lied to Her Husband: a Warning to Playgoers*, a "comediettina," in one act, by George Bernard Shaw, which was produced at the Berkeley Lyceum Theatre, New York, on Sept. 26, the author satirises his own *Candida* and those enthusiastic souls who took that play seriously and discussed it from every point of view. The three characters are called Her Lover, Her Husband, and Herself. The last-named is Mrs Aurora Bumpus, a commonplace New York woman, with a position in society, and the first-mentioned individual is a young poet, a sentimental ass, who writes sonnets about his Aurora, and wins her regard because he reminds her so much of Eugene Marchbanks. As for the poet, he is madly in love with the lady because he thinks she is the ideal Candida of real life. Some of the verses fall into the husband's hands, and the poet suggests that they go "hand in hand" to the husband and take "honourable leave" of him. This the lady might have done if her husband had only remained awake when she took him to see *Candida*. He would have understood had he seen the play. But unfortunately he was bored, and fell asleep, and missed it all. So the poet makes up his mind to "lie like a gentleman," and tells Bumpus that the verses were written years ago before to the Aurora Borealis.

Bumpus receives this with a sceptical laugh, and in his eagerness to acquit the wife the poet protests his utter indifference to the charms of Mrs Bumpus. This infuriates the husband. Hasn't his wife danced with three Presidents! Didn't one of his guests confess to Bumpus that he had feelings towards Mrs Bumpus that were inconsistent with his duty to his host! The idea that the poet doesn't admire her is a deadly insult to Bumpus. Then the poet faces about. He confesses that he is enamoured of the living Aurora and not the frigid one. And what does Bumpus do? Kick him out of the house? Nothing of the sort. A few moments ago he threatened to do so for not admiring her. Now he humbly apologises to the poet, and begs him to shake hands. Mrs Bumpus is radiant, Bumpus offers to have the sonnets printed handsomely for distribution among his friends, and all ends happily. In the same bill, as a curtain-raiser, is *The Man of Destiny*, in which Mr Daly as Napoleon and Miss Dorothy Donnelly as the Lady renewed the success they won in the same characters last season.

The O.P. Club will entertain Mr Lionel Brough at the Criterion, on Sunday, Oct. 30, to celebrate his jubilee on the stage, when the President of the club, Mr Alfred F. Robbins, will occupy the chair. The compliment which will be paid to that fine and experienced actor will be thoroughly well merited by his long and honourable career.

When *The Prince of Pilsen* company left for the States on Saturday last two of its members remained in England—Miss Camille Clifford, who is having a part written for her in *The Catch of the Season* at the Vaudeville, and Miss Kate Hardren, the whirlwind dancer, who represented New Orleans in the scene of the American cities at the Shaftesbury, and will shortly appear in a new sketch at a London music hall.

Mr Stanley Rogers, late manager of the theatre at Carlisle which was recently destroyed by fire, has succeeded Mr Coates F. Porter as lessee and manager of the Opera House at Workington, entering upon his duties on Monday. He was associated with Mr Milton Bode for a long number of years. His departure from Carlisle, where he had a large circle of friends, was deeply regretted.

Mr Lockwood's No. 1 *La Poupée* company, with which Miss Midge Clark (Mrs Lockwood) is travelling and charmingly interpreting Alesia, the doll, had a happy time at Morecambe. On the Thursday of their visit Lieut. Julian Malvern entertained the ladies and gentlemen of the company and the players in a cricket match between a *La Poupée* eleven and a local eleven to a recherché tea in the cricket pavilion. His thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

The generosity of a member of the Musicians' Company has enabled a course of free academical lectures to students to be delivered at the Guildhall School of Music. The lectures, which will be delivered by experts, are intended to show the best way to pass the examinations at the various universities for those entering for degrees in music. The course will begin next Wednesday, when Sir Frederick Bridge will give an address on "The Value of Degrees in Music." Other lectures will be given by Dr. W. H. Cummings, Dr. E. Markham Lee, Dr. H. A. Harding, and Dr, E. H. Turpin.

In the cast of Mr Pinero's new comedy, *A Wife Without a Smile*, which will be produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday, will be included Mr Dion Boucicault, Mr C. M. Lowne, Mr G. M. Graham, Mr Henry Kemble, Mr T Ryley, Miss Lettice Fairfax, Miss Dorothy Grimston, Miss Marie Illington, and Miss N. Moore.

Mr Charles Frohman, will, by arrangement with Mr Frank Curzon, present at the Criterion Theatre, early in November, a new and original comedy, *The Freedom of Suzanne*, written by Mr Cosmo Gordon Lennox, in which Miss Marie Tempest will sustain the principal part—that of a lady who obtains a divorce from a husband with whom she is dissatisfied, but eventually returns to the marriage fold from preference.

The last performance of *The Golden Light* at the Savoy Theatre took place on Saturday. The emotional frocks evidently failed to attract. Mrs Brown Potter has lost several thousand pounds by the failure of the piece, but she will shortly reopen the Savoy Theatre with a bill including *Forget-Me-Not* and a version of *Cavalleria Rusticana*—certainly a "strong" programme.

Miss Muriel Wylford has secured from Mr Somerset Maugham, the author of *A Man of Honour*, a comedy in three acts. Miss Wylford has secured a West-end theatre for the production of the piece early next month, and has engaged a company including Mr Aubrey Smith, Mr Ernest Leicester, and Mr Fred Kerr.

Mr Nat Goodwin has engaged Miss Ruth Mackay to join his company in America as leading lady. Miss Ruth Mackay played one of the convicts in *Resurrection*, at His Majesty's Theatre, and also appeared in *The Gordian Knot* She was engaged to create the leading part in *The Master of Kingsgift*, now in preparation at the Avenue Theatre, and has been released from her contract in order to go to Mr Goodwin.

In Mr J. H. Leigh's revival of *Hippolytus* at a matinée at the Court Theatre on the 18th inst. Miss Rosina Filippi will play the Nurse, Miss Tita Brand will be the leader of the chorus, and Mr A E. George will enact the Old Huntsman Hippolytus will again be played by Mr Ben Webster, Theseus by Mr Alfred Brydone, and Phaedra by Miss Edyth Olive.

Mr Edward Morton, the clever author of *San Toy*, and M. Maurice Ordonneau, the French dramatist, have collaborated in the libretto of a musical comedy, for which Mr Ivan Caryll is to write the music.

Mr Maitland Dicker, who is managing the Avenue season, which will open on the 17th inst. with Mrs Tom Kelly's new play *The Master of Kingsgift*, has for the last four years been actively associated with Mr Arthur Roberts. Mr Dicker was the original Captain Chepstowe, in *H.M.S. Irresponsible*, and his singing of the song of the mad officer was one of the features of the opera at the time he was connected with Mr Roberts. Prior to this Mr Dicker had for a couple of years the control of the business arrangements of *The Gay Grisette* on behalf of the Associated Managers.

Mr Tree's Shakespearian répertoire company is due at the Marlborough, Holloway, on Monday. Mr William Haviland, the Prospero in the revival of *The Tempest*, will take up the parts of Mark Anthony, in *Julius Cæsar*, and Master Ford, in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and, after to-night, the Prospero at His Majesty's will be Mr Lyn Harding, a gifted and versatile young actor. Before the production of *A Snug Little Kingdom* at the Royalty last January Mr Harding had not been seen in the West-end, but his personal success in Mr Mark Ambient's little piece has been followed by engagements at the Avenue, when he played one of the brothers in *The Prophecy*, and in Mr Tree's company, giving him the opportunity of appearing in such varied parts as the Duke of York, in *Richard II.*; Inu, in *The Darling of the Gods*; and Cassius, in *Julius Cæsar*. It is an interesting fact that Mr Lyn Harding, who has proved himself so successful a Shakespearian actor, is not a Bensonian.

We are glad to know the latest reports of the condition of Mr Walter Sealby, who has been so seriously ill, are more reassuring. A specialist was called in early this week, and took a most hopeful view of the case. Since then Mr Sealby has been out once or twice in a bath-chair. We sincerely hope the improvement now begun may be maintained and that he may be able to accept one of the several offers he has had for pantomime. Mrs Sealby (Miss Chrissie Ralland) has been most devoted in her attentions to her husband, and to her careful nursing is largely due his present satisfactory condition.

Mr George Graves, who has become so popular in *Veronique* at the Apollo, is a Londoner. His first theatrical ambition, when he was a very small boy, was to become a music hall star, with an ugly make up and ridiculous clothes. He was sent to school at Margate, but ran away to Portsmouth, and persuaded an old acquaintance, whose highly coloured descriptions of touring life were partly responsible, to give him his first engagement. It only lasted a fortnight, for parental authority checked his career, and the diminutive and disappointed comedian returned to Margate.

A few years later young George Graves was put into a lawyer's office, but his companions treated him in a manner that was painful to the dignity of sixteen. This was especially marked in the case of a certain clerk, who ordered him about and called him "boy." It was the habit of this clerk to drink a strong cup of tea while he was working in the afternoon, placing it beside him on the desk and taking a big gulp at intervals. One afternoon he apparently went mad; the tea looked the same as usual, but it had the effect of making him dance with fury. Young George had added to its strength by a good dose of blue-black ink, and he paid for his practical joke by losing his situation.

One of the first companies Mr Graves joined was advertised to play a burlesque, but as it failed to draw anybody into the theatre, the manager proposed *East Lynne* as a substitute. Having no "book," he wisely decided to leave the dialogue in the hands of the actors, and finding that Mr Graves, the youngest and smallest member of the company, was the possessor of the most presentable suit of clothes, he cast him for the part of the villain, Sir Francis Levison. To everybody's surprise there was a good audience on the first night, but unfortunately the company's talents did not lie in the direction of dialogue. Not one of them would attempt a long speech on the spur of the moment, and the whole of the story had practically been told before nine o'clock. But the manager was a man of resource. He ordered young Graves and another beginner, who was playing the comic policeman, to go on and "be funny." Then he stood in the wings on one side of the stage and put a big, ill-tempered man opposite, with orders not to let them escape, and the two boys played an impromptu comic scene that lasted nearly an hour, for the simple reason that they did not dare to end it, for whenever they tried to make an exit the manager or his assistant pushed them violently back, shook their fists in their faces, and muttered, with appropriate epithets, the fierce order, "Go on being funny!" Mr Graves has only recently returned to the Apollo. He took a brief holiday at the beginning of last month, and come back to *Veronique* in his usual good health and high spirits, but unfortunately his throat gave him some trouble, followed by an attack of illness that obliged him to again rest.

Mr Beerbohm Tree will give a series of Shakespearian revivals at His Majesty's during the "birthday week" in April next. The performances will take place in the afternoon and evening, the matinées being held in order that the company may be strengthened by the services of actors appearing in the evening at other theatres.

Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry will produce at Newcastle, in November, a new romantic play, by Paul Kester, entitled *Sweet Dorothy o' the Hall*. The heroine is Dorothy Vernon, and one of the scenes is laid at Haddon Hall.

Mr Bernard Shaw's new play, *John Bull's Other Island*, will be produced at a matinée at the Court Theatre on Tuesday, Nov. 1, with a cast including Mr Louis N. Calvert, Mr Graham Browne, Mr Granville Barker, Mr Wilfred Shine, and Mr J. L. Shine.

The profit and loss account of the O.P. Club for the past year shows a balance in hand of £141 3s. 10d. The club has made £113 on the year—a very creditable result at a time when it is a general complaint that "no one has any money."

Miss Lillah M'Carthy, who was engaged to appear with the late Mr Wilson Barrett, in *Lucky Durham*, will, after all, be seen in London this season She is to play the principal part of Rosamund Charlton, in *The Master of Kingsgift* at the Avenue Theatre.

Mrs Tom Kelly, the authoress of the piece entitled *The Master of Kingsgift*, to be produced at the Avenue Theatre on Oct. 17, is the authoress of several works of fiction. She wrote a naval history of the Crimea War, her book, which went by the name of "With the Fleet in the 'Fifties," creating something like a sensation when it was published.

We regret to hear that Miss Carry Nelson has been lying dangerously ill at her residence, 97. St. John's Wood-terrace. Her many friends will be pleased to learn that she is now well on the road to recovery.

Garrick was born in Hereford, and there is a tablet to his memory in the Cathedral there. This is the reason that the go-ahead Mr Arthur Carlton has rechristened the Theatre Royal, Hereford, which will in future bear the name of the famous actor, and be known as the Garrick Theatre.

"His Highness My Husband," which is drawing crowded houses to the Comedy Theatre, will be preceded to-night and subsequently by the one-act piece, *The Outpost*, by William Akerman, which met with such a favourable reception when played at the Lyric Theatre during the run of *Ib and Christina* there. Miss Pattie Bell, Mr Philip Cuningham, Miss Dora Rignold, and Mr George Raiemond will be in the cast.

It may not be generally known that the late Mel. B. Spurr's last and only tour in Scotland was under the direction of Mr J. F. Calverto, of Glasgow. As recently as Aug. 20 Mr Calverto received a postcard with the postmark of Christchurch, New Zealand, stating how well the deceased was succeeding there, and how he hoped to be in London by May. Such is life!

Mr Charles Carey, who is back in town looking all the better for his somewhat lengthy holiday, and quite recovered, he says, from his recent illness, had an unpleasant accident one day last week. While driving a thoroughbred mare along one of those beautiful Worcestershire lanes a small boy ran quickly out of a cottage on the near side of the road cracking a whip right in front of the mare, who shied almost into a motor which was at that moment overtaking the high gig Mr Carey was driving. Mr Carey succeeded in saving the situation, but for a moment only, by pulling the affrighted animal right into the hedge. On regaining the road, however, she became very restive, kicking frantically, eventually broke both shafts, throwing the unfortunate driver violently to the ground, and bolting She was eventually recaptured by a friendly farmer some miles further on, not much the worse for her escapade, and, luckily, Mr Carey did not sustain more than a few bruises, and was able later on to quietly ride the mare home, and interview the afore-mentioned small boy on the way.

Mr Reginald Allan, the well-known musician, has perfected and copyrighted a new music paper which will prove a boon to composers, conductors, and copyists. The principal advantage of his system, which is now being placed on the market, under the name of "The modern British score paper," lies in the placing of the stringed instruments at the top of the score.

For *The Fascinating Miss Kemp*, an original comedy in three acts, by Gordon Holmes, which Mr Eugene Bertram is shortly taking into the provinces on a trial trip, a strong cast has been engaged; and Mr Bertram has been fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr Gilbert Hare to produce the play. Mr Hare is now busy at the Savoy Theatre on the production of *Cavalleria Rusticana*.

"Merely Mary Ann" celebrates its birthday this month, having been produced in the New York State in October last year. Mr Zangwill's charming play has not been on tour as yet in America, but when Miss Eleanor Robson is reluctantly obliged to leave London it will be for the purpose of fulfilling contracts to appear as Mary Ann in the principal cities in the States.

Mr Fred Kerr, who is to support Mrs Brown Potter in her forthcoming revival of *Forget-Me-Not* at the Savoy, completes his forty-sixth year on Tuesday. "The cynical actor," as he used to be called, is a Londoner, a Carthusian, and a Cambridge man. He is descended from the Miss Gunnings who were famous beauties of the Georgian days. He made his début in New York over twenty years ago. He has figured as an actor-manager at the Vaudeville, Terry's, and the Court Theatres, and his name will always be associated with the brilliant success achieved by Mr Pinero's farcical comedies. Mr Kerr got his opening in London in the following way:—He was a member of a provincial stock company, and in distributing the parts for *The New Magdalen*, by an error the stage-manager gave him the part of the German doctor who appears in the first act. The "old man" of the company was indifferent about the matter, so his young comrade seized the opportunity to give an excellent character sketch. Wilkie Collins happened to see him in a provincial theatre, and when the piece was produced in London he insisted on Mr Kerr being included in the cast as the German doctor.

Tuesday is also the birthday of Mr Eille Norwood. This clever young actor, producer, and author, who is now in America playing leading parts in Mr Nat Goodwin's company, is a Yorkshireman and an old Bensonian. His comedy called *The Talk of the Town* had a good run at the Strand Theatre three years ago, having been originally produced at Terry's under the name of *The Noble Art*; and his farce called *Hook and Eye* is well-known to professionals and amateurs. Mr Norwood made a success some time ago in Australia, where he toured under the Brough-Boucicault management, and was the first actor elected a member of the Melbourne Club. He has always been in great request as a "society" stage-manager, having superintended, among others, amateur theatricals for the Duchess of Sutherland and for Mrs Arthur Wilson, at Tranby Croft.

"HIS MAJESTY'S SERVANT."

A Romantic Play, in Four Acts,
by Sarah Barnwell Elliott and Maud Hosford,
Produced at the Imperial Theatre, on Thursday, Oct. 6.

Charles II.	Mr H. V. Esmond
General Monk	Mr Henry J. Carvill
General Lambert	Mr Norman M'Kinnel
Lord Wilmot	Mr Owen Roughwood
Sir Ralph Ingram	Mr Frank Dyall
Sir John Porter	Mr John Beauchamp
Sir Harry Taploe	Mr M. Elphinstone
Geoffrey Mohun	Mr Lewis Waller
Captain Desborough	Mr S. B. Brereton
John Holden	Mr A. E. George
Tom Fielding	Mr Arthur Lewis
Sergeant Makepeace	Mr Eric Scott
Corporal Quayle	Mr C. M'Guinness
Salvation Stubbs	Mr John Byron
Thomas Jebson	Mr Frank Woolfe
Martin	Mr H. Saville
Tony	Mr F. H. Dale
Lady Holland	Miss Mary Rorke
Lady Margaret Knollys	Miss Mary Lewis
Biddy	Miss Pollie Emery
Damaris Holden	Miss Darragh
Lady Lettice Pierrepoint	Miss Evelyn Millard

"The King shall have his own again!" is the burden of the song which is often introduced into *His Majesty's Servant*, which was produced at the Imperial Theatre on Thursday evening. The monarch in that case was Melodrama, which has come into its own at Westminster with all the pomp and circumstance of its class. The work of Misses Elliott and Hosford does not halt between two opinions. It is melodrama of the excellent old Adelphi type; full of marvellous and exciting adventures, misguided but interesting loyalty, escapes, combats, loves, hatreds, and revenges. Nor is the spectacular entirely ignored; and plenty of money has evidently been spent in mounting and dressing the play. The Imperial Theatre is, possibly, destined to take the place once occupied by the Princess's under Mr Wilson Barrett's management and by the Adelphi under that of the Brothers Gatti.

The story opens in Boscobel Wood, under the shadow of the branches of the Royal Oak. Here Geoffrey Mohun, hiding in disguise from the pursuit of the victorious Roundheads, meets his cousin Lettice Pierrepoint, and falls in love with her. Their conversation is interrupted by the appearance of Charles II., who has been concealed in the oak tree, and who entrusts himself to their loyalty. An ex-actor named Holden and his niece Damaris stop near the tree to warm their soup, and are taken into the King's confidence. Damaris is madly in love with Mohun, and offers herself to him boldly, much to his embarrassment. General Lambert, with his soldiers, comes seeking for Charles in the wood, and, after posting a *cordon* of sentries, composes himself to sleep. The King and Mohun spring upon him, bind him, and force him by threats of instant death to give them the password through the lines. Then they escape; and Lettice goes off with Holden to London, where, nine years after, we find her in the latter's bookshop. He is still loyal to the absent monarch, and there is arranged between him and Charles's adherents a system of secret communication by sending certain books to and fro by messengers. Thus, the Eikon Basilike forwarded to Charles at the Hague means "Come over; Monk has espoused your cause." Damaris, who has become disreputable, and has left her uncle's roof, turns up determined to ruin him and revenge herself on her rival, Lettice, and on the man who has scorned her amorous advances. Damaris, acting in concert with a Roundhead officer, Sir Ralph Ingram, hides in a cupboard in Holden's room, and thus learns the plans of Charles's friends. She conceives the diabolical scheme of forcing Mohun, by working on his fears for the safety of Holden and Lettice, to submit to be believed a scoundrel. Lady Holland, a *grande dame* to whose care Lettice has been committed by his absent Majesty, comes to take the girl away; and Damaris, presenting herself as a seduced and deserted maiden, accuses Mohun of having effected her ruin in Boscobel Wood. He holds his tongue in order to save his sweetheart; and then Damaris, disregarding a promise to the contrary, has him arrested by Ingram's soldiers and imprisoned in a room at that officer's house. Ingram is about to murder him in cold blood; but he escapes by the aid of a ready-witted Irish orange girl called Biddy, who ties a knife in such a position that Mohun can sever his bonds with it, and afterwards use it to slay his opponent. Mohun presents himself in the second scene of the third act at Holland House, where her ladyship is giving a grand ball. Charles II., who has been decoyed to England by the late Ingram, who made use of the Eikon Basilike "cypher," arrives at Holland House only to find that the summons has been a treacherous one, and that he has placed himself in jeopardy. However, Charles clears Mohun of the suspicion of having seduced Damaris. Then Lambert enters with his soldiers. He is about to search for the King, when Mohun, adorned with regal jewels, offers himself as a prisoner, and is arrested accordingly. The real monarch, by means of a secret passage, attains a pavilion in the grounds of Holland House, where the last act takes place. Monk and Lambert arrive on the scene, and their jealousy leads to a quarrel between them, and to Monk, urged by the eloquence of Mohun in the character of the King, declaring himself in favour of a Restoration. The now merry monarch reveals his identity, and Mohun and his lady-love are united.

Mr Lewis Waller played Geoffrey Mohun with his usual energy and vigour; but the part was too entirely conventional and too elementary to employ any of the actor's higher qualities. Mr Waller had only to be forcible, active, and gallant, and these things he did most satisfactorily and thoroughly. Miss Evelyn Millard's achievements were similarly limited by the rôle of Lady Lettice Pierrepoint, which she played, of course, soundly, carefully, and well. But the character was too simple and commonplace to elicit Miss Millard's best powers. Mr H. V. Esmond, an artist of real subtlety and penetration, was similarly handicapped by his task of embodying Charles II. It was impossible to make anything of the part, except what the authoresses had made of it; and Mr Esmond could do no more than be efficient on conventional lines. Second-rate rôles, played by first-rate performers, are, however, much more agreeable than the reverse arrangement; and, by their accomplished acting, these three artists contributed greatly to the success of the production. The piece was, indeed, cast much better than its artistic merits deserved. Miss Pollie Emery gave a distinct and clever sketch of Biddy, and made her mark by a most vivid, spontaneous, and striking performance. Miss Darragh's reading of the rôle of Damaris Holden was quite in harmony with the spirit of the play, and she spoke the malevolent speeches of the "villainess" with the true melodramatic "ring." Miss Mary Lewis was bright and animated as Lady Margaret Knollys; and Miss Mary Rorke as Lady Holland looked intensely aristocratic, and acted with the firm decision and excellent diction due to her ripe experience. Mr Henry J. Carvill hit off the characteristics of General Monk quite ably, and General Lambert's stern, savage, and morose nature was admirably depicted by Mr Norman M'Kinnel. Mr Owen Roughwood was very commendable as Lord Wilmot; and Mr Frank Dyall gave a most picturesque and telling impersonation of Sir Ralph Ingram. Mr John Beauchamp doing all that was required as Sir John Porter, and Mr M. Elphinstone being adequate as Sir Harry Taploe. An artistic and agreeable performance was the John Holden of Mr A. E. George; and the minor characters were all in capable hands. The scenery for *His Majesty's Servant* was well painted. Mr W. T. Hemsley's Boscobel Wood was a very realistic set; Mr W. Hann's Gilt Room in Holland House being very elaborate in its decorations. Mr R. M'Cleery's view in the grounds of Holland House for the last act was extremely artistic, and did the painter great credit. The play, produced by Mr Henry Hamilton, went smoothly, and Mr Leonard Chalk's incidental music was appropriate and effective. The reception of the drama was decidedly favourable, and Mr Waller and Miss Millard were called again and again, and bowed their acknowledgments in silence, despite injudicious demands for a speech.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE DAVENTRY.

The news of the death of Mr George Daventry, author, actor, and manager, will be received with deep regret by his many friends, both in and out of the profession. He had been ailing for some time, but it was only during the last fortnight that doubts of his recovery were entertained. The end came rather suddenly on Friday morning, the 30th ult., when he peacefully passed away, conscious to the last, dying, as his often-expressed wish had been, in the arms of his wife, having previously been baptised into the Catholic Church. Mr Daventry was the author of the well-known drama *The Indian Mutiny*, which he and Mrs Daventry (Miss Claire Howard) successfully toured for several years. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Finchley Cemetery at two o'clock. Among the many who were present to pay their last respects to the memory of deceased were Mr Frank E. Burdett, who travelled all the way from Crewe for the purpose, and Mr Maurice Hoffman, who for a considerable time was a member of Mr Daventry's company. Mrs Daventry received almost a countless number of expressions of deep sorrow and regret, and the many handsome floral tributes from professional and private friends made the coffin and hearse a picture of beauty. Amongst the senders were the following:—Dr. C. O'Sullivan, Mr and Mrs Edmund Tearle, Mr Henry Furnival, Mr Frederick Annerley, Mr Celian Kottaun, Members of *The Harvest of Sin* company, Mr Augustine A. King, Mr Archibald J. King, Mr Anthony H. King, Mr and Mrs Fred Dickenson, Mr H. Tournier, Mr Edwin T. Blake, Mr Edward Blake, Mr and Mrs Batten, Mr Albert E. Parker, Mr H. Brooke and Miss L. Brooke, Mrs Hutchinson, Mr W. E. Wilmott, Miss Sylvester, Miss Marie Daventry, and the widow and two sons of the deceased, Harold and Geoffrey Daventry.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Will Raymond, actor—Saturday, Oct. 8.
Harriett Vernon, burlesque actress—Oct. 9.
Connie Meadows, actress—Sunday, Oct. 9.
Charles Beresford—Sunday, Oct. 9.
Adèle Liddon, actress—Sunday, Oct. 9.
May Day, music hall artist—Sunday, Oct. 9.
George Preston, music hall artist—Oct. 9.
George Fox—Monday, Oct. 10.
Annie Hughes, actress—Monday, Oct. 10.
Charles Warner, actor—Monday, Oct. 10.
Frank Weathersby, actor—Monday, Oct. 10.
Frederic Jacques, actor—Monday, Oct. 10.
Marie Pascoe, actress—Monday, Oct. 10.
Fred Kerr, actor—Tuesday, Oct. 11.
J. T. Grein—Tuesday, Oct. 11.
George Mudie, actor—Tuesday, Oct. 11.
Ellie Norwood—Tuesday, Oct. 11.
Lucy Clarke, vocalist—Tuesday, Oct. 11.
Pollie Denville—Tuesday, Oct. 11.
Charles Wilmott, author—Tuesday, Oct. 11.
Nance Nicholls—Wednesday, Oct. 12.
Ethel Matthews, actress—Wednesday, Oct. 12.
Madame Modjeska, actress—Wednesday, Oct. 12.
Louis Hermann, musical director—Oct. 12.
Harry Lester—Thursday, Oct. 13.

A THIRD COOPER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I was very pleased to read in your "Theatrical Gossip" last week all the complimentary things said of Mr Frank Cooper and Mr Cooper Cliffe of their late father and the family the "two" brothers descend from. But I beg to inform you that there is a third and elder brother still in existence, who subscribes himself

Yours faithfully, CHAS. KEMBLE COOPER.
Savoy House, Strand.

A FIRST meeting of creditors was held on Thursday respecting the affairs of Mr Herbert Waring. The receiving order was made on a creditor's petition, the debtor, whose true name is Herbert Waring Rutty, being described as of 27a, Old Bond-street, W., actor. He furnished accounts showing liabilities £3,356 5s. 10d., of which £2,725 6s 1d. are stated to be unsecured, and estimated net assets £11 9s. 2d. The chairman said the debtor had stated that in June, 1901, a syndicate—Play, Limited—was in course of formation for the purpose of producing a play called *A Man of His Word*, at the Imperial Theatre. The debtor was induced to sign an agreement for the tenancy of the theatre on the understanding that he would incur no responsibility. Judgment, however, was recovered against him on July 16, 1903, by Lillie De Bathe, the wife of Hugh Gerald De Bathe, for £1,382 5s. 6d., of which £1,280 was for rent of the theatre. On the debtor's behalf it was stated that although held to be legally liable the debtor disclaimed all moral responsibility with reference to the petitioning creditor's claim. He was unable temporarily to meet his other liabilities owing to his being out of an engagement. The chairman intimated that the matter would remain in his hands as official receiver, and that he should apply for an adjudication in the usual course.

Mr Frank Elliott, who has been playing a part in the London production of *Winnie Brooke, Widow*, at the Criterion, has been engaged by Mr Wilfred Cotton, as acting-manager, to represent Miss Ada Reeve in the front of the house during her forthcoming tour of the musical version of the piece.—Owing to the sudden indisposition of Mr J. B. Montague, the representative of Bertie White, in *The New Barmaid*, who was taken ill in his dressing-room at the Blackburn Theatre on Wednesday, Mr George Russell was called upon to take up the part, and performed it satisfactorily.

Mr J. N. Maskelyne has practically rebuilt the interior St. George's Hall, taking in two adjacent houses. The stage is now 50ft. wide, and measures from curtain to back wall over 40ft. It is built of steel and hard wood, the stalls and balcony will accommodate 600; and 2,000 electric lights will be in use on the stage. Mr Maskelyne will shortly produce a dramatised version in a prologue and four acts of Bulwer Lytton's "The Coming Race," which has been written for him by Mr David Christie Murray and Mr Nevill Maskelyne.

Mr J. F. Elliston, when he made his twenty-fifth consecutive application for a dramatic licence for the Theatre Royal, Bolton, last week, told the local Watch Committee that this was a record for England, as no other theatrical manager now living was in a position to say that for a quarter of a century he had controlled the dramatic destinies of one town. Therein he made a mistake. Mr J. M. Chute and his brother George received the licence for the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, in August, 1878, so the present proprietor and manager of the house in Park-row beats Mr Elliston by one year. Many will remember how Mr Chute was presented with a silver bowl by his staff, rather more than twelve months ago, to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of his management.

"Carmen" was performed on the 30th ult. in the bull-ring in Valencia. In the third act, when the Toreador enters the arena and Carmen remains at the door, a real bull-fight was performed, a Valencian toreo killing a bull by lamp-light.

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr Hales	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Greet and E. Englebach	5	0	0
P. S. O.	2	0	0
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kinghorne	1	0	0
John Cabourn	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Mr M. Lang	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"H"	0	10	0
Mr Avrigny	0	5	0
A. and E. F. S.	0	5	0
Mr Q. Ashlyn	0	5	0
Mr Robson Paige	0	5	0
Mr W. H. Garbois	0	5	0
W. H. Nottingham	0	5	0
Mr H. B. Lewis	0	2	6

All subscriptions sent to Edward Ledger, hon. treasurer, *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., will be duly announced in these columns.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Since writing last week I have learnt that the Asaph Lodge Masonic Benefit Fund have given Henry Crisp £10 immediate relief to enable him to buy some clothes, and 10s. per week for twenty-six weeks, beginning on Oct. 1. The Actors' Benevolent Fund were sorry they could not do more than allow him 5s. per week, as, of course, they have such a large number of poor souls to help who have nothing at all. However, this now gives Crisp another 15s. per week, in addition to his own 15s., for twenty-six weeks, but only for that period; and I hope that you and your readers will see the necessity for helping the poor sufferer largely and generously.

Yours faithfully, CYRIL MAUDE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—It is with the greatest regret that I hear of the terrible affliction that has fallen upon Mr Henry Crisp, a typical Thespian, genial and large-hearted as a man, and a most clever actor. I met him some years back in *Jo* (Miss Jennie Lee's company), and have since seen him in a series of parts which will always be associated with his name. Now is surely the time for his many companions and friends to come to his aid and support the fund which you have opened, and I earnestly hope it will be sufficiently substantial to relieve Mr Crisp's anxiety respecting the future.

Yours faithfully, CECIL BARTH.
Princess's Theatre, London, W.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS ELLEN TERRY'S UNDERSTUDY.

Miss Audrey Campbell, having gained considerable experience as an amateur actress in first-class dramatic clubs, joined Miss Ellen Terry's

Photo by Vandyk

MISS AUDREY CAMPBELL.

company, being engaged for the very important position of understudy to that distinguished artist. Miss Campbell is both pretty and clever, and has quite justified the confidence placed in her by Miss Terry. When the famous actress was unable through indisposition to play the part of Beatrice, in *Much Ado About Nothing*, at the Burton-on-Trent theatre, came Miss Campbell's opportunity, and admirably did she acquit herself. A local critic wrote thus in her praise:—"To state that Miss Audrey Campbell understudied Beatrice would be unfair, for to be paradoxical there was so much individuality in her work as to make it a creation of her own, and so much sympathy with the Terry school of acting as to render her a worthy disciple of such a leader. In elocution, in the gentle persuasiveness of her speaking voice, she was well-nigh perfect, and the rhythmical grace of her movements consummated the 'poetry of motion,' and in facial expression—a minor consideration in comedy—she made a decidedly interesting study." Another local critic bore testimony to Miss Campbell's charming embodiment of Beatrice, adding that "it was difficult to realise that she had only stepped into a casual vacancy, so polished and faultless was her performance." Trained in such an admirable school and enjoying the great advantage of being associated with so eminent an exponent of her art as Miss Ellen Terry, the young actress's future is full of the richest promise.

The Bandmann-Dallas opera company, numbering fifty, under the personal direction of Mr Maurice E. Bandmann, has sailed on the New Elder Dempster steamer Port Kingston for Jamaica. They will make an extensive tour through the West Indian Islands, afterwards playing at Mexico, the Bermudas, the Mediterranean, and Egypt. This is the third company Messrs Bandmann and Dallas have sent abroad this season.

In view of the success of *Le Prince Consort*, the 300th performance of which was given the other day at the L'Athénée, Paris, M. Abel Deval has decided to defer the production of *Chiffon*, and to continue the run of the first-named piece. *Chiffon* was due this week at L'Athénée.

The Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, reopened its doors on Monday after a lengthened closure. The house has had many vicissitudes, and a few weeks ago was put up for auction and withdrawn at £10,000. Mr J. H. French, the new lessee and general manager, has for some years been connected with the management of the Irving Theatre, Seacombe, and is a popular man in Liverpool dramatic circles. Mr Sidney Beltran is the new acting-manager, and Mr John Bayliss has returned to his former post as musical director.

"HIS HIGHNESS MY HUSBAND."

A Fantastic Comedy, in Three Acts,
Adapted from the French of "Xanrof and Chancel,"
by William Boosey,
Produced at the Comedy Theatre, on Saturday, Oct. 1.

Prince Cyril	Mr Leonard Boyne
Ex-King of Ingra	Mr Eric Lewis
President of the Council	Mr Herbert Ross
Sandor	Mr Philip Cuningham
Mylviac	Mr W. Hugo
Chamberlain	Mr Akerman May
Minister of War	Mr Harvey Long
Minister of Finance	Mr Evelyn Vernon
Minister of Police	Mr E. Ashley Marvin
Minister of Fine Arts	Mr Herbert Vivyan
Minister of Commerce	Mr Richmond Webb
Servant	Mr Henry Williams
Valet	Mr J. H. Millar
Sonia	Miss Miriam Clements
Xenofa	Miss Lottie Venne
Mdlle. de Sirkapia	Miss Jean Morrison
Madame de Nielcy	Miss Clarita Vidal
Madame d'Ecforas	Miss Deborah Volar
Madame de Travenich	Miss Alys Read

His Highness My Husband may be described as a "pleasing" play. It is agreeable and amusing both in idea and plot; there is a "notion" in it, and that notion is developed neatly, concisely, and cleverly. Students of social politics can remember the difficulty of the "situation" when the late Prince Consort was married to Queen Victoria. There is a legend, still popularly believed, that, on one occasion, as a hint to the Prince to keep better hours the late Queen caused the guard at Windsor Castle to refuse him admission after a certain time at night. It is remembered, also, how earnest Queen Victoria was in supporting him in all the exertions he made to render himself a social force in England; and how, eventually, they together trampled over the prejudices of the old families and of the Court. The story of *His Highness My Husband* appeals, therefore, with peculiar reality to an English audience; and Mr William Boosey, in translating *Le Prince Consort* for the London stage, has given the piece a pretty sentimental turn, which decidedly commends it to the British playgoer.

The kingdom of Corconia is governed by a Council, under its young and handsome Queen, Sonia. It is desirable that a heir to the throne shall be provided; so Sonia's active and energetic Aunt Xenofa, and the elderly and officious President of the National Council arrange preliminaries for a union between the Queen and Prince Cyril, the son of the disreputable ex-monarch of Ingra, who consoles himself for the loss of his kingdom by a life of gay dissipation. Cyril has already fallen in love with Sonia; and as he is a manly, handsome fellow, she is much pleased with him. A public betrothal takes place; and, after a lapse of six months, we find Cyril fretting under the disagreeable humiliations of his new position. He cannot call even his time his own; for he must be ever at the beck and call of his wife. If he goes for a walk in the park, he has to say where he may be found and to fix the hour of his return; and when he endeavours to make suggestions respecting affairs of State, he is quietly "snubbed" both by Sonia and her prime minister. The situation becomes more and more "strained," and, at last, on the eve of the opening of the Parliament, when Sonia tells Cyril to prepare himself to escort her to the House, he "strikes," i.e., sends a message that he has gone to bed. By the advice of her councillor, the Queen despatches an officer and a file of dragoons to bring her husband to the royal presence *manu militari*; and, in resentment for this treatment, he flies from the Palace, and endeavours to cross the frontier. He returns, however, to discuss the situation with his wife and sovereign; and, in a passionate scene, they thrash the matter out, Cyril insisting on a divorce. Sonia, however, who is deeply in love with her husband, hits on a better way of solving the problem. She calls her Cabinet together, and announces to them her desire to place Prince Cyril in a position in the Government equal to her own. They demur to the change; whereupon she threatens to abdicate. As this would mean placing on the throne the "skittish" aunt and the old *roué* monarch, who have "paired off" together, the Council come to the conclusion that they will agree to Sonia's proposal; so Cyril is made King of Corconia, and the royal pair go out to reign happily ever afterwards.

An advantage connected with pieces dealing with Royalty is they afford excuse for the display of showy uniforms and costumes on the male side of the cast. Mr Leonard Boyne, in the second act of *His Highness My Husband* looked extremely handsome in the blue and gold of a Corconian hussar officer, and in the strong scene in the same act, in which Cyril and Sonia ardently discuss their mutual relations, Mr Boyne acted with remarkable power and feeling, and, though evidently nervous, carried the audience with him completely. He has immensely improved his performance since the first night, and has now made it very effective. Mr Eric Lewis played the ex-King of Ingra just in the required "touch-and-go" style, and with a background of dignity and grace which was very effective indeed. The rôle could hardly have been more completely and crisply sustained. Mr Herbert Ross, as the crafty President of the Council, supplied a character study of great sharpness of individuality, and, with a picturesque and graphic make-up, a cringing bow, and a cynical grunt, made the personage both striking and important. Mr Philip Cuningham was a magnificent Lieutenant of the Queen's Guard; and, in his towering plumes and shining breast-plate, looked a "perfect picture." He worked carefully and commendably, humorously indicating the shyness and reverence of the stupidly loyal Sandor. Mr Akerman May looked every inch a Chamberlain, and bore himself accordingly, and the members of the Cabinet were well represented, Mr Harvey Long being actively prominent as the Minister of War. Miss Miriam Clements gave an entirely delightful and charming performance of the part of Sonia. Her appearance in the regal "frocks" was exquisitely attractive; and the mixture of girlish simplicity and sweetness, sensitive pride, and warm affection in Sonia's nature was shown by Miss Clements in the most artistic and convincing style. Miss Lottie Venne as the amorous Aunt Xenofa, who goes to such lengths in her infatuation for the too-respectful Sandor, handled with delicate tact a part which in less light and skilful hands might easily have been found offensive, and acted with her usual quaint humour and comical precision. The ladies-in-waiting were well chosen, all being attractive and aristocratic in appearance. Mr Walter Hann's State Apartment set for the first act, and Mr Julian Hicks's Boudour and Library for the second and third, were appropriate and effective; and the piece, which was produced by Mr Gilbert Hare, went with great smoothness and had a decidedly favourable reception, Mr Boyne and Miss Clements being called with enthusiasm at the close of the performance and warmly applauded. *His Highness My Husband* is bright and amusing, and is likely to attract playgoers for many nights to come.

The King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, was opened on Monday to a crowded house by Mr Henry Hare's *Girl From Chicago* company, every stall and second stall being booked in advance. The audience sang the National Anthem, and the following telegram was despatched to His Majesty:—"At opening of New King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, to-night, the audience sang the National Anthem, and requested me to convey to your Majesty this slight token of their loyalty." A reply was received as follows:—"Balmoral Castle. The Equerry-in-Waiting has received the King's commands to acknowledge receipt of Mr Clayton's telegram, and to inform him that His Majesty learnt with much satisfaction of the expression of loyalty at the opening of the New King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield."

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE FRIQUET."

Play, in Four Acts, by M. Gauthier-Villars,
Produced at the Gymnase, Sept. 30.

Baugé	M. André Calmettes
Claparon	M. Paul Plan
Le Maffiu	M. Numès
Hubert de Gangis	M. André Hall
De Villiers-Neaufles	M. Luguet
Barfleur	M. Jean Dax
Tripoly	M. Arvel
Jacobson	M. Colbin
Le Friquet	Mdlle. Polaire
Yseult Claparon	Mdlle. Dorziat
Madame De Vertancourt	Mdlle. Fontenay

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Oct. 5.—The new work brought out at the Gymnase, although founded on Gyp's novel of the same name, has undergone a few important changes. The Comtesse De Martel—writing under the pseudonym of Gyp—was always an ardent anti-Semite, and in the troubled days of the Dreyfus affair distinguished herself by fighting in the front ranks of those who attempted to prevent an innocent man from obtaining justice. But Madame La Comtesse does not only devour Jews, whom she considers the enemies of mankind. Englishmen, too, share the same dismal fate, being, according to her, the foes of France. And if the personages in Gyp's novel had been transferred to the stage just as the authoress created them we certainly would have witnessed some violent demonstrations in the house. But M. Gauthier-Villars had no desire to raise trouble. All he wanted was to give Mdlle. Polaire, the well-known music hall star, an opportunity of displaying her talent on an important stage before an all-Paris audience; and, therefore, he not only weeded *Le Friquet* of all offensive remarks, but, with a liberal hand, rechristened several of the personages on whom Gyp had bestowed some suggestive but unlovely names. The story is simple and sentimental. Maffiu, a kind-hearted clown, has adopted a little girl he found wandering; and, in the course of time, she becomes an "artiste" in the same circus in which Maffiu performs. The latter has named her Le Friquet—the little sparrow—and that little bird has certainly a rough time of it. The proprietor of the circus is a hard taskmaster, and, like Mignon, she receives more blows than bread. Fortunately a Wilhelm Meister turns up in the person of Hubert, a wealthy young aristocrat, who rescues Le Friquet from the clutches of the brutal showman and engages her to look after his horses. As, however, the presence of a pretty young girl in his house might be wrongly interpreted, Madame Claparon, the wife of an elderly millionaire landed-proprietor, offers to take charge of Le Friquet. The latter is not at all pleased with this arrangement, which takes her away from Hubert, with whom she has fallen violently in love, and when in a touching scene the girl takes leave of the good clown Maffiu he gives her as a souvenir a huge clasp knife. In the second act Le Friquet has undergone a metamorphosis, and as Maffiu does not recognise in the young lady in an elegant white dress his little acrobat of a month ago, the young lady turns head over heels to convince him of her identity. Claparon, the elderly reprobate, fascinated by the attractive girl, makes love to her in an offensive manner, and is warned by her not to renew the attempt. Poor Friquet! She is anything but happy. One day she discovers that Hubert had a liaison with Madame Claparon, and she takes off her beautiful dresses and runs away from the house where she has to meet the man she loves and who does not love her. She knocks at the door of Baugé, a sculptor—a generous friend—who has offered her his heart and hand, and, borrowing from him a sum of money, she purchases a horse and gets an engagement at a fashionable circus, where she is to make a sensational début. When the curtain rises in the final tableau we are in Le Friquet's dressing room. She is alone changing her dress when she perceives the repulsive Claparon, hidden behind a screen. The man seizes her roughly in his arms, but she has grasped her knife, Maffiu's souvenir, and Claparon falls dead. Then she rushes out to do her performance, and we hear the audience shriek. She has seen Hubert seated next to Madame Claparon; she has dropped off the trapeze, and is carried to her dressing room, where, like the "Dame aux Camelias," she dies in the arms of the man she adores, holding the hands of her faithful friends, Maffiu and Baugé. The drawback of plays like *Le Friquet* made to measure for one particular artist, is that all the other rôles are necessarily sacrificed and become shadowy. For all that, Mdlle. Polaire had no easy task before her; and if she did not impress us with her histrionic powers she certainly gave us the sensation of something wild, something untamed, which suited her rôle to perfection. M. Numes as the clown, Maffiu, was most pathetic, M. Plan made the most of his impersonation of the repulsive Claparon, M. Andre Hall was a sympathetic Hubert, but their rôles are so woefully sketchy that we get but brief glimpses of these personages. And as to the ladies, if one did not hear their voices very often, they were at all events pleasant to look at.

"LE GRILLON."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. L. De Francomesnil,
Produced at the Odéon, Oct. 1.

John	M. Dorival
Caleb	M. Janvier
Plummer	M. Gaston Severin
Tackleton	M. Cazalis
Dot	Mdlle. Sylvie
Mistress Fielding	Madame Dehon
Bertha	Mdlle. Taillade
May	Mdlle. Remy

Dickens' "Cricket on the Hearth," transferred to a Paris stage, met with a very cordial reception. It is a "family piece" which mothers can take their daughters to see, and it will interest them. Poor Bertha will remind them of little Delobelle, the pathetic figure created by Alphonse Daudet; and they will admire Dot and John's kitchen and the picturesque costumes designed by Maurice De Lambert. The work on the whole was well interpreted. Mdlle. Sylvie, an ideal Dot, proved herself once more a consummate artiste; and M. Dorival was an impressive John. M. Cazalis's Tackleton, on the other hand, was less satisfactory; and Mdlle. Taillade did hardly justice to the rôle of Bertha. Madame Dehon and Mdlle. Remy acquitted themselves well of their task.

The Variétés have inaugurated their operette season with *Barbe Bleue* and *La Fille de Madame Angot*, and it is probable that the present generation will once more be charmed by this pretty music. In the way of mounting, M. Samuel has, as usual, surpassed himself, but the interpretation was by no means good. The management seem to overlook the fact that the rôles have to be sung as well as acted, and good voices are sadly needed at the Variétés.

The revival of *Le Demi-monde* at the Comédie-Française has not proved a success. The work has grown woefully old-fashioned and no longer appeals to us. It was a praiseworthy attempt, but M. Claretie might have foreseen all this.

M. Mounet-Sully has nearly finished *La Vieillesse de Don Juan*, a drama in verse he is writing in collaboration with M. Pierre Barbier, and wherein he will, of course, interpret the principal rôle. The title certainly is curious. How will the author deal with his hero advanced in years? Will he show us a repentant Don Juan, or an old sinner—a kind of "vieux marcheur"? *Nous verrons.*

A curious experience has fallen to the lot of Miss Gladys Grenville, who in five nights has been called upon to play three principal parts in Mr Lubbock's *Cherry Girl* company. The difficult rôle of the Queen was taken up by her at a few hours' notice without rehearsal. At the conclusion of the performance Miss Grenville received the congratulations of, and a handsome present from, the management.

ON THE ROAD. OCT. 10.

Alone in London.—Theatre Royal, Colchester.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona)—Durham.
Ashwell, Miss Lena.—T. R, Nottingham.
As Midnight Chimes—G. T., Boscombe.
Assassin—Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.—T. R., Worcester.
Bank of England.—Theatre Royal, Wallsend.
Beautiful Avenger.—Theatre Royal, N. Shields.
Beautiful Fiend.—Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.
Belle of New York.—T. R., Portsmouth.
Benson, Mr F. R. (A).—G. T., Halifax.
Benson, Mr F. R. (B)—Opera House, Dudley.
Best Must Win.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
Biggest Scamp on Earth.—Fife.
Broken Melody.—Opera House, Coventry.
Bulmer, Mr.—Prince's Theatre, Horwich.
Carl Rosa.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Cherry Girl (N.).—Opera House, Blackpool.
Cherry Girl (S.).—Lyceum Theatre, Newport.
Chinese Honeymoon (M.)—T. R., Rochdale.
Chinese Honeymoon (N.).—O. H., Leicester.
Chinese Honeymoon (S.)—New Theatre, Oxford.
Chinese Honeymoon (N.) (Macdona).—Loughboro'.
Chinese Honeymoon (S.) (Macdona).—Newmkt.
Chinese Idyl.—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Conscript.—Theatre Royal, West Stanley.
Country Girl (Dance) (M.).—O. H., York.
Country Girl (Dance) (N.).—T. R., Dublin.
Country Girl (Dance) (S.).—T. R., Cardiff.
Country Girl (Macdona) (N.).—Kilmarnock.
Country Girl (Macdona) (S.).—Abingdon.
Country Mouse (N.).—Gloucester.
Cousin Kate (N.).—Torquay.
Cousin Kate (S.).—Burnham.
Dandy Doctor.—T. R., Grantham.
Dan the Rake.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Luton.
Darling of the Gods (N.).—L. T., Edinburgh.
Darling of the Gods (S.).—P. T., Bristol.
De Quincey Repertoire.—O. H., Cheltenham.
D'Oyly Carte.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Drama of Life.—Prince's Theatre, Preston.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—T. R., Chatham.
Duchess of Dantzic.—T. R., Plymouth.
Executioner's Daughter.—G. T., Clydebank.
Fairy's Dilemma.—Opera House, Middlesbrough.
Fatal Wedding (M.).—T. R., Chesterfield.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—T. R., Hull.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—Borough Theatre, E.
Female Swindler.—West London Theatre, W.
Fiends of London.—Ebbw Vale.
Fight for Millions.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
Follies of Youth.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
Frivolity.—Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.
From Scotland Yard.—T. R., Seaham Harbour.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona)—Ilkley.
Geisha.—Opera House, Harrogate.
Gipsy Jack.—Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.
Girl from Japan.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—T. R., Newcastle.
Girl from Kay's (S.).—T. R., Huddersfield.
Girl's Cross Roads (Bruce).—T. R., Crook.
Girl's Cross Roads (Melville).—E. T., Oldham.
Golden Ladder.—Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
Go-Won-Go-Mohawk.—P. T., Blackburn.
Greek Slave.—Opera House, Harrogate.
Grip of Iron.—Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.
Harvest of Sin.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Harvey, Mr. Martin.—G. T., Wolverhampton.
Henry Neville.—Leeds.
Her Fatal Past.—New Theatre, Consett.
Her One Great Sin.—Pontefract.
Her Second Time on Earth.—Hull.
Honour Bright.—Theatre Royal, Inverness.
Honour Thy Father—T. R., Croydon.
Hot Night—Opera House, Wakefield.
Hughes, Annie.—Broadway Theatre, S.E.
I Defy the World.—Theatre Royal, S. Shields.
In Dahomey.—Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.
Indian Mutiny.—Court Theatre, Warrington.
In Old Kentucky.—K. T., Cardiff.
Irving, Henry.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Joseph Entangled.—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
Kendal, Mr and Mrs—O. H., Southport.
King of Crime.—Victoria Theatre, Stanley.
Kitty Grey.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
La Comédie Anglaise.—Weybridge.
Lady of Ostend.—Opera House, Kidderminster.
Lady Slavey (Greet).—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
Laughter-Land—Opera House, Workington.
Les Cloches de Corneville.—T. R., Bolton.
Latty.—Alexandra Theatre, N.
Life's Revenge.—Theatre Royal, Greenock.
Lights o' London.—Lowestoft.
Lightning's Flash.—Grand T., Nelson.
Little Coquette.—Royalty Theatre, Chester.
Little Mary.—County Theatre, Kingston.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Batley.
Lucky Durham.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Madame Sherry (N.).—Theatre Royal, Glasgow.
Man to Man.—P. O. W. Theatre, Southampton.
Manxman.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
Marriage of Kitty.—L. T., Scarborough.
Message from Mars.—Queen's T., Keighley.
Midnight Mail.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
Mockery of Marriage.—T. R., Scarborough.
Modern Adventuress.—T. R., Darlington.
Modern Judas—Opera House, Buxton.
Money-Makers (N.)—Hastings.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—O. H., Crouch-end.
Moody Manners (A).—Shakespeare T., Liverpool.
Moody Manners (B).—P. G. Theatre, Folkestone.
Moody Manners (C).—Alnwick.
My Lady Molly (Red).—Grand Theatre, Hull.
My Lady Molly (White).—Coronet T., W.
Naval Detective.—Grand Theatre, Margate.
New Clown.—Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.
New Clown (Greville).—T. R., Ryde.
New Mephisto.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
New Housemaid.—Opera House, Londonderry.
Nihilist Queen.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
No Man's Land.—Theatre Royal, Stockton.
One of the Best.—Grand Theatre, Croydon.
One of the Family.—Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
On the Stroke of 12 0.—Lyceum T., Govan.
Orchid (Edwardes)—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
Orchid (S.).—Peckham.
Otto the Outcast.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Path of Thorns.—P. O. W. Theatre, Grimsby.
Priest of the Temple—T. R., Whitehaven.
Proof.—Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.
Quality Street (Bright).—G. T., Southampton.
Quality Street (Frohman).—L. T., Sheffield.
Queen of the Night.—E. T., Dundee.
Royal Divorce (Kelly) (S.).—O. H., Burnley.
Royal Revenge (Clyndes).—C. T., Birmingham.
Sailor's Sweetheart.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
San Toy.—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.
Sapho (1).—Theatre Royal, Manchester.
Saturday to Monday (N.).—Glasgow.
Saturday to Monday (S.)—Faversham.
Scarlet Woman.—King's T., Nottingham.
School Girl (S.).—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
Sherlock Holmes.—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
Sign of the Cross.—Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
Silver Cross.—Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.
Silver King (N.).—Olympia, Newcastle.
Silver King (S.).—Theatre Royal, Dover.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Darwen.
Soldier and a Man.—Metropole T., Devonport.
Still Alarm.—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.
Stranger in a Strange Land.—C. T., Reading.
Sunday.—Grand Theatre, Birmingham.
Swiss Express.—Grand Theatre, Falkirk.
Tearle, Osmond.—Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
Temptress—P. O. W. Theatre, Nuneaton.
Terry, Edward.—Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.
Terry, Ellen—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Three Little Maids (S.).—Kettering.
Three Little Maids (1).—P. T., Manchester.
Tommy Atkins.—Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham.
Traitor.—Eden Theatre, Brighton.
Traitor Prince.—P. O. W. T., Mexborough.
Trip to Chinatown.—P. O. W. T., Liverpool.
Triumph of Truth—Theatre Royal, Margate.
Two Little Sailor Boys—T. R., Rugby.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—M. T., Birmingham.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.)—T. R., Ilkeston.
Two Orphans—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Yarmouth.
Under the Russian Flag—Pontypridd.
Under Two Flags—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
Victim of Villainy.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
Village Blacksmith.—Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
Waller, Mrs Lewis.—Kennington T., S.E.
Warner, Grace.—Ealing Theatre, W.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Princess's T., Glasgow.
When a Man Hates.—O. T., Manchester.
When London Sleeps—P. T., Newcastle.
When London Sleeps (Finch).—T. R., Lincoln.
When the Lights are Low.—A. T., Kettering.
When Woman Hates.—Queen's T., Longton.
Why Men Love Women.—P. T., Portsmouth.
Why Smith Left Home.—T. R., Sheffield.
Willard, Mr. E. S.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Woman and Wine.—Grand T., Glasgow.
Woman's Pluck.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
Woman's Revenge.—Carlton Theatre, Greenwich.
10·30 Down Express.—Theatre Royal, Castleford.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

From time to time the need for an association to help one or other section of theatrical employees has been raised in *The Era*. Among these are the advance agents, members of the touring staffs, and attendants, but, so far, the wishes and regrets have gone no further than a more or less forcible letter.

These proposals do not lack arguments, or arguments that fully justify and demonstrate the usefulness of the various proposals, but associations do not come into existence by merely wishing for them, however unanimous or sincere those wishes may be. Some one person must take the initiative. Some one person must take the trouble to ascertain what the other good wishers and hopers mean. To help in arriving at a more practical conclusion than has yet been attained we invite all those interested to send their names to the writer of this column. Let us have some definite suggestions, and it will then be an easy matter to arrive at a decision. In the meanwhile those who are interested in the question can, at least, try to ascertain the views of their colleagues whom they meet in the course of business.

The members of the touring staffs have now every facility to join an association which is well established and in a position to provide substantial benefits. The National Association of Theatrical Employees includes every section of the stage working staff. Its Sick, Funeral, and Benevolent Funds and Employment Agency are open to all those eligible to join who wish to make provision by subscribing to such funds. All particulars may be obtained free on application to the secretary, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

Here is a true story about Sir Henry Irving. When the needs of the play require him to die, the limelight man is instructed to show a grey light. On one occasion the limelight man put on a blue light, and at the conclusion of the act Sir Henry went to him and admonished him, in his gentle way, for being so careless, saying, "You don't know the agony I suffered as I lay dying"

The stage ship which has attracted so much attention at His Majesty's Theatre was made by Mr Asburner, master carpenter of the Broadway Theatre, Deptford.

Mr A. Jones, late property master with Sir Henry Irving, is asked to send his address to Mr W. Johnson, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

The joint concert committee arranging the concert to be given in the Royal Opera House have obtained permission from Mr Frank Rendle and Mr Neil Forsyth to invite the assistance of any of the artists appearing at that theatre during the forthcoming opera season. A preliminary announcement will be circulated this week to all London theatres and music halls. All seats other than the 6d. tickets will be reserved. A large number of musicians and others have volunteered their services at the concert, and to aid the committee in completing their arrangements.

Mr. J. Sales, senior, an old member of the Empire Theatre staff, died suddenly on Wednesday. He was a member of the Funeral Fund of the N.A.T.E.

Notices and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Lawton.—Sept. 30, the wife of Frank Lawton (Mr George Musgrove's *Belle of New York* company), of a son. Both doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Reynolds—Davine.—Oct. 2, at Blackpool, Walter Reynolds, jun., to Clara Davine (Clara Lavinia Jones).

DEATHS.

Daventry.—Sept. 30, at 27, Witherington-road, Highbury, George Daventry, aged forty-five. "The world is poorer by his death." R.I.P.
Franklin.—Sept. 30, at Leighton Buzzard, B. Franklin, father of Francis Franklin and Jennie Franklin, R.A.M. (*la femme* Grossmith), aged seventy-five.
Halford.—Sept. 28, at 4, King Edward-street, Islington, N., John Halford Jones. Born Feb. 16, 1820. "Othello's occupation's gone." R.I.P.
Merrilees.—Sept. 27, at Newcastle onTyne, after a long illness, Andy Merrilees, aged sixty-three.
Shave.—Oct. 1, Sidney Arthur, only child of Alice and Arthur Shave (Shavo), aged eight months. Interred at Tyldesley. Deeply mourned.

In Memoriam.

Atkinson.—In loving memory of Emmie Atkinson (Archie Richards), who died Oct. 9, 1901. Never forgotten by her loving friend, Georgie Heaton.
Holden.—In loving remembrance of my dear father, John Holden, who died at Nottingham, Oct. 7, 1899. No time can efface thy memory.—Ada
Howard—In loving memory of Sarah Martin Howard (mother of the Brothers Howard), who passed away Oct. 2, 1902. Gone, but not forgotten by Ada (Madame Louie).
Keith.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Elizabeth Keith, who died Oct. 13, 1900. Gone, but never forgotten by her loving children.
Snowdon.—In affectionate memory of L. M. Snowdon, Esq., late of Theatre Royal, South Shields, who died Oct. 7, 1902.—E. and W. P.

At the Public Hall, Woking, the attraction this week is Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in the comedy *Saturday to Monday*, presented by Mr Charles Macdona. Mr Charles Howitt as Lord Calvert of Alcester has proved himself a highly finished actor. Miss Adeline Lester as Lady Diana Porchester and Mr Donald Maclean in the rôle of Probyn Dyke both find much favour. Mr Jack Hampton is the cause of much laughter as Stanley Ridding, and the other members of a particularly strong cast were Miss Florence Tressilian as Thompson (the maid), Miss Charlotte Mead as Miss Skeet, Miss M'Aimee Murray as Miss Ursula Toop; Miss Haidee Hemsley as Angela, and Mr Edwin Ling as the Rev. Samuel Toop. The comedy is preceded by the one-act farce *Judged by Appearances*.

DAVID DAY'S DEPARTURE.

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

On Thursday morning a numerous company assembled at Euston Station to bid farewell to Mr David Day, of the well-known music-publishing firm of Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, the occasion being that gentleman's departure for a trip to Canada and the United States, a trip the dominant note of which will be pleasure. Mr Day, accompanied by his wife and eldest son, Mr Charles Day—both of whom are likewise voyagers—arrived at the station from their new West Hampstead residence shortly after 10·0 a.m., and the short time remaining ere the 10·45 for Liverpool departed was taken up with farewells, handshakings, and hearty good wishes, Mrs Day being the recipient of a most lovely bouquet of red roses from Mrs George Le Brunn. When the train started, with the punctuality for which the London and North-Western Railway is noted, that portion of No. 14 platform contiguous to the party's reserved compartment was well-nigh impassable for the crowd of personal friends and well-wishers, including several members of the staff, who pressed round the carriage for a final handshake, while "For he's a jolly good fellow" was sung, and three cheers were given. Just prior to the start Mr John Smith, the firm's manager, and Mr Joseph Thurlow, Mr Day's secretary, dashed along the platform and, intrepidly crossing in front of the screaming monster engine, proceeded some "little distance on the way" along the line, and gave one farewell hurrah whilst standing on the next metals as the train went by. Mr John P. Harrington, the well-known song-writer, who had journeyed expressly from his Bedford home by the "7 55 up" to St. Pancras to see Mr Day off, asked that gentleman's acceptance of an impromptu acrostical bon mot, which we reproduce, and which voiced to a nicety the feelings of all who were present:—

D avid, adieu! Nay, 'tis but au revoir!
A swift boat bears you to a far-off shore!
V isions of conquest tempt you o'er the foam.
I n far Columbia plant the songs from home,
D avid, e'er sunny as a summer's day.

D on't hurry, but—don't stop too long away,
A sight of you, ere Christmas comes, we need;
Y our long-time friend cries "Bon voyage! God speed!"

Among the many ladies and gentlemen present were Mr and Mrs William Francis, Mr and Mrs Harry Hunter, Mr Leslie Stuart, Mrs Westall and her son and daughter, Mrs Phelan, Miss Dorothy Phelan, Mr Fred Day, Mr Charles Taylor, Mr William H. Watts, Mr Edward St. Quentin, Mr and Mrs George Le Brunn, Mrs Edgar Bateman, Mr J. P. Harrington, Mr Bennett Scott, Mr A. J. Mills, Mr "Willie" Preston (of Musical Copyright Association fame), and two of the best-known artists on the variety stage, in the persons of Mr Fred M'Naughton and Mr Tom Costello, were also present, together with a contingent of heads of departments and representative members of the permanent staff of the firm, including Mr John Smith (manager), Mr Lester Barrett, Mr Fred W. Leigh, Mr Henry E. Pether, Mr Eyke, Mr John

Photo by N. Weston.

MR. DAVID DAY.

Abbott (also a terror to pirates), Mr Fred Blott, Edgar Bateman, and Mr J. W. Thurlow (Mr Day's secretary).

From Liverpool later in the day the ss. Tunisian, of the Allian Line, en route for Quebec and Montreal, bore the party on the first stage of what all will hope may prove a delightful journey. Mr Maynard, a respected member of the firm's travelling staff, was among the last to bid them farewell.

The report is current in Australian dramatic circles that Miss Maud Hobson, now on a world's tour with Mr George Edwardes's company with *Three Little Maids* will marry a rich ranche owner in America at the close of the Australian season. Miss Hobson plays the part of Lady Mallory.

Mr Charles Frohman has secured the American rights of Mr Gayer Mackay and "Robert Ord's" play, *Dr. Wake's Patient*, which was recently produced at Liverpool.

Mr Harry Marvello, society entertainer, has been engaged to give his magical, musical, and ventriloquial entertainment on Tuesday at Mar Lodge, before H.R.H. Princess Louise (Duchess of Fife), his Grace the Duke of Fife, and party. This makes Mr Marvello's fifth performance before Royalty, he having appeared on several occasions at Balmoral Castle and Duff House. Messrs Walker and Co., of Aberdeen, are to present their well-known Cinématograph entertainment on the same occasion.

Mr W. E. Potts, of Theatre Royal, Dumfries, has arranged a lease of the Opera House, Dunfermline. Mr Potts managed this house with much success for the greater part of last season. Extensive alterations are to be made in the internal arrangements of the building. A beautiful entrance hall is to take the place of the present entrance to the stalls, dress, and upper-circle. The staircase to the dress and upper-circle is to be reconstructed, and a lounge room is to be fitted up for the convenience of the dress-circle patrons.

Mr Norman, having found *A Trip to Chinatown* so successful this autumn, is now adding a small chorus and a troupe of dancers to his already excellent cast of the piece, which opened the Irving Theatre, Seacombe, on Monday, for the season.

The Mayor of Leicester, accompanied by the Mayoress, Lady Rolleston, and Sir Thomas Wright and Lady Wright, opened on Monday an important addition to the Victoria Hall and Galleries there. The new institution is in the centre of Leicester, and is an imposing stone structure of five storeys, with a tower, designed by Mr E. Burgess, and erected at a cost of over £30,000. The Institution will be entirely devoted to the promotion of high-class music in the Midlands.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, Aug. 10.—A noteworthy and characteristic example of enterprise is to be credited to Mr J. C. Williamson, who, on the 6th inst., staged *Sunday* at Her Majesty's. Melbourne playgoers were therefore privileged to view a new and successful drama within a few months of the initial performance in London. The theatre was filled with an audience eager to see the new play, and also ready to welcome Miss Tittell Brune, who comes from America with a reputation associated with such parts as Camille, Fedora, &c. Miss Brune made her first bow to an Australian audience in the name part, and in the lighter comedy proved to be less convincing than when the opportunity permitted the expression of emotion or an outburst of passion. Her performance was graceful, and secured the hearty approval of Melbournian "first-nighters." It is safe to assume that this accomplished actress will prove to be even stronger when seen in more congenial parts. The quartet of miners consisted of Messrs Cuyler Hastings, Edmund Gwenn, J. B. Atholwood, and E. B. Russell, who played respectively the parts of Jacky, Lively, Davy, and Towser. This will be the final appearance of Mr Hastings, who has played lead in Mr Williamson's dramatic company throughout Australia and New Zealand during the past eighteen months. His interpretation of Jacky must be recorded as one of a succession of artistic performances, the greatest of which was Dick Heldar, in *The Light that Failed*. Mr Gwenn, who will shortly return to England with his wife (Miss Minnie Terry), gave a striking picture of Lively, and thus added one more character study of strong colour to his extensive list of low comedy parts. Mr Roy Redgrave made his first appearance in this country as Colonel Brinthorpe, and promises to be an acquisition of some value to the company, while Mr Gaston Mervale, who has just returned to Australia after an absence of several years, gave a forceful rendering of the wayward brother, Arthur. The remaining parts were allotted with satisfactory results to Mr Lumsden Hare (Oxley), Miss Mabel Lane (Mrs Naresby), Miss Minnie Terry (a nun), and Mr P. Scardon (a servant).

The final performance of *The Light that Failed*, which has just been displaced at Her Majesty's by *Sunday*, was also the occasion of the farewell appearance of two popular members of the company. The Masie (Miss May Chevalier) and Torpenhow (Mr F. Hamilton Stewart) leave Melbourne this week en route to London, their departure being regretted by a large number of local playgoers.

The Levinos, the Tossing Austins, Mr Pete Baker, Miss Katherine Dahl, Miss May Moore-Duprez, Little Cora Hamilton, and Fred Bluett are on the bill at the Opera House, where Mr Harry Rickards has also introduced the American game of push-ball. At the Gaiety Theatre Mr Frank M. Clark's *New Folly* company includes Steve Adson, the Lentons, and other vaudeville actors.

Mr Phillip Lytton, who has been successful in establishing a "dramatic art academy" in Sydney under the title of "The Players," has extended his operations to this city. During the past week, the Players produced *The Liars* and *The Schoolmistress* in a provincial theatre, and at the end of the present week Melbourne playgoers will have the opportunity of witnessing the efforts of local amateurs in the same comedies at the Bijou Theatre.

Princess's Theatre.—A good audience witnessed the performance of *The Rose of the Riviera* on Saturday evening. A number of new items were introduced, and all met with an excellent reception. The popular "Cosy Corner Girl" was successfully sung by Miss Beatty; Mr Edward Lauri was as amusing as ever in his latest comedy sketch, *Woman;* the Bovis Bros, Mr M'Naughton, Miss Garstang, and Miss Nixon also contributed largely to the evening's amusement. *The Dandy Doctor* is the next production.

Theatre Royal.—That highly sensational melodrama, *Greed of Gold*, still continues to please the patrons of this theatre. With an innocent man rescued from being crushed to death by moving machinery, a picturesque and fanciful ballet, a scene in an opium den, and a murder trial, resulting in the acquittal of the hero, the audience is quite content, and shows its appreciation by prolonged applause at the conclusion of each act.

Opera House.—The introduction of short bright comediettas into the midst of a number of music hall turns is an innovation which has achieved great popularity both in America and England. On the few occasions that these plays have been produced in Australia they have proved so successful as to encourage Mr Rickards to repeat the experiment. On Saturday evening the Levinos presented a little comedy which greatly strengthens the programme, and which will no doubt serve to establish them as favourites with Melbourne audiences. Both are clever comedians. Mr Levino is also one of the smartest lightning sketch artists we have had in Melbourne. Another novelty presented at this theatre on Saturday evening was a game of push ball, in which two teams of athletic young ladies were engaged. A number of interesting pictures were exhibited by the Bioscope. The rest of the company gave interesting turns.

Mr Frank Clarke's Folly Company at the Gaiety Theatre has been strengthened by new artists. Mr Steve Adson has proved a great success; the Lentons (acrobats), Miss Winnie Bond, Miss Jennie Thorne, and Miss Olive Robinson have also been well received.

SYDNEY, Aug. 16.—*The Girl from Kay's* is the latest musical farce mounted in admirable style by Mr J. C. Williamson at Her Majesty's and presented by Mr George Edwardes's company. The Max Hoggenheimer of Mr G. P. Huntley and the Henri of Mr Maurice Farkoa were both admirable. Miss Maud Hobson was warmly welcomed as the bride's mother. Miss Elsa Ryan made her début as Ellen, her acting, singing, and dancing proving most acceptable. Miss Madge Crichton was good as Winnie, and Miss Delia Mason made a conscientious Norah. Other parts were taken by Messrs H. V. Surrey, George Carroll, R. St. George, and Misses Eva Kelly and Kathleen Warren. The piece was staged-managed by Mr George F. Stephenson, and Mr Frank Tours conducted.

"Hoity-Toity" is another piece of nonsense by the American Travesty Stars at the Palace Theatre. It has absolutely no plot, but there is a cleverly arranged succession of fun, frolic, music, and dancing. The three drolls Max M. Dill, C. W. Kolb, and Barney Bernard have Teutonic rôles, and their travesty of social etiquette was extremely funny. Miss Maud Amber and Mr Winfield Blake have better opportunities and music than they had in *Fiddle-dee-dee*, and they showed to greater advantage. The soprano and baritone join in pleasing duets. Miss Lillie Sutherland again excels in "coon" work, and Mr Richard Goodall (who also stage manages) made King Kazoo most amusing. Mr C. M. Berkeley scored as Lady Grafter's agent, and Messrs Hart, Huxham, Saunders, and Snook, sang part songs excellently. Mr George Campbell supplied some pretty scenery, notably Monte Carlo. In this scene a very lively waltz chorus was sung. The ballet was specially spry, and Mr Harry James conducted.

Mr Bland Holt keeps his Royal audience deeply interested in *The Prodigal Daughter*, with its realistic steeplechase, but he will produce Henry Pettitt's drama *The Romance of Life* on the 20th, with adequate staging.

"The Struggle of Life" has entered on its last week at the Lyceum, and on Saturday next Mr Walter Sandford's American Players will put on a complete production of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, with a host of real Negroes in plantation songs and dances to make the story as realistic as possible.

The Tivoli bill includes Will Van Allen, Eva Wellington, Malvena Moore, Ernest Sullivan, Lennard, Jones, and Elliott, the Musical Johnstones, Burke, Moller and Teller, and Nellie Kilburn. A new comer was Little Olive Carr, a juvenile song and dance artist.

Mr Harry Rickards, with his proverbial generosity, gave his theatre and company in aid of the sufferers by the Nemesis disaster, whole families being left destitute through the loss of the vessel. In this excellent object he was assisted by the American travesty company now performing at the Palace, and others. About £200 was realised by the performance.

Mr George Stephenson's musical comedy company, headed by May Beatty and Edward Lauri, is doing capital business in Melbourne, the present success being *The Dandy Doctor*, to be followed on the 27th by *The Skirt Dancer*, for the first time in Australia.

SYDNEY, Aug. 23.—In *A Life's Romance*—an old favourite under a new name—at the Royal, Miss Frances Ross was once more the Kate Denby, whilst Miss Harrie Ireland (Bella Greystone) and Mrs Bland Holt (Mary Maguire) completed the trio of well-acted principal female parts. Miss Brightie Smith was a capital boy as Jack Lee; Mr Walter Baker, a manly Walter Lee; Mr Albert Norman, a caddish Philip Padley; Mr Bland Holt, an amusing Titus Knott; Mr Arthur Styan, suitably eccentric as Bob Channel; Mr Charles Brown, an admirable Ivan Novitch; and Mr Max Maxwell, a carefully acted John Denby. All these contributed to secure an excellent all-round performance.

"Uncle Tom's Cabin," by Mr Walter Sanford's American Players, delighted a packed house at the Lyceum on Saturday, the 20th. Extra efforts were made to lighten the sad story of George and Eliza Harris by introducing a number of real Negroes in their plantation songs and dances. The encores were so numerous and insistent that it was near midnight when the curtain fell. All present appeared well pleased with Mr Sanford's playing of the part of Uncle Tom, and the strong representation of Legree by Mr George Kimkel. The vivacious and mendacious Topsy was ably embodied by Miss Adelaide Boothby, and an old favourite Negro, Charles Pope, made an excellent Aunt Chloe.

"The Girl from Kay's," with Messrs G. P. Huntley and Maurice Farkoa in the leading rôles, keeps Mr J. C. Williamson's patrons in good humour at Her Majesty's Theatre, but as the time at the disposal of the Gaiety Company is limited the bill will be changed on Saturday to *Three Little Maids*.

The Tivoli has "the Tossing Austins" to the fore as chief entertainers; Miss Katharine Dahl, the American soprano; Tom Bass, Burke, Moller, and Teller, the Musical Johnstones, Nellie Kilburn, Maud Faning, Irving Sayles, Ella Wellington, Maggie Fraser, the Diamond Duo, and Ernest Sullivan.

"GETTING EVEN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—My attention has been called to a letter in your last week's issue (re our sketch *Getting Even*) from a Mr Bartlett. In reply to the same we beg to state that we produced ours at the Crystal Palace, London, in June, 1901, two years before Mr Bartlett's effort. Again, I did not get the idea from *Family Jars*. I wrote the sketch for four people, but found it go better by playing the four parts ourselves. I do not claim any originality for the idea or plot, as I daresay both have been done many years before sketches were made prominent; but by managers it is considered very smart in its way, and I trust Mr Bartlett will meet with the same success with his sketch as we are doing with ours.

Yours faithfully,
FRED SINCLAIR (Sinclair and Whiteford).
Oct. 4.

THEATRICAL GOLF.

"Duchess of Dantzic" v. "Florodora."

A golf match was played on the 30th ult. on the links of the Hallamshire Club at Sandygate, between members of *The Duchess of Dantzic* company, then appearing at the Lyceum Theatre, and those of the *Florodora* company, from the Theatre Royal. Teams of six a-side had been arranged, but two well-known artists from the Empire were subsequently included—Messrs Horace Mills and W. H. Rawlins. The full scores were as under:—

"Duchess of Dantzic"		"Florodora."	
A. J. Evelyn (hcp. 4)	0	Edward Lewis (hcp. 10)	1
Leonard Mackay (14)	0	W. H. Rawlins (14)	7
Herbert Clayton (14)	0	Ashley Richards (14)	1
C. Courtice Pounds (14)	0	Leonard Russell (18)	3
Horace Mills (14)	0	Paul Callan (18)	3
Frank Greene (18)	4	F. Winn (24)	0
Morgan Williams (24)	0	M. P. Pitts (24)	6
Total	4	Total	21

At the usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association, Wm Seymour Burrows, Esq., B.A., M.R.C.S., &c., 62, Old Steine, Brighton; Thos. Preston Gostling, Esq., L.R.C.P., &c., 39, Foregate-street, Worcester; Wm. Gorrie, Esq., M.B., &c., 12, King-street, Dundee; T. Moravian Carter, Esq., M.R.C.S., &c., 28, Victoria-square, Clifton, Bristol, were elected hon. medical officers of the "A.A." The secretary reported the result of certain proceedings in connection with a prosecution for alleged bogus management. The council voted a sum of money "as a contribution towards expenses of prosecution," and directed the secretary to attend the trial at the Sessions. The hon. solicitors reported they had advised certain members upon points submitted. The secretary referred to the notice sent out on the 1st inst. to members whose subscriptions for the current year remained unpaid. The hon. solicitors were requested to advise a member as to his right to claim damages for publication of his name in programmes, advertisements, daybills, &c., after he had left the company he had been engaged in. The secretary announced the receipt of "a contribution from C——G——, in memory of past favours from the committee and staff." The council received the report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

In *Sergeant Brue*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre this evening, Miss Madge Lessing will take up the part hitherto sustained by Miss Olive Morrell.

Mr Douglas Gerrard, who has been playing Prince Kara in Mr Tree's north company of *The Darling of the Gods*, was taken ill a few weeks ago at Leeds, and he has been resting at his home in Ireland. He is much better now. Thanks to the courtesy of Mr Tree, he hopes to be able to rejoin his company in two or three weeks' time.—Mr Stuart Lomath has been engaged by Mr John F. Asche to star as Sir Clement Huntingford in the forthcoming tour of *The World*.—Little Tony has been secured by Messrs Forge and Dalton for their forthcoming pantomime at the Aquarium, Yarmouth, and for tour.

Herr Oscar Blumenthal's new play, *Der Tote Löwe (The Dead Lion)*, which was about to be produced in Berlin, has been condemned by the police censor, and its performance has been forbidden on the ground that certain scenes in it are reminiscent of events which occurred about 1890, the year in which Prince Bismarck was dismissed from office. *Der Tote Löwe* will, however, shortly be given in Hamburg.

Mr Norman V. Norman will shortly revive Wycherley's comedy *The Country Girl*, which has not been seen in the provinces for some years past, with Miss Beatrice Wilson as Peggy.

Mr and Mrs Cyril Melton (Miss Ethel Sarjient) were on Tuesday, Oct. 4, the recipients of hearty congratulations from their numerous friends on their silver wedding.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, SEPT 21.—The fourth season of the Manhattan Theatre under the management of Harrison Grey Fiske is marked by the establishing of the Manhattan Company, a permanent organisation, with Mrs Fiske at its head, which will make this theatre its home and play there during the greater part of the season. Several players who have won prominence on the English and American stage have been engaged to support Mrs Fiske, and there is no question that the representations of classic and modern plays to be given at the Manhattan during the coming winter will appeal very strongly to discriminating playgoers. Mrs Fiske was seen once more in the rôle of Beck Sharp at the reopening of the theatre on the 14th inst., and added to her laurels by her admirable portrayal of that character. The revival gained an additional interest by the appearance as the Marquis of Steyne of Mr George Arliss, whose vivid embodiment of the terrible Zakkuri, in *The Darling of the Gods*, had left an ineffaceable impression. The lecherous old Marquis, as Mr Arliss represented him, was a man whose proclivities were plainly stamped on his physiognomy, and whose voice and manner were equally suggestive. It was a notable impersonation, both in respect of make-up and acting, and Mr Arliss has received full credit for it. Mr John Mason had his best opportunity as Rawdon Crawley in the third act, where the latter discovers Becky with the Marquis, and this scene he enacted splendidly. Messrs Robert V. Ferguson, William B. Mack, Henry J. Hadfield, and Stanley Rignold played prominent parts well. Langdon Mitchell's comedy was originally produced at the Fifth-avenue Theatre in 1899. Mrs Fiske will appear as Hedda Gabler during the season, and a revival of *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* is contemplated.

"THE KREUTZER SONATA," in which Miss Blanche Walsh will be seen this season, is not a dramatisation of Tolstoi's well-known novel but a tragedy of Jewish life, written by the playwright of the Ghetto, Jacob Gordin. It was produced in the original Yiddish at the Thalia Theatre two years ago. Ettie, the daughter of a Jewish merchant, is secretly courted by a Russian officer, a Christian, and although she knows that the alliance will break her father's heart she is ready to be baptised so as to become the officer's wife. But her lover's parents refuse to receive a Jewess into the family, and the young man commits suicide. Ettie is broken in spirit and disgraced by the illicit intimacy with her lover. Her father persuades her to marry a man whom she neither loves nor respects, and who merely wants her money. The young couple leave for America, and Ettie is ill-treated by her husband. When they are settled in New York they are joined by Ettie's younger sister, a frivolous girl, who begins to flirt with her brother-in-law. One day Ettie finds them together, and compels her sister to leave the city. But she soon returns to resume the intimacy, and in the end Ettie takes a revolver and shoots them both.

"THE WHITE TIGRESS OF JAPAN," a drama in five acts produced at the American Theatre, is quite up to date, for it deals with the present war between Russia and Japan. It is a melodrama of the good old-fashioned sort and a genuine "thriller." The White Tigress is the sobriquet bestowed upon Kinume, Countess of Ogawa. At the rise of the curtain she has escaped from exile in Siberia and her whereabouts have been discovered by the Russian Government. A Russian officer who has ruined her is ordered to capture her, and he and his minions pursue her through Japan, China, and Corea. Everywhere the fugitive Tigress is aided, and the pursuing Russians are baffled by Raymond Grant, an American naval lieutenant; his brother Bob, a pert young cadet; a ubiquitous newspaper correspondent called London Jack, and a resourceful Japanese man-servant, who is a gymnast of remarkable ability. The fugitives are brought to bay in the town of Ping-Yang. There is a street fight between the Russians and the Japanese, ending with the capture of the Tigress. This scene had a very exciting effect upon the audience. In the final scene all the characters, including the Tigress, are ushered into the presence of the Czar. Unseemly brawls break out, and an American lieutenant slaps a treacherous Chinaman in the face. A messenger delivers a letter to the Czar, who announces that an heir has been born to him, and proclaims a general amnesty to all political prisoners, including the White Tigress of Japan.

MISS FRITZI SCHEFF scored a success recently at Cleveland in a new opera entitled *The Two Roses*, which is a musical rendering of Goldsmith's comedy *She Stoops to Conquer*. Miss Scheff appeared as Rose Decourcelle, described in the reports as a sort of French Kate Hardcastle, and also as Rose Marie, a French barmaid. The cast includes Mr Roland Cunningham, the English tenor, who represented the bashful lover. The book is by Stanislaus Stange, and the music by Ludwig Englander, whose melodies are said to be delightfully suggestive of the simplicity of old English country life.

"MR WIX OF WICKHAM," an English musical comedy, by Herbert Darnley, was produced at the Bijou Theatre last Monday, and was well received.

CRICKET.

MISS LILLIE BELDING'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM V. MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES ELEVEN.

Played near Clifton Downs, on Sept. 17. Scores:—

Miss Lillie Belding's Ladies Team.—Miss C. Fowler, b Miss Bradley, 27; Miss E. Francis, b Miss Bradley, 12; Miss I. Bowman, b Miss Bradley, 3; Miss L. Belding (captain), b Miss Bradley, 7; Miss N. Hinder, run out, 0; Miss K. Elvin, b Miss Montgomery, 0; Miss E. Bowman, b Miss Bradley, 0; Miss A. Bernard, b Miss Bradley, 2; Miss L. Clayton, run out, 1; Miss B. Godfrey, b Miss Montgomery, 5; Miss N. Bailey, b Miss Bradley, 0; total, 57.

Miss Winifred Bradley's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss E. Lewis (Cheltenham), b Miss Fowler, 5; Miss N. Lewis (Cheltenham), b Miss Fowler, 11; Miss F. Hooper, b Miss Belding, 13; Miss N. Lawrence, b Miss Fowler, 3; Miss E. Wilson (of Bath), b Miss Fowler, 0; Miss M. Fisher, c Miss Godfrey, b Miss Fowler, 9; Miss W. Bradley, b Miss Fowler, 5; Miss E. Lawrence, b Miss Belding, 0; Miss K. Montgomery b Miss Fowler, 14; Miss G. Thomas, run out, 1; Miss A. Mitchell, b Miss Fowler, 0; total, 61.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND MUSIC HALLS ATHLETIC CLUBS V. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Bristol in glorious weather on Wednesday, Sept. 28. Scores:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Music Halls Athletic Clubs.—F. Arni, b Hedges, 0; H. Belding (captain), b Hedges, 14; J. Lewis, b Hedges, 0; J. Stuart, b Hedges, 0; E. Belding, c Rossiter, b Hedges, 3; S. Carter, b Yandell, 7; W. Hinder, b Hedges, 0; F. Hansford, b Hedges, 1; H. C. Douglas, run out, 1; J. Aubrey, b Yandell, 9; E. Bowman, not out, 3; extras, 15, total, 53.

Bristol Early Closers.—F. Harrison, b Belding, 6; S. Coombs, c and b Aubrey, 4; T. Wills, b Belding, 11; W. Vowles, b Belding, 1; A. Rossiter, b Belding, 23; G. Hedges (captain), not out, 49; extras, 8; total (for five wickets), 102. F. Bartlett, B. Yandell, A. Lucas, T. Perry, and W. Denty did not bat.

THE Musical Copyright Association reports the seizure of 168,056 copies and eighteen sets of blocks during the month of September.

LORD GEORGE SANGER'S CIRCUS paid Bury St. Edmunds a flying visit on Monday and well sustained its reputation as a first-class entertainment, being well patronised.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. W. P. (Brighton).—*Charley's Aunt was first played at the Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds, Feb 29 1892. It was played for the first time in London at the Royalty Theatre on Dec. 21 of the same year On Jan 30 1893 the piece was transferred to the Globe, where it ran till Dec 19 1896.*

ACTING-MANAGER.—*You had better lay your case before the Actors' Benevolent Fund*

R. H. DUNNING.—*The information you require would occupy much more space than we can give under the above heading; but you will find full particulars concerning the Patent theatres in 'The History of the London Stage," by H Barton Baker, recently published by George Routledge and Sons.*

J. CADY.—*The Belle of New York was produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre on April 12 1898*

F. WILSON.—*The three-act farcical comedy by George R. Sims entitled* The Gay City, *was produced at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Sept. 8, 1881.*

L. K.—*The late Mr Wilson Barrett*

J. T. W.—*In* The Cup, *by Lord Tennyson, produced at the Lyceum Theatre, on Jan. 3, 1881, the part of Camma was played by Miss Ellen Terry.*

ARTHUR WILLIAMS.—*Effie Deans, Miss E. Stewart; Jeanie Deans, Mrs Dion Boucicault.*

W. G. WEBBER.—*Chas. Godfrey died March 28, 1900.*

L. B.—*Elizabeth Barry became a member of the Duke of Rochester's company, and appeared as Isabella Queen of Hungary in* Mustapha *at the Dorset Garden Theatre The performance was witnessed by Charles II. and the Duchess Maria Beatrice of Modena afterwards the wife of James II. Later she appeared as Queen Elizabeth in Banks's tragedy of* The Unhappy Favourite. *She was the creator of more than a hundred rôles, including most of the heroines of tragedy of her day. Betterton called her 'incomparable," and attributed the success of many plays to her acting. Mrs Barry was the first actress who was indulged with a benefit. She died Nov 7, 1713, aged fifty-five years.*

S. H.—*The late George Leybourne first sang "Champagne Charlie."*

W. B.—*The Elephant and Castle Theatre was destroyed by fire March 26, 1878*

KATHLEEN.—*(1) You will find a full account of the production in* The Era *of Sept. 17. (2) Mr Willard played the part.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

No Circulars admitted to this List.

Abbey, Mrs F. G.
Adair, Mr Frank
Almo, Mr Jake
Almonte, Mr P.
Amandus
Amplett, Miss N.
Anderson, Miss Mary
Ando, Mr M.
Andre, Mr Victor
Antill, Mr George
Apollo, Mr
Arden, Miss Ethel
Ashwell, Miss Lena
Avolo, Miss J.
Bailey, Mr T. G.
Baker, Mrs E.
Baldry, Mr H.
Barlowe, Mr Fred
Barrett, Mrs Wilson
Beatty, Miss Maude
Beaufort, Mr L.
Beltram, Mr Besley
Bendon, Mrs H.
Bisera, Mr
Bohee, Mr G. B.
Bon Bon, Mr Harry
Boucicault, Mr Dion
Boyd, Miss May
Bratz, Mr
Brownie, Miss Vesta
Burne t, Mr B. T.
Byron, Miss Maggie
Byrton, Mr Dick
Caird, Mr Lawrence
Campbell, Miss Marie
Capita and More
Carew, Mr Arthur
Carey, Mr Charles
Carlos, Mr Fred
Carver, Mr Geo.
Case, Mr Walter
Castella, Miss Grace
Chalmers, Mr K.
Chambers, Mr Haddon
Chevalier, Mr Albert
Chichester, Miss Maud
Cinders, Miss Ettie
Clark, Miss Dorothy
Clark, Colonel W.
Clarke's Nippers
Clavering, Mr N.
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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

Published at "The Era" Offices, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

Those who are interested in "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" will derive much valuable intelligence by reading Mr Albert Strong's book bearing the above title, published at "The Era" Office.—Pelican, Aug. 3d, 1901.

Mr A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette, Aug. 2d, 1901

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Liverpool street, depart ..	8 40	9 45	10·20	11· 5	12 0	2 35	4·30	5·15	Newmarket, depart	8· 3	8·59	10·42	12 38	3 57
St. Pancras, " ..		9 45	10 15	..	12·20	2 40	4·10	5·15	St. Pancras, arrive	0 20	11·15	..	2·43	6·10
Newmarket, arrive	10 3	11·45	12·18	12 49	2 50	4 45	6 2	6·19	Liverpool-street, "	10·15	11· 8	12·40	2 47	6 3

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	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.		p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Liverpool street, depart ..	4·15	5 30	7·35	7 55	8 35	..	..	..	Newmarket, depart	4·15	4 10	4·10	6· 5	6· 5
St. Pancras, " ..	5 34	7 25	7·35	7·30	7 55	8 25	9·57	..	St. Pancras, arrive	7·36	7 25	7·30	8 25	8 25
Newmarket, arrive	6·10	7 25	7·45	7·45	8 25	9·57	10·18	..	Liverpool-street, "	7·45	7 25	7·45	8 25	8 25

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1904.

MR. TREE AND SHYLOCK.

The announcement that Mr BEERBOHM TREE has decided to revive, eventually, *The Merchant of Venice* at His Majesty's Theatre will be hailed with delight by everyone The assumption of the character of Shylock by one of the most enterprising of our younger actor-managers is certain to be interesting; and the allotment of the various characters in the play to artists of the rising generation will, it is to be hoped, add to certain reputations and lead to the discovery of hidden talents Especially shall we await with curiosity the "view" taken by Mr TREE of the character of Shylock.

In the dark ages of Shakespearian adaptation, from 1701 of 1741, the prevailing view was emphasised in the Marquis of LANSDOWNE'S version of the play, which he garb'ed and maltreated sadly. It does not appear, however, that the crime of making Shylock comic should be set down to his Lordship's discredit. At that time the question whether the Jew of Venice was or was not a serious part was a moot point. ROWE for instance, wrote, "Though we have seen *The Merchant of Venice* received and acted as a comedy, yet I cannot but think that the character was tragically designed by the author." The piece was—strange as it may seem—received and acted as a comedy, the happy ending, apparently, outweighing in general opinion the very tragical action of the play. But, though DOGGETT is described as a "comedian," it is by no means certain that he played Shylock in the spirit of buffoonery DOGGETT himself had many of the qualities of the Jew—the obstinate persistency, the severe exactness, and the stubborn pride. MACKLIN, according to LEIGH HUNT, was "one of those actors whose performances are confined to the reflection of their own personal peculiarities." His features, "inflexible and coarse," as CHURCHILL called them, his mind, "as rough and durable as his body," and his overbearing and savage temper doubtless had much to do with his success as Shylock. He was the first, certainly, to represent the Jew of Venice with dignity. This, however, was more an accidental than a reasoned result. It was not so much that MACKLIN, an actor of only moderate ability, had instinctive insight enough to enable him to analyse and understand the character; it was that he could not play it in any other way than he did. As it was, the "reading" did not meet with general acceptance, and never took any great hold upon the contemporary public. It was in advance of the age; and the association of a Jew character with a comedian was too strong. The stage Hebrew was fixed as a comic type; and it needed time for public feeling to "come round." Even MACKLIN, though he gave Shylock a red hat, did not venture to dispense with a red wig, the mark of low comedy.

The facts seem to have been that, in the "early seventies," the Jew was even less respected than he was in the reign of King John. People simply refused to take him seriously. The power of capital was not then as absolute as it is at present; and the Jew had grown to be regarded as an eccentric, amusing, but convenient personage—a "stock" absurdity, like the Irishman and the Quaker The man who first thoroughly penetrated the character of Shylock was, of course, EDMUND KEAN. But here we come again upon the "personal factor." It was not only KEAN'S genius that inspired him as Shylock—it was his experience It is impossible to estimate all that KEAN must have suffered in his struggling days, or how bitterly he must have felt his hardships and humiliations. How the iron entered into his soul was shown by his behaviour to a certain provincial manager years after KEAN'S rise to fame and fortune He was engaged, in his youth, on the provincial manager's "circuit," and he bore the sordid slavery with patience. Years rolled on, and bad times came to the manager. KEAN was passing through the town where his former employer was staying, and the latter begged the actor to play for one night for his benefit. KEAN did so, and the receipts were large. He met the bénéficiaire in the public room of the principal tavern in the town and the latter made a "gushing" speech of gratitude. KEAN rose, and, in his reply, said:—"I don't play for you because you were once a manager. If ever a man deserved his destiny, it was you. If ever there was a family of tyrants, it was yours. I do *not* play for you from former friendship, but because you are a *fallen man*." He afterwards remarked to a friend, "When me and mine were starving that fellow refused to let a subscription be made for us in the theatre." KEAN therefore was supplied with all that "cruel indignation" which must serve as "steam" for the propulsion of a performance of Shylock. He was *intense;* and, in many parts, it is the degree of intensity and not the amount of intellectuality which "tells." Sir HENRY IRVING in his superb impersonation of Shylock—one of his grandest creations—combines the greatest dignity with the most powerfully intense expression of feeling.

The increase of humanity and toleration has made it difficult for us to realise a character like Shylock's. So many disabilities have been removed, so many prejudices outgrown, that we find it difficult to understand a nature like the Jew's. The only parallel to the latter's condition which is to be found at the present day is that of the tailor. The Venetian Jew was despised because he lent money at interest, an entirely commendable and useful practice, the condemnation of which seems as ridiculous in our eyes as it essentially is. The social prejudice against tailors at the present day is equally unreasonable and equally insuperable. Mr GEORGE MEREDITH, in his novel "Evan Harrington," shows a young man possessed of every advantage and beloved by a beautiful and rich young lady. but with the taint of near relationship to tailor-dom His struggles with his evil star and his ultimate triumph constitute the action of the fictive drama. And this digression illustrates the force of temporary prejudice. In DOGGETT'S time the Jew was accepted as comic, and as comic the public insisted on his being represented. The moderns insist equally on a tailor being contemptible in fiction; and all the argument in the world will not alter the opinion. The only tailor whom we remember in a modern play is Mr Gibson, in *The Private Secretary*—a vulgar fellow with vulgar aspirations to social advancement. MORONI'S portrait of a tailor in the National Gallery is a masterpiece, and the man, in his reflective pause, is entirely fine and admirable. We do not find R.A.'s choosing as their models one of the head cutters of our great West-End clothing establishments. It will need all Mr TREE'S marvellous power of imagination to realise the feelings of an unjustly despised and outlawed class. Mr TREE, however, is an actor of genius, and it is the especial faculty of genius to vanquish the difficult and achieve the almost impossible. His appearance as Shylock is certain to be one of the most interesting events of next year.

THE Moody-Manners Opera company is at the Broadway, S.E., this week, and has attracted large and delighted audiences. On Monday *Faust* was played. Mr Charles Manners scored a great success as Mephistopheles, his singing and acting being loudly applauded. Madame De Vere as Marguerite easily won the favourable verdict of the audience. Valentine had an admirable exponent in Mr F. H. Erle, and Faust was ably embodied by Mr Wilson Pembroke. On Thursday night the company performed Ambroise Thomas's *Mignon*. A packed house testified to the popular favour of this tuneful and delightful opera. The burden of the story, of course, falls upon the capable shoulders of Miss Fanny Moody, who delighted everybody with the charm of her acting and singing as Titania. Miss Ada Davies as the dashing actress fairly electrified the audience by her singing of that most difficult and florid polacca "Je suis Titania." In the runs and trills of this most difficult solo she rivalled the Nightingale itself. The manner in which she managed the mezza voce produced a deliciously sweet, soft tone. The accomplished artist thoroughly deserved the "bravos" which rewarded her at the end of the song. Mr John Child, the tenor, won his way to the favour of the audience. The opera was excellently mounted. The orchestra, under Herr Eckhold, was well under command, and proved that he had a very excellent body of musicians obeying the movements of his bâton. The week's répertory also includes *Maritana*, *Tannhäuser*, *Carmen*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

"VILMA."

A Drama, in Five Acts,
Produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Oct. 3.

Lieut. Count Alexis Souvaroff	Mr ERIC MAYNE
Lieut. Valdimar Olitzky	Mr EDGAR J. COYNE
Lieut Nicholas Boroff	Mr EDMUND WALLER
Colonel Mazoff	Mr WILLIAM CALVERT
Captain Tchernikoff	Mr STRICKLAND
Lieut. Storokhoff	Mr HOLIDAY ATTLAY
Lieut. Lavinsky	Mr ARTHUR WHITE
Lieut. Bogandoff	Mr PHILIP MAITLAND
Lieut. Berezy	Mr ROBERT DROPEKAW
Lieut. Samora	Mr C. DE LEE
Grand Duke Ivan	Mr J. R. SPURLING
Pope	Mr FRED EMERY
Mons. Kline	Mr PRITCHARD
Peter Varensky	Mr EDMUND LEA
Fadei	Mr FREDERIC JACQUES
Mikarloff	Mr L. EDWARDS
Gregorovitch	Mr J. CAMERON
Countess Souvaroff	Miss LENA MACNAUGHTON
Baroness Olga Boroff	Miss ETHEL WARWICK
Madame Varensky	Miss MINNIE RAYNER
Mariette	Miss MABEL TURTON
Susanne	Miss MADGE BERESFORD
Madame Azinoff	Miss ALICE LANGLEY
Natouchka	Miss KATE KEARNEY
Vilma	Mrs LEWIS WALLER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A certain obscurity about the authorship of Mrs Lewis Waller's latest venture, *Vilma*, which was produced for the first time on any stage at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, may be ascribed to the fact that a few days previously it was found necessary to make many textual alterations in deference to the Censor, who, it seems, refused to license it in its original form. All that one can be certain about is that the Censor had apparently good grounds for objection, the plain fact being that the pivot of the play is an act of rape committed under the most brutal conditions, a situation which even now gives at least the first two acts a most unpleasant atmosphere. Plays of this kind, it may be noticed, seldom contain anything heroic, the place of which is taken by sentimentalism more or less morbid. Certainly heroism is lacking in *Vilma;* and such sentiment as it possesses, apart from the conventional variations, is coloured by the author's feverish attention to the details of his idea. It is the sentiment of sexuality; and it is wanting in fragrance as it is wanting in common-sense.

The action of the play takes place in Russia, and in the first act, with a rural cottage in the foreground, and a huge palatial building, designated the "Cabaret Rouge," in perspective, we are asked to suppose ourselves in St. Petersburg. Vilma is the innocent daughter of a worthy couple who live in the cottage, and who dream fondly that their child must surely some day marry high and honourably. During their absence, however, three drunken officers of the Imperial Guard, on their way to an orgie at the Cabaret Rouge, abduct Vilma just as she is returning from a visit to a sick neighbour, and they take her forcibly to their infamous resort in lieu of a couple of stage creatures who have quarrelled with and left them. What happens there—"in the dark"—we are left not too vaguely to conjecture. After her parents have discovered, through a servant, what has become of her, Vilma makes her reappearance, distraught. She has managed to escape in the confusion of an unexpected police raid, and her one thought is to assure her parents that what has happened to her, before God, was not her fault. It is especially worthy of note that the ringleader of the trio of offenders, Lieut. Count Alexis Souvaroff, who behaves in this unspeakable style, is the hero of the play; and he is the kind of person whom the ordinary melodramatic hero, or the person of everyday life, would be constrained to horsewhip. In the second act he figures scarcely less despicably. Vilma's father, Peter Varensky, having on his side the friendly influence of the Countess Souvaroff, aunt to Alexis, has put the matter to the police, and is bent on vengeance. He seeks the Countess in her palace; he cannot say what are the names of the offenders; but his daughter must surely recognise them—one of them, at least—could they be brought face to face. The Countess, never dreaming who it is she moves against, approaches the Czar. The result is that the Czar issues orders for investigation of the affair; and the upshot is the lining up of all the officers of the Imperial Guard to be examined by the Grand Duke Ivan. It is a rather impressive scene. In default of individual confession, which the officers as a body will not consent to, Vilma is brought in, overwhelmed with shame at the ordeal through which she must pass. She is encouraged to move down the line, and is thrilled when face to face with Alexis. Alexis stands forth as the culprit; his two companions in the act of abduction stand out also, like good comrades. Thereupon sentence is pronounced upon them; they must lose their possessions and go to Siberia. The shock is dramatic. But this is not all. Alexis is commanded to marry Vilma first. The refusal of Alexis is also dramatic; but, curiously, though the idea of a Souvaroff linking his noble name to an unknown family is so frightfully repugnant to his honour, he presently moves like a lamb to the ceremony, which is performed by an attendant priest. Vilma thus becomes the Countess Souvaroff. Vilma's attitude meanwhile is rather characteristic of the play. She remembers that one of her abductors, while all were in the dark, said to her "I love you;" and it would seem that if only she were sure it was Alexis who made the protestation, the words might justify and condone the wrong he had done her, compensating her more amply than the mere act of marriage could do. She is, however, brutally repudiated. From this point her position in the play is changed. Cast off by the aunt of Alexis, she is no longer the victim, but the heroine, who can override the pride and opposition of the family into which the Czar has placed her. Her object is changed by love of Alexis to that of redeeming herself in the eyes of her graceless husband, who is busy drinking himself to death in exile. The feeling of the audience that she is much too good for a man who seems to possess no virtues at all is, of course, entirely against the possibility of one's being convinced of the reality of her emotion. Women do love scoundrels in real life, but even if scoundrels are ever loved by good women, it is not an edifying spectacle for the stage. Vilma goes to Siberia, and has a long interview with the intoxicated Alexis, without her identity being discovered. She has brought with her the pardon of the Czar, which she leaves behind her, together with her wedding-ring. In the last act Alexis, restored to his regiment, publicly replaces the wedding-ring on her finger, and so the plot ends.

The story, as a whole, is interesting. Monday's audience applauded the performance. That it is unworthy of the great emotional talents of Mrs Lewis Waller is really the thing that matters. The bare situation is like a stain upon so choice an artist; so admirable is she that her shame in the ordeal of the second act seemed too painfully real.

Mr Eric Mayne as Alexis rendered a thankless part cleverly and with occasional dramatic fervour. Miss Lena Macnaughton also figured well as the Countess Souvaroff—a character which, however, can scarcely be described as drawn consistently. Miss Ethel Warwick did exceptionally well as the sophisticated Baroness Olga Boroff, acting throughout with an easy and cynical humour. Quite a good performance was that of Mr Edmund Lea as Peter Varensky, and Miss Minnie Rayner acted sympathetically as the mother. Mr J. R Spurling deserves a word of praise for a vigorous and soldierly rendering of the Grand Duke Ivan, and mention should be made also of Mr William Calvert as Colonel Mazoff, Mr Edmund Waller as Lieut. Boroff, and Mr Edgar J. Coyne as Lieut. Olitzky.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

SEPT. 1. *Winnie Brooke, Widow*, comedy, in three acts, by Malcolm Watson—Criterion.
" 3. *Erikson's Wife*, play, in one act, by Christopher St. John—Royalty.
" 3. *The Garden of Lies*, romance, in four acts, adapted from the story of Justus Miles Forman, by Sydney Grundy—St. James's.
" 5. *Marguerite*, piece, in four acts, adapted by Michael Morton from *La Montansier* (Paris, March 24, 1904), by MM. G. A. De Gaillavet, Robert De Flers, and Jeoffrin—Coronet.
" 8. *Merely Mary Ann*, comedy, in four acts, by Israel Zangwill—Duke of York's.
" 9. *The Catch of the Season*, musical play, in two acts, by Seymour Hicks and Cosmo Hamilton, music by Herbert E. Haines and Evelyn Baker, lyrics by Charles H. Taylor—Vaudeville.
" 12. *The Earl and the Girl*, transferred to the—Lyric.
" 12. *A Tempter of Women*, drama, in four acts, by Clifford Bean — Theatre Royal, Stratford.
" 14. *The Tempest*, Shakespeare's comedy, presented in three acts, by Mr Beerbohm Tree—His Majesty's.
" 19. *Black-Eyed Susan*, drama, by Douglas Jerrold, revised version by Oswald Brand, in three acts—Grand.
" 19. *The Prayer of the Sword*, play, in five acts, by James Bernard Fagan—Adelphi.
" 26. *Mysteries of the Thames*, drama, in four acts, by F. Brooke Warren (originally produced at the Grand Theatre, Stalybridge, on July 20, 1901) — West London.
" 26. *The Shadow of the Cross; or, Anno Domini* 670, historical drama, in four acts, by Arthur H. Ward—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
" 29. *The Golden Light*, play, in four acts, by George Daring (Madame Raoul Duval), produced by Mrs Brown-Potter — Savoy.

PROVINCES.

SEPT. 2. *Neighbours*, musical comedietta, by H. Sutherland Edwards, with music by Vera Leslie—County Hall, St. Albans.
" 5. *The Girl from Bond-street*, musical comedy, in three acts, the book by Roland Oliver, the lyrics and music by Louis La Rondelle—Central Theatre, Northwich.
" 5. *Buffo; The Story of a Broken Heart*, play, in one act, by Ralph Roberts—Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.
" 5. *Dr. Wake's Patient*, comedy, in four acts, by W. Gayer Mackay and Robert Ord—Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.
" 12. *Jones's Jaunt*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by Glen Macdonough — Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.
" 12. *The Axis*, comedy, in three acts, by Cyril Harcourt — Theatre Royal, Worthing.
" 19. *Ancestors of the Crown*, historical drama, in a prologue and four acts, by Max Goldberg — Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
" 26. *A Royal Revenge*, by Adrian O'Connell, J. Fox, and Eugene M'Carthy—Theatre Royal, Windsor.

THE KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.

The King's Theatre, Kilmarnock, in Titchfield-street, was opened on Saturday evening. Mr Ernest Stevens, chairman of the Kilmarnock Theatre Company, Limited, presided, and Provost Hood declared the house open, giving some interesting reminiscences of former theatres in the town, and expressing a hope that the new venture would be a success. Mr R. C. Buchanan, managing-director, replied on behalf of the directors. Mr John Sturrock proposed a vote of thanks to the architect and contractors, to which Mr Alex. Cullen and Mr. Robert Forrest replied. An enjoyable musical programme was carried out by Miss Essie Eunson, Mr J. Kirkwood Campbell, and Mr Graham Morrison.

The first performance in the theatre took place on Monday evening. Mr Lewis Waller's company in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* was highly appreciated by a very large audience, hundreds having been turned away from the doors. During the evening Provost Hood introduced Mr R. C. Buchanan to the first audience as the managing director of the new theatre, complimenting him upon his past successes, and remarking that the Kilmarnock public had been very fortunate in securing such a gifted and experienced manager. Mr Buchanan expressed his great pleasure at seeing such a large audience there that evening. The company had several theatres in other parts of the country, but in every respect this night had beat all previous records. It would at all times be his endeavour to place before them the very best possible entertainment, and he might mention that among other engagements they had secured *A Country Girl*, *The Belle of New York*, *Florodora*, *Are You a Mason?* and Mr Edward Compton's company. Mr Buchanan then read the following telegrams which he had received:—From Sir Henry Irving—"I wish you all success with the King's Theatre, Kilmarnock." Mr Beerbohm Tree—"I hope the inside will be worthy of the outside." Mr Lewis Waller—"His Majesty's servant wishes all possible success to the King's Theatre. Long may it reign." Mr Martin Harvey—"Many years of prosperity to yourself and Kilmarnock theatre." Mr Edward Compton (who opened the old Opera House in town)—"My love to Auld Killie, and success to the new theatre." Mr Edward Terry wrote—"I congratulate our friends in Kilmarnock on the possession of such a beautiful temple of the drama, and so enterprising a manager as yourself. I shall be glad of an early opportunity of adding the guid folks of Kilmarnock to the other friends I have in Scotland. Wishing you every success, I am, yours sincerely, EDWARD TERRY."

MR CHARLES FROHMAN'S Duke of York's Theatre company, in *Letty*, which is meeting with such enormous success throughout the provinces, will appear at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, on Monday, with Mr H. B. Irving and Miss Irene Vanbrugh in their original parts.

ON Saturday the promenade concerts at the Alexandra Palace were continued in the Central Hall. The band of H.M. 2nd Life Guards was in attendance. The vocalists were Miss Violet Ludlow and Miss Fredrica Richardson, and the solo violin Senor Jose Gomez. The programme met with well merited appreciation, and the several redemands were responded to. The menagerie in the conservatory, under the superintendence of the well-known lion-tamer, Capt. Henry, is drawing special attention, and the pretty winter garden redounds to the credit of the Alexandra Palace officials.

GEORGE ADE'S comedy *The College Widow*, particulars of which were recently given, has scored an emphatic success at the Garden Theatre, New York, which was opened on the 20th ult., under the management of Mr Henry W. Savage.

MRS E. W. BAYLY, wife of the manager of Romano's Restaurant, opened new afternoon tea rooms at the Queen's Hotel, Leicester-square, on Tuesday. The rooms, on the first floor, are artistically decorated, and she hopes to make them a fashionable resort for afternoon tea.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. SECOND v. HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND A.F.C. AND ST. MICHAEL'S RESERVES A.F.C.

Played near Bristol on Saturday, Sept. 24. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C.—W. J. Horton, goal; B. Davis and F. Thorne (captain), backs; T. Austin, F. White, and T. Poole, half-backs; B. Osborne, E. Taylor, A. Norman, A. English, and H. Turner, forwards.

Harry Hare's Orchestral Band and St. Michael's Reserves.—H. Clarke, goal; T. Escott and J. Tyler (captain), backs; P. Hewlett, W. Hallett, and A. Mattock, (half-backs); J. Edmunds, L. Hamlin, B. Humphries, H. Edwards, and C. Watson (forwards).

Referee, H. Hare (Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.). Linesmen, A. Hamlin and H. Slade. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C., one goal; Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C. and St. Michael's Reserves, nil. A. English scored for Bristol X.L.C.R. Second, W. J. Horton playing splendidly in goal.

JACK LEONARD'S XI. v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, on Saturday, Sept. 24. The following were the teams:—

Jack Leonard's Eleven.—W. Ford, goal; T. Ferris and F. Foley, backs; G. Thompson, C. Worth, and M. Leonard, half-backs; T. Alway, J. Leonard (captain), G. Wilson, S. Williams, and B. Green, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; T. Denton and T. Bryan (of Eastville Athletic Reserves), backs; T. Neagle (captain), W. Hinder, and F. Hansford, half-backs; P. Reardon, W. Meadows, B. Cullen, W. Boyce, and H. C. Douglas, forwards.

Referee, J. Lacey (of Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C. Linesmen, J. Stuart and D. O'Connor. Result:—Jack Leonard's XI., five goals; Music Halls, two goals. B. Green (two), J. Leonard, M. Leonard, G. Thompson, T. Neagle, and P. Reardon, scored the goals.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. SECOND A.F.C. v. REDLAND ALBIONS A.F.C. AND THEATRICALS.

Played on Clifton Downs on Oct. 1. The second named teams played one man short the second half of the game, owing to an injury. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C.—B. Davis, goal; F. Thorne (captain) and H. Collins, backs; W. Lloyd, H. Webber (of H. Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.), and T. Austin, half backs; A. English, F. Hodges, B. Osborne, W. Austin, and A. Norman, forwards.

Redland Albions A.F.C. and Theatricals.—F. Atchley, goal; F. A. Myles and A. Burgess, backs; Prescott, G. Hayes, and W. Galliford, half backs; J. Hassell, F. Lovell, A. Mapstone, F. A. Barnes, and W. Browning, forwards.

Referee, M. Leonard (of Westbury Village Reserves). Linesmen, T. Poole and W. Norris. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C., nil; Redland Albions A.F.C. and Theatricals, two goals. T. Prescott and F. A. Barnes scored the goals. F. Atchley played a splendid game in goal.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Saturday, Oct. 1. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding, goal; A. Hamlin (captain) and J. Lacey, backs; P. Hewlett, A. E. Bailey, and H. Slade, half-backs; T. Palmer, J. Aubrey, E. Belding, H. Edwards, and E. Bowman, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls (captain), goal; J. Tyler (late of St. Michael's Reserves A.F.C.) and F. Arni, backs; T. Neagle, W. Hinder, and G. Warren, half-backs; D. O'Connor, B. Cullen, P. Reardon, F. Hansford, and W. Meadows, forwards.

Referee, Harry Hare (Bristol X.L.C.R. Athletic Club). Linesmen, L. Hamlin and T. Denton. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, one goal; Music Halls, three goals. Messrs H. Slade, D. O'Connor, J. Tyley, and P. Reardon scored for their respective sides.

ASSAULT ON AN ACTRESS.

At Marylebone Police-court, on the 30th ult., Alexander Decsi, a miniature artist, residing at 81, Maida-vale, appeared before Mr Curtis Bennett to answer a summons for assaulting Doris M'Leod, an actress, sister of the prosecutrix in the recent case against a hairdresser, and living at 68, Portsdown-road.

Mrs M'Leod said she had been an actress since she was ten years old, and was the widow of a well-known theatrical manager. On Sept. 16 she was at the house where her sister had a flat, and was waiting on the landing for her sister to return home. The defendant entered the hall and rang her sister's bell twice, knocked at the door, and rattled at the letter-box. She went down and asked the defendant what he wanted, and he replied, "The lady of the house." She told him she was not in, and asked what he wanted. He replied that he had some jewellery and trinkets for sale. She was suspicious of him, because her sister had told her a man called the night before and asked for somebody who did not live there, and when she tried to shut the flat door the man (not the defendant) put his foot in the way, and puffed tobacco smoke into her face. The defendant went away, and she watched to see if he called upon anyone in the neighbourhood, and as he did not she followed him. He stopped and asked what she wanted, and she told him she required his name and address to see whether he really had any jewellery. He refused to give the information asked for, but opened his bag, and all she could see was a quantity of tissue paper. He again asked what she wanted of him, and she told him she believed he had called at Miss Desmond's flat under false pretences, and she should want to see his pedlar's licence. Witness followed the defendant to his house in Maida-vale, and when he entered his garden she pushed open the gate and went in after him. He then got hold of her arm and screwed it round, causing her such pain that she thought her arm was broken. A woman opened the front door, and he entered, and the door was shut. She took a cab and went to a police-station, and secured the assistance of a constable.

The magistrate convicted the defendant, and fined him 40s., with £3 costs, or one month's imprisonment.

MESSRS PUTTICK AND SIMPSON sold on Wednesday, at 47, Leicester-square, W.C., the valuable copyrights, engraved and stereotyped music plates, and stock of printed music of the late Mr Walter Whittingham, music publisher, of Little Marlborough-street, W. The sale, which produced a total of about £3 700, included many successful works, and the following were the principal prices:—"In the gloaming," Lady Arthur Hill (royalty 2d), £124 19s. (Leonard); "Sailing," Godfrey Marks (royalty 2½d.). £122 (Phillips and Page); "Fairy Barque," William Smallwood, £1,424 10s. (Phillips and Page); "Rippling Lake," by the same, £324 (Leonard); Cuthberts, "First Steps in Theory" (royalty 1d.), a catechism of the elements of music, £131 10s. (Larway); D. J. Loders, "Celebrated Violin Tutor," £78 15s.; and Theo. Bonheur, "Standard Pianoforte Tutor," a popular guide to the piano, £780 (Larway).

MR WILLY CLARKSON has been commissioned to supply all the wigs, dresses, and properties for a revival of *The Gondoliers* at Port Elizabeth by a theatrical company.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

We shall have to wait some months yet before there is any prospect of the passing of the Bill legalising the production of sketches on the music hall stage. It was introduced last session into the House of Commons by Captain Jessel, Sir George Fardell, a former chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the London County Council, and Mr T. P. O'Connor, and the measure is drafted on the recommendations of the Theatres Commission which sat in 1892. This body reported in favour of legalising in music halls "Those performances called sketches, if the duration of each such performance shall not exceed forty minutes, and no more than six principal performers take part therein, and if there shall be an interval of at least thirty minutes between any two such sketches, and no two sketches performed on the same evening at such place of public entertainment shall have a connected plot."

Until some such law is passed we shall have a continuance of such prosecutions as that which occupied the attention of Mr Kennedy at Marlborough-street on Monday. If the law is invoked all over London we shall be most likely to get some informative opinions concerning the magistrates, and there is little doubt that the fines imposed will greatly vary. The music hall syndicates and proprietors, we are given to understand, are protecting themselves by inserting clauses in artistes' contracts which will prevent them appearing in pantomime.

Mr P. J. Rutland, solicitor to the London Entertainments' Protection Association, of 67, Chancery-lane, seeks information concerning a will of the late Mr Herbert Campbell. The draft of the will of Dec. 15, 1900, is in safe keeping, and only temporary inconvenience is anticipated from the mislaying of the original. The executors are Mr John Brill, late proprietor of the Royal, and now landlord of the Red Lion, Barnes, and Mr J. L. Graydon. Any person who has the custody of any other will of the deceased gentleman, or can give any information with reference to any other will, is requested to communicate with Mr Rutland.

We are glad to be in a position to contradict the ridiculous exaggeration of the daily papers in their account of an accident near the Metropolitan to a lady who was reported to have been killed by the fall of a portion of the roof. It appears that workmen engaged upon the telephone wires pulled at them till a stone ball was dislodged. The injured lady is recovering.

Mr Fred Miller is to be heartily congratulated on his lucky escape from a serious accident whilst he was out shooting during the brief holiday he was able to enjoy last week. Had things happened differently—but we need not conjecture! The Canterbury has declared a dividend of five per cent. for the year ending last July. Mr G. A. Payne has been re-elected managing-director.

A survey of the building operations in progress at the Lyceum discloses the fact that the reconstruction is making rapid headway. With the placing in position of the heavy steel girders which carry the main building the work will have reached a most interesting stage, and preparations are now being made for commencing the excavations for the formation of the pit. The girders weigh in the aggregate 300 tons. Nineteen rows of seats with two tiers of boxes are to be erected in the gallery, which is supported by a girder weighing 35 tons. In the dress-circle there are to be seventeen rows of seats, with six boxes, supported by girders weighing 18 tons and 25 tons respectively. The auditorium has a span of 90ft., and the pit will have a depth of 100ft. Seating accommodation is being provided for nearly 3,000 persons. The new Lyceum will be ready for opening by the new year.

Miss Kate Hardren, the whirlwind dancer, who appeared as New Orleans in the scena "American Cities," which was one of the biggest attractions of the recent Shaftesbury Theatre production, *The Prince of Pilsen*, is likely to be seen at the London halls shortly. She is having a sketch written for her, and Mr J. E M'Manus, the author of "Wait a week or two," and other poems that have been recited with such success by Mr Leo Stormont in the halls, is also commissioned for special songs. Miss Hardren is having a trial trip next week at the Southend Kursaal.

Though visions are not about, "illusions" are in the air, "Dida" is the name given to a new and extraordinary one which Mr George Scott will nightly invite a voluntary committee of investigation to solve at the Alhambra. It will be first exploited there on Monday evening, the 24th, after baffling the ingenuity of a large number of experts in Continental cities.

"Zutka" is the title of a new show to be presented at the London Hippodrome on Monday. In America they say, "Get wings on your feet," which, to say the least, is "mercurially" expressive. Mr Moss promises something by which we shall have to get "wings on our eyes" in order to fathom the mystery of "Zutka." "Zutka" is contained in a small box, 2ft. high, 2ft. long, and 18in. wide. How it is contained there is a problem which not one person in ten thousand could solve on first sight. The fact of putting a gallon of material into a teacup may be accomplished by means of liquid air, but to put "Zutka" into so small a box is a puzzle for the scientific world. This simple box was conveyed through the main streets of London on Thursday, and created much curiosity.

Charles Coborn, writing on board the Etruria, says: "In case my many friends do not know why I am going to America, please tell them it is to fetch Bill Bailey home," and then he goes on to say "The voyage has begun well, at any rate. Though Britannia has not ruled the waves quite straight, there is nothing particular to complain about. I am a very fair sailor, but can't answer for the missus. She began by pitying herself, but managed to make a very good high tea, so, to quote the well known bard (I forget his name), 'Everything in the garden's lovely.' All being well, we shall arrive at New York on Saturday, and go on to Toronto on Sunday night to be in time to get one's breath and rehearse for Tuesday night, Oct. 11, at the Great Massey Hall. What I shall be doing after that lies in the knees of the gods at present, but I hope to 'bob up serenely' at the Palace, Bordesley, on Nov. 21."

Matinées have been established at the Islington Empire, and at the first of these on Monday afternoon last the attendance was so encouraging that they are to be continued. The programme given was practically the same as that which drew two crowded houses in the evening.

Chirgwin, the white-eyed Kaffir, has a great belief in the two-houses-a-night system, and anticipates its universal adoption. In the course of a conversation on this subject with an interviewer, he said it was better for the artistes, better for the managers of the halls, and better for the audiences. He was of opinion that a two hours' performance was sufficient for anybody. He also pointed out that this idea was not new, as thirty years ago the Brothers Chirgwin had done two houses a night at Harwood's, Hoxton.

A new orchestral chief has not yet been appointed to the Brixton Empress; but Mr A. Petersen, the musical director, has been busy during the week organising the band there, and will control until the arrival of the new conductor.

The Britannia, Glasgow, opens its doors once more on Monday, Oct. 17, under the able management of Mr Geo. Saphrini, who has satisfied the requirements of the licensing authorities. The cosy little hall should have a successful career.

North of England variety managers met in conclave last week at the Manchester Palace with the object of forming a defence association. The meeting, which was private, was adjourned for a week.

The building operations in connection with the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Grimsby, are now nearing completion, and we are informed that the establishment will be opened under Mr Macnaghten's management, on Monday, Dec. 5.

Sir Thomas Robinson, the chairman of the Kingstown (Ireland) Pavilion Company, Limited, has just completed arrangements with Mr Frank Macnaghten for the supply of vaudeville artists to the establishment mentioned. Mr Macnaghten's first company of variety performers opens in Kingstown on the 31st inst.

Messrs Bostock and Fitt, proprietors of the Norwich Hippodrome and other establishments throughout the country, are about to erect a new and up-to-date building in Ipswich to be known as the Hippodrome, and which will be run on the two-houses-a-night plan. The plans, by Messrs Frank Matcham and Co., London, were passed some weeks ago by the Ipswich Corporation. Messrs Bostock and Fitt's new Hippodrome will be a palatial and commodious structure, capable of accommodating about 2,000 people. The site, which was purchased from the Corporation, is one of the finest obtainable in the city, and the building when completed will be of the most handsome design, and will form an interesting addition to the architecture of the borough. The internal arrangements will be of the most modern type.

Mr R. A. Roberts produced for copyright purposes at the Empire Theatre, Edinburgh, on Sept 30, a flippant Protean farce entitled *My Double*, which is described as a story of quaint deception. Mr Roberts, who wrote and invented it, plays no less than nine characters. They include:—William Wagstaffe, a solicitor, and his double; Judkins, his clerk; Miss Flossie Mildew, his only client; Major Wagstaffe, his father; Montague Montmorency, an actor; Pat Doolan, a carrier; Josef Valero, an Italian chef; and Mrs Cooper, a housekeeper, of whom we have already heard so much from her friend Mrs Twiddles.

There was a crowded house at the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Belfast, on Thursday evening, the 29th ult., on the occasion of the first annual benefit to Mr Charles Brock, the energetic acting-manager. Mr Brock has gained hosts of friends in the Ulster capital. He is popular with all classes. On this red letter occasion the ordinary programme was much extended. By kind permission of Mr Henry T. Downs, of the Alhambra, Messrs Carr and Rose, a talented comedy duo, and Mr Harry Grey, an exceedingly droll comedian, were allowed to appear; and an enjoyable feature of the performance was the playing of the selection, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, by the augmented orchestra under the direction of Mr W. L. Richards, I.S.M. In the course of the evening the bénéficiaire thanked the audience for their presence, and Mr Adam Findlater and his co-directors for their kindness, and he hoped to make the Empire the most popular house in the city. Mr Brock also thanked Mr W. L. Richards, the talented musical director, and Mr Robert Campbell, stage-manager.

The Brighton Town Council on Thursday accepted the proposal of Messrs Sallmayer and Rizareli, both residents of Brighton, to take a lease of the Aquarium at a yearly rental of £1,000, in addition to a further charge of 4 per cent. on the capital expenditure by the Corporation on alterations to the cost of £12 000. The Aquarium will in future be known as the Grand Aquarium and Winter Gardens. Application will be made by the Corporation to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow the money required for the necessary alterations, which are to include the enlargement of the theatre and auditorium and the improvement of the terraces.

Mr. L. C. Everett, of Blackpool and Bradford, the composer of the "Inspiration," "Veleta," and the "Majestic" barn dance, the dances that took the former place by storm, has been spending a holiday in London, after the fatigue and stress of a heavy Blackpool season.

Mr Arthur Boyne, who is just now fulfilling a successful engagement on the Barrasford tour, is engaged, through the agency of Messrs Austin and Co., Bedford-street, by Mr Mulholland, for the principal comedy part in that gentleman's pantomime at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

Mr W. Snell Robinson, conductor and pianist, has been secured by Mr Jack De Freece for the Metropole Theatre. He has a capital little orchestra of ten men.

Mr John Porter, manager of the West-end Pier, Morecambe, and Mr W. J. Ferguson, Morecambe, have leased the Palace, Lancaster, and will open with a strong variety bill on Monday next. The two-houses-a-night system will be adopted.

Mr James Sale, the musical director of the Grand, Clapham, has just received a very handsome solid silver cigarette case as a mark of esteem and appreciation from Mr Edgar Romaine.

Miss Lily Burnand has purchased two songs, entitled "Darling May" and "'Neath the flag they love," both written and composed by Cecil Lidden.

Messrs C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton (the former of whom was implicated in the writing of the most successful English song of last season, "Little Yellow Bird") have co-operated in the production of some capital new numbers for the coming season. Prospective pantomime principals will find it to their advantage to hear these songs, which are thought by the "powers that be" at the Charing-cross-road "Songeries" to show signs of becoming dangerously popular.

Miss Queenie Leighton has this week purchased from Messrs John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn three new songs entitled respectively "In Vanity Fair," "All Pretty Girls are Angels," and "Tall Girls Always Get the Best of It." Two, at least, of these she meditates introducing into her part of principal boy at the forthcoming Drury-lane pantomime.

Prior to his departure for America this week, Mr David Day purchased three songs for immediate publication from Messrs John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn. These consisted of a song specially written and composed for Miss Queenie Leighton, entitled "All Pretty Girls are Angels," also a pretty "allegorical" lyric with the title of "The Silk Dress and the Cotton Frock;" and, thirdly, a dashing, rollicking pantomime song, "The Children's Circus."

Mr Ted Young has been specially engaged to play the part of Widow Twankey in *Aladdin*, in the forthcoming pantomime at the Brixton Theatre.—Mr W. F. Frame, who gave a concert on Saturday at the Music Hall, Edinburgh, was only released by an enthusiastic audience after he had made ten appearances. "Hooch aye!"—Fred Curran is making a success in Liverpool with some clever songs written by Murphy and Lipton.

Mr Joe Elvin has just fulfilled a highly successful three weeks' engagement at the Palace, Manchester, with the well-known sporting sketch, *Over the Sticks*, which had one of the longest runs on record when it was produced by Mr Harry Lundy at the Oxford. Mr Walter Gibbons has now secured it as his chief attraction for Monday next at the Duchess, Balham, and with it the popular Cockney comedian will commence the Stoll circuit at the Empire, Hackney, on Oct. 17. In the big scene some famous steeplechasers are introduced.

Miss Ada Blanche, of whom we have such pleasant recollections as the Telephone Girl, and more lately as Mrs Habbicombe, in *The Medal and the Maid*, will make her re-appearance in the London suburbs at the Metropole, Camberwell, on the 17th inst., in a comedietta known as *Becky Bounder*. This has been produced this week at the Empire Theatre, York, of which house Mr Wm. Peacock, Miss Blanche's brother-in-law, is managing-director, and the new piece has been "arranged" by Mr Robert Courtneidge, another brother-in-law. It will be presented on Monday next at the Palace, Manchester. Miss Blanche plays the nom-rôle, that of a laundress; Mr Norman Partriege appears as Bob Perkins, a naval officer; Mr William Morgan will delineate a solicitor; and Miss Sylvia Morris will embody the part of the solicitor's wife.

The Water Rats, who have their wigwam at the Vaudeville Club, will give a flying matinée at the Hippodrome, Brighton, on Thursday afternoon next. The company includes Joe Elvin, Wilkie Bard, Michael Nolan, Harry Tate, Lil Hawthorne, Kate Carney, Cliff Ryland, Agnes Hazel, Little Tich, Eugene Stratton, Florrie Robina, and many more.

Mr Charles Wilmott, author of the three last Britannia pantomimes, has just completed for Miss Gipsy Woolf a novel miniature musical sketch, which she has in active rehearsal for early production. Mr John S. Baker has written the incidental music. Miss Woolf will appear as a Mexican gipsy, and will introduce an American song, which is expected to repeat the success it has obtained across the pond. Special scenery and costumes are being devised, and one of our leading *maitres de ballet* will have the arrangement of the dances, Papa Woolf being determined that nothing shall be wanting to make the production complete in every detail.

Mr Fred Miller has been presented with a solid gold matchbox by Mr Georges Hackenschmidt. The gift was handed to Mr Miller before Hackenschmidt left England for Australia, and it was intended as a token of the esteem and respect in which the general manager of the Canterbury and Paragon is held by the champion wrestler.

Mr Alfred Butt, who is directing affairs in the absence of his venerated chief, has another very attractive turn on his bill next week. It is a charming octet known as the Eight Palace Girls, who will join the company on Monday. These young ladies have been specially trained for the Palace, where they will appear in a medley of song and dance.

Mr Walter Gibbons is initiating a beauty show at the Islington Empire on Monday next, and Mr Will Spearman, the energetic manager, has already received upwards of 700 letters from would-be competitors. The ladies taking part in the competition will appear in contingents in each house during the week, the semi-final and final selections taking place on Friday evening next. Competitors will be divided into three classes, the first being confined to Islingtonians over the age of sixteen, the second to Islington children under sixteen, and the third is open to all England. The first prize is a saddle-bag suite of furniture, and another will be a set of furs.

Mr Teddy Giles has also arranged a beauty competition, to commence on Monday, when the belles of Battersea will appear before audiences at the local Empire. The first prize is to be a Singer's sewing machine, the second a costume, and the third a dressing-bag. The final decision will be announced in the second house on Friday next.

Miss Agnes Hanson made her appearance at the Bedford on Tuesday, and such was her success in the song "Oh, the photograph," that she was at once engaged by Mr A. F. Lovesy. Miss Hanson evidently has hereditary ability, as she is the daughter of Johnny Hanson, a well-known farceur at the halls, who was chief comedian in most of the late Mr Ambrose Maynard's sketches. He also appeared with success in the part of Buttons in one of the late Sir Augustus Harris's Christmas productions at Drury-lane. Miss Hanson has been taught dancing by Mr John D'Auban and her father, and should have a successful career.

Mr Frank Brown, who is on a few months' visit to Europe from Buenos Ayres, left London on Thursday night for Paris, where he will stay for a fortnight, for the purpose of booking turns.

The 375th meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Harry Mountford presiding. The secretary reported that fourteen new members had joined during the past week, making the total number since the commencement of 10,596. The procedure of the general meeting was considered, after which the meeting was adjourned.

Mr James Stewart, who was the first music hall artist to do a "tramp act" at the piano, ends his present engagement at the Palace the week after next, and goes on tour until January, when he opens at the Oxford. This week he has been working four halls a night—Battersea, Shaftesbury-avenue, Clapham, and Brixton. He expects to continue his musical tramping for a long time yet—he is booked up to 1907—but he has a new turn in preparation.

Mr Stewart, his brother, and the driver of a brougham figured in a little comedy that took place last week. The driver was intoxicated on the first night, drove recklessly, and was dismissed in consequence. He threatened vengeance, and for the five following evenings called at Mr Stewart's house, fiercely demanding to be re-engaged. On Saturday night the musical tramp was accompanied, as he often is, by his younger brother, who is quiet, shy, and not at all aggressive. After Mr Stewart's first turn his cabman saw him and said, "I've saved you a lot of trouble to-night, Sir! That man you discharged said he was going to 'show you up' before a crowd of people outside the hall. He meant to demand payment for the whole of this week, but what do you think I've done? I've told him your little brother is a champion boxer, who will knock out a man double his size as soon as look at him." The musical tramp told his brother, who accordingly walked out first, stared the enemy coolly in the face, then said, "Come on, Jim!" and held the door open for Mr Stewart to get into the cab. The enraged driver of the brougham took one step forward, again met the eye of the supposed pugilist, meekly touched his hat, and bade him good-night.

Mr Harry Poole, who is business-manager for, as well as brother-in-law to, Mr Will Evans, sends us a most amusing poster advertising that comedian's method of building a chicken-house—on the stage. The designer of the poster is Dominic A. Hand.

Lawrance and Gifford, the well-known song writers, have been very busy on pantomime songs recently. Chief among them is G. H. Elliott's "Ma Havannah Queen," which he is scoring with all over the country, and which bids fair to become the coon song of the year.

Mr Edgar Hyman brings his long stay in England to a close on Saturday next, Oct. 15, when he sails for the Cape on the liner Norman. After his marriage, it will be remembered that he paid a visit to America, and his journey in that country has left him with many pleasant reminiscences, and some newly formed and valued friendships. To him and his family we can look for the development of music hall enterprise in all our South African colonies—new as well as old; for in the near future he will be occupied with the scheme of erecting a new empire in the important city of Durban, Natal.

Monologues and scenas are multiplying rapidly, and the comedian with a turn for inventiveness is able to exploit his mirth-moving powers in a novel and attractive manner. Though Mr Harry Tate has by no means exhausted the popularity of his famous sketch *Motoring*, he is about to secure fresh comic triumphs in an original concoction entitled *Fishing*, which has been written by Mr Wal Pink, the author of a score or so of farcelets for Mr Joe Elvin. Mr Pink is himself an enthusiastic angler, and, therefore, is quite cognisant of the droll side of the gentle art. The production will be given for the first time on Monday at the Pavilion, and Mr W. T. Hemsley has painted a special scene for it.

Mr Charles Morton's health is improving, and he hopes to resume his business duties in a week or ten days.

Mr Harry Randall, who was announced to appear at the Tivoli on Monday, was too indisposed to do so, but will return there on Monday next with new songs from the pen of J. Bernard Dickson.

La Motogirl, who appeared at the Palace about a year ago, is paying a return visit to the Winter Garden, Berlin, where she formerly made such a hit. The clever little American was so successful in Paris that one of the cleverest Parisienne mimics gave an imitation of her "act," having previously consulted Mr Frederick Melville, La Motogirl's manager, who kindly gave her a few lessons in some of the mechanical movements.

The Dandies will be at the Palace for another four weeks. This bright little party of five singers and dancers was originally organised by Signor Bocchi about a year and a half ago, to give concerts at Prince's. It is now under the management of Mr Henry J. Corner, whose bookings include a Moss and Thornton tour after his London season, a return visit to the Continent, and perhaps a trip to America. One of the Dandies' most interesting experiences was the appearance before the King and Queen at Sandringham, on Her Majesty's birthday last December. Mr Bransby Williams contributed half of the programme on that occasion. The clever Dickensonian actor hit on the happy idea of making-up with his face, instead of his back, to the audience, thus giving them the opportunity of seeing how it was done; and the King's appreciation of his performance was shown by a complimentary letter from Sir Dighton Probyn, accompanying the gift of a heavy silver cigarette-case, adorned with the Royal monogram.

The Dandies wear very effective costumes. The ladies' dresses are of flame-coloured chiffon, fading into pale yellow, with thick lace and sparkling golden sequins falling from the shoulders and the full elbow sleeves; big yellow roses are worn in the hair, and even the little high-heeled shoes are of the same brilliant hue. The two men wear Court suits of black velvet with orange-coloured lapels. They were greatly annoyed during their recent Continental tour to find, on reaching Lucerne, that their baggage had been left behind. It was only an hour or so before the performance, but the manager was determined not to disappoint the audience. He succeeded in hiring stage costumes, but the patrons of the stalls and boxes of the Kursaal were probably surprised at the appearance of the English "dandies." The two gentlemen were in ordinary evening clothes much too big for them, and the three ladies made their entrance in long Greek robes.

The Noisset Troupe, a Continental combination, will make their first appearance in London at the Hackney Empire, on Oct. 17. They are just finishing a successful engagement at the Folies Bergére, their act consisting of a novel bicycle race on a revolving table, set in motion by an electric motor.

Sam Mayo, singer, author, and composer, has just written a very successful song, entitled "My Wife Ran Off." He sang it for the first time at Hanley last Saturday evening with great success.

A motorist travelling at a high speed near Grivelliers, on the 29th ult., ran into a travelling circus in taking a turn in the road. A tiger's cage which he struck was shattered, and one of the animals was killed on the spot. Another bellowing with fear bolted, and has not been seen since.

Miss Nellie Wallace made her first appearance on Monday evening at the Oxford, and at once "struck ile."—Miss Emma Don has successfully produced a new vocal scena, and is now introducing her Black and White Quartet of vocalists.—Friends of Mr and Mrs Bon Bon will be sorry to hear that their two children, Harry and Lily, are lying very ill in the Liscard Hospital, New Brighton.

Rezene and Robini's new production, "The Little Japaneasy and the Russian on the Rush," met with a most encouraging reception at Holloway on Monday.—Mr Tom Dunmore opens at the Britannia, Hoxton, next week. He is fast booking up 1905.

The second anniversary celebration of the Battersea Empire, under the new *regime*, took place on Thursday evening, and proved a highly successful function. Mr E. E. Giles, the general manager, whose portrait adorned the front page of the programme, was busily engaged in welcoming his many friends, and in acknowledging their hearty congratulations. Many gentlemen well known in the music hall world were present, and the celebration passed off in the happiest manner possible. The entertainment commenced at seven o'clock, and was contributed to by a large number of variety artists. Mr J. G. Johnson and company appeared in the dramatic sketch, *The Streets of London*, which was well received, and previous to this Miss Daphne De Rohan's little piece, *Oh, My Wife*, was performed. Miss De Rohan repeated her successful embodiment of Ena, and Mr Harry J. Worth did well as Jack, the husband, who endeavours to cure his wife of her partiality for amateur theatricals.

Mr Harry Champion rattled through two of his songs with his usual glibness of utterance, and other comedians included Mr Frank Benson, Mr Gus Gauntlett, Mr H. E. High, Mr Alf Passmore, and Regal, the furniture smasher. Mendel, the blind pianist, played a selection from the opera of *Faust*, and an imitation of a street organ. Others in the long list of artists included Miss Katie Lawrence, Miss Eva Nelson, Miss Cissie Uneeda, Miss May Bass, Miss Dora Lyric, Miss Mab Venus, Sisters Carlton, Sisters Edwards, Sisters Gilbert, Helm and Cozens, Fred Keason, Harry Lynx, Harry Phydora, Martin Rochester, George Scott, Phil Sinclaire, Miss Lily Lawrence, Miss Flo Raynor, Miss Annie Read, Frank Hardie and company, in *For the Honour of the Regiment*; Curtis Leo, Amy Vee, Mansell Fane, and Aldridge, Bligh, and company. There was also a photograph competition. Mr Richard Lincoln was the energetic stage-manager, and Mr W. Hinkinson was in charge of the hard-working orchestra. One of the most interesting events of the evening was the presentation of a gold pendant to Mr Giles, subscribed for by a few of his friends, and embellished with his initials in diamonds.

The monthly meeting of the members of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held on Wednesday afternoon at the York Hotel, York-road under the presidency of Mr Frank Heath (hon. treasurer). Other members present were Messrs W. J. Wainratta, W. Brisco, C. Waterfield, W. West, H. E. High, W. H. Handley, and J. Mulcaster. It being made obligatory by a clause in the Friendly Societies Act that the funds of the Society should be invested in Government securities, the Chairman reported the purchase of Consols to the value of £1,000. It was resolved to make arrangements for a special benefit performance to take place at one of the halls some time before Christmas, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mr Charles Warren, Messrs Witmark's London manager, is to be congratulated on the tuneful number entitled, we believe, "Trouble," issued by the enterprising house. As interpreted by Miss Amber Austa the haunting melody has captivated the Metropolitan habitués hugely during the past and previous week.

Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter make an important announcement elsewhere in this issue. The firm's pantomime song books are now available for artists engaged in the forthcoming annuals, and to these alone will the books be issued. The five volumes (which are bulkier than ever this year) include books of songs suitable for principal boys, principal girls, low comedians and dames, fairy queens and descriptive, and a book of "free" songs suitable for all of the foregoing lines of business.

The anniversary of the first birthday of the "Sixpenny Pops" evoked congratulatory cards, letters, and wires from all parts of these islands. Mr David Day could not return thanks individually, owing to preparing for the tour to Canada and the States now begun, but would have liked so to do.

La Loie Fuller, who was giving her "Fire and Lily" dance at the Camden Theatre last week, has just returned to Europe from a tour in South America. She is now in Paris, but comes to London for a short visit at the end of next week. La Löie will shortly appear in a new rôle—that of authoress. She has written a short book dealing with radium, and a large volume on America and the Americans. Negotiations are now pending for the publication of the latter in England in the near future.

The Follies return to the Palace Theatre for a five months' run at the end of October. Mr H. G. Pélissier and his delightful company of pierrots and pierrettes have just concluded their summer tour, having given ninety-three shows in nine weeks. The Follies have met with several amusing adventures. Some time ago they were engaged to give a performance at a large open-air fête. The directors of entertainments showed Mr Pélissier the tent allotted to him, and then remarked, "By the way, I'd better tell you that we have arranged a brass band contest outside the tent while you are giving your programme. It will keep the people amused who don't go in, and I'm sure you won't mind."

Mr Charles Carlin (late of the Carlins and Carlin and Price fame) is laying in 13a Ward, Holborn Union Infirmary, Archway-road, N., London. He has entirely lost the use of his limbs, and is unable to leave his bed. He thanks one and all for past favours, and would like to see some of his old professional friends to cheer him up.

The death of Mr George Daventry recalls to our mind the fact that he wrote a number of sketches for the music hall stage, besides his well-known drama, *The Indian Mutiny*, which was also presented in a shortened form on the variety stage. In most of the dramatic trifles from his pen the deceased gentleman played the principal part, and was assisted by his clever and devoted wife, Miss Claire Howard, who was at one time a member of Mr Frank Harvey's dramatic company, and was also a popular member of the stock company at the Pavilion, Mile-end. Mr Daventry adapted Ouida's novel, "Under Two Flags," for presentation at this theatre, and in this Miss Howard played the part of Cigarette.

At the Alhambra, on Monday, a little original pantomime act, entitled *A Pierrot's Romance*, is to be produced by Signor G. Rossi, who is also the author. Three of the cleverest dancers in the ballet will take part in the act, which will last about ten minutes.

Miss Ella Shields, a well-known American soubrette, who created quite a sensation last season when she toured through the States with the Eight Bells company, arrived in England last week, under contract to Mr Frank Macnaghten, and opens on Monday at the Forresters' Theatre. We understand that Miss Shields will play the part of Alice Fitzwarren in Mr Macnaghten's forthcoming pantomime of *Dick Whittington* at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end. That gentleman has received numerous offers for the young lady's services, and, while Miss Shields talks of returning to America in the spring, it is possible that she may make London her home for some time to come.

Another of Mr Macnaghten's engagements is that of Messrs Jordan and Harvey, Jew comedians, who arrived in Liverpool from the States on Wednesday per ss. Teutonic. Jew comedians of this class have not been seen in England for some years, and as the act of these two newcomers bears the reputation of being very original and novel, no doubt it will form a welcome addition to London variety programmes. Messrs Jordon and Harvey open on Monday week at one of the Macnaghten houses.

Mrs Allan M'Askell, through the influence of the Mayor, Mr Morgan, was admitted to Scarborough Hospital last Sunday morning. Her condition is causing much anxiety.

It may be interesting to our readers to get an idea of the total amounts paid for admission to the music halls in Paris. The total receipts at the different halls for the month of September are as follow:—Folies Bergère, 204,107f.; Olympia, 165,000f.; Alhambra, 103,900f.; Moulin Rouge, 54,018f.; La Scala Theatre, 73,798f.; Eldorado, 58,892f.; Nouveau Cirque, 57,066f.; Cirque Medrano, 47,799f.; Cirque d'Hiver, 41,160f.

The North London Burns Club will hold their Halloween Bohemian concert in the Hamilton Hall of the Great Eastern Railway Hotel on Saturday evening, Oct. 29. Among the artists who are to appear on this occasion we notice the name of Mr Alex. M'Nab, a fine baritone singer, whose vocal efforts have wrung forth praise at the early-door entertainments at the Grand Theatre, Islington.

M. George Bertrand, the painter, who lives at Versailles, has invented some new puppets, of which great things are affirmed. They are called maquettes animées, and are said to beat anything of the kind seen before. The artist has been at work on his figures for about fourteen years. He has given them indiarubber muscles, and all the puppets work perfectly. The figures include Mdlle. Cléo de Mérode, who dances; Polin, the impersonator of comic soldiers, whose songs and patter are reproduced by a phonograph; and a clown who juggles, fiddles, and beats a drum. M. Bertrand proposes to exhibit his marionettes in Paris in November, and he states that the Duke of Marlborough has asked him to show them in London during the next season.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE EMPIRE.

Quite an important part of the entertainment at the Empire Theatre is that supplied by the admirable orchestra. How wide is the range of choice in the matter of the selections which are performed here is shown by the fact that this week F. von Suppé, Lacombe, and Wagner have been laid under contribution, the performance of the introduction to the third act of *Lohengrin* being received with hearty applause. Our variety theatres are certainly doing good work in popularising the creations of the great musical masters. A contrast to the powerful effect of the full orchestra is the achievement of Mr Georges Schindler, who manages to get very pleasing results from ordinary mouth-organs. He uses them very adroitly, muffling the sound with his closed hands. He plays a pot-pourri of well-known airs, and the quality of the note which he obtains is extraordinary. The Barinkaï Trio appear in picturesque Hungarian costumes, and sing and dance with all the fire and abandon which we associate with the Magyar race. The ladies are especially active and vivacious, and are, besides, attractive in appearance and manner. Mdlle. Valesca's personal charm is, no doubt, a strong factor of the success of her juggling entertainment. Attired in an acrobatic costume, she does difficult things with various articles, her handling of hats being, perhaps, the most skilful part of her exhibition. She concludes her turn by juggling with staves at the end of each of which is a coloured electric lamp. Mdlle. Valesca has an arch smile and a laughing eye, and wins the hearts of the audience by her merry manner as much as by her dexterity. The Delbosqs are hearty fellows and strong and active tumblers. They do their knockabout and acrobatic business in a breezy, happy way which gains for them warm favour; and the concluding feat of one of them, who accomplishes a double somersault over the heads of sixteen men, secures the success of their appearance. Mr Tom Browne's whistling turn is made peculiar by the clever character sketch which he gives of that cool and civil functionary, the American "bar-tender." His double-note whistling is really remarkable, and his imitations of knife-grinding, &c., are most realistic. The Luppu Trio's quadruple bar act is capital, and the feats performed by the trio are done with apparent ease, which, however, does not conceal their immense difficulty from the discriminating audience, who heartily applaud the Luppus and recall them with enthusiasm. Mr Syd May's burlesque skit on Hackenschmidt remains one of the funniest things to be seen in London, and Melot Hermann's clever conjuring tricks well deserve the plaudits they evoke. Miss Marguerite Cornille continues to charm and delight all by her dainty and spirited singing, and by her brilliant appearance in some fascinating "frocks;" and with the aid of the Biograph some very amusing and artistic films are shown and are keenly appreciated. The pretty and artistic ballet *High Jinks* continues to delight, amuse, and astonish by its varied beauties. It is, indeed, a most brilliant and attractive entertainment, and, in its improved shape, is drawing hundreds to admire it.

THE OXFORD.

The fine and large programme at the Oxford, notwithstanding the sketch prosecution of Monday last, contains that full-sized drama *The Fighting Parson*, in which Mr George Gray, who is assisted by 100 auxiliaries, appears in the title-rôle. There is nothing new to be said of a production which has won success at every hall in London and at most of the larger provincial establishments. The Epping Forest and New-cut scenes are full of life and movement, and the set-to between the parson and the Clincher is uproariously applauded. Early in the evening appears Miss Rita Resdan, a smart and natty male impersonator, who gaily sings of a certain Charlie whose name has of late been in much request at the halls. This Charlie has a natural weakness for the fair, and in his own estimation is quite a lady-killer, being mostly seen with one of the weaker sex on his arm. There is plenty of laughter and applause for the Three Woodbee Wonders, who are most aptly termed comedy acrobats. This droll trio, with huge limbs and false muscles and a grotesque appearance, burlesque in most amusing style the strong men of the halls; but they work much harder in some daring and skilful acrobatic work in which are interspersed many humorous effects and poses. The show is a novelty, and its enjoyable nature is nightly proved by the warm reception accorded to it. Mr W. H. Clemart's ventriloquism is very cleverly employed in the vocal endowment of some excellent mechanical figures, who may be called seaside visitors. The walking nurse is a genuine surprise, and the old gentleman who lights and smokes his pipe is really wonderful. The old lady sings that ancient ballad, "The Lover and the Bird," and a comic effect that appeals with irresistible force to the happy fathers among the audience is the squalling infant. Miss Myra Stansfield, a bright exponent of burlesque, has a successful song in "Visitors are requested not to touch," with a special verse referring to the Union Jack. Mr Andie Caine, who hitherto has mostly confined himself to imitations of the principal exponents of musical comedy, has a melodious and well-rendered song entitled "Here's your hat—what's your hurry?" In one verse of this number the singer is advised by a coon to give up hanging around a house after a girl, the advice being followed by the appearance of a thick-lipped gentleman of colour, who comes on the stage armed with a thick stick, much to the apparent terror of the vocalist, who is loudly applauded for a clever dance. Bella and Bijou present an amusing trifle, in which an agent and an aspirant to fame on the stage have some amusing dialogue. Mr Harry Freeman's characteristic numbers, "That's Him" and "I'm going again to-night," bring him much applause; and Miss Bessie Featherstone, whose fine figure is well set-off by a principal boy's costume, has the house with her in a well-written item, "The latest London betting," in which there is a special political verse concerning Joe Chamberlain, and another quatrain concerning Japan. The Collins-Stella Troupe, an octet of attractively dressed and smart girls, sing and dance with animation and charm, executing some difficult movements and Terpsichorean manœuvres with capital effect. The return of Mr George Robey, the prime minister of mirth, has been hailed with immense satisfaction by the Oxfordians. "Say no more about it," George's first song, derives most of its humour from his many grotesque asides and by-play; and it is as a gladiator, armed with breastplate, helmet, and umbrella, that the popular comedian scores. "Frantic the Fearless" boldly invites an imaginary person behind the scenes to "unleash the lion and let loose the fighting parson." Mr Robey also has many droll things to say concerning Brutus's benefit at the Coliseum, and there is little doubt that the new creation will take rank with his "Prehistoric Man." Miss Nellie Wallace, who is making her first appearance at the Oxford, has at once established herself as a warm favourite, and her oddly conceived low comedy, her grotesque make-up, and her droll notions of burlesque make her turn one to be looked for and thoroughly enjoyed. Kelly and Gillette retain their well-deserved popularity in their clever and original entertainment, "Fun in a Billiard Room" Miss Queenie Leighton has much improved her song scena, "On and Off the Stage," since we first noticed it at the Tivoli; Mr Wilkie Bard, who causes shouts of laughter, may be looked upon as one of the most successful comedians of the day; and other turns in an excellent bill, watchfully supervised by Mr Albert Gilmer, include the Doherty Sisters, Happy Fanny Fields, and the Boisset Troupe, in their well-known speechless extravaganza, *The Bricklayers*. Visitors during the week have much enjoyed the performance each evening by Mr William Burgess's fine orchestra of Warwick Williams's new morceau entitled "The Mirage."

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Mr Jesse Sparrow carries out to the letter his oft-repeated determination to give the best and brightest entertainment at Camberwell, his programme this week presenting such a lavish display of the resources of variety that the supply of seats at the pretty hall has been inadequate to the demand. A full measure of approval has been bestowed upon the performers, the largest share of which has fallen to the favourites of established renown who embellish the bill. Miss Lily Langtry is among those who have secured chief honours. Her description of a day at Alexandra Palace proves exhilarating to all among the audience, who can recognise in every movement the type of London lass deep in the little dissipations of homely enjoyment. Miss Langtry has the feminine frolics at her fingers' ends—and at the tips of her toes as well, for her flying feet help the illusion marvellously. One seems to sniff the air and partake of the revels of the historic heights when she sings of "Good Old Hampstead Heath," and her vitality never flags till the end, when the audience endeavour by loud and enthusiastic cheers to bring her back. Another favourite artiste who gains the maximum of popular acclaim is Miss Millie Lindon, whose singing of "The Angel of my Dreams," is illumined by an appealing pathos which is only equalled by her sweetness and charm in "The rain came pitter-patter down." Dressed in a fanciful costume, quaint in pattern and with prettily contrasted hues, Miss Lindon entrances the audience, who are lost in admiration of the art by which the clever lady moves her hearers with equal facility to sadness or to mirth. Mr Mark Melford is the cause of peals of laughter in *Between Two Stools*, a sketch that under another name has won merriment many a time before. Mr Melford's depiction of the crafty and avaricious old man who covets his maid-servant's legacy is surrounded by a wealth of comic detail, and Mrs Melford skilfully puts on the airs and graces of the comely servant-girl. Mr Tom Maxwell and Miss Virginia Francis are also active in the furnishing of fun, and are liberally applauded for their medley of popular songs. Grace and skill are agreeably combined in the lady's dance, which has distinction and method that is well recognised. Asra's "juggling in the billiard-parlour" is neatly done, and the applause throughout his act is continuous, more especially when he puts on a cap containing cups, in which he "pockets" the balls from a billiard table, afterwards playing a tune in a similar manner on bells attached to his head. Tots and Ettie Davis appear with effect in a scena of pathetic interest entitled "The Flower Girl and Blind Sister," and Miss Ada Martine does remarkably well in song and dance. A series of realistic impersonations is supplied by Miss Dollie Harmer, whose representation of the turns seen at a music hall includes those of a coster, an Irish girl, and a miser, the last-mentioned being a portrayal of considerable power and intensity. Miss Marie Collins holds out in song the advantages presented by the colonies to the fair maids of Albion, inviting them to emigrate for a husband, and in her second song is loud in denunciation of her spouse, a lazy, good-for-nothing, who is a brass-finisher by trade, but who practises his profession only in finishing the funds of his fair helpmeet, who exacts the sympathy of all by her plaintive tones and her attractive appearance. The Lindon Vaudevilles in "Monks at Play" introduce three friars in their brown habit, who sing in concert on the banks of a stream, until a pierrette suddenly appears and so demoralises them with a love lilt that they assume the character of pierrots and join her in a dance. Suddenly the monastery bell recalls them to a sense of duty, and they resume their monastic garb. The singing of the quartet is very good, especially that of the lady, and the comedian finds in a reddened nose and a shambling walk sufficient humour for his purpose. Alexandre and Hughes are refreshingly droll and original in the sayings and doings with which they embellish their playing on concertinas; Miss Effie White secures appreciation for her kaleidoscope dances; the Sisters Wingrove fascinate in their dancing and singing; the passage of the sketch *Jail Birds* by Mr Fred Karno's company of comedians is marked by uproarious mirth; and the extensive programme, which includes Miss Lily Simmonds, Mr Charles Russell, Mr Andie Caine, and Mr J. A. Wilson, is concluded by an excellent display of animated pictures. The first-class orchestra is directed by Mr Leon A. Bassett.

THE METROPOLE.

Unqualified success has crowned Mr Jack De Frece's spirited venture in changing the class of entertainment at this theatre. And it is safe to predict, with the advent of the London County Council's music hall licence next month, which carries with it the privilege of smoking in the auditorium, the patrons of the theatre will undoubtedly increase, until Mr De Frece will find a difficulty in accommodating them all. For the entertainment there can be nothing but praise, for from the brilliant orchestral overture "Stradella," played under the skilful bâton of Mr W. Snell-Robinson, until the final notes of "The King," it is one continual flow of genuine amusement and enjoyment. The *pièce de resistance* is the little drama, set in two scenes, entitled *The Girl I Love*. This is capitally staged and well acted throughout by Mr Frederick Maxwell's carefully selected company. The story is one of confidence betrayed, murder, false accusation, and retribution. The scene opens in England about the period of 1840. "when criminals were transported to convict settlements and flogged for any breach of discipline," when we find that sweet Bessie Donovan has loved not wisely, but too well, and her brother Max overhears her pleadings to her betrayer to marry her, and so learns her secret. In his rage at the disgrace he threatens, in the hearing of their blind grandad, to kill her, but repents and forgives his sister. The villain, Stephen Adair, returns, and finding that Bessie is determined to be his wife or expose him, he brutally murders her. Max, who is a soldier in a Highland regiment, discovers his sister, and learns from her dying lips the name of her murderer; but Stephen Adair being the supposed brother of "the girl he loves," Max, when accused of the murder of Bessie, says nothing, and being put on his trial is convicted, but by the intercession of Rose Adair's father gets his sentence commuted to penal servitude. In the second act we find all the principals at the convict station in Australia, where sweet Rose Adair is staying with her uncle, Colonel Grant, the governor of the settlement, so that she can be near the man she loves. But Stephen Adair has come with her, and in his dread of Max revealing his secret conspires with the restless convicts to kill Max and the Colonel and get free. He then goes to the Colonel and accuses Max as being at the head of the mutiny. The Colonel orders Max to be flogged, but finds afterwards that he has been deceived by Stephen, and sets Max free. Max finds that the villain Adair is not the brother of Rose, but only an adopted son of Rose's father. He catches Stephen in the act of robbing the Colonel, and tells the story of his martyrdom to the mutinous convicts, and hands the villain over to their tender mercies. A volley immediately afterwards denotes his fate, and the final scene, with Max holding in his arms the girl he loves, graphically tells the remainder of the story. As Max Donovan Mr Frederick Maxwell has a part that fits him as perfectly as his uniform, and is throughout manly, earnest, and thorough. Miss Lois Du Cane as Rose Adair is sweet, winsome, and delightfully natural. As Bessie Donovan Miss Louise Biddulph early wins the sympathies of the audience, and gives a highly effective performance with taste and delicacy. Mr Frank Carlile as the villain Stephen Adair imbues his part with all the necessary villainy In the dual part of Colonel Adair and Colonel Grant Mr Sam Harcourt plays with a due appreciation of these characters. As the convict Hogg Mr Alfred Raynor is very good, while the blind grandad is ably depicted by Mr Gerald Blake. Variety enough and to spare is provided by a galaxy of talent, and taking them in the order they appeared, Miss Agnes Hazel gained first approval for a serio-comic song. "Oh, you Men," in which the fair singer informed us that "If it wasn't for woman mere men would not be here at all." To the familiar melody of "Hiawatha" two old favourites, Hector and Lauraine, gave much satisfaction with their funny properties and upside-down boxing match. Kisbey in a bright little scena entitled "The Call Boy," kept his hearers amused with smart up-to-date patter, quick changes, lively songs, and a dance of marvellous activity. Miss Mamie Brickwell is a dainty little comedienne, and gave point to her song, "He was dense, dense, dense," while her recit. and song, "I do like a man, don't you?" is given with a naïveté and expression all her own. De Voy, Hurst, and Ricks in their screaming darkies' absurdity *The Dark Town Insurance Depot* keep hilarious fun rolling merrily. Their business in their burlesque medical examinations is original and excruciatingly funny. Mr Het Moore won a series of well-merited recalls for his lifelike impersonations of noted actors and comedians, including such popular favourites as the late Wilson Barrett, Herbert Campbell, Arthur Roberts, Dan Leno, R. G. Knowles, and Wilkie Bard. Royston and Royce are a young couple full of verve and vim, who keep the audience amused with merry cross-talk and wheezes, while their buck dancing is full of untiring energy and intoxicating activity. Miss Mamie Iris is a hard-working little artist, and has a catchy song in "My Girl from Dixie." The animated pictures displayed by the Mutograph, although the last item, are far from being the least of the list of attractions. A cosy theatre, popular prices, and an excellent company, what more can Camberwell pleasure-seekers require?

MARRIAGE OF MISS LELIA ROZE.

Miss Lelia Roze, the charming burlesque artist, was married on the 28th ult. in Liverpool to Mr Edward Downes Martin, J.P., a landed proprietor of Killoskehane Castle, co. Tipperary. The ceremony took place at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Kempston-street, and was solemnised by the Rev. G. H. Lunn. The service was attended by a large number of persons mainly connected with theatrical and music hall circles. Mr Harley, solicitor, of Belfast, acted as the best man, and the bridesmaid was Miss Veronica Phillips, niece of the bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr W. Barker Roze, electrical engineer, of Belfast. Mrs Roze, the mother of the bride, of Shrigley Hall, county Down, was also in attendance. Mrs Roze is a retired music hall artiste, who in her day

Photo by Saville.

MR. AND MRS. EDWARD MARTIN

(née LELIA ROZE)

was known by the *nom de théâtre* of Laura Honey. The wedding took place from Carlton House, the residence of Mrs Robinson, 146, Islington. The bride and bridegroom left Liverpool at a quarter-past twelve from the Central Station for London, and are at present staying at the Lord Warden Hotel, Dover, previous to their departure for the Continent to-day.

The bride, who has engagements to fulfil on the stage for the next twelve months, will not, however, appear in public until Christmas, when she will take a principal part at the Grand Theatre, Leeds.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

A commendable spirit of enterprise characterises the management of this popular North London place of amusement, and its latest development is the experiment of Monday matinée performances. The first of these took place on Monday last, and complete success attended the new departure. The house was crowded, and the experimental policy of Mr Walter Gibbons was fully justified. The energetic manager, Mr Will Spearman, cheerfully undertook the additional responsibility involved in arranging for three "houses" a-day; and the Monday matinée has apparently come to stay. The same artistes appeared who are engaged for the evening performances, with the exception of Mr G. H. Chirgwin, in whose unavoidable absence some special attractions were introduced. However, the White-Eyed Kaffir has been delighting evening audiences with the quaint business which years ago first won him the enviable reputation he enjoys. The audiences greet him as an old friend whom one is always glad to meet again. One of the best things that Mr Chirgwin does is the song addressed to his violin, and of course we must not omit to mention the immortal ballad of "The Blind Boy," which the popular comedian has sung to thousands of variety theatre patrons and in all parts of the kingdom with undiminished success these many years. All the old cheeriness of manner distinguishes Mr Chirgwin from the moment he enters with the well-remembered hat cocked over the right eye, and it is also noticeable that his voice retains that clearness and power which render his vocal contributions so acceptable. Another favourite comedian is Mr George Mozart, whose droll style is much appreciated. He has found material for mirthful treatment in a visit to a racecourse, depicting in his own funny way some of the characters he encountered there. Thus we have the lady who patronises sport and the foolish young fellow and the card sharper, the wrong man being "run in" by a blundering policeman. Mr Mozart also causes much merriment with his imitations of the manner in which various people cross a busy thoroughfare, and the startling effect of an angry shout from a loud-voiced cab-driver. The quartet known as the Dandies are here this week, and their refined musical entertainment meets with distinct approval. They have revived the old song, "The Torpedo and the Whale," which was first heard at the Strand Theatre years ago. It should be noted that the torpedo has become a Japanese one. "Excelsior" is given as a duet, and imitations of various kinds of songs, together with some lively dances, bring their performance to a satisfactory conclusion. Miss Millie Lindon sings her songs with a charm of manner that makes her a general favourite wherever she appears. "The Angel of My Dreams" is a pretty ditty, and is done justice to by Miss Lindon. "The rain came pitter-patter down" is another of her selections, which the audience listens to with evident delight. Valoni juggles skilfully with a number of articles, but the special feature of his performance is the trained pigeons which take part in it. Two of these very intelligent birds work with their feet two balls round a circle, while another pair set in motion a sort of revolving swing, the whole being balanced by Valoni. Miss Dinah Morris and her Southern State Piccaninnies appear in a lively act called *The Missing Coon*, in which singing and dancing are happily blended. There are some pretty lighting effects, and this item in the bill affords unlimited satisfaction. Mr Sam Mayo rattles off his ditties in his own peculiar style, and enjoys a most flattering reception. Mr. Edgar Budden distinguishes himself as a bone soloist and a skilful dancer on skates, and the Sisters Wingrove do well as duettists and dancers. Mr Will Spearman is very busy in connection with the beauty show which takes place at this hall next week, over 700 entries having already been received.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

An attractive programme is again submitted at the Holloway Empire this week; and all the artistes engaged receive a cordial greeting. None more so than Mr R. G. Knowles, who is described in the bill-of-fare as "a great gun," and who certainly fires off his witty stories with great effect. The popular American comedian is a philosopher of the footlights. He has a good deal to say concerning love, courtship, and marriage. He can point a moral as well as adorn a tale. His ditty, "The girl, the woman, and the widow," contains many reflections not altogether flattering to the fair sex, but then Mr Knowles is the soul of good humour, and the ladies present laugh as much as anybody at his witticisms even when they are themselves the object of his amusing comments. "Bevare of the vidders, Samivel," said Mr Weller to his son. Mr Knowles in effect repeats the same caution, and advises his fellow men who are single to run away from them. He has a capital budget of diverting stories, and his "Saturday Night" ditty is well received. Mr Knowles's genial manner enables him almost at once, to get on good terms with an audience, and they are always loth to part with so merry and witty a companion. It is not easy to find anything new to say about the drolls known as Rezene and Robini. They have been seen on the boards of the variety theatres these many years, and their comic business has undergone little alteration. Their make-up varies a little, that is all. Rezene bears with the utmost indifference the many assaults committed by Robini, and the couple go through their eccentric performance on the trapeze with their usual success. The Ashers appear in an act entitled *The Dude and the Soubrette*. The lady opens with a ditty on "the little piece of lace," but is interrupted by the gentleman, who impersonates a dude seated in the front row of the stalls. The soubrette pretends to be annoyed in spite of her admirer's flattering remarks, but he makes his way on to the stage and suggests that he and the lady shall tour together as duettists. They try a song and conclude with a smart dance. The Young American Quintette also consist of vocalists and dancers. Their voices blend harmoniously, and the young people are under the leadership of Miss Mattie Boorum, who is exceedingly energetic and successful in her coon and other dances. Verno and Voyce are duettists who gain a favourable hearing for their dramatic scenas. In the one entitled *Father and Son* Verno appears as a white-haired old man who has been brought to the verge of ruin by risky speculations on the Stock Exchange. His son, however, attempts to cheer him, and, bidding him hope that brighter days are in store, leaves him with the object of obtaining a loan from a staunch friend. In his absence the old man produces a revolver and is about to commit suicide, when the son returns and takes the weapon from his hand. He has good news conveyed by a telegram, and he has also obtained a substantial loan to tide over present difficulties, so that the little story ends happily after all. Voyce has an excellent recitation called "Capital and Labour;" and altogether the turn is much appreciated. Mr George Brooks in the character of a dame contrasts "the old-time girl" with the girls of the present day. He also makes a hit with the ditty "And his day's work was done." The Florador Quartette are appearing with satisfactory results in their bustling sketch *Naughty Nin*, the extravagant business causing considerable merriment. Miss Lizzie Daniels in the character of a working girl carols gaily of the lively time she and her giddy companions had at Hampton-court; and the Princess Pauline sings "Don't it tickle your fancy?" in her usual dashing style. Another pleasing turn is that given by Miss Marie Reeve, comedienne and step dancer. Mr Chas. W. Adams is quite successful in his careful direction of affairs in front of the house, and Mr Thomas Gray remains in charge of the orchestra with entirely satisfactory results.

AGENTS AND CLIENTS.

In the Westminster County Court, on Wednesday, before Mr Justice Woodfall, Mr Fred Zola, known as "Little Zola," a comedian, was sued by Mr Herbert Blackmore, theatrical agent, for the recovery of £25 commission for a theatrical engagement at the Princess Theatre, Manchester, in 1903.

Mr Blackmore's case was that in the early part of 1903 Zola called at his office in search of an engagement for Christmas pantomime. Plaintiff introduced him to Mr Oscar Barrett, and an agreement was arrived at between Mr Barrett and the defendant for pantomime at the Princess Theatre, Manchester, at a salary of £25 a week. The customary commission of 10 per cent. on the first ten weeks' engagement was claimed, but Zola said Mr Barrett had agreed to pay the commission. This, however, was refused.

Cross-examined, Mr Blackmore denied the suggestion that Mr Arthur Collins made the introduction. It was perfectly true that one night at the Green Room Club Mr Collins said in the presence of Mr Barrett and himself that he was not using "Little Zola" at Drury-lane, and perhaps he (Mr Blackmore) would look after him. He was not aware, however, that Zola was getting nearly £50 a-week at Drury-lane.

Zola went into the witness-box, and denied that plaintiff represented him or completed the contract. Mr Blackmore answered his advertisement in *The Era*, and suggested introducing his name to managers. After he completed the contract with Mr Barrett, he received demands for commission from Mr Blackmore, but he returned them unsigned. It was the custom only to pay commission to the agent when the contract was successfully completed by him.

Expert evidence to prove the question of custom having been called, Judge Woodfall said that, although artists showed a remarkable capacity for amusing the public, when they came to deal with these business matters they displayed a remarkable incapacity. These theatrical cases always presented considerable difficulty to the tribunal before which they were tried. He did not believe, however, that a custom existed which allowed the artist to use the office, the time, and the influence of an agent, and then not to pay anything for it. He gave judgment for the plaintiff, with costs.

THE HIPPODROME.

Those who are inclined to decry the value of the modern variety theatre should note that it is not only a place of recreation, but one of instruction also, where the marvels of modern science are displayed to the admiring eyes of audiences, and facts are driven home by actual demonstration. For instance, no patron of the Hippodrome who has visited that establishment this week can have failed to come away deeply impressed by the powers of that curious product, "liquid air." The temperature of this strange stuff is—so Doctor Maxim Boyd, who conducts the experiments in the arena, tells us—340 degrees Fahrenheit below zero—a statement that positively makes one shiver. It is usually contained in vacuum vessels lined with silver, of a round shape; but Dr. Boyd dispenses it chiefly from a kettle, from which proceed clouds of steam. Borrowing a silk hat and a handkerchief from one of the audience, Dr. Boyd washes and dries the handkerchief by putting it into the hat and pouring liquid air upon it. A peculiarity of liquid air is that it turns certain articles saturated with it hard. A haddock and a sausage placed in a frying-pan and subjected to the action of liquid air become as chips of wood; and an india-rubber pipe dipped in the liquid air is made crisp and brittle. By the aid of the air the Professor makes ice-creams, which are handed round for consumption by the audience; and he ends by creating a brilliant flame on an immense block of ice. Dr. Maxim Boyd's exhibition has been quite cordially received at the Hippodrome, where the audience has shown warm interest in the experiments submitted to it. A striking and sensational turn now being done here is that of Paul Conchas, who juggles with shrapnel and Krupp shells. The arena is set with three small tents, and Mr Conchas is assisted by a servant attired in military uniform, who is a genuine comedian, and who may claim at least half of the credit due to the success of the entertainment. Conchas is particularly daring in his handling of immense shells, one of which he balances on his chin on a stick in the same way as is usually done with billiard balls. He is an adept at casting up a cannon ball and catching it on his shoulders; and an apparently very difficult and critical achievement is that of jumping upon one end of a see-saw, so as to throw into the air, and towards him, a large shell, which he catches on his shoulders. Doubtless the skill of the artist deprives these tricks of any real danger; but they have the appearance of being extremely hazardous, and the audience watches their execution with breathless anxiety. Carl Hertz has some capital illusions. In one of these a young lady in a black velvet suit is placed in a big basket, which is soon found to be empty, the lady coming out of a cabinet. In another instance, Hertz spirits away a barmaid who has taken up a position on a shelf in front of a looking-glass; and he concludes by extracting the flags of different nations from a large map, which disappears, disclosing a juvenile Britannia sitting on a swing. Hertz's feats are indescribably bewildering, and are done with confusing rapidity and convincing neatness. Charles Baron creates hearty laughter by his burlesque wild beast show. Dogs thoroughly trained are dressed up to represent lions, a tiger, and a leopard, and are shown in a barred enclosure. A mimic alligator is introduced, and does a tight-rope walk. Baron has also some well-trained cats, and a youthful assistant ably embodies a Polar bear. Joko and Koko, two educated baboons, appear earlier in the evening and ride round on ponies who are admirably trained. The Miles-Stavordale Quintet continue to be enthusiastically applauded; the Alfonso Trio do a smart and pretty juggling act; Bard and O'Brien's comedy wire act is amusing; Salmonsky's "fire horse" turn is both picturesque and clever; Marceline is as droll as ever; and the Wille Brothers win warm applause by their head and hand balancing. *Siberia* continues to occupy an important part of the Hippodrome bill, and the dramatic spectacle, splendidly mounted and admirably acted, is as effective as ever.

THE DEMON KETTLE.

It was not supposed that the Magic Kettle, first produced in London at the Palace Theatre, would remain long in the field without a rival. The rival turned up on Monday last at the Canterbury in the shape of the Demon Kettle, the new show being brought out by Mr Carl Hertz, the famous illusionist. The Demon Kettle is somewhat smaller in size than its brother at Shaftesbury-avenue. The show is run on precisely the same lines as at the Palace Theatre. Mr Carl Hertz, a capital showman, who manipulated the Demon Kettle, first borrowed a hat and a handkerchief. Placing the latter into the hat he poured into it some of the contents of the Demon Kettle, and immediately there issued forth clouds of vapour. After the handkerchief had been "washed," both it and the hat were handed back to the respective owners without having suffered the slightest injury. Three empty metal goblets were next called into use. Into one of them a rubber ball was placed, the Demon Kettle was called into use, and what was formerly an elastic rubber ball, was made as brittle as an egg-shell. White chrysanthemums were put into another goblet containing the magical compound, and the once soft and pliable leaves were transformed into a hard, crinkling material. Ice-cream making was the next experiment. An ordinary chafing-dish was placed over a lighted oil-stove, and into the dish were placed an egg, some cream, sugar, and flavouring essence. Then the mysterious Demon Kettle was brought into play, and the result was that delicious ice-cream was made in less than a minute. Members of the audience to whom the delicacy was sent round stated that they had never tasted such pure ice-cream before. A fine imitation of Vesuvius on a small scale was shewn by the aid of a slender vase into which some of the contents of the Demon Kettle had been placed, and the effect was a most striking and picturesque one. The act concluded with the burning of a large block of ice to the wonderment and delight of the audience.

AT Marylebone police-court, on Wednesday, a man, who refused his name and address, was charged, on a warrant, with obtaining credit by false pretences from George Tegg, the landlord of the Pembridge Castle public-house, Ledbury-road, Bayswater. Last Thursday the prisoner, about 10 0 p.m., arrived in a brougham, and represented to Mr Tegg that he was Mr George Spry, of Spry and Austin, the well-known music hall artists, who were to perform at Hammersmith the following week. The prisoner, who remarked that he was a devil to feed, was supplied with supper, a bed for the night, and breakfast the following morning at a cost of 5s. He left the house between ten and eleven, and neither returned nor paid the money. Mr George Spry, of Spry and Austin, said that the prisoner, who bore a strong resemblance to him, was a stranger to him. He was now appearing at the Middlesex and Cambridge with his wife, who took the name of Austin. The first time he heard that a man was going about using his name was on Aug. 16. The prisoner was remanded.

MR ARTHUR ST. GEORGE will produce in the London halls about Christmas time a dramatic scena entitled *The Dead Heart*, written by A. St. George and Cayley Calvert, the music being composed by Mr W. G. Gliddon. The scena is to be produced on an exceedingly lavish scale.

THE TWO BEKS (Harry and Flora Blake) leave town on Monday for six weeks on the Stoll Tour, after a long run in London. Their "Hiawatha" scena is still a great attraction, and Mr Stoll has requested them to repeat it.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

THE ancient charter under which the fairs of Birmingham originated gave the right to hold a fair within the festival of Whitsun and another during the festival of "Holy Michael and All Angels." The Whitsuntide fixture still remains; but in order not to clash with the Birmingham Musical Festival the Michaelmas date was altered to the last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday in September. It was not until the year 1851 that the town began its control of the fairs. The pomp and ceremony of proclaiming the fair is still within living memory. The officers of the Court Leet, the High and the Low Bailiffs, preceded by the town crier and a band of music, perambulated the principal streets. With these officials walked the prominent men of the town.

AT certain stopping places the fair was duly proclaimed, the quaint wording of the Charter setting forth the Fair Rights and Franchises of the people of Birmingham as well the Lord of the Manor to hold a "mercate" or "fair." The fair was held in the heart of the town, the principal sites being the Bull Ring, the lower part of Bull-street, the whole of High-street, part of New-street, Dale-end, Digbeth, Allison-street, Spiceall-street, Jamaica-row, and the whole of Smithfield. In 1860, the Town Council failed in their effort to abolish the fair. One thing the Town Council could do and it was done. That was to limit the corporation fair ground to the bull ring, Smithfield Market, and the upper part of Digbeth.

THE puritanical majority on the Council dare not face the people and obtain their end and purpose with the popular consent. They gradually narrowed down the available ground for holding the fair, and in 1875 arbitrary decisions were made by the Borough Council (1) "Not to let any corporation ground for shows or exhibitions," and (2) "Not to allow the streets of the town to be used by stalls or temporary erections during the weeks of the fairs." Thus by a resolution of the Borough Council the Ancient Charter Fairs were deprived of their accustomed use of the market and borough fairgrounds. This was in 1875. The Showmen's Guild did not exist in those days. The travelling showman was at the mercy of any Jack-in-office or elected person. Had the showmen been organised in those days as they are to-day the people of Birmingham would have been roused to defend their ancient fair rights and privileges.

IT is a curious legal point that Birmingham's Charter Fairs still remain with all their vested rights as secure as when first conferred in the reign of Richard II. Corporations may refuse facilities for holding the fair. They may forego the resultant revenue from tolls, &c. Yet the fairs still exist until properly and constitutionally abolished according to statute law. The City Fathers of the great Midland metropolis found out that without the consent of the people they could not abolish the fairs. Birmingham has held its fairs without intermission, though not on Corporation ground.

A GREAT deal of the success of Birmingham fairs and their popularity is owing to the admirable business management and perseverance of Messrs Collins Brothers and their up-to-date coadjutors on the great Midland Round. It is no exaggeration to say that Birmingham Great Onion Fair as a popular holiday is dearer than ever to the hearts of the people. On the first day of the fair over forty special excursion trains from all parts of the midlands—from Manchester, Liverpool, Bristol, Wales, and the east coast—poured their thousands of cheap trippers into the town. The stalls in the Bull-ring and in the Market were loaded with strings of onions, still linking the old fairground with the traditions of the past.

THERE was no doubt as to where the people were wending. Every tramcar going to "the Old Pleck," the locale of the modern fair, was loaded. No distance ever daunts your true lover of the fair. So

Hey-ho! and away we go,
Off to the fair, all in a row.

So sang the ballad-monger in the olden time.

NOW we are in the midst of a surging crowd—the old Pleck Fairground, the legitimate successor of the famous bull-ring, is reached at last. Oh, the swing and joy of it! The magnetism of its thousand and one attractions; the extraordinary blend of much music; the bright and varying effects, gold, and glitter; the show fronts in their blaze of electric light; the whirling gondolas; the bewildering switchbacks; the rampant horses; the airships; the life and joy of a vast multitude, all with one accord on pleasure bent. This is the undying charm of the fair. There is nothing like it. It is ever new. As well try to fight the stars in their courses as to stay a multitude in one mind. The fairground lessees are Messrs P. Collins, Limited, of the Gondola Works, Walsall. The arrangements on the ground were in the able hands of Messrs S. Jeffries and F. T. Salva, acting for the company.

THE shows were again numerous, at the head of which were Mr George H. Kemp's current history, Mrs F. Collins's superb electrograph, Mr James Crighton's Cinématograph, Mrs E. Baker's Continental circus, Buff Bill's (Mr William Kayes) lady lion tamer, Prof. Robert Buckley's performing birds and hares, Sahib Leo's Egyptian hall, Mr John Cordwell's fine art show, Madame Salva's handcuff king, Mr Sol Reeder's two shows (the crocodiles and the mare and foal), Mr Chas. Relph's diminutive equine, Mr John Cooper's Parisian exhibition, Prof. Bob Burden's assault-at-arms, Mr Thos. Watson's coronation bullock, and Orao, the missing link. The four machines of the limited company, the No. 1 and No. 2 sets of racing cockerells under the management of Messrs P. Whyatt and W. Summerhayes; rolling gondolas, No. 1 set, manager, Mr W. Mullett; the four abreast gallopers were under Mr W. Bastable's care. Mr John Collin's twin yachts and motor bicycles, and the Newmarket gallopers of the same proprietor; Mr Chas. Farrell's farmyard and juvenile flying machine, Mrs Shepherd's Venetian gondolas, Master Patric Collins' twin tugs, Russell's three-abreast, and Tom Jervis's steam swings concluded the machine list. The photographic saloon of Mr Joe Caddick and the first-class shooting concerns of Messrs Geo. Ford, Wm. Dobson, Thos. Hughes, Wm. Oxford, and Chas. Farrell were all in evidence.

THE supplementary fun of the fair was contributed by Messrs John Cordwell, jun., Sam Mercer, John Cordwell, sen., James Cooper, Harry Scarfe, Alf Birch, Wm. Chaplin, S. Wirsper, M. Hotchkiss, I. Wainwright, E. Humphrey, and G. Ford.

ALCESTER FAIR, held on Monday and Tuesday last, attracted, as usual, a goodly array of the best concerns on the Warwick and Worcester circuit. Here were Chipperfield's Royal Show, with all the latest pictures of the Russo-Japanese War and many interesting local films. Mr Thomas Clarke's aggregation of fairground novelties included his superb set of electric switchback gondolas, the fine range of highfliers, the rifle saloon, and coker sheet. Mr Strickland exhibited a first-class set of steam horses, a range of park swings, a bottle battery, and a coker sheet. Mr Wilson's concerns were the shooting gallery, the variety stall, and Emma sheet. Mr Chipperfield had two novelties, the variety stall and Emma sheet. Stalls, varieties, roll-up boards, &c, were provided by Messrs Seaton (two), Taylor (two), Smith, Kemp, Phipps, and Herbert.

RETFORD October Fair was held on Saturday and Monday last. The principal attractions were supplied by Councillor Geo. T. Tuby, of Doncaster, who exhibited three of his high-class roundabout machines, the switchback gondolas, the superb Venetian gondolas, and the Excelsior steam horses. He had also a capital range of park swings and highfliers on the ground. The shooting concerns included rifle saloons by Messrs Tuby, sen., and Gilliatt, and a bottle battery by Hunt; Emma sheets, coker-shies, and varieties by Messrs Illingworth, Hunt, and Gilliatt. The next fair will be on March 23, 1905. The interests of the showmen are well cared for by the courteous market superintendent, Mr John Boulby.

Two cases of more than usual interest and importance to showmen came before the local authorities last week. We refer to the prosecution—which failed—of Mr Andrew Purchase, of menagerie fame, and the imposition of a fine upon Mr William Hancock, of Messrs W. C. and S. Hancock, the well-known show and roundabout proprietors, of the Winter Gardens, Plymouth. We reported the police-court proceedings last week. The performing lion, it was proved to the satisfaction of the Bench, was so admirably trained and entered so thoroughly into the spirit of the performance that cruelty was absolutely out of the question. Trained lions are, in truth, too valuable to admit of possible ill care or cruel treatment. The startling act in which both the animal and trainer exhibit their skill is too valuable an asset for any proprietor to depreciate by either reckless treatment or neglect. The Society for Preventing Cruelty to Animals had better confine their labours to the over-worked beasts of burden that disgrace from time to time the busy roads of town and country. We trust Mr Andrew Purchase and his trained lion will now be left in peace to exhibit their skill without let or hindrance.

MR HANCOCK'S case is even more remarkable as an exhibition of how to misinterpret the real sense and meaning of an Act of Parliament. The object of the Act under which the prosecution took place was to prevent sweated child labour in dangerous trades and industries, and to provide time, at least, for bringing neglected children under the educational machinery of the state. One can well imagine Mr Hancock's indignation at finding himself classed in the same category as brutal parents and sweaters of child labour.

THE Hancocks' name is synonym for charity in the West of England. The little girl herself was so used to animals from her cradle, having her life in the show, that to her the lions were daily friends. She loved them and they loved her. To bring the machinery of an Act of Parliament to bear in a case of this character, where no possible cruelty or danger exists, is a strange exhibition of how not to administer justice but to bring it into contempt. Then again, to prevent the showman's child getting that true training for after life—which the outside parade and dance mean—is to do the child a lifelong wrong and injury. It is to be hoped that the busy people who carry on the work of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children are in truth as humane and as charitable as the Messrs Hancock are known of all men to be in caring for the fatherless.

AT Alvechurch Fair were C. Herberts' riding circus, park swings, shooting saloons, cokernut sheets, stalls, and other numerous attractions.

BURTON-ON-TRENT Statutes Fair this year followed immediately after Birmingham, the fair day being the first Monday in October. Mr Hanson, the Superintendent of the Borough Markets, set out the fair with his usual skill, every possible site being fully utilised. It is a quick one-day fixture. The shows, &c, draw on the allotted ground at six a.m. on the fair day, and the ground must be cleared by six a.m. next day. The necessity for this will be apparent when it is stated that the available market space is very limited indeed, and the greater bulk of the concerns at the fair have to stand in the streets branching out from the market. Mr Hanson is to be congratulated on the admirable arrangements under these very difficult circumstances. The shows were:—Arthur Twigdon's Electrograph, Dr. E. Lawrence's Bombardment of Port Arthur, John Proctor's Eventograph, Sahib Leo's Egyptian Hall, Sol Reeder's two shows, Buff Bill's menagerie, Mr Chas. Relph's exhibition, Matson's giant bullock, Mr J. Cordwell's fine art; the photo. booths of Messrs A. C. Tyler and Joe Caddick; the Morris tubes of Messrs G. Weir, W. Hall, G. Neal, H. Saunt, and S. Hall. The machines were as usual—Mr Fred Hodder's rolling junks, Mr Geo. Twigdon's British fowls, Mrs Weir and Sons' steam farm, Messrs J. Wilcock's, M. Chapman's, and G. Neal's juvenile roundabouts. Coker shies, roll-ups, bogies, &c., were supplied by Messrs S. Case, A. James, S. Mercer, J. Cordwell, H. Hall, F. Westrop, and A. Burton.

BEVERLEY Market place was, on Saturday last, a scene of great animation, Mr Wm. Murphy, of gondola fame, having been successful in leasing the market ground from the Corporation. The erection of Mr Murphy's superb machine "Golden Venice" and the many other concerns of showmen on their way to Hull Fair caused no little excitement in the otherwise, at ordinary times, sleepy little borough. Saturday being market day, the country folk crowded the town and thoroughly enjoyed the fun of the fair. In addition to the lessee's concern we noticed Messrs Baines and Steward with their bazaars, Ashcroft with cokers from the West Indies, Peters' merchandise stalls, the freak calf show, and many minor fair ground novelties. The indefatigable agent of the lessee, Mr George Campbell, had charge of the arrangements, which were altogether satisfactory.

BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S No. 1 aggregation are announced to visit Beverley to-day (Saturday) en route for Hull Fair. The fair at Hull is advertised for Monday, Oct. 10, continuing to Saturday, Oct. 15, inclusive. There is every prospect of a most successful fair this year.

OUR Leicester representative writes: — The Leicester pleasure fair, which had been considered by certain Puritanical faddists to be a thing of the past, is to blossom forth in all its old glory on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Monday next week, when, to celebrate the opening of the new grounds, which are situated on the Belgrave-road Building Estate, Ross's-walk, there is to be ox-roasting and other free sights, including Prince Alexander, who will perform on the high rope, and Aerian and Ostara on the flying trapeze. The new pleasure grounds are well situated for their purpose, and no doubt the worthy showmen will now be able to carry on their legitimate business without any further interference from the Corporation and other so-called "reformers," as the Town Clerk has informed a candidate for municipal honours that the Corporation had now been rendered powerless in the matter, and could not interfere. The railway companies are running special trains, and the lessees of the fair, Messrs P. Collins, Limited, J. Collins, jun., and A. Twigdon have left no stone unturned in the way of advertising, the walls and hoardings all over the town displaying large posters, pictorials, &c. The public of the town, who, it will be remembered, both held public meetings and petitioned the Home Secretary in favour of the retention of the fair in Humberstone-gate, will thus not be deprived of their carnival, which has always been looked forward to by them with pleasure, their friends from long distances making it a point of being present. We may record the fact that lively satisfaction is expressed on all hands here that the enterprise of the showmen has been successful in finding a new "pitch" after the unnecessary trouble and expense to which they have been put.

SUMMERCOURT, nigh unto Bodmin, Cornwall, has a fair of ancient lineage. Situated in the heart of the county, it has always been an ideal gathering-ground for east and west, and, verily, the people do come to Summercourt. From Truro and Bodmin, and even from distant Launceston, the people trooped to the fair. Vehicles by the hundred lined the roadside and occupied adjacent fields; and they were of every shade and description, from the costly motor to the humble donkey cart. To count the cycles would be almost as difficult as to count the people. They evidently go early and stay late. With hundreds of them it is *the* day of the year, and to sacrifice even an hour of it would to them amount to a sin. They must stay it out, even though they be dead tired by midday. Favoured by splendid weather, Monday was an ideal day for seeing the fair at its best. The fair field itself is not large, but no one can say the most is not made of the room. Certain it is that after the fair was over many of the stands in the centre had to wait until those on the outskirts had gone before they could get out themselves. The pleasure fair arrangements were in the capable hands of Messrs W. C. and S. Hancock, who exhibited their well-known aggregation of roundabout machines and show novelties, attended by the usual crowd of minor concerns.

THE tragic death of Lorenzo Crick—a well-known and highly respected Lancashire showman—calls for our deepest sympathy. Mr Lorenzo was driving his waggon between Bolton and Tyldesley, when suddenly an electric car crashed into the caravan, and Lorenzo was thrown from the driving seat and cast under the car. The unfortunate man was killed. The coroner at the inquest animadverted strongly on the danger to the ordinary traffic by the monopoly of our roads by electric tramways and light railways. Lorenzo in former days was a clever trainer and exhibitor of dogs and monkeys. Many of the Lancashire showmen attended the funeral, and great sympathy with the family was manifested.

WE are now in the full cycle of Midland mops or hiring fairs. Gloucester rejoices in two mops. The first of these was held the early part of this week. The new fair ground proved an immense success. Mr Jacob Studt, the lessee, provided a splendid array of fairground novelties, including his splendid Cinématograph show and various machines. In fact, under modern conditions, a new lease of life is now guaranteed to Barton Mop Fair at Gloucester.

TAMWORTH annual statute fair was held in fine weather yesterday. There was an absence of hiring of servants. Located in Lady Meadow, the pleasure fair was well attended by visitors, of whom there was a large number.

THE action of the King's Norton District Council in enclosing the village green has dealt a severe blow at the "Mop." This year, in consequence of the Council's action, the Mop is being held in a field hired for the occasion. Showmen and others began to arrive last Thursday, but a number of them, on finding that they were not allowed to stand on the green, left the next day, while others, in spite of the Council's warning, pitched their stalls on the forecourts of the houses near the Bull's Head and Saracen's Head Inns. Compared with previous years there are not so many shows, and the usual amusements to be found at a village fair, owing to lack of accommodation in the field. A start was made on Saturday night, but the Mop proper did not take place until yesterday, when it was in full swing long before noon. During the day it was visited by crowds of people.

AT Mrs Strickland's Victoria Theatre, now located at Pershore, a capital run of popular plays by an excellent stock company is drawing capital houses. The répertoire includes *The Oath of Silence*, *The Adventures of a Stowaway*, *Macbeth*, *The Woman in Red*, *The Land We Live In*, and the pantomime *Little Red Riding Hood*.

MR FINSHALL, travelling photographer, whose portable studio was completely destroyed by fire recently, whilst attending the Lancashire wakes, has this week received a cheque for the whole amount of his loss under a fire insurance policy made with the Times Insurance Company, of Bedford-row, London. Mr F. F. Pope, of Abingdon-on-Thames, the travelling agent for the company, informs us that this is the third claim paid to showmen during the past season.

IN another column will be found the appeal of the executive committee of the Showmen's Guild for funds to maintain its work in that state of efficiency which has made the Guild a model trade protection society.

We venture to point out to all interested in the vast and varied business of entertaining the citizens of the Empire that the showman's case is an illustration of the way in which public bodies—if allowed, without let or hindrance, to have their own sweet ways—may penalise all entertainers, and destroy the people's right to seek and enjoy such amusement and recreation as their workaday life demands.

When we see the enormous powers now placed by Act of Parliament in the hands of corporations we are prone to regret that; like the travelling showman, the more permanently fixed caterers of the dramatic and musical art did not begin in time to scrutinise and to oppose the jurisdiction over entertainments assumed, by power of bye-law, by public bodies.

The showmen have found—and other entertainers, had they been similarly led and organised, would have found too—that Parliament is intensely conservative of individual and public rights; and that corporations, if vigorously opposed, will not be given autocratic powers. It must be borne in mind that the showmen have laboured and fought the question step by step for six years past, and that now it is only necessary to show that the powers sought for are in excess of the general law. When the showmen first took action in the matter, they were told that only ratepayers in the district affected by the proposed bye-laws had any right cognisable by law. But the showmen persevered, and—backed by influential friends like the Hon James Lowther, T. Gibson Bowles, and the then member for Hornsey, Mr Stephens—they were at last allowed recognition at the Home Office and at the Local Government Board, and permitted to oppose inimical legislation in their collective capacity as the Showmen's Guild.

In this struggle, and even before it commenced, we had done all we could to organise, advise, and help the showmen. The Rev. T. Horne, whose connections with *The Era* goes back fully ten years, has spoken for the showmen and written for them unceasingly. Now he, with others, can see the demand of the show-loving public for justice completely won.

There still, however, remains the urgent duty of constant vigilance—vigilant scrutiny of every Bill, private or public, that attempts by additional power clauses to make bye-laws. This work will continue until that good time comes when watching will not be necessary, when corporations will cease to overweight their Parliamentary Bills with vaguely-worded clauses giving powers to penalise entertainers and their trade.

This was in our issue of April 2 this year. We reviewed the position of showmen defence work, and with a new session of Parliament before them it is high time that showmen set their house in order, and, by strengthening the protection and defence work, prevent further encroachments on their business rights and privileges. We commend the appeal to all sorts and conditions of entertainers—in fact, to the whole showman world.

LLANELLY FAIR was held last week, and there was a good attendance of showmen. Foremost amongst them were Mr Henry Studt and Son with two fine machines. Mr Haggar with his electric Bioscope was here, and as usual was quite up to date. Cotterell's swimming show also came once more, after a long absence, and did well. Orecraft's lion show and cinématograph were likewise present. There were numerous shooters and Mollies, including Boswell's, North's, Day's, O'Brien's, &c.

PAULINE NEWSOME, wife and professional partner of James Newsome, the well-known circus proprietor, passed away last week at Cleethorpes. Sixty-four years ago Newsome, equestrian pantomimist, was a member of Batty's circus company, which, after a successful provincial tour, was compelled to take refuge at the Lambeth Baths owing to the destruction of Astley's by fire. From thence they moved on to the Surrey Theatre, and afterwards to the White Conduit Gardens, pending the rebuilding of their house over the water.

IN the year 1849 Newsome joined a fine circus company which appeared within the classic walls of Drury-lane Theatre. It was at this period that he married Pauline Hinné, a native of Berlin and a beautiful and accomplished horsewoman. She had sprung from a circus stock, her brothers and sisters being in the profession, while her father was the proprietor of Clinizelli's Circus. Proceeding to Paris with her husband, she was in that city when Mr Newsome began to apply himself to the breaking of horses for the haute école, an art then little known in England. The Newsomes toured several years on the Continent, and in the year following the Great Exhibition entered upon a circus season at the Vauxhall Gardens, which were closed for ever on July 25, 1859.

FOR forty years the Newsomes have been household words in the English provinces and in Scotland, particularly in Edinburgh, where they built a fine circus which was subsequently destroyed by fire. They were not only talented equestrians themselves, but they were parents of children who worthily upheld the traditions of the family name. Mr Newsome is now eighty years of age, and the death of his wife and helper brings a reflection of sadness to those who remember "scenes in the circle" in the palmy days of the dead past.

ON Tuesday, for two performances only, the Horse Show Field, Bolton, was occupied by Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and Congress of Rough Riders of the World, headed by Colonel W. F. Cody. The spacious enclosure was well filled at each performance.

THE annual Bridgwater Fair was held on Sept. 28 and 29, business being, however, continued until Oct. 1. The principal attractions were:—Marshall Hill's circular switchback, Chas. Heal's gallopers, P. Collins' (Limited) steam horses, Chipperfield's Electrograph, Messrs Anderton and Rowland's Bioscope, Alf. Wright's boxing saloon, Prof. Howard's "lion-faced lady," Dooner's Bisley rifle range, and many smaller exhibitions and shooting galleries, cokernut gardens, booths, stalls, &c. The weather was fine, and business brisk. Holloway's portable theatre is here for a month or two, and is doing fine "biz," on some nights actually turning away money. The following plays are billed for this week:—*Octoroon*, *Dead Hand*, *Mary Warner*, *Jane Shore*, *Beggar's Petition*, *London by Night*, with a laughable farce each evening.

AT Wallingford Fair, on the 29th ult., were:—Bailey's switchback, Fulcher's switchback, Willson's, Bird's galloping horses, Purchase's menagerie and waxwork, Taylor's electric living pictures, Ball's Bioscope, Gillham's boxing saloon, and Bailey's fine-art exhibition.

AT Studley Mop were H. Strickland's steam gallopers, park swings, shooting saloons, cokers, &c., Kemp's Oriental bazaars, and other attractions by Messrs Herbert Smith, Phipps, and Newman.

AT King's Norton Fair, held on the town field, were Mrs Collins' switchback railway, J. Collins' bicycles, Collins' midget horses, C. Farrell's gallopers, C. Farrell's midget ponies, H. Holloway's great show, Wright's fine art exhibition, Farrell's fine art exhibition, Naylor's varieties, swing boats by Messrs Farrell, Collins, and Wright; shooting saloons, &c., by Messrs Farrell, Wright, Dixon, Hughes, Kemp, Eccestone, Lewis, Cartwright, Andrews, Monnox, Martin, Boswell, Harris, Cooper, Coley, and many others.

THE agricultural shows in October of possible use and importance to showmen are few in number. The Cork Agricultural Society and winter show of roots, &c., will be held at Cork on the 13th and 14th; the Ayrshire Show at Kilmarnock on the 20th and 21st; Clay Cross is dated for the 25th; and Collingham for the 27th.

THE horse and cattle fairs of importance are as follows:—Glastonbury, 10th; St. Ives, 10th; Denbigh, 11th; Falkirk, 11th; Cockermouth, 12th; Drogheda, 12th; Tavistock, 12th; Abergele, 19th; Dundalk, 19th; Hereford, 19th; Devizes, 20th; Market Harborough, 20th; Lincoln, 21st; Melton Mowbray, 24th; Leighton Buzzard, 24th; Rugby, 24th; Gainsborough, 25th; Wigton, 26th; Antrim, 27th; Limerick, 27th; Horncastle, 28th; Ely, 29th; Wellingborough, 29th; Carlisle, 29th; Falmouth, 31st.

THE pleasure fairs ahead next week are Abingdon, Alloa, Chipping Norton, Cirencester, Fazeley, Gosport, Grimsby, Halesowen, Lancaster, Tewkesbury, Leicester, Hull, Mitcheldean, and Sherbourne, on the 10th; Basingstoke, Bridport, Daventry, Burwell, Faversham, Henley-in-Arden, Highworth, Hougham, Kingsclere, Ledbury, Lingfield, Lowestoft, Marlborough, Nuneaton, Ramsbury, Sittingbourne, St. Ives, Thame, Tring, Tunbridge Wells, Whitney, and Wooler, on the 11th; Axminster, Bedford, Colne, Hitchen, Ickberrow, Needham Market, Stratford-on-Avon, Tavistock, Warwick, and Wymondham, on the 12th; Ashton-in-Makerfield, Ockley Heath, Shipton-on-Stour, and Torrington, on the 13th; Caistor and Workington, on the 14th; Banbury, Buckingham, Burley-in-Wharfdale, &c., City-road (Bradford), Farnsfield, and Wantage, on the 15th.

BRAINTREE, Essex, had for its October fair the following entertainments:—John Barker's Venetian gondolas, switchback set, park swings, and rifle saloon, and Mrs Charles Bibby's steam horses and rifle saloon. Mr Barker and Mrs Bibby also provided the minor fun of the fair in the shape of coker sheets, &c.

LISKEARD, Cornwall, held its October fair on Monday and Tuesday last under the successful management of the Brothers Hancock. Hancock's animated picture exhibition was a big success. The Hancocks also exhibited two high-class machines, the switchback gondola set and the steam gallopers. Messrs Charles, Chapman, and Ball with their swings, highflyers, and skyscrapers; and Messrs Frampton, Jones, Ildridge, Whitlegge, and many other local showmen provided rifle galleries, bottle batteries, coker sheets, varieties, and pannum stalls.

"COMING events cast their shadows before," and now is the time to cast careful thought ahead for the late autumn and winter season. Messrs T. and T. E Read of the Royal Agricultural Hall, are now busily booking spaces for the World's Fair at Islington. (See their advertisement in our columns.)

JOHN COLLINS also is arranging a first-rate run of fixtures right up to Christmas, when Liverpool will have its winter carnival and great world's fair in the covered-in Haymarket.

F. COLLINS, Limited, also advertise their excellent back-end circuit, with Wolverhampton and Birmingham for the Christmas and New Year.

WE hope to deal with other forward winter fixtures and openings for show business next week.

OUR Special Commissioner will give a graphic account of Nottingham Goose Fair (now proceeding), in our next issue.

WE notice with pleasure that Mr James Leo, the originator of the portable Egyptian Hall, Sahib Leo, the esoteric, mystic Buddha I. of the fair ground, is now on the grand tour of the back-end fairs. His tour of the Scotch fairs has been a brilliant success. During the Scottish run the Egyptian Hall entertainments have astounded and delighted vast crowds at Selkirk, Larkhall, Addington, Greenock, Johnstone, Pathhead, Thornton, Kinross, Cupar Fife, Bridge of Allan, Beith, Ayr, and other places. On the way north the show was the surprise of Carlisle, Penrith, and Hawick.

WE congratulate Mr Leo on the up-to-date enterprise and sterling ability of his entertainment. Leo is a man to be reckoned with.

AT Newcastle-on-Tyne we have Fred Durland's No. 3 section of Savage South Africa exhibiting in the Great Market. At Shields-road, Byker, Capt. Eagle Davis and his combination from the Far West are doing good business.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

SHOWMEN'S PARLIAMENTARY DEFENCE FUND.

Trustees: THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.

Objects.—I. To scrutinise Private Bills and to take action against all proposed injurious or restrictive legislation promoted by corporate bodies.

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FIRST LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Showmen's Guild Fund (the 1903 surplus)..... £191
Lord George Sanger (1904 subscription) 100

	£ s. d.
Proceeds of Bolton Fair Ball (per R. Pike, Esq)	18 0 11
Mr George Green, (1903)	10 10 0
Messrs Chas. Burrell and Sons, Ltd., Thetford (1903-4)	10 0 0
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Mr John Green ..	2 2 0
Mr T. Hurst.....	2 2 0
Mr John Whiting	2 2 0
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Mr Wm. Holmes..	2 2 0
Mr Goldthorpe Marshall	2 2 0
Mr Jacob Studt..	2 2 0
Mr John Wingate	2 2 0
Messrs R. Tidman and Sons	2 2 0
Mr T. Ravenscroft	2 2 0
Mr John Cooper ..	2 2 0
Mr Robert Fossett	2 0 0
Messrs Jacob Studt and Son (second sub.)	1 1 0
Mr T. Read	1 1 0
Mr Tom Smith (G.C.R.).....	1 1 0
Mr J. H. Creber ..	1 1 0
Mr Geo. Tinley ..	1 1 0
Mr Tom Payne ..	1 1 0
Mr Wm. Taylor ..	1 1 0
Mr J. Chipperfield	1 1 0
Mr J. Wentworth	1 1 0
Mr G. H Kemp ..	1 1 0
Mrs Thornley (Bolton)	1 1 0
Mrs Lucas (Bury)	1 1 0
Mr J. Smith (Bury)	1 1 0

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	£ s. d.
Mr John Cottrell (2nd sub.).....	5 0 0
Mr Jacob Studt (2nd sub.).....	5 0 0
Mr John Studt (2nd sub.).....	2 2 0
Messrs J. Dooner and Son.....	2 2 0
Mr H. Studt.....	1 1 0
Mr H. Scard.....	1 1 0
Mr Wm. Haggar..	1 1 0
Mr Alfred Payne..	1 0 0
Mr John Fossett..	0 10 6
Mr H. Cullis	0 10 6
Mr Kinder	0 10 6
Mr S. J. Haines ..	1 1 0
Mr T. Clark	1 1 0
Mr T. Scott	1 0 0
Mr John Wingate (second sub.) ..	0 10 6
Mr Geo. Cornwell	0 10 6
Mrs Ackerley	0 10 6
Mrs J. Pettigrove	0 10 6
Mr Frank Turner	0 10 6
Mr R. Warwick ..	0 10 6
Mr Harry Cox....	0 10 6
Mr E. Lawrence..	0 10 6
Messrs Stacey and Sons	0 10 6
Messrs Tyas & Sons	0 10 6
Mr J. Hague (Oldham)	0 10 6
Mr Metcalf (Islington).....	0 10 6
Mr Wm. Park (Salford)	0 10 6
Mr Edwin Clegg (Salford)	0 10 6
Mr H. Winterbottom (Oldham) ..	0 10 6
Mr J Hibbert ..	0 10 6
Mr H. R. Hibbert	0 10 6
Mr R J Baker ..	0 10 6
Mr David Granelli (Oldham)	0 10 6
Mr Wm. Wright..	0 10 6
Mr E. Geoghegan	0 10 6
Mr Wm. Marsden (Bury)	0 10 6
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Mr Chas. Williams (Sleaford)	0 10 6
Mr J. G Clowes ..	0 10 0
Mr H. Taylor (Hounslow)	0 10 0
Mr Wm. Sconce (King's Lynn) ..	0 10 0
Mr Harry Hughes	0 10 0
Mr H. J. Wallis ..	0 10 0
Mr Wm. Smith ..	0 10 0
Mr Wm. Kemp ..	0 10 0
Mr A. Hibbert....	0 10 0
Mr J. Cottrell	0 10 0
Mr John Ingham..	0 10 0
Mr R. Deeks.....	0 10 0
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Mr Whyatt	0 10 6
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Mr Winsper	0 10 6
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Mr Jas. Whayman	0 10 6
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Mr Odeby	0 10 0
Mr Jones	0 10 0
Mr T. Hartshorn	0 10 0
Mr M'Ardell.....	0 10 0
Mr John Thorpe..	0 10 0

Further donations or subscriptions may be sent to the hon. treasurer, Mr Edward Ledger, *The Era* Office, London, for the metropolitan district; to the treasurers or secretaries, as above; or to H. M. Horne, secretary, 137, Burton-road, West Didsbury, Manchester.

The executive officers of the Guild confidently place their case for generous assistance before you, and earnestly plead that the defence may be made fully effective for the necessary work and purpose.

Lord George Sanger, President; T. Horne, (Rev.), Hon. Organising Chaplain; T. Hurst, Hon. Secretary; H. M. Horne, General and Financial Secretary, West Didsbury, Manchester.

AT the Marylebone Police-court, on Saturday, Frederick Peplowe Maples, forty-five, an artist, of Belle Vue Park, Thornton-heath, and Albert Crosiley, fifty-seven, engaged in the musical sketch, *The Fighting Parson*, in the character of a policeman, living at Titchfield-street, Marylebone, were charged, on remand, before Mr Curtis-Bennett, with stealing a lady's crocodile-skin dressing-case and its contents, the property of Miss Margaret Corry, a lady residing at 39, Park-hill-road, Croydon. Mr George Gray, the "Fighting Parson" at the Oxford Theatre of Varieties, said he attended the court because of the statement made at the previous hearing that Crosiley was engaged as a policeman in the sketch *The Fighting Parson*. When he saw the statement in the papers he questioned the three men who were so employed at the theatre, and each of them assured him again and again that they knew nothing of the case. He therefore wrote to the magistrate to that effect. It now appeared, however, that Crosiley, or Penford, as he was known professionally, had deceived him. In the end Mr Curtis-Bennett discharged Crosiley, saying that he had been extremely foolish, but no jury would convict him on the evidence. Maples was further remanded.

AT Marlborough-street Police-court, on the 30th ult., Mr Fred Trussell, manager of the Hippodrome, attended with Sub-divisional Inspector Smith and the Alphonse troupe of jugglers, requiring licences for the two junior members of the troupe—a boy and a girl. It was explained that the children simply "served" the articles used in the performance, some of which, from a photograph, appeared to be delicate china articles which, no doubt, were caused to fly about the stage without the disastrous results arising from the "juggling" of the average domestic servant. Police and medical inquiries being satisfactory, Mr Denman granted the licences asked for.

THE GRANVILLE.

At the pretty Granville Theatre of Varieties, Walham-green, the acting-manager, Mr Ernest Bridgen, is in high feather at his recent discovery of the missing Oxford undergraduate, Mr Arthur Norris, of Bath, partly through the instrumentality of the cowboy hypnotist, Ahrensmeyer, whose patient he had become. Crowds flocked to the hall last week to witness the hypnotic illustrations, and maybe also to take a peep at the cute acting-manager, Mr Ernest Bridgen, who was able to pick out a youth by his resemblance to a printed photograph among the multitudes who frequent the Granville, a feat which certainly ought to enhance his reputation for acumen and smartness. A capital programme is as usual presented at this theatre of variety, where the performance is now continuous from 7·30 p.m. to about 11·0 o'clock, with no special time apportioned for the interval. Mr Fred Karno's company of comedians, in their screaming travesty on the modern *(sic)* music hall entitled *Mumming Birds*, takes the pride of place. This is a genuinely funny, original, and harmless whimsicality, which keeps people in a roar of laughter, while it could not offend the susceptibilities of anyone who witnessed it. Especially droll are the occupants of the stage boxes, the irrepressible youth who "guys" the whole performance, and the inebriated gentleman in Box B, whose displeasure so many of the performers are unfortunate enough to provoke. Miss Rosie Lloyd is eminently well suited in the lively ditty, "Girls will be girls and boys will be boys," and her more serious effort, "You ain't ashamed of me" also goes down well. Mr Sam Mayo, the immobile comedian, is so diverting in his one song of nonsense verses, sung to the tune of "So early in the morning," that we would fain have heard more of him. Miss Marie Collins also rendered her ballad, "Oh, girls, why don't you emigrate?" with such dash and verve that another equally good song would have been very welcome indeed. Mr Harry Champion, quick and quaint as ever, rattles through a couple of inconsequent ditties, "Ping-Pong" and "Oo-er" being the burden of the refrains. Vernando, the ventriloquist, with his deaf figure, Brown, is vastly entertaining, and clever withal. Mr Victor Travers, in his coon song parody and eccentric dance is immensely popular. Jimson's circus of clever and cultivated dogs, in which our canine friends show themselves marvels as exponents of dumb-show comedy, gains great and deserved applause, culminating in some fun with a real live pig dressed up as a baby in a pram. The animated pictures on the Edisonograph are very high class, and replete with effect and novelty. The presentment of the "Three-Card Trick," and the ensuing struggle in the train and the chase of the malefactors is exceedingly clever and realistic. Mr Laurie Wylie with his mimicking mannikin is a distinct addition to any show, his manipulation of the figures and their dancing, and his expressive features giving zest and realism to the performance. He imitates Fred Wright, jun., as Captain Pott, in *The Messenger Boy*, George Robey, in "The Prehistoric Man," Eugene Stratton, in "The White Coon," and winds up with a dose of Dan Leno. The Morton Comedy Trio make music and melody much to the delight of all assembled; Alexandre and Hughes provoke much laughter by their musical comedy; and George Barron, eccentric comedian; Miss Lilian Travelli, soubrette; Sam Dalton, character comedian; the Karno Trio, in their well-known laughable sketch, *The Traveller's Rest*; the Maples, specialty dancers; Miss Flo Raynor, comedienne; and Hector and Paulus, capital comedy equilibrists, complete a long and strong programme.

MUSIC AND DANCING LICENCES.

A special meeting of the West Ham Town Council was held last Tuesday night at the Town Hall, Stratford, to deal with applications for music and dancing and stage plays, the Mayor (Councillor G. A. M'Dowall) presiding.

There were 105 applications, including four requests for new licences—one for music by Mr Francis Gomm, of the Railway Tavern, Angel-lane, Stratford; one for music and dancing by Mr A. C. Davis, of the Queen's Hall, Queen's-road, Canning-town; and two for stage plays, by Mr A. W. Chescoe, for the Forest-gate Public Hall; and by Mr R. Mailer, of the Tate Institute, Silvertown.

The Factories Sub-committee of the Works Committee, since the receipt of the applications, has visited all the houses for which licences were asked.

At the Borough Theatre, Stratford, the Theatre Royal, Stratford, and the Royal Albert Music Hall, the sub-committee recommended that fire-resisting asbestos screens be provided, and that they be raised and lowered once at least at each performance. Gangways not less than three and a-half feet wide were also required to be provided in the centre of the stalls and pit; and in other halls where chairs are used these are to be battened together in sets of not less than three not more than twelve. At the Town Hall, Stratford, for which the town clerk is licensed, the sub-committee recommended much better sanitary provisions and the non-letting of the gallery in the future.

It was resolved, on the proposition of Alderman Ivey, that each applicant as he came forward should state if he was willing to fall in with the sub-committee's recommendation, and if he did not that his case stand adjourned for a fortnight.

In the case of the application of Mr Chescoe, of the Forest-gate Public Hall, Mr F. A. S. Sterry, solicitor, said that the recommendations of the sub-committee would be carried out. He, however, pointed out that the hall had only been built three years ago, and a great deal of money had been spent on it. He desired, too, to ask the Council to remove the restrictions on the hall that no intoxicating liquors be sold there, and urged that this should be done because the Town Hall, Stratford, with which the Public Hall, Forest-gate, was in competition, had no such restriction. The hall was forbidden by its lease to have a bar, and all applications to have intoxicants would have to go to the justices of the borough.

Mr Frederick Fredericks, on the part of the Borough Theatre, Stratford, said that the fire-resisting screens were in hand, and would soon be in place, but he objected to the proposal as to the central gangway in the pit and stalls, and one as to sub-letting.

The Council considered the whole of the matters in camera, and when the public were admitted the Mayor announced that, with a few exceptions, the whole of the licences would be renewed on the same conditions as last year. The exceptions were:—The Great Eastern Railway Mechanics' Institution, Stratford New Town Hall; the Royal Albert Music Hall, Canning-town; the Borough Theatre, Stratford; the Theatre Royal, Stratford; and the Empire Theatre, Stratford. Those applications would stand adjourned, so that the applicants could study the position they were put into by the proposals of the sub-committee. But so that they might be put in perfect order, the Council would grant to them each a provisional order to cover the next fortnight.

A COMEDY DUOLOGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In reference to the letter headed "A Comedy Duologue," in your last issue, it is a further coincidence that I produced a duologue with practically the same plot at the Theatre Royal, Grimsby, on Jan. 4 last.

Yours faithfully, GEORGE ELSWORTH
(the Elsworths).

Queen's, Fleetwood, Oct. 4

WE are glad to hear that the operation undergone by Mrs J. E. Cheevers on Monday was entirely successful, and that the popular lady is making good progress towards recovery.

THE PROSECUTION OF SKETCHES.

At the Marlborough-street Police-court on Monday, the Oxford, Limited, were summoned before Mr Kennedy for producing a stage play entitled *The Belle of the Orient* at the Oxford Music Hall in August and September without authority of letters patent or licence from the Lord Chamberlain.

Mr Bodkin, in opening the proceedings, said he appeared on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association, the summons being taken out under the Theatres Act, 1843. The Association numbered among its members Sir Henry Irving, Sir Charles Wyndham, and Mr Tree, and there was no spirit of jealousy or retaliation in these proceedings. In this prosecution the Association held that an important principle was involved. The piece in question consisted of two acts and three scenes, and had ten speaking parts. There were also a chorus, dialogue, action, scenes, and a connected plot. It occupied forty minutes. Since the first prosecution about a year ago there had been eight or ten prosecutions, some of which were not instituted by the theatrical managers, who proceeded only against what were really "plays." They attacked none of the flimsy sketches that could not be dignified by such a name. For some years past such sketches continued, and were not in the least interfered with, but the music halls, having been given an inch, eventually took an ell. Music halls were of a "free and easy" character, and had not the censorship that was placed over theatres. The former could produce a sketch and employ words that were prohibited with regard to the latter places of amusement. Provincial managers very seriously felt the competition, and it had been left to the Theatrical Managers' Association to prosecute. In conclusion, Mr Bodkin said it was very desirable that the exact legal position of the parties should be clearly defined.

The first witness, a clerk from Somerset House, produced a document which showed that the defendant company had a capital of £100,000.

The next witness proved the rateable value of the hall, which was £3,334 per annum.

Mr Bodkin—There has been no difficulty in paying the rates since these sketches have been played?

The Witness—No, never.

Mr J. H. Riley, an actor of thirty or forty years' experience, was next called, and described the piece in question as a comic opera. In it the heroine was drugged and abducted by the agents of the "Sultan of Upopo," and "Lord Exmoor" offers £50,000 for her release.

Mr Bodkin—And do they all offer to earn the £50 000?

Mr Grain (interposing)—I think they say, "D—— your £50,000."

Mr Bodkin—If those words are used, it is clear this piece cannot be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain.

Mr Riley, continuing, said that in the second act the characters were seen en route for the Orient with Lord Exmoor disguised as a bill-poster. The third act showed the Sultan's harem.

Mr Bodkin—Was it like a harem?

Mr Grain—Don't give yourself away, Mr Riley.

Continuing, Mr Riley said that the Sultan came in and announced that he had got a new wife, who turned out to be Miss Ruth Verney, the heroine. One of the actors succeeds in giving the Sultan some of "Havemall's special Scotch whisky," to which he succumbs. Lord Exmoor then claims his bride, and the £50,000 is earned and paid to the Jewish gentleman in the piece.

Cross-examined by Mr Grain—The piece was a farce—comic opera—but he could not say whether it could be called a burletta. It was certainly not a tragedy or melodrama.

Mr Grain read out portions of the dialogue, and remarked that it seemed so absurd that it could not be called a play. In it one character exclaimed, "Hullo, Bill Bailey—how much on the rug?" Another said, "It's too good for a palace; you ought to make it into a pub." The "Jewish gentleman" suggested that it would make a good pawnshop.

Mr Riley, continuing, said he had seen the piece twice, and had come to the conclusion that it was a stage play.

Mr Bodkin—On the second occasion were you just as clear that it was a stage play? The Witness—Yes.

Mr Grain—I hope you don't suggest that he had some of "Havemall's Scotch Whisky"?

Mr George Alexander Redford, examiner of plays in the Lord Chamberlain's department, deposed that he was a witness in the case with the knowledge and permission of the Lord Chamberlain. The piece in question was in his opinion a stage play. He knew of "machinery" in his department for the prosecution of a case of this kind. Such a case might possibly be submitted to the Home Office.

Mr Grain, in defence, said that the prosecution was not a fair one, undertaken in the interests of the public, but was, on the contrary, a selfish one, undertaken from purely selfish motives. Counsel then dealt with the history of the music halls, pointing out their great development since they were merely a room attached to a public-house in which a "sing-song" was given. He asked the magistrate in this year of 1904 to take a common sense view of the matter and not rely on practically an "antediluvian" Act. He would not take the point in argument that this was not a stage play, but would leave that to the magistrate. If this were not a stage play there was an end of the case. Could not this strife between the theatre and the music hall be put a stop to? In other decisions there had been penalties inflicted, it was true, but then there was something more than this "rubbishing trash." In the case, heard before Mr Denman, of the opera of *La Toledad* that piece had been previously licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, but the present one had not.

Mr Kennedy—I should think it might have been.

Continuing, Mr Grain said it was nonsense to assert that the Lord Chamberlain could not prosecute, as he could go to the Home Office. Everything had been done to maintain the friendship of the halls and theatres, and a Bill was drafted with a view to get a common ground for the pursuit of their business without friction. Lastly he would point out that if these sketches were put down by heavy fines a large number of deserving people would be thrown out of employment.

Mr Kennedy said it was quite clear to him that the piece in question was a stage play within the meaning of the Act, but he would adjourn the case, so that he might consider the amount of the penalty.

NEW-CROSS EMPIRE.

A programme of great excellence is presented this week, and is duly appreciated by the large audiences that assemble at each performance. Mr Shackleton conducted the excellent Empire orchestra, which gave a spirited rendering of "Egypt," which was followed by the piccolo solo "The Linnet." Miss Alice Ormond charmed all present with her clever performance. Mr Fred Earle is a great favourite, and fully deserved the flattering reception he obtained. The famous Risley performers, the Kremo Family, are wonderfully smart in their own particular line. Mr Horace Wheatley was warmly welcomed and loudly applauded in his capital Irish songs, of which "We are proud of the Irish now," was the most popular. Mr Wheatley is an exceptionally clever dancer. Mr Walter King created much merriment with his really funny patter and clever character acting as a cat's-meat man, and as a lady who bemoans the many misfortunes that have befallen her since her marriage. In *Artful Jim* Mr Walter Groves and his clever supporters score a decided success. The sketch is most amusing, and is excellently acted by all concerned. Mr Burt Shepard sang some good songs in his own peculiar style, and was rewarded with loud laughter and applause. The first was a medley song, commencing with "Ever of thee," and finishing with some topical subjects of present interest. But Mr Shepard's greatest success was his last song, "Just about to fall." Mr W. C. Fields gave a clever comedy juggling performance, and his manipulation of billiard balls, hats, and other articles was extraordinarily clever. Miss Amy Russell looked very handsome in her gorgeous dress, and she sang "Bluebell" with great taste and skill. The performance concluded with the entertainment contributed by the Rayfords, which delighted all present.

£100 FOR A WALKING-STICK.

The sale of the Marquis of Anglesey's treasures has excited no little interest all over the country. Messrs Hunter and Co., Argyle-street, Glasgow, bought a large number of the jewels, &c. In looking at the collection the impression forces itself that the erratic Marquis was determined to go outside the scope of the average individual in securing novelties, and also that he was fairly successful. Few of us nowadays are over anxious to go the length of £300 in selecting our walking canes; yet that must be a modest estimate of the value of one which was bought at the sale by Mr Hunter, and which is undoubtedly the most expensive cane in the world. The head consists of upwards of 300 diamonds, rubies, sapphires, emeralds, and numerous other precious stones, which are arranged in a most artistic manner. Dr. Walford Bodie, the well-known hypnotist and electrician, has just purchased the stick from Messrs Hunter for the sum of £100 to add to his already large collection of valuables. He has been offered already £150 for the stick, but he will not sell it. The doctor also possesses the watch of the late Abingdon Baird, the millionaire, which weighs seven and a-half ounces 18-carat gold, and the monogram studded with ninety-eight diamonds. The centre stick in the illustration above, marked Lot 792, is the famous stick. Dr. Bodie can boast of having one of the most expensive walking-sticks in the world.

Photo by Langfier.

THE CENTRE STICK MARKED 792, IS SET WITH OVER 300 PRECIOUS STONES (RUBIES, PEARLS, TURQUOISE, SAPPHIRES), LATE THE PROPERTY OF THE MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY, PURCHASED BY DR WALFORD BODIE FOR THE SUM OF £100.

MR ARCHIBALD FORD, the well-known automobilist, made a triumphant entry into the arena of the London Hippodrome on Saturday evening, after having beaten the world's record non-stop run of 2,350 miles. His appearance with his motor was the signal for enthusiastic applause. His car had been going continuously for nine days.

THE Fine Art Society, 148, New Bond-street, has forwarded us a set of four handsome plates, in colours, by Lance Thackeray, illustrating a hand at Bridge. The subjects of the Bridge set are:—"May I Play to Hearts?" "I Double Hearts," "Chicane," and "Ruffing a Black Suit." The plates are 16in. by 11½in. in size, with a wide margin. The artist's proofs will be limited to 300 sets. Adepts at the all-popular game will keenly appreciate the humour of the allusions; and the cleverness of the drawings must be admired, even by non-players.

AT Greenwich Police-court, on Monday, Mr Rundell applied, on behalf of the manager of the New-cross Empire, for a licence to allow three children belonging to the Kremo troupe of risley acrobats to perform at the music hall twice each evening. Inspector Hexemer said that Mr d'Eyncourt, on a similar application being made at the North London Police-court, refused the licence on account of the delicate appearance of the children. On Sept. 26, however, the licence was granted by Mr Dickinson, but for one performance nightly only. Mr Rundell, in reply to the magistrate, said the children would be on the stage only about twelve minutes, at 7 30 and 9 30. He produced two medical certificates which stated that the children were in good health and fit to perform. Mr Baggallay granted a licence for the two performances, adding "Not later than 10 o'clock."

PRESENTATION.—On Tuesday, prior to leaving Yarmouth after a successful season's management of the Britannia Pier Pavilion, Mr Edward Gray was presented with a purse of gold by a few admirers and friends in recognition of his courtesy and business qualities, and was also presented with a handsome cheque by Mr J. W. Nightingale, the managing-director of the company.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

An exceptionally enticing list of talented turns has been held out this week at the Empress by Mr Nelson Francis, who, in his management of the popular hall, is giving every evidence for his fitness for the post, and as a consequence the spacious and handsome building has been packed to its utmost limits. The bill is especially strong in comedians, and laughter is continuous during the occupancy of the stage by that eccentric and resourceful mirth-provider Mr Will Evans. This popular droll's first contribution is a comic lecture, "Food versus Love," in which it is soon apparent that the speaker has little sympathy with the "tender passion," his arguments in favour of food—and plenty of it—being illustrated by a loaf and the savoury saveloy, which is hungrily devoured by "the crowd of 10,000," a part which is admirably played by one of his assistants, who largely adds to the merriment of the skit. In the "Barmaid's Lament," the ludicrous wail of blithesome Birdie, a damsel of some forty odd summers, Mr Evans also has full rein for the display of his extravagant humour, and his reception is of the most flattering description. Another popular favourite in the programme is the one and only white-eyed Kaffir, Mr G. H. Chirgwin, who has returned to town after a successful stay across the Border, where he has been amusing the canny Scot with his funny little snatches of parody, his pretty and cleverly rendered "My fiddle is my sweetheart," and, of course, the always demanded "Blind Boy." The white-eyed one's abilities to amuse are many and varied, and he has the happy knack of getting on good terms with his auditors directly he makes his appearance. Early in the evening Miss Rosie Archer, a dainty and talented mimic, gives some keenly appreciated imitations of Miss Connie Ediss, in a selection from *The Silver Slipper*, Miss Nellie Wallace, Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Kate Carney, and other well-known artistes; and some faithful portraits of male footlight favourites are forthcoming from Mr George Newburn, whose imitation of the voice and mannerisms of Mr Harry Randall is particularly lifelike, other excellent impressions being his Harry Ford, George Lashwood, and Gus Elen. Mr George Faning, a Negro comedian and patterer who contributes an amusing and original turn, funnily describes his experiences when brought before Mr Plowden, and his subsequent confinement in gaol, and sings a couple of ditties to the evident delight of his auditors; and Stirling and Love, variety artistes, contribute an enjoyable interlude of vocalism and instrumentation. The gentleman of the duo plays the cornet and one-stringed fiddle with cleverness, and gives a funny burlesque oratorio and an imitation of a slide trombone on the cornet, the lady singing "Eileen Alannah" with much charm. The pair are loudly acclaimed at the conclusion of their smartly worked turn. Miss Peggy Pryde sings in her own inimitable fashion "Now then, 'Liza, chuck yerself about," in which she humorously gives her experiences as a coffee-house waitress who is more than able to hold her own with any customer who may be inclined to argue with her; and also pleases greatly with a pretty song and dance, "Pinky-Panky-Poo." The successful and amusing coster romance, *Me and 'Er*, is given to the usual accompaniment of laughter by Duncan and Godfrey, both artistes being admirably fitted to the parts they undertake, and making every point tell; and another "screamer" is *Major M'Phee, M.P.*, a sketch in which Driscoll and Beattie are seen to much advantage. Handsomely and effectively gowned, Miss Victoria Monks scores a big success with "You'll have to read your answer in the stars," and her clever impersonation of a Negro singing "If time was money I'd be a millionaire," the accomplished artiste being warmly recalled at its conclusion. The craze for the coon song is funnily burlesqued by Miss Jessica Grace, who receives valuable assistance from two little Nigger boys in the concluding dance, which is smartly executed and keenly enjoyed, the fair vocalist also pleasing with her first selection, "All Ladies are Angels." In the fine programme also are the Two Bells, a couple of dainty and decidedly smart duettists and dancers; the favourite comedian, Mr James Fawn, whose humorous ditties can always be relied upon to raise a smile; Dandy George and his wonderfully intelligent and cleverly trained little dog, Rosie; and the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, trick cyclists.

BARNARDS PALACE, GREENWICH.

An excellent and varied programme has been cleverly arranged this week for the amusement of their patrons by Messrs L. Barnard and Bert Dent, and continuous laughter and applause nightly bear ample testimony to the fact that the management knows exactly how to cater for the taste of Greenwich audiences. After a brilliantly executed overture by the band, under the directorship of Mr Archie Howells, came on Monday the amusing comedy sketch *Hoaxed*, which was warmly received. Mr Frank Gee then sang in excellent style "Let the matter rest," "For her dear sake," and "Jilted." An exceptionally good extra turn, whose name did not appear, was responsible for a good number entitled "Coastguards." This was most effectively rendered, and was followed by Ruffles' Bioscope, with films illustrating many popular subjects, including "Bill Bailey's Come Home." Miss Maud Dewey contributed some wonderful imitations of birds and animals, including the canary, the chick, the thrush, the sparrow, the nightingale, the yellowhammer, the blackbird, the skylark, and the homely but useful pig. Miss Dewey whistled marvellously well. After a selection from *The French Maid* had been played by the orchestra, the Athlones (gladiators) appeared, and caused much wonderment and admiration by their clever feats of strength. Another extra turn contributed patter, and then Miss Dorothy Francis sang in pleasing style "Sing me to sleep" and "Violets." Messrs Wright Aitken and company pleased all with their well-acted dramatic sketch, entitled *The Oath of Vengeance*. Viviana, the dancing girl, by her charming appearance, agility, and grace, soon established herself a warm favourite. Mr Gus Foster, justly billed as the versatile comedian, pleased the audience vastly with his really funny patter and song called "The Coster and the Swell;" and a very enjoyable evening's entertainment was brought to a successful close by a clever and amusing acrobatic entertainment.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 11.)

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—*The New Clown* is being played here by Mr Stanley Cooke's company. Mr Cooke plays with true humour the title-rôle in such a manner as to cause roars of laughter; Mr Herbert Greville's Mr Dixon is a capital study of a vulgar but good-hearted showman; and Mr Fred Paul is successful as Capt. the Hon. Jack Trent. Mr James Benwell (Billy), Mr David Beattie (Mr Pennyquick), Mr Fred Lake (Thos. Baker), and Mr Spencer Allen (Mr Lamb) all do well in small parts. Miss Katie Yates as Rosie Platt, the circus rider, is very natural, and Miss Evelyn Maxwell and Miss Violet Greville make the best of Maud and Winnie Chesterton. Ping Pong, a wonderfully clever animal, shows good training as the circus donkey. The comedy is preceded by a one-act farce, *The Test*, in which Mr David Beattie and Miss Violet Greville appear.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—Bransby Williams is one of the chief attractions here this week. Assisted by Mr F. Morland he gives a dramatic episode, *The Veteran's Birthday*, the whole being most interesting. The Bros. Cavallini create roars of laughter in their burlesque bull-fight; Buriere and Jules give a performance on the parallel bars that is unique; and Belle Braham's singing of selections illustrated by portraits of popular singers is proving a novelty. The Bandurria Quintet are skilled performers on the mando in and guitar; Albert Whelan, the Australian entertainer, gives a miscellaneous turn, including a whistling solo, for which he is justly applauded; and Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, a charming comedienne, sings nursery rhymes in a pleasing manner. Harry Ford gives a couple of songs in a quaint and clever style.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—*The Duchess of Dantzic* has struck the right vein for the annual carnival week here. A veritable triumph is scored by Miss Evie Greene as the loving, warm-hearted, but impetuous Sans-Gêne, and her impersonation is natural, realistic, and effective. Mr Holbrook Blinn capitally embodies the stern and imperious Napoleon, and looks the part to the life. Mr Herbert Clayton plays Lefebvre with real earnestness, and Mr Leonard Mackay in the dual-rôle of Vicomte and Adhemar sings and acts with genuine ability; Mr Courtice Pounds is vastly amusing as Papillon, and his drolleries draw forth abundance of applause. Miss B. Burke imparts a charming piquancy to the rôle of Lisette, and Miss Adrienne Augarde makes an ingenuous Renée. The Empress is carefully taken by Miss Mabel Sorrell, and the spitefulness of the Emperor's two sisters is well shown by Misses Elizabeth Firth and Doris La Tour. Mr Halton conducts an augmented orchestra with his usual ability.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Chas. P. Cooke.—Messrs C. and F. Renad's company occupies the boards this week, and is attracting large audiences, who keenly enjoy the boisterous fun of the pantomimical comedy, *The Swiss Express*. The Messrs Renad as the two eccentric flunkeys are most indefatigable in their efforts to amuse, and are ably assisted by a good company. As Virginia Miss Marie Millward is pleasing, and sings and dances exceptionally well. She is supported by the Four Brighton Girls, specialty song and dance artistes, and also by her four bridesmaids, who make a good chorus. Mr Alec Wylie deserves praise for his performance of the part of Dudley Green, and Mr Wilford Bailey is very hard-working, richly deserving his success in the rôle of Dr. Gondimar Gull.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—*The Traitor* makes a good bid for popularity here, and Messrs E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company received a hearty welcome on Monday. Mr Wellesley Draper shows admirable tact and submits a fine performance in his dual-rôle of Colonel Nervi and Prince Rudolph. Mr Stephen E. Scanlan plays the name-part with the requisite vehemence and malevolence, and as the Avenger Miss Theresa Osborne makes a strong and effective feature in the drama. Miss Isabel Hunt acts with touching pathos as the Little Martyr, and Miss Hettie Senior as Elsie Duprey cleverly overturns the schemes of the Traitor. There is an abundance of fun provided by Miss Anena Walton as a Japanese girl, and Mr Frank Sutherland, a son of the sea; and minor parts are capitally taken by Messrs James E. Abbott, Edward Duff, Edward Jenner, and Cyril Maitland.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—Fred Karno's company of comedians have in their *Jail Birds* sketch achieved a thoroughly justified reputation, and this is thoroughly and deservedly enhanced by their performance of the later sketch entitled *The Mumming Birds*, which occupies the chief place in the bill here this week. The Brothers Durant are extremely capable both as comedians and trapezists, and their turn is both interesting and clever. Miss Lilian Lowe is rightly described on the programme as a sweet singer, and her rendering of pathetic ballads is highly appreciated. Miss Fanny Erris, a character comedienne who has got away from the conventional style, is very successful; and Miss Florrie Gallimore proves her popularity to be as great as ever. Max Renard shows some very intelligent dogs, and the trick cyclist Alexander is seen in some clever feats. Boyd and Gilfain are good, and the programme is completed by the Bioscope.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—*The Edge of the Storm* is the attraction here. Mr Henry Renouf as Jim Poulett is a great success, while Leta, the Hungarian maiden, is ably represented by Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay. The Szentes Wilma of Miss Ada Marius is finely portrayed; Mr Alan Borthwick as the pompous Major is very amusing; Mr Arthur Fitzgerald as Captain Stent, Mr Louis Palgrave as Ensign Partridge, and Mr Leon M. Lion as Mootooswami, Poulett's "boy," are well embodied; and the French Governor of Mr Julius Hagen and Bakonyi Ferenz of Mr Frederick Annerley are very successful.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—The premier turn here is Goldin, who is assisted by Miss Jean Fransicola and company, in a remarkable illusionist performance. Stylo is successful in a hoop performance; the Sisters Hall are two charming vocalists; the Yoricks are well received in their original "Natty Nick Nack" performance; and Emma Don and company are entertaining in a song-scena entitled *London Life*. Ryder Slone, character comedian; Mdlle. Du Roche, ballad vocalist; Mdlle. Henriette, a young 'cellist; and Gus Harris, Hebrew delineator, conclude a capital programme.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—An excellent programme here includes the Chicago Quintet, who are applauded for their harmonic and amusing entertainment. Johnson and Beet's act *A Queer Customer* is well received; Miss Marie Gibson, soprano vocalist, gives an artistic rendering of some classical songs; Francisco introduces a marvellous juggling performance; Miss May Moodie, piccolo soloist, contributes some delightful selections; and Oswald, handbalancer, is a great success. Raymond's Bioscope is as entertaining as ever.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—Mr Frank Bateman's company is here this week with the drama *At War with Women*. Miss Lizzie Montague gives an effective rendering of Auriel

Romanoff; Miss Mabel Leigh is an amusing Katinka; Mr Shaun Glenville, who dances cleverly, gets all the fun that can be extracted from the character of Jerry Blake; Antolski is impersonated by Mr Clinton Baddeley; and General Malakoff, Clovitch, and Lieutenant Alexis are effectively played by Messrs Fred Vaughan, S. Flinders, and E. Ouston.

Empire Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—This week Mr Penfold Field's company is proving an attraction here with *Fatal Fortune*. Mr H. Farrell is a manly and convincing Jack Weston, Mr A. Elliott Ball is uncommonly good as the villainous Capt. Desmond, Mr Percy Boucher is highly amusing as Tim Larks, and Daniel Salmon and George Thornton find most capable exponents in Messrs D. J. Bosher and C. M'Leod. Miss Madeline Clifford gives a sympathetic and powerful performance as Mary Western, and Miss Florrie Hall is a bright and piquant Becky, and with Mr Boucher contributes some capital songs and dances.

PAISLEY.

Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—Again is *A Country Girl* delighting playgoers here. Good audiences have testified to the continued popularity of the musical play, which is not only very well represented by Mr George Dance's company, but capitally placed upon the stage. Chief honours must be given to Mr Johnny Osborne for his clever and humorous impersonation of Barry; it is an extremely diverting performance, and is much enjoyed. Mr Cyril Thompson as Geoffrey Challoner acts and sings throughout with conspicuous merit, and Mr George Mudie, jun., is particularly effective as Sir Joseph Verity. Sufficiently good are the assumptions of Douglas Verity by Mr Willie Hartill, Lord Anchester by Mr Scrope Quinton, Lord Grassmere by Mr J. Bruce, Sir Charles Cortelon by Mr G. Lorraine, Major Vicat by Mr Edwin Stanley, Rube Fairway by Mr Stephen Dellett, and Granfer Mummery by Mr Tom Sheridan. Miss May Glen is a decided success as Nan and renders her vocal scores in admirable style. Miss Maud Harvey submits a clever and finished portrayal of Marjory, her singing being exceptionally well received. Sophie is charmingly impersonated by Miss Veronica Brady, and Miss Aimee Roberts gives a graphic rendition of the Princess Melaneh. Miss Edna Knollys as Mrs St. Quinton, Miss M. Jolly as Lady Anchester, and Miss Lilian Champion as the nurse render good service.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—Louie Hurman, burlesque actress, and Jack Foley, comedian, are deservedly prominent in the programme here this week. Mueller and Coyne (Billy and Clara), novel variety entertainers, score heavily, and Hewitt and Ritchie, comedians, hit the mark with their comic singing and patter business. James G. Ross, Scotch comedian and dancer, is well received. A capital turn is supplied by Misses Dorothy Riddell and Amy Roeine, and Messrs George Beverley and Edward Avery are engaging in a sketch entitled *Four in a Room*.

PENTRE.

Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Interest continues unabated in the variety season here, and the clever turns are witnessed by large audiences. The Sisters Manlier keep the audience spellbounnd by their marvellous feats on the triple bar; O'Connor and Brady convulse the house with their drolleries; Urquhart, Risley equilibrist, is exceedingly clever; a charming scena is introduced by Gertie Gitana; the Three Clarions are a trio of clever dancers and comedians; the Bodina Troupe contribute an excellent vocal and harmony speciality, being greatly assisted by the band under the bâton of Mr C. Weldon. The Falcons in their comedy acrobatic act are good; and Rose Waller, the popular vocal comedienne, and Andy Burn are two clever twins.

PERTH.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr William Greet's No. 1 company is drawing large audiences here this week in *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr F. F. Woulfe's Marcus Superbus elicits loud applause; Mr A. Bernhardt Turner gives an excellent portrayal of Nero; Mr Charles Aldred is seen to advantage as Tigellinus; Mr J. Wetherall does well as Lucinius; Mr Frank Wood causes agreeable diversion as Glabrio, and is well seconded by Mr C. Arthur Fairfax as Philodemus; Mr Hayden Clifford ably enacts the treacherous part of Servillus; Mr Harry Jones is effective as Strabo; Mr L. Winning is favourably received as Viturius; and the calm and fervent piety of Mr Robert Hare's Favius and Mr E. J. Carlin's Titus is most impressive. Miss Ethel Land is successful as the majestic Poppæa; Miss Alma Bolton and Miss Cissie Carlton give excellent portrayals of Berenice and Dacia respectively; Miss May Fairclough is really clever as the fiery Ancaria; Miss Ivy Millais richly earns the repeated applause accorded her in the trying rôle of Stephanus; and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy is seen to decided advantage in the rôle of Mercia. The singing of Miss Tessa De Alberti and the dancing of Miss Violet Holland are much appreciated.

PETERBOROUGH.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr A. Darville Vernon.—*The Fisher Girl* is the attraction here this week. The Vanderdecken of Mr J. M. Jones is satisfactory; Mr C. Innis Bowen's well-trained voice is heard to the utmost advantage in his rendering of "The Steersman;" Mr Walter Champney is distinctly good as the Baron; Mr Frank Couch does well as the Innkeeper; and Mr Charles Fisher as Hendrick distinguishes himself vocally. Miss Marie Rito sings with considerable taste as Elsbeth; Miss Susie Rusholme makes a charming Nana; and Miss Alma Evelyne is well placed as Jan's wife. Mr Will Raymond and Mr J. G. Forde provide the fun as Nickel and Klaus.

PLYMOUTH.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Langdon Lee.—*Cousin Kate*, who has made her initial bow to a Plymouth audience this week, has created a very favourable impression. In the person of Miss Lilias Earle she proved gifted and attractive, and in company with Mr Yorke Stephens, who enacted the part of Heath Desmond, provided acting of a high order, especially in the chief scene in the second act. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison are touring a strong cast, which includes Miss Helen Leyton, who impersonates Mrs Spencer; Miss Hilda Honiss, who plays Amy; and Mr Walter Kingham, as the Rev. James Bartlett, all of whom acquit themselves admirably.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—A wealth of exciting incidents, relieved by a plentiful supply of comedy, combine to make *Honour Thy Father* very popular. Mr T. Morton Powell's well-organised company does full justice to the piece. Mr J. W. Evelyn is natural to a degree; the rôles of Garth's wife and Lilian Garth are satisfactorily interpreted by Miss Kate Newton and Miss Mabel Coleman respectively; Mr E. Hartington is a spirited Duncan Bly; and Mr Douglas B Watson a capable Jack Halyard. Mr W. H. Melrose (Ned Pennycomequick) and Mr Fred W. Graham (Mitre Copplestone) contribute much to the success. A word of praise is also due to Miss Maud Grey, who takes the part of Violet Wilfred.

Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr J. Field; Acting-Manager, Mr Carlton.—O'Gust, is the chief attraction here this week, and crowded houses are cheering him nightly; refined acrobatic feats by the Four Herberts include many popular novelties; and the Mountebanks act and sing in pleasing style. A genuinely funny sketch *Four a.m.*, is put on by the M'Connell Trio, and the Sisters Dacre are clever comediennes. Will Dalton courts favour with a song written round the Beck case; Elly Adair dances in delightful fashion; Pattie Bella's turn is enjoyable; and Bob Vokes has some lively character songs.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. Carlton.—A well-balanced company is appearing here in *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Many novelties are introduced, including a realistic representation of a submarine, and the piece, as a result, is going strong. In the rôle of the heroine Miss Madge Morley is a great favourite. Success is also achieved by Miss Amy Rudd and Miss Sara Dudley. Mr T. Arthur Jones as Captain Marston makes an ideal hero, and Mr A. Bartlett Garth, who is entrusted with the portrayal of the villain, is a sterling actor.

PONTYPRIDD.

Royal Clarence Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—Mr Edward Neville's company is here this week in *The Anarchist Terror*. Chief interest is centred in Mr Edward Neville, whose acting is excellent; Mr T. E. O'Connor submits a powerful impersonation of Lieutenant Armstrong; Mr Gus Bowerman displays histrionic ability as Ishmael; Mr J. Nelson-Turner is worthy of praise as Silas Washington Goldstraw; Mr Will White is good as Mikey Doolan; Miss Lola Esmonde is worthy of praise as Kitty Malone; Miss Annie Brunette shows artistic ability as Maritzka; Miss Phyllis French is a typical Columbia Goldstraw; and Miss Cecile Byrne as Zara and Miss Kate Parr as Floretta are effective.

PORTH.

Poole's Opera House.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company opened a six nights' engagement on Monday in *Greed of Gold*. Mr Carthage Caldcleugh gives a capital rendering of Harry Hood; Arthur Errol has an admirable exponent in Mr Wilson Summers; Mr T. G. Warry is successful as Mr Brightson, K.C.; Miss Daisy Hallisy displays considerable ability as Dora; Mr B. Fox has a good reception as Tom Wolstead, his acting being much appreciated; Miss Grace St. John is decidedly good as Mrs Maxwell; Mr H. Shea keeps the house in good humour as Conn Creamer; Miss Florrie Woods as Cecil capably embodies the part.

PORTSMOUTH.

Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—The Negro musical comedy, *In Dahomey*, is here this week. Mr Dan Avery, by his eccentricities and patter as Rareback Pinkerton, and Mr Chas. Hart, by his stolid quaintness as Shylock Homestead, create roars of laughter. Mr Pete Hampton is a capital Hamilton Lightfoot, Mr Fred Douglas is good as Dr. Straight. The ladies all score, but mention may be made of Miss Laura Bowman as Cecilia, who sings very prettily; Miss Stella Hart as Mrs Stringer is successful; and Miss Pauline Freeman scores as Rosetta Lightfoot. The chorus is a strong one.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company, under the direction of Mr James Willard, opened here on Monday, in *The Midnight Mail*. Mr George Harvard plays the part of Henry Steyne, the hero, in a masterly manner; Billy Brewer, a drunken stoker, was ably acted by Mr Fred G. Evison; Mr Alec Colves as Leonard Royle, an African explorer, and Mr Arthur Gilroy as Hassan Padisha, a Turkish adventurer, ably fill the rôles of a pair of villains; Miss Mildred Carr shows great histrionic ability as Nancy Brewer; and Miss Ada Oakley as Mary Steyne is excellent.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The programme for the week at this popular house is a varied one. The Misses Cooke and Clinton, American lady sharpshooters, prove a great draw. Tom Collins, vocal comedian, contributes some taking songs. Charles Ulrick, the barrel king, gives a clever entertainment, Ernie Mayne, eccentric comedian, gains applause. The New York Quartet, lady vocalists and acrobatic dancers, afford much satisfaction. Kitts and Windrum, society entertainers, introduce an amusing satire, *The Entr'acte*. Other excellent turns are given by Beattie Kent, soubrette; Barrett and Knowles, comedians and patterers; Smith and Johnson, cultured coloured couple; and Nash and Noel, speciality artists.

PRESTON.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—Mr C. Lubbock's company is presenting *The Flood Tide* here this week. Mr Wm. Seguin fills the part of Captain Jack Champion with great success, and Mr Alec Flood gives a most effective portrayal of Dick Champion. George Wellington Clipp has a mirth-provoking representative in Mr Maitland Marler; Macnaughton is cleverly depicted by Mr W. Maule-Cole; Mr Horace Pollock is well placed as the Earl of Sutton; Mr Graham Wentworth is a lifelike Colonel Sir Russell Corry; and Mr W. Roberts is good as Sir Valentine De Relique. Miss Marie Wright wins much favour by her spirited impersonation of Polly Champion; Miss Seymour Hodges is a pleasing exponent of Mabel Corry; Miss Kathleen Russell is seen to advantage as Marie Pitchioli; and Madame De Naucaze displays the dramatic ability needed in the rôle of the Baroness Pitchioli.

RAMSGATE.

Amphitheatre.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr H. Bowman.—Although the Parliamentary election, with its multitude of meetings, has formed a counter-attraction to the local places of amusement, there have been good audiences at the Amphitheatre this week to witness excellent performances of the musical farcical comedy, *One of the Family*, by Mr H. Eglington's company. Miss Madeline Du Val is a great success as Kate Denny, and Mr Henry Eglington contributes greatly to the success as Terry O'Flanagan. The part of the Tired Man is sustained in admirable fashion by Mr H. Ray. The contributions of the Geronds to the programme are among the most popular features of the show.

Royal Victoria Pavilion.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Herbert Jay; Business Manager, Mr Geo. Richter.—At the Pavilion during the week a variety programme of marked merit has been presented. Prince Kokin, Japanese juggler and illusionist, has given clever turns; Miss Daisy Ray proves herself a smart little songstress and dancer; the Sisters Neilson, acrobatic dancers, have had a great reception; E. W. Selman, comedian, has justified his title of "sorrow-shifter;" Les Kyasyas have amazed the audiences by their wonderful feats of strength; Miss Odeyne, a talented artist, has elicited much applause; J. P. Dane has been thoroughly diverting; and Williams and Brown, the "cross-talk" comedians, have given extremely amusing turns. Altogether a capital show.

RAWTENSTALL.

Grand Theatre.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—Mr S. F. Cody's *Klondyke Nugget* company is this week giving excellent performances and receiving unstinted applause for their thrilling interpretation. As Sam Deats Mr Edward Leroy submits a strong impersonation; Mr Vivian Cody as Joe Smith is excellent in every respect; and Mr Leon Cody as Waco also proves thoroughly fitted for the part. As Paddy O'Donohue Mr Tom Gilmore is well placed, his clever acrobatic feats being performed in a most laughable manner. Miss Edith B. Mumford as Rosie Lee, the heroine of the plot, is also good. The remaining characters were well sustained. During the performance Messrs V. and L. Cody give a remarkable display of their skill with the rifle. The scenic effects are realistic and novel.

READING.

Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—*Charley's Aunt* is once more delighting large audiences here. Mr Edwin H. Wynne gives a most mirthful impersonation of the undergraduate who masquerades as Donna Lucia from Brazil. Mr Aubrey Mallalieu and Mr Mark Wylton play excellently as the college chums, Jack Chesney and Charlie Wykeham; Mr Walter Pemberton is amusing as Spettigue; Mr E. Savery gives a good rendering of Sir Francis Chesney; Mr F. Epitaux plays characteristically as the college scout; Miss Mary Morrison is effective as the real Donna Lucia; and the Misses B. Fitzgerald, Marie Grogan, and Mary Mallalieu appear to advantage in their respective characters of Kitty Verdun, Amy Spettigue, and Ela Delahay. The one-act drama *An Idea* is played as a curtain-raiser.

ROCHDALE.

New Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*The Golden Ladder* is the attraction here this week. Mr Harry Cullenford sustains with power the part of Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr John Owen acts with effect Samuel Peckaby; Mr E. Vivian Edmonds cleverly portrays the unscrupulous Michael Severn; Mr Graham Winsford is all that could be desired as M. Peranza; and Mr Joseph Rowland skilfully acts the part of Jim Dixon. Miss Mary Austin acts with womanly feeling Lilian Grant; and Miss Nellie Graham makes a motherly Mrs Peckaby.

Circus of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—An excellent all-round company here includes the Dayton Family, pedestal and Risley acrobats; Chas. Woodward, character comedian; Stern and Elton, vocalists, dancers, &c.; Boldi and Bolda, in *Aerial Navvies, or Fun in the Air*; Les Valdos, acrobats and tumblers; the Three Milfords, tight rope performers; M'Askell, comic conjuror; and Juno Salmo, the golden Mephisto.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Hargreaves; Acting Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—A strong programme is presented here, including the Jackson Family, refined musicians, whose turn is received with unstinted applause; the Dainton Girls, character duettists; Ethel Payne, ballad vocalist; Joe Harwood, character comedian; the Vyponds in musical absurdity, *Engaging a Servant*; King Leo, ventriloquist; the Rushforths, with electric illustrated songs; Nita Rose, vocalist; and Kioto, Japanese equilibrist.

ROTHERHAM.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Mr John F. Preston and company are here this week with *The Rogues of the Turf*. Mr A. Hartley scores as Sir Gerald Heathcote; Mr Ernest R. Allen is a manly Arthur Somerton; and Mr Geo. R. Montford as the chief rogue, Captain Dudley Clifton, is received with marked disapproval, being ably seconded by Mr Harry G. Rignold as Moses Solomons. Mr Charlie Jackson is a success as Mr Peter Dawson; Mr Alfred Wade is seen to advantage as Steve Burton; Mr Harry Benson is smart as Sam Flaxman his songs and dances being received with well-deserved applause; Mr John F. Preston as Joe Flaxman gives a highly finished representation of the part of a trainer; Miss Hilda Shirley is very pleasing as Nellie Flaxman; and Miss Mabelle F. Barlow is a sprightly Phyllis Warzell. Miss Gertrude Godart as Marion, Lady Heathcote, also does well.

Town Hall Assembly Rooms.—Mr John H. Tomkinson is here with the Royal Gipsy Children and coon minstrels, who are being received with great enthusiasm. Special mention must be made of Misses Ada Lorne, Gracie Bard, Pattie Burton, May Bishop, Evie Lynn, Alice Dunn, and Letta Star; and Messrs Fred Maclean, Sam Paul, and Maurice Lindley. Special turns which meet with marked approval are given by the Florida Troupe, Elsie Rubina, the Musical Keiths, the Minster Glee Singers, and the Lizzette Troupe.

RUGBY.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—The attraction this week is Mr Charles Majilton and company in *Round the Clock* and *The Plumber*. In *Round the Clock* Mr Charles Majilton displays ability as Gabriel Gadforth; Mr Herbert Ashmore as Old Gewgaw is excellent in every way; and Mr Fred Wilson as Denby is good. Mr Dickie Clare does not miss an opportunity in the part of Bartle Burke; as the Policeman Mr P. A. White is excellent; and Mr Charles Sweeney as the Cabman is worthy of commendation. Miss Madeline Majilton plays the part of Mdlle. Salprunelle with marked grace and ability; and as the Servant Miss Carrie Foy is smart and amusing. Miss Nellie Clare is capital as Mrs Gadforth, and as Georgina Gewgaw Miss B. Brownie is charming and effective. Miss M. Brownie impersonates Bertie in a manner worthy of the highest praise, and Miss Harriet Round does well as Miss Bingle.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

New Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—Mr Edmund Tearle, supported by Miss Kate Clinton and his capable company, made a welcome reappearance here on Monday. The week's repertory includes *Virginius*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Ingomar*, and *Jeanie Deans*, in the order named. On Monday, before a capital house, the five-act tragedy *Virginius* was presented in an admirable manner. As the Roman father Mr Tearle displayed all his usual dramatic power, and his efforts met with warm approbation. Virginia was artistically drawn by Miss Esther Tearle. Notable members of the company were Mr Wm. J. Miller as Appius Claudius, Mr J. V. Fairley as Caius, Mr Edmund Grogan as Icilius, Mr Walter Baynham as Numitorious, Mr T. W. Benson as Dentatus, and Miss Mary Campbell as Servia.

SEACOMBE.

Irving Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Mr Leslie Norman's company is in occupation here this week with the popular musical comedy *A Trip to Chinatown*. Mr Charles Seguin is seen to advantage as Welland Strong, his quips causing much amusement. Mr Jerrold Manville gives a highly humorous presentment of Ben Gay, his facial expression alone being a capital study. Mr Leslie Norman as Rashleigh Gay and Mr Oswald Gray as Saxon Blood are both good in their respective parts, and Miss Francis Errol presents a smart little Willie Grow. Noah Heap, a waiter, is capitally personated by Mr Will Smith, Slavia Payne being in the capable hands of Mr S. Champion. Pride of place amongst the ladies must be given to Miss Harriet Fawn, who gives a vivacious and clever rendering of Mrs Guyer, the widow. Flirt, Mrs Guyer's maid, is presented with characteristic French pertness by Miss Dorothy Vicott. Miss Florrie M'Innes and Miss Winifred Davies are both good as Tiny Gay and Isabel Dame respectively. The scenery, dresses, and music are excellent, and the minor parts are in capable hands.

SOUTHPORT.

Opera House (Winter Gardens).—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—An attractive and amusing entertainment is provided here this week by Mr C. Lubbock's company (by arrangement with Messrs Gatti and Frohman) in the new musical play *The Cherry Girl*, which made its initial appearance here on Monday evening. Foremost amongst the capable company engaged were Miss Dorothy Frostick, in the part of Mdlle. Pas Bas; Miss Ethel Newman, the Queen; and Mr Frank Lincoln, Moonshine and Happy Joe. A feature of the production was supplied by Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers, the Four Chameleons.

SALFORD.

Prince of Wales's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—*Otto the Outcast* is being played here by the popular Harry Starr and company. Mr Richard Harris did well in the triple characters of Vidocq, Dr. Coquedille, and Prince Ranjani; Mr William Miller as Daddy Bruneau sustained his part admirably; Mr Conrad Clarke as Otto's uncle is well placed; Miss Ethel Danbury and Miss Edna Lester as the flower girl and a Parisian coquette are effective; and Miss Rita Roslyn as Corinne Jarbeau successfully handles the part.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—Mr H. Houdini, the handcuff king, continues to draw largely here; the Brothers Artois, in their bar act, are exceedingly funny; Sibb and Sibb come in for applause from an appreciative audience; Mr Russell Wallett causes great amusement; Arthur Boyne is laughable; and Dave Marion causes mirth. Other turns include J. W. Bray, who sings well; Gilbert and May, vocalists and dancers; and Kitty Marion. The pictures are excellent.

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead.—Harmar and James, foot equilibrists, are very good; Texas Bill does some good shooting; the Continental Stilt Walkers are very funny indeed; and Robins and Collier are amusing. The Sisters Aindow give a nice turn as musicians; Carl Mysto, the monarch of manacles, is introducing a speciality in the shape of prison cell breaking; Martin Conway does well; Frank Staley, actor-vocalist, is appreciated; Young Alec M'Nulty receives encouragement; J. P. Carroll, the military tambourinist, has a good reception; and the Pender Troupe of pantomimists evoke fun with a laughable absurdity.

L. and N.W. Palace of Varieties.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—The company engaged here includes Mr Bob Wilson, tenor, from Dare's Minstrels, Isle of Man; Olga Featherstone, comedienne and ballad vocalist; Mr Bert Hicks, descriptive vocalist and humourist; Mr Frank Bennett, baritone; and Mr Sam Higham.

SHEERNESS.

Victoria Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr T. C. Dorling.—The attraction for this week is furnished by the visit of Joseph Pocle's Myriorama accompanied by an excellent variety company. Amongst the principal artistes appearing are Victor Howlett's Royal Marionettes; Zelda, lady instrumentalist; Wall Owen, eccentric juggler; Sulli and Saroni, vaudeville duettists; Mr Harry Sullivan, eccentric comedian; and the Magnets, sketch company, in their laughable farce *The Looking-glass*.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr P. Reymond.—Another excellent programme here comprises the Calden combination, in the sketch, *The Root of all Evil*. The Sisters Fry, coon impersonators and dancers, are much appreciated; and other turns include T. W. Queen, eccentric comedian; Miss Jennie Rossitty, comedienne; Miss Rhoda Dendon, ballad vocalist; and Mr H. C. Boon, comedian.

Transfield's Hippodrome.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. G. Transfield; Secretary and Manager, Mr Charles Melvin.—Good companies still continue the rule here. Professor Inman Hocking presents a capital hypnotic and electrical entertainment, which is much appreciated. The Brewsters, lady acrobatic dancers, are well received, and Miss Frederica, with her troupe of toy terriers, is highly amusing. A capital performance of dismounting a field gun by a naval gun's crew is also much appreciated. The popular Little Valdo and Little Bishop cause endless fun. The Misses Transfield in a variety of musical selections; Harry Drewe, baritone; John Yelding, equestrian; and Harry Martell, comedian, are also among the attractions.

SHEFFIELD.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—The bright and amusing musical play, *A Chinese Honeymoon*, is again being performed to good houses by Mr George Dance's company. That old favourite, Mr Martin Adeson, is the life of the piece, from a humorous point of view, as the amorous Pineapple, and he keeps the audience in roars of laughter. Mr Frank Crimp is a manly and unaffected Tom Atherton, Mr Philip Hayden makes an imposing Emperor, and the saturnine Chipple Chop is cleverly represented by Mr Ernest Laws. Mr Fred Payne is a funny Hi Lung. Miss Madge Temple is the incarnation of girlish charm as Soo-Soo, and she sings with taste and expression. Miss Eva Bevington makes a lively Mrs Pineapple, and her well-rendered songs and graceful dancing are universally appreciated. Miss Holford Berenger is grimly amusing as Mrs Brown, and Miss Vere Vere makes a hit in the part of Fi-Fi.

Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—The cultured and intellectual dramatic interpretations of Mr Forbes Robertson are so justly famed that it was not surprising to find the Lyceum well filled on Monday with an audience of earnest theatre-goers when the celebrated artist appeared as Mark Embury in the delightful comedy *Mice and Men*. Mr Robertson's reading of a part so thoroughly suited to his personality and methods gave the utmost delight to his many admirers, and he was repeatedly and heartily applauded. Miss Gertrude Elliott was a pretty and naive representative of the wayward but lovable Peggy. Mr Frank Gillmore submitted a characteristic eighteenth century study, and all the other parts were impersonated with finish and impressment. The dresses and scenery were admirable, and the stage-management was perfect. On Wednesday *The Light that Failed* was acted.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—Following the big success of Mr Walter Melville's *Her Second Time on Earth* came as a fitting successor the thrilling modern drama *Between Two Women*, written and produced by Mr Frederick, of that ilk. The name of either of the talented Melvilles is a guarantee with local audiences that the fare submitted will be A1 at Lloyd's; and this was demonstrated again on Monday, when a crowded audience lustily applauded play, company, and scenery. Miss Marie Robson won sympathetic applause as the hero's wife Violet, and the beautiful and fascinating Carmen De Savereaux was impersonated in a finished manner by Miss Monita Valdar. Mr Albert Ward acted in an earnest and convincing way as the young clergyman. A firm bit of dramatic work was the Earl of Mr Sydney Price, and plenty of amusement was caused by Mr Tubby Edlin as Jack Pringle.

Empire Palace.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The star this week is the well-known serio, Marie Lloyd; and other favourites on the bill are Marba and Verity, comic entertainers; the De Kock Brothers, in a novel act; the Brothers Edgar, Negro comedians; George Formby, a mirth-provoking comedian; the St. James's Quintet of vocalists, &c.; Cassie Walmer, coon vocalist; and Mr Gilbert Rogers, an old Sheffield favourite.

Grand Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—The company here includes the Brothers Lupino; the Four Jumels; Stern and Stern, in a smart act; Miss Lydia Dudley, serio; Teddy Denham, comique, &c.

Albert Hall.—Manager, Mr Auguste Lyons.—Last Saturday appeared to a large audience Yapp and Napp, burlesque artists; Carr and Carl, duettists; Sisters Parez, musical artists; the Fays, mystifiers; Professor Le Phred, Alex. Fay, and the Sisters Bingham.

SHREWSBURY.

Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Mr Chas. Maodona's bright company played *Three Little Maids* here on the first three nights of the week, with a matinée on Wednesday. As the three vicar's daughters the Misses Vera Vallis, Nellie Groves, and Doris Trevor, were attractive and talented. Madame Ilma Norina was successful as Lady St. Mallory; Miss May Wright was amusing and vivacious as Gretchen, and her Dutch character dance was well executed. Miss Iris Coley as Lady Rosemary Beaulieu, Miss Margery Douglas as Venetia Crafton, Miss Eva Swinborne as Lady Marjory Crichton, and Miss Marie Herve were all good in their respective parts. Mr Frank Henderson as Lord Cheyne was exceedingly droll and sang effectively; Mr H. A. Welchman played with easy refinement as Brian Molyneux; Mr W. P. Morgan as the Vicar did what he had to do efficiently; Mr Ridgwood Barry was the life and soul of the play as Cupid, and his dance with Gretchen was a feature of the play; and Mr Jules Charmettes acted with considerable talent as M. De l'Orme, his artistic 'cello solo in the last act being a delightful contribution, which was thoroughly appreciated.

SMETHWICK.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—Although now eight years old, *Two Little Vagabonds* is as great an attraction as ever. Once more it is cordially received. The pretty story of the two urchins is presented in a realistic manner by Messrs Hardie and Von Leer's company. Miss Freda Ettrick as Dick and Miss Violet Carr as Wally are exceptionally good, and they create a great impression in their portrayal of the waifs. George Thornton is skilfully interpreted by Mr Talbot Homewood, and a very acceptable reading of the part of Captain Darville is forthcoming from Mr Douglas Cecil. Sufficiently villainous are the portrayals by Messrs. H. Hesslegrave and Charles T. Doe of Bill Mullins and Dido Bunce, and the characters of Coughdrop and Lesson receive able treatment at the hands of Messrs Charles H. Hughes and C. W. Crowe. Miss Elene Lonsdale is an artist of much ability and her impersonation of the sorely tried Marion Thornton is of considerable merit. Of the pretty and sympathetic rôle of Barbara Scarth a good exponent is found in Miss Edna Eden.

SOUTHAMPTON.

Grand.—The first visit of Miss Ellen Terry and her répertoire company has proved a tremendous attraction, and excellent business has been done. On Monday *The Merchant of Venice* was presented with conspicuous success, Miss Terry giving an admirable performance as Portia. She was well supported by Mr Alfred Bucklaw, whose Shylock was a great artistic triumph; Mr Matheson Lang as the amorous Bassanio, and Antonio was well played by Mr Charles Thursby. The other members who supported Miss Terry were excellent in their respective parts. The staging was on a sumptuous scale. On Monday Miss Terry was many times recalled and enthusiastically applauded by the large house. *Much Ado About Nothing* was given on Tuesday, and Miss Terry's assumption of Beatrice was delightful. *The Good Hope* and *Nance Oldfield* are also included in the repertory.

Prince of Wales's.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company is appearing here in the old favourite drama, *In Old Kentucky*, with real thoroughbreds and jockeys all complete. The variety portion of the entertainment is decidedly smart, the star turn being given by Mr Jimmie James, an old favourite, whose "bone playing and juggling" are remarkably smart, and bring down the house. Mr Harry Leander also wins tumultuous applause for his comicalities. Miss Amy Hermann, a talented actress, is good as the heroine; and Mr Alf S. Bankes gives a typical portrayal of the Yankee Colonel. Mr Geo. F. Steel, Mr Eric Hudson, and Mr Gerald Kennedy are also deserving of praise for sterling work.

Palace.—One of the best companies we have seen for a considerable time is appearing this week. Edwin Boyde is first favourite, his droll songs and sayings causing endless amusement. Another popular comedian is J. W. Rickaby, whose impersonation of a policeman is very clever. Maggie Duggan also scores her usual great success in "That's what you're afraid of" and "Faces we miss from the stage." Queen and Le Brun excel as dancers; and Angeline, female juggler, gains plenty of applause for her clever juggling act. Leighton and Mona, Connie Williams, and Harry Seymour all add their quota to an excellent bill.

Philharmonic.—Mr David Devant's "Mysteries of Egypt" are attracting huge crowds here, and little wonder, for the entertainment is artistic and very refined. The Chamounix Alpine Orchestra play several excellent musical selections, and the performance is extra good from start to finish.

Pier Pavilion.—That favourite entertainer Mr Reuben More is this week bringing a successful season to a close here with his company known as "The Dons and the Dunce," who give a clever and refined show. Special mention must be made of the admirable singing of Mr F. Maxwell Stewart, who has been the recipient of hearty applause at every performance. Miss Clara Pierse (contralto) and Miss Elsa Brull (comedienne) have also won golden opinions for their excellent contributions to the programme. Mr John E. Nester, humourist and mimic, scores in his novel chapeaugraphy entertainment. Mr Hugh E Wright, a capital humourist; Mr Penystone Miles, an expert pianist; and last, but not least, Mr Reuben More, elocutionist, &c., also appear with the greatest possible success.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—*When London Sleeps* is being presented by Mr Lester Collingwood's company. Mr W. H. Sams confidently handles David Engleheart; Miss Maudie Hastings is a charming supporter as Queenie; the unscrupulous Captain Rodney Haynes (Mr Franklyn Graham) rouses the ire of the gods to a high pitch; and one of the best played parts in the piece is the Mr Furnaby Fuller of Mr Ernest C. Edwards. An artistic interpretation of Hilda Carrode is given by Miss Mary Brammer; Miss E. Magna France is a sprightly and animated Maudie De Frere; and the comedy is well accounted for by Mr Frank Eden (the Hon. Bertie), Mr Victor Mason (Sammy Blyth), Miss Bella Power (Signorina Robertio Jonesio), and Miss Effie Macintosh (Carrie Jones).

Empire Palace Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Rousby's *In Paris* is of a charming and elaborate character, and myriads of electric lights are shown in the Champ De Mars scene. Bros. Poluski in *Motor Mania* are as eccentric as usual. Phil Ray, who did not appear on Monday, was ably represented by Hume, Ross, and Lewis, musical entertainers, in a good sketch; the American Bioscope with "Off for the Holidays" elicits screams of laughter. Different styles of walking by Will English are good, and the charming ballad vocalist Florence Esdaile upholds her reputation. Kavados appears in a neat juggling and cannon ball performance, and Bert Dansie, vocal comedian, and Flo Melville, burlesque artist, considerably strengthen the bill.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—The Sisters Russell head an attractive programme here as exponents of low comedy. The vocal speciality entertainment, furnished by the Atkins Trio, has an air of refinement which is keenly relished; Prince Ishmael, East Indian illusionist, assisted by Mam Sahab Rani, finds favour; Grapho and Jackson submit a droll sketch; James Brady, a mirth-provoker, is much appreciated; "The Storm Fiend" is ably rendered by Fred Clifford; and the caricatures of well-known celebrities by Bert Kemp afford pleasure; and Flo Banks, a bright descriptive vocalist, concludes the bill.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr F. W. Marlow; Manager, Mr F. Marlow.—Mr Bert Coote's company is here this week with *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr Wilfred Payne displays much ability in the part of Howard Wilson; Mr Leyton Cancellor as Curtis is quite at home in his representation; the humorous element is well sustained by Mr Charles H. Kenney as Toto and Miss Harriett Clifton as Bridget; and Mr Fred Dobell plays Peter admirably. Mr Henry Welbeck is a favourite as O'Reilly; Miss Ida Valli makes an intelligent "little mother" (Jessie); Cora, the adventuress, is skilfully played by Miss Beatrix De Burgh; and Miss Marie Houseley represents the deeply wronged Mabel with much delicacy.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr Frank Curzon is presenting in capital style this week the farce, in three acts, entitled *Glittering Gloria*. Mr John Campbell well expounds the character of Jack Jones, being ably supported by Mr Stanley Arthur in the rôle of Archie Toddleby. Mr Haughton Macauley gives an excellent portrayal of Zebedee Posket; Colonel Pasquali is well impersonated by Mr J. Worldley Hulse; Mr Gerald Clark and Mr Chas. Williams as Algernon Entwistle and Mr Griddleton respectively display humour; Miss Stanley Ronalds as Gloria Grant earns well-merited admiration for her excellent acting; and the Misses Lillian Williams, Peggy Harrington, and Mary Bune creditably maintain their respective characters.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr J. Sydney Childs.—Those contributing towards a capital programme this week are Mr Ferguson, comedian; Les Laurens, who give a magnificent statuary act; Ena Richards, Canadian comedienne and dancer; Tom Berrick, a popular comedian; Mill May, the clever quick-change artiste; Rose Newport, charming vocalist and dancer; and Miss Unity Vezzey, who still merits great favour by her concertina playing and her well-trained musical dogs. The Bioscope has more new and interesting films, which are excellently shown.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—*On the Stroke of Twelve* is making its first appearance in Spennymoor, and is being favourably received. Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company is entrusted with the task of interpreting the play, a task that is performed with both skill and vigour. Mr H. Creagh Hunt succeeds in giving an effective representation of James Horton; Marie Bergerre finds an accomplished representative in Miss Elma C. Turner; as Moses Levi Mr Karl H. Edwards creates much mirth; the dyspeptic Negro, Jasper, affords Mr Little full scope to display sterling abilities as a comedian; Miss St. Ruth, in the rôle of Doris, shows artistic skill; Miss Nellie Moore does good work as Jess, dancing gracefully and prettily; Messrs Fred Rivers and Fred Guinness are both well placed as Jack Rutledge and George Bainbridge; Mr Will Bass as Pat Cahill supplies a fund of merry patter; and Mr Henry C. Robinson does well as Henry Rutledge.

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Leighton Rooke.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company is here this week with *A London Actress*. Hilda Mannering is well represented by Miss Emma Litchfield; Miss Alice Capel makes a good Phyllis Crawford; Miss Louise Millward as Biddy Maloney and Miss Maud Steeples as Mrs Skinner are both seen to advantage; Clyde Crawford has a clever exponent in Mr Stuart Cleveland; and Mr Fred Tenaur as Mendoza, Mr Chas. E. Leicester as Lieut. Kingston, Mr Sam Wilford as Pat Maloney, and Mr John Worth as Captain Mannering complete a good all-round company.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—*A Little Coquette*, capitally played by Mr J. Gar Kiddie's company, is paying us a return visit. Miss Lizzie Payne makes a charming and dainty Celia and Miss Flo Warner a dashing and attractive Robin Adair. Mr George Hestor as Simon Scrapps proves himself a comedian of more than average ability; Mr J. W. Groves keeps the house in roars of laughter; Messrs Clarence and Bell as Pipeclay and Sharp shoot are highly amusing; Mr Forsyth Bruce is well suited as Gabriel Grabbe; and the same may be said of Mr E. H. Bertram as Captain Nevermind and Miss Nellie Butt as Charlie Crowquille. The Milstead Quartet of dancers are deservedly applauded.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Jackson's Eight Lancashire Lads top the bill here this week and sing and dance themselves into favour. Mirzah, "the man in green" banjoist, is heartily applauded. Mr H. O. Wills, comedian, has made a big hit, and others in a good programme include Davis and Davis, comedians; the Two Woods, acrobats; Mr Kit Keen, comedian; Mr George Bernard, vocalist; and the Abd'el Kader Trio.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm Revill.—The first visit of *Amorelle*, presented by Mr C. P. Levilly's excellent company, was on Monday night greeted with marked enthusiasm by a large audience.—Mr Leon Simkin as Dr. Crow was exceedingly mirth-provoking, and Mr Fred Carrington was a capital Dotard. As Jules Mr Arthur Cozens sang pleasingly; and Mr Horace Manger made an effective Francois. Miss Empsie Bowman as Amorelle sang and acted delightfully; whilst Miss Adah Grey charmingly filled the character of Lesbia. Miss Von Bargen was clever and amusing as Marina.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson and company are this week appearing in the sensational Russian drama *The Assassin*. As Prince Demetri Mr Hill-Mitchelson gives a clever delineation; Mr John C. Carlyle is a manly Ivan Spanoff; and the Duke Karl of Mr Theo Balfour is played with excellent judgment. Mr Arthur M'Culloch's General Nicholai has the necessary bluff officialism about it, and Mr Fred Wilberforce as Captain O'Neil is well suited. Miss Ruth Shepherd's Countess Wanda is played with much realism and charm; Miss Alice Barber's Connie Jonathan is effective; and Miss Grace Aimer's Nita is satisfactory.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr John Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—The programme for the week here includes the Terras Brothers in their acrobatic show; W. H. Downes, the favourite coloured vocalist; Rich and Rich, funny patterers, &c.; Gerald Mount, a refined singer of good songs; Brother Lloddge in their athletic display; Elsie Robey, in "The Slavey at the Piano;" and Barnard's clever marionette performance, &c.

STROUD.

SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS.—Manager, Mr H. J. Twitchett.—Miss Inez Howard's company, under the direction of Mr Henry Chattell, was here on Monday with the drama, *Between Two Women*. Mr James Chippendale as Henry, Earl of Millard and Mr Gilbert Ainslie as Harry Millard give capital studies of their respective parts. Mr W. H. Baker is excellent as the Rev. Philip Carton. Mr G. M. Hancock displays ability as James Durwood, Mr Albert B. Mann as Jack Pringle and Miss Jennie Mansell as Polly Popp amuse the audience. Miss Irma Farrington plays the part of Violet Thornton with the right touch of feeling. Miss Edith Cruikshanks as Carmen De Savereaux is effective. The blind boy is touchingly acted by Miss Emmie Barton.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—Miss Ethel Arden and company head the bill this week in the successful sketch, *Three of a Kind*. It is admirably put on; the situations are uproariously funny. The Six Lancashire Lassies sing and dance cleverly, their clog dancing speciality being exceedingly good; Sid Bandon has two clever songs; Len Lever, coon artist, sings in a most acceptable manner; Francis and Melli contribute quite a potpourri entertainment; the Sisters Valmore sing and dance well; Dan Karnell tells his stories well, and causes much laughter; and Alf Bishop as a dancer is first-class.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—This week we have a departure from the usual drama, a musical comedy, *The Girl from Bond-street*, appearing for six nights under the direction of Messrs Woodbridge and Rondelle. Miss Phyllis Manners as Mrs Harvey caused much amusement, as did Mr Fred A. Ellis as Mickey Malvarney. Miss Violet Varcoe undertook the leading character of Lucy Harvey (the Girl from Bond-street) with credit, and the Lady Fielding of Miss Belle Bartleet was also good. Miss Lilian Bartleet worked hard with good effect in the rôle of Lottie Harvey, and Jobson was entrusted to the able hands of Mr Tony Greenland.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Miss Emma Hutchison's company in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* is appearing here this week. Mr Henry Neville as Bob Brierley was seen at his best on Monday night. Miss Evelyn Weedon gave a sympathetic and graceful rendering of the part of May Edwards. Melter Moss was capably represented by Mr F. G. Thurstans, and Mr L. Cory Thomas made an ideal detective as Hawkshaw. Mr Wm. Devereux as James Dalton gave a first-rate representation.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Armadale and Warren's company in *The Face at the Window* occupies the boards here this week. Mr E. H. Armadale appeared in the rôle of Le Loup with great success; Mr T. W. Dunscombe was realistic as Paul Gouffet; Miss Marie Florence made a charming Marie De Brisson; and Miss Jeannie Dempster as Le Pinau and Miss Lizzie Chambers as Babette were all that could be desired.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary, Mr Alfred Browne.—Mr John Lawson heads the bill this week in the *Sally in Our Alley* episode. Ella Retford, comedienne, is much appreciated; the Bon-Bons, in their pantomime trap scene, *Hot Time for One;* the Sylvines Trio, the Manzanares, Charles Bayman, Negro comedian; and Alma Jones, vocalist, also contribute.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce.—Mr George Dance's company is here with a spirited performance of *A Country Girl*. Mr Fred W. Pattrick is excellent as the Rajah of Bheng; Mr Francis Ludlow is a capable Geoffrey Chaloner; and Mr H. C. Morton does well as Sir Joseph. Mr Harry Buss as Barry and Miss Rosie Begarnie as Sophy are an excellent pair, and are responsible for a large share of the amusement, winning much deserved applause. Miss Kathryn Comber (Margery), Miss Ernestine Desborough (Princess), and Miss Nellie Cozens (Nan) are excellent in their respective rôles and their singing most praiseworthy. The chorus is a remarkably good one, and with Mr W. F. Hulley's excellent orchestra, conducted by Mr Otto Manns, the performance is thoroughly enjoyed by full houses, who show their appreciation in the heartiest manner. The staging and mounting are admirable.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—Here we have had Mr C. Lubbock's company for the week giving some very successful and enjoyable performances of *The Cherry Girl*, which have been highly appreciated.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—A good all-round performance is contributed to by Ernest Shand, Nina Martino, the Ohms, with their dogs and ponies; De Dio, the Harvey Boys, the Three Laurels, clever acrobats and jugglers; Bros. W. W. Ethairlen, eccentrics; Miss Maud Mortimer, in her historical scena, "Destiny;" and Tom Edwards, a clever ventriloquist.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners.—The success that has attended Mr Alfred B. Cross and his capable company's tours with the dramatic version of "The Manxman" was fully endorsed by a large and appreciative audience at this theatre on Monday. This popular play has the advantage of careful staging, under the direction of Mr Hilton Francis. Naturally, the chief interest centres in Mr Alfred B. Cross's study of Pete, a part he plays very finely. Miss Minnie Watersford submits a most effective and telling impersonation of Kate Cregeen, and Mr Richard Vane deserves a full measure of credit for his admirable embodiment of Philip Christian. Mr Hilton Francis is conspicuously successful as Cæsar Cregeen, and Miss Muriel Clay as Miss Christian and Miss Rose Kearns as Nancy undertook their parts with commendable judgment. Messrs Edw. M'Lean, Edw. Cartell, Douglass Cottell, and John Allen each deserve a word of praise for their good work. The tour is under the business management of Mr Alfred H. Hook.

TON-Y-PANDY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and S. Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Counsell.—The attraction here this week is Mr J. H. Clyndes's company in *A Royal Revenge*. Mr Clyndes is admirable as Estevan Alvarez, and very successful is Mr John M'Farlane as the King of Spain. Miss Bessie Elma as Inés Alvarez and Miss Evelyn Ommundsen as Cora Casilda play with sweetness and power.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident Manager, Mr Frank Burland.—Prominent in the bill here are the Three Sisters Mouiller, triple bar artistes; Andy Brown, comedian; the Clarions; and O'Connor and Brady.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr R. Smerdon; Secretary, Mr Arthur Pearce.—Mr Arthur Hart's *My Lady Molly* company a very welcome return visit this week. Most excellently staged, the performance was repeatedly applauded. Miss Mabel Lait was a very graceful and acceptable Lady Molly, well supported by Miss Sybil Thorne, whilst Miss Maud Thorne made a pretty, arch Alice Coverdale, and sang sweetly. Mr George Grundy lost none of his former popularity as Captain Harry Rodney. Mr Arthur Powell provoked considerable laughter as Micky O'Dowd, Alice's governess and suitor finding admirable exponents in Miss Lottie Sargent and Mr Frank Stather.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Captain Welton Dale; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Edgar Manaton.—*The Dandy Doctor* (Mr Edward Marris's company) has been well received during the present week. The honours are shared by Mr J. Salter, Mr J. Danvers, Miss Florence Smithers, and Miss Lizzie Primmer, while among the variety turns the acrobatic dancing of the Dandy Belles and the cake-walking of Mr Ben Rowe and Miss Holden deserve special mention, as does a skit on Paderewski which Mr Danvers introduces in the third act, assisted by Miss Otto.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr Bert Coote's company in the play *The Fatal Wedding* opened to a crowded house on Monday evening. The part of Howard Wilson is capitally filled by Mr Stuart Lomath; Mr Creagh Henry does justice to the rôle of Robert Curtiss; Mr Edward Morgan is excellent as Toto; Mr Walter Westwood is satisfactory as Peter Schwartz; the part of Mabel Nelson is admirably portrayed by Miss Madge Flynn; Miss Gertrude Harrison makes a dignified Cora Williams; Miss Marie Hassell acts well as Bridget; and Miss Rosie Dane displays charm as Jessie, the Little Mother.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—A return visit is being paid here by Mr William Greet's company in *The Lady Slavey*. Mr Allen Morris, who is the possessor of a fine baritone voice, acquits himself capitally as Vincent A. Evelyn; Mr Frank Sherlock appears as Roberts, the sheriff's officer, and much satisfaction is expressed with his portrayal; Mr Walter T. Hybert creates roars of laughter in his eccentricities as Lord Lavender; Mr Harry Walsh is remarkably good as Major O'Neill; Miss Addie Lenrard, in the title-rôle, is charming, her singing and dancing being exceptionally clever and attractive; as Flo Honeydew Miss Millicent Marsden is all that can be desired; and Miss Jean Van Dalle as Maude, and Miss Ethel Ashton as Beatrice are well placed.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Company, Limited; General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr James Hare's company in *The Golden Chance* is occupying the boards here this week. Mr Herbert M. King makes a capital Hubert Zac, Mr James Hare portrays the villainies of Stephen Clinton well, as Isaac Shelberg Mr Tom Arkinstall is amusing. The comedy element is supplied by Mr John A. Stimson and Miss Jenny Hallworth as Susan Brown. Miss Agatha Halford is a charming Lydia Hastings, and Miss Irene Clifford in the dual-rôle of Mother Hawk and Viva Zac is exceedingly clever.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—The unstinted applause of discriminating audiences follows this week the performance of Mr C. A. Clarke's stirring military drama *Current Cash*, by Mr Charles Freeman and company. As Captain Mark Milton Mr Freeman plays in the prologue with force and vigour, while in the play proper his performance as the mysterious "One Eye" marks him as a character-actor of great ability. Miss Florence Tench, looking very sweet, plays the much-tried wife, Grace, with much charm. Mr Walter Graham gives a good account of the villainously-inclined Major Gordon Challis; Mr T. B. Lloyd extracts much humour from the part of Ned Booles; Miss May Garlton is a pretty and intelligent child, Sybil; Miss Nesta Sandford is handsome and earnest as Della Challis. Other parts are carefully acted by Mr Harry Hiller, Mr Harry Gilmore, Mr Robert Sellers, and Mr George Ashley; while Miss Ivy Derry is an engaging Sybil Milton, "grown up."

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slatter.—The contributors to the entertainment this week include Miss Gladys Archbutt, a pretty and tasteful speciality dancer; and Major Newell, who is applauded for some clever skate dances. Miss Alexandra Dagmar charms her hearers, and has been enthusiastically received at every performance. Mr L. B. Athol is a clever character comedian, and Miss Dolly Golden a dancer of distinct merit. Conan and Doyle do not require a Sherlock Holmes to detect the humour of their comedy and the neatness of their dancing, and Mr Charles V. Adams is an exceptionally good comedian. The great feature of the bill, however, is that well-known laugh-provoking extravaganza *Saturday to Monday*, played by Mr Fred Karno's company, with Mr Fred Kitchen as the bewildered bridegroom, John Willie Jagga.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—*A Path of Thorns* is proving a rare attraction here this week, as played by Hardie and Von Leer's company. Mr Claude King especially gains high encomiums for his faithful rendering of John Edmonds; Mr Cyril W. Mackey imparts the true ring of honesty to his portrayal of the good cleric; and Mr Cecil Du Gué is a success as Jonas Deane. All the good qualities of Sam Hallett are brought out by Mr Alfred Lester, and in direct contrast the Sykes-like nature of Jim Price is admirably portrayed by Mr J. H. Booth. Mr W. L. Rignold submits a clever sketch of Ratty Gabbits, a remark which also applies to Mr H. F. Wright as De Gaye. Miss Violet Luddington impresses all with her faithful rendering of Bessie Edmunds, and true pathos is shown by Miss M. Stanley Burt as Millie Hallett. Miss Mary Raby is excellent as Constance Howard, and a vivacious Jane Adelaide is Miss Amy Rogerson. Little Mabel May is a natural and pleasing representative of Lucy. The staging is very effective.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmott.—Another excellent company is here this week. Barton and Franklin, who head the bill, are rightly defined "Scottish pioneers of music." Pete and Juno are original coloured comedians, and Professor Stark is an expert magician. Robert Gilbert, with his troupe of dogs and cats, delights all, and Maggie Rimmer is a refined comedienne. Rolando Martin, comedian; Charlie Craston, comedian; Flo Wood, burlesque artiste; and the Royal Bioscope make up one of the best programmes seen here for some time.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Mr Penrhyn Forster and company are successfully presenting the sensational drama, *The Break of Day*, here this week. Mr James English as Richard Thornycroft and Mr Denis Hennessey as Arthur Fletcher are responsible for some excellent work. Mr Robert N. Davidson as the Rev. Ernest Brand scores successfully, and as Marmaduke Manners Mr Ernest Shiel Porter is well suited to the part. Mr T. E. Conover creates amusement in his humorous portrayal of Jeremiah Stubbs. Miss Rose Ralph gives an artistic rendering of Daisy Thornycroft, and as Phillis Thornycroft Miss Ida Thompson evokes loud applause. Miss Ethel Stalman as Mrs Amelia Peck is well worthy of mention. Miss Annie Thomas as Henrietta Stubbs and Miss Doris Regan as Violet Brand also render valuable assistance in their respective representations.

WEXFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr E. P. Ronan.—Mr Henry Johnston's company opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday with *The Houp-La Girl*, and met with much success. The Prince of Felsenberg was capitally played by Mr Thomas Berry, and the part of Major Davenport was entrusted to Mr Eric Dalvere, who scored a success. Mr Launcelot Usher found the rôle of Lieut. Lambton a most congenial one, and kept the house in a continuous roar of laughter, and Mr Jack Durant as Frank Saville left nothing to be desired. La Belle Rosiere was impersonated by Miss Florence Brandon. She sang her numbers with much taste, and was loudly applauded; while Miss Edith Haley as Dick danced gracefully and sang charmingly. Miss Harland made a stately Duchess, and Miss Maggie Fraser was vivacious as Isobel. Miss Bella Fossette was quaint as Miss Matilda Birkins, and a number of minor parts were interpreted by clever and pretty ladies. The Rosie Rice Quartet gave some capital exhibitions of dancing, and were several times recalled.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—The Charcassen Troupe of vocalists and whirlwind dancers tops the bill here in their clever show. O'Neil and Forp are two of the most eccentric acrobats and jugglers imaginable; the comedy sketch of Burg, Haud, and Wise, acrobats, is very funny indeed; and another really smart and bright act is given by Doody and Wright, who are recalled nightly. Arthur Aldridge, tenor, is delighting all, and Walter Emerson, comedian, is enjoying the greatest popularity. The Ferraris are clever cosmopolitan dancers, and these, with Gracie Vernon, comedienne, complete a good bill. The first of a series of winter matinées was given on Wednesday.

GRAND.—Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Fred Conneaux.—Domestic drama is ruling here this week, Mr John A. Atkin and Mr Walter Howe presenting *A Victim of Villainy* to good houses. The cast is a strong one. Mr Walter Howe, the author, is appearing with success in the part of Frank Manton, Mr Sydney Arnold interpreting the character of the villain vividly. As the heroine one could not desire a better artiste than Miss Mariette Hyde, who shares the honours with Miss Helena Walbran, a powerful actress. Miss H. E. Russell skilfully represents the good old landlady.

WEST STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Lindon.—Mr T. Edward Ward's company is here in the drama *Her Fatal Past*. Mr Joseph Millane is efficient in the part of Mark Desmond, and Mr Edward De Vere is good as Leonard Fernside. Mr W. Coleman in the part of Gilbert Fernside proves himself an able actor; and Mr T. Edward Ward as Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs and Mr Algie Spalding as Dicky Bird evoke much laughter. Miss Helen Ingledon in the dual rôle of Ruth Fernside and Belle De Lara is highly satisfactory, and as Honor Symes Miss Ward plays with great feeling. Miss Ettie Spalding also acquits herself with ability in the part of Martha Springwell, whilst a word of praise is due to Little Miss Dor Tully Hole as Little Leonard.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. C. Rawes; Resident Manager, Mr David Williams.—Mr J. K. Murray and Miss Dawson's company is here with *Driven From Home*.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—*Kitty Grey* has been presented here this week by Mr C. St. John Denton's company. Miss Hilda Guiver as Kitty Grey enacts the part charmingly. Mr Robert Whyte, jun., as the King of Illyria, Mr Robert Selby as Sir John Binfield, and Mr Leslie Harris as Lord Plantagenet give admirable representations. Lady Binfield is capitally impersonated by Miss Eily Helene; and Miss Emily Stevens as Mrs Bright and Miss Constance Hamilton as Sadie De Poulson are excellent.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—The George Bonhair Gregory Troupe, in their great risley performance, and the Earles, intrumentalists (including Miss Fanny Earle, clever banjoist), are the great attractions here this week. Kloof and Ramsey, musical eccentrics; Harry Gold, in his novel act "Animated Sovereigns;" Hicks' Clerks, vocalists and comedians; and Wirson, pyramid and hand equilibrist, are very entertaining. Walter Munroe, in character songs; Jack and Evelyn, youthful entertainers; Joab Heteb, wizard; and Harry Lawson, eccentric comedian, complete the list of performers.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Burchill. This popular place of amusement reopened on Monday, when a good programme was provided. T. B. Fayme and Alden, comedians, are very popular; and the Lisbon Troupe of acrobats give a clever performance. Edmunds, ventriloquist; Hinton, in a novel wire act; and Professor Derwin, conjuror, are well received. Ethel Mohr, ballad vocalist; Powell, in a smart vaulting act; and Rosie Morn, comedienne, give acceptable turns.

WINDSOR.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Governing Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Nash.—*When the Lights are Low*, by E. Hill Mitchelson, which Mr Henry Eglington's No. 1 company has been presenting here this week, under the management of Mr Tom R. Seymour, is a remarkable blend of love and tragedy. Mr Horace Booth as Guy Goldsworthy makes a fine manly hero. Mr Edward Avinal as Rowland Goldsworthy presents an excellent conception of the scheming villain. Mr Tom R. Seymour's representation of Ikey Isaacson is highly diverting. Mr Dick Seddon as Wilkie Williams, Mr Fred Carlton as Tom Wilkins, and Mr J. P. Marsden as Donald Macpherson are distinctly clever and intensely amusing. The Admiral Goldsworthy of Mr Tom Roberts is a good impersonation of a bluff but dignified officer. Miss Adalina Mercandalli enacts the rôle of Nancy Christie with artistic skill; the part of Violet Christie, the unscrupulous sister, is vividly rendered by Miss Kate Froude; Miss Cissie Williams's Stella Goldsworthy is a finished study of a blind child; and Miss Maude Leonard elicits continuous and well-merited applause as the lively and humorous Kathleen Terry.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—This week's attraction consists of that well-known play, *In the Ranks*, which is admirably performed by Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage's company. The principal characters are in efficient hands, Mr Edward Lloyd, Mr Cecil Clayton, Mr Walter H. Wilson, Miss Edith Blair Staples, and Miss Ella Wilmer being seen to advantage in their respective rôles.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Manager, Mr Fred Benton.—This week *The Drama of Life* is staged here, the play being well performed by Messrs Carson and Granville's company.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—This week's bill includes Lydia Dreams, in a ventriloquial entertainment; the Mannons, comedy troupe, in *Uncle Yank;* Will Musgrave, comedian; the Sisters Redfern, banjo and dance duettists; the Howards, cornet players; Master Harry Avery, vocalist; and Russell's Bioscope.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—*Florodora* is having a very popular reception here this week upon its return visit, the performances by Messrs H. J. Callan and Wentworth Croke's company attracting crowded houses. Miss Violet Bronson is admirable as Dolores, her singing being much appreciated. Miss May Yates as Angela Gilfain is charming, and Miss Dorothy Sephton is clever as Lady Holyrood. A smart song and dance by Miss May Yates is one of the best features of the performance, and her whistling is also good. Mr Wm. Everard is a capital Lord Abercoed, and his singing of "O, my Dolores," is particularly effective. Mr Arthur Lenville is extremely droll as Tweedlepunch, and Mr Frank Grans thoroughly efficient as Captain Donegal. Mr C. F. Fixott is very good as Cyrus Gilfain. The chorus do their work remarkably well.

WORKINGTON.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Stanley Rogers.—On Monday night there was a large and appreciative house to witness the presentation of *The Priest of Temple* by Mr Charles March and his company. As Valerius Mr March played with vigour, grace, and effect, and he was ably supported by Mr Ronald Bayne as Fronto. Mr H. Moxon gave a fine rendering of Applus, and the general support was excellent. Miss Evelyn Hope as Polita acted with spirit. Miss Marie North was charming as Præstantia.

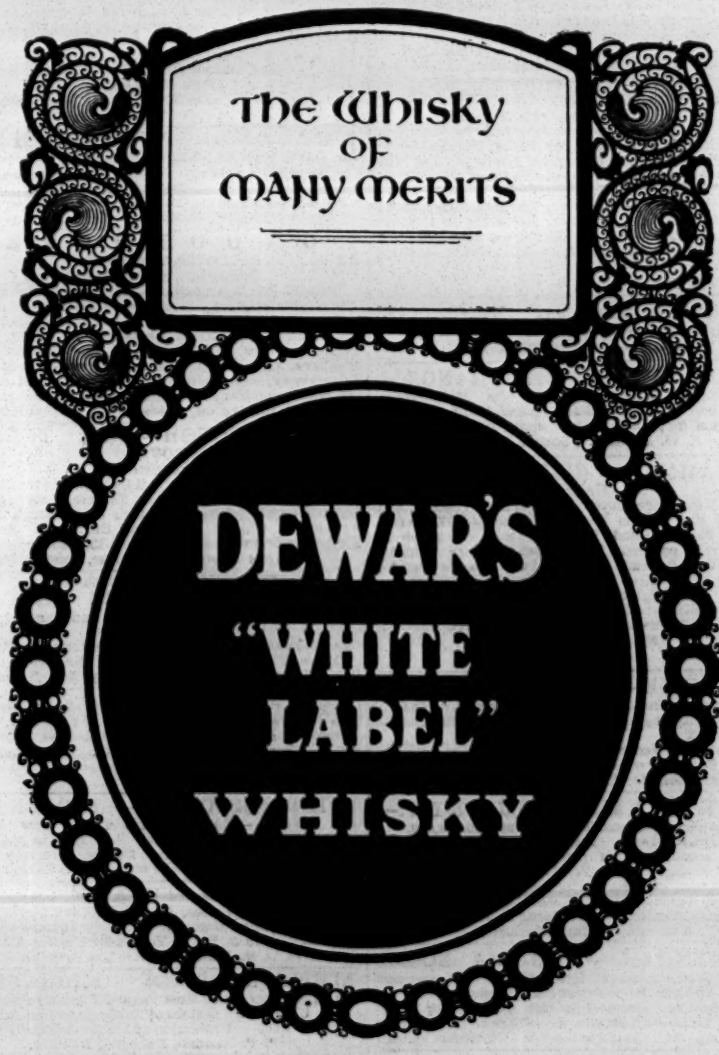
WREXHAM.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls.—This week the following have appeared:—Les Prinellas, speciality artistes, in *A Country Flirtation;* the Two Danvils, with illustrated songs; Fred Land, eccentric comedian; Geo. Russell, character comedian; May Tudor, ballad vocalist; and Harry Manchester, comedian and dancer.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—Amateurs appeared on Monday in *Liberty Hall*, and for the remainder of the week *The* 10 30 *Down Express* was given.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke.—Malcolm Scott had a tremendous reception on Monday, his monologue being full of witty patter. Miss Ada Blanche and party appeared in *Becky Bounder*, and Texas Hattie gave a clever tight-rope performance. The Pueblo Bros. are dancers of a high standard of merit, and Mdlle De Rose sings well. Mr J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist; the Two Errols in a clever leaping act; Ara, Zebra, and Vora; and the Morrison Sisters complete a strong bill.



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HANLEY, THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—
Please note.—The Staffordshire Potteries for all Dramatic Purposes must be considered as one Large Town. The following Attractions are Booked for the Autumn Season of 1904:—Miss Ellen Terry and full Company, Mr E. S. Willard and full London Company, Moody-Manners No. 1 Company, Sir Henry Irving and his Répertoire Company; also the following No. 1 Companies:—"Belle of New York," "Sapho," "Earl and the Girl," "School Girl," "Girl from Kay's," "Duchess of Dantzic," Beerbohm Tree's "Darling of the Gods," "Florodora," and others.
Hanley has undoubtedly the Largest Theatre and Stage in Staffordshire. Lighted by Electricity; accommodation for 3,700 People Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to ends of the District, Longton, Stoke, Burslem, and Tunstall.
Vacant for First-class Companies only, Dec. 12 and 19, also from Jan 23, 1905.
Chas. K. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HULL.—THE CIRCUS—
General Manager, Edward Emerson.
One the Finest and Largest Halls in the Provinces. Fitted with Large Stage, and Suitable for Circus, Minstrels, Panoramas, Concert and Choir Parties, &c. Rental, Share, or Salary. Only a Few Vacant Dates.

ILKESTON, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Manager, L. F. A. Rogers.
1904 all Dates Booked.
First-class Pantomimes Required, Feb. 13 and March 13, onward. Silence courteous negative.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL
BARROW.—ROYALTY T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.
Vacant Dates:—Jarrow, 1905. Barrow, for First-class Musical Attractions; Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, and 30, March 27, and various, on. The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions Touring. Consett, Nov. 14, Dec. 12 and 19, and Jan. 9, on. all applications for Dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow

JERSEY—OPERA HOUSE,
and ST. JULIAN'S HALL, GUERNSEY.
Address,
C. Robert Perkins,
Jersey.

KIDDERMINSTER.—OPERA HOUSE
A Beautiful Theatre and pronounced success.
Old Theatre Receipts trebled in the New.
Holding capacity £100. Vacant Dec. 5.
All communications, J. P. Moore, West Bromwich.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.
Sole Proprietor, Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley.
Re Dates for Spring, 1905, address,
Geo. M. Slater,
Business Manager for Lieut-Col. Winstanley,
Royal Opera House, Leicester.

LEYLAND PUBLIC HALL
LANCASHIRE.—Stage, 30ft. by 20ft. Proscenium. Seats 800. Balcony. District Population, 8,000. Small Stock Scenery. No Sharing.
Vacant Dates for Companies or Entertainers.
Apply, Managing Director. Park House, Leyland.

LONDONDERRY.—
OPERA HOUSE.
Proprietor, W. Payne Seddon.
Vacant Dec. 5, 12, and 19 Jan. 2, and February, on.
It was not originally intended to fill these dates, but owing to the immense success of this theatre under new management, all dates will now be filled. Late Theatre Trains are now run weekly by the Midland, Great Northern, and Lough Swilley Railways to Strabane, Letterkenny, Omeavady, and Buneranna, thus doubling the population hitherto available for theatrical purposes.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

LOUGHBOROUGH—NEW THEATRE ROYAL.
Proprietors,
Messrs Payne Seddon and George Robertson.
This handsome New Brick Theatre, fully Licensed, Lighted by Electricity, and Stage large enough for any Production, will be Opened at Christmas. Required, First-class Companies only, Feb 6, 13, and on.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

Still the Mascotte of South Wales.

MERTHYR, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Sole Proprietor, Freeholder, and Manager,
Will Smithson.
The Business Capabilities of this Theatre are well known Bookings include:—Geo. Dance's "Chinese Honeymoon," "San Toy," "Toreador," "My Lady Molly," Van Biene, The Leopolds, "The Eternal City," F. R. Benson and Company, "New Mephisto," "Sherlock Holmes," William Greet's "Sign of the Cross," "Floradora," "The Christian,' &c., and a host of First-class Attractions. Nothing booked but Big Successes. First-class Band, Electric Lighting, Good Stock of Scenery, and Real Live Management, W. S., on spot.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — TEMPERANCE HALL. — Accommodates 2,000. New Heating Apparatus and Electric Light. Best Hall in the Town. 200 000 people within reach. Choirs, Minstrels, Exhibitions, &c. Apply for special terms to the Secretary.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern;
General Manager, Chas. M. Julian.
Now booking 1905 Easter Vacant for Musical Attraction.
Address, C. M. Julian, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

NEWARK CORN EXCHANGE.—
The Largest and Most Beautiful Room in Newark.
Used for All Classes of Entertainments &c.
Capacity 1,200 Population of District upwards of 2,500.
R. P. Almond, Managing Director.

NORTH SHIELDS.
ROYAL.

Lessee and Manager,
Arthur Jefferson, Ayton House.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

NORWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Enlarged, Redecorated, Lighted throughout by Electricity, Upholstered by Dean and Co.
No Vacant Dates this year.
Now Booking 1905.
Address, Fred Morgan, as above.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.
Manager, Charles P. Cooke.
Vacant Nov. 14 and Easter.
First-class Attractions only.
Silence a courteous negative.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—
Holding Capacity, £300. Telephone, 362.
Feb. 6, 13 open for First-class Pantomime.
Transfer of a London Production Preferred.
All communications to Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—GRAND THEATRE.—
Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class Attractions only.
For Dates, apply, Mr C. F. Williams,
Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

PORTSMOUTH, NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the Year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PORTSMOUTH.—EMPIRE PALACE.
Oct. 10, A. Prince, F. St Clair, Mdlle. Ongar, T. C. Callaghan, Lee and Kingston, G. Neno, Adelina, Sisters Vincent, the Boccacios.
Rehearsal at 2·0 p.m.
All communications to the Secretary.

RAMSGATE.—
SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
Sole Proprietor, Lord George Sanger.
Open all the Year round.
First-class companies only.
Address, Henry Bowman, Manager.

SILVERTOWN, ESSEX.—TATE INSTITUTE HALL.—Situated in centre of populous Manufacturing and Dock Labour District. Open for Stage Plays, Music and Dancing, Concerts, Cinématograph Exhibitions, &c. Seat 700. Stock Scenery. Secretary.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing Director, W. Marlow. Manager, W. Marlow, Jun. The Prettiest and Most Popular Place of Amusement in the Town. Bookings include:—Mrs Lewis Waller, in "Zaza;" Mabel Love, in "Sweet and Twenty;" Miss Louie Freear, in "Boy Bob;" the Moody-Manners Opera Company, Mr Geo. Dance's Companies, in "The Country Girl," "The School Girl," "The Girl from Kay's," &c Managers of First-class Companies please address, W. Marlow, Jun., as above.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.—
Dec. 5 only Vacant Date this Year.
Now completing Spring Arrangements.

Alfred Hemming, General Manager.

SOUTH SHIELDS THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessees and Managers, J. and F. Coulson.
Vacant Nov. 14, April 17, May 8.
Address,
J. and F. Coulson, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE OPERA HOUSE and THEATRE ROYAL.
Managing-Director, Chas. E. Machin.
General Manager, Percival Craig.
Only Vacant Dates.
AVENUE.
April 10, May 1, 8, 22, 29.
ROYAL.
Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 13, 20, 27, &c.
Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred.
Apply, C. E. Machin, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

SUNDERLAND.—VICTORIA HALL —
This Hall is open for Bookings from this date to March 31, 1905.
Accommodation for 2,500.
For dates and terms, apply
H. Davidson, Town Hall, Sunderland.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.— Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre and Music Hall Reports Weekly. Address, "Dramaticus," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, W. H. Westwood — Holds £180 Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. First Vacant Dates, Nov. 21 and 28, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, 23, and 30.

WEST BROMWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Open All the Year Round.
Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre.
Vacant Jan. 2.
All communications to James P. Moore.

WOKING.—PUBLIC HALL.—
John Smith, Secretary.
The Hall is fitted with Electric Light,
Scenery by Hinton, Tip-up Seats by Deans, of Birmingham.
The Stage has recently been Enlarged.
Good Attractions only Required.
J. Lewis, Manager.

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PROFESSIONAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRES,
PROVINCIAL MUSIC HALLS.

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For Each Additional Line, Sixpence.
A Reduction for a Series.
Address, the Publisher,
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NEW ARRIVALS AT CROSS'S ZOOLOGICAL TRADING ESTABLISHMENT:—
1 Young Tiger, 2 Hyenas, 1 Yak, 4 Zebu Cattle, 2 Agouties, 1 Barred Mongoose (African) 29 West Indian Mongoose, 40 Ferrets, 2 Marmozet, 2 Mona, 5 Jew, 4 Caracrix, 5 Dogface, 3 Mandrill, 1 Ringtail, and 1 Sooty Monkeys, 2 Female Baboons, 14 Indian Pythons, 10 Blue, 10 Purple, and 4 Little Pond Herons, 2 Pair Purple Galinules, 3 Pair White Storks, 1 Marabou Stork, 1 Adjutant Stork, 5 Pair Black-necked, 3 Pair Bewicke, 2 Pair Coscoroba, and 5 Pair White Swans, 4 Pair Canada, 2 Pair Chinese, 3 Pair White-fronted, 2 Pair Arctic Snow, 3 Australian Maned, 2 Pair Australian Magpie, 2 Pair Cereopsis, 2 Pair Magellan, and 1 Pair Bar-headed Geese; 4 Pair Mandarin, 2 Pair Pintail, 2 Pair Rosybil, 6 Pair Shoveller, 4 Pair Pochard, 3 Pair Common Teal, 5 Pair Garganey Teal, 1 Pair Japanese Teal, 1 Pair Brazilian Teal, 10 Pair Brown Call, 12 Pair White Call, 1 Pair White-Faced Tree, 2 Pair Fulvous Tree, 1 Pair Spotted Tree, 10 Pair Wandering Tree, 6 Pair Wigeon, and 1 Pair Chilian Pintail Ducks; 3 Pair Ruddy and 5 Pair Common Sheldrakes; 4 Young African Grey Parrots, 1 extraordinary Talking Grey Parrot, 6 Amazon Parrots, 3 Pair Cochin China Parrakeets, 10 Pair White Doves, 10 Large White Cockatoos, 4 Pair Cockatiels; 20 Pair Zebra Finches, 4 Pair Diamond Doves, 20 Pair Budgerigars, 1 Pair Red Cardinals.
Telegrams and Cables, "Cross, Liverpool;" Nat. 'Phones, 6,491 Central and 728 Royal.
Liverpool.

1 EAGLE from Dahomey, 1 Moustache Monkey from Dahomey, 1 Black Spider Monkey, 4 Capuchin Monkeys, 1 Rhesus Monkey, 1 Salmon-crested Cockatoo, 1 Pair Porphyrios, 2 Kinkajous, 20 Blue-fronted Amazons (Finger Tame), 7 Double-fronted Amazons, 2 Armadilloes, 3 Ring-tailed Lemurs, 1 Brown Bear (Tame), 1 Tiger Cat, 4 Opossums, 1 Pine Marten, 4 Paradoxures, 1 Alpine Marmot, 1 Kangaroo Rat, 4 Boomer Kangaroos, 2 Red Kangaroos, 1 Rhea, 3 Corsican Mouflons, 1 Aoudad, 1 Persian Gazelle, 3 Rosellas, 1 Wallace's Lorikeet, 1 Blue Mountain Lorikeet, &c. Also 105 Japanese Ivory Carvings, 400 Netsukes, 12 Wood Carvings, 6 Gongs, 2 Plaques, 7 Jade Carvings, 18 Masks, 12 War Clubs, &c
Albert Edward Jamrach (late Charles Jamrach), 180, St. George-street East.

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MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTES.
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Forty-nine, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 23, 30, on.

MANAGERS PLEASE NOTE.
WE HAVE NO BILL ORDERS
OR FREE LIST
OF ANY KIND WHATEVER (PRESS EXCEPTED)
AT DALSTON THEATRE.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 14, 28 Dec. 19 (Three Nights), Feb. 27, March 6, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Nov. 7, Feb. 6, 20, 27, March 13, on.
(Musical Companies preferred.)
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, Feb. 23 (Three Nights), 27, March 13, 27, on.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, April 3, 17, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 16, 23, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
Feb. 13, March 13, 20, April 3, 10, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant, Nov. 21, Dec. 19,
Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Leamington Bookings include
"Little Mary," Miss Nethersole's "Sapho,"
"Sweet and Twenty," Miss Fortescue, "Florodora,"
"One of the Best," "Duke of Killicrankie,"
"The Tyranny of Tears,"
"Darling of the Gods," Martin Harvey, Edward Compton, Mr and Mrs Kendal, "Chinese Honeymoon."
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
The above are only Booked Three Nights each in conjunction. Vacant Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, 21, Dec 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Nov. 10, 24, Dec. 1, 26, Jan. 19.
VICTORIA THEATRE, SHEERNESS.
Stage now being Reconstructed, and will be capable of taking any Production. Vacant Nov. 14, onwards.
Address, E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Musical Comedy, Dec. 5, through cancelling. The Theatre has been Thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and the Electric Light (Three Colours) installed. H. Vere

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Musical Company to Reopen Hereford Theatre after Reconstruction and Redecoration, Nov. 7 or 14. Arthur Carlton, Crownhill, Devon.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. Payne Seddon.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 24, Dec. 5, 12, and 19, Jan. 2, and Feb. 6, on. Late theatre trains are now run weekly by the Midland, Great Northern, and Lough Swilly Railway Companies, thus doubling the population hitherto available for theatrical purposes.
This Week "Whitewashing Julia;"
Next Week, "The New Housemaid."
Opening for Good Drama Only "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," and "Driven from Home" booked.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs Seddon and Robertson.
WANTED, Companies, Feb. 6, 27, March 6 and on.
This Handsome New Theatre opens at Christmas.
Fully Licensed. Stage to accommodate any Production.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs Seddon and Starkey.
WANTED, Companies, Last Three Days of Weeks, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, and possibly Nov. 14 and Dec. 5.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES
WANTED, High-class Companies (Musical preferred), Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 9, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. Potts.

THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, W. E. Potts.
WANTED, High-class Companies Oct. 17, and on with exceptions.
Address, Post-office, Dunfermline.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE. Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Macknight; Business Manager, Chas. E. Hardy.
WANTED, Companies, Oct. 17, Nov 7, and onwards, with Exceptions.

LYCEUM THEATRE, SHEFFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attraction, for Jan 9
Apply, John Hart,
Theatre Royal, Bradford.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Dec. 12,
Dec. 12.
Silence a polite negative.
Apply, Mr C. F. Williams, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

GRAND THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 12, and 19.
Apply, Mr C. F. Williams,
Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Good Companies for Dec. 5, 12 (Three Nights), 19,
Dec 26 (?).
Address, Thos. Swinton.

WANTED, First-class Attraction (through Cancelling) for Oct 24, Three Nights, New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr; Oct. 27. Three Nights, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock. An exceptionally fine week's business assured. Wire, Wire, Wire. R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow"

THEATRE ROYAL, WORTHING.—This Theatre will be opened, under the Management of Herr C. Adolf Seebold, on First-class Lines, Good Staff and Orchestra Kept
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Three Nights and Matinée, or Week, Oct. 24, onwards. Silence a polite negative. Address, until Oct. 11, Pier, Southend-on-Sea; after, Worthing.

WANTED, Comedy or Musical Companies Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness. Vacant Dates November and December Cameron Burgess.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Dec. 12, 19, 26, and Jan. 2. Address, E. B. Goulden.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant, Nov. 28, Feb. 13, 27, March 27.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY (Late Grand Hall).
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY (Late Grand Hall).
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY (Late Grand Hall).
Will reopen Dec. 26, with "The Cherry Girl," after entire Redecoration, &c.
Vacant, Jan. 9, onward (with exceptions) for Premier Companies only.
Population of 70,000 within Three Miles.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant, Jan. 23, March 13, 20, 27.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
The most Popular Theatre in the West of England.
Playing to Big Business all the year round.
Vacant, June 5, 12, 19, July 31.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6, April 3.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Will be opened under Mr Carlton's Management on Nov. 28, by Miss Fortescue and entire London Company, followed by some of the Principal Attractions touring.
Resident Band of Ten Musicians.
Good Staff in front and behind.
Entirely Redecorated and Reconstructed.
Vacant, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, on, with exceptions.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Will reopen, after Reconstruction and Redecoration, in November.
Wanted, High-class Attractions for Opening and following Dates.

ARTHUR CARLTON and SAM DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON and SAM DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
The Popular Theatre of South Wales
Business always excellent.
Vacant, Oct. 31, Dec. 26, Feb 6.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
No Vacancies.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Can be booked separately or in conjunction with Abertillery.
Vacant, Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
May be booked separately or in conjunction with Ebbw Vale, Three or Six Nights each.
Vacant, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 9, 16.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.
Telegraphic Address, "Carlton, Crownhill, Devon."

HARROGATE.—GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies (Musical preferred),
Nov. 14, 15, 16,
21, 22, 23
Dec. 5, 6, 7,
12, 13, 14.
Three Nights.
Apply, William Peacock.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions,
April 3,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, T. Edwards

GRAND THEATRE, MAIDENHEAD.
Under New and Energetic Management.
Redecorated and Restocked with entirely New Scenery.
WANTED, Good Companies, Nov. 7 and onwards, Musical Comedies, &c. Also First-class Panto. for Christmas Week. Managers, with known attractions, address.
Mr E. Dereve,
52, Ravenscourt-gardens, London, W.

WANTED, Good Companies, Four Nights, Nov. 21, also Dec. 12, 19, and a few Dates onwards, except January Dates. W. K. Gatley, T. R., Macclesfield.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Rochdale, Oct. 31;
Bury, Nov. 14;
Dewsbury, Jan. 9;
Halifax, Jan. 23.
Otto C. Culling, Theatre Royal, Bury.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Strong Dramas and Musical Shows, Nov. 14, 28 and Dec 5.
S. King Alexander, General Manager.

WANTED, First-class Productions for Victoria Opera House, Burnley, Nov. 28, Jan. 9, 16, through obliging Managers. Horner, Burnley.

KING'S THEATRE, SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Companies Great success at opening. Hundreds turned away. Press and Public opinion:—One of the coolest and best-fitted theatres in the provinces. Great business all week with Mr Henry Hare's Splendid Show, "Girl from Chicago."

VICTORIA THEATRE, MANSFIELD.
WANTED, Good Companies Last Three Nights of Week only. Can Arrange to Precede Sutton. Vacant Dec. 12, 19, 26, and onwards.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Nov. 14 and 21. Vacant through obliging. Only No. 1 Companies entertained. Chas. Revill, Stockport.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, LONDON, N.
Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell.
WANTED, with view to oblige a Manager, First-class Attraction
for Oct 31;
also Dec 5.
Apply, F. W. Purcell, Alexandra Theatre, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies,
Oct. 31 and Nov. 14.
Address, Gerald Harding.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Good Companies. Vacant Oct. 20 (Three Nights), Nov. 7, and dates on. James Elphinstone.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. Ashton, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

WANTED, Pantomime (Six Nights) or Musical Comedy, Minstrel Troupe, or other Really Good Attraction (Three Nights), Dec. 26. State lowest sharing terms and full particulars, Hague, Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, Two Houses Nightly, Week, Oct. 17. Apply Manager, King's Theatre, Walthamstow.

COMPANIES WANTED

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.

THE FINEST TOUR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
A FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICAL SUCCESS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.

GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.
LEITH.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE
AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE.
KILMARNOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.
KIRKCALDY, GREENOCK { At present in course of Construction. } KING'S THEATRE. ALEXANDRA T.

All communications re dates to R. C. BUCHANAN, General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE, Nov. 14, 28, and on; Christmas Vacant. THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH, Nov. 28, Dec. 12. GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12. Apply, FREDK MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C. Wire, "Lutanist, London."

POOLE'S THEATRES, GLO'STER and SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, the Best Companies Only for the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, now One of the Prettiest, Cleanest, and Smartest Theatres in the Empire. Electric Trams from all Parts. The Only Theatre in the City.
Opera House, Porth, the Largest and Most Successful in the District, now in the Full Tide of Success.
Opera House, Treherbert. Top of the Valley. Another fine Theatre, where everything before, behind, and outside is done well. Extensive building now going on directly opposite. The pits sunk, the coal found. Directly they start the Population doubles. Now good, then excellent.
Town Hall Theatre, Maesteg. Another coming Eldorado. More pits sunk, fine coal found. Hotels, business establishments, and streets rebuilt.
"The Christian" took at Maesteg, in three nights, in an off pay, £118, and in three nights at Treherbert, £130, and we mean to double these receipts. Splendid Bookings. Only a few Dates left. Every inquiry solicited.
Theatre Royal, Pontypool, at present to Let on Share or Rental. Apply, for all Theatres, C. W. POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

NEW THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Ec'e Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD
Please Note.
Lighted Throughout with Electricity. Stage capable of Mounting any Play. Efficient Band and Staff. Holds, at Ordinary Prices, £70 to £80. No Free List. Bars run only for Convenience of Playgoing Public. Two Companies Booked a-Week.
WANTED, First-class Companies. Vacant Dates, Oct. 27, 28 29, Nov. 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, Jan. 23, 24, 25, Feb. 2, 3, 4, onwards, and some good Spring dates.
Address, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.
N. B.—Managers requiring good money-making plays see advertisement in "Wanted to Sell" Column.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
Winter Season.
WANTED, Good Companies for Three Nights Only in the Months of November, December, January, February, March. Good business can be done by Conducting the Theatre in this way.
Oct. 10, 11, 12, "The New Clown."
No other Company will be Booked this Month.
Now Booking Autumn Season Dates, 1905.
Address, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.
N.B.—Managers reqniring good Money-making Plays, see Advt. in "Wanted to Sell" Column,

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THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, First-class Dramas, Last Three Nights of Oct 31, Nov. 14, and 28. Weeks all Follow Musical Shows. Also Musical Companies for Dates in January, February, and March. Well Worked. Electric Light Throughout. Full Licence just granted, and Business Good. Next Week, "The Dandy Doctor."
EDWARD MARRIS, Proprietor.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
Vacant, Dec. 5, 19, and 26.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
Address, LINGFORD CARSON.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Companies, Oct. 31, Nov. 7; also Good Pantomime, Dec. 26.
One or Two Weeks' Good Business certain.
Address, C. M. JULIAN, Oct. 10, T. R., South Shields.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Nov. 7, 28, and Dec. 12.
Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Oct. 27 three nights), Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Jan. 5 (Three Nights), 16, 23 (Three Nights), 30, on Silence polite negative.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe, Cheshire, First-class Attractions for October, onwards. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, Big Pantos., Jan. 2, 9, 16, Chorley; also Dramatic Attractions Spring, 1905. Good Panto., Jan. 2, 9, Radcliffe; also Big Dramatic Attractions, Spring. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

EASTBOURNE PIER.
WANTED, First-class Companies (not Drama) for Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 9, 30, and various Dates in the spring.
Apply, G. HAYES, Manager.

VICTORIA THEATRE, SAURISTON, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, Good Dramatic and Variety Companies; also Panto for Christmas, Oct. 24, and onwards. J. C. LOWES, Manager

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WANTED, Palace Pier, Brighton, First-class Attractions, Musical Preferred, Nov. 14, 21, and 28, Six Matinées and Two Evenings each Week also Vacant Christmas First-class Touring, Panto. or Comic Opera. DREW MACKINTOSH, Palace Pier, Brighton

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ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, Known, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, will seat 1,000. Full Dramatic Licence. Stage, 20ft. by 38ft Proscenium Opening, 20ft Vacant dates, Oct. 17, 31, Dec 12, Christmas Vacant. F. B. SHENTON.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 30, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, and January Dates
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 26.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Theatres, 1905, for Important New Play.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, Dec. 26
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Aquarium, Yarmouth, Return; Marina, Lowestoft, to follow, Return.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 21.

Mr Gore Ouseley's No. 1 Company.

"THE LADY'S MAID." ×10

First-class Company and Chorus.

Miss Isa Bowman. ×10

Entirely New Dresses and Scenery.

"THE LADY'S MAID." ×10

Magnificent Plant of Printing.

Mr Harry Fischer. ×10

Splendidly Advertised in Every Detail.

"THE LADY'S MAID." ×10

Reproduced by Mr Joseph Wilson.

Miss Pauline Hague. ×10

Late Prima Donna with "THE DANDY FIFTH."

Mr Chal. T. Chaloner, ×10

In his Original Part.

Miss Noel Neville, ×10

From "THE LOVE BIRDS," Savoy Theatre.

"THE LADY'S MAID." ×10

Full Chorus of Thirty Voices.

Mr Harold Eden. ×10

The most Powerful Cast on Tour.

Wanted, Nov. 21. ×10

To Precede Royalty, Glasgow.

GORE OUSELEY, 6, Panton-street, Haymarket, W.

Telegrams, "Ouseley, London."

THEATRES WANTED.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates, for "HONOUR THY FATHER."
Acting, Mounting, Advertising Magnificent. Result, Business Splendid.
Vacant Nov. 14, 28, Jan. 23, 30.

"GREED OF GOLD."
Vacant Nov. 14, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, 13.

"WOMAN'S DEVOTION."
Mammoth Production.
Vacant Dec 5, 12, Jan 2 9, 16,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.
WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction, Christmas and New Year Weeks, Jan. 9 and 16. Rapidly Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905. Beautifully Mounted. New Special Scenery and Effects. Magnificently Advertised and Splendidly Played.
A Confirmed Success.
Oct. 10, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

MR JOHN DENTON'S COMPANY,
"A MODERN JUDAS."
WANTED, Nov. 21, to Follow Grimsby, Wanted, Nov. 21, Wanted.
Powerful Play, Magnificent Production, Excellent Cast, including
Percy Rhodes, Willie Scott, Frank Beresford, Trueman Towers, John Denton, Ada Palmer, Kate Walbran, Violet King.
The Best Played and Strongest Drama Touring.
Refer to Messrs Milton Bode, C. F. Williams, Samuel James, C. P. Cook, Mr Bennett, &c.
Now Booking Christmas and On.
All communications, TRUEMAN TOWERS, Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.

FRANK BERTRAM'S COMPANY.
No Vacant Dates this Year.
WANTED, Spring Dates, Feb. 27 and on, for
"The Convict's Daughter."
"The Convict's Daughter."
Acknowledged to be One of the Most Successful Dramas Touring.
9,870 Persons paid, 9,870 Persons paid Last Week at the Alexandra Theatre, Hull, to see this Great Drama of heart interest
"The Convict's Daughter."
"The Convict's Daughter."
Refer to W. Morton, Esq., Hull.
Address, for Dates, this week, T. R., Bolton; next week, Atterciiffe; or, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash," Oct. 31, between Manchester and Birmingham.
LESLIE VYNER, Grand Theatre, Nelson.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, for this Really Remarkable High-class Attraction, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5, Jan. 16, and onwards, with exceptions. J. H CLYNDES, Carlton T., Birmingham.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Oct. 24, between Manchester and Birmingham; also Nov. 21, between Birmingham and Bristol. Only Vacant Dates.
Wire, To-day, DAWSON, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley; Next, Theatre Royal, Goole.

MR ROBERT PERRIS'S COMPANY, in the Successful Musical Comedy-Drama,
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
WANTED, Nov. 21 (South), also Jan. 2.
Wanted, Nov. 21 (South), also Jan. 2.
Mr Harris Fineberg, after the performance at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, on Saturday Night, Sept 24, Booked an early Return Visit.
Address, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

"WHY WILLIAM LIED."
Mr Philip Clifford's Autumn Tour.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 17 and on, with exceptions. Reply, HERBERT WARE, Manager, this, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool; next, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs.

"BRAND OF CAIN."
A New Musical Melodrama that draws good houses.
WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, Christmas, and 1905.
SIMS, 39, Fairfield-road, Edmonton.

WANTED, Oct. 24 (Three Nights), Nov. 7, Jan. 16 (North), for Répertoire of Good Melodramas. Not Stock Plays. Splendid Scenery and Printing. JAMES HARE, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WANTED, for "Bigamy," Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26. "THE LIFE THAT KILLS," Wanted Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and Few Spring. "THE GRIP OF THE LAW," Wanted Jan. 16, 23, April 10, and on.
FRED MOULE, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

"THE GOLDEN CHANCE."
WANTED, Nov. 7 (Midlands preferred), for above genuine draw. Everything Carried, including Massive Built Railway Engine. New Plant of Printing. JAMES HARE, T. R., Windsor.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."
WANTED, March 27, April 3, May 1, June 15. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct 24, 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec 26, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," F. A. Scudamore's Popular Play. Miss Frances Delaval's Splendid Company and Production. Wire, to-day, Opera House, Dunfermline; next, T. H. Theatre, Methil, Fife (Three); T. R., Dumfries (Three).

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Jan 2 (?), 9, 16, Easter, Whit Weeks. FRED BULMER, Prince's Theatre, Horwich

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WANTED, for "The Conscript," Nov 28 and Dec. 12, to precede and follow Star, Liverpool.
MITCHELL and BELTON, Theatre Royal, West Stanley.

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Oct. 24 (Midlands), Nov. 7 and 14 (Midlands or South); also Good Theatres for Christmas and Spring, 1904-5. Chorus and Troupe of Dancers added to a Magnificent Production and First-class Cast. LESLIE NORMAN, P. O. W., Liverpool.

"SILVER KING" COMPANY.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Christmas Week, Jan. 2, 23 April 17, 24, and all May, 1905.
Address, G. M. POLINI, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, Jan 30, Feb. 13, March 6, June 12, for Mrs Lewis Waller, in "Zaza" or Répertoire. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Queen's Theatre, Manchester; Next, Kennington.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."
MARY B BUCKSTONE and I. K. COX'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Oct 17, 24, 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 26, Feb. 13, 27.
H. G. WYNN, Queen's, Fleetwood.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 7 (?), Dec. 26, Jan. 16, 23, 30 (?), Feb. 6 13, on.
Address, P. of W. Theatre, Mexborough.

GUS C. LIVESEY'S CO., "THE CRIMSON CLUB."
A Proved Success.
Thirty-seventh Week of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Nov. 14, 28, Dec 26, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 13 20, and Autumn Dates.
To-day, Mexborough; next Criterion T., Worksop

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"A SISTER'S SIN."
WANTED, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, for the Popular Attraction. Thank Arthur Carlton, Frank Macnaghten, Mrs T. W. Jennings, Wallace Davidson for Offers of Dates. SIDNEY RENNEF, Kettering; Monday, Star, Swansea. Fit-up Rights to Sell or Let.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres, Christmas, Jan. 16, Feb. 27 Vacant. W. V. GARROD, Olympia T., Newcastle.

"ALICE IN WONDERLAND."
WANTED.—Thanks for Offers. Christmas still open for Production. ST ALBAN, T. R., Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY," ×7

including the Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES, ×5

in her great creation,

JUDY, ×6

as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, Oct. 24,

Oct. 24,

Nov. 14, 21, 28,

Dec. 5,

Dec. 26,

Jan. 2,

and on, with exceptions.

Mr Kirk thanks J. W. Boughton, Esq for Return Contract for Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth; also J. B. Ormerod for Return Contract, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

Now Booking 1905.

Refer to any of the following Bookings and Rebookings:—

Standard, London; West London; Surrey; Terriss, Rotherhithe; Royal, Stratford; Brixton, Queen's, Manchester; Osborne, Manchester; Junction, Manchester; Rotunda, Liverpool; Theatre Royal, Hanley; Opera House, St. Helens; Prince's, Preston; Royal Court, Wigan; Prince of Wales's, Southampton; Prince's, Bradford; Theatre Royal, Leeds; Queen's, Leeds; Palace, Newcastle; Grand, Blackpool; Metropole, Glasgow; Victoria, Burnley; Metropole, Birmingham; Royal, Barnsley; Prince's, Portsmouth; Prince's Theatre, Accrington; Opera House, Wakefield; Prince of Wales's, Grimsby; Alexandra, Hull; Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager, G. CARLTON WALLACE, Albert Theatre, Gainsborough.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Nov. 7, Dec. 26, and Jan. 2.
Wire, KELLY, to-day, Opera House, Leicester; next week, Opera House, Burnley.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Jan. 30, Feb. 20, 27, and March 6.
Oct. 10,
PRINCESS'S THEATRE, GLASGOW, Six Nights.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Good Theatres, Good Theatres, Oct. 31, Oct. 31, Oct 31, to follow A. T., Scarborough. Wire. Wire. Wire. And Nov. 28, to precede T. R., Sheffield.
C. R. STONE, Crystal Palace Theatre, Sydenham.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 12, Midlands or North; Dec. 26 (Christmas Week), Midlands or North March 20, Newcastle District, to oblige Manager by transferring; April 24 (Easter Week), Suburbs or South.
Address, CECIL BARTH, Royal Princess's Theatre, London, N.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
The Funniest Musical Comedy ever Produced.
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14 and 28 South or London. Also Feb. 13, 20, and 27, March 6, 13, and 20, 1905 (London and South), April 17, 24 (Midlands).
The Entire Production carried.
Address, FREDERICK E. PHILPOTT, en route.

MR WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Twelfth Month of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, Oct 17 (between Dalston and Nottingham), Oct. 31, Dec. 16, and onwards with Exceptions.
Wire for Oct. 17. Agent and Printing ready.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, to-day, Queen's, Liverpool. Next, Dalston Theatre, N.E.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
Elaborate Plant of Pictorials.
The above will be Toured in First-class Style by ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.
WANTED, Jan. 9 (Week), 16 (Three Nights), 23, Feb. 13, Midlands, and various onwards
All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON, Oct. 10, Theatre Royal, Windsor; or, RUGGLES and REES, 1, Stockwell-avenue, Brixton.

"THE NEW BOY."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Onwards.
Mr TAPPING, 28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN,"
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest.
WANTED, Nov. 7, 21, (Lancs. or Yorks) Jan. 2, 23, and 30 (N.), on. 1905 fast filling.
E. L. GARSIDE, Theatre Royal, Batley.

WANTED, Farewell Tour of "Kitty Grey," few Good Dates for No. 1 Company during September, October, November, 1905.
No Dates Vacant till September, 1905.
New Scenery, Dresses, &c.
Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Malden-lane, Strand, W.C.

Miss GRACE WARNER and COMPANY, in "THE NEW COMMANDER." Successful Musical Comedy.
WANTED, Oct. 24 and Nov. 7,
Oct. 24 and Nov. 7. GRACE WARNER, this, Opera House, Weymouth; next, Ealing Theatre, London.

THEATRES WANTED.

EDWARD MARRIS'S TOUR.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
A Sensational Success.

Under the Personal Direction of MELVILLE BICKFORD.

WANTED, First-class Theatres. To Managers.
A "Star" was Engaged for the First Tour of Twenty Weeks in order to facilitate the bringing of the piece under the notice of Managers, who very naturally fought shy of an Author's first effort at melodrama writing. To show that, after all, "the play's the thing," the following is the List of Managers who have Booked the Piece for 1905 on its merits alone. The reputation of these gentlefor knowing "what is what" should be taken into consideration when the piece is again suggested to you for Dates, and the favour of your reference to any or each of them is solicited:—
William Morton, Esq., Alexandra, Hull (Return);
Tom Rowe, Esq., Palace, Newcastle (Return);
Francis Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford (Return);
J. H. Curry, Esq, Prince's, Grimsby (Christmas);
M. Montgomery, Esq, Rotunda, Liverpool;
D. Barnard, Esq., Theatre Royal, Aston;
L. Collingwood, Esq., Alexandra, Birmingham;
and over Twenty others.
Is it necessary for further statements?
Dates, &c.,
MELVILLE BICKFORD, Grand, Boscombe.

MR STANLEY HOPE'S COMPANY, in "THE MASTER CRIMINAL," by Henry Merriman.
The Latest Dramatic Success.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 21, Dec. 5. Christmas and New Year's Weeks Vacant.
Tremendous Success in Liverpool this week.
1,700 Persons Paid for Admission to the Queen's, Monday.
1,700 again on Tuesday.
Refer Fred Granville, Esq., Queen's Theatre, Liverpool
Return Dates Booked Everywhere.
More New Scenery being Travelled. More New Printing.
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL" promises to be one of the Biggest Successes on Tour.
Enthusiastic calls after each Act.
Double Call at End of Piece.
Now Booking Autumn, 1905.
Address, STANLEY HOPE, Oct. 10, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, Six Nights.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
GODFREY LAMPLUGH'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Nov 7 and 14 for the New and Original Musical Comedy,
"MISS MISCHIEF."
Music by Dr. F. Osmond Carr.
Book and Lyrics by Mr Reginald Bacchus.
The Cast will include Mr Fred Eastman and Full Chorus.
All communications, GODFREY LAMPLUGH, 20, Caroline-place, Bayswater, London, W.

WANTED, Oct. 13 (Three Nights), 24, Nov. 7, onwards, "Parson Thorn."
Special Printing. First-class Company.
Rewritten and Brought Up to Date.
Splendid Business. Refer Messrs Pennington, Bootle.
Wire for Oct. 13, 24, or Nov. 7. Entirely New Scenery.
Wire, HALDANE, To-day, Bootle; next, Prince's, Llandudno (Three).

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE." ×3
WANTED, Weeks of Nov. 14 and 21 for the above remarkable success.
Wire KELLY, To-day, Opera House, Leicester; Next Week Opera House, Burnley.

ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD.
"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN." ×2
WANTED, Dec 26 (Christmas Week), Midlands or North.
Jan. 16, Midlands or North.
Feb 13, Midlands or North.
Feb 20, Midlands or South.
Feb. 27, Midlands or South.
April 3, Midlands or South.
April 17, Midlands or South.
ALFRED PAUMIER, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

MRS HENRY MAYHEW and CHAS. HERRICK'S CO.,
"THE TRIUMPH OF TRUTH."
New and Original French Drama.
WANTED, Oct. 31, Nov. 7.
Theatre Royal, Margate.

Miss OLGA AUDRE, TRAVIS GREEN, and ARTHUR HINTON'S CO., in the enormously successful Play, "WHEN A MAN HATES."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 17, 24, 31, January, onwards. Wire or write, TRAVIS GREEN, this, Aberdare; next, Osborne T., Manchester.

"THE TRAITOR."
MITCHELSON and FINEBERG'S Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan 2 Apply, E. HILL-MITCHELSON, G. T., West Hartlepool.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Jan. 9 (through Transfer).
Wire, F. VIVIAN EDMONDS, To-day, Theatre Royal, Rochdale; Monday, Royalty, Barrow.

MISS OSWALD'S "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Spring Dates, March 20, On, for this Magnificently Advertised Musical Version.
HERBERT BARRS, Theatre Royal, Edmonton, N.

"A WOMAN'S REVENGE"
WANTED, Good Theatres, Oct. 17, 24, Dec 26, Jan. 23
Wire, OSMOND, Burslem; next, Scarborough.

"NO CROSS, NO CROWN."
WANTED, Oct 24, Nov. 14, and Dates in 1905. A Strong and Complete Production, and well Played. Printing ready. ROSE FAITH, Lyceum, Long Eaton.

MR and MRS CALVERT ROUTLEDGE'S COMPANY.
"A NIGHT OFF."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Oct. 24.
Wire, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, Lyceum T., Eccles.

"DISHONOURED."
WANTED, Big Theatre, Nov. 14.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 30, Feb. 13. March 6, June 12, for Mrs Lewis Waller in "Zaza" or Répertoire. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Kennington Theatre, S.E.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return), March 6 and 13, to follow Stratford (Return).
Address, CHARLES M. JULIAN, Oct. 10, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MR JOHN LEOPOLD'S "FRIVOLITY" COMPANY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Nov. 21, Good Theatre.
JOHN ELLERY, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, for "The Beautiful Avenger," Scudamore and Richmond's Magnificent Production and Powerful Company, Oct. 17, and Christmas.
Address, Mr RICHMOND, Theatre Royal, North Shields, Oct. 10, Six Nights

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THOMAS THORNE and COMPANY.
WANTED, Nov. 3 (Three Nights), Nov 7 and 14, for above. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, O.H., Perth.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence" or "At Twelve, Midnight," Dec. 26, all January, March 20, on. C. CLIFFORD, T. R., Gainsboro'.

EDMUND EDMUNDS' COMPANY OF COMEDIANS.
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Feb 13, 20 27.
The Company will include the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Maude Nelson as Principal Boy, and other First-class Performers Total strength of Company, Forty. Four Weeks' Christmas Season already Booked at important London Theatre. Communications, W. SCOTT PHIPP, 37, Grosvenor-park, London, S.E.

THEATRES WANTED

MURRAY KING and CLARK,
introduce
"SWEET AND TWENTY,"
with
Robert Milsted and Lionel Glenister,
George Miller and Murray King,
Rosalie Jacobi and Edith M'Clure,
May Mulvey and Gladys Huxley.

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10 and Onwards.
Owing to Tour being Prolonged.
Wire or write,
MURRAY KING and CLARK,
Theatre Royal, Canterbury.

"THE NEW CLOWN."

WANTED, First-class Theatres Only.
Oct. 31, Oct. 31,
Nov. 7, Nov. 7,
to follow Brixton, and precede Theatre Royal, Cardiff,
Oct. 31 and Nov. 7.
Mr Stanley Cooke and No. 1 Company,
Oct. 31 and Nov 7.
Wire, HERBERT GRENVILLE, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.
October 10, Theatre Royal Ryde I.O.W.

"HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 10, 17, Nov. 21,

Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 30, Feb. 6

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 5.

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Dec. 5, Jan. 2 and 9.

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES," by Myles Wallerton and Francis Gilbert. Wire, Wire, Wire.

WANTED, Oct. 10 (Vacant through obliging), Oct 10. Managers who have not seen this Play as now being Toured, kindly read the following:—Empire Theatre, Oxford, Sept. 17, 1904. Dear Mr Gordon,—Allow me to congratulate you on your drama, "For the Woman he Loves." I am very pleased with the play, and am sure it should prove a money-maker. It is rare now to meet a drama in which pathos and comedy are so happily blended. There is a story told throughout which appeals to all classes, whilst the finish of the last act is quite a new departure and a welcome one. The hearty reception our audiences accorded the piece must be a gratifying proof to you that you have reached the popular taste. I shall be happy to offer you a week for next Autumn. Wishing you the success you deserve on your tour, Yours very truly, ALBANY WARD. Unexpectedly Vacant Oct. 10, wire; also Oct. 17, Nov. 14 and 21. Only Vacant Dates this year. STANLEY S. GORDON, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

WANTED, Wanted, Halls for
"Mirth, Music, and Mystery."
Mr J. Wellesley Lynn and his Company.
Rent or Share.
For Dates, apply, RICHARD MAYNARD,
18, Green-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

ARTISTES WANTED

ARTHUR JEFFERSON'S PLAYS.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Three Weeks' Productions, Metropole, Glasgow, commencing Jan. 2 (Rehearse week previous). "World's Verdict," "Orphan Heiress," and "London by Day and Night."
Applicants please state absolute lowest inclusive terms; also in case of not having been previously engaged by me, enclose photo., stating age, height, and recent references. All applications to be marked "Productions."
Address, Ayton House, North Shields.
(No interviews unless by Appointment).

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, Experienced Artistes (Good Portable People not objected to), Good Robust Heavy Man, Responsible Man (to assist with scenery), Tall Gent for Military Colonel and Double (to Sing or Recite preferred), Good Comedian (to Sing and Dance, or with Speciality), Leading Lady (Half-caste part, Small but Shown), Juvenile Lady (to sing preferred) Baggage-man (capable of Painting Scenery and Small Part if required); also Good, Sound, Reliable Agent. Will Will Carlton write? Amateurs save stamp. Age, height, references, photos (essential), terms (which must be low, and no fancy prices). E. A. DELL, 70, Brighton-rd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham. Letters only, no interviews.

WANTED, to Rehearse Tuesday Next, "When a Man Hates," Leading Heavy Lady. Must be Tall, Dark, and of Good, Refined Appearance. Age, height, recent photo. (or useless writing), lowest terms, to GREEN and HIBTON, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, an Amateur Lady for Good Tour (Drama); also good reliable Advance Agent. Mr Chapman, late Carlyon and Charlton, please write. JULIAN BAIMBRIDGE, 21, Kelvedon-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Known, Opportunity occurs for Amateur Lady to Play Small Part at West End Theatre. No previous Experience necessary. Applicant must be Young, of Good Appearance, and possess some ability. No Premium. Small Salary. Address, Box 8,545 "The Era" Office.

F. H. DE QUINCEY and SIME SERUYA'S TOURS.

WANTED, Good, Responsible Actor (about 5ft. 10in.) Rehearse Tuesday. Terms, photos, references, to H. REYNER, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Leading Man for Special Week, Dec 19. Produce and Play Lead.
Miss MAY, Simonside, South Shields.

"GENTLEMAN JOE" COMPANY.

WANTED, First-class Comedian, for Pilkington Jones. Rehearse immediately. Terms, references, STANLEY ROGERS, Opera House, Workington.

WANTED, Character Actor to play Isaac Levi, in "Never Too Late to Mend."
Box 8,532, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Responsible Character Actor Assist Manager. Height, 5ft. 8in. Rehearse Monday, Gainsboro'. CLIFFORD, T. R., Hucknall Torkard.

"LADY'S MAID" TOUR.

WANTED, One Tenor and One Bass Chorister. Must be well dressed have good appearance, and Sing well. Apply, London Theatrical Exchange, 6, Panton-street, Haymarket, W.

WANTED, a Number of Good-Looking Ladies capable of Learning Stage Dancing.
Paul Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Attractive Lady Amateurs, Those with Voices desirable, to apply Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Girls over Fourteen for Singing and Dancing. Apply, Paul Valentine, 8, Dean-street, Oxford-street, London.

WANTED, Several Good Acrobatic Dancers Immediately. Call any Afternoon.
MADAME, 86, Somerleyton-road, near Brixton Station.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Two Young Actresses, Joint Engagement, Juv. Lead, Ingénues, or Chambermaids, Boys, &c. Experienced. Excellent References from First-class Managers. Good Appearance, Very Good Wardrobes. Will Combine Secretarial Work, Shorthand, Typewriting (own Typewriter). First-class Tour only. Apply, Box 8,531, care of "The Era" Office.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known—Amateur Lady, Good Professional Experience, is Wishful to Play Good Part in Production in Spring. Premium. Box 8,510, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Bass Vocalist (Young), Engagement, Any Line. Two years' experience Grand Opera, two years Male Voice Quartette. Address, FRANK HALPIN, Pier Pavilion, Exmouth.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Leon Vint's Globe Choir, Opera, and Scenorama (Thirty Artistes),
Titles, Copyright, Legally Protected.
The Greatest Pictorial and Musical Enterprise in the World.
Perm. ad., 6, Handel-terrace, Mold-green, Huddersfield.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Artistes, Disengaged for Pantomime (London and Provinces), to send photos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Dancers, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Several Ladies for Parts. Must have Good Voices and Appearance. Apply any day, 12·0 or 3·0, Basil Dawson, 52, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies for Panto. Must be over 5ft. 4in. Good Figures and Voice Indispensable. Address, or call any evening between 6·0 and 7·30 with photo in tights, ALFRED BISHOP and Co., 1, Florence-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, a Fire Eater, one capable of Playing a Small Part, for a London Pantomime. Serpentello's Agency, 28, Wellington-street, Strand.

WANTED, Contraltos, for Panto, Suburban Theatre, Four Weeks.
Call, Donald Arthur, 434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Pantomime Artistes and Twenty Smart Chorus Ladies with good voices and appearance, for "Cinderella" and "Red Riding Hood" Companies; also Quartet Dancers. Chorus call with Song. Mr Sinclair, 12, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

HERBERT BARRS' PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Various Artistes.
Lowest terms, particulars,
HERBERT BARRS, Theatre Royal, Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies for Suburban Theatre Pantomime.
Good Voices and Good Looks essential.
Address, "CHORUS," care of Walton's, 161, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Show and Extra Ladies for Suburban Pantomime.
Good Figure and Good Looks essential.
Address, "SHOW," care of Walton's, 161, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Ballet Ladies, for Suburban Pantomime. Good Dancers of Prepossessing Appearance absolutely essential. Address, BALLET, care of WALTON, 161, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Christmas, Choristers. Must be Young and of Good Appearance, and have Good Voices. Nine Weeks Pantomime, and Eight Weeks Musical Comedy (seventeen Weeks in all). Send for particulars, enclose photos. and stamped directed envelope, Kelson Trueman, Regent House, 233A, Regent-st., W.

WANTED, Twelve Handsome Show Chorus Ladies, Good Voices and Appearance. Call, with song and photo, 11·0 to 4·0, Mr SINCLAIR, 12, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Strong Sensational Speciality for Pantomime. Ten Weeks, Theatres. State if can play parts, and where act can be seen for next three weeks. Address (no callers), ARTHUR GIBBONS, 4, Adelaide-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Principal Artists for Three London Pantomimes. Also Chorus and Show Ladies. Apply, by letter, stating full particulars of past engagement, and enclosing photos. (which will be returned), Charles Browning's Variety Agency, 13, Henrietta-street, Strand, W.C.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Miss Amy Calcott, Charming Actress and Magnificent Danseuse (late Miss Amy Leggett, of the Leggett Combination), Vacant for Pantomime,
Principal Boy or Girl and Speciality.
See the Calcotts' Advert. on another Page.
Unparalleled success this week, PALACE, BRADFORD.
Communications,
ERIC CALCOTT, 4, Valmar-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Marie Liston, Burlesque Actress,
Free for Pantomime.

All communications, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Ailsa Douglas, Soprano Vocalist, at Liberty Principal Girl or Fairy Queen. P., Blackpool. Next week, P., Ramsgate.

WANTED, Engagement, by Boy Actor. Age Thirteen. Can also Sing and Dance.
WALTER R. CROSS, 6, Harrington-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Panto., by Victor Vernon. An Ideal Dame, Principal Comedian. Four Seasons T. R., Plymouth. Address, Opera House, Perth.

WANTED, Pantomime, by the Great Anthy, in his Refined Wire Speciality; also Comedy Part. Oct. 10, Palace, Attercliffe Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Cyclo, Trick and Comedy Cyclist, at Liberty for Pantomime.
Stair-jumping and Sensational Feats.
Can Play Part.
This, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash;
next, Hammersmith Palace, 9·35.

WANTED, Panto., by Parr. Great Pot-Pourri Act, Sand and Rag Pictures, Comedy Clay Modeller, Impersonator of Celebrities, Vent. One or two Acts. Parts. Sing and Dance. Hippo., Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Pantomime, by the Great Kyoto. A Natural Cat. Also May Geraldine. Last year, T. R., Leeds. Monday, Britannia, Hoxton.

WANTED, Good Pantomime or Sketches, Parts and Specialities, Phil and Ada Royston. Specially Engaged by Mark Melford. Agent Wanted. 30, Egerton-street, Heaton-park, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle, Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Pantomime.
Last Two Years, Grand, Nottingham.
Thanks John Tiller, Esq., Lester Collingwood, Esq., for Offers.
Address, Palace, Manchester.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Stern and Stern, the Versatile Comedians. Four Seasons John Restall's "Cinderella." Last Pantomime, Green and Stout, Grand, Glasgow. Return Monday, Pav., Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Joe Poluski and Louis Poluski, jun., Liberty Pantomime. Acrobats, Contortionists, Pantomimists. Wire or write, 50, Gravel-lane, Southwark.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Ferris and Farnley. Principal Comedy Parts only. This Week, Cambridge Music Hall. Warrave, Nap; War Wolf, Place.

WANTED, Known, the Levantos, Speciality Teeth and Trapeze Performers and Animal Impersonators, at Liberty Panto. Coms., 55, Laitwood-road, Balham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Les Frères St. Clair, Comedy Cyclists, Liberty for Pantomime.
Ad., care of LEWIS LEVEY, 14, Rue de Deux, Gare, Paris

WANTED, Known, Levites, Panto. Troupe, Liberty Christmas. Parts in Opening, the Original "Tandem" and Harlequinade. Com., 103, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto Engagement, Christmas, by the Florador Quartette. Parts, Traps, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beattie Trixie, Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, New-cross.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, for the Wakefield Hippodrome, to Open at Once,
First Stage Manager.
Must be Thoroughly Experienced,
and Able to Fit-up and Handle Staff of Men.
Not Afraid of Work.
Apply at Once by Wire,
T. M. Sylvester Hippodrome, Coventry.
N.B.—Good Window Biller Wanted at Once.

WANTED, Young Gentleman, Educated and some Business Ability, as Acting-Manager of Fully-Licensed Theatre, twenty miles from London. Duties thoroughly taught. A substantial premium is required. Small commencing salary. Genuine and excellent opportunity. Communications, with photo. and fullest particulars, MANAGER, 3, Rockleigh-mansions, Vera-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Author to Write Songs, &c., for Double Turn. Original Style. Ideas suggested. W. GIFFORD, next, T. R., Ilkeston (Three); Victoria, Mansfield (Three).

"North American Indians" (Past and Present).
The Hereditary Mohawk Chief, Hiawatha (John Ojijatekha Brant-Sero), will Commence a Trial Tour on Oct. 24, 1904, in a Lecture-Song Recital, supported by a Company of Well-known Society Entertainers, also Cinématograph and Limelight Views.

WANTED, Indian Agent-in-Advance as Scout and Guide. Particulars with photo, age, terms, &c. Also Young Lady Vocalist of natural refinement and decided brunette, with or without experience. Particulars with photo, age, height, and terms, to J. O. BRANT-SERO, Esq., Wintonville, 55, Marshall-avenue, Bridlington, Yorkshire.

WANTED, Good Scenic Artist
References, age, and full particulars,
ARTHUR CARLTON, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

WANTED, First-class Electrician, Experienced, who understands Gas, Limes, Illusions, &c. One with Bioscope preferred, but not essential, for London and Provinces. C. RUSSELL, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham.

WANTED, Tall Bagagge Man, to Play Parts. Must be willing to make himself useful. Address, MORTON POWELL, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

WANTED, a Property Man to Make; one who can use the Brush preferred.
Immediately.
VINCENT KILWAY,
South London Palace.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress. D., will you come and complete order (expenses paid), or write? I will explain.
Please grant this.
Cannot understand silence.
W. E. Important

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress; also Baggage Man. Write or call, between 12·30 and 1·30, Cranston's Agency, 6, Chandos-street.

WANTED, Position as Stage Manager, in First-class Music Hall. Thirty Years' Experience Can speak English, French, German, &c. Will be ready to open after January, 1905. Last Five Years have managed First-class Theatre in Germany. Address, L. E. GREENWOOD, Apollo Theatre, Dusseldorf, Germany.

"LIGHTS O' LONDON."

WANTED, First-class Carpenter (Teetotaller preferred) capable of Maintaining Large Plant of Scenery. Wife for Wardrobe and Small Part. Age, height, lowest terms, and last two references to H. HOLLISTER, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagement, by Tom Kuner, Advance Representative, Twelve Years' Experience, Theatres, Fit-ups. Assembly Rooms, Tamworth.

WANTED, Known, A. W. Moore, Scenic Artist, at Liberty Monday. Completing Contract for Wakefield Hippo. Till Monday, 30, Front Garden-street, Wakefield; after, 20 Park-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known, F. E. Boden, the Reliable London Scenic Artist, 18, Newport-street, Lambeth-walk, S.E. Ralph Falconbridge com., urgent.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces. Refs. Address, 43, Elgin-terrace, Maida-vale, London.

WANTED, Situation as Property Master. Modeller and Maker. Used to Pantomime Productions. W. JONES, 117, Cannon-street, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known, Baggage or Property Man, at Liberty Monday and onwards. John Summer, late of Zalva's Hippo. 33, Cross-st., Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Handy Man, Young, Energetic, Abstainer, Requires Situation as Carpenter and Painter. Good at Repairs. Can Paint, Line, and Scroll Vehicles. Suit Tenting Circus or Roundabout Proprietors Settled for Winter Season. Liberty November. Thirty-five shillings. Address, Box 8,480, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement by Stage Carpenter (Resident or Tour). Excellent references. A. A., 64, Deacon-street, Walworth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement by Billposter and Property man. Twelve Months Aberystwyth and District Billposting Company. Dis shortly, Town or Country. Good References. JOE ENGLAND, Art Gallery, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, by Lady used to Travelling with well-known Artist,
Situation as Dresser, Lady, or Travelling Companion.
Best references.
Apply, Box 8,542, "The Era" Office.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for the Wakefield Hippodrome, Open Oct. 17, First-class Musical Conductor, to Provide Orchestra of Eight First-class Performers.
Must be well up to Variety Business,
and Used to Two Houses Nightly.
Apply,
stating lowest terms to
T. M. SYLVESTER,
Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, Leader, Oct 17, for Empire Palace, Portsmouth; must be good Violinist, sober, and have thorough knowledge of Variety Business. Terms 35s., Matinées half salary. Apply, letters only, stating age and references (copies), to E. H. WILLIAMS, Musical Director, 83, St. James's-road, Southsea.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, to Complete Band, Leader (35s. per week), Solo Cornet, Euphonium, and Bombardon.
Terms, 30s. per week.
Address, Wallsend, Saturday;
Houghton-le-Spring, Monday and Tuesday, Durham.

WANTED, First Violin, as Leader, to open at once. Sober, reliable, capable. Address particulars, T. GERALD MORTON, The Empire, Leeds.

WANTED, Violinist (First-class Leader), accustomed to Variety Business. Age, terms, and references to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, First and Second Violins, Double Bass (Four String). Cornet, Slide Trombone, Double Drummer, with all Effects, to Open Britannia Music Hall, Oct. 17. Sobriety, Knowledge of Variety Business Indispensable. Will Vincent Williams write? Age, Copies of references to MILNE, 118, Sauchiehall-st., Glasgow. Members of A.M.U. Preferred.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRISTOL.

WANTED, Solo Cornet. Must be First-class Performer. Apply, with terms and latest references, to G. R. CHAPMAN, Musical Director.

WANTED, Clarionet and Euphonium for the Cheltenham Town and Promenade Band. Terms, Sharer. J. GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-street, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Double Bass and Drums, with all Effects,
for Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.
Must be well up in Variety, or useless.
SAM DUCKWORTH, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

WANTED, Double Bass, Engagement. Any Business. Long Experience. Late Cremona Orchestra. G. GREENHEAD, 10, St. George's-ter., Herne Bay, Kent.

WANTED, Euphonium and Horn, for Town Band, Littlehampton. Terms, Shares. Address, SECRETARY, Albion Inn, River-road, Littlehampton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Special Week, Oct. 17, 'Cello Player, state lowest terms and references, M'LEOD LOADER, Manager, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, First-class Orchestral Pianist and Accompanist (must Combine other Instrument); also First-class Clarionettist. Permanent Engagement, Theatre, Worthing. Start Oct. 24. Must be Young, Good Appearance, Strictly Sober. References, photo., lowest terms, SEEBOLD, Pier, Southend-on-Sea.

The C. W. Poole's Myrioramas.

WANTED, Double Drummer (Good, Reliable), to commence Oct. 17. Must assist with Fittings when travelling. Must be steady and competent. State age. Apply, J. R. JONES, Victoria Hall, Narberth, Pembrokeshire.

County Asylum, Whittingham, Preston.

WANTED, Musician Attendants, Strings, and Solo Tenor Slide Trombone. None but Thoroughly Competent Players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per annum increasing to £38 in the first year, then by annual instalment up to £45, and according to promotion, to £50 and £55, with board, lodging, washing, and uniform. Apply to the MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

WANTED, Full Orchestra for Circus and Hippodrome. Opening shortly in Scotland. DENTON, Mus. Dir., Lord John Sanger and Son's Circus, Leicester.

WANTED, Full Orchestra for London Wire or write, lowest terms, references CONDUCTOR, 69, Keslake-road, Queen's-park, W. No interviews.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester; Telephone, 5489 Manchester. O. JESSON, 95, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address "Amusoloia, London;" Telephone, 9827 Central. F. J. LEES 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham J. FARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 16, Charing-cross.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, Managers of First-class Theatres to Note that a well-known and highly popular Provincial Conductor is desirous of making a change, owing to climate of present town not agreeing with his health. Advertiser is Experienced in all Lines of Business, thoroughly reliable, and has all the necessary Musical Qualifications. Address, Box 8,541, "The Era"

WANTED, by Musical Director (Violin, Piano), Engagement. Could Orchestrate entire Musical Play, or undertake all Musical Arranging for Pantomime, &c. Box 8,483, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Pianist (Experienced), Engagement. Arrange, Compose. Tour or Permanent. ERNEST WOLFE, 148, Oole-road, Cleethorpes.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Violin; also Pianist, combine Trombone, Engagement. Good Composer and Arranger. ERNEST KENT, 12, Cardiff-grove, Luton.

WANTED, Known, Musical Director at Liberty. Piano and Violin. Splendid testimonials. Good offers invited. Address, in first instance, Box 8,517, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement, by Thoroughly Experienced and Well-known Musical Director, in High-class Variety or Dramatic Business. Advertiser is Fully Qualified and Thoroughly Reliable. Four Years with Howard and Wyndham, Limited, and Six Years with Moss' Empires Limited. Box 8,515, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Well-known London Musical Director, Composer, Engt. Tour, Permanency, or Abroad. India preferred. First-class refs. Address, Box 8,514, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Peter Flitcroft Conductor and Pianist at Liberty. Exper. Mus Comedy. Excellent refs. 11, Dean-street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, by Bandmaster (ex-Army), Engagement with good Volunteer or Yeomanry Corps. Undeniable refs. Address, Box 8,519, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist (Experienced), Engagement. Just finished Fourth Season (Leader) at Clacton and Two with Transfield's Hippodrome. VERNON GREEN, 34, Woodville-rd., Thornton-heath, Surrey.

WANTED, by Violinist (Experienced), Orchestral and other Engagements. Life abstainer, Excellent references. Address, VIOLIN, 10, Barclay-terrace, James-lane, Leyton, N.E.

WANTED, by First or Second Violin, Engagement. Well up in Variety Business. Prefer Tour. Good References. Write, SOLOSKY, 13, Duke-street, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

WANTED, by Violinist (Experienced), Permanent Engagement. Steady and Reliable. Good References. Address, FRED SHARPE, Norman-cross, Peterborough.

WANTED, as First or Second Violinist, Re-engagement. Refs. Theatre or Music Hall. VIOLINIST, 26, Coupland-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, by Violin or Viola, Engagement. Experienced in Theatre and Variety Work. Reliable. References. Box 8,512, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Violin and Piano, Engt Late Conductor, Palace, Hammersmith; Leader, Granville. CHAS. WARNHAM, 47, Black Lion-lane, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, by Violinist (First or Second), Engagement. Experienced. Good references. Any business. VIOLINIST, The Vine, St. Benedicts, Norwich.

WANTED, by Second Violin (Young Lady), Engagement, Orchestra or Theatre.
Near Bradford preferred.
Care of Box 8,508, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement in Small Theatre. Good Stock of Music. Experienced and Steady. LEADER, 7, Fitzwilliam-st., Peterborough.

WANTED, by Violin, Engagement, thoroughly Experienced all Lines. First-class refs. Good Library. E. ZANONE, 50, Bonny-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, by Violinist (Experienced Soloist), with Exhibition or Concert Party. Address, Box 8,527, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Deputising, Daytime or Evening. Will Play for Expenses.
Address, Box 8,522, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Sober and attentive to business, used to Opera. References. 43, Alcester-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Cornettist (Good, Experienced), Engagement. Will terminate Season De Jong's Orchestra, Oct. 8, Gardens, Buxton. After Oct 9, address, WILLIE KAYE, 133, Gordon-street, Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Cornet, Experienced, Theatre or Music Hall, Engagement.
At Liberty Oct. 10.
WM. JONES, 53, Longstone-road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Second Cornet, Engagement. Tour preferred. Good Military experience At Liberty. A. ELLIS, 63A, Mount Sion, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, by Cornet (Experienced), Engagement. Good references.
GEO. BRADLEY, 33, Erskine-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, any business, Theatre or Music Hall preferred. Good references. J. A., 18, Penn's-road, Petersfield, Hants.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement. Experienced.
F. HEBER, 89, Great Dover-street, Borough, London, S.E.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Solo B Flat Clarionet, Engagement. Excellent references. Age thirty-four. In or near London preferred. Accustomed to any Journal. Apply, Box 8,533, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Clarionetist (First-class Soloist), Winter Engagement. Absolutely reliable. Abstainer. Address, Box 8,518, care of "The Era"

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement. Theatre or Varieties.
Box 8,558, "The Era."

WANTED, by Clarionettist, First-class, Engagement, in Good Orchestra. Refs. by best Variety Conductors, Theatres, &c. ERNEST CUNNINGTON, 22, Water-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, Theatre, Music Hall, or Tour. Good references. COOPER, 5, Nichols-square, Hackney-road, London, N.E.

WANTED, by Bass and Cornet (Two Ladies), Engagement. Address, LILIAN SMITH, 7, Beckett's-buildings, South Market-rd., Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Double Bassist (Experienced), Engagement. London preferred, but distance no object. TOM FROLLEY, Eynsford, Thicket-crescent, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, by Euphonium or Trombone, Engagement. Experienced in Variety. Abstainer. Disengaged Oct. 8. PELLATT, 12, Rocliffe-st., Islington, N.

WANTED, by Euphonium (Thoroughly experienced) Engagement. Can open at once. Address, CHAS. GRICE, 181, Waterloo-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by Trombone (Experienced), Engagement in First-class Orchestra. Highest references. TROMBONE, 17, Percival-street, Blackburn.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Theatre, Music Hall, or Tour. Good reference. Wire, TROMBONE, 33, Law-st, Pembroke Dock, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. At Liberty Oct. 11.
J. KENYON, 16, Palace-street, Bury, Lancs.

WANTED, by Trombonist (Good), an Engagement. Can combine Violin. Address, MUSICIAN, 11, Winstonian-road, All Saints, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Experienced. Liberty Monday, 10th. J. W. MARSHALL, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Trombone (Good), Engagements for odd weeks. Deputising or regular shop. Any business. Excellent refs. W. S. HILL, 117, Douglas-street, New-cross, S.E.

WANTED, by Second French Horn Player, Violin (Good), Engt. Exper. Opera and Symphony. KARL HEBER, 39, Sedelscombe-road, Fulham-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Horn (First or Second), Engagement, Reliable and Steady.
Address, HORN, 7, Goldsmith-road, Leyton.

WANTED, by Viola, Permanent Engagement. Experience, Dramatic and Variety. W. HALEY, 40, Newport-road, Manningham, Bradford.

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist, Engagement. Good Sight Reader. Well recommended.
Apply, E. G., 29, Ladywell-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl, on 'Cello.
Mr CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's Cross-road.

WANTED, by 'Cellist (First-class), Engagement. Any business. At Liberty Oct. 9.
ROBBINS, 40, Bayham-street, London, N.W.

WANTED by 'Cellist (London Experience), Engagement in Country (not North). Well up in Theatres and Variety Business.
Box 8,505, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, in Dramatic or Variety Business, Excellent References, Thoroughly Experienced. E. INKPEN, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

WANTED, by 'Cello or Contra Bass, Re-engagement. Thoroughly experienced. Good refs. BASSO, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by Oboe, Experienced in all Lines, Engagement.
JAMES WAYWELL, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED by Oboeist, Engagement. Would join good Works Band if found Employment. G. P., 34, Peabody-square, Shadwell, E.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement. Disengaged for weeks, Oct. 10, 24, Nov. 7, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12. For terms address, W. E. HARRISON, 14, Rockingham-street, Leeds.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement. References. Tasteful Player; is also Vocalist, Good First Tenor. Steady and Trustworthy. Box 8,507 "The Era."

WANTED, by Oboeist, Engagement. Disengaged. Experienced in all work.
THORPE, 14, Bonnington-square, South Lambeth.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist, Concerts, Entertainments. Brilliant, Popular Selections, Handsome Costumes. "Among the most brilliant exponents of the harp" "Her versatility and execution are excellent." Delighted large audiences. Highly-finished Solos, ranging from Operatic Selections to Classic Items. Press Notices, terms, Miss BRANDON, Writtle, Chelmsford.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17), Engagement. July 4 to Oct. 2, Britannia Pier, Yarmouth. Recalled for her brilliant performance—Yarmouth Times. MAUD GRUNDY, 18, Lewa-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Re-engagement. Any Business. Would Deputise.
R. S. BALLANTINE, 10, North Marine-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Steady, reliable, and young. References.
FLAUTIST, 6, Viceroy-road, South Lambeth.

WANTED, by Flute, Piccolo (Young, Experienced), Town or Country, any Business.
SUTTON, 14, Forrest-road, Dalston.

WANTED, by Flute (Piccolo Soloist), Engagements, Sunday League Concerts, &c. Reliable, Orchestral or Military. C. PENFOLD, Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, Known, Flautist at Liberty for Engagement or Deputising.
Address, FLAUTIST, 30, Gainsford-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, any business. Good references
W. MARSHALL, 29, Priory-road, Acton-green, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Any capacity. Good experience. Young. Disengaged Oct. 9. HANSON, 3, Berens-road, Kensal-green.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Any Business. Young. Big experience. Terms moderate. Dis. Oct. 8. LOUIS IMPEY, care of Swan, Droitwich.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Self or Orchestra. Steady, reliable, good references. 67, Princess-road, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Lancs.

WANTED, by Refined Young Pianist, Engagement. Excellent Sight-reader, Soloist, and Accompanist, Concluding with Pump House Orchestra, Llandrindod Wells. At Lib. Oct. 22. Wire Offers. S. LAWTON, Brynoemlyn, Llandrindod Wells.

WANTED, by Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, Good Variety Pianist, Self or Conduct. Strict to Business. Late Nine Years, Vento's, Portsmouth. Particulars, to save delay, 744, Oxford-road, Reading, Berks.

WANTED, by Pianist (Experienced, quick Sight-Reader), Engagement, any business, Home or Abroad. GERTRUDE RANELAGH, Box 8,504, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Professionals.—Young Lady (Good Accompanist, Sight Reader) offers services to Vocalists, Violinists, Concerts. A. HUNT, 1, Oxford-road, Kilburn.

WANTED, by Pianist (Solo), Engagement, Theatre or Varieties. Experienced.
Box 8,523, "The Era" Office.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, with Effects, Engagement. Good Worker. Sobriety. Address F. COOKE, 15, Fairhurst-street, Leigh Lancs.

WANTED, by Drums, Engagement, Music Hall or Theatre. Bawsher's Hungarian Band. NEVILL, 13, Augusta-road, East Cliff, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Drummer, Xylophonist (Tympani, Bells, and Effects), Engagement, Permanent or travel. References, VRANHINCK, 10, Geuzenstraat, Antwerpen, Belgium.

WANTED, Engagements, by Madame H. E. Angless's Ladies' Pompadour Orchestra. Just concluded Three Months' Successful Engagement, New Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth, this being Fourth Successive Season. Fast booking 1905. Permanent address, 78, Norwood-road, Herne-hill, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, by Mr. H. E. Angless's Celebrated Red Band. Disengaged end of October. Victoria Pavilion, Ilfracombe. Engaged Series of Exhibitions, Royal Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, by C. H. Anderson's Imperial Military Band, Engagement. Splendid musical Library and Band Equipment, with Four Different Styles of Uniform Third successful Season Broadstairs. At Liberty September. CHAS. HENRY ANDERSON, Musical Director, 21, Gladstone-road, Broadstairs.

WANTED, by the Victoria Ladies' Quartette, Violin, Piano, 'Cello, Bass, Engagements, Oct 17. Miss A. SUTCLIFFE, Leas Pavilion, Folkestone.

WANTED, Known, Tzacki's Casino Band is the Best Best. No Agents' fees; price lower, value higher, than others Comparisons invited. Engagements wanted for Exhibitions, Bazaars, Balls, &c. 12, Coverdale-road, W.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Engagements, by Royal Cerise Concert Party and Orchestra. Now Disengaged. Exhibitions, &c. CERISE TRIO, London Hotel, 69, Charlotte-street, Portland-place.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
"49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

SOUTH AMERICA.
BUENOS AYRES.
THEATRO CIRCO,
COLISEO ARGENTINO
(SOCIEDAD ANONIMA).

WANTED, Artistes of all Descriptions.

The above Theatre Circus,
now in course of construction upon the same lines as the London Hippodrome,
will be inaugurated about April, 1905,
and will be under the General Management of
Mr Frank Brown,
and will be kept open all the year round.

The Coliseo Argentino
will have a
Large Stage and Circus Ring combined,
Water Tank under Ring 7ft. deep,
and all
up-to-date facilities for
every class of Entertainment.
See "The Era," Sept. 17.
The First Company will leave for Buenos Ayres about the middle of March, 1905.
Will be pleased to hear from Artistes in all Branches of the Circus, Variety, and Aquatic Professions, either direct to
FRANK BROWN,
Holmhurst, 65, Catford-hill, London, S.E.;
or to
H. B. MARINELLI,
20, Rue Taitbout, Paris, and 134, Long-acre, London, W.C.
Please state if and when last appeared in Buenos Ayres.
All Artists for First Company must be new to Buenos Ayres.
All suitable applications will be answered, and no Act must depend upon the English language for success. Spanish is the language of South America, although Italian and French are generally understood.

KING OHMY'S GRAND NEW CIRCUS and VARIETY HIPPODROME, BOLTON.

WANTED, for this Grand New Building, all the Greatest and Best Talent that money can bring together. Must have the Greatest Stars of the day. Grand Success of the Opening. Ohmy's Circus the talk of the Town and Country for miles around. House packed in all parts at every Performance.
Note.—All Artistes expected to be ready every Monday at 12·0 o'clock, as Day Performance takes place at 2·0 o'clock Mondays and Saturday.
Address, King OHMY,
Ohmy's New Circus and Hippodrome, Bolton.

WANTED, Artistes, Artistes, Artistes,
Equestrians,
Clowns,
Specialities,
Comedy Acts,
Swimmers,
High Divers,
&c., &c., &c.
Also
Musical Director
and Orchestra of
Sixteen to Twenty
Musicians.

Mr Hengler
having been appointed
Manager of the Hippodrome,
Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow,
Invites applications
from Parties desiring
Engagements for the
Winter Season,
commencing early in December.

Address, with full particulars,
Mr HENGLER,
the Hippodrome,
Sauchiehall-street,
Glasgow.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME,
CARLISLE.

WANTED, Circus and Variety Artistes of Every Description for October, and on. Good Agouste may write in.
Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, for the Reopening of the Winter Gardens, Mill-street, Plymouth, Oct. 22, and onwards, 1904, Bareback Equestrians, with or without their own Horses; Good Talking and Knockabout Clowns, Good Specialities, and Good Variety Artistes. All Parties Requiring Ground at the Winter Gardens, Mill-street, Plymouth, for all kinds of Amusements, Games, Side Shows, Palmistry, &c., for price and particulars apply, W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Fancy Fair, Tavistock, from Saturday until next Thursday; then, Winter Gardens, Mill-street, Plymouth.

WANTED, Two Ladies, must be of fine appearance, for Single Trapeze Work.
Reply, with List of Tricks, &c.,
Box 8,520,
care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Young Man as Second Mounter for well-known Troupe.
One that can tumble preferred.
State Salary and particulars to
Box 8,537, care of "The Era" Office.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for Triple Bars Young Man.
Apply with Tricks and all particulars,
Box 8,534, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Smart Youth, must be able to Tumble; also Young Lady to join Cycle Troupe.
Box 8 516, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Good Bar Performer to support Clown. State Tricks and age. Also Smart Boy Acrobat. Good Tumbler WILLIS, G. P. O., Nottingham.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS on Tour.
Manager, G. SCOTT.

WANTED, Known, John Scott and Family will be at Liberty from Dec. 5, Onwards, for Winter Season, with a First-class Circus Company, including the Imperial Bioscope if Required. For terms, &c., address, 22, Berkley-place, Clifton, Bristol

WANTED, Known, the Hanneford Family, Dashing Bareback Equestrians, will be at Liberty, Oct. 17, with a Number of First-class Bareback Acts, including Hanneford's Original English Equestrian Quartet. The Only Act of its Kind now before the Public. All Acts First-class, and Second to None.
Address,
care of TURLEY, Publican,
Chichester-street, Belfast.

WANTED—Mdlle. Caroline, Equestrienne Trick and Character Acts, Seventh Week on Tour; also Happy Armstrong. Talking, Knockabout Clown, Comedy Musical Act, with Comic Entrées, both Liberty end of November. Address, 40, Aspinall-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, S. Anderson, Equestrian and Clown, at Liberty, with or without Horse. Address, 6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Clown Ohmy. High Stilt Performer, also Clever Dog Show, Miss Jessie Harper, the World's Renowned Soprano, Seventeen Months with Ediscope and Barnum's Picture Show, Liberty Nov. 7, onward. This week, P. H., Worcester; next week, Assembly Rooms, Malvern.

WANTED, Known, Donat Bedini, the Original Continental Tumbling Agouste, is sailing Oct. 21 for S. Africa with Mr Bostock's Grand Circus, after Five Successful Seasons with L. G. Sanger's Circus. On Tour. Many thanks, Mr Sanger, for same.

WANTED, Known, Jolly Julia, Talking, Dancing, and Knockabout Clown, and A 1 Agouste, is at Liberty for Engagements and is just as Good as ever (and no bluff). 53, Frost-street, Tyne-dock, S. Shields.

WANTED, for Oct 17, 24 31, Engagement for John Fredericks Troupe, Statue Pictures, Acrobats, a New Act on a Revolving Apparatus Three Ladies, One Gentleman. Address, FREDERICKS TROUPE, 108, Lambeth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Muzeno Trio, Two Ladies, One Gent., Acrobats, Gymnasts, Wire Walker, Knockabout Clown, with Good Entrées. Six Good Numbers, at Liberty Oct. 17, for Halls or Circus. Address, MAYON, the Sands, Carlisle, Camb.

WANTED, Known, Harland and Rollison finish to-night Hippodrome, Accrington. Monday, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash. Vacant Oct. 17 and 24

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte (Lady and Gent.), Trapeze Gymnastic Act Immense Success. Free Oct. 10, 17. Address, Circus, Bolton; after Saturday, Pottery House, West Gorton.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Premier Equilibrists and Acrobats, Oct. 10, 17. Wire, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau, the Marvellous Globe Equilibrist, and her Great Troupe of Trick and Leaping Dogs. Liberty for Panto., &c. Permanent, Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

WANTED, Oct. 10 and 17 by W. Salmon, Trick, Musical, and Novelty Cyclist. Hippodrome, Accrington, where wire; after Sat., 25, Albany-ter., Burnley.

WANTED, Oct. 24, on, Balzens and Pelho, Japanese Variety Wonders. People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Two Athletes, doing Weight-lifting, Rings, and Comedy Tumbling, for any capacity. Address, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Circus, Hippodrome, and Variety, that Mr E. Hodgini, jun., will be at Liberty at end of October, with his Performing Bull and Pig. New for England.
Address,
Hodgini's Circus, Barkerend (Yorks.), Bradford.

WANTED, Smart Tumbler, wishes to Join good Comedy Acrobatic Act. For particulars, apply Box 8 539, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by a Youth, Eighteen, a Situation. Good Hand-balancer and Juggler. Write to J. HART, 80, Durham-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Circus, Hippodrome, Theatre, and Music Hall Proprietors to note, now and onward, the sale of Fruit, Sweets, &c, or Bars and Tours Entertained Lowest terms, or would Share. Address, People's Refreshment Caterers, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen

Barney Armstrong's
Scotch Tour.
Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock;
also Sixteen Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour.

WANTED, Artists to send Full List of Bookings, terms, &c, Armstrong's Agency, Tivoli Palace, Glasgow.
Big Acts Required for Immediate Dates.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY,
and
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Owners, ARTHUR CARLTON and SAM DUCKWORTH.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, in all Lines. Note.
All Artistes Play Ton-y-Pandy and Pentre Nightly.
We provide brougham and convey all luggage.

SAM DUCKWORTH,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, Variety Artistes of every Description, Big Novelties, Specialities, and Sensational Attractions, all for Present and Future Dates.
Apply, stating lowest terms, to
T. M. SYLVESTER, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, Variety Artists, All Lines, for Oct. 24, Two Weeks, Small Halls, Good Lady Pianiste and Vocalist (Serio or Ballad). Write Perm, WILL BAILEY, Green Dragon Hotel, Broughton, Kettering.

WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every Description. Immediate Dates for Suitable Numbers. Only High-class Acts Represented.
J. Tysoe-Smith, 15A, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artistes in all Lines for Oct. 24, onwards. Lowest terms to Sharp, Sole Agent for the New Pavilion, Maidenhead.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for the Wakefield Hippodrome, Limited, Variety Artistes of Every Description, Big Bright, Glittering Stars, Big Novelties, Animal and Circus Shows, Big Spectacles, Ballets, in fact, Anything that will Draw and Please the Public.
Any Price Paid to the Right Article.
Apply, with terms, &c.,
to the
Consulting Manager,
T. M. SYLVESTER,
Hippodrome Coventry.

WANTED, Big Variety Artists and Speciality Stars, Nov. 7 and on. Big Attraction for Christmas. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines, who are Visiting Scotland or the North, to send in Vacancies and lowest terms. Plenty of Good Fill-in Dates Open for Stars.
Alexander's Agency, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
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James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1,686, Royal

WANTED.—Class Artistes invited to Communicate.

WANTED, for the Palace Theatre, Cork,
Star Artistes,
Big Specialities,
Novelties, Sisters, &c.
Full particulars,
lithos., terms to
HENRY KEMBLE,
Manager.
Call, Monday, Oct. 10, 3·0 o'clock, for
Prof. Hulbert, Amy Elcock,
Tom O'Neil, Mdlle. Eleonora, Tom Bassett,
De Lil, Florrie St. Roy, Vanda,
Belrose and De Velin.

WANTED, Artistes of all Descriptions Suitable for Carnivals at Olympia, Sunderland. Apply, CARR for RICHARDSON BROS., Limited.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies. Oct 17 and 24. RAYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.

WANTED, Artistes, November, on. Rehearsal, Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Sisters Russell, J. H. Keith, Parez Trio, Huntley and Palmer, Johnson and Bentley, Hughes' Electrograph, Cavern and Cave, Ulrick. Letters, S. L. LEE.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, All Lines, for Oct. 17, 24, and 31, also Future Dates, for Glasgow, Greenock, Paisley, and Principal Scotch Concerts. Anderson's Agency, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, Oct. 17, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c., Edgar Stebbings's Agency, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Artistes, Single Turns, Oct. 24, Nov. 7; Double and Single Turns Nov. 21, Dec. 5. Lowest terms, Two Weeks, CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

TIVOLI, KIDDERMINSTER.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines Oct. 17, onward. Hall Small, Twice Nightly, 7·0 and 9·0. REEKIE and STEPHENS.

WANTED, at Large Seaside Towns and Summer Resorts, Single Day Bookings for Special Star Artistes during July, August, and September, 1905. Full particulars on application. Write or wire, Donald Arthur's Agency, 434, Strand, W.C. Telephone, 7,279 Gerrard. Cables, "Yokefellow, London."

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines, Single and Double Turns, Big Specialities, Oct. 17 and on. HUGH DEMPSEY, 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class Artistes, Specialities, Novelties, &c., for Good Halls. Terms, &c., Yates's Agency, Harbourhey, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Five Small Halls (South). Absolute lowest, Leslie's Agency, Frankfort-buildings, Plymouth. Saroo, Amy Forrest, wire addresses.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Oct. 17 and 24, onwards.
W. BIRCHALL, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines.
State lowest terms, Bookings, Lithos, &c.,
Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, Morecambe.
Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c.
Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe."

WANTED, for Empire, Cradley Heath, Artists all Lines, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, 14, 28; Dec. 12, 19 also for Small Yorkshire Town, Oct. 31, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, Feb. 6, 1905, on. JAZON, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield, till Tuesday; then, Theatre Royal, Rotherham

BRITANNIA MUSIC HALL, GLASGOW.
Lessee, JAS. ANDERSON. Manager, GEO. SAPHRINI.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, for Reopening Oct. 17.
Good Comedian and Comedy Acts wire.

WANTED, Artistes, Immediately, Doubles doing Singles. Would entertain Partner with Good Specialities to my Three Acts. Tour, Smalls. LE WISE, Theatre, Dipton, co. Durham; after Monday, Co-operative Hall, Birtley, co. Durham.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON,
Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, Artistes to send lowest terms and Vacant Dates.
Vacancies on all Dates.

WANTED, First-class Artistes only, in all Lines, Oct. 10, onwards. Full particulars. Cadle's Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for the Ipswich Hippodrome, and New Coliseum. Artistes of all Classes. Good Singing and Comedy Turns. Big Pantomimes and Great Sketches. All the Biggest Novelties the world possesses
Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER,
Hippodrome, Coventry,
who has been re-elected Managing-Director.

WANTED, Artistes, Grand Entertainments, Forest-gate, 17th; Balaclava Jubilee, Middlebrook's Museum, 25th. Many more Correspondents Wanted. "Amusement," Monthly, 6, Whitefriars, London.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines, Sketches, Double Turns, and Novelties, Scarborough Hippo. Rehearsal Oct. 10, 2 0 p m, for Effie White, Fritz Renhard, Lily Martell, Pulo, Frank Tyrell, Osmond, W. H. Ball, Holgar, Cecil Blanchard, Alleyn Trio, Cinématograph, &c. QUINTON GIBSON, Lessee and Manager. Impossible to answer all; please excuse.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for Oct. 24, 31, and Nov. 7, for Wigan and Burnley.
Send lowest terms, J. LOTTO,
2, Lambeth Palace-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Artistes holding Engagements Alhambra, Belfast, to write in Fourteen Days before Opening. H. T. DOWNS, Manager

WANTED, Known.—All Artistes holding Contracts for the Hippo, Mountain Ash, please send addresses at once to H. DAVENPORT, Sec., Hippo, Mountain Ash.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and J. W. CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to
Burns's Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and
Manchester.
Telephone 0,231; Telegrams, "Burns."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Oct. 10:—Tate and Tate, Lily Turner, Sisters Brooklands, Percy Farrimond, Harry Hayton, J. H. Hawtrey, Burns's Bioscope, Mdlle. De Rose, Six Cycling Elliots, and Seven Savonas.
1 0 o'clock prompt.

All Artists not sending in their Bill Matter Two clear Weeks before Opening, besides standing risk of having their Contracts Cancelled for same, may rely on prompt action at law being taken as per Rule No. 6.
(Signed) HARRY BURNS, General Manager.

TIVOLI MUSIC HALL, HIGH SHIELDS.—Proprietors Councillor J. K. HALL and Jos. SWEENEY.—General Manager, HARRY BURNS. Address all communications to Harry Burns, Empress, Hartlepool. Burns's Agency only. Telephone, 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Oct. 10, 2 0 o'clock prompt, Renson and Waize, Fred Casburn, Varley and Sinclair, E. J. Wikes, Rosie Morn, Willis Walton, Flo Hilton, and The Gladenbecks. Bookings in connection with North Tour also note barring clause, which will be strictly adhered to. (Signed) HARRY BURNS.

WANTED, Clients to Note my Address. M'ASKELL,
9, Staindrop-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Clients to Note.—All Business at a Standstill, owing to Wife's Serious Illness.
Address, 120, Roker-avenue, Sunderland, which will be redirected in due course.
M'Askell.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,141.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for
Morecambe,
Blackpool,
and other Big Towns,
Big
Stars,
Singing Turns,
Novelties,
Specialities,
New Sensations.
Price
no
object.
Lithos.
and
Price,
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for
Liverpool, St. Helens, Warrington, and Ashton,
Stars and Novelties, Oct. 24, onwards.
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brocks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, Oct. 10, onwards.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c.
Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076, Royal.

WANTED, Stars of Every Description, Immediate and Onwards.
Absolute lowest
in First Instance,
or no notice taken of Applications.
Booking
Every Hall of Note
in England.
Also
Booking throughout Germany.
Harry Burns,
Sole Proprietor Burns's Agency,
Empress Theatre of Varieties, Hartlepool.
Telephone, 0,231 Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Burns."

WANTED, Star Turns, Tops of Bill, for London and Provinces.
Also Good Comedy Numbers, for a West-end Hall.
Exclusive Engagement. State where Performing, and will See Act, whether in England or Continent.
Distance no Object for Big, Reliable Numbers.
Day's Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6 915 Gerrard.
Telegraphic address, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

WANTED, Lady Turns, Serios, &c. One that can Play a very small Comedy Part in a Sketch for three nights, near London, Oct 18.
Address, GUS GAUNTLETT, 2, Aliwal-road, St. John's-road, Clapham-junction.

WANTED, First-class Variety Turns. Houghton's Dramatic Agency, 29, Waterloo-road, S.E. Unequalled Bookings, Drury-lane, Alhambra, Empire, &c.

WANTED, for Empire, Paisley, for Week commencing Oct. 10, Specialities and Variety Artistes of every description. Address, DELNO FRITZ, Empire, Paisley.

American "Rapid" Agency.
The Hustlers for Big Sensational and Funny Acts.

WANTED, Oct 17, and onwards, the Biggest Star Acts in the Profession. We are in Touch with all the Leading Houses. No Salary too high, if you have got the Goods. Send terms and dates to J. Carroll, Century-buildings, London-road, Liverpool. American Offices: G. F. Carroll, 184, Atlantic-avenue, Brooklyn, U.S.A. Continental and American Specialities please note.

WANTED, for Variety Company Touring Germany, Sensational and Novel Acts and Turns, also two good Knockabouts and a Handcuff King, to start Nov. 1 for long Tour. Those wanting fancy salaries save stamps. Write, stating Lowest Terms by Letter only, to O. MEYER, 20, St. Oswald's-road, West Brompton.

WANTED, Sensational Specialities with Drawing Powers; also Lady Vocalist and Comedian, with Répertoire. Valmore's Hippodrome, Boston.

WANTED, the Best of Double Combinations and Specialities new to Leigh, Oct. 31 and Nov. 14; also for Pantomime and next Summer. Apply, with fullest particulars and very lowest terms, the MARVELLOUS PARDOES, Middleton, Lancs. No interviews.

WANTED, Lady (Educated) Novice, not over Twenty, for Illusion. Must be very fair, beautiful, and exceptionally fine figure.
Good Pianist and Good Voice.
Tour is for America, Africa, and Australia, not England.
Recent Photos. and all particulars must be sent in.
Photos. returned.
Address, SAPHO, 82, Grosvenor-street, Piccadilly, W.

WANTED, a Smart Little Girl for High-class Illusions, and to make herself generally useful. Good home, &c. Full particulars, photo., to PRINCE SAMOUDA, 4, Ducie-grove, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Young Lady for Musical Act State Instruments,
Age, Height.
Or Would Join another Young Lady.
FLO ATKINS,
40, Chadwick street, West Gorton,
Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.

WANTED, at all Times, Oct. 17, 24, 31, November, on, the best of Specialities, Star Comedians, Sketch Teams, Performing Animals, Musical Acts, Aerial Acts, for Belfast, Scarborough, Barrow, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, Exeter, Leeds, Manchester, Bradford, and other Towns.

Wanted,
Specially for the
YARMOUTH and LOWESTOFT HIPPODROMES.
Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.

Acts of Every Description for Ring and Stage during October, November, and December.

Artistes will please note they must work Three Nights at each Town.
The Journey is Nine Miles.

Should be pleased to hear from a Big Lion or Elephant Act, Weeks of Nov. 7 and 14 (North).

Send Lowest Terms and Full List of Dates Keep me posted with Address.

Several Contracts have been lost this week through not keeping me posted.

Will
The Jalvans,
Eleonora,
Belles Americaines
send
Addresses?

Contracts waiting.

Geo. Zalva's Agency,
21, North Marine-road,
Scarborough,
till Wednesday night;
after Wednesday,
19, Chapelfield-road,
Norwich

ACCRINGTON HIPPODROME.

WANTED, the Best, all Lines, Oct. 17 and 24.
Call, Oct. 10, 1 0 prompt:—
Ella's Lions, Stylo, Miss Bonnie, Song Sheet, Reklaw, G. Reeves-Walker, Slippere, Bioscope.
Caution—Accrington is barred by Blackburn.
Terms, lithos., &c, first letter.
Paul Vandy's Agency, Hippodrome, Accrington, to Oct. 15.
Don't forget Accrington is barred by Blackburn.
Silence polite negative.

WAKEFIELD HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, THE WAKEFIELD HIPPODROME COMPANY.
Opening Date, Oct. 17, 1904.

WANTED, Known. Applications for Engagements should be made to T. M. SYLVESTER, Consulting Manager. Caution to Artists—No Contracts will be recognised unless on the Company's Printed Form, and Countersigned by the Secretary, Walter Emmett. All Bill Matter must be forwarded direct to the Company's Office, Teall-street, Wakefield. (signed), WALTER EMMETT, Secretary.

WANTED, Serios, Comediennes, Specialities. Nothing too Big or too Little. Enclose lithos. and photos. for Immediate and Future Dates. Lennox and Co., Dramatic, Variety, and Circus Agents, Castle-chambers, Houndsgate, Nottingham.

WANTED, Young Girl with Good Knowledge of Trick Cycling to Join well-known Troupe.
Apply, R. G. D., Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, Immediately, Vent. or Good Entertainer, for long Tour. State full particulars first letter. PEARCE, 27, Stall-street, Bath.

WANTED, Two Knockabout Acrobatic Comedians, for Long Tour. Good salaries to suitable people. Wire or write, JOE BOGANNY, Alhambra, Leicester-square, London.

WANTED, Two Good Knockabouts (Joint), One Tall Must be Smart. State lowest terms, H. LOW, Duchess Theatre, Balham, London.

WANTED, Minstrel Comedian; also Good Vocalist, Pianist, and Clever Children write. Tour Commences Oct. 14 PHIPPS, 59, Rydal-st., Leigh.

WANTED, Comedians and Comediennes, to Top, Oct 17 and Nov 7, one of the Big Empires (North) Lowest to "Lord" Geo. Ayton, Old-established Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E. Male Quartette for Pantomime, capable of Parts, write. Telegraphic address, "Antics, London" Phone 1,919 Hop.

WANTED, Twenty-five Hypnotic Subjects, of Both Sexes, People in all Branches of Mesmeric Show Business, wanted at all times for our Three Big Companies, Nos. 1 and 2 shows booked up to 1905; No. 3 Combination plays Music Halls, doing a twenty-five minute act. Can use at once Five Lady Sleepers and Two Men. Want Seven Cataleptic Subjects and Eleven Somnambulistic "Horses." State age, weight, height, colour, eyes, and hair married or single, what hyp, show you have travel ed with (if any). State lowest salary and full particulars in first letter, send photograph (no time for useless correspondence. all communications confidential). Masher and agitators instantly dismissed. Must be neat and good dressers. Miss Marie Romane and Miss Alice Dorady wire us your address. Fred Mackey, "Dutch" Schultz Harry Ward write.
People who have worked for us before, if out of employment, communicate at once.
Can use Hustling Press Agent with Show No. 2. Must be wide awake; don't want a "do-it-to morrow man."
Address,
TOM VAN WAGNER,
Manager, Electric Healers,
care of "The Era."
Two weeks' silence a polite negative.

WANTED, Really First-class Cinématograph, with plenty of Films, for Tour.
A. E. SMITH, care Mrs FOX, Eyre-st., Newbridge, Ireland

WANTED.—Cinématographist, with good Machine and Films, would like to join anyone with good Portable or Booth. Shares Can give long Show. Box 8,546, care of "The Era" Office

WANTED, First-class Operator (Cinématograph), with own Machine. Must be capable of Working Electric, and have a few Russian and Japanese War Films. Long Tour, commencing Oct. 17 Last Operator, Five Years HUMPHREYS, Town Hall, Bridgwater

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ethel Yorke, the Charming Comedienne, concludes Barrasford Tour To-night. Liberty Monday next. Wire to-night, Alhambra, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Florrie Claribell, Tyrolean Songstress and Dancer, Vacant Monday. Wire, 4, Wilton-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Oct. 10 and 17, by Vinnie Terry, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, Empire Theatre, Shildon, Durham. Any Distance.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Allnutt, just returned from South Africa, is at Liberty. For Dates, address, Berkeley Castle, Rahese-st., Clerkenwell.

WANTED, Oct. 17, by Mdlle. De Vena, Unique Lady Juggler.
Monday, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Sheila Deans, Comedienne, at Liberty Monday, Oct. 10. Wire to 148, Fountains-road, Walton, Liverpool.

WANTED, to join Musical Troupe, Lady, age twenty. Own Cornet, Banjo, Mandoline, and English Concertina. ZETTA, 15, Lower Ford-street, Coventry.

WANTED, Oct. 10, 17, 24, and Onwards by Graceful Grace Compton; also Vacant Pantomime. Principal Boy. Wire, Park Palace, Liverpool.

America, Africa, Australia, Canada.
WANTED, Oct. 24 and 31, Maccann, World-renowned Concertina King. Instruments value £500.
Oct. 10, Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, London, S.E.; 17th, Empire, Portsmouth.
F. Higham, Business-Manager, 9, York-road, S.E.

WANTED, by George Ritter, Vocal, Musical Comedian (Good Pianist) Lib. Oct 10, on, Good Tour. Can open at once. Any Plz Buckhurst-hill, Essex.

WANTED, Engagements, Judge Bolton, High-class Variety Entertainer. Two Distinct Acts. Apply, 41, Prince's-road, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, Bert Ellis, Comedian. Halls or Tour. Concluding Twenty-one Weeks' Engagement, West-end Pier, Morecambe. Wire.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian and Dancer, Engagement Monday next.
Wire, 2, Rumford-place, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Sidney Dolf, Vocal Speciality Artiste, thanks Managers for offers London and Provinces, but no Vacant Dates at Present.

WANTED, Oct. 10, by Fred Frick, Comedian; also Vacant for Pantomime. Wire for Monday next, 428, Liverpool-street, Seedley, near Manchester.

WANTED, by Carl Verdi, Premier Instrumentalist, Oct. 31, Nov. 7 and 14 also Panto. Managers in want of an Up-to-date Act will do well to see my New Act. Wire or write. Agents, Edgar Stebbings, Manchester; or, Jess Verno, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Woodward is still making a Glorious Success with his Original Monologue, "The Last Touch" Complimented by Managers everywhere. This week, terrific success, Circus, Rochdale. Monday, Tivoli, Manchester. Vacancies, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 19, 26

WANTED, Known, Managers should wire at once for Chas. Corcos, Versatile Comedian, Pianist, with "Oh, dear, no," &c. P.O., Deganwy, N.W.

WANTED.—Picitt Handcuff King and Jail Breaker, Big Top of Bill Act. Splendidly staged, assisted by handsome Lady, beautifully dressed. Highly sensational but strictly refined Turn. No Faked Fetters. No Confederates. No Trick Boxes. Therefore, no fear of exposure by jealous performers. See Daily Papers, Oct. 4 and 5. Picitt does not work in evening dress; he is searched from head to feet. Just concluding J. D. Hunter's Tour. Vacant Oct. 17 through hall not opening.
Address, Pier, Hastings.

WANTED, Immediate Engagements, the Great and Only Morla, Comic Conjuror and Novelty Chain Breaker (a Combined Performance).
Address, 67, Newman-street, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Evansio, Famous Conjuror and Plate and Basin Spinner, was a great success at the Public Baths, Gloucester, last week making his second visit. At Liberty Oct. 10, 17, 24, for Halls or Tours. Always a success. Apply, Waterloo House, Commercial-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, by Alec Aubrey, Astounding Gymnast. Oct. 17, through Postponing Northampton. Oct. 10, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, Oct 17 and 24 by Kyoto, the Original Comedy Japanese Mysterious Box; also May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer. Monday, Britannia, Hoxton. 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, S.E.

Two Distinct Specialities.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Oct. 17, 24, Rodin, Eccentric Comedian and Cyclist; also Mdlle. Magna, the Finest Classical Posing Act on the Stage, Liberty Oct. 17, 24. Also Pantomime.
Address, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers, and Marie Riviers, Balladist. Mon. Next, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen. Wire.

WANTED, by Leona and Maude, Stage Trapeze Specialists; also by Little Maude, Tyrolean and Ballad Vocalist, Dates from Oct. 10, onwards. Touring Companies invited to write for terms and references to permanent address,
19, Harold-mount, Burley, Leeds; or, care of Will Sley.

WANTED, Known, Mexican Mac, assisted by Mdlle. Leslie St. Clair, Vacant Oct. 10, in Sensational Shooting Act. Central Theatre Northwich.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Carcassi Duo, in their Great Musical Speciality.
Wire, Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Oct 10, 17, 24 St. Albans and Williams, Renowned Operatic Vocalists and Duettists. Always successful. Gems of Blended Harmony. Write or wire, 179, Granton-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Oct 10, 17, by France and Francis, Comedians and Knockabout Grotesques. Wire, 33, River-street, Balsall Heath, Birmingham

WANTED, Oct 17, 24, Sterling and Cashen, American Speciality Artists, Dancers, &c Double and Single. This and next, Empire, Thildon, Durham.

WANTED, Monday next by Lee and Arden, "The Lady and the Watchman"
Wire, 2, Gladstone-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, Oct 10, and 17, by the Waffatangs (Bud and Chink), Coloured Comedians and Buck and Wing and Sand Dancers.
Wire, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

WANTED, by Fields and Acres, Comedy Park-keepers, Monday, through altering Date. Wire, till Saturday, Hippo., Coventry; after, 115, Hope-street, Salford.

WANTED, Known, Duncan and Morton, Comedy Artists, Liberty Oct. 10, 17. Wire, 13, Union-street, Hartlepool; also at Liberty for Panto.

WANTED, Monday; also Oct. 17, by Snowdon and Conway, Comedy Couple, and Winnie St. Ives. One Turn or Both. Victoria T, Littleborough. Wire, 27, Cranworth-st., Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Next Week, Oct. 17 by the Three Musical Japs. Grand Novelty Act.
Wire, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Monday next, also Oct 17 and 24, by the Lovelaces, Song Illustrators.
Wire, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Pair Knockabout Comedians, Tumbler, and Posturer wish to join Panto. Sketch. Can join at once M. CANNING, 36, Norman-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Oct 10 and 17, by The Elvins, Dramatic and Comedy Sketch Specialities.
Address, 13, Queen's-terrace, Alexandra-rd., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, by the Rushforths, Song Illustrators, and King Leo, Ventriloquist. Empire, Rochdale; next, Royal, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, Lyric Comedy Singers (Three Ladies, Three Gents), the most Original Vocal Turn on the Halls, including Whistling Comedian, Humorous Mimic, Comedy Quartet, Comedienne, &c. Elaborate Costumes Well Staged. Vacant Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, 28 13, Mary-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday Next and Oct. 17, between Morecambe and Newcastle, by Professor Wallace, for his Two Acts, Vent, Chapeau, Mimic, and Singing Dog. West-end Pier, Morecambe. Vacant, Monday, Oct. 10.

WANTED, Known, Miss Hilda Hatton's "Not Peace, But a Sword."
Oct. 10,
Alhambra Theatre, Tipton.
Managers invited. Communications, A.A.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by R. J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Conjuror, Oct. 17 and 24.
Now at Empire, Bridgwater.

WANTED, by Oakdene, Novelty Ventriloquist, Oct. 17. Enormous success of New Act, introducing Series of Brilliant Novelties. Just concluded Summer Tour. 32, Cornbrook-park-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by the Original Empire Quintette of Part Singers, Oct 17 and 24. Concluding Ten Months' Engagement with Fred Karno, Esq.
This, Royalty, Barrow. Next, Opera House, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Oct. 10 and 17, by Driscoll and Beattie's Comedy Sketch Co. Add., till Sunday, E, Brixton; after, care of De Vere's Agency, Waterloo-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Bookings, Oct 31, onward, Mr Harry Liston, Miss Lumley, and Party (Five Turns), or Self only. Post-office, Congleton.

WANTED, Known, Fred Pollard has decided to Continue to Play "The Missing Will" as "Golden and Grey," Park Palace, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dates, for "Is it You?" Snapshot Competition. Big Draw. Also Bioscope Comedian and Lady. Illustrated Songs. Bioscope, Lyceum, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, Cyclo, Sensational Trick and Comedy Cyclist, Stair-jumping, &c., Vacant through Misunderstanding, Oct. 17 and 24.
A Sure Draw.
Oct. 10,
Palace, Hammersmith, 9·35

WANTED, Oct. 10, by Whirlo, the Cycling Monkey. Also Pantomime.
20, Railway-view, Southport.

WANTED, Engagements as Demonstrator, Magic Kettle. Knows all Experiments with Liquid Air. Good Speaker. M, 44 Lorrimore-rd., Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement, Monday next for Edison-Paul Animated Pictures. All Latest and Best Subjects. Terms reasonable. Satisfaction guaranteed. Machine at Liberty for Tour or Pantomime. Address, T. M. PAUL, Empire Theatre, Shildon, co. Durham. Telegrams, "Paul, Shildon."

WANTED, for Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscopes, First-class Operators, well up in Lime and Electric. Apply, with full particulars, first letter, 54, Daleview-road, Stamford-hill, London.

WANTED, Oct. 31 or Later for Bioscope Pictures. Also Troupe of Dogs. High-diving Dog a Sure Draw. LE CLAIR, Post-office, Newport, I.O. Wight.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Oct 10, onwards, for Bioscope, Russo-Jap War and Comic Films.
SAYERS, 16, Clova-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, Hughes' Electrograph, Perfection Pictures, Years in Front of Others. One Machine Vacant, Sept. 14 and 21. 33, Stafford-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, Albert Sayers, Imperial Bioscopes. Latest Russo-Jap Films Good Tour accepted. Address, 16, Clova-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, by Operator, Situation, Lime or Electric, with Own Bioscope and Outfit if necessary. Terms moderate. DEVEREUX, 31, Fawe-park-road, Putney.

WANTED, Known, Operator at Liberty with or without First-class Machine and Good Films, Lime or Electric Light. Terms moderate. OPERATOR, Exhibition, Winsford, Cheshire.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showman's Union will be held
on Thursday next, Oct. 13,
at the
Newington Hotel, Hull,
at 2·0 p.m.
Members are requested to attend.
(Signed)
T. HURST, Secretary.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire,
on Tour or otherwise,
anywhere in the United Kingdom.
For particulars apply to
F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Freaks Novelties, for Mountain Ash, Merthyr, other Shops following. Half shares. Wire for Monday. Prof. LIONS, Post-office, Treherbert, Wales.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, to Open Monday Next and Future Dates. Engaged here at present are Leo, Strong Man, and Prof. Hengler, Magician. Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-place, Belfast.

WANTED, Freaks and Sensational Novelties, Immediate Dates; also Big Attraction for Two Weeks, commencing Nov 7. Jersey Lily write; also Good Midget Show with Carriages. Good salary.
COLLENA, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Oct 25, Onwards, Living Novelties. Share or salary. Madame Amelia going great. The following Novelties:—Sword Swallower, Tattoo, Strong, Knife Throwing, Human Ostrich. Lose no time. Write, BARRON, Arcade, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Novelties of all Descriptions, Posters or Paintings, from Oct. 17 and onwards, Three Shops, Belfast, Ballymena and Lisburn. Novelties can have Four Weeks. All communications, 52, Church-street, Ballymena, near Belfast, Ireland.

WANTED, Novelties for Belfast, Ballymena, and Lisburn. Also Penny Slot Machines for Free Admission Shop, 70ft. long, Belfast. Shares. 52, Church-st., Ballymena, near Belfast, Ireland.

WANTED, a Good, Quick-showing Novelty Suitable for Fairs and Shops. Harken write. Address, BLAKEY, Barkerend Feast Ground, Bradford.

WANTED, Side Show Novelties, Market Hall, Airdrie, N.B. Rent or Shares. Prof. JOHNSON, as above; or, 1, Gardner's-crescent, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Novelties and Attractions for Shops, Porth and Ton-y-pandy. Open at once. Wire, Letters, PHILLIPS, 7, Dunraven-street, Ton-y-pandy, South Wales.

WANTED, Absolute Novelties, Variety Specialities, must be Unique; also Instrumentalists. Write fully. Van Biene and Phillips. See Card.
The World's Fair and Exhibition,
66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.
WANTED, Side-Shows of all Descriptions to open in above building.
Side-show, 33ft by 24ft,
lit up by Electricity and Gas.
Terms, Share or Rental.
All letters to be addressed to
OWEN BAGAN,
66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Side-Shows for Bazaar, on Oct. 25, 26, and 27. Share or certainty Turns. Send particulars to A. M'EWAN, Assembly Rooms, Cork.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, for Auctioneering Business, to Sing between. Apply, HARRY LYONS, Auctioneer, Market-yard, Sligo, Ireland.

WANTED, at Once, Good Hand-seller and Comedian.
SMITH, Auctioneer, Birstall.

WANTED, for Travelling Auction Tent in South Wales, a Good Auctioneer; also Watchmaker who can Play Piano. 98, Dunraven-street, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Watchmaker, Vocalist and Pianist, for New Auction Tent. Double-handed preferred. Send terms, B. PARSONS, Auctioneer, 19, Angle-street, Burnley.

WANTED.—Showman's Painting; Scenery, Switchback, Showcloths, Transparencies, any subject. Good, cheap. J. DAVIS, 128, Upper Beau-street, Liverpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES, OCTOBER, 1904
IN ENGLAND

Oct. 8.	Aylesbury	Oct. 13.	Shipton-on-Stour
Oct. 8.	Barkerend	Oct. 13.	Torrington
Oct. 8.	Beverley	Oct. 14.	Calstor
Oct. 8.	Hartlepool	Oct. 14.	Workington
Oct. 8.	Houghton-le-Spring	Oct. 15.	Banbury
		Oct. 15.	Buckingham
Oct. 8.	Pinxton	Oct. 15.	Burley-in-Wharfdale
Oct. 8.	Stoney Middleton		
Oct. 8.	Tapton	Oct. 15.	City-road, Bradford
Oct. 10.	Abingdon	Oct. 15.	Farnsfield
Oct. 10.	Chipping Norton	Oct. 15.	Wantage
Oct. 10.	Cirencester	Oct. 17.	Christchurch
Oct. 10.	Fazeley	Oct. 17.	Luton
Oct. 10.	Gosport	Oct. 17.	Southam
Oct. 10.	Grimsby	Oct. 18.	Harwich
Oct. 10.	Halesowen	Oct. 18.	Hatfield
Oct. 10.	Lancaster	Oct. 18.	Maidstone
Oct. 10.	Leicester	Oct. 18.	Salisbury
Oct. 10.	Mitcheldean	Oct. 9.	Leominster
Oct. 10.	Sherbourne	Oct. 19.	Market Bosworth
Oct. 10.	Tewkesbury	Oct. 20.	Devizes
Oct. 11.	Basingstoke	Oct. 20.	Sawbridgeworth
Oct. 11.	Bridport	Oct. 20.	Sleaford
Oct. 11.	Burwell	Oct. 21.	Chichester
Oct. 11.	Daventry	Oct. 21.	Chorley
Oct. 11.	Faversham	Oct. 21.	Lichfield
Oct. 11.	Henley-in-Arden	Oct. 21.	Oundle
Oct. 11.	Highworth	Oct. 21.	Prince's Risborough
Oct. 11.	Hingham		
Oct. 11.	Hull	Oct. 21.	Stratford-on-Avon
Oct. 11.	Kingsclere	Oct. 21-22.	Bridlington
Oct. 11.	Ledbury	Oct. 22.	Clitheroe
Oct. 11.	Lingfield	Oct. 22.	Dalton-in-Furness
Oct. 11.	Lowestoft	Oct. 22.	Winchester
Oct. 11.	Marlborough	Oct. 24.	Cinderford
Oct. 11.	Nuneaton	Oct. 24.	Market Drayton
Oct. 11.	Ramsbury	Oct. 24.	Skegness
Oct. 11.	Sittingbourne	Oct. 24.	Upper Ottery
Oct. 11.	St. Ives	Oct. 25.	Gainsborough
Oct. 11.	Thame	Oct. 27.	Bingham
Oct. 11.	Tring	Oct. 27.	Ely
Oct. 11.	Tunbridge Wells	Oct. 28.	Exmouth
Oct. 11.	Whitney	Oct. 28.	Great Marlow
Oct. 11.	Wooler	Oct. 28.	Horncastle
Oct. 12.	Axminster	Oct. 28.	Totness
Oct. 12.	Bedford	Oct. 28.	Warminster
Oct. 12.	Colne	Oct. 28.	Wellington
Oct. 12.	Hitchen	Oct. 28.	Wigan
Oct. 12.	Ilkberrow	Oct. 29.	Disley
Oct. 12.	Needham Market	Oct. 29.	Edwinstow
Oct. 12.	Stratford-on-Avon	Oct. 29.	Falmouth
Oct. 12.	Tavistock	Oct. 29.	Heath
Oct. 12.	Warwick	Oct. 29.	Holmefirth
Oct. 12.	Wymondham	Oct. 29.	Kirby
Oct. 13.	Ashton-in-Makerfield	Oct. 29.	Oxcroft
		Oct. 29.	Stanfree
Oct. 13.	Ockley Heath	Oct. 29.	Wingerworth

IN SCOTLAND

Oct. 8.	Dundee	Oct. 10.	Alloa
Oct. 8.	Greenock	Oct. 31.	Selkirk
Oct. 8.	Kilmarnock		

IN WALES.

Oct. 8.	Pembroke	Oct. 21.	Llandovery
Oct. 8.	Pont-y-pool	Oct. 29.	Kidwelly

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Great World's Fair
Great World's Fair
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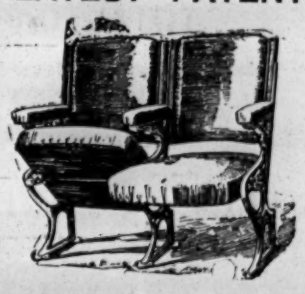

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London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
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Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
R. G. Knowles, Verno and Voyce,
Young American Quintette, George Brooks,
Rizene and Robini, Florador Quartette,
Princess Pauline, Marie Reeve,
the Ashers, Lizzie Daniels.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Kremo Family, Walter Groves and Co., Horace Wheatley
Burt Shepard, The Rayfords, Fred Earle, Walter King,
Annie Laurie, Amy Russell, Alice Ormonde.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Ray Wallace, Brothers Egbert, Three Pantzer Brothers,
Lalla Selbini, Mahatma, Brett and Orford, Bioscope,
Four Olympians, Bob Hutt, Ella Retford

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Eugene Stratton, Tina Clements, Binns and Binns,
Scottish Meisters; Dalias and Allayne, in "Bazaar Girl;"
Alcide Capitaine, Lizzie Valroze, Bert Byrne,
Arthur Melrose, Walter Stanley.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Fred Karno's "Mumming Birds," Max Renard's Dogs,
Boyd and Gilfain, Florrie Gallimore, Alexander, Bioscope,
Lillian Lowe, Bros. Durant, Fanny Erris.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Tom Davies Trio, Amy Sullivan,
Frank and Free, Harry Bickley,
Lillie Soutter, Silent Tait, Woodhouse and Wells.
Three Sisters Chester, Arthur Reece.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Three Sisters Sprightly, Leo Tell, Bros. Redmond,
Ben Albert, Harry Coates, Two Graces,
Ganty, Marion Scott, Phil Hermann, Haytors.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
R. A. Roberts, Ida Brophy, Austin and Cowan,
Jack Foley, Bert Weston, Burg, Haud, and Wise,
Max Merlin, Howard and St. Clair. Sisters Ely.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal at 3·0 o'clock for
Cliffe Berzac, in "A False Start;" Manhattan Comedy Four, the Mackweys, Palles and Cussick,
Brown and Robinson, Sisters Mullini, Mascotte Trio, Charles Vincent, Charles Austin, Nora Emerald.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr FRANK ALLEN, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.
Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope.
Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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CALLS for Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow, Oct 10, 1904.
TIVOLI.
Lily Morris, Brothers Lang, Bendon's Bioscope, Lidden and Hayward, Bouverie Pleydell, James Brady, Cambo, Harry Pleon, Abadaroffs, Joe O Gorman.
QUEEN'S.
Darring, Bendon's Bioscope, Alf Levarni, Lena Brunton, W. H. Downs, Watson Family, Harry Leybourne, the Rozells, Learto, and Permane's Bears.
Rehearsals.—Tivoli, 12·30; Queen's, 12·0 o'clock.
All communications,
BARNEY ARMSTRONG, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

O'CONNOR and BRADY'S VAUDEVILLE COMPANY. Rehearse, 1 0 o'clock, Monday, 10th, GRAND THEATRE, DONCASTER:—Albert Brady and Johnson Combination, Gertie Gitana, W. A. Kay, Wisper, Beattie Bloom, Edwin Bennett, Signor Bondoni, O'Connor and Brady.

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All Artistes will kindly note that the Entertainment will be changed to Two Houses, Nightly, commencing Nov. 7.

CALL for Monday, Oct. 10, 1904.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTES (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,

OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·30 o'clock.
George Robey, Harry Randall,
George Gray and Co., Wilkie Bard,
Lil Hawthorne, The Boissets, Queenie Leighton,
Kelly and Gillette, Bessie Featherstone, Doherty Sisters,
Fanny Fields, Nellie Wallace, The Stella Troupe,
Harry Freeman, May Henderson,
Dorothy L. Clark, Bella and Bijou, Wilson Hallett,
W. H. Clemart, Andie Caine.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,

STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Little Tich, George Robey,
Wilkie Bard, Harry Randall,
Jessica Grace, Virginia and her Piccaninnies,
Happy Fanny Fields,
Doctor Jules Angelo, Will Evans, Nellie Wallace,
Bella and Bijou, Starr and Leslie,
The Twin Andersons, The Glenroy Troupe,
The Lyons Trio, Amy Clevere.
Joint Acting-Managers { JAMES HOWELL. ARTHUR YATES.

THE CANTERBURY,

WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
"The Demon Kettle,"
the Great Boisset Troupe, in "The Dock Strike;"
George Robey, Marie Loftus,
Starr and Leslie,
Duncan and Godfrey,
Harry Bedford, Maudie Ford,
Goldman and Holles, the Lundgreens,
Nellie Wilson, Spry and Austin,
Marguerite Benson, Stella Troupe.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON,

MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno's Company, including Fred Kitchen and Miss Cossie Noel and Band of 1st Regiment Estrellian Guards, introducing a New and Original Comedy Extravaganza, in Three Episodes, entitled "Saturday to Monday";
Marie Loftus, Harry Tate, Kate Carney,
James and Marie Finney, Dorothy Clark, Geo. Mozart,
Lee and Bentley, Harry Freeman,
Sisters Caselli, Two Tees, Dolly Golden,
Dezmonti and Mora.
Manager, CHARLES BENCHAM.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,

LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Kelly and Gillette, Griff and Alpha, Musical Silvo,
Rice, Rose, Davis, and Half,
Booker and Narbis, Bros. Harrison,
Sisters Wingrove, Edgar Budden, Flo Majilton,
Paul Courtney and Co.
Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,

EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno and Co., "Saturday to Monday;"
G. H. Chirgwin, Duncan and Godfrey,
Chas. Johnson, Odeyne Spark,
The Herald Quartette, Clemart, Rosie Archer,
Jimson's Circus.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

THE EMPRESS,

BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
The Great Kate Carney,
Burke, Andrus, and Frisco,
Lukushima Troupe, Alice Maple,
Fanny Wentworth, Fred Clements,
Will Evans, Bert Brantford, Great Zaro Troupe,
Sisters Caselli, Geo. Rapley, Amba Austa,
Little Cliff, Spry and Austin.
Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

GRAND PALACE,

CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 0 o'clock.
Cliffe Berzac's Racing Sketch,
"False Start; or, Riding to Win;"
Will Evans, in "The Barmaid's Lament;"
Orpheus, Sisters Govell, Mr and Mrs Finden, Two Bostons,
Katie Lawrence, Ernesto, Fred Elton, Ethel May.
Manager, HARRY BAWN.

THE ROYAL,

HOLBORN.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Grand Wrestling Tournament—Light and Middle Weight Championships;
Nelson's Newsboys, Harry Hughes, Edie Rivers,
Leonard and White, The Ettenas, Larola,
Walter Wallis, Minnie D'Auban,
Royal Welsh Glee Singers, Sisters Beatrice.
Manager, H. KETTERMAN.

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UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
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Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1·30 Nightly.
Beauty Competition,
George Mozart, in Song and Scena, "Callers;"
Harry Morgan, Jessica Grace,
Dandy George and Dog, Morton Trio,
New Macs, Wertz and Judge, Lily Langtry.
Manager, W. SPEARMAN.

DUCHESS PALACE,

HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
Rehearsals on Monday at 1·30 o'clock.
Joe Elvin and Co., in "Over the Sticks;"
Walker and May, Edgar Romaine,
G. Bendon, Mansel Fane,
Christo, Alexandra Edwin, Jessie Eplett,
Newham and Latimar.
Manager, CLIFFORD KING.

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Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Little Tich,
Geo. Robey, Fred Russell,
Mark Melford and Co., in "Tip-Top Flat;"
Hart and Leo, Ethel Ra Leslie,
Orpheus, Amber Austa,
Frank Case, Florrie Forde,
Nellie Wallace, Bostons, George D'Albert,
Esme Gordon, Primavesi.
Manager, J. W. EDGAR.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,

KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
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the Lombarts, Bros. Dixon, Leo Stormont,
Lowell and Lowell, H. A Zetto, Les Belles Americaines,
Pictures, Grant and Grant, Kyasyas.

PAVILION THEATRE, GLASGOW.
W. Selkirk, J. W. Bray, Dave O'Toole, F. Gerald,
Boswell's Circus, Marriott Edgar, Johnny Alexandar,
Pictures, Arthur Saxon Trio, Monks and Woods.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Vesta Victoria, Gilbert and May, Rhoda Paul,
Queen and Le Brun, G. W. Leslie and Co,
Alice Lorette, Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, Harry Walker,
Pictures, Imro Fox.

ZOO AND HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Miss Rosina Casselli, Bros. Donar, Tray and Rich,
the Waldrons, Two Freydos, Wills and August,
Amy Augarde, Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford,
Pictures, "Doon the Watter."

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Capt. Woodward's Seals, Bert Leslie, Lottie Siegenberg,
Dora Martine, Mirzah, Four Sisters Merkel,
Carl Reinach, Troba, Dion Wade, Pictures,
Miss Minni Letta's Sporting Girls, Russell Wallett.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Heloise Titcomb, Arthur Boyne, Marie Blythe,
Mdlle. Clothilde, Percy Honri, Jules Keller,
Madge Grey, Mr and Mrs Lucas, A. G. Spry,
Mons. D'Musto, Pictures, Fred Cary.

TIVOLI, LEEDS.
Richard Sawade, Jenny Hartley, Alf Aubyn, Tom Lloyd,
Dave Marion, J. W. Hall, Three Prestons,
Chas. R. Whittle, Nellie and Nora, Pictures, Austin Rudd.

GRAND, MANCHESTER.
Marie Lloyd, Miss Lane, Carola's Circus,
Vansart, Hurman, Pictures, and others.

EMPIRE AND HIPPODROME, BRISTOL.
Houdini, Wal Robbins, Daisy Martell, Kimberley Boys,
Whit Cunliffe, Geraldo, Harry Edson, J. H. Scotland,
Will Johnson, Mabel La Blanche,
Pictures, Terry and Lambert.

REGENT, SALFORD.
De Biere, Arthur Slater, Bros. Kragg, the Durvlas,
Walter Bellonini, Wayne and Lamar, Professor Welsen,
Merton and Rydon, Pictures, De Gracia's Elephants.

HIPPODROME, ST. HELENS.
John Lawson, in "Humanity" and "Sally in our Alley;"
Chas. Craston, Sibb and Sibb, Stewart and Morgan,
Dwight and Son, Vincent, Maggie Rimmer, Pictures.

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Grahame and Harrington, Ward Bros., J. T. Macmillan,
Picquays, Pictures, Joe Almasio.

BRITANNIA, HOXTON, N.
Ahrensmeyer, Kyoto, Tom Dunsmore, May Geraldine,
Alba and Arnold, Chas. Stuart's Company, Cliffe Doren
Daisy Yates, Alice Yorke's Company,
Geo. Martinengo, Pictures, Madrali.

ALHAMBRA, HULL.
W. J. Churchill, Three Sisters Selwyn, T. W. Royal,
the Waltons, Will Godwin, Bob Hanlon, Ida Gladstone,
Pictures, New York Comedy Four.

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This picture shows the complete history of a block of slate, from the time that it is hewn from the solid rock till it is neatly packed in a railway truck ready to be delivered to the builder. In the opening of the picture there is a pretty view of the tunnel-like entrance to one of the "levels" leading to the underground slate workings. A battered-looking one-armed man—eloquent testimony to the dangers of slate quarrying—emerges at the head of a train of trucks; tied to his breast is a lantern, whose feeble rays have illuminated his path through the tunnel. A weary-looking horse draws the train of rough trucks, on each of which one or two huge blocks of slate are packed. Each truck halts for an instant on a weighing platform in order that a rough record of the slate quarried may be kept. The train winds slowly along to the sawing sheds, and as it passes we get an excellent panoramic view of the quarry. Next we see one of the trucks tilted over and a huge block of slate weighing several tons is thrown to the ground. With hammer and chisel the workmen quickly split it into huge thick slabs, and these are carried away to be sawn into blocks. A big circular saw slowly cleaves its way through the slate, and then the blocks come into the hands of the splitters. These men very deftly split each block first into halves, then quarters, and then finally into thin sheets, which are used for roofing and many other purposes. The thin sheets, all jagged and uneven, are carried to the trimming sheds and placed for an instant with their rough edges against a quickly-revolving knife, which, in four movements, chips each uneven slate into rectangular shape. Then the slates are carried in bundles to the trucks, into which they are loaded, and each truck as it is filled is shot rapidly down a terrifically steep incline to the lower "levels," where it is taken away by railroad to the various builders' yards. The film throughout is of remarkably excellent quality, and even the interior scenes are wonderfully good.

Length 300ft. Price £6 5s.

No. 665.

THE CONFIDENCE TRICK.

A country gentleman, newly arrived in town, is greatly struck with the wonders of Cleopatra's Needle. An obliging gentleman, strolling along the Embankment, notices the countryman's astonishment, and kindly points out the objects of interest in the locality. The two become very friendly and walk off together to a quiet part of the Embankment. There they sit down beside a curate who happens to be reading on the seat. The polite gentleman has some wonderful knowledge of gold mines, but before initiating the countryman into the good things he knows, he suggests that they should mutually shew their confidence in one another. He hands the countryman his pocket-book, in which are a number of bank-notes, and remains on the seat while his victim and the curate, who has been previously introduced, walk away together. They speedily come back, restore the pocket-book, and the countryman is asked to show *his* confidence by giving the polite stranger his pocket-book in turn. The stranger and the curate then walk off together, but they do not come back. The countryman, growing alarmed, calls a policeman and sets off in pursuit. In the meantime, a tramp, who has been watching the proceedings, comes quietly up and makes away with the countryman's bag, which has been left behind in the excitement.
Length, 175ft. Price, £3 12s. 11d.

No. 663.

THE NIGGER BOY'S REVENGE

A little Nigger boy reclines indolently in a hammock. But that hammock is wanted for a coloured lady, who comes along in the company of a white gentleman, and the boy is summarily ejected. The black lady is duly installed in his place, and the gentleman who is with her, and is much smitten with her sable charms, sits down beside her and talks of many things, what time a native minstrel discourses more or less sweet music with a banjo. But the little Nigger boy has his feelings also, and they have been outraged by his treatment. Seizing a huge slice of water-melon to comfort himself withal, he quietly climbs the tree from which the hammock is suspended, and at the psychological moment severs the cord with his clasp knife. Tableau!!!

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A'BAN BROS., Comedians, &c. Vacant Oct. 17 and Panto. Oct. 10, Empire, Dover. Permanent Address, 39, Shepherdess-walk, London, N.

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ABDULLAH, ALMA, and LA SUPERBE. Permanent address, 155, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

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ADELINA, England's own Queen of All Facialists. Empire, Portsmouth.

ADRIENNE, THREE SISTERS, Vocalists, Dancers and Whistlers. Next, Hippo., Mountain Ash. Vacant Oct. 17, also Panto. Good offers Invited.

ALBANO TROUPE, Musical Speciality. 38, Macdonald-street, Wavertree, Liverpool.

ALBERT, MISS LOTTIE, Chic Comedienne. This week, the Bedford Music Hall. All communications, 46, Torrington-square, W.C.

ALBERTO, FRED. Comedian and Dancer, success this week Alhambra, Stourbridge. Vacant Oct. 10 or 17. Wire, Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge.

ALBINI and his Mysterious Lady in Black just received Eight Weeks from J. L. Graydon, Esq.

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BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY) the Ideal Pair. Oct. 10, Metropole, Camberwell.

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BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BEANLAND, CHARLES, Monday next, the Bedford and Camberwell. Exclusive Agents, Day's Agency.

BECKETT, MR C., Clown, Tumbler, and Agouste, will be at Liberty shortly. Address, No. 7, Sussex-terrace, Above Bar, Southampton

BEECHAM, ARTHUR, Burlesque Comedian. London nightly. Lib. for Panto. Success everywhere. White Hart, Old Ford-rd., Bow, E.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE). "Hiawatha" Scena. Great Success Oct. 10, Empire Theatre, Cardiff (Stoll Tour)

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BELLA, LA PETITE, the Yankee Millionaire's Daughter. Recalled Nightly with Dr. Bodi's Royal Magnets. Gaiety Theatre, Leith, N.B.

BELLES AMERICAINES, LES. This week, Pavilion, Glasgow; next, Palace, Glasgow. Thanks for Offers Panto settled. Sole Agent, Harry Day.

BELROSE and DE VELIS, Operatic Duettists. Grand New Opening, Palace, Cork. Many Thanks to Hy. Kemble, Esq., Manager.

BENET, HARRY.—A turn that was greatly enjoyed and went well—Vide Press. Oct. 6. Palace, Northampton. Monday (Return), E., Dover.

BEN HUR, Tremendous Success with his New Speciality Act. This week, Empire, Kilburn; next, People's P., Tottenham. Communications direct.

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BLARNEY and KENNARD, the Comedy Couple, great success, Park Palace Liverpool. Panto. settled. Liberty Oct. 17. 96, Cresswell-st., Liverpool

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. No Vacancies. Panto. settled., G. T., Nottingham. Monday, Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

BLOUNT, ARTHUR PLOUNT, A Comic Singer of Comic Songs. 51, Dorothy-road, Lavender-hill, S.W.

BLYTHE, MARIE Contralto Vocalist. Oct. 10, Hippodrome, Liverpool. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

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BOSANQUET, in his New Musical Séance and Illuminated Excerpts. Great success. Hippo, Scarborough. Resting. West Hartlepool, Oct. 17.

BOSWELL, A. P., Going Great as usual, Olympia, Bury. Monday next, Collins's Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, Monday, Return, Palace, North Shields. Look out for New Act.

BOWERY BOYS, THE, Patter Comedians, Boxers, &c. Vacant, Dec. 5, on. Open for Panto. 59, Henderson-street, Levenshulme, Manchester.

BOYCE, FRANK, Vocal Comedian, Resumes Music Halls Oct. 31, Royal, Cambridge. 9, Melton-cottages, Newmarket. Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. 81, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road, London.

BRADLEY and TRUMAN. Kind regards to our old Friends Mr and Mrs Dan Leno Red Lion, Costock, nine miles from Nottingham.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE). Conclude Palace, Lincoln. Monday, Grand, Sheffield.

BRETT, HARRY, the Genial Comedian, Alhambra, Sandgate. Offers invited for Oct. 17 and 24.

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BRITISH QUARTETTE, THE (JOHN BULL, SANDY, PAT, and TAFFY) Speciality Vocalists. This, E., Manchester; next, Palace, Belfast.

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BROADFOOTE, MARGUERITE, Oct. 10, Empire, Nottingham. All communications, E. Edelsten, 164, Drury-lane, W.C.

BROGAN, MASTER JOE, Original Singing Mill Boys. Great Success, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash. Next week, returns to Imperial Boys' Orchestra.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA) Dainty Comediennes and Dancers, usual success, Two Weeks, Liverpool. Oct 10, E., Hartlepool.

BROOKS, BROS. SISTERS BRAND. Sisters Brand at Liberty for Pantomime Address, 113, Lilford-road, Camberwell.

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BURGESS, CISSIE, Comedienne and Dancer, Stuart Quartette This Week Hippodrome, Dewsbury; next Week, Oldham.

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CARL and CARR, Comedians, in successful Comedy Act, "Workhouse." Oct. 10, P., Portsmouth (Third Return). Panto. settled, Ealing T., W.

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CARR and ROSE, the Cockney Yanks, in their Original Vocal Comedy Act, "Their First Quarrel." Finish, Tivoli, Dublin: next, Hippo., Ashton

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CAVILL'S AGENCY, 15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone 2,140, Royal.

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CEE-MEE FAMILY, London. Care of "The Era" Office.

CHANT and CHANT, Comedy Vocalists, Patterers, &c. Monday, Theatre Royal, Liverpool. Vacant Oct. 17, 31.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. Hippodrome, Blackpool. Free Oct. 17.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE), Palace, Blackburn. Monday Return, Palace, Halifax.

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CHEVALIER, FLO, Vocalist and Comedienne, Disengaged Panto. Offers invited. Principal Girl preferred. 739, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

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CLARENCE and BELL in J. Gar Kiddie's "A Little Coquette" Company. Panto. Vacant Oct. 10, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Tyrolean Songstress and Dancer. Dis. Monday. Wire, 4, Wilton-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

CLAVERING NITA at Liberty Pantomime. Principal Boy or Girl. Communications to 30, Albion-road, S.W.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, in "Last Night's Party." Big success this week Palace, Aberdeen. Next, Palace, Dundee.

CLEVELANDS, THE, Poole's Myriorama. Narbeth, S.W.

COHEN, KATIE, Vocalist. On Moss Tour. At Liberty Christmas London only. Care of "The Era."

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COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE, the Popular Singer of Sensible Songs, Park Palace, Liverpool. Vacant Oct. 10. 17. Wire 35, Russell-street.

CONWAY, DAN, and ALICE DORA. This week, Star, Permondsey; next, Gatti's.

COOKE, STEVE, Burlesque Comedian, on Tour. Theatre Royal, Oldham.

COOKSON, JOE, World's Great Vocal Ventriloquist. Tremendous Success, World's Fair, Dublin. Next, F., Wrexham. Booked by Leslie's Agency.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Sell Act. This, E., Sheffield; next E., Birmingham. Stoll Tour and Coliseum settled, 1906 7-8.

COVERDALE, of Charles Fame, is Alhambra, Belfasting, but not hungry. 'Scuse my little joke. Oct. 10, Empire, Wolverhampton.

COWPER, VERNON, Mr Albert Voyce's "Jack Sheppard" Company. Next week, Empire, Bow.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. New Empire, Wigan.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Transformation and Character Dancer, Address, care of "The Era."

CRESSWELLS, Instrumental and Vocal Turn (Two). Offers Panto. 77, Bristol-street, Manchester.

CREW, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW Comedian. (the Original). Return again, Monday, Palace, Croydon.

CRIS, Der Klina Komic Bowspreiker. What does it mean? I don't know. Looks well though.

CULLEN and CARTHY and LITTLE CLULEY, Enormous Success, E., Burnley. Howls, yells, and screams Palace, Blackburn.

CUMMINGER, the Acknowledged World's Record Sand Dancer, on Tour, in Latest "Gipsie Low, Actor." Agents, Day.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian. This, Palace, Aberdeen, return; next, Palace, Dundee.

CUTHBERT, MAUD Serio and Ballad Vocalist. Address, A. Robini, 3, Gatton-house, Pleasant-place, Essex-road, London, N.

DAGMARS, THE THREE, Acrobats and Tumblers, at Liberty Nov. 7. Next week Hippodrome, Brighton (Barrasford Tour).

DAINFE. E R., Comedy Circus, Ponies, Donkey, and Dogs. Grand, Bolton.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Gipsy and Character Duettists, big success, Empire, Rochdale. Agents, J. T. Smith and J. Verno.

DALE and D'ARGAN, Funny Acrobatic Conjurors. Thank W. B. Broadhead for Contracts. Oct. 10, Lyceum, Stafford.

DALTON'S AGENCY. First-class Acts always Required. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Negro Comedians and Expert Dancers, with Original Songs. Vacant Monday for Two Weeks Bk. 63, Sherbourne-rd., B'ham.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Trick Cyclists. Monarchs of the Wheel. This, South London and Empress. Next, Empire, Burnley.

DAVIES, TOM, TRIO, Whirling the Whirl. This week, Sadler's Wells; next week, Empire, Dublin. Moss Tour.

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W. Always Vacancies for Stars and Specialities.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Pedestal Risley Performers. Oct. 10, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

DE GRACIA'S Assam Elephants. Finest Elephant Acts, "Cricket" and "Le Coiffeur." Regent Theatre, Salford.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Tivoli, Dublin.

DELAMERE TRIO, THE, Original Comedy Equilibrists. Vacant 17th and 24th. Wire, 95, North-road, Preston.

DELEVINES, FIVE "Flirtation," New Empire, Dudley.

DEMI and SEMI, Musical Act Liberty Oct. 10; also Pantomime. 153, Percy-road, Canning-town.

DENHAM, MISS MILLIE, is delightful and charming.—Vide Press. Big Success, Hippodrome, Hastings. Monday, A., Brighton Panto settled.

DENHAM, TEDDY, Grand Theatre, Sheffield. Oct. 10 Palace, West Hartlepool.

DENMARK PAIR (FRED and FLORRIE), Premier Patterers, Finish Standard, Pimlico. Vacant Monday. 3, Lyme-terrace, N.W.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil, Actor-Vocalist, Empress, Hartlepool.

DE VOYE, JIMMY, and BILLY, the most Wonderful Educated Performing Pony breathing. Oct. 16, One Month, Circus Schumann, Berlin.

DEZMONTI and MORA, Ideal Exponents of Calisthenics. Paragon.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. Monday next, Palace, Bow. Monday next, Palace, Bow.

DON, EMMA, in Grand Vocal Scena, introducing her Black and White Quartet of Vocalists, Vacant Oct 17; also for Panto. Oct. 10, E., Dudley.

DONNA, AMY, concludes To-night, Seven Weeks Pavilion, Seaforth. Per. add., 309, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques Oxford, Middlesbrough. Oct. 10, Palace, Lincoln.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Empire, Birmingham. Oct. 10, Palace, Manchester Sole Agent, Tom Claxton.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Always a success. Agent, F. Higham.

DOUGLAS and DOUGLAS, Expert and Refined Risley Acrobats. Free Oct. 24, 31. Perm., 7, Busk Meadow-street, Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire.

DOVE, ETHEL, Gaiety, Chatham. Next week, Metropole, Camberwell.

DRYDEN, CISSIE Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Charming Child Vocalist and Graceful Dancer. Oct. 10, Parthenon, Liverpool.

DUNCAN and MORTON, in their Refined and Original Comedy Act "Stage Chums" by Harry Carmer. Coms., 13, Union-street, Hartlepool.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness, Oct. 1, Middlesex, a success; Oct. 10 Britannia, Hoxton. Communications, Fred Durham or Sam Hart.

DUNNING and KAHN and KAHN, The Two Finest Acts on Earth Monday, Palace, West Hartlepool.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE, Royal, Oldham. Oct. 10 Victoria, Broughton. Lib Panto., Principal Boy. First-class Offers only invited. Agent Bentley.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian. Big Success. Empire, Burnley. Next week, Paddington Liverpool. Thanks to Alf. Chester, Esq., for Song.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Specially Engaged, Great Colston Hall, Bristol.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. Liberty Oct 17 and 24. Address, Palace, Cork.

ELLAS, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Oct. 10 Hippodrome, Accrington.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, Comedian; FLORRIE BRAY, Comedienne, Open for Pantomime. This, Palace, Attercliffe; next, Hippodrome, Manchester.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Panto. Barons Note.—Dunville's "Earl of Fandangle-see" is the Real Thing. Rights, £2 2s. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians. Cyclists, &c. Address, 42, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough.

ELTONS, TWO, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians. Thanks for Offers. Pantomime settled with Arthur Milton, Esq. Monday, Westminster, Liverpool.

EMERY'S, CHARLES, EIGHT BELLES. Refined Singers and Dancers. For Dates, &c., 99, Honeywell-road, Wandsworth-common.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer, E., Kilburn, Fifth Return. Vacant 17th. Address, 3 Ivy-lane, Hoxton.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Vacant Oct. 10 and 17. Communications, 15, Harford-street, St. James's, Bristol.

ESDALE BROS, Comedians. Vacant Oct. 17 and 24 This week, Park Palace, Liverpool. Monday, Paddington Palace Liverpool, Wire.

ETHARDO, OTTO; MDLLE. PARDOE, Quaint Juggler, Speciality Dancer, and Acrobat. Big success, Tivoli, Kidderminster. Liberty Monday. Wire.

ETHERDOS, THREE, Lady Ladder Experts. Speciality for Pantomime. Vacant Nov. 14. 15, Upper Elmwood-street, Leeds. Agents required.

EVANS, WILL, Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond

FAWN, ADA, big success of New Song, "Second-hand Sarah," by Albert Hall. Oct. 10. Resting.

FERRIS and FARNLEY finish Queen's, Poplar, To-night. What a success! Monday, Cambridge Music Hall. Vacant Panto only.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Parkkeepers, the Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality Success, Hippo., Coventry. Verno. Verno.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS. Grand, Clapham, and Granville. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal,

FITZROYS, Society Gymnasts. Nov. 1, One Month, Nouveau Cirque, Paris. Agent, Macdermott.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Palace Theatre, Hull.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE. Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FOY, TOM, and COMPANY, the Great Laughter Makers. Palace, Dundee. Monday, Aberdeen.

FRANCISCO, Juggler, and MAY MOODIE, Piccolo Soloist. Gaiety, Oldham; next, Palace, Bristol. For Vacant Dates, Pacey and Reeves' Agency.

FRANTZ TROUPE, Ladies and Gentlemen Society Acrobats. All communications direct to M. Frantz, care of "The Era."

FRASETTIS, LES, South African and Australian Tour. Address, 9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREDRICKS', CARL, Royal Olympian Entertainers, until Thursday, T. H., Crediton; Saturday, the Market Hall, North Tawton.

FREIRE TROUPE, THE Acrobats, Tumblers, Double Risley, Living Carrousel (Original) On Tour. Permanent. 34 Rue de la Procession, Paris.

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue Queen's-park, London, W.

FYVIE, G. W. Saturday, Oct. 15, Harmonic Concerts, Clydebank. All letters, 6, Peel-street, London-road, Glasgow.

GANNON, NELLIE. Great success, Aberdeen. Monday, Palace, Dundee. New Songs. HARRY WRIGHT, ditto, Cheered to the Echo.

GEORGE and EDWARDS, Comedians and Dancers. This week, Paddington; next, Park, Liverpool. Fioni.

GERALDOS, THREE JUGGLING, Barrasford Tour till Christmas.

GERTRELLA, Dancer-Gymnast, concluded Nine Weeks, London Hippodrome. Empire, Leeds.

GILBERT'S Original Troupe of Dogs and Cats. Success, Theatre Royal, Warrington; Oct. 10, Empire, Rochdale. Splendid Electric Properties.

GILL, the Double-Voiced Speciality Comedian, with many Voices. Address, 53, Banks-street, Blackpool.

GILLIN, Unique Ventriloquial Humourist. Grand, Bolton. Monday, Hippodrome, Wigan. "Me Hat's Off."

GLADSTONE, IDA, Oct. 10, Alhambra, Hull. Pantomime, Principal Boy, Grand Nottingham.

GOLD, HARRY, Versatile Comedian. "Gold." Animated Song and Chorus. "Gold." Hippodrome, Accrington.

GOLIATH and WALFORD, the Best Strong Act Touring, Huge Success Nightly. Vacant Oct. 24. Wire, Hippodrome, Wigan.

GRAHAM, ERIC; MILLIE HARRIS, Comedian. Vocalist. 16, West Wynford-street, Weaste, Manchester.

GRAHAM, WALTER, the Human Marionette, "the Kilties are coming," written and composed by Minto. I'm first. Please Mr Pirate. Egyptian Hall, W.

GRAHAME, MISS GRACIE (of "Oh! Charlie" fame). Tivoli, Cape Town.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, "Buck-up" Comedians, Communications, the Café, Hartlepool.

GROVINIS, on tour. Address, care of "The Era" Office.

HAIG and NOVEL, Comedy Couple. Success, Lyric, Liverpool. Next week, Haymarket. Few Vacancies 1905. Coms. to above.

HAMILTON, BOB, Scotland's one and only Character Comedian and Instrumentalist. Scotch Concerts. Fioni, Liverpool. See Back Page.

HANNAWAY BROTHERS, Comedians, Dancers, thank Anderson and Sons, Contracts, Paisley, Greenock, Dundee, Glasgow, Scotch Tour.

HANVARR and ANNA LEE, "The Golfer and the Maid." Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HARDY, the American Blondin. "King of the High Rope." Address, 126, Doggett-road, Catford, London.

HARLAND and ROLLISON. Finish To-night, Hippodrome, Accrington. Monday, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash. Vacant Oct. 17 and 24.

HARRIS and WORTH, Palace, Glasgow.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Library-road (opposite Brixton Theatre), Brixton. Telephone Number 1,018, Hop.

HARVEY BOYS, the Unrivalled Boxing Comedians. Sensation Stoll Tour. Empire, Newport.

HASTINGS, JOE, Famous Jumper, taking well-earned rest. Thanks Brammall, Lloyd Quinton Gibson, and Algie for contracts. Bournbrook, Birmingham.

HEATON, MISS GEORGIE, Refined Male Impersonator, Liberty 17th and 26th. Communications, 46, Uxbridge-street, Burton-on-Trent.

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical Marvel and Concertina Soloist. Monday, Palace, Northampton. First Vacancy April 24

HENDERSON and STANLEY QUARTETTE, in their Up-to-Date Acrobatic Musical Act. 6, Sidney-street, Manchester.

HENRIETTE, MDLLE., the Beautiful Young 'Cellist, &c. Touring. An Act without an equal.

HENRIQUES, THREE, Comedy Acrobats, Vacant One Week, Nov. 14 and Dec. 5; also Panto. Address, Theatre, Hyde. Boy Required, for Acrobat

HERALD COMEDY FOUR still at Liberty for Pantomime. Euston

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist. All communications, 19, Buckland-street, New North-road, N. R. Warner.

HEWITT and RITCHIE, Comedy Eccentrics, in New Act, "Macpherson's Holiday." Concluded 20 weeks' Aberdeen Pierrots. This E., Paisley, N.B.

HIAWATHAS, EIGHT, at Liberty Oct. 10 Novel and Unique Musical Act. 43, Marsala-road, Lewisham.

HILL, BARRY, and LANG, Eccentric Sketch Comedians success, Boro' T., N. Shields. Mon., Alhambra, Attercliffe. Lib. Oct. 17. Wire.

HILL, ROWLAND the Curious Comedian, Metropole Theatre Gateshead. Pantomime settled.

HILTON, FLORENCE, London's Star Male Impersonator. Success E., Hartlepool. Monday, T., S. Shields. Thanks to Mr Burns for Contracts.

HILTON and HILTON, Comedy Bar Comedians. All communications, 47, Nuttall-street, Liverpool.

HINTON and WOOTON, Starring South Africa. Permanent address, 142, Leicester-st., Wolverhampton.

HOOK, WALTER W. 1,307th Consecutive Show New Century Pictures. Annual Visit, Circus, Hull.

HOPE, F., Sensational Trick Cyclist. Vacant Oct. 10 and 17. 8, Bridgeman-street, Walsall.

HOUDINI, the Jail Breaker. Address, care of "The Era."

HOUGHTON, CHAS. HY., Dramatic and Variety Agent. 29, Waterloo-road, London (near the Strand) Est. 1883 'Phone, 3 959 Central.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH and NELLIE). Letters, 27, St. Laurence-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

HUGOS (RAY and NISH), Intensely Funny Sketches, "A Draughty House," "No Oats." Per., 12, Patteson-st., Kensington, Liverpool.

HULA, SISTERS, Vocalists and Expert Dancers, at Liberty Nov. 21, 28, and Dec 5. Address, Oct. 10, Palace, Croydon.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and DE LIL, Illusionist. Vacant Oct. 17, Nov. 14, 21, 28. Monday next, Palace, Cork.

HUMBER, FANNIE, concludes Hippo., Mountain Ash; Oct. 10, Hippo., Ton-y-pandy.

HUNTER, G. W., Comedian and Raconteur. Address, care of "The Era"

HURMAN, Juggler and Hoop Manipulator, this week, Britannia, London. Next week, Grand, Manchester. Barrasford Tour. No Vacancies

HURST W. G., the Wonderful Cat, at Liberty for Fêtes and Galas, Two Acts. Address, Osborne-terrace, New Brighton.

HUXTER, THREE BROTHERS, Emphatic Success, Apollo Theatre, Dusseldorf, Germany. Per., 10, Middle-street, Worcester.

HYAM, GEORGE, Comedian, Pavilion, Leicester. Monday, Palace, Bath. Panto. settled. Also NELLIE ROSE, Comedienne.

MISS ISABEL INNES
(Mrs John Humphries),
Mildred, "First-class."

MISS CLARA JECKS.
Address,
care of "The Era" Office; or, A.A.

MISS ISA JOHNSON
Disengaged.
A.A., 10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MISS RHODA KILDARE
at Liberty for Town or good Tour.
Address, 4, Bloomsbury-square, W.C.

MISS WINIFRED LEESON,
as Polly Patcham, in "For Ever."
Grand, Islington.

MRS. HENRY LEIGH.
Change of Address,
2, The Woodlands, Langton-road, Vassall-road, S.W.

MISS STELLA LEIGH
Disengaged, Lead in Comedy or Drama.
5, Upper Westbourne-terrace, W.

MISS ALICE LEON,
Sylvia, in "The Cherry Girl."
Theatre Royal, Preston.

MISS MINNIE LESLIE Disengaged now and Pantomime. Offers invited. Louie Freear Parts, Boys. Devonport Fold, Harwood, near Bolton.

MISS ADELINE LESTER.
Lady Diana Porchester, "Saturday to Monday" Co. Disengaged December. Dorking and St. Albans.

MISS GRACE LESTER.
Address,
General Post-office, Gainsborough, until Oct. 22

MISS HENRIETTA LEVERETT,
Mrs Denbigh, in "The Bugle Call," Messrs Bright and Maxwell's "Little Mary" Co. Oct. 17, C. T., Reading.

MISS EMILY LEVETTEZ,
"A Country Mouse" Company.
Oct. 17, Opera House, Crouch-end.

MISS MIRIAM LEWES
thanks Mr Arthur Eldred for Offer, Gipsy Vandeleur, "The Night of the Party." Luton and Bedford.

MISS CORA LINDA
Disengaged Oct. 24, termination of Tour. Lead, Juvenile Lead, Comedy. Star, Swansea; Met., Devonport.

MISS KITTY LOFTING,
with Leonard Rayne, Esq., South Africa.
Address letters, Actors' Association.

MISS VIOLET LUDDINGTON,
Juvenile Lead, "A Path of Thorns" Company.
Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, York.

MISS KEITH LYTTON,
Specially Engaged by John A. Walker, Esq., "Why Smith Left Home," Carlton Theatre, Greenwich, Oct 17.

MISS MAUD M. MAGRATH,
Engaged by Mr Leon M. Lion,
Mrs De Trafford in "The Edge of the Storm."

MISS MABEL MAINWARING,
Princess Pitti-Pat (Lead). "A Chinese Idyl."
Oct. 17, Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

MISS BESSIE MAJOR
at Liberty.
Address, 2, St. Mary's-square, Paddington, W.; or, A.A.

MISS GLADYS MAKEHAM
Concluded Third Engagement with Arthur Bourchier, Esq. 320, New-cross-road, S.E.

MRS. CHARLES MALTBY,
Miss Ada Reeves's Tour, "Winnie Brooke, Widow."
Kennington, Oct. 17.

MISS MARA MALTBY
at Liberty.
10, King-street, W.C.

MISS PHYLLIS MANNERS
Disengaged. Principal Comedy or Heavies.
131, St. George's-road, Southwark; or, A.A.

MISS ALICE MANSFIELD.
Address,
18, Munster-road, Fulham, S.W.

MISS BEATRICE MARSDENE at Liberty for Ingénues, Juveniles, and Light Comedy Rôles. Perm., Oakfield, Chepstow-road, Newport, Mon.

MISS MARIE M'AULAY,
Messrs W. and F. Melville's Stock Season,
Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, S.E.

MISS LIZZIE MAYNARD
Teaches every Description of Stage Dancing.
Flat 2, Oxford-house, 87, Great Titchfield-street, W.

MISS ALICE MAZZONI,
Leading Business. Disengaged now and for Christmas. Address, 24, Elgin-street, Birkenhead.

MISS CONNIE MEADOWS,
Vera Dalmond, "A Victim of Villainy," Messrs Atkin and Howe's Company. Oct. 17, Radcliffe.

MISS CONSTANCE MEDWYN,
Starring as the Worst Woman in London, Mr W. Melville's Company. Oct 17, Ipswich.

MISS BERYL MERCER,
Miss Lena Ashwell's Company.
Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Newcastle.

MISS SASH MILLWARD
at Liberty for Amateur or Special Engagements.
126, Nicholas-street, Norwich.

MISS EMMIE MILSTED,
the Big Hit as Princess Stephanie (Coloured), in "A Chinese Idyl." Oct 17, Theatre, Widnes.

MISS LOUISE MOODIE,
Returned from America, Disengaged. Address, letters only, 68, Weltje-road, Ravenscourt-park, W.

MISS HELEN MOSLEY,
Juvenile Lead, Disengaged.
6, Monkton-street, Kennington-road, London.

MISS DAISY MURCH, Edward Terry's Company, Emotional Lead, Marion Burnside, &c. G. T., Birmingham. Vacant Dec. 12. Agent, Blackmore.

MISS TESSA MYERS
Disengaged. Ingénues, Light Comedy.
Demesne-road, Alexandra-park, Manchester.

MADAME DE NAUCAZE,
Baroness Pitchioli, "Flood Tide." Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield. Disengaged shortly, end of Tour. Address, A.A.

MISS FLORENCE NELSON,
Leading Business. Disengaged.
73, Munster-road, Fulham, S.W.; or, A.A.

MISS CLARA NICHOLLS,
Mrs Callender, "The Christian."
Theatre Royal, Bilston, Oct 17.

MISS OLIVE NOBLE.
66, Holbein House,
Sloane-square, S.W.

MISS LILLA NORDON,
Kitty Spencer, "One of the Best."
Oct. 17, Empire Theatre, Southend.

MISS BLANCHE NORMAN
Disengaged until December. Principal, Chorus.
Address, 4, Burleigh-mansions, Charing-cross, W.C.

MISS NELL OLIVER, Hardie and Von Leer's "Two Little Vagabonds" Company. This week, M. T., Birmingham; next, G. T., Swansea.

MISS KATE OSBORNE
Concluded Third Tour with "Whitewashing Julia" Co. Disengaged. 17, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-rd., S.W.

MISS HELEN PALGRAVE
"Master of Kingsgift."
Avenue Theatre.

MISS ADA PALMER,
"A Modern Judas" Co. Oct. 17, Boscombe.
78, Merton-road, Wimbledon.

MISS MARGARET PARKER,
Smudgee, in "The Never-Never Land."
Oct. 17, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

MISS EMILY PATTERSON,
Touring South Africa. Returning early Spring.
Address, care of "The Era" Office.

MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT
Disengaged.
Address, 239, King's-road, Chelsea.

MISS DOROTHY PAYN,
Mrs Pineapple, in "A Chinese Honeymoon."
Address, Actors' Association

MISS LOUISA PEACH,
Lead, "Harvest of Sin."
Theatre Royal, Jarrow, Oct. 17.

MISS MOLLY PEARSON.
Season at Royalty Terminated.
Address, Chertsey, Surrey.

MISS JOAN PEREIRA,
Disengaged. Dramatic Readings of "Sister Beatrice" and "Hannale." 64, Charlwood-street, S.W.

MISS IDA PHILLIPS Sailing for Jamaica with Messrs Bandmann and Dallas's Répertoire Co. Oct. 22, Perm, 1, Tavistock-square, W.C.

MISS CISSIE PODMORE, Baldie Mansfield, "Beautiful Avenger" Co. Mrs MARY VERE, Old Women, Disengaged. T. R., North Shields.

MISS DORA PRICE Recovered from serious illness. Resuming Part, "What a Woman Did," shortly. 21, Stafford-street, Liverpool.

MISS ADELINE RABY,
Grace Curtis, "A London Fireman" Company.
En route; or, 96, Hereford-road, W., London.

MISS LYDIA RACHEL
Disengaged. Comedy or Character.
14, Courtney-gardens, Wimbledon-park, S.W.

MISS ROSE RALPH
Oct. 17, Susan Merton, "Never Too Late to Mend."
Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

MISS VARA RENNY,
Mr Edward Terry's Company.
Oct. 17, Grand, Birmingham.

MISS GRACE RICHARDSON
Disengaged.
Glentworth, Palmer's-green, N.

MISS MARIE RIGNOLD
Disengaged. Juvenile or Heavy Lead,
Permanent address, Blaxland House, Hornsey, N.

MISS KATHLEEN RIND,
Juvenile Lead with Mr Norman V. Norman.
Oct 17, Opera House, Cork.

MISS CONSTANCE ROBERTSON,
Engaged by E. Harcourt Williams, Esq., for Beatrice, Rosalind, &c. Rosetti-mansions, Cheyne-walk, S.W.

MISS EAST ROBERTSON,
Starring in "A Woman's Pluck,"
Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MISS MARIE ROBSON
(Mrs Graham Woods), "Between Two Women" Co.
Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MISS LILIAN ROSEBERY,
Lola Vane (Lead), "A Traitor Prince."
Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

MISS ADELAIDE ROSS
Disengaged.
279, Mere-road, Highfields, Leicester.

MISS LILIAN ROSS, Ruth Milford, Walter Melville's "Worst Woman in London" Co. This, Theatre Royal, Eastbourne; next, Ipswich.

MISS ETHEL RUSSELL,
Miss Smith, "Why Smith Left Home."
Oct. 17, Greenwich Theatre, S.E.

MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL,
Maria, "Flood Tide." Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.
Disengaged Oct. 23. Lead.

MISS NESTA SANDFORD
Disengaged. Lead or Heavies.
10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MISS NELL M. SARGENT
Vacant Now and for Autumn. Juvenile, Comedy Character, Drama. Golden-grove, Douglas-road, Cork.

MISS MARGARET SAVILL Thanks Mr Ian Maclaren for offer of Re-engagement. Dis. Juv. Light Com. Perm. Add., 3, Clements-inn, W.C.

MISS MARIE SCHARNING
On Tour, Mrs. Waring, in "There and Back."
Address, 136, Camden-road, London, N.W.

MISS GERTRUDE SCOTT,
Leading and Heavy Leading Parts with Mr F. R. Benson. 17th, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MISS ELLA SENNETT,
Queenie, "When London Sleeps."
New Theatre, Seaham Harbour.

MISS RUTH SHEPHERD,
Countess Wanda, Title-rôle,
Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Assassin" Company.

MISS LUCY SIBLEY,
Donna Lucia, Mr W. S. Penley's "Charley's Aunt" Company. 7, Gainsborough-house, Lithos-road, N.W.

MISS FLORENCE SMITHERS,
1,000th Performance as Jane, "Dandy Doctor" Tour.
Grand Theatre, Doncaster. Pantomime, P., Manchester.

MISS FLORENCE SMITHSON,
Prima Donna. Great success Nanoya.
"The Cingalee." Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

MRS. HARRY STARR
(Miss Ethel Danbury), "Otto the Outcast" Co.
Communications, Court Theatre Wigan

MISS BLANCHE STEELE,
W. H. Hallatt's "Two Little Sailor Boys."
Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, Oct. 17, Six Nights.

MISS MARION STERLING,
"The Master of Kingsgift," Aristocratic and Character Old Women. 53, West-square, St. George's-rd., S.E.

MISS GERTRUDE STERROLL
at Liberty Oct 24.
Address, A.A., 10, King-street, W.C.

MISS EDITH STEWART
Disengaged.
Address, 26, Dancer-road, Fulham, S.W.

MISS GWEN STEWART, Dual-role, Lady Margaret Luttrell and Mistress Grey, "No Cross, No Crown" Co. Oct. 17, Stafford and Ilkeston.

MISS EMMA STOCKLEY
Disengaged. Lead.
Coningsby House, Staines.

MISS CONSTANCE STEPHENS,
Lavinia, "Why Smith Left Home."
Greenwich Theatre, S.E.

MISS MAUD E. STONER.
Address,
39, Hampton-place, Brighton.

MISS MARY STUART.
Address,
144, Alexandra-road, S. Hampstead, N.W., and A.A.

MISS AGNES THOMAS,
Engaged for Judy, in G. Bernard Shaw's New Play, "John Bull's other Island," Court T., S.W., Six Matinées.

MISS MURIEL THOMPSON,
Heavy Lead, "Judy" Company. Dis. Oct. 29 for few weeks. Oct 17, T. R., Chesterfield.

MISS MARGUERITE THORNE,
Miss NELLIE THORNE-HALLAM, Mrs O'Brien and Mary Manners. This, Blackburn. Oct 24, Atteroliffe.

MRS. JAMES E. THURLOW Disengaged.
Aristocratic or Comedy Old Woman. Drama, Musical Comedy, or Panto. 10, The Albany, Camberwell, S.E.

MISS MAUDE TREMAYNE.
Address,
Theatre Royal, Bolton.

MISS MARION TURNER, as Henriette, Messrs Dottridge and Longden's "King of Crime" Co. Next Week, Alexandra, Hull.

MISS ELLA VANE
Disengaged. Leading Business.
Fern Villa, Southbank-road, Southport.

MISS HILDA VAUGHAN.
Address,
Criterion Theatre, W.

MISS LUCIE VERRIER
Disengaged.
14, Cicada-road, Wandsworth-common; or, A.A.

MISS MURIEL VOX,
Janet Marlow, "Woman and Wine" Company.
Theatre Royal, Leeds.

MISS MARION WAKEFORD,
Joan, in "Home, Sweet Home" (her Original Part).
Address, Opera House, Dudley.

MISS HELENA WALBRAN,
as Alice Cavanagh (Lead), "A Victim of Villainy."
Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Radcliffe, Six Nights.

MISS LAURA WALKER,
as Cigarette, "Under Two Flags."
Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MISS ANENA WALTON,
Cen-Cen, Messrs E. Bill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Co. "The Traitor." Prince's T., Portsmouth.

MISS WARD,
Honor Symes, in "Her Fatal Past."
Address, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Wolverhampton.

MISS GERTRUDE WARDEN,
care of Messrs Burchell, Wilde, and Co., Solicitors Members'-mansions, Victoria-street, S.W.

MISS NELLIE V. WARDEN,
Mary Mopps (with Specialities), "Cissy" Tour.
Disengaged for Christmas. 54, Gurney-street, S.E.

MISS MARGARET WATSON
Disengaged. Leading Business.
23, Netherton-grove, Chelsea, S.W.

MISS FRANCES WETHERALL,
Mr John Hare's Company.
Oct. 17, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MISS KATHLEEN WILLOUGHBY,
Gladys, "Harvest of Sin" Company.
Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

MISS OLIVE WILTON,
Mr Edward Terry's Tour.
Oct. 17, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

MISS AMY WOOD and LITTLE AMY MANFREE, Tabitha and Cissie Denver, "The Silver King" Company. Oct. 17, Crown T., Peckham.

MRS. CHAS. WOOD,
Biddy Maloney, "Alone in London," Mr J. F. Elliston's Company, Colchester. Oct. 17, Grand, Islington.

MISS VASHTI WYNNE, Juvenile Lead,
"The Temptress" Company. Good offers invited for Spring. Address, West London Theatre.

MISS ROSAMOND MAYNE YOUNG,
Address,
10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. and MRS. FRED ACTON, also Miss WINNIE ACTON, "A Fight for Millions" Company. Theatre Royal, Greenock.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED,
Tigellinus, Mr W. Greet's Company.
Oct. 17th, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. S. KING ALEXANDER
invites offers from Colonies or America.
New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

MR. A. HYLTON ALLEN,
Clement Hale, &c., with Mr Edward Terry,
Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. EDWARD E. ASHBY,
Juvenile Leading Business, "A Woman's Pluck" Tour. Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. HARRY ASHFORD
and Miss HARRIET TRENCH,
"Are You a Mason?" Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

MR. WILLIE ATOM, Small Comedian, 4ft. 4in., no Deformities, Comedy Boy Parts Speciality. Sing and Dance Coms. to 26, St. George's-road, Brighton.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE,
Horace Parker, "A Message from Mars," Starkey's Company. Theatre Royal, Darwen, Six Nights.

MR. MAURICE E. BANDMANN,
Annual Tour of the World.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY,
Manager of the Palace, Walthamstow.
Address, Parkside, The Drive, Walthamstow.

MR. HARRY BARFORD,
Ebenezer Skindle, "Tommy Atkins,"
Pavilion Theatre, E.

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT.
Address,
79, Sterndale-road, Brook-green, W.

MR. and MRS. H. H. BARRINGTON, enormous success, Lord Banglesea and Mrs Slater, "Servants Wanted," Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

MR. J. J. BARTLETT
Disengaged. Town or Good Tour.
Address, 12, Angel-road, Hammersmith.

MR. A. W. BASKCOMB,
as Terence Reilly and Lord Plumleigh, in
"Little Mary." Oct. 17, County Theatre, Reading.

MR. ARTHUR BAWTREE,
General Ivanoff, "The Broken Melody."
Oct. 17, Broadway Theatre, Deptford.

MR. and MRS. HENRY BEAUFORT
(Miss Sylvia Bowyer). All communications,
216, Southwark-bridge-road, S.E.

MR. and MRS. LESLIE BEAUFORT
(Carrie Ellis), Lead or Heavies. Miss C. E., "I Defy the World" Company. Oct. 17, Lancaster.

MR. CHARLES B. BEDELLS,
Lord Robert Ure, "The Christian."
Theatre Royal, Bilston, Six Nights.

MR. HENRY BELDING,
Mr James Welch's Company, "The New Clown,"
Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, Oct. 17.

MR. SIDNEY BELTRAM,
Acting-Manager.
Address, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. EDMOND BERESFORD
Disengaged.
Address, 100, Stroud-green-rd., Finsbury-park, N.; or, A.A.

MR. IVAN BERLYN,
"Madame Sherry" Tour.
Disengaged Oct. 29. Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. GEORGE BEVERLEY Disengaged for Pantomime. Part and Stage-Management. Excellent refs. Address, 70B, Jackson-street, Coatbridge, N.B.

MR. J. S. BLYTHE
Disengaged.
12, Avington-grove, Penge, S.E.

MR. ARTHUR BOLTON,
Tom Hewley, "The Never Never Land."
Oct 17, Grand, Halifax.

MR. J. H. BOOTH,
Jim Price, in "A Path of Thorns."
Address, en route.

MR. CHARLES BOULT,
Captain Harold Montrevor, in "When Darkness Falls," Mr William Bourne's Co, G.P.O., Stalybridge.

MR. EDWARD H. BOWEN Concluded Engagement with Leonard Pagden, Esq. At Lib. for Juveniles and Light Comedy. 10, King-st., Covent-gdn.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN,
Doctor Juttner, "Old Heidelberg."
Disengaged November. Theatre Royal, Dublin.

MR. and MRS. T. B. BRABAZON,
Hop-picker and Mrs Buzzard, "In the Ranks."
Prospect House, Park View-road, Bradford.

MR. RICHARD BRENNAND
Disengaged.
Address, 11, Windmill-street, W.; or, Agents.

MR. E. OSWALD BROOKS,
on Tour with own Co., "The New Housemaid."
Oct. 17, Galway; 20, Limerick.

MR. and MRS. W. RUDDLE BROWN
(Miss Nelly Howitt) at Liberty.
10, Clarendon-gardens, Maida-vale, W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E BURDETT,
Own Tour with "The Indian Mutiny."
Oct. 17, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

MR. JOHN BURTON,
King, Gratiano, Mercutio, Squire Chase, Touchstone, Cassius, and Beauséant. Lyceum, Eccles.

MR. HENRY BUTE
thanks Mr Percy Hutchison for kindly releasing him. Engaged to produce "The Night of the Party."

MR. HARRY T. BUTLER,
At Liberty Nov. 21. Sight or Eccentric Comedy.
Oct. 17, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MR. JOHN CABOURN
at Liberty.
1, Lancaster-road, Hampstead, N.W.

MR. VERNON WILLOX CADOGAN
and Miss RUTH WINGROVE Disengaged.
99, Albert-bridge-road, Battersea-park, S.W.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE.
H. C., Mr Willard's Tour. Mrs Cane at Liberty.
Town or Suburbs. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.

MR. and MRS. G. CANNINGE.
Address,
124, Whittington-road, Bowes-park, N.

MR. JOSEPH CARTER,
Captain Leo, "A Village Blacksmith" Company.
Grand Theatre, Cardiff.

MR. LESLIE CARTER,
as Jim Larrabee, "Sherlock Holmes."
Oct 17, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

MR. H. CARTER-BLIGH at Liberty
owing to Termination of "Whitewashing Julia" Tour
Address, 6, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's-park.

MR. LEWIS CASSON,
Pico del Amare, "Prayer of the Sword."
Adelphi Theatre.

MR. DOUGLAS CECIL,
Captain Darville, "Two Little Vagabonds."
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

MR. GORDON CHASEMORE,
Costume Designer,
Foy Boat Hotel, Ramsgate.

MR. ARTHUR CHESNEY,
now Playing Mr Bourchier's Part in
"The Conversion of Nat Sturge," Garrick Theatre.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE CHILD
(Frances Bruce), Engaged for their Original Parts in "The World's Desire." 1, Milton-road, Hanwell, W.

MR. and MRS JOHNNY CHIPPENDALE (Mattie Everett), "Temptress" Co.
Oct. 17, West London Theatre.

MR. J. H. CLYNDES,
"A Royal Revenge."
Theatre Royal, Batley.

MR. CECIL A. COLLINS
Disengaged Dec. 12th. Address,
3, Bedford-street, Strand; or, A.A.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS,
Jack Felton (Lead), "Worst Woman in London."
Oct. 17, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich, Six Nights.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON
Disengaged for Heavy Lead and Old Men.
52, Cambridge-mansions, Battersea-park, S.W.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON A capital caricature.—The Era. Dis. Christmas, Suburbs or Tour, Light and Character Com. Oct. 17, G., Manchester.

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Principal Comedian, Disengaged.
197, Westminster-bridge-road, S.E.

MR. TOM W. CONWAY
at Liberty for Pantomime, Dame. Two Years T. R., Manchester. 9, Elm-park-road, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. J. W. CORDINER,
General Manager for Henry Swinerd, Esq.
Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Dover.

MR. ERNEST COSSART,
Tony Lumpkin, &c., Miss Fortescue's Company.
Disengaged for Panto. Oct. 17, Luton (Three), Bedford.

MR. VERNON COWPER,
Blueskin, in "Jack Sheppard."
Oct. 17, Sadler's Wells.

MR. ERNEST H. G. COX,
Marquis De Presles, "The Two Orphans;" Green Jones, "The Ticket-of-Leave Man." Leeds; next, Hull.

MR. W. HERBERT COX,
Sowerberry, in "Garrick," at Woking.
13, Clifford's-inn, E.C.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, Oct. 17.
Disengaged end of November. Offers Invited.

MR. REGINALD CROFT,
Engaged by Norman V. Norman, Esq., Autumn Tour.
Oct. 17, Opera House, Cork.

MR. JULIAN CROSS,
Standard Theatre. Disengaged December.
Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. CLIVE CURRIE
King Louis XI, Frank Fenton's "If I were King" Company. Next Week, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

MR. CHARLES DAVIES
terminates Seven Years' Engagement, Oct. 29.
Stage-Manager, Palace, Manchester. Disengaged.

MR. COLEMAN DAVIES Dis. Panto. Last Xmas, Baron, Princess's, Glasgow. Great success. 1, Seagrave-street, Newcastle, Staffs.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE,
Mr St. Alban's "Les Cloches."
Barrow-in-Furness. Disengaged Christmas.

MR. FRANK H. DENTON.
Address,
Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

MR. CLARENCE DERWENT, F. R. Benson Principal Co. Feste, Horatio, Oliver, Tranio, Benvolio, Backbite, &c. Prince's, Bristol.

MR. GEORGE DESMOND,
Returned from Australia. Disengaged.
Glenholme, Mansfield-road, Ilford.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MARY AINSLIE. Arrangements complete.
Communications, 2, St. George's-square, N.W.

MR. and MRS. KAY DRACO
(Miss Mimi Fisher). K. D., Manager, Geo. Dance's "Duchess of Dantzic." Oct. 17th, Woolwich.

MR. WELLESLEY DRAPER,
Messrs Mitchelson and Fineberg's Company.
Prince's, Portsmouth, Six Nights

MR. J. MALCOM DUNN.
Address, care of George Musgrove, Esq.
Princess's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Business-Manager, at Liberty.
Address, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

MR. T. W. DUNSCOMBE,
Paul Gouffet, "The Face at the Window."
Oct. 17, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. CHARLES A. EAST,
Lead, Heavies, Character, or Stage-Management. Dis. Oct. 24. 17, Adie-road, The Grove, Hammersmith, W.

MR. FELIX EDWARDES,
Engaged to support Mr Nat Goodwin. Letters, care of Low's Exchange, 1,123, Broadway, New York City.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST C. EDWARDS
(Miss Bella Power) at Liberty Christmas for Comedy Old Men and Women or Character. Grand T., Glasgow.

MR. JAMES ENGLISH, Character, Intense or Comedy, Heavies, and Old Men. Vacant now.
94, St. Clement's-road, Saltley, Birmingham.

MR. ANTHONY FAWCETT,
George Fisher, in Messrs Edwardes and Frohman's "Are You a Mason?" Co. Next, T. R., Blackburn.

MR. ARTHUR FAYNE,
Polonius, Aguecheek, Gremio, Capulet, Adam, Crabtree, Shallow, &c., F. R. Benson's North Company.

MR. EDWARD FENTON,
Lieut. Pelham, "A Soldier and a Man."
Oct. 17, Star Theatre, Swansea.

MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD,
Captain Stent, "The Edge of the Storm,"
Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Disengaged Oct. 30.

MR. HUGH FLEMING,
Advance Director, G. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company, T. R., Brighton.

MR. ROBERT FORSYTH
at Liberty. Town or Good Tour.
17, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, S.W.

MR. GEORGE FRANKLIN
at Liberty Oct. 22.
Rosenlain, Rickmansworth, Herts.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE,
Address,
Theatre Royal, Bedford Leigh.

MR. KEITH FRASER
at Liberty for Christmas.
Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

MR. FRANK FREELAND,
Character Actor, Song, Sketch, and Panto. Writer.
Public Hall, Hastings.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD FULTON
(Miss Gertrude Evans), Lazare, Madeleine and Adrienne, in "Proof." Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS,
as Captain Lebaudy,
"The Mariners of England" Co. Grantham.

MR. W. V. GARROD,
the Spider, "The Silver King."
Theatre Royal, Stockton.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY
(Kitty Jones), on Tour.
All communications, 86, St. George's-rd., Peckham, S.E.

MR. JOHN GERANT.
Address,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD,
Prince Kara, Mr Tree's North Company, "The Darling of the Gods." Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

MR. and MRS. LEWIS GILBERT
(Lina Nazeby), Star Lead and Heavy, "I Defy the World." Liberty shortly. Oct. 17, Athenæum, Lancaster.

MR. FRANCIS GLYNN,
Tenor, The Close, Stratton St. Margaret, Near Swindon, Wiltshire. Telegrams, "Glynn, Stratton St. Margaret."

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
Lead, in "A Sailor's Sweetheart,"
Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

MR. J. LYNWARD GRAHAME,
Szentes Istvan, "The Edge of the Storm."
Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Disengaged Oct. 30.

MR. HERBERT GREVILLE,
Oct. 17,
West Pier Pavilion, Brighton.

MR. HARRY A. GRIBBEN,
Relinquished Engagement with Stanley Rogers, Esq. At Liberty now and Christmas 41, Airedale-av., Chiswick.

MR. FRED GROVE,
Terence Reilly, "Little Mary," Mr John Hare's Company. Shakespeare, Liverpool. Disengaged Nov. 28.

MR. LAURENCE GROVE,
Frank Fenton's "If I Were King" Company.
Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

MR. GEOFFREY GUISE,
Gaiety Theatre,
Manchester.

MR. EDMUND GWENN,
arrives in England shortly from Australia. Address, care of Arthur Chesney, Esq., 9, Adam-street, Adelphi.

MR. CHARLES HALLING,
Colonel Jules Meuron, "Napoleon the Great."
New Theatre Royal, Hyde.

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MR. W. HARGREAVES
as Cattermole, "Private Secretary," Farewell Tour.
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MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
"A Country Mouse" Company.
Oct. 17, Opera House, Crouch-end, N.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. HARRINGTON,
on Tour with own Company. Marina, Lowestoft.
Peterborough to follow.

MR. JULIAN HARTLEIGH
Disengaged.
Address, 121, London-road, Croydon.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
Sir Tristram Marden, "Dandy Dick," Special Week.
Oct. 17, County Theatre, Kingston.

MR. and MRS. T. P. HAYNES
(Miss Rosie Lewis), "Broken Melody" Company.
Broadway Theatre, Deptford.

MR. EDWARD HEANLEY,
Francis Levison, with Henry Dundas, Special Two Weeks. Disengaged Oct. 30. Actors' Association.

MR. and MRS. HENRY HERNE,
"No Man's Land" Tour.
Theatre Royal, Stockton.

MR. DALZIEL HERON,
Lord Jura, Joseph Surface, &c., Miss Fortescue's Co. 17th, Grand T., Luton; 20th, County T., Bedford.

MR. A. T. HILTON
Disengaged, Old Men, &c.
Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. E. BASIL HOBSON,
Acting-Manager, "As Midnight Chimes,"
Grand T., Brighton. Oct. 24, P. O. W., Southampton.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY,
Iago, De Mauprat, Chateau-Renaud, &c.
Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

MR. CHARLES HOMER
Disengaged. Heavies, Juveniles, Baritone.
45, Bristol-street, Birmingham.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD.
Address,
Chez Nous, Churt, near Farnham, Surrey.

MR. ALFRED H. HOOK,
Acting-Manager, Mr A. B. Cross's "Manxman" Company. Oct. 17, New Theatre Royal, West Stanley.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE, Eccentric and Light Comedian. Disengaged in December, Mus. Com. or Pantomime. Prince's Theatre, Accrington. Blackmore.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE HOWARD
(Miss Clara Earle), with Edward Terry, Esq.
Oct. 17, Grand Theatre, Birmingham, Six Nights.

MR. WILSON HOWARD and MISS C. ANSON (Mr W. H.) Lead and S.-Man., Heavy Lead. Christmas Offers invited. Oct. 17, T. R., Coatbridge.

MR. A. B. IMESON.
Offers Invited.
A.A., 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner), Mrs Lewis Waller's "Vilma Company. Oct. 17, Alexandra Theatre, N.

MR. POWELL JAMES, Business-Manager and Capt. Salem, Chas. A. Chandler's "Bells of Haslemere" Co. This, Brixton; next, Kidderminster.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. E. JOHNSON, Business-Manager and Lead, "Heart of a Hero" Company, Margate.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Orsino, Horatio, Oliver, Lorenzo, Faulkland, Hastings, Benvolio, Host, &c., Mr F. R. Benson's North Company.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES, Touring "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "The Girl of My Heart." Perm., 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. and MRS. THEODORE JONES (A. Mansfield), Col. and Mrs Jackson, in "Why William Lied." Opera House, Leigh.

MR. F. JOYNSEN-POWELL Disengaged. 49, Waldemar-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MR. CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe. Directing "I Defy the World" Tour.

MR. WHITFORD KANE, Jacky, in "Sunday" (North Company). Address, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MR. OGILVY KEITH. Address, Charlmont, Western-parade, Southsea.

MR. C. B. KESTON at Liberty Oct. 24, end of Tour. Oct 17, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

MR CLAUDE KING, Leading Business, "A Path of Thorns" Company. Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, York.

MR. CECIL KLEIN Disengaged. Juvenile and Comedy Leads. Address, 47, Wyoming-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

MR. and MRS ARTHUR KNIGHT (Miss Edith Knight). King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

MR. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT, Starring as Jules Delarnet, "A Disgrace to Her Sex" Company, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham-junction.

MR. PHILIP F. KNOX Disengaged, London only. 19, Southfield-gardens, Strawberry-hill, S.W.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE Good offers invited, Heavy or Character. 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard; 10, King-street, London, W.C.

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE, Manager and Stage Director, Mr Mouillot's "Geisha" and "Greek Slave" Company. Grand Theatre, Hull.

MR ARTHUR LAW-RAYNOR, General Manager for Mr Bert Coote's "The Fatal Wedding" South Company, Aquarium Theatre, Yarmouth.

MR. EDMUND LEA as Vorensky, in "Vilma." Oct. 17, Alexandra Theatre, N.

MR. LEONARD LESLIE, Musical Director, "My Lady Molly" Company. Next, Richmond.

MR D. LEWIN-MANNERING, Baron Bonelli and Stage-Manager, in "The Eternal City" on Tour. Oct. 17, New Theatre, Aberdare, One Week.

MR. BERNARD LIMPUS, Juvenile Lead, Mr F. R. Benson's North Company, Oct. 17, Wellingborough; 20, Kettering.

MR. ARDENE LINDEN, Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield, Six Nights. Oct. 24, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Six Nights.

MR. GEORGE W. LINDSAY, Manager, "My Lady Molly" Company, Opera House, Middlesbrough.

MR. GEORGE H. LIOT. Address, 8, Cornwall-street, St. George's-square, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTER Disengaged Christmas. Pantomime or Play. Standard Theatre; or, 15, Elmhurst-mansions, Vernon-rd., Clapham, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON, Mad Parson and Acting-Manager, "Man to Man" 17th, Stalybridge.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, New Theatre, W.C. 28, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. STUART LOMATH, Lead, "The Fatal Wedding" (North Company). Oct. 17, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.

MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY, as Lord Cheyne, "Three Little Maids," Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE, Osmond Tearle Répertoire Company. Address, en route; or, 41A, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. FREDERICK LOVD (Miss Florence Creagh), Concluding Engagement, "Her One Great Sin." At Liberty Oct. 22. A., Kettering.

MR. WILLIAM LUGG. Address, Comedy Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY, on Tour with own Co., "Wearin' o' the Green." En route; or, Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM MACLAREN (Miss Lily C. Bandmann), Touring own Company. Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

MR. H. F. MALTBY, Lieut.-General Coventry, in "One of the Best." Oct. 17, Empire, Southend-on-Sea.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER. Address, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. PERCY MARMONT, Playing Jack Woodford, in "An Actor's Romance." Oct. 17, Opera House, Wakefield. A.A.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL, Carbury, "Lady of Ostend," &c. Oct. 17, Memorial Hall, Chesterfield.

MR ALFRED MARTIN, Business Manager, N. Company, "Silver King," Theatre Royal, Stockton.

MR. HERBERT MAULE, on Tour with Mr Leonard Rayne's Company. Address, Opera House, Cape Town, South Africa.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL. Address, Oct. 17, County Theatre, Reading.

MR. LONNEN MEADOWS and MISS ADA TILLEY, "Alone in London" Company. Grand Theatre, Islington.

MR. GEORGE MILLER. Address, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. and MRS. J. MILNE-TAYLOR, "The Golden Ladder" Company, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

MR. ROBERT MINSTER, Address, care of Charles Frohman, Daly's Theatre, New York.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY, MARIE HAROUART, Napoleon and Marcel, in "Napoleon the Great." New Theatre, Hyde.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS, Heavy Lead, "The Convict's Daughter" Co. Disengaged December. Oct. 17, Lyceum, Govan.

MR. EDWARD MORGAN, Principal Comedy and S.-M., Mr Coote's "Fatal Wedding" (N. Co.). P. O. W., G. Grimsby. At Liberty Christmas.

MR. F. MORLAND Address, 11, Bernard-street, Russell-square, W.C.

MR. QUINTON M'PHERSON, Re-engaged by Mr Charles Frohman for Mr William Gillette's Season. Empire Theatre, New York.

MR FRANK MUNDILL, Directing Frederick Melville's "Her Forbidden Marriage" Tour. Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

MR. GEORGE CECIL MURRAY, Character, Comedy, and Aristocratic Old Men. Address, care of "The Era" Office.

MR. and MRS. J. MYRON-HOWARD (Miss Dorothy Wallace), Dick Redcliffe and Nan, "Alone in London."

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MR. JOHN NESBITT Disengaged. 62, Delancey-street, Gloucester-gate, N.W.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY, "The Silver King" Company. Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

MR. and MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM (Dorothy Carington) Disengaged for Christmas. Address, 113, Stamford-street, Blackfriars, S.E.

MR, and MRS JERROLD ORD (Miss Cissie Bellamy), Leads, Harry and Sylvia Beech, "Drama of Life" Co. Address, P. O. W. T., Salford.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON Disengaged. Lead, Heavy Lead. 126, Beech-street, Crewe.

MR GUS OXLEY, Cupid, "Three Little Maids" Company. Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN, the Unforeseen, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, Oct. 17.

MR. and MRS. ROBSON PAIGE (Mabel Syringa), Character and Ingénue, Disengaged. Joint or Single. Address, 10, Ospringe-rd., N.W.

MR. and MRS. E. H. PATERSON (Miss Adelaide Grace) Disengaged. Address, Hillcrest, Southdean-gardens, Wimbledon-park, S.W.

MR. DOUGLAS PAYNE, Playing Inu, Mr Tree's N. Co., "The Darling of the Gods" Oct. 17. Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE, Adelphi Theatre. Permanent address, 65, Redcliffe-road, South Kensington.

MR. F. PENNINGTON-GUSH, Engaged by Mr Edward Compton, Sir Benjamin Backbite, Hastings, Falkland, &c. 21, West-hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

MR and MRS FRED W. PERMAIN (Miss Florence Le Clercq), Address A. A.; or, Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, Australia.

MR. EDWARD S PETLEY at Liberty for Juvenile or Heavy Lead. Address, 119, King Edward's-road, Birmingham

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY (Miss Gertrude Price), Lead, "As Midnight Chimes" Company. Oct. 17, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP, representing Miss Ada Reeve. Permanent Address, 37, Grosvenor-park, S.E.

MR. and MRS. DONALD PRICE-EVANS (Miss Marcella Hudson) Disengaged. Character, Comedy, Boys, &c. 21, Doddington-grove, Kennington.

MR. STANLEY PRINGLE. Address, 13, Clanricarde-gardens, W.

MR. GUY RAMSDEN Disengaged. Light Comedy, &c Disengaged. Communications, 32, Kelvedon-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. SIDNEY RENNEF (Miss Lillian Warren), General Manager and Nell Stubbs, "A Sister's Sin." Metropole, Devonport.

MR. PERCY RHODES, on Tour with "A Modern Judas." Disengaged at Christmas. Letters, 10, Elmstone-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS GWYN RICHARDSON (Grace Harlington) at Liberty. Light Comedy, Character, Soubrettes, Boys. Mordington, Richmond, S.W.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON Disengaged. Address, 129, Lavender-sweep, Lavender-hill, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR RICKETTS, on Tour. Ichabod Bronson. Hastings; or, 10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD, Oct. 17, Palace, Newcastle.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD, Ratty and Stage-Management, "Path of Thorns." T. R., York. Pantomime, S.-M., Prince's, Manchester.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON, Starring Engagement, Stephen Merrick, "The Lightning's Flash." Address, Theatre Royal, Goole.

MR DAN F. ROE, Bellicose Betterton, "Nell Gwynne," &c. Peterborough and Gainsborough (Three Nights each).

MR. STANLEY ROGERS Address all communications, Queen's Opera House, Workington.

MR. WEEDON ROSS, Najac, "I Defy the World" Company. Athenæum Theatre, Lancaster.

MR. and MRS. CALVERT ROUTLEDGE (Miss Mary Jocelyn), on Tour with Own Company, "A Night Off"

MR. CHARLES E SCUTT concluded Management Leamington Theatre, At Liberty. Address, 72, Chestnut-grove, Balham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE (Miss Alice Arden). Oct. 17, Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

MR. FRANK SHERLOCK, Roberts, "The Lady Slavey." Rugby and Redditch, Three Nights each. Dis. Xmas.

MR. GEORGE SHIRLEY Disengaged Acting Management. 65A, Long-acre, London, W.C.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Comedy and Character, Disengaged Dec. 10. "Money Makers," Marlborough T., Holloway, London.

MR. FRED SINCLAIR, own Sketch, Theatre Royal, Bury.

MR. TOM E. SINCLAIR, Comedian (Tall), Disengaged. Offers invited. Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY, General Manager for "San Toy." Oct. 17, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MR. HARRY STARR, Carl, Otto, Schwenk. Address, care of "The Era."

MR. and MRS. W. S. STEVENSON (Miss Evelyn Robson) at Liberty Oct. 15. To-day, T. R., Blyth; next week, A.A., 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. ATHOL STEWART Disengaged. Address, 18, Essendine-road, Elgin-avenue, W. Re-engaged for Matinées of "Candida," Court Theatre.

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN, appearing with Mr Walter Groves, The Empire, Shepherd's-bush, London, W.

MR GEORGE STONE, Resident-Manager (Tenth Year), Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK, General Manager, "The Fatal Wedding" (North) Co. Oct. 17, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Gt. Grimsby.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS (and Miss KATE PARRY), Business-Manager, Milton Bode's "Tommy Atkins" Co. Dalston Theatre, N.

MR. TAPPING, Brighton Season, Répertoire. Letters, 28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR, Flamant and Stage-Management, Olga Nethersole's "Sapho" Company. Ealing Theatre, W.

MR. L. FRED TENAUR, Moses Mendoza, "A London Actress" Co. Oct. 17, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

MR PAUL E. TRULON, Miser and Business-Management, J. Stillwell's "Queen of the Night." Theatre Royal, Workington.

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MR. ALLEN THOMAS, Every Evening as Uncle Matt, in "Money-Makers" Disengaged Dec. 12. Address, 74, Marlborough-flats, Walton-st., Chelsea.

MR. E. W. THOMAS. Address, Opera House, Cape Town; or, A.A.

MR. L. CORY THOMAS, Hawkshaw and Jacques and S.-M. Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Hull.

MR. WYLIE A. THOMPSON, C. W. Somerset and Lionel Rignold's Co.. Colchester, Three, Cambridge, Three. Disengaged Oct. 24.

MR. CHARLES THORBURN, General Manager, George Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Theatre Royal, Brighton.

MR. A. C THORNHILL Disengaged, Light Comedy or Boy Parts. The Hollies, Guernsey, C.I.

MR. WALTER THORNTON, Alphonse, "Woman and Wine." Disengaged December. Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

MR. ALFRED C. TOONE, Musical Director, Royal Victoria Pav., Ramsgate. Permanent address, 21, St. Dunstan's-rd., W. Kensington.

MR. TRUEMAN TOWERS, General Manager, Mr John Denton's "Modern Judas" Company. Grand Theatre, Boscombe.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL, Duke of St. Kitts, "A Country Mouse." Disengaged Oct. 24. Grand Theatre, Southampton.

MR. GEORGE F. TULLY, Karl Heinrich, in "Old Heidelberg." Disengaged November. Theatre Royal, Dublin.

MR. ALBERT VERNON, Musical Director, 'Kitty Grey." Oct. 17, Londesborough, Scarborough.

MR. and MRS. C. VERNON-PROCTOR (Miss Amy Rudd), "Life's Sweetest Sins" Company. Oct. 17, Weston-super-Mare; Oct. 20, Weymouth.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR, Napoleon, "A Royal Divorce." Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

MR. LIONEL VICTOR, Sammy Gigg, "The Toreador." Mr Geo. Edwardes' Company. Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS (Miss Lucy Beaumont). Next, New Theatre, King's Lynn.

MR. ARTHUR WALCOTT Disengaged. Address, Alhambra Theatre, W.C.

MR. EDWIN WALTON, Sir Sidney Barraclough, "The Bank of England." Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Darlington.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM, Playing the Biggest Scamp on Earth, Miss Delaval's Company. Pavilion Theatre, Edinburgh.

MR. ALBERT WARD, Star Lead. Disengaged December. Address, 23, Graham-road, N.E.; or, Blackmore.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE Disengaged. 47, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

MR. ALFRED WAREING, Acting-Manager, "Proof" Company, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield; or, A.A.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY, Manager John F. Sheridan's South African Tour. Care of B. and F. Wheeler, Good Hope T., Cape Town.

MR. A. E. WYN WEAVER, "Sunday" (South) Company. En route; or, A.A.

MR. CHARLES WEIR Disengaged for Christmas. 15, Digby-mansions, Hammersmith, W.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY, The Professor. "A Hot Night." Dis. for Panto. Dame preferred. Worcester House, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. FREDERICK WELLS, Character, Comedy, or Old Men, Disengaged. Address, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MR. C. A. WHITE Disengaged. Comedy, Character, Stage-Management. Address, Park House, Harewood-rd., Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S., General Manager (Fifth Year) for Messrs Little and Darcy, en route.

MR. and MRS TOWNSEND WHITLING (Violet Ley), Stage-Manager and Baby Berkley, "The Money-Makers." Marlborough T., Holloway.

MR. VICTOR WIDDICOMBE at Liberty. Care of "The Era" Office.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE, Mr Tree's Répertoire Company. At Liberty Dec. 10. Permanent address, 28, Oxford-gardens, W.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS, Bob Tanner, "The Temptress." Oct. 17, West London Theatre.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS, Juvenile Lead, "That Woman from France." Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Inverness.

MR. BREMBER WILLS, Sir Archibald Fielding, "The Unforeseen." This, St Leonards; 17th, H. M., Walsall.

MR. FRANK WILSON, 200th Performance, Sir Reginald Belsize, "The Marriage of Kitty." Address, care of "The Era."

MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE. Address, 2, Mall-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. A. WOOD. Address, 59, St. Mary's-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. GRAHAM WOODS, "Between Two Women" Company. Grand Theatre, Nelson.

MR. F. B. WOULFE, as Marcus Superbus Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. LIONEL YEOMAN, Count Ratzi, Ben Greet's "Belle of New York." To-day, Cambridge. Oct. 17, Gaiety, Theatre, Hastings.

MR. H. A. YOUNG, Beau Nash, in "Monsieur Beaucaire." Oct. 17, Cambridge; 20, Folkestone.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MASTER WALTER CROSS, Boy Actor, from Haymarket Theatre, W. 6, Harrington-street, London, N.W.

MASTER CYRIL SMITH, as Geoffrey, in "Becket," with Sir Henry Irving, on Tour. Address, 75, Strand, W.C.

MASTER VYVIAN THOMAS at Liberty in December. Permanent postal address, care of 93, St. Mark's-road, North Kensington, W.

MASTER ERNEST WINTER, on Tour with James Welch, Esq., in "The New Clown." Perm. address, 7, Kenwyn-road, Clapham, S.W.

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Pavilion Theatre of Varieties, Leicester.

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Many thanks for things received yesterday at Brixton. We are very pleased with the way in which the work has been done.

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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"ONKEL WANJA."
Play, in Four Acts, by A. Tschechow, German by A. Scholz.
Produced at the Berliner Theatre, Oct. 5.

Professor Gerebrjakoff	Herr Connard
Helena	Fräulein Kirch
Sonja	Fräulein Roland
Maria	Fräulein Carlsen
Wojnitzki	Herr Pittschau
Astrow	Herr Mischke
Teljegin	Herr L'Allemand
Mariana	Fräulein Berger
Arbeiter	Herr Ludicke

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, OCT. 13.—Play is scarcely the right name, the author thinks, for this work, so he calls it "four scenes from country life in Russia." It is, like most pieces from the Russian, tinged with more than a touch of melancholy, and many of the scenes are too long and wordy. Otherwise there is a good deal of merit in the work, and it met with a reception that was cordial, to say the least of it. A few words will suffice for the plot. A celebrated professor, Gerebrjakoff by name, has married a second wife, Helena, young and fair, while he himself is old, egoistical, and frail. The Professor's daughter Sonja—his first wife's child—lives in a lonely country house which was her mother's property; the farm is managed by herself and her uncle Wojnitzki—uncle Wanja, as he is called. The Professor and his wife come on a visit, and set everyone by the ears. For the first time in his forty odd years of life Wanja is moved by woman's beauty; he falls in love with Helena, who prefers, however, the more brutal passion of Astrow, an interesting doctor, ten years Wanja's junior. Helena is a cold-hearted coquette, her husband an old humbug—a charlatan who has thrown dust in everyone's eyes, except those of Wanja, who sees through him. Sonja loves Astrow too, but she, poor child, loves in vain; he has no thought for her. The climax comes when the egoistical professor wishes to sell Sonja's little property for his own selfish ends. Wanja, driven to the verge of frenzy with hopeless love for Helena and furious at the professor's egoism, shoots his pistol at the elder man. Fortunately for him, there is no serious damage done; he is merely considered mad by the family, and the professor and his wife take their leave ultimately. Wanja, whose life-long energy has raised the farm to its present flourishing condition, remains behind with Sonja, both to take up their work once more in silent resignation. The piece was very well interpreted, Herr Pittschau, in the title-rôle, and Herr Connard as the professor being particularly good. The mounting, too, was most commendable.

As poor a production as it has ever been my lot to witness was *Schmuggler-Susi*, a so-called operetta, by Victor Albert, book by Benno Jacobson and L. Windhopp, which saw the light for the first time on Saturday at the Central. Which was worst, the music, the libretto, or the interpretation, it would be difficult to say. There is neither plot, nor wit, nor melody in the piece.

THE Royal Schauspiel-Haus company—playing during the alterations at the New Royal Opera—produced a new comedy by Hugo Lubliner last week. *Ein Kritischer Tag*—such is the title—met with a cordial reception, thanks, principally, to the humorous acting of Herr Vollmer and Frau Schramm in two cleverly-drawn characters. The piece itself is of the mediocre class for which the author has, of late years, become known; its only salvation lies in good acting. There are four acts, but the entire action passes in a single day, the critical day of the title. Within these four-and-twenty hours a young married couple change from spendthrifts of the most frivolous kind to sober, economical, and industrious people, the transformation being brought about by the mediation of a delightful old bachelor, nicknamed "the man of yesterday." The moral of the piece appears to be: Money does not make happiness, but you can't be happy without it. The author was "called" by his numerous admirers, although a few of the audience gave utterance to their dissatisfaction in robust and unflattering manner.

HERR HAUPTMANN has, I am glad to state, almost entirely recovered from his long illness, and is able to be about again. His play *Florian Geyer*, which has been reconstructed and shortened, is to be produced at the Lessing in a few days. The most important rôle after the name part—that of a blind monk—will be played by Herr Reicher, Herr Rittner taking, as has already been notified, the part of Florian.

A NEW theatre is about to be erected at the West-end by two well-known managers. It is to be a house of first-rate style, as befits its position in Kurfürsten Damm. This makes the fourth new theatre in a year.

"TRAUMULUS" is still in the bill at the Lessing, being given four times this week to a fairly large audience. I looked in again on Monday, but failed to observe any enthusiasm in the audience, although the piece was followed with attention. The over-noisy scene of the elder schoolboys' meeting—held in the cellar of a bakery to discuss liberty and to drink beer—made less impression than at the première, and the same may be said of the tragic conclusion, with the suicide of the erring boy and the mental and physical collapse of the over-trusting schoolmaster. I do not fancy—notwithstanding the praise of some of our leading critics—that the play will hold the boards for long, while an attempt at comparison with *Alt Heidelberg* is absurd on the face of it.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT begins a brief season at the Berliner Theatre next Monday. The first performance is *La Sorcière*, new to Berlin; *La Dame aux Camelias*, *Fédora*, *Phèdre*, *La Tosca*, and *L'Aiglon* form the rest of the programme. Booking—at increased prices, needless to say—has commenced and is very brisk.

THE chief event of the past week was the début of Signor Enrico Caruso at the Theatre des Westens. On his way to London the famous tenor had been captured—wisely enough—by Herr Prasch, and pledged to four performances for the sum of 5,000 marks nightly. Admission prices ranged from three to twenty-four marks—prices almost unheard of here—and yet there was not a vacant place in the large theatre at any of the performances. *Rigoletto* was the first work given, and many consider the part of the Duke to be Caruso's best rôle. That he sang it magnificently is now a matter of history. The star was excellently supported by the members of the Des Westens company, especially by Herr Nawiaski in the name-part, and Fräulein Stoeller as Gilda. As Alfred in *Traviata*—which was given on Friday—Signor Caruso had too little opportunity of displaying his exceptional gifts, but another triumph was scored a day or two later by the performance of *Lucia di Lammermoor*.

IBSEN'S five-act historical drama *Die Kronprätendenten* has been produced at the Neues with unquestionable success. It is one of the author's earliest works; he was but thirty-five at the time he wrote it, and it has taken long to prove to the world that it is one of Ibsen's most masterly productions. The famous Meiningen Court company acted it for the first time in this country in 1876, and it has been done here but seldom since. The length of the drama is a drawback. Four and a-half hours at a stretch try the patience of the average audience. The representation at the Neues was admirable, and Herr Reinhart, the actor-manager, excelled himself. He gave the rôle of Bishop Nicolas—considered by many critics to be equal to any of Shakespeare's characters—in magnificent style; it was one of the best impersonations ever seen here.

"GASTON'S FRAUEN" (*La Dame du Commissaire*), farce by MM. De Cottens and Weber, has made a hit at the Trianon, and is running well, supported by a very fair cast.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—This week the boards here are occupied by Mr T. Arthur Jones's company in *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr T. Arthur Jones is a manly Harold Marston; the unscrupulous Dr. Colbrooke is played with vigour by Mr A. Bartlett Garth; Messrs Geo. Austin and G. Verno Proctor are good as his confederates; the comedy element is well supplied by Mr Arthur E. Andrews and Miss Sara Dudley as Bess Grayson; Miss Amy Rudd charms the house by the sympathy and grace of her Fay Colbrooke; and Miss Madge Morley infuses much pathos into the part of the young heiress, Doreen Rivers.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—*Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* is well patronised this week. Mr Thomas Kingston, an actor of talent, appears as Captain Peyton, and is successful; Miss Elly Malyon plays the part of Miss Elizabeth with great charm; and Miss Alys is effective as Mistress Sarah. The other parts are all capably filled.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—The Five Foys appear in an extremely amusing farce, *The Excursion Depôt*; and Mr Walter Stockwell's voice is heard to as great advantage as ever; the Sivronis score a distinct success in their burlesque, *Opera Gone Mad*; the Ernestine Trio are also popular; and Mr Tom Foy's appreciation of a Yorkshire lad in London is keenly relished. M. Sardou provides a sensation with his cabinet illusion; and among the enjoyable turns are those of Cable and Walker, in a clever comedy act; Mr Bertram Nicol, a tenor of exceptional ability; and Misses Mona M'Donald and Marie Rivers, both sprightly comediennes.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—This week we have Mr Herbert Fuller's company in the racing drama *Fiends of London*. Mr Harold H. Hastings scores a great success as Sir Horace Bream. Mr D. C. King as Captain Crawley makes a most effective villain, being ably supported by Mr H. Evan Gibbon as Peter Shark. Mr Herbert Fuller as Bob Archer gives an effective and manly rendering of the part, and is well backed up by Miss Emily Lewis as Flossie Sprint, her rendering of several songs being much appreciated. Mr Jas. J. Newell and Mr James M'Allister as Matt Christie and Sandy Macduff respectively give capable renderings. Miss Alice Lane plays the old hag realistically; Miss Nelson Ramsay is powerful as Sophie Shade; Miss Violet Bray as Trixie Gilliard (alias the Countess) is especially good; and in the double rôle of Little Tim and Sally Frost Little Gladys is very pathetic. Miss Agnes Collier as Laura Christie, a soldier's daughter, has a pleasing personality.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—The Osmond Tearle Shakespearian company is being well received here by packed houses. In a fine representation of *Othello* Mr Alexander Marsh was particularly successful in his impersonation of the title-rôle, the passion and pathos being cleverly depicted. Mr John Burton played Iago, and his characterisation was at all times remarkable for its truth and accuracy. Mr Cyril Grier was good as Roderigo; Mr W. Lowe submitted a good performance of Brabantio; Mr George Tearle must be complimented upon his performance of Cassio; Miss Carrie Baillie made a tender and innocent Desdemona; and Miss Fannie Chamberlain was responsible for a powerful impersonation of Emilia. *The Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *David Garrick* are also in the répertoire.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr J. Mill.—A good bill here is contributed to by Comical Walker with his local acrobats; Harry Gold, vocalist; Stylo, with his marvellous hoop performance; Miss Beatrice Bonnie, comedienne; George Reeve, eccentric character comedian; Slippere, the wonderful blind pianist; and Reklaw, the clever globe performer. A most sensational performance with lions is given by Miss Ella.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams).—*Under Two Flags* is paying a return visit. Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company works hard, Mr Blow himself giving a fine interpretation of Bertie Cecil. Miss Laura Walker's Cigarette is a talented portrayal, realism being everywhere associated with her efforts. Mr Reginald Harley-West gives a capital enactment of Barklie, and Mr Charles Brooke does well as Lord Royallieu. As Lord Rockingham Mr Geo. Normanburt is good. Clever comedy work is interpolated by Mr Will Hook, and Mr Sydney Riche (Black Hawk) and Mr Reg. Hunt (Chanrellon) are acceptable. Mr Albert Rogers contributes an excellent impersonation of the Hebrew, Baroni. Miss Celia Gordon as the Countess shows marked ability, and Miss Bertha Kingston's Lady Beatrice is well rendered.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn. The musical play, *The School Girl*, is somewhat belated in its appearance here, but it is none the less welcome on that account. The production is in the hands of Mr Geo. Dance's company, all of whom are well qualified to play creditably the characters entrusted to their care. Chief among them is Miss Ethel Beech, a clever exponent of Lilian Leigh, the "school girl." She is sweet and winning, and full of vivacity and charm, and sings and dances herself into favour. Miss Mildred King as the Mother Superior displays excellent vocal gifts. Not less appreciated by the audience are the skill in delineation of character and charm of manner of Miss Molly Walbran as Mamie, Miss Gracie Sinclaire as Cicely, Miss Nell Hope as the Model, and Miss Gracy Wixon as Mrs Marchment. Mr Leslie Holland, with a fund of dry humour, is responsible for much of the merriment as the elderly lover Sir Ormesby St. Leger; Mr Lister Morrell as Edgar Verney sings himself into favour; Mr Alfred Leslie is remarkably funny as Tubby Bedford; and Mr Cameron Carr as the smart Stockbroker makes his character prominent by the force of his acting. Mr Chas. Adeson as the humorous, explosive General also contributes very materially to the success.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot.—Visitors to this popular variety hall have no reason to complain of the programme provided from week to week. There are some attractive items this week, not the least of which are the clever feats of the Herculean athletes, the Athlones, in their classical and unique specialitv act. Arthur Stratton proves himself a worthy owner of a big name as a character vocalist; Jack Pleasants is truly a quaint comedian; Fred Carr and Ada Rose are a clever vocal comedy couple; and Selby and Myers, too, furnish plenty of fun as patterers and expert dancers. The gymnastic act and refined ball-punching indulged in by the De Almar Trio and the wonderful shooting act of the Lynches, rifle shots, call forth unbounded applause and laughter. The Hippo Bioscope is still a feature of these entertainments.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Mr J. W. Turner and his English opera company were heartily welcomed on Monday. They opened with *The Bohemian Girl*. Mr Chas. Le Sueur was the Thaddeus, and made a most favourable impression. Mr John Ridding as Count Arnheim gave a sympathetic interpretation of the character. The Devilshoof of Mr Sidney Clifford was admirable, whilst Mr J. Flint as Florestein acquitted himself well. As the Gipsy Queen Miss Beatrice Hill imbued the part with true dramatic force, and charmed with her very fine singing. Miss Maud Esdale was successful as Buda, and Miss Ethel Locker as Arline acted sweetly, and her sweet, flexible voice drew the unstinted applause of the audience. On Tuesday night the opera was *The Lily of Killarney*, and Mr J. W. Turner appeared as Miles-na-Coppaleen and Miss Constance Bellamy as Eily. The other operas in the répertoire are *Maritana*, *Faust*, *The Puritan's Daughter*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment*.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—Mr Frank Lindo's company is here this week with *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr George F. Black as Stephen Armitage is conspicuously heroic; the sinister traits of Lucas Lyle are vividly depicted by Mr Arthur Rodney; Mr Frank Lindo gives an earnest and virile performance of David Armitage; Capt. Gerald Gambier is responsible for a sound embodiment of the Duke of Ancaster; and as the Hon. Percy Ashfield, his son, Mr W. J. Anson is amusing. Mr H. Grossmith's impersonation of the Marquis of Silvermere is very droll. The part of Dick Redmayne is played with considerable spirit by Mr George Overs. Miss Marion Wakeford makes a charming and acceptable Joan, and Miss Ivy Ellaline Thorne is satisfactory as Sybil Fay. Special mention should be made of Miss Ivy Rochefort, who, as Dora, adds considerably to the success of the production.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Mr Frederick Melville's company in *Between Two Women* visited here last Monday for the week. Henry, Earl of Millard, is a capital study by Mr Sidney Price; Harry is well presented by Mr Harry Marlow; Mr Albert Ward's delineation of the Rev. Philip Carton is both powerful and clever; James Durwood is well played by Mr Fred Morgan; Mr Tubby Edlin and Miss Sybil Hammersley as Jack Pringle and Polly Popp supply the humour with excellent judgment, Miss Morita Valdar as Carmen De Savereux is very successful; Violet Thornton is made the most of by Miss Marie Robson; and Miss Alice Bowes pathetically plays the blind boy.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr Jasper Redfern.—The Ross Combination is responsible for scientific boxing and a humorous sketch; the Brothers Testo are a couple of clever musical comedians; Warde and Wylie supply a good turn; Black Apollo, a man of many instruments, plays them well; Capita is an amusing electric living marionette; and Katie Rora, serio-comedienne; Fred Hudson, with the American song sheet; Charlton Howarth; Bob Downe, patter comedian; and the animated pictures conclude the bill.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Miss Mary Austen and Mr E. Vivian Edmond's company is here in *The Golden Ladder*. Miss Mary Austen plays the important part of Lilian Grant with much attractive force and artistic skill; Mr Harry Cullenford is a finely characteristic Rev. Frank Thornhill; and Mr John Owen a capable Samuel Peckaby. Mr E. Vivian Edmonds plays Michael Severn with great subtlety and power, and Mr Graham Winsford makes a capital M. Peranza.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi.—Miss Harriett Vernon, who tops the bill here this week, had an excellent reception on Monday. She was in exceptionally good voice. The Vernon Troupe of xylophone experts, dancers, and singers give a delightful turn; Wallau gives a clever juggling act; Achilles, a fine specimen of an athlete, gives a most refined show; Will Letters catches on with his songs and choruses; Charles Somers's quaint humour is a huge success; and Sadie Simpson is a charming comedienne and coon artist.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—*Sweet and Twenty* is paying a welcome return visit, being again introduced by Messrs Murray King and Clark's admirable company. Miss Rosalie Jacobi as Joan Trevelyan wins many hearts by her skilful and clever handling of the part. Mr Lionel Glenister is excellent as Douglas, and in the unsympathetic character of Eustace Mr Robert Milsted is equally successful. Mr George Miller carefully enacts the kind-hearted clergyman the Rev. James Floyd. Mr Murray King himself appears as Prynne, whom he impersonates with much dry humour. *You and I* is the curtain-raiser.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—Pride of position this week is held by Millie Lindon, the talented comedienne, whose return is hailed with delight by her many local admirers. Blake and Granby, comedy sketch artists, create plenty of laughter. Old friends under a new name are Zeta Grey and company, whose singing and comedy sketch *The Lancashire Lass* gain them much applause. Ruby Winstone, coon comedienne and dancer, is a favourite. Return engagements are also being paid by the Lupino Bros., eccentric comedians; Downes and Langford, comedians and dancers; and Sybil Montague, ballad vocalist. George Hyam, comedian, completes the bill.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—For the first three nights of this week Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, presented the comic opera *La Poupée*. Mr Algernon Lee met with an excellent reception as Lancelot; Mr Stanley White gave a capable portrayal of Baron Chanterelle; Mr J. Brüll was excellent as Father Maxime; and the general humour of the play was ably presented by Mr H. Bishop as Loremois. Mr Bert Danson left nothing to be desired as Hilarius, and the part of Madame Hilarius fell to the capable hands of Miss Margaret Ainsworth. Miss Eva Ellis made a good Henri; Miss Cissy Wade cleverly depicted the actions of a mechanical doll as Alesia. On Thursday the boards were occupied by Mr H. Swinerd's company in the musical comedy, *Dare-Devil Dorothy*.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr C. Lubbock's company is here this week with *A Cherry Girl*. The chief honours are due to Miss Ethel Newman, whose portrayal of the Queen is exceedingly pleasurable to behold. Mr Frank Lincoln does well as Moonshine, his topical songs being loudly encored. Good support is rendered by Misses Alice Leon, Connie Loxton, Rosa Ravensberg, May Elliott, Maude Vaughan, and Helen Hart, who play the pierrots. Messrs A. Pendergrast, Percy Oakley, Sidney M'Alpine, and Robert H. Howard constitute the Steinway Quartet, and sing several good part songs.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—*The Flood Tide*, which is the attraction here, is also supplied by Mr C. Lubbock's company. Mr William Seguin contributes a manly impersonation of Capt. Jack Champion and Mr Maitland Marler sustains with complete satisfaction the part of George Wellington Olip. Mr Alex Flood is seen to advantage as Dick Champion, Mr Horace Pollock is well placed as Lord Sutton, and Mr Graham Wentworth makes an excellent Colonel Corry. Madame De Naucaze as Baroness Pitchioli, Miss Marie Wright as Polly Champion, and Miss Seymour Hodges as Mabel Corry are also good.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—The annual visit of the Royal Carl Rosa opera company is an event that is always looked forward to by local playgoers with infinite pleasure, and it is therefore little wonder that a crowded audience assembled here on Monday. The opera presented on the opening night was Wagner's *Tannhauser*, in which Herr Julius Walther appeared in the title-rôle. Herr Walther, who was in fine voice, achieved a great success with his delightful singing, and his acting was all that could possibly be desired. The rôle of Elizabeth was sustained by Madame Una Bruckshaw, whose brilliant vocalisation won quite a triumph. Madame Augusta Renard was charming as Venus, and Mr Lewis James, who is the fortunate possessor of a well-trained voice, sang "The Star of Eve" admirably. Mr Arthur Winckworth was in every sense satisfactory as the Landgrave, and other rôles were ably sustained by Miss Ethel Pender-Cudlip (who displayed exceptional ability as the Shepherd Boy), and Messrs Frank Arthur, Albert Felton, and Edward Davies. The augmented orchestra and splendid chorus were under the able conductorship of Mr Eugene Goossens. On Tuesday night Mozart's *Don Giovanni* was presented with much éclat, the large audience enjoying the unusual advantage of hearing three prima donnas in one opera. On Wednesday Balfe's *Bohemian Girl* was produced, and during the week *Carmen*, *Lohengrin*, *Faust*, and *Maritana* have also been performed.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—The chief attraction here is provided by the Ergotti and King Luis Troupe, whose startling acrobatic feats have created quite a sensation. A capital dog show is contributed by Cabaret, whose animals perform some extraordinary feats, which have been applauded to the echo. The evergreen J. W. Rowley is in fine form with his droll songs, rendered in his own effective style, and much praise is due to the British Quartet (Messrs Donald Keir, J. Russon, Frank Bolger, and Dave Owen). The Fred Cullane Trio (including Miss Florrie Conroy, the lady boxer), appear to immense advantage in their remarkable entertainment entitled *The Dude's Dilemma*. The Watson Family gain enthusiastic applause for their well-rendered songs, and their manipulation of several musical instruments is distinctly good. Miss Marie Weston is a clever comedienne, and her dancing leaves nothing to be desired. Also appearing are Lew Wells, in his clever comedy creation; Pinaro and Karol, the celebrated comedy duo, in their speciality *The Lady and the Tramp*; and Mr Fred Spencer, expressionist, who gained deserved recalls on Monday for his realistic imitations.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—The chief attraction here is provided by the Haytors (Edie, Frank, and Arthur), who produce with much success their laughable sketch, *A Hot Time*. A deserved welcome has been extended to the bright and clever comediennes, the Three Sisters Sprightley, whose character songs and dancing are responsible for some of the loudest applause. Mr Harry Coates, the original singing navvy, has a fine voice, which has been heard with infinite pleasure; and Mr Phil Herman is a distinctly clever comedian with good songs. Mr Leo Tell's imitations of animals are remarkably realistic, and the Brothers Redmond are exceedingly smart acrobatic comedians. Mr Ben Albert is a comedian of an original type, and Little Ganty, a droll character comedian, repeats last week's success. The Two Graces are charming duettists and fine dancers, and the bill is completed by Miss Marion Scott, comedienne.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The chief attraction here is Park's Eton Boys, who have been accorded a most enthusiastic reception. Messrs Clifton and Gibson are exceedingly droll eccentric comedians, and a positive sensation has been caused by the gymnastic feats performed by Mr Charles Serra. Mr Billy Williams, Australian comedian, has made a tremendous hit, singing seven songs on Monday, and a good reception has been accorded Mr Jack Charman, the popular vocalist. The coon songs by the charming comedienne, Miss Maud Vera, meet with much favour, and a decided feature of the programme is the remarkably realistic views exhibited by Welsker Brothers' Bioscope. Bretma is a wonderful illusionist, his feats being quite amazing, and Miss Kate Gourlay, coon artiste, is also on the bill.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—A change from melodrama is effected here this week by the visit of Mr William Greet's company in *The Lady Slavey*. Miss Addie Lennard does well as Phyllis, Miss Millicent Marsden is piquante as Flo Honeydew. Mr Harry Walsh as Major O'Neill causes genuine laughter, Mr Allan Morris ably portrays Vincent A. Evelyn, and as Roberts, the Sheriff's officer, Mr Frank Sherlock proves capital. Another efficient character is the Lord Lavender of Mr Walter T. Hybert. Miss Jean Van Dalle as Maude and Miss Ethel Ashton as Beatrice do good work in special dances.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Messrs George Edwardes and Charles Frohman's company, in *Are You a Mason?* meets with appreciation and success. Mr Anthony Fawcett as George Fisher is the central figure, and his clever rendering meets with hearty recognition. Amos Bloodgood is well played by Mr Harry Ashford, and Frank Berry is capitally enacted by Mr Stephen Wentworth. The prim and precise Mrs Caroline Bloodgood is admirably represented by Miss Harriett Trench; Miss Violet Graham is an efficient Mrs Perry; and Miss Lucy Edwin a suitable Tottie. The comedietta, *Hushed Up*, has preceded the comedy proper.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Lingford and Carson's combination are appearing in the interesting play *Defending His Honour*, with excellent results. Mr John Davidson earns great popularity with an incisive rendering of Douglas Bryce. Mr Clifton Boyne is a good Stephen Gral, Richard Verison is carefully played by Mr Willie Black, and Mr John Hignett earns distinction as Jack Danish. Ethel Bryce is played with much acceptance by Miss F. Melrose Millett, and a capital company also includes Miss Bella Estard and Miss Dienly Dainton. The scenic effects are good.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—The Original Caledonian Boys' Band constitute a prominent item in an attractive programme. Mr George Gilbey, the popular comedian, is continuing a highly successful visit, and Mr Frank Coyne, the clever comic vocalist, is fulfilling a welcome return engagement. Mr Fred Karno's comedians in *Hilarity* are again received with undiminished cordiality, and other excellent turns are contributed by Ike Scott and Son, comedians of resource; Miss Carrie Joy, a talented comedienne; Mr Charles F. Best, a smart contortionist; and Mr J. P. Dane, comedian. An interesting display of the Bioscope adds variety to the entertainment. Mr Ernest Denney is musical-director.

BRIGHOUSE.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. Morton Powell; Business-Manager, Mr M. Manley.—*A Trip to Rum-Fum*, under the direction of Miss Cissie Moxon, is here this week. This musical comedy is clearly a mammoth medley of mirth and music, and has truly been manufactured to make mankind merrier. Miss Moxon is successful in the part of a music hall artiste. The cast also includes very capable artistes in Messrs Willie Garvey, Jim Woods, Charles Russell, whilst the singing of Miss Lily Mayfield is greatly admired.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—Mr John Hare, in introducing *Little Mary* for the first time to Birmingham audiences, was received with all the fervour that pertains to old and tried favourites. As the Earl of Carlton Mr Hare shines with his natural polish and distinction, and Miss Hilda Trevelyan plays the rôle of Moira with imperturbable sweetness and gravity. Mr Rudge Harding acts in a well-defined manner as the pompous Pike, and Mr Clifford Brooke is successful as his obsequious satellite; while the Misses Kathleen Gordon-Lee, Beatrice Kelston, Miss Helen Rous, and Messrs Carter Pickford, Fred Grove, and Eric Maturin help to complete the success. *'Op o' My Thumb*, a one-act play, appears earlier, and provides for Miss Trevelyan another and a genuine triumph as Amanda Afflick.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr V. Turner.—*Sunday* is proving a big success here, for with it come Mr Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson, who are special favourites. Miss Julia Neilson in the central rôle, Sunday, acts with infinite tenderness, passion, and simplicity as the varying nature of the part demands. Mr Fred Terry is breezy, natural, and expressive in the role of Col. Brinthorpe, and Mr J. D. Beveridge as Tom Oxley yields him fine support. The "protectorate," meaning Towzer, Davy, and Lively, comprises Messrs Rothbury Evans, J. Carter-Edwards, and Horace Hodges, each of whom plays his respective part ably. Mr Alfred Kendrick acts with considerable force and feeling as Jacky.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager Mr Lester Collingwood.—*When Woman Hates* reveals Miss Nettie Ware in her most intense and interesting moments as Cora Daintry. Mr Oscar Adye as Godfrey Lawton acts with all the outward semblance of a gentleman and the cool cunning of a villain; Mr Jno. B. Shinton conveys a manly and straightforward picture of the hero, Fred Rokeby; Miss Violet Carlyle enlists the sympathies of the house for the much-wronged sister in a marked degree; and Miss Jennie Hughes as the blind wife, Marie, also acts sympathetically. Messrs Percy, Campbell, Wallace, Evans, Little Kathleen, Crook, Olive Lanty, and Ina Cunard support.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*Two Little Vagabonds* remains a great attraction, such is the reflection borne upon us by the overwhelming success of this well-known drama at the Metropole this week. The performance reflects credit on everyone around, and Miss May Hart as Dick and Miss Dorothy Marsdin as Wally content the audience well. Miss Laura Hansen fills the rôle of Thornton's wife with much ability, and Miss Nell Oliver is successful as Barbara. Mr Alfred Russell as the Gaffer, Mr Wolston Foster as Capt. Darville, Mr J. W. Henson as George Thornton, Mr Frank Gordon as Dido Bunce, Mr Fred Archer as the Cough Drop, and Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy are all successful, and gain much appreciation.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*A Royal Revenge*, played by Mr J. H. Clyndes and his company, has inspired the audiences here to great outbursts of enthusiasm. Mr J. H. Clyndes as the soldier of fortune, Esteran Alvarez, and Pedro De Castro, patriot and Prime Minister, acts in a most finished manner, and wins general approval. Mr H. B. Lewis affords a striking contrast as Azad Ben Musid, and Miss Bessie Elma charms the house as Inez. Miss Aimee Gratton figures as the lively Paquita, Mr J. Bigwood shines as her lover, Michael; and Messrs E. Aldworth, Chas. Jordan, Jno. Macfarlane, Arthur Lowry, and the Misses Lizzie Lennon and Evelyn Ommunsden play other important parts.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*A Sailor's Sweetheart* is the attraction here, and the company is sponsored by Mr Mark Blow and Miss Ida Molesworth. Hairbreadth escapes by sea and land, amongst a variety of incident, and some clever acting and effective scenery, have kept the audiences engrossed to the end. Mr Alfred Goddard has been applauded as the hero. Mr Robert Faulkner has been execrated as the villain; and Miss Ada Barton has proved one of the very best and sweetest of heroines. The comic element is well sustained by Mr Ernest Millins as Tim Kelly, Mrs J. W. Braithwaite as Mrs Pembury, and Miss Evelyn Shaw as Phœbe; and Messrs Chas. Stafford, Wm. Stoneham, C. A. Johnstone, C. Douglas Carlile, J. Graham, and A. C. Blunt assist.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—The principal item this week is the sketch *Mashing the Missus*, which is presented by W. H. Rawlins, Horace Mills, and company. Tom Leamore is well received; a clever acrobatic and hand-balancing act is submitted by the De Kock Brothers; while the Sisters Trentanovi have a smart gymnastic turn. Bard and O'Brien in their comedy wire act and Marba and Verity, comedy acrobatic dancers, are successful. Kitty Wager, comedienne; Cassie Walmer, the dusky princess; and the Sisters Lonnen, duettists and dancers, are all well applauded. Will Cornish has a fine musical speciality, while Fred Poplar and the Wedburns are comedians of merit.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—The principal attraction in the bill here is *The Belle of the Orient*, presented by Joe Peterman's company of burlesque artists. It is mounted on an elaborate scale, and is proving a decided success. The quaint comedian, Dan Conroy, is responsible for plenty of fun, while Harry Zetter is a clever grotesque dancer. The Trapnell Family of acrobats appear with their usual success. Florence and Lilian have a refined drawing-room entertainment. Some excellent banjo selections are rendered by the Sisters Redfern. Harry Weldon, comedian; Bijou Russell, sand-dancer; and a series of animated pictures are most entertaining.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford.—Vesta Victoria is the bright particular star here, and is causing quite a furore. G. W. Leslie and company have a fine sketch in *Chums*, which is well staged. Rhoda Paul is well received. Mr and Mrs Paul Knox have a refined entertainment. Gilbert and May, Harry Walker, Queen and Le Brun, and Alice Lorette with her dog, come in for a good share of applause. Imro Fox, the illusionist, is responsible for a clever turn.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edward Foster.—One of the smartest cycle acts we have seen is that presented by the Selbini Troupe. Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes in their comedy sketch, *A Matrimonial Substitute*, are well received, and the comedians worthy of special notice this week are J. W. Rickaby, Harrigan and Holt, Stelling and Revell, while the Three Sisters Leigh, Arthur St. George, the Four Figaros, and Hettie Lee add to the success of the bill.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessees, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—*In Dahomey* is in possession this week. The burden of the fun falls on the shoulders of Messrs Dan Avery and Charles Hart, as Rareback Pinkerton and Shylock Homestead respectively, and their whimsicalities are an unfailing source of merriment. Hamilton Lightfoot has an excellent representative in Mr Pete Hampton, and the other members of the "syndicate" have able exponents in Messrs Fred Douglas as Dr. Straight, Walter Dixon as Hustling Charlie, and Leon Williams as George Reader. Miss Laura Bowman sings with taste and execution as Cecilia, Miss Stella Hart is good as Mrs Stringer, and Miss Pauline Freeman is successful as Rosetta Lightfoot. The choruses are well rendered throughout, and the cake-walk, with which the comedy concludes, meets with vociferous applause.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—Mr C. St. John Denton's company in *Kitty Grey* has made its appearance here this week before an enthusiastic audience. Miss Hilda Guiver played the part of Kitty Grey in a sparkling manner. Mr Robert Whyte, jun., was very effective as the King of Illyria, while Mr Robert Selby as Sir John Binfield and Mr Leslie Harris as Lord Plantagenet give good performances. Lady Binfield is well played by Miss Elly Helene, and other parts are in the capable hands of Miss Emily Stevens as Mrs Bright and Miss Constance Hamilton as Sadie De Poulson.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—The Indian actress Miss Go-Won-Go Mohawk is paying a return visit here with her successful drama *Wep-Ton-No-Mah, the Indian Mail Carrier*. She is well supported by Mr C. W. Charles as Colonel Stockton and other members of an efficient company.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Another excellent company is here this week. The Delbosq Brothers give a clever exhibition of eccentric tumbling, including the performance of a double somersault over the heads of sixteen men. Laurie Wyllie does some clever imitations with his mimicking mannikin. Mr and Mrs Neil Litchfield are good in their comedy sketch *Down at Brook Farm*. The Sisters Morgan are pleasing duettists. Amongst others may be mentioned the Four Jumels, in their musical act; Fred Dunstone, comedian; Karno Trio, Grey and Welford, and Cullen and Carthy.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Propriotor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr Edward Marris's company is here this week with *As Midnight Chimes*. Mr Melville Bickford gives a capable rendering of the villain, Luke Dezzard, and Mr Frank E. Petley earns sympathy for his victim. Dave Stannard. Witty Wattie Walton is an immense success as Tat Spavvin, a railway porter, whose drolleries give the necessary comic relief. Mention must also be made of Mr Henry Beaufort as Ezra Gamble; Mr Percy Maitland as Nat Wilson, of the Coastguard; and Mr Arthur Jenner as Warder Blunt. Miss Annie Megson is successful as Suzette; Miss Iris M. Ward appears as Zamora; and Little Davy is represented by Miss Minnie Ethel. Miss Gertrude Price does well as Mary Stannard.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott had a most enthusiastic reception on Monday, when they commenced a return visit in the delightful play, *Mice and Men*. Mr Forbes Robertson quite won the sympathy of his audience in his admirable impersonation of Mark Embury, and Miss Elliott carried her audience with her as the winsome and charming Peggy. The support was excellent, Mr George Summers played the genial Roger Goodlake in lusty style, and the Captain George Lovell of Mr Frank Gillmore was a manly and convincing performance. As the spiteful Joanna Goodlake Miss Auriol Lee acquitted herself well, and much praise is also due to Miss Ada Mellon as Mrs Deborah and the other members of the clever company. On Tuesday and Wednesday the play was repeated, and for the remaining evenings of the week *The Light That Failed* was billed for representation.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—The Drury-lane drama, *Human Nature*, which is being finely staged by Mr Henry Dundas's excellent company, presents a strong attraction here this week, and the scenic effects are very elaborate. Mr Dundas plays Captain Temple and he is an ideal hero; his wife, Nellie Temple, is a capable effort on the part of Miss Bartho-Griffiths. As the scheming Cora Grey Miss Lilian Dundas is effective, and the cunning Matthew Hawker is cleverly played by Mr H. C. Cooper. The capable acting of Mr Reginald Weighill as Joe Lambkin, Miss Esther Carew as his wife, Mr S. Young as Horatio Spofkins, Miss Rose Helene as Maggie Wilkins, Little Daisy Cooke as Frank, and Little Marion Ryder as the waif, Dick, does much in sustaining the strong interest in the drama, the other parts in the big cast being also in capable hands.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—Miss Vesta Tilley is the bright particular star here this week, and the clever little lady had a flattering reception on Monday, responding to repeated encores. Otave, an Indian comedy artiste, gave an acceptable turn, and the Lannons were seen to advantage as pedestal dancers. In their sketch, *The Cheerful Idiot*, the Tribune Trio were diverting; Frank Lynne, comedian, gave an acceptable turn; the Mayvilles were clever in their Lilliputian act; the excellent vocalism of Sybil St. Elmo won hearty recognition; a neat and cleverly executed acrobatic performance on novel lines was given by the Bros. De Wynne; Gilbert Rogers submitted a good vocal turn; and glee singing by the St. James's Quintet proved an acceptable item to the programme, to which the Tourbillion Troupe of bicycle acrobats contributed a sensational and clever performance.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr E Harrison.—That quaint comedian Alf Gibson is here again, amusing as ever in a dry style all his own, and Allis and Cassati entertain the audience well with *A Few Funny Minutes*. Much strength and skill are displayed by Iben Obed, Oriental balancer, in his turn. The dancing by the Ferrari Duo is acceptable, and the Sisters Adelaide are an engaging pair of duettists and dancers. Bert Lytton is entertaining as "the Swell Comique;" the Villions Troupe of acrobatic cyclists display great cleverness and agility; and G. H. Elliott, the "chocolate-coloured coon," who is retained for another week, is received again with favour.

BROMLEY.

GRAND HALL.—Lessee, Mr W. Morton.—On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week Mr Charles Macdona presented the Strand Theatre success, *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr Stearne Louch made an imposing and dignified Emperor; the Lord Chancellor of Mr Louis Ashmeade was a realistic impersonation; and Mr Lindsay Harman was decidedly original and amusing in the character of Hi Lung. Mr Arthur Foote was well suited in the part of Tom Hatherton; Mr Sidney Burt as Mr Pineapple acted extremely well; Miss Mabel Carlton made a vivacious Mrs Pineapple; and the part of Fi-Fi found an able exponent in the person of Miss Ettie Cinders. Miss Adah Lascroft was quite captivating as Soo-Soo, and the Mrs Brown of Miss Gertrude Le Sage was a faithful presentation.

BURY (LANCS).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Messrs John Hart and H. Armitage are presenting *The Never-Never Land* here this week. Mr Edmund F. Kennedy as Jack Mowbray has made a favourable impression. Mr Edward Rochelle as Nat Rudder is good. Mr John Hard as Brudds and Mr Simon D. Ord as Raphael Wolff display ability. Miss Caroline Barrett as Sybil Laudale is charming, and Miss Marion Fawcett as Lady Walgrove plays feelingly. Miss Julie Kennard

BLYTH.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Good.—*A Fight for Millions* is the title of the American drama that has formed the attraction during the week, and is presented by Mr Robert Perris's company. In the part of Tom Manley Mr Perris gives a powerful impersonation; Mr J. Newton Cowling is good as Hudson Rivers; Mr W. S. Stevenson is prominent as Richard Dudley; Mr Larry Clements as William Neverwork is satisfactory; Mr Fred Acton does well as Solomon Moses, Miss Fannie Williams, Miss Eva Purcell, Miss Evelyn Robson, Miss Winnie Acton, and Miss Gertie Douglas rendering valuable assistance in their respective parts.

BOLTON.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—After a long interval *Les Cloches de Corneville* is again here, presented by Mr E. St. Alban's opera company. Mr George A. Fox is stately as the Marquis De Corneville. He has a good voice, and sings well the items allotted to him. Mr E St. Alban is very good as Gaspard, the miser; Mr Fowler Thatcher plays well the part of Gobo; and the same may be said of Mr W. Cranbourne as Grenicheaux, Mr George Delaforce as the Bailie, Miss K. Farrell as Germaine, and Miss Lucie Fitzroy as Serpolette.

BROUGHTON.

Victoria.—Proprietors, The Broughton Theatres Syndicate, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Miss Millie Hylton, the well-known burlesque artiste, gives much pleasure by her singing; George French, comedian, causes roars of laughter; Lilian Doreen, contralto, renders some pleasing songs; Cyrus and Maude and their performing donkey, in the burlesque of "Dick Turpin's Ride to York," are successful; and Stanley and Tich Bourne, refined vocalists and patter comedians; Maud Venn, chic comedienne; Edward Ind, comedian; Mdlle. Du Roche, operatic soprano vocalist; and the Four Magnets, vocalists, acrobats, and specialty buck dancers, also combine to fill one of the best programmes at this house. Some amusing animated pictures conclude the entertainment.

BRIGHTON.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr Tom B. Davis's company is here this week with *Florodora* Mr Daley Cooper is very droll and amusing as Tweedlepunch; Miss Leonora Grieve makes a handsome and charming Dolores; Miss Daisy Byford is a winsome Angela Gilfain; and Miss Rene Steadman is well suited as Lady Holyrood. Mr Charles J. Barber as Cyrus W. Gilfain, Mr Cyril Dare as Frank Abercoed, Mr Derick Knowles as Captain Arthur Donegal sustain their parts very effectively, while the full chorus and augmented orchestra add to the excellence of the performance, the duties of conductor being in the able hands of Mr J. M. Hutchison.

Grand Theatre.—Under the entire control of Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Messrs E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company opened here on Monday with *The Traitor*. Mr Wellesley Draper achieved great success in his dual rôle of Prince Rudolf and Colonel Nervi; Miss Theresa Osborne as Zulu, the Avenger, gave a forcible and convincing portrayal; Mr Stephen E. Scanlan submitted a powerful representation as the "Traitor;" Miss Isabel Hunt was sympathetic as the Little Martyr; Miss Hettie Senior was very successful as Elsie Duprey; Mr Frank Sutherland as Jack Boult and Miss Anena Walton as a Japanese girl were very amusing; and other characters were ably sustained by Mr James Abbott, Mr Edward Jenner, and Miss Lily Roselle.

Aquarium.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope still proves attractive here, and Miss Hettie Stallabras, last week's vocalist, has also been re-engaged.

New Palace Pier.—Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Under the direction of Mr Charles Williams and Mr Philip Glynn *Glittering Gloria* occupies the boards here this week. Miss Stanley Ronals gives an excellent impersonation of Gloria Grant; Miss Lilian Williams's Mrs Jack James and Miss Peggy Harrington's Dorothy Kenworthy are admirably played; Mr Haughton Macauley is very effective as Zebedee Posket; Mr John Campbell as Jack James and Mr Stanley Arthur as Archie Toddleby merit warm commendation; and Mr J. Worldley Hulse is well suited as Colonel Gallegher. Mr Charles Williams is very humorous as Mr Griddletop. Roltz's American Troupe of dancers afford much pleasure.

West Pier Pavilion.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr Alfred Tapping, Miss Alice Farleigh, and company are here this week with *The School for Scandal*. Mr Alfred Tapping gives an admirable impersonation of Sir Peter Teazle and Miss Alice Farleigh makes a charming Lady Teazle. Mr Reginald Rivington's Joseph Surface and Mr C. Leveson Lane's Charles Surface merit warm praise; Mr J. G. Taylor is a capital Sir Oliver Surface; Mr W. H. Staveley as Sir Benjamin Backbite, Miss Claire Pauncefort as Mrs Candour, Miss Beatrice Mervyn as Lady Sneerwell, and Miss Nona Hoffe as Maria greatly add to the excellence of the performance; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained.

BRISTOL.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—A special attraction is provided this week in the performance here for the first time of *The Darling of the Gods*. The play is superbly staged, and on Monday evening the large audience followed the various scenes with great attention, repeatedly expressing warm approval. The quaint costumes and appointments display a wealth of Oriental splendour, every detail being worked out effectively, while the heavy sets of solid appearance are most realistic. Mr Tree's company is an excellent one all round, the principals being especially suited to their respective parts. Miss Lillian Stafford presents a charmingly interesting exposition of Yo-San. She speaks her lines with exceptional distinctness, and evinces considerable power in the later scenes of the play. Mr Alexander Calvert gives a fine, manly performance of Kara, at once dignified and artistic. Mr G. W. Anson presents an excellent character study of Zakkuri; his make-up is admirably suited to the part, and he is sufficiently powerful throughout. Mr A. P. Kaye is dignified and impressive as the Prince of Tosan; Mr Ernest Stallard does well in the short part of Kato; and Miss Augusta Haviland distinguishes herself as Rosy Sky. The closing scene of the play is very beautiful, depicting the First Celestial Heaven (in the clouds). The augmented orchestra, ably conducted by Mr A. L. Spittle, does full justice to the special music composed by Mr William Furst.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company is here with *The Midnight Mail*. The drama is staged in effective style, and it is well played by a competent company. Miss Ada Oakley and Mr George Harvard both act their respective parts of Mary Steyne and Harry Steyne remarkably well; Mr Fred G. Evison gives a clever performance of Billy Brewer; Mr Arthur Gilroy acts well as Hassan Padisha; Mr Alec Alves as Leonard Royle, Miss Nellie Stevenson as Lady Phillis Eustace, and Miss Mildred Carr as Nancy Brewer all do full justice to their respective parts, and the less important characters have all careful exponents. The sensational fight on the full-sized model engine is realistic.

Palace.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman. — Miss Alexandra Dagmar, burlesque artiste, heads the programme with a pleasing turn; she sings well, and obtains due appreciation. Jake Friedman is successful with his humorous *One Man Opera*; the Albert and Edmunds Troupe create amusement with their absurdity *The Locket*; Bobby and Blank are entertaining musicians; Bobby and Blank are entertaining musicians; the Four Herberts amuse with their comic abrobatic act as Californian farmers; Bob Vokes, comedian, obtains appreciation; Miss May Moore provides a smart turn as a piccolo soloist; the Maples are good vocalists and expert dancers; Francisco excels as a juggler and equilibrist; Will Dalton, comedian, has some amusing songs; and an extra turn is provided by a gentleman and a boy and girl in the way of an interesting and pleasing vocal scena. The performance concludes with some good animated pictures. The Thursday matinées continue to be attractive.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Houdini heads the programme, and frees himself from handcuffs, leg-irons, &c., provided by the audience, and he also introduces his new barrel trick, the performance of his various acts being witnessed with much interest. John Terry and Mabel Lambert do a pleasing turn of song and dialogue; Wal Robbins, black and white comedian, obtains applause; Miss Mabel La Blanche, burlesque actress, pleases; J. H. Scotland sings baritone songs effectively; Miss Daisy Martell is an expert dancer and a pleasing comedienne; Will Johnson, comedian, obtains appreciation; Geraldo juggles effectively with American clubs; the Kimberly Boys are amusing eccentric comedians; Whit Cunliffe, comedian, is successful; and Harry Edson does a clever and entertaining turn with his little dog Doc. The performance concludes with animated pictures. The Wednesday matinées continue to be well attended.

Victoria Rooms. — Maskelyne and Cooke's mysteries are attracting a good attendance here at each performance. Several new acts are introduced, and Mr David Devant presents new magical problems. Music is provided by the Chamounix Alpine Singers and Swiss orchestra.

Colston Hall.—The North American Photo. company has a fine show of animated pictures here. There is also a smart vaudeville company, and the full band of 1st Glos. Royal Garrison Volunteer Artillery plays at each performance.

Drill Hall.—The Home appliances exhibition continues to be attractive. This week we have Lieut. Charles Godfrey's band.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

New Theatre and Opera House.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Mr John Denton's company, with *A Modern Judas*, is here for the week. Mr Percy Rhodes submits an artistic rendering of the callous villain, Captain Melbourne. Mr Frank Beresford portrays the hero with verve and manly force. Mr John Denton gives a capital assumption of Elkanah Pearce. Mr Willie Scott is endowed with a never-failing fund of humour as Tom Hopkins, and is ably seconded by Miss Dolly Harcourt, a vivacious Polly. Mr Trueman Towers is sufficiently repulsive as Bennett, a butler and burglar, and the Inspector Goodheart of Mr Louis Hector is a praiseworthy delineation. The suffering heroine as depicted by Miss Violet King is a powerfully dramatic performance, and Miss Kate Walbran displays exceptional merit as the wronged wife. Other characters are ably sustained by Mr Harry Browne and Miss Ada Palmer.

BUXTON.

Opera House. — Manager and Secretary, Mr Arthur Willoughby.—Following a successful three nights of *San Toy*, *The New Barmaid* opened on Monday. Mr Harrison Brockbank sang ably in the part of Captain Lovebury; Mr J. B. Montague presented a humorous Bertie White; Mr A. Loftus caused some amusement as William; Mr A. Weston displayed great agility as Mons. Bonsor; and Mr Leslie Austin did well what was required of him as Gussie. Miss Jean Gilmour was a suitable Lady Moulton, and Miss Violet Osmund was well cast as Dora Heather. Miss Gwladys Elvey was in the title-rôle. A pleasing feature is the very pretty scenery.

CARDIFF.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—*A Country Girl* is again paying a welcome visit, Mr George Dance's company opening on Monday to a large audience. A charming and tuneful Marjory Joy is found in Miss Kathryn Comber; Miss Nellie Cozens as Nan was a host in herself, her Devonshire dialect being extremely amusing; Mr Harry Buss as Barry acted and sang with characteristic energy and recource; Mr H. C. Morton as Sir Joseph Verity gave a capital representation of a jovial country squire; Mr Francis Ludlow was a particularly smart and dashing Geoffrey Chaloner; and Mr Fred W. Patrick as the Rajah of Bhong was the character to perfection. Madame Sophie has a pretty and vivacious exponent in Miss Rosie Begarnie, and Miss Ernestine Desborough sang with much expression as the Princess Melaneh.

King's Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General-Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—The American sporting comedy-drama *In Old Kentucky* is being presented here by Mr J. F. Elliston's company, under the direction of Mr Charles Hermann. Miss Amy Hermann as Madge Brierley plays all through with a vigour and dash that evoke loud applause; Mr George F. Steel makes a chivalrous and handsome Frank Harley; Miss Edith Halford is exceptionally humorous as Alethea Harley; Mr Eric Hudson as Jasper Grafton gives a portrayal of the highest order; and Colonel Beauchamp is capitally delineated by Mr Alfred S. Bankes. Miss Beatrice Shirley as Barbara Grafton and Miss Mary Clithson as Mrs Van Astor are excellently suited in their respective parts. A most amusing impersonation of Neb is given by Mr Harry Leander, and the banjo and bone performance of Mr Jimmie James is a considerable attraction.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The astounding conjuror Horace Golden is here bewildering and mystifying Cardiffians. This marvellous magician comes to South Wales with a big reputation, but his performance far exceeds the highest expectations. Several favourites appear on the programme this week. Tom Costello is still as popular as ever; no loss successful is Arthur Rigby; Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins make any amount of fun in a new musical act; the Wheelers sustain their reputation as the quaintest of cyclists; Wal Pink and company's sketch *Uncle's Wife* is laughable; and the remaining turns are given by the Two Bees, in "Hiawatha;" the Baldwin Brothers, in an amusing acrobatic sketch; Frank Maura, foot equilibrist; and Jessie Albini, in clever descriptive songs.

CASTLEFORD.

Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—Mr Horace Stanley and company in *The 10 30 Down Express* is the attraction here this week. Mr Harry T. Wood undertakes the part of Jack O'Mally in first-class style delivering his lines in a powerful manner. Miss Adelaide Clare as Bessie Leigh acts the part in a feeling and tasteful manner. As James Inderwick Mr Scott Leighton is well suited to the character. Mr Horace Stanley is capital as Sam Wagstaffe, and creates roars of laughter by his comical antics. The Peggy Potts of Miss Kate Kilpack is full of spirit, and she is responsible for more than one hearty laugh. Miss Evelyn M. Walton acts with commendable earnestness as Letitia Leigh. Mr Arthur E. Francis's impersonation of Blotherby Baggs is characterised by a careful study and an artistic make-up. Mr Harry L. Day is happily cast as Huntley Mason. Mr Alaric Burton gives an excellent portrait of Cuthbert Leigh, while the old gamekeeper, Seth Coombes, receives satisfactory treatment in Mr Fred C. Roper's hands.

CAMBRIDGE.

New Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—*Charley's Aunt* arrived here on Monday, to the delight of a good audience. Mr Edwin H. Wynne was very funny as Lord Fancourt Babberley. Jack Chesney and Charlie Wykeham were excellently portrayed by Messrs A. Mallalieu and Mark Wylton. Mr Walter Pemberton successfully handled the part of Stephen Spettigue, as did Mr E. Savery that of Sir Frances Chesney, and Mr Fred Epitaux was most amusing as Brasset. Miss Mary Morrison played Donna Lucia with ability, and Kitty Verdun, Amy Spettigue, and Ela Delahay were charmingly rendered by Miss Fitzgerald, Miss Marie Grogan, and Miss Mary Mallalieu respectively. As a curtain-raiser the one-act play, *An Idiot*, was given.

CARLISLE.

Algie's Hippodrome.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; General Manager, Mr C. Algie.—For the second week of the season the enterprising manager has entirely changed his programme, and capital business at both houses is the result. Miss Louise Nella contributes a smart equestrian act, which is much appreciated; Miss Blanche Haddon's vocal efforts meet with approval; and Mr H. Sloan's jockey act is voted unusually good. Clyto and Clyta's wire act is both funny and clever, and they also do some smart clowning. A comic bicycle act by the Swift Trio meets with applause, and is an excellent turn. The chief vocal item is the contribution of the Singing Boxmakers (Dolly, Agnes, and Maud), who give a spirited and original performance. The most interesting turn is undoubtedly that of the Sylvester Bros., whose acrobatic and gymnastic act is wonderfully well worked.

CHATHAM.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr Geo. G. Ridley.—Record houses appear to be the rule here in consequence of the first visit of Mr George Dance's company in *The Duchess of Dantzic*. The audiences nightly are delighted with artistes, costumes, and general staging, a conspicuous success being scored by Miss Rita Presano as Catherine, while Mr Frederick Moyes has hosts of admirers as Napoleon I.

Barnard's Palace of Varieties.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—Here we have Miss Carlotta De Yonson and company in a military episode, entitled *A Russian Spy*. Catherine Miskel, vocalist; Katie Leigh, comedienne; Reilly and Taylor, smart patterers; Harry Mansfield, comedian; Amy Elvira, whose chorus songs "Strolling on the sands" and "My Lady Molly" are taken up by the gods as lustily as ever; Steel and Laing with nimble dances, neat acrobatics; Bonnie Goodwin's Apollo Piccaninnies, who create heaps of fun; and Lacey's Erascope.

CHELTENHAM.

Theatre and Opera House. — General Manager, Mr H. Oswald Redford.—This week we are witnessing a revival of *The Red Lamp*, with Mr F. H. De Quincey as Paul Demetrius. His is a clever character study. Mr Montague Lane is a refreshing contrast as the fiery young patriot; Mr Balliol Holloway does well as the arch-conspirator; Mr Henry Hargreaves is effective as the American journalist; and Miss Sime Seruya as the Princess and Miss E. Stuart Innes as Olga Morakoff are excellent studies. On Wednesday *Richelieu* was played.

CHESTER.

Royalty.—Proprietor, Mr Milton Bode; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Burgess Harries.—Mr Gar Kiddie's company on a return visit in a new burlesque entitled *A Little Coquette* has met with a good reception. Miss Lizzie Payne makes a charming Little Coquette, and Miss Flo Warner is a big favourite as Robin Adair, and sings very sweetly. Mr J. W. Groves is capital as the dame, Ann Teeke. Among the other members deserving of special mention are Miss Nellie Butt, Mr George Hestor, Mr E. H. Bertram, Mr Joe Bell, and Mr J. Clarence, also the Milstead Quartet of lady dancers, who sing and dance in pleasing style.

CHORLEY

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—A welcome visit is being paid by Mr Alfred B. Cross and company in *The Manxman*. The play is lavishly mounted and excellently rendered. Mr A. B. Cross met with an enthusiastic reception, his impersonation of Pete being artistically natural and impressive. Mr Richard Vane acted the part of Philip Christian with considerable ability, and the character of Cæsar Oregeen was well depicted by Mr Hilton Francis. Messrs E M'Lean, E. Caraell, and Douglas Cottell were appreciated in their respective parts. Kate Oregeen was sweetly and effectively portrayed by Miss Minnie Watersford. Miss Rosie Kearns and Miss Muriel Clay displayed estimable qualities as Nancy and Miss Christian.

CLYDEBANK.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—These boards are occupied this week by Messrs Fred D'Arcy and Fred J. Little's company in *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr Edward M. Hamilton gives a careful rendering of M. Roche; Mr Wilson Howard is to be commended for his fine reading of Paul Rovel; Mr W. H. Sharpe as Kretch is worthy of high praise for his clever impersonation; Mr George Beverley as the villain is all that can be desired; Mr E. W. Avery makes a capital Tom Holmes; and Mr Sinclair Holder submits a good embodiment of Vivian Ormonde. The heroine is safe in the hands of Miss Dorothy Riddell, whose Annette wins much applause. Miss Carlotta Anson is a successful Felice; Miss May Rosine is highly entertaining as Sally King; and Christina, the crippled youngster, is well played by Miss Bertha Moore.

COATBRIDGE.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—Mr James Willard and company are here this week with *In the Shadow of Night* Mr Beresford J. Lovett powerfully impersonates Gordon Allington, Mr Hamilton Deane with great judgment portrays Clifford York, and the Rev. Nathaniel Hope is ably acted by Mr Archie Selwyn. Miss Nellie Shepherd gives an artistic rendering of Mollie Woodstock; Miss May Richardson makes an able Violet Kingston; and the character of Bob, a little tramp, is cleverly looked after by Miss Millie Gordon. The staging and effects are all that could be wished for, and to Mr Ern Carlton as stage-manager is due a word of praise.

COLNE.

Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr G. Harding.—Messrs Silvester and Sansome's company is here this week in *Jack's Sweetheart*. Mr C. N. Parke as a naval lieutenant is good; the rôle of Captain Dugard is capitally impersonated by Mr M. Yorke; Mr M. Hastings and Mr H. Hanley win unstinted applause; Miss Silvester is capital as Jack's sweetheart; and Miss Clare is seen to advantage as Sally, the housemaid.

CONSETT.

New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—Mr F. Edward Ward's company is paying a visit here with *Her Fatal Past*. Mr Joseph Millas is very good as Mark Desmond; as Leonard Fernside Mr Edward De Vere does well; Mr W. Coleman is efficient in the part of Gilbert Fernside; and Mr T. Edward Ward as Jonathan Buckstone Nobbs and Mr Algie Spalding as Dicky Bird are very funny. Miss Helen Ingleden in the two rôles of Ruth Fernside and Belle De Lara gives entire satisfaction, and as Honor Symes Miss Edith Ward is most effective. Miss Ettie Spalding as Martha Springwell acquits herself creditably. Little Miss Dot Tully Hole is very pleasing as Leonard.

CORK.

Opera House.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Mr Mouillot's company opened here in the comedy *Old Heidelberg*. Mr George F. Tully filled the part of Karl Henrich, and won general appreciation. Miss Irene Laving as Kathie gave a good interpretation of the character. The rôle of Dr. Juttner, the tutor, was well filled by Mr Clifford Bown. Mr Lionel Gadsden as Lutz, the lackey, and Mr Alec Murray as Kellermann, the steward, both filled their parts admirably. As Ruder, the innkeeper, Mr A. Moore gave a capital impersonation. Mr Eric Phillips was Statesminster Von Haugh, and Mr Frank M. Cross Hollmarshall Von Breitenburg.

COVENTRY.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—Auguste Van Biene, with *The Broken Melody*, is on a visit to this house, and proves, as it always has done, an ever-attractive piece. On Friday night *The Broken Melody* was followed by the one-act comedy entitled *The First Night*, in which Van Biene appeared as an old French actor. Miss Lena Burnleigh appeared as Mabel, and she also ably supports the actor-musician's performance in the part of Paul Borinski.

CREWE.

Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—After an interval of about eighteen months we have this week a welcome special return visit of Mr W. H. Kirby's company, in Mr George Dance's musical comedy *The New Mephisto*, which has evidently lost none of its popularity. Dick Pilgrim is played by Mr W. H. Kirby in his usual quaint manner; Miss Marion Armitage is received with much favour as Becky Pilgrim; Mr W. H. Vernon is again satisfactory as Major Bantam; Dolly is played most charmingly by Miss Lily Cullick; Mr Fred Lyne enacts each of the six characters allotted to him very praiseworthily; Capt. Meredith is well portrayed by Mr H. P. Carr, whose singing is much appreciated; and Mr H. St. John is humorous as Lord Hummingtop. As the three "goey widows" Miss D. Cecil, Miss L. Howard, and Miss M. Keeley contribute some clever dancing and sprightly acting. Mr G. C. Brookes is an efficient director of the orchestra, and Mr W. H. Vernon is a capable stage-manager.

CROOK.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Wallace Davidson.—Mr Douglas Bruce's company in *A Girl's Cross Roads* has met with a cordial reception here this week. In the principal part of Jack Livingstone Mr Geo. Gaisford has made a careful study of a somewhat difficult character; as Farmer Meadows Mr W. E. Griffiths is excellent; and Miss Ethel Bracewell as Constance, the much-wronged heroine, is extremely good, her fine acting making the part a decided success. In the delineation of Cuthbert Lumley Mr W. Fraser-Brunner displays great histrionic ability, and Miss Kate Walfred flings herself with fine abandon into the rôle of the heartless Nellie. Miss Lily Hammersley is a commendable Barbara, and Mr E. E. Howard is admirably suited to the part of Doctor Weston. Miss Gladys Newcombe (Tilly) and Mr Will Corrie (Toby) both do well in comedy parts.

CROYDON.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Mr Robert Arthur's company is here in *One of the Best*. Mr Stanley Bedwell is a manly Dudley Keppel; Mr E. Bellenden Clarke is powerful as Philip Elsworth; Mr Charles Medwin gives a capital character sketch of Jason Jupp; Mr Herbert Darnley is very funny as Private Jupp; Mr H. F. Maltby is a scholarly Lieutenant-General Coventry; Mr Wilfred Beckworth is perfect as the Rev. Dr. Benrose; Mr George Hart is effectual as Sir Archibald M'Gregor; and Mr W. Templer Powell is a suitable De Gruchy. Miss Helen Haye acts with skill as Esther Coventry; Miss Jeanette Le Gros deserves congratulations as Mary Penrose; Miss Lilla Norman is a lively Kitty Spencer; and Miss Nellie Gilmore is an appropriate Mrs Spencer. The remaining parts are also well played, and the scenery is excellent.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—*Honour Thy Father* is being staged here by Mr T. Morton Powell's company. Mr J. W. Evelyn is a host in himself as Gabriel Garth; Mr E. Hartington is commendable as Duncan Bly; Mr Douglas R. Watson is adequate as Jack Halyard Miss Maud Grey is an admirable Violet Wilfred; Mrs Morton Powell deserves praise as Mercy Merry; Miss Lotty Wentworth scores as Gertrude Garth; Miss Mabel Coleman is precise as Lilian Garth; and faithful portrayals of Ned Pennycomequick and Mike Copplestone are given by Messrs W. H. Melrose and Fred W. Graham. Mr Reillie's orchestra is worthy of unstinted praise.

Palace Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—A big crowd here is attracting full houses, and the legend "free list entirely suspended" is quite justified. Joe Elvin and company keep the audience agog with merriment with droll sketch; the Poluski Brothers create hearty laughter; the Sisters Hula are nimble dancers; Julian Ross is a smart comedian; the Three Rays are excellent acrobatic dancers; Tom Parker, comedian is quaint; Arthur Forrest is a brilliant comic vocalist; the Palace animated pictures are as good as ever; and the remaining turns are up to the average. Mr Fred S. Partridge's orchestra wins favour.

DARLINGTON.

Royal.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—Messrs Carson and Granville are presenting the drama *A Modern Adventuress* here this week. Mr Leonard Aardale displays considerable ability in the rôle of an Italian sculptor. The rascality of Wallace Danton is forcibly delineated by Mr W. R. Winning; Mr Charles Stirling as Harry Delby and Mr G. D. Knight as William Delby give finished impersonations; Mr Evan Roland fills his part well; and Mr G. P. Lester is smart as the Detective. Miss Beatrice M. Anderson enacts with much force and abandon the part of the modern adventuress, Violet Meredith; a sympathetic portrayal of the unhappy Vivette Delby is forthcoming from Miss Alice Defoe; and plenty of amusement is created by Miss Mimi Fisher as Sally Hodges.

DERBY.

New Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. A. Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Another old stager is here this week in the shape of *In the Ranks*, presented by Messrs A. Carlton and H. Armitage's company. Ned Drayton is well played by Mr Edward Lloyd, and Miss Edith Blair-Staples makes an attractive Ruth Herrick. As Gideon Blake Mr Herbert Cecil is satisfactory, and the comedy element is ably sustained by Mr Cecil Clayton as Joe Buzzard and Miss Annie Beaumont as Mrs Buzzard. Miss Ella Wilmer is an impressive Barbara, and Mr Walter H. Wilson as the dissolute Richard Belton and Messrs Arthur Palling and A. W. Chappell as Colonel Wynter and Captain Holcroft respectively also deserve special mention. The other parts are capably handled, and the play is creditably staged.

Palace. — Lessee and Manager, Mr T. A. Edwardes.—Captain Alphonso Gerard's lions and tiger-dogs head the bill here this week. Aga, described as the suspended flying maiden, completely mystifies her audience; she is introduced by a gentleman who submits some clever sleight-of-hand tricks. Vernando, in his act *The Deaf Guest*, gives a smart ventriloquial entertainment; the Two Vervains (Vic and Queenie) are praiseworthy whistlers, vocalists, and speciality dancers; the Two Falcons, clever acrobatic hand-to-hand balancers, are well received; Sam Dalton is worthy of mention as a character comedian; Lilian Travellie is a pleasing ballad vocalist, and Tony and Flo Vernon are clever paper tearers.

DARWEN.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr E. L. Ormsby.—*The Sin of Her Childhood* is being produced here this week, and the piece is prettily staged. Miss Mary Fulton as Mary Haysel is very earnest and capable; Mr Austen Milroy as Stephen Haysel is exceedingly good as the heavy man, whose villainy is equalled by Maria Haysel, well played by Miss Jennie Hicks; as Captain John Thornton Mr J. A. Campbell proves a capital foil; Mr Charles Fancourt as the Rev. Alan Grey is exceptionally good; Hannah Spry is very well portrayed by Little Dot Moss, whose songs, dances, and banjo playing are remarkably good.

DEWSBURY.

Royal. — Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith. — Very great success is attending the efforts of Mr Fred Karno, with his musical show, *Saturday to Monday*. It has a good swing, and the humour is of the rollicking style. Mr Tom Wallace as John Willie Jaggs again adds to the decided hits achieved here, and Miss Aggie Morris, another favourite, as Clorinda Blake has a part exactly suited to her charming ability. Mr Austin Lenton as Jagga, jun., is to be commended for his efforts, and Mr Herbert Lewis as Mr Potts makes much of this empty part. Miss C. Blondin does exceedingly well as Aunt Skinner, and Mr Douglas Fox is good as Tom Freeman, especially in his songs.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr Geo. Weldon.—The programme here is contributed to by the following artistes:—Maud Collard, with her canine lions and tigers; Harry Barker, a fine character vocalist; Nellie Lovell, male impersonator; Bros. Leotard, amusing clowns; Tom Beet, banjo expert; Herbert Lodge, an excellent whistler; Kloof and Ramsay, musical artistes; Paddy, in original act; and the Bioscope.

DONCASTER.

New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Limited.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—Another excellent variety company has been engaged for this week. O'Connor and Brady, Yorkshire comedians, are very popular; Beattie Bloom, comedienne, is commendable; Wisper, comedy juggler, is smart; Miss Gertie Gitana in "A School Girl's Holiday," is captivating; and Signor Bandoni, the one-man band, is remarkably clever; Edwin Bennett, in character sketches from Charles Dickens novels, provides a good turn; the living lilliputian, Wa Kay, is delightfully entertaining; and Albert Brady, Johnson, and company import a deal of native wit into a sketch entitled *Turning the Tables*.

DOVER.

Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Fred C. Dew.—A capital representation of that popular drama *The Silver King* is being presented here this week by Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company. The part of Wilfred Denver is one which taxes the resources of an actor to the utmost, but Mr Austin Melford proves fully equal to the task. Miss Emilie Polini as Nellie Denver brings a considerable degree of power of expression and intense emotion to bear upon her characterisation. An effective rendering of the "Spider" is given by Mr Charles Levey, who is to be complimented on a thoroughly artistic performance. Mr C. C. Grattan is particularly clever as Daniel Jakes, and plays with all the careful attention to detail that the part demands. Miss Amy Manfeee looks charming and acts prettily and naturally as Cissy. Miss Phillis Dailly shows a good deal of ability in her portrayal of Olive Skinner. Mr James L. Power as Henry Corkett supplies the comedy in a spirited manner, and Mr Arthur H. Rooke's eccentricities as Elijah Coombe never fail to entertain the audience. The rôle of Geoffrey Ware finds an excellent exponent in Mr Arnold E. Palmer, and Mr C. P. Amalia scores heavily as Cripps. Mr Warries Lindon gives a thoroughly painstaking interpretation of Samuel Baxter, and Mr Phil Redmayne is by no means wanting in merit in the character of Frank Selwyn.

DUBLIN.

Gaiety Theatre. — Lessee, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—Mr Silvanus Dauncey and Mr M. V. Leveaux's company occupies the boards here this week with the comedy, *Joseph Entangled*, which has been well patronised. Mr H. B. Warner is an actor of great ability, and plays the rôle of Sir Joseph Lacy in capital style; and as Hardolph Mayne Mr Stanley W. Ashworth makes the most of his part. Miss Mona K. Oram submits an exceedingly clever and interesting study of the rôle of Lady Verona Mayne, and Mr Horace Lane in the character of Harry Tavender is all that could be desired. The remaining parts are successfully portrayed. *As Played Before His Highness*, a comedy, in one act, preceded, and was very well received.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—*A Country Girl* is being played here this week by an excellent company of Mr George Dance's. The rôle of Nan is admirably portrayed by Miss Daisy Le Hay, whose songs and dances are greatly appreciated. The Marjory Joy of Miss Maud Boyd is admirably acted, and her songs are beautifully rendered. Mr Charles R. Waleun appears with great success in the character of Barry. His songs and dances are loudly applauded. Miss Maud Prenton is most effective and pleasing as Madame Sophie. As the Princess Melaneh Miss Ethel Negretti sings with great taste. Mr Robert Michaells gives a capital impersonation of Geoffrey Challoner, and his songs win deserved applause. Sir Joseph Verity is ably played by Mr Joe Nightingale, and as the Rajah of Bhong Mr St John Hamund acts his part splendidly. The staging and scenic effects, together with the grand dresses, are very picturesque.

Queen's Royal Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—The sensational drama *The Mysteries of the Thames* is being played here this week to excellent houses by Mr F. Brooke Warren's company. Mr Roy Fortescue cleverly acts the rôle of Richard Brandon, and Captain James Denbigh has an able exponent in Mr Gilbert Hall. Mr Walter Ross plays the part of Jack Hammond successfully, and Mr Elton Morgan capitally sustains the rôle of Bill Bosco. Mr Dan Hardie gives a humorous impersonation of Peter Waggles, and Mr George Thorne makes the most of the part of Ben Lorrimer. Miss Clare O'Sullivan displays much ability as Bertie Fitzgerald, and Mr Robert Vincent does well as Sol Crockett. The dual-rôle of Helen Price and Grace Rochdale is played in an effective manner by Miss Gwynne Warren, and Miss Nellie Palmer is extremely good as Little Doris. Miss Lallah Shelton makes an admirable Kate Brandon, and Miss Flo Norman plays with sound judgment the rôle of Emma Seaton.

Empire.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—Heading the bill here this week we have the Davis Trio, whose wonderful cycling act, "Whirling the Whirl," meets with unstinted applause. Hemming and Free, comedy artistes, score a success, as does also Amy Sullivan, comedienne. Arthur Reece is a smart, versatile comedian, and the efforts of the Three Sisters Chester are well rewarded. Woodhouse and Wells, comedians and dancers, are well received, and Silent Watt is going as strong as ever. Lillie Soutter is a pleasing comedienne, and Harry Bickley, comedian, who remains from last week, and the Empire pictures complete a good programme.

Tivoli Theatre.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—Lillie Marney is the attraction here this week, and is as popular as ever, her contributions being nightly encored. Another successful turn is Morny Cash, character comedian, and the Boston Twins, in their comedy boxing act, make a decided hit. Mdlle. Aladina and her cockatoos give an interesting show, and Vasey and Ramsey are excellent speciality

artistes. V. J. De Henau does some clever painting with his toes, and Ellis and Watts are capital comedians and dancers. Michel and Polo are an acceptable pair of acrobats, and Mattie Crawford, comedienne, and Olive Watts, comedian, are also in the bill.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr John H. Stevenson.—Every evening excellent audiences attend to listen to Herr Kandt's Viennese Band, who conclude their engagement to-night. Several interesting pictures are depicted each night by the Bioscope, which are duly appreciated.

DUMFRIES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—Seldom has the management of our theatre given us a greater treat than that of Monday, when *Quality Street* was presented here for the first time by the Ben Greet company to an enthusiastic audience. The part of Phœbe Throssell was in the hands of Miss Nellie Bowman, who played in a natural, simple manner. Miss Maud Townsend did well as Susan; Patty was ably impersonated by Miss Violet Vivian; Mr F. Vernon Travers was most admirably suited to the part of Valentine Brown; and Mr Edward Jepheson as Ensign Blake was very amusing. *The Biggest Scamp on Earth* was announced for Thursday.

DUNDALK.

TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietors, Urban Council.—Under the direction of Mr Payne Seddon Mr Gordon Starkey's company is here this week in *A Message from Mars*. Mr Cyril Austen Lee as Horace Parker was a distinct success. Mr Wm. Lockhart in the title-rôle played well. Mr Percy Tyler in the character of a tramp acted the part to the life. Mr A. W. Munro as Arthur Dicey was admirably suited, Miss Violet Auberies is eminently fitted in the part of Miss Parker; and Miss Maud Shortland as Bella was all that could be desired. Dr. Chapman (Mr G. R. Peach), the Emperor (Mr Fred Bassie), Mrs Clarence (Miss Florence Heather), and Polly (Miss Tracey), all contributed to the success of the piece.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—*Lucky Durham*, the last play penned by the late Wilson Barrett, is being presented here this week. Mr William F. Grant gives a firm, convincing character sketch of Durham. Mr Paul Belmore as the Hon. Reginald Steighton is a capital exponent of the part, and Lord Mountfallan is cleverly enacted by Mr Henry De Solla.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—Signor and Madame Borrelli make a big hit here with their clever musical comedy sketches; Venie Clements does some smart work in her mimetic entertainment, and dances well; Mr Bert Woodward as a trick cyclist is in every detail excellent; and the Five Wheatleys, in their acrobatic show; Percy Currie, quite an original comedian; Devereux's dogs, the Two Stars, Fred Neiman, Johnnie Walker, Harry Wright, and Nellie Gannon also contribute to a capital programme.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Dundee Empire Company, Limited.—Mr James Stillwell and company are producing *Queen of the Night* at this house. The company is an all-round success, and the scenery is also very good. Miss V. St. Lawrence is the leading lady, and scores a triumphant success.

GAIETY, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr S. King Alexander.—A variety company holds the boards here this week, and is headed by Messrs Abel and Welsh in their well-known gymnastic performance. Slade Murray gets a capital reception for his well-rendered songs. The other turns include Alec. B. Thorne, the pawky Scotch comedian; Eck Ray's schoolboys, vocalists; Sheila Barret, a fascinating serio; Lizzie Lawrie, a sweet contralto; and Harry Jennings, comedian.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—An admirable performance of *The Earl and the Girl* was given here on Monday by Mr William Greet's company. Scenery, dresses, and mounting were all that could be desired, and the principal parts were in excellent hands. Mr William Stephens was eminently suited to the rôle of Jim Cheese, and caused unlimited laughter by his droll acting and clever singing. Mr Percy Carr carried high honours as Dick Wargrave, and scored in every scene, his fine singing being warmly applauded. Mr Will Hindson displayed remarkable volubility of utterance as Downham, the American solicitor, and the popular Mr Tom Redmond as the genial landlord, Hazell, was seen to advantage. Miss Florence Imeson, who is a favourite here, made a charming appearance as Daisy Fallowfield, and had numerous encores for her song, "Sammy." Miss Aimee Grey played delightfully as the American heiress, Elfin Haye, while her share of the music was much admired. Miss Gladys Fontaine was successful as the impulsive Mrs Shimmering Black; and Miss Dot Carey gave a bright and vivacious rendering of Liza Shoddam, a character she played to the very life. The music was a feature of the production, and effective chorus singing and brilliant and elegant ballets added to the attractiveness of the comedy.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—*The Darling of the Gods* is paying a return visit this week, and was presented by Mr Beerbohm Tree's company on Monday before a capital house. The Japanese environment of the play gives full scope for artistic and richly-coloured mounting, and the glamour of romance over all has made it an especial favourite with the public. Conspicuous among the carefully-selected company is Mr Robert Pateman, who gives a subtle and highly-realistic rendering of the crafty and merciless Zakuri, the sword-room scene being acted throughout with marvellous power. Mr Kay Souper looks and acts the part of Prince Kara well, rising at times to a high dramatic level. Mr Ivan F. Simpson makes a dignified Saigon, and Mr Arthur Vezin fills the part of Tanda-Tauji with much acceptance. Other important characters are all in good hands. Miss Frances Dillon proves herself a capable actress in the trying and arduous rôle of the Princess Yo-San, portraying the joyous and tragic situations with power. Miss Eve Muriel acts with fire and passion as Rosy Sky, and other parts are well filled by Misses Edith Deverell, Alice Gordon, and Rhoda Ray. The production is enhanced by the beautiful and appropriate incidental music of Mr William Furst, ably rendered by the orchestra conducted by Mr Percy E Fletcher.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H E. Moss.—The star of the week is that prime pantomime favourite, Mr Mark Sheridan, whose genial happy style of comedy is highly appreciated here. Mr Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian, is well received. Miss Florence Esdaile, ballad vocalist, sings charmingly, and Miss Edie King does a sprightly serio turn with success. Smythson's comedy company affords ample entertainment in a clever sketch, and Messrs Tennyson and Wallis also did their best on Monday. Henry Kaiser proves an expert juggler, and the musical turn of the Anartos is cordially applauded. Hulme, Ross, and Lewis give an amusing American comedy act, and Mr Will English, coon comedian, also appears.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—*The Convent Bell* was presented at this theatre on Monday evening by Mr Howell Webb's company. The parts were well distributed, those represented by Messrs Howell Webb, Stanley Carlton, Oliver Birrell, Chas. E. Howell, and J. H. Howard being ably filled. Miss Trissie Humphreys was an effective Christine Valgrave, and Miss Ruby Maude played Marguerite Courier successfully. The piece was picturesquely mounted, and the lighter scenes, with their music and singing, were most enjoyable.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE-PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr A. Standen Triggs.—Miss Ada Reeve and her company are appearing here in *Winnie Brooke, Widow*. The success of the evening is the charmingly effective performance contributed by Miss Ada Reeve as Winnie Brooke. Her dancing is of the very daintiest, and her fascinating manner and pretty voice complete her work, which delighted the audience. Miss Lucie Caine and Miss Ruth Hazlewood share the honours which fall to them as charming representatives of Gracie and Nora. Miss Janet Hodson is extremely effective as Mrs Garside; Mrs Charles Maltby is an appropriate Hannah; and Miss Drusilla Wills is an excellent Eustacia; very high praise must be accorded Mr Henry Vibart for his able acting as Dudley Mayne; excellent work is contributed by Mr Leon Ashton-Jarry; and Mr Edgar Stevens is an admirable Reginald Frampton. Mr Edward Rigby causes genuine laughter as Hercules; Mr James Stevenson is a praiseworthy Elihu; and Mr Stephen Adeson is a smart, animated Montague Brent.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—Mr Walter Melville's excellent company is appearing here in *The Worst Woman in London*. A very strong and attractive performance is given by Miss Constance Medwyn as Frances Vere. Her pretty face, handsome figure, and musical voice are particularly appropriate to the character. Ruth Milford is very daintily and sweetly played by Miss Lilian Ross; Miss Helen Rigby and Mr George H. Asquin share the work as fun-makers, and they work hard and well as Matilda and Bob; Jack Fenton is ably played by Mr Edwin H. Collins, and he is natural and earnest throughout. As the villain, Vincent Lyle, Mr Paul B. Lewers makes the most of his part; Mr W. Roy Byford is a capital James Melford; and Mr Bernard Mervyn gives a sound portrayal of the rôle of Philip Armstrong. A good character sketch is given by Mr Joe Braceweil as Drayton, and the remaining parts are in good hands.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—A variety bill takes its regular turn again this week. The Fleury Trio introduce novel and sensational dancing in waltz, mazurka, and other dances. The Dillons are clever and amusing in their acrobatic work on springs. Barlee and Smith cleverly combine music and fun in a musical episode. Miss Emmie Ames delighted the audience with her songs and her way of singing them. Hector and Lauraine provide excellent amusement. The Three Sisters Lee excel as acrobatic and contortion dancers, and thoroughly earn the applause awarded them. Leonsen and Louise are skilled and strong equilibrists; Miss Dorothy Firmin is a bright and charming singer and dainty dancer; and Mr J. Lennol sings and patters well.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Hague; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—Mr C. P. Leviliy's company is here this week in *Amorelle*. In the part of Dr. Crow Mr Leon Simkin, a host in himself, keeps the audience in a constant state of hilarity; Mr Arthur Cozens as Jules is full of vitality; Mr Fred Carrington is successful as Dotard, being loudly encored for his song; in the title-rôle Mr Empsie Bowman is most pleasing, singing and dancing with a charm which captivates everyone; Miss Adah Grey is also captivating. Miss Von Bargen as Marina is amusing.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—A hearty welcome greeted Mr Robert Hart's company in *My Lady Molly*, which is on a return visit here this week. Miss Mabel Lait, a talented actress, in her fine impersonation of Lady Molly Martingale scores both histrionically and vocally. She has an excellent coadjutor in Miss Sybil Thorne as Hester. Miss Maude Thorne's portrayal of Alice Coverdale is as fascinating as it is refined and clever; and Miss Lottie Sargent impersonates Mdlle. Mirabeau with capital results. Mr Arthur Powell is a great favourite as Mickey O'Dowd, his conception of the rollicking Irishman proving excruciatingly funny. Mr George Grundy makes full use of his opportunities as Captain Harry Romney; Mr Frank Stather is a clever and convincing Lionel Bland; and Mr Walter Ashley depicts Sir Miles Coverdale with ease and skill. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr Carlton Mason.

VICTORIA HALL, LIMITED.—Secretary, Mr M. J. Dunsford.—There is practically an entire change in the programme of Gilbert's Circus here. In addition to the smart equestrian feats of Baby Culeen, a dashing jockey act is contributed by Eugene Cooke. Rabbit provides, as usual, considerable merriment; and the gymnastic feats of Helene and Emilon are very popular. The Boy Samson contributes a wonderful exhibition of weight-lifting; the Zannettos come in for a large measure of applause with their juggling act; and Mendel, the blind pianist, in his unique and brilliant performance is a very prominent feature.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—Messrs C. and F. Renad's company in *The Swiss Express* has this week delighted crowded houses with his musical pantomimical comedy. As the eccentric servants of Dr. Gull (Mr Wilford Bailey), who is on his honeymoon tour, Messrs Charles and Frederick Renad provided a comical repast which more than satiated those who hunger after knockabout business. All of the parts were well taken, the other principals being Miss Marie Millward, Mr George Martin, and Mr Alec Wylie. A series of exceedingly clever and pretty dances was given Misses Rosie Chandler, May Cornish, Dolly Payne, and Hetty Coventry. The mechanical effects which are introduced during the comedy, particularly in the express scene, are skilfully executed.

FARNWORTH.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Morton-Powell.—A welcome return visit of Mr F. S. Gilbert and company is being paid here this week. Monday was given over to Wallace's *Maritana*, which was performed with great care and tunefulness. Mr Gilbert's fine tenor voice was heard to great advantage in the various numbers of Don Cæsar, and he was frequently recalled. Miss Constance St. Bride as Maritana found much favour by her sweet singing. Mr Albert German was a powerful Don Jose, and Mr H. G Place was pleasing as the King of Spain. *The Bohemian Girl, Il Trovatore, Faust, The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Lily of Killarney* are also in the week's repertory. The band is under the conductorship of Mr Charles Bye.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—The Moody-Manners opera company is here this week, and has attracted large audiences. The répertoire includes *Faust, Il Trovatore, Mignon, Tannhauser*, and *Carmen*. On Tuesday night *Il Trovatore* was played. Mr Edward Arthur does excellent work as Manrico; Mr T. H. Wood as the Count Di Luna deserves special mention; Mr David Fuller is especially good as Fernando; Mr R Brookes is successful as Ruiz; Miss Van Lachtarp is well placed as Inez; Miss Sarah Berry is a capable Azucena; and Miss Van Leslie scores in the rôle of Leonora.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr Frank Seabrook.—A good programme is provided here this week, and includes Miss Nellie Tauer, comedienne, who is well received. Mr Joseph Blaschesk, comedian, finds favour; Miss Adela Sutcliffe excels as a solo violinist; and the Ladies' Blue Salon Band and animated pictures evoke applause.

GAINSBOROUGH.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Kirk.—Miss Rose Faith's company appeared here for three nights last week in *No Cross No Crown*. Mr J. M'Bride gives an admirable rendering of Sir Francis Luttrell, and Miss G. Stewart is pathetic in the dual rôle of Lady Margaret and Mistress Gray. Miss Rose Faith as Clare and Mr L Darra as Austin Blake are successful in the villainous element. Mr C. George gave a good character sketch of Rawson Haines, and Mr Herbert Clifton and Miss Maude Elliott were amusing as Dr. Ashby and Dame Priscilla respectively. Dresses good, scenery excellent.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—A strong variety bill is headed by the musical comedians Simms and Simms, who provide a most interesting turn. Atlas and Vulcana, the society athletes, submit one of the best shows of its kind; the child comedienne Wee Mona is responsible for a most interesting turn; in a sketch, entitled *Brother for Brother*, Messrs King and Rose provide plenty of amusement, as do also Hill and Cox in a comedy act. Other good turns are contributed by Rowland Hill, comedian; Louis Kerno, vocalist and dancer; the Wallys, comedy jugglers; and Shang Hia, mystifier.

GLOUCESTER

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in *A Country Mouse* is a capital attraction. Miss Dido Drake gives a fine performance of the demure Angela, and as the Hon. Archibald Vyse Mr Sidney Sterling is responsible for a smart and clever impersonation. Miss Dorothy Drake makes a charming Lady Sylvia Bowlby; John Bowlby is sufficiently austere in the able hands of Mr Charles Harley; Violet Aynsley is meritoriously enacted by Miss Eve Erskine; and Mr Wilson Lumley is eminently satisfactory as Lord Robert Wykeham. Mr Arnold Lucy contributes an excellent rendition of the Duke of St. Kitts, and Miss Emily Levettez as the voluble Mrs Cropper is highly humorous. The comedy is preceded each evening by *His Landlady*.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—Messrs J. K. Murray and J. M. Dawson's company in *Driven From Home* opened a week's engagement here on Monday. Mr J. K. Murray sustains with distinction the rôle of Anthony Raybrook; the Walter Hatherleigh of Mr Jack Dawson is faithfully interpreted; Mr Cyril Harrison is an accomplished Geoffrey Waring; Mr C. Stanhope scores as Adam Morley; and Mr Stanley Douglas does well as Jabez Thomas. Mr Aylmer J. Williams as Dick Saunders gives a good presentment of their respective parts; Mr Jack M'Kenzie makes a clever and humorous John Anderson, and has an able seconder in Miss May M'Kenzie as Margaret Ballie. A word of praise is due to Miss Lydia Donovan for her excellent portrayal in the dual-rôle of Laura Raybrook, and Walter Hatherleigh, jun. Miss Alice Metcalf plays well as Barbara Ashdown.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W Nightingale.—Mr Charles Harrington and company are paying a return visit with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr J. Carr gives a natural and sympathetic rendering of the rôle of Uncle Tom; Mr Harrington is excellent as Phineas Fletcher; Mr John Henry Rogers is a sufficiently cruel Legree; Miss Zerlina Zerbini is effective as Cassy; Little Eva is prettily played by Little Minnie; Miss Hettie Johnson is successful as Eliza Harris; and Topsy is capitally represented by Miss Sylvia Stella.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr Fred C. Somerfield's company is paying a visit here this week with the drama *A Life's Revenge*. Mr Fred C. Somerfield is excellent as Prince Strogoff, and Mr Walter Roberts acts Michael Orloff satisfactorily. Mr John Traynor does well as Paul Starovitch, and a capable exponent of Maurice Trevor is found in Mr Pringle Roberts. The part of Colonel Tumbleoff is well played by Mr Chas. E. Warne; Mr Sidney Ernest is good as Nicholas; and Mr Percy Brown fills the rôle of Clarence Chesterfield with distinction. Mr Edwin Cheetham gives a fine portrayal of General Mikhaloff; Mr Martin Bigham plays Lieutenant Smalloff in a way that earns approval; and Petroff finds a careful representative in Mr George Playfare. Miss Catherine Eckhart is well received as Marcia Vittoria; Miss May Davis does good work as Daphne Dashaway; Miss Amy Hughes is all that could be desired as Acoulina; and Miss Marie Dagmar gives a finished rendering of Princess Vanda Ivyala.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—A capable company is here this week, and includes the Marconis, the electric wonders, who give an interesting demonstration. The Sisters Marion, dancers and cake-walkers, get a hearty reception; Alice Cassidy, comedienne, sings well; Ethel Rosford and Gerald Hunt, the Australian comedy duo, are funny; the O'Malleys are retained for another week, and continue to amuse; Walter Emerson, comedian, does well; Tom Cuthbertson, baritone vocalist, uses a fine voice with effect; Richardson Taylor is a clever ventriloquist and whistling imitator; and Mueller and Coyne give a first-class variety turn.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—A new drama, *A Path of Thorns*, under the management of Hardie and Von Leer, has been presented here this week. Mr Claude King appears as John Edmunds, and realises that character admirably. Miss Violet Luddington does not fail to win the approbation of the audience as Bessie. Mr Cyril W. Mackay creates a favourable impression as the Rev. Frank Selby. Messrs Cecil Du Gue and G. M. Cook as the partners Jonas Deane and Edward Langley fulfil all requirements. The burglars Jem Price and Ratty Gabbitt are realistically portrayed by Mr J. H. Booth and Mr Forrester Harvey. Miss Mary Raby and Miss M. Stanley Burt are each well suited to the characters of the sisters, Constance and Nellie. Sam Hallett, an amusing Lancashire individual, is well played by Mr Alfred Lester, and Miss Amy Rogerson makes a thoroughly satisfactory Jane Adelaide. The part of Lucy is prettily taken by Little Mabel May.

HIPPODROME.—The performance given by the Akimotos Troupe at the Hippodrome this week has been as interesting as it is comprehensive. The artistes, who are Japanese, number five, and perform feats of jugglery and equilibrium of a widely varied character. A miniature circus has been presented by Clown Alfred Barker and Miss Roziska. Their troupe of animals comprises dogs, monkeys, a donkey, and a diminutive pony, which are trained to accomplish a number of novel tricks. Les Sprays have introduced a novelty in the way of dancing, described as the Waltz Tourbillon. Laffan B. Jolly, an appropriately named comedian, has contributed some amusing laughing songs. Flo Challis, contralto, has sung some pretty ballads; good songs have also been rendered by George Foyle, character vocalist. Rennie has provided a capital ventriloquial turn, and a display of up-to-date animated pictures has completed an excellent programme.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr Norman Robinson.—Mr F. R. Benson is always sure of a warm welcome in Halifax. His répertoire of Shakesperean plays this week includes *The Merchant of Venice, Hamlet, Merry Wives of Windsor, Othello, Richard II*, and *Macbeth*. Mr Benson's Shylock is a very artistic performance, and he was warmly received throughout, being well supported by Messrs A. Whitby, B. A. Pittar, Cyril Keightley, George Buchanan, H. O. Nicholson, Clarence Derwent, and Misses Gertrude Scott, Mabel Moore, and others. Mrs Benson's performances are of a very high order of merit. The plays are very well staged.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—Heading the bill this week is Charles Aldrich, a versatile and exceedingly clever artiste, whose performance must be seen to be understood. Sanford and Lyons are a hard-working couple of comedians, and enjoy a deserved popularity. Fyne and Hurley do a good comedy turn; Lillie Lassah excels as a danseuse, and has a chic style in her songs; the Jalvans submit a smart equilibristic act; the Brothers Harlem are responsible for a good turn that includes acrobatics and bâton and musket manipulation; Talbot and Douglas are seen to advantage in a speciality act; and the Sisters Charnley are attractive.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr George H. Gaze.—Mr George Rollit's sporting farce, *The Money-Makers*, was played here on Monday for the first time by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company. The acting of Miss Muriel Ashwynne as Dot and Miss Lorna Lawrence as Mabel thoroughly realised the naïveté of those characters, and kept the house in a roar of laughter. Bella was well rendered by Miss Francis Davie. Miss Mary Griffiths' Mrs Bannerman was good, and Mr Frank Lacy as Captain Archie and Mr Edward Bonfield as Charles Clifton were natural. Praiseworthy work was done by Mr Edward Sidney as Fred, Mr Allan Thomas as Mathew M'Dougall, and Miss Violet Ley as Baby Berkeley. *Two in a Trap* preceded, and was well acted by Miss Violet Ley and Mr Frank Lacy.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Local Manager, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Messrs W. T. Elworthy and J. H. Buckley's company is presenting *A Pair of Spectacles*. The contrast of character in the two brothers is wonderfully exemplified by Messrs Brember Wills as Benjamin Goldfinch and Mr W. T. Elworthy as Gregory. Miss Bertha Elliott takes the part of Mrs Goldfinch in a natural and convincing manner; Miss Kathleen Maitland as Lucy submits a neat performance; Mr Harold Standing as Percy does very well, and Dick is a manly and true representation given by Mr Escott Robson. Mr Norman Aveling takes the part of Mr Lorrimer.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—Miss Lilian Rigby is an attractive singer and dancer; Eugene and Willie introduce a clever turn with violins; the Sisters Vine cause great amusement in their Kitchen rehearsal; Mr Herbert Shelley, actor-vocalist, is well applauded; Kitty Clover and company's sketch, *Mistaken Identity*, creates immense laughter; the Leonards (Bob and Jennie) are a great success in their original creations; Mr Joe Peterman's song sheet, supported by Miss Nellie Lewis and a coon chorus, is a much appreciated turn; Charles De Camo introduces his highly trained canine marvel, Cora; and the Bioscope is an interesting conclusion to a good entertainment.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson.—The excellent variety company here this week is headed by the Sisters Phillips and the Brothers Lorenzi, in their funny pantomical absurdity *The Cook's Birthday*. Prince Fee Lung, the Chinese juggler, meets with success in his mystifying manipulations; York, Mack, and York submit a clever and amusing comedy act entitled *Widow Mac's Troublesome Boys*; and Mr Charles Valvo, a ventriloquist of great ability, submits an altogether novel and pleasing sketch, introducing life-sized walking figures. Marie Katusha, chic serio-comedienne; Beatie Foster, descriptive vocalist; Codge, the whistling street arab; Teddy May, eccentric comedian; and Wallace Whitney, comedian, complete the bill.

HORWICH.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Arthur Sandiford; Acting-Manager, Mr Alfred Holles.—Mr Fred Bulmer's company in *Sentenced for Life* is the attraction here this week. The piece is admirably staged, the scenery and mechanical effects being very realistic. The company, an exceedingly good all-round one, includes Mr Ernest Vaughan, who depicts Captain Paul Derrick in appropriately lurid colours. Mr Richard Bosco makes of Sir Wallace Stillwell a fine old aristocrat; Mr Harry Lloyd is a fine, manly Lieut. Roy Stillwell; Mr Chas. Whitlock as the Rev. Martin Orriss is a capital specimen of the "cloth;" Mr E. D. Allen as Percy M'Gentle submits a clever and amusing study of another type of cleric; and Mr A. Marchant and Mr Edward Finley as Bill Sharkey and Toby the Tadpole, two convicts, keep the audience convulsed. Miss Georgina V. France as Adele Gray gives a very sympathetic rendering; Miss Madge Douglas plays Kate Rennel, the discarded mistress of Derrick, with great feeling; and Miss Mary Dalby's Lady Stillwell is a fine performance. The songs and dances by Miss Douglas and Mr Allen receive full recognition.

HOYLAND.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Geo. S. King.—Mr Harry Foxwell and company played *The Shadows of a Great City* to a crowded audience on Monday. Tom Cooper was admirably represented by Mr Howell Travis; George Benson was cleverly undertaken by Mr Charles Vivian; Arkwright, the detective, was in the capable hands of Mr Arthur A. Tomlin; Jim Farren was drolly represented by Mr Neuton Pearce; Miss Nancy Mitchell as Nellie Standish gave a fine performance; and Miss Sheila Walsh as Biddy Roonan captured the hearts of the audience by her easy and rollicking style.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr W. Morton; Local Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—An exceptionally strong attraction for the Fair Week is *The Fatal Wedding*. The Bridget of Miss Hassell and the Toto of Mr Ed. Morgan are full of humour. Miss Gertrude Harrison makes a conspicuous success as Cora Williams. The mounting is very good and the reception accorded to the play gratifying.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wyn Miller.—*My Lady Molly* returns again to the scene of her former triumph. The tuneful music and striking setting of the opera are to the public taste. In the name rôle Miss Beatrice Edwards has a part that fits her admirably.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—The Fair production at this house is *Her Second Time on Earth*, a play which when last here created a great furore. Miss Hilda Beverley is a distinguished member of the company, and maintains a good reputation. The heroine in the hands of Miss E. Vanburgh is capable. The scenic effects are excellent.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Manager, Mr A. Graham.—The Kellinos are a striking hit. Their speciality act is novel and meets with abundant applause. As a monologue artist Mr R. H. Douglas is pre-eminently successful.

ALHAMBRA.—Resident-Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet-Perry.—W. J. Churchill, with some smart patter and songs, tops the hill. Another good turn is Will Godwin, actor-vocalist. Ida Gladstone, comedienne, with a good voice, is rapidly forging ahead in popularity. The Bob Hanlon Troupe of trapeze artistes are a welcome addition. The New York Comedy Four are both humorous and harmonious. T. W. Royal, the clog dancer; the Sisters Selwyn, a trio of attractive singers and dancers; and the Waltons, Chinese equilibrists, render a good account of themselves.

CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager, Mr E. Emerson.—The New Century Animated Pictures are making a welcome reappearance.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Mr George Dance's company opened on Monday with *The Girl from Kay's*. The merry musical play went with a rattle from start to finish. The chief laughter provoker was Mr Johnnie Schofield as Max Hoggenheimer, his portrayal of the vulgar millionaire being intensely humorous. Miss Lily Lingard looked very fascinating as Winnie, Miss May Marton sang and acted with distinct ability as Norah, whilst Miss Polly Prim made an excellent pert maid Ellen. Mr Garnet Wilson was peculiarly well suited as Harry Gordon, and won repeated encores with his clever rendering of the song "I don't care." Mr Tom Shelford did not spare himself in his very diverting antics as the Hon. Percy. Mr Charles Goold showed smartly the little foibles of the highly self-estimated hall-porter Joseph. Mr Sam Lysons as Quench, Q.C., and Mr T. Reynolds as Chalmers gave adequate support. A trio of pierrots submitted an artistic rendering of "Under the bamboo tree," which was doubly encored. The chorus, clever and alert, sang briskly and tunefully.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—Large houses are being attracted here this week by Mr J. Gar Kiddie's *A Chinese Idyl* company. An abundance of humour is extracted from the part of Tang-a-Lang by Mr Dawson Dewick, who also scores as a vocalist. Mr Fred Danvers as the Viceroy is also responsible for much hilarity. Mr J. G. Maine submits a clever character sketch of Ching Foo, and Mr F. H. Dundas makes a manly Lieut. West, and sings his numbers in a musicianly manner. Pitti Pat has a charming exponent in Miss Mabel Mainwaring, who warbles very tunefully; a vivacious Princess Stephanie is Miss Emmie Milsted, who is nightly encored for her coon songs and dances; and Miss Bessie Frank makes a pert Belle Brighton.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—*The Medal and the Maid* has been played here during the week by Mr Tom B. Davis's company. Mrs D. Rita Leonhardt showed herself to be a capable actress in the rôle of Merva Sunningdale, her songs and dances being much appreciated; while Miss Cissie Sefton as the Schoolmistress and Miss Maud Lake as Josephine were both at home in their parts. Mr Tom Fancourt was capital in the chief male character; while others that rendered effective assistance to the cast were Messrs Tom Graves as Levanter, Campbell Bishop, William Bland, Cecil Kingsley, Miss Zettie Leroy, and Edith Blanché.

HIPPODROME.—The new turns at the Woodbridge-road place of entertainment this week include:—The Imperial Boys' Orchestra, Tom Stuart, a clever personator of Dickens' characters; Kyoto, Japanese balancer; Clyo and Rochelle, comedian; Fields and Acres, duettists; and the Olympian Quartette, a band of pleasing vocalists.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—Mr Henry Eglington's company is here in *When the Lights are Low*. Mr Horace Booth is a capable Guy Goldsworthy, and Mr Edward Avinal gives a powerful study of the villainous nature of Roland Goldsworthy. Mr Tom Seymour is admirable as Ikey. Mr Dick Seddon as Willie Wilkins, Mr Fred Carlton as Tim Wilkins, and Mr J. P. Marsden as Donald Macpherson contribute some excellent fun in their respective characters. Nancy Christie is charmingly portrayed by Miss Adelina Mercandalli, and Miss Kate Froude is successful as her unscrupulous sister, and Miss Maude Leonard is highly appreciated as Kathleen Kerry. The clever acting of Miss Cissy Williams as Stella is deserving of the warmest praise.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—Mr Lawrence Brough's company is providing excellent dramatic force here this week. *The Lady of Ostend* was played on Monday and two following nights. Mr Harry Hampson ably portrays the character of Dick Whortles, while Mr Percy Marshall is equally as good as Joseph Carbury, his father-in-law. Baron De Longueville is safe in the hands of Mr Lawrence Brough. Miss Kate Milford is charming as Dorothy Whortles. The scenic effects are realistic. On Thursday and Friday the nautical farcical comedy, entitled *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally*, was produced.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Herbert Leonard.—*The Belle of New York* is paying a return visit here. On Monday the play was presented by Mr Ben Greet's No. 1 company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, and, as on previous visits, the piece is attracting good business. The company is exceptionally powerful, including Mr Mack Ollive, a local favourite, who as Blinky Bill did full justice to the part; his whistling was much appreciated, Mr A. Ricketts as Ichabod Bronson achieved a success; Mr H. Wardroper was good as Harry Bronson; Violet Grey, the Belle, was charmingly represented by Miss Mona Hersee, who sang sweetly and tastefully; Miss Helen Rose as Fifi deserved praise; Miss Ida Grandison scored as Cora Angelique; and Karl Von Pumpernick, the polite lunatic, was capitally played by Mr Walter Emro. A feature of the evening was the singing of "Sammy" by Miss Florence Hersee, a vivacious Mamie Clancy. The chorus is exceedingly good, under the direction of Mr J. Sainton. On Thursday and following night *Charley's Aunt* was staged.

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KILMARNOCK.

King's Theatre.—The Ben Greet company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, is here for this week with *The Belle of New York* and *Florodora*. The company is an all-round strong one, but Mr Edward Chester as Ichabod Bronson, Mr Edward Crosland as Harry Bronson, and Miss Adele Roze as the Belle are all worthy of special mention.

LANCASTER.

Athenæum.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—We have this week a capital attraction in *A Message from Mars*, which is well played by Mr Gordon Starkey's company. Mr Cyril Austen-Lee gives a well-thought-out impersonation of Horace Parker; Mr William Lockhart is impressive and dignified as the Messenger; Mr Percy Tyler's rendering of the Tramp calls for special mention; and Mr Alan Birch as the American is successful. Miss Violet Auberies is most effective in the rôle of Aunt Parker, and Miss Edith Cuthbert is a captivating Minnie. *A Kiss in the Dark* is the curtain-raiser.

LEAMINGTON.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr R. Taylor.—Mr John F. Preston's company is here with *Lady Godiva*, *Nell Gwynne*, and *Jane Shore*. Miss Grace Lester plays the title-rôles in each of the pieces, and Mr Edward Beecher and Mr Lewis Leslie are the representatives of the principal male characters.

LEEDS.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart, General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—The house was crowded in every part on Monday when Sir Henry Irving and his company opened with Shakespeare's comedy *The Merchant of Venice*. Sir Henry's dramatic portrait of the crafty and vindictive Shylock is familiar to all, and loses none of its power, for the great audience was kept intensely interested throughout the performance. A new Portia appears in Miss Edith Wynne Mattheson, a young actress of considerable ability. Mr Gerald Lawrence submits the part of Bassanio with great success; the merchant, Antonio, has a capable exponent in Mr James Hearn; and the feminine parts of Jessica and Nerissa are satisfactorily done by Mrs Cecil Raleigh and Miss Grace Hampton. Mr Chas. Dodsworth and Mr T. Reynolds are distinctly good in the comedy parts of Launcelot Gobbo and Old Gobbo. Sir Henry responded to the numerous recalls with a few words expressing thanks and gratification. The remainder of the week is taken up with the usual répertoire—*Becket*, *The Lyons Mail*, *Waterloo*, and *The Bells*.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—The return visit of Max Goldberg's racing drama *Rogues of the Turf* is a big attraction at Mr Macnaghten's popular theatre. The company presenting it is Mr John F. Preston's, with Mr Preston himself giving a strong lead as Joe Flaxman, the trainer. The two rogues are effectively presented by Mr George R. Montford and Mr Harry H. Rigould; whilst Mr Stanley May, Mr W. Hartley, and Mr A. Newman are noticeable for good work in big parts. Miss Gertrude Godart fills a leading feminine rôle with many aliases in creditable style; Miss Hilda Shirley capably acts the part of Nellie Flaxman, the trainer's daughter; and good assistance is also rendered by Miss Mabel F. Barlow.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—That veteran actor Mr Henry Neville is to be seen here this week in the two immensely popular plays *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* and *The Two Orphans*, which, though seen here many times, still continue to attract interest. On Monday Mr Neville played the title-rôle of the former with all his old power, and was ably supported by a strong company, which includes Mr William Devereux as James Dalton, Miss Evelyn Weeden in a capital portrayal of May Edwards, and Miss May Congden as Emily St. Evremond. The latter part of the week has seen the presentation of *The Two Orphans* by a powerful cast.

Empire Palace.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—T. E. Dunville, the popular eccentric comedian, leads the way here, and though his items include nothing new, a goodly reception is secured. Fred Ginnett's highly amusing equestrian sketch *Rejected Remounts* is again a successful line, whilst the comical business of Brown and Le Clerq is provocative of much hilarity. Rafayette's performing dogs are again in the bill; that smart comedy couple, Rita and Roma, again have a pleasing act; whilst Maxwell and Francess are popular contributors in a similar line. Some clever acrobatics are done by the Three Georges; a pantomimic sketch by the Densmores is well received; and we are further entertained by Harry Dent, comedian, and the Cora Sisters, speciality artists.

Tivoli.—Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—Richard Sawade's fine animal show remains here a second week and is again a big attraction. There is also a remarkably fine array of comedians here, including such stars as Austin Rudd, J. W. Hall, Dave Marion, and Tom Lloyd, and it would be difficult to pick out the favourite, for every one has hosts of admirers. A fine musical entertainment by Nellie and Nora receives due appreciation. Jenny Hartley, an accomplished soubrette, gets a good reception. Alf Aubyn presents his coon song and dance speciality with success, and the rest of the programme is subscribed by the Three Prestons, in a comedy sketch, and Chas. R. Whittle, comedian.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting Manager, Mr S. Jones.—Arthur Lennard, the popular actor-vocalist, is the bright particular star at this hall. Another strong turn is that of the Brothers Artois, comedians and expert acrobats. Clever items in the comedy sketch line are done by Edgar Forrest and company, and also by Ray and Calden, a smart comedy duo; whilst the Brighton Boys are not far behind in their efforts to please. The Sisters Hall sing and dance effectively; Georgie May secures considerable plaudits for her vocal efforts; and J. H. Aitken, comedian, and Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne, complete the bill.

LIMERICK.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr Robert Fogerty.—Mr Henry Johnston's musical comedy company is presenting *The Houp-La Girl* here this week. Mr Thomas Barry is a capital Prince of Felsenberg; as Lieutenant Lampton and Major Davenport Messrs Launcelot Usher and Eric Dalmere are very good; and Mr Jack Durant is a clever and artistic Frank Saville. Olga, the Duchess of Stadt, has a clever interpreter in Miss Harland; Miss Bella Fossette is an amusing Miss Matilda Berkins; as Isobel Miss Madge Fraser is good; and Miss Edith Haley is a bewitching Dick. The leading rôle of La Belle Rosiere is well played by Miss Florence Brandon; the Rosie Rice Quartet of dancers fairly win the applause of the delighted audience; and the chorus and orchestra are under the able bâton of Mr George Sheldon.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

Town Hall Theatre.—Proprietors, the Corporation; Lessees, Messrs W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson.—Capital houses witnessed three nights' performances of *Under the Russian Flag*, presented by Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's very capable company. Mr Howard as Captain Demetrius pleased immensely. Miss Ellen Snow played Luka Marischka with telling effect, and Miss Ada Champion elicited sympathetic cheers for her interpretation of Vera Vassiloff. The performances were considerably enlivened by Mr Alfred Bennet as Alexis Skopolopki, Mr Halford as Peter Poluski, and Miss Agnes Howard as Ogarita—characters in the lighter vein. The mounting of the drama was one of the features of the production.

LEICESTER.

Royal Opera House.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—Large audiences are expressing their delight here with that evergreen and attractive musical play, *A Chinese Honeymoon*, which is being presented in admirable style by Mr George Dance's No. 1 company. As usual with companies sent out by Mr Dance, everything is done to make the performance a thorough success. Mr Martin Adeson, as the amorous Mr Pineapple, has a most congenial part, in which he is conspicuously successful. Mr Philip Hayden as Hang Chow, Mr Ernest Laws as Chipple Chop, Mr Fred Payne as Hi Lung, and Mr Frank Crimp as Tom Atherton, all give impersonations of their respective parts that evoke the highest praise. Miss Vera Vere is a mirthful and clever Fi-Fi, and as Soo-Soo Miss Madge Temple is delightful. Miss Eva Bevington is all that can be wished for as Mrs Pineapple. Miss Holford Beringer makes a capital Mrs Brown. There is an attractive chorus and augmented orchestra, which are under the direction of Mr A. Romilli. Mr J. Alban Newton is the courteous manager for the company.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—The boards are held this week by Mr J. Rice Cassidy's company in the interesting romantic musical play, *Dan the Rake*. Mr J. Rice Cassidy as Dan Donnelly is throughout seen to considerable advantage, and Miss Lilian Clare as Madge is also to be complimented on an excellent performance. Mr Norman Hall is good as the French cook, Archille.

Palace Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—At the head of this week's excellent programme is Mr Fred Karno's comedians, who are presenting for the first time in Leicester an entirely new and original travesty on the modern music hall, entitled *Mumming Birds*. The laughter is loud and incessant while these clever comedians occupy the stage. Max Renard makes a first and most successful appearance with his marvellous statuary dogs. As a trick cyclist Alexander stands in the front rank, his show being very clever. Florrie Gallimore, who is a favourite in Leicester, gets her usual warm welcome. Austin Boyd and Trixie Gilfain are as clever and amusing as ever. Miss Lilian Lowe, a sweet singer, delights every part of the house with her excellent vocalism. Fanny Erris, character comedienne, is well received for her well rendered songs. The Brothers Durant, comedy trapeze artistes, who introduce their airship, give a clever and amusing show. The animated pictures on the American Bioscope are all fresh to Leicester.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—Oliver Conroy, a quaint, clever, and clean comedian, who stars this this week, repeats his usual big success; Stern and Stern, comedians, duettists, and acrobatic dancers, give a smart and popular turn; Johnny Holland and company, who are retained over another week, cause much hilarity with their absurdity, *The Boat Builder*; the Four Trees, duettists and dancers, are on a successful return visit. Other artistes entertaining are Carne Curre, in a comedy act, introducing dog, banjo, and story; Brothers Lavelle, comedy acrobats; Lydia Dudley, comedienne; and the Brothers Ralston, characteristic duettists.

LEIGH.

Theatre Royal and Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—The new farcical comedy, *Why William Lied*, is being presented here this week by the author, Mr Paul Clifford, and company. Mr Clifford in the rôle of William Jackson, who lies so glibly, invests the part with a breezy and amusing effrontery. Mr George Percy as Charlie Smythe, who "fixes things so nicely," is successful; Mr Theodore Jones as Colonel William Jackson plays the part with much vigour; and Mr Edward Coutts and Mr Leslie Pryce Hamer as Dr. Jack Gordon and Dick Morris respectively are well placed. Miss Alice Hunter as Mabel Dean makes a charming widow; Miss Lilian Piercy is a typical Chicago heiress; and Miss Kathleen Clifford is very pleasing as Dorothy Dean. *Jerry and a Sunbeam* is the curtain-raiser.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—Mr Chas. Morritt, illusionist, tops the bill here this week and astonishes all by his sleight-of-hand performance. He also introduces a blind man, who proves to the audience what a remarkable memory he has. Messrs Halsey and Bowers, comedians and patterers, create roars of laughter with their catchy ditties. Master George, boy soprano, has a sweet voice, and soon wins admiration from all. Mr Will M'Cormac, comedian, is also amusing. Miss Violet Beatrice, vocalist, also finds plenty of admirers. The Hippodrome pictures complete an attractive programme.

LINCOLN.

Royal.—Manager, Mr Frank King.—*When London Sleeps* is being presented by Mr C. Finch Hatton's company, and is meeting with great favour. Mr Tom Ronald is very good as David Englehart; Miss Ella Sennett does well as Queenie Carruthers; Mr R. S. Trelawney is forcible as Haynes; and Miss Grace Baring is an effective Hilda Carrode. The chief comedy parts are in the able hands of Mr Darcy Kelway and Miss Barnley Clarke as the circus artists, Mr Charles Digby as Bertie, and Miss Daisy Clifford as Maudie.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur.—This week's bill includes Mr Harry Tate's company, in the farcical sketch *Motoring*, which causes constant roars of laughter. Dolly Harmer's turn goes strongly. Doody and Wright pay a most welcome return visit, as does Horace White, whose act is very artistic and decidedly smart. Bertha Winder's dancing is one of the big features of the show, and other capital turns are given by the Mezondos, Bennett and Martell, and Max Sterling.

Central Hall.—H. D. Roberts' Animated Photo. company are here for a week, and opened on Monday to a house packed from top to bottom with a very good show of pictures and variety turns.

LLANELLY.

Royalty Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—Messrs E. H. Knight and Geo. Denham's company is here this week in *The Grip of Iron*, Mr Fred Powell giving his clever impersonation of Simmonet with great success. Mr George Denham (who, by-the-by, is a Llanelly boy) takes the part of Paul Blanchard well. Messrs Harry Agar Lyons and John Brittain as the rival detectives are both good, and merit applause. Mr Andrew Liston scores as "the Smiler." Mr J. Wilton Richards as Lorentz De Ribas and Mr John Coghlan as De Beaudin are both most capable. Miss Georgie De Lara is praiseworthy as Cora. Miss Nellie Grant is a charming Sophie Blanchard. Miss Hilda Baynton as Marie is also worthy of mention.

LONGTON.

Queen's Theatre.—Manager, Mr H. S. Howard.—Mr Frank M. Thorne is presenting *Napoleon the Great* here this week. The play is both staged and dressed in an excellent manner. Mr Hugh Montgomery as Napoleon gives a cultured impersonation. Mr Charles Halling as Jules Meuron, the persecuted hero, plays carefully. Mr Henry Earlesmere invests the part of Colonel Lavarennes with sufficient force to call forth the opprobrium of the audience. He has a good supporter in Mr Louis Edmonde, who takes the part of Monsieur Fouché, Minister of Police. Mr C. W. Spencer is suitably brusque as Sergeant Choupin, and, with Mr Frank M. Thorne as Pierre and Miss Marie Harcourt as Marcelle, causes no little merriment in the lighter moments of the action. Miss Maud Russell plays in sympathetic manner Leonie Marbœuf, and Miss Chrissie Dunbar as Marie Walewska is most successful.

LIVERPOOL.

Royal Court Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—A welcome return visit of *The Orchid* has during the week been enjoyed by the habitués of the leading Liverpool theatre. Mr George Gregory, the Meakin, provokes uproarious laughter; Mr Lawrence Grossmith shares honours with his Hon. Guy Scrymgeour, earning several encores; Mr Ellis Ogilvie plays with credit the part of the Minister of Commerce; a commendable performance is that of Miss Coralie Blythe as Lady Anstruther; Miss Gertrude Gilliam is a neat Josephine; and Miss Irene Verona is cordially greeted for her Caroline Vokins.

Shakespeare Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—On Monday Halévy's *The Jewess* was revived here by the Moody-Manners company, and every praise is due to the performers and orchestra for the manner in which they handled this difficult work. Mr Joseph O'Mara was the Jew, and sang with grand effect; Mr Charles Manners was superb as Cardinal Brogni; Madame De Vere acted and sang admirably as Rachael; and other characters were in good hands. The remainder of the week saw *Mignon*, *Carmen*, *Lily of Killarney*, *La Traviata*, and *Maritana*. The chorus was powerful and rich in tone, and the augmented orchestra acquitted themselves with credit. On Thursday afternoon Mr Charles Wyndham and Miss Marie Moore occupied the stage with *David Garrick*.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr J. H. French.—*A Trip to Chinatown* has drawn fairly large audiences here during the week. Mr Chas. Seguin was the "dying man," and created great amusement; Miss Harriet Fawn filled the part of the humorous Widow Guyer, and received good support from Miss Dorothy Vicott as the maid. Mr Jerrold Manville as the bachelor, Ben Gay, was extremely funny, and Mr Leslie Norman, who is responsible for the company, did well as Rashleigh Gay.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—*The Best Must Win* is being played here by Messrs Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin's company. Mr Charles Draycott in the principal rôle of the Panther displayed much dramatic force. In the hands of Mr Fred Aldworth the character of the old blind soldier, Sabretache, was rendered with much feeling and effect. A tender and tasteful type of womanhood was shown by Miss Lilian Watson Loyde, and Miss Ethel Vinroy was a success as Lucille.

Lyric Theatre of Variaties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—An excellent programme is topped by the Six Brothers Luck, who create roars of laughter in their pantomime *Hotel Grande*. The Patty Brothers give a decidedly original act. The Great Wilfred is a marvellous contortionist; the Four Andys are clever acrobats; the Sisters Warner are good dancers and singers; Tom Owen is an amusing comedian; Benson and Geoffreys create a deal of laughter in their sketch, *Spoofed*; the Wiers are good comedians and dancers; and Charles Mildare greatly interests the audience with his imitations of a parrot. The Lyric Bioscope adds much to the evening's enjoyment.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—*The Rich and Poor of London* is being presented here by Messrs Preston and Doherty's company, at the head of which are Miss Dora Dench and Mr Sidney C. Cranston; the latter has played Gussy Lamb over 1,200 times. Miss Dench as May Braithwaite, a hospital nurse, displayed much tenderness and a sympathetic demeanour; Little Arline T. George did credit to her part of the heiress; Mr Jay Laurier was extremely humorous in the rôle of Spider Jack; Mr Andrew Money was a good Mark Stanley; and the striking character of an adventuress was well portrayed by Miss Belle Tilbury. Miss Sybil Viney as the flower girl contributed ably to the lighter part of the play.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—This week we are introduced to *A Victim of Villainy*, from the pen of Mr Walter Howe. As given by Messrs John A. Atkin and Walter Howe's company the play was received with cordial applause on Monday. The author enacted the part of Frank Manton with distinction; Mr Sydney Arnold was acceptable as Stephen Cavanagh, and among the lady artistes who occupied important positions were Miss Mariette Hyde, Miss Helena Walbran, and Miss H. E. Russell. The Bioscope between the acts is a good feature of the evening's entertainment.

Empire Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—The big item on this week's bill is Chung Ling Soo, a marvellous conjuror, who, among other equally clever tricks, catches marked bullets fired from guns. His performance has created general wonder. Selma Braatz provides some exceptionally neat juggling, one principal feature being the use of lighted lamps. The Hoopers are in the same line of business, but introduce a certain amount of humour, which adds to the pleasure of the exhibition; Staley's Novelty Transformation company, with their quick-change actions, put in another week; Carrie Laurie's Juveniles are still a source of enjoyment; Nellie Coleman is as popular as ever; Eight of Hearts give novel and up-to-date songs and dances; the Max Welson Troupe present a clever act upon the hanging ropes; Ernest Rees is a droll comedian; and others in the programme are Miss Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress; Josh Dixon, comedian; Dome, comedy clay modeller; and the Olive Trio of comediennes.

Royal Hippodrome.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Heloise Titcomb, the South American singer, is in big type here this week, and was greeted very cordially on Monday. An interesting turn is given by Mr and Mrs Ed. H. Lucas, who present incidents from the works of Charles Dickens. Percy Honri gives a pleasing performance on the concertina, his efforts being very creditable; Jules Keller, the human enigma, is able to walk about and dance as well on his hands as on his feet; Mdlle. Clothide makes her cockatoos and parrots go through some interesting tricks; Fred Cary as a comedian is possessed of a large amount of humour; Mons. D'Musto is an eccentric contortionist; and the remainder of the evening's entertainment is supplied by Mr Arthur Boyne, humourist; Miss Marie Blythe, vocalist; Mr A. G. Spry, comedian; and Madge Grey, comedienne.

Royal Palace of Varieties.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—The Liverpool favourite, Miss Mabel Thorne, is at the top of the bill here this week with her latest successes. Cheevers and De Monti give one of the best turns of the evening with their trick skating and chair jumping; Chant and Chant are a couple of quaint comedy artistes; Miss Hetty King, the "society gem," renders several pleasing songs; and others in the programme are the Sisters Terry, duettists; Fred Lincoln, comedian; and Rhoda Hood, comedienne and dancer.

New Parthenon.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—This week we have the Great Northern Troupe of international dancers, whose reception is a very hearty one. Another big name on the bill is that of Harry Taft, the American whistling comedian, whose powers of raising laughter are great; Miss Bertha Duckett, a gold medallist of London, is a charming child vocalist and graceful dancer. She gives every promise of attaining a foremost position in her particular line. James Fanshaw is a vocalist and comedian; Lil Hartley's singing is very pleasing; and Curran proves himself a whimsical comedian. The Bioscope shows a new set of capital pictures.

Paddington Palace, Limited.—General Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—A series of living pictures shown here have proved a great attraction, as has the exhibition of snapshot photographs of people taken in the street, five shillings being given to any of the audience who recognises his or her likeness. Miss Flo Everette controls a dog's orchestra, which is very amusing; the Darrell Trio give a refined musical act; Mr George Mack renders several humorous ditties very pleasantly; the Esdale Bros. are cordially received for their funny patter; and George Edney scores a success with his imitations of some of Charles Godfrey's character sketches. Norman Russell, the musical schoolboy, gives several smart vocal imitations of animals and instruments.

Westminster.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—Good attendances have been the order of the day here to witness Henri Abbey's canine circus on its first visit to Liverpool. The exhibition is pretty and clever. Mdlle. Marvelle gives an exhibition with her performing cockatoos and macaws, who show careful training; the Warlocks provide a humorous sketch, entitled *Provoking*; a picturesque turn is that of the Marblesque Trio; Professor Stark is an eccentric magician; the Two Eltons execute some clever manœuvres on the triple horizontal bars; and others who appear include H. G. Prosper, comedian, and Alexander Royal, burlesque artiste.

Park Palace.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—Gerald Mount is at the head of the bill here this week, and pleases everyone with his vocalism and mimicry at the piano; Agnes and Arthur Lynch, American song illustrators, give several descriptive songs with success; Pollard and Grey submit an amusing sketch *The Missing Will*; George and Edwards are a pair of smart comedians and dancers; and other good turns are by George Bernard, actor-vocalist; the Dunvilles, with their comedy musical act *Mansion Domestics*; Arthur Elvy, comedian; and Chris Bern, eccentric banjoist.

LONDONDERRY.

Opera House.—Sole Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—*The New Housemaid* is being staged here this week by Mr Oswald Brook's company. As the Hon. Bertie Rashleigh Mr Ralph Roberts fills his rôle with great spirit; Peter Pinkerton, impersonated by Mr Somers Bellamy, is very well played indeed; the part of Marmsbury Doom is cleverly handled by Mr Pan E. Draco; Caroline is powerfully handled by Miss Madge Haines; and Miss Ethel Caryllon is a delightful Dulcie.

LUTON.

Grand.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. Graham Falcon; Assistant-Manager, Mr Louis J. Beard.—Mr Henry Swinerd's *Dare Devil Dorothy* company, under the direction of Mr J. W. Cordiner, paid a welcome return visit the first three nights this week. Miss Marjorie Cecil is well placed in the title-rôle. Mr Wm. F. Green scores as Capt. Harold Fielding; whilst Mr Henry C. Ward does well as Captain Dudley. Messrs Arthur Verne as Silas Crump, Wilfred Carr as Featherstone Haugh, and Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith cause much laughter. Miss Kathleen Garnon is a suitable Ruth Montrose. Mr Ben Greet's company in *La Poupée* was here on Thursday and Friday.

MACCLESHIELD.

Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—The attraction here this week is Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's strong company in *A Beautiful Fiend*. Miss Sidney Crowe figures to advantage in the title-rôle, her clever and telling delineation being much admired. Mr M. Beaudyn is a powerful Ivan Paulovitch; Mr R. Foulis as Malachi and Mr C. Kean as Crackles supply the comedy element and receive good assistance from Miss Annie Clunn as Patty Woodlands. Miss Irene Munroe as Nadine Karateff does very well.

MAIDENHEAD.

New Pavilion.—Proprietor, Mr G. Gude; General Manager, Mr Arthur Aiston.—This week's programme is an attractive one. Miss Abbie Hayler is well received in her character songs; Miss Cissy Trent is encored for a neat and cleverly executed turn as a lightning quick-change artiste; and the Manikens are applauded for their novel performance. Arthur Royce and Sid Stanto entertain with musical sketches. Leslie Digby appears as comedian and dancer, while Messrs Newland and Nash cause amusement with song and patter. Zidney does an acceptable turn as equilibrist and speciality artist.

MAIDSTONE.

Corn Exchange.—Manager, Mr Beesley.—The attraction here this week has been Mr Eugene C. Stafford's comedy company with *Jane*, which has delighted large houses nightly. Miss Dora Gray in the title-rôle was charmingly successful, and Mr W. Hargreaves as Mr Kershaw was a powerful character. Great praise is due to Mr Wilfrid Compton, who as William Tipson did excellent service; while Mrs A. Davis made an equally vivacious Mrs Chatwick. The other characters were in the competent hands of Mr Fred Inwood as Charley Shackleton, the much-married man; Mr Vivian Gilbert as Claude; Miss Mary E. Deverell as Lucy Norton; and Miss Cecily Wade as Mrs Picton; and Mr R. Chester as Mr Picton. A dramatic comedy *Good for Nothing* was given each evening as a curtain-raiser.

MANCHESTER.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—Miss Olga Nethersole and her company are here this week in a trio of attractive plays. The first of these, *The Second Mrs Tanqueray*, was given on Monday evening to the satisfaction of a large house, Miss Nethersole being seen to great advantage in the difficult rôle of Paula Tanqueray, which she rendered with fine taste, judgment, and individuality. Mr G. S. Titheradge was conspicuously successful also as Aubrey Tanqueray, and Mr Berte Thomas played Cayley Drummle in a light and pleasing spirit. Other characters contributed the necessary piquancy to the representation. On Tuesday Sudermann's fine play, *Madga*, was given, Miss Nethersole's rendering of the title-part being exceedingly well defined. She was admirably supported by Mr G. S. Titheradge as Leopold Schwartze, Mr Berte Thomas as the pastor of St. Mary's, Mr Edward Fielding as Dr. Keller, and by the Misses Frances Ivor and Rosalind Ivan as Augusta and Marie respectively. Wednesday's performance of *Sapho* added another to the long list of Miss Nethersole's achievements in the title-rôle of this attractive drama. Each of the plays is well mounted and brilliantly dressed.

Prince's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Mr Charles Macdona's company in *Three Little Maids* occupies the boards here this week. This is a very pleasing musical play, which the company in question is able to render quite satisfactorily to the average audience, a fact which was evidenced by the frequent and hearty applause of the house on Monday evening. The three maids of the title are vivaciously impersonated by Miss Janet Reeve, Miss Gertrude Melville, and Miss Nora Guy, and the three men are Mr Haddon Cave, Mr Alec Chantrens—an agreeable singer—and Mr Arthur Longley, the latter an efficient comedian, suitably cast for the part of Lord Cheyne. Miss Kate Forster is again successful as Lady St. Mallory, and much amusement is contributed by Mr Gus Oxley as Cupid and Miss Laura Wright as Gretchen. A full chorus and augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr Julian Rutt.

Royal Osborne Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A big attraction is here this week in the shape of Clarence Burnette's drama *When a Man Hates*, which is played by a company under the direction of Miss Olga Audré and Messrs Travis Green and Arthur Hinton. Mr Arthur Hinton gives a fine depiction of Pietro Danelli. Mr A. S. Baron is really excellent as the half-witted Paul. Miss Vere Mosley works admirably as Olga Gwynne, the woman with a past. Other good parts are well played by Mr Chas. Cairns, Mr Ploens Gains, Miss Lilian Earle, Mr Tom Taylor, and Miss Marie E. Robertson.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—A decided treat is provided for patrons here this week in the engagement of Mr Edward Terry and a capital company in a répertoire of plays including *Sweet Lavender*, *The House of Burnside*, *Love in Idleness*, *The Passport*, and other pieces of minor importance. A large house witnessed the first-mentioned play on Monday, in which Mr Terry and Miss Beatrice Terry sustained the principal parts in delightful style. Tuesday's performance of *The House of Burnside* was remarkably good also, a very fine character sketch being given by Mr Terry as Richard Burnside, and Miss Daisy Murch sustaining the rôle of Marion, his erring daughter-in-law, with admirable sympathy and emotion. Mr Arthur Cornell also deserves high praise for his natural rendering of Robert Parminter. *Bardell v. Pickwick* was a capital conclusion to the evening's entertainment. All the plays are admirably staged.

Metropole Theatre.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The quality of the programme at this popular house is well kept up this week, the principal turns being Rosemont and Clarke's Philadelphians, a vaudeville company of American coloured artistes, and Fred Southern and company in an amusing sketch. Capital turns are submitted also by the Brothers Lloddge, athletes; Novellos, society acrobats; Hart and Rudd, comedians and dancers; Harry Grey, Australian comedian; Reed and Glenny, in a farcical comedy; Bliss and Bliss, patter comedians; Private Clarke, the soldier vocalist; and T. W. Johnson, dusky comedian and sand dancer.

Grand Junction Theatre.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—An interesting sensational drama, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, by Frederick Melville, is presented here this week by a clever company, under the direction of the author. One of the sensations of the piece is the introduction of a motor-car. The principal parts are excellently rendered by Mr Horace Hunter, Mr Gilbert Heron, Mr Charles Carte, and Miss Emily Hughes, while Mr Harry Elliston, Miss Isla Garnett Vayne, and Little Alice are also seen to advantage in interesting rôles. The scenery is good, and the general performance leaves nothing to be desired.

Queen's Theatre.—Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—That powerful attraction, *Sherlock Holmes*, occupies the stage here this week, an excellent performance being given by Mr Charles Frohman's capable company. Mr H. A. Saintsbury is in the title-part, which he renders irreproachably; while a strong impersonation of Moriarty is given by Mr W. F. Stirling, and Mr Leslie Carter makes a decidedly effective Larrabee. Among the remaining members of the cast, Master Cedric Walters is conspicuous for a smart impersonation of the boy Billy.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Dinah Morris and her troupe of Southern State artistes are here this week in a sketch entitled *The Lost Coon*, in which songs and cake-walks are introduced, not the least entertaining feature being an excellent concertina solo by a blind collier boy. The Schaffers are an exceedingly clever trio of muscular performers, and are deservedly applauded. Jack and Evelyn give an entertaining turn in song, burlesque, and sand-dancing; and Robins and Collier cause much laughter in a capital absurdity. Very amusing and well received are the turns of Jack Hylton, the eccentric; Martin Conway, of "walk round, Martin," fame; and Will Ellerslie, comedian. Others who appear with success are Frank Staley, actor-vocalist; Florrie Bray, comedienne; Alex. M'Nulty, pleasing juvenile vocalist; and a series of animated pictures complete.

Queen's Park Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—An excellent all-round entertainment is offered here this week, chief amongst which must be placed the Imperial Russian Troupe of national singers and dancers, whose efforts are received with the utmost satisfaction. Special mention should also be made of the globe walking performance of Mdlle. Florence, which is decidedly clever and graceful, and of the lightning sketches in oils executed by Mons. Vandinoff. The droll songs of George Prince, described as the "crazy comedian," evoke much laughter, as does also Larry Lewis with a couple of songs, rendered in an unusually quaint manner. Much amusement is also caused by the Ten Stilt-walkers, who promenade the stage in grotesque costumes. Some remarkably clever feats of "foot equilibrium" are contributed by Hannas and James; J. P. Carroll is expert with the tambourine; the Sisters Aindow offer a delightful musical act; the Pender Troupe appear in a pantomime extravaganza, entitled *Hands Up!* Texas Bill gives an exhibition of American sharp-shooting; and animated pictures are also shown.

Tivoli.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—A capital entertainment is provided by the current programme here, the bill including no fewer than three star turns; to wit, Billie Barlow, the charming burlesque actress; F. V. St. Clair, the famous descriptive singer and extempore vocalist; and James Fawn, a popular comedian, who is always heartily appreciated by Manchester audiences. Other clever and enjoyable turns are Solo and Mayo, burlesque artistes; the Dorothy Quartet of speciality dancers; Charles Woodward, character comedian; Alma Jones, contralto vocalist; Pattie M'Carthy, South African comedienne; and Tom Jones, character comedian.

Grand.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—A big attraction here this week is Marie Lloyd, who makes a decided hit, particularly with her songs, "The Coster's Wedding" and "The Tale of the Skirt." Carola's miniature circus introduces some well-trained ponies and dogs; Vansart, "the man with the grip of iron," appears in athletic poses and gives a capital exhibition in feats of strength; Clark and Argyle are excellent national dancers; and Arthur Albert is a first-rate comedian, who comes in for a good reception. Good turns are also provided by Hurman, a smart hoop manipulator; Mark Tapley, comedian, with good patter; Bogg and Bogg, decidedly comic conjurors; and Ella Lane, vocalist. The animated pictures are particularly interesting.

Palace.—Manager and Secretary, Mr Peter Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Miss Ada Blanche and company are here this week in a new comedietta, entitled *Becky Bounder, the Laundry Girl*, produced by Mr Robert Courtneidge. For a music hall sketch, it is much above the average. The excessive affection shown by Mr Tomkins to his wife is the cause of the trouble. She tells her brother, Bob Perkins, a naval officer, that she is weary of it all. To cure her he gets Becky Bounder to feign falling in love with Mr Tomkins, on the understanding that Bob shall set her up in a greengrocer's business, in order that she may marry her "young man." Mr Tomkins is susceptible, Mrs Tomkins becomes jealous—climax, explanation, and all ends well. As Becky Miss Ada Blanche is particularly vivacious, and excellent support is rendered by Messrs William Morgan and Norman Partriege and Miss Sylvia Morris. The scene, which is laid in Tomkins's house, is very good. Remaining from last week are George Lashwood, as popular as ever; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, the clever trick and comic cyclists; and Ada Cerito, comedienne. A most enjoyable item is that of Sam Mayo, the "Immobile" comedian, who is most amusing. The charming Daisy Dormer, comedienne, is a first-rate acrobatic dancer, and Stella Stanley is a pleasing comedienne. Conan and Doyle, comedians, dance well; Gilbert Gerard is a clever animal

and sound imitator; Tatten Hall is a good vocal comedian; and others who contribute are James Grant and Walter Munroe, comedians. The overture to *Tannhäuser* is excellently rendered by the orchestra, and a series of interesting animated pictures completes.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Collins.—The chief attraction here this week is Mdlle. Madeline, whose Looping the Loop incident is highly sensational. The Manhattan Comedy Four are excellent glee-singers, and also create some amusement. A marvellous and graceful gymnastic performance is gone through by the Mascotte Trio, who are deservedly loudly applauded. Laughter-making turns are contributed by Charles Austin, a capital eccentric comedian; Palles and Cussick, comedians; and the Mackweys, on and off the wire. Other good turns are Norah Emerald, a dainty song and dance artiste; the Sisters Maginel Mullini, who make a big hit as "triumphal trumpet virtuose;" Brown and Robinson, good vocalists; Charles Vincent, a popular comedian; and animated pictures shown on the Bioscope.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Mr Fred J. Kirke has during the week been presenting his musical comedy *The Naval Detective*. Mr Arthur Hickman is very successful in the part of Lieut Jack Beresford, of H.M.S. Terrible, with with which part he duplicates those of the Rev. Frequent Nipper and Pat M'Guinness. He sings both comic and sentimental songs ably. Mr Robert Gilbert is excellent as Dr. Schreiner, the villain, and Mr H. Griffiths is good as Captain Hustle. Mr Walter Langford has been deservedly popular as the Hon. Bertie Fairlox, and Miss Louie Fountaine works hard and achieves distinct success in the triple rôle of Phyllis Leslie, Mam'selle Lucette, and Bill Mainway. Miss Edith Claus has been very amusing as Susan Scrubbs, the maid-of-all-work, and afterwards as the barmaid. Miss Iris Banfield plays well and sings coon ditties charmingly as Lulu Kaufmann, and Miss Lily Seymour acts excellently as Rebecca Gentle. Miss Florence Hayes is good as Maud Mashem, and the Misses Mamie Walsh and Elsie Paul introduce several smart dances. The songs are bright, the music catchy, and some speciality turns go remarkably well.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business-Manager, Mr Charles E. Hardy.—Mrs Hy. Mayhew and Mr Charles Herrick's company has been playing here this week in the modern French drama, *The Triumph of Truth*. Mr Edward E. Louis sustains with effectiveness the rôle of Capt. Jack Eversleigh, an English officer, and Mr J. A. Keogh does well as Sir Charles Eversleigh. Mr T. Renaud Lockwood gives plenty of point to the part of the Count Raoul D'Orville. Mr Charles Herrick acts with subtle skill the rôle of the avenger in Vitto Mascagni, and Mr Johnny Clegg as Tommy Woodhead is responsible for most of the fun which lightens the piece. Capable work is done by Mr T. Arthur Elliston as Inspector Danvers. Miss Marie Auckland is particularly successful in the dual rôle of Violet and Lilian Anstruthers, twin sisters. Little Nellie Kenneth plays sympathetically as Lena, the little martyr. Miss Lily Rogers is capital as Katie Bright, an English girl, who is proud of her nationality. Miss Lilian Ramsdale is good as Coralie, an artist's model, and Miss Rosabel Dodd as Blanche De Croix is also praiseworthy. Other parts are capably sustained—Mr Henry Benson, Gaston De Brave; Mr Felix Leigh, Gustave; and Mr P. Baldwin, Adolph Guillem.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—Messrs Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company opened here on Monday with *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr Sam Livesey submits a striking portraiture of John Strong, the village blacksmith; Miss Ethel Kay enlists the sympathies of the audience by her sympathetic treatment of Kate Strong; as Captain Leo Mr Joseph Carter is a cool and polished villain; Miss Maggie Edwards is successful in her embodiment of Kut; Mr Frank Harrison is well placed as Lucas Marler; Jeremiah Parkins and Sal Parkins are well looked after by Mr Thos E Marshall and Mrs T. C. Livesey; Miss Edith Giddens is a lively Mopps; and Mr George V. Campbell ore tes roars of laughter by his impersonation of Billy Twigg. The sensational wrestling match in the final act is received with deafening applause.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is this week presenting *A Traitor Prince*. Mr G. Montanini plays powerfully in the title-rôle; Mr A. Mortimer gives a good rendering of Lieut. Derrick; Mr G. E Hall is well placed as Cara; Mr A H. Longford creditably fills the dual-rôle of Richard and Colonel Vane; Mr E. C. Livesey (Billy Bright) and Mr T. G. Vane (the Hon. Dalymple) are responsible for excellent comedy; Miss Lilian Rosebury is graceful in the character of Lola Vane; the Vashti of Miss Beatrice Western is a highly capable effort; and the Geisha acrobatic dancers are decidedly smart.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Messrs Armadale and Warren's company, in the sensational drama *The Face at the Window*, is occupying the boards here. Mr Hoggan Armadale appears in his original creation of Le Loup, which has been portrayed by him some 1,500 times. Mr Armadale submits a powerful representation of his character, and Mr Alan Hineson gives a fine study of Le Blanc. Lucien Cortier is in the capable hands of Mr Alfred Richards. Miss Jennie Dempster gives an excellent impersonation of La Pinau, whilst as Marie Brisson Miss Marie Florence is charming, and much praise is due to Miss Lizzie Chambers as Babette.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera Company, Limited; Licensee, Mr T. Hopcutt.—Mr W. S. Gilbert's play *The Fairy's Dilemma* is here this week. The company is under the management of Messrs Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux. Mr Frank Stanmore as the Rev. Parfitt submits a most amusing study, and as Colonel Trevor Mauleverer, Bart., Mr Charles V. France keeps the house in merriment. Mr C. Herbert Hewetson is capital as the Demon Alcohol, and Mr Frank Collins pleases everyone as Mr Justice Whortle. The scenery is beautiful and lavish, and the transformation scene adds much to the success of the play. There is a curtain-raiser entitled *The Conversion of Nat Sturge*, which is done full justice to.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—At the Empire this week Wood and Bates, eccentric musical comedians, top the bill, and come in for a good meed of applause. The Tally-Ho Trio meet with an excellent reception. They sing some favourite songs with great expression, and their antics provide much amusement. Howard and Collinson, "The Porter and the Parcel," provide much amusement, and Neil Kenyon, comedian, submits some amusing patter, which is enthusiastically received. Charles Norton is a popular mimic, and Flo Wood sings good songs. La Belle Nello, contortionist, and Fred Keeton, comedian, are good. Some amusing films are shown on the Bio, including the great Irish eviction.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—The Dayton Family of Risley acrobats head the bill here, and are enthusiastically received. Charles Vandyke and company, in *Nicodemus*, create much laughter; Tony Iveson, a Middlesbrough favourite, meets with a good reception; and Gus Harris is as successful as on his former visits to Teeside. Keen and Walad give a smart acrobatic turn, and the Three Sisters Selwyn are clever dancers. Gladys Mavius, Canadian coon; Flo Hill, burlesque actress; and the Bio complete the programme.

MIDDLETON.

PARDOE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr William Pardoe.—Mr Charles Phelp's company, in the play *One Woman's Wickedness*, is attracting good audiences this week. Mr Phelps plays an escaped convict with effective earnestness, Mr Arthur Ferris is an amusing amateur detective, and Miss Louie Davis, Miss Ethel Ashbury, Miss Florence Lloyd, and Miss Florence M. Daly earn praise.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—This week we have at this theatre Dr. Bodie and his varied company. As expected, Dr. Bodie gives a grand exhibition of hypnotism and mesmerism. The Sisters Lyle's singing and dancing, and the Garden Troupe of dancers are extremely pleasing; and Mr Gerald Lopez, the dandy coloured coon, gives a good display.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Mr C. Lubbock's company is producing here this week *The Cherry Girl* to appreciative houses. The Queen, who masquerades as Pansy, is played with much spirit by Miss Elsie Molloy; Moonshine is cleverly impersonated by Mr H. Herbert; and Miss Kitty May makes a sweet Pansy. Miss Dorothy Frostick, a clever child, appears in her original part of Mdlle. Pas Bas, singing brightly and dancing very prettily; Miss Julia Vivers as Sylvia sings in a charming manner; and Mr St. John Medley acts admirably as Starlight. The Avondale Quartet render beautiful glees in each act, and Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers form a special feature.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—A meritorious programme is being placed before patrons here this week. The Brothers Ethairien are extremely funny; Ernest Shand, an old favourite, is much appreciated; and "the Woman in White" sings some pleasing songs, illustrated by charming pictures. Tom Edwards, with "Curly," the original newspaper boy, is clever; the Harvey Boys give an amusing performance; the Three Laurels, in their skill, gracefulness, and daring have been rarely equalled; the Ohms present a novel and pleasing performance, in which they introduce clever ponies, dogs, and bears; and Nina Martino, chanteuse, has an excellent voice. *Destiny*, a new historical scena, is very ably rendered by Miss Maud Mortimer.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The coming of *The Cingalee* has been eagerly awaited, and crowded houses have derived plenty of enjoyment from the performance of Mr George Edwardes's successful production. A capital part is that of Chambhuddy Ram, in which Mr Frank Danby appears, and ebullitions of mirth are constantly engendered by this smart comedian's humorous performance. Mr Leedham Bantock in the familiar rôle of an Oriental potentate of limited intelligence scores his usual success, and Mr F. Pope Stamper acts and sings agreeably as Harry Vereker. Mr W. J. Manning submits a sound performance as Sir Peter Lofcus, and Mr Jack Cannot as Bobby Warren is encored for his song concerning the ladies. Miss Anna Hickisch, whose incursion in the domains of musical comedy has been attended with the happiest results, again sings splendidly as Lady Patricia Vane. An emphatic success has been achieved by Miss Eva Sandford, who displays all-round ability of a high order as Peggy Sabine, and the merit of her performance has been fully recognised. Miss Florence Smithson acts and sings with charm as Nanoya, and both Miss Claire Marsden as Naitooma and Miss Claire Pradelle as Sattambi are successful. Mr Harold Vicars directs the augmented orchestra and chorus.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—That bright musical play, *The Girl from Kay's*, made an excellent impression when first presented in this city, and the success then achieved is being repeated this week at the Royal, where it is performed by Mr George Dance's company. Mr H. C. Barry has seldom had better material than is afforded by the part of Hoggenheimer, and his humorously exaggerated sketch of the money magnate who does not hide his light under a bushel is as clever as it is amusing. He introduces some laughable business into the song concerning acrobats, and in this effort praise is also due to Mr Leslie Roy Cathie, who, as Percy Fitzthistle, has a mania for unconventional attire. A flattering reception is accorded Miss Simeta Marsden, who endows the title-rôle with all the requisite knowing qualities, and her song "The Customers at Kay's," which is repeatedly encored, serves to display her cleverness to the best advantage. A pleasing representative of Nora Chalmers is found in Miss Alice Russon, and her sobbing song is capitally given. The two numbers which fall to the lot of Miss Florence Plunket as Ellen are rendered in taking style. Mr Charles Hanbury repeats his very meritorious performance as the dissatisfied bridegroom, Harry Gordon. Mr Fred Rolph contrives to be amusing as the hotel hall-porter. Mr Victor Champion is in charge of the musical forces.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—The play of "heart interest," *When London Sleeps*, is again being performed here by Mr Lester Collingwood's company. Miss Maude Hastings, who speaks her lines capitally, makes a commendably spirited and earnest Queenie Carruthers. Hilda Carode, with "a past," has a capital exponent in Miss Mary Brammer. Mr Franklyn Graham submits an excellent performance as Captain Rodney Haynes. Mr Wm. H. S. Sams cuts a fine figure as the circus gymnast David Engleheart, and acts forcibly. In the comedy scenes Mr Victor Mason's gag is "Sorry I don't suit," but this is scarcely applicable to his impersonation, which suits admirably, and he is well assisted by Miss Effie Macintosh as Carrie Jones, while Miss B. Power is a warm-hearted Signorina Jonesio. Miss E. M. France, Messrs Ernest C. Edwards, F. E. Thomas, and Fred J. Waller are also prominent and successful.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—May Edouin and Fred Edwards are appearing here in their popular playlet, *A Bachelor's Dream*, in which Miss Edouin impersonates a variety of characters very cleverly, while her laughing song evokes a storm of delighted applause. Winifred Hare has a capital budget of songs, and her tasteful rendering thereof secures for her a full measure of well-deserved approval. The Wartenburg Brothers' speciality is foot juggling, in which they are very expert, and Baker and Balfe are applauded for their xylophone performance. Les Voces are well named, as they are vocalists of merit, and the Sisters Iris please in song and dance. The Werner-Amoros Troupe figure to advantage in their entertainment, which is styled *An Artist's Studio*. Entertaining musical comedians in the Brothers Webb are well received, and approval is also bestowed on the efforts of Espinosa and Neilson, marvellous dancers. The Alaskas, in their refined comedy act; Bert Dansie, humorous and descriptive vocalist; and My Fancy are also on the bill. The last-named remains for another week, and shows us what it is possible to do in the way of sand-dancing.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—The programme is headed by Heeley and Meeley, two clever eccentric acrobats and dancers, whose turn is a big success. Hanvarr and Anna Lee give a wonderfully clever and entertaining juggling act entitled "The Golfer and the Maid." Mr Dan Thomas, an eccentric comedian well known here, sings and dances in his own clever style; Miss Ruby Bijou, a dainty dancer, is very smart; and other good turns are those of Reed and Lerne, the novel comedians; Lil Esplin, comedienne; Fred Bronte, actor-vocalist; and the Sisters Morrison, comediennes.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—The popularity of *The Silver King* knows no bounds, and this week, performed by Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, it is crowding this place of entertainment nightly. Mr Lauderdale Maitland appears as Wilfred Denver with the best results. His wife, Nellie Denver, is sympathetically enacted by Miss Lilian Bethell. Mr W. V. Garrod gives full effect to the villainy of Captain Skinner, and his accomplices, Henry Corket and Elijah Coombe, are well portrayed by Mr Philip Renouf and Mr Arthur Wright respectively. Miss Lorna Treherne does well as Olive Skinner. Mr John Hood makes a capable Geoffrey Ware, and Mr Bryon Pedley is a satisfactory Samuel Baxter. The performance would not seem complete without Mr E. J. George, who again gives his well-known impersonation of Daniel Jaikes.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr W. H. Boardman.—We are having a visit from Captain Woodward's performing seals and sea lions, and the marvellously clever performances of these animals prove a source of wonderment to large audiences. Lottie Siegenberg is a protean artiste of marked abilities, and scores in her vocalism. Mirzah, the "man in green," performs on banjoes galore, his entertainment being both original and amusing. A gymnastic pot pourri is contributed by the Sisters Merkel, who are very daring in several of their tricks. Carl Reinsch is responsible for a sporting act in which a horse and dogs are very prominent. Russell Wallett is a society entertainer who is repeatedly encored; Miss Minni Letta's Sporting Girls are here for a second week; and the series of walking handicaps for which prizes are offered by the management is proving a great attraction. Included in the programme are also Bert Leslie, comedian; Dora Martine, gymnast; Troba, juggler; Dion Wade, comedian; and the animated pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—A record of success has been obtained this week by the company organised by Mr Louis Calvert in that clever play entitled *Sunday*. Miss Nita Faydon in the title-rôle thoroughly enters into the spirit of the part, and her acting throughout is of the highest order. Special mention must be made of the part so excellently played by Mr J. Edward Pearce, Col. Brinthorpe.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Burton.—Miss Ada Fawn is one of the principal attractions of this week's programme. Edith Muir and Hubert Bartlett give a clever turn in their comedietta, entiled *The Lady and the Lunatic*; C. Milner, M. Henderson, George Daunton, are well-known artistes; Long Amos is an artist of great ability; Miss Ethel Frayne and Miss Frances Haskoll's turns are well received. Wednesday was the anniversary of the popular proprietor's opening night, and a crowded array of patrons of both houses testified their thorough appreciation of his endeavours to please them and their enthusiasm was unbounded when a pleasant surprise was sprung on him, and amid enthusiastic cheers a gentleman of long standing in professional matters, after a few descriptive words, presented to Mr Anderson an illuminated address, subscribed to and signed by some of the most prominent tradesmen of the town. Mr F. H. Anderson thanked the big audience for the way they had rallied around him, not only now, but on previous occasions, and with their further support he would endeavour to cater to their healthful amusements. Here the band and audience chimed in with "For he's a jolly good fellow." The cream of the local talent gave some excellent turns.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Messrs F. A. Scudamore and Arthur Richmond's company, with *The Beautiful Avenger*, has been warmly greeted here this week. As Cyrus Telford Mr Algernon Syms is a pronounced success, playing the part in a very acceptable manner, and Mr Arthur Richmond is a capable Jim Jhams. Mr Lionel Gillette is good as Zadok Foxbane; Mr William Diamond makes the most of Herbert Foxbane; and Mr William Ames scores as Peregrine Patch. Miss Nannie Meade as Vashti Volta is highly efficient; Miss Mabel Scudamore is responsible for a good character study of Edna Volta; Miss Carrie Podmore is seen to advantage as Baldie Mansfield; Miss Lilian Harkins does well as Arabella Binks; whilst the remaining characters are in able hands, and the drama is well mounted.

BOROUGH THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—Mr Henri Cazman, in "Le Café Chantant," tops the bill, and is heartily received. Texas Hattie, tight-rope artiste, is clever, and Miss Fatmah Diard renders her songs in good style. The Royal Victorian Trio of International dancers are entertaining, and Mr Harry Nelson, Tyneside comedian, has lost none of his popularity. Mr George Collins, comedian; Miss Florence Yaymen, comedienne; Mr Harry Tomlinson, vocalist; the Padleys, Continental eccentrics; and Mr Wal Croft, Scotch comedian, are also billed.

CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr William Mould.—Mr Tom White's Arabs are proving a great draw here. The Four Arizonas, acrobats, &c., perform some difficult feats, and Mr Will Percival, comedian and clog dancer, has made a great hit. Mdlle. Bartenelli, lady bender, presents a graceful show. Messrs Law and Norman, in their comedy act *On Active Service*, are clever. Mr Ted Wooton, baritone and descriptive vocalist, is good. The Boultons shine as musicians and dancers, and the Bio-Photoscope completes an enjoyable bill-of-fare.

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs S. Golden; Manager, Mr Percy Webb.—The New Sapho Syndicate, Limited, has occupied the theatre here this week and presented the play of *Sapho*, with Miss Annie Bell in the title-rôle. Difficult and trying as the character is, Miss Bell was quite at home in it, proving herself to be a decidedly clever emotional actress and handling the part with much grace and tact; as Jean Gaussin Mr Horatio Sinclair shows that he is well schooled in his art; Mr R. A. Greene as Paul Dechelette submits a cleverly natural character study; Mr G. Antley gives a true rendering of Cesaire; Mr Archie Helsby is seen to great advantage in the small part of Eugene Flamant; Mr H. Langford as Caoudal is a decided success; Mr J. A. Storey presents a careful reading of the drunken Father Legrand; Miss Laura Ray plays Machaume with telling effect; and Little Miss Lottie Ray handles the part of the child Joseph in a manner that would do credit to one of maturer years.

NORWICH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr George Edwardes's excellent company in *San Toy* is here this week. Miss Don Harradine is excellent both in singing and dancing as San Toy; Miss Mabel Lavelle makes a charming Poppy; and Miss Florence Arnold a sprightly Dudley. Miss Beatrice Valnor deserves praise as Ko Fan, and Miss Beatrice Gradella as Rose Tucker is applauded for her clever dancing. Mr Edmund Sherras as Captain Bobby Preston sings with much ability. Mr Alfred W. Clarke is humorous as Yen How, and Mr Alfred Beers is highly diverting as Li. Mr G. J. Williams is good as Sir Bingo Preston; Mr Adam Gordon deserves mention as Sing Hi; and Mr Cliffe Davies ably represents the Emperor.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt.—An excellent programme is provided here this week. The Karnos, in their pantomimical burlesque *Early Birds*, give a sketch of London life which is full of fun; the Bodina Trio are excellent musicians; Little Dando, "the smallest comedian on earth," is received with appreciation; Mdlle. Haydee's electric mannikin theatre is a very pretty show; and Charles J. Lever as a tramp comedian is decidedly amusing, his juggling being very clever. The Haywards as vocalists and dancers are entertaining. The Hippodrome Bioscope exhibits some attractive pictures, and Capt. Selby's band enlivens the evening's performance.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—The advent of Miss Lena Ashwell and her company drew a large audience on Monday to see this talented lady in *Marguerite*, an adaptation from the French play, *La Montansier*. Miss Ashwell won instant favour by her treatment of the rôle of Marguerite. Her work in the love scenes was artistic and true, and in the lighter passages her acting compelled the warmest approbation. Mr Frank Mills played Neuville with conspicuous force and fervent expression. Mr Charles Groves as St. Phar, the old theatrical hand, submitted an admirable rendering full of spirit and polished elocution. Mr C. A. Doran gave point to the implacable and relentless nature of St. Just, Mr Harry Halley made a droll figure as Barelle, and Mr Thos. Holding successfully showed the fickleness of Phillipe. A delightfully piquant performance of Mme. Senedar was offered by Miss Sydney Fairbrother, and Miss Marie Hudspeth was a capital Madame Brunet. Other parts are well sustained by Misses Helen Macbeth, Hilda Dick, Mabel Aldridge and Beryl Mercer, and Messrs Edward Knox, H. Pellew, G. Drayton, and L. Race Dunrobin. By special desire, *Mrs Dane's Defence* was given on three nights.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Chas P. Cooke.—*The Christian* is paying another visit here. The staging is complete in every detail, and Mr Wentworth Croke's company acquits itself with distinction. Miss Grace Chalmers plays Glory Quayle with a delightful freedom from mannerisms, and in the pathetic parts realises this complex character with fidelity and sympathetic feeling. Mr Harry Scott has an arduous task in depicting John Storm, but throughout his reading is earnest, natural, and convincing. Father Lamplugh finds an able exponent in Mr Stanley Radcliffe, and the pompous, self-righteous Archdeacon Wealthy is correctly described by Mr Charles E Dering. The easy morals of Lord Robert Ure are powerfully expressed by Mr Charles B. Bedells, and Mr Wilfred Blumberg is capital as Brother Paul. Miss Lily Crammonde plays Polly Love with delicate taste and emotional expression, and the warm-hearted Mrs Callender is well presented by Miss Clara Nicholls.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—*The Scarlet Woman* forms an undeniable attraction here, and its thrilling situations are eagerly watched by good audiences. Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson plays the name-part with a verve and feeling that affords striking evidence of her abilities as an artist. Mr Reginald Fox is well qualified to sustain the genial and honourable Richard Marchant, while the scheming villainy of Will Raymond is strongly presented by Mr David M'Farlane. The brothers Cartwright, an unmitigated pair of scoundrels, are well portrayed by Messrs T. E. Cowell and Tom Wheeler, Mr Bryce Methvin is effective as Philip Gordon, and the humorous element gains in its interpretation by Miss Salla Cowell (Fanchette), Mat Melrose (Samuel Hopkins), and James Thompson (Jacob Isaacson). Valuable help is also given by Misses Muriel Allyne, Ruby Hamilton-Belasco, and Gracie Walker.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—The histrionic ability of Mr Bransby Williams is given ample scope in his new sketch entitled "The Veteran's Birthday." Conscientious in detail and artistic to a degree, Mr Williams never fails to rouse his audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm, and his visits here are always eagerly looked for. Harry Ford is an entertaining comedian, whose methods evoke hearty merriment. A capital sketch, *Hooked by Crook*, brings out the capabilities of Marguerite Keeler, Homer B. Mason, and Henry Travers, and causes unlimited amusement. Die Schutzenlieserl'n Quartet provide an enjoyable vocal turn, which meets with well deserved applause, and the Bandurria Quintet of mandolinists display much ability. Miss Marguerite Broadfoote renders her songs with delightful freshness that calls forth unanimous praise. Barrére and Jules submit a clever performance on the parallel bars, and the Brothers Cavallini are rewarded for their eccentric parodies. Albert Whelan is a siffleur of no mean ability, and Juno Salmo demonstrates the flexibility of his body by many remarkable positions. Belle Braham, pictorial songstress, adds to the general enjoyment.

OLDHAM

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr Walter Melville's combination is here in the play entitled *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Mr Wingold Lawrence gives a capital portrayal of Jack Livingstone. Miss Beatrice Homer as Barbara Wade depicts her part with a naturalness that would be hard to excel. Mr Edwin J. Wilde submits an excellent impersonation of John Meadows, whose daughter Nellie Meadows is ably represented by Miss Octavia Noel. Miss Violet Barton Astor scores as Constance Cornell; Mr Charles Terry is successful as Dr. Weston; and Mr Leonard Rouse acceptable as Cuthbert Lumley. Mr J. Hitchins as Toby Turvey and Miss Emily Custance provide an abundance of fun.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—O'Gust occupies premier position here. The Bros Lloyd are well received for an original rope performance; the Katos, the "komical kidgets," cause roars of laughter; Fraser and Mac are duly appreciated in their new act, "Creation;" the Stuart Quartet do well in songs and dances; W. Matthews, champion jumper, is remarkably clever; and W. H. Fox, comedian; Steve Cooke, and Malcolm Scott complete an attractive variety programme.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The variety company here this week includes Francis Harrold's combination in *My Son's Wife*. Kathleen Gray is a clever burlesque artiste; H. Rule is an artiste of merit; Barney, the comedian from Scotland, receives due appreciation; Master Henri, the boy juggler, is loudly applauded; the San Remo Girls are very attractive; and Raymond's Bioscope still maintains its popularity.

PONTYPRIDD.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—On Monday the attraction at this theatre was Messrs Alf Paumier and Walter Howard's company in *Under the Russian Flag*. Chief interest was centred in Mr Walter Howard's assumption of Captain Demetrius; Miss Ellen Snow contributed an able impersonation of Luka Marischka; General Romanof was admirably portrayed by Mr Charles Reyne; Mr George Arthur as Michael and Mr F. W. Freeman as Ivan distinguished themselves; Mr Alfred Bennett's interpretation of Alexis Skopoloski was worthy of praise; Colonel Souvaroff was in the able hands of Mr W. Wilson; Doctor Keroff was well sustained by Mr William Rivers; Mr Hal Ford was successful as Peter Polunski; and Miss Ada Champion did well as Vera Vassiloff. Miss Agnes Howard was a charming Ogarita.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—Mr George Dance's company is paying a welcome return visit with *A Chinese Honeymoon*, which was received on Monday night by a full house with as hearty favour as on its first visit. The company is headed by those old favourites Miss Gwennie Harcourt, whose Fi-Fi is such a quaint and delightful performance, and Mr Gus Wheatman, whose Mr Pineapple keeps the house in roars of laughter right through the play. Mr Helier Le Maistre scores a big success as the Emperor Hang Chow, and his fine voice does full justice to his songs; Mr T. Warren Foster is an effective and natural Tom Hatherton; and the Lord Chancellor and Lord Admiral find excellent exponents in Messrs R. Kloss and L. Barry. Miss Nellie Wigley makes a charming Princess Soo-Soo, Miss Dot Stephens is a bright and fascinating Mrs Pineapple, and Miss Elsie Carew fills the part of the official mother-in-law with due dignity and weight. The chorus is strong and of excellent quality, and the dresses and mounting are all that can be wished.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—The comic opera *The Fisher Girl* is proving a great attraction here this week, and deservedly so, for the company is strong in song and dance alike. Mr J. M. Jones makes an interesting figure of Vanderdecken; Mr C. Innes-Bowen sings and acts well as Kasper; Mr F. Couch is a droll innkeeper; Mr W. Champney amuses as Baron Ficklestein; and Nickel and Klaus find two most humorous representatives in Messrs W. Raymond and J. C. Forde; while Mr Fisher sings sweetly and acts well as Hendrick. Miss Alma Evelyne scores as the innkeeper's wife; Miss Marie Rita makes a delightful Elsbeth; and Miss Maud Desborough is bright and chic as the maid Hannah. A strong chorus and some clever dancers add to the attractions of the opera.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—*The Sign of the Cross* is being played here with the success which has attended previous visits. The company, that of Mr William Greet, under the managership of Mr W. A. M'Neill, is strong and trustworthy, the performance being given with artistic finish. The two characters which hold special prominence in the play, Marcus and Mercia, are finely interpreted by Mr F. B. Woulfe and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, who each receives the unstinted applause of the audience by powerful and sympathetic acting. Mr A. Bernhardt Turner gives an effective rendering of Nero; faithfully portrayed are the Tigellinus of Mr Charles Aldred and the Lucinius of Mr J. Wetherall; Mr Frank Wood furnishes an amusing embodiment of Glabrio; Philodemus is sufficiently accounted for by Mr C. Arthur Fairfax; Mr L. Winning renders good service as Viturius; Mr Robert Hare is excellent as Favius; Titus is acceptably acted by Mr E. J. Carlin; and other commendable impersonations are those of Servilius by Mr Haydon Clifford, Strabo by Mr Harry Jones, and Melos by Mr R. Crossin. Miss Cissie Carlton plays Dacia with charming freshness and spontaneity; the subtle ways of Berenice are capitally portrayed by Miss Alma Bolton; as Poppæa Miss Ethel Land performs satisfactorily; Miss May Fairclough depicts with efficiency the part of Ancaria; and Stephanus is vividly and thrillingly depicted by Miss Ivy Millais. The songs by Miss Tessa De Alberti and the dances by Miss Violet Holland are to be commended.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr Thomas Thorne and company, under the direction of Mr M. Russell Rosse, is engaged here this week in *Our Boys*. Mr Thorne as Perkyn Middlewick and Mr M. Russell Rosse as Sir Geoffrey Champneys are decidedly the masculine props of the comedy, and are loyally assisted towards success by Mr Wilfred E. Brandon as Talbot Champneys and Mr Charles A. Stephenson as Charles Middlewick, the respective "boys;" whilst Mr Alfred Harding makes an excellent Kempster. Miss Ethel Verne's Violet M'Irose is commendable, and Miss Celestine Brandon soon becomes quite a favourite as Mary Melrose. Miss Lucie Evelyn in the rôle of Clarissa Champneys, Sir Geoffrey's sister, is seen to much advantage; and Miss Ethel Hesketh elicits hearty approbation as Belinda. The comedietta *A Silent Woman* precedes, in which Mr Wilfred E. Brandon, Mr C. Otter Hind, and Miss Ethel Verne ably take part.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. Darville Vernon.—We are favoured this week with a return visit of Mr Edward Marris's company, in *The Dandy Doctor*. Miss Lizzie Primmer is a successful Ivy Pendred; Miss Holden is an excellent Miss Amanda; and Miss Florence Smithers makes a great hit as Jane. Mr James Salter is a capital Melchizadek Brown; Mr Walter Nugent scores as Arthur Vandyke, M.D.; Mr James Danvers does well as Colonel Pendred; and Mr W. N. Gilmore is responsible for an amusing Bertie.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—In *The Duchess of Dantzic* this week Mr George Edwardes's London company has been delighting enthusiastic audiences. Miss Evie Greene's beautiful voice is much admired. A meritorious performance is that of Mr Holbrook Blinn in the part of Napoleon, and another artistic conception is that of Papillon, by Mr Courtice Pounds. A pretty and petite Renne is Miss Adrienne Augarde, and Mr Leonard Mackay acts and sings well. The rôle of the Duke is ably presented by Mr Herbert Clayton, and Miss Mabel Lovell is a dignified Empress.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams. *Richard Lovelace*, with Mr Laurence Irving in the title-rôle, is the attraction here this week, and good business has been the order. This clever actor gave a realistic presentment of the interesting and picturesque character, and was well supported by Miss Mabel Hackney, who achieved complete success as Lucy Sacheverell. As Colonel Hawley Mr W. E. Ashcroft made a decided hit, and as Alderman Sacheverell Mr Henry Crocker won high encomiums.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton.—*A Soldier and a Man* has been drawing crowded houses this week, the piece being written round the doings of the 2nd Devon Regiment, now stationed in the locality, in the Zulu War. Mr A. Clifton Alderson, whose company is appearing in the play, impersonates the hero in a very effective manner, and powerful acting is forthcoming from Mr H. F. Wright, who impersonates Jim Farron. Miss Billie Doyle, the hero's wife, is very popular with all parts of the house, and Mr F. Powell, who is responsible for the chief criminal part, does not exaggerate.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr J. Field; Acting-Manager, Mr Carlton.—This week Donaldson Brothers and Ardel company top the bill, and their zoological comedy is funnier than a pantomime. Harmonised songs contributed by the Three Sisters Jonghmans catch on well, and another acceptable turn is that provided by Miss May Lilian Levey, a sprightly comedienne. Those eccentrics Adrim and Oram give daring acrobatic feats, and the M'Connell Trio, retained from the previous week, appear in a new and taking sketch. The singing and dancing of May Milbourne and Edy Adair are exceptionally good, and a comedy act by Collins and Rice deserves commendation. "Pictures in the Fire," the latest success of Alix Lukor, proves a very popular item.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Oct. 3, the Drama, in Five Acts, by the late Paul Meritt and George Conquest, entitled "FOR EVER."

Twenty-two years have passed since *For Ever* was produced at the Surrey. This thrilling drama enabled the lamented George Conquest, the finest pantomimist and animal actor of the century, to display his wonderful talent as the man-monkey, Zacky Pastrana. On that memorable occasion (Oct. 2, 1882) the actor-lessee was supported by Mr T. F. Nye as Julian Daremount, Mr A'gernon Syms as Jasper Daremount, Mr Charles Cruikshanks as Abel Rockley, Miss Bella Titheradge as the hapless Ruth Rockley, Miss Alice Raynor as Phyllis, Miss Lizzie Claremount as Mrs Patcham, and Miss Harriet Claremont as Polly Patcham. On the first representation the piece lasted from half-past seven until twenty minutes to one the next morning. It is a bewildering conglomeration of crimes ranging from poisoning to throat-cutting, of wonderful escapes and terrific struggles, and the whole is leavened by the grotesque and the horrible. The character of the man-monkey dominates the drama, and the part affords great opportunities to the actor capable of playing it. Fortunately for Mr George Davey and Mr Oswald Brand they have found Mr Fred Conquest, a son of the originator of the part, who may be said to be saturated with the family traditions and who exactly fits the character. The climbing and leaping propensities of the ape are preserved in Zacky, and the young Mr Conquest's prehensile activity must first be recognised. His "phantom flights" are remarkable exhibitions of agility combined with acrobatics. But the acting opportunities of the part are not inconsiderable, and Zacky's ferocity and strength of will are no less clearly defined than his ape-like walk and manners. In the murder scene in St. John's-wood the malignity and human passion of Zacky are powerfully limned, and the repulsiveness of the character is very clearly presented. To Miss Helen Bancroft is assigned the strenuous and difficult part of Ruth Rockley. Poor Ruth is sincerely to be pitied; for she is practically forced into the arms of the curious creature that gives the drama its *raison d'être*, and her abhorrence of such an alliance is one of the most natural things in the part. In the many trying situations, Miss Bancroft is sympathetic and expressive, and though Ruth's despair and distress are largely brought about by her own misdeeds, they appeal very strongly to the Islingtonians, who have a very warm corner in their hearts for this very favourite actress. Mr Ernest Leicester, who for some years was leading man at the Surrey, is another fortunate engagement of the Islington management. His fine presence, his sonorous voice, and his breadth of style give all the importance necessary to the character of Jasper Daremount, who is cheated of his rights through the machinations of villainy. The forces at the disposal of vice are headed by Abel Rockley, a part which is particularly well handled by Mr Arthur Estcourt; and Mr Joynsen Powell is duly sinister and callous as Julian Daremount. Mr Hal Collier is responsible for a drolly conceived representation of the showman Potkins, and Mr George Elliston also revels in the lighter vein as Tim Tiffany. Miss Kate Brand is sweet and commendable as Phyllis, and comes through the trying ordeal of tribulation triumphantly. Miss Winnie Wood is an effective Mrs Patcham, and Miss Winifred Leeson does well as Polly Patcham. The coiners, Ben Hackman and Dick Sparrow, find adequate representatives in Mr J. Baines and Mr T. Tripp respectively. In the character of Sparrow, it will be remembered, Mr C. W. Somerset made one of his earliest appearances on the London stage. Mr Frank Dudley is duly professional as Dr. Coldways; Mr Frederick Trevor is a sufficiently dignified Justice Wigney; and smaller parts are carefully handled by Messrs Cecil Grey, Henry Pierce, Charles Fisk, J. Seymour, F. Keith and F. Jackson. The piece is most elaborately mounted, and Mr Oswald Brand has produced it with remarkable completeness. The early comers to the theatre are entertained by some fine pictures on the Biograph.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Comic Opera, by Maurice Ordonneau and Arthur Sturgess, Music by Edmond Audran, entitled "LA POUPÉE."

An enthusiastic audience welcomed the first visit here on Monday of Audran's attractive comic opera *La Poupée*, supported by an admirable company of artistes, under the management of Mr C. P. Levilly. Continuous merriment and applause accompanied the performance, and most of the numbers had to be repeated. The opera is mounted in a costly and elaborate manner, the scenery being excellent, and the picturesque costumes a revelation of colour and good taste. Alesia is cleverly rendered by Miss Stella Gastelle, who comes in for a great amount of praise for her excellent singing. Mr Eric Thorne as Hilarius gives a most grotesque and diverting performance, and soon becomes an established favourite with the audience. He invests the character with such humorous business that the house is convulsed with laughter whenever he is on the stage. Mr Gerald Clifford admirably personates the timid novice Lancelot, and has a good conception of the part, while his fine voice is heard to great advantage, and Mr Newton Ide submits a capital portrayal of Father Maxime, his singing evoking well-deserved and hearty recognition. Mr Fred Seymour scores a genuine success as Baron Chanterelle, his efforts being ably seconded by Mr William Griffin, who gives an amusing character study of Loremois. Mr Vernon Read is a first-rate Balthazar, Mr Maurice Carlton a praiseworthy Notary, and Mr Maurice Head a satisfactory Basilique. Miss Kitty Cavendish is smart as Henri and Miss Madge Avery efficient as Madame Hilarius. Miss May Bradbury is a charming Guduline, and Miss Nellie Knight as Jacques and Miss Louise Stuart as Marie show considerable ability, whilst capable work is done by Mr W. J. O'Sullivan as Agnelet, Mr J. Leroni as Benoît, Miss Rose Lytton as Maid, and Miss G. Chadwick, Miss A. Courtenay, and Miss A. Knight as the Dolls. The chorus is numerous and deserve all praise for their able assistance, and the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr Harry Rushworth, is well balanced and plays excellently. The stage-management is in the experienced hands of Mr Fred Seymour, and Mr Herbert Ralland is the attentive business-manager for Mr C. P. Levilly.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled "THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

This play of Mr Melville's bids fair to follow in the wake of all its predecessors from the same facile pen, which is equivalent to saying, "instantaneous success wherever staged." It would be indeed hard to point out the superior of Mr Melville in his method of arranging a piece, packed with stirring situations, for the harder the task the more he seems to revel in it. As Jack Coulson Mr W. S. Hartford, just back from his successful season in South Africa, was responsible for a sound, meritorious impersonation, and his efforts received frequent plaudits from a delighted house. Mr Rule Pyott was the Jew receiver Abraham Mikestein to the life, and Mr Luke Forster evoked much genuine laughter by reason of his skilful handling of Billy Binks, assisted at times by various disguises. The villainies of Geoffrey Warden, alias Captain Stanton, were realised by Mr Weldon Atherstone, who worked hard throughout, in telling fashion; whilst Mr A. Kenyon Gray did the little he had to do as James Oliver in good style. Mr George Unwin was efficient as Harold Travers, and Mr Harry Foxwell was good as Dr Fossett. Miss Violet Elliott as the female swindler Lu Valroy quickly worked on the feelings of the house, scoring a decided hit by reason of her capable way of presenting a rather trying part. Miss Ada Maud did well as Mary Ann Mee; and that sprightly actress Miss Florrie Kelsey was most pleasing as May Andrews. The play was well mounted and dressed, and altogether Mr Tom H. Taylor's company was a most satisfactory one. Mr Henry Wright, jun., is the courteous acting-manager.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Comic Opera, "MY LADY MOLLY."

This charming lady is paying a visit here this week, and should be fully satisfied with the reception accorded her. In the title-rôle Miss Edmee De Dreux sings delightfully and makes a most dashing imposter when she dons male attire, her dual scene being most amusing. As Alice Coverdale Miss Zoe Gilfillan was in good voice, and her acting and dancing are alike excellent. Miss Mabel Carr as Hester (Lady Molly's maid) looks exceedingly well, and gained a deserved encore for her dance with Mickey O'Dowd. Mdlle. Ebba Darcier plays the part of Alice Coverdale's French governess with success, her French accent being very good. As the hero, Captain Harry Romney, Mr Leicester Tunks proves himself the possessor of a really fine voice, and in every respect makes a gallant and handsome suitor for Lady Molly's hand. As Alice Coverdale's suitor (Lionel Bland) Mr Stewart Alexander gives a capital impersonation; and as Sir Miles Coverdale Mr H. Godwin Hunt is successful in giving a lifelike portrayal of the self-willed and unreasonable squire of old days. As Mickey O'Dowd, Captain Romney's Irish servant, Mr Stephen Fitzgerald is the most amusing specimen of an Irishman imaginable, and the whole time he is on the stage the audience is kept in a roar of laughter. Mr Dan O'Regan scores as Reuben Oats, the landlord of the Coverdale Arms, and Miss Violet Lingard and Miss Kittie Holmes are dainty as two serving maids. Miss Minnie Blanchard dances well, and the minor parts are suitably filled. The dresses are pretty and effective and the play is handsomely mounted.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 10, "THE MIKADO."

On Monday the D'Oyly Carte opera company commenced a very welcome return visit here, and *The Mikado*, which was billed for the opening performance, proved an immense attraction, for this commodious house was filled to the utmost, and Mr Leslie Hughes was hard pressed to find room for all his patrons. The cast is almost the same as on the last visit. Mr C. H. Workman again appears as Ko-Ko, and gives a capital rendering of this delightful creation. None the less entertaining is Mr Fred Billington, whose Pooh-Bah is a capital piece of work, and is too well known by now to need further comment. Nanki-Poo is ably embodied by Mr Pacie Ripple, who sings his various songs in good style. Mr Albert Kavanagh submits a delicious rendering of the Mikado, Miss Norah Maguire charms everyone as Yum-Yum, and Miss Jessie Rose and Miss Mabel Burnege are captivating as Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo. Katisha is played in capital style by Miss Theresa Rassam, whose singing and acting are both excellent. Mr Fred Bawater does good work as Pish-Tush. A really excellent chorus greatly adds to the enjoyment of the performance, and the orchestra is under the bâton of Mr T. Silver. During the week *Iolanthe*, *The Gondoliers*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, and *H.M.S. Pinafore* were all marked for presentation. Mr Fred A. Leon stage-manages, and Mr H. E. Bellamy is the business manager of the company.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Play, in One Act, entitled "FOR VALUE RECEIVED."

Sir Reginald Burroughs..	Mr Frank MacDonnel
Captain Burroughs	Mr Langhorne Burton
Robert Dornton	Mr Arthur Grenville
Maid	Miss Ilene Hamilton
Florence Dornton.....	Miss Margaret Damer

As a prelude to the representation of Captain Marshall's farcical romance, *The Duke of Killicrankie*, at Mr Mulholland's beautiful Hammersmith Theatre, on Monday night was given the play, in one act, *For Value Received*, the author of which elects to remain unknown. The story treats of the barriers of caste, and is quite sad in its tone. Florence Dornton, a music hall singer, has fascinated Captain Burroughs, who is engaged to her, and intends to marry her. His father, Sir Reginald Burroughs, hearing of the infatuation of his boy, calls at Florence's flat to propose terms. The marriage he considers impossible, and he has other views for his son. Florence listens to him patiently and is even interested in him; for he recognises in the portrait of her mother on the mantelpiece his old sweetheart to whom he was on the eve of being married when he was ordered to India. Her indignation overcomes her, however, when he offers her a cheque for £3,000 to give up her lover and never speak to him again. In peremptory tones she shows him the door; but before he departs he leaves the cheque on the mantelpiece. Scarcely has he gone when the melancholy reflections of the heart-stricken girl are disturbed by the arrival of her brother Robert, who is in great distress of mind. He has gambled away the money entrusted to him by his bank, and he would kill himself rather than face a criminal charge. Florence snatches the revolver from his hand and learns the terrible truth by degrees. Robert must find £2,000 before his firm discovers his defalcations. She will save him, and tells him so. But how to break the news to her lover, who now arrives, and meets the unhappy Robert. When he hears from the lips of the woman he has so fondly loved that he has been supplanted in her affections, the young soldier—who offers to make her his wife before his departure for Africa—is astounded. But astonishment gives way to anger when he discovers his father's card attached to some roses that had been brought to Florence by Sir Reginald. The captain, putting the worst construction on the evidence of his father having called, accuses his fiancée of treachery and deceit, and overwhelms her with reproaches. Seated in an armchair Florence thinks for a moment of the greyness of her future life, and gazes at the cheque. As it flutters to the floor she falls in a dead faint, and the piece ends. It is little more than an episode, but is written with an eye to dramatic effect, the dialogue being also appropriate. Miss Margaret Damer, an actress of considerable sensibility and charm, made a very favourable impression as Florence Dornton, and the regular stage has had to sweeter representative of the music hall profession. Mr F. M'Donnel was duly authoritative and dignified as Sir Reginald, and Mr Langhorne Burton gave forcible effect to the justifiable anger of the Captain. Mr Arthur Grenville portrayed most effectively the desperate and reckless Robert Dornton. There was some applause at the conclusion of *For Value Received*, but the author or authoress—as the case may be—was not called for, and did not appear. The witty dialogue and amusing situations of *The Duke of Killicrankie* kept the house in fits of laughter and hilarity during the clever presentation of that farcical romance by the company organised by Mr Charles Frohman and Mr Arthur Chudleigh. Mr Langhorne Burton in the title-rôle, after he had conquered the nervousness which afflicted him during the first act, played with a buoyancy and subtle delicacy that were wholly admirable. He revelled in the opportunities of the part, and played with ingenuousness, freshness, and humour. To Mr Arthur Grenville, who in the original cast played the part of Mr Ambrose Hicks, the newspaper correspondent, is now assigned the important rôle of Mr Henry Pitt Welby, of which character Mr Weedon Grossmith gives such a really funny rendering. Mr Grenville improved very much as he went on, and became exceedingly funny in the second act, when the abductors and abducted dined together at Crag-O'-North Castle. His persistency was always whimsical and his behaviour extremely droll when he was metaphorically sat on by Mrs Mulholland. This most important part found an excellent representative in Miss Alda Jenoure, who has developed into a first-class representative of middle-aged ladies given to downright utterance and a certainty of manner. The scene at the dinner table at the Castle, where Mrs Mulholland and Lady Henrietta score off each other, went with what in theatrical parlance is known as a bang on Monday evening. The appreciation shown by the Hammersmithians for the smartness of the lines in this particular scene was largely due to Miss Doris Templeton, whose unconscious delivery of her cutting speeches was positively delicious. The more sympathetic side of Lady Henrietta's character was winsomely realised also by the actress, who made an undoubted hit in the part. Mr Howard W. Cochran in the small part of Mr Ambrose Hicks, the special correspondent with a camera, made the most of his opportunities. Mr Guy B. Watson and Miss Helen Kay Robertson as Mr and Mrs M'Bayne did well in those slight parts; and Misses Ilene Hamilton and Clarke, and Messrs Guy Newall and J. F. Anson completed the cast.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Drama entitled "SERVING THE QUEEN."

A delectable entertainment is being provided at the Elephant and Castle Theatre this week in the shape of a revival of the popular drama *Serving the Queen*. The play is too well known to need a detailed description, but its popularity remains undiminished, if the excellent houses attracted to the theatre each evening are any criterion. Mr Ernest E. Norris undertakes the onerous and difficult rôle of Harold Ainsworth, and gives a sincere and painstaking study of a part that requires skilful and delicate handling throughout. Mr Norris brings all his natural and virile force into prominence, and gains the warmest appreciation of the onlookers for his distinctly clever acting. Mr George Conquest, jun., is eminently successful as Mossy Samuels, a solicitor, and no greater compliment could be given than to say that the part fits him like the proverbial glove. A debonair scoundrel is Captain Blake as portrayed by Mr J. C. Aubrey, who treats the character in a very realistic fashion, and makes the most of his opportunities to gain his despicable ends, only to meet with his just reward eventually. Mr Charles Langley as Mr Justice Ferrars acts convincingly, and renders the part in a dignified and befitting manner. Mr Harry Paulton, jun., works unflaggingly as Private Bill Stickers, and speedily succeeds in exciting the risibilities of the audience. Mr Bernard J. Lieli is good as Sergeant Beckwith, and Mr Norman Clark is effective as Colonel Villiers. Mr Jo Monkhouse in the rôle of Reuben Gartley gives a strong reading of the part, and deserves every consideration for the able manner in which he succeeds in overcoming a somewhat difficult task. The character is one that presents many pitfalls for the inexperienced, but to Mr Monkhouse's credit he steers clear of anything likely to be an exaggeration. Mr W. H. Terry speaks well as Dr. Hamilton, and Mr Paige Lawrence gives a clever impersonation of Verger Poota. Mrs Bennett essays the part of Madge Villiers, and a very pleasing and natural performance is the result. In all the scenes requiring a special effort Mrs Bennett's acting was of a high-class order, and the house was not slow in bestowing the hall-mark of approval upon her efforts. Miss Agnes Paulton makes a smiling and bright Betty Bunce, whose vivacious and cheerful manners as delineated by Miss Paulton would be sufficient to create an impression not only upon Private Bill Stickers, but upon quite an army of soldiers. Margaret Ainsworth is sympathetically played by Miss Judith Kyrle, and Miss Blanche Jordan acts the part of a flower girl very pleasingly. The general mounting of the drama was excellent.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Play, in Four Acts and an Epilogue, by Arthur W. Pinero, entitled "LETTY."

Mr F. W. Purcell this week places a special attraction before his patrons in the shape of a visit from Mr Charles Frohman's company, in Mr Pinero's play *Letty*, in which Mr H. B. Irving and Miss Irene Vanbrugh are appearing in the parts originally sustained by them at the Duke of York's Theatre. Although the parts of Nevill Letchmere and Letty Shell give neither of these clever artists an opportunity of being seen at their best, their work was rewarded with the unanimous approval of a full house on Monday night last, their splendid treatment of the scene which brings the fourth act to a close compelling the raising of the curtain several times. The bucket shop proprietor, Bernard Mandeville, is an effective if somewhat highly coloured sketch as drawn by Mr Scott Craven. Of the parts of Ivor Crosbie and Coppinger Drake the most is made by Messrs T. V. M'Causland Stewart and Vernon Steel respectively, and clever little character studies of Ordish, the insurance agent, and Neale, the commercial traveller, come from Mr Tom Heslewood and Mr Charles Froode. Mr Lealie Victor as Richard Perry, the photographer who eventually marries Letty, gives a highly creditable performance, and a typical *maitre d'hôtel* is found in Mr Lichfield Owen, who appears as Frederic. As good as anything in the piece is the Hilda Gunning of Miss Eleanor Souray, whose clever and finished performance of the shop assistant is entirely free from exaggeration and artistic to a degree. Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson is a very sweet and womanly Marion Allardyce, her playing in the fourth act being especially good. Miss May Blayney is an engaging Mrs Ivor Crosbie, and makes the utmost of her somewhat scant opportunities, and the cast is completed by Messrs Clayton Greene, W. H. Haigh, and Walter Hack and Miss Mott in subsidiary rôles. The mounting and effects are as at the Duke of York's. Mr W. Hann's scenery being most complete and effective.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Wednesday, Oct. 12, Shakespeare's Comedy, "TWELFTH NIGHT."

Malvolio	Mr William Haviland
Orsino	Mr Reginald Ian Penny
Sebastian.....	Mr V. L. Granville
Antonio	Mr E. A. Warburton
A Sea Captain	Mr Arthur Machen
Valentine	Mr Herbert Bunston
Curio	Master Harold Stevenson
Sir Toby Belch	Mr Eardley Turner
Sir Andrew Aguecheek ..	Mr A. E. Anson
A Priest	Mr Allan Wilkie
First Officer	Mr J. C. Taylor
Second Officer	Mr Kenneth Blackmore
Fabian	Mr Arthur Bruce
Feste.....	Mr Charles Bibby
The Countess Olivia.....	Miss Margaret Halstan
Maria	Miss Cicely Richards
Viola	Miss Constance Collier

No better proof of the merit of Mr Beerbohm Tree's Shakespearian company, which has been appearing with great success at the Marlborough Theatre this week, could be furnished than the excellent all-round rendering of *Twelfth Night* which it gave on Wednesday. In listening to the delivery of the dialogue by these earnest and able artistes, it occurred to us that one of the points which might be impressed on aspirants by Mr Tree's lectures is the importance of what we may call the "vocal angle" in acting. The words of a play have to be spoken in what is practically a box with one side out; and they have to be delivered so as to be heard by each person in another larger semi-circular box adjoining. Waves of air have to pass between the lips of the speakers and the ears of the listeners; and, besides pronouncing distinctly, it is necessary to keep the face always more or less turned towards the audience. In cases in which the necessities of the scene prevent this the pronunciation must be exaggeratedly distinct, and the voice must be raised. We shall be reminded, perhaps, that M. Antoine, at the Theatre Libre, acted much with his back to the audience. In that case, either he allowed for his position, or the author's dialogue was more or less suppressed. With this general hint we proceed to warm praise of the performance as a whole. Miss Margaret Halstan's Olivia must be truly delightful to all students of Shakespeare. She has just the required delicacy and style for the impersonation of the gentle lady, and her keen intelligence enables her to give full meaning to each sentence of the part. She is essentially feminine, and entirely, though quite amiably, aristocratic. In seeing her Olivia, we are reminded of the distinction drawn by Ruskin between the fine lady and the commoner woman. Miss Halstan's reading is exquisitely refined, yet without the least morbidity or affectation. There is plenty of feeling and frankness in her reading of the rôle, and her melodious voice, the gracious dignity of her bearing, and her tallness and easy carriage, are all of immense assistance to her in her very successful impersonation. Miss Constance Collier is similarly fortunate in her personal gifts as Viola. It is true that Viola is only masquerading as a youth; but Miss Constance Collier's Viola is a lass who might easily practise such a deception; a black-eyed, rather sportive, and delightfully humorous young person. Miss Collier plays the part with a kind of modest boldness and half-hesitating archness which are quite fascinating; and her free, resonant delivery is entirely acceptable. Mr Reginald Ian Penny's Orsino is a well-considered and careful embodiment; and Mr V. L. Granville is a manly yet sensitive Sebastian. Mr E. A. Warburton's Antonio is rugged honesty itself, and Mr Eardley Turner plays Sir Toby Belch in a rich unctuous vein of genuine comedy, embellished by an amount of physical fun which has its justification in the roars of laughter which it evokes. Mr A. E. Anson works heartily and well with Mr Turner, and plays Sir Andrew Aguecheek with a solid stupidity which is very effective. Mr Kenneth Brice is entirely efficient as Fabian, and Mr Charles Bibby is an alert and active Feste, and sings the songs allotted to the clown sweetly. That always competent and clever artist, Miss Cicely Richards, is brimfull of fun and frolic as Maria, and does not overdo the *espièglerie* of the waiting-maid. The scenery—by Messrs Joseph Harker and Hawes Craven—is admirably artistic; and the incidental music by Paul Rubens and Andrew Levey sounds very well as rendered by the Marlborough orchestra under Mr Norman Bath. The smoothness of the performance does great credit to the efforts of the stage director, Mr William Haviland, and of the stage-manager, Mr Leonard Buttress, who is ably assisted by Mr George Robertson. Mr Fred Pemberton is the polite and active business-manager of the company, which has won golden opinions at the Marlborough this week.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, entitled "TOMMY ATKINS."

The welcome return visit of Mr Milton Bode's company is meeting with an enthusiastic reception this week at this handsome and commodious theatre. The scenery and staging are effective, and of the company we cannot speak too highly. Mr Frederick Ross as Harold Wilson, who renounces the Church for the army, gives an excellent rendering of the part, and Mr George C. Doughty as the villain, Captain Richard Maitland, plays that double-dyed traitor most satisfactorily. Miss Lola Patey as Ruth Raymond shows genuine pathos, and Mr Maurice Drew as the unforgiving and inflexible father, Stephen Raymond, leaves nothing to be desired. Mr John Nolan as Sergeant Paddy Molloy and Miss Ethel Tinsley as Kate Perkins contribute most of the fun, although the Ebenezer Skindle of Mr Billy Harman is exceedingly funny. Miss Kitty Omer is good as Rose Selwyn, Mr Fred Barclay makes a manly Arab chief, Master Philip Priddis as the boy Jack displays much promise, and Mr Reginald Holmes is effective as Captain Robert Sparrow. The minor parts are all sustained in an intelligent manner.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the New Naval Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by Edward Mervyn and St. Bernard Wyntour, entitled "THE NEW COMMANDER."

This new play met with a hearty reception on its presentation at the New Ealing Theatre on Monday by Miss Grace Warner and company. Some of the music is very good indeed, the motor chorus in the first act being enthusiastically redemanded. Miss Grace Warner works hard as the heroine, Violet Flintheart, and scores well with her songs. Mr George Gordon as Lieutenant Frank Harding makes a manly lover, and is possessed of a good voice, which he uses to much advantage. Mr George Handel as Lieutenant Jack Tremingway does all that can be expected with a difficult part, and Mr St. Bernard Wyntour as the fiery Sultan of Ramjamjah creates much diversion and amusement. As Tittums, a hotel waiter and would-be comic songwriter, Mr Miller Anderson scores heavily, and the Midshipmite of Miss Maud Warburton is all that can be desired. Miss May Dallas as Vivette, the hotel chambermaid, plays the part in a very piquant manner, winning all hearts by her brightness and vivacity; she dances well, and has a pleasing voice. The Primrose Quartet of dancers gain much applause, and several of their dances have to be repeated.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Romantic Musical Drama, by F. Marriott-Watson, entitled "WHAT A WOMAN DID."

The members of Mr William A. Armour's company find plenty to do in the drama *What a Woman Did*, which is being played at the Dalston Theatre this week. Mr William A. Armour takes the part of Conrad De L'Orme, to whom the audience are first introduced when he is an honest villager, and they follow his adventures as a gamester and join in mutually expressed congratulations when at length he rejoins the wife from whom he has been estranged and there is a possibility of his career being "happy ever after." Mr Kenneth Smith as the Marquis De Viray makes an impression on the audience as a smooth-tongued villain. The principal victim of his villainy, Elise De L'Orme, the wife of Conrad, is represented by Miss Phyllis Atherleigh, who brings a good deal of natural grace and charm to bear upon a character calculated to secure the sympathy of an audience. It is not every actress who could appear to such artistic advantage in the Studio scene in the last act as does Miss Atherleigh. Mr Will Simpson appears as the cousin of Elise, and the grotesque character of the hunchback, Pitou, is sustained by Mr Owen Edwin. Mr Cyril Dundas as an itinerant quack doctor and Miss Louie Lonora as the Cricket, his assistant, provide humorous relief to the more serious parts of the play. Miss Nita Imeson as Nanette and Miss Blanche Delroy as La Papillon each act well, and the cast also includes Miss Emmie Beauclerc, Miss Violette Vivienne, Miss Elsie Day, Mr J. H. Stewart, Mr Victor Gordon, Mr Ivan Leslie, Mr Herbert Aston, and Mr Vincent Hayes.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Costume Drama, in Four Acts, entitled "MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE."

The return visit of Mr Lewis Waller's company on Monday proved that this play has lost none of its popularity. The Duke of Winterset had a clever and convincing exponent in Mr F. Stuart Wilson; Mr Herbert Cornish played Major Molyneux with energy and determination; Captain Badger was effectively rendered by Mr F. Ramsey Forman; and Beau Nash found a capable impersonator in Mr H. A. Young and Mr Bantison. Miss Millie Hamer furnished a skilful and telling embodiment of Lucy Rellerton; Miss S. Izzard was pleasantly prominent as the Countess of Greenburg; Mr Norman M'Owan in his delineation of the title-rôle specially distinguished himself; Miss Violet Sterne is responsible for an earnest and pathetic rendition of Lady Mary Carlisle, and with Mr M'Owan was several times recalled.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled "DANGERS OF LONDON."

Sensational drama apparently appeals to the Rotherhithe theatre-goer, and on Monday evening the above play drew a very large audience, who followed the performance throughout with rapt attention. M. Lionel D'Aragon is again seen in a leading part, on this occasion that of Frank Forrest, whom he portrays with much ability, fully meriting the applause which is bestowed on him. Mr Henry St. Leger gives further proof of his versatility as the old father of the hero, Walter Forrest. The blind Raymond Stanhope receives effective representation from Mr Campion Abbott, while Mr Frank Wilmot presents a good sketch of Percy Weir. No more capable exponent of histrionic villainy could be found than Mr Felix Pitt, whose rendition of Dick Royal is all that could be desired. Mr Newman Maurice contributes another amusing performance as Shadrack Brander, again receiving able assistance from Miss Hulo Hodgson as Letty, and a good reading of Nimrod comes from Mr Fred De Vere. Miss Rosemary Rees is always a charming heroine, but she gains further laurels as Mary Stanhope. The adventuress, Gertrude Weir, is played with conspicuous success by Miss Marie M'Aulay, and Miss Gertie Rosalind is eminently satisfactory as Margaret Cloud. The variety world is this week represented by Florence White, American comedienne, and Alber and Amber, in their speciality act, "The Tramp and the Waiter."

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Theo. Kremer, entitled "THE FATAL WEDDING."

Patrons of the popular parts of the Borough Theatre have a piece after their own hearts this week, and have mustered in full force to witness the many stirring incidents and thrilling situations with which *The Fatal Wedding* abounds. The entertainment contributed by the juvenile members of Mr Bert Coote's company in the third act comes in for especial recognition, and is a pleasing and prominent feature of the performance. Mr Wilfred Payne contributes an earnest and highly effective embodiment of Howard Wilson; and Mr Leyton Cancellor portrays the villainous Robert Curtis on thoroughly natural and entirely unexaggerated lines. Mr Charles H. Kenny extracts unlimited mirth from the idiosyncrasies of the French butler, Toto; Mr Fred Dobell is decidedly good as Peter Schwartz; Mr Arthur Welbeck fulfills all requirements as the policeman, O'Reilly; and Mr Arthur Law Raynor acts with expression as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford. Miss Marie Houseley is tender and sympathetic as Mabel Wilson; Miss Beatrix De Burgh plays with directness and intensity as the despicable Cora Williams; and the Hibernian cook, Bridget, as portrayed by Miss Harriet Clifton, is a personage of high popularity with the audience. Much interest centres round Miss Ida Valli's performance as Jessie, "the little mother," which is as fresh, bright, and natural as ever, and the young actress is a prime favourite with everybody. The piece is capitally staged and dressed.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled "MARINERS OF ENGLAND."

The visit of Mr Ernest R. Abbott's company, in *The Mariners of England*, is proving highly acceptable to the habitués of the Stratford Theatre Royal this week, and excellent business is resulting. Able interpretation is rendered by a well-balanced cast, and the dressing and mounting leave nothing to be desired. Mr Ernest R. Abbott makes-up remarkably well as Lord Nelson, and his acting always carries conviction. Mr W. T. Riley is a buoyant and manly Harry Dell, a character highly popular with the audience. Mr W. H. Garbois as the sinister and scheming Captain Lebaudy is eminently successful, and a grim and well-defined portraiture of Marston comes from Mr W. H. Davis Brown. Mr Edwin Keene is responsible for plenty of mirth as the voluble Tom Tripp, Mr John Lester does exceedingly well as Capt. Hardy, and Mr Clifford Clifford is a dignified and convincing Admiral Talbot. Miss Ada Abbott plays with sympathy and charm as Mabel Talbot, Nelly Dell is appropriately played by Miss Linda Riley, and Miss Isabel Singleton is a vivacious Polly Appleyard. Other parts are all in capable hands.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S E.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Play entitled "IF I WERE KING."

Mr Frank Fenton is appearing here this week with his company in the romantic play, by Justin M'Carthy, entitled *If I Were King*. Mr Frank Fenton scores a considerable success as François Villon (originally played by Mr George Alexander. Mr Clive Currie gives a very fine performance of Louis XI. Mr Fred Garrett is good as Tristran L'Hermite. Mr Ernest Marsh is excellent as Oliver Le Dain. The remaining male parts in the long cast are exceedingly well filled, and the general performance gives great satisfaction to the large audience. Miss Marion Grey must be congratulated on a delightful portrayal of Katharine De Vancelles. Miss Louise Vanstitter is remarkably good as Huguette Du Hamel, and her death scene is well played. Miss Violet Monckton as the Queen is acceptable. The other female characters are well acted by Miss Una Gilbert, Miss Mary Marshall, Miss Noney Seabrooke, Miss Lillian Blaces, and Miss Magda Willdenburg.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled "THE CITY OF MILLIONS."

This week we have had Miss Madge Girdlestone here with her company in *The City of Millions*. The rôle of Rosa De Valois, a "woman of the world," affords Miss Girdlestone ample scope for the display of her undoubted talents; nor is she slow to avail herself of the opportunities thus provided. During the course of the play Rosa runs through the whole gamut of the human passions, and love and hate, rage, scorn, and despair were severally portrayed in intense and powerful fashion. In a performance of such all-round excellence it is difficult to single out particular scenes, but Miss Girdlestone was perhaps at her best in the scene where Rose attempts to win Stacey's love, and again when she compels her former accomplice to write a confession under threat of being summarily shot. The last-named character, Capt. Wilfred Dread, found a capable exponent in Mr Martin Sabine, who succeeded in giving a life-like representation of a man of almost incredible villainy and callousness. Miss Agnes Verity gave a sympathetic and convincing rendering of Jessie Townsend, the girl's misery at the thought of losing her lover and her final happiness being well indicated. As Herbert Stacey (who, by-the-way, was consistently called "Jack" on the stage) Mr Vernon Sansbury played in a straightforward manner, his earnest and somewhat formal style of acting being well in keeping with the character. Miss Gladys Vernon contributed a bright and vivacious sketch of Kitty Taylor, a housemaid, and Miss Audrey Canning was sufficiently foolish and garrulous as Mrs Chesney. The low comedy element is a feature in the play, and was largely entrusted to Mr Sam Wilkinson, who as a dustman, with the help of Mr Clarmont Gaskell, was responsible for much laughter. Mr Grahame Herrington also caused considerable amusement by his clever portrayal of the fatuous Benjamin Boodle. The play was well mounted and staged, and the numerous handsome frocks worn by Miss Girdlestone were the envy and admiration of the feminine portion of the audience.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville,
Produced at the Standard Theatre, Bishopsgate, on Monday, Oct. 10.

Rev. Robert Everton	Mr FRANK LISTER
Jack England ..... / Private Johnson.....	Mr FREDERICK MELVILLE
Dick Punch	Mr ANDREW EMM
George Purvis	Mr JOHN WILSON
Flo Davis	Miss SALLY BATES
Georgie Winter.....	Miss JESSIE EDWARDS
Dolly Clarke	Miss MARY PHILLIPS
Nellie Carter.....	Miss JOAN TAYLOR
Isabella Jones	Miss EVA DARE
Marian Franklyn	Miss OLGA AUDRE
Capt. Geoffrey Caversham	Mr FRANK ADAIR
James Sutton	Mr JULIAN CROSS
Detective Weathersby ..	Mr CYRIL VERNON
Stewart	Mr JACK CLARKE
Jimmy.....	Master WILLIE CRISP
Red Cabbage	Mr ALICK MACMILLAN
Lucy Vere	Miss NELLIE BRUNTON
Rose Seymour	Miss M. STEWART DREWRY
Moll Vernon	Miss MAUD HILDYARD

The female interest is invariably strong in Mr Walter Melville's dramas, and his latest play, *The Girl who Lost her Character*, is no exception to the rule. The story of a woman's life is again depicted in graphic style, and the excusable fury which seizes a young girl when she finds herself betrayed and deserted by a heartless villain leads to the most sensational scene in the drama. Mr Walter Melville is now a practised hand in the writing and production of thrilling melodramas, and all his usual skill is shown in the development of this story of betrayed innocence and man's villainy. The promise of the first act was amply fulfilled in those which followed, and some time before the curtain fell upon the last scene success was unmistakably stamped upon the new production. It was a bad day for Molly Vernon when she met Captain Geoffrey Caversham, a man of unscrupulous character who does not hesitate to indulge his unbridled passions at the cost of any innocent girl whose acquaintance he may chance to make. Poor Molly, like so many of her sex, chooses the base metal when she might have the genuine gold. In other words she rejects the honest love of a young clergyman, the Rev. Robert Everton, and listens to the false promises of Geoffrey Caversham. But when she finds a fashionably dressed woman concealed behind a screen in the captain's quarters in barracks she naturally demands an explanation, whereupon Caversham assures her that the visitor is only his sister. As a matter of fact the lady is an adventuress named Marion Franklyn, who assists the captain in his nefarious schemes. By accident the woman has discovered that James Sutton, alias Charles Fletcher, who has served his time for forgery, is living at a quiet town in Essex. His past is unknown and he has been elected to the office of churchwarden, the vicar of the parish being the Rev. Robert Everton. With James Sutton resides Rose Seymour, his ward, who is heiress to a fortune left her by her father. Marion Franklyn informs the captain of her discovery; and it is agreed that Caversham shall become the suitor of Rose, and if he succeeds in marrying the girl the fortune bequeathed her shall be divided between the two accomplices. Jack England, the son of a rich man, but disowned by his father on account of some youthful indiscretions, has joined the army under the name of Johnson, and he is sent by Captain Caversham to deliver a letter to James Sutton. He executes the commission, and meeting pretty little Rose Seymour, who adores a red coat, the young people fall in love with each other at first sight. In the meantime Dick Punch, the captain's soldier servant, purloins several bank notes belonging to his master, but becoming conscience stricken he replaces the stolen money in the pocket of an overcoat which he believes the captain has just thrown off. The coat belongs to Jack England, and the mistake gives Marion Franklyn an opportunity of denouncing Private Johnson as the thief. She was formerly in love with Jack, but on finding out her true character he gave her up; hence her desire for revenge. The tardy admission of Dick Punch that he is the thief saves Jack from arrest on a false charge. Marion meeting Molly alone does not scruple to reveal the real character of her friend the captain, also disclosing the fact that she is not his sister. Dolly appeals to the captain and tells him it has become absolutely necessary that he should make her his wife. He tells her he can never marry her, and offers her bank notes to tide her over her trouble. The deceived girl becomes for the time being a mad woman, and after attacking her betrayer, who goes for assistance, she breaks up the furniture, smashing tables, chairs, vases, mirrors, and windows, in ungovernable fury, until the room presents the appearance of a perfect wreck. The unhappy Molly is arrested and suffers a term of imprisonment. Next we see her on a winter's night wandering with her child in her arms near St. Martin's Church. Captain Caversham passes. She appeals to him, but he treats his victim with brutal indifference. To her assistance, however, comes her old lover, Robert Everton, who brings her and her child into the presence of the captain. So enraged is the minister at Caversham's callous conduct that he fires at and wounds him. Of course, the scheme of the conspirators to compel Sutton under threats of exposure to bring about the marriage of Rose and Caversham comes to nought, as Jack England inherits a fortune left him by his father, and he and his sweetheart are made happy. The adventuress dies from the effects of poison, which she had intended for the soldier hero.

The Standard company is a very strong one. Miss Maud Hildyard was seen at her best in the part of Molly Vernon, giving a powerful embodiment or the wronged girl. Her pitiful trust in the scoundrel who betrays her; her awakening to the brutal realities of her position and her denunciation of the man who has deceived her were prominent features in a sound piece of acting that delighted the crowded house. Excellent also was the Marian Franklyn of Miss Olga Audre, who as an exponent of the adventuress class of character has few rivals. The bold self-confidence, the contempt for her rival, and the deep-seated distrust of her confederate in crime were convincingly portrayed, and altogether this clever and accomplished actress fully upheld her high reputation. Mr Frederick Melville played quietly but none the less effectively the part of Jack England, the soldier hero, and Miss Maude Stewart Drewry was a young and charmingly ingenuous Rose Seymour. Mr Frank Adair realised to the fullest extent the villainous character of Captain Caversham, whose cold-blooded rascality was throughout cleverly depicted by this experienced actor. Mr Frank Lister gave an admirable embodiment of the Rev. Robert Everton, gentle and sympathetic in his conduct towards the girl he loves, and righteous in his wrath towards her seducer. Mr Julian Cross was a dignified representative of James Sutton, the repentant forger, and showed strong feeling at the proper times. Mr Andrew Emm was brisk and alert as Dick Punch, the soldier servant, whose sweetheart, Isabella Jones, a dressmaker, had a very merry and vivacious exponent in Miss Eva Dare. Mr Cyril Vernon deserves a word of praise for his capital impersonation of Detective Weathersby, and Mr Alick Macmillam scored as Red Cabbage, a London street salesman. Minor rôles were safe in the hands of Mr John Wilson, Mr Jack Clarke, Master Willie Crisp as a newsboy, and Miss Nellie Brunton as a maid servant. The staging of the new play gave complete satisfaction, and at the close the author came before the curtain in response to the applause of a thoroughly delighted audience.

"THE CHEVALEER," at the Garrick Theatre, was played for the fiftieth time on Monday.

THE Prince and Princess of Wales witnessed the performance of *The Catch of the Season* at the Vaudeville Theatre last Monday night.

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

"If your eyes were blocked with pitch and you were buried twenty feet under the ground you would see just as much as I do."

These pathetic words came from Mr Henry Crisp, a well-known and experienced actor who has had the misfortune to become totally blind. Two years ago last January he suffered from a little inflammation of the left eye; but previous to that, although always somewhat short-sighted, his vision had troubled him but little. Mr Crisp went to see a doctor in Longton, who was a director of the theatre where he was playing. The doctor in question found that it was a malady he could not deal with, but he gave the actor a letter of introduction to Dr. Foker at the North Staffordshire Infirmary. The latter gentleman advised Mr Crisp to go into the hospital at once, and he did so. After having been an in-patient for six weeks, Mr Crisp was informed that the case of his left eye was absolutely hopeless, that he would never be able to see with it again, and that in all probability, if it were not removed, the sight of the other eye would be affected. He consented to have his left eye taken out, and a glass eye put in its place. For a time his powers of seeing seemed to improve, although he only had one eye left. He resumed his part of Stephen Spettigue, in *Charley's Aunt*; but one morning in August of last year, while appearing at Eastbourne, there came an unpleasant revelation. Rising about half-past eight or nine o'clock, when the sun should have lit up the room with the brilliance of its rays, and probably did, he saw no light—it was all mist. He remarked to his wife that he could not see across the room. In his anxiety he called upon Dr. Rook, of Eastbourne, who immediately recommended the treatment of the well-known eye-specialist, Dr. Brookbank James, who paid a weekly visit to the town. Dr. Brookbank James proved exceedingly kind, for he declined to take a fee, and attended to Mr Crisp on several occasions. This went on until the beginning of November, when the specialist obtained a bed for Mr Crisp in the Westminster Hospital. Mr Crisp has been totally blind since January of this year, and, as the funds at his command are exceedingly limited, we invite the co-operation of the profession in an appeal on his behalf.

In the destruction of his eyesight he has lost something more than merely the means of livelihood. All that is beautiful in nature to the clear-sighted will be for ever a blank to him. Think of this—his Day has been turned into Night. And his Night is blacker than the night we see, for it is as if a dark curtain had been drawn across the inverted stage of the sky and had blotted out from his vision the wonderful mystery play provided by the twinkling of the stars and the broad glare of the moon in a scene set high in the firmament. It is to

Photo by Bertin

MR. HENRY CRISP.

make that Night sweeter to Henry Crisp that we venture to ask for the support of members of the theatrical profession.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr Hales	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude ..	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Greet and E. Englebach ..	5	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	5	0	0
Adelaide Neilson Fund, per Sir Henry Irving ..	5	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	3	3	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
A. B. and J. J. Wright	2	2	0
P. S. C.	2	0	0
"Money Maker" Co., per Mary Griffiths (Mrs Arthur Lyle ..	1	19	6
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn ..	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey..	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville ..	1	1	0
Horace Stanley ..	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
W. Payne Seddon	1	1	0
H. Cecil Beryl....	1	1	0
Edward Rose	1	1	0
Horace Mills	1	1	0
May Louise Cohen	1	1	0
Frank Neuman-Wood	1	1	0
John and Fred Coulson.....	1	1	0
Robert Redford ..	1	1	0

"On the Stroke of Twelve" Company. Total, 13s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Fred J. Litt'e.....	0	5	0
Herbert Vere	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Karl H Edwards....	0	1	6

Mr George Dance's Company, per B. Ralland. Total, £2 3s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Bertie Ralland....	0	2	6
Percy Yorke	0	2	6
Mr Wood	0	2	6
Harry Brayne	0	2	0
José Collins	0	2	0
M. Sadie	0	2	0
H. Williams.....	0	2	0
G. Barnes.....	0	2	0
Marie Adair	0	2	0
P. A. T.....	0	2	0
Miss Drumond....	0	2	0
Mr Dawkins.....	0	2	0
E. H.	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Austin	0	2	0
Frank Bateman ..	1	1	0
Yorke Stephens ..	1	1	0
J. O. Baker	1	1	0
Mrs J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kinghorne.....	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Davidson	1	0	0
John Cabourn....	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
G. E. M	0	10	6
H. Wilkinson	0	10	6
John Worswick, sen.....	0	10	6
Louisa Gourlay ..	0	10	0
Mr M. Lang.....	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"B"	0	10	0
Frank L. Hayter..	0	5	0
Mr Avrigny	0	5	0
A. and E. F. S. ..	0	5	0
Mr Q. Ashlyn	0	5	0
Mr Robson Paige	0	5	0
Mr W. H. Garbois	0	5	0
W. H. Nottingham	0	5	0
E. Cane.....	0	5	0
Chas. B. Bedells..	0	5	0
N. Reynolds.....	0	5	0
F. G. R.....	0	4	0
Edward Coutts ..	0	2	6
Mr H. B. Lewis ..	0	2	6
H. Palmer	0	2	6
Great Percy-street	0	1	0
Marguerite	0	1	0
A. R. T.	0	1	0
Fred Rivers.....	0	1	0
Fred Guinness....	0	1	0
Harry C. Robinson	0	1	0
H. Creagh Hunt..	0	1	0
Miss B. St Ruth..	0	1	0
N. Cassidy	0	2	0
Leonard May	0	1	0
Frances.....	0	1	0
M. Maxwell	0	1	0
Gladys Guy	0	1	0
Mr Parry	0	1	0
R. S.	0	1	0
L. Beckmann	0	1	0
L. W.	0	1	0
A. Knowles	0	1	0
L. Hildroe	0	1	0
D. Kersey.....	0	1	0
D. M. B.	0	1	0

All subscriptions sent to Edward Ledger, hon. treasurer, *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., will be duly announced in these columns.

MR. ZANGWILL ON THE DRAMA.

MR ISRAEL ZANGWILL, the President of the Playgoers' Club, took the Chair at a house dinner held in the Club Rooms on Sunday, and, in responding to the toast of his health, said the first interest of playgoers was, of course, the play; therefore, the promotion of better plays was the most natural thing the playgoer should seek after. There seemed to have been about twenty years of talk of how to get good plays. The present position of the stage was rather worse, he believed, than it was twenty years ago. He had no personal objection to the *genus* musical play. We had come to these hotch-potch productions, which were nothing but a series of music hall turns. Half the theatres of London were now turned into music halls; they had abandoned the drama, and when the music halls wanted to produce the drama they wanted to prosecute them. He wanted to know what was going to become of the poor old drama, driven from its last resting-place, the music hall? In the music hall they had the drama with tobacco and without censorship, whereas in the theatre they got it without tobacco and with the censorship. It appeared to him that the drama had to be either expurgated or fumigated. Playgoing was an epidemic. It was not a rational desire to go and see a play; it was an absolutely contagious thing. The vital difference between the drama and every form of art was that the drama must make an immediate appeal to the populace. The question then was whether there was any way of getting inoculated against going to see bad plays. The right way was to cultivate a good sound mental state, in which the microbe did not catch them. The success or failure of a play was absolutely irrelevant to its merits. It was simply a test of psychology of the people who went to see it. Was our taste, then, worse than that of our ancestors? He had come to the conclusion that they were not justified in saying that. He had come to the conclusion also that play-writing was a branch of politics. The moment a man left his comfortable desk and went play-writing he became mixed up with a lot of worldly things. Just as in America the best people did not associate themselves with politics, so here the best writers kept away from the theatre, and no writer of any distinction, in his experience, had ever had anything to do with theatrical people without being jarred in every nerve. Nevertheless, it was the duty of writers, instead of keeping aloof from it, to get a footing in it, and try gradually to leaven it up. As to play running, it was a form of gambling, or, at least, of highly speculative business. Did they think Lloyd's would ever insure a play against failure? Theatrical managers were the only men of business who never tried to enlarge their market, who never tried to cater for new markets, and who were always satisfied with their present market. He could not see at least why one theatre in London should not cater exclusively for clever people. What a rush there would be if that were the case. How were they to get a theatre of beauty and truth that was so much desired? The only thing that could produce this better stage was absolutely a good dramatist. The drama could only be saved by the dramatist; the genius must be born. His hope for the British drama lay in the education of the people and in the gradual growing union between literary men and the drama. They must try to educate their millionaires so that those who gave books so lavishly might see that it was just as good to give people plays as books.

THESPIDS C.C.

SEASON, 1904.

Matches played, 36; won, 12; lost, 18; drawn, 6.

BATTING AVERAGES.—TEN INNINGS AND OVER.

NAME.	Innings	Times Not out	Highest Score.	Runs	Average
H. A. Meymott	11	3	77	291	36 37
C. Aubrey Smith.....	10	0	62	300	30 00
E. Cameron	23	2	102	478	22 76
V. O'Connor.....	16	0	117	349	21 81
Conway Tearle	25	3	59	395	17 95
P. Darwen.....	24	8	39	280	17 50
B. Egerton.....	25	2	105	367	15 95
H. J. Hughes	20	4	43	228	14 25
L. Lochner.....	10	0	53	133	13·30
Sydenham Dixon	11	2	31	104	11 55
H. Nye Chart	19	3	32	183	11 43
Frank Stayton	13	1	19	93	7 75
A. S. Homewood.....	10	0	19	70	7 00
A. G. Stacey.....	12	3	10*	34	3 77
UNDER TEN INNINGS AND OVER FIVE					
F. J. Williams.....	6	1	55	148	29 60
D. V. Hazard	9	0	78	255	28 33
H. B. Warner	7	1	52*	158	26 33
G. J. Groves	5	0	37	98	19 60
Horace Mills	8	0	52	118	14 75
Stratton Mills	7	0	14	60	8 57
Leslie Holland	7	1	13	41	7 33
P. F. Knox	5	3	5*	13	6 50
P. Clifton	7	0	13	33	4 71
E. B. Payne	5	0	17	17	3 40
G. Tearle	5	0	8	12	2 40
C. Aldred	5	0	6	9	1·80
F. Lister.....	5	1	3	7	1 75
M. Cherry	5	0	6	8	1 60
H. F. Maltby	6	0	2	5	·83

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING ANALYSIS.—TEN WICKETS AND OVER.

NAME.	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Average
Leslie Holland	56 2	9	177	20	8·85
V. O'Connor	201	32	674	59	11·42
C. A. Smith.....	84	15	236	17	13·8
B. Egerton	168	31	468	33	14 121
Reeve Denbigh	44	3	160	11	14·545
H. B. Warner.....	38·4	6	146	10	14 6
E. Cameron.....	233 2	44	821	47	17·46
Conway Tearle	173	29	765	35	21 85
UNDER TEN WICKETS					
R. Selby	14	3	39	5	7 8
Frank Stayton	16	1	53	6	8·83
P. F. Knox	6	2	13	1	13
D. V. Hazard	7·4	1	29	2	14·5
L. Lochner	39 1	4	151	9	16·73
C. Childerstone	5	1	18	1	18
C. Aldred	24	2	94	5	18·8
P. Darwen	24	4	141	7	20 14
Stanley Brett	5	1	21	1	21
H. A. Maymott	24	3	140	7	21·14
A. S. Homewood	10	1	57	2	28 5
Oscar Asche.....	24	0	89	3	29 6

NEW PLAYS IN BERLIN.

Sept. 1. *Coppelia*, three-act ballet, by Saint-Saëns —Royal Opera.

,, 15. *Der Weiberkönig*, musical burlesque, in four acts, by MM. Kren, Schönfeld, and Ely—Thalia.

,, 17. *Kettenglieder*, four-act play, by H. Heyermans—Deutches.

,, 21. *Letzte Stunden*, play, in four acts, by Karl Strecker—Berliner.

,, 28. *Ein Kritischer Tag*, three-act comedy, by H. Lubliner—Royal Schauspiel-Haus.

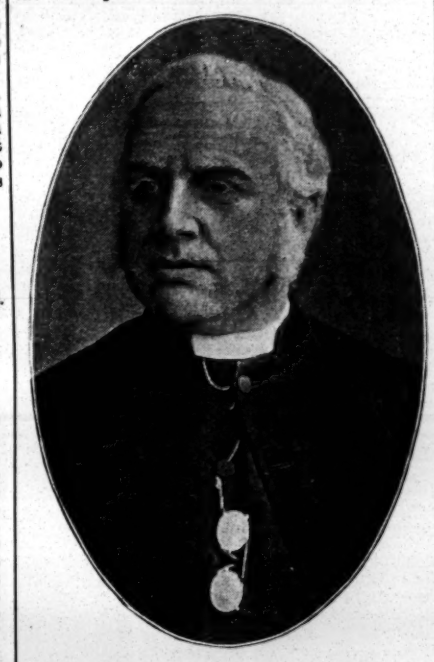
,, 30. *Ein Wahrhaft Guter Mensch*, comedy, in four acts, by Otto Erich Hartleben—Lustspiel-Haus.

"COUSIN KATE," the popular comedy from the Haymarket Theatre, will be seen next week at the Brixton Theatre, with Miss Lilias Earle and Mr Yorke Stephens in the principal parts, under the management of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN.

Like many others in the profession Mr Fewlass Llewellyn commenced his career in that excellent school for beginners Messrs Roberts, Archer, and Bartlett's "fit-up" company. Excellent, no doubt, it was, as will be seen by the names Mr Llewellyn can quote of ladies and gentlemen he met in that company in a brief twelve months, viz., Miss Alice Beet, Miss Minnie Carlton, Miss Minnie Clifford, Mr Sydney Stirling, Mr J. C. Aubrey, Mr Malcolm Dunn, and Mr Fred Volpe, all of whom are a credit to their profession to-day. In this engagement *The Harbour Lights*, *In the Ranks*, *The School for Scandal* (which was put up by the management at the request of the "boys and girls" for the sake of experience), and a pantomime *Whittington* represent the work done during the year 1890. This was followed by a short stock season at the Parkhurst Theatre, under the management of Mr G. R. Phillips, at which *The Two Orphans*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Uncles and Aunts*, *In the Ranks*, *Harbour Lights*, *Don Cæsar*, *Adrienne Lecouvreur* were the principal attractions during a very hard-working, but most enjoyable, time. It was during this engagement that Mr Llewellyn essayed stage-management, *The Harbour Lights* being his first venture. A twenty weeks' tour as Ciro Panitza, in *My Jack*, followed, after which came another stock season at Northampton, and then a twelve months' tour as stage-manager with Mr W. Calder's *Span of Life* company, followed by a short tour in a piece called *Money Mad*. A season of five nights at the Opera Comique came next, which in its turn was followed by a short tour as General Belisarius, in *Theodora*, which terminated rather dramatically at Glasgow, and Mr Llewellyn, being in consequence rather short of coin of the realm, came back to London viâ the North Sea. He next rejoined Mr Calder's *Span of Life* company for another year, after which he played Jean de Lussac, *Hands Across the Sea* company, the heavy part in *In Old Kentucky* company, and Jim Dixon, in *The Fatal Card*. Then followed another stock season at the Princess's, Glasgow, in which he sustained such parts as Jim Dalton, in *The Ticket-of-Leave*; Dr. Cenerl, in *Called Back*; Kyrle Daly, in *Colleen Bawn*; Roy Carlton, in *Jack-in-Box*; Jim Garth, in *Shall We Forgive Her?* Geordie Rorbertson, in *Jeannie Deans*; and others. Shortly after this Mr Llewellyn had the pleasure of appearing in some special performances as Tom Quiny in the late Dr. Aveling's charming one-act play, *Judith Shakespeare*. About this time he played in a special matinée of a new farcical comedy, *An Amateur Wife*, at the Criterion Theatre, which subsequently gained for him an engagement from Mr (now Sir) Charles Wyndham. Two years as stage-manager and Sir Archibald M'Gregor, in *One of the Best*, followed. Then came an autumn tour as Sir George Ferrers in *How London Lives*, and the same part in the revival at the Princess's



MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN.

Theatre almost immediately after. Mr Llewellyn next went to Wyndham's Theatre and played in *Cyrano de Bergerac*, after which he was retained to play Brown, in *David Garrick*, and Dr. Johnson, in the one-act play of that name. A season at the Garrick, under Mr Arthur Bourchier, in *The Wedding Guest* was followed by a spring tour as Baron Heintz, in *The Swashbuckler*, and an autumn tour as Archdeacon Wealthy, in *The Christian*; a season at Drury-lane as the Centurian, in *Ben Hur*; a suburban tour in the old position in *One of the Best*, and stage-management of pantomime at the Coronet Theatre. He stage-managed and appeared as the Bishop, in Mrs Ryley's charming play, *The Altar of Friendship*, at the Criterion; also as Bill Blacksmith, in Miss Annie Hughes' version of *Lorna Doone*, and Sir Charles Vandrift, in *An African Millionaire*. The production of *Forty Thieves* at the Camden Theatre last Christmas secured him a contract to stage-manage the pantomime at Covent-garden next December, which undertaking, however, is relinquished owing to "barring out" clauses, &c. Mr Llewellyn was the First Stranger in Mr Leigh's production of *Timon of Athens* this year, and is at present engaged by Messrs Harrison and Maude to understudy at the New Theatre. It is interesting to note that on the 24th of the present month a new drama called *The Coal King*, of which Mr L. is part author, will be produced at the Elephant and Castle Theatre by the stock company.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the Musical Play,
by James T. Tanner, entitled
"THE ORCHID."

A crowded audience, unbounded laughter, and generous applause greeted the endeavours of Mr George Dance's company in the above popular play on Monday. As Lady Violet Anstruther Miss Ethel Bryant distinguished herself; notably in "Little Mary" and other smart ditties. Miss Irene Desmond was a charming Josephine Zaccary, playing the pupil teacher demurely and naturally. Miss Madge Lucas as Caroline Vokins won instant favour, delivering her lines and songs with all point and spirit. Miss Poppy Wilkinson was a graceful Thisbe. Zelie Rumpert as portrayed by Miss Eva Melville was a convincing adventuress, and the Countess Anstruther had a handsome representative in Miss Ida Chichester. Mr Bertie Wright was a most admirable Meakin, his by-play and business evoking incessant laughter. Mr G. Davy Burnaby was excellent as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour, and was, with Meakin, loudly encored in the duet "When will justice be done." Mr Ernest Derrell was a distinguished Aubrey Chesterton, of orchid fame. Mr Arthur P. Hemsley as Zaccary was greatly to the liking of the audience, and his dancing was something to wonder at. Mr Edmund Hollick was good in the small part of Dr. Faussett, and Mr Edmund Page was diverting as the Count De Cassignat. The chorus singing was excellent, under the able direction of Mr T. Tunbridge.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE JALOUX,"

Play, in Three Acts, by M. Antoine Bibesco.
Produced at the Théâtre de l'Œuvre, Oct. 9.

Hélène Marsanne.....	Mdlle. DEVOYOD
Jeanne Saujat	Mdlle. STELLA VIARNY
Georges Martel.....	M. HENRY BURGUET
Moritzogue	M. G. SAILLARD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, OCT. 13.—The Théâtre de l'Œuvre has given us three novelties, two of which are psychological studies, somewhat sketchy, but full of observation. In the first piece, *Le Jaloux*, M. Antoine Bibesco has undertaken a formidable task in depicting a jealous lover. The scene is laid in the theatrical world. Georges Martel, a young dramatist, is in love with Hélène Marsanne, one of his exponents. Georges is jealous of everybody and everything, of the girl's very past. He suspects all visitors, he reads all her letters, and even the flowers and the applause showered upon her rouse his anger. Hélène realises the sufferings he undergoes, sufferings for which there seems to be no remedy. But she loves him, and she patiently reasons with him, trying to cure him of his insane suspicions. It is all in vain. After a violent scene Georges leaves Hélène; he becomes the lover of Jeanne Saujat, who has never ceased to fan his jealousy, and he writes infamous articles against his former mistress. The broken-hearted Hélène, tries to drown her grief in a life of dissipation; yet we foresee the moment when she will return to Georges, and both will once more know the torture of jealousy. In M. Henry Burguet the jealous Georges had an able exponent. Mdlle. Devoyod impersonated the suffering Hélène, and Mdlle. Stella Viarny the treacherous Jeanne Saujat.

M. JEAN JULLIEN, the talented author of *Le Maître* and *La Mer*, has been less successful in his one-act novelty *Les Droits du Cœur*. He has created a most dramatic situation, but instead of developing his idea he has given us the mere outline of a piece, a kind of scenario, which ends in a childish fashion. At a ball Henry De Meyrargues makes violent love to a young girl, Anne Lehautier, and he kisses her passionately. Two of the guests have witnessed this incident, and the girl has overheard one of them remarking that "the apple does not fall far from the tree," words which convey a secret meaning. Her old friend, the family doctor, happens to be present. So she asks him for an explanation, and, receiving an evasive reply, walks up to her father and enquires whether her mother has been guilty. The man starts, and says, "She has explated," whereupon the fearful truth dawns upon her. Her mother has sinned, and it is her husband who killed her. A jury has acquitted him; but the girl does not pardon, and the father stands with bowed head before his child who has raked up the terrible past. He anxiously awaits his fate, and we also wonder what course she will pursue. She however, lets him down gently. She will not ask her father's consent to marry the man who kissed her, and the curtain drops. Mdlle. Gladys-Maxhence, who last year secured a first prize in comedy at the Conservatoire, played the difficult rôle of Anne with much grace and tact.

"LE PROPHETE," by MM. F. Toussaint, is so enshrouded in mystery as to become almost incomprehensible. All we know is that a Spanish maiden loves a poet, and that for an unknown reason she becomes mad.

THE cast of *Monsieur Polichinelle*, the new piece to be produced at the Théâtre du Chatelet, comprises MM. Paul Fugère, Pougaud, Bertin, Daragon, Etievant; and Mesdames Dallet, Maud Amy, Reynaldy, and Feugère.

"LE TRUC DU BRESILIEN,"
Vaudeville, in Four Acts,
by MM. Nancey and Armont,
Produced at the Cluny Theatre, Oct. 12.

Bernard	M. J. PONCET
Pombagin	M. DORGAT
Saint-Gapour	M. DURAFOUR
Gustave	M. ARNOULD
D'Ambleteuse	M. LUREAU
Merluchon	M. WAGMANN
Gabrielle	Mdlle. ALBA
Mathilde	Mdlle. ANDRAL
Madame Cocoche	Madame FRANCK-MEL
Leontine	Mdlle. BERTRY

It looks as if the little Cluny Theatre has at last struck oil. The new vaudeville has certainly caught on, and is likely to have a long and prosperous career. The management of this playhouse, instead of applying to some well-known dramatist, whose work rarely comes up to his reputation, have produced the maiden effort of two unknown playwrights. And they have acted wisely. It is not a complicated plot, but it is intensely funny. Bernard has married Gabrielle without having taken the precaution of ridding himself first of Nichette, his former mistress. In a weak moment he has promised Nichette never to leave her unless she proved faithless. Unfortunately, Nichette has principles. She remains true to him, whereupon the distracted Bernard hits upon the plan of disguising himself as a "gentleman from Brazil," to try to drag the lady from the path of righteousness. And then the unforeseen happens. The frail Nichette is proof against the Brazilian's fascinations, whilst his own wife, the virtuous Gabrielle, succumbs, and Bernard is made *cocu* by himself. His position is by no means an enviable one, for he has now three parts to play—*i.e.*, he has to act as Nichette's lover, as his wife's lover, and as the latter's husband. He finds it rather a large order. But his troubles come to an end when he discovers that his wife has known from the start that Bernard and the fascinating Brazilian were one and the same person, and that she only wanted to teach him a lesson which he will not be likely to forget. Among the episodical personages are Madame Cocoche, Nichette's mother, a dreadful creature, who has a violent dispute in a restaurant and throws a turbot at the head of one of the guests. Then we have Bernard's uncle, just returned from America, where he has made an enormous fortune in a "Wet Nurses' Trust," and other queer types who help to keep the house in constant laughter. The Cluny Theatre cannot boast of a first-class company, but the artists worked with a will, and contributed a fairly good ensemble. M. Poncet gave a good account of the dual rôle of Bernard and the Brazilian. M. Dorgat successfully impersonated the uncle from America, and M. Arnould supplied a rather amusing sketch of the old parasite, the Baron De Wimereux. The women's rôles in the piece are of less importance, and the artistes showed a decided tendency to "over-acting." This was specially noticeable in Madame Franck-Mel, who piled on the agony in making Madame Cocoche more unpleasant than necessary.

M. MAURICE DONNAY has read to the artists of the Renaissance his new play with which this theatre intends to inaugurate the season towards the middle of next month. The principal rôle, that of a scientist, will, of course, be taken by M. Lucien Guitry. The title of the work has not yet been decided upon.

AT the Ambigu *La Fille du Garde Chasse* will disappear from the bill to make room for the revival of *Le Tour du Monde d'un Enfant de Paris*, a fairy piece, which has been produced already more than a thousand times. In the meantime the first novelty at this playhouse, *Le Crime d'Aix*, will be put into rehearsal.

MR LEONARD RAYNE has acquired the South African rights of Mr James Bernard Fagan's fine play, *The Prayer of the Sword*, which is running so successfully at the Adelphi.

MR GEORGE DANCE'S No. 1 *A Country Girl* company played to phenomenal business last week at the Cork Opera House. At ordinary prices it beat all previous local records for musical comedy by £250 on the week.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Mr Arthur Wing Pinero's doll in *A Wife Without a Smile*, which was produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday, has been the dramatic sensation of the week. The doll trick is an old one, and is frequently seen at French fairs. It is a great pity that a man of Mr Pinero's marvellous ability should have written such a silly play. The pleasant memories of Mr Pinero's great dramatic successes make it painful and distressing that a dramatist of so much genius should have descended to such childish work.

Mrs Brown Potter's handsome and artistic drawing-room furniture has been brought up from Bray Lodge, Maidenhead, to decorate the stage in the scene for *Forget-Me-Not*, which she will produce with *Cavalleria Rusticana* at the Savoy Theatre to-night. In the revival of *Cavalleria Rusticana* Mascagni's "Intermezzo" will be played by an orchestra of seventy, under the bâton of Mr Raymond Roze.

Mr George Grossmith, in consequence of the serious illness of his wife, has, we are sorry to hear, been compelled to cancel all his immediate provincial engagements.

Sir Henry Irving will arrive in Sunderland on Thursday, the 27th inst., and will be honoured by a demonstration on Saturday, the 29th, when he will be entertained at luncheon in the Town Hall by the Mayor and aldermen, the Members of Parliament, clergy, and an influential committee of citizens, and will be presented with a beautifully modelled silver and gold casket, bearing his own portrait in enamel, and providing a record of his original appearance at the old Lyceum in 1856. The casket is ornamented with statuettes symbolical of various phases of dramatic art, and contains a eulogistic address. In the evening a performance of *Becket* will be given at the Avenue Theatre, at which the Mayor and members of the Corporation will be present.

Mr Stead's first impression of the drama has been favourable. In writing in the *Review of Reviews* of his visit to *The Tempest* at His Majesty's Mr Stead says:—"It is only just to say a word of grateful recognition of the services which Mr Tree and his company have rendered to the community by such honest, laborious, and, on the whole, successful effort to represent one of the most famous of Shakespeare's plays. It is a national service, and well deserves national recognition. If all plays are like this play, then the prejudice against the theatre is absurd."

Mr Beerbohm Tree, in regard to Mr Stead's criticism of *The Tempest*, in the *Review of Reviews*, remarks:—"I suppose dramatic criticism requires some sort of training. But it requires, in addition to intelligence, an artistic instinct, which in Mr Stead's case has lain dormant for fifty-five years. Mr Stead found the shipwreck unconvincing. To me, with all my long experience of the stage, the illusion is as powerful as if I were still a boy. Should I be alarmed to hear that Shakespeare had come to life again and was among the audience at His Majesty's? No, not alarmed, for I should have complete confidence in his largeness of mind."

A burglar who was sent to Sing Sing Prison five years ago for stealing jewels from Miss Cecilia Loftus's room in an hotel wrote to her from gaol saying that he only wanted to steal one of her photographs and asking her to send him a signed one. He has now written from an Illinois prison saying that he has again been sentenced this time for twenty years, concluding:—"Dear Miss Loftus, forgive my presumption and think only of my hideous position. I want you to give me another of your portraits. I have one already that I treasure above everything else. Do write me a letter telling me about your new play. Hoping and praying for an answer, I am, yours sincerely, Cecilia Loftus's Burglar." Miss Loftus sent the desired letter and photograph.

Miss Dorothea Baird took her place for a short time on the Bench at North London Police-court on Thursday. When she had sufficiently studied the manners and customs of the Court, Mr E. S. Fordham, the presiding Magistrate, saw Miss Baird to her motor.

The theatre hat difficulty may now be overcome. The Paris milliners are bringing out small bonnets and caps, ornamented with lace or jewels, to be worn by ladies in theatres. M. Pedro Gailhard, of the Paris Opéra; M. Carré, of the Opéra Comique; and M. Porel, of the Vaudeville, have signified their approval of the novelty, and at the Gymnase there is to be a special notice posted over the desks of the ticket-takers, relative to the wearing of the new head-gear in the stalls.

"Taps," the military play now running at the Lyric Theatre, New York, has had its *dénouement* changed in deference to public opinion. In the early representations a Sergeant-Major was shown as so imbued with military discipline that, instead of shooting the Lieutenant who had wronged his daughter, he shot the girl herself. Now he shoots the Lieutenant, and the audience goes home satisfied.

Amongst those present at the production of Mr Pinero's new play, *A Wife Without a Smile*, at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday night, were Mr J. M. Barrie, Mr Egerton Castle, Judge Bacon, Mr Marcus Stone, Lord Granby, Sir George Chetwynd, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr Theodore M'Kenna, Lady Lewis, and Mrs Pinero.

"I think I never saw Mr Hollingshead in the front of the house to receive a guest but once," says a gentleman who had been actively associated with him for the last half-century or more. "That was when Charles Dickens paid us a visit during a performance. Mr Hollingshead's admiration for the great novelist amounted almost to veneration, and he was a proud man the evening he welcomed 'The Master' to the Gaiety."

Mr George Bernard Shaw's one-act play, *How He Lied to Her Husband*, has provoked as much newspaper discussion in New York as did the same author's *Candida*. It was hinted beforehand that the piece would prove a surprise to New York playgoers; and it certainly did. The audience enjoyed the piece immensely on the first night, and recalled Mr Arnold Daly until he was forced to make a speech, which he prefaced by reading from the prompt book Mr Shaw's last note on the manuscript:—"Hisses, manifestations of disapproval. Calls for the author. The manager appears and is pelted from the stage."

Mr George Alexander will put on in front of *The Garden of Lies* at the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday a new one-act play, by Mr Joshua Bates, entitled *The Decree Nisi*, with a cast including Mr Charles Fulton, Mr Leslie Faber, Miss Barbara Hannay, and Miss Madge M'Intosh.

Many members of the original cast of *Trilby* have promised their services at the matinée on behalf of the Actors' Benevolent Fund which will be given by Mr Tree at His Majesty's Theatre on Nov. 8. Mr Tree will sustain his old part of Svengali, Mr Edmund Maurice will be the Talbot Wynne, Mr Lionel Brough will be the Laird, Mr Gerald Du Maurier will appear as Dodor, Mr Gayer Mackay as Lorimer, Mr Holman Clark as Manager Kaw, Mr Herbert Ross as Zouzou, and Miss Rosina Filippi as Madame Vinard, Miss Viola Tree playing the shapely footed heroine.

Sir Henry Irving's visit to Birmingham at the Prince of Wales's Theatre was brought to a close on Saturday last in a strikingly demonstrative fashion. *Waterloo* had been retold and *The Bells* was concluded when the long pent up feelings of the mighty, throbbing house found vent and expression in a volume of sound the like of which had probably never been heard in the theatre before, and anon Sir Henry stepped forth to acknowledge the ovation. Here the audience literally rose to him, and moments passed ere Sir Henry could speak. It was, he said, his privilege to thank them, though it was impossible to thank them adequately, for their kind and generous welcome. He thanked them for his comrades and self, and he thanked Mr Graham and the staff of the theatre for the manner in which they had helped to put the work before the public. He had given himself two years more, and he should look forward with more than common pleasure to the great privilege of meeting them once more. He should be glad if it were twice more, but he would not promise more than he felt able to perform. He had stored in his memory many kindnesses of the past, and he carried away with him a fresh sheaf that night. He referred to the coming guest, for it was, he said, a great pleasure to him to know that those boards would be occupied by a very valued and dear friend of his, John Hare, whom he characterised as one of the most incomparable artistes on the stage, one of the best of friends and best of men. He thanked the Press for their generous, eloquent, and inspiring reference to his work in "this Birmingham, this Warwickshire, the heart of the English stage," and the scene, which touched the hearts of all present, terminated amid renewed cheering, Sir Henry thanking everybody for their "most gracious and sweet courtesy." "'Beggar that I am,'" he said, "'I am even poor in thanks,' but I do thank you from my heart and from my lips."

Miss Ada Reeve, who is appearing with her company, in *Winnie Brooke, Widow*, at the Park Theatre, Eastbourne, has been lending a helping hand in the cause of charity. Mr Samuel Lloyd organised a special matinée on Thursday, and the proceeds will be given for the benefit of the widow and orphans of the local fishermen who lost their lives off Folkestone in the recent gale. Other members of Miss Reeve's company assisted at the performance, and Mr Walter Melville's *Worst Woman in London* company also gave substantial help. The Pier Company has also given half the proceeds of the Wednesday's matinée to the same charitable cause.

Mr C. E. Hamilton has engaged Miss Marie Dainton to play the title-rôle in Patrick Bidwell's and Signor Esposito's new musical play, *Peggy Machree*, in which Mr Dennis O'Sullivan will make his reappearance. Mr Hamilton opens with the piece in the provinces on Nov. 7, and it will be seen in London in January. Also engaged are Mr Stanley Pringle, Mr Marc Maodermott, Mr Shiel Barry, Mr Grahame Campbell, Miss Freda Bramleigh, Miss Millicent M'Laughlin, and Miss Nessie Walker. The scene of the play is laid in Ireland in the time of George I.

Mr Bernard Shaw's new play, *John Bull's Other Island*, to be produced at the Court Theatre on Nov. 1, will be performed by Mr Louis Calvert, Mr J. L. Shine, Mr Percival Stevens, Mr Nigel Playfair, Mr Granville Barker, Mr Graham Browne, Mr Charles Daly, Mr F. Cremlin, Mr Wilfred Shine, Mr A. E. George, Miss Agnes Thomas, and Miss Ellen O'Malley.

Mr Israel Zangwill, the author of *Merely Mary Ann*, left on Wednesday by the Teutonic, of the White Star Line, for New York. He is accompanied by Mrs Zangwill. His intention is to gain the sympathy and support of the wealthy New York Jews for the Zionist movement, with special reference to the proposed Jewish colony in British East Africa.

Mrs Brown Potter's cast of *Forget-Me-Not* at the Savoy Theatre this evening will include, besides herself, Mr Frederick Kerr, Mr Herbert Dansey, Mr Richard Boleyn, Miss Amy Ravenscroft, and Miss Kate Wingfield. In the revival of *Cavalleria Rusticana* she will be supported by Mr Jerrold Robertshaw, Mr W. Lawson Butt, Mr Richard Boleyn, Mr Bridges, Mr Sidney Hamilton, Miss Sarah De Groot, Miss Elsie Chester, Miss Anna Inglitt, and Miss Wilde.

At the recent annual general meeting of the Dramatic Debaters, the president, Mr J. T. Grein, and the vice-president, Mrs De Courcy Laffan, were unanimously re-elected. Mr V. F. Warschauer is the new secretary, and the duties of treasurer devolve on Mr E. F. Mehrer. At the first meeting held on Sunday at the Queen's Hotel, W., Mr F. D. Bone read a paper on "Criticism."

Mrs Mulholland, in *The Duke of Killicrankie*, has been played by Miss Helen Ferrers since Capt. Marshall released Miss Illington from her engagement as the delightful widow to appear in Mr Pinero's new piece. Miss Ferrers is, as everybody knows, the sister of Miss Fortescue, and has been on the stage for about ten years. She was in Mr F. R. Benson's company long enough to be numbered in the great army of Bensonians, but most of her work has been done in London, His Majesty's having been the theatre where she has appeared most frequently. At the end of the run of *King John*—in which she played Lady Falconbridge, and, while Miss Julia Neilson was out of the bill, the more important part of Constance—Miss Ferrers went across the road to the Haymarket and stayed under Mr Harrison and Mr Maude's management for two years, having worn some of the prettiest "creations" in *Frocks and Frills*, and helped to emphasise the humour of *The Second in Command*. She returned to Mr Tree for *Resurrection*, *The Gordian Knot*, and *Flodden Field*, and then supported Mr Willard in his season at the St. James's. After playing in *Captain Dieppe*, Miss Ferrers joined *The Duke of Killicrankie* at the Criterion, where she will play Mrs Mulholland till the end of the run.

Miss Ferrers is very fond of animals, her pets including a collie, a toy Pomeranian, and several birds. The Pomeranian was presented to her on the day of the production of *The Gay Lord Quex*, so he bears the name of Quex, and proved a successful beggar at the big concert that was given in the summer at Queen's Hall in aid of Our Dumb Friends' League, one enthusiastic dog-lover offering to pay half-a-crown for the privilege of holding him in her arms for a few minutes. Miss Ferrers can appreciate the good qualities of a "thoroughbred mongrel" just as much as the beauties of a dog with a long pedigree. One of the latest "strays" for which she found a home was a cross between a Dachshund and a fox terrier, but she overlooked his ugliness for his faithfulness.

Apropos of dogs, a friend of Miss Ferrers's is the proud possessor of a most peculiar-looking mongrel that attracts attention wherever he goes. The two ladies were having tea together in Bond-street a few weeks ago, and the dog was observed with great interest by a party of Americans, one of whom, after a while, walked across the room and spoke to Miss Ferrers and her friend. "I have never seen such a lovely dog," she said, "He is so verry quaint! What kind of dog is it?" The owner of the lovely animal hesitated, and then gravely replied, "He is an Australian bush poodle." The American thanked her cordially, made a note of the name, and said she would certainly purchase an Australian bush poodle before leaving the old country. It is to be hoped that she has found one.

The cast of *The Master of Kingsgift*, to be produced at the Avenue Theatre on Monday, includes Mr Wilfred Forster, Mr Frank Cooper, Mr Conway Tearle, Mr R. Henderson Bland, Mr Maurice Mancini, Mr R. P. Hamilton, Mr Walter Maclean, Mr Edwin Palmer, Mr J. M. Troughton, Mr Barnford, Mr Johnstone, Mr Rowe, Mr A. Munro, Miss Helen Palgrave, Miss Lillah M'Carthy, Miss Dora Barton, Miss Ruby Chester, Miss Marion Sterling, and Miss Winifred Sadler.

Messrs W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker's little play, *The Monkey's Paw*, adapted by M. Nunes, was successfully produced at the Théâtre Antoine, Paris, on Thursday. M. Antoine as White, the old man whose son is killed by the mummified paw, made a decided hit.

Mr E. Vivian Edmonds writes:—"Where do all those authors with good plays to dispose of hide themselves? One hears so much of 'authors' grievances,' but the grievance is on the manager's side—he cannot find the good authors. I am afraid these gentlemen do not read their *Era* weekly. I have advertised many times. The provinces want good plays, and nowadays London will receive 'provincial successes;' so why not advertise in the 'Authors' Column' and give managers a chance? During the past twelve years Miss Austin and myself have had to obtain our plays from such well-known authors as George R. Sims, Wilson Barrett, Arthur Shirley, and Frank Harvey."

The autumn tour of *If I Were King*, under the direction of Mr Frank Fenton, has been so successful that he has decided to run the piece through Christmas instead of starting his spring tour in February, as he originally intended. The provincial press has spoken in terms of unqualified praise of the acting, dressing, and staging, and at the Shakespeare Theatre on Oct 24 Mr Fenton hopes to have this appreciation endorsed.

The Licensing Committee of the Administrative County of London will sit at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, on Nov 2 (for north of the Thames), and on Nov. 11 at the Sessions House, Newington (for south of the Thames), for the purpose of hearing applications for licences in order to report to the County Council, which will sit at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, on Nov. 25. The Theatres and Music Halls Committee has issued a list of notices of applications, and this is divided into "renewals," "transfers," "removal, &c., of restrictions," and "new licences," the total showing applications for 347 licences in respect of 330 places.

Everyone interested in the employment of children on the stage should send three stamps to the publishing offices of *The Era* for a copy of the Act which came into force on Oct. 1.

Mr D. Lyn Harding, the new Prospero at His Majesty's, was a dramatic reciter before he thought of going on the stage, and his knowledge of plays and players was very limited. The late Edward Fletcher, a tragedian of the old school, took a personal interest in the young actor, and asked him to play Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice*, followed some years later by the offer of the part of Camillo in *A Winter's Tale*, in which he scored a notable success. The performance that may be said to have laid the foundation of his present position in London was the leading part in Mr Richard Ganthony's play called *The Prophecy*, that was produced at Fulham. It was then that young Lyn Harding was recognised by West-end managers as a "possibility." His success in *A Snug Little Kingdom*, at the Avenue last year, made him a "certainty," and he is now one of the most promising and popular actors whom Mr Tree has gathered together.

The following true story is a proof of Mr Lyn Harding's skill in making up. A well-known actor, having seen him as the romantic Captain Starlight, in Rolf Boldrewood's *Robbery Under Arms*, suggested his name to a certain provincial manager for the part of the hero in the first tour of a London success. The provincial manager seized the first opportunity to see for himself whether Mr Harding was as good-looking, energetic, and talented as his friend declared. Unfortunately *Robbery Under Arms* was no longer in the bill, and the provincial manager saw the young actor in the part of an old man. His opinion was frankly stated in the following curt note:—"I want a man to play juvenile lead, not a doddering old imbecile!"

Mr Fred Bowyer was to have written the pantomime which it was at one time proposed to produce at Covent-garden next Christmas, but the project was, for various reasons, relinquished; and Mr Isaac Cohen has secured the services of Mr Bowyer to write the book of the Christmas piece for the Crown Theatre, Peckham. Mr Bowyer is the author of five successful pantomimes at the Coronet Theatre, and if the Peckham annual is as original and bright as these were, the patrons of the Crown will assuredly have no reason to complain.

Before Judge Woodfall, in the Westminster County Court, on Wednesday, Miss Singleton, an actress, was sued by Mr Brough, manager of a theatrical touring company, for damages for breach of contract. Miss Singleton was engaged to play in the touring company with *The Lady of Ostend*, at £3 10s. a week. She received £2 on account, but subsequently broke off the engagement, and sailed with a travelling company to Australia. Mr Brough claimed a fortnight's salary, as was the custom, for a breach of contract. Judge Woodfall made the award.

"Der Tote Lowa" (*The Dead Lion*), the play by Herr Oscar Blumenthal, the performance of which was prohibited in Berlin by the Police Censor, on the pretext that, although its plot is laid in the Middle Ages, it in reality portrays events connected with recent political history, was produced at the Hamburg Schauspielhaus on Wednesday evening. The house was crowded, and the piece was very favourably received.

A mural tablet, erected in the Church of St. Stephen, Walbrook, by the London section of the Incorporated Society of Musicians in memory of John Dunstable, was unveiled on Saturday afternoon. The monument is a beautiful specimen of glass mosaic. In the upper panel there are three figures of angel musicians against a starry sky, symbolising the greatness of Dunstable both as a musician and as an astronomer. Dr. Cummings, on behalf of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, requested the rector and churchwardens to accept the memorial, which was then unveiled by the Rev. R. S. De C. Laffan.

The O.P. Club, in view of the interest aroused by the production of Mr Pinero's play, *A Wife Without a Smile*, at Wyndham's Theatre, will on Friday, Oct. 21, in the clubroom discuss "Mr Pinero, the Poet Laureate, and Indelicate Pirouetting," with special reference to Mr Alfred Austin's recent remarks on the Drama, when he deplored that it is largely given over to "indelicate pirouetting."

We can give an emphatic denial to the persistent rumour that Madame Réjane intends returning to the Paris Vaudeville. Even if the misunderstandings between this talented actress and her husband are smoothed over it is most unlikely that she will ever join again M. Porel's company. The latter has now made all his arrangements, which the presence of a "star" would upset. Altogether M. Porel objects so much to "stars" that he has induced Madame Suzanne Desprès to cancel her engagement with the Vaudeville.

Mr Sterling Mackinlay has just returned to London from a long tour with a concert party called the Bohemian Singers. Son of the late Madame Antoinette Sterling, he has always lived in the atmosphere of music and art, but his own career as a vocalist was started in a most hap-hazard fashion. He is an Eton boy and an Oxford man, and was intended for the Bar, but one day his mother heard him singing, and it struck her for the first time that he possessed the promise of a remarkably fine voice. She took him to Signor Manuel Garcia. The veteran master advised him not to sing a note for a year, and then consented to give him lessons. Mr Mackinlay has himself developed into a very successful teacher.

One of Mr Mackinlay's would-be pupils sent him the following unconsciously funny letter the other day:—"Sir in answer to yours Mr B. as had an engagement offered which he has except and left London on Wensday thanking you (signed) Mr B." Mr M'Kinlay has been appointed professor of singing at the Highbury Academy of Acting. He also gives lessons twice a week at the Highbury Athenæum. His only sister, who is an actress, was given her pretty Scotch name, Jean, in honour of her poetess godmother, Jean Ingelow, her two godfathers having been equally distinguished—Dr. George Macdonald and Sir James Dewar. Sterling M'Kinlay's godfather was the late Lord Mount-Temple, by whom he was presented with several interesting mementos, including a medal struck at the coronation of Queen Victoria, and a handsome silver vase engraved with a design of ferns. The young singer went in for sculling when he was at Oxford, and holds several prize cups and the oar that tells of his college's success in the Torpid Races of 1897.

Mr Mackinlay possesses a very valuable collection of autographs, including two letters in the powerful scrawl of Lord Nelson, and there is hardly a distinguished man of the last century whose name is not to be found in the huge black book of which he is so justly proud. In nearly every case the value of the autograph is enhanced by the addition of a word of greeting, a witticism, or a long letter. Mr Mackinlay's chambers are full of interesting pictures, furniture, and curios. He has a fine old sixteenth century chair, a set of stamped velvet cushions from Whistler's famous peacock-room, two early sketches by Lord Leighton, a couple of pictures that belonged to Dante Gabriel Rossetti, the little song-book (bound in black) that his mother used to hold on the platform, and a silver bowl that was presented to her by Queen Victoria, Roman coins that were found in the Baroness Burdett-Coutts's grounds, a tiny French watch (the size of a nut), enamelled with a map of the world; rare old silver spoons—these are only a few of his treasures.

Mrs Lewis Waller has desired her solicitor to state that we were in error last week in attributing the authorship of the English version of *Vilma* to Mr Paul Berton.

The Nordseeland Railway Company's new line will cross the reputed "Grave of Hamlet," near Marienlyst, a place of pilgrimage visited by thousands of tourists.

A series of matinées of the *Hippolytus* of Euripides will be given at the Court Theatre during this month, commencing on Tuesday, with a cast including Miss Eleanor Foster, Mrs Gwendolen Bishop, Mr Alfred Brydone, Mr Ben Webster, Mr Granville Barker, Mr A. E. George, Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Rosina Filippi, and Miss Tita Brand.

Miss Eleanor Robson will stay in London till the end of December. She will appear in St. Louis in Christmas week, and her place in the very successful *Merely Mary Ann* at the Duke of York's Theatre will have to be filled.

At the annual general meeting of the Playgoers' Club on the 7th inst., the following officers and committee were elected for the ensuing year:—Mr I. Zangwill (president), Mr Kenneth Havers (vice president), Mr F. Hees (hon. treasurer), Mr L. Harfeld (trustee), Messrs Max Beerbohm, Norreys Connell, Osman Edwards, B. W. Findon, M. Faraday, W. Sparks, A. F. Spencer, and A. B. Walkley on the committee, Mr Hannaford Bennett (hon. secretary), and Mr James Sharpe (assistant hon. secretary.) The hon. treasurer announced the number of members to be 1,344.

Three of the Hutchison companies visit the suburban theatres next week—*The Money-Makers* at the Marlborough, *Cousin Kate* at Brixton, and *A Country Mouse* at Crouch-end.

The London section of the Incorporated Society of Musicians was held at 20, Hanover-square, on Saturday last. Dr. Cummings presided, in place of Sir Frederick Bridge. Mr F. H. Hankins, the hon. secretary, submitted his annual report, which stated that the attendance at the monthly meetings had increased. The Saturday afternoon "socials" had been a decided success, and many vocalists and instrumentalists had received engagements through being heard at these gatherings. The members numbered about 600. On the motion of Mr C. Gardner the report was adopted. The chairman, referring to a correspondence which had taken place in one of the musical journals, stated that the Society did its charitable work unostentatiously. The Royal Society of Musicians had given away hundreds of pounds to help people who had no connection at all with their organisation.

Mr Jerrold Robertshaw, who is cast for Turriddu, in Mrs Brown Potter's revival of *Cavalleria Rusticana* at the Savoy, has been a great traveller, and made a success of business before he went on the stage. He fences well, and used to practise—at all events to study—mesmerism. He is a Yorkshireman, made a hit in *Cyrano de Bergerac*, and is generally to be found in one or another London play-bill.

In each town visited by Fred Melville's *Her Forbidden Marriage* company Mr Melville offers to present to the first couple entering the early door on Monday evening a 22-carat gold wedding ring, providing the marriage takes place during that week. On Monday evening, Sept. 26, at the Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, the ring was claimed by Thomas Sterndale and Mary Claber, they being the first couple to enter the early door, and who were to be married on the Saturday following. Mr Frank Mundill, general manager for the company, announced that he would formally present the ring to the couple on the stage the following evening, on behalf of Mr Melville, which he did before a crowded house, the lady being previously provided with an order on a local jeweller to select a ring of a suitable size. The wedding took place Oct. 1 at Christ Church, Chadderton, and in the absence of Mr Mundill the ring was finally handed over by Mr Gilbert Heron. *Her Forbidden Marriage*, Mr Fredk. Melville's latest success, is now in the eleventh week of the second tour, and is playing to crowded houses everywhere.

Mrs Cecil Thurston, who writes under her full name of Katherine Cecil Thurston, has dramatised her latest novel called "John Chilcote, M.P." It originally ran as a serial in *Blackwood's Magazine*, and Mr George Alexander has secured the acting rights for England and America. The latest woman playwright is Irish, and came to London from Cork four or five years ago. She has been exceptionally fortunate from the beginning of her literary career, scoring a success with her very first book, "The Circle." Mrs Cecil Thurston is quite young and very pretty, with no suspicion of an Irish brogue in her soft and pleasing voice.

A special matinée of *Othello* will be given at the Court Theatre on Wednesday, Nov. 16. Two well-known artists, who have been too long absent from the boards, will enact the principal characters—viz., Mr F. J. Nettlefold and Miss Agnes Ingreville. Should the matinée prove successful, it will be the starting-point of a National Drama Society, run on much the same lines as the Stage Society. Mr F. J. Nettlefold is a National Drama enthusiast, and is just the gentleman to pioneer such a society to success.

Mrs Sarah Hawkins, who has just passed away at the ripe old age of ninety-six, was grandmother of Mr H. Willoughby Hawkins, secretary of the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce, and widow of the late Mr Willoughby Roselle Hawkins. The late Mr Willoughby Roselle Hawkins was lessee for some time of the Cardiff and Swansea theatres. Mr Percy Hawkins, one of his sons, now an accomplished artist, was the great child actor, Percy Roselle, who used to play Hamlet, Shylock, Macbeth, and Richard the Third. Mrs Willoughby's daughter, Miss Amy Roselle, also achieved fame, and another daughter, Miss Julia Roselle, starred the States with Sothern. A grandchild of the late Mrs Willoughby, playing under the name of Daisy Aubrey, appeared recently at Cardiff, in *The Medal and the Maid*.

In connection with the forthcoming visit to the Grand, Glasgow, of the Osmond Tearle Shakespearian and Classical Répertoire Company, a ballot is now being taken of the inhabitants of the city as to the plays to be presented during the company's stay. Twenty thousand voting papers have been distributed, each person having seven votes, and the seven plays receiving the greatest number of votes will be selected from the programme for the week, which will include a special Saturday matinée under the ægis of the University, the local colleges, and literary societies. The répertoire submitted comprises *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *David Garrick*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Richard III*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *School for Scandal*, *Lady of Lyons*, *Virginius*, and *Macbeth*. The organisation of a ballot on such a large scale has entailed a great amount of work on Mr Herbert J. Montague, the general manager of the company, but the result of his enterprise promises to more than repay him.

Mr Granville Barker, who is to act a part with the single name Keegan in Mr Bernard Shaw's new play, *John Bull's Other Island* is himself a playwright of some promise and a peculiar style of his own. His *Weather-Hen*, written in collaboration with Mr Berte Thomas, was much discussed at the time of its production about four years ago. He is a prominent member of the Stage Society, and has also done good work in connection with the Elizabethan Stage Society. Mr Barker is the only son of Mrs Albert Barker, who was well known at one time as a reciter.

The annual meeting of the O.P. Club was held on the 7th inst. in the club room at the Piazza, Covent-garden, Mr Alfred F. Robbins in the chair. The hon. treasurer and founder of the club, Mr Carl Hentschel, submitted the balance-sheet for the year, the profit being nearly £114. He said some twenty-one functions, i.e., lectures, dinners, concerts, &c., had taken place. The members had every reason to congratulate themselves on the successful year, both financially and socially, under the presidency of Mr Robbins, and he looked forward with confidence to the continued prosperity of the club. The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr Algernon L. Collins; vice-president, Mr J. M. Freshwater; hon. treasurer, Mr Carl Hentschel; trustee, Mr Guy Repton; secretaries, Messrs J. Davis Smith and Stanley Greig.

Although Miss Madge Lessing, who made such a hit on Tuesday night, in *Sergeant Brue*, is such a typical American comedienne, she was born in London, but has lived nearly all her life in the United States. She started her career in a New York chorus, but was rapidly promoted to playing parts. It is said that *The Belle of New York* was written specially for her, and it will be remembered that she succeeded Miss Edna May when it was revived at the Apollo Theatre.

Mr Auguste Van Biene, who has just arranged to make a tour of the world, under the management of Mr George Musgrove, tells an interesting little story of how he came to compose the melody that he has now played thousands of times in *The Broken Melody*. It suddenly came into his head as he was travelling in the train from Brighton to London, after many days of unsuccessful striving. He was talking with some friends at the time, but as the melody slowly shaped itself in his brain he could think of nothing else, and seized the first opportunity to write it down.

The Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, will cease to exist as a theatre after Oct. 29. Extensive alterations will be commenced at once after that date, and this place of amusement will reopen its doors about the second week in December as a Hippodrome.

Miss Lena Cross, daughter of Julian and Sophie Cross, sailed Oct. 8 on the Armadale Castle for Cape Town, where on the day of her arrival she is to be married to Mr Everard White, architect. After fulfilling a year's engagement with Mr Leonard Rayne, she left South Africa last October engaged to Mr White, but she insisted that he should wait a year. He has done so, and now she has gone back. It is her intention to leave the stage.

Mr Charles Macdona's principal company will appear at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, next week, in *Three Little Maids*, which was recently so successful at Kennington.

The Scenic Artists' Association, recently formed under the presidentship of Mr Hawes Craven (for so many years associated with the famous Lyceum productions), and the vice-presidentship of Mr Joseph Harker, has elected as a council of management for the present year Messrs Walter Hann (chairman and treasurer), E. G. Banks, J. J. Markwell Davis, Richard Douglass, W. Harford, W. T. Helmsley, H. W. Owen, W. Raphael, H. W. Robinson, W. B. Strong, and George Tweddell, with Mr Stafford Hall, of Liverpool, as provincial representative.

Mr Isaac Cohen will commence on Monday at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end-road, a six weeks' stock season. No new productions will be given, but the period will be devoted to revivals of some of the popular dramas, beginning with *The English Rose*.

"Miss Mischief," a new musical comedy by Dr. F. Osmond Carr and Reginald Bacchus, will be produced by Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's company on the 31st inst., at the Royal West London Theatre. Included in the cast will be Mr Fred Eastman, Mr T. E. Conover, and Miss Evelyn Hughes.

Mrs Walter Bentley has acquired the theatre rights of *Three Little Hearts of Gold*, a musical drama by R. L. Cavendish and Stephen E. Blythe, and will tour the piece after Christmas.

Miss Carrie B. Jones, aged twenty-one, a prominent member of the Seth Weeks Troupe, passed away on Sept. 24. The remains were fittingly laid to rest in Kensal-green Cemetery, and the grave was surrounded by many friends of the deceased, including all the members of the *In Dahomey* company, Messrs Goggin and Davis and their families, Grant and Grant, Gauze, Billy Farrell, Seth Weeks, and others.

"A WIFE WITHOUT A SMILE."

A Comedy in Disguise, in Three Acts,
by Arthur W. Pinero,
Produced at Wyndham's Theatre, on Wednesday, Oct. 12.

Seymour Rippingill	Mr DION BOUCICAULT
Haynes Webbmarsh	Mr C M. LOWNE
Vivian Trood.....	Mr G. M. GRAHAM
John Pullinger	Mr HENRY KEMBLE
Foley	Mr T. RYLEY
Mrs Rippingill	Miss LETTICE FAIRFAX
Mrs Webbmarsh	Miss DOROTHY GRIMSTON
Mrs Lovette	Miss MARIE ILLINGTON
Bates	Miss NELLIE MOORE

A little read but often alluded to literary work is entitled "The Diversions of Purley." *A Wife Without a Smile*, which was produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday, may be described as a Diversion of Pinero. It gives one the impression of being the facile work of a clever writer. It is curiously varied—now really witty, now almost fatuously "obvious;" at times humorously pathetic, and at others quite unworthy of the author's reputation. A single detail will give an idea of the tone of the entertainment. A gentleman bores a hole in the ceiling of a room and passes through it a cord. One end of this cord is attached to a sofa in an apartment above; and a doll is tied to the other end, and hangs in the lower room at a height of about seven feet from the floor. By this simple detective apparatus, the amount of love-making which takes place on the sofa can be gauged to a nicety. The device is, to say the least, in very bad taste; and we were more than surprised that Mr Pinero should have descended to introduce it. The story which he has to tell is as follows:—Seymour Rippingill is a weak-minded individual who believes himself to be possessed of a great sense of humour. He has married *en second noces* a young woman of middle-class ancestry, who only accepted him for monetary reasons, is bored to death by his jokes, and has a private inclination towards a young artist of the name of Vivian Trood, who, with a literary man named Haynes Webbmarsh and his wife, is a guest at Rippingill's boathouse at Taplow. Mrs Rippingill is deeply depressed by her husband's "humour;" and he consults a comely widow, Mrs Lovette, as to how to cure his wife of her density. Mrs Lovette is puzzled; and Rippingill calls to his aid a friend named Pullinger, a partner in a big firm of biscuit makers, who is always recommending to his friends certain particular shops and appliances. Pullinger suggests that if Mrs Rippingill could be subjected to some depressing shock, the reaction might send her into a fit of happy laughter. It happens that Rippingill has neglected to apply for the decree nisi which he had obtained against his former wife to be made absolute; so that Avice, his second "selection," is technically a spinster, her marriage with Rippingill being void. It is resolved that she shall be informed of the fact, with the object of administering the curative "shock." Instead, however, of dissolving into tears when she hears the news, Avice burst out laughing and runs out, the violent agitation of the doll immediately afterwards showing that she is celebrating with Trood, on the sofa on the first floor, the recovery of her liberty.

In the last act she introduces the artist to her husband as her *fiancé*, and Rippingill, advised by Pullinger, pretends that he is engaged to Mrs Lovette. When Avice hears this she throws over Trood, and comes back in a fit of jealous rage to oust the usurping Mrs Lovette. A farcical scene takes place between the two women, in which Rippingill has his head rapped and slapped by both of the disputants in the energy of their altercation. Avice, having reinstated herself, turns Mrs Lovette, the Webbmarshes, and Trood politely out of doors; and prepares to rule her husband with a rod of iron. Left alone, he ascends a ladder, and sadly detaches the detective doll from its string.

The piece was played admirably all round. There is no actress on the stage who can give more point to a "good line" than Miss Marie Illington can, and her acting as Mrs Lovette was irresistible in its self-important comicality. She played throughout with admirable humour and emphasis, and her embodiment was one of the successes of the evening. That delicate and distinctive comedian, Mr Dion Boucicault, was unerringly tactful and discriminating as the painfully funny and weak-willed husband, and the little touches with which he developed his idea of the rôle were entirely artistic. Mr C. M Lowne as the uxorious reviewer, Haynes Webbmarsh, hit off the type exactly, and Miss Dorothy Grimston put plenty of Irish characterisation into her performance as Mrs Webbmarsh. Mr G. M. Graham's Vivian Trood could hardly have been improved upon; and Mr Henry Kemble was simply irresistible as the corpulent, solemn, and silly Pullinger. Mr T. Ryley was intelligently efficient as Foley; and Miss Lettice Fairfax acted with vigour and keen appreciativeness as the pretty and spirited Mrs Rippingill, Miss Nellie Moore doing good and useful work as Bates. As a prelude to the piece of the evening, Miss Fanny Wentworth, one of the very cleverest of our female entertainers, gave one of her delightfully droll and immensely entertaining monologues. It is difficult to classify *A Wife Without a Smile*. The only thing to be decided about it is that it creates laughter amidst a certain class of playgoers. Mr Pinero, it is evident, has but a poor opinion of the intelligence of the playgoing public.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—It is not generally known that the new Act, which came in force on the 1st inst., makes it a criminal offence for anyone to

Cause, procure, or allow any child under the age of sixteen to be in any place for the purpose of being trained for any performance which, in its nature, is dangerous.

What would be the effect if the King's trainer were proceeded against for allowing at least thirty lads (all under sixteen) to be on his premises with the object of being trained for jockeys? There are nearly 4,000 horses in training at Newmarket alone, two-thirds of which are ridden in their gallops by apprentices learning the art of race-riding. A conviction would mean that English jockeys, as far as light weights are concerned, would become a thing of the past. This Act slipped through without any opposition, and it now stands as a most formidable weapon for any of the fanatical brigade to use with impunity and in almost any way their "down-with-everything" natures suggest.

Yours faithfully, HARRY S. M'CALLA.
London, Oct. 12, 1904.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Ina Goldsmith, actress—Saturday, Oct. 15.
May Saker—Saturday, Oct. 15.
Dora Levis—Saturday, Oct. 15.
Arthur Danville—Saturday, Oct. 15.
Marion Terry, actress—Sunday, Oct. 16.
Mabel Love—Sunday, Oct. 16.
Tom Arkinstall—Sunday, Oct. 16.
Isabel Jay—Monday, Oct. 17.
Robert Pateman, actor—Monday, Oct. 17.
Wilfred Stanford—Monday, Oct. 17.
J. Forbes Knowles—Monday, Oct. 17.
Lillian Maude, actress—Tuesday, Oct. 18.
Laura Thompson—Wednesday, Oct. 19.
Charles Cameron—Wednesday, Oct. 19.
Frank Mundill, manager—Wednesday, Oct. 19.
Herbert Clifton—Wednesday, Oct. 19.
W. Walley, advance agent—Wednesday, Oct. 19.
Alice Lloyd, music hall artiste—Oct. 20.
Tom Brantford, music hall artiste—Oct. 20.
Townsend Whitling—Friday, Oct. 21.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD.

The literary and theatrical world of London has lost one of its most notable members by the death of Mr John Hollingshead, which occurred at his residence in Fulham on Monday morning. He had been for some time in declining health, but the immediate cause of death was failure of the heart. Mr Hollingshead was in his seventy-eighth year, having been born in Hoxton on Sept. 9, 1827. He was the son of the late Henry Randall Hollingshead, at one time under secretary to the society which administers the estates of the City of London in the North of Ireland. He was educated at a school in Homerton with a view to devoting himself to commercial pursuits, and at an early age was placed in the office of a soft goods merchant in the neighbourhood of Cheapside. Having served this firm in the capacities both of clerk and traveller, he eventually started in business on his own account as a cloth merchant, but the venture did not turn out a success. He then decided to abandon business altogether and to devote himself to journalism, after which he had long had a secret hankering. He had, indeed, already been an occasional contributor to Mr Disraeli's newspaper, the *Press*, and to a magazine called the *Train*, which was then being conducted by Mr Edmund Yates, and soon after he had finally adopted literature as a profession he had the good fortune to receive the active support and encouragement of Charles Dickens. This was brought about by the remarkable success of his early contributions to *Household Words*, the most striking of which, entitled "The City of Unlimited Paper," appeared during the great financial crisis of 1857, and attracted an unusual amount of attention. He was invited to dinner at the office of *Household Words*, in Wellington-street, and there met Dickens for the first time. He thus described this memorable gathering:—

"It was the day, in January, 1858, on which the Princess Royal was married. London was crowded with visitors, and at night the whole town was illuminated. The party consisted of Wilkie Collins, Mark Lemon, Mr Wills, the Honourable Mr Townshend, Charles Dickens, and myself. The master, dressed in a velvet smoking coat, as part of his dress suit, received me in a very friendly manner, and made me a companion in five minutes. I noticed, as I thought then, a slight lisp, the deep lines on his face—almost furrows, and the keen twinkling glance of his eye. The room we dined in was on the upper floor.

"Our dinner was simple and good. We began with oysters, brought in fresh from Old 'Rule's' in Maiden-lane, near to where Congreve lived when Voltaire visited him, and told him he came to see an author, not a coxcomb. The principal dish was a baked leg of mutton, the bone of which had been taken out, and the space supplied with oysters and veal stuffing. I always understood that this was an invention of Dickens, who, without being a gourmand, was fond of eating and drinking. As I was helped twice to this novel delicacy, I remembered some of the master's descriptions of humble but savoury dishes in two or three of the Christmas books. He saw I was enjoying myself, and appeared to be delighted.

"Theatrical matters were touched upon, and Dickens, complaining of the star system, and the spread of scratch companies, said he almost regretted that he took a leading part in the abolition of the patent theatre monopoly. Dickens's principles were sound, but they were not deeply rooted, and he was swayed by every breath of feeling and sentiment. He was a Liberal by impulse, and what the 'Dryasdust' school would have called a 'wobbler.'"

When Mr Hollingshead visited America some years ago, his known connection both with Dickens and Thackeray evoked much examination-in-chief. He says in his book, "According to My Lights," that he "had to describe the two men, their appearance, their tastes and habits, and their points of resemblance, which were very few. Thackeray was an exceptionally tall man, with very long legs. These gave him his height of 6ft. 3in. or more. He was rarely seen without his spectacles, which rested on the flat bridge of his nose. This bridge had been broken in a youthful fight at the Charterhouse School. He was quiet and deliberate in his manner and fond of putting one hand in his trousers pocket. He was a moderate playgoer, preferring the dinner-table with congenial society. He was essentially a clubbable man. His favourite night resort was 'Evans's' supper and singing rooms in Covent-garden Market—a man's music-hall. He smoked and drank 'grog' in moderation, and listened to the part-singing by the choir-boys with manifest enjoyment. He was always more or less in pain from an internal disease, and this temperate recreation, according to his own account, relieved him. 'Evans's' at that time (in the fifties) was one of the three West-end cellar music-halls beginning business at eleven o'clock at night, after the theatres. The other two were the 'Coal Hole,' in the Strand, now the site of Terry's Theatre, and the 'Cider Cellars,' in Maiden-lane, Covent-garden, now a night club.

"The characteristics of these three places in the thirties had been described in the 'Newcomes,' by Thackeray, who thoroughly knew his midnight London. With the extension of Evans's by the opening, in 1854 of the new concert room, built over the back garden where the cottage stood in which the Kembles lived, the programmes became more refined, as ladies were now admitted to the right hand gallery, screened with wire gauze like nuns at a convent. The singers, all men, were in most cases the same—Sam Cowell, Penniket, Sharp, Jonghmanns, Ross, Von Joel, Sam Collins, and others; but the songs were very different from those heard by Colonel Newcombe in the 'Cave of Harmony.' The music hall, as we know it now, was just coming into the world to compete on equal terms with the theatres, and not to act merely as their recognised grill-rooms. The sturdy generation of those days took its steak, chop, baked potatoes, and stout, in place of going to bed, immediately after its tragedies, farces, or comedies. The law allowed them, and they obeyed the law. Mollycoddling legislation had not been invented."

Mr Hollingshead was for some years a prominent contributor both to *Household Words* and to its successor, *All the Year Round*. He also wrote a good deal for the *Cornhill Magazine*, then under the editorship of Thackeray, as well as for the *London Review*, *Good Words*, *Once a Week*, and other publications. In 1861, which was long remembered as the "Famine year" in London, Mr Hollingshead undertook an important engagement for the *Morning Post*, going as Special Commissioner into the destitute districts of the East-end, and writing a series of impressive articles on the condition of the people. These papers were afterwards reissued in a single volume entitled "Ragged London." A year later Mr Hollingshead was officially employed by the Commissioners of the great International Exhibition of 1862 to write the historical introduction to the Exhibition catalogue. For some time prior to this he had been more or less actively associated with the drama, having written the successful farce called *The Birthplace of Podgers*, which is so closely associated with the name of Mr Toole. The popular comedian was introduced to him by Edmund Yates, and how the farce come to be produced is thus related by its author:—

"He came up to my house a few nights after at Bland-place, Regent's-park, and I read him the little piece, and gave him my idea of the leading character—a stolid working man, with few ideas and limited powers of speech, brought into contact with literary enthusiasts, whom he naturally regarded as maniacs. This part of Tom Cranky was not what a low comedian would call a 'fat' part, and therefore Mr Toole is entitled to all the credit of seeing its value as a sketch from life. He took the farce, and produced it at his benefit at the Lyceum in March, 1858, and has played it ever since—a period of thirty-six years."

For several years Mr Hollingshead was dramatic critic for the *Daily News* and several other journals. He also made the acquaintance of Henry Irving. This happened in Edinburgh, and the date was 1859—"On the stage of the old Theatre Royal I was introduced to a tall, thin, interesting, gentle young man, who was Mr and Mrs Wyndham's 'walking gentleman' and 'general utility' actor; this was Mr Irving. We all had quarters at a Temperance Hotel, and the next day was Sunday. We were moderate men, but not total abstainers, and what we wanted we obtained without any difficulty by cash payments. The decoration of the room we were in was peculiar—like the first dawnings of æstheticism in upholstery. The following morning, when asked to write our names in the 'Visitor's Book,' I attached the following lines to my signature:—

Is this a Temperance Hotel, where wine is never vended?
Or, is its temperance a sham—its tea with brandy blended?
Though drinking tea, I think I'm drunk; my eyes and brain seem reeling.
The Turkey carpet's on the wall—the floor-cloth's on the ceiling!

It was owing to an agitation carried on by Mr Hollingshead and the late Dion Boucicault that a Parliamentary committee was appointed to inquire into the vexed question of "dramatic free trade." In 1865 Mr Hollingshead became the stage-director of the Alhambra, but he relinquished that post in 1868 in order to undertake the management of the Gaiety Theatre, which had just been erected in the Strand by Mr Lionel Lawson. Of the taking of the Gaiety the following story is told:—Meeting Mr Lionel Lawson accidentally Hollingshead said "I hear you are building a theatre." "Quite true," was the reply. "I should like to take it." "All right. Got any money?" "Not much; about £200." "No matter, you can get more," and so the bargain was completed.

For many years the policy Mr Hollingshead pursued was one of constant variety. Shakespeare, old comedy, farce, burlesque—nothing came amiss; and when anyone ventured to criticise either principle or detail of the management Mr Hollingshead was always ready with a slashing letter to the public press to vindicate his own ideas. Phelps and Charles Matthews were both frequently to be seen at the Gaiety Theatre; and it was Mr Hollingshead who, having introduced a Belgian and one or two French companies to English audiences, succeeded at last, in 1879, in bringing over Bernhardt, Got, Delaunay, Bressant, and other members of the Comédie Française. The difficulties were enormous, but the financial success of the enterprise helped to make him the wealthy man that at one time he was. He was the first English manager to produce a play by Ibsen, and *Thespis*, the first work in which Mr Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan collaborated, was staged at the Gaiety.

In 1877 he produced his own successful adaptation of MM. Meilhac and Halévy's *La Cigale*, under the title of *The Grasshopper*. In 1882 he started burlesques in two acts, his company including such favourite artists as J. L. Toole, Edward Terry, E. W. Royce, Nelly Farren, Kate Vaughan, and Connie Gilchrist.

During the period of his management, between 1868 and 1886, he was responsible for the production of close on six hundred pieces, ranging from serious drama to the lightest of burlesques. Nor were these ventures unprofitable, for Mr Hollingshead himself has told us that his capital when he went to the Gaiety Theatre was £200, and he left it with £120,000, while the gross annual takings during his eighteen years' management amounted to £40,000. His last publication had also for its subject the theatre whose fame he had established. It was in the form of a handsome and beautifully illustrated souvenir entitled "Good Old Gaiety," which was presented to each members of the audience on the occasion of the last performance in the Old Gaiety on July 4, 1903.

While still conducting the affairs of his theatre in the Strand, Mr Hollingshead took an active part in a number of other theatrical ventures, undertaking the management at different times of the Globe, the Empire, the Opera Comique, and other London theatres, as well as of the principal theatre at Manchester. He was for some time treasurer of the Theatrical Fund, and was a member of the Dramatic Authors' Society and of the French Society of Men of Letters. Somewhere about 1882 Mr Hollingshead turned the Gaiety Theatre into a small joint stock company, but it was wound up in 1885. In that year he organised what was practically a new burlesque company, with the late Fred Leslie and Nelly Farren as its leading members, the first piece selected being the successful burlesque by Messrs Stephens and Yardley, entitled *Little Jack Sheppard*. Before the production of the piece, however, Mr Hollingshead went into partnership with Mr Geo. Edwardes, and in the summer of 1886 he finally retired from the Gaiety management, leaving to his late partner the sole control of the theatre.

Mr Hollingshead's later years were spent in comparative retirement, and some time ago his circumstances were such that the "profession"—always generous in such ways—organised a great benefit on his behalf. This took place at the Empire on Jan. 30, 1900, and the proceeds amounted to £1 600. Mr Hollingshead was also on this occasion presented with his portrait painted in oils.

Among the innumerable stories of the stage which Mr Hollingshead could tell was his account of the strange way in which Balzac's *Mercadet* was played in English at the Lyceum. On a Saturday morning the first mail brought the French text of the drama to London. It was given to George Henry Lewes, who translated it as fast as he could to a body of shorthand writers. This version was sent on, slip by slip, as it was transcribed, to the stage, where it was studied and rehearsed. All Saturday, Sunday, and Monday the rehearsals went on, and on Monday night the play was produced before the public. Yet, with such an experience behind him, Mr Hollingshead has been heard to ask, in connection with latter-day managerial ambitions, "What's the use of being a Napoleon?" "The thing is," he said, "to run one house, make a success of it, and stick there."

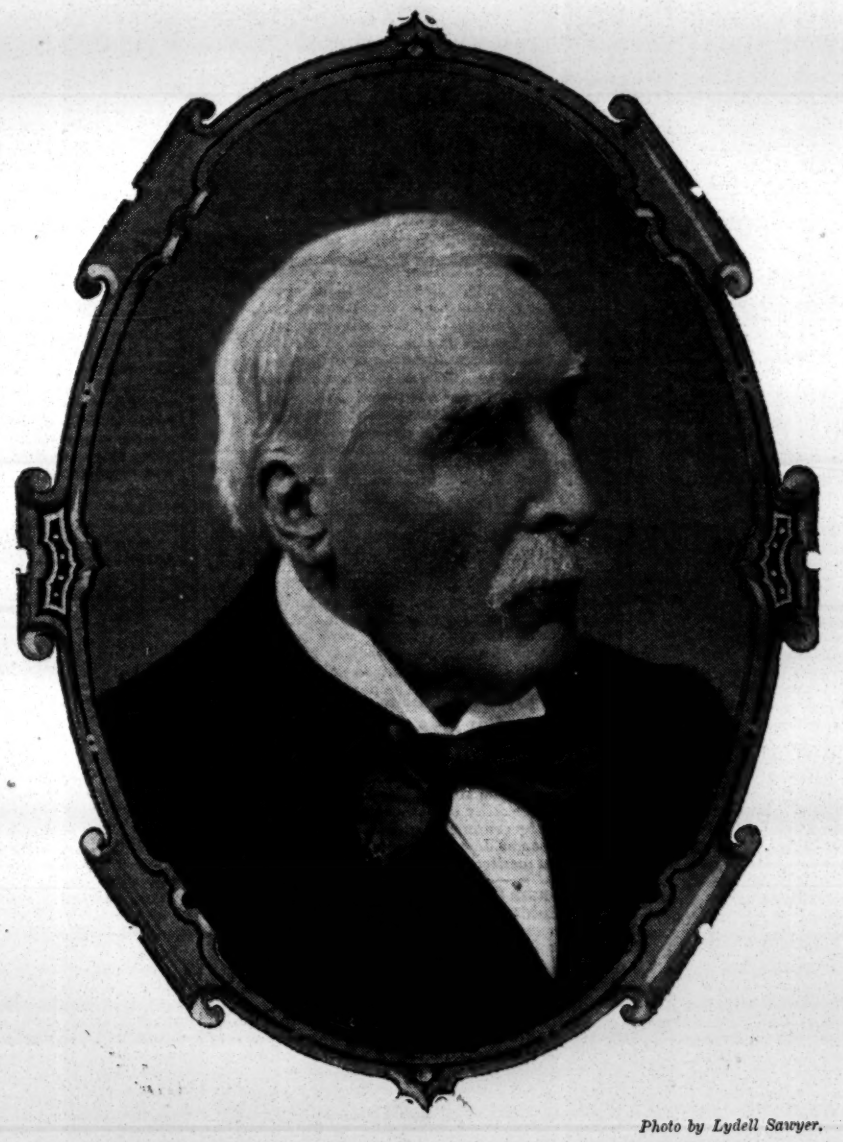


Photo by Lydell Sawyer.

THE LATE MR. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral of the late Mr John Hollingshead took place yesterday afternoon at Brompton Cemetery. The cortége left the residence at 270, Fulham-road, about half-past one, but long before that time a quiet and orderly crowd had assembled outside the house as well as on the opposite side of the road. Binds were seen to be drawn in the neighbouring residences and shops, the people in the immediate district uniting to show a mark of respect for the dead journalist and theatrical manager.

The chief mourners were Miss Ethel Hollingshead, niece of the deceased; Mr W. Griffiths, nephew; Mr W. H. Cole, nephew by marriage; Dr. Edward Philip, the deceased's medical attendant; all of whom occupied the first carriage. The second carriage contained Mr Julius Kahn, Mr G. Jacobi, Dr. Churchill Sibley, and Mr T. Blair. In the third carriage there were Mr W. Shanklin, Mr J. H. B. Compton, of the Empire; and Mr Stuart Conover. The fourth carriage, as well as the hearse, contained a number of very handsome wreaths, sent by prominent members of the theatrical profession and other people who were more or less intimately acquainted with the deceased.

From the residence to Brompton Cemetery, where the remains of the late John Hollingshead were interred, was but a short distance. In the cemetery chapel the funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Arthur Veysey, the chaplain attached to the Brompton Cemetery. A fairly large crowd assembled at the graveside to witness the lowering of all that remained of John Hollingshead into the grave. Prominent in the crowd were Mr Beerbohm Tree and several other old friends of the late Mr Hollingshead. The coffin, which was of plain light oak, bore a brass plate on which was engraved the words:—

JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD,
Died October 10, 1904,
Aged 77 years.

After the remains of the deceased gentleman had been set down in their last resting-place, the beautiful wreaths from the widow and Miss Ethel Hollingshead, the niece, were placed upon the coffin. Many aged people, including some of his old servants were noticeable standing around the graveside, and some of these were unable to restrain their emotion as the funeral service proceeded. It is interesting to mention that Mr Hollingshead's grave is not more than twenty yards from where the late Sir Augustus Harris lies buried, and those who desire to pay a visit to the cemetery may be glad to know that Mr Hollingshead's vault is situated in what is known as the "big circle."

Among the wreaths sent was one from Mrs Hollingshead, the widow, who was unable to attend through illness. It was a round wreath, consisting of lilies, white roses, and other flowers. Miss Ethel Hollingshead, niece of the deceased, sent a heart of white heather, lilies and chrysanthemums. Other wreaths were received from Mr and Mrs Cole (nephew and niece by marriage), and from Mrs Garnon (sister-in-law); from Sir Henry Irving, Mr J. L. Toole, Mr George Edwardes, Mr H. E. Moss, the Artists of the Gaiety Theatre, the members of the Knights' Club, Mr Robert Soutar, Miss Phyllis Broughton, and Miss Alma Stanley. A cushion came from Mr Julius Kahn bearing, inscribed on a satin ribbon, the words "Rest in Peace;" Mrs D'Oyly Carte sent a particularly beautiful wreath, and Mr Tod Heatly, Mrs Holla Margues, Mrs Riviere, Mr Gaston (of Paris), Mrs Horace Neville, Mr H. H. Wells, Mr D'Chastelaine, Madame Belle Cole, Lady Burnand, Mr G. C. Hoare, Mr and Mrs Rock, Miss Rachael, Mr Hand, the Alhambra Staff, the London Entertainments Association, Mrs Walton, and many others also forwarded wreaths.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND

A special meeting of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held at the St. James's Theatre on Thursday afternoon for the purpose of making an additional clause to the "N.B." of Rule 10. The present "N.B." of Rule 10 reads:—"No notice to be given to defaulters; the possession of a copy of the rules being deemed and declared sufficient notice;" and the proposed addition is:—"But the directors are empowered, in their discretion, to suspend the operation of the clause respecting arrears and the non-payment of fines, in any deserving case, for so long and on such terms as they shall deem fit."

In the absence of Mr George Alexander Mr Charles Rock occupied the chair. There were also present Messrs F. Percival Stevens, Chas. K. Cooper, T. F. Dillon Croker, H. Ralph Kimpton, George Trollope, Miss Stella Leigh, Miss Caroline Ewell, Mrs Alfred Welch, Mr Theodore Lumley (hon. solicitor), and Mr Chas. J. Davies (secretary). The SECRETARY read a letter from Mr George Alexander stating that he was sorry he was unable to be present, as he had to attend the funeral of a very dear friend.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the suggested addition to the rules, and in doing so said that the committee felt that such changes in theatrical affairs had taken place since the rules were drawn up as to make it essential that the committee should be more generous in their dealings with members of the Fund whose subscriptions were in arrears. In the old days there was little excuse for failing to keep up the payments, but nowadays they never knew how long their engagements would last. The proposed addition would not entail any loss to the Fund, but would allow members more time in which to pay up arrears. He was sure that the directors would deal with applications in a generous spirit.

Mr CHARLES COOPER seconded the resolution, and pointed out that notice of the alteration had been sent to all the members, and there was not a single dissentient.

MR THEODORE LUMLEY said that the meeting was entirely within the law, and he agreed with the justness of making the alteration. He was quite sure that the decision of the committee would be for the benefit of the recipients and for the institution.

The resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to Mr George Alexander for the use of the theatre, and to Mr Theodore Lumley for attending the meeting.

Mr LUMLEY acknowledged the compliment, and this brought the proceedings to a close.

THE library of Mr W. Sharp Ogden, of Rusholme, Manchester, which Messrs Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge will sell on Nov 14 and two following days, includes one lot (No. 218) which will excite a wide amount of interest. It is a copy of the Bible, printed by R Barker, 1613, with the New Testament of 1611 bound up with it. The Bible lacks all before page 2 of Genesis and some leaves at the end; its interest lies in the fact that it has the signature and date "William Shakspeare 1614" on the reverse of the title to the New Testament, and again on the end cover, "Willm Shakspere off S.O.A. [i.e., of Stratford-on-Avon] His Bible, 1613." This volume was discovered near Manchester about the year 1850 by the present owner's grandfather, William Sharp, a well-known collector of books and prints. Mr Sharp bequeathed the above-mentioned Bible to his only daughter at his death in 1881, and at her death in 1890 it passed to the present owner, her son. It originally cost Mr Sharp a few pounds only, but when its interest became known (Mr Corser and other famous collectors having examined it), the owner was offered £150 for it, but refused to part with the volume.

BESIDES the Shakespeare signature on the last cover there is also the following inscription:—"John Fox off Warwick was the owner of this Bible Anno. Dom. 1633." It will be seen, therefore, that the volume was in Shakespeare's county only seventeen years after his death. From Fox's hands it passed into the possession of the Bradshaw family, and it has an inscription, "William Bradshaw, son of John Bradshaw, is the true owner of this Bible, Anno 1666," and there are accounts of the death of his father John, his brothers John, George, Thomas, and Henry, all of whom died before 1664, after which it again changed hands and belonged to Thomas Hall, and has this inscription, "Thomas Hall is the true owner off this Bible, Anno 1727," and also, "James Hall 1743." These signatures are of curious interest, for Shakespeare's daughter married a John Hall. It also bears the inscriptions and dates of John and Mary Dawson, 1702, and John Holt, 1801. The Bible was lent to the Tudor Exhibition held at Manchester in 1891.

MISS GERTRUDE BURNETT has been engaged for the part of Elizabeth in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, with Mr Lewis Waller at Brighton.—Miss Florence Smithers completed her 1,000th performance of Jane in *The Dandy Doctor* on Thursday last, at the Theatre Royal, Grantham. She has not been absent from a single performance since its original production.

WE are glad to learn that Miss Dora Price has quite recovered from her recent serious illness, and has been able to leave the Royal Infirmary, Liverpool, where the operation was performed. Miss Price hopes to resume her part of the Woman, in *What a Woman Did*, shortly.

IN connection with the last Belfast Theatrical Gala the accounts have been audited, and there is a balance of £85 for distribution. Mr Fred W. Warden, hon treasurer (who was most indefatigable in his efforts), will apportion the sum as follows:—Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, £25; Mater Infirmorum Hospital, £25; Actors' Orphanage Fund, London, £10; Actors' Benevolent Fund, £10; and Music Hall Benevolent Fund, London, £15.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

MARRIAGES.

ESPINOSA—HOWLETT.—Oct. 11, at Wandsworth, Leon, eldest son of the late Leon Espinosa, ballet master, of 100, Earlsfield-road, to Marian Barbara, eldest surviving daughter of Mr and Mrs George Howlett, of 14, Josephine-avenue, Brixton-hill.

SEELEY—POLUSKI.—Oct. 9, at St. Leonard's Church, Streatham, Frank Seeley, comedian, to Winnie Poluski, eldest daughter of Will Poluski.

DEATHS.

FLINT.—Sept. 28, at Birmingham, Ettie Flint (of the Willmore Trio), sister of the late Ted M'Nalty. Deeply mourned by those left behind.—SISTER JENNIE.

HARRELL.—Oct. 6, suddenly, Charles Harrell, chief of the stage staff at the Albert Theatre, Gainsborough.

HOLLINGSHEAD.—Oct. 10, at Fulham, John Hollingshead, theatrical manager and journalist, in his seventy-eighth year.

JONES.—Sept. 24, Carrie B. Jones, of the Seth Weeks Troupe, aged twenty-one.

TYRRELL.—Oct. 11, at his home, Ramsgate, Paddy Tyrrell, better known as Will Ormonde, of the Ormonde Trio. Deeply regretted.

WINSON.—Oct. 9, very suddenly, J. H. Winson, manager of the Peckham Fat Boy.

IN MEMORIAM.

ADYE.—In loving memory of Harriette Adye (Inez Howard), the beloved mother of William, Henry, and Hettie Chattell, who died Oct. 14, 1901.

D'ALVERA.—In loving memory of Marie D'Alvera, a true and faithful friend, died Oct. 17, 1902.—C. W.

D'ALVERA.—Died Oct. 17, 1902, Madame Marie D'Alvera. Lovingly remembered by her dearest friend.

GUNN.—In loving memory of Michael Gunn, of Dublin, who died Oct. 17, 1901. R.I P.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Oct. 10, the "Uncomfortable Play," in a Prologue and Three Acts, by J. M. Barrie, entitled "LITTLE MARY."

A big audience assembled at the Kingston playhouse on Monday and succeeding evenings to witness the production there for the first time of this quaint and amusing work, which was received with the most cordial approval in all parts of the house. It was presented by a company captained by Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell, of whose efforts it is impossible to speak in terms of too great praise. Mr Arthur Holmes-Gore appeared as the Earl of Carlton, a part which he filled with conspicuous ability. Miss Christine Silver, a young actress of much promise, appeared as Moira Loney. Her assumption of the rôle of the artless young "mother" was one of the prettiest pieces of acting that have been seen at the riverside playhouse for a long time. A capital character study was that of Sir Jennings Pyke, which was impersonated by Mr George Mudie, and Mr Ean Macdonald was successful as his confrère, Dr. Topping. The parts of Lord Rolfe and of the Earl of Plumleigh were most ably filled by Mr Arthur Kightley and Mr A. W. Bascomb respectively, the latter of whom also acquitted himself well as the Irish chemist, Terence Reilly. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon was a charming Countess of Plumleigh; Miss Evelyn Neilida was equally successful as Lady Molly; and Miss Faith Reynolds made a piquant and attractive Eleanor Gray. The play, which was preceded by the comedietta, *The Bugle Call*, was admirably mounted.

THE supernumeraries at the Paris theatres have gone on strike. The middlemen, or chefs de figuration, are denounced as exploiters, who enrich themselves by employing outsiders, and the managers are asked to replace the existing super-masters by "old dramatic artists." The supers also claim a nightly wage of one franc for men and double that sum for women.

REAR-ADMIRAL JEWELL, commanding the United States European Squadron, and Mrs Jewell, together with the officers of his command, attended the Prince of Wales' Theatre, last Monday evening, on the invitation of Mr Frank Curzon, to witness the performance of *Sergeant Brue*.

MRS BANDMANN-PALMER is paying a return visit to the Theatre Royal, Worcester, this week, and on Monday was accorded a hearty welcome in the title-rôle of *Mary, Queen of Scots*, in which this clever actress displayed her great abilities with conspicuous success. Queen Elizabeth was well impersonated by Miss Katharine Herbert, who portrayed the varying moods of the jealous monarch with considerable power. Mr Sydney Bland gave a forceful and dignified rendering of the part of Lord Burleigh, and Mr Wm. Trant was good as Sir Edward Mortimer. The other plays produced during the week were *Sapho*, *Hamlet*, *East Lynne*, *Nell Gwynn*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Jane Shore*.

THE licensed ticket speculators in New York have encountered new obstacles at two of the leading playhouses since the present season opened. At the Garden Theatre, where *The College Widow* is playing to packed houses, several stalwart Negroes warn the public through megaphones that tickets purchased from speculators will be refused at the door. At Weber and Ziegfeld's Music Hall the tickets are placed in sealed envelopes after the purchaser has seen them, and have to be presented that way. The speculators threaten to bring damage suits against the managers.

AN extraordinary general meeting of the Touring Managers' Association will be held at the Tavistock Hotel, Covent-garden, on Wednesday, at twelve o'clock, to discuss the advisability of establishing a permanent head office in London of the Association, where members can interview artists, write and receive letters, and generally transact their theatrical business. The advisability of providing a telephone and piano for the use of members will also be considered.

MR M. J. LANDA, a London journalist and a gentleman well known in dramatic debating circles, was married on Tuesday afternoon at the Great Synagogue, St. James's-place, Aldgate, to Annie Gertrude Gordon, daughter of the Rev. A. E. and Mrs Gordon. The bride is a young authoress who has shown that she possesses considerable ability, and she has published an interesting novel entitled "The Case and the Cure." The Rev. Dayon Hyamson, assisted by the Rev. M. Hast, conducted the wedding ceremony, and there was a special choir of the precentors of the Metropolitan Synagogue, who rendered in fine style Lohengrin's "Bridal March" and Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." Among those present were Mr George R. Sims, Mr Ben Nathan, the Mayor and Mayoress of Stepney, Mrs Gertrude Massey, the miniature painter, Mrs De Courcy Laffan, Mr Sam Gordon, the novelist, and Mr Councillor Gordon, the two latter being brothers of the bride. There were over 300 presents, and the happy couple left London on Tuesday night for Venice, where the greater part of the honeymoon will be spent.

NEW YORK has another new theatre. It is situated in East 86th-street, which runs through the section of the city known as Yorkville, so the new house is appropriately named the Yorkville Theatre. Mr M. R. Bimberg, who built the West-end Theatre, is the proprietor and manager. The balconies are on the cantilever plan, and the house is thoroughly modern in its equipment. Miss Henrietta Crosman in *Sweet Kitty Bellairs* opened the new house on the 3rd inst.

ON THE ROAD: OCT. 17.

ACTOR'S ROMANCE.—Opera House, Wakefield.
AMORELLE.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
AMORELLE (N.).—Buxton.
ARE YOU A MASON? (MACDONA).—Penrith.
ASHWELL, MISS LENA.—T. R., Newcastle.
ASSASSIN.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
BANDMANN-PALMER, MRS.—O. H., Porth.
BANK OF ENGLAND.—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
BEAUTIFUL AVENGER.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Alhambra Theatre, Dudley.
BELLE OF NEW YORK.—T. R., Brighton.
BENSON, MR F. R. (A).—P. T., Bristol.
BENSON, MR F. R. (B)—Wellingborough.
BEST MUST WIN.—King's T., Nottingham.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—Edinburgh.
BULMER, MR.—Prince's Theatre, Horwich.
CAEL ROSA.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
CHEERY GIRL (N.).—Theatre Royal, Preston.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (M.).—O. H., St. Helens.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (N.).—G. T., Leeds.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (S.).—T. R., Torquay.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA) (N.).—Louth.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA) (S.).—Braintree.
CHINESE IDYL.—Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.
CONSCRIPT.—Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER.—Lyceum Theatre, Govan.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (M.).—Huddersfield.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (N.).—T. R., Belfast.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (S.).—G., Wolverhampton.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA) (N.).—Ayr.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA) (S.).—Banbury.
COUNTRY MOUSE (N.).—Crouch-end.
COUNTRY MOUSE.—G. T., Southampton.
COUSIN KATE (N.).—Brixton.
COUSIN KATE (S.).—Devizes.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
DARLING OF THE GODS (N.).—T. R., Glasgow.
DARLING OF THE GODS (S.).—Camden T., N.W.
DE QUINCEY REPERTOIRE.—G. T., Plymouth.
DISGRACE TO HER SEX.—Shakespeare T., S.W.
D'OYLY CARTE.—P. O. W. T., Birmingham.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC (S.).—G. T., Woolwich.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC.—T. R., Portsmouth.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE.—T. R., Bournemouth.
EDGE OF THE STORM.—Q. T., Manchester.
EXECUTIONER'S DAUGHTER.—Coatbridge.
FAIRY'S DILEMMA.—P. T., Manchester.
FATAL CROWN.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
FATAL WEDDING (M.).—T. R., Rotherham.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—A. T., Yarmouth.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Elephant and Castle Theatre.
FIENDS OF LONDON.—T. H., Loughborough.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—Theatre Royal, Greenock.
FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES.—Treherbert.
FRIVOLITY.—P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.
FROM SCOTLAND YARD.—T. R., Crook.
GAY PARISIENNE (MACDONA).—Lincoln.
GEISHA.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
GIPSY JACK.—Theatre Royal, Wallsend.
GIRL FROM JAPAN.—Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (N.).—T. R., Sheffield.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (S.).—T. R., Hanley.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS (BRUCE).—V. T., Stanley.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS (MELVILLE).—Liverpool.
GOLDEN LADDER.—T. R., North Shields.
GO-WON-GO-MOHAWK.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
GREEK SLAVE.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
GRIP OF IRON.—Ebbw Vale.
HARVEST OF SIN.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
HENRY NEVILLE.—Hull.
HER FATAL PAST.—P. O. W. T., Wolverhampton.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—A. T., Kettering.
HONOUR BRIGHT.—Empire Theatre, Dundee.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Amphl., Ramsgate.
HOT NIGHT.—Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
HUGHES, ANNIE.—Southampton.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Lancaster.
IN DAHOMEY.—Coronet Theatre, W.
INDIAN MUTINY.—Queen's Theatre, Dublin.
IRVING, HENRY.—Opera House, Leicester.
JACK'S SWEETHEART.—T. R., Hucknall.
JOSEPH ENTANGLED.—Opera House, Southport.
JUDY.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
KENDAL, MR AND MRS.—O. T., Liverpool.
KING OF CRIME.—Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
KITTY GREY.—Londes. Theatre, Scarborough.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Cobham.
LADY OF OSTEND.—Opera House, Chesterfield.
LADY SLAVEY (GREET).—Brierley Hill.
LAUGHTER-LAND.—Paisley Theatre, Paisley.
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.—R. T., Barrow.
LETTY.—Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.
LIFE'S REVENGE.—Whitevale Theatre, Glasgow.
LIGHTS O' LONDON.—Folkestone.
LIGHTNING'S FLASH.—Theatre Royal, Goole.
LITTLE COQUETTE.—Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
LITTLE MARY.—County Theatre, Reading.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Junction Theatre, Manchester.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Metropole T., Birkenhead.
MADAME SHERRY (N.).—Theatre R., Edinburgh.
MAN TO MAN.—Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.
MANXMAN.—Theatre Royal, West Stanley.
MARRIAGE OF KITTY.—Pier, Eastbourne.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Harrogate.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER.—H.M.T., Dundee.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—W. T., Burslem.
MODERN ADVENTURESS.—T. R., Sunderland.
MODERN JUDAS.—Grand Theatre, Boscombe.
MONEY-MAKERS (N.).—Marlborough Theatre, N.
MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE.—Cambridge.
MOODY-MANNERS (A).—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
MOODY-MANNERS (B).—D. P. T., Eastbourne.
MOODY-MANNERS (C).—Selkirk.
MY LADY MOLLY (RED).—O. H., Middlesbrough.
MY LADY MOLLY (WHITE).—Richmond.
NEW CLOWN.—Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.
NEW CLOWN (GREVILLE).—W. Pier, Brighton.
NEW HOUSEMAID.—Court Theatre, Galway.
NEW MEPHISTO.—T. R., West Bromwich.
NO MAN'S LAND.—Theatre Royal, Stockton.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—Opera House, Cork.
ONE OF THE BEST.—Empire T., Southend.
ONE OF THE FAMILY.—Oxford.
ON THE STROKE OF 12 0.—Workington.
ORCHID (EDWARDES).—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
ORCHID (S.).—Opera House, Coventry.
PATH OF THORNS.—Theatre Royal, York.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.
QUALITY STREET (BRIGHT).—O. H., Cheltenham.
QUALITY STREET (FROHMAN).—Gaiety T., Dublin.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (S.).—Q. T., Keighley.
ROYAL REVENGE (CLYNDES).—T. R., Batley.
SAILOR'S SWEETHEART.—T. R., Smethwick.
SAN TOY.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
SAPHO (1).—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
SAPHO (2).—Ealing Theatre, W.
SAPHO (ANNIE BELL).—Carlton T., Birmingham.
SATURDAY TO MONDAY (N.).—Kilmarnock.
SATURDAY TO MONDAY (S.).—Dorking.
SCARLET WOMAN.—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.
SCHOOL GIRL (S.).—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Royalty Theatre, Chester.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.
SILVER KING (N.).—Theatre Royal, Stockton.
SILVER KING (S.).—Crown Theatre, Peckham.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—G. T., Rawtenstall.
SINS OF A CITY.—Theatre Royal, Castleford.
SOLDIER AND A MAN.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
STILL ALARM.—Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.
STRANGER IN A STRANGE LAND.—Colchester.
SUNDAY.—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
SUNDAY (N.).—Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Grand Theatre, Leith.
TEARLE, OSMOND.—Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.
TEMPTRESS.—West London Theatre, W.
TERRY, EDWARD.—Grand Theatre, Birmingham.
TERRY, ELLEN.—Theatre Royal, Bath.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (S.).—Ilkeston.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (1).—G. T., Croydon.
TOMMY ATKINS.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
TRAITOR.—Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—T. R., Wednesbury.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (N.).—G. T., Swansea.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (S.).—T. R., Rochdale.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—Lowestoft.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY).—Deal.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—L. T., Newport.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
VICTIM OF VILLAINY.—O. H., Radcliffe.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
WALLER, MRS LEWIS.—Alexandra T., N.
WARNER, GRACE.—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
WEARIN' O' THE GREEN.—Century T., Motherwell.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—G. T., Glasgow.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS (FINCH).—Seaham Harbour.
WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW.—T. R., Bristol.
WHEN WOMAN HATES.—Alex. T., Birmingham.
WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN.—P.O.W.T., South'mpt'n
WILLARD, MR. E. S.—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
WOMAN AND WINE.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
WOMAN'S PLUCK.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
10 30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Queen's T., Farnworth.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Oct. 10,
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company is playing the ever-popular comedy *The Private Secretary* is paying a farewell visit to this theatre. Mr Donald Price Evans as the Rev. Robert Spalding, the private secretary in question, is extremely amusing, and makes all his points with unfailing effect. Mr Raymond Chester is excellent as Mr Marsland, M.F.H., and Mr Vivian Gilbert is equally good as Harry Marsland. Mr W. Hargreaves as Mr Cattermole could scarcely be improved upon, and his scenes with the Reverend Robert create immense hilarity; Mr A. Austin-Leigh is successful as Douglas Cattermole; while Mr Wilfred Compton gives a finished rendering of the part of Mr Sydney Gibson, the Bond-street tailor, with an ambition to "soar" into high society. Mrs Alfred Davis is fully equal to the part of Miss Ashford, the spiritualistic chaperone of Edith Marsland, a maiden charmingly represented by Miss Dora Gray. Miss Mary E. Deverell is a fascinating Eva Webster, and Miss Cecily Wade a most effective Mrs Stead. The mounting of the play is commendable, and it is preceded by the pretty little curtain-raiser entitled *Good for Nothing*.

MR WILLARD and company are at the Theatre Royal, Hanley, this week, in *The Cardinal* and *Tom Pinch*. On Monday Mr Willard presented Mr Louis N. Parker's work, *The Cardinal*. The piece is sure to draw splendid business, judging by the cordial reception it was accorded. The mounting is most elaborate, and Mr Willard has evidently spared no expense to present his pieces to provincial audiences in a manner but rarely seen. The Cardinal Giovanni De Medici, impersonated by Mr Willard, is a really wonderful piece of acting; he has a beautiful voice, and his facial expressions are most true and natural to the part. Miss Maud Hoffman as Filiberta displayed much ability, and her representation of the part was all that could be desired. Mr A. S. Homewood acts cleverly as Guiliano, and the Strozzi of Mr William Sauter is a performance of much excellence. The Cardinal's mother finds a praiseworthy exponent in Mrs Russ Whytal. Mr Alick Burke does well as the bell-ringer. Chigi is seen to advantage in the hands of Mr Chas. H. Fenton. Mr Walter Edmunds as Baglioni and Miss Edith Tombes as Honoria contribute considerably towards the success of the play.

MR WORTON DAVID—the author of Mr Ernest Shand's latest hit, "Short Stories"—has been appointed general business manager of the Theatre Royal, Windsor, and took up his duties there on Monday last.

MR JOHN WAINWRIGHT and his powerful company in Charles Reade's great drama, *It's Never too Late to Mend*, has been delighting Crystal Palace audiences this week. Tom Robinson was admirably played by Mr Wainwright, his brisk and cheerful style proving quite acceptable. Mr Alf. Calver impersonated the young farmer very masterfully. Peter Crawley was well embodied by Mr Henry Lee. The Rev. Francis Eden was ably enacted by Mr Hornby Warburton. The part of Meadows had an excellent exponent in Mr Harold Webb. Jackey was very amusingly played by Mr Fred Owen, who evoked roars of laughter. Mr Chas. Carlton deserved great praise for his performance as William Fielding. Miss Kitty Carew was sweet and charming as Susan Merton. Mr Edwin Davies as the old Jew was worthy of warm commendation. Mr M. Wilson as the prison governor was strong, and Miss Millie Milton as Josephs and Mr W. R. Weldon as Mr Merton merited mention for admirable work.

MISS ANNIE HUGHES is delighting the frequenters of the Broadway Theatre this week by her charming impersonations of Angela Muir, in *A Country Mouse*, and Alexandra Victoria Bellchamber, in *A Bit of Old Chelsea*. In the latter play she is as successful as ever, and is ably supported by Mr Charles Esdaile, Jack; Mr George Trollope, Phil; Mr George Ingleton, Raymond; and Mr Charles Parker, Dixon. As Angela Muir Miss Hughes makes a great hit; her performance is admirable throughout, a particularly well-played scene being that with Lady Sylvia Bowlby, delightfully acted by Miss Madeline Maude. Miss Ida Richardson's Violet Aynsley is a pleasing and artistic performance. Miss Adie Boyne is exceedingly good as Mrs Cropper. Mr Charles Esdale gives an excellent impersonation of the Hon. Archibald Vyse. Mr John Nesbit submits a powerful interpretation of the character of John Bowlby. Mr George Traill is clever and amusing as the Duke of St. Kitts. Mr George Trollope is a remarkably good Lord Robert Wykeham. Mr Henry Bute is excellent as Jephcott. The smaller parts are well acted by Mr George Salver and Mr Charles Parker.

MR T. LANGTON-LANE, who was playing at the Stratford Theatre in Messrs Gatti and Charles Frohman's *Quality-street* company, was proceeding in a hansom along Mile-end-road about 7 15 on Monday evening, when the horse suddenly fell, throwing Mr Lane violently out upon his head, and rendering him unconscious. He was carried into a local surgery, where happily it was found that no bones were broken. After an hour's rest Mr Lane partially recovered, and insisted on going on to the theatre and fulfilling his task, although suffering much from shock and bruises.

"THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE" is being played at the Brixton Theatre this week, and this popular Adelphi play has proved as attractive as ever. Miss Harrietta Polini is an admirable representative of Evelyn Brookfield, the heroine of the story, whose many troubles win the warm sympathy of the audience. Miss Mary Hardacre gives a capital portrayal of Mary Northcote, and Miss Florence Chandler does well as Norah Desmond. Miss Stafford Smith is a vivacious exponent of Dorothy Tremble. Mr Leonard Yorke has to be credited with a thoroughly successful embodiment of Frank Beresford, and the chief villain of the piece, John Silkstone, is ably depicted by Mr Montague Turner, and Mr Charles A. Chandler is amusing as the adventurer, Captain Vere. Mr Douglas Hamilton scores as Mathew Brookfield, Mr Fred F. Allen is successful as Joseph Thorndyke, and Mr Charles Cecil as Reuben Armstrong brightens the play by his richly humorous treatment of the character. Mr Charles Clark as Patrick Desmond and Mr Powell James as Captain Salem make good use of their opportunities; Mr Ted Stone is a praiseworthy Benjamin Tremble; Mr George Roberts is comical as Toby, the Negro; and Mr J. G. Jelly as Seth Thomas and Mr Harry James as Abe Jeffs are satisfactory. Other minor parts are safe in the hands of Mr H. White, Mr W. Stevens, and Mr James Bode.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 11.)

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—An excellent bill is placed before large audiences this week. First and foremost is the inimitable Cruikshank, whose quaint sayings and appropriate parodies fairly convulse the house. The Three Sisters Anderson in their equilibristic turn are exceedingly clever; Cliff and Kean introduce some smart songs and patter and also high-class dancing; Les Valdos are clever eccentric acrobats; Florrie Vongar is much appreciated in her serio numbers; Fanny Humber, soubrette and instrumentalist, deserves praise; Tom Collins is a character comedian of the first water; and Beattie Kent is a charming dancer.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—On Monday Mr Stanley S. Gordon's company presented the romantic drama entitled *For the Woman He Loves* to a good house. Mr Stanley S. Gordon gave a fine rendering of the part of Philip Meredith; Mr Wilfred Protheroe is seen to advantage as the villainous Silas Bradley; Miss Nina Vaughton gives an effective rendering of Mrs Mary Vernon; and Miss Eva Lyndhurst is well placed as Virginie. Mr Walter Manfree is decidedly successful as Hannibal Cæsar Muggleton; Miss Ida Bell is lively as 'Tilda Muggleton; Mr Dacre Baldie is a capital representative of Charles Dean; and Mr Harry C. Momber as James Stilton and Miss Sallie Adelstone as Bessie Bramble keep the house in good humour.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—*The Belle of New York* is with us this week, and with regret we must write it is a farewell visit. Mr George Musgrove has a very able company for his last presentation, including Mr Frank Lawton. Miss Beatrice Lamotte makes a capable and charming Violet Grey; Miss Lillian Digges is chic and dainty as Fifi Fricot; the Cora Angelique of Miss Winnie Brown is imposing; Miss May Angus-Young as the Pell-street girl, Mamie Clancy, does very well; Mr Harry A. Meymott as Ichabod Bronson is diverting; Harry Bronson is well rendered by Mr Philip Leslie; the polite lunatic, Karl Von Pumpernick, is admirably portrayed by Mr Max Copland; Mr Cecil Burt's representation of Doc Sniffkins is very good; and Mr Frank Lawton receives hearty encores for his capital whistling and bone solos.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—The patrons of this house have the opportunity this week of giving their verdict on the romantic play *Why Men Love Women*, presented by Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company. The plot is interesting, and the company is quite up to its requirements. Mr Alfred Paumier, in the part of Gerald Fielding, has the lion's share of work, which is admirably done. Serge Stanloff is powerfully presented by Mr S. Herbert Humber; Violet Livingstone is carefully played by Miss Annie Saker; and Mr Harwood Roberts as Orlando Figgins and Miss Mary Glynne as Matilda Figgins are responsible for lots of fun.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The bill here is topped by Arthur Prince, a clever ventriloquist, and his cabin boy Jim; the Boccaccios, Italian singers and instrumentalists, with Signor Francia, mandolinist, give every satisfaction; Mdlle. Ongar, in her sensational aerial trapeze act, gets a hearty welcome; Lee and Kingston, in their laughable sketch, *Practical Joking*, are highly diverting; George Neno, whistling and Tyrolean comedian, is well applauded; Adelina, lady facial artiste, is favourably received; the Three Sisters Vincent, expert speciality dancers, are very good; and also appearing are Florrie St. Clair, comedienne and danseuse; and T. C. Callaghan, character comedian.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—Mr Geo. Edwardes' company, on a return visit with *The Toreador*, provides a welcome attraction here this week. Mr Lionel Victor gives an amusing impersonation of Sammy Gigg. Mr W. H. Powell's energetic and clever embodiment of Pettifer gains hearty applause. Mr T. W. Volt fully realises the inane Sir Archibald Slackett. Mr Fred Allandale makes the most of his opportunities as Augustus Trail. Carajola has a commanding and spirited representative in Mr John Donald. Mr Fred Fowler is a dapper Governor of Villaya, Mr E. Nainby a fearsome Rinaldo, and Mr A. W. Ashdowne capably depicts Moreno. Miss Nellie Bouverie infuses the necessary go into her acting as Mrs Malton Hoppings. Miss Alice Oppitz is handsome and vivacious in the rôle of Donna Teresa. Miss Nancy Langtyre and Miss Daisy Wallace are seen to advantage as Nancy and Dora respectively, and Miss Daisy Wallace is a pleasing exponent of Susan. Chorus and orchestra contribute acceptably to the success of the performance.

PUBLIC HALL.—A most enjoyable entertainment is provided here by the W. Hamilton's "Excursions." In addition to the picturesque diorama with which Hamilton's is always identified, there is a fine display of the latest animated photographs, and the programme is agreeably interspersed with several good variety turns.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company, in *The Drama of Life*, is here this week. Mr Jerrold Ord in the rôle of Harry Beech proves himself to be a clever actor; Mr John J. Hooker portrays the villainy of Walter Beech successfully; Mr Owen Remonde as Sir Dobson Wilde causes much amusement; Jack Lawton (Mr Bulwer Pitt) and Dave Crane (Mr Leonard Thackeray) play their parts exceedingly well; Richard Brenton is effectively delineated by Mr Walter Steele; Miss Cissie Bellamy acts Sylvia Beech in convincing style; Miss Marie Murray impersonates Master Robert Beech in a praiseworthy manner; and Mr Edward Birker as Count De Foi, Mr Cal Hunt-Mortlake as Police-constable Morley, and Miss Nellie Daly as Betty Black also merit praise.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—Mr Fred Karno's celebrated company is paying a welcome return visit here. Mr Harry Roxbury as Sergeant Lightning delights the house with his clever patter. Mr Frank Morton as Lord Easem is seen to advantage; Mr George Claremont is very energetic as Miffin; Mr Gus Le Clerq is a good exponent of Mr Minks; Mr Harry Howe scores as Selina; Miss Florence Melville as Miss Manley is praiseworthy; and Miss Florence Burns is entitled to praise as Lady Maud Easem.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—Miss Emma Litchfield and company are here with *A London Actress*. As Hilda Mannering Miss Litchfield displays exceptional talent, her interpretation being a most powerful one, and she is ably supported by Mr Stuart Cleveland as Clive Crawford, who displays great ability in the part. Mr Charles E. Leicester also proves a thoroughly capable actor, his artistic rendering of Lieutenant Kingston being very fine. Miss Alice Capel as Phyllis Crawford gives a womanly and sympathetic impersonation, and as Biddy Maloney and Mrs Skinner Miss Louise Millward and Miss Nellie Eglen cause roars of laughter, their fighting scene bringing down the house. Mr Sam Wilford is a good low comedian, and his songs and dances are well rendered and received.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—Mr John Tully's company has been giving popular performances here of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr Fred G. Kay acts well as Legree, and Mr J. Palmer is a capital George Harris. Miss Florence Ventmore does well as Eliza Harris, and as Eva little Marie gives evidence of being a promising actress. Mr Kora Deanrajah appears with good effect as Uncle Tom.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Herbert Jay; Business Manager, Mr G. B. Richter.—To an excellent variety programme provided here this week entertaining turns have been contributed by Payne's Little Vagabonds; Amy Bellwood, serio and dancer; Ben Nevis, comedian and dancer; Helm and Cozens, sketch artistes; Musical Rosina, expert instrumentalist; Amandus, facial mimic; Ailsa Douglas, the Lancashire soprano; and Carlton, the "World's Worst Wizard."

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—*A Stranger in a Strange Land*, a farcical comedy, is being played here this week by a clever company under the direction of Messrs C. W. Somerset and Lionel Rignold. As Charles Dudley Mr Rignold scores a signal success, and as a curtain-raiser Mr C. W. Somerset gives a costume dramatic recital of "Eugene Aram's Dream" with much ability.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*A Chinese Honeymoon* is the attraction here this week. Mr Frank A. Wood makes an imposing Emperor Hang Chow. Mr R. Allerton Turner is effective as the lugubrious Chipple Chop. Mr Leonard May as Hi Lung is diverting. Mr Percy Yorke is heard to great advantage as Tom Hatherton, and Mr Harry Brayne is highly amusing as Mr Pineapple. Miss Jose Collins makes the most of Mrs Pineapple. Miss Alice Drummond is effective as Mrs Brown. Miss Marie Adair charmingly acts the part of Soo-Soo, her rich voice and graceful dancing quite captivating the audience. The success of the performance is Miss M. Sadle, whose mimicry and burlesque in the part of Fi-Fi fairly convulses the house with laughter.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Messrs George Harris and Fred Terriss and company are here this week with *Why Woman Sins*. Mr Wallace Campbell is a manly Lieut. Harry Maxwell; Mr George Harris is highly amusing as Cecil Spencer; Mr Fred Terriss as Captain Herbert Carlton gives a well thought-out rendition of the part, being ably assisted by Mr Lionel Ellis as Jim Rainbird; Messrs Bob Herrick and F. Newburn are deserving of mention as Sam Spavins and Bobby Beans respectively; and Mr Charles Herberter scores as Oliver Desmond. Miss Georgina Thomas as Jack Smith gives a natural portrayal; Miss Effie Bartlett is very pleasing as Nell Desmond; and Miss Marie West is deserving of mention as Nancy Nibble. Miss Gussie Everett proves a capable exponent of Ida Valette, and Miss Winifred Preece gives a sprightly rendition of the rôle of Lily De Vere, her songs being well received.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—Mr W. H. Hallatt's company is here this week with *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Mr W. H. Hallatt as Capt. Noel Tregarthen is spirited and effective; Mr Leonard Booker gives a vivid reading of the part of Lieut. Redstone; Miss Blanche Steele as Lola Yorke plays the part with dramatic intensity; and Miss Mabel Daventry is charming and sympathetic as Mildred Gray. Miss Hilda Taylor is smart and amusing as Lucy Wilson; Mr Sid Cotterell as Ben Baxter submits a clever and humorous rendering; Mr Oscar Romer is manly and robust as Jack Jolly; and Mr Ambrose Horton is good in the part of Jim Royston; Miss May Day as Cyril and Miss Ethel Frances as Tom, the two little sailor boys, are remarkably good.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—We are again favoured with a visit from Mr J. H. Morton's company, in *The Rajah of Ranjapore*. Mr Alvin Sawyer gives a highly entertaining interpretation of Horatio Chick, being ably assisted by Mr Bert Harrow. Mr Chas. E. Linney as Ernest Travers is successful vocally and histrionically. Mr Arthur Reid as Captain Hertage is responsible for capable work, and Mr H. Conwell is well placed as Mr Stubbs. Miss Nell Ascot is a pronounced success as Primrose, her singing being a special feature; and Miss Marion Walker as Eliza is effective.

RYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard.—An excellent company under the direction of Mr Herbert Greville, played *The New Clown* on the first three nights of the week. Mr Stanley Cooke, in the title-rôle, is excellent, and he is well supported by Mr Herbert Greville as Mr Dixon, the circus proprietor. Mr Fred Paul is a manly and handsome Capt. Jack Trent, and Mr Fred Lake g

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GEORGE H. SOUTHCOMB.—*As far as we know, the title is original; but they would no doubt inform you at Stationers' Hall.*

C. A. BATES.—*In most cases the announcements are not yet issued*

ABERDEEN CORRESPONDENT.—*The company is noticed under the heading of another town, where it is appearing this week in the same play.*

A. WILLIAMS.—*We can find no notice of the production in* The Era, *but according to the advertisement which appeared, the following ladies and gentlemen were in the cast:—Messrs W. Searle, B. Hughes, W. Harmer, C. Johnson, John Hudspeth, H. Linton, W. Stevens, Rowbotham, and W. Bertin, Miss Augusta Clifton, Mrs H. Linton, Miss Pettifer, and Mrs Moreton Brookes*

REENE AND ROBINI.—*We have not been able to discover the date of the production of the piece you mention.*

E. C.—*Mr Edmund Payne made his first appearance at the Gaiety in* Faust Up-to-Date. *Mr Robert Taber's first appearance at the Lyceum was as Alexis in* Peter the Great.

WINDSOR.—*The late Mr W. J. Hill was born in 1834, and his first London appearance was as an actor at the opening of the old Court Theatre, Sloane-square, in 1871. He died April 13, 1888.*

E. T. G.—*La Vie was produced at the Avenue, Oct. 3, 1883,*

SAM.—*Most of Mr Mel B. Spurr's recitations are published at French's, Southampton-street, Strand.*

T. C. F.—*You had better state your case to the Actors' Association.*

GOBBO.—*Les Cloches de Corneville was produced at the Folly (afterwards Toole's) in February, 1878.*

L.G.—*For the Crown, adapted by John Davidson from Coppée's* Pour la Couronne, *was produced by Mr Forbes Robertson and Mrs Patrick Campbell at the Lyceum, Feb. 27, 1896.*

W. F. B.—*In Dahomey was produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre, May 26, 1903.*

J. W.—*Dolly Varden was produced at the Avenue, Oct. 1, 1903, and ran about a month.*

K. G. BRAUM.—*We regret we cannot give you any information concerning the company you mention; but you might obtain particulars by referring to the* New York Clipper *or the* New York Mirror.

O. P.—*Miss Marie Tempest.*

R. F.—*Depends upon circumstances, which are not mentioned in your letter.*

M. C.—*In Town was produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre Oct. 15, 1892. Mr Eric Lewis was the Duke of Dufshire.*

H. W.—*Jenny Lind (Madame Goldschmidt) died near Malvern, Nov. 2, 1887.*

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Anderson, Miss Mary
Anderson, Mr Reddick
Apollo, Mr
Ashwell, Miss Lena
Baker, Mrs E.
Baroni, Mr Harry
Barrett, Mrs Wilson
Bayliss, Mr W. J.
Beatty, Miss Maude
Beaufort, Mr L.
Beltram, Mr Besley
Beverley, Miss Lilly
Bisera, Mr
Bohee, Mr G. B.
Bon Bon, Mr Harry
Borghetti, Signor
Boucicault, Mr Dion
Bratz, Mr
Burgoyne, Miss J.
Burn, Mr Andy
Burnett, Mr B. T.
Burnett, Professor
Byam, Mr Martin
Byron, Miss Maggie
Cady, Mrs
Caird, Mr Lawrence
Campbell, Miss Marie
Carew, Mr Arthur
Carey, Mr Charles
Carson and Comerford
Carver, Mr Geo.
Case, Mr Walter
Castella, Miss Grace
Cee-Mee
Chalmers, Mr K.
Chambers, Mr Haddon
Chevalier, Mr Albert
Chichester, Miss Maud
Chilver, Miss
Clark, Colonel W.
Clarke's Nippers
Clavering, Mr N.
Clyde, Mr Dobson
Cohen, Miss Kate
Cranston, Mr Ottley
Crawford, Mr T.
Cronnin, Mr Morris
Cuthbert, Mrs Robert
Dacre, Miss H.
D'Alroy, Miss Dolly
Danby, Mr J. J.
Dare, Miss Phillis
Davis, Mr Sidney
Day, Miss Beatrice
De Banzie, Mr E. T.
Delmar, Mr Bert
Denny, Mr W. H.
Diablo, Mons.
Dobito, Mr Fred
Doddy and Belle
Dolf, Mr Sydney
Dunville, Musical
Durant Brothers
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Elder, Miss Nellie
Eldiablo, Mr
Elliott, Miss Violet
Evans, Miss May
Evans, Mr H. W.
Ferrar, Miss Ada
Ferris, Mrs J. N.
Fomês, Mr T. P.
Fox and Melville, Messrs
Freedman, Mr Tony
Froisant, Miss
Fry, Mr Charles
Gardner, Mr T. Rufus
Gastelle, Miss Stella
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Gunn, Miss Hadie
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Mollison, Mr W.
Money, Mr A.
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Montrose, Miss Maud
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ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE. General Manager, Mr ERNEST E. NORRIS. Telephone No. 2,192 Hop. Monday, Oct. 17, and during the week, Mr Tom H. Taylor's Company, in THE FEMALE SWINDLER, by Walter Melville. All the Original scenery and Effects Oct. 24, "The Coal King."

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ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, N. Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. PURCELL. Monday, Oct. 17, One Week only. Mrs Lewis Waller and Company. First London production of the New Drama, VILMA. Matinée, Thursday, 2·30. Box-office, 10·0 to 4·0, and 8·0 to 10·0. 'Phone, 84 Dalston. Monday, Oct. 24 "The Darling of the Gods" Mr Purcell's Eighth Pantomime, "Cinderella."

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE, HOLLOWAY, N. Sole Owner and Manager, F. W. PURCELL. Monday next, for Six Nights, at 7·45, Matinée, Thursday, at 2·30, Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's Company, THE MONEY MAKERS. Telephone, 131 North. Christmas, Mr Purcell's Second Pantomime, "Aladdin."

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.—Lessee and Manager, Mr ERNEST STEVENS. General Manager, J. Murray Herriott. Oct. 10, "The Bells of Haslemere." Monday, Oct. 17, Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's Company in COUSIN KATE. Matinées, Saturdays, at 2·30. Box-office, 10·0 to 3·0, 6·0 to 10·0. 'Phone, 50 Brixton.

EALING THEATRE, EALING-BROADWAY, W. Proprietor and Manager, ARTHUR CARLTON. Monday, Oct. 17, Six Nights, Miss Olga Nethersole's Company in SAPHO. For Vacant Dates, Address Arthur Carlton.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES. Manager & Director, Mr PETER DAVEY. Monday, Oct. 17 Tuesday and Wednesday Evenings and Wednesday Matinée, 8 TBY. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Evenings, and Special Matinée on Saturday, DANDY DICK. Tel., "Theatre, Kingston." 'Phone, 58, Kingston.

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ALHAMBRA.—New Ballet, THE "ENTENTE CORDIALE." Varieties by Prelle's Dogs, URBAN Bioscope, New Prize Film, Reba Kaufman, "The Pierrot's Romance," Les Perez Violet Elliott, Boccaccio Trio, Les François, and Scenes from ALL THE YEAR ROUND. Monday, Oct. 24, Dida will appear. Doors, 7·45. Manager, Mr GEORGE SCOTT.

EMPIRE.—HIGH JINKS. New Edition. Mdlle. Adeline Genée, the Greatest Dancer in the World. Varieties by Morris Cronin, Melot Hermann, Whistling Tom Browne, Syd May, Georges Schindler, Mdlle Valesca, Chas. R. Sweet, O'Neil and Torp, the Fedoras, the Delboeqs, the Biograph Pictures, &c. Doors, 7·45. Manager, Mr H. J. HITCHINS.

PALACE.—The Magic Kettle, Mealy, De Dio. The Palace Girls, The Dandies, Henry Drew, Galletti and his famous Dogs and Monkeys, Mignonette Kokin, Maude Courtney, Alexandre, Gwennie Hasto, Belle Davis and Piccaninnies, and a New Series of Bioscope Pictures. Every Evening, at 7·45, and Saturday Matinée, at 2·0. Manager, Mr CHARLES MORTON.

MIDDLESEX, DRURY-LANE, W.C.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. L. GRAYDON.—Lightning Programme. Mahatma the Wonder, Harry Weldon, Maud Venn, Goldman, Hollis, and Co., in "The Little Charwoman;" George D'Albert, Meier and Mora, Bijou Russell, Buck and Sand Dancer; Fred Terry, the New Bioscope the M'Connell Trio, in "A Musical Mistake"; Elly Adair, Musical Silvo, T. B. Lloyd and Co., "In the Tempter's Coil;" Belle Davis and her Pickchick Actors, Lola Dalby, Payne's Little Vagabonds, Carl Hertz, the World's Famous Illusionist, in his Entertainment of Wonders, assisted by Mdlle. D'Alton. Commence 7·15. Saturdays One Hour Earlier. Popular Prices.

GRANVILLE, WALHAM-GREEN.—Oct. 17, and during the Week, Eugene Stratton, Carl Hertz, assisted by Mdlle D'Alton, Lil Hawthorne, the Four Burnells, Lilian Doreen, Griff and Alpha, Ella Lane, Orpheus, Sisters Monde, Ernie Mayne, Ray and Calden, Jack Lane, Newham and Latimer, Fred Lincoln, Beanland and Bath, the Gladenbacks, Ethel Arden, Geo. Abel, and full company, in "Three of a Kind." Telephone, 206, Kensington. General Manager, Mr JESSE SPARROW; Acting-Manager, Mr E. A. Bridgen. It is imperative that all Artistes should send in bill matter fourteen days beforehand, according to contract. Mr Sparrow invites all Artistes holding contracts at the Granville to compare dates with him so that any mistakes can be rectified.

CAMBERWELL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Will Evans and Company, in the New Screamer, "Building the Chicken House:" Katie Lawrence, Arthur Prince, the Great Ventriloquist; Harry Champion, Bijou Russell, Hamilton Hill, the Four Burnells, Ethel Ra-Leslie, Barrett and Knowles, Jenny Reeve, Wilson Hallett, Four Estrellas, Henri Bekker, Ronald Bagnall, Fred Carey, George and Edmunds, Harry Weldon, the Edisonograph, Fred Clements, and the Great Comedy Sketch, "Three of a Kind," supported by Ethel Arden, George Abel, and Company. Tuesday, Oct. 18, Mr J. Sparrow's Annual Benefit. Dan Leno and all the Stars. Commence 7·30. Prices from 4d. Telephone, 1,095 Hop. General Manager, Mr J. SPARROW. Important Notice.—The particular attention of Artistes and Agents is called to Clause 5 (the Barring Clause) in all Contracts, which will be strictly enforced.

PALACE, CROYDON.—Directors, Messrs FRED WILLIAMS, T. GARDINER HALES, and JOHN PARKER.—Monday, Oct. 17, and Nightly at 7·30, George Chirgwin, Alice Maple, Ethel York, Foreman and Fannan, Viviana, Kit Keen, Florence and Lillian, Will Newman, Sidney Lee, Spry and Austin, The Palace Pictures, The Little Colonel. Resident General Manager, Eustace H. Jay.

NEW BEDFORD PALACE OF VARIETIES (Limited), CAMDEN-TOWN, N.W. Mr A. F. LOVESEY, Manager. Twice Nightly, at 6·10 and 9·10. Sam Mayo, Stella Stanley, Charles Cardow, Ranier and Company, Harry Wanfield, Carlton's Illusions, Brothers Volnam, Frank Seeley, Fred Storey and Company, David Poole, Les Belles Americaines, Imperial Bioscope. All Artistes are notified that they must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1·0 o'clock, Mondays. All Artistes engaged must attend. Artistes not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at the option of the Management.

GATTI'S PALACE OF VARIETIES, 214, WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD.—Proprietors, Messrs G. and L. CORAZZA-GATTI. Telephone, 226 Hop. Arthur Prince, Florrie Forde, Harry Weldon, Maggie Duggan, Harry Champion Happy Bijou Russell, Brien M'Cullough and Company, George Newourn, Jenny Lynn, Blake and Granby, Little Cliff, Rosie Royce, Ryder Davis, and the Mutograph. Rehearsal on Monday, at 6·0 o'clock. Musical Director, Mr I. W. Baker. Manager, Mr Tom Tinsley. Mr Tom Tinsley's Benefit on Thursday, Oct 27 next.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.—Proprietor, J. O. COE.—Monday, Oct. 17, and during the week. One Performance Nightly.—Will Evans, "Building the Chicken House;" Millie Lindon, Collins's Stella Troupe, Nipper Lupino Lane, Vincent Adams, Charles Austin, Hill and Whitaker, Daisy James, Ethel Dove, Sisters Edwards, Blake and Granby, Edisonograph, Two Bostons. Frederick Maxwell will present the Beautiful Romantic Episode, "The Girl I Love." Telephone, 106 Hammersmith. Acting-Manager, Lewis Vincent.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL (Facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. S. DUKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, Oct. 17, Kate Chard, H. O. Clarey, and Company, in Production of a New Farcical Absurdity entitled "The Married Microbe;" Howard and Collinson, in "The Porter and the Parcel;" Florrie Forde, Hicks's Clerks, Harry Champion, May Henderson, Victoria Dagmar and Clown, Griff and Alpha, Charles Vincent, John Callan, Marion Grahame, Condon and Preston, Agnes Hanson, Edisonograph, and others. Doors open 7·30 (Saturdays, 7·0); commence 7·40 (Saturdays, 7·20). Rehearsal, 1·0 o'clock Monday. Telephone, 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Maurice Voisy.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES, HIGH-STREET, POPLAR.—Proprietors, Messrs TOM MALTBY and HENRY WICKES.—Monday, Oct. 17, Albert Wyndham and Company in "The Convict's Daughter"; Twin Sisters Anderson, Hyam Good, Rosa Charles, Musical Silvo, Bertha Norwood, Jack Charman, Pollo Jerome, Hughes and Elliott, Sisters Bolton, Bros. Attilla, Chas. Macready, Cris. Slater, the Great Selbo, Four Cosmos Chas Compton, Carlotta De Yonson and Company in "The Kingdom of Hate." Manager, Joe Haynes. Full Band Rehearsal every Monday, 1·0 o'clock. All must attend. Artistes (not Agents) must send in Bill Matter direct to the Manager Two Weeks before opening as per Contract. Telephone 298, Eastern.

BATTERSEA EMPIRE, YORK-ROAD, BATTERSEA.—General Manager, Mr E. E. GILES; Secretary, H. G. Stower.—Monday, Oct. 17, and Twice Nightly, Lottie Lennox, Payne's Little Vagabonds, Hal Chapter, Alma Curzon, James Fawn, Flo Morton, Guy Rider, Exhibition of Photographs, Bill Sinclair, Lee and Kingston. Doors open 6·30 and 8·50. Commence 6·50 and 9·10. Telephone, 206, Battersea.

ROYAL ALBERT MUSIC HALL, VICTORIA-DOCK-RD. (Opposite Canning-town Railway Station).—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr CHAS. RELF.—Monday, Oct 17, Mr Adderley Howard and Company, including Miss Dolly Elsworthy, in "Plot and Passion;" Smith and Johnson; the Wire Prince, Hector; Voss and Frederico and Company, Sisters Beatrice, Charles E. Lee, Josey Watson, Harry Royde, Breton Troupe, Charles Ashdown, Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope. Acting-Manager and Chairman, Mr Walter Leaver.

LONDON PAVILION.—Dan Leno, Malcolm Scott, Harry Tate, George Mozart, Fred Russell, Daisy Mayer, Ambrose Thorne, Maggie Duggan, Walter George, Alice Pierce, Hill and Whittaker, May Henderson, Foreman and Fannan, Lilian Doreen, Lydia and Albino, Sisters Finney, Shawlene, Massona, Valoni. Prices, 1s. to £3 3s. Doors open 7·30. Box-office open from 10·0 a.m. Telephone 3,886, Gerrard. Popular Price Matinées every Saturday, at 2·15. Half-price to all parts of the Theatre. Manager, Mr FRANK GLENISTER.

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MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' RAILWAY ASSOCIATION. The EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on TUESDAY, Oct 18, 1904, at GATTI'S MUSIC HALL, WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E. Chairman, Mr HARRY MOUNTFORD. Doors open at 11·0. Commence at 11·30 a.m. prompt. Admission by production of green cards only. Lady Members specially invited. C. DOUGLAS STUART, Secretary.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' RAILWAY ASSOCIATION. NOTICE TO MEMBERS. The Revenue Account for the Past Year is Now Ready, and can be obtained at the Offices of the Association, or will be forwarded on receipt of stamped-addressed envelope.

INDEPENDENT BOHEMIANS FRIENDLY SOCIETY (622 Sussex). Registered under the Friendly Societies Act, 1896. "Empress" Lodge, Eastbourne. Meetings Every Tuesday and Friday, at the Devonshire Hotel, at 2·30 p.m. All Professional Ladies and Gentlemen cordially invited. SAMUEL LLOYD, G.K. WILLIAM H. ASH, G.S.

ENDOWED MUNICIPAL THEATRES. TO LOVERS OF SHAKESPEARE. Dear Fellow Students, That the attitude of "The British Empire Shakespeare Society" towards the theatre should be misunderstood is manifestly impossible, seeing that its president is Sir Henry Irving; but with regard to myself personally, it grieves me deeply to find that some unaccountable misapprehension has arisen. I wish, therefore, most emphatically to declare how no one is more conscious than I myself that the mere reading of a play (especially one written by Shakespeare purposely for the stage) is a very poor substitute for an actual theatrical representation. Though I am very happy and gratified to see the pleasure derived by many from our platform recitals, it is only the infrequency (owing to obvious practical reasons) of adequate performances of our greatest dramatist's plays that renders necessary a society such as the one I serve, which would cease to be required were we fortunate enough to possess endowed municipal theatres for the ensured support of shakespearian drama, a state of affairs for which no enthusiast can pray more earnestly than. Yours truly, GRETA MORRITT, 17, Southwell-gardens, S.W. Oct. 1, 1904.

TO OUR READERS.—A SINGLE COPY OF "THE ERA" Post-free to any Address in the United Kingdom for SIX STAMPS. Telegraphic Address, "The Era, London." Address, THE PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

THE SCENIC ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION. President, HAWES CRAVEN, Esq. Register kept of Scenic Artists Disengaged and Wanted. Prospectuses of the Secretary, H. LAWRENCE HARRIS, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. Office hours, 10·0 to 4·0.

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Price 3s. 6d. Post Free 3s. 10d. **THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR** ACTOR AND COMPOSER, BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. Published at "The Era" Offices, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

Chapter I. COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT
Chapter II. PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III. INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV. MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V. INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

Mr A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette, Aug. 2d, 1901

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	Sung by
"A B C D" (James Hargreaves)	Wilkie Bard
"All the harm I wish you" (R. P. Weston)	Harry Anderson
"All the little Ja-pansy faces" (Harry Castling)	Mark Sheridan
"All the Girls are Lov-er-ly-over-ly" (Harrington and Thurban)	R. G. Knowles
"Anywhere there will do" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Seeley
"A Warning to Single Men" (Bateman and Pether)	Arthur Reece
"Blue-Bell" (Madden and Morse)	Hamilton Hill
[Above also sung by Miss Mabel La Blanche, Miss Dorothy L. Clark, Miss Florence Esdaile, the Sisters Jonghmanns, Miss Nellie Stratton, Miss Maud Esmond, Miss Nita Clavering, Miss Margaret Radcliffe, and the Langdons.]	
"Britannia's Babes" (Carter and Weston)	George Leyton
"'Come in!' said Widdy Malone" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Michael Nolan
"Daisy" (Cecil Lidden)	G. H. Elliott
"Dat Little Gal of Johnson's" (C. W. Murphy)	Eugene Stratton
"Delusions" (Phil Ray)	Phil Ray
"Doan'Cry, Little Coloured Coon" (S. F. Harrison and Neat)	Miss Harriet Vernon
"Don't Stand There——!" (Lawrance and Gifford)	Walter Stanley
"Don't you worry over me" (Percival Langley)	Harry Freeman
"Farewell, my little Yo San" (Mills and B. Scott)	Tom Costello
"Frozen Meat" (T. W. Connor)	Alf Gibson
"He Kissed I Once" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Loftus
"I did enjoy myself last night" (Lawrence and M. Scott)	Will Johnson
"I don't mind if it amuses you!" (Leigh and Pether)	Ben Albert
"If all the stars were mine" (Smith and Stromberg)	Miss Lilian Doreen
"I'm a girl of Tennessee" (Eden and Byng)	Miss Lil Hawthorne
"I'm coming home to you" (Herbert Darnley)	Miss Dorothy L. Clark
"I'm going to sea (see)" (Leamore and Collins)	Tom Leamore
"I'm round there to-night!" (Wincott and Leighton)	Dan Crawley
"Isn't that like a Man?" (Paul Mill)	Paul Mill
"It's all right in the summer time" (Murray and Everard)	Miss Vesta Victoria
"It's the Poor that Help the Poor" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Florrie Gallimore
"I went Round the following Morn" (Allsopp, Mayo, and Stewart)	Sam Mayo
"I Wouldn't Grumble Any More" (Harry Castling)	Harry Bedford
"I've been a Naughty Boy all Day" (Carter and Weston)	Miss Georgina Leonard
"Jolly Jarge" (Mills and Arthurs)	George Bastow
"Julia" (Robson and Hyde)	Miss Gladys Mavius
"Just a Girl" (Elton and Harrison)	Miss Minnie Cunningham
"Little Jap Horner" (F. V. St. Clair)	F. V. St. Clair
"Ma Dusky Rose" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Florrie Robins
"Maude! Maude!" (Barnes and Collins)	Miss Lottie Lennox
"My Fiddle is My Sweetheart" (Harry Hunter)	G. H. Chirgwin
"My Japanesy Girl" (Delmar and Parry)	Hal Forde
"My Lily of the Valley" (Frank Leo)	Miss Sable Fern
"Oh, Nancy Lee" (T. W. Connor)	Miss Millie Hylton
"One Little Cottage all Our Own" (J. F. Lambe)	Miss Dolly Harmer
"Revenges" (Dunlop and Pether)	Wallis Arthur
[Above also sung by Whit Cunliffe].	
"She must have known!" (David and Scott)	J. E. Coyle
"She's my little girl" (Leigh and Pether)	Walter Munroe
"She said, 'Baa! Baa! Baa!'" (Harrington and H. Allen)	Miss Florrie Forde
"Sit on 'em and keep 'em warm" (Wincott and Leighton)	Harry Champion
"The Angel of My Dreams" (Leigh and Pether)	Miss Millie Lindon
"The Boarding-House; or, How to Get Thin" (Dickson and Randall)	Harry Randall
"The Coster's Christening" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Lloyd
"The Gambling Man" (Jerome and Schwartz)	Miss Carlotta Levey
"The Garden Filled with Gold" (Bateman and Murphy)	Miss Marie Kendall
"The New Insurance" (Arthurs and Lyle)	Ernest Shand
"The New Perjarma 'At" (T. W. Connor)	Gus Elen
"The Playground in the Sky" (Bateman and Pether)	Milner Verren
"The Saftest o' the Family" (Lauder and Beaton)	Harry Lauder
"The Seaside Sultan" (C. W. Murphy)	Miss Vesta Tilley
"The Statue in Trafalgar-square" (Arthurs and Lyle)	George Lashwood
"The Truth or a Lie?" (Barnes and Weston)	George D'Albert
"The Ugly Duckling" (Murphy and Lipton)	Edith Courtney
[Above also sung by Park's Eton Boys, Miss Ella Dean, and Miss Phyllis Dare.]	
"The Workhouse Gate" (Shelley and Philpot)	Herbert Shelley
"Then She Started Tickle-ing" (Mills and Carter)	Patt Rafferty
"Therein Lurks Unseen Danger" (E. W. Rogers)	Arthur Rigby
"Three Makes Jolly Fine Company" (Rogers and Collins)	Arthur Lennard
"Toasts; or Wine is First Class." (E. A. Searson)	Ambrose Thorne
"Topey-Turvy" (George Rollit)	Arthur Roberts
"'Twas a Dark and Stormy Night" (Alf Ellerton)	T. E. Dunville
"What a Beautiful World it would be!" (Helliar and Wentworth)	Miss Fanny Wentworth
"What's the Good of a Pair of Kilts?" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Coyne
"Why Shouldn't we Fight for Our Own; a Tale of the P. and O." (Bateman and Pether)	Miss Kate Lawrence
"You are a White Little Girl" (Swaffer and H. E. Darewski, jun.)	Miss Winifred Hare
"You Can't Beat the Old-Time Girls!" (Leigh and Pether)	George Brooks

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THE ERA
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1904.

HOLLINGSHEAD AND THE DRAMA.

The death of the late JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD removes from us a remarkable personality, and a man who, in his way, did a great deal to improve the theatre. In estimating HOLLINGSHEAD'S career we must not forget that he was the first to abolish box, booking, and other fees. For eighteen years, at the cost of about eighteen thousand pounds, he kept the promise which he made when he opened the Gaiety Theatre in 1868, to charge no fee for booking and make no charge for programmes or for taking care of cloaks, coats, or hats. He expressed a wish indeed, that "No fees" should be cut at the head of his tombstone. He was also the pioneer of the practice of commissioning an artist to design the dresses for a spectacular entertainment. We can hardly imagine nowadays what sort of persons the attendants at the London theatres were in the early sixties. We may gain some idea, however, from the fact that WILKIE COLLINS, after a visit to the old Gaiety in HOLLINGSHEAD'S time, wrote to express his delight, saying that the people employed to open boxes and take coats were so unobtrusively useful and civil that he walked into his box "wondering whether he was awake or dreaming." JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD also deserves grateful remembrance for his spirited opposition to all "grandmotherly legislation." When the Strand magistrates almost unanimously refused a licence to the Gaiety restaurant, he appealed to the Middlesex Sessions, with the result that the licence was granted by a large majority. He always proclaimed himself as a pioneer, too, in the direction of cleanliness and comfort in the theatre. He originated the practice of presenting "Souvenirs," which took the shape of Gaiety Valentines; and he brought the first modern electric light produced by steam to London and England and displayed it outside the Gaiety Theatre. He also instituted matinées in which other pieces and companies than those presented at the Gaiety in the evening appeared. He produced Mr W. S. GILBERT'S first comedy, *An Old Score*. Though a foe to the ordinary "deadhead," he frankly announced that his free list for any bonâ-fide members of the literary, artistic, and scientific professions was never suspended at the Gaiety. In 1869 he secured Mr HENRY IRVING to play Mr Chevenix, in *Uncle Dick's Darling*. He was one of the first to do away with the "carpenters' scenes," when cloths were dropped while the set behind was being slowly and laboriously nailed up; and, in *Uncle Dick's Darling*, his direct change from a blacksmith's shop to an old village green was looked upon as an astounding innovation. He did a great deal towards the abolition of the Lord Chamberlain's order which closed the London theatres on Ash Wednesdays. He produced *Thespis*, the first piece in which Mr W. S GILBERT and Mr ARTHUR SULLIVAN collaborated. He accepted a play from CHARLES READE. He engaged CHARLES MATHEWS and other great actors. He was strong on the question of dramatic copyright, and fought the copyright case of TOOLE v. YOUNG most vigorously, publishing the opinions of many distinguished authors on the question of dramatising novels. He bought Mr FORBES ROBERTSON'S portrait of PHELPS as Cardinal Wolsey, which eventually became the property of the Garrick Club. He was chairman of Mr CHARLES MORTON'S benefit in 1891, which yielded about £1 000; and he organised benefits for BENJAMIN WEBSTER, BUCKSTONE, JOHN PARRY, PADDY GREEN, and E. W. ROYCE, which earned for the bénéficiaires thousands of pounds. He defied the "tea-board thunder" of *The Times*, which, HOLLINGSHEAD complained, was cultivating a "certain tooth-pick-after-dinner style of criticism." He suggested, if he did not introduce, the "queue" at the doors of playhouses. He first introduced electric light in connection with a costume worn on the stage. He dispensed with advertisements, except those in the press. He revived, for purposes of comparison, a number of plays of the alleged "palmy days" of the British drama. He insisted on every seat in his theatre supplying a fair view of the stage. And he was the president of the United Theatrical Cricket Club established in 1882

JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD should be gratefully remembered by the profession for all these things. If the best of him is in danger of being forgotten, and the second-best remembered, it is from his own fault. He was never tired of sneering at the idea of a theatre with a continuous art policy, a standard of its own, and a reputation. He proclaimed himself on the house-tops as a "dramatic shopkeeper," a cheesemonger-manager. The comparison was not exact, for the better class of tradesman sticks to his own line and does not vend miscellaneously. JOHN HOLLINGSHEAD'S policy rather resembled that of the "stores." He cared nothing for what he passed over his counter, as long as it paid. We cannot feel for his career the same sympathetic interest which thrills us when we think of those of HENRY IRVING, the BANCROFTS, and the KENDALS. Indeed, it was the fact that so many of our actor-managers were then only in the embryo stage of their development that gave HOLLINGSHEAD his chance. As soon as actor-management became the rule, the non-actor-manager had to compete with equal enterprise in accommodation, &c, plus the personal attraction and affection which a leading actor and actress of fame always exercise. HOLLINGSHEAD was essentially a pioneer; and, his work of pioneering done, he retired on his laurels. As he used to say, the Gaiety in his prime was a house of variety. But, with the increase of theatres and of actor-managers, it became impossible to run the house on the old lines The authors and composers whom he had encouraged, the actors and actresses whom he had engaged, struck out for themselves. The bewildering succession of attractions, the kaleidoscope quality of the old Gaiety, could not be kept up But when we think how many good ideas he originated, how many reforms he effected, and how much he did to pave the way to the general introduction of the modern theatre, with all the comforts and conveniences which we now take as matters of course, we recognise that the debt of the profession to "Practical John" is a very large and important one. His management of the Gaiet only failed because he gave so much of his time and energy to literary labour

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THE annual distribution of diplomas, certificates, and book prizes to the students of the London College of Music took place on Wednesday. Since its establishment the college has made great progress. The Committee of Management in a report says:—"The general quality of pianoforte and violin playing has so considerably improved that it would seem there is not likely to be any lack of either amateur or professional musicians in the future to sustain the reputation of the college and extend the work it has carried on for some years." The college has local centres for examination throughout the United Kingdom, and the scope of its work has covered the length and breadth of Australia, India, and South Africa, besides penetrating into Canada, Belgium, China, and the West Indies. The proceedings opened with an excellent performance of a selection of intrumental music by diplômés of the college—the violinist being Mr L O'Neill and the pianists Miss L. M. Wodhams, Miss Dorothy Baucutt, and Miss Hilda Cooper. Dr. F. J. Karn, the principal, introduced Sir Frederick G. Banbury, M.P., who said that before he presented the diplomas and prizes to the students he desired to congratulate the principal and his able staff on the progress which the college had made. He understood from Dr. Karn that the work of the students during the year had been highly satisfactory. In the year 1903 the increase in the college examinations over the year immediately preceding it was 474, and this year the increase over 1903 was 1,768. Sir Frederick then proceeded to distribute the diplomas and certificates.

AT a meeting of the Trustees of Shakespeare's Birthplace, held in the Town Hall, Stratford-on-Avon, on Wednesday, Mr Sidney Lee, President of the Executive, reviewed the history of the Horneby cottages in Henley-street, and moved a resolution to the effect that the property be retained and renovated at a cost not exceeding £400. Sir Theodore Martin said the purposes of the trust were to maintain the estate and additions thereto as a permanent memorial of Shakespeare, and to acquire any house or lands of national interest as being associated with the life of Shakespeare, his wife, or parents. The two cottages did not come within the language of the Act. They were not property known or believed to have belonged to Shakespeare, his wife or parents, and they had no right to spend a shilling on alterations there. Mr Carnegie generously gave the cottages that all danger of fire might be removed from the birthplace. They had no earthly power to spend any money in maintaining those cottages, which had no more connection with Shakespeare than any ordinary house in Stratford. If money were so expended they would be incurring serious risks as trustees, and he protested against it. There was no historical value attaching to the cottages, which were horribly plain. For the sake of a few rotten beams, full of insects and microbes, it was absurd to spend money on them. As a trustee, he objected to exposing himself to a challenge hereafter of having wrongfully expended the Trust money. The meeting decided by ten votes to eight to retain the cottages and to carry out the scheme of preservation formulated by Mr Cossins.

MR AUGUSTUS LITTLETON, presiding at the seventh ordinary general meeting of Novello and Co., held in Berners-street on Tuesday, remarked that the music pirate was still allowed to be at large, and the country's laws did little or nothing to aid the composer and publisher in protecting their interests. Until the stealing of brains was placed on a level with the pilfering of pocket-handkerchiefs, watches, and purses, the position was not likely to improve, and the pirate would continue to flourish. Messrs Novello had not suffered directly from the depredations of the thieves to the extent that other publishing houses had done. But the harm inflicted on the local music-sellers all over the country was equally cruel and unjust, and in the end everybody was injured and defrauded, even down to the small boy employed in the bonâ fide production and selling of music.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 16)

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—*The Master Criminal*, by Henry Merriman, on Monday afforded a large house plenty of sensation, mixed with amusing incidents. Mr Robert Forsyth forcibly impresses the audience by his clever performance as Lestage; Miss Nellie Thearle as Cecile makes excellent use of her opportunities; little Miss Marjorie Lawrence plays the little Winifred Manners in a captivating manner; Mr Alfred Guyon as Philip Manners and Mr Julius Wright as Ben Beaunday are eminently successful, Mr T. Squires as Tommy Dale, Miss Kitty Terris as Peggy Perks, and Miss Bessie Armytage as Mary Murphy, are responsible for the comedy business. Mr S. Hope as Gentleman Jim, Miss Enid Edoni as Mabel Manners, and Mr H. Harrington as James Dawney give good support. The staging is good.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C Shayler.—This week's programme is a credit to the management De Biere the Mysterious heads the bill, and his illusions are greatly marvelled at. The performances of De Gracia's elephants are thoroughly enjoyed. Wayne and Lamar are a couple of amusing contortionists and acrobatic dancers. The Durvals do a smart horizontal bar act. Merton and Rydon give a good vocal speciality; and the Brothers Kragg, fine gymnasts; Arthur Slater, sifflеur and mimic; Professor Welsen, equilibrist; and Walter Bellonini, the wonderful juggler, with the animated pictures, are also very entertaining

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—There is a good all-round combination of talent and a consequent good attendance of seekers of enjoyment at both houses. *The Frolics in the Café Garden* by the eccentric Paulastos are highly amusing. Happy Attwood's comic singing and mimicry are irresistible. Will Hebden's songs are appreciated; and other turns are given by Avon and Cress, in a comedy act, *A Little Bit of This and a Little Bit of That*; Sisters Sivado, clever cyclists; Forest and King, acrobatic dancing and speciality; Lulaine Darrell's unique Roman ring artistes; Wynford Brothers, champion barrel jumpers; Winnie Scott, and Marie Winsome, male impersonator. The animated pictures are good.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Mr Milton Bode's company is proving a most successful engagement here this week, in *Gentleman Joe*. The title-rôle is enacted in excellent style by Mr Kennedy Allen, whose interpretation of the part is natural and clever. Mr Harry A. Gribbon is irresistibly comic as Mr Pilkington Jones, and Mr Robert Vincent presents a well-studied and gentlemanly Lord Donnybrook. Miss Edith Benson scores well as William, her rendition of the musical numbers being excellent. Miss Elda Burman presents a dashing and vivacious Miss Lalage Potts, and the Misses Pilkington Jones are ably represented by Miss E. Russell, Miss M. Linscott, and Miss M Hayden respectively. Mrs Ralli-Carr is played with due dignity by Miss Hebe Bliss, the Hon. Mabel Kavanagh being suitably presented by Miss Mabel Kerridge. Mr George Wyley as Mr Hughie Jacqueson and Mr W. H. Moore as Mr Ralli-Carr are both good in their respective parts, and Miss Maude Marriott as Emma sings and dances in a highly commendable manner. The scenery and music are both highly satisfying, and the smaller characters are all well placed.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison. — Mr C. Finch-Hatton and company are here this week in the three-act comedy-drama, *From Scotland Yard*. Mr Hatton as the detective depicts various characters with much humour. Mr T. Arthur Ellis is clever as the swindler, Dean Fordyce. Richard Drake is capably drawn by Mr Jack Armitage. Miss M. Lewis Cluer does well as Mabel; Miss Josephine Lee is effective as Sybil; and Miss Renee Glendower is powerful as Mad Marie.

SHEERNESS.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME — Sole Proprietor, Mr T. G. Transfield; Secretary and Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—The premier attraction for this week is the production of the equestrian and dramatic sketch, *Fra Diavolo*, which has proved immensely popular. Appearing also with success are Mdlle. Vezzey and her musical dogs; Duncan, in a juggling entertainment entitled "Ten in a Ring" also scores; Rosie Bartlett, hand balancer and equilibrist, presents a clever performance; W. Tudor, with his miniature circus, is decidedly good. The remaining items deserving of special mention include Will Newman, comedian; J. C. Morris, eccentric comedian; Meltono, vocalist and dancer; and those two mirth-provoking clowns, Little Valdo and Little Bishop. Friday night was set apart for the complimentary benefit of the popular and esteemed manager Mr Chas. Melvin.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr P. Reymend.—The Calden Combination still continue their successful career here, the production of the dramatic sketch, *A Traitor in the Camp*, being equally successful as either of its predecessors. Amongst other contributors to the programme are H. C. Boon, comedian; T. W. Queen, comedian and dancer; and the Sisters Ashley, duettists and dancers. The programme concludes with the laughable farce *For One Night Only*.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL —Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter. —*Why Smith Left Home* is again causing hearty laughter. Mr Horace Lingard, to all appearance as youthful and buoyant as ever, revels in the part of John Smith, and easily secures the goodwill of the public whom he has amused for so many years. Mr Joseph Hudson is alert and characteristic as Major Duncombe, and Mr Herbert Dixon as General Billet-Doux, Mr Robert Grey as the Count, Mr Harry Punter as James, Mr Henry Grey as Robert Walton, Miss Hilda Stericker as Mrs Smith, Miss Marie Vereas Julia, and Miss Mary Bates as Madame Billet-Doux keep the fun going. The farce is well mounted.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr J. M. Barrie's delightful comedy *Quality-street* began a welcome return visit to Sheffield on Monday, when the charming love story, the quaint dresses, and the clever all-round acting of Messrs A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman's company gave refined pleasure to a large audience. Mr David Glassford deepened the good impression made by his acting on the former visit to Sheffield by his careful performance of the character of Valentine Brown, and a graceful and naïve representative of Phœbe was Miss Grace Armytage Noble, who wore her quaint costumes with graceful ease. Mr A. Carlaw Grand was first rate as Ensign; Mr George Tompkins had quite the tone of the period as the bold recruiting sergeant; and Mr Arthur T. Hill as Lieut. Spicer, and Mr T. Langton Lane both did effective work. Miss Lizzie Scobie was a humorous Patty, and Miss Evelyn Mills as Miss Turnbull, Miss Rollo Deas as Miss Willoughby, Miss Bertha Woolcote as Priscilla Willoughby, Miss Alma Reeves-Smith as Charlotte Parrant, Miss Daisy Lee as Arabella, Miss Mabel Wynne as Harriett, and Miss May Whitty, an admirable Susan, all earned the approving regard of the audience.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—For over twenty years that clever concoction of pantomime, musical farce, and comic *ballet d'action* called *Frivolity* has been paying annual visits to the Alexandra Theatre, and it turned up again on Monday, rejuvenated with new songs, dances, and up-to-date business, and kept a crowded house in roars of laughter. The Brothers Leopold were the acme of irresponsible drollery and acrobatic agility, and they received loyal support from the members of their company.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The successful dramatic episode entitled *Drummed Out* is the *pièce de résistance* here this week. Mr A. C. Lilly again acts with force and manliness as the disgraced soldier, and he receives valuable assistance from the members of his clever little company. The following artistes also contribute to the programme:—Minnie Cunningham, a pretty and chic comedienne; Lily Burnand, a comely and talented burlesque artiste; Flo Burris, a favourite serio vocalist; Lieutenant Travis, the popular ventriloquist; the Venola Bros., comic gymnasts; Johnny Dwyer, eccentric comedian; Newhouse and Ward, cyclists; Dot Hardy, comedienne; the Onllaw Trio, wire performers; and the clever drolls, the Bros. Griffiths, in a new comic act.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Here are appearing the Bros. Ashley, comic duologue artists; Ted Young, a funny exponent of the comic side of life; Ada Twibell, an old Sheffield favourite; Onda and Artell, novelty artistes; the Bransbys; and the Langdons.

ALBERT HALL.—Manager, Mr Auguste Lyons.—Mr Edgar Granville and comic concert party are here this week.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Mr Hare's company is here this week with *The Girl from Chicago*. Mr Buckstone Clair, an old Shrewsbury favourite, was amusing and clever as Judge Hussel; Mr Edwin Dodds made the best use of his opportunities as Billy M'Guffin; Mr Henry Hare acted with ability as General Boomer; Mr Douglas Vigors was droll and capable as Percy Montmorency; Mr Clarence Ibbotson was the life and soul of the piece as Mother Obadiah Caccles; Mr James Quinn was good as Sam Slappitt; Miss Lucy Beaumont merited praise as Mrs Sweetlove, singing most effectively; Miss Nelly Vicott acted creditably the part of Lucretia Flatfoot; Miss Lily Beverley was vivacious as Flora Bloomer; and the Misses Nelly James, Lena Adams, and Madge Shaw were a trio of graceful and smart dancers.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND.—Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company is this week presenting *Quality Street* for the first time. Mr George A. Brandram as Valentine Brown gives a dashing performance, and Miss Florence Jackson's embodiment of Miss Phœbe Throssell is delightful. Another ladylike portrayal is Susan Throssell of Miss Grace Edwin, and Miss Gwynneth Galton is a most amusing Patty.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Mr William Bourne's world famous *Man to Man* is proving an exceptional draw here. The company is an admirable one, the villainous deeds of Richard Ellerton being skilfully brought into prominence by Mr Ellis J. Preston, a capable actor. Mr Frank Liston gives a capable impersonation of the parson, and Mr Chas. Boult as George Gordon is a manly hero. Miss Maud Buchanan plays Ethel Maythorne in a sympathetic manner, and Mr Arthur Rich achieves his usual huge success as Bill Burkley. The comedy element has capable exponents in Mr Will Clement and Miss Eva Griffiths, whose renderings of Samuel Plumtree and Miss Lavinia Dove respectively create hearty merriment. Miss Amy Vennimore also does well as Gipsy Madge. The scenery and mechanical effects are remarkable good.

PALACE.—Captain Woodward's wonderful sealions head the bill here and achieve their usual remarkable success; Bernar, king of marionettes, presents a truly wonderful show; Harry Conlin, John E. Coyle, and Bob Baxter are a trio of capital comedians, who cause hearty laughter; and the programme is further contributed to by Spry and Monti, Alma Obrey, and Katie Butler.

PHILHARMONIC HALL — Poole's Myriorama opened here for a short season on Monday under the management of Mr Fred Mayer. Good houses rule, and in addition to the usual excellent pictures, so ably described by Mr Nat Abatt, there is a capital variety show. The Westwoods excel as trick cyclists, and Mdlle. Orbassany's performing cockatoos are as popular as ever. Another old favourite is Mr Felix Somers, the facial king, whose entertainment "People We Know" is deservedly popular. The Veronas dance gracefully, and Miss May Finch is a comely comedienne. The animated pictures and the orchestra also add greatly to the evening's enjoyment.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr F. W. Marlow; Manager, Mr F. Marlow.—Comedies are always appreciated by Southend audiences, and this week Mr Fred Nelson's company is delighting all with a capital representation of the farcical sketch, *Trooper Hunt's Widow*. Mr Howard Gridland, in the dual character of Trooper Hunt and Widow Hunt, proves himself a genuinely humorous artist of originality, and is responsible for a vast amount of merriment; Mr Cecil Flowers' impersonation of the small grocer, Nathaniel Sapp, is in every way excellent. Among the female portion of the cast Miss Ella Kitson as Mrs Jane Weston, a wardrobe dealer, proves herself to be an actress of a high order. The piece is preceded by a pleasing comedietta.

PIER PAVILION. — Monday being the last day for Herr C. Adolf Seebold's tenancy, a grand farewell concert was provided by the lessee in the evening, when a good audience had a really first-class programme before them. The Chamounix Orchestra gave further proof of their talents in a creditable manner, giving no less than nine turns, the descriptive piece entitled "Die Waltparade Kommt," being perhaps the best.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr J. Sydney Childs. —Great local interest is evidenced this week in the cake-walk competitions, when the semi-finals and final takes place on Friday and Saturday evenings respectively. Some of the competitors give a really good display of their talents, and Mr Barnett is to be congratulated upon his endeavours to please. The Bioscope well maintains its reputation, and dancing nightly is greatly enjoyed.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE (WINTER GARDENS).—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—The local patrons of the stage are this week favoured by a return visit of those clever and popular exponents of histrionic art, Mr and Mrs Kendal. *A Scrap of Paper* was presented on the opening night, in which Mr Kendal gave a brilliant and life-like rendering of the part of Colonel Blake; whilst Mrs Kendal delighted the audience by her natural and artistic impersonation of Susan Hartley, the two principals being ably assisted by their excellent company. The répertoire for the week includes *The Elder Miss Blossom*, *Still Waters Run Deep*, and *Dick Hope*.

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr H. L. Rooke. Messrs Marston and Buckstone's company is giving representations of *The Silver Cross*, and meeting with much success. Mr Syd Bazley finds scope for eccentric acting in the part of Tomkyns Quinton; as Arthur Merton Mr Cliff Allen sings and acts meritoriously; and Mr Harry Glenny as the villainous Philip Frewin succeeds in bringing upon himself the disapproval of the gallery. Miss Maud Western represents Ida Adams in a sympathetic manner; Miss Cissy Glenny is effective as Laura Beecheroft; and Miss Poppy Danby is successful in her singing and dancing.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Mr Julian Malvern's company in *I Defy the World* is providing a befitting attraction to lovers of melodrama here. The piece is by Arthur Shirley and E. Hill-Mitchelson. The plot is woven around the doings of Leon Darville, a much-wronged man, who seeks consolation by viewing the sufferings wrought by him upon his enemies. The part is powerfully treated by Mr Lewis Gilbert, who at times is dramatically intense. Miss Lina Nazeby in the thankless part of Blanche, Darville's faithless wife, acts in excellent style.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—The protean actor, Mr R. A. Roberts, is scoring a signal success here by his admirable interpretation of *Lucinda's Elopement*. Howard and St. Clair are smart comedy artistes. A funny sketch, entitled *The Brown Cow*, by Burg, Haud, and Wise, meets with approbation. Austin and Cowan are entertaining vocalists, and a charming soubrette is Ida Brophy. Other popular items are Max Merlin, the boneless wonder; Bert Weston, swell comedian; Jack Foley, eccentric comedian; and the Sisters Ely, duettists and dancers.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—Heading the bill this week are the Gladenbecks, who give a clever acrobatic and silver chain performance. The witticisms of Willis Walton afford pleasure, and another able comedian is Fred Casburn. Renson and Waite are diverting comedy artistes; Valey and Sinclair find favour by their operatic duets; E. J. Wilkes and his speciality dog, Woof, score; as also do the male impersonations of Flo Hilton. Rosie Morn, comedienne, has many admirers.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE —Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—Mr Henry Furnivall's company is here this week, presenting *The Harvest of Sin* and *Lost in Paris*. The former was staged on Monday night. Mr Chas. H. Lester appeared to advantage in the dual-rôle of Harold and Arnold Mainwaring; Miss Pattie Hastings was very attractive as May Mainwaring; and as Grace De Brisionere Miss Louisa Peach submitted a sterling performance. Messrs Edward Valentine, Sidney Compton, W. Garrett, and Fulton Fuller appeared successfully as Paul De Brisionere, George Mainwaring, St. John Houghley, and Silas Logan. As Gladys Mainwaring, Marjery Gray, and little Harold, Miss K. Willoughby, Miss Alice Oliver, and Miss Maggie English gave a good account of themselves.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED. — General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader. — After a long absence Mr Edmund Tearle, supported by an exceptionally clever company, has possession here this week. The répertoire includes *The Three Musketeers*, *Virginius*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (by desire), *Macbeth*, and *Jeannie Deans*. The acting all round is excellent, the mounting fine, and business is good.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Mr John Lawson holds the premier position here this week with his episodes, *Humanity* and *Sally in Our Alley*, which satisfy the most exacting lovers of sensation. Others appearing include Charles Craston, comedian; Sibb and Sibb, trapeze acrobats; Stewart and Morgan, excellent vocalists; Miss Maggie Rimmer, a clever comedienne; Dwight and Son, comedians; and Vincent, table expert.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company in *A Woman's Pluck* is attracting large audiences to the popular parts of this theatre this week. Mr James Willard gives an able impersonation of Dick Darrell; Mr Charles P. Wentworth cleverly portrays the part of Sir Noel Fordyce; Mr Edward Ashby is a pleasing Winston Dale; and Mr J. P. Dryden as Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont is excellent. Mr Harry Emmerson as Roger Pippin, supported by Miss Agnese D'Aragon as Ophelia Pippin, is amusing, as also are Mr Cecil Raymond as Sir John Daredevil and Miss Tina Shaw as Bertie Daredevil. Miss Jessie Yatman acts delightfully as Jessie Pope, and as Grace Daremont Miss East Robertson displayed marked power and ability.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder. — Miss Ida Millais and company are here in the thrilling drama *No Man's Land*. As the hero, Harry Oaklands, Mr Henry Herne is admirable; Mr Fred Conyers as Silas Moore is a success; and Mr Claude Haviland's Dr. Buxton is cleverly conceived. Mr Alfred Byron's dual-rôle of Gilbert and Norman Bathurst is done in good style, and Mr William Matthews's Mat Marsden is endowed with much realism. Good comedy is shown by Mr Sidney H. Morton's Soloman Jacobs and Mr Alfred Burrows's Thompson Poodle. Miss Dora Hilstrom's Bessie Poodle is a vivacious impersonation, and Miss Ida Millais as Mary Bathurst acts very acceptably.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr John Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—A capital bill is provided here, and includes Edie Anderson, vocalist and dancer; Brothers Obo, comics and patterers; the Crown Trio, speciality vocalists; Barton and Franklin, in their refined musical act; and Payne's Bioscope, with fresh films. Barnard's Marionettes are here a second week with a new répertoire; Brown and Nevarro, quick-change artistes, are successful; and the dexterous juggling of Prince Kokin is quite a revelation in that art.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company, with *Greed of Gold*, met with a cordial reception on Monday. Mr Wilson Summers as Arthur Errol was seen to advantage; Miss Daisy Halling did well as Dora; Mr Carthage Caldcleugh as Harry Hood proved clever; as did Mr Walter M. Cameron as Cull Sing. Miss Katie Lever as Patty Mayfield and Mr Hyland Shea as Conn Creamer were entertaining. Mr B. Fox deserves a special word for his effective portrayal of Tom Wolstead, the dumb man.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners.—*The Girl from Japan* is paying her first visit to this town through the medium of Mr Frederick E. Philpott's company, under that gentleman's personal direction. Charming dresses, attractive scenery, combined with a powerful chorus and augmented orchestra under the bâton of Mr Colet Dare, are among the leading features of this bright and refined musical comedy. Miss Madie Scott played the part of Maui with remarkable freshness, being equally successful in her vocal and terpsichorean efforts. Miss Nellie Jackson by her brightness and vivacity proved herself a charming exponent of Polly Perkins, and Miss Nellie Valentine undertook with exquisite grace and finish the part of Violet Meadows. Mr Chas. L. Ludlow, a comedian of unusual versatility, revelled in the part of Bingle, and Mr Ernest Spalding as the Rev. John Smith was simply irresistible. Mr S. Lockridge as Lord Allenbury was seen to distinct advantage, his songs being well received, and Mr Percy Baverstock gave a droll conception of the pompous General Baugh. Mr Alfred Wood made the most of the rôle of Sir Mulberry Flippington, and Mr Tom E. Sinclair and Miss Nellie Parker Dent did excellent work in their respective parts. The speciality dances given by the Misses Violet and Lillie English were deservedly applauded.

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MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

Mr Arthur Wing Pinero has said some hard things concerning the music halls, and has talked glibly and alliteratively of their sketches, in which he avers that the wit of the wash-tub runs riot with the pathos of the pantry. But he has never found fault with the ingenuity and ability shown in many of the speechless farces that now form such an attractive feature of many variety entertainments The authors of these are sometimes accused, nevertheless, of plagiarism of theatre pieces, but we should be much surprised if the Pinerolc doll incident, that is a principal feature in the witty author's latest farce at Wyndham's Theatre—*A Wife Without a Smile*—is ever annexed by any writer for the halls.

Some years since, in the early days of the London County Council, some indiscreet remarks were made by one of its prominent members concerning some marionettes at the Aquarium, and Mr Josiah Ritchie very properly brought an action for libel against the individual, and gained a triumphant verdict with heavy damages thrown in. We wonder what the Puritan party in London's governing body would have to say to the holder of a music hall licence who produced on the stage of his establment a similar incident to that so cleverly exploited at Wyndham's by the brilliant writer of *The Second Mrs Tanqueray*, *Iris*, and *Letty*?

At a board meeting of the Palace Company, held on Thursday, Mr Charles Morton's voluntary resignation, consequent upon the serious condition of his health, was received and most reluctantly accepted, the directors feeling bound to admit that his long-continued indisposition necessitated complete immunity from the arduous duties inseparable from the post he has filled for so many years with such conspicuous ability. After nearly sixty years spent in the world of entertainment, it is regarded by many as only fitting that some crowning farewell tribute should be rendered to him, and a testimonial performance on an elaborate scale has been projected to take place at an early date. Full particulars of the contemplated function, in which every representative artist of the theatre and music-hall stage would like to take part, will be published shortly. In the meantime, all communications in reference to the Charles Morton farewell matinée should be made to Mr Alfred Butt, Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

On inquiry at Mr Morton's residence in Oval-road, Regent's-park, on Thursday, we learnt that the veteran was "resting," and that he was being devotedly nursed by his wife and daughter, Mrs Ernest Meads. Though he has not left his bed for some days, there is nothing to cause alarm in his condition.

Mr Harry Tate on Monday presented a new comic scena to a large audience at the London Pavilion. The novelty has been written for him by Mr Wal Pink, and it is entitled *Fishing*. In a shady backwater, cleverly painted by Mr W. T. Hemsley, the josser angler seats himself in a punt and listens to stories from his professional assistant—known as George Washington—that would raise the dorsal fins ot any self-respecting roach or jack. He also throws his line in the wild, aimless way that one would expect, and catches the hook in various portions of his person. He is taught a lesson in the gentle art by a nipper on the bank, whose method is to cast snuff on the waters, and then to settle the fish when they rise to the surface to sneeze by knocking them on the head with a thick stick. The refreshment department is not neglected in Mr Tate's fishing excursion, for enough liquor is brought on the stage to stock an ordinary pub. There is much humour in the new skit, and it affords all the requisite opportunities for its exponent's development of his comedy powers.

Mr George Robey on Monday last played at football for Millwall against the Old Reserves of 1901, for the benefit of Elijah Moor, the groundsman. Play ruled fairly even for the first half, but just before the interval Graham scored for Millwall from a pass by George Robey, who figured at inside right. After changing ends the Old Reserves gave a fine display, Frost being conspicuous with several good shots. From a free kick, however, Bradbury obtained, and after running almost the length of the field, transferred to the "prime minister of mirth," who scored with a fast grounder, Millwall winning by two goals to nil.

Mr Robey is really a strong and effective footballer, but his efforts on the field are but rarely taken seriously by the crowd, as the following incident will prove. Once when he was playing the ball was in the air in front of the goal. George was looking at it, waiting to shoot it with his head. The goal-keeper was also looking at it, waiting to punch it with his fist. The ball came down, and so did Robey. The man at the posts had missed it, but his fist had landed on the jaw of the comedian, who was precluded for the moment from uttering any patter. The crowd yelled with delight. They thought it very diverting. Said some of the quidnuncs who professed to have an intimate acquaintance with him:—"George is very droll, you know, and is always trying to invent funny business, even when off the stage." As an athlete, however, George does not wish to be mistaken for a knockabout artiste, as he says he hasn't a ghost of a chance in this line of business with many of the clever gentlemen in the profession.

Mr Edgar Hyman is sailing for South Africa to-day, and there will be not a few friends to journey down with him and Mrs Hyman in special saloons to Southampton, where he will board the liner Norman. The young variety entrepreneur of our new and old colonies in the Dark Continent was able, fortunately, to combine business with pleasure during his tour in America in the early spring of this year, and in the course of his travels he has met with some of the most popular American, English, and Continental artistes. He has visited also during the last nine months every town of note in the United Kingdom, and his tour on the Continent has taken in the chief cities of France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Holland, Hungary, and Belgium. Mr Hyman has made a large number of friends during his trip, and he hopes to renew his pleasant experiences in this country some time in 1907. He has made contracts with artistes for South Africa until 1910.

Miss Godwynne Earle, who retired temporarily from the stage on her marriage a few years since, will be renewing pleasant reminiscences of her earlier career in the character of Cinderella. She has been engaged by Mr F. W. Purcell to play the part of the cinderwench heroine in his Christmas production at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington. We may expect a delightful embodiment.

Mr Henry Tozer, of Brookdene, Ravensbourne-park, S.E., the well-known director of the Oxford, Tivoli, Metropolitan, and other halls, was married—*en secondes noces*—on Saturday, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar-square, to Miss Constance Janette Fry, daughter of the late Mr Thomas Fry, of London and Ilfracombe. The wedding was strictly private, and the honeymoon is being spent on the Continent.

Mr Jesse Sparrow is to be accorded his annual complimentary benefit at the Camberwell Palace on Tuesday, when a crowded audience will do honour to an excellent entertainment provided by one of the most up-to-date and hardworking variety managers. Fifty artistes have placed their services at his disposal, and among them are Dan Leno and Marie Lloyd.

The directors of the Blackpool Winter Gardens and Pavilion, Limited, after transferring £1,000 to the reserve fund and writing off stock £1,600, recommend a dividend of four per cent. for the year ended Sept. 30.

Mr Richard Thornton, resident director of the Empire Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne, when recently approached as to buying a site in the vicinity of Newcastle for the purpose of erecting another hall, replied that his knowledge of the music hall world at present was such that instead of buying sites he would much prefer to be a comic singer.

The Ipswich New Coliseum is now making rapid progress, and the opening date is finally fixed for Dec. 5. The proprietors are the Ipswich Hippodrome Company, who are erecting a new hall at Coventry to be called the Coliseum, and one at Rugby. The same company have two temporary structures being erected in the neighbourhood of Ipswich, which will be opened end of November. The directors have had the offer of support from two well-known proprietors.

The Victoria Theatre, Broughton, has this week again undergone a change of management, Mr James M. Hardie, jun., the secretary of the Syndicate, again taking the place of Mr C. Smith-Wilkes, who has resigned. Although the bi-nightly variety entertainments of excellent quality have been well attended since July last, when dramatic performances were discontinued, it has been decided as soon as the present engagements will permit to return to the dramatic performances, which the inhabitants of the district would seem to favour.

The Salford Council had laid down emphatically the principle that there must be no intoxicants sold at theatres at which variety performances are given, but on Monday the Watch Committee recommended the Council to vary its decision in the case of the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, on the ground that an undertaking had been given to substitute dramatic for variety performances within six months. The arguments used in favour of the resolution were that engagements had been made by the management for many months ahead, that whilst they were agreeable to return to the drama they could not do so immediately without sustaining heavy losses, and that even if they were given six months to make the change the loss would be very considerable—one speaker put it at £1,500. The recommendation was adopted by 22 votes to 18, so that the Victoria Theatre will get its excise licence pending the change.

Messrs Broadhead's Hippodrome, at Bury, was opened with a matinée on Monday. The whole scheme of converting what was known as the Phillips Hall into a place of public entertainment, such as this modern and up-to date Hippodrome now is, has been undertaken by the well-known Manchester theatre owners mentioned above. The cost of the alterations is estimated at between £3,000 and £4,000, and there will be seating accommodation for about 2,000 people. Around the hall is a commodious circle, the frontage of which has been artistically finished in fibrous plaster. The ground floor is well arranged into pit and stalls. The ceiling has been panelled, and the decorations give the building a bright and attractive appearance. The whole of the seating has been done in old gold plush, and the stage curtain is of the same material. Every precaution has been taken against fire, and the building is well supplied with hydrants. The cinématograph case at the rear of the building is stated to be absolutely fire-proof. There are three pay entrances, and four additional exits, all into Garden-street, so that the hall can be very quickly emptied. The building throughout is fitted with electric light.

The acting-manager is Mr Percy Broadhead, and the musical director is Mr Arthur W. Parry. The opening performance drew a large audience, and everyone present was delighted with the excellence of the arrangements made, not only for their ease and comfort, but also for their entertainment. The items are announced by means of the electric light thrown on figures behind a glass screen. The entertainment was contributed by Billy Richardson, the favourite stump orator; the Okito Family, with a wonderful performance; the Itrams, in a perch act; Miss Cordite, lasso manipulator, from Buffalo Bill's show; the Sisters Lytton, well-trained vocalists; Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte, in a comedy sketch, *Saucy Maud;* Post Mason, American baritone; Tell and Tell, comedy acrobats; Johnson and Bert, comedians; and Harry Maxim, comedian. Animated pictures also formed an attraction.

Mr Richard Thornton, of the Newcastle Empire, did a good stroke of business when he secured the Hebburn Colliery band to appear at both performances on Tuesday. As is well known this band was successful in winning the £1,000 trophy and championship at the recent big contest held at the Crystal Palace, and the appearance of the victors on the night in question attracted crowded audiences, who gave the band an enthusiastic reception. They played the test piece which won them the championship, and as an encore gave a Scotch selection. At the conclusion of their performance the president of the band announced from the stage that Mr Thornton had given a donation of £5 towards their funds, for which he desired to thank him, as well as for his great kindness to the members of the band when in London.

Mr Will H. Boardman since coming to Newcastle to take over the resident-management of the Pavilion has made himself very popular with all sections of frequenters of the favourite hall, and more particularly with cyclists and members of athletic clubs. He is president of a well-known local cycling club, the Adelphi to wit, and recently gave a handsome silver challenge trophy for competition. This is known as the Boardman Cup, which was presented to the winner at a smoking concert held in Newcastle on Wednesday. Mr Boardman intended to take the chair on this occasion, but was prevented from doing so, as on that particular evening he was being initiated into the mysteries of Freemasonry.

On Saturday last the second annual contest for the Yorkshire Humourists' Challenge Shield and Gold Medal took place in the Drill Hall, Rotherham. The entrants numbered thirty-four, twenty-two of whom took part in the contest. Mr W. Pickles, of Rochdale, occupied the onerous position of judge, and his awards were as follows:—First, Arthur Bearle, Manchester, shield and gold medal; second and third divided, Harry Morris, Hightown, and Tom Downey, York; fourth, Fred Taylor, Harpurhey; fifth and sixth, divided between A. B. Millard, Manchester; and Will Douglas, York. Of the others, special mention must be made of Joe Clarkson, Maltby, and Charles E. Ernest, Manchester.

Recently in the Southern Police-court, Dublin, before Mr Drury, a young man named Valentine Harte, described as a student, and giving an address in Upper Rathmines, was charged at the instance of Mr Charles Jones, manager of the Tivoli, Dublin, with having conducted himself in a disorderly manner at this theatre. The accused endeavoured to upset the queue system of admission to the theatre, and when remonstrated with he violently assaulted Mr Jones, pulled a cigar from his mouth, and cut his lip. Mr Drury said the queue system of admission to the theatres would be upheld by the court, as it was a great assistance to the police. Mr Jones said he had been manager of the theatre for the past five years, and this was the first case he had in court. Mr Drury considered this very creditable. He fined the accused £1.

The summonses against the Oxford came on for hearing, before Mr Kennedy, at Marlborough-street police-court on Tuesday, the accusation being that a sketch called *The Belle of the Orient* was produced there without letters patent or licence from the Lord Chamberlain. Mr Bodkin prosecuted on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association; and Mr J. P. Grain and Mr Walter Payne defended on behalf of the London Entertainments' Protection Association.

Last week Mr Kennedy decided that the piece was a stage play, and adjourned the hearing to consider the amount of the penalty to be imposed. In giving his decision, Mr Kennedy said other cases previously heard gave him no guide as to the amount of the penalty, each one depending on its merits. In this instance the proceedings were against a wealthy corporation, and the fine would be fixed at £5 for each day concerned, amounting in the aggregate to £120. He made no order for costs. There will be an appeal.

Mr Will Spearman, the popular manager of the Islington Empire, has been somewhat disconcerted during the week at the crowds of young ladies—some very young—who have laid claim to female beauty. They have thronged the wings, and have invaded the stage in large numbers in order that their pretensions to loveliness of feature might be adjudicated upon by their neighbours among the audience. Some of those entering the competition are mites of four or five years of age. All of the ladies are led on to the stage by Mr Spearman, who puts them under the limelight, in order to give those in front the necessary opportunity of expressing their opinions as to the merits of each candidate. Mr Spearman has to gauge the strength of the popular vote by the volume of the applause, and his is certainly no enviable task. But he has his reward in the immense business done through the Islington beauty show, which is exciting great interest in the neighbourhood.

The late Mr Benjamin Webster, of the Haymarket and Adelphi, was among the earliest prosecutors of the music halls for the production of sketches — or, rather, we should say, for the infringement of the Theatres Act, the nominal prosecutor being Mr Horace Wigan, a brother of Alfred Wigan. In his day, says the late Mr John Hollingshead, in his book, "My Lifetime," farces "like *The School for Tigers*, at the Adelphi, and *Lend Me Five Shillings*, at the Haymarket, though provocative of mirth to the verge of apoplexy, were disfigured by gags that could only be excused on the ground that they suited the taste of the period." The chief offenders in these pieces were Wright and J. B. Buckstone.

Mr Dan Leno, who was absent from the London Pavilion on Monday and Tuesday, returned in capital form on Wednesday. It is understood that Mr Leno's particular friend and relative, Johnny Danvers, is engaged for Drury-lane pantomime in the place of the lamented Herbert Campbell. Leno and Danvers have been associated before in comedy and farce many a time and oft, and the engagement is a decidedly happy one.

Miss Harriett Vernon was unable to appear through indisposition three nights of last week at the Empire, Belfast. Mr Wm. Gibson, the well-known Belfast comedian, deputised with much success, being such a favourite that Mr Brock retained his services for the remainder of the week.

Miss Edith Muir and Mr Hubert Bartlett have this week completed a run of 104 weeks with their répertoire of comedy duologues with only one week vacant. During this period they have successfully produced three duologues, and on their return to London in three weeks' time, they will put on a fourth.

A new kettle act will be introduced by Messrs Cochran and Co. at the Royal, Holborn, on Monday next, and this latest *bouilloire magique* is said to vary its programme slightly from the performances seen elsewhere. Messrs Cochran, by the way, are responsible for the introduction to England of the new Hippodrome sensation "Zutka."

Mr George Leyton has been specially engaged to appear at the Lyceum, at Christmas, in a sketch that has been specially purchased for him by Mr Thomas Barrasford. The subject is one that has never been exploited on the variety stage before, and will therefore give the popular actor-vocalist an entirely new experience. The music is by Mr Bennett Scott.

Speaking of Mr George Leyton we are in a position to state that the sums obtained at the various halls through the sale of his songs have been given to individual Crimean veterans in dire poverty, and have not been sent to any general fund for the relief of necessitous heroes of the campaign before Sebastopol.

Miss Nita Clavering and Mr Charles Conway gave a show turn of their new quick-change sketch, *Joining the Company*, by Neville Lynn, at the Empress, Brixton, on Tuesday evening, and were such a success that they were immediately booked by Mr Nelson Francis for the whole of the week. The sketch, which is far above the average, is admirably played, and gives Miss Clavering ample scope for some delightful comedy acting and vocalism, which proves an excellent foil to the varied and clever quick-change impersonations presented by Mr Conway.

"The Pierrot's Romance," a tragedy in a nutshell, that was produced at the Alhambra on Monday night, gives the Italian pantomimist, Signor Rossi, a great opportunity to show the perfection of his art. His first London appearance was in the *Carmen* ballet, and he has remained at the popular house in Leicester-square ever since. The son and grandson of actors and dancers, Signor Rossi was born in Rome. He has travelled in all parts of the world, and is a noted ballet master. In face and figure he is particularly well suited to the whimsical character of Pierrot—agile, passionate, and quaint. His facial expression is always excellent and his make-up is not at all exaggerated.

Miss Julia Reeves, who plays the little French milliner, in *The Pierrot's Romance*, has been engaged at the Alhambra since she was a child, having made her first appearance in the ballet called *Chicago*. She left the Alhambra some time ago to appear in pantomime, but returned to her old "home" after an absence of two years.

The many friends ot Mr George Mayo will be sorry to hear that he is lying very ill in Newcastle Infirmary, in the Newcastle Ward, where he would be pleased to see or hear from them.

Messrs Jordan and Harvey, who open on Monday at the Foresters', have a good reputation as Hebrew character impersonators. They only arrived in England last week, after having concluded a most successful engagement at Keith's, Union-square, New York, and throughout the Keith circuit. Mr Jules Jordan, one of the partners, appeared at the Duke of York's Theatre, with Hoyt's *Stranger of New York* company, in 1898.

Messrs. A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott have every reason to be gratified by the demand for their special pantomime songs, particularly Tom Costello's pretty Jap love song, "Farewell, my little Yo San" and "Have you seen my girl?" The latter has an irresistible lilt, and bids fair to rival in popularity the same authors' ubiquitous ditty, "There's a girl wanted there."

The Licensing Committee will sit on Wednesday, Nov. 2, 1904, and the following day, if necessary, at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, at 11·0 a.m. on each day, and on Friday, Nov. 11, 1904, and the following day, if necessary, at the Sessions House, Newington, at 11·0 a.m. on each day, for the purpose of hearing applications for licences, in order that a report may be made thereon to the Council, sitting as the licensing authority, at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, on Friday, Nov. 25, 1904, and the following day, if necessary, at 10 0 a.m. on each day.

Applications in respect of premises situated on the north of the Thames will be heard at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, and those in respect of premises on the south of the Thames at the Sessions House, Newington, but the committee reserve to themselves the power to hear any particular application at either of the above places, or at such other place as they may hereafter determine upon.

Among the new licences applied for on the North side of the Thames the most important are those sought by Mr Oswald Stoll and Mr Thomas Barrasford. The former asks for a music and dancing permit for the London Coliseum in Chandos-street and St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross, which is expected to open just before Christmas; and the latter requests the Council to grant the necessary permission for the running of the New Lyceum as a variety theatre, which is now rapidly rising on the site of the historic house consecrated for years to the dramatic art of the chief of English-speaking actors, Sir Henry Irving. *Tempora mutantur!*

In the large district south of the Thames Mr Temple De La Pole Temple West is making application for a music and dancing licence for the Surrey Theatre, which it is proposed to call the Surrey Empire and Palace of Varieties. Mr Jack De Frece, having changed the character of the entertainment at the Metropole, Camberwell, wants the privilege of smoking. He is also applying for a music and dancing licence for the Grand Theatre, Fulham. The site of the new music hall projected by Mr Walter Stephens at Lewisham is at the junction of Limes-grove and Lewisham High-street, and as application is made for the necessary licence we may take it as the present intention of the promoters to open it before the dawn of another licensing session.

A link with the past is snapped by the extinction of the licence of Gatti's, Charing-cross, known also as the Arches. Formerly it was called the Hungerford Palace, and flourished until a couple of years since as the "favourite family resort." The alterations required by the County Council and the safety requisitions demanded by that body could not be carried through, owing to the structure being mainly composed of a railway arch, and therefore the owners have perforce closed it as a place of public entertainment. On its boards many of the present stars of the variety firmament have gained their earliest experiences. It was a house in which the chorus song had a great vogue, and some of the most popular refrains of the day were heard on its stage. The audience at Gatti's always adopted a familiar attitude towards its favourites, but it was the familiarity that bred esteem.

Miss Marie Lloyd returns from a tour in the provinces to-morrow, and will make her reappearance, to the delight of her hosts of admirers, at the Tivoli on Monday. We need not say that the effervescent and widely popular comedienne will have the heartiest of welcomes.

The 376th meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Harry Mountford presiding. The secretary reported that eighteen new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,614. The procedure at the general meeting was again considered, and other matters were dealt with, after which the meeting was adjourned.

We would remind members of the M.H.A.R.A. that the eighth annual general meeting will be held on Tuesday next at 11 30, at Gatti's, Westminster-bridge-road, Mr Harry Mountford will be chairman. Admission can be secured only by the presentation of green cards of membership.

The Water Rats paid a flying visit on Tuesday to the Brighton Hippodrome, to which establishment their matinée performance attracted a very large audience. Among the extra turns given was one by Mr George Fuller Golden, who is a prominent member of the White Rats organisation of America. During the interval Mr Phil Ray, on behalf of the Water Rats, spoke a few grateful words in recognition of the kindness of Mr Tom Barrasford in lending the house to the fraternity, whose charitable funds are largely drawn upon by distressed members of the profession.

"The Mad Sick Kettle" is the title of the skit on the exhibition of Mr Ralph Dean at the Palace, which has been exploited by Messrs Walton and Leater, who have scored a great success therein. The parody is quite a laughing stimulant. Whether the trick of the "world's worst wizards" is explained scientifically, with chemical reasons and laws, is what we hope to find out shortly.

Mr Eric Calcott (who, with his charming wife, Miss Amy Leggett, has just produced a clever musical act, to be exploited under the name of the Calcotts) is a worker of indefatigable energy, and as a proof may be mentioned the fact that he is the author of an invaluable book to architects and engineers which has just been placed on the market by Messrs Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., the London agents for the printer and publisher, Mr W. C. Coles, of Cirencester. High encomiums from professional men of repute have already been bestowed upon Mr Calcott regarding the general usefulness of the work in question. Mr Calcott has just made arrangements with his publisher regarding a second book, which will be placed upon the market within a few weeks.

Messrs James and Caselli, a couple of banjoists new to London, have been getting encores at the Alhambra this week with long, classical duets. Their répertoire includes selections from *Carmen*, *William Tell*, and one of Liszt's Rhapsodies. While they do not dispense with the loud and showy effects obtained by the use of the plectrum, they go in for "picking" the banjo in all their finer work. Mr Caselli is a brother of Miss Cora Caselli, the dancer, whose high-kicking used to be the feature of her performance. He went into partnership with Mr James last June, and they made their début in Birmingham. They have wisely resisted the temptation of "strengthening" the turn by wearing grotesque clothes or introducing humorous business, and their music is appreciated none the less for the unassuming manner of the young banjoists.

Miss Ethel Walker, the charming society entertainer, at a popular concert on Tuesday, in the King's Hall, Fulham, had an enthusiastic ovation for her humorous songs at the piano, and at the close Chieftain Ranginia, of the Maories, N.Z., personally came forward to offer his congratulations and shook hands warmly with this promising young artist, expressing a hope that he would be hearing her again before his return to his native colony. On Monday next Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll, is to open a two days' Continental Bazaar at the Victoria Hall, Ealing, and the Mayoress of the borough has secured the services of this young lady to give her refined humorous entertainment at the piano for both of the afternoon concerts.

Everyone interested in the employment of children on the stage should send three stamps to the publishing offices of *The Era* for a copy of the Act which came into force on Oct. 1.

Miss Millie Hylton returns to town for the season Monday next, after a tour of ten weeks, and will make a stay in London of six months.

Mr A. F. Parnell, the new assistant-manager at the London, Shoreditch, is the son of Mr Fred Russell, the well-known ventriloquial humorist. Previous to coming to Shoreditch four months ago, Mr Parnell was for four years connected with Collins's, half of which period was spent as secretary to Mr Jack De Frece.

Members of the M.H.A.R.A. are informed that the revenue account for the past year is now ready, and can be obtained from the offices of the Association, or it will be sent on receipt of stamped addressed envelope.

Mr Clifford King (Mr Walter Gibbons's recently appointed general manager) was presented by Mr Georges Hackenschmidt, prior to the latter's departure for an Australian tour, with a valuable thirty-hour carriage clock, having a massive solid silver case and morocco handle and support suitably inscribed.

Will H. Fox, "Paddywhisk," was compelled to cancel his appearance at the Theatre Royal, Oldham, this week on account of illness. Mr Fox is confined to his bed at his Brixton residence, but hopes to resume his engagements shortly.

Caicedo, the king of the wire, finished his engagement at Barcelona on Sunday, and goes direct to Paris. He opens at Oldham on the 17th, following on a provincial tour.

The executors of the late Mr Gilbert Hastings Macdermott have been directed by the Court of Chancery to sell the long-established agency business, carried on at 6, Upper St. Martin's-lane, W.C., including the assets, the goodwill, and the book debts. Intending purchasers are invited to communicate with Mr W. H. Pannell, 13, Basinghall-street, one of the executors.

Mr Chas. Melvin, for the past three years manager and secretary to Mr T. G. Transfield, has resigned his position to accept an offer from Mr T. C. Dorling as general manager of what has been known as the Victoria Palace, Sheerness. It has been rechristened the Coliseum, and it is intended to reopen it in November as a variety hall. It has a stage 40ft. deep and a 30ft. opening, and is capable of holding nearly 2,000 persons. Structural alterations are taking place, and when these are finished the house will be one of the finest halls in Kent. It speaks well for the good feeling existing between Mr Transfield and Mr Melvin when it is announced that Mr Transfield has kindly granted his late manager a complimentary benefit, which takes place on the 14th inst.

For the enlightenment of all who are interested in the details of the French conquest of the hitherto unbeaten mare Pretty Polly there is at present being shown on the Urban Bioscope at the Alhambra a particularly fine picture of the race for the Prix du Conseil Municipal. The series includes scenes in the paddock (with many striking photographs of famous French and English sportsmen), the start, the racing, and the finish.

At the Alhambra there will be shown for the first time on Monday a film the production of which has been the result of many months of elaborate preparation. Far more extraordinary as a fantastic conception than the well remembered "Trip to the Moon," the new film has not yet been named, and the difficult task of finding a suitable title of not more than three words is to be submitted to the public. Visitors to the Alhambra during next week will be furnished with coupons which they will be invited to fill in with a suggested title and place in boxes provided for the purpose. To the sender of the selected title a prize of ten guineas will be awarded.

Miss Fanny Fields has added several new stories this week to her turn at the Tivoli and the Oxford, and she is now "going" with all her accustomed laughter and applause. There is one sentence in the little American's patter that is rather neatly put. "What is an idea?" she asks in her comic Dutch way, and answers the question herself—"An idea is the same as a dream, but you don't wake up!"

Miss Reba Kaufman, the tiny American toe dancer, who made her appearance at the Alhambra last Monday, wears a particularly pretty and cleverly-made frock. It is turquoise blue chiffon, clings to the figure, but gives the impression at the same time of a constant flutter and movement. It is covered by a sparkling silver gauze, and a simple knot of blue ribbon in her curly hair greatly adds to the effect.

Messrs C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton have written for John E. Coyle a special number for his Palace engagement. There is also a big demand for their droll song entitled "Bed," which is being sought for on all sides for pantomime. The music hall rights of this song are held by Mr Morny Cash, who has been exploiting the number with great success all over the provinces.

The new sketch presented on Tuesday evening at the Tivoli, for the first time in London, derived its chief importance from the fact that Miss Maggie Moore made her début on the London music hall stage in the chief part. The sketch was called *The Chinese Question*, and though it has nothing to do with that matter as it has arisen in South Africa, still it deals with the supply of domestic labour—a problem that afflicts New York in a greater degree than it does London. An irascible old gentleman dismisses all his white servants, and is supplied with Chinese, who are, however, sham, the dismissed Irish cook disguising herself as the Chinese help and a local butcher boy following her example and making up as Ah Sin. Their instrumental performances and their singing drive their employers crazy, and the ruse cures the demand of the irascible old gentleman for foreign domestics. Miss Maggie Moore, who has travelled to all parts of the world in the drama *Struck Ile*, appeared as a stage-struck slavey of Irish proclivities, and gave burlesque imitations of Italian opera. She also sang an Irish song, and her vim and vivacity were as conspicuous as ever. She was ably assisted by Mr R. Roberts, a clever young actor, who has supported her on the theatre stage in Australia and elsewhere. There were other capable people in the cast, but the names were not given. The sketch requires to be liberally pruned before it can be acceptable on the music hall stage.

Mr Curtis-Bennett, on Wednesday at Marylebone Police-court, had before him a young man giving the name of Arthur George Spry, whom he committed for trial on various charges of robbery. The magistrate remarked that he had received a letter from the comedian, Mr A. G. Spry, dated from the Hippodrome, Liverpool, in which he stated that while performing at the Grand, Clapham, last June twelvemonths he ascertained that a person using the name of A. G. Spry had been trying to sell a copyright song of his. Recently he received a request from an unknown person at the New Cross Empire to send on the promised remittance, and he (the writer) supposed the person calling himself "A. G. Spry" must know something about that matter also. Mr Spry has evidently suffered much annoyance through his double.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE PALACE.

The enterprise of the management at this ever-popular hall is proved by the fact that, since our last notice of the variety entertainment here, almost every item has been changed. There are several "versions" of the magic kettle now being presented to the London public; but that at the Palace claims to be the "first and original" one. The kettle and the marvels achieved by its aid are so famous now that we need only mention that the feats performed with it at the Palace—the drying and cleaning of a handkerchief in a hat, the petrifying of grapes, the hardening of a porter-house steak by cooking it on a block of ice, and the lighting of a fire upon the same block are performed with striking effect, the pleasing nature of the exhibition being increased by an extremely attractive female assistant, who helps the professor in demonstrating the kettle's powers. The magic kettle is certainly the most wonderful, the most curious, and the most astonishing adaptation of scientific discovery to entertainment purposes that has been seen on the music hall stage for years. It holds a very important position in the bill at the Palace, where the astounding—indeed, almost incredible—things done by its aid are watched with intense interest, and applauded most enthusiastically. An item of great beauty and ingenuity of arrangement is Mdlle. De Dio's creation, "Terpsichore's Dream." It is an almost bewildering combination of female grace with "magic lantern" views; exquisite patterns, forms, and colours being displayed, while Mdlle. De Dio's shapely figure, attired in pretty costumes, is seen mingled with a succession of flying birds, flames, and brilliant tracery. One scene represents the bottom of the ocean. A diver descends a rope ladder; and immediately a fair water nymph appears from the bed of the ocean. Mdlle. De Dio's entertainment is artistic, effective, and agreeably varied; and it well deserves the success which it attains. Miss Maud Courtney, by her arch and humorous personality, wins the hearts of the audience completely. Beginning with a medley of old American songs, which she sings with dainty expressiveness, she sends the house into roars and ripples of laughter by some funny anecdotes, and concludes with a pathetic recitation, delivered with delightful tact and cleverness. Madame Mealy is the essence of gaiety and *chic*. Her laughter in the "chanson Fourire" is bewitchingly spontaneous and natural; and her imitation of a half-tipsy man in "Bon Soir, Madame La Lune," is truthful without being offensive. She is a most attractive and exhilarating artist, and deservedly holds a good place in the Palace bill. The Dandies are four pleasing vocalists who, with the assistance of a fifth at the piano, give the "Torpedo and the whale" song from *Olivette*, "Excelsior," and other ditties in admirable and agreeable style, and have a very cordial reception. Alexandre is a wonderful bird imitator, and his mimicry of the thrush, the blackbird, the goldfinch, and the canary is most faithful, his comical reproductions of the cries of ducks and geese creating much amusement. The Palace Girls supply a smart and dashing turn. Eight in number, they march and countermarch, and dance duos of an extremely spirited character, also tripping it lightly in line and in "fours." Burke and M'Voy are genuine humourists, their drolleries being done with an entire absence of effort which much increases their effect. They are also remarkable acrobats, one of them accomplishing a "double pirouette somersault," which brings down the house. Miss Belle Davis and her "piccaninnies" are immensely popular, and their performance is certainly original and amusing. The dancing of the dusky lads is something extraordinary, and the funny details they introduce elicit hearty laughter. The views shown by the aid of the Bioscope are all new since our last visit. They include some most interesting pictures of the recent invasion of Essex, showing the method of landing the troops in big boats. The effects of a first cigarette on a youthful smoker are graphically depicted in another film, and the pranks of three mischievous little maids are extremely diverting. Other views represent some fancy shots at billiards, and the crew of the Japanese man-of-war Asama ranged in lines on the deck of the vessel. Mr Herman Finck's excellent orchestra performs in capital style selections from Sullivan's *Merchant of Venice* music and Missa's "Normande" march. The Palace is doing "big business," and the house full is the rule nightly.

THE BEDFORD.

The alterations contemplated by Mr B. Pearce Lucas at this popular hall are in no way necessitated by County Council requirements, but are initiated by him for the greater comfort of his audiences, which, we are glad to say, are larger than ever. The big attraction of the current week's bill is Mr Geo. Leyton, who has been associated lately with successful scenas in praise of the Services. In *The Boys of the Chelsea School* he sounded in broad significant phrases the virtues of our younger soldiers, worthy descendants of their sires, who faced Russian and Afghan in the two chief wars of the nineteenth century. Now he sings with enthusiastic emphasis of "Britannia's Babes," who are "rocked in the cradle of the ocean." Their toys are the cutlass and the cannon, and their bull-dog breed will out. The verses are well written, and Mr Leyton's fine figure and handsome presence are well set off by a post-captain's uniform. He sings with real grit, and infuses a deal of brio into a number that is in every way excellent. He is supported on the quarter-deck—a well-painted scene—by twenty-four local boys, and the audience cheer lustily at the conclusion of the scena—so lustily, indeed, that the refrain had to be repeated twice on the night of our visit. A great favourite at the Bedford is Miss Jessie Preston—one of the celebrated Sisters Preston—who exhibits a deal of broad comedy in her Irish version of "Bedelia," which she follows with just an "illigant" taste of a jig, just to show that she has not forgotten the step. Her first number concerns the adventures of Mary Jane in London and other places. A generous measure of encouragement is meted out to Miss Fredrica and her wonderful performing terriers—Scotch, fox, black-and-tan, and other varieties. Three of the canines accomplish a circus act on a revolving table, and join gleefully in a skipping-rope performance, in which one of them throws somersaults. The diminutive pony exploited by its trainer is quite a little pet, and paces with her in the cake-walk. Altogether a very pretty show. The Woodbee Wonders, who were noticed in these columns last week, are repeating their success at the Bedford; and Mr W. H. Perrette and Miss Bessie Shelley are quite popular in their original comedy quick-change act *Teasing the General*. Mr Perrette's wide and extensive experience as a leading actor stands him in good stead, and a prettier and more piquante "tease" than Miss Shelley can scarcely be imagined. Her buoyancy is inspiriting, and her songs and dances are full of animation and gaiety. Mr Charles Beanland (Beanland and Bath) is making what we believe is his first appearance in London *solus*. He assumes a wooden expression which is extremely quaint, and his make-up is eloquent of the modern "gabey." His utterance is distinct and clear, and his voice reaches the furthest corner of the gallery. He is well suited—we are not referring to his clothes—in his song, "Return good for evil," which has more subtle humour than his second number, "Is there anything funny in that?" Mr Beanland's success is very decided. The Babusian Brothers, who are termed the wonderful Continental pot-pourri artistes—a very vague description—do some clever head and hand balancing up and down a staircase, and other gymnastic feats of theirs are heartily applauded. Mr Ted Saunders, a new mimic, essays an imitation of Mr Gus Elen in his song "What's bred in the bone." There is very little finish about it, but the tones of the celebrated coster comedian's voice are fairly realised. The sketch of the week is *The Lights of the Harbour*, played by Mr Fred Eustace, Miss May Eustace, and company. The sailor hero is temporarily estranged from his sweetheart by the machinations of the villain, unconsciously assisted by the lady's sister. This unfortunate victim of the heartlessness of the villain is eventually murdered by him, and the onus of the crime thrown upon the shoulders of the virtuous naval lieutenant, who clears himself and receives promotion ust before the final fall of the curtain. Mr Fred Eustace plays in manly fashion the part of the virtuous lieutenant; and Miss May Eustace cleverly doubles the part of the heroine and her unfortunate sister. The other features of a capital entertainment are the films of Ruffell's Bioscope and the entertainment of Miss Maud Turner, comedienne. Mr A. F. Lovesy is Mr Pearce Lucas's courteous and diligent manager.

SOUTH LONDON.

There can be no doubt as to the success of the two-houses-a-night plan, or of the general policy adopted by those responsible for the government of the popular London-road hall, for its prosperity was never greater than at the present moment. For a few pence an excellent entertainment and a good seat can be secured by the humble toilers who mainly constitute the audience, and that these are appreciated is evident by the large audiences that pack the old-established house twice nightly. The programme which is presented this week by the astute and energetic manager, Mr Frank Weeks, is especially strong in turns that mostly make for hearty laughter, the sensational sketch for once making way for a couple of comic playlets that exactly fulfil the purpose for which they were written. The first of these is *The New Doctor*, a humorous trifle for which Mr Paul Courtney and his company are responsible. The principal characters in this are an eccentric individual who poses as a doctor and a youth who feigns illness, and the many strange antics indulged in by the couple never miss fire, continuous hilarity prevailing while they occupy the stage. A lady also aids considerably in the fun-making, and the trifle was most cordially received. Another comic playlet is that given by Rice, Rose, Davis, and the Half, and entitled *Geese Geese, Goose Goose*. In this a couple of niggers just released from gaol successfully fool a sportsman, playing all manner of ludicrous pranks with him until they are captured by a diminutive policeman with the aid of a knowing dog. The quartet who present this amusing little sketch work hard and with every success, unrestrained merriment prevailing throughout. An exceedingly popular item in the bill is the clever and amusing little interlude supplied by Kelly and Gillette, *Fun in a Billiard Room*. The comedian of the duo who impersonates a tramp is responsible for some most laughter-provoking business with a soda-water syphon, his grotesque appearance and antics generally largely helping along the success of the turn. The talented couple are exceptionally smart acrobats, and their wonderful somersaults and other difficult feats are accomplished with apparent ease and are loudly acclaimed. Musical Silvo gives an instrumental act that is varied and decidedly entertaining. His first contribution is a much appreciated selection of popular airs on the concertina; and he also scores heavily with his rendering of the pretty "Good-bye, little yellow bird," on the "Silvo" chimes, a tuneful instrument of which the performer is the inventor. The favourite song from *Florodora*, "Oh, my Dolores," is next given by the versatile musician on the melodious bamboo bells, of which he is also the originator, and he concludes his clever and heartily applauded turn by a medley of familiar tunes on the musical glasses, in the playing of which he is especially expert. Griff, the droll clown juggler, performs his tricks to a running accompaniment of jocular remarks, and skilfully catches oranges thrown from the audience on forks held in his mouth. His "spoof" business at the conclusion of this portion of his entertainment amused greatly on Monday evening, and much applause was bestowed on his clever pupil Alpha, for his smart manipulation of a number of hoops. The Harrison Brothers have a smartly written duet in "Studying hard for the Bar," and their "Walking" song is also an amusing item. Their patter is always comical and well delivered, and they excel as step-dancers, their entire turn being decidedly entertaining. The Sisters Wingrove, a couple of dainty duettists and dancers, becomingly gowned in pale blue, warble blithely of a certain stylish miss who is all the rage on Broadway, and are the recipients of prolonged plaudits for their rendering of "You don't want to flirt about with other girls," and its accompanying dance, a well-executed and attractive exhibition. An extra turn on Monday evening was given by a gentlemen who created considerable merriment with "The yokel's hunt" and "The mud walk at Giles's ball," a couple of comic effusions that contain much humour. Other popular entertainers in the programme are Booker and Narbis, comedy artistes, who are always amusing; Edgar Budden, an expert bone soloist and skate dancer; and Miss Flo Majilton, comedienne. The excellent band here is under the careful guidance of Mr Charles E. Howells.

AT the Hippodrome, Stoke, this week, the premier position is held by Auto Atlas in a really marvellous strong show. One of his acts consists of lifting a motor-car with his teeth, the car at the time containing five occupants. Mason and Bart on the triple bars present a novel and clever turn, which is much appreciated. Boswell, "the furniture shifter," contributes a balancing turn, which is both clever and amusing; the Countees sing admirably, their voices blending most harmoniously; Connie Williams is a comedienne and dancer of much ability; Tom Brantford, the quaint American, entertains his audiences splendidly, his imitations of whistles, &c., being exceptionally good; Jennie Belmore is a vivacious comedienne, and dances smartly; and Harry Roy and Celia Fenton in their musical comedy act are clever and amusing. Collins' British Bioscope shows a capital picture, namely, "Day and Night in a Steel Works." On Sunday next Mr. Collins, with his usual generosity, gives the full proceeds of a sacred concert for the benefit of the North Stafford Hospitals. A splendid programme has been arranged, and a packed house is certain.

MESSRS WICKHAM AND WARD visited Carmarthen, and gave a first-class variety entertainment at the Assembly Rooms. Mr Bert Wickham, the champion wrestler and well-known Welsh athlete, gave splendid exhibitions of muscle posing, ball punching, wrestling, and feats of strength. Messrs Pearce and Ward gave amusing exhibitions of comic boxing and a couple of dances and comic songs. Mr Leavill gave a most acceptable song and step dance, while little Dot Ward fairly enraptured the audience with her songs and dances, the cake walk being exceptionally good.

MESSRS FRANCIS, DAY, AND HUNTER have this week accepted, for early publication, a new song with the pretty title "You are the Flower in the Garden of My Heart." It is written by John P. Harrington, and wedded to appropriate music from the graceful pen of J. Airlie Dix.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

CHAT WITH MR. CUTHBERT CLARK.

Some people seem to imagine that the work of the conductor of an orchestra is very simple indeed, and that it merely consists of a variety of mechanical movements with a baton. Such an impression is, of course, entirely wrong. There is an art in conducting, and, indeed, something more than an art. Perhaps it would be right to say that the director of an orchestra, apart altogether from his musical qualifications, should be able to exert some psychological influence over the whole body of players whose individual efforts he is controlling. To put it in another way, he should have music in his eye—at least while he is wielding the wand of his office—and it must be possible for him, however, in a degree, unconsciously he does it, to instantaneously transmit to other minds his idea of tone and time. Probably the conductor employs a kind of invisible magnetic current, a chord of forceful sympathy which causes forty or fifty men to throw heart, soul, and hand for the time being into a unity of melody.

While it is necessary that a conductor be endowed with musical attainments of a high order, it is hardly less necessary that the science of memorisation should play a prominent part in his studies as well as in the latter work which devolves upon those studies. In this and other respects we can point to Mr Cuthbert Clark, the musical director of the Empire Theatre, as an able exponent of his art. Mr Clark's professional career gives evidence not only of unique musical talents, but of great concentration and attention to the work which he, at an early age, determined should be the moving spirit to lead him onward to advancement. Born in London in 1869, he spent some part of his early life at a French school. As a budding musician he claims to have been self-taught, though a later period of study at the Guildhall School of Music proved of great assistance to him. His first professional engagement of any note was as principal second violin and pianist repetiteur in the Empire orchestra, at one time under the directorship of M. Hervé, the composer of *Chilperic*, *Little Faust*, and the first ballet produced at the Empire. At this period Mr Clark was still receiving lessons on the violin from M. Franc, a Belgian professor of that instrument. On the retirement of M. Hervé in November, 1891, Herr Wenzl was appointed conductor, and Mr Clark was promoted to the position of sub-conductor and first violin. After a time the latter gentleman went on a six months' tour with Albert Chevalier in America, where he wrote, composed, and published a number of songs. Then followed an engagement with Mr George Edwardes at the Palace, Manchester, where Mr Clark conducted an orchestra of fifty strong, and successfully produced ballets for a period of seven years. After twelve months spent in similar work at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, he was appointed by Mr Oswald Stoll director of the orchestra at the Holloway Empire. He did not, however, remain very long at Holloway, for his services were soon requisitioned for

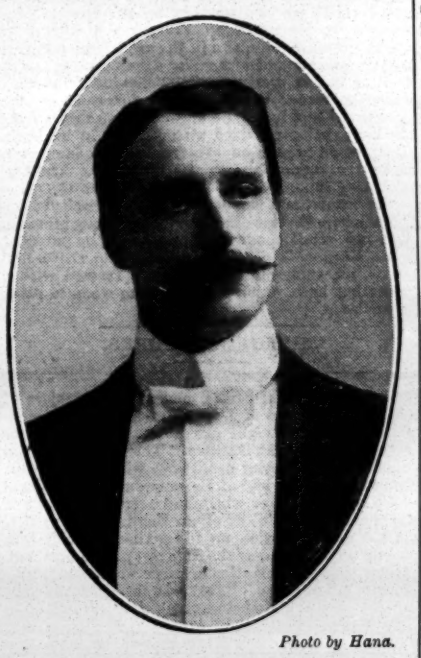

Photo by Hana.

MR. CUTHBERT CLARK.

the Empire, Leicester-square, again as sub-conductor and first violinist. Quitting this house once more, he joined Clarke and Earle, who toured, in the Moss and Thornton halls, a very popular musical act. In a few months Mr Clark had a further offer from the Empire management, in whose employment he has remained ever since. On March 28 last—Herr Wenzl having retired from his position of musical director—Mr Clark took possession of the conductor's chair, which he now occupies with credit to himself and the establishment whose interests he serves.

Mr Clark tells us that the first music he composed in this country was for Miss Amy Roselle, for whom Mr Saville Clarke wrote *The Seige of Lucknow*. Mr Clark also composed the vocal ballet for Mr Tiller's *Harvest Home*, the "book" being by Mr J. Hickory Wood. He has written and composed three or four songs for Miss Ada Reeve, including "Susie—oo," "The Lover and the Ladybird," and Yalloo." While at the Manchester Palace he considers that the best work he did was an orchestral fantasia entitled "The Forest Nymph," which proved a big hit. For the Eldorado Girls he composed the music for their *Vanity Fair*, and for their songs. Mdlle. Alexia, the clever French chanteuse, whose tuneful songs delighted audiences at the Casino De Paris, wrote a few days ago to say that everybody was complimenting her upon the music which Mr Clark had written for her. When Mr Harry Norris wrote the lyrics for the comic opera called *An Opera Singer*, Mr Clark was commissioned to attend to the musical numbers; and he has composed for Miss Vesta Tilley, Miss Alexandra Dagmar, Miss Harriett Vernon, Miss Lena Verdi, and for Mr J. J. Dallas's *Bazaar Girl*. He has written several marches, one of which was dedicated to Mr J. P. Sousa, and other pieces of his have been published by Messrs Francis and Day, Oliver Hawkes, and Keith Prowse and Co. He has composed the numbers for a dozen pantomimes, including *Ali Baba*, *Forty Thieves*, *Blue Beard*, and *Jack and Jill*, all of which were entirely original and were produced at the Palace, Manchester. He also assisted with the music of *The Babes in the Wood*, in which Miss Louie Freear made such a big hit at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. Among his other work may be mentioned the accompaniments for biograph displays, parts of the ballet *High Jinks* and practically the entire second portion of it, in which he introduced a big waltz which has been much admired.

During conversation Mr Clark gave expression to the regret that there seemed so little good feeling and good fellowship existent among musical conductors and composers. He thinks that a society should be formed to bring musicians together to discuss things in general, and not confine themselves, as is at present the case, to one narrow groove. "Every composer," he remarks, has his own particular style, and I am of the opinion that there should be more free speech for the sake of art."

Mr Clark, whose father was an artist, and who belongs to a family, the members of which have almost solely concerned themselves with the brush and the palette, has a brother (Claude Cardon) whose pictures have been hung in the Academy. The subject of this interview has always indulged to a considerable extent in athletics, and one of his principal pastimes consists of sculling. He tells us that, curiously enough, the first prize he ever gained was not given in recognition of musical honours, but for gymnastics.

"THE ARISTOCRATS."

Musical Absurdity in Two Scenes,
by James and Thomas Passmore,
with Music by Peter Conroy,
Produced for the First Time at the Queen's Music Hall, Poplar, on Monday, Oct. 10.

The Duke	MR JAMES PASSMORE
The Count	MR THOMAS PASSMORE
John	MR ALFRED ERNEST
Hon. Miss Maud Ainsworth	Miss GERTIE GLENN
Hon. Miss Sybil Harley	Miss HARRIE ROSE
Florrie	Miss NANCY DUNCAN

The fame of the Passmore Brothers has hitherto rested chiefly on their eccentricities as knockabout comedians, but in the production of the above sketch they have given proof of their ability to furnish the class of entertainment that now seems most in demand, and have produced a diverting skit in which fun abounds, song and dance alternate in pleasing variety, and a most ludicrous piece of fooling is succeeded instantaneously by a smart and exhilarating scena instinct with life and movement. The opening scene is a drawing-room in Park-lane, where the Hon. Maud Ainsworth and the Hon. Sybil Harley return home loud in the praise of a couple of noblemen of their acquaintance, whose arrival is momentarily expected and whom they see approaching. The ladies retire to prepare to receive their distinguished visitors, giving orders to the butler to show them in. The "Duke" and "Count" duly arrive, but their attire hardly befits their exalted rank, being more suited to that of broker's men, which in reality they are, announcing the fact in a lively song. They set about removing the household goods, and the room is speedily divested of almost every particle of furniture—chairs, tables, ornaments, and a dummy piano being carted into the street. The ladies return decked out in their best, and despite the altered appearance of the apartment, indulge in a lively flirtation with their aristocratic visitors, all four joining in a double duet, cleverly written and drolly conceived, on "the art of making love." A stately minuet follows, in which the servants join, and then an instantaneous mechanical change is made to a sylvan spot in Hyde Park, and an equally sudden alteration of costume takes place, the three men returning in military uniforms and the three ladies elegantly arrayed. They sing altogether of "The very latest fashion in the Army," and execute a series of marching and counter-marching in true military style, and with no little grace and precision. The whole sketch comes in the nature of a novelty, and won the cordial appreciation of the audience, as it is sure to do with all who favour a bright spectacle and harmless fun. The little piece was acted spiritedly by all concerned. The Brothers Passmore must be mentioned together, for they act in concord in the cause of fun, and they did not spare themselves in the characters of the "Duke" and the "Count," their make-up in each case being marvels of eccentricity. Miss Gertie Glenn and Miss Harrie Rose also shared equally in merit as the honourable ladies, singing their duets in dashing style and acting merrily. Miss Nancy Duncan was a presentable maid-servant, and as the butler Mr Alfred Ernest took no inconsiderable share in the creation of mirth. No effort has been spared either in costumes or in the skilful working of the scenery, in the setting and arrangement of which the assistance of Mr Joe Haynes, the popular manager, has been invaluable.

ON Saturday the promenade concert in the Central Hall of the Alexandra Palace was supported by the band of H. M. Coldstream Guards. Miss Alice Motterway added some pleasing vocal items, and the well-trained voice of Mr Thomas Thomas in some good numbers materially strengthened the concert programme. Madame Belle Cole made her reappearance, and being a strong North London favourite, her selections were received with acclamation. The attendance was good, and the Bohemian nature of these concerts is meeting with general approval.

THE Duke of Portland has presented to the museum of the Comédie-Française reproductions of two interesting pictures in his collection; a portrait of Molière attributed to Charles Le Brun, and one of an Italian actor, Silvia Polletti, attributed to De Troy.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—During my recent tour with Mr Fred Mouillot's *My Lady Molly* you gave me several good notices, for which many thanks. On Sept. 17 Mr Moreton was kind enough to release me so that I might take up my London engagements. However, in answer to a pressing telegram, I fulfilled a special week at Manchester ending Oct. 1 owing to the illness of Mr Mozar. In your issue of the 1st inst. you complimented me on my impersonation of Lionel Bland, but gave the credit to Mr Mozar. Yours faithfully, HAROLD PAYNE.

AHRENSMEYER, the Cowboy hypnotist, has been causing wonderment and drawing big audiences to the Britannia, Hoxton, all this week. Next Monday he opens at the Canterbury and Duchess, Balham.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy, on Monday, a first meeting was held in the case of John Warren, the debtor being described as of Lime-grove, Shepherd's-bush, entertainer, and latterly a member of the Bradstow Concert Party, of Broadstairs and Ramsgate. The receiving order was made upon the petition of Tom G. Clare, residing at Maida Vale, a judgment creditor for £63 4s. 10d., in respect of the costs of an action for slander unsuccessfully brought against him by the debtor. No particulars of the debtor's affairs were forthcoming, but it was said that his income as an entertainer amounted to about £1,000 a year. Mr Westcott represented the petitioning creditor. The Official Receiver will continue to act as trustee.

MR C. SHARP, who is now master carpenter at the Adelphi, held a similar position at the Kennington Theatre for some years. He laid the stage and had charge of other work back of the curtain for the King's Theatre, Hammersmith. Mr Sharp will make some of the scenes for the Shakespearian play which may be produced at the Adelphi at Christmas or thereabouts.

CHARLES BEANLAND made his début before a London audience on Monday, and scored an instantaneous success by his decidedly original style. He has placed his sole bookings in the hands of Daly's Agency, of Arundel-street, Strand.

MR FRED G. BROOKE, the well-known author and producer of sketches in the halls, has, in collaboration with Miss Dora Deane, written a little playlet, entitled *Guy Fawkes*, which is to be produced at Sadler's Wells Theatre on the 31st inst. —The Brewsters have been specially retained another week by Mr Tom Transfield at his Hippodrome, Sheerness, to take part in his highly successful spectacle, *Fra Diavolo*.—Mr Nat Travers opens on Monday at the Empire, New Cross, with his aristocrats in the popular scena, *Life in an East-end Hotel*.

MR AND MRS BLAKE ADAMS start the Barrasford tour with the successful dramatic episode *The Last Pitch*, opening at the Pavilion, Glasgow, on Monday next.

MRS ALLAN M'ASKILL is suffering from typhoid fever, and remains in a critical condition in Scarborough Hospital.

AN ANATOMICAL PUZZLE.

Marvels multiply unceasingly at the Hippodrome, where the perplexing Phroso has found a successor equally inexplicable in Zutka and the black box in which he is carefully packed. It seems impossible to believe that a full-sized man can be contained within its two-feet limits; but doubts are speedily set at rest by the gentleman who introduces Zutka unlocking the box, the sides of which collapse outward, and the figure of a tall pierrot is unfolded. Raising the figure to his feet, the operator touches a spring, and Zutka bows in the most natural way ere he is carried bodily by his guardian to the stage, where an electrical apparatus is set at work, and the doll's hands reach up and grasp a couple of rings which hang from ropes above his head. The figure is doubled in two, and his legs strapped to his body, which revolves in the approved gymnastic fashion. Having gravely acknowledged the applause, the figure is bundled unceremoniously into his ebony casket, which before being finally closed is passed round so that the audience may examine the doll—an ordeal which he undergoes with undisturbed rigidity. Regarded as an automaton, Zutka is a masterly piece of mechanism, but the stolid demeanour and inflexibility of the doll, and the manner of its disposal in the box, are all but incredible in a being of flesh and blood. Whatever it may be, man or marionette—or perhaps a combination of both—Zutka is certain to stimulate public curiosity to any lengths, and his composition is likely to be an open question for a long time to come. Other additions of surpassing interest have also been made this week to a stupendous bill-of-fare, chief attention being secured for the tableaux presented by Mdlle. Diane De Fontenoy, under the title of "An Artist's Model." Amid the elaborate surroundings of a painter's studio Mdlle. De Fontenoy presents a series of living pictures, from Boadicea to England's present Queen, a magnificent embodiment of Lalla Rookh alternating with a vivid portrayal of Cleopatra's death. The pictures are remarkable in expression, colouring, and pose, and the cheers of a highly delighted audience commend the perfection of the display. Other fresh comers are the Three Sisters Leamy, whose tricks on the trapeze and rings are extraordinary, a brilliant effect being obtained when the frame within which the talented trio perform is lit up with coloured lights and revolves rapidly, one fair performer being seated on a bicycle above. A mixture of sensations is in turn aroused during the rest of the programme by the intrepid feats with shot and shell of Paul Conchas, the "liquid air" manifestations of Dr. Maxim Boyd, the balancing exploits of the Wille Brothers, the wondrous fire horse of Salamonsky, the speaking music of the Miles-Stavordale Quintet, the oddities of Marceline, the burlesque lions of Charles Baron, the equestrian act of Joko and Koko, the ball manipulation of Robertus and Wilfredo, the juggling of the Alfonso Trio, and the excitements of the sketch *Siberia*.

'JACK SHEPPARD;
OR, THE BURGLARY AT THE GRANGE."

Vocal Scena, by Albert Voyce,
Produced at the Bow Palace on Monday, Oct. 10.

Blueskin	MR VERNON COWPER
Jack Sheppard	MR TUDOR WILLIAMS
Edgworth Bess	Miss ETHEL FABER

The history of the house-breaking hero has served the purpose of many a dramatic sketch, but the latest episode of his career appears to have sprung entirely from the fertile brain of Mr Albert Voyce, who has concocted the rhymes and furnished the music of an operatic scena that should be of excellent service. The story opens in an effective scene of The Grange at Hampstead where Jack Sheppard and his friend Blueskin are engaged in their favourite pastime of "cracking a crib." Jack emerges through the roof of the house with a bag of stolen treasure, which he throws down to Blueskin, but when Jack finds among the booty a portrait of his mother, which tells plainly that he has robbed the house of those who had befriended her, he refuses to be a party to the theft. Blueskin leaves him in disgust, but Jack is consoled by the entry of his sweetheart, Edgeworth Bess, who cheers him with a lively dance. Blueskin returns and demands the valuables, but Jack keeps him off with a pistol, and casts the bag through the window of the house. Blueskin, unwilling to part from his friend, agrees to the sacrifice of the "swag," and the two friends are reconciled. The dialogue of the little piece, which possesses humorous as well as pathetic interest, is principally in rhyme and set to melodies that have a swing and tunefulness agreeable to the popular ear, while the ancient air of "Ri-too-ral-li-tay" is utilised for the introduction of a duet to which such subjects as Adolf Beck and Russo-Japanese War give a topical flavour. The playlet is thoroughly well represented by Mr Albert Voyce's company. Mr Vernon Cowper has a jovial bearing as Blueskin, and plays the part with breadth and vigour. He uses his cultured voice also with excellent effect in the snatches of song which fall to him, and carries the piece along with the energy and ability possible in only an experienced performer. The title-rôle is ably enacted by Mr Tudor Williams, whose pleasing tenor is employed in the sentimental strains of the part and in the concerted numbers. No more comely Bess could be desired than Miss Ethel Faber, who does her dance with rare vivacity and charm. Elegant costumes and mounting give added effect to the piece, which bears the recommendation of novelty, and the attention devoted to it by the audience at Bow and the appreciation with which it was received left its success without a doubt.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

THE Joint Concert Committee met on Tuesday last at 29, Wellington-street, Strand. An encouraging report was given of the offers of assistance which were being received daily from musicians. Sir Charles V. Stanford, who had been invited to conduct one of the items of the musical programme, wrote regretting his inability to accept the invitation, but kindly wished the societies every possible success, and enclosed a cheque for £3 3s. as a donation to the benevolent funds.

MISS VERA WARWICK-EVANS has, with the permission of the Royal College of Music, kindly consented to play at the concert. Miss Evans is the winner of the Tagore gold medal. During the past nine years during which this medal has been competed for, it has only been awarded five times, and never before to a violiniste. Miss Evans will appear before the public for the first time at the concert at the Royal Opera House on Nov. 20.

THE items which it is proposed shall be given by the orchestra at the concert are the *Tannhauser* overture, Berlioz's *Faust* march, the Unfinished Symphony, and the *William Tell* overture.

THE terms of the dissolution of the Dramatic and Musical Fund and the distribution of its funds have been remitted by the Registrar for the members to append their signatures.

CHARLIE HARRELL, the chief of the stage staff at the Albert Theatre, Gainsborough, died suddenly on Thursday morning, the 6th inst. Always genial and polite, Harrell will be greatly missed by the touring companies visiting that town.

DAVE MEIER AND BELLA MORA, American speciality artists, have just booked to appear with Mr Sydney Hyman's enterprises in South Africa in 1906.—Miss Rita Resdan, the dainty male impersonator, is rebooked at the Oxford, four weeks, July, 1905.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The story of the rise and progress of Parliamentary defence by the organised showmen is a brilliant record of splendid work. The difficulties at the outset were of the most formidable kind. It was looked upon by public bodies as a sort of impertinence that mere showmen should dare to set up a claim against them, or to venture opposition to their Private Bills. When the battle of the bye-laws had been fought and won, then it was that the Showmen's Guild turned its attention to Private Bill legislation. In 1900, two important victories were won—in fact, three—for the showmen had to prove their trade right to appear by counsel and to petition against the inimical clauses in Private Bills. The fight for the locus standi, or the right to appear, was a costly business, but it had to be done. The Guild had to make a demonstration in force before the Court of Referee concerned with Private Bills before the House of Commons. This right was not at the time acknowledged. It was, however, conceded that individual showmen attending the fairs threatened in Private Bills had a locus standi whether they were resident ratepayers or not in the district covered by the Corporation Bill before Parliament. This is important to bear in mind, for it leads up to the ultimate recognition of the Guild's locus standi at the Home Office and Local Government three years later.

It was the Corporation of Eccles that denied the Guild a locus standi to defend the business interests of its members. In the Bill the Corporation of Eccles tried to pass were clauses giving power to make bye-laws to fix the hours during which shows, &c, might remain open; and, further, that no one should erect any stall for the sale of goods, &c., within the borough without the written permission of the corporation, the corporation having power also to fix conditions to such permission as might seem good to them. This was a big order, and would have left the showman and fairground trader at the mercy of the local authority. The end of the struggle was that the case for the showman was so well put before the Private Bills Committee as to win a complete victory. The clauses were struck out and a new bulwark of defence erected, for it was clearly defined as a principle of Private Bill legislation that no law in restraint of trade in excess of the common law can be carried in a Private Bill.

In the same session of Parliament Mansfield Corporation sought powers to prescribe the hours during which—at any fair, or other time—shows or roundabouts, circuses, or menageries might remain open; powers greatly in excess of the general laws. Here again the showmen were subjected to heavy expenses in preparing their petition, and appearing by counsel and witnesses against the Bill. After hearing the witnesses and counsels' arguments the committee threw out the restrictive clauses, and a victory was gained for the organised showmen The next big Parliamentary battle was with the Halifax Corporation. Besides an attempt to obtain powers to impose exorbitant rents or tolls at the annual fairs, a new move was made to hamper and penalise the show business, the Corporation Bill provided that no private ground within the borough should be let to showmen for fair purposes or a stand for exhibitions. Here was a new danger of most serious moment. Free trade in fairs was to cease as far as Halifax was concerned. After two days' argument and the attendance of witnesses the novel clause giving the Corporation a monopoly of fair ground business was thrown out and the new scale of tolls brought down to reasonable limits.

We have only referred to the actual victories won in the Private Bills Committee-room of the House of Commons, and that tale is not half told. But there is the contemporary victories won by negotiations, Bills introduced—dozens of them—and by the Parliamentary agents' and solicitors' amicable conference and consultation with their promoters, the objectionable clauses were thrown out or dropped. Amongst corporations thus amenable to reason and fair play we may mention Swansea, Knaresborough, Rotherham, Leicester, Carlisle, Buxton, Selby, and Newport (Salop), the great point being that all the time this exacting and costly work has been going on, the whole body of corporation officials, Parliamentary agents, and the Parliamentary Bar have had the object lesson kept before them of a trade well organised and able to defend its just rights and privileges. We shall return to this again, for, great and encouraging as the work already chronicled has been, the half has not been told, the moral of the lesson being let every showman see to it that the treasury of the Van-Dwellers' and Showmen's Protection Association be well supplied, and the sinews of war procured for the Parliamentary Defence Fund of that organisation. Subscriptions may be sent direct to the hon. treasurer, Edward Ledger, Esq, at the office of *The Era;* or to the secretary, H. M. Horne, Burton-road, West Didsbury, Manchester.

Lord John Sanger and Sons' Circus visited Leicester on Monday. The performance proved most enjoyable, the audience being loud in their applause of the clever and amusing acts submitted for their delectation. The principal artistes were Annetto, the flying cyclist, whose sensational feat of descending an almost perpendicular chute and jumping through space for a distance of nearly sixty feet held the audience "spellbound." Another exceptionally smart and daring performance was that of Ethardo and Pugh on the flying trapeze The De Burston Troupe of cake walkers on the telegraph wire submitted a clever and graceful show. The haute école act of Miss Hoffman and the English jockey act of Herbert Horley proved these artists to be equestrians of ability; Girkoff's Russian ponies on the revolving table, introduced by Herr Hoffmann, were admired; and Maximus and Minimus, introduced by the same gentleman, elicited the admiration of the delighted audience. A great feature was the remarkable performance of the clever elephants of Mr G. M'Cole. Besides playing football they appear at a fire, take part in the fire brigade drill, and extinguish the flames. The Crotchet Troupe of musical instrumentalists are good, and the turns of Elton and Olrac on the horizontal bars, the perch performance of the Norways, and the juggling of Toga all elicit admiration. As clown Ping-Pong kept the audience in continual laughter by his antics. A comic entry by Sammy also created merriment. Mr James was well up to his work as ringmaster, and the smart manner in which the performance was carried through reflected much credit on him. The circus stayed at Leicester two days.

St. Matthew's Fair, at Bridgwater, was favoured with splendid weather, which caused the largest attendance that has been seen for many years Between three and four thousand came by G W. Railway. The shows were as numerous as ever, Anderton and Rolands taking first place with animated pictures and a variety show, the front looking very bright and pretty with the electric light. Chipperfield's came next with a very smart programme. There was the usual boxing show, and many other smaller shows, not omitting Marshal Hill's ostrich roundabout and switchback, also Colin's roundabouts. Business all round was brisk on the two first days, but on the third day rain somewhat "damped" the business, but on the whole the show world could not complain.

Everyone interested in the employment of children on the stage should send three stamps to the publishing offices of *The Era* for a copy of the Act which came into force on Oct. 1.

Lorenzo Crick, dog and monkey trainer, who was killed by collision with a tramcar at Atherton on Wednesday, Sept. 28, was buried at Bedford Leigh, Lancs, on Monday, Oct. 3. The following acted as bearers:—Mr J. Moulding, Mr A. Swatmon, Mr T. Omerod, and Mr R. Morris. The following sent floral tributes, and most of them also attended the funeral:—Mrs Crick and family, Mr Crick and family, Mr and Mrs H. Refein, Mr Clark, sen., Mr and Mrs W. Wright, sen., Mr and Mrs W. Wright, jun., Mr and Mrs G. Hague, Mr and Mrs Hancock and family, Mr and Mrs Dyer and family, Mr and Mrs Whatmore and family, Mr and Mrs Grant, Mrs Jewell and family, Mr Clark's employees, Mr and Mrs E. Brenner, Mr J. Jewell, Mr and Mrs Taylor, Mr and Mrs Langton, Mr and Mrs Deeks, Mr and Mrs Horton, Mr and Mrs Whiting, Mr and Mrs Jameson, Mr and Mrs Dearden, Mr and Mrs Forshaw, Mr and Mrs Butterworth, jun., Mr and Mrs Mitchell, and Mr and Mrs Holmes.

The City of Peterborough has an ancient pleasure fair held on the first Wednesday and Thursday in October. It is locally known as the "Bridge Fair," being held in the field on the south side of the river. It is the most popular of the fairs held in the district, and always draws large crowds from the neighbourhood, and, indeed, excursions are run to it from all parts of the country. The fair was well set out under the supervision of Mr J. W. Walshaw, City Surveyor. Biddall's celebrated wild beast show had the premier position. Biddall's No. 2 concern, the Cinématograph, and Thurston's exhibition of animated photography exhibited national and local films with Russo-Japanese war pictures. Enoch Farrar's Royal Academy of fine arts and Powell's fine art gallery completed the list of shows. Messrs Barker and Thurston, the well-known fair caterers, exhibited three machine sets—the Venetian gondolas, the galloping horses, and the switchback There were also overboats and highfliers by Messrs Parr and Harris. These, with four small sets of horses, ten shooting galleries and bottle batteries, and a round dozen of variety frames and coker sheets made up the total of entertainers' concerns at Peterborough October Fair.

Woodstock, nigh unto Oxford City, and famous in history as the place of Fair Rosamund's Bower, held its October Hiring Fair on the 3rd of the month. Taylor's grand theatre of animated pictures and varieties, Proctor's Cinématograph show, and Chipperfield's novelty booth were the principal concerns at this fair. Mr Wilson exhibited a switchback set, a set of galloping horses, highfliers, and rifle saloon, Mr Buckland a steam horse-set and coker sheets, and Messrs Hatwell and Smith, with other local caterers, provided the usual amusements of the fair ground.

Abingdon has one of the best hiring fairs in Berkshire—dating from ancient times—and always held on the Monday before Oct. 11. Quite the best shows and concerns on this round of hiring fairs make a point of attending Abingdon. W. Taylor's superb show, the Cinématograph and variety theatre, Alf Ball's animated pictures, C. Bailey's fine art show, and J. Carroll's school of boxers were the principal exhibitions this year. Mrs Chas. Bailey's switchback, gondola set, and giant wheel, C. Hill's galloping horses, Mrs Bird's steam gallopers, Mrs Matthews' park swings, and Forest's overboats completed the machine list. Shooting galleries and bottle batteries by Messrs E. Ball, Chas. Bailey, and Mrs Matthews, Mrs Wilson's big wheel and dolly frames, juvenile roundabouts, coker shies, and other varieties by Messrs Barnard, Spurritt, Bird, Bond, Wilson, Rowe, Taylor, Forest, Brown, Roberts, and Ball. The fair was admirably set by the clerk to the market, Mr T. Faulkner, jun.

Michaelmas Fair at Tiverton was proclaimed with accustomed quaint ceremonial on Oct. 6. The Mayor and Corporation, with the attendant mace-bearers, marched in state from the Town Hall to a well in the centre of the town, and the ancient charter fair rights were read and the fair duly proclaimed.

At Gloucester Fair Mr Jacob Studt had a serious fire by the accidental overturning of a paraffin lamp. The entire Cinématograph apparatus and films, the tent, the outside paintings, and costly inside fittings, plush curtains, &c., were destroyed. We understand the loss, which is not covered by insurance, means £300.

In addition to the concerns mentioned in our brief notice of the Boston Fair at Gloucester last week were the following:—Wm. Symonds', the local caterer, splendid set of gondolas and his No 2 set the four-abreast galloping horses.

Our local correspondent sends us the following interesting note about Alcester Fair or Mop:—Supplementary to our report of last week, one stall only, belonging to Mr C. Herbert, of Headless Cross, stood in the street on Mop day. Years ago the High-street was lined both sides with stalls; now only Mr Herbert keeps to the old custom. He has stood in the street on Mop day for over fifty years. At one time tradesmen and others benefited largely through the Mop being held in the streets. Now it is held on the Stratford road, and is the means of drawing everybody out of the town rather than into it. Shows, roundabouts, &c., can still stand in the streets on Mop day if they choose to do so. The tradespeople would be pleased to see them there. Showmen and roundabout proprietors should take note of this, and next year keep Alcester Mop in the same old style as they did years ago—take their stands in the streets, and let the tradesmen have a good day for once in the year.

At Evesham Mop, held on Merstow-green and in Vine-street, were the following attractions:—Wadbrook's Royal Electrograph, the rage of Evesham; Clarke's grand switchback railway, Strickland's steam galloping horses, Wright's fine art exhibition, A. Dobson's fine art exhibition, Taylor's freak show, Butlin's midget pony roundabout, Kemp's bazaars; Clarke's, Wilson's, Wright's, and Strickland's shooting saloons and bottle shooters; swing boats by Messrs Clarke and Strickland, cokernut sheets by Messrs Dobson, Butler, and Wright; and Lewis's toy stalls. Other attractions were provided by Messrs Eccleston, Cooper, Lewis, Cartwright, Churchley, Harding, Kimberley, Coles, Jenks, and Smith.

At Astwood Bank we have Eagle's photographic studio for a short season.

By kind permission of his Worship the Mayor, Wadbrook's Royal Electrograph remained on Merstow-green on Monday, Oct. 10. Mr Wadbrook kindly arranged to give the whole of the receipts on that day to the Evesham Cottage Hospital. This show is all the rage in Evesham. Crowded houses are the rule at every performance during the present visit.

The important fairs next week are:—Christchurch, Luton, and Southam, on the 17th; Harwich, Leominster, Maidstone, and Salisbury, on the 19th; Devizes and Sleaford, on the 20th; Chichester, Chorley, Lichfield, Oundle, Princes Risborough, Stratford-on-Avon (second fair) on the 21st; Bridlington, Clitheroe, Dalton-in-Furness, and Winchester, on the 22d.

A beautiful seal was caught off the Marsden Rocks this week, and has been purchased by Mr C. Collens, of South Shields, who has placed it in the hands of Mr P. Dempster for a course of training.

Stratford-on-Avon Mop and Hiring Fair still keeps up many of the old-time customs. It is a great gathering ground for pleasure-seekers. The aggregate of shows, &c., this year more than maintained the high-class standard of this fixture.

Wadbrook's fine exhibition, the Electrograph, now on this round, was the delight of admiring crowds of visitors, Holloway's ghost illusion was a splendid second, closely followed by Braham's performing bird show, and the fine art concerns of Messrs Wright and Dobson, Sol Reeder, with two ground booths, the crocodile show, and the midget mare and foal, Ridley's freak show, and the fistiana and old English boxing booths of Tolley and W. Lines, roundabouts, swings, &c, were a goodly array, and included Clarke's switchback railway, Davies's galloping horses and cockerels, Strickland's gallopers, Dingley's pony circus, and Butlin's midget mountain ponies. Messrs Clarke, Strickland, Davies, and Dingley provided ranges of park swings, highfliers, &c. Messrs Joe Caddick, Fossett, and Brooks were present with their portable photographic studios; shooting ranges and bottle batteries by Messrs Wilson, Clarke, Wright, Turner, and E. Clarke.

Taylor's grand "fairings" bazaar and toy stalls by Messrs Kemp, Lewis, and Corrall were also present; with stalls, pipe-smashers, cokers, mollies, &c., by Messrs Cartwright, Phipps, Winsper, Wainwright, Bennett, Bradley, Cooper, Coley, Andrews, Smith, Young, Hodgkiss, Butler, Bertoli, and Harris.

The October Hiring Fair at Wallingford was well maintained this last week. Crowds of people and the largest collection of shows, roundabouts, &c., for many years.

Faringdon Fair was held in glorious October weather and was crowded with show-loving visitors. There were few stalls in the streets of Faringdon, but on the fair field in Wellington Meadows high carnival was held under the capable management of Mr Alfred Ball, who exhibited his well-known Cinématograph theatre, electric railway, and other novelties. There were numerous other fair-ground varieties by attendant entertainers. The great free sight attraction was Blondin II. on the high rope in a highly clever and thrilling performance.

Mr Robert W. Paul, of 68, High Holborn, the patentee and manufacturer of the New Century Animatograph, has just taken several charming series of views in the West Country, and the scenery of Cornwall and Devonshire has been laid under contribution for some most attractive films which are entitled "Paddington to Penzance," and which are now placed on the market at the most reasonable price of 6d. per foot nett.

Mr Paul is also exploiting the Nernst-Paul High-Power Electric Projector Lamp, which is the outcome of a long series of experiments made with the object of producing a practical high-power illuminant for the lantern, working on the lines of the well-known Nernst lamp. It takes a current of about three ampères, and in the same lamp a burner may be used suited either for direct or alternating current, or for pressures of 100, 200, or 250 volts, a different burner being required for each of the systems of supply. The burner is detachable from the lamp, being provided with sockets at its back, which fit on to pins on the front of the lamp, and make the connections to the filaments. The filaments are supported by small brackets on the front of the burner, and may be separately detached from the brackets for ease of renewal, each being provided with two small connecting plugs for the purpose. Some caution is necessary in handling these filaments, for which reason the lamp is formed with a projecting hood which protects them when in place in the lamp.

MUSICAL DEGREES.

Sir F. Bridge on Wednesday afternoon, at the Guildhall School of Music, chose as the subject of a lecture the Value of Degrees in Music. He mentioned that a fortnight ago he was examining for Degrees in Music at Durham. There were on that occasion twenty-seven candidates who came up for final examination, and of these twenty were passed—the largest number which had ever got through at one time in music in any of our English Universities. On the same occasion no fewer than seventy-four persons who had passed the Arts test presented themselves for first examination in music, and the majority of them got through. That was far more than the number of Music Bachelors there were in the United Kingdom when he took his Degree, now nearly forty years ago. That was an illustration of the estimation in which Degrees in Music were held in the present day. At the Royal College of Organists an Arts test had been insisted upon recently, and the time was not far distant when such a requisition would become imperative in connection with the issuing of certificates by which persons would hope to get their livelihood. Sir John Stainer described such Degrees as intellectual property. Let them consider what a benefit these examinations were to the candidates from the mere fact that they were compelled to work at many various subjects. Even if they never passed the examination, they widened their knowledge. The public appreciated these Degrees, and were prepared to pay a little more for the services of those who possessed them. He urged his hearers to be content, to work steadily and get a distinction for themselves, and not to trouble over the fact that some of our most illustrious composers had not been through a University course. With the general waking up of University work, musical examinations had also moved, and candidates had been multiplied a hundredfold. Let them pay no attention to the idle talk about academical study cramping the mind and doing harm to the imaginative powers. That was all arrant nonsense. Of late years, in the active musical world, a good many prizes had been offered for new musical compositions, and by far the largest proportion of these prizes had been won by holders of University Degrees. There were upwards of 20 000 professional musicians in the country, and only about one in thirty was a graduate in music. To obtain a Degree meant properly directed work, regular, steady work, extending over a considerable period. There was no doubt whatever that the general public thought a great deal of the possession of a Degree, and that meant that the general public, who would be the employers of the musician, were inclined to employ a person and give better pay because of the Degree.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Sir F. Bridge for his lecture.

Mr Morton Powell's company in *Bigamy*, under the direction of Mr Fred Moule, is being cordially received at the Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy, this week. As Sylvia Dresden Miss Elsie Capell is very good. Her acting is natural and sympathetic. Miss Alwynne Ermon as Diana De Coucelle is excellent. Mr Charles Burdon gives a capital portrayal of Frank Merrivale.

At the Grand, Hanley, the premier position is held this week by Miss Nellie Purcell, whose singing is much appreciated; she has a nice voice, a good appearance, and meets with much success. The Jackson Family return in their musical turn, which is always delightful. The Bros. O'Brien as triple-bar performers are without rivals, their feats being most clever and daring; Lady Mansel, with her six juveniles, contributes an interesting turn; Gertrella is a smart gymnast, and is much appreciated; David Poole is a ventriloquist of a capital order; Atroy juggles admirably, and his performances proves most interesting; Fritz, the illusionist, is well received, and contributes a capital turn; Viola is a clever instrumentalist; and G. W. Foster does well.

NOTTINGHAM GOOSE FAIR.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The origin of Nottingham Goose Fair has been an interesting matter of dispute amongst antiquarians. It is one of those survivals of the past that grow stronger with age, and seems to possess the power of perpetual youth. Nottingham alone is a standing rebuke to those people who would have us believe that the pleasure fair as a national institution is either dying or dead. So far is this from the real truth, that only the obstinately and perversely blind and deaf and dumb—who refuse to use eyes or ears, and answer not the voice of sound sense and reason—only these persons attempt to overcome fact by persistent assertion; the proved truth being that we have more fairs, more capital sunk in the business, more people engaged in it, and more industries linked with it or concerned in it than ever before.

Within the memory of the writer of this article the Empire did not contain enough shows and fair-ground novelties to furnish ten first-class fairs at the same time. It is no exaggeration to say that at the present moment fifty fairs could be fully equipped and fully maintained without any difficulty. If you take any great national holiday—Easter, Whitsun, or the all-popular Bank Holiday in August—you will readily verify what we say. Go where you will, there is the show, the roundabout, and the attendant satellites of the fair, giving to the eager multitude the open-air amusements they need. East, west, north, and south; in busy town or sylvan village; by the seashore or on our national playing grounds, the breezy heath, or common land, "where the people most do congregate," there you will find the travelling showman ready to entertain the people. To talk of the decay of the fairs, in the face of these speaking facts, is to deny the truth of our social history, and all that experience teaches The official figures given for this year's Goose Fair are 320 standings for exhibitions, machines, fair-ground varieties, and stalls—a number in excess of last year—and £1,500 paid in tolls to the Corporation Funds for the three days' fair. Another significant fact for the people eager to chant the requiem of popular fairs is that in spite of shortage in trade all over the country, 2,000 more excursionists than last year's big total came into Nottingham to keep Goose Fair.

All the great Trunk lines ran specials for the fair days. The Midland brought people from Leeds, Bradford, and the Yorkshire towns served by their system—Manchester, Liverpool, and the Lancashire area, the Derbyshire towns, and from Birmingham, Walsall, and Wolverhampton, Peterborough, King's Lynn, Stamford, Bristol, Cheltenham, and Gloucester, St. Albans, Luton, and Kettering, Bedford, Wellingborough, and Northampton, Lincoln, Newark, Leicester, Loughborough, Chesterfield, and Sheffield. The Great Central Railway had an excellent service of specials on their line, including the direct London to Nottingham, from Liverpool, Manchester, and big towns on their routes, with Cleethorpes, Hull, and the Eastern coast towns. From Sheffield and other Yorkshire towns the G.C. had to considerably strengthen their ordinary trains, and also ran a few trains in duplicate. The Great Northern Railway Company also brought crowds of sightseers from their territory Special and strengthened ordinary trains from Hertford, Hitchin, Peterborough, and Grantham; Luton, Hertford, Grantham, and Bottesford; Louth and Horncastle; Boston, Billingborough, and Sleaford; Lynn, Holbeach, and Spalding; Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Walsall; Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Batley, and Wakefield; St. Ives and March; Yarmouth, Ipswich, and Lynn.

The whole city is given over to the fair for the three fair days. As your train steams into the station you feel as you alight that the throng of the fair has absorbed you. You are no longer an individual; no longer an independent identity. You know that the multitude, of which you form a necessary unit, has gripped you. The mighty vox populi absorbs your vocal powers, and you move out of the station a willing captive to the thrall of the fair. With the crowd you move to the heart of the town. As you pass along the crowded streets, all gaily agleam with flags and banners and attractions galore, the local traders (turned showmen for the nonce) are eagerly crying their wares, toys and fairings at every shop door; gingerbread and toy are stalls at every street corner; you have not to seek the fair. The fair has caught you, and you press along the stall-flanked streets on to the great market square. Here it is that the crowd grips you and sweeps you along. Your pulse beats to the music and joy of it; you are now in the full swing and abandon of it—the greatest and the best fair in the world, the centre a vast and dazzling kaleidoscope of colour and light and motion. Here are huge concerns of every kind designed by the art of man for the delight of his fellows; each one a marvel in its own peculiar feature of attractiveness.

Then the shows—the menagerie, the cinématograph theatres, the mystery of magic, ancient and modern! After all, it is to see the shows that people crowd our fairs. The showman, with his treasure of novelties, is still supreme as the popular caterer of open-air amusement.

Wombwell's menagerie, the premier show of the world, with its unbroken record of over a century continuous popularity, is occupying its old ground. Mr E. H. Bostock, the proprietor, in the magnificent collection of birds, beasts, and reptiles fully maintains the Wombwell traditions. The menagerie is quite different to that which visited Nottingham last year, but has lost nothing in point of power to amuse and interest. Of lions and lionesses no fewer than twenty-two are to be seen, in addition to tigers, leopards, pumas, panthers, and representatives from almost every clime. The curious blue and red faced mandril, a member of the monkey tribe from the Congo, was minutely inspected. The proprietors of the menagerie recently refused £200 for this valuable specimen. It has a long, flat nose of bright scarlet, the cheeks hang in "bags" of sky blue, and the curious appearance of the animal is enhanced by a close-grown yellow beard. Then there are examples of the brindled gnu (the African horned horse), a baby camel, and the rare Albino deer. Altogether the collection fills sixteen caravans, and there is much that is rare both of beast and bird. At intervals during the day daring performances were given by trainers of lions and leopards.

The portable hippodrome (proprietress, Mrs F. Collins), with a varied range of animated pictures, was, as usual, a great centre of attraction. G. H. Kemp's superb show, the Anglo-American entertainers, with up-to-date films on events of the day, more than maintained its well-won reputation. Mr John Proctor's Cinématograph exhibition, Mr Arthur Twigdon's Electrograph, and Captain Tom Payne's Bioscope—each show excellent and original—were fully appreciated by the people at the fair. Dr. Edward Lawrence's "Humanities" (title registered) must have been a boon and a blessing to the seekers after novelty. We congratulate the clever doctor on the return to a line of business in which he is now the best living exponent on the road.

Professor Harry Hughes with military tournament, athletes, and boxers—a good old English show—next arrested our attention. We were sorry to miss Professor B. T. Burnett's celebrated military entertainers. Owing to some misunderstanding about the site for the show Mr Burnett was crowded out this year. Sahib Leo with his unique entertainment, the Egyptian Hall mysteries, catered for the lovers of the weird and magical with his usual ability and success. Madame Salon's exhibition, "The Tattooed Lady," headed the list of smaller concerns, closely followed by the excellent exhibits of Mr Tom Matson with the giant bullock, Mr J. W. Mackay with the novel "Bill Bailey" show, Mr John Cooper with Parisian novelties, Mr Sam Smart's abnormals, Mr Jim Smart's living novelties, and Mr Charles Relph's Wee M'Gregor, the smallest horse alive. Thus it will be seen that in point of interest as well as numbers this year's shows at the fair establish a record.

Now we endeavour to chronicle the names of the ceaseless, whirling mass in the centre of the fair ground. We notice here that this year more room has been found for the people to circulate around the fair than obtained last year. Four magnificent sets were exhibited by Messrs P. Collins, Limited—1, The rolling gondolas (manager, Mr W. Mallett); 2. The racing cockerels (manager, Mr Summerheys); 3. the prize roosters (manager, Mr Wm. Whyatt); and 4, the four-abreast galloping horses (manager, Mr Crawford). Mr John Collins exhibited two machines—the ships in the air and the steeplechasers. John Whiting's superb set—the Venetian gondolas, Mr Arthur Twigdon's two machines, the circular switchback, and the Venetian gondolas, Mr George Green's novel machine, "The Coronation Pickets," George Twigdon's three-abreast gallopers, and Mr Fred Hodder's "Japanese junks," made a veritable galaxy of life and colour, and light and motion, with all manner of music. The excellent photo. studios of Messrs Joe Caddick, Chas. Warwick, and A. C. Tyler were as busy as usual. The refreshment booth, well served by those kindly Nottingham ladies, Mesdames Hodgkinson, Hind, and Lilley, was a great boon to the show people and visitors. This is an institution of Nottingham Fair, and well deserves imitation on other fair grounds.

Down the long avenues and street bazaar of stalls, toy stalls, pannum stalls, variety stalls, stretching along Cheapside, Long-row, Chapel-bar, Angel-row, South Parade, and Exchange-row were hundreds of vendors of penny novelties. Many minor attractions found standing-room on the Corporation land at Sneinton, and on vacant sites in the neighbourhood of the Market Square. Amongst these caterers we noticed the new football game of Mr John Eady; "The Tommy Waller" novelty throwing game by Mr T. Hancock; shooting galleries, gingerbread stalls, and countless novelties and varieties by Mesdames John Whiting, Harrington, Whyatt, Jennings, and James; Messrs Street-Monks, Roper, Mitchell, Robinson, Lyons, Knight, W. Jennings, J. Jennings, H. Carr, C. Waghorn, S. Mercer, George Cordwell, A. Warwick, T. Jennings, J. Cordwell, jun., and Dumont Brothers.

Nottingham Fair is the Mecca of all good showfolk. Each year, either on business or pleasure bent, the show-world, and his equally eager wife, makes pilgrimage to see and to be seen. Amongst the crowd of notable show-people were found Mr and Mrs E. H. Bostock, late of the Zoo, Glasgow; Messrs Read, of the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington; Mr William and Miss Hancock, of the Winter Gardens, Plymouth; Mr John Studt, Cardiff; Mr Jacob Studt, Southampton; Mr and Mrs Chamberlain, Leicester; Councillor G. T. Fuby, Doncaster; Messrs H. J. Wallis and James Wallis, of Seaforth; Mr James Berry, Liverpool; Mr E. Holland, Manchester; Mr Geo. Campbell, Inverness; Mr T. Hurst, Manchester; Mr Alf. Ball, London; Mr Alf. Reeves, London; Mr R. Dooner, Plymouth; Mr F. T. Salva, and Mr Sid Jeffries. Amongst the firms doing business with the world of shows the following had representatives at the fair:—All the railway companies, amongst whose representatives were found Mr Tom Smith, of the Great Central, and Mr Davison, of the L. and N.-W.; Mr Fred Bibby, of John Bibby and Co., Manchester; Mr Mellor, of Mellor, and Sons, Oldham; Mr Bert Bernard, of L. Gaumont and Co.; Mr J. Wentworth, of Marenghi and Co.; Mr Thos. Orton, of Orton and Sons; Mr Dickerson, of Leeds; Mr Brimmell, of Stroud; Mr C. J. Spooner, of Burton; Mr Wright, of Wright and Holmes, Manchester. Various corporations sent their official representatives to the Goose Fair, amongst whom we noticed Councillor Greenwood, chairman of the Markets and Fairs Committee, Bolton, and Mr Robert Pike, market superintendent, and Mr Gordon J. Holroyd, market superintendent, Sheffield. Mr Radford, the market superintendent of Nottingham, has set out the fair for the past forty years. The veteran superintendent is now at the age of eighty-three hale and hearty, and takes as big a delight as ever in the order and well being of the world-famous fair. He traverses all the nonsense talked about the decay of British fairs, and contends that the fairs of to-day are better served and better appreciated than the fairs of the past. He speaks from an experience unique in the history of corporation provided fairs, and no small credit is due to Mr Radford for the high character of Nottingham's open air carnival—the annual goose fair.

For several years past the Church of England Temperance Society, with praiseworthy enterprise, has had a tent in the Market-place for the sale of non-alcoholic refreshments. This year, under the superintendence of the Rev. F. P. Downman, the society is carrying on its operations during the three days of the fair in the now disused tramway offices on Long-row, where a committee of ladies, headed by Mrs Ferris, the wife of the Rev. Canon Ferris, of St. Matthews, will dispense non-intoxicating refreshments.

Just fifty years ago Nottingham Fair is thus chronicled:—"The advent of the fair was apparent on Friday towards dusk, when several shows had taken up their position in the market place, and when skeleton and completed stalls began to arise out of vast accumulations of planks and canvas. Shopkeepers, too, were seized with commendable enthusiasm, cleaning out their windows, and decking them anew with the freshest and best of everything. . . . Little boys and girls made incursions among their kind uncles and aunts, and other cherished friends; like juvenile Rob Roys, levying 'blackmail' from all and sundry. Promising little philosophers broke their earthenware savings' banks, or rose in rebellion against mamma if she hesitated to deliver up the purse in which the accumulations of weeks had been so carefully hoarded. The appearance of a few shows raised the popular excitement to a higher pitch; forthwith, every juvenile rallied round the paternal hearth, and if necessary proclaimed open rebellion unless the sinews of war were delivered into his hands so that he might go and do as every spirited juvenile has done from time immemorial—make a fair of it. On Saturday morning, the cattle market turned the town into a huge Smithfield, and the women folk either kept indoors or were vastly frightened if they ventured out. . . . Holloway vended the 'legitimate drama' in his huge Sanspareil establishment. He was opposed by Raynor, by Ryan, and by a still more curious and anonymous squad who had taken up their quarters at the foot of Park-row. Wombwell's son-in-law, Mr Edmonds, was there with his highly respectable exhibition of living wonders, and his no less respectable band, which, with the music of the Imperial Mechanical Exhibition close by, presented a most agreeable contrast to the harsh and inharmonious clang of contending instruments. Winrow's ingenious views, a small portrait painting gallery, a camera obscura, the Imperial Mechanical Exhibition aforesaid, and Clapton's views of the Great Exhibition were probably the most rational sources of amusement in the Market-place. Then there was a Royal Caledonian Waxwork, all the way from St. Andrew's, with a Scottish triumvirate of barbarous bagpipers, blowing might and main to bring the 'siller' to their 'ain door;' the bazaars, fitted with all manner of hard and soft goods—from tripe and oysters to fiddles and flageolets; the stalls, extending from the top of Chapel Bar, a mountainous region of toffee and gingerbread, nuts and brandy-snaps; the customary array of shooting galleries; an innumerable variety of scientific machines at which you might test your height, weight, and strength; with other attractive features too

numerous to mention, made the Market-place, even in that rainy weather, a sight not to be sneezed at by the lovers of those 'good old times,' when Goose Fair was Goose Fair indeed."

The first historical note of Nottingham Fair is given in the "Borough Records," wherein a charter of borough rights and privileges, granted by King Edward I., amongst other matters, sets forth in order authority to hold the Fair:—

Wherefore we will and firmly enjoin, for ourselves and our heirs, that the aforesaid Burgesses and men, and their successors, besides their fair lasting for eight days at the Feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, shall have for ever one other fair in the same town every year to endure for fifteen days; to wit, on the eve, the day, and the morrow of the Feast of St. Edmund the King and Martyr, and for the twelve days following.

The local title, "Goose Fair," originated in the large market at Michaelmastide for geese to be fatted for Christmas sale. This goose market was a necessary preliminary to the Pleasure Fair.

In 1704, Marshal Tallard, the French commander at Blenheim, was brought to Nottingham as a prisoner of war, and here resided for several years. It is traditionally told of him that, shortly after his arrival among us, he wrote to the King of France suggesting the further continuance of hostilities, as England was nearly drained of men. Shortly after came along Goose Fair, which after visiting, he immediately wrote his monarch again, counselling him to give up the war forthwith, as he had seen "as many men congregated in one English market place as could conquer the whole of France!"

Wylie, in his "Old and New Nottingham (1853)" tells us:—"Goose Fair formerly continued for 'twenty-one days!'" This, however, would seem to have been an unwonted and not officially recognised extension of hours on the original "fifteen days."

Henry Field, in his amplified edition of Sutton's "Nottingham Date Book," thus records the 1876 curtailment of this, then, "nine days wonder":—"October 3 (Tuesday)—Previous to this year, Nottingham Goose Fair had always commenced on October 2, and was proclaimed for nine days; but the Town Council, having decided that five days should be its extent, namely, from the first Tuesday in October until the first Saturday, it commenced at this date.'

And four years later, in 1880, came the further compression of the glories of a five days' Goose Fair into but three, as at present; probably the limit unto which the condensation process should in truest wisdom be carried, for this our autumn carnival undoubtedly acts as a safety-valve through which the superexuberancy of a large section of the community may lightsomely escape instead of finding vent in other and far more reprehensible forms of madcap prankishness.

DINNER TO MR. CHARLES HYLAND

The Dublin journalists entertained Mr Charles Hyland on Saturday evening last at dinner in the local Dolphin Hotel, in commemoration of his twenty-five years' connection with the Gaiety Theatre. The gathering was a most representative one, and the function proved thoroughly enjoyable. Mr J. G. M'SWEENEY presided, and Mr ALFRED P. DELANY occupied the vice-chair.

After dinner, which was excellently served, Mr Delany read letters of apology from Messrs James Carlyle, W. A. Locker, T. A. Stodart, A. Dunlop, J. M. Lowry, W. A. Craig, M.R.I.A.; J. B. Hall, Hugh Curran, and C. W. P. Smith.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the health of Mr Hyland, said that that gentleman had earned the universal appreciation of the theatre-going public, and he had helped in no small way to establish the popularity of the theatre which he so ably managed. It was his capacity to do everything that was right that had caused him to be so highly esteemed, and it was because of this and his many other good qualities that they assembled that night to celebrate his silver jubilee and wish him long life and happiness. The toast was cordially drunk.

Mr. HYLAND, in reply, said: It is indeed a high honour you have conferred on me to-night, and the difficulty I find myself in is for words to convey my feelings. I know, gentlemen, you will take the will for the deed. Looking round to-night I see the representatives of every newspaper of every creed and politics, and have to ask myself what have I done to be thus honoured by a profession second to none. I think, gentlemen, I must answer that it is to your good nature more than to any ability of mine. Many round this table here to-night I have known personally for a great number of years, so many that, perhaps, for all our sakes we will let it pass; others not quite so long, but still long enough to know their sterling worth and value their friendship. True, we do not always agree, especially when I open my paper on Tuesday morning and read the criticisms of the previous night's play; but, gentlemen, I yield to no one for my admiration of the independence of the Press and the honest opinion of its members. I wish I could now find words suitable to express my thanks for the honour conferred on me this evening, but believe me, gentlemen, I shall always regard this as a red-letter day in my life.

The other toasts were "Music and the Drama," proposed by Mr John M'Grath and responded to by Dr. Murphy; "Literature and Art," proposed by Mr M. A. Manning and responded to by Mr J. S. Macartney; "The Bar," proposed by the chairman and responded to by Mr R. J. Kelly and Mr W. M'Grath; "The Medical Profession," proposed by the chairman and responded to by Dr. Cope, Dr. Murphy, and Dr. M'Aulay; and "The Chairman," proposed by Mr Delany. In the course of the eveneng songs and instrumental items were contributed by members of the company.

AMUSEMENTS IN CALIFORNIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

SAN FRANCISCO, SEPT. 23.—Theatrical business in this city is in a prosperous condition. At the Columbia Theatre *The Wizard of Oz* is being performed, and will be followed by Frank Daniels and company, in *The Office Boy*. Kyrle Bellew and company fulfilled an engagement here two weeks ago, opening his season of 1904-5 in this city. Mr Bellew is now in Los Angeles, and is making a tour of the State prior to returning to the Eastern States.

AT the Orpheum Music Hall Trovollo, the ventriloquist, is the feature, and has made a hit.

AT the California Theatre Florence Roberts, in *Tess of D'Urbervilles*, concludes a highly successful four weeks' season to-morrow night.

AT the Alcazar White Whittlesey is reviving *Soldiers of Fortune*.

AT Fischer's Theatre Dorothy Morton is the leading prima donna, and the play is *Miss Mazuma*.

THE Central Theatre is doing well with melodrama.

THE Grand Opera House opens it regular season next Monday night with *York State Folks* for two weeks.

AT the Tivoli Opera House *The Serenade* is being staged, after a seven weeks' run of *The Toreador*.

AT the Majestic (the new house) a capital stock company is performing *The Altar of Friendship*, to be followed by *Captain Barrington*

MADAME FANNIE FRANCESCA (Michelson), a California girl, made her début in San Francisco, her native city, on Wednesday night, in concert, and achieved quite a success. She gives one more concert to-morrow, prior to starting on a coast tour.

BEN GREET and his London company open at Lyric Hall on Oct. 3, for two weeks, in *Everyman* and after that in Elizabethan productions of *Twelfth Night* and other Shakespearian plays.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

AMUSEMENTS IN GLASGOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphreys.—*Madame Sherry* has been presented here this week by Mr George Dance's company. Miss Georgina Delmar makes a handsome and dashing Spanish senorita as Catarina. Mr J. Robert Hale plays young M'Sherry with the necessary lightness of touch, and his performance throughout is full of quiet humour. Well contrasted is the eccentric fun of Mr Fred Walton as Joseph and the clever low comedy of Miss Nellie Dade as the gawky servant Maud. Miss Lily Elsie is a charming Barbara, a sweet singer, and a dancer of neatness and grace. Mr F. W. Ford plays Colonel M'Sherry on conventional lines, with some clever and original touches. Miss Mabel Sealby as Mistigrette and Miss Ada Binning as Suzanne are both of much value to the cast; Mr Arthur Stroud as the masquerading Leonard is also good; and Mr Ivan Berlyn is a volatile French policeman.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—Mr James Welch and company are paying a second visit here with *The New Clown*, the tour being under the direction of Mr Silvanus Dauncey. Mr Welch takes his original part of Lord Garston, and keeps the house in constant merriment; he again receives admirable support from Mr G. H. Snazelle, whose Circus Proprietor is also a performance of outstanding merit; Miss Audrey Ford repeats her lively impersonation of Rosie Platt; while in the parts of the Misses Chesterton Miss Estelle Winwood and Miss Alexandra Carlisle make attractive society ladies. As Captain Trent Mr Cyril Harcourt acts with considerable dash, and good character work is seen in the Baker of Mr Harry J. Crane and the Pennyquick of Mr Leopold Profeit. Mr Henry Belding is well suited as the Strong Man, the remaining parts being well filled by Messrs Lloyd Earle, C. Entwistle, and Master Ernest Winter. On Monday and Friday the farce was preceded by *The Man in the Street*, in which Mr Welch gave his inimitable sketch of Jabez Gover; while on the other evenings *Angelina's Lover* was played as a curtain-raiser.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is here this week with *Saturday to Monday*. The part of the young widow, Mrs Wendover, is played with grace and vivacity by Miss Moyra Creegan, and that of her admirer, Lord Culvert, is ably undertaken by Mr Stuart Champion. Probyn Dyke is depicted with exquisite comicality by Mr Thomas A. Braidon. Lady Diana Porchester has an able exponent in Miss Madeline L'Estrange, while her daughter Angela is charmingly portrayed by Miss Nancy Beresford. Miss Josephine Ray as an austere old maid and Miss Ida Laurie as a demure young one are both delightful. Mr Thomas Sidney as a preachy clergyman and Mr Dallas Welford as a monocled dude are excellent delineations. Good audiences receive the comedy with intense enjoyment. A curtain-raiser called *Judged by Appearances* precedes, in which Miss Nancy Beresford and Mr Dallas Welford sustain the principal parts.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—The Grand and Princess's have exchanged companies this week, and that clever young Irish comedian, Mr Chalmers Mackey, is now appearing with his company at the south-side theatre in *The Wearin' o' the Green*.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Mascard.—Mr Milton Bode's company in the powerful drama, *Woman and Wine*, has moved over here from the Princess's, and is drawing crowded audiences to this popular house.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—*In a Woman's Grip* is here this week. The company Mr Douglas Bruce has brought together is in all respects an excellent one. Frank Haydon has a gallant and heroic impersonator in Mr Herbert Pearson, and for a more unmitigated scoundrel than Maurice Stanton one would travel far. Mr Bernard Copping makes a hit in the part. Sir Edward Morton is dignified as the British Ambassador in the charge of Mr Edward Clarke. Mr F. Summers as Mr Fairley does the part full justice. Ralph Sharkley is a good specimen of an old sea dog, well acted by Mr James W. Manning, while Mr John H. Fiman is as Lambert, the lawyer, as great a scoundrel as his employer, Stanton. Major Edwards and Dr. Meadows (Messrs Robert Soane and John Chassell) are effective in the Prison scene, and the Mad Doctor of Mr R. Purdie is a fine bit of acting. Wardresses Chambers and Johnson are most acceptably played by Misses Violet Pearce and Midge Maynard, and Miss Dot Whitmore as Marie is a promising juvenile artist. Mr Frank Ayrton is a clever and versatile Joe Butters, and shares much of the plentiful applause with Mollie (Miss Daisy Maynard), both of whom have much to do. Mr Frank Litchfield as Dick Langley invests the part with much that is attractive. Great interest centres in the rôle of Lillian Fairley, an admirable portrayal of which is given by Miss Marguerite Trevosper. Miss Beatrice May is a tragic and emotional actress of undoubted ability, and charms in three varying and heavy parts as Mary Langley, Convict 43, and Princess Zaroff.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—The strong company of Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little is here this week with *On the Stroke of Twelve*. Mr Fred Rivers makes a manly hero, and is ably supported by Mr Fred Guinness as George Bainbridge. Mr H. Creagh Hunt makes a clever study of the villain, and the part of Marie Bergerre is made sufficiently vindictive by Miss Elma C. Turner. Mr Harry C. Robinson ably impersonates Henry Rutledge, and Mr Karl H. Edwards makes a very musical as well as a crafty Moses Levi. Mr F. J. Little derserves special mention as the Negro, Jasper, and, along with Mr Will Bass as Pat, causes roars of laughter. Miss Nellie Moore as Jess Bainbridge and Miss Bertha St. Ruth as Doris Rutledge are well suited, both taking prominent parts in the play.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green.—*The Red Signal* is ably interpreted by Mr Sidney Vereker's company this week. The hero, Darkwood, is ably presented by Mr Alfred Allen, and Miss Rosa Lehmann makes an acceptable May Sorrell. Mr Sidney Vereker amuses with his quaintly humorous impersonation of Sammy Gay. Sir Otto Darkwood, the unscrupulous villain, is cleverly portrayed by Mr Charles V. Sandford. Mr John Levey sustains well the part of Peter Sorrell, and Florence Culver is capitally sketched by Miss Norah Coronne. Miss Marion Edwardes sings several songs during the intervals. Miss Edwardes possesses a clear soprano voice of considerable range. Mr Cowell Clarke as Richard Culver submits a characteristic study, while Mrs Tomlin makes the most of Crazy Sal. In the rôles of Joe Knapton and Tom Davies Mr Hugh Mortimer is most successful. Miss Bertha Hall gives a lively portrayal of Jenny Jones.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited.—Charles Prinz, with his seventeen lions, gives a wonderful display, and the fire dance in the den of lions is a daring feat by Miss Marcella. The Lukushima Troupe of Japanese equilibrists contribute a neat and clever show, their Risley business being specially good. Alec Hurley this week gives *The Lambeth Walk* and *Piccaninny* pride of place, and is a strong favourite. Manning's Entertainers, in their lively sketch, *A Hotel Boots*, cause roars of laughter. Parros Bros. are smart equilibrists, with some new and daring feats. Annie Casey, a comedienne with a taking style; James Kurry, comedian; the Bioscope; Max Millian; and Chas. Ward, eccentric comedian, complete a good programme.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; Managing Director, Mr Barney M. Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred C. Ewing.—The "evergreen" Joe O'Gorman, Irish humourist, tops the bill here. Lily Morris continues to be a great favourite; Harry Pleon is seen at his best in impersonations of leading artistes; Brothers Lang, "brothers in love," contribute an excellent boxing act; while the funny songs and sayings of James Brady, comedian, fairly bring down the house. The other members of the company include Bouverie Pleydell, serio; Cecil Lidden and Elsie Hayward, in sketch, *A Quiet Rehearsal*; the Abadaroffs, comedy acrobats; and Mons. Duro, strength equilibrist.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrastord.—The programme provided here includes Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, in a musical duologue, "Her Birthday." The extraordinary athletic act by the Kyaryas is greatly appreciated. Other notable members of the company include Harris and Worth, comedians; Les Belles Americaines, vocalists and dancers; the Lombarts, gymnasts; Leo Stormont, baritone vocalist, in his cleverly written scenas; Lowell and Lowell, eccentric acrobatic comedians; Grant and Grant, smart American specialists; Bros. Dixon, the clever musical eccentrics; and H. A. Zetto, comic juggler.

QUEEN'S.—Lessees, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; Manager, Mr T. J. Colquhoun.—Darring is the bright particular star here this week, and as a Glasgow man the interest in his performance is considerably heightened. Lily Morris once again proves a popular favourite. Miss Lena Brunton scores as a mimic of well-known artistes; Mr W. H. Downs, coloured artiste, also scores. The company also includes the Rozells, bar act; Mr Alf Levarni, wire act; Arthur Learto and "Babs;" and Harry Leybourne, comedian. Permane's bears continue their hold on public favour.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr William Biggan.—J. W. Rowley has a budget of catchy songs, which meet with approval. The St. Johns, musical comedy artists, display much talent; the efforts of Ranson and Waite, variety artists, are highly appreciated; Jack Mills, Scotch comedian, is to the fore; and Le Warren, ventriloquist, gives a praiseworthy turn. Archie Jack, in his vocal efforts, is highly successful; Jack Chambers, Negro comedian, is popular, as also is Max Holden, conjuror; and J. G. Manford, eccentric Negro comedian, assisted by Master George Murray, completes a capital programme.

A CIRCUS "SEND OFF."

A pleasant assemblage took place on the evening of the 6th inst. at the Angel Hotel, Islington, when a happy company sat down to an excellent supper, given by Mr E. H. Bostock, of Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie, the occasion being the sending off of a contingent of circus artistes to South Africa to amalgamate with the one sent out some twelve months back, the great success of which has induced Mr E. H. Bostock to further strengthen his great show. The gathering under notice was of a most enjoyable and diverting nature. Full justice was done to a sumptuous supper, well served by Mr Cash, proprietor of the Angel Hotel, but although the ménu did not include telegrams, Mr E. H. Bostock was served with several plates during the evening. He found them palatable, for they were good wishes from numerous friends from all parts, who were present in spirit.

Mr T. READ, in conjunction with his son Mr T. E. Read, lessees of the World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall, was a popular and efficient chairman, and spoke of his long pleasant business connections with Mr E. H. Bostock and Mr Bostock's pluck energy, and honourable dealings in all his enterprises, and the vast expense entailed in sending out the first contingent last year, the enormous cost of transportation and keep of the great menagerie, &c., and who is now at a fabulous expense sending out the present company to run a large circus in conjunction with the menagerie. The chairman drew artistes' notice to the fact that they were quite safe, for if the show should be a frost—which was most unlikely—they all knew the ghost would walk. This was relished by the artistes present, for they knew it was a fact.

Mr E. H. BOSTOCK, in replying to the toast, thanked the chairman for his kind remarks, and had no doubt as to the ultimate success of his new venture, for he had made a very careful and well-considered selection of his artistes, and felt confident in his own mind that they would one and all do their very best to ensure success and add further laurels to their well-known individual reputations, to all of whom he wished a comfortable and pleasant journey.

Mr F. FITT, responding on behalf of the visitors, facetiously remarked he did not quite think he was one of them, but more one of the family, having married Miss Bostock. He spoke in very high terms of the sterling qualities of both Mr and Mrs E. H. Bostock.

Mrs M'DONALD, of Glasgow, was also called upon, much to her surprise, to respond. She rose to the occasion, and spoke of the deep and sincere regret felt at the departure of Mr and Mrs Bostock, and the many staunch friends they had made in Glasgow, where their philanthropic acts had been much appreciated.

Mr CLARK, who further responded for the visitors, said he had not until that evening come in contact with artistes off the stage, and had often wondered when sitting in front watching and enjoying their performances what they were like away from their business. That evening he had seen. He was more than delighted, and wished he, like Mr Fitt, was one of the family. However, he had many friends in all parts of South Africa, and influential ones. He had been there, and could personally assure those ladies and gentlemen who were about to cross the water that they would have a right down loyal welcome, and that their efforts would be greatly appreciated.

The evening was further enlivened by songs from some of the company; and after singing "God Save the King" and "Auld Lang Syne" the company broke up. A long procession of cabs took the outward bound and many of their friends to Fenchurch-street station, en route for their ship, the ss. Tintagel Castle.

The following among others were present:—Mr and Mrs E. H. Bostock, Messrs T. Read (chairman) and T. E. Read, lessees and managers World's Fair, Royal Agricultural Hall; Mr F. Fitt, Mr Clark, Mrs Macdonald (of Glasgow), Mr F. H. Fowler, secretary to Messrs T. and T. E. Read; also the following sailing per ss. Tintagel Castle, Oct. 7:—Frantz Troupe of acrobats, Ernest Trio, equestrians; Three Zaracs, horizontal bar experts; Rosa Montero, haute école, equestrienne; Hinton and Wooton, comedy and trick cyclists; Mrs Crockett and her performing liberty horse, Happy Jackies, talking and singing clown; Pongo, wonderful monkey impersonator; Diavolo, marvellous cyclist, "Flying the Flume;" the Wonderful Ladderites, three merry Jack Tars on the lofty ladders; Almero, king of the high rope and swinging perch; the Remingtons, athletes and ring performers; Palmer and Palmer, trick and comic skaters; Signor Bertani on the unsupported ladder; Dungi and Dolwi, Continental musical clowns; Pastor Brothers, comedy equestrians; Pearce Butler, the well-known equestrian director and circus manager; Herr Altoff and his troupe of canine marvels; and Stewart and Steward, marvellous hand equilibrists; also to sail by the the ss. Galeka on Oct. 21, Lukushima Troupe of Japanese, seven in number; and Donat Bedini, Continental agouste and tumbling clown.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 19.)

STROUD.

SUBSCRIPTION ROOMS.—Manager, Mr H. J. Twitchett.—On Tuesday Mr Charles Macdona's company, in the musical comedy *A Country Girl*, paid a visit here. Mr Guy Williams acted and sang in fine style the part of Geoffrey Chaloner; the Sir Joseph Verity of Mr W. O. Billington showed artistic ability; and Barry was humorously impersonated by Mr Richard Telford. Miss Florence Burdett was admirable as Nan; Miss Florence Hallam was a charming Marjory Joy; Miss Sadie Neville a clever Sophie; and Miss Lucie Dever an admirable Princess. The Douglas Verity of Mr W. Besley Beltran, the Granfer Mummery of Mr Harry Playfair, and the Rajah of Bhong of Mr Bernard Vaughn were excellent.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Business-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr George Edwardes' company in the charming musical comedy, *San Toy*, occupies the boards here this week. San Toy is represented in charming style by Miss Fanny Dango; Mr E. Statham Staples as Li makes himself a favourite; the character of Yen How is cleverly portrayed by Mr John Humphreys; Miss Maud Darling is especially pleasing as the maid Dudley; Mr Reginald Kenneth is a big success as Captain Bobby Preston, and as Sir Bingo Preston Mr Stratton Mills is admirable.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; General-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr J. W. Carson and company are here this week in *The Nihilist Queen*. Mr J. O. Stevenson, Mr W. H. Monte, Mr J. W. Carson, Miss Alice N. Livesey, Miss Eulin Heilburg, and Miss Annie Gill are all successful in prominent parts.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—At the top of the bill this week is the George Bonhair Gregory Troupe of acrobats, whose feats are executed in a manner which is little short of marvellous. Mr Edwin Boyde, comedian, is as good and as funny as ever. Ernie Myers, patter comedian; the Two Bells, duettists and dancers; Rich and Rich, comedians and buck dancers; Lily Lonsdale, soprano vocalist; Miss Harber Ingold, contralto vocalist; and Clown Mephisto and Brothers Pim, in comic gymnastic novelty act, also contribute.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce.—On Monday Miss Ellen Terry and her company opened a week's visit at this house—her first to the town—and on her first appearance on the stage had a splendid reception from a well-filled house. The play selected for the opening night was *Much Ado About Nothing*, and a most enjoyable performance was given. Miss Terry's impersonation of Beatrice was delightful to witness, and she was loudly called for at the end of each act. Mr Matheson Lang was exceptionally good as Benedick, and won a large share of the applause. Mr E. Harcourt Williams's Claudio was excellent, and so was the Borachio of Mr Alfred Bucklaw. Miss Hutin Britton gave an admirable portrayal of Hero, and much amusement was caused by Mr John Willis as Dogberry and Mr Tom Paulton as Verges. *Much Ado* was again played on Tuesday and last night (Friday). *The Merchant of Venice*, *Nance Oldfield*, and *The Good Hope* are also in the répertoire.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—Mrs F. G. Kimberley's melodrama *A Sister's Sin* has been the attraction here during the week, played by Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley's own company.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—A very strong programme has been provided here this week, made up as follows:—Miss Marie Kendall, a delightful songstress, as popular as ever; Dutch Daly, the ever popular; Lawrence Barclay, an excellent humorous comedian; Goggin and Davis, who win much applause for their clever comedy acrobatic turn; the Four Milons, exceedingly clever acrobats; Zarmo, a clever comical juggler; Mabel Hinds, a dainty little singer; the Imperial Quartet of charming lady vocalists and dancers; Steve M'Carthy with some clever dancing; and the Manings, a clever pair of acrobats and equilibrists.

TAMWORTH.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Manager, Mr F. Hughes.—Mr Charles Macdona's company appeared here on Monday in *Three Little Maids*. Miss Vera Vallis acted charmingly as Ada Branscombe; Miss Nellie Groves as Hilda won golden opinions, and had an ovation for her delightful rendering of "The Miller's Daughter;" Miss Doris Trevor did justice to the part of Edna; Madame Ilma Norina was an aristocratic Lady St. Mallory; the favourite of the "gods" was Miss May Wright as Gretchen, who, with Mr Ewart Drake as Cupid, did some amusing business; Mr F. Hulme Sharp as Lord Cheyne created much merriment; Mr Jules Charmettes as M. De L'Orme was encored for his 'cello solo in the last act. Mr Herbert Austin was the courteous business-manager.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs Milton Ray's company in the musical drama, *A Hot Night*, is here this week. Mr Arthur Milton submits an able rendering of Frank Firth, Mr Francis Hope is capable as Fontenoy Flutterwig, and Mr Harry T. Butler acts well as Mark Maybury. Mr Alfred Wellesley is suited as Professor Sheerman, Mr James Sherwin makes a bold Captain Drake, and Mr Rolando Martin achieves a huge success as the Waiter Whimples, keeping the house in continuous roars of laughter. Miss Susie Bevan is admirable as Polly Drake, Miss Clara Reid dances well and makes a charming Lucy Lorrimer, Miss Adeline Montagu is efficient as Mrs Flutterwig, Miss Madge Wear and Miss Jessie Wear are good as Fanny Frith and Mary Maybury. Clever dancing is provided by the Eldorado Quartette of dancers.

WALLSEND.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, the Wallsend Theatre Company; Manager, Mr D. Richardson.—Mr H. Johnstone's company is appearing here this week in *The Bank of England*. Mr Julian De Alberti gives an excellent rendering of Stephen Hartley; as Sherlock Holmes Mr Herbert S. Chambers leaves nothing to be desired; Mr Charles Goff causes considerable amusement as Tommy Sprouts, being ably assisted by Miss Dorothy Normandale in the rôle of Lucy Lockett. Mr Charles Gallier makes a manly Hon. B. Burlington; Miss Marie Loreth is pleasing as Aminta Bean; and Miss Ada Collins makes the most of Sylvia Barraclough.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Mr F. C. Kimberley's No. 1 company in *Bound to Win* is paying us a return visit here this week. Mr F. G. Kimberley as Harry Lindon and Mr Adam Alexander as Squire Forbes are both excellently suited in their respective portrayals. As Philip Ayre Mr Frank Strickland contributes a fine study; Mr James Hont is well placed as Ned Oakley; Mr Edgar Morgan creates fun in his humorous interpretation of Horatio Buffett; Mr Horace Custin is loudly applauded in the rôle of Willie Wilkins; and Joe Blake is capitally rendered by Mr James Willoughby. Miss Lottie Addison makes the most of her opportunities as Gladys Arme; the rôle of Marion Forbes is in the worthy hands of Miss Nina Blake Adams; and Miss Edie Marklin as Winnie Oakley is warmly appreciated.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Miss Fortescue and company are proving very popular here. Four nights of the week *Moths* was played, with Miss Fortescue as Fuchsia Leach; she made an excellent impression. As Prince Zouroff Mr Conway Wingfield supplied a powerful impersonation; Mr Dalziel Heron was successful as Lord Jura; Mr Francis Burdett was well placed as the Duke of Mull and Cantyre; Mr Cecil Newtown was seen to advantage as Raphael De Corveze; Miss Miriam Lewis was an admirable Duchesse De Sonnaz; Miss M. Meredith contributed a good impersonation of Lady Dolly Vanderdecken; Miss Gladys Jesson as Vere Herbert was capital; and Princess Nadine was acted by Miss Eugenie Vernie in excellent style. On Tuesday night *She Stoops to Conquer* was given.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr Frank Bateman's company is here with the Russian drama, *At War with Women*. Miss Lizzie Montague as Auriel Romanoff plays with great power; Mr Edward Ouston is a manly Lieut. Alexis; the General Malakoff of Mr Fred Vaughan is a well-depicted character; Mr Arthur Balmoral makes an excellent Captain Volsky; Mr Steer Flinders as Ivan Clovitch portrays the character in true artistic style; Mr Clinton Baddeley contributes a finished impersonation of Autolski; as Jerry Blake Mr Shaun Glenville is highly entertaining; and Miss Marion Warren is an engaging Frida Malakoff.

WALTHAMSTOW.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slatter.—The new "dumb-show delirium" entitled *The Day Breakers*, written by Wal Pink, and produced here for the first time on Monday night, will require a considerable amount of pulling together to achieve anything like permanent success. No expense has been spared in the production; the scenery has been solidly "built" by F. Gaydon, jun., and painted by J. Soames; capital properties have been provided by Ernest Major; and the dresses by S. Benjamin and Boxall and Co. are beyond reproach. By far the most popular engagement of the week is Miss Fannie Leslie. Of her two songs, "The quickness of the hand deceives the eye" and "That's the page that's missing from the book," it would be impossible to say which was the better of the two, both being admirable in themselves and excellently suiting the clever singer. Mr George Barron is an amusing comedian of the eccentric order. Miss Beattie Herbert, looking like a dainty little porcelain ornament in pink, sings a new and very pretty song, "Sunshine of Love," with delightful grace, while her later contribution, with its clever dance, is heartily applauded. Mr Victor Travers is responsible for much laughter, especially as a grotesque female. Much comic juggling and some exceedingly neat gymnastic business are presented by the Evalos. Miss Rosie Lloyd has a big reception and sings with her wonted taste. Hicks's wonderful Clerks, including the funny Little Peter, appear to great advantage, and are received with a storm of applause. Clive and Clark, black and white comedy artistes, who made themselves popular on a former visit, sing with much gusto, and do some dancing that sends their audience wild with delight.

KING'S THEATRE.—"A syndicate of members of the old Britannia Theatre (Hoxton) Company"—to quote the announcement on the programme of this house—is appearing in a creditable production of *Jane Shore*. Mr Arthur St. John plays with much dignity and considerable elocutionary power the two widely contrasted characters of Richard, Duke of Gloucester, and Matthew Shore. Miss Patey Trounsell gives a pathetic and, occasionally, powerful rendering of the hapless heroine. Mr St. John Beecher is a manly John Grist, and Miss Kitty Bennett a dignified Queen Elizabeth Woodville.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Mr Frank E. Burdett's company is here this week in the stirring play *The Indian Mutiny*. Mr H. Ryland Leigh acts capitally as Lieutenant Manley, and equally successful is Mr H. G. Brandon as Capt Manley. Mr W. S. Tindell is well placed as Major Ingleby, and Mr G. Scully as Terry O'Brien supplies the humorous element with marked success. Mr Villiers Stanley acts with dramatic force as Nebu Singh, and as Abut Khan Mr J. S. Shedden shows dignity. The Ra Goonga of Mr Ernest Keand is a fine study, and Miss M. Digby as Ghuzeah scores well. Miss Kate Bruce as Mrs Major Ingleby and Miss Agnes Kingston as Kate Ingleby, and Miss Agnes Kingston as Kate Ingleb'y complete an excellent cast.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—The Abd'l Kader Trio head the bill here this week, and their marvellous rapid sketching of gigantic pictures causes wonder and astonishment; Davies and Davies are a clever pair of comedians; and the Rushforths, in a series of illustrated songs, supply a welcome turn. Kit Keen is an accomplished coon delineator, and Ray Maskell, a charming comedienne. Edith Sylvisto, in a unique speciality act, goes through various acts of contortion; and King Leo is an original ventriloquist. The Royal Bioscope, under the manipulation of Mr Wiesker, continues to win favour in the showing of beautiful pictures.

WATERFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The Norman V. Norman company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday. The play selected for the opening night was *Under the Red Robe*, in which Mr Norman V. Norman portrayed the part of Henri De Cocheforêt admirably. Miss Beatrice Wilson acted in a most accomplished manner the difficult rôle of Renée De Cocheforêt, and was recalled again and again. On Tuesday *David Garrick* was played, with Mr Norman in the title-rôle. The theatre was again packed on Wednesday. *Nell Gwyn* was the attraction.

WEST STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Lindon.—Messrs Mitchell and Belton's company is here this week with *The Conscript*. As Karl Truevitch Mr Geo. Mitchell is successful; as Ivan Manloff Mr Walter Skinner is capable; Mr Fred H. Constable is clever as Count Paul Hardiski; Mr John Belton is a successful Dor Doggerwitch; Miss Mary Dawson is pleasing as Nadia Truevitch; and Miss Ivy Chandos does well as Wanda.

WINDSOR.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Governing Director, Mr Samuel James; Business-Manager, Mr Worton David; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Nash.—That powerful domestic drama *A Woman's Redemption*, by Cyril Austin Lee, was presented here during the first half of the week by Mr James Hare's strong and able company. Mr James Hare himself played the Hon. Bernard Sutcliffe in most excellent manner; Mr Herbert assumed the rôle of the manly and noble-minded curate, the Rev. John Ganthony, with effective dignity; Mr Albert H. Clark was very good indeed as the farmer, Reuben Griffiths; Mr Hill Cremer did well as Jem Lee, a ne'er-do-well; Mr Tom Arkinstall was highly diverting as Leonatus Lowe; and Mr John A. Stimson as Claudius Lowe contributes much to the bright and humorous aspects of the play. Mr J. Le Hair did all that was possible with the part of Inspector Harris. Miss Irene Clifford's impersonation of the betrayed and revengeful gipsy, Ruth, was a vivid and stirring performance; Miss Agatha Holford as the much-wronged, but gentle Mary Griffiths, submitted a highly emotional and artistic representation; and Miss Jenny Hallworth is delightfully amusing and mirth-moving as Sally. *The Golden Chance* was played on the remaining three nights.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs. Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—Sensation rules here this week, where Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's company is appearing in the drama *The Assassin*, which is being received nightly with unmistakable evidence of satisfaction. As the cool-headed, calculating Prince Demetri, "the biggest scoundrel in Russia," a better exponent of the part could not be conceived than Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson. Mr John C. Carlyle as the hero of the play, Ivan Ipanoff, acts in a noble and masterly style. Comedy is represented by Mr Edward Swinton as Baron Alphonse and Mr Fred Yarnold as Peter. General Nicholl has an able exponent in Mr Arthur M'Culloch. Of the ladies in the cast unstinted praise is due to Miss Ruth Shepherd for a well-studied rendition of the character of Countess Wanda; Miss Alice Barber as the light-hearted and vivacious Connie Jonathan, brimful of wit and cutting repartee, plays the part exceptionally well.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Professor Zertho's troupe of dogs are marvels of canine intelligence; Professor Dunning in his ventriloquial entertainment proves himself an expert at his business; Kahn and Kahn in modern necromancy perfectly bewilder all beholders; Johnny Danvers is a comedian of repute; Jimmy Shields, comedian and one-legged dancer, is here again reaping additional popularity, as are also Ted Denham, comedian; and the Phydoros in their eccentric musical act. Werner and Rieder are novel and interesting in their Tyrolean vocalisation, and Ernest Sefton, comedian, is also in the bill.

WEXFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr E. P. Ronan.—Mrs Hubert O'Grady's No. 1 company opened here on Monday with *A Fast Life*. Mr Harry Harrild did well as Sir Oliver Franklin; Mr A. Gribbin was effective as John Dixon; Mr Alfred Weekly made a satisfactory Morris Goldberg; Miss Violet Wood was an interesting Lady Franklin; and Miss Gwen Hastings as Hon. Mrs Cleveland and Mrs Hubert O'Grady as Julia were well placed.

WHITEHAVEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Clark.—Mr Charles March's company is engaged here in the spectacular romantic play, *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr March appears successfully as Valerius, and Mr Ronald Bayne acts powerfully as Decus Fronto. Mr Henry Moxon is well cast as Appius Herdonius, and Mr Stanley May is good as Hermanus. Miss Evelyn Hope acts in a pleasing manner as Polita, and Miss Marie North evokes sympathy as Praestantia.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—The musical comedy-drama *Otto the Outcast* has been played with much success this week by Mr Harry Starr's company. The title-rôle was taken by Mr Harry Starr, the popular comedian; and the part of Lara, a flower-girl, by the charming American actress Miss Ethel Danbury.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick. — Professor Inman Hocking creates considerable sensation by his hypnotic and electric performances. Will Onda's company in a pantomimic sketch, *A Quiet Night*, is most entertaining. Fred Dice, comedian and quaint dancer; Goliath, "the strongest youth on earth;" R. C. Note, comedian; and the Brothers Onda, acrobats, are very popular. Charles Deane, vocalist; Gillin, ventriloquist and comedian; and Amy Allnutt, comedienne, are also well received.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Burchill.—Derwin, in his Japanese hoop mystery, and T. B. Fayme, comedian, continue their engagement for a week longer. Craig, Rose, and Craig, novelty gymnastic experts, are clever; and the Yorkshire Mill Lasses (Mona and Gladys Wells) pay a welcome return visit. Miss Flo Melville, burlesque actress; Ray and Miles, in a novelty musical act; Kavados, juggler; and A. B. Kendal, eccentric comedian, furnish a good programme.

WOKING.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr Joseph Lewis.—Mr G. W. Bowes presented Mr Charles Frohman's company on Monday night in William Gillette's celebrated play *Sherlock Holmes*. The title-part was played in a highly satisfactory manner by Mr Kenneth Rivington, his performance leaving little to be desired; Mr Edward Heanley was distinctly good as Holmes's friend and colleague, Dr. Watson; the Professor Moriarty of Mr Arthur B. Murray was a clever character study; Mr Harry Stafford was an amusing Sidney Prince; and Mr Ernest Gray an efficient James Larrabee. Master Walter Hicks made a decided hit as Billy; Miss Florence Radcliffe gave a good rendering of the difficult part of Alice Faulkner; as Mrs Faulkner Miss Ethel Gordon proved quite capable; and the French maid, Theresa, received able treatment from Miss Marjorie Murray. Miss Carrie Lacey was an excellent Madge Larrabee.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—The first production in Wolverhampton of the interesting and exciting play *The Breed of the Treshams* was made at this house on Monday last before a large and enthusiastic audience. Mr Martin Harvey's performance as Lieutenant Revesby was one long to be remembered as a finished and magnificent piece of acting, and he was repeatedly compelled to bow his acknowledgments for the undeniable calls he received. Mr Harvey was supported by an excellent company. Mr Milton Rosmer was seen to great advantage as Francis Tresham; Mr Charles Glenny made a capital Clement Hungerford; Mr Percy Anstey was good as Sir Henry Curwen; and Mr Albert E. Raynor was an efficient Viscount Dorsington. The part of Margaret Hungerford was effectively played by Miss Coleridge; while that of Batty was admirably impersonated by Miss N. De Silva. The play was splendidly staged.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—*Florodora* has been presented here on several previous occasions, but not until this week has a York audience had the pleasure of seeing Mr Edward Lewis in his inimitable impersonation of Anthony Tweedlepunch, a part this clever comedian has made particularly his own. His reception by a crowded audience on Monday was most cordial, and he caused roars of laughter. Miss Lena Maitland was particularly charming as Dolores, rendering the popular numbers with artistic grace. Miss Hilda Dugdale was lively and winsome as Angela Gilfain, and Miss Isabel Dillon as Lady Holyrood was at once interesting and pleasing. Mr Leonard Russell as Abercoed sang in his usual first-class style; Mr Fred Winn caused amusement as Cyrus Gilfain; and Mr J. Paul Callan was well placed as Captain Donegal, giving a breezy and clever portrayal.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke.—*A Country Girl* is paying a return visit this week, and as usual is meeting with great success, mainly attributable to the comical efforts of Mr Johnny Osborne, who, in Barry, finds a part particularly suited to his style of humour. In conjunction with Mr Osborne, Miss Veronica Brady is particularly successful in several numbers, which are invariably redemanded. As Nan Miss May Glen works hard, and with the knowledge that her efforts are heartily appreciated. Mr Cyril Thompson sings in first-class style as Geoffrey Challoner.

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Will Reopen at Christmas, 1904-5, with Pantomime.
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The Largest Theatre in Birmingham.
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Take Two from Three and One Remains. No Opposition.
Vacant Dates from Nov. 14. Now Booking 1905.
GLADYS GILCHRIST.

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Managing Director, Mr W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
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One of the most Up-to-Date and Successful Theatres in Scotland.
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Stage to Grid, 45ft.;
Footlights to Back Wall, 30ft.;
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Opening, 21ft. by 25ft.;
Between Fly Rails, 32ft.
Seating Accommodation, 2,000.
Prices:—Private Boxes, 21s. and 15s.; Single Seats, 3s. and 2s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Balcony, 1s. 6d.; Pit Stalls, 1s.; Pit, 9d.; Gallery, 6d.
Communications re Dates to MANAGER.

COLCHESTER, THEATRE ROYAL.— Sole Proprietor, Mr CHARLES MACDONA.
Vacant Dates, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, and Jan. 16 and onwards.
Apply to
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Silence in all cases a respectful negative.

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Hanley has undoubtedly the Largest Theatre and Stage in Staffordshire. Lighted by Electricity; accommodation for 3,700 People. Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to ends of the District, Longton, Stoke, Burslem, and Tunstall.
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HULL, THEATRE ROYAL.— Sole Lessee, WM. MORTON.
Bookings this year and the Spring include:—Moody-Manners Opera (Two Weeks), Beerbohm Tree's Shakespearian Répertoire Company, "Quality Street," Henry Neville, in "The Two Orphans;" "Sign of the Cross," Martin Harvey (Two Visits), "The Only Way" and "The Breed of the Treshams;" "Florodora," "The Prince of Pilsen," "New Barmaid," Tom E. Murray, "In Dahomey," Mrs Lewis Waller, W. S. Gilbert's "The Fairy's Dilemma," "The Darling of the Gods," Pantomime, "Sleeping Beauty," at Christmas. Special Production.
Vacant at the Theatre Royal for any High-class Attraction, Feb. 6, 13, March 6. Address, W. MORTON.
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First-class Pantomimes Required, Feb. 13 and March 13, onward. Silence courteous negative.

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Vacant Dates:—Jarrow, 1905. Barrow, for First-class Musical Attractions; Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, and 30, March 27, and various, on. The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions Touring. Consett, Nov. 14, Dec. 12 and 19, and Jan. 9, on. all applications for Dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

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Population, 100,000 out of the Season.
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A Beautiful Theatre and pronounced success.
Old Theatre Receipts trebled in the New.
Holding capacity £100. Vacant few Spring Dates, 1905.
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Small Stock Scenery. No Sharing.
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Vacant Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, and February, on.
It was not originally intended to fill these dates, but owing to the immense success of this theatre under new management, all dates will now be filled. Late Theatre Trains are now run weekly by the Midland, Great Northern, and Lough Swilly Railways to Strabane, Letterkenny, Limavady, and Bunerana, thus doubling the population hitherto available for theatrical purposes.
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April 10 and 17.
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Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre.
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Feb. 6, 20, 27, March 13, on.
(Musical Companies preferred.)
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Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, Feb. 23 (Three Nights), 27, March 13, 27, on.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, Jan. 23, April 3, 17, May 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Oct. 31, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 2, 16, 23, Feb. 27, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
Feb. 13, March 13, 20, April 3, 10, 17, May 15, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant, Nov. 21, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, on.
Leamington Bookings include
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Vacant Spring, 1905.
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Dec. 5 and Spring.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Dec. 5
Address, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

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Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec 5, 12, Jan. 2, and Feb. 6, on. Late theatre trains are now run weekly by the Midland, Great Northern, and Lough Swilly Railway Companies, thus doubling the population hitherto available for theatrical purposes.
Opening for Good Drama. Only "Silver King," "Fatal Wedding," and "Driven from Home" Booked.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs SEDDON and ROBERTSON.
WANTED, Companies, March 6, and on.
This Handsome New Theatre opens at Christmas. Fully Licensed. Stage to accommodate any Production.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs SEDDON and STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Last Three Days of Weeks, Nov 14, 21 and Dec. 5, Jan 30, Feb. 27,
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Comic Operas and Musical Comedies, Spring, 1905. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Plant of Electricity (three Colours) installed. H. VERE.

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Good Business certain.
Also Big Musical Attractions, Easter and on.
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WANTED, Important Attractions only.
No Vacant Dates this year.
One or two Open Weeks Spring.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, NUNEATON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27, April 17 (with Cinématograph and Sacred Concert, Good Friday). Refer F. R. Benson as to Business last week, in spite of alleged depression. Only Good Shows and Musical Comedy Merchants content with a fair share of the Earth need write in. A. F. CROSS, Managing Director.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, for Dec. 5, 19, and 26, Good Attractions, Musical or Dramatic.
Address, RICH WALDON, as above.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-class Attraction from February Onwards.
Address, GEORGE E. GOOD, Beaconsfield-street, Blyth.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE. Lessee, Mr E. MACKNIGHT. Business Manager, CHARLES E. HARDY.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 7, and onwards, with exceptions.

GAIETY THEATRE,
HASTINGS.
Vacant Date,
Dec. 19.

WANTED, First-class Companies only.
Dec. 19 Vacant.
Dec. 19 Vacant.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19, 26, and Jan. 2. Ad., E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec. 12, Good Pantos, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Grand Theatres, Chorley and Radcliffe. Address, SANTA, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-class Companies Vacant Nov. 7, 14, 28, and on. Musical Comedy or Panto., Christmas. ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, for King's Theatre, Walthamstow, First-class Dramatic Company, Two Houses Nightly Companies, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14, onwards.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Jan. 5 (Three Nights) 16, 23 (Three Nights), 30, on. Silence polite negative.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Strong Drama or Musical Comedy, Nov. 28 and Dec. 5.
S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager.

WANTED, Comedy or Musical Companies Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness. Vacant Dates November and December. CAMERON BURGESS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
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WANTED, First-class Companies

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
Nov. 28, Feb. 27, March 27.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY (Late Grand Hall).
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY (Late Grand Hall).
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY (Late Grand Hall)
Vacant,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
Jan. 23, March 13, 20, 27.

THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
THEATRE METROPOLE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
June 12, 19, July 31.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6, April 3.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 23.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Dec. 26, Feb 6,
April 6 (Three Nights only), April 24.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
No Vacancies.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 12.

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THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 9, 16.

Good Pantomimes Wanted.

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Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

NEW THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.
Sole Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD
Please Note.
Lighted Throughout with Electricity. Stage capable of Mounting any Play. Efficient Band and Staff. Holds, at Ordinary Prices, £70 to £80. No Free List. Bars only for Convenience of Playgoing Public. Two Companies Booked a-Week.

WANTED, First-class Companies. Vacant Dates, Oct. 27, 28. 29, Nov. 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, Jan. 23, 24, 25, Feb. 2, 3, 4, onwards, and some good Spring Dates.
Address, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.
N. B.—Managers requiring good money-making plays see advertisement in "Wanted to Sell" Column.

THEATRE ROYAL,
RYDE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
Winter Season.

WANTED, Good Companies for Three Nights Only in the Months of November, December, January, February, and March. Good business can be done by Conducting the Theatre in this way.
Now Booking Autumn Season Dates, 1905.
Address, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.
N.B.—Managers requiring good Money-making Plays, see Advt. in "Wanted to Sell" Column.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 19, 26, and Jan. 30.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
Address,
LINGFORD CARSON.

WHITEVALE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
The only Amusement House in the East-end of the City. Population of 250,000 within one and a half miles radius. Main thoroughfare.

WANTED, Nov. 14. Only Good Companies write. Musical Show preferred. Add. GREEN.

WANTED, Companies, Musical Preferred, Queen's, Leeds, Nov. 28 and Dec. 12. Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Theatre Royal, Rugby
(to oblige J. F. Elliston, Esq.),
Oct. 31,
the only Date this Year. A few Dates in February and March. Good Shows, good Money. Refer W. H. Hallatt, Esq., as to his Opening this Week.
A. F. CROSS, Prince of Wales's, Nuneaton.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
Nov. 7,
Theatre Royal, Blyth.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

WANTED, Attractions (Musical and Dramatic), Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 12, 19, and few Spring Dates. CONNYNGHAME, Theatre Royal, Windsor.

WANTED, Good Companies for Borough Theatre, Heywood. Vacant Oct. 24, Nov. 7, Dec. 30, onwards. Apply, J. WALTERS, Theatre Royal, Blackpool.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies,
Nov. 7, Dec. 5 and 12.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, First-class Productions for Victoria Opera House, Burnley, Nov. 28, Jan. 9, 16, through obliging Managers. HORNER, Burnley.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

WANTED, Pantomime (Six Nights) or Musical Comedy, Minstrel Troupe, or other Really Good Attraction (Three Nights), Dec. 26. State lowest sharing terms and full particulars, HAGUE, Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, METHIL, FIFE.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 24. Nov. 7, 29, Dec. 12, and New Year.
LIVERICK, Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED

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Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
THE FINEST TOUR IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.
A FINANCIAL AND ECONOMICAL SUCCESS.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.
MOTHERWELL.—NEW CENTURY THEATRE.
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AYR.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
CLYDEBANK.—NEW GAIETY THEATRE.
FALKIRK.—GRAND THEATRE.
KILMARNOCK.—KING'S THEATRE.
KIRKCALDY, GREENOCK { At present in course of Construction. } KING'S THEATRE. ALEXANDRA T.
All communications re dates to R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

POOLE'S THEATRES, GLO'STER and SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, the Best Companies Only for the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, now One of the Prettiest, Cleanest, and Smartest Theatres in the Empire. Electric Trams from all Parts. The Only Theatre in the City.
Opera House, Porth, the Largest and Most Successful in the District, now in the Full Tide of Success.
Opera House, Treherbert. Top of the Valley. Another fine Theatre, where everything before, behind, and outside is done well. Extensive building now going on directly opposite. The pits sunk, the coal found. Directly they start the Population doubles. Now good, then excellent.
Town Hall Theatre, Maesteg. Another coming Eldorado. More pits sunk, fine coal found. Hotels, business establishments, and streets rebuilt.
"The Christian" took at Maesteg, in three nights, in an off pay, £118, and in three nights at Treherbert, £130, and we mean to double these receipts. Splendid Bookings. Only a few Dates left. Every inquiry solicited.
Theatre Royal, Pontypool, at present to Let on Share or Rental. Apply, for all Theatres,
C. W. POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Nov. 28, Jan. 23, 30, and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Nov. 28, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 20, and on.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

THEATRE ROYAL, DARWEN.
Sole Lessee, Mr E. L. ORMSBY.

WANTED, First-class Attractions or Musical Comedies, from March, 1905, onwards. Also for Autumn, 1905 (Musical preferred).
No Vacant Dates till end of February.
Read what G. M. Polini, Esq., says of "The Silver King" Company:—
Oct. 9, 1904.
Dear Mr Ormsby,—Allow me to chronicle a capital week at your Darwen theatre.
It has been remunerative and most comfortable. The dressing-room accommodation is perfect, as are also the appointments in every way, and I shall look forward with pleasure to paying you a return visit.
With thanks, believe me,
Yours faithfully,
G. M. POLINI.
E. L. Ormsby, Esq.,
Theatre Royal, Darwen.
The above Theatre is now Up-to-Date, well Staffed, an Efficient Band, with resident Musical Director, and is without doubt the best Lighted Theatre in the District.
My present Bookings include:—
"Message from Mars," Edmund Tearle,
"Girl from Chicago," "Proof,"
"Fatal Wedding,"
The Craggs, "Girl's Cross Roads,"
"Sherlock Holmes," Mrs Bandmann Palmer, &c.
Address, E. L. ORMSBY, Theatre Royal, Darwen.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES
WANTED, High-class Companies (Musical preferred), Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 9, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Good Comedy Companies,
Oct. 31 and on Three Nights.
Good Pantomime, Dec. 26.
Now booking Season 1905.
Apply,
C. A. HUTTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions
for
Nov. 7 and 28,
Dec. 5 and 12.
Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

METROPOLE THEATRE, CAMBERWELL, S.E.
6·30 Twice Nightly. 9 0.
WANTED, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28, First Class Dramatic, Comedy, or Burlesque Companies that can play in two hours. Share or certainty. Apply, Jack De Frece.

WANTED, Musical Comedies and Good Plays.
Apply, H. E. BRAMMALL, Crystal Palace.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions,
April 3,
and onwards, with exceptions.
Address, T. EDWARDES.

NEW AVENUE THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, and Spring. A good Pantomime write. Please note, the Theatre is open every week.
FRANK PAYNE.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe, Cheshire, First-class Attractions for October, onwards. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, Companies, for the Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham. Will seat 1,000, Dramatic Licence. Vacant Oct. 31, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, onwards.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

PUBLIC HALL, BARNSLEY.
WANTED, a Strong Attraction for Six Nights, Monday, Jan. 2. Musical preferred.
Apply to L. P. DE MIRIMONDE, Rose Villa, Barnsley.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HER FORBIDEDN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Dec. 5, May 8, and onwards.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Oct. 24, Nov. 14
Entire Original Production, including
Mr Albert Ward.
Christmas Vacant for First-class Theatre.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7 and 14,
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 31, Nov. 28
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Nov. 7, Nov. 7.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 13.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 5.
Mr Gore Ouseley's
No. 1
Company.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
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"THE LADY'S MAID."
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First-class
Company
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Chorus.

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Miss Isa Bowman
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
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Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.

Entirely
New
Dresses
and
Scenery.

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Miss Noel Neville,
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"THE LOVE BIRDS,"
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Full Chorus
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Thirty Voices.

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Mr Harold Eden.
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Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
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Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
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Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
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The
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"JUDY,"

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Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
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in her great creation,

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JUDY,

as played by her
over 700 nights
in London.

WANTED, Nov. 14,
Nov. 21,
Dec. 5,
Christmas Vacant.
Jan. 2, 9, 23,
Feb. 6,
March 13, 20;
also Whit Week.

Mr Kirk thanks W. D. Forsdike, Esq., for Return Contract, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield; also T. Edwardes, Esq., for Contract, Grand Theatre, Derby.

Refer to any of the following Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
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Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton;
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
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General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Theatre Royal,
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MR FRANK FENTON'S TOUR.
"IF I WERE KING,"
from the St. James's Theatre.
Frank Fenton as François Villon,
Supported by a Strong Company.

WANTED, Good Theatre for Dec. 26 and Spring Dates, on, with exceptions.

Managers will oblige by sending
Vacant Dates to
FRANK FENTON,
Theatre Royal, Exeter, Oct. 17;
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, Oct. 24.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Nov. 14, to follow Bristol;
Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 6 and 13, to follow Stratford (Return).
Address, CHARLES M. JULIAN,
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WANTED, Farewell Tour of "Kitty Grey," few Good Dates for No. 1 Company during September, October, November, 1905.
No Dates Vacant till September, 1905.
New Scenery, Dresses, &c.
Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.

THE PRESTON and DOHERTY REPERTOIRE CO.
Under the direction of F. B. Woulfe.
"LADY GODIVA."
"JANE SHORE."
"NELL GWYNNE."
WANTED, Oct. 31 and Nov. 7.
Christmas Week Vacant.
F. B. WOULFE,
Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Theatres for Miss Bonwin
Carlton's "The Plucky Nipper" Company. J. H. Morton, Esq., Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath, says:—
Dear Surrey,—I have fixed you out of a dozen for Oct. 17.
This makes second visit in six months. Still a few vacant dates this year, viz., Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14.
Wire or write,
EDWARD SURREY,
This, Victoria Theatre, Littleborough, Lancashire;
Next, Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath.

"NO CROSS, NO CROWN."
WANTED, Nov. 14, and Christmas,
Good Theatres Only.
ROSE FAITH, Lyceum, Stafford; or, 37 West-street, Sheffield.

JOHN HARE'S REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
Splendid Company, Scenery, and Printing.
WANTED, Nov. 7, precede Macclesfield; Jan. 16, precede, Spennymoor; Feb. 20 and 27, follow Nottingham.
JAMES HARE, Theatre Royal, Edmonton, London, N.

WANTED, Theatres. "The Triumph of Truth," New and Original Drama. Excellent company, magnificent production.—Dover Observer. Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Dec. 19. MATHEW and HERRICK, To-day, Royal, Margate; next, T. R., Croydon.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," or "At Twelve Midnight," Nov. 3 (Three Nights, follow Dumfries), Christmas, Jan. 2, 9, 16, March 20, onwards.
C. CLIFFORD, Drill Hall, Durham (Three).

WANTED, Theatres, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore, Miss Frances Delaval's Co., Oct. 24 (through transfer), Nov. 7, 21, 28, Dec. 26. Wire, To-day, Dumfries; next, Pavilion Theatre, Edinburgh.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26,
Nov. 14, Dec. 26. A certain draw anywhere.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grand.
Wire, JAMES BELL, Carlton Theatre, Birmingham.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, for this Really Remarkable High-class Attraction, the talk of the Birmingham Theatres, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Jan. 9, onwards, with exceptions, Spring and Easter. J. H. CLYNDES, T.R., Batley.

THEATRES WANTED.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
GODFREY LAMPLUGH'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Christmas Week and Several Early Spring Dates, on.
Autumn Tour now settled.
"MISS MISCHIEF."
A New and Original Musical Comedy,
by
Mr Reginald Bacchus
and
Dr. F. Osmond Carr,
Composer of
"Morocco Bound,"
"His Excellency,"
"In Town,"
&c., &c., &c.
"MISS MISCHIEF"
will be introduced to the public on
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at the
Royal West London Theatre,
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Godfrey Lamplugh
and his
Specially Selected London Company, including
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Messrs T. E. Conover, Cecil Curtis, Liot,
Miss Crissie Francess, Miss Eileen Guilbert,
and
Miss Evelyn Hughes.
All communications,
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20, Caroline-place,
Bayswater,
London, W.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, and January Dates
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

WANTED, Theatres, 1905, for Important New Play.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
"IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
WANTED, Nov. 7, 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Christmas Week.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Nov. 7, Dec. 26, and Jan. 2.
Wire, KELLY,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Weeks of Nov. 14 and 21 for the above remarkable success.
Wire, KELLY,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, Dec. 26.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft. Peterborough to follow.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Jan. 30 (?), Feb. 20 (?), 27, and March 6 (?).
New Century Theatre, Motherwell,
Oct. 17, Six Nights.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Good Theatres, Good Theatres,
Oct 31 (North), Oct. 31.
Wire, wire, wire.
Nov. 28 (to precede Theatre Royal, Sheffield);
Dec. 20 (to follow G. T., Wolverhampton).
CHARLES R. STONE, Aquarium Theatre, Scarborough.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Dec. 12, Midlands or North;
Dec. 26 (Christmas Week), Midlands or North
March 20, Newcastle District,
to oblige Manager by transferring;
April 24 (Easter Week), Suburbs or South.
Address, CECIL BARTH,
Royal Princess's Theatre, London, N.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Oct. 24 (Manchester or Midlands), also Nov. 21 (Birmingham or South), for above. Wire To-day,
DAWSON, T. R., Goole;
next, T. R., Tyldesley.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."
WANTED, March 27, April 3, May 1, June 15. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, March 6, June 12, for Mrs Lewis Waller in "ZAZA" or Répertoire. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Alexandra Theatre, N.

"WOMAN AND WINE" COMPANY.
WANTED, Open Oct. 24, Rehearse Thursday previous at Leeds, Smart Utility Man, to assist with Baggage. Ad., F. WITHERS, T. R., Leeds.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Jan. 2 (?), 30 (?), Easter and Whit Weeks. FRED BULMER, P. T., Horwich, Lancs.

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash," Oct. 31, between Manchester and Birmingham.
Wire, LESLIE VYNER, Theatre Royal, Goole.

MR JOHN LEOPOLD'S
"NEW FRIVOLITY" COMPANY.
WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 21 and Dec. 5, Good Theatre.
JOHN ELLERY, Prince of Wales's, Nuneaton.

WANTED, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 14,
"Parson Thorn,"
Special Printing, First-class Company. Wire for 24, unexpectedly vacant. Refer Messrs Pennington, Bootle. Show better than ever. Comedy big feature. Wire, HALDANE, to-day, Llandudno; next, Gainsborough (Three), Yeadon (Three).

WANTED, for "Bigamy," Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 26. "THE LIFE THAT KILLS," Wanted Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and Few Spring. "THE GRIP OF THE LAW," Wanted Jan. 16, 23, April 10, and on.
FRED MOULE, King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

Rose Moncrieff's Pantomime
"RED RIDING HOOD."
WANTED, Good Theatre, Feb. 13 (North) and Easter Week, only Vacant Dates. Co. of London Artists, New Scenery and Effects.
N. MAURICE, Terriss Theatre, S.E.

C. P. LEVILLY'S No. 1 NORTH CO.
"AMORELLE."
"AMORELLE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres for Christmas Week and onwards.
Tour being prolonged owing to unqualified success of this New Comic Opera.
Address, HERBERT RALLAND, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres Only.
Nov. 7 and 14.
Nov. 7 and 14.
Address, HERBERT GRENVILLE,
Oct. 17, West Pier, Brighton.

"THE TRAITOR."
MITCHELSON and FINEBERG'S Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Christmas Week.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN,"
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest.
WANTED, Nov. 7 and 21, Jan. 2, 23, and 30. Absolutely no Fire Scene.
E. L. GARSIDE,
Junction Theatre,
Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 28 and Dec. 12,
"The Conscript."
MITCHELL and BELTON, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR ROBERT PERRIS'S COMPANY,
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
Beautiful Scenery.
Excellent Cast
Magnificent Plant of Printing.
Thanks to Mr Harris Fineberg for Early Return Date at the Star, Liverpool.
Thanks Mr W. Morton for Contract for Alex. Theatre, Hull.
Thanks to all other Managers for Offers, but must remind them that this is a First-class Show, and run on First-class Lines.

WANTED, Nov. 21 (South), Jan 2, 23, (precede Hull). April 24.
Resident Managers please Note that I am now Booking Autumn, 1905.
Mr Arthur Carlton says: The best and most up-to-date Drama in England to-day.

Address, ROBERT PERRIS,
Theatre Royal, Greenock.

MR JOHN DENTON'S COMPANY,
"A MODERN JUDAS."

WANTED, Nov 21, to Follow Grimsby.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Nov. 21, to oblige.
Wanted, Important Theatre, Nov. 21, Nov 21.
Powerful Play, Magnificent Production,
Excellent Cast, including
Percy Rhodes, Willie Scott, Frank Beresford, Trueman Towers, John Denton, Kate Walbran, Ada Palmer, Violet King.
The Best Played and Strongest Drama Touring.
Refer to Messrs Milton Bode, C. F. Williams, Samuel James, C. P. Cook, Mr Bennett, &c.
Wanted, Nov. 21 Wanted.
Now Booking Christmas and On.
All communications, TRUEMAN TOWERS,
Grand Theatre, Boscombe.

MR EDWARD A. COVENTRY
and
MR JOHN B. COLLINS'S COMPANY
in the
Sporting
Farcical Comedy
"THOROUGHBRED,"
by Ralph R. Lumley,
Author of "Aunt Jack," &c.

Entire Production Carried.

WANTED, Theatres, for Only Vacant Dates,
Oct. 24 and Nov. 21.

Now Booking Spring Tour.

Address,
W. J. LANCASTER.
Eccentric Club, S.W.

CHARLES A. CHANDLER'S COMPANY
in the Great Adelphi Success,
"THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE,"
by Sydney Grundy and the late Henry Pettitt.
Brixton Theatre crowded nightly.
Refer Murray Heriot, Esq.
Thanks Messrs Mouillot, Carlton, Cross, Morton Powell, Moore for Contracts. Also Offers from London Managers.
Nineteen Different Kinds of Printing.
Peal of Bells. Special Scenery.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 28 (London only), and 1905 Dates Add., this, Brixton; next, Kidderminster.

ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD.
"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."
"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."
By Walter Howard.
Entire Production Carried.

WANTED, Jan 16, Feb. 13, 20, 27, April 3, 17, possibly May 1, and on, including Whit week. Now booking Autumn. Wanted Aug 7, 14, 21, 28, precede Ramsgate; Sept 18, 25, Oct. 2, between Stratford and Liverpool; Oct. 23, follow Accrington
A. PAUMIER, P. O. W. Theatre, Southampton (return).

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
"The Sins of a City,"
Dec. 5, 26, Jan. 2
First-class Company. Magnificent Scenery.
Printing, Twenty Varieties.
Agent travelled.
WINIFRED MAUDE, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

MR WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Fifty-third Week of Continuous Successful Tour.
Enormous success at Dalston Theatre this week.
Refer to Milton Bode, Esq.

WANTED, Oct 31, Christmas, Jan. 2 and onwards with Exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
To-day, Dalston Theatre, N.E. Next, King's, Walthamstow

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

WANTED, Nov. 7 (London or Midlands)
Nov. 7 (London or Midlands)
Nov. 7 (London or Midlands)
Also Christmas and New Year's Weeks (North)
Also Christmas and New Year's Weeks (North).
Also Christmas and New Year's Weeks (North).
H. HOLLISTER,
Pleasure Gardens, Theatre, Folkestone.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Nov. 21 and 28, Dec. 5.

ERNEST P. CLIFT,
110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C.
Wires, "Vagancy, London."

EDMUND EDMUNDS' COMPANY OF COMEDIANS
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, Feb 13, 20 27.
The Company will include the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Maude Nelson as Principal Boy, and other First-class Performers. Total strength of Company, Forty. Four Weeks' Christmas Season already Booked at important London Theatre. Communications, W. SCOTT PHIPP, 37, Grosvenor-park, London, S.E.

Miss OLGA AUDRE, TRAVIS GREEN, and ARTHUR HINTON'S COMPANY, in Clarence Burnette's Masterpiece, "WHEN A MAN HATES."

WANTED, Oct. 24, 31 Only Vacancies till Jan. 2, 1905. An unprecedented success. Bookings include Osborne Manchester; Edinburgh, Dundee, Newcastle, Lancaster, Aberdare, Radcliffe, Pontypridd, Stirling, Inverness, &c. Wire or write, TRAVIS GREEN, Osborne Theatre, Manchester

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."

WANTED, Oct 24, 31, Nov 21, and Dec. 5, to follow Birkenhead. Refer Francis Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford; R. Ernest Liston, Esq., T. R., Leeds; Lingford Carson, Esq., Queen's, Keighley; C. P. Cooke, Esq., Grand, Nottingham. H. G. WYNN, Queen's, Fleetwood.

WANTED, for Howard Hinton's "Dick Whittington," First-class Theatres. Tour:—
Dec. 26, Metropole, Birkenhead;
Jan. 2, Metropole, Birkenhead;
Jan 9, Opera House, Wakefield;
Jan. 16 Royal, Smethwick;
Jan. 23, Royal, Aston;
Jan. 30, Opera House, Coventry;
Feb. 6, Opera House, Burton.
Feb. 13, Vacant.
Feb. 20, Vacant.
Wire or Write, HINTON,
36, South-street, Harborne, Birmingham.

WANTED, Christmas and New Year, for Miss Emma Litchfield's Drama,
"A LONDON ACTRESS"
"A LONDON ACTRESS"
"A LONDON ACTRESS"
Stamped by the Public with the Hall Mark of Success. Wanted, Good Theatre for Christmas. STUART CLEVELAND, Alexandra, Birmingham, Return.

HARDIE and VON LEER'S
"A PATH OF THORNS" COMPANY.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Nov. 7, only Vacant Date this year.
Magnificent Cast, including:—
Claude King, Cecil Du Gué, W. L. Rignold, Miss Violet Luddington, Miss M. Stanley Burt, &c.,
and Thirty Children in Song and Dance.
Enormous Advertising Plant. Two Advance Agents.
Splendid Business Everywhere.

ERNEST P. CLIFT,
10, St. Martin's-lane, W.C. Wires, "Vagancy, London."

WANTED, Managers with Open Dates, for really Gigantic Pantomime Production, to communicate with
J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

THEATRES WANTED

"HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19.

Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 30, Feb. 6

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 5.

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5, Jan. 2 and 9.

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

CARSON, GRANVILLE, and THORNE'S COMPANY
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."

WANTED, for this most Successful Attraction,
Jan. 2 and 23.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE, Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

MR STANLEY HOPE'S COMPANY,
in
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL,"
by Henry Merriman
The Latest Dramatic Success.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 21, Dec. 5. Christmas and New Year's Weeks Vacant.
Tremendous success in Liverpool this week.
1,700 Persons Paid for Admission to the Queen's, Monday.
1,700 again on Tuesday.
Refer Fred Granville, Esq., Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
Return Dates booked Everywhere.
More New Scenery being Travelled. More New Printing.
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL"
promises to be one of the Biggest Successes on Tour.
Enthusiastic calls after each Act.
Double Call at End of Piece.
Now Booking Autumn, 1905.

Address, STANLEY HOPE,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.

WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction, Christmas and New Year Weeks, Jan. 9 and 16. Rapidly Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905. Beautifully Mounted. New Special Scenery and Effects. Magnificently Advertised and splendidly Played.
A Confirmed Success.
Oct. 17, New Theatre Royal, West Stanley.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."

WANTED, Nov 7 (?), Dec. 26, Jan. 16, 23, 30 (?), Feb. 6, 13, on.
Address, Theatre Royal, Stratford.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
Elaborate Plant of Pictorials.
The above will be toured in First-class Style by
ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.

WANTED, Jan. 9 (Week), 16 (Three Nights), 23, Feb 13, Midlands, and various onwards
All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON,
Strathmore, Norfolk House-road, Streatham, S.W.

GEORGE LYTTLETON'S
"AT WAR WITH THE WORLD"
COMPANY.

WANTED Theatres, Oct 17, 24, 31, November, Christmas, onwards.
New Printing just completed.
All Special Scenery and Properties Carried.
Theatres recently visited include Coventry, Southampton, Birkenhead, Shields, Leeds, Walsall, Burton, Greenwich, Oldham the Surrey, Bootle, &c.
Everything reliable.
Printing always ready.
GEO. LYTTLETON, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

GUS C. LIVESEY'S CO., "THE CRIMSON CLUB."
Thirty-eighth Week of Unbroken Tour. A Proved success.

WANTED, Oct 31 (Three)? Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 26 (?), Jan. 9 30, and Various Autumn.
Undoubtedly a money-maker.
To-day, Worksop; R., Cadoxton.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Nov 7, Christmas, Jan. 30, for the Universal Success, "Her Fatal Past" T. E. WARD, P.O.W.T., Wolverhampton

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."

WANTED, Nov. 21, Follow Plymouth "Dishonoured"
Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, the Fays, American Mysteries, and Grand Combination, including Carl and Carr, Famous Comedians. Splendid Printing. Imperial Hall, Newark.

WANTED, the Harmonic Entertainers, Up-to-Date Costume Comedy Party. Town Halls near London. What Offers? Good Agent Wanted.
65, Fortess-road, London, N.W.

ARTISTES WANTED

Musical Comedy and Pantomime.

WANTED, Principals Pantomimists, Small Parts, and Chorus For latter Good Voices and figures indispensable Apply Friday next, 11·30 a.m.,
WALTER SUMMERS
28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Artistes. Oct. 17, 18. 19, 20, 24, 25, November, Christmas. Composers, Correspondents write. Programme Ladies. AMUSEMENT, 6, Whitefriars, E.C.

MR GEORGE KIRK'S "JUDY" COMPANY.

WANTED, First-class Heavy Lady. Tall, Thoroughly Experienced, and Dress smartly. Send photos, terms, and references.
Theatre Royal, Chesterfield

WANTED, immediately, Juvenile Gentleman for "The Temptress" Company. Rehearse London Tuesday next. Address, GORDYN and GELLING West London Theatre, W.

WANTED, Tall, Recognised Heavy Man, Soubrette, Sing and Dance. Also possible Vacancy Light Comedian. Age, height, references, &c. Long Tour. Rehearse Monday, 17th, Stratford. BEAUDYN and LIVESEY, 38, Grove-crescent-road, Stratford, London.

PRESTON and DOHERTY'S REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
Under the direction of F. B. WOULFE.

WANTED, Good Responsible Gentleman, at once. F. B. WOULFE, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Gent to Play Gunning, "Tyranny of Tears;" Harker, "Bunch of Violets" Full particulars, H. V. NEILSON, O. H., Weston-super-Mare.

WANTED, Comedians for Next Season. Teddy Denham and Frank Marney Write.
LEE and ARDEN, Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

WANTED, Comedian for Small Scotch Part in "There and Back" (Jack Macrae) Fit-ups and Theatres. RAMSDALE, Jubilee Hall, Aldeburgh, Suffolk.

"A WOMAN ADRIFT"

WANTED, for Special Week, Oct. 24, First-class Coster Comedian, capable of pathos; First-class Irish Comedian; also responsible Man to assist with Stage Management. Those in neighbourhood preferred. Lowest terms to SANDERSON MOFFAT, K. T., Walthamstow.

WANTED, Character Comedian, for Jew; also First-class Comedienne. Photos., age, height, lowest terms for Tour extending to Whit,
Box 8,570, care of "The Era" Office.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, at once, Six Young Ladies, for a Production. Apply, Mr EDDIE STIDDER, Musical Clown, from the Palace, Empire, &c., 26, Affleck-street, N.

WANTED, Artistes for Sacred Concert, to be held at People's Palace, Sunderland, on Sunday Evening, Nov. 27, in aid of the Sunderland Dispensary. Apply, with full particulars, stating lowest terms, to ROBT. MUSHENS, Secretary, 6, Lambton-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, for a Six Months' Engagement in the South of France several Young Ladies, must be good dancers and of good appearance.
Apply, GALENZI and SHEREK,
4, Leicester-street, Leicester-square.

WANTED, Six Smart Ladies, Vocalists and Dancers. Must be Fine Figure. To join Musical Company, Music Halls Send photo. and full particulars to Mr JONATHAN, 37 Diggon-street, Stepney, London.

WANTED, Lady Vocalist and Dancer, good Appearance and Strong Voice. Age, height, particulars, in first instance, to Box 8,563, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Lady for Sketch (about Thirty). Small Part and Useful.
Apply letter, LESLIE BELL, 162, Walworth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Little Girl to Train for Christmas Production Board and Residence provided. No Premium. Box 8,548, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscopes, First-class Operators, well up in Lime and Electric. Apply, with full particulars, first letter, 54, Daleview-road, Stamford-hill, London.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, an Amateur Lady. Good Professional Experience, is wishful to Play Part in Production in Spring. Premium Box 8,510, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known. Amateur Lady. Good Professional Experience, is wishful to Play Good Part in Production in Spring. Premium. Box 8,510, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement by Arthur Knott, Humourist, Pianist, and Flautist, of the London, Leeds, Bradford, Aberdeen, and Glasgow City Concerts.
Six Years with the Flood-Porter Concert Party.
17, Formosa-street, Maida-hill, W.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Alto Voice. Would join Sister or take part in Sketch. JESSIE BURNETTE, 4, Church-road, Kesex-road.

WANTED, by Soprano (Professional), Engagements Would join Good Baritone Excellent Répertoire. ALICE KERR, 6, Royal-parade, Fulham-cross.

WANTED Engagements by Harry Watson, Male Soprano. Just Concluded with I.D.K. Minstrels. 36, Glendale-street, Hackney, London

WANTED, Engagements, Concerts, &c., Handbell Soloist, Variety Instrumentalist. Terms Low J. E. B., 33, Union-road, Newington-causeway, S.E.

WANTED Engagement by Acrobatic Dancer, in Quartette or Troupe.
Address, Miss DOROTHY RUBY, 60, Sale-street, Derby.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Pantomime Artists for "Robinson Crusoe," produced Dec. 26 at O. H., Cheltenham (Three Weeks) and First-class Tour to follow. Vacancy for dashing Principal Boy, good Pair or Trio of Sisters, Clown Comedian for Billy Crusoe, Animal Impersonators, and Specis, "Cinderella," produced New Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, Dec. 12, Rehearse Dec. 5, Tour to follow. Vacancies for Prince and Dandini, Two Comedians for Sisters, Baron, Vocalist for Fairy Queen, and a Few Small-part Ladies. Specialities required Weekly, or for Tour. Chorus and Show Ladies required. JOHN WALTERS, Theatre Royal, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Second Boy for Pantomime, must be good; and First-class Serio, Young and good Figure. Salary no object; also good Fairy Queen (Soprano only). Send particulars and where can be seen working to
J. GAR-KIDDIE, A. T., Widnes.

WANTED, Quartette of Dancers, Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos, terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Artistes, Disengaged for Pantomime (London or Provinces) to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, a Pair of Sisters, Disengaged for Pantomime, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.

WANTED, Principal Boy ("Aladdin"), Girl, Second Boy and Fairy; also Three Comedians, and Troupe of Dancers. Open Dec. 19.
S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager.

WANTED, for "Dick Whittington," Touring Pantomime, Chorus Ladies, Tall, Young. Write, enclosing photos., particulars, and lowest terms, H. CLEMENTS, 131, Peckham-rye, S.E.

WANTED, Pantomime Choristers, all Voices. Apply, any day, between 11·0 and 1·0, Kelson Trueman, Regent-house 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Two Clever Children for Babes; also Tall Chorus Ladies with Voices and Specialities. GUSTAVE, Ladywood Palace, Birmingham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Miss Amy Calcott, Charming Actress and Magnificent Danseuse (late Miss Amy Leggett, of the Leggett Combination), Vacant for Pantomime,
Principal Boy or Girl and Speciality.
See the Calcotts' Advert. on another Page.
Unparalleled success Macnaghten Tour.
Communications,
ERIC CALCOTT, 4, Valmar-road, London, S.E.;
or, De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, an Ideal Principal Boy, Marie Liston,
a Lady you can understand.
On Tour Free for Pantomime.
Care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty for Pantomime. Principal Boy.
Offers invited. Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Brighton Girls, "Swiss Express;" Hetty Coventry, Acrobatic Dancer, Dis for Panto. Offers invited. 17th, G., Leith, Scotland.

WANTED, Pantomime by Victor Vernon An Ideal Dame. Principal Comedian Four Seasons, T. R., Plymouth. Address, 3, Gladstone-st., Leicester

WANTED, Pantomime, by Fred Solo and Agnes Mayo. Last year, Fiszwarren and Second Girl. Parts played, Cook, Buttons, Cassim, King, Hassarac, &c. The Limes, Melrose-road, Southfields, S.W.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Hayden Clifford, Comedian (Dancer). Stage-Manager; also Violet Holland, Speciality Dancer, Second Boy or Girl. P. T., Glasgow.

WANTED, Pantomime by Teddy Myles, Principal Comedian, Three Seasons (Baron), James Kiddie's "Cinderella." Address, New Theatre, Arbroath.

WANTED, Good Panto., Phil and Ada Royston, Character Comedian, Second Girl, Principal Dancer, and Speciality. Stage or Act.-Man., 30, Egerton-street, Heaton-park, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Brown and Spink Comedians, with Great Animal Act, at Liberty for Panto., &c. BROWN and SPINK, 11, Virginia-st., Southport.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle, Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Pantomime.
Last Two Years, Grand, Nottingham.
Thanks John Tiller, Esq., Lester Collingwood, Esq., for Offers.
Address, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, the Two Kelsos (Bill and Tom), Comedians, Pantomimists, and Dancers, are at Liberty for First-class Panto Seven Seasons with Milton Bode, Esq.; Four Seasons with Will Sley, Esq.
Marsh-buildings, Cleckheaton Yorks

WANTED Known, Reed and Lerne, the Novel Comedians, Vacant Pantomime, Parts and Speciality. This week, Grand T., Newcastle; Monday, Metropole T., Gateshead. Thanks for Offers and Inquiries

WANTED, Known, Les Frères St Clair, the Great Continental Comedy Knockabout Cyclists, Vacant for London or Provincial Pantomime.
Address, care of LEWIS LEVEY,
14, Rue de Deux Gare, Paris; or, "The Era."

WANTED, Liberty, Levite's Pantomime Troupe, also Belle Ida, the Charming Burlesque Artiste. Opening, Specialities, and Harlequinade. 103, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto Engagement, Christmas, by the Florador Quartette Parts, Traps, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beattie Trixie, Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, Stratford.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a Gentleman to act as Manager of Small Suburban Hall, to combine Bill-Inspecting. An Actor preferred. SECRETARY, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham-road, S.W. Mark letters "Management."

WANTED, Young Gentleman to take Financial Interest, Assist Management, and Play Part, Provincial Tour. Lady for Small Part and Understudy. Photos, refs THESPIAN, 39, The Park, Highgate.

WANTED, Handy Man to Manage Stage of Small Suburban Hall. Must be useful man in every way, and able to use his Tools. Letters, with references, age, terms, &c., to SECRETARY, 49, Binfield-road, Clapham-road, S.W. Mark letters, "Carpenter."

WANTED, by a Music Publisher, the Services of a Gentleman Thoroughly Experienced in Selecting and Purchasing Novelties from Authors and in Publishing Musical Works in an up-to date manner. address, by letter, with full details of experience, salary required, &c., to Box 8,561, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Advance Agent, Abstainer; reference, which will be thoroughly investigated, NORMAN V. NORMAN, Opera House, Cork.

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Now Touring with Buffalo Bill's Wild West.
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WANTED, First-class Circus Leader and Complete Band of Ten Performers. Open Nov. 7. Bosco, Circus, Belfast.

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Military Journals.
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the Biggest Star Comedians,
the Biggest Star Comedians,
Gymnasts, Acrobats, and Trapeze Artistes,
Gymnasts, Acrobats, and Trapeze Artistes,
Sketch Companies, Illusionists, and Serios,
Sketch Companies, Illusionists, and Serios,
Animal Acts of the Highest Magnitude,
Animal Acts of the Highest Magnitude,
in fact,
in fact,
Any Act up to £100 per week,
Any Act up to £100 per week,
Can have Dates at the above,
Can have Dates at the above,
but must be new to Sheerness,
but must be new to Sheerness.

If you are worth what you ask write in at once. We must have value for money, as we intend paying twenty shillings in the pound, but not twenty-one.

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Manager, G. SCOTT.

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Six Good Acts.
At Liberty Nov. 14, or could find Company.
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Vacant Dec. 5, 12, and 19.
Only Vacant Dates this Year.
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Next week, Alhambra, Brighton.

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WANTED, by Alec Aubrey, Astounding Gymnast, Oct. 17, through postponing Northampton. Wire, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash.

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WANTED, Oct. 17, by Mdlle. De Vena, Unique Lady Juggler.
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WANTED, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 14, 21, through postponing, by the Dardinis. The talk in every town. Packed houses everywhere. The Funniest and Most Successful, Refined, and Comedy Juggling Act. Nearly Booked full up, 1905-6.

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WANTED, by Les Bois, Burlesque Jugglers, Oct. 24 and 31, Vacant through mistake in dates with B. Armstrong, Esq. City Varieties, Leeds

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Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
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Big Acts Required for Immediate Dates.

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J. Tysoe-Smith, 15A, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Engagement, Manchester."

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Singles, Doubles, and Specialities. Open Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7. Lowest to HUGH DEMPSEY, 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON,
Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, Artistes to send lowest terms and Vacant Dates.
Vacancies on all Dates.

WANTED, Artistes of all Descriptions, Suitable for Carnivals at Olympia, Sunderland.
Apply, CARR, for RICHARDSON BROS., Limited.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager,
WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Nov. 21, only Vacant Date this year. Freaks or Novelties open at once. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes all Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties, Oct. 24, onwards State lowest terms, Bookings, &c., Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines from November on,
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

BRITANNIA MUSIC HALL, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines. Send bills and programmes of last engagement. Manager, GEO. SAPHRINI.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, Oct 24 and 31. EYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

J. A. Cassels and Fred A. Howard, the Central Musical Agency, 132, West Nile-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artistes Coming North. Send Vacant Dates and lowest terms for Glasgow, Greenock, and Scotch Concerts.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines, for Five small Halls (South); also World's Fair, Dublin. Absolute lowest. Leslie's Agency, Frankfort-buildings, Plymouth.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Oct. 24 and 31, onwards.
W. BIRCHALL, Empire, Wigan.

HIPPODROME, LEIGH, LANCS.

WANTED, Artistes All Lines for Nov. 7, onwards. Big Tops. Share or salary.
State lowest terms. Lessee and Manager, T. H. DUNLOP.

CIRCUS and HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.

WANTED, Artist, Nov., on. Rehearsal Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Three Woodbee Wonders, Harry Bent, Charlotte Lunn, Floradora Girls, Miss Mignon, Ormonde Penstone, Prof. M'Cann's Dogs, Milner Verren, Hughes's Elextograph. Letters, S. L. LEE.

WANTED, Star Artistes in every Line to communicate,
Barnard and Deetrich, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

WANTED, Star Artistes, Novelties, Specialities, Comedians, anything worthy of Top and Bottom. Money no object. Nothing too big. Everything of the Best Required. Full particulars, Bookings, terms, Yates's Agency, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Artistes only, in all Lines, Oct. 10, onwards. Full particulars.
Cadle's Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines to send Permanent Address and terms to
ROBERT MARTIN, 74, Kent street, Grimsby.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Vacant Oct. 17, and onwards, to communicate with Cavill and Co., 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone, 2,140, Royal.

WANTED, First-class Artists, in all Lines, for Liverpool, &c., Oct. 24 and on.
The Empire Theatrical Agency, Ltd.,
St. James's Hall, Manchester.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and J. W. CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to
Burns's Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and
Manchester.
Telephone 0,231; Telegrams, "Burns."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Oct. 17;—Muir and Bartlett, James Stewart, Wee Mona, Burns's Bioscope, George Collins, Harden and Wills, Codge, Harry Tomlinson, Cycling Elliotts, and Seven Musical Savonas.
10 o'clock prompt.
All Artists not sending in their Bill Matter Two clear Weeks before Opening, besides standing risk of having their Contracts Cancelled for same, may rely on prompt action at law being taken as per Rule No. 6.
(Signed) HARRY BURNS, General Manager.

WANTED, Artistes holding Engagements Alhambra, Belfast, to write in Fourteen Days before Opening. H. T. DOWNS, Manager

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
The
Best
Artists
in
all
Lines.
Immediate and Future Dates.

Send full Bookings and lowest terms,
Geo. Zalva's Agency,
19, Chapelfield-road,
Norwich.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines. Rehearsal 2·0 p.m., Oct. 17, for Swift Trio, Harry Carmen, Barton Howard, Sleath and Aldin, Joe Gill Les Prinellas, Miss Helena, Sisters Isabelle, Hippograph, &c. Scarborough Hippodrome. Lessee, QUISTON GIBSON.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Morecambe, Blackpool, and other Big Towns, Big Stars, Singing Turns, Novelties, Specialities, New Sensations. Price no object.
Lithos. and Price;
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Liverpool, St. Helens, Warrington, and Ashton, Stars and Novelties, Oct. 31, onwards.
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Stars, Novelties, and Artistes, in all Lines, Nov. 7, onwards, Suburbs. Lowest for both one or two houses nightly, and bookings to (Letters only) FRED ARTHUR, Myrtle Lodge, College-street, Putney, S.W.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, Oct. 17, onwards.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c.
Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076, Royal.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Turns of All Kinds, for Cork and other Irish Towns.

M. Chester and Co.,
Dramatic and Variety Agents,
13, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Turns, Real Novelties, and Specialities. Van Biene and Phillips, 19, Severus-road, Clapham-junction.

WANTED, Star Turns, Tops of Bill, for London and Provinces.
Also Good Comedy Numbers, for a West-end Hall. Exclusive Engagement. State where Performing, and will See Act, whether in England or Continent.
Distance no Object for Big, Reliable Numbers.
Day's Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard.
Telegraphic address, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

ACCRINGTON.—HIPPODROME.

WANTED, the Best, New to Accrington, for Oct. 24 and 31.
Artists booked in Blackburn please refrain from writing. Accrington is barred.
Call, Oct. 17, 1 0 prompt:—Caban's Circus, Fred Horsfall, Mr and Mrs Lucas, Fred Curran, C. Ulrick, E. Wilkes, Bock Pyiades, Handy Andy, Bioscope.
Vandy, Agent, Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Oct. 22.
Terms, &c, first letter. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, for Opening of Hippodrome, Oct 31, on, Talent, all Lines, suitable for Yorkshire. Pantomime Sketches, Cinématographs, write; also Band, five or six, including Pianist. Lowest, sample posters. Address, Braham, Agent, 12, William-street, Bradford, till first post Monday; after, Tivoli, High Shields.

WANTED, Funny Acts, Comedians, Comediennes, Doubles doing Singles; also Good Principal Boy and Quartette of Lady Vocalists and Dancers, for Two Weeks, Pantomime Sketch, in November, for Pavilion, Altrincham, near Manchester. Lowest terms, FRED BUDD, Red Lion Hotel, Altrincham.

BORO' THEATRE OF VARIETIES, NORTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, ARTHUR JEFFERSON.

WANTED, High-class Acts of every Description. Booking Agent, Harry Burns Empress, E. Hartlepool, to whom please apply direct. A.J.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, suitable for Galas, for Whit Week and August, at Northampton.
Address, M'ASKILL, 40, Victoria-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Startling, Attractive Top of Bill, Nov. 7 and on. Also Speciality and Variety Turns. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, for November, December, January, and on, Specialities of Every Description. Artistes please note this is a good break to and from Scotland and Ireland. Address, C. ALGIE.

DERBY, GRIMSBY, and ATTERCLIFFE.

WANTED, for Present and Future Dates, Star Vocalists, Speciality Acts of every description, Comedy, Acrobatic, and Juggling Acts, and Funny Sketches. Quote lowest terms or useless. T. EDWARDES.

WANTED, Monday next, One Week, Good Serio or Descriptive Vocalist for Mountain Ash. FRANK WHITELEY, Victoria Theatre, Morriston, near Swansea.

WANTED, Smart Step Dancer. Height 5ft. 2in. Call, 41, Gower-street, W.C., any time next week.

WANTED, Good, Willing, Refined, Sober, Scotch Comedian,
Open Nov. 7.
Address,
JOHN HENRY COOKE, Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Young Boy Comedian to join Juvenile Troupe. Salary and Board. No Novices. Application to
Didcott's Agency, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

TIVOLI, KIDDERMINSTER.

WANTED, Good Ventriloquist and Bioscope, Monday next (wire); also Artistes, all Lines, Oct. 24. REEKIN and STEPHENS.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, First-class Artistes of every Description in the Variety Profession, Novelties, Novelties, Novelties, and Sensational Attractions, Good Singing and Comedy Turns, and Big Sketches. Comedy Contortionists and Patter Comedians not Required. Artistes are Respectfully Requested to write direct, and thus save any blundering. Good Artistes can always be Booked. A Fair Market Value. Turns appearing in London, Liverpool, Manchester are invited to give time and hall, when Mr Sylvester will call and see the Turn before Engaging.

Apply, stating actual lowest terms, to
T. M. SYLVESTER,
Hippodrome,
Coventry.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Wakefield, Variety and Equestrian Artistes in Every Branch of the Profession, Big Star Turns, Comedy Sketches, Novelties, Equestrian, Aquatic, and other Spectacles.
All must be New to Wakefield.

Apply, with lowest terms, to
T. M. SYLVESTER,
Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, for the Ipswich Hippodrome and New Coliseum,
Variety Artists and Talent of every Description.
We are fast booking for the New Coliseum, and we want all the Stars in the English Variety Profession to follow.
Miss Marie Lloyd, Geo. Chirgwin, Tom Leamore, Pat Rafferty, Ella's Lions, Imperial Boys' Orchestra, Herr Fritz, Lorenzenwiche's Russian Circus, and many other Turns.
Artistes booking for the above hall can have Contracts for Three other Towns, all within 3s. ride from Ipswich.
We are in a position to engage Artists also for Tunbridge Wells, Crewe, Southport, and Blyth.
Apply, with actual lowest terms, to
T. M. SYLVESTER, Hippodrome, Coventry.
Notice to Artistes and those whom it may concern.—We, the undersigned, wish to publicly announce that we have every confidence in the abilities of our manager, Mr T. M. Sylvester, and in reply to the certain gentlemen who have been circulating unfriendly remarks and at the same time endeavouring to discourage us against Mr Sylvester, we have unanimously decided to support him to the very last farthing. Be it our fate to fall, we shall do so in a sporting-like manner. We are here first and intend to stay, and have the support and confidence of the people of Ipswich.
(Signed)
T. WADE,
T. JACKSON,
MAYOR PYKE,
BARON HALLIFF,
and
T. C. BARRETT, Directors.

WANTED, Conjuror, Punch and Judy, Ventriloquist, to Engage for Christmas Season to End of January. Society Entertainer, specially for Evening and Children's Parties. Apply, giving particulars, terms, &c., to LAWRENCE AND SON, 5, 6, and 7, Upper Sackville street, Dublin.

WANTED, Smart Young Girls, with good knowledge of Trick Cycling, to join Well-known Troupe.
State age, list of tricks, &c.
R. G. D.,
Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, a Smart Little Girl for High-class Illusions, and to make herself generally useful. Good home, &c. Full particulars, photo., to PRINCE SAMOUDA, 4, Ducie-grove, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Cinematograph Operator, with Own Machine and Latest Russo-Japanese War Films. Full particulars, Box 8,563, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, with Machine, for London. Permanent. Write absolute lowest, COLLIN, 173, Hoe-street, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Young Man to work Cinématograph and assist on Stage, Billing. State lowest terms, DUNLOP, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Lovell, the Incomparable Burlesque Favourite,
Success Everywhere, Liberty Oct. 17 and 24.
Proprietors Requiring Sound Artiste and Genuine Turn for Panto., 1904-5, please wire for Speciality,
Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Henriette, Splendid Vocal Instrumental Act, Vacant Oct. 24, Nov. 7; also Panto., Part and Speciality. First-class offers only. This, R., Oldham; next, Irving T., Seacombe

WANTED, Known, Florrie Claribell Tyrolean Songstress and Dancer, Vacant Monday. Wire, Gaiety Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dolly Elsworthy, Principal Boy, Messrs Dottridge and Longden's Pantomime, 1904 and 1905. Third year. Thanks to Leon for "The Beautiful Bird-Fish" and "Kosher" at that. Next week, Sadler's Wells and Canning-town.

WANTED, Monday next, by Sisters Ely, the Talented Duettists, through mistake in date. Wire, Empire Palace, South Shields.

WANTED, Engagements, Judge Bolton, High-class Variety Entertainer. Two Distinct Acts. Apply, 41, Prince's-road, Hull.

WANTED, by James Graydon (the Quaint One), Oct. 17, 24, and onwards. Panto. offers invited. 33, Oseney-crescent, Camden-town, N.W.

WANTED, Oct. 24, on, by Cambo, Musical Monkey (Novelty); also Vent. Show. Two Big Acts. Monday, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Engagements by Alex Gay, the Bricklayer Conjuror (who appears in working clothes). Dates, Oct. 17, and onwards, with exceptions. All communications,
W. J. GREENWOOD, 13, Hambledon-street, Blyth.

WANTED, Monday Next and 24th, by J. H. Kavanagh, Comedian, &c. All New Songs. Wire, 5, Clayton-street East, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Oct 24 and on by Arthur Moss, the Favourite Baritone. Halls or Concert Party. Fine Voice and Songs 144, Bloxwich-road, Walsall.

WANTED, Monday, by Frank Deva, Rustic Character Comedian. Great Success last week at the Canterbury. Great Success this week at the South London, where Wire.
Perm. 25, Churton-road, Chester.

WANTED, by Ernest Wilson, Actor-Vocalist. Liberty Monday, also 24th. Ethel Mohr, Balladist, late Tom White's Arabs. Also Liberty Panto., Baron and Fairy Queen. E. M. has fully recovered from recent serious illness. Fitter than ever. Wire, 47, Union-square, Bury.

WANTED, by George Ritter, Vocal, Musical Speciality Comedian, Good Répertoire of Songs (Pianist combined). At Liberty, 17th, 24th, on. Halls or Good Tour. Would join big Speciality.
Wire or write,
Buckhurst-hill, Essex.

WANTED, Agent to book Joe Harwood, Comedian, Oct. 17, onward. Just concluded Empire, Rochdale. Reference, Mr Hargreaves, 360, Lever-street, Bolton.

WANTED.—Picitt, Handcuff King and Jail-breaker, without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes. Sensational Escapes Nightly in Full View of the Audience. Big Top of the Bill Act. Well Staged. As Refined as it is Sensational. Assisted by a Pretty Lady Beautifully Dressed. Vacant Oct. 24, onwards, with exceptions. Conclude J. D. Hunter's Tour to-day. Wire, Corn Exchange, Ashford, Kent. Monday, Circus, Exeter.

WANTED, Oct. 17 and 24, by Douglas M'Clellan, Artistic Magician, Premier Billiard Ball Manipulator. Unique and Novel. Phœnix-st., Bolton.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ben Hur at Liberty Nov. 14, 28, with his New Strong Act, a Sure Draw, Sack of Sand Competition.
Communications, 687, Commercial-road, London, E.

WANTED, Dates, by Ionia (the Rifle King) and Assistant Sensational Shooting Act. Address, 69, Lauderdale-street, Preston, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward (Fred and Kitty), Comedy Artistes, Vacant Monday. Wire, 20, Greek-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday Next, Arthur Richards, Character Comedian; Renée Walon, Comedienne, Dancer. Wire, one or both, 19, Chapel-lane, Wigan.

WANTED, Monday next, also Oct. 31, by Dan Idle and Lillie Harrington. One or both. Wire, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Charles Ellis, Character Comedian (à la Harry Randall), and Miss Marie Laurence, Serio and Dancer, Immediate Dates. Also Panto, Christmas, 1904. Box 8 550. "The Era."

WANTED, by Fred Dice and Amy Allnutt, Oct. 17 and 24. Two Big Turns. Sure success. Also Lib. Panto, Principal Boy and Dame. Wire, Hippo., Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Reg Templeton, Comedian, and Stella May, Dainty Comedienne, Liberty Oct. 24 and 31. Address offers, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Monday next, Bob Hartley, Comedian, also Doris Dene, Serio. Big success and Second Week at Corbett's Varieties, Hednesford.

WANTED, Monday next and 24th, by the Minios (Joe and Cissy), Musical Eccentrics and Comic Sketch Artistes. Wire, 31, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Oct. 17 and 24 by Kyoto, the Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box; also May Geraldine, Comedienne, Dancer. 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, S.E.

WANTED, Oct. 24 and 31, St. Albans' and Williams' Star Operatic Vocalists and Duettists, Harmony Blenders. 179, Granton-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by the Cecil Waller Duo, in their Original Burlesque, Oct. 24 and 31, through misunderstanding. Wire, 23, Green-st, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Golden and Grey, in Racy Vaudeville, Vacant Oct. 24. North. Two Acts, if required. Wire, Empire, Paisley.

WANTED, Known, Huntley and Palmer, Eccentric Comedians, New Sketch entitled "Farmer Giles in Trouble," introducing the Only Wrestling Donkey in England, this, Circus of Varieties, Rochdale. Permanent, 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Oct. 24 and Nov. 7 by Dale and D'Argan, Funny Acrobatic Conjurors. Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, by Belrose and De Velin, Speciality Duettists, Oct. 17, open through Disappointment at Dundee. Wire, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, Immediate Dates by Elgar and Gaskell, in their Great Musical Absurdities. This, Haymarket M. H., Liverpool; next, Prince's T., Preston.

WANTED, Monday next; also Oct. 24, by the Laughter Makers, the Alleyn Trio, in "In Possession." Also Holger, Paper Manipulator. Hip., Scarboro'.

WANTED, by the Lovelaces, Greatest of all Song Illustrators, Monday next, Oct. 17; also 24th. Wire for Monday, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Telegrams, wireless and otherwise, for Oct. 24, the Rushforths, Song Illustrators; King Leo, Ventriloquist. Royal, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, the Wonderful Miltons at Liberty with latest Illusions, "Mysterious Disappearance of Miss Brown" and "The Magic Kettle."

WANTED.—Wonderful Miltons, Panto., Principal Girl; Gent., Small Part. Big Specialities. Palace. Rose Bank, Herga-road, Wealdstone.

WANTED, Known, the Wonderful Miltons' latest Illusions, "Mysterious Disappearance of Miss Brown." Agent, Sylvester, 271, Clapham-rd., London.

WANTED, Monday next, through obliging, Five Royal Electrical Musical Musical Zerbinis and Henriot and Sauvion, Conjurors. Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Four Arizonas, Acrobatic Tumblers. Also Will Percival, Comedian, Dancer. Wire, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Tom Hall's Burlesque Acrobatic Nippers. Own Family. Dog and Monkey. Vacant Nov. 14. G. Aytoun, 22, Wilson-rd., Camberwell.

WANTED, Monday next and Oct. 24, Sardou's Illusionists, "Marvellous Mystifiers," Big Act. Also Marie Riviers, Comedienne, finish to-night sixth visit, Palace T., Aberdeen. Wire quick for Monday.

WANTED, by Oakdene, Novelty Ventriloquist. Oct. 24, New Act, "Fun in a Studio," introducing Brilliant Novelties. Oct. 17, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Le Warren, Ventriloquist, Liberty, Monday, Oct. 17, also 31st. Wire or write, Empire, Paisley, N.B. First vacancy since May.

WANTED, November, and Later, Bookings, the Royal Entertainers. Five Turns. Concerts or Two Hours. Share or Salary. Mr Harry Liston, Egyptian Hall, London.

WANTED, Oct. 24 and 31, by Ross Combination, Great Comedy Boxing Act. This week, Starring, Public Hall, Barnsley. Monday, Hippo, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, Emma Don and Company, Liberty, Monday, Oct. 17. Wire, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, through Misunderstanding, 24th, 31st, by the Melvernes, Living Marionettes, and Newling Major, Ventriloquial Etonian. Together or separate. Two Reliable Acts. Enormous success this week, Glasgow (Starring); next week, Grand Theatre, Islington, London, where wire quick.

WANTED, by W. Salmon, Trick and Musical Cyclist, Oct. 17 and 24. Wire, 25, Albany-terrace, Burnley; or Agent, Stebbing.

WANTED, Monday next, Chard's Dog Circus. Startling and incredible unless seen. Fourteen Dog Artists. Now the whole talk of Blackpool. Hippodrome, Nightly. See other advert.

WANTED, Engagements for Miss Nellie Wick, the Champion Shaver of the World, the marvel of the age, in her Lightning Shaving Act. Twenty shaved with one hand, two heads and blindfold inside ten minutes. The world's record. £1 000 challenge to the world. Agents wanted. Teddy Wick, Camberwell.

WANTED, Engagement, W. Gregory, Expert Operator; also Maud Verdi, First-class Ballad Vocalist, Picture Show, or Permanent. Gregory, Post-office, Nottingham.

WANTED, Bookings for W. Payne's Bio-Photoscopes, All the Latest Pictures Guaranteed. First-class Films and Bioscopes for Sale. Apply direct, 54, Daleview-road, Stamford-hill, London, N.

WANTED, Oct. 31 or Later for Bioscope Pictures. Also Troupe of Dogs, one or both. High-diving Dog a Sure Draw. Le Clair, P. Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. The Walturdaw Company, Limited, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Oct. 31, on, with exceptions, for Star Variety, Choir, and Bioscope Combination, Midland or North. Fordil, 24, Favisham-rd., Catford, S.E.

WANTED—Hughes's Electrograph, Perfection Pictures, Circus, Rechabite, and Hippo., Seacombe. Machine Liberty, Tour or Panto. 33, Stafford-street, Liverpool.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Monday Next, for the Edison-Paul Animated Pictures. Latest and Best. Wire, Paul, Shildon.

WANTED, Known, the Continental Bioscope, a good show at reasonable prices, at Liberty for Pantomime. O. T. Robinson, 27, Birley-st, Blackpool.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for the Annual Exhibition, Public Hall, Lowestoft, Novelties and Freaks. Share or Salary. Chevalier Cliquot write. Also Smart Doorsman. Sherman, Amusement Caterer, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Novelties, with Posters or Paintings, for Belfast, Lisburn, Ballymena, and Logan. Short distances from Belfast. Novelties can have Four Weeks, Shares or Salary. The Diamonds, Siegel and Leo, Strong Men, Drawing Crowded Houses Nightly. Admission, 2d. All coms., 52, Church-street, Ballymena.

WANTED, Startling Novelties and Freaks, Big Attractions for Nov. 7 and 14. Salary or Shares. Good Midget Show with Flash write. Collena, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Novelties, Shops. Open to Buy or Hire Illusions, Curiosities; also a Small Trumpet Organ. Phillips, 7, Dunraven-st, Ton-y-Pandy, Wales.

Whit Week Galas, 1905.

WANTED, Big Up-to-Date Novelties (the Latest and Best), for Open-air Performances. Price no object for the Right Acts. Send Picture Posters, Lithographs, terms, and permanent address (letters only). Sylvester, the Royal Caterer, 271, Clapham-rd., London.

WANTED, Side Show Novelties, Market Hall, Airdrie, N.B. Rent or Shares. Prof. Johnson, as above; or, 1, Gardner's-crescent, Edinburgh.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, for Immediate and Future Dates. Old Friends write in. Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-place, Belfast.

WANTED, for Monday Week, Ghost or Marionette Show. Sure success. Also Novelties. Fletcher, Waxworks, 30, Union-street, Dowlais.

WANTED, a Good, Reliable Man as Doorsman and Lecturer, for the Royal Midgets. Must have Good appearance. Proprietor, 56, Kirkgate, Leith.

WANTED, Handseller, for Markets. Must be used to Oilcloth and Linoleum Trade. Address, Auctioneers, 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, a Good Auctioneer. Used to Tent Business. No other need apply, Apply, Box 8,574, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Auctioneers, &c, Rhondda Valley, South Wales. Large Shops in Pentre and Ferndale. Shepherd, 77, Columroad, Cardiff.

WANTED, Tattooer or Phrenologist. Fine Shop, Splendid Position. Share or Rent. Manager, 129, Tottenham-court-road, London, W.C.

WANTED, by Young Man, Engagement as General Useful Man about Show. Good worker and steady. Apply, Walter Doughty, 23, Williamson-street, Newport, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, to my Young Friends of two years and more, that I still remain the Sole Representative and Director in Great Britain for Messrs Ch. Marenghi and Co., Organ Builders, of Paris.

Owing to the progressive success of our business, I have appointed as Assistant Agent, for Manchester and radius of fifty miles, Mr Arthur Righini, also well known to my customers.

I trust he will endeavour to give all satisfaction to our esteemed patrons.

Nevertheless, I shall occasionally visit the above-mentioned district to ascertain myself that every one of my customers is satisfied. In case of unforeseen circumstances, I may send Mr Righini to other fêtes and fairs when I can not attend myself.

I will also have another Eighty-nine Keys Improved Patent Organ for Sale about Dec. 15. Customers likely to purchase kindly correspond to my London address, 24, Cross-street, Islington, N.

Thanking all my friends and customers for the rapid success of our business,
Believe me,
Your most obedient servant,
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Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
London Representative, Mr STUART CONOVER.

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PUBLISHED BY
THE FRANK QUEEN PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
47, West 28th Street,
New York City, U.S.A.
ALBERT J. BORIE, General Manager.

LONDON BUREAU: 48, Cranbourn Street, W.C.
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of the

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Tenders endorsed "Pier Pavilion" to be delivered at my Office on or before Monday, Nov. 14.

The Corporation will not be bound to accept the Highest or any Tender.

By order,
WILLIAM H. SNOW,
Town Clerk.

Town Clerk's Office,
Southend-on-Sea,
Oct. 11, 1904.

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"Siberia," Zutka, Staley's Transformation, Diane De Fontenoy, in "An Artist's Model," Leamy Sisters, Felix De Marce, Wille Bros., Paul Conchas, Salamonsky, Chas. Baron, The Mysterious Kettle, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Robertus and Wilfredo, Marceline.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for T. E. Dunville, Lannons, Harry Bickley, Selma Braatz, Two Bells, Lukushima Troupe, Lily Burnand, Parros Bros., George Formby, Dot Hardy, Bros. Horne.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Winifred Hare, Tatten Hall, The M'Kays, Mayvilles, Rafayette's Dogs, Frank Lynne, Phillips and Terry, Myra Stansfield, Henry Kaiser, Ernest Rees, Onllaw Trio, Max Welson Troupe.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for George Lashwood, Three Sisters Chester, Dan Thomas, Bros. De Wynne, Rita and Roma, Cassie Walmer, Ginnett's "Remounts," Bros. Damm, Bernar's Fantoches, Woodhouse and Wells, St. James's Quintette, Manning's Entertainers, Chung Ling Soo, Venola Bros.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Albert Chevalier, Stave, Flo Burris, Lieut. Travis, Bard and O'Brien, Sybil St. Elmo, Johnny Dwyer, Daisy Dormer, Minnie Cunningham, Gilbert Rogers, Griffiths Brothers.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out"; Will Musgrave, Beatrice Willey, Trentanovi Sisters, Maxwell and Francis, Tom Leamore, Dome, Nellie Coleman, Marba and Verity, Tennyson and Wallis, Brown and Le Clerq,

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Spot, Tina Clementa, Scottish Meisters, A. W. Hunter and Ayah, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Bert Byrne, Lizzie Valrose, Walter and Stanley, Arthur Melrose.

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EMPIRE THEATRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Marie Kendall, Dutch Daly, the Maningos, Goggin and Davis, Imperial Quartette, Zarmo, Lawrence Barclay, Four Milons, Mabel Hind, Steve M'Carthy.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Tom Costello, Wal Pink and Co., Athas and Collins, Arthur Rigby, Two Bees, Baldwin Brothers, the Wheelers, Frank Maura, Jessie Albini.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Horace Goldin, Ernest Shand, Tom Edwards, The Ohms, Harvey Boys, Nina Martino, Brothers Ethairien, Maud Mortimer, Andy Burns.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Paul Sandor, Elsie Robey, Rich and Rich, Johnny Gilmore, British Quartette, Bradley and Warwick, Albert Le Fre, the Passparts, Dora Clements, Three Georgis.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artistes holding Engagements with this Company at the Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are requested to note that, in accordance with Rule 6 in their Contracts, they undertake not to appear at any Place of Entertainment within Ten Miles of that City. Any Artistes infringing this rule will do so at the risk of having their Contract for the whole of the Tour cancelled.

Carefully note that Byker and Gateshead are within One Mile of the Newcastle Empire.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for R. A. Roberts, My Fancy, Clark and Hamilton, Joth Dixon, Tally Ho Trio, Bioscope, Tourbillon Troupe, Harry Dent, De Kock Brothers, Mills and Rawlins.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Mark Sheridan, Edie King, Smythson Comedy Company, Will English, Calile and Walker, the Densmores, Florence Esdalle, Hume, Ross, and Lewis, Two Graces, Pat Rafferty.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Vesta Tilley, Juan and M'Que, Cora Sisters, Hoopers, Espinosa and Neilson, Tom Davies Trio, Nello, Austin and Cowan, Chas. Stevens, Ford and Hanson, Kellincs.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for Prize's Lions, Ida Brophy, Bros. Webb, Hal Forde, Bros. Wartenburg, Alaskas, Eight of Hearts Max Millar, Amoros-Werner Troupe, Rousbey's Electrolytes.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Marie Loftus, Harry Ford, Three Pantzer Bros., Bros. Egbert, Brett and Orford, Bioscope, Four Olympians, Bob Hutt, Ella Retford.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Ray Wallace, Alexandre and Hughes, James Strolling Players, Lancashire Lassies, Sisters Geretti, Brothers Edgar, Harry Anderson, Nat Travers, Paul Mill, Winnie Derson.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for R. G. Knowles, Verno and Voyce, Young American Quintette, Duncan and Godfrey, George Brooks, Princess Pauline, Rezene and Robini, Florodor Quartette, Marie Reeve, the Athers, Lizzie Daniels.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Joe Elvin, "Over the Sticks;" Millie Hylton, Trapnell Family, Noiset Troupe, Winter and Banks, Werner and Reider, Harry Lawson, Les Burnellys, Post Mason, Jennie Belmore, Victor Travers.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Kremo Family, Walter Groves and Co, Horace Wheatley, Burt Shepard, Walter King, Frederica's Dogs, Fred Earle, Bioscope, Amy Russell, the Rayfords, Alice Ormonde.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Bransby Williams, Mason and Keeler, Albert Whelan, Marguerite Broadfoote, Schutzenisserl'n Quartette, Juno Salmo, the Bandurrias, Barrere and Jules, Cavallini Brothers, Belle Braham.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Three Sisters Sprightly, Leo Teli, Arthur Reece, Amy Sullivan, Phil Herman, Frank and Free, Ganty, Ben Albert, Haytors.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Alec Hurley, Chas. Chard, Annie Casey, Anartos, James Kurry, Harry Coates, Brothers Redmond, Marion Scott, Silent Tait, Lillie Soutter.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Sisters Iris, Baker and Balfe, Olive Trio, R. H. Douglass, Devona Sisters, Alf Bishop, Bros. Obo, Les Voces, Tribune Trio.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal at 3·0 o'clock for Carrie Laurie's Kindergarten, Max Renard's Dogs, Cruikshanks, Roman Singers, Alexander, Boyd and Gilfain, Prince Kokin, Three Laurels, the Jees, Lillian Lowe, May Milburn.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr Oswald Stoll, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr Frank Allen, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.
Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope.
Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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Oct. 17, 1904.
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QUEEN'S.
Joe O'Gorman, Bert Woodward, Percival, Chas. Mildare, Cullane Trio, the Watsons, Marie Santoi, Baker and Rose, Bendon's Bioscope, Charles Deane.
Rehearsals.—Tivoli, 12·30; Queen's, 12·0 o'clock.
All communications,
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Take notice that my client, Louis Lavater, is the Registered Proprietor of the above Musical Entertainment, and that any person infringing upon the same in any way will be at once proceeded against. Dated this 15th day of Oct., 1904. Frederick T. Mawby, 39c, King William-street, London, E.C., Solicitor.

MANCHESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES, Limited.
All Artistes will kindly note that the Entertainment will be changed to Two Houses Nightly, commencing Oct. 31.

CALL for Monday, Oct. 17, 1904.
Harry Lauder, Bob Baxter, Palace Pictures, Alma Obrey, Blanche, Henri Cazman, Mountford and Walsh, Stylo, De Courcey Brothers, Florence Yayman, James Grant, Beatrice Bonnie.

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Proprietor, Mr P. Collins. Manager, Frank Egerton, to whom all communications should be addressed.
Twice Nightly, 7 0 and 9 0.
CALL, for Monday, Oct. 17.— Miss Harriett Vernon, Lily Foy, Ben Nevis, Bliss and Bliss, Patty Yole, Collins' British Bioscope, Mdlle. Luba De Sarema, Billy Farrell.
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OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12 30 o'clock.
George Robey, Wilkie Bard, Queenie Leighton, Harry Randall, Lil Hawthorne, Brothers Poluski, Happy Fanny Fields, Doherty Sisters, the Stella Troupe, Nellie Wallace, Hamilton Hill, Bessie Featherstone, Bella and Bijou, Harry Freeman, May Henderson Dorothy L. Clark, Sisters Govell, W. H. Clemart.
Manager, Albert Gilmer.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, George Robey, Wilkie Bard, Harry Randall, Jessica Grace, Virginia and her Piccaninnies, Happy Fanny Fields, The Poluskis, Doctor Jules Angelo, Will Evans, Nellie Wallace, Bella and Bijou, The Twin Andersons, Maud Esmond, Sisters Govell, James Fawn, Amy Clevere.
Joint Acting-Managers { James Howell. Arthur Yates.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
Ahrensmeyer, "The Cowboy Hynotist;" Bessie Featherstone, George Robey, Eustace and Company, in Episode, "Our Curate;" Rex Fox, Two Tees, Dorothy Clark, Ernie Mayne, Charles Norton, Spry and Austin, W. H. Clemart, Cline and Clark, Ruffell's Bioscope.
Manager, Fred Miller.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
The Original Demon Kettle, The Finneys (James and Marie), Harry Tate, Geo. Mozart, Stella Troupe, Otto Schumann's Hippodrome, Frank Seeley, Cline and Clark, Kate Carney, Ruffell's Bioscope, Sterling and Love, Fred Karno's Co., in "Saturday to Monday."
Manager, Charles Brecham.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno and Co., in "Saturday to Monday;" Wright and Elton, Charles Pastor, Edna Cragge, Herbert Le Martine, Flo Penley, Walter Howard, Victoria Monks.
Manager, Frank Weeks.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Victoria Monks, Tench and Freeman, "Moths;" Kate Carney and Co., "Mouth-Organ Brigade;" Tom Brantford, Sisters Carselli, Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, Edgar Romaine, Desmonti and Mora, Sisters Wingrove.
Manager, Fred M'Avoy.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
"The Daybreakers," Wal Pink and Co.; Fred Russell, Geo. Mozart, Caledonian Boys, Two Kings, Four Phœnix, Mr and Mrs Bronti, Dolly Golden, J. Daw, San Remo Girls, Sisters Hall, Griff and Alpha, Geo. D'Albert, Helen Martin.
Manager, Nelson Francis.

GRAND PALACE,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2 0 o'clock.
Harry Tate, in "Motoring;" A. B. Houghton, Daisy Morell, Two Whites, J. A. Wilson, Alice Maple, Lily Morris, Roland Hill, The Weimars.
Manager, Harry Bawn.

THE ROYAL,
HOLBORN.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
The Magic Kettles, Ruffle's Pictures, Howe and Ardie, Frank Sylvo, Brothers Risto, Stanley and Greenop, Chas. Denton, Sisters Elna, Amber Austa, Minnie Wren.
Manager, H. Kettsman.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,
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Manager, W. Spearman.

DUCHESS PALACE,
HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
Rehearsals on Monday at 1·30 o'clock.
Ahrensmeyer, "The Cowboy Hypnotist;" W. Lee and Co., J. Worman, Three Sisters Dagmar, F. Lincoln, M. M. Ford, Welsh Singers, Rosie Archer, John Marx.
Manager, Clifford King.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,
WALTHAMSTOW.
Band Rehearsal, which all Artistes must attend, on Mondays, at 3·0 o'clock.
The Boisset Troupe, in "The Bricklayers;" Ian Colquhoun, The Finneys, Dandy George and his Dog, Rosie; Rita Resdan, Musical Howards, Alix Lukos, Kitty Bell.
Telephone, 40, Walthamstow.
Manager, Arthur J. Barclay.

THE METROPOLITAN,
EDGWARE-ROAD, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Little Tich, Geo. Robey, Mark Melford and Co., in "Between Two Stools;" Hart and Leo, Barnard's Marionettes, Jackley Wonders, Syd May, Peggy Fryde, Ernesto, Arthur Forrest, Sisters Govell, Delia Cherry, Frank Seeley, Ethel Ra Leslie, Orpheus, Frank Case, Esme Gordon.
Manager, J. W. Edgar.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,
KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
The Demon Kettle—the Sensation of the Age; Mark Melford and Co., The Ragamuffins, Chas. Collette, Ivy Dawn, H. Clifford, Nellie Wilson, F. Dunlo, Barrett and Knowles, and Original Caledonian Boys.
Manager, Edward Swanborough.

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HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Richard Sawade, Mabel La Blanche, J. H. Scotland, Martine and Son, Mdlle. Clothilde, Terry and Lambert, Whit Cunliffe, Geraldo, Wal Robbins, Mons. D'Musto, Pictures, Miss Amy Augarde.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
Kelly and Gilette, Madeleine May, Carola's Circus, Harry Edson, Legay Quartette, Carlotta Levey, Grant and Grant, Bros. Kragg, Kimberley Boys, Pictures, Phillipi Bros

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Ergotti and King Luis, Cumminger, Tray and Rich, Paul Vandy, Boswell's Circus, Lowell and Lowell, New York Comedy Four, Will Godwin, Five Whiteleys, Frank Gerald, Pictures, Austin Rudd.

EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
Vesta Victoria, the Picquays, the De Breans, the Durvals, Madge Grey, Alice Lorette, Ward Bros., Alf Aubyn, Pictures, Duncan's Collies.

PALACE, GLASGOW.
Great Magic Kettle, J. W. Bray, Chas. R. Whittle, the Waldrons, Vansittart, Monks and Woods, Marie Elsie, Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, Pictures, Mirzah.

HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Heloise Titcomb, Ida Gladstone, A. G. Spry, Gracie Taylor, Arthur Saxon, Bellonini, W. J. Churchill, Lew Wells, Merton and Rydon, Pictures, Four Merkell Sisters.

PAVILION, GLASGOW.
Doon the Watter, Harris and Worth, Mr and Mrs Adams, Addie Dorina, Dion Wade, the Kyanyas, Pictures, Virginia.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Bouilloire Magique, Wallno, Celina Bobe, Les Three Rickards, Francis Du For, Lind, Sialg's Course d'Automobile, Tscherneff, Howard et Harris, Florizell, L. B. Brind, Martinoz, La et Do, Bioscope, Orford's Elephants.

GRAND, MANCHESTER.
Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas, Little Barney, Nellie and Nora, Felton and Manley, Gus Harris, Maude Clifton, Arthur Boyne, Blanchard, Lister and Rooker, Varonie, Pictures, Wills and August

REGENT, SALFORD.
Minni Letta, Daisy Martell, Marie Blythe, Geo. Martinengo, Tom Lloyd, Hurman, Will Johnson, Stewart, Pictures, the Lombarts.

TIVOLI, LEEDS.
De Gracia, Dave O'Toole, Professor Welsen, B. Troba, Percy Honri, Bob Hanlon, Cissie St. Claire, Pictures, Carl Reinsch.

ALHAMBRA, HULL.
Imro Fox, Bert Leslie, Jenny Hartley, Dora Martine, Brown and Nevarro, Dave Marion, Chant and Chant, Pictures, J. W. Hall.

BRITANNIA, HOXTON.
Howard and Collinson, Marie Sennet, Two Gems, the Evalos, Rice, Rose, and Davis, Peter Kelly, Walker and Lake, the Davenports, Baroux and Bion, Pictures.

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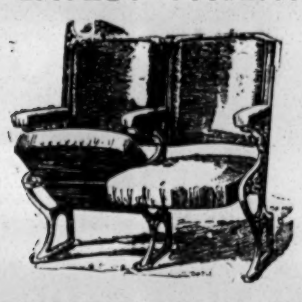

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Telegrams and Cables, "Cross, Liverpool;"
Nat. 'Phones, 6,491 Central and 728 Royal.
Liverpool.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, contains, as usual, many items and statistics of use and interest to all connected with the stage, and, in addition, a number of sketches and short stories by leading artistes, managers, and others. Among the contributors are J. L. Toole, Dan Leno, George R. Sims, George Robey, Huntley Wright, Harry Randall, Bransby Williams, A. W. Pinero, Louie Freear, Little Tich, George Mozart, and Douglas Orichton. The publication is cheap at a shilling.—Birmingham Daily Gazette, Jan. 16th, 1904

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual for the current year preserves all the features which have made it popular among actors and actresses in the past—short stories, some of them very good and some of them not so good, by well-known entertainers, countless photographs, and a list of plays produced during the year which should make it useful to students of stage history. It is a sign of the times that Omar Khayyam should be quoted on the first page of the almanack.—Morning Post, Jan. 23d

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904
"The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the features that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again contains a list of new plays and important revivals at the London and suburban theatres, with dates of production to the end of November; new plays submitted in the provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary for the year; and other stage matters concerning which information is often desired. Each branch is excellently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sandwiched by forty short stories by popular actors and entertainers, the interest of these contributions being increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle, Jan. 16th, 1904

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines

ABADAROFFS, Prehistoric Comedy Act, Mon., P., Aberdeen. Vacant Oct. 31, also Panto, Parts and Specialty. Perm, 95, Stretford-rd., Manchester.

ABDULLAH, ALMA, and LA SUPERBE. Permanent address, 153, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

ABEL and WELSH, Terrific Success of New Act, Empire, Middlesbrough. Permanent Address, 28, Upper Kennington-lane, S.E.

ADAMS and BAMFORTH, Refined Instrumentalists, introducing the only Jhamphotophone in existence. Address, 34, Mortimer-st., Oldham.

ADEE and AGWIN, Talented Comedy Act, "Antics of a Road Repairer" Fully Protected. Address, 97, Wheeler-st., Birmingham.

ADELINA, England's own Queen of All Facialists. Town address, 38, Victoria-mansions, South Lambeth-rd.

ADRIENNE, THREE SISTERS, Thanks Mr and Mrs Allen for Present and kindness during my sister's illness. Vacant Oct. 31, also Pantomime.

ADRIM and ORAM, Eccentric Novelty Act. A Sensation and a Draw. Palace, Plymouth; Oct. 17, Palace, Bristol.

ALBANO TROUPE, Musical Speciality. The Hippodrome, St. Helens.

ALBERT, MISS LOTTIE, the Chic Comedienne. A sure success everywhere. All communications, care of "The Era"

ALBERY, HARRY, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer. Monday next, Palace, W Hartlepool. Vacant One Week Oct. 24 and Nov. 14. Panto settled.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company, Empire, Middlesbrough.

ALBINI and his Mysterious Lady in Black, just received Eight Weeks from J. L. Graydon, Esq.

ALMO, JAKE, on Tour. Permanent, 34, Highfield-street, Beeston Hill, Leeds

ALVANTEE, King of Slanting, Hippo., Bolton Liberty Monday, England or Abroad. After Saturday, 65 Coral-street, Ardwick Manchester.

AMERICAINES, LES BELLES. This week Palace, Glasgow; next week, Metropole and Bedford. Sole Agent, H Day.

ANDERSON'S AUSTRALIAN TWINS. Perfect wonder-workers with the skipping-rope.—Vide Oswald Stoll. Tivoli, 10 40; and Queen's, Poplar.

ANDOS, Japan's Greatest Troupe Empire, Hull

ANDREWS and THOMPSON, American Operatic Comedy Duo. Address, "The Era."

ANDYS, THE FOUR, Smartest of all Risley Double Somersault Artists, Oct. 17, Tivoli, Dublin. Open Oct. 31 and Nov. 14.

ARA, ZEBRA, and VORA, Alhambra, Brighton.

ARIZONAS, FOUR, Acrobatic Tumblers; also WILL PERCIVAL, Comedian, Dancer, require Mon. Wire, Central P., N. Shields.

ASHDOWN, PERCY, Author, Composer. Latest, "Homeward, Marguerite," to Rose Tilley; "Golden Harp," to The Freans. 7, Gt. Newton-st., Liverpool.

ASHLEY, BROS., "Next, please!" Grand, Sheffield; 17th Palace, West Hartlepool. G. Barclay and Fortune and Granville.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, the Society Athletes. Met., Gateshead; 17th, Palace, Lancaster. Require 24th.

ATTILLA, BROS., Famous Strong Men, conclude Olympia Circus, Bury. Next, Queen's, Poplar, London.

AUBYN, ALF., Barrasford Tour, Eighth Week. Bristol. Perm. address, Hastings. Communications, G. Barclay.

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BAKER and BALFE, Moss Tour.

BANDON, SID. Oct. 17, Hippodrome, Wigan.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents Telephone, 84. Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Character and Coon Speciality Artiste and Dancer, Wedgwood T., Burslem, Staffs. Monday, Public Hall, Barnsley, Yorks.

BAROUX and BION, Oct 17, Britannia Theatre, Hoxton. Coms., 33, Falcon-road, Clapham-junction, S.W.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Palace, Camberwell, Palace Chelsea. Tom Shaw, 18, Adam-street, Strand.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY), the Ideal Pair. Big success, Metropole, Camberwell.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE, Hippodrome, Sheerness. Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 10, Effra-road, Brixton.

BATHURST, AMY, Serio, Top Boot, and Sand Dancer, Empire, Greenock, 24th Liberty Panto., Second Boy or Girl. Simpson-street Glasgow.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BEANLAND, CHARLES. This Week, Bedford and Palace, Camberwell. Monday, Granville, Walham-gn. Exclusive Agents, Day's Agency.

BEATRICE, SISTERS, Duettists and Dancers. Monday, Royal Albert, Canning-town. Vacant, Oct. 24. Per. add., 35, Florence-st., Islington.

BECKETT, CHARLES, Clown and Agouste, will be at Liberty end of November. Address, 7, Sussex-terrace, Above Bar, Southampton.

BEECHAM, ARTHUR, Burlesque Comedian, Westminster, Liverpool. Lib. for Panto. Success everywhere. White Hart, Old Ford-road, Bow.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE). "Hiawatha" Scena. Great Success. Oct. 17, Empire Theatre, Swansea. Stoll Tour.

BEET, TOM, Merrie Musical Act, Songs, Stories, and Solos, this week, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Permanent address, 25, Stamford-st., Liverpool.

BELFORD and MARS, "The Postman and the Slavey." Vocal Comedy Act Oct. 17, Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge.

BELL, The HARRY L. and LILLY PEARL COMPANY in "A Bit of String." 162, Walworth-road, S.E.

BENET, HARRY, Big Hit, Empire, Dover. Monday, Returns, Alhambra, Sandgate.

BEN HUR, the Ideal Juvenile Athlete, Great Success with his New Act, this week, People's Palace, Tottenham; next, Barnard's, Chatham.

BENT, HARRY, the Novel Mimic; also CARLOTTA LUNN, Monday, Circus, Rochdale. Agents, Fortune and Granville. Tom and Carry write.

BENTLEY'S AGENCY. 169, Stamford-street. Telephone, 12,706, Central, Manager, Horace Sheldon.

BERNARD, GEO., Modern Vocal Actor. The wise learn many things from their enemies. Kiernan's, Liverpool. Letters, 15, Canterbury-street.

BERNARDO, Comedy Juggler. Town Hall Theatre, Herne Bay.

BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M'Bunker. "The Mountebank." Hippodrome, Warrington.

BLANCHARD, LISTER, and ROOKER, Eccentric Acrobats, Oct. 17, Grand, Manchester.

BLANCHE and DIACOFF, Original Cycle Act en route for India. Address Royal Coronation Circus, Bombay, till Nov. 1; or, Ernest Warner,

BLARNEY and KENNARD, the Comedy Couple and Waltzing Dog. Liberty Oct. 17 and 24. Panto. settled. 96, Cresswell-street, Liverpool

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. Pantomime settled., Grand Theatre, Nottingham. Monday, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

BLYTHE, MARIE, Contralto Vocalist. Oct. 17, Regent Theatre, Salford. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

BONITA. Transvaal Leader.—The best all round shot that has ever appeared in South Africa.

BONO, India's Greatest Equilibrist. Success, Palace, Rhyl. Vacant Monday, on. 3, Imperial-cottages, Sands-end, Fulham, S.W.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME. Different from all others. Oct. 17, Palace, Dundee.

BOSANQUET, in his New Musical Séance and Illuminated Excerpts. Great success. West Hartlepool, Oct. 17.

BOSWELL, A. P., finishes To-night Collins's Hippodrome, Stoke. Re-engaged. Next Week, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, terrific success, Central Palace, North Shields. Look out for New Act.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. 81, Falmouth-road, New Kent-road, London.

BRADLEY and TRUMAN. Kind regards to our old Friends Mr and Mrs Dan Leno. Red Lion, Costock, nine miles from Nottingham.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE). Conclude Grand, Sheffield. Monday, Pavilion, Leicester.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Dancers. Oct. 17, Metropole, Gateshead (Return).

BRETT, HARRY. Finishes To-night. Two Weeks, big success, the Alhambra, Sandgate. Vacant 17th and 24th. Wire, Elmer House, Sandgate.

BREWSTERS. Transfield's Circus and Hippodrome, Sheerness-on-Sea

BRIGHTON GIRLS, NEW, Vocalists and Speciality Dancers, Continental Tour. All letters, care of "The Era" Office.

BRIGHTON GIRLS, THE, Lance and Sword Experts and Acrobatic Dancers. This G., Falkirk; Next, G., Leith. "Swiss Express" Co.

BRITISH QUARTETTE, THE (JOHN BULL, SANDY, PAT, and TAFFY) Speciality Vocalists. This, Palace, Belfast; next Palace, Bordesley.

BROADFOOTE, MARGUERITE, Oct. 17, Empire, Leicester. All communications, E. Edelsten, 164, Drury-lane, W.C.

BROMLEY and FONTEIN, Operatic Humourists. Oct. 17, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA) Dainty Comediennes and Dancers, usual success, E., Hartlepool. Oct. 17, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

BROPHY, IDA, Soubrette, Oct. 17, E., Edinburgh. All communications, P. Rafferty, 408, Clapham-rd., S.W.

BROWN and ROBINSON, the Bricklayer and his Labourer. Harmony Builders. Oct. 17, Collins's, London.

BROWNIE, SISTERS, Duettists and Dancers, Disengaged Panto. Oct. 17, Haymarket, Liverpool.

BRUCE and ROSS, Australian Comedy Artists, great success, Boro', North Shields. Monday, Palace, Attercliffe.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Haverfordwest, South Wales.

BURNELLS Conclude Big Success, Gaiety, Chatham. Oct. 17, Camberwell and Walham-green. At Liberty for Panto. Get together, boys; get together.

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, 344, Bury New-road, Manchester. Manageress, Miss F. Day. And at Hartlepool and London.

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BURTON'S Concert and Variety Agency, Sheffield. Manager, Arthur D. Burton. "Worry is the worst wolf that comes to our door."

CALOSSIS, THE Renowned, "Pekin Sports and Pastimes." Touring with Taylor's Circus. At Lib. shortly. 34, Union-st., Warwick-rd., Banbury.

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey, the Greatest Novelty Musical Act before the Public. This, Empire, Paisley; next, Britannia, Glasgow.

CARL, MR. JAMES, the Modern Conjuror, with an Original and High-class Magic Act. 100, Chester-green-road, Derby. Good Agent Required.

CARL and CARR, Comedians, with "Workhouse." This, P., Portsmouth; next, P. O., Newark, with own Combination. Panto. settled, London.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team. Barnard's, Chatham.

CARMEN, HARRY, Vocal Polyglot Comedian. Starring at Hippodrome, Scarborough.

CARR and ROSE, in Original Vocal Act, "Their First Quarrel." Royal, Warrington. Thank Arthur Richards for Combined Room Suite.

CARY, FRED, Comedian, Camberwell and Star.

CASBURN, FRED, Evening Dress Eccentric Comedian. Requires Monday Wire, Tivoli, Shields; after Saturday, Hertford-street, Hunslet, Leeds

CAVILL'S AGENCY, 15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone 2,140, Royal.

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CHANT and CHANT (JACK and ALICE), Comedy Vocalists, Patterers, &c. Monday, Alhambra, Hull.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. Startling and Incredible. Hippodrome, Blackpool. Free Monday. Wire. Leaving Sunday.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE), Palace, Halifax. Monday Return, Palace, Lincoln.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Next Week, Empire, Sheldon, co. Durham. Christmas Vacant.

CHEVALIER, FLO, Vocalist and Comedienne, Disengaged Panto. Offers invited. Principal Girl preferred. 739, Abbeydale-road, Sheffield.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Circus Schumann, Berlin.

CHIRGWIN, London Nightly, Four Months. "Friends," please refrain from Copying.

CHIVERS and DE MONTI, Skaters, Knockabouts, and Chair Jumpers, Liberty 17th, 24th, 31st. Also Panto. Parts. Perm., 204, Breck-rd., Liverpool.

CLARENCE and BELL, in J. Gar Kiddie's "A Little Coquette" Company. Oct. 17, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Specially Engaged by Prof. Andrie, Oct. 24, at Free Trade Hall, Manchester. Vacant, Monday. Wire, G., Oldham.

CLAVERING, NITA, Great Success this Week, in Sketch, with Mr Conway, Empress, Brixton. Lib. Panto., P. B. or P. G. 30, Albion-road, S.W.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, in "Last Night's Party." This week, Palace, Dundee; next, Palace, Sunderland.

CLEVELANDS, THE, C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Town Hall, Haverford West, South Wales.

COHEN, KATIE, Vocalist. On Moss Tour. At Liberty Christmas. London only. Care of "The Era."

COLLINS, GEO., Funny Star Comedian. Big success. "Laughable Times," by Chas Collins. Published F., D., and H. Lib. Panto., Dame, E., Hartlepool.

COMELY, MABEL, Comedienne. First Vacancy, Dec. 26. Offers invited. Permanent Address, 29, Venice-street, Liverpool.

COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE, the Popular Singer of Sensible Songs. Monday, Paddington, Liverpool. Offers invited for Panto. Principal Boy.

COOKE, STEVE, Comedian. Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Summer Offers invited. Worker, Comedian, Showman.

CORNISH, WILL, Unique Musical Bell Act. This, E., Birmingham; next, Grand, Bolton. Stoll Tours and Coliseum settled, 1906-7-8.

COVERDALE'S Songs, Stories, Mimicry, and Real Humour all fully appreciated at Empire, Wolverhampton, 8·10 and 10·15 Oct. 17, Varieties, Leeds.

COWPER, VERNON, Blueskin, in "Jack Sheppard." Oct. 17, Sadler's Wells.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Palace, Northampton.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Transformation and Character Dancer, Hippodrome, Leicester-square.

CREW, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW Comedian. (the Original). Encored Nightly, P., Croydon. Monday, G., Gravesend.

CROWN TRIO, Speciality Vocalists, this, Grand, Stockton. Oct. 24, Palace, Bordesley.

CROWSON, WILL, CISSIE CONYERS. Next week, Palace, Northampton.

CULLEN and CARTHY, Palace, Lincoln.

CUMMINGER, the Acknowledged World's Record Sand Dancer. Latest, 'Gipsie Low." Barrasford Tour. No Vacancies. Agents, Day and Macdermott's.

CURRY, PERCY, Comedian, Borough, North Shields. Agent, James Fioni, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

CUTHBERT, MAUD, Serio and Ballad Vocalist. Address, Robini, 3, Gatton-house, Pleasant-place, Essex-road, London, N.

DAGMARS, THREE, Acrobats and Tumblers. Monday next, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness. At Liberty Nov. 7.

DAINFZ, E. R., Comedy Circus, Consisting of Donkey Smiler, Clever Pony, Troupe of Dogs, and Leaping Hounds. Victoria, Broughton, Manchester.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Gipsy and Character Duettists. Vacant Oct 24, 31. Coms., 41, Bradshaw-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

DALE and D'ARGAN, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurors, Vacant Oct. 24 and Nov. 7. This, L., stafford; next, Hippo., Leigh, Lancs.

DALE, MR HARRY, First-class Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena, Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

DALTON'S AGENCY. First-class Acts always Required. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

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DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, THE, of Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. This, Empire, Burnley; next, Hippo., Lowestoft.

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W. Always Vacancies for Stars and Specialities.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Pedestal Risley Performers. Oct. 17, Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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DELAMERE TRIO, THE, the Original Comedy Equilibrists Vacant 17th, 24th, 31st. Wire, 95, North-road, Preston.

DELEVINES, FIVE, in their Unique Act, "Flirtation," Palace, Blackpool.

DENHAM, MISS MILLIE, is delightful and charming in song and stage presence.—Vide Press, A., Brighton. Mon., P., Southampton. Panto settled.

DENMARK PAIR (FRED and FLORRIE), the Magpies. Thanks to Johnson's Agency for Bow, Forester's, Sadler's Wells, Canning-town

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil, Actor-Vocalist, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

DE VERE SISTERS (LILY and NORA), Soubrettes, Dainty Comedy Artistes and Dancers. Perm., 72, Ryleton-road, Fulham.

DE VERES, THREE, Society Comedy Acrobats, Vacant Nov. 28 and Dec. 5. Agents, Sley and Dalton.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. Thanks for Offers. No Immediate Vacancies. All letters, 69, Roan-street, Greenwich, London, S.E.

DODDY and BELLE, the Great Comedy Couple. At Liberty for Pantomime. Parts and Speciality. Address, "The Era" Office.

DOME, the Comedy Clay Man. Empire, Bradford

DONNA, AMY, Fast Booking ahead. Vacant Oct. 31, Nov. 21. Communications, 309, Upper Parliament-st., Liverpool.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques. Palace Lincoln. Oct. 17, Palace, Bath.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Coon Impersonator, Palace, Manchester. Oct. 17, Empire, Leeds.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Full of Vivacity and Animation. Agent, F. Higham.

DOUGLAS, AILSA. Big Success, Pavilion, Ramsgate. Next week, care of Claxton, 7, New Coventry-street, Leicester-sq. At Liberty Panto.

DOVE, ETHEL, Metropole, Camberwell. Next week, Palace, Hammersmith.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Palace, Bow, London.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Charming Young Vocalist and Graceful Dancer. Big success this week, P., Liverpool. Next week, Circus of Varieties, Bury, Lancs.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Comedy Artiste. Usual Success. Pav., Leicester. Sunday home. 18, Springfield, Liverpool.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler; ORWALD, Staircase Performer, Hand-jumper, &c. This week, H., Sheerness; next week, H., Blackpool.

DUNCAN and MORTON, Refined Comedy Artistes, On Tour. Communications to Permanent Address, 37, Victoria-street, Blackburn.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. This week, Britannia, Hoxton, a Success (8·5, 10·15). Communications, Fred Durham or Sam Hart.

DUNNING and KAHN and KAHN, two Big Shows, two Successes Everywhere. Monday, Olympia Theatre, Bury.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Victoria, Broughton; Oct. 17, Palace, Greenwich. Liberty Panto., Principal Boy. Thanks Fred Baugh, Esq., for Offer Panto.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian, Paddington, Liverpool; Oct. 24, Park Palace, Liverpool. Ring up, I'm ready.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Retained, owing to success, Colston Hall, Bristol. Vacant Oct. 24, Dec. 5.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. Liberty Oct. 24. Address, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

ELLAS, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Oct. 17, Palace, Southampton.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, Comedian; FLORRIE BRAY, Comedienne, Free for Pantomime. This, Hippo., Manchester; next, Hippo., Salford.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Panto. Barons Note.—Dunville's "Earl of Fandangle-see" is the Real Thing. Rights, £2 2s. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, 42, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough.

ELTONS, TWO, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians. Monday. Park Palace, Liverpool.

ELVY, ARTHUR, The Original Singer of "The Peacock and the Dove." This week, Park Palace, Liverpool. Next, Paddington Palace.

ENDON, EDIE Comedienne and Dancer, Next week, Irving Theatre, Seacombe. Vacant Monday, Oct 24. Sole Agent, Jess Verno.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer, Duchess Palace, Balham. Address, 3, Ivy-lane, St. John's-road, Hoxton.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand-Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Communications, 15, Harford-street, St. James's, Bristol.

ESDALE BROS., Comedians. Vacant Monday; also Nov. 7. Wire, Paddington, Liverpool. After Sat., 166, Shrewsbury-st., Brooks's-bar, Manchester.

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FITZROYS, Society Gymnasts. Third Week, Nouveau Cirque. Finish Oct. 31.

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FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Empire, Newcastle.

FORDE, MR. HAL. Address, Empire, Edinburgh.

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Hampstead, N.W.

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H. C., Mr Willard's Tour. Mrs Cane at Liberty.
Town or Suburbs. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.

MR. and MRS. G. CANNINGE.
Address,
124, Whittington-road, Bowes-park, N.

MR. DOUGLAS CECIL,
Captain Darville, "Two Little Vagabonds."
Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.

MR. GORDON CHASEMORE,
Costume Designer,
Foy Boat Hotel, Ramsgate.

MR. ARTHUR CHESNEY,
now Playing Mr Bourchier's Part in
"The Conversion of Nat Sturge," Garrick Theatre.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE CHILD
(Frances Bruce), Rehearsing for "The World's Desire." Oct. 24, King's, Nottingham (3); 27, Hucknall (3).

MR. and MRS. J. CHIPPENDALE
(Mattie Everett), "The Temptress" Company.
Oct 24, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

MR. and MRS. H. A. CHRYSTAL,
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MR. J. H. CLYNDES,
"A Royal Revenge."
Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

MR. HAL COLLIER,
Peter Fly, in "The Union Jack,"
Grand Theatre, Islington, Oct. 25, Stock Season.

MR. CECIL A. COLLINS
at Liberty Dec. 12.
Address, 3, Bedford-street, Strand; or, A.A.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS,
Jack Felton (Lead). "The Worst Woman in London."
Oct 24, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham, Six Nights.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON
Disengaged for Heavy Lead or Old Men.
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MR. WILFRID COMPTON Thanks Mr. Stoll for offer. Unable to accept through Engagement. Dis. Christmas. Oct. 24, M., Birkenhead.

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Principal Comedian, Disengaged.
197, Westminster-bridge-road, S.E.

MR. TOM W. CONWAY
at Liberty for Pantomime, Dame. Two Years T. R., Manchester. 9, Elm-park-road, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. BERNARD COPPING,
Lead; Miss ISA BELLINGTON, Lead and Comedy.
Address, Lyceum Theatre, Govan, N.B.

MR. J. W. CORDINER,
General Manager, "Dare-Devil Dorothy."
Oct. 24, New Court Theatre, Bacup.

MR. L. CORY-THOMAS,
Hawkshaw and Jacques and Stage-Management.
Week's Vacation. Address, Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

MR. ERNEST H. G. COX, Marquis De Presles, "The Two Orphans;" Green Jones, "The Ticket-of-Leave Man." This, Hull; 31st, Glasgow.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, Oct. 24.
Disengaged end of November. Offers Invited.

MR HENRY CROCKER,
Sacheverell and Stage-Manager, Mr Laurence Irving's Co. Scarborough, Three Nights; York, Three.

MR. REGINALD CROFT,
Engaged by Norman V. Norman, Esq., Autumn Tour.
Oct. 24, Theatre Royal, Limerick.

MR. JULIAN CROSS,
Standard Theatre. Disengaged December.
Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. CLIVE CURRIE,
King Louis XI., in "If I were King."
Oct. 24, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham-junction.

MR. BERT DANSON,
Hilarius, "La Poupée" Company.
Next, Hucknall Torkard, Three; Grantham, Three.

MR. COLEMAN DAVIES Dis. Panto.
Last Xmas, Baron, Princess's, Glasgow. Great Success. Oct. 24, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE,
Mr St. Alban's "Les Cloches."
Chester. Disengaged Christmas.

MR. FRANK H. DENTON.
Address,
Theatre Royal, York.

MR. GEORGE DESMOND,
Returned from Australia. Disengaged.
Glenholme, Mansfield-road, Ilford.

MR. STANLEY DREWITT.
Address,
8, Burnfoot-avenue, Fulham, London, S.W.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Business Manager, at Liberty.
Address, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

MR. J. MALCOM DUNN.
Address, care of George Musgrove, Esq.
Princess's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. T. W. DUNSCOMBE,
Paul Gouffet, "The Face at the Window."
Oct. 24, Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

MR. FELIX EDWARDES,
Engaged to support Mr Nat Goodwin. Letters, care of Low's Exchange, 1,123, Broadway, New York City.

MR. HORACE W. EBBUTT,
Resident-Manager,
Grand Theatre and Opera House, Falkirk.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST C. EDWARDS
Miss Bella Power) at Liberty Christmas for Comedy Old Men and Women or Character. Princess's T., Glasgow.

MR A. FAULCONBRIDGE,
Business-Manager, "Ben-My-Chree,"
New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, N.B.

MR. EDWARD FENTON,
Lieut. Pelham, "A Soldier and a Man."
Oct. 24, King's Theatre, Cardiff.

MR. RICHARD FIELDING,
Sam Turvey, "The Chevaleer,
Garrick Theatre.

MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD,
Captain Stent, "The Edge of the Storm,"
Prince of Wales's T., Great Grimsby. Disengaged Oct. 30.

MR. HUGH FLEMING,
Advance Director, Geo. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

MR. ROBERT FORSYTH
at Liberty. Town or Good Tour.
17, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, S.W.

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Address,
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Character Actor, Song, Sketch, and Panto. Writer.
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MR. W. H. GARBOIS,
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"The Mariners of England" Co. T. R., Gloucester.

MR. W. V. GARROD,
the Spider, "The Silver King."
Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

MR. and MRS. WILLIE GARVEY
(Kitty Jones).
Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

MR. JOHN GERANT.
Address,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD,
Prince Kara, Mr Tree's North Company, "The Darling of the Gods." Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

MR. and MRS. LEWIS GILBERT
(Lina Nazeby), Lead, Disengaged shortly.
Oct. 24, P. O. W., Salford.

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Tenor, The Close, Stratton St. Margaret, Near Swindon, Wiltshire. Telegrams, "Glynn, Stratton St. Margaret."

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
as Lieut. Charles Clive, in "A Sailor's Sweetheart,"
Court Theatre, Wigan.

MR. J. LYNWARD GRAHAME,
Szentes Istvan, "The Edge of the Storm."
Prince of Wales's T., Great Grimsby. Disengaged Oct. 30.

MR. BRUCE GREEN, Comedian,
Playing Rajah, in "Belle of Bangalore," with great success. Next week, Theatre Royal, Margate, all coms.

MR. HERBERT GREVILLE,
Oct. 24,
Brixton Theatre, S.W.

MR. FRED GROVE,
Terence Reilly, John Hare's "Little Mary" Co.
Camden Theatre, N.W.

MR. LAURENCE GROVE,
Noel Le Joly, in "If I Were King" Company.
Oct. 24, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham-junction; or, A.A.

MR. GEOFFREY GUISE,
Metropole Theatre,
Birkenhead.

MR. EDMUND GWENN,
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MR. W. HARGREAVES,
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Theatre Royal, Peterborough (Return).

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Sir Tristram Marden, "Dandy Dick," Special Week.
Freemasons' Club, Richmond.

MR. and MRS. T. P. HAYNES
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New Palace Pier, Brighton.

MR. JERROLD HEATHER,
Starring as Jack Coulson, in
"The Female Swindler." Theatre Royal, Chatham.

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at Liberty.
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MR. A. T. HILTON
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On Tour with Miss Ellen Terry.
At Liberty Dec. 5. Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

MR. E BASIL HOBSON,
Acting-Manager, "As Midnight Chimes,"
P. O. W., Southampton. Oct. 31, Dalston, N.E.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY,
Iago, De Mauprat, &c.
Opera House, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. CHARLES HOMER,
Heavies, Juveniles, Baritone, Disengaged.
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MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD.
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MR. ALFRED H. HOOK,
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Eccentric and Light Comedian, Disengaged shortly.
Good Offers invited. Grand, Nelson.

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MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
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MR. GEORGE JAMES,
Comedian. Playing Rum Ohmyo, in "The Belle of Bangalore." Next week, Theatre Royal, Margate.

MR. POWELL JAMES, Business-Manager and Capt. Salem, Chas. A. Chandler's "Bells of Haslemere" Co. Next, West Bromwich.

MR. CHAS. E. JOHNSON,
Business-Manager, "Heart of a Hero."
Margate, Lowestoft.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Orsino, Horatio, Oliver, Lorenzo, Faulkland, Hastings, Benvolio, Host, &c., Mr F. R. Benson's North Company.

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Touring "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "The Girl of My Heart." Perm., 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

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Disengaged.
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Directing "I Defy the World" Tour.

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Address, Opera House, Burnley.

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MR. C. B. KESTON
at Liberty. To-day, Theatre Royal, Bolton;
then, 21, Marchmont-street, W.C.

MR. CLAUDE KING,
Leading Business, "A Path of Thorns" Company.
Oct. 24, Dalston Theatre, N.E.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR KNIGHT
(Miss Edith Knight).
King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

MR. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
Starring as Jules Delarnet, "A Disgrace to Her Sex" Company, Empire, Oldham.

MR. PHILIP F. KNOX
Disengaged, London only.
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Good offers invited for Heavy or Character. 19, Parkfield-drive, Liscard; 10, King-street, London, W.C.

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Captain Fitz, in "The Money Makers." Oct. 24, Opera House, Leicester; 31st, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE, Manager and Stage Director, Mr Mouillot's "Geisha" and "Greek Slave" Co. Grand Theatre, Middlesbrough.

MR. EDMUND LEA
as Vorensky, in "Vilma,"
Alexandra, N.; 24, Grand, Woolwich.

MR. ALFRED LESTER,
Hardie and Von Leer's Co. Pantomime settled
Address, next week, Dalston Theatre, London.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING, Baron Bonelli and Stage-Manager, in "The Eternal City" on Tour. Next, Shrewsbury and Stafford, Three Nights.

MR. BERNARD LIMPUS,
Juvenile Lead, Mr F. R. Benson's North Company,
Oct. 24, Memorial Theatre, Chesterfield.

MR. ARDENE LINDEN,
Mr and Mrs William Maclaren's Company.
Oct. 24, Theatre Royal, Scarborough, Six Nights.

MR. GEORGE W. LINDSAY,
Manager, "My Lady Molly" Company,
Theatre Royal, Bradford.

MR. GEORGE H. LIOT,
Engaged by G. Lamplugh, Esq., Dude's part in "Miss Mischief." Opening Oct 31, West London Theatre.

MR. FRANK LISTER Disengaged
Christmas. Pantomime or Play. Standard Theatre; or, 15, Elmhurst-mansions, Vernon-rd., Clapham, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON,
Rev. Arthur Graham and Acting-Manager,
"When Darkness Falls." Oct. 24, Grand, Walsall.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
New Theatre, W.C.
28, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. and MRS. STUART LOMATH,
Rehearsing Star Lead and Comedy, "The World."
Address, 134, Kennington-road, S.E.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE,
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Company.
Address, en route; or, 41A, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

MR. and MRS. FREDERICK LOYD
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MR. WILLIAM LUGG,
Address,
Comedy Theatre.

MR. and MRS. CHALMERS MACKEY,
on Tour with own Co., "Wearin' o' the Green."
En route; or, Ashdale, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM MACLAREN
(Miss Lily C. Bandmann), Touring own Company.
Oct. 24, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

MR. H. F. MALTBY,
Lieut.-General Coventry, in "One of the Best."
Oct 24, Theatre Royal, Colchester.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER.
Address,
care of Blackmore, 11, Garrick-street, W.C.

MR. PERCY MARMONT,
Playing Jack Woodford, in "An Actor's Romance."
Oct. 24, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

MR ERNEST W. MARSH,
Olivier Le Dain, "If I Were King."
Oct. 24, Shakespeare, Clapham-junction.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Carbury, "Lady of Ostend," &c.
Oct. 24, Grand, Blackpool.

MR ALFRED MARTIN,
Business-Manager, N. Company, "Silver King,"
Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

MR. CHRIS. MASON,
Acting-Manager, "A Path of Thorns" Company.
At Liberty Dec. 10th. Next week, Dalston Theatre.

MR. HERBERT MAULE,
on Tour with Mr Leonard Rayne's Company.
Address, Opera House, Cape Town, South Africa.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
Address,
County Theatre, Reading.

MR. C. J. M'CARTHY,
Acting-Manager, "New East Lynne" Company,
Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

MR. LONNEN MEADOWS and MISS ADA TILLEY, "Alone in London" Company.
Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MR. ROBERT MEDLICOTT
at Liberty, Character Part.
G. P. O., Leicester.

MR. GEORGE MILLER
Disengaged Oct. 31 till Christmas.
Empire Theatre, Southend.

MR. and MRS. J. MILNE-TAYLOR,
"The Golden Ladder" Company,
Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

MR. AUSTEN E. MILROY,
Stephen Haysel,
"The Sin of Her Childhood."

MR. ROBERT MINSTER,
Address,
care of Charles Frohman, Daly's Theatre, New York.

MR. HUGH MONTGOMERY,
MARIE HAROUURT, Napoleon and Marcel, in "Napoleon the Great." Irving Theatre, Seacombe.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
Heavy Lead, "The Convict's Daughter" Co.
Oct. 24, Her Majesty's, Aberdeen, N.B.

MR. EDWARD MORGAN, Principal Comedy and S.-M., Mr Bert Coote's "Fatal Wedding" (N. Co.). Q. T., Manchester. At Liberty Nov. 5.

MR. F. MORLAND
Address,
11, Bernard-street, Russell-square, W.C.

MR. TOM MOWBRAY,
Messrs Geo. Edwardes and Chas. Frohman's "Are You a Mason?" Co. Oct. 24th, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MR. QUINTON M'PHERSON,
Re-engaged by Mr Charles Frohman for Mr William Gillette's Season. Empire Theatre, New York.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST MUNRO
(Miss Marie Jones) Disengaged Dec. 10.
Address, Theatre Royal, Atterciffe.

MR. and MRS. J. MYRON-HOWARD
(Miss Dorothy Wallace),
Dick Redcliffe and Nan, "Alone in London."

MR. HENRY NELSON Disengaged.
Robust Character, Old Men, Stage-Management; also Pantomime. 79, Walcot-square, London, S.E.

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MR. JOHN NESBITT
Disengaged.
62, Delancey-street, Gloucester-gate, N.W.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
"The Silver King" Company.
Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

MR. and MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
(Dorothy Carington) Disengaged November.
Address, 113, Stamford-street, Blackfriars, S.E.

MR. and MRS. JERROLD ORD (Miss Cissie Bellamy), Leads, Harry and Sylvia Beech, "Drama of Life" Co. Address, P. O. W. T., Mexborough.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON
Disengaged. Lead, Heavy Lead.
Address, 38, Skinner-street, Stockton-on-Tees.

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Cupid, "Three Little Maids" Company.
King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

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(Mabel Syringa), Character and Ingénue, Disengaged. Joint or Single. Address, 10, Ospringe-rd., N.W.

MR. DOUGLAS PAYNE,
Playing Inu, Mr Tree's N. Co., "The Darling of the Gods." Oct. 24, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

MR. W. KINGSFORD PEARCE,
Duke, in "Proof;" Alderman, in "Garrick;" Sir Peter Teazle, Damas, Dill. Mr and Mrs Maclaren's Co.

MR. ASHTON PEARSE,
Adelphi Theatre.
Permanent address, 65, Redcliffe-road, South Kensington.

MR. F. PENNINGTON-GUSH, Engaged by Edward Compton, Esq., Sir Benjamin Backbite. Hastings, Falkland, &c. 21, West-hill, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

MR and MRS FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq), Address A. A.;
or, Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, Australia.

MR. EDWARD S. PETLEY
at Liberty for Juvenile or Heavy Lead.
Address, 119, King Edward's-road, Birmingham

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. PETLEY
(Miss Gertrude Price), Lead, "As Midnight Chimes" Company. Oct. 24, Prince of Wales's T., Southampton.

MR. W. SCOTT PHIPP,
representing Miss Ada Reeve.
Permanent Address, 37, Grosvenor-park, S.E.

MR. FELIX PITT,
Disengaged December.
86, St. George's-road, S.E.

MR. and MRS. DONALD PRICE-EVANS
(Miss Marcella Hudson) Disengaged. Character, Comedy, Boys, &c. 21, Doddington-grove, Kennington.

MR. GUY RAMSDEN
Disengaged. Light Comedy, &c. Disengaged.
Communications, 32, Kelvedon-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. SIDNEY RENNEF.
S. R., Squire Forbes (Original Part), in "Bound to Win;" Mrs S. R. Disengaged. Alexandra, Sheffield.

MR. PERCY RHODES,
on Tour with "A Modern Judas." Disengaged at Christmas. Letters, 10, Elmstone-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. GWYN RICHARDSON
(Grace Harlington) at Liberty. Light Comedy, Character, Soubrettes, Boys. Mordington, Richmond, S.W.

MR. W. E. RICHARDSON
Disengaged.
Address, 129, Lavender-sweep, Lavender-hill, S.W.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD,
Oct. 24,
Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD,
Ratty and Stage-Management, "Path of Thorns,"
Dalston Theatre. Panto., S.-M., Prince's, Manchester.

MR. and MRS GORDON ROBEY
(Miss Annie Megson). At Liberty Christmas.
P. O. W., Southampton.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON,
Starring Engagement, Stephen Merrick, "The Lightning's Flash." Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

MR. DAN F. ROE,
Bellicose Betterton, "Nell Gwynne," &c.
Bedford and Luton (Three Nights each).

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MR. CHARLES E. SCUTT.
All arrangements complete.
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MR. LEWIS SEALY
at Liberty.
3, Keildon-road Clapham-common, S.W.

MR and MRS. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
(Miss Alice Arden) Disengaged Dec. 17.
Permanent address, 28, Clephane-road, Canonbury, N.

MR. FRANK SHERLOCK,
Roberts, "The Lady Slavey."
Theatre Royal, Worcester. Disengaged Christmas.

MR. GEORGE SHIRLEY
Disengaged. Acting Management.
65A, Long-acre, London, W.C.

MR. JULIUS SIMPSON,
Manager,
Sadler's Wells Theatre.

MR. FRED SINCLAIR,
own Sketch,
Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. TOM E. SINCLAIR,
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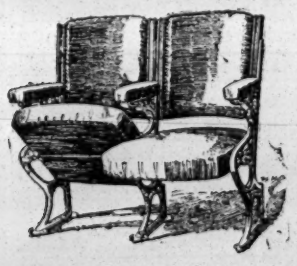

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, contains, as usual, many items and statistics of use and interest to all connected with the stage, and, in addition, a number of sketches and short stories by leading artistes, managers, and others. Among the contributors are J. L. Toole, Dan Leno, George R. Sims, George Robey, Huntley Wright, Harry Randall, Bransby Williams, A. W. Pinero, Louie Freear, Little Tich, George Mozart, and Douglas Crichton. The publication is cheap at a shilling.—Birmingham Daily Gazette, Jan. 16th, 1904

"ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL."

Edited by W. Osborne Brigstocke.
Methuen and Co., 36, Essex-street, Strand, W.C.

This volume forms another of the interesting series known as the "Arden Shakespeare," and we find the same elaborate care and scholarly erudition devoted to it. Its beautifully printed text is a joy to the book lover. Mr Brigstocke tells us that the play teems with obscure and corrupt passages some of which, in spite of the learning and ingenuity of generations of Shakespeare scholars, are still unexplained. It was never really popular on the stage, and was not produced until March 7, 1741, for Mrs Giffard's benefit at Goodman's Fields. Mrs Giffard, who appeared as Helena to her husband's Bertram, was the actress who played Queen Anne on the historical occasion of Garrick's début at that theatre in *Richard the Third*, on Oct. 26, in the same year. Dr. Hudson ("Shakespeare: His Life, Art, and Characters") says that in respect of plot and action "the piece is of a somewhat forbidding; not to say, repulsive nature; and though it abounds in wisdom and is not wanting in poetry, and has withal much choice delineation of character, and contains scenes which stream down with the poet's raciest English, yet it is not among the plays which readers are often drawn to by mere recollections of delight. . . . The poet may have lost the manuscript in a more unfinished and illegible state, from a sense of something ungenial and unattractive in the subject-matter and action of the play."

Mr Brigstocke demurs to this criticism when he says "Surely the fact that the play is supposed to have been remodelled after the lapse of several years is hardly in keeping with the idea that Shakespeare saw something ungenial in the subject matter. On the contrary, all seems to lead us to suppose that Shakespeare liked the subject sufficiently well to revise the greater part of an old comedy he had written years before, and also to treat of the same subject in *Measure for Measure*. Be that as it may, the play certainly does, as Dr. Hudson says, abound in wisdom and contains scenes which stream down with the poet's raciest English."

The data that we possess for determining the time of composition are lamentably scant. Francis Meres in his *Palladis Tamia* mentions a comedy entitled *Love Labours Wonne*. This immediately follows *Love Labors Lost*, and critics are now almost unanimous in declaring that *All's Well that Ends Well* is in all probability the former play, and that both were written about the same time. Coleridge held the opinion that *All's Well that Ends Well* was written at two different and rather distant periods of the poet's life, and Mr Brigstocke in this connection also quotes Verplanck, who is of the same opinion, and writes:—"The contrast of two different modes of thought and manners of expression here mixed in the same piece must be evident to all who have made the shades and gradations of Shakespeare's varying and progressive taste and mind at all the subject of study. Much of the graver dialogue, especially in the first two acts, reminds the reader in taste of composition, in rhythm, and in a certain quaintness of expression of *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. On the other hand, there breaks forth everywhere, and in many cases entirely predominates, a grave moral thoughtfulness, expressed in a solemn, reflective and sometimes in a sententious levity of phrase and harshness of rhythm which seem to me to stamp many passages as belonging to the epoch of *Measure for Measure* or *King Lear*. We miss, too, the gay and fanciful imagery which shows itself continually alike amidst the passion and the moralising of the previous comedies."

The story on which the play is founded is most probably Paynter's version of Boccacio's Giglietta di Nerbona from "The Decameron." "It is a revolting idea which underlies the plot," remarks Mr Brigstocke, "and it leaves so unpleasant a flavour with some people that it is not tasted again. I hold that the taste for *All's Well that Ends Well* is an acquired taste, and when the taste has once been acquired, one wonders how the revolting side of the plot could ever have hidden the manifold, and in certain respects unique, interest of the play. I say unique because in no other play, so far as I know, do we have so curious a blending of Shakespeare's various styles: here a passage of florid rhetoric characteristic of the earliest work, here a phrase which seems a bettered version of some lines in *King John*, and there gleams of irony that surely come reflected from the dark period of *King Lear*, *Measure for Measure*, or *Hamlet*. Furthermore, the eye in time becomes accustomed to the brightness of Helena's personality, and recognises round her a number of lesser characters, unnoticed before. By studying to understand what Shakespeare added to the authentic story, we may come to conjecture why the tale of Helena's labours touched him, and in what spirit he intended us to read his rendering of it."

Mrs Jameson tells us that in Helena we have a character allied to Juliet as a picture of fervent, enthusiastic, self-forgetting love, but differing wholly from her in other respects. The distinguished German critic, Dr. Louis Lewes, says that "In common with Juliet, Helena's love is passionate, spiritual, free from all egotism, but it is not, like Juliet's, entwined with fantasy, but with a firm and resolute will, an unbending strength of purpose, which renders Helena an entirely different personality. Juliet's passion reveals itself in glowing picturesque fluency; Helena lacks the outward glow and splendour of speech and metaphor. In her, passion shows itself in the earnestness with which she pursues an apparently unattainable end, in straightforward unshaken resolution, without poetic adornment in thought, language, or demeanour. Helena's character is related to that of Isabella, in *Measure for Measure*. Both are endowed with brilliant intellectual capacity; both bear the stamp of an amiable melancholy without being thereby hindered in their practical issues or rendered morbid. But their firmness of purpose is founded on different bases. Isabella's is derived from strong religious conviction; Helena's, on the contrary, is drawn solely and only from the deep passionate love which entirely fills her soul. Helena is introduced to us in a dependent and humiliating position. She is of low birth; she loves a youth her superior in rank, who feels no attachment for her, and refuses to hear of any bond between them, indignantly repudiating the idea of marriage. Her position is not only unhappy, it offends our taste, and yet her character rises in inward sincerity, touching nobility, and beauty above the unworthiness of her condition."

Mr Brigstocke is indebted to Dr. Halliwell-Phillips for some notes on the play. The learned critic says:—"It is worthy of remark that Shakespeare's comedy at a later period seems to have passed under the name of *Monsieur Parolles*, that appellation being assigned to it by King Charles I. in a manuscript note in a copy of the second folio of 1632, preserved at Windsor Castle, which formerly belonged to that unfortunate monarch. No notice of *All's Well That Ends Well*, under that title, has been discovered of a date previous to its entry on the books of the Stationers' Company, in November, 1623, where it is placed in the list of 'soe manie of the said copies as are not formerly entred to other men.'"

In our notice of *A Woman's Redemption* at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, last week, our correspondent inadvertently gave Mr Herbert as playing the part of the Rev. John Ganthony instead of Mr Herbert H. King, who actually sustained the rôle.

Messrs Boosey and Co.'s thirty-ninth series of London Ballad Concerts will be given at the Queen's Hall on Friday afternoons this season. The series will commence on Friday afternoon next, when Herr Kubelik, amongst other well-known artists, will appear.

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Tante	Fräulein Hoffe
Marie	Fräulein Limberg
Overbeck	Fräulein Trost
Dienstmädchen	Fräulein Zippert

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday, Oct. 20.—This is the story of an utterly depraved family. It is much the type of Sudermann's *Die Ehre*, and the title (*Honest Folk*) is, of course, ironical. Herr and Frau Breithaupt are the "bieder leute." They manage to delude the authorities into the belief that they are penniless, and so gain a very comfortable little income from public and private charity. Willy, their youngest daughter—a pretty, frivolous girl of twenty—attracts the senses of a wealthy old man named Reinecke. He offers Willy the inducement of a luxurious home, but the girl at first declines to be caught, for her heart—what she possesses—is given to Leo Meister, a gay youth of sporting tendencies. Breithaupt, however, talks her over, seeing the advantages to be reaped from Reinecke's money-bags. Willy acquiesces finally, quite willingly; and later on, when she is about to become a mother, her father threatens Reinecke into giving her a large sum of money in order that she may marry Leo, who is not quite blameless in the whole matter. The character of the thorough-paced villain, Breithaupt, who turns everything to his own advantage, is very cleverly and naturally drawn, and it was equally well acted by Herr Fischer. The incidental story of Breithaupt's elder daughter, Kaethe, is a little bit of pathos in the satirical comedy. Kaethe is engaged to a pedantic young fellow, whom she loves honestly, but whom she is compelled to give up because her father finds him too straight-laced. The piece is altogether too long; three acts would be quite sufficient, and the last is superfluous. Both interpretation and mounting were good, and the author—who is a much-esteemed playwright—was called before the curtain several times in response to genuine and hearty applause.

Madame Sarah Bernhardt commenced her season at the Berliner on Monday, receiving an enthusiastic welcome from the crowded house. *La Dame aux Camelias* was the performance, and the great actress achieved her customary triumph. At the conclusion of the third act a quantity of flowers and laurel wreaths were handed up, and the applause was endless. It was a matter of much gratification that Madame Bernhardt did not give up coming to Berlin, as she was compelled to give up going to Bremen and Hanover, on account of the accident to her eye at Aix-la-Chapelle. The glass splinter—caused by the breaking of the cab-window—was skilfully removed by an Aix oculist, but Madame Bernhardt was obliged to give the wounded eye a complete rest of some days.

The Royal Schauspiel-Haus company gave a performance of Sardou's *Theodora* at the New Royal Opera on Saturday. It was an interesting and enjoyable evening, owing chiefly—I might almost say solely—to the fine acting of Frau Wiilig in the title-rôle. Frau Wiilig is the star of the Court Theatre at Wiesbaden, and it is not improbable that she will be engaged here; she would be a decided acquisition to the Schauspiel-Haus. The part of Andreas was acted by Herr Christians, who gave an intelligent account of it. The smaller rôles were adequately sustained by Fräulein Von Mayburg, Herr Stægemann and Herr Oberländer.

A three-act comedy, entitled *Klarzum Gefecht*, by MM. Kurth and Laverrenz, was recently produced at the Deutsche Volksbühne, and met with such a deservedly cordial reception that it will certainly run for some time to come. The following is the plot, which is well conceived and developed. Captain Matthiesen, of his Imperial Majesty's navy, has indulged in a very hot flirtation with Anita, an impetuous, dark-eyed Mexican maiden, who ends by taking a vow to kill any woman who may supplant her in her lover's affections. Matthiesen returns to the Fatherland, marries a German girl, and lives happily enough until he learns that Anita is in Europe searching for him. He is then filled with dismay, remembering the Mexican's terrible oath. After some misunderstanding it turns out that Anita is married too, and is only looking up her old sweetheart to obtain possession of the letters she had written him. So all ends to everyone's satisfaction. The interpretation of the merry little piece was excellent, and the mounting particularly good. The action of the first act passes on board a German warship, all the accessories being capitally done, down to the minutest detail. Enthusiastic applause was evoked at this scene, and the authors called and recalled.

Blumenthal's new verse-play *Der Tote Leone*, about which we heard so much, has proved a very ordinary affair after all. The big bell of réclame was set ringing in every direction, the climax being that which is desired by all modern German authors—a prohibition by the censorship. This being once attained, public curiosity is aroused, and the matter is well aired in the papers. A few cuts are made, or—as in the case of *The Dead Lion*—a manager in a less critical town than Berlin is found to produce the play, and the gratifying result is there. Hamburg, the Free City, was the one that had the honour of bringing Blumenthal's latest piece before the public, and being but a few hours from Berlin some of our critics journeyed thither, hoping and expectant. The reception was frigid, verging on a frost; there was a little applause and a good deal of hissing. It was an open secret that the "dead lion" was Bismarck, and the young Spanish monarch of ancient times—who would not brook the supremacy of his statesmen—no other than the Kaiser. Thus curiosity was more than usually rife in regard to forbidden fruits, which proved, after all, very poor fare.

The Luisen Theatre is giving with much success a once-popular burlesque farce by MM. L'Arronge and Moser entitled *Der Registrator auf Reisen*. It was given on Wednesday in last week for the first time, and has filled the bill almost exclusively ever since. The cast is good, Herr Huener in the title-rôle, Herr Wald, Fräulein Bottstein, and Fräulein Huettel all being most satisfactory.

"Lucia di Lammermoor" was revived at the Royal Opera on Friday, and was one of the poorest, most unequal performances ever witnessed in that historical house. The name-part was given by Fräulein Siems, who is singing here, so to say, on approval. The artiste is young, and may in time sing with expression. At present, though her voice is pleasing, there is no feeling in it. Also the Opera House is too large for the young lady's voice, and she forced it a good deal at times. The remaining rôles did not seem to suit any of their exponents, while the chorus was frequently out of time. Dr. Best, the new conductor, was evidently not at one with either his orchestra or chorus.

Italian opera seems to be the mode here at present. At the National, *Rigoletto*, with Alessandro Bonci in the part of the Duke, was given last week successfully. The "guest" has become so popular that every seat in the house was taken and the ticket-office closed long before the performance commenced.

Mr Ritter Riley, of the Dallas Comedy Company, died at Karachi, India, on the 28th ult. Mr Riley seriously injured himself internally while dancing on the stage during a recent visit of the Dallas Company to Bombay.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, is here this week in *The Eternal City*. For Mr Lewis Mannering as Baron Bonelli we have nothing but praise; Mr Henry Deas thoroughly deserves the applause he receives as David Rossi; Mr Leonard Gray gives a telling impersonation of Pope Pius XI.; Mr P. L. Julian is a manly and vigorous Bruno Rocco, Mr E. Sharp a good chief of police; and Mr George Lowther does well as Charles Minghelli. Master Geoffrey Carlile is natural as little Joseph. The rôle of Donna Rosa receives careful treatment from Miss Edith Anton Laing.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—Mr James Welch is, of course, the leading attraction of *The Man in the Street* and *The New Clown* this week. The impersonation of Jabez Gover constitutes a remarkable study of real life, and he is intensely diverting in the part of Lord Cyril. Mr G. H. Snazelle plays most enjoyably as the circus proprietor, Dixon; and Messrs Cyril Harcourt and Harry Crane very capably appear as Captain Trent and Thomas Baker. Miss Audrey Ford makes a fascinating Rose, and the parts of Maude and Winnie Chesterton are admirably filled by Misses Winwood and Carlisle.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—Permane's Siberian bears are the prime attraction this week, and another important turn is that of the Abadaroffs, the "prehistoric mountebanks." Mr Tom Foy and company continue very popular, and among the other successful artists are Mr James Brady; Bishop and Vale, eccentric comedians and dancers; Miss Flo Challis, contralto; Miss Ethel Beresford and Mr Gerard Hunt, in an attractive comedy sketch; Mr Harry Jennings, comedian and dancer; and Mr Charlie Bayman, Negro comedian.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—The boards here are occupied this week by Messrs E. H. Knight and George Denham's company in *The Grip of Iron*. Mr Fred Powell as Jagan, alias Simmonet, gave a most powerful and dramatic rendering; Mr Geo. Denham as Paul Blanchard is effective; Lorentz De Ribas as played by Mr J. Wilton Richards is exceptionally good; Alphonse De Coucou and Dodot, detectives, as submitted by Mr Harry Agar-Lyons and Mr John Brittain, respectively, are most amusing; Mr J. E. Stevenson as Robert De Belfort is really capital; Mr Andrew Liston as Loustalat, the Smiler, provokes roars of laughter; Miss Georgie De Lara as Cora Simmonet plays her part fascinatingly; Miss Nellie Grant as Sophie Blanchard is responsible for a brisk portrayal; Miss Hilda Baynton as Marie Guerin submits a pathetic representation; and Miss Mabel Middleton as Babette is very capable.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—On Monday the Milton Rays opened here with *A Hot Night* Mr A. Milton created much amusement as Frank Firth; Mr Alfred Wellesley must be complimented on his excellent impersonation of Professor Sheerman; Mark Maybury lost nothing in the hands of Harry T. Butler; Captain Dionysius was a capital representation by Mr J. Sherwin; Mr Rolando Martin was both original and quaint as William Wiffles; Miss Clara Reid gave a neat and natural performance of Lucy Lorimer; Miss Cecily Hilton was good as Polly Drake; Miss Beatrice Annersley made an ideal Mrs Flutterwig; and Miss Madge Wrae as Fanny Firth was full of vivacity and charm. Mr Herbert Morgan earned great popularity.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company is here with *A Woman's Pluck*. The author, Mr Willard, sustains the part of Dick Darrell, a scoundrel with a bad record, and is as callous and cruel as the author intended he should be. Miss East-Robertson plays with great show of daring and complete self-possession the trying rôle of Grace Daremont. Mr J. P. Dryden doubles the parts of Mark Scanlan and Jim Daremont, and fulfils the requirements of two dissimilar characters admirably. Able impersonations are also given to other prominent parts by Messrs Edward Ashby, C. P. Wentworth, W. Hayward, Cecil Raymond, and Misses Helen Elmar, Jessie Yatman, Sarah Smith, and Tina Show, the latter in the character of a boy. The humour was of the best sort as portrayed by Mr Harry Emerson and Miss Agnese D'Aragon.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot.—Two principal features of the Hippodrome programme for the week are the Eight Lancashire Lads and the Abd'el Kader Trio. The former heads the bill, the troupe consisting of eight performers, solo and glee singers and dancers. The other artistes who fill up the intervals between these renowned artistes and the Abd'el Kader are Ray Maskell, very charming comedienne and speciality dancer; Davis and Davis, vocal comedians and dancers; Edith Sylvester, who gives a unique speciality act of music and pose; and Pete and Juno, coloured coons, whose sand dancing is a revelation of leg-mania and expert stepping. The Hippodrome Bioscope projects some interesting moving photographs. The Abd'el Kader Trio, with their gigantic pictures, give a wonderfully interesting performance.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Claude Seaton.—Messrs George Harris and Fred Terriss's company is occupying the boards here with the naval drama, entitled *Why Women Sins*. The part of Lieut. Harry Maxwell is played with vigour by Mr Wallace Campbell; the character of Capt. Herbert Carlton is admirably portrayed by Mr Fred Terriss; Mr George Harris as Cecil Spencer is highly amusing; Mr Bob Herrick, Mr Lionel Ellis, Mr F. Newburn, Mr Forbes Harrison, and Mr Charles Herberts are all good in their respective rôles. As Lilly De Vere Miss Winifred Preece is very popular, her songs being well received. Miss Gussie Everett scores as Ida Valette; exceptional ability is shown by Miss Effie Bartlett as Nell Desmond; Miss Mary West as Nancy Nibble and Miss Georgina Thomas as Jack Smith, a waif, both deserve a word of praise.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Not since the new theatre has been opened has there been such a really representative audience as assembled there on the opening night of Mr Chas. Macdona's company in the charming musical comedy *A Country Girl*. Nothing could have been happier than Mr Harry Emeric's conception of the happy-go-lucky Barry, nor Miss Lilly Shaw's unsophisticated, merry Nan. The Geoffrey Chaloner of Mr Chas. Marston was a rare foil to Barry's frolics, Mr Jack Parson made a capital Rajah of Bhong, and the Sir Joseph Verity of Mr Jack Fortescue was a good character sketch. Miss Clara Judge's Marjory Joy was a pleasing performance, Miss Winifred Croft acted the character of Princess Mehelanah well, and Miss Marjory Moore as Madame Sophie did extremely well in the "Chicken" duet with Barry.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—Miss Beatrice Isaacson's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday with the drama *A Great Sensation*. As Jack Danvers Mr Sydney N. Hallows is all that can be desired; a clever character sketch is submitted by Mr Alexander I. Isaacson as Bunko Bates; Mr Victor Fossett as Robin Dale is real and convincing; Eva Dale is played by Miss Beatrice Isaacson in a manner reflecting on her considerable credit. The genteel villainy and insatiable animosity of Sidonie are well expressed by Miss Edith Wallace. An amusing representation of Ria is forthcoming from Miss Marion Mayne, and Mr Harry Ugar is amusing as Peter. The other characters are well sustained.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—*A Little Coquette*, a new burlesque, under the management of Mr Gar Kiddie, is being presented here this week. Miss Lizzie Payne is fascinating in the title-rôle; Robin Adair is extremely good in Miss Flo Warner's hands; Mr J. W. Groves scores as Ann Teeke; Gabriel Grabbe is effectively undertaken by Mr Forsyth Bruce; Mr George Hestor is much appreciated as Simon Scrapps; and the Captain is in the capable hands of Mr E. H. Bertram.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr G. E. Hoey.—Mr John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Children are at the above hall with songs and dances, including some very interesting and clever variety interludes. The Lizette Troupe are worthy of much praise; the Musical Keiths contribute a smart turn; the Florida Troupe introduce the cake walk with much success; Elsie Rubina's wire act is excellent; and Fred M'Lean, Letta Star, Gracie Bard, Ada Lorne, May Bishop, Alice Dunn, Eric Lynn, Pattie Burton, Sam Paul, and Maurice Lindley effectively contribute to the entertainment.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr E. St. Alban's opera company, in *Les Cloches de Corneville*, is here. He himself plays with much power and originality the part of the miser Gaspard, and Mr George A. Fox adds to a good presence a fine voice which he uses with effect as Henri, Marquis De Corneville. Grenicheaux is capably taken by Mr Walter Cranbourne, Mr George Delaforce makes an amusing Baillie, and Mr Fowler Thatcher causes much fun as Gobo. Miss K. Farrell is a winning Germaine, and Miss Lucie Fitzroy an amusing and vivacious Serpolette.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, trick cyclists and comedy artistes, give some remarkable exhibitions of skill, and Miss Ada Cerito makes a great hit. The Dagmar Troupe of lightning acrobats and tumblers are clever; Joe Archer is a comedian of merit; G. H. Keith, actor-vocalist, does well; Marie Weston is an expert dancer and banjoist; and Sibb and Sibb are smart double trapeze artistes. Vernon's Bioscope shows the latest pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—The crowning engagement of the autumn season is being fulfilled this week by the appearance of Miss Ellen Terry, who has not been seen locally since the opening performances of the present theatre (1863), when as a young girl her histrionic talents were being developed in that wonderful stock company of youthful artistes which the late Mr James Henry Chute had gathered together for the Bath and Bristol Theatres. For her initial performance on Monday *Much Ado About Nothing* was put on, with, of course, Miss Terry as Beatrice. Upon her first entrance round upon round of applause greeted the popular actress, which culminated at the close in a scene of enthusiasm seldom witnessed locally. Excellent support was accorded the leading lady by her admirable company, the Benedick of Mr Matheson Lang proving a masterly impersonation, while the Claudio of Mr E. Harcourt Williams only strengthens the good impression this clever Shakespearian actor made upon a former visit. Miss Hutin Britton secures just appreciation for her skilful handling of Hero, being particularly good in the difficult church scene of the third act. Special mention should be made of the Don Pedro and Don John of Mr Charles Thursby and Mr T. A. Shannon, while sound renderings of Leonato and Borachio are forthcoming from Mr George Fitzgerald and Mr Alfred Bucklaw. Mr John Willes is a capital and humorous Dogberry. The comedy was produced under the direction of Mr Gordon Craig, the stage management being well looked after by Mr Charles La Trobe. On Wednesday *The Merchant of Venice*, with Miss Terry, of course, as Portia, drew a large audience; and on Thursday *The Good Hope* and *Nance Oldfield* formed a strong bill.

PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—A bill full of good things is drawing large houses this week. A dramatic episode, entitled *The V.C.*, is far above the usual playlet, and as acted by Mr Charles Cunningham and his three associates meets with much favour. The Jalvans, Oriental entertainers, perform their tricks with great skill and success; Bennett and Martell, in their crazy comedy act, do their hard work to the accompaniment of laughter and applause; Ferrari Duo, cosmopolitan dancers, excel in their various styles of dancing; Doody and Wright are paying a welcome return visit, and their eccentric comedy business goes as well as ever; George Bendon, the white coon, is another old favourite who is always sure of a warm reception; Beatrice Renee strikes out an original idea in song and dance that pleases her audience; a capital Irish comedian and dancer is Andy Fagan; and the Sisters Adelaide, duettists, also appear with acceptance.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr William Greet's company is presenting with undeniable success the late Wilson Barrett's play, *Lucky Durham*. Mr W. F. Grant gives a careful and effective rendering of the title-rôle. Mr D. M'Carthy is well suited as Richard Vallourton; Lord Mountfallon is finely played by Mr Henry De Solla; and the Hon. Reginald Steighton is admirably portrayed by Mr Paul Belmore. Miss Phyllis Ralph is an irreproachable Helen Vallanton; Miss Mary Relph is an excellent Lady Mountfallon; and Miss Jessie Winter as the Hon. Margaret Steighton and Miss Nellie Bonser as Mrs Durham are both most efficient. Remaining parts are in able hands, and the staging of the piece is capital.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr F. Brooke Warren's company in *Mysteries of the Thames* is doing good business. As the Hawk Mr Warren is both highly effective and popular. Richard Brandon is well acted by Mr Roy Fortescue, and Bill Riscol is admirably assumed by Mr Elton Morgan. Miss Gwynne Warren displays considerable dramatic power as Flash Nell, and the cast throughout is a thoroughly competent one.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—The comic element is well represented this week, the list of comedians including, as it does, Mr Neil Kenyon, in his Scottish effusions; Mr John E. Coyle, Mr J. H. Milburn, Mr Harry Conlin, and O'Connor and Brady. Miss Gertie Gitana is repeating her remarkably successful sketch, *A Schoolgirl's Holiday*. Miss Rosie Coleman is a comedienne and dancer of ability, and the Lyons Trio of acrobatic pantomimists and the Lupino Brothers, mimics and musicians, complete an excellent company.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr John Wainwright's company in *It's Never too Late to Mend*. Mr Wainwright cleverly impersonates Tom Robinson; George Fielding is well sustained by Mr Alfred E. Calver; Mr Hornby Warburton capably fulfils the duties of the chaplain of the prison; Mr Henry Lee imparts humour by his amusing interpretation of Peter Crawley; Mr Edwin Davies is well suited to the part of Isaac Levy; and Mr Harold Webb is a good exponent of Mr Meadows. Miss Kitty Carew sweetly portrays the part of Susan Merton; Miss Millie Milton feelingly impersonates the poor waif Josepha.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—The attraction here this week is the musical play *A Country Girl*, which has been capitally interpreted by the members of Mr George Dance's company. Honours are due Miss Daisy Le Hay, whose piquant and vivacious impersonation of Nan has charmed many admirers. Miss Maud Boyd must be congratulated on her convincing embodiment of Marjory Joy, her singing being delightful. Mr Charles R. Walenn is a host in himself as Barry, his rich humour and diverting style creating roars of laughter. Mr Walenn is a smart comedian. In the rôle of the Princess Melaneh Miss Ethel Negretti acquits herself with high distinction. Miss Maude Prenton furnishes a decidedly clever impersonation of Sophie, her fascinating style being decidedly captivating. Mr Robert Michael is is an able exponent of Geoffrey Challoner, and no one could desire a better representative of Sir Joseph Verity than Mr Joe Nightingale. Miss Mary Hay is a graceful Mrs St. Quinten, and Mr Arthur Leyshon makes the most of his opportunities as Granfer Mummery. Other rôles are capitally sustained by Miss Florrie Hylton and Messrs St. John Hamund, Jack Daly, P. Corray, &c. The powerful chorus and orchestra are under the capable direction of Mr Sydney Shaw.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—Much praise is due to Mr Fred W. Warden, the managing director here, for his enterprise in securing such an important engagement as Dr. Maxim Boyd, who comes direct from the London Hippodrome with the sensation of the day, "The Mysterious Kettle." His various experiments with that extraordinary product "liquid air" are watched with the keenest interest. Miss Elaine Ravensberg and company are responsible for an operatic comedy sketch, *The Maid and the Brigands*, which is quite a feature of the bill, Miss Ravensberg's vocalism being much admired. That droll comedian Mr Cliff Ryland causes peals of laughter with his funny songs and patter, and Grell and Grey command success with their absurdity *Bertie's First Lesson in Tennis*, a really funny act. The Sisters Terry (Bella and Minnie) are smart duettists, with good voices, and a capital performance is provided by Vance Brothers, comedy instrumentalists, in their new and attractive act entitled *Sharp and Flat*. Also appearing are Charles Danton, character comedian; Miss Sheila Deans, comedienne; and the Katos, in their decidedly clever Lilliputian act.

FLORAL HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs Lennon Bros.—Under the auspices of the Belfast Shakespearian Society—of which Sir Henry Irving is one of the distinguished patrons—a dramatic performance of no little merit took place at the Floral Hall, Belfast, on the evening of the 13th before a crowded audience. The *pièce de résistance* was the Trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice*, in which Mr Sinclair Neill, formerly of Messrs Forbes Robertson's and F. R. Benson's companies, appeared as Shylock. His fine acting as the revengeful Jew completely enthralled the large audience, who accorded him quite an ovation. Mr Neill achieved a success of which he may well feel justly proud. Madame Julia Ryan in the rôle of Portia exhibited decided ability, speaking her lines with the utmost effect, and special praise is due Mr J. Roy's admirable impersonation of Bassanio. Other parts were effectively portrayed by Miss S. Roy and Messrs J. M'Coubrey, T. H. Convery, W. J. Rea (capital as Gratiano), J. Brannigan, and R. J. Allen. Other Shakespearian selections given were scene two of the first act from *Julius Cæsar* by Mr Sinclair Neill and Mr A. Savage, which reflected much credit on these gentlemen, and the Quarrel scene between Brutus and Cassius was admirably sustained by Messrs J. Roy and W. J. Rea.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—The engagement of the renowned coster comedian, Mr Alec Hurley, drew capital houses here on Monday. He was in good form, and with his company keenly delighted his innumerable Belfast admirers with his coster sketch entitled *The Lambeth Walk*. A big hit has been made by the Anartos, musical sketch artistes of repute, their entertainment affording much pleasure; and Silent Tait, the eccentric wizard, is unquestionably very droll. A good reception has been accorded Mr Charles Chard, a versatile comedian with a capital voice; and Mr James Kurry, eccentric comedian, creates amusement with his brisk songs. Mr Harry Coates, "the singing navvy," has a capital voice, which has been heard to the utmost advantage; and the Brothers Redmond, acrobatic comedians, have repeated last week's success. Miss Annie Casey is a charming comedienne, and others appearing are Miss Lillie Soutter, comedienne, and Miss Marion Scott, balladist.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The star here this week is the clever comedienne, Miss Lily Marney, who has been very successful with her finished rendering of several catchy songs. A good reception has been accorded Mr Charles Woodward, an accomplished actor-vocalist, in *The Last Touch*. Hanna and James, equilibrists, execute some startling feats, and Mr Morny Cash upholds his reputation as a comedian, his comic songs being hugely enjoyed. The new pictures exhibited this week by Welsker Brothers' Bioscope are very realistic, and the comedy act by the Boston Twins evokes loud merriment. Ellis and Watts, clever comedians, are also capital dancers, and others appearing are Miss Mattie Crawford, a delightful soubrette, and Master Henri, unique juggler.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—An excellent portrayal of Glory Quayle, in *The Christian*, is given by Miss Grace Chalmers, and as the Hon. John Storm Mr Harry Scott is equally effective. Prominent also are Mr Stanley Radcliffe as Father Lamplugh and Mr Charles B. Bedells as Lord Robert Ure. Special mention should be made of the Mrs Callender of Miss Clara Nicholls, and both Miss Lily Grammonde as Polly Love and Mr Jackson Wilcox as Horatio Drake contribute to the success of the play.

BRIDLINGTON.

ROYAL PRINCE'S PARADE.—Manager, Mr Charles Palmer.—The success of the manager's attempt to lengthen the season at this popular resort has been very great, audiences assembling in the pavilion nightly in great numbers to listen to Mr Tom Carrick's White Musketeers, who on Monday took their benefit. Miss Lily Carrick's songs and dances were well done; Mr Squire Day, with his mechanical doll, was very clever; and Mr Jack Bang's powerful baritone voice was effective in his songs. Mr Tom Carrick's female impersonations and mandoline solos were capitally rendered, and the company gave smart little sketches, including a well-played one, *The Snowstorm*. Mr Fred Marks is a clever piano soloist and accompanist.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—The amusing comedy *Are You a Mason?* is paying a return visit here this week under the direction of Messrs Edwardes and Frohman. Mr Stephen Wentworth as Frank Perry, and Mr Harry Ashford as Amos Bloodgood cause much laughter in their respective parts. Mr Anthony Fawcett and Mr Tom Mowbray are also very good. Miss Harriett Trench acts well as Mrs Bloodgood, whose three daughters are played by the Misses Violet Graham, Lily Beagle, and Isla Glynn. *Hushed Up* precedes the comedy each evening.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—*The King of Thieves* is being presented here this week by a company under the direction of Mr Jack Haddon, who also plays the principal part, James Galston. He is ably supported by Mr John Cecil as Harry Travers, the young fireman, Mr Ernest Munro, and Mr Reginald Hamer. As Mary Galston Miss Thorne Hallam is very pleasing.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—The principal attraction here this week is Zertho's dogs, who go through a wonderful performance. The Villions give a comic acrobatic and cycle turn; Stewart and Morgan, vocalists, make a successful reappearance; and Downes and Langford, comedians; Kitty Wager, comedienne; and Georgina Leonard and others make up an attractive programme.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—The D'Oyly Carte opera company continues to supply the works of Gilbert and Sullivan in a most satisfactory manner, and much appreciation is bestowed upon them. *The Gondoliers* was down for Monday and Wednesday evenings, when Mr C. H. Workman as the Duke of Plaza-Tora greatly pleased those present with his admirable singing and acting. Mr Fred Billington was also available as the Grand Inquisitor, and was made a big favourite; and Miss Nora Maguire as Gianetta, Miss Theresa Rassam as the Duchess, Miss Bessie Mackenzie as Casilda, Miss Jessie Rose as Tessa, Mr Pacie Ripple as Marco Palmieri, and Mr Albert Kavanagh as Giuseppe were all deserving of praise, together with the others of this really satisfactory cast. *The Mikado*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard*, though they may have lost their novelty, have by no means lost their charm, and grateful audiences have revelled in the beauties of these works.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—Mr Edward Terry has once more vouchsafed his Birmingham admirers, whose numbers are countless, a rich and a rare treat this week by appearing in most of his popular parts. On Monday *The House of Burnside* revealed Mr Terry as an emotional actor who can beguile an audience of its tears, and later *Bardell v. Pickwick* displayed his delightful versatility as Sergeant Buzfuz. On Tuesday *The Passport*, preceded by *The Telephone*, showed the favourite comedian in another successful rôle, Christopher Coleman to wit; and on Wednesday *Sweet Lavender*, with Mr Terry as Dick Phenyl, constituted the evening's delight. *Love in Idleness* and *You Never Know* are also in the week's bill. The visit has proved eminently successful, and the support is most worthy. Mr Arthur Cornell, who acts with exemplary dignity as Parminter; Miss Daisy Murch, in her well-rendered rôle of Marion; Mr Allan Pollock, who acts with admirable frankness the part of the good solicitor; Mr Fred Knight, who makes a fine part of the "bo'sun;" Miss Beatrice Selwyn, who well expresses the loyalty of the faithful Betty; Mr A. Hylton Allen, who is decidedly a hit as Jack Morrow; Miss Olga Kay, who acts prettily as Jenny; and Miss Beatrice Terry and Master Roy Lorraine as the grandchildren take part in *The House of Burnside*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*A London Actress* takes the stage this week, and meets with cordial support. Miss Emma Litchfield is to the forefront with her brilliant acting as Hilda Mannering. Miss Maud Saxby gives a fine rendering of the part of Nellie. Mr Chas. A. Leicester well fills the rôle of Lieutenant Kingston, and Mr Stuart Cleveland is a potent factor in the success as Clive Crawford. Mr Fred Tenaur acts commendably as Moses Mendoza; Mr Sam Wilford embellishes the part of Pat Maloney with several clever songs, and Miss Alice Capel, Miss Louise Millward, Miss Adele, Miss Nelly Eglen, Mr Geo. Doyle, and Mr Alfred Gregory act in a capable manner.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*His Majesty's Guests*, which is one of Mr Fred Karno's most successful productions, is receiving fresh proof of its popularity at the Metropole this week. Mr Harry Roxbury supplies an infinity of fun as Sergeant Lightning; Mr Walter Balfour as the swaggering Lord Easem acts in the most approved manner; Miss Florence Burns plays Lady Maud with much success; Mr Charles Usher does good work as Mr Miffin; Mr Victor Knight paints a clever picture of Mr Minks; and Mr Leon Petters is a big favourite as Harry. Miss Hetty Gale as Dolly wins admirers in plenty, and there are many others who lend themselves to the success of this enjoyable production, in which everybody shines, from principals to chorus.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*Sapho* has returned here, with Miss Annie Bell in her now well-known and admired conception of the title-rôle. Mr Horatio Sinclair essays the part of Jean Gaussin in a most satisfactory manner. Mr C. Antley makes his presence welcome as Césaire; Mr Archie Helsby is successful as Flamant; Mr J. A. Storey makes the rôle of Father Legrand very acceptable; Miss Laura Ray wins approval as Machaume; and little Miss Lottie Ray depicts the tantrums of the child Joseph with absolute fidelity. Messrs R. A. Green, H. Langford, and the Misses Brinklow, Oliver, Desmond, and Greenhalgh also take parts.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*At War with Women* constitutes the evening's fare this week, and in this clever and exciting drama Mr Frank Bateman's company scores indubitably. Mr Edward Owston as Lieut. Alexis bears his hero's honours gracefully and well. Miss Marion Warren is fully appreciated as Frida Malakoff; Mr Steer Flinders plays the villain, Ivan Clovitch, with much ability; and Miss Lizzie Montague as that "beautiful white devil," Auriel Romanoff, towers high among the company with her powerful acting. Mr Clinton Baddeley as the Pole, Antolski, acts in a finished and dignified manner; and the comic parts are well delivered by Miss Mabel Leigh, Mr Shaun Glenville, and Mr Fred J. Lennox.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—T. E. Dunville is the attraction here this week, his eccentricities being keenly appreciated. The Brothers Horne, in their comedy boxing act, are entertaining; Lily Burnand has some good songs; the equilibristic feats of the Lukushima Troupe and the Parros astound the audiences; Selma Braatx is loudly applauded for her juggling act; and the Lannons, duettists; George Formby, a quaint comedian; Harry Bickley; and Dot Hardy, low comedienne, complete the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—The patrons of this popular house were rather disappointed during the earlier part of this week at the absence of Annie Purcell and the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, owing in both cases to indisposition. The management secured the services of the Brothers Horne, who are at the Empire. *The Belle of the Orient* remains another week. Ross and Grayson are repeatedly encored for their clever business; the Sisters Dacre render their songs and dances with good effect; and other excellent turns are provided by Gladys Mavius, Will Dalton, Dolly Harmer, and Zanfretta and Naplo.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford.—One of the finest animal entertainments we have seen is that of Richard Sawade with his lions, tigers, bears, and dogs, and Mdlle. Clothilde with her performing cockatoos and parrots is highly appreciated. Whit Cunliffe, J. H. Scotland, and Martine and Son come in for a good share of applause. Amy Augarde, an exceedingly clever burlesque actress, and Mabel La Blanche are well received. The juggling feats of Geraldo are very smart, as also is the contortionism of Monsieur D'Musto. Wal Robbins and Terry and Lambert are also in the bill.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edw. Foster.—May Edouin and Fred Edwards are appearing here in *A Bachelor's Dream*, which is capitally played and loudly applauded. The British Quartet render their selections with good effect; Bradley and Warwick have a capital comedy sketch, *The Advent of Venus*; and Elsie Roby also appears in a comedy act. The acrobatic turn presented by the Three Georges is most entertaining; Rich and Rich are really funny; and the Passports, John Gilmore, Albert Le Fre, and Dora Clements add to the success of the long programme.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—*The New Barmaid* is again proving attractive here, the company enacting the same being under the direction of Mr Alexander Loftus. The two most important characters, Captain Lovebury and Bertie White, are in the hands of their original exponents, Mr Harrison Brockbank and Mr Joseph B. Montague respectively. Custom hath made it in them a property of easiness to enact the parts with the greatest success. Mr Alexander Loftus does well as William White, and Mr Albert Weston has a part that suits him in Mons. Bonsor. The name rôle is in the hands of Miss Gwladys Elvey, who presents a very charming picture. Miss Hilda Blanche as Brenda Louth, and Miss Violet Osmund as Dora Heather are also seen to advantage. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr Michael Dwyer.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—Mr Laurence Irving and company are here this week with *Richard Lovelace*. Mr Irving plays the name-rôle with considerable success, and Miss Mabel Hackney supplies a careful portrayal of Lucy Sacheverell. The Colonel Hawley of Mr William E. Ashcroft is a fine performance, and Mr Henry Crocker as Alderman Sacheverell, Mr Michael Sherbrooke as Mr Porter, and Mr Chris Walker as the Adjutant are satisfactory. The Mistress Porter of Mrs Campbell Bradley is also a commendable performance. *Daisy's Escape* (by permission of Sir Henry Irving) is the curtain-raiser.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—The Manhattan Comedy Four, who appear at the top of the bill this week, give a good turn of comedy and vocalism. The Three Sisters Slater, banjoists and dancers, appear in a scena entitled *Navolio*; Mark Anthony tells funny stories; Percy Hannan sings well; and Stanley and Vandyke score a great success in their comedy act. The Five Delevines appear in a musical mélange; the Misses Lytton sing some pleasing duetts; Regan and Ryan display their versatility in comedy song and dance; and Henry A. Moore shines in mimicry. Flora Lumiere's fairy grotto is a charming turn; and the sketch supplied by Weston and May is also well received.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and company; Manager, Mr T. P. Dulgnan.—Another big programme is set forth here this week. The Black Troubadours are a quartet of vocalists who are meeting with the cordial reception which is fully warranted by their singing. Texas Hattie is a clever young artist on the tight rope; and Lillieth Leyton and her company appear in a sketch entitled *The Order of the Bath*, which finds great favour. Most of the other artists are well known and appreciated here, and include Flo Melville, comedienne; Oswald, the hand balancer; Gus Hindell, comedian; Duncan, club manipulator; and Jack Lorimer, the Scotch comedian.

BOOTLE.

ROYAL MUNCASTER.—Proprietors, Messrs Pennington; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Wilson.—*One Woman's Wickedness* is on the boards here this week, and the stirring melodramatic incidents of the piece are much enjoyed. Mr Charles Phelps as Jem Craggs takes the leading part, and gives an excellent rendering; Mr Laurence Brien as Philip Beaufort leaves nothing to be desired; and Mr George Byrne as the scheming lawyer is excellent. Mr Arthur Ferriss makes an amusing Lord Algernon Fitznoodle; Mr Howard Ward shows himself a born low comedian in the character of Limpy Larry; Marianne Beaufort is well rendered by Miss Frances Jessop; and Miss Florence Lloyd as Janet Raymond plays an odious part with the utmost ability. Aunt Crasy (Miss Florence M. Daly) is a very creditable performance; Miss Ethel Ashbury makes an excellent barmaid; and Miss Louie Davis as Lillian Craggs is a sweet singer.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr John Denton's company pays a visit here this week in *A Modern Judas*. Mr Denton is excellent in the rôle of Elkanah Pearce; Mr Frank Beresford appears to advantage as Jack Vavasour; and Mr Percy Rhodes is a capable exponent of the villain, Captain Melbourne. Mr Trueman Towers does well as Bennett, and Mr Willie Scott's impersonation of Tom Hopkins is eminently successful. Miss Ada Palmer is good as Miss Agatha Pearce, and the rôle of Elise receives good handling from Miss Kate Walbran, the part of Claire Rivers being sustained by Miss Violet King in a thoroughly able manner.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Messrs Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's company is paying us a first visit with *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Mr Langhorne Burton distinguishes himself in the title-rôle, acting throughout with ease and distinction; Mr Arthur Grenville is immensely diverting in his impersonation of Mr Henry Pitt-Welby, M.P.; and Mr Howard W. Cochran gives point to the character of Mr Ambrose Hicks. Miss Doris Templeton unites charm, grace, and naïveté in the rôle of Lady Henrietta Addison; Miss Alda Jenoure cleverly interprets the worldly wisdom of the rich and fascinating widow, Mrs Mulholland; and Miss Ellen Standing is well suited as the Countess of Pangbourne. *Barbara* precedes the main attraction.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Mr Edmund Tearle is here this week with a selection of plays. On Monday *The Three Musketeers* was produced, Mr Tearle appearing as D'Artagnan with the greatest success. Miss Kate Clinton is an accomplished Miladi, playing her part in an easy and natural manner. Anne of Austria is impersonated by Miss Mary Campbell with considerable ability, and Miss Esther Tearle is pleasing as Constance. Mr Wm. J. Miller, an actor of undoubted talent, does well as Cardinal Richelieu. Praise is also due to Mr Frederick Barlow and Mr Edmond Grogan as King Louis XIII. and the Duke of Buckingham respectively. Mr T. W. Benson is amusing as Boniface, Mr W. T. Ross shines as the Count De Rochfort, while the Three Musketeers, Athos, Porthos, and Aramis, are well impersonated by Messrs W. Raynham, J. V. Fairley, and V. O. Crabtree. *Macbeth*, *The Merry Wives of

BRADFORD.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—*The Orchid*, one of Mr George Edwardes's many notable successes, had a warm welcome here again on Monday. Miss Coralie Blythe is charming as Lady Violet Anstruther; Miss Irene Verona is again a notable success as Caroline Vokins; as the adventuress, Zelie Rumbert, Miss Ethel Griffies is very good; Miss Luna Love is entertaining as the knowing secretary, Thisbe; with ability Miss Katie Leechman plays the Countess Anstruther; and Miss Gertrude Gilliam is vivacious as Josephine Zaccary. Mr Lawrence Grossmith is distinctly prominent in a capital performance of the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour, and he has an able colleague in Mr Donald Hall as Dr. Fausset. Mr Ellis Ogilvie avails himself well of his many opportunities as Aubrey Chesterton; the fiery Comte Raoul De Cassignat is intensely humorous in the hands of Mr Sam Walsh; Mr Sidney Vincent's Zaccary is a clever performance; and Mr George Gregory is responsible for much of the hearty laughter as the irrepressible Meakin.

Prince's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frances Laidler.—For the first time here Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson and her capable company are appearing in the drama of strong interest *The Scarlet Woman*. Miss Scott-Watson in the name-part displays histrionic ability of a very high order. The lady has strong support, Mr David M'Farlane as her associate in crime, Will Raymond, being excellent, and Mr Bryce Methven sustaining the part of the hero, Philip Gordon, with effect. As the heroine, Margery Honor, Miss Muriel Allyne plays gracefully; and Mr Reginald Fox is good as Richard Marchant. In lighter vein Miss Lala Connell and Mr Mat Melrose contribute to the success of the performance.

Empire.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—Mr A. C. Lilly and company are here again this week with the military dramatic sketch *Drummed Out*, which is well received, and to the rest of the programme Will Musgrave, comedian, contributes acceptably. Beatrice Willey's excellent voice is heard to advantage in ballads. A clever gymnastic performance is gracefully accomplished by the charming Trentanovi Sisters. The clever turn by Maxwell and Frances is deservedly appreciated, and Tom Leamore is a distinctly funny comedian. Dome does clever and amusing work as a clay modeller; Nellie Coleman, the lady comedian, makes up wonderfully, and is very amusing and energetic; acrobatic dancing by Marba and Verity is combined with humour; and Tennyson and Wallis provide capital comedy, and so, too, do those funnily contrasted comedians, Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq, in their absurd turn, *A Dark Night Before Us*.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—An amusing and clever contribution to the programme here this week is the turn by Sanford and Lyons, comedians and dancers. The Four Jumels, with banjo and mandoline, are clever and entertaining. George Hyam, comedian, submits an acceptable turn; Fyne and Hurley win approval with their sketch, *The Coster and the Dude*; Mignon Tremaine, comedienne, makes a successful début here; and a fine conjuring entertainment is given by Ching-Llao, the Asiatic mystic, who bewilders his audience; the Phydoras are entertaining in their eccentric musical act; Fred Dunstone gives an acceptable character comedy turn; Carne Curre with banjo, patter, and dog is diverting; and F. V. St. Clair's patriotic songs are as usual well relished.

St. George's Hall.—Manager, Mr S. H. Carter.—Adeler and Sutton's Pierrots are here this week, viz., Charles Harvey and Jack W. Hughes, comedians; Mena Eckermann, comedienne; Forshaw Kershaw, musical entertainer; Edwin Adeler, comedian; and Olly Oakley, zither banjoist. In addition, the New Century Company are exhibiting some excellent Animated Pictures.

BRIGHTON.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr George Musgrove's company is paying a farewell visit here with *The Belle of New York*, and is doing excellent business. Mr Harry A. Meymott gives a very entertaining representation of Ichabod Bronson, whose spendthrift son, Harry, finds an able exponent in Mr Philip Leslie; Mr Max Copland makes an eccentric and amusing Karl Von Pumpernick; Mr Cecil Burt is well suited as Doc Sniffkins; Mr Paddy Dupres is a capital Kenneth Mugg; and Mr Alfred Selby and Mr Albert Sealy as the Portuguese twins are a lively pair. Mr Frank Lawton achieves distinct success as Blinky Bill, and is enthusiastically applauded for his whistling and bone solos. Miss Beatrice Lamotte submits a charming portrayal of Violet Grey, the demure Salvation lassie; Miss Lillian Digges acts brightly as Fifi Fricot; Miss Kitty Lindley is a winsome Kissie Fitzgarter; Miss Winnie Brown a handsome and impressive Cora Angelique; and Miss May Angus Young a pleasing Mamie Clancy. The full chorus and augmented orchestra acquit themselves admirably, and the duties of conductor are in the able hands of Mr Leonard Hornsey.

Grand Theatre.—Under the entire control of Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Mr Edward Marris's company opened here on Monday with *As Midnight Chimes*. Mr Melville Bickford gave a masterly and convincing impersonation of the villainous Luke Dezzard; Mr Frank E. Petley made a manly Dave Stannard; and Miss Gertrude Price was sympathetic and impressive as Mary Stannard. Mr Henry Beaufort's Ezra Gamble and Mr Percy Maitland's Nat Wilson were well played, and Witty Wattie Walton was very droll and amusing as Tat Spavvin. Miss Annie Megson was a vivacious Suzette, and able assistance was rendered by Mr Dan Parker, Miss Iris M. Ward, and Miss Minnie Ethel. The drama was admirably staged and mounted.

Aquarium.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—The Dagonets, society entertainers, are here this week, the party comprising Miss P. M'Carthy, soprano; Miss L. Beaton, contralto; Mr F. Dunn, humourist; Mr H. Stockwell, tenor; Mr B. Brown, baritone; and Mr J. Blascheck, humourist. Ruffle's Imperial Bioscope also adds to the enjoyment of the large audiences.

Alhambra.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Captain Woodward's famous sea lions and seals; Spry and Monti, comedians; the Sisters Pine (Vesta and Minnie), in the musical comedy, *A Kitchen Rehearsal*; Herbert Shelley, actor-vocalist; the Leonards (Bob and Jennie), duettists and dancers; Charles Faning, patterer and vocal comedian; Charles Russell, comedian and vocalist; the Brothers Durant, in the speciality act, *Kings of the Airship*; Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in "Indian Pastimes;" Harry Zetter, comedian and grotesque dancer; and the Alhambra pictures.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—The Carola miniature circus; the Kimberley Boys, comedians and dancers; the Brothers Phillipi, in their latest creation, *Shunting*; Harry Edson and his canine marvel "Doc;" Grant and Grant, American speciality artistes; Kelly and Gillette, in their billiard table act; the Brothers Krags, gymnasts; Madeleine May, comedienne; Carlotta Levey, in her latest successes; the Legay Quartet of Parisian dancers; and animated pictures.

New Palace Pier.—Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh. Mr Frank Nelson's company is here this week with the farcical comedy *Trooper Hunt's Widow*. Mr Howard Cridland undertakes the dual-rôle of Trooper Hunt and Widow Hunt, and proves highly successful and very amusing. Mr Roy Milton is effective as Richard Hunt; Mr Edgar Kent's Harry Fraser and Mr Henry Osman's Gordon Ryder are well played; and Mr Cecil Fowler is seen to great advantage as Nathaniel Sapp. Miss Amy Edmonds makes a pleasing Frances Graham; and Miss Susie Oak as Bessie Wood and Miss Ella Kitson as Mrs Jane Watson merit commendation.

West Pier Pavilion.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—An excellent company under the direction of Mr Herbert Greville is here this week with *The New Clown*. Mr Stanley Cooke is highly amusing as Lord Cyril Garston, the new clown; Mr Herbert Greville gives a clever impersonation of Mr Dixon; Mr Fred Paul is a manly Captain Jack Trent; Mr Fred Lake makes a capital Tom Baker; Mr James Benwell is admirably suited as Billy, the strong man; Miss Katie Yates's Rose Platt merits praise.

Concert Hall, West-street.—Messrs Maskelyne and Cooke's company are here this week, under the direction of Mr David Devant, and are delighting large audiences with their magic and mystery.

BRISTOL.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—There was a large attendance here on Monday evening, when Mr F. R. Benson and company commenced a week's engagement with *The Taming of the Shrew*. The comedy was tastefully staged, and it was well performed. Both Mr and Mrs Benson were highly successful in their respective parts of Petruchio and Katherina. The applause and laughter was frequent throughout the performance, and the curtain had to be raised several times in the course of the evening. Miss Mabel Moore presented a charming and refined portrayal of Bianca; Mr Cyril Keightley acted cleverly as Lucentio; Mr Clarence Derwent did well as Tranio; Mr Percy D. Owen was sufficiently dignified as Baptista; Grumio and Biondello had capital exponents in Mr G. R. Weir and Mr Arthur Whitby; and Messrs B. A. Pittar as Vincentio, Mr H. O. Nicholson as Gremio, and Mr G. Buchanan as Hortensio all did full justice to their respective parts. The part of the Widow was nicely taken by Miss Cissie Saumarez, and she obtained considerable applause for her song. On Tuesday evening *Macbeth* was staged in a fine, rugged style. There was a good attendance in all parts of the house, many seats in the dress circle being occupied by pupils of the leading Clifton schools. The performance went well, both Mr and Mrs Benson obtaining much applause for their expositions of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth. Mr Cyril Keightley presented a fine dramatic performance of Macduff, and Mr Arthur Whitby distinguished himself by a very careful and telling representation of Banquo. The remaining characters were all in good hands, and the tragedy was followed throughout with marked attention. *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Hamlet*, *The Rivals*, *Richard III.*, *Richard II.*, and *As You Like It*, have also been played during the week, the two latter at matinées.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Mr Henry Eglinton's company is here with *When the Lights are Low*, which is staged in a satisfactory manner. Mr Fred Carlton and Mr Edward Avinal present highly satisfactory impersonations of Guy Goldsworthy and Roland Goldsworthy. Mr Tom Roberts is successful as Admiral Goldsworthy; Miss Adeline Mercandalli and Miss Kate Froude are pleasing exponents of Nancy Christie and Violet Christie; Miss Cissie Williams is excellent in the rôle of Stella Goldsworthy; Miss Maude Leonard is sufficiently vivacious as Kathleen Kerry; and the amusing parts of Willie Wilkins, Tim Wilkins, and Ikey Isaacson are capitally taken by Mr Dick Seddon, Mr Kenneth Scott, and Mr Tom R. Seymour.

Palace.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman. — The Donaldson Brothers and Ardel company is here with the amusing pantomimic sketch *A Zoological Comedy*; Adrim and Oram do a smart turn as rag time eccentrics; Miss May Lilian Levey has some good songs and obtains applause; the Fleury Trio present a capital exposition of French dancing; Collins and Rice, patter comedians, obtain appreciation; the Brewsters do a good act as vocalists and speciality dancers; Laffan B. Jolly, comedian, pleases; Miss Lily Lonsdale and Miss Alma Jones are both agreeable vocalists; Ernie Myers, patter comedian, is successful; and Robert Williams, as an extra turn, scores in a display of sword exercises. The performance concludes with some good animated pictures.

Empire.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Miss Vesta Victoria, comedienne, heads the programme with an excellent turn, which is applauded by all parts of the house; Duncan's Royal Scotch collies do many clever acts neatly, and evince perfection of training; the Picquays give an expert acrobatic display; Alf Aubyn is successful with coon songs; Miss Alice Lorette presents an interesting and pleasing act with her statue dog, Ben; Miss Madge Grey, comedienne, does a smart and agreeable turn with dialect songs, &c.; the De Breans are clever jugglers; the Durvals are experts on the horizontal bar; and Ward Brothers are quaint acrobatic comedians. The performance concludes with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.

Victoria, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—The excellent variety programme is well received by large audiences. Jenny Valmore is deservedly applauded and encored; Ryder Slone gives a successful turn with his comic songs; Rose Harvey's numbers give much pleasure; and other good turns include George Daunton, character vocalist; Ada Martine, comedienne; Fred Spencer, expressionist; Fred Herbert, topical vocalist; and Dainez Comedy Circus; with some good animated pictures.

BURY (LANCS).

Theatre Royal and Opera House, Limited.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—The Carl Rosa opera company is here for this week. On Monday *Lohengrin* was given. In the title-rôle Herr Julius Walther was in excellent voice, his acting also being very fine; Mr Charles Victor was Telramund, and right well did he acquit himself, his singing being a great success; as Elsa Miss Lizzie Burgess sang with great taste and charm; and Madame Augusta Renard, who took the part of Ortrud, used her wonderful voice admirably. The scenery, dresses, and chorus were alike magnificent. *Carmen*, *Faust*, *Tannhauser*, *Don Giovanni*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *Pagliacci* are also in the répertoire.

BUXTON.

Opera House. — Secretary and Manager, Mr Arthur Willoughby.— For Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week we had Mr C. P. Levilly's company in the comic opera, *Amorelle*. M. Gaston Serpette's delightful music and Mr White's witty book greatly pleased the audiences, and the opera is performed by a most capable company of artists. Mr Leon Simkin had quite the lion's share of the laughter-making as Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow, and Mr Arthur Cozens sang well and acted with spirit as the hero Jules. Mr Horace Manger did well in the small part of François, and Mr J. Redmond, as Lupin, sang with evident ability the lullaby duet with Lesbia. Mr Langford Reed, too, was well cast as Alphonse; Mr Fred Carrington played most effectively as Farmer Dotard, and was recalled for his capital song with the tail of "I'ses." The chief ladies' parts were exceptionally strongly cast. Miss Adah Grey sang delightfully and acted with infinite charm as Lesbia, and Miss Empsie Bowman was quite irresistible in the title part. Miss Bowman sings most artistically, and has a very winning way with her. The choruses were capitally rendered.

CAMBRIDGE.

New Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—A charming play, exceedingly well acted, was the verdict passed on Monday night by those who were fortunate enough to witness *Monsieur Beaucaire*, given by Mr Norman Macowan's company. The title-rôle was undertaken by Mr Macowan, and therein he displayed all the qualities of the finished actor. Miss Violet Sterne as Lady Mary Carlisle was also much admired, acting the part in a thoroughly earnest and sympathetic manner. Mr J. Stuart Wilson must be commended for the restraint he put upon himself as Lord Winterset, not overdoing the part in the slightest. Major Molyneux, in the hands of Mr Herbert Cornish, was also well done. A clever character sketch was given of Beau Nash by Mr H. A. Young; Captain Badger was well rendered by Mr P. Ramsay Forman; and a special word of praise is due to Miss Millie Hamer for her winsome Lucy Rellerton.

CARDIFF.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—Mr E. S. Willard has returned to Cardiff after a short absence, and has presented this week two of his popular creations—*Tom Pinch* and *The Cardinal*. The former play was presented on Monday. This famous character of Dickens was rendered by the clever actor in a manner that left nothing to be desired. Mr Willard was frequently and loudly applauded. Miss Maud Hoffman was a faithful representative of Mary Graham; Mr H. Cane gave an admirable rendering of the part of Pecksniff; John Westlock and Martin Chuzzlewit had capable exponents in Mr William Souter and Mr S. A. Homewood; while Mr Ulick Burke deserves hearty commendation for his capital impersonation of old Martin Chuzzlewit. Mrs Russ Whytal made a pleasing Ruth Pinch, Mrs Lupin was excellently depicted by Miss E. H. Tombes, Mr Walter Edmunds as Mark Tapley gave a very creditable representation, while the quaint characters of Charity and Mercy were quite safe in the hands of Miss Eileen Warren and Miss Mabel Dubois. *The Cardinal* was produced during the latter part of the week.

King's Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General-Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—The bill-of-fare here is the powerful drama entitled *The Village Blacksmith*. This is the first time the piece has been to Cardiff, and is presented by Messrs Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company. The leading part of John Strong, the blacksmith, is skilfully rendered by Mr Sam Livesey, while the numerous other characters are all exceptionally well acted. An attractive feature of the production is a wrestling match, which causes much excitement.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The following names appear in the bill here:—Spot, the enchanting coon, in his up-to-date scena, *The Cuke-Walk Craze*; Tina Clementa with her horse and troupe of performing dogs; G. W. Hunter and Mdlle. Ayah in a vocal and magical mélange; the musical eccentriques, Binns and Binns; Lizzie Valrose, a pleasing singer of homely songs; Scottish Meisters, the Highland comedy quartet; Walter Stanley, comedian; Alcide Capitaine, the perfect gymnast; Bert Byrne, comique; and Arthur Melrose, the original word whistling comedian.

CARLISLE.

Algie's Hippodrome.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; General Manager, Mr C. Algie.—Mendel, the blind pianist, is the star turn, and although it is his second appearance here, his performance crowds the house nightly, and is received with enthusiastic approval; Reklaw, a smart juggler on the rolling globe, meets with success; and Mr Bob Stephenson's funny Irish stories and clever dancing create laughter and applause. A smart turn is that contributed by Learto, a versatile musical comedian, who is assisted by a wonderfully intelligent little fox-terrier. A clever triple jockey act and new pictures shown by the Hippodrome Biograph complete a well-arranged and much-appreciated programme.

CHELTENHAM.

Opera House. — General Manager, Mr H. Oswald Redford.—This week we are being charmed with *Quality Street*, presented by Bright and Maxwell's company. Mr George Brandram as Valentine Brown displays fine elocutionary powers and an admirable stage presence. Miss Florence Jackson wins favour as Phœbe Throssell; and Miss Grace Edwin as Susan plays well. Miss Gwynneth Galton depicts the part of Patty with skill and a wealth of humour. Mr Arthur C. F. Lysons' impersonation of Ensign Blade is excellent. Master Ernest Hollom as Master Arthur Wellesley Tomson shows great promise.

CHESTERFIELD.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holbery Hardy.—Mr George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company is here this week with *Judy*. Mr Kirk gives an original rendering of Grip the detective. In the dual-rôle of Alice and Polly Miss Nell proves herself an accomplished actress. Miss Florrie Groves is most vivacious in the title-rôle, and Miss Muriel Thompson is efficient as Blake. Mr Carlton Wallace makes a villainous Duburg, Mr Wm. Vane is a good hero, and mention should be made of Mr Will Casey as Jim.

Corporation Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Samuel L. Urwick.—Mr Lawrence Brough's company is proving a great attraction here with the two farcical comedies *The Lady of Ostend* and *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally*, which are staged on alternate nights. In the former Mr Harry Hampson well portrays the character of Dick Whortles; Mr Percy Marshall is exceedingly good as Joseph Carbury; the French Baron is in the able hands of Mr Lawrence Brough; and Miss Kate Milford makes a charming Dorothy Whortles.

CLYDEBANK.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—These boards are occupied this week with the drama, *In the Shadow of Night*, presented by Mr James Willard's company. Mr George Harvey makes a good Squire of Hazelmere. As his son Gordon Allington Mr Howard L. Tracey is highly successful. Mr Hamilton Deane proves himself to be an accomplished actor, his characterisation of the villain Clifford York being quite original, and as his accomplice Jake Grudgewell, a poacher, Mr Fred Norburn is also very good. Mr Archie Selwyn as Joe Jackson and Rev. Nathaniel Hope is highly entertaining. Miss May Richardson as Violet Kingston is an emotional actress of high standard, and her natural and fine acting charms the audience, who were not slow in recognising her talents. Miss Nellie Sheffield is a sprightly Mollie Woodstock; Miss Millie Gordon portrays Bob, a little tramp, very smartly; Mr Ern Carlton gives a finished performance of James Woodstock; and Tom Nainby is well looked after by Mr Chisholm Taylor.

COATBRIDGE.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company occupies the boards here this week on a return visit with *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr Edward M. Hamilton, who appears as Monsieur Roche, gives a performance worthy of the highest praise; Mr George Beverley characteristically portrays Felix Marius; Mr Wilson Howard successfully delineates Paul Revel; Mr W. H. Sharpe submits an excellent character sketch of Kretch; and Mr E. W. Avery exhibits talent as Tom Holmes. Miss Carlotta Anson gives a wonderful rendering of Felice; Miss Beattie Moore is delightful as Christina; as is also Miss Dorothy Riddell in the title-rôle.

CASTLEFORD.

Royal.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—A cordial reception was accorded Miss Winifred Maude's company on Monday in *The Sins of a City*. The acting is good and the scenery much above the average. Mr J. W. Baxter in the dual-rôle of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh works in a vigorous and telling manner; Mr Ivan Gore supplies an impressive portrayal of Donald M'Ivor; Mr Leslie Beaufort finds ample scope for his undoubted abilities as Ralph Blackwater; Mr Victor Du Cane has an easy and natural method as Isaac Levi; Mr Royce Carleton plays throughout with much earnestness as Sandy M'Donald; Miss Winifred Maude gives skilful and efficient aid as Seaweed; Miss Alice Granville displays spirit and vivacity as Midge; and Miss Marie Lyons is a conscientious Lesbia.

CHORLEY

Grand Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—The attraction this week is the sensational drama, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*. Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, the Indian actress and authoress, was well received in her creation of the title-rôle; Mr C. W. Charles gave a capital representation of Colonel Stockton; and Manuel Lopez was powerfully acted by Mr G. Thorne. The singing and dancing of Messrs G. D. Hackney and Dan Ryan were much appreciated. Mr Geo. Courtney and Mr Theo Alker were good in their respective parts. The characters of Nellie Stockton and Matilda Sniffles were well sustained by Miss Minnie Goepel and Miss Jessie Hart.

CONSETT.

New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—Mr John Cassidy and company are here with *Muldoon's Picnic*, and are receiving good support. Mr Edwin Garth as Michael Mulcahy and Mr W. G. Wesley as Dennis Muldoon are very good in their respective parts. As Mrs Muldoon Mr Leo Whamboult is successful; Mr W. H. Montgomery as Johnny O'Brien and Mr G. Cromwell as Gussie Tearle are quite successful; and as Kitty Muldoon Miss Madge Cassidy is very pleasing.

CORK.

Opera House.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Mr Norman V. Norman's company is appearing here this week in a number of plays, opening on Monday with *Nell Gwyn*. Mr Norman as Charles II. gave an artistic rendering of the part; the title-rôle was filled by Miss Beatrice Wilson in charming style. Mr Cooper Willis as the Earl of Rochester was clever; Mr Eric Maxon was a forceful Lord Dellans; and Mr Robert Hilton as Master Ralph Curaitor acted with skill and spirit. Miss Kathleen Rind gave a dainty delineation of the character of Betty Arndale, and Miss Lillian Kevill-Davies was an acceptable Lady Castlemaine. The play was keenly enjoyed. *Under the Red Robe*, *David Garrick*, and *The Lady of Lyons* are also in the répertoire.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble.—There is an excellent programme here, which includes Harry Maynard, actor vocalist, who gives a number of songs in capital style. Percy Cahill, comedian, also pleases. Mdlle. Magna in tableaux vivants represents several beautiful pieces of sculpture; the Two Seebolds give a musical act; Rodin, tramp cyclist, causes much amusement; Whitty Gower; G. W. Hastings, comedian; Siamoso San, a juggler; and Hill, Barry, and Lang, comedians, also contribute interesting turns.

COVENTRY.

Opera House.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—A large and enthusiastic audience on Monday night welcomed a first appearance in Coventry of the *Orchid*. Miss Ethel Bryant is excellent in the part of Lady Violet Anstruther; Miss Irene Desmond is successful as Josephine Zaccary; Miss Poppy Wilkinson satisfactorily impersonates Thisbe; and Miss Madge Lucas is most amusing as Caroline Vokins. Miss Eve Melville capitally portrays the part of Zelie Rumbert; Mr Ernest Darrell is seen to advantage as Mr Aubrey Chesterton; Mr Edmund Page is amusing as the Comte Raoul Cassignac; Mr Arthur Hemsley is responsible for some capital dancing as Zaccary; and Mr B. Wright, an old favourite, plays Meakin in his usual accomplished form.

CREWE.

Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—*In the Ranks*, which opened the new Lyceum Theatre here about seventeen years ago, is paying a return visit this week, and Messrs Carlton and Armitage's company is playing to good business. Mr Edward Lloyd, a manly and earnest Ned Drayton, fully deserves the hearty reception accorded him. Miss Edith Blair-Staples makes a graceful and winsome Ruth Herrick; Mr Arthur Palling as Colonel Wynter gives an excellent portrayal; Barbara Herrick is nicely played by Miss Ella Wilmer; Gideon Blake is entrusted to Mr H. Cecil, who well sustains the character; Captain Holcroft is well played by Mr Archie W. Chappell; the comedy element is well supplied by Miss A. Beaumont as Mrs Buzzard and Mr C. Clayton as Joe Buzzard; Mr W. H. Wilson submits a good character sketch of Richard Belton; and Mr L. Ainscliffe is well cast as surly Sergeant Searle.

CROYDON.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Mr Charles Macdona's company is causing a sensation here in *Three Little Maids*, in which the full chorus and augmented orchestra are pleasing features. Mr Haddon Cave puts in good work in the rôle of Brian Molyneux; Mr Alec Chentrens is in capital voice as M. De L'Orme; and Mr Arthur Longley creates incessant mirth as Lord Cheyne. They have reliable partners to work with in Miss Janet Reeve, a charming Ada Branscombe; Miss Gertrude Melville, a fascinating Hilda Branscombe; and Miss Nora Grey, a bewitching Edna Branscombe. The trio are always gay and laughing, and cause many a heart to beat fast with admiration. Mr George Oxley's impersonation of Cupid calls for the warmest congratulations; Miss Kate Forster meets with approbation in the rôle of Lady St. Mallory; Miss Laura Wright makes the most of her opportunities as Gretchen; and the remaining parts are carefully looked after. The dresses and scenery are quite in keeping with the excellent company of hard-working artists.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—*The Triumph of Truth* is drawing good houses at the Royal. Miss Marie Auckland appears with success in the dual-rôle of Violet and Lilian Anstruther; Miss Lily Rogers is a spirited Katie Bright; and Little Nellie Kenneth is natural as Lena. Mr Edward E. Louis's Captain Jack Eversleigh is boldly drawn; Mr J. A. Keogh is satisfactory as Sir Charles Eversleigh; Mr T. Renaud Lockwood is adequate as Count Raoul D'Orville; Mr Charles Herrick acts with force as Vitto Mascagni; and Mr Johnny Clegg is most diverting as Tommy Woodhead. The remaining parts are in good hands.

Palace Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The following go to make up a capital entertainment at the National Palace:—George Chirgwin, the inimitable white-eyed comedian; Alice Maple, comedienne and dancer; Foreman and Fannan, the millionaires; Percy and Harold; Ethel Yorke, comedienne and vocalist; Viviana, the dancing girl; Kit Keen, the coon; Florence and Lillian, in drawing-room musical turn; Will Newman, comedian; Sydney Lee, magician; Spry and Austin, vaudeville artists; the Palace pictures, with local productions; *The Little Colonel*, dramatic and musical scena, by Angela Hope, Bella Valpy, and Ernest Montefiore; and Mr Fred S. Partridge's orchestra.

DARWEN.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr E. L. Ormsby.—*A Message from Mars* is paying another visit this week, and, as on previous occasions, the presentation leaves little to be desired. The capable company is headed by Mr Cyril Austen-Lee, whose Horace Parker is a meritorious performance. Another part particularly well played is that of the Tramp by Mr Percy Tyler; and Mr William Lockhart as the Messenger is also very successful. Miss Edith Cuthbert as Minnie, Miss V. Auberies as Miss Parker, and Miss Florence Heather as Mrs Clarence are not one whit behind the gentlemen, and altogether the piece is most enjoyable. *A Kiss in the Dark* has preceded the play each evening.

DERBY.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allen Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—*Glittering Gloria* occupied the boards here for the first three nights this week. Mr John Campbell played well as Jack James, and Mr Stanley Arthur made an acceptable Archie Toddleby. Mr Haughton Macauley was a mirth-provoking Zebedie Poskett, and the same remark will apply to Mr J. Wordsley Hulse as Colonel Gallagher, Mr Gerald Clarke as Algernon Entwistle, and Mr Chas. Williams as Mr Griddletop, the last-named being especially good. Miss Stanley Ronalds acquitted herself successfully in the nom-rôle, and Miss Lilian Williams as Mrs Jack James and Miss Peggy Harrington as Dorothy Kenworthy enacted the parts allotted to them very creditably. The remaining characters were all capably represented.

Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allen Edwardes.—The premier item here this week is supplied by Florrie Gallimore, a comedienne of versatility and charm, who has made herself a favourite. Among other attractions may be mentioned Clarice Netta, a tuneful soprano, whose efforts are greatly appreciated; the Maisanos, who give an entertaining combination musical act; Zaro and Arno, who create any amount of fun in their comedy bar act; Reuben Hill, a character vocalist of ability; Pueblo Bros., who present a praiseworthy variety entertainment; and George Foyle, who acquits himself well as a descriptive vocalist. The performance concludes with Pallister's American Bioscope, by which some good pictures are shown.

DEWSBURY.

Theatre Royal. — Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr Tom E. Murray is scoring highly here with his laughable comedy *Our Irish Visitors*. In the rôle of Col. M'Mahon he sends the audience into screams with smart patter. Mr J. W. Braithwaite as Mr O'Brady is a hard-working comedian, and Mr A. D. Adams is also good as Tilly Softsolder. Miss Amy Knott as Mammy Dioble makes friends by her excellent coon song, and Miss Dot Stanley is interesting as Janie.

Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr Geo. Weldon.—The programme here consists of a carefully selected and varied programme. The Victoria Troupe of international dancers deserve premier position, and Steve Cook is a very capable second. Bill Bailey and Joe Hennessy offer smart business, and the Sisters Vol Becque are to be commended. Paddy Datas, the lightning calculator, and Alexander Royal give much pleasure, and the specialities of Billy Ross and Co., and the Two Weirs are above the average.

DONCASTER.

New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Limited.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—A rich treat has been provided here by Mr Edward Marris's company in *The Dandy Doctor*. Mr James Salter acceptably sustains the rôle of Melchisadek Brown; Mr James Danvers's assumption of Colonel Pendred is decidedly clever, and as a pianist he is a virtuoso; Bertie Bolinbroke, the locum tenens, is well rendered by Mr Walter Nugent; Mr Owen Dacroy is a capital Mr Drycoff; and Miss Maisie Ivie an interesting Miss Vandyke. Ivy Pendred is daintily played by Miss Lizzie Primmer. The most humorous unit in the combination is Jane, "the general," funnily rendered by Miss Florence Smithers. The Dandy Belles are deservedly popular, and Mr Ben Rowe and Miss Halden are vociferously received as Society cakewalkers.

DOVER.

Theatre Royal. — Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Fred C. Dew.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy*, played by Mr Henry Swinerd's No. 1 company, is proving a welcome change from melodrama here. Chief honours lie between Miss Majorie Cecil, a dainty and fascinating little lady who impersonates the heroine with conspicuous success, and Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith, whose pretty vocal numbers and graceful dances serve to display her vivacity to the best advantage. Miss Kathleen Garnon achieves complete success as Ruth Montrose, and the Sisters Lillie and Mabel Blake win popularity for their dainty and smartly executed dances. Mr Wilfred Carr sustains with effectiveness the rôle of George Fielding. Mr Henry C. Ward acts with subtlety the unthankful part of Edward Dudley. Mr Walter Boyce is diverting as Featherstone Haugh; and Mr A. Stretton gives full effect to the villainies of Hawkins. Mr W. G. Hearson is decidedly good as Smith. General Garston, who appears in the first act only, is powerfully portrayed by Mr Walter Boyce. Mr Arthur Verne displays all-round ability as Silas Crump.

DUBLIN.

Gaiety Theatre. — Lessee, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—Messrs Gatti and Frohman's company opened here on Monday with *Quality Street*. Miss Grace Armytage Noble represents the heroine, Phœbe Throssell, and her performance is a thoroughly enjoyable one. Miss May Whitty acts the part of Susan Throssell most effectively, her conception of the character being an admirable one. An excellent and painstaking actor is Mr David Glas-ford, who makes many admirers by his clever rendering of the part of Valentine Brown. Miss Mabel Wynne is a pert servant, and as the Recruiting Sergeant Mr Gordon Tomkins plays his part in a clever and humorous manner. The Ensign Blades of Mr A. Carlaw Grand is a good impersonation. Master George Robbins acts well as Master Arthur Wellesley Thompson. Miss Rollo Deas plays capitally as Miss Willoughby, and as Miss Fanny Willoughby Miss Bertha Wolcote does exceedingly well. Miss Henrietta Turnbull is carefully represented by Miss Eveleen Mills, and Miss Eva Marsden sustains the part of Miss Charlotte Parratt in an effective manner. The Lieutenant Spicer of Mr Arthur H. Hill is all that could be wished, and the Waterloo veteran is ably represented by Mr T. Langton-Lane. Miss Daisy Lane capably portrays the part of Isabella, and as Harriett Miss Grace Oswald acquits herself well.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—Mr Mouillot's company opened here this week with *Old Heidelberg*, and the comedy has been well received. The part of Karl Heinrich was entrusted to Mr George F. Tully, who acted as the Prince in capital style; Mr Clifford Bown appeared as the tutor, Dr. Juttner, and displayed his abilities

in a clever manner; Mr Lionel Gadsen ably represented the character of the valet, Lutz; and as Kathie Miss Irene Lavington gave a successful portrayal. Mr Alec Murray was very good as Killermann, and the innkeeper was well played by A. M. Moore.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—The sensational military drama *The Indian Mutiny* is being played here this week by Mr Frank E. Burdett's company. The rôle of Lieutent Manley is capably acted by Mr H. Ryeland Leigh, and as Ghuz-Nah Miss Maud Digby deserves much praise. Mr H. G. Brandon acts the part of Captain Manley cleverly, and as Rama Goosh Miss Dora Moorhouse is admirable. Mr George Scully gives a most amusing impersonation of Terry O'Brien, and as Kate Ingleby Miss Agnes Kingston is excellent. Mr Villiers Stanley capitally sustains the part of Nebu Singh, and the rôle of Mrs Major Ingleby is well played by Miss Kate Bruce. The part of Major Ingleby is ably embodied by Mr W. S. Tindall, and Mr G. Birch as Ensign Blake and Mr F. Anderson as Sergeant Thompson are both good in their respective parts.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—At this popular establishment the leading feature is the Haytors, in their sketch, *Here She Goes, There She Goes*, which causes plenty of laughter. Phil Herman, comedian, scores successfully; and the Sisters Sprightly have many admirers. Leo Tell's imitation of musical instruments is very entertaining; and Little Ganty is a host in himself. Ben Albert is a humorous comedian; and Hemming and Free, comedy artists; Amy Sullivan, comedienne; and Arthur Reece, comedian, who remain from last week, are still to the fore, and the Empire Pictures are up-to-date.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Chas. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—The attraction here this week is Park's Eton Boys, who meet with a cordial reception. The marvellous gymnastic act of Charles Serra is aplauded, and Dan Thomas is a successful character comedian. The Four Andys are a smart acrobatic turn, and Will Letters is a good comedian. Kate Gourlay is an excellent coon vocalist and buck dancer, and Bretma a capital magician. Zaid, assisted by Orienta, gives a novel and interesting performance. Lillian Neville is an acceptable ballad vocalist, and Tom O'Neill, comedian, also scores.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr John H. Stevenson.—The attraction at this favourite resort is Dale's Original Opera Singers. Miss Edith Serpell's vocal efforts are well appreciated. "Love's Old Song" is charmingly rendered by Miss Lily Pritchard and Mr Frederic Dale. Mr Claude Anderson sings with good effect, and Mr H. Colman's pianoforte solo is well received.

DUDLEY.

Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr Frank Lindo with a specially selected company is here this week in the drama *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr Lindo is to be complimented on the powerfully written and intensely human drama, while his acting as David Armitage was a strong and vigorous rendering. Mr Geo. F. Black gave an interesting and artistic embodiment of Stephen Armitage. Captain Gerald Gambier was distinctly good as the Duke of Ancaster, and a powerfully-played part was that of Dick Redmayne by Mr Geo. Overs. Miss Ivy Ellaline Thorne acted in fine style and with thorough abandon as Sybil Fay, and the Joan of Miss Marion Wakeford was a graceful and pathetic piece of acting.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—Chief among a host of attractions is the Imperial Boys' Orchestra, conducted by Herr Linde, a talented and excellently trained combination; the Four Herberts, in a sketch *The Jolly Californian Farmers*, display great versatility; Lynn, the original singing newsboy, is clever. Among the remaining turns in an exceptionally strong programme are Deany Ford, Australian coon artiste; Harry Sheldon, vocal comedian; the Sisters Princelow, comediennes and expert dancers; Harry Earle, patter comedian; and Anna Webster, international dancer.

DUMFRIES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—On Monday and two following nights we had the Ben Greet company, under the direction of Mr Bannister Howard, with *The Fatal Wedding*. The principal parts were well sustained by Mr G. E. Olive as Howard Wilson and Mr Cecil A. Collins as Robert Curtis, who made the part villainous enough to receive hisses from the gallery. Miss Eva Moss did full justice to the rôle of Mrs Wilson; the adventuress, Cora Williams, was ably sustained by Miss Beatrice Whitney; Miss Cora Fenton as Bridget was funny; and Miss Maisie Richardson as Jessie was a perfect little mother. The piece was well staged.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—Mr Lewis Waller's company is playing *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* for the first time here. Mr Thomas Kingston as Captain Harry Peyton has a part in which he fairly revels; Miss Eily Malyon makes a sweetly sympathetic Miss Elizabeth; and Miss Alys Rees as Miss Elizabeth's aunt acts in a winsome manner. Miss Edith Elton as Molly Edwards and Miss Marguerite Cellier as Brenda are very effective. Mr Hilliard Vox makes a good Mr John Colden, and as Valentine Mr George Mallet submits a fine study. Mr J. Harold Carson deserves special mention for his clever assumption of the rôle of Major Murphy.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—An enthusiastic reception is accorded Mr Johnny Beveridge, a blind pianist, vocalist, and story-teller. The Marconis display some wonderful electrical experiments; the Borrellis, in their musical entertainment, win much favour; Shavo does some smart juggling; and a clever acrobatic performance is provided by Cinizelli. Mr Walter Stockwell, a great favourite here, sings some new songs. Kate Holloway, serio, and Happy Atwood are successful, and the programme is completed by the Glynn sketch combination.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Will Percival.—Mr A. W. B. Kingston's dramatic company is presenting a varied bill-of-fare this week. On Monday *The Black Lady of Logie* was produced. Mr Kingston gave a powerful rendering of Fletcher Reid; Miss Madge Young as the Indian Princess was responsible for an interesting interpretation; and Miss Emily Peel in her impersonation of Lucy Nichol acted with discretion. The company also includes Mr Harry Egan, a talented Scotch comedian.

GAIETY, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr S. King Alexander.—Mr Fred Karno's company is paying a return visit with *The Dandy Thieves*. Mr William Rokeby carries off chief honours for his quaintly humorous impersonation of Sergeant Lightning. Mr Howard as Lord Easem, besides displaying true histrionic ability, also wins favour by his cultured vocalism. Miss Newcombe as Lady Easem proves very successful. Mr Cardon makes the most of the part of Miffen, the universal provider. "The six little burglars" is deservedly encored. Miss Effie Northern is also encored for a particularly neat and clever dance.

DUNFERMLINE.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—The management is to be congratulated on its opening engagement of J. W. Turner's opera company, which was heartily welcomed when it appeared on Monday before a good audience in *The Puritan's Daughter*. Mr Turner as John Wilmot was successful, and the appreciation shown him was well merited. Mr Tom Griffiths as Charles II. left nothing to be desired, Mr John Ridding as Clifford gave an effective rendering of the part, Mr Sydney Clifford was a capital Col Wolff, Fleetwood was in the capable hands of Mr R. Carter, full justice was done to the part of Seymour by Mr G. Ridding, Mr Charles Le Sueur achieved success as Ralph, Mary Wolff was in the able hands of Madame Constance Bellamy, whose fine singing charmed the audience, and Miss Jessie Dennis did well as Jessie. *Trovatore* and *Maritana* were produced on Tuesday and Wednesday.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE-PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr A. Standen Triggs.—The Moody-Manners opera company is appearing here this week in a round of grand opera. On Tuesday evening *Cavalleria Rusticana* was given in an excellent and complete manner. The singing and acting of Miss Enriqueta Crichton as Santuzza were very fine and were appreciated by the audience. Miss F. Edwards was a successful Lucia, and a rich contralto voice was admirably used by Miss F. Aylwin as Lola. Mr Edward Arthur as Turiddu proved his possession of a capital tenor voice and he acted with effect, while Mr T. H. Wood rendered his music with conspicuous ability. In *Pagliacci* Mr Charles Carter made extensive use of his dramatic and vocal gifts and was a powerful Canio. Mr Charles Tilbury deserves great credit for his capable work as Tonio, and Mr Robert Brookes as Beppo and Mr Walter Barret as Silver did able work. Miss Nedda Morrison sang delightfully and was a charming Nedda. The augmented orchestra and fine chorus are under the able direction of Mr Harrison Frewin.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—*The Fisher Girl* is being played here this week. Mr C. Innis Bowen is a strong Kaspar, and displays vocal ability. Mr Charles Fisher is a handsome and bright Hendrick, and his songs are well approved. Mr J. M. Jones is a picturesque Vanderdecken; Mr Will Raymond and Mr J. G. Forde cause much fun and merriment as Nickel and Klaus; and Mr Frank Couch works well as Mynheer; while Mr Walter Champneys dances nimbly as the Baron. Elsbeth has a charming representative in Miss Marie Rito, and her sweet voice is used with much charm. Miss Maud Desborough is a dainty and pretty Maid Hannah, working with much vivacity and ability; and Miss Alma Evelyn is sufficiently severe as Frau Jan. The Fedecia dancers contribute brisk specimens of their art.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Mr Frank Wilson and his company are appearing here during the week in *The Marriage of Kitty*. Miss Vera Fordyce again gives us the work of a clever actress, and she is an attractive and charming Kitty. Miss Kate Harwood's contribution as Madame De Semiano is capital, and Miss Avril May is a sufficiently French Rosalie. A clever character sketch is given by Mr Frank Wilson as Sir Reginald Belsize; Mr Sydney Orton, with an individual style and an easy, effective manner, is a particularly successful John Travers; and the smaller parts of Norbury and Hampton are well filled by Mr J. F. Leighton and Mr Royston Keith, jun.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Hague; Treasurer and Acting-Manager, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—The Osmond Tearle Répertoire Company is here this week. On Monday Mr Alexander Marsh scored as Hamlet and Miss Carrie Baillie was deservedly applauded as Ophelia. On Tuesday *The Merchant of Venice* was given. Mr Marsh repeated his success in the part of Shylock, and Miss Baillie was a sweet and sympathetic Portia. The week's programme includes *Romeo and Juliet, David Garrick, As You Like It, Julius Cæsar*, and *The Lady of Lyons*.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—Mr George Dance's company commenced an engagement here on Monday, when the new musical comedy *Madame Sherry* was presented. Mr J. Robert Hale worked exceedingly hard as Andrew M'Sherry, his acting and singing being happy and effective, and his humour never forced. Mr Fred Walton acted throughout with comic gusto as Joseph, and Mr Ivan Berlyn was adroit and nimble as the gendarme, Gustave. Colonel M'Sherry was capitally played by Mr F. W. Ford; while Mr Arthur Stroud showed ability as Leonard, Messrs Albert Bruno and J. Owen Ford being excellent as Fritz and M. Feauville. The management are fortunate in possessing the services of Miss Georgina Delmar, who made a bewitching Caterina; her singing and acting were of a high order. Miss Lily Elsie looked charming as Barbara, acting and singing well and dancing with preeminent grace, while Miss Mabel Sealby was a dainty Mistigrette. Miss Nellie Dade has natural powers as a comedienne, and displayed them to every possible advantage as the servant Maude. Miss Ada Binning was a smart and buxom Susanne. The choruses were attractive and well sung and the dancing was all that could be desired. The enlarged orchestra was ably conducted by Mr Ernest Vousden.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—The Moody Manners Opera Company, Limited, is fulfilling its semi-annual engagement here this week. *Tannhäuser* opened an attractive programme on Monday, and introduced Madame De Vere—an artiste of high vocal and dramatic accomplishments—as Elizabeth, a character in which she made an imposing appearance. Her performance was an eminently satisfying one, and completely successful in every detail. Miss Toni Seiter gave a fine personation of Venus, singing brilliantly, and Miss T. Addington's beautiful voice was heard to special advantage in the music of the Young Shepherd. Tannhäuser was undertaken by Mr Joseph O'Mara, who was at his best all through. Mr Charles Magrath again distinguished himself as the Landgrave, and Wolfram remains one of Mr William Dever's most esteemed performances. Admirable assistance was given by Messrs F. H. Erle, T. C. Fairbairn, J. Alexander, and V. Brodo, and the chorus did their work with notable spirit and effect. Mr Richard Eckhold conducted the orchestra, doing every justice to the score under his skilful direction. On Tuesday Mdlle. Zelie De Lussan made her entry as Carmen, and on Wednesday *Traviata* was given, with Madame De Vere as Violetta. The other operas of the week were *Mignon, Lohengrin, The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Maritana*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—The chief item on the bill is Mr Charles Prinz and his den of seventeen trained lions, which go through a varied and interesting performance. An intensely thrilling episode is when Mdlle. Marcella enters the cage and executes a fire dance surrounded by the ferocious beasts. Another attractive item is Rousby's electric review "In Paris," a picturesque and enjoyable turn that secures well-deserved applause. Miss Ida Brophy, a smart soubrette, sings charmingly, and Hal Forde makes a diverting appearance as a comedian. The Wartenberg Brothers do some clever foot balancing, the Brothers Webb afford excellent entertainment as musical clowns, and the Eight of Hearts dance effectively. The talented equilibrist Max Millian performs some wonderful feats, and the Alaskas display acrobatic ability in their capital comedy act, the Wernes-Amoros Troupe appearing in an amusing sketch, *The Artist's Studio* with success.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—Miss Frances Delaval's company occupies the boards of this theatre with the stirring drama entitled *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*. There was a good audience on Monday, who received the performance with cordial favour. Mr Percy Carne Waram made an effective appearance as Derrick Knight—a very prodigy of wickedness; and Miss Frances Delaval showed herself an actress of ability in the fascinating rôle of Naomi Belvedere.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—Mr Frank Fenton's company is presenting this week the romantic play *If I Were King*, from the novel of Mr Justin Huntly M'Carthy. The company is a particularly good one, and the piece is most charmingly staged. Mr Frank Fenton as François Villon plays with great dramatic ability. Mr Olive Currie as Louis XI. presents that monarch with histrionic skill, and Miss Marion Gray in the part of Katherine makes a deep impression.

VICTORIA HALL, LIMITED.—Secretary, Mr M. J. Dunsford.—Gilbert's circus still continues to maintain its usual high standard. Among the leading features on this week's programme are the remarkably clever balancing performances of Rappo and Ella; the extraordinary feats by Pickitt, the handcuff king; and the daring triple bar achievements of the Dorans. Datas causes a deal of amazement with his marvellous memory; Alexandra and Bertie go through a sensational aerial act; and Vasco skilfully manipulates a variety of different musical instruments.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—Dr. Walford Bodie has packed the theatre this week with audiences who marvel at his skill, and depart overwhelmed with wonder at his mysterious and occult demonstrations, and his extraordinary curative powers. His feats of mesmerism and hypnotism are alike awe-inspiring, and his ventriloquial entertainment is exceedingly clever. Dr. Bodie, while the chief attraction, is assisted by a large and accomplished variety company, among whom are Miss Marie Walford, instrumentalist; Tom Dewar, comedian; Mdlle. La Petite Bella, burlesque actress; Les Fontaines, marionette performance; Sisters Lyle, duettists and dancers; the De Roys, comic conjurors; Little Dolly Robson; Gerald Lopez, the coloured coon; and the Garden troupe of pipers and international dancers.

FARNWORTH.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell.—Mr Horace Stanley's company is this week presenting *The 10 30 Down Express*. Mr Horace Stanley plays specially well as Sam Wagstaff, being admirably assisted by Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts. Mr Scott Leighton works hard as James Inderwick, coming out powerfully in the last act; and an excellent study is the Letitia Leigh of Miss Evelyn M. Walton. The play is mounted in good style.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr Herbert Hollister's company in *The Lights o' London* was here the first three nights of the week. Mr Cecil G. Calvert was excellent as Harold Armytage. Miss Jeanne Burgoyne acted well as Bess. Mr Albert Brasque gave a powerful rendering of Clifford Armytage, Mr Ernest K. Nelson created laughter as Philosopher Jack, Mr Percy Compton was an admirable Jarvis, Miss Emilie Dawson was effective as Mrs Jarvis, Miss Gladys Murray was quite at home as Shakespeare Jarvis, Little Ida Murray showed great promise as Joey, Mr Herbert Hollister scored a success as Seth Preene, and Miss Kate Randolph as Hetty was well placed. Mr Norman Macowan's company in *Monsieur Beaucaire* is the attraction for the remainder of the week.

LEAS PAVILION.—Manager, Mr Frank Seabrook.—This popular place of amusement closes this week, much to the regret of the patrons. Miss Elsie Jones, soprano, has a good selection of songs. Mr Owen Clark, prestidigitateur, meets with a favourable reception. The animated pictures are exceptionally good, and the Ladies' Salon Band deserves mention.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—The bill here is headed by Captain Woodward's performing sea lions and seals. Ike Scott and Son are responsible for an amusing comedy sketch, while Captain Devereux's performing dogs provide an exceptionally interesting display. Travers and Weldon, musical entertainers, give a good turn, as also do the Sisters Brenton, duettists and dancers. Other capital turns are given by Fred Reed and Tom Lerne, novel comedians, and Miss Ruby Bijou, the dainty dancer.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphrys.—Mr Beerbohm's Tree's company in *The Darling of the Gods* is again in Glasgow this week, and large audiences have given this fine play a hearty welcome. The scheming State Minister Zakkuri is once more associated with the name of that most capable actor Mr Robert Pateman, while Kara, the outlaw, has again a fine impersonator in Mr Gerald Kay Souper. Prince Saigon gets all the required dignity from Mr Ivan F. Simpson, and Mr Douglas Payne as Inu makes an excellent dumb servant. Sympathetic love and atonement are the dominant chords in the fine acting of Miss Frances Dillon as the heroine Yo-San.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—The advent of Mr A. W. Pinero's play, *Letty*, is an event of considerable importance, more especially as Mr Chas. Frohman's company includes Miss Irene Vanbrugh and Mr H. B. Irving in their original parts. Miss Vanbrugh's acting as the ambitious girl, Letty, is instinct with grace and refinement throughout, and the varying moods of the character are indicated with consummate skill. The cynical Neville Letchmere of Mr H. B. Irving is equally good, and also marks a distinct advance in the art of this clever actor. Miss Beatrice Forbes Robertson as the staid Marion, and Miss Elinor Souray as the frivolous and vulgar Hilda Gunning are two cleverly contrasted parts. Mr Scott Craven as Bernard Mandeville plays the objectionable snob with vigour and emphasis; Mr T. M'Causland Stewart as the indignant husband, Crosbie, comes successfully through a difficult scene; and Miss May Blayney as his erring wife gives a sympathetic touch to the part. Mr Leslie Victor as the photographer, Perry; Mr Charles Froode as Neale, and Mr Tom Heslewood as the insurance agent are all well placed. Mr Vernon Steel as Coppinger Drake, Mr Clayton Greene as Ruggs, and Mr Litchfield Owen as Frederick lend able support. The play is mounted and dressed with thorough completeness.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—Mr Martin Harvey and company are appearing here this week, in *The Breed of the Treshams*. In the part of Lieutenant Reresby Mr Harvey's acting is most expressive throughout, and rouses the audience to an enthusiastic pitch. Owing to indisposition on Monday Miss N. De Silva was unable to take the part of the boy Batty. A good substitute was found, however, in Mr John Alexander. The rôle of Colonel Hungerford is filled by Mr Charles Glenny with excellent effect, and Mr Milton Rosmer's Francis Tresham is a spirited performance. The Viscount Dorsington of Mr Albert C. Reynor and the Colonel Curwen of Mr Percy Anstey are also worthy of praise. Miss Amy Coleridge, who takes the part of Margaret Hungerford, acts with grace and feeling, being ably supported by Miss Edith Coleman as Mrs Bagshaw and Miss Bessie Elder as Helena Pierrepoint. Mr Fred Wright, sen., gives character to the part of Colonel Bagshaw, and Mr Gilbert Yorke makes a good impression as Captain Stanhope. As Captain Rashleigh Mr George Cook is highly successful, as also are Messrs Eugene Wellesley and Arthur Maude as Willoughby and Peyton respectively.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—Mr William Greet's company pays a return visit with *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr F. B. Woulfe is a capital Marcus, his fine portrayal meeting with hearty recognition. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy is excellently suited to the part of Mercia, in which she makes a distinct hit. Mr Charles Aldred displays sound ability as Tigellinus, and Mr J. Wetherall is well placed as Lucinius. Nero has good treatment at the hands of Mr A. Bernhardt Turner, and Glabrio is ably presented by Mr Frank Wood. Mr L. Winning is successful as Viturius. Favius is admirably played by Mr Robert Hare, and Mr E. J. Carlin does good work as Titus. Miss Ivy Millais gives an artistic reading of Stephanus, Miss Alma Bolton acquits herself well as Berenice, as also does Miss Cissie Carlton as Dacia. Miss Ethel Land acts effectively as Poppæa, and the Ancaria of Miss May Fairclough is a good study.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Mascard.—The attraction here this week is Mr Lester Collingwood's company in *When London Sleeps*. Mr Franklyn Graham acts with excellent effect as Captain Rodney Haynes. The good-hearted athlete David Engleheart is played to the life by Mr Wm. H. S. Sams. Miss Maude Hastings gives a sympathetic rendering of the part of Queenie Carruthers. The humour of Mr F. E. Thomas as Signor Jonesio is much enjoyed, as is also that of Miss Bella Power as the Signorina and Mr Victor Mason as Sammy Blyth. The dude, Bertie Broomhead, is amusingly played by Mr Frank Eden. Miss Marie Brammer acts with power as Hilda Carrode. Carrie Jones (Miss Effie Mackintosh) and Maudie De Frere (Miss E. Magna France) are both cleverly played parts. The play is staged with much attention to detail.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—The stirring American drama, *The Still Alarm*, is here this week. Mr Matthew H. Glenville, in the rôle of the hero, Jack Manley, is admirably suited, and the way in which Mr Paul Lovett portrays the villain, John Bird, leaves nothing to be desired. The part of Doc. Wilber is in the able hands of Mr Fred Osmond, and Mr Lewis Gordon as Franklyn Fordham makes a creditable appearance. Miss Mary Lovett is a great success in the difficult part of Elinore Fordham. Miss Hettie Zillwood's dancing and singing are well received, and she makes an excellent Carrie Wilber; and the Mrs Manley of Miss Mabel Verlton meets with much approval. Mr Tom Beasley and Mr Arthur Downs are both good as Willie Manley and Jenkins, and the singing of Messrs Dan Mining, W. Edward, E. Tudor, and H. Johnstone gets a great reception.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—Mr Frank Bertram and his company are here this week with *The Convict's Daughter*, in which Mr Bertram gives a powerful rendering of the convict, whose character he delineates with consummate success. Miss Edith M. Savery acts charmingly the part of the ill-used lady who gives the play its title. Mr J. K. Walton makes a dignified study of Frederick Neville, the banker, and Miss Maud Osmond is equally successful as Marion Thorn. Mr T. W. Hurst as Harold Trevalyen is a fine, manly lover, and Mr G. Moreton Williams scores as Jasper Thorn. Mr A. Terris as an Irish policeman and Miss Julie Alexander as Betty, the maid-servant, add greatly to the comedy of the drama, the lady's acting being particularly piquant.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green.—*A Life's Revenge* is being presented here by a well selected company. Mr Fred C. Somerfield as Prince Boris Strogoroff acts the part of the scheming villain ably. Paul Starovitch, the artist, is admirably played by Mr John F. Traynor. Miss Marie Dagmar as Princess Vanda Ivyala has a strong part, and her acting is very realistic. Miss Katherine Eckart as Marcia Vittoria plays with dash and abandon. Mr Walter Roberts as Michael Orloff plays the scheming old man extremely well. Mr Pringle Roberts as the Englishman, Maurice Trevor, acts in manly fashion. On the lighter side, Mr Sydney Ernest is very funny as Nicholas, and Miss May Davis as Daphne Dashaway is a decided success. Mr Percy Brown as Chesterfield and Miss Amy Hughes as Acouline are both of value. Mr Edwin Cheetham as General Mikhaloff plays his part well, and Mr Charles E. Warne causes much laughter as Colonel Tumbleoff by his droll performance.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Director, Mr H. E. Moss; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen.—Uproarious laughter greets the appearance of Mark Sheridan this week, the popular comedian being in the happiest vein. Will English, coon comedian, also proves himself a general favourite. The Smythsons' comedy company submit an entertaining little sketch, *The Lie Alarm*, with great success, and a comedy musical act by Hume, Ross, and Lewis is highly amusing and clever. Florence Esdaile is a sweet singer, and Edie King, comedienne and dancer, finds much favour. Calile and Walker come in for notice in their little comedy act, and a pantomime sketch by the Denmores is well carried out. The Two Graces, duettists and dancers, and Pat Rafferty, Irish comedian, also deserve mention.

TIVOLI, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Barney Armstrong; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred C. Ewing.—Darring, the local handcuff expert, whose turn is proving a decided hit, is the star here. The George Bonhair Gregory Troupe give a clever Risley performance. Lena Brunton repeats her realistic impersonations of music hall celebrities. Haydee's Mannikins provide a novel item; and W. H. Downs, Larry Lewis, and Fred Neiman are all clever in their different lines.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford.—An interesting programme is submitted here this week, including "The Magic Kettle" act; the Waldrons, in their funny burlesque entertainment; Monks and Woods, in an amusing duologue; Charles R. Whittle, comedian; Mirzah, whose wonderful combination of music and jugglery excites astonishment; Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, society entertainers; and Vansart, with his grip of iron. Marie Else, the French flirt, has a place in the programme, which also includes a series of animated pictures.

QUEEN'S, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr T. J. Colquhoun; Acting-Manager, Mr B. M. Armstrong, jun.—Joe O'Gorman, in his lively Irish songs and patter, is the principal turn here. Charlie Deane is another strong favourite, and is well provided with catchy songs. That clever whistler, Charles Mildare, is also a great draw.

BRITANNIA.—Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Manager, Mr George Saphrini.—This well-known and old-established hall was reopened, under the above management, on Monday evening, in the presence of a crowded audience. The house is being run at popular prices on the one-house-a-night system, and judging from the reception of the opening company, the "Brit" bids fair to renew its lease as a popular resort of the working classes. The new management is making a special bid for their favour and patronage, and, given good companies, there is no reason why they should not attain their end. Suitable alterations and improvements have been effected, and the house presents a bright and comfortable appearance. The Mottramos in a pleasing musical sketch, *Do You Reverse?* head the bill for the opening, and give a creditable and pleasing performance. Mr J. B. Mackenzie sings tenor songs in good style; and Miss Alice Golding's ballad turn is an agreeable feature of the programme. The Brothers Hannaway are first-rate comedians and dancers; Akbar performs clever gymnastic feats; while Cambo, the man monkey, gyrates successfully. Beatty and Blanch are clever dancers, and A. B. Thorn is a pawky Scotch comic. Benetti and May Corrie are funny in a burlesque juggling act; Bella Leabourn does well; while Vasey and Ramsey are successful comedians. Mr Anderson made a short introductory speech during the evening and was loudly applauded.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr William Biggam.—An attractive programme here includes Regan and Ryan, the clever comedians and dancers; Vance Brothers, smart instrumentalists; Marie Le Blanc, in several good songs; Mackinnon Family of vocalists, dancers, &c.; Lottie and Marie Ross, popular character duettists; George Kirkland, the blind conjuror; Tom Glenn, Willie Mackey, Frank Rogerson, and Miss E. Clare Buchanan.

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Captain H. E. Davis; General Manager, Mr David Hart.—Madrali, the well-known wrestler, is here for the week, and his exhibitions of skill and strength have been very warmly received. Besides this great attraction Maud Marlow, a bright burlesque artist and dancer; J. H. Crew, a quaint comedian; Arthur Gilbert, comedian; Carlo and May, with their clever comedy acrobatic and wire act; Lily Flexmore, comedienne and legmania danseuse; Harry Naylor, a funny comedian; and Francis, the cannon-ball king, are also entertaining.

THE WHISKY OF MANY MERITS

DEWAR'S "WHITE LABEL" WHISKY

GAINSBOROUGH.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Kirk.—Mr George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company appeared here for three nights last week in *Judy*. This well-known drama was excellently produced. Miss Florrie Groves gave her clever impersonation of Judy. Miss Mary Neil in the dual-rôle of Alice and Polly, the coster, showed great versatility, and she was well supported in the latter character by Mr Will Casey as Jim. Mr Carlton Wallace as Duborg and Miss Muriel Thompson as Blake were successful; and Mr George Kirk gave a powerful rendering of Grip, the detective. The other characters were in good hands.

ROYAL HALL.—Manager, Mr J. W. Morris.—*Parson Thorn* was here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, played by a company under the management of Mr Ormonde G. Smethurst.

GLOUCESTER

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Mr Arthur Hart's company in *My Lady Molly* is paying a welcome return visit. Miss Mabel Lait makes a charming Lady Molly, and Alice Coverdale is vivaciously rendered by Miss Maud Thorne. Mr George Grundy is an agreeable Captain Harry Romney; Miss Sybil Thorne is neat as Hester; Lionel Bland is ably enacted by Mr Frank Stather; and Mdlle. Mirabeau as played by Miss Lottie Sargent is favourably received. Mickey O'Dowd is a hugely comical personage in the hands of Mr Arthur Powell, who finds great favour; Sir Miles Coverdale is presented in bluff and hearty style by Mr Walter Ashley; and Mr David M. Miller is good as Judge Romney. Mr T. Norbury makes an excellent Reuben Oates. Mr Carlton Mason is the musical director.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—*The Lightning's Flash*, presented by a strong company under the direction of Mr Leslie Vyner, is the attraction this week. Mr Leonard Robson gives a powerful performance of Stephen Merrick; Mr Sydney Kearns as Gordon Garville and Mr Courtney Robinson as Jim Bargiss are a capable pair of villains; Mr Wm. Attfield is well placed as Dick Durham; and Mr Maurice Grant is a sufficiently unscrupulous Ned Grimstone. Mr Harry M. Vernon causes roars of laughter as Toby Gander, being ably assisted by Miss Blanche Vernon as Selina Slack. Miss F. Russell-Spiers submits an attractive performance of Kate Merrick; and Miss Dora Condor is highly successful as Zuza. Special mention should be made of the songs and dances introduced by Miss Dora Condor, Miss Blanche Vernon, and Mr Harry M. Vernon. *Saved from the Sea* was here on Thursday and Friday.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—A return visit is being paid here by Mr Bert Coote's company in *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr Wilfred Payne is effective as Howard Wilson; Mr Leyton Cancellor is excellent as the villainous Robert Curtis; Toto is most amusingly portrayed by Mr Charles H. Kenny; Mr Fred Dobell is admirable as Schwartz; Mr Henry Welbeck is capital as O'Reilly; the Rev. Dr. Lancewood is cleverly enacted by Mr Arthur Law Raynor; Miss Marie Houseley is natural and sympathetic as Mabel Wilson; Cora Williams is ably represented by Miss Beatrix De Burgh; Miss Harriet Clifton causes plenty of laughter as Bridget; and Miss Ida Valli is winsome and bright as "the little mother."

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr Robert Perris's company is here this week with the drama *A Fight for Millions*. Mr Perris is successful in the part of Tom Manby; Mr J. Newton Cowling shows ability as Hudson Rivers; Mr Horace Booth gives a careful embodiment of Richard Dudley; Mr Donald Cameron does well as John Leveredge; and Harold Hobbs finds a capable representative in Mr Nicholas Conway. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr Larry Clements as Willie Neverwork and Mr Fred Acton as Solomon Moses. Miss Eva Purcell is attractive as Pearl Rivers; Miss Fannie Williams is good as Mrs Hudson Rivers; Miss Vera Dobson appears as Helen Dudley with effect; Miss Winnie Acton deserves praise for her Little Madge; and Miss Gertie Douglas is decidedly funny as Betty and Mag Brady.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—At this theatre the Brothers Lang are applauded for their very smart knockabout act; Florence Hill, burlesque actress and dancer, gets a hearty reception; Douglas and Douglas give an interesting Risley performance; Mary M. Glenn, Scottish vocalist, sings well; Harry Walker is an amusing patter comedian; Wal Croft, Scotch comedian, does well; and an entertaining turn is provided by Charles Vandyke and company, in the pantomime absurdity *Nicodemus*.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Exceptionally large houses have been experienced this week upon the second visit of Mr Bert Coote's company with the popular drama *The Fatal Wedding*. Miss Gwynne Herbert now takes the part of the wronged wife, Mabel Wilson, and wins entire approval. Mr Stuart Lomath is eminently successful as Howard Wilson. Miss Gertrude Harrison gives complete satisfaction as Cora Williams, and Mr Creagh Henry gives a good representation of Robert Curtis. The part of the "Little Mother," Jessie, is charmingly played by Miss Maidie Andrews. The amusing characters of Peter Schwartz, Toto, and Bridget are ably sustained by Mr Walter Westwood, Mr Edward Morgan, and Miss Marie Hassell respectively. A number of entertaining specialities are introduced in act three by the children travelling with the company.

HIPPODROME.—An amusing sketch entitled *Uncle Yank* has been produced here this week by the Mannon Troupe of pantomimists. Some smart and effective trap work is introduced in it. The Two Athlones have created a very good impression. They are athletes who not only perform feats of great strength, but do so in a fashion that is as novel as it is pleasing. Another sketch of a highly laughable character, entitled *Married or Photographed?* has been presented by F. Warden Reed and company. Two particularly funny comedians have contributed to the programme in the persons of Sam Shipley and Sam Dalton. Other good turns have been given by Lilian Travellie, ballad vocalist; the Sisters Warner, duettists and dancers, and the Two Falcons, balancers.

KING'S HALL.—Tom Birchmore's variety company has occupied the King's Hall for the third successive week.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Mr George Dance's company is here for this week with *A Country Girl*. Miss May Glen is a fine figure of a Nan, using a powerful voice with effect; Miss Maud Harvey sings in a cultured method, and looks captivating as Marjory; Miss Nina Carlton is to be congratulated on a highly satisfactory appearance as the Princess, her singing being fine; and Miss Veronica Brady is the daintiest of Sophie's in her clever assumption of the would-be fine lady. Mr Cyril Thompson is gifted with a fine voice; Mr Johnny Osborne rattles with irresistible gusto through the merry part of Barry; Mr Vincent Bowyer is quite immovably calm as Raikes, the Rajah. He also sings in effective manner. Mr George Mudie, jun., is diverting as the effusive and amorous Sir Joseph Verity. In smaller parts effective support is given by Miss Edna Knollys, Mrs St. Quinton; Miss M. Jolly, Lady Anchester; Mr Tom Sheridan, Granfer Mummery; and Mr Scrope Quinton, Lord Anchester.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr Norman Robinson.—*The Never-Never Land* is the attraction here this week. The play is full of interest, is well presented, and is suitably and efficiently staged. The important part of Jack Mowbray is admirably assumed by Mr Edmund F. Kennedy, a sound and conscientious actor; Mr Edward Rochelle gives a telling rendering of his part; Mr Arthur Bolton plays with ease and ability the part of Tom Hewley; Mr Simon D. Ord gives a crisp rendering of Wolff; Mr Cecil Elgar does well as Lord Thorland; and Mr John Hart is responsible for a faithful picture of the old servitor, Brudds. Miss Caroline Barrett must be complimented on a perfectly natural, frank, and attractive impersonation of the heroine; Miss Marion Fawcett's Lady Walgrave is a quiet, unassuming, and sympathetic performance; Miss Julia Kennard impersonates the disreputable Sal Barker with much ability; and Miss Margaret Parker does well as Smudgee.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—A really smart and enjoyable company occupy the boards here this week. Lady Mansell introduces half-a-dozen children, who sing and dance to the manifest delight of the audience. The Mackweys do their performance at lightning speed. It consists of acrobatics, somersaults, wire walking, and pantomimic tricks. Mr and Mrs Neil Lichfield do a musical and mimetic sketch, which is clever; Iben Obed, hand-balancer, is smart; Allis and Cassati are amusing in vocal comedy; Bert Lytton sings his songs with point; the Karno Trio, in a pantomimic sketch, cause constant laughter; the Sisters Morgam, duettists and dancers, are attractive; and the Mozondos do a comedy barrel and tumbling act.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—That entertaining musical comedy *The Girl from Kay's* is presented this week, and the piece meets with the heartiest of receptions. Miss Lily Lingard in the title-rôle is well placed, acting and singing admirably; Miss May Marton as Norah Chalmers is seen to advantage in the part; Mr Johnnie Schofield as Hoggenheimer is exceedingly funny; Harry Gordon finds a capital exponent in Mr Garnet Wilson, who renders his songs admirably; Mr Tom Shelford as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle is most amusing. Special mention must be made of the pierrots who appear in the second act in a delightfully rendered musical item in which Mr Walter Bates and two ladies are seen.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—Two full houses welcomed on Monday a capital programme. The premier position is held by Chas. Aldrich, in a wonderful quick-change performance. The Three Meers, in a novel wire act, are much appreciated; John Lloyd, the singing collier, has a nice voice, and is most successful; Lauri Wylie, in his mimicry mannikin show, is exceedingly good; Bertha Palliser sings her songs charmingly; Maud Ross also is well received; Will Matcham is always welcome in his vocal and musical comedy act; the Vernon Troupe contribute a capital item in the way of xylophonists; the Sisters Lunelle are smart vocalists and dancers; and the Grand pictures, as usual, are new and entertaining.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Smith.—Mr Moullot's company opened here on Monday for three nights with *A Message from Mars*. Mr Rawdon Buckley gave a lifelike presentation of Horace Parker, Mr Bruce Lindley was convincing as the Tramp, and Mr William Brougham was very impressive as the Messenger. Miss May Saker, Miss Flora Hastings, and Miss Joan Meredith each gave meritorious performances, and other parts in a lengthy cast were creditably filled.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager, Mr H. J. Dacre.—The concerts have been well attended this week, and the demonstrations with liquid air are being given as a variety turn.

HARTLEPOOL

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillors Everton and J. W. Cragg; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—The Marvellous Savonas have been retained for another week. Wee Mona is also a great attraction. Codge, the street arab, in his clever exhibition of whistling; James Stewart, the one-man piano; and Muir and Bartlett, in their funny sketch *A Clerical Complication*, are all old favourites; and Harry Tomlinson, comedian, George Collins, comedian, and Burns' Bioscope complete a strong programme.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—A bright and pleasing performance was given here on Monday of the musical play *The Belle of New York*, by the Ben Greet company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard. Mr Arthur Ricketts filled the rôle of the eccentric Ichabod Bronson with complete success; Mr Harold Wardroper capably impersonated the spendthrift, Harry Bronson; the unique fooling of Karl Von Pumpernick was cleverly presented by Mr Walter Emro; Mr Guy Ford made a blustering "Doc" Snifkins; Mr Mack Ollive as Blinkey Bill executed some agile dancing; Mr Walter Uridge afforded merriment as Kenneth Mugg; and Messrs Lionel Yeoman and R. L. Cody as the twin Portuguese Counts were alertly similar in their actions. Miss Mora Hersee as Violet Graysang very acceptably; Miss Helen Rose enacted Fifi Fricot very agreeably; Miss Ida Grandison's good voice and dashing style made her an ideal Cora Angelique; Miss Florence Hersee displayed exceptional vivacity as Mamie Clancy; and Miss Hilda Corelli as première danseuse gave evidence of ability.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Local Manager, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—An excellent concert party are appearing here, bearing the name of "The Gaieties." Under the direction of Mr Charles Conyers and Mr Wilson James a very attractive selection of songs are provided. Miss Edith Trew possesses a sweet and expressive voice, and is warmly applauded. Miss Ruby Wilson is equally successful in her popular songs. A great deal of humour is introduced into the entertainment by the above-named gentlemen, who either ventriloquise or introduce amusing recitals during the evening.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—Mr Fred J. Kirke's company appeared here the first part of the week in the musical comedy, entitled *The Naval Detective*. The lady acrobats, the Gaiety Girls, go through some graceful evolutions. Mr Arthur Hickman is highly amusing in several rôles, and Mr Will Brereton is good as Captain Hustle. Mr Fred J. Kirke's comedy, *Our Sailor Lad*, concludes the week.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—An attractive programme this week is opened by the coon vocalist and dancer, Miss Daisy Yates. Mr Chris Richards is remarkably smart as an eccentric comedian. Messrs Dale and O'Malley are a good comedy turn. Mr Tom Stuart gives some vivid representations of characters from Dickens and popular actors. Miss Edie Rivers, comedienne, is well received. Grais' Baboon Prodigies cause great amusement in a grotesque tight-rope dance and a clever act of cycling the loop. Miss Kate Butler receives great applause as a character comedienne. Collinson's Combination is appearing in *A Club Raid*, which is highly sensational.

PUBLIC HALL.—Mr Joseph Poole is giving a fine show by his interesting myriorama, entitled "The World's History Day by Day." A series of high-class varieties is interspersed, whilst an excellent orchestra adds greatly to the enjoyment of the audience.

HAWICK.

TOWN HALL.—On Monday evening we had a visit from Mr W. T. Rushbury's company in *Alone in London*. Mr John Clyde gave a good impersonation of John Biddlecombe; Mr J. Myron Howard was well placed as Richard Redcliffe; Mr Walter A. Warren was very humorous in the part of Jenkinson; and the same may be said of Miss Amy Bell as Liz and Mr R. A. Earl as Charlie Johnson. Mr Burnaby was ably represented by Mr Henry Bowler; Annie Meadows had a painstaking exponent in Miss Dorothy Wallace; Tom Chickweed as played by Miss Kitty M'Pherson could not have been in better hands; Miss Agnes Bain made a charming Ruth Clifton; and Miss Doris Howard was good as Little Paul.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson.—Another variety company is here this week. Tom White's Arabs form the chief attraction, being very amusing in their versatile singing and comedy act. We have also a welcome return visit of Rhoda Paul, male impersonator; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the Staffordshire cardboard box makers, contribute some excellent harmonised melodies; the Brothers Hampson are clever patter comedians and dancers; the Two Romers, operatic soloists, have a most flattering reception; Mdlle. De Vena submits a clever performance as a club manipulator and juggler; Les Allisors figure to advantage as refined ring performers; and Mdlle. Rosella is a pleasing trapeze artiste.

HORWICH.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Arthur Sandiford; Acting-Manager, Mr Alfred Holles.—Miss Mary Dalby's company in *Woman to Woman* is the attraction here this week. The staging and scenery are excellent, and the piece goes with a swing from start to finish. Mr Chas. Whitlock as the Rev. Leslie Lorne has a good part, and plays with dignity, Mr Ernest Vaughan's Lieut. Podraski is a very careful interpretation, Mr Edward Finlay's Lieut. Yashma is a fine specimen of a Japanese officer, Mr E. D. Allen as Denny O'Hagan is responsible for some genuine comedy, and Mr Fred Dalby as Rufus Rapon and R. Bosco as Nakaga are up to the mark. Miss Georgina V. France as Lilian Lorne is charming, Miss Madge Douglas as Monica Stokes and Elba works very hard, her songs receiving unstinted applause, and Miss Mary Dalby as Ogandaga, the native Queen of Korea, does full justice to the part.

HOYLAND.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Geo. S. King.—Perry and Stanton's musical comedy company is paying a visit here this week with *The Sporting Girl*. Miss Stanton in her original part of Kitty Fitzroy is seen to much advantage, and introduces some first rate songs. Mr George Perry as Mr Penton Hook gives a capital impersonation, and Mr Charles Saunders as Mr Jack Garling finds ample scope for his ability in the character. Mr Horace Moseley as the Rev. John Bunyan and Mr Mark Practice as Stodge are very good. Mr Marcus Grey is capital as Marco Castelino.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Local Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—Mr Henry Neville is meeting with the heartiest of receptions here in *The Two Orphans*. No finer impersonator of Pierre exists, and the years that have touched Mr Neville so lightly have not altered one jot the genius of this ever-welcome actor. May Edwardes is finely depicted by Miss Evelyn Weeden.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—The ever-pleasing *Geisha* is again with us. The O Mimosa San of Miss Aimée De Leska is a delightful piece of work. She has a voice of fine quality and striking histrionic talent. She achieves considerable success. Miss Florrie Saunders makes a very frolicsome Molly. The Wun-Hi of Mr Ed. Carlton brings down the house.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—That now-familiar play, *The King of Crime*, is the strong attraction at the Alexandra, and meets with warm welcome, and is altogether to the taste of the house. Mr Wm. Clayton fills with distinction the rôle of the King of Crime.

ALHAMBRA.—Resident-Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet Perry.—Imro Fox provides a clever conjuring entertainment; J. W. Hall and Dave Marion are comedians of distinct merit; Dora Martine displays much nerve in a horizontal bar act; Brown and Nevarro make a first appearance in England, and their turn is a huge success; Jennie Hartley is a promising juvenile; Chant and Chant sing some popular melodies, and gain much applause; Clarie St. Clare, an extra turn, is well received; and Bert Leslie, a good swell comedian, completes the bill.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr L. F. A. Rogers.—A special treat has been provided this week by Mr Chas. Macdona's company in the musical play, *Three Little Maids*, which is here for three nights, the remainder of the week being filled by the play *No Cross, No Crown*, presented by Miss Rose Faith's company. The Three Little Maids were capitally portrayed by Miss Vera Vallis, Ada; Miss Nellie Groves, Hilda; and Miss Doris Trevor, Edna; all three ladies winning great admiration and praise. Madame Ilma Norina was responsible for a pleasing conception of Lady St. Mallory, Miss Edith Lorraine played admirably as Miss Price, and the Gretchen of Miss May Wright was an inimitable performance, her dance with Cupid finding special favour. Mr R. Barrie in the part of Cupid, the caddie, did some excellent work, Mr Frank Henderson gave a clever presentment of the dude, Lord Cheyne; Mr H. Welchman was good as Brian Molyneux, and Mr W. Pieroy Morgan made a presentable country vicar. The M. De L'Orme of Mr Jules Charmettis was worthy of special commendation, and his 'cello solo was vociferously applauded.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—Mr Walter Melville's sensational melodrama, with the startling title *The Worst Woman in London*, has been the attraction here during the week, and is supported by a good all-round company. The central character of the piece was portrayed with striking effect by Miss Constance Medwyn, while Miss Lilian Ross as Ruth Milford and Miss Helena Rigby as Matilda Park contributed to the success of the female interest of the cast. The hero, Jack Felton, found an earnest representative in Mr Edwin J. Collins, and Mr P. B. Lewers was a convincing villain of the deepest dye. Bob Goldfinch as the rival of Barnum and Bailey, in the hands of Mr G. H. Asquin, relieved the serious interest of the piece by his humorous business, in which he was assisted by Messrs Bernard Mervyn and Joe Bracewell.

HIPPODROME.—The turns here include the Herald Comedy Four, a clever quartet of vocalists; Mdlle. Florence, a globe walker, gives a pretty and neat display, and a marvellous gymnastic performance is introduced by a coupe of artists named Helene and Emilion. The Bodina Trio of vocalists and musicians also contribute some pleasing business, while new pictures on the Hippograph add to the attractions of the programme.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr G. Watson.—Poole's Myriorama has occupied this large hall during the week, new and striking pictures of the Japan-Russia war in the Far East being added since their last visit to Ipswich. A strong variety company diversifies an attractive programme with their contributions.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—This week Mr Henry Furnival's company is paying a visit with *The Harvest of Sin*. Mr Charles H. Lester gives first-class renderings of Harold Mainwaring and Arnold Mainwaring; Mr W. J. Butler is excellent as George Mainwaring; Mr E. Valentine is a powerful Paul de Brisionere; Mr W. Garrett a good St. John Haughley; and Mr J. Fulton Millar submits a capable impersonation of Silas Logan. Miss Louisa Peach is interesting as Grace; Miss Alice Oliver is quite at home as Margery Gray; Miss K. Willoughby is excellent as Gladys Mainwaring; and Miss P. Hastings does full justice to the part of May Mainwaring.

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—The domestic drama *Sunday* was played here for four nights on Monday by Mr Louis Calvert and Mr Herbert Ross's company. Miss Marie Polini's embodiment of the title-rôle is admirable; Mr W. Edwyn Holloway, who figures as Colonel Brinthope, acts well; Mr Arthur Willoughby scores as Tom Oxley; and Mr John Holloway as Arthur Brinthope looks every inch a young aristocrat. The four "pals," Tozer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky, are represented by Messrs Henry Stephenson, David Curtis, Alfred Phillips, and Arthur Somers. Miss M. Henderson as Mrs Naresby sustains her part with credit, and Miss Dorothy Gordon as the nun suits the rôle admirably.

KEIGHLEY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Barnes.—A welcome return visit is being made by Miss Edith Cole and company in *A Royal Divorce*. Miss Cole gives an artistic rendering of Josephine; Mr Frederick Victor's Napoleon is a capital piece of work; Tallyrand is ably embodied by Mr Claude Agnew; Mr Alfred Grenville gives a capital rendering of Augereau; Mr Trevor Lowe plays De Beaumont in excellent style; Mr Ernest G. Batley does good work as Marshal Murat; Miss Ethyle Murray is seen to advantage as Marie Louise; Miss Helen Richmond charms everyone as Stephanie.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—This week we have Miss Blanche St. Alban's company in *Her One Great Sin*. Mr Sam Arthur is a capable Reuben Warhurst, and Mr Frederick Lloyd is successful as Arnold Thornhill. Mr Fred Hodson is amusing at Jerry Jumble, and Mr Harold Ford is a capital Jack Hundle. Miss Phyllis Damain gives a good performance as Charlie; Miss Nellie Lambert acts well as Nancy; and Miss Maudie Lambert is warmly applauded as Little Gracie. Miss Florence Creagh gives a talented rendering of the part of Grace Warhurst, and Mr Chas. Lambert and Miss Louie Walton as Dan and Bet Hundle are responsible for excellent character studies. The other members of the company give adequate support.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—This week we have here Mr Chas. A. Chandler's company with *The Bells of Haslemere*. Mr Leonard Yorke submits an able rendering of Frank Beresford; Mr Montague Turner is capable as John Silkstone; and Mr Chas. A. Chandler acts well as Captain Vere. Mr Douglas Hamilton is well suited as Matthew Brookfield; Miss Florence Chandley is admirable as Norah Desmond; and Miss Mary Hardacre is efficient as Mary Northcote.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Mr Herbert Leonard.—Mr Geo. Edwardes's company, in *San Toy*, appeared here for the first three nights this week. Mr Edmund Sherras gained considerable applause for his impersonation of Bobby Preston; Yen-How was played by Mr Alfred W. Clark satisfactorily; Mr Alfred Beers as Li worked hard, and created much amusement; he was ably supported by Miss Florence Arnold as Dudley; Miss Don Harradine made a charming San Toy; Miss Mabel Lavelle sang well as Poppy; Mr G. I. Williams as Sir Bingo Preston was good; and Mr Clinton Ryland deserved praise for his dramatic rendering of Fo-Hop. The chorus was exceedingly good, and the augmented orchestra was under the direction of Mr Harold Lonsdale. On Thursday *The Girl from Chicago* was given.

LANCASTER.

ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—A crowded house on Monday greeted the drama *I Defy the World*, presented by Mr Julian Malvern's company. Mr Lewis Gilbert showed himself an actor of exceptional power in the rôle of Leon Darville; Mr Joseph W. Worley gave a powerful rendering of the schemer, Count De Beaulieu; and Miss Lina Nazeby gave a capital portrayal of Blanche Darville. The humour was successfully supplied by Mr Chas. M. Julian as the Cockney tourist and Miss Maud Julian as his wife.

PALACE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—Another capital programme is arranged here. Heading the bill is Atlas, champion athlete, and Miss Vulcana, who have a good reception for their feats of strength. Frank Hartley is a clever boy juggler; the Warlocks, comedians, come in for rounds of applause; as also does Vosper in his impersonation of celebrities. Others who appear are Miss Rose Tilley, descriptive vocalist; La Modele, in her classic poses; and Miss Lily Turner, burlesque actress. Payne's Bio-Photoscope presents some good pictures.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr R. Taylor.—Messrs H. J. Callan and Wentworth Croke's company in *Florodora* had a hearty reception from a large house on Monday. Mr C. Y. Fiscott in the rôle of Gilfain, Mr W. Everard as Abercoed, Mr Arthur Lenville as Tweedlepunch, Miss Violet Bronson as Dolores, and Miss Dorothy Sephton and Miss May Yates as Lady Holyrood and Angela respectively fairly divided the honours between them.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—Musical comedy once again holds sway here. This time it is the record-breaker *A Chinese Honeymoon*, and in the hands of Mr George Dance's company the piece makes a rollicking and enjoyable entertainment. Mr Martin Adeson, a big local favourite, makes the part of Pineapple a thorough success; Miss Vera Vere is conspicuous for a clever and humorous portrayal of the waitress Fi-Fi; Mr Frank Crimp sings and acts well as Tom Atherton; Mr Philip Hayden makes an effective Emperor; and Mr Fred Payne and Mr Ernest Laws are also prominently successful. A dashing performance of Mrs Pineapple goes to the credit of Miss Eva Bevington; the official mother-in-law is capitally presented by Miss Holford Beringer; and we are indebted to Miss Madge Temple for a very pleasing study of Soo-Soo.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—Messrs Landeck and Shirley's sensational drama, *Woman and Wine*, is the attraction here, and Mr Milton Bode's powerful company gives an excellent presentation. A trio of fine actors—namely, Mr Frank H. Robertson, Mr Fred Mace, and Mr Walter Thornton, fill the leading rôles with distinction, and are ably assisted by Miss Rose Galloway and Miss Lucy Langley in prominent feminine parts.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—*San Toy* is again filling the house to overflowing, and Mr Geo. Edwardes's company does the piece full justice. A pleasing portrayal of the name parts is given by Miss Fanny Dango, and Miss May Francies is also exceedingly good as Poppy. Mr Reginald Kenneth sings and acts well as Captain Bobby, and the part of Yen-How is in the capable hands of Mr John Humphries. Mr E. Statham Staples provokes continual hilarity by his comical presentation of the cunning Li. Mr Henry Claff fills with distinction the part of Fo-Hop, Mr Colin Coop repeats his popular version of the Emperor, Mr Stratton Mills is effective as Sir Bingo, and good work is also done by Mr Jocelyn Hope and Mr Arthur Soames. The clever dancing of Miss Alice Lethbridge in Act 2 deserves a word of special praise.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—Mr Albert Chevalier is here delighting huge audiences with his accomplished character delineations and musical monologues. The Griffiths Brothers are also appearing, and their burlesque business again goes extremely well. Gilbert Rogers renders vocal items in good style, and Sybil St. Elmo also sings popular ballads with success. Minnie Cunningham, comedienne, again demonstrates her ability to please; Bard and O'Brien submit an expert slack wire act; Lieutenant Travis gives an entertaining ventriloquial turn; Johnny Dwyer is a smart example of the eccentric comedian; song and dance is cleverly rendered by Daisy Dormer and Flo Burris; and the bill is completed by Stave, the electric comedy artiste.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O. Weldon.—There are two excellent animal shows to be seen here this week. De Gracia, with his fine troupe of elephants, which perform many amazing feats; and Carl Reinsch, with some remarkably intelligent horses and dogs. The Bob Hanlon Troupe of gymnasts again submit an expert and daring act; Troba, the juggler, finds great favour for his clever work; and Percy Honri, concertinist and comedian, is likewise having a most successful time. Dave O'Toole, a smart comedian; Cissie St. Clair, comedienne; and Professor Welsen, with his Swedish bar performance, are also appearing.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—George Leyton leads here with his naval vocal scena, *Britannia's Babes*, and is vociferously applauded. That sprightly comedienne Lillie Langtry is a popular contributor, as also is Tom E. Finglas, the negro vocal specialist. Terry and Bentley please their audience with clever comedy business. Lozelle presents a speciality act with great success. Chas. Coverdale, comedian and mimic, the Lynches, illustrated song artistes, and Leonard Bros., acrobatic clowns, complete the programme.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—Sir Henry Irving and company occupied the boards here for the first three nights this week. The répertoire for the three nights of his engagement included *Waterloo*, *The Bells*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Becket*. On Monday evening the performance opened with *Waterloo*, in which Sir Henry appeared as Corporal Gregory Brewster. This was followed by *The Bells*, with the renowned actor in the part of Mathias. By his powerful impersonations of these two extremely different characters he once more showed that his hold upon an audience is as great as ever. In the former play, Mr Lionel Belmore was conspicuously successful as Sergeant Archie M'Donald, and Miss Maud Fealey was charming as Nora Brewster. Colonel James Midwinter had a capital representative in Mr Vincent Sternroyd. In *The Bells* Mr H. B. Stanford as Christian, Mr Charles Dodsworth as Walter, and Mr James Hearn as Hans are to be highly complimented on their clever assumptions. Miss May Holland won golden opinions by her delightful portrayal of Annette. Both Miss Mary Foster as Sozel and Miss Grace Hampton as Catherin were excellent. Others in the cast who did well were Mr Mark Paton as Dr. Zimmer, Mr F. Tyars as the President of the Court, Mr L. Palmer as the Notary, Mr T. Reynolds as Fritz, Mr W. J. Yeldham as Clerk of the Court, and Mr J. Archer as Mesmerist. When the curtain fell so enthusiastic were the audience, and so incessant the demands for a speech, that Sir Henry had perforce to comply with the demand, which he did in the following characteristic little reply:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—It is my privilege to thank you, although very inadequately, for your most kind, most gracious, and inspiring greeting. It is a delight to be with you once again, and to receive from you so cordial and so hearty a welcome. I thank you for my comrades one and all, who cannot respond, but who are most grateful to you, and I thank you for myself, as ever your respectful, loyal, and willing servant." On Tuesday evening *The Merchant of Venice* was produced with a completeness which reflected high credit on all concerned. Another splendid reception from a brilliant audience awaited the appearance of Sir Henry as Shylock, in which part he riveted the attention of the audience throughout by his masterful, consistent, and powerful character study. Miss Edith Wynne-Mathison appeared as Portia, and was conspicuously successful. Mr Gerald Lawrence was exceptionally good as Bassanio. The Antonio of Mr James Hearn left little to be desired. Mr H. B. Stanford was capital as Gratiano. Mr Charles Dodsworth as Launcelot Gobbo, Mr F. Tyars as the Prince of Morocco, Mr T. Reynolds as Old Gobbo, Mr Mark Paton as the Duke of Venice, Mr F. D. Davis as Salanio, Mr Lionel Belmore as Salarino, Mr Vincent Sternroyd as Lorenzo, and Mr J. Archer as Tubal were also included in the cast. Mrs Cecil Raleigh made a strong impression as Jessica, and Miss Grace Hampton was a pleasing Nerissa. At the end of Portia's Garden scene the applause was so vociferous that Sir Henry, leading Miss Mathison on the stage, thanked the audience in the following words:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—It is my privilege to thank you. It is impossible to thank you adequately for your most delightful, most inspiring, and cheering greeting. It is a matter of infinite pleasure to us to feel that our interpretation of this incomparable play of the master's has been received by you with such favour. I thank you for one and all of us, whose hearts respond most gratefully to your greeting, and I thank you as ever your loyal, respectful, and loving servant." This memorable and farewell visit terminated on Wednesday evening with a fine performance of *Becket*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—*The Life That Kills*, presented by Messrs Moule and Nicholls's capital company, is on a return visit here this week. Mr Herbert Sidney sustains the villain's part, Kendal Croat, with ability, and as the hero, Hector Rodney, Mr Hugh Metcalfe is admirable. Mr E. D. Nicholls fully realises the possibilities of the part of the Rev. Theodore Rodney; Mr Morris Maud is good as Valentine Telford; Mr Harry Howe is successful as Jack Jolliffe; and Mr Stevenson does well as Terence Malone. Miss Vyvyan Montgomery is seen to advantage as Laura Linden. In the dual-rôle of Tom Dicks, a bugler, and Johanna Dicks Miss Mabel Kessler is a favourite, and her specialities on the cornet, post-horn, and bugle elicit unstinted applause. May Linden, a crippled child, is well played by a promising young actress in Little Mabel, and Miss Cathleen Cavanagh does well as Brenda Croat.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—Bransby Williams, assisted by Mr F. Morland, is starring here this week, and is giving with great success his dramatic episode, *'87; or, The Veteran's Birthday*. As a character impersonator Mr Williams undoubtedly stands pre-eminent, his attention to detail and his artistic method reflecting the greatest credit upon him. A word of praise should also be bestowed on Mr Morland. At the other end of the bill are Homer B. Mason and Marguerite Keeler, who keep the audience in a con-

tinual ripple of laughter with their sketch *Hooked by Crook*. The Bandurria Quintet of mandolinists and guitarists delight all with their enjoyable turn; Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, a fascinating comedienne, is always sure of a hearty reception at this hall; Albert Whelan, the Australian sifflleur and singer, provides a very good turn; Die Schützenlieseren Quartet are vocalists of considerable ability; Barrère and Jules give a smart exhibition on the parallel bars; the Brothers Cavallini score with their eccentric parodies; Juno Salmo is an extraordinarily clever contortionist; and Belle Braham, pictorial songstress, sings well.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The top-liners this week are the Leggett combination with *The Maid of Athens*. The Bransbys are excellent character duettists; Onda and Artell are clever in their pot-pourri gymnastic act; Ada Twibell is a smart burlesque actress; Ted Young is a capital comedian; and others entertaining are Kydd and Kydd, comedians and dancers; Cribb and Cribb, in an original burlesque, *After the Ball*; and the Cecils, terpsichorean artistes.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—This week the boards here are occupied by Mr Walter Melville's company, in *Her Second Time on Earth*. Miss Hilda Beverley's performance as Dora Grey is very finished; Mr Chas. Franmore gives a capital portrayal of Captain Jasper Norman; Mr Cecil A. Milton is a manly Jack Carlton; Mr St. John Stuart is earnest as Tom Norman; Mr Wilton J. Selby makes an excellent Beppo; as Guy Brand Mr Chas. Girdlestone is very successful; Mr Percy Horton is a model Dr. Ridley; and a clever and realistic representation of Elizabeth Burke is vouchsafed by Miss Polly Marsh. Mr Fred Ingram as Teddy Butterfly ably supplies the comic element, and is well backed up by Miss Nana Flensberg as Kitty Rosebud. As Laura Norman Miss Elaine Vanbrugh is very pleasing.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—Harry Tilbury and company in their sketch *Jealousy* are the attraction here this week, Dale and D'Argan give a smart acrobatic and juggling turn; Mill May, protean artist, is well received; Miss Nellie Shannon, the coloured coon, is responsible for some taking songs; Cris Bearne is a clever banjoist; and Bert Clench, boy vocalist; Kier and Allen, knockabouts; and the Two Dominoes, with their educated ass, are also well received. The Hippodrome pictures meet with their usual success.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—Another of their ever-welcome visits to Liverpool is this week being paid by Mr and Mrs Kendal to the leading theatre, wherein they achieved many of their triumphs. That their admirers in the city on the Mersey have not fallen short in their appreciation of the renowned artistes has been shown in a marked degree by the large attendances of the public throughout the week. Old associations up this way are not soon forgotten. On Monday the clever comedy *A Scrap of Paper* was presented; on Tuesday the ever-delightful *Elder Miss Blossom*; on Wednesday *Still Waters Run Deep*; and for the following three nights and Saturday matinée *Dick Hope*, for the first time in Liverpool. Included in the supporters of the Kendals were Mr Bassett Roe, Mr Ernest Hendrie, Mr Metcalfe Wood, Mr R. Sheldrick, Miss Elsie Clarens, Miss Mary Jerrold, and Miss A. B. Tipping.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—Mr John Hare and his London company are here this week with *Little Mary*. It has drawn good audiences, who have probably been attracted by the advance press notices regarding the "secret" of the play. Much enjoyment has been provided, and rippling laughter has followed the smart dialogue and humorous situations. Mr John Hare, whose name is a household word in the theatrical world of Liverpool, was the Earl of Carlton; Miss Hilda Trevelyn, a clever young actress, the Moira Lovey; and others worthy of mention were Miss Helen Rous, Miss Kathleen Gordon-Lee, Miss Beatrice Kelston, Mr Carter Pickford, Mr Rudge Harding, Mr Eric Maturin, and Mr Fred Grove. There was a curtain-raiser, *'Op o' me Thumb*.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and General Manager, Mr J. H. French; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Beltram.—Mr Thomas Thorne and his company have this week presented here *Our Boys*, which has been very cordially appreciated. As Middlewick Mr Thorne was as humorous as of yore. Mr M. Russell Rosse was the Sir Geoffrey Champneys; the "boys" were undertaken by Messrs Wilfred E. Brandon and C. Otter Hind; Miss Celestine Brandon was Mary Melrose; Miss Ethel Verne the heiress; and Miss Lucie Evelyn the Clarissa Champneys. A comedietta, *A Silent Woman*, preceded *Our Boys*.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—*The Face at the Window* has been the strong attraction here this week. Although the work has been given in Liverpool very frequently, it still attracts attention, and the popular Northend playhouse has been well patronised. The company responsible for the production is that of Messrs Armadale and Warren, which includes Mr E. Hoggan Armadale, who has played The Wolf for over 1,500 nights. The work is replete with sensationalism, which appeared to be thoroughly enjoyed. In addition to Mr Armadale the company comprised Miss Marie Florence as the Banker's Daughter, Miss Jeannie Dempster as Le Pinau, Queen of the Rogues' Retreat, and Mr T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet, an enterprising detective.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—The programme here includes Miss Robina Casselli and her Mexican dogs, who perform various acrobatic feats; Billy Williams, Australian comedian, has made a decided hit; Jules Keller, an acrobat who does all his work on his hands, is well applauded; Brothers Lavelle, comedy acrobats, are good; Frank Coyne's songs are always well worth listening to; the Wedburns are amusing with some new patter; Miss Sadie Simpson has a good coon song; the Northern Troupe are fine exponents of Scotch and Irish dances; and Virto, with his daughters, Irene and Venita, are excellent in their musical act.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—"House full" has been shown here each evening. On Monday night especially the Star would have needed double its present holding capacity to accommodate all who applied for admission. The great attraction is *A Girl's Cross Roads*, played by an able company sent by Mr Walter Melville, the author of the successful work. Mr Edwin J. Wilde presented a fine character sketch of the old agriculturalist from the country; a manly type of hero, Jack Livingstone, was offered by Mr Wingold Lawrence; while Mr David Barone was a lively stableman and Miss Emily Custance the humorous housemaid. These two last-named artistes acquitted themselves with credit in the comedy parts. Miss Violet Barton-Astor presented a pitiful picture of a distressed schoolmistress battling with poverty; the gay farmer's daughter, tired of the hollowness of London life, found in Miss Octavia Noel a capable exponent, and Miss Beatrice Homer proved powerful as Barbara Wade. The scenic effects were good.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—*A Priest of the Temple*, presented here this week, has been well received. Mr Charles March, the author, acts the part of Valerius Herdonius, the priest, with dramatic skill, and is supported by a capable company. Miss Marie North impersonates with satisfaction a Roman lady named Præstantia, with whom Valerius falls in love; and a strong character is that of Decus Fronto, the chief priest, played by Mr Ronald Bayne. Credit is also due to Miss Evelyn Hope, who invested her part with naturalness. Mr Henry Moxon was a fine Tiberian chief. Some excellent incidental music, composed by Mr March, added to the interest of the play.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—George Lashwood is in big type here this week. He brings with him several new songs, and in response to the many demands for encores revived one or two old favourites. He was given a cordial reception. Chung Ling Soo, the Chinese conjuror, remains another week to bewilder people, who watch his remarkably neat movements with breathless interest. The St. James Quintet of vocalists and glee singers are a musical treat; a laughable turn is that of Fred Ginnett, with his *Rejected Remounts* sketch; the Brothers De Wynne show themselves to be athletes of refinement and ability; the Three Sisters Chester give a popular entertainment as vocalists, instrumentalists, and dancers; the Bros. Damm as eccentric acrobats cause considerable merriment; and included in the long list of artists are Dan Thomas, comedian; Professor Berner, king of marionettes; the Mannings, with their amusing sketch, *A Hotel Boots*; Rita and Roma, vaudevilles; Cassie Walmer, the dusky princess; Woodhouse and Wells, comedians; and the Venola Brothers, comedy gymnasts.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—A return visit of Houdini has aroused a deal of interest here. On the last occasion when he visited Liverpool his name became prominent by reason of the fact that the Head Constable of Liverpool gave him a testimonial for freeing himself from one of the local prisons. His remarkable quickness and skill in releasing himself from all manner of handcuffs and other manacles met with warm appreciation. De Biere provides an excellent turn with his exceptionally clever exposition of legerdemain; Algie and Reggie cause laughter in plenty as eccentric musicians; as does also H. A Zetto, with his smart comic juggling. A neat exhibition of gymnastics is given by the Freydos, the Waltons present an interesting turn as Chinese equilibrists, and others in the programme are Tom W. Royal, an accomplished clog dancer and comedian; Mariott Edgar, comedian; and Russell Wallet, who gives an acceptable society entertainment.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—*Muldoon's Picnic* is here this week, as fresh as ever. Uproarious laughter follows the antics of Mr James M'Grath as Mulcahy, Mr G. Casey as Muldoon, and Mr Tom Coyne as the original Mrs Muldoon. Others in the cast are Mat M'Cormack, F. Maitland, T. Sullivan, and Grace Burns. Another "handcuff king" in the person of Villroe gives an exhibition of releasing himself from manacles; Dan Karnell as a patter vocalist is amusing; Rosie Somers is a dainty comedienne; and Halsey and Bowers are smart comedians and dancers.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—A capital bill is submitted here this week. At the head are the Verners, with their "tea-cup track," in which some wonderful bicycle riding is accomplished. The exhibition is received with much applause. The Hayes Brothers, comedy cross-talkers and dancers, are a capital turn; O'Connor and Traynor give a humorous entertainment with their burlesque boxing; Miss Millie Howell sings sweetly; Campkin, the original tramp cyclist, is exceedingly funny; and the three Sisters Lee go through a refined entertainment. Some excellent new pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—The Danbys are principals here this week. As eccentric comedians and dancers they display considerable ability, while their quaint antics and funny patter cause much amusement. The Lulaine Darrell Troupe of Roman ring artistes provide an original performance, and are loudly applauded; the Dunvilles present a laughable comedy musical act entitled *Mansion Domestics*; Arthur Elvey sings some rollicking songs which are much appreciated; and Grace Compton is an acceptable burlesque actress. A feature of the evening's entertainment is the exhibition of snapshots of people taken in the main streets of the district. These are thrown on the screen, and the sum of five shillings is given to anyone who recognises his or her photo.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—Miss Hetty King, "the society gem," is foremost here this week, and renders several capital songs; Harry Taft, the American whistler, is a good turn; Mabel Thorne, a favourite, brings several of her successful songs; Francisco is an expert juggler; May Moodie plays the piccolo with exceptional cleverness; the Bros. Stanley are smart character comedians; and Mr Arthur Beecham treats his audience to several amusing ditties.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—A well-filled bill is offered here this week. At the top we have the Two Eltons, who keep the house in a roar with their eccentric knockabout business on the horizontal bars; Fredo commands attention with his clever illusions, and is honoured with warm applause; the Darrell Trio of musicians are a neat turn, Miss May Darrell being especially skilful with the banjo; Flo Everette's canine pets give a smart performance, introducing somersaults, serpentine dances, &c.; Nancy Renshaw proves an able Negro comedienne and bone soloist; Norman Russell displays uncommon powers as a mimic; and others in the bill are Ada Searle, the Salford singing mill girl; the Ver-vains, whistlers, vocalists, and speciality dancers; George Edney, light comedy comedian; and the Marblesque Trio.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—Under the able direction of Mr Charles Harman, *In Old Kentucky* is being given here with much success by Mr J. F. Elliston's company. Mr George F. Steel as Frank Harley is most successful. Miss Amy F. Hermann as the heroine, Madge Brierley, is most charming, playing throughout the piece with the greatest energy. Colonel Beauchamp is most excellently portrayed by Mr Alfred S. Bankes, Mr Eric Hudson as Jasper Grafton does very well, Miss Beatrice Shirley and Miss Mary Clithson are both very good as Mrs Van Astor and Barbara Grafton, and Miss Edith Halford as Alethea Harley is also capital. As Neb Mr Harry Leander is very good with a clever speciality, and so is Mr Jimmie James in banjo and bone solos. The piece is lavishly mounted, and there are three race horses introduced.

LUTON.

GRAND.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. Graham Falcon; Assistant-Manager, Mr Louis J. Beard.—Miss Fortescue, supported by an excellent company, opened here on Monday with *Moths*. Miss Fortescue met with well-merited applause for a successful rendering of Fuchsia Leach; Prince Zouroff had an able interpretation at the hands of Mr Conway Wingfield; as Lord Jura Mr Dalziel Heron was good; and the same may be said of Mr Francis Burdett as the Duke of Mull. Miss Madeline Meredith did exceedingly well as Lady Dolly; Miss Marian Lewes scored as the Duchess De Sonnaz; Mr Cecil Newton was an acceptable Corrèze; and Miss Eugenie Vernie did well as the Princess Nadine. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon Miss Gladys Jesson for her portrayal of Vere Herbert, a part she played with great pathos. On Tuesday *The School for Scandal* was presented, and on Wednesday *She Stoops to Conquer*. On Thursday Mr John Wainwright commenced a three nights' visit in *It's Never Too Late to Mend*.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—On Monday Mr and Mrs William Maclaren presented the romantic costume drama *Proof*. Mr William Maclaren acts with considerable ability as Pierre Lorance; Mr Ardene Linden presents with a good deal of humour the part of Chamboran; Mr Arthur Wareing as Victor and Mr Kingsford Pearce as Duke D'Aubeterre give useful impersonations; Miss Lily C. Bandmann is as usual quite successful as Valentine; and Adrienne has a capital representative in Miss Gertrude Evans. Mrs S. Hays appears with credit as Madame Deprets; Miss Wynne Hanley makes a pleasing Duchess D'Aubeterre; and Mr Richard Fulton is effective as the Count De Laval. On Wednesday the company appeared in *David Garrick*.

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr G. Gude; General Manager, Mr Arthur Alston.—Pulo, the marvellous boy juggler, heads the bill this week, and thoroughly earns the unstinted applause accorded him. Carl Osmond, the tramp lightning cartoonist, contributes a clever turn, his quiet, but effective, by-play adding greatly to the value of his appearance. Miss Marie Lawrence, who has a quaint method, is redemanded; and Miss Lily Martell follows her songs with some very graceful dancing. Mr James May does eccentric dancing and hat spinning. Mr Charles Ellis is a good character impersonator, and another performer, under the names of Facio and Major Clark, makes two interesting appearances as chapeaugraphist and ventriloquist.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—Mrs Madeleine Lucette Ryley's play, *Mice and Men*, was given here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings by a company headed by Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott. It is some time since Mr Forbes Robertson favoured Manchester with a visit, and the appreciation of very large audiences goes to show how welcome he is. Mrs Ryley's play is a capital vehicle for the exploitation of Mr Robertson's gift of sentiment, which is fragrant, unexaggerated, and pathetic, his rendering of Mark Embury being, in fact, a masterpiece of emotional characterisation, marked by artistic self-restraint. Miss Gertrude Elliott intensifies the pathos of the situation by her charming personality as Peggy, and Mr Frank Gillmore as Captain George Lovell achieves a success commensurate with the interest and importance of the rôle. Good parts also are in the hands of Mr George Sumner (Roger Goodlake), Miss Auriol Lee (Joanna Goodlake), Miss Ada Mellon (Mrs Deborah), and Mr J. H. Ryley (Kit Barniger), all of whom acquit themselves with vigour and distinction. The programme for the remaining half of the week is *The Light that Failed* and the "Booing" scene from *The Man of the World*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Whimsicality and wit are abundant in Mr W. S. Gilbert's "domestic pantomime" *The Fairy's Dilemma*, which was presented to a Manchester audience for the first time at this theatre on Monday. The chief honours of the performance were well earned by Mr C. Herbert Hewetson as the Demon Alcohol, Mr Charles V. France as Sir Trevor, Mr Frank Stanmore as the Rev. Parfitt, Miss Elsie Cooke as the Fairy Rosebud, and Mr Frank Collins as Mr Justice Whortle, ample assistance being rendered by Miss Ada Homer as Lady Angela and Miss Gertrude Hope as Clarissa. A very funny ballet in the old style is included. The piece is preceded by a comic adventure of a burglar, under the title of *The Adventure of Nat Sturge*.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mr Frederick Melville's drama, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, is the attraction here this week, after a successful week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company are here this week in a farewell visit of the evergreen comedy, *The Private Secretary*. A good house on Monday enjoyed the piece as heartily as if it had been new, thanks chiefly to the excellent humour of Mr Geoffrey Guise as the Rev. Robert Spalding, and Mr. W. Hargreaves as Mr Cattermole. Miss Dora Gray as Edith is prominent among the remainder of an exceedingly capable cast. The comedy is preceded by John B. Buckstone's one-act piece, *Good For Nothing*.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A capital programme, as usual, is offered here this week, including the well-known negro-patter comedian, Sam Redfern, and the Five Bogannys, a troupe of clever acrobatic bakers. Other interest and amusing turns are Clifton and Gibson, eccentric comedians; Linton, acrobatic tight-rope artiste; the Three Victorias, vocalists and dancers; Marie Winsome, a very pleasing male impersonator; Winnie Scott, soubrette and dancer; Jack Hylton, eccentric comedian; Three Sisters Anderson, in an equilibristric act; Tell and Tell, comedy acrobats; and Jimmy Shaw, a local juvenile vocalist.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs Garside, Knowles, and Ludlow's company are here this week in an interesting and sensational drama, *The London Fireman*, by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest. A good house enjoyed it on the opening night. The principal parts are in the hands of Mr J. Forbes Knowles, Mr Edward L. Garside, Mr Charles Preece, Miss Mona Gray, and Miss Nellie Garside, and these capable performers are well assisted by the remaining members of the cast. The play is very well staged.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—The boards are occupied here this week by an interesting and exciting romantic play entitled *The Edge of the Storm*, excellently performed by Mr Leon M. Lion and capable company. Mr Henry Renouf as Jim Poulett plays with fine distinction, while a careful character study is given by Mr Leon M. Lion as Mootooswami, Poulett's faithful servant, and some amusement is caused by the capital impersonation of Mr Alan Borthwick as the pompous Major De Trafford. Miss Jean Sterling M'Kinlay as Szantes Lita is particularly good, and praise should be accorded Miss Ada Marius for a somewhat difficult part. Others who render excellent service are Messrs Frederick Annerley, Julius Hagen, Louis Palgrave, Lynward Grahame, Arthur Fitzgerald, and Gerald Malvern; and the Misses Nannie Hume, Maud M. Magrath, and Minna Renouf. The play is admirably staged and the scenery most effective.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A strong turn here this week is that of the Imperial Russian Troupe of national singers and dancers, who are deservedly well applauded. Will Hebden, comedian, appears in his latest successes; Goliath and Walford give an exceptionally smart turn in feats of strength; much laughter is caused by the patter and eccentric dancing of Avon and Crest; and the Brothers Wynford are exceedingly clever barrel-jumpers; Winona and King execute some astounding shooting from a swinging trapeze; and the Paulastos are seen to advantage as head-balancers and acrobats, in their act, "Frolics in the Café Garden." Other interesting turns are J. P. Carroll, tambourine expert; Len Lever, coon artiste and sand-dancer; Sisters Neilson, duettists and dancers; George Foster, eccentric comedian: and the Hippodrome pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Miss Dinah Morris and her troupe of American artistes are the principal attraction this week, and are exceedingly well received. The Famous Schaffers offer an exhibition of amazing strength; and Dwight and Son contribute some farmyard imitations and really smart dancing. Martin Conway, comedian, "walks round" in an amusing way; Harry Grey, the "Australian Nugget," adds to the fun; and the Sisters Sivado give a clever cycling act. The knockabout performance of Robins and Collier, in their sketch *The Photographer and the Lady* is amusing; and other enjoyable items are Alex M'Nulty, a pleasing juvenile vocalist; Frank Staley, actor-vocalist; Andrews and Thompson, comedians; and the animated pictures.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Julie Mackay, the famous American comedienne, tops the bill here this week, and meets with a hearty reception. Well received also are J. W. Rowley, a favourite comedian in Manchester, and George French, an eccentric comedian, whose methods create endless amusement; Ella Dean, descriptive vocalist, sings well; the Redferns (Ruble and Elsie) provide a delightful musical turn; and Thomas Delaney, baritone, is heard to advantage. Others who contribute are Ariel and Astarte, clever gymnasts; Clo Lavinia, burlesque artist; and the Sisters Le Roy, duettists and dancers.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—The principal attraction here this week is Miss Minnie Hunt and Mr Rhys Thomas in a capital new musical duologue, entitled *Her Birthday*, which is enthusiastically received nightly. The dialogue is smart, and Miss Hunt's rendering of a Spanish love song is excellent; whilst the duet with Mr Thomas is delightful. Blanchard, Lister, and Rooker are extraordinary comedy contortionists; Arthur Boyne is funny in songs and eccentric tumbling; Maud Clifton sings the new popular ballad, "Goodbye, my Bluebell," in charming style; Gus Harris pleads for Jew as well as Gentile in a descriptive song; Felton and Manley appear in a novel athletic sketch, *A Rural Relative*; Little Barney, the comedian from Scotland, creates roars of laughter with his Gaelic song and dance when attired in kilts; Nellie and Nora present a refined musical act; Wills and August gain great applause with their neat and clever juggling act, combined with their comical plate-smashing assistant; and a series of excellent pictures complete.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—An excellent programme is provided here this week, the principal attraction being the inimitable Scotch comedian Harry Lauder, whose amusing songs and patter keep the house in roars of merriment. Henri Cazman also is here in his clever and diverting act "Le Café Chantant;" and some expert comedy acrobatics are supplied by the De Courcey Brothers. Stylo gives a clever performance with his "trained" hoops; Mountford and Walsh are seen in a smart speciality duologue; Florence Yayman, an American eccentric comedienne, makes a decided hit with her novel and graceful coon-dancing; Blanche, electrical and quick-change artiste, gives a bright and pleasing performance; and Alma Obrey, comedienne, is very well received in a series of taking songs. Other good turns are Bob Baxter, comedian; Beatrice Bonnie, comedian; and James Grant, comedian. The orchestral selection and the Palace Pictures are, as usual, entertaining.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Collins.—Excellent turns here this week are Jap Kokin, whose juggling is a marvel of dexterity; Max Renard and his well-trained statuary dogs; Carrie Laurie's kindergarten, introducing some remarkably clever children; and the Jees, in their strikingly original musical act. Other good items are the Roman Singers, in a delightful musical scena, *Song, Sense, and Nonsense*, including Lindon Wyatt, who is a host in himself; Boyd and Gilfain, in a vocal and bagpipe performance; and the Three Laurels, in a speciality of the ping-pong tables. Cruikshank is a highly amusing entertainer; Lilian Lowe, vocalist, sings well; May Milburn is a pleasing comedienne and dancer; and Alexander, the great trick cyclist, goes through a clever performance.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business-Manager, Mr Charles E. Hardy.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company has been appearing here with *The Heart of a Hero*. The drama is staged with great picturesqueness. Mr Fred W. Goddard carries off chief honours as Jem Resdale; Mr Charles E. Johnson, in the role of Wilfred Marl, is particularly effective; and Mr A. B. Mackay gives a capital representation of Mark Marl. Mr Harry Dunning acts very creditably as Jack Collinson, and Mr J. Harold makes a satisfactory Henry Barker. Mr Eric Forth easily makes himself a favourite as Dave Pritchard, and Mr Allen Carruthers is the pivot on which all the fun turns as Timothy Heighno. The fund of humour is added to by Miss Ida Mackay, who makes a very pert Susie Slack. Miss Cissie St. Elmo plays Nell Resdale with much pathos and effect, and Miss Lily Langley is a sweet and winsome May Ryder. Miss Beatrice Hudson is impressive as Mrs Ryder, and the other characters are all in safe hands.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Miss Madge Girdlestone and her company have been here with *The City of Millions*. Mr Martin Sabine plays with requisite force as Captain Wilfred Dread. Miss Madge Girdlestone plays with apt discrimination as Rosa De Valois. Miss Agnes Verity employs winning freshness as Jessie Townsend, and Mr Vernon Sansbury, in the character of the much-wronged hero, John Stacey, contributes a manly and earnest delineation. Mr Grahame Herrington makes a most amusing Benjamin Boodle, and some good comedy is provided by Mr Sam Wilkinson as Westwood and Mr Claremont Gaskell as Joseph Smudgeley. Miss Gladys Vernon is very vivacious as Kitty Taylor, and Miss Maud Stewart does well as Timothy. The remaining parts are all well filled.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—*The God of War*, presented by Mr J. Rice Cassidy and company, is revisiting here this week. Mr Cassidy is highly amusing in his impersonation of Dan Donovan, and is ably supported by Miss Lillian Clare, who gives a delightful portrayal of Dolly Daly. Other prominent parts are played by Mr Frank Orchard as Rega Alvado, Mr Norman Walletts as Señor Armado, Mr Stephen Crossley as Carlos Armando, Mr Frederick Biron as Raspa Cortes, Mr Frank Copeland as Lord Beamer, Mr Norman Hall as Doctor Roderigo, Miss Ada Roscoe as Señora Alvado, and Miss Florence Halton as Madeline Alvado.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—This week we are favoured with a return visit from Mr and Mrs Chalmers Mackey's company in *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr Chalmers Mackey's representation of Barney O'Hea does not suffer by repetition; Miss Nellie De Lacy depicts the part of Norah M'Grath with good effect; Mr Reginald Garland is effective as Shamus M'Dermott; and Mr Conway Hastings does well as Connor Martin. Mr H. Sainsbury plays well as Sir George Courtenay, and Mr W. Payne is satisfactory as Michael Kenny. Mr Henry Danson as Gerald Courtenay, Mr James Neville as Sergt. Yorke, Miss Bessie Carlyle as Edith Anstruther, and Miss Mona Russell as Gladys Anstruther are all well placed. The part of Biddy M'Ginn is in the capable hands of Miss Lalla Stanhope, and her singing and dancing bring down the house.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr Geo. Burton's variety company is the attraction here this week. The star turns are Miss Flo Hilton, a delightful male impersonator, and Hanco, the handcuff king, who gives a wonderful exhibition. Other turns are the Four Kays, sketch artists; Tom Johnstone, actor vocalist; Sisters Hula, vocalists and dancers; Miss Daisy Belfrey, comedienne; Herbert Betts, comedian; Gillen, ventriloquist; and Kan and Kooney, comedians and patterers.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Middlesbrough Theatres, Limited; Managing-Directors, Messrs Geo. and Charles Imeson.—At the Royal this week Mr Louis Calvert and company are occupying the boards with *Sunday*. Miss Nita Faydon takes the leading part with unqualified success, enacting it with womanly grace. Mr Edward Pearce gives an excellent portrayal of Colonel Brinthorpe, and the "boys," Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky, are finely presented by Mr Frederick Powell, Mr John Manley, Mr Norman Walter, and Mr Whitford Kane respectively. As a Nun Miss Olive Adair is charming, and great praise is due to Miss Elizabeth Watson for her portrayal of Mrs Naresby.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and General Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—A welcome return of *My Lady Molly* is attracting large numbers here. The excellent company is under the able management of Mr Frederick Mouillot, whose courteous acting-manager is Mr Harry Lindsay. Miss Decima Moore is charmingly captivating as Alice Coverdale, her acting and singing meeting with unqualified approval. In the title-rôle Miss Beatrice Edwards is thoroughly successful. Mr Ernest Morgan as Lionel Bland is deserving of considerable praise, as is also the Captain Romney of Mr Harry Davies. Mr John T. M'Callum in the part of Mickey O'Dowd creates much laughter. The other characters are in very able hands. The chorus is tuneful and well balanced, and the scenery and dresses are pretty.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—This week George Gilbey, comedian, meets with an enthusiastic reception. Burnetti, musician, gives a pleasing turn. Another clever turn is that of Mons. O'Gust, clown, imitator of animals and instruments. Miss Alma Gray is a pretty dancer, and Harry Pleon, in a sketch, *How to Make a Book*, is most amusing. Abel and Welsh, grotesque eccentrics, give a good show, and Johnny Alexander and company, in *Our Lodger*, are as successful as on previous visits to Teeside. Alec Kennedy sings some capital songs, and some good films are shown on the "Bio."

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm Ainsworth.—Heeley and Meeley, acrobats, head the bill here in some really clever feats; the Wallys are smart jugglers; J. H. Hawtrey sings some good songs; Miss Mary Weatherly and Frank Ellin, duettists, come in for a good meed of applause; the Brooklands are dainty dancers; the Keith and Imerson Troupe give an acceptable acrobatic show; and equally clever as acrobats are the Donatos. Mdlle. De Rose, the lady baritone vocalist, meets with a cordial reception.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—Mr Tom B. Davis's company is presenting *Florodora* here for the fourth time with renewed success. Mr Daley Cooper is again the clever exponent of Tweedlepunch, this being his third visit here in the part. Miss Leonora Grieve is excellently suited both personally and vocally in the part of Dolores. Miss Daisy Byford is a dainty and sweet Angela Gilfain; Miss Rene Steadman is well placed as Lady Holyrood; Mr Charles J. Barber plays admirably as Cyrus W. Gilfain; Mr Cyril Dane acts and sings well in the part of Frank Abercoed; Mr Derrick Knowles as Captain Arthur Donegal and Mr Lionel Williams as Leandro make the best of their opportunities. The chorus is highly effective.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—Mr John Lawson is producing alternately his episodes *Humanity* and *Sally in Our Alley*. The remainder of the amusements are furnished by Conan and Doyle, comedians; Will Crowson, swell coon comedian; Craig, Rose, and Craig, dental athletes; Will Bacchus, actor vocalist; Ray and Mills, the curious couple; Cissy Conyers, ballad vocalist; and R. C. Note, comedian.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry are this week giving playgoers the opportunity of seeing their latest production, *Sunday*. Miss Neilson's treatment of the part of Sunday is delightfully sweet and simple; the Colonel Brinthorpe of Mr Terry strikingly marks his versatility; the part of Tom Oxley is assumed by Mr J. D. Beveridge with the happiest results; the four backwoodsmen are excellently portrayed by Messrs Rothbury Evans, J. Carter-Edwards, Horace Hodges, and Alfred Kendrick; Mr Malcolm Cherry is sufficiently villainous as Arthur Brinthorpe; Miss Adeline Bourne makes a quiet and dignified Nun; and Miss Bella Pateman contributes a graceful embodiment of Mrs Naresby.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Chas. P. Cooke.—The ever-popular opera company of Mr F. S. Gilbert occupies the boards this week with a round of favourite operas. *Maritana* was staged on Monday. Mr Gilbert repeated his successes of former visits as Don Cæsar, singing with all his accustomed verve and charm. Miss Marie D'Alcourt essayed the title-rôle, giving it an attractiveness, and vocalising with skill and spirit. Miss C. Waldron as Lazarillo made a good impression, and Mr H. G. Place was highly effective as the King of Spain. *Il Trovatore* on Tuesday night introduced Miss Constance St. Bride as Leonora, a part in which her cultivated voice shone. Miss Vera Vezard enacted the Gipsy with commendable energy; and good work was done by Mr Albert German, Count Di Luna; and Mr J. Wheelan, Ruiz. Other operas given during the week were *Faust*, *Satanella*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—In *The Best Must Win* Messrs Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin have a play that contains many thrilling incidents. Mr Robert Watson presents a capable and vigorous performance of Paul Dumaresq, and Mr Fred Aldworth carefully enacts the old blind soldier. A thoroughly callous and despicable villain is seen in Mr Charles Draycott's embodiment of the Marquis De Marcel, and he is well supported by Mr O. J. Round as Minos. Miss Lilian Watson Loyde pathetically impersonates Denise Dumaresq, and Miss Ethel Vinroy puts dramatic feeling into the part of Lucille. The comedy element is furnished by Miss Maud Elliston (Suzette) and Mr Harry Harrop (Jacques Courcel).

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—Horace Goldin's tricks of magic are far and away the best ever shown on this stage. An exceedingly clever ventriloquist is heard in Tom Edwards; the songs of Ernest Shand meet with a rousing reception; Nina Martino has a sweet and highly cultured voice; the comical antics of the Harvey Boys produce a fund of laughter; and another eccentric turn is provided by the Bros. Ethairien. The Ohms introduce a small circus performance with their dogs, bears, monkeys, and ponies, and a high standard of intelligence is shown by the different animals. Miss Maud Mortimer's descriptive songs are well received, and Andy Burn

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—For the past week or two we have had a succession of the latest musical plays, and the number was added to on Monday when Mr Wm. Greet's company appeared in *The Earl and the Girl*, a production which has all the advantages that charming dresses and bright scenic accessories can afford. Mr Wm. Stephens as Jim Cheese, the dog trainer, who finds himself in strange and exalted surroundings, keeps the fun going by his humorous performance. Mr Percy Carr displays smartness in his songs and acting as Dick Wargrave. The Hon. Crewe Boodle is capably presented by Mr Bertie White. Mr Wm. Walshe as A. Bunker Bliss, Mr Will Hindson as Downham, and Mr J. C. Graves as Mr Talk realise these parts in good style, and Mr Tom Redmond as Mine Host of the Fallowfield Arms does well. A particularly charming representative of Elphin Haye is found in Miss Aimee Grey, whose song "Sammy" is repeatedly encored. Miss Dot Carey as 'Liza Sholdam is very happy and natural in her treatment of the part, and the strong lady, Mrs Shimmering Black, is suitably embodied by Miss Gladys Fontaine. Miss Florence Imeson is a pleasing Daisy Fallowfield, and Miss Helen Langton as Miss Virginia Bliss sustains the part well.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—Miss Lena Ashwell and company are appearing here in *Marguerite*, an adaptation of the play *La Montansier*. It is a somewhat sketchy and inconclusive piece. Miss Ashwell sustains the part of Marguerite, and although the rôle is not calculated to display her talents to the full, she acts gracefully and with power, and at every phase invests her impersonation with the right feeling. Mr Frank Mills as Neuville submits a forcible and spirited impersonation; while the Marquis De Pommeuse has an earnest exponent in Mr Thomas Holding. Mr Charles Groves as St. Phar thoroughly enters into the spirit of the part; and an enjoyable performance is that of Mr Harry Halley as Barelle. Mr G. Drayton as Nicolet, Mr L. Race Dunrobin as Berton, and Mr Charles A. Doran as Citizen St. Juste are seen to advantage. Among the ladies Miss Marie Hudspeth as Madame Brunet and Miss Sydney Fairbrother as Mdlle. Senedar give praiseworthy impersonations. At the matinée performance to-day (Saturday) *Mrs Dane's Defence* is down for production.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—The sporting drama *Rogues of the Turf* is being presented here by a company under the personal direction of Mr George R. Montford. The appearance of a stud of racehorses adds realism to certain scenes. The designing Marion has a capital exponent in Miss Gertrude Godart. The leading "rogue" is Captain Clinton, which is effectively impersonated by Mr G. R. Montford, and one of his tools is Moses Solomon, portrayed in amusing fashion by Mr H. H. Rignold. Mr Harry Phillips succeeds in bringing out the worthy qualities of the trainer, Joe Flaxman, and his daughter, Nellie, has a graceful and sympathetic representative in Miss Hilda Shirley. Amusement is derived from the performances of Miss Mabelle F. Barlow as Phyllis Warzell and Mr H. Benson as Sam Flaxman. Mr Ernest R. Allen is a spirited Arthur Somerton.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Crowded houses are to be noted here, where Vesta Tilley, the Newcastle idol, is fulfilling another most successful engagement. Spick and span, as usual, in what may be termed "creations" in the way of masculine apparel, and looking remarkably well, the talented lady has been singing four or five songs at each performance, including two new ditties in "The Seaside Sultan" and "The Owl," all of which are given in her own inimitable manner, and her reception has been enthusiastic in the extreme. Picturesquely clad as Venetians the Kellinos give a truly wonderful Risley acrobatic performance, their tricks being accomplished with remarkable neatness, ease, and finish. Those extraordinary dancers Espinosa and Neilson remain for another week, and a sensational act is that of the Tom Davies Trio, who race on bicycles around a bottomless track suspended above the stage. Pleasing duettists and dancers in the Cora Sisters are well received, and Ford and Hanson in their musical act introduce some novel features. The Hoopers, in their comedy juggling and hoop-spinning, give a very entertaining turn, and the company is further strengthened by the turns contributed by Juan and M'Que, knockabout comedians; Nello, lady contortionist; Charles Stevens, character vocalist; and Austin and Cowan, pleasing vocal entertainers.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—The Dayton Family occupy the place of honour this week, and their feats as Risley and pedestal acrobats evoke enthusiastic approval; the Violas, the white Mahatmas, give a clever performance, and mystify the audience; a hearty reception is accorded A. F. Dundas in song and patter; and the Ottawas appear successfully in a Canadian musical scena. An enjoyable comedy act is given by the Haldyne Duo, and the Brothers Teviotdale perform various feats of strength. A popular coon vocalist is Louis Kerno, while Grapho and Jackson, comedians, and Bert Kemp, cartoonist, add to the attractions of the programme.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—"Olympians" are finding plenty of excitement in the drama *A Wrecker of Men*, which is performed by Mr C. Watson Mill and company. Risca Mallison is a sort of modern Delilah, and this character is cleverly realised by Miss Rosalind Tate. The burglar, Jim Murley, is depicted with force and excellent effect by Mr C. Watson Mill, who is the author of the drama. Rallton has a good exponent in Mr Sydney Fiennes, and Mr Charles Yorke skilfully enacts the part of the Egyptian, Pharosaphus. Mr Alfred Maurice is quite successful as Guise Strange. Miss Victoria May makes a pleasing Dor's Melville, and as the nondescript, Vavasole Slopper, Miss Kitty Melville appears with credit.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr W. H. Boardman.—A strong all-round company is engaged here for the local race week, the programme being headed by the Ergotti and King Luis Troupe of Risley performers. Their entertainment is on familiar lines, but is exceedingly clever and daring. Austin Rudd, a favourite comedian in this city, is as amusing as ever. The New York Comedy Four introduce much humour into their contributions. Frank Gerald and company play a matrimonial sketch, which contains much that is amusing. The Five Whiteleys, acrobats of ability, are also expert wire walkers and musical performers. Will Godwin scores his usual success as a vocal actor, and Paul Vandy does not belie his name as a clever juggler and trickster. The Boswells' stage circus of ponies, donkeys, and dogs give an interesting show; Lowell and Lowell submit a comic acrobatic turn; and Tray and Rich, black and white artistes, and Cumminger, sand dancer, also appear.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—*Under the Russian Flag* is being played here this week by Mr Walter Howard's company. Especial praise is due to the author. Mr Walter Howard, for his fine presentation of Demetrius; Miss Agnes Howard's Ogarita is a bright piece of comedy; Miss Ellen Snow as Luka shows great force and passion; Miss Ada Champion (Vera Vassiloff) makes a striking heroine; and Mr George Arthur is well adapted to the part of Michael. Mr F. W. Freeman as Ivan and Mr Alfred Bennett as Alexis looked and acted their parts well; and the Peter Poluski of Mr Hal Forde was a rich bit of humour.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—A strong bill here includes Mabel Hind, in her scena, "A Little Japanese," wherein her clever dancing evokes warm recognition; Steve McCarthy, Irish comedian, is somewhat of a novelty; Zarmo is clever as the Juggling Jew; and the Imperial Quartet sing and dance successfully. Lawrence Barclay's racy and original songs are rendered in taking style; Goggin and Davis, in a comedy acrobatic act, perform some clever feats; and Miss Marie Kendall receives quite an ovation. The turn of the Two Maningos is clever and sensational; Dutch Daly keeps the house in roars with his funny stories; and the Four Milons perform feats that are both clever and artistic.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr E. Vivian Edmonds's company is presenting *The Golden Ladder* here this week, which has been cordially received by appreciative audiences. As Lilian Grant Miss Mary Austin is well adapted to the part, and Mr E. Vivian Edmonds shows considerable skill as Michael Severa. Mr Harry Cullenford is good as the Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr J. Milne Taylor acts remarkably well as Mr John Grant; Mr John Owen makes a hit as Samuel Peckaby; Mr G. Winsford fills with dignity the character of M. Peranzi; and Mr J. Rowland makes the most of Jim Dixon. Miss Nellie Graham is a commendable Mrs Peckaby, and Miss Freda Sheldon is pleasing as Mrs Dixon.

BOROUGH THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—Herr Fritz, the famous mystifier, has created quite a sensation here this week; the Sisters Russell, burlesque artists, are clever; and the Du Gros Trio, trampolin acrobats, introduce a smart act. Messrs Tate and Tate, comedy acrobats, are well received; Mr A. Aldridge, tenor vocalist, is popular; Mr Percy Curry, the "candy man," is cordially greeted; and Miss Alice Coventry, comedienne; Mr George Goldburn, comedian; and Mr Oliver Conroy, comedian, also meet with favour.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—Mr Adam Tomlinson, the popular local comedian, is one of the principal attractions here. The O'Malleys, comedians, have also made a great hit, and Messrs Nelson and Thomas, comedians, are received with much favour. Miss Jeannie Evans, comedienne, is well received, and the Shandos, speciality artistes; King Leon, ventriloquist; J. H. M'Cann, skate dancer; the Rushforths, illustrated song artistes; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope are all successful.

NORWICH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—To the regret of all lovers of the legitimate this is the last week this handsome building will be utilised for the presentation of ordinary plays. Next week the proprietors of the Hippodrome open it with their popular variety entertainments. During the week Miss Lilian Dundas and her excellent company, under the direction of Mr Henry Dundas, have presented *East Lynne* to capital audiences. Miss Lilian Dundas as Lady Isabel played with much fervour and enlisted the sympathies of the audience. Mr Henry Dundas as Archibald Carlyle was most successful. Miss Leslie Dane was everything desirable as Barbara Hare, whilst Miss Kathleen O'Connor ably sustained the part of Miss Corney Carlyle. Miss Magdalene Douglas made a capital Joyce, and Miss Marion Ryder as Willie Carlyle and Miss Daisy Cooke as Isabel Carlyle were very interesting. Mr Wilfred Butt was very good as Captain Francis Levison. Mr Harry Barrett as Justice Hare, Mr John Hastings Batson as Lord Mountsevern, and Mr Rowley Hyde as Richard Hare were excellent in their respective parts. The other characters were ably filled and rendered every assistance.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby.—This is the last week of the variety entertainment at this popular place of amusement, and the management deserves praise for the excellent class of entertainment given during the past thirteen months. Messrs Bostock and Fitt next Monday open at the Grand Opera House, and Mr Morgan resumes his position here as lessee with legitimate drama. This week an excellent programme is presented. Fred Karno's company of comedians appear in *Jail Birds*, and cause much laughter; Simons and Simons are amusing and clever musicians; the Brothers Anderson are well received as hand-balancers; Harry Gold, comedian, is a good turn; Edgar Budden is successful as a bone soloist and skate dancer; King and Ross are well received in their dramatic episode *Brother for Brother*; and Edith Courtney is pleasing as a ballad vocalist. The Hippodrome Bioscope is an interesting feature.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—An excellent programme is provided here this week by Mr John Leopold's company, with *Frivolity*. The piece is brought up-to-date, and is thoroughly enjoyable from beginning to end. Besides the Leopold Troupe of acrobats, the lady acrobatic dancers are clever, and greatly assist in the successful songs and dances with Miss Amy Hall, Mr John Leopold, jun., and Mr Bert Lloyd.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr George Edwardes's company is here with *The Toreador*. Mr W. H. Powell, as the dealer in wild animals, met with a cordial welcome; Mr T. W. Volt as the Lieutenant was a decided success; and Mr E. Nainby, Mr Fred Fowler, Mr John Donald, Mr Fred Allendale, and Mr Lionel Victor were successful in their respective delineations. Miss Alice Oppitz, Miss Daisy Stratton, Miss Nellie Bouverie, Miss Bessie Madoz, and Miss Nancy Langtyre were charming in their respective parts.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—An excellent programme is submitted to the numerous patrons of this house this week, Caicedo, the king of the wire, occupying the premier position. His marvellous and daring performance on Monday was greeted with well-merited applause. A. P. Boswell was successful in an exhibition of feats of strength; the Three Cape Girls were excellent as vocalists and dancers; Valvero was responsible for some skilful lightning drawings; Burg, Haud, and Wise were very entertaining in an acrobatic sketch; and Fred Keeton, comedian; Burns and Evans, American comedians; the Bros. Artois, gymnasts; and Percy Fammond, the singing collier, were also well received.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The great attraction here is the Mysterious Lilith, who gives a varied performance whilst in a hypnotic trance. Miss Lilian Warren is very successful in a couple of sweetly sung songs, "A Picture no Artist could Paint," and "I'll be with you," illustrated by lantern slides; Beattie Bloom is a clever comedienne; Wisper, comedy juggler, is successful; and Fred Harcourt, a smart conjuror, astonishes his audiences by his brilliant feats. H. G. Prosper, comedian, is amusing. Raymond's Bioscope has many new pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr Tom B. Davis's company is paying us a first visit with *The Medal and the Maid*. Miss Rita Leonhardt is a captivating Merva Sunningdale; Miss Maude Lake a successful Josephine; Miss Cissie Stephton an insinuating Miss Ventnor; Mr W. Bland is a capital Brigand; and Mrs and Elsie Habbicombe find excellent exponents in the Misses Edith Blanche and Lillie Leroy. Mr Tom Graves scores hugely in his exceedingly quaint and humorous rendering of Levanter; Lord Belton and Allen Blythe find good representatives in Messrs C. Bishop and C. Kingsley; and Mr Tom Fancourt keeps the house in roars of laughter by his genuinely funny Simon Pentweazle.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Mr Henry Eglington's company is fulfilling a week's engagement here with *One of the Family*. As Captain Lightfoot Mr Fred Clifford is bright and robust; as Terry O'Flanagan Mr Henry Eglington is a great success; Mr William Gardiner as Bartlemey Crowe and Mr A. Leslie Martin as Matthias Maggs are both intensely amusing; and Mr Harry Ray does well as Hon. Hubert Berkley. Miss Hylda Denison is graceful as Mrs Seymour, and Miss Hilda Waldorf is winsome as Emily Fanshaw. Miss Madeline Du Val looks charming and sings well as Kate Denny; Miss Dorothy Vernon endows Susan Hopkins with considerable vivacity; and the Geronds, speciality artistes, contribute some effective dances.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—Mr J. W. Cragg's company occupies the boards here this week with the pantomimical absurdity *Laughter Land*. The marvellous Craggs create quite a furore by their comical efforts, and in their more serious work as acrobats and equilibrists they are vociferously applauded for their clever feats. Mr Harry Rousby as Dick Marlow is conspicuous for genuine humour. Mr Henry B. Lewis is a large factor in the success as Professor Sylvanus Wood, and Mr Arthur E. Behan as Squire Topsam, Mr G. Westmacott as Sir Vincent Marlow, Mr Craigie Edwards as Alderman Trentham, and Mr Victor Raymond as Archie are shining lights. Miss Amy Hastings prettily portrays Clarice, Miss Agatha Rose as Clothilda gives a bright representation, and Misses Cissie Dawes, Kitty Lingard, and Maisie Ryder are to be complimented on their singing and dancing.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz. The programme this week includes the names of Brady and Johnson, in their comedy sketch, *Turning the Tables*; Alf. Levarni, in a great wire act; Barney Noble, comedian; the Rozells, comedy bar performers; Golden and Grey, comedy artists; and G. W. Fyvie, Irish comedian and dancer.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Magistrates and Council.—J. M. Hamilton, Scottish tenor, and his company, were the entertainers at this hall on Saturday night. Next to the popular tenor vocalist himself, J. B. Preston, comedian, had a most flattering reception.

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Large audiences are being attracted here this week by variety, which has taken a wonderful hold on local patrons. Larola tops the bill with a funny performance. The ventriloquial powers of Coram are greatly appreciated; the Four Trees are exceptionally clever dancers; the Sisters Aindow contribute a capital musical speciality; and in his descriptive songs Mr Arthur Albert is loudly applauded. The eccentric comedy of Ward and Wylie is interesting; Rose Cabini contributes a series of sweet songs; the Terras Brothers are exceedingly good in their acrobatics; and the orchestra, under the bâton of Mr C. Weldon, discourses excellent selections.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr E. Lockwood's company is drawing full houses here this week with the comic opera *La Poupée*. Mr C. A. Shale's Lancelot and Mr Arthur Reynolds's Hilarius are good, and considerably amuse the audience; Mr Eliot Skinner as Father Maxime is seen to advantage, his fine vocal renderings being much appreciated; Mr Walter H. Page is delightful as old Balthazar; Mr Charles M'Lagan and Mr Fred Walsh are successful exponents of Loremois and Baron Chanterelle; Miss Lillie Leigh is a sympathetic Madame Hilarius; Miss Florence Shaw cleverly impersonates young Henri; Miss Violet Ward and Miss Lillian Pickering are decidedly good as First and Second Dolls respectively, and Miss Midge Clark receives quite an ovation for her excellent rendering of the rôle of Alesia.

CITY HALL.—Prince Bendon, the ventriloquial comedian, gave an excellent entertainment here on the 15th, those contributing towards an enjoyable evening's programme comprising such well-known artists as Mr J. W. Bowie, the Macdonald Troupe, Mr J. H. Macfarlane, Madame J. W. Craigie, and Pete and Minnie Lee; besides Prince Bendon in his ventriloquial and Cinématograph display.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—Mrs Bandmann-Palmer and a specially selected company occupy the boards this week. On Monday *Mary, Queen of Scots*, was successfully played to a large and appreciative audience. In the title-rôle Mrs Bandmann-Palmer displayed great ability; Miss Katharine Herbert merited praise for her fine impersonation of Queen Elizabeth; Mr Sydney Bland showed much capability as Lord Burleigh; Mr F. Skein was remarkably good as the Earl of Leicester; Miss Henthorn gave an effective rendering of Hannah Kennedy; and Mr Edward Trant distinguished himself as Sir Edward Mortimer. *Sapho*, *East Lynne*, *Nell Gwyn*, and *Jane Shore* were to be played during the week.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Mr George Edwardes's company is appearing here this week in *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Miss Evie Greene, an old Portsmouth favourite and a native, is playing the title-rôle. Her impersonation is a most able one, her singing well deserving the hearty applause accorded. Miss Adrienne Augarde is a charming Renée De Saint Mézard. Miss Billie Burke also shows ability as Lisette. Mr Courtice Pounds displays highly diverting humour as Papillon. The Napoleon I. of Mr Holbrook Blinn is a striking personality and an impressive study. Mr Herbert Clayton is an ideal François Lefebvre, and sings excellently. The Vicomte De Bethune of Mr Leonard Mackay is a capital performance.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—A new and original drama, entitled *The Traitor*, is the fare at this house for the week, presented by Messrs E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company. Mr Wellesley Draper in the dual-part of Prince Rudolf and Colonel Nervi is seen to advantage, his acting being of the vigorous order. Mr Stephen E. Scanlan is responsible for the part of the Chief of the Police, the traitor, and doubles as Number One; he acts with commendable and conspicuous success. Miss Theresa Osborne as Lulu, the Avenger, gave a capital and well-sustained portrayal.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The programme submitted here is an excellent all-round one. Fred Karno and company give two sketches a-night, *Mumming Birds* and *Jail Birds*, both being highly diverting. Charles Gardener, eccentric comedian, has some extremely laughable songs and patter. The Lampas, duettists, dancers, and bâton spinners, do a very good turn. Fanny Erris is a pleasing character comedienne. Sable Fern is pleasing, and meets with a good reception. The company includes Rose Cass, soubrette; Three American Idols, vocalists and dancers; and J. H. Macaan, the concertina king.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—Produced this week for the first time in the West of England by Mr C. P. Levilly's clever company, the comic opera *Amorelle* has proved very popular. Much of the success of the opera depends on the part of Dr. Crow, and Mr Eric Thorne makes full use of his many opportunities to provoke laughter. It is a grotesque and diverting performance. Miss Stella Gastelle appears in the title-rôle with striking success, her delicacy, style, and singing eliciting hearty plaudits; Miss Kitty Cavendish is a pleasing exponent of Lesbia; Mr John Doran as Jules, and Mr Newton Ide as Francois ably sustain those characters; and distinction is earned by Mr Robert Fairbanks, the Count; Mr William Griffin, Boissey; and Mr Fred Seymour, Dotard.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—A feast of drama is being provided here this week by a company including Mr F. H. De Quincey and Miss Sime Seruya, who have achieved notable successes in *Richelieu*, *The Red Lamp*, and *Othello*. Both are artists of great ability, and display studious acquaintance with their parts. Capital representations are given also by Mr Balliol Holloway, Mr W. H. Hargreaves, Mr C. Langton, and Mr Montague Lane.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. Carlton.—*A Sister's Sin* holds the boards here this week, Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley's company presenting it very satisfactorily. It is a stirring melodrama, and the cast is a strong one. Mr Arthur Royston as the hero, and Mr Cora Linda, the heroine, revealed considerable talent; and Mr Raymond Thomas and Miss Clara Santley sustained their parts well. Plenty of humour was introduced by Mr Cecil Morand and the Misses Lilian Warren and Edie Macklin. There should be a bright future in store for Miss Renie Douglas and Miss J. Love, two youthful actresses, both of whom exhibited histrionic ability.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr J. Field; Acting-Manager, Mr Carlton.—A judiciously selected programme is attracting big houses here. First and foremost is Miss Alexandra Dagmar, the popular comedienne, whose vocalism and vivacity nightly win for her enthusiastic recalls. Dan Crawley is another favourite, his répertoire including some very amusing songs. In the one-man opera Jake Friedmann is very funny; and Conway and Leland, one-legged acrobats, are clever executants. Rhoda Brothers are skilful equilibrists, and a very entertaining turn is that provided by Starr and Leslie. A laughable trap scene is forthcoming from the Five Bon Bons, and the Maples and Miss Minnie Moran introduce good dancing, the latter also singing in pleasing style.

PONTYPOOL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Poole Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr Stephens.—Bugler Dunne, the boy hero of Colenso, is the chief attraction here this week, and receives each evening an enthusiastic reception. Included in some good variety turns are Miss Queenie Barnes, vocalist, and Herman, a comedian who amuses the audience with his funny patter and his performances on various musical instruments.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—*The Cherry Girl*, presented by Mr C. Lubbock's company, is here this week. Mr Frank Lincoln gives a lively and distinctly successful impersonation of Moonshine. Starlight has a capital representative in Mr Hew Walker. Miss Helen Hart pleasingly embodies Pansy. Mr Albert Fellino merits special commendation for his amusing antics as Esau. The personal charm of Miss Ethel Newman in the rôle of the Queen is remarkable, and her vocalism, acting, and dancing are excellent. The part-songs contributed by the Steinway Quartet are received with enthusiastic applause. Miss Lottie Stone's Four Chameleons do some clever dances.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—Kioto, the Japanese equilibrist, goes through a clever performance here; Edgar and Gaskell are amusing in their musical absurdity, *Temptation*; Bob Gardner, double-voiced vocalist, brings the house down; James M'Nab causes great amusement; the Zaro Troupe are a wonderful party of lightning acrobats; Mollie Doon is a charming songstress; Sara Macanni supplies some good songs; Wat Tyler is an excellent singer; and Oma and Caldron are expert acrobats and tumblers.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—Messrs John A. Atkin and Walter Howe are presenting the domestic drama entitled *A Victim of Villainy*. The rascally conduct of Stephen Cavanagh has a powerful exponent in Mr Sydney Arnold, and the wronged Frank Manton is ably depicted by Mr Walter Howe. Mr Arthur Staples is a comical Tom Leckie; Mr John Wybrett is a good Dr. Lennox; and Mr S. R. Fenton is a capable Patrick Maloney. Miss Mariette Hyde is good as Mary Manton, and Miss Helena Walbran displays much talent as Alice Cavanagh. Miss H. E Russell is interesting as Mrs Leckie, and Miss Connie Meadows is a typical Vera Diamond, a music hall artiste.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE.—Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—*Honour Thy Father*, a drama of strong human interest, played by Mr T. Morton Powell's company, has occupied the boards here. In the rôle of Mercy Merry Mrs Morton Powell appears with admirable effect, and Mr J. W. Evelyn proves himself a capable actor as Gabriel Garth. A similar remark applies to the Jack Halyard of Mr D. B. Watson and the Duncan Bly of Mr E. Hartington. Miss Kate Newton sustains in capital manner the character of Gertrude Garth.

ROYAL VICTORIA PAVILION.—Proprietors, Ramsgate Corporation; Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Herbert Jay; Business Manager, Mr G. B. Richter.—The week-night programme here has been one of considerable merit. A star turn is supplied in the Eugene Family; "Dusty Rhodes," comedian, has caused laughter loud and long by his drolleries; and Billy Tucker, champion ball-puncher, has given evidence of his skill. Turns have also been furnished by George Barrow, eccentric comedian; Jessie Reed, serio and dancer; Frank and Violet Payte, sketch artistes; E. J. Sheldon, character comedian; and Jessie M. Lyons.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—This week Mr J. A. Campbell's company is appearing in *The Sin of her Childhood*. Miss Mary Fulton as Mary Haysel is exceedingly good, and she is ably supported by Mr Charles Fancourt as the Rev. Alan Grey. Mr Hartwell J. Kirby as Captain Thornton also gives an artistic reading, his fine acting being thoroughly enjoyable. As Stephen Haysel Mr Austin Milroy shows exceptional ability as the heavy man, and Miss Jennie Hicks also makes a hit as Maria Haysel. Little Dot Moss sings, dances, and plays the banjo in excellent style, and her items are heartily encored.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—*Little Mary* is paying a visit here this week, J. M. Barrie's uncomfortable play being well presented by Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company. Mr Arthur Holmes Gore as the Earl of Carlton gives a masterly performance, and Miss Christine Silver is successful as Moira Loney. Mr Arthur Kightley as Lord Rolfe, Mr G. Mudie as Sir Jennings Pike, Mr Ean Macdonald as Dr. Topping, and Mr F. J. Watts as Mr Deignton all contribute to the success, as does also Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as Countess of Plumleigh, Miss Evelyn Neilida as Lady Milly, and Miss Faith Reynolds as Eleanor Gray.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*Two Little Vagabonds* occupies the boards here this week. The play maintains its popularity and is capitally staged. Mr Talbot Homewood fills the part of George Thornton with every success. Captain Darville has a clever exponent in Mr Douglas Cecil. Mr Harry B. Major as John Scarth and Mr H. Hesslegrave as Bill Mullins both give entire satisfaction. Miss Freda Ettrick and Miss Violet Carr as Dick and Wally deserve every praise for their embodiments. Miss Elena Lonsdale is effective as Marion Thornton; Miss Edna Eden is all that can be desired as Barbara Scarth; and Miss Eleanor Popera makes the most of Biddy Mullins.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Mr Bert Coote and company are paying a welcome return visit with *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr Ernest Outtrim is a manly Wilson, and Mr Oliver Rogers evokes marked disapproval as Robert Curtis, the villain. Toto is amusing in the capable hands of Mr W. R. Chewd, and Mr John Wheatman is a phlegmatic Peter Schwartz. Mr Jack Waring is also deserving of mention as O'Reilly. Miss Helen Russell is pleasing and emotional as Mabel Wilson, and Miss Doris Gilham is seen to advantage as Cora Williams. Miss Maud Locker is a typical Bridget, and Miss Rosie Dane as Jessie, the little mother, receives well-deserved applause. Misses Gladys Payne, Mary Thompson, and E. Abbott sing and dance with great success, and the trained choir are heard with pleasure.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday Mr William Greet's company presented *The Lady Slavey*. Miss Addie Lennard scored an unqualified success in the title-rôle; Miss Jean Van Dalle and Miss Ethel Ashton as Maude and Beatrice were excellent in their dancing; as Flo Honeydew Miss Millicent Marsden was well suited; Mr Harry Walsh as Major O'Neill was humorous; and Mr Frank Sherlock as Roberts scored a great success. Mr Walter Hybert as Lord Lavender acted and sang agreeably, and Mr Allan Morris as Vincent Evelyn played capitally.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company is here in the drama, entitled *Defending His Honour*. Good work is done by Mr John Davidson as Douglas Bruce and Miss F. Melrose-Millett as Ethel Bryce. As Stephen Graed Mr Clifton Boyne gives a study of exceeding merit; Mr Chas. H. Herbert is equally noticeable as Douglas Duncan; Mr Kenneth Black combines well the investigating and comedy character of Dick Verison; and Mr Willie Black succeeds admirably as the hen-pecked husband, Richard Verison. Mr Thompson Carruthers scores as David Peller; Mrs Edmond Lyons is prominent as Mrs Theresa Verison; Miss Lilian Matthews is acceptable as Trixie Lucien; and Miss F. Elton's Jack Bryce is a very entertaining piece of juvenile work.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—On Monday a large audience witnessed with evident appreciation the various incidents unfolded under the title of *The Drama of Life*, written by Lingford Carson, and presented by Mr Oswald Lingford, general manager for Messrs Carson and Granville. Mr Jerrold Ord is responsible for an excellent study of the sorely-tried hero, Harry Beech; villainy is successfully embodied in the portrayal of Walter Beech by Mr John J. Hooker; Mr Owen Remonde as Sir Dobson Wilde and Miss Muriel Inglis as Lady Jane Wilde furnish plenty of matter for laughter; and Mr Oswald Lingard as John Walsh is also very comical. Good support is afforded by Miss Cissie Bellamy as Sylvia Beech, Miss Marie Murray as little Robert Beech, Miss Nellie Daly as Betty Black, Mr Bulwer Pitt as Jack Lawton; Mr Walter Steele as Richard Brenton, and Mr Edward Bikker as the Count De Foi. The scenery and staging are very good.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—This week's bill is headed by Miss Minni Letta's Sporting Girls, who go through a series of walking races on an electric movable track. Other good turns are provided by Hurman, a clever hoop manipulator and juggler; Will Johnson, comedian; Tom Lloyd, eccentric comedian; Marie Blythe, vocalist; the Lombarts, in a modern gymnastic speciality; Harry M. Stewart, Hebrew comedian; Daisy Martell, comedienne and expert dancer; George Martinengo, baritone, humourist, and 'cellist; and the animated pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—A screaming absurdity, *His Lordship's Birthday*, is given by Fred Southern and company. The vetern stump orator, Billy Richardson, is well received; Rosemont and Clare's Philadelphian vaudeville company (seven in number) do some amusing business; Brothers Llodge give a smart acrobatic exhibition; and roars of laughter accompany George Prince, the crazy comedian. The programme also includes good turns by Primavesi, juggler; George Reeves, with comic songs; Hart and Rudd, comedians and dancers; Florrie Bray, burlesque actress; Will Ellerslie, comedian and mimic; and the animated pictures.

L. AND N. W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—The Danvills, with their songs and living pictures, top this week's programme; and the artistes following them include Joe Hunt, eccentric comedian; George Russell, laughing comedian; and Charles Hughes, comedian.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—A capital and well diversified variety company is in occupation here this week, including Mat Wilson's company in a clever musical olio and mélange entitled "If all the stars were mine." Chris Masters, actor-vocalist; Lee and Arden (Phil and Lily), in a smart little musical comedy sketch, *The Lady and the Watchman*; the Sisters Solari, a talented pair of vocalists and instrumentalists; Tonini, the man of mystery, who performs some marvellous feats of legerdemain; the Freans, drawing-room entertainers, vocalists, and dancers, who have a good stock of patter; Edie Endon, burlesque actress, with acrobatic dances; The Two Countees (Charlie and Marion), humorous duettists; Mdlle. Henriette, who introduces some excellent imitations of various musical instruments; and an amusing farcical comedy entitled *The Registry Office*.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—The clever comedy *Joseph Entangled* is seen here this week. Mr H. B. Warner, in the part of Sir Joseph Lacy, plays with distinction; Hardolph Mayne is cleverly portrayed by Mr Stanley W. Ashworth. The part of Lady Verona Mayne is most realistically presented by Miss Mona K. Oram; and Mr Laurence Grant is seen to great advantage as Jermyn Pyecroft. Mr Henry Arthur

NEW ENGLISH & FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we shall publish from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purposes. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"THE WAXWORKS."
Farcical Comedy, by Frank Wolff,
English Version by Ester Dale.

ACT I.

The scene is laid in the drawing-room of a bijou residence in a fashionable English watering place. Geoffrey and Muriel Scott married from diverse motives—he because he had run through all his money and preferred retrieving his fortune by marriage with a wealthy girl to applying himself to any business or profession, she because she was attracted by the style, dash, and general aplomb of the fashionable man of the world. The experiment has not proved successful, and on this, the eighth anniversary of their wedding day, when they are momentarily expecting the arrival and congratulations of Muriel's parents, Mr and Mrs Bradbury, they are "getting on each other's nerves" to a more than usual degree. Mrs Bradbury is a lady of "views"—mostly unfavourable to "mere man"—and having for some thirty years ruled her unfortunate husband with a rod of iron, she seeks a further victim in her son-in-law, and shortly after her arrival announces her intention of taking him and Muriel to live with them in the country, where Geoffrey may find plenty of "healthy, active occupation." Scott, weary of being reproached for his idle habits, resolves, as a means of escape from home tyranny, to go into business. He consults his friend Paulus, the proprietor of a so-called waxwork show (which is in reality a private club used as a rendezvous by those wishful for a quiet gamble or for a "little chat" of a more or less compromising nature) and, on his advice, decides to pass himself off on his friends and relations as a private detective The news that Geoffrey has at last found something to do is greeted with joy by his wife, who feels herself thus freer to carry on a budding flirtation with a certain Captain Curzon, a man of fiery emotions and uncontrollable impulses. Ignorant of the connection between Paulus and her husband, she agrees to meet Curzon at the waxwork show the following morning. She is just agreeing to this when her friend, Miss Agatha Strong, with her fiancé, the Rev. Ferdinand Meek, areannounced. Flurried at the interruption and the suspicious glances and hints of Agatha, she introduces Curzon to them as her medical adviser—a leading nerve specialist—whereupon Agatha who has been suffering from a slight attack of nerves—or temper—resolves to consult the great doctor. The impressionable Curzon, unable through the jealousy of his wife (whom he represents as a victim of hallucinations) to make a "professional" appointment at his own home, offers to meet Miss Agatha Strong also at Paulus' Waxwork Show] the following morning. In the meantime Mrs Curzon, who has watched her husband enter and leave Mrs Scott's house, decides on warning that lady's husband, and unexpectedly introduces herself to Geoffrey Scott. The latter on hearing her errand at once recognises her as the lady with the hallucinations, but charmed by her handsome presence and the prospect of reaping reward in his new profession, he offers to "shadow" Capt. Curzon and see that his injured wife obtains her revenge. He makes an appointment with her at Paulus' Waxwork Show for the following morning. The Rev. Ferdinand Meek—a disciple of Plato and advocate of a chaste but deathless devotion—forgets the legitimate object of his calm affections and falls head over ears in love with the handsome Mrs Curzon. He mentally resolves to also put in an appearance at Paulus' Waxwork Show the following morning. Whilst the younger members of this topsy-turvy company are thus preparing ingenious complications for themselves and one another, old Mr Bradbury has determined, whilst he is in town, to make at least one bid for freedom, and tries by Geoffrey's aid to concoct a letter summoning him to attend that evening a meeting of the Society of Busy Bees, a society for promoting industry amongst country gentlemen. His wife, however, sees through the ruse—as she sees through most deceptions, innocent or otherwise—and the poor old gentleman's plans for a happy evening are ruthlessly frustrated.

ACT II.

Scene:—Paulus' Waxwork Show—the following morning. A room of studied elegance and comfort is shown, with heavy curtains at back concealing a raised dais. On either side are various entrances to smaller rooms for the use of Herr Paulus' numerous clientèle. Half concealed amidst flower and foliage is a gramaphone, destined to play a very important part in this Comedy of Errors. To this seductive spot come—the following morning—all the various personages of the play, and it is not long before general confusion and misunderstanding reign. The Rev. Ferdinand Meek, driven into a corner to explain his presence in such a very secular atmosphere, seeks to screen his real motive (admiration for Mrs Curzon) by professing a violent attachment to Mrs Bradbury, and the elderley lady, charmed by his flattery, eggs him on to an avowal that he loves her "passionately—madly." The gramaphone, skilfully arranged so as to record conversations of a compromising character, stores up this indiscreet confession for further use. Matters have reached an almost indescribable state of complication—all the characters having got wrongly paired off in the various ante rooms—when the sharp ringing of an electric bell announces the unwelcome arrival of the police upon the scene! At the sound all the various couples rush out from the different ride entrances and midst darkness, confusion, and surprise, they are driven by Paulus on to the raised dais at the back of the stage and there forced to place themselves so as to form a set group. They become, in fact, the waxworks—the only ones that Paulus possesses! The lights go up, a police sergeant enters, accompanied by Mr Bradbury, and with utmost gravity Herr Paulus displays and explains the life-like group. This to to the characters themselves is injury enough, but insult is added when, on Paulus pressing an electric button, the figures—according to instruction—must move! Mrs Scott fervently embraces Captain Curzon before her outraged husband's eyes, whilst he in his turn is made to impress a dutiful kiss upon his sworn foe—Mrs Bradbury! Old Bradbury watches in amazement. Surely the figures are very familiar to him! Can he be mad or drunk? The police sergeant, duly impressed and taken in by the realism of the waxworks, assures him soothingly that this no doubt is the explanation of his delusion, and as the old gentleman sinks bewildered on to the sofa the curtain falls.

ACT. III.

The scene is once more laid in the drawing-room of Scott's house, on the afternoon of the succeeding day. All the characters have passed a most unhappy night, and the afternoon is taken up with mutual recrimination and incrimination. The women seek to gain the upper hand by bitter reproaches on the infidelity of their husbands, only to be in their turn confused and routed by their inability to give any satisfactory explanation of their own presence at the Waxwork Show. The odds do, however, seem to be in the ladies' favour, when, by an unexpected turn of fortune's wheel, their whole cause is ruined. This is effected by the sudden appearance of Paulus upon the scene, armed with the fatal gramaphone! The Rev. Ferdinand Meek is just endeavouring to assuage the wrath of his hysterical fiancée, when, to the bewilderment of all present, Mrs Bradbury's voice is heard saying in shrill gramaphonic accents, "Do you love your little sweetheart, Ferdinand?" and then Meek's voice replying "Passionately! Madly!" The sound of a firm, rapid kiss completes the overwhelming evidence. From that moment, the woman's cause—as led by Mrs Bradbury, is a lost one. Meekly she has to submit to being ordered by her erstwhile submissive spouse to return at once to the country—the pigs and the cabbages—as the temptations of the town are obviously too much for her! Muriel is to accompany her mother in this ignominious return to rural delights, whilst Scott and Bradbury, intoxicated with victory, exuberantly announce their intention of enjoying their freedom to the full, as a proof whereof they dance off arm-in-arm as "free-born Britons to the Waxwork Show," and the curtain falls.

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held, on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

In accordance with annual custom, the chairman, Mr J. WILLIAMS BENN, M.P., delivered his address upon the work of the past year. In opening, he said:—"The London County Council is becoming more and more the guardian—may I say the guardian angel?—of the citizen. It now follows and guards him from the cradle to the grave." The address, which occupied an hour in delivery, dealt with the work of the various committees of the Council.

THEATRES AND MUSIC HALLS COMMITTEE.

Referring to the Theatres and Music Halls Committee he said:—Prevention is proverbially better than cure, and it is hardly possible to overestimate the importance of making our theatres safe. Since the terrible Chicago fire of 1903 the Lord Chamberlain and the Council have properly required all scenery to be treated with a fire-resisting solution, and theatres and music halls to be placed in direct communication with our brigade. The Theatres and Music Halls Committee, presided over by Sir Algernon West, amid much other detail work, made during the year a most exhaustive and useful inspection of forty-three theatres licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. Many of the committee's suggestions have been adopted, and the public may now rest assured of the general safety of London theatres and music halls. The licensing sessions of the year passed smoothly, 336 premises securing licences. I am glad to notice the success of the Council's policy of encouraging the establishment of places of amusement innocent of the temptation of intoxicating drink.

STRAND TO CRYSTAL PALACE.

The chairman also made reference to the Special Committee on Locomotion. On the appointment by the Government of a Royal Commission on Locomotion, the Council at once decided to give evidence and appointed a special committee, of which Mr W. H. Dickinson became chairman. A mass of evidence was presented to the committee. Amongst other matters, "the construction of a new hypothetical north and south street from the Strand to the Crystal Palace, designed for separate slow and quick traffic with tramway subway (or two deep-level tubes) and pipe subways, with the approximate cost for work per mile and the estimate of the probable cost of buying the necessary property, were submitted in evidence, as was also the question of the finances of existing tube railways and of the Underground Electric Railways Company, thus indicating the necessity of having a tribunal to deal with all proposals affecting the county. It is expected that the report of the Commission will be issued at an early date."

MUSIC IN THE PARKS.

Commenting on the work of the Parks and Open Spaces Committee, the chairman remarked:—The citizen seldom seems to grudge money spent on more lungs for London, nor does he object to pay for an innovation made by this Council, viz, municipal music in the parks. Last year we spent £10,000 on over 1,200 performances, and gave delight to myriads of poor people who, but for the Council's bands, would hear very little good music.

A vote of thanks was accorded the chairman, and it was resolved that the address be printed.

INSPECTION.

At the weekly meeting held on Tuesday last, the Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported the expenditure incurred with regard to the inspection of places of public entertainment with reference to the character of the performance, &c., during the quarter ended Sept. 30, 1904, was £6 2s. 4d.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

The committee reported that the Council on March 29, 1904, approved, subject to certain conditions, plans submitted by Mr B. Crewe on behalf of the Lyceum (1903), Limited, showing how it was proposed to reconstruct the existing theatre as a music hall. The plans showed that two fire resisting curtains would be provided to separate the stage from the auditorium, one on each side of the proscenium wall. The directors of the Lyceum Company have now asked that the Council will accept the provision of one fire-resisting curtain. The regulations of the Council at present in force only require the provision of one curtain, and there is not any theatre or music hall where more than one curtain is provided. Moreover, in the recent arbitration proceedings respecting the requirements of the Council with regard to Drury-lane Theatre, the requirement for the provision of a second fire-resisting curtain was disallowed. The question as to whether the advantages of two fire-resisting curtains outweigh the disadvantages sufficiently to justify the Council in making a regulation that in every new theatre two such curtains shall be provided had not been considered by the Council, and the committee did not think that two curtains should be required in any case before such an important question of principle has been decided. The committee recommended "That in the special circumstances of the case, the provision of the second fire-resisting urtain shown on the plans submitted by Mr B Crewe with regard to the Lyceum Theatre, be not insisted upon." Agreed to.

NEW THEATRE, CHARLOTTE-STREET.

The Council, on July 21, 1903, approved drawings submitted by Mr F. T. Verity, of the New Theatre, Charlotte-street, Tottenham-court-road. An amended drawing has since been submitted showing the rearrangement of the seating of the pit and stalls. The committee recommended "That Mr F. T. Verity be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan, dated Oct. 7, 1904, submitted by him with regard to the proposed rearrangement of the seating of the pit and stalls at the new theatre, Charlotte-street, Tottenham-court-road, on condition that the gangway at the back of the pit be widened to 3ft. 6in. throughout." Approved.

THE PARAGON.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Mr A. Parnacott, of a new scene dock proposed to be provided at the Paragon Theatre of Varieties. The drawings showed arrangements for cutting off the scene dock from the stage by a brick wall below the level of the stage, and by a double-thickness wire-woven asbestos fire-resisting screen on an iron frame above that level. The proposals appeared to be unobjectionable, and the committee recommended "That Mr Parnacott be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two plans submitted by him with regard to the proposed new scene dock." Adopted.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.

The committee had considered a drawing submitted by Mr C. E. L. Parkinson, showing an asbestos curtain which it is proposed to fix to the scenery store at the Royal Court Theatre. The arrangements appeared to be satisfactory, and the committee recommended accordingly. Agreed to.

HISTORIC PROVINCIAL PLAYHOUSE.

BY T. H. BARROW.—V.

Two years later John Philip Kemble made his mark in the city as Teribazus, in *Zenobia*, Mrs Mason being in the title-rôle. Defending that lady from the ill-timed jeers of a spiteful woman of good family who was accompanied by some militia officers in a box, he got into hot water; but he stood to his guns, and, flashing looks of defiance at the fashionable party, drove them pale, sick, and enraged from the theatre! The following Saturday Kemble appeared as Douglas in the play *Percy*. Expecting a row in consequence of the previous night's unpleasantness, he filled the theatre with his friends, who put an end to the feud by shouting down his opponents The "revengeful party" interviewed Tate Wilkinson, and it was arranged that Kemble should state his own case before the next audience, whom he completely captivated.

Mrs Jordan became a leading lady on the York circuit in 1782, but she did not remain long. London claimed her, and she transferred her charms

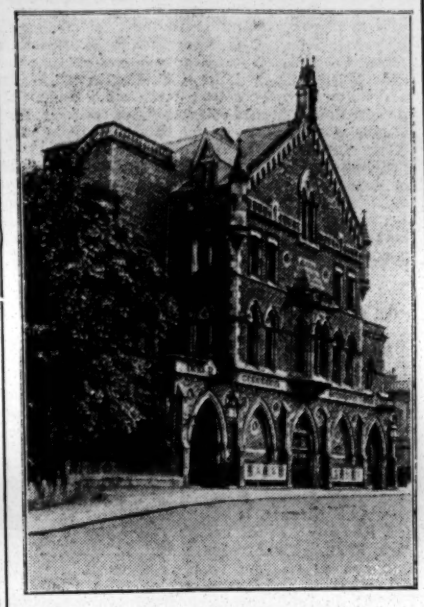

Photo by Debenham and Co., York.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.

and abilities for more valuable prizes than the northern city could afford. In July, 1787, Tate introduced to the public his son, John, aged eighteen years, as Charles, in *The Hypocrite*. Miss Farren, afterwards Countess of Derby, was the Charlotte, and there was a brilliant house. The Prince of Wales, afterwards George III., came to York in 1789 for the autumn races. He patronised the theatre in honour of Miss Farren, when the receipts amounted to £197 10s., a sum at that time not often received out of London.

The year 1791 witnessed several figurative tugs-of-war between the management and the public. Mrs Jordan, who had been engaged for the summer assize week, seems to have been involved, for she did not strive to please, and the audiences were meagre. The week following she positively declined to appear, and Tate was compelled to close the theatre. Mr John Kemble, who had been engaged for the week, was the guest of the Lord Mayor.

One may imagine the managerial responsibilities of Tate, who was not only patentee of the York and Hull theatres, but manager of the playhouses at Pontefract, Wakefield, Beverley, Doncaster, Bradford, and Leeds, and occasionally took his stock company to large towns further north. "He was liberal in the way of salaries," says Mr Benson, "but is said to have compelled his troupe to tramp on foot from one town to another, whilst he preceded them in his carriage; nevertheless they always found that he had provided a bountiful dinner for them on the road." There is something quaint and pathetic about that "nevertheless!" But whatever might have been Tate's treatment of and relations with his company, he raised the character of the drama and imparted to the York theatre a more than county reputation Of those members of the profession who gained experience under his and succeeding managements were Bridge, Frodsham, Jarman, Jordan, Mrs Siddons, Mrs Crawford, Mathews, Mr and Mrs Hitchcock, Fawcett, Emery, Herman Vezin, Cooke, and Kemble.

It should be explained that at the period to which I refer, York had a season all its own. Those were the pre-railway days, when coach-rides to London over desolate wastes and ill-kept roads were irksome, trying to the temper, and occasionally attended with physical danger. Fashion and splendour marked the society assemblages; in fact, in many respects York excelled even Bath and Leamington. Tate thus records his opinion of some of his patrons:—"The ladies of York, without any compliment, have a grace, a manner, a decorum, not often met with out of the metropolis (Bath excepted); for York certainly boasts a pre-eminence when the boxes in public weeks are crowded, that dazzles the eye of a stranger."

Tate Wilkinson's managerial reign at York was very long; it extended over thirty years. As he

Photo by Arthur and Co., York.

THE OLD CRYPT,

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.

grew older he lost much of his vivacity and became morbidly eccentric. Hundreds of good stories of him have gone the rounds. One was told by Mathews, who as a novice went to him in fear and trembling to apply for an engagement. He expected to find him in a gilded chamber ablaze with oriental splendour; he actually unearthed him in a garret, his clothes unbuttoned and unbraced, his hose slipping over his carves, his wig awry, a grotesque figure indeed. The great manager was polishing some buckles presented to him by Garrick. As soon as Mathews had managed to attract his attention, Tate exclaimed, "I never saw anybody so thin to be alive! Why, sir, one hiss would blow you off the stage!" Finally he endeavoured to assure Mathews that he really had no talent for the stage and had better stick to the counter—but engaged him on the spot!

(To be continued.)

"SIR ARTHUR SULLIVAN: HIS LIFE AND MUSIC."

By B. W. FINDON,
London: James Nisbet, 21, Berners-street.

The task of Mr B. W. Findon in writing an account of his friend Sullivan's life and music must have been a labour of love; and the desire to be just to a great reputation is to be discovered in many passages in the book. Indeed the warm friendship of the man is not allowed to obscure the judgment of the critic. When Sullivan died in November, 1900, he was, said the journalists, the greatest English composer of any time; his works, whether serious or comic, had obtained him a European reputation, and as the head of a music-school he was a conspicuous success. As Mr Fuller Maitland has pointed out in an admirable article "We must agree upon what the standard of merit is to be, and it is surely possible that some such definition as this may be generally accepted. The finest music is that in which melodic ideas that are original, expressive, and beautiful, are combined with a treatment perfectly suited to the purpose of the work. From a fugue to a comic song, each form has its own ideal style of treatment, and a man is great in proportion to the frequency with which his creations conform to this ideal. Those who never fall below this standard, whose every work, if not an actual masterpiece, is yet deserving of reverent admiration, are the supremely great writers, and most people would agree that the fingers of one hand would be enough to count all of them that history has yet known. The most corybantic of Sullivan's admirers have not claimed for him a place among these creative geniuses." "Sufficient time has elapsed," says Mr Findon, "to put forward a tolerably accurate narrative of his life and artistic achievement. We are not justified as yet in placing him among that select number who belong to men for all time; to endow him with the reputation of a classic, or to say with any degree of certainty from what standpoint he will be regarded by posterity. In his art we recognise an original personality, a something racy of the soil, which we believe will keep him high above the oblivion that overtakes the mass of mankind." Sullivan, who came of Irish stock, was born on May 13, 1842, at 8, Boswell-terrace, Lambeth. His grandfather, a native of Kerry, after fighting in the Peninsula War, was drafted to assist in guarding the exiled Napoleon in St. Helena. Thomas Sullivan, Sir Arthur's father, was admitted to the Duke of York's School, where his aptitude for music won him the good opinion of the bandmaster. He was engaged at the time of his distinguished son's birth as first clarinettist at the Surrey Theatre. After a course of study at a private boarding school at Bayswater, the boy Arthur was sent to the Rev. Thomas Helmore, and became, in 1854, a chorister at the Chapel Royal, St. James's. Here are the boy's views of his life at the time,

"I always recall my old master, the Rev. Thomas Helmore, with affection and respect. I was greatly influenced by his great idea of relying upon the boys' sense of honour, and he certainly did make us very conscientious in the performance of our work. We had to practise the music for the Chapel Royal service every Saturday morning for the following day. He would say to us, 'Now, boys, if you get the music thoroughly well done, you may go as soon as you like. There will be no need for you to stay in during the afternoon.' I directed the practice of the music, whilst my schoolfellow, Alfred Cellier, the composer of *Dorothy*, played the accompaniments. It was, I think, something to our credit, and to the credit of Helmore's manner of dealing with us, that, with the temptation of an afternoon's holiday in front of us, we never scamped anything, and on more than one occasion we stayed on well into the late afternoon in order to get the music correct. Nor did we have any assistance of any kind. Helmore relied upon Cellier and myself."

The Mendelssohn Scholarship was offered for competition in 1856, and won by Sullivan, who had, however, a strenuous rival in Joseph Barnby. A year after gaining the Mendelssohn Scholarship his voice "broke," and he then devoted himself entirely to his musical studies at the Academy until the time came for him to leave for Leipzig, where he went in the autumn of 1858. Here he met Von Bulow and Liszt, and won no inconsiderable fame as a student by his overture to Tom Moore's poem "The Feast of Roses," from "Lalla Rookh." Of his training and tuition at Leipzig Sullivan himself wrote:

"I often try to think what would have become of me had I never come to Germany. In England there was very little more for me to learn. I had heard and knew well almost all the small stock of music which is ever performed in London (and it is *very* little compared to what one hears here). I should have made very little improvement in pianoforte playing, whereas now, thanks to Messrs Moscheles and Plaidy, I am a tolerably decent player. . . . Besides increasing and maturing my judgment of music, it has taught me how good works ought to be done."

In April, 1861, his music to *The Tempest* was performed with great success in Leipzig previous to its performance at the famous Crystal Palace concerts on April 5, 1862. We may quote the remarks of Mr Fuller Maitland concerning the impression made by this music.

"There was no exaggeration in the enthusiasm with which the music to *The Tempest* was received. It may seem difficult for us, over whom the full tide of the English musical renaissance has swept, to realise what a sensation the music made, without minutely comparing it with the average level of our national music before 1862. We cannot fail to see the great contrast between the dry, scholastic, uninspired work that represented English music at the time, and the blithe loveliness, the truly English note—unsounded for so long—and the masterly invention that distinguished this work of a stripling, fresh from his studies in Germany.'

Mr Findon also justly says: "In *The Tempest* music there are no signs of inexperience or crudity, and, by the light of the criticism of the day, it was justly regarded as a minor masterpiece."

He commenced his connection with the theatre by writing with Burnand the triumviretta, *Cox and Box*, which was given publicly at a benefit performance at the Adelphi. *The Contrabandista* and *Thespis* gave the young composer confidence in his powers until, with the production of *Trial by Jury* at the Royalty in 1875, he "must have been convinced that he could beat the Frenchmen on their own ground." We need not follow Mr Findon in his account of Savoy opera, a delightful form of lyric art that reached a standard never attained by the modern French school, and which at the time raised the taste of the London public above opera bouffe to a loftier plane. It is only necessary to add that the book gives an admirable sketch of a distinguished career. For forty years the deceased composer poured forth oratorios, anthems, part songs, operas, cantatas, and his work, to say the very least about it, raised the status of English music to a position it never before held.

MISS VIOLET SIMS'S father (Mr G. Sims) is, we are sorry to hear, lying seriously ill in the Royal Eye Hospital, and it is feared he will lose his eye sight.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

"THE HARVESTER."

An Adaptation, in Five Acts, of Jean Richepin's Drama *Le Chemineau*,
Produced at the Lyric Theatre, New York, on Oct. 10.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

Originally produced at the Paris Odéon, an English version of this play was made familiar to London playgoers about six years ago under the title of *Ragged Robin*. The American version was prepared for Mr Otis Skinner, who sustains the title-rôle, by his brother, Mr Charles M. Skinner, the poetic text of the original play having been translated into graceful prose. This is probably the first of Jean Richepin's plays to be acted in the English language in America. Last summer Mr Skinner saw the play in Paris and decided to create in this country the romantic rôle of the restless gipsy-like hero. To bring the play nearer home to American audiences, the scenes have been transferred from the sunny lands of France to the picturesque fields and hamlets of French Canada. The mysterious character who is known only as the Harvester is a wanderer and a vagabond through temperamental and racial attributes. He is a man of the soil, close to nature; a handsome, debonair fellow, who, with a song on his lips and a sickle in his hand, wanders from farm to farm, reaping by day and making merry by night. The girls all adore him for his good looks and easy manner, and the men respect him for his physical strength and his knowledge of the great world that lies off somewhere beyond the hills. Among the girls is Toinette, the village beauty, who loves the Harvester too well and to her sorrow. François, the head reaper, asks her to become his wife, but she rejects him, for her hopes are built on the Harvester. But the man cannot settle down into regular ways of life, and the first act ends with his slinging his pack over his shoulder and starting off again down the white road, to wander as his gipsy spirit prompts him.

Eighteen years elapse. Toinette has married the head reaper, and their son Tony has grown up and fallen in love with Aline, the Seigneur's only daughter. But her father, Master Pierre, has grown richer and meaner every year, while François has worked so hard on his little farm that he is now only a helpless paralytic, shaking and mumbling in his chair by the kitchen fire. When old Pierre hears of the love-making he comes in hot haste to the little cottage, and berates the poor cripple and his wife, finally blurting out that Tony is nothing but a bastard. François leaps to choke him and collapses at his feet. In the days that follow Aline falls sick, and Tony drinks to forget. The village folk wag their tongues, and as they gossip by the village inn fate brings the vagabond and his song down the road once more. His fellow reapers recognise him. He recalls them—the harvest nearly twenty years ago—and Toinette. They tell him what they know, and the Harvester guesses the rest. He goes to find the boy, asleep in the inn stable, and comes face to face with Toinette. She has forgiven him, as one forgives the dead. But the boy Tony must never know. They must bring back his spirit—make him happy again. So the Harvester sings his old reaping song and capers to amuse the lad and cheers him affectionately. But to Tony he is merely a jovial and sympathetic stranger. He stays, and both Aline and François are the better for his coming. Meanwhile, there is trouble in the big farmhouse. Master Pierre's cattle die, his crops fail. He hears of the Harvester's return and remembers him as the possessor of wondrous secrets and magical healing powers. He sends for him, and the vagabond plays upon his fears. He makes solemn incantations, and the Seigneur trembles before him. His price for doing what the Seigneur asks is the consent of the latter to the marriage of Aline and Tony, and he gains his point.

Happiness reigns once more in the little cottage, and Aline helps Toinette to prepare the Christmas feast before going to midnight Mass. Even the dying François is happy, and, in a sudden return of speech, utters a last wish that the Harvester shall remain. Toinette, as she dons her cloak and follows the others to the church, has no thought of his leaving them. Master Pierre tells him, in his blunt way, that all the villagers expect him to marry Toinette when François dies. But the old wandering instinct is stirring within him. It is not for that he has done what he has for them. He must follow his fate and press on, and with a silent farewell to the dying man he passes out into the snow.

Mr Otis Skinner's acting of the title-rôle gave genuine pleasure to the audience, and evoked the heartiest expressions of approval. After the admirably enacted scene in the third act, in which the Harvester for the first time looked into his son's face and passionately embraced him, the house showed its appreciation, not by mere hand-clapping, but by loud shouts; a spontaneous tribute to an actor's art such as is seldom rendered in a New York theatre. Miss Lizzie Hudson Collier gave an ideal embodiment of Toinette; Mr J. M. Colville's François was a remarkably fine character study; Mr George Clarke gave an able representation of the Seigneur; Mr Russell Cranford made the part of the reaper, Martin, stand out well; Miss Maud Durbin (Mrs Otis Skinner) was a charming Aline; and Mr Walter Lewis a capital Tony.

MUSIC AND LISTENERS.

DR. STEWART MACPHERSON lectured on the 12th inst. at the Royal Academy of Music on "Listening to Music." He sketched a picture of the modern concert room with its rows of people listening with an air of quiet endurance to some abstruse work of modern art, which to the majority of the hearers who had not studied music must represent little more than chaos. He touched on the lack of discrimination displayed by the audience, which after conventionally applauding some great masterpiece, would go into raptures of delight over some showy, tricky piece of executant skill, and finally shout itself hoarse over a threadbare song by a popular composer. Music, he remarked, was not a mere ear-tickling sensation, but an expression of the emotions, and to be of value must appeal to the intellectual side of our nature. He pointed out the importance, in listening to a piece of music, of having regard to the period of its composition and the characteristics of the time, and this led him to give an interesting review of the salient landmarks of European music and the successive development of the art. In conlusion, he advised his hearers to aim at broadmindedness and catholicity of taste. The man who pinned his faith to Wagner, Tschaikowsky, or Richard Strauss was as egregiously narrow-minded as the man who would not acknowledge that anything had happened in the development of music since Handel's *Messiah*. Art must be influenced by the zeitgeist or spirit of the age. In these days of stress, complexity, unrest, and even in some cases of pessimism, they would find that the prevailing tendency among ninety-nine out of a hundred young composers was to choose lugubrious subjects and to make their listeners as depressed and morbid as they themselves appeared to be. "Let us hope," he remarked, "that the next genius to appear on the scene will be a little more hopeful." The subject of Mr Macpherson's lecture next Wednesday will be "The Elementary Principles of Musical Structure."

ADVERTISERS and SUBSCRIBERS who are moving about, and who have their Copy of "THE ERA" sent direct from this Office, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, are requested to forward the Addresses for their Papers [not later' than the Tuesday] in each Week.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts, by Robert Buchanan and Harriet Jay, entitled "ALONE IN LONDON."

Mr J. F. Elliston's company is paying Islington a visit this week, and excellent performances of this favourite drama have been given. Miss Madge Devereux as Annie Meadows submits a performance of signal merit, particularly so in the later portions of the play, where the value of her reading is much in evidence. Miss Ada Tilley as Gipsy Tom is exceedingly artistic. Miss Lily Lewis as Ruth Clinton is responsible for an acceptable performance, and Miss Ella Gillette as little Paul shows natural intelligence. A special word of commendation is due to Miss Ada Elliston for her humorous performance of Liz Jenkinson, which supplies a welcome note of light relief. Mr Henry George's portrayal of John Biddlecombe, the honest countryman, is an earnest and excellent effort; Mr Stephen Ewart's Redcliffe is quite an excellent performance, and for every detail of his performance we have only warm praise. Mr Stafford Smith as Mr Burnaby submits a dignified and well-balanced performance; Mr Hugh Brady as Spiffins portrays the humorous propensities of that character with success; Mr Walter Burnaby is capably acted by Mr Herbert Light; Mr J. W. Wilkinson as Jenkinson is richly humorous; and Mr Lonnen Meadows as Johnston also deserves congratulations on a successful embodiment. Mrs C. Woods deserves special mention for a really good performance of Mrs Maloney.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, entitled "TOMMY ATKINS."

An audience which packed the house from floor to ceiling on Monday welcomed with tremendous enthusiasm the return of the Pavilion stock company, in a revival of Messrs Shirley and Landeck's popular play, *Tommy Atkins*, a drama which is full of vigour, activity, pathos, and realism. On the present occasion the piece has the advantage of all the original scenery and effects, which provide a series of excellent stage pictures—Riverdale Glen, Exterior and Interior of Barminster Church, and the Malaki Fort calling for special mention, while the admirable work of the talented company is marked by a zeal which is maintained from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Nothing better could be desired than the brave, manly dignity graceful bearing, and good elocution of Mr Ashley Page as Harold Wilson; he is at home with his audience, and elicits rounds of ringing applause with his expressive acting throughout the piece. An extremely good performance of the cool, machinating scoundrel Captain Richard Maitland is given by Mr Frank Harding, who enters so thoroughly into the character that he succeeds in drawing excited howls of execration from the "gods." Mr J. C. Aubrey as Private Mason contributes a rendition of a difficult part with such effective discrimination and powerful artistic skill which does not fail to meet with due recognition, and Mr Charles Langley presents a convincing portrayal of the stern, unforgiving Stephen Raymond. Mr Wilfrid Shine as Sergeant Paddy Molloy is a typical Irishman, and is the cause of much merriment, whilst Mr Harry Barford is exceedingly droll as Ebenezer Skindle. Mr Ernest Stern does good service as Captain Robert Sparrow, and Mr G. L. Eveson is satisfactory as Colonel Hardwick. Mr Harry Bristow, well made-up, submits a capital portraiture of the good-hearted magistrate, Sir Simon Redgrave; and Mr Fred Boustead is efficient as Private Harris. Mr Garnet Vayne is a diverting Tommy Trotman, Mr C. Ferry a commendable Perkins, and Mr W. Dempsey an imposing Arab Chief. Miss Marion Denvil as Ruth Raymond has a very exacting task, of which she acquits herself with much ability and feeling, depicting the tribulations and sorrows of the sorely-tried heroine with considerable sympathetic power. Miss Daisy Scudamore is pretty and lovable as Elsie Wilson, investing the part with a tender sweetness which is most attractive. Great praise is due to Miss Tina Mavro for her smart impersonation of the vivacious Kate Perkins, and the ill-fated Margaret Maitland receives due dramatic treatment from Miss Kate Leslie. Miss Alice Beaumont is pleasing as Rose Selwyn, and Miss Milly Murray is a responsible Martha, whilst Miss Sara Besant is a capable Jack. The drama in every respect was correctly and superbly mounted, while it is almost needless to add that the production, being under the direction of that past-master master of stage-craft, Mr Isaac Cohen, was stage-managed with an excellence that was perfect in every detail. Many thanks are due to the acting-manager, Mr Fred Brown, for his kindness and courtesy in looking so successfully after the comfort of those in front of the house, and we are pleased to learn that he will be accorded a well-deserved benefit on Nov. 17.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Drama, in Four Acts, by W. P. Sheen, entitled "THE TEMPTRESS."

The West Londoners found much to enjoy this week in witnessing Messrs Gordyn and Gellings' capable company in their excellent interpretation of this powerful play of Mr Sneen's. Mr George Dalper as Philip Welford acted with plenty of life and go, being repeatedly cheered for his efforts. The rascally scoundrel, Lucas Denbigh, found an able exponent in Mr Percy Ballard, who portrayed in telling fashion the doings of that plausible villain. Mr Herbert Williams was most lively and energetic as the ex-circus clown, Bob Tanner, and Mr Henry W. Hatchman, in his original character of Pedro Gonzales, deserves every praise. Mr Arthur Sheldon did exceedingly well as Sir Oswald Fordyce; Mr Allen Charles was humorous as Francis Fitz-Fluke; Mr Johnny Chippendale was genuinely funny as the jealous butler, John Gregory; Mr W. Grahame was very dignified as the Rev. Austin Dale; and Mr Philip Waldron, in a capital make-up, was more than creditable as Caleb Blake. Miss Violet Crauford sustained the rôle of Stella, Lady Fordyce, most effectively, acting throughout with grim determination; Miss Ada M. Ryder realised the character of Madge Denbigh, the mad wife of Lucas Denbigh, in admirable fashion; and Miss Nellie Cross deserves mention for her playing as Keziah Blake. As the long-suffering Marion Fordyce Miss Vashti Wynne cuts a pathetic figure, her acting being especially fine; Miss Eva Temple does the little she has to do as Trixie Templeton in good style; and Miss Mattie Everett is a pronounced favourite as the bright and cheery servant Rhoda Brown. The piece was well mounted and staged and most favourably received by a crowded house.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Negro Musical Comedy, by W. M. Cook, "IN DAHOMEY."

An enthusiastic audience welcomed this unique musical comedy here on Monday. The scene of the prologue is a Dahomien swamp, and as the Chief of Caboceers Mr Norris Smith, who has a fine voice, gives a most realistic performance. In the play proper Mr Dan Avery plays Rareback Pinkerton and Mr Charles Hart is Shylock Homestead. On these two fall the burden of the acting, and right well do they acquit themselves. A more amusing couple it would be scarcely possible to imagine, the house being convulsed with laughter at their songs and business. Mr Avery's song with chorus, "Castle on the Nile," is honoured by triple encores; and Mr Hart in the famous "Jonah Man" song scores a double encore. As Hamilton Lightfoot (President of a colonisation society) Mr Pete Hamilton leaves nothing to be desired; as Dr. Straight (in name only) Mr Fred Douglas is well suited; and Messrs Walter Dixon and Leon Williams are both well cast in the parts of Hustling Charlie and George Reader respectively. Miss Pauline Freeman as Rosetta Lightfoot acts the part very pleasantly and moreover sings with effect; and as Mrs Stringer (a Boston school-mistress) Miss Stella Hart receives much applause. The minor parts are all capably sustained, and the cake-walk competition at the end of the play is much appreciated, each couple of dances being loudly encored. The chorus is powerful and well trained; and the orchestra is under the bâton of Mr Oscar Hanke. The mounting and dressing of the production are all that can be desired.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Play, by David Belasco and J. L. Long, entitled "THE DARLING OF THE GODS."

Local playgoers have this week an opportunity afforded them of witnessing the much-talked-of Japanese play *The Darling of the Gods*, of which Mr Tree made such a success at His Majesty's Theatre. The company is toured under Mr Tree's direction, and needless to say the piece is staged in a most complete manner, an excellent company being engaged. The weird effects are cleverly produced, and the scenery is typically Japanese. It is evident that no pains or expense have been spared in sending out this magnificent production. Mr G. W. Anson appears as Zakkuri, and gives a very fine rendering of this crafty character. It is a clever piece of acting, and Mr Anson is seen to much advantage in the part. Perhaps the most striking performance of the play, however, is the Kara of Mr Alexander Calvert, who makes a great impression by his fine assumption. Yo-San is charmingly played by Miss Lilian Stafford, who is to be complimented on her performance in the latter part of the play especially in which she shows great power. Mr A. P. Kaye is good as Saigon; Mr P. R Goodyer makes a satisfactory Tanda-Tanji; Mr Ernest Stallard is seen to advantage in the small part of Cato, the fisherman; Miss Augusta Haviland is particularly good as Rosy Sky; and Mr Robert Gray is dignified as Banzo, the Samurai priest. The stage-management of Mr Stanley Wade is in every way praiseworthy; Mr A. L. Spittle conducts the orchestra, which plays the special music composed by Mr William Furst, in a most creditable manner.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Play by A. W. Pinero, entitled "THE SECOND MRS TANQUERAY."

Miss Olga Nethersole appeared at the King's on Monday night in *The Second Mrs Tanqueray*, portraying the title-part with her usual ability. She was supported by an exceedingly well-balanced company. Mr G. Titheradge essayed, not for the first time, the part of Aubrey Tanqueray, and he admirably succeeded in portraying it. An excellent and really clever performance of Cayley Drummle was given by Mr Berte Thomas, and Mr Edward Fielding was most convincing as Capt. Hugh Ardale. Mr Wm. Burchill's impersonation of Sir G. Orreyed was very effective. Frank Misquith and Gordon Jayne were satisfactorily played by Mr Slaine Mills and Mr Henry Dodd. Very amusing was Miss Rosalind Ivan as Lady Orreyed, Miss Francis Ivor was a pleasing Mrs Cortelyon, and Miss Madge Field made the most of the part of Eilean. The scenery and appointments were very elaborate. *Sapho* was given in the latter part of the week to delighted audiences.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 17, "COUSIN KATE."

Cousin Kate still weaves the spell of her subtle charm around suburban and provincial playgoers, just as she was wont to do with London audiences at the Haymarket. Miss Emma Hutchison's clever comedy company, under the direction of Mr Percy Hutchison, is this week interpreting Mr Hubert Henry Davies's charmingly witty, fresh, and fragrant comedy, and its wholesome humour and pathos appear to appeal to the heads and hearts of Brixtonians in due proportion to their merits. Miss Lillas Earle makes a delightful and attractive Cousin Kate, and every time we see her this delightful actress seems to have improved. Time has but mellowed and perfected her performance in the part. Mr Yorke Stephens as the easy-going artist who loves both wisely and well gives a good, sterling embodiment, and is at his best in the more serious phases of the character. Mr Walter Ringham as the specious opportunist curate, the Rev. James Bartlett, is admirably well suited. Miss Helen Leyton acts capitally as the dear, motherly, short-sighted old soul, Mrs Spencer, whose efforts to conciliate and set people at their ease are always baffled by her lack of discretion. Miss Hilda Honiss as the irresolute and malleable Amy Spencer, whose convictions are always more or less subordinate to her desires, is charmingly ingenuous and insincere. Master Vyvian Thomas scores as the young brother, Bobby Spencer. Miss Betty Castle is effective in the small part of the giggling maidservant Jane, a typical country wench of the menial order. The pièce de résistance is preceded by Theyre Smith's amusing and well-known comedietta *A Case for Eviction*, which is capitally rendered by Mr Walter Ringham as the young doctor, Miss Betty Castle as Dora, his wife; and Miss Hilda Honiss as Mary the maidservant.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Play, in Four Acts, Adapted by Clyde Fitch from Daudet's Novel, entitled "SAPHO."

A very powerful rendering of *Sapho* is being presented at the New Ealing Theatre by Miss Olga Nethersole's company, and a full house manifested its approval on Monday. For the Sapho of Miss Cecil Cromwell nothing but praise can be given. In all the varying moods of the character—pathetic, loving, raging, and despairing—Miss Cromwell gives us a true realisation of Daudet's frail heroine. The Jean of Mr Arthur Royston bears traces of well-considered and painstaking effort, and he is to be complimented on the presentation of the part. As Uncle Césaire Mr Cremlin acts excellently, and supplies a good personification of the "gay old dog." Mr Arthur Poole as the cool, calculating Déchélette could scarcely be bettered, and Mr Frank Melrose as Caoudal is most convincing. Mr Hodgson Taylor does good work as Flamant, and the same remark applies to Mr James Kenning as Hettéma. Miss Jessie Melville as the burly Madame Hettéma is excellent, and Miss Gertrude Wynter as Irene plays the part prettily. The tender yet practical Divonne is carefully enacted by Miss Isabel Derrie, and Miss Rosa Sullivan makes a very effective Francine.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Comedy, by George Rollit, entitled "THE MONEY-MAKERS."

Full houses have assembled to make the acquaintance of Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in the above piece, and have been kept in intermittent laughter. The company is efficient in all respects, and Mr George Rollit's clever and enjoyable sporting farce is certainly seen to advantage, leading characters being successfully impersonated by Miss Muriel Ashwynne, Miss Lorna Lawrence and Miss Frances Davie. Miss Ashwynne's performance in her original part of Dot, as played at the Royalty, is especially meritorious, and the Misses Lawrence and Davie by their clever embodiments of Mabel and Bella keep up the interest of the play throughout. Miss Mary Griffiths is excellent as the old housekeeper, making her reading as amusing as it is characteristic. Mr Frank Lacy, a refined comedian, makes the most of the part of Captain Archie Fitzgerald, and Mr Edward Bonfield cleverly sustains that of Charles Clifton. Mr Edward Sidney gives a humorous reading of the rôle of Fred; and Mr Townsend Whitling makes a hit as the butcher. Master L. Look gives a breezy rendering of a messenger boy; Mr Allan Thomas keeps the house convulsed by his fun as Matthew M'Dougall; Miss Violet Ley, praiseworthily unconscious of her good looks, admirably impersonates Baby Berkeley; and the other characters are all in capable hands. As a prelude, Mr Frank Lacy and Miss Violet Ley give an excellent interpretation of Mr A. E. Drinkwater's comedietta *Two in a Trap*.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled "A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

Mr Walter Melville not only knows just what suits the public taste, but is also exceedingly happy in the selection of his companies. Miss Grace Heywood in the title-rôle evokes at first disgust and hisses, but finally sympathy and applause. Mr Eugene Santley as the man who deserts the woman and his child plays the part of David Carrington with emphasis and success, his vigorous, breezy style contrasting well with the sleek, oily, insinuating methods of Mr Augustine Knight as the spying Frenchman Jules Delarnet. The fun was chiefly supplied by Mr Arthur Byron as Barnaby Mugg and Miss Madge Yates as Bella, and the former's claim to be called a dog fancier was thoroughly justified by the number and variety of the dogs he brought in front of the footlights. Mr Phil Harper as Jack Dawes and Mr D. G. Nobleas Arnold Travers played satisfactorily; Miss Winnie Tempest as Mabel Valley acted with sincerity and charm; and Miss Nellie Lucas as Mildred Carrington was tender and sweet as the deceived prospective bride. Mr Arthur Chisholm made a good detective; Mr Fred Carson was amusing as a dog thief; and Miss Daisy Norman made the most of the small part of the drunken landlady. The minor characters were all in capable hands; the scenery, costumes, and uniforms were consistent and effective. The scene—number three, act two—of the entrance to the hotel, with its large fountain with real water, was much applauded.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Drama, by Henry Arthur Jones and the late Henry Herman, entitled "THE SILVER KING."

That *The Silver King* still draws was evidenced on Monday, when Messrs Austin Melford and G. M. Polini's company reproduced it here. Mr Austin Melford is very happy in his treatment of the part of Wilfred Denver, his delivery of the "Dream" speech in particular being extremely fine. Miss Emilie Polini ably supports him as Nellie Denver, Mr C. C. Grattan worthily upholds the traditions of dear old Daniel Jaikes with sound discretion; Miss Amy Manfree is easy and natural as Cissy, and Ned has a clever little impersonator in Master Jack Evan. Mr Charles Levey is resolute and thorough as that prince of cracksmen, Captain Skinner, alias the Spider. The requisite touch of ironical humour is imparted to the labours of Henry Corkett by Mr James L. Power. Mr Arthur H. Rooke works effectively as the old rascal, Elijah Coombe; and Cripps is well realised by Mr C. P. Amalia. Mr Arnold E. Palmer is sarcastically excellent as Geoffrey Ware; Samuel Baxter is capably portrayed by Mr Warriss Lindon; Mr Phil Redmayne is good as Frank Selwyn; and the excellent character work of Mr Eric Store as the self-sufficient parish clerk, Mr Parkyn, is one of the features of the production. Messrs A. Bingham and S. Hathway also render ready support as the gossips, Binks and Bronson. Miss Phyllis Bailly is a pleasing Olive Skinner, and Miss Amy Wood amuses as the unabashed rural widow, Tabitha Durden. Many smaller parts are capitally treated, and the mounting is excellent.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Arthur Law, entitled "A COUNTRY MOUSE."

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is this week presenting the comedy *A Country Mouse*, by Arthur Law. The Hon. Archibald Vyse is capitally played by Mr Sydney Stirling; Mr Charles Harley takes good care of the part of John Bowlby, M.P.; as the Duke of St. Kitts Mr Arnold Lucy makes an extremely meritorious effort; Mr Wilson Lumley calls for favourable mention as Lord Robert Wykeham; Mr J. E. Watson is conspicuous in the cast for his pathetic portrayal of Jephcot, the butler; Miss Dorothy Drake smartly enacts Lady Sylvia Bowlby; Miss Eva Erskine wins popular tributes for her genial portraiture of Violet Aynsley; Miss Emily Levettez furnishes a humorous study of Mr Cropper; and Miss Dido Drake puts convincing work into the rôle of Angela, in which she was thoroughly successful. The piece is preceded by the farce *His Landlady*.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Military Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, entitled "TOMMY ATKINS."

Patrons of the Dalston Theatre must be quite familiar with the incidents of the military drama, *Tommy Atkins*, so frequently has it been played at their local theatre; but, notwithstanding that fact, fairly large audiences have put in an appearance this week, and have shown no lack of interest in the incidents. The drama is well played by Mr Milton Bode's company. Mr Frederick Ross makes a dashing Harold Wilson, and his many adventures are followed with the keenest sympathy. Mr George Doughty is the Captain Richard Maitland, and does well in the part; and Mr Reginald Holmes is an effective Captain Robert Sparrow. Mr John Nolan's Sergeant Paddy Molloy provides the audience with plenty of opportunity for mirth, and the Ebenezer Skindle of Mr Billy Harman is also a good specimen of broad comedy. Mr Charles A. Wenman as Private Mason, and Mr Henry G. Parsons as Private Harris, impart interest to those characters; and Mr Morris Drew's Stephen Raymond is also a part which has evidently been well thought out. Mr Augustus Hammond is good as Thomas Trotman, and Mr Christopher is a sufficiently relentless Sir Simon Redgrave. Miss Kitty Omer is a decided favourite as Rose Selwyn, being particularly good in the emotional passages; Miss Lola Patey does well as Ruth Raymond, Miss Ethel Tinsley is a sprightly Kate Perkins, and other parts are taken by Miss Kate Priddis, Miss Marie Fontaine, Miss Florrie Vickers, Mr Alex N. Phillips, Mr Fred Barclay, and Master Philip Priddis.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Comedy, entitled "WHY SMITH LEFT HOME."

Mr Horace Lingard and *Why Smith Left Home* company are the attractions offered to Greenwich playgoers this week. The entire performance is remarkably satisfactory. Mr H. Lingard plays with a quiet humour that is irresistible; Mr Robert Grey as Count Von Guggenheim presents a clever character study that does him the greatest credit, and the same remark applies to Mr Herbert Dickenson as General Billetdeux. Mr Joseph Hudson is very good as Major Duncombe; Mr Henry Grey is a manly and earnest Robert Walton; Miss Keith Lytton is an amusing Mrs Billetdoux; Julia is cleverly acted by Miss Marie Vere; Rose Walton is prettily played by Miss Rue Daryll; and Miss Smith is entrusted to Miss Ethel Russell with excellent results. Mrs Smith is an admirable performance by Miss Hilda Stericker, and Miss Constance Stephens makes a great success as Lavinia.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Comedy, entitled "CHARLEY'S AUNT."

That evergreen attraction *Charley's Aunt* is this week fulfilling its mirth-making mission at the Stratford Borough Theatre, where it is giving emphatic proof, by its cordial reception nightly, that its drawing powers remain undiminished with time. Long familiarity with the rôle of Lord Fancourt Babberley does not render Mr Edwin H. Wynne's performance one whit the less artistic and finished, and his success is most pronounced. The peppery nature of Stephen Spettigue is realised with a subtle humour which is highly effective by Mr Walter Pemberton, and Sir Francis Chesney has a brisk and alert representative in Mr E. Savery. Mr Aubrey Mallalieu is decidedly good as Jack Chesney, Mr Mark Wylton does well as Charley Wykeham, and Mr Fred Epitaux embodies the duties of stage-management with a capital performance as the imperturbable Brasset. Miss Mary Morison plays Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez with distinction; Kitty Verdun has a very pretty and graceful exponent in Miss B. Fitzgerald; Miss Marie Grogan is a charming Amy Spettigue; and Ella Delahay is daintily played by Miss Mary Mallalieu. *An Ideal*, a drama in one act, by Horace W. C. Newte, precedes, and is capitally presented by Mr Walter Pemberton, Mr Savery, Mr Mark Wylton, Miss Mary Mallalieu, and Miss Mary Morison.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Drama, in Four Acts, by George A. De Gray, entitled "A TRAITOR PRINCE."

To popular audiences who like their dramatic fare served "hot and strong," *A Traitor Prince* will undoubtedly appeal, for there are thrilling situations and sensational incidents galore in it; and the piece contains an abundance of comic relief. The air of mystery which surrounds Prince Rao Dalmierez, the Hindoo mesmerist, who dabbles in the "black art" to serve his own nefarious ends, adds much impressiveness to the character, and Mr G. M. Montanini, aided by an excellent stage presence, makes the utmost of his opportunities. Mr Austin Mortimer speaks his lines in manly and convincing style as Lieutenant Frank Derrick, and Mr T. G. Vane is eminently suited as the vacuous Hon. Bobby Dalrymple. Mr E. Carter Livesey in the important rôle of Billy Bright is exceedingly droll and amusing, and his catchword, "Hello," is only uttered to the accompaniment of laughter. A grim and well-defined sketch of the half-caste Cara comes from Mr G. Edward Hall, and Mr Austin H. Longford plays with ability in the dual-rôle of Richard Vane and Colonel Vane. Miss Lilian Rosebery makes a sympathetic and charming Lolo Vane, and an incisive performance as the Indian snake charmer Vashti is contributed by Miss Beatrice Western. Miss Maudie Grayson is a bright and sprightly Pansy Blossom, and Mrs Blossom is naturally played by Mrs E. C. Mathews. The remaining parts are in capable hands.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Oct. 17, "THE BROKEN MELODY."

The Broken Melody is being played this week to large and enthusiastic audiences by M. Auguste Van Biene, Miss Lena Burnleigh, and company. The great musician's 'cello solos are, of course, the most attractive item of the performance, excellently as the delightful play is interpreted. M. Van Biene repeats his powerful rendering of the character of the musician Paul Borinski. He is ably supported by Mr Arthur Bawtree, whose General Ivanoff is a remarkably clever and consistent performance. Mr John Cummings is very good as Beaujour, and Mr H. Ludlow is well placed as the Hon. Richard Spinacher. Mr T. P. Haynes, always an excellent comedian, is thoroughly suited to the part of the musical agent, Dudley Mortimer, and responsible for much merriment. Mr Edward Laceby is good as Dixon, and Mr E. Edwards makes Dr. M'Grath an interesting character in the play. Miss Lena Burnleigh is very pleasing and womanly as Mabel, the gentle and devoted wife of Borinski. Miss Ida Chapman is an excellent representative of the part of the Duchesse De Verviers. Miss Avis Graham is a capital Mrs Dixon, and Miss Monton an attractive Mrs Spinacher.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Musical Play, entitled "THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."

Woolwich theatre-goers owe Mr Sounes a hearty vote of thanks this week for the opportunity afforded them of seeing that charming play *The Duchess of Dantzic*, and no doubt the box-office returns will show that this vote has been recorded in the best manner possible. This musical play is certainly one of the most delightful of modern times, and, capably interpreted as it is by the talented members of Mr George Dance's company, should achieve as great a success and popularity in the provinces as it has done in the metropolis. As Catherine Upscher Miss Rita Presano scored an instantaneous success, playing the lighter scenes with inimitable naturalness and bonhomie, and rising to really tragic heights of expression in the more serious parts of the play. Miss Presano is also the possessor of a fine and well-trained voice, which was heard to advantage in several songs, her greatest successes being perhaps "That's why they call me Sans-Gêne" and "The Mirror Song." Miss Alice Coverick was charmingly effective as Renée De St. Mézard, acting and singing with a naïve simplicity which was altogether delightful; her best songs were probably "The Petit Corporal" and the duet in the second act with Adhemar, Vicomte De Bethune. This last-named character was admirably played by Mr Thomas C. Maxwell, who gave a good representation of the part, and, hampered though he was by a nasty cold, rendered with effect the songs entrusted to him. Mr Albert Chapman was responsible for an excellent rendering of Lefebvre, looking every inch a soldier, and making his strong but perfectly controlled voice heard all over the theatre. His best received song was, perhaps, that in praise of "The women, the warriors, the wine of France." The Napoleon of Mr Frederick Moyes could scarcely have been bettered; the quick step, brusque speech, and subtle sense of humour were well in keeping with the part, and added to the value of Mr Moyes's characterisation. Mr Colin Mackay was in his element as Papillon, his Pedlar in the first act being exceedingly funny; while anything more droll than his enactment of the Court Milliner it is hard to conceive. His song and dance in this character were repeatedly encored. Miss Mabel Bailey was a distinguished Empress, and Misses Edith Carlyle and May Harris did well as Napoleon's sisters.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Sir Frank Burnand, entitled "BETSY."

There was a numerous audience at the Royal County Theatre on Monday evening to witness the first of four performances of this popular comedy, which was presented by Mr W. H. Denny's company, and was received with unmistakable approval. Mr Denny, who appeared as Mr Dawson, the tutor, caused no end of fun with his characteristic whimsicalities, and was the life and soul of the play. A pleasing representation of the part of Betsy also was given by Miss Florence Trevalion. The other members of the company acquitted themselves satisfactorily in their respective parts. An original comedietta, by Mr W. H. Denny, entitled *A Mutual Mistake*, preceded the comedy. The parts were sustained by Mr Denny (Mr Owen Smith), Mr Sebastian Smith (John), and Miss Florence Trevelion (Miss Letitia M'Gilligan). The comedy was presented on the first three evenings of the week and at a matinée on Wednesday. On Thursday *Dandy Dick* was presented, in which Mr Denny appeared as the constable, Noah Topping. Both plays were admirably staged.

The directors of the Leas Pavilion, Folkestone, have decided to close this house during the winter months. Mr Frank Seabrook, the manager, concludes his engagement to-day.

That delightful musical comedy *The Three Little Maids* will be presented to suburbanites during the next three weeks by Mr Charles Macdona's principal company, which visits Hammersmith, Richmond, and Holloway.

"FORGET-ME-NOT" AT THE SAVOY.

On Saturday, Oct. 15, Revival of the Play, in Three Acts, by Herman Merivale and F. C. Groves.

Sir Horace Welby	Mr Frederick Kerr
Prince Malleotti	Mr Herbert Dansey
Barrato	Mr Richard Boleyn
Manservant	Mr Sydney Hamilton
Alice Verney	Miss Amy Ravenscroft
Miss Foley	Miss Kate Wingfield
Stephanie	Mrs Brown-Potter

Mrs Brown-Potter may certainly be credited with plenty of "pluck." Undismayed by the failure of *The Golden Light*, she has again returned to the charge at the Savoy with the revival of *Forget-Me-Not*. Messrs Merivale and Groves's piece was originally performed at the Lyceum Theatre in the August of 1879. On that occasion, the character of the invalid widow existed in the cast; and a notable item of the production was the admirable performance of the part of Sir Horace Welby which was given by Mr Forbes-Robertson. The revival at the Savoy on Saturday showed an immense amount of good-will, but was a little uneven owing to the differences between the styles of the artists engaged. Each individual reading, however, was doubtless quite defensible. Mrs Brown-Potter makes the Marquise De Mohrivart a kind of luscious Lalage; and embellishes her embodiment with an abundance of seductive oglings, insidious smiles, and musical intonations. She also introduces several new "bits of business," which make the Marquise much more ill-bred than before. For instance, at the end of one of the acts, in the original, the Marquise remarked to the companion with whom she was left alone on the stage, "Shall we follow, Mrs Foley?" Mrs Brown-Potter, at this point, "chucks," her cloak at the lady, and tells her to take it upstairs. On another occasion, Mrs Potter "edges" Mrs Foley, by superior weight and strength, off the couch on which the companion is seated. *En revanche*, the part of Mrs Foley is played with an aggressive energy which makes us feel less keenly for the lady. Miss Kate Wingfield makes her excessively ill-tempered, and is almost violent in her expressions of indignation, putting an immense amount of energy and spirit into her performance. Mr Frederick Kerr, always at ease, always in good form, and always artistic and effective is deliberately resolute and stolidly genuine as Sir Horace Welby; and gives a very good reading of the rôle. Mr Herbert Dansey plays Prince Malleotti with all the necessary Continental polish and artificial grace; Mr Richard Boleyn is vigorously dramatic as Barrato; and Miss Amy Ravenscroft contributes a discreet and pleasing impersonation of Alice Verney. *Forget-Me-Not* is followed by a dramatic version, taken from G. Verger's novel, of

"CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA."

Turrida Macca	Mr Jerrold Robertshaw
Neighbour Alfio	Mr W. Lawson Butt
Uncle Brasi	Mr Richard Boleyn
Peppi	Mr Bridges
Pippuzza	Mr Sydney Hamilton
Lola	Miss Sarah De Groot
Nunzia	Miss Elsie Chester
Neighbour Camilla	Miss Anna Inglett
Aunt Filomena	Miss Wilde
Santuzza	Mrs Brown-Potter

Though much of the music of the opera is played incidentally in the orchestra, the piece is practically a rural melodrama in one act; and the tale how Santuzza, seduced and deserted by Turrida Macca, revenges herself by informing the carrier, Alfio, that Turrida has dishonoured him with his wife, Lola, is told in dialogue. Mrs Brown-Potter plays Santuzza with much theatrical force, and her picturesque appearance, with dishevelled hair, adds much to the effect of her impersonation. Mr Jerrold Robertshaw acts with strong characterisation and vigorous individuality as Turrida; and Mr W. Lawson Butt plays Alfio with an intensity of expression and a virility of action that are very effective. Mr Richard Boleyn makes a quaint and comical Uncle Brasi; and Mr Bridges is good as Peppi. Mr Sydney Hamilton is praiseworthy as Pippuzza; and Miss Elsie Chester is very commendable as Nunzia. Miss Anna Inglett is excellent as Neighbour Camilla, Miss Wilde doing useful work as Aunt Filomena. Mr Julian Hicks's village scene, with its Church and cross, is pretty and well-painted; and the execution of Mascagni's music by Mr Raymond Roze's orchestra is in every way admirable. *Cavalleria Rusticana* went extremely well on Saturday, greatly owing, no doubt, to the sound and attentive stage-management of Mr Gilbert Hare.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Comic Opera, in Three Acts, entitled "MY LADY MOLLY."

Mr Frederick Mouillot's principal company, in the pretty comic opera *My Lady Molly*, is charming the Richmond playgoers this week. Miss Edith M. Dinorben is a dashing Lady Molly, and is to be congratulated upon her performance, especially as she is playing the part for the first time this week. Miss Zoe Gilfillan is extremely arch and dainty as Alice Coverdale, and sings and dances prettily. Lady Molly's maid Hester is played with ease and effectiveness by Miss Mabel Carr, and Miss Ebba Darcier renders good service as Mdlle. Mirabeau. The part of Captain Harry Romney is capitally presented by Mr Leicester Tunks, of fine presence and voice, and Lionel Bland has an equally good representative in Mr Harold E. Payne. Mr H. Godwin Hunt is a bluff and hearty Sir Miles Coverdale, and Mr R. Cooper is good as Reuben Oats. The hardest work of the evening falls to Mr Stephen Fitzgerald as Mickey O'Dowd, the Irish servant of Captain Romney, and ably he bears the burden. While Mr Fitzgerald is on the stage there is not a dull moment, and for the greater part of the time the audience is convulsed by his eccentricities and antics. He is a most accomplished dancer. The smaller parts are capably played, and the chorus sings well together. The mounting is very effective, and the orchestra is ably conducted by Mr Leonard Leslie.

It is given to comparatively few men to celebrate the jubilee of their association with their professional calling. This, however, has just been achieved by Mr Lionel Brough, who celebrated the day by playing Trinculo, the jester, in Mr Beerbohm Tree's production of *The Tempest*. In private life Mr Brough, to use the Shakespearian phrase which is, under the circumstances, singularly appropriate to him, is "a fellow of infinite jest," and, like Yorick, of whom the lines were written, he can "keep the table in a roar" with his "flashes of merriment" no less than by his humorous stories, of which he has an apparently inexhaustible store. To all his contemporaries he is invariably known as "Lal," while the younger generation, with whom he is always persona grata, invariably testify their regard by speaking of him as "Uncle Lal." The most humorous men are invariably those most dowered with shrewd common sense and observation, and it is to them, therefore, that their more staid comrades invariably go for assistance and advice. Mr Brough's characteristic capacity for discovering what is best naturally led him to make the acquaintance of Odol for his teeth, and the advice he offers may be profited by all who are smokers like him. There are many people who would like it "laid on in the bath-room like water." Though it cannot "come to this," it is perfectly possible for everyone to use it, for it is the most economical as it is the best of all dentifrices and mouth washes, purifying, cleansing, and stimulating the mouth in exactly the same way as the whole body is purified, cleansed, and invigorated by the use of a Turkish bath. Mr Brough's view of Odol is expressed in his own words in the following way:—"Both my family and myself are very pleased with the new mouth wash, Odol. I am a confirmed smoker, and find it most comforting in the morning. The younger branches use it as a dentifrice and wash, and are so satisfied that they would like it 'laid on' in the bathroom like water."—From "Lionel Brough's Stage Life."

"THE MASTER OF KINGSGIFF."

A Romantic Drama, by Mrs Tom Kelly,
Produced at the Avenue Theatre, on Monday, Oct. 17.

King Charles II.	Mr EDWARD O'NEILL
Richard, Lord De Bellingham	Mr FRANK COOPER
Rupert Charlton	Mr CONWAY TEARLE
The Duke of Buckingham	Mr E. HENDERSON BLAND
Sir John Dereham	Mr MAURICE MANCINI
The Earl of Chesterfield	Mr R. P. HAMILTON
Dr. Ludovic Vennor	Mr WALTER MACLEAN
Colonel Somers	Mr EDWIN PALMER
Captain Foster	Mr J. M. TROUGHTON
Cornet Fox	Mr BARNFORD
Gregory	Mr JOHNSTONE
Chamberlain	Mr ROWE
Servant to Lord De Bellingham	Mr A. MUNRO
Lady Dereham	Miss HELEN PALGRAVE
Rosamund Charlton	Miss LILIAH M'CARTHY
Katharine Gordon	Miss DORA BARTON
Barbara Palmer	Miss RUBY CHESTER
Mrs Gregory	Miss MARION STERLING
Bessie	Miss WINIFRED SADLER

There is evidently a "run" on Charles the Second in drama. The "merry monarch" has always been a favourite with playwrights, probably on account of the prettiness of the dresses of his "period;" and the depiction of the Stuart King on the stage is generally flattering. Mrs Tom Kelly has been infected with the prevailing craze for Charles the Second plays, and has written a "1660" piece. Unfortunately she appears to have neither the instinctive gift nor the technical training which make a successful dramatist; and *The Master of Kingsgift*, though it might make a fairly interesting novel, fails to interest or convince on the stage. The authoress has committed the initial error of making it doubtful with whom the audience is expected to sympathise. The pseudo-hero, Rupert Charlton, is a bigoted partisan, who talks of hanging up Parliamentarians like dogs, and is in the wrong all through. As to another personage, Richard, Lord Bellingham, suspicions are created at the outset that he is going to be the "villain of the piece." He is found acting for the Parliament while secretly favouring the King's cause; and these doubtful circumstances make us afraid to entrust our affections to him. Then there is a prudent and over-maternal lady, who, deeply in love with this De Bellingham, refuses to marry him because, according to a preposterous will, if she wed again her son will lose the family estates. Inconsistency and imperfection in character are all very well in connection with subtle and artistic analysis; they are simply fatal in a romantic drama of incident, where there is no time to dissect motives, and all depends on what the Duke of Wellington used to call "bludgeon-work." So *The Master of Kingsgift* must be relegated to the limbo of well-meant but "impossible" attempts at playwriting.

In addition to the plot which we have shadowed forth, there are various "alarums and excursions." De Bellingham, who, strange to say, is not personally acquainted with Rupert Charlton, the son of the lady he loves, arrests the said Rupert while he is on the King's business, i.e., assisting to work up a Royalist rising at Chester. De Bellingham, still in his capacity of Parliamentary "Commissioner," also arrests his lady love, Mistress Rosamund Charlton. Rupert escapes, after wounding one of his guards; and De Bellingham, after sending out soldiers to pursue and, if necessary, shoot him, discovers, to his dismay, that the fugitive is the son of his divinity. Of course, there is bad blood between Rupert and De Bellingham, and their dislike culminates in a duel, notwithstanding that Charles II.—recently "restored"—has issued an edict against such combats. De Bellingham generously allows himself to be wounded; and, in the last act, King Charles, who holds a judicial inquiry into everybody's business, overcomes the will difficulty by agreeing to give back the Kingsgift estates if Mistress Rosamund marries De Bellingham. There is a good deal of superfluous dialogue in the piece. *The Master of Kingsgift*, however, suggests Bailie Nicol Jarvie's comment on the "Dougal Creature" as being "no' entirely devoid of intelligence." There are some spirited scenes in it, and some flashes of real dramatic fire; but the piece, as a whole, is hopeless.

Actors and actresses in connection with a play of this kind have up-hill tasks, and can only be condoled with in their conditions, and commended for their conscientiousness. Mr Edward O'Neill, one of the best representatives of bitter melancholy and acid villainy on our boards, played Mrs Kelly's serious Charles II. with great ease and firmness; Mr Frank Cooper, richly and picturesquely clad, acted with manly earnestness and spacious dignity as the "trimming" De Bellingham. Mr Conway Tearle did full justice to the stubborn sullenness and crude combativeness of Rupert Charlton; and Mr Walter Maclean played an unnecessary tutor with benign solemnity. Mr Johnstone as the steward Gregory, depicting senile and bow-legged fidelity. Miss Lillah M'Carthy acted with delicate emotionality and winning refinement as Rosamund Charlton; and a bright, sparkling, and merry embodiment of a lively Royalist young lady was given by Miss Dora Barton. Mr Walter Maclean's incidental music was very acceptable and appropriate. At the conclusion, in answer to repeated applause from the friendly audience, Mr Frank Cooper appeared, and announced that the authoress was not in the house.

'THE SORCERESS.

A Play, in Five Acts, by Victorien Sardou,
Translated by Louis N. Parker,
Performed for the First Time in New York on Oct. 10, at the New Amsterdam Theatre.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT).

After a brief stay in Washington Mrs Patrick Campbell began a five weeks' engagement in the Empire City last Monday, when the first performance here of Sardou's powerful play attracted a large and brilliant attendance. As the Moorish woman, Zoraya, Mrs Campbell made an instantaneous success, her portrayal of this character being undoubtedly the finest bit of dramatic work that she has ever done here. She was recalled many times at the close of each act, and the applause was most enthusiastic. Mr Guy Standing distinguished himself in the character of Don Enriquez De Palacois. Mr Frederick Perry presented a conscientious study of Cardinal Ximenes, and Messrs Fuller Mellish, George Riddell, and L. Rogers Lytton did excellent work in prominent rôles. Miss Gertrude Coghlan's Manuela showed conspicuous merit, while Miss Martha Waldron's Joana and Miss Alice Butler's Afrida were capable representations. The piece was produced in a manner which reflects great credit upon Mr Charles Frohman and his stage-manager, Mr William Seymour.

The story belongs to the early years of the sixteenth century, soon after the expulsion of the Moors from the greater part of Spain. In their retreat the Moors did not carry away their superstitions with them, and at the beginning of the play a fair young Moorish widow, Zoraya, is accused of witchcraft. She is the daughter of a wise and learned physician, whose wisdom and learning she has inherited. The cures she effects through her medical knowledge and skill are by the agents of the Inquisition attributed to sorcery. Don Enriquez, the newly-married husband of Joana, daughter of Lopez de Padilla, Governor of Toledo, becomes infatuated with her and she with him. Owing to a supposed spell which she has cast upon the young bride, Zoraya is brought before the Inquisition and condemned to the stake. But Joana falls into a sort of cataleptic sleep, from which Zoraya alone, with her magnetic powers, can awaken her. This, on condition of being liberated, Zoraya does, but the pardon she has received is set at naught by the raging multitude, and she ends by dying in the arms of Don Enriquez.

THE "HIPPOLYTUS" OF EURIPIDES.

Translated from the Greek by Gilbert Murray,
and Reproduced at a Matinée at the Court Theatre on Tuesday, Oct. 18.

The Goddess Aphrodite	Miss ELINOR FOSTER
The Goddess Artemis	Mrs GWENDOLEN BISHOP
Theseus	Mr ALFRED BRYDONE
Phædra	Miss EDYTH OLIVE
Hippolytus	Mr BEN WEBSTER
Henchman	Mr GRANVILLE BARKER
An Old Huntsman	Mr A. E. GEORGE
The Nurse	Miss ROSINA FILIPPI
Leader of Chorus	Miss TITA BRAND

To those studiously inclined there was much interest to be derived from the representation at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon of Prof. Gilbert Murray's translation of the *Hippolytus* of Euripides. Schlegel, in his lecture on this Greek dramatist, said of him, "His constant aim is to please—he cares not by what means; hence is he so unequal. Frequently he has passages of overpowering beauty, but at other times he sinks into downright mediocrity. Passion with him is the first thing; his next care is for character, and when these endeavours leave still further scope, he occasionally seeks to lay on a touch of grandeur and dignity." He quite succeeded, at any rate, in giving to his play *Hippolytus* both grandeur and dignity, and he handled that tragedy with a powerful touch that was beyond the genius of Racine, who imitated him. Mr Murray's work, it will be remembered, was produced at the Lyric Theatre on May 28 last, when it evoked much favourable comment, and the impression created on a first hearing was deepened in the minds of many who witnessed the tragedy for a second time on Tuesday. The unhappy passion of Phædra, the victim of the Goddess Aphrodite's spell, was once more pathetically shown by Miss Edyth Olive, who was most impressive in her final speech of despair. Mr Alfred Brydone's fine elocutionary method and powerful voice again were of admirable assistance in the part of Theseus, and the curse of the hapless King of Athens launched against Hippolytus over the dead body of Phædra was a particularly fine effort. Mr Ben Webster had scarcely the grand manner in his rendering of Hippolytus, but his acting was distinguished by real pathos in the departure of the ill-requited son after his father's curse. There was nothing better in the representation than Mr Granville Barker's recital of the catastrophe that overtakes Hippolytus, who is mortally wounded by the overturning of his chariot; and here we may praise this clever actor's production of the play, which was very skilfully managed. Miss Rosina Filippi played with considerable feeling as the Nurse; Miss Tita Brand's perfect elocution as the leader of the chorus sounded the true note of classical dignity; and Mr A. E. George may be highly praised for his old huntsman. The name of the young lady who recited the "Maiden's Song" was only given among the members of the chorus, so that we are unable to single her out, but a particularly sweet and expressive voice and admirable clearness of articulation made the recital very perfect. Mrs Gwendolen Bishop played the Goddess Artemis with care and discretion; and Miss Elinor Foster was interesting as the Goddess Aphrodite. Notwithstanding the fact that Schlegel charges Euripedes with using the chorus as an essential ornament, it certainly presses home the significance of the tragical theme in *Hippolytus*, even though Miss Florence Farr's music is monotonous rather than impressive. To the great composer there seems to be much opportunity in the spacious theme of the tragedy, and it is a pity that Wagner did not tackle it. To his genius it would have been an inspiring subject.

"THE DECREE NISI."

A New Play, in One Act, by Joshua Bates,
Produced at the St. James's Theatre, on Tuesday, Oct. 18.

Sir Adrian Hudspeth, Bart.	Mr CHARLES FULTON
Dick Blundell	Mr LESLIE FABER
Waiter	Mr GERALD JEROME
Harper	Miss BARBARA HANNAY
Lady Hudspeth	Miss MADGE M'INTOSH

Lady Hudspeth, the leading character in this little piece, which was produced at the St. James's Theatre on the occasion of the fiftieth representation of *The Garden of Lies*, is a rather unsatisfactory personage, and quite possibly the author may intend the character as representative of a frivolous society lady of the day. At all events, she appears to have acted foolishly in compromising herself in her association with Mr Dick Blundell. Her husband, Sir Adrian Hudspeth, has been successful in the action he has brought in the Divorce Court, and when a visit is paid the lady by her admirer, he finds her in her most frivolous mood. She is in such good spirits that she jests about the case and the incidents of the Divorce Court, the learned judge being irreverently described as "a cock-sparrow in a big wig." However, she becomes more serious, and indulges in some phrases, the precise meaning of which it is not quite easy for the average man or woman to understand. In response to a message her husband appears on the scene, whereupon the lady talks mysteriously about "the mountain peaks" and death, and then goes into a dead faint. Finding that Sir Adrian has gone, she hands her maid various trinkets, but retains her wedding ring, which she is entitled to wear six months longer. Whether the couple will become reconciled before the decree nisi is made absolute the audience is left in doubt. Miss Madge M'Intosh proved to be a charming representative of Lady Hudspeth, Mr Leslie Faber was excellent as Dick Blundell, and Mr Chas. Fulton played admirably as Sir Adrian. Miss Barbara Hannay did well as the maid, Harper.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The Royal College Concert on Wednesday last opened with the Quartet for Strings, in G minor, Op. 10, by C. A. Debussy, a work which is somewhat peculiar in style in some portions, and we are so accustomed to the Italian and German descriptions of the various movements, that the French expressions seemed a little strange. For example, the first movement of the Quartet was headed "animé et très décidé." It expressed thoroughly the character of the music, and the executants followed their instructions accurately. The second movement was labelled "assez vif et bien rhythmé," the third, and unquestionably the most attractive, being thus described "andantino doucement expressif." The music here was sweet, expressive, and melodious, and made a most agreeable impression deepened by the skill of the students who took part. They were Miss Vera Warwick-Evans, and Messrs Herbert Kinze, Frank Bridge, and Ivor James. Miss Theresa M. Lightfoot then sang two songs of Dr. Elgar creditably, and then came the sonata for pianoforte and violin, op. 96, G major, of Beethoven, charmingly rendered by Messrs Herbert Kinze and James Friskin. The Chanson Espagnole of Delibes brought out in a most effective manner the vocal talent of Miss Grace Frantz, whose command of scale passages and intervals showed good training, combined with ease and grace in delivery. Chopin's Impromptu in F sharp major, op. 36, was played with great ability by Miss Mildred M'Cheane, A.R.C.M. All the distinctive qualities of Chopin's music were fully expressed by this gifted young lady, who was rewarded with enthusiastic applause. "Alt Heidelberg," by Jenson, was well delivered by Mr Sidney Jarvis, and the concert concluded with the trio in B Major, op. 8, by Brahms, played by Miss Olive Blume and Messrs Herbert Kinze and Ivor James. As usual, the beautiful new concert-room was completely filled.

THE Dramatic Debaters will discuss Mr Pinero's play, *A Wife Without a Smile*, at the Queen's Hotel, W., to-morrow (Sunday) night. The debate will be opened by R. C. Levitt.

PERSONATING AN ACTOR.

James Moss, lately a tram conductor, giving the name of George Alexander, was charged last week at the Westminster Police-court, before Mr Shiel, with personating the well-known actor-manager of that name, and obtaining goods by fraud from Harrod's, Limited, Brompton-road. Mr P. Conway prosecuted.

An assistant in the turnery department deposed that on Thursday afternoon the prisoner selected an ivory-handled shaving brush. In reply to the usual question of "Cash or account?" the prisoner said the latter, and gave his name as George Alexander, of 57, Pont-street. The witness presented the account to the prisoner, and he signed it "George Alexandra." He was allowed to walk away with the brush, and was then stopped and interrogated as to the spelling of the name. The prisoner said "Quite right. I always sign it in that way."

Wm. Kashnor, chief detective at Harrod's, stated that the prisoner was requested to proceed to Mr Alexander's house in Pont-street for inquiries. The prisoner then said that he was Mr Alexander's butler. On his way to the house he broke away, but was caught after a chase.

Mr C. T. H. Helmsley, manager to Mr George Alexander, said the prisoner was not known to the gentleman, and had never been in his service.

Sergeant Dougall mentioned that the prisoner gave a false address at Pimlico when charged. It appeared that he had been employed on the electric trams, and that he resided at The Terrace, Hounslow. The man had done no work for sixteen or seventeen weeks.

Mr Shiel remanded the prisoner in custody.

Shortly afterwards a medical certificate was handed to the magistrate as to the prisoner's mental condition.

Mr Conway remarked that there was a good deal of method in the prisoner's actions.

Mr Shiel.—I will leave him where he is in prison, and call the doctor's attention to him.

THE LATE WALTER SEALBY.

The late Mr Walter Sealby started his career as a solo choir boy in Nolan's choir at the age of fourteen at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, pantomime, in which the late Miss Farren was principal boy. He then returned to business life for a short period, after which he adopted the stage and played a stock season with Miss Gertrude Warden. He also joined Mr R. A. Chute at Bristol, and later on was engaged at producing stock work at Hull. He was a well-known pantomime comedian, having appeared as Dame, at the Prince's, Bristol (two seasons); the Prince's and Royal, Manchester; the Court and Shakespeare, Liverpool; Theatre Royal, Nottingham; the Tyne and Royal, Newcastle, &c. Mr Sealby was for some time at the Palace Theatre, London, when that house was originally opened as the Royal English Opera House. He also had a remarkable run in *A Trip to Chicago*, playing the part

Photo by Bara.

THE LATE MR. WALTER SEALBY.

of Mrs Murphy for seven years with great success. His last season was at the Grand Theatre, Douglas, Isle of Man, where among the many parts he played might be mentioned Nathaniel Glover, in *Our Flat*; Amos Dunn, in *Niobe*; William, in *Jane*; and Cattermole, in *The Private Secretary*. He also produced a new piece for Mr Willie Edouin entitled *Off the Rank*, and played Mr Edouin's part. Mr Sealby belonged to the Manchester Dramatic Lodge, and was on the committee of the Theatrical Managers' Association. He had been ailing since May last, and died at St. Thomas's Nursing Home, on Monday last, the cause of death being pernicious anemia. He leaves a widow, known professionally as Miss Chrissie Ralland, and one daughter (Miss Mabel Sealby. The deceased was forty-three years of age.

The family have decided to have an inquest held. Therefore the funeral will not take place to-day, as arranged. Directly the date of interment is fixed notice will be given in the daily papers.

MR GILBERT HUDSON'S company paid a flying visit on 12th and 13th inst. to the Lecture Hall, Public Library, Stoke Newington, under the patronage of his Worship the Mayor. The piece chosen for representation was George Colman, the younger's, successful comedy in five acts, *The Heir-at-Law*. The cast was an efficient one. Mr C. L. Arthur played Daniel Dowlas (Baron Duberly) with conspicuous ability; a well-elaborated impersonation was that of Dick Dowlas by Mr E. L. Noel; Mr William Pimm gave an entertaining rendition of Dr. Pangloss; Mr Stanley Roberts made the most of his opportunities as Henry Morland; and the indefatigable Mr Gilbert Hudson played Zekiel Homespun with humour and eccentricity. Mr T. Ireby Cape made the most of Kenrick, and John was well placed in the hands of Mr R Stanley. Miss Ketura Brookes acted extremely well the part of Deborah Dowlas (Lady Duberly); Miss Florence Shean was an attractive Caroline Dormer; and Miss Kittie Selba deserves special praise for her charming and piquant delineation of Cicely Homespun. The original epilogue of the play was spoken.

"THE other night in a London theatre a lady sitting in the stalls noticed that one of her neighbours was continually moving in her seat as though in much discomfort. Suspecting that her neighbour's dress was caught in the seat, the first lady asked if she could help to release it. The uneasy one then said that the chair on which she was sitting was broken, that she was supporting most of her weight on one foot, and that the exhausting and painful position explained her restlessness, for which, however, she must apologise. She added that nearly three months before she had sat in the same seat, and that it was broken then. Surely even the great reputation of Londoners for long-suffering is not great enough. Has anyone ever heard of more meekness and patience than is indicated by this broken stall, for the privilege of supporting which with one foot someone has paid half-a-guinea?" By seating theatres with the well-known Lazarus chairs such a contretemps as described above could never have happened. The chairs from the famous house of Lazarus give the maximum of comfort, take up the minimum of space, and are the acme of upholstery. Besides, they never break.—[ADVT.]

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

The autumn season of opera in Italian opened on Monday last with a success of the most triumphant character. Indeed we do not remember in the annals of Italian opera in London any performance meeting with such instantaneous recognition from an audience crowding every part of the magnificent theatre. Messrs Rendle and Forsyth have timed their experiment perfectly. Just when the season at the seaside is beginning to wane Covent-garden opens its hospitable doors with a company of artistes of the finest quality representing the cream of Italian musical art. It is simple nonsense to speak of Italian opera as "played out" while such splendid performers as the San Carlo Company brighten a London autumn with the perfection of their art, and not only do the principals distinguish themselves in a manner recalling the "palmy days" of Italian opera, but throughout the troupe the same lofty ideal may be traced in the splendid ensemble, the brilliancy of the orchestra, the sonority of the chorus, and the finish of the entire representation. The opera of *Manon Lescaut* being chosen for the opening night, it may be well to state that the general performance was far in advance of that given at Covent-garden in 1894, when Puccini's opera met with but a moderately favourable reception. On Monday last it was brought forward under special advantages, the greatest being that it exactly suited the San Carlo company. In some respects it may frankly be admitted that Massenet has employed the same subject with greater felicity than Puccini, simply because Massenet has a vein of sentiment entirely lacking in the Italian composer, who, however never fails in vigour or animation. All the melodramatic scenes of *Manon Lescaut* appeal to Puccini, as to most modern Italian composers, with great force, and in these portions of the opera he is heard at his best. He makes rapid changes of time and style, but always with complete command of resources, and invariably with a correct illustration of the particular scene or incident. Thus we can always follow Puccini with satisfaction, and recognise that he has provided the artistes with admirable materials for the display of their talent. That this was the case on Monday, ample proof was afforded in the rapturous expression of approval bestowed on the chief soloists. Signor Caruso, who has been engaged to take part with the Neapolitan company, sang with his old charm of style, beauty of tone, and impassioned expression, although we have heard him even more perfect in voice, and it was rumoured that a slight cold due to our fickle climate affected the popular tenor, who was supported by an artiste of first-rate quality in Madame Giachetti. This lady possesses merit so remarkable that the Covent-garden syndicate will assuredly not allow her to return to Naples without a hearing during the regular season. She is a vocalist whose art is perfect, and an actress capable of expressing every shade of character. Signor Fornari as Lescaut proved himself an artiste of ability, and as Geronte Signor Arimondi—who has before now been heard at Covent-garden—pleased every visitor by the fine quality of his voice and his artistic gifts as vocalist and actor. The remainder of the company may be spoken of as thoroughly efficient, and the chorus and orchestra did themselves great credit throughout. In fact it was impossible for an opening performance to have gone with greater smoothness. The conductor, Signor Campanini, a brother of the famous tenor of that name, once a brilliant star of Covent garden, is evidently a musician of experience and high capacity. He controlled his forces with perfect ease and certainty, and left not a loophole for adverse criticism. A hearty call to the front showed the satisfaction of the vast audience. The scenic effects were altogether excellent, and previous to the commencement of the opera the National Anthem was given, and followed by that of Italy, the "Marcia Reale," both being greeted with deafening plaudits. The brilliant audience included H.R.H. Princess Louise, the Duke of Argyll, the Duchess of Manchester, Lady Esher, Lady Sherborne, Lady Shrewsbury, Mr and Mrs Vagliano, Mrs Cornwallis-West, Mr and Mrs Carl Mayer, and a host of visitors known in society circles. The list of operas to be presented during the six weeks' season could hardly be more varied or attractive than the works announced, and performed in the same finished and artistic style as on the opening night we may safely predict a successful issue, none the less welcome for the fact that Mr Henry Russell is the director.

The brilliant effect of the opening performance by the San Carlo company was again fully maintained on Tuesday, when Verdi's opera *Aïda* was given with complete success. The opera, first heard at Cairo in 1871 and at Covent-garden in 1876, has long since been accepted as one of the most dramatic and striking of the composer's works. In its representation by the Neapolitan company it could not fail to be noticed that the Italians brought the vocal portions of the opera into greater prominence than the instrumental. Hence in the imposing ensembles and concerted passages we heard less of the sounding brass and other strident orchestral instruments than on some previous occasions, when *Aïda* has been given, and some slight changes may also be noted in minor details, such, for instance, as the dance of black boys, which was not performed at the express speed once popular. Happily the representative of the heroine, Signora Buoninsegna, was a genuine artiste, and, although we have heard vocalists in *Aïda* of greater volume, we have seldom listened to a voice of purer quality or one controlled with more artistic effect. Her greatest success was in the third act, where Signorina Buoninsegna sang with exquisite purity of tone and with a splendid appropriateness to the dramatic situation. Her reception was, as it deserved to be, enthusiastic, and throughout the opera her many fine qualities never failed to obtain the fullest recognition. Madame De Cisneros as Amneris had the advantage of a singularly attractive presence combined with a voice of large compass and good quality. She was, besides, an actress of exceptional powers, and her gifts were fully revealed in the duet with Aïda in the second act, the jealousy and imperious character of the Princess being demonstrated in the most striking manner. Her chest notes rang out with bell-like clearness, and her dramatic vigour expressed every emotion of the scene. Signor Vignas, who has been seen at Covent-garden before as Radames, again appeared in that character, and proved himself in every respect a gifted artiste. The exacting character of Amonasro was undertaken by a new comer, Signor Amato, who represented the part in the melodramatic style usually accepted and generally approved. As the High Priest Ramfis Signor Arimondi's fine voice and broad style suited the character, and made the best possible impression, and Signor Thos did well as the Egyptian King. In all stage details the company proved thoroughly efficient, and the choral and orchestral forces, under the able guidance of Signor Campanini, again deserved the unqualified approval of critic and visitors.

On Wednesday Puccini's tragic opera, *La Tosca*, was performed with great success, and attracted an immense audience. When produced at Covent-garden in 1900, we commented on the propensity of the modern Italian composers for introducing violent and sensational subjects, and we see no reason for modifying our ideas that such melodramatic themes hardly agree with the beauty and grace which the immortal Mozart said should be the composer's first consideration. But "other times, other manners," and, we may add, other music, and it must be allowed that *La Tosca*, with all its faults of style as a libretto, has afforded Puccini an opportunity of displaying remarkable skill as a musician. He is frequently brilliant and artistic and always effective. The performance was generally attractive, and in some portions thoroughly excellent. Madame Giachetti as Floria Tosca might not, perhaps, quite equal Termina in dramatic ability, but she sang extremely well throughout, and in the second act was tempted to repeat an air in a situation not really suitable for such a display. But we do not expect Italian artists to be as reserved as Teutonic performers. The audience expressed their admiration freely for the artiste, and Madame Giachetti graciously responded, so we need not comment further on an incident which Bayreuth would not have tolerated. As Mario Cavaradossi Signor Anselmi hardly possessed sufficient physical power in one or two instances, but as a whole he played cleverly and sang efficiently. Signor Sammarco as the Baron fully realised the objectionable character, and made it most impressive. Signor Sammarco is renowned as a vocalist, but as Scarpia his greatest gifts were not employed to their full extent. He will have a finer opportunity as a singer in *Rigoletto*. Signor Thos made the most of Angelotti, and as the fussy Sagrestano Signor Tavecchia displayed genial humour, most welcome in a work so tragical as *La Tosca*. The beautiful Church scene of the first act hardly needed such brilliant lighting; a slightly subdued tone would improve it. Signor Campanini conducted with care and zeal, and was called to the front after the second act.

On Thursday *Rigoletto*, regarded by some admirers of Verdi as his best opera, was produced by the San Carlo Company, with Miss Alice Nielsen as Gilda. Since *Rigoletto* was first heard at Venice in 1851, it has never ceased to be popular. Its captivating melodies, rendered all the more effective by contrast with strong dramatic situations, invariably appeal to modern audiences. Much interest was felt in the appearance of Signor Sammarco as the unhappy jester, for the baritone has an extraordinary reputation in Italy as a vocalist, and, as everybody knows, some of the finest music in the score falls to his share. That Signor Sammarco did not disappoint expectations may be emphatically said, and the accomplished vocalist, aided by a resonant voice and a true Italian style, produced a great impression, his acting also being masterly and artistic. Signor Arimondi as Sparafucile made good use of his fine voice, and his stolid manner of representing the callous bravo was thorough appropriate. Signor Anselmi could not quite reach the high level of Signor Caruso in the character of the Duke, but he sang the pretty airs of the part with acceptance, and proved himself a capable artist in his acting. The favourable impression recently made by Miss Nielsen as Zerlina, in *Don Giovanni*, probably accounted for her appearance as Gilda, a part chiefly depending for its interest on the delightful music allotted to the character. One melody alone, the exquisite "Caro nome," secures for Gilda the favour of the audience. The remaining characters were efficiently sustained, and the conductor was Signor Tanara, a gentleman who was new to us, but evidently a capable musician. The chorus and orchestra were safe under his direction. With *Carmen* on Friday and a matinée of *Rigoletto* on Saturday, and *Manon Lescaut* in the evening, the week's varied and attractive programme surpassed any autumn scheme we can remember for many years past.

PARIS THEATRES.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

ANTOINE offers a very interesting programme at his theatre. We have *The Monkey's Paw*, by Louis Parker, adapted by Robert Nunès, which succeeded in thrilling the first-nighters as thoroughly as they anticipated. It was admirably played by Antoine, Desfontaines, and Madame Miller. The *pièce de résistance* was a two-act play by Conring, adapted from the German by Jean Thorel. It deals with the conflict between two German officers, one a brusque old war-loving Major who has risen from the ranks, and the other a cold, ironical, satirical, aristocratic Colonel, who cordially detests the former. The story is very slight, but the characterisations are excellent. Signoret made a hit as the Colonel. It was a remarkable character study. Signoret distinguished himself again later in the evening in Max Maurey's delightful little one-act comedy, *Asile de Nuit*, in which Signoret, as a tramp, is taken by the manager in charge of the night refuge to be an eccentric journalist in search of "copy." His disgust when he finds he has been mistaken is highly diverting.

ALL Paris is talking of Armand Bour's new departure at the Bouffes-Parisiens, a theatre whose name has been associated so long with failures; but Bour has hit on the idea of producing the late Emile Veyrin's comedy in verse, *L'Embarquement pour Cythère*. It achieved an immediate success. The comedy itself is charming. It deals with the career of La Marquise Pomponette, as the dainty little cocotte is called by her friends, Pomponette is the mistress of President Hénault, who keeps her in luxury. We are in the very atmosphere of the Louis XV. period. Abbés and marquises fill her dainty salons, and Pomponette, though she coughs and grows easily fatigued, is yet never weary of the endless course of pleasure. At last love comes into her life and changes everything. A certain Florestan has admired her for long, and writes her a daily love-letter. At last he reveals himself to her. They meet; but alas! at the moment when he is embracing her a noise in the adjoining room announces the arrival of Hénault. Florestan immediately accounts for his presence in her chamber by posing as the celebrated Doctor Gilbert. This scene is admirably conceived and capitally acted. Pomponette's soul is awakened by love. She wearies of the heartless frivolities which once so entirely satisfied her. She is dying, and her death scene, surrounded by all the gay train of thoughtless pleasure-seekers, is as sad as it is touching and convincing. Mdlle. Yahne, who made such a success at the Athénée in *Madame Flirt*, looked a perfect picture and played the comedy scenes admirably; but she lacked the heart, tenderness, and sentiment, and was ill at ease in the delivery of the verse. The scenery was a dream of Watteau. The music chosen was by Lulli and Gluck.

THE Vaudeville management announce that in the first twenty-six days of *Les Trois Anabaptists* they took 101,820f.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Oct. 17, the Drama,
by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

Crowded houses are being attracted this week to this popular suburban playhouse to witness the representation of the above drama by the company organised by Mr Tom E. Taylor. The play abounds with thrilling and exciting incidents, and the interest is sustained from the rise to the fall of the curtain. The character of the female swindler Lu Valroy is undertaken by Miss Violet Ellicott, who succeeds in giving a clever study of the part. Mr Jerrold Heather enacts Jack Coulson, a criminal investigator, and the rôle is well suited to his methods. The battle of wits between Coulson and Lu Valroy is watched by the house in breathless silence, and the efforts of the two clever artistes are hugely appreciated. Mr Luke Forster as an amateur detective is irresistibly comical and creates much mirth. Mr Weldon Atherstone as Geoffrey Warden makes a refined and polished scoundrel, and Mr Kenyon Gray is dignified and natural as James Oliver. Harold Travers is depicted in a manly fashion by Mr George Unwin, and in the part of Mary Ann Mee Miss Evelyn Marrable appears to advantage. Miss Florence Kelsey is a charming May Andrews, and Mr Rule Pyott is a typical Abraham Mikestein. The numerous minor characters are all intelligently treated, and the scenery and dresses are excellent.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MR ARTHUR WING PINERO'S piece, *A Wife Without a Smile*, at Wyndham's Theatre, has been modified so far as the movements of the lively doll are concerned. Those who see the play will find the puppet's motions quite different to what they were on the first night. Mr Pinero has now gone on the Continent, after creating a great sensation in the theatrical world. The members of the staff at Wyndham's Theatre have received a present from Mr Pinero. It is almost needless to say that the gift was not received "without a smile."

MR W. S. GILBERT, when acting as chairman of the Edgware petty sessions on Wednesday, found fault with the fact that a man who was summoned for betting had been allowed to go on offending for three days when one offence was sufficient. Recently at that court, he said, a betting man had been fined £30, the full penalty on six summonses, and thinking the penalty excessive he had written to the Home Secretary pointing out that if the police allowed a man to bet day after day, and the magistrates continued to impose the maximum penalty of £5 for each offence, the amount of the fine would really rest with the action taken by the police, and they would become the judges. The Home Secretary replied that there was no need to permit a betting man to go on betting for several days, and added that the sum of £5 was the maximum penalty, and if there were several summonses it would be a good reason for reducing the penalty. The magistrates fined the defendant £3 on each summons.

THIS reminds us of Mr Gilbert's alleged reply to the High Sheriff when the great librettist waited upon him in connection with his—Mr Gilbert's—appointment as a Justice of the Peace. "You have, I believe," said the Sheriff pleasantly, "studied the law in your barrister days, and have a sound knowledge of it?" "That is true," said Mr Gilbert; "but I hope, sir, you will not consider that as an impediment!"

MR JOHN HARE delighted those who saw *Little Mary* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, on Saturday evening, and, in response to a most enthusiastic call, said that the older he grew the more he disliked to make a speech before the curtain; but there were occasions when to refuse to do so was like refusing to take the hand of a friend. It was no mere figure of speech to say that he regarded the Birmingham audiences as the best of his theatrical friends. He had been here now for upwards of twenty years, and on no occasion had he ever received anything but the most cordial welcome. To visit Birmingham had been in the past, and would be for the few years that remained to him, one of the greatest pleasures of his theatrical life.

"ON that stage on the previous Saturday, continued Mr Hare, his old friend and their old friend, Sir Henry Irving, said many generous things about him, which he felt very deeply, because they were so soon to lose Sir Henry from their midst. When he had gone his loss would be irreparable, for they would never look upon his like again. They hoped that he would be spared for many years to enjoy his retirement. Two years ago he (Mr Hare) foreshadowed his own retirement. He little thought that Sir Henry would precede him, but so it was. For himself he might say that once, possibly twice, more he would have the honour of appearing before them, and then he must make his final bow. He hoped they would find him some place in their memories, and when he had altogether gone, and when other favourites had established themselves, they would still have pleasant recollections of him.

MR J. HARE has been before the London public as an actor for nearly forty years, and is now sixty years of age, having been born in London in May, 1844. He first appeared before a London audience in *Naval Engagements*, at the old Prince of Wales's Theatre, in 1865. Mr Hare's retirement in the prime of his artistic ability will be a great loss to the stage which he has adorned by the high polish, the finished art, and the keen intellectual quality of his many fine creations.

WE are very glad to say that the subscriptions to the fund for the blind actor, Mr Henry Crisp, are coming in very well. Mr Lionel Rignold has forwarded to us £1 to be added to the fund. A number of touring managers are kindly interesting themselves in collecting from their companies, while many resident managers are helping to swell the amount which will be handed over to this deserving case.

MR EDWARD TERRY will shortly be married to Lady Harris, the widow of Sir Augustus Harris. The marriage will take place before Christmas, and the bride will accompany her husband on his tour in America, which will commence in January. Lady Harris's daughter, Miss Florence Harris, lately went on the stage, and has been appearing in the provinces in Mrs Michael Gunn's company. We shall wish Mr and Mrs Terry every happiness.

MR GEORGE GIDDENS, who recently returned from a long Colonial tour, relates an instance of endurance by Colonial playgoers. "One night—it was in New Zealand"—he says, "I was playing Mr Bloodgood, in *Are You a Mason?* Just before the curtain rose my business-manager came on the stage. 'Must have a chair,' he said. 'There's a farmer come to the box-office. He's ridden forty-five miles to see the piece, and he's plastered with mud from head to foot. Wants a five-shilling seat, and they're telling him he can't sit on one in his present state if he pays five pounds.'"

MR FORBES-ROBERTSON is, perhaps, the best-known actor-artist in the profession. Mr Weedon Grossmith devoted much more time some years ago to his palette than he does now. *Mr Punch's* brilliant draughtsman, Mr Bernard Partridge, has practically given up the stage since he became a cartoonist, for a weekly absence from an engagement, on the night of the *Punch* dinner, would hardly be tolerated by admiring audiences! Mr Alfred Kendrick has met with very good success as an artist. Mr John Le Hay paints—and sells—very fair little water colours. Miss Mabel Terry Lewis (Mrs Ralph Batley) is the only well-known miniaturist on the stage. Miss Evelyn Millard's sister, by the way, also paints "pictures in little." Mr Malcolm Cherry and Miss Nancy Price both attempt caricatures, and Mr Frank Cooper spends much of his spare time at the easel. On the music hall stage Mr Dan Leno "plays with the brush," Mr George Robey wields an amusing pencil, and even the Happy Dustman (Mr Seth Egbert) has yearnings towards art.

THE committee of the O. P. Club, through their solicitors, have resented the insertion in the *Daily Express* of a paragraph with regard to the production of Mr Pinero's play, *A Wife Without a Smile* at Wyndham's Theatre, which stated that an irreverent "god"—believed to be a member of the O P. Club—remarked when it was announced that Mr Pinero was not in the house, "And a (unmentionable) good job too." "Why," they ask, "should your correspondent have believed the person who interrupted to be a member of the O P. Club? He would have been unable to distinguish this from the stalls of the theatre, and there is strong evidence that the person who interrupted from the gallery was not a member of the club at all."

A TAX on theatre or amusement tickets is proposed in the daughter state of Victoria, Australia, and much anxiety exists in the colony as to whether the new ministry of New South Wales will follow the example of Victoria.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mr and Mrs A. S. Homewood (Miss Joan Blair) on the birth of another son. It is a rather singular coincidence that both boys were born on Sunday (one being exactly three years his brother's senior), and that their father also made his advent on a Sunday. Further it is curious that the eldest boy was born while Mr Homewood was on the water—going to Montreal—and the latest comer arrived at the very hour that his father was crossing from Dublin to Holyhead.

MR FRED EMNEY, who gives such a capital performance as M. Loustot, in *Veronique*, at the Apollo Theatre, met with many amusing experiences in the days of his youth. He has played seven parts in one piece on the same night. Other actors can doubtless boast of equal versatility but few of them have figured, as he once did, as the whole of a Prussian army and French garrison at one and the same time. The play was *The New Magdalen*, and after doing the approach of the soldiers behind the scenes all by himself with great energy, he fired the guns, gave orders, and finally entered victorious, having conquered and killed himself "off."

MR EMNEY was one of the best Lurchers in *Dorothy*, on record—his uncle, Mr Arthur Williams, played the part, it will be remembered, in the original production in London—and one of the funniest pictures he has ever seen on the stage was when an amateur club put on the popular comic opera at Malta. Not being able to procure any hounds, the stage-manager suggested that every member of the company who possessed a dog should "bring him along" on the first night, and the "Tally Ho!" chorus was consequently accompanied by dismal howling and yelping, for the pack consisted of a huge bloodhound, a Maltese terrier, two fox terriers, and a dozen miserable-looking mongrels. The stage manager no doubt flattered himself that *he* knew how to put on a piece with London effects.

MR AND MRS KENDAL have been enthusiastically received this week at the Court Theatre, Liverpool, where they have been appearing in the parts of Col. Blake and Susan Hartley, in the comedy *A Scrap of Paper*, which they have sustained so admirably since the original production of the piece. The "Kendals," as they are lovingly called, are very popular in Liverpool, and the audiences which have assembled at the Court Theatre during the week have shown their intense delight by uproarious applause.

THE first Liverpool production of *Dick Hope* on Thursday evening at the Royal Court Theatre impressed the audience very much, and the opinion on all hands was that Mr and Mrs Kendal had actually surpassed themselves. The delightful play was followed with the deepest interest by a crowded house, and the frequent applause which broke out was eloquent testimony to that fact. "He never played so admirably in his life" was the complimentary reference concerning Mr Kendal made by an old theatre-goer. At the close the author, Mr Ernest Hendrie, appeared in response to a strong demand.

MR FREDERICK KERR, it has been stated, has been engaged by Miss Muriel Wylford. Such, however, is not the case. Mr Kerr is at liberty after his engagement with Mrs Brown-Potter. There is little doubt that this admirable actor will not be long off the boards.

MR GEORGE MUSGROVE is of opinion that the best plays are now produced in America, and he has secured half-a-dozen of them for Australia. He took out with him to Australia a new comedy company recruited in London to produce Mr George Alexander's *In Old Heidelberg* and other recent successes. But his highest hopes are associated with *Pretty Peggy* and the other American attractions he has secured.

MISS HILDA HAMMERTON, who is engaged in *The Earl and the Girl*, at the Lyric Theatre, was walking near Whitehall-gardens between four and five o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, when she saw a little girl of about seven standing in the roadway in front of a fast-approaching hansom cab. Miss Hammerton rushed to the rescue, and dragged the child out of danger, having herself a very narrow escape.

TWO thousand eight hundred and ninety-two pounds four shillings and ninepence was realised by the entertainment in aid of the funds of the British Ophthalmic Hospital at Jerusalem, held in July last, at His Majesty's Theatre, at which the King and Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and other members of the Royal Family were present. After deducting £452 3s. 3d. for expenses, the entertainment committee has handed over £2,240 1s. 6d. to the council of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England for the benefit of the hospital.

MR WILSON HALLETT, whose child imitations are even more successful than his whistling songs, prides himself on being able to make friends with children and amuse them as easily as he amuses a grown-up audience. On one particular occasion he was introduced to a very serious little boy, whose apparent shyness he determined to overcome. So he promptly commenced to amuse that serious little boy, but did not meet with the usual quick response, and the parents and guardians who were present watched his attempts with admiration and interest. The little boy, for whose benefit Mr Hallett was making himself, as everybody thought, very amusing, presently observed, looking calmly at his entertainer, "You can't make me look silly. I'se too old. I'se five!"

THE Little Sisters of the Poor will have a benefit at the Royalty Theatre on the afternoon of Thursday, Nov. 3, by the kindness of Miss Kate Santley. Mr George Alexander, Mr Charles Warner, Mr George Graves, Mr Lionel Mackinder, Mr Edmund Payne, Mrs Brown-Potter, Madeleine Lucette Ryley, Miss Kate Cutler, Miss Haidée Gunn (her first appearance in London), Miss Ruth Vincent, Miss Sybil Arundale, Miss Marie Studholme, and Mr Lionel Brough will contribute to the entertainment.

"THE COAL KING," an entirely new drama, written by Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn, will be produced on Monday at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. It will be played for the week by the excellent stock company, Mr Ernest E. Norris and Mrs Bennett taking the principal parts. The scene of the play is laid in Lancashire, and it deals in the main with colliery life. The Entombed Scene in act four will, we are told, be most realistically treated, and will give the Elephant patrons some idea of what our brave miners may at any time be called upon to go through.

MR ERNEST MARTIN, one of the authors, in his youth had some years of practical experience in mining engineering in the midlands. He has subsequently gained his stage experience in the London theatres. He first joined the Haymarket company under the present management, in *Under the Red Robe*, in 1896, through the kind introduction of Mr Brandon Thomas, to whom he owes his first connection with the drama. Since then he has appeared in the casts at most of the West-end theatres. He is also not unknown in literary and journalistic circles, his first book, "Shadows," being published some four years ago.

MR FEWLASS LLEWELLYN, the other author, is better known as an actor, added to which he is a successful producer of several plays and pantomimes in town and on tour. Full particulars of his stage career appeared in our "Players of the Period" columns in last week's *Era*.

MR ARTHUR COLLINS will produce the pantomime of *The White Cat* at Drury-lane on Boxing Night. The book is written and invented by Mr J. Hickory Wood and Mr Collins. Miss Marie George will be the principal girl, Miss Queenie Leighton the principal boy, and Messrs Dan Leno, Harry Randall, Johnny Danvers, Fred Eastman, Tom Woottwell, Hugh J. Ward, Tom Hearn, Queen and Le Brun, and the Grigolatis will be in the cast.

THE Royalty will open on Monday, Nov. 7, with a series of revivals of the old dramatists, under the auspices of the Mermaid Society, whose president is Mr Philip Carr. Congreve's *Way of the World* will be played during the week and on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. In the cast are Mrs Theodore Wright, Mr Nigel Playfair, and Miss Ethel Irving. On Monday, Nov. 14, will be revived Beaumont and Fletcher's heroic travesty *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*; followed during the week beginning Nov. 21 with Ford's tragedy *The Broken Heart*. On Monday, Nov. 28, Vanbrugh's comedy *The Confederacy* will be performed; on Monday, Dec. 5, Beaumont and Fletcher's *The Maid's Tragedy*; and on Monday, Dec. 12, Dekker's masterpiece, which is to be given under the title of *Bellafront*.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM, accompanied by his son, and Mrs Albery (Miss Mary Moore), accompanied by her son and sister, left Euston on Wednesday by the boat train to Liverpool en route to New York.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT and her company when on a visit to Potsdam recently were shown the places of interest by a local guide named Lockstaedt. In conversation with Madame Bernhardt, Lockstaedt remarked that he had invented a new gymnastic exercise, and in the park at Sans Souci he placed himself in the twenty-five positions he had "invented." When Madame Bernhardt reached Berlin she sent the professor her photograph, inscribed "D'artiste à artiste."

THE Corporation of London has purchased the picture "The Banquet Scene," from *Macbeth*, by D. Maclise, R.A., which was amongst those displayed at the Guildhall Gallery in connection with the recent exhibition of Irish art.

AT the committee meeting of the Scenic Artists Association, held at the offices, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C., on Monday, Mr Walter Hann in the chair, the following scenic artists were elected members—viz., Messrs Henry Brooke, of Covent-garden Opera House; James O. Bontor, of Glasgow; F. Browning, of Islington; T. C. Daly, of Manchester; Thos. Schonberg, of Clapham-junction; Joseph G. Symes, of Liverpool; and Charles Watson, of Leytonstone. Messrs E. G. Banks, Walter Hann, and W. B. Spong were elected a subcommittee to make the preliminary arrangements for holding the first annual exhibition of works of scenic art.

MR C. W. O'CONNOR, the courteous and enterprising press representative at the Grand Theatre, Islington, has this week been appointed to a similar position with the National Sunday League, and will control the press work for their Sunday concerts. This will not interfere with his duties at the theatre, to which address all communications should be sent.

MISS ALICE NIELSON, who appeared in *Rigoletto*, at Covent-garden on Thursday night, has evolved into an operatic singer from the lightest and brightest heroines of musical comedy. She was born in the far State of Missouri, U.S.A., and made her début in the famous American company known as the Bostonians. Miss Nielsen was a great favourite some years ago in a comic opera called *The Serenade*, and came to England in 1901, when she starred in *The Fortune Teller*, at the Shaftesbury Theatre.

MR GEORGE EDWARDES appealed at the Norfolk Quarter Sessions on Wednesday against the decision of the Cromer magistrates, who recently fined his chauffeur £10 and costs for reckless driving. The Court upheld the appeal and quashed the conviction, but without costs.

THE choristers engaged for the production of *The Country Girl* at Olympia, Paris, went on strike on Tuesday on the question of higher salaries, &c. The directors of Olympia yielded, and rehearsals were renewed. The French male chorus-singers receive ninety francs and women seventy francs monthly. For this they have to attend rehearsals from one to five o'clock in the afternoon. The choristers demanded £6 monthly for men and women alike, with an additional allowance of five francs for matinees, and the managers at the Gaité, Variétés, and Olympia have acceded to these requests.

MISS MURIEL BEAUMONT, who will appear in *The Walls of Jericho*, the new piece at the Garrick, has been on the stage for about six years. She commenced her career by "walking on" at the Haymarket, where she stayed for three years, playing girl parts and rarely taking even a week's vacation. She afterwards appeared in *The Admirable Crichton* at the Duke of York's, and was married, during the run of Mr Barrie's charming comedy, to Mr Gerald Du Maurier.

MR CLARENCE SOUNES, at the recent sale of the Marquis of Anglesey's effects, made very extensive purchases of costumes and scenery, which will be used in the forthcoming Christmas pantomime, *Beauty and the Beast*, at the Grand Theatre, Woolwich.

MR WIGNEY PERCIVAL, who is playing in *The Tempest* at His Majesty's, is a graduate from the Wilson Barrett school, having been a member for many years of the splendid company that produced such actors as E. S. Willard, Ambrose Manning, and the late Franklin M'Leay. He went to America, Australia, and South Africa with Mr Barrett. He joined the "dear old Governor" in the good old days at the Princess's. Mr Percyval was the original Philip Christian in *The Manxman*, and played in *The Sign of the Cross* from the beginning of its long run. He is one of the many actors who combine painting with playing, and many of his pictures display considerable ability.

MISS ETHEL BUCHANAN, who during the last twenty-five years has toured with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company in England and America, has joined the Salvation Army. She was on tour in Manchester when her husband, Mr Marshall, until lately a stage manager, wrote to her from York, where he had recently settled, saying that he had been converted, and asking her to come home. She arrived at York the next day, attended a Salvation meeting, and voluntarily went to the "penitent form." She has since been singing to large crowds at open-air meetings.

MR GORDON STARKEY'S company in *A Message from Mars*, which is well on its way into its fourth year of tour, is maintaining its hold upon the playgoing public. The recent tour through Ireland, ranging from Waterford to Derry, has proved even more successful than the previous one of Easter, 1902.

INTOXICANTS were sold for the first time in the bars of the Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough, on Monday last. *My Lady Molly* opened this magnificent theatre a year ago, when the licence was granted with the restriction that no liquor should be sold on the premises. The restriction has now been removed, and a full licence has been granted by a majority of one of the Middlesbrough County Council, the voting being seventeen to sixteen, and three members of the council being neutral.

MR TREE'S Shakespeare répertoire company has had a very cordial welcome from the City and County of Worcester, a large and influential committee having been formed to receive the company on the occasion of its visit to the old cathedral city this week. The local Shakespeare Society, under the presidency of Lady Isabel Margesson, gave a luncheon party in honour of the leading members of the company, including Miss Constance Collier, Miss Margaret Halstan, Miss Cicely Richards, and Mr William Havilland, Alderman and Mrs Ernest Day being the hosts for the occasion, a great number of the local clergy being among those present. Amongst the members of the committee were the Right Hon. the Earl of Coventry, Lord Lieutenant of the county, the Countess of Coventry, the Right Hon. the Earl Beauchamp, K.C.M.G., the Countess Beauchamp, Sir Henry Lambert, Bart., Lady Lambert, Sir Richard Temple, Bart., Lady Temple, the Hon. G. H. Allsopp, M.P., the Lady Mildred Allsopp, the Lady Barbara Dudley Smith, the Lady Catherine Berkeley, Minnie, Lady Hindlip, Sir Harry Foley Vernon, Bart., the Lady Georgina Vernon, the Lady Isabel Margesson, Lady Douglas Galton, the Hon. Mrs Percy Allsopp, the High Sheriff of Worcestershire and Mrs Walter Holland, and the Mayor of Worcester and Mrs Cooke.

MR OTHO STUART will revive *The Taming of the Shrew* at the Adelphi Theatre about Christmas. The piece will be presented with the Induction, and will be liberally embellished with song and dance. Miss Lily Brayton is to be the Katharine and Mr Oscar Asche the Petruchio.

AT the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on April 3 will be produced an adaptation from Mr Ian M'Laren's novel "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush." The piece has been very successful in America, where it has now been running continuously for over five years. It will be produced by Mr Mollison, who will play the principal part. The drama will be sent out with a very strong company to the bigger provincial towns.

MR MARTIN HARVEY on the 14th inst. opened the bazaar held in the Town Hall, Birmingham, in aid of the funds of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The Countess of Coventry and Lord Leigh performed the ceremony on the previous Wednesday and Thursday.

MR GEORGE DAVEY has now arranged his electric installation for use in connection with the Bioscopic pictures at the Grand Theatre, Islington, so that the light shall be thrown on the screen from the centre of the balcony, as is at present the system at the Palace Theatre. It occurred to Mr Davey that, as these Cinématograph scenes had proved so popular with his patrons, the additional trouble and expense of running the wires round the building would be well worth the advantage thereby gained.

OWING to the indisposition of Mr Frank M. Wood, the part of Glabrio this week has been successfully played by Mr Hayden Clifford, at Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.—Mr T. C. Daly, Messrs Broadhead and Son's principal artist, has been elected a member of the Scenic Artists' Association.—Mr and Mrs Frederick Loyd (Miss Florence Creagh), who are about to conclude an engagement in *Her One Great Sin*, have been secured by Mr Leicester Jackson, as manager and lead respectively, for his forthcoming tour of *Dishonoured*.

MR MARK HAMBOURG, the noted pianist, starts a short provincial tour at Glasgow next week. He will afterwards visit France, Germany, Austria, and Russia. One of his most interesting engagements is on Nov. 19, when he is to play in Moscow, on the anniversary of the death of Rubinstein. Mr Hambourg had the happiness of meeting the famous virtuoso when he was a student in Vienna, and Rubinstein's encouragement and praise will not readily be forgotten by the young musician. Mr Hambourg is a Russian, but he makes his home in England.

MR CHARLES CHANDLER'S *Bells of Haslemere* company rendered good service on Saturday last at the Brixton Theatre in helping the Hospital Saturday Fund. In the village smithy scene Mr Charles Cecil as the blacksmith brought on one of the collecting boxes and, with some clever gagging, obtained contributions from all the company, including, to the delight of the audience, the "villain of the play." He thus collected 6s. 2d., which went to swell the theatre collection of £8 0s. 1½d., which was over three times the amount of the previous year's collection.

AN interesting souvenir associated with the Grand Opera House and the Old Theatre Royal, Norwich, was presented by the Deputy Mayor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Harvey, D.S.O., to Mr Fred Morgan, consisting of a pair of portraits, suitably framed and inscribed, one representing Mr John Harvey, chairman of the merchants and manufacturers of Norwich who opened the Theatre Royal on March 27, 1826, and the other being an excellent likeness of Lieutenant Colonel J. R. Harvey himself, who as Mayor of Norwich opened the Grand Opera House on Aug. 3, 1903. It is proposed to make a further presentation to Mr Morgan upon his leaving the Grand Opera House to resume his lesseeship of the old Theatre Royal, now the Hippodrome. Already a substantial amount has been subscribed, and further sums are daily added to the list.

MR ACTON PHILLIPS at Wednesday night's meeting of the Hammersmith Borough Council was presented, in recognition of his services as Mayor last year, with a life-size oil-painting of himself done by Mr W. J. Warren. The picture represents Mr Phillips in a Court suit, wearing the mayoral robe and chain. The picture was subscribed for by the Alderman and Councillors, the M.P., and members of the L.C.C. After he had acknowledged the gift, Mr Phillips presented the picture, through the Mayor, to the Council to be hung in the Town Hall.

MR FELIX SWINSTEAD, who gave his first pianoforte recital in London at Bechstein Hall on Monday, is an old R.A.M. scholar, where he commenced to study in 1898, having previously gained the Sterndale Bennett Scholarship. He is also a pupil of Oscar Beringer, Frederick Corder, and Tobias Matthay. He is musicianly enthusiastic, and has already added to his success as a pianist by several compositions of great promise. Mr Swinstead is a nephew of the well-known artist, Mr George Hillyard Swinstead, R.B.A.

MR HARRIS FINEBERG, the esteemed proprietor of the Star Theatre, Liverpool, is a municipal candidate for Sandhills Ward, Liverpool. This is, we believe, the first time that a gentleman closely identified with the theatrical profession in the city on the Mersey has attempted to enter public life there. Considering the manner in which the local magistrates have recently somewhat harassed theatres in regard to alterations, &c., it would be well if one directly representative of the profession was placed in a position to look after the interests of that body. There is every indication that Mr Fineberg, who is extremely popular, will be returned.

MADAME REJANE, who recently arrived in New York with ninety-five trunks and twenty members of her company, talks enthusiastically of her project of opening a theatrical training school in Paris. She will require a large sum of money and will want a place in the Champs-Elysées for fifty years. The French Government will not offer one for more than twenty-five years.

MRS BROWN POTTER is rehearsing at the Savoy Theatre *For Church or Stage*, the play by the vicar of Gorleston, which caused so much discussion when produced recently by Mrs Potter in the provinces. *Cavalleria Rusticana*, however, will be retained in the bill after the withdrawal of *Forget-Me-Not*.

"THE CHEVALIER" will be played at the Garrick Theatre for the seventy-third and last time on Saturday, and on the following Monday Mr Arthur Bourchier will produce a new modern play, in four acts, by Mr Alfred Sutro, entitled *The Walls of Jericho*. One of the scenes takes place at a London ball. The cast, in addition to Mr Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, will include Miss Kate Sergeantson, Miss Muriel Beaumont, Miss Elfrida Clement, Miss Lena Halliday, Miss June Van Buskirk, Mr O. B. Clarence, Mr H. Nye Chart, Mr Junius Booth, and Mr Sydney Valentine. Mr Sutro is the author of the duologue *A Marriage Has Been Arranged*, which Mr Bourchier and Miss Vanbrugh have recently played for many nights at the Garrick Theatre. He also adapted *Carrots* for Mr Forbes-Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott from the French of Jules Renard. His translation of Maeterlinck's *Aglavaine and Selysette* is to be produced at the Court Theatre for a series of matinées on Nov. 15.

THE taste of Glasgow playgoers for the legitimate has been well indicated by the ballot just taken by Mr Herbert J. Montague to decide the programme of the Osmond Tearle Shakespearian and classical répertoire company at the Grand Theatre next week. Twelve plays were submitted, each person having seven votes, and the following have been elected by a handsome majority:—*Hamlet*, *Merchant of Venice*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *David Garrick*, *Julius Cæsar* (matinée), and *Richard III.* They will be presented in the order named.

A COMEDY, to be called *The Fascinating Miss Kemp*, by Gordon Holmes, will be produced at the Grand Theatre, Margate, on Nov. 7, with a strong cast and new scenery, prior to a season at a West-end theatre. Mr Gilbert Hare will produce the piece.

MR STERLING M'KINLAY has been appointed professor of singing to the Ben Greet Academy of Acting—not the Highbury Academy as it was erroneously stated in our Theatrical Gossip last week. The popular young basso is a member of the Green Room Club. One of the most interesting mementos of his early successes as an oarsman is a cup which he won at a regatta in a pair-oar race Mr F. R. Benson being his partner, Mrs Benson coxing. Mr M'Kinlay also prizes a cup which he won at Eton, also in a pair-oar race, in company with Mr H. S. H. Cavendish, who is now the husband of Miss Isabel Jay.

A NEW departure is being made by the Hampstead Conservatoire with the object, as the syllabus of its artist division says, of "co-ordinating the educational with the recreative side of music." With this purpose a series of concerts, musical conversaziones, and lectures has been arranged, and begins on Oct. 20 with the first of "four concert-lectures," to be given on consecutive Thursdays at 3.15, by Mr Walter Ford, in connection with the artist division of the Conservatoire. Starting with "The Volkslied," Mr Ford will trace the rise and development of the art song to its culmination in the great composers. Mr Ford is well-known as an authority upon the subject, and a year or so ago was specially invited to lecture on German mediæval folk-song before the delegates of the extension lectures at Oxford. One of the features of the lectures will be the dual-rôle played by Mr Ford as lecturer and singer of the numerous songs illustrating his subject. The lectures should prove as "recreative" as they will be "educational."

AT the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Monday Mr Oswald Brand will revive *The Union Jack*, in which a number of Volunteers and seamen from H.M. Navy will take part. On the following Monday he will revive *The Peep o' Day*, by Edmund Falconer, and in view of the time that has elapsed since its last presentation on the stage the production should be an interesting one.

MESSRS W. BAILEY, JUN., AND CHARLES BERTE'S stirring drama of every-day life, *The City of Millions*, returns to the home of its birth, the Royal West London Theatre, on Monday, and Mr William Bailey has been busy this week making arrangements to ensure the complete success of the production, several of the scenes having been repainted by Mr W. Charles.

M. JULES CLARETIE, the manager of the Comédie-Française, Paris, at Versailles, where he has his summer quarters, allows a company of amateurs, recruited from local society, to perform plays in a private theatre. For them he has written a comedy in one single act, which he completed in a couple of days.

YVONNE DE TREVILLE, the beautiful young American singer, whom connoisseurs acclaim as the only adequate successor to Madame Sembrich, is in Paris for a few days on her way to Bukarest, where she is engaged to sing the rôle, in *Lakme*, now so indissolubly associated with her name. She has been specially commanded to sing before Carmen Sylva, the Queen of Roumania. She will then return to France to give representations at Nice at the very height of the season, and then on to Buda-Pesth and Constantinople. This talented singer has created a name for herself in all the Opera Houses of Europe. She is as popular in St. Petersburg as in Cairo, in Nice as in Stockholm. Thus, from north to south, and east to west, Mademoiselle De Treville is learning her geography of Europe very pleasantly, leaving a trail of glory behind her.

BURRY PORT is a small town near to Llanelly, S. Wales, and rejoices in the possession of a fine and spacious parish hall, the property of the Church of England. At this hall from time to time performances are given by good travelling dramatic companies as well as operatic and other performances of a similar nature by local amateurs. Only the other day *Les Cloches* was given here, and *The Yeomen of the Guard* is in active preparation—but now the Nonconformist element is up in arms against the Hall, and is doing all it can to dissuade the licensing authority from renewing the dramatic licence. It is sincerely to be hoped that those gentlemen who constitute the licensing authority for the county of Carmarthen will not give the slightest heed to the ravings of those people whose ignorance in matters theatrical makes them imagine great things.

SWINDON and Reading are close neighbours, not only in the theatrical world, but also in Association football. The two teams met on Saturday last in an important Southern League game at Swindon. The players were generously invited by Mr Alfred Manners, lessee of the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, to witness the performance of *The Girl from Japan*, by Mr F. E. Philpotts's company. It is scarcely necessary to remark that the bright and refined musical comedy and the kindness of Mr Manners were highly appreciated.

A FIRE broke out on the fifth floor of the Haymarket Theatre, Chicago, on Wednesday night, but the manager of the house ordered the last act, which was being performed, to be continued, and instructed the orchestra to play loudly, to drown the noise that the firemen were making. The performance was hurried through, the fireproof curtain was rung down, and the audience quietly left the house ignorant of the conflagration.

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The case of Mr Henry Crisp is too sad for words. I enclose cheque for £10 10s. (from Mr and Mrs Kendal) with only too much pleasure to so deserving a fund.

Yours faithfully, W. H. KENDAL.

North-Western Hotel, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Crisp's case is certainly a very sad one, and I am very glad to enclose my mite towards his assistance.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WYNDHAM.

Midland Hotel, Manchester, Oct. 11, 1904.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Kendal	10	10	0
Mr Hales	5	5	0
F. S. Willard	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Greet and E. Englebach	5	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	5	0	0
Adelaide Neilson Fund, per Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
George Alexander	5	0	0
Arthur Bourchier	5	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	3	3	0
Edward Terry	3	3	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
A. S. and J. J. Wright	2	2	0
Henry Kemble	2	2	0
Isabel Jay	2	2	0
David Allen and Sons, Limited	2	2	0
J. D. Beveridge	2	2	0
P. S. C.	2	0	0
Ellen Terry	2	0	0
R. Gilbert	2	0	0
"Money Maker" Co., per Mary Griffiths (Mrs Arthur Lyle	1	19	6
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Palmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
W. Payne Seddon	1	1	0
H. Cecil Beryl	1	1	0
Edward Rose	1	1	0
Horace Mills	1	1	0
May Louise Cohen	1	1	0
Frank Denman Wood	1	1	0
John and Fred Coulson	1	1	0
Robert Redford	1	1	0
Frank Bateman	1	1	0
Yorke Stephens	1	1	0
J. O. Baker	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Conway Dixon	1	1	0
C. Ward	1	1	0
Susie Vaughan	1	1	0
H. Ainley	1	1	0
Constance Benson	1	1	0
Mrs Chas. Calvert	1	1	0
Marie Studholme	1	1	0
William Peacock	1	1	0
"Blimbo"	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
Will Dennis	1	1	0
Robert Pateman	1	1	0
Arthur Whittaker	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
J. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Katherine Compton	1	1	0
J. W. Nightingale	1	1	0
Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Topsy Sinden	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Ernest Stevens	1	1	0
H. W. Waldington	1	1	0
W. Johnson and Jos. Potter	1	1	0
Eva Moore Esmond	1	1	0
L. Braithwaite	1	1	0
William Mollison	1	1	0
H. N. Gibson	1	1	0
Maude Darrell	1	0	0
Mrs J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kingborne	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Davidson	1	0	0
E. Lawes	1	0	0
Nancy Price	1	0	0
Anonymously	1	0	0
"R. O."	1	0	0
Miss Amy Grace	1	0	0
Leonard Rayne	1	0	0
George Rayne	1	0	0
Dawson Dewick	1	0	0
J. C.	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
G. E. M	0	10	6
H. Wilkinson	0	10	6
John Worswick, sen.	0	10	6
W. Cheeseman	0	10	6
E. Holman Clark	0	10	6
D. Lyn Harding	0	10	6
Chas. Elphinstone	0	10	6
M. R. Morand	0	10	6
Miss C. Ewell	0	10	6
Herbert Shelley	0	10	6
F. Mercr	0	10	6
Fred Emney	0	10	6
Will Smithson	0	10	6
Pollie Emery	0	10	0
Louisa Gourlay	0	10	0
Mr M. Lang	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"B"	0	10	0
James Kiernan	0	10	0
Mary Brough	0	10	0
Carlotta Zerbini	0	10	0
Tom Wood	0	7	6
Frank L. Hayter	0	5	0
Mr Avrigny	0	5	0
A. and E. F. S.	0	5	0
Mr Q Ashlyn	0	5	0
Mr Robson Paige	0	5	0
Mr W. H. Garbois	0	5	0
W. H. Nottingham	0	5	0
E. Cane	0	5	0
Chas. B. Bedells	0	5	0
N. Reynolds	0	5	0
William Lugg	0	5	0
Leonard Fagden	0	5	0
C. D. D. C.	0	5	0
George E. Mudd	0	5	0
Edward Fenton	0	5	0
Henry Bute	0	5	0
J. F. Dunn	0	5	0
Philip Desborough	0	5	0
Miss Sanderson	0	4	6
F. G. R.	0	4	0
Edward Coutts	0	2	6
Mr H. B. Lewis	0	2	6
H. Palmer	0	2	6
Elinor Aickin	0	2	6
Mrs Cumming	0	2	6
"A. P."	0	2	6
Great Percy-street	0	1	0
Marguerite	0	1	0
A. R. T.	0	1	0
A. H. Row	0	1	0

"On the Stroke of Twelve" Company. Total, 13s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Fred J. Little	0	5	0
Herbert Vere	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Karl H. Edwards	0	1	6
Fred Rivers	0	1	0
Fred Guinness	0	1	0
Harry C. Robinson	0	1	0
H. Creagh Hunt	0	1	0
Miss B. St Buth	0	1	0

Mr George Dance's Company, per B. Ralland. Total, £2 3s. 6d.

Bertie Ralland	0	2	6
Percy Yorke	0	2	6
Mr Wood	0	2	6
Harry Brayne	0	2	0
Jessé Collins	0	2	0
M. Sadie	0	2	0
H. Williams	0	2	0
G. Barnes	0	2	0
Marie Adair	0	2	0
P. A. T.	0	2	0
Miss Drumond	0	2	0
Mr Dawkins	0	2	0
E. H.	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Austin	0	2	0
N. Cassidy	0	2	0
Leonard May	0	1	0
Frances	0	1	0
M. Maxwell	0	1	0
Gladys Goy	0	1	0
Mr Parry	0	1	0
R. S.	0	1	0
L. Beckmann	0	1	0
L. W.	0	1	0
A. Knowles	0	1	0
L. Hildroe	0	1	0
D. Kersey	0	1	0
D. M. B.	0	1	0

"The Dandy Doctor" Company, per Florence Smithers (Mrs Owen Dacroy). Total, £1 7s. 6d.

Mr and Mrs Owen Dacroy	0	5	0
Mr and Mrs Edward Marris	0	5	0
W. N. Gilmore	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs B. Rowe	0	2	0
Misses Stewart, Leighton, A. Nicholson, and Ivison	0	2	0
Lizzie Palmer	0	1	6
James Danvers	0	1	0
James Salter	0	1	0
Walter Nugent	0	1	0
Harry Louther	0	1	0
Stanley Hirst	0	1	0
Lillian Dacroy	0	1	0
Norah Melton	0	1	0
Cissie Evelyn	0	1	0
Flo Allen	0	1	0
Elsa Nicholson	0	1	0

Mr Geo. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Total, £4 4s.

Mr Chas. Thorburn	0	5	6
Mr Frank Lawton	0	5	0
Mr Paddy Dupres	0	2	6
Mr Max Copland	0	2	6
Mr Sealy	0	2	6
Mr Selby	0	2	6
Mr C. W. Anson	0	2	6
Mr A. Linforth	0	2	6
Mr Hugh Fleming	0	2	6
Mr Harrison	0	2	6
Miss B. Lamotte	0	2	6
Miss L. Digges	0	2	6
Miss W. Browne	0	2	6
Miss M. Young	0	2	6
Mr W. Douglas	0	2	0
Miss I. Stratham	0	2	0
Miss N. Royston	0	2	0
Miss Hubert	0	2	0
Miss Anderson	0	2	0
Mr L. Hornsey	0	1	0
Mr Stembridge	0	1	0
Mr F. Freeman	0	1	0
Mr A. Watts	0	1	0
Mr P. Foster	0	1	0
Mr G. Wood	0	1	0
Mr J. Seghelloni	0	1	0
Mr E. Lietz	0	1	0
Mr Goodwin	0	1	0
Mr Cowan	0	1	0
Miss K. Lindley	0	1	0
Miss Webb	0	1	0
Miss F. Wellbourne	0	1	0
Miss D. Cammell	0	1	0
Miss Grey	0	1	0
Miss Burr	0	1	0
Miss Macdonald	0	1	0
Miss Minta	0	1	0
Miss Soma	0	1	0
Miss Fenton	0	1	0
Miss N. Donovan	0	1	0
Miss B. Middleton	0	1	0
Miss Lawrence	0	1	0
Miss L. Royce	0	1	0
Miss B. Royce	0	1	0
Miss Frederika	0	1	0
Miss Vincent	0	1	0
Miss M. Walsh	0	1	0
Mrs Williams	0	1	0
Mr C. Wakeman	0	0	6
Mr C. Hood	0	0	6
Mr Cookson	0	0	6
Mr Raynham	0	0	6
Miss V. Vaughan	0	0	6
Miss Kendrick	0	0	6
Miss Percival	0	0	6
Miss M. Foster	0	0	6
Miss R. Wren	0	0	6

All subscriptions sent to Edward Ledger, hon. treasurer, *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., will be duly announced in these columns.

MR J. J. GALE, who for some time held the post of musical director of the Queen's Theatre, Swindon, during Mr Ernest Carpenter's management, recently had a grand complimentary concert at the local Mechanics' Institute. A large audience thoroughly enjoyed a high-class concert, among the features of which were the selections by the orchestra under Mr J. J. Gale's bâton.

MR ABE HOLT died on Monday morning at 2, Melbourne-street, Higher Broughton, Manchester. He was for many years with Mr George Alexander's company and latterly with the T. B. Brydge combination.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS MARY GRIFFITH.

Seldom is recorded such an "infinite variety" as is shown in the theatrical life of Miss Mary Griffiths, who commenced her professional career at Bristol, playing young character parts under Mr J. H. Chute, and then migrating to Ramsgate and Margate to take juvenile leading parts with Miss Sarah Thorne. After that came two seasons at Oxford for Shakespearian heroines and some comedy parts under the late Mr Clifford Cooper. Then there was an engagement at the old "Astley's" also two or three years at the Standard Theatre, under Mr John Douglas, and tours with Mr H. Dundas, playing Marita, in *Barnes of New York*. An engagement followed with Mr Arthur Williams for his season at the Elephant and Castle Theatre. She was some years with the late Mrs Sara Lane at the Britannia. Other engagements were with Henry Herman's last play, *Eagle Joe*, and Mr Tearle's Shakespearian company, playing Lady Macbeth, Juliet's Nurse, &c. Following this came a delightful time with Mr Stanley Hope's company, in *Sowing the Wind*, Miss Griffiths playing the Hon. Mrs Fretwell, and when this finished an engagement followed with Messrs Gatti, of the Adelphi, to take the part of Mrs Smithers, in *The Gipsy Earl*. After a tour with Mr Norman Forbes' company, in *The Man with the Iron Mask*, came two years of travelling with *Ben-my-Chree* company, succeeded by a very pleasant tour with Mr W. Maxwell, Miss Griffiths taking the part of Nannie Webster, in *The Little Minister*; and then another short tour with the *Sowing the Wind* company. A recent success was when she was engaged early this year specially to play the Nurse, in Mr G. H. Leigh's revival of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Court Theatre, the London press being unanimous in praising her acting. After this she appeared in *The New Boy*, taking the part of Mrs Rennick. Her latest engagement was at the Royalty, in Mr G. Rollit's farce *The Money Makers*, Miss Griffiths taking the part of Mrs Bannerman. She is on tour with this piece, but returns to London to again sustain that character should the play be reproduced there. Miss Griffiths is the widow of that well-remembered actor Mr Arthur Lyle, whose sudden death some ten months since came as a terrible blow to his wife, to whom he was devoted.

Photo by Auty and Heaven.

MISS MARY GRIFFITH.

Photo by Burnicle.

MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT.

MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT.

MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT is the second daughter of Mr George Pauncefort, in his day a well-known leading man in England and America, and Georgiana Pauncefort, who was for many years leading lady at the Surrey and for twenty-five years of the Lyceum Theatre; also granddaughter of Mrs Edwards, of the Bath and Bristol circuit and the Grecian Theatre. Miss Pauncefort was born in Birmingham, but her father and mother going to America on a starring tour, she and her sister Rose went with them, and spent their early childhood at an old country house in Melrose, seven miles from Boston. Although a Protestant, she was educated at a convent school in London. Sir Henry Irving gave her her first line to speak on the stage, and she was with him for two years at the Lyceum, playing such rôles as Donalbain Sozel, in *The Bells*, and a number of parts in farces, then a regular item of the bill. She next went on tour with Mr and Mrs Chippendale as Maria, Lucy, Miss Neville, Jenny Wildbriar, and William, in a burlesque of *Black-Eyed Susan*, meeting C. W. Somerset, F. Terry, J. C. Buckstone, Adela Measor, Virginia Bateman, Carlotta Addison, Mrs Bernard Beere, &c. Then came a tour as Flippertijibbet, in *Amy Robsart*, with Marie De Grey. She next joined William Calder and played Meenie to his Rip Van Winkle for ten months, followed by a tour with Minnie Palmer. Returning to town she spent eighteen months at the St. James's Theatre, under the Hare and Kendal management, and remained two years and more with Mr and Mrs Kendal after the dissolution of partnership. This included their first tour in America. On her return she joined Miss Fortescue, with whom she has during numerous engagements played Lady Capulet, Helen, Mrs Candour, Mrs Hardcastle, and Lady Dolly Vanderdecken. She has also played five tours with Mr A. B. Tapping as Mrs Cross, Cinders, *Lost Paradise*; Marquise, *Caste*; &c., five with Ben Greet as Countess, *Two Orphans*, Juliet's Nurse, Lady Franklin, Audrey, Madame Deschappelles, &c. She played Rose Leclercq's part on tour with *The Late Mr Castello* and Mrs Jedbury on a tour of *Jedbury, Junior*, and went to the Globe to sustain the same rôle when Mr Penley revived the piece there, remaining for the production of *M'Haggis*. Then came a fortnight in Brussels with Miss Madge M'Intosh as Maria, *Twelfth Night*, and some of her old parts. She played Mrs Stanyon, *Tree of Knowledge*; Crafer, *Liberty Hall*; and Mrs Cross again on three tours under Mr George Alexander's management. She played Miss Parker, in *The Message from Mars*, for ten months and many other parts under Mr Fred Mouillot's management. She was with William Gillette through his Lyceum season and with Kate Rorke as the Countess Coryglen, in *Honours Divided*. She created Mrs Jutt, in *Hearts and Coronets*, at Fulham, and many other parts. She is at present engaged to understudy Miss Venne, in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, at the Imperial.

Photo by Mora.

MR. JOHNNIE SCHOFIELD.

Photo by Swain.

MR. BERNARD LIMPUS.

MR. JOHNNIE SCHOFIELD.

MR JOHNNIE SCHOFIELD, who is the son of William Schofield, his father being an old performer, started his career almost as soon as he could toddle. His first appearance on the stage when a lad was at the old Theatre Royal, Northampton, with the great tragedian, G. V. Brooke, and after many ups and downs in theatres and music halls, in which he has played many parts as actor, singer and dancer, stage-manager, ballet master, agent, and chairman, he, sixteen years ago, joined the Mohawk Minstrels. He stayed twelve years with this company, and was very successful. Knowing absolutely nothing of minstrel business, he started fourth on the corner, and when he left the troupe he was the principal end man of one of the finest minstrel crowds in England. Mr Schofield left the Mohawks to return to the theatres four years ago. His first engagement after leaving was with Mr E. G. Saunders for pantomime at the Coronet Theatre, and he is still under contract with this gentleman, the approaching season being his fifth under the same management. The companies he has been with as principal comedian lately include the comic opera, *The Thirty Thieves*, *The Gay Cadets*, *The Girl from Kay's*, of which he was the original Hoggenheimer in the provinces, and *The Lady Killer*, first played in theatres and then as a sketch on the Moss and Stoll tour. Mr Schofield again joined Mr George Dance's company, *The Girl from Kay's*, last spring at the conclusion of his pantomime at the Camden Theatre, and he is under Mr Dance's management until Christmas, when he will reappear in pantomime.

MR BERNARD LIMPUS.

MR BERNARD LIMPUS was born on May 26, 1876, at Windsor Castle, his father at that time being a minor canon of St. George's Chapel. He was educated at Merchant Taylors school and Keble College, Oxford. It was at Oxford that he became inflamed with zeal for a dramatic career, and he made his first appearance on any stage as Benvolio in *Romeo and Juliet*, under the auspices of the O. U. D. S. His first professional engagement was with Mr Ben Greet, with whom he stayed for more than three years, during which time he played many parts. In November, 1898, Mr Limpus played five parts nightly in *The Three Musketeers*, then Capt. Halliwell, in *The Little Minister*, which part he played for eight months. It was during this tour that he got an engagement for life, and met his wife, Miss May De Launay, who was playing Micah, and to whom he was married on Jan. 14, 1902. Next came eight weeks at the Comedy Theatre, London, during which time he played many small parts for Mr Greet and Charles, the wrestler, in *As You Like It*; the juvenile part in Mrs Charles Simms's little play, *A Soldier's Daughter*. After this he played the Duke of Berasconi, *A Royal Family*, for two tours. During the second tour he was seen by Mr Edward Sass and Mr James Nelson, and was engaged to go out to South Africa and play all their juvenile leading parts, i.e., Prince Victor, in *A Royal Family*; the dual rôle, *A Man of Forty*; Lieut. Mannering, *Second in Command*; Lionel Carteret, *Mrs Dane's Defence*; George Langton, *Manœuvres of Jane*; Lucien Edensor, *Rebellious Susan*; Sir Roger Fairfax, *Sweet Nell of Old Drury*; the Pastor, *Magda*; &c. On returning to England Mr Limpus again obtained an engagement with Mr Greet for a Shakespearian tour, and played Orlando, Claudio, Bassanio, Antipholus of Syracuse, Ferdinand, Demetrius, and many other juvenile parts. His next engagement was with Mr F. R. Benson for his second company, headed by Mrs F. R. Benson and Mr William Haviland, during which tour Mr Limpus played Bassanio, Laertes, Joseph Surface, Hastings, and Lucentio, in *The Taming of the Shrew*. After this, in April, 1903, he took out a company of his own to the small towns. The play was *The Cricket on the Hearth*, preceded by the Balcony Scene from *Romeo and Juliet*. In the autumn of 1903 he was re-engaged by Mr F. R. Benson for Romeo, Bassanio, Joseph Surface, and Orlando, and he was re-engaged again after a ten months' tour for Romeo, Charles Surface, Orlando, Young Marlow, Captain Absolute, Paolo, &c.

CHARLES WYNDHAM'S FAREWELL.

Sir Charles Wyndham, on the eve of his departure for New York, where, at the New Lyceum, he is to begin an American tour on Nov. 14 bade farewell for a time to London playgoers at the New Theatre on Tuesday afternoon. The play chosen for the occasion was *David Garrick*. At the close of the performance, in response to demands for a speech,

Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM said:—"I know I voice the feelings of Miss Mary Moore and my company in acknowledging the debt of obligation we are under to you for the gracious manner in which you have testified your appreciation of this farewell matinée, let me say, rather, this au revoir matinée, tendered to me so kindly by Messrs Maude and Harrison. They are my tenants here for the autumn, and for to-day I am their very grateful guest. After a brief visit to New York and a brief one to Boston, we hope to be with you again in the early spring, but—short as our absence will be, and though we are leaving you to meet kinsman only less dear to us than yourselves—the fact still remains that you and we are parting, and I cannot sever myself even for a few months from such good friends without trying to express something of what I feel. But, with due respect to those who object to managerial speeches, I fear I cannot do this without some exercise of my vocal chords. The audience can applaud the manager, but the manager cannot applaud the audience, nor can he grip the hand of each individual member of the community as if he were the President of the United States on New Year's day. Why, then, should he be limited to mere pantomime, however expressive, and be precluded from clothing his sentiments in more or less articulate speech? At any rate, that is what I am trying to do, and, as the Ghost in *Hamlet* says—in a terribly long speech, by-the-bye—'Brief let me be.' It is easy to understand why I have chosen *David Garrick* for this function. Many of you, I am sure, have noticed that when a wife has a mind to appeal to the sympathies of her husband, one of her favourite devices is to assume the dress, the manner, arrangement of her hair, and so forth, which first provoked his youthful ardour. Sometimes the device succeeds, sometimes it does not. Anyhow, I am taking a leaf out of this book of feminine strategy in appearing before you to-day in that character in which I was fortunate enough to win your approval nearly eighteen years ago. During those eighteen years—severe test of human fidelity—you have supported me in this part with a generous loyalty I can never forget. From year to year we have revived this play until it has become a hardy annual; while it has even been identified with events of importance to the public and of private interest to myself. For instance, *David Garrick* was running during Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887; *David Garrick* was running during Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1897; *David Garrick* was one of the plays chosen on the occasion of my colleagues' celebration of my twentieth year of management; *David Garrick* was running during the summer of two years ago that was devoted to the King's Coronation; and whenever I have made appeals to you in the interests of some public cause or other—appeals to which you have always nobly responded—it has been in this character of David Garrick that I have sought and gained your support. Its vitality is due largely—very largely—to my audience, though I will not assume any preternatural mock modesty by pretending that I have not had something personally to do with the matter. Let me rather say we are jointly responsible for its creation. It is the child of both of us—a healthy child of nearly eighteen summers. What wonder, then, that on the eve of a temporary parting I should set before you in 1904 this full-grown offering and pledge of our affection, which, as a new-born babe, pleased us both so much in 1886. What wonder that I ask your permission to take it with me to our kinsmen across the sea. Do not be alarmed; I will not leave it there. I will take every care of it, and, if the kind fates permit, will bring it home safe and sound. With this prospect to maintain me in my absence, a bright prospect based on a happy retrospect, 'there need be no sadness of farewell when I embark.' And so, ladies and gentlemen, with no feelings in our hearts but gratitude, love, and hope, your debtors in the past, your servants in the future, your friends always, Miss Mary Moore, my company, and myself take our leave."

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Madame Sarah Bernhardt, actress—Sat., Oct. 22.
Cissie Loftus, actress—Saturday, Oct. 22.
Mabel Rees, actress—Saturday, Oct. 22.
Minnie Terry, music hall artist—Sat., Oct. 22.
John Davidson, dramatist—Saturday, Oct. 22.
Arthur Rich, music hall artist—Sat., Oct. 22.
J. B. Howe, actor—Sunday, Oct. 23.
Eric Lewis, actor—Sunday, Oct. 23.
Wellesley Draper, actor—Sunday, Oct. 23.
May Elliott—Sunday, Oct. 23
Rose Moncrieff, actress—Sunday, Oct. 23.
Marie Clavering—Sunday, Oct. 23.
Alfred Lester—Tuesday, Oct. 25
Violet St Leger—Tuesday, Oct. 25.
Florence Nelson, actress—Tuesday, Oct. 25.
W. T. Clitherow—Tuesday, Oct. 25.
Herbert Colley—Tuesday, Oct. 25.
Cyril Austin Lee, actor—Tuesday, Oct. 25.
Alma Stanley, burlesque actress—Wed., Oct. 26.
John Donald—Wednesday, Oct. 26.
Edward Harrigan—Wednesday, Oct. 26.
Edith Knight, actress—Thursday, Oct. 27.

COVENT-GARDEN BALL.

The second of the present series of fancy dress balls at Covent-garden Theatre was given on the night of the 14th inst., and attracted a very large crowd of pleasure-seekers. The pleasant balcony supper tables were again well patronised, and make a delightful situation from which to view the revellers on the floor. Messrs Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth offered a number of valuable prizes for the best fancy dresses, and the ingenuity which had been exercised in devising costumes likely to catch the eye of the judges was once more in evidence. One striking dress was intended to represent the current controversy on "The Handicap of Marriage." It resembled a bridal robe, and consisted of a white satin Empire gown having on the skirt panels paintings representing the wedding breakfast, a domestic quarrel in which blows are being exchanged, and another where the wife is leaving her husband and children when the ten years contract is concluded. The cloak was trimmed with silver and orange blossoms, and bore pictures showing scenes connected with the marriage ceremony; while the head-dress was made up of orange blossoms, wedding bells, and a dove carrying the ring. This handsome dress was produced by Mr W. Clarkson, and among others from his atelier was a realistic snake charmer with a coiled snake for a hat, "Nuts in May," a "Runaway Girl," and "The Catch of the Season," a perfect representation of a very ragged Cinderella. From Madame Jeanne came a charming costume called "The Little Village," composed of a gown of white satin and frilled chiffon. Three large satin frills on the skirt were covered with paintings of London town and life. The wearer had a large picture hat, and carried a wand, on which were the Houses of Parliament in white roses. The same costumier also sent "By the sad sea waves," a painted chiffon dress descriptive of the sea, which was very effective. The first prize was a solid silver tea and coffee service with engraved tray.

THE officials of the Music Publishers' Association seized 150,000 copies of alleged pirated music in a stable off Well-street Hackney, on Thursday.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, AUG. 25. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Mr J. C. Williamson is part author of a new drama produced at Her Majesty's Theatre, on which house he has spent so many thousand pounds in beautifying and bringing up-to-date, transforming it from an almost delapidated building to the very front rank, both as regards elegance and comfort. In the play above referred to Mr. Williamson has had as collaborator Mr Alfred Hill, and their joint effort is entitled *Tapu*. That popular combination The Royal Comic Opera company has been specially recalled to Melbourne from New Zealand for the initial performance, which took place on Saturday evening before a packed audience. The plot of *Tapu* is somewhat obscured by its medley surroundings, but any deficiency in this direction is fully compensated for by the novel and beautiful dances introduced during the performance, two of the most notable being the Haka Haka or war dance, performed by a dozen Hawks Bay Maoris, and the beautiful Poi song and dance, one of the most graceful dances that Melbourne has hitherto been treated to. Each individual member of the company was accorded a hearty "welcome home" by the audience. It is understood we are to have a number of revivals of favourite operas, such as *The Mikado*, *Gondoliers*, *Lady Molly*, &c., so that *Tapu* will only be performed for a limited number of nights.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—*The Dandy Doctor* still continues to prescribe for his numerous "patients," if one may so describe the patrons of this theatre. For those who suffer from that annoying complaint the "blues" a visit to his surgery will result in the patient leaving perfectly cured. It is correctly described by the management as a "musical cocktail." Mr Edward Lauri is quite at home in the character of Melchisedek Brown, the American millionaire, and introduces a couple of really clever dances. Mr M'Naughton and the Bovis Brothers still evoke loud applause for their song "He was a sailor," while the dancing of Miss Alice Nixon is as natty as ever. Miss Garstang and the rest of the company contribute largely to the success.

THEATRE ROYAL.—This theatre was crowded on Saturday last, when Mr Anderson's company repeated the stirring melodrama *A Sailor's Sweetheart*. The sensational situations in the play seem to hit the public taste exactly, especially the rescue in mid-ocean. The scenery also is above the average. The principal characters are taken by Mr Willard, Mr Sterling Whyte, Mr Inman, Mr Bert Bailey, Miss Eugenie Duggan, and Miss Flo Buckley.

OPERA HOUSE.—Mr Will Van Allen, an American musical artist, made his first appearance at this theatre on Saturday, and quickly proved himself to be a capable musician. His overture to *William Tell* was played in a masterly manner on the banjo. Mr Allen also has a large stock of up-to-date jokes which keep the audience laughing throughout his turn. Mr George Dean, descriptive vocalist, appeared for the first time. Possessed of a fine robust voice, Mr Dean showed himself to be an actor of ability. The rest of the company also furnished interesting items.

MR FRANK CLARK'S Folly company at the Gaiety Theatre repeated their entertainment to an excellent house. At the Waxworks Abomah, a native of South Carolina, and described as the tallest woman in the world, daily holds receptions, and seems quite at home amid the models of dead and gone "great ones." Her height is 7ft. 5ins.

SYDNEY, AUG. 30.—*Three Little Maids*, with Mr G. P. Huntley as Lord Cheyne, is the greatest hit of the Williamson-Edwardes musical comedy season at Her Majesty's Theatre. His Excellency the Governor and Lady Rawson were present on the 27th, and the theatre was packed with a highly hilarious audience. True to nature and well recognised types as Mr Huntley's characterisations all are, his Lord Cheyne is absolutely great. Another capital impersonation is that of the Rev. Theodore Branscombe by Mr R. St. George. A somewhat colourless part of Lady Mallory is adopted by handsome Maud Hobson, announced as about to marry a rich ranchowner in America at the close of this season. Mr Maurice Farkoa, an intense favourite at home, as M. De Lorme charms with his singing and dainty acting. Miss Madge Crichton is Ada, Miss Delia Mason is Edna, and Miss Elsa Ryan is Hilda, the three daughters of the rector, and our stage never welcomed three more apt or better rehearsed portraits. The three "town mice" were embodied by Misses Vera Edwardine, Eva Kelly, and Kathleen Warren, all charmingly dressed. Mr George Carroll made a decided hit as Cupid, and was encored almost as vehemently as was Mr Farkoa. A very funny dance "Little Pigs" was cleverly performed by Mr Huntley and Miss Madge Bennett. Molineaux was cleverly acted by Mr J. Edward Fraser, and the village postmistress had a humorous representative in Miss Barbara Huntley. The smooth performance was conducted by Mr Frank Tours, and its production directed by Mr George P. Stephenson. The staging, scenery, and dressing were up to Williamson standard, and the present advance booking points to a run of *Three Little Maids* until the end of the company's engagement.

"A LIFE'S ROMANCE" will run at the Royal until Sept. 3, when, without any apparent necessity for a change, Mr Bland Holt will produce *The Flood Tide*, which he announces as a Drury-lane melo-farce. In the next piece Mr Ernest Truman will play a part, and the accomplished vocalist will sing several songs.

"HOITY-TOITY" at the Palace has hit the public taste and the matinées, as well as the night performances are largely attended. These American Travesty Stars have quickly grown into favour, and their rollicking fun, free from coarseness, is delightful. Then again, apart from the comedians, Bernard, Dill, and Koll, the "serious" artistes, Miss Maud Amber and Mr Winfield Blake, are charming singers and attractive personalities.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" is well told by Sanford's American Players at the Lyceum, and the pictures of plantation life interpreted by real negroes are well drawn.

MR W. F. HAWTREY comes to the Criterion for four weeks, beginning on Sept. 3d, with Tatterley. This character should most admirably suit the experienced actor, and a treat should be in store for Sydney.

THE Tivoli welcomed back with enthusiasm Miss May Moore-Duprez on Saturday, and the Angelos made a welcome reappearance. Another novelty was a set of biograph pictures of the ascent of Mount Snowdon in a motor car, a series introduced lately by Mr Harry Rickards. Burke, Moller and Teller could not appear owing to the illness of Mr Burke. To-night Mr Frank Harwood will make his first Australian appearance, and Mr Nat Clifford will reappear for a few nights.

SYDNEY, SEPT. 6. — THEATRE ROYAL.—On Saturday *The Flood Tide* was produced in a most lavish style by Mr Bland Holt. Into this play are crowded realistic opportunities, and the beautiful scenes supplied by Mr John Brunton are settings for pictures of stirring events. Real horses, carriages, crowds, a railway express with smoke and steam, all keep things lively in Cecil Raleigh's play. Without giving any one character undue prominence, the author has made all parts important in a strong plot. Mr W. E. Baker is a self-possessed hero as Jack Champion, V.C., and Mr Albert Norman is a soldierly Earl of Sutton. Bluff old Dick Champion has a hearty representative in Mr Charles Brown, whose daughter Polly is an embodiment of fun and vivacity as acted by Mrs Bland Holt. The chemist's assistant, George Wellington Clipp, in his many scrapes, troubles, and escapes, is a fund of humour as depicted by Mr Bland Holt. The Baroness Pitchioli gives Miss Fraleis Ross chances for much dash and verve; Miss Harrie Ireland is cleverly placed as Maria; and Miss J. Pollock makes a handsome Mabel Corry. Mrs Ernest Truman is a sweet unseen singer. Mr M. F. Kemp (Colonel Sir Russell Corry), Miss Adela Kerr (Mrs Meredith), Mr A. Scarlet (Jimmy Lawkins), Miss Canty (Madame Muriel), and Mr Parkes (Steward Hakes) are all good. The millionaire Thompson, alias M'Naughton, is skilfully depicted by Mr Arthur Styan. The dipsomania of this vulgar rich man gives opportunities to all the adventurers of the story. It is a clever impersonation, and stands out strongly.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Crowded houses witness *Three Little Maids* at every performance. Last night their Excellencies the Govenor General and Lady Northcote were present with their suite.

LYCEUM —*Uncle Tom's Cabin* has now a completely new répertioire of plantation songs and dances, and the story is strongly told, as before. The impersonator of Little Pete is only eight years old, his buck dancing being very clever.

THE PALACE.—*Hoity-Toity* is announced as in its last nights, though no abatement is shown in the attendance or the enjoyment of the audience. The singers, Maud Archer and Winifred Blake, and the comedians, Dill, Kolb, and Bernard, are prime favourites. The chorus is sprightly and beautifully costumed.

"THE GAME OF LOVE"

By GERTRUDE WARDEN.

London: Digby, Long, and Company.

Miss Gertrude Warden always writes an interesting love story, and her latest novel will bear favourable comparision with any of its predecessors. The heroine is not the immaculate young person whom we sometimes encounter in the realms of fiction; and it does not take long to come to the conclusion that she plays the "game of love" very badly. Moya Reeves is a woman with a fatal weakness. At critical moments she is silent when she should speak out in justice to herself and others. "The Game of Love" is a story of an unhappy marriage, the result of a fatal mistake on the part of one of the contracting parties. Sir Harold Spencer-Montagu—an admirably drawn picture of a self-made man—is left a widower with one daughter, Judith, who inherited all her Jewish mother's plainness. Left free to choose a wife more in accordance with his rising greatness, he, like a wise man, took took time over it, "and, as in so many other of his speculations, when he made his choice it seemed at first hardly a suitable one. A beautiful girl playing a small part in one of his provincial companies attracted his attention. She was an inexperienced and poorly paid actress, but in the part for which she was cast—the wife of an Earl and a woman of high breeding and distinction—face, dress, voice, manner, and figure all completely realised Monty's ideal of what a great man's wife should be.

"He looked up Miss Moya Reeves's antecedents with business-like promptitude. Orphan daughter of a clergyman, mother member of a respectable Irish theatrical family, well-educated, beautiful, witty and clever, exquisite taste in dress, lovely voice and irreproachable reputation. Great man though he was, he never for one moment made the mistake of offering the penniless actress other than honourable attentions. It was a wife Monty wanted — a wife with a handsome appearance, and beautiful manners 'for dinners and bazaars and afternoon teas,' as he comprehensively put it. On the whole he preferred that she should have no money. One of his favourite axioms was that 'more was to be made by spending than by scraping' on certain occasions, and, bank-book in hand, he began the wooing of Moya Reeves.

"First of all he raised her salary. Then he gained over her aunt, who was playing in the company, by handsome presents. He treated the actors and actresses to suppers and a ball, and singled out Miss Reeves for such special attentions as could leave no doubt on the subject of his feelings towards her. Every woman in the company forthwith openly, and in many cases bitterly, envied Moya. The girl was, not unnaturally, flattered and pleased. In theatrical circles Spencer-Montagu was a power; when he condescended to visit provincial towns at which his companies were performing, he did so 'en grand seigneur,' putting up at the best hotels, with his secretary and his valet in attendance, and driving daily down to the theatre in an open two-horse carriage. Moya admired him, and was a little afraid of him; to love him hardly occurred to her. He was too ostentatious, too autocratic and domineering to appeal to her from the point of view of sentiment; but he impressed her strongly, nevertheless, for his was not a personality it was possible to overlook."

It was while Moya was engaged to Spencer-Montagu that she met Morton Wetherby, and they fell in love with each other at their first interview. The young man is private secretary to Lord Tremlyn, and he is compelled to accompany him abroad on a two-and-a-half years' tour. Moya makes no mention of her engagement to Morton, and they part as lovers.

"She ran sobbing upstairs to her own room, locked the door, and flung herself, dressed as she was and without lighting the candle, face downwards on the bed.

"'I love him! I love him' she hissed into the pillow, while tears rained from her eyes. 'I shall never love anyone else—never, never! And he is only a flirt, and I am one of his conquests! I would give my soul to marry him, and yet to-night, his last night, I ran away from him. I can't even write to him. I must wait until I hear, and if what Teresa says is true, he will forget. God help me! When I think I must marry that other man I feel that I shall go mad!'

"All through the night she lay sobbing her passionate heart out, torn with rage against fate which would part her from Morton, with doubts of his fidelity, with self-scorn for her own disingenuousness and for her readiness to fall fathoms deep in love with a stranger, and with a shrinking dread of the future."

Moya does not receive a line from Morton Wetherby, and believing that he has proved false, she marries Spencer-Montagu—and is miserable, though she is the wife of a great city magnate, and can enjoy all the luxuries that wealth bestows. At the end of a little more than two years-and-half, she again meets Morton Wetherby accidentally just after she has seen her husband off by train at Victoria Station. Morton is under the belief that she has come to meet him, and takes her off to dine with him at a quiet restaurant. He cannot understand why it is the letters he has sent her while on his travels have never reached her, and Moya does not inform him that she is a married woman. A fatal mistake; for the knowledge comes to him in a manner that shakes all his faith in Moya and in womankind generally.

The logical conclusion to such a story as this is a sad one, and readers who favour the conventional happy ending may possibly feel disappointed with the tragic finish to Miss Warden's latest novel. However they will find their interest in this well-written love story maintained until the last page.

AT North London Police-court, on Monday, Mr Fordham was asked to grant a licence permitting a boy of eleven to appear in a stage play at Dalston Theatre. It was admitted that the child would be on the stage at intervals until nearly eleven o'clock at night. Mr Fordham was of opinion that a boy of eleven should be in bed by eight o'clock at night, and he thought he should only be doing his duty to the boy by refusing to grant the certificate. The manager said it would put the company to great inconvenience, and it would be a difficult matter to find a substitute. Mr Fordham said that was the concern of the management. He did not think this was a case in which a licence should be granted, and he refused the application.

NEW PLAYS IN PARIS

FROM JAN. 1 TO END OF SEPTEMBER, 1904.

JAN. 6. *Frère Jacques*, comedy, in four acts, by MM. Henri Bernstein and Pierre Veber—Vaudeville.
,, 12. *Le Festin de la Mort*, drama, in one act, by M. De Castellane—Théâtre Sarah-Bernhardt.
,, 15. *Les Dragées D'Hercule*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by MM. Paul Bilhaud and Hennequin—Palais-Royal.
,, 28. *Falstoff*, play, in five acts and seven tableaux, by M. Jacques Richepin—Porte-Saint-Martin.
FEB. 2. *Une Nuit de Noces*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. H. Kéroul and A. Barré—Folies-Dramatiques.
,, 3. *La Seconde Madame Tanqueray*, comedy, in four acts, by M. Arthur W. Pinero, French translation by M. R. D'Humières—Odéon.
,, 5. *Monsieur Betsy*, comedy, in four acts, by MM. Oscar Méténier, and Paul Alexis, revived—Variétés.
,, 12. *L'Assassinée*, comedy in four acts, by M. Grenet-Dancourt—Antoine.
,, 12. *Papa Mulot*, comedy, in three acts, by M. R. Charvet—Antoine.
,, 18. *Décadence*, comedy, in four acts, by M. Albert Guinon—Vaudeville.
,, 20. *Les Pantins*, play, in three acts, by M. Gustave Grillet—Victor Hugo.
MARCH 1. *La Main Passe*, farcical comedy, in four acts, by M. Georges Feydeau—Nouveautés.
,, 4. *Oiseaux de Passage*, play, in four acts, by MM. Maurice Donnay and Lucien Descaves—Antoine.
,, 16. *La Fille de Roland*, lyric tragedy, in four acts, by M. Paul Férier, music by M. Henri Rabaud—Opéra-Comique
,, 17. *La Dette*, comedy, in five acts and a prologue, by M.M. Paul Gavault and Georges Berr—Odéon.
,, 22. *Le Mannequin D'Osier*, comedy, in four acts and eight tableaux, by M. Anatole France—Renaissance
,, 24. *La Montansier*, play, in four acts, by MM. Gaston De Caillavet, Robert De Flers, and Jeoffrin—Gaité.
,, 30. *La Baillonnée*, drama, in eight tableaux, by MM. Pierre Decourcelle and P. Rouget—Ambigu.
,, 31. *L'Esbrouffe*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Abel Hermant—Vaudeville.
APRIL 2. *Don Quichotte*, historical comedy, in four acts and six tableaux by M. Jacques Lorrain—Victor Hugo.
,, 18. *L'Escapade*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by M. Georges Berr—Palais-Royal.
,, 20. *Le Fils de L'Etoile*, musical drama, in five acts, by MM. Catulle Mendès and Camille Erlanger—Opéra.
,, 21. *Le Roi Galant*, dramatic comedy, in four acts, in verse, by MM. Louis Marsolleau and Soulié—Odéon.
,, 22 *La Chauve-Souris*, operette, in three acts, the French libretto by M. Paul Férier, music by Johann Strauss—Variétés.
,, 23. *Varennes*, play, in six tableaux, by M. Henri Lavedan, and G. Lenotre—Théâtre Sarah-Bernhardt.
,, 25. *La Plus Faible*, comedy, in four acts, by M. Marcel Prévost—Comédie-Française.
,, 30. *Les Malefilatres*, comedy, in two acts, by M. Georges De Porto-Riche—Renaissance.
MAY 7. *La Troisième Lune*, Chinese comedy, in four tableaux, by Madame Fred Grésac and M. Paul Férier—Vaudeville.
,, 10. *Le Jongleur de Notre-Dame*, miricle, in three acts, poem by M. Maurice Lena, music by M. Massenet — Opéra-Comique.
,, 20. *Electra*, play, in five acts, by M. Perez Galdez, French adaptation by M. Paul Millet—Porte-Saint-Martin.
JUNE 2. *La Divine Emilie*, comedy, in two acts, by M. Lucien Glaize—Odéon.
,, 2. *Le Démon du Foyer*, comedy, in two acts, by George Sand—Odéon.
,, 24. *Les Cambrioleurs de Paris*, play, in five acts and eight tableaux, by MM. Henri Kéroul and Gardel-Hervé—Ambigu.
JULY 7. *Le Rabiot*, vaudeville, in three acts, by M. Gaston Marot—Cluny.
,, 9. *Le Paon*, comedy, in verse, in three acts, by M. Francis De Croisset—Comédie-Française.
SEPT. 14. *La Dame du 23*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Paul Gavault and Albert Bourgain—Nouveautés.
,, 16. *Les Trois Anabaptistes*, comedy, in four acts, by MM. Alexandre Bisson and Berr De Turique—Vaudeville.
,, 22. *Madame X.....*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. G. Marot and E. Depré—Palais-Royal.
,, 30. *Le Friquet*, play, in four acts, by M. Gauthiers-Villars—Gymnase.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

13,364. Theatrical appliances. Patentee, Lytton, E., 18, Fielding-road, Bedford-park, London.—Relates to theatrical apparatus described in Specification No. 24,261, A.D 1901, for raising and lowering stage scenery, cloths, &c. The ropes carrying the scenery are each wound on a drum mounted loosely on a shaft driven by an electric motor, and actuated through a clutch, controlled by an electro-magnet. A brake and pawl, engaging rachet-teeth on the drum, are also operated with the clutch by means of an inclined groove in a sliding rod. The motor is reversed from the stage. The clutch is brought out of gear by a spring or a second electro-magnet. In a modification, the clutch lever is mounted on a tubular shaft carring an arm, which, when the clutch is in gear, is held by a catch, but is automatically released by tappets on the screen engaging stops on cords attached to arms on the internal shaft. A cam thereby turns the catch and frees the lever. A pawl engaging the ratchet-teeth is also operated from the shaft by an arm. The annular space round the ram is connected to the main; so that when the valve, actuated by an electro-magnet, opens the rear end of the cylinder, the ram is forced in and allows the scenery to descend by gravity.

13,735. Caroussels, &c. Patentees, M'Cormick, J. J., and M'Daniel, L. H., both of 340, Seventh-avenue, Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A. In amusement apparatus such as merry-go-rounds, caroussels, or roundabouts, two shafts are adapted to be turned in opposite directions through the gear wheels. Double arms are secured to the upper ends of the shafts respectively. The upwardly-inclined branches of the arms carry cars for the accommodation of passengers. When the shafts are caused to rotate, either by turning the crank or by suitable power, the arms revolve in opposite directions and pass alternately over one another. In a modification the shafts may be so geared together that they will both turn in the same direction. The apparatus may be made for use as a toy, if desired.

21,385. Walbanoke Bruce Smith, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London. Improvements in or relating to stage scenery or the like.

ON THE ROAD OCT. 24.

ACTOR'S ROMANCE.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
AMORELLE.—Prince's Theatre, Bristol.
AMORELLE (N.).—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
ARE YOU A MASON? (MACDONA)—Retford.
AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES.—P. O. W., Southampton
ASSASSIN.—Osborne Theatre, Manchester.
BANDMANN-PALMER, MRS.—M. T., Abertillery.
BANK OF ENGLAND.—Opera House, Workington.
BEAUTIFUL AVENGER.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.
BELLE OF NEW YORK.—G. T., Southampton.
BELLS OF HASLEMERE.—West Bromwich.
BENSON, MR F. R. (A).—S. T., Liverpool.
BENSON, MR F. R. (B)—M. T., Chesterfield.
BEST MUST WIN.—T. R., Chesterfield.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—Wingate.
BULMER, MR.—T. R, Merthyr Tydfil.
CARL ROSA.—County Theatre, Reading.
CHEERY GIRL (N.).—Galety Theatre, Manchester.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (M.)—Leamington.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (N.).—Kennington, S.E.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (S.)—T. R., Exeter.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA) (S.).—Kettering.
CONSCRIPT.—Whitevale Theatre, Glasgow.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER.—H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (M.).—T. R, Ashton.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (N.).—K. T., Glasgow.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (S.).—O. H., Northampton.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA) (N.).—Sterling.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA) (S.).—Malvern.
COUNTRY MOUSE (N.).—G. T., Hastings.
COUNTRY MOUSE.—P. G. T., Folkestone.
COUSIN KATE (N.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
COUSIN KATE (S.).—Woking.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Court Theatre, Bacup.
DARLING OF THE GODS (N.).—T. T., Newcastle.
DARLING OF THE GODS (S.).—Stoke Newington.
DE QUINCEY REPERTOIRE.—Weston-super-Mare.
DISGRACE TO HER SEX.—E. T., Oldham.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Queen's Theatre, Keighley.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC (S.).—O. H., Cheltenham.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC.—T. R., Brighton.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE.—T. R., Sheffield.
EDGE OF THE STORM.—P. O. W., Gt. Grimsby.
EXECUTIONER'S DAUGHTER.—Sunderland.
FAIRY'S DILEMMA.—P. O. W. T., Birmingham.
FATAL CROWN.—Dunfermline.
FATAL WEDDING (M.).—T. R, Blyth.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—Q. T., Manchester.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—C. T., Birmingham.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—Met. Theatre, Glasgow.
FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES.—A. T., Stourbrigge.
FRIVOLITY.—Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.
GAY PARISIENNE (MACDONA)—Gainsborough.
GEISHA.—Opera House, Middlesbrough.
GIPSY JACK.—Galety Theatre, Dundee.
GIRL FROM JAPAN.—Opera House, Crouch-end.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (N.).—Marlborough T., N.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (S.).—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS (BRUCE).—New T., Consett.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS (MELVILLE).—Leicester.
GOLDEN LADDER.—Grand Theatre, Falkirk.
GO-WON-GO-MOHAWK.—Opera H., Radcliffe.
GREEK SLAVE.—Opera House, Middlesbrough.
GRIP OF IRON.—E. T., Cradley Heath.
HARVEST OF SIN.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—Theatre R, Edinburgh.
HENRY NEVILLE.—Sheffield.
HER FATAL PAST.—Theatre Royal, Edmonton.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Theatre Royal Bristol.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Theatre Royal, Dover.
HOT NIGHT.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
HUGHES, ANNIE.—Folkestone.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
IN DAHOMEY.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
INDIAN MUTINY.—Prince's Theatre, Preston.
IRVING, HENRY.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.—Newcastle.
JACK'S SWEETHEART.—T. R., Hucknall.
JOSEPH ENTANGLED.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
KENDAL, MR AND MRS.—R. T., Glasgow.
KING OF CRIME.—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.
KITTY GREY.—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Bulford.
LADY OF OSTEND.—Grand Theatre, Blackpool.
LADY SLAVEY (GREET)—T. R, Worcester.
LADY'S MAID.—Grand Theatre, Plymouth.
LAUGHTER-LAND.—Theatre, Perth.
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.—Chester.
LATTY.—Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
LIFE'S REVENGE.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
LIGHTS O' LONDON.—Stratford, E.
LIGHTNING'S FLASH.—Grand, Stalybridge.
LITTLE COQUETTE.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
LITTLE MARY.—New Theatre, Oxford.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
MADAME SHERRY (N.)—P. O. W. T., Birmingham.
MAN TO MAN.—H. M. Theatre, Walsall.
MANXMAN.—Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.
MARRIAGE OF KITTY.—Grand T., Boscombe.
MESSAGE FROM MARS.—Royalty T., Buxton.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—T. R., Rugby.
MODERN ADVENTURESS.—T. R., S. Shields.
MODERN JUDAS.—P. O. W. Theatre, Richmond.
MONEY-MAKERS (N.)—O. H., Leicester.
MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE.—Galety T., Hastings.
MOODY-MANNERS (A)—T. R., Glasgow.
MOODY-MANNERS (B).—T. R., Bournemouth.
MOODY-MANNERS (C).—Haddington.
MY LADY MOLLY (RED).—T. R., Bradford.
MY LADY MOLLY (WHITE).—T. R, Plymouth.
NEW CLOWN.—H. M. Theatre, Dundee.
NEW CLOWN (GREVILLE)—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
NEW EAST LYNNE.—T. R., North Shields.
NEW HOUSEMAID.—Opera House, Cork.
NEW MEPHISTO.—New Theatre, Kidderminster.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—Opera House, Cork.
ONE OF THE BEST.—Theatre Royal, Colchester.
ONE OF THE FAMILY.—Avenue T., Kettering.
ON THE STROKE OF 12 O.—Leigh.
ORCHID (EDWARDES)—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
ORCHID (S.).—Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.
PATH OF THORNS.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Galety Theatre, Manchester.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
QUALITY STREET (BRIGHT).—T. R, Cardiff.
QUALITY STREET (FROHMAN).—P. T., Manchester.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (S.).—T. R., Rotherham.
ROYAL REVENGE (CLYNDES).—T. R., Lincoln.
SAILOR'S SWEETHEART.—Court T., Wigan.
SAN TOY.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
SAPHO (2)—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
SAPHO (ANNIE BELL).—Opera House, Dudley.
SATURDAY TO MONDAY (N.).—Oxford.
SATURDAY TO MONDAY (S.).—Hertford.
SCARLET WOMAN.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
SCHOOL GIRL (S.).—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Theatre Royal, Greenock.
SILVER KING (N.).—Grand T., West Hartlepool.
SILVER KING (S.).—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—G. T., Burnley.
SINS OF A CITY.—Theatre Royal, Hebburn.
SOLDIER AND A MAN.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
STILL ALARM.—Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.
SUNDAY.—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
SUNDAY (N.).—Opera House, Burnley.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Century Theatre, Motherwell.
TEARLE, OSMOND.—Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
TEMPTRESS.—Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
TERRY, ELLEN—Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (S.).—Loughborough.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (1).—Hammersmith.
TOMMY ATKINS.—Broadway Theatre, Deptford.
TRAITOR.—Metropole Theatre, Devonport.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Theatre Royal, Castleford.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—T. R., Worthing.
TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.—T. R., Wednesbury.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—T. R., Bilston.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (N.).—C. T., Warrington.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (S.)—Q. T., Fleetwood.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—Peterboro'.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY)—Bromley.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—Luton.
VICTIM OF VILLAINY.—Grand Theatre, Chorley.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Prince's T., Portsmouth.
WALLER, MRS LEWIS.—Grand Theatre, Woolwich.
WARNER, GRACE.—Opera House, Coventry.
WEARIN' O' THE GREEN.—Galety T., Leith.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—P. T., Glasgow.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS (FINCH).—West Stanley.
WHEN WOMAN HATES.—Lyric T., Hammersmith.
WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN.—Ebbw Vale.
WILLARD, MR. E. S.—Borough Theatre, E.
WOMAN AND WINE.—Rotunda T., Liverpool.
WOMAN'S PLUCK.—Prince's Theatre, Blackburn.
10 30 DOWN EXPRESS.—A. T., Birmingham.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps. *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

MR E. TUPPER, who for many years has been master carpenter at the (Theatre Royal, Worthing, has, owing to change of proprietorship, retired from that position. The management and staff have given Mr Tupper several handsome presents.

MR C. SQUIRES, who is master carpenter at the Avenue Theatre is one of the most experienced stage machinists in London. He was at one time with Sir Henry Irving, and has toured many times in this and other countries.

MR F. LERSH, who has been appointed property master at the Avenue, was also formerly with Sir Henry Irving, and has acted in a similar capacity with several touring companies sent out from His Majesty's Theatre.

A MEETING of theatrical carpenters will be held on Sunday evening, at 8.30, in the Salisbury Tavern, St. Martin's-lane. All present and former members are urged to attend, to hear full particulars of the new benefits which are being created.

THE Stage Employees' and Musicians' Benevolent Funds Concert Committee has already secured the patronage of the Earl and Countess Carrington, Sir Henry Irving, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P.; Mr George Edwardes, Mr H. E. Moss, Mr Arthur Bourchier, Mr Frank Curzon, Mr W. S. Gilbert, Mr Alfred Mout, Mr Henry Arthur Jones, Mr J. Martin Harvey, Mr Tom B. Davis, and Mr Lewis Waller. The next meeting of the committee will be held on Tuesday, at 10 o'clock, at 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

THE friends of Mr R. Andrews, master carpenter at the Criterion Theatre, will regret to hear that he is seriously ill. Mr A. Palmer is acting for Mr Andrews.

MR W. MARTIN, formerly stage dayman at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, who was employed at the new theatre being built in Tottenham-court-road and met with an accident there last August, has now received compensation for the injuries he sustained from the insurance company on behalf of Messrs Lyon.

THE staff of the Tunbridge Wells Opera House, numbering nearly sixty, had their anniversary outing on Sunday at Hastings. Everyone appreciated the well thought out and liberal arrangements made by Mr F. Edgar Manaton, the popular acting-manager. Dinner was served at Ferraris' Restaurant. Mr Manaton occupied the chair, and was faced in the vice-chair by Mr W. I. Urquhart. After the loyal toasts, the chairman gave the health of Captain Welton Dale, the esteemed principal and sole lessee. General regret was expressed that Captain Welton Dale could not be with the party, and specially that the illness of Mrs Welton Dale was the cause of his absence. By the unanimous vote of the company the chairman sent a telegram of greeting to Captain Welton Dale, congratulating him on the second anniversary of the theatre and wishing him still greater success under his sole management. The heads of the various departments were duly toasted, including Mr Walker, the stage carpenter, and the health of Mr Manaton was proposed in a most eulogistic speech by Mr Urquhart and duly acknowledged. The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to a two hours' drive, and the party then returned to Ferraris' for high tea.

NOTICES and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

DUNLOP.—Oct. 13, the wife of Frank Dunlop, comedian, of a daughter. Both doing well.
HOMEWOOD.—Oct. 9, at Chez Nous, Churt, near Farnham, Surrey, the wife of Ashley Spencer Homewood, of a son.

DEATHS.

ABBOTT-TYACK.—Oct. 11, after a painful and protracted illness from cancer, Amy Tyack, known professionally as Amy Abbott, the beloved wife of H. S. Tyack, of H.M. Office of Works.
CRANE.—Oct. 17, at her parents' residence, 198, Barry-road, East Dulwich, Florence, daughter of Harry J. Crane, aged fourteen. Funeral to-day (Saturday).
HOLT.—Oct. 17, after a long and painful illness (consumption), Abe Holt (formerly Mr and Mrs Will Brown and Abe Holt), in his forty-third year. Deeply lamented by his sorrowing wife.
LEONARD.—Oct. 18, at Birmingham, the result of an accident, Frank Leonard, acrobat, aged twenty-eight.
RILEY.—Sept. 28, at Karachi, India, Ritter Riley, of the Dallas Comedy Company.
SEALBY.—Oct. 17, at St. Thomas's Nursing Home, after much suffering, Walter Sealby, aged forty-three years. Deeply mourned by his heart-broken wife and daughter.
TOFT.—Oct. 14, at his residence, Oxford Lodge, Oxford-road, Ranelagh, Dublin, William Toft, roundabout proprietor, aged forty-four.
WYMAN.—Oct. 17, at his residence, in Widnes, Professor Wyman, illusionist, aged forty.

IN MEMORIAM.

CAVANAH.—To the memory of John Cavanah, of Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, who died Oct. 24, 1901.
GREGORY.—In loving memory of Arthur Mellor Gregory, died Oct. 22, 1899, age forty-five. Deeply mourned by wife, son, and daughter.

"THE GEO. GROSSMITH BIRTHDAY BOOK" consists of a collection of apt quotations for every day in the year from the original works—musical and otherwise—of the well-known comedian and entertainer. How it came to be compiled is explained in the dedication:—"Dear Father,—The compiling of this little book has been a great pleasure to us. It has not only reminded us of your later sketches, but it has recalled the songs you composed and sang to us when we were children.—Your loving daughters, SYLVIA and CORDELIA." The quotations have evidently been selected with much care, and at the beginning of every month a portion of the score of some of Mr George Grossmith's most popular songs is given. The Birthday Book, which contains a recent portrait of Mr Grossmith, is published by the enterprising Mr J. W. Arrowsmith, of Bristol.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, OCT. 5.—Madame Ernestine Schumann-Heink, who won high honours at the Metropolitan Opera House in Wagnerian rôles, began an engagement last Monday at the Broadway Theatre, appearing as Lina, in *Love's Lottery*, a comic opera, in two acts, constructed specially for her by Stanislaus Stange and Julian Edwards. The scenes are laid in the village of Deanswold, England, in the year 1818, during the reign of George III. The first act takes place in the courtyard of Lina's house, and the second in a secluded part of Deanswold Park. Lina is a German laundress. A scheming lawyer learns that she has drawn the capital prize in a lottery, and he plans to transfer to his own pocket her newly acquired wealth through the medium of a marriage ceremony. But Lina is in love with Sergeant Bob Trivet, and as he declares that he could never marry her if she were wealthy she exchanges tickets with him. The one with the winning number is alternately lost and found, the resulting complications involving three pairs of lovers. Mr Edwards has composed a brilliant and melodious score. The costumes were appropriately picturesque, and the chorus had been well trained. The opera was produced by Mr F. C. Whitney, and it scored a decided success.

MISS DELLA FOX is appearing at the Princess Theatre in a musical comedy called *The West Point Cadet*, adapted from the French by M. Norden, which has lots of fun and melody to compensate for a very shadowy story.

"HER MAD MARRIAGE," written by Frank Allen, and now on view at the American Theatre, gives the devotees of genuine melodrama all the excitement they crave for. The scenes are laid in New York, and the story deals with the efforts of Ralph Richmond, a dissolute actor, to gain possession of a stage-struck heiress named Josie Randall. Her father opposes the match and is seconded by Richard Lawson, who loves Josie. Richmond goes through a mock marriage with the heiress in a mill, incidentally trying to "fix" Lawson for good and all by tying him to the moving carriage of a band saw. This little job is spoiled by Scrapple, the office boy, who stops the motor by cutting the electric wires. Fearing that Josie's father knows too much, Richmond kills him in his office. So far the performance has been confined to the stage, but in the last act it overflows into the audience. The curtain rises on a bare stage on which a scene is quickly set for the opening act of *East Lynne*, Richmond having given the stage-struck girl a part in this play. She begins to suspect him, and he puts poison in a glass for her and drinks it himself by mistake. The curtain falls, and the stage-manager summons a physician from the audience. At the same time a detective who happens to be in one of the stage boxes takes steps to arrest Josie for murdering her husband. Richmond's accomplice in villainy, described as a "lady reporter," rises in another box and accuses the heroine, whose mother, supposed to be witnessing the performance of *East Lynne* from the stalls, jumps up and frantically cries for justice. The hero, Lawson, tries to save the heroine from arrest, but fails until his office boy, Scrapple, shouts from the gallery that he has proof that Richmond killed Josie's father, and slides down a rope to the stage with a flashlight photograph of the murder. Tableau. Curtain.

"MRS BLACK IS BACK," in which Miss May Irwin recently made her reappearance after two years' absence from the stage, is a farce of the kind known as "roaring." The plot is built on a lie, a little white lie, that rapidly assumes terrifying proportions, as complication after complication results from it. Mrs Black, whom Miss Irwin impersonates, is a widow who is fat, fair, and nearly forty. She marries a professor of geology in a New York university, and starts off by telling him that she is twenty-nine. This is a bad beginning, as she has a son at school in England who is nineteen, and she adds to her future troubles by telling the professor that her boy is ten. Of course the lad turns up, and the trouble begins, trouble for the son no less than the mother, for he is forced to assume various disguises. Her preoccupation in extricating Mrs Black from her troubles does not prevent Miss Irwin from singing several coon songs in her own pointed and inimitable way. Two that have hit the mark are called "Nothing but talk" and "'Taint no sense in lovin' that way."

MRS ESTELLE MORTIMER, who appeared with Mr Nat C. Goodwin as the pianist in the dance hall scene in *The Cowboy and the Lady*, died in Kansas City on the 28th ult., at the age of fifty-two. Mrs Mortimer was born in Philadelphia of English parents.

"MILT" G. BARLOW, who originated the character of "Old Black Joe" thirty-five years ago, and made the song popular during his long engagement with Haverly's Minstrels, died of cancer in the Home for Incurables, New York City, on the 27th ult., at the age of sixty-five.

THE HISTORY OF MUSIC.

At the Guildhall School of Music, on Wednesday afternoon, Dr. W. H. Cummings delivered the first of a series of four weekly lectures on "The History of Music." He dealt with music from the early musical productions of the Egyptians, at least 4,000 years before Christ, to the middle of the sixteenth century. The lecturer pointed out that there was little doubt that from the Egyptians the Hebrews learned all they knew of the art; the Egyptians extended and passed on to them a perfect scale of music and some harmony. The music transplanted from Greece to Rome became decadent and corrupted. For several centuries, during the persecution of the early Christians, there was no progress in regard to music; but in 314 or 320 A.D a school was established in Rome by Pope Sylvester for the education of choristers. After showing how the Gregorian music was derived from the Greeks, who had produced their own music, Dr. Cummings gave an interesting account of the introduction of organs into Spain about the year 450, and subsequently into Rome, France, England, and Germany. The subject of musical notation—neumes, used as indications of sound, notes, lines, and bars, and their gradual evolution—was touched upon, together with other matters of interest to the student of music and its history. Passing from the troubadors of the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries, who refused payment, playing for the sheer love they bore their art, and the minnesingers and meistersingers who succeeded them, Dr. Cummings dwelt on folk-music, and explained the origin of the old English song, "Sumer is icumen in." Following the improvements to the organ in later days, he gave an outline of the work of the early writers on music - Dufay, Jean De Muris (who was the author of the earliest known printed music book, dated 1473), and Dunstable. The compositions of Palestrina, Marbecke, and other musicians whose lives had an important bearing on their art were dealt with, and a comprehensive and instructive lecture also included a review of the early instruments and their capabilities.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

JUMBO, JUN.—*You had better try an advertisement in our columns.*

F. B.—*We do not give the age of members of the profession.*

A. WILLIAMS.—*The cast of* Paved with Gold, *produced at the City of London Theatre on May 16, 1868, was as follows:—Nathaniel Crosier, Mr G. Peel; Vantrin, Mr S. Dugarde; Van Dieman Bill, Mr Chas. Levigo; Stumpy, Mr W. Wardrobe; the Duck, Mr T. Mitchell; Katherine Croner and Phillip, Miss Clara Leslie; Mrs Hazlewood, Mrs Brewer; Bertie, Miss Kate Thompson; Blossom, Miss Nelly Thompson. Messrs A. Montague, Marshall Harris, Leicester, Mason; Ashford, Bishop Crown, Morris, and the Misses Chapman and Flora Stalman were also in the cast. (2)* Love and Hate, *produced at the Britannia on April 12, 1875, was not noticed in* The Era, *and in the advt. the only names mentioned of those appearing in it are those of Miss E. Clayton and Mr J. Fox.*

J. W.—A Man's Shadow, *adapted from the French by Robert Buchanan, was produced by H. Beerbohm Tree at the Haymarket, Sept. 12, 1889.*

P. H.—*(1) Madame Celeste died in Paris, Feb. 12, 1882. Her last appearance at the Adelphi, in* Green Bushes, *was in October, 1874. (2) John Sims Reeves died Oct 25, 1900, aged eighty-two.*

Y. Z.—*A performance must be given in a building licensed for dramatic performances, and somebody must pay for admission to witness it.*

L. W.—Gentleman Jack *was the name of the play in which the pugilist Corbett appeared at Drury-lane, April 21, 1894.*

KENTISH TOWN.—*Dan Leno appeared in Mr G. P. Hawtrey's burlesque* Atalanta, *at the Strand, in December, 1888. Leno was not in the original cast, but entered it shortly after the production.*

K. G. M.—*The first English production of* A Professor's Love Story *was at the Comedy, June 25, 1894. The principals were Messrs E. S Willard. H. Cane, Hugh Harting, Bassett Roe, Royce Carleton, and F. H. Tyler; Mrs George Canninge, Mrs H. Cane, and Misses Bessie Hatton, N. Craddock, and Keith Wakeman.*

T. W. B.—*The first record of plays being acted at the theatre mentioned refers to the season of 1733, when the house was under the management of Mr Kerregan. Mr Stephen Kemble subsequently had the management for a series of years. On Nov. 2, 1870, at the close of Mr Wybert Reeve's season H R H the then Prince of Wales and party attended the theatre and witnessed the performance of* Frou-Frou *by Mdlle. Beatrice and company.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

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Anderson, Miss Mary
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Arnold, Mr Sidney
Baldry, Mrs H.
Balsiger, Mr Gus
Barbeur, Mr Harry
Barrow, Mr George
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Belle, Miss Cissy
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Binns, Mr J.
Bisera, Mr
Blanch and Chanti
Bon Bon, Mr Harry
Borghetti, Signor
Boucher, Mr Percy
Boucicault, Mr Dion
Bratz, Mr
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Burnett, Professor
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Fox, Mr T.
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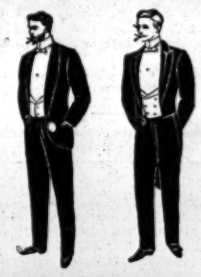
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Liverpool-street, depart ..	8 40	9 45	10-20	11- 5	12- 0	2 35	4-15	4-30	5-15	8-20					
St. Pancras, "	..	9 45	10-18	..	12-20	2 40	4-10	..	5- 7	..					
Newmarket, arrive	10 32	11 45	12-18	12 49	2-20	4 48	6- 5	6-19	7-17	10-18					

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					p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Newmarket, depart	8- 3	8-59	12 30	3 57	4-10	4-15	5 30	5 50	6-15	7-47	
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"All the harm I wish you" (R. P. Weston)	Harry Anderson
"All the little Ja-pansy faces" (Harry Castling)	Mark Sheridan
"All the Girls are Lov-er-ly-over-ly" (Harrington and Thurban)	R. G. Knowles
"Anywhere there will do" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Seeley
"A Warning to Single Men" (Bateman and Pether)	Arthur Reece
"Blue-Bell" (Madden and Morse)	Hamilton Hill
[Above also sung by Miss Mabel La Blanche, Miss Dorothy L. Clark, Miss Florence Esdaile, the Sisters Jonghmanns, Miss Nellie Stratton, Miss Maud Esmond, Miss Nita Clavering, Miss Margaret Radcliffe, and the Langdons.]	
"Britannia's Babes" (Carter and Weston)	George Leyton
"'Come in!' said Widdy Malone" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Michael Nolan
"Daisy" (Cecil Lidden)	G. H. Elliott
"Dat Little Gal of Johnson's" (C. W. Murphy)	Eugene Stratton
"Delusions" (Phil Ray)	Phil Ray
"Doan'Cry, Little Coloured Coon" (S F. Harrison and Neat)	Miss Harriet Vernon
"Don't Stand There ——!" (Lawrance and Gifford)	Walter Stanley
"That's him! That's him! That's him!" (Mills and Scott)	Harry Freeman
"Farewell, my little Yo San" (Mills and B. Scott)	Tom Costello
"Frozen Meat" (T. W. Connor)	Alf Gibson
"He Kissed I Once" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Loftus
"I did enjoy myself last night" (Lawrence and M. Scott)	Will Johnson
"I don't mind if it amuses you!" (Leigh and Pether)	Ben Albert
"If all the stars were mine" (Smith and Stromberg)	Miss Lilian Doreen
"I'm a girl of Tennessee" (Eden and Byng)	Miss Lil Hawthorne
"I'm coming home to you" (Herbert Darnley)	Miss Dorothy L. Clark
"I'm going to sea (see) (Leamore and Collins)	Tom Leamore
"I'm round there to-night!" (Wincott and Leighton)	Dan Crawley
"Isn't that like a Man?" (Paul Mill)	Paul Mill
"It's all right in the summer time" (Murray and Everard)	Miss Vesta Victoria
"It's the Poor that Help the Poor" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Florrie Gallimore
"I went Round the following Morn" (Allsopp, Mayo, and Stewart)	Sam Mayo
"I Wouldn't Grumble Any More" (Harry Castling)	Harry Bedford
"I've been a Naughty Boy all Day" (Carter and Weston)	Miss Georgina Leonard
"Jolly Jarge" (Mills and Arthurs)	George Bastow
"Julia" (Robson and Hyde)	Miss Gladys Mavius
"Just a Girl" (Elton and Harrison)	Miss Minnie Cunningham
"Little Jap Horner" (F. V. St. Clair)	F. V. St. Clair
"Ma Dusky Rose" (Harrington and Le Brunn	Miss Florrie Robina
"Maude! Maude!" (Barnes and Collins)	Miss Lottie Lennox
"My Fiddle is My Sweetheart" (Harry Hunter)	G. H. Chirgwin
"My Japanesy Girl" (Delmar and Parry)	Hal Forde
"My Lily of the Valley" (Frank Leo)	Miss Sable Fern
"Oh, Nancy Lee" (T. W. Connor)	Miss Millie Hylton
"One Little Cottage all Our Own" (J. F. Lambe)	Miss Dolly Harmer
"Revenges" (Dunlop and Pether)	Wallis Arthur
[Above also sung by Whit Cunliffe].	
"She must have known!" (David and Scott)	J. E. Coyle
"She's my little girl" (Leigh and Pether)	Walter Munroe
"She said, 'Baa! Baa! Baa!'" (Harrington and H. Allen)	Miss Florrie Forde
"Sit on 'em and keep 'em warm" (Wincott and Leighton)	Harry Champion
"The Angel of My Dreams" (Leigh and Pether)	Miss Millie Lindon
"The Boarding-House; or, How to Get Thin" (Dickson and Randall)	Harry Randall
"The Coster's Christening" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Lloyd
"The Gambling Man" (Jerome and Schwartz)	Miss Carlotta Levey
"The Garden Filled with Gold" (Bateman and Murphy)	Miss Marie Kendall
"The New Insurance" (Arthurs and Lyle)	Ernest Shand
"The New Perjurma'At" (T. W. Connor)	Gus Elen
"The Playground in the Sky" (Bateman and Pether)	Milner Verren
"The Saftest o' the Family" (Lauder and Beaton)	Harry Lauder
"The Seaside Sultan" (C. W. Murphy)	Miss Vesta Tilley
"The Statue in Trafalgar-square" (Arthurs and Lyle)	George Lashwood
"The Truth or a Lie?" (Barnes and Weston)	George D'Albert
"The Ugly Duckling" (Murphy and Lipton)	Edith Courtney
[Above also sung by Park's Eton Boys, Miss Ella Dean, and Miss Phyllis Dare.]	
"The Workhouse Gate" (Shelley and Philpot)	Herbert Shelley
"Then She Started Tickle-ing" (Mills and Carter)	Patt Rafferty
"Therein Lurks Unseen Danger" (E. W. Rogers)	Arthur Rigby
"Three Makes Jolly Fine Company" (Rogers and Collins)	Arthur Lennard
"Toasts; or Wine is First Class." (E. A. Searson)	Ambrose Thorne
"Topsy-Turvy" (George Rollit)	Arthur Roberts
"'Twas a Dark and Stormy Night" (Alf Allerton)	T. E. Dunville
"What a Beautiful World it would be!" (Helliar and Wentworth)	Miss Fanny Wentworth
"What's the Good of a Pair of Kilts?" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Coyne
"Why Shouldn't we Fight for Our Own; a Tale of the P. and O." (Bateman and Pether)	Miss Kate Lawrence
"You are a White Little Girl" (Swaffer and H. E. Darewski, jun.)	Miss Winifred Hare.
"You Can't Beat the Old-Time Girls!" (Le

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1904.

SHAKESPEARE AND CALIBAN.

The revival of *The Tempest* at His Majesty's Theatre has also revived old theories and imaginations as to the character of Caliban. There is nothing so easy as to apply imaginary conceptions to contemporary facts; and Mr STEAD, after his visit to His Majesty's, instinctively dropped into symbolism, and found parallels to Prospero and his island family in contemporary politics. It would have been just as easy to see an equivalent of Caliban in the Boer nation, and take Prospero as foreshadowing Lord MILNER, and Ariel as a combination of Lord ROBERTS, Lord KITCHENER, and the British Army. Caliban was undoubtedly in possession of the island when Prospero the "medicine man," arrived as an emigrant; so were the Boers. To put it mildly, he was somewhat rude and primitive in his ideas; so, admittedly, were the Boers. Prospero tried giving him personal independence, but he behaved so badly that his republican arrangements had to be extinguished; thus it was with the Boers. And Mr STEAD—who, of course, believes that eventually we shall be outnumbered by his friends in the Transvaal, and ejected from South Africa—may complacently complete the parallel by pointing to Prospero's exit from the isle after burning his books and breaking his rod. How explicit a prophet SHAKESPEARE was may be proved by Caliban's straightforwardly expressed intention to "people the isle with Calibans"—evidently a *clairvoyant* allusion to the extinction of the British from South Africa by the sheer force of multiplication of the Dutch.

The idea of SHAKESPEARE symbolising Democracy in the person of Caliban originated in a superficial view of the personage. Caliban, until Mr TREE took him up, had usually been played as a cross between a gorilla and a sabre-toothed tiger. SHAKESPEARE'S description gives no sound warranty to this reading. Caliban is a "savage and deformed slave." The word "savage" did not have in SHAKESPEARE'S time the significance which it possesses at present. It meant wild and sylvan, and the term had a suggestion of the faun in it. Yet EMERY'S Caliban, with its "occasional prowlings" and "grinning eagerness of malignity," was considered by the representative GENEST to be admirable. Analysed, Caliban is much nearer to a modern decadent Frenchman than he is to the chimpanzee or the Wild Man of the Woods. He is like the hero of GAUTIER'S "Mademoiselle de Maupin"—absolutely unmoral. Miranda's purity and beauty create in him no more reverence than the statues of the Virgin MARY did in that extremely frank and effeminate young gentleman. Yet Caliban is essentially poetical. He thinks in cadences, and music inspires him with most rapturous emotions. He is an aristocrat, "going strong" on his witch lineage, and his hereditary right to the island. No one who sees clearly can confuse Caliban with Democracy.

The other hypothesis—that SHAKESPEARE had the common herd in his eye when planning the play—is equally untenable. In SHAKESPEARE'S time, the "condition of the people question" did not exist. The treatment of the poor in the reigns of ELIZABETH and JAMES II. was indeed abominable The landgrabbers made it impossible for them to live by working; and the law-makers completed the circle by flogging, hanging, and branding them for being out of employment. But the JOHN BALL point of view was impossible to SHAKESPEARE, bred and born as he was. The greatest genius is the slave of his conditions SHAKESPEARE, outside of his gift for writing inspired plays, was simply a country gentleman of his period, with a country gentleman's ideas, prejudices, and limitations. For all his satire on Justice Shallow, his ideal existence was that of an intelligent Shallow—say that of Master Page in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. He ridiculed the "dozen white luces" in Shallow's coat; but, as soon as he could, he applied for the immortal "Falcon, with his wings displayed, Argent, standing on a wreath of his colours, supporting a spear, gold; the motto 'Non Sans Droict,'" and all the rest of the arms which were granted by WILLIAM DETHICK GARTER to "WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, the renowned poet." He wrote scornfully about being "spacious in the possession of dirt;" but SHAKESPEARE was always on the look-out for an odd yard of land or so to be had cheap at Stratford-on-Avon. So entirely was his point of view that of the landed proprietor that he was on the unpopular side in the matter of "enclosing" the local commonlands. "The design," says HALLIWELL PHILLIPS, "was resisted by the Corporation, under the natural impression that if it were realised, both the number of agricultural employees and the value of the tithes would be seriously diminished. There is no doubt that this would have been the case. WILLIAM COMBE, who originated the movement, tormented the poor and coaxed the rich into acquiescence with his views. It appears most probable that SHAKESPEARE was one of the latter who were so influenced. However that may be, it is certain that the poet was in favour of the enclosures; for, on Dec. 23, the Corporation addressed a letter of remonstrance to him on the subject." When the common people are introduced into SHAKESPEARE'S plays they are always represented as stupid and ridiculous. But that was simply because they and their aspirations appeared stupid and ridiculous to SHAKESPEARE, as they did to other country gentlemen of his day. It is probable that he did not care much one way or the other about the enclosures above mentioned; but, feeling himself rather a parvenu in Stratford, he may have been seduced by the arguments of the long-established COMBE. To imagine SHAKESPEARE to have been a marvellous poet and dramatist and also a political philosopher centuries ahead of his time is to be excessively unreasonable.

"THE SHO-GUN."

A Corean Comic Opera, in Two Acts, by George Ade and Gustave Luders. Produced at Wallack's Theatre, New York, on Oct. 10.

(FROM OUR N&W YORK CORRESPONDENT.)

A year or two ago Mr George Ade's fame rested on his humorous *Fables in Slang*. Then he provided the American stage with fresh and delightful material in such plays as *The Sultan of Sulu*, *The County Chairman*, and quite recently *The College Widow*, and now his name attached to a play acts as a veritable magnet. In the work under notice Mr Ade has joined hands with Mr Luders, the composer of the music of *The Prince of Pilsen* and other popular operas. He calls his latest effort an "indirect treatise" on the worship of titles, the formation of trusts, the potency of the American "pull," the Yankee commercial invasion, and other subjects of timely interest. The central character of the story is an American promoter, William Henry Spangle, who has accumulated a fortune by the sale of chewing-gum. He was born in Iowa, made his money in Chicago, and polished off his education in New York at the Waldorf-Astoria. Spangle is anxious to break into society, and a handle to his name being indispensable, he starts on a tour of the world in search of a title. He reaches the island of Ka-Choo, in the Sea of Japan, and during the absence of the native ruler, the Sho-Gun, gets into trouble with local authorities through his disregard of their most sacred traditions. He is imprisoned in the Forbidden City, and in order to kill time begins an active commercial campaign, the Sho-Gun's officials being initiated into the latest and most approved American business methods. Spangle forms trusts, dips into the Royal treasury to form imaginary companies, and plays high jinks generally by way of introducing American civilisation into the behind-the-age kingdom. One of his stock companies makes a pool in ancestors, "preferred and common, with libraries thrown in." A trust, he explains, is "a large body of money entirely surrounded by water."

Spangle's crowning piece of audacity takes the form of a flirtation with Omee-Omi, the widow of a departed Sho-Gun, and for this he is condemned to be beheaded. But none of the executioners will raise a hand to put him out of the way, as the American has "unionized" the beheading industry, and is their walking delegate. The Sho-Gun appeals to the Royal Guard, but they have gone on strike, demanding an eight-hour day. The Sho-Gun then determines to do the job himself, but finds there is an order against a non-union man performing the work of the executioners. So Spangle is not beheaded, but a compromise is effected. There being no money left in the treasury, the Sho-Gun issues bonds. Spangle buys them all up, and takes as security a first-class title guaranteed to stand wear and tear in American society. Armed with this, and accompanied by the widow, the American sails for home, his parting reflection being that he never could be downed "with a lawyer, a bank account, and a 'pull.'"

The piece is mounted in two gorgeous scenes, the first act being laid in the ancestral Temple of Ka-Choo, and the second in the Wistaria-gardens of the Forbidden City. The Oriental atmosphere is well maintained, and Mr Henry W. Savage has credited himself with another very handsome production. Mr Ade's book is full of the quick sort of wit that American audiences enjoy, the worship of titles and the enterprising tactics of the Yankee trader being satirised in nearly every line. The music is pretty, and there are no end of songs and dances. Mr Charles E. Evans made a decided hit as William Henry Spangle, and others who rendered good service in important rôles were Mr Edward B. Martindell, Mr David Torrence, Miss Georgia Caine, Miss Christie MacDonald, and Miss Carrie Perkins. *The Sho-Gun* is booked for a long stay at Wallack's Theatre.

MR LEONARD RAYNE has secured the South African rights of Mr George Rollit's amusing farce *The Money Makers*, originally produced at the Royalty, and now on tour in the suburbs.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"L'EMBARQUEMENT POUR CYTHERE,"
Comedy, in Four Acts, in Verse, by M. E. Veyrie, Produced at the Bouffes-Parisiens, Oct. 13.

Le Chevalier	M. HENRY KRAUSS
Le Président Hénault	M. ARMAND BOUR
Le Prince De Rohan	M. RIVERS
Frontin	M. PAUL VILLE
Le Duc De Nivernais	M. COLIN
Le Baron Grimm	M. SCHOEFFER
Pomponnette	Mdlle. LEONIE YAHNE
Lise	Mdlle. BERTILE LEBLANC

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, OCT. 20.—It has rained premières this week, and more novelties are still to be brought this week. The Bouffes-Parisiens, under Mr Bour's able management, opened the ball with a delightful work, written in excellent verse and staged in a manner which reflects the highest credit on the artistic taste of the management. The pretty story plays under the reign of Louis XV. The little Marquise De Clvrac, called Pomponnette, has a protector in the person of Monsieur le Président Hénault. Pomponnette is a sweet little creature, and, like a dainty doll, moves among the princes, the dukes, and the barons who worship her. But Pomponnette's health is as frail as her morals. The dinners, the fêtes are undermining her constitution, and she wants to consult a medical man. A doctor is announced. It is the young and handsome Chevalier Florestan, who happens to be Hénault's nephew. For the first time Pomponnette learns what love is; but, alas, the lesson comes too late. She dies in the arms of Florestan. The autumn leaves are beginning to fall; she will never see spring. These four acts, of a delicate and refined taste, were loudly and deservedly applauded. Mdlle. Yahne was the exquisite heroine in this poetic tale; M. Bour supplied a decidedly clever sketch of Monsieur le President; but M. Krauss was a somewhat too heavy Florestan.

"DISCIPLINE,"
Play in Two Acts, by MM. De Conrieg and Jean Thorel, produced at the Théâtre Antoine, Oct. 13.

Commandant De Besser	M. CHELLES
Colonel De Ruch	M. SIGNORET
Commandant Marck	M. DESPONTAINES
Lieutenant De Boeen	M. MOSNIER
Lieutenant De Warth	M. VARGAS
Commandant De Glocke	M. SAVERNS

The work, of German origin, created a deep impression. In a German garrison town, a young lieutenant is to be expelled the army for having played cards in a beer-house. The Commandant De Besser having interceded for him with the colonel, an austere man, the latter avenges himself on De Besser by getting him transferred to a post where he will not be able to take an active part in the war which has just been declared. De Besser, smarting under this insult, has an explanation with his colonel, and finally insults him. De Besser knows that his military career has come to an end. He earnestly implores his subordinates who want to assist him in his trouble with the colonel not to follow his example, and always to respect discipline. Then he withdraws. A shot is heard; De Besser has blown his brains out. These two acts, full of emotion and intensely human, were excellently interpreted by those two splendid actors MM. Chelles and Signoret.

"ASILE DE NUIT," by M. Max Maurey, is a one-act humorous trifle. A wretchedly-clad tramp applies for shelter in a night refuge, where the official in charge adopts towards him the usual bullying tone. All at once, however, the official becomes all honey, and the bewildered tramp is overwhelmed with attentions. What has occurred? The official thinks the man is a journalist in disguise in search of "disclosures," and he is afraid to run any risks.

"LA MAIN DU SINGE," the French adaptation of MM. Parker and Jacobs's *The Monkey's Paw*, also met with an excellent reception, although to a Paris audience this kind of play is somewhat disconcerting. M. Nunes's adaptation, however, is excellent, and M. Antoine found in old White a rôle that suited him to the ground.

"LA DESERTEUSE,"
Comedy, in Four Acts, by MM. Brieux and Jean Sigaux, Produced at the Odéon, Oct. 15.

Forjot	M. GEMIER
Le père Noble	M. ALBERT LAMBERT
Rametty	M. MARIE DE L'ISLE
Sabarrot	M. DARRAS
Le Maître	M. CAZALIS
Gabrielle Forjot	Mdlle. MARIE MARCILLY
Pascaline	Mdlle. SYLVIE
Hélène	Mdlle. JEANNE EVEN
Marion	Mdlle. DEHON
Madame Crinoné	Madame CARLIER

M. Brieux has given us a real comedy and not a problem play with a point of interrogation at the end. The work, therefore, came upon us something like a surprise, and was listened to from beginning to end with undisguised pleasure. Madame Forjot is the wife of a music publisher in Nantes. She is the mistress of Rametty, a theatrical manager, and has no thought for her husband or her thirteen-year-old daughter, Pascaline. The long-suffering Forjot then divorces her and marries Hélène, the young governess who has had charge of Pascaline's education. Gentle and kind-hearted, Hélène is a real mother to her step-child. Four years elapse, and we find Forjot established in Paris. The first Madame Forjot also inhabits the capital, where she has founded a musical agency. She has had the desire to see Pascaline, who, the moment she came into touch with her mother, has taken a violent dislike to Hélène. Pascaline wants to go to her mother, and Hélène is ready to sacrifice herself for the girl's happiness, but Forjot intervenes, and has a violent interview with his former wife, wherein he tries to make her understand how wrongly she is acting towards her daughter. His efforts are fruitless; the divorced woman will not listen to reason, and Pascaline will have to choose between her father and her mother. The girl hesitates, for she does not know the real cause of her mother's divorce. And the first Madame Forjot then discovers that Hélène has been truly magnanimous, and has never told Pascaline of her mother's misdeeds. Hélène, therefore, is worthy to be Pascaline's mother, and the divorced woman, "La Déserteuse," will disappear for ever. Mdlle. Sylvie was quite unequal to imparting any sympathy or conviction to the unpleasant rôle of Pascaline, though she wept with profusion. Marcilly, as the "Déserteuse," played with force; Gemier acted with his accustomed mannerisms as Forjot. His part is so artificial that all honour is due to him for making it as sympathetic as he did. Mdlle. Even made a distinct impression as Hélène, and was recalled again and again. The gem of the performance was Lambert's sketch of the old broken-down actor. It was but a "silhouette," but it touched the audience deeply.

"MONSIEUR POLICHINELLE."
Spectacular Play, in Four Acts and Twenty-two Tableaux, by MM. Louis Decori and Victor Dorlay, Produced at the Chatelet on Oct. 16.

Pickwick	M. PAUL FUGERE
Paul Bertin	M. POUGAUD
Nina Saïb	M. JEAN DARAGON
Morton, Wickson	M. ETIEVANT
Hamilton	M. LOUIS TESTE
Kalogami	M. GARAY
Maggy	Mdlle. LEONIE DALLET
Lucy	Mdlle. MAUD AMY
Raya	Mdlle. REINALDY
Kitty	Mdlle. FEUGERE

It would be too large an order to describe in detail the plot of a piece comprising no less than twenty-two tableaux. Sufficient to say that Paul Bertin, the hero, is a youth nicknamed Monsieur Polichinelle, on account of his idle and loafing propensities. His father having threatened to disinherit him unless he turns over a new leaf, Paul starts on a life of adventures. Disguised as a girl, he engages himself as lady's maid to a rich American girl, whereupon the fun begins. Fun is perhaps a misnomer, for the authors have created a few dramatic situations, wherein pocket-handkerchiefs come in request. But the sadness is blended with laughter, and everybody is happy, including Paul, who in the end marries the fascinating American. The work is capitally staged, especially the tableau of the Derby Racecourse, where we have the pleasure of beholding the Prince of Wales in a carriage and pair, preceded by eight Horse Guards. Then there is "The Triumph of Shiva" and a grand ballet, with a bevy of pretty girls. The work was capitally acted by M. Pougaud, the young "Polichinelle;" by M. Paul Fugère, always funny, even when in tears; and by Mdlles. Leonie Dallet and Maud Amy.

"LEUR GOURME."
Play, in Four Acts, by M. Maurice Landay, Produced at the Théâtre Molière, Oct. 18.

Trembes	M. CAMIS
Lardens	M. CASTELLI
Henri Lardens	M. BERTHEZ
Rabert	M. RAITER
Madeleine Ramon	Mdlle. HELENE GONDY
Henriette	Mdlle. CLAUDE RITTER
Madame Ordinot	Mdlle. PETIT
Madame Leontine	Madame R. LAUNAY

MM. Clot and Dublay, the new managers of the Théâtre Molière—formerly known as the Bouffes-du-Nord—have inaugurated their tenure of office with a curious work dealing with the unsatisfactory clauses in French law which do not allow a girl to claim redress from the man who seduced her. Henri Lardens and his father, a deputy, are the types of the philistine, bourgeois according to whose grotesque and hypocritical code of morality any intercourse with a demi-mondaine is immoral, whilst it tolerates a secret liaison with a poor workgirl, as a rule too timid, too much lacking in energy to "raise trouble" if her protector deserts her. Henri puts these beautiful theories into practice, and when his little friend Madeleine, whom he seduced, informs him that she soon will become a mother, Henri, not wishing to be "bothered," leaves her to look after herself. Four months elapse, and Madeleine's child is born. Sick and hungry, unable to find work, the wretched girl calls on Lardens, senior, to implore his assistance. The father sends for Henri, and the latter, face to face with his victim, has the audacity of denying his guilt. "The woman is mad," he says, "give her a few sovereigns and let her clear out." And Madeline, exasperated with indignation and grief, seizes a revolver lying on the table and sends a bullet into the heart of the callous villain who ruined her life. The company, although not a first-class one, worked well together, and acquitted themselves creditably of their task.

I WILL not waste any words on the revival of *Pitchounette* at the Opera-Bouffe. It was a pitiful performance.

M. BRIEUX, a most prolific writer, is busy on no less than four plays—*La Foi*, which he will read next week to M. Antoine; *Les Amoureux*, a problem play; *Les Rois de France*, wherein Froquet is the hero; *Papa Courtage*, a philo-Semitic work already produced at the Théâtre Libre, but wherein M. Brieux alters the second act.

M. ANTOINE has also received a piece by M. Pierre Veber, and has accepted *Papa*, a comedy, by Edmond Sée.

A MODERN LEGIONARY.

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In this volume Mr Le Poer gives an extremely interesting account of his adventures as a young soldier, who at the age of sixteen enlists in the French army. The age limit is eighteen, and accordingly the Irish lad, who had run away from his native land to seek his fortune in a foreign country, had to put on two years when he underwent the usual examination of the doctor.

"He still gazed at me in doubt, but I met his gaze steadily. Suddenly a door opened—not the one through which I had come—and a short, stout, bustling man, dressed in blue coat and red trousers, with a gold-laced cap on his head, came in and, glancing carelessly at me, shook hands warmly with the doctor. In the conversation which ensued it was apparent by their glances and gestures that I had more than my share of their attention. Finally they approached, and the short man asked me my age. I replied as before. Turning sharp round he said with a merry smile, which ended in a short, quick laugh:

"'Oh, my friend, he is eighteen; he says so, and who knows better? Would you destroy the enthusiasm of a volunteer by doubting his word? My fine fellow'—this to me—'you will be eighteen before you leave us.'

"That settled it. I was accepted, sent away to dress, and, as I had said to the sergeant, before noon I was a sworn member of the Foreign Legion, sworn in for five years."

The young soldier and the other recruits, numbering about thirty, were despatched to Algeria, under the orders of a sergeant and two corporals. At Saida a sensational incident occurred, of which the writer furnishes a graphic description. As he spoke English his comrades all agreed he must be an Englishman, and the Englishman, he says, is well hated abroad. Consequently, on the drill ground and in the barrack room he was continually addressed by the expressive sobriquet of "English pig," and he made up his mind that, at least from his equals in rank, such an insult was not to be endured. "There was a big Alsatian in my squad who was most persistent in insulting me, though I had often tried to explain to him that I was neither a pig nor an Englishman. With him, therefore, I resolved to deal, confident that, if I could put a stop to his insolence, the rest would be quiet enough. I determined, as he was my superior in age, strength, weight, and length of arm, that it would be only right to take him unawares and, if possible, finish the business before he could quite understand what I was about. For three or four days after settling this matter in my mind I got no opportunity such as I wished for. Seeing me take the nickname quietly, for I no longer even remonstrated with him, the Alsatian went further than before and raised my anger to boiling point. At last the chance came. As I entered the room one afternoon I noticed lying near the door a rather large billet of wood. The corporal was out, so were most of the men, and those who remained, five or six in number, were lazily lounging in various attitudes about the room. I put aside rifle, belt, and bayonet, for I had just come in from a punishment parade—that is, an extra parade ordered to men for some slight irregularity—and looked straight at the big brute, as if to challenge him.

"'Ah, my fine fellow, how do English pigs like punishment parades in this weather?' he began.

"'As well,' I answered, picking up carelessly, as it were, the billet, 'as Alsatian dogs like this.' And I brought the heavy block down upon his head with all my strength. The cap, though utterly destroyed, saved his head, but still he was so stupefied by the sudden assault and by the force of the blow that I had time to strike him again and again. The others jumped up quickly and seized me, crying out that the Alsatian was dead. And, indeed, he looked as if he were dead, for his head was covered with blood, and one almost imagined that his brains would protrude through the wounds. However, after some time he came to himself again, and truly no one was better pleased than I, for as I cooled down I began to be fearful of consequences."

As a punishment the Alsatian's assailant was ordered extra drills, extra fatigues, and to remain in barracks for a fortnight. As a picture of a soldier's life in a foreign land Mr Le Poer's book is full of interest. His adventures as a "modern legionary" are graphically described, and there is not a dull page from beginning to end.

PRESENTATION.—Miss Nellie Laybourn thanks Miss Agnes Hazel for her handsome present of a silver-mounted chatelaine bag.

LICENSING AT WEST HAM.

A special meeting of the West Ham Town Council was held last Tuesday night to deal with some adjourned applications for renewals of licences for music and dancing and stage plays. The Mayor (Councillor G. A. M'Dowell) presided.

THE ROYAL ALBERT MUSIC HALL.

In this case the requirements of the council were (1) that the gallery be licensed to hold not more than 560 persons and the upper circle not more than 540 persons; (2) that a fire-resisting asbestos screen be fitted covering the proscenium opening, which screen shall be lowered and raised once during each performance; (3) that the screen be provided within twelve months; (4) that matters of detail in connection with doors, staircases, &c., and all other alterations and works required, be carried out to the satisfaction of the borough engineer forthwith.

Mr Charles Relf said that the requirements might not appear serious to the councillors, but he would assure them they were serious to him. In the first place he submitted that at his hall there was no necessity whatever for such a screen. He had no performances of any sort where flimsy scenery or dresses were used, and as all the scenes rolled up to the ceiling, and were, moreover, practically fireproof, they were in no danger. On either side of the stage there was a pilot light in case the electric light failed; and no music hall in London had a stage which gave better access to the street than his. He had to complain of the reduction of the accommodation and as to the points with reference to exits. He could clear the place in from two to two and a-half minutes. He had kept the house for twenty-five years, and had never had the slightest hitch in getting the people out. He would ask the Council to relieve him of the responsibilities demanded, and if that night they could not reconsider his case he would ask that they adjourn the matter. He would prefer to be tried, if he was to be tried, by the whole Council rather than by the sub-committee of four who visited the house and made recommendations.

The Mayor announced that the Council had decided that the licence be renewed subject to the carrying out of the recommendations of the Council.

STRATFORD BOROUGH THEATRE.

In this case the Council required, in addition to the fire-resisting screen, and the carrying out of details to the satisfaction of the borough engineer, (1) that a 3ft. gangway be formed through the centre of the pit; (2) that the centre chair be removed from the front four rows of the stalls to form a gangway; (3) that no part of the premises be sublet, and that the paint-rooms and workshops be only used for such work as may be required for the theatre; and (4) that the gallery be licensed to hold not more than 800.

Mr Fred Fredericks, general manager of the theatre, said that Mr Relf had said all really that could be said on the general question. He agreed with the proposal that a fire-resisting screen be provided, and that would be in position very shortly. The house could be cleared in from one to three minutes. There were exits, all over the place—on to three streets were nine exits, four of them being from the pit. He did not approve of the gangways, and he felt they were unnecessary, and that the demand for them and the restriction as to the gallery put the accommodation at two-thirds of what the place would hold.

The Mayor said that the licence would be renewed, and that the clause as to sub-letting and the use of the paint-room be altered to read, "During the time play is in progress the paint-rooms shall not be used."

Mr Fred Fredericks—What difference does that make?

The Mayor—We can't discuss it now.

STRATFORD THEATRE ROYAL.

The Council's demands here merely related to details and the fire-resisting screen, and Mr Fred Fredericks, the general manager, said there were no objections to any of the requirements. The screen would be soon provided.

The borough engineer (Mr J. G. Morley) read a letter from a resident of Leyton complaining that there were no firemen there, nor anyone who knew anything about fire appliances.

Mr Fred Fredericks—We have a man there, but he is not put in uniform to strut up and down to frighten people.

The Mayor said the licence here would be renewed with the removal of the prohibition as to sub-letting of the paint room, and the substitution of "During the time the play is in progress the paint room shall not be used."

THE STRATFORD EMPIRE.

The only point beyond trifling details as to writings over exits, required in connection with the Stratford Empire was that all exits from the gallery and upper circle be left available for use by the first house as well as by the second.

Mr C. H. Rundell, for Mr Oswald Stoll, managing-director of Moss's Empire (Limited), said that the management of the Empire was anxious not only that proper comfort should be provided for the public, but that everything be done for their safety. The hall was built six years ago under the superintendence of the council; it was built on the most modern lines, on the lines on which new theatres were now being built. There were thirteen or fourteen exits, and only one of them could not be used by the first house. This fact was due to a concern for the public convenience; people going into the second house were allowed to stand there, and in cases of inclement weather that was regarded as a convenience. As to the matter of safety, the mere fact that the whole house could be emptied in a minute and a half spoke for itself. The people that were standing naturally would get out first.

In reply to a councillor, Mr Rundell said the minute and a half applied to the first house; it would be less in the second house.

The Mayor said that in this case the licence would be renewed, and the Council had deleted the clause relating to the gallery and upper circle exits entirely. The Council thought it highly undesirable to have any over-crowding in any way, and trusted that the management would take note of it.

PROHIBITION OF LIQUORS.

The Council announced their decision after sitting in camera, and at the close of the sitting the Mayor said all the licences were granted subject to a prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors on the premises.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday, the public examination was heard and closed of Lawrence Hasluck, of 17, Holborn-viaduct, E.C., formerly a Fellow of the Institute of Accountants, but who states that he has resigned his membership of that institute. The debtor has since been acting as the business-manager of the Carl Rosa Opera Company. He has been adjudged bankrupt, and his statement of affairs shows liabilities amounting to £30,724 16s. 4d., of which £28 425 12s. 6d. are expected to rank, and assets £583 12s. 8d. The debtor states that at Aug. 20, 1903, he was deficient to the extent of £25,563 16s. 7d. His business as an accountant was a good one, and his present position was due to his financing outside concerns—in particular, the Belgrave Hotels Company, Limited.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association, held last Tuesday, Frances Waring and Frances H. Sykes were nominated as candidates for election as members. The honorary solicitors reported having advised several members, and were requested to advise others on points submitted, and also to lay a case before counsel to advise as to a claim for damages. The secretary received instructions in connection with unpaid subscriptions. The secretary reported the result of a trial in connection with bogus management.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

The misunderstanding that existed between Mr Dan Leno and Miss Maggie Duggan has now, we are delighted to say, been most amicably arranged by Mr Hugh Astley. Mr Leno has sent Miss Duggan the following apology:—"I hereby express my regret that anything in my conduct towards you on Thursday, the 13th, should have caused you any annoyance. I apologise to you, therefore, and undertake that I will never speak to you again unless spoken to by you.—Dan Leno. Witness, Hugh Astley."

We are given to understand that Mrs Morton, the widow of Mr Charles Morton, has been very inadequately provided for, and that therefore the directors of the Palace Theatre, having already made arrangements for the matinée performance as a farewell testimonial to the late Mr Charles Morton, have decided that the organisation of the matinée shall be proceeded with, and the receipts handed over to Mrs Morton as a tribute of the esteem in which her late husband was held by the public, the profession, and themselves. The matinée will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 8, and already many leading artistes have promised their kind assistance. Further particulars will shortly be announced.

The directors of the Palace have decided to appoint Mr Alfred Butt manager of the popular variety theatre in Shaftesbury-avenue in place of the lamented Mr Charles Morton. Mr Butt, who joined the staff of the Palace five years since as secretary, afterwards became assistant-manager in succession to Mr George Manners, and now formally takes up the duties which in reality he has been performing for quite six months. Shortly before his death Mr Morton stated in a letter he wrote to Mr Butt, "I should have no hesitation in appointing you my successor." Mr Butt was educated at Westminster School, and began life as a chartered accountant. It was in the ordinary course of his business that he met one of the Palace directors, and an engagement as secretary to that house was the result.

A permanent record of the life work of Mr Charles Morton will be found in a comprehensive volume which will be issued shortly by Messrs Gale and Polden under the title of "The Father of the Halls," in which Mr W. H. Morton and Mr H. Chance Newton trace the history of the late manager of the Palace from its start to its finish. The book will contain all sorts of interesting details, dating from 1819 up to the present moment. It is also to be furnished with numerous plates and portraits.

The London Hippodrome is again seeking at the hands of the Licensing Committee a permit to sell intoxicating liquors, a privilege enjoyed by the Alhambra and Empire; and Mr T. Ernest Polden, on behalf of the Palace Theatre directorate, is asking for a removal of the restrictions as to the sale of intoxicating liquors in the auditorium. In reference to these matters the Watch Committee of the Westminster Council have decided that "it is undesirable that the existing restrictions should be removed." The London County Council will be notified to this effect.

We have several excellent vocalists on the variety stage who hail from Australia. Miss Ada Colley is one; Mr Hamilton Hill another; and now a third is appearing at the Alhambra in the person of Miss Violet Elliott, who is somewhat embarrassed at being described as the "lady bass." Miss Elliott is really a deep contralto, with a phenomenal lower range, and can get down to lower D in Loder's song "The Diver," which she has been singing during the week. She is also capable of reaching the high G sharp of the mezzo-soprano. The young vocalist considers that she owes much of her vocal excellence to the healthy outdoor life she led in her native country.

The tower of the London Coliseum which rears its head in St. Martin's-lane is now visible to passers-by, and has been an object of much interest to wayfarers during the last week. It is an architectural feature that does immense credit to Mr Frank Matcham, whose genius for theatre design is everywhere apparent in London's latest and most up-to-date entertainment house, which is to be opened on Dec. 19. The stage will measure from floor to gridiron 70ft., the lofty space affording an immense area for the hanging of scenery, which will be shifted by specially devised mechanical arrangements. The proscenium opening is 55ft. wide.

Three revolving floors—the outer one 70ft. in diameter—will occupy the centre of the Coliseum stage. These can either be turned independently of each other, or, locked together, made to shift scenery out of sight, or to a position where it can be seen by the audience in a few seconds. Every facility that modern science can boast of in stagecraft will be utilised in the spectacular shows which will be one of the staple features of Mr Stoll's programmes. An orchestra, led by Mr Walter Slaughter, and a permanent chorus of fifty voices, who will sing in a special balcony, will form part of the musical scheme which Mr Stoll and his lieutenant, Mr Marshall Moore, are now perfecting. The Coliseum will seat 4,000 people, and four performances are to be given every day.

The new Britannia on the 31st inst. reverts to the dramatic lines, on which the old house made such good returns for the late Mrs Sara Lane. Mr Sydney Hyman is the new lessee, and Mr John M. East, who for so long stage-managed at the Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith, will be the new manager. He will make an excellent commencement with *The Flood Tide*, Mr Cecil Raleigh's melo-farce, which was the last autumn attraction at Old Drury. The theatre will return to the one-house-a-night system.

Mr Harry Lauder, the Scottish comedian, who has been entertaining at Manchester and other places in the north, returns to the Oxford on Monday, when the M'Naughtons and Miss Alice Lloyd will also revisit the scenes of their former triumphs.

Whilst so much is being written and said regarding the decadence of the modern playhouse, one can hardly fail to note the elevating tendency of the institutions devoted to the lighter side of the people's amusement. Not a few of the "turns" at the modern music halls, for instance, consist of scientific demonstrations that in the old days would have found a home at the Polytechnic, wherein Mr George Grossmith made one of his earliest appearances. It seems strange that we should have to welcome at a popular place of amusement like the London Hippodrome a private demonstration of entirely new discoveries with regard to the application of liquid air by the learned Dr. Maxim Boyd; but such is the fact, and Wednesday afternoon the effects produced were indeed remarkable.

In one experiment Dr Boyd immersed a test-tube full of paraffin oil in a larger tube containing liquid air. The oil quickly solidified, and burnt well on being lighted. Another remarkable effect was produced by passing liquid air under a steam jet, when the instant condensation of the vapour caused the steam to fall to the ground in the form of snow. One of the newest experiments, however, was to have been the burning of steel on ice. This was omitted in consequence of an accident. The vacuum vessel, having been taken to too warm a spot, suddenly exploded, and the liquid air, falling to the carpet, disappeared. Dr. Boyd expressed regret at this unforeseen circumstance, and said he was willing to demonstrate in his laboratory some further uses of liquid air.

The Stratford Empire licence was renewed as formerly, with no restrictions whatever, at the Stratford Town Council's licensing meeting on Tuesday last, and the statement which appeared in a contemporary that the Council would require several important alterations to be made had no foundation.

In 1892, the Empire, Brighton, rose upon the site of the hall popularly known as Botham's, though it was really called the Oxford. This establishment had been carried on for some years by the Botham family, and descended from father to sons. The new Empire was carried on with varying success until it fell upon evil days, and has been closed for some considerable time. An attempt to revive its fortunes is, however, to be made, and it has undergone a complete overhauling, which has included an installation of the electric-light, reupholstering, and redecoration.

It is to be opened on Monday next with three performances. A first-class saloon carriage will leave Victoria at 11·40 to convey special artistes who have kindly consented to appear at the flying matinée which will be given under the patronage and in the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton (Alderman and Mrs E. M. Marx), the ex-Mayor (Alderman Buckwell), Sir John and Lady Blaker, Mr and Mrs T. P. O'Connor, Mr and Mrs Sutton Vane, and other distinguished local residents. There will be two entertainments on Monday evening, the house being conducted on the bi-nightly system.

Mr Charlis A. Wilkes, formerly connected with the Cambridge, and well known in association with the Tivoli, Manchester, is the licensee and director of entertainments, and his son, Mr C. Smith Wilkes, has resigned his position at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, to take up the management. We wish the enterprise every success.

After having been closed for some twelve months, the Britannia in the Trongate, Glasgow, has been reopened this week under new management. The interior has been beautifully painted and decorated, and presented quite an artistic appearance. An admirable programme was presented to the patrons, and the various items were received with the utmost enthusiasm. It may be added that there is only one house each night. The new lessee is Mr James Anderson, and the manager is Mr George Saphrini. Mr William Milne, whose name is inseparably associated with the Britannia, is musical director.

Councillor Alf Mattison, of Middlesbrough, has been elected to the board of directors of the Middlesbrough Empire, Limited, of which company Mr John Brill is the managing-director. Mr Mattison's inclusion in the directorate has given much satisfaction to the Teesside shareholders in the undertaking.

At the Norwich Guildhall Police-court, on Tuesday, before Messrs F. O. Taylor and other magistrates, Mr Edmund Reeve (Mills and Reeve) made application on behalf of Messrs Bostock and Fitt, proprietors of the Norwich Hippodrome, for a theatrical licence and a music, singing, and dancing licence for the new Hippodrome, at present known as the Grand Opera House, in St. Giles's. The application was granted.

Mr Charles Davies, who has held the post of stage-manager at the Palace, Manchester, for the past seven years, terminates his engagement on Saturday next, when the Palace changes to two shows a night under Mr Tom Barrasford's direction. He is now booking Wal Pink's new sketch, *The Snake*, the latest thing in "creeps," which was produced at the Middlesex by Miss Geraldine Montrose, and duly noticed in our columns at the time. The sketch "bottoms" the bill at the Palace, Manchester, next week, so provincial managers will have a chance to see and book the same.

Miss Edna Cragge, who is busy "working out" some Parisian ideas for pantomime, opens a special week on Monday at Ton-y-Pandy and Pentre, after finishing a most brilliant week at the South London.

The Salambos arrived at Melbourne, after their voyage from the Cape, on Aug. 25, and opened at the Opera House on the 27th. They have been playing to absolutely packed houses, and their electric act has caught on unmistakably, causing a lot of speculation among scientists. Historicus (little Elie Salambo) is also exciting much interest by her wonderful memory feats, and is the recipient of many presents at each performance.

Little Zola writes to say that his little girl has now been taken from the ward and placed in a private department, where she is watched day and night. She is still very bad.

Lynn, the original singing newsboy, has been granted the rights of the late Bessie Bonehill's celebrated "Playmates," which he will produce with full effects shortly.

The Brothers Edgar write from 77, Kennington-road, under date Oct. 21:—"Kindly permit us through your columns to thank those artists who so kindly contributed through us to the late Abe Holt. We trust they will be gratified to know that their kindly aid helped to smooth the poor fellow's last days and prevented him from dying in the workhouse. We are requesting the M.H.B.F. to give the usual burial fees, and have every confidence it will be paid by that excellent institution, and we are endeavouring to obtain a little for the immediate needs of his wife, who is left destitute. The following amounts have already been subscribed:—Leo Dryden, £1 1s.; W. H. Clemart, 5s.; H. Griff, 5s.; and Ted Missouri, 2s. 6d. Any further sums may be sent to us at the above address, and will be gratefully received and acknowledged."

Mr C. Melvin's farewell benefit at the Hippodrome, Sheerness, on Friday, Oct. 14, drew a large attendance. The compliment to Mr Melvin was initiated by Mr Transfield, who thus showed his interest in the welfare of the departing manager, who will be shortly taking up his new duties as the manager of the New Coliseum, Sheerness. Mr Melvin, in the course of the evening, thanked the audience for the way in which they had turned up, and hoped that he would still continue to receive their support when he opened the New Coliseum as a variety hall. Mr Transfield then stepped into the arena and handed his manager a substantial cheque as a token of respect and reward for his past services. Mr Transfield also presented Mr Melvin with a solid gold-mounted umbrella, suitably inscribed, and wished him every success in his new undertaking. The extra turns of the evening consisted of The Brewsters, who kindly gave their services; as also did Mr P. Barnes, baritone vocalist and Mr Williams, solo whistler.

A lady correspondent writes:—"I wish I could go into further details of the performance [at a Paris music hall], but the stage was entirely hidden from me by a trio of women who had adorned themselves with headgear vastly resembling umbrellas. They were two rows in front of me, and I counted five different sets of people take their seats, sit down, gaze in amazement at the prodigality of hat, then leave their places and demand other accommodation. It is a matter of serious complaint in Parisian theatres that ladies invariably choose their most exaggerated hats for theatre. They have not the courtesy of their English neighbours or American cousins, who will always remove a hat which obstructs the view, but here in Paris, in the land of politeness, the men keep on their top hats and refuse to remove them even when courteously asked to do so by ladies sitting behind them."

At Marlborough-street Police-court, on Wednesday, Mr P. J. Rutland, solicitor to the London Entertainments Association, accompanied by Mr Albert Gilmer, manager of the Oxford Music Hall, gave formal notice of appeal against the recent decision of Mr Kennedy, with a fine of £120, against that hall, for having produced an alleged stage play, *The Belle of the Orient*.

A meeting of the members of the Sketch Artistes Association was held yesterday afternoon at the Hummums Hotel, Covent-garden, to discuss the recent prosecutions for the production of sketches at music halls. As a summons has been issued against the management of the Metropolitan for the production of *The Fighting Parson*, it was decided to communicate with Mr George Edwardes, as a member of the Theatrical Managers' Association, pointing out that in the recent case of Gray v. Edwardes over the production of *High Jinks* at the Empire, the summonses were adjourned sine die on the implied understanding that there were to be no further prosecutions. Regarding this as a breach of faith, the Sketch Artistes' Association propose to reopen the case against the Empire management, but, before applying for a date to be fixed, determine to request an explanation from Mr George Edwardes as to the action of the Theatrical Managers' Association.

Mr John Hollingshead was the first theatrical manager to set the example of engaging music-hall turns for the theatre. At the Gaiety, in 1871, he introduced the celebrated Dancing Quakers into the burlesque of *Ali Baba*, and in the cave scene Mr J. L. Toole and Miss Nellie Farren were silent spectators of the very fine corybantic doings of the clever Ryley and Barnum. Mr Toole was then the Ali Baba and Miss Farren the Ganem. Constance Loseby, who made her debut on the variety stage, was also a valued recruit, whose talents were conspicuously displayed in opera, opera-comique, and burlesque in the old Gaiety days. She remained at the Gaiety for six years, and played the part of Nicenis in the original production of *Thespis; or, The Gods Grown Old*, in which the Gilbert-Sullivan collaboration first proclaimed to the public the happiness of the partnership.

Mr Hollingshead used to recall his early experiences in the production of entertainments that were held to be "of the stage." Some thirty-eight years ago "Practical John" was prosecuted through the agency of the Common Informer for the staging of a series of comic scenes from pantomime which he called *Where's the Police?* In this he introduced the butter-slide and the traditional red-hot poker. This came under the definition of a stage play, as it was said to possess a plot, incidents, and situations. He was prosecuted at Marlborough-street and fined £240 and costs. The cruelest cut of all, however, was when the late Mr Montague Williams taunted him with the shaky grammer of his title.

But Mr Charles Morton had even earlier reminiscences than his friend Hollingshead, for no less than fifty-four years ago he was the defendant in a prosecution caused by his production of *Hodge Podge*, a duologue for which he was fined. The penalty had but little effect upon him; for he was again put into court over his production of *The Enchanted Hash*. Mr Norton, the police magistrate before whom the case was brought, confessed that he had seen the piece, saying, "I think it is a pantomime, and a very good one too."

The late Mr Morton had a fund of anecdote that has enriched the pages of many a journal. He used to tell of the late Queen Victoria's desire to know the name of any popular tune. While one day listening to the Grenadier Guards band playing a pot-pourri of popular melodies she was struck with the liveliness and rhythm of Charles Coborn's song "Come where the booze is cheaper," and desired its repetition. At the same time she asked the name of the tune. When the reluctant lady-in-waiting had given it, the Queen observed with a smile, "I don't know the meaning of 'booze,' though I can make a guess; but at all events the tune is pretty enough."

Mr Tom Tinsley will take his annual benefit at Gatti's, Westminster-Bridge-road, on Thursday evening, when a crowd of his friends will be drawn to that hall to do honour to a popular manager. The programme will be specially compiled from a large number of volunteers. Mr Tinsley, who made his first appearance in London as a comic singer under the Sweasy management at the Royal, was born at Bursiem about fifty years ago. He has been with the Corazza-Gatti firm for seventeen years, and entered their service as chairman of Gatti's, Charing-cross (now closed), in 1887.

Carl Hertz' Demon Kettles will be boiling furiously next week, being red hot and ice cold, at the Metropolitan, Paragon, Islington Empire, and the Palace, Manchester. New demonstrations and ideas invented by the ingenious Carl are nightly being introduced by Drs. Francis Jerrard and J. Aubrey Wilson, M.D.

The committee of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association has arranged to present Mr Fred W. Millis with a handsome illuminated address on Tuesday afternoon next at the offices of the Association. The presentation, which is to take place at half-past three, is to mark the good work performed for the Association by Mr Millis, who, by the way, leaves England on Dec. 23 for a tour through Australia.

The Palace, Bristol, it is understood, will see the long-promised production of *Mr Todd of London*, which Mr John Lawson tells us will be full of illusions and surprises. That ingenious author-actor has obtained possession of a stage coach of the period of the First Napoleon, which will convey Mr Todd on his pilgrimages. His Mr Todd is afflicted with the restless spirit of Vanderdecken. Why not a motor? In the latter vehicle Mr Lawson, who is a born showman, would certainly get the "puff direct."

Chirgwin prefers London audiences above all others. "They are distinctly different from Scotch audiences," he remarks. "They pay their money, and come in prepared to enjoy themselves. They don't visit the halls for the purpose of criticising the performance, which the Scotch audiences are credited with doing. But Scotch people have always been very good to me, and I have no fault to find with them."

The sport of Izaak Walton specially appeals to the music-hall comedian. Mr Wal Pink is a mighty angler; Mr Paul Martinetti has had many a good day during the summer in his punt near Penton Hook; Mr Tom Holmes is a great deep-sea fisherman; and now we hear of the exploits of Mr Ernest Shand. Last week near Newport he fished the Usk, and in three days killed six salmon. The weights were one of 5lb., three of 6lb. each, and two fine fish turning the scale at 12lb. and 17lb. respectively. The river was very low, or Mr Shand would have had even better sport, as he hooked several more.

Miss Quienie Leighton will, at the Oxford, on Monday evening next, produce a most amusing song (suggested by a much-talked-of play), entitled "The dolly began to dance," by Messrs A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott. The audience, of course, will not be "without a smile." The same authors have this week fitted Michael Nolan with an uproarously humorous ditty entitled "The five pounds note they never found." This has been secured for immediate publication by Messrs Francis and Day.

We are requested to inform members of the Music Hall Artistes Railway Association that although, by a printer's error, some of the voting papers for the election of the new committee are marked "1903-4" instead of 1904-5, the papers will nevertheless be admitted as correct.

Mr Horace Marriott has received a cheque for £15 from Mr Fred Warden, of the Theatre Royal, Belfast, as a donation, being a portion of the proceeds of the Belfast Theatrical Charity Gala. The president and committee of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund are very grateful to Mr Warden and the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly assisted in bringing about such a satisfactory result. Thirty-seven sad cases were investigated last week, thirty-five of which were relieved at a cost of £40. Applications for relief are increasing, and the funds are nearly exhausted. More money is badly needed at once to carry on the good work.

On behalf of Mr George Dance, the proprietor of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Richmond, application was made to the Surrey Licensing Committee at Kingston on Monday for a music and dancing licence for that theatre. Mr J. L. G. Powell, solicitor, who appeared for Mr Dance, said that the application was for a licence to allow variety entertainments of a high-class character to be given at the theatre during the summer months. Many people would not sit out a comedy or play during the hot period of the year, and many were sufficiently demoralised to wish for a smoke after dinner in the auditorium. No smoking, however, would be allowed when the building was used only as a theatre, while in no circumstances whatever would drinking be permitted in the auditorium. No opposition was offered to the application, which was granted, subject to the undertaking given.

Mr Will Spearman, the popular manager of the Islington Empire, and Mr Alfred Bishop have kindly consented to give their services in connection with the stage-management at the performance to be given this afternoon at the Alhambra in aid of the Balaclava heroes. It may be remembered that Mr Spearman performed a similar office at the same function last year.

Few artistes have leapt into popularity with such gigantic strides as Sam Mayo, one of the most promising clients of Messrs Pacey and Reeves. Next week Mr Mayo plays an engagement booked long, long ago, when he had not climbed up many rungs of the ladder of fame. This is shown in the fact that in the week following his engagement he goes to a recently made Pacey and Reeves engagement at exactly fifteeen times his old salary.

There are many lovers of the sport of trotting in the profession, and these should note that the Haverstock Trotting Club hold their next meeting on Monday at Wembley Park. £70 in prize money is offered. Racing commences at one o'clock.

Although Miss Fanny Wentworth's monologue preceding Mr Pinero's new play, at Wyndham's Theatre, has been described as "a decided innovation," it must not be forgotten that some time ago Miss Nellie Ganthony gave a similar turn at a West-end theatre, and that Mr Frank Lincoln, the American humorist, may be said to have well established the idea of engaging a single artist to entertain an audience, before the play of the evening commences, by the long run he has shared with the *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Miss Wentworth herself has only been prevented by previous contracts from accepting offers long before the present time to appear in place of a curtain-raiser.

Last summer she was touring with Mr Arthur Roberts's concert party, followed by a well-earned rest, when she seized the opportunity of hearing Wagner at Bayreuth, and the Mozart Festival at Munich. Miss Wentworth has always been passionately fond of music, having studied for a professional pianist even before she went on the stage. In her monologue at Wyndham's she gives a clever imitation of a zither, burlesques of French and German songs, and a skit dealing with "praise that is not meant." Her dress is of white crêpe-de-chine, with insertions of écru lace, and embroidered with a bold design of black velvet flowers. She wears a sparkling necklace, and a pink rose in her hair.

Apropos of the new song on Bridge that Miss Wentworth is now preparing, she tells the following little story against herself. Being persuaded the other day to make a fourth, although she does not as a rule care for cards, the popular entertainer flattered herself that her former experience of the game was enabling her to hold her own with the other players very satisfactorily. This idea was confirmed by the gravity with which her partner observed, after a long silence, "Miss Wentworth, I think you must play a very good game—" he paused, and she smiled, well pleased at her success—"of golf," he added. Another story that Miss Wentworth tells with good-natured indifference, although it is again against herself, is of a lady who was convulsed with laughter all through her musical sketch, and then said in a loud tone of voice while the audience was still applauding, "Oh, yes, she can sing a bit, and talk a bit, and play a bit; any fool can do that!"

The Glenroy Troupe, after a three months' absence on the Stoll and Thornton tours, are introducing to London audiences two provincial successes in a new "coon" scena and a fresh patriotic act, *Sons of Britannia's Empire*, both of which should bring these versatile and up-to-date artists much fame. Mr Sam Glenroy has in active preparation other productions, of which he has the highest expectations.

We regret to announce the death of Professor Wyman, illusionist, which sad event took place rather suddenly on Monday, at his residence, 12, Lugsdale-road, Widnes. He had been ailing a day or two, but no serious results were anticipated. His death will come as a great surprise to his large circle of friends in the profession. He was in his forty-first year, and leaves a widow and two children. The funeral took place on Thursday at the Widnes cemetery.

Mr Fred Earle, who made such a big success with his "Seaweed," song, finishes to-night at Shepherd's Bush. Mr Earle and Miss Alice Ormonde open at Cardiff on Monday, and are away for ten weeks.

Miss Maggie Bowman, one of the talented and versatile Sisters Bowman, and Mr Tom J. Morton, son of Mr W. H. Morton, of Hull, have launched out into the variety theatres with a novel duologue *The Butcher and the Slavey*. Both are clever in musical comedy, and they so happily unite refinement and fun in their latest novelty that it is certain to be much sought after by variety managers.

Mr Fred Karno, the promoter of sketches and sketch combinations, was fortunate enough to be able to purchase on Wednesday, at Aldridge's, the two gorgeous stage coaches of the late Duke of Cambridge. The auctioneer explained that one of these vehicles had recently been redecorated for the Coronation celebrations at a cost of £500. Originally it cost probably over £1,000.

Mr Charles Windermere and company produced a dramatic episode, entitled *The Clown*, last week at the Palace, Greenwich, and achieved a great success, receiving three calls at the end. Mr Barnard immediately booked Mr Windermere for an early date at Greenwich. Managers on the look out for a clever novelty should see this latest episode at the Empire, Kilburn, next week.

Mr and Mrs David Day and Mr Chas Day arrived safely at Quebec on the 15th inst., per the Allan liner Tunisian, after a somewhat rough passage from Liverpool.

Miss Lil Hawthorne, after an absence of three years, returns to the Oxford with her highly successful songs "Lucy Loo" and "The Girl of Tennessee," with special scenery painted by Mr Francis H. Bull.

Mr Frederick Maxwell and Company will commence their second tour of Moss's Empires on Monday at the Palace, Bordesley. During their London season, Mr Maxwell's latest sketch, *The Girl I Love*, has proved so great a success that it has been secured for many London halls on his return soon after Christmas.

Miss Gwennie Hasto, the leg-mania dancer, is now making a series of successful appearances at the Palace, where the frequenters are well versed in the capabilities of the sensational dancers from the Continent and America. They have now an opportunity of appreciating the home-born article, and applaud the lissomeness, the agility, and the endurance of this very attractive young lady, who is "quite English you know."

A clever trio, entitled "The Father, Mother, and the Son," by Albert E. Ellis and Alan Macey, has been secured for many pantomimes, including Brighton, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Dublin, Bradford, Newcastle, Edinburgh, and Glasgow. The music hall rights belong to Mr Arthur Rigby.

The number of applications for Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter's pantomime song books is this year unprecedented, and the fiercest competition to acquire rights is resulting over certain songs, such as "Navaho," "Blue-bell," "Have you seen my girl?" "Farewell, my little Yo-San," "You are a white little girl," "If I had a girl as nice as you," "Go away, Mr Crocodile," "There goes my soldier boy," "The Gondolier," "The sunshine of love," "I love you," "Honey boy," "You can't stop the sun from shining," "Short Stories," "She cost me seven-and-sixpence," "What's the good of a ten-pound note?" "You can't beat the Old Time girls," "Girls wouldn't be wanted at all," and "By kind permission of the *Daily Mail*."

One of the most amusing songs ever written, even by Mills and Castling, has been successfully exploited in town recently by Mr Dave O'Toole. It is entitled "We all went into the shop," and will be published by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter.

Miss Florrie Forde has produced a new song entitled "My Nell from Camberwell" and from the manner that audiences take up the chorus, it should be as popular as "Flo from Pimlico." It is by the same author, and it is published by Francis and Day.

Telegrams wishing success to the general meeting of the M.H.A.R.A. were received from Messrs George Bandurria, Charles Kitts, Fred Neiman, and Leo Tell.

A singing competition for ladies that is in progress at the Cambridge is attracting considerable interest in the district. Three prizes are offered, with a week's subsequent engagement to the winner of first honours. The final contest was announced to take place on Friday evening.

"BECKY THE BOUNDER."

A Comedietta, in One Act, by Robert Courtneidge,
Produced for the First Time in London
at the Metropole, Camberwell,
on Monday, Oct. 17

Bob Perkins ..... Mr Norman Partridge
Marmaduke Tomkins .... Mr William Morgan
Emily Tomkins ..... Miss Sylvia Morris
Becky Bounder ..... Miss Ada Blanche

Among the many good things that Mr Jack De Frece has in his bill for the twice-nightly patrons here this week is to be found the above bright little comedietta, produced on Monday. The trifle was received on that evening with marked favour, for in the title-rôle London variety lovers once more welcomed that gifted comedienne, Miss Ada Blanche, who, as Becky the Bounder, has added another to her long list of successful impersonations. The period of the story is the year of Waterloo. Mrs Emily Tomkins, it appears, is somewhat disconcerted at her husband's excess of devotion, and complains of it to her brother Bob Perkins. Marmaduke never fails to kiss her when he goes out, and repeats the process on his return, and his solicitude for her comfort both at home and abroad becomes absolutely embarrassing. Bob is determined to try and cure Marmaduke of this habit, and thinks jealousy will do it. So when Becky, the buxom laundress, brings home the washing, he suggests that she shall make love to Tomkins. This is not at all difficult, for evidently Tomkins is a bit of a flirt, and is well known among the laundry girls. Bob's promise to Becky to set her intended up in a little greengrocer's business makes the little plot quite easy of accomplishment. Tomkins returns, and instead of finding his wife to caress, bestows his attentions on Becky. Bob contrives to bring his sister on the scene, and after a series of recriminations and protestations, Tomkins is forgiven, but his wife is now provided with an effectual weapon with which to check his devotional ardour. Needless to say, Miss Ada Blanche is the life and soul of the whole action, and it will at once be seen what a chance a part like Becky affords her. Her portrait of the buxom, pretty, ever-smiling laundry-girl is delightful. Her merry laughter becomes contagious and she is irresistible. As the perplexed wife, Emily, Miss Sylvia Morris plays with the right appreciation of the character. She is not only pretty, but her impersonation is smart and distinctly clever. As the amorous Tomkins Mr William Morgan conceives the part on broadly comic lines, and makes gaiety and rollicking fun paramount. Mr Norman Partriege as the scheming Bob throws heart and soul into his performance, and contributes not a little to the general success. The costumes are quite in keeping with the period, and the smoothness of the performance is eloquent of patient rehearsal.

HOUNSLOW VARIETIES.

Serpentello, the well-known agent of Wellington-street, has added to his business cares that of lessee and manager of the Temple of Varieties, Hounslow. It is a bright place recently decorated, and holds about 800 people. Mr Serpentello believes that in the garrison town of Hounslow he will be able to fill the hall at each of the two houses a-night. On the evening of our visit he had provided an excellent programme and an efficient orchestra, the pianist being a well-known performer. Mr George Scott, a vocal comedian with a good voice and hearty presence, pleased very much with his songs, "Men" and "The Annual Ball." His comic business with a recalcitrant cuff afforded much amusement. He also added a recitation entitled "Fighting Mac." Mr R. Lomas as Jacko, the man monkey, displayed his acrobatic and balancing agility. Miss Amy Hilton, a dashing serio and dancer, sang a song entitled "Very close," meeting with much applause. Wragg and Wragg, father and son, gave a splendid exhibition of swordsmanship, and the use of the sword, handkerchief, and dagger. The sketch, *The Little Survivor*, was given by Ashton Roberts and company. This little sketch describes the affection of an old lighthouse keeper for a little survivor from a shipwreck. One of the songs is set to an ear-haunting melody, and long after leaving the hall one finds himself humming over "The Little Survivor." The company excellently supported Mr Ashton Roberts, who has a splendid baritone voice of excellent quality.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE ALHAMBRA.

The Charles Urban Trading Company has brought out another of those extraordinary films which have caused so much interest of late. It is a combination of scientific skill, unlimited enterprise, ingenious invention, careful and spirited stage-management, and effective scene-painting. The first scene shows a meeting of a certain learned Exploring Club. We see the ladies and gentlemen assembled to discuss daring projects in connection with a tour by the aid of the steam-engine, the automobile, the airship, and the submarine. From the lecture-room the members pass to the factory, where the airship is exhibited in the midst of moving pistons and revolving fly-wheels. The idea of the tour is a combination of the four methods of progression. The airship is united with a submarine boat, and the result is placed on a truck on a railway. The train starts; and, eventually, after traversing hill and dale at terrific speed, arrives at a very hot place. By the aid of a *glacière*, or freezing car, the members of the club are relieved of the heat, but are frozen into a mass of ice. The inventor who is "running" the tour, lights a fire under the car, and the mass melts. The airship traverses the cloudy regions at an immense altitude, while planets, with their satellites, move around it, meteors explode, and comets whizz on their erratic flight. Finally, the "ship" drives right into the mouth of the sun, which ejects them in an effusion of sparks. The explorers then take to motoring, and go up and down Swiss mountains at a break-neck rate, coming to grief, in the end, over a precipice. Nothing, however, can daunt them—not even the little accident of smashing through the wall of a house and nearly killing a number of local inhabitants who are seated at dinner. The last experience of the party is on board a submarine. An immense cuttle-fish has a look in at the window; and then the machinery goes wrong. An explosion takes place, and the adventurous party is thrown on the shore, where the honest fishermen do all they can to make the sufferers comfortable in bed. Mr George Melies deserves great credit for the way in which he has invented and arranged this most fantastic picture series. It is as yet untitled; but the Charles Urban Trading Company offers a reward of ten guineas for the most appropriate name for the film, which is sure to be greatly in demand amongst showmen and exhibitors. A great and most agreeable sensation is being created at the Alhambra by the vocalisation of Miss Violet Elliott, who is described as a "lady bass," though she has in reality a contralto of remarkable range, extending in the lower register to D. What distinguishes Miss Elliott's sounding of that note is that there is no straining or forcing of the voice to attain it, nor is it unduly emphasised in her rendering of "The Midshipmite" and "The Diver." Miss Elliott owes a great deal of the success which she has attained to her handsome and imposing appearance and her frank, bright, and engaging manner. *Pierrot's Romance*, a pantomime invented by Signor G. Rosi, and acted by him, Miss Julie Reeve, and Signor Frielli, is a tragedy in little. A servant girl is beloved by Pierrot, who worships her at a distance, contemplates marriage with her, and brings her a bouquet of flowers. Her master makes overtures to the maid, and she is either so weak in principle or so much afraid of losing her place that she consents to his proposal. When Pierrot realises this, he flies into a frenzy of rage and jealousy, and stabs the girl to the heart. She falls dead; and then Pierrot puts an end to himself also. The dramatic trifle is acted with poignant intensity by the leading artist, who is a genuine tragedian in dumb show; and he is well supported by his two companions. Mr Sam Cudworth's music illustrates the situations admirably. Reba Kaufman is a dainty and active little dancer, whose radiant smiles win the heart of the audience. Prelle's dogs repeat their marvellous performance; and the feats of Les Perez on the ladder are warmly applauded. The Boccaccio Trio are in the programme, which also includes Les François, with their clever "pot-pourri acrobatique." Some of the best scenes from that popular ballet *All the Year Round* are included in the entertainment; and *The Entente Cordiale* is drawing Frenchmen in large numbers to the Alhambra to see the friendship between England and France celebrated most prettily and picturesquely on the stage.

THE TIVOLI.

The appearance of Miss Marie Lloyd at the London halls, and especially at the Tivoli, invariably synchronises with large audiences, and her return to the Tivoli on Monday, drew an immense house. Her tour in the provinces, which was a triumph from beginning to end, has apparently invigorated the queen of comédiennes, who is as bright and beaming and bonnie as ever. Miss Lloyd is not allowed to come on before an ordinary back cloth, but has a special drawing-room scene set for her; and in this her three beautiful gowns are seen to very great advantage. In her first song on Monday she related the adventures of a lady of the smart set, who has much keenness in scenting a millionaire, and entertains an affectionate regard for his cheque-book. She goes to all the fashionable resorts with the best people; she is to be found at Monte Carlo, Rome, and Paris; and her beauty and smartness evoke much generosity from the opposite sex. "Naughty, naughty, naughty" is quite in the Lloyd vein, and this word—to which the Parisians find an equivalent in "choquant"—is used to describe the beneficence of a young suitor who confers the order of the garter upon Maud. "It is the skirt that tells the tale," the third number, displayed the art of Marie Lloyd at its best, and her expressive gestures and comedy business brought down the house. She was the recipient of a very hearty recall, but wisely declined the encore. Mr Harry Randall, another great favourite at the Tivoli, relies upon some excellent patter concerning a boarding-house experiment with a Mrs Leach—a marvellous woman—whose economy is equal to counting the rice for a pudding, and whose "sooty" potatoes do not belie their name. Mr Randall's narrative of the experiences of a hearty, healthy individual who goes for a fortnight's holiday, and becomes gradually attenuated; his description of the struggle for food; and his anecdotic mood generally are much to the tastes of the Tivolians. Mr George Robey's Frantic the Fearless, the gladiator, is the latest success of this prime minister of mirth. He does not carry the *glavius obtusus*—with which his ancestors used to perform the happy despatch upon the conquered foe at the bidding of an emperor—but an umbrella. He revels in deeds of daring under various circumstances, and would beard the lion rather than face Mrs Frantic, who is a sort of Roman Mrs Caudle. The patter will, no doubt, be improved as time goes on. At present Mr Robey is a little bit laboured in his comedy, and lacks spontaneity. Mr James Fawn appears early in the evening as the sympathetic "peeler," and again proves that his character drawing as a member of the "force" is inimitable. He has some capital patter in his song "Beware of the dress that is full of girl," and is renewing a popularity that extends over a period of thirty years. Miss Nellie Wallace in her stage make-up looks an oddity, and in this guise sings of the sorrows of being left on the shelf. Later she burlesques the lady ballad singer, who implores a lover to "mingle your eyebrows with mine," a genuinely clever bit of burlesque. Miss Amy Clevere, the dainty and pretty comedienne, sings of a coy maiden from the village of Daffy-down-dilly, whose beauty and tact have their reward in an excellent marriage; the Sisters Govell present a lover and his lass, whose quarrel is made up with a clever concluding dance; and Bella and Bijou are responsible for a whimsical trifle in which the former plays an aspirant for stage honours and the latter takes the part of an agent. Mr Wilkie Bard needs nothing funnier than his "O—O—capital O," the chorus is which the delighted Tivolians rattle off with great gusto. Happy Fanny Fields does not belie her name in her Dutch business and her dancing; the Poluskis are responsible for a diverting bit of nonsense; there is much laughter over "The Barmaid's Lament," which is one of Mr Will Evans's wild extravagances; and Little Tich is a very funny "Toreador," an impersonation that he follows with his unique big boot dance, which has been a feature of his entertainment for a quarter of a century. An artistic interlude that comes midway in the programme is presented by Dr. Jules Angelo and company in representations of groups of Sèvres, Meissen, and Dresden china. The realisation of a fan in Watteau-Manier ware, the concluding one of the series, is perhaps the prettiest. The figurantes are well shaped, and the female form divine is liberally displayed. The strong entertainment has other contributors in Miss Maud Esmond and Miss Jessica Grace. The joint acting-management here is proving quite successful, and both Mr James Howell and Mr Arthur Yates are very popular.

THE EUSTON.

The dramatic sketch is still in evidence at the halls, notwithstanding the action of the Theatrical Managers' Association, and that this form of entertainment is popular at the variety theatres has been proved during the current week at the Euston, where Mr Fred M'Avoy has staged a short version of *Moths*, adapted by Charles Freeman from Ouida's novel. The playlet has been presented by the following cast:—

"MOTHS."

Prince Zouroff	Mr CHARLES FREEMAN
Corrèze	Mr HARRY HILLER
Lord Jura	Mr A. FELLOWS-BASSETT
Vera, Princess Zouroff ..	Miss FLORENCE TENCH
Duchesse De Sonnaz	Miss KATHERINE M. ROMSEY
Princess Nélaguine.....	Miss GERTRUDE STERROLL

When the sketch opens in the drawing-room of the mansion of Prince Zouroff, the young Princess has learnt only too well the character of her husband, and opposes her faith and purity to his brutishness and lust. A short interview with Corrèze indicates the devotion of the young singer, whose passion for the Princess is very broadly hinted at by the unscrupulous Duchess of Sonnaz, the mistress of Zouroff, whose presence is thrust upon the young wife. Zouroff demands of Vera the moth and star ornament worn by her as a necklet—a present made to her by Corrèze in the happy days of her maidenhood at Trouville, and tramples the jewel under his feet. The Prince commits a greater outrage, however, when he strikes her, and she determines to seek the protection of Corrèze. The latter is plugged in the throat by Zouroff, who in his turn is challenged by Lord Jura. Pistol shots are heard without, and the prostrate form of the English nobleman is brought in, mortally wounded. With the villain of the piece triumphant, the hero seriously hurt, and the heroine's staunch friend dead, the outlook for the poor distraught one is certainly not encouraging. Those who have read the book know that Corrèze and Vera—the world forgetting and by the world forgot—live together in the silence of the everlasting hills. It should be quite easy for the author to alter the ending of his sketch so as to make the dénouement accord with the natural desire of an audience for a happy finish. Miss Florence Tench, who makes a most attractive Vera, suggests the stately purity and stainless honour of Ouida's heroine, and the strength of her denunciations of Zouroff's brutality brings down the approval of the house, expressed in no half-hearted way. Mr Chas. Freeman's Zouroff is a part played in the downright fashion demanded. The thin veneer of polish that covers the brutal Tartar nature of the Russian prince is also very effectively assumed by Mr Freeman. Mr Harry Hiller as Corrèze and Mr A. Fellows-Bassett as Lord Jura give the requisite significance to those rôles; Miss Katherine Romsey is effective as the Duchesse De Sonnaz; and the Princess Nélaguine is benevolently represented by Miss G. Sterroll. One could scarcely wish for a greater contrast to the society episode than *The Mouth Organ Brigade*, the holiday humour of which production is again delighting the Eustonians this week. Miss Kate Carney and her light-hearted companions of the coster persuasion again give a touch of infectious gaiety to their doings, which are loudly applauded, and she leads them in a scena that is still highly popular. Miss Victoria Monks, American comedienne, who comes with good credentials from the Palace Theatre, has an amusing item in "There's a girl inside," and brings the house down when she invites Bill Bailey to come home. Mr Tom Brantford's imitations include a very clever reproduction of a phonographic version of Mr J. W. Rowley's singing of "Going to the Derby." The Sisters Caselli show remarkable agility and grace in their leg mania business. The funny mule Frisco causes much laughter during the pantomimic diversions of Burke and Andrus, in their trifle, *After Covent-garden Ball*, and the chorus song of Mr Edgar Romaine brings that rapidly-rising artist many compliments. The Sisters Wingrove, and Dezmonti and Mora, triple bar performers, are also entertaining.

THE LATE FRANK LEONARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Through the medium of your valuable paper will you kindly insert the following case:—At the Circus, Rochdale, on Monday evening, Oct. 17, a sad accident occurred to Frank Leonard, one of the Woodbee Wonders, acrobats. While performing he had the misfortune to fall and fracture his spine, and, poor fellow, succumbed to his injuries at the Rochdale Infirmary at 12 o'clock noon, Tuesday, the 18th inst.

We, the undersigned, ask if your readers will assist in Mr Harry Jee's rapid held system for the wife and child, left behind totally unprovided for We know the system has been a success in other cases. Our dear brother and sister artists, we ask you to make this deserving case a success also.

Yours faithfully, HARRY BENT,
MILNER VERREN,
FREDERIC MARTINO.

Circus, Rochdale, Oct. 20, 1904.

MRS. ALBERT BARKER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your issue of Oct. 15, in referring to Mr Granville Barker, you state that he is the son of Mrs Albert Barker, "once well known as a reciter." As this statement appears to me to be prejudicial to Mrs Barker, and give the impression that she has retired from public life, I think it only fair to let you know that she spends five or six months every year at Mentone, where she is busily engaged both in platform work and in giving lessons, and that during her London season she is so busy that I have often found it most difficult to arrange for private lessons. Apologising for troubling you,

Yours faithfully, BERTHA N. GRAHAM.
35, Prince's-gate, S.W., Oct. 17.

In connection with the termination of the season engagement of the Corporation band, a complimentary benefit concert given to Mr Charles Cookson, the manager of the band, took place at the Cambridge Hall, Southport, on Saturday evening, when the popularity of the genial "Charlie" was evidenced by the presence of a large and influential audience. A capital programme was submitted, prominent amongst the artistes being Miss Annie Goodwin, soprano; Miss Emilie Cookson, comedienne; Miss Kathleen Marchant, vocalist; Mr Teddy Whittle, humourist; Mr Tom Barlow, tenor; Mr Ernest Hastings, humourist; and Mr Charles Cookson, who contributed a droll sketch, entitled "The Nomination." Miss Carrie Lumbers was a capital accompanist.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES MORTON.

The news of the voluntary resignation of Mr Charles Morton as manager of the Palace Theatre has been quickly followed by the much more mournful announcement of his death. He who for so many years has been familiarly known as "the Father of the Music Halls" passed peacefully away early on Tuesday morning, after a brief illness, at his residence, 11, Oval-road, Regent's-park. He was eighty-five years of age. Mr Charles Morton's career is the history of the music hall. As long back as 1848 the deceased gentleman started a sing-song at the Canterbury Tavern in the Lower-marsh, Lambeth, which on May 17, 1852, blossomed into the first Canterbury Music Hall. Here an entertainment consisting chiefly of high-class music—glees, madrigals, and operatic selections—was given. Here, in fact, the first performance in England of Gounod's *Faust* took place. Many distinguished artists—for instance, Mr Augustus Braham, son of the famous tenor, Mr Chas. Bernard, and Miss Turpin (afterwards Mrs Henry Wallack) assisted in the musical entertainment at the Canterbury. Sam Cowell was intimately allied with its fortunes, a comedian who may be regarded as a link between Evans's and the modern music hall. Mr Morton paid Cowell £4 a-week during his early days at the Canterbury, but eventually £30. Meanwhile the growing success of Weston's, now the Royal, Holborn, led Mr Morton to extend his enterprise to the West-end, where he built the Oxford, which was opened in March, 1861. Mr Charles Santley and Madame Parepa (afterwards Rosa) did not think it derogatory to take part in the opening performance, and Mr Sims Reeves was nearly tempted by an enormous fee to do so. One of Mr Morton's first productions at the Oxford was *Stradella*, Miss Russell and Mr Herbert taking part in it. The artists used to stand in a semi-circle, and step forward when their turn for a solo arrived. For a long time Mr Morton ran both the Canterbury and the Oxford, utilising many of his artists in both houses, and conveying them backwards and forwards in broughams. Then the Canterbury was abandoned, and the Oxford engrossed his attention. In February, 1868, the Oxford was partially destroyed by fire, and Mr Morton did not continue the enterprise. His next adventure was at the North Woolwich Gardens, where "he made and lost a lot of money," to use his own words. Then, in partnership with Mr Chas. Head, Mr Morton took the Philharmonic Music Hall, Islington, just vacated by the late Mr Sam Adams, and produced a version of *Chilperic*, which at once provoked litigation, instigated by theatrical managers. In order to regulate their position, Mr Head and Mr Morton turned the Philharmonic into a theatre, and produced an interesting series of opera-bouffes, beginning with *Genevieve de Brabant*. A subsequent production was *La Fille de Madame Angot*, which, in partnership with the late Mr John Hollingshead, Mr Morton brought into the Strand. Leaving

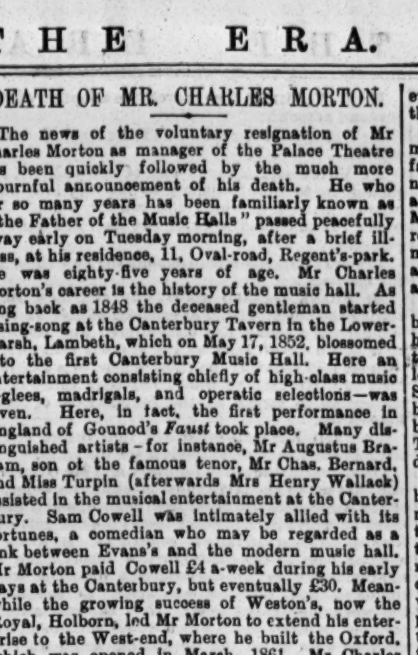

Photo by Langfier.

THE LATE MR. CHARLES MORTON.

Islington he interested himself in one theatrical adventure and another at the West-end, and went to America in the pursuit of his business. In the autumn of 1877 he was appointed manager of the Alhambra. His first production, in November, 1877, was a revival of *La Fille de Madame Angot*, with Selina Dolaro for his prima donna. In December, 1882, the Alhambra was burned down. Mr "Bill" Holland had meanwhile become manager, and Mr Morton joined Mr Sefton Parry at the newly built Avenue Theatre, when again opera-bouffe was the attraction. In the following autumn Mr Morton resumed the position of acting-manager at the New Alhambra, and here he remained until 1891, when he undertook the management of the reconstituted Tivoli in the interest of the Newson-Smith Syndicate. His retirement from the Alhambra was the occasion of a gigantic benefit performance at which most of the celebrities in the theatrical and musical professions lent a willing hand.

The appointment of Mr Morton to manage the Palace, on its failure as an English Opera House, was the crowning point of his career. It was also a just tribute to his abilities and character. Under his management the Palace has become an institution quite by itself. The Palace audience is the most thoughtful audience in London. Hence the South African War, which told terribly on other variety houses, was a gold mine to the Palace. Mr Morton did not lose his head. He engaged Mrs Tree to recite "The Absent-Minded Beggar" at £100 a week, and her salary and any contributions made during the evening went to swell the fund for the men at the front. He steered clear of all party questions, and his house was not divided against itself. He reproduced, too, by means of the biograph, the very best films procurable from the front. People who were not going out to the ordinary place of entertainment went to the Palace for information, well knowing that whatever their politics and feelings were they would be respected.

Mr Morton could never have done the work he did without the exercise of care and self-control. He was almost an abstainer, he was almost a vegetarian, and almost, if not quite, a non-smoker. His life was of the simplest. His only indulgence was Ascot. He rarely, if ever, took a cab, and his greatest luxury was the cup of tea or cocoa and the single biscuit, which at half-past nine were always placed on the little table by which he, attired in a neat but rather old-fashioned dress suit, sat in the promenade. His short, spare figure was wonderfully agile up to nearly the end; he thought nothing when eighty-three of running upstairs to the topmost dressing-rooms two or three times in the course of the evening. Almost if not the very last time he was present at the Palace was on Aug. 11. It was the eighty-fifth anniversary of his birthday. All the evening telegrams of congratulation came pouring in; at some which came unexpectedly from friends whom the world once knew but has long forgotten he was visibly affected. He seems to have contracted a chill during that evening. He took to his bed. It was soon manifest that his work was done, and he resigned his post.

The management of the Palace Theatre, having made arrangements for a matinée performance as a farewell testimonial to Mr Morton, has decided that, notwithstanding his lamented death, the performance shall be given and the proceeds presented to Mrs Morton as a testimonial of the esteem and regard in which her husband was held. The matinée will take place early in November, and already many leading artists have promised their assistance.

Mr Morton's resemblance to the Comte De Chambord, the self-styled King of France, once involved him in a rather awkward adventure. He had gone to a Paris theatre to see a popular play. People looked at him in his box with obvious interest. Several bowed, and one enthusiast overstepped the bounds by shouting "Vive le roi!" for which breach of decorum he was promptly put outside. The actors and actresses were equally persistent in directing their gaze upon the perplexed manager.

Presently there came a knock at the door of the box. Enter two policemen in plain clothes. "You must come with us to the Prefecture of Police," they said, and they warned "Monsieur le Comte" that it would be useless to try to escape. It was not until the astonished Mr Morton had been closely examined at the Prefecture and compared with a portrait of the Count that he was able to persuade the police he was not the aspirant to the throne of France. "There was a resemblance in the portrait," he said afterwards, "but I do not consider that I was flattered."

A characteristic story is told of his attitude towards a new "turn," a lady who had been introduced by one of the directors to the theatre Mr Morton was then managing. The lady was—well, not successful, and Mr Morton and the director were the only persons who applauded. Her failure was so obvious to the director that he promptly tackled Mr Morton. "Look here," he said, "you needn't have troubled to applaud Mdlle. ——. I know you thought her very bad all the time, and I only applauded her myself because I thought it was the least I could do." "My dear sir," was Mr Morton's ingenious reply, "I only applauded my orchestra, because it was the most I could do."

Mr Morton was one of those persons who are said to "know everybody." The King, when Prince of Wales, used to greet him cordially, and he has had at least one invitation to dine at Marlborough House.

THE FUNERAL.

That the late Mr Charles Morton was held in great respect, not only by members of the theatrical and music-hall profession, but also by his neighbours in Oval-road, was proved by the blinds being let down at all the windows in the thoroughfare mentioned and the respectful crowd who waited and watched outside Mr Morton's residence. And the interest was not merely localised to Oval-road, for in all the streets through which the funeral procession passed a similar attitude was observed. The two hearses, which were adorned inside and outside with many magnificent wreaths, headed a long line of some twenty carriages containing the mourners and friends of the deceased, the route being by Park-street, Kentish-town-road, and Swain's-lane to Highgate Cemetery. Here a vast concourse of people had assembled both outside the gate and within the beautiful grounds of the cemetery, and as the cortège passed one could not see a head among the men in the crowd that was not uncovered.

In the first carriage were Mr William Morton, brother of the deceased; Mr Frederick Stanley, brother-in-law; Mr Ernest Meade, son-in-law; and Mr Herbert Payne, an old friend of the family. The second carriage contained the four directors of the Palace Theatre—Count Hollander, Mr G. Cremetti, Mr J. L. Graydon, and Mr Ernest Polden. Mr Alfred Butt, the newly appointed manager of the Palace, occupied the third carriage, along with Mr Alfred Beyfus, Dr. Charles Read (the late Mr Morton's medical attendant), and Mr Joseph Watson. Mr Hermann Finck, the musical director of the Palace; Mr T. M. Miller, assistant-manager; and Mr H. Damer, stage-manager, were to be seen in the fourth vehicle while the fifth contained Mr Georges Jacobi Mr C. Ryall, Mr Macqueen, and Mr Philip Yorke. In the carriages that followed were Mr George Adney Payne, Mr Frank Glenister, Mr D. E. Winder, Miss Emily Soldene, Mrs Dawson, Mr E. W. Mackney, Mr H. J. Hitchens, Mr Ben Joseph Davis, Mr Charles Chapman, Mr George Manners, Mr Sydney M. Hyman, Mr Laurie Graydon, Mr — Graydon, Mr W. R. Smith, Mr George Scott, and Mr H. Woodford. Among the ladies and gentlemen who were to be seen clustered round the graveside were many old friends of Mr Morton, as well as former employees. But the general public seemed to be quite as much interested in the proceedings as the theatrical and music hall community, and many were the remarks of genuine regret and appreciation passed both by people who had had not only friendly but business relations with the deceased gentleman.

The funeral service was conducted throughout by the Rev. J. T. Bingley, the chaplain to the cemetery. A number of policemen and their officers were stationed in the grounds to prevent any possible unintentional disorder that might be caused by the mass of people collected in the cemetery. Their services, however, were scarcely required, as the crowd was quiet, orderly, and maintained a respectful attitude throughout the whole proceedings. It was remarked by more than one how well Mr William Morton bore his years as he followed immediately behind the pall bearers to the plot of earth which was to mark the last resting place of the late Mr Charles Morton. There was, too, a universal tone of sadness, which made its magnetic influence felt even by those who had but little in common with the man over whose body the last rites of the Church had been administered. And during the service at the graveside there were not a few who gave way to the depth of their emotions, for it is hardly in human nature not to feel some regret at the passing away of a person whom you had known for what was in several instances a long life-time.

The exact location of Mr Morton's grave is square 114 in the new ground of the cemetery, and not more than a hundred yards from the spot where John Billington lies buried; while at a similar distance may be found a headstone bearing the name of George Honey, a well-known comedian in his day. Mr Morton's coffin is of plain, polished oak, and the brass plate has this inscription:—

CHARLES MORTON,
Born 15 August, 1819,
Died 18 October, 1904.
He died as he lived, the Father of the Halls.

Numerous telegrams of sympathy were dispatched to the sorrow-stricken family. Sir Henry Irving telegraphed an expression of his regret as follows:, "May I offer my deep and respectful sympathy in your sorrow and affliction." Mr George Grossmith wired: "Deeply grieved. Please accept sincerest sympathy All will miss a genial gentleman and faithful friend." Mr H. E. Moss wrote, "Please accept my sincerest sympathy in your sad bereavement;" Mr Chance Newton, "May God console you for the loss of our beloved old friend;" Mrs Hollingshead, "Sincere and deepest sympathy;" Mr Frank Allen, "I sincerely condole with you in your sad loss;" Mons. Alias, "Consternation fills our heart;" Mrs Clement Scott, "My heart's deepest sympathy is with you in your dark hour." Other telegrams came from Miss Nina Martino, the staff of the Hotel d'Italie, Mr and Mrs Robert Crawford, Mr Alfred Otley, Mr Barry Cohen, and Mr Philip Yorke.

Perhaps the prettiest wreath was that from the staff of the Palace Theatre. It was heart-shaped and composed of white lilies and carnations, orchids, stephanotis, lily of the valley, and gardenias. In the centre of the wreath there were the words, made of violets, "In our hearts." The directors of the Palace Theatre sent a lyre, "In affectionate remembrance;" and a wreath came from the Palace orchestra. Mr Alfred Butt, the new manager, sent a cushion, "He lived as he died, the Father of the Halls;" and other floral tributes with inscriptions were as follows:—Mr Thomas Miller and Mr Frank Damer, assistant-manager and stage-manager respectively, an anchor, "At rest;" Mr and Mrs Eugene Cremetti, an anchor, "A rest;" directors of the Empire, "With deep sympathy;" the Oxford management and staff, "Deep regret;" directors of the Alhambra, "In remembrance;" Count and Countess Hollander, "Deepest regret and sympathy;" Mr H. E. Moss, "With sincere sympathy;" Mrs D'Oyly Carte, "Deep regret and sympathy;" International Artists' Lodge, Berlin, "In deepest respect;" Mr George Grossmith, "In remembrance of my old and faithful friend;" Mr Willy Clarkson, "With deep regret;" Mr and Mrs Philip Yorke, "From Vinny and Philip Yorke;" Mr and Mrs Eugene Stratton, "In deepest sympathy;" Mr Edward Swanborough, an anchor of white chrysanthemums and Palma violets, "With sincere regret at the loss of a dear old friend;" Mons. Alias, "Regrets;" George Fuller Golden; F. Stanley and family; Mrs Moss, jun.; Pacey and Reeves, "With last respects;" Hippodrome artistes and stage staff; staff of the Tivoli, "With deepest sympathy;" Miss Ada Reeve, an open Bible, "Peace;" Miss Esmé Beringer, wreath of autumn leaves, "Hélas;" Mr Stuart Connor, "Deepest sympathies;" Mr and Mrs Franks; wreath from the London Pavilion; directors of Drury-lane; Mr and Mrs Carl Hertz; Mr Angelo Asher; Mr Walter Dando, Mrs and Miss Marie Daintor, lovely cluster lilies and heather from the Chevalier G. Dintin Maddick, Rev. Stuart Headlam, Kokin and wife, managers' staff of the Oxford; enormous cluster of white flowers from the Bonfiers Club, London Entertainments Protection Association Mr Bettinson, National Sporting Club; World's Advertising Company, Messrs Alfred and Philip Beyfus Mr J. L. Graydon and Mr Laurie Graydon, Messrs Nathan and Somers, Mr and Mrs Somers Mrs F. Vernon, Mr G. Adney Payne, Mr Joseph Blaiberg, staff of the Hotel d'Italie, Mr Ernest Meads a wreath of berberis and lilies from Mr and Mrs Dreyfus, Mrs Somburini, Mr R. E. Wilson, Madame Jacobi, Maude Courtenay, Mrs Peason, Mrs Sweeney, Mr Ralph Hall, Mr Philip Fothergill, Mdlle. Florence De Dio, Mr and Mrs Joseph Watson, Mr Tom Browne, Mr W. E. Allen, Mr Tom Claxton, Miss Minnie Bell, Miss Mamie Cohn, Mr Fred Brewer, Mr H. B. Marinelli, Mr John Tiller, W. R. Smith and Co., Miss Jessie Hawkin, and Miss Cicely M'Donnell.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

The amount of patronage commanded by the Stratford Empire at each performance nightly is undoubtedly deserved, for a rich and varied programme is provided, and nothing is left undone to add to the comfort of patrons of this handsome variety theatre by the experienced and genial manager, Mr Sam Gething. The incentive to punctuality induced by the two-houses nightly system is much in evidence here, and early-comers are regaled by the orchestral selection, under Mr Augustus Greco's brisk bâton. This week S. R. Henry's march, "Two-Step Polly Prim," precedes, and is received with acclamation. A prime favourite is that inimitable comedian, R. G. Knowles, and he is in capital form with "The girl, the woman, and the widow," which is followed by an immensely successful effusion, "Saturday Night," the refrain of which calls to mind the ear-haunting "Girlie, Girlie." Of course "R. G." has brought a collection of new stories, which, told in his own pointed and pungent style, make considerable inroads on the risible faculties of the audience, and the applause when he makes his final exit is deafening. Verno and Voyce contribute a turn of considerable merit. Excellent vocalists both, they enact in song of a father and son on the verge of ruin through unsuccessful speculation. The son tries to solace his parent with the knowledge that they still have one friend left who will succour them, and tells him to bear in mind that "every dark cloud has its silver lining." Anon in solitude the elder man desponds, and placing a revolver at his head would soon be where financial troubles are no more, but his son's timely entrance, with the comforting news of a rise in prices, together with a substantial cheque from the faithful friend, sees the avoidance of a tragedy, and the ending of their troubles. Afterwards the younger of the twain dilates in fine declamatory style on "Capital and Labour," the topical verses of which exactly suit the sentiments of the audience, and then both indulge in a duet, "At the Races," which is provocative of great applause. Marie Reeve's piquant rendering of "My pretty Dinah" is warmly applauded, and her agile, graceful, and rhythmical dancing, in which kaleidoscopic lighting effects are utilised, affords the keenest pleasure. Laughter is much in evidence whilst Rezene and Robini occupy the stage, the amusing patter and by-play introduced into their skilful bar act forming a most acceptable mixture. Geo. Brooks quickly wins his way into favour with an eccentric dame song, "The old time girl," which has much originality to recommend it, and he scores heavily with his old favourite, "And his day's work was done." The America Quintet gain many encomiums for their tuneful vocalism, and their spirited and animated dancing proves a pleasing item. Duncan and Godfrey, in their entracte "Me and 'Er," treat of an always popular theme. A young coster, happy in the acquisition of wealth through the demise of a far-distant relative, buys "the missus" a stock of finery with the "sub on account" he has just obtained, and, gorgeously attired, the pair contemplate the good times in store. But their happiness is short-lived, for a lawyer's letter arrives to say there is a subsequent will, and that the money advanced must be refunded. Now it is the wife's turn to act the comforter, and her inspiring words cheer her husband up, and he resolves to work hard, and they will still be happy despite losing their wealth. The blend of comedy and pathos is much to the liking of the audience, and the two parts are played with finesse and power. Princess Pauline renders in sprightly style, "Youdon't know whether to laugh or cry," and afterwards tells in lively and vivacious manner of a damsel who is "a little bit off the top." The Ashers, in "The Dude and the Soubrette," contribute an enjoyable turn; Lizzie Daniels proves herself a comedy soubrette of much merit; and the Florodor Quartette, in their sketch *Naughty Nin*, are entirely successful in their efforts to amuse.

THE Two Melvernes, who are making their first and most successful appearance in London at the Grand Theatre, Islington, this week in their Living Marionette Act, are engaged for America in March, 1905.

SIR THOMAS LIPTON has made arrangements for the crews of the American fleet, now lying off Gravesend, to pay a visit to the Crystal Palace on Saturday to witness the afternoon performance of Mr and Mrs Calvert Routledge's company in the American comedy *A Night Off*.

AT the County of London Sessions, on Wednesday, before Mr M'Connell, K.C., Frances Thomas was brought up for sentence on the charge, to which she pleaded guilty last week, of being concerned with a man named Thomas in obtaining money by fraud from persons desirous of taking part in a play *A Millionaire's Romance*

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' RAILWAY ASSOCIATION.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

The eighth annual meeting of this Association was held on Tuesday at Gatti's Music Hall, Westminster-bridge-road. Mr HARRY MOUNTFORD presided, and on the stage were also the following members of the committee:—Messrs F. W. Millis, Pat Carey, Joe Burnell, H. Griff, Bob Hutt, Joe Lavender, W. H. Clemart, J. C. Jimson, Joe Lawrence, Jean Seul, J. D. Humphreys, Will Edgar, Charles Edgar, C. C. Cornish, and B. Stavordale; Douglas White (hon. treasurer) and C. Douglas Stuart (secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, and also the annual report of the executive committee, which was as follows:—

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The Executive Committee, in presenting this, the Seventh Annual Report, to the members of the Association, have great pleasure in stating that the present year has been in every way as successful—indeed, even more so—than in the earlier years of the Society's formation.

The Committee have in every way possible met the views of each and every member as to the manner of voting and general business of the Association, and, with that intent, decided upon a thorough revision of the Rules, which was undertaken with the kind assistance of Mr Eugene Judge, Hon. Solicitor to the Association, and these Rules will be submitted at this meeting to the general members for their approval.

Owing to the yearly increasing number of members, many more than heretofore have been enabled to avail themselves of the concession granted by the Railway Companies, and a greater amount of pecuniary benefit has therefore been derived.

The main object the Committee have, during their years of office, had in view has been to continue and to improve the friendly feeling existing between the Railway Companies and the Association, and they are pleased to think that they have succeeded, for they recognise that the members owe much to the kindness of the Railway Companies, who granted them what has resulted in a most important and beneficial concession. The Committee cannot, and do not, believe that the members desire to in any way prejudice the present amicable understanding by deviating from the original idea of the Association at its formation, viz., to cement and strengthen the good-will of those in whose power it is to grant them, when the opportunity arises, additional benefits and advantages.

On Jan. 31 the Third Dinner and Dance of the Association to celebrate the seventh anniversary was held, and as a matter of compliment all the provincial agents and theatrical managers of the Railway Companies were invited at the expense of the Association. It proved most successful, and resulted in a small profit instead of the large deficit of last year.

The Committee desire to express their deepest thanks to the theatrical managers of the Railway Companies, who in many ways have greatly assisted the members at no slight trouble; to Mr Douglas White, the Hon. Treasurer, whose position is no sinecure, for his work is very considerable; to the numerous provincial agents who have fulfilled their duties so capably that the complaints received have been but few; and to the hon. officers of the Association for their kindly and readily given aid.

The Committee also wish to heartily thank Mr C. Douglas Stuart, the Secretary, for the able manner in which he has fulfilled his most onerous duties during the past twelve months.

The outgoing Committee offer themselves for re-election, and some fifty other members have sent in their names for election. The voting papers can be obtained from any of the provincial agents, at music halls, of the variety agents, or at the London offices, and must be sent in specially addressed envelopes to the scrutineers, care of *The Era*, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, on or before Tuesday, Nov. 2.

The Committee much regret to have to record the deaths of Mr Herbert Campbell, a Vice-President of the Association, and of Mr Fred Lacey, one of the original Committee.

The Committee have made a point that each year they shall, if possible, arrange some additional benefit for the members of the Association, and this year, after much thought and arrangement, they are glad to be able to announce that an important and substantial advantage has been secured. Several of the leading consulting specialists in London and a large number of doctors in the suburbs and throughout the provinces have generously consented to act as Hon. Medical Officers to the Association, and to give free advice to all members. The Committee feel certain that this additional privilege will be highly appreciated by all the members, and especially by those who, finding themselves alone in an unknown town, will be pleased to know that through being members of this Association they can depend on medical aid in time of need.

The financial condition of the Association still continues to be most satisfactory, the total profit on the year's working being £500 5s. 4d., as against a total profit of £310 7s. 4d. last year. The Committee having during the past twelve months distributed among the Railway and Music Hall charities and the Reserve Funds of the Association the sum of £125, there is left a net balance of £375 5s. 4d. The Committee now advise the payment of donations of £50 each, which is double that given last October, to each of the four charities, viz.:—The Railway Benevolent Institution, the Railway Servants' Orphanage, the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and the Music Hall Home Fund, making £200 in all, a similar amount—£50—to be placed to the Reserve Fund of the Association, and the balance to be carried over to the present year's account. This arrangement as to the distribution of profits is in accordance with the agreement made with the Railway Companies when the concession was first granted and the Association first formed.

The Committee trust that if the members are satisfied with the progress made during the past year, and agree with their policy that the Association is, and shall continue to be, solely for Railway and kindred matters, they will give them their support at the election for the new Committee.

In conclusion, the Committee, while congratulating the members upon the firm foundation upon which the Association now stands, both financially and numerically, confidently look forward to increasing membership, additional advantages, and continued prosperity.

Mr H. GRIFF, in moving the adoption of the report, said he thought they had every reason to be proud of it.

Mr JOE BURNELL seconded.

The CHAIRMAN then proceeded to give his address in reference to what he termed the excellent and exhaustive report of the work done during the past year. He said he had first to introduce himself to the meeting, as it might be asked why he should occupy the position of chairman. Well, he had the misfortune to belong neither to the Rats nor to the Terriers' Society, but it was on that account he was chosen for the post of chairman, so that he could hold evenly the scales of justice. There was a little friction between the two societies. Perhaps it was only jealousy as to which one was doing the most good for their fellows. The Rats carried on a great work of charity, which was much appreciated by the members of the profession generally; and at the same time the Terriers also deserved credit for a great deal of benevolent work, done in the quietest manner possible. It might well be supposed there was a natural antipathy between the Rats and the Terriers such as existed in the animal world; but he wished to feel he was presiding over a happy family, and to do all he could towards consolidating the two associations. He should then expect to find sitting in one corner Mr George Adney Payne and Mr M'Naughton smoking together, and in another corner Mr Henri Gros and the members of the Theatrical Managers' Association arranging for the next sketch at the Oxford. And now he would come to what the committee had done during the past year, and in doing so he had no desire to make invidious comparisons. The preceding committee was composed of members of the profession who had all the intellect and all the brains, who were going to do something great, and to turn things inside out, but instead of that they themselves got turned out. Their attendances for the year amounted to 675, whereas their successors, who entered office amid a perfect storm of obloquy, made 785 attendances—an increase of 110. The balance-sheet showed, too, that the present committee had given more to charities than its predecessors. They had also obtained the consent of ninety doctors in the provinces to act as hon. medical officers to the Association. Thus, if a member fell ill in a town he could now obtain medical advice gratuitously, while if in London he could, by communicating with the secretary, consult a specialist free of cost. That was one thing the committee had done. They had also revised the rules of the Association, and to these there were only four amendments on the agenda. But the point he wished to specially emphasise was that if the Association had been a limited liability company they would be able to pay a dividend of 35 per cent. Then, again, up to the beginning of the present year the insurance of members was limited to railway travelling, but the committee had got the insurance extended, so that it now included travelling by any vehicle provided that the member was not the driver thereof. This was one of the little things the committee had done for the Association. This, too, was the first committee that had placed the balance-sheet in the hands of members before the actual day of the annual meeting. Previously sufficient time had not been given for its full consideration. In the next place he begged of members to have a little consideration for and to show due courtesy to the railway booking clerks and the society's agents throughout the country. He had heard artists bully the agents because they were not attended to at once, and had heard them speak to booking clerks in such a manner that if a director of the railway company had been present he would probably have torn up the vouchers. Last week fifteen vouchers, representing 162 passengers, were issued by one of their agents, and his weekly average was between 150 and 160. Surely the agents and booking clerks deserved some little courtesy. The speaker next referred to a letter which had appeared in print suggesting that the Association should take some steps in regard to a clause in a new Act of Parliament having reference to the employment of children in theatres. His reply was that the Association could not and must not deal with such a matter. There were other matters, such as the sketch question, syndicates, barring clauses, and agents' commissions, which required threshing out, but it was never intended that the Association should take up questions of this kind. Its object was to obtain concessions from the railway companies for the benefit of the members. The committee were there to give an account of their stewardship for the past year, and he held that they had been faithful servants. He hoped that they would sink all petty jealousies and act only in the interests of the Association. It could not stand still, it must make progress. It was born seven years ago, in a dingy office in Fleet-street, but the tender plant had been carefully nutured by their secretary and treasurer. Indeed, had it not been for Mr Douglas White it would have died a slow death long ago. Now they beheld it flourishing like the cedar tree of Lebanon, with branches spreading throughout the world. It did not matter to what country they belonged or what religion they professed, or no religion at all so long as they were music hall artistes they were welcomed as members. In conclusion the Chairman urgently appealed to all artistes who were not members to join at once, and he urged all who did belong to the Association to work for it both individually and collectively, so that when they had done their five or ten minutes' turn on the stage of life, and the curtain of death was rung down upon them, those who came after could say of them, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." He then read a telegram from Mr G. Bandurria, regretting his inability to be present, and wishing the Association every success.

The CHAIRMAN said he regretted to announce that Mr Charles Morton, the Father of the Music Halls and the doyen of managers, had died that morning.

The announcement was received with a general expression of regret.

Mr VOYCE moved an amendment that the donations to be given to the four charities mentioned in the report be £30 each instead of £50 as recommended, and that the balance, namely £80, shall go towards creating an accident and sick fund for the benefit of members of the association, the rules and regulations of the said fund to be formulated as speedily as possible by specially selected members of the Executive Committee.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought the idea was an excellent one, but they could not turn the Association into a benevolent institution. It was started on the distinct understanding that half the profits were to go to the music hall and railway charities.

Mr ADDERLEY HOWARD seconded the amendment, which, on being put to the meeting, was carried by 29 votes to 21. The report as amended was then carried.

Mr DOUGLAS WHITE then read the revenue account for the past year, which was as follows:—

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING OCT. 1, 1903 AND ENDING SEPT. 30, 1904.

BALANCE-SHEET.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance from last year		272 11 4
,, Entrance Fees and Subscriptions—		
1,462 at 10s.	731 0 0	
81 at 7s. 6d.	30 7 6	
2,955 at 5s.	738 15 0	
348 at 2s. 6d	43 10 0	
4,846		1,543 12 6
,, Fines—343 at 2s.	34 6 0	
,, Lost Cards—93 at 1s	4 13 0	
,, Badges—305 at 1s.	15 5 0	
,, Sundries	1 18 9	
,, Profit on Dinner and Dance ..	0 11 2	
		56 13 11
		£1,872 17 9

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Insurance Policies	336 9 2	
,, Charities	184 0 0	
,, Legal Purposes Fund	63 13 4	
,, Sinking Fund	55 10 0	
,, Railway Concert	5 1 0	
,, Dance and Dinner Tickets (amount outstanding)	1 12 6	
,, Badges	18 14 2	
,, Office Fittings and Furniture	17 0 11	
,, Members and Railway Companies (refunds)	10 15 2	
,, Income Tax	4 11 8	
		697 7 11
,, Printing and Stationery	103 3 9	
,, Advertisements	37 10 4	
,, Stamps	50 12 4	
,, Telegrams and Telegraphic Address	10 14 7	
,, Telephone	18 10 0	
,, Expenses of General Meeting, 1903	5 3 4	
,, Travelling and Incidental Expenses	11 9 7	
,, Miscellaneous Expenses	16 1 1	
,, Committee Expenses	18 2 0	
,, Bank and Audit Charges	4 9 5	
		275 16 5
,, Rent of Offices to Dec. 25, 1904	100 0 0	
,, Salaries of Secretary and Staff	404 19 6	
,, Office Expenses	19 8 7	
		524 8 1
,, Balance at Bank	358 16 6	
,, In Hand	16 8 10	
		375 5 4
		£1,872 17 9

We have examined the above account with the books and vouchers of the Association, and hereby certify the same to be in accordance therewith.

ALBERT VOYCE
ARTHUR "CARLTON" } Auditors.
GEORGE SHEARD

London, Oct. 6, 1904.

The Committee recommended that the accounts, No. 2 and 3, known as the Legal Purposes Fund and the Sinking Fund, be amalgamated into one Fund, to be known as the Reserve Fund, which shall be added to yearly until it reaches the sum of £1,000, such reserve fund to be invested in the name of three trustees whom the committee leaves in the hands of the incoming committee to appoint.

Mr W. H. CLEMART moved and Mr WILL EDGAR seconded that this recommendation be adopted, and this was carried.

Mr F. W. MILLIS then moved the adoption of the revenue account.

Mr PAT CAREY seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Mr VOYCE said that, as one of the auditors, he should like to bear testimony to the very neat and capable manner in which the secretary kept the books. It made the work of the auditors quite a pleasure.

The next business was to submit the new rules to the meeting.

Mr FRANK GERALD asked why the new rule stating the objects of the Association passed at the last general meeting, had been altered and printed in a new book of rules by the present committee without first receiving the endorsement of a general meeting. He said he considered that this was a matter which struck at the foundations of the Association.

Mr FRED RUSSELL submitted that before they could proceed they must confirm the old rules.

Considerable discussion followed, and Mr GERALD said that up to the last annual meeting the objects of the Association had never been defined, and it had taken an active part in other things besides getting concessions from the railway companies. At a large meeting held at the Canterbury a report from a sub-committee as to the contract question was approved, and sanction was given to continue the work they had started. Now the committee proposed to insert words which would put an end to the good work which the Association could undertake. It was childish to limit the usefulness of the Society. There were a hundred and one things which could be done for their profession, and the committee had no right to act as they were doing. At the last general meeting he and others of his way of thinking were defeated. He would make no comment on the way the election was worked, but the result came as a surprise to him and to those who had worked with him. He was asked to rejoin the committee to carry the work on, but he refused to sneak in at the back entrance after the front door had been slammed in his face. In turning their back upon him they had turned their backs upon the heads of the profession, who had given him encouragement and support and without whom he could have done nothing. The committee had altered the rule in order to save their faces, and for nothing else. Their action he could only describe as paltry to a degree. The Press was right when it said that certain members might wipe the word gratitude out of their vocabulary. The committee wasted its time in dealing with the case of the Brothers Jones or the Sisters Brown while there were countless things to be done for the benefit of the profession, and the Association would be allowed to sink back into its old position of insignificance.

The CHAIRMAN, replying to Mr Gerald's attack, denied that the committee had turned their backs upon that gentleman or that they were introducing a new rule to save their faces. They simply wanted to define the objects of the Association. He desired to remind the meeting that the Association was started for the purpose of getting a concession of one-third fare for travelling artistes. The theatrical managers and the representatives of the railway companies met and agreed on terms which were up to the present of a most amicable character. If any attempt was made to turn the Association into a body to fight the railway companies the latter would withdraw concessions which were as important to the Brothers Jones and the Sisters Limelight as to their richer brethren and sisters of the profession, and the Association would be dead from that day. If they wanted a trade union to fight managers, let them form one, and he was cordially with them, for he was afraid of no one, because managers might come and managers might go, but turns would go on for ever. Let them, however, remember that when Charles Coborn called a meeting to form a trades union four members of the committee of the Association attended. Let them use their strength and income and power for the purpose for which the Association was formed, which was to help the weak, and if they had axes of their own to grind, not to grind them at the Association's expense.

Mr FRED RUSSELL contended that the Chairman in his reply had raised certain controversial points which the meeting was entitled to discuss. He protested against discussion being stifled.

Mr PHIL RAY also indignantly protested, and told a member who interrupted him to "shut up."

On the consideration of rule IV., "That the objects of this Association shall be for obtaining railway and kindred concessions of beneficial interest to its members,"

Mr ADDERLEY HOWARD moved, and Mr FINNEY seconded, the insertion after the words "beneficial interests" the words "and for the amelioration and general advancement of the music hall profession."

The amendment on being put was lost, twenty-nine voting for it and thirty-four against.

A question arose as to the appointment of the secretary, it being proposed by the new rules that he should be elected by the full committee voting by proxy instead of being elected annually.

Mr HOWARD thought that the secretary should be elected annually, but upon the chairman stating that the new rule was in accordance with Mr Stuart's wish he withdrew the amendment he proposed moving.

Mr PHIL RAY complained that at the last election of the committee a certain member got others to sign blank voting papers, to which he afterwards added the names of candidates.

The CHAIRMAN said it was very reprehensible conduct.

Mr VOYCE said that two or three similar cases came under his knowledge, and he proposed that any member so offending again shall have his name struck off the voting list for two years.

Mr MILLIS seconded, and it was agreed that this should be added to the rules.

Mr GRIFF said he had, at the request of a lady, put crosses against names on the voting paper. Had he done wrong?

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the rule said plainly that the voting paper must be filled up and signed by the voter.

Mr GRIFF said he would see that the voting paper was not sent in.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee had agreed to accept the following amendment of Rule 7 standing in the name of Mr Adderley Howard:—"That four Scrutineers be elected at the General Meeting, and that all voting papers be kept for at least fourteen days after the declaration of ballot; also that any member of the M.H.A.R.A. can, on paying a deposit of £8 8s., demand a fresh scrutiny, and should the original scrutiny be correct he shall forfeit same, but should there be a mistake he should receive his £8 8s. back."

The CHAIRMAN also stated that it had been agreed to omit the following rule:—"That it shall be in the power of the Executive Committee to amend or alter such rules as may be deemed necessary, but that such amendment or alteration shall only be in force until the next ordinary general meeting of the members of the Association." The effect of dropping this rule was that a new committee could not upon entering office alter the rules. The last rule read as follows:—"That the committee shall have power to accept or decline any applicant for membership or to renew his or her renewal of membership without stating their reason for so doing. The committee shall be empowered at their discretion to suspend, expel, or fine any member for breach of these rules."

Mr GERALD proposed as an amendment that the committee should give the applicant a reason for their rejection of a renewal of membership.

Mr LEE seconded, and the amendment was agreed to.

Mr EUGENE STRATTON enquired why Mr George Gray was not permitted to renew his card of membership.

The CHAIRMAN said if Mr Stratton had heard the matter discussed in committee, he would not probably have put the question. Mr Gray had entirely disregarded rule eighteen, which read, "That in the case of troupes the annual subscription, as stated in Rule XII., shall be paid for each and every member of such troupe." Besides, Mr Gray had left the Association of his own free will, having allowed his card to run out.

Mr STRATTON expressed himself satisfied with the reply, as did Mr ADDERLEY HOWARD, who had placed a similar question on the agenda. He was sorry, however, that Mr Gray was not allowed to attend the meeting.

Mr W. LEE, referring to some remarks made by the chairman in his address, denied that there was any ill-feeling between the Rats and the Terriers.

The CHAIRMAN said his remarks were only intended in a jocular sense.

The following gentlemen were then elected scrutineers:—Messrs C. Pastor, H. Nation, J. Hart, and Fairbanks.

On the recommendation of the committee the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Hon. President, Mr Dan Leno; Hon. Vice-Presidents, Messrs James Bailey, M.P., G. H. Chirgwin, Charles Coborn, J. W. Cragg, George Gilbert, Albert Le Fre, Harry Lester, Fred W. Millis, W. J. P. Monckton, Harry Randall, Lord John Sanger, and W. Tudor; Hon. Treasurer, Mr Douglas White; two Hon. Auditors, Messrs Voyce and Carlton; Chartered Accountant, Mr George Shead.

Mr DOUGLAS WHITE briefly returned thanks for his re-election.

Mr PAT CAREY moved and Mr JOE LAWRENCE seconded a vote of thanks to Mr Cattaneo for the use of the hall, which was carried.

A vote of thanks was also accorded the Press on the proposition of Mr JEAN SEUL, seconded by Mr F. W. MILLIS.

Mr BOB HUTT proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for the great ability and strict impartiality he had shown.

Mr GRIFF seconded the motion, which was carried, and the CHAIRMAN having acknowledged the compliment, the meeting, which had lasted four hours, separated.

A FAMOUS NATURALIST.

J. D. HAMLYN.

About the end of last June Mr J. D. Hamlyn, of St. George's-street East, was employed by the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis to collect chimpanzees on the West Coast of Africa. From the Hon. Walter Rothschild and other naturalists Mr Hamlyn also received commissions, and it was hoped that, among other things, he might bring back a pigmy hippopotamus, which has never yet been imported. Provided with introductions and special letters to the Governor of the Congo Free State, Mr Hamlyn arrived in Boma on Aug. 3, and went thence to Matadi, Stanley Pool (or Léopoldsville), and Brazzaville, where he made a collection of skins and skulls of chimpanzees, including some of the *n'schiego*, and a number of fish, some of which appear to be new. His next point was Loango, where he secured his first chimpanzee—a very good specimen—and thence to Mayumba, the great depot for the trade in grey parrots. His next point was Sette Cama, the port to which gorillas and chimpanzees captured in the immediate hinterland are brought for sale. The Congo Forest borders the river, which runs at the back of the English factory, and it is in the forest that the anthropoids live. Mr Hamlyn is inclined to limit the actual gorilla country to the stretch between Libreseville and Loango, though, of course, chimpanzees extend much farther eastward. The adult animals are killed by native hunters, who sell the young to the agents of the various factories along the coasts. At the factories the young anthropoids are kept till buyers are found for them. The supply is neither abundant nor sure. Adults are seldom caught and soon die, even in the modified captivity they have to endure at a trading station. There appears to be no very great difficulty in keeping the smaller animals at the factories, for some at least of their natural food can be readily procured by the native boys. Mr Hamlyn reports the forest region as being rich in animal life, though the density of the bush prevented captures. Monkeys were abundant; and immense snakes were seen, but the prejudices of the natives saved the reptiles from death or capture. On leaving West Africa he had with him three gorillas and five chimpanzees. Of the larger anthropoids only one arrived alive, and four of the smaller (which have already been sent to their destination). The surviving gorilla, called Gibson, after the agent from whom he was purchased, is about the same size as, but certainly blacker than, the female exhibited in the Zoological Gardens in 1896, to which belongs the record for longevity in this country—something about six months. He has been seen by Dr. P. Chalmers Mitchell, the Secretary of the Zoological Society, and can certainly be described as very tame, making no attempt whatever to use his nails or teeth when handled, and evidently enjoying the luxury of being nursed. One thing, however, will rouse him. There came with him, as there did with Venus and Chloe, a young mandrill. Though Gibson displays no affection for or interest in the little baboon, the slightest threatening movement towards it brings the anthropoid to its feet at once, while the mandrill seeks refuge behind some convenient piece of furniture. It is to be hoped that the public will have an opportunity of seeing this gorilla at the Zoological Gardens, or elsewhere, where it would certainly be a great attraction, for so large a male has never been seen in England before. Other living freight brought back by Mr Hamlyn include nearly a hundred grey parrots, two antelopes (possibly new to science), two pigmy porcupines, two scaly anteaters, two sea eagles, a red river hog, and a collection of land crab. Among the Spirit specimens are two large manatees, and a huge gorilla, said to tape 6ft. 6in. from sole to crown and 6ft. 9in. in armspread.

A SHOCKING accident, which has unfortunately terminated with fatal results, occurred at the Circus of Varieties, Rochdale, on Monday evening. During the second performance the Woodbee Wonders, described on the programme as comedy herculean acrobats, were performing a pyramid when the top man (Mr Frank Leonard, of Birmingham), prior to doing a somersault, failed, it is assumed, to get a proper balance, and alighted on his neck and shoulder on the stage. The curtain was lowered and the poor fellow was carried off the stage. Medical aid was quickly procured; the doctor ordered his removal to the infirmary, where he was taken in the ambulance conveyance. Mr Leonard was not rendered unconscious, and his fellow artistes did not think he had sustained very serious injuries. However, upon examination it was found that his spine was fractured. He did not long survive his fall, and died soon after twelve o'clock on Tuesday. An inquest will be held on the body by the local coroner in due course. Mr Leonard was only twenty-eight years old, and leaves a widow, who was with him, and one child.

AT Marlborough-street Police-court, on Wednesday, Nipper Lupino Lane, accompanied by Mr Frank Glenister, manager of the London Pavilion, and a lady, appeared in the witness-box with the view of obtaining a licence to perform at that place of amusement for a month from Monday next. The boy was stated to be the son of clever parents and a most accomplished dancer. Mr Plowden, remarking "It seems to agree with him," granted the licence.

MR. JESSE SPARROW'S BENEFIT.

Everywhere that Mr Jesse Sparrow has planted the standard of variety the prosperity of the enterprise and his personal popularity have grown side by side, and this was fully borne out on Tuesday, when his annual benefit attracted to the Camberwell Palace an overflowing audience and a crowd of performers that swelled the programme to enormous lengths. Added responsibilities have come to Mr Sparrow since his last bespeak, but there is no diminution in the energy of his administration, which has from the first commanded constant patronage and secured the respect and admiration of all. The esteem in which he was held was given practical proof on Tuesday, when about fifty gentlemen assembled on the stage, and a substantial token of regard, in the form of a cheque, was presented by Mr J. J. Fruin on behalf of subscribers both in the house and out. Mr Fruin said the cheque ran into three figures, and, he understood, established a record so far as the recipient was concerned, Mr Sparrow, who received an ovation when he stepped forward, said his remarks would be very brief, as he expected so many eminent artistes between the hours of eleven and twelve. He thanked most heartily the gentlemen around him, and the subscribers to the testimonial for their generosity and kindness. He did not know what he had done to gain such favour. He did all he could to deserve their appreciation, and he was unable fully to express his gratitude. A friend of his once said he was an excellent manager, but one of the rottenest speakers he knew, and, acting on that hint, he would make his remarks very brief. He thanked the directors of the hall, Mr Bassett and the band, the staff, the Terriers' Association, who were present in such force, the members of the Press—among whom he numbered many valuable friends—the artistes, and the public at large for the generous manner in which they had supported him that night, and he hoped the entertainment was worthy of that support. Loud cheers greeted Mr Sparrow as the curtain descended, the enthusiasm taking the form of musical honours, which were rendered by the whole audience. The programme, as befitted the occasion, was graced by the names of many artists of renown, and for fulf four hours and a half ran its amusing course. The hopes of the audience centred upon Mr Dan Leno, who had promised positively to appear. The celebrated comedian was, however, beaten at the post, for he arrived just after the audience had departed, but not too late to receive a cordial welcome by friends in the adjoining saloon. Mr George Robey was an early contributor to the fun, and the house revelled in his whimsicalities. Laughter was also requisitioned in large quantities by Mr Wilkie Bard, who proved the drollest of the droll in his "soldier" song. A warm welcome was extended to Miss Katie Lawrence, who rendered her latest and most popular effusion; and the artistic comedy of Miss Billie Barlow found the usual quota of admirers. Mr Harry Champion employed his comic activities in his song of "Oo-Er," and was recalled to sing "Ping-Pong." Mr Bob Hutt put all his eccentric energies into his funny song of "Make Haste;" and Mr Edwin Barwick contributed a characteristic item. The Four Estrellas gave a gymnastic performance of surpassing skill; Miss Ethel Ra-Leslie submitted a graceful song; Miss Cissie Dryden won applause for a smart impersonation; a realistic wrestling match between Hackenschmidt and Tom M'Nerney was shown on the Edisonograph; the progress of the sketch, *Three of a Kind*, by the Ethel Arden and George Abel company, was made to a ceaseless accompaniment of mirth; and the list of artistes was completed by Mr Will Evans, Mr Michael Nolan, the Four Burnells, the Bale Troupe, Mr Fred Clements, Miss Dora Clifford, Mr Henry Bekker, Tots Davis, Mr James Fawn, Mr Hamilton Hill, Mr Wilson Hallett, Mr Clem Myers, Miss Morgan, Mr Arthur Prince, Miss Florrie Robina, Bijou Russell, Mr Fred Storey, Miss Flo Raynor, Miss Jenny Reeve, Mr Harry Weldon, Len Young, Gilberg and May, Mr Fred Cary, Miss Dolly M'Calla, George and Edwards, Miss Connie Williams, the Sisters Tinsley, Barrett and Knowles, and R. W. Bentley. Friends from far and near were numbered among the guests, those who were present to show their goodwill to Mr Sparrow including Mr Arthur W. Bray, Mr E. A. Golding, Mr H. Joyner, directors; Messrs E. V. Page, Tom Tinsley, E. E. Giles, Frank Macnaghten, Walter Gibbons, Fred Higham, Harry Barnard, Tom Pacey, Fred Reeves, E. De Vere, Geo. Peel, Geo. Foster, F. Napoli, Dave Cohen, G. Barclay, H. Masters, H. Burrows Smith, S. Hyman, G. E. Aplin, C. Chapman, R. Cass, Tom Henderson, Geo. Pearson, Will Sergeant, Cory Woodrow, Capt. Woodger, Joe Lawrence, Will Oliver, Sheldon, P. Hart, Geo. Fuller, Tom Claxton, F. Nilen, W. S. Bassett, J. Fortune, E. Edelsten, and W. Edelsten, many of whom formed a strong committee of stewards. Mr Leon A. Barrett and his orchestra coped successfully with their arduous work, and smartness and precision were secured by Mr Geo. Foster and Mr Charles Chapman in their supervision of the stage.

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB

Played near Clifton Downs on Oct. 8. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss I. Bowman and Miss L. Carter, backs; Miss M. Leonard, Miss L. Belding, and Miss C. Fowler (captain), half-backs; Miss G. Leonard, Miss B. Godfrey, Miss N. Bailey, Miss T. Maynard, and Miss G. Thomas (forwards).

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss A. Gibbs and Miss M. Hamilton, backs; Miss E. Lawrence, Miss L. Norris, and Miss L. Coles, half-backs; Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss K. Montgomery, Miss F. Hooper, Miss M. Burgess, and Miss A. Mitchell, forwards.

Referee, Miss E. Francis (of Miss Cecilia Fowler's Team). Result:—Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team, one goal; Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club, one goal. Misses G. Leonard and L. Norris scored the goals.

BARNSLEY H.C. v. "BETWEEN TWO WOMEN" H.C.

Played on the Darton Ground, Barnsley, on Thursday, Oct. 13, a hardly fought game ending in a win for Barnsley by three goals to one.

Barnsley.—G. Moorhouse, E. Longley, V. Longley, H. Lawrence, M. Krakner, forwards; Miss P. Clifford, T. Jupp, A. Brass, half-backs; W. Wood, W. Hoey, backs; H. Corker, goal.

"Between Two Women."—H. Marlow, F. Morgan, T. Edlin, C. Stewart, F. Rilings, forwards; Miss D. Lorraine, Miss M. Robson, Mr A. Darton, half-backs; Mr G. Woods, Mr F. Sandy, backs; Miss S. Hammersley, goal.

Mr F. Morgan scored for the company. The referee was Mr A. Ward.

A COMMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—My attention has been called to an advertisement in *The Era* relating to the Hippodrome in Glasgow, and stating that Mr Hengler had been appointed manager. As "the notice" does "not refer to me, nor to my son," I can only conclude it refers to one of my nephews, probably Albert Henry; but, in any case, it would be obviously better that junior members should give their initials in any business announcement.

Yours faithfully, JOHN M. HENGLER.
Hoylake, Cheshire, Oct. 14, 1904.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

PARIS MUSIC HALL NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Casino management is to be congratulated on having secured some excellent acts which make up a very agreeable programme. The opening number, the Allesons, two capital acrobats, look very trim and smart in their white costumes, and introduce two entirely new tricks in addition to the regular performance. A genuine success is to be recorded for the Kiesleys, three clever gymnasts, Germans we should say, from their style of work. The woman hangs by her feet and acts as a trapeze for the man and the young girl. To some it is a painful performance, though it is one of a high order. The woman is extraordinarily capable, but her bandaged wrists tells the tale of awful tension and strain. The man is a neat and careful gymnast, evidently thoroughly appreciating the danger and effort involved, and the young girl, a plump and pleasing little person, is enormously strong, with a wonderful development of muscles in her arms, fully demonstrated when she makes a horizontal bar of her sturdy arms and carries off both the man and woman without any visible effort. The Marzahni style themselves musical eccentrics.

MISS BORDEVERRY, in her sensational shooting act, hits the bull's-eye rapidly without a single miss at a distance of eighty mètres. It is rather a disquieting sensation for those in the direct line of vision. The number resembles very much that made so popular years ago by little Annie Oakley with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. The Hartleys are very successful. Young Hartley is a very good performer. His leaps are finely and neatly executed. He bandages his eyes and ties his feet, then leaps forwards and backwards over seven chairs. He leaps over a candle and extinguishes it; over a watch and opens and closes the spring back; over his sister's pretty face, and leaves a heavy smudge on her piquant little nose; and over a bowl of water, lightly scattering the fluid in transit. Miss Hartley is of great assistance to her brother. She is as busy as a bee and as pretty as a picture. She sets the stage, and throws so much energy and humour into her work that she becomes a pleasing feature of a bright and clever number.

THE most amusing portion of Professor Macart's entertainment is to watch the antics of a tiny monkey which he permits to stray about in the boxes and round the orchestra. The ladies in the boxes coax and pet the weird little beast, and offer him sweets, cigarettes, and other inducements. The other performers on the stage are quite neglected for the interest evinced in this precocious little animal, even though the trained dog-faced baboons and the dogs are really clever, and do credit to their professor's teaching.

HERBERT LLOYD gives us the old Tramp act. He is very funny, but it is difficult to get anything new out of this old number; in fact, many comedians who have made the act so popular in Paris are cutting it out of their return dates. *The United States Gatling Guns* is a very moving representation of artillery in charge of their guns in time of war. We have some very effective drill to begin with, and then a stirring representation of a battle. The men worked hard, and are well received.

RALPH JOHNSTONE is at last back again in Paris, where he created such a sensation two years ago or more at Olympia. There are cyclists and cyclists, but there is no doubt that Johnstone can justifiably announce himself as the champion trick rider of the world. He has introduced some new tricks since last here. His pirouette on the step is very difficult. His playing of the inevitable Cake Walk on a specially designed piano is also excellent. His ladder has seventeen steps, and then two drops on two other platforms, and then the dead drop to the stage. The crash with which he comes down is sufficient testimony to the force and the jar the rider must experience. He is enthusiastically welcomed.

THE Folies-Bergère is filled nightly by people anxious to see the latest novelty in the shape of a highly amusing sketch entitled "An Evening at a London Music Hall," which is admirably presented by Billy Reeves. Seldom has a better bit of character acting been seen on the legitimate stage than Mr Reeves's impersonation of a swell, in a box, slightly the worse for a good dinner. There is not a trace of exaggeration, and he keeps the house in shouts of laughter from start to finish. The blasé Parisians find themselves roaring as heartily as the few English and Americans present.

THE ballet, from the German, is called *The Fairy of the Dolls*, and is a very dull affair apart from the exquisite dancing of Morini and Vincenti, from the Scala at Milan. Oterita is a lively young lady who was for some time a favourite at the "Rat Mort," a restaurant in Montmartre, where she danced her Spanish dancers to the delight of the Bohemian and other habitués of that unique restaurant. Now she has provided herself with gay new gowns, and a sad young man to twirl her in her gyrations, and she is kindly received by an audience a bit weary of the eternal Spanish Fandango. The Sleedes give a clever pantomime in their capitally-arranged mysterious house. The illusion is well done, and the water effect is very pretty.

THE Skemka give an old act under a new guise, and very successfully into the bargain. They do not pose as "Acrobats Mondaines," which, being interpreted, means an ordinary acrobatic act with the performers attired in ill-fitting, uneasy evening dress suits. The performers are content to wear that most attractive of all costumes on a well-made man, the glittering tights of the harlequin. The set is prettily arranged, with a practical fountain which emits sparks of multi-colored lights instead of water. The Eight Julians give a capital performance in their Jeux Icariens. Where all are so clever it is hard to particularise, but special mention must be made of the little lad who looks like a Japanese, and who does some magnificent work.

ALL Paris is delighted to welcome Bostock back. The invitation soiree on Saturday was fully attended by all those who wished to do honour to a showman who had succeeded in making a success of a clean show in Paris. In spite of all sorts of annoying accidents, in spite of the fact that rough weather and bad connection only landed the animals in Paris at noon, the show commenced promptly at 8 30. Herman Weedon, a popular favourite with Parisians, opened the programme. He had a long and arduous task with his half score of wild animals. They had barely been uncaged; they were still stiff and sore from travel, and unsettled and uncertain in their new surroundings, yet, with an unparalleled patience, Weedon put them through their tricks. The hyenas gave a lot of trouble, and the sloths exhibited an entirely misplaced amount of ungainly frivolity, but patience conquered all, and Weedon was loudly applauded.

THE new attraction, and one which will I am sure prove one of the most popular on the programme, is Miss Grace, who dances very charmingly while surrounded by four lionesses. She is most daring. It was positively blood-curdling to see the audacious way she flitted up to the ferocious beasts and daintily tossed her skirts and pointed her toes right into the beasts' capacious maw. Hodges and Launchmere are two clever coloured performers, who give amusing imitations of the languishing tones of a couple of amorous cats on the tiles. Buckner gives an illustration of what can be done in the way of balance on a bicycle pitched up into all sorts of impossible places. He is a fine looking young fellow, and does some clever new tricks.

THE Hippodrome has been improved out of all knowledge. There are capacious promenades, convenient and elegant places wherein to take the cup that cheers. The auditorium has comfortable stalls and cosy boxes. The orchestra is located round the arena, the arena itself being provided with a huge cage, which can be drawn up when there are tame performers on the stage. Altogether Bostock is to be highly congratulated on his opening.

ALL Paris seems crazy on the Magic Kettle. There is now one at the Parisiana, for which Monsieur Ruez is credited with having paid 15,000f. This is presented by Professor Zoele. But Mr Barrasford is always first in the field with any real novelty, and no matter how many imitators he may have, he will always be sure of letting his patrons at the Alhambra see the original article. Therefore we all went to see Ralph Dean boil water, light cigars by steam, make ice cream on a kettle, boil eggs and grapes till they crackled. It was all very interesting, and Dean has the advantage of an excellent interpreter who follows all he says very rapidly in French for the benefit of the Parisians.

THE sensational bicycle races seem to excite the gallery, but these acts depend mainly on their danger for their attraction. Each new risky trick has to be more dangerous than the last. Arthur Nelstone is a delightful dancer, with plenty of humour. He also speaks French excellently. The Three Richards are first-class acrobats and equilibrists. One generally notices that the top man is considerably lighter than the second man, but in this case all three are of the same height, thereby enhancing the difficulty of the top balancing. Florizel, a contortionist, performs capitally on a crystal platform; Martinoz, La et Do, appear as street singers; and Dufor, who has a lovely voice, sings some delightful chansonettes with charm and intelligence. Orford presents his elephants to the delight of the public. Boney, the tiny one, is a true low comedian. Lind? who likes to arouse curiosity as to his sex by this manner of styling himself on the programme, dances capitally and sings. He startles the audience when he takes off his wig and speaks in his own deep voice. He is a capital female impersonator, on the same lines as Stewart. The Bioscope, always a favourite at the Alhambra, is very interesting. New pictures include the Grand National Steeplechase and the Longchamps Steeplechase, also the defeat of Pretty Polly. Many celebrities are recognised, especially the genial director of the Alhambra himself, who bashfully essayed, we believe, to avoid the camera, but whose counterfeit presentment is cordially cheered nightly. Mr Brinn gives a strong man act, firing off cannons on his head and lifting weights up to 156lbs. He works hard and successfully.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Though it has been said that the labour market in the Hackney district is in a depressed condition, the attendance at the above palatial place of amusement does not seem to have diminished in the least, judging by the appearance of the interior either at the first or the second "house." A well-varied and attractive programme is what the patrons of the Empire have become accustomed to, and they are never disappointed in their expectations. And those who are apt to speak disparagingly of a music hall entertainment might well have their attention called to the fact that high-class music is included in the bill-of-fare. The orchestral selection this week is from Wagner's opera, *Lohengrin*, and admirably is it played by the band under the very able direction of Mr Walter Johnson, their reward being a hearty round of applause from an appreciative audience. A performance which is in the nature of a novelty to most people is seen in the gymnastic act introduced by Les Burnellys. One of these artists is an extremely clever performer on stilts, balancing himself in a wonderful manner, and, indeed, winning great distinction in an art that is little practised on the stage. Another performance of a novel character is that given by the Nolset troupe of cyclists. On a table which goes round at an exceedingly rapid rate the cyclists take their place, their object being to keep pace with its revolutions. This involves a considerable strain upon the riders, and their exertions are loudly applauded. Miss Winona Winter gives a clever ventriloquial sketch, and also scores with a song entitled "I want to be a leading lady." She has the valuable assistance of Mr William H. Banks, who appears in the character of a tramp, but prefers to call himself "a soldier of fortune." His excellent singing meets with marked approval. Mr Victor Travers is correctly described as a quaint comedian, and eccentricity in the matter of costume accentuates his humorous portrayals. His burlesque coon ditty is quite a speciality in its way, and whether posing as a scarecrow or as the great Napoleon, he is always original and amusing. His dancing, too, is extremely clever, and its merits duly appreciated. Miss Millie Hylton's new song, "I'm the new Suburban Belle," promises to become popular, and she sings it with her usual charm of manner. Mr George Alexander used to recite "If Villon were the King of France" in Mr Justin M'Carthy's play at the St. James's Theatre, and this possibly may have inspired the author of Miss Jessie Belmore's song, "That's what I'd do if I were King." Such a suggestion, for instance, as the better treatment of our old soldiers is, of course, bound to win applause. Werner and Reider make their mark as vocalists, and their imitations of the nightingale and the lark are very good. The Trapnell Family give a graceful acrobatic exhibition, their smart somersaulting being a feature of their performance. Mr Post Mason, American baritone, has a good song in "A Son of the Desert am I," and his turn is a decided success from an artistic point of view. Mr Harry Lawson prospers with a medley song, introducing snatches from most of the popular melodies of the day. The sporting sketch *Over the Sticks* is, of course, received with shouts of merriment. The race-course scene is distinctly exciting, and the doings of a realistic crowd afford considerable amusement. Mr Joe Elvin repeats his quaintly comical embodiment of Plodder Pilks; and Mr Harry Low is quite at home in the part of the jockey, Arthur Pilks. Miss Amy Ellis does well as Rebecca; and able assistance is given by Messrs Henry Gregory, Geo. Budd, Arthur Drew, and Miss Florence Harcourt. The front of the house is carefully looked after by Mr John Christie and his lieutenant, Mr Kennedy Johnson.

THE many friends of Mr C. E. Pritchard will be pleased to hear of his appointment to be musical director at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, where he will doubtless repeat the success he achieved when holding a similar position at the Chatelet Theatre, Paris. Of his ability as a conductor and for handling large bodies of performers no one who has seen him wielding the bâton has any doubt, as witnessed to by his triumphs at Birmingham and elsewhere. His most unsparing critics have always been unanimous in their praise for this and for the orchestration of his productions. His latest compositions are now in the press, and will shortly be published by Messrs Scott and Co.

AN application was made to the Liverpool magistrates on Wednesday that 2,000 copies of pirated music which were seized the previous Friday in a private house be delivered up by order of Court. The Liverpool agent of the Music Publishers' Protection Association, London, had seen hawkers enter the house and leave with a parcel. The music was all classified. It was stated on behalf of the defendant that he did not resist the application. The music belonged to a lodger, who, upon receiving the summons, decamped. The Bench ordered the music to be delivered up, and the defendant to pay £5 5s. costs incurred by the Association.

DEATH OF WILLIAM TOFT.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr William Toft, the well-known and respected roundabout proprietor, who died on the 14th inst., at his residence, Oxford Lodge, Oxford-road, Ranelagh, Dublin. The remains were interred at Mount Jerome Cemetery, Dublin, on Monday, and the Rev. Gilbert Mahaffy, M.A., Incumbent of St. Peter's Church, officiated at the graveside. The late Mr William Toft was born at Cardiff on April 9, 1870, and first travelled with his father's roundabouts, going from Scotland to Belfast in Jubilee year, where a fair was organised, and which was continued after his father's demise by the late Mr Toft and his partner, Mr David Turnbull, in the north of Ireland. Mr Toft devoted most of his time to the south of Ireland, making his headquarters at Dublin, and throughout the whole of the country his name was well known, his services being specially requisitioned for all the leading bazaars and festivities.

Proof of the esteem in which the deceased was held is afforded by the appended list of travellers from England and elsewhere and the numerous private friends who also attended the funeral:—The Rev. Gilbert Mahaffy, M.A., Messrs Harry, David, James, and Thomas Toft (sons), Mrs William Toft (widow), Misses Agnes and May Toft (daughters), Mr John Toft and Mr Thomas Toft (brothers), Mrs John Toft and family, Mr David Turnbull (brother-in-law) and Mrs Turnbull, Mrs Emmerson (mother-in-law), Mr F. Loftus Brownrigg (solicitor), Mr H. J. Wallis (Seaforth, Liverpool), Mr William Holmes (Manchester), Mr James and Miss Dewhurst (Preston), Mr William Mitchell (Heywood), Mr John Greene (Preston), Mr Chas. T. W. Freear, Mr Charles G. Freear, Mr John H. Freear (manager), Mr Coll Clarke (manager), Mr George Sutton (manager), Mr and Mrs Lenny Flint, Mr James Knight, Mr and Mrs Charles Rothwell, Misses Jenny and Sarah Rothwell, Mr William Turnbull, Mr Samuel Farrell, Mrs John Toogood, Mr Charles A. James, Mr Robert M'Neily, Mr W. Byrne Darcey, Messrs J. F. Logan, T. M'D. Corrigan, Stephen Conaty, Harry Marks, Louis Smith, Madame Cohn, Mr and Mrs Joseph Steadman, Michael J. Swaine, John Walsh, Chas. L. Hamilton, Chas. L. Hamilton, jun., E. A. Kinsella, C. W. Roberts, D. S. Roberts, L. F. Byrne, Charles Roberts, J. J. Synnott, J. W. Davis, S. Williams, E. A. Towers, F. Towers, G. Harvey, J. Walsh, John Williams, P. J. Mackey, J. M'Quirk, F. Sutton, R. Clark, W. T. Savage, J. Flood, F. G. Sutton, D. Leo Boyle, J. Power, J. Clifton, M. Weir, David Rice, John Brown, Sidney Aries, E. Keogh, A. Corcoran, J. Byrne, Charles Roberts, J. Kelly, E. Barrett, D. S. Gaynor, T. Barrett, M. Dunne, Michael Lynch, Robert Brophy, John O'Reilly, and Mrs Corcoran.

The following wreaths were also sent:—"With deepest sympathy," from Louis and Fred Smith; "With deepest sympathy," from Mr and Mrs John H. Freear; "With sincerest regrets," from Dublin employees; from Mrs Harry Williams and children, "With deepest sympathy;" from Messrs

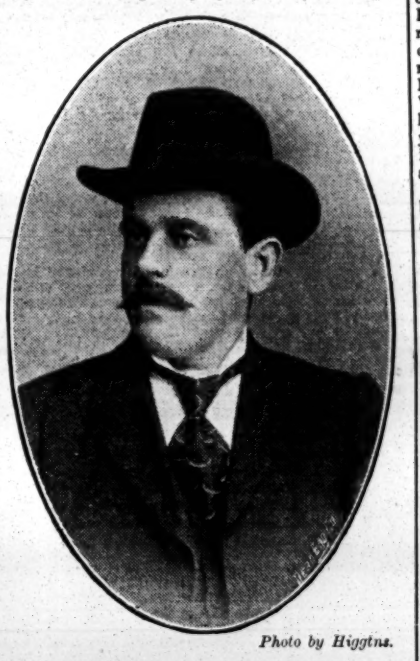

Photo by Higgins.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM TOFT.

Beech and Knight; "With deepest sympathy," from Messrs W. Mitchell and Son, Heywood; "With Mr and Mrs Sam Farrell's deepest sympathy;" from Mr and Mrs David Turnbull, "Thy will be done;" "In loving memory," from his dear wife and family; "With truest sympathy," from Mr and Mrs Geo. Howard; "As a token of respect," from Carlow employees; from Mr and Mrs C. Rothwell and family, "With deepest sympathy; "With great sympathy," from Mr and Mrs J. F. Logan; from the employees, Messrs Toft and Turnbull's switchback (Dungannon); "With deep sympathy," from Mr and Mrs H. J. Wallis (Liverpool); "With deepest sympathy," from Mr and Mrs John Green (Preston); "With sincerest regrets," from Mr and Mrs William Holmes (Manchester); "With deepest sympathy," from Mr and Mrs P. Collins; from Mr John Collins (Hull).

AT the London Sessions on the 14th inst., before Mr M'Connell, K.C., and other justices, Louis Rees appealed against a sentence of six weeks' hard labour ordered him by Mr H. Curtis Bennett, at the Marylebone Police-court, for unlawfully assaulting and beating Miss Nancy Desmond. As will be remembered, the appellant was a hairdresser in Clifton-road, Maida-vale, and Miss Desmond an actress, living at Portsdown-road. A dispute arose in relation to a business transaction, in connection with which the assault took place. Counsel withdrew all the imputations made at the police-court against the ladies, and besides offering the sincerest apology for the unfortunate affair was willing, with the Court's sanction, adequately to compensate the complainant. After deliberation in private, the Bench affirmed the conviction with costs, but directed Rees to be detained for six weeks in the second division instead of with hard labour.

MISS CONSTANCE ELGIN has quite recovered from a bad attack of laryngitis, and has been engaged by Mr Cecil Barth to play Florence Hastings in *An Actor's Romance*.—Mr Frank Weathersby, who for the past six years has managed John F. Sheridan through Australia and South Africa, is expected to arrive in London about the middle of December from Africa. Mr Sheridan returns to London also.—Mr J. Henry Twyford, for some time associated with Mr Norman V. Norman's and Mr F. R. Benson's management, and with Mr J. H. Leigh's productions at the Court Theatre, has been engaged by Mr Philip Cass for the Mermaid Society productions at the Royalty Theatre, W.

MR N. HIGGINS, in the course of the sensational fight in the third act of *A Modern Judas*, at the Grand Theatre, Boscombe, on Tuesday last, had the misfortune to break his leg. He received every care and attention from the doctors at Boscombe Hospital, where he is progressing, we are glad to say, as favourably as can be expected.

HULL FAIR.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA)

Hull, in striking contrast to its great compeer Liverpool, has never lost its municipal grip of its fairs. As a city and maritime port it has moved with the times, but in its eager development and advance its celebrated October Pleasure Fair has moved and improved with it. The fair and its management is an object lesson to all other municipalities.

Seventeen years ago the growth of the town made the holding of the fair on the market ground and in the main streets no longer practicable This fact was recognised, and the extensive Cattle Market ground in Walton-street became the fair ground. Here the fair had room to grow, and its easy access to the teeming multitudes of Hull and its neighbourhood made it an ideal site for the people's annual outdoor carnival. This accessibility has been greatly increased by the advent of the penny electric car service of the Corporation, each year breaking the record of the past in the number of people journeying by car to the fair. Like unto Birmingham and Nottingham, Hull is a fair of pilgrimage—visitors by train from all parts of the kingdom throng the streets. Here, again, the fair ground is admirably placed, for it is near the termini of all the great railway lines. Forty to fifty thousand passengers is the average yearly number of these merry pilgrims to the fair. At once as you enter Walton-street the fair begins—indeed, the street itself is a vast conglomerate bazaar, with scores of stalls and hundreds of novelty vendors stretching right away to the principal entrance to the fair ground itself. The ordinary traffic of the thoroughfare is diverted for the week into other channels, and the vast avenue of stalls and small varieties that Walton-street becomes is an integral feature and charm of the fair. Now we enter the spacious grounds, so admirably arranged and set out by Mr Robert Grace, superintendent of markets and fairs. The division of the ground into parallel streets or avenues keeps the vast crowd of sightseers well distributed, and constantly the stream of life moves along these well-ordered channels.

Roughly speaking, the shows are ranged along three sides of the square. The roundabouts and other machine novelties are in the centre, so fixed that they break the thronging multitudes into the three avenues we have already mentioned. In the glowing light of scores of giant arc lamps and thousands of incandescent lights, these wonderful and artistically beautiful machines drew the crowds into the whirling magic vortex. Gondolas, galloping and jumping horses, revolving wheels, switchbacks or steam tugs, ships in air or yachts on the sea—all were in open and free competition for the patrons of their varied and gloriously bewildering enterprises. Amongst this scene of light and life were found Goldthorpe Marshall's Venetian realisations, W. H. Marshall's galloping horses, W. Shipley's three-abreast gallopers and four-abreast of the same proprietor, Aspland's (Mr Ben Howden) gondolas, George Green's Glasgow roosters, J. Waddington's Venice from Leeds, Waddington and Sons' twin tugs, P. Collins's, Limited, racing cockerels (manager, Mr Summerhayes), P. Collins's, Limited, rolling gondolas (manager, W. Mullett), M. Lieske's gyrating wheel, John Collins's four-abreast gallopers, John Collins's steam yachts, W. Murphy's "Golden Venice," Claude Hamilton's ostrich farms, A. Morley's skyscrapers, and R. Payne's manual swings.

A long line of high-class shooting ranges, bottle batteries, egg-smashing targets, and Morris tubes, all worthy of special mention, were the concerns of Messrs George H. Cornwell, J. Batty, R. Payne, W. Ratcliff, A. Kelly, E. Jameson, M. Lieske, T. Smith, and Mrs Watson.

The excellent photo studios of Mr F. Walton, J. Turner, J. Towler, George Turner, and H. Hammond occupied good positions on the central and main entrances.

A very striking feature of this fair was the great number of toy and fancy bazaars. These stretched in a straight line 800ft. long, the visitors passing from one bazaar to another. The concerns thus joined together were the celebrated bazaars of Messrs A. Seed, F. Seed, T. Haworth, A. Gladstone, and O. Lumb, "a fairy cavern" of delight for the children of Hull.

Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1 aggregation commanded our first attention as we reached the end of the entrance avenue. The collection of wild animals was very complete, and there were also English novelties, such as the midget donkey and pony, the latter fully grown at 24in. high. There were dromedaries and camels, and good-natured elephants, who carried the youngsters on their backs, and there were lions and tigers who went through a performance under the direction of Captain Wombwell, and some leopards and bears, who obeyed the word of command of Captain Rowley. The untamable lions gazed curiously at the visitors, but whilst they suffered their trainer to enter their cage, they will not be taught.

There were novelties in addition to the large congregation of wild creatures, and one of the most prominent of those was Linus, a wonderful horse brought from Oregon. Visitors were struck with amazement on seeing this equine marvel, which has a double mane 17 feet long, and a tail 13 feet in length. Another attraction of an unusual nature was the Patagonian sea lion, which is the only one of its kind, to be seen with its suckling babe. These were only two, however, of the many attractions which Bostock and Wombwell put before the public.

Bailey's Great American Circus (proprietors, R. Fossett and Sons) is another standing feature of this fair. With a stud of 150 horses, and a company of bareback riders, male and female gymnasts, acrobats, trapezists, wire walkers, and a galaxy of clowns, splendid entertainment was given in the vast arena, and crowded audiences rewarded the enterprise of the proprietors. Randall Williams' successors (Monte Brothers), with their Cinématograph theatre, exhibited an unique display of the best and newest animated photography. Messrs Chipperfield's French menagerie maintained its high reputation, and fully satisfied its numerous patrons. Captain Tom Payne's Bioscope, with its excellent range of up-to-date films—coloured—and living pictures, did, as usual, excellent business. G. H. Kemp's Anglo-American show more than sustained its high position as being in the front rank of Cinématograph theatres, the outside parade and the inside show being of the very best. Sahib Leo's Egyptian Hall mysteries have been the talk of the fair, and deservedly so. The mystery man is so unique in all his demonstrations of the white and black magic. J. Hastings' two grand booths, "The Prodigious Lady," and the No. 2 concern, "Diminutive Humanity," headed the list of abnormals, closely followed by Longman's fat baby, and Geo. White, the living human trunk. The animal abnormals and freaks were: Horatio's giant horse, Chas. Relph's midget horse, and John Reph's giant rodents; Prof. Wm. Gibson's capital show of mimicry, imitations of great men; John Relph's No. 2 show, the Mirrors of Mirth; Enoch Farrar's two shows—the Fine Art Salon and the Distorting Mirrors. Another celebrated show headed our second list, Manders' Royal Moving Waxworks, still as big a draw as ever, and deservedly so. The marvellous Hutins in their second-sight and esoteric mysteries; Mons. Le Neve and Norah Sullivan, athletes and wrestlers; Frank Gess's fistiana saloon, Messrs Holdsworth and Powell's fine art academy, and George Campbell's freak show were also on view, the double-bodied calf completing a chronicle of showland but seldom excelled on the fair grounds of England.

The goodly crowd of fair ground caterers with minor novelties, cokers, dart boards, ring boards, in fact, "all the fun of the fair," included the following:—Messrs Fisher, Chapman, Veti, Dearden, Brown, Cooper, White, Ryan, Rhodes, Stewart, Baines, S. Towers, Carroll, A. Barker, Knight, W. Turner, W. Holdsworth, Middlebrook, Geo. Lee, T. Burgwin, G. W. Prior, Dumont Brothers, Messrs Wright and Co., and Mrs Illingworth.

The list of local caterers contained the following, mainly engaged in the food supply and refreshment business:—Messrs Martin Bradley, Wormald, Scott, Ingram, Hughes, Evans, Anderson, Jeffries, Stone, and Collinson.

It was a typical British crowd, with a special naval character. For the mariners of England form a large proportion of the patrons of Hull Fair. It was a thoroughly hearty and good-humoured crowd, and it was good to be there—with it and part of it. From show to show with strict impartiality they crowded, from one joy of life to another the people pressed, the joy of its multiform amusements mirrored in every face the crowd in its good humour a true index of the success of Hull Fair in 1904.

A large measure of the success was due to Mr Robert Grace, the courteous and able superintendent of the fair. During the past nine years—the period covered by Mr Grace's tenure of office—the success of the fair has gone up by leaps and bounds, until to-day it ranks among the best fairs of the kingdom.

Also this year the Corporation will receive the largest sum in tolls yet obtained—£760; yet this is done not by increasing the rents of fair ground entertainers, but by getting more tenants, and thus increasing the drawing power and freshness and variety of attractions, without taxing the people occupying stands at the fair.

We heartily congratulate Mr Grace on his able management, and also join with his hosts of showmen friends in their sincere appreciation of his ceaseless kindness and of that of the official staff of Hull Corporation concerned in the fair.

CHILDREN ON THE STAGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—While the profession as a whole shows so little interest in matters which concern it so deeply little can be done. For the past ten years we have been doing our utmost to scotch the snake which has been throwing its coils gradually around the child performer, but we have failed to arouse that general interest and co-operation so necessary to success.

Finding other methods of little or no avail, we have recently tried to move by adopting the time-honoured method of carrying the war into the enemy's quarters; for one has only to keep one's eyes open to see that these monstrous regulations, which treat the professional parent or guardian as an unnatural and brutal monster, are constantly violated by ministers of religion, magistrates, and schoolmasters where it suits their purpose. Only last March a case in point occurred, when the local schoolmaster of Walton-on-Naze gave at the King's Theatre two dramatic performances, under the direct patronage and in the presence of the local J.P., in which children ranging from the tender age of five years to fifteen years appeared, and this occurred in spite of the fact that we had warned those concerned through the police beforehand that in the case of the elder children the proper formal application had not been made at the time required by law, and that with regard to the younger ones even the magistrates themselves were powerless to permit their appearance on licensed premises "under any circumstances whatsoever."

Now, here it seemed to us was a grand opportunity for calling attention to our grievances. The public takes no notice whatever of the few lines devoted by the reporter from time to time to describe how this or that magistrate has arbitrarily used his powers to refuse a licence to the professional child performer, but, if we know anything of human nature, it would have pricked its ears at a charge against magistrates and schoolmaster of breaking the law, not inadvertently, but with their eyes open; and once having caught the Speaker's eye, our case would have to be much weaker than it is, or we much more brainless as a class than we are, if we failed to gain sympathy immediately after gaining attention.

We did what we could in this case by ventilating the matter in the local press, but the police took no further action, after they had notified the parties concerned that they were breaking the law, and though we attempted to gain the ear of the theatrical press, and to move certain other bodies of great weight we were unable to stir general interest at the moment, owing to the fact, that what may be called an internecine war was being waged just at that time between the two rival camps in the entertainment world, and the occasion was therefore not propitious for a coalition of forces against the common enemy.

Something must be done, however, and done soon; for, stringent as the laws are, there is not only a tendency towards increased severity in the application of them, but new regulations are threatened.

It is idle to say that the proposed new L.C.C. regulations, the substance of which is announced this week, are for street traders only. In them is a clause relative to children engaged "in the business of the sale of intoxicating liquors to be consumed on the premises," and in what may be called the studied ambiguity of the phrase there lies a possible danger. May not the child performer whose talent draws the public to theatre or music hall where liquor is sold be held by our grandmotherly authorities to be engaged in the business of the sale of that liquor, and if so, are we not in danger of having a new set of regulations to study and conform to, added to those already in force. Sir, I ask you how much longer we are as a class going to submit to legislation which not only affects us financially, to our great prejudice, but brackets us with the very scum of the earth?

We do not not ask to be free from either legislation or supervision, but let us have distinct regulations for ourselves alone, clear and well defined, and let us see to it that those regulations are not so framed as to render so-called facilities for conducting our business nothing more no less than unsurmountable barriers.

What is the use of a licence which may be granted one week by one magistrate and refused the next on exactly the same evidence by another? The manager of theatre, music hall, or touring company knows the uncertainty of the thing, and must safeguard himself by doing without the child. Where is the sense, again, in an age limit raised so high that the healthy, well-fed, well-developed child can no longer appear in a child's part? Is it not putting a premium on the stunted weakling? If the wiseacres who evolve the regulations doubt this, let them turn to your advertisement columns, Sir, and they will find that the few managers who still require child performers, invariably ask for children of fourteen years of age to look nine. Does not that speak for itself? Does it not show that these regulations are at one and the same time treating the theatrical parent as a brute and penalising him for his care of his offspring?

In conclusion we will say no more than this: we have a right to demand legislation that shall deal with us a separate class. We want a totally new and practicably workable machinery for the granting of licences, and an age limit which is not, as pointed out above, a crying scandal in itself. Therefore, whatever their differences may be on other points, it is the evident duty of those bodies which have the well-being and dignity of the theatrical and music hall professions in their charge, to combine to see that we get these things.

Yours faithfully, H. A LONSDELL,
DORA LANGLOIS.

Chelsea Palace of Varieties.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

FROM the West of England we have news of Tavistock Fair. The Hancock aggregation of fairground novelties included their known menagerie and cinematograph theatre, the steam horses and switchback, with other novelties by the same firm, made the chief fun of the fair at Old Tavistock. Messrs Hancock generously gave a night's takings of one of their exhibitions to the funds of the Tavistock Cottage Hospital. There were great crowds of visitors, and the usual attendant throng of variety and novelty vendors. The weather was delightfully fine, and brisk business rewarded the efforts of the stall-keepers and amusement caterers.

GLASTONBURY HIRINGS, locally known as "John and Jude" Fair, was held this year in an almost constant downpour of rain, with the result that business was practically spoilt for the shows, &c., at the fair.

WARWICK FAIR had for its entertainers Cordwell, with Cinématograph; Farrell, with Academy of British art; W. Davies, with set of steam galloping horses, and No. 2 set the midget ponies; Chas. Farrell's aggregation, the fine art exhibition, the zoological roundabouts, and juvenile horses; and Mr Herbert, with stalls. The usual throng of minor novelties, vendors with stalls, and throwing games were in attendance.

A RECORD attendance was the note of Winchcombe Mop—or Hiring Fair The shows, roundabouts, stalls, and varieties were located in Queen's-square and Abbey-terrace.

SHIPTON-ON-STOUR FAIR was robbed of a good deal of its usual attractiveness this year by the clashing of dates with the big fair at Stratford-on-Avon. Much disappointment was expressed at the absence of Strickland's galloping horses and other novelties—in attendance at Stratford.

P. COLLINS, LIMITED, are paying a three weeks' visit to Redditch, with one of their superb concerns now on exhibition in the Royal Hotel yard. The great national racers and fox hunters, accompanied by R. Stanley's cocoanut gardens. More side-shows are expected before the end of the visit.

HOLLOWAY'S portable new Empire Theatre commenced a promising short season this week at Astwood Bank. The opening night was a brilliant success, the play being *Our Lads in Navy Blue*. The laughable farce *Wanted, a Servant* and Mr W. Redmond in his capital variety entertainment completed a meritorious performance.

THE répertoire for this week at Holloway's included *Our Lads in Navy Blue, Driven from Home, The Gipsy Queen, Jane Shore, Brought to Justice, Vice and Virtue*, the comedy *Weary Willie and Tired Tim*, with farces and variety turns. Eagle's photographic studio is still on the ground.

GEORGE MANLEY AND SON'S GRAND CIRCUS is now touring the Evesham Vale district. Pershore, Bidford-on-Avon, Alcester, and Henley-in-Arden have been visited. They give a grand parade and procession in each town they visit, and the excellent performances in the arena are much appreciated. The Evesham Hospital funds benefited to the extent of £25 10s. by entire proceeds of the performance at Wadbrook's Electrograph, briefly referred to in our issue of last week. The hospital committee and the people of Evesham recognise the generosity of the Wadbrooks. Not a penny was deducted for working expenses, and all worked their hardest to make it a success.

AT Bidford-on-Avon for the fair were Manley's circus, above mentioned, Strickland's galloping horses, swing boats and bottle batteries, with coker shies, stalls, and varieties.

AT Houghton-le-Spring there were two fair grounds—one under the auspices of the Urban District Council and another, known as "The Lake" Ground, under the management of Richardson Brothers, Limited. On the Council's ground in the Old Market were W. and B. Murphys' gondolas, Walter Hoadley's electric jumping horses, James Mander's cockerells, and George Pinninger's juvenile steam gallopers, John Cooper's Cinématograph show with up-to-date films, and Professor Moore's assault-at-arms and school of boxers, the high-class shooting ranges, Morris tubes, and rifle galleries of Messrs W. Strand, C. Robson, Geo. Pinninger, and T. O'Brian; the high-fliers and park swings of Messrs Brindle, W. Spencer, and Pinninger; the coker and Emma sheets of Messrs W. J. Firman, J. W. Gray, C. Robson, and T. O'Brian; and novelties and varieties, stalls, &c., by various caterers, amongst whom were Messrs Mitchinson, Wilson, and J. Harrington. Under the banner of Messrs Richardson at the Lake fairground, Mackney's ghost illusion and theatre of varieties, Sedgwick's circus, Geo. Payne's cinématograph, Testo's living pictures, and the fine art galleries of Messrs H. O'Brien and W. J. Bean were the shows. The lessees, Messrs Richardson Bros., Ltd., exhibited two of their high-class machines, the gondola switchback and the electric galloping horses; Mr Caris with superb set, the electric jumping horses, and Mr W. Noble with set of steam horses were the roundabout proprietors on this ground. Shooting ranges by Messrs J. Rosher, W. Testo, H. Caris, J. Robinson, T. Lowther, and H. O'Brian; Emma sheets and coker shies by Messrs H. Show, J. Smith, Coultman, M. Watkins, George Gray, T. Cain, D. Adams, T. Hartshorn, J. Wright, J. Jackson, Blenkinsop, T. Lowther, Johnson; boxes, &c., by Messrs George Gray, sen., Wm. Wilson, and G. Halliday, with photo. studios by Messrs J. Walton and Williams. The streets of the town were lined with stalls and toy bazaars, and Houghton-le-Spring was crowded with a vast throng of holiday-makers from far and near.

WE briefly reviewed last week the earlier stages of the Showmen's Guild work—the Parliamentary defence of its members' interests. We continue the story again, by way of remembrance, to stir up the laggard mind of some few who still hold back their full recognition and support of the work done by the Guild.

THE preparation of a private Bill by the legal experts concerned is a serious and, at all times, costly matter, even when it meets with no opposition. It may cost eight hundred, or even a thousand, pounds before it is through all its stages and becomes law. When, as in the notable cases of Eccles, Mansfield, and Halifax, there is determined opposition, then the costs easily mount up to two thousand pounds. Showmen have been too slow in the past in recognising this important factor of cost. For it stands to reason that a corporation will endeavour to get all the value it can when it enters upon costly work of private Bill legislation, so everything that can be imagined as being possibly useful or profitable to the town is crammed into the Bill. Their real objective may be additional powers for water or gas, electricity or tramway supply. Whatever may be the strong leading motive, the Corporation and its officials in framing their Bill will ask for a dozen or more extra things, on the off-chance of no opposition, or like wise mariners, that they may have somewhat to throw overboard to lighten the ship, and to better weather the storm.

"MODEL CLAUSES" for additional powers to make new bye-laws were in the Legal Text-books, and of course were inserted in nearly all private Bills promoted by public bodies. The greatest service the Van-dwellers' organisation has done was to show the Parliamentary draughtsmen, Corporation officials, and the whole body of Parliamentary agents acting at Westminster for promoters of private Bills that these clauses, whenever introduced, would be opposed and the life of their Bills endangered by the strenuous and well-organised show and fair ground interests.

THE victory over the powerful Corporation of Halifax marked a new stage in Parliamentary work. The Corporation found that the so-called "model clauses" to secure additional powers to make bye-laws to close outdoor entertainments and to restrict show business had been challenged and proved to be *ultra vires* in excess of the general law, and distinctly in restraint of trade. This the showmen proved in both the Eccles and the Mansfield cases.

HALIFAX, as we have seen, invented a new method of attack on the show business—it asked for a monopoly of fairs within its borders and powers to charge exorbitant tolls. Had the clauses been passed—and without opposition they would have been—a new precedent would have been set up, and the business of the fair been entirely at the mercy of the Corporation.

AFTER the defeat of the Halifax Corporation, and in the next session of Parliament, still another terror was attempted—this time by the District Council of East Ham. This authority sought to obtain in a so-called Improvement Bill most of the objectionable provisions of the defeated public Bill of the late George Smith, of Coalville. A clause in the Bill provided that "Without the approval in writing of the Urban District Council, no van or movable dwelling should be placed upon any ground, private or public, within the district," and gave summary power to the police to remove all such vans or movable dwellings. Had this passed into law a large metropolitan district would have been closed to showmen. The London showmen, however, guided by the Guild, petitioned against it, and at the last moment, when all was ready for a vigorous fight, the Council took fright, and dropped the clause out of their Bill.

THIS brings our rapid review of the Guild's Parliamentary work up to the session of 1903. Last year's work also included the fight with the Corporation of Hyde, the object of the Corporation being to test to the full the showmen's power of persistent defence and to exhaust their resources. Here again the showmen won, and the objectional clauses in the Hyde Bill were withdrawn.

IN 1903 a great amount of important defence work was done without recourse to Parliament. Objectionable clauses in the Bills promoted by Aston (Birmingham), Gateshead, Erith, Leigh, Llandrindrod Wells, and New Hunstanton were dropped after friendly negotiations with these bodies by the Guild's solicitors and its Parliamentary agent.

WE have still to deal with the work of the last session of Parliament (for showmen the most important of all work done in their trade interest), and to that we shall turn next week. Again we say, let showmen remember the splendid work done by the Van-dwellers' Society, and also to see that it is not starved to death for lack of funds.

HULL was this year chosen as the place for the annual meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union, and the gathering took place in the large public room of the Newington Hotel. The president, Mr George Green, of Glasgow, occupied the chair, supported by the following members of the Union:—J. W. Waddington and S. Waddington, Leeds; W. H. Marshall and Goldthorpe Marshall, Bradford; P. Collins, jun., and Mr Terry (for the P. Collins Company, Limited), Walsall; John Collins, Liverpool; T. Harniers, Ratherham; J. Corrigan, Leeds; J. Cooper, Sunderland; Wm. Murphy, Newcastle-on-Tyne; B. Howden, Boston; and T. Hurst, Manchester, secretary.

THE only business of public interest was the election of the executive officials for the ensuing year. The nominations of the Nottingham meeting were confirmed, and the following names communicated to the press:—President, Mr George Green; vice-presidents, Messrs P. Collins and G. T. Tuby; treasurer, Mr John Green; trustees, Messrs Wm. T. Mitchell, sen., Wm. Pedley, and J. Collins; auditors, Messrs Goldthorp, Marshall and H. Hibbert; and secretary, Mr T. Hurst.

SHOWMEN using the market ground at East Retford at its fair or for private business will be sorry to hear of the approaching retirement of Mr John Boulby, the obliging market superintendent and manager of the Town Hall. Mr Boulby retires after twenty-three years' service under the Borough Council. At a recent meeting of the Council his faithful services were referred to in highly appreciative terms, and the hope expressed both Mr and Mrs Boulby would live long in the well-won enjoyment of old age. The principal reason of Mr Boulby's decision to retire is the failing health of Mrs Boulby.

THE new Leicester Fair places the ancient borough in the same category as Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, and Leeds. Its ancient fair banished from its time-honoured site to new ground, tolerated by the official world, yet still loved of the people, championed by the people, and more than ever a necessity to the tollers who enjoy the fun of the fair.

IT will be well to recall the peculiar circumstances under which the ancient Charter Fair in the picturesque Humberstone-gate was abolished. In 1902 the Corporation made a proposal to abolish the fair. This was condemned in open meeting of the burgesses held on the fair ground. The Rev. T. Horne made a vigorous speech in defence of the showman business, members of the Borough Council and and many influential Leicester gentlemen formed a local Fair Defence Committee, and great enthusiasm prevailed. The work of this committee soon revealed the peculiar conditions and conflicting interests involved in the effort to retain the fair on its ancient ground in the heart of the busy town, the greatest element of weakness in the defence being that the Corporation did not derive any toll or income from the fair. The right to levy tollage being vested in the tenants on the Humberstone-gate, each tenant had a perfect right to let that part of the broad thoroughfare that faced his shop or house. This right to let ground at the annual fair was a valuable asset to the tenant, and hence the determination of the people owning these rights to oppose the removal of the fair.

THE showmen saw the inherent weakness of this position, and whilst sympathising with the tenants and co-operating in public meetings of protest, they carefully avoided tying their case with them. The showmen were anxious above all things to save the ancient fair rights and franchises of the people of Leicester. Whether the town had outgrown the continuance of that fair in its centre was a question the showmen felt they could determine upon its merits. The removal to a more commodious site in the suburbs, yet easy of access from the centre, was to them, as reasonable business men, a possible contingency.

SO the matter stood in 1903, when the Home Secretary, taking the same view of the matter as the executive of the Showmen's Guild, brought the various parties to the dispute into conference at the Home Office. After exhaustive and careful inquiry, the Home Secretary asked the Corporation to provide a new fair ground, and thus conserve the interests of the showmen. This, to the credit of the Corporation of Leicester, be it said, was done, and after consultation with leading local showmen, a site was fixed upon, and all seemed plain sailing for the settlement of the dispute. Then, however, the tenants, face to face with the loss of their vested interests in the fair on its old ground, massed their forces in the Borough Council, and when the proposal to lease the new fair grounds came before the committee concerned with it the friends of the tenants in the gate were strong enough to throw out the proposal, and so defeat the working compromise between the Corporation and the showmen.

OTHER questions arising out of the conflict of vested interests concerned—such as who should have compensation, the tenant or the owner of the property on the gate—became so difficult that the Home Secretary could find no way out of the matter but by acceding to the Corporation's request to abolish the fair; but this he was reluctant to do.

THE lessees of the fair, which began on the 13th inst. and lasted till Monday, were Messrs P. Collins, Limited, J. Collins, jun., and A. Twigdon, who made arrangements in excellent style, and in order to inaugurate the grounds free attractions were provided by them, notably the performances of Aerlan and Ostara on the flying trapeze, a couple of gymnasts of much daring and smartness, and the sensational high-rope walking of Prince Alexander. There was also a display of fireworks by Messrs W. and J. Wilder, of Birmingham, in the evenings.

THE shows were headed by Bostock and Wombwell's menagerie (No. 2 collection), who paraded through the town on the opening day, with band playing, and attracted the attention of thousands of spectators; Mrs F. Collins's cinématograph, Arthur Twigdon's electograph, James Crighton's cinématograph, Buff Bill's menagerie and lion show, Mrs E Baker's circus, Mr R. Buckley's performing birds and hares, Prof. H. Hughes's boxing saloon, Bob Burden's wrestling ladies, S. Reeder's performing snakes and crocodiles and midget horse show, J. Bliss's giant crocodiles from the Nile, Madame Salva's tattooed wonders and the handcuff king, Cordwell's fine art exhibition, and T. Mateon's Coronation bullock. The machines included P. Collins's, Limited, two sets, the No. 1 racing cockerells and four-abreast horses, A. Twigdon's switchbacks and three-abreast horses, Mrs F. Collins's switchback and juvenile roundabout, J. Collins's bikes, P. Collins, jun.'s, steam yachts, F. Holder's "Sea on Land," T. Jarvis's steam swings, Messrs Chaplain, Neale, and Dobson's juvenile roundabouts, the shooting saloons of Messrs Dobson, Hughes, and Neal, the cokernut sheets of Messrs G. Whyatt, J. Humphreys, E. Humphreys, Mercer, and Cordwell, and Warwick's photograph saloon. All the "fun of the fair" was provided by Messrs Chaplain, Neal, Mercers, Cordwell, Pearson, and others. There were also numerous other attractions.

ONE of the echoes of Nottingham Goose Fair is the economic grumble or rumble of some hasty scribe in the local press. Our old friend, who can see no good in what he is pleased to regard as waste of time and money, is to the fore again, so that following the fair we have the usual tirade against it.

A WRITER to the *Nottingham Daily Press* thus unburdens his economic grief:—

Sir,—Will Nottingham be content to take a back seat behind Leicester and other towns who have had the courage to do away with their so-called fairs, with all their evil concomitants? No; I do not think she will, but will rise up determined to put a stop to an institution that was very useful and profitable in the days when we had no railways and communication between town and country was difficult, and the modes of doing business different, but which now has degenerated into an orgy which is anything but a credit to our good old city. To the tradesmen of the Market-place, who are very large ratepayers, it is a positive and cruel loss, in addition to having an unsettling effect upon our employees. It is much to be wished that public opinion were now ripe enough to allow our City Council to do their duty, and take steps to abolish what has now become a public and costly nuisance. I am, &c.,

ONE OF THE OLDEST AND LARGEST RATEPAYERS IN THE MARKET-PLACE.

And straightway upon this the Editor comments as follows:—

SHOULD GOOSE FAIR BE ABOLISHED

The question has been asked for many years past, and will in all probability be asked for an equal number of years to come. In to-day's columns a correspondent enters his strong protest against the continuance of what he bluntly terms "a public and costly nuisance. He lays stress upon the fact that the fair inflicts a heavy loss upon the tradesmen of the Market-place, whose takings during the three days of the annual carnival show a serious falling off. These business people cannot, under the circumstances, be expected to view the fair with any friendly feelings, but they are in the unfortunate position of being in a minority upon this question. They point out rightly enough that though the fair may have been a useful institution in days before there was railway communication between town and country, it has now degenerated into an affair of pleasure pure and simple, and serves no useful purpose. The majority of the inhabitants, however, do not seem disposed to give up the old historic show. It will disappear in time, no doubt, but the time does not appear to have dawned yet. The first step will probably be the transference of the fair from the Market-place to some other site, and when that is done its days will be numbered. After all, it is a matter which the citizens have in their own hands.

OUR immediate reply is, "What will ye, sirs?" The people enjoy the fair with ever-increasing zest. The people you admit have the power to either continue or to abolish fairs. Well, let the voice of the people prevail. Now a word or two as to the economic heresy of "the largest ratepayer in the market-place." The drawing to the town annually of a hundred thousand people on pleasure bent is an economic gain that makes the small losses of individual traders sink into insignificance. The easement of public burdens by the tolls drawn from the shows—£1,500 for three days only—is a complete economic answer to such grumblers.

FOR answer to the other arguments we commend the critics of the fair to the oft-repeated statements in its favour by corporation officials and the city police. These men know—it is their business to know—and their word is for the fair, and not against it.

COLONEL W. F. CODY with his show paid a visit to Barnsley on the 13th inst. The programme contained some wonderful things and the spectacular attractions evoked much satisfaction. The performance of Colonel Cody, at the head of the Rough Riders of the World, is a thing once seen never to be forgotten. In the feats of shooting the Colonel was ably seconded by Johnny Baker, the celebrated young American marksman. There was also a spice of danger in the startling cycle ride of George C. Davis, the cowboy cyclist, in his wonderful leap through space. The side attractions traveling with the big show are worthy of special mention, and the exhibition throughout is carried on in a most business-like manner.

PORTSMOUTH is to have a "panopticon." Messrs Clarke and Rousby have secured a spacious building in the centre of the town, and as soon as the necessary alterations are completed and the electric light installed it will be opened with "twelve hours of continuous amusement."

ONE of the brightest ideas which we have yet heard of in connection with the difficult problem of making the Cinématograph practicable for the lanternist of modern means is that to which Messrs L. Gaumont and Co., the Cinématograph specialists, of Cecil-court, Charing-cross-road, are now giving a trial. The scheme enables the amateur or professional possessor of a Cinématograph projecting apparatus to hire or loan, on reasonable terms, a large number of Messrs Gaumont's numerous selections of film subjects, so that at the outlay of a guinea per night the private exhibitor can command an inexhaustible supply of film subjects. The "Elge" series of film subjects are well known in every music hall and theatre throughout the country, Messrs Gaumont being the pioneers and prolific producers of sensational, realistic, and, above all, comic pictures, while their collection includes subjects taken by their operators in all parts of the world. For those lanternists who do not already possess a Cinématograph, and who would desire to avail themselves of Messrs Gaumont's enterprise, a high-class Chrono Bioscope at a low figure has been placed on sale. Full particulars may be had on applying to Messrs Gaumont.

THE important fairs next week are Cinderford, Skegness, and Market Drayton on the 24th, Gainsborough on the 25th, Ely on the 27th, Exmouth, Great Marlow, Horncastle, Totnes, Warminster, Wellington, and Wigan on the 28th, Falmouth and Rotherham on the 29th, and Selkirk on the 31st.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I should be glad if you can make it known through *The Era* that I have just sustained a fearful loss. Just before midnight on Saturday our place was discovered on fire, and we barely escaped with our lives. In fact, my wife and baby were injured as she jumped down the stairs through the dense smoke. No time to save a single thing; everything went, clothes, money, exhibition, and my conjuring tricks and apparatus, testimonials, press opinions, and things I have collected, and that were priceless to me. Only time to get out with our lives, and 2s. 3d. in my pocket. The fire spread to other premises, and several other buildings were destroyed, doing nearly £30,000 damage. I am partially covered with insurance, but policies, both fire and life, were destroyed. In the meanwhile, I have not a penny to live on, and we have not a thing to put on, only what we have on, and no money to buy anything. If you can make this known, and my address, perhaps some kind friends will give or send me a little financial help at once. Through the kindness of Mrs Jenkins here we have a shelter. Of course I may have to wait weeks for settlement of insurance, but then I shall lose over £320. Trusting you will do what you can. Not a trace left of my waxwork novelty and exhibition, only a mass of bricks and mortar, as the walls have fallen in. Yours faithfully,

H. FRANK LIND, F.O.S.

Care of Mrs Jenkins, 25, Percy-street,
Blyth, Northumberland.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

TOM CRAVEN'S GAG BOOK.

"To gag or not to gag" is not *the* question at all on the variety stage; for the well-chosen wheeze is an absolute necessity to the irresponsible comedian; it is in most cases the chief factor in his success. No comedian, indeed, who has been raised by the worship of the British public to the position of a star can afford to do without it; and therefore the aspirant will invariably endeavour to win fame by it. Wheezes, too, save the voice and often the song, though it is a waste of material to bolster up a weak number with smart patter. On the theatrical stage gags have often done much for the author's reputation, though Mr W. S. Gilbert has sternly denounced them. As an instance of their usefulness we may give as an example the part of Lurcher in *Dorothy*. The original lines of the librettist did not give much opportunity to Mr Arthur Williams; but he gradually built up the part, and the success of the opera was largely due to the prominence he gave to it.

Mr Tom Craven is another persistent gagger, and who that has heard him take the "dear readers" into his confidence as an ancient and woebegone washerwoman can help laughing at the recollection of the clever series of gags uttered by that worthy lady. Mr Craven has now published the "dear readers" series and a large number of other gags which he tabulates under the heads of "Things he has said," "Wheezes he has wheezed," and "Old Chestnuts upon which he has put new skins." Most of his jokelets, he tells us in an "author's note" to his unpretentious book, were issued (by voice or print) "by my father or myself; and as my venerable dad [Mr H. T. Craven, author of *Meg's Diversion* and numerous other plays] will soon be a nonagenarian, and started such little offences at the early age of ten, the man who lays claim to that which I deem mine—by the law of inheritance or invention—must be older than some of the gags herein introduced."

"Some Individuals I Have Met" is a smart and amusing series of monologues to be found in this entertaining book, and they may be highly recommended to the amateur, who will be able to astonish his best friends at a private party by the apparent brilliancy of his imagination. Pantomime comedians should likewise find a wealth of material wherewith to embellish the skeletons of their parts. There are tall stories worthy of Baron Munchausen; there are many droll brevities; and there is doggerel galore. Therefore one may dip into the little volume at any page and discover a laugh. The price of the "gag-book" is one shilling, and it is published by Samuel French, Limited, 26, Southampton-street, Strand, W.C.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs Oct. 8. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding, goal; A. Cox and A. Hamlin (captain), backs; R. Slade, F. Stevens, and A. E. Bailey, half-backs; P. Rewlett, H. Edwardes, E. Belding, E. Bowman, and J. Aubrey, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; F. Arnl and T. Denton, backs; T. Neagle (captain), J. Lacey, and W. Hinder, half-backs; P. Reardon, B. Cullen, H. C. Douglas, F. Hansford, and W. Meadows, forwards.

Referee, D. O'Connor (of Music Halls A.F.C.) Linesmen, H. Hare and J. Stuart. Bristol X L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, nil; Music Halls A.F.C., nil. H. Belding and F. B. Nicholls played splendidly in goal.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN" COMPANY AND THEATRE v. TRADESMEN.—Played at Nelson on Tuesday, ending in a victory for the former by two goals to one. The "Between Two Women" Company and Theatre team included Messrs F. Rilings, T. Ealin, J. Broughton, H. Marlow, and J. Sheppard, forwards; W. Metcalfe, F. Morgan, and C. Stewart, half-backs; G. Wood and H. Lee, backs; J. Bell, goal.

MESSRS LITTLE AND DARCY'S COMPANIES—"EXECUTIONER'S DAUGHTER" v "ON THE STROKE OF TWELVE"—Played on Yoker Football Ground, Clydebank, on Oct. 14. Referee, Councillor M'Ghee, Esq. Half-time:—"On the Stroke of Twelve," two; "Executioner's Daughter," one. Final:—"On the Stroke of Twelve," four; "Executioner's Daughter," four. Ended in a draw, after an exciting game, before 600 spectators.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

SHOWMEN IN COUNCIL.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

Advantage was taken of the large gathering of showmen and fair ground amusement caterers at Houghton-le-Spring Feast last week, to hold the annual meeting of the North of England Amalgamated Showmen, Stallholders', and Amusement Caterers' Society. There was a crowded meeting, and great enthusiasm in the good cause of trade defence and organisation. The outgoing officers were heartily thanked for their services, and the following elections took place:—President, Mr Robert Mackney; Vice-President, Mr Geo. Halliday; and with them were elected a new staff of committeemen:—Mr Geo. Gray, Sen., was re-elected treasurer, and Mr Thos. Hartshorn, of Hetton-le-Hole, Co. Durham, was re-elected secretary. On the Sunday evening of the fair week, a public meeting was held in the Miners' Hall, and a crowded attendance of all classes of showmen and their friends was the result. The new President, Mr Robert Mackney, of Mackney's Theatre of Varieties and Ghost Illusion, presided, supported by the members of the Executive Committee. After heartily welcoming those present he called upon their undefatigable secretary Mr Thomas Hartshorn to give his annual report and statement of the society's work.

Mr HARTSHORN, in a cogent and well-reasoned speech, dwelt upon the origination of their trade defence movement in the north of England. He strongly advocated the co-operation and union of all Fairground interests. The very life and well-being of the whole body of open-air amusement caterers depended upon the recognition of the truth that unity is strength. He felt sure that the outcome of that meeting would be good, not only to their own people on the fairgrounds of the North of England, but also to the showman world at large. Referring to the work of the Showman Guild, he pointed out the serious results that must have followed had the Gateshead Corporation obtained the Home Secretary's sanction to the proposed new bye-laws dealing with their business. Only by union and organised vigilance could such dangers be dealt with and averted.

Mr GEO. HALLIDAY, vice-president, was the next speaker, and gave his hearers practical proof, in facts and figures, of the way in which the society had benefited him in reduced ground rents and trade protection.

Mr JOHN HANCOCK, late president, speaking for the executive committee of the past year, detailed the excellent work done in the interests of the people of the fairground and their patrons.

Mr GEO. GRAY, sen., treasurer, followed with a capital speech, covering the same ground as Mr Hartshorn, and urging the claims of the Showmen's Guild for support, not only as being the pioneer society, but also on account of its increasing influence and general usefulness.

After a meeting lasting over two hours a hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the chairman by Mr J. W. GRAY, seconded by Mr A. NEWSOME, and supported by Messrs J. Williams and Walker Hoadley.

Mr W. HOADLEY suggested that the committee should endeavour to practically carry out the policy of united action, so ably advocated by their energetic secretary and the other speakers.

Thus ended one of the finest meetings in the North of England advocating the interests of showmen. We congratulate the president and officers of this vigorous and well-managed society. From all who have been on the Great North Round this year hear nothing but good of its principles and work. Men like George Gray, John Hancock, George Halliday, Geo. Gray, jun., and T. Hartshorn (sec.) have done great labour in the cause of trade union and defence.

THE BRITANNIA.

Important changes are imminent in connection with the management of the Britannia, but in the meantime the variety form of entertainment continues to afford considerable enjoyment to the patrons of the famous house. Half a century ago the Britannia was flourishing as a notable place of entertainment, and it is interesting to refer for a moment to the programme for the corresponding week of 1854 and ascertain what were the attractions then offered to Hoxtonians. The late Mrs Sara Lane was playing the part of Sally Swinton, in a military piece called *The Corporal's Daughter*, and with her was associated "the celebrated juvenile vocalist and actress, Miss Clara St. Casse." There was also "the astonishing performance of Herr Christoff, from Astley's, on the Cord Elastique;" a popular melodrama called *Ankle Jack; or, St. Crispin's Day;* and a "divertissement" in which dances were the principal feature. Truly a diversified bill-of-fare, in distinct contrast to the programme which is now submitted twice nightly. The turns are mostly single and double ones; but an exception is the comical sketch played by the troupe consisting of Rice, Rose Davis, and the Half. The fraud practised on a middle-aged householder in mortal dread of burglars is the cause of much hearty merriment. An enterprising but thoroughly unscrupulous individual palms off upon his victim a patent burglar alarm, employing a black boy to blow a horn, manipulate a rattle, and fire off a pistol—all these sounds being supposed to proceed from a small box in which the machinery is concealed. When the fraud is discovered the ingenious vendor of the alarm finds himself in an awkward position. The sketch is received with much favour. The couple known as the Austins give a smart juggling performance, one of them appearing in a grotesque costume, and introducing some capital burlesque business. The clever way in which a lighted lamp is handled is particularly noteworthy. The Two Gems are lady duettists, the subject of whose song is the merits and demerits of their respective husbands. One has the good fortune to have an irreproachable partner, while the other has a "hubby" whose ways are certainly open to severe criticism. Walker and Lane are excellent comedians and patterers, a reference to Dr. Bodie (who was here a few weeks ago) being particularly happy. The Endlos, a lady and gentleman, open with some burlesque conjuring, the former showing, apparently unconsciously, "how it is done." They afterwards give a display of their ability as experts on the swinging rings, finally taking firm hold of each other and revolving in a manner suggestive of a human windmill. The Devonports make their mark as silent magicians and illusionists. The gentleman performs a variety of tricks in dexterous fashion, and the lady is exceedingly skilful in her manipulation of cards, which appear and disappear in the most extraordinary manner to the bewilderment of all beholders. Mr Peter Kelly, comedian, obtains a favourable hearing, and Miss Marie Sennette, a dainty and refined comedienne, sings in excellent style "There's nobody loves little me." Baroux and Bion do well as excellent acrobats, their burlesque boxing being specially effective in exciting the mirth of the audience. Other items in the programme include Nellie Howard and Willie Collinson, in their absurdity *The Porter and the Parcel*, and an interesting series of animated pictures. Mr A. R Hollands is the resident-manager, and the orchestra is under the direction of Mr J. Bodin.

AT the Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy, Miss Marie Menzies and company are appearing this week in *A Rogue's Daughter*. As Letty Grey Miss Menzies displays exceptional talent, and is well supported by Mr Wills as Sir George Mynard and Mr Wilfred Blair as Frank Tyler. As Colonel Foster, Mr Richard Ferris proves himself a thoroughly capable actor. Mr Will Wilson and Miss Millie Doris as Ebenezer Dunnem and Priscilla Jenkins keep the house in great merriment

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 12.)

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—Mr C. Finch-Hatton's company is occupying the boards here this week in *When London Sleeps*. David Engleheart is manfully depicted by Mr Tom Ronald; Mr R. S. Trelawney is very successful as Captain Haynes; Sammy Blyth and the Hon. Bertie Broomhead are amusing characters in the hands of Mr D'Arcy Kelway and Mr Charles Digby; Mr Fuller and Bob Jones are parts successfully presented by Mr N. Wheatley, jun., and Mr Paul Graydon; Queenie Carruthers is pleasingly impersonated by Miss Ella Sennett; Hilda Carode receives careful treatment from Miss Grace Baring; and Miss Young as Carrie, Miss Daisy Clifford as Maudie, and Miss Lee as Mrs Jones give capable help.

SHEERNESS.

VICTORIA PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. C. Dorling.—Miss Lena Stanton and company opened here on Monday with the musical extravaganza *The Belle of Bangalore*, which has proved a great attraction. Included also amongst the variety turns are Little Keeno, comedian; Rynfeld, the bender; the Sisters Veli, and the Cecil Troupe of dancers.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME — Sole Proprietor, Mr T. G. Transfield; Secretary, Mr Tony Transfield.—A capital all-round bill is presented here this week, and includes Mr Alf Barker, with his troupe of performing dogs and ponies. Mr Wm. Tudor and his Miniature Circus are also remaining for another week. A welcome addition to the programme is furnished by Mr Barney Stuart in a variety of impersonations of famous characters. The remaining excellent turns include Mr Geo. Rapley, comedian; Miss Florrie Willmott, vocalist and dancer; and Walter Emmerson, comedian. With his usual generosity the esteemed proprietor set apart Friday evening for the benefit of the Club Union Convalescent Home at Pegwell Bay.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr P. Reymond.—The popular dramatic sketches by the Calden company continue to give general satisfaction to the patrons of this cosy little hall. Amongst others in the bill are Snowdon and Conway, duettists; Miss Marie St. Ives, serio and dancer; Mr Hal Vernon, comedian; and Horner and Fox, comedy artistes.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—The amusing musical comedy *The Girl from Kay's* was again played to a large house on Monday by Mr George Dance's company. Mr H. C. Barry's alert method and abilities as a genuine mirth-provider enabled him to score quite easily in the part of Hoggenheimer. Very funny also was Mr Leslie R. Cathie in the diverting character of Percy Fitzthistle, and Mr Fred Rolph caused amusement as the Hall-porter. Miss Simeta Marsden, a favourite at the Royal, was quite in her element in the title-rôle, and she acted, sang, and danced with her usual grace and vivacity. Miss Alice Russon was a pretty and tuneful Nora Chalmers, and Miss Florence Plunkett sang with taste and expression as Ellen.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—Mr George Edwardes's exquisite taste as a producer of refined and beautiful spectacular entertainment was again demonstrated here on Monday, when a crowded and enthusiastic audience welcomed *The Cingalee*. Mr Frank Danby fairly revelled in the part of Chambhuddy Ram, and the house roared at his verbal mistakes and his eccentric mannerisms. Mr Leedham Bantock acted and sang in his usual quietly humorous manner as the Eastern ruler; and Mr W. J. Manning submitted another amusing society sketch in Sir Peter Loftus. Familiar musical comedy types were the Harry Vereker of Mr Harold Thornley and the Bobbie Wilson of Mr Jack Cannot. Miss Anna Hickisch acted and sang brilliantly as Lady Patricia. Miss Florence Smithson was a beautiful little Nanoya, and captured all hearts. Miss Eva Sandford was a delightful Peggy Sabine.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—Mr Charles Lubbock's company opened to a good house on Monday in the Drury-lane spectacular melo-farce, entitled *The Flood-Tide*. The paddock episode appealed strongly to the Yorkshire sporting instinct, and the exciting Flood scene was loudly applauded. Mr Maitland Marler made a humorous George Washington Clipp.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The accomplished and handsome Miss Winifred Hare is starring here this week, and other artistes billed are Ernest Rees, a funny comedian; the M'Kays, comedians; the Mayvilles, in a novel act; Tatten Hall, comique; Henry Kaiser, the Outlaw Trio, the Max Welson troupe, Mons. Rafayette, Phillips and Terry, F. Lynne, and Miss Myra Stansfield, serio-comedienne.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—The great attraction here this week has been the favourite comedian, Mr Harry Tate, in his screamingly comical *Motoring* sketch.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Mr Frederick E. Philpott's strong company is playing *The Girl from Japan* here this week. Mr S. Lockridge acts and sings well as Lord Allenbury; Mr Alfred Wood merits praise as Sir Mulberry Flippington; Mr Percy Baverstock is amusing as General Baugh; Mr Ernest Spalding is a droll and clever cleric as the Rev. John Smith; Mr Tom E. Sinclair acts with ability as Horatio Blinks; Mr Chas. L. Ludlow infuses plenty of life into the part of Bingle; and Mr H. Benson makes a good Hans Creton. Miss Nellie Valentine is effective and tuneful as Violet Meadows; Miss Madie Scott is attractive as Maud; Miss Nellie Parker Dent makes a capable Lady Flippington; Miss Nellie Jackson as Polly Perkins is vivacious; and Miss Bessie Deane acts creditably the part of the Countess De La Rue. The Sisters Violet are a couple of agile and well-trained dancers, and a clever sand dance by Miss Lillie English is enthusiastically applauded.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—Mr Robert Arthur's company is here this week in his military drama entitled *One of the Best*, and the play is supported by about fifty soldiers as supernumeraries. Mr Stanley Bedwell gives a capital impersonation of Dudley Kepple, and is ably supported by Mr E. Bellenden Clarke in the rôle of Philip Elsworth. Mr H. F. Maltby gives prominence to the character of Lieut.-General Coventry, and Mr George Hart's portrayal of Sir Archibald M'Gregor is capital. The Rev. Dr. Penrose finds a good exponent in Mr Wilfred Beckworth; Mr W. Templer Powell as Jules De Gruchy is good; Mr Chas. Medwin gives a neat character sketch of Jason Jupp; Mr Herbert Darnley wins favour as Private Jupp; Miss Helen Haye well represents Esther Coventry; Miss Lilla Norden is amusing as Kitty Spencer; and Mrs Spencer is capitally played by Miss Nellie Gilmore.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Mr Arnold Bell and company in the evergreen *Ben-My-Chree* are fulfilling a return visit to delighted audiences. Mr Arnold Bell repeats his excellent exposition of the wayward Dan Mylrea. Miss Francis Campbell proves herself an admirable actress as Mona Mylrea, and Miss Violet Campbell is a sprightly Kitty. Mr Dan Farrough, a local favourite, ably depicts Mr Harcourt; Mr H. M. Clifford deserves more than passing notice as Gilchrist; and a like remark applies to the Davy Fayle of Mr William Reid. Messrs F. C. Robson, Frank C. Robson, and Joe Bardsley appear creditably in their respective parts of Ewan Mylrea, Thorkell Mylrea, and Hommy-Beg. Miss Lilian Earle, as Liza Teare, renders "Mona" effectively. *The Shaughraun*, with Mr Bell as Conn, was staged on Friday.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Mr R. H. Douglass, monologue artiste, heads this week's bill, and his clever character sketches prove an enjoyable item. The Tribune Trio, who appear in their laughable sketch, *A Cheerful Idiot*, are grotesquely amusing. In response to a rousing encore, the Sisters Iris, the popular Jack and Jill of last year's pantomime, render "Bedella" in dainty fashion. The patter and laughing duet of the Brothers Obo are appreciated. An enthusiastic reception greeted Les Voces for their rendition of two pretty ballads and a charming duet. Baker and Balfe, xylophone experts; the Olive Trio, characteristic comediennes; the Sisters Devona, aerial artistes; and Alf Bishop, comedian; furnish the remaining turns.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—An eccentric juggler of more than ordinary ability is Mike Gray, and, assisted by his acrobatic dog Dooley, he is accorded a warm reception. The favourite Tyneside comedian, Harry Nelson, is decidedly funny. Frank Coyne is another praiseworthy comedian. The Yorkshire Mill Girls, ballad vocalists, give a neat entertainment. Violet Wilton is a smart comedienne and dancer. Harry Bancroft's vocal efforts cause all round satisfaction, and Walter Emmerson, comedian, and Will Candlish, styled the black emperor, provide mirth-provoking items.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company is delighting audiences here this week with a capital presentation of *A Sailor's Sweetheart*. Mr Alfred Goddard is an excellent Lieut. Charles Clive. As Grace Mayland Miss Ada Burton acquits herself ably, her sweet manner and earnest and pathetic delivery evoking hearty applause. Mr Charles Stafford and Mr William Stoneham as Admiral Sefton and Captain Mayland are good. Mr C. A. Johnstone is a praiseworth Vicar of St. Faith's, and a capital representative of the unscrupulous and vindictive Philip Pemberton is found in Robert Faulkner. Tim Kelly, A.B., has a most acceptable exponent in Mr Edward Millins, whose drolleries, together with those of Mrs J. W. Braithwaite (Mrs Pembury) are very enjoyable. Miss Evelyn Shaw is well placed as Phoebe Pembury; Mr C. Douglas Carlisle is clever as Stephen Lucas; and Mr Arthur C. Blunt is good as Mr Pinkson.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.— Another welcome reappearance is being made here this week by *A Chinese Honeymoon* through the medium of one of Mr George Dance's companies. Miss M. Sadie enacts the rôle of Fi-Fi admirably, being full of fun; Miss Marie Adair submits a praiseworthy portrayal of So-So, her singing being greatly appreciated; and as Mrs Pineapple Miss Jose Collins scores a success. Mr Harry Brayne infuses the quintessence of jollity and liveliness into his rendering of Mr Pineapple; Mr Leonard May is equally successful as Hi Lung; Messrs Frank A. Wood, Percy Yorke, and P. A. Turner are capitally cast as the Emperor, Tom Hatherton, and the Lord Chancellor respectively, and a meed of praise is due to Miss Alice Drummond for the excellent manner in which she plays Mrs Brown.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—The leading feature here this week is the Six Brothers Luck, who keep the house in roars with their pantomime *Hotel Grande*. The Albano Troupe give an exceedingly clever musical turn; Mr Will Saunders is a grotesque comedian; Jack and Evelyn (old favourites) are rapturously received in their singing and nimble dancing; Wilfred is a contortionist of more than average ability; the Lynches (Joe and Nell) give an astounding display with the rifle; Mr Tom Owen scores as a comedian; and Bromley and Fontein give an excellent and amusing turn as operatic humourists.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—With Mr George Dance's principal company, in *The School Girl*, appearing here this week for the first time, it was quite in the order of things for Mr Revill's theatre to be crowded throughout the week with fashionable audiences. Mr Leslie Holland as Sir Ormesby St. Leger, Mr Chas. Adeson as General Marchmont, and Mr Alfred Leslie as Tubby Bedford are a trio who provide genuine amusement. Miss Gracie Sinclaire as Cicely Marchmont sings most charmingly, and Miss Lulu Bonney makes a delightful Miss Remington; whilst Miss Grace Wixon as Mrs Marchmont, and Mits Nell Hope as Saafreda are very pleasing.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—This establishment is occupied this week by the Harry H. Hamilton's Excursions, showing a series of pictures relative to the Russo-Japanese War, in addition to an excellent variety entertainment.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—After a long absence we are being visited again by Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company in the high-class drama *The Silver King*. As Wilfred Denver Mr Lauderdale Maitland is impressive, and carefully brings forth the pathetic features of the part; Mr E. J. George is still the Daniel Jalkes to the life; and Mr W. V. Garrod makes a very intense villain as Captain Herbert Skinner, the "Spider." Mr Arthur Wright's Elijah Coombe is very cleverly done, and Mr Philip Renout's Henry Corket is also good. Miss Lillian Bethel's Nellie Denver is acted with a simple pathos which is very telling, and Miss Lorna Treherne's Olive Skinner is quite successful. Other characters are all adequately presented.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr John Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—A thoroughly good programme is given at this popular house, and includes Nellie Gannon, character vocalist; H. K. Bradshaw, a capable tenor; Harry Wright, in successful songs; Fatmah Diard, an excellent soprano; Payne's Bioscope, showing "The Stowaway" and other films; Mdlle. Rozi's dog circus, introducing many novel features; Fred Karno's company in that funny pantomime sketch *Hilarity*; and the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs in their wonderfully clever acrobatic show.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—Mr Collins once more presents to his patrons a fine programme. This week Miss Harriett Vernon heads the bill, and is loudly applauded for her contributions. Miss Vernon is heard to distinct advantage in the pretty ballad "Only to be a child again." Another turn of excellence is Billy Farrell, whose patter causes roars of laughter. Patty Yole dances admirably; Ben Nevis is a comedian worthy of the name; Bliss and Bliss, duettists, contribute a turn of excellence; Mdlle. Luba De Sarema introduces her performing bull, ponies, and dogs, whose training is far above the average; and the Bioscope shows some good pictures. Mr Frank Egerton, the manager here, has gained the confidence of the public with his excellent programmes, and all the stars of the variety firmament are to appear week by week.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Business-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr Tom B. Davis's company, in *Florodora*, is paying another visit here this week. Mr Edward Lewis as Professor Tweedlepunch causes continued merriment; Mr Leonard Russell is a first-class Frank Abercoed; while Miss Lena Maitland is good as Dolores. Mr Fred Winn as Gilfain, Miss Isabella Dillon as Lady Holyrood, and Miss Hilda Dugdale as Angela Gilfain do their work well.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; General Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Lingford Carson and Granville's company, in *A Modern Adventuress*, occupies the boards here this week. Mr Leonard Aardale plays admirably as Pietro. As Harry Delby Mr Charles Stirling's acting is also commendable, and Miss Beatrice M. Anderson sustains the rôle of the adventuress excellently. Miss Alice Defoe as Vivette, Miss Mimi Fisher as Sally Hodges, Mr W. R. Winning as Wallace Danton, and Mr G. P. Lester as a bluff Yorkshireman are all worthy of mention.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—Arthur Lennard, vocal comedian, renders in pleasing manner his latest songs. The O'Brien Brothers are clever bar performers. Howard and St. Clair submit an amusing sketch. Bob Vokes, favourite comedian; Venie Clements, comedienne; the Four Scandias, gymnasts; Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne; and the Sisters Oswald also contribute.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce.—*Two Little Vagabonds* have been paying us a return visit during the week with Hardie and Von Leer's company, and a capital house on Monday gave them a hearty welcome. Dick and Wally were exceedingly well played by Miss May Hart and Miss Dorothy Marsdin; George and Marion Thornton were admirably represented by Mr J. W. Henson and Miss Laura Hansen; Captain Darville and John Scarth were in the capable hands of Mr Wolston Foster and Mr Basil Hillier; and Barbara Scarth, Bill Mullens the Gaffer, and Biddy Mullens were ably accounted for by Miss Nell Oliver, Mr Alfred Russell, and Miss Marie Pritchard respectively. The drama was admirably staged.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—Mr Ben Laudeck's stirring military drama *A Soldier and a Man* has been the attraction at this house during the week, played by Mr A. Clifton Alderson and company.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—An excellent programme is put on here this week with the following artistes:—Tom Costello, an excellent comedian, and a strong favourite here; Jessie Albini, very successful in her descriptive songs; the Two Bees, in their successful scena *Hiawatha*; Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins, a clever variety pair; Arthur Rigby, a capital and popular comedian; the Wheelers, quaint and clever cyclists; the Baldwin Bros., a trio of smart American acrobats; Frank Maura, remarkable foot equilibrist; and Wal Pink and company, in their well-acted sketch *Uncle's Wife*.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Personal Manager, Mr Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr F. H. Lucas.—*The Girl from Japan* concluded a heavy and successful week here on Saturday, and was followed by Messrs Dottridge and Longden's *The Midnight Mail* company, under the personal direction of Mr James Willard. The piece was adequately staged under the management of Mr Alec Alves, who was also seen to distinct advantage as Leonard Royle. The important part of Harry Steyne gave Mr George Havard many excellent opportunities for displaying his abilities as an actor; Mr Fred G. Evison submitted a particularly strong portrayal of the part of Bill Brewer; and Mr Arthur Gilroy cleverly depicted the despicable schemings of Hassan Padisha. Miss Ada Oakley undertook the part of Harry Steyne's devoted wife with commendable judgment, and Miss Mildred Carr's excellent impersonation of Nancy Brewer fully deserved the applause it gained.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

OPERA HOUSE —Sole Lessee, Captain Welton Dale; Acting-Manager, Mr Edgar Manaton.—To celebrate the second anniversary of this house a revival of *Our Boys* has been presented here this week with the popular lessee in one of his early rôles as Talbot Champneys. The Captain had a great reception and a magnificent horseshoe was handed across the footlights to wish him good luck on entering his third year of management, while a large basket of flowers was presented Miss Muriel Godfrey-Turner, who in the part of Cousin Mary, thoroughly won the sympathies of the audience. Mr David James as the Butterman was, of course, as successful as ever, while Mr Milroy Cooper gave an excellent study of the aristocratic Sir Geoffrey. Mr James Gelderd was excellent as Middlewick's son, while Miss Nina Herbert as the heiress, and Miss Ethel Greythorpe as the aunt, both contributed clever comedy sketches, and Miss Gertrude De Burgh as the lodging-house slavey in the third act was irresistibly humorous. Mr Edgar Manaton, who made his début on the local stage and had a warm welcome from all parts of the house, and Mr Alfred Harding completed the cast.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr Cecil Barth's company is here in the play *An Actor's Romance*. Mr Guy Hastings gives a capital portrayal as Harold Davenport; Mr Ernest Ruston is a capable Robert Livingstone; Mr Percy Marmont is successful as Jack Woolford; Mr E. H. Dorrell wins fame as Charlie Cummings; Mr John Detlev is able as Isidore De Valois; Mr Albert Wainwright does well as the detective John Lennon; Lottie Davenport is effectively depicted by Miss Bertha Northam; Miss Constance Elgin submits fine dramatic power as Florence Hastings; Dottie Dillingham is daintily and sweetly played by Miss May Charteris; and Miss Marie Ada Dowsing displays ability as little Phyllis Davenport.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome Company, Limited; Business-Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—This place of entertainment reopened on Monday last, when the following company appeared:—Miss Nellie Randall, comedienne; Mr Charles Pleoner, comedian; Clyo and Rochelle, comical comedy couple; Little Uno, boy comedian, who sings well; Messrs Keen and Wallad, smart acrobats; Woolford's miniature circus; Mr Claude Ginnett's highly amusing equestrian sketch, *Rejected Remounts*; and Professor Barnes's Bioscope.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Mr Fred Karno's comedians are here this week in the highly diverting musical comedy *Saturday to Monday*. Mr Charles Dillon as John Willie Jaggs is a comedian of the first water; Mr Douglas Fox as Tom Freeman has a good voice, and is encored for several songs; and Mr Walton Shale as Mr Blake is well placed.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Professor Inman Hocking is creating wonderment amongst the habitués of this house with his wonderful feats of hypnotism; Harrigan and Holt are a clever pair of comedians; and Charles Best scores well in his act, "M'Bunker the Mountebank." Baby Macfarlane is a clever juvenile, and George Mack wins favour with a round of humorous songs. Carr and Rose are humorous duettists, and the Royal Bioscope depicts several good pictures.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Limited; General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Messrs W. T. Elworthy and J. Buskley's company is here in *The Unforeseen*. The Rev. Walter Maxwell won golden opinions as Mr W. T. Elworthy. Mr Leonard Pagden submitted an excellent performance as Henry Traquair. Capt. Richard Haynes as Mr Escott Robson was distinctive, and his effective style well suited the character. Mr Brember Wills played General Sir Archibald Fielding well, and Robert was successfully portrayed by Mr Sam Wilkinson. Miss Kathleen Maitland was charming and vivacious as Beatrice, and Miss Helen Norries was natural and tactful as Miss Campion Parr. As the Maid Miss Ada Heathcote was well cast, and as Margaret Fielding Miss Beth Elliott acted with ability.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr Penfold Field's company opened here on Monday with *Fatal Fortune*. Mr Harry Farrell makes an excellent Jack Weston; Mr Elliott Ball is most successful as Captain Seton Desmond; Mr Dalton J. Bosher is well suited to the part of Daniel Salmon; Miss Madeline Clifford is all that can be desired as Mary Weston; and Miss Madge Seton is a capital Elizabeth J. Tintop.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—Mr William A. Armour's company is appearing this week in Mr F. Marriott-Watson's *What a Woman Did*. Mr William A. Armour gives a capital account of the young Conrad De L'Orme; Mr Kenneth Smith is a malignant Marquis De Viray; a hearty representative of Fritz Von Hœitheim is found in Mr Will Simpson; Mr Cyril Dundas appears successfully as Peter Pippin; and Mr Owen Edwin is good as Pitou. As Elise De L'Orme Miss Phyllis Hatherleigh acts with alternate passion and pathos, Miss Elsie Day is a handsome Julie Valois, and Miss Emmie Beauclerc an engaging Terese Hervé. Mr Armour's business manager is Mr Hal Cummings, and Mr Victor Gordon is acting-manager.

PALACE. — Managing Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slatter.—The programme at this handsome house for the present week contains several items of exceptional merit. Miss Kittie Bell gives a Highland dance with great nimbleness and neatness. An immense favourite is Mr Alix Lukos, actor-vocalist, whose song, "Faces in the Fire," introduces imitations and reminiscences. One of the most successful turns on the bill is the Finneys (James and Marie), whose graceful aquatic performance evokes loud and prolonged applause. Miss Rita Resdan, one of the best male impersonators we have, renders her songs in fine style, one of them, in which the artiste "takes off" the vagaries of a certain noble marquis, being especially successful. Dandy George and his dog Rosie repeat to the admiration of the audience a dainty performance. Mr Ian Colquhoun's fine voice is heard to advantage in the ever-welcome "Off to Philadelphia." The programme has a hilarious wind-up in *The Bricklayers* by the Bolsset Troupe.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Mr W. H. Hallatt and company in the romantic drama entitled *Two Little Sailor Boys* is here this week. Mr W. H. Hallatt plays the important part of Commander Noel Tregarthen in capital style; Mr Leonard Booker as Lieut. Redstone and Mr Edward Warden as Captain Tom Yorke are exceptionally clever in their respective parts; and Admiral Grey is ably rendered by Mr Geo. Cecil Murray. Miss Blanche Steele acts in an admirable manner the rôle of Lola Grey; Miss Marie Daventry as Mildred Grey is warmly applauded; and Miss Hilda Taylor as Lucy Wilson and Miss Dorothy Lennox as Marie Primrose are also very good. Miss May Day as Cyril Grey and Miss Frances as Tom Yorke do excellent work.

WELLINGBOROUGH.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Mr F. R. Benson's North company paid another visit here for three nights, appearing with marked success in *The Taming of the Shrew*, *As You Like It*, and *Hamlet*. In the first-named Mr Henry Herbert was excellent as Petruchio, and Miss Dorothy Green acquitted herself admirably as Katherina. Mr B. Limpus was an attractive Lucentio, and a very good Baptista was found in Mr F. Owen Chambers. Miss Christie Lawes, Bianca; Mr Arthur Fayne, Gremio; Mr R. W. Senior, Grumio, and others were all able interpreters of the text.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—*In Dark Siberia* is being presented this week by Mr F. Jarman's company. A well-studied picture of the hero, Captain Victor Gordon, is presented by Mr Fred W. Mussett, and Princess Natalie has a capable exponent in Miss Helen M'Cullock. Other artists in the cast who may be singled out for mention are Miss Cecilia Ransome, Miss M. Clements, Miss Kate Osborne, Mr Harry Skinner, and Mr Charles Osborne.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—The list of artists is headed by Will H. Fox in his clever satire, *Paddywhisti*. Another specially strong treat in the musical line is the performance given by Edmund Bosanquet in his Musical Séance and Illuminated Excerpts. T. B. Fayme is a Yorkshire comedian of some note, and his popularity here is marked. The Brothers Ashley, in the comedy boxing sketch *Next, Please!* are also popular favourites. Florence Gwynne, with sweet voice and taking style, renders a scena entitled *The Stage-Struck Servant*; and other pleasing members in a strong programme are submitted by Johnny Holland and Company in their adsurdity, *My Friend the Boots*; The Brothers Harlem, expert bâton manipulators and sand dancers; and Harry Albery in amusing comedy.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Payne.—Mr T. Arthur Jones and company are appearing here this week in the sensational drama, *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Miss Madge Morley looked remarkably handsome as Doreen Rivers, and her impersonation of the character was full of dramatic power and pathos. Mr T. Arthur Jones's interpretation of the hero, Captain Harold Marston, was a truly artistic one. Mr A. Bartlett Garth gave a fine portrayal of the villainous Dr. Colbrook, and Mr G. R. Austin did good work as Kimberley Coutts. Mr Arthur E. Andrews as Bob Tanner and Miss Sara Dudley as Bess Grayson were both extremely humorous performances. Miss Amy Rudd was an excellent Fay Colbrooke, and Mr Charles Sewell (Ernie Wodstone), and Mr C. Vernon Proctor (Rev. Edward Gray) deserve unstinted praise.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton; General Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—Mr Tree's répertoire company is here this week, appearing in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Twelfth Night*, and *Julius Cæsar*. The first-named play was represented on Monday in first-class style before a crowded and enthusiastic house, including the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr and Mrs J. S. Cook), and many other leading citizens. The whole company is a remarkably well-balanced one. The two "merry wives," Mistress Ford and Mistress Page, were admirably impersonated by Miss Constance Collier and Miss Cicely Richards, whose archness and vivacity were superbly displayed, to the discomfiture of Sir John Falstaff (Mr Eardley Turner) and Master Ford (Mr Wm. Haviland). Both these gentlemen were extremely clever in their respective parts, and the same may be said of Miss M. Halstan as Sweet Anne Page, Mr H. Bunston as Master Page, Mr A. Bruce as Dr. Caius, Mr A. Machen as Justice Shallow, and Mr R. I. Penny as Master Slender.

WEST STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Lindon.—Mr Alfred B. Cross and company are doing well here this week with *The Manxman*. Mr A. B. Cross gives a fine exposition of the character of Pete, and as Kate Cregan Miss Minnie Waterford is most pleasing. Mr Richard Vane is an able Philip Christian, and the part of Cæsar Cregan is well filled by Mr Hilton Francis.

WIDNES.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr James Kiddie; Manager, Mr T. Swinton.—Mr J. Gar Kiddie's company, *A Chinese Idyl*, is the attraction here this week. Mr Fred Danvers is successful in the rôle of the Viceroy, and Mr Dawson Dewick as Tanga Lang proves himself a capable artist. Miss Emmie Milstead as Princess Stephanie sings some pretty coon songs, and Miss Mabel Mainwaring lends considerable charm to the part of Pitti Pat, whose lover, Lieutenant West, has a smart and promising representative in Mr F. H. Dundas. The Henriques give a clever acrobatic performance.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—The pantomimical farce, *His Majesty's Guests*, has been presented during the week in the presence of large and highly amused audiences by Mr Fred Karno's company, which includes the celebrated comedian, Mr Dan Rolyat, in the part of Sergeant Lightning. Mr Rolyat is supported by an excellent body of artistes, and the antics of the Karno Troupe in their lively pantomimic business created endless laughter. The musical comedy is above the ordinary, and contains some fine numbers, notably the song, "Six Little Burglars."

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—The Borghetti Troupe give a marvellous display of head acrobatic work, and Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo Piccaninnies are very amusing. Vincent, acrobatic table expert and tumbler; Emmie Ames, comedienne; Farley, Rennie, and Farley, in a comedy act; Grace Merton, vocalist, and Gilbert's well-trained dogs and cats, assisted by Mdlle. Blanche, who introduces the high-diving and football dogs, are loudly applauded for their efforts. Sid Bandon, character vocalist and comedian; Jimmy Shields, one-legged comedian and dancer; and Jack Pleasants, vocalist, are also well received.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—There is again a good all-round company at this place of entertainment this week. Kyoto, the original comedy Jap, fulfils a popular engagement prior to going to Paris; and the Brothers Esdale, comedians, &c., have a capital reception. Sterling and Cashen (Jim and Minnie), American speciality artistes and champion all-round dancers, give an excellent performance, and the Summersons (Will and Maggie) are refined comedy duettists, dancers and pantomime artistes, who pay a return visit. Miss Marie Yorke, burlesque artiste; Mr Dan Noble, comedian and vocalist; Chas. Graydon, comedian and dancer; and Miss Maggie Newton, coon and ballad vocalist, are all acceptable turns. There have been good houses during the week.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—Mr George Dance's company is paying a return visit here in *A Country Girl*, a play which is highly popular and much appreciated by local playgoers. On this occasion the part of Geoffrey Chaloner is taken by Mr Francis Ludlow, whose singing and acting are admirable. Mr H. C. Morton is good as Sir Joseph Verity; Mr Fred W. Pattrick is inimitable as the Rajah of Bhong; and Mr Harry Buss is smart and clever as Barry. The part of Marjory Joy is well taken by Miss Kathryn Comber, whose vocalisation is excellent; Miss Nellie Cozens, though somewhat bolsterous, does splendidly as Nan; Miss Ernestine Desborough is an efficient Princess Melaneh; and Miss Rosie Begarnie is chic and charming as Madame Sophie. Other parts are well filled, and the staging is most effective.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Manager, Mr Fred Benton.—This week *Her Fatal Past* is being produced here by Mr T. Edward Ward's company, which includes Miss Ward.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—The bill this week is headed by the O'Learys, who appear in their Oriental burlesque act; and Benson and Geoffrey are seen to advantage in *Spoofed*. Phillips and Lorenzi, comedy team, in dinner table sketch; Nellie Navette, vocalist and dancer; Gilbert Girard, instrumental mimic, &c.; Lenora Venn, vocalist; Clarke and Argyle, dancers and pipers; Charles Rose, comedian; and the British Bioscope also appear.

WORKINGTON.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Stanley Rogers.—*On the Stroke of Twelve*, by F. Darcy and F. J. Little's company, was presented on Monday with success to a large audience. Mr F. Rivers as Jack was a good hero, and commendable also was Mr F. Guiness as George. Mr H. C. Hunt was telling as the villain; Mr H. C. Robinson gave an excellent impersonation of the father; Mr K. H. Edwardes made an amusing Levi; and the broad humour was in the hands of Mr W. F. Little and Mr W. Buss, in the parts of Jasper and Pat, and they ably acquitted themselves. The laughing song of the former was encored. Miss N. Moore was graceful as Jess, Miss B. H. Ruth was sympathetic as Doris, and Miss E. C. Turner was satisfactory as Marie.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr H. Wright.—Mr J. Stillwell's company on Monday successfully presented *Queen of the Night* to a good house. Miss V. St. Lawrence as Paulina acted with force, and her enunciation was capital; Miss K. Barnett was good as the heroine; Miss P. Denville was lively as Kitty; Miss Irene Tracey as the waif played with effect, securing the affection of her audience; Mr O'Douglas was manly as Frank; as Stoneleigh Mr J. Stillwell was a flint-hearted villain; Mr F. Thorpe-Tracey as Old Briskett was droll and successful; and as Adolphus Mr B. Atherton displayed ability and mirth.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington.—The names of Hardie and Von Leer are always a guarantee of money's worth, and this week *A Path of Thorns* proves no exception to the rule. It is a drama full of strong human interest, and was received on Monday with unbounded enthusiasm. Mr Claude King both looked and played the part of the hero well. Miss Violet Luddington gave a sympathetic rendering of Bessie, getting through her several trying scenes most successfully, and being heartily applauded. Mr Cecil Du Gué as Jonas Deane gave a really high-class impersonation; Mr Alfred Lester was thoroughly amusing as Sam Hallett, creating much amusement; Mr Cyril W. Mackay was particularly successful as the Rev. Frank Selby, Messrs J. H. Booth as Jim Price and Walter L. Rignold as Ratty Gabbitt were responsible for some effective

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Silence courteous negative.

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"The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the features that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again contains a list of new plays and important revivals at the London and suburban theatres, with dates of production to the end of November; new plays submitted in the provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary for the year; and other stage matters concerning which information is often desired. Each branch is excellently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sandwiched by forty short stories by popular actors and entertainers, the interest of these contributions being increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle, Jan. 16th, 1904.

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Vacant.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, 16, 23, Feb. 27, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
Feb. 13, March 13, 20, April 3, 10, 17, May 15, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
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"Little Mary," Miss Nethersole's "Sapho,"
"Sweet and Twenty," Miss Fortescue, "Florodora,"
"One of the Best," "Duke of Killicrankie,"
"The Tyranny of Tears," "If I Were King,"
"Darling of the Gods," Martin Harvey, Edward Compton,
Mr and Mrs Kendal, "Chinese Honeymoon."
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant Spring, 1905.
TERRISS THEATRE.
Dec. 5, 12, and Spring.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Dec. 5, 12
Address, Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Nov. 21, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Nov. 14, 28, Dec. 12, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Dec. 19, on.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas.
WANTED, Comic Operas and Musical Comedies, Spring, 1905. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Plant of Electricity (Three Colours) installed. H. Vere.

WANTED, Good Companies,
Nov. 14, Dec. 19, 26.
Wm. B. Broadhead, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Good Comedy Companies,
Oct. 31 and on Three Nights.
Good Pantomime, Dec. 26.
Now booking Season 1905.
Apply,
C. A. Hutton.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Attraction
for Dec. 19.
Also First-class Musical Shows for
March 6 and 20

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Good Pantomime or any Good Attraction,
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec 26.
Good Business certain
C. M. Julian, Prince of Wales's, Salford.

WANTED, Companies, for the New Grand Theatre, Rawtenshall, Vacant Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19. J. Potter, Royal Court T., Warrington.

WANTED, Companies, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, and on, with exceptions.
Wire, Beckett, Theatre Royal Coalville

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Nov 28, March 13, May 1, 15, and 22. Now booking Autumn, 1905. Operas and Musical Comedies Only.
Maurice Clement.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Good Companies for Dec. 5, 12 (Three Nights), Dec. 19,
First-class Attraction for Christmas, Dec 26.
Address, Thos. Swinton.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. Payne Seddon.

WANTED, Good Companies, Dec 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, and on. Late theatre trains are now run weekly by the Midland, Great Northern, and Lough Swilly Railway Companies, thus doubling the population hitherto available for theatrical purposes.
Only the Best and Known Attractions Booked. Next week, "The Priest of the Temple;" Oct 31, "The Fatal Wedding;" Nov. 7, Mr Edward Terry; Nov. 14, "Why Smith Left Home;" Nov. 21, "A Chinese Honeymoon."
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs Seddon and Robertson.
WANTED, Companies, March 6 and on
This Handsome New Theatre opens at Christmas. Fully Licensed. Stage to accommodate any Production.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs Seddon and Starkey.
WANTED, Companies, Last Three Days of Weeks, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 27, March 27, and on.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

PERTH THEATRE.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Dec. 12, 19, 26, and Jan 16. Apply, J. H. Savile, Perth T.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Good Companies. Vacant Nov. 7 (Six Nights), 14 (Three Nights), Dec. 5, onwards. James Elphinstone.

WANTED, High-class Plays and Musical Comedies for Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea, and Crystal Palace Theatre. Immediate Dates. H. E. Brammall, Crystal Palace.

NEW PAVILION, EASTBOURNE PIER.
WANTED, First-class Companies only, Dec. 12 and 19;
also Pantomime, Jan. 9 or 23.
Address, C. Hayes, Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies,

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
Nov. 28, Feb. 27, March 27.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
Dec. 12, Jan. 23, March 13, 20.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
June 12, 19, July 31, Aug. 7, 14.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
No Vacancies.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Dec. 8, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Dec. 23, Feb. 6, April 6, 20.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 16.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications to
Arthur Carlton,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

VICTORIA, BROUGHTON.
WANTED First-class Musical and Dramatic Show,
Nov. 21 and onwards.
Nov. 21 and onwards.
Nov. 21 and onwards.
This Theatre has recently been entirely Redecorated, Reupholstered, Recarpetted, and all
New Draperies added.
A Complete Electric Lighting Installation has been put in, and a handsome Verandah has been erected in the front and down side of the Theatre.
The total outlay has been upwards of £4,000, making the Victoria one of the most beautiful Theatres in the Kingdom.

Managers having Immediate and Future Vacancies are requested to wire or write at once as above,
to
James M. Hardie, Jun.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, J. Bannister Howard.
Winter Season.
WANTED, Good Companies for Three Nights Only in the Months of November, December, January, February, and March. Good business can be done by Conducting the Theatre in this way. Now Booking Autumn Season Dates, 1905.
Address, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, First-class Attraction,
for
Dec. 5.
Apply, Mr Robert Arthur, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical preferred. Vacant Nov. 14, 21, onwards, with exceptions. Six Matinées, Two Nights. Christmas, Open for Good Panto.
Full particulars, Drew Mackintosh, P. P., Brighton.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 19, and Jan. 2, on. Ad., E. B. Goulden.

WANTED, Good Company, Nov. 17, 18, 19, Victoria Theatre, Mansfield.
Only open Last Three Nights of Week.

WANTED, Good Companies (Musical or Dramatic), Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, 12.
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Companies for
Nov. 17, 18, 19.
Nov. 21, 22, 23.
Dec. 5, 6, 7.
Dec. 12, 13, 14, Onward.
Apply, William Peacock

WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec. 12; Good Pantos., Jan 2, 19, 16, Grand Theatres, Chorley and Radcliffe. Also various Spring.
Address, Sanie, Opera House, Radcliffe.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Jan. 5 (Three Nights) 16, 23 (Three Nights), 30, on. Silence polite negative.
H. W. Rowland, Manager.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, also possibly Jan. 2.
Must be New to Grimsby.
Copy of Day-bill and Terms to J. H. Curry, as above.

WANTED, High-class Attraction (Not Drama), Nov. 21, Week
Rowland Theatre, Folkestone.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company, Nov. 7; also Vacant Dec. 12 and 24 (Seven Nights).
Address, Gerald Harding

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Good Drama or Musical Comedy, Nov. 28 Only Open Date this Year.
S. King Alexander, General Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management.
Capital involved £.55,000

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK
Nov 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12 (Three Nights), Dec. 19, Jan. 9, New Year Week?
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
Dec. 1 (Three Nights).
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
Nov. 14, Nov. 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12
Dec. 22 (three Nights), Dec. 26.
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
Nov. 14, Dec. 1 (Three Nights), Dec. 12, Dec. 19 (Three Nights);
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK,
Oct. 31 (?), Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Jan. 23;
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK
"The Latest."
An enormous success. Last week's takings, £408.
Important.
Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred.
The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.
Address all communications to R. C BUCHANAN, General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, three nights each.
On several occasions from £590 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant Nov. 21, Dec 12, 19, 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Nov. 10, 24, Dec. 1, 23, Jan. 19.
Address, F. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Nov. 28, Jan. 23, 30, and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Nov. 28, Dec. 12
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9, 16, Feb 20, and on.
Apply, FREDK MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

POOLE'S THEATRES, GLO'STER and SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, the Best Companies Only for the Theatre Royal, Gloucester, now One of the Prettiest, Cleanest, and Smartest Theatres in the Empire. Electric Trams from all Parts. The Only Theatre in the City.
Opera House, Porth, the Largest and Most Successful in the District, now in the Full Tide of Success.
Opera House, Treherbert. Top of the Valley. Another fine Theatre, where everything before, behind, and outside is done well. Extensive building now going on directly opposite. The pits sunk, the coal found. Directly they start the Population doubles. Now good, then excellent.
Town Hall Theatre, Maesteg. Another coming Eldorado. More pits sunk, fine coal found. Hotels, business establishments, and streets rebuilt.
"The Christian" took at Maesteg, in three nights, in an off pay, £118, and in three nights at Treherbert, £130, and we mean to double these receipts. Splendid Bookings. Only a few Dates left. Every inquiry solicited.
Theatre Royal, Pontypool, at present to Let on Share or Rental. Apply, for all Theatres,
C. W. POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10.
STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Feb. 20, March 6, 13, April 10
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE.
Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, 27.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Companies for
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
The Dramatic Theatre par excellence.
Playing to Phenomenal Business.
Enquire any Manager who has visited,
A few Early and Late Spring Dates Vacant.
Address,
FRED GRANVILLE.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Big Attractions for Nov. 14, Dec. 12 (?), 19, and Few Spring. Thanks to numerous Managers for offers, but having only Few Dates Vacant, must have the very best. Big Shows do Big Business. Refer George Edwardes, Esq., J. Bannister Howard, Esq., J. A. Campbell, Esq., &c. Thanks Miss Grace Warner for offer to Return. Refer Miss Warner re business done last visit. Musical Show, or Show with London Reputation, wire for Dec. 12, which have several offers for.—CONNYNGHAME.

WANTED, Comedy or Musical Companies Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness. Vacant Dates November and December. CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

WANTED, Pantomime (Six Nights) or Musical Comedy, Minstrel Troupe, or other Really Good Attraction (Three Nights), Dec. 26. State lowest sharing terms and full particulars, HAGUE, Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUMFRIES
WANTED, High-class Companies (Musical preferred). Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 9, and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
Oct. 24 and on,
with exceptions.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

GRAND THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Oct. 31.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
First-class Attraction for Dec 12.
Apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe, Cheshire, First-class Attractions for October, onwards. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE, RAMSGATE.
LORD GEORGE SANGER, Sole Proprietor.
Manager, HENRY BOWMAN. Open throughout the Year.
WANTED, Strong Musical Attractions for Easter and Whit Week.
Address, HENRY BOWMAN, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANTHAM.
WANTED, First-Class Dramatic Attraction, Nov. 14,
and Musical Shows, January onwards.
EDWARD MARRIS,
Proprietor and Manager.

OPERA HOUSE TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 1 (Three Nights), to oblige Mrs Lewis Waller, and on, with exceptions. Letters to WELTON DALE, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

AVENUE THEATRE, MORPETH.
WANTED, Companies, Oct 24, onwards Musical Comedy or Comic Opera would do good business. "Uncle Tom's Cabin" write. Wire, STANTON.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, through Disappointment, Good Companies for November and December. Christmas also Vacant. Musical Comedies preferred. Mrs B. STORR, Lessee, Shodfriars' Hall, Boston.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, METHIL, FIFE.
WANTED, Good Companies, Oct. 27, Nov. 3, and various onwards. LIVERICK.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Dec. 5, May 8 and onwards.
FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Nov. 14, 21
Entire Original Production, including Mr Albert Ward.
Christmas Vacant for First-class Theatre.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Dec. 12, London only.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7 and 14, Dec. 26, Jan. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Dec. 26, Jan. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Nov. 7, Nov. 7, Dec. 26, Jan. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 14(?), Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 30, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Feb. 13, 20, follow London Theatres; March 20, 27, follow Midlands and onwards. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects. Address all communications DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.
Note.
The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville.

WANTED, Dec. 19, for "A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12, "IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction,
First-class Theatres
First-class Theatres
for Nov. 7 and
Jan. 23
Wire, KELLY,
Theatre Royal Rotherham.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Weeks of Nov. 14 and 21
Nov. 14 and 21
for the
above remarkable success.
Wire, KELLY,
Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23, Feb. 6,
CHARLES HARRINGTON,
Theatre Royal, Peterborough, Return.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, Jan. 30 (?),
Lancs or Yorks.
New Gaiety Theatre, Leith,
Oct. 24. Six Nights.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Oct. 31, Week or Two Three-night Towns, between Scarborough and Workington. Wire, wire, wire, Nov. 21 and 28, to precede T. R., Sheffield; Dec. 26, to follow G T., Wolverhampton.
CHARLES R. STONE,
Aquarium Theatre, Scarborough.

WANTED, Dec. 5, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, May 8, June 12, for
Mrs Lewis Waller in "ZAZA" and Répertoire.
Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand Theatre, Woolwich

MR FREDERICK E. PHILPOTT'S
Original No. 1 COMPANY.
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only,
Nov. 14
(to precede Newport, Mon.),
Nov. 28
(South or London),
also Feb. 20, 27,
March 6, 13, 20
(South, Suburbs, or Midlands).
Next, Opera House, Crouch-end, N.

WANTED, Nov. 7, Dec 19 and 26, for "The Private Secretary."
EUGENE O. STAFFORD,
Metropole, Birkenhead.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."
WANTED, March 27, April 3, May 1, June 15. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Dalston Theatre, N.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."
"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."
M. B. BUCKSTONE and I. K. COX'S CO.
WANTED, Nov. 7 and 21, between Hastings and Birkenhead.
H. G. WYNN, 14, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, and Christmas Week, for this exceptionally Powerful Drama. All Scenery Carried. Racehorses Toured. Magnificent Printing. Beating Records Everywhere. HARRY LYNDON, Colosseum, Oldham; next, Alexandra, Sheffield.

C. P. LEVILLY'S No. 1 NORTH CO.
"AMORELLE."
"AMORELLE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres
for Christmas Week and onwards.
Tour being prolonged owing to unqualified success of this New Comic Opera.
Address, HERBERT HALLAND, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, Nov. 7, Nov. 7, Nov. 7, Nov. 7, for this Really Remarkable High-class Attraction. A Genuine, Emphatic, and Unequivocal Success. A Great Play. A Splendid Production. An Exceptional Company. J. H. CLYNDES, T. R., Lincoln.

WANTED, Nov. 14 for "The Greatest Scoundrel Living." between Warrington and Glasgow. LOADER, Theatre, St. Helens.

WANTED, for "Bigamy," Nov 14 Feb. 13, 20. "THE LIFE THAT KILLS." Wanted Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and Few Spring. "THE GRIP OF THE LAW," Wanted Jan. 16, 23, April 10, and on. FRED MOULE, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

WANTED, Farewell Tour of "Kitty Grey," few Good Dates for No 1 Company during September, October, November, 1905.
No Dates Vacant till September, 1905.
New Scenery, Dresses, &c.
Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Nov. 14 and 21 (through extending Tour);
Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 6, to follow Stratford (Return).
Wire for Nov. 14 and 21,
C. M. JULIAN,
To-day, R. T., Morecambe; Oct. 24, P. O. W., Salford.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY.
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 26, and Jan. 2
J. W. CORDINER,
New Court Theatre, Bacup.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Nov. 21 (Midlands or South-West) for above Sterling Attraction. Only Vacancy this year. Wire to-day, DAWSON, Theatre Royal, Tyldesley; next, 333, Ormeau-road, Belfast.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Christmas Week.
Mr Gore Ouseley's
No. 1
Company.
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
First-class
Company
and
Chorus.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Entirely
New
Dresses
and
Scenery
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
Magnificent Plant
of
Printing.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Splendidly Advertised
in
Every Detail.
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
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"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
Reproduced
by
Mr Joseph Wilson
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Late
Prima Donna
with
THE DANDY FIFTH.
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner,
In his
Original Part.
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
Miss Noel Neville,
From
"THE LOVE BIRDS,"
Savoy Theatre.
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
Full Chorus
of
Thirty Voices.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
The
most Powerful Cast
on Tour.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
Wanted, Christmas Week.
For this
Magnificent
Attraction.
GORE OUSELEY,
6, Panton-street, Haymarket, W.
Telegrams, "Ouseley, London,"
Telephone, 7,459 Gerrard.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
including the
Wonderful Child Actress,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
in her great creation,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
as played by her over 700 nights in London.
WANTED, Nov 14,
Nov. 21,
Dec 5,
Christmas Vacant.
Jan. 2, 9, 23,
Feb. 6,
March 13, 20;
also Whit Week
Mr Kirk thanks W. D. Forsdike, Esq., for Return Contract, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield; also T. Edwardes, Esq., for Contract, Grand Theatre, Derby.
Refer to any of the following Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.
General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Grand Theatre,
Derby.

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Gorgeous Attraction,
Jan. 2, 23, 30, Feb. 20.
A Complete Production.
Everything Carried.
Company of Seventeen Artistes.
Mr Hugh Montgomery as Napoleon.
Re Dates.
FRED GRANVILLE,
Queen's, Liverpool.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION."
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
Elaborate Plant of Pictorials.
The above will be Toured in First-class Style by ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.
WANTED, Jan. 16 (Three Nights), Jan. 23, Jan. 30, Feb. 20 and 27, and various onwards.
All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON, Strathmore, Norfolk House-road, Streatham, S.W.

EDMUND EDMUNDS' COMPANY OF COMEDIANS.
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.
WANTED, Feb 13 (Liverpool-Manchester district). The Company will include the Albert and Edmunds Troupe, Maude Nelson as Principal Boy, and other First-class Performers Total strength of Company, Forty. Four Weeks' Christmas Season already Booked at important London Theatre. Communications, W. SCOTT PHIPP, 37, Grosvenor-park, London, S.E.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Six Nights, Nov. 21, for No. 1 "Alone in London" Company.
Address,
J. F. ELLISTON,
Theatre Royal, Bolton.

GUS C. LIVESEY'S CO., "THE CRIMSON CLUB."
Thanks J. W. Boughton, Esq., F. Fredericks, Esq., B. Flanagan, Esq., Messrs Pennington, and other Managers for Contracts to hand this week.
WANTED, Nov. 14 (?), 28, Dec 26, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 20, 27 (North), and Various Autumn.
A Proved Success. To-day, Cadoxton; O. H., Portb.

MR FRANK FENTON'S COMPANY, in
"IF I WERE KING,"
WANTED, Theatres for a Few Spring Dates still Open.
FRANK FENTON, Shakespeare Theatre, S.W.

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Nov. 7 and 14 and Dec. 19. Only Vacant Dates this Year. Christmas settled. Jan. 2 and Spring Dates, on, with exceptions. Chorus and Troupe of Dancers added.
LESLIE NORMAN, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

"DISHONOURED."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Dec. 19, 26.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
WANTED, Nov. 21, Follow Plymouth
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," May 8, 29 (precede or follow Dublin), June 12, 19 (precede Croydon). C. CLIFFORD, Theatre Royal, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," Christmas, Jan. 2 9, 16, March 20, onwards.
C. CLIFFORD, Theatre Royal, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S COMPANY,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Oct. 31, 31, Nov. 7, 14, Dec. 26. Wire for Oct. 31.
EDWARD SURREY, This, Empire, Cradley Heath; next, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Nov. 14 and Dec 26.
Playing to Packed Houses at Carlton Theatre, Birmingham, this Week, and this a Return Visit in less than Eight Months. Wire, for Nov. 14 and Dec. 26,
JAMES BELL, Opera House, Dudley.

Messrs MITCHELSON and FINEBERG'S Magnificent Production, "THE TRAITOR."
WANTED, Dec. 5 and Christmas Week.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 26 (Christmas Week), Midlands or North;
March 20, Newcastle District, to oblige Manager by transferring;
April 24 (Easter Week), Suburbs or South.
Address, CECIL BARTH,
Royal Princess's Theatre, London, W.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.
WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction, Christmas and New Year Weeks, Jan. 9 and 16. Rapidly Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905. Beautifully Mounted. New Special Scenery and Effects. Magnificently Advertised and Splendidly Played.
Oct. 24, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

"HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, and Jan. 9.
Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 30, Feb. 6
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 19.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 2, 9 and 23.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Nov. 7 and Christmas.
Nov. 7 and Christmas.
Nov. 7 and Christmas.
H. HOLLISTER,
Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
for
High-class
Musical
Comedy,
Nov. 14,
Nov. 28,
in the North.
Wire,
"Ferret, London."
Address,
C. E. HAMILTON,
Manager,
Charles Frohman's
Touring
Companies,
34, Norfolk-street,
Strand.

MR STANLEY HOPE'S COMPANY,
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL,"
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL"
by Henry Merriman.
The Latest Dramatic Success.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 5, Suburban or South, follow Croydon, precede Stratford. Tremendous Success in Every Town Visited. Enthusiastic Calls. Brilliant Production. Powerful Company. Thrilling Story. Company Increased and Strengthened. New Printing. New Scenery.
Spring Dates fast Filling. Now Booking Autumn, 1905. Christmas Vacant.
Address, STANLEY HOPE,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
GODFREY LAMPLUGH'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Christmas Week and Several
Early Spring Dates, on.
Autumn Tour now settled.
"MISS MISCHIEF."
A New and Original Musical Comedy, by Mr Reginald Bacchus and Dr. F. Osmond Carr, Composer of "Morocco Bound," "His Excellency," "In Town," &c, &c, &c.
"MISS MISCHIEF"
will be introduced to the public on Oct. 31, at the Royal West London Theatre, by Godfrey Lamplugh and his Specially Selected London Company, including Mr Fred Eastman, Messrs T. E. Conover, Cecil Curtis, Liot, Miss Crissie Francess, Miss Eileen Guilbert, and Miss Evelyn Hughes.
All communications, GODFREY LAMPLUGH, 20, Caroline-place, Bayswater, London, W.

THE PRESTON and DOHERTY REPERTOIRE CO.
Under the direction of F. B. Woulfe.
"LADY GODIVA."
"JANE SHORE."
"NELL GWYNNE."
WANTED, Oct. 31 and Nov. 14 and 28.
Christmas Week Vacant.
F. B. WOULFE,
Theatre Royal, Greenock

"THE NEW CLOWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatre Only.
Nov. 7.
Nov. 7.
Nov. 7.
Mr Stanley Cooke and No. 1 Company.
Everything carried.
Wire, HERBERT GRENVILLE, West Pier, Brighton.
Next week, Brixton Theatre, London, S.W.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Nov. 7 (?), Dec. 26, Jan. 16, 23, 30 (?), Feb. 6 13, on.
Address, Theatre Royal, Castleford.

MR BARRS' "ALADDIN."
WANTED, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 13 (South); also Spring Dates, for Miss Oswald and Star Company, in "East Lynne." Drawing Record Houses. Wire, Globe Theatre, Deal. Write, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

WANTED, Oct. 31, for "No Escape," Intermediates, onwards. Printing always there. Wire, COLEMAN DAVIES, T., Rugby; Mon., A. T., Kettering.

WANTED, Theatres, Christmas and New Year, for Miss Frances Delaval's Enormously Successful Production, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore. Splendid Company. Vacant Dec 26, Jan. 2, 16 23, April 24. August Bank Holiday. Wire, Pavilion, Edinburgh; next, Victoria, Wingate, Durham.

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash," Oct. 31 or Nov. 3, between Manchester and Birmingham. L. VYNER, Theatre, Stalybridge.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Jan. 2, Easter and Whit Weeks. FRED BULMER, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres, Christmas and Jan 16
W. V. GARROD, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Jan. 16, Feb. 13, 20, 27,
"Why Men Love Women."
King's Theatre, Cardiff.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN,"
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest.
WANTED, Nov. 7 and 21. Only Vacant Dates this year. Absolutely no Fire Scene.
GARSIDE, To-day, Junction Theatre, Manchester; next, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates, for
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Nov. 28, Jan. 16, 23, 30;
"GREED OF GOLD,"
Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9;
"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION,"
Dec. 12, Jan. 9, 16.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

MR JOHN DENTON'S COMPANY,
"A MODERN JUDAS."

WANTED, Nov 21, to Follow Grimsby.
Only Vacant Date this Year, Nov. 21, to oblige.

Nov. 21, Wanted, Good Theatre, Nov. 21.
Powerful Play, Magnificent Production,
Cast includes
Percy Rhodes, Willie Scott, Frank Beresford, Trueman Towers, John Denton, Kate Walbran, Ada Palmer, Violet King.

Vacant Nov. 21, Vacant.
Now Booking Christmas and On.

TRUEMAN TOWERS,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Richmond.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Second Week of Continuous Successful Tour.

WANTED, Oct 31 (Three Nights, precede Grantham), Christmas, Jan. 2, onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, To-day, King's, Walthamstow; next, King's, Nottingham.

WANTED, Managers with Open Dates, for really Gigantic Pantomime Production, to communicate with J. F ELLISTON, Bolton.

WANTED, Theatres and Halls, for Big Variety Combination and Pierrot Choir. Big Show of Printing. FORDIL, Post-office, Leicester.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Dramatic, Variety, Novel Artistes. Always Openings. World-wide Connection. Correspondents, Programmists, Composers, write, call, "AMUSEMENT" Office, 6, Whitefriars, E.C.

WANTED, Smart Comedienne, Height, 5ft. 8in., Dark, Contralto (Good Voice), Good Figure, Appearance and Dresses. References (which will be applied for), terms, photo, age, and full particulars, for Musical Sketch. Also Smart Man for Baggage and Part. Pat Curran apply. JULLION, care of DAVID CROMBIE, Crown and Dove Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, Light Comedy Lady, for Trixie, "Defending His Honour" Company. Short but Important Part. FRED GRANVILLE, Queen's T., Liverpool.

WANTED, "The Golden Ladder," Lady for Small Part, must Sing Soprano. Address, with photograph, full particulars and references, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

MR GEO. KIRK'S "JUDY" COMPANY.

WANTED, Rehearse Immediately, Heavy Lady, Tall, Thoroughly Experienced, Dress Smartly. Send photos, terms, refs., Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Immediately, Ingenué, Petite, Sing and Dance Hornpipe. Age, height, photo, last two references. GRACE WARNER, O. H., Coventry.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady, Pathetic Juvenile, about 5ft 4in. or 5ft. 5in. Also Lady for Heavy Part. Call, PENFOLD FIELD, 10, Duke-street, Adelphi, before 12 30 Saturday or Monday.

WANTED, a Smart Actress.
One Able to Play Male Parts in Sketch.
Apply by letter, enclosing full particulars and photos., which will be returned, to
HUGH STANTON, 22, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, S.E.

HENRY SWINERD'S CO. "DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."

WANTED, for above, Light Baritone for Juvenile Lead. Must have trained voice, and used to Musical Comedy. Rehearse, if possible, Oct. 25. State age, exact height, and send latest references (which will be applied for), photos., with stamped envelope for return, and lowest terms, to J. W. CORDINER, to-day, T.R., Dover; next week, Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Open Monday, Bartlett, for "My Sweetheart," Fit-up. Wire, particulars, H. ANNESLEY, Aspley, Guise.

WANTED, First-class Juvenile Gentleman for Lead. Please state actual lowest terms, age, height, and references. MILLER, Queen's T., Dublin.

WANTED, a Smart Juvenile Man, for Sketch, a Baritone Singer preferred.
Apply by letter, enclosing full particulars and Photos., which will be Returned to
HUGH STANTON, 22, Grosvenor-park, Camberwell, S.E.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."

WANTED, First-class Juvenile Leading Man. Rehearse Wednesday.
Terms, photos., references,
STANLEY HOPE, 46, Liverpool-street, Salford.

WANTED, Character Actor for Good Part in Comedy. Must be business man, and give last two references. Photo., &c., to ARTHUR, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Leading Man only Recognised Leading Actor of Repute Entertained,
for "The Follies of Youth" Tour.
Apply, ARTHUR ROSE,
This, Gaiety, Burnley;
next, Albert Theatre, Brighouse.

WANTED, Leading Man and Comedian, Sketches, London.
FRANCES HARROLD, 26, Agate-road, W.

"WOMAN AND WINE" COMPANY.

WANTED, a Smart Utility Man, Open Oct. 24, Rehearse Thursday previous at Leeds, to assist with Baggage. Add, F. WITHERS Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, Special Week Manchester, Comedian and Responsible Gentleman. Rehearse Saturday, Manchester. MONTROSE, 33, Rumford-street, Call after 5 0.

WANTED, Short Singing Comedian, for Sketch Company, London (Small Halls) One Acquainted with Variety Troupe Preferred. Stamp with Photo, letters only, CHARLES KINROSS, 1, Mayfield-avenue, Bedford-park, W.

WANTED, for Town, open Monday, Young Gentleman Amateur (tall preferred), for Small Juvenile Part, Sketch. Premium, £5. Salary, 25s.
Call, 12 0 to 2 0, Saturday,
4, North-street, Westminster, S.W.,
or write same.

WANTED, Known, Vacancy for Gentleman (Amateur) in First-class Company. No Premium. Salary when proficient. Box 8,578, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Eighteen Smart Chorus Ladies, over 5ft. 5in. Call Tuesday with Song and Photo., 2·0 to 4·0. SINCLAIR, 12, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-rd., S.E.

Musical Comedy.

WANTED, First-Rate Chorus Ladies, Capable of playing Small Parts if required. Only those of Refined Appearance and with Good Voices entertained. Apply by letter only (enclosing photograph if possible) stating particulars of experience to Mr Augustus Bingham, 3, Air-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

WANTED, Several Clever Girls for Choir, over Fourteen, with Knowledge of Dancing. Board found and small salary. Photos., &c., FORDIL, Post-office, Leicester.

WANTED, Few Clever Boys, over Fourteen, must have Good Voices. CLIFFORD HENRI, 30, Torrens-road, Brixton-hill.

WANTED, Known, Proprietor Répertoire Touring Company can receive Pupils. Premium. Twelve months' salaried Engagement guaranteed. Full particulars from Charles Wybert, Theatrical Agent, Springfield-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known. Amateur Lady. Good Professional Experience, is wishful to Play Good Part in Production in Spring. Premium. Box 8,510, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, an Amateur Lady, Good Professional Experience, is Wishful to Play Part in Production in Spring. Premium. Box 8,510, "The Era."

WANTED, to Play Small Parts, Sketch Troupe, Theatre. Just concluded Harry Tate's "Motoring." ARTHUR MEDWIN 5, Bookham-street, N.

WANTED, Known, a Young Lady Vocalist would like to join
Quartet or Concert Party.
Experienced.
Write,
Box 8,599, care of "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

THE MACNAGHTEN ENTERPRISES,
Pantomime Producers.

WANTED, Several Thoroughly Good Practical and Experienced Men.
Apply by letter or personally on Sunday, between 1·0 and 3·0 and 7·0 and 10·0 o'clock, to
FREDERIC BAUGH,
Foresters' Music Hall,
Cambridge-road, E.,
stating fully past Experience, References, and Terms.

WANTED, Good Pantomime Producer, must be capable of Inventing a Humorous and High-class Pantomime. Apply Box 8,602, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas (London or Provinces), to send Photos., Terms, and Particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Quartette of Dancers Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, a Pair of Sisters Disengaged for Pantomime to send photos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Excellent Principal Boy and Girl (Good Vocalists), Second Boy and Girl, Pair of Good Comedians (Must Dance and Patter Well), Dame, Musical Director (Pianist). Sound, Reliable Management. Address, with photos. and particulars, MANAGER, 20, Braybrooke-road, Hastings.

WANTED, Good Comedian for Cat, in "Puss-in-Boots" and "Dick Whittington."
Address,
with terms and references,
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Chorus and Ballet Ladies for Pantomime. Age, height, references, photos., lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Comedians, Emperor and Vizier for "Aladdin" Pantomime. Also Two Knockabouts, with good Speciality Act, for Chinese Policemen. Address, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies, Tall and with Voices and Good Appearance. Also Specialities and Two Clever Children for Babes. GUSTAVE, Ladywood Palace, Birmingham.

Pantomime Artistes

WANTED, Pair of Comedians, Pair of Sisters, for Second Boy and Girl, Dame, and Specialities. Full Particulars to Johnson, Agent, 86, Waterloo-rd.

WANTED, Trios, Quartettes, and Smart Acrobatic Dancers. Long Panto. Tours. Age, height, photo. E., 43, St. James-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Pantomime Choristers, all Voices. Apply, any day, between 11·0 and 1·0, Kelson Trueman, Regent-house, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Trio of Dancers, also Baggage Man and Carpenter. Terms, references, LOADER, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Miss Amy Calcott, Charming Actress and Magnificent Danseuse (late Miss Amy Leggett, of the Leggett Combination), Vacant for Pantomime, Principal Boy or Girl and Speciality. See the Calcotts' Advert. on another Page. Unparalleled success Macnaghten Tour. Coms., ERIC CALCOTT, 4, Valmar-road, London, S.E.; or, De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty for Pantomime. An Ideal Principal Boy. Offers invited. Queen's Palace, Poplar.

WANTED, by Dolly and Madge M'Calla, Babe or similar Parts. Smartest Juvenile Sisters Extant. 15, Marlborough-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, Known, Sam Lee, Comedian and Mimic, is Vacant for Pantomime as First or Second Comedian. 39, Cornwall-road, Notting-hill, London, W.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Will Candlish, King, Baron, or Scotch Part, with own Speciality. Permanent address. 50, Bond-street, Byker, Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Thomas Delaney, Vacant for Baron or Good Singing Part. Refer James Kiddie, John Tully, Esq., John Tiller, Esq., W. Sley, Esq.

This week, Tivoli, Manchester;
next, Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, Known, George Beverley at Liberty, Part and Stage-Management, Speciality, Coster Scena, including Violin Solos. Care of HUDSON, 34, Frederick-street, Sunderland,

WANTED, Pantomime, by Victor Vernon (an Ideal Dame). Principal Comedian Four Seasons T. R., Plymouth. Address, 3, Gladstone-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Fred Solo and Agnes Mayo. Last year, Fitzwarren and Second Girl. Parts played, Cook, Buttons, Cassim, King, Hassarac, &c. The Limes, Melrose-road, Southfields, S.W.

WANTED, Good Pantomime, the Roystons (Ada and Phil), Première Danseuse, Parts Specialité, Stage or Business Management. 30, Egerton-street, Heaton-park, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle, Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Pantomime. Last Two Years, Grand, Nottingham. Thanks John Tiller, Esq, Lester Collingwood, Esq., for Offers.
Address, Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, the Two Kelsos (Bill and Tom), Comedians, Pantomimists, and Dancers, are at Liberty for First-class Panto. Seven Seasons with Milton Bode, Esq.; Four Seasons with Will Sley, Esq. Marsh-buildings, Cleckheaton, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, the Famous Ray and Calden are Free for Pantomime (Girl and Comedian). Communications, 161, Great Cambridge-street, Queen's-road, Dalston, N.E.; or, Brook's Agency.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Keir and Allen, the Great Eccentric All-round Comedians. Parts and Speciality. Offers, 32, King-street, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Reed and Lerne, Novel Comedians, Vacant for Comedy Parts and Speciality. Met., Gateshead; Monday, Tivoli, S. Shields.

WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto Engagement, Christmas, by the Florador Quartette. Parts, Traps, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beattie Trixie, Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, Stratford.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Christmas, the Levites, Famous Pantomime Troupe; also Belle Ida, the Charming Comedienne, Boy or Girl. 103, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED, for Good Male Voice Quartet, Pantomime Engagement. Experienced Vocalists. Play parts if required. Terms reasonable. Shortly finishing with Musical Comedy. Replies, Box 8,586, care of "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of Every Description Painted to Order. Touring Companies' Scenery Stored, Repainted, and Repaired. 18ft. by 24ft. Cloths from £4. High-class work guaranteed. Sykes' Scenic Studios, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery and Properties, Specialities, Pantomime, and Fireproof Scenery. J. DAVIS, 128, Upper Beau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Showmen's Painting, Scenery, Switchback, or Showcloth, Transparencies, any subject; good, cheap. J. DAVIS, 128, Upper Beau-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, the Whole or Part, Cheap, Scenery, Dresses, and Properties of "Sinbad" Pantomime. Everything has been well stored and in excellent condition. No reasonable offer refused. JOHN HART, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell, "Aladdin" Pantomime. Full Size Scenery and Dresses, in Good Condition. Cheap for cash. M. PARKER, Theatre, Birkenshaw, near Bradford, Yorks. Ronald Graham write.

WANTED, to Sell, Quantity Pantomime, and other Scenery, including Harp, Palace, &c., also Dresses. J. WOOLF, Wonderland, Whitechapel. Tele. 10,393 Central.

WANTED, to Sell, Tons Pantomime Scenery and Wardrobe. Any price, any Subject. Must clear. Room wanted. Music and Script also. GUSTAVE, Ladywood Palace, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, "Cinderella" Pantomime, as Successfully Produced Last Christmas at Grand Theatre, Croydon. Scenery, Coach, and Dresses in Excellent Condition. The Music and Libretto can also be arranged for if desired. Can be seen by appointment. LAWSON LAMBERT, Grand, Croydon.

WANTED, to Sell, the Entire Production of "The Medal and the Maid."
Can be seen week commencing Monday, Oct. 24, Bath; Oct. 31, Worcester; Nov. 7, Bournemouth.
Address, H. J. CALLAN,
Lyric Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Several Cloths (New). Various Subjects. Size, 24ft. by 18ft. Add., RICHARD DOUGLASS, Painting Rooms, next, Grand T., Islington, N.

WANTED, to Sell or Hire, Scenery, Fancy Costumes, Uniforms, Rifles, 100 MSS. Plays, including "Girl from Chicago," "Mrs Rockett," "Sapho." Charles Wybert, Theatrical Agent, Springfield-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, a Complete Palace Interior, must be in First-class Condition. Address, by Letter, HUGH STANTON, 22, Grosvenor-pk., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by J. I. Keith, Scenic Artist, Engagement as Resident or for Special Scenery.
170, Hampton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Assistant Scenic Artist, Engagement, London only.
Address, Box 8,592, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provincee. References. 43, Elgin-terrace, Maida-vale, London.

WANTED, Known, F. E. Boden, the Reliable London Scenic Artist, Neport-street, Lambeth-walk. Falconbridge write, Engt. Waiting.

WANTED, Known.—This is to give Notice that if the Scenery and Effects Stored at 16, Beerer-street, Oldham, are not Removed and all Charges Paid before Oct. 31, 1904, the same will be Sold to defray Expenses.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Immediately, by a High-class Variety Theatre in London, a Capable Assistant Manager, speaking French and German preferred, the former essential. Apply, stating age, experience, and salary required, in first instance to Box 8,612, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Immediately, Young Acting-Manager for Grand Theatre, Swansea. Two Months' Engagement. Reply, FRANK BOYCE.

WANTED, General Manager. One used to the Variety Business, for Wildman's Winter Carnival, Pavilion, Carnarvon. Present address, WILDMAN, World's Fair, Menai Bridge, North Wales.

WANTED, Known. — Acting-Manager Required for Pantomime Season of Ten Weeks. Salary, £2 weekly. Deposit, £25. Strictest investigation courted. Address, Box 8,611, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Experienced Stage Manager, to Play Small Part. Rehearse Manchester, Nov. 1. Photo, where unknown, LIVESEY, Prince's, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Advance Agent, who Thoroughly Understands his Business, and is well acquainted with the best Fit-up Towns, to Boom an Up-to-Date Variety Crowd. Good Salary to the Right Man. Full particulars to FORDIL, Post Office, Leicester.

WANTED, Practical Carpenter, Lay Stage, New Theatre, Loughborough. Must have references for similar work.
Apply, SEDDON and ROBERTSON, Town Hall, Loughborough.

WANTED, by Acting-Manager, Disengaged (Resident), Books, Bars, and Routine. Young, Competent, and Gentlemanly. Good Theatre or Music Hall. Apply, Box 8,608, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Gentleman will Pay £20 to anyone Obtaining him Position as Secretary or Assistant Manager at a London Theatre or Music Hall. Advertiser has had Theatrical Experience. Apply, Box 8,594, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Cliff Crawford, Assistant Agent to Mr Arthur Martin. Three Seasons Lord George Sanger. Dis. Address, 3, Glycena-road, Lavender-hill, London, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Herbert Reed, Master Carpenter, Thanks Miss Ida Molesworth and Mark Blow for Fourteen Weeks' Tour. Liberty Oct. 31. Court, Wigan.

WANTED, Engagement as Master Carpenter, in First-class Company or Theatre. Good references to Box 8,604, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Doctor's Son (Nineteen) requires Situation as Companion Valet. Splendid companion for single gent. travelling alone. Write, VALET, care of Mr BIRD, 14, St. Martin's-pl., Birmingham.

WANTED, by Young Man, Situation of any Kind in Theatre or Music Hall. Low salary accepted. Good address. Box 8,590, care "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by a Respectable Widow, Employment for the coming Christmas Season as Dresser or Assistant in Wardrobe-room, Cloak-room, &c. Good reference. F. BAKER, 6, Grange-rd., Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Married Couple Require Situation as Caretakers in any good Theatre or Music Hall. Age Thirty-six and Thirty-seven. No encumbrance. Lifelong experience. Highest references. GEORGE PITCHER, Caretaker, Victoria T., Burnley.

WANTED, Situation, Ralph Edgar (late Aquarium), Vocalist, Lecturer, Doorman. Just finished, "Venice by Night," Earl's-court. 21, F, Rochester-buildings, Westminster.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leader, for Twice Nightly Variety. Open Monday, Oct. 31, at Bury Hippodrome. Also Conductor and Full Orchestra for Ashton Hippodrome, Opening about Nov. 21. Apply, stating age and references, by letter, to PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Good Leader, Open Monday, 24th. Wire terms and references, T. WALKER, Leader, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, First-class Leader for London Restaurant. Must be experienced and young.
Box 8,613, "The Era" Office.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

THE MACNAGHTEN ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Five Musical Directors
for Pantomime.
Permanency to suitable men.
Apply by letter, or personally on Sunday between 1·0 and 3·0 o'clock and 7·0 and 10·0 p.m., to
FREDERIC BAUGH,
Foresters' Music Hall,
Cambridge-road, E.,
Stating fully past experience, references, and terms.

Scotland's Provincial Theatres.

WANTED, Conductor (First Violin), First and Second Violins, Double Bass, 'Cello, Cornet, Trombone, Clarionet, Flute, Drums, and Pianist (to combine other Instrument). Address, enclosing copies of latest references, stating lowest terms and age, to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre Glasgow. Envelopes to be endorsed "Musician."

THE NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH. Now in course of construction.

WANTED, Leader (First-class), Two First Violins, Second Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Double Bass, First and Second Cornets, Trombone, Flute, and Piccolo, Clarionet, and Double Drums, with all Effects for the above. All must wear Evening Dress. Apply, with lowest terms in first letter, to D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

WANTED, to open Empire Circus, Wakefield, Nov. 14 (possibly 7). Conductor and Full Complement of Musicians. Apply, HERBERT A. BOSANQUET, care of Messrs SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, for Sedgwick's Menagerie, Leader, 35s. per week Wingate, Saturday; West Cornforth, Monday, County Durham.

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN."

WANTED, Musical Conductor (Pianist), also Petite Lady for Small Juvenile Part. Rehearse at once. Refs. and photos. to LESLIE NORMAN, T. R., Worthing.

THEATRE ROYAL, BELFAST.

WANTED, to open Oct. 31, really Good First-class Violinist.
Terms, references, and full particulars, address,
FRED W. WARDEN, as above.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Open Oct. 31, for Small Military Band, to Double String preferred. Uniform. Three times daily, and occasional Sunday Afternoons References and terms to SECRETARY, Chamber of Commerce, Penzance.

WANTED, Cornet, must be Good.
Open Monday, Oct. 24.
J. DEWHURST,
Theatre Royal,
Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Clarionet and Cornet Players (Good),
to join Leicester Borough Police Force and Band.
Military Journals.
Apply,
BANDMASTER,
Police Band, Leicester.

C. W. POOLE'S MYRIORAMAS.

WANTED, Trombone (Good), to commence at once. Must assist with Fittings when travelling, and be absolutely reliable and competent. State age.
Apply, J. R. JONES,
Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

WANTED, Bass, Trombone, and Drums, for Hippodrome, Accrington. State experience and lowest, to PAUL VANDY, Pavilion, Glasgow.

WANTED, Euphonium (Good) for the Original Town and Promenade Band, Cheltenham. Terms, shares. Apply, J. GRAINGER, 17, Glenfall-street, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Second French Horn, for Moody-Manners "B" Company;
also 'Cellist for "C" Company.
State lowest terms and experience.
Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS, EDINBURGH.

WANTED, a Good 'Cello Player, to commence Nov. 7. Those who replied to my last Advertisement, please accept thanks and silence as polite negative. AUGUSTE DENTON, Mus. Dir., 86, Victoria-street, Grimsby, Lincs.

WANTED, Good Flute and Piccolo to open Oct. 31. Must have had experience in Good Theatres. References and terms (open all the year round) to J. H. CURRY, Prince of Wales's T., Grimsby.

WANTED, a Useful Pianist, accustomed to Variety and Dramatic work, for small Hall in North London. Terms must be moderate. Letters marked "Pianist" to W. PAYNE, People's Palace, Tottenham.

WANTED, String Band, to Open Nov. 7, 1904, Pavilion, Carnarvon.
Wildman's Winter Carnival.
Present address,
WILDMAN,
World's Fair, Menai Bridge, North Wales.

WANTED, Good Band (about Seven Performers), for an Industrial Exhibition in North Wales, Nov. 12 to 26.
Full particulars, H. COLEY, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Boy Musicians, Playing Military Band Instruments. Must be Good Readers. Apply, in first instance by letter, stating age and height, to O., care of HAWKES and Co., Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus.

WANTED, Musicians (Juvenile), Brass, String, Reed. Ages from Ten to Eighteen. Long Tour. RALPH PRINGLE, Colston Hall, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—
J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester;
C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.;
F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-rd., Handsworth, Birmingham;
J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Permanent Engagement. Experienced, Steady, and Reliable. Good refs. SHARPE, Norman Cross, Peterborough.

WANTED, by Conductor, Engagement. Music Hall. Highest London refs. Only Good Offers entertained. Wire, CONDUCTOR, 56, Upper Orwell-st., Ipswich.

WANTED, by Experienced London Variety Musical Director, Engagement. Violinist and Pianist. Terms moderate. Address, Box 8,609, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Popular Provincial Conductor, Permanency in really First-class Theatre or Empire. All necessary qualifications. Address, Box 8,601, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Trio (Violin, 'Cello, and Piano), First class Instrumentalists, Engagement at Restaurant or Café. Fine Répertoire. Reasonable terms. F. HARRIS, 65, Grosvenor-road, S.W.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Engagement (Young Man, Twenty-two). Experienced in Variety. Steady. Good recommendation. VIOLINIST, 117, St. Paul's-road, Bow, E.

WANTED, by Violin, Viola, Temporary or Permanency, Engagement. Experienced in Opera Theatre, Varieties, Dance Business. Nominal Salary. ALBERT JAMES, 9, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Engagement or Deputising; in or near London. Daytime or Evening. Moderate wage or pay desired. G., 40, Ordnance-road, St. John's-wood, London.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Any business.
WM. FLETCHER, 95, Hornby-street, Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Cornet and Gymnast, Engagement. Can give Two Turns each night. Would fill up time in Orchestra. For information, apply, T. PICKERING, 129, Dudley-road, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, by First or Second Cornet, Engagement, Theatre or Musical. Good references. LEON, 82, Mile-end-road, E.

WANTED, by Cornet (Good), thoroughly reliable, experienced, Engagement to open Monday. Two years last engagement. J. HIRST, 106, King-street, Dudley.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement. Sober and Reliable. Any Business. Can open at once. J. GRUB, 2, Bilton-terrace, Bideford, Devon.

WANTED, by Clarionet (Experienced, Good, Steady, and Reliable), Variety or Dramatic. CLARIONET, 17, Emscote-road, Witton, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement, Any Business. Good references. CLARIONET, 138, Southwark-bridge-road, London.

WANTED, by Clarionetist (First-class), Engagement, in Theatre or Variety. Thorough experienced, sober and reliable.
H. W. MILNER, 130, Studley-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Re-engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Best refs. Experienced. T. CRAWSHAW, 292, Staniforth-road, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Double Bassist (Experienced), Engagement. TOM C. TROLLEY, Eynsford, Thicket-crescent, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, by D. Bass, Engagement, any Business. Long Experience. Late Cremona Orchestra. G. GREENHEAD, 10, St. George's-terrace, Herne Bay.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Four Strings, Engagements, Theatre, Music Hall, or Hippodrome. LANGRIDGE, 56, Dour-street, Dover.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Can open at once. Any business. Good references. COOPER, 153, Chesterfield-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Bassoonist (Experienced), Engagement in London or Suburbs. Theatre or Varieties. G. FAHEY, 108, Sussex-road, Holloway.

WANTED, by Trombone or Viola, Engagement. Competent and Experienced; any business. Address, W. N. S., 43, Orchard-st, Ball's-pond-road, N.

WANTED, by Good Tenor Trombone Player, an Engagement where Light Employment is found. Address, Box 8,587, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, any Business. At Liberty Oct. 30. JAMES MILLER, this, Theatre Royal, Smethwick; next, Court, Wigan.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. References,
SAM FREDERICK, 44, Harders-road, Peckham.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement; any business. Just finished season New Brighton Tower. J. POWER, Grosvenor House, Grosvenor-road, New Brighton.

WANTED, by Euphonium (thoroughly experienced), Engagement. Can open at once. Address, CHARLES GRICE, 184, Waterloo-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by Second French Horn, Engagement, any business; good refs.; young, steady, and reliable. Address, Box 8,591, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by French Horn (First or Second), Engagement. Steady and reliable. Good refs. Address, HORN, 7, Goldsmith-road, Leyton, N.E.

WANTED, by 'Celloist, Engagement. Late with Moody-Manners. Address. ARRIGO MONTI, 28, Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl, on 'Cello.
Mr CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Oboist, Engagement, in or near London; would deputise. Experienced and reliable. Oboist, 1, Prospect-villas, Lancaster-rd., Enfield.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17), Engagements. July 4 to Oct. 2, Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth. Appeared with great success at the Hotel Cecil on Thursday, Oct. 13.
MAUD GRUNDY, 18, Lawn-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, Oct. 22, any business; experienced, steady. GEO. BERRY, The Cottage, Raleigh-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Good references. Any business. W. MARSHALL, 29, Priory-road, Acton-green, Chiswick, W.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Young, experienced. Two years, B.S.A.P., Bulawayo. Good Clerk. Town or country.
SUTTON, 14, Forrest-road, Dalston.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, any business. Disengaged. Open to Deputising. SCHILLING, 130, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, also Double Drums, with Effects, Engagement. Just finished Kursaal, Southend-on-Sea. References.
Address, DRUMS, 10, St. Ann's-road, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Mr. Lorenzo Lewis, Pianist, Engagement. Large or Small. Strict to Business. Last Hall Nine Years. 744, Oxford-road, Reading.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Orchestral, Varieties, and Dance Business. References and Programmes on application. M., 33, Thornhill-square, Barnsbury, London, N.

WANTED, by Pianist (Clara Jones) and Violinist (Rosina M'Carthy), Engagement. Just concluded, Aquarium, Scarborough 172, Penton-place, Kennington, London.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class), Immediate Re-engagement. Any business. Liberty Monday. CAMPBELL, 6, Stanley-st. West, North Shields.

WANTED, by Pianist (Young), Engagement. Used to Variety, Good Accompanist. Transpose. Moderate terms, Good refs.; or would Join Sketch Company. HARRY LANGTON, 38, Baker-st., King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Theatre, Varieties, Circus, or good Touring Co. Experienced. N. ROBINSON, 67, Princess-rd., Ashton-in-Makerfield, Lancs.

WANTED, by Pianist (Youth), Engagement. Any business. Small salary to commence. PIANIST, 9, Crawford-buildings, Homer-st., Marylebone-rd., W.

WANTED, by Drums, Engagement. Own Tymps. Herr Rauscher's Corporation Band. NEVILL, Belmont House, 13, Augusta-road, East Cliff, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Double Drums, Tympani, and Effects, Engagement. At Liberty Oct. 31. Address, THEODORE GORDON, P. T., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement. Any Business or Depu y.
Bl. F, 134, Thorawl-street, Commercial-street, E.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Glockenspiel and all Effects (First-class), Engagement. Could combine Secretarial Duties. GERALDINE ST. VALERIE, 25, Poland-street, London, W.

WANTED, by the "Sailor's Sweetheart" Naval Band, Engagement. At Lib. Oct. 31. Cheltenham Examiner says:—It takes a lead in the cast.
W. STONEHAM, Court, Wigan.

WANTED, by Quartette (Ladies), consisting of Piano, Violin, 'Cello, and Bass (one of Quartette must be Vocalist), Long Winter Engagement. Large and Up-to-date Répertoire Essential. Send full particulars, salary expected (live in), and photo., if possible, to MANAGER, Victoria Hall, Southport.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by C. H. Anderson's Imperial Military Band, Engagement. Splendid Musical Library and Band Equipment, with Four Different Styles of Uniform. Concluded Third successful Season Broadstairs. At Liberty. CHAS. HENRY ANDERSON, Musical Director, 21, Gladstone-road, Broadstairs.

WANTED, by the Blenheim Quadrille Band, Engagements. Balls, Receptions, Concerts, Individual Musicians or Band of Twenty. Terms moderate. Blenheim-mansions, Queen Anne's-gate, S.W.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
" 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
" Re Advertisement
" 'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
" Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
" Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
" Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
" Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
" Littlehampton."

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KING OHMY'S GRAND NEW CIRCUS and VARIETY HIPPODROME, MARKET-PLACE, BOLTON.
WANTED, the Talent of the World to write at once for Present and Future Dates. Nothing too big. Also Useful Circus Turns, in all Lines. Note.—All Artistes Engaged at this Successful Circus can be Booked for any place of Amusement in the World.
Address, King OHMY,
Circus and Hippodrome, Bolton.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROMES.
Sole Proprietor, T. G. TRANSFIELD;
Manager, ALFRED NORTON; Secretary, TONY TRANSFIELD.
WANTED, for New Brompton, Nov. 14, Big Stars and Novelties of the First Water, Refined Variety Artistes, Comedy Sketch Artistes; in fact, any Act that can be performed on a Stage or in a Ring, but must be New to the District. Chatham Barred. State very lowest terms. Remember there is no commission stopped, and no office fees whatever. T. G. TRANSFIELD, Hip, Sheerness. Artistes can be booked in conjunction with Sheerness.

THE NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH,
Now in course of Construction.
WANTED for the Above, Monday, Nov. 14, 1904, and onwards, Male and Female Equestrians, in all Lines, Acrobats, Gymnasts, Performing Animals, and the Biggest Attractions possible, several good Clowns, and a Smart Agouste. All Artists will please state if appeared in Rhondda Valley before, and what date
Address all communications to
D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

Whit Week Galas, 1905.
WANTED, Big Up-to-Date Novelties (the Latest and Best), for Open-air Performances. Price no object for the Right Acts. Send Picture Posters, Lithographs, terms, and permanent address (letters only), Sylvester, the Royal Caterer, 271, Clapham-rd., London.

SIR ROBT. FOSSETT,
CIRCUS, ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL, LONDON.
WANTED, First-class Male and Female Bareback Equestrians.
Address, Sir ROBT. FOSSETT,
Farm, Ravensthorpe, near Northampton.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME, BELFAST.
WANTED, Big, Startling, and Sensational Acts, Big Troupes of Every Description. No Acts too Big up to £100. Immediate dates for Good Acts.
Bosco, Circus, Belfast.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, for November, December, January, and on.
Address, C. ALGIE. P.S.—Good Property Man, also Sober Billman can open at once.

WANTED, Big Animal Acts, Dec. 5, on, South Coast. Day's Variety Agency, Effingham house Arundel-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Young Girl with Good Knowledge of Trick Cycling to Join Well-known Troupe.
Apply,
R. G. D.,
Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancashire.

WANTED, Smart, Young Gymnast, for High-class Comedy Talking Gymnastic Act.
BERT OLRAC, 168, Beresford-street, Camberwell.

WANTED, Smart Triple Bar Performer Young. State age, height, tricks, and salary.
Address, W. ONDA, South London Music Hall.

WANTED, Triple-Bar Performer. State Tricks, Salary.
Letters, Box 8,606, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, at Once, Top-Mounter, for Comic Acrobats; weight no more than 9st.
Wire lowest terms, J. W.,
Circus, Rochdale;
after Saturday, 143, Spring-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Young Lady or Man that can Tumble or do Tight-wire;
must be of Fine appearance, for well-known Troupe.
State Salary.
H. WATERS, 8A, Electric-avenue, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS on Tour.
Manager, G. SCOTT.
WANTED, Known, John Scott and Family will be at Liberty from Dec. 5, Onwards, for Winter Season, with a First-class Circus Company, including the Imperial Bioscope if Required. For terms, &c., address, 22, Berkley-place, Clifton, Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Captain Alphonso Gérard, Highly-trained African Lions and Tiger Dogs, at Liberty through error Monday next. A sure draw Wire, GERARD, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Known, W. Tudor, Four Trick Ponies, Turpin Mare, Riding Dog, and Goat, Six Good Acts, at Liberty Nov. 14, or could find Company.
Address,
W. TUDOR, 11, Broad-street, Sheerness.

WANTED.—John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians and Pigeon Charmers, big success Ohmy's Circus. Liberty Oct. 31. Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Little Bishop, Clown and all-round Circus Comedian, after a most comfortable engagement with T. G. Transfield, Esq., for over twelve months, will be at liberty for Oct. 31 for a few weeks. Proprietors wanting a bit of good stuff, wire L. BISHOP, Transfield's Hippodrome, Sheerness-on-Sea.

WANTED, Few Odd Weeks during Winter (North only), and Liberty for Spring Tour from March. CLOWN RITTER. See Cards.

WANTED, Known, Comical Walker, Talking Clown with Good Entrées, Vacant Oct. 31. Address all letters, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, by Alec Aubrey, Herculean Gymnast. Big Star Act.
Monday, Borough Theatre, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent, Smartest of all Gymnastic Acts, Free Oct. 24, 31. Address, Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Ernest, Continental Triple-bar Performers, at Liberty Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7, 14, and 21. Also Pantomime.
Address, 38, Frederick-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, by Bros. Ernest, Continental Triple Bar Act.
Wire, 38, Frederick-street Brighton.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Four Arizonas, Acrobatic Tumblers. Also Will Percival, Comedian, Dancer. Wire, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, for Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, Dec 5, Engagements for John Fredericks Troupe, Champion Strength Statue Pictures, Acrobats, Equilibrists, and Head-to-Head Balancers. A New Act on a Revolving Apparatus. Three Ladies, One Gentleman.
Address, JOHN FREDERICKS TROUPE,
Circus Hancock, Plymouth.

WANTED, Known, Martino, in his Great Act "A Nest of Vipers."
Free Oct. 31 and Nov. 7.
Grand Theatre,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Mdlle. De Vena, Unique Lady Juggler, Nov. 7, 14. Theatre Royal, Hebburn. Monday, Borough Theatre, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, the Delamere Trio, the Original Comedy Equilibrists, Vacant Oct. 24 and 31 and Nov. 7. Wire, 95, North-road, Preston.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Premier Equilibrists and Acrobats, Oct. 24 and 31.
Wire, Thorne, Doncaster.

WANTED, Engagements, by W. Villroe, Weight-lifter, Wrestler, Handcuff Manipulator. 37, Infirmary-road, Sheffield. Also Good Agent Wanted.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fontainbleau, Globe Rolante Artist, and Marvellous Troupe of Trick, Somersault, and High Leaping Dogs Liberty for Panto., &c. Perm., Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, Triple-Bar Performer requires Engagement.
Letters, Box 8,607, "The Era" Office.

WANTED.—Smart Trick Tumbler at Liberty for Troupe, or any Comedy Show. Pantomimists preferred. G. G., 43, Eagle-st., Oxford-st., Manchester.

WANTED, by Young, Man Posturer, Engagement.
Address, 783, Old Kent-road.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.
WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

Barney Armstrong's
Scotch Tour.
Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock;
also Sixteen Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour.
WANTED, Artists to send Full List of Bookings, terms, &c., Armstrong's Agency, Tivoli Palace, Glasgow.
Big Acts Required for Immediate Dates.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.
WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

EMPIRE CIRCUS, WAKEFIELD.
Lessee and Manager, Mr HERBERT A. ROSAXQUET.
WANTED, Known.—Having secured a Short Lease from Messrs Sherwood and Co., it is my intention to re-open this place of amusement on Nov. 14 (possibly Nov. 7). Variety Artists in all Lines write for opening and succeeding November Dates.
Circus and Variety Artists for the month of December. Combinations please not to apply.
Applicants please note they must have not less than Twelve Band Parts.
Agents wishful to open Business please Note that Turns can only be Booked on "split" commissions.
Apply, letters only, HERBERT A. ROSAXQUET, care of Messrs SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, for Circus and Winter Gardens, Plymouth, Oct. 31, 1904, and onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines, Must be Good; also for Nov. 7 and onwards, a Male and Female Bareback Equestrians, without own Horses, as we have Good Reliable Horses. W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

WANTED, Variety Artistes in All Lines for Nov. 14, and on (North), especially those known to me. Bigger the Better. LEO FRITZ, Empress, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Oct. 28, 29, near London. Lowest Terms. KARDOC, 320, High-road, Chiswick. Lowe and Oswald write.

WANTED, Oct 31, West and Wales, Variety Artists; Dec. 26 for Five Graph. Shows. Suitable Acts and Lecturers with Speciality. Lithos., Memos Lowest terms, T. R. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON,
Lessee and Manager.
WANTED, Artistes to send lowest terms and Vacant Dates.
Vacancies on all Dates.

WANTED, Artistes of all Descriptions, Suitable for Carnivals at Olympia, Sunderland.
Apply, CARR, for RICHARDSON BROS., Limited.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager,
WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now, onwards.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Nov. 21, only Vacant Date this year. Freaks or Novelties open at once. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Oct. 31, on.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Artistes in all Lines, for Newcastle and Gateshead.
Address, SIDNEY BACON,
Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Doubles (doing Singles), Five Small Halls (South). Absolute lowest, Leslie's Agency, Frankfort-buildings, Plymouth.

WANTED, All Kinds of Artists, Novelties, Cinematographs, for Dec. 26 to 31 inclusive.
Apply, HAMILTON, Humourist, Rotherham.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines, for Tour with Choir.
Particulars and terms to
S. PHILLIPS,
9, Longroyd-crescent, Burton-road, Leeds.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes all Lines, Big Specialities, Big Star Turns and Novelties. Oct. 31, onwards. Lowest terms, Bookings, Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies. Oct. 31 and Nov. 7. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Oct. 31, Artists doing Two Acts, Sketches, Serios, Comedians, Sisters; no Best Offers; Hall very small. KENDALL, Empire, Winchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
by
H. ROSE and CO.,
H. ROSE and CO.,
H. ROSE and CO.,
VARIETY and CONCERT
VARIETY and CONCERT
VARIETY and CONCERT
AGENTS,
AGENTS,
AGENTS,
of
6, Duke-street, Adelphi, Strand, W.C.,
First-class Artists
of
every Description
for the
Principal
London and Provincial
Music Halls.

H. ROSE and CO.

R equire
O nly
S mart
E ntertainers,

A rtistic
N ovelties with
D rawing Power,

C omedians and Comediennes
O f Repute.

H. Rose and Co. can always place
Good Acts,
No matter how
Big or Small.

Our Mr Rose will be shortly Starting on an
Extended Tour.
so
Talented Performers
should
Communicate
with us
without delay.
Mr Rose is able to do Business with All Music Halls, None Barred.

We are Always Pleased to
See any Act,
Distance no Object.

Clients are requested to keep the Firm posted as to any Additional Bookings made through other Agencies.

Address, with Full Particulars,
H. ROSE and Co.,
6, Duke-street, Adelphi, Strand, W.C.
Telephone No. 6,690 Gerrard.

WANTED, Artistes in Every Line, nothing too Big, for the Hippodrome, Macclesfield. State when last appeared there, lowest terms, and full particulars, also vacancies for other towns, Barnard and Deetrich, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Oct. 31 and Nov. 7, onwards.
W. BIRCHALL, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines.
State lowest terms, Bookings, Lithos, &c.,
Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, Morecambe.
Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c.
Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe."

WANTED, for Newcastle, Dec. 5 and 12, First-class Artistes in all Lines, Specialities, Comedians, Comedy Acts, Serios, &c. State when last in Newcastle. Lowest terms, lithos, &c., FRED HARCOURT, Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Artistes for Lancashire and Yorkshire. MARCUS BOYLE,
General Post Office, Wakefield.

WANTED, Artistes, 31st, on Lowest Terms to me. Rehearse Oct. 24, 2·0 p.m., for Four Kaye, Joe Hastings, N. Thorne, Nelson and Thomas, Katie Le Blanche, T. E. Fayme, Bella Sylvia, Miss Hastings, Hippograph, Karr and Kooney, &c. QUINTON GIBSON, Hippo., Scarborough.

BRITANNIA MUSIC HALL, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Artistes in All Lines. Send bills and programmes of last engagement. Manager, GEO. SAPHRINI.

Grand Opening HIPPODROME, MACCLESFIELD, Monday, Nov. 7. Lessees, H. BENDON and J. LARDER.
WANTED, Artistes, Nov. 14 and on. Would like to hear from a good Leader or a family of about Four or Five for Orchestra, used to the Variety Biz. All communications to HARRY BENDON, 11, Sidney-st., Manchester.

CIRCUS and HIPPODROME ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Artistes, for December, on. Rehearsal, Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Sisters Vol Becque, Wallace Whitney, Beatie Foster, Sisters Judge's Cockatoos, Four Andys, Alec Kennedy, Swift Trio, Hughes's Electrograph. Letters, S. L. LEE.

WAMTED, Artistes, All Lines, Nov. 7, 14, 21,
for Glasgow, Greenock, Paisley, and Scotch Concerts.
Anderson's Agency,
6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, First-class Artistes only, in all Lines, Oct. 31, onwards. Full particulars.
Cadle's Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artistes, Two First-class Turns, for Grand Jubilee Balaclava Celebration, Oct. 25, Middlebrook's Museum, Mornington-rd., Regent's-park. "Amusement" Office, 6, Whitefriars, F.C.

THE NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH.
Now in course of Construction.
WANTED, for the above, commencing Monday, Nov. 14, 1904, Artistes in Every Branch of the Variety Business; also the Biggest Attractions possible. All artists must state if appeared in Rhondda Valley before, and if so when. Address all communications to D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Vacant Oct. 24 and onwards, to communicate with Cavill and Co., 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone 2,140 Royal.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, New to Town, for Hippodrome, Castleford, Yorks, which opens Oct. 31; also Band and Stage-Manager, with Tools, who can Carpenter and use Brush. Lowest to H. Braham, Agent, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and J. W. CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to
Burns's Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and
Manchester.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Oct. 24:—Muir and Bartlett. George Bernard, Ruby Bijou, Burns's Bioscope, Floradora Girls, Evelyn Taylor, Harry Nelson, The Dayton Family, and Herr Fritz and Co. 1 0 o'clock prompt.
All Artists not sending in their Bill Matter Two clear Weeks before Opening, besides standing risk of having their Contracts Cancelled for same, may rely on prompt action at law being taken as per Rule No. 6.
(Signed)
HARRY BURNS, General Manager.

WANTED, Artistes holding Engagements Alhambra, Belfast, to write in Fourteen Days before Opening. H. T. DOWNS, Manager

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, Oct. 24, onwards.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c.
Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076, Royal.
Hector and Paulus please send address

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

HIPPODROMES, COVENTRY, WAKEFIELD, and IPSWICH.
WANTED, Big Stars, Novelties, &c., for the above. Mark letters "Syndicate." Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
Morecambe,
Blackpool,
and other Big Towns,
Big
Stars,
Singing Turns,
Novelties,
Specialities,
New Sensations.
Price
no
object.

Lithos.
and
Price,
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Stars for 1904-5-6-7-8-9-10.
Also Artists for Pantomime, at once.
Turns Vacant for Seaside,
June, July, August, and September,
Send terms to
Pacey and Reeves, 76, Waterloo-road, London.
Telephone, 894 Hop.
Telegrams, "Parthenon, London."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
Liverpool, St. Helens, Warrington, and Ashton,
Stars and Novelties, Oct. 31, onwards.
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, a Refined Turn, One Night, Saturday, Nov. 12. Send terms and particulars, SECRETARY, Entertainment Committee, Oddfellows' Hall, Stafford.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
TIVOLI, SOUTH SHIELDS.
BORO', NORTH SHIELDS.
Business Manager and Booking Agent,
and to whom all communications
must be addressed,
Harry Burns's Agency only,
Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

Telephone 0,231.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Star Turns of every Description, immediate and onwards. I can arrange Eight Weeks North alone for Good Acts, without having an average 6d. weekly journeys, besides South Bookings, &c. Good and Reliable Numbers. I can place Twenty-six Weeks in England, without Continental Bookings.
Note.—On all South and North Shields Contracts I bar Theatre, Hebburn-on-Tyne (which is only Five Miles), and any Artists appearing there without my written permission, holding Dates at the Shields, not only will have their Contracts Cancelled, but will be injuncted against appearing, and I will also apply for Costs in the matter.
Signed, H. BURNS,
Business-Manager.

WANTED, Speciality Turns, for Dec. 26, Jan. 9, and 16. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Good Variety Turns, Double doing Singles, Specialities, &c., Combination terms, for Oct. 24, 31, and on. HUGH DEMPSEY, 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, for the Palace Theatre, Cork,
Big Specialities,
Comedians,
Performing Animals,
Musical Acts,
Sisters,
Serios,
Novelties,
Dancers, &c.
Full particulars,
Lithos., and terms to
HENRY KEMBLE,
General Manager.

WANTED, Specialities, All Lines. Young Lady Vocalists, Dancers, Instrumentalists, Clever Juveniles, for Tour Immediately.
Fullest particulars and photos.,
WILSON, 19, Tillotson-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Specialities, Lady Serios, Dancers, Clever Juveniles, Lady Instrumentalists, and Vocalists.
Fullest particulars and photos. in first letter.
Address, MANAGER, 49, Mary-st., West Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Novel Specialities for Whit Week. Northampton, Four Days, Twice Daily, Particulars, M'Askell, 40, Victoria-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Biggest Acts in the Profession.
Good Goods command Good Salaries.
Send terms for Oct. 31 and onwards.
We are in Touch with all Leading Houses.

American "Rapid" Agency.
J. Carroll,
Century-buildings, London-road, Liverpool.
American and Continental Specialities
please note.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Biggest Star Acts in the World
for Blackpool, 1905-6.
American "Rapid" Agency, Century-buildings, London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Nov. 7, Onwards, Good Comic Speciality Acts, all Lines. Lowest terms, MANAGER, Hamilton's Bioscope, 118, Camberwell New-rd., London.

BORO' THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
NORTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, ARTHUR JEFFERSON.
WANTED, High-class Acts of every Description. Booking Agent, Harry Burns. Empress, E. Hartlepool to whom please apply direct. A.J

WANTED, Sensational Tops of the Bill, also Star Turns for Immediate Bookings.
Also Good Acts of Every Description for Oct. 31, Onward, Yarmouth; and Dec. 5, Onward, Eastbourne.
Enclose full list of Booking, lowest terms, litho. pictures, and full description of acts to
Day's Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6 915 Gerrard.
Telegraphic address, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

WANTED, Big Top, Share or Salary, Artists, all Lines. Tours. Absolute Lowest, Lithos, Vacancies, EVENTIO, Sunninghill, Chevening-road, Kensal-rise.

WANTED, Nov. 7, Attractive Top of Bill. Also Serios, Dancers, Sisters, Comedians, &c. Lowest terms, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN-ON-TYNE.
Lessee and Manager, W. A. JACKSON.
WANTED, Big Top of Bill and Artistes in all Lines, Single doing Doubles, Oct. 31, Onwards. Lowest terms for Small Hall.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GREENOCK.
Lessee and Manager, H. L. SKIVINGTON.
WANTED, Talent of all Kinds, for above, Nov. 7, on. ALFRED SELWYN, Zoo and Hippodrome, Glasgow.

WANTED, Oct 29 and on, Concert Parties and Artists for Saturday Night Popular and Sunday Charity Concerts. ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Smart Combinations, Sensational Acts, Coloured Artistes, Low Comedians, Oct 31, onwards, for Hip., Llandudno, and Tivoli, Holyhead. Wire, LYNN, Empire, Dudley.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY,
19, Chapelfield-road,
Norwich.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Immediate and Future Dates,
for Immediate and Future Dates,
for Immediate and Future Dates,
for Immediate and Future Dates,
for Immediate and Future Dates,
Variety Artistes,
Variety Artistes,
Variety Artistes,
Variety Artistes,
Variety Artistes,
Acrobatic Troupes,
Acrobatic Troupes,
Acrobatic Troupes,
Acrobatic Troupes,
Acrobatic Troupes,
Aerial Acts,
Aerial Acts,
Aerial Acts,
Aerial Acts,
Aerial Acts,
Sketch Teams,
Sketch Teams,
Sketch Teams,
Sketch Teams,
Sketch Teams,
Performing Animals,
Performing Animals,
Performing Animals,
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Performing Animals,
Musical Acts,
Musical Acts,
Musical Acts,
Musical Acts,
Musical Acts,
Aquatic Sensations,
Aquatic Sensations,
Aquatic Sensations,
Aquatic Sensations,
Aquatic Sensations,
Refined Comedians,
Refined Comedians,
Refined Comedians,
Refined Comedians,
Refined Comedians,
Good Serios,
Good Serios,
Good Serios,
Good Serios,
Good Serios.

Anything
of a
New and Novel Nature
can
be Booked
At Once.

Give full list of Bookings.
Give full list of Bookings.
Give full list of Bookings.
Give full list of Bookings.
Give full list of Bookings.
Permanent Addresses.
Permanent Addresses.
Permanent Addresses.
Permanent Addresses.
Permanent Addresses.
Absolute lowest terms.
Absolute lowest terms.
Absolute lowest terms.
Absolute lowest terms.
Absolute lowest terms.

Send
Photos, Lithos,
and
Full Particulars.

Cee Mee Troupe
and
Marconis
Wire
Address.

Geo. Zalva's Agency,
19, Chapelfield-road,
Norwich,
till
Further Notice.

THE NEW COLISEUM,
SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLING.
General Manager, CHAS. MELVIN.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Stars, Stars, Stars,
of the Greatest Brilliancy
in the
Firmament of the Variety Profession.
Stars that Twinkle only One Night
and Fade away until Treasury Day not required;
but Stars that can draw the People
by merit of their Performance
can have
their own Price!
their own Price!
Money will be a Minor Consideration
in our endeavour to obtain the
Latest and most Sensational Attractions
Latest and most Sensational Attractions
for the New Coliseum,
which is undergoing
Gigantic Structural Alterations,
including Complete Renovation of the Stage,
which, when completed, will be
40ft. deep, with an opening of 30ft.,
and capable of accommodating
the Biggest Acts before the Public.

Artistes not known to me are respectfully requested to state when and where they can be seen performing during the next Four Weeks. Distance no object.
Send Vacant Dates, lowest terms, and full particulars, in first instance, to
the General Manager,
CHARLES MELVIN.
Interviews by Appointment Only.
P.S.—C. M. desires to thank the numerous Artistes and friends for their prompt replies to last week's advert., and also for their kind wishes for my success in the new undertaking.

WILDMAN WINTER CARNIVAL,
PAVILION, CARNARVON.
WANTED, for the above, Reopening Nov. 7, and onwards, Novelties of all kinds, Good Aerial Performances, Comedy Sketches, Refined Variety Animal Acts; in fact, all kinds of Performances.
Present address,
WILDMAN, World's Fair, Menai Bridge, North Wales.

WANTED, Knockabouts, Strong Man, Contortionist, Juggler, Second-Sight, Bar Performer, Ball Puncher, &c. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, for Touring in Germany, Two Young Ladies (Singers and Dancers) as a Two Sisters Turn; also a Single Man Turn. Letters to O. MEYER, 20, St. Oswald-road, West Brompton.

WANTED, a Smart Little Girl for High-class Illusions, and to make herself generally useful. Good home, &c. Full particulars, photo., to PRINCE SAMOUDA, 4, Ducie-grove, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Young Lady, about twenty, height about 5ft., to assist Artist on Stage. Long and comfortable engagement to suitable girl.
Apply, STAGE MANAGER, Palace, Camberwell.

WANTED, Oct. 31, and on, Star Comedians, Nov. 7, 14, Star Comediennes.
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Jan. 9.
Specialities for Pantomime must be funny with little fixing.
"Lord" Geo. Aytoun, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.
Telegraphic address, "Antics, London."
Telephone, 1,949, Hop.

DERBY, GRIMSBY, and ATTERCLIFFE.
WANTED, for Present and Future Dates, Star Vocalists, Speciality Acts of every description, Comedy, Acrobatic, and Juggling Acts, and Funny Sketches. Quote lowest terms or useless. T. EDWARDES, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Mesmeric Subjects and Variety Artistes and Pianist. George Jackson write. The Fays' American Mysteries, Imperial Hall, Newark.

WANTED, for Oct. 31 or Dec. 12, Animated Picture Show, complete in itself, share or rental, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham. Also to let, Room for Phrenologist, in Corridor leading to Large Hall, Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Good Steady Operator, and to make himself generally Useful on Show.
PRUETTS, Weston-super-Mare.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Expert Bioscope Operator for Tour, Electric and Lime. Lowest terms and references to BIOSCOPE, 42, Grove-lane, Camberwell, S.E.

ACCRINGTON HIPPODROME.

WANTED, a Magic Kettle Act; also Tops and Smaller Acts for Oct. 31 and Nov. 7. Don't write if Booked in Blackburn. Accrington is Barred. Call one o'clock, Oct. 24, John Mary, Cameron, Le Breton, T. Bassett, Zenora and Foden, Macfarlane, Flo Deighton, Bioscope, Tim Timor. Artistes can play Accrington, following Rochdale, Burnley, Bolton, Burnley. Paul Vandy, Sole Agent, Pavilion, Glasgow, to Oct. 29. Sorry I can't answer everyone. Silence polite negative.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Florrie Vongar, the Up-to-Date Serio and Descriptive Vocalist, Six or Twelve Nights, Monday next. Wire, Alex. T., Penarth, Cardiff.

WANTED, by a Lady Instrumentalist, to Join Troupe. Age 20, Own Instruments. Apply, LAURA VANAU, 213, Regent-road, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements, Judge Bolton, High-class Variety Entertainer. Two Distinct Acts. Apply, 41, Prince's-road, Hull.

WANTED, Monday next, by Cambo, Musical Monkey; also neat Show (Two Big Acts). Wire, Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Fred Casburn, a Comedian who is Funny in Evening Dress, Oct. 31 and Nov. 7. Communications, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Known, Charles Woodward, Actor-Vocalist, has made another great hit this week with his Monologue "The Tast Touch," at the Alhambra, Belfast. Next, Tivoli, Dublin. Vacant Oct. 31.

WANTED, by James Graydon (the Quaint One), Oct. 24, 31, on. Vacant Panto. Agent, Geo. Aytoun. Wire, 33, Oseney-crescent, Camden-town.

WANTED, Six Nights, Monday Next, by Harry Albery, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer. Wire, Palace, West Hartlepool, wire. Panto. settled.

WANTED, by Frank Whiteley, Monday next, Oct. 24; also 31st. Good Single Turn. Wire, Hippodrome, Mountain Ash, South Wales.

WANTED.—John Irvin, Dexterous Foot Equilibrist, big success. This week and next Ohmy's Circus, Bolton. Lib. Oct. 31. Wire, Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, Oct. 31, Concert Tour, Panto. or Halls, Eugene Brant, Comedian, with Smart Comic Ditties. Address, 8, Arlington-rd., London, N.W.

WANTED, Picitt, Handcuff King and Jailbreaker, without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes. No Conjurors' Methods or Confederates. Sensational Escapes in full view of audience. Searched from head to feet. This Act is different to any other. Bookings this week include:—Gaiety, Oldham; Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh; Hippodrome, Carlisle. Now at Gilbert's Circus, Exeter. Oct. 31 Vacant. Wire, Circus, Exeter; Monday, Gaiety, Oldham. Few other Dates; also Christmas Week.

WANTED.—Kardoc, Jail Breaker, King of all Handcuff Kings, free Oct. 31, on. Splendid Lithos. Sure Draw. See Card Wire.

WANTED, Known, Evansio, Conjuror and Basin Spinner, at Liberty for Halls or Tours, Oct. 24 and 31. A sure success. Splendid Stage Fit-up. Apply, Waterloo House, Commercial-rd., Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, the Vyponds (Fred and Maude), Premier Society Entertainers, Vacant Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 12 Thanks W. B. Broadhead, Esq., Will Sley, Esq., and E. Dottridge, Esq., for Contracts. Next, Tivoli, Dublin.

WANTED, Nov. 28, onwards, the Vanes (Ella and Carl), Second Sight, Canopy Illusions, and Conjuring. Address, Post-office, Pontnewydd, Mon.

WANTED, 24th, onwards, by the Mintos, Joe and Cissy, Musical Eccentrics, Comic Sketch Artists and Single Turns. 31, Rumford-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Reg. Templeton, Comedian, and Stella May, Comedienne. This week, Return, E., Wrexham, where wire.

WANTED, Monday next, by Dale and D'Argan, Funny Acrobatic Conjurors. Wire, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Huntley and Palmer, Eccentric Comedians, Varieties, Rochdale. Comic Sketch, "Farmer Giles in Trouble," introducing Wrestling Donkey. Liberty Monday. 42, Milbourne-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday next, also 31st, by Sterling and Cashen, American Speciality Artists, Dancers, &c. Wire, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Ryde and Beeman, Great Eccentric Acrobats, Vacant Monday through obliging. Wire for an Act, 3, Barton-street, Pendleton.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Two Smalleys, Comedy Bar Act, Tricks and Comedy. Wire, 11, Kennington-mansions, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, Goliath and Walford. Novel Athletic and Comedy Act. Terrific success, this, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Delamere Trio, the Original Comedy Equilibrists, Oct. 24-31, and Nov. 7. Wire, 95, North-road, Prestor.

WANTED, Known, Savaro, Bird Imitator and Siffleur, and The Two Lillians, Acrobats, Vacant Oct. 31, Nov. 7. Address, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Monday Next and 31st, The Rushforths and King Leo, Song Illustrators and Ventriloquist. Two Acts Palace, North Shields. Wire.

WANTED, Monday Next, also Oct. 31, by Billy Ross and Company, Greatest Comedy Act on the Stage. Starring Hippo., Dewsbury. Wire for Draw.

WANTED, Oct. 24 and 31, St. Albans' and Williams' Star Operatic Vocalists and Duettists, Harmony Blenders. 179, Granton-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday, by the Four Arizonas, Acrobatic Tumblers; and Will Percival, Comedian, Dancer. Wire, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Rumbo Austin and his Aristocratic Nippers, with his New Budget of Comicalities, acknowledged to be the Funniest Number now before the Public. Vacant Oct. 24, 31, and Nov. 7. Address, 123, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next and 31st, through alteration, by the Melverner, Living Marionettes, and Newling Major, Ventriloquial Etonian. One or Both Acts. Enormous success this week, Grand T., London, where wire.

WANTED, Engagements for Magic Kettle and Latest Illusions. London's Big Draw. Fast Booking. Sylvester, 271, Clapham-road, London, Sole Agent.

WANTED, Known, Charles Freeman, Florence Tench and Company, Brilliant Success in Great Society Episode "Motha." "So the moths eat the ermine and the world kisses the leper on both cheeks." Euston, 8.15 and 10.0 o'clock. Permanent address, 32, Pretoria-avenue, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Lee and Arder. "The Lady and the Watchman." Empire, Brighton, to follow. Wire, 2, Gladstone-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dates, November, Dec. 28, 29, 31, New Year, Salary or Share, the Royal Entertainers (Six Numbers). Mr HARRY LISTON, Egyptian Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Percy Victor's Dog Minstrels and Canine Band always Billed as such. The only Act of its kind in the World, including the Original Dog Conductor and "The Costers' Wedding Day." Percy Victor's Dog Minstrels and Canine Band.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, only Two Dates Vacant till March, viz., Oct. 31 and Nov. 7, through misunderstanding. Otherwise Booking and Rebooking rapidly. Twenty Bookings in Six Days. How's that for the only "Most Wonderful Man in Existence," Professor Inman Hooking, M.E., P.B.H.Sc., Electrician, Hypnotist, and Scientist? "The Modern Healer." Forty-five or Thirty Minutes' Show. Tops Bill, and brings crowds everywhere. Why? Because I Do; instead of Talk. Don't forget, Vacant only this Year, Oct. 31 and Nov. 7. Write or wire, HOCKING, care of Pacey and Reeves, London; or, direct to HOCKING, Healer, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

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WANTED, Known, Young Man, Expert Mandolinist and Violinist, with knowledge of Wind and Novelty Instruments, would like to hear from Musical Turn or Troupe. Address Box 8,583, care of "The Era" Office.

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WANTED, Immediately, Freaks and Novelties, Big Attractions for Shop and Booth for Nov. 7 and 14 for Shields Fair. Good Midget Show write. CARL COLLENA, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, Attractions. Pickard's American Museum, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Barron's Grand Waxworks, Lowestoft, Royal Midgets, with Ponies and Carriage, share or wage, one or two weeks. Good Doorsman found and Stable. Wire for Monday. Sure success. Tattooed Lady write.

WANTED, Artists for Outside Show, for Iona-street Carnival, High Wire Acrobats, Bar Show, Skaters, Dogs. Carnival commences Nov. 28, and continues until Jan. 23, 1905. Apply, with terms, &c., STOTT, Manager, Iona-street Carnival, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Smart Comic Singers, Planksmen, &c., for Travelling Auction Mart. Good Workers indispensable. HARRY LYONS, Market, Sligo.

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WANTED, Known, Tom Atholl, from Crystal Palace, Waverley Market, Edinburgh, Proprietor of Atholl's Marvellous Gallery of Living Novelties, Earl's-court, 1900, desires an Engagement during Winter Season as Manager of any Good Side Show or Entertainment. Cannot be Surpassed in Knowledge of Illusions, Lecturing, own Dooring (King's English), or General Show Business. Vacant Oct. 31. Comp., P. P., Brighton.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Oliver Colbert, Doorsman, is at Liberty for Engagement. Cinématograph Show preferred. Apply, OLIVER COLBERT, Brampton, Huntingdon.

WANTED, Known, Charles Trevor (Uncle Charlie), Comedian and Planksman, at Liberty. Wire, Bloom's No. 1 Auction Mart, South Shields. References.

WANTED, by Madame Ella, the Original Tattooed and Second-Sighted Lady, assisted by Prof. Miller, Electric Tattooer, Nov. 28, onwards. Paintings and Posters. Address, Post-office, Pontnewydd, Mon.

WANTED, Dates, for Carl Collena, Premier Rifle and Pistol Shot; together with Miss Zona-Bell, Coloured Lady Snake-Charmer. Also Madame St. Claire, Female Gaol-Breaker. Monday, Carter's, Belfast. Vacant, Oct. 21. Apply, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Flo, Tattooed Lady, and Ydac, Yankee Lock King, Liberty Mon., onward. YDAC, Back 12, Lee-st., Bedford-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let, for Shows, Side Shows, Stalls, &c., for Canterbury Great Pleasure Fair, commenced Oct. 7, until Oct. 22, in the Agricultural Hall, and Field adjoining Hall, one Space in Hall, 30ft. by 30ft. All applications to be made to F. MACKLIN, 68, St. Peter's-place, Canterbury; or, to the Agent, W. Waghorne, Nelson House, Godinton-road, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen and Others, that we have Ground to Let at Olympia, Sunderland. Apply, RICHARDSON BROS., Ltd., Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Let, Few Good Spaces and Stalls, for Novelties, &c., in Industrial Exhibition, North Wales, Nov. 12 to 26. H. COLEY, Colwyn Bay.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
BY
ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I. COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT
Chapter II. PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III. INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV. MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V. INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

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London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
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Advertising Rates, One Shilling per Line.
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CALLS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1904.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME,

Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square, W.C.
Twice Daily, at 2·0 and 7·45 p.m.

"Zutka," Staley's Transformation, Diane De Fontenoy, in "An Artist's Model," Paul Conchas, Onllaw Trio, Felix De Marce, Leamy Sisters, Robertus and Wilfredo, Alfonso Trio, Chas. Baron, Marcelline, "Siberia," Mysterious Kettle.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Vesta Tilley, Silent Tait, Dome, Tatton Hall, Nellie Coleman, Frank Lynne, the Mayvilles, James Grant, St. James's Quintette, Phillips and Terry, Selma Braatz.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
T. E. Dunville, Lannons, Stewart and Morgan, Josh Dixon, Hume, Ross, and Lewis, Beatrice Willey, Three Georgis, Two Bells, Albert Le Fre, Lukushima Troupe, May Edouin and Fred Edwards.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Salamonsky's Fire Horse, Amy Sullivan, Leo Tell, Clark and Hamilton, Brothers Damm, Lillie Soutter, Brothers Horne, Arthur Reece, Paul Sandor, Bioscope, Three Sisters Sprightley, Bros. De Wynne, Geo. Lashwood.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out;" Bros. Obo, The M'Kays, Tennyson and Wallis, Johnny Gilmore, Devona Sisters, Stuart Quartette, Lilian Lea, Tom Leamore, Henry Kaiser, De Kock Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
R. A. Roberts, Flo Burris, Ernest Rees, Minnie Cunningham, Johnny Dwyer, Max Welson Troupe, Daisy Dormer, the Haytors, Lieut. Travis, Bros. Griffiths.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Kremo Family, Walter Groves and Co., Horace Wheatley, Burt Shepard, The Rayfords, Downes and Langford, Fred Earle, Walter King, Amy Russell, Alice Ormonde

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-ST., CARDIFF.
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EMPIRE THEATRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Tom Costello, Wal Pink and Co., Athas and Collins, the Wheelers, Arthur Rigby, Two Bees, Frank Maura, Baldwin Bros., Jessie Albini.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Tina Clements, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Scottish Minister Singers, Lizzie Valrose, Arthur Melrose, Walter Stanley, Bert Byrne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Marie Kendall, Calcedo, Dutch Daly, The Manings Goggin and Davis, Four Milons, Lawrence Barclay, Zarmo, Mabel Hind, Steve M'Carthy,

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Fred. Maxwell and Co., Lillian Lowe, Crown Trio, My Fancy, Hall and Earle, Paul Pelham, Lydden and Hayward, Vivian's Vaudeville Co. Ruth Lytton, Doody and Wright.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artistes holding Engagements with this Company at the Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are requested to note that, in accordance with Rule 6 in their Contracts, they undertake not to appear at any Place of Entertainment within Ten Miles of that City. Any Artistes infringing this rule will do so at the risk of having their Contract for the whole of the Tour cancelled.

Carefully note that Byker and Gateshead are within One Mile of the Newcastle Empire.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Prinz's Lions, Sybil St. Elmo, Abel and Welsh, Gilbert Rogers, Bard and O'Brien, Myra Stansfield, Will English, Maxwell & Francis, Lily Burnand, Parros Bros.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Albert Chevalier, Ida Brophy, Marion Scott, Eight of Hearts, Bros. Webb, Espinosa and Neilson, Phil Ray, Wartenburg Bros., Hal Forde, Bros. Redmond, Alaskas, Werner-Amoros Troupe.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Chas. R. Sweet, Katie Holloway, Tribune Trio, Harry Dent, Brown and Le Clerq, Ted Cowan, Tourbillon Troupe, R. H. Douglass, Sisters Lonnen, Ginnett's Remounts.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for
G. W. Leslie and Co., in "Chums"; Austin and Cowan, Marba and Verity, Sisters Iris, Baker and Balfe, the Hoopers, Les Vocos, the Densmores, Two Graces, the Kellinos.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·30 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Joe Elvin and Co., "Over the Sticks;" Millie Hylton, Winder and Banks, Trapnell Family, Werner and Reider, Les Burnellys, Post Mason, Harry Lawson, Jennie Belmore, Victor Travers.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Noiset Troupe, Brothers Egbert, Three Pantzer Brothers, Mason and Keeler, Lalla Selbini, Brett and Oxford, Bioscope, Four Olympians, Bob Hutt, Ella Retford.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Marie Loftus, Ray Wallace, Alexandre and Hughes, James's Strolling Players, Sisters Geretti, Six Lancashire Lasses, Brothers Edgar, Harry Anderson, Paul Mill, Winnie Derson.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
George Gray and Co., in "Fighting Parson;" Wilkie Bard, Carl Hertz, Barowsky Trio, Trentanovi Sisters, "The Passparts," May Evans, Nellie Stratton.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
R. G. Knowles, Verno and Voyce, Young American Quintette, Florador Quartette, George Brooks, Princess Pauline, Rezene and Robini, Marie Reeve, The Ashers, Lizzie Daniels.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Horace Goldin, Ernest Shand, Tom Edwards, Carl and Mary Ohms, Harvey Boys, Ethalrien Brothers, Nina Martino, Maud Mortimer, Andy Burn.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Alec Hurley, Cassie Walmer, The Anartos, James Kurry, Manning's Entertainers, Ganty, Harry Coates, Bernar's Fantoches.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Chung Ling Soo, Edie King, Callie and Walker, Annie Casey, Charles Chard, Florence Esdaile, Smythson Comedy Company, Mark Sheridan.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Tom Davies and Co., in "Whirling the Whirl;" Juan and M'Que, Ford and Hanson, Chas. Stevens, Bioscope, Nello, Wedburns, Sam Mayo, Pat Rafferty, Cora Sisters.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal at 3·0 o'clock for
Winifred Hare, Marrant Ashton, Griffin and Marks, Albert Whelan, the Ramlos, Bros. Cavallini, Die Schutzenliesesrl'n Quartette, Barrere and Jules, Ryan and Hall, Belle Braham.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr Oswald Stoll, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr Frank Allen, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope.
Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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PEOPLE'S PALACE, BRISTOL;
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Address all communications, Billing Matter, &c. for Aberdeen and Dundee (two clear weeks in advance of opening), to
Ernest Sheldon, New Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.
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L. O. J. Livermore,
Wiltshire House, 51, Wiltshire-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Liverare, London." Nat. Telephone, 323 Hop.
N.B.—Can only be interviewed by appointment.

MANCHESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES, Limited.

All Artistes will kindly note that the Entertainment will be changed to Two Houses Nightly, commencing Oct. 31.

CALL for Monday, Oct. 24, 1904.

Demon Kettle, Ben Albert, Bert Brantford, Three Sisters Chester, Thos. F. Finglas, Cullen and Carthy, Lola Dalby, Geraldine Montrose and Co., Ferrari Duo, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Harry Bickley, and Palace Pictures.

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TIVOLI and QUEEN'S THEATRES, GLASGOW.
CALL for Monday, Oct 24.—Lily Marney, Tony Black, Watson Family, Larry Lewis, Charles Deane, Belrose and De Velin, Fred Neiman, The Rozells, Darring, Learto and Dog, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Alf Levarni, Norman Leonard Trio, Bert Woodward, Charles Mildare, Haydee's Mannikins, and Bros. Artois
Special Notice.—Tivoli and Queen's Theatres revert to One House Nightly from this date.
Artists perform at both Theatres. Conveyances provided by the Management. Rehearsal 12·0 prompt, at Tivoli Theatre. Both Orchestras.
Barney Armstrong, Managing-Director.

COLLINS'S HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Proprietor, Mr P. Collins. Manager, Frank Egerton, to whom all communications must be addressed.
Twice Nightly, 7·0 and 9·0.
CALL, for Monday, Oct. 24.—Miss Billie Barlow, Chris Masters, Mabelle May, Kitts and Windrum, Harry Sheldon, Ferris and Farnley, J. H. Milburn, Collins's British Bioscope, Ags, the Crecs. Rehearsal at 12·30 prompt.

BILLIE BINT. Notice.—To Proprietors, Managers, that don't want to be Disappointed, Beware of a certain Person who I Engaged to Appear at Corn Exchange, Hertford. This Person wired me, "Not coming." Address, Granby-place, Park-lane, Newmarket.

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ARTISTES (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,

OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·30 o'clock.
George Robey, Harry Lauder, Harry Randall, Queenie Leighton, Lil Hawthorne, M'Naughtons, Fanny Fields, the Stella Troupe, Nellie Wallace, Alice Lloyd, Bessie Featherstone, Hamilton Hill, Bella and Bijou, Harry Freeman, Chas. Norton, May Henderson, Rex Fox, Dorothy L. Clark, Wilson Hallett, Sisters Govell, W. H. Clemart, Brothers Poluski.
Manager, Albert Gilmer.

THE TIVOLI,

STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, George Robey, Harry Lauder, Harry Randall, Jessica Grace, The M'Naughtons, Jake Friedman, Tom Foy and Co., Happy Fanny Fields, The Poluskis, Doctor Jules Angelo, Will Evans, Nellie Wallace, Bella and Bijou, The Twin Andersons, Maud Esmond, Sisters Govell, James Fawn.
Joint Acting-Managers { James Howell. Arthur Yates.

THE CANTERBURY,

WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
Harry Lauder,
Harry Tate, in "Motoring;"
The Finneys, Kate Carney,
Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, May Henderson,
Frank Seeley, May Milburn,
Sterling and Love,
George Mozart, Rita Resdan, Daisy James,
George Antill,
Ruffle's Bioscope.
Manager, Fred Miller.

PARAGON,

MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
Geo. Robey,
The Original "Demon Kettle,"
Lilian Doreen, Jackley Wonders, May Milburn,
Imperial Quartette, F. Carr,
Ernie Mayne, W. H. Clemart, Little Cliffe,
Dolly Golden, L. B. Athol,
Charles Cardow, Ruffle's Bioscope,
Fred Karno's Company, including Fred Kitchen and Miss Cossie Noel, in "Saturday to Monday."
Manager, Charles Bercham.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,

LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Paul Courtney and Co., M'Connell Trio, Driscoll and Beattie, Hetty King, Bros. Onda, Bernard and Weston, Wilson Hallett, Bendella Troupe, Ray Markell, Frew and Frow, Will Toole.
Manager, Frank Weeks.

EUSTON,

EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Fred Eustace and Co., in "Our Curate;" Fred Russell, May Henderson, Geo. Bastow, The Stella Troupe, Dorothy Clark, Sisters Jonghmans, Marriott Edgar, Queen and Le Brun, Frank Cass.
Manager, Fred M'Avoy.

THE EMPRESS,

BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
"The Night Alarm," by Ernest Ball and Co.; Bransby Williams, George Mozart, Datas, Bessie Featherstone, Will Newman, The Rales, Pete and Juno, Four Figaros, Alexandra Dagmar, Amy Clevere, Cline and Clark, Minnie Johnson, Wm. Holes, and N. Goldsmith.
Manager, Nelson Francis.

GRAND PALACE,

CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2·0 o'clock.
"Demon Kettle," Victoria Monks, V. Newman, Brothers Lupino, Stavordales, Peggy Pryde, Mark Melford and Co., F. Lincoln, Rex Fox, Pictures.
Manager, Harry Bawn.

THE ROYAL,

HOLBORN.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno's Company, in "Saturday to Monday;" Drum and Major, Rose Waller, The Mannikins, Maudie Ford, Musical Zerbinis, J. C. Manley, Hemlot and Sandion, Pictures.
Manager, H. Kettyman.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE,

UPPER-STREET, ISLINGTON, N.
Two Performances Nightly.
Matinées, Mondays, at 2·30.
Rehearsals on Mondays, at 1·30 Nightly.
"Demon Kettle,"
Harry Champion, Rita Resdan, H. White, Lancashire Lads, Burns and Evans, Sisters Caselli, Nelson's Newsboys, Dezmonti and Mora.
Manager, W. Spearman.

DUCHESS PALACE,

HIGH-ROAD, BALHAM.
Rehearsals on Monday at 1·30 o'clock.
Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, Rosie Lloyd, Sisters Ascott, The Mezettis, A. Horne, Chard and Cleary, B. Russell, Charles Pastor.
Manager, Clifford King.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE,

WALTHAMSTOW.
Band Rehearsal, which all Artistes must attend, on Mondays, at 3·0 o'clock.
Boisset Troupe, in "The Wild West;" Fern's New York Nippers, Herbert La Martine, Frank Sylvo, The Burnells, Jimson's Animals, Mr and Mrs Finden, Three American Idols.
Telephone, 40, Walthamstow.
Manager, Arthur J. Barclay.

are particularly requested to read their Contracts carefully, especially the Clause as to barring, which will be strictly enforced. Any Alteration thereof can only be effected by Special Agreement in writing with the Managing-Director. For Engagements at the Royal, Holborn; Duchess Palace, Balham; Islington Empire, and Grand, Clapham, address, Mr Walter Gibbons, Tottenham-court-road, W. Telephone, 6,825 Gerrard. For Engagements at the other Halls, address, Mr G. Adney Payne, Managing-Director, Oxford, Limited, 1, Tottenham-court-road, W. Office Hours, 10·0 to 4·0. Telephone No. 2,035, Gerrard.

THE METROPOLITAN,

EDGWARE-ROAD, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
"Demon Kettle,"
Little Tich, Geo. Robey,
Barnard's Marionettes, Syd May, Alexandra Dagmar, Wm. Lee and Co., Tom Woottwell, Cyrus Dare, Peggy Pryde, La Tostia, Sisters Govell, Marguerite Broadfoote, Sisters Oswald, Bros. Durant, Ernesto, Arthur Forrest, Frank Seeley, Ethel Ra Leslie.
Manager, J. W. Edgar.

THE CHELSEA PALACE,

KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Hamilton Hill, Brothers Kroney, Sisters Oswald, George French, Edith Finlay, Burley and Burley, The Evalos, and Duncan and Godfrey.
Manager, Edward Swanborough.

For Engagements at the Metropolitan or Chelsea, address the Managing-Director, Mr Henri Gros, at the Metropolitan, 267, Edgware-road, W. For times, address the Manager of each Hall, to whom also all Billing Matter must be sent Two Weeks in Advance.

THOMAS BARRASFORD TOUR.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1904.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
Heloise Titcomb, Alf. Aubyn, Nellie and Nora, the Waltons, Madge Grey, Alice Lorette, Pictures, Byron and Langdon.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Houdini, Wal Robbins, Jenny Hartley, Whit Cunliffe, Terry and Lambert, Brown and Nevarro, J. H. Scotland, Merton and Rydon, Three Sisters Selwyn, Pictures, Wills and August.

ALHAMBRA, HULL.
W. Selkirk, Cumminger, Gracie Taylor, Algie and Reggie, Dave O'Toole, Bock Pylades, Pictures, the Lombarts.

TIVOLI, LEEDS.
Ergotti and King Luis, Bert Leslie, Mary Blythe, the Waldrons, F. Gerald, Boswell's Circus, Lowell and Lowell, Lyons Trio, Dora Martine, Pictures, the Freydos.

HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Magic Kettle, J. W. Bray, John Lloyd, Bob Hanlon, George Gilbey, Five Purroscoppis, Will Goodwin, Mr and Mrs Blake Adams, Pictures, Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
"High Jinks," Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, Dave Marion, Hurman, Harris and Worth, Marie Elsie, Pictures, Virginia and her Piccaninnies.

PALACE, GLASGOW.
Ahrensmeyer, Kate Gourlay, Sibb and Sibb, Harry Walker, Tom Lloyd, Lew Wells, Addie Dorina, Ida Gladstone, Pictures, Austin Rudd, W. J. Churchill.

PAVILION, GLASGOW.
De Biere, Florence Hill, The Kyaskas, Paul Vandy, De Gracia's Elephants, Prof. Welsen, Chas. Vandyke, Akimatos, Pictures, Miss Minni Letta.

EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
Casl Reinsch, Madeleine May, Martine and Sons, Mons. D'Musto, Bros. Kraggs, Three Laurels, H. A. Zetto, Mdlle. Clothilde, Arthur Boyne, Pictures, Amy Augarde.

REGENT, SALFORD.
Rosini Casselli, Mabel La Blanche, Monks and Wood, Three Prestons, Geraldo, Grant and Grant, Jules Keller, T. W. Royal, Pictures, Tom M'Inerney.

GRAND, MANCHESTER.
Imro Fox, Cordite, Sam Dalton, Bretma, Sisters Julien, Harry Edson, Lilian Travelle, Caselli and James, Tom Johnstone, Pictures, Arthur Saxon Trio.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Richard Sawade, the De Breans, Ward Brothers, Legay Quartette, Percy Henri, Philippi Bros., B. Troba, Picquays, Carola's Circus, Pictures, Four Merkel Sisters.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Bouilloire Magique, Wallno, Celine Bobe, Francis Du For, Les Three Rickards, Lind, Staig's Course D'Automobile, Five Olracs, Pauline Zaro, Florizell, L. B. Brinn, Martinez, La et Do, Bioscope, Orford Elephants.

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Opens in the Autumn.

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Park's Eaton Boys, Edie Rivers, Wisper, Beatie Bloom, Sid Bandon, Ryder Sloan, Mr and Mrs Edward Lucas, Lyric Bioscope, Bros. Doran.

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Prof. Inman Hocking, Sadie Simpson, Gerald Mount, Gilbert's Dogs, Harry Bancroft, Emmie Ames, Bioscope, Bioscopt, Harry Taft, Patty Bros.

Artistes please note which Halls they are booked for in Manchester and Glasgow

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IN BANKRUPTCY.
Re ALBERT HENRY HENGLER.

TO CIRCUS, THEATRE, MUSIC HALL PROPRIETORS, AND OTHERS.

MR. JOHN BANKES MERCER
has received Instructions from the Trustee to

SELL BY AUCTION,

WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, Nov. 2 and 3, 1904, commencing each day at 11·0 o'clock in the forenoon on the Premises situate in
Great Bridgewater-street, Manchester,
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On View MONDAY, Oct. 31, and TUESDAY, Nov. 1, from 10·0 to 4·0, and Mornings of Sale. Catalogues are in course of preparation and can be had on application a Few Days prior to the Sale.

Further particulars can be had on application to the Auctioneer, at his Offices, 109, Grosvenor-street, All Saints' (Tel. 3,217); the Trustee,

MR. J. TOWNLEY TROTTER,
Chartered Accountant, 27, Brazennose-street; or,
MESSRS. COBBETT, WHEELER, AND COBBETT,
Solicitors, 61, Brown-street; all in Manchester.
Terms, Cash.

APOLOGY.

DAN LENO
to
MAGGIE DUGGAN.
London Pavilion,
Oct. 18, 1904.

To Miss Maggie Duggan.
I hereby express my regret that anything in my conduct towards you on Thursday night last should have caused you any annoyance. I apologise to you, therefore, and undertake that I will never speak to you again unless spoken to by you.
DAN LENO.
Witness, Hugh Astley.

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A TOPICAL COMIC.

NATURAL SCENES.

BRIGHT AND FUNNY.

SCENE 1.—THE BACK GARDEN OF MR JONES'S SUBURBAN RESIDENCE. A guy is seated upon a chair placed upon a table in the foreground. The dear children have stolen father's hat, and they come running from the house carrying the topper with care, and, scrambling on to the table, they arrange the hat on the guy to the best effect. Next they stuff some straw, all ready, round the feet and run off to fetch some paraffin to make a good blaze.

Father, however, is on their track, and turns up just as the children have gone and, having rescued his hat, he thinks of a plan to catch the children on the hop. First he removes the guy—then slips the mask on to his own face, and, jumping on to the table, he takes the chair and waits.

SCENE 2.—The dear children are gathered round a huge barrel from which they are drawing a bucketful of paraffin; presently they run off.

SCENE 3.—Shows father seated as we left him, and the children, carrying the bucket, come hurrying in. Father waits for them to light the straw, not knowing of the paraffin which is behind him. Little Mary does not know that the guy has changed into father, and she throws the paraffin right over him—screams, fire! fire!—father in flames—off run the children—father scrambles out of the flames and gives chase.

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SCENE I. THE TRIPPER PACKS his portmanteau with the few things requisite and necessary for a trip to the "gay city."

SCENE II. OUTSIDE CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY STATION.—The Tripper is late for the train, and is hurrying as fast as he can for the booking-office.

SCENE III. AT THE BOOKING-OFFICE.—A very stout lady is taking her ticket, while a string of impatient passengers wait behind her. She insists upon going out the wrong way and so delays everybody. The Tripper just manages to get his ticket and jump into the train before it starts.

SCENE IV. ON THE RAILWAY BRIDGE.—The Continental Train starts, and the Tripper waves farewell to his friends.

SCENE V. VARIOUS VIEWS FROM THE WINDOW of the train as it speeds on its way to Dover. The Tripper is too excited to sit still, and constantly leans out of the window in front.

SCENE VI. AT DOVER.—The Continental Train arrives, and the Tripper hastens to the steamer.

SCENE VII. THE STEAMER ALONGSIDE THE ADMIRALTY PIER.—The tripper goes on board.

SCENE VIII. THE STEAMER UNDER WAY.—The foamy water behind the paddle box.

SCENE IX. VIEW ON DECK OF THE STEAMER.—The Tripper is offered a cigarette, but is not feeling inclined for luxuries at the time.

SCENE X. ARRIVAL AT CALAIS.—After a short dispute about his ticket the Tripper goes ashore.

SCENE XI. THE ARRIVAL AT PARIS.—Panoramic View of the Place de l'Opera. The Tripper buys picture postcards.

SCENE XII. THE PLACE DE LA CONCORDE.—If you want to know the way ask a gendarme.

SCENE XIII. THE ARC DE TRIUMPHE.

SCENE XIV. THE CHAMPS ELYSEES ON SUNDAY.—The Tripper buys a gas balloon, but unfortunately loses it.

SCENE XV. AT A CAFE.

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CAMBO, the Musical Monkey. Vacant Monday. Wire, Britannia, Glasgow.

CANDLISH, WILL, Comedy Musical Act on its own Finishes Tivoli, Shields. Vacant Monday. 50, Bond-street, Byker-on-Tyne.

CARL, MR. JAMES, the Modern Conjuror, with an Original and High-class Magic Act. 100, Chester-green-road, Derby. Good Agent Required.

CARL and CARR, in Refined Comedy Act, "Workhouse." Success with own Combination on Tour. Artists write, 27, Ashley-road, Bristol.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team, Second Week, Barnard's, Chatham.

CARMEN, HARRY, Polyglot Comedian, concludes his enormous success, Scarborough. Oct. 24, Palace, Greenwich.

CARR and ROSE, in "Their First Quarrel," Lyric, Liverpool. Thank Dalton for contracts, and Arthur Richards for life-size oil painting.

CARY, FRED, Comedian, Hammersmith.

CAVILL'S AGENCY, 15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone 2,140, Royal.

CECIL, TOM, Comedian Concertising in Scotland. Ninth Season. Serpentello's Agency, 28, Wellington-street, London, W.C.

CEE-MEE Troupe On Tour. Permanent Address, care of "The Era."

CHANT and CHANT (JACK and ALICE), Comedy Vocalists, Patterers, &c., doing very nice, A., Hull. Monday, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Panto settled.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. One great Dashing Act. 18, Springfield, Liverpool. See other Advert.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE), Palace, Lincoln. Monday Return, Palace, Bradford.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Queen's Palace, Ilkeston. Thanks; no Vacancies this Year.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Schumann Circus, Berlin.

CHIRGWIN, London Nightly, Four Months. "Friends," please refrain from Copying.

CHIVO and MDLLE. MOTO, the Marvellous Japanese Sword, Wire, and Perpendicular Rope Performers. Lib. Nov. 7. 27, Cowper-road, Acton.

CLARENCE and BELL Big Laughing Success in J. Gar Kiddie's "A Little Coquette." Oct. 24, Theatre Royal, Bury.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Tyrolean Songstress and Dancer. Monday, Free Trade Hall Manchester. Vacant Panto Principal or Second Girl.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, in "Last Night's Party." This week, Palace, Sunderland. Next, Palace, Bristol.

CLEVELANDS, THE, C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Llanelly, South Wales.

CLYO and ROCHELLE. Last week, Hippodrome, Ipswich. Next, Scotch Concerts. Address, care of Haldane, 110, New City-road, Glasgow.

COHEN, KATIE, Oct. 24, Alhambra, Brighton. P. A., 67, Finborough-road, South Kensington. Disengaged Christmas. London only.

COLEMAN, ROSIE, HARRY CONLIN, 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road.

COLLINS, GEO., London Star Comedian. Thanks for Offers. Still Vacant Panto., Dame. Last year, Prince's T., Bradford. Monday, T., High Shields.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE, the Popular Singer of Sensible Songs. Monday, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy. Vacant Pantomime. Principal Boy.

CONROY, OLIVER, Comedian, Top of the Bill, Palace, Leicester. No Vacancies yet.

COOKE, STEVE, Burlesque Comedian. Palace Theatre, Attercliffe, Sheffield.

CORNISH, WILL, Unique Musical Bell Act. This, Grand, Bolton; next, City Varieties, Leeds, Fourth Return.

COVERDALE'S Magic "Cackle," causing Screams. Varieties, Leeds. Fifteen minutes' Musicless Gagging. England, Oct. 24, Collins's, The London.

COWPER, VERNON, Blueskin, in "Jack Sheppard." This, Sadler's Wells; next, Forester's.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, Comedy Juggler, and his Acrobatic Dog "Dooley." This week, T. M. H., South Shields; Oct. 24, B. T., North Shields.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Transformation and Character Dancer, Hippodrome, Leicester-square.

CREW, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW Thank E. Jay, Esq., P. Croydon, for Offer to stay another week. This week, success, G., Gravesend.

CROWSON, WILL, CISSIE CONYERS. Next week, R. A., Canning-town.

CUTHBERT, MAUD. Serio and Ballad Vocalist. Address, A. Robini, 3, Gatton-house, Pleasant-place, Essex-road, London.

CYCLO, Trick and Comedy Cyclist, Stair Jumping, and other Sensational feats. Oct. 24, Empire, Burnley.

DAGMARS, THE THREE, Acrobats and Tumblers, at Liberty Nov. 7 and 14. Monday next, Gaiety, West Hartlepool.

DAINFZ, E. R., Comedy Circus, Consisting of Donkey, Clever Pony, Troupe of Dogs, and Wonderful Leaping Hounds. Camberwell Palace, London.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Liberty Panto, Fairy Queen and Second Boy or Girl. Good Voices. 41, Bradshaw-street, Moss-side, Manchester.

DALE, HERBERT, Comedian and Actor-Vocalist. Disengaged Pantomime. Dates for 1905 Required. 53, Ermine-road, Lewisham, S.E.

DALE, MR. HARRY, First-class Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena. Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

DALTON, WILL, This week, Gaiety, Birmingham; next week, Palace, Sunderland.

DALTON'S AGENCY. First-class Acts always Required. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DANBYS, THE, Paddington, Liverpool. Monday, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Negro Komics, require Nov. 7. Address, Bk. 63, Sherbourne-road, Birmingham.

DANTON, CHARLES, concludes To-night, Palace, Belfast. Monday, Britannia, Glasgow.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. Originator of Two Bikes. Next week, Tivoli, Barrow.

DAVIES, MR. CHARLES, Stage-Manager, Now Booking "Snakes," by Wal Pink. Oct. 24, Palace, Manchester. Managers invited.

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Pedestal Risley Performers. Oct. 24, Empress, Hartlepool.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Hippodrome, Norwich.

DELAMERE TRIO, the Original Comedy Equilibrists. Liberty Oct. 24, 31. Wire, 95, North-road, Preston.

DELANEY, THOMAS, Baritone Vocalist. Oct. 24, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

DELEVINES, FIVE, "Flirtation." Grand Theatre, Hanley.

DENHAM, MISS MILLIE, is a bright burlesque actress, and would do credit to any programme.—Vide Press. Monday, P., Hartlepool.

DENHAM, TEDDY Oct. 24, Borough Theatre, North Shields. Thanks for Offers. Still Vacant Pantomime.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil. Actor-Vocalist, Empire, Rochdale.

DE VERE SISTERS (LILY and NORA), Leading and Juvenile Soubrettes. Dainty Comedy Artistes and Dancers. Perm., 72, Rylston-road, Fulham.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. Finished very nicely Two Months in London. Monday, with Mr Broadhead again.

DODDY and BELLE, the Great Comedy Couple. At Liberty for Pantomime. Parts and Speciality. Address, "The Era" Office.

DOM E, the Comedy Clay Man. Empire, Birmingham.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques. Oct. 24 Empire, Bordesley.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Coon Impersonator, Moss' Tour.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Full of Vivacity and Animation. Oct. 24, Empire, Portsmouth.

DOUGLAS, AILSA, Vocalist. 14, Gladstone-street, S.E. Next Week, Palace, Sunderland.

DOVE, ETHEL Palace, Hammersmith. Next week, Standard, Victoria.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Sadler's Wells, London.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Ohio Comedienne, this Week, Circus of Varieties, Bury. Next Week, Westminster, Liverpool.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Comedy Artiste, Vacant Oct. 24 and 31; also Panto. Principal Girl or Comedy Part. Coms., 18, Springfield, Liverpool.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler; OSWALD, Hand-jumper, Staircase Performer, &c Monday, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. Communications, Fred Durham or Sam Hart.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Palace, Greenwich. Oct. 24, Palace, Croydon. Liberty Pantomime, Principal Boy. Offers invited, First-class Pantos. only.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian, concludes to-night Two Weeks Liverpool. Oct. 24, Leeds. Ring up, I am ready.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Sisters, Novel Instrumental Dancing Speciality. Colston Hall, Bristol, Retained Third Week.

ELCOCK, AMY, Comedienne. FLORRIE ST. ROY, Comedienne and Acrobatic Dancer. For Vacancies, 5, Eagle-mansions, Salcombe-road, London, N.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. Liberty Nov. 14, 28. Address, 36, Bridge-street, Macclesfield.

ELLA'S, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Oct. 24, Alhambra, Brighton.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, Comedian; FLORRIE BRAY, Comedienne, Free for Pantomime. This, Hippo., Salford; Next, Hippo., Manchester.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Latest for Dunville, Leamore, Leonards, Ben Albert, &c. Band Parts arranged. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, 42, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Principal Boy, Dottridge and Longden's Panto., 1904-1905, Third Year. Next Week, Sadler's Wells and Canning-town.

ELTONS, TWO, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians, Smartest Knockabout Act on the Road. Monday, Grand, Bolton.

EMERSON, BILLY, the Little Man with a Big Voice. A Great Humorous Song Comedian who has caught on.

ENDON, EDIE, Comedienne and Dancer, big success, Irving Theatre, Seacombe; 24th, P., Cork. Vacant 31st. Sole Agent, Jess Verno.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer, Great Success, Balham. Vacant 31st. Address, 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton, N.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand-Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Oct 24, Palace Theatre, Cork.

ESDALE BROS., Comedians, Vacant Nov. 7 and 14. Thanks for Offers. Monday, Royal, Liverpool.

EVANS, WILL, Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond

FAWN, ADA. Big Success of New Song "No other girl shall take your place," by Will Letters. Oct. 24, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Park-keepers, Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. All communications to Verno, Verno, Verno.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS. A New Sketch, "Quiet: Suit a Lady." Successfully produced at the Granville last Friday. Monday, Palace, Walthamstow,

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal,

FITZROYS, Society Gymnasts. Fourth Week, Nouveau Cirque. Finish Oct. 31.

FLORADORA GIRLS, Starring with Success, Circus, Rochdale. Monday, Empress, Hartlepool.

FONTAIN'S Marionette Palace and DE ROY'S Comic Conjurors, Now Visiting the Best Theatres and Halls with the great Dr. Walford Bodie.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Empire, South Shields.

FORREST'S, EDGAR, Comedy Company, Alhambra, Sandgate.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FOY, LILY, Comedienne. Hippodrome, Macclesfield. Sole Agents, Messrs J. Laurie Graydon and Co.

FOY, TOM, and COMPANY. Palace, Aberdeen; Monday, Tivoli and Canterbury.

FRANCE and FRANCIS, Comedians and Knockabout Grotesques Monday, Tivoli, Kidderminster. Vacant Pantomime.

FRANTZ TROUPE, Ladies and Gentlemen Society Acrobats. All communications direct to M. Frantz, care of "The Era."

FRASETTIS, LES, Fouth African and Australian Tour. Address, 9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREDRICKS, CARL, Olympian Entertainers, until Wednesday, Temperance Hall, Yelverton; until Saturday, Princetown.

FREIRE TROUPE, THE, Acrobats, Tumblers, Double Risley, Living Carrousel (Original) Grand Cirque National Suisse, Geneve (Switzerland)

FRENCH, MARIE, the Irish Gem. For Vacancies, Address, care of "The Era."

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue, Queen's-park, London, W.

GANNON, NELLIE, Amusing an Audience at Grand, Stockton. Monday, Central Palace, North Shields. HARRY WRIGHT, ditto.

GARRICK, GUS, Music Hall Tit-Bits Vaudeville Club, W.C.

GEE, FRANK 40, Newington-crescent, Kennington-park.

GERONDS, THREE, Refined Lady Vocalists and Dancers, "One of the Family" Tour. Monday next, T. R., Kettering. Coms., 2, Carr-place, Leeds.

GERTRELLA, Dancer-Gymnast, concluded Nine Weeks, London Hippodrome. Theatre Royal, Oldham.

GILBERT'S Original TROUPE of Dogs and Cats. Clean, Refined, and Clever. Conclude Hippo., Wigan. Oct. 24, Hippo., St. Helens.

GILL, ARTHUR, the Yokel Comedian and Speciality Artiste, with many Voices of Exceptional Quality. Add., E., Hull.

GILLIN, Unique Ventriloquial Humourist. "Me hat's off." P.O.W.T., Mexborough. Monday, Royal, Liverpool.

GILMORE, ROBB, the Great Funny Little Man, Stoke, Hanley, Birmingham, &c. Famous Rhyl Merrie Men.

GLADSTONE, IDA, Oct. 24, Palace, Glasgow. Pantomime, Principal Boy, Settled. Sole Agent, Harry Day.

GOLD, HARRY, Versatile Comedian. "Gold." Animated Song and Chorus. "Gold." Pavilion, Maidenhead.

GOLDBURN, GEORGE, Comedian. ALICE COVENTRY, Comedienne. Success, Borough Theatre, North Shields.

GOLDEN and GREY, in American Vaudeville, "The Missing Will," Vacant next Monday. Wire, Empire, Paisley.

GRAHAM, ERIC; MILLIE HARRIS Comedian. Vocalist. Oct. 24, Empire, Hull.

GRAHAM, WALTER, the Human Marionette, "the Kilties are coming," written and composed by Minto. I'm first. Please Mr Pirate. Egyptian Hall, W.

GRAHAME, MISS GRACIE (of "Oh, Charlie!" fame). Tivoli, Cape Town.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, Versatile Comedians, Empire, Portsmouth (Fifth Visit).

GROVINIS, on tour. Address, care of "The Era" Office.

HAIG and NOVEL, Comedy Couple, Barnard's, Chatham. Oct. 24 P., Camberwell and Hammersmith.

HALDYNE DUO, the Premier Comedy Couple, usual success, Grand Theatre, Baker. Next week, Victoria T., Broughton, Manchester. Will Dalton.

HAMILTON, BOB, Scotland's One and Only Comedian and Instrumentalist. Next week, H., Coventry. Coms., Fioni, Liverpool.

HAMILTON, EARLE, Comedian. Disengaged. Open for Pantomime Engagement. Care of "The Era" Office.

HAMYLTON, MEG, Principal Boy, Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit.

HAND and HART, Comedians and Dancers, on Tour. Offers invited Pantomime. Parts and Speciality. Care of "The Era."

HANDEL, PERCY, Highest Grade Instrumentalist. For Vacancies, address, Mr Will Sley, Manchester.

HANSON, MISS AGNES, Comedienne, Royal Standard, 7/55. Permanent, 64, Frith-street, Soho, W.C.

HANVARR and ANNA LEE, "The Golfer and the Maid," Camberwell and Bedford.

HARDY, the American Blondin. "King of the High Rope." Address, 126, Doggett-road, Catford, London.

HARLAND and ROLLISON, Monday, Oct. 24, Empire, Wolverhampton; Oct. 31, Hippodrome, New Brompton. Free February, 1905.

HARRIS and WORTH, New Act, "The Huntsmen." Big success, Barrasford Tour, Pavilion, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

HART and CO., Dramatic and Variety Agents. 7, Lancaster-house, Library-road (opposite Brixton Theatre), Brixton. Telephone Number 1,048, Hop.

HARWOOD, JOE, Comedian, Liberty Oct. 31. Agent Required. Address, 360, Lever-street, Bolton, Lancashire.

HASTINGS, G. W.; KITTY GOWER, Vocalist and Transformation Dancers. Usual success, Palace, Cork. Hippo., Dewsbury. Vacant Nov. 21.

HEATH, JACK, Comedian, Monday, Barnard's, Chatham. Liberty Pantomime. 1, Southwell-terrace, Lewis-rd., Camberwell S.E.

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical Genius and English Concertina Soloist. Usual success, Star, Bermondsey. Monday, Hippodrome, Bury.

HENDERSON, LADE, the Little Man with a Big Voice. The Variety Vocalist. London, every Evening.

HENDERSON and STANLEY QUARTETTE, in their Up-to-Date Acrobatic Musical Act. Circus, Bury.

HENRIETTE, MDLLE., the Beautiful Instrumentalist, Vocalist. This, Irving T., Seacombe; next, Hippo., Wakefield. Vacant Panto. Verno.

HERALD COMEDY FOUR Vacant for Pantomime Communications, 2, Lambeth Palace-road, London.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist. Hippodrome, Norwich. R. Warner.

HEWITT and RITCHIE, Comedy Eccentrics and Dancers, "The Man about Town" and "The Scotchman." Liberty Panto. Offers invited. Brit., Glasgow.

HIAWATHAS, EIGHT, Lady Instrumentalists, Full Brass Band, Mandolines and Bugles. 43, Marsala-road, Lewisham.

HILL and LANE, October 24, Town Hall, Reading.

HILL, BARRY, and LANG, Knockabout Comedians, tremendous success, P., Cork. Monday, Alhambra, Belfast. Liberty 31st. Wire.

HILL, ROWLAND, the Curious Comedian, big success, Grand, Clapham-junction, S.W. Vacant One Week, Monday. Wire above.

HILTON, FLORENCE, London's Star Male Impersonator. Liberty Monday. Wire, T., Mexborough; after Saturday, 3, Ludgate-street, Dudley.

HILTON and HILTON, Comedy Bar Comedians. Vacant Nov. 14, 21, 28. Monday, Hippodrome, Coventry.

HINTON and WOOTON, Starring South Africa. Permanent address, 142, Leicester-st., Wolverhampton.

HOLLAND, MISS LOTTIE, Prince of All Principal Boys. Her Latest Success, "My Jersey Lily," by Messrs Laurance and Gifford. On Tour.

HOLLOWAY, MISS KATIE, this week, Big Success, Palace, Dundee. Next week, Empire, Newcastle.

HOOK, WALTER W. Co. 1,321st Consecutive Show New Century Pictures. The Circus, Hull.

HOPE, F., Acrobatic Trick Cyclist. Oct. 24, Olympia, Bury Vacant Oct. 31 and Nov. 7. 8, Bridgeman-street, Walsall

HOPE, LITTLE ANGELA, the Little Colonel. The Palace, Croydon.

HORSFALL, FRED, a Mimic with a Double Voice. Starring, this week, Hippodrome, Accrington; next week, Varieties, Leeds.

HOWARD and COLLINSON (NELLIE). (WILLIE). Britannia and Standard. Agents, G. and F. Peel.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH and NELLIE). The Granville, Walham-green.

MISS MIRIAM LEWES,
Miss Fortescue's Company. At Liberty shortly.
Grand Theatre, Hull.

MISS KITTY LOFTING,
with Leonard Rayne, Esq., South Africa.
Address letters, Actors' Association.

MISS VIOLET LUDDINGTON,
Juvenile Lead, "A Path of Thorns" Company.
Oct. 31, Opera House, Chatham.

MISS KEITH LYTTON,
Mrs Billetdoux, "Why Smith Left Home,"
Grand Theatre, Boscombe, Oct. 31.

MISS MAUD M. MAGRATH,
Engaged by Mr Leon M. Lion,
Mrs De Trafford in "The Edge of the Storm."

MISS MABEL MAINWARING
thanks Mr Gar Kiddie for Comfortable Tour. At Liberty for Six Weeks. Opera House, Coventry.

MISS BESSIE MAJOR
at Liberty.
Address, 2, St. Mary's-square, Paddington, W.; or, A.A.

MISS EUGENIE MAGNUS,
Lady Isabel, "in East Lynne."
Disengaged Nov. 7. Termination, Stock, Terriss.

MISS GLADYS MAKEHAM
Concluded Third Engagement with Arthur Bourchier, Esq. 330, New-cross-road, S.E.

MISS PHYLLIS MANNERS
Disengaged. Principal Comedy or Heavies.
Letters, 131, St. George's-road, Southwark; or, A.A.

MISS ALICE MANSFIELD.
Address,
18, Munster-road, Fulham, S.W.

MISS EVELYN MARRABLE,
Principal Comedy, "The Female Swindler."
Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MISS BEATRICE MARSDENE.
Immediate offers invited for Ingénues, Juveniles &c. Address, Actors' Association, 10 King-street, W.C.

MISS EDIE MARTIN,
Soubrettes, Ingénues, Boys. Disengaged now or Pantomime. 86, St. George's-road, Southwark, S.E.

MISS LIZZIE MAYNARD
Teaches every Description of Stage Dancing.
Flat 2, Oxford-house, 87, Great Titchfield-street, W.

MISS MARIE McAULAY,
Arrangements complete for a few Weeks.
4, Ardvilie-house, Ardville-road, Brixton.

MISS MONA M'DONALD.
This Week, Opera House, York.
Next, Empire, Rochdale.

MISS CONNIE MEADOWS,
Vera Daimond, "A Victim of Villainy," Messrs Atkin and Howe's Co. Chorley; Oct. 31, P., Glasgow.

MISS CONSTANCE MEDWYN,
Starring as the Worst Woman in London, Mr W. Melville's Company. Oct. 31, Clapham-junction.

MISS SASH MILLWARD
at Liberty for Amateur or Special Engagements.
126, Nicholas-street, Norwich.

MISS LOUISE MOODIE,
Returned from America, Disengaged. Address, letters only, 68, Weltje-road, Ravenscourt-park, W.

MISS HELEN MOSLEY,
Juvenile Lead, Disengaged.
6, Monkton-street, Kennington-road, London.

MISS TESSA MYERS,
Ingénues, Light Comedy, Disengaged.
Demesne-road, Alexandra-park, Manchester.

MISS EVA NELSON,
usual success, Provinces, Nightly.
Agent, Mr G. Aytoun.

MISS FLORENCE NELSON,
Leading Business. Disengaged.
73, Munster-road, Fulham, S.W.; or, A.A.

MISS GERTRUDE NETTERVILLE,
Messrs Harrison and Maude's Company,
New Theatre, W.C.

MISS CLARA NICHOLLS,
Mrs Callender, "The Christian."
Theatre Royal, Bolton, Oct. 31.

MISS GRACE ARMYTAGE NOBLE,
Phœbe Throssell, "Quality Street."
Disengaged Nov. 20. Next week, Royal, Birmingham.

MISS LILLA NORDON,
Kitty Spencer, "One of the Best" Company.
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Leamington.

MISS BLANCHE NORMAN
Disengaged until December. Principal, Chorus.
Address, 4, Burleigh-mansions, Charing-cross, W.C.

MISS BERTHA NORTHAM,
Louise Davenport, in "An Actor's Romance."
Oct 31, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MISS NELL OLIVER, Messrs. Hardie and Von Leer's "Two Little Vagabonds." Nov. 1, Q. T., Liverpool. At Lib. December for Juvenile or Heavy Lead.

MISS HELEN PALGRAVE
Disengaged.
37, St. Stephen's-mansions, Westminster.

MISS ADA PALMER,
Agatha Pearce (Original Part), "A Modern Judas."
78, Merton-road, Wimbledon; or, en route.

MISS MARGARET PARKER,
Smudgee, in "The Never-Never Land."
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, York.

MISS CLAIRE PAUNCEFORT
Disengaged.
Address, 239, King's-road, Chelsea.

MISS DOROTHY PAYN,
Mrs Pineapple, in "A Chinese Honeymoon."
Address, Actors' Association

MISS LOUISA PEACH,
Lead, Henry Furnival's Company,
Permanent address, 26, Wallace-road, Canonbury, N.

MISS JOAN PEREIRA
Disengaged. Powerful Lead, Heavy Lead.
64, Charlwood-street, S.W.

MISS IDA PHILLIPS,
Engaged by M. Bandmann, Esq., for Six Months' Tour Abroad. Permanent Address, 1, Tavistock-square.

MISS DORA PRICE Resuming Starring
Engagement as The Woman, "What a Woman Did" Co. Address, en route.

MISS LIZZIE PRIMMER, Ivy Pendred,
"Dandy Doctor" Tour. Panto settled, Principal Girl, "Cinderella." Next, Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.

MISS NINA PRING,
Light Comedy and Juveniles (Petite), Disengaged.
Address, 25, Rosemont-road, Richmond-hill, Surrey.

MISS ADELINE RABY,
Grace Curtis, "A London Fireman" Company.
En route; or, 96, Hereford-road, W., London.

MISS LYDIA RACHEL
Disengaged. Comedy or Character.
14, Courtney-gardens, Wimbledon-park, S.W.

MISS ROSE RALPH,
Re-engaged by Mr J. M. East.
Oct. 31, Maria, "The Flood Tide," Britannia T., Hoxton.

MISS (Little) MAUDIE RAY,
Toto, Mrs Lewis Waller's "Zaza" Company.
Oct. 31, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

MISS ALICE RAYNOR (Mrs. Howell Poole). Address,
108, Gloucester-road, Regent's-park, N.W.

MISS VARA RENNY,
Mr Edward Terry's Company.
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MISS GRACE RICHARDSON
Disengaged.
Glentworth, Palmer's-green, N.

MISS MARIE RIGNOLD
Disengaged. Juvenile or Heavy Lead,
Permanent address, Blaxland House, Hornsey, N.

MISS KATHLEEN RIND,
Madame De Cochefôret, "Under the Red Robe;" Betty Arndale, "Nell Gwynn," &c. T. R., Limerick.

MISS DORRIE ROBERTS
thanks Penfold Field, Esq., for unsolicited Offer of Juvenile Lead. 20, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

MISS CONSTANCE ROBERTSON,
Engaged by Otho Stuart, Esq. Address, Adelphi Theatre; or 9, Rosetti-mansions, Cheyne-walk, S.W.

MISS MARIE ROBSON
(Mrs Graham Woods), Disengaged Nov. 14. Termination of Tour. Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MISS LILIAN ROSEBERY,
Lola Vane (Lead), "A Traitor Prince."
Oct. 24, Theatre Royal, Leicester.

MISS LILIAN ROSS, Ruth Milford,
Mr Walter Melville's "Worst Woman in London" Co. This, Oldham; next, Shakespeare, Clapham.

MISS KATHLEEN RUSSELL
Disengaged. Termination of Tour. Lead.
14, Elgin-avenue, Maida-vale.

MISS ADA M. RYDER
Disengaged Nov. 5. Good offers invited. Juveniles, Pathetic Character, &c. P. of W., Grimsby.

MISS NESTA SANDFORD
Disengaged. Lead or Heavies.
Address, 10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MISS NELL M. SARGENT,
Juvenile, Comedy, Character, Drama. Vacant for Spring. Panto. settled. Golden-grove, Douglas-rd., Cork.

MISS GERTRUDE SCOTT,
Leading and Heavy Leading Parts with Mr F. R. Benson. Oct. 31, Opera House, Leeds.

MISS RUTH SHEPHERD,
Lead, Countess Wanda, Title-rôle,
Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's "The Assassin" Company.

MISS LUCY SIBLEY,
Donna Lucia, "Charley's Aunt." Dis. Nov. 19.
7, Gainsborough-house, Lithos-road, N.W.

MISS FLORENCE SMITHERS,
1,014th Performance as Jane, "Dandy Doctor" Tour.
Theatre Royal, Dewsbury. Pantomime, P., Manchester.

MISS FLORENCE SMITHSON,
Prima Donna. Great success Nanoya,
"The Cingalee." Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

MISS LALLA STANHOPE,
re-engaged by Chalmers Mackey, Esq., to resume old Part, Biddy, "Wearin' o' the Green."

MISS BLANCHE STEELE,
W. H. Hallatt's "Two Little Sailor Boys" Company.
Lyceum Theatre, Pentre, Oct. 31, Six Nights.

MISS CONSTANCE STEPHENS,
Lavinia, "Why Smith Left Home" Company.
Grand Theatre, Boscombe.

MISS MARION STERLING,
"The Master of Kingsgift," Aristocratic and Character Old Women. 53, West-square, St. George's-rd., S.E.

MISS EDITH STEWART
at Liberty, Light Comedy, Juvenile Lead, &c.
Address, 26, Dancer-road, Fulham, S.W.

MISS GWEN STEWART, Dual-role,
Lady Margaret Luttrell and Mistress Grey, in "No Cross, No Crown" Co. Oct. 31, T., Heywood, Six Nights.

MISS EMMA STOCKLEY
Disengaged. Lead.
Coningsby House, Staines.

MISS MAUD F. STONER.
Address,
59, Hampton-place, Brighton.

MISS MARY STUART.
Address,
144, Alexandra-road, S. Hampstead, N.W., and A.A.

MISS AGNES THOMAS,
Engaged for Judy, in G. Bernard Shaw's New Play, "John Bull's other Island," Court T., S.W., Six Matinées.

MISS MURIEL THOMPSON.
Arrangements complete. At Liberty Spring. Lead or Heavies. Letters, Trefriw House, Leamington Spa.

MISS MARGUERITE THORNE,
Miss NELLIE THORNE-HALLAM, Mrs O'Brien and Mary Manners. Disengaged Dec. 12. T. R., Sunderland.

MISS MAUDE TOWNSEND, Susan
Throssell, "Quality Street," Bright and Maxwell's Co. Address, Orton Longueville, Peterborough.

MISS MAUDE TREMAYNE
Disengaged.
Address, Japonica House, Carlton, R.S.O., Yorks.

MISS MARION TURNER, Henriette,
Messrs Dottridge and Longden's "King of Crime" Co. This Week, Prince's, Bradford; Next, T. R., Leeds.

MISS ELLA VANE,
Thanks Mr George Kirk for Offer. Disengaged.
Fern Villa, Southbank-road, Southport.

MISS HILDA VAUGHAN.
Address,
Criterion Theatre, W.

MISS ETHEL VERNE
Disengaged Nov. 5.
Address, 19, Pinfold-road, Streatham, S.W.

MISS EUGENIE VERNIE,
Miss Fortescue's Company,
Grand Theatre, Hull. Disengaged shortly.

MISS LUCIE VERRIER
Disengaged.
14, Cicada-road, Wandsworth-common; or, A.A.

MISS HELEN VICARY
Disengaged.
Carysfort, Beaumont-road, West Kensington.

MISS MARION WAKEFORD,
Joan, in "Home, Sweet Home" (her Original Part).
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

MISS HELENA WALBRAN,
as Alice Cavanagh (Lead), "A Victim of Villainy."
Oct. 31, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, Six Nights.

MISS LAURA WALKER,
as Cigarette, "Under Two Flags"
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Aston, Birmingham.

MISS ANENA WALTON,
Cen-Cen, Messrs E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's Co., "The Traitor." T. R., Bristol.

MISS GERTRUDE WARDEN,
care of Messrs Burchell, Wilde, and Co., Solicitors, Members'-mansions, Victoria-street, S.W.

MISS NELLIE V. WARDEN
Disengaged November and Christmas, Light and Eccentric Comedy. 54, Gurney-street, S.E.

MISS MARGARET WATSON
Disengaged. Leading Business.
23, Netherton-grove, Chelsea, S.W.

MISS DAVIES WEBSTER
Disengaged.
Address, care of A.A.

MISS FRANCES WETHERALL,
Mr John Hare's Company.
Coronet Theatre. Disengaged Nov. 28.

MISS FRANCES WHITE,
Specially Engaged by Mr Hill-Mitchelson, Dec. 10.
130, Biddulph-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

MISS LILLA WILDE,
Lead or Heavy Lead. Disengaged December.
12, Rothsay-road, Forest-gate, London, E.

MISS GRACE WILSON
at Liberty for Pantomime.
Address, Standard Theatre, E.C.

MISS KATHLEEN WILLOUGHBY,
"Harvest of Sin" Company. Permanent address,
52, Cambridge-mansions, Battersea-park, S.W.

MISS OLIVE WILTON,
Mr Edward Terry's Tour.
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MISS AMY WOOD and LITTLE AMY
MANFREE, Tabitha and Cissy Denver, "Silver King" Company. Oct. 31, Pleasure Gardens, Folkestone.

MRS. CHAS. WOOD,
Biddy Maloney, "Alone in London," Mr J. F. Elliston's Co., Brighton; Oct. 31, P., Portsmouth.

MISS MAY WYNIARD,
Menzies and Wyniard, "A Rogue's Daughter" Co.
Oct. 31, Windsor.

MISS VASHTI WYNNE,
Dis. Nov. 5, owing to Termination of Tour. Offers invited. Juveniles, Characters, &c. P. O. W., Grimsby.

MISS MURIEL VOX,
Janet Marlowe, "Woman and Wine."
Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MISS ROSAMOND MAYNE YOUNG
at Liberty Nov. 20.
Address, Actors' Association.

MR. and MRS. FRED ACTON,
also Miss WINNIE ACTON, "A Fight for Millions" Company. Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

MR. HARRY AGAR-LYONS,
De Coucou, "Grip of Iron."
Theatre Royal, West Bromwich, Six Nights.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED,
Tigellinus, Mr W. Greet's Company.
Oct. 31, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. S. KING ALEXANDER
invites offers from Colonies or America.
New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

MR. EDWARD E. ASHBY,
Juvenile Leading Business, "A Woman's Pluck."
Grand, Halifax.

MR. HARRY ASHFORD
and Miss HARRIET TRENCH,
"Are You a Mason?" Co., Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

MR. WILLIE ATOM, Small Comedian, 4ft. 4in., Engaged by Mr Robert Arthur for Panto. at T. R., Newcastle. 26, St. George's-road, Brighton, E.

MR. CYRIL AUSTEN-LEE,
Horace Parker, "A Message from Mars," Starkey's Company. Theatre Royal, Shrewsbury.

MR FRANK AYRTON, "In a Woman's Grip;" Miss MADGE SEYMOUR. Offers invited.
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.

MR. PERCY BALLARD
and Miss VIOLET CRAUFURD, Disengaged
Nov. 5. Address, P. O. W., Grimsby.

MR. MAURICE E. BANDMANN,
Annual Tour of the World.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY,
Manager of the Palace, Walthamstow.
Address, Parkside, The Drive, Walthamstow.

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT.
Address,
70, Longridge-road, Earl's-court.

MR. and MRS. H. H. BARRINGTON
(Miss Florence Lovell).
Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, N.

MR. J. J. BARTLETT,
Lyric, Hammersmith. Disengaged shortly.
Address, 12, Angel-road, Hammersmith.

MR. A. W. BASKCOMB.
Address,
Oct. 31, Opera House, Cheltenham.

MR. and MRS. HENRY BEAUFORT
(Miss Sylvia Bowyer). All communications,
226, Southwark-bridge-road, S.E.

MR. and MRS. LESLIE BEAUFORT
(Carrie Ellis), Leading Bus, "Sins of a City" and "I Defy the World" Companies. Alexandra, Birmingham.

MR. E. R. BEAUMONT,
Producer and Stage-Manager, "Woman and Wine."
Oct. 31, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield

MR. CHARLES B. BEDELLS,
Lord Robert Ure, "The Christian."
Theatre Royal, Bolton, Six Nights.

MR. WALTER BEAUMONT
Disengaged Nov. 19.
Permanent, 56, Duke's-avenue, Chiswick.

MR. HENRY BELDING,
Mr James Welch's Company, "The New Clown."
Court Theatre, Liverpool, Oct 31. Disengaged Nov. 28.

MR. SIDNEY BELTRAM,
Acting-Manager.
Address, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. IVAN BERLYN,
conclusion of "Madame Sherry" Tour, Disengaged.
10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MR. J. S. BLYTHE
Disengaged.
12, Avington-grove, Penge, S.E.

MR. ARTHUR BOLTON,
Tom Hewley, in "The Never-Never Land."
Oct. 31, Royal, York.

MR. J. H. BOOTH,
Jim Price, in "A Path of Thorns."
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MR. ALAN BORTHWICK.
General Manager, "The Edge of the Storm"
31, Old Victoria Opera House, Burnley.

MR. CHARLES BOULT, Captain Montrevor
(Lead), "When Darkness Falls" Co., with William Bourne, Esq. Address, 6, Claughton-road, Birkenhead.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN,
Doctor Juttner, in "Old Heidelberg."
Disengaged Nov. 7. Broadway, Deptford, S.E.

MR. and MRS. T. B. BRABAZON,
Hop-picker and Mrs Buzzard, "In the Ranks."
Prospect House, Park View-road, Bradford.

MR. and MRS. JOE BRACEWELL Disengaged Dec. 12. Termination of "Worst Woman in London" Tour. This, C., Oldham; Next, P., Clapham.

MR. RICHARD BRENNAND
Disengaged.
Address, 11, Windmill-street, W.; or, Agents.

MR. HARRISON BROCKBANK,
Baritone.
Address, 5, Phœnix-lodge-mansions, Brook-green, W.

MR. E. OSWALD BROOKS,
on Tour with own Co., "The New Housemaid."
This, Opera House, Cork; next, T. R., Waterford.

MR. and MRS. W. RUDDLE BROWN
(Miss Nelly Howitt) Disengaged.
10, Clarendon-gardens, Maida-vale, W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E. BURDETT,
Own Tour with "The Indian Mutiny."
Oct. 31, New Theatre, Ilkeston.

MR. HENRY BUTE,
Comedy, Character, and Old Men.
8, The Avenue, Acre-lane, Brixton, S.W.

MR. TOM D. BYRON Disengaged. Wire, Wire. Disengaged. Intense Character and Character Comedy. At Lib. Saturday, Oct. 29. Empire, Hull.

MR. JOHN CABOURN,
Miss Marie Tempest's
Season.

MR. CARTHAGE CALDCLEUGH,
Harry Hood, "Greed of Gold."
Theatre Royal, Edmonton.

MR. and MRS. HARRY CANE.
H. C., Mr Willard's Tour. Mrs Cane at Liberty.
Town or Suburbs. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.

MR. and MRS. G. CANNINGE.
Address,
124, Whittington-road, Bowes-park, N.

MR. C. DOUGLAS CARLILE,
Re-engaged for Lord Rockingham, "Under Two Flags"; rehearsing, Royal, Aston.

MR. DOUGLAS CECIL,
Captain Darville, "Two Little Vagabonds."
Theatre Royal, Castleford.

MR. GORDON CHASEMORE,
Costume Designer,
Foy Boat Hotel, Ramsgate.

MR. ARTHUR CHESNEY,
Address,
Garrick Theatre.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE CHILD (Frances Bruce), Nathaniel Mutley and Justerina Hook, in "The World's Desire." Oct. 31, T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.

MR. and MRS. JOHNNY CHIPPENDALE (Mattie Everett), "The Temptress." Disengaged Nov. 7, 1904. Oct. 31, P. of W. Theatre, Grimsby.

MR. J. H. CLYNDES,
"A Royal Revenge."
Theatre Royal, Poole.

MR. HAL COLLIER,
Principal Comedy, Stock Season and Pantomime,
Grand Theatre, Islington.

MR. CECIL A. COLLINS
at Liberty Dec. 10.
Address, Opera House, Londonderry; or, A.A.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS,
Jack Felton (Lead), "Worst Woman in London."
Oct. 31, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, Six Nights.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON
Disengaged for Heavy Lead or Old Men.
52, Cambridge-mansions, Battersea-park, S.W.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON. Disengaged
Christmas for Farcical and Mus. Com. Character, Light and Dudes. Oct. 31, Alex., Stoke Newington, N.

MR. T. E. CONOVER,
"Miss Mischief" Company.
Oct. 31, West London Theatre, W.

MR. TOM W. CONWAY
at Liberty for Pantomime, Dame. Two Years T. R., Manchester. 9, Elm-park-road, Chelsea, S.W.

MR. BERNARD COPPING,
Lead; Miss ISA BELLINGTON, Lead and Comedy.
Disengaged shortly. Address, T. R., Coatbridge, N.B.

MR. J. W. CORDINER,
Oct. 31,
Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

MR. L. CORY-THOMAS,
Hawkshaw and Jacques and Stage-Management.
Address, Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

MR. VERNON COWPER,
Blueskin, in "Jack Sheppard."
Address, Yorick Club, 30, Bedford-street, W.C.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE,
Court Theatre, Liverpool, Oct. 31.
Disengaged for Nov 28. Offers invited.

MR. REGINALD CROFT,
Engaged by Norman V. Norman, Esq., Autumn Tour.
Theatre Royal, Limerick.

MR. JULIAN CROSS,
Standard Theatre. Disengaged December.
Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. ROBERT J. DANSON,
Carlton, M.P., Mr Percy Standing's "His Excellency the Governor," West Pier, Brighton.

MR. LIONEL D'ARAGON,
Lead. Disengaged Nov. 7. Lead.
Termination, Stock Season, Terriss's.

MR. CHARLES DAVIES
terminates Seven Years' Engagement, Oct. 29.
Stage-Manager, Palace, Manchester. Disengaged.

MR. COLEMAN DAVIES Dis. Panto.
Last Xmas, Baron, Princess's, Glasgow. Great Success. Oct. 31, New Theatre, Burton-on-Trent.

MR. HARRY W. DAY,
Acting-Manager,
New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.

MR. E. T. DE BANZIE.
Conductor, "Les Cloches de Corneville."
Oct. 31, Opera House, Northampton.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE,
Mr St. Alban's "Les Cloches."
Theatre, Northampton. Disengaged Nov. 28.

MR FRANK H. DENTON
Disengaged Dec. 17.
Address, New King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. GEORGE DESMOND,
Returned from Australia Disengaged.
Care of A. Chesney, Esq., 9, Adam-street, Adelphi.

MR. FRED DOBELL, unexpectedly
Disengaged Nov. 5. "Fatal Wedding" 3. Tour.
Robust Character or Dialect. H. M. T., Walsall.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MARY AINSLIE, Rehearsing "Bid for Fortune."
Communications, 2, St. George's-square, N.W.

MR. and MRS. KAY DRACO
(Miss Mimi Fisher). K. D., Manager, Geo. Dance's "Duchess of Dantzic." Oct. 31, Cardiff (Royal).

MR. STANLEY DREWITT
Disengaged.
Address, Elderden, Staplehurst, Kent.

MR. LOUIS DUDLEY,
Character, Comedian, and Juvenile. Disengaged.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Business-Manager, at Liberty.
Address, 116, Englefield-road, Canonbury, N.

MR. J. MALCOM DUNN.
Address, care of George Musgrove, Esq.
Princess's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. T. W. DUNSCOMBE
Paul Gouffet, "The Face at the Window."
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Tyldesley.

MR. FELIX EDWARDES,
Engaged to support Mr Nat Goodwin. Letters, care of Low's Exchange, 1,123, Broadway, New York City.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST C. EDWARDS
Old Men and Women or Character. Royalty T., Barrow.

MR. ARTHUR ELDRED
Disengaged.
61, Brixton-hill, S.W.

MR. JAMES ENGLISH,
Vacant, Character. Intense or Comedy, Old Men.
Address, 37, Oakley-square, N.W.

MR A. FAULCONBRIDGE,
Business-Manager, "Ben-My-Chree" Co.
Theatre Royal, Derby.

MR. ANTHONY FAWCETT, George
Fisher, Messrs Edwardes and Frohman's "Are You a Mason?" Company. Next week, O. H., St. Helens.

MR. EDWARD FENTON,
Lieut. Pelham, "A Soldier and a Man."
Oct. 31, Merthyr Tydfil.

MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD,
Captain Stent, "The Edge of the Storm,"
Opera House, Burnley.

MR. E. O'CONNELL FITZSIMON
Disengaged on March 7, 1906.
Address till then, Senekal, O.R.C., South Africa.

MR. HUGH FLEMING,
Advance Director, G. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

MR. HERBERT FORD,
Lead.
81, Hamlet-gardens-mansions, Ravenscourt-park, W.

MR. ROBERT FORSYTH
at Liberty. Town or Good Tour.
17, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, S.W.

MR. FRANK H. FRANCE
Disengaged.
Address, 39, Morval-road, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE.
Address,
Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

MR. FRANK FREELAND
at Liberty Nov. 21 and for Panto., Part and Speciality. Public Hall, Reigate, Surrey.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD FULTON
(Miss Gertrude Evans), Lazare, Madeleine and Adrienne, in "Proof." Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS,
as Captain Lebaudy,
"The Mariners of England" Co. P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.

MR. W. V. GARROD,
the Spider, "The Silver King."
Theatre Royal, Bury, Lancashire.

MR. JOHN GERANT
at Liberty Shortly.
Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD,
Prince Kara, Mr Tree's North Company, "The Darling of the Gods." Opera House, Southport.

MR. and MRS. LEWIS GILBERT
(Lina Nazeby), Star Lead and Heavy, "I Defy the World." Liberty shortly. Oct. 31, Alex., Birmingham.

MR. SHAUN GLENVILLE,
Irish Comedian. At Liberty.
15, Lynette-avenue, Clapham-common, S.W.

MR. FRANCIS GLYNN,
Tenor, The Close, Stratton St. Margaret, Near Swindon, Wiltshire. Telegrams, "Glynn, Stratton St. Margaret."

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
Leading Business.
Letters, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON.
Address,
Criterion Theatre, W.

MR. J. LYNWARD GRAHAME,
Szentes Istvan, "The Edge of the Storm."
Opera House, Burnley.

MR. HERBERT GREVILLE.
Address, Oct. 31,
Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.

MR. H. NAYLOR GRIMSON,
as Phillip Abram, in "King of Coiners" Company.
This, Greenwich; next, Crook.

MR. FRED GROVE,
Terence Reilly, John Hare's "Little Mary" Co.
Coronet Theatre, N.W.

MR. LAURENCE GROVE,
Noel Le Joly, in "If I Were King" Company.
Oct. 31, Royalty Theatre, Chester; or, A.A.

MR. GEOFFREY GUISE,
Alexandra Theatre,
Stoke Newington, N.

MR. EDMUND GWENN,
arrives in England shortly from Australia. Address, care of Arthur Chesney, Esq., 9, Adam-street, Adelphi.

MR. CHARLES HALLING,
Colonel Jules Meuron, "Napoleon the Great."
Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MR. EARLE HAMILTON,
Comedian. Disengaged. Open for Pantomime Engagement. Care of "The Era" Office.

MR. DUDLEY HARCOURT,
"Two Little Vagabonds" Company.
Theatre Royal, Castleford.

MR. W. HARGREAVES,
as Cattermole, "Private Secretary," Farewell Tour.
Disengaged 1905. Letters, en route; or, Agents.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
"A Country Mouse" Company.
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. HARRINGTON,
on Tour with own Company.
Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne, Return.

MR. JULIAN HARTLEIGH
Disengaged.
Address, 121, London-road, Croydon.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
Harry Huntingford and Stage-Management, "The World." Address, en route.

MR. and MRS. T. P. HAYNES
(Miss Rosie Lewis), "Broken Melody" Company.
Grand Theatre, Woolwich.

MR. FRANK L. HAYTER,
Business-Manager. Thanks for Offers. Disengaged.
10, Palace-street, Buckingham-gate, S.W.

MR. EDWARD HEANLEY Concluding
Engagement as Levison with Henry Dundas. Disengaged. Address, Actors' Association.

MR. GEORGE HENRY
at Liberty.
4, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C.

MR. and MRS. GRAHAME HERINGTON
(Madge Langton), "City of Millions" Co.
Disengaged February. Oct. 31, Ayr and Kilmarnock.

MR. DALZIEL HERON,
Lord Jura, Joseph Surface, &c., Miss Fortescue's Company. Oct. 31, Grand Theatre, Hull.

MR. FRANK HILL.
Address letters,
12, Faunce-street, Kennington-park, S.E.

MR. BASIL HILLIER
Disengaged Dec. 10. Light Comedy, Assistant Management. Queen's Theatre, Liverpool (six Nights).

MR. HARRY HILLER
Disengaged.
155, Clarence-road, Clapton, N.E.

MR. A. T. HILTON
Disengaged, Old Men, &c.
Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES
On Tour with Miss Ellen Terry. Will be at Liberty Dec. 5. Opera House, Leicester.

MR. E. BASIL HOBSON
Acting-Manager, "As Midnight Chimes,"
Dalston Theatre. Nov. 7, Junction Theatre, Manchester

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY
Iago, De Mauprat, Zizzulic ("Red Lamp"), &c.
Opera House, Blackpool.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD.
Address,
Chez Nous, Churt, near Farnham, Surrey.

MR. ALFRED H. HOOK,
Acting-Manager, Mr A. B. Cross's "Manxman" Tour,
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

MR. FRANCIS HOPE,
Eccentric and Light Comedian, Disengaged shortly and Pantomime. 39, Oakley-square, Regent's park, N.W.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD
(Miss Carlotta Anson), Lead and Stage-Management, Heavy Lead. Christmas offers. T. R., Darlington.

MR. CHARLES HOWITT
at Liberty Nov. 5.
88, Brockley-road, New Cross, London.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner), Mrs Lewis Waller's "Zaza" and "Vilma" Co. Oct. 31, Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. GEORGE JAMES,
Comedian. Playing Rum Ohmyo, in "The Belle of Bangalore." Address, next week, Globe T., Deal.

MR. POWELL JAMES, Business-Manager and Capt. Salem, "Bells of Haslemere" Co. This, West Bromwich; next, Kidderminster.

MR. CHAS. E. JOHNSON,
Business-Manager, "Heart of a Hero."
Lowestoft, Colchester.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Orsino,
Horatio, Oliver, Lorenzo, Faulkland, Hastings, Benvolio, Host, &c., Mr F. R. Benson's North Company.

MR. T. ARTHUR JONES,
Touring "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "The Girl of My Heart" Perm., 26 Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

MR. and MRS. THEO. JONES
(Ada Mansfield) Disengaged termination of Tour. Permanent Address, Parmeston-road, Catford.

MR. F. JOYNSEN-POWELL
Disengaged.
49, Waldemar-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

MR. CHAS. M. JULIAN,
General Manager, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe. Directing "I Defy the World" Tour.

MR. WHITFORD KANE,
Jacky, in "Sunday" (North Company).
Address, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
Charlmont, Western-parade, Southsea.

MR. C. B. KESTON
at Liberty.
21, Marchmont-street, W.C.

MR. CLAUDE KING,
Leading Business, "A Path of Thorns" Company. Oct. 31, Opera House, Chatham.

MR. CECIL KLEIN
Disengaged Juvenile and Comedy Leads.
Address, 47, Wymering-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR KNIGHT
(Miss Edith Knight).
King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

MR. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
Starring as Jules Delarnet, "A Disgrace to Her Sex" Company. Opera House, Rochdale.

MR. PHILIP F. KNOX
Disengaged, London only.
19, Southfield-gardens, Strawberry-hill, S.W.

MR. RICHARD HENRY LACE. Good offers invited for Heavy or Character. 10, Parkfield-drive, Liscard; 10, King-street, London, W.C.

MR. FRANK LACY,
Captain Fitz, in "The Money Makers." Oct. 31, G., Croydon; Nov. 7, Empire, Southend (Three Nights).

MR. JAMES R. LA FANE, Manager and Stage Director, Mr Monillot's "Geisha" and "Greek Slave" Company. Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

MR. FRED LAKE,
Tom Baker and Stage-Manager, "The New Clown." Disengaged Nov. 5. Oct. 31, Gaiety, Hastings.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY
(Jessie Price). Disengaged.
180, New Kent-road, S.E.

MR. EDMUND LEA
as Varensky, in "Vilma,"
Oct. 24, Grand, Woolwich.

MR. ALGERNON W. LEE,
Launcelot in "La Poupée"
Peterborough and Gainsborough.

MR. PHILIP LESLIE
at Liberty Dec. 5.
Address, 8, Bassett-road, W.

MR. ALFRED LESTER,
Comedian and Character Actor, Hardie and Von Leer's Co. Pantomime settled Next week, Chatham.

MR. D. LEWIN-MANNERING, Baron Bonelli and Stage-Manager, in "The Eternal City" on Tour. Oct. 31, Metropole t., Birkenhead, One Week.

MR. ARDENE LINDEN,
Chamboran, in "Proof."
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, Six Nights.

MR. GEORGE W. LINDSAY,
Manager, "My Lady Molly" Company,
Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. FRANK LISTER Disengaged
December. Pantomime or Play. Standard Theatre; or, 15, Elmhurst-mansions, Vernon-rd., Clapham, S.W.

MR. FRANK LISTON,
Rev. Arthur Graham and Acting-Manager, "When Darkness Falls." 31st, Star, Liverpool.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
New Theatre, W.C.
23, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. EDWARD LLOYD,
Ned Drayton, "In the Ranks,"
Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

MR. and MRS. STUART LOMATH,
Star Lead and Comedy, "The World."
Oct. 31, Lyceum, Ipswich.

MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY,
as Lord Cheyne, "Three Little Maids."
Richmond Theatre, S.W.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE,
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MR. and MRS. WILLIAM MACLAREN
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Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

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Disengaged.
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MR. H. F. MALTBY,
Lieut.-General Coventry, in "One of the Best."
Oct. 31, T. R., Leamington. At Liberty Nov. 14th.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER.
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MR. PERCY MARMONT,
Playing Jack Woodford, in "An Actor's Romance."
Oct. 31, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Carbury, "Lady of Ostend," &c.
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Theatre Royal, Stockton-on-Tees.

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MARIE HAROOURT, Napoleon and Marcel, in "Napoleon the Great." Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MR. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
Heavy Lead, "The Convict's Daughter" Co.
Disengaged Dec. 10. Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Perth, N.B.

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MR. TOM MOWBRAY,
Messrs Edwardes and Frohman's "Are You a Mason?" Co. Oct. 31, Opera House, St. Helens.

MR. QUINTON M'PHERSON,
Re-engaged by Mr Charles Frohman for Mr William Gillette's Season. Empire Theatre, New York.

MR and MRS. ERNEST MUNRO
(Miss Marie Jones) Disengaged Dec. 10.
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MR. JOHN NESBITT
Disengaged.
62, Delancey-street, Gloucester-gate, N.W.

MR. GEORGE NORMAN-BURT
Disengaged Nov. 7.
Address, 10 King-street, W.C.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
"The Silver King" Company.
Next Week, Theatre Royal, Bury.

MR. and MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
(Dorothy Carington) Disengaged Nov. 5
113, Stamford-street, Blackfriars, S.E.; or, Hippodrome.

MR. NORMAN A. OVERTON
Disengaged. Lead, Heavy Lead.
Care of Anna Beaumont, T. R., Huddersfield.

MR GUS OXLEY,
"Three Little Maids" Company (No. 1).
Prince of Wales's, Richmond.

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Sir Philip Marchant, "A Bunch of Violets."
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(Mabel Syringa) at Liberty now and Christmas.
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MR. DOUGLAS PAYNE,
Playing Ion, Mr Tree's N. Co., "The Darling of the Gods." Oct. 31, Opera House, Southport.

MR. and MRS. F. S. PRAKE (Miss Dora Davis), Leading Business, Disengaged Dec. 3.
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MR. ASHTON PEARSE,
Adelphi Theatre.
Permanent address, 65, Redcliffe-road, South Kensington.

MR. HERBERT PEARSON,
Leading Business,
Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.

MR and MRS FRED W. PERMAIN
(Miss Florence Le Clercq), Address A. A.;
or, Her Majesty's Theatre, Sydney, Australia.

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at Liberty for Juvenile or Heavy Lead.
Address, 119, King Edward's-road, Birmingham

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(Miss Gertrude Price), Lead, "As Midnight Chimes" Company. Oct. 31, Dalston Theatre, Dalston.

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Mrs S. R. Disengaged. Rotunda, Liverpool.

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MR. W. E. RICHARDSON
Disengaged.
Address, 129, Lavender-sweep, Lavender-hill, S.W.

MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD,
Oct. 31,
Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

MR. WALTER L. RIGNOLD,
Ratty and Stage-Management, "A Path of Thorns," T. R., Chatham. Panto., S.-M., Prince's, Manchester.

MR. PERCY RHODES,
on Tour with "A Modern Judas." Disengaged at Christmas. Letters, 10, Elmstone-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON,
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MR. STANLEY ROGERS
at Liberty Christmas to produce Pantomime.
Address, Opera House, Workington.

MR. and MRS HARRY SCOTT (Lily Crammonde) Disengaged. John Storm, Polly Love, "The Christian." Care of George Scott, Alhambra.

MR. CHARLES E. SCUTT.
All arrangements complete.
72, Chestnut-grove, Balham, S.W.

MR and MRS. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
(Miss Alice Arden) Disengaged Dec. 17.
Oct. 31, King's Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. FRANK SHERLOCK,
Roberts, "The Lady Slavey."
Theatre Royal, Gloucester. Disengaged Christmas.

MR. GEORGE SHIRLEY
Disengaged. Acting-Management.
65a, Long-acre, London, W.C.

MR. EDWARD SIDNEY, Comedy and Character, Disengaged Dec. 10th.
"Money-Makers" Company. Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. FRED SINCLAIR,
Comedy Duologue.
Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. TOM E. SINCLAIR,
Comedian (Tall), Disengaged for Good Comedy Parts. Opera House, Crouch-end, N.

MR. JAMES SKEA,
Character Actor, Disengaged shortly and for Pantomime. Address, care Hansen, 6, Union-place, Edinburgh.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY,
General Manager for "San Toy."
Oct. 31, Princes Theatre, Manchester.

MR. HARRY STARK,
Carl, Otto, Schwenk.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. ERNEST ST. JOHN,
appearing with Mr Walter Groves,
Empire Theatre, Swansea,

MR. GEORGE STONE,
Resident-Manager (Tenth Year),
Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK,
General Manager, "The Fatal Wedding" (North) Company. Oct. 31, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS
(and Miss KATE PARRY), Business-Manager, Milton Poole's "Tommy Atkins" Co. Brixton Theatre, S.W.

MR. TAPPING,
Brighton Season, Répertoire.
Letters, 23, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR,
Flamant and Stage-Management, Miss Olga Nethersole's "Sapho" Company. Theatre Royal, Bath.

MR. L. FRED TENAUR,
Moses Mendoza, "A London Actress" Co.
Oct. 31, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

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Returned from South Africa. At Liberty.
10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MR. WYLIE A. THOMPSON,
termination of Tour with Messrs C. W. Somerset and Lionel Rignold. Disengaged. Bridgen, Bexley, Kent

MR. CHARLES THORBURN,
General Manager, George Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

MR. WALTER THORNTON,
Alphonse, "Woman and Wine." Disengaged December. Oct. 31, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. TOM TINDALL,
Character Comedian, Disengaged Christmas.
Oct. 31, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. ALFRED C. TOONE,
Musical Director, late King's T., Hammersmith. Dis. 21, St. Dunstan's-road, W. Kensington, W.

MR. TRUEMAN TOWERS,
General Manager, Mr John Denton's "Modern Judas" Company. Empire Theatre, Southend.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL
Disengaged Nov. 14.
Address, 17, Manchester-street, Gray's-inn-road, W.C.

MR. GEORGE F. TULLY,
Karl Heinrich, in "Old Heidelberg."
Disengaged Nov. 7. Broadway Theatre, Deptford.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD,
The Mermaid Society Productions.
Rehearsing, Royalty Theatre, W.

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(Miss Kate Pallam). E. V. B., Bus.-Man., "Broken Melody" Co. K. H. Dis. 32, Maitland-park-road, N.W.

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Mrs Vaughan, Miss Fortescue's Company; Mr Vaughan, "Sunday," North Company, T. R., Hanley.

MR. PERCY B. VERNON concluding
Third South African Tour, arriving in England about end of Nov. Eversleigh, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR,
Napoleon, "A Royal Divorce."
Court Theatre, Warrington.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS
(Miss Lucy Beaumont).
Next, Theatre Royal, Darwen.

MR. ARTHUR WALCOTT
Disengaged.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, W.C.

MR. HARRY WALSH.
Major O'Neill and Stage-Manager, Mr W. Greet's "Lady Slavey." Next, T. R., Gloucester. Dis. Christmas.

MR. EDWIN WALTON,
Sir Sidney Barraclough, "The Bank of England."
Oct. 31, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM,
Playing the Biggest Scamp on Earth.
Aquarium Theatre, Scarborough.

MR. ALBERT WARD,
Lead. Disengaged in November.
61, Winchester-street, South Shields.

MR. CECIL WARD,
Returned from Australia.
Address, 8, Ashworth-mansions, Elgin-avenue, W.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE
Disengaged.
47, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

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Acting-Manager, "Proof" Company,
Theatre Royal, Birkenhead; or, A.A.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY,
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"Sunday" (South) Company.
En route; or, A.A.

MR. CHARLES WEIR
Disengaged Nov. 5.
15, Digby-mansions, Hammersmith.

MR. ALFRED WELLESLEY,
The Professor, "A Hot Night." Dis. for Panto. Dame preferred. Worcester House, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. STANLEY WHITE, General Manager,
Mr Ben Greet's "La Poupée" Company.
Next week, Peterborough and Gainsborough.

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Disengaged. Comedy, Character, Stage-Management. Address, Park House, Harewood-rd., Merton, S.W.

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General Manager,
Fifth Year for Messrs Little and Darcy, en route.

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Mr Tree's Répertoire Company. At Liberty Dec. 10.
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Juvenile Lead, "That Woman from France."
Oct. 31, Queen's Theatre, Elswick.

MR. BREMBER WILLS,
Harker, "A Bunch of Violets."
31st, Crystal Palace.

MR. FRANK WILSON.
Address,
26, Mornington-crescent, N.W.

MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE.
Address,
2, Mall-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. A. WOOD
Address,
59, St. Mary's-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. and MRS. GRAHAM WOODS
Disengaged Nov. 14.
Theatre Royal, South Shields.

MR. F. B. WOULFE,
as Marcus Superbus.
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. HENRY WRIGHT,
Arrangements complete. Will John S. Haydon kindly send address, 41, Hazlebourne-rd., Balham-hill, S.W.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE,
Comedy, Character.
Address, Myrtle Villa, Queen's-road, Lyndhurst, Hants.

MR. LIONEL YEOMAN,
Count Ratzi, Ben Greet's "Belle of New York."
To-day, Ealing. Oct 31, Lyceum, Newport.

MR. H. A. YOUNG,
Beau Nash, in "Monsieur Beaucaire."
Oct. 31, Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.

MR. and MRS. HERBERT H. YOUNG
(Miss Enid Wilde) Disengaged Nov. 5. H. Y., Lead, Heavies; F. W., Light Comedy. T. R., Aldershot.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LITTLE NINA HEATHE Disengaged, also EUGENIE FORBES, after Eight Months with "Zizi" Co. 29, Mentone-mansions, Fulham-road.

MASTER WALTER CROSS,
from Haymarket Theatre, London, Engaged Christmas, Garrick Theatre, W. 6, Harrington-street, N.W.

MASTER CYRIL SMITH,
as Geoffrey, in "Becket," with Sir Henry Irving, on Tour. Address, 75, Strand, W.C.

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Oct. 19, 1904.

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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE KLEINEN LAEMMER,"

Operetta, in Two Acts, by L. Varney, Words by A. Llorat, produced at the Theatre des Westens, Oct. 20.

Badurel	Herr Wellhof
Prince Christian	Herr Hansen
Grobichon	Herr Below
Josef	Herr Ziegler
Emeraldine Mouton	Fräulein Gaston
Alice	Fräulein Linda
Fanny	Fräulein Doninger
Louise	Fräulein Siechen
Henriette	Fräulein Carry
Germaine	Fräulein Schulz
Irene	Fräulein Grunwald
Marcelle	Fräulein Karski
Martha	Fräulein Langemann
Lucienne	Fräulein Lambert
Blanche	Fräulein Griffin
Jeanne	Fräulein Richter
Yvette	Fräulein Von Burger

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Oct. 27.—A well-merited success was accorded to the revival of this time-worn little work, and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent. The cast was so good, the mounting so tasteful, and the pleasing music so excellently rendered that the operetta—which was known to few—will certainly have a long run. A few words will be sufficient to detail the plot. Badurel, a caricature of a learned professor, has a couple of finishing scholars, Prince Christian of Illyrien and Fifrelin Grobichon, merry good-for-nothings of nineteen and twenty. Over the way dwells Fräulein Emeraldine Mouton, head of a *pension* of fair maidens who are nicknamed "the little lambs." The girls are brought up in strict seclusion, never having seen a man, the chaste Emeraldine impressing on them the evil qualities of the genus. Emeraldine herself, nevertheless, is in love with Badurel, and he with her, and this gives rise to a good deal of buffoonery. The boys, of course, soon discover their master's weakness; they themselves, watching the little lambs at play, lose their hearts, and determine to make the closer acquaintance of their neighbours. The second act shows the dormitory of the schoolgirls; it was a very pretty scene, and drew forth applause by open stage. We see them, under Fräulein Mouton's direction, prepare for the night's repose, and hear them sing their evening prayer—a charming bit of composition. That the boys come in when all is still is a matter of course, also that the professor comes to find his Emeraldine. After some laughable nonsense—the boys pretending to the startled girls that they are their guardian angels—all comes to a happy and, musically-speaking, highly satisfactory conclusion. Christian and Fifrelin find their cousins Alice and Fanny—the brides desired for them by their parents—among the schoolgirls, so that three happy pairs of lovers are the result. Herr Wellhof and Fräulein Gaston played with delicious humour, and Herren Hansen, Below, and Ziegler, as well as Fräuleins Doninger and Linda, acted and sang admirably. The audience testified to their appreciation of Herr Intendant Prasch's well-chosen production by "calling" the popular author-manager and heartily applauding him. *Die Tante Schläft*, Henri Casper's melodious one-act operetta, now precedes *Die Kleinen Lämmer*, and meets with much appreciation. *Die Hugenotten* is announced at the Theatre des Westens for Friday evening, being performed there for the first time.

THE Deutsches produced a three-act drama recently by a new and youthful author, named Heinrich Lilienfein. The piece—*Maria Friedhammer* entitled—met with a cordial reception, and is still being given once or twice in the week. It is a serious play, and the characters are mostly fanatics or prigs; they indulge largely in monologues and tall talk. At present there is little trace of anything like dramatic talent in Herr Lilienfein's production; later, perhaps, his capabilities will develop. Maria is the daughter of a so-called mixed marriage—that of a Lutheran schoolmaster with a Catholic. Frau Friedhammer's brother is a priest, full of zeal, fanaticism, and malice, who cannot forgive his sister her choice of a husband. Maria is beloved by a young Protestant clergyman; she loves him in return, and this complicates matters and worries Ignaz—the fanatic uncle—excessively. But the young pastor knows he cannot well marry Maria, so he gets himself transferred to another parish—a step which Herr Friedhammer considers mean and unworthy. Maria's brother dies and she herself is seriously ill, both of which misfortunes are termed judgments of the Almighty by the cheerful Ignaz, who now tries to save further judgments by placing his niece in a convent. She, poor girl, has no wish to take the veil, and she forgets herself for a moment so far as to allow the embraces of her pastor-lover. Ignaz now declares her to be a sinner past recall, not even fit for a convent, and Maria—eager for rest of any kind—throws herself into a watery grave. She is landed in a dying state, and manages to whisper her love to the young pastor—who comes up opportunely—before she gives up the ghost. A good cast atoned in great measure for the weaknesses of the play. Fräulein Hannemann gave the title-rôle with much feeling. Fräulein Arnold rendered the part of Frau Friedhammer very sympathetically and Herr Sommerstorff gave an excellent account of the young pastor. The part of the wicked uncle was played with discretion by Herr Lands.

AT the Belle Alliance *Die Tugendglocke*, three-act vaudeville by P. Ferrier, has made a hit. It is a nonsensical, but amusing, pot-pourri, arranged for the demands of their stage by the manager-playwrights Herren Kren and Schoenfeld. All kinds of local points are pressed into service—such as, for instance, a skit upon Miss Duncan—the charming American dancer. This was the hit of the evening, being cleverly executed by Fräulein Bradsky. Other rôles were vivaciously taken by Fräuleins Bijoco and Wanovius, and the incidental music is very effective.

FRAU AGNES SORMA, who broke her arm during rehearsal at the Neues Theatre some weeks ago, is recovering the use of the limb, and will be able to resume her duties some time during November. The management of the Neues, by the way, announces a new comedy—*Die Morgenröte*, by J. Rüderer—for production next week.

SIGNOR ALESSANDRO BONCI has finished his season at the National, and both he and the management may be well satisfied with the success thereof. Bonci's voice is not so robust as Caruso's, but it is particularly pleasing, and he has, perhaps, as many admirers as his rival. The theatre was crowded each night the popular tenor sang, and his departure was the signal for all kinds of ovations. It is hoped by the management that Signor Bonci may return, just as Signor Caruso has promised to come back to us in November to finish his engagements at the Theatre des Westens.

THE Royal Opera has revived Mozart's *Zauberflöte*, the part of the Queen of the Night being taken by Fräulein Siems, from Prague. It was not, on the whole, a very happy evening. Fräulein Siems' voice—as I have said before—is not equal to the demands our opera house makes upon it, and several of the soloists appeared to be indisposed. Fräulein Destinn, however, sang the rôle of Panina splendidly, proving herself as good an exponent of Mozart as she is of Wagner. Dr. Muck conducted in his usual excellent manner.

MADAME CALVÉ commences her first tour through Germany this week, appearing in the Stadt Theatre at Leipsig first. To-morrow (Friday) evening the famous artist makes her début at our Royal Opera as Carmen.

ANOTHER pillar of the Royal opera company of the past generation has just died, Herr Theodor Betz, who retired into private life with a handsome State pension some years ago. Herr Betz possessed one of the most sympathetic baritone voices ever heard, and was a most finished singer. His rendering of Hans Sachs will never be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to hear it.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—The sensational drama *The Convict's Daughter* is drawing good houses this week. Mr Frank Bertram plays the many-sided part of Michael Graham with admirable skill, and he is ably supported by Mr G. Moreton-Williams as the schemer, Jasper Thorr. Miss Edith M. Savery acts well as Edith; and Messrs J. K. Walton and T. W. Hurst sustain their respective rôles most creditably. Miss Julie Alexander as the maidservant and Mr Alfred Terris as the First Constable are responsible for the comedy side of the drama.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—O'Gust, with his marvellous imitations, secures an enthusiastic welcome this week; and the performance of Signor Permane's bears are followed with as keen excitement as last week. The Vance Brothers give a very pleasing instrumental turn; Cinizelli provides a unique and original speciality act; and among the other artists are Mr J. G. Aitkin, with some smart songs and stories; Miss Flo Challis, the popular contralto; the Four Jumels, in their excellent musical comedy turn; and Harry Glynn and company in a humorous sketch. The Palace Bioscope pictures continue popular.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—Mrs Bandmann-Palmer and company are here in a répertoire of historical plays. On Monday the piece selected was *Mary, Queen of Scots*. In the title-rôle Mrs Bandmann-Palmer was enthusiastically received, her fine impersonation appealing with eloquent force to those present; as the Earl of Leicester and the Earl of Shrewsbury respectively Mr F. Skein and Mr Boyd Pearson were very effective; and Mr Sydney Bland as Lord Burleigh acquitted himself admirably. Mr William Trant in manner and appearance was seen to advantage as Sir Edward Mortimer. As Elizabeth, Queen of England, Miss Katharine Herbert exerted herself to the utmost in the emotional phase of the part and won admiration. *East Lynne, Sapho, Hamlet, Nell Gwynn*, and *Jane Shore* are also in the répertoire.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company opened here on Monday with *Defending His Honour*. Mr John Davidson gave a good rendering of Douglas Bryce; Mr John Hignett must be complimented on his clever impersonation of Irish character; Steven Gerald was well played by Mr Clifton Boyne; Mr Charles H. Herbert cleverly depicted George Duncan; the Richard Verison of Mr Willie Black was very diverting; Mr Thompson Carruthers gave an artistic portrayal of David Peller; Miss F. Melrose Millet scored as Ethel Bryce; Miss Trixie Lucien was ably played by Miss Lillian Mathews; Mrs Edmond Lyons carefully depicted Mrs Verison; and Miss May Sharp, who is a smart little actress, was capital as Harry Bryce.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Mill; Assistant-Manager, Mr T. W. Moyes.—Mr John Marx tops the bill here with his very smart show as a strong man. A clever turn is Zenora and Foden, who rank amongst the best in their line as hand equilibrists. Mr Tom Basset, comedian, works hard, and is well rewarded with applause. Miss Flo Deighton fairly brings the house down by her well-rendered numbers. Miss Lilly Le Breton is a smart gymnast; and Loudoun Cameron is a clever conjuror. Miss Baby Macfarlane is a capital little comedienne.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—Although *San Toy* has been presented here before, Mr George Edwardes's company is entirely a new one. From the start Miss Don Harradine charms the audience with her clever and successful portrayal of San Toy. Mr Edmund Sherras's is a good conception of Bobby Preston, and his fine, well-trained voice is heard to advantage in "The Motherland." Mr Alfred Beers is a good successor to Mr Statham Staples as Li, his irresistible humour as the kleptomaniatic Chinee being particularly good. Mr Alfred W. Clark is clever as Yen How. Mr G. J. Williams as the "explosive" Sir Bingo Preston is excellent; and a capital enactment of the Emperor comes from Mr Cliffe Davies. Mr Adam Gordon's Sing Hi is ably portrayed, and Mr Walter P. Wright (Harvey Tucker) and Mr Clinton Reynald (Fo Hop) are acceptable. Miss Mabel Lavelle gives a meritorious portrayal of Poppy, and Miss Florence Arnold's Dudley is excellent. Miss Beatrice Gradella (Rose Tucker) is also encored for her graceful *pas de seul* in the second act.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—*A Country Girl* is here this week, presented by Mr George Dance's well-organised company. Miss May Glen is well placed as Nan. Her song, "Molly the Marchioness," is deservedly applauded; indeed, her singing and acting throughout are of the most admirable kind. Miss Nina Carlton as the Princess Melaneh possesses a powerful soprano voice, and her style is highly dramatic. The character of Marjory Joy is played with great charm of manner by Miss Maud Harvey, who has a contralto voice of rich quality. Miss Veronica Brady as Sophie is pert and chic, and sings and dances to the evident delight of all. Mr Cyril Thompson sings and acts well as the naval officer Challoner. Mr Johnny Osborne as Barry is chiefly responsible for the humorous element, and he causes much laughter as the naval officer's servant. Miss Edna Knollys and other ladies of the cast are pleasing performers of minor parts. The chorus is numerous and attractive and vocally strong.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot.—The company here includes the Attilla Brothers, athletes, and the audience watches with astonishment their feats of strength and agility. Other artistes who do well are La Belle Shannon, the trained coloured comedienne and dancer; the Cullane Troupe, in their new humorous act, *The Dude's Dilemma;* Mr Herbert Betts, the versatile eccentric comedian; the Three Henriques, comedy acrobats; and Edie Gray and coons in their novel singing act. Sinclair and Whiteford, vocal comedians, also gain much favour in their laughter-provoking duologue. The cinématograph concludes the programme.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Claude Seaton.—Messrs Haddon and Loader's company is presenting the powerful drama, entitled *The King of Thieves*, here for six nights. The title-rôle, James Galston, is taken by Mr Jack Haddon, who delineates the character with consummate success. Mr John Cecil as Harry Travers, a young fireman, is exceptionally good; Sir Gilbert Redville is successfully enacted by Mr Ernest Munroe; Mr Reginald Hames as Arthur Redville portrays the spendthrift son with much ability; and Miss Nellie Thorne Adam makes a very pleasing Mary Galston.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Mr Arnold Bell and his company opened a three nights' engagement on Monday with Mr Wilson Barrett's beautiful drama *Ben-my-Chree*. Mr Arnold Bell appeared in the part of Dan Mylres, and gave a rare interpretation of a very trying part, never failing to carry the sympathy of the audience with him. Miss Frances Campbell made an admirable Mona, acting with a rare charm and winsome tenderness. The Ewan Mylres of Mr Cuthbert Imrie was admirable, while the parts of the Deemster and the Bishop of Man were in the able hands of Mr Frank C. Robson and Mr H. M. Clifford respectively. Mr Harcourt, the Governor of the Island, was well played by Mr Dan Farrough, while Davie, the fisher lad, could not have had a better exponent than Mr Wm. Reid.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—A bright and amusing entertainment is provided for patrons of this house by Mr Harry Swinerd's No. 1 company with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, under the experienced direction of Mr J. W. Cordiner. Miss Marjorie Cecil is seen to advantage in the title-rôle, her fine acting winning for her much applause; and the Ruth of Miss Kathleen Garnon is prettily conceived and carried out. As Capt. George Fielding Mr Henry C. Ward submits an admirable portrayal, his vocalisation also meeting with much applause. As Silas Crump Mr Arthur Verne gives a really amusing performance, and is ably supported in his efforts by Miss Harcourt (Judith), who sings and dances in a pleasing manner. Mr Wilfred Carr depicts the rôle of Featherstone Haugh in a creditable manner, and Hawkins finds an able exponent in Mr A. Stretton

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—*His Majesty's Guests*, by Mr Fred Karno's company is here this week. Sergeant Lightning is smartly represented by Mr Harry Boxbury; Mr Frank Morton is admirable as Lord Easem, alias Flash Jack; Miss Florence Burns is a very able Lady Maud, her vocal numbers being well received; Mr Gus Le Clerq is highly amusing as Mr Minks; and Messrs Wallace, Howe, Sterling, and M'Culloch claim notice for their knockabout business, which is cleverly done.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—*A Message from Mars* is paying a return visit here this week. Mr Rawson Buckley's interpretation of Horace Parker is undoubtedly clever; Mr William Brougham has a fine stage presence and an excellent voice, and is a pronounced success as the Messenger; Mr Bruce Lindley gives an interesting impersonation of the Tramp; the Miss Parker of Miss Flora Hastings is particularly good; and Miss May Saker as Minnie Templar delineates the character in a charming manner.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Ross and Grayson top the bill here this week. Their comedy is of a high order, and keeps the audience in roars of laughter. The Dauntons-Shaw Troupe of trick cyclists are exceedingly clever; Mr Harry Weldon has a style peculiarly his own; Miss Ada Fawn is a charming burlesque actress; the singing of the Sisters Terry is a real treat; and the Great Duncan gives a novel and enjoyable club juggling act.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—Mr Tom B. Davis's company in the bright musical comedy, *The Medal and the Maid*, is here. Mr Tom Fancourt as Simon Pentweazle is very mirth provoking. Another clever comedian is Mr Tom Graves as Levanter, whose broken English and quaint appearance cause irrepressible laughter. Mr Campbell Bishop makes a capital Admiral Belton, Allen being well enacted by Mr Cecil Kingsley. The brigand Darlan has a commanding representative in Mr William Bland. Miss Rita Leonhardt as Merva Sunningdale is one of the brightest and most gifted young artists we have seen for many a day. Miss Maude Lake as Josephine is also a charming vocalist and graceful actress. Miss Edith Blanche is well suited to the requirements of Mrs Habbicombe, and Miss Cissie Sephton is a tactful and winning Miss Ventnor.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—The big letter turn this week is the Imperial Russian Troupe of vocalists and dancers, and they are very warmly received. Chas F. Best arrayed as an old-time showman does some original comedy juggling; Les Valdos in their eccentric acrobatic turn secure loud applause; the Bros. Ashley in their boisterous boxing sketch, *Next, Please*, create plenty of hilarity; the St. Johns in their musical act and speciality step dancing give a decidedly artistic and pleasing turn; the Marples, speciality dancers, put life and vigour into their work; Kydd and Kydd, comedians and dancers, go well; and Lily Sharplin, mimic; and the Paragon Trio, vocalists, return to gain further admirers by their refined efforts to amuse. On Wednesday the two performances were set aside to benefit the funds of R.A.O.B. Orphanage, when the usual programme was supplemented by several local amateurs.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—The first three nights of this week Mr J. F. Preston's company occupied the boards in the successful play *Nell Gwynne*. The piece is produced under the direction of Mr F. B. Woulfe. Miss Grace Lester undertook the title-rôle and did full justice to this difficult part. Mr Dan F. Roe soon established himself a favourite as Bellicose Betterton; Mr Lewis Leslie as King Charles played admirably, and Miss Nina Westerleigh acted cleverly as Louise De Querouailles. Mr Edward Beecher as Rochester, Mr James Duncan as Roland Græme, and Mr Hardy Macrow as Doublechick sustained their respective rôles with marked ability. *Monsieur Beaucaire* is announced for production the latter end of the week.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—Mr J. W. Turner with his well-known English opera company is paying his annual visit here this week. On Monday night Mr Turner, who is a great favourite in Blackburn, appeared as the Earl of Rochester in Balfe's opera, *The Puritan's Daughter*, and sang with great effect. He was supported by Miss Constant Bellamy as May Wolff, Mr John Ridding as Clifford, and Colonel Wolff was played by Mr Clifford. On Tuesday *The Lily of Kilarney* was given, and Mr Turner appeared as Myles-na-Coppaleon. The other operas performed during the week were *Faust, The Waterman*, and an act of *The Daughter of the Regiment, The Bohemian Girl*, and *Maritana*. The band and chorus are excellent.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—This week Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company is appearing in the drama entitled *A Woman's Pluck*. The piece is from the pen of Mr James Willard, who appears in his original part of Dick Darrell, and gives a powerful impersonation. Miss East Robertson acts forcibly as Grace Daremont; Mr J. P. Dryden represents Mark Scanlan and Jim Daremont, and plays them with great judgment. Much amusement is caused by Mr Harry Emmerson as Roger Pippin and Miss Agnese D'Aragon as Ophelia Pippin.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Harry Tate's skit on "Motoring" and Alf Gibson, the quaint comedian, are the principal attractions this week. Good turns are also given by Bert Lytton, society comique; Allis and Cassati, Mignon Tremaine, comedienne and dancer; Grell and Grey; the Bransbys, duettists; George Hyam, comedian; and a sketch, *Our Lodger*, by J. Alexander's company.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—A capital house on Monday greeted with much pleasure a return visit of the ever-popular musical comedy *San Toy*, produced by Mr Geo. Edwardes's company. In the rôle of Li Mr E. Statham Staples was entirely successful. In the title-rôle Miss Fanny Dango was decidedly charming, her sweet and cultured voice being heard with infinite pleasure. A decidedly captivating performance of Dudley was submitted by Miss Maud Darling. As Captain Bobby Preston Mr Reginald Kenneth was a very capable exponent, his voice giving great effect to his songs, and Mr John Humphries scored a great success as Yen How. Another capital impersonation was that of Mr Stratton Mills as Sir Bingo Preston. The part of the Emperor was excellently sustained by Mr Colin Coop, and as Fo Hop Mr Henry Cluff made an unmistakable hit. Miss May Francis was a delightful representative of Poppy, and Mr F. Jocelyn Hope was quite successful in the part of Sing Hi. Mr Arthur Soames sustained the rôle of Lieut. Harvey Tucker with great ability.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—The chief attraction here is provided by Captain Woodward, whose performing seals execute some marvellous feats. The Selbinis have been accorded a deserving ovation for their clever acrobatic and cycle act; the Sisters Maginel-Mullini furnish a unique musical performance; Zanfretto and Napio appear in their entertaining musical knife-grinding act; Young Igo is a capital clog-dancer; Miss Ethel Loftus is a charming comedienne; and Tray and Rich, the well-known black and white-faced comedy team, are a host in themselves. Beanland and Bath, comedians and cartoonists, take well, and the programme is completed by the Palace pictures, which are a big attraction.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—A splendid bill has been presented here, the leading attraction being the astounding conjuring performance of Chung Ling Soo, his remarkable feats creating quite a sensation. Mr Mark Sheridan—who made such a hit on his last visit—returns with his original patter and witty songs, which have been accorded a terrific reception. Mr Sheridan is unquestionably in the front rank of comedians. Smythson's comedy company is producing a humorous sketch, *The Lie Alarm*, and the sweet vocalism of Miss Florence Esdaile commands the success it deserves. Miss Edie King is a charming comedian with good songs; and Calile and Walker are a funny duo. Also appearing with success are Miss Annie Casey, comedienne; and Mr Charles Chard, a first class comedian.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—Mr Downs's bill is always up to the highest standard, and this week much interest is evinced in the novel act presented by the Spanish Moor Zaid, assisted by the beautiful Orienta, which has been entirely successful. Hill, Barry, and Lang, eccentric comedians, create a fund of amusement with their act, *A Hot Reception*. Mr George Steeley and Miss Jenny Dowton appear to much advantage, their singing and dancing being quite a treat. A novel performance is submitted by Mr Victor Newman, a clever mimic, with his living pictures. Meisker Brothers' Bioscope presents some new pictures this week, which form quite a feature of the bill. Mr Dan Thomas's eccentric songs have been well received, and the cultured vocalism of Miss Lillian Neville wins deserved admiration. The Falcons, in their clever comedy act, and Mr Will Letters, character comedian, are appearing.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Mr W. H. Hallatt and company are giving a good representation of *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Commander Tregarthen is excellently played by Mr Hallatt himself. Able assistance is given by Miss Marie Daventry in her well-studied impersonation of Mildred Grey; and the sailor boys, Cyril Grey and Tom York, are presented in interesting fashion by the Misses May Day and Ethel Francess. As Lola Grey Miss Blanche Steele proves herself to be a capable actress. Mr Leonard Booker is a good Lieutenant Redstone, Mr Sid Cotterell a funny Ben Baxter, and Miss Hilda Taylor an amusing Lucy Wilson.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company is presenting the ever-popular comedy, *The Private Secretary*, with much success. The rendering of the central rôle of the Rev. Robert Spalding by Mr Geoffrey Guise will compare favourably with the traditions of the part. Cattermole, a fine performance, is still enacted by Mr William Hargreaves and Gibson, the tailor, is humorously treated by Mr Wilfrid Compton. Edith Marsland is charmingly impersonated by Miss Dora Grey, her friend, Eva Webster, is cleverly embodied by Miss Mary E. Deverell, and Mrs Alfred Davies is well suited as Miss Ashford. Mr Raymond Chester as Mr Marsland, Mr Vivian Gilbert as Harry Marsland, and Mr A. Austin Leigh as Douglas Cattermole are most efficient. *Good for Nothing* serves as a curtain-raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—An interesting drama, entitled *In the Shadow of Night*, supported by Mr James Willard's capable company, attracts numerous audiences. Mr Beresford J. Lovett is a good exponent of the racing Gordon Allington. Mr Hamilton Deane distinguishes himself as Clifford Yorke, and Mr Fred Worburn scores heavily as Jack Grudgeveller. Miss May Richardson wins general approval by a careful performance of Violet Kingston, and other parts are in good hands. The piece is carefully staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Miss Florrie Gallimore, the popular comedienne, is on a welcome return visit, and is received with accustomed cordiality. The Six Brothers Luck in their pantomimic sketch, *Demon of the Cellar*, afford a fund of amusement, and Mr Arthur Lennard, comedian and descriptive vocalist, is a pronounced success. Miss Lily Langtry, a vivacious comedienne, is again fulfilling a highly successful engagement here. Mr Neil Kenyon, a capital Scotch comedian, remains from last week, and conspicuous turns are also contributed by Mr J. W. Rickaby, a comic vocalist of resource; Miss Georgie May, comedienne; Howard and St. Clair, American comedians; the Three Prestons, in an amusing sketch; and Miss Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne. Mr Ernest Denney is musical director.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—The Moody-Manners opera company is with us this week. Lovers of grand opera are experiencing a musical treat of which full appreciation is manifested nightly. The extensive répertoire includes *Tannhauser, Mignon, Pagliacci, Cavalleria Rusticana, Lohengrin, Faust, Il Trovatore*, and *Carmen*. The first-named opera was produced on Monday. Mr Edward Arthur's vocal and histrionic efforts were heard and seen to advantage in the title-rôle. Mr G. Rhodes distinguished himself as Heinrich; Miss Enriqueta Crichton sang with expression, charm, and taste as Elizabeth; Miss Nedda Morrison was highly effective as Venus; Mr Walter Barrett did well as Wolfram; and Mr R. Brookes as Walther and Mr Charles Tilbury as Hermann contributed to the general success. The choruses were all that could be desired. On Tuesday *Mignon* proved very attractive.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston. — *The Fairy's Dilemma* was received in precisely the spirit in which it is presented, namely the true Gilbertian spirit of topsy-turvydom. Thus the members of Messrs Dauncey and Leveaux's well-directed company find their "lines" cast in pleasant places this week. Miss Elise Cooke has proved a most captivating Fairy Rosebud, enchanting everyone with her arch ways. Mr C. Herbert Hewetson expounds the humours of the Demon Alcohol with excellent effect. Mr Charles V. France as Sir Trevor Mauleverer acts throughout in a capital manner. Mr Frank Stanmore as the reverend and much-embarrassed gentlemen, Aloysius Parfitt, M.A., is a constant support, and a never-ending source of merriment in others; and Miss Ada Homer as the Lady Angela, Miss Gertrude Hope as Clarissa, and Mr Frank Collins as Mr Justice Whortle are in complete accord with their parts. *The Conversion of Nat Sturge* has occupied the early portion of the menu, and in this Mr C. V. France, Miss Eva Turnour, Mr Frank Collins, and Mr Morris Harvey shine.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—*Madame Sherry* possesses all the sparkle that good music, clever wit, and handsome stage decoration can afford, and its success here has been instant and unequivocal. Mr George Dance's company is engaged in the presentation, and Mr J. Robert Hale's well-known talents are employed to advantage as Andrew MacSherry. Miss Georgina Delmar as Catarina satisfies the exigencies of her exacting rôle to the utmost degree, Miss Lily Elsie acts and sings charmingly as Barbara, Miss Ada Binning shines as Susanne, and Miss Nellie Dade plays the part of Maud in rare low-comedy style. Mr F. W. Ford accentuates the character of Colonel MacSherry well, Mr Fred Walton adds to the diversion as Joseph, and Mr Ivan Berlyn presents a capital study of the Gendarme. The principals are allotted a number of excellent songs, which they render in the most telling manner, and the chorus is most adequate.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*The 10 30 Down Express* is running successfully nightly, and enjoys a capital representation at the hands of Mr Horace Stanley and company. Mr Stanley is himself most successful and humorous as Sam Wagstaff, and derives much assistance from Miss Kate Kilpack, who shines as Peggy Potts. Miss Evelyn M. Walton as "the maiden of fifty," Letitia Leigh, is also a source of humour. Miss Adelaide Clare gives a sweet and sympathetic impersonation of Bessie Leigh. Miss Fanny Corbett as the abandoned woman, Olive Coombes, realises her part to the full. Mr Harry T. Wood acts the rôle of Jack O'Malley in a pleasant, breezy manner; Mr Scott Leighton as James Inderwick imparts distinction to the rôle; and Mr Fred C. Roper wins approval as Seth Coombes. The railway sensation proves most successful.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor. — *Her Forbidden Marriage* has been the subject and cause of much interest and excitement this week, the downfall of vice and the vindication of virtue being attended with the utmost enthusiasm. The motor incident is stage-managed to the best advantage, while the Church scene is spoken of with bated breath, and the entire play smacks of the real. Mr Horace Hunter as that maligned hero, George Madison, is admired for his manly bearing; Miss Isla Garnet Vayne acts sympathetically as the heroine; Mr Clarence Hague plays his original part, Charles Devereux, with much ability; and Miss Doris Brookes as his fair accomplice in crime, Lady Lucretia, is likewise successful. Miss Emily Hughes acts finely as the Mother Superior; and Messrs J. A. Wilson, Chas. Carte, E. L. Hocking, Harry Elliston, Miss Marie Kildare, and Little Alice render valuable support.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*The Fatal Wedding* once more presents itself under Mr Bert Coote's well-known direction. The company as at present constituted is eminently qualified, and a most successful representation is therefore gained. Miss Idi Valli continues her great success as the Little Mother; Miss Marie Houseley gains the suffrages of the house as Mabel Wilson; Mr Wilfred Payne is meritorious as Howard Wilson; Mr Leyton Cancellor makes much of the part of Robert Curtis; and Miss Beatrix De Burgh limns the characteristics of the villainess, Cora Williams, admirably. Mr Fred Dobell as Peter Schwartz is able and droll; Mr C. H. Kenny is successful as Toto; and Miss Harriet Clifton as Bridget is another source of diversion. The trained chorus is also in requisition.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*The Midnight Mail* has won the appreciation of crowded houses nightly. Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company is concerned, and among those who lend distinction to their parts may be mentioned Mr George Harvard for his excellent acting as the heroic engine-driver, Harry Steyne, also Miss Ada Oakley for her sympathetic rendering of the part of Mary Steyne, Miss Millie Stevenson as Lady Phyllis Eustace, Mr Arthur Gilroy for his well-acted part of Hassan Padisha, Mr Alec Alves as Leonard Royle, Mr Chas. M'Cann as Donald Craig, Mr Fred G. Evison for a most diverting study of Billy Brewer, the drunken stoker, and Miss Mildred Carr as his help and support, Nancy Brewer. The scene of the Midnight Mail is most vividly presented, and evokes thunders of applause.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—Vesta Tilley, who is causing quite a furore here this week, twice nightly renders four songs, which are loudly applauded. Some amusing conjuring is presented by Silent Tate; the Mayvilles have a novel Lilliputian act; the St. James Quintette come in for a good share of applause; and other items in the long programme include Phillips and Terry, Selma Brantz, Frank Lynne, James Grant, Nellie Coleman, Dome, and Tatten Hall.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—The diversified and well-arranged bill this week includes the Morton Trio, in their smart operetta *The Dandy Bandits*, which goes well. The popular comedian Harry Ford provides many opportunities for laughter, as also do Booker and Narbis and Clown Zertho with his dogs. The Lynches, song illustrators; Lily Flexmore, danseuse; Martha, lady gymnast; Eva Kelland, comedienne; and the Northern Troupe of speciality dancers are all worthy of special mention.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Richard Sawade, with his marvellous animal act, is here for another week. An interesting event took place on Sunday, when a tigress belonging to the trainer gave birth to three cubs. Unfortunately one died. The Four Merkel Sisters present a clever gymnastic turn. Carola's Miniature Circus is more entertaining than ever. Percy Honri's concertina selections are of a high order of artistic merit. The De Breans, Phillips Brothers, Troba, the phenomenal juggler; and the Legay Quartet of Parisian dancers add to the success of the bill.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edw. Foster.—The melodramatic episode, *Lord Harkaway*, is proving a big draw here, the glove fight being watched with intense excitement. *Life's Reverie* is enacted by Vivian's vaudeville company; Ruth Lytton has some good character songs; the dancing of My Fancy is far above the average; Doody and Wright are as humorous as ever; Cecil Lidden and Elsie Hayward, in their musical travesty *A Quiet Rehearsal*, are most entertaining; and Paul Pelham and Hall and Earle also do well.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—*Glittering Gloria* is again the attraction here, the company this time being under the direction of Messrs Charles Williams and Phillip Glyn. The important part of Colonel Pasgnall Gallegher finds a capable exponent in Mr J. Wordley Hulse, and Mr Houghton Macaulay causes much mirth as Zebedee Poskett. Messrs John Campbell as Jack James and Mr Stanley Arthur as Archie Toddleby ably fill their respective tasks; whilst Mr Gerald Clark finds a suitable part in Algernon Entwistle. Miss Stanley Ronalds sustains the title-role in the most charming manner, and Miss Lilian Williams plays Mrs Jack James and Miss Peggy Harrington Dorothy Kenworthy.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—Mr Lawrence Brough and company are here this week with *The Saucy Sally*. Mr Brough's portrayal of Herbert Jocelyn is a meritorious performance, and Rosie Jocelyn receives the cleverest interpretation at the hands of Miss Kate Milford. Mr Harry Hampson makes a good Captain Jocelyn, and Mr Percy Marshall sustains with credit the part of Jack Buncombe. Miss Eleanor Gilbert scores as Mrs Lambert, and other small parts are in efficient hands. *The Lady of Ostend* is also in the week's bill.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—There are some very clever turns here this week, chief of which is the one supplied by the mysterious Lilith, who gives an extraordinary performance in mid-air without any visible support. Vasco, the mad musician, repeats his clever musical show, and Lilian Warren's illustrated songs, are also well received. Stella Stanley is an acceptable comedienne; Fred Harcourt is a wonderful magician; George D'Albert is a versatile comedian; and Barton and Ashley are clever sketch artists, all of whom win approval from the audience. Onda and Leon, bar performers, also give a capital turn. Sam Mayo and Fred Terrey are clever comedians.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and company; Manager, Mr T. P. Dulgnan.—The Eugeno Family of aerial gymnasts head a big programme here this week. The Arthur Lloyd Trio give a pleasing drawing-room entertainment, and Johnson and Bert contribute an amusing sketch. Clive Watts, raconteur and dancer; Chas. Somers, comedian; Sisters Clive, vocalists; Charles Serra equilibrist; Fox and Melville, vocalists; and Ivy Dawn, vocalist, are also in the bill.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—Mr George Dance's company opened here on Monday with the first visit to Bolton of *The Girl from Kay's*. Miss Lillie Lingard, who has a fine stage presence, gave a thoroughly good impersonation of Winnie Harborough, her singing being much appreciated. Miss May Marton as Norah Chalmers gave full effect to her songs, and in the duet "Semi-Detached" with Mr Garnett Wilson (Harry Gordon) gained much applause. The drolleries of Mr Johnnie Schofield as Hoggenheimer kept the house in continual laughter; Mr Tom Shelford created much fun as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; and Mr Charles Gould was good as Joseph, the hall porter.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—A welcome change after a series of melodramas is the visit paid here this week by Mr Frank Wilson's company in *The Marriage of Kitty*. Mr Wilson takes the rôle of Sir Reginald Belsize in good style, and is successful in giving to it the requisite tinge of self-complacency. Mr Sidney Orton is excellent as John Travers, the solicitor, and Mr J. F. Leighton contrives to raise many a hearty laugh with his capital impersonation of Norbury. The rôle of Madame De Semiano finds a thoroughly capable exponent in Miss Kate Harwood, and Miss Vera Fordyce's rendering of Miss Katherine Silverton, besides being aided with considerable charm of manner, often gives evidence of real ability. The general management is in the hands of Mr Whalley Shields.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—The large audience which assembled here on Monday, and the applause which greeted *My Lady Molly*, furnished ample proof of the continued popularity of the comic opera. Mr Frederick Mouillot's company is an excellent one, and a largely augmented orchestra and full chorus, under the direction of Mr W. D. J. Damant, give full effect to Mr Sidney Jones's concerted music. There is plenty of dash in Miss Beatrice Edwards's assumption of Lady Molly Martingale, and Miss Decima Moore is charmingly coquettish and graceful as Alice Coverdale. As Hester Miss Lottie Crawford is excellent. There is a delightful humour in Mr John T. M'Callum's impersonation of Mickey O'Dowd, and the Captain Harry Romney of Mr Harry T. Davies, the Lionel Bland of Mr Ernest Mozar, and the Sir Miles Coverdale of Mr Augustus Cramer are other impersonations which merit special recognition. The opera is beautifully staged.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—We are having a return visit here this week from *The King of Crime*, and the powerful drama, which is again capitally represented by Messrs Dottridge and Longden's capable company, is commanding large audiences. Mr William Clayton is the desperado Captain Hercules, a striking figure vigorously portrayed; and Miss Marion Turner wins appreciation and sympathy as his blind wife, Henriette. Mr W. H. Porter is distinctly effective in the part of Simon. The Old Hag is a clever character impersonation on the part of Miss Ada King. Manly vigour marks Mr Herbert Evelyn's acting as the hero Louis Mascarot. Mr Val W. Gully as Toto and Miss E. Turner-Elliott as Matilda contribute to the interest, and Mr Walter Dale as the professor of mesmerism introduces a rich vein of comedy. The scenic effects are excellent.

EMPIRE. — Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann. — That clever and entertaining Protean actor Mr R. A. Roberts is delighting the audiences here with his sketch *Lucinda's Elopement*. Flo Burris gives a dainty turn as a comedienne; Ernest Rees, a droll comedian, also contributes acceptably; and Winnie Cunningham, a charming comedienne, wins approbation. Johnny Dwyer, also in the comedy line, is a successful contributor to the programme; and the Max Welson Troupe of strong men vary it considerably with a smart performance on hanging ropes. Daisy Dormer sings and dances effectively, and those old-time pantomime favourites the Haytors are responsible for much fun with *A Hot Time*. Lieutenant Travis, the ventriloquist, affords much genuine amusement with his enjoyable "Travis's Transformations," and much laughter greets the burlesque wrestling of the Brothers Griffiths.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—A success has been genuinely scored by John E. Coyle, the comedian, here this week, and a clever barrel and tumbling act by the Mozondos wins applause. Kathleen Grey's songs are well rendered; a capital sketch, *The Travellers' Rest*, is provided by the Karno Trio; Charles J. Johnson, a coloured comedian, gives a cake walk and song in good style; Stern and Stern are entertaining comedians; the Sisters Charnley, duettists and dancers, do well; and a musical comedy, *A Bit of String*, is humorously gone through by the Harris E. Bell and Lily Pearl company. The Mackweys are particularly diverting in a comic wire act.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Good.—The return visit of Mr Bert Coote's company with *The Fatal Wedding* has proved a greater success even than the first visit. Mr Ernest Owttrim is again seen to advantage in his clever impersonation of Howard Wilson; the Robert Curtis of Mr Oliver Rogers is a powerful portrayal; Miss Helen Russell as Mabel Wilson had a brilliant reception; and the Cora Williams of Miss Doris Gilham left nothing to be desired. Miss Rosie Dane, the wonderful child actress, again undertook in a clever manner the part of Jessie, the little mother.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr George Edwardes' company is here this week with *The Duchess of Dantzic*, which is beautifully staged. Miss Evie Greene gives a charming impersonation of Catherine Upscher; Miss Adrienne Augarde makes a refined and graceful Renée De St. Mézard; and Miss Billie Burke is a bright and winsome Lisette. Mr Holbrook Blinn displays masterly acting as Napoleon; Mr Herbert Clayton is a capital Lefebvre; Mr Leonard Mackay's Vicomte De Béthune is an admirable representation; and Mr Courtice Pounds achieves much success as Papillon. The duties of musical director are in the hands of Mr P. W. Halton.

GRAND THEATRE.—Under the entire control of Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company opened here on Monday with *Alone in London*. Miss Madge Devereux as Annie Meadows, and afterwards as Nan, was highly successful; Mr Stephen Ewart was forcible as the rascally Richard Redcliffe; Mr J. W. Wilkinson gave an excellent impersonation of Jenkinson; Mrs C. Wood made a capital Mrs Maloney; and Miss Ada Tilley was an admirable Tom Chickweed. Miss Ada Elliston as 'Liza Jenkinson and Mr Lonnen Meadows were amusing, and Little Ella Gillette was a pleasing Little Paul.

AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—Attractive programmes are sustained here this week by Miss Olive Jarvis, a local contralto, and the Pall Mall concert party, comprising Miss Belle Green, Mrs Vivian Foster, Mr Athelstane Lee, and Mr F. Daniels.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Miss Ella, with her troupe of forest-bred lions and her famous boarhound; Chris Richards, eccentric comedian; the New Macs, knockabout comedians and dancers; the Two Rubies (Rose and Flo), comediennes and characteristic dancers; Tom Stuart, character actor and mimic; "The Woman in White," in a vocal illustrated scena; Albert Christian, vocalist; the Beautiful Nadji, dancer, contortionist, and hand-balancer; Kate Cohen, vocalist; Alf Chester, versatile comedian; and the Alhambra Pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—The George Bonhair Gregory Troupe of Risley acrobats; the Tossing Austins, comedy jugglers; Nellie and Nora, society musical entertainers; Alice Lorette and her dog Ben in a series of hunting tableaux; Madge Grey, dialect comedienne; the Waltons, Chinese equilibrists; Byron and Langdon, American speciality artistes; Heloisa Titcomb, South American singer; Alf Aubyn, coon vocalist and dancer; and animated pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER.—Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—M. Auguste Van Biene and company are here this week with *The Broken Melody*. M. Auguste Van Biene is as successful as ever in his representation of Paul Borinski, and is warmly applauded for his admirably executed violoncello solos. Miss Lena Burnleigh makes a charming Mabel, Mr Arthur Bawtree's General Ivanoff is well played, Mr T. P. Haynes is an amusing Dudley Mortimer, Mr John Cummings as Beaujour and Mr Henry Ludlow as the Hon. Richard Spinacher are well suited, and able support is given by Miss Ida Chapman, Mr Ernest Laceby, Miss Avis Graham, Mr E. Edwards, and Miss Morton.

WEST PIER. — Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman. — Miss Maude Thompson and Mr Arthur Eldred's company is here this week with *The Night of the Party*. Miss Maude Thompson is admirably suited as Lady Hampshire; Mr Arthur Eldred gives an amusing portrayal of Mr Roundle; Mr Henry Bute's Flambert and Mr Hawley Francks' Mr Crosbie are admirably played; Mr Frank G. Bayly makes a capital Mr Frank Frayne; and other parts are effectively sustained by Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere, Miss Blanka Stewart, Miss Beryl Graham, Miss Mabel Morley, Mr Ernest Shiel-Porter, Mr Lionel Brocknor, and Mr Arthur Dennis.

COLISEUM. — Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes; Director of Entertainments, Mr Charles A. Wilkes. —This theatre of varieties, formerly known as the Empire, was reopened on Monday. It has been thoroughly renovated and redecorated with the greatest taste, handsomely upholstered and richly carpeted, the local firm of Denyers being largely responsible for the improvements. A handsome curtain, costing over £200, has been added, and the services of Mr Cellan Kottaun as musical director have been secured. Judging from the enthusiastic manner in which the opening performances were received the popularity of the cosy and comfortable house is well assured. Among those who were present at the initial matinée on Monday were the Mayor and Mayoress of Brighton (Alderman and Mrs E. M. Marx). Prior to the performance Mr Charles A. Wilkes bade the overflowing audience a hearty welcome and thanked them for their support. The programme was sustained by Alexandra Dagmar (who opened with the National Anthem), Harriet Vernon, Julie Mackay, "Phroso," the Jalvans, and Edward Cranston and company. Other artists who appeared during the week—two performances being nightly given—included Victor Stevens, Jessie Merrilees, Harry Phydora, Gladys Archbutt, Tom Brantford, and Florence Trevellon, the very attractive turns being supplemented by the Coliseum pictures.

CONCERT HALL, WEST-STREET.—Messrs Maskelyne and Cooke's company, under the direction of Mr David Devant, is still here, and attracts large audiences.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller. —Messrs H. J. Callan and Wentworth Croke's *Florodora* company is paying a welcome return visit here. Mr Wm. Everard, "the possessor of a good voice," is eminently successful as Frank Abercoed; Cyrus W. Gilfain finds a natural exponent in Mr C. Young Fixott; Mr Frank Grans plays with much dash as Captain Arthur Donegal, and scores with his topical songs; Mr Arthur Lenville is amusing as Anthony Tweedlepunch, and convulses the house with his patter; Lady Holyrood is presented in a fascinating style by Miss Dorothy Sephton; and Miss May Yates is pleasing as Angela Gilfain. Miss Violet Bronson, who is gifted with a powerful voice, effectively fills the part of Dolores.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

ATHENÆUM HALL.—Mr Charles Macdona's company, with *A Chinese Honeymoon*, was here for two nights. Mr S. Louch makes a dignified Emperor, and Mr Arthur Foote was successful as Tom Hatherton. Mr Sidney Burt as Mr Pineapple scored with his topical songs, and Chippy Chop was well sustained by Mr L. Ashmead. Miss E. Dunbar as Soo-Soo and Miss E. Cinders as Fi-Fi were great favourites, and Miss Theo May was a charming mother-in-law as Mrs Pineapple. The chorus was unusual y good.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—Mr C. P. Levilly's company is here with *Amorelle*, the comic opera being excellently staged. Miss Stella Gastelle is highly successful in the title-rôle; she is sufficiently vivacious for the part, sings pleasingly, and dances with skill. Miss Kitty Cavendish is bright and winsome as Leslie, and Miss Madge Avery presents a capital study of Marina. Mr Eric Thorne obtains lots of applause for his eccentric exposition of Dr. Crow; Mr Fred Seymour is highly successful as Father Dotard, making quite a hit with his song; and the parts of the Count of Cideaux, Boissey, Jules, and François have full justice done to them by Mr Robert Fairbanks, Mr William Griffin, Mr John Doran, and Mr Newton Ide. The characters of lesser importance are all carefully taken, the costumes are picturesque, the chorus is strong and effective, and the augmented orchestra is ably conducted by Mr Harry Rushworth. On Tuesday afternoon there was a musical matinée for the benefit of Mr Fred C. Chapman, who for a number of years was a member of the orchestra, and who was also well known as a crack cyclist. Mr Chapman has been ill for some time, and his medical advisers considered that his removal to Australia was absolutely necessary. An influential committee was formed, and Mr Chute kindly granted the use of his theatre for a musical matinée. Many artistes of distinction kindly gave their valuable services, including Miss Lil Hawthorne, Miss Queenie Leighton, Miss Bessie Featherstone, Miss Nellie Stratton, the Misses Eva and Daisy Griffin, Mr Wilkie Bard, Mr Edmund Payne, Mr George Robey, and Little Tich. All these artistes contributed choice selections from their respective repertoire to a very enjoyable programme, and Mr C. P. Levilly's company presented part of the second scene from *Amorelle*, which included Father Dotard's song, "'Twas a nasty night," Mr Fred Seymour; duet, "Nursery Days," Miss Stella Gastelle and Mr John Doran; and the "barrel" scene by Miss Stella Gastelle, Mr Fred Seymour, and Mr Eric Thorne. All seats in the house were occupied, and full advantage was taken of every bit of standing room. Mr Wilkie Bard, on behalf of Mr Fred C. Chapman, thanked the audience for their presence and support, and referred to the pleasure it gave to artistes to help a friend in time of need. Mr Fred C. Chapman, who met with a hearty reception, then took his brother's (Mr G. R. Chapman) place, and conducted the orchestra in the overture to last year's pantomime, *Puss in Boots*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—This week we have a return visit of *Her One Great Sin*. The sensational drama is well staged and capitally played. Miss Blanche St. Albans gives a fine, sympathetic performance of Grace Warhurst, Mr Sam Arthur acts in convincing style as Reuben Warhurst, Mr Leicester Jackson displays power as Arnold Thornhill, and the comic parts of Nancy Winpenny and Jerry Jumble are rendered amusing by Miss Nelly Lambert and Mr Fred Hodson. Other somewhat important parts are carefully taken by Mr Charles E. Lambert, Mr Harold B. Ford, Mr F. Wright, Mr Tom Stacey, Miss Phyllis Damian, Miss Louie Walton, and Miss Maudie Lambert.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—There was a large attendance here on Monday evening, when Mr John Lawson produced his new dramatic sketch, *Mr Todd, of London*. The sketch, which is in four tableaux, is written round the old play and story of *The String of Pearls; or, Sweeney Todd, the Barber*, and, while fairly following the story, introduces the legendary tale of "Vanderdecken, the Flying Dutchman." The mounting is highly satisfactory, and includes the bridge and cabins of the Star, a ship on a return voyage from America; Mr Todd's shop at Temple-bar in the Eighteenth Century; Crypt of St. Dunstan, and Cellar beneath Todd's Shop; and the Interior of Todd's Shop. There are numerous ghostly effects, and, during the change of scenery, pictures are shown on a cloth, further illustrating the progress of the story. The sketch is very well played all round by Mr Lawson as Vanderdecken and Mr Todd; Mrs John Lawson as Esther Oakley and Johanna Oakley; Mr E. S. Vincent as Colonel Butcher Jeffreys; Mr Bailey Cohen as Mark, a sailor; Mr Boon St. Joseph as the Beadle; and Miss Leah Barnato as Lady Butcher Jeffreys. The costumes and appointments generally are quite appropriate to the period. The programme also included Dan Crawley, an amusing comedian; Miss Ada Whitton, a pleasing burlesque actress; the Five Bon-Bons, in a trap act, "Hot Time for One;" Rohda Brothers, expert ring performers and athletes; Star and Leslie, in a pleasing speciality act; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, in a smart speciality; Miss Venie Clements, a comedienne and dancer of ability; Rich and Rich, patter comedians and dancers; and George Prince, comedian, both turns being acceptable in their respective lines. The performance concluded with some new animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Here we have a good entertainment by Carl Reinsh in his clever sporting act with ponies and dogs; Miss Amy Augarde, burlesque actress, in some very pleasing and original song scenas; Miss Flotilde, in a smart act, with her excellently trained cockatoos and parrots; Mephisto, in an interesting contortionist act; Miss Madeline May, a charming comedienne with some good songs; Brothers Krags, clever gymnasts; Arthur Boyne, a humorous comedian; Three Laurels, in a smart tumbling speciality; H. A. Zetto, a comic juggler of ability; and Martine and Son, American song illustrators, the lad having an exceptionally good voice. The performance concludes, as usual, with animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA.—Proprietors, The Broughton Theatres Syndicate, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Millie Lindon, comedienne, who heads the excellent programme provided this week to crowded houses, is a vocal orator, completely captivating her audience with her pleasant songs. The combination of talent displayed by Tom and Marie Motramo, in "Do you reverse?;" Maude Dewey, whistler; Haldyne Trio, in *The Curate's Dilemma*; Ernest Sefton, comedian; The Werdners, in "The Happy Tramps;" Beaty and Blanche, duettists and dancers; and Frances Manners, burlesque artiste, is also very acceptable. The animated pictures afford much pleasure.

CASTLEFORD.

ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—*A Traitor Prince* is being played here by Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company. Prince Rao Dalmierez is well presented by Mr Henry Lonsdale, his acting being easy and natural, while he has a good stage presence. Miss Lilian Rosebery scores as Lola Vane; Lieut. Frank Derrick finds a suitable exponent in Mr Austin Mortimer; the Billy Bright of Mr E. Carter Livesey is full of good humour; Mr G. M. Montanini appears as the Hon. Bobby Vavasour Dalrymple, and his style is well suited to the requirements of the character; Mr Austin H. Longford plays with admirably sustained force and earnestness in the dual rôle of Richard and Col. Vane, always speaking his lines with effect; Mr Edward G. Hall does not lose a single opportunity in his study of Cara, whom he presents with dignity; Miss Beatrice Western is thoroughly successful as Vashti, an Indian snake-charmer; while Mrs E. C. Matthews presents a capital impersonation of Mrs Martha Blossom; Miss Lilian Rignold as Pansy Blossom is piquant and pretty. Her tasteful singing and graceful dancing are most effective. The acrobatic dances of Misses Annie Carrier and Florence Byrne are also much appreciated.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—The comedy *Saturday to Monday*, given by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company, opened here on Monday. Mr Stuart Champion is always natural, and as Lord Culvert he was well received. Miss Moyra Creegan was dainty and charming as Mrs Windover; Mr Dallas Welford was highly amusing as Stanley Pidding; Miss Nancy Beresford made a winsome Angela; and Miss Madeline L'Estrange an excellent Lady Diana Porchester. Mr Thomas Sidney gave a good character sketch of the Rev. Lemuel Toop, and Miss Ursula Toop was well played by Miss Josephine Raye, as was Miss Skeet by Miss Ida Laurie.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford. — Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company is here this week presenting that delightful play *Quality Street*. Mr George A. Brandram as Valentine Brown submits an excellent interpretation of an important rôle; Miss Florence Jackson's Phœbe Throssell has a charm impossible to resist; Susan Throssell is a part which is carefully handled by Miss Grace Edwin; Miss Gwynneth Galton is particularly droll as Patty; and excellent assistance is rendered by Mr Arthur C. Lysons, Mr Herbert Chown, Miss Marie Dennett, and Miss Frances Leslie.

KING'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—An enthusiastic audience witnessed the opening performance on Monday of the stirring drama *A Soldier and a Man*. The part of the hero, Harold Sinclair, was played with spirit and vigour by Mr A. Clifton Alderson; Hubert Walgrave, the villain, was powerfully rendered by Mr Frank Powell; Mr Harry Wright as Jim Farrow and Miss Nettie Schrier as "Sergeant" Jane Wicks kept the fun going at a rattling pace; Miss Billie Doyle won hearty applause as the heroine, Rose Melbury. The company is an all-round good one, including, as it does, Miss Daisy England, who plays Norah Melbury; Mr T. Kirkwood in a capital delineation of Sergeant Wicks; Mr A. W. Norman as David Melbury; and Miss Hilda Leslie in her admirable impersonation of Kate.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The programme this week includes the Kremo Family of Risley performers, who are accorded the premier position, closely followed by Walter Groves and company, in their latest success, *Twice Married*. Other names are Horace Wheatley, comedian and expert dancer; Burt Shepard, American comedian; Walker King, in his newest songs; Downes and Langford, amusing and smart dancers; the Rayfords, comedy artistes; Fred Earle, the eccentric; Amy Russell, vocalist; and Alice Ormond, comedienne.

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; Manager, Mr C. Algie.—The programme provided this week is again well up to the mark, and contains several novel and interesting turns. Mendal, the wonderful blind pianist, still tops the bill, and his popularity increases nightly. The new turns include Mr C. Ulrick, described as the barrel king, and Francka Wonder, who contributes a performance that for skill, grace, and agility it would be difficult to beat. Texas Hattie, a charming little coloured lady, has "caught on." Her tight-rope performance is distinguished by its novelty and daring, and is followed with intense appreciation. Mr H. Sloan concludes his engagement here this week, much to the regret of his numerous admirers. The Hippodrome pictures and several minor turns fill an excellent bill.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr Geo. G. Ridley.—Lovers of sensational drama are being catered for this week by Mr Tom H. Taylor's company in Walter Melville's play *The Female Swindler*.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—The leading attraction here includes Fred Karno's company in *Early Birds*. Lacey's Erascope continues to afford pleasure and amusement. The other items announced include Cissy Heath, comedienne and dancer; Henry Carlton and company in sketch, *One Night Only*; Jack Heath, eccentric comedian; Daisy Silcott, burlesque actress; and Charles Faning, comedian.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr Frank J. Donne —Topping the bill here are the Original Cee-Mee and Family, whose thrilling aerial gymnastic display gains universal admiration. Francis, the cannon ball king, is undoubtedly smart, the funny antics of his assistant, Alfred, causing roars of laughter. A neat little song and dance artiste is Maggie Rimmer, and Dolly Harmer scores with her representations of the various performers met with in a music hall entertainment. The other items are Arthur Elvy, comedian; Bros. Lavelle, nimble comedy acrobats; Charlie Craston, comedian; the Edisonograph, with up-to-date pictures; and Arthur Gilbert, whose ditty, "All I Want," is very popular.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager, Mr H. Oswald Redford.—Mr George Dance's company, in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, has proved one of the strongest draws of the present highly successful season. The mounting and costumes are charming; in fact, no prettier picture has ever been seen. Special mention should be made of Miss Rita Presano, whose voice is heard to great advantage as Sans Gêne; Mr Albert Chapman make a manly Lefebvre; Napoleon is in the capable hands of Mr Frederick Moyes; and Mr Colin Mackay as Papillon creates a deal of fun.

CHESTERFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holbery Hardy.—Messrs Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin's company occupies these boards with *The Best Man Win*. Mr Robert Watson gives a powerful portrayal of Paul Dumaresq; Mr Fred Aldworth acts with care the old blind soldier; Mr Charles Draycott presents a true picture of the Marquis De Marcel, being well aided by Mr O. J. Round as Minos; Miss Lilian Watson Lloyde pathetically portrays Denise Dumaresq; and Miss Ethel Vinroy shows dramatic power in the part of Lucille. Miss Maud Elliston as Suzette and Mr Harry Harrop as Jacques Courcil provide the comedy element.

MEMORIAL HALL. — Lessee, Mr Samuel L. Urwick.—Mr F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean company pays a welcome return visit with the following répertoire, viz, *The Taming of the Shrew, As You Like It, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Romeo and Juliet, The Rivals*, and *Hamlet*. In the first-named play Mr Henry Herbert was exceedingly good as Petruchio, Miss Dorothy Green acquitting herself admirably as Katherina. Mr Bernard Limpus was attractive as Lucentio, and Mr F. Owen Chambers was a good Baptista.

CLYDEBANK.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—On the first three nights of the week these boards were occupied by Mr Bert Wentworth's company, in the drama, *That Woman from France*. Mr Annesley Hely gave a telling representation of John Beaumont, alias the King; Mr H. Leonard Williams was also worthy of high praise for his reading of Cecil Charrington; and Miss Marie De Roos as Camille Nichol acted a trying part to perfection, being ably assisted in her villainy by Mr Jules M'Gurkin as Philip Charrington. Mr Bernard Dunstan was very amusing as Latimer Louder. On Thursday night the Ben Greet company opened to a large house with *The Belle of New York*.

CHESTER.

ROYALTY.—Proprietor, Mr Milton Bode; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Burgess Harries.—Mr E. St. Alban's company on a return visit in *Les Cloches de Corneville* has been warmly welcomed. Mr E. St. Alban portrays the character of Gaspard, the miser, in striking fashion. Mr Fowler Thatcher is amusing as Gobo; Mr George Delaforce makes a portly Baillie; Mr George A. Fox as the Marquis and Mr Warter Canbourne as Grenicheux are also popular. Miss K. Farrell is a dainty Germaine, and Miss Susie Fitzroy's representation of Serpolette is full of vivacity.

CHORLEY.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—Messrs John A. Atkin and Walter Howe's company is here with *A Victim of Villainy*. Mr Sydney Arnold as the villainous Stephen Cavanagh has proved a powerful actor, and Mr Walter Howe gives an effective rendering of Frank Manton. In the part of Walter Lennox Mr Leonard Howe is highly successful, and Mr Arthur Staples displays much humour in the character of Tom Leckie. As Manton's wife Miss Mariette Hyde is much appreciated, and Miss H. E. Russell appears to great advantage as Alice Cavanagh. The landlady, Mrs Leckie, is well played by Miss Mabel Lowe, and Miss Cissie Besant and Miss Connie Meadows are successful in the respective rôles of Eric and Vera Diamond, a music hall artiste.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—An old favourite in the person of Dr. Walford Bodie is here this week with a powerful variety company. The artistes include Dr. Walford Bodie, hypnotist, ventriloquist, and electrician; Miss Marie Walford, instrumentalist; Tom Dewar, comedian; Mdlle. La Petite Bella, burlesque actress; Les Fontaines' marionettes palace; Sisters Lyle, duettists and dancers; De Roys, comic conjurors; Lopez, coloured coon; the Garden Troupe of pipers and international dancers; Mystic Marie, the real Trilby; and Little Dolly Robson, the Coatbridge wonder, who has been trained by Dr. Bodie. The house was filled in all parts on Monday evening, and many could not obtain admission.

CONSETT.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—Mr Douglas Bruce's company is here this week with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Mr W. E. Griffiths is excellent as John Meadows, and as John Livingstone Mr George Gaisford is very good. Mr Will Corri as Toby Turner and Mr Frank Harley as Coyle do well. Miss Ethel Bracewell is pleasing as Constance Cornell, the same remark applying to Miss Kate Walford as Nellie Meadows. The Barbara Wade of Miss Lily Hammersley is an admirable performance.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Mr E. Oswald Brook's company commenced a week's engagement here on Monday with *The New Housemaid*. Mr Ralph Roberts as the Hon. Bertie Rashleigh was most successful, his masquerading as a housemaid creating great fun, and Mr S. Bellamy as Peter Pinkerton, J.P., acted cleverly. Mr Montague Ashley as Peter's nephew also pleased, and the part of Marmsbury Doom, the detective, was filled by Mr Pan E. Draco with success. Mr Campbell Goldsmid as Roseberry, a butler, was amusing.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Kemble.—The star turn here is that of the Sisters Solari, who sing catchy songs and duets. The Escaladers supply a sensational ladder act. Edie Endon is a graceful comedienne. George Globe sings well in Tyrolean style. Cora Gray gives operatic songs with much charm. Ellis and Watts are smart knockabout artistes. Shavo, a juggler, and Goldin, speciality artiste, win appreciation.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—Miss Grace Warner and company are at the above house this week with an interesting piece entitled *The New Commander*. Mr Geo. Gordon is accomplished in the rôle of Lieut. Frank Harding; Mr Geo. Handel capitally impersonates Lieut. Jack Tremingway, giving a fine whistling solo; Mr Francis Searle is entrusted with the part of Matthew Flintheart; Mr Miller Anderson is rather amusing as Tittums, a waiter; and Mr Bernard Wyntour makes an imposing Sultan of Ramjamjab. Miss Grace Warner is capitally received as Violet Flintheart; Miss May Dallas is creditable as Vivette, a chambermaid; and Miss Maud Warburton makes a good midshipman, Freddie Bounce.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Wallace Davidson.—This week Mr Henry Furnival's company is here. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights the company appeared in *Lost in Paris*. As Adrien Mr A. V. Dixon is a manly hero, and Mr Charles H. Lester a powerful Count De Linieres. The two orphans, Henriette and Louise, find capable exponents in Miss Louisa Peach and Miss K. Willoughby. Miss Alice Oliver is a sweet and pathetic Countess De Linieres, and Mr W. J. Butler is a commendable Dr. Du Vais. On Thursday and Friday nights *The Harvest of Sin* was given, in which Mr C. H. Lester appeared to great advantage in the dual-rôle of Harold and Arnold Mainwaring.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Mr Mouillot's company is giving fine representations of *Old Heidelberg* here. Miss Irene Lavington submits a sweet and lovable portrayal of Kathie, which deserves warm encomiums. Misses Gwelma Court and Edith Leyland look nice as Frau Ruder and Frau Dorffel, Mr George F. Tully gives a scholarly and commendable rendering of Karl Heinrich, Mr Alec Murray's sketch of Kellermann is capital, Mr Eric Phillips acts with dignity as Staatsminister Von Haugk, Mr Clifford Bown just touches the right note as Dr. Juttner, Mr Lionel Gadsden makes much capital out of the rôle of Lutz, Mr Frank M. Cross is at his best as Hofmarschall Freiherr Von Passarge. Mr Alexander Shinnie deserves praise for his Kammerherr Von Breitenberg, as does also Mr W. Prince Wells for his Kammerherr Baron Von Metzing. Careful work is done by Messrs Wallace G. Court and Percy Madgwick as Graf Von Astercerg and Von Wedell, and Mr A. M. Moore is good as Ruder. The scenery calls for special mention.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr H. D. Lyle.—*Greed of Gold* is quite to the fancy of patrons here. Miss Daisy Hallisy is well placed as Dora; Miss Winnie Donovan is smart as Peggy Mayfield; Mr Wilson Summers is commendable as Arthur Errol; Mr Carthage Caldcleugh is quite suitable as Harry Hood; Mr Walter M. Cameron renders valuable aid as Cully Sulg; Mr H. Shea is much liked as Conn Creamer; Mr B. Fox acts with good effect as Tom Wolstead; and smaller rôles are in safe keeping. Mr H. D. Lyle is an energetic and popular manager.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—One of the most laughable turns ever seen here is *Practical Joking*, by Lee and Kingston, a first-rate pair; Fred Clements is a refreshing comedian; Florrie Forde is a commanding burlesque artiste; the Lupino Brothers are resourceful eccentric comedians; Mdlle. Du Roche has a rich soprano voice; Stanley and Tich Bourne, duettists and comedians, deserve a good word; the Chicago Gaiety Girls (Louie and Clare) are favourites; Hughes and Elliott are unflagging in buck and sand-dancing; Orpheus, with an instrumental speciality, is clever; Grace Dane is a brisk comedienne; and others on the programme are Sisters Mayo, Ida May, Brown and Robinson, L. B. Athol, and Frank Hardie and company, in *For the Honour of the Regiment*.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—*The London Fireman* is being presented here this week by a capable company, under the direction of Messrs Gartside, Knowles, and Ludlow. Mr J. Forbes Knowles, in the title-rôle, gives a forcible portrayal, and Mr Edward L. Gartside stands forth prominently as Henry Curtis. Miss Adeline Raby is a pleasing and pathetic Grace Curtis, and Miss Mona Gray as Ida Curtis and Violet Temple as Gladys Fleming do justice to their respective parts. Miss Nellie Gartside as Polly Bramble infuses plenty of humour into the part, and with Mrs Charles A. Preece as Nixey Stringer keeps the audiences in good humour.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. L. Ormsby.—A pleasing change is afforded this week by the engagement of Mr Edmund Tearle and his excellent company, who are appearing in a round of attractive pieces including *The Three Musketeers, Ingomar, Merry Wives of Windsor, Virginius*, and *Macbeth*. The first-named was produced on Monday, and gave unqualified enjoyment. Mr Edmund Tearle was a masterful D'Artagnan, Athos, Porthos, and Aramis being cleverly represented by Mr Walter Raynham, Mr J. V. Fairley, and Mr V. O. Crabtree. Miss Kate Clinton as Miladi and Miss Esther Tearle as Constance were responsible for exceedingly good renderings of these parts.

DERBY.

NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allen Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Mr George Kirk and Miss Mary Nell's company are occupying the boards here this week with the drama, *Judy; or, The Fatal Hand*. Miss Mary Nell appears to advantage in the dual rôle of Alice and Polly, both of which she acceptably portrays; Mr George Kirk gives a convincing impersonation of Grip, the detective; the Dubourg of Mr Carlton Wallace is a creditable presentment; Miss Florrie Groves plays successfully in the title-rôle; Miss Muriel Thompson makes the most of Blake; and the part of Sterling is capably enacted by Mr William Vane. The other parts are adequately handled by Messrs Henry Rayburne, William Casey, W. Rose, J. Stoner, F. Lyndon, H. Martin, Jas. Nuttall, and Miss Annie Mitchell.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—The principal attraction here this week is Lotte, Lilo, and Otto, who appear in an entertaining trick cycling act. Their performance also includes a comic football match on cycles, which causes amusement. The Terras Brothers submit a clever acrobatic turn, which is much appreciated; F. Warden-Reed and company are diverting in a farcical duologue entitled *Married or Photographed*; the Neilson Sisters, smart duettists and dancers, receive due recognition; Harry Kirk, a praiseworthy vocal comedian, gives some amusing facial contortions; *Vivo*, an absurdity under the direction of H. Wys, causes much merriment; while Bert Holmes, a meritorious actor-vocalist, and Flo Wood, an acceptable burlesque actress, also contribute to the programme.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—Messrs Scudamore and Richmond are presenting *The Beautiful Avenger* here this week, and it is being played by a strong and efficient company. Mr Algernon Syms assumes the rôle of Cyrus Telford with effective dignity; Mr Lionel Gillett as Zadok Foxbane gives a stirring and vivid delineation; and Mr W. Diamond as the younger Foxbane is equally successful. Miss Nannie Meade doubles the rôles of Vashti Volta and Victor Stanhope, her acting calling for the highest praise. Other artistes who are worthy of mention are Miss M. Scudamore as Edna Volta, Mr Arthur Richmond as Jim Jahme, and Mr William Ames as Patch.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr G. Weldon.—The first-class attractions at this popular house include a thrilling and clever aerial act by the Zedoras and Alar; Mill May has a wonderful style, and, aided by pretty dresses, is a warm favourite. A neat display of balancing and acrobatics is that of the Brothers Sylvester; Chant and Chant are a versatile couple; and Paddy and Mrs Maloney with an amusing cake-walk still make fun; G. W. Hastings is good as a character vocalist; Kitty Gower is neat with her quick-change terpsichorean efforts; and Les Laurens with a clever statue act complete the fine bill.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—*Rogues of the Turf* has been played here this week. The Lady Heathcote of Miss Gertrude Godart is an admirable embodiment. As Nellie Flaxman Miss Hilda Shirley is entitled to high recognition. Phillis Warzell receives a fine delineation from Miss Mabelle E. Barlow. Sir Gerald Heathcote is in the capable hands of Mr A. Wilmott. In the assumption of Arthur Somerton some realistic and effective work stands to the credit of Mr Ernest R. Allen. The Captain Dudley Clifton of Mr G. R. Montford is excellent. Moses Solomons is well played by Mr H. H. Rignold, and Mr Harry Benson scores in his characterisation of Sam Flaxman. Mr John Preston as Joe Flaxman also deserves praise.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—*The New Clown* pays a return visit, with Mr James Welch in the title-rôle. Mr Welch was irresistibly funny in the scene with Ping Pong, the donkey. Miss Audrey Ford as Rosie Platt gave a bright, cheerful interpretation. Miss Estelle Winwood and Miss Alexandre Carlisle as Maud and Winnie Chesterton were very skilful in their treatment of the respective characters. Mr Cyril Harcourt made an excellent Capt. Trent, and Mr Harry Crane was most amusing as Tom Baker. Mr G. H. Snazelle gave a splendid character study as Mr Dixon, the circus proprietor.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—That old favourite, J. W. Rowley, tops the bill here, and has to respond to repeated recalls. The Abadaroffs go through a smart acrobatic performance in special scenery and costumes of prehistoric times. James Brady has a flattering reception for his witty songs; James Stewart gives his smart performance at the piano; and Ella Dean scores with "Blue Bell" and "The Ugly Duckling." The others include Brady and Johnson's sketch company, Harry Jennings, comedian; Bishop and Vale, and Charlie Bayman, Negro delineator.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Will Percival. —Mr A. W. B. Kingston's company is retained here for another week. *Mary Queen of Scots* was produced on Monday night. Mr Kingston, in the rôle of Sir George Douglas, enhanced his already high reputation here. Mr J. T. Dale gave a good account of himself as Roland Grahame; as Robert Drysdale Mr D. Donaldson gave a good performance; Mr Harry Egan was very funny indeed as Sandie M'Tavish; Miss Madge Young undertook the title-rôle with much dignity and distinction; and Miss Emily Peel as Lady Douglas and Miss Dora Hamilton as Mattie were very clever.

GAIETY, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr S. King Alexander.—*Gipsy Jack* is being played this week by Mr Henry Bedford's company. In the title-rôle Mr Bedford excels, and proves himself to be an art

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Fred C. Dew.—*Honour Thy Father* is proving a big attraction here this week. To Mr J. W. Evelyn falls the important rôle of Gabriel Garth, and his impersonation, never overdrawn, constitutes one of the finest pieces of character study seen in Dover for some time. Mr Douglas B. Watson, a manly and dashing Jack Halyard, makes every point tell in the delivery of his lines; while there is a good deal of originality as well as power in Mr Ernest Hartington's rendering of Duncan Bly. A rousing welcome was accorded Mr Fred W. Graham, who plays Mike Copplestone with much humour. Mr Claude Merton is equally good either as the blustering Job Merry or in his portrayal of the weirdly drawn part of the mad inventor George Blagg, and Mr W. H. Melrose is amusing as the thick-headed countryman Ned Pennycomquick. Mr Arthur Clifton is impressive and effective as Dr. Sleek, and Mr Philip Armstrong as Sam Seizem and Mr W. Newman as Constable Creagh are both of considerable assistance to the cast. Miss Mabel Coleman has proved herself an emotional actress of exceptional ability, her adventures as Lilian being followed by the audience with sympathy and earnest attention. Miss Kate Newton gives a deeply pathetic study of the farmer's devoted wife Gertrude Garth, and Mrs Morton Powell, bright and winning as Mercy Merry, presents an excellent contrast. Miss Lizzie Coleman is of much assistance in the comedy scenes, and plays the part of Poppy Cornleigh with all the necessary dash and go.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—A large audience was present here on Monday night to witness *Mice and Men*, as played by Mr Forbes Robertson and company. Miss Gertrude Elliott in the rôle of Peggy gave an exceedingly clever performance. Mr Forbes Robertson displayed his usual ability in the character of Mark Embury, and Mr George Sumner capitally sustained the part of Roger Goodlake. Mr Frank Gilmore acted the rôle of Captain George Lovell in an able manner, and Miss Auriol Lee submitted a careful reading of the part of Joanna Goodlake. Miss Ada Mellon admirably portrayed Mrs Deborah, and Mr Leon Quartermaine filled the rôle of Sir Harry Trimblestone with success. Mr J. H. Ryley acted well as Kit Beringer, and Mr Ernest Cosham was admirable as Peter. Miss Minnie Griffin as the Matron and Miss Dorothy Paget as Molly were all that could be desired, and Mr Guy Lane made the most of the part of the Beadle. On Tuesday night *The Light that Failed* was presented, the leading rôles being played by Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Moullot; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—*In Dahomey* is being played here this week, and is drawing excellent houses. Mr Dan Avery as Rareback Pimperton displays ability, and Mr Charles Hart ably depicts Shylock Homestead. Miss Pauline Freeman as Rosetta Lightfoot achieves a success, and Mr Peter Hampton makes an efficient Hamilton Lightfoot. Miss Laura Bowman is seen to advantage as Cecilia, and Mr Pete Washington scores as Moses Lightfoot.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—Messrs Armadale and Warren's company commenced on Monday a six nights' engagement here with the sensational drama *The Face at the Window*. Mr E. Hoggan-Armadale gives a realistic impersonation of Chevalier Lucio Delgado, and Mr T. W. Dunscombe is capital as Paul Gouffet. Miss Marie Florence is effective as Marie, and Mr George Phythian is an acceptable Henri De Brisson. The rôle of Peter Pottlebury is amusingly played by Mr Bob Anderson, and Mr C. Allen Hineson is excellent as Le Blanc. The part of Babette is played in a creditable manner by Miss Lizzie Chambers, and Mr Walter Marriott is successful as Mons. Vernet. Mr Alfred Richards is very good as Lucien Cortier, and Miss Jeannie Dempster ably sustains the part of La Pinau. Mr F. C. Raphael is satisfactory as Jean Barcelon, and the roles of La Bete Noir, Bartel, Gervaise, Alphonse, and Francois are well played by Messrs Arthur Hillier, James Fox, Geo. Lockwood, Robert Hamilton, and R. L. Ward respectively.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—Mr Alec Hurley's company is here on a return visit, and meets with a cordial reception. Mannings' entertainers in their sketch *A Hotel Boots* causes much laughter, and James Kurry is a smart comedian. A very interesting turn is that provided by Professor Berner, the marionette king, and Cassie Walmer is an excellent comedienne. The Anartos, musical sketch artistes, are a clever pair, and Harry Coates, the singing navvy, is also good. Little Ganty is still scoring, and the Empire pictures are interesting.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Chas. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here this week are Mdlle. Luba De Sarema and her highly trained dogs and ponies, which meet with due appreciation. Alexander in his daring cycle performance elicits applause, as does also Gladys Mavius, the Canadian coon. The Vyponds are amusing in their musical absurdity *Engaging the Servant*, and Bertha Winder is a capital dancer. Steel and Laing speciality artistes, meet with success, as does also Master Henre, the boy juggler. J. K. M'Farlane, Scotch comedian, is an acceptable turn, and Charles Woodward, actor-vocalist, and Jack Hylton, comedian, complete a good programme.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr John H. Stevenson.—The Dale opera singers remain another week, and judging from the audiences which visited this popular palace of amusement their efforts to please are successful. New and up-to-date animated pictures are shown nightly on the Bioscope.

WORLD'S FAIR.—Proprietor, Mr C. A. James.—The following artistes are appearing here:—Fred Walton, living marionette; Ada Redfern, serio and dancer; Walter Bannel, character vocalist; Jenny Joy, ballad vocalist; and the Eragraph, or living pictures.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Miss Annie Bell and company are here this week with *Sapho*. Miss Bell shines conspicuously as Fanny, and Mr Horatio Sinclair gives a powerful rendering of Jean Gaussin.

DUNFERMLINE.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—Mr Oswald Cray's No. 1 company is appearing here this week, opening on Monday night with *My Native Land*. Mr Cray made an excellent hero in the part of Andy Blake. The villain, Norry Boyle, was in the capable hands of Mr John Riley, who was ably supported by Mr Joe English, who played his part of the Jew money-lender Solomon Moses cleverly. Mr Herbert Beresford made a very good Eardley Cunningham. Dr. Magee was ably handled by Mr Laurence H. Stevenson. Mr J. S. Chamberlain scored as Mike Murphy, and added greatly to the comedy element. Miss Cissie Vyner left nothing to be desired as Winnie Blake. Little Pearlie Richards as Nannie was much appreciated. Miss Marion Holmes was well placed in the part of Myra Pyne. The minor parts were in capable hands. *In Fear of the Law* and *The Shaughraun* are in the week's bill.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE-PARK THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr A. Standen Trigg.—On Wednesday afternoon Mr Arthur Roberts and his recital party paid a flying visit here, and gave an entertainment comprising songs and sketches.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—The final week of entertainment at this house as a theatre is being supplied by Professor E. K. Crocker and his educated horses. The twenty-five animals exhibit a high degree of training, and their tricks and evolutions please the audience. The house will reopen on Dec. 5 as the Eastbourne Hippodrome.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—At the head of the variety bill stand the Zanettos, very clever Japanese jugglers, who please the audience greatly. Carl and Carmanelli have a novel quick-change turn, and prove popular in their musical items; the Three Mascottes are agile lady gymnasts; Miss Ada Marjutti is a pretty and accomplished contortionist; Marti and Julietta have a very effective flying-spar act; Miss Frances Haskoll as a vocal chameleon, and aided by an optical lantern, contributes a novel performance; the Radium Girls are sprightly skipping-rope dancers; Mr George Barron keeps the audience amused with songs and patter; and Lanton and Lane as "handy men" appear as cross-talkers and light dancers.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Hague; Acting-Manager, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—Mr Frank Lindo and company are here this week in *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr Lindo gives a touching rendering of David Armitage, and Mr Geo. F. Black is a fine and manly Stephen Armitage. Miss Marion Wakeford is pathetic and wins sympathy by her fine portrayal of Joan. Captain Gerald Gambier makes a dignified Duke of Ancaster, and Mr Arthur Rodney is good as the villainous Lucas Lyle. Mr H. Grossmith and Miss Ivy Ellaline Thorne are responsible for the comedy element, and do their work well.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—The appearance of Mr Martin Harvey in his new play, *The Breed of the Treshams*, attracted a goodly audience to this theatre on Monday. The romantic and stirring surroundings of the Royalist and Roundhead period quite roused the enthusiasm of the house, and Mr Martin Harvey had a most cordial reception. His rendering of the arduous rôle of Lieutenant Keresby was particularly fine. Miss N. De Silva appeared in a smaller part than usual, but her picture of the youthful Batty was faithfully and well portrayed. Miss Coleridge played Margaret Hungerford with sweet womanly tenderness; Miss Bessie Elder was a bright and vivacious Helena Pierrepont; and Miss Edith Coleman made a highly successful Mrs Bagshaw. Mr Milton Rosmer acted with manliness and spirit as Francis Tresham; Mr Charles Glenney was seen to advantage in the thankless part of Clemont Hungerford; Mr Percy Austey's acting showed finish as Sir Henry Curwen; and Mr Albert E. Raynor made an eminently satisfactory Viscount Dorsington. The play was artistically staged, and the dresses were most picturesque. At the conclusion Mr Martin Harvey thanked the audience for their hearty appreciation of the drama.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—*Letty* was presented at this theatre on Monday evening by Mr Charles Frohman's company before a large and fashionable audience. Mr H. B. Irving carried off chief honours as Nevill Letchmere, his performance being one of artistic finish and unusual power. In response to a call, he briefly thanked the audience for their cordial reception of the play. Mr Scott Craven's Bernard Mandeville was a notable performance of its kind; and equally clever was the Richard Perry of Mr Leslie Victor. Messrs Tom Heselwood and Charles Froude gave excellent support as Ordish and Neale respectively. Miss Irene Vanbrugh played Letty Shell with a due appreciation of the requirements of the character, and won sympathy all through; Miss Eleanor Souray made a delightful Hilda Gunning, and Miss Beatrice Forbes Robertson played Marion Allardyce with telling effect. Miss May Blayney was a charming Mrs Ivor Crosbie. The dresses were handsome and the mounting superb.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Austin and Cowan opened an attractive programme on Monday with their melodious vocal duets, and the Two Graces also secured considerable applause as smart duettists and dancers. The Densmores' act, *An Early Morning in the Kitchen*, exhibited their powers as pantomimists, and Baker and Balfe performed a number of selections on the xylophone, getting many encores. The Risley entertainment of the Kellinos is as popular as ever, and an amusing piece entitled *Chums* introduced Mr Geo. W. Leslie and a clever company to advantage, their acting being first class. The operatic singing of Les Voces was received with great enthusiasm, and the duets and dances of the Sisters Iris pleased everybody. Expert juggling by the Hoopers and a display of acrobatic dancing by Maiba and Verity concluded the bill.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—A domestic drama, entitled *The Blind Girl of Paris*, is staged here this week. Miss Florrie Mandeville, in the title-rôle, arouses sympathy by her natural acting, and she is well supported by Miss Amy Bartlett and Messrs Oliver Birrell and Teddy Myles, who are very amusing in the lighter parts.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—A rich treat has been provided here by Mr George Dance's company in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Miss Gwennie Harcourt as Fi-Fi plays with great skill, and speedily establishes herself as first favourite. Miss Dot Stephens is eminently satisfactory as Mrs Pineapple, and Miss Nellie Wigley's impersonation of Soo-Soo is attractive and charming. Both ladies sing in an extremely tasteful manner, and on Monday evening their efforts met with well-deserved recognition. Mr Gus Wheatman's portrayal of Mr Pineapple is well up to his usual standard of excellence, and Mr Helier Le Maistre is admirably placed as Hang Chow. Mr Lennox Barry does capitally as Hi Lung, Miss Elsie Carew is a mirth-provoking Mrs Brown, and in Mr J. Warren Foster Tom Hatherton finds a capable representative.

VICTORIA HALL, LIMITED.—Secretary, Mr M. J. Dunsford.—Gilbert's Circus still maintains its popularity here. Captain Woodward's performing seals head the programme; Masino contributes a pleasing juggling exhibition; the Staffordshire Factory Singing Girls give a capital rendering to several popular songs; Coram contributes a laughter-provoking ventriloquial performance; the Five Whiteleys acquit themselves admirably in a fine acrobatic turn; and among other attractions are a cake-walk competition open to local exponents of the Terpsichorean art, Baby Culeen's jockey act, and a musical contribution by Bosanquet.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr Wilson Barrett's play *The Golden Ladder* holds the boards at this theatre this week. The drama is well presented by Miss Mary Austin and Mr Vivian Edmonds's company, and is warmly received by good houses. Mr Harry Cullenford sustains the part of the Rev. Frank Thornhill with much intelligence and skill. Mr F. Vivian Edmonds makes a capital villain. Miss Mary Austin as Lilian Grant charms all by her acting, especially in the emotional passages.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company, including Miss Annie Hughes, in the comedy *A Country Mouse*, was here the first part of the week. Mr Charles Esdale as the Hon. Archie Vyse sustained the part well; Mr John Nesbitt was a good John Bowlby; Mr George Traill was capital as the Duke of St. Kitts; Mr George Trollope effective as Lord Robert Wykeham; Miss Madeline Maude charming as Lady Sylvia Bowlby; Miss Ida Richardson well placed as Violet Aynsley; and Miss Adie Boyne exceedingly amusing as Mrs Cropper. Miss Annie Hughes successfully enacted the role of Angela Muir. The play is preceded each evening by *A Bit of Old Chelsea*, in which the part of Saucers was cleverly taken by Miss Hughes. *His Excellency the Governor* was played on Thursday and Friday.

GAINSBOROUGH.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robt. Kirk.—Mr John F. Preston's company appeared here for three nights last week in *Lady Godiva*. Miss Jessie Leslie was a charming exponent of the title-rôle. Mr Edward Beecher gave a powerful rendering of Tom o' Coventry. Mr Dan F. Roe was amusing as Robin, and he was well assisted by Miss Nina Westerleigh as Elfrida. The other characters, in the hands of Messrs Lewis Leslie, E. Hamilton, Jas. Duncan, Clifford Marle, &c., were well played.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Stranghan.—J. W. Hall, comedian, heads the bill, and provides a most amusing turn. Hardeen, the handcuff king, is also an interesting turn; while Rhoda Paul, the pocket Vesta Tilley, evokes a good deal of applause. Tate and Tate, eccentric acrobats, are responsible for much amusement; Keith and Merson, acrobatic comedians, are seen to advantage. Other capable turns are provided by the Ottawas, musicians; Brothers Teviotdale, Scottish athletes; and the Brooklands, comediennes and dancers.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphrys.—A house crowded in every part welcomed back the Moody-Manners opera company on Monday, and evinced the heartiest interest in the revival of *La Traviata*, which Mr Manners is making one of the features of his present tour. In Madame De Vere the company has secured a soprano of exceptional merit, and alike vocally and dramatically her Violetta was worthy of the many recalls given during the evening. The famous brindisi in the first act was sung with excellent spirit by Madame De Vere, Mr Joseph O'Mara, and the large chorus. Mr O'Mara was the Alfred, and his fine voice was heard to advantage throughout. Mr William Dever as George Germont made much of the two fine solos in the second act, and received quite an ovation at the finish. The largely augmented orchestra and chorus were kept in excellent control by Herr Richard Eckhold. On Tuesday *Carmen*, with Mdlle. Zelie De Lussan as the gipsy and Mr Wilson Pembroke as the hapless Don José, and Mr F. H. Erle as Escamillo, drew another good house. On Wednesday *The Jewess* was revived, and Halevy's tragic opera received an excellent interpretation from Madame De Vere, and Messrs Joseph O'Mara, Wilson Pembroke, and Charles Manners. *Faust*, *Tannhäuser*, and *Maritana* completed the week's programme, and proved a happy blending of the classical and the popular. Mr Manners was called upon for a speech on Monday, and expressed his gratification at the splendid house they had opened to—the best they had had here for some years.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—Mr and Mrs Kendal paid a welcome visit to Glasgow and were accorded a good reception on Monday evening, when they once more presented *A Scrap of Paper*. Mr Kendal was again, of course, the Colonel Blake, and he repeated his former success in the part. Mr Bassett Roe as Sir John Ingram was eminently successful, and as Dr. Penguin Mr Ernest Hendrie proved a worthy exponent of the part. Mr R. Sheldrick as Archie invested the young ward with all the youthful abandon and zest necessary, and he had an able co-worker in the youthful love-making in Miss Mary Jerrold. Mrs A. B. Tapping pleased, as she always does, in the role of Mrs Penguin, and the exquisite acting of Miss Elise Clarens as Lady Ingram was much admired. Of Mrs Kendal's acting it is not needful to say more than that she charmed in a part she seems to revel in as Susan Hartley, acting with all the grace, lightness, subtlety, and brilliance as of yore, and in the second act quite fascinated the house. The accomplished couple were most warmly received at the close of the play. *The Elder Miss Blossom*, *Still Waters Run Deep*, and another play new to Glasgow, in *Dick Hope*, are the other attractions of the week. As usual, the staging, dresses, &c., are worthy of admiration.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—Bright and attractive is the representation of *A Country Girl* provided by Mr George Dance's company. Miss Maud Boyd is charming as Marjory Joy, her engaging manner and her brilliant singing being features of the performance. Miss Daisy Le Hay is a dainty Nan, and enters into the joyful spirit of the part. Miss Maud Prenton is also worthy of high commendation as Madame Sophie. With Mr Charles R. Walenn as Barry there is not a dull moment whilst he is on the stage. Miss Ethel Negretti as Princess Melaneh makes a good impression, her singing of "Under the Deodar" pleasing the audience immensely. Mr Raikes is impersonated with much humour by Mr St. John Hamund. In the part of Geoffrey Challoner Mr Eobert Michaelis' fine voice is heard to much advantage. Mr Joe Nightingale does good service as Sir Joseph Verity. Mr J. Jack Daly plays Douglas Verity pleasingly, and Mr P. Corry supplies a good study as Lord Anchester. Mr Arthur Leyshon does well as Granfer Mummery.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—The production here this week is the well-known drama *When London Sleeps*, presented by Lester Collingwood and company. Miss Maude Hastings as Queenie Carruthers is seen to great advantage, while the part of the hero, David Engleheart, is portrayed by Mr W. H. S. Sams in a strong and able manner. Other characters that are well filled are those of Captain Rodney Haynes (Mr Franklyn Graham) and Hilda Carode by Miss Mary Brammer. Able support is given by other members, notably Messrs Victor Mason and Frank Eden, and Misses Effie Macintosh and Bella Power.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Mascard.—The Osmond Tearle company opened here on Monday with a highly creditable performance of *Hamlet*. Mr G. Alexander Marsh's reading of the title-role was clear and intelligible, while his elocution is of a high order. The Ophelia of Miss Carrie Bailie was marked by fine feeling, particularly in the mad scene, which was given with wonderful effect. As the King and Queen Mr John Burton and Miss Fannie Chamberlain acted well, and the parts of Laertes and Polonius were capitally filled by Mr Godfrey Tearle and Mr William Lowe respectively. Mr Julian J. Gallier was a good Horatio; Mr Cyril Grier was an impressive Ghost; and the Players were well represented by Messrs C. Allen and Llewellyn and Miss Kathleen Magee; while the Gravediggers were humorously portrayed by Messrs George Tearle and L. Evens. The bill for the remainder of the week includes *The Merchant of Venice*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *David Garrick*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Richard III.*

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—Mr Robert Perris and company occupy the boards this week with *A Fight for Millions*, in which Mr Ferris acts the hero, Tom Manley, with conspicuous success; while the heroine, Pearl Rivers, is excellently performed by Miss Eva Purcell. Mr J. Newton Cowling as Hudson Rivers is also good. Mr Horace Booth as the villainous Richard Dudley gives a powerful impersonation, and Mr Larry Clements is mirth-provoking as a tramp. Solomon Moses finds an able exponent in Mr Fred Acton; Miss Fanny Williams gives a capital rendering of the heroine's mother, and Miss K. Eckart is also good as the villain's deserted wife. Charming representatives of their parts are Miss Winnie Acton as Little Madge and Miss Gertie Douglas, who doubles the parts of Betty, a maidservant, and Mag, a belle of the slums. Mr Nicholas Conway as a butler, Mr Donald Cameron as an engine-driver, and Mr George Hodges as a warder, are all satisfactory exponents of their parts.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—Mr Douglas Bruce's company in the new drama, *In a Woman's Grip*, which was seen at the Metropole a few weeks ago, is providing Govan playgoers with good and exciting dramatic fare. The leading part is, as before, played by Miss Beatrice May, and excellent support is given by the members of the company.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green; Acting-Manager, Mr E. A. Swift.—In *The Conscript* the patrons of this popular East-end house have a drama quite to their taste, and the patronage bestowed on Mr Green's engagements of late conclusively prove he is gauging their requirements pretty accurately. Miss M. Dawson plays the part of Nadia with a fine conception of the demands made upon her, and Mr G. Mitchell as Karl in the name-part gives a powerful impersonation. Paul, the Governor, is a fine piece of vigorous acting by Mr F. H. Constable; and the Ferret is cunningly played by Mr Edw. Hill. As Captain Perston, Commander Jolly, the Sergeant, and the Corporal Messrs Holmes, Armytage, Harry, and Oliver lend suitable aids in promoting the interest and excitement. Tretch Trotoff, a postman, is very humorous as actor and singer, and is well received; while Little Karl and Wanda are ably played by Little Elsie Bastow and Miss Ivy Chandos, whose singing is a feature.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen.—Albert Chevalier is proving a strong attraction this week, his character studies being much appreciated. The singing and acting of Hal Forde are above the average, and an amusing acrobatic act is given by the Brothers Redmond, while another taking item is the dancing of the Eight of Hearts. Espinosa and Neilson's artistic Japanese sketch *The Rickshaw Boy* goes well, as also does the pantomimic scena of the Werner-Amoros Troupe. The Wartenberg Brothers are clever double foot balancers, and Marion Scott sings "Bluebell" in good style, other popular features being the coon songs of Ida Brophy, the comedy turn of the Alaskas, and the instrumental work of the Brothers Webb.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S, LIMITED. — Managing-Directors, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong.—These halls have again reverted to the one-house principle, and present a large and varied programme this week. Lily Marney, in her latest success, "The Spanish Irish Girl," makes a great hit; the Bros. Artois, in their comedy bar act, are very good, and their feats are watched with great interest; Darring, the young handcuff king, causes a sensation; Charles Deane, a favourite comedian, sings new songs; Chas. Mildare, whistling comedian, scores; the Watson Family give a good vocal and musical performance; Haydee's Mannikins are an amusing novelty; the Norman Leonard Trio, comedy musical artists, give an acceptable turn; Bert Woodward, comedy cycling coon, performs some clever tricks; and Larry Lewis, comedian, causes much amusement by his quaint style of singing. We have good artists in Belrose and De Velin, operatic vocalists; the Rozells, in their comedy bar act; Learto and dog in a capital musical turn; and Tony Black, a local favourite, sings very well.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford.—The Magic Kettle is retained here another here another week, it having proved a decided success. Miss Addie Dorina, quick-change artiste, surprises everyone with her smart performance; Mr W. J. Churchill is a general favourite, and has a capital selection of songs; Mr Austin Rudd evokes great merriment by his songs and patter; the musical comedy act of Mr Lew Wells is amusing; a smart piece of work is put in by Sibb and Sibb, trapeze acrobats; Mr Tom Lloyd and Mr Harry Walker are both comedians of ready wit and great abilities; and Miss Kate Gourlay, a clever coon singer and dancer, and Miss Ida Gladstone, a contralto comedienne with a sweet voice, are also on the programme.

BRITANNIA. — Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Manager, Mr George Saphrini.—A good company is billed here this week, the special attraction being the engagement of James Day, Birmingham postman, who undertakes to extricate himself from all regulation prison handcuffs, &c., in a few minutes. J. H. Harris, Scotch comedian, is heard to advantage in several new songs; a clever musical speciality act is provided by the Albano Troupe; while the Boston Twins, eccentric comedians, are decidedly clever. The other members of the company include Le Warren, the ventriloquial Foli; Hewitt and Ritchie, comedians; Lizzie Laurie, vocalist; Charles Danton, character comedian; and Cissie Arris, top-boot dancer.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr William Biggam.—Mr Hubner's Animatograph, with a series of new pictures, creates much enthusiasm. Kloof and Ramsay submit a refined musical entertainment. Mons. Zooroff's imitations of animals and musical instruments are much appreciated. Miss Dora Lindsay is heard to advantage in several songs. Jack Charters and partner are very amusing in their sketch, *A Soldier's Return*. The Scottish Troubadours are popular instrumentalists. Forbes and Mars, eccentric comedians; the Five Devlins, national dancers; Bella Dalglish, soprano; and Scott Rae, tenor, complete the programme.

GLOUCESTER

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Lovers of drama are this week well catered for by Mr Ernest R. Abbott's company in *The Mariners of England* and *Trilby*. On Monday the former was presented, Mr Ernest R. Abbott sustaining the part of Lord Nelson in his well-known style. Mr W. T. Riley gave a capital representation of Harry Dell; Miss Ada Abbott was seen to advantage as Mabel Talbot; Mr W. H. Garbois submitted a clever rendition of Captain Lebaudy; and Tom Tripp had a humorous exponent in Mr Edwin Keene. Miss Isabel Singleton made a smart Polly Appleyard, and Miss Linda Riley a neat Nelly Dell. Mr Clifford Clifford as Admiral Talbot and Mr John Lester as Captain Hardy proved adequate, and Mr W. H. Davies-Brown was prominent as Marston. Mr Henry Poole as Bill Bucket was very good, and the remaining characters were suitably played. *Trilby* was presented on Thursday.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—A crowded house on Monday welcomed a return visit of Mr Charles Macdona's company in *The Gay Parisienne*. As Mr Ebenezer Honeycomb, Mr Tom May is very funny; the part of the Major is admirably sustained by Mr Arthur Watts; Mr Chas. A. Maynard is a dashing M. Pompier; Mr Cecil Lloyd is highly amusing as Amos Dingle; Mr Thomas Kennard is a bright and attractive Tom Everleigh; and Mr J. Fitz James is a capital Hans. Miss Jennie Richards, who sings and dances well, represents the title-rôle in a vivacious manner; the part of Mrs Honeycomb is admirably sustained by Miss Gwen Clifford; Miss Madge Soutter keeps the house in roars as Ruth; and as Nora, Miss Ethel Wade is pretty, piquant, and melodious. The Major's daughters have charming representatives in the Misses Minnie Percy, Dora Macmahon, Ethel Lisle, and Miss Florence Brewster. Special mention should also be made of the Imperial Glee Singers, Messrs Jones, Reid, Kennard, and Fitz James. On Thursday Miss Fortescue and company presented *Moths*.

GRAVESEND.

PUBLIC HALL.—Proprietors, the Public Halls Company; Secretary and Manager, Mr R. Feaver Clarke.—*Sherlock Holmes*, presented under the local direction of Mr G. W. Bower, is the attraction here this week. Mr Kenneth Rivington makes an excellent Sherlock Holmes, and is ably assisted by Miss Florence Radcliffe as Alice Faulkner. Mr Edward Heanley gives a good representation of Dr. Watson; and Mr Arthur B. Murray as the crafty Professor Moriarty makes the most of a difficult part. The John Foreman of Mr Harry Mann, and the Madge Larrabee of Miss Carrie Lacey, are equally worthy of notice; and one must not forget Mr Ernest Gray, who, as James Larrabee, has proved a very able villain.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—Success is attending Mr Nightingale's new departure of two houses a night, and capital variety programmes form a complete change from the usual autumn season of drama. In an excellent list of artists, pride of place must be given to Blanch Sloan, who goes through a sensational gymnastic display as if she thoroughly enjoyed it, and gains unlimited applause for her daring act. The Athlones give a fine show as gladiatorial acrobats; the Three Gregsons are highly amusing in their pantomimic absurdity, *The Dummy*; Floria and Zanelli contribute a pleasing and clever turn; Condon and Preston sing, patter, and dance themselves into favour; Alma Gray dances nimbly and gracefully; and other artists render help in an exceptionally strong programme.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs H. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr William Greet's company is playing *The Sign of the Cross* to good houses here this week. Mr F. B. Woulfe, in appearance and interpretation, is a striking Marcus Superbus; Mr A. Bernhardt Turner distinguishes himself as Nero; an excellent portrayal of Tigellinus is given by Mr Charles Aldred; and Mr Robert Hare embodies Favius with great success. Messrs C. Arthur Fairfax (Philodemus) and Frank Wood (Glabrio) show undoubted ability. Mr J. Wetherall is pleasing as Lucinius, Viturius being ably enacted by Mr L. Winning. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy is a soulful exponent of Mercia; Miss Alma Bolton is appreciated as Berenice; Miss Cissie Carlton as Dacia does well; and the part of Ancaria receives excellent treatment at the hands of Miss May Fairclough. Mention should be made of Miss Ivy Millais, whose acting as Stephanus is poignant and convincing.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. S. Skivington.—An excellent company is here this week. Percival performs marvellously on the piano; Amy Bathurst is a charming comedienne and dancer; Kloof and Ramsey, musical

Odol is used by dentists themselves.

eccentrics, are very amusing; Brindell and Cooper are smart comedians and dancers; Rivington and Gordyn, sketch artists, give an entertaining turn; the Sisters Rose, duettists and dancers, get a hearty reception; Lulaine Darrell Trio, Roman ring artists, are applauded; and the Electrograph, with new pictures, complete the bill.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—A new play by Margaret Young, entitled *The Edge of the Storm*, has appeared here this week, presented by an excellent company under the management of Mr Leon M. Lion. The plot is of a most interesting character, and is admirably constructed. The principal part, Jim Paulett, is undertaken by Mr Henry Renouf, who is a great favourite here. He portrays the happy-go-lucky Englishman in most pleasing fashion. Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay gives complete satisfaction as the young Magyar woman, Szentes Leta, whilst as Szentes Wilma Miss Ada Marius accords ample justice to the part. Mr Frederick Annerley, who is also popular here, gives a vivid portrayal of Bakonyi Ferenz, the impetuous Hungarian. Mr Leon M. Lion is impressive as Mootooswami, and Mr Alan Borthwick well realises the pompous Major De Trafford. Other characters are ably represented by Mr Julius Hagen as M. Duchamp, Mr Louis Palgrave as Ensign Partridge, and Miss Maud M. Magrath as Mrs De Trafford.

HIPPODROME.—That popular vocalist and song-writer Mr F. V. St. Clair has proved every bit as great a success here this week as on former occasions. His songs, which are largely of a topical character, including a reference to the Russian attack on fishing vessels in the North Sea, are very smart. A clever horizontal bar act, with which is combined some excellent comedy, has been given by Zaro and Arno. Wirson has performed exceptionally difficult feats of head and hand balancing; Frank Dunlop has proved himself an amusing comedian; whilst the Pueblo Brothers, who are comedians and versatile dancers, have also contributed an interesting turn. Other artistes who have appeared are Clarice Netta, a pleasing vocalist, and Tell and Tell, comedy acrobats.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr Norman Robinson.—The company here this week is headed by Duncan's collies, a group of dogs which goes through a wonderful performance in an intelligent manner. Frank Leslie sings his songs with much success; Alexandra Edwin is a tasteful singer of ballads; the Brothers Lang knockabouts, are entertaining; Du Bois and Ranza, comedy tumblers, are smart; Russell Wallett, in a female impersonating musical act, is thoroughly successful; the Earles are expert banjoists; and Mason and Bart are an exceptionally clever couple of gymnasts.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—Leo Dryden tops the bill here. His songs, which are finely rendered, are also embellished with elaborate stage effects; Max Sterling, who does his "mysteries" with neatness and deftness, is a clever artiste; a good comedy juggling performance is given by Alber and Amber; Harrigan and Holt are entertaining drolls; Arthur Aldridge, vocalist, goes very well; Onda and Artell submit a good gymnastic display; and Laurie Wylie, with his manaikins, and Fred Poplar, comedian, are also on the bill.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—Mr Tom B. Davis's company is paying a return visit in that ever-popular musical comedy *Florodora*. As of yore the piece is heartily enjoyed. Miss Lena Maitland, the Dolores, is most successful. She has a nice voice, which is heard to much advantage. Mr Leonard Russell returns as Frank Abercoed, and is once more the recipient of much applause; Mr Edward Lewis as Tweedlepunch is as funny as ever; Mr Fred Winn is seen to advantage as Cyrus Gilfain; Lady Holyrood finds a worthy representative in Miss Isabelle Dillon; Miss Hilda Dugdale as Angela Gilfain is well placed; and Mr J. Paul Callan is a capital Captain Arthur Donegal.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—The premier position here is held by Mr Joe Peterman's company in *The Belle of the Orient*. Mr Joe Peterman as the Jewish money-lender causes much laughter. Miss Madeline Rees sings cleverly, and Mr Foster Courtenay has a good song in the Harem scene. Miss Jessie Wilton does well, and Messrs Dando and D'Arcy are seen to advantage in two humorous parts. The Dros. Donar, hand-balancers of extraordinary ability, meet with a hearty reception; Geoffreys and Benson contribute a smart musical sketch; Gilbert Gerard as an imitator of birds and animals is most entertaining; the Five Delevines in *Flirtation* meet with much appreciation; Miss Ethel sings and dances cleverly; and Cliff Ryland is one of the funniest comedians that has been seen here for some considerable time.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr William Peacock.—Mr Milton Bode's company, in the musical comedy *Gentleman Joe*, was the attraction the first three nights of the week, and was played by a capable company. Mr Kennedy Allen portrayed the character of the hansom cabby in excellent style, and kept his audience in a genial humour throughout. He was ably assisted by Miss Maud Marriott, who was none the less successful as Emma. Miss Hebe Bliss ably sustained the rôle of Mrs Ralli-Car, whilst Miss Elda Burman made a dashing Miss Lalage Potts. The later half of this week was devoted to *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*.

THE KURSAAL.—Manager for the Corporation, Mr H. J. Dacre.—This week the concerts at the Kursaal terminate for the season. The principal feature is the engagement of the Flockton-Foster's costume comedy company, and their entertainments have been appreciated.

HARTLEPOOL

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg.—The Dayton Family head the bill this week and go through an astonishing exhibition of Risley and pedestal feats, several of which are decidedly new and original. Harry Nelson, ever-popular here, is the cause of uncontrollable laughter with his Tyneside comedy patter. The Florodora Girls, Ruby Bijou, George Bernard, and Muir and Bartlett are old favourites, and meet with warm receptions. The illusions by Herr Fritz are smartly worked, and Evelyn Taylor and Burns pictures complete the bill.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson; Acting-Manager, Mr Thos. Robson.—Miss Winifred Maude's company in *The Sins of a City* is this week presented here under the direction of Mr Victor Du Cane. As Donald M'Ivor Mr Ivan Gore makes a decided hit, his impersonation of Seaweed's adopted father being all that could be desired. Sandy M'Donald is in the capable hands of Mr Royce Carleton, who fills his part to the letter, and the Ralph Blackwater of Mr Leslie Beaufort is also well acted. Mr Du Cane portrays Isaac Levi successfully. Credit is due to Mr J. W. Baxter as Joe and afterwards Jasper Woodleigh. Miss Eva Reed is seen to advantage as Midge. Miss Alice Granville makes a pleasing Scotch fisherwoman, by name Jenny, and Lesbia is admirably embodied by Miss Marie Lyons. Mr Manton gives distinction to the character of Mr Williams, K.C. Mr W. E. Simpson and Mr W. G. Dudeney are impressive as P.-C. Johnson and P.-C. Jonathan Blyme respectively. Mr Wilbraque's embodiment of the Judge is well received. Mr Reginald Green does justice to the rôle of Porter. Miss Agnes Norman makes an agreeable Mrs Miggs, and Miss Winifred Maude scores his usual success as Seaweed, afterwards known as Nora.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—A return visit is paid this week by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in *A Country Mouse*. Angela is played by Miss Dido Drake, who admirably impersonates the supposedly unsophisticated and ingenuous country maiden. Sylvia Bowlby and Violet Aynsley are also well presented respectively by Miss Dorothy Drake and Miss Eve Erskine. Mr Arnold Lucy as the Duke of St. Kitts and Mr Wilson Lumley as Lord Robert Wykeham give full effect to the inane idiosyncrasies of these characters; and Mr Sydney Stirling plays convincingly as the Hon. A. Vyse. The genuine pathos of the piece is admirably depicted by Mr Charles Harley as John Bowlby, M.P., and Mr J. E. Watson as the old servant Jephcot. The piece is excellently staged, and is preceded by *His Landlady*.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—The Ragamuffins, a quartet of pseudo street musicians, are holding the boards here this week. Mr Arthur Davenport, who is a good comedian, is associated in the programme with Miss Muriel George, Mr Bert Ansell, Miss Mollie Wynter and Mr Reginald Mountfield, the latter gentleman introducing some amusing musical sketches.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—The return to the stage of Mr J. D. Hunter and his dramatic company after the summer vacation is cordially welcomed here by his numerous friends and patrons. The opening piece is the great sensational drama, entitled *Shadows of a Great City*. The staging and mounting of the play is very complete. Mr Hunter's impersonation of the crafty Jew Abe Nathan is admirable, and the detective Arkwright is well represented by Mr John A. Thomson. George Benson has an able exponent in Mr Arthur St. John. The part of Annie Benson is admirably played by Miss Eva Bayley. Miss May Straker is equally successful in the character of Nellie Benson, and as Biddy Miss Blanche Bayley is charmingly natural.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—This week's programme contains the names of some very original artistes. Mr Harry Martell, comedian, is a skilful dancer; a very attractive comedienne and graceful dancer in found in Miss Ada Martine; Mr Chas. Austin scores a success in his impersonation of the highwayman; the acrobatic dogs shown by Mons. Raffayette are remarkable for canine sagacity; a diverting opera by Boyd and Gilfain (Austin and Trixie), causes great amusement; an effective combination of wit and humour is given by Messrs Spry and Monti; Miss Maud Venn, comedienne, is well well received; and the Albert and Edmunds Troupe cause great amusement in their farcical sketch.

HOYLAND.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Geo. S. King.—This week we have a welcome return of Mr Fred J. Webb and Mr Wilson Benge's company in *The Two Hussars*. The rôle of Harry Alford is well sustained by Mr Wilson Benge; Ellen Maythorne has a capital interpretation from Miss H. Danvers Smith; Mr S. James does well as Lewes Montague; and Mr V. Vivian as Colonel Manners plays skilfully. Miss Sadie Smith is seen to advantage as Marie, and the same remark applies to Miss Lallah Price as Molly Cutts.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—*The Toreador*, which is being presented by Mr George Edwardes's company, is on a return visit. Mr Lionel Victor repeats an amusing performance as Sammy Gigg; Miss Alice Oppitz is full of fire and charm as Donna Teresa; Miss Daisy Wallace sings most artistically as Dora; Miss Nancy Langtyre is an attractive Nancy Staunton; and Miss Daisie Stratton as Susan is thoroughly capable. Mr T. W. Volt is at his best in the part of Sir Archibald; Mr W. H. Powell as Pettifer displays graceful agility in dancing; Mr Fred Allandale is adequate as Trail; Mr John Donald has a fine voice and a commanding presence, eminently suited for his part of Carajola; Miss Nellie Bouverie is noticeable as Mrs Malton Hoppings; Mr Fred Fowler is smart as the Governor of Villaya; and clever character sketches are contributed by Mr E. Nainby as Rinaldo, Mr A. W. Ashdowne as Moreno, and Mr Frank Ellis as the Bandmaster.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; General Manager, Mr W. F. Morton.—Tom Murray is making the fun run fast and furious here in his extravaganza, *Our Irish Visitors*. From start to finish there is a continuous ripple of laughter. The Imperial Troupe of lady dancers are exceedingly graceful.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart.—An audience of extra large proportion was present on Monday to welcome *The Cingalee* on the occasion of the musical comedy's first visit to this city. The scenic effects are delightful, and the mounting is as fine as anything we have seen for very many long days. Miss Eva Sandford makes a delightful Peggy; Mr Frank Danby is exceedingly humorous; Mr Leedham Bantock is a delightful Cingalee; as the lover Mr Harold Thorley sings superbly; Mr W. J. Manning and Mr Robert Hyett make the best of their opportunities; and nothing can be finer than the singing of Miss Anna Hickish in the rôle of Lady Patricia Vane. Miss Florence Smithson is clever as Nanoya. In every respect the visit of *The Cingalee* has been highly successful.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—*The Temptress* is a play that suits the audience here. It combines pathos and humour, and has brisk dialogue and plenty of exciting episodes. In the title-rôle Miss Violet Crawford is eminently well fitted.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Manager, Mr A. Graham.—As equilibrists Parras Brothers are exceedingly expert, and meet with much applause. Charles Prinz's lions are a wonderful turn. Lily Burnand is another excellent attraction.

ALHAMBRA.—Resident-Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet Perry.—W. Selkirk's juvenile spectacle *Japan's Handy Men* is a good turn, and other artists of ability include Gracie Taylor Algie and Reggie, Cumminger, Dave O'Toole, Bock Pylader, and the Lombarts.

CIRCUS.—Resident-Manager Mr E. Emerson.—The New Century animated pictures are drawing packed houses.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—Genuine fun is being created here this week by Mr C. P. Levilly's company in *Amorelle*. Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow as impersonated by Mr Leon Simkin is a most mirth-provoking individual. Mr Arthur Cozens makes an admirable Jules, and sings with pleasing effect. As Lupin Mr J. Redmond is highly successful, and Mr Fred Carrington is very amusing as Dotard. A charming and graceful exponent of Amorelle is Miss Empsie Bowman, who sings most artistically and captivates her audience with her artless ways. Miss Adah Grey is an attractive Lesbia, and renders her allotted numbers most tunefully; whilst Miss Von Bargen appears to distinct advantage in the rôle of Marina. The chorus is above the average, and the scenery and dresses are very picturesque.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—*The Orchid* has been the attraction here during the week by Mr George Dance's company, and the merry production has been well received. Mr Bertie Wright is the central figure of the piece, his acting throughout being most diverting. As Lady Violet Anstruthers Miss Ethel Bryant has scored a great success by her delightful singing and dancing; while Miss Madge Lucas does full justice to the part of Caroline Vokins. The other principal characters of the cast are effectively personated by Messrs E. Darrell, G. Davy, Arthur P. Hunsley, Edmund Hollick, Edmund Page, Misses Ida Chichester, Eve Melville, and Poppy Wilkinson.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—Mr Fred Karno's company is this week paying a return visit with *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr W. Rokeby is well placed as Sergt. Lightning, while Mr Charles F. Howard gives a good account of the part of Lord Easem. Mr J. W. Hooper is quite at home in the rôle of Mr Miffin; Mr Chas. Leoville gives an excellent rendering of Bunker; Mr E. C. Lilly scores as Mr Minks; Miss Katie Brunton is quite at home as Miss Manly; and Miss Jessamine Newcombe is an excellent Lady Maude.

KEIGHLEY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Barnes.—Much praise is due to Mr Carson for his enterprise in securing a visit from the principal D'Oyly Carte company. Gilbert and Sullivan's operas have been capitally interpreted and thoroughly enjoyed by large audiences. *The Mikado* was presented on the evening of Monday. Mr C. W. Workman gives a delightful rendering of Ko-Ko, his acting and singing being happy and effective. Mr Fred Billington's interpretation of Pooh-Bah is admirable; Mr Paole Ripple's performance of Nanki-Poo is eminently satisfactory; Mr Albert Kavanagh distinguishes himself as the Mikado; Miss Norah Maguire makes a bewitching Yum-Yum; and Miss Jessie Rose and Miss Mabel Burnage are charming. Katisha is ably played by Miss Theresa Rassam, who proves herself a vocalist of artistic merit. Other operas billed are *The Gondoliers*, *Yeomen of the Guard*, *Iolanthe*, and *H.M.S. Pinafore*. An increased orchestra is conducted by Mr T. Silver. Mr H. E. Bellamy is the courteous business-manager.

KETTERING.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. Fowkes.—Mr Charles Maodona's company opened here on Monday with *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Miss Ettie Cinders is a most successful Fi-Fi, and Miss Shelton a very capable Mrs Brown. Mr Steane Louch as the Emperor and Mr Sidney Burt as Mr Pineapple are very funny, and meet with a hearty reception.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—The attraction this week is Mr Coleman Davies and company in the comedy drama *No Escape*. Mr Davies is an excellent comedian, and gives an intensely humorous rendering of the character of Constable O'Grady. Mr Archer Terry is a powerful Vandike Collodien, and the Sisters Kilner contribute some clever dancing.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—Mr W. H. Kirby and company in the musical comedy entitled *The New Mephisto* are here this week. Mr W. H. Kirby plays the important part of Dick Pilgrim in capital style; Mr Fred Lyne in his several rôles is very clever; Dolly is in the capable hands of Miss Lily Gullick; while Miss Marion Armitage ably portrays the character of Becky Pilgrim.

TIVOLI, MILL-STREET.—Proprietors, Messrs Lister Reekie and Howard Stephens.—This little hall is now a popular resort, and under the above management is rapidly forging ahead. Two crowded houses are the nightly rule. The company this week includes Mdlle. Sorti, statue artiste; T. C. Morris, an excellent comedian; France and Francis, contortionists; Tom Toy Trio, Sleath and Adlin, Helena Stewart, and Lister Reekie.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Halles.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week, Mr Thos. Thorne and company were here in *Our Boys*. Mr Thos. Thorne as Perkyn Middlewick and Mr M. Russell Rosse as Sir Geoffrey Champneys are a great success, while all the other members of the company sustain their respective parts in an able manner. On Thursday and Friday, Mr Arnold Bell and a strong company occupied the boards in Messrs Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett's drama, *Ben-My-Chree*.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Mr H. Leonard.—Miss Fortescue and company are appearing here in a series of plays. On Monday *Moths* was presented, Miss Fortescue's rendering of Fuchsia Leach being a delightful piece of acting. Mr Conway gave a finished rendering of Prince Zouroff; Mr Dalziel Heron was decidedly good as Lord Jura; Mr Cecil Newton as Corrèze was responsible for a good performance; Miss Miriam Lewes played the Duchess De Sonnaz with much skill; Miss Madeline Meredith as Lady Dolly Vanderdecken scored a success; Miss Gladys Jesson as Vere Herbert deserved much praise; and Miss Eugenie Vernie was good as Princess Nadine. On Tuesday *The School for Scandal* and Wednesday *She Stoops to Conquer* were given.

LANCASTER.

ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—This week the Ben Greet company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, is presenting *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr G. E. Clive acts with power and effect as Howard Wilson; Mr Cecil A. Collins is successful in the rôle of Robert Curtis; Mr W. Rushton Evan is responsible for plenty of merriment in his assumption of Toto; Miss Beatrice Whitney is satisfactory in the part of Cora Williams; Miss Carrie Fenton is a vivacious Bridget; and Little Miss Maisie Richardson shows much promise as Jessie. Miss Eva Moss acts with tact and judgment as Mabel Wilson.

PALACE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. W. Ferguson and John Porter.—This is only the third week's run here, but the crowds which have visited the house are most encouraging. Heading the bill is Shanghai, a clever Chinese magician. Mr Joe Graham is an exceptional ventriloquist; the Violas came in for rounds of applause for their Mahatma entertainment; and the Weirs, comedians and dancers, have a good reception. Miss Winnie Scott, Parisian soubrette; Mr Bert Rolfe, vocalist; and Miss Marie Winsome all do well; and Walter Payne's animated pictures are still an attractive item.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—Mr J. H. Clyndes and company are here with *A Royal Revenge*, which had a very good reception on Monday. Mr J. H. Clyndes as Estevan Alvarez score greatly in several well-written scenes, and in his appeal to and defiance of the King is particularly powerful. Mr E. Aldworth as the Old Miser puts in a capital character study; Mr Charles Jordan plays well as Mennel; and Mr J. Bigwood is happily placed as the innkeeper. The Friar of R. Webb is invested with much dignity, and the profligate King is artistically treated by Mr Geoffrey Broughton. Miss Bessie Elma as the long-suffering Inez wins entire favour, and Miss Evelyn Ommundsen as Cora and Miss Aimee Grattan as Paquita are also well placed.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur; Assistant Manager, Mr Brandon Blake.—Mdlle. Rosa's canine hippodrome tops the bill, and is decidedly clever, far above the average run of dog circuses, and presenting more than the ordinary stilted tricks. Obed's hand-balancing is a wonderful gymnastic feat and wins emphatic appreciation; while variety is afforded by a welcome return visit from the Clayton Twins. The Sisters Morgan are smart duettists an dancers, and Cribb and Cribb, Will Mitcham Maud Rose, Oliver Conroy, and the Phydoras add to the merriment of the evening.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr R. Taylor.—Mr George Dance's excellent company in *A Chinese Honeymoon* is attracting enthusiastic audiences here. The performance is of a high order of merit, Mr Harry Brayne, Miss Marie Adair and Miss M. Sadie being specially worthy of mention in their representations of Pineapple, Soo-Soo, and Fifi.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—This week we are favoured with a first visit of the clever new musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr William Stephens as the dog trainer Cheese is provocative of continual amusement, and receives good assistance from his protégé Liza Shoddham, ably done by Miss Dot Carey. Mr Percy Carr portrays the real Earl, Dick Wargrave, in excellent style, and in conjunction with the runaway heiress, Elphin Haye (a charming performance by Miss Aimee Grey) renders numerous pretty vocal items to general satisfaction. Miss Florence Imeson soon installed herself a general favourite with taking song and dance in her portrayal of Daisy Fallowfield. Mr Will Hindson and Mr J. C. Graves are decidedly good as the solicitors in pursuit of the slippery Wargrave; Mr W. Walshe is the irate uncle Bliss to the life; Mr Bertie White gives a good interpretation of the Hon. Crewe Boodle; and other prominent rôles are undertaken with success by Mr Tom Redmond, Miss Gladys Fontaine, and Miss Helen Langton.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—*The Scarlet Woman*, another attractive drama, holds the boards here, a powerful presentation being effected by a company under the direction of Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson. This actress herself appears in a highly dramatic portrait of the name-part, and receives strong assistance from Mr Reginald Fox as Richard Marchant and Mr David M'Farlane as Will Raymond. Other prominent members of the cast are Mr Bryce Methven and Miss Muriel Allayne, whilst comedy business and clever specialty dancing by Mr Mat Melrose and Miss Lalla Cowell prove welcome.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—Messrs Geo. Edwardes and Chas. Frohman's company is here again with that exceedingly popular farce *Are You a Mason?* and a most successful week is to record. The part of George Fisher this time finds a capable exponent in Mr Anthony Fawcett. Mr Harry Ashford successfully fills the rôle of Amos Bloodgood, and Mr Stephen Wentworth ably realises his many opportunities as the wayward young husband, Frank Perry. The rustic John Halton seeking initiation into Masonic mysteries is effectively portrayed by Mr Tom Mowbray. Good work is done by Miss Harriet Trench as Mrs Bloodgood, and also by Miss Violet Graham as Mrs Perry; whilst Mr Frank Ridley, Miss Gertrude Spencer, Miss Lily Bezle, and Miss Lucy Elwin also have a considerable part in this attractive and amusing production.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—The leading feature of the week's entertainment here is the military episode *Drummed Out*, cleverly performed by Messrs A. C. Lilly and Co. Expert acrobatics and balancing feats by the De Kock Brothers meet with general approval, and an aerial gymnastic display by the Devona Sisters also elicits considerable applause. No more popular vocalist appears here than Lilian Lee, and her items this week are thoroughly enjoyed. Of comedians we are entertained by Tom Leamore, a big favourite here, and Johnny Gilmore, whilst Tennyson and Wallis are a smart comedy couple. The Brothers Obo give a pleasing show; Henry Kaiser gets a welcome for his juggling turn; the M'Kays appear with comedy act; and the Stuart Quartet, lady vocalists and dancers, are also in the bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—Acrobatic gymnastic exhibitions loom large in the week's bill-of-fare here, the clever Risley performers Ergotto and King Luis, filling the top, and the expert Freydos Troupe appearing at the bottom of the bill. Otherwise the programme is of great variety, including Lowell and Lowell, a pair of smart eccentrics; Boswell's well-known circus, with ponies, monkeys, and dogs; and Frank Gerald and company, presenting a clever new comedy sketch *A Breach of Promise*. The Lyons Trio of pantomimists and dancers appear successfully; the Waldrons are capital burlesque artists; and the contributions of Bert Leslie, comedian; Dora Martine, a graceful and expert gymnast; and Marie Blythe, vocalist, are also well received.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—Fred Karno's comedians are the big feature here, being engaged in the presentation of the amusing absurdity *Hilarity*, a comic entertainment which is thoroughly enjoyed. At the other end of the bill appear the Marconis, with a marvellous electrical act. Clark and Gold submit an original comedy turn with success; the accomplished coloured vocalist W. H. Downs repeats previous triumphs; we renew acquaintance with Will Cornish and his clever musical speciality; the comedians are George Edney and Fred Horsfall; and the Sisters Lunell, duettists and dancers, complete an attractive programme.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's well-selected company occupies the boards here this week on a first visit in the sporting farce, *The Money Makers*. Miss Muriel Ashwynne gives a delightful embodiment of Dot, and both Miss Frances Davies as Bella and Miss Lorna Lawrence as Mabel are especially noteworthy. Miss Mary Griffiths is very good as Mrs Bannerman; Mr Frank Lacy as Captain Archie Fitzgerald and Mr Allen Thomas as Matthew M'Dougall are conspicuously successful in their parts. Mr Edward Bonfield makes an excellent Charles Clifton; Miss Violet Ley is well-placed as Baby Berkeley; and others who give a good account of themselves are Mr Edward Sidney as Fred and Mr Townsend Whitling as the butcher. An entertaining little comedietta, entitled *Two in a Trap*, precedes, played by Mr Frank Lacy and Miss Violet Ley.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—*A Girl's Cross Roads*, presented by Mr Walter Melville's capital company is the attraction here this week. The drama is well mounted. Mr Wingold Lawrence as the hero, Jack Livingstone, makes an excellent impression. Mr Edwin J. Wilde deserves high praise for his rendering of the part of John Meadows. Miss Beatrice Homer, in the difficult rôle of Barbara Wade is well placed; and Miss Violet Barton-Astor as Constance Cornell is also to be complimented on a clever portrayal. Miss Octavia Noel as Nellie Meadows plays well. Much hearty laughter is raised by Miss Emily Custance as Tilly Vane and Mr John Hitchings as Toby Turvey.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—At the head of this week's enjoyable and diversified bill is Horace Goldin, who is aptly programmed as "the most astounding magician of modern times." His turn is unquestionably the most bewildering and remarkable that has been seen in Leicester. At the other end is Ernest Shand, a prime favourite at this hall, who is meeting with his usual cordial reception. As a ventriloquist Tom Edwards stands in the front rank, and with his figure, Curly, he is delighting the audiences. The Ohms (Carl and Mary) are giving with success their novel and original performance with their cleverly trained ponies, bears, dogs, and monkeys. Miss Maud Mortimer in her historical scena, *Destiny*, is seen and heard to considerable advantage. The Harvey Boys arouse hearty laughter with their comical boxing. Nina Martino sings extremely well, and the Brothers W. and W. Ethairlen, the eccentric two, and Andy Burn, character comedian and high-class dancer, contribute entertaining turns.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—G. H. Elliott, the chocolate coloured coon, heads this week's programme, and is nightly the recipient of a splendid reception for his well-rendered songs and clever dancing. The Langdons are delighting all with their illustrated songs, the choruses of which are repeated by the audience with great gusto. The Brothers Harlem are smart acrobatic rifle and bâton manipulators and sand-dancers; the Seltina Troupe of acrobats give a very good show; the Haywards, in their original act, *A Dress Rehearsal*, are smart; Conan and Doyle are funny and entertaining comedians; T. W. Johnson is a popular coon vocalist and clever sand-dancer; and the Brothers Levett give a clever exhibition of vaulting.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—A more refined and enjoyable entertainment than that provided here by Mr William Catlin's Royal Pierrots it would be impossible to find, the selections being given from a répertoire of over 300 items, consisting of the very latest songs, dances, comediettas, and operettas, which are received with the greatest cordiality. Professor Lewis gives an original turn as a ventriloquist with his little pierrot figure, which proves very popular. George Houghton possesses a very good tenor voice, and is heard to considerable advantage. As a comedian Sid Frere is always a big success at Leicester, where he is a particular favourite; Ernie Preston sings coon songs to the delight of all; Frank Blythe, baritone vocalist, vocalises in good style; to Will Catlin an especial word of praise should be meted out for the manner in which he compiles the various programmes, and for the immense success he attains as a smart comedian; Harry Vernon accompanies and renders selections in his well-known style.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company is this week paying a return visit with the musical comedy drama entitled *On the Stroke of Twelve*. Mr Fred Rivers makes a manly Jack Rutledge, and his chum, George Bainbridge, is ably represented by Mr Fred Guiness. Mr H. Oreagh Hunt does ample justice to the part of James Horton; Mr Fred J. Little is amusing as Jaspar, and receives great assistance from Mr Karl H. Edwards as Moses Levi and Mr Will Bass as Pat Cahill. Miss Nellie Moore is charming as Jess Bainbridge, her singing and dancing being greatly appreciated. Miss Bertha St. Ruth is pleasing as Doris Rutledge, and delights the audience with her singing. Miss Elma C. Turner is well placed as Marie Bergerre.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—Some very attractive turns are here this week. The Five Sisters Warwick, lady trick and acrobatic cyclists, again present their expert exhibition with much grace; Black Apollo proves himself a clever musician; Mr Bob Gardner, double-voiced comedian, meets with success; Miss Maud Worth, comedienne, is well received; Mr Tom Shipley, comedian, is popular; another good turn is that of O'Connor and Brady, comedians and knockabouts; Miss Gertie Gitana, in "A School-Girl's Holiday," is quite a success; and the Hippodrome pictures are up to the usual standard of excellence.

LICHFIELD.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—On Monday evening Miss Inez Howard's company appeared in *The Traitor*. The scenery and dresses were exceedingly effective, and the drama, which proved of engrossing interest, elicited the plaudits of a crowded house. Mr Harry Wren was a manly Prince Rudolph, and Mr Frank M. Reece a powerful Traitor. The Little Martyr was effectively represented by Miss Ethel Conway. Miss Phyllis Vaughan as Zula, the avenger, Miss Edith Knight as Countess Zicka, and Miss Nellie Freeland as a Japanese girl, were also prominent members of the cast.

LIMERICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Robert Fogerty.—Mr Norman V. Norman's company is here this week in a series of excellent dramas, and on Monday night the old English comedy *David Garrick* was presented before a delighted audience. The title-rôle was ably impersonated by that able actor Mr Norman V. Norman, and Alderman Westham had a clever exponent in Mr B. Iden Payne. The Hon. Bob Martingale was well played by Mr Robert Hilton, and as the three City aldermen Kettle, Tartbury, and Blundell, Messrs Richard Havers, Eric Moxon, and Norman Leslie were really capital. Mr Barnett Parker was good as William, and Garrick's servant was in the clever hands of Mr Cooper Willis. As Mrs Blundell Miss Lilian Kevill-Davies was artistic, and Miss Norah Doyle was a most efficient Sally Tartbury. The heavy rôle of Lucy Westham was played to great dramatic advantage by that charming actress Miss Beatrice Wilson. On Tuesday night was produced *Under the Red Robe*, with Mr Norman as Gil De Berault and Miss Wilson as Renée De Cochefôret.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—This week we have Poole's myriorama and variety combination paying its annual visit. The pictures are better than ever, and include some of the Russo-Japanese War. The variety combination includes the Six Cleavelands, smart acrobats, the charming Sisters Zettina, dancers; the Almo Trio of bar performers; the Four Burgatiles, clever musical pantomimists; Allan Hanbury, cicerone and comedian, and Cecil F. Cowper, deputy-cicerone and descriptive vocalist. The capital band is led by Mr A. S. Morrell, and the whole is under the able management of Mr J. Roberts-Jones.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. S. Howard.—Mr Morton Powell's company is here with the play, *Bigamy*. Miss Alwynne Ermon upholds with passionate force the part of Diana de Courcelle, the bigamist; Mr Chas. Burdon as Frank Merrivale is good; Sir Charles Dresden is well represented by Mr Colin Hazelwood; Mr E. S. Earle capitally impersonates the character of Edgar Craven; and Mr Francis Serle as a French dancing master, and Mr Fred Moule as Rufus Cherrybull, are both amusing. Miss Lydia Mannington as Dido fills the part well, and as Sylvia Dresden Miss Elsie Capel plays the emotional rôle most satisfactorily.

LUTON.

GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham Falcon; Assistant-Manager, Mr Louis J. Beard.—For the first three nights this week local playgoers have had an opportunity of witnessing Mr Lewis Waller's play, *Monsieur Beaucaire*, presented by Mr Norman Macowan's company. Mr Macowan contributes a powerful rendering of Beaucaire; Mr J. Stuart Wilson as Lord Winterset does good service; Beau Nash finds an excellent representative in Mr H. A. Young; whilst Mr Herbert Cornish plays satisfactorily the part of Major Molyneux. Mr P. Ramsay Forman does justice to the part of Captain Badger, and Mr Owen Wood is well placed as Mr Bantison. Lucy Rellertun is performed in a refined and charming manner by Miss Millie Hamer. Miss Violet Sterne deserves nothing but praise for her successful portrayal of Lady Mary Carlyle. On Thursday evening Mr John F. Preston's company, under the direction of Mr F. B. Woulfe, opened with *Nell Gwynne*, Miss Grace Lester filling the title-role and Mr Dan F. Roe appearing as Bellicose Betterton.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—Mr Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson have this week presented *Sunday* before large audiences. Mr Terry gave an artistic picture of Colonel Brinthorpe; the Sunday of Miss Neilson was a finished performance; Mr Malcolm Cherry's sketch of Arthur Brinthorpe proved very acceptable; and Mr J. D. Beveridge was an excellent Tom Oxley.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—Mr F. R. Benson and his Shakespearian company have been here this week with a long list of well-known plays. The week's programme included *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Rivals*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Richard II*, and *The Merchant of Venice*.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. French; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Beltram.—During the week the stage here has been occupied by *The Girl from Chicago*, played by Mr Henry Hare's company. The "Girl" was impersonated by Miss Lily Beverley, who invested the rôle with spirit and brightness. Mr Buckstone Clair was an amusing Judge Hussel; and Mr Clarence Ibbotson displayed high talents as a comedian; his Obadiah Caccles, a temperance reformer, was highly diverting. Other characters were taken by Mr Edwin Dodds, Mr Henry Hare (General Boomer), and Mr Douglas Vigors. The music by Mr C. E. Howells was tuneful and pretty.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—Mr Milton Bode has sent a large and capable company here this week to present *Woman and Wine*. Mr Frank R. Roberteon presented a capital Dick Seymour. Miss Ernestine Holker as the emotional Mary Andrews earned the sympathy of her auditors, Miss Edith Blande was a graceful Marcel Rigadout, and other performers deserving of praise were Mr Herbert Landeck, Mr Tom Tindall, Mr Percy Dawsone, Mr Fred Mace, and Miss Muriel Vox. The scenic effects were of a high standard.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Wilmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—A good programme is topped by Park's Eton Boys, who were loudly applauded for their singing. The Bros. Doran are an amusing acrobatic team. Mr and Mrs Edward H. Lucas are decidedly clever in their impersonations of Dickens's characters. Effie White gives an effective electric light dance, Edie Rivers has a good song and dances well, Wisper is a smart juggler and very amusing in his act, Sid Bandon is a good comedian, and the same may be said of Ryder Slone. Beattie Bloom is well received, and the Lyric Bioscope pictures are interesting.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—This popular theatre continues to merit and enjoy public support. This week there is an able all-round company under the direction of Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr Fred C. Somerfield, presenting *A Life's Revenge*. The work depicts life in Russia, and contains the customary acts of oppression, which are believed to be associated with the administration in that country. The scenery in several situations is very appropriate, and the costumes strikingly attractive. Miss Dagmar displayed much ability and discretion as the heroine, Princess Ivyala; Mr Fred C. Somerfield was a dramatic Prince Strogoroff; and Mr John F. Traynor as the oppressed serf, Paul Starovitch, acted with distinction. Mr T. G. Vane as Maurice Trevor, the kindly Englishman, was good, and praise is due to Miss Francesca Strickland for her part of the adventuress Marcia.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—*A Great Sensation* is the attraction here this week. The work, which is by Messrs Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck, deals with life in London, and contains all the usual elements of plot and passion. A feature is the introduction of a flying machine. Miss Beatrice Isaacson presented a sympathetic Eva Dale, a florist; Mr Sydney N. Hallows was her lover, his Jack Damer being a good piece of acting; Mr Alexander L. Isaacson held the position of Bunco Bates, a millionaire, and the trying part of Sidonie was in the hands of Miss Edith Wallis. The rest of the company were capable. Not only does the Bioscope between the acts add to the attractions of the Queen's, but a grand cake-walk competition is introduced each evening.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—The big attraction here this week is Eugen Maarder, with his fire dancing horse. The performance is an exceedingly clever one, and shows to what a finished degree an animal can be trained. George Lashwood puts in another week with a budget of new and old songs, and is received with considerable favour; Clark and Hamilton, a couple of smart comedians, contribute a laughable turn; the Brothers Horne present a diverting sketch with their comic boxing; Leo Tell gives some fine imitations of sounds from various musical instruments; Paul Sandor shows himself to be ventriloquist of ability; and clever athletic feats are undertaken by the Bros. De Wynne. Others in the programme are the Three Sisters Sprightly, comediennes; Damm Bros., eccentric acrobats; Amy Sullivan, comedienne; Lillie Soutter, character comedienne; and Arthur Reece, vocal comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Houdini, the handcuff king, is here for another week, and is attracting crowded audiences, who watch with interest his cleverness in releasing himself from manacles. The box trick, where a young lady takes his place, is neatly done, and mystifies the onlookers. Wills and August provide a pretty turn as jugglers, their comedy adding interest to their work. Brown and Nevarro, American speciality artistes, make a favourable impression on their first appearance in England; Terry and Lambert go through an amusing sketch; Mr J. H. Scotland is possessed of valuable vocal powers, which he uses with advantage; and others who contribute to the bill-of-fare are Wal Robbins, black and white comedian; Jenny Hartley, soubrette; Merton and Rydon, speciality artistes; the Three Sisters Selwyn, vocalists and dancers; and Whit Cunliffe light comedian.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—A very full bill is offered here this week. A clever twenty minutes' entertainment is given by Quillino, who with his ventriloquism provokes roars of laughter; Harry Tilbury and company make their first appearance in Liverpool with their absurdity *Jealousy*, which is extremely funny; Sam Weller is a droll comedian; Jack and May tell some amusing stories; Leoni and Leoni manipulate several musical instruments in a clever manner; Lewis and Roberts are a couple of refined entertainers; the Lillies (Fred and Maude) submit a humorous turn, *Engaging a Servant*; and the Sisters Vane sing and dance very gracefully.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—An acceptable programme is provided here this week. At the top we have the Donatos, one-legged acrobats, whose Continental act is neat and laughable; Clarke and Argyle are a couple of able international dancers and pipers; the Sisters Redfern give a good turn as banjoists, vocalists, and specialty dancers; Gus Hindell is cordially received for his fine character songs; Gertrude Moore provides a novel singing and dancing transformation act; and the Brothers Stanley are a pair of accomplished character comedians. Mr Anthony Brown's Royal Bioscope supplies some new pictures.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Here this week we have a strong programme, which is enjoyed by large audiences. Foremost is Matt Wilkinson and his comedy company in the humorous sketch *The Registry Office*, which is crowded with fun; Nellie Navette has a good reception for her singing and dancing; Fredo is an illusionist of more than average skill; Nancy Renshaw provides a number of laughable Negro ditties; Chas. Santon's work as a female impersonator is capital; Ada Searle, the singing mill girl, is possessed of a sweet voice and earns success; and others in the bill are Madge Daly, comedienne; and Johnny Worman, comedian and dancer, with a fund of quaint patter.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—Jack Lorimer, comedian, dancer, and society entertainer, pays a return visit here this week with a budget of new songs. He meets with a good reception. A feature of the programme is the military episode, *A Russian Spy*, which is presented by Miss Carlotta De Yonson and company. The sketch is a pretty one. Miss Bertha Duckett, the child vocalist and dancer, who is coming to the front in Liverpool and elsewhere, earns the loud applause which greets her efforts; Little Lord Fauntleroy and her chum Dan, the blue-coat boy, is a neat turn; Marie Gibson sings sweet songs; Achilles proves himself an athlete of considerable skill; and Joe Humphreys is a clever character comedian.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—Mr T. C. Callaghan with his racy patter and comic singing is a favourite here this week; close behind him in popularity comes Mr Tom O'Neil, a character comedian; Flo St. Clair, a comedienne of ability, gives some clever sketches; a good reception is accorded the Four Magnets, who are accomplished acrobats and speciality dancers; an interesting performance is that of Tonini, the man of mystery; and others who appear are Lily Black, burlesque artiste; the Ver-Vains, whistlers, vocalists, and dancers; and Marie Weston, vocalist, banjoist and dancer. The bioscope continues to be popular, as do also the snap-shots of people in the street that are thrown upon the screen.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—*The Priest of the Temple* is being staged here this week by Mr Charles March's company. In the title-rôle Mr March is very good, giving a finished rendering of the part; Mr Ronald Bayne is a fine Decus Fronto; and as Appius Herdonius Mr Henry Moxon is capital. Miss Evelyn Hope plays Palita well, and Miss Marie North capably impersonates Praestantia.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—Miss Cissie Moxon and company opened here on Monday to a good house in *A Trip to Rum-Fum*. Mr W. Garvey did full justice to the part of Larry O'Hooligan, Mr W. S. Hutchinson as Biddy O'Hooligan gave a jolly impersonation, and Mr C. Russell revelled in his opportunities as Cecil Toft. Miss Cissie Moxon as Flossie Kixie was good, and Miss K Jones gave a delightful rendering of Peggy O'Dooligan, Miss K. Laurine's Angelina Toft being a capital performance. Mr D. Tubb as Van Swanck was very funny.

MAIDENHEAD.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr G. Gude; General Manager, Mr Arthur Alston.—Mr Harry Gold is well received in character songs, and his living song-sheet, with chorus of local children, is greatly applauded. That funniest of funny comedians, Dan Lille, is an undeniable favourite; Leslie and Player are equally successful as comedy duettists and patterers; Miss Millie Beckett and Mr Harry Benet contribute good turns; and Gravetta combines art and amusement as a clay-modeller. Parr's pot pourri act, which includes sand-pictures and impersonation of famous characters, is clever, and the Sisters Ashton, coloured vocalists and dancers, are heartily applauded.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr Tree's Shakespearian répertoire company is here this week in a trio of popular plays, the first of which, *Twelfth Night*, was given with great success on Monday evening. The quality of the company, though Mr Tree himself is not included, is certainly no disappointment to those who like to see the plays of Shakespeare thoroughly interpreted; and it is not too much to say that Miss Constance Collier as Viola and Mr William Haviland as Malvolio—to name the principals—answered to the highest expectations. These were supported in excellent spirit by the remainder of the cast, of whom Mr Eardley Turner as Sir Toby Belch and Miss Cicely Richards as Maria are deserving of most honourable mention. The staging of the piece was excellent. The bill includes two performances of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and three of *Julius Cæsar*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—A second visit to Manchester of Mr J. M. Barrie's *Quality Street* was received by a good audience at this theatre on Monday with every sign of pleasure. The quiet sentimental interest of this unpretentious character play is capitally sustained by Messrs A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman's company, the principal work devolving upon Miss May Whitty as Susan, Miss Grace Armytage Noble as Phœbe, Miss Mabel Wynne as Patty, and Mr David Glassford as Valentine Brown. Mr A. Carlaw Grand and Master Robbins are also prominent as Ensign Blades and the youthful Arthur Wellesley Tompson respectively, all the minor parts being rendered with proportionately good effect.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's Russian drama *The Assassin* is not unknown to Manchester playgoers, and a good audience gave it a keen reception on its reappearance at this theatre on Monday evening. The company is under the personal direction of Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson, who sustains the prominent rôle of Prince Demetri with remarkably good effect. In the title-part Miss Ruth Shepherd is also conspicuously successful, the honours being shared by Mr John C. Carlyle, Miss Grace Aimers, Miss Alice Barber, Mr Fred Wilberforce, Mr Arthur M'Culloch, Mr Fred Yarnold, Mr Paul Beckett, and Miss Katherine Vere.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—A capital performance by Mr C. Lubbock's company in *The Cherry Girl* was given here on Monday. Tuneful songs, dainty dresses, elaborate scenery, and pretty costumes combine to make a delightful entertainment. Miss Ethel Norman as the Queen plays in a most charming manner, and equally pleasing is the Pansy of Miss Helen Hart. As Moonshine and Happy Joe Mr Frank Lincoln achieves a decided success, and Mr Hew Walker makes the most of his opportunities as Starlight. Considerable amusement is caused by Messrs C. A. James, Alfred Ibberson, and Albert Felino, the performance of the latter as Pansy's monkey, and subsequently as a horse, being remarkably clever. Some excellent glee singing is contributed by the Steinway Quartet, and Masters Wallie Scott, Sidney Grata, and Miss Rosie Campbell are very promising juveniles. Mention should also be made of the graceful dancing of Miss Lottie Stone's Four Chameleons, and of the effective assistance of Miss Connie Lorton and Alice Leon.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—An entertaining programme here this week includes Auto Atlas, who astonishes the audience with a series of remarkable feats of strength, and the wonderful and pleasing selections of the Blind Collier Boy on the concertina and other musical instruments. Other diverting items are Robins and Collier, comedy couple; Will Anthy, on the wire; J. P. Carroll, tambourinist; George Reeves comedian; the Dunvilles, speciality artistes; Chas. Dixon comedian; Vandinoff, lightning painter; Baroni and Kemp, quick-change artistes; and Kate Lynd, ballad vocalist.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A good audience welcomed the return of Walter Melville's successful play *Her Second Time on Earth* at this theatre on Monday. The company is a very capable one, and the interest of the drama is sustained throughout without flagging. The principal parts are especially well rendered by Miss Hilda Beverley, Miss Elaine Vanbrugh, Mr Chas. Franmore, and Mr Cecil A. Melton; Mr Fred Ingram and Miss Nana Flensburg being seen to advantage in humorous rôles. The staging is excellent.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—A return visit of Mr Bert Coote's company in *The Fatal Wedding* is the attraction here this week. The emotional interest of the play is well sustained, and the acting throughout is vigorous and effective. A good audience showed its appreciation of the drama on the opening night.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Prominent turns here this week are those of Harry Pleon, the popular comedian; Billy Richardson, stump orator, who is decidedly amusing; the clever Brothers Lloddge athletes and acrobats; Primaves', a really smart juggler; and the famous Shawlene, in his delightful whistling act. Other entertaining turns are Roy and Fenton, in an American comedy act, introducing some good dancing and singing; Dwight and Son, farmyard imitators and capital dancers; Elvo and Evelyn, comedy couple; George Foyle, comedian; the Louisianian Coloured Troupe of instrumentalists and vocalists; and the Three Victorias, burlesque artistes, singers, and dancers.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The Philadelphian Vaudeville company of seven coloured artistes are here this week, and their coon songs and dancing are much enjoyed. The New York Comedy Quintet also figure prominently, and are deservedly well applauded for their excellent singing of concerted ditties. The Five Bogannys, "The Lunatic Bakers," and Hector and Paulus give splendid acrobatic performances; and considerable humour is contributed by Clifton and Gibson, "eccentric" comedians; Tony Iveson, the musical tramp; Ted Walter, the "long" comedian; Will Hebden, "favourite" comedian; and Fred Southern and company, in their sketch *His Lordship's Birthday*. Doris Lilian adds a song and dance; and the entertainment concludes with "The Pickpocket," shown by the Cinématograph.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—The famous Gus Elen is the attraction here this week, his first-rate coster impersonations being much appreciated; Kahn and Kahn in their modern necromancy succeed in mystifying the audience; R. K. Dunning, as usual, provides a capital ventriloquial performance; the Brothers Testo are excellent acrobatic musical comedians; Frank Coyne, comedian, appears with success in several new songs; and Frank Darwin, character vocalist, has a good voice. Others who furnish enjoyable turns are the Olive Trio of pleasing vocal comediennes and dancers; Carrie Joy, burlesque artiste; and Gwen Howard, comedienne.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—Well-received turns here this week are the Arthur Saxon Trio, who appear in a sensational heavy weight-lifting act; and Imro Fox, whose conjuring tricks and illusions are somewhat bewildering. Cordite assisted by Wild Buffalo, spins the rope and manipulates the lasso in a surprising fashion; Caselli and James are first-rate banjoists; Harry Edson introduces his highly-trained dog, Doc; Sam Dalton scores as a character comedian; Tom Johnstone, dramatic vocalist and mimic, is highly successful; the Sisters Julian are delightful duettists and dancers; and Lilian Travellie is a charming American soubrette. Bretma, the magician, who figures on the programme, did not appear on Monday night, an extra turn, including some smart tumbling, being provided. A series of animated pictures complete.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—One of the sensations of this week's programme here is "The Demon Kettle" manipulated by Carl Hertz. It is a novel and wonderful exhibition of what may be done by chemical science to mystify and entertain an audience. Another notable turn is *The Snake*, a sketch played by Geraldine Montrose and company. In this live pythons are employed, with sensational effect. Pleasing items are contributed also by the Three Sisters Chester, vocalists, instrumentalists, and dancers; Farley, Rennie, and Farley, in an amusing comedy act; Cullen and Carthy, quaint comedians; Thos. E. Finglass, a Negro character vocalist, very much upon the lines of Eugene Stratton; Ferrari Duo, speciality dancers; Harry Bickley, comedian; Ben Albert, comedian; Bert Brantford, comedian; and Lola Dalby, variety artiste. A fine selection is given by the orchestra, and the programme concludes with a series of Palace pictures. On Monday next the two houses a-night system takes the place of the old, with a prospect of increased business.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Collins.—Full houses continue to be the rule at this popular house. The well-known actress and vocalist Winifred Hare, heads the bill, and is accorded a hearty reception. Margaret Ashton, the "American Quality Girl," is also greatly appreciated, and the efforts of Die Schützenliesel'n Quartet, delightful singers, are pleasing in the extreme. Albert Whelan, the nonchalant Australian entertainer, contributes many good things, his imitation of Alf Gibson being particularly good. Screams of laughter follow the antics of the Brothers Cavallini in their eccentric parody of a bull-fight; and other amusing and clever turns are Griffin and Marks, Ryan and Hall, and the Ramlos, gymnasts. Belle Braham, the pictorial songstress, proves a popular turn; and Barrere and Jules are seen to great advantage in a remarkably clever performance on unique parallel bars.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—*Sentenced for Life* is being presented here by Mr Fred Bulmer's company. Mr Richard Bosco is a good representative of Sir Wallace Stillwell; Roy Stillwell is well played by Mr Harry Lloyd; Mr Chas. Whitlock does good work as Martin Orris; Mr Ernest Vaughan is effective as Saul Derrick; and Mr E. D. Allen is amusing as Percy M'Gentle. Miss Madge Douglas is diverting as Kate, and Miss Georgina France is satisfactory in the part of Adele.

MORECAMBE.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Lieut. Julian Malvern; General Manager, Mr C. M. Julian.—Messrs Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company in the famous American drama, *The Still Alarm*, has proved a popular draw here. The fire station and fire scenes were very cleverly worked, and the audiences have been most enthusiastic over the well-trained horses, Pegasus and Bucephalus. In addition to the parts sustained by Messrs Glenville and Osmond, both of whom work exceedingly hard, important rôles are played with success by Misses Mabel Veriton, Hettie Zillwood, and Mary Lovett, Messrs Paul Lovett, Tom Beasley, Lewis Gordon, Dan Mining, and Master Walter Turner.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business-Manager, Mr Charles E. Hardy.—Miss Lena Stanton's company has been playing here this week in the musical comedy extravaganza *The Belle of Bangalore*. Miss Lena Stanton sustains the title-rôle charmingly, and Mr Harry Jay gives efficient aid as Pat Murphy. Mr Bruce Green is effective as the Rajah Roo, and the other parts are all well sustained. The programme is largely made up of speciality turns, in which Little Keeno, the boy comedian and dancer, shows great ability; Mr Harry Joy and Miss Stanton in an amusing sketch; and Mr Joy gives a clever ventriloquial entertainment with his automaton, "Ginger." The Cecil Troupe of acrobatic dancers dance smartly, the Musical Belles play delightfully on various instruments, and Rynfeld exhibits some remarkable feats of strength.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—*East Lynne*, Herbert Shelley's adaptation of Mrs Henry Wood's novel, has been presented here this week by Miss Lilian Dundas's company. Miss Dundas sustains the rôle of Lady Isabel particularly well. Miss Leslie Dane scores as Barbara Hare, and the Misses Marion Ryder and Daisy Cooke play with intelligence the parts respectively of Willie and Isabel Carlyle. Mr Henry Dundas makes an impressive Archibald Carlyle, and Mr Wilfred Butt acts the cynical and rascally Captain Levison most successfully. Mr Henry J. Barnett is good as Justice Hare, and the whole of the remaining characters in the play are in efficient hands.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Theatres, Limited; Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Sir Henry Irving and company opened here on Monday with *The Merchant of Venice*. The performance was received by a crowded and thoroughly representative audience with the utmost enthusiasm. Sir Henry's representation of Shylock was admirable, and in the Trial scene he roused his audience to the highest pitch of admiration. Miss Edith Wynne Mattison was an unqualified success as Portia, and all the other members of the company were deserving of high praise. When the curtain fell Sir Henry, in response to calls for a speech, stepped forward and said:—"We are all deeply grateful to you for your most kind and gracious welcome. We are delighted that our interpretation of this incomparable play has met with your approval, and afforded you pleasure. All our hearts respond to your kindly greeting, and for myself I am your very loyal and grateful servant." On Tuesday *Becket* was presented, and on Wednesday *Waterloo* and *The Bells*. On Thursday and Friday the stage was occupied by Miss Lena Ashwell and company, in *Mrs Dane's Defence*.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Company, Limited; Licensee and Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—Mr Mouillot's principal company is occupying the boards here with *The Geisha*, and is meeting with a hearty reception. Miss Aimee De Leska as Mimosa San is charming, and Miss Violet Kenyon gives a fine rendering of a French interpreter, whilst Miss Fiorrie Saunders is a success as Molly Seymour. Miss Aubrey Ashton supplies a capital portrayal of Lady Constance Wynne, and Miss Blanche Brown pleases everybody as Tom Stanley. Mr Lionel Braham's portrayal of the Chief of Police is a capital one, and keeps the house in merry mood; Mr Edward Carlton creates a good impression as Wun Hi; and the chorus gives a good account of itself. *The Greek Slave* was given on Friday night.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—The Black Troubadours glee singers, top the bill here, and give some good songs in fine style. The Arp, Zebra, and Vora Trio, in *Indian Pastimes*, create much amusement, and Mountford and Walsh's duets are a great success. The Carlisles are clever whirlwind dancers, and Cissie St. Clair sings some good songs. Max Miliar, in his equilibristic act, meets with hearty approval, and the Brothers Venola, gymnasts, give a neat show. The films shown on the Bio. are highly entertaining.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—Iwan Tschernuff and his ponies and dogs head the bill here. The animals give a most remarkable and intelligent performance, which bears evidence of careful training. Miss Rose Hamilton, comedienne, makes a great hit with her songs; Three Rameses submit a high-class statuary turn; Fred Casburn keeps the house in merriment; Miss Leah Arden sings classic songs with charming effect; and a similar turn is given by the Grosvenors. Stave, comedy artiste, is good; and the Bio. pictures complete the programme.

MIDDLETON.

PARDOE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr William Pardoe.—This week the attractive play *Jack's Sweetheart* is being well played by a good company. The drama, which has now become more of a musical comedy, is an exceedingly lively one, and Miss Gladys Silvester and Mr Fletcher Sansome invest it with everything that can please an audience. Mr Cecil Parke is a good hero.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company is this week presenting *The Drama of Life*. Mr Jerrold Ord gives a masterly interpretation of Harry Beech; the Walter Beech of Mr J. J. Hooker is a thoughtful rendering; as Sir Dobson Wilde Mr O. Redmonde is amusing; Mr Bulwer Pitt (Jack Lawton) and Mr L. Thackeray (Dave Crane) work most acceptably; Mr W. Steele capitally acts the rôle of the detective, Brenton; Miss Cissie Bellamy displays rare dramatic power and intense sympathy in the character of Sylvia Beech; and Miss Muriel Inglis is a capital Lady Jane Wilde.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—*The Swiss Express* has now arrived at this theatre on a premier visit. Messrs Charles and Frederick Renad in the parts of the two extraordinary footmen accomplish a lot of excellent and droll pantomimic work; Miss Marie Millward is charming as Virginia; Mr Wilford Bailey is droll as Professor Gull; Mr George Martin is clever as Bob Rollingstone; Mr Harwood Cooper gives a good display as Jack Gadabout; and Mr Alec Wylie is greatly appreciated as Dudley Green. Mr E. A. Cooke is well received as Mandarin Maza-Watte, and as singers, dancers, lance and sword experts Misses Rosie Chaldner, Dolly Payne, Hetty Coventry, and M. Cornish are extremely pleasing.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company, with *In Old Kentucky*, is fulfilling a week's engagement here, under the direction of Mr Charles Hermann. Madge Brierley is cleverly portrayed by Miss Amy F. Hermann; Mr Alfred L. Banks is quite irresistible as Colonel Pebley Beauchamp; Mr George F. Steel makes a capital Kentuckian gentleman; and Joe Lorey and Jasper Grafton are ably sustained by Misses Gerald Kennedy and Eric Hudson. Mr Harry Leander as Neb is particularly good; Miss Mary Clithson creates a favourable impression as Mrs Van Astor; Miss Beatrice Shirley makes a successful Barbara Grafton; and Alethea Harley is played by Miss Edith Halford with credit.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll.—An interesting programme is submitted here this week. The Wheelers, quaint cyclists, perform some daring and sensational feats; Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins in a musical act, are amusing; and the Two Bees, in *Hiawatha*, evoke hearty recalls. Jessie Albini a captivating little lady, in her descriptive song, proves attractive; Frank Maura gives a good exhibition of foot juggling; and Arthur Rigby, comedian, scores with his "lecture" on matrimony. Wal Pink and company, in *Uncle's Wife*, evoke roars of laughter; and Tom Costello, as popular as ever, makes a great hit with his songs, "What's the good of a ten-pound note?" and "You must be in the fashion," scoring a well-merited encore. The Baldwin Brothers, in a clever acrobatic sketch, complete the bill.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Mr Tree's company is again appearing here in *The Darling of the Gods*, and the effect of this weirdly impressive play is accentuated by its picturesque setting and the distinctive incidental music. The part of Zakkuri is entrusted to Mr Robert Patemar, who portrays in vivid colours the crafty, remorseless nature of the Minister of State. Mr Gerald Kay Souper bears himself with spirit and manliness as the soldierly Kara; Miss Frances Dillon succeeds admirably in depicting the varying emotions which exercise the love sick Yo-San; Miss Eve Muriel's acting as Rosy Sky calls for commendation; Mr Kenneth Black makes a dignified Banza; and a good performance is that of Mr Hubert Druce as Kato; while Mr Douglas Payne's appearances as the dumb servant are always effective. Mr Ivan F. Simpson as Saigon and Mr Arthur Vezin as Tanda Tanji render good service.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—A return visit from Mr George Edwardes's company, in *The Orchid*, is attracting crowded audiences here. The production is staged in Mr Edwardes's very best style, which means a lot, the two principal scenes being remarkably pretty. Miss Coralie Blythe continues to give her songs with delightful piquancy and point as Lady Violet Anstruther. Miss Irene Verona as Caroline Vokins has a style of part in which she always shines. Wholly charming are the acting and singing of Miss Gertrude Gilliam as Josephine Zaccary, and the characteristics of the French girl, Zelie Rumbert, are neatly brought out by Miss Ethel Griffies. Miss Luna Love makes a smart Thisbe, and the Countess Anstruther has a dignified exponent in Miss Katie Leechman. Mr Lawrence Grossmith now appears as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour, a part which he portrays to the enjoyment of all, and his "Lancers" song and accompanying dance is a particularly clever effort. Hearty amusement is also to be derived from Mr George Gregory's droll per-

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formance as Meakin. Mr Donald Hall contributes a neat embodiment of Dr. Ronald Fausset, while Mr Ellis Ogilvie, whose features are certainly remarkably like unto those of a celebrated statesman, does capitally as Mr Aubrey Chesterton. Dancing of a distinctly agile and nimble description is a factor in Mr Sidney Vincent's success as Zaccary, and Mr Sam Walsh affords amusement in the duel scene as Count Raoul, his seconds being well represented by Mr E. G. Woodhouse and Mr F. Rutland.

Palace Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—A change from the customary round of drama is provided here by the appearance of Messrs H. B. Levy and J. Walters' company of juveniles in the pantomime *Beauty and the Beast*, and the bright and attractive performance given has afforded pleasure to large audiences.

New Empire Palace.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Charles R. Sweet, the musical burglar, is entertaining audiences here with his amusing patter and musicianly skill. A capital comedian in Harry Dent is singing two songs, wherein he furnishes fresh proof of his comic ability. The sketch, *The Cheerful Idiot*, is presented by the Tribune Trio, who introduce smart contortionist business, laughable acting, and songs and dances. R. H. Douglass displays his undoubted comedy powers in one of his witty monologues. Brown and Le Clerq appear in one of their familiar yet always amusing sketches, and Katie Holloway's style is better than her singing, while her dancing is best of all. Bicycle acrobats in the Tourbillon Troupe perform some risky feats in smart style. Clever duettists and dancers in the Sisters Lonnen make a successful appearance, and Ted Cowan is a capable comedian. Fred Ginnett, with his *Rejected Remounts* sketch, provides capital entertainment.

Grand Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—One of the best turns yet seen here is that of Theo Okito, in his wonderful Chinese magical wonder act "Watch Me." Another capital turn is that of Captain Devereux and his clever dogs, who, in the sketch *The Canine Streets of London*, show the perfection of animal training. Martino, a contortionist, is clever in his sketch *A Nest of Vipers*. The Sisters Brenton are refined duettists and capital dancers; Jack Mansfield is a versatile comedian much above the average; Ike Scott and Son, old favourites, are as good as ever; the Dugros Trio are very smart gymnasts; Happy Attwood is a novel comic singer; and last, but not least, is the turn of Grant and Allen, two smart comedians.

Olympia Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—The familiar and popular play *It's Never Too Late to Mend* is being performed here by a company under the direction of Mr John Wainwright, who is again signally successful in the part of Tom Robinson, and the support all round is good.

Pavilion Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—One of Mr John Tiller's most successful sketches, *High Jinks*, is being performed here. Jessie Tempeton appears to the best advantage as Mrs Jesmond Dene, acting and singing in first-rate style; Mary Ann is amusingly presented by May Sharples; and Emmie Franks is also prominent as Priscilla. Among the comedians Bob Selvidge and Freddie French take leading honours. In the variety company proper Dave Marion scores his usual success in his "Walk" song; Hurman is a smart juggler and wonderful hoop manipulator; a pleasing turn is provided by Virginia and her piccaninnies; Mr and Mrs Paul Knox appear successfully as society entertainers; Marie Elsie displays cleverness as a comedienne; and Harris and Worth, talking and singing comedians, are also programmed.

NOTTINGHAM.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—The visit of Mr Wm. Greet's company in the late Mr Wilson Barrett's last play, *Lucky Durham*, drew a large audience on Monday. An exceedingly fine representation of John Durham is given by Mr W. F. Grant, an experienced actor, whose dramatic force and discriminating discernment enable him to portray the part with the necessary fervour and sympathy. Miss Phyllis Relph brings a charmingly natural method to bear on the rôle of Helen Vallerton; and her interpretation throughout is excellent. Mr Henry De Solla is incisive and thorough as Lord Mountfallon; and Mr Daniel M'Carthy acts crisply as Richard Vallerton. Mr Paul Belmore limns to the life the insipid and brainless character of Reginald Steighton; and a dainty embodiment of Margaret Steighton is submitted by Miss Jessie Winter. Miss Mary Relph is responsible for a fine histrionic effort as Lady Mountfallon; Miss Nellie Bonser makes a tender and winsome Mrs Durham; Miss Frances Irving is an attractive Mrs Devianne; and Miss Gertrude Robins acts with grace and refinement as the Duchess of Hovecourt.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr Chas. P. Cooke.—Mr F. S. Gilbert and his opera company remain another week, the large audiences evincing nightly their delight and appreciation. The operas staged included *The Bohemian Girl*, *Satanella*, *Il Trovatore*, *Maritana*, *Fra Diavolo*, and *The Lily of Killarney*.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—Mr W. A. Armour's company works energetically in the musical drama, *What a Woman Did*. Mr Armour cleverly undertakes the rôle of Conrad De L'Orme; Miss Phyllis Atherleigh as Elsie De L'Orme is a sympathetic artist; Mr Kenneth Smith makes a success as the conventional villain; Mr Will Simpson plays agreeably as Fritz; Mr Owen Edwin is a conspicuous character as the hunchback, Pitou; humour is to be discovered in Mr Cyril Dundas's quack doctor; and Miss Nita Imeson deserves praise for her dancing.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—The premier position here this week is shared by Marie Kendall and Dutch Daly. Miss Kendall's vivacity always commends itself to Nottingham audiences, and her success is as great as ever. Dutch Daly's manipulation of the concertina is clever, and his racy stories evoke much laughter. Juan Caicedo's expert display on the wire draws forth the greatest admiration and applause. Mabel Hind sings a Japanese song tastefully, and Lawrence Barclay has a parody on "Little Yellow Bird," which evokes the utmost merriment. Goggin and Davis are the quintessence of humour, the juggling performance of Zarmo gains by his large fund of humour, the Milons submit a smart athletic item, and the Maningoes show wonderful powers as equilibrists. Steve M'Carthy is suitably rewarded for a song.

NUNEATON.

Prince of Wales's Theatre, Ltd.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is here with *A Beautiful Fiend*. Mr Montague Beaudyn's impersonation of Ivan Paulovitch is praiseworthy. Mr Herbert Skardon is well suited in the part of Count Fedor Karateff; Mr A. F. Budley is good as Sergius Strogoff; Miss Sidney Crowe acts in a masterful style in the title-rôle; and Miss Irene Munroe in the part of Nadine is interesting and sympathetic. Plenty of fun is supplied by Mr Charles Kean as Christopher Crackles and Mr Robertson Foulis as Malachi, their efforts being well appreciated. Miss Annie Clunn makes the most of the part of Patey Woodlands.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. ROBSON PAIGE.

Mr Robson Paige was born in 1862, and being the bad boy of the family he, of course, went to Australia. Naturally he took to the stage, making his first appearance twenty-one years ago in a pantomime with Mrs G. B. Lewis in New Zealand. He enjoyed having his teeth extracted by the clown and the lather brush pushed into his mouth so much that he thought he would seek another engagement, and made his way to Melbourne. There after some time Mr George Rignold engaged him for *Called Back*, and when he played Varmaloff with a gruff voice in a fur-lined coat and slouch hat, and the boys made him up he thought he had found his vocation at last, and had discovered an easy and short cut to fame and fortune. Alas! that was twenty-one years ago! But when a few weeks later he played Anthony March and had to strike Mr George Rignold, as Macari, with his glove, and when he came off Miss Kate Bishop and the others said "Bravo, little 'un," he fairly danced home, but Varmaloff never appealed to him after that. Mr Paige continued with Mr Rignold some time, playing many small rôles in such plays as *Henry V.*, *Lights o' London*, *Romany Rye*, *My Partner*, *Faust*, &c. Then came several engagements up country in *For the Term of His Natural Life*, *Arrah-na-Pogue*, *Uncle*, *Mixed*, and *Bad Lads*, and again in *Called Back*. Next Messrs Williamson, Garner, and Musgrove engaged him to play in *Jim the Penman*, *The Candidate*, *Forbidden Fruit*, *Dark Days*, and *Harbour Lights*. In the last-mentioned companies were artists like Robert Brough, H. P. Vincent, Pattie Brown, and poor Phil Beck. Returning to England armed with letters from Mr J. C. Williamson, Mr H. H. Vincent and Mr J. F. Cathcart, Mr William Duck engaged him to play Martin Bassett, in *Hearne's Oak* (comic opera). Then he appeared with Mr D. E. Bandmann in his ill-fated production of *Dr. Jekyll and Mr Hyde* at the Opera Comique. After that Mr Paige went on tour to play Dan'l Jaikes, in *The Silver King*, under Mr Charles Dornton's management. Then came an engagement with Messrs Cuthbert and Cobbe to support Mr William Rignold as Downey Bleater, in *Nowadays*. He next played Batty Todd, in *The Middleman*; Jasper Phipps (Mr J. L. Toole's part), in *Walker, London*; Stout, in *Money*; Netherley, in *Jim the Penman*; Tom Dutton, in *The Trumpet Call*. Mr Abud next engaged him to play the Rev. Mr Bagot, in *Trilby*, to Mr Laurence Irving's Svengali. Mr Ben Greet engaged him for the rôle of Glabrio, in *The Sign of the Cross*, and he appeared as Captain Cruickshank, (Mr Alfred Bishop's part) in *Rosemary*, and again as Jaikes, in *The Silver King*. Then he created the part of the Rev. Dr. Dullamere in *A Wanderer from Venus*, for the late Mr Robert Buchanan, who highly complimented Mr Paige on his conception of the character. Amongst other engagements he played Joshua Gillibrand, in *The Arabian Nights*; the Rev. Dr. Dozey, in *The Silver Shield*, with Miss Maude Millet and Mr Walter Everard; Angus M'Allister, in *Engaged*; Jean Ricordot, in *A Man's Shadow*, with Mr Acton Bond; Poppleton, in *The Gold Craze*; Juffin, in *Aunt Jack*; Moses, in *The School for Scandal*; Henry Bassett (title-rôle), in *The Sleeping Partner*. Then Mr Paige made the biggest hit of his career, Miss Mabel Syringa giving him a contract for life. Mr Frank Curzon then engaged him to support Miss Marie Tempest, Mr Frank Cooper, and Mr Ben Webster as Depuy, a short, showy part, in *English Nell*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre. A most delightful engagement this after touring, as it ran six months without a break, and, of course, no weary Sunday travelling. Then Mr Yorke Stephens engaged him to support Mr James Welch and Miss Fanny Brough in *The Giddy Goat*, at Terry's Theatre, where he also played Benham, in *The Lady Wrangler*. Mr Paige was next engaged to create the fine part of the Rev. Oswald Baxter, in *Dr. Nikola* (adapted by Messrs Oswald Brand and Ben Landeck), at the Princess's Theatre. He also created the part of Crump, in Mr Henry Dundas's production of *Shadowed Lives*, at the Kennington Theatre; Sugarman, in *The Children of the Ghetto*, by Mr Israel Zangwill, at the Adelphi Theatre; Latimer, in *The Vanity of Youth*, in which Mr Acton Bond and Miss Jessie Bateman played the leading parts, at Wyndham's Theatre. Mrs Brown-Potter engaged him to create the principal comedy part of Mr Elmsdale in the Vicar of Gorleston's play, *For Church or Stage*, so that his recent engagements have all been creations, and vastly different, with the exception of Tweedle-dum and the Mock-Turtle, in *Alice in Wonderland*, which he played at the Metropole, Camberwell. Jaikes, in *The Silver King*, and Captain Cruickshank, in *Rosemary*, are the kind of parts Mr Paige prefers to play, as they contain touches of pathos as well as comedy, and are, he thinks, more human than most of the comedy and character parts written; but a constant change of parts is the one thing to be desired, and Mr Paige hopes that a return to stock seasons, with modern plays of course, may become general throughout the country, whereby managers could effect a great saving in fares and printing and the public would have an opportunity of seeing their local favourites in many varied parts. This system he ventures to think would mean increased business and satisfaction to all concerned. Mr Paige says that during his career he has received many acts of kindness and much encouragement from those with whom it has been his good fortune to be associated, and it is to them, he modestly adds that he owes whatever success he may have achieved.

MISS ENID ROSS.

Miss Enid Ross started her professional career under the management of Messrs F. H. Macklin and Peter Davey in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, playing Hippolyta and Oberon. After this came a good deal of hard work, which soon resulted in engagements for leading parts in *Two Little Drummer Boys*, *Cissy* (two tours), and *A Woman's Honour*. She was the Princess Corona, in *Under Two Flags*, Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company; Diana Chesney, in *The Sorrows of Satan*, Mr Drew Mackintosh's company, and Peggy, in *A Brace of Partridges*, Messrs A. E. Anson and R. J. Danson's company. She was re-engaged by Miss Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow for their répertoire company, and returned to Mr R. J. Danson's company to play Peggy, in *A Brace of Partridges*, and Mrs Mildmay, in *Still Waters Run Deep*. She played the lead in Mr Arthur Carlton's stock season; Maria, in *Wanted, a Baby*, Mr Laird Bennie's company; Minnie, in *The Man in the Street*; Lucy, in *A Pair of Spectacles*, Miss Beatrice Howard's company, and lead, in Mr Leonard Mortimer's stock season. Originally intended as an artist, Miss Enid Ross occupies a great deal of her time in painting. She studied under the late Mr Irving Montague and was one of his most promising pupils.

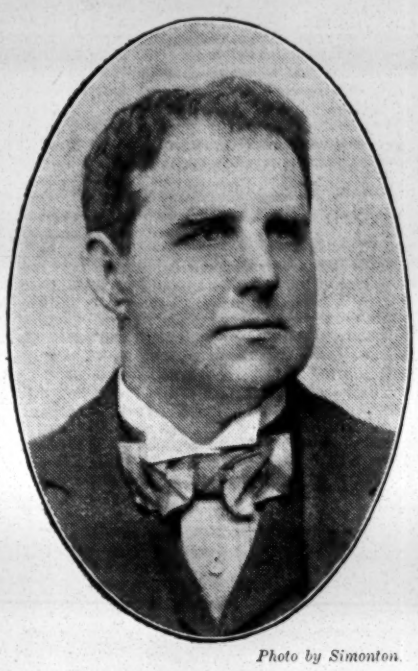


Photo by Simonton.

MR. ROBSON PAIGE.

Photo by Hana.

MISS ENID ROSS.

Photo by Ellis and Walery.

MISS ALMA EVELYNE.

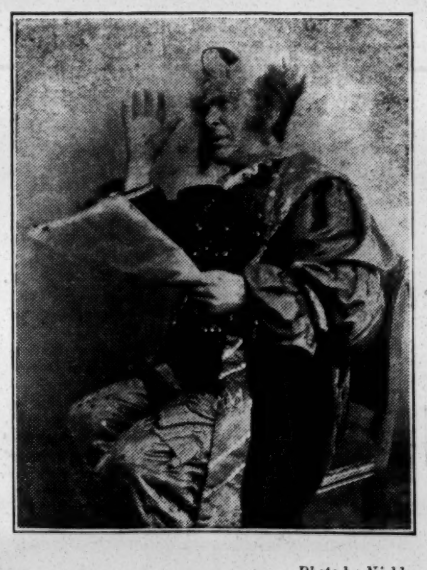


Photo by Nield.

MR FREDERICK JACQUES.

MISS ALMA EVELYNE.

Miss Alma Evelyn commenced her public career as a concert singer, appearing with great success under the bâton of Sir August Manns at the Crystal Palace, at several of the promenade concerts, and in London and the provinces. She then turned her attention to grand opera, enlisting under the banner of the late Sir Augustus Harris, and going through a long tour in America with that delightful opera *Hansel and Gretel*, being one of the eight young students from the Royal College and Guildhall School who were taken over as understudies. Miss Evelyne has sung the rôle of Mother several times in the same delightful opera. She then fulfilled engagements with Mr Oscar Barrett, Mr G. B. Phillips and Mr Ben Greet, including a long tour through South Africa in 1899 with Mr W. J. Holloway, singing the solos in *As You Like It*, and *The Sign of the Cross*, appearing in various rôles in comedy and tragedy. In 1901, she had the offer to create the part of Madame Jan in the comic opera *The Fisher Girl*, which she did to the entire satisfaction of the management. She was especially re-engaged to resume her part, and is earning well-deserved praise for, combining concerted music with broad low comedy. She shows her versatility as an actress. Miss Evelyne has a very powerful voice with a range of two-and-a-half octaves, and is to be praised for her clear enunciation. She shares the privilege with a select few of being able to sing the National Anthem, and opened the County Theatre, Reading, for Mr Milton Bode, and the Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, last Whit Monday. Miss Evelyne's great hobby is music, and over that she waxes enthusiastic. She is a brilliant pianist and excellent accompanist, reading at sight. In private life Miss Evelyne is the wife of Mr George Leslie Bannerman, barrister-at-law, of Gray's-Inn and the Middle Temple.

MR. FREDERIC JACQUES.

Mr Frederic Jacques was born Oct. 10, 1864, and educated at the North London Collegiate School and King's College, London. He was then articled to Messrs Beyer, Peacock, and Co., locomotive engineers, Manchester. Having been for ten years a member of the Hermits Dramatic Club, Camden-town, he made up his mind to try his luck on the legitimate stage, first of all by obtaining a small part, thinking it wiser to begin in this way and "get on," than start by attempting to play a leading rôle and "get off." After writing to many managers, one letter turned up—"Please be at the Surrey Theatre, 12 o'clock, Monday." He turned up, and there met Mr William Bourne, who, after a chat, handed him a minor part (about half-a-dozen lines), of a railway signalman in *Man to Man*. He rehearsed there and then, and went on at night, this being his first appearance close upon twenty years ago. He was given a better part in a fortnight, for when he made his first appearance in the provinces at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, he played the policeman (a good responsible part). He remained with Mr Bourne for twelve months, and since then has played many parts and stage-managed many plays, in London, the provinces, and abroad under many managements, among them being Norman, in Messrs Howard and Wyndham's production at Glasgow Theatre Royal of *The Lady of the Lake*, then a round of responsible parts in a répertoire of about seventeen old English comedies with Mr Edward Compton (Compton comedy company, followed by an engagement to play Jorkins, in Jerome K. Jerome's *New Lamps for Old* company). Then came an engagement to play Nicholas Lynch, in *This World of Ours*, by Seymour Hicks, in which Mr Jacques was his Cockney accomplice in crime, produced in Mrs Nye-Chart's time at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, July 20, 1891. Next came a tour in *The White Lily*, an American drama, known in America as *The Prairie Flower*, under the management of Colonel Cody (Buffalo Bill). Then a tour of *Husband and Wife*, in which he played Inspector Thickhead, under the management of the late Harold B. Nelson. It was during this tour that Mr Jacques married Miss Minnie Rayner, who has worked with him ever since, without one or two exceptions. He then went with his wife to South Africa, to join Mr A. Bonamici (the Lyric Opera Company). Arriving there Nov. 18, 1892, and during their joint engagement there he played a répertoire of twenty-one comic operas, burlesques, &c., his parts including Pedrillo, in *Pepita*; Raker, in *Blue-Eyed Susan*; Guron, in *Princess Ida*; Rocco, in *La Mascotte*; William, in *La Cigale*; Sergeant Caromel, in *The Old Guard*; Lay Brother Pelican, in *Falka*; &c. On returning to England in June, 1893, the late Richard Edgar engaged him to play the Jew character part (Peter Screw), in *Nance*, in which the late Miss Marriott appeared in the title-rôle. He then went to the Princess's Theatre to stage-manage *Odette* (adapted from Sardou's play by the late Clement Scott), under the management of Madame Anna Ruppert, also to stage-manage the production of *Robbery Under Arms* for Mr Alfred Dampier, after that, joining Miss Annie Oakley (the champion lady shot of the world) to play the Irish comedian's part (Larry M'Ginnis), in *Miss Rora*. In 1895 he joined Mr Lionel Rignold to stage-manage and play Christopher Dabney, in the farcical comedy, *All the Comforts of Home*, following that by playing Captain Halyard in Messrs Mackinder and Wingfield's burlesque *The Water Babes*. His next engagement was with Mrs Lancaster-Wallis to play Brooke, in *The Pharisee*, and this was followed by an offer from Mr Frank Wyatt to play Wilkes, in *The Two Johnnies*, by Mr Fred Horner, at the Duke of York's Theatre; then came an engagement at the Princess's Theatre and in the provinces with Mr Charles Warner to stage-manage *The Streets of London*, *Never too Late to Mend*, and *Drink*, also playing Poisson in the latter play. In 1897 he joined Miss Adria Hill and Robert Ayrton to play Dick Chilton in the late Henry Pettitt's Adelphi drama, *A Woman's Revenge*. Then came a tour in the musical comedy, *That Terrible Turk* (Odoardo Barri's company), in which he played James Lovebird. This was followed by an engagement with Mr Hardie and Miss Von Leer, to stage-manage and play the pawnbroker in *How London Lives* at the Princess's Theatre and the provinces. In pantomime Mr Jacques has played Idle Jack in David James's production of *Dick Whittington* at the Ealing Theatre, 1893; Ibrahim in *Blue Beard*, with the late Mr W. Revill, Theatre Royal, Stockport, 1895; Abanazar in *Aladdin*, with Messrs Bailey and Oliver, West London Theatre, 1896; Genie of the Ring in *Aladdin*, with Mr J. F. Graham, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, 1901; Demon in *Aladdin*, with Mr Robert Courtneidge, Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, 1902; the Baron in *Mother Hubbard*, with Mr Rich Waldor, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, 1903. Mr Frederic Jacques is now playing Joly, the stage-manager in *Zaza*, with Mrs Lewis Waller; he also stage-managed its production at the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, in September, 1900, and the first provincial and suburban tour. He has now held this engagement with Mrs Waller, both touring and at the Royalty Theatre, for four years (with the exception of pantomime engagements for which Mrs Waller has always kindly released him). This is his present and last engagement up-to-date. He terminated a four years' engagement in *Zaza* last September, and he appeared as Fader, in Mrs Lewis Waller's production of the Russian play, *Vilma*, produced at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, Oct. 3, 1904.

THE "BULLOCK" VERSION.

In the Court of King's Bench, on Tuesday, before Mr Justice Phillimore and a special jury, an action was brought by Mr John Pitt Hardacre, theatre proprietor, against Mr Frederick W. Purcell, Mr H. Armitage, and Miss H. Wright, of the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, for an injunction restraining the defendants from producing the Bullock version of *East Lynne*, of which the plaintiff alleged he was the owner, and also for damages. Defendants denied that the plaintiff was the owner of the play they had produced. Mr Shee, K.C., and Mr Morton Smith, instructed by Messrs Smiles, agents for Mr J. H. Cooper, appeared for the plaintiff; while Mr Montague Lush, K.C., and Mr J. R. Atkin, instructed by Mr J. Moberly Sharp, represented the defendants.

Mr Shee, in opening the case for the plaintiff, said this was really an action brought to restrain the defendant, Mr Armitage, from producing the Bullock version of *East Lynne*, of which the plaintiff was the owner. Many years ago Mr Chute dramatised the novel "East Lynne," but it was not a success. Later he introduced the comic character of Police-Constable Bullock, and from that time the play apparently became popular. Several leading actors and actresses had taken parts in the play, including the late Mr Wilson Barrett and Miss Heath. In August, 1888, the play was assigned by Mr Chute to the plaintiff, with the condition that Mr Chute and Mr Wilson Barrett should be allowed to produce the play without the payment of a royalty. The plaintiff alleged that Mr Armitage had produced his Bullock version of *East Lynne* without his permission, and that he was entitled to damages and an injunction.

Mr W. Robinson, an actor, whose professional name is Leonard Yorke, stated that he was well acquainted with the plaintiff's version of *East Lynne*. On July 26 last he attended the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, and saw the plaintiff's version produced. There were, of course one or two alterations of dialogue.—In cross-examination Witness said he had never heard that the part of police constable Bullock was a part worked up by George Barrett, the brother of Mr Wilson Barrett. He did not know that the Bullock version of *East Lynne* was produced in 1866.

The plaintiff stated that he had been connected with the theatrical profession for twenty-nine years, and that he first began to play *East Lynne* about 1886 or 1887. The piece when he first played in it had not the part of Bullock in it. He acquired Mr Chute's rights in the play, and since he had been the owner he had had to take proceedings against seven or eight persons. The titles of the acts—Temptation, Through the Fire, Retribution, and Atonement—were introduced by himself. The part of Bullock was material for the success of the play. The foundation of Mr Wilson Barrett's fortune began with *East Lynne*.

Mr Atkin, for the defendants, denied that Mr Chute was the auther of the part of Bullock in *East Lynne*. The part, he said, was in existence as far back as 1866 or 1868. The late Mr Wilson Barrett used to produce the play with the part of Bullock in it, and no proceedings were taken during his lifetime.

Mr H. Armitage, manager to the late Mr Wilson Barrett, stated that at Christmas, 1903, Mr Wilson Barrett asked him if he could do anything to provide for the poorer members of his company during the vacation, and remarked that he had a version of *East Lynne*, which could be produced. Mr Wilson Barrett took the old manuscript and rewrote the play. The part of Bullock, which was in the old manuscript, was reproduced in the new. Mr Wilson Barrett subsequently made substantial alterations in the play. He rewrote the comic scene for Bullock, and struck out the old-fashioned gags. That was the version which the plaintiff alleged was his property.

The case was resumed on Wednesday, when further evidence was called for the defence.

Mr Stafford Smith, an old actor, having been on the stage for sixty years, said he had acted the part of the comic policeman in *East Lynne* over forty years ago. He did not remember the constable's name, but it was either "Bullock, X.Y.Z.," or "Mutton."

Mr Atkins—How many years ago was that? The Witness—I do not know exactly, but last Sunday my wife said to me, "Do you know how long we have been married?" and I replied, "Yes, just forty years." When I acted in *East Lynne* I wat a single man.

Mr Armitage, one of the defendants, was further cross-examined. The witness said he was theatrical manager to Mr Wilson Barrett during the last few years of the latter's life. The witness considered that the introduction of the comic constable Bullock into *East Lynne* relieved what was an otherwise gloomy piece.

In the result the jury, after deliberating for an hour and an half, returned into court and announced that they were unable to agree. They were then discharged.

PORTABLE THEATRES.

To the Editor of The Era.

Sir,—Before the Blaina Bench, on the 21st inst., a local test case came on concerning portable theatres. In this case the building had passed the county surveyor, and the manager, Mr Edward Ebley, had received a licence and a renewal of same, for a further term, from the county authorities. The local board, who brought the case forward, lost the day, but intend to proceed further. The principal point seems to be:—Have local boards the power to impose the same stringent rules on portable buildings as on permanent ones? If so, they have the power to enforce their bye-laws on all travelling shows, auctioneers' tents, the circus, in fact, any temporary erection to which the public is admitted.

This is a matter of great moment, and affects thousands of people connected with the "Showman World." If local boards or county councils have power to exact in portable theatres brick foundations, corrugated iron roofs, &c., which it would be impossible, absurd, and ruinous to comply with, the showman's "occupation's gone."

Yours faithfully, SCISSOR POLE.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE MARQUIN,"
Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. J. Berr De Turique,
[Produced at the Palais-Royal, on Oct. 20.

Lucien Maréchal	M. RAIMOND
Bachorelle	M. CH. LAMY
D'Eclanchettes	M. TRÉVILLE
Isidore	M. HAMILTON
Célestin	M. ORSY
Destany	M. JULLIEN
Madame Lecardon	Madame BERTHE LEGRAND
Germaine	Mdlle. AIMÉE SAMUEL
Estelle	Mdlle. SUZANNE DEMAY
Madame Baschorelle	Madame RENÉE BUSSY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, OCT. 27.—Half comedy, half vaudeville, M. Berr De Turique's new play met with a cordial reception. The plot is not very complicated. Madame Germaine, Maréchal's husband, is a deputy, and she is anxious he should become Minister. Lucien Maréchal's ambition, however, does not run in the same direction. Good-natured and indolent he dislikes politics, and remains deaf to Germaine's entreaties to prepare the speech which is to make him Minister of Fine Arts. Gentle means having failed, Germaine adopts another course, and in a violent scene with her husband not only raises her language to a high temperature, but smashes a few works of art in the drawing-room. All in vain. Lucien flatly refuses to prepare his speech, and goes to see Estelle Lecardon. Estelle is a young ingénue, fresh from the Conservatoire, anxious to be engaged at the Comédie-Française, and who called with her mother on Lucien to secure his influence with the authorities. Her large eyes have made a deep impression on the Deputy. When Germaine hears of her husband's infatuation for Estelle she is delighted, for she is convinced that this damsel will succeed where she (Germaine) has failed in forcing Lucien to prepare the great speech. Germaine therefore calls on the Lucardons, and, thanks to a few banknotes discreetly slipped into Madame Lucardon's hand, secures both mother and daughter as her allies, Estelle solemnly pledging herself not to grant Lucien any favours until he has finished his task. And everything would have gone well if Lucien, in order not to be recognised, had not donned a false wig and beard. When Estelle sees him she takes him for Oscar, her first passion, the only man she ever loved, and she succumbs. Lucien remains with Estelle for a couple of days, and then returns home with his speech in his pocket. But Germaine has grown wiser, things have turned out altogether differently from what she expected, and she now works as hard to prevent Lucien from becoming Minister as she did to secure him the post. Lucien, too, has received a cold douche. His fancy for the frail Estelle was only a passing one, and he is anxious to resume his calm existence which Germaine very unwisely interrupted. The piece was fairly well acted. Mdlle. Suzanne Demay was excellent as Estelle, whose sham modesty and pseudo-timidity she brought out to perfection. Mdlle. Aimée Samuel was a conventional Germaine; and M. Raimond did not vary his style to which we are now accustomed. It is to be regretted that those two clever actors MM. Tréville and Lamy had no opportunity to display any talent in their insignificant rôles.

THE Lamoureux and Colonne concerts have begun, and the organisers promise us many novelties this season. Let us hope there will be no repetition of the scenes which disgraced many of the performances last year.

"PAR LE FER ET PAR LE FEU,"
Drama, in Five Acts and Eleven Tableaux,
by M. Maurice Bernhardt,
Produced at the Theatre Sarah-Bernhardt, Oct. 22.

Zagloba	M. F. HUGUENET
Bohun	M. DESJARDINS
Duc Yaréma	M. LAROCHE
Jean Krétuski	M. DECOEUR
Longinus	M. DUREC
Michel Wolodowski	M. SCHELER
Rendiane	M. PAYLAGARDE
Mosiek	M. LACROIX
Princesse Kurciewicz	Mdlle. JANE MEA
Princesse Hélène	Mdlle. G. ROBINNE
Basia	Mdlle. CERDA
Xénia	Mdlle. MARGA

Neither at the dress-rehearsal nor at the première of M. Bernhardt's new piece was I able to understand a word of the story founded on Sienkiewicz's novel. Having tried in vain to grope my way in the darkness, I at last gave it up in despair, and, like a child that cannot read, amused myself by looking at the pictures, i.e., at the tableaux, which are certainly very fine, and worth a visit to the Sarah-Bernhardt Theatre. Fortunately, an obliging colleague, who knows one of the artists engaged in the piece, was able to tell me the plot. And from him I learned that Jean Krétuski, a young Polish officer, has met the Princess Hélène, and has fallen violently in love with her. Hélène, fascinated by the handsome youth, is anxious to rid herself of the fierce Bohun to whom she is engaged. This is no easy matter, for Bohun, a mighty warrior, is not a man to be trifled with. Jean, having started on an expedition to fight the Tartars, sends a letter to Hélène, which falls into the hands of Bohun, who, having strangled the unfortunate page, the bearer of the message, rushes with his followers to Hélène's castle, where he massacres everybody he comes across. Hélène escapes, guided by Zagloba, and Bohun follows them to their retreat, where he is killed in a duel by one of Jean's friends. The amount of firing, fighting, and shouting that goes on during these eleven tableaux would supply enough material for at least half-a-dozen melodramas; but in this condensed form the din is rather deafening. The interpretation was very good, but I could not help feeling very sorry to see that splendid artist M. Huguenet impersonate Zagloba, the "funny man" in the piece, a fat poltroon, whose sole functions consist in being always hungry and thirsty — a milk-and-water Falstaff without the humour. M. Desjardins was an excellent Bohun, and thrilled the house in the scene wherein he strangles the page. Mdlle. Gabrielle Robinne incarnated the unfortunate Hélène, and looked very pretty, which was all the rôle required from her. MM. Laroche and Decoeur were likewise satisfactory.

"A COUNTRY GIRL," transferred to French soil, appears to have lost nothing of its charm. It was received with marked favour, and bids fair to run many nights at the Olympia. MM. Isola have mounted the work with exquisite taste, and secured an excellent company, foremost among whom are that unrivalled artist, Max Dearly, who impersonated Barry, and Mdlle. Mariette Sully, who, it will be remembered, created La Poupée. With Mdlle. Bonheur, Mmes. Gabriani, Winchester, Edith Withney, Madeleine Rohan, and a number of pretty girls, MM. Tanner and Monckton's delightful work is sure to prove a big draw.

M. HENRY BERENSTEIN'S comedy *Le Bercail* is not likely to be brought out at the Gymnase before the end of next month.

MM. BERNÈDE AND J. GOUJON'S opera *Suzel*, for which M. André Polonnais wrote the music, will not be produced in in Paris, but in Rouen, at the Théâtre des Arts.

M. LUCIEN GUITOY has fixed the night of Nov. 5 for the première of M. Maurice Donnay's *L'Escalade*.

MISS LILIAS WALDEGRAVE sails for New York with Sir Charles Wyndham's company on Nov. 2 on the Oceanic.—Mr Percy H. Vernon, who has concluded his third South African tour with Mr Leonard Rayne, hopes to arrive in England about the end of November. During this engagement Mr Vernon has played in over twenty-four plays, sustaining such characters as Tom Oxley, in *Sunday*; Chigi, in *The Cardinal*; Scarsi, in *A Life of Pleasure*; Talleyrand, in *A Royal Divorce*; the Tramp, in *A Message from Mars*; Capulet, in *Romeo and Juliet*; Antonio, in *The Merchant of Venice*; and Father Lamplugh, in *The Christian*

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

On Tuesday, the usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

ALTERATIONS IN RULES.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported:—"The Council on March 1, 1904, made certain alterations in, and additions to, the rules to be observed by the licensees of premises licensed by the Council. We have since had considerable correspondence with, and have received a deputation from, the London Entertainments Protection Association on the subject of the rules in question Moreover, the Lord Chamberlain has recently revised the regulations attached to the licences for stage-plays granted by his lordship, and has made them substantially identical with the Council's rules. In so doing, however, his lordship has suggested some modifications in the rules, and to give effect to these suggestions, with which we concur, and also to meet as far as possible the views put forward by the London Entertainments Protection Association, it is necessary to make several amendments in the rules adopted on March 1, 1904."

The committee submitted in parallel columns the rules which it was proposed to alter, and the alterations which it was proposed to make in them. In Rule 8—Each exit door from the auditorium and stage must have a distinctive light fitted over it, &c.—the word "distinct" to be substituted for the word "distinctive." Rule 11—Where practicable, broad conspicuous lines at shoulder level, with frequent arrows indicating the way out, must be painted on the walls in all the corridors and exits leading to the street—to be omitted. To Rule 13, which gives the seating area to be assigned to each person, which must not be less than 2ft. deep and 1ft. 6in. wide in all parts of the house where no backs or arms are provided to the seats, and not less than 2ft. 4in deep by 1ft. 8in. wide where backs or arms are provided, and a space of at least 1ft. in depth between the front of one seat and the back of the next, the following addition is to be made:—"The above regulation shall not apply to the seating now in existence except in cases where it is proposed to rearrange the seating or to alter the premises." In Rule 16—All check boxes must be recessed or removed—the words "fixed and placed in such positions that they will not obstruct exit" to be substituted for the words "recessed or removed." In Rules 23 and 27 the words "safety curtain" to be substituted for the words "fire-resisting screen" and "fire curtain." In Rule 34—Smoking must not be permitted in the auditorium if the premises are used for dramatic entertainments—the words "solely licensed for stage plays" to be substituted for the words "used for dramatic entertainments." In Rule 35 — Smoking by members of the orchestra or others must be strictly prohibited within the stage risk—the words "except so far as may be necessary on the stage in connection with the performance" to be added. The word "Dry" to be inserted before the word "fire" in Rule 41—Fire drills must be held at least once a week in all theatres, music halls, and large concert halls.

The committee also thought it necessary to add the following rule, "which does not seek to introduce any new practice, but only to acquaint the proprietors of places of public entertainment what the practice of the Council is":—Whenever it is desired to make use of any portable or temporary steam boiler on or about the stage, for scenic effects or otherwise, not less than twenty-one days' notice must be given to the Clerk of the Council, and the fittings and arrangements in connection with the boiler must be inspected and passed by the Council's officers before the boiler is used. All boilers, pipes, radiators, &c., used for heating purposes must be equipped and maintained in accordance with the Council's detail regulations, copies of which may be obtained on application to the Clerk of the Council. Supply tanks must be covered and protected from frost, and the pipes and radiators must be protected where necessary by properly secured guards. The owner of each boiler, whether for hot water or steam, must always be prepared to exhibit to the Council's officers a certificate, dated within the previous twelve months, from some recognised insurance company, or qualified firm of engineers, showing that the boiler is in condition to safely carry the pressure to which the safety valve is loaded

The committee thought it most desirable that the regulations for theatres licensed by the Lord Chamberlain and those for premises licensed by the Council should as far as possible be identical, and recommended "That the amendments in, and additions to, the rules to be observed by licensees of premises licensed by the Council indicated in the foregoing report, be approved."

Mr CORNWALL asked whether any report had been presented notifying that there was only one exit to the street from the Empire stage, and whether the matter had received the attention of the committee.

Mr YATES said that an exhaustive report with regard to the Empire was being prepared.

Mr IDRIS suggested that the following should be added to rule 48:—All exit doors must be thrown open for the use of the audience at the end of the performance.

Mr YATES said he should be glad to accept the suggestion.

The report was then adopted.

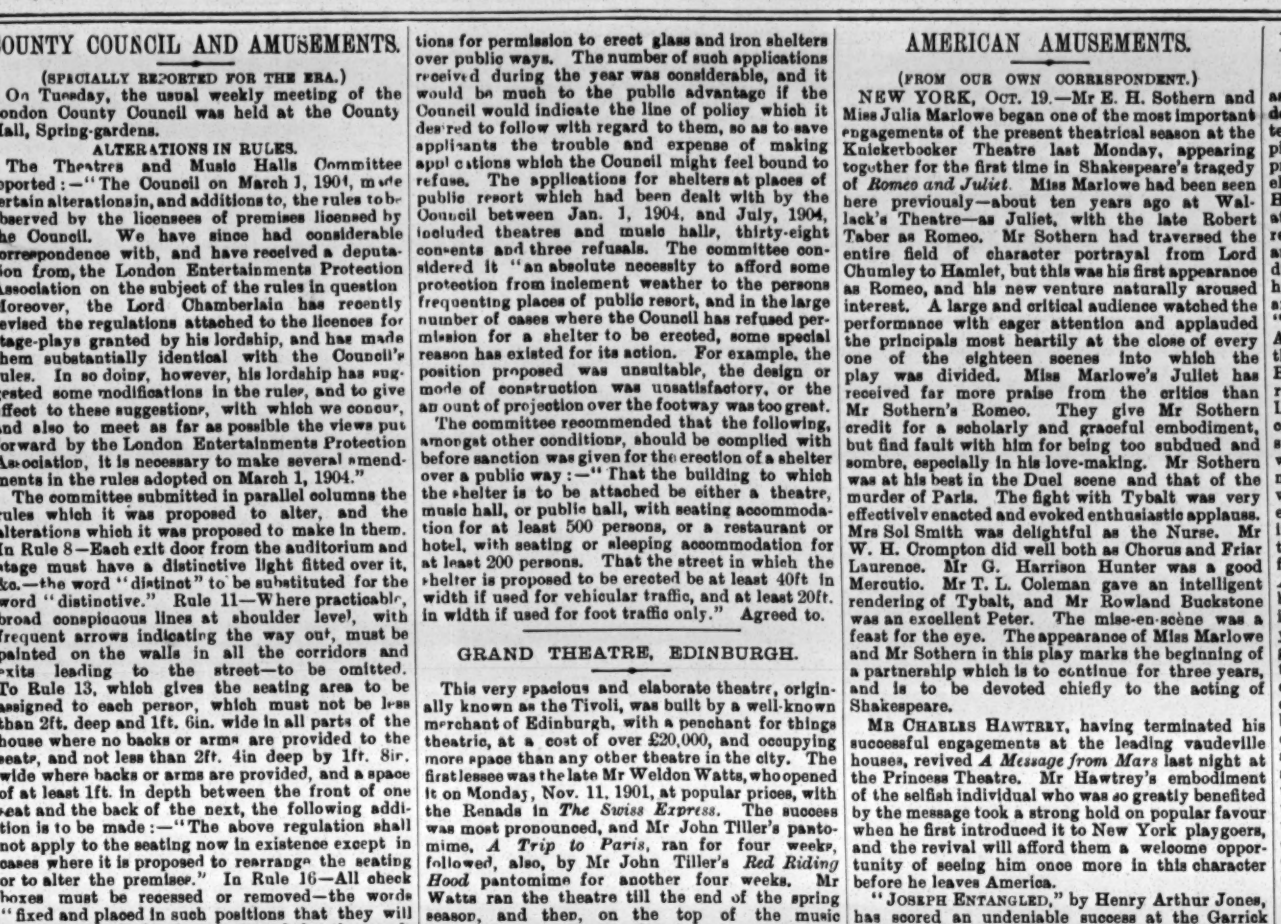
SHELTERS.

The Building Act committee reported that they had before them at the present time several applications for permission to erect glass and iron shelters over public ways. The number of such applications received during the year was considerable, and it would be much to the public advantage if the Council would indicate the line of policy which it desired to follow with regard to them, so as to save applicants the trouble and expense of making applications which the Council might feel bound to refuse. The applications for shelters at places of public resort which had been dealt with by the Council between Jan. 1, 1904, and July, 1904, included theatres and music halls, thirty-eight consents and three refusals. The committee considered it "an absolute necessity to afford some protection from inclement weather to the persons frequenting places of public resort, and in the large number of cases where the Council has refused permission for a shelter to be erected, some special reason has existed for its action. For example, the position proposed was unsuitable, the design or mode of construction was unsatisfactory, or the amount of projection over the footway was too great.

The committee recommended that the following, amongst other conditions, should be complied with before sanction was given for the erection of a shelter over a public way:—"That the building to which the shelter is to be attached be either a theatre, music hall, or public hall, with seating accommodation for at least 500 persons, or a restaurant or hotel, with seating or sleeping accommodation for at least 200 persons. That the street in which the shelter is proposed to be erected be at least 40ft in width if used for vehicular traffic, and at least 20ft. in width if used for foot traffic only." Agreed to.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

This very spacious and elaborate theatre, originally known as the Tivoli, was built by a well-known merchant of Edinburgh, with a penchant for things theatric, at a cost of over £20,000, and occupying more space than any other theatre in the city. The first lessee was the late Mr Weldon Watts, who opened it on Monday, Nov. 11, 1901, at popular prices, with the Renads in *The Swiss Express*. The success was most pronounced, and Mr John Tiller's pantomime, *A Trip to Paris*, ran for four weeks, followed, also, by Mr John Tiller's *Red Riding Hood* pantomime for another four weeks. Mr Watts ran the theatre till the end of the spring season, and then, on the top of the music hall boom, entered into an arrangement with Mr Thomas Barrasford, who conducted the Tivoli as a music hall on the two-houses-a-night principle during 1902 and 1903 with complete success. On the death of Mr Weldon Watts, however, the lease reverted to the proprietor, who then determined to manage it himself. He further beautified and improved the theatre, and there are few theatres in the country so perfect in every way. His death a little later terminated his season, and the trustees endeavoured, unsuccessfully, to sell the property, the upset price being £15,000. Averse for some time to leasing the property, they have now entered into arrangements with a Dundee company of commercial gentlemen to take it over with purchase options. Renamed, the Grand Theatre will be opened in December next with a pantomime—*Cinderella*—under the entire management of Mr Eade Montefiore, who for this purpose vacates the general management of Her Majesty's Theatres, Dundee and Aberdeen.



THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

14,535. Theatrical appliances. Patentee, L. J. Couch, 94, Dwight-street, Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A. Relates to means for enabling curtains, drops, flies, lights, and other scenic paraphernalia to be placed in any position backwards or forwards along the stage. The pulleys, over which the ropes supporting the curtain, &c., pass to the fly-rail, are carried by detachable frames. Tongue-pieces at the ends of each frame are fitted into a pair of vertical and inclined loops, formed on plates or bars, extending longitudinally along the gridiron floor, and the ends of the other frames are similarly fitted in loops, on plates, so that the curtain, &c., can be moved by shifting the frames, from one set of loops to another.

20,430. Henry William Hamblin Palmer, 43, St. Martin's-lane, Charing-cross, London. Improvements in mechanism employed in the production and reproduction of a series of photographic cinématograph pictures animated, also mutoscopic and stereoscopic, to be actuated by coin-free mechanism and circular dark slide for holding sensitive plate or disc.

BY directions of her medical adviser, Miss Rita Everard, who has been playing Alice Coverdale with such marked success, in *My Lady Molly* (North) company, is now resting and recuperating at Brighton.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin and Complexion from the effects of the sun, wind, and hard water. Removes and prevents all roughness, redness, chaps, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS the SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after dancing, cycling, tennis, motoring, &c. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores, or Post-free from the Makers, M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.]

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, OCT. 19.—Mr E. H. Sothern and Miss Julia Marlowe began one of the most important engagements of the present theatrical season at the Knickerbocker Theatre last Monday, appearing together for the first time in Shakespeare's tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet*. Miss Marlowe had been seen here previously—about ten years ago at Wallack's Theatre—as Juliet, with the late Robert Taber as Romeo. Mr Sothern had traversed the entire field of character portrayal from Lord Chumley to Hamlet, but this was his first appearance as Romeo, and his new venture naturally aroused interest. A large and critical audience watched the performance with eager attention and applauded the principals most heartily at the close of every one of the eighteen scenes into which the play was divided. Miss Marlowe's Juliet has received far more praise from the critics than Mr Sothern's Romeo. They give Mr Sothern credit for a scholarly and graceful embodiment, but find fault with him for being too subdued and sombre, especially in his love-making. Mr Sothern was at his best in the Duel scene and that of the murder of Paris. The fight with Tybalt was very effectively enacted and evoked enthusiastic applause. Mrs Sol Smith was delightful as the Nurse. Mr W. H. Crompton did well both as Chorus and Friar Laurence. Mr G. Harrison Hunter was a good Mercutio. Mr T. L. Coleman gave an intelligent rendering of Tybalt, and Mr Rowland Buckstone was an excellent Peter. The mise-en-scène was a feast for the eye. The appearance of Miss Marlowe and Mr Sothern in this play marks the beginning of a partnership which is to continue for three years, and is to be devoted chiefly to the acting of Shakespeare.

MR CHARLES HAWTREY, having terminated his successful engagements at the leading vaudeville houses, revived *A Message from Mars* last night at the Princess Theatre. Mr Hawtrey's embodiment of the selfish individual who was so greatly benefited by the message took a strong hold on popular favour when he first introduced it to New York playgoers, and the revival will afford them a welcome opportunity of seeing him once more in this character before he leaves America.

"JOSEPH ENTANGLED," by Henry Arthur Jones, has scored an undeniable success at the Garrick Theatre. This diverting comedy is cleverly acted, and there is no doubt that it will be classed as one of the most enjoyable plays of the season. Mr Henry Miller as Sir Joseph Lacy has a thoroughly congenial rôle and gives a capital representation of the hapless bachelor whose predicament forms the motive of the play. Miss Hilda Spong as Lady Verona Mayne is happily cast, and her cleverness in this rôle is an important factor in the success of the piece. Others members of the company who give capable impersonations are Messrs John Glendinning, Frederick Tilden, J. Hartley Manners, Stanley Dark, Walter Allen, Miss Laura Hope-Crews, and Mrs Maggie Holloway Fisher.

THE new Liberty Theatre, owned by Messrs Klaw and Erlanger, and situated in West Forty-second-street, was opened on the 10th inst. The initial attraction was *The Rogers Brothers in Paris*.

"PARSIFAL," Wagner's sacred festival play, was performed for the first time on any stage in English by Mr Henry W. Savage's company, at the Tremont Theatre, Boston, on the 17th inst. A brilliant and representative audience of great size was in attendance, and the occasion was a memorable one in the stage annals of Boston. The performance began at five o'clock, and after the first act there was an intermission of one hour and a-quarter for dinner. Madame Kirkby Lunn appeared as Kundry, Alois Pennarini as Parsifal, Johannes Bischoff as Amfortas, Putnam Griswold as Gurnemanz, and Homer Lind as Klingsor. The orchestra was under the leadership of Walter H. Bothwell. The local papers speak very highly of the production. After a fortnight in Boston it will be transferred to the New York Theatre.

MRS PATRICK CAMPBELL has encountered the great American interviewer, of course, since making her great success in New York in *The Sorceress*. In the report of what took place Mrs Campbell is credited with not being "one of the numerous theatrical stars who at the first opportunity and on every conceivable occasion rush forth with an open and noisy avowal of their great admiration for and undying love of America." No, Mrs Campbell is not pleased with some things in Uncle Sam's country, and she did not hesitate to say so. Some of the playhouses, with their over-ornate decorations, reminded her of a dish of salad. They did not suggest art. The servants in New York were too independent, and the dressmakers outrageously expensive. But Mrs Campbell reserved her severest strictures for the American "press agent." She could not see what advantage there was to the people of the stage from his imaginary and trashy effusions. That story about her being the original of Burne Jones's painting of "The Vampire" had made her wild—there was absolutely not one word of truth in it.

A PRETTY compliment was paid to Mr Robert Evett and Mr H. A. Lytton on the 21st inst., when Mr Ivan Caryll gave the popular actors two handsome gold-mounted sticks.

MR C. SOUNES made large purchases of theatrical costumes and stage jewellery at the Marquis of Anglesey's sale last week, but he did not buy any "scenery." His forthcoming pantomime at the Grand, Woolwich, is *Beauty and the Beast*.

MR. RICHARD TEMPLE'S RECITAL.

Mr Richard Temple for many years delighted us as a Savoyard, and though he was restricted in that delightful form of lyrical work to very few characters—Dick Deadeye in *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and the pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance* being the principal, he has always proved himself a cultured elocutionist, as well as a capable character actor. He gave us an opportunity, on Saturday afternoon at the Steinway Hall, of judging his powers by reciting a number of serious and humorous pieces, and it was a delight to Mr Temple's admirers to discover that he retains to the full his gifts of humour and pathos. There was considerable spirit and *entrain* in his delivery of Browning's fine verses "How they brought the good news from Ghent to Aix;" and the reciter brought out very effectively the music of Kipling's lines in "The Song of the Banjo." A very remarkable effort, too, was the recitation of Dante Gabriel Rosetti's piece "The Last Confession." Herein Mr Temple sat in an arm-chair, and with half-closed eyes told the pathetic story of a murder most unaccountable. No gesture was possible, but the deep remorse of the sinner was made most impressive by the varying tones of the voice, and through what must have been a most exhausting effort, he never failed to be deeply moving. "The Portrait" is somewhat of a stock recitation, and had scarcely the interest that was derived from "At the Telephone," adapted from the play *Au Téléphone* by Foley and De Lorde. It will be remembered that Mr Charles Warner appeared in a theatrical adaptation of the same piece a few years since. The little tragedy runs through the gamut of the emotions. The opening passages are touched in lightly and delicately, and possess a certain gaiety; but the crescendo of emotion soon commences. The badinage of the father and husband, by which he endeavours to reassure his brave and devoted wife, changes to sentences of torturing anxiety, and then deepens into the diapason of despair as the cries of "Help! Murder!" are heard through the resounding instrument. A situation of such tragic intensity is, it must be admitted, difficult to treat on an ordinary platform; yet Mr Temple quite held his audience by the genuine power he evinced, and though he had to do without the help of a telephone, he realised with genuine force and pathetic intensity the poignancy of a most harrowing situation. The second part commenced with "The Rationalistic Chicken," a piece by the Rev. J. Stone, which the reciter claimed to be quite up to date, as some of its arguments bore on a controversy now filling the columns of a popular daily. "The Courtin'," by Lowell, was instinct with the humour of a simple-minded lover of the backwoods; and there was a touch of genuine Irish drollery in Mr Temple's delivery of Milliken's "Fair Maid of Passage." Other pieces given were "Rory O'More," by Eliza Cook, with music specially composed by Arthur M. Friedländer; "One of us Two," with an appropriate accompaniment by Stanley Hawley; "Second-hand Philosophy," by E. V. C.; and "The Contrary Breeze," by W. Sapte. Miss Grace Philippa varied the recital by some pianoforte pieces by Grieg, Barnett, and Stojowski.

THE LATE WALTER SEALBY.

At the Lambeth Coroner's Court, on Monday, Mr Troutbeck held an inquest on Walter Sealby, theatrical manager, aged forty-two years, who had occupied apartments with his wife at 70, Doddington-grove, Kennington.

It appeared that for some months the deceased gentleman had been ill, and during the summer was medically treated at Douglas, Isle of Man. On his return to London he placed himself under Dr. Harrington, but after the latter had had the case in hand for thirty-five days it was decided that he should become an inpatient of St. Thomas's Home, Westminster. There he was treated for "pernicious anæmia," or progressive bloodlessness, and he died on Monday last. On the following day, according to Herbert Sealby, a brother, there was a meeting of the family, and the result was the drafting of a letter, which was duly signed by the witness and forwarded to the coroner.

Dr. Troutbeck now read the communication, which he described as a very remarkable one, and in which a demand was preferred for a post-mortem examination owing to what were considered peculiar circumstances in connection with the administration of arsenic to the deceased gentleman.

The evidence of the doctors and other witnesses, including Mr Sealby's father, went to show that Mrs Sealby, although only twenty-five years of age, was a most devoted nurse, and carried out her instructions to the letter.

Dr. Harrington, Dr. Childs, resident medical officer at St. Thomas's Home, and Dr. Freyberger gave their professional view of the treatment of the complaint from which Mr Sealby was suffering, and stated that the administration of arsenic was the only hope of saving life. Dr. Harrington explained in detail that during the thirty-five days that the deceased gentleman was under his care he gave him in all thirteen bottles of mixture, each containing six doses. The use of the term "arsenic" should not be confounded with its popular application, as the drug was in liquid form, and, as a matter of fact, the whole thirteen bottles only contained six grains. Even if Mrs Sealby had been careless in the use of the medicine, and had given the whole of it in one dose, there was not sufficient arsenic to have caused death. Dr. Freyberger described the case as one presenting the most pronounced symptoms of pernicious anæmia, and his death was due to that cause solely.

The coroner remarked that while anybody was entitled to have an inquiry held into the cause of a person's death, in the present case the extraordinary letter which he had received from Mr Sealby's brother clearly showed that it was the outcome of one foolish man exciting and playing upon the minds of other foolish people. But apart from the ignorance which was displayed as to the use and necessity of arsenic in the treatment of certain complaints, it was clear that by writing that letter to him the intention was to cast a grave imputation on the young wife of the deceased gentleman, either as to carelessness or design. The only purpose that had been served by the inquiry, which, of course, he was bound to hold in view of such a communication, was that the county had been put to very considerable expense, and the expert medical evidence showed that the original statements as to the cause of death were in every respect accurate.

The jury returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes."

MR LEONARD RAYNE has secured the South African rights of *The Chevaleer* from Mr Henry Arthur Jones and those of *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* from Mr Lewis Waller.

THE pictorial post-cards, published by C. W. Faulkner and Co., of 79, Golden-lane, E.C., afford the purchaser a really remarkable scope in the matter of selection, for the series numbers over 350. They represent a vast variety of subjects, and are both coloured and plain. There are Shakespearian post-cards after originals by John H. Bacon, A.R.A., portraits of actors, actresses, and singers, serious pictures, and comic pictures. Indeed, the choice is absolutely bewildering, and there are "other series in preparation." All the cards show artistic excellence, and would grace an album or a stand. From the same firm comes the "C. W. F." games. A selection of these may be recommended as most acceptable Christmas presents for youngsters home for the holidays, while children of a larger growth will derive considerable pleasure from joining in some of the games, which require the exercise of no little skill. The ingenuity displayed in the invention of these pastimes for the long winter evenings is remarkable.

C

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Sydney Grundy and Henry Pettitt, entitled "THE UNION JACK."

A title to conjure with indeed is *The Union Jack*, which was written for the Adelphi in 1888 by Sydney Grundy and the late Henry Pettitt in order that breezy William Terriss, who had made *The Harbour Lights* at the same theatre so immensely popular, might again be seen as a happy, light-hearted sailor. How well we remember the production at the home of melodrama in the Strand. The cheers loud and long that greeted "handsome Bill" on the night of the production are a far-away echo of a popularity as great as it was deserved. Alas! no one has since played the British tar like poor Terriss. It was exactly suited to his temperament—impulsive, earnest, downright, and with the heart of a lion. The revival of the piece by Mr Davey and Mr Oswald Brand at the Islington house is well timed, and during the week the enthusiasm that has been evoked by certain lines has been eloquent of the undercurrent of feeling aroused in minds of the million by the outrageous blunder of the Russian fleet. In the original cast of *The Union Jack* we may note the name of Miss Olga Nethersole, who played the part of Ruth Medway, and the late Miss Eleanor Bufton made one of her last appearances on the stage as Mrs Stone. The stock company at the Grand is headed by Mr Ernest Leicester, who plays Jack Medway. In such a wholly grateful part it need hardly be said that he is seen to immense advantage. As a gentleman in our immediate neighbourhood observed on the night of our visit, "Jack is a good plucked 'un!" and this is exactly the note that dominates Mr Leicester's acting; but there is no lack of delicacy either in his treatment of the love scenes with Ethel Arden. In the interview with his erring sister Ruth this Jack evokes spontaneous sympathy by his manly sincerity and his outburst of indignation at the wrong done to the little girl he had promised to shield from harm. Mr Leicester has a boldness and freedom of bearing which are of immense value in such a part, and he scores a decided triumph. Miss Helen Bancroft as the heroine in the earlier acts evinces a cheeriness that is quite in consonance with the happiness that has come into Ethel Arden's life. Later in the piece she develops the pathos and terror of her share in the second and third acts with intensity and truth, and her depiction of anguish in the last act is certainly convincing. In the part of Ruth Medway Miss Kathleen Kelly's simplicity of expression enables her to impart sincerity to the confession of the broken-hearted girl in the second scene. Mr Joynson Powell as Captain Morton does not over-accentuate the villainy of that currish specimen of an English army officer. He might easily, to please the groundlings and the gods, make of him a scowling scoundrel; but instead he veneers the part with the necessary polish, and scores thereby. That experienced favourite of the foot-lights, Mrs Stanislaus Calhaem, is just exactly as hearty and as merry and as good-natured a Mrs Pippin as one would expect her to be. She makes every line in her part tell, and gives admirable emphasis to every comic incident with which her part is embellished. Mr Arthur Estcourt gives quiet but none the less forcible effect to the lines of Sir Philip Yorke. Mr Frank Stone is a satisfactory Lieutenant Stanley. In Mr Hal Collier is to be found a capital Peter Fly, whose courtship of Polly Pippin, agreeably represented by Miss Winifred Leeson, causes so much jealousy in the breast of that blighted being, Tom Chuckle, a part that is capably handled by Mr George Elliston. Miss Kate Brand is a buoyant and vivacious Ivy Arden, and other parts are effectively treated by Messrs H. Baines, F. Jelly, C. Fenton, Frank Dudley, R. Trevor, George Leigh, and Bert Havill. The scenery and accessories are on the liberal scale that is always to be found at this theatre.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, in Four Acts, by William Bailey, jun., and Charles Berte, entitled "THE CITY OF MILLIONS."

This modern spectacular drama, by reason of its local associations, always arouses much interest in the Marylebone district, and a well-filled house assembled this week to welcome once again Messrs Bailey and Berte's successful play to the home of its birth. The chief interest of the drama centres round the doings of an adventuress, one Rosa De Valois, a part that fits that charming actress, Miss Madge Girdlestone, like the proverbial glove. All the varying emotions of love, hatred, and scorn are depicted by her in realistic fashion, with the result that she never looks back from the rise of the curtain to its final fall, with its promise of her bright and happy future. The wicked machinations of Capt. Wilfred Dread are portrayed by Mr Martin Sabine with that semblance of polished villainy that always stamps the genuine actor in these somewhat trying characters. Mr Sabine had sound reasons to shake hands with himself on the pronounced measure of success that he attained. Mr Vernon Sansbury as the young mining engineer Jack Stacey gave a sound reading of the part, his effort in the third act being an especially fine one; and Mr Grahame Herington in the George Grossmith, jun., style of character, viz., the Hon. Benjamin Boodle, evoked much hearty laughter with his varied eccentricities. Mr Sam Wilkinson as the dustman Bob Westwood acted in capital style, his fooling being of that rough and ready sort that always hits the mark. Mr Claremont Gaskell as the genial policeman, Joseph Smudgley, deserves every credit for his handling of a part that is so easy to overdo, but not so Mr Gaskell, who treated it with much effective skill. Miss Agnes Verity sustained the rôle of Jessie Townshend with a grace and charm that were most noticeable, and her winsome appearance further enlisted the sympathies of the susceptible West Londoners on her behalf. Miss Gladys Vernon was full of life and go as the tantalising housemaid, Kitty Taylor, her scenes with Joseph Smudgley and Bob Westwood being full of genuine fun; Miss Audrey Canning was a motherly Mrs Chesney; Miss Elaine Wilson calls for mention as the French maid, Juliet; and Miss Maud Steward proved to have made a capital study of the forlorn, but sagacious, waif, Timothy Tippitt. All the minor parts were in capable hands, and the dressing and mounting beyond reproach.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Comedy, by Hubert Henry Davies, entitled "COUSIN KATE."

From its very rarity nowadays domestic comedy is acceptable, and when its quality is as excellent as is that of Mr Hubert Henry Davies's piece, *Cousin Kate*, which was produced at the Haymarket Theatre in the June of 1903, and has since survived by reason of its fitness, the treat is doubly delightful. Possibly the audiences at Notting-hill-gate are peculiarly well able to appreciate the social satire in the play. At any rate, they took all the points with alacrity, and laughed at and applauded the comedy dialogue most readily. Dramatists do not always realise how much brightness, optimism, and simplicity have to do with the success of a piece with the public. "Impossibilists" will, no doubt, sneer at the very commonplace material from which Mr Davies has evolved such prosperous results; but as long as those results are received—as they have been for a year or more—with satisfaction and delight by thousands, the clever author can afford to be amused by such cheap cynicism. *Cousin Kate* has nothing morbid about it. It is only a "slice" of middle-class country life, depicted with remarkable restraint and repose; qualities which are even rarer and more estimable than the gay humour and good spirits which are Mr Davies's chief recommendations to his public. The entire success of the comedy at the Coronet this week is greatly owing to the smooth, artistic way in which the piece is acted by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's well-selected company. That enterprising "firm" has been fortunate in securing an actor of the ability, experience, and reputation of Mr Yorke Stephens to impersonate the plausible Irishman, Heath Desmond. Mr Stephens sustains the character with the crisp firmness and quiet polish which have distinguished his career on the London stage; and he makes every line of the dialogue between Heath and Kate Curtis in the second act tell with artistic lightness of touch and an airy ease which are combined with great finish and admirable acuteness and tact. His performance is a tower of strength to the cast, and its general tone is as fine and its style as good as they have been in all Mr Yorke Stephens's previous impersonations. Miss Lilias Earle, who plays Kate Curtis, is fortunate in having so expert and accomplished a *jeune premier* to act with. Miss Earle is the essence of cheery amiability. Her merry smile inspires the audience with sympathetic hilarity, and her performance is replete with the spirit of mirth and jollity. Her distinct enunciation and judicious emphasis give full effect to every line of her part, and her agreeable and attractive appearance in some becoming costumes completes her conquest over her hearers and beholders. Miss Earle may certainly be congratulated on the success of her performance as Kate Curtis. Mr Walter Ringham was most fortunately selected to embody the Rev. James Bartlett. He does not overdo the clerical affectations of the locum tenens; and his appearance is exactly suited to the rôle. A nice discrimination prevents him from an exaggeration which would be fatal to the fidelity of Mr Davies's character-sketch; and the author must be well satisfied with such a reading of his work. Master Vyvian Thomas as Bobby Spencer is at present a little too distinct and precise; he might "let himself go" more—maintaining, of course, his commendable accuracy of pronunciation. He looks very nice, however, and is quite well-bred, only he might be a little more boyish. Miss Helen Leyton as Mrs Spencer shows what valuable assets of an actress are ripe experience and thorough training in a good school. Her performance is ladylike, simple, and natural; and she looks the personage exactly. Miss Hilda Honiss does just what is required in the rôle of Amy Spencer, and is personally extremely well adapted for its presentation. She acts with a keen appreciation of its possibilities and a commendable amount or repose and firmness. Miss Betty Castly is broadly funny as the exuberant servant; and her bursts of joyous familiarity evoke hearty laughter. The piece is nicely mounted and dressed; and *Cousin Kate* has been received at the Coronet with the heartiest laughter and the most encouraging applause.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Comedy, by J. M. Barrie, entitled "LITTLE MARY."

Mr John Hare and company are here this week in Mr J. M. Barrie's amusing play *Little Mary*. Of course by this time everyone knows who "little Mary" is, but although there is no longer a mystery about her, it remains a very amusing comedy, and the audience on Monday were in a continual state of laughter throughout. Mr John Hare appears as the Earl of Carlton, and gives one of those finished pieces of acting for which he has made himself famous. It is a delightful performance, so natural and refined. Miss Hilda Trevelyan undertakes the part of Moira, which she plays winsomely and fully realises the idea of the character. Lord Rolfe finds a capital exponent in Mr Carter Pickford; Mr Eric Maturin in the part of the Earl of Plumbleigh, a schoolboy, is most natural; Mr Rudge Harding as Sir Jennings Pyke gives a neat sketch of a West-end specialist; and Mr Clifford Brooke makes a good Dr. Topping. Miss Helen Rous represents the Countess of Plumbleigh with distinction, and Miss Kathleen Gordon Lee as Milly and Miss Beatrice Kelston as Eleanor both distinguish themselves. Mr Fred Grove is excellent as the old chemist, Terence Reilly. The play is preceded by Frederick Fenn and Richard Pryce's clever little piece *'Op o' me Thumb*, in which Miss Hilda Trevelyan plays her original part of Amanda, a wonderful piece of character acting. The Horace Greensmith of Mr Rudge Harding is also a clever bit of work. The principal play is finely mounted, the scene representing the Courtyard of the House being one of the most artistic sets we have seen for a long time.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Comedy, by Paul Rubens, entitled "THREE LITTLE MAIDS."

To judge by its reception on Monday evening at the hands of a crowded house the *Three Little Maids* have lost none of their charms for the patrons of the King's. Mr Paul Rubens's comedy went with all the dash which characterised its first visit to Hammersmith last year, when Miss Edna May was in the cast. Mr Charles Macdona's company will bear comparison with the previous organisation, and it gives every evidence of having been carefully selected. Ada Branscombe is animatedly played by Miss Janet Reeve, who sings with decided expression. Miss Nora Guy makes a bright and pleasing Edna, and the Hilda of Miss Gertrude Melville is a fascinating performance. Miss Kate Forster as Lady St. Mallory is quite successful, and Miss Laura Wright is an excellent Gretchen. Miss Jennie Edgar, Miss Ethel May, and Miss Ella Daincourt as Lady Rosemary, Venette Grafton, and Lady Marjory Crichton earn applause. Lord Cheyne finds an able impersonator in Mr Arthur Longley, who causes huge laughter by his amusing "Johnnie" style. Brian Molyneux is rendered in clever manner by Mr Haddon Cave, and his singing is highly commendable. The acting of Mr Alec Chentreens as M. De L'Orme (of the French Embassy) is most enjoyable, and Mr Gus Oxley is quietly humorous as Cupid, a caddie. Mr Charles Leverton is satisfactory as the Rev. Mr Branscombe. The chorus is an excellent one, the dresses are in good taste, and the scenery is very creditable.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Play, in Five Acts, by David Belasco and J. L. Long, entitled "THE DARLING OF THE GODS."

The thanks of Stoke Newington playgoers are due to Mr F. W. Purcell for bringing to their doors such a complete and elaborate production as is *The Darling of the Gods*, as presented by Mr Tree's company. The mounting and dressing of the piece are as in a West-end production, and the effects are managed in a manner seldom, if ever, met with in a travelling organisation. Great care and discrimination have evidently been exercised in the selection of the company, which is headed by that ripe and experienced actor Mr G. W. Anson, whose performance of Zakkui, the cunning and scheming Minister of State, compels interest, and holds the attention of the audience in every scene in which he is concerned. A very striking and powerful embodiment of the outlaw, Kara, comes from Mr Alexander Calvert, and he fully deserves the generous applause with which he is rewarded. A very charming exponent of Yo San, the "Darling of the Gods," is found in Miss Lilian Stafford, whose work in the fourth act reaches a very high level of excellence. A noticeable performance is that of Mr Ernest Stallard, who appears as Kato, the fisher of carp, and Miss Augusta Haviland scores heavily by the intensity of her playing as Rosy Sky. The part of Saigon is done full justice to by Mr A. P. Kaye, and Mr P. R. Goodyer is successful as Tanda Tanji. Mr Robert Gray does well as Banza. The remaining parts are all well and carefully filled. Not the least pleasing feature of the production is the admirable rendering of the special and appropriate music, which has been composed for the production by Mr William Furst, by the Alexandra orchestra, under the direction of Mr Arthur L. Spittle, Mr Tree's musical conductor.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Play, in Three Acts, entitled "THE GIRL FROM KAY'S."

Mr George Dance's company has been appearing in Messrs Owen Hall and Ivan Caryll's piece at the Marlborough Theatre this week; and the visit has been a decided success. Several changes have been made in the cast, and the results are agreeably interesting. The musical play has been judiciously broadened with a view of suiting the tastes of suburban and provincial audiences; and justification is found for this process in the roars of laughter which are evoked by the absurd and extravagant comic business which is liberally introduced. A part which gains in importance by this cheery freedom is that of Joseph. This personage holds in the play somewhat the position which the Greek chorus held in a drama of Euripides. The character is elaborated and developed with genuine ability by Mr Fred Rolph, whose hall porter is a real comedy character. Particularly good is Mr Rolph's facial expression, which is intensely expressive, and the mixture of official dignity, sly servility, and cynical contempt in Joseph's complex nature is admirably indicated. Mr H. C. Barry's Hoggenheimer is exquisitely odd and eccentric; and the utter absurdity of the positions in which the fond financier is placed is emphasised by Mr H. C. Barry with a freedom and funniness which have their reward in the hearty laughter of the audience. Strongly farcical, too, is the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle of Mr Leslie Roy Cathie, who is personally well suited to the part, and presents a most diverting caricature of Hoggenheimer's aristocratic parasite. A pleasing performance of the rôle of Norah Chalmers is contributed by Miss Alice Russon, who has a refined and graceful style and a delicate and dainty method. Her depiction of the nervously jealous wife is neat and effective, and the rendering of the sobbing song in the second act is immensely successful. Miss Maisie North makes a very sprightly and active Eileen, and her singing and dancing are equally exhilarating, both being applauded in the most enthusiastic manner. Miss Simeta Marsden lays special stress on the haughty superiority of Winnie Harborough, whose predominance over the love-sick Hoggenheimer is made particularly evident in this case. She puts a liberal amount of energy and expression into the delivery of her songs, and her fine appearance, her quiet confidence, and her excellent voice and manner complete the success. Mr Charles Hanbury plays Harry Gordon with a valuable amount of good breeding, repose, and gentlemanly address, and Miss Ada Crossley is comely and attractive as Mrs Chalmers, and makes her points with judicious moderation and practised skill. Mr Arthur Jackson, well made-up and full of sharpness and decision, is excellent as Theodore Quench, and Mr John Wigley does all that is required as Mr Chalmers, and does it remarkably well. The minor parts are all suitably cast. As usual with Mr Dance's companies, the chorus and the costumes are thoroughly attended to. The young ladies who represent the Kay girls and the bridesmaids are completely acquainted with their duties, and perform them very ably and spiritedly. Mr Austen Hurgon, who has produced the piece for Mr Dance, deserves great credit for his able and careful arrangements, and the musical director, Mr Victor Champion, is to be complimented on the judgment with which he wields the bâton. *The Girl from Kay's* has been received at the Marlborough Theatre this week with hearty laughter and enthusiastic applause, and Mr George Dance has once more vindicated his reputation as an *entrepreneur* of travelling companies.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, by Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane, entitled "A PATH OF THORNS."

Audiences at the Dalston Theatre this week are being treated to a decidedly interesting story and to specimens of most creditable acting in the performance of the stirring domestic drama, *A Path of Thorns*. One of the principal characters is the Rev. Frank Selby. Parsons, somehow or the other—even though many of them may be made subjects of mirth—are generally popular, and Mr Cyril W. Mackay adds one more interesting embodiment to the list. Mr Claude King is effective as John Edmunds, an inventor; and as Bessie Edmunds Miss Violet Luddington does well. Sam Hallett, a typical Lancashire lad, finds an able exponent in Mr Alfred Lester, and Miss Amy Rogerson becomes popular as Jane Adelaide, who is duly and very frequently announced in the course of the representation as "the future Mrs Hallett." Jonas Deane, a contractor, finds a suitably brusque representative in Mr Cecil Du Gue, and Mr G. M. Cooke is Edward Langley, his partner. Mr A. C. Clarke as Mr Pickford, a churchwarden; Mr Harry F. Wright as Dr. Gaye, Mr J. H. Booth as Jim Price, a burglar; and Mr W. L. Rignold as Ratty Gabbit, his accomplice, each add their quota of interest to the representation. Miss Mary Raby is responsible for the important rôle of Constance Howard, a more fortunate creature than her poor sister, Nellie, which part is played by Miss M. Stanley Burt. Both these characters are admirably presented, and the ladies are the recipients of hearty rounds of applause.

KENNINGTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Comedy, by George Dance and Howard Talbot, entitled "A CHINESE HONEYMOON"

The tremendous success of *A Chinese Honeymoon*, both at the Strand Theatre and in the provinces, invites examination into the reasons of the remarkable popularity of Messrs George Dance and Howard Talbot's piece. It may be attributed to various causes. In the first place, the ideas and characters are decidedly amusing; in the second, the personages of the little drama are depicted by clever comedians and comediennes, who make the very most of their materials. Much—a great deal more than is generally imagined—is due to the subtle influence of the costumes and surroundings. China and Japan seem particularly suited to the requirements of light musical pieces; and in selecting the "Flowery Land" as the scene of the adventures of Mr and Mrs Pineapple, Mr Dance did wisely indeed. He has also acted very shrewdly in sending out his principal company, which has been appearing at Kennington this week, equipped and furnished quite in West-end style. The only way, nowadays, to make money in the country and the suburbs is to offer local patrons an entertainment of no second-rate or cheapened class; and Mr Dance has "done the thing well" in this instance as in others. Particularly striking is the chorus in this capital company. It is numerous, it is strong, vocally and personally, and it is trained to perfection. One might almost fancy oneself at the Savoy in the old Gilbert and Sullivan days, so precisely and daintily do the damsels of China move, attitudinise, and manipulate their pretty parasols. As for the musical part of their work, it is done with a power and feeling which swell out Mr Howard Talbot's choruses magnificently, and give his music its entire value. The piece is put on not only regardless of expense but in admirable taste; and each of the costumes worn by the members of the chorus is quite a little picture in itself. When the ladies are grouped on the stage they create a delightful "flower-bed" effect; and, individually, they are comely, shapely, and intensely conscientious in the matter of stage business and brisk vocal work. A chorus so handsome and so hard-working is seldom seen in any musical play. Hardwork all round is, indeed, the secret of the exhilarating *tout ensemble* produced by this clever combination. Miss Vera Vere, the representative of Fi-Fi, certainly does not spare herself. She gives a reading of the rôle which is decidedly her own; and her quaint personality is irresistible. The humour of her performance is undeniable; and she dances with a spontaneous gaiety which quite carries the audience away. Her singing of the "Methusalem" song, with its accompanying *pas seul*, brings down the house; and, altogether, Miss Vere may be congratulated on having triumphed over the very great difficulty of following an artist like Miss Louie Freear in a famous part. Another very active and vivacious performer is Miss Eva Bevington, who, as Mrs Pineapple, is ever alert, and who emphasises every line and point of the character, besides dancing and singing very vigorously. An excellent example of Miss Bevington's merits is her rendering of the ditty "The *à la* Girl," in which both her mimicry and the movements are very animated. Mr Philip Hayden's fine, resonant voice and massive dignity, as the Emperor of Ylang Ylang, tell immensely; and he acts with all the necessary ease and *aplomb*. Mr Ernest Laws is the essence of official acidity as Chipple Chop; and Mr Fred Payne, who bears the family trade mark conspicuously in face and delivery, is dryly droll as the Lord High Admiral. Mr Frank Crimp is a manly, spirited, and agreeable exponent of the rôle of Tom Atherton, which he plays with style, yet without affectation; and Mr Martin Adeson underlines with deeply-cut comicality the strenuous gallantry of Mr Pineapple, making the part stand out conspicuously by his strong and acute treatment. Miss Holford Beringer is most happily cast as Mrs Brown; and her tall figure, assisted by an excellent make-up, renders her representation of the "official mother-in-law" both striking and diverting. An entirely sweet and charming Soo-Soo is Miss Madge Temple, who sings her songs very spiritedly and gives an expressive and, at times, quite dramatic depiction of the Emperor's niece. The completeness of the production reflects very great credit upon Mr Austen Hurgon, to whose efforts much of the success achieved is undoubtedly due. Honours must be shared, however, by Mr A. Romilli's orchestra, which is a valuable factor of the general triumph. In Mr J. Alban Newton, Mr Dance has a business manager who is both alert and obliging. *A Chinese Honeymoon* has elicited immense enthusiasm at Kennington this week.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 24. "THE NEW CLOWN."

"Here we are again," cheery as ever, is the "slogan" of Mr Stanley Cooke and company, who are appearing this week in Mr H. M. Paull's clever farcical comedy *The New Clown*, under the personal direction of Mr Herbert Greville, at the tastefully-appointed Brixton Theatre. All London laughed when this droll whimsicality was exploited at the Comedy and Terry's Theatre, and the bright, wholesome, spontaneous humour of the piece is calculated to act as a tonic on the jaded Londoner be he resident in Park-lane or Brixton, or, for that matter, in distant Johannesburg or the Antipodes. Mr Stanley Cooke has just the quaint appearance and the languid yet bustling manner required for the embodiment of the character of the young lordling, Cyril Garston. His simulation of terror and remorse when he thinks he has committed manslaughter, and his ludicrous efforts to be funny and to rival the professional purveyor of acrobatic humour in his low comedy antics are realistic to a degree and side-splitting in their drollery. Mr Herbert Greville gives a careful and well-thought-out rendering of the part of Mr Dixon, the circus proprietor, with such a high sense of dignity and deportment, and he tempers the more truculent side of the man's character with a touch of sentiment and feeling. Miss Katie Yates makes a most charming and unaffected Rosie Platt, the ladylike little barebacked rider and circus "star." She gives a pleasant tone of refinement and genuine feeling to a part which might easily be spoiled by being coarsened or overdone. Mr Fred Paul as the hearty, well-meaning, overbearing, conceited young Hercules, Captain the Hon. Jack Trent, is well in the picture; and Miss Violet Greville as Winnie Chesterton and Miss Evelyn Maxwell as her sister Maud contribute pleasing and natural performances in the small parts allotted to them. Mr Fred Lake as the bibulous Thomas Baker gives a good low comedy sketch, and Mr David Beattie is vastly amusing as the sanctimonious Pennyquick, purveyor of pastry. Mr James Benwell carries all before him as Billy (a strong man). Master Clyde Burchett scores as the small boy with the washing, and Mr Humphrey Warden adds to the fun as the writ-serving Figgis, a lawyer's clerk. Nor must we forget the admirably trained donkey Ping Pong, in her original character, a clever and pretty creature. Mr Spencer Allen acts the small part of Lamb, landlord of the riverside inn.

The principal piece was preceded by an original comedy, in one act, by Ernest Bellamy, entitled "WOOING BY WIRE."

Mr John Vincent ..... Mr James Benwell
Mr Fred Thompson ..... Mr Humphrey Warden
Mr William Jinks ..... Master Clyde Burchett
Miss Elsie Maitland ..... Miss Katie Yates

Mr Ernest Bellamy has but a very slight foundation as regards plot for his one-act comedy, which was produced on Monday evening. Mr John Vincent is a young man in business as an auctioneer, but that somewhat prosaic occupation has not prevented him falling in love, the object of his adoration being pretty Elsie Maitland. Now, it so happens that his office boy, William Jinks, who possesses a full share of the modern youth's impudence, is also enamoured of a young lady named Elsie, and hence arise sundry misunderstandings and a good deal of fun. The telephone is made considerable use of, the scene being Vincent's office, where he is visited by his friend Fred Thompson, a young gentleman who is nearly as inquisitive as Paul Pry himself. Another visitor appears in the person of Vincent's sweetheart, Miss Elsie Maitland, who rather boldly offers the suggestion that her lover should by means of the telephone ask her father's consent to the marriage. The paternal sanction is ultimately obtained, and the cheeky office-boy bestows his blessing upon the happy pair. The little piece has the advantage of being well played. Mr James Benwell acts with spirit and ability as Mr John Vincent, the amorous young auctioneer; Master Clyde Burchett as the office-boy, William Jinks, is immensely diverting and natural; and Miss Katie Yates acts with point and precision as Miss Elsie Maitland. Mr Humphrey Warden also contributes his quota of fun as Fred Thompson, Vincent's irritating friend. Mr Fred Lake is the stage-manager, and Mr Herbert Greville looks after the front of the house.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Comedy, by Malcom Watson and J. A. Robertson, entitled "WINNIE BROOKE, WIDOW."

The insidious fascinations of Winnie Brooke, Widow, as expressed by Miss Ada Reeve, delighted a charmed audience on Monday; a crowded and enthusiastic audience that re-demanded each song and dance and evinced the keenest relish for the many saucy things both said and done by this most captivating and audacious widow. Miss Reeve's song on woman, "I'm one of you, so I ought to know," was, perhaps, first favourite; while her topical song, "You'll find there's still plenty to learn," brought down the house with its suggestion that Russia's navy should be made to learn the distinguishing marks of destroyer and fishing smack. Miss Reeve also won great favour in the dainty duet of song and dance, "If you were a schoolboy," and in the semi-pathetic, "If only they knew," with organ obbligato. Miss Drusilla Wills was an ideal boyden as the rustic laundry girl, Eustasia Eglantine Honoria Brown. Mrs Charles Maltby was funnily sad as Hannah, the wife without a smile, whose matrimonial troubles of twenty years circled around a haddock. Miss Janet Hedson was sufficiently grim as Mrs Garside, and Miss Kitty Clinton a winning, though rebellious schoolgirl. Mr Henry Vibart invested the part of the woman-hater, Dudley Mayne, with impressive and distinguished grace, captivating his audience equally with the widow. Mr Edgar Stevens as Reginald Frampton rendered his song "All love is sweet" admirably, and acted throughout with spirit. Mr Leon Aston Jarry was excellent as Julian Croft; Mr Stephen Adeson as the smart solicitor, Montague Brent, was splendid in song and dance; Mr James Stevenson amusing as the Rev. Elihu Garside; while Mr F. B. Sharpe as Toby and Mr Edward Rigby as Hercules were the life and soul of the Brotherhood. The chorus singing is fresh and spirited, the scenery admirable, and the dresses emphatically "dreams."

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Comedy, in Three Acts, by J. M. Barrie, entitled "THE PROFESSOR'S LOVE STORY."

Mr E. S. Willard's visit to Stratford this week is an event gladsome to the hearts of local playgoers, who are thus enabled to see this eminent actor in two of his most popular creations, *The Professor's Love Story* being in the bill up till Wednesday night, and from Thursday onwards *The Middleman*, with Mr Willard as Cyrus Blenkarn, is the attraction. An enthusiastic audience followed with rapt attention the progress of *The Professor's Love Story* on Monday night, chief interest naturally centering round Mr Willard's impersonation of the amiable, absent-minded Professor Goodwille, which is a finished and artistic conception, played in true comedy vein, affording unqualified delight to those in the auditorium. Strong support is accorded Mr Willard by his excellent company. Miss Maud Hoffmann contributes a delightful portraiture of Lucy White, whose ingenuous coquetry wins the Professor to the ranks of the Benedicts. Miss Edith M. Tombes as the Professor's regardful sister Agnes plays in easy, natural, and refined style; the worldly-wise Lady Gilding is portrayed with much ability by Miss Mabel Dubois; and the match-making, amorous Dowager Lady Gilding is delineated with remarkable fidelity by Miss Eileen Warren. The idiosyncrasies of the inanilоquent Sir George Gilding are hit off exactly by Mr A. S. Homewood; the jovial, good-hearted Dr. Cousens has a capital exponent in Mr H. Crane; and the affable conceit of Dr. Yellowless is ably accentuated by Mr J. Jefferson Farjeon. The two farm labourers, Pete and Henders, whose amorous leanings towards the Professor's housekeeper, Effie Proctor, is the source of so much amusement, are in the safe hands of Mr Walter Edmunds and Mr William Sauter respectively, both of whom made the utmost of their opportunities, and score heavily in these fine character rôles. Most of their good work is in conjunction with Mrs Russ Whytal as Effie Proctor, in praise of whose performance too much cannot be said. Admirable staging marks the production.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama, in Four Acts, by George R. Sims, entitled "THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

A popular attraction is provided at the Stratford Theatre Royal this week by the engagement of Mr Herbert Hollister's company in *The Lights o' London*, and the sentiment of the piece appeared to exactly suit Monday night's large audience. The drama is excellently staged, and the cast well balanced and capable. Mr Cecil G. Calvert is a virile exponent of Harold Armytage, and Bess is played with feeling and sympathy by Miss Jeanne Burgoyne. Mr Albert Brasque plays with marked ability as the scheming and vindictive Clifford Armytage and a graphic sketch of Seth Preene comes from Mr Herbert Hollister. Mr Percy Compton is always amusing and entertaining as Jarvis, Mrs Emilie Dawson cleverly portrays Mrs Jarvis, and Shakespeare Jarvis is spiritedly played by Miss Gladys Murray. Mr J. W. Mackay does well as Jim, Mr F. V. Lloyd plays appropriately as Squire Armytage, and Mr Harold Wallace fulfils all requirements as Marks. Mr Ernest K. Nelson is an amusing Philosopher Jack, Mr Reginald Gears scores as Percy De Vere, a police-superintendent is well played by Mr W. Wells, Little Ida Murray makes a pathetic picture of Joey, and Miss Kate Randolph is well placed as Hetty Preene. Other parts are in capable hands.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama in Four Acts, by Justin Huntly M'Carthy, entitled "IF I WERE KING."

An excellent company is representing this romantic play to suburban audiences. Mr Frank Fenton, who himself plays the part of François Villon with conspicuous success, has chosen his company carefully, and keeps everything up to the highest pitch of efficiency. Mr Clive Curry is all that can be desired as Louis XI., and the support of Mr Fred Garrett in the character of Tristan l'Hermite, Provost of France, is invaluable. Mr Ernest Marsh is also deserving of praise for his rendering of the part of Olivier De Dain, the king's barber. Mr Leonard Maxwell as Thibaut d'Aussigny, Grand Constable of France, makes a fine manly figure, and speaks his lines with impressiveness. Mr Laurence Grove is also praiseworthy in the part of Noel Le Jolys, a Courtier, and Mr Charles Phillips does well as Rebin Turgis, the innkeeper; Miss Louise Vansitter as Huguette du Humel, known as the Abbess, plays the part with all the abandon it needs; Miss Marion Gray looks very attractive as Katherine de Vaucelles, the heroine, and succeeds in a difficult part. Misses Magda Willdenberg, Lilian Reynolds, Noney Seabrooke, and Mary Marshall as the friends of the Abbess, contribute excellent studies. Miss Una Gilbert as Mother Villon and Miss Violet Monkton as the Queen of France are good in minor parts. Messrs Francis J. Bithell, Herbert Brownlow, William Frazer, L. M. Moorfield, John Franklin, Richard Jackson, Will Barrett, Max Gordon, and W. Littlejohn all deserve to be singled out for commendation. The scenery and mounting are remarkably good.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama entitled "THE KING OF COINERS."

This drama met with the hearty approval of a crowded house on Monday. The piece was well acted, particularly by Mr J. Frederick Kent, who gave a very powerful impersonation of the title-rôle. Mr Harry M'Farland was an effective Wrenbow; Mr Henry M. Galvin presented an excellent character sketch of the miser, Nero Morath; Mr H. Naylor Grimson was good as Philip; Mr Harry Delman was a competent Jerry; and Mr M. Madden an amusing Michael. Miss Ethel M. Grey was a bright and pleasing Katie; Miss Muriel Deane an attractive Hilda; little Miss Reana Robertson was a charming Rosalie, and sang very prettily; and finally Miss Lillie Monckton must be congratulated on an admirable rendering of the part of Nellie Vernon, the coiner's wife.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."

Mr Fredk. E. Philpott's company presented on Monday for the first time at this house the musical comedy, in two acts, entitled *The Girl from Japan*. The composer of the music, Mr Colet Dare, conducted the orchestra. The merriment occasioned by the piece was sustained to the fall of the curtain, for it is brimful of comicalities, and may justly be termed one of the funniest musical comedies on the road. The music is bright and effective; the dresses are very attractive; and the staging calls for high praise. Mr S. Lockridge impersonates Lord Allenbury with success, and this gentleman's well-trained voice is exactly suited to the numbers allotted to him. Mr Alfred Wood makes a good study of Sir Mulberry Flippington; Mr Percy Baverstock scores in the rôle of the General Baugh;

Mr Ernest Spalding is responsible for some side-splitting humour in his portraiture of the Rev. John Smith, and Mr Tom E. Sinclair well fulfils the responsibilities of the rôle of Horatio Blinks. The interpretation of Bingle in versatile Mr Chas. L. Ludlow's hands makes it one of excellent merit. Miss Essie Deane is a piquant Countess De La Rue; Miss Nellie Jackson is quaintly picturesque as Polly Perkins; and Miss Nellie Parker Dent lacks neither spirit nor energy in her conception of Lady Flippington. Honours are also earned by Miss Maidie Scott, a bright and charming performer, whose sand dance calls for special congratulation. She is agile to a degree. Miss Nellie Valentine is a graceful and pleasing Violet Meadows, and the *pas de deux* of the Sisters Violet and Lillie English is well received. The production redounds to the credit of Mr F. E. Philpott, who superintended it.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, entitled "THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

The energetic manager of this theatre Mr Fred S. Jennings is to be congratulated on engaging Mr Ben Greet's No, 1 company in this popular musical play. Mr Arthur Ricketts is a comical figure as Ichabod Bronson, and gives a quietly humorous performance that is quite to the taste of the audience. The profligate Harry Bronson is ably undertaken by Mr Harold Wardroper. Mr Walter Emro keeps the house in roars of laughter by his eccentricities as Karl Von Pumpernick. Mr Mac Olixe as Blinkey Bill is good, his singing being much applauded. Mr Walter Midge as Kenneth Mugg is all that can be desired. Messrs Lionel Yeoman and R. L. Cody as Counts Patsi Rattate increase the fun considerably by their decidedly droll impersonations. Miss Mora Hersee as Violet Gray is exceedingly attractive, and fills the part with dignity and grace. Miss Helen Rose is pretty as Fifi Fricot, and has a sweet voice. Miss Ida Grandison as Cora Angelique deserves credit for a good reading of the rôle. An excellent dance is contributed by Miss Florence Hersee as Mamie Claney, who is decidedly fascinating, her easy manner and light-heartedness being charming. Miss Hilda Corelli is also much admired as premiere danseuse. The minor parts are in the capable hands of Mr Guy Ford as Doc Snifkins and Mr C. O. James as Mr Twiddle. The chorus consists of a number of pretty young ladies, who have excellent voices, which they use with effect; and the performance is under the able direction of Mr Joseph Lainton.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Drama in Four Acts, by G. Larder and Walter Melville, entitled "THE GREAT WORLD OF LONDON."

The drama is preceded each evening by the laughable farce, entitled *Tables Turned*, in which prominent parts are filled by Mr Fred De Vere, Mr Campion Abbott, and Miss Hulo Hodgson. A pair of clever duettists and dancers, the Sisters Belrose, then occupy the stage, and are well received. Next follows the well-known "skatorial" comedian, Mr H. E. High, whose turn is much appreciated. Having disposed of the variety part of the programme, the attention of the audience is turned to the more serious contemplation of the drama, which, in the hands of the very competent stock company, receives an extremely meritorious presentation Mr Lionel D'Aragon once again assumes the responsibilities of the hero, Jack Clinton, a rôle for which his fine appearance eminently fits him. Mr Frank Wilmot capably portrays John Meredith, and, if we mistake not, the same gentleman is also seen as the detective Shelton. A very clever sketch of Tagrag is supplied by Miss Hulo Hodgson. Mr Felix Pitt's embodiment of villainy, in this instance Richard Thornton, is a fine piece of acting. The comedy honours again fall to Mr Newman Maurice for his capable rendition of Tom Bates, and Miss Rosemary Rees is deserving of great praise for her pathetic but natural portrayal of Lilian Meredith. The rest of a long cast is suitably filled.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Play, in Five Acts, entitled "ZAZA."

Mrs Lewis Waller and company have been appearing here this week in *Zaza*, and have played to good houses each evening. Mrs Lewis Waller threw herself heart and soul into her part, and, bringing into play much undoubted histrionic ability, reinforced by considerable acting experience, submitted an impersonation of the character which surely fully realised the author's conception. Zaza's originally careless attitude towards life in general, her artfully artless attempts to secure Dufresne's love, and her final overwhelming passion for him were portrayed in a manner indicative of the true artist's insight into and appreciation of the possibilities of the rôle. The great scene in the fourth act was handled in masterly fashion, and here, as elsewhere throughout the play, Mrs Waller was admirably seconded by Mr Eric Mayne, who scored heavily as Bernard Dufresne. His greatest chance came in the scene above mentioned, when Dufresne, in a sudden revulsion of feeling, curses Zaza for interfering with his wife; and it is not too much to say that Mr Mayne responded fully to the call made upon his ability to express strong emotion. Miss Minnie Rayner was amusing as a clumsy, good-natured, but extraordinarily inefficient, maid; Miss Kate Kearney was responsible for much laughter as Rosa Bonne, a lady with a firm belief in the treatment of "heart trouble;" Miss Alice Langley contributed a sympathetic sketch of Alice Morel; and Miss Ethel Warwick, despite the fewness of the lines allotted to her, cleverly brought out the character of Madame Dufresne. Mr Edmund Lea was effective as Cascart; while Mr J. Spurling as the Duc De Brisac and Mr Edmund Waller as Jacques Rigault did as well as possible with these small parts.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the Musical Pantomimic Farce "HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS."

Uproarious laughter resounded throughout the Royal County Theatre on Monday, when this absurd and amusing farce was produced by Mr Fred Karno's company. The central figure of the production, Sergeant Lightning, was impersonated by Mr Dan Rolyat, whose drolleries served to keep the audience in the best of spirits when he was on the stage. Some very well-sung songs were rendered by Mr Walter Balfour, who appeared as Flash Jack, and the vocal efforts of Miss Leonora Castelle, who made a charming Lady Maud Easem, were all very much appreciated. The fun of the play was also contributed to considerably by Mr Harry Howe as Selina and by Mr Victor Knight as the curate Mr Minks. *His Majesty's Guests* has been revised, and new lyrics and music add considerably to its attractiveness. It was admirably staged in every particular.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Oct. 24, the New Sensational Melodrama, entitled "A MODERN JUDAS; OR, THE SERPENT'S TOOTH."

Mr John Denton, besides being author of the above play, acts one of the principal characters therein, and the play is presented by his own company. Mr Harry Brown as Mr James Rivers is an effective "old English gentleman;" Mr Frank Beresford is a manly representative of the hero, Jack Vavasour; and Mr Percy Rhodes is a blood-curdling exponent of the villain, Capt. Melbourne. Mr Denton himself plays Elkanah Pearce and causes much merriment. Miss Ada Palmer is a most amusing Agatha Pearce, a lady who wants to get married. Miss Estelle Despa is good as Mrs Tibbs, and Miss Dolly Harcourt is a pretty and engaging Polly Hopkins. Miss Kate Walbran is excellent as Elise, and last but most important of all Miss Violet King gives a fine rendering of the part of the heroine Claire Rivers. The minor parts are in safe hands, and the play is well mounted.

"THE COAL KING."

Drama, in Five Acts, by Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn, Produced at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, on Monday, Oct. 24.

Sir Reginald Harford	Mr HOWARD TEMPLETON
Walter Harford	Mr BERNARD J. LIELL
Tom Roberts	Mr ERNEST F. NORRIS
Dick Shirley	Mr PAIGE LAWRENCE
General Clarges, V.C. ..	Mr EDWIN BENNETT
Jim Williams	Mr HARRY PAULTON, JUN.
Seth Baker	Mr JO MONKHOUSE
Ned Jenkins	Mr DUDLEY HAYES
Jack Brown	Mr B. CROUCHER
James	Mr W. H. TERRY
Thomas	Mr EDWARD SNOW
Saxby	Mr ARTHUR WILSON
Grace Shirley	Mrs BENNETT
Mad Ann	Miss JUDITH KYRLE
Mrs Clarges	Miss KATE CONNAUGHT
Araminta Green	Miss AGNES PAULTON
Mrs Baker	Miss DORA HARGRAVE
Sal	Miss GLADYS KING
Jane	Miss BLANCHE JORDON

That there is a large public for melodrama of a stirring type, with plenty of incident and replete with human interest, has been proved this week at the Elephant and Castle, where the general-manager, Mr Ernest E. Norris strong in his belief in the popular love of sensation of the right kind, is catering with such marked success. As a former leading man at the Surrey, Mr Norris has learnt by experience exactly what South Londoners want, and in his latest choice of drama for the attractive transpontine house he directs he is to be heartily congratulated. Messrs Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn's story grips its hearers from the opening scenes, and although the plot runs on lines that are familiar, there is much clever treatment of the incidents, and the piece winds up with one of the most harrowing sensations that we have seen since *Love and Money* was produced at the Adelphi on Nov. 18, 1882. Breathless silence has denoted during the week the deep interest of those who have watched so anxiously for the escape of the entombed pitmen, in the last scene of the fourth act, and a crescendo of despair has been followed by clamorous shouts of approval from that section of the British public dwelling "across the bridge," who invariably cheer with no uncertain sound the heroic deeds of any kind, and especially of men who bear the heat and burden of toil. We have had *The Silver King*, *The Cotton King*, *The Wheat King*—why not *The Coal King?* The title is an excellent one. It belongs by prescriptive right apparently to Sir Reginald Harford, a benevolent colliery owner, whose son Walter, the villain of the piece, is strongly opposed by temperament and character to the just and upright Tom Roberts, mine manager. If there were not a natural antipathy of each to the other pretty Grace Shirley, the village schoolmistress, who favours the suit of Tom, would supply it. The latter, who we need scarcely add is the hero, is gifted with the judicial mind, and is accused of favouring the pitmen too much, but the arguments supporting this contention are somewhat too specious for Sir Reginald. The plotting villain, Walter Harford, therefore, seeks some further and stronger plea for condemning the reputation of Tom. In the second act at the colliery offices Walter endeavours to poison Sir Reginald's mind by actually accusing Tom of robbery, and refers to Dick Shirley, who is in his (Walter's) power, for confirmation of his statements. Shirley lyingly admits that Tom's conduct has been rather strange of late, and Sir Reginald decides to thoroughly investigate the matter. To make his story plausible, and also presumably because he is short of cash, young Harford goes to the safe to abstract some money, but is suddenly confronted by Mad Ann, a mysterious character who has an important bearing on the plot. The would-be thief strikes her a heavy blow, and hearing sounds of someone approaching locks her in the safe. This incident immediately precedes Sir Reginald's interrogation of the hero. Tom manfully defends himself, and at the same time remarks that if his denials of the foul slanders that are uttered concerning him are not to be believed he had better resign his position. The charge of robbery is then brought against him, and the safe is to be examined. Sir Reginald, however, has not the key, but one is immediately supplied by Tom, who opens the safe. Out steps Mad Ann, who, questioned as to who put her there, answers "My son!"—a very effective curtain. We had learnt in an earlier scene that Mad Ann had changed her child for that of Sir Reginald, and that his real son is Tom Roberts, and not Walter Harford. Tom is persecuted in various ways—the villain's schemes being assisted by Shirley, who has put himself in young Harford's power by a confession of forgery in early life—and a diabolical plot to blow up the coal-mine almost fulfils its purpose. By the providence that invariably looks after the safety of melodramatic heroes Tom is saved by a telephone message sent by the now repentant Shirley, and is mercifully preserved to rescue his comrades from the "living tomb," a scene that causes immense excitement. We need hardly say that a happy conclusion is arrived at Tom Roberts's birth and innocence are both acknowledged, and Walter meets with his deserts.

The acting leaves nothing to be desired, the company working throughout most loyally for the piece, which is an undoubted success. Mr Howard Templeton as Sir Reginald Harford pictures the benevolence, uprightness, and judical impartiality of that character in a way that does the actor infinite credit. As the villain, Walter Harford, Mr Bernard J. Liell is careful to give the requisite callousness to the rôle without in any degree overdoing it. He handles the character boldly and skilfully, and the antipathy shown to Harford's evil deeds is well earned. Mr Ernest E. Norris has seldom been better suited with a part than with that of Tom Roberts, the honest, upright, and clear-minded mine-manager. He makes it quite evident to the audience that Tom has won his position by superior intellectual powers and strong common sense. By his fine elocution, by the crystal clearness of his utterance, and by the fine feeling evinced in the chivalrous passages of his dialogue, Mr Norris endears himself to the hearts of the audience, and the ringing cheers that greet him when he comes in front of the curtain must be to him a grateful recognition of work well done. Mr Paige Lawrence gives effective aid by his embodiment of the weak Dick Shirley; and Mr Harry Paulton, jun., in his representation of Jim Williams, a pit hand, who is a sort of amateur Sherlock Holmes, has humorous opportunities of which he does not fail to make the most. He is to be heartily congratulated on an excellent character sketch. Mrs Bennett, who has been a favourite actress in South London for some years, appeals to the sympathy of her hearers in the grateful part of Grace Shirley, the school-mistress, and gives evidence once again of considerable power. An impersonation of weird potency is that of Mad Ann by Miss Judith Kyrle, who has to hide her girlish beauty under the grey hairs and wrinkles of age. She is highly artistic, and shows much ability. Miss Kate Connaught, whom we remember as Niobe, assumes with considerable success the responsibilities of the rôle of Mrs Clarges; and no more delightful parlour maid could be wished for than the Araminta Green of Miss Agnes Paulton. Miss Dora Hargrave as Mrs Baker and Miss Gladys King as Sal Jenkins capably acquit themselves as two of the pitmen's wives; and Miss Blanche Jordan does well as Jane, a village lass. General Clarges is a rôle that is very capably handled by Mr Edwin Bennett. Mr Jo Monkhouse is to be praised for his character sketch of Seth Baker; Mr Dudley Hayes is seen to advantage as Ned Jenkins; and Messrs B. Croucher, W. H. Terry, Edward Snow, and Arthur Wilson add to the success by their care and attention. The piece is finely mounted, the living tomb scene being a triumph of stage craft.

THE TREADMILL OF TOURING.

AN ACTOR'S CAREER.

Photo by Hall.

MR. CHARLES CARTE.

1904	Engaged by Mr Frederick Melville.	Hopeful.
1903	Stopped Touring own companies. Was engaged to star as the Drunken Stoker, in Arthur Shirley's "Midnight Mail," a Ten Months' Engagement.	
1902	Resumed own Tour with "A Noble Brother."	
1901	Produced at Kennington my own play, "The Cloak of Religion," and resumed "Great Temptations" tour.	
1900	Ran "Great Temptations" for fifty-two weeks.	
1899	Ran "Great Temptations" for fifty-two weeks.	
1898	Ran "A Noble Brother" till Christmas. Then produced my own play, "Great Temptations."	
1897	Ran own company with "A Noble Brother" till Christmas. Then played Will Atkins ("Crusoe") at Opera House, Leicester.	
1896	Ran own company with "A Noble Brother" for forty-seven weeks.	
1895	Ran own company with "A Noble Brother" for fifty-two weeks.	
1894	Commenced own tour with "A Noble Brother." Played Old Man of No Importance, in "Bo-Peep" pantomime, Royal, Bournemouth.	
1893	Played Folbach ("Falka") and Inigo ("Pepita") with the Lingard comic opera company. Purchased rights of "A Noble Brother." Appeared in pantomime of "Cinderella," at Morton's Theatre, Greenwich, as Ugly Sister.	
1892	Was engaged to play Jerry, the tramp, in "A Noble Brother"; Will Atkins, in pantomime "Robinson Crusoe," at the Theatre Royal, Bath.	
1891	Played Jarvis, in "Lights o' London." Appeared in pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Islington.	
1890	Was in the original cast of "Flashes," by J. J. Hewson; also played Philosopher Jack, in "Lights o' London," till Christmas; then pantomime "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," at the Standard Theatre, London.	
1889	Played the Jew, in "Redemption"; also joined Lieutenant Walter Cole's concert party, following Mr Walter Passmore; appeared as Buttons, in pantomime of "Cinderella," at the Grand Theatre, Derby.	
1888	Supported Miss Maud Branscombe in comedy and burlesque; also played Cockett, in "The Silver King" till Christmas. Then appeared as Dame, in "Jack and the Beanstalk," the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, South Shields.	
1887	Played Pat ("Unknown") with Mr J. B. Mulholland; also was comedian and stage-manager with Mr Walter Reynolds till Christmas; then played Buttons, in "Cinderella," pantomime, at Theatre Royal, Cardiff.	
1886	Played Pat, in "The Unknown," till Christmas; then was engaged to play Dame, in pantomime, at Theatre Royal, Croydon, with Messrs Roberts, Archer, and Bartlett.	
1885	Was with fit-ups till Christmas; was then engaged by the late Terry Hurst, of the Theatre Royal, Yarmouth.	
1884	Starving in booths and fit-ups.	
1883	Began supering at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester.	Hopeful.
	THE START.	

"SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM."

A Biography. By T. EDGAR PEMBERTON. London: Hutchinson and Co., Paternoster-row.

To the sympathetic and cultured pen of Mr T. Edgar Pemberton we are indebted for "A Memoir of E. A. Sothern," "The Life and Writings of T. W. Robertson," and "Ellen Terry and her Sisters," but none of these works surpass in interest or literary craftsmanship the record of the career of Sir Charles Wyndham, a goodly and well-printed volume just issued by the firm of Hutchinson and Co., of Paternoster-row. The fact that the popular actor-manager has himself supplied the author with much information, and in many ways given his assistance in making the biography complete and accurate, considerably enhances the value of the work, which is plentifully supplied with dates, and contains an index that will be much appreciated by the theatrical chronicler. In honouring the chief of light comedians, and in outlining his career, Mr Pemberton, as those who know him as a graceful writer need hardly be told, has not merely collated a set of dry facts about his distinguished subject. He, nevertheless, displays all the accuracy of the careful historian, but into his narrative he has instilled the sympathy of a close friendship, the discrimination of a fine critic, and the polish and brilliancy of an elegant and thoughtful writer. The dominant note of the book is cheeriness. We find it on every page. Sir Charles, indeed, is an invincible optimist; he looks on the bright side of life, and as the record of his well-bestowed charity goes to show, he has always lent a willing ear to the claims of the distressed and afflicted. In the first chapter, "The Overture," Mr Pemberton lightly touches on the chief facts of Sir Charles's early life. He was born at Liverpool on March 23, 1837, and is thus nearly a year older than Sir Henry Irving. He showed a predilection for the stage at a very early age, and after preparatory work at a school at Sandgate, he was promoted to St. Andrews, afterwards being sent to Germany to study at Norwied and Bonn. Thence he went to Paris to learn French, and commenced at King's College his medical studies, these being completed at the College of Surgeons and at the Peter-street Anatomical School, Dublin. In London he triumphantly passed his examinations, and gained his diplomas. He had early flirtations with Thalia at the Cabinet Theatre, King's-cross, and these "did not tend to diminish his desire to abandon medicine and surgery, and devote himself to the art of acting." In late years Sir Charles confessed: "I went on the stage only because I felt I could not settle down to any other career. The drama had entranced me. I fought against it. I tried to resist my dramatic impulses. In the old days, when I was a medical student at King's College, I took some part in various plays, but then the stage was much less attractive than it is now. The actor had always to pose as the humble obedient servant of the public, grateful to it for any favours it might condescend to bestow on him. He had to put his hand next his heart, and bow and meekly thank it for all patronage it might give him. I did not like this. And it proved a rather strong deterrent to my ambition for a time, so I went out to America and through the Civil War, determined to shake off my love of the stage."

We may pass lightly over the young medico's experiences of the American Civil War, which must have been a "terrible ordeal," Mr Pemberton tells us, for a man of Charles Wyndham's "fanciful and romantic temperament." Warfare had no charms or illusions for him, and while he did faithful, helpful work with bandages, splints, and anæsthetics, the "irresistible fairy footlights were siren-like ever beckoning and calling to him," and, returning to New York, he made his first entry on the boards with John Wilkes Booth, subsequently the unhappy assassin of President Lincoln. The new recruit to the stage however, failed to do himself justice, and being, as he considered, dismissed for incompetency, he returned to the army. He was ordered to New Orleans, Port Hudson, and subsequently, on the frustrated invasion of Texas, to serve with his old patron, General Banks. This was the spring of 1864. In the following winter the old longing for the "boards" returned, and, having been lucky enough to obtain an engagement with Mrs John Wood's company, he once more tempted fortune on the stage at the Olympic Theatre, New York. To this day he recalls how earnestly he studied "one of the distressingly long speeches in vogue in those days. It became an absolute torture to him." It made his days miserable and his nights sleepless.

"He thought more of the mere repetition of the words than the author's meaning in them, and it may be (though I never heard him say this) that they had very little meaning. Anyway, when it came to the point, this method of study proved to be disastrous. The palpitating young actor's speech was all about a lovely and equally young lady with whom he was supposed to be desperately in love. Excusing himself for untoward manifestations of his passion, his panegyric commenced with 'Drunk with enthusiasm, I'—and so on to the end of an eloquent explanation. Unfortunately, after he had uttered the first word the would-be comedian's memory forsook him. 'Drunk,' he stammered, and then stood staring vacantly at an audience filled with what Charles Dickens once called an unholy joy. No wonder that he was misunderstood, and once more 'dismissed for incompetency.'"

He little thought in his hour of disappointment that the delightful and accomplished actress would in later years play under his management at the Criterion, and that she would be proud of the privilege. Returing to England in 1865 he procured an engagement at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, in a piece called *Her Ladyship's Guardian*, in which Mrs Kendal, then Madge Robertson, played the heroine. The principal piece was supplemented by *His Last Legs*, in which young Charles Wyndham appeared successfully as O'Callaghan, even though his brogue in another Irish character, Shaun the Post, in *Arrah-na-Pogue*, was considered by one critic as sufficiently bad to justify a Fenian rising. He had some valuable experience in old comedy with Miss Herbert on tour, and played Charles Surface to Henry Irving's Joseph. Eventually he came to London, and made his first professional appearance on the metropolitan stage as Sir Arthur Lascelles, in Morton's well-worn play, *All that Glitters is not Gold*, on May 21, 1866. In November of the same year he scored a great success as Hatchett, in Burnand's wonderfully popular burlesque on Douglas Jerrold's *Black-Eyed Susan*. Of Sir Charles's performance in that mirthful production the author (Sir Francis Burnand), in his interesting "Records and Reminiscences," says:—"Charles Wyndham was a wonderful dancer, and however nonsensical might have been what he had to do he was thoroughly in earnest when doing it." How little did author and actor think, in the November of 1866, that the day would come when they would jointly receive their well-won honour of knighthood from the hand of King Edward VII. Long before the finish of the run of the Royalty burlesque Wyndham had found a place in Miss Herbert's company in the production of a piece called *Idalia* at the St. James's Theatre, where Henry Irving was playing "heavy lead." "What a charming villain Irving was! The only actor I have ever seen who has been able to make villainy on the stage appear, as it should appear, lovable." This is the criticism of Sir Charles on his old comrade. In October, 1867, he was engaged by Alfred Wigan for the opening of the Queen's Theatre in Long-acre, the attraction being *The Double Marriage*, which proved to be a failure, and gave place to *Still Waters Run Deep*, which was produced as a stop-gap. In this production Ellen Terry played to admiration as Mrs Mildmay, and Charles Wyndham made a palpable hit as Captain Hawkesley. In December 1867, Henry Irving joined the company, and played for the first time with Ellen Terry in Garrick's shortened version of *Taming of the Shrew*. In the early days of 1868 John L. Toole became a member of this distinguished band of players, playing Michael Garner in Henry J. Byron's domestic drama *Dearer than Life*. The cast included Charles Wyndham, John Clayton, Lionel Brough, Miss Henrietta Hodson, and Henry Irving. Another play of Byron's was produced on July 24, 1868. This was *The Lancashire Lass*, in which Charles Wyndham played the hero Ned Clayton. It was in connection with this play that Charles Dickens spoke with enthusiasm of "a young fellow who sits at the table and is bullied by Sam Emery. His name is Henry Irving, and if that young man does not one day come out as a great actor I know nothing of art." In the August of 1869 Charles Wyndham recrossed the Atlantic, and opened at Wallack's Theatre, New York, as Charles Surface, in an important revival of *The School for Scandal*, an impersonation that the New Yorkers found to be irresistible. So encouraged was he by his success, that he started an American tour with Miss Louisa Moore as leading lady. Among the attractions were Robertson's comedy of *Caste*, in which he played Hawtrey to Miss Moore's Esther. The Sam Gerridge was Mr George Giddens, who thus commenced his association with the Wyndham management at a very early period of his career. Coming back to London Chas. Wyndham reappeared at his old home, the St. James's Theatre, on Feb. 25, 1873, in Mr Stephen Fiske's comedy, *Rabagas*, following this with a provincial tour as Geoffrey Delamayn, the hero of the four-act drama by Wilkie Collins, founded by that brilliant writer on his novel "Man and Wife." The tour was organised by the Bancrofts. An engagement at the Royalty, in which he played Rolando in the old comedy *The Honeymoon* commenced in October, 1873, and now we arrive at the turning point in Charles Wyndham's career. This was his appearance at the old Court Theatre, Sloane-square, then under the management of the late Marie Litton, in the comedy *Brighton*, adapted by the late Frank Marshall from Bronson Howard's *Saratoga*, with which Charles Wyndham had toured in America. Since the memorable night of its production (May 15, 1874) his name has always been associated with the part of Bob Sackett. *Brighton*, indeed, was the pioneer of the three-act farces that came in later days to be called "Criterion comedy," which the mercurial acting of Charles Wyndham succeeded in building up. *Brighton* ran for a year at the Court, and was then transferred to the St. James's, being taken to Berlin in 1875, Charles Wyndham acting the part of Bob Sackett in German. His connection with the Criterion was commenced through one of those lucky chances that come to Fortune's favourites. Late in 1875 he was playing the popular *Brighton*, at Brighton. One morning while seated at breakfast he received a telegram from Tom Smale, long acting-manager to Thomas Thorne:—"Would you care to go in with me in management of a London theatre?" Whilst wondering what he meant, which theatre, what conditions, a second telegram arrived from a leading dramatic agent:—"Will you accept the management of a London theatre?" and the minute after one from Henderson, the husband of Lydia Thompson:—"Will you open here at Criterion next Monday in *Brighton*, and go in with me in management?" "There was something more definite in this, and I at once went to town to see Henderson. It seemed the Criterion Theatre, which had long been very unlucky, and had grown to be considered an unlucky house, had suddenly closed the previous evening. It had first Byron as manager, then D'Oyly Carte, then Spiers and Pond themselves, and lastly M. Petrie, a Frenchman, till the collapse came. It was easy to discover that the three telegrams related to the same theatre. Spiers and Pond, most reluctant to have the theatre shut up in this lamentable manner, had flown the next morning to the dramatic agent, who had promptly applied to me. Smale had heard of the collapse, and also telegraphed to me on his own account. Both were so reserved in their information that it is no wonder I answered Henderson first, as he had given some particulars. He was a very prompt business man, and propounded his ideas at once. Spiers and Pond were ready to give him the theatre rent free, provided he could open the following Monday with some sound attraction, so he telegraphed to me. I at once set to work to engage my company, and to rehearse, and managed to open with a revival of *Brighton* three days after, for a month's run. Then Henderson produced a burlesque which was not a success, and so proposed a partnership to commence the following Easter." He commenced at the Criterion on Dec. 27, 1875, with *Brighton* and *The First Night*, and soon became a partner with Alexander Henderson. *The Great Divorce Case* was produced on April 15, 1876; in November, 1876, came *Hot Water*, adapted by H. B. Farnie from *La Boule*; and on June 4, 1877, was seen for the first time *Pink Dominos*, an adaptation by James Albery from MM. Hennequin and Delacour's great Parisian success, *Les Dominos Roses*, which awakened the susceptibilities of Mrs Grundy. The next production was *Betsy*, in which Charles Wyndham had no part. We may well pass on to his production of *David Garrick* in 1886, for in that character his success with the British public has been enormous. In the same year, on May 29, was given the revival of *Wild Oats*, in which comedy Miss Mary Moore, to whom Mr Pemberton dedicates his work, made her first appearance under the Wyndham management as Lady Amaranth. Much more might be said of this charming history of the brilliant actor and orator; but we need not enlarge on Sir Charles's later achievements, as they are well within the recollection of our readers.

ONE of the sure signs of the near approach of what is generally referred to as "the festive season" is the issue of Messrs Raphael Tuck and Sons' series of Christmas and New Year's cards. The reputation which this firm has gained as the producers of a class of goods so intimately associated with the merriest time of the year is well maintained by their latest collection of cards. The immense variety and the artistic excellence of the designs are more striking than ever; and one marvels at the ingenuity displayed by those responsible for the production year by year of these charming souvenirs. It should be mentioned that for the designs the services of some of the leading artists of the day have been retained, and the utmost technical skill of inventor and printer has been requisitioned in the production of the finished article. It is only necessary to quote a few figures to show the magnitude of the trade carried on by this famous firm. Of Christmas and New Year cards there are issued 1,700 distinct sets, with from two to four separate subjects in each set, giving a total of upwards of 3 500 entirely new designs. The statement that each year has seen novel developments and an advance in the artistic style and general get-up of Messrs Tuck's Christmas cards cannot be gainsaid after an examination of the specimens given in the daintily got-up circular which has been issued with the happily chosen title of "L'Entente Cordiale." In this full information will be found concerning not only the cards, but also the increasing variety of Christmas literature in the form of booklets, block calendars, toy books, and similar lines.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—(ADVT.)

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Sir Henry Irving, while at Leicester recently, made some interesting remarks on the Drama. "Truth itself," he said, "is only an element of beauty, and to merely reproduce things vile and squalid and mean is a debasement of art. There is apt to be such a tendency in certain periods of our national life, and men should carefully watch its manifestations. A morose and hopeless dissatisfaction is not a part of true national life. This is hopeful and earnest. It is a bad sign for any nation to yearn for, or even to tolerate, pessimism in its enjoyment. How can pessimism be otherwise than antagonistic to beauty? Life, with all its pains and sorrows, is a beautiful and a precious gift. The dramatist and the actor have the mission to reproduce this beautiful thing, giving due emphasis to those royal virtues and those stormy passions which sway the destinies of men. The scheme of the higher drama is not a game in life to be played with varying success. It should fulfil its intention to interest and amuse, but earnestness, intenseness, and sincerity are in its deeper purpose."

"Hamlet's advice to 'suit the action to the word' must be taken with its corollary, the 'word to the action,' said Sir Henry. "As the mind of the actor is in advance of his action, so his action should be a preparation for his utterance. The eye is quicker than the ear, and it will be found that what to the audience are the most natural—the most seemingly accidental—effects are obtained when the working of the mind is visible before the spoken words fall on the ear. In every moment in which he is on the stage it is possible for an actor accomplished in his craft to convey ideas to the mind—to convey even a running commentary on what is spoken." On the subject of elocution Sir Henry said:—"To appear to be natural you must in reality be much broader than nature. No actor I have known brought elocution to greater perfection than Charles Matthews. His utterance on the stage appeared so natural that one was surprised to find when near that he was speaking in a very loud tone."

Mr Lionel Brough, we are delighted to hear, has returned from his holiday very fit and well, and will be in excellent form at the O.P. dinner in his honour to-morrow. Amongst the guests will be Mr Beerbohm Tree, Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir Francis Burnand, Mr T. P. O'Connor, Mr H. V. Esmond, and Mr Harry Nicholls. Mr Brough has always been foremost in assisting his less fortunate brethren in the profession, and, turning over a file of *The Era* for 1882, we came across a very kind letter from him asking for help for the widow and children of one William Bunch, an actor who had been appearing in *The Mascotte* at the Comedy Theatre, and who had died of kidney disease and dropsy. Mr Brough generously put his name down for five guineas, and his appeal in our pages was liberally responded to by many actors, actresses, and managers.

Mrs Gilbert, the veteran American actress, who is now eighty-four, appeared on Monday night at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, in Mr Clyde Fitch's play, *Granny*, which was specially written for her. Mrs Gilbert was born in Lancashire on Oct. 21, 1821, and went to the United States in 1849. She is known throughout the theatrical world as "Granny" Gilbert. After the run in New York she will take the new play for a tour through America.

Mr Martin Harvey's company was rehearsing *The Breed of the Treshams* in the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, when there was an alarm of fire, and smoke issued between the boards of the stage. The actors and actresses hastily left the theatre, and it was found that some shavings and loose wood beneath the stage were burning. The fire brigade was summoned, but before they arrived the theatre staff had subdued the flames.

Miss Edith Grenfell's play *The Red Café*, which is founded on Henry Greville's novel, "Les Epreuves de Raïssa," and has been played to crowded houses for some years in the United States, will be shortly presented by the authors at a London theatre, with new scenery and effects. The piece is taken from the same source as *Vilma*, in which Mrs Lewis Waller has been appearing recently at Manchester and at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington. A third version, entitled *Nadia*, by Lady Violet Greville, was produced at the Lyric Theatre, in May, 1892. In this instance Mr Arthur Bourchier played Count Rezof, and the unfortunate heroine was depicted by Miss Olga Brandon.

Various rumours have been afloat as to the founders of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. The following are the facts:—At a meeting of influential managers held at the Lyceum Theatre on May 8, 1882, with Henry Irving in the chair, it was agreed that the chairman and the actors and managers then on the committee of the Dramatic and Musical Sick Fund Association should be placed on the committee of a new Fund for the relief of distressed and decayed actors, to be called the Actors' Benevolent Fund; and the managers of seven London theatres undertook to subscribe, while in management, an annual sum of £100 sterling to the Fund. This was the real origin of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, the object of which was to do away with subscriptions at the stage doors for the unfortunate in the profession.

Mr Robert Arthur, whose pantomimes at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, and other of his provincial houses, also at Kennington, have gained for him a foremost place in this class of entertainment, has fixed on Christmas Eve as the first night at all his four suburban houses. The subjects will be:—At Kennington *Aladdin*, at the Coronet *Red Riding Hood*, at the Camden *Robinson Crusoe*, and the Crown, Peckham, *Cinderella*. Mr Arthur will this Christmas be responsible for the production of no less than ten pantomimes, giving employment to over three thousand people.

Mrs Charles Lauri called at *The Era* office on Thursday, and received the balance—amounting to £176 0s. 11d.—of the fund which had been collected by Mr Edward Ledger, the honorary secretary. It will be remembered that the well-known "animal actor," who was married on May 6, 1882, to the accomplished dancer Miss Zanfretta, died on Feb. 11, 1903. Very liberally did the profession support the fund for the relief of his widow, no less than £306 1s. 5d. being subscribed. Mrs Lauri wishes to express her heartfelt gratitude to all concerned in making the fund successful.

Miss Winifred Emery, having recovered from her serious illness, has been engaged by Mr Tree to join his company at His Majesty's Theatre after Christmas to play Beatrice in the revival of *Much Ado About Nothing* towards the end of January. Born in Manchester in 1862, Miss Emery made her first appearance on the stage in 1875. She is the wife of Mr Cyril Maude, and has three children.

Miss Lily Hanbury and Mr Herbert Gudalla, of 2, Hay-hill, Berkeley-square, are engaged, and will be married in January. It is to be hoped that matrimony will not deprive the stage of one of its brightest ornaments.

Mr H. Beerbohm Tree has sent to Mr C. I. Coltson, the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, £6 2s. 6d., and Mr Lewis Waller £6, which they have collected by means of making a small charge for their autographs. Sir Henry Irving, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr Henry Ainlie, and Miss Mary Moore are daily sending postal-orders, which they have received by same.

The fiftieth performance of *The Tempest* at His Majesty's Theatre was celebrated on Thursday night, when Mr Tree presented to every member of the audience an interesting souvenir in the form of a neatly-bound copy of the play, illustrated with reproductions of oil paintings by Charles A. Buchel. These pictures include Mr Tree as Caliban, Miss Viola Tree as Ariel, Mr Wm. Haviland as Prospero, Mr Basil Gill as Ferdinand, Miss Norah Kerin as Miranda, Mr Louis Calvert as Stephano, Mr Lionel Brough as Trinculo, Mr Lyn Harding as Antonio, and Mr Julian L'Estrange as Sebastian. There are also illustrations of the Shipwreck, the Wood, Prospero's Cave, and the yellow sands. These paintings have been admirably reproduced in facsimile by the Hentschel Colourtype process, the artistic excellence of the work reflecting the highest credit upon the well-known firm of Carl Hentschel, Limited.

The volume is prefaced by "A Personal Explanation" by Mr Tree, who takes advantage of the opportunity to reply to certain criticisms which appeared in print after the production of the Shakespearian comedy at His Majesty's. He remarks—"If our efforts to present this fantasy have been widely and generously recognised by men of letters and by the public at large, they have also called forth the wrath of others, whose vituperation, I prefer to think, has not been due to a desire to baulk high endeavour, but rather to an honest ignorance of the text of the play and to a whole-hearted incapacity to appreciate the spirit of the poet." The writer tersely adds:—"It may be broadly laid down that whatever tends to quicken the imagination of the audience—in fact, to create illusion—is justifiable on the stage. Whatever detracts from the appreciation of the author's work and disturbs the illusion is to be deprecated—is, in fact, bad art." It is worthy of note that the stage directions of the accepted versions of the play are printed in black, and the instructions having reference to this particular production in red. A crowded and enthusiastic audience witnessed the performance on Thursday night, and the favour with which the revival has been received by playgoers is surely in itself a sufficient reply to Mr Tree's captious critics.

Mr Edward Terry was married on Monday morning at Barnes Parish Church to Lady Harris, widow of Sir Augustus Harris. Shortly before eleven o'clock Lady Harris drove to Priory Lodge, Barnes, the residence of Mr Terry, and from thence she and Mr Terry walked to the church together. Lady Harris was dressed in a brown cloth skirt, brown bolero, and yellow silk blouse, and wore a toque trimmed with a yellow feather. The bridegroom wore a beautiful buttonhole in his coat, but Lady Harris did not carry any flowers. No one was present in the church except the daughter of Mr Terry and her husband, Mr Walter Colls. After the ceremony Mr Terry and his bride returned to Priory Lodge for refreshments, and later on left for Stratford-on-Avon. In December Mrs Terry will accompany her husband to the United States on tour.

Sir Augustus Harris bequeathed half his property, amounting to nearly £100,000, to Lady Harris, and the other half to his daughter, Miss Florence Harris, who came of age on the 8th inst. The widow and daughter are also interested in the English performing rights of many popular operas, such as *Carmen*, Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet*, and several of Wagner's works.

Sir Henry Irving's historical visit to Sunderland naturally recalls the memory of that grand old Shakespearian actor in the palmy days of Sadler's Wells, William Hoskins, of whose character and career Mr J. F. Hogan gave such an interesting and well-informed narrative in *Chambers's Journal*, under the title of "Sir Henry Irving's Tutor." Hoskins, it will be remembered, gave young Irving the letter of introduction that led to his début at the Lyceum Theatre, Sunderland. A few days later he sailed for Australia, where for the following thirty years he was a leading actor and manager, particularly excelling in Shakespearian characters. Mr Hogan was personally acquainted with Hoskins during the latter years of his life, when the venerable old actor, very much resembling an aged ecclesiastical dignitary, was conducting a dramatic school in Melbourne.

Mr Auguste Van Biene, at the conclusion of the second act of *The Broken Melody* at the New Palace Pier, Brighton, on Wednesday night, made the following speech:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—I am sure we have all read, with the supremest disgust, the disgraceful outrage committed by the Baltic Fleet on the innocent, defenceless fishing-boats. Putting aside any political feeling which we may rightly or wrongly hold, I am confident that we, one and all, despise the brutal action, no matter what reason or excuse is or may be offered. I therefore, by way of expressing our sympathy as Britishers with the victims, wish to start a fund towards helping in their hour of need the relatives of the victims of this shameful incident. I will head the list with five pounds, and any subscriptions sent to me here at the Royal York Hotel will be handed by me to the Mayor of Brighton to forward to the Mayor of Hull for distribution in the proper quarter." The speech was received with boisterous enthusiasm, subscriptions being sent to Mr Van Biene's dressing-room before the performance was resumed.

Mrs Edmund Phelps is not encouraging to young people who want to go upon the stage. "If anyone came to me and asked me whether it was wise to become an actor," she says, "I should say 'don't, because the market is overstocked.' The present race of young men look upon acting more for amusement than as a matter of necessity, and, the profession, as a result, is composed of quite a different class of individuals to what existed in my early days. In the past the actor had not the social advantages possessed by the present-day actor. We had an early training, which was most valuable, and I think we worked more for the love of our work, endeavouring to make and hold whatever position we might achieve. To-day a young man or girl jumps into that position, thanks mainly to influence and to the fact that society is more interested in the stage than was the case in the past. This has improved the status of the actor as a professional man, but I certainly regret the lack of seriousness that is shown nowadays in the theatre, and I also deplore the easy way in which, by that influence, the young actor obtains parts to which he is not entitled either by talent or by preliminary training."

Fremantle, the most westerly town in Australia, and the nearest to London, familiar to many English actors and actresses as their first and last calling-place in the Commonwealth, has just been provided with a splendid new theatre, under the style and title of the "King's." It seats 1 500, and is entirely isolated. It was opened on Sept. 27, under the management of Mr J. C. Williamson, the inaugural performance—*Monsieur Beaucaire*—being given by Mr Beerbohm Tree's touring company, headed by Miss Maud Jeffries and Mr Julius Knight.

The company, by the way, has been the subject of a question in the Western Australian Parliament. The Chief Secretary, who is the theatrical licensing authority at the Antipodes, gave it permission to perform *The Sign of the Cross* and *The Eternal City* on Sunday evenings in a theatre at Kilgoorlie, the leading Western Australia goldfield. A member wanted to know why a request from the Holloway company for leave to play *Two Little Vagabonds* in Kilgoorlie on Sunday nights was refused. The Minister replied that *The Sign of the Cross* and *The Eternal City* were sacred dramas, an answer that produced some laughter.

Mr Joseph Jefferson, at the age of seventy-five, has retired from the stage. In an interview the veteran actor said that he had decided not to appear again professionally, although he might give his services occasionally in the great cause of charity. Mr Jefferson's theatrical career began when he was only ten years old. But he denied that his survival of more than sixty years of stage work was due to a vigorous constitution. As a boy he was delicate, and fifty years ago he was denied an insurance policy. But careful living was the secret of a long life.

"We actors," Mr Jefferson said, "like 'the second round of applause'—to be patted on the back around the supper table in a good company of fellow Bohemians after the play. There was poor, dear Artemus Ward—such a delightful fellow, such superb company! When he came to London I said to him, 'Browne—you know his name was Browne—beware of the stage-door and the men waiting to carry you off to supper at Evans's. It's not so much that they'll put you under the table as under ground' and they did. I always had a cab at the door when I was playing at the Adelphi, and got in and put up the window and went home, no matter who was out after me."

That was in 1865, when Jefferson was thirty-five years old. "They were all very kind to me," he continued, "Paul Bedford and the Billingtons and Toole, the latter particularly so. I noted that, for I was on his ground, as it were. Every night at the theatre when I came out dressed for the part old Paul Bedford's basso profundo always met me with the same greeting, and it always amused me:—'And how is my young transatlantic kid?'"

Mr Jefferson recalled how Dion Boucicault remade the old play of *Rip Van Winkle*, remarking that he himself conceived the weird second act as it is now played, and related an amusing incident of his London engagement:—"Just before *Rip* was brought out at the Adelphi I went with Boucicault to that theatre one night to see Ben Webster, who was a very good actor. He was playing the part of a miser, and in the third act he opened a safe in the wall of his house, took out some papers, examined them, and put them back. There was a very strained moment of hushed attention through the house, but presently a small voice rang clear from the gallery:—'Wot's in 'em, guv'nor?' The house laughed, you may depend upon it, and Webster was very angry, but Boucicault said it was bad art on the part of the author to leave that small boy in the gallery in doubt as to the contents of the papers."

Mr Jefferson intends to spend most of his time in Florida, fishing, gardening, and painting. His son Thomas will continue to play Rip. He is the fifth of the line of acting Jeffersons from the first, who played with Garrick. In his valedictory message to the public Mr Jefferson said:—"I'm leaving the limelight to go into the sunshine, and I leave a blessing behind me and pray for a blessing before me. It has been dear to me—that life of illuminated emotion—and it has been so magnificently repaid. If I could send an eloquent message to the world I would, but somehow words fail me when I try to say it. I have been doubly repaid by the sympathetic presence of the people when I was playing, and the affection that seems to follow me, like the sunshine streaming after a man going down the forest trail that leads over the hills to the lands of morning."

Mr Frank Bertram, who is touring in Scotland with *The Convict's Daughter*, tells the following good story:—In December he is producing a new play, entitled *Hearts Adrift*, and on his way to Glasgow he was using some labels for this play for the carriage windows. At Carlisle the porters were taking tickets, and enquired of two ladies:—"Are you two *Hearts Adrift?*" "No," was the answer. "We are two *Convict's Daughters.*"

At the last meeting of the members of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, a resolution was carried, by a majority of two, in favour of retaining and restoring the cottages in Henley-street, presented to the Trust by Mr Carnegie for demolition, to give additional security to the birthplace. Sir Theodore Martin, who drew up the Act of Parliament regulating the management of the Trust, strongly held that it would be illegal to apply the funds of the Trust to the restoration of these cottages, but, notwithstanding this contention, a majority of the trustees voted in favour of the cottages being retained, and of £400 being spent on their restoration. Sir Theodore has now lodged with the trustees a protest against their proceedings. He asserts that the moneys of the Trust can only be used in maintaining in fit and proper order any houses or lands which are of national interest as being associated with the life of William Shakespeare, or his wife or parents. The cottages, he contends, never belonged to Shakespeare or his family, and on that account it would be illegal to spend upon their restoration any portion of the funds. Sir Theodore declines to undertake the responsibility of committing what he considers a breach of trust.

Mr C. I. Coltson, the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, gratefully acknowledges the following amounts, viz.:—£5 from T. D., per Mr W. H. Waddington, Theatre Royal, York; £10 from the Belfast Theatrical Charity Gals, per Mr F. W. Warden; £2 12s. 6d. from Wonderland, per Mr J. Woolf; £5 from Mr Robert Arthur, being a tax on theatrical free admission to Kennington Theatre, per Harold Entwistle; £2 14s. 4d. from Mr Cecil Beryl, Theatre Royal, Brighton; and £1 4s. 3d. from Palace Pier, Brighton, per Mr Drew Mackintosh, both amounts being obtained by means of a small tax on free admission.

Miss Lillah M'Carthy, who plays Rosamund Charlton, in *The Master of Kingsgift*, with so much emotional power, made up her mind to go on the stage several years before she first went to the theatre. She is of Irish descent, and passed her childhood in Gloucestershire, learning in the freedom of the Cotswold Hills to love and appreciate the beauty of nature. To this day she finds that there are only two places which entirely satisfy her sensitive nature—the heart of the country and the stage of a theatre! While she was still in the decimals Miss M'Carthy was taken to a performance of *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, and only a few years later, when she had reached her middle teens, made her first appearance—not as a little lord, but as a grown up lady.

Miss M'Carthy is chiefly known as having been Mr Wilson Barrett's leading lady. She first entered his company in the spring of 1896, to play Berenice in *The Sign of the Cross*. This was followed by a visit to America, and she then rejoined Mr Barrett for an Australian tour, being given, young girl as she was, such parts as the Queen in *Hamlet*, and Emilia in *Othello*. She afterwards created Zebuda in *The Christian King*, and Ellula, in *The Middle of June*, besides appearing in all the leading parts in Mr Barrett's répertoire. She was, it is needless to say, the Nellie Denver when he appeared for the last time on the stage, in *The Silver King*, at Liverpool. The part of Ellula was written specially for Miss M'Carthy—the name suggests Lillah—and it is her favourite character, giving the opportunity to show her skill in farcical comedy. In the first act of Mr Barrett's sixteenth century play—he intended to have put it on in London, by the way, during his season at the Comedy—Ellula is a light-hearted girl of fourteen, who afterwards disguises as a boy and falls in love with the hero, a dashing young Irishman. Miss M'Carthy is very ambitious and devoted to her work. Fond of sport and out-door life, she spends her rare vacations in fishing, shooting, and riding.

The cast of *The Walls of Jericho*, the play in four acts by Alfred Sutro, which is to be seen at the Garrick Theatre on Monday, includes Mr Arthur Bourchier, Mr Sydney Valentine, Mr O. B. Clarence, Mr David Domville, Mr H. Nye Chart, Mr Junius Booth, Mr Walter Pearce, Mr Stuart Dennison, Mr F. Cecil, Mr F. G. Knott, Mr Alfred B. Allen, Mr Harrison Carter, and Mr D. Imbert; Miss Kate Sergeantson, Miss Elfrida Clement, Miss Lena Halliday, Miss Mary Venant, Miss June Van Buskirk, Miss Ellice, Miss Muriel Beaumont, and Miss Violet Vanbrugh. Mr Bourchier will devote the receipts on the first night to the funds for the sufferers and the relatives of the victims of the recent Hull disaster.

Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry produce at Newcastle, on Thursday, Messrs Paul Kester and Charles Major's romantic drama *Dorothy o' the Hall*, with Miss Neilson as Dorothy Vernon, and Mr Alfred Kendrick, Mr Malcolm Cherry, Mr Horace Hodges, Miss Bella Pateman, and Miss Adeline Bourne in the cast.

Miss Olga Nethersole, who has taken a lease of the Shaftesbury Theatre, has engaged for the production of Mrs Craigie's play, *The Flute of Pan*, originally produced at Manchester this spring, a company including Mr Herbert Waring, Miss Annie Hughes, Miss Kate Phillips, Mr Dawson Millward, Mr W. T. Lovell, Mr C. W. Somerset, Miss Frances Ivor, Mr Berte Thomas, and Mr William Farren, jun.

At the first of the new series of revivals by the Mermaid Society at the Royalty Theatre on Monday week *The Way of the World* will be performed by a company including Mrs Theodore Wright, Mr W. H. Kemble, Mr Nigel Playfair, and Miss Ethel Irving.

A new musical comedy, in two acts, entitled *The Shah's New Suit*, will be produced at the Court Theatre, on the evening of Nov. 28, in aid of the Incorporated Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society. The Entertainment Committee includes Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, Lord and Lady Cheylesmore, and Lady Hillingdon.

Miss Lily Brayton's regrettable illness has caused her part at the Adelphi Theatre to be sustained by Miss Dora De Winton, and the rôle of Maddalena to be played by Miss Constance Robertson, the niece of Mrs Kendal.

Mr Charles Fry, whose eleventh season of Shakespearian matinées opens at the Court Theatre on Nov. 5, numbers some of the cleverest players in London among his pupils. Mr Ben Webster and Mr Hayden Coffin were two of his early "discoveries." Miss Nora Kerrin, the lovely Miranda at His Majesty's, was a later acquisition to the ranks of his excellent company. Miss Lilian Braithwaite must not be omitted from the list; or Mr Louis Casson, who is now at the Adelphi; or Mr Annand, who recently appeared at the St. James's. Mr Fry's performance this year will be given, as usual, on a draped stage, with Miss Olive Kennett once again as the leading lady. Mr Patrick Munro, whose character studies are always so excellent, is a professional reciter, who has been a member of the unique little company for about six years. Mr C. Francis, the low comedian, will only appear in one of the revivals this year—Costard, in *Love's Labour's Lost*—and Mr Fry himself will take the parts of Iago, Biron, and Cardinal Wolsey.

Miss Kennett made her début with the Irving Dramatic Club, playing Rosalind, in *As You Like It*, and remained with the club as leading lady for a year or two. She then joined Mr Fry, and gave recitals with him, as she still does, in London and the provinces. She has, perhaps, been most successful at the annual Shakespearian matinées in the character of Queen Katherine, in *Henry VIII.* Mr Fry is a talented stage-manager. He has a perfect gift for dispensing with "properties," and conducts all the rehearsals without using a prompt book, for he literally knows his Shakespeare by heart.

Mr Charles Collette was the first London actor to appear at a music hall. In 1887, when he was playing Bishopriggs, in *Man and Wife*, at the Haymarket Theatre, Mr Collette was also singing nightly at the Royal, Holborn, and when appearing as Autolycus in *A Winter's Tale*, at the Lyceum, he also did a "turn" at the Trocadero. At the now non-existing Opera Comique he represented Sir Hugh De Brass in *A Regular Fix*, and in addition was seen and heard nightly at the Royal and the Pavilion.

Sir Henry Irving had an intensely enthusiastic reception at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland, on Thursday night, when he appeared with his company in *The Merchant of Venice*. Every seat in the theatre, which is capable of holding 2,500, had been booked in advance, and the programme, a special souvenir of the occasion, contained a representation of the casket presented to Sir Henry on Friday and a facsimile of the playbill of 1856, giving the cast of *Richelieu*, in which, at the old Sunderland Lyceum Sir Henry made his first appearance on any stage. When he came on the stage on Thursday the house rose, and for fully two minutes the applause was continued.

The Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, which some months ago was converted into a music hall, and conducted by Mr Thomas Barrasford on the two houses a-night system, will henceforth be managed by a syndicate, with Mrs Madeleine Barber as manageress. Melodrama will be the staple attraction; and on Monday will be presented a revival of the Drury-lane drama, *The Flood Tide*, played by a company including Miss Julia Summers, Miss Mildred Cottell, Mr Charles A. East, and Mr J. B. Howe. The play will be followed by a variety entertainment, and the last item on the programme will be the farce, *Paddy Rooney's Blunders*. Mr J. M. East will be Mrs Barber's business-manager.

"The Master of Kingsgift" is to be withdrawn from the Avenue Theatre after to-night, and the house will again be closed. We understand, however, that Mrs Tom Kelly, the author of the piece has two other plays in readiness, one of which may be produced at a West-end house within the next few months.

Mr Walter Graham, whose ludicrous Mysterious Lilliputians have made such a hit at the Egyptian Hall, is producing a new sketch on his diminutive stage next week. It is called *Bunkum by the Sea*, and introduces several amusing characters, including a skit on the giant drum-major of the Kilties. Mr Graham has not only to remember the facial expression during his show—for his own head is thrust through the background—but to work the limbs of his little figure and ring down the curtain. He makes up his own "fit-up," and it is as complete, with scenery and footlights, as the largest stage. His future engagements include a tour that was booked by Messrs Nathan and Somers, but for the present he remains at "England's Home of Mystery."

Madame Bernhardt's season at the Berliner Theatre, Berlin, has been a great success. There was not a vacant place in the house each night—with trebled prices—and the audience was as enthusiastic as any artiste could possibly desire. Madame Bernhardt's greatest triumph was perhaps in *La Dame aux Camelias*, which is an old favourite here, but *Fédora*, *La Tosca*, *Phèdre*, and *La Sorcière* were not far behind. *L'Aiglon*, though given twice, interested the public less than the other plays.

Mrs Brown Potter, after her production of the Rev. Forbes Phillips's play, *Church or Stage*, at the Savoy Theatre, will produce there an English version of *I Pagliacci*, in which she will play Nedda, Mr Gilbert Hare enacting Canio and Mr Jerrold Robertshaw Tonio. Mr Gilbert Hare and Mrs Potter are now partners so far as regards her Savoy season.

Mr Matthew Brodie has been engaged by Mr George Edwardes to play Napoleon, in *The Duchess of Dantzig*, in a new company which is being formed to take the place of the original one, which goes to America. The fresh combination opens at the King's, Glasgow, on Boxing night, where they remain one month, followed by a month in Edinburgh, and then on through the big cities.

Mr Fred W. Warden, with characteristic enterprise, has arranged for a flying matinée at the Palace Theatre, Belfast, on Wednesday next, at which Miss Lena Ashwell and her London company will appear in *Mrs Dane's Defence*. Miss Ashwell, who will be appearing in Dublin during the week, proposes to travel from that city in the morning and return from Belfast by the limited mail train at 5 0 p.m., appearing on the stage at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, at 8·0 o'clock the same evening. As the entire distance travelled is equal to over 200 miles, it will be seen that Miss Ashwell is undertaking no light task.

Mr Robert Henderson Bland's book of poems has been excellently reviewed. It was published three months ago. The young stage-manager at the Avenue started to write even before he started to act. During a two years' engagement at His Majesty's, Mr Bland had the opportunity of showing his skill in making up, for he walked on as Mr Tree's "double" in *A Man's Shadow*, and succeeded in looking so exactly like him that the stage hands often mistook him for "the Guv'nor." After a season at Drury-lane and several tours, Mr Bland was offered the part of the Duke of Buckingham, in Mrs Tom Kelly's drama, combined with stage-management. He has another book of poems in preparation.

Mr Scott Craven is another young actor who writes successful verses. He also is a graduate from His Majesty's, and is now playing Bernard Mandeville, Mr Fred Kerr's original part, in *Letty*, on tour. Mr Craven recently returned from a professional visit to America. He has given his book the expressive title of "Poems in Divers Keys."

From the details received by this week's Australian mail, it appears that Mr Mel B. Spurr died quite suddenly from diabetes in Melbourne, where he was giving his monologue entertainment to large audiences in the Athenæum Hall. A few days previously he had contributed an article, "How I Make People Smile," to a local periodical, *The New Idea*. In this article Mr Spurr expressed his belief that elocution cannot be taught. He once started trying to teach it in London, but soon retired from the business.

Mr E. S. Willard's tour will terminate on Dec. 10, and shortly afterwards he will sail for New York, where he is under engagement to appear at the Knickerbocker Theatre in January.

The revival of Messrs Shirley and Landeck's popular military play *Tommy Atkins*, so admirably performed by the masterly stock company at the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, is proving so successful—playing to record business nightly—that the management decided to continue the run during the present week.

In view of Messrs Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's forthcoming revival of *The Sledge-Hammer*, it is interesting to know that the late Wilson Barrett, when disposing of the piece to Mr G. M. Polini, remarked "I'm letting you have my best work." The revival, which takes place on Dec. 19 at the West London Theatre, will be on an elaborate scale, and a long tour has been booked.

Mr Chas Cruikshanks, at the trial of Wm. Grimstone Monkhouse on the 21st inst. at Scarborough, attended to watch the case, as secretary, on behalf of the Actors' Association.

The production of *Othello* at the Court Theatre on Nov. 16 will be under the direction of Mr Norman Partriege, the well-known Shakespearian actor, who will be remembered in connection with Mr Osmond Tearle's Shakespearian revivals.

Messrs Hans Andresen and Max Behrend will open their season on Monday, Nov. 7, at the Great Queen-street Theatre, with *Die Grossstadtluft*, a farce, in four acts, by Oscar Blumenthal and Kadelburg. It will be played for one week and a matinée, and will be followed by *Einsame Menschen*, by Gerhart Hauptmann, on which occasion Fräulein Elsa Gademann, the wife of Herr Direktor Andresen, will make her welcome reappearance; and *Sein Prinzesschen*, by G. S. Perasini. In rehearsal Messrs Andresen and Behrend have *Traumulus*, Gerhart Hauptmann's *Rosa Berndt*, *Das Thal des Lebens*, by Max Dreyer; *Ein Tropfen Gift*, by Oscar Blumenthal; and *Jugenfreunde*, by Ludwig Fulda. Messrs Andresen and Behrend, supported by their entire company, will appear at the Midland Hotel Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, and will play there for one week prior to the opening of their season in London.

Miss Elizabeth Bessle, well known as a touring manageress, an actress an adaptor, and a journalist of no mean ability, is, we are sorry to say, lying ill. She has been writing an article, entitled "A Hospital for Brain-Workers." She advocates the founding of "homes" in connection with our hospitals, where the fees would not be more and not less than two guineas. She opines that the ordinary hospital is no place for the sensitive brain-worker. She asks "What becomes of our brain-workers of limited means in times of serious illness? What provision is there for our less wealthy authors, actors, musicians, when sickness takes them from their work, to which, without peace and scientific nursing, they have but little chance to return?" Miss Bessle would like to hear from anyone interested in this question. Her address is 40, Grove-end-road, St. John's Wood, N.W.

Mr Martin Chapenter, who has been at Egyptian Hall since August, is a young conjuror who excels in straight tricks, his cleverest "sleights" being accomplished with four full-size billiard balls. The idea of becoming a modern magician first occurred to young Chapenter when he was a boy of eleven, and a great admirer of a man on the beach at New Brighton, near Liverpool, who performed the old trick with cups and balls. Having solved the mystery of how it was done, he began to practise at home, using ordinary china cups and a small india-rubber ball. Mr Chapenter has never received a lesson in his life, and hardly knew the difficulties he had overcome until, in after years, a certain well-known conjuror complimented him on his exceedingly neat and clever performance.

When Mr Maskelyne goes to the St. George's Hall at Christmas for the production of *The Coming Race* Mr Chapenter and others will carry on a series of performances at Egyptian Hall for a month at least, the programme including Mr Graham's Lilliputians and the successful illusion *Well, I'm* ——. Miss Cassie Bruce, who has so long been the only lady in the bill at Egyptian Hall, is to act a specially written part in Messrs Maskelyne and Christie Murray's play at St. George's Hall—that of the boy Taë, who acts as the hero's guide and friend in the land of "the coming race."

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.
EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The case of Mr Henry Crisp is too sad for words. I enclose cheque for £10 10s. (from Mr and Mrs Kendal) with only too much pleasure to so deserving a fund.

Yours faithfully, W. H. KENDAL.

North-Western Hotel, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Crisp's case is certainly a very sad one, and I am very glad to enclose my mite towards his assistance.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WYNDHAM.

Midland Hotel, Manchester, Oct. 11, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Please accept the enclosed amount (£1 17s.) as a small donation to Mr Henry Crisp's Benefit Fund in token of the great sympathy which every member of this company bears for Mr Crisp in his terrible misfortune.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.

Theatre Royal, Limerick.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you add the enclosed cheque to the fund you have opened for Mr H. Crisp? His case is, indeed, terribly sad.

Yours faithfully, SABA RALEIGH.

Grand Hotel, Middlesbrough, Oct. 26, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Sir Henry Irving asks me to send you the enclosed cheque for £5 as his donation to the Henry Crisp Fund. He sends all good wishes for its success. Yours faithfully, BRAM STOKER.

20, Bedford-street, W.C., Oct. 26, 1904.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Kendal	10	10	0
Mr Hales	5	5	0
E. S. Willard	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Greet and E. Englebach	5	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	5	0	0
Adelaide Neilson Fund, per Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
George Alexander	5	0	0
Arthur Bourchier	5	0	0
Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	3	3	0
Edward Terry	3	3	0
John Hare	3	0	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
A. B. and J. J. Wright	2	2	0
Henry Kemble	2	2	0
Isabel Jay	2	2	0
David Allen and Sons, Limited	2	2	0
J. D. Beveridge	2	2	0
Saba Raleigh	2	2	0
P. S. C.	2	0	0
Ellen Terry	2	0	0
R. Gilbert	2	0	0
"Money Maker" Co., per Mary Griffiths (Mrs Arthur Lyle	1	19	6
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
W. Payne Seddon	1	1	0
H. Cecil Beryl	1	1	0
Edward Rose	1	1	0
Horace Mills	1	1	0
May Louise Cohen	1	1	0
Frank Denman Wood	1	1	0
John and Fred Coulson	1	1	0
Robert Redford	1	1	0
Frank Bateman	1	1	0
Yorke Stephens	1	1	0
J. O. Baker	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Conway Dixon	1	1	0
C. Ward	1	1	0
Susie Vaughan	1	1	0
H. Ainley	1	1	0
Constance Benson	1	1	0
Mrs Chas. Calvert	1	1	0
Marie Studholme	1	1	0
William Peacock	1	1	0
"Blimbo"	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
Will Dennis	1	1	0
Robert Pateman	1	1	0
Arthur Whittaker	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
J. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Katherine Compton	1	1	0
J. W. Nightingale	1	1	0
Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Topsy Sinden	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Ernest Stevens	1	1	0
H. W. Waddington	1	1	0
W. Johnson and Jos. Potter	1	1	0
Eva Moore Esmond	1	1	0
L. Braithwaite	1	1	0
William Mollison	1	1	0
H. N. Gibson	1	1	0
H. Jalland	1	1	0
Sydney Valentine	1	1	0
Henry A. Lytton	1	1	0
Rutl'd Barrington	1	1	0
Maude Darrell	1	0	0
Mrs J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kinghorne	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Davidson	1	0	0
E. Lawes	1	0	0
Nancy Price	1	0	0
Anonymously	1	0	0
"R. C."	1	0	0
Miss Amy Grace	1	0	0
Leonard Rayne	1	0	0
George Rayne	1	0	0
Dawson Dewick	1	0	0
R. B.	1	0	0
Julian L'Estrange	1	0	0
F. Withers	0	15	0
J. C.	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
G. E. M	0	10	6
H. Wilkinson	0	10	6
John Worswick, sen.	0	10	6
W. Cheesman	0	10	6
E. Holman Clark	0	10	6
D. Lyn Harding	0	10	6
Chas. Elphinstone	0	10	6
M. R. Morand	0	10	6
Miss C. Ewell	0	10	6
Herbert Shelley	0	10	6
F. Merer	0	10	6
Fred Emney	0	10	6
Will Smithson	0	10	6
J. Fisher White	0	10	6
J. F. Elliston	0	10	6
Harcourt Williams	0	10	6
"Well-wisher"	0	10	6
Pollie Emery	0	10	0
Louisa Gourlay	0	10	0
Mr M. Lang	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"B"	0	10	0
James Kiernan	0	10	0
Mary Brough	0	10	0
Carlotta Zerbini	0	10	0
S. A. Cookson	0	10	0
Anon	0	10	0
Maud Hildyard	0	10	0
Tom Wood	0	7	6
Frank L. Hayter	0	5	0
Mr Avrigny	0	5	0
A. and E. F. S.	0	5	0
Mr Q. Ashlyn	0	5	0
Mr Robson Paige	0	5	0
Mr W. H. Garbois	0	5	0
W. H. Nottingham	0	5	0
E. Cane	0	5	0
Chas. B. Bedells	0	5	0
N. Reynolds	0	5	0
William Lugg	0	5	0
Leonard Pagden	0	5	0
C. D. D. C.	0	5	0
George E. Mudd	0	5	0
Edward Fenton	0	5	0
Henry Bute	0	5	0
J. F. Dunn	0	5	0
Philip Desborough	0	5	0
Cato	0	5	0
Jessie Burgwitz	0	5	0
Miss Sanderson	0	4	6
F. G. R.	0	4	0
Mrs Udale	0	3	0
Edward Coutts	0	2	6
Mr H. B. Lewis	0	2	6
H. Palmer	0	2	6
Elinor Aickin	0	2	6
Mrs Cumming	0	2	6
"A. P."	0	2	6
L. H.	0	2	6
Mrs Darley	0	2	0
Eva Young	0	1	6
Great Percy-street	0	1	0
Marguerite	0	1	0
A. R. T.	0	1	0
A. H. Row	0	1	0
"A Beginner"	0	1	0
F. S.	0	1	0

"On the Stroke of Twelve" Company. Total, 13s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Fred J. Little	0	5	0
Herbert Vere	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Karl H Edwards	0	1	6
Fred Rivers	0	1	0
Fred Guinness	0	1	0
Harry C. Robinson	0	1	0
H. Creagh Hunt	0	1	0
Miss B. St Ruth	0	1	0

"The Dandy Doctor" Company, per Florence Smithers (Mrs Owen Dacroy). Total, £1 7s. 6d.

Mr and Mrs Owen Dacroy	0	5	0
Mr and Mrs Edward Marris	0	5	0
W. N. Gilmore	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs B. Rowe	0	2	0
Misses Stewart, Leighton, A. Nicholson, and Ivison	0	2	0
Lizzie Primmer	0	1	6
James Danvers	0	1	0
James Salter	0	1	0
Walter Nugent	0	1	0
Harry Louther	0	1	0
Stanley Hirst	0	1	0
Lillian Dacroy	0	1	0
Norah Melton	0	1	0
Cissie Evelyn	0	1	0
Flo Allen	0	1	0
Miss Nicholson	0	1	0

Mr Geo. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Total, £4 4s.

Mr Chas. Thorburn	0	5	6
Mr Frank Lawton	0	5	0
Mr Paddy Dupres	0	2	6
Mr Max Copland	0	2	6
Mr Sealy	0	2	6
Mr Selby	0	2	6
Mr C. W. Anson	0	2	6
Mr A. Linforth	0	2	6
Mr Hugh Fleming	0	2	6
Mr Harrison	0	2	6
Miss B. Lamotte	0	2	6
Miss L. Digges	0	2	6
Miss W. Browne	0	2	6
Miss M. Young	0	2	6
Mr W. Douglas	0	2	0
Miss I. Stratham	0	2	0
Miss N. Royston	0	2	0
Miss Hubert	0	2	0
Miss Anderson	0	2	0
Mr L. Hornsey	0	1	0
Mr Stembridge	0	1	0
Mr F. Freeman	0	1	0
Mr A. Watts	0	1	0
Mr P. Foster	0	1	0
Mr G. Wood	0	1	0
Mr J. Seghalloni	0	1	0
Mr E. Lietz	0	1	0
Mr Goodwin	0	1	0
Mr Cowan	0	1	0
Miss K. Lindley	0	1	0
Miss Webb	0	1	0
Miss F. Wellbourne	0	1	0
Miss D. Cammell	0	1	0
Miss Grey	0	1	0
Miss Burr	0	1	0
Miss Macdonald	0	1	0
Miss Minta	0	1	0
Miss Soma	0	1	0
Miss Fenton	0	1	0
Miss N. Donovan	0	1	0
Miss B. Middleton	0	1	0
Miss Lawrence	0	1	0
Miss L. Royce	0	1	0
Miss B. Royce	0	1	0
Miss Frederika	0	1	0
Miss Vincent	0	1	0
Miss M. Walsh	0	1	0
Mrs Williams	0	1	0
Mr C. Wakeman	0	0	6
Mr C. Hood	0	0	6
Mr Cookson	0	0	6
Mr Raynham	0	0	6
Miss V. Vaughan	0	0	6
Miss Kendrick	0	0	6
Miss Percival	0	0	6
Miss M. Foster	0	0	6
Miss B. Wren	0	0	6

Mr George Dance's Company, per B. Ralland. Total, £2 3s. 6d.

Bertie Ralland	0	2	6
Percy Yorke	0	2	6
Mr Wood	0	2	6
Harry Brayne	0	2	0
José Collins	0	2	0
M. Sadie	0	2	0
H. Williams	0	2	0
G. Barnes	0	2	0
Marie Adair	0	2	0
F. A. T.	0	2	0
Miss Drumond	0	2	0
Mr Dawkins	0	2	0
E. H.	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Austin	0	2	0
N. Cassidy	0	2	0
Leonard May	0	1	0
Frances	0	1	0
M. Maxwell	0	1	0
Gladys Gay	0	1	0
Mr Parry	0	1	0
R. S.	0	1	0
L. Beckmann	0	1	0
L. W.	0	1	0
A. Knowles	0	1	0
L. Hildroe	0	1	0
D. Kersey	0	1	0
D. M. B.	0	1	0

Mr Norman V. Norman's Tour, "Under the Red Robe." Total, £1 17s.

Norman V. Norman	0	10	6
Miss Beatrice Wilson	0	5	0
Robert Hilton	0	2	6
B. Iden Payne	0	2	6
F. Glossop Harris	0	2	6
Miss Kathleen Rind	0	2	0
W. Howard Ashley	0	1	0
Miss Lilian Kevill-Davies	0	1	0
Miss Norah Doyle	0	1	0
W. Marshall	0	1	0
A. Long	0	1	0
W. Barnett Parker	0	1	0
Richard Havers	0	1	0
Miss Coleman Phillipson	0	1	0
Norman Leslie	0	1	0
Cooper Willis	0	1	0
Eric Maxon	0	1	0
V. Cooper Willis	0	1	0

Collected by Chas. A. Chandler's "Bells of Haslemere" Company, per Powell Jones. Total, £1 6s.

Mr and Mrs Chandler	0	10	0
Mr Powell Jones	0	3	0
Mr and Mrs Leonard Yorke	0	2	0
Miss Polini	0	1	0
Stafford Smith	0	1	0
Green, Kidderminster	0	1	0
Mr Montagu Turner	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Cecil	0	1	0
Mr Douglas Hamilton	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Clarke	0	1	0
Mr Fred Alton	0	1	0
Mr Harry Montagu	0	1	0
Mr Ted Stone	0	1	0
Mr Bill Stephens	0	1	0

All subscriptions sent to Edward Ledger, hon. treasurer, *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., will be duly announced in these columns.

MARTIN HARVEY AT EDINBURGH.

Mr Martin Harvey, who has been appearing this week at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, was entertained at luncheon on Thursday by the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution Dramatic Society, in the local Carlton Hotel. The chair was occupied by the president of the society (Mr R. C. H. Morison), and among those present were the Lord Provost Sir Robert Cranston, Miss J. Martin Harvey, Messrs P. M. Macintyre, advocate; J. B. Sutherland, S.S.C.; Wm. Finlay, S.S.C.; George Stenhouse, David Patrick, LL.D.; J. Finlayson Gauld, vice-president of the society; J. C. Newlands, Maurice Isaacs, Archibald Dane, A. N. Duncan, J. A. Aikman, Percy Cooke, R. W. Calder, Harry Nathan, hon. secretary and treasurer of the society; Mrs M'Intosh, Mrs R. C. H. Morison, Mrs Gauld, Mrs Ezard, Mrs Low, Miss Frances H. Durham.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the health of "The Guest," recalled how he had first seen Mr Martin Harvey on the stage seven or eight years ago as a member of Sir Henry Irving's company, and remarked upon the hard work which it had been necessary to pass through in order to bring him to such a high position in the profession. He mentioned among his notable characters Sydney Carton, in *The Only Way*; the Gentle Count, in *A Cigarette Makers Romance*; Napoleon, in *The Exile*; and that very beautiful impersonation from the dramatisation of Hans Anderson's exquisite creation, Ib, in *Little Christina*. As factors in bringing about his success, Mr Morrison remarked upon Mr Harvey's artistic temperament and heredity, reminding the company that he was equally ready in picturing his ideas on the canvas as on the stage.

Mr HARVEY, in responding, said he had heard that this was the first time the society had ventured upon hospitality of such a kind, and it was a dreadful thing for himself and his wife to think that they were the unworthy cause of starting so estimable a body on a career of dissipation which would inevitably carry them, step by step, on their downward course. He interlarded his remarks with evident purpose, with numerous quotations from *Hamlet*, and excused this peculiarity of his speech by the fact that in his leisure moments he was supposed to be rehearsing the play. He hoped, he said, to produce it on Nov. 21 at Dublin, and if any of the company present were interested in the controversy as to whether Bacon or Shakespeare wrote *Hamlet*, he recommended them on the morning of Nov. 22 to visit the graves of both, and to make certain that whichever of the two had turned in his narrow bed was the real author. Adverting to the chairman's reference to imbibe Sir Henry Irving, he said it was his inestimable privilege to receive his training at the hands of Sir Henry, and to imbibe his love for his work; all his respect for it; all his lessons of endurance and patience; and all his belief in the efficacy of concentrated purpose, not to mention what little knowledge of the technique of his work he possessed.

Mr J. B. SUTHERLAND, S.S.C., proposed the toast of "The Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council."

Sir ROBERT CRANSTON replied, and recalled the time when Sir Henry Irving first appeared in Edinburgh. Ever since then the city had been ready to welcome such talent as that found in Mr Martin Harvey. Edinburgh audiences might not, as did those in London, rise up and applaud enthusiastically, but they preferred to sit still and drink it all in, and in that way they appreciated more highly what they saw and heard.

HENRY IRVING AT SUNDERLAND.

PRESENTATION OF A CASKET.

Sir Henry Irving made his first appearance on any stage in Sunderland in 1856, when he was between eighteen and nineteen years of age. By the assistance of William Hoskins, a leading actor at Sadler's Wells, he obtained an engagement with Mr E. D. Davis, of the Lyceum Theatre, Sunderland, where Irving played the part of Gaston, Duke of Orleans. Mr Alfred Davis enacted Richelieu, Miss De Clifford was the Marion De Lorme, and a Mr Edouin was the second secretary; and also represented a Monkey in the burlesque of *The Enchanted Lake*, which followed Bulwer Lytton's play. The association of the eminent actor with Sunderland was commemorated on Friday by a presentation to him of a casket containing addresses of welcome. The casket is of solid silver, richly gilded. It is rectangular in form and treated in the style of the Renaissance, and panelled and interspersed with figure supports finely modelled and cast. The centre contains a portrait of Sir Henry Irving in enamels, under this is an ornamental panel bearing the inscription of presentation, which reads as follows:—

"Presented to Sir Henry Irving, Kt., Litt. D., LL.D., by the inhabitants of the County Borough of Sunderland, Oct. 28, 1904.

"H. J. TURNBULL, Mayor

"FRAS. M. BOWEY, Town Clerk."

Local views showing the Wearmouth-bridge and the municipal buildings appear on each side. The casket is relieved at the corners by scroll work. At one end is a figure of "Fame," and at the other a figure representing "Welcome." The reverse, which is suitably panelled, also bears an inscription:—"Sunderland Shakespeare Society welcome Sir Henry Irving, Kt., Litt. D., LL.D., on his second visit (27th, 28th, and 29th October, 1904) to Sunderland, where he made his first appearance in the new Royal Lyceum Theatre, 29th September, 1856."

Above this is the Irving coat-of-arms, boldly carved, chased, and enamelled, and at the sides of this views of Stratford-on-Avon. On one end of the casket is a monogram, 1856, and ornamental ribbon work bearing the titles of the pieces Sir Henry played in on his first visit in that year:—*Richelieu*, *The Enchanted Lake*, and *Lady of Lyons*, and below, "Lyceum Theatre, Sunderland." On the other end appears 1904 as monogram, and titles of plays announced for the present visit:—*The Bells*, *Waterloo*, *Becket*, and *The Merchant of Venice*, and under these "Avenue Theatre, Sunderland." The lid is boldly domed and fluted, and has Shakespeare's crest modelled in full relief at each of its corners. The masks of Tragedy and Comedy are shown at the foot of a well-modelled figure of the Muse which surmounts the casket. The whole is placed on a solid plinth make from oak of great antiquity grown on the banks of the Wear.

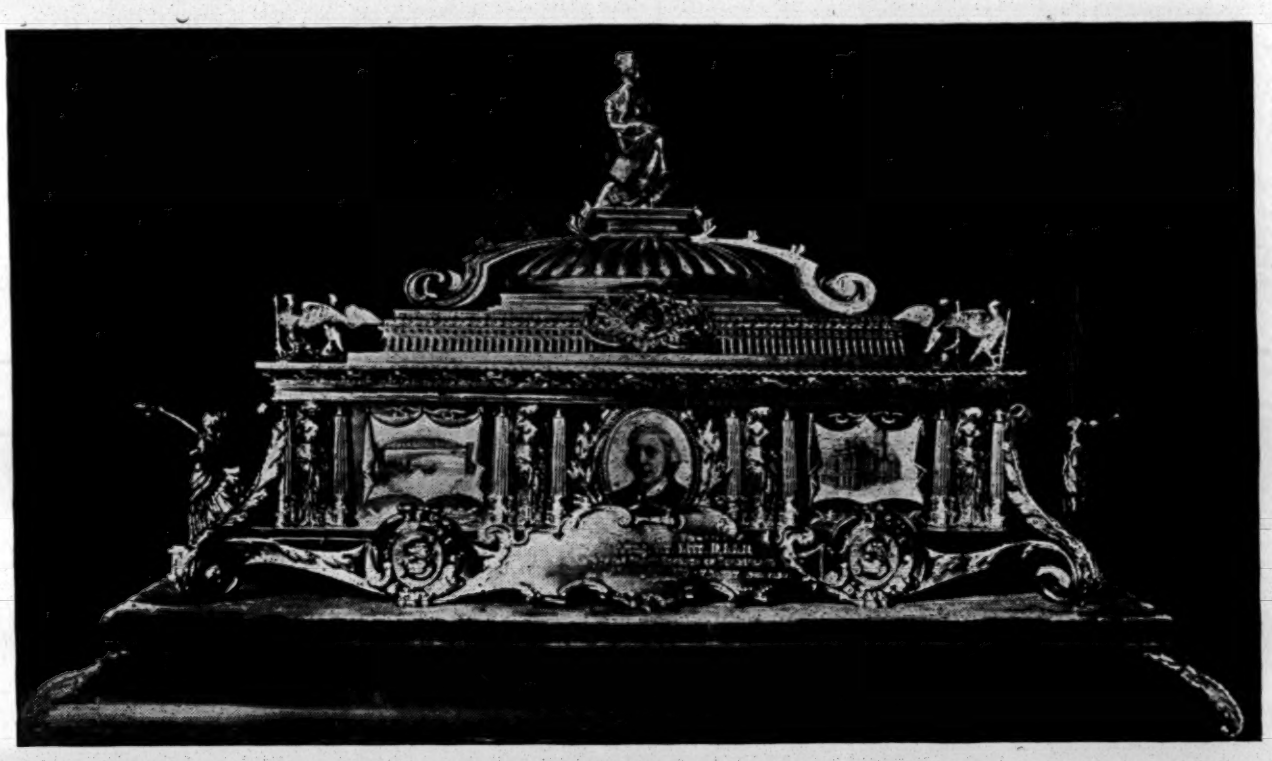


Photo by Percival Craig.

SUNDERLAND CASKET.

The casket was presented to Sir Henry at a reception and luncheon at the Town Hall, Sunderland, on Friday, by the MAYOR, with the following address:—

"To Sir Henry Irving, Kt., D.Litt., (Cambridge and Dublin), LL. (Glasgow).

"Sir,—On behalf of your numerous admirers and friends in the County Borough of Sunderland, we desire to offer you a warm and affectionate welcome to the town in which you commenced your career in the profession of which you are now the acknowledged head.

"In all ages the stage has been a potent force in moulding the convictions and shaping the aspirations of men—equally a means of instruction, amusement, and ethical purpose; and the personality of an actor who, to the skill of his special art, adds the feeling and inspiration of the artist, becomes a powerful influence for the advancement of culture. Still more is this true when the actor chooses to become the interpreter and exponent of the Shakespearian drama, the glory of our English literature.

"We have learned with regret that the stage is soon to lose your active service, and that the present must be regarded as a farewell visit. Fifty years will soon have passed since first you stepped upon the boards of the Lyceum Theatre in Sunderland, and we recognise that after your strenuous labours you have a just claim to a period of repose and quiet enjoyment. To remind you of our association with our town we present you with this Address and Casket, on which are engraved scenes familiar to us all, with an expression of the hope that you may long be spared to wear the laurels you have so well earned and to enjoy the esteem and admiration of your fellow countrymen.

"H. J. TURNBULL, Mayor,
and Chairman of the Reception Committee.
"J. G. KIRTLEY, Treasurer. "FRAS. M. BOWEY, Town Clerk.
"CHARLES BEVAN, Hon. Secs.
"JOHN ROBINSON,
"Sunderland, Oct. 28, 1904."

Amongst the invited guests besides Sir Henry were Mr Bram Stoker, who responded to the toast of "Dramatic Art;" Mr H. J. Loveday, Miss Maud Fealy, Miss Wynne-Matthison, Mrs Cecil Raleigh, and Miss Lena Ashwell.

In answer to the presentation of the casket by the Mayor, Sir HENRY IRVING made the following speech:—The great honour you have done me to-day makes me very proud to know that in the history of this famous centre of maritime industry you keep a place for the art which I have served all my life. You are kind enough to remember that here in Sunderland I made the beginning—the boyish and timid beginning—of my career. It is a long time ago, close upon half a century, and I cannot flatter myself that any of you—even the oldest—have any personal recollection of that event. Indeed, I may say with confidence that I am the only person who is qualified to give a plain, unvarnished account of what happened here on the night of Sept. 18, 1856, when the play of *Richelieu* was produced at the Lyceum Theatre; and not only that evening is vivid in my memory, but the whole preceding fortnight, for such was my eagerness to lose no opportunity, to leave nothing to chance, that I arrived in Sunderland before the theatre was built. The first night was passed at an hotel, and there, too, my advent was premature. The magnificence of hotels was not suited to that period of my apprenticeship, so I took a lodging a mile or two out of the town, and walked in every morning to superintend the building operations, and to wonder how on earth they would be finished for my first appearance on any stage. Well, the builders did finish their work—perhaps, after all, they keew what was at stake—and *Richelieu* was prepared with most disconcerting haste, and the boy, full of trembling hope, saw the curtain which shielded him from the audience rise abruptly, and then he had to speak the opening words of the play, "Here's to our enterprise." Gaston, Duke of Orleans, is represented by the dramatist as a bit of a craven, but he could never have been so frightened of the Cardinal as he was of Sunderland when he tried to utter those words! I cannot truthfully say—for I feel the responsibility of being the only witness—I cannot truthfully say that he did utter them. "Our enterprise," my enterprise, stuck in his throat. At any rate, it made entirely the wrong impression, for one critic of that performance urged the actor to take the first steamer back to his comfortable home, and abandon all idea of pursuing a vocation for which he was manifestly unfitted. I remember so well that the "first steamer" was recommended, not the first train, and I suppose the critic wanted to associate my penitential departure with the thriving sea traffic of your great port, and so point the contrast between my final discomfiture and your increasing prosperity. Certainly the voyage would have given me ample time to ponder the enormity of my presumption. But I did not go. I stayed here five months, learning useful lessons of perseverance by the helpful kindness of my old manager, Mr. E. D. Davies, and of the Sunderland playgoers, whom I found to be extremely patient, for they received me with the utmost good humour in the singing part of Henry Bertram, for which my confiding manager had cast me, as adequate support to Charlotte Cushman in her great character of Meg Merrilies. Well, there came a time long after, when I was able by a happy coincidence to carry on at another Lyceum the enterprise which had faltered at the outset, and to make that theatre, I hope, a not unworthy home of dramatic art for thirty years. You have been good enough to speak of this work of mine with very warm appreciation, and I take the most gratifying welcome you have given me to-day as signal testimony to the importance of the Drama in our social life. I have long regretted that in this country the Theatre is not, as it is in some other countries, an organised department of the State or the municipality, for I think it should be a civic obligation to maintain a standard of dramatic taste. No hostility to the Drama has ever been strong enough to eject it from the lives of the people. It has been preached at: philosophers have disdained it: it has been declared unworthy of serious and sober-minded persons. All this has gone on for centuries without damaging the Theatre beyond repair. It seems highly probable that centuries hence moderately virtuous citizens will still be found waiting at the pit door, where, as Charles Lamb tells us, he would rather jostle his neighbours than wander over a pastoral landscape with the shepherd and his sheep. There is an unquenchable desire in most of us to see the human comedy in its infinite variety reflected on the stage. The mirror has been held up to Nature for all time by a master dramatist, and in the genius of Shakespeare we behold an ever-living world. But I say it would be well if the Theatre could be so organised as to keep its best standards constantly in the public eye. It is at least as worthy of that distinction as a museum. The treasures of a museum are precious, but inanimate. They have the advantage—if it be an advantage—of not exciting controversy except amongst the learned collectors. The Drama is alive and lends itself furiously to dispute, as, in the course of a long life, I have had reason to know. But none the less some of us have striven to serve it, in one form or another, with unfailing belief and honest devotion. I am deeply grateful to know that such a purpose and ambition steadily maintained has won your esteem here in the town where I first strove to set foot on the lowest rung of the ladder. But it gladdens me still more to believe that your sympathy with the work I have been able to accomplish is a token of a real and abiding love of the Drama, a love which, I trust, will be handed down as a tradition and an inheritance to generations yet to come. So this beautiful casket, Mr Mayor, and the address which you have read, I shall always cherish as memorable tokens of my old associations with Sunderland, and of your kindly interest in my work. One of the inscriptions on the casket, I am glad to note, is signed by Mr John Robinson, as President of your Shakespeare Society—I may say our Shakespeare Society, for you are a branch of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, to which I have the honour to belong. I have had personal relations with many Shakespeare societies in my time, and have always regarded them as missionaries of humanity. For the study of Shakespeare is not the study of a writer who, with all his greatness, is remote from our own time and our own affairs. Shakespeare is alive in our thought; his speech is ever on our lips; and to enter truly into his spirit is to learn unending lessons of that noble charity which is the highest inspiration of our religion. I do not think you can carry on this study without recognising that Shakespeare's plays were meant to be acted, and that some trained interpretation of them is necessary to the credit of the English stage. There are students, it is true, who tell you that to act Shakespeare is really a profanation. What offends them most I believe, is that the modern theatre employs resources of scenic effect which the Elizabethan theatre did not possess, and they are so desperately Elizabethan, these gentlemen, that if they cannot have Shakespeare with the old placard, "This is a street," they would rather not have him at all. From this little eccentricity, Mr Mayor, I judge our friend Mr Robinson and his fellow-students to be quite free. And I gather, too, that our Shakespeare Society does not hold the theatre to be a vain show unless Shakespeare happens to be always going on. A broad and healthy interest in the drama is surely no small part of the heritage which our greatest dramatist has bequeathed to us. This, Mr Mayor, is why I value so highly the gratifying proofs I have received to-day that the Theatre has such staunch supporters in you and your fellow-townsmen, and that my small share in its history has been rewarded by your esteem and goodwill. This day puts an indelible seal upon an old friendship, and you have made me feel that in spirit and in comradeship I am a Sunderland man.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

On Friday, Oct. 21, *Carmen* was performed, Signor Caruso for the first time appearing as Don José. His beautiful voice was heard to the greatest advantage in the popular opera, and he sang to perfection the "rose song" in the second act, and his acting as the jealous lover was extremely fine. The costume of the Spanish soldier was not very picturesque. The heroine was sustained by Signora Gianolo, a lady well versed in all the traditions of the part, but to some extent deficient in the charms supposed to lure the soldier hero to destruction. Signora Gianolo was better in the card scene and the tragic duet leading up to the final tragedy. As Escamillo Signor Amato displayed the requisite skill and won the customary approval in the "Toreador" song. Signor Neale was an efficient Dancairo and the humour of Remendado was fully brought out by Signor Paroli. As Micaela Miss Alice Nielsen gave a pleasing version of the character, and other parts were efficiently sustained. Signor Campanini secured a satisfactory ensemble, and *Carmen*, as usual, attracted a very large audience.

The fact that *Un Ballo in Maschera* was originally written for the San Carlo, Naples, and was not produced there owing, in a great measure, to the rivalry of Mercadante then one of the most popular Italian composers, gave a singular interest to the performance of the opera on Wednesday. It is now generally known that Auber's opera *Gustavus the Third* had the same libretto as *Un Ballo in Maschera*, but when the score was sent to the San Carlo the state of Italian politics was unfavourable to the subject. The assassination of a ruling monarch could not be tolerated by the officials, and consequently the scene was changed to Boston, and instead of the King of Sweden, as in Auber's opera, being the victim, he became Governor of Boston, United States. Verdi, disgusted with his treatment at Naples, went to Rome, where *Un Ballo in Maschera* was brought out in 1859. Afterwards it was produced at Drury-lane and at Her Majesty's, and last year, after long neglect, it was revived at Covent-garden, the almost forgotten work of Verdi being recognised as one of his best. The representation on Wednesday was undoubtedly one of the finest the San Carlo company has given. The performance all round was thoroughly artistic, and the acting and singing of the principals deserved the utmost credit. Signor Vignas has done nothing better during the present season than Riccardo, the victim of the conspiracy, and as Renato Signor Sammarco, the brilliant baritone, greatly distinguished himself as a vocalist and actor. Signora Buoninsegna was splendidly effective in the difficult character of Amelia. No artist that we can remember in the past has more perfectly succeeded. The Sorceress, who is more important in Auber's opera than in Verdi's, was well sustained by the handsome contralto, Madame Cisneros; and Mdlle. Trentini as Oscar, the sprightly page, who has such pretty music to sing, did ample justice to the music, being also as gay and animated as the situations required. Mdlle. Trentini gained enthusiastic and well-merited applause. Commendation is due to the orchestra and chorus, under the direction of Signor Tanara. There was not a single fault to find, and we may speak of the performance of *Un Ballo in Maschera* as one of the most artistic and complete yet given by this company. It is no slight compliment to pay this excellent troupe to say that every performance raises them in public estimation.

A matinée on Thursday was devoted to Puccini's *Tosca*, but the more attractive *La Bohème*, by the same composer, was given in the evening to a splendid audience, filling the grand theatre to its utmost capacity. The fine qualities of the San Carlo company are now generally recognised, and it is beyond question that never has any autumn opera season been so well supported. *La Bohème*, popular from the first, is now accepted as one of the most sparkling, tuneful, and characteristic of modern operas, and on Thursday it was received with greater warmth than ever, the representation being admirable in every way. Signor Caruso was in fine voice and exerted himself to the utmost to make Rodolfo effective. He never sang better, and in his acting Signor Caruso fully realised the genial character of the gay young student. Miss Alice Nielsen appeared as Mimi with complete success, her rendering of the music revealing high qualities of pathos and passion. As the whimsical Musetta Mdlle. Trentini proved herself equal to her graceful task, and the scene at the Café lost nothing in humour. The merry Bohemians were sustained by Signor Amato, Signor Arimondi, and Signor Viale with excellent effect, and the careful and zealous conducting of Signor Tanara resulted in an admirable ensemble, the band and chorus being always competent.

IN Berlin an animated discussion is being carried on respecting the hour at which theatrical entertainments commence in that city. Places of amusement there begin their performances at half-past seven, or even at seven o'clock, and finish at from a quarter to half-past ten. As most businesses in Berlin do not close before half-past six or seven o'clock, business men have no time to dress or dine before going to the theatre. Evening dress is most unusual in the Berlin playhouses, and smoking-jackets and cycling-suits may be seen side by side in the stalls.

THE audience at Covent-garden on Thursday night included Lord Lansdowne, Lady Evelyn Cavendish, Lady Charles Beresford, Lord and Lady Brassey, Baron and Baroness de Meyer, Prince and Princess Victor Duleep Singh, Count Albert Mensdorff, and Lady Lister-Kaye.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

Mr A. E. Wood presided at a well-attended meeting of theatrical carpenters on Sunday evening in the Salisbury Tavern, St. Martin's-lane. Several candidates for membership were elected. It was decided that the "special benefits," recently adopted, be left open, irrespective of age, to lapsed members until the next general meeting in November. After that date the age limit for admission to the funeral fund benefit will come into operation. Carpenters out of work should register their names in the "unemployed" book. Mr A. Palmer, the secretary, will be glad to supply particulars of the society's benefits.

At the commodious painting rooms of the Crown Theatre, Peckham, Mr Cecil Hicks and a large staff of assistants are busy getting the scenery ready for the Coliseum.

The fireproof curtain at the Crown Theatre can now be worked from the stage door. The house is fortunate in having what Mr Cecil Paget has described as the "one-and-only-downright-stick-at-his-post hallkeeper." The "sprinkler" can also be worked from the hallkeeper's office.

The recent accident with the "sprinkler" at the Lyric Theatre is likely to prove expensive. The orchestra has put in a claim for damage to instruments and apparel, and there are other claims made by the company.

The joint concert committee have secured the services of Sir Alexander Mackenzie to conduct the orchestra at the concert at the Royal Opera House on Nov. 20. Her Grace the Duchess of Leeds has consented to be a patron, and his Grace the Duke of Bedford has placed his private box at the disposal of the concert committee. Almost all the West-end theatre managers have consented to their names being added to list of patrons, and several have applied for tickets. The committee has arranged to provide a souvenir programme, and report a great demand for tickets.

The national committee of the Theatrical Employees' Society met twice this week. It is proposed to call a meeting early in November, when matters affecting the rules of the society will be discussed.

Mr J. Rodgers, who has filled the position of stage-manager at the Newcastle Pavilion, has been transferred to the Glasgow Pavilion, under the same management, to take up similar duties. Before leaving the Newcastle hall he was presented last Saturday with a handsome signet ring and a purse of gold from the members of the staff as a mark of esteem. The presentation was made by the popular manager, Mr Will H. Boardman, in a few well-chosen words and Mr Rodgers suitably responded.

THE MUSICIANS' COMPANY.

The Musicians' Company gave a dinner on Tuesday night at the Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street. Mr W. C. Herring, the Master, took the chair, and the company included Mr W. H. Allen (High Sheriff of Bedfordshire). Mr W. H. Battle Sir Frederick Bridge the Hon. Claude Hay, M.P., Mr J. E. Borland, Mr C. T. D. Crews (Master-elect), Sir Edward Letchworth, Colonel Yates Browne, Dr. W. H. Cunmings, Mr E. E. Cooper (Senior Warden-elect), Sir Homewood Crawford (Junior Warden-elect) Mr Galloway M.P., Mr G. H. Heilbuth (chairman of the Music Committee of the Corporation) Prince Moorut Ulee Meerza, the Hon. Leopold Canning Mr C. B. Edgar (Mayor of Richmond), Sir George Martin, the Rev. Robinson Duckworth (the Chaplain), the Rev. R. H. Hadden, Mr E. Markham Lee, Sir Ernest Clarke, Mr J. Wrench Towse (Clerk to the Fishmongers' Company), and Mr T. C. Fenwick (the Clerk). After the toast of "The King" had been honoured the chairman proposed the toast of "Queen Alexandra, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and the Other Members of the Royal Family," and remarked that in opening the exhibition of the Musicians' Company this year the Prince and Princess of Wales had done much for music and musicians. The toast of "The Imperial Forces" was enthusiastically received. The Master then announced that the company had been presented by Colonel T. B. Shaw-Helier with a banner on which was worked a picture of St. Cecilia. Mr Henry Geehl was presented with the silver medal of the Musicians' Company, which is competed for yearly at the Guildhall School of Music. Sir Ernest Clarke proposed "The Houses of Parliament." Mr Galloway, M.P., responded to the toast, and said that he was glad to be able to state that he had that day had a very satisfactory interview with the Prime Minister in regard to the copyright of music, and he hoped that in the next Session of Parliament the grievous injury from which musicians were suffering would be removed. Sir Homewood Crawford gave the toast of "The Great City Companies." He alluded to the support the Musicians' Company had received from the Fishmongers' Company and the other great City Guilds in connection with the musical exhibition. Mr J. Wrench Towse replied. The toast of "The Worshipful Company of Musicians" was submitted by Dr. W. H. Cummings, who remarked that the company was doing what it could to advance the art of music in different ways. The Master, in reply, stated that at a court of the company it had been unanimously resolved to present Dr. Cummings with the freedom of the company. He also announced that Mr Carnegie had given a $5,000 bond to the company, and it had been decided to arrange for two scholarships at the Guildhall School of Music, and that night Mr Crews, the Master-elect, had presented them with a loving-cup.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

EAST LONDON, Oct. 1.—Town Hall.—The Westminster Glee Party have been playing to good houses for two nights and a matinée. Amongst those who appeared special mention must be made of Madame Marie Hooton, who has an exceptionally good voice; Mr Edward Branscombe, Mr Haydn Fraser, Mr W. Llewellyn, Masters A. H. Ludlow, G. T. Travis, A. G. Bates, and W. C. Edgley, who were all repeatedly encored. Mr Dudley Cranston, society entertainer, was heartily received. The performance is under the personal supervision of Mr Edward Branscombe, who is ably assisted by Mr Nigel Brock as business-manager.

When the action of Glover v. E. Hulton and Co., was called in the King's Bench Division on Thursday Mr Walter Frampton said that he appeared with Mr Charles Bray for the plaintiff, Mr James Glover, the well-known musical director at Drury-lane. It was an action to recover damages for libel as Mr Glover had reason—or thought he had—to complain of a certain paragraph which appeared in the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*. Counsel had seen Mr Shee and Mr M. Smith, who appeared for the defendants, and they repudiated any suggestion of libel, and said that the writer and the proprietor of the paper held Mr Glover in the highest esteem, and never dreamed of reflecting on him. With that Mr Glover was quite satisfied, and, with his lordship's consent, the record would be withdrawn. Mr Shee, K.C., repeated that there was no intention of libelling the plaintiff, and the defendants were glad to hear that he had not suffered in any way. The record was accordingly withdrawn.

A committee meeting of the Touring Managers' Association will be held at 3, Bedford-street, on Friday, Nov. 4, at 12·30 o'clock.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Lauri.—Oct. 22, at her father's residence, the widow of the late Ernest Lauri (Edith Adeson), of a son.

Russell.—Oct. 20, Miss Elaine Spearing, late C.C.C. of H. Brendan's *Coolock* company, Dublin, the wife of B. Campbell Russell, of a daughter. Both well.

MARRIAGES.

Cooke—Crump.—Oct. 27, at All Saint's Church, Manchester, Mary Alice, daughter of W. H. Crump, Esq., to Leicester Alfred Cooke.

Coxon—Dewsnap.—Oct. 19, at the Parish Church, Llandudno, Guy Dundas Coxon to Augusta Dewsnap.

Terry—Harris.—Oct. 24, at the parish church of St. Mary's, Barnes, Surrey, by the Rev. B. M. Kitson, M.A., rector, Edward O'Connor Terry, of Priory Lodge, Barnes, to Dame Florence Edgcumbe Harris, widow of the late Sir Augustus Harris, The Elms, Avenue-road, Regent's-park.

DEATHS.

Braham.—Oct. 18, 1904, at her residence, 392, Stretford-road, Manchester, Margaret E. Braham (Edith Fox). mother of Beatrice Vere and the late Walter Vernon. Ever to be remembered by her sorrowing grandchild, May Vernon (Mrs E. C. Lilly).

Gascoigne.—Oct. 27, at Best Brand, Broad-street, Bristol, Williamina Harty Angus Meads, the beloved wife of Charles Gascoigne, late Manager, People's Palace. Aged thirty-eight.

Horne.—Oct. 23, at Greenside, Dalton, Huddersfield, Kathleen Mary Horne, beloved daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Horne (Selbo), aged six weeks. Gone, but not forgotten.

Morton.—Oct. 18, at his residence, 11, Regent's-park-villas, Gloucester-gate, Charles Morton, the manager of the Palace Theatre, in his eighty-sixth year.

Seymour.—Oct. 24, at Leith Hospital, after long and painful illness Charles Guilfoyle Seymour. R.I.P.

Williams.—Oct. 21, Alf Williams, proprietor of Williams's ghost illusion and cinématograph, at his residence, Besses o' th' Barn, Lancashire, after a long and painful illness. Deeply mourned by his loving widow, Alice Williams. "Rest in peace."

IN MEMORIAM.

Cameo.—In loving memory of Frank Cameo (William Charles Whitehouse). Sadly missed by his sorrowing wife. Died Oct. 27, 1902. Gone before, but not forgotten.

Gale.—In loving memory of Fred Gale, who died Oct. 25, 1902. Never forgotten by his wife and daughters.

Lee.—In loving memory of Richard Lee, father of the Four Sisters Lee, who fell asleep Oct. 25, 1895. Never forgotten by his loving wife and family. R.I.P.

Managers interested in Melbourne theatres were up in arms last September, when the State Premier announced that the Government of Victoria proposed, as part of a scheme of economical reform, that there should be a tax on amusements. Every person attending a theatre was to be taxed at a rate to vary according to the part of the theatre visited. Those who patronised the gallery would have to pay, say, a penny, while dress circle visitors would be taxed at 3d. per head. It was suggested that the theatregoers themselves should pay the tax by affixing a stamp upon their tickets. Messrs J. C. Williamson, George Tallis, H. Rickards, and E. Collins (the latter representing Mr George Musgrove) waited upon the Premier Mr Bent, and pointed out that such a scheme would be unworkable and that if adopted it would tend to lessen their profits, as many people would be disinclined to submit to the inconvenience of such a cumbersome arrangement. The managers contended that instead of introducing obstacles such as the proposed tax, efforts were necessary to place greater facilities in the way of theatre patrons. Mr Williamson argued that it was unfair to make class distinctions when imposing a tax, and that the theatrical profession did more for the public charities than any other section of the community. He also pointed out that the local theatrical and musical professions supported their own poor, and thereby the State was relieved of an expenditure of no mean total. Mr Bent did not give the deputation of managers the satisfaction of a definite reply, but it is understood a less vexatious means of taxation will be devised.

At the usual weekly meeting of the council, held last Tuesday, Frank Lynden was nominated as a candidate for election as a member of the Actors' Association. The secretary reported that he had attended the Scarborough Quarter Sessions on the trial of a person charged with obtaining money by fraudulent representations, and watched the case on behalf of the Actors' Association, and the prisoner, being found guilty, was sentenced to five months' imprisonment. The hon. solicitors read an opinion given by counsel, advising the Council to proceed no further in the matter of a claim made by a member against a railway company. He also reported having advised several members on points submitted. A question as to the re-election of the hon. medical officers having arisen, the secretary received instructions in connection therewith. The secretary reported a case of alleged bogus management. The Council instructed the secretary to advertise the fact that members who have not tendered their resignations previous to Jan. 1 in any year are liable for the subscription payable for that year, and to post a notice to that effect in the general office of the Association. The Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes Committee reported that notwithstanding the increase in the annual subscription and the prediction that such increase would not find favour, 1,463 members had paid their subscriptions for the current year.

When H.R.H. the Princess of Wales visited Kings Lynn last week for the purpose of collecting purses for her new nursing home Mr Howard was one of those who generously subscribed towards the movement. The purse which he gave was presented to her Royal Highness by the daughter of Mr G. Bullen, a well-known and influential resident of King's Lynn.

Miss Florence Redfern, who undertook the part of Rosebud, at an hour's notice, in *The Fairy's Dilemma*, at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, with great success, is the grand-daughter of the late Charles Wood, whose productions at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, will always be remembered by lovers of the drama. Miss Redfern is a clever young lady. She sings, acts, and dances equally well, and is engaged by Mr J. E. Vedrenne for the forthcoming Christmas production at the Court.

At the Enfield Police-court, on Monday, George Foster, of Sutherland-terrace, Ponders End, was fined £10 for receiving bets at Ponders End on the 11th and 12th inst., and Wm. George Tuggey was fined £15 for five offences of a similar kind in the same district. Mr Woodcock, who defended, put in a letter, which he stated was written by Mr W. S. Gilbert, of the Edgware Bench of magistrates. Mr Gilbert said that the police should not allow such charges to accumulate, but should deal with them in the first instance.

The late Mr Walter Sealby was buried at Paddington Cemetery on Tuesday. Wreaths were sent by the widow and daughter, the family, Mr and Mrs John Sealby, Mr Herbert Sealby, Mr and Mrs Gibson, Mr and Mrs Ralland, Mr Levilly, Mr and Mrs Fred Little, Mr Bob Watt, Mr Peter Lawton, Mr and Mrs Kebby, and Mr Martin Adeson.

ON THE ROAD, OCT. 31.

Actor's Romance.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
Amorelle.—New Theatre, Cambridge.
Amorelle (N.).—Theatre Royal, Preston.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona).—Oswestry.
As Midnight Chimes.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Assassin.—Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.—New T., Aberdare.
Bank of England.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Beautiful Avenger.—Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.
Beautiful Fiend.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
Belle of New York.—Crown T., Peckham.
Bells of Haslemere.—Queen's T., Swindon.
Benson, Mr F. R. (A).—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Benson, Mr F. R. (B)—Theatre Royal, Lincoln.
Best Must Win.—T. R., Smethwick.
Bid for Fortune.—Sheerness.
Biggest Scamp on Earth.—Scarborough.
Bulmer, Mr.—Opera House, Treherbert.
Carl Rosa.—Prince's Theatre, Bristol.
Cheery Girl (N.).—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
Chinese Honeymoon (M.).—C. T., Kingston.
Chinese Honeymoon (N.).—T. R., Portsmouth.
Chinese Honeymoon (S.).—G. T., Swansea.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona) (N.).—Ilkley.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona) (S.).—Abingdon.
Conscript.—Pavilion Theatre, Edinburgh.
Convict's Daughter.—Perth.
Country Girl (Dance) (M.).—C. T., Wigan.
Country Girl (Dance) (N.).—T. R., Edinburgh.
Country Girl (Dance) (S.).—O. H., Norwich.
Country Girl (Macdona) (N.).—Hawick.
Country Girl (Macdona) (S.).—Llanelly.
Country Mouse (N.).—T. R., Blackburn.
Cousin Kate (S.).—St. Albans.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Albert T., Brighouse.
Darling of the Gods (N.).—O. H., Southport.
Darling of the Gods (S.).—Kennington T., S.E.
Disgrace to Her Sex.—Rochdale.
D'Oyly Carte.—W. G. T., Blackpool.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—T. R., Cardiff.
Duchess of Dantzic.—K. T., Hammersmith.
Duke of Killicrankie.—T. R., Bradford.
Edge of the Storm.—O. H., Burnley.
Executioner's Daughter.—Darlington.
Fairy's Dilemma.—Gaiety Theatre Dublin.
Fatal Fortune.—Theatre Royal, Hucknall.
Fatal Wedding (M.).—T. R., North Shields.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—P. T., Bradford.
Fatal Wedding (S.).—H. M. T., Walsall.
Female Swindler.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Fight for Millions.—Cam. T., Spennymoor.
For the Woman He Loves.—Dudley Port.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Doncaster.
Geisha.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
Girl from Japan.—P. O. W., Southampton.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—A. T., Sunderland.
Girl from Kay's (S.).—G. T., W. Hartlepool.
Girl's Cross Roads (Bruce).—Ashington.
Girl's Cross Roads (Melville).—Grand T., N.
Golden Ladder.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Greek Slave.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
Grip of Iron.—Theatre Royal, West Bromwich.
Harvest of Sin.—T. R., Houghton.
Harvey, Mr. Martin.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
Henry Neville.—Glasgow.
Her Fatal Past.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Honour Thy Father.—O. H., Kidderminster.
Hot Night.—Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.
I Defy the World.—A. T., Birmingham.
In Dahomey.—Opera House, Cork.
Indian Mutiny.—New Theatre, Ilkeston.
Irving, Henry.—H. M. T., Dundee.
It's Never Too Late to Mend.—Consett.
Joseph Entangled.—O. H., Middlesbrough.
Kendal, Mr and Mrs.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
King of Crime.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Kitty Grey.—Harrogate.
La Comedie Anglaise.—Tisbury.
Lady of Ostend.—Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.
Lady Slavey (Greet).—T. R., Gloucester.
Laughter-Land.—Theatre Royal, Greenock.
Les Cloches de Corneville.—Northampton.
Letty.—Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.
Life's Revenge.—Pardoe's Theatre, Middleton.
Lights o' London.—Grand Theatre, Margate.
Lightning's Flash.—Carlton Theatre, Saltley.
Little Coquette.—Opera House, Wakefield.
Little Mary.—Opera House, Cheltenham.
Lucky Durham.—Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
Man to Man.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Manxman.—Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.
Marriage of Kitty.—Grand T., Boscombe.
Master Criminal.—Grand T., Nottingham.
Modern Adventuress.—E. T., Southend.
Modern Judas.—Empire Theatre, Southend.
Money-Makers (N.).—Grand T., Croydon.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—Pier P., Eastbourne.
Moody-Manners (A).—T. T., Newcastle.
Moody-Manners (B).—T. R., Exeter.
Moody-Manners (C).—Bannockburn.
My Lady Molly (Red).—R. T., Glasgow.
My Lady Molly (White).—Southampton.
Napoleon the Great.—P. T., Accrington.
New Clown.—H. M. Theatre, Dundee.
New Clown (Greville).—G. T., Hastings.
New East Lynne.—T. R., Stockton.
New Housemaid.—Theatre Royal, Waterford.
New Mephisto.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
One of the Best.—Theatre Royal, Leamington.
One of the Family.—A. T., Kettering.
On the Stroke of 12 0.—Crewe.
Orchid (Edwardes).—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Orchid (S.).—New Theatre, Oxford.
Path of Thorns.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
Private Secretary.—Alexandra Theatre, N.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
Quality Street (Bright).—New T., Ealing.
Quality Street (Frohman).—P.W., Birmingham.
Richard Lovelace.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Royal Divorce (Kelly) (S.).—C. T., Warrington.
Royal Revenge (Clyndes).—T. R., Goole.
Sapho (2).—Royal Theatre, Bath.
Sapho (Annie Bell).—Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.
Saturday to Monday (N.).—T. R., Plymouth.
Scarlet Woman.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
School Girl (S.).—Opera House, Coventry.
Sherlock Holmes.—County Theatre, Reading.
Sign of the Cross.—Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Silver King (N.).—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Silver King (S.).—P. G. T., Folkestone.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Leigh.
Soldier and a Man.—Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
Sunday.—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
Sunday (N.).—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Swiss Express.—Gaiety Theatre, Ayr.
Tearle, Osmond.—Century Theatre, Motherwell.
Temptress.—P. O. W. Theatre, Great Grimsby.
Terry, Ellen.—Opera House, Leicester.
Terry, Edward.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Three Little Maids (S.).—Wisbech.
Three Little Maids (1).—Richmond.
Tommy Atkins.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Traitor.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Traitor Prince.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Trip to Chinatown.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Triumph of Truth.—T. R., Darlington.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—L. T., Pentre.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Q. T., Liverpool.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.)—T. R., Castleford.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Ashton.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Tully)—T. R., Dover.
Under the Russian Flag.—P. T., Preston.
Under Two Flags.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
Victim of Villainy.—Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.
Village Blacksmith.—Junc. T., Manchester.
Waller, Mrs Lewis.—Grand T., Birmingham.
Warner, Grace.—Empire T., Oxford.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Kirkcaldy.
When London Sleeps.—R. T., Barrow.
When London Sleeps (Finch).—Hebburn.
Why Men Love Women.—King's T., Cardiff.
Willard, Mr. E. S.—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
Woman and Wine.—Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.
Woman's Pluck.—Grand T., Halifax.
Worst Woman in London.—S. T., Clapham.
10·30 Down Express.—King's T., Nottingham.

HOCKEY.

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team v. Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.

Played near Clifton Downs on Oct. 15. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss I. Bowman and Miss E. Francis, backs; Miss C. Fowler (captain), Miss N. Bailey and Miss L. Belding, half-backs; Miss G. Leonard, Miss A. Bernard, Miss K. Elvin, Miss B. Godfrey, and Miss M. Leonard (forwards).

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss A. Gibbs and Miss M. Hamilton, backs; Miss L. Norris, Miss E. Lawrence, and Miss L. Coles, half-backs; Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss F. Hooper, Miss M. Burgess, Miss K. Montgomery, and Miss N. Lawrence, forwards.

Referee, Miss L. Carter (of Miss Cecilia Fowler's Team). Result:—Miss Cecilia Fowler's XI., one goal; Cotham and Redland Ladies Team, three goals. Misses G. Leonard, K. Montgomery (2), and L. Norris scored for their respective sides

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team v. Cotham and Redland Ladies Team.

Played near Clifton Downs, on Oct. 22. Miss Lilla Carter, of the first-named team, was injured at the commencement of the game, and had to retire. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss I. Bowman and Miss L. Carter, backs; Miss L. Belding, Miss C. Fowler (captain), and Miss N. Bailey, half-backs; Miss B. Godfrey Miss G. Leonard, Miss T. Maynard, Miss M. Leonard, and Miss A. Bernard, forwards.

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss E. James and Miss M. Hamilton, backs; Miss L. Norris, Miss L. Coles, and Miss G. Thomas, half-backs; Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss F. Hooper, Miss K. Montgomery, Miss Maudie Burgess, and Miss A. Mitchell, forwards.

Referee, Miss E. Francis (of Miss Cecilia Fowler's XI). Result:—Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Team, two goals; Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club, two goals. Misses M. Leonard, B. Godfrey, G. Thomas, and K. Montgomery scored the goals for their respective sides.

FOOTBALL.

Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C. v. Music Halls A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Oct. 15. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding (captain), goal; J. Lewis and A. Cox, backs; S. Carter, R. Slade, and W. Miller, half-backs; J. Aubrey, E. Belding, H. Clements, T. Palmer, and L. Clayton, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; T. Denton and F. Arni backs; T. Neagle (captain), W. Hinder, and J. Lacey, half-backs; F. Hansford, P. Reardon, B. Cullen, W. Meadows, and H. C. Douglas, forwards.

Referee, D. O'Connor (of Music Halls A.F.C.) Linesmen, J. Stuart and L. Hamlin. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, two goals; Music Halls A.F.C., four goals. S. Carter, J. Aubrey, P. Reardon (three), and J. Lacy scored the goals for their respective sides.

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs v. Music Halls A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, Oct. 22. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding, goal; J. Lewis and A. Hamlin (captain), backs; S. Carter, F. Stevens, and W. Miller, half-backs; J. Aubrey, H. Edwards L. Hamlin, E. Belding, and T. Palmer, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; J. Tyley and F. Arni, backs; T. Neagle (captain), J. Lacey, and W. Hinder, half-backs; F. Hansford, W. Meadows, H. C. Douglas B. Cullen and F. Boyce, forwards.

Referee, D. O'Connor (Music Halls A.F.C.) Linesmen, H. Hare, and P. Reardon. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C., nil; Music Halls A.F.C, one goal. J. Lacey scored for Music Halls A.F.C., F. B. Nicholls playing splendidly in goal.

Visitors to the old parish church at Richmond must have noticed the dilapidated state of the marble memorial tablet to Edmund Kean, erected in 1839 by his son Charles. When the tablet was cleaned in 1898 a plaster cast was made of the profile head of Edmund Kean in the centre of the tablet, and this cast now hangs on the wall of the Richmond Free Library. A comparison between it and the original portrait, as it now is, shows how greatly the latter has deteriorated in the course of a few years owing to its exposure to the weather. Mrs Paget, a niece of Mrs Charles Kean, and once well-known as Miss Patty Chapman, petitioned the Consistory Court of the Diocese of Rochester to grant a faculty to allow the removal of the tablet from the outside wall and its re-erection inside the church on the west wall, as near as possible to its present position. The vicar and churchwardens gave their consent, and it has been decided to place the tablet on the right of the west entrance over the verger's seat. It is expected that the memorial will be in its new position by Monday, when the new chancel is to be opened by the Bishop of Rochester. The tablet had to be carefully cleaned, and this has been done under the direction of the well-known sculptor, Mr Thomas Brock, R.A.

At North London Police-court, on Monday, Mr C. V. Young asked Mr Fordham to license a little girl to play for the week at the Dalston Theatre in *A Path of Thorns*. So far, he said, as the appearance of the child went, she had evidently found her life a path of roses. She had acted in this play continuously since August last, and dressed in the same room as her mother who was also a member of the company. She had a doctor's certificate of fitness, and her education was well looked after by her mother, and also by the agent-in-advance, who was a B. A. of St. John's College, Cambridge. She had passed the sixth standard when she left the Board school. Mr Fordham—How long is she in the theatre? Mr Young—She appears in four scenes—the first at 8·15; and she has finished by 10·45. She is twelve-and-a-half-years old, and thoroughly enjoys her parts, which include a cake-walk and a song. Mr Fordham—She is twelve-and-a-half years? Mr Young—And you will remember that Ellen Terry started younger than this. Mr Fordham—In other days. This is a profession which I very much admire, but it is a very difficult one. Mr Young—I think you will say that this child may safely continue her profession. Mr Fordham—Yes; I will grant the certificate.

Since the adoption of the Immigration Restriction Act by the Australian Commonwealth, the theatrical managers and amusement promoters of the Antipodes are forced to take out exemption certificates before coloured performers are allowed to land. During the past few months Major Taylor, the American champion cyclist; Merzouk, an Algerian wrestler; Abomah, the American giantess; and the Fisk Jubilee Singers were permitted to land in Australia only after exemption certificates for periods extending from six to twelve months had been signed by the interested parties.

The excellent likeness of the late Mr John Hollingshead, which we reproduced in the last issue of *The Era*, was photographed by Mr Henry T. Reed, of 443, West Strand. By an error the admirable portrait was ascribed to another photographer.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, Sept. 6.—Criterion.—On Saturday Mr W. F. Hawtrey produced *Tatterley*, and anyone who knows the conscientious work of the actor-manager can be certain that the part of the old miser, Caleb Fry, was capably acted. Attention to detail and absolute consistency are Mr Hawtrey's own characteristics, and Tom Gallon's masterpiece stepped out of the book to talk to the Criterion playgoers. The old servitor, whose stay in the play is all too short, was capitally reproduced by Mr Olly Deering, an ideal Tatterley. The selfish brutal cad, Hector Kingdon, was in Mr Gregor M'Mahon's hands, and received all the necessary attention. The drunken scene was admirably acted. The young artist Donald Brett found a congenial interpreter in Mr O. P. Heggie, and Mr G. W. Elton was the henpecked Hepworth-Mellows, a careful characterisation; the domineering wife being in the artistic keeping of Miss Emma Bronton. As the good-hearted landlady, Mrs Giffey, Miss Mary Bancroft did good work, and Miss Winifred Austin made Ella Parrant very winsome. Under Mr Hawtrey's own supervision the performance was a particularly smooth one.

Tivoli.—On Saturday a sensation was created by the appearance of the Peschkoff Company, four handsome Russian females and one male Their dancing and tambourine playing whilst depicting the national Terpsichorean vagaries were very fine, and the turn was an eminently successful one. Frank Harwood has won Tivolian favour, and Nat Clifford was heartily welcomed back. Nellie Kilburn, Ward Lear, Irving Sayles, Diamond Duo, Maud Faning, Ella Wellington, Maggie Fraser, Tom Leonard, Ernest Sullivan, and Little Olive Carr are all in the bill.

MELBOURNE, Sept. 21.—What promises to be a boom in Gilbert and Sullivan Opera has commenced in this city. Four weeks ago Mr J. C. Williamson's Royal Comic Opera Company returned to Her Majesty's Theatre, after a successful tour through New Zealand and brief but profitable seasons in Sydney and Brisbane. *Tapu* was selected for the opening piece, but the new Maori opera only ran for ten nights and *The Mikado* was staged for two nights to fill in the time prior to a revival of *My Lady Molly*. The latter opera also failed to draw good houses, but the two *Mikado* nights attracted crowded audiences. In the meantime letters addressed to the local press by enthusiastic playgoers urged the management to give them more Gilbert and Sullivan. Mr Williamson responded with three more nights of *The Mikado*, followed last Saturday by a well-staged production of *Patience*. It is seventeen years since Gilbert's satire on the æsthetic movement was last produced in Melbourne, and Saturday's crowded audience doubtless comprised a large section of a generation to whom the wit, humour, and dainty music of the opera came as a delightful surprise while older playgoers were able to revive many pleasing memories. The leading feature of what has turned out to be an exceptionally successful revival was centred in the reappearance of Mr Howard Vernon. This actor, than whom there has never been a better exponent of Gilbertian humour in Australia, was the original Bunthorne when *Patience* was first produced in Melbourne twenty-two years ago. For some years past Mr Vernon with one or two brief exceptions, has been absent from Melbourne, and his entrance on Saturday night was the signal for an ovation that was creditable to those who came prepared to show that they had not forgotten an actor who must now be classed as one of the veterans of the Australian stage. What was even more pleasing, Mr Vernon rose to the occasion, and Bunthorne was never played better, in spite of the grey hair that was hidden by the raven locks of the actor's wig. The other parts were also well placed. Miss Florence Young did full justice to the music of the leading soprano part, Patience, while Miss Celia Ghiloni is to be congratulated upon her exceptionally good representation of Lady Jane. Miss Maud Chetwynd as Angela, Miss Evelyn Scott as Saphir, and Miss Sara Hyman as Ella formed a pleasing trio, and Mr Reg. Roberts acted and sang well in the comparatively light part of the Duke. Mr Haigh Jackson seemed unequal to the difficulties of Gilbertian patter, but otherwise made a satisfactory Calverly, and Mr Arthur Hunter, who made his first entrance as the Major of the Dragoons, was called upon at a moment's notice to take the part of Grosvenor. Mr John Ralston, who has only recently joined the company, was cast for Grosvenor, but met with an accident on his way to the theatre, and the part had to be read by Mr Hunter. In spite of this unfortunate episode the stage-manager, Mr Henry Bracey, is to be congratulated upon one of the most successful comic opera revivals ever produced in Melbourne. The part of Grosvenor is now being played by Mr Ralston, and thus further strength has been added to the production. *Patience* is followed by *Charity Begins at Home*. The cast comprises Messrs George Lauri (Jo), Reg. Roberts (Gorringe), Claude Bantock (Bumpus), and Misses Ghiloni (Susan) and Chetwynd (Mrs Bumpus).

At the Princess's Mr George Stephenson's American comedy company is playing in a rapidly changing series of musical burlesque productions. Mr J. C. Stine and Miss Olive Evans have thoroughly established themselves as popular favourites. Mr C. P. Bates and Mr William Douglas also contribute plenty of fun, though some of their Americanisms are lost on an Australian audiance. Mr Ralph and Miss Reba Bicknell are dancers of great ability, who enliven the plays in which quietness cannot be noted as a prominent feature, while Miss Kate Douglass and Miss Marjorie Ford render good service in light comedy parts. Last week *Other People's Money* gave way to *Brown's in Town*.

Mr George Musgrove's dramatic company arrived in this city from London this week. The company will open at the Princess's with *Pretty Peggy*, Miss Nellie Stewart and Mr Harcourt Beatty appearing in the leading parts. Other members of the company are Mrs Maesmore Morris, Misses Nannie Bennett, Singleton, Willard and Davenport, and Messrs Malcolm Dunn, Dudley Clinton, Harry Parker, and Lindsay (stage manager).

Mr William Anderson's dramatic company has moved from the Royal (now being rebuilt) to the Bijou, where *The Worst Woman in London* is staged.

The Opera House, under the management of Mr Harry Rickards, continues to give a varied programme of many attractions. The bill for the present week shows the names of Mr Harry Atkinson, the Salambos, the Levinos, Will Van Allen, Historicus, Fred Bluett, the Steele Sisters, Blutch Jones, Ruby Clifford, Ida Rosslyn, John Kearns, Pearl Lovell, George Dean, and the Driscolls.

A report from Western Australia states that the dramatic company headed by Miss Maud Jefferies and Mr Julius Knight opened in Kalgoorlie, a leading mining town, to a house in which £1,000 worth of seats was booked.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

C. H. PUDDIFOOT.—*We cannot say. Write to the manager of the Oxford.*

APPLICANT.—*"She's a Woman Still" is probably the title. We cannot say whether it has been published. Write to Francis, Day, and Hunter, 142, Charing-cross road; or to Joseph Williams, music publishers, 32, Great Portland-street.*

J. ROACH.—*The authors of* The Fatal Card, *produced at the Adelphi Theatre on Sept. 6, 1894, were C. Haddon Chambers and B. C. Stephenson.*

R. G.—*Ranelagh Gardens were closed Sept. 9th, 1803.*

C. H.—*(1) For dates of production write to the author, 10 Adelphi-terrace Strand. (2) To give the full cast of four plays would occupy more space than we can allot to one correspondent.*

CECIL DU GUE.—*The title has very probably been used, though we cannot trace it. A one-act piece, entitled* Betrayed by a Kiss, *was produced at the Opera Comique, May 5th, 1891.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.

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AMUSEMENTS IN INDIA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, OCT. 7.—THE Royal Coronation Circus has opened on the Maidan here, commencing Monday last, and inaugurating our cold season amusement programme. Amongst the leading turns are Blanche and Diacoff, the teacup track riders, whose performance is most sensational. Mokana, the handcuff monarch and jail breaker, is the first notable artiste who has appeared in this style of entertainment in India. The equestrian acts of Mdlle. Felding and Mr Johnstone are a distinct change from the old circus shows; the Musical Ashbys, a well-known music hall turn, and the Sisters Burgess, a couple of pleasing singers and coon dancers, also contribute. Both the Flying Meteors, who are on a second visit to the far East and have already made their name out here, and Mdlle. Elivo on the single trapeze, are just the sort of turns to achieve success here. The clowns, headed by the Burra Sahib, Mr J. Jenkins, the proprietor, cause hearty laughter. Willie Jenkins, a clever youngster about six, does a smart turn with his Shetland ponies.

AT North London Police-court, on Tuesday, an application was made to Mr Dickinson for a licence to enable a boy to take part in an acrobatic performance at the Hackney Empire. Mr Dickinson—Have the police had notice? Sub-Divisional Inspector Lee—Yes; they have had a kind of notice; but it is so vague that there was nothing for us to act upon. The manager of the music hall does all he can to assist the police; but these acrobats, who are usually foreigners, and only arrive in London a few hours before the performance, do not always give the police the information they require. Mr Dickinson—I shall refuse the certificate. The police must be supported in insisting upon proper information being given with regard to these child acrobats.

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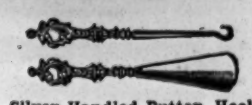

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NAME.	DATE.
Adams, the Late Mr Bert ..	April 25, 1904.
Adams, Miss Nina Blake	September 17, 1904.
Aldred, Mr Charles	May 7, 1904.
Alexander, Mr George	March 12, 1904.
Alleyne, Miss Frances	May 14 1904.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs	May 7, 1904.
Bard, Mr Wilkie.....	September 10, 1904.
Barrett, Mr Oscar	March 26 1904.
Barrett, the Late Mr Wilson.	July 23, 1904.
Barth, Mr Cecil	June 11, 1904.
Bartlett, Mr J. J.	July 2, 1904.
Barton, Miss Adah.....	April 16, 1904.
Beaufort, Mr Lealie	March 12, 1904.
Bertram, Miss Celestine	July 2, 1904.
Billington, the Late Mr John	September 10, 1904.
Bint, Mr Billie	September 3, 1904.
Bland, Mr R. Henderson....	March 12, 1904.
Blande, Miss Edith	June 25, 1904.
Bodie, Dr. Walford, M.D. ..	April 9, 1904.
Booth, Mr J. H.	August 6, 1904.
Bourchier, Mr Arthur	February 20, 1904.
Bracewell, Mr Joe.....	May 14, 1904.
Brayne, Mr Harry	July 16, 1904.
Browning, Mr Charles	May 21, 1904.
Burnett, Mr Frank E.	March 19 1904.
Butt, Mr Alfred	July 30, 1904
Cabourn, Mr John.....	August 13, 1904.
Campbell, the Late Mr Herbt.	July 23, 1904.
Campbell, Miss Audrey	October 8, 1904.
Carne, Mr Joseph	May 7, 1904.
Carlile, Mr Leslie Roy	May 21, 1904.
Charles, the Late Mr Fred ..	August 6, 1904.
Cheevers, Mr J. E.	October 1, 1904.
Chippendale, Mr James	September 17, 1904.
Clark, Mr Cuthbert	October 15, 1904.
Clavering, Miss Marie	October 8 1904
Clyde, Miss Hilda	May 21, 1904.
Coleman, the Late Mr John..	April 23, 1904.
Corona, the Late Don Edgardo	August 20, 1904.
Craven, Mr Hawes.....	October 8, 1904.
Dale, Mr Arthur.....	February 27 1904.
Danbury, Miss Ethel.....	September 17, 1904.
Dance, Mr Reginald	February 13, 1904.
Dansey, Mr Herbert.....	March 5 1904.
Davis, Miss Flora	September 10, 1904.
Day, Mr David	October 8, 1904.
Dent, Mr Bert.....	April 16, 1904.
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Gelderd, Mr James	July 2 1904
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Gilfain, Miss Trixie	May 14, 1904.
Godfrey, Mr Dan	May 14, 1904.
Grahame, Mr J. Lynward ..	April 9 1904.
Grey, Miss Marion.....	March 19, 1904.
Griffith, Miss Mary	October 22, 1904.
Gunn, Miss Haidée	August 6 1904.
Hamer, Miss Florence	March 26, 1904.
Harcourt-Williams, Mr E. ..	July 9, 1904
Hardy, "American Blondin"	April 16, 1904.
Harrison, Miss Bessie	April 9, 1904.
Henderson, Miss Millie.....	August 13, 1904.
Herbert, the Late Mi s Ethel	April 16, 1904.
Hildyard, Miss Maud	October 8. 1904.
Hollingshead, the Late Mr J.	October 15, 1904.
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An ankle revealing half way to the ceiling,
And so, and so, and so!
Oh, heigh ho! for thus and thus we go,
With Johnnies and Tommies, and breaches of promise,
And so, and so, and so!
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"A B C D" (James Hargreaves) ..	Wilkie Bard
"All the harm I wish you" (R. P. Weston)	Harry Anderson
"All the little Ja-pansy faces" (Harry Castling)	Mark Sheridan
"All the Girls are Lov-er-ly-over-ly" (Harrington and Thurban)	R. G. Knowles
"Anywhere there will do" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Seeley
"A Warning to Single Men" (Bateman and Pether)	Arthur Reece
"Blue-Bell" (Madden and Morse)..	Hamilton Hill
[Above also sung by Miss Mabel La Blanche, Miss Dorothy L. Clark, Miss Florence Esdaile, the Sisters Jonghmanns, Miss Nellie Stratton, Miss Maud Esmond, Miss Nita Clavering, Miss Margaret Radcliffe, and the Langdons.]	
"Britannia's Babes" (Carter and Weston)	George Leyton
"'Come in!' said Widdy Malone" (Harrington and Le Brunn) ..	Michael Nolan
"Daisy" (Cecil Lidden)	G. H. Elliott
"Dat Little Gal of Johnson's" (C. W. Murphy)	Eugene Stratton
"Delusions" (Phil Ray)	Phil Ray
"Doan'Cry, Little Coloured Coon" (S. F. Harrison and Neat)	Miss Harriet Vernon
"Don't Stand There ——!" (Lawrance and Gifford).....	Walter Stanley
"Farewell, my little Yo San" (Mills and B. Scott)	Tom Costello
"Frozen Meat" (T. W. Connor) ..	Alf Gibson
"Have you seen my girl?" (Mills and Scott).....	Walter Munroe
"He Kissed I Once" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Loftus
"I did enjoy myself last night" (Lawrence and M. Scott).....	Will Johnson
"I don't mind if it amuses you!" (Leigh and Pether)	Ben Albert
"If all the stars were mine" (Smith and Stromberg)	Miss Lilian Doreen
"I'm a girl of Tennessee" (Eden and Byng)	Miss Lil Hawthorne
"I'm coming home to you" (Herbert Darnley)	Miss Dorothy L Clark
"I'm going to sea (see) (Leamore and Collins).....	Tom Leamore
"I'm round there to-night!" (Wincott and Leighton)	Dan Crawley
"Isn't that like a Man?" (Paul Mill)	Paul Mill
"It's all right in the summer time" (Murray and Everard)	Miss Vesta Victoria
"It's the Poor that help the Poor" (Mills and Castling)	Miss Florrie Gallimore
"I went round the following Morn" (Allsopp, Mayo, and Stewart)	Sam Mayo
"I Wouldn't Grumble Any More" (Harry Castling).....	Harry Bedford
"I've been a Naughty Boy all Day" (Carter and Weston).....	Miss Georgina Leonard
"Jolly Jarge" (Mills and Arthurs)	George Bastow
"Julia" (Robson and Hyde).....	Miss Gladys Mavius
"Just a Girl" (Elton and Harrison).....	Miss Minnie Cunningham
"Little Jap Horner" (F. V. St. Clair).....	F. V. St. Clair
"Ma Dusky Rose" (Harrington and Le Brunn	Miss Florrie Robina
"Maude! Maude!" (Barnes and Collins)	Miss Lottie Lennox
"My Fiddle is My Sweetheart" (Harry Hunter)	G. H. Chirgwin
"My Japanesy Girl" (Delmar and Parry)	Hal Forde
"My Lily of the Valley" (Frank Leo).....	Miss Sable Fern
"Oh, Nancy Lee" (T. W. Connor).	Miss Millie Hylton
"One Little Cottage all Our Own" (J. F. Lambe)	Miss Dolly Harmer
"Revenges" (Dunlop and Pether)	Wallis Arthur
[Above also sung by Whit Cunliffe].	
"She must have known!" (David and Scott)	J. E. Coyle
She said, 'Baa! Baa! Baa!'" (Harrington and H. Allen).....	Miss Florrie Forde
"Sit on 'em and keep 'em warm" (Wincott and Leighton)	Harry Champion
"That's him! That's him! That's him!" (Mills and Scott)	Harry Freeman
"The Angel of My Dreams" (Leigh and Pether).....	Miss Millie Lindon
"The Coster's Christening" (Harrington and Le Brunn).....	Miss Marie Lloyd
"The Gambling Man" (Jerome and Schwartz)	Miss Carlotta Levey
"The Garden Filled with Gold" (Bateman and Murphy)	Miss Marie Kendall
"The New Insurance" (Arthurs and Lyle)	Ernest Shand
"The New Perjarma 'At" (T. W. Connor).....	Gus Elen
"The Playground in the Sky" (Bateman and Pether).....	Milner Verren
"The Saftest o' the Family" (Lauder and Beaton)	Harry Lauder
"The Seaside Sultan" (C. W. Murphy)	Miss Vesta Tilley
"The Statue in Trafalgar-square" (Arthurs and Lyle)	George Lashwood
"The Truth or a Lie?" (Barnes and Weston)	George D'Albert
"The Ugly Duckling" (Murphy and Lipton)...	Edith Courtney
[Above also sung by Park's Eton Boys, Miss Ella Dean, and Miss Phyllis Dare]	
"The Workhouse Gate" (Shelley and Philpot)	Herbert Shelley
"Then She Started Tickle-ing" Mills and Carter)	Pat Rafferty
"Therein Lurks Unseen Danger" (E. W. Rogers)	Arthur Rigby
"There must have been a fire somewhere" (Bateman and Richards)	Harry Randall
"There's another one out of work" (T. W. Connor)	George Brooks
"Three Makes Jolly Fine Company" (Rogers and Collins)..	Arthur Lennard
"Toasts; or Wine is First Class." (E. A. Searson)	Ambrose Thorne
"Topsy-Turvy" (George Roilit)..	Arthur Roberts
"'Twas a Dark and Stormy Night" (Alf Ellerton)	T. E. Dunville
"Up in Scotland" (Arthurs and B. Scott).....	Whit Cunliffe
"What a Beautiful World it would be!" (Helliar and Wentworth)	Miss Fanny Wentworth
"What's the Good of a Pair of Kilts?" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Coyne
"Why Shouldn't we Fight for Our own? A Tale of the P. and O." (Bateman and Pether)	Miss Kate Lawrence.
"You are a White Little Girl" (Swaffer and H. E. Darewski, jun.)	Miss Winifred Hare.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1904.

KEAN AND CLARGES-STREET.

Anything which tends to increase the dignity of the theatrical profession, and to do honour to those of its members who have achieved fame in the past, is interesting to every actor in the present; and the action of the London County Council in attaching a memorial tablet to the wall of No. 12 Clarges-street, Piccadilly, where EDMUND KEAN lived from 1815 to 1824, is highly to be commended.

The circumstances under which KEAN took the house are agreeable to recall. In 1815 the actor was at the height of his success. The days of starving and strolling were over; and on Jan. 26, 1814, he had "come, seen, and conquered" in the character of Shylock at Drury-lane. KEAN'S career in itself was a romance. The life of a strolling player in the early part of the nineteenth century was one, not only of anxiety and humiliation, but of actual want. One of KEAN'S most vivid remembrances was of playing King Lear at Waterford, when the pangs of hunger which he was suffering gave to his eye a wildness that was certainly "realistic." He was then expected to be ballet-master to the company, and also to perform the part of harlequin; for KEAN was the best harlequin in the United Kingdom, and, besides, excelled as a tight-rope dancer, a pugilist, a fencer, and a representative of the monkey tribe after the manner of the late CHARLES LAURI. On one occasion, at his benefit at Waterford, he gave samples of all his accomplishments, and realised forty pounds.

The sudden change in KEAN'S fortunes was sufficient to turn the head of any man. After his first London benefit, Drury-lane was crowded to suffocation BYRON and TOM MOORE were in a box, and KEAN benefited to the extent of eleven hundred and fifty pounds. The scene at his lodgings, as described by an eye-witness, was extraordinary. Money was lying about in all directions; his little son CHARLES was playing with a score of guineas on the floor; banknotes were in heaps on the mantlepiece, table, and sofa; and poor Mrs KEAN was—as well she might be—entirely bewildered. KEAN was regarded as a divinity, and even his wife was treated with a kind of reflected reverence. His portrait was done by a fashionable painter; prints of him were exhibited in shop windows; poems lauding him appeared in the papers; and, as HAZLITT says, if you hinted at KEAN being hoarse in the last act of *Richard III.* you were looked upon as a luke-warm devotee, or as half an infidel. To obtain a new play for him to appear in at Drury-lane, Lord BYRON, who was one of the Sub-Committee of Management of the theatre, put himself to a great deal of trouble, and has left a humorous account of his sufferings. "The scenes I had to go through," writes the poet in a letter to MOORE; "the authors and the authoresses, the milliners, and the wild Irishmen who came in upon me, to all of whom it was proper to give a civil answer, and a hearing, and a reading. Miss GLOVER'S father, an Irish dancing master of sixty years, called upon me to offer to play Archer, in *The Beaux' Stratagem*, dressed in silk stockings on a frosty morning to show his legs. Then came Mr. O. HIGGINS, then resident at Richmond, with an Irish tragedy, in which the unities could not fail to be observed, for the hero was chained by the leg to a pillar during the chief part of the performance." When KEAN appeared in Dublin and was slandered by a rascally box-keeper at the theatre there the undergraduates of Trinity College waited on him to know if he would wish the theatre to be pulled down!

It was in the autumn of the same year that, returning to London, the actor took Lady RYCROFT'S furnished house at 12, Clarges-street, Piccadilly, where the memorial tablet has just been put up. People of title, fashion, and distinction assembled to admire his powers as a conversationalist, a raconteur, and a mimic. But KEAN would often slip away after his brilliant receptions were ended to a public-house in Fountain-court called the Coal Hole, where met a club named the "Wolves," composed of actors and those connected with theatres. While living in Clarges-street he set up a carriage and bought several valuable horses, and he used to ride along the country roads at night, returning home only at daybreak. Someone in society presented him with a puma, which he used to take out in a boat on the Thames. He passed along the streets in a carriage drawn by four bay horses, wrapped in a large Spanish cloak which Sir GEORGE BEAUMONT had brought him from Seville. He was a patron of the prize ring then a plaything of the nobility. He gave excellent dinners and delightful evening parties; and amongst his guests were many persons of rank. He himself was sought by many "lion-hunting" ladies in society; but he kept aloof. It was characteristic of the man that the only person of title for whom he had an affection was Lord BYRON, who tried hard to induce KEAN to frequent his—the poet's—own circle. But KEAN felt himself out of place amidst fashionable surroundings, and would often remain gloomy and silent at such gatherings, though he could be most entertaining and amusing when he chose.

Rightly regarded, KEAN'S career is a tragedy in itself—the inevitable *débacle* of the individual not strong enough for his circumstances. He was naturally "sober, temperate, and chaste." He was a loving husband, and a moderate drinker. He was ruined by his extraordinary elevation into society. Society killed KEAN. He was easily affected by wine, and two or three glasses would "upset" him. Yet the stage door of Drury-lane Theatre was beset by "smart" people, who waited in their carriages at the stage door to tempt him to some late supper-party. KEAN tried hard to resist these temptations, and his friend WOOD often remained with him in his dressing-room several hours after the performance to tire out these persevering "friends." At this distance of time, the impression that remains of the sordid intrigue which caused the British public to dethrone their favourite is that KEAN was a sensualist who betrayed the honour of a hospitable friend. But Alderman COX was a complacent husband of the most inexcusable sort; and, as for Mrs COX, there is little doubt from which side the overtures to immoral connection came. She obtained an introduction to KEAN by a sham fainting fit while he was playing Othello at Taunton; and that KEAN endeavoured to keep her at arm's length was proved by the evidence of his dresser, who swore that the actor had tried to stop her from coming behind the scenes. When we remember that up to this point in his life there had been no blot on KEAN'S reputation as a faithful spouse; and when we also take into consideration the fact that Mrs COX'S lovers were numerous, that she several times applied to KEAN for money, that the Alderman's affairs were in a desperate condition, that he obtained eight hundred pounds damages, that he did not ask for a divorce from his wife, and that after the trial he took lodgings for her in Norfolk-street, where she cohabited with one of his clerks, men of the world must rather pity KEAN as the dupe of the precious couple. He had remained sober, temperate, and faithful amidst the poverty of country "circuits" and the hardships of the stroller's hard career. He was plunged by his success into a society in which "three-bottle" men were venerated, and adultery was regarded indulgently unless it was made public. He succumbed, in short, to Society, which he had endeavoured to avoid, and which was in a measure forced upon him by his position. It is pleasant to know that things have been altered since KEAN lived in Clarges-street; and that the temptations of an actor's career have been removed by the elevation of his status, the lessening of his hardships, and the vast improvement which has been made in the morals of society.

MR GEORGE GROSSMITH gave his well-known monologue entertainment to a crowded audience in the theatre of the Birkbeck Institute on Wednesday evening, and, from a casual observation he made, it would appear that our genial satirist and ex-Savoy comedian is contemplating retirement. He said that "in twelve months or thereabouts, he would be retiring from the service of the public." This remark, if accurately heard and interpreted, will be unwelcome news to many institutes and social organisations all over the country, for whose members and friends Mr Grossmith has provided so much innocent enjoyment since he left the Savoy.

MR WALTER BEAUMONT, who was the original Lord Loam, in *The Admirable Crichton*, on tour, has had to decline an offer to support Miss Marie Tempest in the new play at the Criterion, owing to previous arrangements with Mr W. S. Penley.

REOPENING OF THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.

After an absence of fourteen months the legitimate drama at Norwich returns to its old place, where in years gone by giants of the profession held regal sway, and enthralled their audiences with admiration and wonder. Actors living, actors dead, loved and revered the old theatre, and many received in it their early lessons in the dramatic art long before they had taken a foremost place in the ranks of fame. To old Norwich playgoers it seemed a pity that it should have been thought necessary to desert a spot so hallowed with the best traditions and seek a fresh one. In the past the "Norwich company of comedians" numbered some of the best artists. But we need not dwell on the past, but welcome the new era of dramatic usefulness opened up at the old house. On Saturday Mr Fred Morgan, the manager, modestly asked the justices at the Guildhall Petty Sessions for his original licence, and, as the Chief Constable expressed himself as satisfied with the exit arrangements, it was granted.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr F. O. Taylor, I.P.C.C.), addressing Mr Morgan, said:—The magistrates unanimously grant the application, and we hope you will have as much success in the old house in the future as you had in the past. You are returning to your old love, and we trust the public will support you thoroughly. Some of us regret that the Opera House in St. Giles is to be given over to a different class of entertainment than that for which it was originally intended, but that matter rests with the public and not with us. We hope, however, the legitimate drama will continue to meet with success in Norwich, and that that success may be greater even than that of past days. As a lover of the drama, and of the dramatic art myself, I am very glad to think the care of it in Norwich is to remain in the same hands as it has done for so many years. The Bench generally wish you every success.

Mr MORGAN—Thank you, gentlemen.

On Monday there was a crowded house to celebrate the reopening, and many well-known local playgoers were numbered among the audience. Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's excellent company admirably presented *Under Two Flags*, and approbation was enthusiastically expressed. Mr Mark Blow as Bertie Cecil Royellieu, afterwards known as Louis Victor, exhibited much ability. Mr Reginald Harley West was very good as Barklie Cecil Royellieu; Mr Charles Brooke ably accounted for the part of Lord Royellieu; and Mr Geo. Norman-Burt cleverly represented Lord Rockingham. Mr Will Hook rendered valuable assistance as Rake; Mr Chas. C. Pitt was successful as Col. Chateauroy; and Mr Sydney Richards deserves compliments as Capt. Claude De Chamellon. Miss Laura Walker was exquisite as Cigarette, and became a warm favourite; Miss Celia Gordon was dignified as Princess Venetia Corona; and Miss Bertha Kingston was good as Lady Beatrice Guinevere. The other characters were in able hands. The scenic effects were very pretty, and the lightning and sandstorm were most realistic. Mr Morgan has made every part of the house very comfortable, and all his friends, with ourselves, wish him success.

FORBES ROBERTSON ENTERTAINED.

The Corinthian Club entertained Mr and Mrs Forbes Robertson at luncheon in the Dolphin Hotel, Dublin, on Wednesday, Sir CHARLES CAMERON, C.B., President, in the chair. The company exceeded eighty in number. After the toast of "The King," which was duly honoured, Mr W. A. CRAIG, J.P., read his ode, composed for the occasion. Sir CHARLES CAMERON proposed the health of Mr and Mrs Forbes Robertson.

Mr FORBES ROBERTSON, in responding, referred to the honour which he enjoyed five years ago in being entertained by the club. He thanked the club now for the further honour of receiving himself and his wife. Since his last visit to Dublin his family had made an alliance with America, where he had chosen his wife; and it was not unimportant to point out that she was of Irish blood. Her father was an Irishman. The Club would not expect him to discuss the drama, its merits, and demerits. There had been, however, a good deal of talk of the decadence of the drama; but that pessimistic view had been held from time immemorial. He did not share in it. His good fortune in his many visits to Dublin had been to enjoy full houses, while he had received many acts of kindness from individuals, as well as from the public in general. He was glad to see the movement created by the Irish Dramatic Society. It was ambitious, but tentative. In the intellectual spirit which it engendered there was hope for the drama. The serious drama was in some cities considered a bore. But Dublin was always enthusiastic in supporting the higher works of the drama. He therefore thought that the formation of the Irish Dramatic Society was a good augury for the drama.

Mr JUSTICE ROSE, who was received with applause, proposed the toast of "The Other Guests," and called on Miss GRIFFIO, a distinguished member of Mr Forbes Robertson's company, to respond for the gentlemen, and on Mr SHANNON, President of the University Philosophical Society, to respond for the ladies.

Miss GRIFFIN, who was received with plaudits, delivered a humorous speech. Mr SHANNON also responded. Miss Lee gave a charming recitation. Several of the members of the club contributed vocally and instrumentally to the entertainment.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

W. J. Thompson—Saturday, Oct. 29.
Edward J. George—Saturday, Oct. 29.
Marie Gerrard—Saturday, Oct. 29.
H. Sherwood Martin—Saturday, Oct. 29.
Charles Danby, actor—Sunday, Oct. 30.
Frank Lindo, actor—Sunday, Oct. 30.
Byron Douglas—Sunday, Oct. 30.
Mary Stuart, actress—Sunday, Oct. 30.
Arthur Edmonds—Sunday, Oct. 30.
J. Dobson Clyde—Sunday, Oct. 30.
Madge Crichton, actress—Monday, Oct. 31.
F. A. Marston—Monday, Oct. 31.
Thomas Searle—Monday, Oct. 31.
J. Leicester Jackson—Tuesday, Nov. 1.
Edith Wallis—Tuesday, Nov. 1.
Ida Heath, music hall artist—Wednesday, Nov. 2.
Carl Vincent—Wednesday, Nov. 2.
Clinton Baddeley—Wednesday, Nov. 2.
Clarence C. Corri, musical conductor—Nov. 3.
Dollie Huntley—Friday, Nov. 4.
Edith Forrest—Friday, Nov. 4.
Milton Rosmer, actor—Friday, Nov. 4.

THE burlesquing of public men on the stage recently formed the subject of an interesting controversy in Australia. When Mr J. C. Williamson first produced *Tapu*, the Maori opera, in Sydney, Mr George Lauri was billed as "Mr George Wright, an Australian M.P.," and his make-up furnished an exact representation of Mr G. H. Reid, the then leader of the Opposition in the Commonwealth Parliament. A few weeks later, and just prior to the first presentation of the opera in Melbourne, Mr Reid took office as Prime Minister, and as a matter of good taste Mr Williamson decided to alter the name of the character to "Mr Edward Wright, an English M.P.," and requested Mr Lauri to tone down his make-up, so that the resemblance to Australia's most conspicuous politician should not be too obvious. The "book" was severely cut, at least as regards Mr Lauri's part, and a feature that had provoked uproarious laughter in Sydney was practically eliminated from the Melbourne production.

THE DRAMA IN ROTTERDAM.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, OCT. 26.—Since the opening of the fall and winter season, Manager Van Eysden has put on a couple of new plays, and revived a former successful production, to wit, Tolstoi's *Resurrection*. The most efficient company of the Grand Theatre has been seen to marked advantage in the three plays under consideration, the first in order being Bernard Shaw's satirical comedy, *Arms and the Man*, under the Dutch title of *Oorlogsmannen (Warriors)*. The satire, as the play indeed may be termed, was capitally cast and interpreted, and very well mounted; but it failed to please the public in general. The cast was capital, Mr Tartaud achieving an unequivocal success for his easy and debonnair impersonation of Bruntschil, the matter-of-fact hero, whilst words of praise are due to Mesdames Tartaud, Van Kerckhoven, and Van Kuyk, and Messrs Smith and Faassen for their careful and painstaking acting. The second production was the farcical comedy from the German of Schefnaren *En groote nul (A Great Nullity)*, in which Mrs Van Eysden and Mr Morriën deserve special mention for their bright and animated by-play and action. *En groote nul* is a typical comedy-farce of the modern German stage, and, as a dramatic work, it is well worthy of the name it bears, but it contains funny incidents and amusing scenes, so that it catches the public favour. The popularity of Tolstoi's *Resurrection* was made quite evident last night on seeing the crowded house that greeted the revival. The audience followed the five acts in breathless interest, the curtain being rung up again and again at the end of each and every act. The part of Katucha-Maslowa is one of Mrs Tartaud's most artistic renditions, and I doubt if a better delineation of the character in all its details is to be seen on any stage. The prison scene alone, as interpreted by Mrs Tartaud, is a drama in itself, the pathos, byplay, and power being complete and full of artistic touches.

THE well-known French actor De May, who is now on tour with a company formed from the ranks of the members of the leading Parisian theatres, such as the Odéon, Gymnase, Vaudeville, &c., has been seen here on one of the "off nights" of the Grand Theatre, the programme chosen being Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, or rather, the French adaptation of the immortal Bard's work. The adaptation is from the pen of Alexandre Dumas and Meurice, and is but poorly done, the tragedy being "cut," and most terribly, too, to boot. De May is a clever actor, and it is a pity he did not appear in a rôle more congenial to his style of acting, it being much too melodramatic and spasmodic for the Melancholy Dane. Indeed, these words are applicable to the entire performance, which was more like that of a French melodrama at the Porte St. Martin than of Shakespeare's great tragedy.

ON two other off-nights at the Grand Theatre the stage has been occupied by the company of the Berliner Theater. As is well known, this company, which is one of the best dramatic organisations of Berlin, and which may, indeed, be considered as one of the most excellent and thoroughly well-balanced companies now going, has now started on a tour, Rotterdam having just been favoured with a visit. The first performance given by the Berliner Theater company was *Zapfenstreich (Tattoo)*, Beyerlein's military drama, one of the company's successes in Berlin. The drama, with its thrilling scenes, was a perfect reproduction of German military life, the parts fitting the different members of the company like gloves, so that the soldierly spirit and element pervading the entire performance was in truth, unique. A general meed of unstinted praise should be dealt out in speaking of the cast, Messrs Pittschau, Weigert, Kuhnert, and Wehrlin coming in for the lion's share of the eulogy and applause, whilst Ida Roland as Klärchen gave a singularly touching and life-like interpretation of the role. The second programme of the Berliners was *Alt Heidelberg*, made so familiar to Londoners by the English version at the St. James's. Forster's play was acted with a smoothness and completeness in all the minor details and accessories, whilst each and every part was ably and thoroughly interpreted, so that the performance was a succession of delightful and finished pictures. A bumper to August Weigert for his Karel Heinrich, and to Felicitia Cerigioli as Käthie, and indeed to all the Berliners. The theatre was crowded and the audience most enthusiastic.

THE special court held at Liverpool on Tuesday for the granting of theatrical and music licences under the new regulations recently prepared by the justices did not cause any particular flutter. This is to be accounted for by the fact that the theatres in the city on the Mersey are in a capital condition of completeness, especially in regard to exits. The authorities have for many years laid down stringent rules and regulations which have caused a complete change to come over matters. An attempt was made on Tuesday to raise a discussion regarding standing room, and the Bench somewhat foolishly suggested that the number of persons allowed to remain in the theatre without seats should be limited, but the view of the head constable on the question was accepted. This was that the onus of keeping a free passage for two persons to pass should be upon the licensee. The Bench accepted this sensible suggestion. A little reference was made to additional cloakroom accommodation for gentlemen at the Shakespeare Theatre, and the provision of female lavatories for the pit and pit stalls at the Royal Court. Mr Robert Arthur the licensee, pointed out that such were in his scheme, but they had not been able to complete everything. The city surveyor suggested a new entrance at the back of the gallery, but Mr Arthur, who ought to know, emphatically pointed out that such would, in case of panic, prove a death-trap, and people would fall over the proposed balcony. The licence was granted on the understanding that a room over the auditorium was not to be used for the storage of properties.

THE Royal Court Theatre proprietor has for years been put to great expense in making almost unnecessary alterations suggested by the Bench and their advisers, and the general opinion is that the building is the most complete of its character in the city, and cannot be improved. These annual pettifogging growls are very irritating. As bearing upon this point the authorities themselves showed that they did not know their own minds. In regard to the Queen's Theatre, the new and splendid edifice that has recently been erected, the Bench objected to the form of bolts on the doors, and demanded that they should be taken off. The poor harassed licensee pointed out that the panic bolt now required had been on primarily, but that the Health Committee had ordered him to remove it, or would not have granted him any certificate. What was he to do between the two bodies? And the Bench, amid the laughter of the court, ordered the panic bolts to be put back. This is a specimen of the game that is played by the paid servants of the Corporation against each other, the poor ratepayer having to pay the piper. In the case of the Philharmonic Hall and the Sun Hall, Kensington, the panic bolts condemned by the Health Committee were also ordered to be put back. Reference was made to the conflict between the two bodies at the City Council on Wednesday, when theatre proprietors were described as being "between the devil and the deep sea."

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS" will form the dramatic attraction at the Grand Theatre, Islington, next week. For his early door patrons, Mr Geo. Davey will present Mr Fred Millis, the prominent Australian ventriloquist, in an entirely new sketch, entitled *Dear Homeland*.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

MR DAN LENO, who had been showing signs of mental breakdown during the last week of his engagement at the London Pavilion, is at the present moment resting at home under the watchful care of a well-known specialist. He made his last appearance at the popular Piccadilly-circus establishment on Thursday evening, the 20th inst. He is being most tenderly nursed, but it is at the moment very doubtful if he will be able to make his appearance in Drury-lane pantomime, to which he had been eagerly looking forward.

AS a successor to the lamented Mr Herbert Campbell Mr Arthur Collins has secured the services of Mr Johnny Danvers, one of the very best of the many droll comedians who made their names with the Mohawk Minstrels. Like the old favourite whom he is to succeed, he is tall and robust, so that in stature, as well as in humour, the new comedian will uphold the Drury-lane traditions in the production of *The White Cat*.

THE Charles Morton matinée at the Palace Theatre being fixed for the afternoon of Tuesday, Nov. 8, makes it clash with Mr Tree's matinée in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund at His Majesty's. It promises to be of exceptional interest. The preliminary list of artists who have already kindly promised to give their services include Mr Rutland Barrington, Miss Esmé Beringer, Mr Arthur Bourchier, Mr Seymour Hicks, Miss Evelyn Millard, Mr Arthur Prince, Miss Ada Reeve, Mrs Beerbohm Tree, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr Lewis Waller, Madame Genée from the Empire, an excerpt from the ballet *Entente Cordiale* from the Alhambra, and Mr Otto Vose. In addition to the whole body of London theatrical and variety managers, headed by Sir Henry Irving and Sir Charles Wyndham, a large number of distinguished persons are also allowing their names to be added to the honorary committee.

MR ARTHUR ROBERTS is undoubtedly at his best in a character part, in which he can find scope for his excellent gifts as a humourist, and it is therefore good news to the lovers of laughter that the "return of Arthur" to the Palace in about a fortnight's time is to synchronise with the production of a new sketch, specially written for him by Captain Basil Hood, whose name has been far too long absent from London programmes. It is entitled *Brummagem Jem: A Traveller's Tale*. We are glad to hear that Captain Hood has quite recovered from his illness, and that so distinguished and dainty a writer is devoting his talents to the halls.

"ETON," which at one time was announced to be the next production at the Empire, is to be shelved—at any rate for the present, as Mr Geo. Edwardes has decided to produce there shortly before Christmas a free adaptation, by Mr Wilhelm, of the scenario of the Viennese ballet *Puppenfee*. The piece, of which Herr Bayer, of Vienna, is the composer, has already enjoyed lengthy runs both in that city and in Paris. For the principal male part Signor Vincenti has been specially engaged, and Mdlle. Genée will appear in the delightful title-rôle.

MR B. W. FINDON, the well-known dramatic critic and author of the recently issued work on Sir Arthur Sullivan, has written an episode of humble life, entitled *'Melia, 'Enery, and It*, which will be produced at the Tivoli this afternoon. Miss Maud Sinclair, a clever young actress, who appeared with great success as Fi-Fi during the last weeks of *A Chinese Honeymoon* at the Strand, is cast for the part of 'Melia: and young Mr H. E. Garden, a relative of Mr E. W. Garden, a very popular comedian, is cast for the part of 'Enery.

MR ALFRED BUTT seems to be speedily winning his spurs, and he has already exhibited no small aptitude for his responsible position. He has made arrangements to present the Eight Palace Girls on Monday week in a new act illustrating the amity existing between France and England. Mr Butt is having some original ideas carried out in respect of the dresses which will be worn by the Palace Girls, one half of whose corsages and short skirts will represent the British Royal Standard and the other half will depict the fleur de lys of France.

MISS CECILIA LOFTUS, who up to the present has had one of the most romantic and interesting careers of any modern actress, is to be married *en secondes noces* to Mr William Courtenay, an actor. It will be remembered that Miss Loftus, while appearing at the Palace Theatre, in 1894, eloped one day with Mr Justin Huntly McCarthy, the author of *If I Were King* and other successful pieces, who wrote long and elaborate criticisms of her acting as Haydée, in *Don Juan*, at the old Gaiety. The civil contract signed in Edinburgh was followed by the religious ceremony in London, the young couple being united in holy matrimony, according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church, to which they both belonged. The disagreements and subsequent divorce preceded Miss Loftus's reappearance in London at the Lyceum with Sir Henry Irving's company, in his revival of *Faust*. Miss Loftus, who is, as our readers are well aware, the daughter of the popular Marie, made her first appearance on the boards as a mimic at the Oxford, in the early nineties, when she was barely seventeen years of age, and her talent created a considerable sensation. She has brilliantly sustained the promise of her early years.

MR LESLIE STUART, who is engaged on a new musical play, is about to add to his already long list of delightful numbers which find so much favour in England and America. His lyrics have an ideal interpreter in Mr Eugene Stratton. The latest melody from the pen of the accomplished composer of *Florodora* is entitled "My Little Black Pearl," and is a coon lilt of the most captivating kind. It is to be sung by Mr Stratton at the opening of the London Coliseum on Dec. 19, and it will be staged as a special scena, in order to bring out its dramatic story, in the development of which a chorus and a troupe of dancers will assist. Mr Stuart for a number of years has furnished the well-known coon actor with most of his successes, which have included "Little Dolly Daydream," "The Lily of Laguna," "Is yer mammy always wid ye?" and "I may be crazy, but I love you."

THE London Entertainments Protection Association, of which representative body Mr Henry Gros is the honoured president, will again promote the bill regulating the production of sketches at the halls in the next session of Parliament. The association, however, does not confine itself to political efforts, but does much useful and unobtrusive work in other ways. By its eloquent protest against several of the unworkable fads introduced as alterations in the rules of the L.C.C. governing places of entertainment on March 1 last, it has brought that body into a more equitable and more reasonable frame of mind. At a recent conference several important amendments were proposed and accepted. One of the most important of these amendments relates to the new seating arrangements, which are not to apply to existing buildings, except in cases of structural alteration. Another amended rule is the one relating to standing in gangways and overcrowding.

THE new ballet at the Empire will be ready about Christmas, and pending its production *The Milliner Duchess* will be revived on Monday, with Mdlle. Adeline Genée as the fascinating girl from the country, who becomes a modiste, and marries a marquis. *High Jinks* will be withdrawn after this evening.

MR ERNEST DOTTRIDGE, of the Empire, Oldham, has again refused, owing to pressure of business, to be a candidate for municipal honours.

EXCELLENT business is being recorded at the Palace Theatre, Lancaster, now being run by Messrs John Porter and W. J. Ferguson. Well selected bills, a smartly worked show, and the two-houses-a-night system are telling the tale.

THE foundation-stone of the New Hippodrome at Ipswich was laid by the Mayor of the town on Tuesday. The building is being erected for Messrs Bostock and Fitt, in St. Nicholas-street, Ipswich, and the ceremony was witnessed by a large number of persons, who, in addition to filling all available space on the site, thronged the street in the vicinity. The Ipswich Public Band was in attendance, and played several popular airs during the afternoon.

READERS may be reminded that it is little more than a month since the announcement was made that Messrs Bostock and Fitt, who run the Norwich Hippodrome on such successful and satisfactory lines, had acquired from the Corporation of Ipswich a site in St. Nicholas-street, on which they were about to erect an up-to-date Hippodrome. Excavating work was commenced on the site soon afterwards by Messrs Parkington and Son, to whom the work of building has been entrusted, and actual building operations were commenced about a fortnight ago. Mr Frank Matcham, of London, the noted theatrical architect for places of entertainment, has drawn the plans, and there is every assurance that the building which is to be erected will possess all the features of a first-class Hippodrome, and fully entitled to that name. It will seat 1 800 persons, and is expected to open on Boxing Day.

DR. WALFORD BODIE, who has been playing to record business in all the Scotch theatres, will take a rest next week, the only holiday he will have for the next two years, as he is fully booked ahead. He has refused for next week from Mr George Adney Payne the sum of £220 for that week in London for his own act alone, without his company. He will pay all his company half-salaries, so that his holiday at his beautiful Highland home in Macduff will cost him close on £50 a day. When he goes home he intends to give a treat to all his tenantry. The doctor is now one of the largest land and property owners in Macduff.

COLLINS'S HIPPODROME, Stoke-on-Trent, has since its opening with Marie Loftus had the enviable reputation of having a star at the head of the bill each week, and on Monday next the "Pottery folk" will welcome Eugene Stratton, to be succeeded in due course by Vesta Tilley, Vesta Victoria, Florrie Forde, Marie Lloyd, and "others too numerous to mention." Mr Frank Egerton, who is responsible for this lavish catering, is in town again this week on the alert to capture fresh novelties.

THE 378th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr W. J. P. Monkton, vice-president, presiding. The secretary reported that fifteen new members had joined during the past week, making a total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,651. A letter was read stating that six West-end specialists had kindly offered their medical services to members of the Association, and that they were all on the staff of large London hospitals. This fact might prove of great help to the poorer members of the Association, as it might secure them prompt admission and special personal attention. The next and last meeting of the present committee will be held on Tuesday at one o'clock.

"ALL the world's a stage" is often illustrated in the haunts of lawyers, and the worthy and upright Judge Addison, who spent much of his early life in Lancashire, commencing his career, it is said, on a Liverpool stage, seems to delight in giving advice to the profession. As counsel for the plaintiff in many a breach of promise case, his excellent voice and knowledge of Lancashire dialect often sent the court into roars.

THE Manchester Assize Courts, the scene of many of his triumphs, is not many yards from Broughton, and the following account of a case in the Southwark County Court shows that he could not allow any opportunity to slip of airing his knowledge of the Lancashire dialect. It appears that Mr Sam Hart, music hall agent, had secured engagements at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, and at Middlesbrough for Otto Schuman, a circus artiste, and claimed commission. Mr Hart pronounced the Manchester suburb Browton. Judge Addison immediately disclaimed knowledge of such a place. He, however, knew a *Brawton*, and after requesting plaintiff to adopt that pronunciation, gave him the verdict for the amount claimed, with costs.

THE peerless De Dio, who finishes a most successful engagement at the Palace Theatre on Saturday night, opens on Tuesday, Nov. 1, for one month at the Central Theatre, Dresden. On Dec. 1 she opens at the Winter Garden, Berlin, and on New Year's Day at the Hansa Theatre, Hamburg. She sails from Southampton on Feb. 4 for South Africa, returning early in June to play the Stoll and Moss Tour. She has been re-engaged to appear at the Palace Theatre for two months—December, 1905, and January, 1906—in a series of new dances.

MISS LUCY CLARKE is scoring quite a phenomenal hit in America. Her most popular item is that pretty Jap song "Farewell, my little Yo San," which has quite taken the fancy of our cousins across the pond. Messrs Francis and Day have recently added this number to their "sixpenny pop" catalogue.

MORE than 2,400 suggestions were received from visitors to the Alhambra during the past week for a title for the new Urban Bioscope picture. From these "Whirling the Worlds" was selected as the best, and the prize of ten guineas has been paid to the winner, Mr Charles Mansfield, 3, West-view, Highgate-hill, N. The business at the Alhambra, under the able management of Mr George Scott, is going ahead by leaps and bounds.

A HANDSOME tigress named Julia, belonging to Mr Richard Sawade's troupe of performing animals, gave birth to three beautiful cubs at the Tivoli Theatre, Birmingham, early on Monday morning. Unfortunately, before the keepers became aware of the interesting event, Julia lay on one of the little ones, and crushed it to death. Either from excess of grief or a deplorable lack of parental affection, Julia could not be persuaded yesterday to suckle the remaining cubs, and looked on stolidly while her offspring were removed to a basket of straw, where a female dog was eventually induced to undertake the duties of foster-mother. The cubs are nearly as large as cats, and richly decorated with black and brown stripes.

A CAPITAL send-off was given to the celebrated band of the Coldstream Guards at the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, last Saturday evening, when they concluded an engagement at the annual Industrial Exhibition held here. Very carefully selected programmes of high-class music had been given, which delighted the public nightly. The talented conductor, Lieutenant J. Mackenzie Rogan, received quite an ovation at the finish, and in a felicitous speech congratulated the Edinburgh public, on behalf of himself and his band, on their very elevated musical taste.

THE music hall always reflects the *vox populi*. It did so in the days of Jingo Hunt, and it is doing so again this week. The unspeakable outrage committed by the Russian fleet on the British trawlers has raised a feeling of profound indignation in every English home, and it was only natural, therefore, that the popular feeling should find vent in verse. On Thursday evening, at the London Pavilion, Mr Leo Stormont recited a new poem by Mr J. E. M'Manus, author of "Wait a week or two" and other lyrics. Four lines of the last stanza indicate the spirit in which the writer has treated his subject:—

They may give us gold for innocent lives
And "apologies" for a "mistake;"
But that won't bring back the men to their wives—
And there's something else at stake.

The "something else" is "Who's going to rule the sea?" Mr Stormont's delivery of the poem was followed by the singing of "Rule, Britannia," and a deal of enthusiasm. Mr Henry A. Moore also recited on Thursday evening a poem, written specially by Arthur C. Armstrong, entitled "The Fisherman and the Russians."

AT the Alhambra Mr Alexander Higginson on Thursday sang a song from the pen of Mr Cecil Raleigh entitled "How Long?" The popular sentiment of the moment is expressed in the lines "There has been enough diplomacy; it's time to get the guns." The song makes no reference to what has been called somewhat facetiously "the Hull disaster." The audience was obviously sympathetic, but there was no great excitement. The serious situation arising from the untoward incident evidently put a restraining influence on the applause.

MR WEBSTER, who exhibits the figure known as "Zutka" at the Hippodrome, was the victim on Thursday of a very ugly practical joke. Someone put a bottle containing an anæsthetic in the box in which he brings on the mysterious figure, with the result that when Mr Webster opened the box in the arena he became unconscious. A doctor had to be called, and the item was left out of the afternoon performance. What the effect was on the figure—automaton or man, as it may be—has not been stated. Mr Webster offers £100 for the name of the perpetrator of the outrage.

MR HAMILTON HILL produced a new song during the week at the Chelsea Palace entitled "Beresford, we wish You had been There!" by Edgar Bateman and Henry E. Pether. It has been received with acclamation, dealing as it does with the question of the hour. Mr Tom Costello's stirring song, "The Fighting Ships of England," has also been freely enquired for at the music-sellers for the same reason, and the pantomime folks are securing Miss Kate Lawrence's "Why Shouldn't we Fight for our Own?" with its new verse, owing to the sudden demand for songs of this class.

MR WILLIE FREEAR has just returned after a three years' tour in Mexico, Honolulu, Fiji, Samoa, the Philippines, China, Japan, &c., with his three hours' single-handed vaudeville show, known as "Freear's Frivolities." He has been doing an extraordinary business, and has appeared before H.I.M. the Sultan of Turkey and numerous other potentates and princes, the Sultan of Turkey presenting him with the Gold Medal of Fine Arts. Mr Freear anticipates shortly supplying London with several Continental novelties for the halls.

MISS GERALDINE MONTROSE was playing on Monday evening at the Manchester Palace in a sketch entitled *Snakes*, when, in the scene where one of the ophidians is allowed to coil round the leading actress's neck, the reptile exerted its strength too much and almost strangled the lady. She screamed in agony, and the audience, taking it to be part of the play, applauded. The stage hands, however, seeing the true state of affairs, made a rush to drag off the python. The curtain was lowered amid some excitement, and the snake, by a great effort, was dragged away just in time to save Miss Montrose from serious consequences.

THE forty-second anniversary of Collins's is fixed for the night of Nov. 11, when Mr Charles Hector will put on a special programme and welcome an immense audience. When Sam Collins took over the hall after a brief reign at the old Marylebone, the hall on the green was known as the Lansdowne.

LAST week a long and interesting letter appeared in our columns on the subject of the child performer, signed jointly by Mr H. A. Lonsdell and Miss Dora Langlois, sketch artistes. It will be of interest to members of the music hall profession to know that Miss Langlois, who is part-author with Mr Lonsdell of the popular sketches in which they appear, is a rising young novelist with an increasing reputation. The autumn serial entitled "The Crimson Slipper," now running in an illustrated contemporary, is from her clever pen.

THE Coliseum Brighton (late the Empire), was opened on Monday amid considerable éclat. Among those present were the Mayor and Mayoress of the town, Alderman and Mrs E. Marx, and to the lady was presented a lovely basket of flowers. Mr Charles A. Wilkes, the managing-director, previous to the rising of the curtain, came to the footlights and bade the audience welcome. Miss Alexandra Dagmar then sang the National Anthem, and was the recipient of a bouquet. The entertainment was contributed by Miss Harriet Vernon, who repeated successfully her delightful song, "Only to be a Child Once More;" Miss Julie Mackey, who was persuaded to give her celebrated "Orange Peel" song as an encore; Mr Victor Stevens, a capital comedian; Miss Jessie Merrilees, burlesque artiste; Tom Brantford, mimic; Harry Phydora, comedian; Gladys Archbutt, and Florence Trevelion. *Terry; or, True to His Trust*, a popular sketch that has held the boards of the music-halls for fifteen years, was presented by a company under the direction of Mr Edward Cranston.

AHRENSMEYER has been astonishing Glaswegians this week by his remarkable feats of hypnotism and telepathy. On Monday he drove a carriage and pair blindfolded through the town over a route previously traversed by four representatives of the Glasgow Press. On Tuesday he submitted himself to an even more severe test by giving a private demonstration of his powers before some 200 local medical men, and came through the ordeal with flying colours, the doctors expressing themselves as much impressed and completely satisfied with the genuineness of the performance. As may be imagined, the publicity thus gained has resulted in crowded houses at the Hippodrome, where he has been appearing during the week.

MRS FRANK LEONARD, the widow of Mr Frank Leonard, who met with his death through an accident at Rochdale, writes from 202, Darwin-street, Birmingham, to acknowledge the following sums sent to her—the result of the appeal in the columns of our issue of the 22d:—Collected by Mr Joe Boggany, £4 10s. Collected by the De Courcy Brothers and Mr Arthur Boyne from the ladies and gentlemen at the Palace Theatre, Manchester, last week, 30s. The following are their names:—Mr Peter Watson, 5s.; Brothers De Courcy, 5s.; Mr Chanti, 5s.; Mr Bob Baxter, 2s. 6d.; Miss Alma Obrey, 2s. 6d.; Mr Henri Cazman, 2s. 6d.; Miss Florence Yayman, 2s. 6d.; Mr Mountford, 2s. 6d.; and Mr Stylo, 2s. 6d. Collected by W. H. Morgan, £12s.:—W. H. Morgan, 5s.; Jas. Byrne, 1s.; Two Friends, 2s; Dad, 1s.; Ass, 1s; Ruby Grey 1s.; Whisper, 1s.; Tom Shaw, 1s.; J. B. Wild, 1s.; Hugh Turner, 1s; Geo. H. Knowles, 2s.; Jack Lenton, 1s.; Bert Wilton, 1s.; Tom Moy, 1s.; Jimmy Green, 1s.; Ralph Henthorn, 1s.

MR JOHN LAWSON goes from triumph to triumph in his stage productions, the result mostly of a daring imagination and a spacious idea of stage-management. We look to him for sensation, and he has supplied it to us without stint in such productions as *Humanity*, *The Shield of David*, and *Sally in Our Alley*. He has found further great opportunities for weird effects and blood-curdling sensation in an extraordinary blend of the mystical and murderous, known under the name of *Mr Todd, of London*, which he produced on Monday evening at the Palace, Bristol. Indeed, the legend of Vanderdecken, the haunted mariner—"doomed to battle," as Mr Lawson puts it, "with the waves until my atonement is complete," is joined to the gruesome tale of Sweeney Todd, and forms, as our readers may imagine, a compound as exciting and as impressive as anything the fertile brain of the inventor has given us. On the story of the remorse-stricken voyager Wagner founded his charming opera of *The Flying Dutchman*, of which Senta is the heroine, whose self-sacrifice and love redeem Vanderdecken from his living torture.

IN Mr Lawson's sketch the legend is not much insisted on, and he conceives the idea of engrafting the soul of the Captain into the body of Sweeney Todd, the fictitious barber of Fleet-street. In tableau one of Mr Lawson's production we see the ship Star homeward bound. Among her passengers is Esther Oakley, who is on her way to London to meet her guardian, Colonel Sir Butcher Jeffries. Confined to her cabin by the orders of Vanderdecken, she finds a friend in a chivalrous young sailor named Mark. The poor girl is, however, throttled on board by Sir Butcher who, for reasons of his own, goes to meet her, and he gives out to the deceased girl's twin sister Joanna that she has committed suicide.

THE second tableau is the shop of Mr Todd, near Temple Bar, wherein the demon barber follows an unexampled career of crime that has many a time and oft proved the pivot of hair-raising dramas at the minor theatres. The murderous colonel pursues his villainous machinations, which are eventually foiled by the brave young sailor, who, we may well suppose, transfers the interest he felt in Esther Oakley to her living image, Joanna, the twin sister. The crypt of St. Dunstan is the third tableau, and and the story comes to a final conclusion with the death of Todd. The cast playing the piece at Bristol—and playing it exceedingly well—has included Mr E. S. Vincent as Colonel Sir Butcher Jeffreys, Mr Bailey Cohen as Mark, Miss Leah Barnata as Lady Butcher Jeffries, Miss Lillian Herries as the twin sisters, Esther and Joanna; Mr Boon St. Joseph as the Beadle of St. Dunstan's and Mr John Lawson as Vanderdecken and Mr Todd. We hope shortly to have an opportunity of seeing Mr Lawson's latest sensation in London.

MR JACK EDGAR announces for Nov. 17 his complimentary annual, which, by kind permission of Mr Henri Gros and the directors, takes place at the Metropolitan. The night is always a most interesting one, and the world of variety, as represented by proprietors, managers, syndicators, and directors, will crowd the fine palace in the Edgware-road on the occasion.

THE Palace, Hammersmith, will commence its anniversary celebration on Monday, Nov. 7. Every night during the week a special programme will be given, the stage-management being undertaken each evening by a different agent. The idea was initiated by Mr Fred Reeves during his engagement as manager at the hall, and it is being very wisely continued by Mr J. C. Coe, the popular proprietor.

AN application was made on Wednesday by Mr Richard Thornton to the Judge in Chambers for an injunction restraining Mr Sam Mayo from singing at the Palace, Blackpool, this week, on the ground that he had signed a contract to perform at South Shields. The application came before Mr Justice Jelf, and Mr Sam Mayo, through his solicitors, Messrs Amery-Parkes and Powell, pleaded that at the time the contract was signed he was an infant, and that it was not made for his benefit. He also defended the case on the ground that he was not bound to perform twice nightly at South Shields unless his salary was doubled, as when he signed the contract only one performance a-night was given at that hall. The judge refused to grant the application, and Mr Mayo is this week performing at Blackpool.

A SIMILAR application was made by Moss' Empires, Limited, to restrain Mr Sam Mayo from singing elsewhere other than at the Empires, Birmingham, Liverpool, Sheffield, Leeds, Bradford, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Edinburgh, Glasgow; or the Palace Theatre, Hull, under another contract; but this application was also dismissed on the same grounds. Mr William Whately, instructed by Messrs Amery-Parkes and Powell, appeared for Mr Sam Mayo in both actions, and Mr Bailhache, instructed by Messrs Smith, Rundell, and Dods, appeared for Mr Richard Thornton and Moss Empires, Limited.

MR HARRY BRUCE, after an absence of twelve years from the variety halls, during which time he has been touring Great Britain, Africa, and America with his own plays, has joined Ernest Ball to produce the sensational military spectacle, *Woman and War*. This will start at the Royal, for one week, commencing Nov. 7. A feature of the sketch will be a terrific sword fight between a woman and eight men. The swords used will be the full regulation cavalry pattern, and in consequence of the strain of fourteen performances in a week the services of two talented actresses, to play alternate nights, have been secured.

LAZARUS has just obtained the American patent for his new automatic tip-up seats. The fact of getting the American rights is a proof of the originality of the new seat idea. Our newest theatres and buildings are being seated with these up-to-date, luxurious tip-up chairs. The London Colosseum and the Manchester Hippodrome have studied the comfort of their patrons by providing the new seat, and if further proof were needed of their being the "right" seat they have received the approval of the London County Council.

CHIRGWIN has never learned to play billiards or cards. He believes in outdoor exercise, and is an enthusiastic angler. He is also a lover of motoring, and has a very fine 27 h.-p. Sidley motor, in which he has travelled nearly all over England. Before he went in for motoring he was "great" on horses, and secured a good few prizes at different shows.

ON Friday, Oct. 21, at one o'clock, at the Palace, Manchester (kindly lent for the purpose by Peter Watson, Esq.), a meeting of the members of the M.H.A.R.A. was held for the purpose of hearing an address from Mr Harry Mountford, chairman of this year's general meeting, on the work and the benefits secured by the retiring committee of the above body during the past year. It was largely attended, over 120 members being present. Mr Fred Harcourt occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr Walter Munroe. After listening to an able and exhaustive speech from Mr Mountford, to an eloquent attack from Mr Fred Herbert, and to speeches from Messrs Fred Southern, J. H. Milburn, and Fred Harcourt, the meeting, with one dissentient, passed the following resolution—"That, in the opinion of this meeting it is to the best interests of the M.H.A.R.A., that at the forthcoming election the retiring committee should be re-elected *en bloc*." Votes of thanks to Mr Watson for the use of the Palace, to Mr Harcourt as chairman, and to Mr Mountford were passed unanimously, and after a sitting of three hours the meeting terminated.

MR ALEC HURLEY'S coster delineation, and his pictures of coster life and manners, appeal more especially to the cockney mind; but such is the strength of his comedy, the charm of his voice, and the general buoyancy of the scenas he produces that he wins as great a success on tour as in this great London of ours. Alec is now leaving Ireland, but not without the assurance of his triumphs in Dublin and Belfast still pleasantly ringing in his ears. "Lambeth-walk" is not a thoroughfare that appeals to the Irish folk in the concrete sense; but the abstract sentiment of Mr Hurley's coster idyl of the same name has just the touch of nature that captures the warm hearts of our friends of the Emerald Isle.

MR TOM TINSLEY on Thursday evening was honoured by an immense audience, which crowded every corner of Gatti's (Road) on the occasion of his benefit. The most popular turn of the evening was himself, and his appearance on the stage was greeted with loud cheers. He was met there by a large crowd of friends and patrons of the hall. On their behalf, Mr Jimmy Clark, a well-known hatter of the neighbourhood, presented "Tom" with a cheque for £50. In doing so he spoke of the great pleasure it was to him to stand by an old pal, and the further pleasure he had in handing him a cheque representing "good old iron" to the tune of fifty of the best. Mr Tinsley, in acknowledging the gift, stated that as years went on it was a real surprise to him to find that his benefit grew, and that night stood as a record. He warmly thanked Mr Clarke and the many dear friends he saw standing round him for their extreme kindness, and also acknowledged his indebtedness to Mr Cattaneo, the artists, band, and staff.

BEFORE leaving the stage Mr Tinsley was induced to sing one verse of his popular song "When the old man came home sober." Among those present to offer their congratulations to the beneficiaire were Messrs Fred Miller, Teddy Giler, Sydney Hyman, Tom Shaw, Jack De Frece, Fred Reeves, Tom Pacey, Jesse Sparrow, Harry Poole, George Barclay, Ernest Edlesten, James Fortune, Edward Granville, E. Cory Woodrow, George Peel, T. W. Volney, Walter Norman, Angelo Asher, W. Burgess, Leon Bassett, Ernest Aplin, R. W. Bentley, Sheldon. Those surrounding Mr Tinsley on the stage during the presentation included the following terriers:—Harry Lester, H. Barnard, Bob Hutt, Cornish, and others.

THE programme included Miss Florrie Forde, who sang her popular song "Down at the old Bull and Bush;" Kittie Rayburn, in a bright and vivacious number; Mr George Mozart, in a monologue burlesque; Mr Arthur Prince, the cultured ventriloquist, and his "cabin boy;" Dorie Lyric, comedienne; Joe O'Gorman; and a number of others.

MR BARRASFORD, who has sub-leased the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, finished up his occupancy of the house with a brilliant revival of *The Shaughraun*, the favourite Irish piece being skilfully condensed by Mr J. L. Shine in order to make it fit in with the two performances nightly plan. It was a remarkable achievement, reflecting the greatest credit on the stage-manager, the actor, the scenic artist, and the entrepreneur. There are men who erase the word "impossible" from their vocabulary. In twenty-four hours the piece was condensed, rehearsed, and put on. Assisting Mr Shine were Mr Story Gofton, Miss Alice Esden, Miss Ella Dixon, Orlando Daly, Marian Jay, and Isabel Cairns.

THE fine and commodious lounge of the Canterbury looks exceedingly attractive and cosy just now. A lovely new carpet of a warm, red tint covers the floor, and the comfortably upholstered and elegant-looking arm-chairs seem to invite one to sit in them and enjoy the creature comforts provided.

THERE will be a huge crowd there on the evening of Friday, Nov. 25, when will be celebrated the fifty-second anniversary of the Canterbury, with the early history of which the late Mr Charles Morton was so intimately connected. The history (between the years '52 and '63) of the "Academy over the Water," as the "over the bridge" establishment was christened by the late George Augustus Sala, was practically the history of the halls during that period, though we believe the story of the Royal Standard, Pimlico, goes back even farther than the Canterbury.

At a largely attended meeting held in Manchester last week the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That a Music Hall Artistes' Protection Association should immediately be formed, and that certain gentlemen then present should be empowered to carry out the wishes of this meeting."

MR HARRY RANDALL'S newest song "There must have been a fire somewhere!" by Edgar Bateman and Sam Richards, is in the press, having been secured by the Charing-cross-road firm. The same house is also publishing as a free song "The boy that looks after his mother," by Geo. Lester and Fred Barnes. Messrs Verno and Voyce are making a big hit with this number.

THE Dunedin Troupe of famous cyclists are making a huge success at the Casino Theatre of Varieties, Buenos Ayres, South America. Miss Maudie and Queenie Dunedin are nightly presented with baskets of flowers for their graceful and clever performance on the stage and on the telephone wire, and Master Jimmie Dunedin, the well-known trick rider, has columns of notices in all the newspapers, praising his daring and marvellous cycling on one and two wheels. Harold Dunedin, the comic of the show, causes roars of laughter in the rôle of the Masher learning to ride. Mr Jas. E. Donegan, manager, teacher, and trainer of this talented troupe, has a book full of return dates. The Dunedins open in London in December.

The many professional friends of Mr Will Murray, the popular manager of Mr Frank Macnaghten's Palace Theatre, Blackburn, will be glad to learn that he has returned from his holiday in America safe and sound and in the pink of condition. From first to last he had a very good time, and was royally received by the numerous managers with whom he came in contact, especially those of New York, and by the representatives of the various great publishing houses. Immediately on his return to England he received a telegram from his proprietor, Mr Macnaghten, summoning him to London. When he reached town he was at once offered a benefit at the Palace, Blackburn, as a testimony to the ability with which he had performed his duties as manager. The benefit will take place shortly, and promises to be most successful, as Mr Murray has received numerous offers from artists who desire to appear on that occasion.

THE monthly committee meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund Provident Society will be held at the York Hotel on Wednesday next at 2·0 p.m. All members who are able to attend are invited to be present, as business of considerable importance is on the agenda for discussion.

MR WORTON DAVID, the new business-manager at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, has just finished touring with his company in *Man's Enemy*. Mr David has written songs for most of our principal music hall artistes, such as Vesta Tilly, Vesta Victoria, Marie Loftus, Julia Mackey, the late Bessie Wentworth, R. G. Knowles, Gus Elen, Geo. Robey, Harry Ford, Wilkie Bard, and T. E. Dunville. Mr David is also the author of "Short Stories," sung with great success by the well-known comedian, Ernest Shand.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE ALHAMBRA.

Some years ago the patrons of the halls were greatly mystified by an illusion known as "the disappearing lady." A girl was seen seated in a chair, a screen was then placed in front of her for a few seconds, and when it was removed she had, to the bewilderment of the audience, vanished from sight. An illusion which in its ingenious working out is the reverse of the disappearing lady trick was introduced at the Alhambra on Monday evening, under the title of "Dido," and has since been the subject of much discussion as to "how is it done." Briefly described on the programme as "the creation of a woman out of nothing," the new illusion is evidently the work of an inventive genius, and is certainly more mysterious than most stage tricks that have been presented to the public. As far as the apparatus itself is concerned the arrangements are simplicity itself. In the middle of the stage stands a glass tank between five and six feet in length supported on a wooden stand with four legs and the gentleman who apparently works the trick gets into the tank, and also shows that the space between the legs of the stand is vacant. Then buckets are passed along by the attendants and emptied into the glass receptacle until it is nearly full, giving a depth of over two feet. The operator next places a piece of silk drapery over the glass, completely concealing it for a few moments. When the covering is withdrawn a young lady in pink fleshings is seen lying in the water, apparently asleep. The puzzle is, of course, how did she get there? When addressed the lady awakes, rises to the surface, and descends to the stage. The operator then, addressing the audience, remarked that he was afraid only those ladies and gentlemen occupying the front seats could see how the trick was done, and he desired that all should learn how it was worked. Thereupon the illusion was repeated in precisely the same manner, but when the covering was removed, another equally charming young lady was seen reposing in the water, and she also made her way to the stage and disappeared at the the wings. Subsequently the two ladies reappeared and bowed their acknowledgments of the applause. Mr George Scott, the able manager of the Alhambra, may be congratulated on having secured another powerful attraction in "Dido," the latest mystery of the stage.

THE STANDARD.

A cosy corner in the entertainments of the Metropolis is provided at Pimlico, where civilians and military join forces in supporting Mr T. S. Dickie in the conduct of his comfortable hall by crowding it to excess night after night in the full enjoyment of a programme in which all the elements of variety are enlisted. Old favourites consort with new in this week's bill, and of the former Mr G. H. Chirgwin is a sterling example. Like good wine he seems all the better for the keeping and the rare talent which upset the gravity of audiences a quarter of a century since is just as powerful to-day in the interests of mirth. He keeps the house amused by his song of "Good old Pimlico" with special reference to the Standard and Mr Dickie; he exhilarates by his whimsical sayings and the quaint humour of "Fiddle-dee-dee," accompanying himself on the violin, and he entrances by his rendering of "The Blind Boy," which he gives in obedience to popular demand. A most enjoyable time is spent in the company of the "White-Eyed One," but the crowning point of the merriment is reached when he puts on the war-paint of the Kaffir and a ludicrous make-up, and beats a kettledrum, interspersing the native jargon of the black man with some forcible remarks in the King's English, all of which runs its course through incessant peals of laughter. A favourite of no less importance follows in Mr Tom Woottwell, but lately returned from South Africa, where his success has been phenomenal. His low comedy powers have developed exceptionally, and they are employed with effect in the refrain "I don't like a little bit at all" a phrase which has a depth of meaning when humorously applied by the singer. More obvious fun is found in his song "Ole dear," which enables him to give a new sample of an old woman scandal-mongering amongst her acquaintances of the gin-shop. Hicks's Clerks work hard at song and dance, and while away the time agreeably. The drollery of the boy Peter creates laughter in plenty, and the ballad singing and concerted choruses are well done. A lively coon song is given by one young lady, while all her companions dress up as coons and support her in a clever rag-time dance, in which Peter distinguishes himself in the back-bend. A surprise awaits the audience in the performance of Mr Frank Hilbert, "Handcuff King," who, after going through the familiar feat of releasing himself from irons within his cabinet, proceeds to show how the trick is done in full view of the audience. We see him, bound and manacled, produce a key from a pocket with his teeth and unfasten locks, and when we find that the locked and corded box has a collapsible lid opening inwards we are quite prepared for the discovery that the sack so carefully tied and sealed at the top has an opening at the other end through which the performer escapes. Great skill is nevertheless required in this interesting performance, and the cheers which Mr Hilbert receives are well won. Mr Henri Cazman supplies abundant entertainment in his act *Le Café Chantant*, in which he includes his impersonation of famous men, his imitations at the piano of celebrated musicians, and burlesques of conductors, concluding with some well-appreciated shadowgraphy. Much enjoyment is derived from the singing of Miss Marion Grahame, who has done as much as anyone individually to coax the music hall public into the appreciation of high-class music. Her remarkable voice is employed in "For all Eternity" and "The Star of Bethlehem," in both of which her cultivated singing enraptured her hearers. Miss Dot Hardy varies her coon song, to which she adds a novel dance, with a travesty of a "slavey" whose love affair with a cat's-meat man is made the subject of a tuneful rhyme, and is accompanied by a dance which includes a neatly-turned "Catherine wheel." Miss Florence Yaymen describes the ways of making love as favoured by the gallants of old and those of to-day, and she also revels in a coon song and dance which her dress of emerald green admirably sets off. Orpheus gives some pleasing selections on the saxophone and the oboe, and cleverly depicts on the bugle a stirring battle scene; Howard and Collinson appear in *The Porter and the Parcel*, in which the lady impersonates a sweet-voiced doll, and her male partner is droll as a railway porter; and Mr Mark Melford and company, in *The Tip-Top Flat*, keep the mirth alive till the very end of the programme, early contributions to which are made by Miss Ethel Dove, the Kimberley Boys, and Mr Charles Vincent. Mr Maurice Volny is invaluable for his tact and smartness as assistant manager, and Mr Walter Norman is energetic and assiduous at the front of the house.

SHEPHERD'S-BUSH EMPIRE.

The North Sea tragedy and the dastardly conduct of the Russians have, of course, not been allowed to pass unnoticed in the variety theatres, and at the popular place of entertainment which faces the Green at Shepherd's-bush Mr Albert Voyce, of the well-known firm of Verno and Voyce, has this week echoed public opinion in a special verse added to his recitation entitled "Capital and Labour." The couple are also appearing in their musical scena, *Father and Son*, in which is told the story of an old man who, overwhelmed by the fact that he has lost all his money in Stock Exchange speculations, is about to commit suicide, but is prevented just in the nick of time by his devoted son. The latter, too, is the bearer of good news and so the white-haired old man finds there is little cause for despondency after all, the moral conveyed by the story being contained in the title of the once popular motto song, "Wait till the clouds roll by." Verno and Voyce are very well received, and so, too, is the evergreen comedian Mr R. G. Knowles, who also in his patter introduces an apt reference to the incident which has aroused the indignation and anger of every true Englishman. He relates how an excited individual rushes up to a man and asks which is the quickest way to get to a hospital. "Give three cheers for the Russians" replies the man. Mr Knowles's wheezes, told at expressspeed, are always greatly enjoyed—none more so than the story about the widow who had the remains of her first husband cremated and the ashes utilised for the benefit of his successor on a certain cold and frosty morning. Mr Knowles has even the temerity to joke about the police and to hint that they are sometimes caught napping. But the American comedian is in his very best form when he is discussing the respective merits of "The girl, the woman, and the widow," though his ditties, "Ring Off" and Saturday Night," are items which are also received with abundance of applause. The American Quintet continue to enjoy a large share of popular favour, and their smart singing and dancing quite account for the flattering reception accorded these artistes, who are led by a very energetic and lively young lady, Miss Mattie Bowman. She sings a pretty song, entitled "In the village by the sea," the chorus being taken up by her companions, whose voices harmonise charmingly. One of them also gives an exhibition of his ability as a step dancer, and their performance as a whole is greatly appreciated and applauded. The Florador Quartet are here in their comedy sketch called *Naughty Nin*, the heroine of which is a romp of a girl who is the plague of her middle-aged father. When it is stated that Nin the Naughty has a rollicking young brother, and that a member of the household is a black page, who is always in mischief the welcome accorded a visitor who arrives in the unavoidable absence of "dear papa" may be better imagined than described. However, the young gentleman makes the best of it, and takes an active part in a burlesque circus performance, Nin appearing as the short-skirted lady who rides round on the horses. The fun is at its height when paterfamilias returns and meets with a boisterous reception, bringing the curtain down upon the merry scene. Rezene and Robini, described as "the two little birds on their perch," appear in the guise of a Russian and a Jap, and go through their funny performance with their usual success. Mr George Brooks, comedian, has a capital song on "grandfather's jokes," which were first told in the time of Noah, and his quaint ditty, "His day's work was done," is as well received as ever. Miss Marie Reeve has a pretty song about "Little Dina," and her dancing is quite a revelation. Miss Lizzie Daniels, in the character of a London work-girl, sings of gay doings at Hampton Court on a holiday occasion, and Princess Pauline scores with her song "Sunny Spain." The Ashers (Agnes and Little Mike) do well in their musical duologue *The Dude and the Soubrette*. Mr E. H. Dobson ably fulfils the duties of acting-manager, and mention should be made of the good work done by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr Geo. Richardson.

BATTERSEA EMPIRE.

Mr E. E. Giles, the enterprising and popular general manager of the now flourishing little variety theatre in York-road, has staged an important production here this week in the romantic costume sketch, *Don Cæsar de Bazan*, adapted from the French of MM. Dumanoir and Dennery by Mr William Felton.

Charles II., King of Spain	Mr WILLIAM FELTON
Don José	Mr GEORGE GRAHAME
Don Cæsar de Bazan	Mr FRANK HARDIE
Marquis of Rotondo	Mr O. LILLFORD DELPH
Captain of the Guard	Mr F. O. BISHOP
Landlord	Mr PHILLIPS
A Blind Beggar	Mr G. H. DAY
Lazarillo	Mr LUKE DAWSON
Maritana	Miss IRENE CARLTON

Mr Felton is responsible for an interesting and well-written little playlet that is a decided advance on the usual sensational sketch so often encountered at music-halls, and that it was appreciated by Batterseaites was evidenced by the frequent applause which greeted the dramatic situations that occurred and the many telling lines with which the trifle is studded. We first encounter the impecunious but light-hearted hero, Don Cæsar, in a street in Madrid. All he has left are his creditors and his trusty sword, in the use of which he is particularly expert. He has protected from the soldiers the youth Lazarillo, and, in spite of an edict of the King that anyone caught fighting a duel during Carnival week shall be hanged, is so incensed at the conduct of the Captain of the Guard that he challenges him. He is successful in the encounter, but is, of course, arrested and sentenced to death. A former friend, Don José, Minister of Charles II, King of Spain, asks him if there is any wish he would like granted ere he meets his doom. As he has to die, nothing much troubles the imperturbable Don Cæsar, but he would prefer shooting to the hangman's noose, and this request is readily granted. Don José has discovered that his royal master is infatuated with the fair Maritana, a singing girl who has won the favour of the Queen, and as he has conceived a passion for her Majesty he is anxious that the girl shall become the King's mistress. To further his scheme he asks Don Cæsar if he has any objection to marrying; and as the latter has only half-an-hour or so to live he obligingly consents. Maritana also agrees, on being told it is the wish of the Queen that she shall become a Countess. As she is heavily veiled during the wedding ceremony, neither party is aware of the identity of the other. Don Cæsar is led out to his death; but, Lazarillo having previously extracted the bullets from the guns of the soldiers, he somehow manages to escape. A particularly effective episode occurs in the last scene where the King visits Maritana. He poses as Don Cæsar, her husband, but his advances to the half-frightened girl are not very warmly reciprocated, and he bids her retire to her room for a while. When the real Don Cæsar enters by a window the King is naturally considerably angered, and in answer to a question as to whom he is replies "Don Cæsar de Bazan," the intruder proving his ready wit by announcing himself as the King. The plot of Don José to dishonour the Queen is eventually revealed to the King, and Don Cæsar mortally wounds the scheming Minister ere the curtain falls. The hero's identity being established, he is restored to the anxious Maritana, and is greatly honoured by the monarch he has so befriended. Mr Frank Hardie's company are to be warmly congratulated on their excellent all-round interpretation of this pleasing sketch, the head of the combination giving an effective and finished portrayal of the hero, Don Cæsar, and cleverly indicating the humorous nature of the character. Another admirable enactment was the King Charles II. of Mr William Felton, the author being responsible for a polished and easy impersonation that can be highly praised. Miss Irene Carlton made the most of her opportunities as Maritana, being especially good in the concluding episode; and the other characters were all capably undertaken. The mounting of the sketch fulfilled all requirements. The costumes were supplied by Lewis Benjamin and the wigs by Clarkson, incidental music being composed by Mr C. Howells.

The variety portion of Mr Giles's programme is also of an alluring nature, a couple of eccentric comedians who are responsible for abundant mirth being Foreman and Fannan, "the millionaires" (Percy and Harold). Their conversation is always amusing, and there is a laugh in every verse of their duet, "And the blow almost killed father." Another double turn whose occupancy of the stage is marked by much hilarity are the Harrison Brothers who have a droll "walking" song, and who are especially expert dancers, their contributions being warmly welcomed. The galleryites are given a chance of displaying their vocal abilities in the chorus of the popular "Good-bye, my Blue-bell," for the excellent rendering of which Miss Rose Elliott is loudly complimented; Miss Lily Morris has an admirable comedy song in "Make yourself at home;" Miss Flo Raynor pleases with her singing of "Every night you start your canoodling;" the Sisters Hall are loudly acclaimed for their tuneful rendering of "Sadie, say you won't say nay;" and there is applause in abundance for the couple of songs of Miss Belle Davis, the vocalist receiving valuable assistance from her precocious "pick-chicks," the little darkies being particularly smart in their military uniforms and evolutions. Prince Bendon, ventriloquial comedian, is also in the programme, an attractive feature of which is still the exhibition of photographs in connection with Mr Giles's novel profit-sharing scheme.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

Thanks chiefly to the energetic management of Mr Arthur J. Barclay, who is ever on the alert to secure the best available talent, allied to a keen insight into the requirements of the particular public for which he has to cater, the Walthamstow Palace, in the ten months or so it has been open, has become a notable centre of interest in the locality, a constantly heard expression being one of amazement that the town has existed so long without an establishment of the kind and class. The programme for the current week is no exception to the general rule of "infinite variety," and, while it contains no feature of startling novelty, is well supplied with items of popular and familiar interest. The Three American Idols, if their singing does not exactly recall the vocal triumphs of Melba, Calvé, and Nordica, dance with an agility and grace that are probably beyond the hopes or attainments of these ladies. Jimson's animals, including dogs of various breeds and a sweet little baby "porker," go through some wonderfully clever evolutions. Full of boyish fun, Fern's New York Nippers, in *Bedtime*, sing prettily and dance with grace and dexterity, their very acceptable turn being received with loudly expressed demonstrations of approval. Mr Herbert La Martine uses with fine effect a powerful voice, one of his songs, of the "plantation" or "coon" order being rendered with astonishing volubility. But Mr La Martine's dancing—justly described as "eccentric"—is still more to the liking of audiences than his singing, and the contortions to which he subjects his limbs quite account for the beads of perspiration that gather on his face as he proceeds. He is greeted with enthusiasm at every performance. A clever and amusing turn is supplied by the Burnells, musical comedy artistes, whose knockabout business provokes roars of laughter and applause. A comic boxing match is one of the funniest things to which we have been treated for some time, and the whole act is richly deserving of its success. Mr Frank Sylvo is certainly as quaint a juggler as could be found in a voyage round the world of variety. His business is as original as it is adroit, and, perpetually producing some totally unexpected development, it keeps the spectator in a constant state of expectation and delight. Miss Edie and Mr Harold Finden provide an agreeable variation in their clever and successful farce, *A Desperate Remedy*. As the exasperating and voluble wife Miss Finden acts with great animation, while Mr Finden rattles through the part of the husband, who finally triumphs, with much comedy power. The Boisset Troupe wind up the attractive bill with their rollicking piece of pantomimic absurdity, *The Wild West*, and keep the audience in a state of mad hilarity from the rise of the curtain to its fall. All artists—and their name is legion—work with a will, and never allow the action to flag for a single instant. The Palace orchestra, under the direction of Mr H. Petersen, give a spirited rendering of the overture to Sullivan's *Gondoliers*.

FIRES IN THEATRES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—An interview on the adoption of fire resisting material on the stage of the Alhambra, which has appeared this week in the columns of one of your contemporaries, has been published without my seeing the reduction of the interview to print, or approving its accuracy.

Many of the statements which I am supposed to have made are so very inaccurate as to be most seriously misleading, and in most instances have existed only in the imagination of the writer.

Will yo do me the kind favour of inserting this letter in your widely read columns?

Yours faithfully, ALFRED MOUL,
Chairman of the Alhambra Company, Limited.
23, Charing-cross-road W.C., Oct 27, 1904.

HENRI CAZMAN has returned to London from his booking tour and engagements in the provines, having visited in the last few weeks over twenty towns and interviewed some thirty managers. He is appearing this week at the Royal Standard, Pimlico, with his charming wife, Miss Florence Yaymen, erstwhile known as Mam'zelle Flossie.

MR HARRY LAUDER, the canny Scot, has returned to London this week to fulfil a series of engagements. It was in 1900 that he made his first appearance in London—at Gatti's, Westminster-bridge-road. He was taking a holiday, and just to find out something about London audiences he gave a trial show through the kind auspices of Mr Walter Munroe. The patrons of Gatti's simply went wild over him; and within forty-eight hours he had secured contracts for years ahead at all the principal London halls.

MISS JENNIE STEELE is opening a variety agency (for ladies only) in Liverpool. Her permanent address will be advertised in our columns next week.—Miss Edna Cragge has been secured by Miss Daisy De Roy as her principal boy—It was Miss Amy Milton who proved such an attractive turn at the Hounslow Varieties last week, not Hilton as stated.—Mrs Allan M'Askell, now in Scarbrough Hospital, had a relapse on Wednesday last, and her condition is critical.

MISS ANNIE PURCELL is rapidly progressing towards complete recovery. She will have to stay in Birmingham at least another week before she is able to be moved, and then she will be taken by her husband, Mr De Reeder, to Southsea to recuperate. Meanwhile she is anxious to convey her thanks to all kindly inquirers.

MISS CLORINDA THURTELL (Mrs E. V. Page) will make her reappearance on the variety stage at the Empress, Brixton, on Monday next. This charming lady is sure of the warmest of welcomes from the Empress patrons, where her husband is held in high esteem.

THE Grand Annual Concert in aid of the Brixton and Streatham Omnibus Men's Sick and Benevolent Fund will take place as usual at the Empress, Brixton, on Thursday, Nov. 7. Over fifty variety artistes have kindly volunteered their services to strengthen the usual strong bill here, among them being Marie Lloyd, Will Evans, George Mozart, Peggy Pryde, Lily Langtry, Daisy James, Katie Lawrence, Chirgwin, Ethel Yorke, Lottie Lennox, Harry Pleon, and Little Maudie Francis.

THE Brothers Edgar, 77, Kennington-road, S.E., desire to acknowledge with thanks the following donations for the widow of the late Abe Holt:—Leo Dryden, £1 1s.; per Paul Mill (Lowestoft Charity Sports), 10s. 6d.; Griff, 5s.; W. H. Clemart, 5s.; Ted Missouri, 2s. 6d.; and W. H. Howard, 2s. 6d.

THE M.H.A.R.A. AND ITS BUSINESS.

In our last issue we gave a report of the eighth annual meeting of members of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association. At that meeting there arose certain questions involving a condition of things which was found to be quite outside the province of the Association. Before, however, dealing with those matters which formed a source of animated discussion which still goes on among individual members, we think it necessary to give, briefly, the history of the Association, and show what was responsible for its foundation and the particular business with which it was concerned.

In October, 1886, Mr C. Douglas Stuart, the present energetic secretary, started an agitation on behalf of music hall artistes for the reduction of railway rates, so that they might have the same benefits that the theatrical people enjoyed. The first concession he obtained was the reduction of one penny in cloakroom fees. When the question of reduced fares for railway travelling came up for consideration, the companies found at first that they could not offer any relief in this direction because as they said, it would be difficult to know who was and who was not a music hall artist. Mr Stuart and his friends were, therefore, advised to form an association, and on Nov. 8, 1896, a large meeting of members of the variety profession was held in Kennington-road, when they decided to band themselves into an association. That Association started on its career in February of the following year. With so much progress made, it was comparatively easy work to draw up a memorial and get it signed by 3,000 artists. That memorial, among other things, asked for a reduction of a quarter of the ordinary railway fare. A conference of the general managers of the different railway lines was held at the Clearing House at King's Cross, and a little later the railway people received a deputation consisting of Messrs Dan Leno, the late Charles Morton Eugene Stratton, Harry Randall, Joe Elvin, Wal Pink, Fred Millis, Douglas White, Douglas Stuart, and Adderly Howard.

Mr Howard acted as spokesman for the party, and the various gentlemen were introduced by Mr James Bailey M.P. The outcome of it all was that in the following August a letter was received by Mr Stuart from the Railway Clearing House to the effect that the general managers had agreed to allow music hall artists, in parties of not less than five, to travel at three-quarters fare. This concession came into force on Oct. 1, 1897.

There was no agreement entered into with the railway companies in respect of the period of time over which the concession should take effect, and it could, therefore, be withdrawn at any moment, without so much as a week's notice. The general managers of the railway companies gave Mr Stuart and his friends to understand very clearly that the cards of membership must only be given to bonâ-fide music hall performers, and Mr Stuart agreed to make himself personally responsible for this provision being carried out. At a later conference with the railway managers, when certain details as to the working of the arrangement were considered, Mr Stuart and others undertook on behalf of the Association to devote the profits derived from subscriptions equally between the railway and music hall charities, of course, after all expenses of the Association had been paid. Two or three years after the Association had been started the railway companies made a new rule to the effect that they would not be responsible for loss of, or damage to, luggage belonging to music hall artists who might be travelling at the reduced rate. To meet this difficulty the committee of the M.H.A.R.A. arranged with the Ocean Accident and Guarantee Corporation for an insurance policy which would, in the first place, cover any possible loss in transit, and, in the second place, would ensure the artists against accidents and death while going to and from an engagement.

Quite recently the committee of the M.H.A.R.A. approached the railway companies and inquired whether the latter would sanction the Association being turned into what might be called a Music Hall Artists' Protection Union. The theatrical managers to the railway concerns were unable to give a definite answer there and then, but stated that they had every reason to believe that were the Association to attempt anything on the lines indicated the railway concessions would be taken away. Last year, unfortunately, the M.H.A.R.A. committed what might be called an error of judgment. With the best possible intentions, a sub-committee of the Association was authorised to be formed to deal with the questions of the barring clause, the closing of music halls, and changes of proprietorship. The sub-committee sat on a good many occasions, arranged several interviews with prominent managers, and collected a host of opinions and a mass of evidence. It was neither the intention nor the wish of this sub-committee to set itself at war against proprietors and managers, but it was the earnest desire of its members to act as mediators, if possible, between managers and artists, and to solve in the most amicable manner the vexed and still undecided problem of a "universal contract." What was the result of these proceedings? To put it vulgarly, the whole thing fizzled out, no agreement was arrived at between managers and artists, and not the slightest improvement or alteration in the previously existing condition of affairs was effected. We blame the Association—an association whose principal and almost sole business it is to attend to the railway travelling requirements of members of the variety profession—for interfering in a matter in which it was not in the slightest way concerned in which its interests were not in the slightest degree affected, and in which it had no more jurisdiction or power to force its decisions than the ordinary man in the street. The principal reason why we blame the Association for—however good-naturedly—attempting to fight the cause of the artists, is that they created a wrong impression of the objects of the Association. As we have already pointed out, the Association was founded to secure railway benefits as its title implies. Do the railway companies wish to be concerned with the manner in which an artist's contract is drawn up, or how much salary he gets, or do they care one jot whether an artist appears within a mile of a certain music hall within a certain period or not? We should hardly think so. Neither, we imagine, would they desire to be in any way mixed up with the inner workings of music halls. One has only got to consider the question for a few seconds, and one conclusion only can be arrived at, viz., that the railway companies will not, if they can help it, allow a railway association—an association founded primarily at their instigation—to become involved, to its own detriment, in the troubled atmosphere of trades unionism and of disagreements between employer and employed.

We are fully aware of the fact that the M.H.A.R.A. has done good work in other directions than merely railway travelling. Members have the advantage of free medical advice at the hands of doctors in London and the provinces, and, as we have already stated, they are insured against accidents and death. The railway companies willingly gave their consent to these arrangements being made. But that is a very different thing from asking them to become parties to a quarrel which, however it ends, benefits them not, and in which they have no more interest than the man in the moon. It was stated at the meeting of the Association last week that it had a reserve fund of nearly £400. It was thought by some members that this amount could not be better employed than in fighting sketch questions, barring clause agreements, and in other ways in which the artists are now passive resisters against the managers. How far would that £400 go in a law case? Between a couple of counsel, probably in one action alone, the whole of the money would vanish as quickly as a fish between two cats. And what then? Then the Association would find itself in a practically bankrupt state. A reserve fund must be kept at the bank to preserve the credit of the Association. In the event of the railway companies withdrawing their concessions, the Musical Hall Artists' Railway Association would cease to exist as it is at present constituted. Out of the reserve fund the salaries of the staff, the rent of the office, and the debts would have to be paid; otherwise the Association would not die a very graceful and peaceful death. It is extremely unlikely that the railway companies would consent to the money which is now annually paid to their charities being used for trades union purposes. But apart from that, it seems to us that the whole of the cash at the command of the Association, after paying bare expenses, would not be sufficient for the necessities which would arise were the Association to be converted into a grievance-redressing institution. Let those who want a combination of this kind start one by all means, but it must be perfectly distinct from the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association.

"MR." HENGLER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have seen John M. Hengler's "comment" in your issue of last Saturday.

My advertisement in your paper brought me close on 500 replies, and of these nearly 350 were addressed "A. Hengler, Esq.," or "Albert Hengler, Esq." This, I think, proves that the people for whom the advertisement was intended are quite sure who "Mr" Hengler is. Your correspondent takes too much upon himself. Who, in his sound senses, would imagine for a moment that the notice referred to John M. Hengler or his son?

My relation has no cause for worry. He will never be mistaken for "Mr" Hengler either by members of the profession or by the public of the city of Glasgow. Yours faithfully,

ALBERT HENGLER.

Glasgow, Oct. 27, 1904.

AT Clerkenwell Sessions, on Wednesday, Arthur George Spry, twenty-two, pleaded "Guilty" to stealing a basket belonging to George Govetti, a music hall artiste. Mr Slade Butler, for the prosecution, said there were other charges of theft, but he did not think it necessary to proceed with them. Detective-sergeant Rose said that the prisoner had been sent to gaol on five occasions. He was released in April, and since then twenty-four complaints had been made to the police concerning him. He went about personating Mr Spry, of Spry and Austin, music hall artistes, and in that gentleman's name victimised managers, artistes, jobmasters, and lodging-house keepers. He engaged artistes to "do a turn" for him, and borrowed money by saying he had left his purse at home. In the present case he had petitioned the Home Office, and denied his previous convictions. As a result, the Home Office had directed each officer who had had him in custody to attend and prove the offences against him. Counsel, on Spry's behalf, urged that the prisoner was not quite right in his mind, and asked for an adjournment for the prison doctor to examine him. Mr Loveland-Loveland, K.C., after consideration, refused the application, and sentenced Spry to three years' penal servitude and two years' police supervision. Instructions were given to keep a close watch upon him.

AT the Thames Police-court, on Monday, an application was made to Mr Mead for a licence permitting a boy, twelve years of age, to perform at an East-end music hall. It was stated he was a member of a troupe of acrobats consisting of fifteen performers. The lad in question had to appear as a clown, but his duties were simply to walk about the stage. In reply to Mr Mead, the applicant for the licence said the boy would go to school this week at Poplar. Next week they were engaged to perform at Hartlepool for six nights. Mr Mead—Then how can a boy get educated under those circumstances? I suppose he is never able to go to school on a Monday?—Applicant—That is so, but his sister teaches him. Mr Mead—The law of the land is that every boy, up to fourteen, should go to school, and if the lad in question went to a different school each week he could not receive ordinary education. If I granted the request it would be assisting applicant to evade the law. I shall not grant the application for the reason that it would be placing an obstacle in the way of the boy being properly educated.

MR MICHAEL NOLAN leaves town for three months on Monday next. This is a great loss to London, as the genial Irishman is singing some capital songs just now. However, he will be able to give his admirers in the provinces a chance to renew their acquaintance with him. They will find "Mike" in excellent form.

A MOST interesting picture was shown on Wednesday night on the Bioscope at the Palace Theatre of the damaged trawlers at Hull.

THE WOELLHAFS (Fred and Marie) resume business next Monday at the Opera House, York. Mrs W. has entirely recovered from her recent illness, during which Mr Fred Woellhaf had a very successful season at Rhyl with Mr E. H. Williams's famous Merrie Men.

MISS MAUD ESMOND successfully produced at the Tivoli this week a stirring number, entitled "Wake up, Britannia!" the last verse of which deals with the recent Russian outrage in the North Sea. The song was received with unbounded enthusiasm. It is the joint work of Messrs Alf. J. Lawrence and Harry Gifford. Miss Esmond has also secured two other songs from the same authors, respectively entitled "My Jersey Lily" and "Two Little Tell-tale Eyes," for immediate production.

"RUSSIAN BEAR, BEWARE" is the title of a song written by Mr Cayley Calvert, the well-known writer of sketches. It was sung on Friday evening at very short notice by Miss Marguerite Broadfoote with great success at four halls.

HOUDINI, the "handcuff king," who is this week appearing at Liverpool, has accepted a challenge from four seamen of H.M.S. Eagle, R.N.R., to free himself from recognised ship irons used years ago for mutiny on the high seas. With these irons the seamen are "to manacle and truss him up in the old-fashioned punishment method; Houdini to lay on his back, with his hands manacled to his knees, a staff placed behind his knees and between his arms, holding him in an immovable position; also heavy leg irons locked on his ankles."

MEMBERS of the M.H.A.R.A. are specially requested to note that Mr Campbell, of the Tyne Theatre Buffet, has been appointed agent for the Association in Newcastle-on-Tyne from this date, and that they must apply to him for their vouchers.

MESSRS C. W. MURPHY and DAN LIPTON have this week written Mr George Bastow two funny songs, for which he hopes to secure much popularity. The same writers have also provided Mr Charles Sheard with a novelty in the shape of a ballad dealing with the Stone Age period, entitled "In my lonely cave." Their pantomime numbers are also in great demand, particularly "Go away, Mister Crocodile," and "If I had a girl as nice as you."

ADVERTISERS and SUBSCRIBERS who are moving about, and who have their Copy of "THE ERA" sent direct from this Office, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, are requested to forward the Addresses for their Papers [not later' than the Tuesday] in each Week.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Second Fair at Stratford-on-Avon was well maintained by the following shows and fairground novelties:—Wadbrook's electrograph, J. Wright's fine art gallery, Tolley's school of boxers and athletes, Clarke's switchback gondolas, Strickland's steam galloping horses, Butlin's midget mountain ponies, Dingley's miniature roundabout set, the pony circus, highfliers, park swings, &c, by Messrs Strickland, Clarke, and Dingley; shooting ranges, Morris tubes, and bottle batteries by Messrs Wilson, Clarke and Wright; Brooke's photo studio, and cokers; roll-up boards, variety stalls, &c., by Messrs Butlin, Kemp, Coley, Butler, Harris, Willis, Herbert Wilson, and others.

SOUTHAM FAIR on this round had for the delight of its show-loving crowds the excellent concerns of Sidney Braham, with the trained feathered marvels; John Wright's Royal academy of fine arts, Polley's champion boxers, Wilson's shooting saloon, the swing boats and highfliers of Messrs Clarke and Wilson, Kemp's bazaar, and Herbert's variety stalls, &c.

ASTWOOD BANK, says our local correspondent, is worth considering for private business by the proprietors and managers of circuses, menageries, cinématograph, or variety theatres; in fact, travelling entertainments of all kinds may well make a note of Astwood Bank. So says the man on the spot. At present Holloway's portable New Empire Theatre is doing excellent business at Astwood Bank with the following popular plays:—*Uncle Tom's Cabin, Honour Thy Father. The Factory Girl, Gold; or, the Miser's Crime, Maria Martin,* and *The Dumb Man of Manchester.* There are pleasing and up-to-date variety turns by Messrs W. Redmond and Wm. Holloway, and a capital répertoire of laughable farces and old comedies. Wadbrook's superb show, the electric palace of living pictures, "The World's Events Day by Day," has been doing record business at Alcester this last week.

WORKSOP kept its October fair in fine weather with a record attendance of visitors, Worksop being the centre of a large agricultural district. The pleasure fair was a boon and a blessing to its busy workers, who came from far and near to enjoy its fun and jollity. Holland's Cinématograph show with up-to-date pictures was a big attraction, and gave unanimous satisfaction. Messrs Tuby and Son's splendid electric Venetian gondolas and the same firm's fine range of swings did excellent business. So also the other caterers of amusement did well. Amongst these were Mr T. Tuby, sen., with a Winchester range, and Mr A. Illingworth, with coker and other varieties.

CLITHEROE, an important town of north-east Lancashire, thirty-three miles from Manchester, is a thriving centre of the cotton trade and also famous for its paper mills. With a population of 112 000, it has two fairs—one held at the end of March and the other at the end of October.

FOR the fair this week were:—Wm. Clark, jun.'s, celebrated Cinématograph, Wm. Weston and J. H. Smith, with boxers and athletes, Peter Makin's steam roundabouts, the galloping horses, Mrs Holden's flying ostriches, and the No. 2 set, the steam yachts, Starkie's range of highfliers and rifle saloon, W. Royle's Winchester range, and Mr Wm. Taylor's bottle battery; all the fun of the fair in the shape of coker shies, Emma sheets, dolly frames, window smashers, prize tubs, &c., were provided by Messrs Butterworth, Shorrock's, Freer, Slater, Gallagher, Broughton, W. H. Taylor, Stanley Wilson, and Ingram. The fair and its arrangements reflect the greatest credit on the indefatigable and courteous Inspector of Markets and Fairs, Mr Walter Clayton.

CHICHESTER boasts an old-time fair known as Sloe Fair. Great excitement prevailed in the cathedral city owing to the rumour that Sloe Fair was being held for the last time. The good people of the city may take heart of courage. Fairs do not die so easily. The only reason given is that the old fair ground is wanted for the extension of the workhouse. Sloe Fair may have to seek a new habitation, and that is all. This excitement about its possible death added to the interest, and brought vast crowds of visitors to the old cathedral city. All the attractions of a well-ordered fair were present, and good business was done by the showmen with entertainments which included switchback railways, several roundabouts, a Cinématograph theatre, shooting saloons, swings, coker shies, dolly frames, and a crowd of minor novelties. In the evening the spacious field in North-gate was one mass of people, and when the fun was at its highest it was a little difficult to think that this could possibly be the last of Sloe Fair, which has been so long regarded by a great portion of the lower classes as the one important event of the year. One could more easily imagine Sloe Fair in another and perhaps less objectionable spot; but its abolition—well last night it seemed out of the question.

ANOTHER link in the showmen's ranks is snapped asunder. The mortal remains of Alf Williams, whose "ghost illusion and cinématograph" have travelled all over the Lancashire fairs and wakes for the past thirty years, was borne to his last resting place at Chapelfields, from his residence at "Besses o' th' Barn," on Tuesday, Oct. 25. Among those present we noticed Mrs Alice Williams (widow), Mr Joe Williams, Mr and Mrs Chas. Lee (*née* Janey Williams), Bert Williams (nephew) and wife, Mr and Mrs Geo. Taylor, Mr and Mrs Wilson Clegg, Mr David Lomax, Mr Willie Clarke (Colonel Clarke, an old friend, was unable to attend), Mr and Mrs W. Taylor, Messrs Harry and Richard Taylor, Mr and Mrs Harry Lewis, Mr N. J. Stanley, Mr Wm. Power, Mrs W. Edwards and son. The bearers were the brothers George, Ernest, and Arthur Stanley (who had been members of his company from childhood), assisted by Mr C. Docherty. More than a hundred mourners and sympathisers attended, and the coffin was completely covered by floral emblems of esteem—"Good old Alf," "May the earth rest lightly on him," "R. I. P."

THE Herring Fair at East Ilsley drew crowds of visitors. The pleasure fair is evidently growing in public esteem.

SHEFFIELD October fair may now be considered as an established fixture. It forms a capital link between Hull and the Yorkshire back-end fairs, and is entirely owing to the business enterprise of Mr John Collins, the lessee of the ground. The locale of the fair was the well-known and centrally situated cattle market, and the arrangements of the ground were in every way satisfactory.

THE shows on the outer circle here were Prince Samonda's oriental illusions, Mr Frank Gees and his fistiana artists, Mr Fred Darnell's two-headed giant, Mr Joe Wilson's athletes, and Messrs Holdsworth and Powell's fine art show. Mr Frank Walton's photographic studios. Machines of the first order were Mr John Collins's magnificent four-abreast, the twin tugs of the same proprietor, M. Lieske's gyrating wheel, P. Collins, Limited, racing cockerels, P. Collins, Limited, rolling gondolas, and the first-class shooting concerns of Messrs Geo. H. Cornwell, Wm. Radcliffe, T. Smith, and T. Hughes. Roll-ups, pannum stalls, Krugers, &c., were provided by Messrs D. Johnson, G. Sutherland, S. Mercer, J. Smith, J. Middlebrook, J. T. Cooper, W. Stewart, C. Bliss, Ingham, Towers, and Ackroyd.

THE Parliamentary Session of 1904 undoubtedly marks the most important stage in the organised defence of the show business. Carefully preparing the way beforehand, the Guild Executive Committee determined to carry the war into the camp of the enemy. Not merely active resistance, but a bold policy of retaliation was resolved upon. The Private Bills Committee were to be shown the gross injustice of public bodies in their continued attacks on the trade rights of showmen and the fair rights of the people.

DURING three previous Sessions of Parliament heavy expenses had been borne cheerfully and exhausting work undertaken readily because showmen were advised by their legal and Parliamentary experts, that not only had they been successful in their efforts of defence, but that a strong case was being built up for a counter stroke; also, that when the time arrived for presenting that case, then an appeal would be made to Parliament to protect showpeople from the persistent attack in Private Bill legislation upon the fairground industry.

THREE sessions of hard work and constant vigilance had given the showman most important results. (1) It was shown that no legislation in restraint of trade can pass into law by Private Bill. It was the showmen who made this principle of our constitution clear. Only by Public Bill and after full Parliamentary discussion and national publicity may such legislation be attempted. You cannot legislate by Private Bill to cut down the trade of your neighbour. This all seems simple and clear enough, yet in the Bill of the Eccles Corporation were clauses in distinct and open restriction, nay, prohibition, of trade. That Bill but for the opposition of the Guild would have passed into law with these penalty clauses in it. (2) The next important principle defined was that corporate bodies should not have an absolute monopoly of fairs and fairgrounds. "Free trade in fairs" was the victory won over Halifax Corporation. Then (3) it was decided that powers in excess of the general laws could not be obtained by Private Bill. This, too, is very important to understand. It is already law that municipal corporations under various Local Government Acts have full and ample powers to govern and control all entertainments, whether held in permanent or portable structures. Bye-laws for good rule and order and for the moral good of the community are within the powers already possessed by public bodies. Yet until the showmen pointed it out to the House of Commons, corporations in their Private Bill legislation were seeking additional powers to frame bye-laws, not merely to regulate, but to prohibit.

THE reason of this was, that in many instances showmen successfully opposed the sanction of bye-laws. The law as it is provides that forty days' public notice must be given in order that objections may be considered, and all private rights duly conserved. It was the success of the Guild in opposing back bye-laws that led corporations to try and smuggle through in Private Bills the drastic penalising restrictions they had failed to obtain under the ordinary law.

MANSFIELD was the test case on this phase of the struggle. The corporation was told to use the law already in existence, which gave them all the control for the public good that Parliament meant the authorities to have. New laws in excess of the general law could not be obtained by Private Bill. In the face of these facts the question naturally arose—how long must the showmen continue to oppose (in their own interest, it is true) these gross attempts on the part of local authorities to narrow down public rights, and to hinder and penalise a very important industry?

THE answer was given by the Parliamentary Committee when dealing with the Bill promoted by the Urban District Council of Acton, an important metropolitan suburb. Despite the fact that East Ham had been defeated in the previous sessions, the Acton Bill sought the same powers to penalise shows and showmen as were thrown out of the East Ham Bill. Then it was that on the general grounds of justice and fair-play the showmen's case was laid before the committee, and a plea made that it was time that corporations ceased asking for powers again and again denied them. Showmen had for four years, at great cost, opposed in every case these restrictive proposals. Now, it was urged, corporations ought to be made to understand the injustice of compelling showmen to appear and submit evidence and arguments over and over again on questions that the committee had already and persistently decided in their favour.

THE end was the throwing out of the Bill the objectionable clauses, and also, to mark the committee's sense of the repeated vexatious annoyance showmen had endured, the showmen's costs as against the District Council of Acton were allowed. These costs, amounting to £150, was the price Acton had to pay to be taught the lesson that the House of Commons respects and protects its showmen citizens in their movable dwellings and in their daily work and means of honest livelihood as faithfully as it protects other classes and other industries.

WE hope to deal next week with some of the far-reaching benefits and results of this brilliant victory for the showmen of the Empire.

WE shall endeavour to outline a plan of work—a still further advance for the Showmen's Guild—in order that these hard-won results may not be frittered away or lost. Seventy thousand people are interested, and deeply too, in the preservation of an ancient and honourable craft, and, more important still, 50,000,000 people of the United Kingdom are interested in the preservation of their national holidays, fairs, feasts, and wakes.

MR ALBERT H. HENGLER, circus proprietor, appeared before Mr Registrar Atkinson at the Manchester Bankruptcy Court on Monday last for his adjourned public examination. Mr Walter Cobbett, who represented the debtor, asked Mr Hengler whether he wished to give any explanation of the suggestion that he had carried on his business at a time when he was insolvent and could not pay each debt as it fell due. Mr Hengler replied that he considered that at the time he filed his petition he was solvent, and that he had enough stock-in-trade and assets to pay all his existing liabilities. Further, he thought he was justified in going on with his business by past experience. In 1889 he was in a worse fix, and recovered himself. The Registrar — The Official Receiver does not suggest that there is anything more than a technical offence? The Official Receiver replied that that was so. There had been at least forty writs against the debtor within the last two years, but this was one of those fluctuating businesses—like that of the theatrical business—in which the creditors knew there were "ups and downs," and relied upon a future success for the payment of their past debts. "I do not seek," the Official Receiver said, "to treat Mr Hengler's as an ordinary business. Some consideration is to be extended to the debtor in this case." The Registrar—It is a technical offence; the writs were there. The Official Receiver—Yes, but they were met. The examination was closed.

MISS NELLY WILK, the champion lady shaver of the world, who is performing at the Hippodrome, Wigan, this week, has drawn crowded houses nightly to witness her wonderful feat of shaving thirty men under forty-five minutes. She has beaten all records up to Wednesday, as she shaves these thirty men with one hand, two hands, and blind-folded in 31mins. 25sec. She challenges the world now for £1,000.

BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S MANAGERIE gave performances in Lincoln on Monday and Tuesday, the representative character of the collection and the daring of the animal trainers being great features of the old show.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS begins the Westmoreland and Cumberland cycle of hiring fairs. Here were Manders' Star menagerie; Randal Williams kinemato theatre and varieties (Messrs Monte Brothers), and the High-class cinématograph exhibition of Richardson Brothers, Limited, and John Cooper, each show with its special star attraction. Richardson Bros. also exhibited their fine steam roundabout, the flying ostriches, Sheeran was present with his novelty booth, Murphy's grand set the gondola switchback, had a constant throng of patrons. Rifle saloons and bottle batteries were supplied by Messrs Newsome, Sheeran, and Casey. These, with others, catered with minor novelties.

WE have news to hand of an ancient south country fair—Maidstone. Its Charter fairs date back to Edward VI. and are four in number, but one of these has fallen into abeyance. We now have fairs in May, June, and October. The concerns at the October fair held on the 17th and 18th were Pettigrove's aggregation of fairground novelties, the switchback gondolas, the steam gallopers, the highfliers, the Winchester range, the rifle saloons, and Emma and coker sheets, with Mr Pettigrove; Professor Adams, with athletes and boxers; Messrs Birby and Penfold, with shooters, cokers, and varieties. There were also the usual attendant crowd of stallholders and novelty vendors.

COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES NOVEMBER, 1904.

ENGLAND.

Nov. 1.	Coalville	Nov. 11.	Kendal-in-Furness
Nov. 1.	Coventry	Nov. 11.	Penrith
Nov. 1.	Morpeth	Nov. 11.	Wakefield
Nov. 1.	Poole	Nov. 12.	Cockermouth
Nov. 1	Wigton	Nov. 12.	Epping
Nov. 2.	Richmond (Yorks)	Nov. 12.	Glemsford
Nov. 2.	Swaffham	Nov. 12.	Glapwell
Nov. 2	Wokingham	Nov. 12.	Hucknall
Nov. 3.	Sowerby Bridge	Nov. 12.	Keswick
Nov. 4.	Mansfield	Nov. 12.	Kingston-on-Thames
Nov. 5	Beverley	Nov. 12.	Maryport
Nov. 5.	Cartmel-in-Furness	Nov. 12.	Stamfordham
Nov. 5.	Clapetone	Nov. 14.	Brampton
Nov. 5.	Halifax	Nov. 14.	Egremont (Cumb.)
Nov. 5.	Heckmondwike	Nov. 14.	Ripon
Nov. 5.	Mansfield Woodhouse	Nov. 15.	Warkworth
		Nov. 16.	Darlington
Nov. 5.	Rotherham	Nov. 16	St. John's Chapel
Nov. 5.	Rowsley	Nov. 17.	Andover
Nov. 5.	Scarcliffe	Nov. 17.	Ulverstone
Nov. 5.	Skegby	Nov. 17.	Whitehaven
Nov. 5.	Portland	Nov. 18.	Horsham
Nov. 7.	Kirby Stephen	Nov. 18.	Yeovil
Nov. 8.	Alford	Nov. 19.	Malton
Nov. 8.	Biggleswade	Nov. 19	Rugby
Nov. 8.	Guisboro'	Nov. 19.	York
Nov. 8.	Leeds	Nov. 21.	Pickering
Nov. 8.	Penstone	Nov 22.	Dover
Nov. 8.	Romsey	Nov. 22.	Fakenham
Nov. 9	Biddesden	Nov. 22.	Guildford
Nov. 9.	Chesham	Nov. 22.	Haltwhistle
Nov. 9	Portsmouth	Nov. 22.	Martin Town
Nov. 9.	Thornaby	Nov. 23.	Crowle
Nov. 10.	Alston	Nov. 23	Knaresborough
Nov. 10.	Farnham	Nov. 23.	Louth
Nov. 10.	Loughborough	Nov. 23	Newark
Nov. 10.	Queen's-road(Manchester)	Nov. 23.	Shaftesbury
		Nov. 23.	Stockton-on-Tees
Nov. 10.	Wetherby	Nov. 23.	Whitby
Nov. 11.	Askam-in-Furness	Nov. 26.	Frome
Nov. 11.	Bulwell	Nov. 26	Hartlepool
Nov. 11.	Bishop Auckland	Nov. 29.	Warrington
Nov. 11.	Brockley	Nov. 30.	Ilminster
Nov. 11.	Cambourne	Nov. 30.	Ludford
Nov. 11.	Durham	Nov. 30.	Milborne
Nov. 11.	Easingwold	Nov. 30.	St. Ives

SCOTLAND.

Nov. 3.	Biggar	Nov. 16.	Govan
Nov. 12.	Paisley	Nov. 19.	Inverness
Nov. 15.	Dumbarton	Nov. 23.	Langholme

WALES.

Nov. 1.	Brecon	Nov. 7.	Penygroes
Nov. 1.	Talgarth	Nov. 11.	Aberdare
Nov. 5.	Brynmawr	Nov. 11.	Penmorfa
Nov. 5.	Llangefeloch	Nov. 14.	Neath
Nov. 5.	Lydney	Nov. 15.	Llandovery

AGRICULTURAL and Horse and Cattle Shows in November—At Norwich on the 17th to 19th; at Newport (Mon.) 22nd and 23rd; at Inverness 22nd, and Bingley Hall, Birmingham, the 26th to 30th.

HORSE and Cattle Fairs—Thurles, Downpatrick, Settle, and Farringdon on the 1st; Belfast, Londonderry, and Rutherglen on the 2nd; Armagh, Chester, Doncaster, and Northampton on the 3rd; North Shields and Great Eccleston on the 4th; Elston, Saffron Walden, Helmsley, and Buckingham on the 5th; Aberystwyth, Pocklington, Crewe, and Keighley on the 7th; Shrewsbury, Hertford, Haverfordwest, and Hay on the 8th; Kendal, Drogheda, and Dunstable on the 9th; Darlington, Ashby, and Hungerford on the 10th; Macclesfield, Camelford and Downham on 11th; Cavan, Chelmsford, and Woburn on the 12th; Edinburgh, Carmarthen, Bakewell, and Lisburn on the 14th; Abergavenny on 15th; Dundalk and Dumfries on the 16th; Malling West, Ingleton, Bedford, and Andover on the 17th; Boston, Lincoln, and Yeovil on the 18th; Ballibay and Truro on the 19th; Castle Douglas and Barnet on the 21st; Congleton, Ballyclare, Garstang, Monmouth, and Scarborough on the 22nd; Marlborough on the 23rd; Clones, Rickmansworth, and Antrim on the 24th; Wibsey on the 25th; Harlow, Northampton, and Uttoxeter on the 28th; Newtown, Bromsgrove, and Ashbourne on the 29th; Newcastle-on-Tyne, Maidenhead, Pontefract, and Tamworth on the 30th.

QUIET and unassuming as Lorenzo Crick was, there were few of his day who could point to a professional life and experience so varied and interesting. Early in life he became celebrated as an animal trainer. Lorenzo and his dog and monkey circus was a big attraction at the London music halls thirty years ago.

LATER on in life he joined forces with Chadwick's show, and was a big success at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, at the World's Fair. Then he took regularly to fairground business, travelling his own show, the dog and monkey circus, assisted by his clever sons in acrobatic turns and clowning. This entertainment was for years a welcome feature at London suburban fairs and fêtes. Ultimately he found his way into Lancashire. Here his talent took a new and lucrative turn. The Lorenzo Family became famous at the great fairs with their varieties, throwing games, coker sheets, &c. A well-known and esteemed showman, generous to a fault, upright and just in all his dealings, his tragic death evoked universal sorrow, not only on the fairgrounds of the busy Lancashire towns, but also amongst the host of friends whom his sterling character had made.

THORNE, near Doncaster, held its fair on the 21st, and good business rewarded the efforts of the local showmen.

HOLLOWAY'S New Empire Theatre at Astwood Bank are now showing to large houses, and their visit to the needle town has been a great success.

AT the recent fair at Stratford-on-Avon Mr and Mrs T. Clarke generously offered, through Alderman Pearce, the use of their superb machine, the switchback gondolas, for three hours in aid of the Saturday Hospital Fund. The committee of the Fund accepted the gift with both hands, with the result that the Fund benefited to the extent of £25 14s. 1d. When the last trip was ended, the good alderman warmly thanked Mr and Mrs Clarke for their kind thought and generosity. Three cheers were heartily given by the crowd to Mr and Mrs Clarke and their working staff, who, of course, gave their services free.

THE concerns at Goole, which also follows Hull Fair, were Mr Geo. H. Kemp's progressive show; Mr Enoch Farrar's two shows, the fine art and the distorting mirrors; Professor W. Gibson, "the Fakir of Fakirs;" Mrs E. Longman's giant baby; and Messrs G. Clark's and J. Stewart's novelty shows. The machines included the lessee's (Councillor G. T. Tuby's) galloping horses, Messrs Fisher and Doubtfire's manual swings, Mr George Turner's photographic saloon and the shooting galleries, dolly-stalls, &c., of Messrs J. Baines, M. Whatmore, and W. Fisher.

THERE are few large towns in Lancashire which better appreciate their fairs than Wigan. The hardy sons of toil—and the daughters of toil, too (Wigan is the town of the pit-brow lassie)—invade the fairground, and, in every possible way, enjoy the fun of the fair and make merry with their fellows. The pleasure fair commenced on the 21st and lasted a whole week. Amongst the shows were Proctor's London circus, Wm. Clark and Sons' theatre of animated photography, James Norman's Cinématograph exhibition, Wright's royal academy of fine arts, and Gal-Hague's black and white boxers. The array of machines was a particularly fine one, and included John Green's gondolas, Wm. Mitchell's flying ostriches, Holmes's steam galloping horses, Mitchell's steam yachts, Shaw's steam swings, Ben Mitchells galloping horses, R. H. Williams' bicycles, Wm. Mitchell, jun.'s steam galloping horses, Holland's range of highfliers, Shuttleworth's park swings, and the Winchester ranges and rifle saloons of Messrs Jewell, Henshaw, and R. H. Williams. The refreshment booths were by Messrs Bowser, Ingham, Ormerod, J. W. Butterworth, and Mrs Harrison. The throwing games cokers, Emma sheets, and varieties were by the Lorenzo and Horton families, Messrs Holmes, Dearden, and others.

SHERBORNE, Dorset, has one of the most quaint survivals of Olde Merrie England in its Pack Monday Fair. This year it has been held on the latest possible date upon which it can take place—the function being arranged to be held on the first Monday following the 10th, and that date falling on a Monday this year it was perforce held on the Monday following. Towards the end of last week the rumbling of caravans through the street betokened that the pleasure department would not be lacking, whatever might be the case with the business part. These were located, as before, in the Half Moon Field, and consisted of a couple of shows, two roundabouts, a switchback, and the usual retinue of "three shies a-penny," shooting galleries, and confetti stalls. The principal shows and attractions were Anderton and Rowland's exhibition, Chipperfield's show M. Hill's roundabouts, Brewer and Son's steam horses, and varieties, stalls, &c., by Messrs Connolly, C. Heal, and others.

MOST of the above anticipated the fair by opening up on Saturday, and the evening being fine they were largely patronised. During Sunday a large number of people visited the fair as usual, and in the afternoon the members of the United Free Church Mission Band held a service, which was attended by a large congregation of orderly and reverent demeanour, including many of the "vandwellers." A most impressive address was given by the Rev. B. S. Morris. Late on Sunday evening a somewhat heavy rain came on, but this did not deter the "young hopefuls," and some of the "old hopefuls" as well, from assembling on Greenhill to take part in the customary march of "Teddy Roe's Band." To attempt to describe all the "instruments" would be impossible, but of bugles there were half a score, frying pans and tin pots many, horns galore, bells some, and a miscellaneous collection of oddments too numerous to mention. Monday breakfast time saw the streets muddy and wet, and a drizzly rain was falling. Fortunately the weather of the preceding weeks had dried up the ground, and locomotion was much more pleasant than was the case last year. Later in the morning the weather improved, and the remainder of the day was comparatively fine. Throughout the day the people flocked into the town, and the stall proprietors, who lined the parade and corner of Half Moon-street, and who sold a legion of things, from Bibles and other literature down to toys, black pudding, ginger-bread, sweets, polonies, crockery ware, &c., did a roaring trade. Coming to the pleasure part of the fair there is not a great deal to add, save to say that it was fully patronised, and, judging from the covering of confetti on the shoulders of hundreds as they passed on their homeward way, they must have had a good old time.

THE West Hartlepool Corporation have set apart the bottom yard of the Town Market, situated in Lynn-street, West Hartlepool, for the accommodation of showmen, and have recently renewed the lease to Mrs Beaumont, who with her own well-known shows opens every Saturday during the year and provides spaces for other showmen calling on the North-Eastern Route. Last Saturday we noticed William Murphy's "Golden Venice," George Paine's royal Cinématograph, Mrs Campbell's abnormal calf, Kitson's three concerns, the cokers, Boer generals, and roll-up boards, Geo. Smith's cup-breakers, the shooting ranges of Mrs Beaumont, the large doll stall, the cokers, the aerial swings, and the striking machines of Messrs Slavin and Watson and others.

TWO miles from West Hartlepool the switchback railway of Messrs W. and B. Murphy is situated.

AT Staindrop, Co. Durham, Mr Walker Hoadley's electric horses are located.

AT Beverley Mr Claude Hamilton's "four-abreast" opened on Saturday.

MR AND MRS E. H. BOSTOCK, of Bostock and Wombwell's well-known menagerie, entertained a large party at dinner at the Angel Hotel, Islington, on Thursday evening. The guests included the artists in the company engaged to go to South Africa and open at Cape Town in four weeks at Mr Bostock's Circus. The chair was taken by Mr Reed, of Agricultural Hall fame, who was supported by Mr Fitt, of Norwich.

THE dinner was elaborate and enjoyable. A neat speech was made by Mr Bostock, wishing the artists "Bon voyage." The chairman, Mr Reed, also gave an eloquent address, reminding the guest that the "Ghost always walked at Bostock's." A happy evening was spent and was concluded by Mr Pearce Butler, who is in charge of the company on the voyage, proposing the toast, "Happy to meet, sorry to part," Mr Bostock adding in his quiet way, "Happy to meet again."

MR PEARCE BUTLER, manager of the Lowestoft Hippodrome since its opening, has left for South Africa on the Tintagel Castle. During the time he has been in Lowestoft he has made a large circle of friends, and they all very much regret his departure. Before starting he was the recipient of a handsome dressing-case. The presentation took place at the Suffolk Hotel, in the presence of Messrs J. Harrold (proprietor of the hotel), J. Yallop, G. Chaston, A. E. Maas, Frank Craig. Mr Harrold, in asking Mr Butler to accept the gift, said it was the spontaneous offering of personal friends, who esteemed Mr Butler highly for his many good qualities. On their behalf he wished him a good voyage, good health, and the best of everything in the future. Mr Butler, who was evidently surprised at the recognition, tendered his hearty thanks. He said his stay in Lowestoft had been a pleasant one, and he should ever remember those who had treated him so kindly.

A TEST case in respect of "portable theatres" came before the Blaina Bench yesterday, when Edward Ebley, theatre proprietor, Blaina, was summoned by the Nantyglo and Blaina District Council for neglecting to deposit plans and sections of a building erected by him at Blaina, contrary to the bye-laws. Mr J. Alex. Shepard, clerk to the Council, prosecuted, and said the Olympia Theatre was constructed wholly of wood, bolted together and easily removed. According to the bye-laws a theatre came under new buildings, and should be of brick, stone, or blocks, and complete plans and sections should be submitted to the Council's surveyor, with a description in writing of what material it was to be constructed, mode of drainage, and water supply. The Clerk (Mr E. H. Davies)—Did you have a licence from the County Council? Mr Shepard—Yes, for stage plays only, as to ingress and egress. The local Councils, he pointed out, had applied to the County Council that this power should be delegated to them, and thus give them the power over the licensing of stage plays as well as that of dealing with the building. This, however, had not been done. The Chairman (Dr. W. G. Williams)—When the County Council grant these licences don't they send their surveyor to ascertain the condition and safety? Mr Shepard—Yes; as to the safety of the building for stage plays. The Clerk—These buildings are portable and temporary? Mr T. G. Powell, Brynmawr (who appeared for Mr Ebley)—Yes.

THE Clerk—Then you would not expect them to be built of bricks and mortar if it was intended to remove, say, in a fortnight's time? Mr Shepard—Yes. We say it is a contravention of the bye-laws, and that it is a public building, only licensed for the purpose of stage plays. Mr Shepard remarked that the Glamorganshire County Council had granted the licensing powers to their Councils. He pointed out that Mr Ebley had refused to sign an agreement similar to one adopted by the Pontypridd Council in a similar case, under which three months' notice could be given to remove or alter. The Clerk—I take it the contention is—are the bye-laws applicable in any way to such a building as this?

MR POWELL contended that, the building having been licensed by the county authority, defendant had met everything required by the Act of Parliament, and that the building was not one within the meaning of the Act of Parliament or the bye-laws. Mr Davies, surveyor to the Nantyglo and Blaina Council, gave evidence, and said the building in question was not an "exempted building" within the meaning of the bye-laws. In reply to the chairman witness said that the agreement defendant was asked to sign was for a wood or corrugated iron building, and if he had signed no proceedings would have been taken. Defendant, however, refused to compromise. Mr Powell said that the building was licensed by the County Council. Was it contemplated by the Legislature that there should be two surveyors and two authorities to visit this place for the purpose of licensing it? He quoted several cases against the summons. Mr Shepard contended that the cases cited had no bearing whatever upon the point; that it was a public building within the meaning of the bye-laws, and should be constructed of brick or stone. The chairman said their Worships had unanimously decided to dismiss the summons, having decided, as a question of fact, that it was not a building within the meaning of the bye-laws.

BRIDLINGTON-BY-THE-SEA is a fair which dates back to the sixteenth century. It is now held on ground acquired by the Corporation specially for the fair under the direction of Mr Robert Williamson, borough markets superintendent. We found the following concerns upon the ground, having journeyed from Hull:—Capt. Thos. Payne's electric Bio cope, Mons. Le Neve and Nora Sullivan's lady wrestlers, Mr Jack Hastings's diminutive humanity, Sahib Leo's Egyptian Hall, Mr Charles Relph's "Wee M'Gregor," the smallest horse in the world; Hastings's queen of prodigious ladies; and the shooting saloon of Mr W. G. Watson. The machines were:—Mr Goldthorpe Marshall's Venetian gondolas, Mr A. Payne's three-abreast British generals, Mr W. Shipley's three-abreast steeplechasers, Messrs Waddington's twin steam yachts, Carvill's manual swings, Watson's overboats, and Alex. Fostiere's juvenile swings. The roll-ups, bogies, coker shies, &c., were provided by Messrs T. Neal, T. H. Loft, W. Carvill, T. Chapman, A. Barker, and H. Wormald.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Some time since my son picked a tin trunk up on the road to Manchester from Altrincham containing some clothes, and as the inside is scratched, giving a name of a circus, I shall be obliged if you will put a short notice in your paper saying that upon a description being forwarded by the owner to me I will return it.

Yours faithfully, S. C. ORTON.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

"SERVANTS WANTED."

A Farcical Sketch, Written by Charles S. Kitts, and Produced at Lowestoft, on Monday, Oct. 17.

Mrs Slater	Mrs BARRINGTON
Sophia Bird	Miss EVA REED
Stella Starlight	Miss BREEZLEY
Lord Bangleskea	Mr BARRINGTON
Tipples	Mr JAMES M'ILROY
Penny Nibs	Mr PAT WADDROCK

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Last week was produced at the Lowestoft Hippodrome an entirely new and original farcical absurdity, from the pen of Mr Chas. S. Kitts. A continuous round of laughter and applause accompanied the performance, and the efforts of the artistes were entirely successful. Mr Kitts has given further proof of his ability to furnish the class of entertaining novelty that seems now to be the most in demand by amusement seekers. Mr Will Onda's company of comedians did full justice to the excellent material they had to work upon. The action of the sketch takes place in Mrs Slater's registry office for servants, where a pot-pourri of characters are introduced, causing considerable confusion to themselves and an abundance of genuine amusement to the audience. The backbone of the absurdity rests upon Mr Pat Waddrock, who as the precocious office boy seldom misses an opportunity to keep the fun going fast and furious. He is breezy, nimble, and original, and a great acquisition to the company. Mr J. M'Ilroy and Mr Barrington as Tipples and Lord Bangleskea added considerably to the general enjoyment. As Sophia Miss Eva Reed looked and played the character of the stuttering maid of all work to the letter. Mrs Barrington is all that can be desired in the rôle of Mrs Slater, and the Stella Starlight of Miss Breezley is both dignified and impressive. Judging by the appreciation of the audience there is little doubt as to the future success of Mr Onda's new venture.

MR ERNEST SHAND has a capital new topical song, by P. Braham, entitled "It isn't cricket." Of course, there is already a new verse on the subject that is now filling the minds of everyone.—Rezene and Robini leave town on Monday for five weeks, commencing at the Empire, Cardiff.—Mr W. F. Frame finished his vaudeville tour on Saturday. He will be in London in December for a short season.

MR H. LESLIE BELL, who is at present playing his highly-successful musical comedy tit-bit, *A Bit of String*, will shortly produce in London an authorised burlesque on John Lawson's *Mr Todd of London*.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME.

FOUNDATION-STONE LAID.

The Mayor of Ipswich (Alderman Fred Bennett) laid the foundation-stone on Tuesday afternoon of the new Hippodrome, which is being built for Messrs Bostock and Fitt, in St. Nicholas-street, Ipswich, and the ceremony was witnessed by a large number of persons, who, in addition to filling all available space on the site, thronged the streets in the vicinity. The Ipswich Public Band was in attendance, and played several popular airs during the afternoon. Readers may be reminded that it is little more than a month since the announcement was made that Messrs Bostock and Fitt, who run the Norwich Hippodrome on such successful and satisfactory lines, had acquired from the Corporation of Ipswich a site in St. Nicholas-street, on which they were about to erect an up-to-date Hippodrome. Excavating work was commenced on the site soon afterwards by Messrs Parkington and Son, to whom the work of building the Hippodrome has been entrusted, and actual building operations were commenced about a fortnight ago. Mr Frank Matcham, of London, the noted architect for places of entertainment, has drawn the plans, and there is every assurance that the building which is to be erected will possess all the features of a first-class Hippodrome, and fully entitled to that name. It will seat 1,800 persons, who are promised comfortable accommodation both in hot weather and cold, the heating arrangements being on the most approved principles, and there being a sliding roof for use when desirable. The stage will be 56ft. by 38ft., and will be so arranged that equestrian acts can be performed thereon, as well as the ordinary music hall turns. The building is estimated to cost £15,000, and will be open early in the new year.

Mr E. H. Bostock, it may be mentioned, is a proprietor of the world-famed menageries of Messrs Bostock and Wombwell, and also of more than one large circus enterprise. His father was in the same line of business for half a century. Having, for personal reasons, left Glasgow, he intends to become an "East Anglian," so far as residence is concerned, and will probably live in Ipswich. His partnership with Mr Fitt, who is very popular in Norwich, has been so successful that the firm, in addition to the new Hippodrome at Ipswich, will shortly also take upon themselves the proprietorship of a well-known music hall at Colchester, and will run the three houses in conjunction with one another, thus being in a better position than otherwise to secure good artists by being able to offer them a three weeks' engagement at places within easy reach of London and of each other.

The Mayor and Mayoress were received on their arrival by Messrs Bostock and Fitt, and Mr Fitt's little daughter presented the Mayoress with a handsome bouquet. A platform had been erected and draped with bunting, while palms and plants were also used in decorating it. Here a large number of chairs had been placed, which were occupied by well-known residents of the borough.

Mr E. H. BOSTOCK said, in the course of his introductory speech, that he had had his eye on Ipswich for some little time. He made inquiries as to a site about nine months ago. After various negotiations, he and his partner, Mr Fitt, might, he thought, congratulate themselves on having secured a most suitable site from the Corporation. The class of performance they would give when the building was erected, he thought, would satisfy the requirements of all. It had proved so in Glasgow, where he had managed the Hippodrome for eight years, and had been, on leaving, presented with an elaborate testimonial, signed by the Lord Provost, and many leading citizens, and he thought that circumstance was some guarantee of the excellence of the entertainments he would provide. The people of Ipswich would, in fact, have the same class of entertainment as was given in the city of Norwich, and it was anticipated that the new building would be opened early in the new year. (Applause.)

Mr T. R. PARKINGTON apologised for the absence of Mr Frank Matcham, who, he said, was an extremely busy man. He had wired at the last moment to say that he would be unable to be present. Messrs Bostock and Fitt, he said, had put the work of designing the building into the hands of Mr Matcham, in order to ensure the safest and best-planned building that could be produced. Ipswich people would, no doubt, appreciate the fact that not only would they have beauty and comfort in the building, but wholesome and pure entertainment. (Applause.)

Mr F. W. FITT, the resident manager at Norwich, and a member of the Town Council in that town, said it was his duty to invite the Mayor to lay the foundation stone, but before that ceremony he would like to say how gratified Mr Bostock and he were with the support and encouragement they had received on all hands from the public. They hoped to make the Ipswich Hippodrome worthy of the name, and a place where a man might take his wife and children for their amusement. Mr Bostock had extensive business connections all over the world, and was in a position to get the best possible talent. He could assure them that the greatest care was exercised in selecting the "turns," and as regards the public in front, everything possible would be done to ensure their safety from fire, including the use of a fire-proof curtain. The artistes' dressing-rooms would be fitted with everything their convenience and comfort demanded, and, no doubt, in return, they would do their best for the entertainment of the public. (Applause.) There were grounds for general congratulation that the erection of that building was encouraging others to purchase sites in that street. When Ipswich people realised the wide extent of Mr Bostock's influence in the show world, they must feel that they had someone at the head who was in a position to provide the right sort of thing. (Applause.)

The MAYOR said that when he was asked to lay the foundation stone, he gave his ready consent, because he realised that good entertainment in a suitable building was of great importance to a community like Ipswich. He had the previous evening visited the Hippodrome at Norwich, and he could assure them that the entertainment was everything that could be wished. Nothing was shown or done or said to which anyone could have raised objections. (Applause.) He came away delighted, and he might say that the Mayor and ex-Mayor of Norwich and many leading residents were present—it being the opening of the new Hippodrome there—and that the Mayor made some highly complimentary remarks relative to Messrs Bostock and Fitt's enterprise. (Applause.)

Mrs PARKINGTON then asked the Mayor's acceptance of a silver-plated trowel, ivory mallet, square and level, the trowel being engraved as follows:—

Presented to the Mayor of Ipswich,
Alderman Fred Bennett, Esq.,
on behalf of the Builders,
by
Mrs T. R. Parkington,
on the occasion of his laying the Foundation Stone of the New Hippodrome, St. Nicholas, Ipswich.
Proprietors:—
E. H. Bostock, Esq.,
F. W. Fitt, Esq.
Architects:—
Frank Matcham and Co., London.
Builders:—
T. Parkington, jun., Ipswich.
Oct. 25, 1904.

His Worship proceeded to lay the stone in due form, observing at the conclusion of the ceremony: "I declare this stone to be well and truly laid, and I hope it will mark the commencement of a healthy, popular, and profitable undertaking." (Applause.)

The band having played the National Anthem, on the proposition of Mr GUS. BOSTOCK, son of Mr E. H. Bostock, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Mayor, three cheers being given for his Worship and three for the Mayoress. To the strains of "Rule Britannia," the company then separated. The carriage containing Mr Bostock, Mr and Mrs Fitt, and the latter's daughter, was drawn to the railway station on their departure by about twenty workmen, who took the horses out, and thus signalised their special interest in the day's proceedings. There was an interesting exhibition of ancient pottery, &c., found during the excavating of the foundations. These relics are, it is understood, to be presented to Ipswich Museum. —*East Anglian Daily Times*, Oct. 26, 1904.

A GRAND complimentary concert was given at the Town Hall, Rhyl, on the 20th inst. to Mr E. W. Parry, who during the season was the courteous secretary of the Queen's Palace. A high-class programme was appreciated by a large audience, and the following assisted:—Miss Annie Nelson, soprano; Madame Annie Grew, contralto; Mr Edward Lloyd, tenor; and Mr Tudor Owen, baritone. Mr Nelson Jackson's humorous sketches were greatly enjoyed. Mr Parry sang in excellent style. Mr Bryan Warhurst acted as accompanist.

AT the Knightstone Pavilion and Opera House, Weston-super-Mare, Mr F. H. De Quincey, Miss Sime Seruya, and a powerful répertoire company, under the direction of Mr Harold Reynor, opened on Monday in *Richelieu*. Mr F. H. De Quincey gave a convincing and artistic interpretation of the wily Cardinal; Mr Baliol Holloway made an excellent Chevalier De Mauprat; Louis XI. found an able expouent in Mr W. Henry Hargreaves; Mr Kendal Chalmers as Joseph was commendable and Mr Francis C. Coates was a praiseworthy Huguet, Mr Montague Lane being seen to advantage as Baradas. Mr Philip Gordon exhibited ability as Sieur De Beringhen; Miss Sime Seruya sustained the rôle of Julie De Mortemar with grace and pathos; Miss E. Stuart Innes's impersonation of François merited much eulogy, as did the Marion De Lorme of Miss Phyllis Noel. *The Red Lamp* and *Othello* were given during the week.

MESSRS DEWAR AND SONS are so friendly to members of the music hall profession that we are sure that all artistes will be delighted to hear of the news of an important British success at the World's Fair which should come as a sort of balm to the alarmist who would shake the Empire to its base with the wild cry of British industrial decadence. The refreshing piece of information was cabled to these shores last week. It announced the fact that Messrs Dewar and Sons, Limited, the famous old firm of distillers of Perth and London, had carried off the Grand Prix at the World's Fair for Scotch whiskies. This recognition of merit means the highest award of its class granted at the Exposition, and it has been secured by Messrs Dewar and Sons in the face of all competitors. The American Grand Prix comes to crown all the other honours gained by the firm who already hold over fifty medals awarded for the superiority of their whiskies.

AMONG the prominent producers of pantomime who have secured Geo. Le Brunn's topical duet "Do you mean it?" are Messrs Howard and Wyndham.

PRESENTATION TO FRED MILLIS.

Mr Fred W. Millis, the popular ventriloquist, who is shortly visiting Australia after an absence of fifteen years, was the recipient last Tuesday afternoon, at the offices of the M.H.A.R.A., of a handsome illuminated address from the officers and committee of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association, of which he is one of the original members, and also a vice-president. After Mr and Mrs Millis's health and success in his native land been proposed by Mr DOUGLAS WHITE, and seconded by Mr C. DOUGLAS STUART, Mr W. J. P. Monckton, one of the founders of the M.H.A.R.A., made the presentation.

In the course of his excellent address, Mr MONCKTON said:—My mind wanders back to the inception of this vast Association, to the dark days of struggling infancy in the dingy office in Red Lion-court, Fleet-street, when your astute secretary, Mr Stuart, poor Fred Lacey, and myself talked and talked over this great scheme. Think not that I am seeking to belittle those who have carried on this great work. That is far from my thoughts, but as a parent I have watched its growth and remarked the energy of the few devoted men who have stuck so manfully to their guns since that eventful first meeting held at the Hercules on Sunday, Nov. 8, 1896. It would be invidious of me, and impossible, to recapitulate here the names of those men; suffice it to say that when I look upon your committee to-day I still see before me the little band of earnest workers—those who were not daunted by the early struggles in the shadow of the dingy office in Fleet-street, but yet illumined by the shade of that most revered of men Oliver Goldsmith, for it was in Goldsmith's house, Wine Office-court, Fleet-street, that you commenced to make your organisation felt, and the first glorious news of the concession was received. Now of all that band of earnest workers I know of none who has shown such energy, such sympathy and devotion to the cause as has Mr Fred Millis, whom we are about to honour, and most deservedly. Mr Millis, I have been privileged, perhaps, more than many in the knowledge of the untiring devotion displayed by you to the objects of this Association, and can testify to the high esteem in which, speaking on behalf of the committee and myself, we hold you. You are going a long journey, back to your native land; the loss is ours, and we cannot help feeling somewhat envious of Australia, which claims our friend as its son. I have great pleasure in handing you this illuminated address on behalf of the officers and committee of the M.H.A.R.A. for your acceptance, with their fervent wish for your health and continued prosperity, and a speedy return to our shores and to us. With respect to my own connection with the Association and regard for Mr Millis, I would quote the words of the distinguished poet I mentioned previously—

> Eternal blessings crowd my earliest friend,
> And round his dwelling guardian saints attend.

Mr Millis, once more God-speed! and remember that your labours will still leave their imprint behind you in such an indelible manner that your past good work for the cause can never be effaced.

Mr MILLIS replied in a brief but feeling speech, in which he thanked Mr Monckton for all his kind sentiments towards himself, expressed his gratitude to all who had subscribed towards the very handsome address, and stated how much he regretted having to leave his friends and his work on the committee, but promised to renew his endeavours on his return to England to further the interests of the grand Association which he was so proud of being connected with, a society which had done so much good and been of such assistance to the less fortunate members of the profession.

Mr BOB HUTT proposed Mr Monckton's health, which Mr PAT CAREY seconded, and the proceedings terminated.

SOUTH LONDON.

An extremely laughable and smartly worked item in the current bill at this hall is the new pantomime sketch by the Brothers Onda entitled *A Quiet Night*. The scene represents a bar at an hotel and a sleeping apartment adjoining. A couple of eccentric looking individuals, whose intent is evidently burglary, enter the saloon and indulge in some amusing fooling, a pert barmaid being also prominent in the fun making. Then appears on the scene a gentleman whom the twain quickly decide to make their victim. When the two men have taken their departure in order to don other garments so that they will not be recognised, the traveller, all unconscious of the conspiracy which has been hatched, is shown by the lady into his sleeping apartment, and he endeavours to indulge in a mild flirtation with the fair attendant, but the lady does not encourage his advances. When she has retired and the weary traveller has made an attempt to settle down to slumber in his anything but comfortable bed, the burglars enter the saloon, and the comical appearance they present and their many amusing antics cause the wildest merriment. The smaller member of the duo is frequently requested by his companion to "keep quiet," and of course makes as as much turmoil as possible. The burglars purloin the bar fittings, and in fact everything they can lay their hands on, even attempting to squeeze chairs and tables into their "swag" bag. They next turn their attention to the sleeping apartment, where the unfortunate traveller has been spending a most uncomfortable time, the terrible noise caused by the intruders frightening him out of his wits. When they make their way into his apartment a general melée ensues, and the curtain falls amid abundant laughter and applause. The quartet responsible for this amusing piece of fooling work hard and with every success, the three brothers introducing many original and always effective devices for the creation of mirth, and at the same time proving themselves smart acrobats and tumblers. The lady as a lively bar attendant also takes an active share in the laughable performance. The novelty has been very well received at the South London.

AT this period of the year T. W. Connor, the well-known song writer, usually comes out with a special number, and has just sold to Mr George Brooks "There's another one out of work," which bids fair to excel the same comedian's "——And his day's work was done," Mr Connor's great success in last year's pantomimes. Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter have acquired the new ditty.

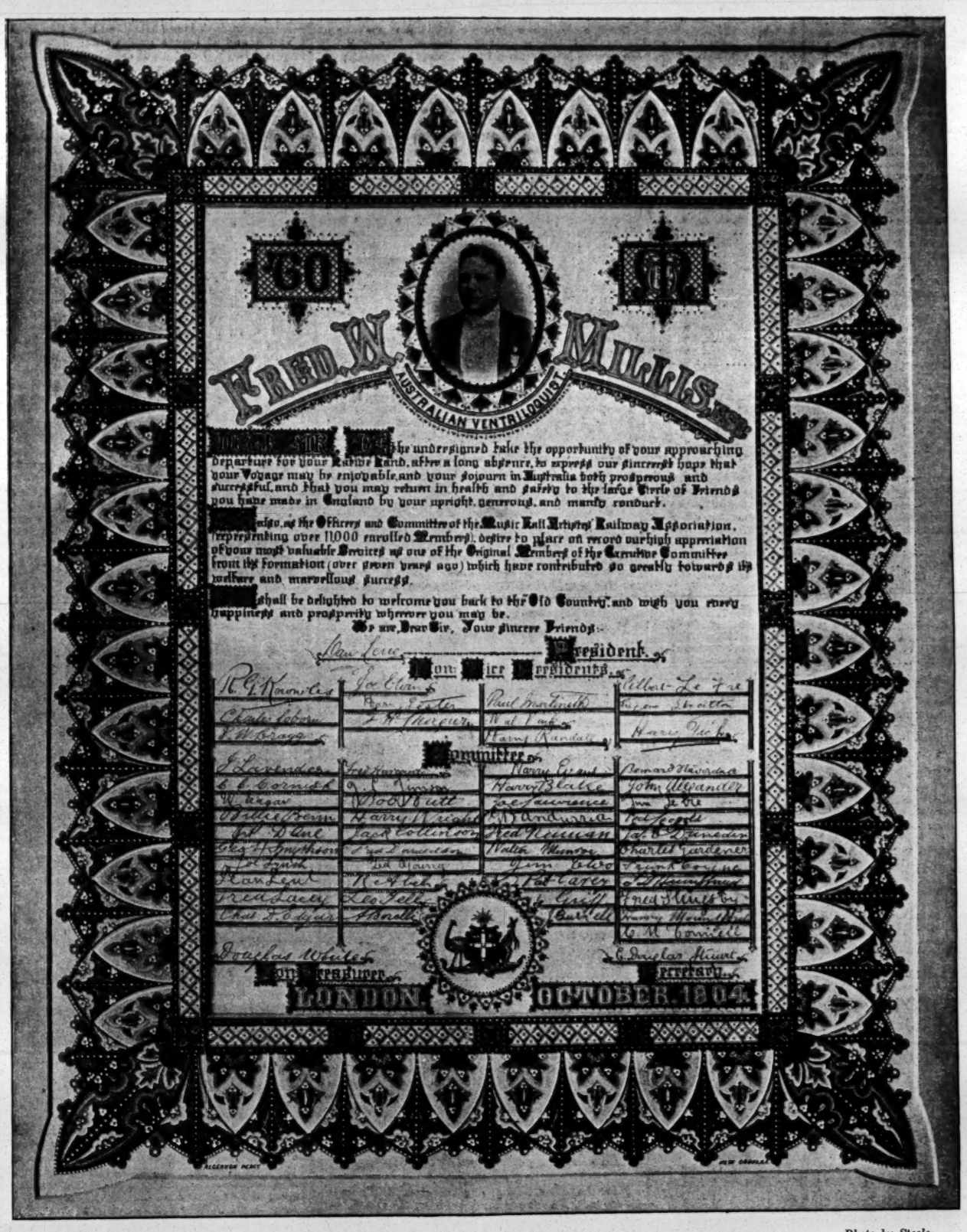

Photo by Steele

TESTIMONIAL TO FRED W. MILLIS.

NEW NORWICH HIPPODROME.

The handsome building in St. Giles, in this city, hitherto known as the Norwich Opera House, was opened by Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt, on Monday evening, under very auspicious circumstances. In future it will be known as the Hippodrome. Notwithstanding that the proprietors did not take possession till late on Saturday night, long before the opening additional means of ingress and egress had been provided, the whole place was thoroughly cleaned, some new scenery was hung, and very marked improvements were made in the lighting and heating arrangements. The front of the house had been brilliantly illuminated, and on the inaugural night pennons were suspended across the semi-circle approach, adding to the animation of the scene. For fully an hour before the opening a huge crowd had congregated in front of the building patiently awaiting the opening. Every part of the building was filled to overflowing, and many had to be refused admission. Among the audience were the Mayor (Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. Buxton, V.C.) and Mrs Buxton and members of their family, the Sheriff (Lieutenant-Colonel Leathes Prior) and Mrs Prior and family, the Mayor and Mayoress of Ipswich, the Deputy-Mayor of Norwich (Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Harvey, D.S.O.) and Mrs Harvey and their son.

As the clock struck seven the curtain was raised, and Miss Dorothy Clarke sang the opening verse of the National Anthem, accompanied by the band of the Royal Scots Greys under bandmaster Mr Frayling. Following this, the band with much ability rendered the selection "Reminiscences of Scotland," and at the conclusion were enthusiastically applauded. The Mayor, the Sheriff, and the Deputy Mayor then appeared on the stage and were introduced by Mr Fitt.

The MAYOR congratulated Mr Bostock and Mr Fitt most heartily upon the very great energy and enterprise they had shown in branching out as they had done. It was his hope that they might have a most successful time, and he could not help thinking that his hope would be realised. Since they had started to cater for public amusement in Norwich they had shown the utmost public spirit and kindness in from time to time assisting charitable movements, and that night they were going to help yet another good object by handing over the profits of the opening performance to the fund which had been raised for the purchasing of a site for the proposed new cavalry barracks. The present cavalry quarters were anything but comfortable for men or horses, and the citizens would feel very great pleasure when they had some better accommodation to offer to the cavalry regiments who were posted to Norwich. Over £2 500 was needed to defray the cost of the site, of which they had already got a good proportion subscribed by many kind friends in Norwich; and now that Messrs Bostock and Fitt had made them this most generous offer he considered the public ought to thank them most heartily for their great kindness and the patriotic spirit they had displayed. Their thanks were also due to Colonel Williams, and the officers of the Scots Greys, for allowing their band to perform on that occasion, and he also desired to thank the Mayor and Mayoress of Ipswich for their presence. In conclusion the Mayor expressed the hope that the Hippodrome in its new home would prove the greatest possible success. Messrs Bostock and Fitt had always provided amusement of a high standard of excellence, and they were deserving in every way of such good houses in the future as the one he was pleased to see they had on that occasion.

Mr FITT, who was greeted with enthusiastic cheers, craved indulgence for any little confusion that might have arisen in the seating of the audience. He and those concerned with him had hardly yet got used to the house, but that little defect would soon be overcome. He trusted that the citizens would rally to the support of the new undertaking. They were in possession of a building of which they might well be proud, and, whilst thanking the Norwich public for their past loyalty, he hoped they would rally round them so as to make the new undertaking a profitable one. He heartily thanked the Mayor and Mayoress, the Sheriff and Mrs Prior, the Deputy-Mayor, and the officers of the various regiments for their presence that evening.

The performance proper then commenced. Mdlle. Aladina was most successful with her performing cockatoos; and Mr Charles Milner as a comedian and dancer was very amusing. Helene and Emilon gave a clever gymnastic performance; Ronald Bagnall as a society entertainer was much applauded; Emma Don and company gave a unique show; Griff and his "satellite" Alpha were an amusing turn; Fred Herbert's topical song was very clever; Miss Dorothy Clarke's beautiful voice was heard to advantage in "Bluebell;" and Mons. De Henau showed dexterity as a painter with his feet. The Jackson Family fully deserved the applause given them. Although debarred at the first performance, Payne's Little Vagabonds as the Blue Coat Boys have been heartily appreciated. The two houses nightly performances will be continued, with a matinée on Saturday. Every praise is due to Messrs Bostock and Fitt for their enterprise, and warm thanks are to be accorded to Mrs Fitt and her able assistants for their kind and courteous attention. Captain Selby and his excellent band continue, and their efforts during the evening are much appreciated.

"MOTHS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—While thanking your critic for his kindly notice of my adaptation of *Moths* in your last week's issue, I beg to point out a slight error in his resumé of the plot. He says that I "make the villain triumphant in the end." This is incorrect. Zouroff meets his deserts as the appended lines clearly indicate. When Zouroff and Lord Jura exeunt to fight the duel, shots are heard off, the Servant then enters hurriedly, and the following dialogue ensues:—

DUCHESSE (*to* SERVANT)—Well, is Lord Jura dead?
SERVANT.—No, my lady, *Prince Zouroff. Shot through the heart*
DUCHESSE.—And, Lord Jura?
SERVANT—Mortally wounded, my lady. They are bringing him here.

Lord Jura is brought on, he has a dying speech, during which he "joins Correze's and Vera's hands," thus clearly showing to the audience my intention of a happy ending, as your critic suggests.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES FREEMAN.
32, Pretoria-avenue, Walthamstow.

THE copyrights, music plates, and stock of printed music of Messrs Jeffreys (Limited), of Wells-street, Oxford-street, with the furniture and good-will of the business, were disposed of at Messrs Puttick and Simpson's rooms, Leicester-square, on Thursday. High prices prevailed. Willem Vandervell's "Immer Wieder Gavotte" went to Messrs Bayley and Ferguson for £921 1s., and Willie Pope's fantasias "Irish Diamonds" to Messrs Leonard and Company for £193. The songs included "The Brook" (Dolores), £78; and F. Schira's "Signal" in E, D, and C, £95; while Verdi's opera, *Il Trovatore*, made £50. An aggregate of £3,000 was obtained.

IN Mr Justice Bucknill's court on Thursday Mrs Rahmel, a professional musician and teacher of singing, recovered £450 damages and costs from the London Road Car Company. The lady was in the March of 1903 a passenger in a Walham-green and Islington Road Car omnibus from King's-cross. She stopped the omnibus in order to alight, but the vehicle started off before Mrs Rahmel had had time to get down. Both she and the conductor fell, and she was severely injured.

AMERICAN VAUDEVILLE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—Whatever may be said about the condition of things theatrical in this country there is no denying that the class of entertainment known as vaudeville is in a very healthy and flourishing state. New vaudeville theatres are springing up everywhere, and several big open air enterprises are maturing, to say nothing of the immense hippodrome now being built in New York, all of which will give employment to many artistes who come under the heading of vaudeville performers. When the hippodrome is completed New Yorkers will have an opportunity of seeing some of the big spectacles and ballets that are always to found in the list of London amusements. Consequently they will not be so far behind the old country in respect of attractions of this kind as they are at present. It always strikes a foreigner as strange that cosmopolitan New York, the second city of the world, has no music hall worthy of its size and the varied tastes of its population. No music hall, that is, as the term is understood in England and on the Continent. The conversion of the big amusement pile built by Oscar Hammerstein, and originally known as Olympia, into a temple of the drama, and the demolition of Koster and Bial's, the best imitation of a European music hall that New York ever saw, left an "aching void" which no one, so far, has had the temerity to try to fill. I say temerity advisedly, remembering Hammerstein's trouble with Olympia, and the vicissitudinous career of Koster and Bial's. But both of these places, being the first of their kind in New York, were far too big for the period. Regret at their passing, and the lack of such places in New York as the London Empire and Alhambra, is expressed by no means infrequently, and the future, methinks, will tell a different story. In the meantime the "continuous performance" houses, which are not in the same class at all, being by comparison about as exciting as the old-time "penny readings," nevertheless satisfy a large number of people. The Proctor houses are always crowded, and at Keith's there are not enough seats to accommodate all who want to see the show. Tony Pastor, at his popular little theatre in Fourteenth-street, continues to give the excellent entertainments that established his reputation as a variety manager many years ago. It is a long time since he appeared himself, and his songs, rendered as no one else in New York could render them, are missed. But having entertained the public for more than forty years, it can certainly be said of him that he is enjoying a well-earned rest.

MAY ROBSON is appearing at the vaudeville houses in a sketch called *Cinders*, which shows her in one of her amusing "slavey" characters. Odette Tyler, in a sketch entitled *The Man, the Maid, and the Mouse*, heads the bill at Proctor's Twenty-third-street Theatre. Edward Arden and Isabella Evesson have been playing the principal parts in a revival of E. H. Sothern's old success, *Captain Lettarblair*, at Proctor's Fifth-avenue Theatre. Loney Haskell, recently in London, was at Proctor's Harlem house last week, while William Harcourt, in *A Dakota Widow;* and Byron Douglass, in *The Cowboy and the Lord*, were among the leading attractions at Keith's. Isabelle Urquhart is appearing in a sketch at the variety theatres. Josephine Sabel sang at the West-end Theatre last Sunday night. Ted Marks continues to arrange the "sacred concerts" given every Sunday night at the American Theatre. Gustave Kerker has written an "operatic absurdity" called *Very Much Grand Opera*, which is being presented at the Proctor houses. Claude Gillingwater, recently with Mrs Leslie Carter, is to be seen at Keith's this week in an amusing comedietta entitled *The Wrong Man*.

M'INTYRE AND HEATH, who have been doing their droll darkey sketch, *The Georgia Minstrels*, at the vaudeville houses for more years than one can remember, will be seen next year in a new musical play called *The Ham Tree*. Cole and Johnson will compose the music, and the play will be produced by Klaw and Erlanger.

THE RUSSELL BROTHERS retired their Irish servant girl sketch in favour of a new playlet called *The Female Detectives*. The reports said that it pleased the gallery but "got on the nerves" of the society people in the stalls. It would be rash to predict that the servant girls will ever be superannuated. Audiences laugh at them as heartily now as they did more than twenty years ago.

HENRY CLAY BARNABEE, the veteran star of the operatic company known as the Bostonians, recently joined the ranks of the vaudevillians. He has been singing—shades of our ancestors!—"The man with the cork leg," and other humorous ditties of the same period. To speak paradoxically the song just mentioned is certainly old enough to be new to the majority.

MISS MABEL M'KINLEY, a niece of the late President, has been appearing in vaudeville. Now it is announced that she has written and will shortly produce a comic opera, the scenes of which are laid at the White House, and in the garden of the French Ambassador's residence in Washington, where an amusing meeting takes place between the Russian and Japanese ambassadors. During their quarrel Miss M'Kinley makes her entrance singing "Karamo," a Japanese lullaby.

GEORGE PRIMROSE, the minstrel, who dissolved his partnership with Lew Dockstader some time ago, and was said to have retired, has organised a new minstrel troupe, and with his pupils, the dancing Foley Twins, will soon be touring the country again. On the other hand, it is not unlikely that Dockstader, who is now sailing his airship "Tommyrot II." through the clouds every evening at the Herald-square Theatre, as part of his "minstrel show," will be doing his monologue at the vaudeville houses once more in the near future. Mr M. S. Bentham having offered him a long engagement. Mr Bentham has arranged for Mr Charles Warner's appearance at the Orpheum Music Hall, in Brooklyn, next January, in a condensed version of *Drink*.

MR FRED WRIGHT, JUN., introduced a trick into *The Schoolgirl* at Daly's Theatre the other evening which has served to remind us once more that "there's nothing new under the sun." Miss Anna Held claimed proprietory rights in the trick, but it is now said to be the property of Torcat, who fulfilled an engagement at Hammerstein's some time ago. The performer makes use of a papier maché figure, which it carried in front, and a basket, which appears to be upon the back of the figure, apparently holds the performer. Another authority has it that the trick was introduced here over thirty years ago by an Englishman named Fernando Fleury.

MISS BLANCHE RING recently sang "Bedelia" before an audience of fifteen thousand people at Kansas City, Missouri. She was accompanied by Sousa's band, and the rendering of this popular ditty under such unusual conditions aroused great enthusiasm.

WE hear of another "lady bass" in the person of the fascinating Miss Kate Rooney, who is widely known in Australia as a famous athlete, champion swimmer, and a charming vocalist. She belongs to the Ladies' Australian Vocal Quartet, who will appear shortly at the Empire, under the direction of Mrs Hugh J. Ward, the wife of the popular dancer and pantomime comedian. Miss Rooney can sing down to B natural. Miss Sybil Arundale, the charming representative of Lady Molly Martingale at Terry's, and now the Nanoya of *The Cingalee* at Daly's, sings down to E flat every evening.

MISS AGNES HAZEL, who has been so very successful in London recently, has bought a descriptive love song from Mills and Scott, the authors of her ditty, "Mabel and Joe." Miss Hazel leaves town on Monday next until Christmas. She commences her tour at Hastings.

THE FRANK LEONARD FUND.

Mr Frank Leonard, of the Woodbee Wonders, unfortunately met with an accident on Monday night, breaking his spine and dying on Tuesday. His widow and family are left without means. A subscription is being arranged throughout the profession, and donations from artistes will be thankfully received.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Enclosed please find P.O.'s for £6 7s. 6d., being money collected by me through my various professional friends for the widow of the late Frank Leonard, of the Woodbee Wonders. I also send list of Rochdale Empire collection, with Theatre Royal Oldham, and Palace Theatre, Aberdeen (total amount, £7 4s. 6d.). This amount has been delivered to Mrs Leonard. Signature for same on the list.

Yours faithfully, ERNEST SIVRONI.
22, Highbury-place, London, N.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Courcey and myself have collected the following amounts for the widow of above, which I should like you to acknowledge through the columns of *The Era*.

I can assure you it is a most deserving case, and I should like you to take it up through your valuable paper.

We have forwarded the amounts to the widow, and hold receipts for same.

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR BOYNE.
Empire, Bristol, Oct. 27, 1904.

Collected by Walter Stockwell, Palace Theatre, per F. Sivroni. Total, £1 14s.

	£	s.	d.
Walter Stockwell..	0	5	0
Katie Holloway ..	0	5	0
A. Borelli	0	5	0
The Maroonis	0	5	0
Friends	0	5	0
Cinizelli.....	0	2	6
Happy Attwood ..	0	2	0
Gallimore	0	0	6

Collected by Terry and Bentley, Leeds, per E. Sivroni. Total, £4 13s 6d.

	£	s.	d.
A. C.	1	0	0
Geo Leyton.....	0	5	0
Bros. Leotard	0	5	0
De Gracia	0	5	0
Bob Hanlon	0	5	0
Band	0	5	0
Griffiths Bros.	0	5	0
Cunningham	0	5	0
Terry and Bentley	0	4	0
Willie Langtry....	0	4	0
Friend	0	4	0
Chas. Coverdale..	0	3	0
Arthur Lynch	0	2	6
Lozelle	0	2	6
Thos. E. Finglas..	0	2	6
Lieut. Travis	0	2	6
G. R.	0	2	6
Dave O'Foole	0	2	0
Sybil St. Elmo ..	0	2	0
Stave	0	2	0
J. Dwyer	0	2	0
Dormer	0	1	0
Myers	0	1	0
F. W. D.	0	1	0

Collected by Artistes and Staff, Hargreave's Empire, Rochdale. Total, £4 13s Paid to Mrs Leonard.

	£	s.	d.
T. Hargreaves....	1	1	0
Madame Collard..	0	10	0
The Sivronis	0	10	0
Money-takers and Chequers	0	10	0
Fredric Martino ..	0	5	0
Empire Orchestra	0	5	0
Arthur Wilson (Oriental Hotel)	0	5	0
James P. Grime (Blue Ball Hotel)	0	5	0
Jack Diemen	0	2	6
F. Hargraves	0	2	6
W. Sturges, Stage-Manager	0	2	0
Joe Humphreys..	0	2	0
Programme Boys	0	1	6
Nellie Farrell	0	1	0
Sisters St. John ..	0	1	0
Friend	0	1	0
Mrs. Sturges.....	0	1	0
Luggage Man	0	1	0
Lime Man	0	1	0
Harry Heys	0	1	0
Mrs Anderson	0	1	0
Brothers Lupish ..	0	1	0
Barmaid	0	1	0
Electrician	0	1	0
Call Boy	0	0	6

Collected by Burns and Evans, Theatre Royal, Oldham. Total, £1 6s 6d. Paid to Mrs Leonard.

	£	s.	d.
Brothers Artois ..	0	10	0
Burns and Evans	0	5	0
Burg, Haud, and Wise	0	3	0
Caicedo	0	2	6
Cape Girls.....	0	2	0
De Keeter.....	0	1	0
Farrimond	0	1	0
A. P. Boswell	0	1	0
Valvero	0	1	0

Collected by Tom Foy, Palace, Aberdeen. Total £1 5s. Paid to Mrs Leonard.

	£	s.	d.
Mr Sheldon	0	5	0
The Foys	0	5	0
Abadaroffs	0	5	0
Miss Challis	0	1	6
Mr J. Foy	0	1	6
Mr Pelzer	0	1	0
Mr Brady	0	1	0
Mr Jess Vale	0	1	0
Mr Permane.....	0	1	0
Mr Bishop.....	0	1	0
Mr Baymon	0	1	0
Mr Stephens	0	1	0

Collected by Mr De Courcey, of De Courcey Bros. Total, £1 10s.

	£	s.	d.
Mr Peter Watson..	0	5	0
De Courcey Bros..	0	5	0
Mr Bob Baxter ..	0	2	6
Miss Alma Obrey..	0	2	6
Mr H. Cazman....	0	2	6
Miss Florence Yaymen	0	2	6
Mountford and Walsh.....	0	2	6
Stylo	0	2	6
Mr Chant	0	5	0

Collected by Arthur Boyne. Total, £2 10s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
The Laurels	0	10	0
Minnie Hunt and Rys Thomas....	0	3	0
Primaveel	0	2	6
Mr J. Tench.....	0	2	6
Achilles.....	0	2	6
Martin Conway ..	0	2	6
Arnold	0	2	6
Arthur Boyne....	0	2	0
Mrs Milburn.....	0	2	0
Fred Southern ..	0	2	0
May Milburn	0	2	0
August and Willo..	0	2	0
Felton and Manley	0	2	0
Kavados	0	1	0
Tom Lloyd	0	1	0
Friend of Mr Tench	0	1	0
Barrow	0	1	0
Novell	0	1	0
Harry Gray	0	1	0
Fred Herbert	0	1	0
Paulos	0	1	0
Will Johnson	0	1	0
Little Barney	0	1	0
Gus Harriss	0	1	0
Lombartos	0	1	0
G. W. Foster	0	1	0

BLANCHE AND DIACOFF, Mokana, the Musical Ashbeys, and the Sisters Burgess arrived safe in Bombay on Wednesday, the 19th inst., by the Anchor Liner Persia. All are well, and had a warm but uneventful voyage. They wish to be remembered to their numerous professional friends at home.

RUSSELL AND ROPER, who have been deputising for Mr Wilkie Bard, have made a big hit at the Hackney Empire this week in their vocal speciality, *The Opera-singer and the Sandwichman*, being recalled three times at each performance.

MISS DAISY DE ROY will do her utmost to make her two pantomimes, *Whittington* and *Sinbad*, the best on tour. Her *Sinbad* has already run two seasons, and is booked for a third, a fact that speaks volumes in favour of its drawing powers. This year it will be under the entire supervision of Mr Carl Ostend, Miss De Roy's indefatigable manager. Her *Dick Whittington* will be under her own personal supervision, and both are being magnificently costumed.

SAMUEL'S Exhibition Palace, Dublin, will reopen in a few days. The hall has been enlarged and redecorated, a magnificent new iron staircase has been erected, a capable, efficient, and well-known manager has been engaged, and another first-class place of amusement has been added to the well-known resorts already doing well in Dublin.

MISS ALEXANDRA DAGMAR had the honour of opening the New Coliseum, Brighton, on Monday afternoon, when she sang the National Anthem to a large audience.

ADA, ZEBRA, AND VORA, the celebrated nonpariel trio, have been presenting most successfully on the Brill and Graydon Tour several new items, making their successful show more of a novelty than ever.

AMID a scene of considerable excitement on Friday evening, Oct. 21, Miss Sarah Marks was declared the winner of the young women's singing competition at the Cambridge. She is only seventeen, and was awarded the sum of £5 and a week's engagement at the hall. She chose the popular "Sammy" as her test piece.

MR GEORGE NEWBURN, the popular mimic, concludes to-night a highly successful London season, and commences the Moss circuit on Monday at Liverpool. He will return to the London halls next March.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 12.)

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—Mr George Dance's company is here this week with *A Country Girl*. Miss Kathryn Comber is good as Marjory Joy; Miss Nellie Cozens is a lively Nan; Miss Ernestine Desborough is efficient as Princess Melaneh; and Miss Rosie Begarnie is a charming Madame Sophie. Mr F. W. Pattrick is a noble-looking Rajah, and acts and sings with great effect. Mr Francis Ludlow as Geoffrey Chaloner, Mr H. C. Morton as Sir Joseph Verity, and Mr Harry Buss as Barry, must be specially commended.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—Heading the programme this week is the Caledonian Boys' Orchestral and Concert Combination, under the direction of Professor Gustav Stephen and Herr Karl Hegel, who furnish a clever and varied entertainment. Tiller's Superba Quartet execute with skill some well-arranged dances. Other items are given by Harry Thurston, mimic; Harley and Le Marr, duettists and dancers; Harry Cotton, comedian; Walter Howard, banjoist; the Two Seebolds, Swiss instrumentalists; and Victor Vernon, comedian.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company with *The New East Lynne* has occupied the boards here this week and has met with a hearty reception. Lady Isabel has a capital representative in Miss Agnes Imlay, and Mr William Heilbronn gives a finished performance of Archibald Carlyle. Mr W. Faulkner Cox as Murty O'Flynn is deserving of considerable praise; Mr Walter T. Clifford scores as Francis Levison; Mr M. Talbot is well placed as Lord Mountsevern; and Mr James Willoughby makes the most of Richard Hare. Barbara Hare is in the capable hands of Miss Helen Stewart; Miss B. French Stewart depicts the part of Cornelia Carlyle with good effect.

BOROUGH THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—An attractive turn here is Achmed Ibrahim's Bedouin Arabs, Arabian tumblers and pyramid builders, who are deservedly well applauded. Mdlle. De Vena, in her clever juggling act, has made a great hit; Mdlle. Lucretia, comedienne and dancer, is smart; Messrs Clan and Forbes, in their feats of strength, are seen to advantage; the Countlees, duettists, meet with a cordial reception; Mr Mike Craig and dog, in their comedy act, are received with much favour; and Mr Abe Aubrey, gymnast, is good. Mr F. B. Fayme, comedian; Mr Willie Willis, swell comedian; and Mr Teddy Denham, comedian, contribute with success to a good programme.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr William Mould.—The Four Maisonos, in their eccentric Italian musical show, are meeting with an enthusiastic reception; and Messrs Regan and Ryan, vaudeville artistes, make a decided hit. Master George Darren, clog dancer, is loudly applauded; Mr Harry Wright, comedian and vocalist, scores heavily; Mr Alf Mortimer, comedian and grotesque dancer, gives a good show; and Miss Nellie Gannon, vocalist; the Two Stars, comediennes; Messrs Pinaro and Karol, speciality artistes, and the Bio-Photoscope all meet with favour.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr Walter Melville's company is here in a drama of exceptional merit entitled *A Disgrace to Her Sex*. Miss Grace Heywood plays Hilda Valley with much ability; Mr Augustine Knight as Jules Delarnet renders his part in a pleasing manner; Mr Phil Harper as Jack Dawes and Miss Nellie Lucas as Mildred Carrington, the heroine, give a clever rendering of their respective characters; Mr David G. Noble as Arnold Travers and Miss Winnie Tempest as Mabel Valley are both very good; Mr Eugene Santley scores a success as David Carrington; Mr Arthur Bryon does well as Barnaby Mugg; and Miss Madge Yates as Bella Mugg ably sustains the humour of the play.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—The patrons of this popular house are favoured this week with another excellent programme. Kelly and Gillette were billed to appear, but, owing to an accident to one of the partners, a substitute was found in the Troupe of Ando Japs, equilibrists (five in number), who gave an excellent performance. Percy Farrimond, the singing collier, was successful in his rendering of "Ora Pro Nobis;" Terry and Bentley provide plenty of amusement; Morny Cash, the popular comedian, was well received; T. W. Barrett, comedian, was a success; Gertrella, who was cleverly assisted in an illuminated scene, *In Cupid's Garden*, displayed refined talent; Carlo Bianchi was responsible for a wonderful performance of foot balancing; Carrie Laurie's Juveniles in *Kindergarten* are successful; Carlotta, lady vocalist, was well received for her excellent rendering of "Blue Bell" and "The Gambling Man."

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The popularity of this house was manifested on Monday evening by two crowded audiences. Pielit, the jail breaker and handcuff king, mystifies his audience by his marvellous performance; Mitzi is successful as a Japanese juggler; Robert Grieve, ventriloquist, is very amusing; Sisters Warner, duettists and dancers, are greatly appreciated; George Bendon, the white coon, is very effective; and Mdlle. Melita gives a wonderful performance of clog dancing.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—There was no mistaking the heartiness of the welcome extended to Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company by a full house on Monday in Barrie's comedy, *Little Mary*. Exquisitely performed by a really good company, the play quite took the fancy of the house. Mr Arthur Holmes-Gore gave a delightfully finished and easy performance of the Earl of Carlton; Mr A. Kightley was uncommonly good in the rather ungrateful part of his son; Mr George Mudie's artistic and polished rendering of Sir Jennings Pyke was keenly appreciated; Mr A. W. Baskcomb cleverly doubled the parts of Terence Reilly and the Earl of Plumleigh; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon was clever and convincing as the Countess of Plumleigh; Miss Evelyn Neilida made an interesting Lady Milly; Miss Gladys Rutter was a capital Eleanor Gray; and Miss Christine Silver won all hearts by her truly artistic and artless performance of Moira. *Little Mary* was preceded by a clever curtain-raiser, *The Bugle Call*, which was well played.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Messrs W. T. Elworthy and J. Buckley's company is occupying these boards this week with *A Bunch of Violets*. The company is generally excellent and the acting is of a high order. The brunt of the acting falls on Mr Leonard Pagden as Sir Philip Marchant, and he sustains the part with marked success. Mr Brember Wills's interpretation of Harker is a well-conceived and most worthy study, while Mr W. T. Elworthy is most true to nature as Mark Murgatroyd. Jacob Schwartz is in good hands with Mr S. Watkinson, jun., and Lord Mount-Sorrel and Hon. Harold Inglis are well played by Messrs Escott Robinson and Harold Standing respectively. Miss Enid Ross must be congratulated on her most successful rendering of Mrs Murgatroyd; Miss Kathleen Maitland is graceful as Violet; while Miss Beth Elliott is most charming and duly dignified as Lady Marchant.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—A welcome return visit is being paid this week by Mr Lockwood's company in *La Poupée*, which is ably piloted by Mr Charles M'Lagan. Miss Midge Clarke repeats her former success as Alesia, delighting all by her singing and mechanical deportment, and Mr T. A. Shale as the novice Launcelot acts and sings throughout with conspicuous merit. Mr Arthur Reynolds is the Hilarius, and he gives a comic individuality to his rendering that is very acceptable. Mr C. M'Lagan provides a humorous and unctuous embodiment of Loremois, and as Baron Chanterelle Mr Fred Walsh displays considerable energy. As Father Maxime Mr Eliot Skinner deserves praise for his excellent singing, and Mr Walter H. Page renders loyal support by his capital impersonation of Balthazar. Madame Hilarius is satisfactorily delineated by Miss Lillie Leigh; while Miss Florence Shaw makes a bright and sprightly Henri. Charming and dainty are Miss Violet Ward and Miss Lillian Pickering as the first and second dolls.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—The star of the week here is Harry Leybourne, change artist, who had a capital reception. Contributing to the programme are also the Cedrics, Continental specialty artists; Edoward, in his hurricane wire act; the Three Musical Japs, in their refined and picturesque instrumental potpourri; Criss Florence, Highland dancer; the Sisters Marion, duettists, dancers, and expert cake-walkers; and there is the Empire Cinématograph with a new series of pictures.

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Enormous crowds are attracted here this week by a varied and elaborate programme, including the Imperial Boy's Orchestra of twenty-five performers, who uphold their great reputation; Frank Craig gives a clever exhibition of the noble art; on the balancing horseshoes the Two Manganares are adroit and dexterous; and vocalists and dancers include the Danbys, Vere and Royall, Minnie Morgan, Edna Cragge, and Graceful Grace Compton.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—The Marvellous Craggs' Congress of Comedians in their musical pantomical absurdity, *Laughter-Land*, are drawing full houses here this week. Mr Henry S. Lewis's impersonation of Professor Sylvanus Wood and Mr Harry Rousby's Dick Marlow are very entertaining; and Mr Cremore Cragg's Billy, the captain's boy, creates considerable amusement. Mr Victor Raymond is delightful as the gay young Archie. Mr Arthur E. Behan makes an ideal Squire Totsam. Miss Amy Hastings and Miss Agatha Rose are charming in the rôles of Clarice and Clothilda. The Messrs Cragg, who are captain's boys and stewards on the Ocean Queen, give a marvellously clever acrobatic display, and the singing and dancing of Misses Cecilia Hawthorne and May Leslie, Dinah and Lulu, are much appreciated.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—Very effectively produced, that favourite comic opera *My Lady Molly* is being well patronised here this week. Miss Zoe Gilfillan is a most vivacious and dainty Alice Coverdale; Miss Edith Dinorben plays the part of Lady Molly with consummate skill; both Miss Mabel Carr and Mdlle. Etba Darcier as Hester and Mdlle. Maribeau respectively render capable service, dancing and singing in pleasing fashion; the impersonation of Captain Harry Romney by Mr Leicester Tunks is a feature of the opera, his splendid vocal powers and histrionic ability winning for him unstinted applause; Mr Stuart Alexander as Lionel Bland and Mr H. Godwin Hunt as Sir Miles are successful; and in the part of Mikey O'Dowd Mr Stephen Fitzgerald scores a positive triumph nightly.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—On account of its all-round qualities *The Lady's Maid*, being presented here this week, should find much favour in the provinces. Humorous dialogue, mirthful situations, tuneful music, and bright spectacular effects comprise its attractions, and Mr Gore Ouseley's No. 1 company set them off to advantage. Mr Dennis Drew's rich baritone voice well qualified him for the part of Charlie Marchmont. As Josiah Biffin Mr Harry Fischer proved a funny creation, and the same may be said of the Hon. Augustus Puphpayst in the hands of Mr Harold Eden. Miss Pauline Hague was a bewitching heiress, and Miss Isa Bowman was generally admired for her dancing. A very striking and clever performance was that of Miss Noel Nelville, and as the waiter Mr Harry Askham made a hit.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr J. Field; Acting-Manager, Mr Carlton.—A very delectable bill-of-fare this week includes the American Comedy Four, a talented and versatile combination; the Fleury Trio, dainty dancers; the Brewsters, lady vocalists and acrobatic dancers; Stanley and Grennop, International banjoists of great skill; and a remarkably good turn by Cecil Blanchard, a cultured singer. The racing sketch, *Terry*, by Edward Cranston's company, was cleverly sustained, Mr W. H. Perrette appearing in it with conspicuous success. Miss Lily Lonsdale and Miss Alma Jones, vocalists, and Mr Ernie Myers, comedian, complete the programme, their contributions earning well-deserved applause.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. Carlton.—The attraction here this week is *The Traitor*, a rousing drama. The title-rôle is filled by Mr S. E. Scanlan, who has much to do and does it all well. A manly hero is Mr Wellesley Draper, who appears as Prince Rudolph. Miss Conyer Radcliffe cleverly essays the character of Zula, and Miss Hettie Senior makes a lively and charming Elsie Dufrey. As an emotional actress Miss Lily Roselle excels, and other congenial parts fall to the lot of Miss Isabel Hunt, Miss Anena Walton, Mr Edwin Jenner, and Mr F. Sutherland.

PONTYPRIDD.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—Mr Henry Eglington's company is here in *When the Lights are Low*. Mr Fred P. Carlton is excellent as Guy Goldsworthy; Mr Edward Avinal's interpretation of Roland Goldsworthy wins the admiration of the audience; Mr Tom R. Seymour is successful as Ikey Isaacson; Mr J. P. Marsden plays admirably as Donald Macpherson; Mr Dick Seddon as Willie Wilkins and Mr Kenneth Scott as Tim Wilkins are well placed. Miss Adlena Mercandalli gives a powerful rendition of Nan Christie; Miss Kate Froude is worthy of praise as Violet Christie; Miss Maud Leonard as Kathleen Kerry is amusing; Miss Cissie Williams is a delightful Stella Goldsworthy.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—On Monday Mr Gus C. Livesey and company presented *The Crimson Club*, which met with much approval. Mr Gus C. Livesey plays the part of Richard Fenton with success; Mr Lionel Thompson deserves mention for his capital impersonation of the treacherous Sir Phillip Garside; Mr Herbert Belmore acquits himself capably as the Hon. Herbert Selby; Mr Charles Nugent is well placed as Richard Steele; Mr J. E. Reed is an admirable Sir Charles Lockwood; Mr J. Wyes as Counsel for Prosecution is decidedly good, so is Mr Arthur Wayton as the Judge. Miss Kate Cameron gives an effective rendering of Muriel Lockwood, and Mr Percy Shaw as Reginald Adolphus Garside and Miss Bertha Cousins as Julia Marsden are well received.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. Darville Vernon.—Mr Charles Harrington's company has been fulfilling a three nights' engagement here in the ever-popular drama *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. In the title-rôle Mr J. Carr deserves high praise. Mr Charles Harrington makes the most of the part of Phineas. Mr B. Lenton is well placed as Mr St. Clair, and Mr Guy Ellis scores as George Harris. Miss Hettie Johnson and Mrs Hero Hathaway both play ably as Eliza Harris and Mrs St. Clair. A variety entertainment is introduced in act four, and this has proved a great attraction.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Mr Charles Frohman's company is here this week with *Sherlock Holmes*. Mr H. A. Saintbury in the title-rôle is excellent. The Professor Moriarty of Mr W. F. Stirling is a finished piece of acting. James Larrabee is ably played by Mr Leslie Carter. Miss Maud Linden has a fine stage appearance, and well sustains the part of Madge Larrabee. Alice Faulkner is well portrayed by Miss Vera Longden.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—*The Village Blacksmith* is the attraction here this week, presented by Messrs Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company. Mr Sam Livesey as John Strong has a capital part and plays with much force and feeling. Mr Joseph Carter is responsible for the part of Captain Leo, and does his work admirably. Little Christobel as Harry Strong shows considerable histrionic ability, and Miss Ethel Kay as Kate Strong is very commendable. Sal Parkins and Ruth Parkins are cleverly sustained by Mrs T. C. Livesey and Miss Maggie Edwards.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—This hall is again well patronised this week, the management having provided an excellent bill of fare. Fred Karno and company give two shows nightly, *Hilarity* and *Early Birds*, both going remarkably well; Edwin Boyde, star eccentric comedian, gives a capital turn; Grapho and Jackson, speciality artists, are good; Devere and Kenwick, vaudeville entertainers, give a clever entertainment; E. J. Sheldon, speciality comedian, is much appreciated; and also appearing here are Annie Laurie, soubrette and danseuse; Bert Kemp, chapeaugraphist and cartoonist; and Ruth Dorris, juvenile artiste.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—Messrs John Hart and H. Armitage's company is presenting *The Never Never Land* here this week, and the drama has been cordially received. Mr Edward Rochelle's clever and amusing delineation of Nat Rudder evokes hearty laughter; Mr Edmund F. Kennedy gives an earnest and convincing impersonation of Jack Mowbray; Mr George M'Kenzie effectively embodies Jack Landale; Mr Arthur Bolton brightly depicts Tom Hewley; Caerwon Moody has a capital representative in Mr Selby Burrell. Mr Sidney Bancroft as Wong, Mr Harry Morgan as Dan Murphy, Mr Simon D. Ord as Raphael Moses Wolf, Mr Cecil Elgar as Lord Thorland, Mr George Jay as Spurdy, and Mr Jno. Hartt as Budds ably sustain their respective parts. Much praise is due to Miss Julie Kennard for her realistic presentment of Sal Berker; Miss Marion Fawcett is well placed in the rôle of Lady Walgrove; Miss Caroline Barrett pleasingly portrays Sybil; Miss Blanchette Grand is a vivacious exponent of Lorna Mannerley; Miss Kathleen Barrett as Mrs Pochin merits commendation; and Miss Margaret Parker is quite successful as Smudgee. The play is handsomely staged.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr Frank E. Burdett's company in *The Indian Mutiny* occupies the boards here this week. Mr Ryeland Leigh is a successful Lieut. Manley; Capt. Manley is well portrayed by Mr H. G. Brandon; Mr W. S. Tindall gives a powerful impersonation of Major Ingleby; Mr Villiers Stanley in the rôle of Nebu Singh sustains his part in a praiseworthy manner; as Ra Goonga Mr Ernest Keand acquits himself admirably; Mr J. S Shedden ably fills the part of Abul Khan; Miss Maud Digby plays Ghuznah in convincing style; Miss Agnes Kingston as Kate Ingleby deserves praise; Mr G Scully creates a deal of amusement as Terry O'Brien; Mr F. Anderson as Sergeant Thompson, Miss Kate Bruce as Mrs Major Ingleby, Mr D. Matthews as Asfinga, and Mr J. Peters as Sved Rao render valuable assistance.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller. Miss Winifred Preece and company are this week appearing in *Why Woman Sins*, a naval drama abounding in exciting situations, mixed with mirth-provoking dialogue. Miss Preece is good as Lily De Vere, her acting being artistic; Miss Effie Bartlett as Nell Desmond is excellent in

Large audiences testify to the excellent fare provided here this week. Judge's performing cockatoos, parrots, and macaws give an amusing and interesting exhibition of training; Wallace Whitney as a character comedian meets with deserved approbation; the Sisters Volbecque, duettists, are capital dancers and singers; the Swift Trio, comedy cyclists, are both clever and amusing; and Alec. Kennedy, actor-vocalist; the Four Andys, Risley and somersault acrobats; Miss Beatie Foster, descriptive vocalist; and Hughes's electrograph complete the list.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thos. Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—The patrons of this cosy and comfortable place of amusement are provided with a capital entertainment this week. Abd 'El-Kader, with Fatma blot Kader and Aicha blot Kader, in picturesque Moorish costume, paint beautiful pictures and manipulate paper with astonishing effect. Edith Sylvesto is a contortionist with graceful movements. J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist, renders his songs with power and stirring effect. Mdlle. De Rose, the lady Foli, is an old favourite, and more than maintains her popularity in her "manly" and effective vocalism. Three Sisters Slater, banjoists and dancers, submit a novel and pleasing turn; Law and Norman, comedy speciality artistes, create roars of laughter with their "cat duet;" and Mdlle. Kloet, in living statuary with electric effects; Phil Herman, comedian, another old favourite here; and the Empire Bioscope complete the programme.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—*A Royal Divorce* company is here again this week under the management of Mr W. W. Kelly. Mr Frederick Victor is excellent as Napoleon I., the little corporal, and Mr Claude Agnew is seen to advantage as Tallyrand. Mr Trevor Lowe gives a careful rendering of the part of Marquis De Beaumont, and Mr Alfred Grenville scores as General Augerau. Messrs H. J. Powell and Charles Stanley are deserving of mention as Dr. Corvisart and Marshal Ney respectively, and Mr G. Kirkman as Lord Keith is a typical British naval officer. Miss Ethyle Murray as Marie Louise supplies a clever portrayal of a satisfactory rôle, and Miss Helen Richmond is a sprightly Stephanie De Beauharnais. Miss Violet Agnew also scores as Blanche d'Hervas, and Miss B. French Stewart as the little King of Rome speaks her lines with intelligence and effect. Miss Edith Cole gives a highly pleasing and sympathetic embodiment of the rôle of the Empress Josephine. The performance on Friday night was specially set apart as a complimentary benefit to Miss Edith Cole, when souvenirs were presented to the lady members of the audience.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—This week Miss Olga Audre's company is presenting *The Mockery of Marriage*. As Dick Kenyon Mr Arthur Winpeny is well placed and acts with great ability; Mr Harry Stebbing as Jack Stanley gives a manly and effective rendering; Mr Frank Dalton as Seth Pierce is good; and Mr Will Shelton as Toby Wright is very funny, and wins much applause for his clever acting. He is well seconded in his efforts to amuse by Miss Sullivan as Mrs Johnny Jones. Miss Lydia Audry as Rose Vernham is excellent. Miss Florence Zillwood is artistic and effective as Alva Kenyon, and wins the sympathy and applause of the audience. Mr Harold Grahame is dignified and capable as Joseph Vernham. The Four Aces give a remarkably clever acrobatic performance.

TOWN HALL.—Mr Leon Vint is here this week with his Globe Choir and Sceneroma, and gives an entertainment that is much appreciated. Madame Vint is very good in her clairvoyance. Various songs and choruses are well rendered, and two or three laughable sketches are given with excellent effect.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Mr James Stillwell's company occupies the boards with *Queen of the Night*. Mr Chas. V. Sandford makes a manly Frank Cavendish, Mr James Stillwell undertakes the arduous rôle of Philip Stoneleigh, Mr F. Thorpe-Tracey is a shining light as Old Briskett, Mr Paul E. Teulon gives a clever study of David Pentreath, Mr Bert Atherton as Adolphus Briskett and Miss Marie Moore as Mrs Adolphus Briskett provide comedy work of a highly distinctive character; and Miss Irene Tracy as Dick displays marked ability. A distinctive feature is the powerful and really clever acting of Miss St. Lawrence as the Queen of the Night, Paulina; Miss Katherine Barnett does admirably as Maude Sylvester; while Miss Bertie Hope's Gladys is commendatory.

SCARBOROUGH.

SPA.—Manager, Mr Fras. Goodricke.—The company's band, under the direction of Mr Charles Godfrey, jun., is an excellent attraction here. The vocalist this week is Madame Drew, whose singing is greatly appreciated. The audiences are good.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Waddington and Sons; Acting-Manager, Mr J. T. Carpenter. —Mr Laurence Irving and company appeared with success in *Richard Lovelace* on the first three nights of the week. Colonel Martin Harvey was excellently played by Mr William E. Ashcroft; Mr Henry Crocker gave a careful presentiment of Alderman Sacheverell. Mr Laurence Irving, as Captain Richard Lovelace, played with ability, and held the attention of a good audience. Miss Mabel Hackney was an ideal Lucy Sacheverell. *Daisy's Escape* was played as a curtain raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietress, Mrs Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr F. P. Morgan.—Mr and Mrs William Maclaren's company is appearing here this week with the well-known drama *Proof*. Mr Richard Fulton does well as Lazare; Mr Ardene Linden as Chamboran finds favour; Mr Kingston Pearce is good as the Duke D'Aubeterre; Mr William MacLaren ably impersonates the unfortunate Pierre; Miss Gertrude Evans appears to advantage as Adrienne; and the Valentine of Miss Lily Bandmann is well placed. Mrs S. Hay makes a vivacious Madame Des Prets; and Miss Gertrude Contes as Little Adrienne is deserving of mention.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr W. Kitchingman.—*My Sweetheart* was well received here when Mr Chas. R. Stone's company presented it on Monday. Mr Gerald Wyatt was capable as Tony Faust; Mr Edwin Oxlee did well as Dr. Oliver; Mr Ernest M. Stone was successful as Dudley Harcourt; Miss Daisy Stone as My Sweetheart won many hearts; and Miss Emily Kelsey, Miss Edith Madelle, Miss Winnifred Maye, Miss Emmie Hill, Miss Vida, and Mr Charles Rawlinson gave excellent interpretations of other characters.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Mr Ben Greet's talented company played *The Eternal City* at this theatre on the first three nights of the week. Mr D. Lewin Mannering played the difficult part of Baron Bonelli with conspicuous ability; Mr Henry Deas was a powerful David Rossi; Mr Leonard Grey succeeded admirably as Pope Pius XI.; Mr P. L. Julian was a rugged and capable Bruno; Miss Edith Anton Laing played with power and expression as Donna Roma Valona; Miss Alice Maude was a successful Elena; Madame Rubardt merited considerable praise as Francesca; Miss Renée De L'Estrade as Nattalina acted creditably; and Miss Millicent Granville as Princess Bellini performed her part exceedingly well. Numerous male rôles were all in good hands.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Julian Malvern's company, under the direction of Mr Charles M. Julian, entertained a large house on Monday with Arthur Shirley and E. Hill-Mitchelson's drama, *I Defy the World*. The role of Leon Darville is ably sustained by Mr Lewis Gilbert; the evil genius, Count de Beaulieu, is well played by Mr Joseph W. Worley; Pauline Delaporte is charmingly portrayed by Miss Guinevere Shilton; Miss Lena Nazeby successfully acts the faithless wife, Blanche Darville; and the child, Fanchette, has a clever exponent in Little Vera Guyon. Mr W. Denning as General Delaporte, and Mr Horace E. Herbert as Andre give good studies. Much amusement is infused into the play by Mr Charles M. Julian as Samuel Wozzle, Miss Maud Lillian as Marie Wozzle, Mr Weedon Ross as Najac, and Mr Alfred Shaw as Bochon.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—Crowded houses testify their enjoyment of the fare provided this week. Much amusement is given by Rosina Casselli with her clever Chihuahua dogs of Mexico. An artistic exhibition of club juggling shows Geraldo to advantage. A musical duologue, *Mr Nobody*, is well performed by Monks and Woods. The clog-dancing of T. W. Royal is excellent. Grant and Grant do a very clever American speciality act. The Three Sisters Chester have a good reception for their singing, drumming, and dancing. Tom M'Inerney, wrestler, worthily shows the catch as-catch-can style; and Mabel La Blanche, burlesque actress, with the animated pictures, fill the bill.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—*Round the Clock*, with Charles Majilton, heads this week's programme, and roars of laughter are the result. The Negro patter comedian Sam Redfern is much appreciated. Babusians give a smart acrobatic performance. Equally acceptable turns are given by Linton, acrobatic tight-rope artist; Charles Bradford, comedian; Harry Maxam, pantomime comedian; and Geo. Foster, eccentric vocal comedian. There are a set of good animated pictures and local snapshots which cause much laughter.

L. AND N. W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—Geo. Russell, comedian, and the Danvilles, with illustrated songs, are here again; while among the new comers are Emmie Hands, serio; Ted Lambert, descriptive vocalist; and Lund and Lane, duettists.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—Mr Ian Maclaren and company are here this week with *A Fatal Crown*, an adaptation of Ainsworth's "Tower of London." Lord Dudley is embodied in finished style by Mr Maclaren; Mr Harding Thomas plays Herne the Hunter with much ability; Simon Renard is carefully depicted by Mr Henry Howard; Mr Willie Atom as Xit and Mr Harold Batt as Izzod ably sustain the comedy element. Lady Jane Grey is sympathetically impersonated by Miss Ellaine Verner; Mary Tudor is successfully portrayed by Miss Maude Anderson; Miss Dorothy Mackenzie as Barbara and Miss Kythe Mackenzie as Dorcas capably sustain their parts. The mounting of the piece is worthy of commendation.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Mr Frank M. Thorne's company is here this week with *Napoleon the Great*, the title-rôle being capitally played by Mr Hugh Montgomery, who invests the part of the "great little tyrant" with a powerful individuality. Colonel Lavarennes, premier villain, is strongly enacted by Mr Henry Earlesmere, and Colonel Jules Meure, the persecuted hero, is entrusted to Mr Charles Halling. The comic element is in the capable hands of Mr Frank M. Thorne as Pierre Pomponnet and Miss Marie Harcourt as Marcelle Choapin. Sergeant Choapin receives a vigorous interpretation from Mr C. W. Spencer, the Marshals Bessieres and Davoust finding dignified representatives in Mr C. Milton Curtis and Mr A. C. Desmond respectively. Paul Laczinska is played in true melodramatic style by Mr M. Waine. Marie Waleswka is a good delineation by Miss Chrissie Dunbar, a pretty study of Mdlle. Leonie Marboeuf being presented by Miss Maude Russell.

SHEERNESS.

VICTORIA PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. C. Dorling.—Mr Fred J. Kirke's company is paying a welcome return visit here this week with the musical comedy *Our Sailor Lad*. As Jack Maitland Mr Arthur Hickman displays conspicuous ability; Mr Walter Langford in the dual-rôle of Alphonso De Britton and Detective Searchley wins hearty applause for his clever banjo selections and humorous songs; Miss Mamie Walsh and Miss Elsie Paul are also responsible for some clever acrobatic and coon dances.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr P. Reymond.—The chief attraction here is furnished by the Calden Combination, in the dramatic sketch *Watch and Wait;* a well-executed musical performance by the Byrons is enthusiastically received; Miss Lizzie Calmour, comedienne, and Horner and Fox, comedy duettists, are also included in the bill.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME — Sole Proprietor, Mr T. G. Transfield; Secretary, Mr Tony Transfield.—Much to the regret of its numerous patrons this popular home of amusement presents the final programme for this season. Amongst the chief attractions provided is the equestrian sketch *Dick Turpin's Ride to York*. Appearing also with success are the Four Rossires, in an excellent acrobatic display. Mons. Slippere, the blind pianist, gives a capital performance. The Three Boleros, on the horizontal bars, are also very clever. Mdlle. Rosella, lady equilibrist, is well received. A similar compliment is likewise paid to Mr W. Tudor and his troupe of ponies. Miss Bessie Norris, serio, and Mr Percy Maye, lady impersonator, together with those indispensable clowns Little Valdo and Little Bishop, also contribute to a most successful programme. It is satisfactory to note that Mr Transfield on leaving Sheerness carries with him the good wishes of a large circle of friends.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL —Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter. —Captain Marshall's delightful comedy, *The Duke of Killiorankir*, was acted to a large audience on Monday by Messrs Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's well-selected company. As Lady Henrietta Addison Miss Doris Templeton was the incarnation of feminine charm. Miss Aida Jenoure gave a finished interpretation of the rôle of the handsome Mrs Mulholland, and Miss Ellen Standing was good as the Countess of Pangbourne. Mr Langhorne Burton acted with much humour and polished insouciance as the Duke, and great amusement was caused by Mr Pitt-Welby, M.P., as embodied by Mr Arthur Grenville. The curtain-raiser was the clever little play *Barbara*.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Joseph Entangled*, brilliantly played by Messrs Silvanus Dauncey and M. V Levea x's company, afforded enjoyment to a well-filled house on Monday. Mr H B. Warner gave a clever and amusing interpretation of the character of Sir Joseph Lacy. Mr Stanley W. Ashworth skilfully realised the author's conception of Mr Mayne A good sketch was the Professor Tofield of Mr Cecil Brooking; Mr Horace Lane was the Harry Taverner; Mr Arthur Bell was an excellent Gerald Franmere; and Mr Lawrence Grant's Jermyn Pyecroft was an interesting study. Careful impersonations were Mr Everard Digby's Knapman, Mr Walter Newcombe's Mr Staddon, and Mr W. F. Fletcher's James. Miss Mona K. Oram as Lady Verona wore her fashionable frocks with elegant distinction, and acted with consummate ease and finish. Miss Rosamund Bury was good as Lady Joyce Franmere, and Miss S. Carlton as Mrs Tavender and Miss Cavendish as Mrs Knapman completed an excellent cast. The *pièce de résistance* was preceded by the petite comedy, *As Played Before His Highness*.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—A piece full of dramatic surprises, pathetic incidents, and abundant humour is the racing drama, *Bound to Win*, which, acted with admirable esprit de corps of Mr F. G. Kimberley's strong company and staged in a liberal manner, was received with enthusiastic applause on Monday by a crowded audience. Miss Edie Macklin made a handsome adventuress as Gladys Orme, and that pretty and talented young actress, Miss Nina Blake Adams, acted with sympathetic earnestness as the unfortunate Marian. Miss Ada Frank was bright and vivacious as Winnie. A sound bit of work was Mr Adam Alexander's portrait of a sporting Squire. Mr Frank Strickland was convincing as Philip Orme; Mr J. Hont submitted a characteristic portrait of Ned Oakley; Mr Edgar Morgan showed much ability as a comedian; and Mr F. G. Kimberley made a natural and unaffected representative of Harry Lyndon.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Alan Young. — The extremely diverting droll, Mr F. E. Dunville, is again making the rafters ring with loud laughter and applause. Others scheduled this week are the Lukushima Troupe of equilibrists, Albert Le Fre, a smart comedian and dancer; Miss May Edouin and Mr Fred Edwards, in a sketch; Hume, Ross, and Lewis, American comedy trio; Josh Dixon, comic; Beatrice Willey, the Three Georges, Stuart and Morgan, the Lannons, and the Two Bells.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Sanford and Lyons, comedians; Andy Fagan, comic vocalist and dancer; Georgina Leonard, serio-comedienne; M. Gintaro, expert juggler; Chummie La Mars, burlesque actress; Rose Tilley, serio-comic vocalist; and Will Sergeant, the popular actor-vocalist, are doing well here.

SMETHWICK.

ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—The scheming of a woman forms the substance of the play *At War with Women*. The scenes are laid in Russia and Paris, and as presented by Mr Frank Bateman's company the production is full of interest. The principal character, Auriel Romanoff, is capitally portrayed by Miss Lizzie Montague; Miss Marion Warren is responsible for an admirable rendering of Frida Malakoff; Katinka is ably sustained by Miss Mabel Leigh. Credit is due to Mr Clinton Baddeley for his excellent acting as Antolski. He makes the best possible use of his opportunities. Mr Edward Ouston as Lieut. Alexis bears his hero's honours gracefully and well; Mr A. G. Polson Turner plays the villain, Ivan Clovitch, with much ability; Lazinski, a brutal Cossack, is well represented by Mr Herbert J. Walton, who is also responsible for the management of the company; and Mr Fred Vaughton is well placed as General Malakoff. The sensational incidents are judiciously relieved with excellent comedy, in the hands of Messrs Shaun Glenville and Fred J. Lennox.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND.—Mr George Musgrove's company in the old favourite, *Belle of New York*, under the experienced direction of Mr Charles Thorburn, is here this week, and goes as merrily as ever. The artists are all old favourites. Miss Beatrice Lamotte in the title-rôle scores her usual huge success, and Mr Frank Lawton's wonderful whistling is still one of the features of the production. Miss Lilian Digges is a dainty Fifi, and Miss Winnie Brown a comely Cora. Mr Harry A. Meymott's performance as Bronson is excellent, and Mr Philip Leslie (Harry Bronson), Mr Max Copland (Pumpernick), and Mr Paddy Dupres (Kenneth Mugg) all lend efficient aid.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Mr Melville Bickford's company are appearing here in the sensational drama, *At Midnight Chimes*. The comedy element is supplied by that favourite comedian Witty Watty Walton, who creates roars of laughter. He is well supported by Miss Annie Megson, who as the French maid does admirably. Mr Melville Bickford is excellent; Mr Henry Beaumont as Ezra Gamble is exceedingly clever; and Mr Frank E. Petley as the hero and Miss Gertrude Price as the heroine also give delightful renderings.

PALACE.—This week we have here Grais' wonderful baboons, who are clever and entertaining; Herbert Shelley, actor-vocalist, is nightly encored for his artistic contributions; the Leonards (Bob and Jennie) are as smart as ever; and others who do well are Sable Fern, Harry Zetter, Sisters Pine, Dale and O'Malley, and the Collinson Combination, in their old favourite *A Club Raid*.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—This week Messrs Murray King and Clark are presenting *Sweet and Twenty*, which is capitally rendered. Mr George Miller is evidently well suited in the character of the Hon. and Rev. James Floyd, whose two sons, Eustace and Douglas, are characteristically portrayed by Mr Walter Crouch and Mr Lionel Glenister respectively; Mr Robert Milstead as Prynne provokes merriment as the odd man; Miss May Mulvey and Miss Edith M'Clure as Edith and Mrs Trevelyan respectively are good; and Miss Rosalie Jacobi, who is a well-known local favourite, wins admiration for her portrayal of Joan Trevelyan. *You and I* precedes the play, with Mr Murray King as the Hon. Herbert Fitzallen.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS. — General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—Under the direction of Mr Alexander Loftus the musical comedy *The New Barmaid*, which was originally produced at this theatre some ten years ago, supplies an attractive entertainment this week. In the absence of Mr J. B. Montague (indisposed) the part of Bertie White is ably depicted by Mr A. Loftus; Mr Harrison Brockbank submits a capital impersonation of Captain Lovebury; Mr Albert Weston is excellent in the character of Mons. Bonser, his clever dancing being a feature of the production; Miss Gladys Elvey is a charming and artistic representative of the title-part; and Miss Hilda Blanche as Brenda Louth gives a very creditable rendering of the rôle.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—Mr Wentworth Croke's company is reappearing here this week, in *The Christian*. Miss Grace Chalmers is much applauded for her capital delineation of Glory Quayle. Mr Harry Scott gives a forcible reading of John Storm. Mr Stanley Radcliffe's Father Lamplugh is impressive. Mr Charles B. Bedells does exceedingly well as Lord Robert Ure, as also does Mr Jackson Wilcox as Horatio Drake. Mr Charles E. Dering is excellent as Archdeacon Wealthy, and Miss Clara Nicholls gives a most effective portrayal of Mrs Callender.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Prof. Inman Hocking, hypnotist, electrician, and scientist, heads the bill here this week, and is well received. The Patty Brothers, acrobats and equilibrists, contribute a really marvellous performance, and are enthusiastically applauded. Other turns are given by Miss Sadie Simpson, comedienne; Mr Gerald Mount, actor-vocalist; Mr Robert Gilbert's Troupe of performing dogs and cats; Miss Emmie Ames, comedienne; Mr Harry Taft, comedian; and Mr Tom White's Arabs.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Messrs Carson and Granville presented on Monday their latest production *A Modern Adventuress*. The general manager, Mr Leonard Aardale, characteristically and cleverly essays the part of the noble Pietro Donelli. The fiendish and unwomanly Violet Meredith is represented by Miss Beatrice M. Anderson, who, being favoured by a handsome stage presence, submits a telling portrayal. Miss Mimi Fisher is responsible for much of the lighter vein as Sally Hodges.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—The principal turn is a wonderful sensational cycling display of whirling the whirl. The Tom Davies Trio whirl round their miniature track at amazing speed. The track is elevated in mid-air, during which the cyclists continue their performance. A local amateur competition is open, a gold medallion forming the first prize. Pat Rafferty upholds his reputation as an Irish comedian; the Bioscope submits an interesting film, vividly depicting a pathetic temperance story entitled "The Stowaway;" Nello is a lady contortionist of more than average ability; the Wedburns are entertaining comedians and patterers; and the American Musical Millionaires, Ford and Hanson, are popular here. Juan and M Que are amusing knockabouts. Other capable turns are furnished by the Sisters Cora, duettists and dancers; and Chas. Stevens, character vocalist.

TIVOLI. — Proprietors, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—Crowded houses at both performances fully compensated the management in providing another excellent programme, which this week includes the Three Seabornes, who give an exceptionally smart equilibristic entertainment. The Wallys display an aptness for juggling which secures for them many plaudits. The original candy man, Percy Curry, is one of the few exponents of Tyneside dialect, and his ability is deservedly appreciated. George Collins is a funny comedian, and Dombey and Son, comedians, appear successfully. Reed and Lerne, novel comedians, are animated, and Florence Schuberth, comedienne, and Harry Tomlinson, vocal comedian, also merit distinction.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE. —Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—Mr Alfred B. Cross and company are here this week with *The Manxman*. Although not new to Spennymoor playgoers the piece was witnessed with keen delight by Monday night's audience. Pete is cleverly handled by Mr Cross; Philip Christian provides Mr Richard Vane with plenty of opportunities for showing his skill as an actor of which he avails himself fully; and Miss Minnie Watersford appears to great advantage as Kitty. Mr Hilton Frances is good in the rôle of Cæsar Cregeen and Miss Muriel Gray makes an exceedingly attractive Miss Christian. Nancy is well played by Miss Rosie Kearns. Ross Christian finds in Mr Edward M'Lean an admirable exponent, and Monty Missit and the Professor are good in the hands of Mr Edward Cartell and Mr Douglas Cottell. The scenery is exceedingly pretty.

STAFFORD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Jos. Elphinstone.—Mr John A. Walker's Strand comedy company is here this week with *Why Smith Left Home*. The cast includes Mr Horace Lingard, who commands the interest of the audience by his clever impersonation of John Smith; Robert Walton is carefully played by Mr Henry Grey; and Messrs Robert Grey and Herbert Dickson are excellent in their delineations of Count Von Guggenheim and General Billetdoux. Miss Hilda Stericker is a charming Mrs Smith; Miss Rue Daryll as Rose Walton displays ability; Miss Keith Lytton and Miss Ethel Russell as Mrs Billetdoux and Miss Smith give capital character studies; and the Lavinia portrayed by Miss Constance Stevens creates much amusement. Ben Greet's No. 1 company in *The Eternal City* is announced for the latter part of the week.

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr H. L. Rooke. —This week we have a return visit from Mr Leslie Vyner's company in *The Lightning's Flash*, which includes many old favourites, foremost being Mr Leonard Robson and Mr Harry Vernon. They are again very successful in their respective rôles of Stephen Merrick and Toby Gander. Messrs Sidney Kearns and Courtney Robinson do well as the villains, and the dancing and singing of Miss Dora Condor is pleasing. Miss F. Russel Spiers as Stephen's wife wins sympathy. The scenery is particularly good, especially that of the last act.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—Mr Cecil Barth's company, in *An Actor's Romance*, has been cordially greeted here this week, the representations being capitally given, and the many exciting and interesting situations heartily applauded. Mr Guy Hastings acts most ably as Harold Devonport, and Mr Ernest Ruston gives a capital impersonation of Robert Livingstone. Mr E. H. Dobell makes a pleasing Charlie Cummings, and Mr Carl Lyle is very good as Ikey Isaacs. Miss Constance Elgin as Florence acts with great power and effect, whilst Miss Bertha Northam was exceedingly pleasing as Louise Davenport.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—The Harry H. Hamilton pictures continue to be a strong attraction here.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—After a long interval Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage's company in the rousing military play *In the Ranks* is here once more. The company is a strong one. As Ned Drayton Mr Edward Lloyd plays in vigorous style; Mr Hubert Cecil's Gideon Blake is masterly; and Mr Arthur Palling's Col. Winter is a success. Mr Archie W. Chappel's Captain Holcroft is clever; Mr Lionel Sullivan's Farmer Herrick is effective; Mr Walter Wilson's Richard Belton is a good character study; so also is the Sergeant Searle of Mr Leon Ainscliffe. Much fun is caused by Mr Cecil Clayton's Joe Buzzard and Miss Anna Beaumont's Mrs Buzzard. Miss Ella Wilmer's Barbara Herrick is very praiseworthy, and Miss Edith Blair-Staples' Ruth Herrick is wonderfully well acted.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr John Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—Some good turns here include Carlotta Lunn, balladist; Harry Bent, a clever mimic; Gus Balsiger, unique singer and banjoist; Helen Martin, a charming songstress; Asra, an astonishing juggler; Wee Mona, child vocalist and clever dancer; Sister Adelaide, duettists, &c.; and the Warlocks, good patterers and vocalists. Payne's Bio and the Five Jees in their funny sketch *The Musical Smithy* are also among the attractions.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—This week a first-class programme is submitted to the patrons. The premier position is held by Miss Billie Barlow, who scores a brilliant success in her admirably rendered songs. The Creo Brothers, in an acrobatic turn, are without doubt the best turn in their line of business yet seen here; Mr J. H. Milburn, who is much appreciated, causes roars of laughter in his facial entertainment; Aga, the flying maiden, contributes a truly wonderful show; Ferris and Farnley are a funny pair, their patter being very amusing; Mabelle May, who dances admirably, is much appreciated; Chris Masters is a descriptive vocalist of merit; and Harry Sheldon sings two good songs in a smart manner. Kitts and Windrum present a really good sketch.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Business-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Miss Lena Ashwell in her London success, *Mrs Dane's Defence*, was here for three nights. On Monday Miss Ashwell in the title-rôle gave an excellent performance. She was ably supported by Mr Frank Mills as Sir Daniel Carteret, Mr L. Race-Dunrobin as Lionel Carteret, Mr Harry Halley as Mr Bulsom-Porter, Miss Helen Macbeth as Lady Eastney, Miss Marie Hudspeth as Mrs Bulsom-Porter, and Mr Charles Groves as Canon Bonsey. Sir Henry Irving commenced a farewell visit on Thursday in *The Merchant of Venice*, and was received with most demonstrative enthusiasm.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; General Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Fred Darcy and F. J. Little's company in *The Executioner's Daughter* occupies the boards here this week. Mr E. M. Hamilton as Monsieur Roche plays in a convincing style, and Felix Marius, the villain, is thoroughly realised by Mr Geo. Beverley. Miss Dorothy Riddell makes a capital heroine as Annette, and Mr W. H. Sharpe's Kretch is excellent. Mr Will Howard as Paul Rovel, Mr E. W. Avery as Tom Holmes, and Miss May Rosine as Sally are worthy of special mention.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alfred Brown.—Mr George Leyton, actor-vocalist, heads the bill here this week. Donaldson Bros., Ardel, and company cause roars of laughter in their zoological comedy. An amusing turn is submitted by Spry and Austin, the vaudeville artists. Will Dalton, Bob Baxter, Alma Obrey, comedienne; the Sisters Dacre, duettists; and the Tally Ho Trio also contribute.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.

NEW KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Sutton Theatre Syndicate; Managing Director, Captain Clayton.—Messrs Paumier and Howard's *Under the Russian Flag* company is here this week, and excellent business is being done. The cast is a particulary strong one. Mr Walter Howard's stage presence and voice seem specially suited in the part of Captain Demetrius, and he gives a most finished performance. Mr George Arthur as Michael and Mr F. W. Freeman as Ivan have excellent chances, of which each makes the most. The Vera Vassiloff of Miss Ada Champion shows great depth of feeling and passion; Miss Ellen Snow has a difficult part in Luka Marischia, which she interprets in fine style; and as Ogarita, an opera dancer, Miss Agnes Howard causes much merriment.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—*Sapho* has been the attraction at this house during the week, interpreted by Miss Olga Nethersole's company, and an admirable interpretation it has been. Of course, the two principal figures that stand out so prominently in the play—Fanny Le Grand (Sapho) and Jean—have by far the largest share of the work, and both characters are excellently played by Miss Cecil Cromwell and Mr Arthur Royston respectively. Mr Hodgson Taylor was particularly good as Flamant, and able support was given by Mr Harry Dodd (Uncle Césaire), Mr Arthur Poole (Déchélette), Mr James Kenning (Hettema), Mr Frank Melrose (Caoudal), and Miss Jessie Melville (Madame Hettema).

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—The attraction at this house during the week has been Miss Marie Menzies' drama, *A Rogue's Daughter*, played by her own company.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—The programme here includes the following:—Tina Clementa, with her horse and troupe of performing dogs, which are remarkably well trained; Bert Byrne, a good comedian; Scottish Meisters, the Highland comedy quartet of male vocalists; Lizzie Valrose, a pleasing comedienne; the American Bioscope, with a series of excellent views; Walter Stanley, a capital comedian; Alcide Capitaine, gymnast—a remarkably clever turn; Arthur Melrose, word-whistling comedian, who is greatly appreciated; and Binns and Binns, eccentric instrumentalists, who win hearty applause.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Personal Manager, Mr Alfred Manners.—That the first visit of that pretty musical play, *The Cherry Girl*, to this town had been anticipated with the keenest interest was evidenced by the intense enthusiasm of the crowded audience on Monday. The company is Mr C. Lubbock's, under the business management of Mr J. H. Kidger. A conspicuous feature of this production was undoubtedly the staging and scenery. It would be difficult to praise too highly Miss Elsie Molloy's charming performance as the Queen. Miss Dorothy Frostick's work as Mdlle. Bas Pas was very interesting and captivating, and Miss Katie May as Pansy achieved a pleasing success. Miss Decima Brooke, a little artiste of great promise, undertook with rare skill and earnestness the part of Dimples, all her efforts being deservedly applauded and redemanded. Mr H. Herbert as Moonshine kept the house in excellent spirits with capital songs and genuine fun, while Mr C. St. John Medley as Starlight, and later as the Squire, contributed greatly to the success of the piece with his effective work. Mr Charles Seymour as Bow and Mr F. De Lane as Scrape provoked much laughter with their quaint antics, and Masters Harry Williams and J. Saxon merit a good word for their efforts in their respective parts. The delightful ballets undertaken by Miss Lottie Stone's graceful troupe of dancers and the Four Wisterias are enthusiastically received, and the large chorus and augmented orchestra are ably conducted by Mr C. Locknane.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr Ernest Marris's company in the musical comedy *The Dandy Doctor* is again paying a visit here. An abundance of humour is extracted from the part of Mr Brown, the millionaire, by Mr James Salter; Mr James Danvers makes a great hit as Colonel Pendred; Mr Walter Nugent is able as Arthur Vandyke; and Mr W. N. Gilmore appears with success as Bertie Bolinbroke. Miss Lizzie Primmer is admirable as Ivy Pendred; Miss Florence Smithers is excellent as Jane, the servant; and Miss Nora Melton is well suited as Buttons. Some clever dances are given by the Dandy Belles. Misses Allen, Evelyn, and Wells, and Mr Ben Rowe and Miss Holden give a smart exposition of the cake-walk. Mr James Danvers, assisted by Miss Otto, contributes a speciality turn entitled "Paderewski Up to Date," which is applauded.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome Company, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—Collins and Rice are successful in a comedy act; Miss Patty Yole, comedian, dances well; the Percys are well received in a comedy turn; Marcus Boyle, comedian, is highly appreciated; and Mr Ernie Leech, ventriloquist; Mr Rubin Hill, comedian; and Mdlle. Henriette, 'celloist, also appears. The Elliotts and the Savonas are loudly applauded for their marvellous cycling and musical performances.

WREXHAM.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls.—This week an excellent all-round company has performed at this hall before good houses. Rita and Roma, versatile vaudeville entertainers, gained hosts of admirers; Mr Fred Alberto, a quaint Irish-American comedian and dancer, took well; and

WALLSEND.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, the Wallsend Theatre Company; Manager, Mr T. Richardson.—Miss Gladys Silvester and Mr Fletcher Sansome's company is appearing here this week in the musical comedy *Cissy*. Mr Harry C. Lovell undertakes the part of Victor Carleton, and acquits himself in excellent style; Gilbert Temple is ably portrayed by Mr G. E Butt; and as Titus Thomas Mr F. Sansome causes considerable amusement. Miss Annie Stevenson is pleasing as Olive Temple, and as Cissie Vere Miss Florence Barnes is excellent. Some clever dancing is done by Miss Dora Weber, Miss Amy Valerie, Miss Amy Isabel, and Miss Bertha Kirk.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Co., Limited; General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—*Florodora* was presented here on Monday by Mr Tom B. Davis's company, under the direction of Mr Wentworth Croke. Mr Daly Cooper as Anthony Tweedlepunch was the very essence of fun; Miss Ethel Dunbar invested Dolores with charm, and sang her solos with skill and sweetness; Mr Cyril Dane as Frank Abercoed was extremely effective; as Cyrus W. Gilfain Mr C. J. Barber was dryly humorous; and the Arthur Donegal of Mr Derick C. Knowles was excellent. Miss Rene Steadman as Lady Holyrood acted with daintiness and grace; and Miss Daisy Byford made a charming Angela Gilfain.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr William Bourne's company is here with *When Darkness Falls*, in which Mr Charles Boult gives an excellent rendering of Capt. Harold Montrevor. Mr Frank Liston is well placed as the Rev. Arthur Graham. Mr Ellis J. Preston makes a powerful James Woodruffe, and Miss Amy Vennimore is impressive as Mrs Woodruffe. Miss Maud Buchanan is a pathetic Helen Montrevor; the two street waifs are charmingly portrayed by Miss Lydia Hart and Miss Alys Eden; and the humorous element is well provided by Miss Emmeline Glover as Jenny and Mr Will Clement as Mike Kavanagh.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—The patrons of the King's are not slow to appreciate a good thing when they get it, and Mr W. T. M'Clellan's interesting and exciting play, *A Woman Adrift*, is drawing capital business this week. The company engaged in the representation is that of Mr Sanderson Moffat, and it may be said that every member works loyally to secure success. In the prologue Mr St John Bucher is a handsome and distinguished Sir John Ingleby. Lady Ingleby is played with spirit by Miss Patey Trounsell, the somewhat vinegarish aspect of the lady who despises the quietness of country life being well expressed. Little May Tickell is a pretty boy as Rupert, and speaks her lines with distinctness. A great favourite with the audience is Mr Charles Wilson, whose young coster, Jibbs, is redolent of the Old Kent-road. Miss Phyllis Hamilton enacts the wronged Cora Leigh with great force, while her pathos is never intrusive. Messrs Watson Hume, P. Neston, and Fred J. Edwards are duly bucolic as Sir John's tenants. In the play proper most of these artistes appear, after a supposed lapse of five years, with equal effect, and Mr Sanderson Moffat adds a picturesque rendering of the dual rôle of the two brothers, Ferdinand and Don Leo Castro. The remaining characters are all efficiently filled by Messrs W. A Mackersay, W. B. Somerville, Ainsley Linton, S. Williams, and Norman M'Kinnell, Miss Cissie Bell and Miss Maude Merrick. The piece is admirably staged.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Though *Two Little Vagabonds* has been seen here several times it still retains its hold on lovers of the Thespian art; and a goodly crowd gave Hardie and Von Leer's company a welcome greeting on Monday. In the title-rôles Misses May Hart (Dick) and Dorothy Marsdin (Wally) submitted excellent studies; Mr J. W. Henson was well placed as George Thornton; and as Marion Thornton Miss Laura Hansen scored a big success.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Good business is again the order here, and Atlas and Vulcana, always a welcome turn here, have again scored a phenomenal success. Charles R. White is one of the best comedians seen here for many a long day. Other attractions are Tom Owen, comedian; Lily Turner, vocalist; Mollie Doon, comedienne; Wilfred, a contortionist; Vulcana, in classic poses, and J. L. Wilsker's bioscope, with new pictures.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Messrs Harry Mayhew and Charles Herrick's London company in *The Triumph of Truth* is successful here this week. Mr Edward Lewis as Captain Jack Eversleigh and Mr J. A. Keogh as Sir Charles Eversleigh are both worthy of special mention; the Count Raoul D'Orville is ably presented by Mr T. Lockwood; a clever interpretation of Pierre Choppard is presented by Mr Frank Radcliffe; Mr Charles Herrick as Vitto Mascagni is very good. A word of praise is due to Miss Rosabel Dodd for her able embodiment of Blanch De Croix; Miss Lilian Ramsdale gives a characteristic portrayal of Coralie; as Katie Bright Miss Lily Rogers is well suited; Miss Marie Auckland is warmly applauded in the rôle of Violet Austruther; and Miss Nellie Kenneth does well as Little Lena.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—*The Silver King*, ever welcome and appreciated, is being presented by G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company. The cast is an extensive one, and includes the names of some clever artistes, prominent among which are Mr Lauderdale Maitland, and Miss Lilian Bethell, who, as Wilfred and Nellie Denver are to be congratulated upon the capable and finished style in which the respective characters are displayed. Mr Edward J. George, who has been so often and so long associated with the rôle of Daniel Jakes, is just as good as ever in the part. Cissy and Ned have charming exponents in Miss Violet St. Clair and Master Jack Evan. Mr W. V. Garrod, in realistic style plays the rôle of Captain Herbert Skinner, and a creditable piece of acting is done by Mr Byron Pedley as Samuel Baxter.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—A bill exceptional for its all-round strength is headed this week by Lady Mansel and her clever troupe of juvenile vocalists, whose singing and dancing give great satisfaction. The dramatic episode, *V.C*, played by Charles Cunningham and company, is one of the prettiest and best playlets that have been done here. Johnny Holland and company remain another week, and are doing a farcical absurdity entitled *The Boat-builder*. Valoni's clever juggling feats introduce some exceptionally well-trained pigeons. The Villions create astonishment with their wonderful cycling tricks, an exceptionally clever turn being that of the lady, who accomplishes twenty-five pirouette somersaults in succession. Millie Denham, burlesque artiste; Fyne and Hurley, in their sketch, *The Coster and the Dude*; and the Three Dagmars, in their acrobatic speciality act, all strong numbers, complete the bill.

WEST STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Linden.—Mr C. Finch-Hatton's company is paying a visit here with *When London Sleeps*. Mr E. S. Trelawny is an able Captain Rodney Haynes, and Mr Tom Ronald a manly David Engleheart. The comedy element is well sustained by Mr Darcy Kelway as Sammy Blyth and Mr Chas. Digby as Bertie Broomhead. Miss Ella Sennett is an admirable Queenie Carruthers, and as Hilda Carrode Miss Grace Baring is most successful.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. C. Rawes; Acting-Manager, Mr David Williams.—*The Sporting Girl*, played by Miss Maggie Stanton and Mr G. Perry's company, is here this week.

WIDNES.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr James Kiddie; Secretary and Manager, Mr T. Swinton.—Miss Emma Litchfield's company in *A London Actress* opened here on Monday. Mr Stuart Cleveland in the character of Sergt.-Major Crawford makes a manly and impressive hero, while Mr Charles E. Leicester is well suited in the part of Lieut. Kingston. Mr Fred Tenaur submits a characteristic representation of the money-lending Jew, and Mr Sam Wilford provides plenty of comedy and sings some good songs in the rôle of Pat Maloney. Miss Emma Litchfield gives a powerful representation of Hilda Mannering and Miss Alice Capel displays cleverness in the part of Phyliss Crawford.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company has presented here *A Sailor's Sweetheart*. Mr Alfred Goddard ably undertakes the part of Lieutenant Charles Clive, and the character of Grace Mayland is sympathetically acted by Miss Adah Barton. The other parts are in capable hands.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—This week's programme includes Fred Karno's comedians in their latest comedy act entitled *Saturday to Monday*. Charles Morritt, illusionist, shows many bewildering tricks, and Miss Nellie Wick performs each evening the feat of shaving ten men in less than fifteen minutes, one-handed, two-handed, and blindfolded. Master George, boy vocalist; Fred Keeton, comedian; Amber Austa, comedienne; and Will E. Haines, vocal comedian, are up to date in their own particular business, while Gladys White, vocalist, is well received.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—The Grovinis (five), drawing-room acrobats, and Gilbert Payne, comedian and cornet soloist, are exceedingly good. E. J. Wilkes and Dan Noble, comedians; Miss Renee Walon, comedienne; Kay, American automaton; Minnie and Harry, comedy ring performers; and Pattie Fairley, ballad vocalist, complete an enjoyable programme.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe.—This week Mr Wm Greet's company is paying a return visit here with *The Lady Slavey*. The title-rôle on Monday was capitally taken by Miss Addie Leonard, whose songs and imitations and general vivacity displayed versatility of a high order. Mr Frank Sherlock as the Sheriff's Officer provided a good deal of fun, and Mr Allen Morris as the millionaire was also very successful.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—One of the most important and attractive engagements at this house for some time has been that of Miss Ellen Terry and company, who are appearing here this week. The first item in an interesting programme was *Much Ado About Nothing*, which was produced on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings. The character of Beatrice was, of course, essayed by Miss Terry, whose delineation of the part was most artistic, her charming acting calling forth repeated acknowledgments after each act, and particularly at the conclusion of the play, when she had to bow again and again. Mr Matheson Lang is an artist of great ability, and his interpretation of the part of Benedick was both skilful and diversifying; Mr E. Harcourt Williams gave an excellent account of himself as Claudio; Mr Charles Thursby did admirably as Don Pedro; Mr George Fitzgerald played very effectively as Leonato; and Mr T. A. Shannon was efficient as Don John. Praiseworthy assistance was also rendered by Mr John Willes as Dogberry, Mr J. S Hamilton as Antonio, Mr Alfred Bucklaw as Balthazar, and Mr Halliwell Hobbes as Friar Francis; while the Hero of Miss Hutin Britton was capable and pleasing. The staging was excellent. During the week *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Good Hope*, *Nance Oldfield*, and *Erikson's Wife* were also announced; the last-named piece, for the first time on any stage, being fixed for Friday night.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Business-Manager, Mr Fred Benton.—This week *A Marriage of Vengeance* is being performed here by Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's company.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—The leading light at this house consists of Vesta Victoria, who is drawing crowded houses to hear her popular songs and ditties. The programme also includes Harland and Rollison, musical eccentrics; the Sisters Anderson, lady gymnasts; Laffan B. Jolly, Edie Anderson, Walter Wallis, Chris Lennar, the British Quartet, and the Empire Bioscope.

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Great changes are to be expected here under the new management, and already several important alterations have been made in the building. The house is to be open all the year round. On Monday Mr Leslie Norman's company appeared in *A Trip to Chinatown*. The Welland Strong of Mr Charles Seguin was an excellent portrayal, his singing and dancing being exceedingly good. Mr Jerrold Manville gave a highly successful impersonation of Ben Gay; Mr Leslie Norman ably filled the part of Rashleigh Gay; Mr Oswald Gray was all that could be desired as Saxon Blood, his singing meeting with the success it deserved; Mr Will Smith as Noah Heap was typical, and his dancing was excellent; and Miss Harriet Fawn was a winsome widow, Mrs Guyer. The chorus was also good.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—During the first three nights this week the boards were occupied by Mr Lewis Waller's company, in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, a play most ably rendered. Mr Thomas Kingston stood out prominently, his Captain Payton being a remarkably clever study. Miss Eily Malyon was interesting and delightful in the part of Elizabeth, investing it with much natural grace and charm. Mr Hilliard Vox as John Colden had a thankless rôle, to which, however, he did more than justice. Mr Laurence Irving, in *Richard Lovelace*, was announced for Thursday.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke.—Perhaps the strongest bill yet presented before the public here is this week headed by Mr Horace Mills and Mr W. H. Rawlins, in a most amusing sketch entitled *Mashing the Missus*. Both these clever comedians do themselves the fullest justice, with the result that laughter reigns supreme Mr Harry Conlin, too, is particularly smart, his efforts being highly appreciated. The musical act of Francis and Melli is much above the average, and remarkable for its neatness. Adams and Ward, acrobats; the Katos, with their komikal kidgets; Tom Yorke, coster comedian; Rosie Coleman, dancer; Miss Mona M'Donald, vocalist; and O'Connor and Trayner all do well.

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All communications to the Manager, J. D. ROLLS, Kinnoull, Warlingham, Surrey.

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One of the most Up-to-Date and Successful Theatres in Scotland.
Lighted throughout by Electricity.
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Footlights to Back Wall, 30ft.;
Wall to Wall, 65ft.;
Opening, 21ft. by 25ft.;
Between Fly Rails, 32ft.
Seating Accommodation, 2,000
Prices:—Private Boxes, 21s. and 15s.; Single Seats, 3s. and 2s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Balcony, 1s. 6d.; Pit Stalls, 1s.; Pit, 9d.; Gallery, 6d.
Communications re Dates to MANAGER.

DARLINGTON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre Reports Weekly. Address, "DRAMATICUS," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

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Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. WHITEHEAD.
Address, Mr J. W. WHITEHEAD.
Silence in all cases a respectful negative.

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Now Booking Autumn (1904) and Spring (1905).
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Proprietors, PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE CO., OF GRIMSBY, LIMITED.
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Few Autumn Dates at Liberty,
Now Booking 1905.
Telegraphic address, "Curry, Grimsby."

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Hanley has undoubtedly the Largest Theatre and Stage in Staffordshire. Lighted by Electricity; accommodation for 3,700 People Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to ends of the District, Longton, Stoke, Burslem and Tunstall.
Vacant for First-class Companies only,
Dec. 12 and 19, also from Jan. 23, 1905.
CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HULL.—THE CIRCUS.—General Manager, EDWARD EMERSON.
One the Finest and Largest Halls in the Provinces, Fitted with Large Stage, and Suitable for Circus, Minstrels, Panoramas, Concert and Choir Parties, &c. Rental, Share, or Salary. Only a Few Vacant Dates.

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HULL, THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, WM. MORTON.
Bookings this year and the Spring include:—Moody-Manners Opera (Two Weeks), Beerbohm Tree's Shakespearian Répertoire Company, "Quality Street," Henry Neville, in "The Two Orphans;" "Sign of the Cross," Martin Harvey (Two Visits), "The Only Way" and "The Breed of the Treshams;" "Florodora," "The Prince of Pilsen," "New Barmaid," Tom E. Murray, "In Dahomey," Mrs Lewis Waller, W. S. Gilbert's "The Fairy's Dilemma," "The Darling of the Gods," Pantomime, "Sleeping Beauty," at Christmas. Special Production.
Vacant at the Theatre Royal for any High-class Attraction, Feb. 6, 13, March 6. Address, W. MORTON.
Note.—The New Alexandra Theatre (Morton's, Limited) Caters for the Drama-loving Public, and is a uniform Success. Holding Capacity, 3,000. Popular Prices. Sliding Roof. Smoking permitted.
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Vacant Dec. 5, 1904;
also Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 13, and March 6, onwards.
Silence courteous negative.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.
BARROW.—ROYALTY T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr HUGH ROBERTSON.
Vacant Dates:—Jarrow, 1905 Barrow, for First-class Musical Attractions, Jan. 2 and 30, March 27, and various, on. The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions Touring. Consett, Dec. 12 and 19, and Jan. 9, on. All applications for Dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

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Population, 100,000 out of the Season,
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Holding capacity £100. Vacant few Spring Dates, 1905.
All communications, J. P. MOORE, West Bromwich.

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Required, First-class Companies, Vacant Dates Nov. 17 and 24, Three Nights each, and some good Spring Dates.
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LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieut.-Col. J. A. WINSTANLEY.
No Vacant Dates Spring, 1905.
Re Autumn Dates, 1905, address,
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LEYLAND PUBLIC HALL, LANCASHIRE.—Stage, 30ft. by 20ft. Proscenium. Seats 800. Balcony. District Population, 8,000. Small Stock Scenery. No Sharing.
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Still the Mascotte of South Wales.
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The Business Capabilities of this Theatre are well known. Bookings include:—Geo. Dance's "Chinese Honeymoon," "San Toy," "Toreador," "My Lady Molly," Van Biene, The Leopolds, "The Eternal City," F. R. Benson and Company, "New Mephisto," "Sherlock Holmes," William Greet's "Sign of the Cross," "Floradora," "The Christian,' &c., and a host of First-class Attractions. Nothing booked but Big Successes. First-class Band, Electric Lighting, Good Stock of Scenery, and Real Live Management, W. S., on spot.

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Now Booking 1905.
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NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, CHARLES P. COOKE.
Vacant March 27 and Easter.
First-class Attractions only.
Silence a courteous negative.

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Vacant for Musical Attractions only.
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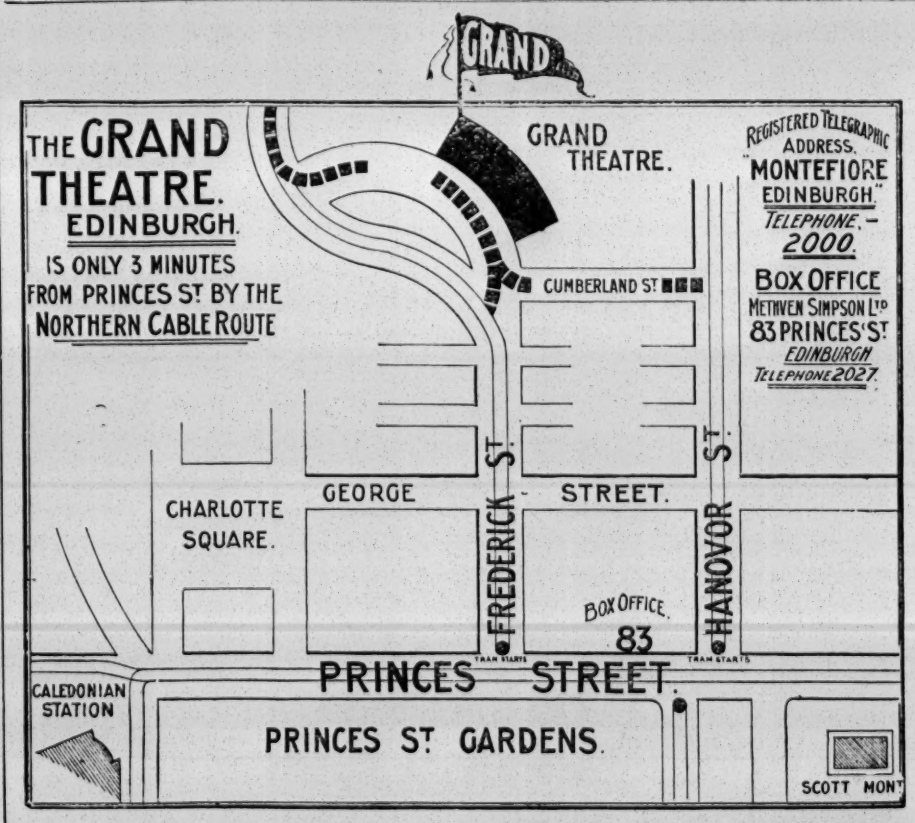
Silence a polite negative.



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PANTOMIME RUN
"CINDERELLA."

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for
Pantomime or Musical Comedy.

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Open throughout the Year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

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Rehearsal at 2·0 p m.
All communications to the SECRETARY.

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Travelling Managers delighted with the Nightly Receipts
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A few Vacant Dates for First-class Attractions, Nov. 28, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, and onward.
Good Business done here with First-class Companies.
Wire or write to JAS. KIERNAN, Manager.

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WINTER GARDENS PAVILION TO BE LET on Rental, or will Share with Good Variety Combinations.
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General Manager, PERCIVAL CRAIG.
Only Vacant Dates.
AVENUE.
April 10, May 1, 8, 22, 29.
ROYAL.
Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 13, 20, 27, &c.
Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred.
Apply, C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

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Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre.
Vacant Few Spring Dates, 1905.
All communications to JAMES P. MOORE.

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The Hall is fitted with Electric Light,
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The Stage has recently been Enlarged.
Good Attractions only Required.
J. LEWIS, Manager.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Under the Management of Herr C. ADOLF SEEBOLD. Vacant Dates from Nov. 21, onwards, also Christmas for good Panto. First-class Companies only. Three Days or Week. Silence a polite negative.

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221, St. George's-street-east, London Docks,
has returned from his Expedition to the Congo River and South-west Africa alive and well
The Gorillas, Chimpanzees, Antelopes, Birds, Reptiles, and Fish
all Sold within Twenty-four Hours.
1 Red River Hog, Male, only remaining, £25.
10 Mandrills, various sizes, 50s. to 100s. each.
20 Baboons, various sizes, 60s. to 120s. each.
30 Rhesus, various sizes, 20s. to 50s. each.
10 Moustache Mangabeys, &c., 30s. to 50s. each.
1 Black Ape, 50s.
2 Barbary Apes, 60s. to 80s.
1 Lapunda Ape, Giant, two years here, £7 10s.
5 Capuchin Ringtails, 30s.
5 Ringtail Lemurs, 60s. to 80s.
6 Various Lemurs, 30s. to 50s.
The following, having been in Stock Two Years, are now given away:—
1 Lioness, Adult (come and see it), £10.
3 Hyænas, Half-grown, Fine (come and see them), for £12.
1 Hyæna, Old as Adam (come and see it), for £2.
1 Russian Bear, Large (come and see it), for £5.
1 Russian Bear, Medium Size (come and see it), for £5.
1 Wolf and 1 Hybrid Wolf (come and see them), for £5.
2 Monster Porcupines (come and see them), for £8.
Usual Small Animals and Birds for Sale, Reasonable.

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WANTED, Companies for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 20, 27, March 6, on.
MANAGERS PLEASE NOTE.
WE HAVE NO BILL ORDERS OR FREE LIST OF ANY KIND WHATEVER (PRESS EXCEPTED) AT DALSTON THEATRE.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 28, Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 27, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 6, March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 17, on.
(Musical Companies preferred.)
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Feb. 23 (Three Nights), March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, on.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant Jan. 16, April 3, 17, May 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 27, March 6, 27, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 15, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant, Nov. 24 (Three Nights),
Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23 (Three Nights).
Leamington Bookings include "Little Mary," Miss Nethersole's "Sapho," "Sweet and Twenty," "Florodora," "One of the Best," "Duke of Killiorankie," "The Tyranny of Tears," "If I Were King," "Darling of the Gods," Martin Harvey, Edward Compton, Mr and Mrs Kendal, "Chinese Honeymoon."
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

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WANTED, First-class Companies for Nov. 21 and Dec. 5.
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, and Nov. 28, County Theatre, Reading.

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WANTED, Important Attractions, for STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant Spring, 1905.
TERRISS THEATRE.
Dec. 5, 12, and Spring.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Dec. 5, 12.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies, OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Nov. 28, on, Vacant.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Nov. 28, Dec. 12, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Dec. 26, on.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Comic Operas and Musical Comedies, Spring, 1905. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Plant of Electricity (Three Colours) installed. H. VERE.

WANTED, First-class Company, Nov. 14, Bedford; Nov. 21, Luton.
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

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WANTED, High-class Musical Attractions, Christmas Week, Dec. 26, and also Jan. 9 and 23.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Pleasington, Blackburn.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED (through Misunderstanding), High-class Musical Attraction, Christmas Week, Dec. 26.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Pleasington, Blackburn.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Good Comedy Companies, Oct. 31 and on Three Nights.
Good Pantomime, Dec. 26.
Now booking Season 1905.
Apply,
C. A. HUTTON.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company (Musical preferred), Monday, Nov. 7. Wire, W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE. Lessee, Mr E. MACKNIGHT. Business-Manager, Mr CHARLES E. HARDY.
WANTED, Companies for Nov. 7 and 28, and Onwards, with Exceptions.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, SEAHAM HARBOUR.
WANTED, First-class Musical Show Nov. 28, Strong Attractions
Dec. 5, 12, 19, and Jan. 16.
Will Mat Wilkinson kindly forward address?
A. C. HARRISON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Dec. 19.
Also First-class Musical Shows for March 6 and 20.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Good Pantomime or any Big Attraction,
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26.
Good Business certain.
C. M. JULIAN, Alexandra, Birmingham.

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WANTED, First-class Attractions, Four Nights and Matinée, commencing Dec. 12 at above Theatre Address, CLARENCE SOUNES.

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WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 13, 20, and onwards, with exceptions.
Only genuine Attractions entertained.
For terms, &c., please address,
P. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Proprietor.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 2 and 9. Add., E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, for Christmas Week, First-class Attraction, Musical Comedy, Spectacle, or Minstrel Troupe. Splendid Opening for good Travelling Pantomime or any other Good Draw. Sharing Terms. HAGUE, Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec. 12; Spring, on, with exceptions, Grand Theatres, Chorley and Radcliffe. Also Good Pantos., Jan. 2, 19, 16. SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Good Company for Nov. 7, for the Borough Theatre, Heywood; January Dates also Vacant. Wire, WALTERS, Theatre Royal, Blackpool.

COMPANIES WANTED.

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ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
Feb. 27, March 27, April 24.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
Dec. 12, March 13, 27, April 10.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
June 12, 19, July 31.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three or Six Nights), 12 (Three Nights), 19 (Three or Six Nights), Dec. 26 (Three Nights), Jan. 23 (Three or Six Nights).
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Nov 14 (to Open), Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
No Vacancies.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE
Vacant,
Dec. 8 (Three Nights), 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Dec. 26, Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights).
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three Nights), 12, 19, Jan. 16, 23.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

WANTED, First-class Companies, GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Nov. 28, Jan. 23, 30, and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Nov. 28, Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 20, and on.
Apply, FRED. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, and on.
Only the Best and Known Attractions Booked. Next week, "The Fatal Wedding;" Nov. 7, Mr Edward Terry; Nov. 14, "Why Smith Left Home;" Nov. 21, "A Chinese Honeymoon."
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, Good Companies, Victoria Theatre, Mansfield, Nov. 17, Dec. 8, 15, 22 (Three Nights each). Open Last Three Nights of Week. MANAGER.

WANTED, Good Companies, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Dec. 5 and Few Onward Dates. Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Good Companies. Vacant Nov. 14, 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 5, and on. Will give certainty for Pantomime or Musical Show for Christmas. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Nov. 21 (?), Jan. 16, 23 (Three Nights), 30, on, with exceptions. Silence polite negative.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

NEW THEATRE, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs SEDDON and ROBERTSON.
WANTED, Companies, March 20, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs SEDDON and STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Last Three Days of Weeks, Nov. 14, 21, Dec 19, 26, Feb. 27, March 27, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Dec. 5, 12 (Three Nights), 19, Required Recognised Attraction for Dec. 26.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Nov. 14, Dec. 12 (?), 19, and few Spring. Musical Show Dec. 12 or 19. Good terms to good Shows. CONNYNGHAME.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.
WANTED, Good Musical Attractions, for March 27 (Race Week), April 24, and June 12; also good Attractions for May 15 and 29.
Address, FRANK KING.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan 2.
Must be New to Grimsby.
Copy of Day-bill and Terms to
J. H. CURRY, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 19, 26, Jan., February, March 6, April 3. Address, J. EDWARD WHITTY, 22, Berners-street, London, W.

TIVOLI, KIDDERMINSTER.
WANTED, Strong Attractions. Wire for Monday. Write for Later Dates. REBBIE and STEVENS.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, METHIL, FIFE.
WANTED, Companies, December and January. Good Minstrel Troupe, also Pantomime write in. Good Biz. Refer Oswald Cray, Esq. Address, LIVERICK.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple, Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

COMPANIES WANTED

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management.
Capital, £155,000.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK
Nov 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12 (Three Nights) Dec. 19, Jan. 2, New Year Week (?)
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
Dec. 1 (Three Nights).
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
Nov. 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12, Dec. 22 (Three Nights), Dec. 26.
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
Nov. 14, Dec. 1 (Three Nights), Dec. 12, Dec. 19 (Three Nights);
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, CLYDEBANK
Nov. 14, Dec. 12, Jan. 23.
Two Towns a-week. A Big Success.
This Week's "Tit-Bit,"
Ayr and Kilmarnock.
Week ending Oct. 22, Takings £390.
Important.
Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred.
The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.
Address all communications to R. C. BUCHANAN, General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, three nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant Nov. 14, 21, Dec 12, 19, 26, Jan. 9, 16, 23, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Nov. 10, 24, Dec. 1, 26, Jan. 19.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical Piece, Dec. 5, also Musical and Dramatic Attractions, April 3 and 17, and all May. Now Booking Autumn, 1905. Splendid Business has been done recently under present energetic management. The right attractions are thoroughly boomed and every assistance given to travelling managers. Enormous business last week with Sir Henry Irving. The theatre, which holds 3,000, packed from floor to ceiling at double prices thoroughout.
All communications, address, T. EDWARDES.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Jan. 9, Feb. 6, 13.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

MAIDENHEAD GRAND THEATRE.
Entirely Renovated.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 28 and onwards.
First-class Pantomime Wanted
EDGAR DERBYE, Grand Theatre, Maidenhead.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, First-class Companies. Vacant Dates, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 27, and March 6. Address with full particulars to JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE. General Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Attractions, Theatre Royal, Blyth, and Theatre Royal, North Shields, Jan. 16. ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for Dec. 5 and 12.
Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Strong Drama, Nov. 28, Only Open Date this Year.
S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager.

WANTED, Companies for Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
The Dramatic Theatre par excellence.
Playing to Phenomenal Business.
Enquire any Manager who has visited.
A few Early and Late Spring Dates Vacant.
Address,
FRED GRANVILLE.

THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. POTTS.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 6, and on, with exceptions. Also First-class Musical Play for the New Year. First-class Pantomime would do well. Four or Six Nights and Two Matinées. "My Lady Molly," Jan 6 and 7.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, Powerful Attraction, Nov. 21, Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.
Send terms to RICH WALDON.

WANTED, Comedy or Musical Companies Touring Scotland to Book Theatre Royal, Inverness. Vacant Dates November and December. CAMERON BURGESS.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe, Cheshire, First-class Attractions for October, onwards. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Dec. 19.
Also First-class Musical Shows for March 6 and 20.

THE ATHENÆUM, LANCASTER.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Musical Comedy preferred, for Nov. 28. Address, H. WILKINSON.

THEATRE ROYAL, RYDE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, J. BANNISTER HOWARD.
Winter Season.
WANTED, Good Companies for Three Nights Only in the Months of November, December, January, February, and March. Good business can be done by Conducting the Theatre in this way. Now Booking Autumn Season Dates, 1905.
Address, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, for Glasgow, First-class Up-to-date Spectacle for Thirteen Nights, commencing Dec. 24. Selkirk Herrmann or similar Producer communicate, with lowest terms, to find the whole Show Complete in its Entirety. CALVERTO, Glasgow.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Jan. 23 and 30.
Wire, KELLY, Court Theatre Warrington.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Weeks of Dec. 5 and 12 for the above remarkable success.
Wire, KELLY, Court Theatre, Warrington.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23, Feb. 6.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne, Return.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."
WANTED, March 27, April 3, May 1, June 15. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Dec. 5, May 8, and onwards.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Nov. 14, 21.
Entire Original Production, including Mr Albert Ward.
Christmas Vacant for First-class Theatre.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Nov. 7, Nov. 7, Nov. 14, Nov. 14.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Dec. 12, London only.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7 and 14, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb 20
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Feb. 13, 20
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION now in Preparation.
WANTED, Feb. 6, 13.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Nov. 14(?), Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 30, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Feb. 20, 27, follow London Theatres; March 20, 27, follow Midlands and onwards. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects. Address all communications DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.
Note.
The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville.

WANTED, Dec. 19, for "A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12, "IN A WOMAN'S GRIP."
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

'HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, and Feb. 6.
Wire, CARSON, Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, 21, Jan. 30, Feb. 6
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5 and 19, Jan. 2, 9, and 16.
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 2, 9, 16, and 23.
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

MR ROBERT PERRIS'S COMPANY, in the Successful American Musical Comedy-Drama, "A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS." "A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS." "A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
WANTED, Nov. 21 (South), Nov. 21 (South).
Only Vacant Date this Year.
Vacant January and February, with exceptions; January and February, with exceptions; also Vacant Easter Week. Vacant Easter Week.
Thanks to Mr Harris Fineberg for Return Date, and Mr Wm. Morton for Contracts for Alex. Theatre, Hull, also to Mr Frank Macnaghten for Contracts and other Managers for Contracts and Offers. Now Booking Autumn 1905.
Wire, Met. Theatre, Glasgow; Write, C. T., Spennymoor

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28, between T. R.'s, Whitehaven and Sheffield; Dec. 26, to follow G. T., Wolverhampton.
CHARLES R. STONE, To-day, Aquarium Theatre, Scarborough. Next week, Assembly Theatre, Durham.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
WANTED, Theatres, "The Wearin' o' the Green." No Vacant Dates until Nov. 13, 1905. Wanted, Big Theatres then, and on.
Address, Grand Theatre, Falkirk.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY, "WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Second Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, Dec. 19, Christmas, Jan. 23, and onwards, with exceptions. First-class Company, including Miss Dora Price. Many Thanks to H. G. Dudley Bennett, Esq., for offer.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, To-day, King's, Nottingham. Next, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

WANTED, Nov. 7, Nov. 7, Nov. 7, 14, 28, "PARSON THORN." "PARSON THORN."
Special Printing. First-class Company. Wire for Nov. 7.
Wire, HALDANE, this and next, Heywood.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Nov. 21 and 28, to follow Theatre Royal, Bury (Vacant owing to extending Tour); Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return); March 6, to follow Stratford (Return).
Wire for Nov. 21 and 28 to C. M. JULIAN, To-day, P. O. W., Salford; Monday, Alex., Birmingham.

WANTED, for "Bigamy," Nov. 14, Feb. 13, 20. "THE LIFE THAT KILLS," Wanted Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and Few Spring. "THE GRIP OF THE LAW," Wanted Jan. 16, 23, April 10, and on.
FRED MOULE, Metropole, Devonport.

WANTED, Nov. 7, for "No Escape," Intermediates, on. Printing, waiting. Change if required. Wire, COLEMAN DAVIES, New Theatre, Burton-on-Trent.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER" by Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres. Jan. 16, and May 15.
W. V. GARROD, T. R., Bury, Lancs.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."
"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."
MARY B. BUCKSTONE and I. K. COX'S CO.
WANTED, Nov. 7, Nov. 21, and Christmas Week. Refer Francis Laidler, Esq., Prince's Bradford; R. E. Liston, Esq., Theatre Royal, Leeds; C. R. Cooke, Esq., Grand, Nottingham; Lingford Carson, Esq., Q., Keighley. H. G. WYNN, 14, Seymour-st., Liverpool.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, and Christmas Week, for this great Attraction. Racehorses Toured. Playing to Crowded Houses Everywhere. Clear Stage only Required. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Alexandra, Sheffield; next, Rotunda, Liverpool (return).

"THE TRAITOR."
Messrs Mitchelson and Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Dec. 5, and Christmas Week.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
First-class Theatres,
First-class Theatres,
Nov. 21,
with exceptions, for
Mr Orton Tewson's No. 1 Company
in an Up-to-Date Version
of the
Popular Musical
Comedy,
"MY SWEETHEART.'
Leading London Company,
including
Miss Grace Arundale
as
Tina.
New Songs New Dances.
New Dresses.
A Magnificent New Production.
For Vacant Dates apply Blackmore's Agency,
11, Garrick-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Dec. 26,
Dec. 23,
Dec. 23,
Unexpectedly Vacant.
Mr Louis Calvert's North Company,
"SUNDAY."
"SUNDAY."
"SUNDAY."
The Success of the London Season.
The Success of the London Season.
The Success of the London Season.
From the Comedy Theatre.
By Arrangement
with
Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry.
An Unprecedented Success on Tour.
An Unprecedented Success on Tour.
An Unprecedented Success on Tour.
Letters, WALKER GREGORY, Theatre Royal, Hanley;
or to LOUIS CALVERT, His Majesty's Theatre, London, S.W.

"THE LADY OF OSTEND."
"THE LADY OF OSTEND."
"THE LADY OF OSTEND."

"THE SAUCY SALLY."
"THE SAUCY SALLY."
"THE SAUCY SALLY."

By Sir Francis Burnand.

WANTED, Christmas and New Year's Weeks
Wanted, Christmas and New Year's Weeks
Wanted, Christmas and New Year's Weeks
(through Transfer, to oblige).

LAWRENCE BROUGH,
Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

MR STANLEY HOPE'S COMPANY,
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL,"
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL"
by Henry Merriman.
The Latest Dramatic Success.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 5,
Suburban or South, follow Croydon, precede Stratford. Tremendous Success in Every Town Visited.
Enthusiastic Calls. Brilliant Production.
Powerful Company. Thrilling Story.
Company Increased and Strengthened.
New Printing. New Scenery.
Spring Dates fast Filling. Now Booking Autumn, 1905.
Christmas Vacant.
Address, STANLEY HOPE,
Oct. 31, Grand Theatre, Nottingham, Six Nights.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

WANTED, Important Theatres,
Nov. 7 and Christmas,
Nov. 7 and Christmas,
Nov. 7 and Christmas,
London, South, or Midlands.
H. HOLLISTER, To-day, T. B., Stratford; Mon., G., Margate.

"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."

WANTED, for this Gorgeous
Attraction,
Jan. 2, 23, 30, Feb. 20.
A Complete Production.
Everything Carried.
Company of seventeen artistes.
Mr Hugh Montgomery as Napoleon.
Re Dates.
FRED GRANVILLE,
Queen's, Liverpool.

WANTED, Nov 7, Dec 19 and 26, for
"The Private Secretary."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD,
Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, N.

THE PRESTON and DOHERTY REPERTOIRE CO.
Under the direction of F. B. Woulfe.
"LADY GODIVA."
"JANE SHORE."
"NELL GWYNNE."

WANTED, Nov. 14 and Dec. 5 (Lancs or Midlands). Christmas Week Vacant.
F. B. WOULFE,
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

"CHERRY GIRL" (SOUTH COMPANY).

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, through disappointment. Can be seen Marlborough Theatre, 31, on, and during week. LUBBOCK, 119, Victoria-street. Telephone, 471 Victoria. Telegrams, "Limpidness."

"THE LONDON FIREMAN,"
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest.

WANTED, Nov. 7 (wire, Lancs. or Yorks.), 21, and Jan. 2 (N.). Latest contracts to hand, Queen's, Liverpool; and Grand, Hull. GARSIDE, To-day, Lyceum, Crewe. Monday, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

WANTED, Nov. 28 and Dec. 12
"The Conscript."
Pavilion Theatre, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Dec. 5, Jan. 30, Feb. 13,
May 8, June 12 for Mrs Lewis Waller, in "Zaza," "Vilma," or Repertoire Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand Theatre, Woolwich; next, Grand, Birmingham.

"AT WAR WITH THE WORLD."

WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12,
Christmas, onwards.
Everything Reliable. Printing Waiting.
GEO. LITTLETON, 22, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, S.W.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S COMPANY,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 26.
Thanks Managers for Offers. Burton, Kettering, West Stanley, Dundee, Cork, Seaham Harbour, &c. Wire for Nov. 7, EDWARD SURREY, this, Eden, Bishop Auckland; next, Theatre Wingate.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."

WANTED, Dec 26, Jan. 23, 30 (?),
Feb. 6 on.
Address, Theatre Royal, Leicester.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Christmas,
and New Year for Miss Emma Litchfield's
"A London Actress" Company.
Vacant Nov. 28 Dec. 5, and Christmas, or,
for this Genuine Success.
STUART CLEVELAND, Queen's, Keighley (Return).

JAMES HARE'S REPERTOIRE COMPANY.

WANTED, Nov. 10, Three Nights
(Midlands), Jan. 16 (North), for above Strong Combination. JAMES HARE, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

MR NORMAN M'OWAN'S "MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE." No. 1 Production.

WANTED, Good Dates for Spring Tour.
Entire Production travelled, and Special Cast.
Write at once, CHARLES MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-av., W.

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN."

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Nov. 14
(only Vacant Date this Year), Jan. 2, and on, with exceptions. LESLIE NORMAN, O. H., Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, for the Unusual Success, "Her Fatal Past," Theatres for Nov. 7 and Christmas.
Wire, WARD, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash,"
Nov. 28, South Wales, Jan. 2.
LESLIE VYNER, Carlton, Birmingham.

"THE TRIUMPH OF TRUTH."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 7, Wire To-day,
Theatre Royal, Wednesbury; Monday, Darlington.
MATHEW and HERRICK.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including the
Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights
in London.

WANTED, Nov. 14,
Nov. 21,
Dec 5,
Jan. 2,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30,
Feb. 6, 13,
March 13, 20;
also Whit Week.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield
W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Charles Elphiostone, Esq., Theatre Royal, Hanley;
F. Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford;
J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth;
J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington;
Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston
(Holiday Week).

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Theatre Royal, Rotherham,

WANTED, First-class Theatres only
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN,"
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN,"
Nov. 14 and 28.
Nov. 14 and 28.
Nov. 14 and 28.

The Entire Original Production carried.

Charming Floral and Electric Effects.

Wire,
FREDERICK PHILPOTT, Broadstairs.

MR JOHN DENTON'S COMPANY,
"A MODERN JUDAS."
No Vacant Dates this Year.
Now Booking Christmas and Spring.
Good Theatres Wanted for this Powerful Attraction.
Splendid Production, Exceptional Company,
Excellent Printing.
Cast includes
Percy Rhodes, Willie Scott, Frank Beresford,
John Denton, Trueman Towers, Ada Palmer,
Kate Walbran, Violet King.

WANTED, Christmas and on, with exceptions.
TRUEMAN TOWERS,
General Manager, Empire Theatre, Southend.

"SAPHO."

WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the
Most Popular Version now on the Stage.
Miss Annie Bell as Fanny Le Grand.
Booked and Rebooked everywhere visited.
Birmingham, Third Visit in Twelve Months; Oldham, Second Visit in Nine Months; Crystal Palace, Third Visit in Twelve Months; Liverpool, Third Visit in Fifteen Months; Theatre Royal, Dover; Theatre Royal, Preston; Theatre Royal, Bristol; Grand Theatre, Nottingham; Grand Theatre, Brighton; Grand Theatre, Hastings; Theatre Royal, South Shields, &c.
Wire for Nov. 14, Dec. 26, wire.
JAMES BELL, Saturday, Opera House, Dudley;
Monday, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."

WANTED, Nov 7 and 14, Jan. 2.
Fourth Year of Tour.
Also "The Sorrows of Satan."
A Magnificent Middle-of-the-Week Attraction.
Refer, by permission, Messrs Pennington, Z. Andrews, Milton Bode, Carlton and Duckworth.
Wire, To-day, LOUIS EDMOND, Public Hall, Aberavon.
Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Pontypool.

The Great Dramatic Musical Comedy,
"FATAL FORTUNE."
The Best-going Show on Tour. No Vacant Autumn Dates.

WANTED, Christmas Week, Jan. 2, 16, 30,
on, Good Theatres only.
Playing to enthusiastic audiences Nightly.
PENFOLD FIELD,
10, Duke-street, Adelphi, London.

WANTED, Farewell Tour of "Kitty Grey,"
few Good Dates for No 1 Company during
September, October, November, 1905.
No Dates Vacant till September, 1905.
New Scenery, Dresses, &c.
Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Malden-lane, Strand, W.C.

WANTED. Wanted, Wanted, Nov. 14,
"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
Wire, STANLEY HOPE,
This, Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford.
Oct. 31, Grand Theatre, Nottingham (Six Nights).

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Christmas Week, Dec. 26 (Midlands or North).
Address, CECIL BARTH,
Royal Princess's Theatre, London, W.

"FLORODORA."
H. J. CALLAN and W. CROKE'S COMPANY.

WANTED, Jan. 23 (North).
Apply,
H. J. CALLAN, Lyric Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, for "Sentenced for Life,"
Easter and Whit Week, Aug. 7, or, exceptions.
FRED BULMER, Opera House, Treherbert.

THEATRES WANTED

"MISS MISCHIEF."
"MISS MISCHIEF."

A New and Original
Musical Comedy,

Book and Lyrics by Mr Reginald Bacchus.

Music by Dr. F. Osmond Carr,
Composer of
"Morocco Bound," "His Excellency," "In Town,"
&c., &c., &c.

WANTED, Christmas and Several Early
Spring Dates, on.

Autumn Dates now settled.

Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's
No. 1 Company.

"MISS MISCHIEF"
will be produced for the First Time
on Monday next, Oct. 31
at the
Royal West London Theatre,
under the Personal Direction of
Dr. F. Osmond Carr.

For Cast
see Companies' Page.

Full Chorus and Dancers.

All communications,
GODFREY LAMPLUGH,
20, Caroline-place, Bayswater,
London, W.;
or,
West London Theatre,
Edgware-road, W.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.

WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction,
Christmas and New Year Weeks, Jan. 9 and 16.
Rapidly Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905. Beautifully Mounted. New Special Scenery and Effects. Magnificently Advertised and Splendidly Played.
Oct 31, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
Elaborate Plant of Pictorials.
The above will be Toured in First-class Style by
ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.

WANTED, Jan. 30 (Midlands),
Feb. 20, 27, March 13, 20, and 27,
and various onwards.
All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON,
Strathmore, Norfolk House-road, Streatham, S.W.

"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
The Great Domestic Drama,
By Frank Lindo.
Frank Lindo, Geo. F. Black,
and Miss Marion Wakeford,
Supported by Powerful Company.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Nov. 14,
Midlands or North.
Wire or write, FRANK LINDO,
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

MR. BARRS' "ALADDIN" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, Feb 6, 13, 20. Specialities
include Ada Marjutti, Marti and Julietta, Bernardo, Grapho and Jackson, Empire Quartette, &c.
HERBERT BARRS, Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.

CHAS. A. CHANDLER'S "BELLS OF HASLEMERE."

WANTED, Nov. 7, First-class Theatre.
Wire, this, West Bromwich; next, Swindon.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Theatres,
Christmas and New Year, for the Sure Attraction,
"The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore.
Miss Frances Delaval's Company, including Mr Percy Carne Waram. A few Spring and Autumn, 1905, Open. Write, Miss DELAVAL, Aquarium Theatre, Scarborough.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Pavilions, &c.,
Nov. 14, 21, and Dates on, for the Royal Star Pierrot Concert and Comedy Co. All Artistes appear on the Stage at opening, and the Second Part are all Speciality Acts. Novel and Pleasing Show. Give Sacred Concerts on Sunday Night. Splendid Pictorial Printing. Proprietors and Managers wanting a Good Show send Vacant Dates. We have Christmas and New Year Vacant. Address, C. DILLON, Parish Hall, Sedgefield, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Nov. 28, a First-class Theatre
for the Famous Kellinos and Company.
Address, Gus Garrick, Vaudeville Club, W.C.

ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, at Christmas, for Important
Spring Tour, First-class Artistes. Leading Juvenile Man, Short Leading Light Comedian, with good songs and dances; Young, Robust Chambermaid, capable of strong dramatic lines; tall, Heavy Woman; Character Old Woman. Must dress in first-class manner. Letters only (marked line of business) with recent photos., stamped envelopes, references, two weeks, addresses, MANAGER THEATRES, 8, Warwick-court, Gray's-inn, London, W.C.

WANTED, Artists, "The Priest of the
Temple;" also Smart Carpenter, Own Tools, one who can Retouch. C. MARCH, Queen's T., Longton, Staffs.

Musical Comedy.

WANTED, First-rate Chorus Ladies, capable
of playing small parts if required. Only those of Refined Appearance and with Good Voices entertained. Apply by letter only (enclosing Photograph if possible), stating particulars of experience to
MR AUGUSTUS BINGHAM,
8, Air-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN."

WANTED, Soubrette for Flirt (Broken
English); must be good dancer, young, petite. Photos., refs. to LESLIE NORMAN, O. H., Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Tall, Refined Amateur Lady as
Understudy in First-class Dramatic Company.
Address, J. A. FITCH, 63 Cambray-rd., Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Comedienne, Dark, Contralto (Good Voice), Good Figure, Appearance and Dresser. References (which will be applied for), terms, photo, height, age, and full particulars, for Musical Sketch. Also Smart Man for Baggage and Part. CLAUDE JULLION, care of DAVID CROMBIE, Crown and Dove Hotel, Bristol.

WANTED, Immediately, for Farcical
Comedy (probably open Nov. 21), Stout Comedy (Genial) Old Gent., Comedy Old Lady, Butler, and Cook.
Apply, by letter only,
lowest terms, photos., and two last references,
E. OSWALD BROOKS, 3, St. George's-circus, S.E.

MISS NETTIE WARE'S TOUR,
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."

WANTED, a Thoroughly Good Leading
Juvenile Gent, to Rehearse Monday next and Open Monday, Nov. 7. Address, WILLIAM HIBBERT, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Smart Juvenile Man, Responsible Actor and Chambermaid. State if sing and Dance. Send age, height, photo, lowest terms, to ROY JACKSON, to-day, T. B., Yeadon; next, Drill Hall, Durham.

WANTED, Tall, Juvenile Gentleman (Naval
Lieut.). Rehearse at once. Lowest terms (Long Tour if suitable), BEAUDYN and LIVESEY, T. R., Leicester.

WANTED, Juvenile Gent, and Lady, also
Good Chambermaid and Comedian, both sing and Dance. Also, Good Responsible Lady and Gent and Baggage Man. Terms, photos., to CECIL DEAN, Borough Theatre, Heywood, Lancs

WANTED, a Leading Gent., Experienced,
to Produce Pieces Sketched for a High-class Portable. To Open Nov. 7. Direct, LLOYD, Waterford.

WANTED, to Rehearse Monday, Irish
Eccentric Comedian, Dramatic Experience, Distinct Brogue. Also Knockabout Comedian who is Energetic and Ambitious. Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Young Gentleman to Play
Dicey, in "A Message from Mars," also to Play in First Piece. Apply to GORDON STARKEY, T. R., Shrewsbury.

WANTED, Amateur Gentleman for Small
Part, for Prospective Tour of Sketch. No premium. Letters, RUDKIN, 109, Isledon-road, Holloway, N.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, a Juvenile Gentleman for
Jack Medling, in "The Prude's Progress" for a Charity Performance early in January, near Windsor. Particulars, M. BESSLE, 9, Edith-villas, W. Kensington.

WANTED, at once, Good Contralto and
Tenor for Concert Work. Small premium required. Must be experienced. Letters at once, Box 8,624, care of "The Era."

WANTED, High Tenor Vocalist, also Male
Alto. Must Read. Soloists, used to Quartets. Lowest terms, H. R., 104, Great Dover-st., London, S.E.

WANTED (Immediately) to complete
Concert Party, Comedy Vocalist (Lady or Gentleman). Terms, shares. Write fully with photo. (returnable), Miss T., 12, Phillip-street, Bath.

WANTED, Several Smart Girls, about Six-
teen Years of Age. Must have Knowledge of Singing and Dancing. Apply with photo. and height to MARIE SANTOI, Palace, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Dancing Master; also to Assist
in Management of the Victoria Halls, Nottingham. Apply, J. S. COX.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experi-
ence difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, an Amateur Lady, Good
Professional Experience, is Wishful to Play Part in Production in Spring. Premium. Box 8,510, "The Era."

WANTED, by W. G. Webber, the Lanca-
shire Basso, Winner of all the Northern Musical Festivals 1904. Concert Bookings only. Brock-street, Lancaster.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
Season 1904-5.

WANTED, for "Aladdin" Pantomime,
Clever Small Comedian for Wishee-Washee;
Recognised Principal Girl for Princess.
Also Pair of Knockabouts for Chinese Policemen,
Comedian for Sister in "Cinderella."
Trio of Dancers Disengaged write in, or Speciality Dancers.
Full particulars, and state where can be seen at work the next two weeks, to
JAMES KIDDIE, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

PETER THOMPSON'S
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, a Really Class Dame, must be
clean in both make up and business; First-class Second Boy, Fairy Queen (Soprano), and Musical Director (Pianist), Compose and Arrange. Also Good Sound Specialties. Send Full Particulars, Terms and where to be seen working, to
88, Monton-road, Eccles, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Panto-
mime next Christmas to Send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Quartette of Dancers Dis-
engaged for Pantomime, to send photos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks, Agent, 36 Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Pantomime Choristers, all
Voices.
Apply, any day, between 11·0 and 1·0,
Kelson Trueman,
Regent-house 233A, Regent-street, W.

EDWARD MARRIS'S "WHITTINGTON," &c.

WANTED, Principal Boys, Principal Girls,
Comedians, Chorus, and Dancers, and Big Specialities. Nothing too big. Photos., absolute terms and references.
EDWARD MARRIS, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

WANTED, a Pair of Sisters, Disengaged
for Pantomime, to send photos., terms, and particulars, to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Christmas Show, West-end
of London, Small Boys for Animal Parts.
Apply immediately,
C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Miss Amy Calcott,
Charming Actress and Magnificent Danseuse (late Miss Amy Leggett, of the Leggett Combination), Vacant for Pantomime, Principal Boy or Girl and Speciality. See the Calcotts' Advert. on another Page. Unparalleled success Manageress Tour. Comms., ERIC CALCOTT, 4, Valmar-road, London, S.E.; or, De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Miss Clarice Lilian
Disengaged. Fairy Queen, Soprano, or Small Part, with Speciality. Running Buck Hotel, Ipswich.

WANTED, Managers to kindly note
Miss Trixie Toole
at Liberty for Principal Girl, introducing her own Novelty Kettle.
Will be this Season's Greatest Sensation.
Address, 102, Falmouth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty
for Pantomime. Principal Boy. Offers invited.
229, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Nellie Lovell, the
Favourite Burlesque Artiste and Male Impersonator, Liberty for Offers for Pantomime, 1904-5.
Wire, immediate, 15, Wyndham-street, Bury.

WANTED, Known, Minnie Parker,
Smart Serio, Liberty for Panto., Second or Third Girl. Permanent address, Marsh-buildings, Cleckheaton.

WANTED, Engagement, by Good Acrobatic
Dancer. Would like to join Troupe or Quartet for Panto. Till Tuesday, DOROTHY RUBY, 71, Oldfield-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham; after, 60, Sale-street, Derby.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Bronson Sisters,
Singers and Dancers, Parts and Specialité.
Permanent address, 94, Gower-street, W.C.

WANTED, by Harry Watson, Male Soprano
and Buck Dancer, Engagement. Dis for Panto, Troupe, or Concert 36, Elsdale-street, Hackney, London.

WANTED, Good Panto. by the Roystons
(Phil and Ada), Première Danseuse, Parts, Second Girl, Char. Comedian, Speciality, Bus. or Act.-Manager. 16, Chapman-street, West Bromwich.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Billy Keene
and Jessie Adams, Duettists, &c. Jessie Adams, Principal Boy or Girl; Billy Keene, any Good Comedy Part. Last Year, Sinbad and Tinbad.
27, Phœbe Anne-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle,
Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Pantomime.
Last Two Years, Grand, Nottingham.
Thanks John Tiller, Esq., Lester Collingwood, Esq., for Offers.
Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Brown and Spink,
Comedians, with Good, Funny Animal Act; also Part and Animal Part, Free for Good Pantomime.
Address, BROWN and SPINK, Post-office, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, the Two Kelsos (Bill
and Tom), Comedians, Pantomimists, and Dancers, are at Liberty for First-class Panto. Seven Seasons with Milton Bode, Esq.; Four Seasons with Will Sley, Esq.
Marsh-buildings, Cleckheaton, Yorks.

WANTED, Engagement for Pantomime, by
Marsh and Morris, the Patter Comedians. Clean, Funny, and Smart. Every item a Study. Craigside, Skegness.

WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto
Engagement, Christmas, by the Florador Quartette. Parts, Traps, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beattie Trixie, Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Magic Kettle, Water
Boiled on Block of Ice, also Marvellous Miltons' Latest Illusions, Vacant for Pantomime, &c. Lady, Prin. Girl. Sole Agent, Sylvester, 271, Clapham-road, London.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Pantomime by Victor Vernon
(an Ideal Dame). Principal Comedian Four Seasons, T. R., Plymouth. Address, Drill Hall, Durham.

WANTED, Known, will any Touring
Pantomime Company
take this
Promising Youth
with them.
I've seen nineteen summers, and stand 5ft. 3in. in my boots.
I never Sing. I daren't.
A trained and experienced beginner.
Comedy Parts.
Terms, £1 and loan of necessary Wardrobe.
At present in Provinces. For photos and references, address, Box 8,619, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Chester and Lee's Marionettes,
Christmas Pantomime, Ballet, Harlequinade, Latest Up-to-Date Comic Business. Share or Certainty. Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, December, on, also Panto. for
Bioscope Pictures. also Troupe of Dogs. High Diving Dog, a Big Speciality. LE CLAIR, P. H., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, the Continental
Bioscope, a Good Show at a Reasonable Price, at Liberty for Pantomime. O. T. ROBINSON, 27, Birley-street, Blackpool.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artist for Few Weeks,
Metropole, Glasgow. Must be quick and effective. Positive lowest terms, age, and recent references, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of Every
Description Painted to Order. Touring Companies' Scenery Stored, Repainted, and Repaired. 18ft. by 24ft. Cloths from £4. High-class work guaranteed. Sykes' Scenic Studios, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Quantity Pantomime,
and other Scenery, including Harp, Palace, &c., also Dresses. J. WOOLF, Wonderland, Whitechapel. Tele., 10,393 Central.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Specially Made
and Painted Plant of Pantomime Scenery for "Robinson Crusoe." Only used Seven Weeks. Seven Scenes, including Realistic Wreck and Storm Set. Forge Scene. Egerton's Scene Factory, Bradford.

To Pantomime Producers.

WANTED, to Sell, in Excellent Condition,
Scenery, Dresses (Eastern, Nautical, &c.), Properties of Successful Pantomimes. No reasonable offer refused. May be seen at Theatre.
JOHN HART, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell, the Entire Production
of "The Medal and the Maid."
Can be seen week commencing Monday, Oct. 31, Worcester, and Nov. 7, Bournemouth.
Address, H. J. CALLAN,
Lyric Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, Oak Chamber and Tapestry
Chamber. Must be good scenes and in good Condition. Height 16ft., depth 14ft., width at back 22ft. Also Greek Exterior and Interior, and Cloths, Borders, and Wings for Painting. Reply, quoting lowest terms and where and when scenery may be seen, Box 8,617, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, to Hire or Purchase, Cheap, a
Fit-up Opening not under 26ft; also Palace and Garden Set, Act Drop, or Tableaux Curtains, for Wildman's Winter Carnival, Pavilion, Carnarvon. Address, WILL GREGORY, Manager, Victoria-avenue, Llandudno.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery and
Properties, Specialities, Pantomime and Fireproof Scenery. J. DAVIS 128 Upper Beau-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, by J. I. Keith, Scenic Artist,
Engagement as Resident or for
Special Scenery.
170, Hampton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist,
Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces. References. 43, Elgin-terrace, Maida-vale, London.

WANTED, Engagement as Scenic Artist
and Carpenter; Wife for Wardrobe, able to cut out and make; also Man for Baggage and Props. Joint salary preferred. H. DALLAS, Grand Theatre, Margate.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Gentleman to Learn Duties of
Acting Management, and Understudy Lead; also Lady to Play Small Part and Understudy. Premium £10, returned in Salary. First-class Company. For full particulars, apply Box 8,621, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Acting-Manager for Music Hall.
Undeniable references required. Must be strict disciplinarian. Photo., age, height, and salary required, reasonable. T. EDWARDS, Temple House, Derby.

WANTED, at Once, an Experienced
Acting-Manager (Married) for Residence. Must have Unimpeachable References and find Security. Apply, stating salary required, Age, and Full Particulars as to Experience, A. F. CROSS, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES

WANTED, Acting-Manager, to open Nov. 7.
Must have Resident Experience. Address, enclosing photo., three references, stating age and lowest terms, to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

To Wardrobe Mistresses

WANTED, by Music Hall Lady Thoroughly
Practical Woman to take Entire Charge of Stage and Private Wardrobe and be Generally Useful, and used to Travelling in advance with Luggage if Wanted. Age about Thirty. Must be single and strict teetotaller.
Box 8,625, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Acting-Manager, Dis-
engaged (Resident), Books, Bars, and Routine. Young, Competent, and Gentlemanly. Good Theatre or Music Hall London and Provincial Experience Best references Apply, Box 8,632, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Situation, by Performer, as
Assistant or Stage-manager World-wide experience, well up in Two Houses a-night. Handy, hard worker; Linguist; highest refs. Address, Box 8,636, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as Advance
Agent, age Thirty-two. Thoroughly Experienced and Reliable. Just finishing Tour with Mr Charles Macdona and Mr Percy Hutchison's Company, in "Saturday to Monday," Nov. 5. Reply to ALBERT ROBERTSON, Advance Agent, "Saturday to Monday" Co., County T., Bedford; Nov. 3, 4, 5, Grand T., Luton.

WANTED, by Chas. E. Herman, Advance-
Representative, Engagement. Concluded Season, 1904, Barnum and Bailey's Wild West. Care of HALLKEEPER, G. T., Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Herbert Mack,
Advance Rep., and Press Agent (Touring or Resident) Disengaged Oct. 29. Last Five Tours with Mr F. R. Benson's Co. Can refer personally to Mr F. R. Benson. Address, T. B., Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Handyman Requires
Situation as Carpenter, Props, or Carriage Painter. Suit Circus or Roundabouts. Own Tools. Good Workman. Steady. Best offers, Box 8,620, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement as Companion-
Valet by Doctor's Son (Nineteen). Splendid Companion for Single Gent., or one Travelling Alone. Write, VALET, care of Mr BIRD, St. Martin's-place, Birmingham.

WANTED, by a Respectable Widow,
Employment for the coming Christmas Season as Dresser or Assistant in Wardrobe-room, Cloak-room, &c. Good reference. F. BAKER, 6, Grange-rd., Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement (Young Man),
Billing, Bars, Money-taker, &c. Theatre or Hall. Experienced. Box 8,614, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Married Couple
Require Situation as Caretakers in any Good Theatre or Music Hall. Age thirty-six and thirty-seven. No encumbrance. Lifelong experience. Highest refs. Address, GEORGE PITCHER, Caretaker, Victoria Theatre, Burnley, Lancashire.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Macnaghten Vaudeville Circus, Conductor, First Violin, Second Violin, Double Bass, 'Celo, Trombone, Cornet, Fagsoon. Must be well up in Variety Business. Lowest terms, age, and copies of references to MURGATROYD, Palace, West Hartlepool. To Open Grimsby, Dec. 10.

WANTED, First Violin for Empire, Cardiff.
Apply,
stating Salary required and giving references, to
OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff.

WANTED, Conductor, for Wakefield Hippodrome, used to Variety business. Nothing but first-class men need apply. W. EMMETT, Secretary.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Two Musical Directors. Terms, &c., to
EDWARD MARRIS, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

WANTED, One or Two First-class Musical Directors (Piano).
Must be Competent Arrangers for Pantomime, Musical Comedy, Tours to follow if suitable.
Terms, &c.,
EDWARD MARRIS, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, First Violin and Bassoon, for Pantomime Season. State lowest terms, references, and age to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Endorse envelopes "Musician."

WANTED, First Violinist (Competent and Reliable). Permanency for the Right Man. Apply, with lowest terms and references, to MANAGER, Palace, Bath.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, Open at once, for Small Military Band, to Double String preferred. Uniform. Permanency. Three times daily, and occasional Sunday Afternoons. References and terms to SECRETARY, Chamber of Commerce, Penzance.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, First Violin, Viola, and 'Cello, for Bosco's Imperial Hippodrome, Belfast, Nov. 7. V. C. WHITE, Imperial Hippo, Wakefield.

WANTED, First B Flat Clarionet, First Cornet, and Euphonium, at once, for Pitching in West-end London. Terms, shares. B.M., 23, Lisson-st., W.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Experienced Clarionet Player, at earliest convenience. Reference and age. WM. SCHOTTLER, Musical Director, Bath.

WANTED, Bassoon (Good). Apply, stating age and salary, to F. CAMP,
Musical Director, Gaiety Palace Varieties, Birmingham

WANTED, Trombone (Good), to Commence at Once. Terms, 30s. Address, V. C. WHITE, Imperial Hippodrome, Wakefield.

THEATRE ROYAL, BELFAST.
WANTED, 'Celloist (First-class), to commence Nov. 7.
Lowest terms, reference,
with Copies of Testimonials, to
FRED W. WARDEN, as above.

Wakefield Asylum
WANTED, a Male Attendant, who is able to Play the Viola. Wages, £30 per annum, rising £2 10s annually to £55, with Board, Lodging, Washing, and Uniform. Suit every Eight Months. Applications, stating age, height, references to character and ability, to be sent at once to the MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, 'Cellist (Soloist) to Deputise Three Months, commencing Nov. 4.
T. COZENS, 12, Verulam-place, Bournemouth.

WANTED, immediately, Real Good, Fully Experienced, Quick Sight-reading Orchestral Pianists. Violinists, Cornetists, Clarionetists, and Double Basses. Four to six months' permanency. S. America and Brazils, and West Indies regular mail and station ships. Sober and reliable men indispensable. Amateurs save stamps. Full particulars to and from Rodber's Band Agency, Avenue-road, Southampton.

WANTED, a Quartette (Ladies), consisting of Piano, Violin, 'Cello, and Bass (one of Quartette must be Vocalist), Long Winter Engagement. Large and Up-to-date Répertoire Essential. Send full particulars, salary expected (live in), and photo., if possible, to MANAGER, Victoria Hotel, Southport.

WANTED, Ladies' Orchestra of Four or Six First-class Performers. No Double Turns. Terms moderate. No Fares. Two Weeks' Engagement, Royal Victoria Rooms, Southampton. Opening Night, Nov. 21. Address, Prof. RICHARD, Rempstone, St. Peter's-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, the following Instrumentalists for Middlesex Regiment:—E Flat Clarionet, B Flat Clarionet, Cornet, Trombone. Apply, BANDMASTER, 6th Middlesex Regiment, Hounslow.

WANTED, Musicians (Ladies) Brass and Reed. Can start immediately. Particulars (letters only), to SECRETARY, 13, Tabley-road, Parkhurst-road, N.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—
J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester;
C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.;
F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-rd., Handsworth, Birmingham;
J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Leader or Cornet (Circus Business), Engagement, at once. Late Hutchinson Tayleur's Circus. Address, T. REYNOLDS, Marquis of Granby, Lincoln.

WANTED, by Musical Director or Pianist, Engagement. Can provide Viennese Band, any number (Uniforms), if required. Hotel, Restaurant, or Theatre, &c. M. D., 45, Lady Margaret-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Permanent Engagement. Experienced, Steady, and Reliable. Good References. FRED SHARPE, Normancross, Peterborough.

WANTED, by Leader, or First Violin, Immediate Re-engagement. Any Business. VERNON, 34, Woodville-road, Thornton-heath, Surrey.

WANTED, by Experienced London Variety Musical Director, Engagement. Violinist and Pianist. Terms moderate. Box 8,609, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Musical Director (Piano.), Engagement, Panto. Composer and Arranger. Good refs. EDMUND PETERSEN, 4, Finck-street, S.E.

WANTED, by Conductor, Well-known, Experienced, and Talented Permanency, in really First-class Theatre or Empire. Address, Box 8,628, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Miss Clarice Lilian, Violinist, Soprano Vocalist, and Pianist, disengaged, thoroughly experienced. Address, Running Buck Hotel, Ipswich.

WANTED, by Second or First Violin. Engagement. Good experience. Steady and reliable. VIOLINIST, 13, Standard-street, Falmouth-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Violinist (Amateur), Engagement. Will give services for Comfortable Home. Letters only, STEAD, 31, Portland-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ethel Mouland, Solo Violinist and Leader, at Liberty.
Address 131, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's-bush, W.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Temporary or Permanent Engagement. Day-time or Evening. Open Deputising. Abstainer, young, reliable. Moderate Salary or Pay. G., 40, Ordnance-road, St. John's-wood.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Medallist, Engagement, Military or Orchestra, First-class Soloist. Address, Penzance Post-office, Oct. 29 and 30; after, 102, Princess-street, Abertillery, Mon.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Solo and Orchestral Cornet Player (Good), Engagement. First-class London Experience and references. EQUIRE, care of 271, New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement.
Any business.
WM. FLETCHER, 95, Hornby-street, Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Cornettist (Good), Well Experienced in Dramatic, Variety, and Operas. WILLIE KAYE, 133, Gordon-street, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Theatre or Music Hall Engagement. Best references. Thoroughly experienced. T. CRAWSHAW, 89, St. Stephens-avenue, Shepherd's-bush, London.

WANTED, by T. Gordon, 51, Denton-street, Wandsworth, London (late Coldstream Guards and Solo Clarionet, Lieut. Dan Godfrey's Band), Engagement.

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, the late Kursaal Theatre, Ilfracombe, similar Engagement. Can combine Violinist. MUSICIAN, 35, Cornwall-st., Fulham.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement. Advertiser young, abstainer, [with business experience. Thorough musician. Would join Works or Volunteer Band if employment was found. Good references. CLARIONET, 62, Kennington-pk.-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, by Clarionet (Good all-round Experience), Engagement any Business. Distance no object. J. WATSON, 9 Winchester st., Pimlico, London.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, any Business. Wages or shares. Sober and Reliable. Can open any time. J. GRUB, 2, Bilton-ter., Bideford, Devon

WANTED, by Solo Clarionet, Engagement. Theatre or Music Hall. Address, CLARIONET, 8, Selborne-road, Denmark-hill, Camberwell.

WANTED, by Double Bass (Experienced, Abstainer), Engagement. Open at once.
TOM C. TROLLEY, Eversford, Thicket-crescent, Sutton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, any Business. Long Experience, late Cremona Orchestra. G. GREENHEAD, 10, St. George's-terrace, Herne Bay.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement.
Steady and Reliable.
Address, Box No. 8,615, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Any Business, out through Disappointment. Theatre or Music Hall. TROMBONE, 5, Fountain-st., Mountain Ash, S.W.

WANTED, by Trombonist, through Closing of Season, Engagement, any Business, Music Hall preferred. G. NICKS, Trombonist, Penzance Military Band, Penzance.

WANTED, by Bass Trombone Player, Pensioner, Employment in connection with a good Band. Highest testimonials. CORDING, Rifle Brigade Discharge Depôt, Gosport.

WANTED, by Trombonist (Professional), also Composer and Arranger, Engagement.
Apply, TROMBONE, 46, Reginald-road, Bexhill-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Euphonium (Experienced), Engagement. Can open at once.
Address, CHARLES GRICE, 184, Waterloo-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by French Horn (First or Second), Engagement. Steady and reliable. Good refs. Address, HORN, 7, Goldsmith-road, Leyton, N.E.

WANTED, by Second French Horn, Engagement, any business; good refs.; young, steady, and reliable. Address, Box 8,591, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, to Bandmasters of Volunteers, &c., Good Oboeist, combine Piccolo. Would join Band if found situation. Abstainer. Good refs. Address, OBOE, Box 8,622, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cellist or Violinist, an Engagement, Theatre or Variety Hall. Good references. Thoroughly experienced. INKPEN (Orchestra), Hippodrome, Brighton, Sussex.

WANTED, by 'Cello or Contra-Bass, Re-engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. Good references. LYND, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement in Theatre, Variety, or Café in London. References. Thoroughly experienced. 'CELLO, 654, Fulham-road, W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl, on 'Cello.
Mr CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17), Engagements. Very Successful. July 4 to Oct. 2, Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth. For terms and dates, address, MAUD GRUNDY, 18, Lawn-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, by Flautist (Steady and Reliable), Theatre Engagement in or about London, Deputising or with Private Orchestra. 62, Devonport-road, W.

WANTED, by Flautist (First-class), Engagement. Any business. Just finished Season's Engagement. Address, FLAUTIST, 16, London-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement, just concluded Second Season with Mr Angless. Address, A. J. WEBB, 5, Lee-place, Ilfracombe.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Cornet, Drums, Engagement, Disengaged through closing. FLAUTIST, Royal Victoria Pavilion, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Pianist, Immediate Engagement, Experienced, any Business, Good References. KATE THORNTON, 7, Church-st., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by Drums, Music Hall or Theatre, Engagement. Late Herr Rausher's Corporation Band. NEVILL, 13, Augusta-road, Belmont House, East-cliff, Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Re-engagement. Good refs., sober and reliable, with effects. ROBERT MURPHY, 26, Calais-street, Leicester.

WANTED, by Experienced Double Drummer and Effects, Engagement. Reliable. Good references. A. H., 13, Allen-st., Mountain Ash, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and all Effects, now at Liberty, Engagement. Steady and reliable. HAYDN SLACK 13, Allen-street, Mountain Ash.

WANTED, by Tympani, Double Drums, with Effects, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall, London preferred. Address, TYMPANI, 12, Howley-street, Lambeth.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, just finished Four Months at the Granville, Walham-green. Would Deputise. A. FARRELL, 78, Coleshill-buildings, Pimlico-road.

WANTED, by C. H. Anderson's Imperial Military Band, Engagement. Splendid Musical Library and Band Equipment, with Four Different Styles of Uniform. Concluded Third successful Season Broadstairs. At Liberty. CHAS. HENRY ANDERSON, Musical Director, 21, Gladstone-road, Broadstairs

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
"49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster, "Littlehampton."

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement in every Business.
Block F, 134, Thorawl-street, Commercial-st., Aldgate, E.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st, London, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND NEW CIRCUS and VARIETY HIPPODROME, BOLTON.
WANTED, Nov. 7, and Future Dates, Big Stars and Startling Sensations.
Also Useful Circus Artistes in all Lines. Nothing too big. Money no object for Novelties with drawing powers. Note.—All Engaged must understand Day Performances Monday and Saturday at 2·0 o'clock.
Address, King OHMY, Grand Circus, Bolton.

NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH.
WANTED, Nov. 14, and Onwards, the Greatest Stars and Attractions obtainable; nothing too big; also Artists in All Lines of the Equestrian Business. Address all communications,
D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

WANTED, for Circus and Winter Gardens, Plymouth, Nov 7, 1904, and onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines, Good Troupes and Specialities, Male and Female Bareback Equestrians (without own Horses, as we have good, reliable Horses); also Good Clowns and Knockabouts write in; must be Good. Should like to hear from Tom Wortley immediately.
W. C. and S. HANCOCK, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

BOSTOCK and WOMBWELL'S MENAGERIE and CIRCUS.
WANTED, Known, the Company now on Board the Tintagle Castle, steaming to Cape Town, are as Happy as Birds, under the wing of Pearce Butler, the Up-to-date Ringmaster. Wish to Thank Mr E. H. Bostock for his Kindness and Forethought in Providing for, and Seeing to, their Welfare during the Three Weeks' Journey to Cape Town, where they Open in the Spacious Building in conjunction with the Menagerie and Novelty Show already there under the command of Captain Taylor, the experienced South African manager. The Company also wish to thank Mr and Mrs Bostock for the magnificent way they were entertained to dine at the Angel Hotel, Islington, as a kindly send off on Thursday Eve, Oct. 6—Signed, Pearce Butler, the Frantz Family (six in number), the Ernest Family (three in number), the Ladderites (three in number), Sig. Bertini, the Bros. Pastor, Vern and Palmer, Jackies, Almera, Hinton and Wooton, and Mrs and Mr Jas. Crocket. We, the above, also wish all friends and relations good-bye for at least ten months. The steamer arrives at Cape Town, and our registered address is BOSTOCK and WOMBWELLS Circus and Menagerie, P.O.S. 1,640, Capetown, where letters will find us. Postage 1d.

WANTED, First-class Dumb Comedy Acts; also Big Aerial Show, for Illuminated Open-air Performance. Mesmerist, with good subject, or any Sensational Act with Drawing Powers, write lowest terms, &c., Thirteen Nights, Dec 24, Calverto, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Tumblers.
Specialities.
Novelties.
Musical Clowns.
To commence
Dec. 10 or 17.
Address,
Mr. HENGLER,
Manager,
The Hippodrome,
Bauchienall-street,
Glasgow.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
WANTED, for Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, and on, Equestrians, Animal acts, Gymnasts, Acrobats, Jugglers, Comedians, Refined and Funny, &c.
Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, for Wildman's Winter Carnival Pavilion, Carnarvon, Reopening, Nov. 12, onwards, Novelties of every Description, Aerial Acrobatic Juggling, Musical Animal Acts, Funny Sketches, &c., Good Bioscope may write in. Address, this week, WILL GREGORY, General Manager, Victoria-avenue, Llandudno, N.W

WANTED, Wire Walkers, Jugglers, Benders, Posturers, Useful Ground Acts that Clown. Join at once. Terms low. DENNIS, Circus, Sale, near Manchester.

WANTED First-class Three-Bar Performer. State tricks, terms, age, height, and weight,
EDWARD DILLON, 185, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Young Lady. One with a Knowledge of Tumbling preferred.
Address to
Box 8,626, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Triple-Bar Performer. State tricks, Salary.
Letters, Box 8,606, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Immediately, for Well-known Troupe, Youth that can Tumble; Age, Fourteen to Sixteen. One used to shoulder Work Preferred. Good Home and Salary to an Energetic Youth.
J. C., Post-office, Birmingham.

WANTED, at Once, Top Mounter for Well-known Troupe. Wire height, weight, and lowest terms, W. W., 143, Spring-hill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Two Well-developed Young Girls, between the Ages of Sixteen and Eighteen, as Apprentices to a Well-known Troupe of Gymnasts, previous Knowledge not necessary, everything Taught, and a good Home for those that are willing to work. Apply, stating age and all particulars, tricks, if any, Box 8,633, care of "The Era."

LOWESTOFT HIPPODROME.
WANTED, a Good Ring Master, to Open Monday next.
Apply,
GEO. GILBERT, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Smart Young Grooms, to Look After Thoroughbreds and Ride Same, for London Theatre. Apply by letter only, Hales, 40, Wellington-street, Strand.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lions, Acknowledged Best and Cleanest Wild Beast Show existing. Vacant Dec. 12 and 19, for Midland or North. Only Vacancy this year. Still Few Dates 1905 Vacant. Now Fast Booking for 1906. Write or wire. Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Woolwich; Nov 7 New Hippo., Coventry

WANTED, Known, Captain A. Gerard's African Lions and Tiger Dogs.
At Liberty Nov. 7, 14, and 21. A sure Draw.
Wire, GERARD, Circus, Rochdale.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS on Tour.
Manager, Mr G. Scott.
WANTED, Known The Renowned John Scott's Family, Liberty for Winter Season with a number of First-class Acts, and a good Stud of Coloured Horses
Can supply a Full Evening's Programme if required.
For terms, &c., 22, Berkley-place, Clifton, Bristol.
P.S.—Can not accept Weekly Engagements

WANTED.—John Irvin and Miss Pinder Bareback Equestrians and Pigeon Charmers, will finish To-night, Big Success, Ohmy's Circus, Bolton. Liberty Monday next, Oct. 31. Address (wire up till Saturday Night), Circus, Bolton; after, all letters, 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Known, W. Tudor, Four Trick Ponies, Turpin Mare, Riding Dog and Goat, at Liberty Nov. 14
Address, after Saturday,
Transfield's Hippodrome, New Brompton.

WANTED, Known, Robert Davies, at Liberty Nov. 7, for Home or abroad, as Bareback Equestrian. Irvinstown, co. Fermanagh, Ireland.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Little Bishop, after most Successful Season with T. G. Transfield's Hippodromes, Maidstone, New Brompton, and Sheerness, opens Monday, 31, with Geo. Gilbert, Esq., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Austin, Double and Single Talking and Tumbling Clowns and Acrobates, with good Entrées, also First-class Foot Equilibrist. At Liberty, Nov. 14. Permanent address, 23, Cleaveland-terrace, Northampton. Thanks Mr Bosco.

WANTED, by Alec Aubrey, Renowned Gymnast, Nov. 7, 14. Borough, North Shields. Monday, Grand, Byker, Newcastle.

WANTED, Known, Onda and Leon, the Greatest of all Comedy Bar Acts. Vacant, Nov. 7, 14. Address, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent, Classical Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Act. Free Oct. 31, Nov. 7. Address, Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 14, Mayeno Trio, Male and Female Acrobats, Gymnasts. Wire, Knockabout Clown with Up-to-Date Comic Entrées. Wire or write, MAYON, Sands, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Leo and Seigel, Herculean Acrobats and Gladiatorial Strong Men in Novel Feats of Strength, Liberty Oct. 31, and on. Wire, Exhibition, Market-square, Lisburn.

WANTED, Monday next, the Two Lillians, Acrobats; also Savaro, Bird Mimic and Siffleur. Wire offers, 3, Carter-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Monday, by Four Arizonas, Acrobatic Tumblers. Will Percival, Comedian, Dancer. Wire, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, by Zedoras, Original Flying Trapez and Versatile Gymnastic Act (stage or ring), first-class in every detail, big success Hippo., Dewsbury, Oct. 31, Transfield's, New Brompton, Kent.

WANTED, by Houpla and Hecla, Premier Equilibrists and Acrobats.
Oct. 31. Wire, THORNE, Doncaster.

WANTED, Nov. 7 and 14, by the Delamere Trio, Original Comedy Equilibrists.
Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED.—Alice Fontainbleau, Rolling Globe Equilibrists, and her Great Troupe of Canine Quadrupeds. The Smartest Dog Show on Earth. Liberty for Panto., &c. Perm., Marquis of Granby H., Lincoln.

WANTED, November, onward, Balzens and Pei-ho, Japanese Variety Wonders. Two Distinct Specialities, Two Gentlemen. New P., Maidenhead.

WANTED, Nov. 21 (North), Joe Hastings, the Famous Jumper, Orator, and Journalist.
Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Good Bearer, Catcher, and Pantomimist, Join Good Troupe.
Address, Box 8,637, "The Era" Office.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.
WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

Barney Armstrong's
Scotch Tour.
Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock;
also Sixteen Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour.
WANTED, Artists to send Full List of Bookings, terms, &c., Armstrong's Agency, Tivoli Palace, Glasgow.
Big Acts Required for Immediate Dates.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.
WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Sotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Nov 7 on, for Wales and West, Variety Artistes all Lines, Specialities.
T. B. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Park Palace, Paddington Palace, and New Tivoli, Liverpool.
Proprietors, PALACES LIVERPOOL Limited.
Wanted, First-class artistes in all Lines.
Booking Agents,
Empire Theatrical Agency, Limited,
St. James's Hall,
Manchester,
to whom please apply direct.
P.S.—Artistes working Manchester and District please call.

WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every Description. Immediate Dates for Suitable Numbers. Only High-Class Acts Represented.
J. Tysoe-Smith, 15A, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Engagement, Manchester."

WANTED, Variety Artists in all Lines for Scotland and the North, Nov. 14, 28, and other Dates. Open for Good Turns and Fill-in for Stars.
Alexander's Agency,
Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Variety Artistes New to Castleford, Nov. 7 and on; also Pictures with "Is it you?" Competition to Open Monday. Always Vacancies for following week. Lowest, Braham, Agent, Hippodrome, Castleford, Yorks.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON,
Lessee and Manager.
WANTED, Artistes to send lowest terms and Vacant Dates.
Vacancies on all Dates.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager,
WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Nov. 21, only Dates this Year. Freaks and Novelties write,
CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now, on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Lady Artistes only in all Lines of Business
to send absolute lowest terms, vacant dates, full list of bookings, photos., lithos., &c., to
JENNIE STEELE,
G.P.O. Liverpool.
Permanent address will be advertised next week.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies Nov. 7 and 14.
REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote 1 week, Hall small.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines, Sisters, &c. Big Top. Tour. Nov. 14, also May. Lithos., permanent. EVENTIO, 11, Chevening-road, Kensal-rise, W.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Nov 7, onwards.
W. BIRCHALL, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Artists, Pictures, Specialities (Two Acts), &c. Novelties that Draw. Nov. 14 on Quote Low. Hall Small. BURNETT, Criterion, Worksop.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Barnard and Destrich,
7, Clayton-square, Liverpool,
invite Star Artistes to Communicate.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Comedians, Comedy Acts, Nov. 14, onwards. GEO. SAPERINI, Manager Britannia, Music Hall, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Immediately, First-class Artistes
of every Description,
for immediate onwards,
for
Every Town in the Provinces.
Twenty-six Weeks' Work Provinces without
London or Continental Bookings.

Kindly Note.—Artistes must send absolute lowest first instance, or no notice taken of application. Price no object to First-class Stars of the Variety Profession. Also Eight Weeks' North Tour with an average 1d journey weekly—York, Harrogate, Stockton, Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Shields, Newcastle, Gateshead, &c. Can also arrange First-class South Tour.
Big Dumb Act for Continent also invited.

Wire or write,
Harry Burns's Agency,
Empress Theatre of Varieties,
Hartlepool.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
Telephone 0,231.

Also at 344, Bury New-road, Manchester.
Touring Representative, L. Hochschild.

87, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.,
for Continental Correspondence only.
No Callers whatsoever.
Continental Representatives:
A. Von Praag, Frankfort-a-Main;
Louis Solomon, New York, U.S.A.;
Guido Hirsch, 17, Rue Blanc, Paris.

WANTED, Henri Cazman's Agency, Artistes, All Lines,
for Principal London and Provincial Halls.

Principal Boy, for Panto., write.
Good Dame and Principal Comedian.
Big Specialities apply.

Circus Artistes, all kinds, for November, onwards.

Big Features, Side Shows, &c.,
for Grand Christmas Carnival,
North Country Town, write.

Write—no callers—Henri Cazman's Agency,
36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, S.W.
Wires, "Cazmos, London." 'Phone, 335, Battersea.

WANTED, Music-hall Artistes, All Lines, for
Nov. 14, 21, 28,
for Scotland.
Anderson's Agency,
6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

CIRCUS and HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Artistes, for December, on. Rehearsal, Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Captain D. Gerard's Lions and Tiger Dogs, Emma Don and Co., the Waffatangs, Codge, Marie York, Dan Noble, Mdlle. Florence Hughes's Electrograph. Letters, S. L. LEE.

WANTED, Vaudeville Artistes of every Description.
Representing the Best Houses,
and the best Numbers Required.
Only First-class Acts. Full for Minors.
If appearing in London send time.
Richard Cass's Agency, 51, Kitto-road, New-cross.
Telephone, 213, Deptford.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines, Comedy Acts, &c., Bigger the Better, for Nov. 14 and On (North). Those with Lithos. LEO FRITZ, B., Coventry.

WANTED, Artistes, in All Lines, for Yarmouth, Nov. 7, onward. Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

Dr. Walford Bodie's Royal Magnets.
WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Big Specialities, Nov 7 and 14, for Palace Theatre, Glasgow. State when and where last in Glasgow. All letters address to Dr. WALFORD BODIE, Bohemia House, Macduff, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Grand Opening Hippodrome, Macclesfield, Monday, Nov. 7. In answer to last week's advt. applications were so numerous that it was impossible to answer all. Please accept this as an apology. Many can rest assured they will hear from me in turn. Lessees, H. Bendon and J. Larder. Artistes Wanted, Nov. 21, and on. Apply, H. BENDON, Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines, Funny Acts, Doubles doing Singles, Specialities, &c., for Pavilion, Altrincham, near Manchester. State lowest. FRED BUDD, Red Lion Hotel, Altrincham, Cheshire.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines. Nothing too big or too little. Enclose memos., lithos. Also Artistes for Ten Small Halls (Midlands). LENNOX and Co., Castle-chambers, Houndsgate, Nottingham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Specialities, &c., for Eastbourne, Dec. 26, onward. Lockhart's Elephants communicate.
Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillors EVERTON and CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to
Burns's Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and
Manchester.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Oct 31.
Carr and Rose,
Reed and Lerne,
Arthur Lloyd Trio,
The Maxons,
Burns's Bioscope,
Mdlle. Lucretia,
H. K. Bradshaw,
Dorothy Quartette.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for
Liverpool, St. Helens, Warrington, and Ashton, Stars and Novelties, Nov. 7, onwards.
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities, for Immediate and Future Dates. Terms and particulars to Brooke, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH.
WANTED, Nov. 14, and Onwards, the Greatest Stars and Attractions obtainable; also Artists in Every Line of the Variety Business.
All communications,
D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, Oct. 31, onwards.
State bookings, lowest terms, &c.
Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076, Royal.
Please note can only be seen by appointment.

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE, 6, HENRY-STREET, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Reopening of above and Future Dates, Double and Single Turns, Ventas, Conjurors, Marionettes, Lady Balladist, and all Novelties. All particulars, stating lowest terms (no best offer), to MANAGER. Also an Efficient Pianist

WANTED, the Biggest of Turns for West-end Halls. Send Lithos, and Vacant Dates to JONATHAN and CAMPLING 65, Edgware-road, London, W.

WANTED, Nov 7, Startling Turn, with Good Drawing Power.
Nothing too big.
Apply, PRICHARD, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, for First-class Variety Theatre, South Coast,
All the Best Turns in the Profession.
Immediate Dates and later.
W. H. SAVILE and Co.,
3, St. James'-place, Brighton.

WANTED, Star Turns of Every Decription to Send Full List of Bookings.
Lowest terms and permanent address to
Cavill and Co.,
15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Tel., 2,140 Royal.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

Rome was not Built in a Day.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
the Biggest Novelties
to communicate.

Bookings this week :—
The Band of H.M. Royal Scots Greys
(Forty in Number),

Ars, Zebra, and Vora,

Mdlle. Lumiere and Cee-Mee Troupe,

Bros. Lauri,

Kitts and Windrum,

Hicks's Clerks,

Rumbo Austin's Nippers,

Vermette and Dionne (Three Dates),

the Singing Cardboard Box Makers,

Bosanquet,

Massons,

Selbo,

Barker's Animal Circus,
and
the Marconis.

Geo. Zalva's Agency,
the Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

THE NEW COLISEUM,
SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLING.
General Manager, CHAS. MELVIN.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Sketch Companies of sound calibre ;
Big Sketch Companies of sound calibre ;
Big Sketch Companies of sound calibre ;
also
Variety Artistes
of all descriptions,
of all descriptions,
of all descriptions,
including
every kind of
every kind of
every kind of
Novelty
with drawing power.
with drawing power.
with drawing power.
Money
no object for
no object for
no object for
the Right People.
Grand Opening
Nov. 28.
Nov. 28.
Nov. 28.

Send Sample Lithos.,
with Vacant Dates
and permanent address, to
the General Manager,
CHARLES MELVIN.

P.S.—Vacancy for Flute and Piccolo,
Cornet, and Drums.
Must be used to Variety Business.

WANTED, Speciality Turns for Dec. 26,
Jan. 9 and 16. Terms and particulars to
Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WAKEFIELD, HIPPODROME.

WANTED, First-class Variety Turns of
Every Description, Nothing too Big, Money no
Object, anything to follow Elliotts and Savonas, Claude
Ginnett's Remounts, Eila's Lions, &c. Consulting Mana-
ger, T. M. SYLVESTER ; Business-Manager, D. C. MOONEY ;
WALTER EMMETT, Secretary.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy
Acts, Nov. 7, onwards ; also Artistes in all Lines,
Vacant Dec. 12, on. Send full list of dates, litho., terms,
and full particulars to Day's Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

WANTED, the Best of Specialities for Four
Days, Whit Week,
Northampton.
M'ASKELL,
40, Victoria-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, High-class Acts ; Wanted,
Comedians, Sensational Novelties, &c. Anything
Fit to Top and Bottom for Leading Seaside and Towns.
Send lowest terms. Bookings, Lithos, &c.
Yates's Agency, Harpurhey, Manchester,

Established over Ten Years.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Top Liners for Immediate and Future Dates.
Send particulars, lowest terms, and Bookings,
Day's Variety Agency,
116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
Please Note.—No connection whatever with any other
Firm using the Same Name.

WANTED, Top Liners for Blackburn,
Nov. 14 ; Grimsby, Dec. 12 and 19. Fred Durham's
Agency, 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN-ON-TYNE.
Lessee and Manager, W. A. JACKSON.

WANTED, Big Tops and Artistes in all
Lines, Nov. 14, onwards. I do not bar any hall on
Tyneside. "Live and Let Live" is my motto, therefore
I do not wish to Prevent artistes Earning a Living.

WANTED, Concert Parties and Variety
Artistes for Saturday and Sunday Concerts, Nov. 12
and on. Lowest terms, ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

HIPPODROMES, COVENTRY, WAKEFIELD, and
IPSWICH.

WANTED, Sensational Tops, Novelties,
and Big Stars for above, Mark letters "Syndicate."
Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Tele-
grams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

ACCRINGTON.—HIPPODROME.

WANTED, the Best New to Accrington,
for Nov. 7 and 14.
Don't Write if Booked in Blackburn—it is Barred.
Call, Oct. 31, at One o'clock.—Tom M'Inerney, Walker,
Mutograph, F. Lang, Chester and Lee, G. Globe,
Miss Orpha, Comical Walker, Paul Vandy.
Lowest Terms and when Last in Accrington.
Paul Vandy, Sole Agent,
Hippodrome, Accrington.

James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Big Novelties and
Star Singing Turns
to communicate.
James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1 686 Royal.

WANTED, Lady Singer and Speaker for
Marionettes. Long Engagement. Used to the
Business preferred. PETTIGROVE, 29, Salway-rd, Strat-
ford, London.

WANTED, a Smart Little Girl for High-class
Illusions, and to make herself generally useful.
Good home, &c. Full particulars, photo., to PRINCE
SAMOUDA, 4, Ducie-grove, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Smart Young Girl,
with good knowledge
of Trick Cycling,
to Join Well-known Troupe.
Apply, R. G. D.,
Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Two Comedians for Concert,
Nov. 16.
Write terms to RICHARDSON, The Falcon, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, a Boy Comedian, to join Juvenile
Troupe. Not over twelve. Good engagement.
Application to
Didcott's Agency, 6, John-street, Adelphi, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Operator, to Open at Once,
also to make self Generally Useful. Lowest terms,
to T. H. DUNLOP, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who
experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The
Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly
communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street,
Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Van Biene and Phillips
supply Variety, Dramatic Artistes, Instrumentalists,
Managers invited to give us their Patronage. (See Card.)

WANTED, Monday next, also 11th, by
Madame Nita Rose, Australian Songstress.
Wire, 27, Craven-street, Parkgate, near Rotherham.

WANTED, by Miss Elsie Shelton, Concerts,
&c. Good, Refined Dancer. Coon Songs and Dances.
16, Archibald-road, Tufnell-park.

WANTED, Known, Sisters Verne, Spe-
ciality Dancers, at Liberty Monday. Usual suc-
cess Return, Two Weeks, Christmas. Wire, Olympia,
Sunderland. North preferred.

WANTED, Picitt, the Muscular Master of
Manacles. Big Sensational Act. Entirely Different
to usual Handcuff Shows. A real Jail-breaker without
Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes. Sensational Escapes in
Full View of Audience. Picitt is searched from head to
feet. No Conjurors' Methods.
Unexpectedly Vacant Nov. 14.
This week, Gaiety, Oldham ;
next week, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.
Wire, direct ; or, Pacey and Reeves.
Few other Dates, also Christmas week, open.

WANTED.—Kardoc, King of all Handcuff
Kings. Sure Draw. What other Handcuff Kings
do inside their Cabinet I will do outside. Free Nov. 7,
Onward, with Exceptions. This week, Own Company ;
Oct. 31, Theatre, Amesbury, near Salisbury. Others
have started. now I will finish. Wire.

WANTED, Monday, by Frank Hilbert,
Exposure of Handcuff and Trunk Mysteries.
Wire, Standard, Pimlico, London.

WANTED, by Arthur Medwin, Comedian,
Sing, Dance, and generally useful, Engagement.
Small Parts, anything, Sketch Troupe or Assistant to
Star. Eight Months with Harry Tate's "Motoring" Com-
pany. Address, 5, Bookham-street, Hoxton, N.

WANTED, by Fred Herbert, Premier
Topical Vocalist, Monday, Nov. 7. All communi-
cations, 19, Buckland-st., New North-road, London, N.

WANTED, by Fred Casburn, Eccentric
Comedian in a Dress Suit. Laughing Hit, Oxford,
Middlesbrough ; next, Borough, North Shields. Vacant
Nov. 7, on. Wire.

WANTED, by James Graydon, the Quaint
One, Oct. 31, on. Thanks for Offers. Must have
Price. 33, Osney-crescent, Camden-town.

WANTED, Monday next, by Robb Gilmore,
Comedian and Groteesque Dancer. Wire, T. H.,
Burton-on-Trent ; after Sat., 6, Church-st., Wolverhamp-
ton.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Woodward,
Actor-Vocalist, is Vacant Monday. This week,
Terrific success, Tivoli, Dublin, where wire.

WANTED, by Fred Hadley, Comedian
and Dancer, Engagement, Monday Next.
Wire, 2, Rumford-place, Rumford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Geo. Frith, Comedian,
thanks Jacob Studt for Engagement. Vacant Mon-
day. Business, Singing, Dancing, Tumbling, Legmania.
P.C., Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for Panto-
mime, "Yun-Wen-Ho," Chinese Magical Act,
Elaborate and Up to Date. 220, Westgate, Newcastle-on-
Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Harry Jennings, the
Best Singing and Dancing Turn on the Stage,
introducing his Great Speciality Dance. Liberty Nov. 7.
A Good Reliable Agent required for Later Dates.
Permanent address, 56, Buccleuch-street, Glasgow.

OHMY'S HIPPODROME OF VARIETIES.

WANTED.—Notice.—During the turn Mr
Harry Dale introduced some up-to-date verses on
the Russians' action in firing on the Hull fishermen, the
recitation bringing down the house.—Bolton Evening
News, Oct. 25, 1904. "I Can Always Hold my Own."

WANTED, Engagement by Nelson and his
Wonderful Kettle ; also Handcuff Feat. Sure
draw. Good Speciality for Variety Company, Choir, Dio-
rama, or Panto. Royal Oak Hotel, New Malden, Surrey.

WANTED, by James Carl, with an
Original and High-class Magic Act,
Nov. 7, 14,
and on.
100, Chester-green-road, Derby.

WANTED, Nov. 7 and 14, Sardou's Illu-
sionists, Marvellous Mystifier, Big Act ; also Marie
Riviera, Balladist. Monday next, Grand T., Nelson.

WANTED, Monday, and on, Bob Hartley,
Comedian, and Doris Dene, Quaint Comedienne.
Wire, SHARP, 160, Solly-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday next, by Rex Carvell,
Novel Ventriloquist, and Alma Dora, Comedienne
and Speciality Dancer. Wire, Empire, Dover.

WANTED, Known, the Mysterious Vanes
(Ella and Carl), Second Sight, Canopy Illusions and
Conjuring (par excellence).
Suitable for Stage or Arena.
Liberty Nov. 28, Onwards.
Address, Post-office, Pontnewydd, Mon.

WANTED, Monday, by Harry Earle,
Comedian, and Annie Webster, Serio and Dancer ;
also Vacant Nov. 21 and 28. Refer Tom Pritchard, Esq.,
Dudley. 15, Cross-street, Heath-town, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Oct. 31 and Nov. 7, by
Denton and Dale, Cross-talk Comedians. Liberty
for panto. 124, Hampstead-road, London.

WANTED, Monday next, also Nov. 21
and 28, by St Albans and Williams, Star Duettists.
Wire to 179, Granton-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next ; also Nov. 7, by
Sterling and Cashen, American Speciality Artistes,
Dancers, &c. Wire, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, Ray and Calden have
a Few Weeks Vacant owing to not having fixed
for Pantomime. Communications, 161, Great Cambridge-
street, Queen's-road, Dalston, London,

WANTED, Known, Leigh Journal, Oct. 21,
1904, says :—
The star turn at the Hippoprome this week is Dale
and D'Argan smart act, "Le Café Magique." Acrobatic
feats and conjuring tricks are cleverly intermingled, the
turn being one of the best of its kind on the road.
Address, G.P.O., Salisbury.

WANTED, Known. — The Woellhafs
sincerely thank E. H. Williams, Esq., for very com-
fortable Sixteen Weeks (Rhyl and Tour). Oct. 31, O. H ;
York.

WANTED, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, for Parez
Trio, Fine Musical Act. The Only Lady Pipers
(Bagpipes). Court Theatre, Bacup.

WANTED, Monday, by the Four Arizonas,
Acrobatic Tumblers ; and Will Percival, Comedian,
Dancer. Wire, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, and
on, Two Splendid Acts, Top and Bottom of Bill.
Mdlle. Sarti's Great Statue Act. Splendid Fit-up. Also
good Comedy Act by the Edwards and Dog Jack. Very
Funny. Sharing. Wire, Tivoli, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Known, that Madame Louie,
the World-famed Second Sight Performer, wishes
to thank Mr Pickard, Glasgow, for most successful and
comfortable engagement and return date. Next two
weeks, Corporation Recitals, &c., Glasgow.

WANTED, Nov. 7 and 14 and 28, Maurice
Love's Screaming Sketch, "The Coster's Court-
ship." Three Artistes. Liberty Panto. Address, Metro-
pole, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, some November Dates ; also
Dec 28, 29, 31, New Year, on. Share or Salary.
Mr HARRY LISTON, the Royal Entertainers, Egyptian Hall,
W.

Howard Hinton's Grand Variety Company of
London Star Artistes.

WANTED, Dates, March 6th, onwards,
with exceptions.
Twice nightly if preferable.
HINTON, 36, South-street, Harborne, Birmingham.

WANTED, a Few Immediate Dates, not for
December or January.
Chard's Dog Circus, 18, Springfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos,
Vacant Oct. 31 and Nov. 7.
6, Ashbrook-road, Upper Holloway, London, N.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio (Two Ladies
One Gent.), Humorous Bicyclists, Vacant Monday
next, also Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5 and 12, only vacancies
until April 1905. Wire, Circus, Rochdale ; after Saturday,
30, Guildford-street, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement for Miss Nellie
Wick, the Champion Shaver, in her Lightning
Shaving Act. Shaving Blindfolded, One-handed, and a
Razor Blade. Ten Men inside Fifteen Minutes. £1,000
Challenge to the World. The Greatest Novelty ever
known. Packed Houses at Hippodrome, Wigan, this
week. Being booked everywhere. Beating all Records.
Wire, TEDDY WICK, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, an Engagement for Two Boy
Boxers. Guarantee a Good Turn. Apply to Mr
WASHINGTON, 24, Sefton-st., Etruria-vale, Hanley, Staffs.

WANTED, Bookings for W. Payne's Bio-
Photoscopes, with the Latest Pictures, including
Whirling the Worlds. This the Film of the Day. Films
for Sale or Hire. For terms, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date
Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW
COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.

WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's
Property Insured against Fire,
on Tour or otherwise,
anywhere in the United Kingdom.
For particulars apply to
F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

Chiappa and Sola, Limited, of 6, Little Bath-street,
Clerkenwell, London, and 17, Milton-street,
Lower Broughton, Manchester.

Sole Representatives of Messrs Gavioli and Cie, of Paris.

WANTED, all Showmen to Know that
every kind of repairs at reasonable prices and
best workmanship, guaranteed to give satisfaction, are
now undertaken at both the above addresses. Every
description of Organ Playing by Cardboard Music sold at
reduced prices, and all kinds of Cardboard Music sup-
plied at once. A large stock of Second-Hand Organs, all
newly done-up, with purchaser's own tunes, for Sale
from £15 ; also large size Organs with Drums, thoroughly
renovated, from £60.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities.
SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON,
66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds,
Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c.,
Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes,
Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

Auctioneers.

WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered
in Second-hand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Travellers to Buy
Ammunition,
Saloon Rifles,
Repeaters,
Glass Globes and Bottles,
Balls for Water Fountains,
from
the Prompt Firm,
BUCK and PATERSON, Limited,
66, Union-street, Borough,
London, S.E.

Wires, "Targettier, London."

WANTED, Auctioneers and Handsellers to
know Simons is the Man for
Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery.
Send £5 for Special Parcel.

117 Houndsditch, London.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others
to Know.
Simons is the Cheapest Place for
Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, and Cheap Jewellery.
Best-class French Paste Stocked for the Profession.
117, Houndsditch.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's
Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest
in London. Vermillionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines,
Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c.,
and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Round-
abouts, Swings, &c. Write for price list or call, Leete's
Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Big Attraction for Shields Fair,
Nov. 7 and 14. Shop and Booth. Salary or Shares.
COLLENA, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Side Show Novelties, Market
Hall, Airdrie, N.B. Rent or Shares. Prof.
JOHNSON, as above ; or, 1, Gardner's-crescent, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Novelties, for the Best Shop in
Chatham. 51, High-street, next door to the Gaiety.
Proprietor, R. J. LOVEGROVE.

WANTED, Side Show Novelties, for
Monday next and Future Dates. Rent or Shares.
James's Royal Waxwork, Tiger Stores, Kirkgate, Leeds.

WANTED, at Once, Novelties, Shows,
Ghost, Marionettes, &c. Large Shop. Sure success.
Howards write or wire. FLETCHER, Waxworks, Dowlais.

WANTED, Novelties, Attractions, Shops,
South Wales. Wanted, to Buy or Hire, a Small
Trumpet Organ. PHILLIPS, 7, Dunraven-st., Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Quick Showing Novelties, on
Shares. Open Oct. 31. LEN WHITE, Exhibition,
16, Market-street, Heckmondwike, Yorks.

WANTED, Monday, Novelties of all
Kinds, Midgets and Snake Charmers preferred.
Wire, Share or Salary, Barron's Waxworks, High-street,
Lowestoft.

WANTED, Quick Showing Novelty, to
open Thursday, Nov. 3. Freaks send Vacant Dates.
MAXFIELD, 9, Mary-street, Dublin. Shares or salary.

WANTED, Novelties, Painting, or Posters,
Nov. 7, and onwards, Belfast, Lisburn, Lurgan,
Ballymena. Short journeys. Four Weeks certain, Good
Draws, Eight Weeks ; share or salary. All communica-
tions, 52, Church-street, Ballymena, Ireland.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties,
and Attractions, to open Nov. 7. Engaged here
at present are Collena's Shooting Show, and Miss Zonia
Bell, snake charmer. Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-
place, Belfast.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, to Open
Nov. 7, for Two Weeks. Shares or Salary.
Future Dates. WALLSER, Wonderland, Octagon, Plymouth.

WANTED, Good Freak or Novelty,
Nov. 7 (Shares), with Window Show, to follow
Lucy Moore, the Coloured Giantess. Now the Rage of
Sunderland. Third Week, and still they come. Good
Show can Open Monday, other Shop. Wire, Mitchell's
Museum, High-street West, Sunderland.

WANTED, for Exhibition Public Hall,
Lowestoft, First-class Marionette Show, for Fort-
night, commencing Nov. 5. Terms, Salary (Share if pre-
ferred). This week Madame and Professor Diamond
showing to crowded houses. Hall holds 1,000 persons.
SHERMAN, Public Hall, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Palmist, on Shares, Best Posi-
tion in Dublin (Gentleman preferred).
Samuels' Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-street, Dublin.
Silence a polite negative.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for West Hartlepool Exhibition,
Nov. 21 (One Week), up-to-Date Phrenologist.
Share terms. To Let, Cheap, One or Two Available Spaces
for Really High-class Novelties. Most Successful Exhibi-
tion, Class People, Good Business. GEO. SCOTT, Exhibition
Offices, 30, Cobden-street, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Useful Young Men to Travel,
Vocalists Preferred.
State wages first letter,
HARRY LYONS, Auction Mart, Sligo.

WANTED, Competent Floorsman, Good
Salary and Commission Offered to Reliable Man.
H. KING and Co., 32, Ellingfort-rd., Hackney, London.

WANTED, Good Comic Singer (Irish),
used to Open-Air Bazaar. Lowest possible terms.
J. COLMAR, White House Hotel, The Ward, Co. Dublin.

WANTED, Auctioneer, Used to Swag
Share, Salary, or Commission ; or will Let Shop.
ALF CARTER, 32, Albert-bridge-road, Belfast.

WANTED, Nov. 21, onwards, by Carl Collena,
Premier Rifle Shot ; Zona Bell, Coloured Lady
Snake-Charmer ; Madame St. Claire, Female Gaol-Breaker.
Carter's, Belfast, this and next week. Grand success. No
bluff necessary. Nov. 7, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle Flo, Tattooed
Lady ; and Ydac, Yankee Lock King, Liberty
Monday, onwards. Wire, Flo Barron's Waxworks, High-
street, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Lena South, Artistically
Tattooed Lady, Liberty Nov. 7, and on. Also
wanted Christmas. 45, Hercules-road, Westminster,
London.

WANTED, Exhibitions by the Diamonds,
World's Champion Knife-Throwers. Good Flash and
Posters. Liberty. Wire quick, 81, Bevan-st., Lowestoft.

WANTED, by Young Lady, to Travel with
an Auction Sale, eight years on the road, Good
Private Saleswoman. Pot sale preferred. Reply, M. A.
POWELL, 18, Clark-street, St. Helens.

CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL,
CHAPEL FIELDS,
BELFAST.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Circuses,
Cinématograph Exhibitions, Ghost Shows, &c. No
Sole Rights given to anyone. Let them all come.
Address, TOFT and TURNBULL,
Oxford Lodge, Oxford-road, Ranelagh, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen and others,
that we have Ground to Let at Olympia, Sunderland.
Apply, RICHARDSON BROS., Ltd., Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces in Martino's
Travelling Wonderland, One or Two Weeks in each
Town. Ventriloquist, write ; also Character Reader.
MARTINO, Corn Ex., Hereford.

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LONDON, W.—Central Hotel, for Gentlemen only, Percy-street, Tottenham-court-road, W. Close to Principal Theatres and Music Halls. 50 rooms. Bed and Breakfast, 2s. 6d., including Attendance and Baths. Less for Longer Stay. Night Porter. Tels., "Porridge, London." 'Phone 4 401 Gerrard.

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NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—93, Malcolm-street, Heaton. First-class apartments. Highly recommended. Bath, piano. Vacant for Panto.

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NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS, BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

The NEW YORK CLIPPER

PUBLISHED BY THE FRANK QUEEN PUBLISHING CO., LTD., 47, West 28th Street, New York City, U.S.A. ALBERT J. BORIE, General Manager.

Subscription, including postage, £1 3s. Single copy, 6d.

is the oldest, most reliable, and most widely circulated THEATRICAL, VAUDEVILLE, and SPORTING JOURNAL In the United States of America. Published Weekly.

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THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.

HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.

ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.

Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY. London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C. London Representative, Mr STUART CONOVER.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1904.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME,

Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square, W.C.
Twice Daily, at 2·0 and 7·45 p.m.

"Zutka," Staley's Transformation, Outlaw Trio, Diane De Fontenoy, in "An Artist's Model," Leamy Troupe, Felix De Marce, Paul Conchas, Robertus and Wilfredo, Chas. Baron, Marceline, Rossow's Midgets, the Mysterious Kettle, "Siberia."

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out;" James Grant, Charles Russell, Three Sisters Sprightley, the Alaskas, Will English, Myra Stansfield, Griff and Alfa, Beatrice Willey, Josh Dixon, Bros. De Wynne.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Will Musgrave, Johnny Gilmore, Wartenburg Bros., Leo Tell, Margaret Ashton, Tennyson and Wallis, Lukushima Troupe, Pia Carozzi, Lilian Lea, Geo. W. Leslie and Co., Cavallinis, Albert Le Fre.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Edouin and Edwards, Amy Sullivan, James Kurry, Hume, Rose, and Lewis, Devona Sisters, Clark and Hamilton, Arthur Reece, Boys' School Band, Anartos, Ganty, George Newburn, Mayvilles, De Kock Bros., Salamonsky's Fire Horse.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for R. A. Roberts, Bijou Russell, St. James's Quintette, Ernest Rees, Bros. Webb, Gallagher and Hild, Ruth Lytton, Bros. Damm, Ambrose Thorne, Lillie Soutter, Selma Braatz.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Prince's Lions, Lilian Lowe, Three Georgis, J. H. Milburn, the Schutzenliesel'n Quartette, Two Bells, Henry Kaiser, M'Kays, the Brontes, Doody and Wright.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
R. G. Knowles, Verno and Voyce, George Brooks, Young American Quintette, Rezene and Robini, Florador Quartette, Princess Pauline, Marie Reeve, the Ashers, Lizzie Daniels.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-ST., CARDIFF.
Cinématograph Exhibitions, Curio Halls, Roller Skating, Phonograph, Waxworks, Galatea, Magic Maze, Shooting Ranges.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Tina Clementa, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Scottish Meisters, Walter Stanley, Lizzie Valrose, Arthur Melrose, Bert Byrne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Kremo Family, Walter Groves and Co., Horace Wheatley, Burt Shepard, Fred Earle, the Rayfords, Downes and Langford, Walter King, Alice Ormonde, Amy Russell.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Tom Costello, Wal Pink and Co., Spot, Athas and Collins, Arthur Rigby, the Wheelers, Bioscope, Frank Maura, Jessie Albini.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Tschernoff's Dogs and Ponies, Ernest Ball, Bros. Doran Ethel Dunford, William Lee and Co., Alexander, Tom Leamore, Stuart Quartette, Swan and Bambard, Bioscope.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artistes holding Engagements with this Company at the Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are requested to note that, in accordance with Rule 6 in their Contracts, they undertake not to appear at any Place of Entertainment within Ten Miles of that City. Any Artistes infringing this rule will do so at the risk of having their Contract for the whole of the Tour cancelled.

Carefully note that Byker and Gateshead are within One Mile of the Newcastle Empire.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for T. E. Dunville, Flo Burris, Stewart and Morgan, Daisy Dormer, Brown and Le Clerq, Lieutenant Travis, Minnie Cunningham, Max Welson Troupe, Johnny Dwyer, Werner-Amoros Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
The Kellinos, Les Voces, Bard and O'Brien, Baker and Balfe, Sisters Iris, the Hoopers, Marba and Verity, Rousbey's Electrolytes, Brothers Redmond, Austin and Cowan, Aurora Troupe, Hal Forde.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Albert Chevalier, Sybil St. Elmo, Sam Mayo, Griffiths Bros., Maxwell and Francis, Pat Rafferty, Crown Trio, The Densmores, Wedburns, Gilbert Rogers, Mills and Rawlins.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for
Charles R. Sweet, Juan and M'Que, Charles Stevens, Ford and Hanson, Parros Bros., Tourbillon Troupe, Espinosa and Neilson, Tribune Trio, Margaret Radcliffe, Nello, Fredk. Maxwell and Co.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·30 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
George Gray and Co. in "Fighting Parson," Wilkie Bard, Carl Hertz, Barowsky Trio, Trentanovi Sisters, the Passparts, Nellie Stratton.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Joe Elvin and Co., in "Over the Sticks;" Millie Hylton, Trapnell Family, Werner and Reider, Winter and Banks, Les Burnellys, Post Mason, Harry Lawson, Victor Travers, Jenny Belmore.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Noiset Troupe, Egbert Bros., Three Pantzer Bros., Mason and Keeler, Brett and Orford, Lalla Selbini, Bioscope, Four Olympians, Bob Hutt, Ella Retford.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Alexandre and Hughes, Fred Russell, Four Milons, Morton Trio, the Two Bostons, Harry Champion, Resuas Trio, the Labakans, J. A. Wilson, Little Nelusco, L. B. Athel.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Marie Loftus, Ray Wallace, Strolling Players, Sisters Geretti, Hall and Earle, Harry Anderson, Bioscope, Brothers Edgar, Paul Mill, Winnie Derson.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Marie Kendall, Dutch Daly, Caicedo, the Maningos, Goggin and Davis, Lawrence Barclay, Baldwin Bros., Zarmo, Steve M'Carthy, Mabel Hind.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Chung Ling Soo, Edie King, Callie and Walker, Annie Casey, Charles Chard, Florence Esdaile, Smythson Comedy Co., Mr and Mrs Lucas.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Manning's Entertainers, Lannons, Cassie Walmer, Mark Sheridan, Ida Brophy, Fred Dunstone, Bradley and Warwick, Bernar's Fantocher.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Ginnett's Remounts, Harry Dent, Lily Burnand, Ted Cowan, Abel and Welsh, Katie Holloway, Eight of Hearts, Blanche Haddon, Shavo.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for
Kettle of Wonders, Bert Gilbert, Newhouse and Ward, Harvey Boys, the Ohms, the Burnells, My Fancy, Charlton Howarth, Maud Mortimer, Nina Martino, Lily Lena.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr Oswald Stoll, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr Frank Allen, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope.
Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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PEOPLE'S PALACE, SUNDERLAND
PEOPLE'S PALACE, BRISTOL;
NEW PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Address all communications, Billing Matter, &c. for Aberdeen and Dundee (two clear weeks in advance of opening), to
Ernest Sheldon, New Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.
For Sunderland, Bristol, and Plymouth to
L. C. J. Livermore,
Wiltshire House, 51, Wiltshire-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Liverare, London." Nat. Telephone, 323 Hop.
N.B.—Can only be interviewed by appointment.

CALL for Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, Oct. 31, 1904:—The Toreadors, Jennie Reeves, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Belrose and De Velin, Prince Fee Lung, Lily Marney, Roza's Hippodrome, Baker and Rose, Norman Leonard Trio, Mdlle. Aladina, Brothers Artois, Mdlle. Du Roche, Mons. De Henau, &c.
Special Notice.—Tivoli and Queen's Theatres revert to One House Nightly from this date.
Artists perform at both Theatres. Conveyances provided by the Management. Rehearsal 12·0 prompt, at Tivoli Theatre. Both Orchestras.
Barney Armstrong, Managing-Director.

O'CONNOR and BRADY'S VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
Rehearsal 1·30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 31.
GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
Gertie Gitana, Henri Sardou, Wisper, Beattie Bloom, Bob Gardner, W. F. Kay, Will Saunders, Marie Riviers, Bandoni, O'Connor and Brady.

MANCHESTER PALACE OF VARIETIES, Limited.
All Artistes will kindly note that the Entertainment will be changed to Two Houses Nightly, commencing Oct. 31.

CALL for Monday, Oct. 31, 1904.
Vesta Tilley, Ronald Bagnall, Dan Thomas, Carlyles, Vosper, Phil Herman, Dolly Harmer, Cullen and Carthy, Three Romas, Harry Bickley, Palace Pictures, Brothers Horne.

BOROUGH THEATRE OF VARIETIES, NORTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Arthur Jefferson.
Booking Agent, Harry Burns.
All communications and bill matter must be addressed to Harry Burns's Agency, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.
Telephone, 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
CALL.—Monday, Oct. 31, 1·0 o'clock, prompt,
Captain Woodward's Seals and Sea Lions, Gus Balsiger, Dale and O'Malley, Flo Schuberth, Harry Walker, Sisters Adelaide, Fred Casburn, and Three Seabornes.

COLLINS'S HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Proprietor, Mr P. Collins. Manager, Frank Egerton, to whom all communications must be addressed.
Twice Nightly, 7·0 and 9·0.
CALL, for Monday, Oct. 31.—Eugene Stratton, Flo Irvine, Mitzi, the Castles, Fred Terry, Hilton and Hilton, Mdlle. Henriette, Mueller and Coyne.
Rehearsal at 1·0 o'clock prompt.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

ARTISTES (AND THEIR AGENTS) HOLDING OR SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS AT

THE OXFORD,
OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·30 o'clock.
George Robey, Harry Lauder, Harry Randall, Queenie Leighton, Ernest Shand, Lil Hawthorne, Brothers Poluski, M'Naughtons, Bella and Bijou, Happy Fanny Fields, The Laurels, Bessie Featherstone, the Stella Troupe, Hamilton Hill, Carrie Laurie, Chas. Norton, May Henderson, Dorothy L. Clark, Rex Fox, Wilson Hallett, Sisters Govell.
Manager, Albert Gilmer.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, George Robey, Harry Lauder, Harry Randall, Jessica Grace, The M'Naughtons, Jake Friedman, Tom Foy and Co., Happy Fanny Fields, The Poluskis, Doctor Jules Angelo, Will Evans, Gus Elen, George Mozart, Bella and Bijou, the Twin Andersons, Maud Esmond, Sisters Govell.
Joint Acting-Managers { James Howell. / Arthur Yates.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
Harry Lauder; Harry Tate, in "Motoring;" Ernest Shand, Gus Elen; Tom Foy and Co., in Sketch; Zanfretta and Napio, Frank Cass, Jackley Trio, Little Queenie May, George Mozart, Lilian Doreen, Barnard's Marionettes, Herald Comedy Four, Ruffles' Bioscope.
Manager, Fred Miller.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
George Robey, Musical Jees, The Rales, May Henderson, the Tally Ho Trio, Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, George Antill, Little Cliffe, Rita Resdan, Driscoll and Beattie Combination, Imperial Quartette, "Nanona," by the Two D's; Chas. Cardow, Edie and Ramsey; Ruffle's Bioscope, presenting the Latest Pictures.
Manager, Charles Brecham.

SOUTH LONDON PALACE,
LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Fred Percy and Co., Dezmonti and Mora, May Milburn, Benson and Geoffrey, Dan Conroy, Lily Lassah, Leighton and Mona, Jessie Burnett, Blake and Granby, Little Barney.
Manager, Frank Weeks.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Harry Ford, The Boissets, "The Dock Strike;" Sable Fern, Ryan and Hall, Chas. Fanning, The Finneys, Daisy James, Dandy George and Dog.
Manager, Fred M'Avoy.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno and Co., "Saturday to Monday;" George Bastow, Bransby Williams, Stella Troupe, Bella and Bijou, the Leonards, Nellie Wilson, Clorinda Thurtell, May Milburn, Sisters Lunelle, Rita Resdan, William Gourlay, Lava; Slippere, the Blind Pianist.
Manager, Nelson Francis.

GRAND PALACE,
CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno's Co., in "Saturday to Monday;" The Selbinis, Dale and O'Malley, F. Cary, Wilson Hallett, Ryder Davis, Eva Ward, Jake Friedman, Ella Lane, Pictures.
Manager, Harry Bawn.

THE ROYAL,
HOLBORN.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Ruffles' Pictures, showing the Recent Disaster to the Fishing Fleet in the North Sea; George Bastow, Harry Sheldon, Major Newell, Alexandra Dagmar, Belle Davis and Piccaninnies, Rosie Bartlett, Jackley's Wonders, Cline and Clark, the Autos.
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HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Magic Kettle, Will Lytton, Sibb and Sibb, Russell Wallett, J. W. Hall, Tom Lloyd, Addie Dorina, Alex. Bain, Pictures, De Gracia's Elephants.

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Richard Sawade, Maud Caswell, Arnesen, Troupe Pickard, Anna Thibaud, Simms and Simms, Manhattan Comedy Four, Abdullah and La Superbe, Bros. Ward, Massias O'Connor, Alma Mary, Bioscope, Pauline Zaro, Les Five Olracs.

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ALHAMBRA, HULL.
Alf Gibson, Will Lytton, Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, Marie Blythe, Pictures, Harris and Worth, Maria Elsie, Grant and Grant.

EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
Barton and Ashley, George Lashwood, Arthur Slater, T. W. Royal, Kenna Russell, Albert Whelan, Gregsons, Nellie and Nora, Pictures, B. Troba.

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SCENE VIII. THE STEAMER UNDER WAY.—The foamy water behind the paddle box.

SCENE IX. VIEW ON DECK OF THE STEAMER.—The Tripper is offered a cigarette, but is not feeling inclined for luxuries at the time.

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INVITE OFFERS

for the Tenancy of the
SOUTHEND PIER PAVILION
and for the
PRIVILEGE OF PROVIDING
ENTERTAINMENTS THEREIN.

Particulars and Forms of Tender may be obtained upon application to the undersigned.

Tenders endorsed "Pier Pavilion" to be delivered at my Office on or before Monday, Nov. 14.

The Corporation will not be bound to accept the Highest or any Tender.

By order,
WILLIAM H. SNOW,
Town Clerk.

Town Clerk's Office,
Southend-on-Sea,
Oct. 11, 1904.

N.B.—The PAVILION IS NOW VACANT, and Applications for Casual Lettings may be made to Captain Kemp, Piermaster.

BOROUGH OF ACCRINGTON.

SPRING AND AUGUST PLEASURE FAIRS.

THE CORPORATION

INVITE TENDERS

for the use of their Fair Ground, known as Ellison's Tenement, for the purpose of their Annual Spring and August Pleasure Fairs on the Dates following, namely:—

Spring Fair from Thursday, April 13, to Tuesday April 18 next, both Dates inclusive; and August Fair from Thursday, Aug. 3, to Tuesday, Aug. 8 next, both Dates inclusive.

The Lessee will be granted the use of the Ground from Wednesday, the 12th, to Wednesday, April 19, and from Monday, July 31, for the purpose of erecting, &c.

Separate Tenders should be sent for each Fair, as the Corporation reserve to themselves the right of accepting Tenders for either one or both Fairs as they may deem expedient.

The Corporation will provide the necessary sanitary accommodation, and will bear the cost of the water supply on the Fair Ground. The Police also will watch the Ground without any additional cost to the Lessee.

No stalls or other erections connected with the Fairs will be allowed in any of the streets adjoining to the Fair Ground.

Further particulars and conditions for Letting may be obtained from Mr Sinkinson, Market Superintendent.

Tenders must be addressed to the undersigned on or before Wednesday, Nov. 23, 1904.

A. H. AITKEN,
Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Accrington.

NOW IN PREPARATION.
THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

1905—THE ERA ANNUAL—1905

Advertisements should be forwarded at once to the Office, 49, WELLINGTON-STREET, STRAND, W.C.
For Scale of Charges see Leader Page.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the features that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again contains a list of new plays and important revivals at the London and suburban theatres, with dates of production to the end of November; new plays submitted in the provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary for the year; and other stage matters concerning which information is often desired. Each branch is excellently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sandwiched by forty short stories by popular actors and entertainers, the interest of these contributions being increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle, Jan. 16th, 1904

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged——Limited to Three Lines

ABADAROFFS, Prehistoric Mountebacks, Vacant Monday. Wire, Palace, Dundee; after Saturday, 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

ABDULLAH, ALMA, and LA SUPERBE. Permanent address, 155, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

ADAMS and BAMFORTH, Refined Instrumentalists, introducing the only Jhamphotophone in existence. Address, 34, Mortimer-st., Oldham.

ADRIENNE, THREE SISTERS, Vocalists, Dancers, and Whistlers. Vacant Nov. 21; also Pantomime. Address, 1, Salisbury-street, Liverpool.

ALBANO TROUPE, Musical Speciality. 38, Macdonald-street, Wavertree, Liverpool.

ALBERT, MISS LOTTIE, the Bright Comedienne. All communications, 6, Keppel-street, London, W.C.

ALBERTO, FRED, Comedian and Dancer, tremendous hit at the Empire, Wrexham. Vacant Nov. 7 and 14. Address, New Pavilion, Maidenhead.

ALBINI and his Mysterious Lady in Black, Grand, Gravesend. Sole Agents, Tom Shaw and Co, 18, Adam-street, Strand.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company, Palace, Halifax.

ALLEN, ARABELLA, the Dickens Girl. Palace of Varieties, Hammersmith.

AMERICAINES, LES BELLES, this week, Varieties, Gravesend. Next week Empire, Rochdale. Sole Agent, H. Day.

ANDERSONS, AUSTRALIAN TWIN. Perfect wonder-workers with the skipping-rope.—Vide Oswald Stoll. Alhambra, Brighton.

ANDOS, Japan's Greatest Troupe. Grand Theatre, Hanley.

ANDREWS and THOMPSON, American Operatic Comedy Duo. Address, "The Era."

ANDYS, FOUR, Smartest of Risley and Double Somersault Artists. Liberty Monday, Oct. 31, and Nov. 14. Wire, C., Rochdale.

ARA, ZEBRA, and VORA, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester.

ARIZONAS, FOUR, Acrobatic Tumblers; WILL PERCIVAL, Comedian, Dancer, require Mon. Wire, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

ASHDOWN, PERCY, An All-round Man. Songs, Melodies, Band Parts, Education, Music, and Promptness. 7, Great Newton-street, Liverpool.

ASHERS THE (AGNES and MIKE), now on Stoll's Tour. Monday, Empire, Cardiff. Look out for New Act by Sam Richards and A. Voyce.

ASHLEY, BROS, "Next, please!" Palace, Bath; 31st, Pavilion, Leicester. Fortune and Granville and G. Barclay.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, the Society Athletes, World's Best Artistes, T. R., Warrington. 31, T. R., Oldham; Nov. 7, P., Blackpool.

AUBYN, ALF, Successful Three Months' Tour. London Season, Grand, Clapham. Communications, G. Barclay.

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BAKER and BALFE, Moss Tour.

BANDON, SID. Oct. 31, Olympia, Bury.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents. Telephone, 84, Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Character and Coon Speciality Artiste and Dancer. Big success, T. R., Whitehaven; next, O. H., Workington. Agent required.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Circus, Bury. Tom Shaw, 18, Adam-street, Strand.

BARRY, ELLIS, American Descriptive Vocalist, Vacant Pantomime, Part and Speciality. Summer 1905 booked. Letters, "The Era."

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY), the Ideal Pair. Palace, Hammersmith. Oct. 31, Palace, Lancaster.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE, Royal, Holborn. Address, 10, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

BATHURST, AMY, Serio and Dancer. This week, Greenock. Monday, Empire, Paisley. Liberty Nov. 7. Vacant Pantomime, Second Boy or Girl.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BECKETT, MR. CHARLES, Clown and Agouste, will be at Liberty shortly. Address, 7, Sussex-terrace, Above Bar, Southampton.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE), "Hiawatha" Scena. Great Success. Oct. 31, Tivoli Theatre, Manchester. Stoll Tour.

BELFORD and MARS, "The Postman and the Slavey." Top Price given for Novel Comedy Duet. Oct. 31, P.O.W.T., Wolverhampton.

BELL, The HARRIS L, and LILLY PEARL COMPANY, Present "A Bit of String," Palace, Bradford. Oct. 31, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

BELROSE, GEO., and MAUD DE VRLIN, Operatic and Speciality Duettists, Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow. Pantomime, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

BENET, HARRY, Big Success, Pavilion, Maidenhead. Next, Tivoli, Kidderminster. "Little Tommy Tit-Bit," by F. Leigh, Esq.

BEN HUR, This Week, Palace, Bow. Nov. 14, Empire, Wolverhampton, with his New Speciality Strong Act. Tremendous Success Coms. Direct.

BENT, HARRY, the Novel Mimic; also CARLOTTA LUNN. This week, usual hit, Grand, Stockton. Monday, Tivoli, South Shields.

BENTLEY, WALTER, Variety Agent, 169, Stamford-street. Telephone, 12,706, Central. Manager, Horace Sheldon.

BERNARD, GEO., Modern Vocal Actor. Never value anything which compels you to lose thy self-respect. Monday, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

BISHOP and VALE, Palace, Dundee. Monday, Britannia, Glasgow. At Liberty for Pantomime.

BLAKE, MARION, Vivacious Vocal Actress. Fully Booked for this Year.

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians, Empire, Dudley. Next, Hippodrome, Coventry.

BLYTHE, MARIE, Successful Contralto Vocalist. Oct. 31, Alhambra, Hull. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

BONITA, Transvaal Leader.—The best all round shot that has ever appeared in South Africa.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, Manchester. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, in his Musical Séance, Introducing his Wonderful "Bosanquephone." Nov. 1, Scala, Haag, Holland.

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, Albert Hall, Sheffield. Look out for New Act.

BOYCE, FRANK, Vocal Comedian. Monday next, Cambridge. Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Letters, 31, Hedon-road, Hull.

BRADLEY and TRUMAN, Thanks to W. De Frece and Wife, Vesta Tilley, for Portraits. Red Lion, Costock, Notts.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE). Conclude Palace, Blackburn. Monday, Palace, Bradford.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Expert Dancers, usual success, Grand, Newcastle. Oct. 31, Palace, North Shields.

BRETT, HARRY, the Genial Comedian, Liberty Oct. 31, Nov. 7. Best offers to 342, Acton-lane, Acton, W.

BREWSTERS, This Week, Palace, Plymouth. Next, Empire, Dudley.

BRIGHTON GIRLS, THE, Lance and Sword Experts and Acrobatic Dancers. This, Century Theatre, Motherwell; Next, Ayr. "Swiss Express" Co.

BRITISH QUARTETTE, THE (JOHN BULL, SANDY, PAT, and TAFFY) Speciality Vocalists. This, E., Wolverhampton; next, P., Northampton.

BROADFOOTE, MARGUERITE, Middlesex, Battersea, and Metropolitan. All communications, E. Edelsten, 164, Drury-lane, W.C.

BROMLEY and FONTEIN, Operatic Humourists, Something New and Good.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers, usual success, M., Gateshead. Oct. 31, T., Shields. No Vacancies.

BROWN and ROBINSON, Harmony Builders. Oct. 31, Palace, West Hartlepool.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Queen's, Glasgow.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Brynamman, South Wales.

BURNSS, HARRY, AGENCY, Empress, Hartlepool; and at Manchester and London. Manager, C. Ferrier. 'Phone, 0231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, 344, Bury New-road, Manchester. Touring Representative, L. Heckschild. And at Hartlepool and London.

BURTON'S Variety and Concert Agency, Sheffield. Big Specialities required for May, 1905. In order to be popular, forget to say a good deal.

CARL and CARR, Comedians. With "Workhouse." Second week with own Combination. This, R. Hall, Gainsborough; next, Theatre, Normanton.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team, concludes enormous success, Chatham. Mon., B., Woolwich.

CARMEN, HARRY, Polyglot Comedian, Author and Composer. Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), in Original Vocal Comedy Acts, "Their First Quarrel" and "Married for Love." Empress, Hartlepool.

CAVILL'S AGENCY, 15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone 2,140, Royal.

CAZMAN'S, HENRI, Musical, Dramatic, Circus, and Variety Agency. 36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, London, S.W. Telephone, 335 Battersea.

CECIL, TOM, Comedian Concertising in Scotland. Ninth Season. Serpentello's Agency, 28, Wellington-street, London, W.C.

CEE-MEE, Troupe On Tour. Permanent Address, care of "The Era."

CHANT and CHANT (JACK, ALICE), Comedy Vocalists, Patterers, &c., Vacant Monday, through mistake. Wire, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS, 18, Springfield, Liverpool. See other advert., Wanteds.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE), Palace, Bradford. Monday, Return, Pavilion, Leicester.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Monday, Hippodrome, Accrington. Christmas Vacant.

CHINKO, Circus Schumann, Berlin. Communications, 137, High-street, Tooting, S.W.

CHIRGWIN, London Nightly, Four Months. "Friends," please refrain from Copying.

CLARENCE and BELL, in J. Gar Kiddie's "A Little Coquette" Company. Oct. 31, Opera House, Wakefield.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Tyrolean Songstress and Dancer. This, Free Trade Hall, Manchester; next, Empire, Wrexham. Vacant Nov. 7.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, This week, Palace, Bristol; Next, Palace, Plymouth. Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

CLEVELANDS, THE, C. W. Poole's Myriorama, South Wales.

CLYO and ROCHELLE. Oct. 10, Hippo, Ipswich. Last week, Hippo., Wakefield. Now returned Scotch Concerts.

COHEN, KATIE, P.A., 67, Finborough-road, South Kensington. Disengaged Christmas. London only.

COLEMAN, ROSIE, and HARRY CONLIN, 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE, Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COMELY, MABEL, Comedienne. Oct. 31, Public Hall, Barnsley.

COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE, the Popular Singer of Sensible Songs. Concludes Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy, Vac. Mon., Vac. Panto. Principal Boy.

CONROY, OLIVER, Comedian, Starring, Palace, Lincoln. Big success. Authors note.—Will always buy good Comic Songs.

COOKE, STEVE, Refined Comedian. No Dancing Doll Business. Hippodrome, Scarborough.

CORNISH, WILL, Unique Musical Bell Act. This week, City Varieties, Leeds; next, Palace, Halifax. Stoll Tour and Coliseum settled, 1906-7-8.

COVERDALE, CHAS., Chanting Always, Imitating, and Gagging. Collins's and the London. Enormous merited success with Original Witty Notions.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Pier Pavilion, Southport.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, Comedy Juggler, and his Acrobatic Dog "Dooley." This week, B. T., North Shields; next, Hippodrome, Castleford.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Transformation and Character Dancer, Hippodrome, Leicester-square.

CRESSWELLS (GYP and HURRY), Disengaged Pantomime, Parts and Specials. 77, Bristol-street, Manchester.

CREW, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW, a Comedian, the Original. Specially Engaged, Cavalry Theatre, Aldershot.

CROWSON, WILL, and CISSIE CONYERS. R. A., Canning-town. Next, Pavilion, Maidenhead.

CULLEN and CARTHY and LITTLE CLULEY big success, Palace, Manchester.

CUTHBERT, MAUD, Serio and Ballad Vocalist. Address, A. Robini, Empire, Cardiff.

DAGMARS, THE THREE, Acrobats and Tumblers, at Liberty Nov. 7 and 14. Monday next, Pavilion, Leicester.

DENHAM, MISS MILLIE, is a bright burlesque actress, and would do credit to any programme.—Vide Press. Monday, Palace, Bradford.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Gipsy and Character Duettists. Agents, J. T. Smith, J. Verno. 41, Bradshaw-street, Moss-side, Manchester.

DALE, MR. HARRY, First-class Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena. Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

DALE and D'ARGAN, in an Original Act of our Own Creation. See wanteds. Address, G.P.O., Salisbury.

DALE and O'MALLEY, Comedians. Successful, Unsurpassed. Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

DALTON, WILL, This week, Palace, Sunderland; next week, Manchester.

DALTON'S AGENCY, First-class Acts always Required. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DANE, LITTLE ROSIE, Disengaged. Solo Dancer, Singer, Actress, &c. Address, "The Era;" or, Nolan's Agency, 10, Leicester-place. Cinderella, &c.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Versatile Artistes, require Nov. 7. Address, 5, Hanover-street, Chorley.

DANTON, CHARLES, Glasgow Concerts. Address, Britannia Music Hall.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. This, Tivoli, Barrow. Next, Palace, Aberdeen.

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Always Vacancies for Stars and Specialities.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE, Monday, Oct. 31, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

DE DIO, THE PEERLESS, Continental Tour Month of November. Central Theatre, Dresden, Germany.

DEED, OWEN (late Bert Rainer), Vocal Comedian, Vacant for Panto. All communications to 46, Marcus-st., Sheffield, will be forwarded.

DE BENAU and MOLLE. ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Tivoli, Glasgow.

DELAMERE TRIO, the Original Comedy Equilibrists. Empire, Wrexham. Vacant 7th and 14th.

DELEVINES, FIVE, "Flirtation." The Hippodrome, Coventry.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil, Actor-Vocalist, Empire, Burnley.

DE VERE SISTERS (LILY and NORA), Leading and Juvenile Soubrettes. Next, New Pav., Maidenhead. Perm., 72, Rylston-road, Fulham.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. All letters, 69, Roan-street, Greenwich, S.E. No immediate Vacancies. Successful, Met., Manchester.

DODDY and BELLE, the Great Comedy Couple, At Liberty for Pantomime. Parts and Speciality. Address, "The Era" Office.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, Original Singing Cardboard Boxmakers, Few Dates required, 1905. This, Hippo., Exeter; next, Palace, Croydon.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Oct. 31, Empire, Bradford.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Moss Tour. Next, Hull. Christmas, Principal Girl, Princess's, Glasgow (Second Year).

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, acknowledged by Press to be a Juvenile Artiste of much ability. Gigantic success, Empire, Portsmouth.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL, Standard, Pantomime, Principal Girl.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Palace, Bow. All letters, 59, Nichols-square, Hackney-road.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Chic Comedienne, Dancer, This Week, Westminster, Liverpool. All comp., 11, Arnold-street, Liverpool.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Burlesque Artiste, Vacant Panto. Principal Girl or Comedy Part. Communications, 18, Springfield, Liverpool.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler; OSWALD, Staircase Performer, Hand-jumper, &c. Liberty Monday. Wire, Tivoli, Barrow.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. A success P., Hammersmith. Communications, Fred Durham and Sam Hart.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

EARLE, FRED, and ALICE ORMONDE. See Special Advertisement. Monday, Cardiff.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian, concludes to-night City, Leeds. Oct 31, F., York, Second Visit in Six Months. Ring up, I am ready.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Comedian, concludes Three Weeks (Return). R. Pringle, Monday, Return, W. Hamilton, Coliseum, Leeds.

ELCOCK, AMY, Comedienne. FLORRIE ST. ROY, Comedienne and Dancer. For Vacancies, 5, Eagle-mansions, Salcombe-road, N.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. Liberty Nov. 28, Dec. 5. Address, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

ELLA'S, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Woolwich.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, Comedian; FLORRIE BRAY, Comedienne. This and Next, Own Tour, Wales. Letters, G. P. O., Hereford.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Latest for Dunville, Mozart, Leamore, &c. "Bluebell" Parody. Panto. copies, £1 1s. 19, Puirose-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, 42, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Principal Boy, Third Year, Dottridge and Longden's Panto., 1904-1905. Next Week, Queen's, Poplar.

ELTONS, TWO, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians, Smartest Knockabout Act on the Road. Monday, Hippo., Bedford Leigh.

ELVIRA, AMY, Burlesque Artiste. Vacant Nov. 7 and 21. Lancs. preferred. Per. address, 67, Swinton-st., London, W.C.

ENDON, EDIE, Comedienne, Dancer. This week, Palace, Cork. Vacant Oct. 31. Wire, Palace; or, Verno, Liverpool.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer, always Re-engaged. Vacant Nov. 7. Address, 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton, N.

ESDALE BROS., Comedy Artistes, Vacant Nov. 14 and 21. Look out for New Act, 1905. Monday, Grand, Stockton-on-Tees.

EUGENIE, MISS CORA, Comedienne and Dancer, Dis. for Panto., Principal Boy or Girl, 51, Southwell-road, West Croydon.

EVANS, WILL, Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond.

FALCONS, THE, Oct. 31, Tivoli, Dublin.

FAWN, MISS ADA. Big Success of New Song, "No other girl shall take your place," by Will Letters. Monday next, Oct. 31, Resting.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Park-keepers, Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. All communications to Verno, Verno, Verno.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS. Gaiety, Chatham. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

FLORADORA GIRLS, Original Three (ANNIE, IVY, MAY), Enormous Success, Empress, Hartlepool. Monday, Grand, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

FORD, CONNIE, Serio-Comedienne and Dancer, Late of Sisters Berne, Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 7, Lord-street, Bury, Lancs.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Empire, Edinburgh.

FORREST J. W., Comedian, Free Pantomime. This, Palace, Derby; next, Hippo., Grimsby.

FORRESTS, EDGAR, Comedy Company. Monday, Middlesex & Cambridge. Many thanks to Fred Wood, Esq., V., Leeds, for Two Dates.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FOX and HARTLEY, Premier Duettists, usual Successes on Tour. No Vacant Dates at present.

FOY, TOM, and COMPANY. "The Yorkshire Lad." Tivoli and Canterbury.

FRANCISCO, Juggler; and MAY MOODIE, Piccolo Soloist. Palace, Attercliffe. Next week, A., Brighton. Vacant Nov. 14 and 21. Pacey and Reeves.

FRASETTIS, LES, South African and Australian Tour. Address, 9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREDRICKS, CARL, YA PYN KETO FAMILY. Specially Engaged, Plymouth Trades Exhibition, Drill Hall, Plymouth.

FREIRE TROUPE, THE, Acrobats, Tumblers, Double Risley, Living Carrousel (Original). Grand Cirque National Suisse, Geneve (Switzerland).

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue, Queen's-park, London, W.

FYVIE, G. W., Irish Comedian and Expert Dancer. Oct. 31, Britannia, Glasgow.

GANNON, NELLIE, New Songs an Undoubted Success. Voice better than ever. Dancing like a Two-year-old. Monday, Grand, Sheffield.

GARRICK, GUS, Music Hall Tit-Bits. Address, Vaudeville Club, W.C.

GEE, FRANK, Palace, Dundee.

GERONDS, THREE, Refined Lady Vocalists and Dancers. Great success "One of the Family" Tour. Communications, 2, Carr-place, Leeds.

GERTRELLA, Dancer-Gymnast, concluded Nine Weeks, London Hippodrome. Oct. 31, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

GIBSON, MARIE, the Eminent Soprano. This Week, Westminster, Liverpool.

GILBERTS Wonderful Dogs and Cats Conclude Hippo., St. Helens. Oct. 31 (Return), Palace, Aberdeen.

GILL, ARTHUR, the Yokel Speciality Comedian. A Man of many Voices. Address, 53, Bank-street, Blackpool.

GILLIN, Unique Ventriloquial Humourist. Royal, Liverpool. Monday, Theatre, Chesterfield.

GILMORE, BARRY, 4ft. 9in. Comedian, Knockabout, and Dancer, South London Palace. Pantomime settled with J. Tiller, Esq.

GLADSTONE, IDA, Oct. 31, Palace, West Hartlepool. Pantomime, Principal Boy, Settled. Sole Agent, Harry Day.

GOLD, HARRY, Versatile Comedian. "Gold." Animated Song and Chorus. "Gold." Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, London.

GOLIATH and WALFORD, Novel Strong and Comedy Act. Vacant Dec. 19. Wire, 34, Dorset-street, Hulme, Manchester.

GRAHAM, ERIC; MILLIE HARRIS, Comedian. Vocalist. Oct. 31, Empire, Wolverhampton.

GRAHAME, MISS GRACIE (of "Oh, Charlie!" fame). Tivoli, Cape Town.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, Usual success, Empire, Portsmouth (Fifth Visit). Monday next, Palace, Northampton (Return).

GREEN, BRUCE, Comedian. Playing Rajah, in "Belle of Bangalore," and Stage-Management. Ashford and Deal, Three Nights each.

GROVINIS, on tour. Address, care of "The Era" Office.

GURNEY, WALTER, Versatile Comedian; LILY MASON, Serio and Dancer. Monday, Alhambra, Belfast. Then Town for Six Weeks.

HAIG and NOVEL, Comedy Couple. Oct 31, Palace, Chelsea.

HALLAM, FRED, enormous success this week, Bedford. Pantomime settled with G. B. Phillips, Esq.

HAMILTON, BOB, Scotland's Only and Only Character Comedian and Instrumentalist, Hippo., Coventry. Next, Hippo., Ipswich. Fioni, Liverpool.

MR. GEORGE DESMOND,
Returned from Australia. Disengaged.
9, Adam-street, Adelphi.

MR. HERBERT DICKESON, A.A.,
General Billetdoux, "Why Smith Left Home" Co.
Engaged by Mr George Dance for Tour of "Veronique."

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MARY AINSLIE, Heavy Lead and Lead, "A Bid for Fortune" Company. Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MR. STANLEY DREWITT
Disengaged.
Address, Elderden, Staplehurst, Kent.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Business-Manager, at Liberty now and Pantomime.
Address, 116, Englefield-road, Canonbury, N.

MR. J. MALCOM DUNN.
Address, care of George Musgrove, Esq.
Princess's Theatre, Melbourne.

MR. FELIX EDWARDES,
Engaged to support Mr Nat Goodwin. Letters, care of Low's Exchange, 1,123, Broadway, New York City.

MR. and MRS. ERNEST C. EDWARDS
(Miss Bella Power) at Liberty Christmas for Comedy Old Men and Women or Character. T. R., Aston.

MR. LIONEL ELLIS
Dis. shortly, Drama or Panto. Dialect, Yorkshire, Dutch, Irish, &c. Sing. 8, Woodsley-view, Leeds.

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Opera House, Cheltenham.

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17, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, S.W.

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Disengaged.
Address, 39, Morval-road, Effra-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. GEORGE FRANKLIN
Disengaged.
Rosenlain, Rickmansworth, Herts.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES FRANMORE.
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MR. FRANK FREELAND
at Liberty Nov. 21 and for Panto., Part and Speciality. Town Hall, Staines.

MR. and MRS. RICHARD FULTON
(Miss Gertrude Evans), Lazure, Madeleine and Adrienne, in "Proof." Theatre Royal, Darwen.

MR. W. H. GARBOIS,
as Captain Lebaudy,
"The Mariners of England" Co. T. R., Wednesbury.

MR. W. V. GARROD,
the Spider, "The Silver King."
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

MR. JOHN GERANT
at Liberty.
Theatre Royal, Preston.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD,
Prince Kara, Mr Tree's North Company, "The Darling of the Gods." New Theatre, Cambridge.

MR. VIVIAN GILBERT,
late Jack, in "Charley's Aunt," No. 1 Company.
Disengaged for Spring. The Red House, Winchester.

MR. FRANCIS GLYNN,
Tenor, The Close, Stratton St. Margaret, Near Swindon, Wiltshire. Telegrams, "Glynn, Stratton St. Margaret."

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
Bertie Cecil Royellieu, in "Under Two Flags."
Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

MR. DOUGLAS GORDON.
Address,
Criterion Theatre, W.

MR. J. LYNWARD GRAHAME,
Szentes Istvan, "The Edge of the Storm."
Opera House, Cheltenham.

MR. HERBERT GREVILLE.
Savoy Theatre,
W.C.

MR. FRED GROVE,
Terence Reilly, John Hare's "Little Mary" Co.
Theatre Royal, Manchester. Disengaged 28th inst.

MR. LAURENCE GROVE,
Noel Le Joly, in "If I Were King" Company.
Nov. 7, Crewe; Nov. 10, O. H., Harrogate; or, A.A.

MR. GEOFFREY GUISE,
on Tour.
Letters, Tembani, Bedford.

MR. EDMUND GWENN
arrives in England shortly from Australia. Address, care of Arthur Cheaney, Esq., 9, Adam-street, Adelphi.

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Specially Re-engaged by F. Melville, "Her Forbidden Marriage" Tour. Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

MR. CHARLES HALLING,
Colonel Jules Meuron, "Napoleon the Great."
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Mexborough.

MR. ST. JOHN HAMUND,
Kindly Released from Panto, by J. F. Elliston, Esq, Re-engaged Chalstmas and Spring by George Dance, Esq.

MR. DUDLEY HARCOURT,
"Two Little Vagabonds" Company.
Atheræum Theatre, Lancaster.

MR. FRANK HARDING
Disengaged end of November.
38, Beaufort-street, King's-road, Chelsea.

MR. W. HARGREAVES,
as Cattermole, "Private Secretary," Farewell Tour.
Disengaged 1905. Letters, en route; or, Agents.

MR. FREDERICK HARKER
Disengaged.
Berkeley, Chester-road, Erdington, Birmingham.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
"A Country Mouse" Company.
Nov. 7, Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. MORRIS HARPER,
Acting-Manager, "Peggy Machree" Company.
Nov. 7, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. HARRINGTON,
on Tour with own Company.
Theatre Royal, Stockport (Return).

MR. CYRIL HARRISON,
Geoffrey Waring, "Driven from Home."
This, Wednesbury; next, Ilkeston.

MR. JULIAN HARTLEIGH
Disengaged.
Address, 121, London-road, Croydon.

MR. FRANCIS HAWLEY,
Harry Huntingford and Stage-Management, "The World." Address, en route.

MR. and MRS. T. P. HAYNES
(Miss Rosie Lewis), "Broken Melody" Company.
Elephant and Castle Theatre.

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MR. CHARLES HERMANN,
General Manager for J. F. Elliston, Esq.
Permanent address, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

MR. and MRS. HENRY HERNE
(Miss Ida Millais)
Court Theatre, Bacup, Lancs.

MR. DALZIEL HERON
at Liberty Nov. 14.
Address, Nov. 7, Opera House, Leicester.

MR. FRANK HILL
Disengaged in December.
Address, 12, Faunce-street, Kennington-park, S.E.

MR. BASIL HILLIER
Disengaged Dec. 10. Assistant-Management or Parts. Crown Theatre, Peckham, Six Nights.

MR. A. T. HILTON
Disengaged, Old Men, &c.
Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

MR. HALLIWELL HOBBES on Tour with Miss Ellen Terry. Will be at Liberty Dec. 5. Junction T., Manchester; Nov. 14, Osborne T., Manchester.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY,
Iago, De Mauprat, &c.
Opera House, Blackpool. Disengaged shortly.

MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD.
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MR. CHARLES HOWITT,
Re-engaged by Mr Hutchison, Vyse, "A Country Mouse," Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. LEONARD HUBERT,
on Tour with Mr and Mrs Kendal,
Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Newcastle.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner), Mrs Lewis Waller's "Zaza" and "Vilma" Co. Nov. 7, Richmond Theatre, S.W.

MR. POWELL JAMES, Business-Manager and Captain Salem, Chas. A. Chandler's "Bells of Haslemere" Co. This, Swindon; next, Bury.

MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Orsino, Horatio, Oliver, Slender, Lorenzo, Faulkland, Hastings, Benvolio, &c., Mr F. R. Benson's North Co.

MR. LAFFAN B JOLLY
the Natural Laughing Comedian.
Address, care of "The Era" Office.

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General Manager, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.
Directing "I Defy the World" Tour.

MR. WHITFORD KANE,
Jacky, in "Sunday" (North Company).
Address, Theatre Royal, York.

MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
Charlmont, Western-parade, Southsea.

MR. HENRY KEMBLE,
General Manager,
Palace, Cork.

MR. C. B. KESTON
at Liberty.
21, Marchmont-street, W.C.

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Juvenile Leading Business, Disengaged Dec. 12.
Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

MR. and MRS. REG. KLOOF (Norah Wylett) Disengaged end of November. Disengaged Pantomime or Drama. T. R., Bishop Auckland.

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR KNIGHT
(Miss Edith Knight).
King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

MR. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
Leading Business.
Palace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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MR. ERSKINE LANG,
41, Upper Gloucester-place,
N.W.

MR. PAIGE LAWRENCE
Address, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.
Disengaged Dec. 3.

MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE,
Lead, Mr Walter Melville's "A Girl's Cross Roads" Company. Nov. 7, Terriss, Rotherhithe.

MR. LEONARD LESLIE,
Musical Director, "My Lady Molly" Company.
Next, Grand, Woolwich.

MR. CHAS. H. LESTER.
Arrangements complete for the present.
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Disengaged Christmas, through misunderstanding.
"Three Little Maids" Co, Marlborough Theatre, N.

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MR. ARDENE LINDEN,
Chamberlain, "Proof." 632nd Time To-night.
Next, Royal, Darwen, Six Nights.

MR. [illegible]E W. LINDSAY,
[illegible]y Lady Molly" Company,
Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. GEORGE H. LIOT,
"Miss Mischief" Company.
Nov. 7, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

MR. FRANK LISTER Disengaged
December. Pantomime or Play. Standard Theatre; or, 15, Elmhurst-mansions, Vernon-rd., Clapham, S.W.

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Mad Parson and Acting-Manager,
"Man to Man." 7th, Stalybridge.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
New Theatre, W.C.
28, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. and MRS. STUART LOMATH,
Star Lead and Comedy, "The World."
Nov. 7, Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.

MR. ARTHUR LONGLEY,
as Lord Cheyne, "Three Little Maids."
Marlborough Theatre, N.

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM LOWE,
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Company.
Address, en route; or, 41A, Myrtle-street, Liverpool.

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(Miss Florence Creagh), General Manager and Lead, "Dishonoured." Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

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Care of Canon Corfi, Linscop, Truro, Cornwall.

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Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Darwen.

MR. J. T. MACMILLAN.
Address,
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MR. FRANK MACRAE.
Address,
A.A.

MR. H. F. MALTBY,
Lieut.-General Coventry, in "One of the Best."
Nov. 7, Dalston Theatre, N.E. At Liberty Nov. 14.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER.
Address,
333, King-street, Hammersmith, W.

MR. PERCY MARMONT,
Jack Woodford, in "An Actor's Romance"
Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Carbury, "Lady of Ostend," &c.
Nov. 7, Prince of Wales's, Liverpool.

MR ALFRED MARTIN,
Business-Manager, "Silver King," N. Company.
Theatre Royal, Rochdale

MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
Address,
Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.

MR. C. J. M'CARTHY,
Acting-Manager, "The New East Lynne" Company.
Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

MR. GEORGE MILLER.
Address,
402, Edgware-road, W.

MR. ROBERT MINSTER,
Address,
care of Charles Frohman, Daly's Theatre, New York.

MR. DUSE MOHAMED,
the Egyptian Actor-Author.
Dis. Christmas, Panto. or Drama. West London Theatre.

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Disengaged. Lead, Heavies, or Character.
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MR. E. MORETON WILLIAMS,
Heavy Lead, "The Convict's Daughter" Company,
Disengaged Dec. 10. Paisley Theatre, Paisley, N.B.

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Comedian, Disengaged for Panto., Mus. Comedy, or Drama. Add., 14, Glenrosa-street, Fulham; or, A.A.

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Messrs Edwardes and Frohman's "Are You a Mason?" Co. Nov. 7, Opera House, Middlesbrough.

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Disengaged Nov. 7.
The Vicarage, Moreton Valence, Stonehouse, Gloucester.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY,
"The Silver King" Company.
Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

MR. and MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
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Care of Anna Beaumont, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

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Cupid, "Three Little Maids."
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Business-Manager, "Cousin Kate" Company.
Coronet Theatre, W.

MR and MRS FRED W. PERMAIN
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See Companies' Page.

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12th inst. Sixth Re-engagement with Miss Fortescue At Liberty for Lead. Opera House, Leicester.

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T. R., Aldershot. Panto., S.-M., Prince's, Manchester.

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at Liberty.
139, Marylebone-road, N.W.

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Starring Engagement, Stephen Merrick, "The Lightning's Flash." Carlton Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. DAN F. ROE,
Bellicose Betterton, "Nell Gwynne," &c.
Queen's Theatre, Longton.

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Address, Opera House, Workington.

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MR and MRS. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
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Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

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MR. CHARLES THORBURN,
General Manager, George Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

MR. TOM TINDALL,
Character Comedian, Disengaged Christmas.
Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL,
Duke of St. Kitts, "A Country Mouse."
Disengaged Nov. 7. Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

MR. GEORGE F. TULLY
at Liberty.
16, St. John's-road, Deptford, S.E.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD,
Royalty Theatre, W.
Nov. 7, "The Way of the World."

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Third South African Tour, arriving in England about end of Nov. Eversleigh Thornton Heath, Surrey.

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Napoleon, "A Royal Divorce."
Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

MR. LIONEL VICTOR,
Sammy Gigg, "The Toreador," Mr Geo. Edwardes's Company. Borough Theatre, Stratford.

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(Miss Lucy Beaumont).
Theatre Royal, Colne, Lancs.

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Disengaged.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, W.C.

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Major O'Neill and Stage-Manager, "The Lady Slavey." Weston-super-Mare. Disengaged Dec. 10.

MR. EDWIN WALTON,
Sir Sidney Barraclough, "The Bank of England."
Nov. 7, Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM,
Playing the Biggest Scamp on Earth.
Aquarium Theatre, Scarborough.

MR. ALBERT WARD,
Lead. Disengaged Nov. 14.
60, Leigh-road, Leigh, Lancs.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE
Disengaged.
47, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

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Theatre Royal, Darwen; or, A.A.

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Concluded thirty-eight Weeks with "The Temptress" Company. Nov 7. Grand T., Islington, N.

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Next, Southend.

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MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE.
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Nov. 7, Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

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Address,
59, St. Mary's-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. and MRS. GRAHAM WOODS
(Miss Marie Robson) Disengaged Nov. 14.
Address, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs.

MR. F. B. WOULFE,
as Marcus Superbus.
New Century Theatre, Motherwell.

MR. LIONEL YEOMAN,
Count Ratzi, Ben Greet's "Belle of New York."
To-day, Newport. Nov. 7, Grand Theatre, Swansea.

MR. H. A. YOUNG,
Beau Nash, in "Monsieur Beaucaire."
Nov. 7, Worthing; 10th, Canterbury.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MASTER CYRIL SMITH,
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NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

Oct. 1. *His Highness My Husband*, fantastic comedy, in three acts, adapted from *Le Prince Consort* of Xanrof and Chancel, by William Boosey—Comedy.
" 3. *For Value Received*, play, in one act—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
" 3. *The Value of Being Extinct*, frivolous farce, in three acts, by Charles James and Charles Goodhart—Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.
" 3. *A Soldier of the Czar*, play, in one act—Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames.
" 6. *His Majesty's Servant*, romantic play, in four acts, by Sarah Barnwell Elliott and Maud Hosford—Imperial.
" 10. *The Girl Who Lost Her Character*, drama, in four acts, by Walter Melville—Standard.
" 12. *A Wife Without a Smile*, comedy in disguise, in three acts, by Arthur W. Pinero—Wyndham's.
" 15. *Cavalleria Rusticana*, dramatic version of the novel by G. Verger (Mrs Brown-Potter's season)—Savoy.
" 17. *Vilma*, play, in five acts, adapted from the French by Pierre Berton—Alexandra, Stoke Newington.
" 17. *The Master of Kingsgift*, romantic drama, by Mrs Tom Kelly—Avenue
" 18. *The Decree Nisi*, play, in one act, by Joshua Bates—St. James's.
" 20. *Dad's Mermaid*, comedy-drama, in one act, by William Felton—Brompton Hospital.
" 24. *The Coal King*, drama, in five acts, by Ernest Martin and Fewlass Llewellyn Elephant and Castle.
" 24. *The Girl from Japan*, play, in two acts, by Wilfred Carr — Opera House, Crouch-end.
" 24. *Wooing By Wire*, comedy, in one act, by Ernest Bellamy—Brixton Theatre.
" 31. *Miss Mischief*, musical comedy, in two acts, book and lyrics by Reginald Bacchus, music by F. Osmond Carr—West London.
" 31. *The Walls of Jericho*, play, in four acts, by Alfred Sutro—Garrick.

REVIVALS.

Oct. 15. *Forget-me-Not*, play, in three acts, by Herman Merivale and F. C. Grove (Mrs Brown-Potter's season)—Savoy.
" 18. *Hippolytus*, translated from the Greek by Gilbert Murray (originally produced at the Lyric Theatre, on May 28, 1904)—Court.

PROVINCES.

Oct. 3. *Vilma*, drama, in five acts, adapted by Pierre Berton from Henry Grenville's novel "Les Epreuves de Raïssa"—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

PARIS.

Oct. 1. *Le Grillon*, comedy, in three acts, by M. L. De Francomesnil—Odéon.
" 12. *Le Truc du Brésilien*, vaudeville, in four acts, by MM. Nancey and Amont—Cluny.
" 13. *L'Embarquement pour Cythère*, comedy, in four acts, M. L. Veyrin—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 13. *Discipline*, play, in two acts, by MM. De Corning and Jean Thorel—Théâtre Antoine.
" 13. *La Main du Singe (The Monkey's Paw)*, play, in two acts, French adaptation by M. Nunes—Theatre Antoine.
" 15. *La Désirteuse*, comedy, in four acts, by MM. Brieux and Jean Sigaux—Odéon.
" 16. *Monsieur Polichinelle*, spectacular piece, four acts and twenty-two tableaux, by MM. Louis Decori and Victor Darley—Chatelet.
" 18. *Leur Gourme*, play, in four acts, by M. Maurice Landay—Théâtre Molière.
" 20. *Le Maroquin*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Berr De Turique—Palais Royal.
" 22. *Par le fer et par le feu*, drama, in five acts and eleven tableaux — Theatre Sarah Bernhardt.
" 28. *La Gueule du Loup*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by MM. Hennequin and Bilhaud—Palais Royal.

BERLIN.

Oct. 3. *Klar zum Gefecht*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Kurth and Laverenz—Deutsche Volksbühne.
" 4. *Maria Friedhammer*, four-act play, by H. Lilienfein—Deutsches.
" 5. *Onkel Wanja*, three-act play, by M. Tschechow—Berliner.
" 9. *Schmuggler-Susi*, three-act operetta, by V. Albert—Central.
" 10. *Biederleute*, comedy, in four acts, by R. Misch—Lustspiel-Haus.
" 11. *Die Kronprätendenten*, historical play, by Ibsen—Neues.
" 11. *Gaston's Frauen*, three-act farce, by MM. De Cottens and Veber—Trianon.
" 11. *La Sorcière*, four-act play, by Sardou (Madame Bernhardt's season)—Berliner.
" 15. *Die Tugendglocke*, vaudeville, in three acts, by P. Ferrier—Belle Alliance.
" 20. *Die Kleinen Lammer*, two-act operetta, by L. Varney—Des Westens.
" 27. *Fritzchen*, three-act farce, by C. Emil—Luisen.
" 27. *Fesseln der Liebe*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Vaucaire—Lustspiel-Haus.
" 27. *Florian Geyer*, drama, in five acts, by Gerhart Hauptmann—Lessing.
" 29. *Dogland*, four-act play, by B. Bjornson—Deutsches.
" 29. *Der Generalkonsul*, operetta, in three acts, by H. Reinhardt—Central.
" 29. *Senta Wolfsburg*, five-act play, by E. Wendt—Deutsche Völkbühne.
" 29. *Die Herren von Maxim*, five-act burlesque, by J. Freund—Metropol.
" 29. *Marinemütter*, three-act comedy, by Margarete Von Pochhammer (matinée)—Lustspiel Haus.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In your generous review of my "Biography of Sir Charles Wyndham" there is one little error which I hope you will allow me to correct. In speaking of the production of *Her Ladyship's Guardian*, at Manchester, in 1865, you say that in it Sir Charles was supported by Mrs Kendal, then Miss Madge Robertson. What I said—see page 28 of my book—was that when the late E. A. Sothern produced a piece founded on the same theme, called *A Wild Goose*, Miss Madge Robertson appeared as the heroine. Both plays were taken from the source that supplied John Lester Wallack with the successful American drama *Rosedale*.

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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DAGLAND,"

Play, in Four Acts, by Björnstjerne Björnson, Produced at the Deutsches Theatre, Oct. 29, 1904.

Dag ..... Herr Klein
Frau Dag ..... Frau Pix
Stener ..... Herr Sommerstorff
Ragna ..... Fräulein Rabitow
Berthe ..... Fräulein Muller
Ramset ..... Herr Ströbl
Pastor ..... Herr Waldow
Britta ..... Frau Frédi-Lindner
Soeren ..... Herr Lorenz

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, NOV. 3.—The reception accorded to Herr Bjornson's latest work was of a mixed description. The first three acts were listened to with close attention, the third—which is the best—meeting with much applause, but the fourth provoked decided disapproval, and a great success cannot be chronicled. There are so many beauties, both of speech and sentiment, in the work that it is particularly hard to be disappointed. One of the principal weaknesses is the excess of monologues; these features of a past age are made use of in each act; with at times a comical effect, notably when the elder Dag addresses himself to the Deity. The action passes in Norway at the present time, the scene being Dagland, the family estate of the Dags. It is the conflict between the old and the young that is the theme, and on this subject Björnson puts some excellent ideas before us. We are introduced at once to Frau Dag, an amiable, motherly Frenchwoman, and her son Stener, who has just returned from some years' sojourn in Australia. Stener, a clever engineer, believes in progress and the power of work. He longs to make use of his knowledge and strength, and has conceived the idea of turning a great waterfall on the estate to account. The water has fallen into the sea for hundreds of years and been no good to anyone, but the elder Dag is utterly opposed to change, and forbids his son peremptorily to entertain the scheme. All idea of the noise and bustle of steam and machinery is obnoxious to Herr Dag, and though he is something of a despot, we cannot help feeling he has some right on his side. His elder daughter, Ragna, returns from America, whither she went to make her own way in the world, driven away by her father's harshness. She, a brave, bright girl, has brought plenty of new ideas home too, and thoroughly sympathises with Stener's scheme. The mother and younger daughter Berthe are divided between love for Dag and sympathy with the others. The scene in the third act, where father and son first, and father and daughter afterwards, combat the rights of old over young, is very interesting. But old Dag remains obstinate and hard, and finally declares he will sell Dagland altogether. This he does for a period of three years, but the contract is obtained possession of in the end by Stener, the purchaser being a would-be wooer of Ragna. How this comes about is not clear, but so it is. Ragna leaves the house to climb the mountain—which is a sort of mystical symbol in the traditions of Dagland. She falls, and is brought into a hut wounded and sore. This catastrophe is the means of bringing about a complete reconciliation. Dag says he wishes to have peace with his children, and he gives his consent to Stener's great industrial scheme. The interpretation of the play was admirable, particular praise being due to Fräulein Rabitow, Frau Pix, Herr Sommerstorff, and Herr Klein.

AT the Luisen Theatre a new three-act farce entitled *Fritzchen* was given for the first time on any stage on Friday. The author, Herr C. Emil, has yet to gain his spurs. *Fritzchen* is crude, in spite of some amusing scenes, and the misunderstandings are too numerous to be anything but confusing. Every type of character known to farce-makers has been pressed into service; "a laugh at any price" is evidently the author's motto. The main idea is that Fritzchen is believed to be the son of a captain's sister; but after twenty years of search for the "boy," the captain discovers that Fritzchen is—or was—a pet horse. His sister's letters were full of solicitude for her favourite, and so exaggerated were her expressions of affection that the captain—according to Herr Emil—could not help but believe they referred to a son. The curtain falls upon the captain's indignant exclamation, "For twenty years I have been searching for a horse. What an ass I am!" The piece was well played in the chief rôles, although, as a whole, it dragged, and the audience accorded a merciful reception, tempered with justice.

GERHART HAUPTMANN'S historical play *Florian Geyer* was reproduced last week at the Lessing. It was received with acclamation, the author—who has entirely recovered from the effects of his long illness—being called and recalled before the curtain. *Florian Geyer* was something of a failure when it first saw the light, some eight years ago, but Herr Hauptmann has rewritten it, and the result is satisfactory. The piece has already been described in your columns, and is only interesting to German audiences. It was magnificently acted, Herr Rittner, in the title-rôle, being an ideal leader of the people.

"MARINEMUTTER," a comedy, in three acts, by Frau Margarete Von Pochhammer, was given at a matinée in the Lustspiel-Haus on Saturday. There is not very much to be said in its favour; it is of the amiably harmless type, and met with a cordial reception. Things nautical being much in vogue here just now and the object of the matinée being a national charity were two points in the authoress's favour. Perhaps having met with so much encouragement the lady may write a really good play next time for there are traces of talent in this one. The principal characters in the piece are women; there is one lady who once upon a time loved a sailor, but her fear of the perils to which her husband would be exposed made her renounce love's young dream. Later on she married someone else, but her son wanted to be a sailor, and her daughter was equally enthusiastic about the sea. The young man gains his heart's desire after enormous obstacles have been laid in his way, and his sister marries a naval officer, whose mother is proud of her son's calling. The contrast between the two mothers forms the chief feature of the piece, which was well and brightly acted.

A THREE-ACT comedy, by Maurice Vaucaire, the German title of which is *Fesseln der Liebe*, was give at the Lustspiel-Haus on Thursday with no very special results. The Austrian dramatist, Herr Arthur Schnitzler, has written a laudatory prologue to the translation of the work, but its reception here was not favourable. After the second act a spirit of opposition set in and made itself unpleasantly manifest, notwithstanding good all-round acting. It is highly probable that the translation of the play had much to do with its non-success. The title alone is misleading, having nothing in common with the original *Petit Chagrin*.

MADAME CALVÉ is our latest foreign star, and has been greeted with enthusiasm. She made her début at the Royal Opera House in the role of Carmen, before a crowded audience, and a complete triumph must be recorded. Madame Calvé was well supported by the Royal Opera company.

SIGNORA DUSE'S season at the new National Theatre opens this week with *Monna Vanna*. *Magda*, *La Dame aux Camelias*, Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*, and Maurice Donnay's *L'Autre Danger* are also in the bill, the two last-mentioned plays being novelties here, that is to say, with Signora Duse. Booking has been brisk for some days past.

OSCAR VON CHELIUS has just completed a new three-act opera, entitled *Die Vernarrte Prinzess*. It is a "fairy play," the writer of the words being Herr Otto Julius Bierbaum, who has done a good deal of similar work. The opera has been accepted by the Court Theatre at Schwerin, and is to be produced in December, after which, should all turn out satisfactory, we shall see it here.

MRS. GILBERT'S FAREWELL.

(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT).

Mrs G. H. Gilbert, the oldest actress on the American stage, commenced her farewell tour at the New Lyceum Theatre in this city on the 24th inst., appearing in a four-act play, called *Granny*, adapted by Clyde Fitch from the French of Georges Mitchell. The opening performance was marked by extraordinary demonstrations, and it is safe to assert that these will be repeated at each succeeding representation. Of stage favourites New York has quite a number, but Mrs Gilbert is, and has been for many years, something more than a favourite. She is an object of genuine affection. It is forty years since she made her first appearance in this city, and she is now eighty-three. When she decided to retire Mr Charles Frohman, under whose management she has been for the last five years, at once made arrangements for a farewell tour which should prove a brilliant and memorable triumph for the veteran actress, and commissioned Mr Clyde Fitch to prepare a suitable play for her. The tour will cover a period of twenty weeks, and extend as far as San Francisco.

During the first two acts of the play under notice, the Granny whom Mrs Gilbert impersonated was anything but the kind and motherly old soul that the audience expected to see. Instead, she was a prejudiced and determined old lady. But in the later scenes her tenderer and truer qualities came to the surface, and the final impression was made more effective by force of contrast. The story deals with the second marriage of John Allenby, and shows how it disturbed the pleasant relations that had existed in his home, over which his mother-in-law, Mrs Tompson, affectionately called "Granny," had presided for some time after the death of the first Mrs Allenby. The memory of the departed Margaret is held very dear by the household. Her chair is still brought to the table, and fresh flowers are always at the place she once occupied. Her son Jack is grown to young manhood, and Margaret's mother is at the head of the home. Everything is going along in a peaceful manner when the members of the family are thrown into a state of consternation by the discovery that John Allenby is spending his spare time in the company of a Mrs Mason, about whom nothing is known except that she comes from some place in Pennsylvania, where she was divorced, has a young daughter, Dora, and sings in a church choir. Granny, of all the family, is most opposed to Mrs Mason. The old lady looks upon her as an adventuress, and dreads the possibility of her being brought into the house to fill Margaret's place. So she does what women usually do in such circumstances, and takes John to task for his conduct. And John, of course, resents his mother-in-law's interference, defends Mrs Mason, and announces that, as he has asked her to dinner, he wants a place set for her—at the table where there has long been a vacant chair. Pleadings are of no avail, and threats only make John Allenby the more determined. Granny is bluntly told, when her plain talk has made him angry, that if she does not like the situation of affairs she can go. Mrs Mason arrives, and the dreaded scene occurs. Granny takes her departure from her son-in-law's home and so does young John Allenby. Six years have elasped when the curtain goes up again. None of the terrible things that Granny prophesied have come to pass. On the contrary, John Allenby and his wife are living very happily. She has proved herself a worthy woman, having been maligned by the gossips, and her daughter Dora has grown up to be a very charming girl. Granny comes back to the neighbourhood of the old home and discovers the real situation. It is evident that John made a wise choice after all. So Granny "gives in," and in the final scenes tries to atone for her mistake by reuniting the family, artfully contriving a love-match between the daughter of the second wife and young Jack Allenby.

Mrs Gilbert played her part delightfully, exhibiting wonderful vigour and vivacity. When she first appeared she received an ovation, and the audience manifested its approval and pleasure so frequently and persistently that the aged actress found it pretty hard to maintain her composure. Happily, however, her fears that she would break down were not realised. After the final curtain, Mrs Gilbert spoke an epilogue, at the conclusion of which the orchestra played "Auld Lang Syne," and the audience joined in as it filed out of the theatre. The epilogue was as follows:—

Dear friends in front—the curtain must not fall
Until a grateful woman says good-bye to all.
Just think of all the kindness that I've got of you!
I'd like to be the "Granny" of the lot of you!

Old age to bear becomes a happy load
When love and friendship line the lengthening road,
And as I've lived long years in this dear land,
I've never lacked the pressure of your hand,
Nor missed your smile the times I tried to jest,
Nor wanted for a tear when tears were best.
So when the curtain's down, the footlights out,
Once and for all for me, I'll turn about
And in my memories live again each day
Your hands and hearts made glad for me my way.

When with Augustin Daly I acted many parts!
And Jimmy Lewis, bless him, played with me at hearts!
And Ada Rehan, the dear creature, won her brilliant spurs?
And John Drew, cheeky darling, stole my heart and hers.
And charming Annie Russell, and more than I can name—
But I'll keep them in my memory, every one the same!

Dear Days! So many, too, red lettered ones, and gold!
The curtain falls on all of them—I'm eighty-three years old.
Good-by, old friends, new friends, my children everyone of you!
Listen, for it's true, I love each mother's son of you!
For wealth! for fame! my goodness! I don't care a filbert!
If only in your hearts you'll keep old Mrs Gilbert.

Mrs Gilbert was born at Rochdale, in Lancashire, on Oct. 21, 1821. She began her stage career at the old Haymarket Theatre as a dancer. Her maiden name was Hartley. In 1846 she married George H. Gilbert, also a dancer in the company of Taglioni, and three years later the pair emigrated to America. Mr Gilbert died some years ago. It was at John Ellsler's theatre in Cleveland that Mrs Gilbert determined to abandon dancing for acting. Lady Creamly, in *The Famous Family*, and Miss Hardcastle, in *She Stoops to Conquer*, were her first parts there. She made a distinct hit in John Brougham's *Pocahontas*, and proved her versatility during the same year by playing Lady Macbeth with Edwin Booth in the Louisville stock company. Mrs Gilbert made her New Yorke début as a member of Mrs John Wood's company in *Finesse*, a comedy written by the Countess of Gifford, and produced at the Olympic Theatre, long since demolished, on Sept. 19, 1864. Mr J. H. Stoddart, who is a few years younger than Mrs Gilbert, was a member of the same company. In 1869 she joined the late Augustin Daly's company, and thereafter appeared in many prominent rôles, winning the esteem of the public and the affection of her associates. In 1886 she visited England with the Daly company, and appeared as Mrs Zantippa Babbit, in *A Night Off*, at the Strand Theatre. Mrs Gilbert became a member of Mr Charles Frohman's company in 1899, appearing in support of Miss Annie Russell in Jerome K. Jerome's comedy *Miss Hobbs*, at the old Lyceum Theatre. Her later appearances were made in Captain Marshall's *A Royal Family*, Clyde Fitch's *The Girl and the Judge*, Mrs Ryley's *Mice and Men*, and Haddon Chambers's *The Younger Mrs Parling*.

THE King saw the performance of *The Walls of Jericho* at the Garrick Theatre on Tuesday.—Princess Henry of Battenberg, Prince Leopold of Battenberg, Princess Victoria Eugenie of Battenberg, and the Landgrave of Hesse were present at the performance of *Cavalleria* and *Pagliacci* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, last Wednesday night.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Mrs Bandmann Palmer, with her well-known company, is paying a return visit here this week. On Monday night Mrs Palmer appeared in the title-rôle in Schiller's tragedy *Mary, Queen of Scots*, and gave a powerful interpretation of the part. In the character of the Earl of Leicester Mr F. Skein is very good. Mr Boyd Pearson is seen to advantage as the Earl of Shrewsbury. Mr Sydney Bland makes a capital Lord Burleigh. Mr A. Harvey is an impressive Sir A. Melville. Miss Katherine is an unqualified success as Queen Elizabeth. Other plays billed are *Sapho, The School for Scandal, Nell Gwynne, Hamlet*, and *Jane Shore*.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—The attraction here this week is Mr T. Arthur Jones's specially selected company in *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Mr Arthur Jones has got together a most capable company. Mr Jones himself as Captain Harold Marston gives an effective and manly rendering of the part. As Doreen Rivers Miss Madge Morley is exceptionally good. Mr A. Bartlett Garth as Dr. Colbrooke shows real dramatic force. The sustaining force of fun is supplied in the character of Bob Tanner. The doctor's valet is played by Mr A. E. Andrews, who is ably supported by Miss Sarah Dunton as Bess Grayston. Miss Amy Rudd as Fay Colbrooke wins admiration.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—Mr Frank M. Thorne's company opened here on Monday with *Napoleon the Great*. Mr Hugh Montgomery gave a clever reading of the title-rôle; Mr J. G. Main entered into the pathos and passion of Paul Lacrinska with good effect; Mr F. M. Thorne must be complimented on his performance of Pierre Componnet; Mr C. W. Spencer ably depicts Sergeant Choupin; Marshal Bessieres is capably performed by Mr C. Milton Curtis; Miss Chrissie Dunbar's Marie Walewska is a performance of the highest order of merit. Special mention must also be made of Miss Marie Harcourt for her life-like portrayal of Marcelle Choupin. Miss Florence Thorne is good as Mère Dumont. Madame Leonie is in the safe hands of Miss Maud Russell.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr J. Mill; Assistant-Manager, Mr T. W. Moyes.—A very good bill is presented here this week. Mr Tom M'Imerney proves himself an artist in his particular line; Mr Globe Comed is very quaint; Chester and Lees' marionettes are a neat show; Mr Will Walker, ball puncher, is good; Fred Lang puts the house in a good humour; the Mutograph, from the Empire, shows some novel and interesting films; and Paul Vandy, the juggler, completes a popular bill.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—A charming comedy, well played and neatly presented, is *Cousin Kate*, and a full share of praise is reflected on Mr Macdona's company for their successful efforts. Miss Edith Walker's portrayal of Kate is in every way meritorious. Another ably played character is Mr C. W. Standing's Heath Desmond, his breezy style and irresistible humour as the Irish artist being particularly refreshing. Mr Herbert H. Young as the Rev. James Bartlett is capital, and he also fulfils the duties of visiting stage-manager. A good impersonation of Amy comes from Miss Howard Medley; and as the matronly Mrs Spencer Miss Amy Coleman is excellent. Miss Enid Wilde does well as the tittering domestic, Jane; and Master Louis Edwards is acceptable as Bobby. Mr Richard Sullivan is the acting-manager of the company. *A Case for Eviction* is the curtain-raiser.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr Chas. Harrington's American company of Negroes and actors, a combination specially organised for the production of Mrs Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, is paying one of its periodical visits this week to the Theatre Royal. The Nigger troupe includes some vocal, instrumental, and speciality artistes, and the play is well put on. Mr Chas. Harrington still plays his old part of Phineas Fletcher, and Mr J. Carr that of Uncle Tom. They are two eminently capable artistes. Another impersonation which has been perfected by frequent repetition is that of Legree, the slave-owner, by Mr J. H. Rogers. Miss Zerlina Zerbini still sustains with her customary effect the part of Cassy; Miss Sylvia Stella is an amusing Topsy; Eliza Harris has a sympathetic exponent in Miss Hettie Johnson; and Little Eva is pathetically played by Little Minnie.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot.—This week's audiences are greatly diverted by the varied specialities introduced by those unique comedians Palles and Cusick. As a variation from this we have the extraordinary performances of the illusionist and mystery man, Tonini; the serio-comic actress, Emmie Ames, in her song, "'Neath the Shadow of Big Ben;" those eminent clog-dancers, Dwight and Son, expert with toe and heel; and then another big change takes place in the production of a series of views of scenes in the streets of Ashton. The renowned Bros. Collins, champion light-weight wrestlers, attract a fair share of attention; Dessa and Lovett please with an equilibrium act; and Miss Fredrica's terriers give an exhibition of canine intelligence which elicits applause.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Miss Madge Girdlestone and company appeared here on the three first nights of this week in *The City of Millions*. The play was placed upon the stage most elaborately. Miss Girdlestone as Rosa de Valois is a magnificent woman of rare declamatory powers, and her dresses were much admired. Mr Martin Sabine as Captain Wilfred Dread made a gentlemanly villain; Mr Vernon Sansbury as John Stacey acted with reserve and self control, making the character a most acceptable one; Mr Chas. Elliot as Richard Goldsworthy played the part well; and the characters of Bob Westwood and Joseph Smudgely were in the clever hands of Mr Sam Wilkinson and Mr Claremont Gaskell respectively. The Hon. Benjamin Boodle had an able exponent in Mr Graham Herington; the Miss Chesney (Jessie Townsend) of Miss Agnes Verity was a modest and loveable picture; and Kitty Taylor had a lively interpreter in Miss Gladys Vernon.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr Lester Collingwood's company, with *When London Sleeps*, is paying a return visit here this week. Miss Maud Hastings is quite a success in the sympathetic part of Queenie Carruthers; the character of Hilda Carrode is in the capable hands of Miss Mary Brammer, who plays her part well; Mr William H. Sams as David Engleheart, the hero, does credit to the character; Mr Franklyn Graham scores as the scheming Captain Haines; and the humour of the piece is contributed by Mr Victor Mason as Sammy Blyth. The other characters are creditably represented.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—The Black Troubadours, paying a return visit, top the bill here this week. The Great Asra, the billiard table expert, is a distinctly novel and attractive turn. Miss Ivy Dawn possesses a wonderfully sweet voice, and knows how to use it in some well-selected songs. The Sisters Clive sing and dance very cleverly. Fox and Melville in their songs illustrative of American life are exceedingly good. The Hawards are clever and original in *A Dress Rehearsal*; and Larry Lewis is a quaint comedian.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—Miss Olga Nethersole's company is here this week in *Sapho*. Miss Cecil Cromwell is specially engaged for the trying part of Fanny Le Grand, which she plays with seductive power. She has an admirable helpmate in Mr Arthur Royston, who handles the character of Jean with a firmness and decision much to be praised. Mr Harry Dodd as the worldly-wise Uncle Cesaire is both convincing and amusing. Mr Arthur Poole (Dechelette) and Mr Hodgson Taylor (Flamant) act with care and discretion. Miss Jessie Melville humorously enacts Madame Hettema.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—Athletic displays of various forms provide the chief attraction here this week, in which the Four Sisters Merkel, bric-à-brac acrobats, present feats that surpass anything of its kind yet seen locally. Michel and Polo carry through their difficult muscle and wrist acts in a wonderfully easy and unaffected manner. The Brothers Lavelle are also smart as comedy acrobats. The Phydoras give a varied turn as legmania artistes and an eccentric musical act, their tuneful staircase being novel. Highly popular is Will Mitcham, whose vocal and musical interlude is loudly applauded. Maud Ross's exposition of step-dancing meets with great favour. Charles Johnson, "the black diamond," has plenty of admirers. A goey pair are the Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers; and Louis A. Murray, actor-vocalist, completes a capital bill. Mr Keano's bijou orchestra deserves credit for the excellent way it assists the artistes in their work.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Lessee, Mr Edward S. Michel; Resident-Manager, Mr H. F. Cowper Smith.—The Scarlet Mr E's are making a welcome reappearance at these newly-decorated apartments, and are assisted by Mr Robert Tattersall in his ventriloquial sketches.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—This week we are having a return visit from that ever-popular comedian, Mr Edward Terry. On Monday Mr Terry presented his new play, *The House of Burnside*. As Richard Burnside he was entirely successful throughout. As Robert Parminter Mr Arthur Cornell sustained the rôle with striking ability; and we have nothing but praise for Miss Beatrice Terry, who was decidedly winning as Margaret, and Master Roy Lorraine, who was surprisingly clever as Richard. Miss Daisy Murch furnished a sympathetic impersonation of Marion, her acting delighting all; and Miss Beatrice Selwyn was in every sense excellent as Betty. A clever piece of comedy was submitted by Mr Fred Knight as John; and Mr Allan Pollock was the solicitor, Mr Williams, to the life. Other rôles were capitally sustained by Miss Olga Kay, Miss Beatrice Selwyn, Mr A. Hylton Allen, &c. *Bardell v. Pickwick* was also presented on Monday, in which Mr Terry was quite inimitable as Buzfuz, keeping the house in roars of laughter. On Tuesday evening Mr Terry appeared in his original character of Mortimer Pendlebury, in *Love in Idleness*, with great success; and during the week *The Passport, Sweet Lavender, Kerry*, and *You Never Know* have also been presented.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—The great attraction here this week is Phroso, "the mechanical doll," whose remarkable performance proved to be a source of interest to the audience. Praise is due to the Maroonis, the marvellous electric wonders. Another extraordinary performance is that furnished by Mdlle. Luba De Sarema, who introduces her highly trained bull, ponies, dogs, &c., their clever feats being enthusiastically received. Miss Bertha Winder, the dancer, upholds her reputation with a display which has been loudly cheered. Percival, the talented trick pianist, furnishes an enjoyable entertainment, and the Gartells, eccentric musical comedians, have been accorded a capital reception. Forest and King, eccentric acrobats, are certainly first-class, and others on the capital bill are Jack Hylton, comedian, and the Brighton Boys, acrobats.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brook.—Owing to his enormous success, Mr Mark Sheridan is retained this week, and unquestionably he is vastly popular here. Manning's Entertainers are a host in themselves, and present an exhilarating sketch, *A Hotel Boots*, in which these clever comedians keep the large houses in shrieks of merriment. Miss Cassie Walmer, "the dusky Princess," is a great attraction, her clever songs and dances affording much pleasure. The Lannons are capable duettists, and their expert dancing has been loudly applauded. Bradley and Warwick stage a new comedy sketch, by E. C. Mathews, entitled *The Advent of Venus*, which has afforded much enjoyment. Professor Berner, king of marionettes, supplies a novel and exceedingly attractive performance; and also appearing are Mr Jack Cash, a clever comedian; and Mr Fred Dunstone, eccentric comedian.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The chief feature of the programme at this popular hall is provided by the Paulastro Troupe of eccentrics. A welcome has been extended to Miss Gladys Mavius, whose coon songs and smart dancing have been received with deserved enthusiasm. The banjo performance of Casselli and James is remarkably clever, and the Scotch songs rendered by Mr J. K. Macfarlane creates roars of laughter. Stell and Laing supply a good turn; the sweet ballad vocalism of Miss Amy Bell charms the audience; and the impersonations by Mr Johnny Fuller are quite a feature. Weisker Brothers' Bioscope supply several new pictures this week, and in the programme are also Harely and Hardon, burlesque comedians, and Mr Walter Gurney, comedian.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Another musical comedy, *The New Mephisto*, is visiting here, and Mr W. H. Kirby's company is responsible for the representation. As Dick Pilgrim Mr Kirby himself is humorous and entertaining, and he is ably assisted by Miss Marian Armitage as Becky Pilgrim. In the title-part and its accompanying disguised impersonations Mr Fred Lyne scores every time. The Dolly of Miss Lily Cullick is also an excellent performance. The Thallan Glee Singers distinguish themselves, and the Gentles are also well received.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr John A. Walker's Strand Comedy company is here this week with *Why Smith Left Home*. Mr Horace Lingard is seen to advantage in his excellent rendering of the title-rôle, and he is ably seconded by Mr Herbert Dickeson, whose capital impersonation of General Billetdoux is much appreciated. Mr Robert Grey, too, is eminently successful in portraying the character of the Count Von Guggenheim. Miss Hilda Stericker is pleasing as Smith's young wife; Miss Keith Lytton is excellent as her aunt, Mrs Billetdoux; and in Miss Ethel Russell is found a capable exponent of Miss Smith. Miss Marie Vere is a distinct success in the rôle of Julia, and Miss Constance Stephens's Lavinia would strike terror in the heart of any housewife. Mr Walker himself travels with the company as business-manager.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, is appearing in Mr Hall Caine's *The Eternal City* with decided success. In the course of an excellent representation as the Baron Bonelli Mr D. Lewin Mannering exhibits considerable power and skill; Miss Edith Anton Laing as Roma acquits herself with excellent judgment and effect; Mr Henry Deas is a thoroughly efficient Rossi; and Mr P. L. Julian is unexceptional as Bruno Rocco. The cast is most reliable throughout, and the piece has every assistance in the way of scenic effect. Crowded houses have ruled during the engagement.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—The time-honoured play *Proof*, supported by Mr and Mrs William Maclaren's company, is drawing numerous audiences. Mr Maclaren gives a finished rendering of the central rôle of Pierre Lorance, and is splendidly supported by Miss Lily C. Bandman as Valentine. The important part of Lazare is ably enacted by Mr Richard Fulton. Mr Ardene Linden gives a good interpretation of Chamboran, and the Duke D'Aubeterre is well represented by Mr Kingsford Pearce. Miss Gertrude Evans is an admirable Adrienne.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Mr Leonard Barry and his colleagues in *The Mouchers' Walk* head an attractive programme, and score heavily. Mr W. J. Churchill, an eccentric comedian with a fund of humour, is a decided acquisition, and Mr George D'Albert, an exceptionally clever comedian and descriptive vocalist, is deservedly in favour. Donaldson Bros. and Ardel in their zoological sketch are a conspicuous success. Tray and Rich, black and white comedy artistes, are appearing with distinction, and Miss Edie Grey and her white coons, Grell and Grey in an amusing sketch, Miss Nora Emerald, song and dance artiste; and Miss Flo Challis, a pleasing comedienne, complete the company.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*Quality Street* has again won the approval of all parties, and the pleasure derived from the play on Monday was reflected in the receptions awarded the players. Mr David Glassford evinced a splendid appreciation of the humours, amatory and otherwise, of the character of the dashing Valentine Brown. Messrs A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman also include in their company Miss Grace Armytage Noble, who as Phœbe gave a charming impersonation; Mr A. Carlow Grand, as the quizzical Ensign Blades; Miss May Whitty, who gave to the rôle of Susan its true significance; Master Robbins, as Arthur Wellesley Thompson; and Miss Mabel Wynne as the serving maid Patty.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—*Zaza* wrought its spells once more on Monday and Tuesday, when Mrs Waller repeated in full measure the triumphs of previous visits. Mr Eric Mayne as Bernard Dufresne acted with every qualification for the part, and Mr Edmund Lea as Cascart, Miss Kate Kearney as Rosa Bonne, Miss Ethel Warwick as Madame Dufresne, and the others of the capable cast supported loyally and well. *Vilma* was given on Wednesday.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager Mr Lester Collingwood.—*I Defy the World*, which is played here this week by Mr Julian Malvern's company, has held Mr Collingwood's clientèle together splendidly. Mr Chas. M. Julian appears as that much-wronged man Leon Darville with the most conspicuous success; Mr Joseph W. Worley as the enemy, Count De Beaulieu, submits a worthy study of a difficult part; Mr Chas. Conway as Laroche is highly commendable; Mr W. Denning acts well as General Delaporte; and Mr Horace E. Herbert is successful as Andre. Miss Guinevere Shilton charms the house as Pauline Delaporte; Miss Lina Nazeby is to be praised as Blanche Darville; and Little Vera Guyon is admirable as the child, Fanchette. Mr Chas. M. Julian is a valuable asset as Samuel Wozzle, and, with Miss Maud Lillian as Marie Wozzle, contributes humorously and largely to the success of the play, which is excellently and effectively mounted.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*Her Forbidden Marriage*, which appeared here successfully last week, and was noticed accordingly, continues to win the most unqualified approval from full houses.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*A Message from Mars* has been received here with much pleasure. Mr William H. Brougham as the Messenger is met with every sign of favour; Mr Rawson Buckley gives a well-conceived presentment of Horace Parker; Mr Bruce Lindley performs eminent service as the Tramp; and Mr Frank G. Dunn as Arthur Dicey and Mr H. E. Lanceley as Dr. Chapman win that appreciation which undoubtedly they deserve. Miss Flora Hastings as Miss Parker, Miss Joan Meredith as Mrs Clarence, Miss Peggy G. Yeoman as Bella, and Miss May Saker as Minnie Templer are in every way successful.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*Under Two Flags* has been rendered here in capital style by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company. Miss Laura Walker has been very popular for her clever representation of Cigarette, and Mr Mark Blow has given full satisfaction as the noble brother. Mr Reginald Harley-West as Barklie acts well within the scope of the character. Mr Geo. Norman-Burt is in favour as Lord Rockingham. Mr Will Hook creates diversion as the valet. Mr Chas. D. Pitt is strong as Col. Chateauroy, and Miss Celia Gordon, Miss Bertha Kingston, and Miss Daisy Carlton play important parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—Mr A. C. Lilly and company are here in the military drama, *Drummed Out*, well mounted and admirably acted. A clever and refined athletic turn is done by the Brothers De Wynne; the Three Sisters Sprightly are an attraction; Myra Stanfield, comedienne, James Grant, and Josh Dixon all win applause; some amusing juggling is supplied by Griff, assisted by Alpha; Beatrice Willey renders her ballads with effect; and Will English, coon vocalist; Charles Russell, comedian; and the Alaskas, in their comedy act, provide bright entertainments.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—Professor Taylor is exhibiting his scientific skill here with liquid air. The Davis Trio, in their smart cycling act, were loudly applauded, as also were the Haytors, in their comedy sketch; Walter Munroe, in his Irish songs, is very popular; while the Blind Colliers' concertina solos are good. Views of the Baltic Fleet at Cherbourg are shown by the Cinématograph.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Houdini is here on a return visit with his remarkable handcuff performance. A fine entertainment is provided by Duncan's Royal Scotch collies, the Waltons, Chinese equilibrists; Professor Welsen, in a Swedish bar act; Madeline May and Jenny Hartley, comediennes. Merton and Rydon, speciality artistes, and the Sisters Solwyn are in the programme.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edw. Foster.—The company here includes:—Tschernoff's ponies, dogs, cats, and pigeons, who give a clever entertainment; William Lea and Helen Bentley, in their sketch, *A Tooth for a Tooth*; Swan and Bambard, acrobatic comedians; the Bros. Doran, gymnastic eccentrics; Tom Leamore, comedian; Alexander, trick cyclist; Ethel Dunford, ballad vocalist; Ernest Ball, actor-vocalist; and the Stuart Quartet.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—For the first three nights of this week Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company occupied the boards with F. Fenn and R. Pryce's comedy, *Saturday to Monday*. Mr Charles Howitt makes an excellent Lord Culvert, and Mr Donald Maclean is well suited in the part of Probyn Dyke. Mr Edwin Ling is good as Rev. Lemuel Toop; while Mr Jack Hampton adds intense humour to the piece with his impersonation of Stanley Pidding. Miss Florence Tresilian gives an exceedingly charming and natural impersonation of Mrs Wenlover. The part of Angela is in the capable hands of Miss Kitty M. Doyle. Miss Adelaide Lester as Lady Diana Porchester, Miss Maud Burton as Miss Ursula Toop, and Miss Charlotte Mead as Miss Skeet interpret their respective parts with ability. The play is preceded by a curtain-raiser, *Judged by Appearances*, in which Miss Kitty M. Doyle, Mr Edward Ling, and Mr Donald Maclean prominently figure.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is appearing here in *A Country Mouse*. Mr Charles Harley gives an admirable performance of John Bowlby, M.P.; Mr Arnold Lucy as the Duke of St. Kitts, Mr Sydney Stirling as the Hon. Archibald Vyse, and Mr Wilson Lumley as Lord Robert Wykeham are good in their respective parts; and Jephcot, the old butler, is well played by Mr A. E. Watson. Miss Dido Drake is a charming Angela; Miss Dorothy Drake as Lady Sylvia Bowlby, and Miss Eva Erskine as Violet Aynsley both appear to great advantage. Miss Emily Levettez is an excellent Mrs Cropper. *My Husband* precedes the comedy each evening.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—*The Still Alarm* is being played here this week by Messrs Glenville and Osmond's company. Mr Glenville appears as Jack Manley, and is well supported by Mr Paul Lovett as John Bird, Mr Fred Osmond as Doc Wilbur, and Miss Mary Lovett as Elinore Fordham. The two trained horses arouse much interest by their evolutions.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Alec Hurley with his Piccaninnies made his first appearance in Blackburn this week, and had an enthusiastic reception from a crowded audience. Dome gives a clever exhibition as a clay modeller. Other good turns are provided by Miss Nellie Coleman, comedienne; Miss Kathleen Gray, burlesque artist; the Ferrari Duo, dancers; Onda and Artell, gymnasts; the Mackweys, Conway and Leland, monopedists; and Stern and Stern, comedians and dancers.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—The D'Oyly Carte opera company always meet with the most cordial reception here, and the visit this week is as popular as ever. *The Gondoliers* attracted a big house on Monday. Mr C. H. Workman scored as the Duke of Plaza Toro, and Mr G. A. White gave a good account of Don Alhambra, the Grand Inquisitor, a part he took owing to the indisposition of Mr Fred Billington. Messrs Pacie Ripple and Albert Kavanagh were seen to advantage as Marco and Giuseppe respectively, and Miss Norah Maguire as Gianetta and Miss Jessie Rose as Tessa sang and acted in the most delightful manner. The Duchess of Plaza Toro had an admirable exponent in Miss Theresa Rassam. *The Mikado, Patience, The Yeomen of the Guard, Princess Ida*, and *Iolanthe* have been staged during the week.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—The star turn this week is Miss Ethel Arden, supported by Mr George Absl and company, in a laughable sketch entitled *Three of a Kind*. Joe O'Gorman is one of the best of Irish humourists; Arthur Gilbert is a clever comedian; Will E. Haines sings funny songs; Fairley, Rennie, and Fairley give an amusing sketch; Amber Austa is a good coon singer and buck dancer; and Jenny Lynn is well described as "the queen of comedy."

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—Mr Edmund Tearle and company are appearing here in a round of plays this week. *Virginius*, with Mr Tearle in the title-rôle, was Monday's attraction. The week's répertoire includes *The Merry Wives of Windsor, Macbeth, Under the Red Robe*, and *Jennie Deans*. Mr Tearle is supported by Miss Kate Clinton, Miss Esther Tearle, Mr W. J. Miller, Mr J. V. Fairley, Mr A. W. Wynne, Mr Walter Raynham, and others.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Company; Manager, Mr T. P. Dulgnan.—The New York Nippers are at the top of a big programme this week. The Violas give a clever exhibition of mental telepathy; the Sisters Caselli shine in the Terpsichorean art; Jack Crawley is a good vocal mimic; Ross and Grayson contribute a laughable sketch; Shian Hai is a Chinese magician; and Katie Kemp is a pleasing comedienne.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—*The Christian* was presented here on Monday before an appreciative audience by Mr Wentworth Croke's company. The characters of John Storm and Glory Quayle were in the capable hands of Mr Stanley Radcliffe and Miss Grace Chalmers, who acted well their respective parts. They are ably supported by a capable company.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—A good variety company is appearing here, comprising the Dayton Family, a troupe of clever Risley and pedestal acrobats; William Barker, who executes some marvellous feats of jumping; the Bros. Donar, in an acrobatic equilibristic speciality act; Sadie Simpson, comedienne and coon artiste; the Bros. Obo, eccentric laughing duettists and patter comedians; "Silent" Tait, eccentric wizard; Herbert La Martine, vocalist and eccentric dancer; Charles Bayman, Negro comedian, in his up-to-date burlesque travesty, "Old King Cole;" Nelson Hardy, ventriloquial impersonator, in "The Stars' Reunion;" and the Imperial Bioscope.

OHMY'S CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—A complete change of programme is submitted here. Auto Atlas, in addition to many feats of strength, lifts a motor-car with his teeth whilst standing on his hands on a high pedestal. Other artists include the Hannaford Troupe, in a clever riding act; Claude Ohmy, on the rolling globe; the Bros. France, acrobats; Miss Ada Ohmy and Miss Scott, in graceful riding acts; the Eugene Family, smart acrobats, and the rest of Mr Ohmy's company.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA (LIMITED).—Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Two good houses nightly are attracted by the excellent fare provided by the variety combination of first-class talent. Miss Harriett Vernon's songs are enthusiastically applauded. Very smart business is done by Signor and Madame Borelli. Conan and Doyle, comedians and dancers, are seen to advantage. The other good turns include A. L. Baron and company in a comedy sketch *A Trip to Paris*; Nancy Renshaw, laughing Negro comedienne and bone soloist; Six Lancashire Lasses, expert clog dancers and vocalists; Little Renee, child mimic, in "Playmates;" Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in "Indian Pastimes;" and Gwen Howard, vocalist, with animated pictures.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Good.—Miss Winifred Maude and her company, under the direction of Mr Victor Du Cane, have appeared here with success in the drama entitled *The Sins of a City*, in which the popular manageress and actress appears in the dual parts of Seaweed and Nora with success. As the adopted father of Seaweed Mr Ivan Gore scores well; Mr Royce Carleton makes a good Sandy M'Donald; Mr J. W. Baxter, as the twin brothers, is a prominent figure; Miss Alice Granville does exceedingly well as Midge.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr R. Stewart.—*Winnie Brooke, Widow*, is here this week, and is proving most attractive in its original musical garb. Some disappointment was experienced on Monday at the absence of Miss Ada Reeve from temporary indisposition, her place being taken by Miss Kittie Clinton, who displayed vivacity and gaiety in the rôle of the captivating widow. Mr Stephen Adeson played in dashing style the part of Montague Brent; Mr Henry Vibart was an excellent representative of Dudley Mayne; Mr Edgar Stevens was well suited as Reginald Frampton; Mr Leon Ashton-Jarry gave point to the dejected Julian Croft; Mr Frederick B. Sharp submitted an amusing sketch of Toby Blossom; Mr Edgar Rigby created laughter by his amorous propensities as Hercules Grant; Mr James Stevenson was dignified as the Rev. Elihu Garside, whose better-half was presented in appropriately strong-minded fashion by Miss Janet Hodson. Gracie Frampton and Nora Caswell had pleasing exponents in Miss Lucie Caine and Miss Ruth Hazelwood respectively.

BRIGHOUSE.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. Morton Powell; Business-Manager, Mr M. Manley.—*Dare-Devil Dorothy* is paying another welcome visit to Brighouse. It is played by Mr Henry Swinerd's excellent company. The parts taken by Messrs Wilfred Carr and Henry C. Ward are exceedingly well rendered; whilst a capital comedian is found in Mr Arthur Verne, his singing and dancing being a special feature of the performance. The Misses Marjorie Cecil, Kathleen Garnon, and Nellie Harcourt portray their respective parts most charmingly.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—For the first time here on Monday Messrs Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's company appeared in Robert Marshall's delightful comedy, *The Duke of Killicrankie*. There was a large audience, and the smart, crisp dialogue and amusing situations in the play were heartily enjoyed. Most of the laughter was due to Mr Arthur Grenville's amusing impersonation of the vacuous and impecunious Pitt-Welby. Mr Langhorne Burton was convincing as the Duke; charmingly and with much natural grace Miss Doris Templeton played Lady Henrietta Addison; Miss Aida Jenoure delivered Mrs Mulholland's sallies with point and effect, and was altogether excellent; and Miss Ellen Standing made a stately Countess of Pangbourne. Mr Jerome K. Jerome's interesting curtain-raiser, *Barbara*, preceded the comedy.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—We have *The Fatal Wedding* as the attraction here again this week, and the drama is proving very acceptable to Mr Laidler's patrons. There are some changes in Mr Bert Coote's company. Mr Wallace Stranack is the hero, and admirably he fills the part. The villain is again effectively played by Mr Creagh Henry. There is great scope in the part of the injured wife, which Miss Gwyn Herbert plays with power and skill, and as her evil genius, Cora, Miss Gertrude Harrison is distinctly clever and effective. Miss Maidie Andrews displays ability as a child actress, and the element of comedy is well sustained by Mr E. Morgon as Toto and Miss Marie Hassell as Bridget.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—A genuine sensation is provided here this week by Charles Prinz, an intrepid performer, with seventeen lions. Lillian Lowe's fine vocalism commands applause; the Three Georges go through a smart and funny acrobatic performance, and with his customary success J. H. Milburn reappears. There is much merit in the vocalism of the Schutzenlieserl'n Quartette. The Two Bells dance and sing prettily; a clever performance is given by Henry Kaiser, juggler; comedy and wet paint are enjoyably mixed by the humorous M'Kays; *Saucy Maid*, a smart comedy duologue by Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte, finds favour; and Doody and Wright, who complete the fine company, are highly diverting.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—Sam Mayo, comedian, is being well received here this week, and Kitty Wager, comedienne, supplies an acceptable turn. The Langdons are entertaining as American song illustrators, and in winsome style Millie Denham, comedienne, contributes. A very fine musical turn is given by Wood and Bates, Fred Poplar scores a success as a comedian, the Bransbys are excellent character duettists, and Lady Mansell and her Juveniles reappear with their usual success in *A Concert Rehearsal*.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr William Greet's company is here this week *The Earl and the Girl*, and is doing excellent business. Mr William Stephens affords unbounded amusement as the dog trainer Jim Cheese; Mr Percy Carr gives an admirable impersonation of Dick Wargrave; Mr Will Hindson's Dounham, Mr William Walshe's Bunker Bliss, and Miss Helen Langton's Miss Virginia Bliss, are effectively played; Miss Aimee Grey makes a pleasing Elphin Haye; Miss Dot Carey, in a droll Liza Shoddam, and displays clever dancing; Miss Florence Imeson is well suited as Daisy Fallowfield, while Mr Tom Redmond as Mr Hazell and Miss Gladys Fontaine as Mrs Shimmering Black also merit commendation.

GRAND THEATRE.—Under the entire control of Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Mr Tom H. Taylor's company opened here on Monday with *The Female Swindler*, and has attracted large audiences. Miss Violet Elliott made a handsome and charming Lu Valroy; Mr Jerrold Heather gave a masterly impersonation of the detective, Jack Coulson; Mr Weldon Atherstone was forcible and convincing as the villainous Geoffrey Warden; Mr A. Kenyon Gray was well suited as James Oliver, whose ward, Mary Andrews, had a pleasing exponent in Miss Florrie Kelsey; Mr Rule Pyott submitted a good character study as Abraham Mikestein; and Mr George Unwin was a manly Harold Travers. Mr Luke Forster as Billy Binks was highly amusing, and was admirably supported by Miss Evelyn Marrable as the lively Mary Ann Mee. The drama was splendidly staged.

AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—The following are specially engaged here this week:—Miss Clara Dewdney, contralto vocalist; Miss Addie Croker, reciter and monologue artiste; Mr Arthur Hills, ventriloquist and living Liliputian; and Mr Joseph Blaschek, humourist. The Aquarium orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter, contributes pleasing selections, and violin solos by Mr E. Leggett are warmly appreciated.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Mendel, the blind pianist and composer; the Five Whiteleys, Continental speciality artistes; Rafayette, with his acrob

Andersons, dancers on one rope; Charles Austin, in his latest success, "The Highwayman;" Maud Venn, comedienne; Francisco, juggler and equilibrist; May Moodie, piccolo soloist; the Brothers Venola, comedy gymnasts; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Martine and Son, song illustrators; Maggie Bowman and Tom Morton, in *The Maid and the Butcher;* H. A. Zetto, comic juggler; the Arthur Saxon Trio, in their strong act; Lowell and Lewell, eccentric comedians; Marriott Edgar, comedian; Charles Steurat and company, in *The Water Cure;* Carl Reinsch, with his well-trained horses and dogs; and animated pictures. Especially interesting was the great magic kettle act, which was novel and mystifying.

NEW PALACE PIER.—Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—*David Garrick* occupies the boards here this week. Mr Matthew Brodie in the title-rôle displays masterly acting; while Miss Beatrice Marsden makes a graceful and pleasing Violet Gresham. Mr Orlando Barnett acquits himself admirably as Alderman Gresham; Mr Riddell Robinson is effective as the Hon. Tom Tallyhaut; and others meriting praise include Miss Amy Fanchette, Miss Marie Lewis, Mr Noel Barton M'Guckin, Mr E. Harvey White, and Mr Coningsby Brierley.

WEST PIER. — Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman. — Messrs Percy D. Standing and Arthur Burne's company is here this week with *His Excellency the Governor*. Miss Joan Ellis gives a charming impersonation of Ethel Carlton; Mr Arthur Burns is highly successful as Captain Charles Carew; Mr William Allison's John Baverstock is well played; Mr Percy D. Standing is conspicuously effective as Sir Montague Martin; and Miss Miriam Leigh submits an admirable portrayal of Stella De Gex. Other characters are satisfactorily sustained by Mr Robert G. Danson and Miss Isabel Gray. The play is well staged.

COLISEUM. — Director of Entertainment, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes.—The following are here this week:—Lee and Arden, comedy artistes; Ernest Sefton, comedian; Saxo, instrumentalist; Marion Grahame, operatic vocalist; Carle and Carminelli, in "The Electric Moulding Wheel;" Charles Collette, in his popular patter sketch, *Hard Luck;* Hertz's original magic demon kettle, demonstrated by Dr Irve Hayman; the Gothams, in their musical absurdity, *Miss Green*; Harry Wenburn, comedian; and the Coliseum pictures.

CONCERT HALL, WEST-STREET.—Maskelyne and Cooke's entertainments, under the direction of Mr David Devant, continue to attract large audiences here.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager Mr James Macready Chute.— There was a full house here in all parts on Monday evening, when the Royal Carl Rosa opera company commenced a week's engagement. *Tannhäuser* was selected for the opening night. The opera was magnificently staged, the chorus was exceptionally strong and efficient, and the augmented orchestra did excellent work under the skilful direction of Mr Eugène Goossens. The overture was very finely played; it obtained unlimited applause, and many present would have liked its repetition. The famous chorus, in march time, at the commencement of the second act was fully appreciated, both the vocalists and orchestra rising to a high standard of excellence. Mr E. C. Hedmondt acted with considerable power as Tannhäuser; he was in fine voice, and sang throughout most artistically. Madame Sobrino acted and sang remarkably well as Elizabeth; she has a pure and flexible soprano of wide range, and her most difficult efforts of vocalisation are accomplished with ease. Madame Augusta Renard also acted well as Venus, and did full justice to the numbers allotted to the part. Herr Charles Victor was well placed as Wolfram; he has a fine baritone voice, and gave a beautiful rendering of the "Evening Star" song. Mr Arthur Winckworth appeared to advantage as the Landgrave, a part which afforded good scope for the display of his excellent bass voice. Miss Ethel Pender-Cudlip sang charmingly as the Shepherd Boy, her voice ringing out true and clear. Mr Frank Arthur as Biterolf, Mr Henry Butcher as Reinmar, Mr Albert Felton as Schreiber, and Mr Edward Davies as Walther completed the cast, they doing well in their respective parts. *Carmen* was staged on Tuesday evening, and attracted a good attendance. Madame Augusta Renard appeared in the title-rôle; her acting was exceptionally impressive, and she sang throughout with fine effect. Herr Julius Walther acted well as José, and gave a fine impassioned rendering of his numbers. Mr Lewys James both acted and sang well as Escamillo, getting an encore for the "Toreador" song. Miss Lizzie Burgess sang charmingly as Micaela, looking the part to perfection, and acting in a pretty and unassuming style. Miss Burgess obtained much applause in the third act, and there was quite a demonstration for an encore of her impressive solo. The remaining characters were all in good hands, the opera was mounted in approved fashion, the chorus rendered adequate assistance, and the augmented orchestra was ably conducted by Mr Walter Van Noorden. Other operas performed during the week were *Don Giovanni*, *Lohengrin* (matinée), *Bohemian Girl*, *Rigoletto*, and *Faust*. The Carl Rosa is announced as the oldest opera company in the world, this being the thirty-fourth consecutive season.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—This week we have a return visit of Messrs Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company with the interesting drama *The Traitor*. The staging generally is exceptionally liberal, the costumes and military uniforms in particular being far above the average. Mr Wellesley Draper acts with much distinction in the dual characters of Prince Rudolph and Colonel Nervi; Mr Stephen E. Scanlan displays considerable power as the Chief of Police; Miss Conyers Radcliffe presents a fine exposition of Zulu; Miss Lily Roselle is decidedly efficient as the Countess Zicka; and the parts of Lieut. Nicholas, Zoff, Cen-Cen, and Jack Boult have excellent impersonators in Miss Mabel Hunt, Mr Edward Lowrie, Miss Anena Walton, and Mr Frank Sutherland.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—George Leyton, actor-vocalist, heads the programme with a good turn, called "Britannia's Babes." The deck of a man-of-war is shown, and Mr Leyton as an Admiral sings patriotic songs in good style, the choruses being taken up by about thirty local children. The American Comedy Four, eccentric vocalists, please all parts of the house; they have good voices, which blend well. George Cooper, baritone character vocalist, presents good scenas, assisted by his two children, the turn being in every way a pleasing one. E. Cranston's company appear successfully in a racing sketch, *Terry; or, True to His Trust*. Kisbey is seen to advantage in his speciality, "The Call Boy;" Spry and Austin are popular as vaudeville artistes; Dan Crawley, comedian, amuses with some of his latest songs; Howard and St. Clair present an amusing turn of American comedy; Stanley and Greenop are experts in banjo playing; Moretti and Alice have a good speciality of balancing, &c., on the trapeze; and some new animated pictures conclude the entertainment. The local veterans are billed to attend the entertainment on Friday evening in commemoration of Inkerman, and they will also have the use of the Palace on Sunday for their annual service.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—George Lashwood occupies the leading position on the bill; he has a good reception each evening, and is highly successful with several songs. Barton and Ashley appear in their new act, *Canal Boat Sal*, which is amusing, and allows scope for their smart dancing; Troba does some good juggling feats; Albert Whelan presents some good musical imitations, scoring particularly as a whistler; Arthur Slater also scores as a whistler and imitator of Frank Lawton in *The Belle of New York;* Miss Kenna Russell does a pretty turn as a serio and dancer; the Three Gregsons present an amusing comedy sketch; T. W. Royal, comedian, has some good songs, and he is an expert clog-dancer; and Nellie and Nora do a refined musical act, selections being well rendered on the piano, violin, and xylophone. The animated pictures this week include the funeral of the victims of the North Sea outrage, specially taken by Mr Barrasford's operator at Hull, and other pictures in relation to the same matter.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Mr Coleman Davies, with his *No Escape* company, is here for the week. Miss Eunice Udall is a sympathetic heroine. Mr Vaughan Bracking is appropriately sinister as the scheming Horace Hardcastle. Mr Coleman Davies upholds the majesty of the law in a strikingly original fashion, while Mr Archer Terry is an efficient Vandike Collidion. The humorous element is well placed in the hands of Mr Bob Astley and Miss Mary Neilson. Other parts are capably filled by Mr M. Stanton, Mr E. Meehan, and Miss Marie Douglas.

BURY (LANCS).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company is playing the popular drama *The Silver King* here this week. Mr Lauderdale Maitland is excellent as Wilfred Denver; the Daniel Jaikes of Mr Edward J. George is capital; Mr W. V. Garrod is a fine, villainous Spider; Miss Lilian Bethell in the difficult part of Nellie Denver wins all hearts; and Miss Violet St. Clair and Master Jack Evan are good as the children.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—The patrons of this house are always well provided for. This week the Brothers Patty, the head-to-head balancers, are on the bill with a most wonderful performance. Barrett and Knowles, patterers and singers, are very funny. The Three Sisters Urma are charming trapeze artistes. J. P. Carroll is a capital tambourine player. Sid Bandon, descriptive vocalist, and Joad Hetab, the Egyptian man of mystery, complete a fine programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Broadhead.—The Lynchs, the famous shootists, are the star turn here. Cyril Demaine, conjuror, with the enchanted kettle; Fred Southern and company, in an absurdity entitled *The Private Hotel;* Will Hebden, comedian; Flo Deighton, vocalist; the Three Novells, acrobats and tumblers; Robins and Collier, comedians; and George White's Night Arabs all contribute to a most enjoyable bill.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—*The Duchess of Dantzic*, presented here by Mr George Dance's company, has been received with the utmost enthusiasm. The title-rôle is in the capable hands of Miss Rita Presano, who gives a very fine portrayal. The Napoleon of Mr Frederick Moyes is a powerful study, and is accorded high commendation. Mr Albert Chapman sings well and acts with ability the part of Lefebvre; Papillion, as rendered by Mr Colin Mackay, leaves nothing to be desired; and Mr Thos. Maxwell's excellent voice is heard to great advantage in his capital delineation of Vicomte De Bethune. A more dainty and bewitching Renée than is supplied by Miss Alice Coverick could not possibly be found; Napoleon's sisters are acted with dignity by Miss Edith Carlyle and Miss May Harris; while Miss Amy Burton's portrayal of Lisette is pleasing.

KING'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—*Why Men Love Women* occupies the boards here this week. Mr Alfred Paumier satisfactorily impersonates the hero, Gerald Fielding, and the villainy of Serge Stanloff is well brought out by Mr Herbert Humber. Mr Edwin Lever gives an exceedingly clever embodiment of the Maharajah of Balore, and Mr W. S. Hardy is amusing as Tommy Fitzherbert. Miss Annie Saker worthily depicts the trying part of Violet Livingstone; Miss Beatrice Sinclair is forcible and realistic as Muriel Zoluski; and Miss Marie Glynne makes an excellent Matilda Figgins. In the comedy parts Mr Harwood Roberts (Orlando Figgins), Miss Queenie Nigel (Birdie), and Miss Violet Godfrey (Baby) fill their parts with credit, and cause much merriment.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The programme this week, headed by the original R. G. Knowles, includes the Florador Quartet, in a laughable sketch, *Naughty Nin;* the Young American Quintet of vocalists and dancers; the pleasing comedienne, Marie Reeve; the popular singer Geo. Brooks; Princess Pauline, comedienne; the Ashers, in *The Dude and the Soubrette;* Rezene and Robini, and Lizzie Daniels, character comedienne.

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; Manager, Mr C. Algie.—An excellent programme is submitted here this week, and deservedly meets with much appreciation. Onda and Leon give a clever and comical exhibition on the triple bars; Miss Olive Vane's male impersonations meet with success, as also does Phedona in an electric musical act; Mr Alf Bishop, a quaint and amusing little comedian, is equally at home as a vocalist and dancer; Mr Alfred Barker and Miss Rozsika, with their miniature circus, are in great favour. A smart turn is contributed by the Leotard Bros., hat-throwers and staircase performers; and Little Sid, a droll clown, is already a big favourite.

CASTLEFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—The Hardie and Von Leer company opened here on Monday in *Two Little Vagabonds*. The setting, mounting, and dressing are all that could be desired, and the artists give a good account of themselves. Miss Frances Ferina as Dick and Miss Violet Carr as Wally play their respective parts with much feeling, and are entitled to high praise. Miss Elena Lonsdale is pathetic, and at times powerful, in her acting as Marion Thornton. Miss Daisy Royale grasps well the character of Barbara Scarth. Sister Randall is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Kate Hesslegrave. Biddy Mullins is faithfully depicted by Miss Eleanor Papera. Mr Talbot Homewood as George Thornton carries his load of trouble with graceful melancholy. Mr Douglas Cecil is good as Captain Darville. Mr Harry B. Major is effective as John Scarth. Mr H. Hesslegrave is a good exponent of the brutality of the Gaffer, whose confederates, Dido Bunce and the Coughdrop, have clever representatives in Messrs Chas. T. Doc and Chas. H. Hughes.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Castleford Hippodrome Syndicate; Entertainment Directors, Messrs Herbert Cole and Harry Bancroft.—Topping the bill here are the Sisters Russell (Ida and Lil), who win much favour; Mike Cray is a clever comedy juggler; a miniature drama by Mr Frank Maxwell's company is exceedingly well received; Mr Fred Dice is well to the fore as an eccentric comedian and dancer; Harry Wills, with a good voice, sings some sensible songs; Miss Amy Allnutt is excellent in comedy; Black Apollo gives every satisfaction by his playing of ten different instruments; and the performance concludes with some first-rate pictures on the Cinématograph.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr C. P. Levilly's company is here this week. On Monday night *Amorelle* was most successfully played. Mr Eric Thorne as Dr. Crow was received with delight, being the life and soul of the piece. Miss Stella Gastelle is also a great favourite here, and in the title-rôle was delightful; her singing and dancing were all that could be wished. Miss Kitty Cavendish made a winsome Lesbia; Miss Madge Avery (Marina) gave an admirable representation; Mr Fred Seymour has a nice voice, and was heard to advantage as Father Dotard. Mr Robert Fairbanks as Count of Cideaux, Mr William Griffin as Boissey, and Mr Newton Ide as François carefully handled the parts, and Mr John Doran made a capital Jules. The chorus was excellent, and the dresses and scenery first-class. *La Poupée* was played on Thursday and Friday.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr Geo. G. Ridley.—The management is announcing another drama this week—namely, *A Path of Thorns*, the joint effort of Arthur Shirley and Sutton Vane. The company is toured by Hardie and Von Leer, with Mr Claude King as John Edmunds.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr Frank J. Donne.—*The Belle of the Orient* tops the bill here, and is proving very attractive. Miss Madoline Rees makes a capital Ruth Verney; and Mr Joe Peterman causes roars of laughter as Ike Novinski; and the general staging is much admired. Reddick Anderson scores with "Don't cease to fight;" Vincent does some sensational tumbling; Mr and Mrs Harold Finden are freely applauded for their interpretation of the duologue *A Desperate Remedy;* and others assisting are Miss Blanche Vincent, serio; Little Dando, diminutive comic vocalist; Avon and Crest, speciality artistes; and Ray Maskell, comedienne and dancer.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager, Mr H. Oswald Redford.—*Little Mary* is with us this week, with Mr Arthur Holmes Gore as the Earl of Carlton. His performance is worthy of all praise. Miss Christine Silver as Moira submits a charming interpretation of the part; Mr Arthur Kightley as the Earl's son is appreciated; Mr A. W. Bascombe is excellent as the youthful Earl; Miss Espeth Dudgeon as the Countess Plumleigh and Miss Evelyn Neillda as Lady Milly both do well; Mr George Mudie as the eminent specialist is good. The play is well staged and admirably put on. *The Bugle Call* raises the curtain nightly.

CHESTER.

ROYALTY.—Proprietor, Mr Milton Bode; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Burgess Harries.—*If I Were King*, a successful romantic play, has received a cordial welcome here this week. The piece is well performed by Mr Frank Fenton's company. Mr Frank Fenton himself impersonates the character of Villon with much fervour, while Mr Clive Currie sustains the trying part of the King with decided ability. Miss Marion Gray scores as Katherine, and Miss Louise Vansitter acts the character of the Abbess very creditably.

CHESTERFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holbery Hardy.—Variety takes the place here of the usual melodrama. Topping the bill is *Humanity*. Ishmael, Hindoo magician, performs some clever tricks; Johnny Holland and company are seen to advantage in the screaming absurdity, *My Friend the Boots;* and Minnie D'Aubyn, clever burlesque artist; Harrigan and Holt, comedians; Sisters Charnley, duettists and dancers; Kydd and Kydd, comedians; Valvero, marine painter; and Ruffell's Bioscope complete a good programme.

CORPORATION THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Samuel L. Urwick.—A capital variety entertainment is provided here, headed by the Six Brothers Luck. Others who contribute good turns are Gillin, ventriloquist; Wallace Whitney, comedian; Miss Beattie Foster, vocalist; Chas. Beanland; comedian; Fredk. Horsfall, comedian; and Miss Mabel Thorne, who is always a warm favourite here. The Imperial Bioscope is also an attractive feature of the bill.

CHORLEY.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—A capital variety programme is before the patrons here this week. The chief attraction is Hanco, who frees himself from handcuffs, &c., provided by the audience. He also introduces some clever card manipulating. Flo Hilton, male impersonator, scores a decided hit with several good songs. A pantomime sketch by the Four Kays causes great amusement. The Two Daniels, black artistes, prove a pair of smart dancers, and Mr Tom Johnstone, vocalist and mimic, is heartily appreciated. Other entertaining turns are provided by Daisy Belfrey, comedienne; Fred Erick, eccentric comedian; and Karr and Kooney, patter comedians. A series of up-to-date pictures shown by the Bio completes the programme.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—This week Mr Douglas Bruce and company are appearing here in *In a Woman's Grip*. Mr Herbert Pearson exhibits talent in the rôle of Frank Haydon; Mr Bernard Copping artistically renders Maurice Stanton; Mr Edwin Clarke delineates in good style the part of Sir Edmond Morton; and Mr Robert Soane is well cast as Major Edwards. Miss Beatrice May acts with judgment the difficult rôle of Mary Langley, and Miss Marguerite Trevosper successfully renders Lillian Fairley.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—Mr George Dance's company in the musical play *The School Girl* is here this week. The part of Sir Ormesby St. Leger is ably taken by Mr Leslie Holland. He is well supported by Mr Charles Adeson as General Marchmont; while Mr Lester Morrab is responsible for Edgar Verney. Mr Frank Sutton is very funny as Corner, a clerk at the Open Stock Exchange, and Mr Cameron Carr is good as Peter Overend. Miss Ethel Beech is a great success as Lillian Leigh; Miss Molly Walbran also scores as Mamie Rockfeller; and Miss Nell Hope as Saafedra makes an imposing artist's model.

CRADLEY HEATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—In spite of counter attactions at Netherton and Dudley Mr John H. Morton's company has been playing the *Rajah of Ranianpore* to crowded houses this week at the above theatre. The incidental music is pretty, the scenic effects are good, and the parts are capably handled. Special mention should be made of Mr Charles Linney and Miss Marion Walker, and the Rajah Troupe of lady dancers are deservedly applauded.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company is appearing here in *On the Stroke of Twelve*. Mr Fred Rivers plays excellently as Jack Rutledge, the hero of the piece, and is well supported by Mr Fred Guiness as George Bainbridge. James Horton is ably portrayed by Mr H. C. Hunt; Mr K. H. Edwards gives a characteristic rendering of the Jew, Moses Levi; Mr F. J. Little is well received as Jasper, his laughing song causing much hilarity. Miss Nellie Moore makes a pleasing Jess Bainbridge, her clever dancing being greatly appreciated; Miss B. St. Ruth is well placed as Doris Rutledge; and Miss E. G. Turner plays ably the part of the adventuress, Marie Bergerre. In act three specialities are given by Messrs Bass and Guiness, Mr K. H. Edwards, and Mr Fred J. Little. On Wednesday evening a complimentary benefit was given to Miss Nellie Moore.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—*In Dahomey* was produced here this week and drew good houses. Mr Dan Avery as Rareback Pimperton is most humorous; Mr Charles Hart as Shylock Homestead ably depicts the part; Mr Peter Hampton makes an effective Hamilton Lightfoot; Mr Peter Washington scores as Moses Lightfoot; Miss Pauline Freeman as Rosetta Lightfoot achieves a great success; Miss Laura Bowman is good as Cecilia; Miss Stella Hart as Mrs Stringer and Mr Walter Dixon as Hustling Charlie are also capable.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. Kemble.—The principal turn here is supplied by Stylo, who does some clever things with a number of hoops; Monti and Chivers go through some wonderful tricks on roller skates; Charles Ousley dances remarkably well; Akbar, gymnast, is responsible for some difficult dislocation tricks; Bella Leaburn, comedienne, is pleasing; and Beatrice Bonnie, serio; and Ivy Graham, comedienne, supply good turns.

COLNE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr G. Harding.—The attraction here this week is Mr Charles Watson Mill and company in the picturesque melodrama *A Wrecker of Men*. In the rôle of Jim Murley, "the Slogger," Mr Mill is seen to advantage; as Risca Mallinson Miss Rosalind Tate is capital; whilst Mr C. Yorke makes a first-class Pharosaphus. Mr John Cullen as Karnaphus, the mummy, is good, and as Doris Melville Miss Victoria May deserves a word of praise. Mr A. Maurice is successful as Guise Strange, and Mr J. Cumming is the Hon. Reggie. Miss Kitty Melville is well received as Vavasole Slopper, a nondescript. As an additional attraction Mr Harding has engaged, at great expense, the services of Tom Grave, the cyclist on the revolving wheel, a daring and clever performance.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is paying a first visit to Croydon in *The Money Makers*. Mr Frank Lacy is easy and natural in the part of Captain Archie Fitzgerald; Mr Edward Bonfield is a gentlemanly Charles Clifton; Mr Allen Thomas contributes an exhilarating rendering of Matthew M'Dougall; Miss Muriel Ashwynne is quite a charming Dot; Miss Lorna Lawrence is a spirited Mabel; Miss Mary Griffiths is great as Mrs Bannerman; Miss Violet Ley is magnificent as Baby Berkeley; and Miss Frances Davie is full of animation and good humour as Bella. The large number of small characters are adequately played. The curtain raiser is *Two in a Trap*, well rendered by Mr Frank Lacy as Jim and Miss Violet Ley as Kit.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry E. Ricklitt.—The attraction here is a return visit of *Shadows of a Great City*, admirably played by Mr Harry Foxwell's company. Miss Sheila Walsh gives a performance of merit as Nellie Stannish; Miss Dorothy Neville is a frolicsome Biddy Roonan; Mr Harry Foxwell is responsible for valuable work as Tom Cooper; Mr Charles Vivian is excellent in the rôle of George Benson; Mr Arthur A. Tomlin is praiseworthy as Arkwright; and Mr Newton Pearce causes plenty of amusement as Jim Farren.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—Favourable comment is being made on the liberal variety bill here, which includes Fred Karno's company in *Dandy Thieves*. Dan Rolyat is a quaint and curious Sergt. Lighting, and able assistance is given by G. Hudson, G. Usher, Leonora Castelle, and Misses Moore and Rose. Frances Haskell, in her répertoire of illustrated songs, makes a big hit; Millie Melville is an agreeable vocalist and dancer; Carlo and Maie are skilful acrobats; Alfred Young, conjuror, is relished; Harry Barker is a genuine character comedian; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, singing cardboard box makers, win applause; Frank Sylvo is entertaining in a comedy juggling act; and Tom Edwards, with Curly, the newsboy figure, has a warm reception. Clara Urwin, serio; May Terriss, comedienne; and Lester King, vocalist, are also billed.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Mr Arnold Bell and company are this week, appearing in *Ben-my-Chree*, Mr Bell himself figures with distinct advantage as Dan Mylrea, Mr H. W. Clifford gives a very intelligent rendering of the part of the Bishop, and Mr F. C. Robson is responsible for a faithful representation of the Deemster; Messrs Cuthbert Imrie and F. C. Robson acquitting themselves effectively as the Governor and Ewan Mylrea respectively. As Mona Miss Frances Campbell plays with consummate ability all through, and Miss Henley makes an acceptable Nancy; she also contributes a good song, and supplies the singing in the Chapel scene. A word of hearty praise should be accorded Mr Wm. Reid, whose assumption of Davy Fayle does him great credit. Miss Violet Campbell is a vivacious Kitty, and Mr Joe Bardsley is deserving as Hommey Beg.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—An excellent programme this week is headed by F. V. St. Clair, vocal comedian. His songs, which are thoroughly up to date, are rendered in a smart manner, and gain him several encores. Amy Anderson and company score a distinct success in their latest novelty *An East end Incident;* Henri Bekker, a clever conjuror, is cordially received; Jack Lane, a diverting Yorkshire rustic comedian, causes much hearty laughter; Tell and Tell submit a very creditable acrobatic and tumbling act; Sisters Warner, pleasing duettists and dancers, merit special mention; Amstell and Lule are highly amusing comedy artistes; and the Sheffield Bioscope Company are responsible for several interesting pictures.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr Tom B. Davis's company is here in *Florodora*. First honours must be awarded Miss Leonora Grieve as Dolores, her graceful embodiment being much admired. Mr Daly Cooper as Anthony Tweedlepunch is very funny; Mr Cyril Dane is thoroughly at home in the part of Frank Abercoed; and Mr Derick Knowles infuses plenty of life into the part of Captain Arthur Donegal. Mr Charles J. Barber is highly successful as Cyrus Gilfain. Miss Daisy Byford is a pretty and dainty Angela Gilfain, and Miss Rene Steadman is decidedly captivating as Lady Holyrood, and plays with great charm.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—An attractive programme is presented here this week. The Brothers Lloyd head the bill, and are very popular here, combining marvellous musical talent with clever acrobatic agility. Lilian Travellie is a charming songstress, and the Brewsters, lady vocalists, secure hearty applause. Keith and Merson are acrobatic comedians of a high order, and Frank Lyon gives a popular turn. Helen Martin, ballad vocalist, is highly successful; the Comos, described as musical lunatics, are diverting; and Sam Dalton is clever in his character delineations.

DUMFRIES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—On Monday and two following nights Mr and Mrs Charles Clifford's company was here with the drama *At Twelve Midnight*. Leading parts are ably sustained by Mr Charles Clifford as Sir Robert Dare and Mr James Stuart, who is very good as Dick Holland, the detective, Mr M. Thorpe is well placed as David Kingston, Mr Harry Cooke as Sammy Bimbo is most amusing, and Miss Maud Campfield is pathetic as Hazeldene.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—*The Dandy Doctor* company is doing good business here, being under the management of Mr Edward Marris. As Melchisadek Brown Mr James Salter gives an excellent interpretation, while Mr James Danvers as Colonel Pendred is extremely versatile in all his business. Mr Walter Nugent as Dr. Vandyke plays with ability, and Mr W. N. Gillmore is able and good as Bertie. Miss Florence Smithers as Jane is very clever, and keeps the house in one constant titter. Miss Lizzie Primmer as Ivy Pendred is seen to much advantage, and Mr Ben Rowe and Miss Holden in a speciality cake-walk are very smart.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Geo. Weldon.—The bill here is undoubtedly a strong one this week, being headed by Fanny Robina, who, with her popular songs, is a warm favourite, Billie Bint, comedian, is smart, and the Bros. Testo, with their musical act, deserve warm praise. An acceptable turn is that of Florrie Cooper, and Max Merlin, boneless wonder, has a marvellous act. Horton and Linder do a genuine bar performance. Paddy is still the droll agouste, and Tom Williams, Welsh baritone, completes a good programme.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—Great success rewarded Mr Charles Macdona's company upon the presentation here on Monday of *The Gay Parisienne*. Mr Tom May as Mr Ebenezer Honeycombe, the shining light, is the life and soul of the piece, and he is capably supported by Miss Gwen Clifford in the rôle of Mrs Honeycombe. Miss Ethel Wade's impersonation of Nora is especially effective, and as Ruth, sister to Mary Jane, honours cluster around Miss Madge Soutter. Mr Arthur Watts is a commendable Major Fossdyke; Mr Thomas Kennard is a capable Tom Everleigh; Mr Herbert Pearce is admirable as Algernon P. Ducie; and Mr Tom Beck sustains with vigour the part of Percy Tooting. Hans is well enacted by Mr J. Fitzjames. Mr Charles A. Maynard is a typical M. Pompier, and the title-rôle is well undertaken by Miss Jennie Richards.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Fred C. Dew.—Mr John Tully's company is paying a return visit here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr Kora Deanrajah is a satisfactory Uncle Tom. George Harris has an earnest and sympathetic exponent in Mr Arthur Ayrton, whose banjo solo is well received. Mr Charles Colwyn is effective and consistent as Mr St. Clair, and Mr James Palmer as Mr Shelby is equally good. A prominent performance, and one worthy of special mention, is that of Mr Fred C. Kay, who fully realises the brutality and callousness of Simon Legree, while a similar part, and one equally as well played, is that of Dan Haley, portrayed by Mr E. Kellen Taylor. Mr St. Vincent Beechey is amusing as Marks, and Mr W. H. Cecil Pierpoint is responsible for a large amount of fun as Phineas Fletcher. Sergeant H. Danby, the rifle and tambourine expert, has made a decided hit as Pete. Mr A. Jones as Adolphe, Mr F. M'Carthy as Sambo, Mr Peter Johnson as Quimbo, and Mr Fred Martin as Skeggs are also worthy of praise. A good deal of sympathy is expressed by the audience for Eliza Harris, played by Miss Florence Venimore, and this talented lady is also most powerful in her portrayal of the slave Cassy. Miss Lillian Danby is as excellent as ever as Aunt Chloe, and her well-rendered Negro ditties bring down the house. Miss Kitty Wood scores a decided success as Topsy, her dancing being received with rapturous applause. Miss Ada Lewis looks charming and acts well as Emmeline, and the part of Little Eva is satisfactorily sustained by Little Marie.

DUNDALK.

TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Urban Council.—The Elster-Grime opera company is here in favourite operas, and opened on Monday with the ever-popular *Maritana*. *The Bohemian Girl* followed on Tuesday, and was performed with equal success. *Faust* was produced on Wednesday, when Mr Kemble as Valentine scored a great success, while Miss Gilbert as Siebel fairly brought down the house by her singing of "Oh, Marguerita." On Thursday night *Carmen* was produced, with a very strong cast, and Bizet's charming opera has never been heard here to better advantage. In the title-rôle Miss Marie Elster sang with her accustomed charm, while her acting of the part was all that could be desired. As the Toreador Mr Kemble presented a vigorous performance, his singing of the Toreador's song being one of the best items of the week. The other characters were in good hands. The other operas given during the week were *Fra Diavolo*, *The Lily of Killarney*, and *The Daughter of the Regiment*. The operas were all well staged.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—Sir Henry Irving and company occupy the boards this week, this being our premier actor's farewell visit to Dundee. On Monday evening *The Merchant of Venice* was produced before a brilliant assemblage. The production reflected the greatest credit on all concerned. A splendid reception awaited the initial appearance of Sir Henry in the character of Shylock, in which part he firmly riveted the attention of his auditors by his masterful character study and quietly effective by-play. Miss Edith Wynne Matthison appeared as Portia. She made a capital appearance in the Trial scene, being dignified and persuasively forceful. Mr Gerald Lawrence was assigned the part of Bassanio, in which he was most successful. Mr James Hearn was exceptionally good as Antonio, and Mr H. B. Stanford was as conspicuously successful in the part of Gratiano. Mr Charles Dodsworth as Launcelot Gobbo, Mr F. Tyars as the Prince of Morocco, Mr T. Reynolds as Old Gobbo, Mr Mark Paton as the Duke of Venice, Mr F. D. Davis as Salanio, Mr Vincent Sternroyd as Lorenzo, Mr J. Archer as Jubal, and Mr Lionel Belmore as Salarino, all rendered good service. Mrs Cecil Raleigh made a fine impression as Jessica, and Miss Grace Hampton was a very pleasant Nerissa. On Tuesday evening Tennyson's *Becket* was staged before another fashionable audience. After the performance Sir Henry was the guest of the evening at a supper held in his honour at the Royal Hotel.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross. — O'Gust, the great mimic, occupies the premier position on the bill. The Watson Family return with their delightful musical entertainment. Kloof and Ramsay create much merriment with their comedy act. Ruby Bijou does a smart quick-change Terpsichorean act. J. G. Aitken is a great favourite here, and meets with a great reception. The others include Andy Burn, the Two Graces, the Vance Bros., and Mr Frank Gee.

EMPIRE, LIMITED —Manager, Mr Will Percival. —Mr A. W. B. Kingston's company has firmly established itself here and continues to draw large attendances. *Robert Burns* was produced on Monday, with Mr Kingston in the title-rôle. Mr Harry Egan is seen at his best in the character of Soutar Johnnie, and with Mr James T. Dale as Tam O'Shanter the fun is kept going. Miss Madge F. Young is a capital Jean Armour.

GAIETY, LIMITED —Manager. Mr S. King Alexander.—A stirring military drama, *The Relief of Mafeking*, is the attraction here. Mr Henry Bedford as Colonel Playden Howell makes a manly soldier. As Captain George Hart Mr Alec Alexander is very successful. Miss Gertrude Gilbert as Lady Muriel Denbigh makes a creditable appearance. Miss Enid Trench as Sister Ursula and Miss Bessie Bedford as Alice Leigh render good service.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—Mr Arthur Bourchier's company, under the management of Messrs Sylvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux, opened here on Monday with *The Fairy's Dilemma*. The rôle of the Fairy Rosebud is played in a charming and captivating manner by Miss Elsie Cooke. Mr C. Herbert Hewitson gives a humorous impersonation of the Demon Alcohol, and Miss Ada Homer as the Lady Angela Wealdstone is excellent. Mr Charles V. France sustains with credit the part of Col. Sir Trevor Mauleverer, and Mr Frank Stanmore causes laughter by his interpretation of the Rev. Aloysius Parfitt. Mr Frank Collins adds to the diversion as Justice Whortle. *The Conversion of Nat Sturge* is the curtain-raiser, and in this Mr C. V. France, Miss Eva Turnour, Mr Frank Collins, and Mr Morris Harvey appear.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—Miss Lena Ashwell and company are appearing here in *Marguerite*. Miss Ashwell in the title-rôle displays undoubted ability, her acting throughout being all that could be desired. The rôle of Neuville is played in an able manner by Mr Frank Mills, and Mr Chas. A. Doran excellently fills the rôle of Citizen St. Juste. Mr Thos. Holding as Phillipe Marquise De Pommeuse plays in a convincing style, and Miss Sydney Fairbrother makes a winsome Mdlle. Senedar. Miss Helen Macbeth gives an effective portrayal of Madame Trail, and Mr C. P. Peel is exceedingly good as M. De Luneville. Miss Marie Hudspeth is excellent as Madame Brunet, and Mr Chas. Groves is well suited as St. Phar. Miss Hilda Dick as Mdlle. Rose and Miss Mabel M. Aldridge are both creditable in their respective parts.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—Mrs Hubert O'Grady's company opened here on Monday, when the Irish comedy-drama *The Famine* was presented. Mr Tom Nerney displays ability in the rôle of Sadler, and as Nellie O'Connor Miss Gwendoline Hastings is most effective. Mr Arthur Gribbin cleverly acts the part of John O'Connor, and Miss Violet Wood is seen to advantage as Lady Alice Raymond. Mr George Carrington ably sustains the part of Sir Richard Raymond, and as Father Barry Mr James Randall is admirable. Lumley Sackville is capitally played by Mr A. Weekley, and Mr Harry Harrild is satisfactory as Dr. Kilmore.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Figgis.—Chung Ling Soo, the clever conjuror, is here this week, and meets with a cordial reception. Mr and Mrs Edward Lucas, in character scenes from Dickens, meet with success, and Florence Esdaile is a charming ballad vocalist. Smythson's comedy company, in the sketch, *The Lie-Alarm*, causes plenty of laughter, and Edie King is a pleasing comedienne and dancer. Calile and Walker are diverting comedy artistes, and Charles Chard, comedian, seems to have caught on. Annie Casey is an excellent comedienne, and the Empire Pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—The latest novelty, "The Mystic Kettle," is the leading item here this week, and the extraordinary feats accomplished are surprising and interesting. Miss Madge Grey, dialect comedienne, has a host of admirers, and G. H. Keith is a clever character comedian. Toile and Daraigne are acceptable gymnasts, and the paintings done by M. Vandinoff are duly appreciated. Steeley and Dowton are capital in their acrobatic comedy act, and Victor Newman in his scene, entitled *Living Pictures*, is well received. The Falcons are good hand-to-hand balancers, and G. W. Hastings, descriptive vocalist, and Kitty Gower, character danseuse, are both successful in their respective turns.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr John H. Stevenson.—A complete change in the style of entertainment at this establishment was inaugurated on Monday evening, when M'Naughton's vaudeville company occupied the stage. One of the principal artistes is Mr Harry Tate with his motoring skit. Miss Fatmah Diard meets with success as a vocalist. As comedy jugglers Alber and Amber are good, and Carne Curre and his educated dog are entertaining. The comedians Reilly and Taylor have found friends, and Max Sterling is a dexterous illusionist. Excellent songs are rendered by Mr Arthur Aldridge. Pallester's Bioscope has a number of new pictures.

WORLD'S FAIR MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr C. A. James.—The company engaged here this week includes:—John Chambers, the armless carpenter; Fred Walton, living marionettes; Ada Redfern, serio and dancer; Walter Bannell, character vocalist; and Jenny Joy, ballad vocalist.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE-PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr A. Standen Trigge.—Mr Gore Ouseley's company is appearing here in *The Lady's Maid*. The principals have been excellently chosen, and the many charming ladies, beautifully dressed, add to the general brightness. Miss Isa Bowman as Jane sparkles in all the full share of work which falls to her, and in her acting, singing, and dancing she introduces a blithe, genial spirit, which soon spreads to the audience. Miss Pauline Hague as Alison Grey has an individual grace and charm which, combined with a most pleasing voice, comprise a very agreeable performance. Miss Noel Neville is an animated and entirely successful Zaza Marmosette; and her four attendants are quite pictures of beauty in their elaborate gowns; while Misses A. Rosemary and F. Froissant prove capital dancers. The main comedy work is in the able hands of Mr C. T. Chaloner, and as Samuel Spriggs he amuses and delights the audience both in singing and dancing. Mr Harold Eden is a most amusing Puphpayst, and Mr Frank Randall at short notice did well as Josiah Biffin. Mr Dennis Drew makes good use of his voice as Lieut. Charlie Marchmont, Mr Harry Askham proves a capable William Sentence, and Mr Harold Cundall is a very efficient officer Pietro. Mr Harry Humphries is the courteous manager for the company.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—To mark the closing of this theatre, and as a tribute to excellent work done by Mr Lloyd, a complimentary benefit was given him on Monday. Messrs E. A. Foster and W. H. Ash organised the performance, and talent of a consistently good standard was given. The smartness and smoothness with which the whole programme was carried out was due to the very able stage-management of Mr Geo. Egbert. Mr Maurice Hoffman and company appeared in a strong dramatic sketch, *The Sorrows of Satan*. Miss Nita Clavering and Mr Charles Conway gave an amusing duologue; Mr Arthur Boyne highly pleased the audience with his comic songs; Miss Dorothy Francis was a sweet-voiced refined vocalist; Mr Charles Sloman sang comic ditties in good style; Miss Gladys Archbutt was a clever comedienne; and the remainder of the programme was filled by Miss Lily Wright, Miss Ena Beryl, the Eastbourne Musical Fraternity (a very successful item), George Helen and Emmie Cozens, and the Yates Trio. Mr Lloyd has now concluded his tenure as proprietor here, and if only qualified success can be placed to his credit his efforts have been earnest and untiring. All branches of dramatic fare have been offered to his patrons here, from sensational drama to grand opera, and amongst music hall stars he has introduced to audiences here Miss Vesta Tilley and Miss Harriett Vernon.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Mr Norman Macowan's company is this week appearing here in *Monsieur Beaucaire*. Mr Macowan takes chief honours as Beaucaire. He is dignified and earnest, and is a favourite with his audience. Mr F. Stuart Wilson gives a good, sound performance as the Duke of Winterset; Mr Herbert Cornish is a capital Major Molyneux; and Mr C. Gough is a hearty, frolicsome Mr Rakell. Mr Hans Schlessinger does capital double duty as François and the Marquis; Miss Violet Sterne is well suited to the part of Lady Mary Carlisle, and she is a very pleasing actress, with a penetrating power, handsome presence, and a pleasing voice. Miss Millie Hamer is both pretty and dainty as Lucy Rellerton, and the remaining parts are ably filled.

EBBW VALE.

KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Knight.—During the first three nights of the week, Miss Winifred Chalmer's company in *Woman's Revenge* played to fairly good houses, the bye-election in West Monmouthshire having some effect upon the attendance. Mr Henry L. Osmond gave a powerful representation of Frank Drummond; Mr R. Mansel as Dick Overstone was one of the successes of the piece; and Miss Winifred Chalmers was a delightful Mary Lonsdale.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Hague; Acting-Manager, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—Messrs H. J. Callan and Wentworth Croke's company is paying a welcome return visit here with *Florodora*. Several of the old favourites were recognised on making their reappearance on Monday, and were heartily received. These included Messrs Wm. Everard, Frank Grans, C. Young Fixott, and Miss Dorothy Sephton, who all repeated performances which made them popular here on the occasion of the last visit. Mr Arthur Lenville gives a humorous rendering of Tweedlepunch, and Miss Violet Bronson is highly successful as Dolores, though she appeared to be suffering from a cold on the opening night. Miss May Yates is a charming and winsome Angela Gilfain.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—Mr George Dance's company opened at this theatre on Monday in *The Country Girl*. The company is a well balanced one, and the favourite numbers were encored again and again. Mr Robert Michaelis was a manly Geoffrey Challoner, and used an agreeable baritone voice to much advantage. Barry was in the excellent hands of Mr Charles R. Walenn, who kept the audience in capital humour by his droll acting and byplay. As Mr Raikes Mr St. John Hamund made quite a hit with a pointed rendering of an up-to-date topical song, and Mr Joe Nightingale was an exceedingly diverting Sir Joseph Verity. Miss Maud Boyd sang with taste and feeling as Marjory Joy, her refined acting being a feature. Nan was played with suitable buoyancy and effect by Miss Daisy Le Hay, who sang brightly, and Miss Ethel Negretti used a powerful voice well as the Princess Melaneh. Miss Maud Prenton acted and sang with charming vivacity as Sophie and proved herself a nimble and agile dancer, Miss Mary Hay completing the cast as Mrs St. Quentin. The choruses were given with abundant spirit, and the mounting was very effective.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—A visit from Mr and Mrs Kendal is always welcome, and their reappearance here on Monday attracted a large and highly delighted audience. The opening piece was *A Scrap of Paper*, which has long held a foremost place in the company's répertoire. Colonel Blake suits Mr Kendal admirably, and the humour and effectiveness of his performance were never more apparent. Mr Bassett Roe was also exceptionally fine as the saturnine Sir John Ingram, and Mr Ernest Hendrie contributed an enjoyable bit of character as Dr. Penguin. Mr R. Sheldrick threw a good deal of spirit into his boyish rendering of Archie Hamilton, and smaller parts by Messrs W. M. Rutherfurd and Robert Burnett were ably filled. Mrs Kendal exercised her accustomed sway over the house as Susan Hartley. Miss Elise Clarens, an actress of culture and refinement, played Lady Ingram with captivating effect, and Miss May Jerrold made Lucy Franklyn a very lovable character. Clever Mrs A. B. Tapping sustained the rôle of Mrs Penguin with skill, and Miss Lola Duncan's appearance as Mrs Perkins was quite an interesting event. On Tuesday *The Elder Miss Blossom* introduced Mr and Mrs Kendal in their now popular characters of Andrew Quick and Dorothy Blossom, and on Wednesday they appeared with complete success in *Still Waters Run Deep*. *Dick Hope* was reserved for Friday.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—A notable dramatic attraction was provided on Monday by the appearance of Mr Frederick Maxwell and company, in the well-written and exciting sketch *Lord Harkaway*, which had a hearty reception from a large audience. Mr Maxwell's impersonation of the hero was powerful and impressive, and Mr Roy Cochrane proved himself an accomplished actor as Stephen Landon. Mr Gerald Blake was also good as Richard Deane, and Miss Lois Du Cane distinguished herself by the womanly tenderness and quiet effectiveness of her acting. Another big item was the acrobatic display of the Tourbillon Troupe of cyclists; the Parros Brothers showed unusual skill as equilibrists; Ford and Hanson gave a first-rate musical show; the Tribune Trio appeared in their popular speciality, *The Cheerful Idiot;* and Miss Margaret Radcliffe contributed a couple of sentimental ballads. Mr Charles R. Sweet, in the guise of a burglar, produced clever effects on the piano and cornet; the posturing of Nello, the lady contortionist, was particularly graceful; Mr Charles Stevens did an early vocal turn satisfactorily; Espinosa and Neilson pleased with their dancing; and Juan and M'Que finished up the evening with a diverting knockabout show.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—*The Conscript* has been played here this week by Messrs Mitchell and Belton's company. The parts were all well represented. Mr George Mitchell creating a deep impression as Karl, and Miss Mary Dawson affording admirable support as Nadia.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—A rich musical treat is being provided this week by the appearance of the Moody-Manners opera company. A capital start was made on Monday when a good house assembled to enjoy Gounod's masterpiece, *Faust*. Miss Enriqueta Crichton gave a delightful impersonation of Marguerite, her sweet and telling voice being heard to the greatest advantage. Miss Telfy Davies as Siebel quickly gained the goodwill of the audience, singing with care and acceptance. Mr Edward Arthur acted the name-part with success, singing with ease and discretion. The Mephistopheles of Mr Charles Tilbury left little to be desired, his cultured voice proving of immense value in the concerted numbers; and Mr David Fuller sang and acted with feeling as Valentine. Quite a feature was the large chorus and orchestra, under the bâton of Mr Harrison Frewin. Other operas presented during the week are *Daughter of the Regiment*, *Pagliacci*, *Carmen*, *Maritana*, *Tannhauser*, and *Bohemian Girl*.

VICTORIA HALL, LIMITED.—Secretary, Mr M. J. Dunsford.—This week Gilbert's Circus conclude their season here. The programme, which is a very popular one, includes Tom Cannon's wrestling troupe, Woodward's performing seals, Victoria Dagmar, Agnes Krembser, Zenary Bros., and the Elysian Troupe.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—There has been a double attraction at this theatre during the week, *Our Boys* being produced on the first three nights, and *The Wearin' o' the Green* on the last three. The fine old comedy of *Our Boys* had a good reception on Monday from a large house. Mr Thomas Thorne in the rôle of Perkin Middlewick, the butterman, was admirable. Mr M. Russell Rosse as Sir Geoffrey Champneys filled the part with due dignity and hauteur; and as the "boys" Mr C. Otter Hind and Mr Wilfred E. Brandon did their parts every justice. Miss Ethel Verne as Violet Melrose, Miss Celestine Brandon as Mary Melrose, and Miss Lucie Evelyn as Clarissa Champneys were all well placed. The piece, which was prettily appointed, was preceded by the comedietta *A Silent Woman*.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, in the drama *The Silver King*, is drawing large audiences here this week. Mr Austin Melford appears with great success as Wilfred Denver; Miss Emilie Polini gives an excellent portrayal of Nellie Denver; Mr C. C. Grattan deserves great praise for his admirable acting as Daniel Jaikes; Miss Amy Manfree is delightful as Cissie; Master Jack Evan is a general favourite as Ned; Mr Charles Levey does good work as Captain Skinner; Miss Phyllis Daily as Olive Skinner shows ability; Miss Margaret Rooke and Miss Dolly Norton in their respective rôles of Susie and Mrs Gammage are decidedly good; Mr James L. Power is a very creditable Henry Corkett; and Mr Arthur H. Rooke as Elijah Coombe acts well.

GAINSBOROUGH.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robt. Kirk.—Mr Chas. Macdona's company, under the management of Mr Mulver, appeared here to good houses for three nights last week in the successful farcical musical comedy *The Gay Parisienne*. Pompier and Julie were played by Mr C. A. Maynard and Miss Jennie Richards in a most vivacious manner; Miss Madge Soutter was a quaint Ruth; Mr Tom May and Mr Arthur Watts gave amusing studies of Honeycomb and the Major; Mr Celil Lloyd was a good Dingle; Mr T. Kennard and Miss Ethel Wade sang well as Tom and Norah; and the other characters were in capable hands. Some excellent glee singing was introduced by Messrs Jones, Reid, Kennard, and Fitzjames.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—A strong variety bill here is headed by Theo Okito, who gives an entertaining Chinese magical act. The Dugros Trio provide an amusing aerial comic gymnastic act, while the Muir-Bartlett sketch, *The Lady and the Lunatic*, is productive of much amusement. Barney Stuart, Alec Fisher, and Learto are responsible for good turns; and the strong bill also includes W. Permane's educated bears, Grant and Allen, comedians; and Signor and Madame Prosper Benn, who provide an interesting sketch, entitled *From Pavement to Stage*.

GILLINGHAM (KENT).

T. G. TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME.—Under the presence and patronage of the Mayor and greater part of the Aldermen and Councillors, this establishment was reopened on Monday evening. The following items are included in the programme:—The Rosaires, in an acrobatic display; Wm. Tudor, with his troupe of performing ponies, goat, and dog; Mdlle. Rozella, equilibrist; Mr John Yelding, who has made many friends during previous visits; Little Valdo; the Flying Zedoras, in conjunction with Alva, the human arrow; Harland and Rollison, musical eccentrics; Marie Winsome, male impersonator; Mansell Fane, vocalist; Winnie Scott, burlesque actress and vocalist; Lillie Pender, comedienne; Bob Pearson, comedian; Percy Maye, female impersonator; and the Bio-Tableaux.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphrys.—A large audience witnessed the revival of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* at this theatre on Monday night. Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company includes Mr Henry Neville in his original part of Bob Brierley, and it is sufficient to say that his deportment throughout was in keeping with his high reputation as perhaps the finest exponent of the good-hearted, but unfortunate, Bob Brierley. As James Dalton and Moss Messrs Wm. Devereux and F. G. Thurstans have strong parts, which were capably represented; while Gibson, the broker, had an equally qualified representative in Mr William Mallalieu. Miss Emma Victor played in a gratifying manner as Mrs Willoughby, and kept the house amused by her antics and profusion of talk. The happy-go-lucky couple, Green Jones and Emily St. Evremond, were excellently personated by Mr E. H. G. Cox and Miss May Congdon. As the heroine, May Edwardes, the company is strongly reinforced by the engagement of Miss Evelyn Weeden, whose assumption of the part was all that could be desired. Another feature of the performance is that of Hawkshaw, the detective, by Mr L. Cory-Thomas, who looked and acted the part admirably. As Sam Miss Florence Wix made an excellent appearance, and the smaller roles of Maltby, Bruntor, and James had ample justice done them by Mr John Mason, Mr F. J. W. Leighton, and Mr L. St. Clair. On Thursday *The Two Orphans* was revived, with Mr Neville as Pierre.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—This week *My Lady Molly* is paying a return visit, the company being under the direction of Mr Frederick Mouillot. The part of Alice Coverdale is again charmingly represented by Miss Decima Moore, while for the title-rôle a gifted exponent is found in Miss Beatrice Edwards. Mr John T. M'Callum plays Mickey O'Dowd with a deal of roguish humour, and as the suitors, Captain Romney and Lionel Bland, Messrs Harry T. Davies and Ernest Mozar sing and act with excellent taste. Mr Augustus Cramer makes an imposing Sir Miles Coverdale, and the parts of the Landlord and Judge Romney are ably filled by Mr Frederick Silverston and Mr T. Walton respectively. The Hester of Miss Lottie Crawford is a graceful performance, and Miss Amy Cooper is also successful as the French governess, other parts being taken by Misses Maud Nugent, Hilda Marks, and M. Billington. The production is enhanced by a capital chorus and augmented orchestra under the conductorship of Mr W. D. T. Damant.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—Mr Laurence Irving is in Glasgow again with his fine play, *Richard Lovelace*, which was so successful at the Royal. Mr Irving's acting as the cavalier poet is extremely good throughout, his impersonation of Lovelace being a finished and striking performance. Miss Mabel Hackney makes a sweet and sympathetic Lucy Sacheverell, and is equally commendable as the romping girl of the earlier scenes and the pathetic woman of the closing incidents. Mr William E. Ashcroft as Colonel Hawley forms an excellent companion picture to the Lovelace of Mr Irving, and the bluff, manly soldier is in his hands a most convincing embodiment. Mr Henry Crocker, cleverly made-up, is well placed as the scheming Sacheverell. Mr Michael Sherbrooke as the spy, Porter, and Mrs Campbell Bradley as his tender-hearted spouse contribute two well-played parts. Mr Chris. Walker as the Adjutant complete a clever cast. Mr A. W. Pinero's *Dalsy's Escape* is an amusing curtain-raiser.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—Messrs John A. Atkin and Walter Howe's company is here with *A Victim of Villany*, in which Mr Howe, author of the drama, acts the part of the hero, Frank Manton, a marine engineer. Mr Sydney Arnold gives a strong impersonation of Stephen Cavanagh, a rascally shipbuilder. Miss H. Walbran as Cavanagh's wife gives a highly satisfactory rendering of the part; while Miss Mariette Hyde is tender and pathetic as Mary Manton, wife of the hero. Amusing parts are those of Mrs Leckie by Miss H. E. Russell, and Vera, of the music halls, by Miss C. Meadows. The boy part of Eric is nicely played by Miss Cissy Bezzant, and Mr Atkin Staples as Tom Leckie contributes liberally to the fun. Mr John Wybrett is quiet and gentlemanly as Dr. Lennox, and Mr Leonard Howe gives a good rendering of the doctor's brother, Walter Lennox. All the other parts are ably filled.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Mascard.—*The Sign of the Cross*, which was at the City a fortnight ago, is now at the Grand, and Mr William Greet's able company gives an excellent and well-balanced performance of this popular play. Marcus Superbus is ably acted by Mr F. B. Woulfe, and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy is a Mercia of considerable power and pathos. A cleverly played part is that of the boy, Stephanus, by Miss Ivy Millais. Mr A. Bernhardt Taylor as Nero and Miss Alma Bolton as Berenice also prove valuable members of the cast.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company opened here on Monday with the drama *Defending His Honour*. Mr John Davidson gives a finished and artistic performance as Douglas Bryce. Miss F. Melrose-Millett is pathetic and telling as Ethel Bryce; Mr Clifton Boyne displays sound ability as Stephen Gerald; and Mr Charles H. Herbert gives a powerful representation of George Duncan. Mr Willie Black and Mr Kenneth Black, jun., submit careful portrayals, the former as Richard Verison and the latter as Dick Verison. The part of Trixie Lucien finds a graceful exponent in Miss Lilian Matthews. Miss Edmond Lyons as Mrs Theresa Verison and Miss Bella Etard as Jane do full justice to their parts. Jack and Harry Bryce are cleverly taken by Miss T. Elton and Miss May Smart. Other parts are in the able hands of Mr John Hignett, Mr Oscar Walker, and Miss Dienly Dainton.

LICEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—Mr E. Lockwood's *La Poupée* company is paying a farewell visit here. Miss Midge Clarke repeats her clever performance as Alesia, and her droll business is carried through with much humour. Mr Arthur Reynolds as Hilarius, the toy makes, gives an exceedingly amusing portrayal of that eccentric individual. Mr Eliot Skinner's fine voice is heard to advantage in the part of Father Maxime. Mr T. A. Shale acts with humour and sings acceptably as Lancelot. The two old beaux, Chanterelle and Loremois, are cleverly played by Messrs Fred Walsh and Chas. M'Lagan. Miss Lillie Leigh as Madame Hilarius and Miss Florence Shaw as the apprentice Henri are also well placed. A large chorus and augmented orchestra, under Mr H. Shaw, give full effect to the concerted music.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green. Mr Oswald Gray's company in *My Native Land* provide a drama with a touch of humour throughout. Mr Oswald Cray is well placed as Andy Blake, the tenant farmer, and Miss Cissy Vyna acts ably as Winnie. Miss Marion Holmes is a sprightly Myra Pyne, the American heiress. Fun is liberally provided by Mr John S. Chamberlain as Mike Murphy, the doctors' boy, and Mr Joe English as Solomon Moses, the money-lender. Mr Lawrence H. Stevenson as the good-hearted Dr. Magee and Mr Hubert Beresford as Eardley Cunningham are both well suited. Little Pearlie Richards as the child Nannie, Miss Miriam V. Richards as Rebecca, and Miss Nellie Lomas as Mona ably fill their respective parts.

EMPIRE,—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited.—The Kellinos, in their musical and acrobatic speciality, *Venetia*, provide a very clever and neatly worked turn, with a spice of daring in it. The Aurora Troupe of cyclists show wonderful skill in all their various feats, and prove highly popular. Rousby's electric scenes, entitled *In Paris*, give several well devised tableaux of Paris during the last exhibition. Baker and Balfe do well with their xylophone duets. Les Voces, in their operatic selections, and Austin and Cowan in ballads, are two acceptable musical items. The Hoopers give a smart comic juggling and hoop act. Hal Forde's neat style and good voice are much appreciated, and his songs are well received. Brothers Redmond give an acrobatic comedy turn of much originality. Bard, on the wire; Marba and Verity, and the Sisters Iris are all clever artistes.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S.—Proprietors, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; Managing-Directors, B. M. Armstrong and T. J. Colquhoun; Acting-Managers, Fred C. Ewing and B. W. Armstrong, jun.—The chief attraction here is the engagement of Julie Mackay, comedienne, who is heard to great advantage in numerous good songs. Lily Mainby, continues a great favourite. An exceptionally clever turn is submitted by Delrose and De Velin, operatic vocalist; while a smart comedy sketch is given by Burg, Haud and Wise. The other members of the company include Baker and Rose, comedians; Jennie Reeves, comedienne; Rozy's Hippodrome; Mdlle. Aladina, with performing birds; Prince Fee Ling, Japanesse juggler; Bros. Artois, very clever bar performers; Mons. De Henau, novelty act; Mdlle. Du Roche, operatic soprano; and Norman and Leonard musical trio, in their smart and clever turn.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs Waldon and Barrastord; Assistant-Manager, Mr H. M'Kelvie.—De Biere, in his conjuring business, fairly mystifies the audience with his clever changes and palming. The Akimotos Troupe of Japanese give a smart show, and the slide from the roof is a daring feat. Bob Hanlon's flying trapeze turn is neat and clever. Brown and Nevarro are a smart couple of coon impersonators, well equipped with lively songs. Carola's miniature circus is an interesting turn, and the little lady herself is very clever. Dave Marion and his juvenile supers provide hearty amusement in his "Walk! Walk!" song. John Lloyd, the collier tenor, sings several ballads in first-rate style. Professor Hurman, in his hoop and juggling turn; Dave O'Toole, comedian; and the animated pictures of the funeral of the Hull victims all provide interesting items.

BRITANNIA.—Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Manager, Mr George Saphrini.—The success which attended this theatre on the opening week continues, and the companies have been sufficiently attractive to warrant the patronage. This week's company includes the Attilla Bros., strong men, a weight-lifting contest adding interest to the programme; the Ecks Rays Schoolboys provide plenty of fun in their sketch, *Master, Let Me Out;* and the serio songs and dances by Miss Rosina May are much applauded. Alf Bishop and Jess Vale are clever comedians and dancers, and much fun is contributed by the Three Martinettes. A clever Irish comedian and dancer is G. W. Fyvie; while Miss Reno Moretti is a pleasing comedienne. The coon business of Len Lever is an agreeable diversion.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr W. Biggin.—These popular concerts continue to be well managed and largely patronised. On Saturday last the following company was engaged:—Ray and Calden, in a refined comedy act *An Artist's Ambition;* Archie Freedman, coster comedian and expert dancer; Mr W. W. Kinniburgh, baritone; the Summersons, comedy duettists; G. W. Scott's Combinations, Indian club and axe manipulators; and Bob Stevenon, comedian and expert dancer. The Lorraines, harmonising vocalists and dancers; Tom Gibson, Scotch comedian; and Signor and Mame Borelli, in a humorous and musical turn.

GLOUCESTER

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—An old favourite, *The Lady Slavey*, by Mr Wm. Greet's company, holds the stage this week. Miss Addie Lennard gives a charming interpretation of Phyllis, the lady slavey. In a clever rendition of Vincent Evelyn Mr Allan Morris receives much applause for his excellent vocalism; Miss Millicent Marsden makes a charming Flo Honeydew; Mr Frank Sherlock is highly diverting as Roberts, Lord Lavender being conspicuous in the hands of Mr Walter T. Hybert. As Maude and Beatrice Miss Jean Van Dalle and Miss Ethel Ashton are deserving of praise for their dances. Mr Harry Walsh is very good as Major O'Neil.

GRANTHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Edward Marris.—*La Poupée* is by no means new to a Grantham audience, and that its popularity has in no way diminished was amply demonstrated by the large audiences which greeted Mr Ben Greet's company last week-end. Mr Bert Danson as Hilarius was admirable, his clever acting and smart business causing much merriment. Everyone admired Miss Cissie Wade who, in the rôle of Alesia, performed a difficult part with infinite skill. Of the other characters special mention must be made of Mr Algernon Lee in the part of Lancelot, not forgetting Mr Joseph A. Brull as Father Maxime and Miss Margaret Ainsworth as Madame Hilarius. This week Mr W. A. Armour and company are appearing with *What a Woman Did*.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—A capitally varied programme is well received each evening. The lion's share of applause is gained by Jean Seul, the great Indian mystery, who bewilders with the dexterity and rapidity of his magic. Gus Barra contributes an exceedingly good musical comedy turn, his manipulation of the concertina being wonderfully clever. Howe and Ardie give a capital show as eccentric trapeze artistes. Berthe Vere uses a powertul and well-trained voice with telling effect. Other artistes appearing are Ward and Wyllie, in song and dance; Nina Elmo, comedienne; Mark Lane, comedian and dancer; Fred Fox, comedian; Lily Jackson, male impersonator; and Dale and Vale, speciality dancers.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—On Monday Mr George Grossmith paid a one night's visit here, and delighted all with his quiet humour and clever musicianship. Included in his programme were *A Modern Musical Comedy* and *Miserable Moments*.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—This favourite place of amusement was reopened on Monday, and a liberal programme elicited warm applause. Amongst the many turns were Menotti, the wonderful wire walker; Picitt, the handcuff marvel; Miss Eva, in a dashing steeplechase act; the Jackson Family, in a clever musical entertainment; the Boxing Stallions, splendidly trained by Mr Anthony Powell; Hicks's Clerks, who sing and dance well; and Miss Eva and Mr Harry, in a smart double equestrian act. Up-to-date pictures are shown by the Bioscope, and fun is supplied by Cattle and Shadow, Little Bishop, and Little Doodles.

Odol is used by dentists themselves.

GOOLE.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—*A Royal Revenge*, a play of striking interest, excellently mounted, and presented by a strong company under the direction of Mr J. H. Clyndes, is the attraction here this week. Mr G. Broughton gives a highly finished rendering of the King of Spain. Estevan Alvarez is a fine performance as given by Mr J. H. Clyndes. Mr E. Aldworth deserves praise for an able performance of Nicholas Vargas. Mr C. Jordon sustains the part of Manuel Modega with great credit. Mr J. Bigwood is an amusing Michael Sancha. Mr H. B. Lewis ably sustains the part of Azan Ben Mused. Mr R. Webb appears to great advantage as Friar Dominic. Miss B. Elma gains the sympathy of the house by her clever acting as Inez Alvarez. The parts of Cora Casilda and Paquita Marcela have charming representatives in the Misses E. Ommundsen and A. Grattan. Miss E. Shannon is an attractive Eulalie, and Miss L. Lennon a dignified Marie Teresa.

GREENOCK.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs H. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—The Marvellous Craggs, with the musical absurdity, *Laughter Land*, are drawing good houses this week. Mr Henry B. Lewis is refreshingly humorous as Professor Wood, and is ably assisted by Mr Harry Rousby as Dick Marlow. Mr G. Westacott embodies Sir Vincent Marlow successfully, and Mr Craigie Edwards is a fiery Alderman Trentham. The part of Archie is well played by Mr Victor Raymond, and Mr Arthur E. Behan is amusing as Squire Topsam. Miss Amy Hastings is a vivacious Clarice, and Miss Agatha Rose makes the most of her opportunities as Clothilda. The acrobatic work of the Craggs is the feature of the production, and their exceedingly clever work never fails to win loud applause. The Sisters Belgrave are acceptable song and dance artists.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—Charles Vandyke's pantomime company, with the absurdity, *Sensations*, head the bill this week. Other members of an excellent company are Sisters Du Barrie, charming coon singers and dancers; Bert Woodward, coon cyclist, who is very clever; the Katos, in their automatic theatre, who give a good turn; J. P. Dane, comedian, who is applauded; Hewitt and Ritchie, comics, who are amusing; Professor Vox, in an interesting ventriloquial entertainment, and the Electrograph, showing new films.

GRIMSBY.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—A drama of a distinctly modern type, entitled *The Temptress*, has appeared here this week, presented by a capable company under the direction of Messrs Gordyn and Gelling. The central character of Stella, an unscrupulous adventuress, is admirably realised by Miss Violet Crauford; and her partner in crime, Lucas Denbigh, is equally well represented by Mr Percy Ballard. The part of Philip Welford finds a satisfactory exponent in Mr H. L. Tracy, and Miss Vashti Wynne is charming and natural as Marion Fordyce. Mr Henry W. Hatchman is provided with an excellent opportunity for displaying his histrionic abilities in the character of the lion-tamer, Pedro Gonzalez, of which he takes full advantage. Miss Ada M. Ryder accomplishes good work as Madge Denbigh. Mr Herbert Williams and Mr Allen Charles, in the amusing characters of Bob Tanner and Francis Fitz-Fluke, cause a good deal of fun, in which they are assisted by Miss Mattie Everett as Rhoda Brown and Mr Johnny Chippendale as Gregory.

Hippodrome.—The principal attraction at the Hippodrome this week has been of an exceptionally pretty character. Mdlle. Flora Lumiere has presented her Fairy Grotto, a spectacle in which innumerable beautiful effects are introduced. The Sylvines Trio of gymnasts have astonished the audience with a series of particularly thrilling feats on the trapeze. Hyam Long, who describes himself as the musical Joe Chamberlain, has contributed some amusing songs and patter. Charming dancing has been accomplished by the Nelson Sisters, whilst dancing of a different, but equally interesting character, has been presented by the Knick-Knacks. Excellent songs have been given by Reuben Hill, character vocalist, and Flo Wood has proved herself an entertaining burlesque actress. An amusing absurdity, *Vivo*, has also been included in the programme. It embraces a lot of trap and surprise business.

HALIFAX.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—*A Woman's Pluck* is the attraction here. It is an interesting drama, with a well-told story, and has some capital situations. The staging is particularly good, and one or two of the set scenes are very pretty. Mr James Willard is prominent in the cast for a capital performance of the character of Dick Darrell; Mr C. P. Wentworth as the eccentric squire performs a difficult part commendably; Mr Edward E. Ashby must be congratulated on a natural portraiture of Winston Dale; Mr J. P. Dryden does good work; and Mr Harry Emmerson as the Punch and Judy artist is very effective. Miss East Robertson gives a telling rendering of Grace Daremont, and Miss Jessie Yatman is charming and attractive in her part.

Palace Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—Miss Florrie Gallimore is here again after a short absence. She is very popular, and the audiences give her the warmest of welcomes. The company in addition embraces the Charkassen Troupe of singers and dancers; Will Cornish, musical speciality; Les Valdos, eccentrics; Andy Fagan, comedian and dancer; Johnny Alexander's sketch company; Belle Braham, with illustrated songs; and Oliver Conroy, comedian.

HARROGATE.

Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager Mr Smith.—Mr C. St. John Denton's company opened here for three nights on Monday in the successful musical comedy *Kitty Grey*. The company was an excellent one. Miss Hilda Guiver played with distinction in the title-rôle; Miss Eily Helene as Lady Binfield introduced the necessary reserve to the rôle, and essayed the part gracefully; Miss Emily Stevens and Miss Constance Hamilton were equally at home in the parts of Mrs Bright and Sadie De Poulson; Mr Leslie Harris was exceedingly funny in the part of Lord Plantagenet, and in the duets and dances with Miss Stevens was enthusiastically applauded. Mr Innes Smith was excellent as Sir John Binfield, and Mr Robert Whyte scored as the King of Illyria.

HARTLEPOOL.

Empress.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—The enthusiastic encore awarded the Moxons for their speciality show is thoroughly deserved. Carr and Rose, the vocal comedy couple, are again adding to their popularity; Reed and Lerne are also on a return visit. The sketch *Little Charlie*, by the Arthur Lloyd Trio, is briskly worked, and takes immensely. Some good dancing is done by the Freans, and other turns meeting with a gratifying reception are Mdlle. Lucretia, in her high kicking speciality; the Dorothy Quartet of speciality dancers; H. K. Bradshaw, a particularly sweet-voiced balladist; and the new and screamingly funny pictures on Burn's Bioscope.

HASTINGS.

Gaiety Theatre.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—On Monday Mr Stanley Cooke and his No. 1 company opened a return visit here with *The New Clown*, and met with a cordial reception. Mr Cooke played as Lord Cyril Garston, and kept his audience in the best of humour. Mr Fred Paul gave a robust rendering of Captain Trent; Mr Herbert Greville imparted realism to the business of Dixon's circus by his impersonation of its proprietor; Mr Spencer Allen made a good landlord, Lamb; and a neat character sketch was supplied by Mr Fred Lake as Thomas Baker. Miss Katie Yates was a bright and comely Rosie Platt, and Miss Evelyn Maxwell as Maud and Miss Violet Greville as Winnie Chesterton respectively were pleasing impersonations. The donkey, Ping Pong, exhibited skilled training and caused considerable merriment therefrom. The piece was well staged, and was preceded by the one-act comedy, *Wooing by Wire*.

St. Leonards Pier Pavilion.—Local Manager, Mr Elvey Thomas; Pier Master, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—The respective orchestras of the Caledonian Boys and the Dandies are well patronised here. The juvenile Scotties are excellent instrumentalists and singers. Equally successful are the Dandies, a quintette of society entertainers, whose harmonious effusions are much appreciated. A marvellous exhibition of Carl Hertz's demon kettle is shown, where the laws of nature are reversed, and at a temperature of 320 degrees below zero eggs and sausages, &c., are cooked on a block of ice. These scientific experiments are well worth seeing.

Pier Pavilion.—Pier-master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—Mr J. D. Hunter and his excellent company are delighting lovers of the drama this week in the laughable comedy, entitled *The Butler*. The incomparable acting of Mr Hunter in the title-rôle creates infinite amusement, and his comic sketches are as true to life as they are diverting. Mr John A. Thomas makes an effective and dignified titled mayor as Sir John Tracey, his son Lawrence being well represented by Mr George Silver. Mr Chas. Hawkes gives a good character sketch of Lord Babicombe; Mr Edgar Kent as his nephew is eminently satisfactory. Miss Eva Bayley is charmingly natural in the part of Lady Tracey, and her assumption in the aristocratic circle is well maintained. As Lavinia Muddle, the cook, Miss Blanche Fayley acts throughout with bright animation and merry humour. Miss Rose Temple makes an attractive Lady Babicombe, her companion, Alice Marshall being daintily played by May Straker.

Hippodrome Theatre of Varieties.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—Miss Blanche Merison, burlesque actress, scores a success. The grotesque comedian, Mr Harry Zetter, causes great fun. An attractive comedienne and excellent vocalist is found in Miss Agnes Hazel. The Vernon Troupe give a good turn as xylophone experts and dancers. Some clever hand-balancing is shown by the Gladenbecks. The eccentric comedians, New Macs, introduce some smart comicalities. Miss Hettie King, vocalist, receives a warm welcome. Mr Michael Nolan, Irish comedian, is very successful.

HEBBURN.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson; Acting-Manager, Mr Thos. Robson.—Mr C. Finch-Hatton's company, in *When London Sleeps*, is here this week. A most capable exponent of Captain Rodney Haynes is to be found in Mr E. S. Trelawny; Mr Tom Ronald, in the part of David Engleheart, shows ability; Mr Darcy Trelway is seen to advantage as Samuel Blyth; Bertie Broomhead is admirably portrayed by Mr Chas. Digby; Hilda Carrode is most successfully sustained by Miss Grace Baring; and Miss Ella Sennett is effective in her impersonation of Queenie Carruthers. Mr Paul Graydon meets with approval as Bob Jones; Miss N. Berchenough does well as Signorina Robertio Jonesio; and Mr Furnaby Fuller is ably undertaken by Mr Edw. Vivian.

HEREFORD.

Drill Hall.—Manager, Mr A. Lovesey.—Mr Macdona's company with *The Country Girl* is paying another visit here. There's evidently no diminution of the popularity of this charming musical comedy. Mr Richard Telford still acts Barry with all the buoyancy of spirit and energy he originally displayed. Miss Sadie Neville has received unbounded applause, her sprightly interpretation of Sophie is most attractive, her songs are sung with clearness and precision. Princess Mehelanah of Bhong could have no more charming exponent than Miss Lucie Lever whose beautiful vocalisation is one of the features of the performance. Mr Guy Williams gives prominence to the rôle of Geoffrey Chaloner, Miss Florence Burnett plays Nan with her usual success, and Miss Florence Hallam sustains the part of Marjory thoroughly well.

HOYLAND.

Metropole Theatre.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Geo. S. King.—This week Miss Ida Millais and company, under the direction of Mr Henry Herne, are here in *No Man's Land*. Mr Henry Herne is the hero of the piece, and Miss Ida Millais the heroine, both artists giving very good accounts of themselves. Mr Fred Conyers as Silas Moore is capital, Mr William Matthews ably supporting him as Mat Marsden. The comedy of Mr Sydney Morton (Solomon Jacobs) and Miss Hilstrom (Bessie Poodle) is fully appreciated. The piece is well staged.

HUDDERSFIELD.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage have their company here this week, playing *In the Ranks*. The well-known drama is satisfactorily interpreted by a cast which includes Miss Edith Blair-Staples in a sympathetic presentation of Ruth Herrick; Mr Edward Lloyd, a robust and manly Ned Drayton; Mr Herbert Cecil, a cool and callous Blake; and Mr Arthur Palling, a brusque Colonel Wynter. Miss Maud Staples makes a refined Barbara Herrick; Mr Cecil Clayton is smart as Joe Buzzard; Miss Anna Beaumont is a quaint Mrs Buzzard; Mr Archie W. Chappell, a quietly effective Captain Holcroft; and Mr Walter Wilson, a sufficiently aggressive Belton.

HULL.

Alhambra.—Resident Manager, Mr C. J. Bartleet Perry.—Alf Gibson tops the bill here, and he is a big favourite. Marie Blythe brings down the house with some local allusions to the North Sea outrage. Other smart turns include Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, Grant and Grant, Marie Elsie, and Harris and Worth.

Circus.—Resident Manager, Mr E. Emerson.—The new Century Pictures finish a highly successful five weeks' run.

HYDE.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—Messrs H. B. Levy and J. Walters juvenile company is entertaining large audiences here with the pantomime, *Beauty and the Beast*. A dainty and attractive Beauty is Miss Kitty Rafferty, who sings her numbers in a highly artistic manner. The fairy queen, Silver Star, has a charming representative in Miss May Gibson, who is rightly encored for her tuneful singing; Miss Mary Hardacre makes a handsome and dashing Prince Charming, and La Petite Ray is a sprightly Will Scarlet. The rôle of Maid Marion is gracefully taken by Miss Lottie Harper, who delights the audience with her clever dancing. Tommy Tucker and Marjorie Daw find pretty exponents in the Misses Kitty Trewhit and Isa Gibson, and Miss Dorothy Milnthorpe is a bright and vivacious Billy Buttons. Master Paddy Mills and Mr Chas. Elbon as Long Jim and Short Tim keep the audience perpetually on the laugh. Masters Dan Dougherty and George Swinhoe are mirth-provoking as the two Ugly Sisters. The dresses are elegant and the scenery most picturesque.

IPSWICH.

Lyceum Theatre.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—*The World*, one of the old Drury-lane successes, has been played here during the week by a company organised by John P. Asche. Mr Stuart Lomath did full justice to the part of Sir Clement Huntingford, which he played in a manly and effective style; Mr Bernard J. Lieli gave a clever impersonation of Moss Jewell; Messrs Francis Hawley, Jackson Hayes, and Adam Alexander were each of considerable assistance to the cast; and Miss Georgette Thierry showed herself to be an accomplished actress in the chief female part.

Hippodrome.—Among the new turns at this place of entertainment on Monday evening were Ike Scott and Son, who contribute some laughable burlesque business. Wright and Elton, otherwise Daisy and Crazy, a clever pair of drolls; Selbo, a marvellous club manipulator; Newcombe and Sullivan, comedians and dancers; Harry Barclay, Lancashire comedian; and Molly Doon, coon singer, are also in the bill.

KETTERING.

Avenue Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—Mr James Hare and company are here with *The Golden Chance*. Mr Herbert King is a pleasing Arthur Hastings; Mr Hare gives a forcible rendering of the character of Stephen Clinton; Mr Tom Arkinstall is very successful as Isaac Shelberg; Miss Agatha Halford gives a charming performance as Lydia Hastings; and Miss Irene Clifford is responsible for fine impersonations of Mother Hawk and Viva Zac.

KIDDERMINSTER.

New Opera House.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—The boards here are occupied this week by Mr T. Morton Powell's company in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr J. W. Evelyn ably depicts the character of Gabriel Garth; Mr Douglas B. Watson is equally good as Jack Halyard; Duncan Bly is in the capable hands of Mr Ernest Hartington; Miss Kate Newton and Miss Rose Mylrea respectively play the parts of Gertrude Garth and Mercy Merry to perfection.

Tivoli.—Proprietors, Messrs Lister Reekie and Howard Stephens.—Another good company is presented this week, and again excellent business is the result. Solo and Mayo take premier position on the bill, and their artistic impersonations and wonderful dancing prove them well worthy of it. Harry Earle, comedian, stands out prominently, as also does Harry Benet, another excellent comedian. The Sisters Isabelle are also good: Annie Webster sings sweetly and dances neatly; George Reynolds is quaint; and the speciality turn is provided by Stanert and Yondi. Douglas Randall is director, and acquits himself well.

KILMARNOCK.

King's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Hales.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday *The Swiss Express* was presented here by Messrs C. and F. Renad and a strong company. The Messrs Renad as James and John are admirable, and with the help of the other members of the company, not a dull moment is experienced from start to finish. The Four Brighton Girls, in their clever dances are also a special feature of the entertainment.

KING'S LYNN.

New Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Mr H. Leonard.—Mr Charles Frohman's company in *Sherlock Holmes* is paying a return visit here this week. Mr Kenneth Rivington as Sherlock Holmes gives a striking and realistic impersonation to Dr. Conan Doyle's popular detective. Mr Arthur B. Murray as the crafty Professor Moriarty deserves commendation. The Madge Larrabee of Miss Lacey and the Alice Faulkner of Miss Florence Radcliffe are worthy of notice. Mr Ernest Gray as James Larrabee makes a satisfactory villain. The other parts are in capable hands. On Thursday Mr Charles Macdona's company appeared in *Three Little Maids*.

LANCASTER.

Athenæum.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—Mr Fred Karno's company occupies the boards here with *His Majesty's Guests*, and is drawing crowded houses nightly. Mr Wm. Rokeby enacts Sergeant Lightning in a droll manner; Mr Chas. F. Howard is efficient as Lord Essem; Mr J. W. Hooper is good as Mr Miffin; and Mr H. Gallimore is decidedly amusing as Selina. Miss Kate Trueman makes a capital New Woman, and Miss Jessamine Newcombe as Lady Maude Essem renders valuable assistance.

Palace.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs W. J. Ferguson and John Porter.—Curtis and Miss Vanity, cakewalkers, head the bill this week, and have a flattering reception. The Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers, are smart; Rivington and Gordon, appear successfully in a duologue, *He, She, and It*; and others who make up a capital programme include Ernie Strange, comedian; Denby and Dent, comedy barbers; Wat Tyler, character vocalist; and Miss Mary Fallowfield, coon singer. Walter Payne's animated pictures are still an attractive item.

LEAMINGTON.

Theatre Royal.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr R. Taylor.—Mr Robert Arthur's strong company in the military and spectacular drama *One of the Best* is deservedly getting a hearty welcome this week. Mr Stanley Bedwell acts with manly power as Keppel; Mr Herbert Darnley adequately undertakes the part of Private Jupp; Miss Jeanette Le Gros is an acceptable Mary Penrose; Miss Helen Haye, a convincing Esther Coventry; and Mr Bellenden Clarke, a capable exponent of the rôle of Elsworth. Special attention is paid to the spectacular effects, and two military bands are engaged.

LEEDS.

Grand Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—Mr and Mrs F. R. Benson and company opened a week's visit here on Monday to a large and enthusiastic audience with *The Taming of the Shrew*. Mr Benson's fine interpretation of Petruchio is well known, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed the effort. Mrs Benson gave an admirable presentation of the virago, Katharine. Mr Percy D. Owen was seen to advantage in a good presentment of the merchant Baptista. Mr Geo. Buchanan, Mr Cyril Keightley, and Mr H. O. Nicholson were equally interesting as the lovers of Baptista's younger daughter. The gentle Bianca was portrayed with charm by Miss Mabel Moore, and Miss Cissie Saumarez as the Widow (with song) pleased all by her singing. Mr Geo. R. Weir is a welcome contributor of low comedy in the part of Grumio, and Mr Clarence Derwent and Mr G. F. Hannam Clark are other able members of an excellent company. *The School for Scandal*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *The Rivals*, and *Richard II.* are also in the répertoire.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—*The King of Crime* is on a return visit here this week, and again proves a strong attraction. Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company gives a capital presentation. Mr William Clayton's powerful acting as the redoubtable Ronjarre is especially fine; an evergreen old favourite Mr A. D. Anderson again gives a highly dramatic rendering of Gardelu, the miser; and Mr W. H. Porter, Miss Elizabeth Turner-Elliott, and Miss Nellie Wilson are largely responsible for the success. Mr Walter Dale and Miss Kitty Russell are seen to advantage in some good broad comedy parts.

Queen's Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Chas. Bush.—Musical comedy holds sway at this popular suburban house, Mr George Edwardes's company being here on a most successful visit with *The Toreador*. The company is a strong one and includes several big local favourites—notably, Mr W. H. Powell, in an entertaining portrayal of the great Pettifer, and Mr T. W. Volt, who presents the titled dude, Sir Archibald Slackett, in his own inimitable style. Mr Lionel Victor is responsible for an exceedingly funny performance as Sammy Gigg, and Mr John Donald as the Toreador plays the part in dashing and effective style. Miss Daisy Stratton pleases all by her interpretation of Susan; Miss Daisy Wallace is a charming Dora Selby; Miss Nellie Bouverie is a big success in the part of Mrs Malton Hoppings; and Miss Alice Oppitz acts and sings with distinction as the Spanish senorita Donna Teresa. Mr Fred Allandale and Miss Nancy Langtyre are also prominent in their respective rôles.

Empire Palace.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—A most welcome visit here is that of Mr R. A. Roberts, who this week presents his clever act, *Lucinda's Elopement*. The St. James' Quintet are very popular with pleasing rendition of glees; Ruth Lytton, a charming burlesque artiste, finds great favour; a remarkably clever young lady juggler, Selma Braatz, makes an appearance; the Brothers Damm favour us with an expert acrobatic turn; Gallagher and Hild submit a comedy act in good style; a musical turn by the Brothers Webb is a successful item; and Bijou Russell once again pleases her numerous admirers with coon singing and sand dancing. Other attractive turns are submitted by Ambrose Thorne and Ernest Rees, comedians; and Lillie Soutter, burlesque artiste.

Tivoli.—Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—W. Selkirk here presents with great success his juvenile spectacle, *Japan's Handy Men*, performed by a hundred local children. The Lombarts appear in a well-executed gymnastic speciality. Martin Conway and Will Johnson both find great favour, as also do the contributions of Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer. Wills and August are a clever pair of comedy jugglers; Clothilde's performing birds are put through an interesting show; F. Cumminger is a speciality dancer who has broken records; and Mons. D'Musto repeats his wonderful feats of contortion.

City Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—There is an attractive programme here, Park's clever troupe of juveniles leading with a strong vocal turn. Miss Ella Shields, an American artiste, makes a successful début with fine vocal and burlesque business; and Baroni and Kemp submit a marvellously smart quick-change speciality. Kit Keen, the coon artiste, is a big success again; Harry Weldon, an original entertainer, is doing well; the Terras Brothers present an expert acrobatic act; Harry Meier earns a good share of the plaudits by his clever eccentric jugglery; and other contributors include Hart and Rudd, duettists and speciality artistes; Dacre Sisters, with a good vocal turn; and Dora Lyric, comedienne.

LEICESTER.

Royal Opera House.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—Following closely on the visit of Sir Henry Irving, we have this week another important engagement in the appearance of Miss Ellen Terry, who has only once before honoured Leicester playgoers with her presence, and that many years ago. Her répertoire for the week includes *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Good Hope*, and *Nance Oldfield*. In the first-mentioned play, when Miss Ellen Terry made her appearance as Beatrice, the gifted lady received a most cordial reception, and at the close so great was the enthusiasm displayed that the curtain had to be raised innumerable times. The part of Beatrice affords Miss Terry every opportunity for the display of her histrionic abilities, and the charm of her portrayal throughout made a great impression on the audience. Sterling support was rendered by Mr Matheson Lang as Benedick, who was conspicuously successful. Mr Charles Thursby as Don Pedro, Mr George Fitzgerald as Leonato, and Mr E. Harcourt Williams as Claudio acquitted themselves admirably. Mr John Willes made an excellent Dogberry, and Mr T. A. Shannon did well as Don John. Miss Hutin Britton, who appeared as Hero, is to be highly complimented on an exceptionally clever performance. All the other parts were in safe hands, and the staging left nothing whatever to be desired.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—A good house and a cordial welcome awaited Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company here on Monday, when they presented for the first time in Leicester the new and interesting Oriental play entitled *A Traitor Prince*. Mr Harry Lonsdale, an actor of undoubted ability, gives a clever embodiment of the part of Prince Rao Dalmeirez; Mr E. Carter Livesey creates much merriment as Billy Bright; Mr Austin Mortimer makes a manly and popular Lieutenant Frank Derrick; and Miss Lillian Roseberry as Lola Vane is also a thorough success. Miss Beatrice Western is especially well placed as Vashti, and most humorous portrayals are given by Miss L. Rignold as Pansy Blossom and Mrs E. C. Matthews as Mrs Martha Blossom. Mr Austin Longford, in the dual-rôle of Richard Vane and Colonel Vane, does well. Dances are also contributed by the Geisha Acrobatic Dancers.

Palace Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—The top of the bill this week is equally shared by Miss Marie Kendall and Dutch Daly, the other end being held by Caicedo. Miss Kendall is a great favourite with Palace audiences, and she is repeating her usual big success. Dutch Daly, with his concertina and stories, gives a clever turn, and gets a good reception. Caicedo, who makes his first appearance in Leicester, is unquestionably the most remarkable performer on the wire ever seen here. The Maningos are again giving with success their exceptionally smart display of acrobatics and equilibrism. Lawrence Barclay, a very funny comedian; the Droll Zarmo, who causes roars of laughter with his comedy juggling; Goggin and Davis, in a versatile comedy acrobatic act; the Baldwin Brothers, in an amusing comedy acrobatic sketch; Steve M'Carthy, the Irish coon, who is a clever dancer; and Mabel Hind, a young artist, in her pretty scena, *A Little Japanese*, are others who contribute turns, which meet with hearty appreciation. The overture, "Ocean Breezes," composed by the musical director, Mr John W. Lowe, is rendered in admirable style by the Palace orchestra.

Pavilion Theatre.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The Brothers Ashley, who are starring here, cause roars of laughter with their boxing sketch *Next, Please!* The Three Dagmars, acrobats and tumblers, give a clever show; the Paragon Trio of refined vocalists submit an enjoyable turn; Lily Sharplin is a smart mimic, her various imitations being well done; Fyne and Furley, as the swell and the coster, create much merriment. Others who appear are the Lorrisons, in an amusing duo; Cissy Reece, serio and dancer; and Belle Meredith, comedienne and dancer.

LEIGH.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—This week the boards here are occupied by Mr J. A. Campbell's company in *The Sin of Her Childhood*. As Mary Haysel Miss Mary Fulton appears with striking success; Mr Charles Fancourt as the Rev. Alan Gray is well suited; Mr J. A. Campbell as Captain John Thornton receives quite an ovation for his acting; villainy is successfully embodied by Mr Austin Milroy as Stephen Haysel; Mr Fred Elvin makes full use of opportunities to provoke laughter; and he is ably assisted by Miss May Pratt as Eliza Muggins. Miss Jennie Hicks is good as Marie Haysel; Little Dot Moss sings and dances in good style; and Little Edith as Erick Dugdale is worthy of mention.

Hippodrome.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—A delightful turn this week is the Pardoes, whose acrobatic feats in *Uncle and the Cannibal* are neatly executed. Miss Lottie Holland, a refined comedienne, is a pleasing singer; Capita, with his living marionettes, is good; Zenith, the man on the clothes line, is a prominent feature; and other excellent turns are Miss Katie More, serio; Miss Violet Rivers, eccentric male impersonator; the Marblesque Trio, in their statuary act; and the Two Eltons, triple bar performers, who are both clever and amusing. The Hippodrome pictures complete an excellent programme.

LINCOLN.

Royal.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—Local playgoers are being delighted this week with a return visit of Mr F. R. Benson's North Shakespearian company. *As You Like It* was the opening attraction, Miss Dorothy Green being a charmingly vivacious Rosalind and Mr Bernard Limpus extremely good as Orlando. Mr F. Owen Chambers presented a dignified embodiment of the Banished Duke; Mr A. Phillips ably played the Duke Frederick; and Mr G. W. Johnstons submitted a well-thought-out study as Oliver. Mr Henry Herbert scored heavily with a finely delivered Seven Ages speech, and played Jacques with great strength; Touchstone was in the capital hands of Mr Harris, and one of the best-played parts in the piece was Mr Ivan Leslie's sketch of the bumpkin, William. Mr Courtney Foote as Silvius and Miss Christie Laws as Phœbe were each very effective, while Miss May De Launey caused much laughter as the country wench, Audrey. Miss Margaret Caskie's Celia was an excellent support, and the minor characters were all in good keep. The week's programme includes *Twelfth Night*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Rivals*, and *Hamlet*.

Palace.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur.—A return visit from those smart comedians Sanford and Lyons tops the bill, and other contributors to a well-received programme are Sandy and Carl, Valoni, Georgina Leonard, Seltina Troupe, Brothers Levett, Booker and Narbis, Bert Lytton, and Arthur Albert. Mr W. Compton's orchestra helps the programme greatly, and the overture "Les Cadets" is one of the features of the show.

LIVERPOOL.

Royal Court Theatre and Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—Mr James Welch has been here this week with the *New Clown*. The able comedian is a Liverpool man, and accordingly came in for a cordial reception from the large audiences which filled the Royal Court during the week. His Lord Cyril Garston was as humorous as ever, and loud laughter greeted the movements of that cleverly drawn character. Supporting him Mr Welch has Mr G. H. Snazelle, also well known in the city on the Mersey, who gave a lifelike study of Mr Dixon, the circus proprietor; Mr Cyril Harcourt as Jack Trent; Mr Leopold Profeit, a capital Pennyquick; and Miss Audrey Ford, who presented an attractive Rosie Platt. Mr Louis N. Parker's *The Man in the Street* and Mr Frank Stayton's *Angelina's Lover* were curtain-raisers during several evenings of the week, and on Thursday a new one-act comedy, *The Lady Burglar*, was staged.

Shakespeare Theatre, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—A treat, which has been much appreciated, has this week been provided at the Shakespeare in *Mice and Men* and *The Light that Failed*, played by Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott and their able company. It is needless to record that the crowded audiences of the week have extended to these popular artistes a well-merited and hearty welcome. Included in the company were Messrs Geo. Sumner, Frank Gillmore, Leon Quartermaine, J. H. Ryley, Ernest Gosham, Guy Lane, and the Misses Dorothy Paget, Minnie Griffin, Ada Mellon, Dora Harker, and Auriol Lee. The plays were beautifully mounted.

Prince of Wales's Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. French; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Beltram.—The sparkling musical comedy *The Houp-La Girl* has formed the attraction here this week. A good all-round company was responsible for it, and the catchy music and humorous situations were keenly enjoyed. Miss Florence Brandon was the charming and winsome "Girl." Mr Thomas Barry presented a capital Prince of Falsenburg, Mr Jack Durant as the artist sang well, and Mr H. Perry was a dashing major. Among the ladies Miss Maggie Fraser, Miss B. Fossette, and Miss Edith Haley distinguished themselves. The Rosie Rice Quartet of dancers were seen to advantage with their excellent work.

Rotunda Theatre.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—*Bound to Win*, played by Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley's company, has been the attraction here this week. It is a very pretty sporting drama, and introduces the customary characters who follow the Turf. The work is full of merit, and commands the attention of an audience, the scene of the Racecourse and the introduction of thoroughbreds being particularly good. The company is an all-round good one. Mr F. G. Kimberley, in the character of the honest racehorse owner, Harry Lyndon, played with conspicuous ability; Mr F. Strickland as Philip Eyre, a turf sharp, acquitted himself with credit; and Miss Evelyn Robson powerfully portrayed an unscrupulous woman. Other principal supporters of the play, which was capitally mounted, were Mr Sidney Rennef, Mr James Hont, Mr T. Norman, and Miss Nina B. Adams. The lighter parts of the drama were in the able hands of Mr E. Morgan and Miss Ada Franks.

Lyric Theatre of Varieties.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—A fine programme here is drawing good business to this popular and cosy North-end place of amusement. Neil Kenyon, the well-known Scotch comedian, tops the bill with his original and inimitable patter. Charles Morritt with his sleight-of-hand, introduces a blind man who has a most retentive memory; the Mysterious Kettle is watched nightly with keen interest; Morny Cash is always a favourite here; Sinclair and Whiteford make a decided hit in their well-acted sketch; Ernie Myers has some laughable patter; Lily Lonsdale's rendering of "The Holy City" is loudly applauded; Wallau is a decidedly clever young juggler; Harry Edson and his dog Doc are much enjoyed; and the Grovinis are clever acrobats.

Star Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—Good houses have been the order of the week here, where Mr William Bourne's company is presenting *When Darkness Falls*. The play is capitally constructed, the scenery very appropriate, and the company in every way excellent. The glimpses of slum life in London are shown with intenseness, although relieved by a deal of humour. Mr Ellis J. Preston is an actor of ability, his type of a broken-down expelled army officer being capital. Miss Amy Vennimore, who acts the part of the man's wretched wife, has a powerful rôle. Mr Will Clements, with his witty sayings and merry songs, provides a deal of laughter. Mr Frank Liston presents a finished picture of a hard-working clergyman, and Miss Lydia Hart and Miss Alys Eden are a couple of well-portrayed street arabs.

Queen's Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—Sims and Shirley's *Two Little Vagabonds* has been a strong attraction here this week, and the public approval has been cordially shown. Miss May Hart and Miss Dorothy Marsden have sustained the title-parts, their acting being exceptionally good. Mr J. W. Henson has proved a fine George Thornton, and Miss Laura Hanson was his wife, Dorothy. The parts of Bill and Biddy Mullins were in the capable hands of Mr Alfred Russell and Miss Marie Pritchard, and others in the cast were Messrs Wolston Foster, Frank Gordon, Fred

Archer, and Miss Nell Oliver. The scenery was admirable.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—A very acceptable programme of all-round merit is given here this week, and large audiences have been the order. Miss May Edouin and Mr Fred Edwards together provide a neat playlet entitled *The Bachelor's Dream*, which is full of the humorous element. Their reception was a cordial one. The Crystal Palace prize band of the Liverpool Boys' Refuge is specially engaged, and plays with skill Paris Chambers' fine "Amicizia;" the voice and mannerisms of principal comedians are produced with correctness by Mr George Newburn; Eugen Maarders with his fine dancing horse puts in another week; the Devona Sisters provide a graceful and smart aerial act; a pleasing turn is that given by the Mayvilles, with their Lilliputian novelty act; Ganty, "the little lump of fun," creates considerable merriment; Clark and Hamilton are a couple of smart American comedy artists; De Kock Bros. prove themselves expert acrobats and hand balancers; and others who appear are Arthur Reece, comedian; Amy Sullivan, comedienne; James Kurry, eccentric comedian; and the Anartos, American comedy artists.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford. — There are no less than thirteen turns here this week. Foremost is Boswell's stage circus, which comprises a number of very clever and intelligent ponies and dogs. The Phillipi Brothers provide an amusing sketch, *Shunting*, into which is introduced smart acrobatic work; Frank Gerald and company appear in a laughable item, *A Breach of Promise;* Miss Alice Lorette gives a neat entertainment with her statue dog Ben; the Legay Quartet of Parisian dancers are loudly applauded for their work; M. C. Geraldo goes through some neat club juggling; Mabel La Blanche secures a success with her "Bluebell" song, and the Waldrons excite much merriment with their sand dances and patter. Others in the bill are Bert Leslie, refined comedian; the De Breans, expert jugglers; the Lyons Trio of pantomimists and dancers; and the Picquays, with their acrobatic display. The Bioscope pictures of the Hull fishing fleet and the funeral of the victims of the North Sea outrage attract much attention.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—The big item heading the bill here this week is Hess and Lisbon, a couple of clever artistes, who provide a grotesque comic speciality. They are creators of great laughter. Albert Ventor is an accomplished comedian; Clown Leo puts his highly trained dog through clever tricks; Conley and Carroll create uproarious laughter with their "Boxing Lesson;" Mark Anthony is acceptable with his song and story; Lill Gorman is a chic comedienne; and Arthur Bright is a popular comedian and Milanese piper. The cake walk competition is attracting much attention.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—Gerald Mount, a clever vocalist and mimic at the piano, is here this week. His entertainment wins for him much applause. H. O. Wills is "a curious comedian with a curious voice," and causes much amusement; a welcome re-engagement is that of the Brothers Hayer, a couple of smart comedians and dancers; for another week the Sisters Redfern, vocalists, dancers, and banjoists, are retained; and the remainder of the programme is occupied by Edith Sylvesto, speciality act; Walter Leslie, comedian; and Vera Mayne, burlesque actress.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Gus Harris is an old Liverpool favourite, and has been given a good reception here this week. His latest success, "The Pedlar," is a good character sketch. The Pueblo Brothers give a smart performance in buck and sand dancing, and sing several amusing songs; Flo St. Clair is a dashing comedienne; the Clayton Twins with their company provide a laughable comedy sketch, entitled *Pepper and Salt;* Tom O'Neil submits some good character sketches; T. C. Callaghan possesses a deal of funny patter; Lily Black is an acceptable burlesque artiste, singing and dancing charmingly; the Four Magnets are a good turn as vocalists, &c.; and Marie Weston's clever entertainment as a vocalist, banjoist, and dancer is neat.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—The Two Errols are principal here this week, their comedy and leaping act being clever; Jack Lorimer, a versatile comedian, is retained for six nights longer; Terry and Bentley present a funny sketch *The Hunt*; Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire singing collier, has a pleasing voice; Clarke and Argyle are clever international pipers and dancers; Bessie Willow a sweet singer of pretty songs; and Vasey and Ramsey expert dancers.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—A diversified programme is given here this week. At the top is Matt Wilkinson and his comedy company with the humorous sketch *The Registry Office;* the snapshots of people in the street are a feature; Lidden and Hayward, with their musical absurdity, *A Quiet Rehearsal*, meet with a hearty reception; and others are Fred Melton, grotesque comedian and dancer; Solari Duo, refined vocalists and instrumentalists; Nellie Navette, burlesque actress and speciality dancer; Johnny Warman, comedian and dancer; Will Letters, with song and story; and Madge Daly, comedienne.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—An enthusiastic reception was given on Monday to Mr Chas. Macdona's *Country Girl* company. Mr Guy Williams as Geoffrey Chaloner created a most favourable impression; Mr Bernard Vaughan did well as the Rajah; as Nan Miss Florence Burdette was a great favourite; and Miss Florence Hallam as Marjorie Joy was also very clever. Miss Sadie Neville as Madame Sophie was admirable, and Mr Richard Telford as Barry and Mr Harry Playfair as Granfer Mummery were both excellent. Mr W. Besley Beltran as Douglas Verity was praiseworthy. Miss Lucy Lever made a picturesque Princess.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. S. Howard.—Mr Charles March, with his *The Priest of the Temple*, is paying a return visit. As Valerius Mr March gives a vigorous portrayal; Mr Ronald Boyne stands out in the part of Decus Fronto; Mr Henry Oakley is good as Caius Marcius; Mr Henry Moxon as Appius Hirdonius plays most carefully; as Camillus Mr John Simpson is commendable; and to both Miss Marie Hope as Præstantia and Miss Evelyn Hope as Polita much praise is due for their finished performances.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—The Ben Greet company is appearing here in *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr G. E. Olive plays Howard Wilson very well, and Mr Cecil Collins is good as Robert Curtis. Mr L. Shirley is a capital Peter Schwartz; Miss Eva Moss plays Mabel Wilson ably; and Miss Beatrice Whitney fills the rôle of Cora, the adventuress, with power. As Jessie, the Little Mother, Miss Maisie Richardson is very clever.

LUTON.

GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham Falcon; Assistant-Manager, Mr Louis J. Beard.—One of Mr Lewis Waller's companies presented *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* here on Monday and two following nights. Mr Thomas Kingston plays the part of Captain Harry Peyton with conspicuous success. Mr Hilliard Vox gives effective aid in his portrayal of John Colden; as the amorous widower, Mr Valentine, Mr George Mallett causes much amusement; Miss Elly Malyon gives a fine rendering of Elizabeth. Mr Percy and Miss Emma Hutchison's company, under the direction of Mr Peter Davey, opened on Thursday in *Saturday to Monday*, Mr Chas. Howitt filling the rôle of Lord Culvert.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Corporation; Lessees, Messrs W. Payne Seddon and George Robertson.—Good houses have witnessed the performances of the musical play *Three Little Maids* by Mr Charles Macdona's company. Miss Vera Vallis, Miss Nellie Groves, and Miss Doris Trevor were the three little maids, and their efforts met with unstinted applause; Madame Norina as Lady St. Mallory was all that could be desired; and Miss May Wright as Gretchen provoked roars of laughter. Mr Frank Henderson as Lord Cheyne was excellent. Able support was given by Mr H. A. Welchman as Brian Molyneaux; Mr Jules Charmette as M. De l'Orme; and Mr Rigwood Barry as Cupid, others in a very capable cast being Mr W. Morgan, Misses Margery Douglas, Eva Swinborne, and Edith Lorraine.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Ernest A. Smith.—Poole's Myriorama is paying its annual visit this week, and the pictures are brought quite up to date. Amongst the artistes who appear are the Snow Family of expert skaters; Houston, magician; Tankergero and Commie, ladder act; Frank Lyndor, instrumentalist; Geo. French's Troupe of cyclists; the Two Mitsutas, &c.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—The band of the Scots Greys is performing this week. Amongst the other artistes are the Pueblo Brothers; Tom Collins, comedian; the Jalvans, Edgar Budden, Beattie Kent, comedienne and dancer; and Juno Salmo, described as the "Golden Mephisto."

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—Messrs Webb and Benge's company is here in *The Two Hussars*. In the rôle of Harry Alford Mr W. Benge meets with distinct success; Paul Villiers has a capable exponent in Mr F. J. Webb; Mr L. Nanton, who scores as Robert Runr, is an actor of ability; Mr G. Paradise cleverly embodies the part of Sergeant M'Finnie; Miss Sadie Smith is seen to advantage in the part of Helen Maythorne; Miss Lallah Price as Molly Cutts gives a truly excellent performance; and Miss M. Danvers Smith as Marie is interesting. Mr V. Vivian in the dual parts of Harry Maythorne and Colonel Manners has plenty of work which he gets through with credit.

MAIDENHEAD.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr G. Gude; General Manager, Mr Arthur Aiston.—The entertainment this week is of exceptional merit. Tom Baxendale and Fred Alberto are very successful in character songs, Miss Noreen and the Sisters De Vere are redemanded for songs and clever dancing, and Miss Lily La Vera contributes a novel item by playing on the piano to her own step-dancing. Will Crowson creates a good impression as a swell coon comedian with a remarkable bone solo, Miss Cissie Conyers in descriptive songs displays a well-trained voice, the Evalos win unbounded applause for a comic juggling and acrobatic turn, and Mr E. keeps the house in roars of laughter with his comical description of well-known pictures, which are shown by limelight.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—A second week of Mr Beerbohm Tree's company is the attraction at this theatre. Monday's piece was *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, which was given throughout with admirable spirit, affording herty enjoyment to an audience well pleased alike with the players, the staging, and the incidental music. Mr Eardley Turner as Falstaff was especially successful, and a studious delineation of Master Ford was given by Mr William Haviland. Miss Cicely Richards and Miss Constance Collier also acted well and vivaciously as the "wives." Other prominent parts were cleverly rendered by Miss Ethel Harper, Miss Margaret Halstan, and Messrs V. L. Granville, Reginald Ian Penny, Herbert Bunston, Charles Bibby, and Arthur Bruce. As in last week's programme, *Julius Cæsar* and *Twelfth Night* are included.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—A good house welcomed the reappearance here on Monday of Mr George Edwardes's company in *San Toy*. The company is under the direction of Mr Arthur Hart and Mr J. A. E. Malone, and is materially strengthened by a full chorus and an augmented orchestra under the conductorship of Mr George M. Saker. Several old favourites retain their parts, notably Mr Stratton Mills as Sir Bingo Preston, Mr Colin Coop as the Emperor, and Mr Henry Claff as Fo Hop; while Miss Fanny Dango is seen to great advantage as San Toy; Mr E. Statham Staples gives a lively and amusing impersonation of Li; Mr John Humphries acquits himself excellently as the Mandarin; and Mr Reginald Kenneth is well placed as Captain Bobby Preston. Quite a number of minor parts are also well played, and the performance as a whole is a great success. It should be added that a *pas seul* by Miss Alice Lethbridge is a feature of the second act.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Walter Melville's successful drama *Her Second Time on Earth* is here this week, after a week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—Much laughter accompanied the performance of *Gentleman Joe* here on Monday by Mr Milton Bode's very capable company. Mr Kennedy Allen's smart depiction of the hansom cabby has been seen in Manchester before this, and his handling of the part is really a credit to his powers as a comedian, and quite the best performance of the evening. Mr J. W. Hooper as Pilkington Jones is also prominently successful, while considerable entertainment is contributed by Miss Mabel Kerridge as the Hon. Mabel Cavanagh, Miss Maud Marriott as Emma, Miss Eida Burman as Lalage Potts, and Miss Hebe Bliss as Mrs Ralli-Carr. In the second act the Edingale Trio introduce a special dance, and Miss Mabel Kerridge distinguishes herself among the Margate Minstrels.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Charles Majilton and company are the attraction here this week, and are seen to great advantage in that screaming farce *Round the Clock*. Another excellent turn is that of the famous Schaffers, whose feats of strength are nothing short of marvellous. Billy Richardson is a highly amusing stump orator; Harry Leybourne is a capital comedian and mimic; and Almon does some extremely clever business on his hands. Considerable interest is aroused by a novel item entitled "Is it you?" introduced by the management. Snapshots of individuals, taken in the district, are nightly thrown on the screen, and should any be in the audience they are presented, on application, with the sum of five shillings. Some interesting animated pictures complete.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A drama of strong human interest, *The Village Blacksmith*, by G. Carlton Wallace, is the attraction here this week. It is played by a clever company under the direction of Messrs Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey. Mr Sam Livesey gives a manly and vigorous delineation of the title-rôle; Miss Ethel May acts with grace and sympathy as the blacksmith's wife; and Little Christobel as their child Harry is a very promising juvenile. Miss Maggie Edwards as Ruth Parkins makes the most of her opportunities as actress and vocalist; Mr Joseph Carter has also a strong part as Captain Leo; and Mr Geo. V. Campbell as the country boy, Billy Twigg, does exceedingly well at the head of the comic department, which is kept busy during a large part of the evening. The drama is well staged and interesting throughout.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—The laughter-making farce entitled *Our Irish Visitors* is here this week. As Colonel M'Mahon Mr Tom E. Murray keeps the audience in a good humour the whole of the time he holds the stage. He is well supported by a capable company, including Messrs J. W. Braithwaite, Alfred D. Adams, Piercy Watson, Stenson Liddard, and the Misses Augusta Tullock, Helena Coe, Amy Knott, Edith Maynard, Poppie Saunders, and Dot Stanley, whilst the Imperial Troupe of lady dancers execute some graceful evolutions.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The programme is excellent here this week. The charming Mdlle. Klöst poses with lime-light effects in a most artistic manner, some of her creations being extremely beautiful. Smith and Johnson, the favourite coloured couple, are amusing, and contribute a popular turn, and Ernest and Hilda Dillon and another are seen to advantage in a clever and novel acrobatic speciality. Some excellent dancing of various kinds is included in the turns of Doris Lilian, comedienne; the Three Sisters Kilner, vocalists; T. W. Johnson, comedian; and Davis and Davis, comedians. *A Christmas Dream* is a high-class humorous opera-bouffe fantasy, prettily conceived. Other good items are Tony Iveson, the musical tramp; Anthy, who is clever on the wire; George Reeves, "wizard of song;" and the Hippodrome pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Shawlene, described as "the world's greatest and sweetest whistler," is one of the attractions here this week, and does much to justify the description by his pleasing renderings of various ballads and operatic selections. Linton, acrobatic bounding tight-rope artiste, is also very good. Dickenson and Johnson give a capital exhibition of fancy swimming and go through some clever feats in a crystal tank, and a clever acrobatic performance is given by the Bambusians. The veteran Sam Redfern shows that his patter has still the power to entertain; Elvo and Evelyn are an amusing comedy couple with songs and patter; R. C. Note sings two songs acceptably; Primavesi performs some neat juggling tricks; Harry Albery, eccentric comedian, dances well; and the Three Victorias gain much applause for their dancing and singing. An extra turn is given by Calvo, double-voiced mimic, who shows considerable merit. A series of animated pictures complete.

TIVOLI. — Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—The programme is particularly strong here this week. The charming Millie Lindon heads the bill, renders several excellent songs in her usual artistic manner, and meets with a hearty reception. John E. Coyle, the well-known comedian, causes much amusement with his eccentric methods and patter; Lauri Wylie is highly successful with his mimicking mannikin, gaining great applause for his clever impersonations of music hall stars; and Charles Mildare, "the human parrot," is also well received. The Two Bees (Harry and Flora Blake) appear in their beautiful scena *Hiawatha*, and make a big hit; Schack Seebold, the Swiss instrumentalist, scores with a delightful piccolo solo; Hettie Lee, comedienne, does some graceful dancing; Nell Richardson sings two pleasing songs; and Alf Sefton is a capital actor-vocalist.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—*High Jinks*, performed by Mr John Tiller's company of fifty artistes, is the attraction here this week. The piece contains plenty of fun, capital songs, graceful dancing, and proves much to the taste of the audience. Another excellent item is Miss Raffin's incomparable troupe of highly trained monkeys in their trapeze and barrel jumping feats. A gymnastic turn much above the average is that of the Brothers Kragr, who are exceptionally clever. Other enjoyable items are contributed by Alma Gray, coon artiste and dancer, and Isa Steel, ballad vocalist, whilst a series of interesting animated pictures depicting the Hull trawlers complete.

PALACE. — Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—The inauguration of the two shows a-night system at this hall was marked by phenomenal attendances on Monday, due mainly to the fact that Vesta Tilley—the "Manchester Idol"—is in the bill. This popular artiste had a great reception, and she showed herself in excellent form by the style in which she sang a couple of new songs and two old favourites. Apart from the fact that seats for the whole week were booked up long in advance, in view of the reappearance of Vesta Tilley after an absence of eighteen months, it would seem that the new arrangement will turn out very profitably for the management. The current programme is a strong one in all respects. The Brothers Horne give their laughable boxing sketch with great success; the Three Romas are well described as gladiatorial marvels; Phil Herman, Dutch vocalist, is a popular turn; Dolly Harmer is a clever and pleasing comedienne; Vosper gives an interesting series of impersonations; and comedy is well to the fore by the several efforts of Harry Bickley, Cullen and Carthy, and Dan Thomas. Ronald Bagnall, society entertainers, and the Carlyles, Spanish and whirlwind dancers, contribute pleasing items; and the programme is agreeably completed by the orchestral selection and a fresh series of Palace pictures.

ARDWICK EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Collins.—Bert Gilbert tops the bill here this week, and makes a hit with his song scena, *My Birthday*. The Kettle of Wonders demonstrates the powers of liquid air, and fairly amazes the audience. Roars of laughter follow the antics of the Harvey Boys, boxing comedians, and Newhouse and Ward perform some remarkable and sensational bicycle tricks. The Ohms (Carl and Mary) introduce some highly trained ponies, bears, dogs, and monkeys with decided success; and Charlton Howarth is a capital song illustrator. My Fancy is an exceptionally good sand dancer; Nina Martino sings two pleasing songs in a most artistic manner; Lily Lena is a comedienne who sings nicely; and the Burnells are heard to advantage as musical and comedy artistes.

MARCH.

PUBLIC HALL THEATRE.—Licensee, Mr Joseph Collingwood. — Mr Charles Macdona's company occupied the boards here on Monday in *Three Little Maids*. The leading characters were in good hands. Mr Frank Henderson was a decided success as Lord Cheyne, as were the Misses Vera Vallis, Nellie Groves, and Doris Trevor as the maids. A numerous and appreciative audience witnessed the play, which was exceptionally well staged.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Mr Herbert Hollister's company has been appearing here this week in the popular melodrama, *The Lights o' London*. Miss Jeannie Burgoyne draws a pathetic picture of Bess, a character which she plays capitally, enlisting the entire sympathy of the audience. Mr Cecil G. Calvert acts well as Harold Armytage, and Mr Albert Brasque submits a conventional but neatly drawn sketch of the villain of the story, Clifford Armytage. Mr Percy Compton contributes a pleasing delineation of the old showman, Jarvis, and Miss Emilie Dawson is also particularly good as the showman's wife. Miss Gladys Murray is a bright and perky Shakespeare Jarvis. Mr Herbert Hollister gives a highly successful interpretation of the rôle of Seth Preene, and Miss Kate Randolph makes an acceptable Hetty Preene. The lodge keeper, Marks, is carefully played by Mr Harold Wallace, whilst the part of Philosopher Jack is cleverly handled by Mr Ernest K. Nelson.

MELTON MOWBRAY.

CORN EXCHANGE.—On Monday evening Miss May Howard's company appeared in the strong emotional play *Man to Man*. Mr Alfred Norton gave a capital interpretation of the part of Matthew Ellerton, of the Phœnix Iron Works, and Mr Fred S. Peake was equally good as George Gordon, the manager of the works. Mr Frank Mainwaring's part of Richard Elliott was capably filled; Mr Shiel Barry personated the difficult character of the Rev. Philip Ormond, the mad parson, with distinct success; Mr Jack Paulton acted to the life the adventurer, Samuel Plumtree; and Mr Edward W. Cudd personified the convict, Bill Burkley, in admirable style. Ethel Maythorne was represented with tact and ability by Miss Dora Davis; Miss Doris Kelvey gave every satisfaction as Miss Lavinia Dove; Miss Maud Leslie Cudd showed a thorough appreciation of the part of Gipsy Madge; the maidservant's part was well filled by Miss Glen Tower; and Miss Maude Ryder was good as Ned Doyle.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—*A Soldier and a Man* is here this week presented by Mr A. Clifton Alderson's company. Harold Sinclair is cleverly played by Mr A. C. Alderson, and he is capitally supported by Miss Billie Doyle as Rose Melbury. Mr T. Marony as Colonel Sinclair, Mr Frank Powell as Hubert Walgrave, Mr Harry F. Wright as Jim Farron, and Mr A. W. Norman as David Melbury, all act capitally; and Mr H. K. Ayliffe as Jake Harding, Mr T. Kirkwood as Sergeant Wicks, Miss Nettie Schrier as Jane Wicks, Miss Daisy England as Norah Melbury, and Miss Hilda Leslie as Kate, are very successful.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Theatres, Limited; Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson. — At the Royal this week Mr Charles Frohman's company is occupying the boards with *Letty*. The acting of Mr H. B. Irving, who takes the part of Nevill Letchmere, is much enjoyed. Both in the lighter and more serious veins he gives a capital portrayal of the character. Miss Irene Vanbrugh, who appears in the title-rôle, gives a charming representation; and Miss Eleanor Souray is pleasing as Hilda Gunning. Mr Scott Craven is very good as Bernard Mandeville, and Mr M'Causland Stewart does well in the part of Ivor Crosble. Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson gives an effective rendering of Marion Allardyce.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Company, Limited; Licensee and Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—*Joseph Entangled* is the play occupying the boards here. The piece is presented by Mr S. Dauncey and Mr M. V. Leveaux's company. Mr H. B. Warner's Sir Joseph Lacy is very amusing. Miss Mona K. Oram gives a delightful portrayal of Lady Verona Mayne, and Mr Lawrence Grant is quite successful as Jermyn Pyecroft. Miss Shelley Calton as Mrs Tavender and Mr Horace Lane as Harry Tavender contribute much to the amusement of the audience, and Mr Stanley Ashworth is capital as Hardolph Mayne. The other parts are well portrayed, and the scenery is beautiful.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—Mr and Miss Baker occupy the premier position here with the magic kettle, which mystifies most of those who witness it. J. W. Rickaby, a favourite Middlesbrough comedian, has lost none of his popularity with Teesiders; Miss Bonnie Goodwin and her coons are as heartily received as on previous visits; Miss Carrie Joy, comedienne, pays a welcome revisit to Ironopolis after a lengthy absence; Ben Albert is a successful comedian; Ferris and Farnley are popular eccentric comedians; Cruikshank has a clever speciality; F. Warden and Reed give an acceptable sketch, "Married and Photographed"; Frank Coyne, comedian, does well; and the Bio pictures complete the bill.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—Bryon and Langdon submit *The Dude Detective* with great success. The two Motramos are valued favourites and are as much appreciated as on any of their previous visits to Teesside. The Sisters Terry, duettists; Willie Lambert, mandolinist; Beattie and Blanche, dancers; the Jonsens, gymnasts; Blarney and Kennard, dancers; and Frank Darwin, character vocalist, all come in for a fair share of applause.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr James Stillwell and company are here this week in *Queen of the Night*. Mr Charles V. Sandford gives intelligent interpretation to the part of Frank Cavendish; the Philip Stoneleigh of Mr James Stillwell is a powerful rendering; Mr P. E. Tuelon plays finely as the miser-David Pentreath; Mr F. T. Tracey is interesting as Old Briskett; and Mr B. Atherton is amusing as Adolphus. Miss V. St. Lawrence is admirable in the rôle of Paulina; Miss Katherine Barnett is graceful and refined as the heroine, Maud Sylvester; and Miss P. Denville works well as Kitty White.

MIDDLETON.

PARDOE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr William Pardoe.—The romantic play, *A Life's Revenge*, is billed here this week, and attracts considerably both by reason of its sensational plot and excellent dressing and staging. Miss Marie Dagmar plays Princess Vanda Ivyala to the life, while Mr Walter Roberts proves himself to be a sound actor in the leading rôle of Michael Orloff. Mr Fred C. Somerfield, Mr J. F. Trainor, Miss Frances C. A. Strickland, and Miss Amy Hughes are also capable.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—This week we are favoured with a répertoire of Shakespearian and classical plays by the Osmond Tearle company. On Monday evening *Othello* was staged, and in the title-rôle Mr Alexander Marsh displayed undoubted ability. Miss Carrie Baillie was exceedingly clever as Desdemona. On Wednesday *As You Like It* was presented. The plays for the week also include *Hamlet*, *Merchant of Venice*, and *Richard III.*

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

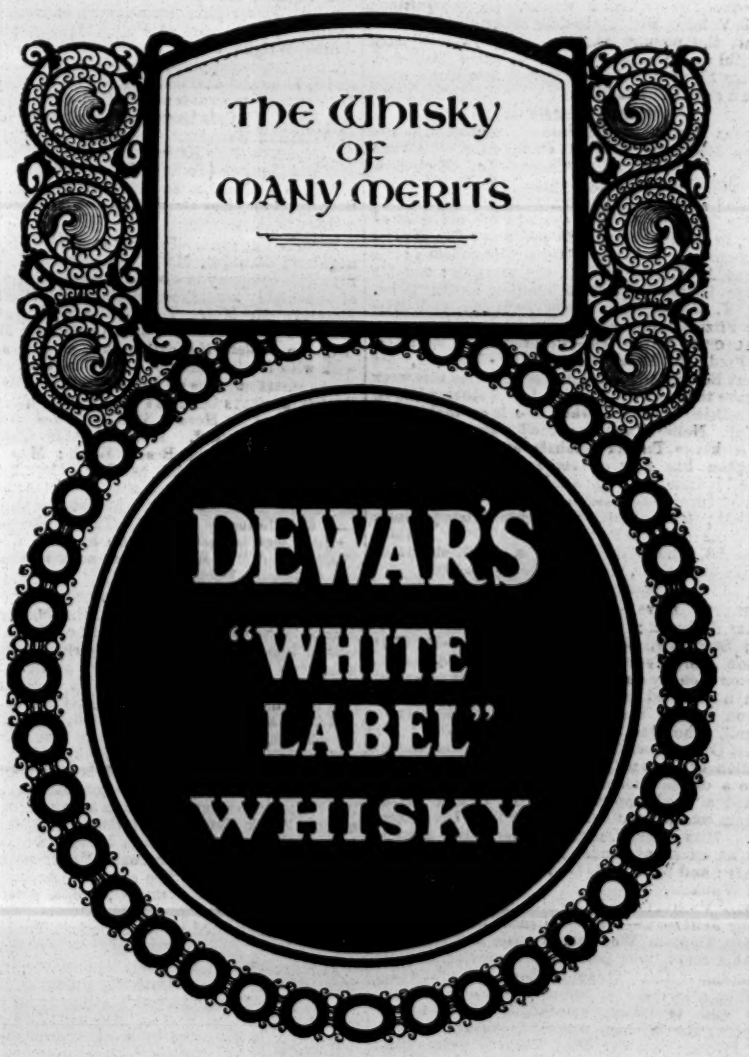
TYNE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The Moody Manners Opera Company is again favouring us with a visit, and lovers of opera have assembled in considerable force to listen to the judiciously selected musical works which constitute the répertoire for the week, and in the performance of which the high-level of all-round excellence of this well-known and ably directed combination is again very noticeable. That ever-popular work *Carmen* was presented on Monday, with Mdlle. Zelie De Lussan in the title-part, a performance which she always essays with complete success, and other notable efforts were those of Mr Joseph O'Mara as Don Jose, Mr William Dever as Escamillo, and Miss Kate Anderson as Michaela. Halevy's *The Jewess* formed the attraction on Tuesday, and here again Mr Joseph O'Mara sang splendidly as the Jew, while Madame De Vere as Rachael evoked enthusiastic applause. Mr Charles Manners acted and sang with distinction and power as Cardinal Brogni, Mr Wilson Pembroke as Prince Leopold, and Miss Kate Anderson as the Princess were also prominent and successful. *The Bohemian Girl*, *Faust*, *La Traviata*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Maritana* were the other operas which have been presented.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—Warm favourites with patrons of this house are Mr Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson, who with their company presented *Sunday* on Monday to a full house.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—Mr Fred Karno's company is this week appearing in that mirth-provoking production *His Majesty's Guests*, which is attractively staged and dressed. Mr Harry Roxbury occasions plenty of laughter as the redoubtable police officer Sergeant Lightning, and the other members of the company all lend their aid to bring out to the full the entertaining qualities of the musical comedy.

ELSWICK THEATRE. — Managing Director, Mr Charles M. Daly.—After undergoing a thorough renovation this place was reopened on Monday under the personal direction and management of Mr Chas. M. Daly. The opening attraction is provided by Mr Bert Wentworth's company in *That Woman from France*, a drama in which Miss Marie De Roos specially distinguishes herself by her embodiment of the title part.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Albert Chevalier is paying us one of his always welcome visits, and intensely appreciative demonstrations have been evoked by his various vocal comedy character sketches, in which the skill of the finished actor is always apparent. Horace Mills



and W H. Rawlins supply acceptable samples of their humorous qualities in an amusing sketch, in which they are assisted by two ladies. Maxwell and Francis are a lady and gentlemar, the former of whom is a neat step-dancer, and they conclude by blending their voices in a budget of popular songs. The rollicking humour of Pat Rafferty is well appreciated, as also is his patriotic ditty. Laughable cross talk forms the chief stock-in-trade of the Wedburns; lovers of good singing listen with pleasure to the effort of Sybil St. Elmo; a burlesque wrestling match is contested in excruciatingly funny style by the Griffiths Brothers; the Crown Trio are undoubtedly excellent vocalists; Sam Mayo, the immobile comedian, realises this description; the Densmores give an amusing pantomime sketch; and Gilbert Rogers, eccentric vocalist, also appears.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr E. W. Bacon.—The star turn this week is Hardeen, the emperor of handcuffs, whose wonderful performances have baffled the audiences and also those who have endeavoured to fasten him up. Regan and Ryan, the well-known comedians, have scored a big success; Harry Nelson, the local comedian, has some capital songs; Patty Yole is the most elegant dancer yet seen here; Tate and Tate are comedy acrobats of much skill; Alec Aubrey is a capital gymnast; the Three Florodoras are three bewitching ladies; and other good turns are the Weimars and Mabel De Vena.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—The attraction here is provided by Messrs Carson and Granville's company in *A Modern Adventuress*—in this instance Violet Meredith, who stops at nothing to gain her ends. The character is presented in a bold and effective style by Miss Beatrice M. Anderson. A sympathetic exponent of Vivette Delby is found in Miss Alice Defoe, and the vagaries of Miss Mimi Flaher as Sally Hodges are much relished. Mr Charles Stirling acts with force as Harry Delby, and the unscrupulous nature of Wallace Danton is amply realised by Mr W. R. Winning. Very effective is Mr Leonard Aardale's impersonation of Pietro Donelli, and Mr Evan Roland makes a hearty John Crompton. Mr Geo. P. Lester is smart as Walter Beal, and Mr Chas. Herberte appears as the broken-down Steve Meredith.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—Imro Fox, that clever illusionist, is the leading attraction at the Pavilion this week. His entertainment is most interesting, and many of his tricks are new to Newcastle audiences. Cliff Ryland tells some amusing stories, and his quaint antics are most entertaining. Lew Wells, a performer on musical instruments, introduces much humour into his contributions. The Five Purroscoopis give a juggling act on somewhat novel lines. The Donatos, one-legged acrobats, are warm favourites; Billie Williams is prominent with parodies on well-known songs; and Algie and Reggie are eccentric musicians who cause much laughter. Larola, equilibrist, and J. W. Bray, comedian, are also successful; and others appearing are Rose Cabani, comedienne and dancer, and the Kyaskas, athletic marvels. The animated pictures include several exclusive films of the boats recently so prominent in the North Sea and scenes at Hull during the funeral of the victims.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—*The Belle of New York* is being presented this week to good houses by Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard. Harry Bronson is admirably played by Mr Harold Wardroper; Ichabod Bronson is very merry as played by Mr Arthur Ricketts; and Mr Walter Emro is exceedingly funny as the Polite Lunatic. Messrs Guy Forde and Walter Uxbridge are successful as Doc Snifkins and Kenneth Mugg respectively; and Messrs Lionel Yeoman and R. L. Cody are also admirable. Miss Mona Hersee wins favour as the Salvation Lassie, and the part of Fifi Fricot finds a charming exponent in Miss Helen Rose. Miss Ida Grandeson does well in the part of the Queen of Comic Opera; Miss Florence Hersee is captivating in the dual rôle of the Music Hall Artiste and A Pell-street Dancer; and the Blinky Bill of Mr Mack Olive (whose whistling is a special feature) secures the warmest recognition.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll.—Tina Clementa, an expert rider who heads the bill here, has evidently mastered the art of training her beautiful horse and troupe of dogs, which go through a performance that is quite unique. The burlesque act of Binns and Binns is warmly received; the Scottish Meisters, whose voices blend beautifully, provide an enjoyable turn; and the Bioscope shows some entirely new pictures. Arthur Melrose, whistling comedian, is accorded well-earned recognition; Lizzie Valrose, with up-to-date songs, does not fail to hit the popular taste; and an extraordinary graceful performance is given by Alcide Capitaine. Walter Stanley and Bert Byrne, comedians, complete a good all-round bill.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE —Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—*Les Cloches de Corneville* is with us once again. Mr E. St. Alban repeats his excellent representation of Gaspard; Mr Fowler Thatcher is back again in his old part of Gobo, in which he is *facile princeps;* Mr Walter Cranbourne is again successful as Grenicheaux; Mr George A. Fox is good as the Marquis; and Mr George Delaforce is most amusing as the Baillie. Miss K. Farrell is a dainty Germaine, and Miss Lucy Fitzroy a vivacious Serpolette.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—Heading the programme this week we have that excellent party of glee singers known as the British Quartet, who have been highly successful. Nellie Vann is a good serio and dancer; the Alskarno Trio of acrobats are clever; Mabel Kempton has a good soprano voice; Charles Cassell is amusing in his comic songs; Grapho and Jackson furnish an amusing sketch, which is well received; Baby Lloyd is a promising juvenile songstress and dancer; and Bert Kemp, society cartoonist, and Will Pearce, a good character vocalist and mimic, complete the programme.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Mr Bert Coote's company with *The Fatal Wedding* opened here on Monday and had an enthusiastic reception from a crowded house. The character of Mabel Wilson was in the capable hands of Miss Helen Russell, who was conspicuously successful; Mr Ernest Owttrim was responsible for a clever impersonation of Howard Wilson; Mr Oliver Rogers made a capital Robert Curtis; Mr W. R. Chewd created a good impression as Toto; and Mr J. Graham was quite at home as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford. Miss Rosie Dane, a clever child actress, gave an excellent rendering of Jessie, the little mother; and Miss Doris Gilham was a satisfactory Cora Williams.

BORO' VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—Large audiences assemble here nightly, Captain Woodward's seals and sea lions in their marvellous performance proving a great attraction. The Three Seabomes, equilibristic marvels, also come in for considerable applause; Dale and O'Malley, comedians, cause hearty laughter; the Sisters Adelaide, vocalists, meet with favour; and Mr Fred Casburn, comedian; Miss Flo Schuberth, comedienne; Mr Harry Walker, comedian; and Mr Gus Balsiger, comedian, are also billed.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr William Mould. — The bill here is headed by Carabet's clever dogs, who have come in for an excellent reception. The Sisters Maginel-Mullini, duettists, posthorn and cornet soloists, are delighting all with their enjoyable performances; the Two Romers, duettists, are much appreciated; Mr Robb Gilmore, eccentric comedian, is popular; and the Sisters Brenton, duettists; Martino, with a "nest of vipers;" Les Prinellis, in *A Country Flirtation;* and other items complete a good programme.

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs S. Golden; Manager, Mr Percy Webb.—Mr W. H. Powell's company paid their first visit to Northwich this week with the farcical comedy *There and Back.* The play is cleverly written, prettily staged, and the comic situations cause roars of laughter. The company, with Mr Edwin Ramsdale, an old favourite here, at its head, is an excellent all-round combination. The plot of the comedy hangs on the adventures of Henry Lewson and William Waring, who are very ably portrayed by Messrs Edwin Ramsdale and W. H. Powell. They receive excellent support from Miss G. Burney and Miss Marie Scharning as Mrs Lewson and Mrs Waring respectively; Miss Ada Brenan undertakes the part of Marie Antoinette Smith in a pleasing manner; Mr William Mackersey plays Jack M'Rea capably; and Mr William Osborne ably assists as Guy Grindling.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr George Dance's excellent company in *A Country Girl* is here this week. Mr Fred W. Pattrick as Mr Raikes (Rajah of Bhong) is a firm favourite, especially in his song "Peace," which is enthusiastically received. Mr Francis Ludlow is very good as Geoffrey Chaloner; Mr Willie Hartell is favourably received as Douglas Verity; Mr Harry Buss as Barry creates endless amusement; Mr H. C. Morton is a praiseworthy Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr Ernest Cresfan a capable Lord Anchester. Miss Rosa Begarnie as Madame Sophie is much appreciated, and Miss Nellie Cozens acts and sings well as Nan. Miss Kathryn Comber is good as Marjory Joy, and Miss Ernestine Desborough deserves praise as Princess Melaneh.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby. — Miss Lottie Lennox, described as London's favourite chorus vocalist, obtained an immense reception on Monday, especially in her topical song concerning the Russian outrage, at the conclusion of which the audience rose and heartily joined in "God Save the King." Minnie Duncan and Arthur Godfrey were very good in their coster romance, entitled *Me and 'Er.* Harry Avery, the wonderful soprano boy, sang with much taste. Madame Collard and her lion and tiger dogs are an excellent turn in the burlesque, "Robinson Crusoe and his Pets." Curtis Leo, assisted by Noblesse, does some clever juggling. The Valdares are clever cyclists, and amusing in their sketch, *The Maid and the Dude.* David Poole is an excellent ventriloquist, and Fred Cary keeps the audience in laughter with his comical songs. The Paul Courtney combination in the sketch, *The Doctor,* wins much success.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—There seems no end to the resources of Mr George Edwardes, and his latest emanation from Daly's Theatre, *The Cingalee,* bids fair to even outstrip its predecessors. It goes without saying that the mounting and dressing are superb, and in conjunction with the delightfully melodious music and witty dialogue, it forms an entertainment of the most alluring kind. Miss Anna Hickish uses her highly-cultured voice with fine effect in the music allotted to Lady Patricia Vane; Miss Florence Smithson makes a charmingly sweet representative of Nanoya, and her rendering of "My Cinnamon Tree" evokes a storm of applause; Miss Eva Sandford fills the rôle of Peggy Sabine with a sprightliness that captivates the audience, and her "business" with Mr Danby is exceedingly smart; Mr Frank Danby as Chambhuddy Ram is the very life and soul of the piece, his comical mixture of English words producing uncontrollable merriment; Mr Leedham Bantock plays Boobhamba in his quiet but effective way, and scores heavily with the topical song "There isn't much more to say." Mr W. J. Manning delineates the fiery Sir Peter Loftus in an entertaining manner; and Mr Harold Thorley sings and acts pleasantly as Harry Vereker. The minor parts are all capitally filled, and the chorus numbers are exceptionally well rendered.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Chas P. Cooke.—*The Master Criminal* pays its initial visit here this week, and Mr Stanley Hope's company is receiving a gratifying reception for their earnest and clever work. The part of Telford Lestage calls for much dramatic ability, but Mr Albert Guyon shows himself capable, and plays with excellent judgment; Mr John Power puts commendable earnestness and feeling into the part of Philip Manners; and Mr Julius Wright makes an astute detective. Miss Nellie Thearle supplies a fine delineation of Cecile, giving force and character to the part; Miss Edith Lawrence gives an able assumption of Mrs Manners; and Little Marjorie Lawrence is a winsome exponent of Winifred Manners. The humorous relief is well developed by Miss Kitty Terriss (Peggy Perks) and Mr Tod Squires (Tommy Dale), and, Misses Enid Edoni, Nina Neville, Bessie Armytage, and Messrs Stanley Hope, Roy Gordon, and H. Harrington add a share to the success

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—Mr Horace Stanley's company is giving a good representation of the highly sensational drama, *The* 10 30 *Down Express.* Mr Harry T. Wood acts with care and convincing earnestness as Jack O'Malley; Mr Scott Leighton depicts the evil nature of James Inderwick with forcible method; and Mr Harry L. Day shows smart abilities as the Detective. Mr Alaric Burton portrays Cuthbert Leigh with quiet effectiveness, and Mr Horace Stanley makes an acceptable Sam Wagstaff. Miss Adelaide Clare is a pretty and engaging Bessie Leigh; Miss Fanny Corbet earns distinction as Olive Coombes; and Miss Hilda Miller makes a bright Matilda Ann. Mr Arthur E. Francis give a humourous impersonation of Blotherby Blaggs. The senile gaiety of Letitia Leigh is quaintly shown by Miss Evelyn M. Walton, and Miss Kate Kilpack adds to the merriment as Peggy Potts.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—The versatility of Tom Costello is well known, but whether in serious song or in humorous vein he never fails to please. In grotesque "make-up" Mr Costello is a pastmaster, and the hilarity is kept at its highest point. Athas and Collins secure a huge reception, the gentleman for his eccentricities and the lady for her bright and pleasing singing. Wal Pink and company evoke a continuous stream of laughter by their sketch, *Uncle's Wife,* and the comical gyrations of the Wheelers on their cycles is a source of merriment. Frank Maura shows remarkable skill as a foot equilibrist. Spot brings forward a number of local amateurs, who get through a "cake-walk" with noticeable dexterity. The songs of Arthur Rigby are appreciated to the utmost, and a smart little songstress is heard in Jessie Albini. The programme is completed by the American Bioscope.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr Cecil Barth's company is here in the American production, *An Actor's Romance.* The play is preceded by a charming speciality entitled *My Lady Hottentot,* given by the soubrette of the company, cleverly assisted by the Pansy Quartet in pretty costumes. Mr Harold Davenport assumes the title-rôle in *An Actor's Romance* with ability. Mr Guy Hastings, Mr Ernest Rushton, Miss Rosie Dawson, and Miss Constance Elgin play other principal characters with success.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—The numerous patrons of this popular house had reason to be delighted on Monday at the exceptionally fine programme submitted to them. The marvellous performance of Grais' baboons is interesting, looping the loop by Diavoleno, the young baboon, bringing down the house. Atlas and Vulcans, society athletes, are well received; Florence and Lillian contribute a remarkably fine musical entertainment; the Llewellyns are successful as high-class operatic artistes; and Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes score a success in their sketch *A Matrimonial Substitute.* Thomas E. Finglas, singer of character Negro ditties; Meier and Mora (Dave and Belle), American speciality artistes; Edie Rivers, comedienne and dancer; and John Clarke, soldier vocalist, complete a successful programme.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The excellent programme presented here this week includes *Rejected Remounts,* a very amusing performance that receives hearty approval. Mattie Crawford scores a success as a skipping-rope dancer; Kier and Allen, comedians, are well received; Fred Bronte is exceptionally clever as an actor-vocalist; and Lil Esplin, comedienne, is very smart. Raymond's Bioscope introduces many new pictures, including the last photograph of Dan Leno, presented to Mr E. J. Dexter, the licensee and manager.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr George Dance's principal company is paying us a most enjoyable visit with *The Orchid,* which is being nightly received with extraordinary favour by houses that pack the theatre from floor to ceiling. The company is a first-class combination, the chorus strong and tuneful, and the dresses and mounting are all that could be desired. Mr E. Darrell, with a wonderful make-up, is a most suave and real Mr Chesterton; Mr G. Davy Burnaby's quiet and incisive acting is seen to the utmost advantage as Guy Scrymgeour; Mr E. Hollick makes a capital Dr. Fausset; Mr E. Page is highly entertaining as the fire-eating De Cassignat; Mr A. P. Hemsley does some wonderful dancing as Zaccary; and Mr Bertie Wright keeps the house in high good humour with his most diverting performance of Meakin. Miss Madge Lucas scores heavily as Caroline Vokins; Miss Ethel Bryant sings well and acts brightly as Lady Violet; Miss Mabel Sealby is an attractive and winsome Josephine Zaccary; and Zelie Rumbert, Thisbe, and Countess Anstrutha find excellent exponents in the Misses Eva Melville, Poppy Wilkinson, and Ida Chichester. This is the first visit of *The Orchid* here, but it will surely not be the last.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Musical comedy is also the attraction here this week in the shape of Miss Grace Warner's company in *The New Commander,* which has been well received. Mr G. Gordon is a manly and interesting Lieut. Harding; Mr G. Handel acts well and whistles delightfully as Lieut. Tremingway; Mr F. Searle contributes some good songs as Matthew Flintheart; and Mr St. B. Wintour and Mr A. Anderson are respectively good as the Sultan and Tittum, the waiter. Miss Grace Warner makes an attractive Violet Flintheart; Miss May Vithell is a bright Freddie Bounce; and Miss May Dallas is a chic and lively Vivette.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—The attraction here this week is *Glittering Gloria,* which has been heartily received. A smart and consistent performance is the Jack James of Mr John Campbell, and Mr Stanley Arthur, who is highly amusing, makes an ideal Archie Toddleby. Mr Haughton Macaulay hits off the peculiarities of Zebedee Posket with success; as Colonel Pasquali Gallegher Mr J. Worldley Hulse is responsible for an excellent embodiment; and Algernon Entwistle is admirably acted by Mr Gerald Clark. A mirth-provoking performance is that of Mr Charles Williams as Mr Griddletop, and capable assumptions are supplied by Mr F. Bentley as Samuel Slapton and Mr Percy Winzar as Robert Shreve. Miss Stanley Ronalds makes a most attractive Gloria Grant, Miss Lillian Williams is delightfully piquant as Mrs Jack James, Dorothy Kenworthy is effectively presented by Miss Peggy Harrington, and Miss Mary Bune is of signal service as Sarah.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—This week's programme is contributed to by Charles Whalen, eccentric dancing comedian; the Sisters Lyle, duettists and dancers; Tom Muir, comedian and dancer; Amy Bathurst, serio and dancer; and the Garden Troupe of International dancers and pipers. The Empire Cinématograph is also an attraction.

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Mr W. H. Hallatt's company is here this week in *Two Little Sailor Boys.* In the rôle of Commander Noel Tregarthen Mr W. H. Hall delights the audience by his vivid delineation of a difficult part; Miss Marie Daventry displays grace and charm as Mildred Grey; Mr Leonard Booker is an effective Lieutenant Richard Redstone; Admiral Grey in the hands of Mr Geo. Cecil Murray is treated in a clever manner; Mr Oscar Power and Mr Sid Cotterell are responsible for screams of laughter in their humorous portrayals of Jack Jolly and Ben Baxter respectively, and Miss Hilda Taylor's vivacity as Lucy Wilson also makes for fun. Miss Blanche Steele deserves praise for her interpretation of Lola Yorke, the adventuress; Mr Edward Marden as Captain Tom Yorke is well placed; the part of Jim Royson is capably sustained by Mr Ambrose Horton; and the titular parts by Miss May Day and Miss Ethel Frances are cleverly rendered.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr Frank Bertram's specially organised London company is here in the powerful drama *The Convict's Daughter.* Mr J. K. Walton successfully undertakes the rôle of the rich Frederick Neville; Mr T. W. Hurst is seen to advantage as young Harold Trevalyen; Mr G. Moreton Williams enacts the villainous part of Jasper Thorn with veritable force and daring; Mr Frank Bertram's Michael Graham receives the hearty approbation his clever acting deserves; Mr Alfred Ferris is most amusing as Patrick O'Laragan; and Mr Laurence figures conspicuously as Frank Harper. Miss Maud Osmond makes an ideal Marion Thorn; Miss Julie Alexander proves a delightful change from the dramatic element; and Miss Edith M. Savery's impersonation of Edith is most deservedly appreciated.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—A welcome return visit is being paid this week by Mr J. Rice Cassidy, supported by a powerful company, in the romantic musical play entitled *Dan the Rake.* Mr Frank Orchard is successful as Colonel Flamer, alias Leonard Askew; Mr Frank Copeland sustains the part of Lieutenant Charles Kavanagh creditably; Captain Tom Cooper has a powerful representative in Mr Frederick Biron; Mr Norman Hall is amusing as Achille; Miss Ada Roscoe is decidedly good as Mrs Donelly, mother of Dan; and Mr J. Rice Cassidy as Dan Donelly and Miss Lilian Clare as Madge contribute greatly to the evening's enjoyment, both being well received. Miss Florence Halton is well placed as Helen. On Thursday and Friday *The God of War* was presented.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Mr A. Darville Vernon.—*La Poupée,* presented by the Ben Greet company, opened here on Monday. The part of Lancelot was ably represented by Mr Algernon Lee; and Mr Stanley White was capital as Baron Chanterelle. Mr Harry Bishop appeared with success as Loremois; Mr Joseph A. Bull was exceedingly good as Father Maxime; and the part of Hilarius had an able exponent in Mr Bert Danson. Miss Cissie Wade made a charming and winsome Alesia. Other parts are ably filled by Miss Margaret Ainsworth, Miss Eva Ellis, Miss Carr, and Miss Bailey.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—*Saturday to Monday* holds the boards here this week, Mr Percy Hutchison's company appearing in it with unqualified success. A refined comedian, Mr Stuart Champion as Lord Culvert acts with freedom and finish, and is well supported by Miss Moyra Creegan, whose attractive personality, grace, and acting in the rôle of Mrs Wendover win for her a large share of popularity. A clever study of Probyn Dyke is presented by Mr Thomas A. Braidon, and Mr Dallas Welford as Stanley Pidding is very funny. Minor parts are well sustained by the Misses Madeline L'Estrange, Nancy Beresford, Ida Laurie and Olive Loftus Leyton, and Mr Augustus Davenport. *Judged by Appearances* is the title of the curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—There is a wealth of exciting incidents in *The Mockery of Marriage,* a well-written melodrama which is being played here this week by Miss Olga Audre's company. Well portrayed is the part of Dick Kenyon by Mr Arthur Winpenny; whilst Mr Harry Stebbing renders effective service as Jack Stanley, the hero. Seth Pearce, the terror-haunted man, is strongly realised by Mr Frank Dalton. The comedy parts are in the capable hands of Mr Sydney Halling and Mr Will Skelton, and smart acrobatic performances are provided by the Brothers Glennie. Miss Lydia Audry is successful as Rose Vernham, and as Alva Kenyon Miss Florence Zillwood displays talent. A dignified representation of Joseph Vernham is forthcoming from Mr Harold Grahame.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Manager, Mr J. Field.—Aga, the suspended maiden, is the sensation here this week, and the performance is a marvellous one. A very taking turn is that provided by Venie Clements, charming comedienne. The Ottoways give a show full of novelties, including an exciting boxing match in which the lady artist displays high efficiency. Harmony and humour are forthcoming from Bobby and Blank, who are expert musicians. As dancers and comedians Rich and Rich excel, and their songs and patter, like that of Charles V. Adams, are very amusing. *Early Birds* is the title of a sketch acted by the Karno Troupe, and it proves very diverting. George Prince contributes a popular football song.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. Carlton.—Mr Morton Powell's company is appearing here in *Bigamy,* a telling piece, in which Miss Alwynne Ermon acts very finely as Diana De Courcelle. Mr Fred Moule, the author, plays the part of Rufus Cherryball with considerable humour, Miss Lydia Mannington as Lilian Lambkin also evoking much laughter. Miss Elsie Capell and Mr Colin Hazlewood appear to advantage in difficult parts.

PONTYPOOL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Poole Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr Stephens.—Mr Edward Neville's strong company in *The Anarchist Terror* is played to appreciative audiences here this week. The company is under the personal direction of Mr Neville, who sustains the title-rôle with remarkably good effect. Mr T. E. O'Connor as Lieut. Armstrong is also conspicuously successful, and Miss Violet Hammersley as Columbia Goldstraw displays much ability. Mr Will White in the droll character of Mikey Doolan keeps the audience in a merry mood. Mr Gus Bowerman as Ishmael, the gipsy chief, gives a powerful impersonation. Miss Cecile Pyne is well placed as Zara, and Mr J. Nelson Turner is seen to advantage in his portrayal of the Yankee pork king. Miss Kitty Parr makes a sprightly Floretta. *The Sorrows of Satan,* by the same company, occupies the boards for the last three nights. Both plays are well staged.

PONTYPRIDD.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—On Monday and during the week Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester Jackson's company appeared in the drama *Her One Great Sin.* Reuben Warhurst found an able exponent in Mr Sam Arthur; Mr J. Leicester Jackson was good as the villainous Arnold Thornhill; Mr Fred Hodson put plenty of life into the character of Jerry Jumble; Mr Chas. E Lambert contributed an effective impersonation of Dan Hundle; Mr Benton, a solicitor, was ably sustained by Mr Sidney Fiennes; Miss Blanche St. Albans scored as Grace Warhurst; and Bet Hundle was admirably impersonated by Miss Louie Walton. Miss Nellie Lambert deserves great credit for her embodiment of Nancy Winpenny. Quite a feature of the piece was the excellent acting of little Miss Maudie Lambert.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Mr George Dance's No. 1 company is here this week presenting *A Chinese Honeymoon.* The Soo-Soo of Miss Madge Temple is excellent, her singing being much admired; Miss Vera Vere distinctly scores as Fi-Fi; Miss Eva Bevington is satisfactory as Mrs Pineapple; Miss Holford Beringer as the official mother-in-law, Mrs Brown, gives a capital rendering; Mr Martin Adeson is responsible for the part of Mr Pineapple, and acquits himself with his usual excellence; Mr Philip Hayden's impersonation of the Emperor Hang Chow is a commanding one; Tom Atherton is ably acted by Mr Frank Crimp. Mr Ernest Laws and Mr Fred Payne are well placed as Chippie Chop and Hi Lung respectively.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—The boards of this house have been occupied this week by Mr J. F. Elliston's company with the successful and popular play of *Alone in London.* Miss Madge Devereux, in the dual-part of Annie Meadows and Nan, played with great judgment and was much appreciated; Miss Ada Tilley as Gipsy Tom and Tom Chickweed was admirable in both rôles; Miss Ada Elliston, in the part of 'Liza Jenkinson and Mr Lonnen Meadows as Charlie Johnson are responsible for a great deal of the humour of the piece. Richard Redcliffe is ably and forcibly taken by Mr Stephen Ewart; Mr Henry George gives an excellent study of John Biddlecombe, and Mr J. W. Wilkinson as Jenkins gives a good impersonation. Mrs C. Wood as Mrs Maloney is capital; and we must also mention Little Paul, pleasingly played by Little Ella Gillette.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—A capital programme has been in evidence this week here. Arthur Lennard, comedian and vocalist, has had a flattering reception, his songs meeting with the warmest approval. Lottie Siegenberg, Protean artiste, in her quick-change vocal sketch "The Lazy Slavey," has the entire approval of the house. Katie Butler, character comedienne, is pleasing. Three Sisters Lee, acrobats, vocalists, and dancers, do well. Will Newman, versatile comedian, is amusing. Lizzie Fletcher, soubrette, is clever. Phillips and Terry, in their sketch *The Revolt of Man,* create roars of laughter. Leonsen and Louise, in their graceful equilibristic act, are a good turn. Georgie May, pretty singer of sensible songs, and Payne's Photo.-Bioscope, with new pictures, including "The Adventurous Voyage to the Sun," are also in the bill.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—Mr C. P. Levilly's company is here this week in the comic opera, *Amorelle.* which is attracting good houses. The part of Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow is cleverly filled by Mr Leon Simkin, whose funny business causes hearty laughter. Mr Arthur Cozens sings and acts with pleasing effect as Jules, and Mr Horace Manger acquits himself well as Francois. Mr J. Redmond and Mr Langford Reed are excellent representatives of Lupin and Alphonse respectively. Mr Fred Carrington, who impersonates Father Dotard, is deservedly recalled for his admirable rendering of the song "I ses to myself ses I." Miss Empsie Bowman charms the audience by her sweet singing and vivacious acting in the rôle of Amorelle. Miss Adah Grey is all that can be desired as Lesbia, her vocalism being very pleasing; and praise must be accorded to Miss Von Bargen for her amusing embodiment of Marina. The scenery is beautiful and the costumes are quite in harmony with the atmosphere of the opera.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company, in *Under the Russian Flag,* is here this week. General Romanoff is well taken by Mr Charles Reyne; Mr George Arthur is quite successful in portraying the villainy of Michael Romanoff; Mr F. W. Freeman plays Ivan Romanoff in convincing style; as Captain Demetrius Mr Walter Howard acquits himself admirably; Mr Fred Harker ably fills the part of Wolf Marischka. Miss Ellen Snow, in the rôle of Luka Marischka gives a clever performance; Miss Ada Champion acts Vera Vassiloff in a praiseworthy manner; and Ogarita (Miss Agnes Howard), Peter Poluski (Mr Hal Ford), and Alexis Skopolopki (Mr Alfred Bennett) supply the humour to the piece. The drama is well staged.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr H. Bowman.—*The Naval Detective,* a musical comedy, has been presented here this week by Mr F. J. Kirke's company. Mr Arthur Hickman is eminently successful in the chief rôle, and Mr Will Brereton makes a popular appearance as Captain Hustle, as does Mr Robert Gilbert as Dr. Schreiner. The female parts are well sustained, among the ladies appearing to advantage being Miss Edith Claris, Miss Iris Banfield, Miss Lily Seymour, Miss M. Walsh, Miss E. Paul, Miss F. Hayes, and Miss L. Fontaine. A number of popular musical numbers and speciality turns are introduced.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—Mr Milton Ray's famous company this week pays us a welcome return visit after three years' absence with *A Hot Night.* As is ever the case with this company the performance is a most finished one. Mr Arthur Milton is as good as ever as Frank Frith; as Whiffles Mr Rolando Martin brings down the house with his absurdities; Mr Francis Hope as Flutterwig is distinctly successful; and Mr Harry T. Butler as Mark Maybury imparts considerable "go" to the performance. As Sheerman Mr Alfred Wellesley is good, as also is Mr James Sherwin as Drake. Miss Cicely Hilton as Polly Drake is capable; Miss Beatrice Annersley as Mrs Flutterwig is effective; and Miss Madge Wrae as Fanny Frith does creditable work, as also does Miss Jessie Wrae as Mary Maybury. Miss Clara Reid as Lucy Lorrimer sings sweetly and dances remarkably well. The Eldorado Quartet introduce some fascinating dances during the performance.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—*Sherlock Holmes* is here this week, and Mr H. A. Saintsbury's impersonation of the famous detective is an admirable piece of work. Dr. Watson is well represented by Mr Lawrence Leyton; Mr Charles Grey does well as John Forman; Mr James F. Anson as Sir Edward Leighton and Mr Gissing Walters as Count Von Stahlberg deserve mention; Mr W. F. Stirling as Professor Moriarty gives a powerful rendering of the part. As Madge and James Larabee Miss Maud Linden and Mr Leslie Carter are seen to advantage; as also are Miss Vera Longden as Alice Faulkner, Miss Rosalie Notrelle as Terese, and Miss Ethel St. Leger as Mrs Smedley.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—*A Disgrace to Her Sex* occupies the boards here. Mr Phil Harper gives a convincing portrayal of Jack Dawes. Mr Arthur Byron is amusing as Barnaby Mugg, and is well supported by Miss Madge Yates as Bella Mugg. Mr Arthur Chisholm acts ably the part of Dexter; Miss Winnie Tempest makes the most of Mabel Valley; Miss Nellie Lucas is winsome and attractive as Mildred Carrington; and Miss Gracie Heywood acts with power and effect the rôle of Hilda Valley. Mr Augustine Knight powerfully sustains the part of Jules Delarnet; Mr Eugene Santley is effective as David Carrington; and Mr David G. Noble cleverly interprets the rôle of Arnold Traver.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—Captain Alphonso Gerard, with his lions and tiger dogs, gives a daring and fearless exhibition of wild animal training; Marie Yorke, chic comedienne; the Waffatangs, coloured vocalists; Hughes's Electrograph, Emma Don and company, in a vocal scena; Codge, whistling street arab; Dan Noble, comedian; and Mdlle. Florence, champion globe walker, complete a most interesting and enjoyable programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—The New York Comedy Quartet are enthusiastically recalled for their clever vocal efforts; the Bendons vocally describe various phases of life with success; and Circe mystifies the audience with her vanishing tricks. The Itrams, gymnasts, &c.; Jack Pleasants, comedian; Mona M'Donald, comedienne and vocalist; Les Belles Americaines, vocalists and expert dancers; and the Empire Bioscope of living pictures make up an attractive bill-of-fare.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Mr George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company is providing the attraction here this week with *Judy.* Mr Carlton Wallace gives a clever representation of Duburg, and Mr William Vane is a manly Vincent Sterling. Mr Will Casey is very natural as Tim, the coster, and Mr Fred May is amusing as Giddles. Mr George Kirk as Grip receives well-deserved applause. Miss Mary Neil in the dual-rôle of Alice and Polly gives a pleasing and finished portrayal of these parts, and Miss Muriel Thompson does well as Blake. Miss Annie Mitchell scores as Becky, and Miss Florrie Groves delights the house with her representation of the title-rôle.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr A. F.

flower girl, and causes much amusement by her able and humorous acting. Mr Sydney Dench as Spider Dick works exceedingly hard, and does not miss an opportunity. Miss Arline T. George is clever as Leadrift; and as the Earl of Ravenswood Mr F. Damer leaves nothing to be desired. Master Bert Dench as Dixie is very good, and sings well. Mr Andrew Money as Mark Stanley displays great ability, and Mr Harry Tilbury scores as Matthew Grabham. As Dan'l Drake Mr J. Templer Ellis acts with ability, and Mr Robert Hall as Dr. Leonard Murton gives an artistic rendering.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Mr F. Jarman's company is presenting *In Dark Siberia* this week. Mr Jarman sustains Captain Gordon in a forcible manner, Mr Charles Osborn is a capable Major Waroff, Mr H. Romsay's Colonel Nevski is a faithful character sketch, and Mr Harry Seymour is quaint as Sergeant Petrovitch. Miss Helen M'Culloch gives an interesting resumé of the vicissitudes of the Princess Natalie Orloff, Miss Cecelia Ransome enlists much sympathy by her clever handling of Paul Gregorovitch, Miss M. Clements is a vivacious Ivanova, and Miss Kate Osborne is responsible for a good study of the juvenile, Sonia.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Fred L. Connynghame and his company drew a good house on Monday, when they commenced a week's engagement with the powerful domestic drama *A Mother's Love*. Mr Arthur Rose gives a good study of a manly parson as Paul Wingate; Geoffrey Mannering in the hands of Mr George P. Beresford is a plausible scoundrel; Mr Fred L. Connynghame makes Matt Ruddock a droll character; Miss Violet Macaree forcibly portrays Winnie Wingate, the vicar's unfortunate wife; and Miss Laura A. Pardy makes a charming Ellaine Mervin. Miss Bertha Hanbury cleverly sustains the part of the child, Marjorie Wingate; Miss Lallah Davis as Mary Smart, Mr Willie Barratt as Joe Jackson, and Mr George Earle as Augustus Winkle, with the rest of the company, are also successful in their several characters. The scenery and staging are effective.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—Another excellent bill is provided this week. Leo Dryden, vocal character actor, is much appreciated. Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas have a clever musical duologue, entitled *Her Birthday*; Mr and Mrs Blake Adams, in the dramatic episode, *The Last Pitch*; Terry and Lambert, smart comedy couple; Whit Cunliffe, light comedian, with his comical songs; Ergotti and King Luis Troupe of Risley acrobats; Miss Virginia and her funny piccaninnies; Mdlle. Orbini, graceful and daring gymnast; and Wal Robbins, black and white comedian, are very smart in their various ways. The results of the North Sea outrage form an interesting set of animated pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—Harry Pleon, at the top of the programme, causes roars of laughter with his comicalities. Dinah Morris with her troupe of Southern state artists, in *The Lost Coon*, gets much applause. The programme is of a high standard, drawing good houses, who derive much enjoyment also from Roy and Fenton, in their American comedy act; George Foyle, comedian; Dunville's humorous and clever musical speciality; Max Miliar, expert equilibrist; Hector and Paulus, in speciality act; Omega, queen of the wire; Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists; Onatis Troupe of Algerian jugglers; and the animated pictures.

L. AND N. W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—Plenty of agreeable variety is contributed by the company engaged this week, which includes Lund and Lane, duettists; Connie Wyndham, burlesque actress; Ted Lambert, descriptive vocalist; Emmie Handz, soprano vocalist; and Mr Arthur Rocco, comedian.

SCARBOROUGH.

SPA.—Manager, Mr Fras. Goodricke.—The company's orchestra, under the direction of Mr Charles Godfrey, jun., continues to draw good audiences. This week Madame Blamy is the vocalist, and her singing has been loudly applauded.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Henry Mayhew; Manager, Mr F. P. Morgan.—Messrs Garside, Knowle, and Ludlow's company occupies the stage here playing the drama, *The London Fireman*. The play is full of sensational incidents. Mr Edward Garside gives a realistic impersonation of Henry Curtis, the miser; Mr Forbes Knowles plays with success Hall Curtis; Miss Mona Gray is a pleasing Ida Curtis; Mr Arthur Pringle is good as the villain, Viscount Fleming.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr Wm. Kitchingman.—The drama *When a Man Hates* is being played here. Mr Arthur Hinton is a capable Pietro Danelli; Miss Eva Bertram plays well as Olga Gwynne; Miss Lillain Earle is pleasing as Lucy; Mr Neville Graham ably sustains the rôle of the young curate Lawrence Hastings.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Messrs Murray King and Clark's chief company is appearing here this week, in *Sweet and Twenty*. The Hon. and Rev. James Floyd, as played by Mr Jack Fortescue, is an interpretation of the clerical aristocrat that would be hard to beat. Eustace, a difficult and unenviable part, is skilfully handled by Mr Walter Crouch, and Mr Lionel Glenister is equally successful in the rôle of Douglas Floyd. Joan Trevelyan is a pretty and truly winsome character as presented by Miss Rosalie Jacobi. The necessary touches of light humour are skilfully divided and equally well played by Miss May Mulvey as Ellen and Mr Robert Milsted as Prynne, the odd man. Miss Edith M'Clure (Mrs Trevelyan), Mr Guy Buckland (Trehearne), and Master Willie King (Chris) are all satisfactory in their respective parts. The principal piece is preceded each evening by a pretty and well-played little musical farce entitled *You and I*, the various parts being well sustained by Mr Murray King, Mr Guy Buckland, Miss Gladys Huxley, and Miss May Mulvey.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—Mr Alfred B. Cross and company are here this week with *The Manxman*. Mr Cross appears in the arduous rôle of Pete, and his portrayal wins the warmest encomiums. Cæsar Cregeen is carefully portrayed by Mr Hilton Frances; Mr Richard Vane submits a capable impersonation of Philip Christian; and Ross Christian is successfully presented by Mr Edward M'Lean. Miss Minnie Watersford portrays the erring Kate with much power; and Miss Rosie Kearns as Nancy, Miss Muriel Clay as Miss Christian, Mr Ed. Cartell as Monty, and Mr Douglas Cottell as Prof. Mawley give efficient help.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Mr Gordon Starkey's company is here this week with *A Message from Mars*. Mr Cyril Austen-Lee has plenty of scope for the display of emotion as Horace Parker, and his acting throughout is talented. Mr Percy Tyler makes a clever tramp; Mr Alan Birch is successful as Arthur Dicey; Mr G. R. Peach acquits himself creditably as Dr. Chapman; Mr Douglas Stuart is successful in the part of Sir E. Vivian; Mr C. E Wentworth makes a capital policeman; Mr William Lockhart in the rôle of the Messenger merits high encomiums; Miss Violet Auberies is graceful and talented as Miss Parker; Miss Edith Cuthbert is effective as Minnie Templar.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—*The Geisha*, mounted and played by Mr Mouillot's excellent company, is again delighting the Royal clientèle. Miss Amie De Leska is a bright, tuneful, and graceful Mimosa San; Miss Lydia Blanche and Miss Florrie Sanders are also clever and attractive ladies. Mr Edward Carlton as Wun Lung causes hearty laughter, and Mr Lionel Braham sings and acts effectively. All the other parts are well played, and there is a large and competent chorus.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—There was a large audience here to welcome Mr E. S. Willard on Monday, when he appeared in that delightful play, *The Professor's Love Story*. Mr Willard was cordially received on his entrance, and he kept the house thoroughly interested by his finished and natural impersonation of Professor Goodwillie. Miss Maud Hoffman was a pretty and altogether charming representative of Lucy. Miss Edith Tombs gave a careful and pleasing representation of the part of Agnes Goodwillie, and the characters of Effie Proctor, Lady Gilding, and the Dowager Lady Gilding were acted with ease and intelligence by Miss Russ Whytal, Miss Mabel Dubois, and Miss Eileen Warren respectively. Mr H. Crane made a hearty and characteristic Dr. Cousens. A well-considered portrait was the Sir George Gilding of Mr A. S. Homewood. The mannerisms of Dr. Yellowgloss were amusingly depicted by Mr J. Jefferson-Farjeon. Mr W. Edmunds and Mr William Santer caused laughter as the comic countrymen, Pete and Henders; and and the minor parts were well played. The scenery and dresses were admirable. *The Middleman* is billed for Saturday with Mr Willard in his famous creation of Cyrus Blenkarn.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—The continued popularity of *Woman and Wine* was evidenced on Monday night, when a crowded and demonstrative audience gave a rousing reception to the favourite members of Mr Milton Bode's strong company. Miss Edith Blande repeated her former triumphs here by her admirable acting as the beautiful and alluring Marcel Rigadout. Miss Nellie Lauraine again scored a big hit as the handsome and passionate La Colombe, who at the finish wins sympathetic applause for her act of tardy repentance. Mr Frank B. Robertson was earnest and convincing as the misguided young man Dick Seymour, the grief of the old blind father of the prodigal being expressed with quiet pathos by Mr Fred Mace. Mr Herbert Landeck is again first rate, and all the other characters are well sustained. The Edene Troupe of dancers were applauded to the echo.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The *pièce de résistance* this week is the *New York Herald* prize play *Chums*, which is excellently interpreted by Mr George W. Leslie and his smart little company. The programme is also contributed to by Johnny Gilmore, a quaint and amusing vocal comedian; the Cavallinis in their amusing eccentric parodies, &c.; Will Musgrave, comic singer and dancer; Margaret Ashton, a smart American comedienne; Tennyson and Wallis, comic entertainers; Lillian Lea, the pleasing balladist; Leo Tell, animal mimic; the Lukushima Troupe of equilibrists; the Wartenburg Brothers, foot experts, balancers, &c.; Pia Carozzi, horn player; and Albert Le Fre, burlesque artiste.

SMETHWICK.

ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—*The Midnight Mail*, presented by Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company, is the attraction here this week. Crowded audiences show their appreciation of this strong domestic drama. The important part of Harry Steyne gives Mr George Harvard many excellent opportunities of displaying his abilities as an actor. Mr Fred G. Evison as Billy Brewer, a drunken stoker, is responsible for some clever character acting, and he also creates much merriment. Mr Alec Alves ably impersonates the character of the African explorer, Leonard Royal. Mr Arthur Gilroy cleverly depicts the despicable schemings of Hassan Padisha. Mr Charles M'Dann does effective work as Donald Craig. Mr R. Entwistle gives a good impersonation of Jasper Thornleigh, and is also responsible for the management of this company. Miss Ada Oakley displays considerable emotional power in her earnest and sincere embodiment of Mary Steyne. Miss Mildred Carr's excellent impersonation of Nancy Brewer fully deserves the applause it gains. Miss Millie Stevenson quickly wins approval by her pleasing performance as Lady Phillis Eustace. Miss Dolly Gilroy is pleasing as Patty, and the other school children are cleverly impersonated by local youngsters, well trained. The staging is all that can be desired, and the sensational fight on the full-sized model steam-engine is realistic.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Mr Fred Mouillot's company is this week appearing in that successful comedy-opera, *My Lady Molly*. Since the last visit several changes have been made in the cast, and the results are agreeably interesting. Mdlle. De Dreux is a charming Lady Molly, singing and acting in fine style. Miss Zoe Gilfillan is delightgully piquant as Alice Coverdale, and wins well-merited applause for her dainty singing of "I mean to be a good girl now." Mdlle. Ebba Darcier is distinctly clever as Mdlle. Mirabeau and Miss Mabel Carr is a bright and captivating Hester. Mr Leicester Tunks sings and acts in admirable style as Captain Harry Romney, and another old favourite here is Mr Stuart Alexander, who as Lionel Bland makes a gallant and fiery cavalier. Mr Stephen Fitzgerald as Micky proves how genuinely humorous a comedian he is. Capable assistance is rendered by Messrs H. Godwin Hunt, R. Cooper, and G. M'Closkie. The scenery and costumes are excellent, and the chorus do good work under the direction of Mr Leonard Leslie.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—This week we have a change from the usual dramatic fare, Mr Fredk. E. Philpott's company appearing for the first time in the musical comedy, *The Girl from Japan*. The music, composed by Mr Colet Dare, who conducts, is bright and tuneful. Mr S. Lockridge sings admirably as Lord Allenbury, and Mr Alfred Wood is excellent as Sir Mulberry Flippington. An old favourite is Mr Percy Baverstock, who scores as General Baugh, Mr Ernest Spalding causes great merriment as the Rev. John Smith, and Mr Chas. L. Ludlow displays his versatility as Bingle. Miss Nellie Valentine is pleasing in the title-rôle, Miss Nellie Jackson is a charming Polly Perkins, whilst Miss Nellie Parker Dent gives a clever impersonation of Lady Flippington. Miss Maidie Scott is an expert dancer, and the *pas de deux* by the Sisters Violet and Lillie English is extremely well liked.

PALACE.—First favourite here is Kate Carney, who creates quite a furore in her scena, *The Mouth-organ Brigade*. Musical Silvo. Albert Christian, Alf Chester, Williams and Brown, Tom Stuart, Katie Cohen, and the Two Rubies also contribute clever and well-appreciated turns.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—Mr Tree's company is here in *The Darling of the Gods*. Yo San is undertaken by Miss Frances Dillon with irresistible charm and abandon; Mr K. Souper is excellent in every way as Kara; Zakkuri, the crafty Minister of State, has a clever exponent in Mr Robert Pateman; and Mr D. Payne as Inu, Mr J. F. Simpson as Prince Tosan, and Miss Edith Deverell in the character of the maid Setsu are all praiseworthy.

Continued on Page 18

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The case of Mr Henry Crisp is too sad for words. I enclose cheque for £10 10s. (from Mr and Mrs Kendal) with only too much pleasure to so deserving a fund.

Yours faithfully, W. H. KENDAL.
North-Western Hotel, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Crisp's case is certainly a very sad one, and I am very glad to enclose my mite towards his assistance.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WYNDHAM.
Midland Hotel, Manchester, Oct. 11, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Please accept the enclosed amount (£1 17s.) as a small donation to Mr Henry Crisp's Benefit Fund in token of the great sympathy which every member of this company bears for Mr Crisp in his terrible misfortune.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.
Theatre Royal, Limerick.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you add the enclosed cheque to the fund you have opened for Mr H. Crisp? His case is, indeed, terribly sad.

Yours faithfully, SABA RALEIGH.
Grand Hotel, Middlesbrough, Oct. 26, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Sir Henry Irving asks me to send you the enclosed cheque for £5 as his donation to the Henry Crisp Fund. He sends all good wishes for its success. Yours faithfully, BRAM STOKER.
20, Bedford-street, W.C., Oct. 26, 1904.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Kendal	10	10	0
Mr Hales	5	5	0
F. S. Willard	5	5	0
J. H. Leigh	5	5	0
H Beerbohm Tree	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Street and E. Englebach	5	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	5	0	0
Adelaide Neilson Fund, per Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
George Alexander	5	0	0
Arthur Bourchier	5	0	0
Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	3	3	0
Edward Terry	3	3	0
Arthur W. Pinero	3	3	0
John Hare	3	0	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
A. B. and J. J. Wright	2	2	0
Henry Kemble	2	2	0
Isabel Jay	2	2	0
David Allen and Sons, Limited	2	2	0
J. D. Beveridge	2	2	0
Saba Raleigh	2	2	0
Miss Lily Brayton	2	2	0
P. S. C.	2	0	0
Ellen Terry	2	0	0
R. Gilbert	2	0	0
Phyllis Broughton	2	0	0
Charlotte E. Steele	2	0	0
"Geisha" Co., per Jas. R. La Fane	2	0	0
"Money Maker" Co., per Mary Griffiths (Mrs Arthur Lyle	1	19	6
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Co., per H. J. Montague	1	5	0
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
W Payne Seddon	1	1	0
H Cecil Beryl	1	1	0
Edward Rose	1	1	0
Horace Mills	1	1	0
May Louise Cohen	1	1	0
Frank Denman Wood	1	1	0
John and Fred Coulson	1	1	0
Robert Redford	1	1	0
Frank Bateman	1	1	0
Yorke Stephens	1	1	0
J. O. Baker	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Conway Dixon	1	1	0
C. Ward	1	1	0
Susie Vaughan	1	1	0
H. Ainley	1	1	0
Constance Benson	1	1	0
Mrs Chas. Calvert	1	1	0
Marie Studholme	1	1	0
William Peacock	1	1	0
"Blimbo"	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
Will Dennis	1	1	0
Robert Pateman	1	1	0
Arthur Whittaker	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
J. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Katherine Compton	1	1	0
J. W. Nightingale	1	1	0
Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Topsy Sinden	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Ernest Stevens	1	1	0
H. W. Waddington	1	1	0
W. Johnson and Jos. Potter	1	1	0
Eva Moore Esmond	1	1	0
L Braithwaite	1	1	0
William Mollison	1	1	0
H. N. Gibson	1	1	0
H. Jalland	1	1	0
Sydney Valentine	1	1	0
Henry A. Lytton	1	1	0
Ruth'd Barrington	1	1	0
Austin Melford	1	1	0
J. W. Broughton	1	1	0
Thomas Sidney	1	1	0
Maude Darrell	1	0	0
Mrs J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kinghorne	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Davidson	1	0	0
E. Lawes	1	0	0
Nancy Price	1	0	0
Miss Amy Grace	1	0	0
Leonard Rayne	1	0	0
George Rayne	1	0	0
Dawson Dewick	1	0	0
R. B.	1	0	0
Julian L'Estrange	1	0	0
"Woman and Wine" Co., per F. Withers	0	15	0
J. C.	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
G. E. M	0	10	6
H. Wilkinson	0	10	6
John Worswick, sen.	0	10	6
W. Cheesman	0	10	6
E. Holman Clark	0	10	6
D. Lyn Harding	0	10	6
Chas. Elphinstone	0	10	6
M. R. Morand	0	10	6
Miss C. Ewell	0	10	6
Herbert Shelley	0	10	6
F. Merer	0	10	6
Fred Emney	0	10	6
Will Smithson	0	10	6
J. Fisher White	0	10	6
J. F. Elliston	0	10	6
Harcourt Williams	0	10	6
"Well-wisher"	0	10	6
Milton Bode	0	10	6
Leslie Faber	0	10	6
Pollie Emery	0	10	0
Louis Gourlay	0	10	0
Mr M. Lang	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"B"	0	10	0
James Kiernan	0	10	0
Mary Brough	0	10	0
Carlotta Zerbini	0	10	0
S. A. Cookson	0	10	0
Anon	0	10	0
Maud Hildyard	0	10	0
Tom Wood	0	7	6
Frank L. Hayter	0	5	0
Mr Avrigny	0	5	0
A. and E. F. S.	0	5	0
Mr Q Ashlyn	0	5	0
Mr Robson Paige	0	5	0
Mr W. H. Garbois	0	5	0
W. H. Nottingham	0	5	0
E. Cane	0	5	0
Chas. B. Bedelle	0	5	0
N. Reynolds	0	5	0
William Lugg	0	5	0
Leonard Pagden	0	5	0
C. D. D. C.	0	5	0
George E. Mudd	0	5	0
Edward Fenton	0	5	0
Henry Bute	0	5	0
Mr Julius Hagan	0	2	0
Mr H. Curry, jun	0	2	0
Mr Arthur Fitzgerald	0	2	0
Mr Lynward Grahame	0	2	0
Mr Alan Borthwick	0	1	0
Fred Rivers	0	1	0
Fred Guinness	0	1	0
Harry C. Robinson	0	1	0
H. Creagh Hunt	0	1	0
Miss B. St Ruth	0	1	0
Lizzie Primmer	0	1	6
James Danvers	0	1	0
James Salter	0	1	0
Walter Nugent	0	1	0
Harry Louther	0	1	0
Stanley Hirst	0	1	0
Lillian Dacroy	0	1	0
Norah Melton	0	1	0
Cissie Evelyn	0	1	0
Flo Allen	0	1	0
Elsa Nicholson	0	1	0
Mr Montagu Turner	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Cecil	0	1	0
Mr Douglas Hamilton	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Clarke	0	1	0
Mr Fred Alton	0	1	0
Mr Harry Montagu	0	1	0
Mr Ted Stone	0	1	0
Mr Bill Stephens	0	1	0

Mr Geo. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Total, £4 4s.

Mr Chas. Thorburn	0	5	6	Miss K. Lindley	0	1	0
Mr Frank Lawton	0	5	0	Miss Webb	0	1	0
Mr Paddy Dupres	0	2	6	Miss F. Wellbourne	0	1	0
Mr Max Copland	0	2	6	Miss D. Cammell	0	1	0
Mr Sealy	0	2	6	Miss Grey	0	1	0
Mr Selby	0	2	6	Miss Burr	0	1	0
Mr C. W. Anson	0	2	6	Miss Macdonald	0	1	0
Mr A. Linforth	0	2	6	Miss Minta	0	1	0
Mr Hugh Fleming	0	2	6	Miss Soma	0	1	0
Mr Harrison	0	2	6	Miss Fenton	0	1	0
Miss S. Lamotte	0	2	6	Miss N. Donovan	0	1	0
Miss L. Digges	0	2	6	Miss S. Middleton	0	1	0
Miss W. Browne	0	2	6	Miss Lawrence	0	1	0
Miss M. Young	0	2	6	Miss L. Royce	0	1	0
Mr W. Douglas	0	2	0	Miss B. Royce	0	1	0
Miss I. Stratham	0	2	0	Miss Frederika	0	1	0
Miss N. Royston	0	2	0	Miss Vincent	0	1	0
Miss Hubert	0	2	0	Miss M. Walsh	0	1	0
Miss Anderson	0	2	0	Mrs Williams	0	1	0
Mr L. Hornsey	0	1	0	Mr C. Wakeman	0	0	6
Mr Stembridge	0	1	0	Mr C. Hood	0	0	6
Mr F. Freeman	0	1	0	Mr Cookson	0	0	6
Mr A. Watts	0	1	0	Mr Raynham	0	0	6
Mr P. Foster	0	1	0	Miss V. Vaughan	0	0	6
Mr G. Wood	0	1	0	Miss Kendrick	0	0	6
Mr J. Seghelloni	0	1	0	Miss Percival	0	0	6
Mr E. Lietz	0	1	0	Miss M. Foster	0	0	6
Mr Goodwin	0	1	0	Miss R. Wren	0	0	6
Mr Cowan	0	1	0				

Mr George Dance's Company, per B. Ralland. Total, £2 3s. 6d.

Bertie Ralland	0	2	6	N. Cassidy	0	2	0
Percy Yorke	0	2	6	Leonard May	0	1	0
Mr Wood	0	2	6	Frances	0	1	0
Harry Brayne	0	2	0	M. Maxwell	0	1	0
Jos. Collins	0	2	0	Gladys Gay	0	1	0
M. Sadie	0	2	0	Mr Parry	0	1	0
H. Williams	0	2	0	R. S.	0	1	0
G. Barnes	0	2	0	L. Beckmann	0	1	0
Marie Adair	0	2	0	L. W.	0	1	0
P. A. T.	0	2	0	A. Knowles	0	1	0
Miss Drumond	0	2	0	L. Hildroe	0	1	0
Mr Dawkins	0	2	0	D. Kersey	0	1	0
E. H.	0	2	0	D. M. B.	0	1	0
Mr and Mrs Austin	0	2	0				

Mr Norman V. Norman's Tour, "Under the Red Robe." Total, £1 17s.

Norman V. Norman	0	10	6	W. Marshall	0	1	0
Miss Beatrice Wilson	0	5	0	A. Long	0	1	0
Robert Hilton	0	2	6	W. Barnett Parker	0	1	0
R. Iden Payne	0	2	6	Richard Havers	0	1	0
F. Glossop Harris	0	2	6	Miss Coleman Phillipson	0	1	0
Miss Kathleen Rind	0	2	0	Norman Leslie	0	1	0
W. Howard Ashley	0	1	0	Cooper Willis	0	1	0
Miss Lilian Kevill-Davies	0	1	0	Eric Maxon	0	1	0
Miss Norah Doyle	0	1	0	V. Cooper Willis	0	1	0

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" Company, per Mrs Charles Harrington. Total, 14s. 6d.

C. Harrington, jun.	0	1	0	W. H. Nott	0	1	0
Sylvia Stella	0	1	0	Major Carr	0	1	0
Hero Hathaway	0	1	0	F. Albert	0	1	0
W. Pettitt	0	1	0	H. Kavalla	0	0	6
G. P. Ellis	0	1	0	Ida Fane	0	0	6
J. H. Rogers	0	1	0	T. Miles	0	0	6
J. B. Renney	0	1	0	I. Bonney	0	0	6
C. B. Lenton	0	1	0	Shorty May	0	0	6
F. Charles	0	1	0				

All subscriptions sent to Edward Ledger, hon. treasurer, *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., will be duly announced in these columns.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Oct 31,
"THREE LITTLE MAIDS."

Mr Chas. Maudona's principal company, in the popular musical play *Three Little Maids*, is a great attraction here this week. The little maids in question find charming representatives in Miss Janet Reeve, Miss Gertrude Melville, and Miss Norah Guy, all of whom play and sing most artistically. Lady St. Mallory is ably portrayed by Miss Kate Forster, and Miss Laura Wright makes quite one of the hits of the evening as Gretchen, her song and dance in the second act with Cupid being redemanded time after time. Miss Jennie Edgar, Miss Ethel May, and Miss Ella Danicourt are pretty and graceful as Lady Rosemary Beaulieu, Venetia Grafton, and Lady Marjorie Crichton respectively, and Miss Mabel Sarl is a duly officious Miss Price, the manageress of Lady St. Mallory's teashop. Mr Arthur Longley is excruciatingly funny as Lord Cheyne, otherwise "Daisy;" Mr Haddon Cave is excellent as Brian Molyneux; and Mr Charles Leverton does well as the Rev. Mr Branscombe. Mr Gus Oxley is excellent as Cupid, a caddie, and sings and dances throughout with admirable verve. Mr Alec Chentrens is an able exponent of M. De L'Orme, and uses a charming voice with great effect. The chorus is large in number, good to look at, good to listen to, and well dressed, and the orchestra is most ably conducted by Mr Julian Rutt. The scenery is very effective.

THE Avenue Theatre will be reopened early in December, under the management of Mr H. J. Grant-Seymour, with a new and original comic opera called *Ladyland*, in two acts, written by Mr Eustace Ponsonby, the music by Mr Frank Lambert.

"DR. FAUSTUS" AT THE COURT.

In presenting ancient plays to modern audiences, the Elizabethan Stage Society has done much service to English literature, and though the representations are not illustrated by modern scenery there is much to be said for the draped stage and the revival of the early conditions that were in vogue in the days of the Fortune Theatre. Mr Poel, who is responsible for the direction of these performances, might protest with many another earnest student against the modern custom of illustrating Shakespeare's plays with all the realism that up-to-date mechanical appliances can supply, and with all the beauty of scenic art that has become quite a common-place with present-day revivals. It may be said, and with much truth, that plays which have come down to us through the centuries because of their real power, their poetic beauty, and their literary excellence can do very well without the meretricious aid of scenic decoration; but no less an authority than Mr Tree has laid down a very sound law: "Whatever tends to quicken the imagination of the audience—in fact, to create illusion—is justifiable on the stage. Whatever detracts from the appreciation of the author's work and disturbs the illusion is to be deprecated—is, in fact, bad art." *Dr. Faustus* lends itself to scenic beauty, but students of English drama, to whom only the play appeals, may well be content with the manner of its revival adopted at the Court. The first literary version of Faust, it is generally conceded by commentators, was the Volksbuch, which, published by Shiess in 1587 at Frankfort on-the-Main, soon after appeared in England as *The History of the Damnable Life and Deserved Death of Dr. John Faustus*. To this translation of the Faust-book Marlowe generally adhered; that is to say, in the incidents of the drama and the sequence he followed his authority. The wearisome comic passages, as Mr Havelock Ellis points out, which "Marlowe may or may not have written, are copied with special fidelity." Goethe's opinion of Marlowe's Faustus we know. He had thought of translating it; when it was mentioned he burst out with an exclamation of praise: "How greatly it is all planned!" It is in the selection of the serious incidents from the placid prose narrative that Marlowe's genius for the tragic poetry of intense emotion is especially revealed. "Perhaps the passage of Marlowe which most profoundly influenced Shakespeare and other poets is," as Mr Havelock Ellis points out, "not the awful and intense scene with which the poem closes, but the address to Helen. The scene that contains this wonderful passage, aflame with impassioned loveliness, corresponds in its bare outlines exactly to that chapter of the prose *History*, in which the Doctor,

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled "A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Islington is favoured this week with a return visit of Mr Walter Melville's company in the above play, which it will be remembered achieved so signal a success on its original production last year. Mr Melville is always fortunate in the companies which present his dramas. Miss Beatrice Homer now plays Barbara Wade, the central character in the drama, and for her performance in the part we have nothing but warm praise. A character study of this kind makes, naturally, very heavy demands on the artistic resources of the interpreter. Miss Homer, however, was fully equal to every demand made on her, her expressive facial play in act three and her heavy scene in the last act making her performance something in the nature of a personal triumph. Miss Violet Barton-Aster as Constance Cornell played a simple and ingenuous rôle with great charm and success, her acting being distinctly pleasant in its utter absence of artificiality. Miss Octavia Noel as Nelly Meadows had a rôle in distinct opposition to the former, and by her vigorous impersonation she made the sharp distinction very apparent. Miss Emily Custance as Tilly Vane supplies much welcome light relief, which was neatly appreciated. Mr Wingold Lawrence again sustains his old rôle of Jack Livingstone, and once again we have to commend a thoroughly artistic and effective performance. Mr Edwin J. Wilde as Meadows, the farmer, supplies a well-conceived character study. Mr John Hitchins as Topsy Turvey once again took every opportunity of raising laughter, and the amount of amusement he causes testifies to the success of his efforts Mr Leonard Rouse as Lumley played excellently and with a happy absence of all tendency to overdo the part. Mr John Brooks in his old part of Ramsden gave a good sound performance. Messrs Richard Zarr and Charles Dowe were commendable as a policeman and a pickpocket; and a special word of praise is due to Mr Charles Terry as Dr. Weston, a very sincere and excellent performance. The remaining smaller parts were all in good hands. The scenery and the mounting of the play were in Mr Melville's usual lavish scale, and Mr Reeve's incidental music was an important feature of the evening. Mr Davey's early door programme contained a novelty of some note, Mr F. W. Millis, the well-known and popular Australian ventriloquist, producing a new and original sketch entitled *The Dear Homeland*. The little episode which is enacted by Mr Millis and a lady is quite simple in character, dealing as it does with the anticipations of a wounded soldier as to his return to the old home in Australia, and the realistic dream which he has on lying down to rest. In this latter scene Mr Millis is found sitting together with the other members of his family in his home, and as the latter are merely lay figures, nearly all of different nationalities, it will be apparent how versatile he is. The novelty should form a strong attraction during his ensuing visit "down-under."

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama, by George R. Sims and Robert Buchanan, entitled "THE ENGLISH ROSE."

A capital performance of Messrs G. R. Sims and Robert Buchanan's play, *The English Rose*, was given at the Pavilion on Monday. Mr Ashley Page as Harry O'Mailley is throughout consistently characteristic, and it would be difficult to find a better representative of the part. Mr J. C. Aubrey showed to great advantage as the Knight of Ballyveeney, giving evidence of careful study, and declaiming in a manner that could not fail to command due recognition. A fine delineation of the scheming Captain Macdonell is given by Mr Frank Harding, who is to be commended for his artistic attention to detail, and Mr Ernest Stern makes good use of his opportunities as Father Michael. Mr Charles Garry gives a clever impersonation of Randall O'Mara, which is somewhat slightly marred by certain pronounced mannerisms. Mr Harry Barford is a very hard worker, and causes great amusement by his able performance of Nicodemus Dickenson, while Mr Wilfred E Shine gives a dry and humorous representation of Sergeant O'Reilly, which creates unbounded fun. Mr W. Dempsey, although uncertain of his lines, was a capable Sir Philip Kingston, and good service was rendered by Mr Roland Ryley as O'Brien, Mr H. Gibbs as Cassidy, Mr J. Thompson as Farmer Flannigan, Mr D. Kelly as O'Shea, Miss Kitty Cardigan as Judy, and Miss Milly Murray as Widow Flannigan. Conspicuous ability is displayed by Mr Harry Bristow in the character of Larry M'Nulty, which is made to stand out prominently by reason of the vigour infused into the part, and Mr Fred Boustead enacts Shaun with his usual efficiency. Miss Marion Denvil as Ethel Kingston (the English Rose) succeeds in giving an admirable rendition which abounds in tenderness and pathos, while Miss Daisy Scudamore finds favour as Bridget O'Mara. Miss Tina Mavro was pleasing as Louisa Ann Ferguson, and Miss Clare Elston did all that was necessary at Patsie Blake. The scenic effects are excellent and the stage arrangements skilful, while the groupings, &c., give effective life and colour to the incidents depicted.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Oct. 31, "LITTLE MARY."

Like nearly all of J. M. Barrie's plays there is an indefinable charm about this work which appeals to all classes of playgoers, while baffling adequate description. "Men are God's trees and women are God's flowers," says Mr Barrie in effect in nearly all his plays, and Moira Loney, the "little mother" and heroine of this piece, in her altruistic enthusiasm reminds one of Tennyson's beautiful lines in "Sir Galahad"—"I muse on joy that will not cease, Pure spaces clothed in living beams, Pure lilies of eternal peace, Whose odours haunt my dreams." Miss Hilda Trevelyan succeeds beyond one's wildest hopes in the presentment of the dear, impulsive, tender-hearted little Irish girl, who blossoms into the almost inspired altruist after patient and protracted study of her grandfather's pamphlet. Her's is just the temperament to make a success in the part of "the stormy petrel," stormy only to the opinionated and self-sufficient, for does she not cause subtle changes everywhere she goes, weaving around all an influence for good, which unconsciously ennobles even the self-righteous and the worldly? She depicts the impetuous, trusting, yet self-reliant Moira to the life, and brings out the lights and shades of the character in strong contrast, and always with an air of refinement and distinction. Mr John Hare gives a delightfully artistic rendering of the part of the kindly, if indolent, nobleman, the Earl of Carlton, his easy, natural, and polished style well sets off this fine character. Mr Carter Pickford as Lord Cecil Rolfe, the Earl of Carlton's son, contributes a most diverting sketch of character, the invertebrate young sprig of nobility alternately earning our approbation and contempt. Mr Eric Maturin thoroughly enters into the humours of the part of the schoolboy Earl of Plumleigh, who under the influence of Moira's treatment is transformed from a lolling, idling sluggard and glutton into a pattern of energy and activity. Mr Fred Grove makes his mark in the small part of the half-crazy, but clever, old Irishman, Terence O'Reilly. Mr Rudge Harding is vastly entertaining as the pompous, pragmatical physician, Sir Jennings Pyke, and Mr Clifford Brooke ably seconds him as his shadow and echo, Dr. Topping, who shows considerable aptitude in divining the psychological moment when the cheque for "services rendered" should be forthcoming. Miss Helen Rous is excellent as the irresolute and malleable Countess of Plumleigh. Miss Kathleen Gordon-Lee makes the most of the small part of Lady Milly and gives one an idea that she could play a bigger part equally well, and Miss Beatrice Kelston is entirely satisfactory as the actress, Eleanor Gray, who falls out of love under Moira's influence, just as quickly and completely as her sweetheart, Cecil. Mr Edgar B. Payne takes good care of the minor rôle of Deighton, and contrives to score therein. Frederick Fenn and Richard Price's clever playlet, *'Op o' Me Thumb*, is played as a curtain-raiser, and as Amanda Affleck, of the title-rôle, Miss Hilda Trevelyan shows her marvellous versatility by a touching rendering of the part, tears and laughter alternating as she shows the various phases of character of this truly Dickensian sketch of a workhouse girl. Mr Rudge Harding as the bluff, good-hearted coster, Horace Greensmith creates a remarkably good impression. Miss Emily Grove is a capital Madame Jeanne Marie Napoleon De Gallifer Ridier. Miss Helen Rous does well as Clem (Mrs Galloway), and the parts of Celeste and Rose Gordon are safe in the hands of Misses Frances Wetherall and J. Innes-Ker.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Musical Play entitled THE ORCHID.

Mr Leslie Hughes has a fine list of attractions this autumn, but we doubt whether any will prove more popular than the latest Gaiety success, *The Orchid*, which is paying its first visit here this week. Mr George Edwardes has selected a capital company, and has mounted and dressed the play in a most lavish style. The company plays with immense energy, and the whole thing goes with a swing. Encores were frequent throughout Monday evening. Mr George Gregory appears as Meakin, and proves himself to be a droll comedian. Mr Laurence Grossmith excels in the "Johnny" type of character, and his Guy Scrymgeour is a clever and diverting piece of work. He makes a hit with all his songs, notably with "Bedelia." Miss Coralie Blythe makes a charming and dainty Lady Violet, and, of course, her ditty on the play which was here last week, *Little Mary*, is vociferously applauded. Miss Gertrude Gilliam is a captivating Josephine, and sings very sweetly; Caroline Vokins is capitally played by Miss Irene Verona; and Miss Ethel Griffies makes a smart Zelie Rumbert. Mr Ellis Ogilvie, excellently made up as a well-known statesman, is decidedly good as Mr Aubrey Chesterton. The excitable Comte Raoul is amusingly portrayed by Mr Sam Walsh; Mr Donald Hall makes a good Ronald Faussett; and Zaccary has a clever exponent in Mr Sidney Vincent. A very bewitching little lady is Phisbe, as played by Miss Luna Love. The other characters are all in safe hands, and the chorus deserves much praise for their unflagging energy, which materially adds to the enjoyment of the play. The orchestra does excellent work under the bâton of Mr Ernée Woodville. Mr Adair Nelson is the manager of the company, and Mr Wybert Stamford stage-manages with the best results.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct 31, the Romantic Light Opera, by Henry Hamilton and Ivan Caryll, entitled "THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."

The advent of Mr George Edwardes's Lyric Theatre company had been eagerly looked forward to, and it is not to be wondered at that *The Duchess of Dantzic* was hailed at the King's Theatre on Monday evening with the most unbounded enthusiasm. The handsome and capacious house was crowded from floor to ceiling with an audience not one of whom left the theatre without feeling satisfied at the luxurious provision made. No amount of praise could be bestowed which failed to include Mr George Edwardes, whose outlay must have been prodigious. The receptions accorded to the principals of the cast when they made their appearances were by no means to be despised, and encores were abundant. Miss Evie Greene's creation of Sans Gêne seems to have broadened since the commencement of the run, and it now stands out as a performance which does her infinite credit. Her acting in the garden and throne room scenes was absolutely fine, and her voice was in splendid trim. A vivacious Lisette was Miss Billie Burke, whose interpolated song and chorus, "The Little Midinette," received well-deserved applause. Mr Leonard Mackay was excellent both as the Vicomte De Bethune, and subsequently as Adhemar, and Mr Morgan Williams won approval as Captain Regnier. The Napoleon Bonaparte of Mr Holbrook Blinn was a perfect piece of acting, and his success was very early assured. Mr Herbert Clayton made an exceedingly favourable impression as Lefebvre. Papillon, entrusted to Mr Courtice Pounds, could not be otherwise than a finished and popular rôle, and his milliners' chorus in the second act roused the audience to enthusiasm. Renée was charmingly rendered by Miss Adrienne Augarde, whose refreshingly youthful style won much approbation. Her stirring singing of "The Little Caporal" was well worthy of the applause gained. Napoleon's two sisters, Caroline and Pauline, were satisfactorily enacted by Miss Elizabeth Firth and Miss Doris La Tour. Miss Mabel Lorrell made an imposing Empress Josephine. The chorus was quite up to the Lyric standard, and the stage-management reflected great credit upon Mr J. B. Gordon. The largely augmented orchestra was ably handled by Mr P. W. Halton. The scenery by Harker and the dresses and appointments were a feast of gorgeous and harmonious colouring.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama entitled "A MAN'S SHADOW."

An excellent house on Monday expressed hearty approval of the policy of the management in presenting this stirring drama. The stock company is responsible for the production, and the artists deserve full credit for their efforts to render justice to their respective parts. The play is exceedingly well mounted, and the general effect created shows the touch of a master hand at production. Mr Ernest E. Norris undertakes the dual rôle of Lucien Laroque and Luversan, and his striking and powerful embodiment of the characters commands the entire approbation of the house. Mr Joynson Powell plays with marked ability as De Noirville, and as Sergeant Piccolot Mr Harry Paulton, jun., is very successful. The part of Corporal Tristot is in the capable hands of Mr Jo. Monkhouse; and Mr Edwin Bennett scores in the rôle of Gerbier. Mr Paige Lawrence is excellent as an inspector; and Mr Thomas Ball is satisfactory as a valet. Mr Howard Templeton makes a dignified president; Mr Dudley Hayes, in the rôle of Jean Ricordot, contributes a good study; and Mr Arthur Wilson is effective as the Advocate-General. As Madame Laroque Mrs Bennett is charming and sympathetic, and her acting always reaches a high level. Miss Agnes Paulton is full of life and animation as Victoire; Miss Judith Kyrle makes a fascinating Julie de Noirville; and Miss Christine Williams acts quite naturally as a child. Several minor parts are all intelligently treated.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Charles H. Hawtrey, entitled "THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."

Although it is many years since the Rev. Robert Spalding first came to town, judging by his reception at Stoke Newington on Monday last he has by no means outstayed his welcome. The vagaries of the meek-and-mild curate and the irascible uncle from India evoke as much laughter as ever, and the piece was played on Monday last to a running accompaniment of incessant laughter. Mr Eugene Stafford is fortunate in still retaining Mr W. Hargreaves as a member of his company, and his performance of Old Cattermole is a tower of strength to the production. Mr Geoffrey Guise is successful in presenting the eccentricities and peculiarities of the Rev. Robert Spalding, and an excellent sketch of the snobbish tailor, Sydney Gibson, comes from Mr Wilfrid Compton. The two young men, Douglas Cattermole and Harry Marsland, are lightly and brightly played by Messrs A. Austin Leigh and Vivian Gilbert respectively, and Mr Raymond Chester is in every way a satisfactory Mr Marsland, M.F.H. The spiritualistic Miss Ashford is played with a full appreciation of the possibilities of the part by Mrs Alfred Davies, and Misses Mary E. Deverell and Dora Grey as Eva Webster and Edith Marsland play with much vivacity and charm, and thoroughly enter into the spirit of the piece. Of her opportunities as Mrs Stead, Douglas Cattermole's landlady, Miss Cecily Wade makes the most. The time-honoured *Nan; or, Good for Nothing*, precedes the longer play, the part of Nan being sustained by Miss Dora Grey with very great vivacity, expressiveness, and talent.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Oct 31, the Musical Play, "THE CHERRY GIRL."

Despite the recent frequent visits of musical plays here, Mr Purcell evidently knows what his patrons require, for an excellent reception is being accorded Mr C. Lubbock's company in *The Cherry Girl* this week. The scenery and stage appointments are extremely pretty, the costumes present a great variety of colour, the music, performed very ably by the Marlborough orchestra, under the direction of Mr Locknane, is bright and tuneful, and the songs are very favourably received. In the rôle of the Queen Miss Elsie Molloy is very effective, but it is by her grace and abandon, disguised as Pansy, that she charms the audience most. Her songs and dances are much appreciated, and are worthy of high praise. As Pansy Miss Katie May enters into the spirit of the part, and is bright and entertaining. Of little Dorothy Frostick we cannot speak in too high terms for her clever performance as Dimples, her acting, singing, and dancing throughout being admirable for one of her tender years. Master Harry Williams is a clever young artist, and seems quite at home in the part of Snowball, the sweep's boy, and yet another budding young comedian is to be found in Master J. Saxo as the Rose of the Riviera. Mr J. Herbert in the dual-rôle of Moonshine, the white pierrot, and in act two as Happy Joe, is to be commended for his clever representations and for the manner in which he renders his songs. He also contributes some very clever dancing. Mr C. St. John Medley also undertakes two parts, Starlight, the black pierrot, and, in the second act, the Squire of Holmwood Hall, and creates a good impression in both rôles. As Esau, the monkey, and the donkey, White Surrey, Mr Fred Le Franc comes in for a good share of applause. Messrs Charles Seymour and Fred Delaine keep the audience in a good humour each time they appear, first as Chamberlains and afterwards as Village Beadles. There are numerous others in the cast, all deserving of praise, as they leave no stone unturned to ensure the success of the play. During the evening Miss Lottie Stone's Wisteria Troupe of lady dancers gives some cleverly executed dances; and the Steinway Singing Quartet renders invaluable assistance. Mr F. R. Yeulett, Mr Purcell's popular acting-manager, looks well after the comfort of his patrons.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 31, for the First Time in London, the Sensational Domestic Drama, in Four Acts, by Edward Marris, entitled "AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."

Luke Dezzard	Mr Melville Bickford
Dave Stannard	Mr Frank E. Petley
Ezra Gamble	Mr Henry Beaufort
Tat Spavvin	Witty Watty Walton
Nat Wilson	Mr Percy Maitland
Capt. Trevethick	Mr Payn Williams
Limpy Mudge	Mr Dan Parker
P.-C. Tibbott	Mr Arthur Proctor
Warder Blount	Mr Arthur Jenner
Detective Pollard	Mr John Mayall
Ben Cooper	Mr Stanley Worden
Dodgy Ike	Mr Walter Preston
Suzette	Miss Annie Megson
Zamora	Miss Iris M. Ward
Little Davy	Miss Minnie Ethel
Mary Stannard	Miss Gertrude Price

This drama, which was produced at the Alexandra Theatre, Hull, on July 11 last, is not lacking in any of those qualities which are regarded as essential in a popular play. The sensational incidents, which are cleverly led up to, are supplemented by an abundance of comedy business, and the opportunities for powerful acting which the drama affords are taken full advantage of by Mr Edward Marris's excellent company. The hero of the story is a fisherman named Dave Stannard, and the first scene is the exterior of his cottage in the village of Barryhaven. He is falsely accused of having received contraband goods, but Nat Wilson, a coastguard, has reason to believe that the charge is a true one. Dave's wife, Mary, was formerly a sweetheart of his, and she appeals to him not to report anything against her husband. Stannard, however, declares his innocence, and the men get to high words and then to blows. Luke Dezzard, a dealer in contraband goods, enters unperceived by Stannard and Wilson, and seizing a gun belonging to the fisherman, shoots the coastguard. A witness of what has taken place is little Davy, Stannard's son, and Dezzard contrives to send the boy away to prevent him giving evidence. As the fisherman is found standing by the dead body of Wilson and his gun lying on the the ground he is taken into custody on a charge of murder. Ezra Gamble, Mary's father, is in fear of Dezzard, who possesses the knowledge that the old man has escaped from prison, and threatens if he is not obeyed to denounce him to the police. He is compelled to assist Dezzard in the contraband goods business, and by this heartless villain's instructions he takes little Davy to London. In the waiting room at Rookley Station are assembled some half-dozen prisoners in charge of a warder, amongst them being Stannard. They are awaiting the arrival of a train to convey them to prison. Dezzard comes to see Gamble and his charge off, and to induce Stannard to believe that his wife is false to him. Tat Spavvin, a railway porter contrives, unseen, to unlock the handcuff which confines Dave, and the latter, taking sudden advantage of his freedom, fastens the fetters upon Dezzard and escapes in the train which arrives at that moment. To a warehouse at Shadwell wharf rented by Dezzard, little Davy is conveyed by his grandfather and here they make the acquaintance of Zamora, a Hindoo girl, who has been betrayed by Luke and who haunts the place in search of the child which has been taken away from her and murdered by its inhuman father. Dezzard, having rendered Ezra Gamble senseless by a blow, compels Davy to write a letter to his mother asking her to come to him at once. The letter is conveyed by the Hindoo girl, who brings Mary to the wharf. Dezzard proposes that they shall leave the country together, and when she indignantly rejects his offer he threatens to force her to comply with his desires, when he is confronted by Stannard, who has been concealed in a large packing case. Spavvin, disguised as an old man, has also gained access to the warehouse, and has a hand in hoisting Dezzard by the crane and dropping him into the river. He, however, escapes drowning, and turns up again at his own house in London, where he receives a visit from Ezra Gamble, who has given information to the police. Dezzard is compelled to sign a paper admitting that he murdered Wilson, and while the two men are engaged in a struggle the police arrive and arrest the villain. He, thereupon swallows a powder which he has brought from India, and the effect of which is to throw the person taking it into a death-like trance, which lasts for five days. He has, previous to the arrival of Ezra, instructed Zamora to enter the family vault at the expiration of five days and release him. He hands her the key, and she promises to obey, but learning that her child is dead she stabs herself. When, therefore, the effects of the Indian drug have passed off and Dezzard recovers consciousness no one comes to release him. He can scarcely breathe in the close atmosphere, and the horror of the situation drives him raving mad. He hears the church clock chime the midnight hour, and falls in a swoon upon the floor. Gamble has entertained suspicions as to the death of Dezzard, and visits the vault. Luke recovers and the visitor is seized by the madman, who eventually escapes, while Ezra is rescued from death in the vault by his little grandson.

Mr Melville Bickford deserves to be highly complimented upon his powerful embodiment of Luke Dezzard. The wholly desperate character of the man was clearly and incisively depicted; and his coolness in the hour of danger was sufficiently emphasised. But the villain looses his nerve when he finds himself in the family burial place, apparently doomed to die a terrible death, and he is, moreover, tormented by the apparitions of his victims. In this scene Mr Bickford gave a thrilling performance as the madman who eventually flies from the vault uttering ear-haunting shrieks. Mr Frank E. Petley can always be relied upon to give a fine manly portrayal of a hero of melodrama, and his Dave Stannard is no exception to the rule. Mr Henry Beaufort can also be complimented on a sound piece of acting as Ezra Gamble. Mr Percy Maitland did well as Nat Wilson and Mr Payne Williams scored as the kindly disposed Captain Trevethick, Chief Constable of Barryhaven. Mr Dan Parker gave a clever character sketch of Limpy Mudge, chainman at Shadwell Wharf, and the same remark applies to Arthur Jenner's Warder Blount of Bexeter Gaol. Useful work was done by Mr Arthur Proctor as P.C. Tibbott and Mr John Mayall as Detective Pollard. Miss Gertrude Price played with feeling and force as Mary Stannard, and Miss Minnie Ethel showed intelligence as Little Davy. Mr Witty Watty Walton as Tat Spavvin, the railway porter, had a character in which he fairly revelled. He certainly succeeded in making the audience laugh heartily, and his ditty "Woman's in It" was received with much applause. He had a merry companion in Miss Annie Megson, who acted brightly and cleverly as Suzette, a little French girl, who introduced a song and dance. Miss Iris M. Ward was good as the Hindoo girl who makes herself understood chiefly by expressive gestures. The drama, which was carefully staged, was accorded a flattering reception on Monday night.

LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Oct. 31, for the First Time in the London District, the Domestic Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts, by J. A. Campbell, entitled "THE SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD."

Characters in the Prologue.

Thomas Haysel	Mr Alfred Holles
Stephen Haysel	Mr J. G. Bartlett
Maria Haysel	Miss Mara Collings
Eliza Muggins	Miss Bessie Frank
Little Mary	Miss Margery Villis

Characters in the Play.

The Rev. Alan Grey	Mr George Rowlands
Stephen Haysel	Mr J. J. Bartlett
Captain John Thornton	Mr W. S. Hartford
Barney O'Reilly	Mr Alfred Donohoe
Maria Haysel	Miss Mara Collings
Eliza Muggins	Miss Bessie Frank
Hannah Spry	Miss Nellie Le Breton
Eric Dugdale	Miss Margery Villis
Mary Haysel	Miss Inez Bensusan

First played at the Theatre Royal, Accrington, last December, *The Sin of Her Childhood* has since had a successful provincial tour. Well spiced with sensation and with a strong flavouring of comedy, Mr J. A. Campbell's drama has found favour with numerous audiences, who have placed upon it the hall-mark of their approval. A crime committed by a young girl, who foolishly yields to the persuasions of her selfish, callous brother, supplies the title to the play. The name of this girl is Mary, and she is the daughter of Farmer Haysel, who has married twice. By his second wife he has a daughter named Nancy, who, through the neglect of her drunken mother, sustains an injury in infancy. The doctor called in says it is necessary that the child shall be sent abroad to restore her health, and the farmer informs his son Stephen that he will have to leave college at once. The young man is not disposed to sacrifice his prospects for the sake of an invalid cripple child, and he induces his little sister Mary to place poison in some gruel prepared for Nancy. After a lapse of ten years we find Mary in a reformatory, where she has undergone punishment for her sin. Her term of confinement is on the eve of expiration, but, alas! she has no home to go to. The matron of the reformatory is her drunken stepmother, who behaves cruelly to the girl, informing her that she will not be allowed to leave the place. A visitor, the Rev. Alan Grey, expresses a wish to see Mary alone, and the minister proves to be a friend in need. Another visitor to the reformatory is Dr. Henry Granger, who, however, is no other than the brother who has caused all the unhappiness which has befallen Mary. But when she greets him with sisterly affection he repudiates the girl, and pretends he has no knowledge of her. However, Mary is eventually engaged as governess in Stephen's house, she having the charge of his adopted son Eric, who is possessed of £5,000. Stephen covets this money, and attempts to persuade Mary to commit a second crime and murder the child, but she refuses. The minister again proves himself to be her friend, and at his suggestion she enters a religious institution. The adopted son of Stephen is the little nephew of his deceased wife, whom he murdered because she refused to pay his debts. The villain attempts to poison the child himself, hoping to fix the crime upon Mary; but his late wife's brother, John Thornton, intervenes, and prevents the commission of the murder. The scene of the third act is the Exterior of the Church of the Protestant Sisterhood, and here Alan Grey asks Mary to become his wife; but she refuses, reminding him of "the sin of her childhood." John Thornton demands an explanation of his sister's death from Stephen, and also extorts from him a confession that he instigated the murder of his stepsister seven years ago. The drama has been well played by the members of Mr Samuel James's stock company. Miss Inez Bensusan gives an admirable portrayal of Mary Haysel, truthfully depicting the varied emotions of the girl who suffers so severely for "the sin of her childhood." She succeeds in arousing the sympathies of the audience. Miss Mara Collings plays the part of Maria Haysel in a manner that deserves the highest praise. Mr J. J. Bartlett gives an incisive impersonation of Stephen Haysel, and meets with deserved success. Mr George Rowlands scores in the part of the genuine, good-hearted minister, Alan Grey, and Mr W. S. Hartford shows firmness and power in the part of Captain Thornton. Mr Alfred Donohoe gets a lot of fun out of the part of Barney O'Reilly. Miss Bessie Frank is amusing as Eliza Muggins, and Miss Nellie Le Breton is capital as the street arab, Hannah Spry, and she sings a couple of songs with the happiest results. Miss Margery Villis plays cleverly as little Eric Dugdale, also appearing as Little Mary in the prologue. Mr Alfred Holles does well as Thomas Haysel, and other minor rôles are carefully embodied by Mr Edward Boddy, Mr G. Travener, Mr John Berry, and others. The play is produced under the stage direction of Mr John Henderson.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled "THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

The visit of the above well-known author's own company to this commodious theatre this week has been a decided success, the piece being well staged and well acted. Miss Constance Medwyn in the title-rôle gave a powerful and artistic rendering of the part, her acting in act three, scene four, with Armstrong, the ruined gambler—excellently portrayed by Mr Bernard Mervyn—being really thrilling in its intensity. The part of the befooled husband is excellently acted by Mr Roy Byford, the discarded and broken-hearted daughter is ably represented by Miss Lillian Rose, and Ruth's lover, Jack Felton, is played satisfactorily by Mr E. J. Collins. Mr Joe Bracewell as the father of the Worst Woman is very amusing, and the fun is also kept going by Mr Geo. H. Asquin as Bob Goldfinch and Miss Helena Rigby as Matilda Parker. Mr Alf Ruskin makes a capital policeman, Master F. Livingstone is a funny little stable boy, Mr B. Elton a satisfactory detective, Mr C. Thomas a good sweep, and Mrs Paul Barry Lewers a satisfactory villain.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Arthur Shirley and Benjamin Landeck, entitled "TOMMY ATKINS."

Active service has been seen by *Tommy Atkins* since its first production at the Pavilion Theatre nine years ago, and by playgoers in every part of the kingdom its merits have been acclaimed. Wholesome in sentiment, stirring in action, and full of the best constituents of melodrama, its powers of attraction are as vigorous as ever—a fact that has been attested at Brixton this week by the crowded audiences that have flocked to the handsome theatre each evening and have become absorbed in its exciting story, its deep pathos, and its frequent fun. The play is illustrated by admirable set pieces, each one presenting a realistic representation of the scene, whether it is the pastoral simplicity of a country church or a field of battle in the Soudan. An imposing spectacle is made of the church parade in act two, for which a military band is in attendance, and the smartness and precision with which the movement is executed excites loud cheers. Skilled artistes are employed in the interpretation of the drama, which is presented by Mr Milton Bode's company—an assurance in itself of excellent work. Mr Frederick Ross has the part of Harold Wilson, and his acting carries distinction whether in the rôle of parson or private soldier. He appears to particular advantage as the champion of the oppressed, and the noble lines of the part are delivered with admirable fervour by Mr Ross, who has a voice which lends itself to impassioned declamation while the actor thrills the audience by his fire and intensity. Miss Lola Patey brings into prominence the profound pathos of the character of Ruth Raymond. Gifted with exceptional powers of elocution, Miss Patey makes an uncommon appeal to the sympathies as the wronged woman whose happiness is threatened at every turn, and the touching characteristics of the rôle are artistically expressed. Mr George C. Doughty varies his villainy as Captain Richard Maitland with callous cynicism and a sense of humour that animates his actions as well as his words, and makes himself a thorough-paced scoundrel such as is inseparable from melodrama. Every commendation is due to the Private Mason of Mr Chas. A. Wenman, who gives a well-studied portrait of the escaped criminal bound by ties of fear to his superior officer. His assumption of terror at the thought of having murdered Ruth Raymond is remarkably well done, and throughout his performance betokens the practised actor. Mr John Nolan wins the esteem of the audience as Sergeant Paddy Molloy, whose stock of witticisms has been replenished, and has an irresistible effect on his hearers, who are kept in constant laughter while he is on the stage. No less provocative of mirth is Mr Billy Harman, who makes a truly eccentric personage of Ebenezer Skindle, displaying a wonderful agility in his humorous antics that have the effect desired. Miss Ethel Tinsley affects the shrewish propensities of Kate Perkins with a good grace, making the most of the comic scenes with Sergt. Molloy, especially after she has become his better-half, and playing with unforced humour. A captivating Elsie Wilson is presented by Miss Florrie Vickers, who acts with ingenuous charm in her love-making with Captain Robert Sparrow, a part that is gallantly rendered by Mr Reginald Holmes. Mr Maurice Drew gives a powerful characterisation of the inflexible Stephen Raymond, acting with strength and sincerity; Mr Henry C. Parsons is a good exponent of Private Harris; Miss Kitty Omer makes a personable bride as Rose Selwyn; Mr Augustus Hammond does very well as Thomas Trotman; Mr Fred Barclay is seen as an Arab chief; and the long cast is completed by Misses Kate Priddis, Marie Fontaine, Messrs E. Christopher, Cecil F. Phillips, and Master Philip Priddis.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Comedy Opera, "MY LADY MOLLY."

Mr Arthur Hart's company is here on a return visit. Both staging and costumes are excellent. The attractiveness of the piece is proved by the fact that the musical items were on Monday continually redemanded. Miss Mabel Lait played the title-rôle with fascinating archness. Miss Maud Thorne made an impressive and charming Alice Coverdale. Miss Sybil Thorne was a piquant and pleasing lady's maid, Hester, and her Irish jig with the captain's servant was a palpable hit. As the French governess, Mdlle. Mirabeau, Miss Lottie Sargent was seen to advantage. Mr George Grundy was well to the front in his impersonation of Captain Romney. Mr Frank Stather may be congratulated on a very successful rendering of Lionel Bland. The bluff old squire of earlier days was well portrayed by Mr Frederick Hobbs, with a humorous element suitably introduced. The representative of the Emerald Isle, Micky O'Dowd, had justice done in the person of Mr Arthur Powell, his spirited performance eliciting flattering remarks. Mr T. Norbury's swell part of Reuben Oats, the landlord, was made the most of, Mr David N. Miller as Judge Romney deserves a word of recognition, and the several minor characters were carefully looked after. The well-trained chorus and the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr Carlton Mason, added to the success of the performance.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Play, in Four Acts, by J. M. Barrie, entitled "QUALITY STREET."

This quaint and fascinating play was performed here on Monday by Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's first-class company. Mr Geo. A. Brandram made a capital Valentine Brown, and played with feeling; Mr Arthur C. F. Lysons was very amusing as the dandy Ensign Blades; Miss Florence Jackson was conspicuous in the rôle of Phœbe Throssel, which she hit off in a highly commendable style; Miss Gwynneth Galton was good as Polly, making quite a typical maid; the Susan Throssel of Miss Grace Edwin was a creditable piece of acting, she creating much laughter in the school lesson scene; Miss Marie Dennett scored as Fanny Willoughby; and the Misses Frances Leslie and Lillian Rogers played well in their respective parts of Henrietta Turnbull and Charlotte Parratt. Mr Dan Dyer as the Recruiting Sergeant did useful work. Master Ernest Hollom was good as the bullying youth, Arthur Wellesley Tomson. In respect of scenery and stage appointments nothing was lacking.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Oct. 31, "THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

"They always follow me," laments the Belle in her first song, but she must, nevertheless, have been gratified at the large number of followers assembled to greet her yet once again at the Crown on Monday last. Mr George Musgrove's very excellent company has now visited Peckham something like a dozen times, and always with the same degree of success. Mr Harry Meymott continues to be an ideal Ichabod Bronson, revelling in the humour of the character, and winning great approval for his latest ditties. Mr Philip Leslie is a taking Harry Bronson,

Mr Max Copland is admirable as the polite lunatic. Mr Cecil Burt as Doc Snifkins, Mr Paddy Dupres as Kenneth Mugg, Mr Alfred Selby and Mr Albert Seely as the twins, Mr Charles Anson as Twiddles, and Mr Charles Wakeman as William retain their original freshness, and Mr Frank Lawton is the same inimitable Blinky Bill. He has added several popular melodies to his répertoire, and if anything could prevail with the ubiquitous "Bill Bailey" it would surely be the alluring whistling of Mr Lawton. Miss Beatrice Lamotte as the Belle wins the usual applause for each number she sings. Miss Lillian Digges is a chic and very French Fifi, Miss Winnie Brown is a handsome queen of comic opera, and Miss May Angus Young a smart little Maimie Clancy. The chorus singing retains its freshness and precision, whilst the *tout ensemble* is excellent.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Musical Play entitled
"FLORODORA."

Musical compositions always prove welcome at the Stratford Borough Theatre, and consequently *Florodora*, although having been seen here several times before, is this week meeting with every success. Cyrus Gilfain is safely entrusted to Mr Fred Winn, who plays the part with all the unctuousness demanded and with a subtle humour which is highly mirth-provoking. Mr Leonard Russell sings in manly and pleasing style as Frank Abercoed, gaining many encomiums for his rendering of "The Shade of the Palm," for which encore verses are demanded. Mr J. Paul Callan makes a most acceptable Captain Arthur Donegal, albeit a more spirited rendering would be an improvement. Mr William Rousell as the sinister-looking Leandro is capital, and Gilfain's clerks have quite competent representatives in Messrs Arthur Duffield, Martin Pitts, Edward Tonge, V. S. Huntley, Arthur Metcalfe, and H. Mathews. The part of Tweedlepunch is undertaken by Mr Edward Lewis, whose original methods of portraying this favourite character meet with general approval, his witticisms and drollery being provocative of great laughter and applause. Miss Lena Maitland makes a very graceful Dolores, and sings delightfully. Miss Isabelle Dillon is a vivacious and coquettish Lady Holyrood, whose songs are rendered with point and piquancy, the up-to-date topical allusions in "I've an Inkling" being received with éclat. Angela Gilfain has a pretty and demure representative in Miss Hilda Dugdale, and Valeda is brightly played by Miss Lydia Granville. Angela's friends have charming representatives in Miss Dollie Neville, Miss M. Woodward, Miss Maud Stead, Miss Daisy Burrows, Miss May Sember, and Miss Muriel Marsden. The double sextet, "Tell me, pretty maiden," remains an important and attractive feature of the production. The well-trained chorus render the concerted numbers admirably, and together with the augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Mr Ashley Richards, tends to produce a tout ensemble of considerable merit. Mr Tom B. Davis's interests are well looked after by his affable business-manager, Mr F. Martin Morris.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama entitled
"OLD HEIDELBERG."

Mr Mouillot's company, including Mr George F. Tully, Mr Clifford Bown, and Miss Katherine Pole, commenced a six nights' engagement here on Monday, and had a hearty reception from a considerable house. Mr George F. Tully presents an altogether admirable study of the character of Carl Heinrich, Prince of Sachsen. Mr Clifford Bown's Doctor Juttner was a most enjoyable performance, full of pathos and rich humour. Mr Lionel Gadsden was remarkably good as Lutz. Mr F. M. Cross as Hofmarschall Von Passarge is excellent, as is Mr W. Prince Wells as Baron Von Metzing. Mr Wallace C. Court as Graf Von Asterberg acts and sings well. Miss Katherine Pole is a delightful Kathie, and played her share of the final scene with great earnestness and power. The remaining parts were all capitally sustained.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Play, in Three Acts, entitled
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

Mr Auguste Van Biene and company have been drawing good houses here this week with an excellent representation of *The Broken Melody*. Mr Van Biene is, of course, a host in himself; he is now playing Paul Borinski for well over the two thousandth time, and far from evincing any "staleness" (so likely a fault in the circumstances) his characterisation is distinguished by remarkable freshness of execution as well as by a clearness of definition, both in outline and in detail, attainable only by long practice. On Mr Van Biene's skill with his favourite 'cello it is surely unnecessary to enlarge at this time of day. Suffice to say that he is fully up to and occasionally surpasses the high standard already set by his former performances in this direction. Miss Lena Burnleigh's rendering of Mabel, Borinski's wife, is marked by a sympathetic insight into the character of this whole-hearted woman, and by a tenderness of diction and action which is most effective. She is, perhaps, at her best in the scene in the second act where Mabel has to deny that Paul is her husband, or that she even knows him. An exceedingly clever performance of the rôle of the Duchess of Verviers is contributed by Miss Ida Chapman, whose distinguished voice and manner and general suavity of demeanour are in welcome contrast to the "high falutin'" style usually adopted in portraying characters of this nature. Miss Avis Graham gives a clever little sketch of Mrs Dixon, and Miss Morton is amusing as the Hon. Mrs Spinacher. Mr Arthur Bawtree is well suited as General Ivanoff, his soldierly bearing and resonant voice adding to the value of his impersonation. The comic part of Dudley Mortimer is entrusted to Mr T. P. Hayner, and could not have been in better hands. His power of humorous facial expression is wonderful, and his sayings and doings are responsible for much genuine mirth. Mr E. Laceby makes the most of his chances as Dixon, the lodging-house keeper, and Messrs J. Cummings, H. Ludlow, and E. Edwards do well in the small parts allotted to them.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, the Musical Play, in Two Acts, by George Dance, entitled
"A CHINESE HONEYMOON."

Mr Geo. Dance's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday evening, and though many of those present had doubtless witnessed the play on former occasions, it was, judging by their reception of it, as welcome as ever it was. Chief honours were awarded to Miss Jose Collins for her captivating assumption of the part of Mrs Pineapple, her singing and dancing gaining for her several well-deserved encores. As her elderly spouse, Mr Pineapple, Mr Harry Brayne showed himself a comedian of no mean order, and was able, with very little apparent effort, to keep his audience in the best of humours when he was on the stage. The part of the absurd and grotesque waitress, Fi-Fi, was filled by Miss M. Sadie with great success. Miss Marie Adair made a charming Princess Soo-Soo, whilst Mr Percy Yorke acquitted himself with distinction as Tom Hatherton. A word of commendation was also deserved by Mr Frank A. Wood as the Emperor, by Mr P. Allerton Turner as Chipple-Chop, the Lord Chancellor; by Mr Leonard May as Hi-Lung, the Lord High Admiral; and by Miss Alice Drummond as Mrs Brown. Nothing was lacking in the mounting of the play, the dresses and the scenery leaving nothing to be desired. A full chorus and an augmented orchestra were under the direction of Mr Ernest Hurman.

MR WILLIAM GILLETTE will return to London in March or April next year, and will appear in a new play from his own pen entitled *Clarette*, the scene of which is laid in North Carolina.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."

A Play, in Four Acts, by Alfred Sutro,
Produced at the Garrick Theatre, on Monday, Oct. 31.

Jack Frobisher	Mr ARTHUR BOURCHIER
Hankey Bannister	Mr SYDNEY VALENTINE
The Marquis of Steventon	Mr O. B. CLARENCE
Lord Drayton	Mr DAVID DOMVILLE
Harry Dallas	Mr H. NYE CHART
Bertram Hannaford	Mr JUNIUS B. BOOTH
The Hon. Wilfred Renton	Mr WALTER PEARCE
Lord Marchmont	Mr STUART DENNISON
Hon. Jasper Twelvetrees	Mr F. CECIL
Peters	Mr F. G. KNOTT
Simpson	Mr ALFRED F. ALLEN
James	Mr D. IMBERT
William	Mr HARRISON CARTER
Lady Westerby	Miss KATE SERJEANTSON
Miss Mornington	Miss ELFRIDA CLEMENT
The Duchess of Matlock	Miss LENA HALLIDAY
Lady Parchester	Miss MARY VESANY
Miss Wyatt	Miss JUNE VAN BUSKIRK
Mary	Miss BLANCHE ELLICE
Lady Lucy Derenham	Miss MURIEL BEAUMONT
Lady Alethea Frobisher	Miss VIOLET VANBRUGH

Mr Arthur Bourchier has achieved a complete and incontestable success by a combination of judgment, earnestness, and "pluck," but the greatest of these, in the case of *The Walls of Jericho*, which he produced at the Garrick Theatre on Monday evening, was "pluck." For, certainly, the point of the piece was "right up against" a great many of Mr Bourchier's first-night patrons, whose smiles, as Mr Sutro held the mirror up to the nature of the "smart" set in society, were somewhat sickly and uncomfortable. Mr Bourchier had not only to carry the scent of Mr Sutro's satire across the footlights, as Mr Pinero tried to send the odour of haymaking in one of his plays, but over the half guinea seats as well. *The Walls of Jericho* is the strongest attack on "smart" society which has been made on the stage for a long time. It is built on the same good old hard-wearing principles as *Still Waters Run Deep* and other works of the last generation; and it is worked out with a thorough knowledge and appreciation of the modern tone.

It is extremely difficult to write the dialogue of a modern society play. Some dramatists have got over the obstacle by brilliant epigrams such as are laughed at and quoted, but are never heard from the lips of "smart" people. Mr Sutro's lines are, with due allowance made for the theatrical focus, quite possible and probable. He has hit off correctly the flashy cynicism, the facile foolishness, and the petty paradox which are generally admired in modern conversation; and thus he has created an atmosphere for his play of the most cleverly convincing kind. He is particularly good in his treatment of situations so subtle as to present pitfalls to the less expert artist. For instance, the familiar "declaration" scene between the married woman and the lover in the second act of the play is made fresh and novel by the super-sensual attitude of Lady Alethea and the idea of the brilliant lady-killer made positively dull by the influence of his animalism—there is no passion, says Sterne, which is so essentially serious. But Mr Sutro's play is full of admirable notions such as this. It will for this reason bear seeing again and again, as some of its more delicate details may have been overlooked in the stress and vigour of its action.

Jack Frobisher is a variant on the familiar stage type of the society millionaire. He has made a large fortune by sheep-farming in Queensland, where he has distinguished himself as a fighter, as a philanthropist, as a builder of bridges, and as a founder of townships. Coming "home" to spend his money, he has fallen in love with and has married Alethea, the daughter of the poor and dissipated Marquis of Steventon. She goes her way, which leads through unlimited "bridge" and constant flirtation with a lady-killer called Harry Dallas; and Frobisher finds himself a "nobody" in his own house and in his wife's social circle, while his father-in-law borrows money of him and patronises him. Lord Drayton, the Marquis's son, seduces a young lady who is his sister's companion. He comes to Frobisher for advice; and the Queenslander gives him £3,000 and an Australian farm to "marry the girl" and go out with her to the Antipodes. This action brings affairs to a crisis; and Frobisher asserts himself "all round." He commands his wife instead of imploring her; and, when the old Marquis takes the high and mighty tone with respect to his son's marriage, he receives such a complete "dressing down" from his son-in-law that he departs quite crestfallen. Dallas tries to take liberties with Lady Alethea, and is forced by Frobisher to open and read aloud a compromising letter which the lady-killer has written to her in apology. Then Frobisher deals with his wife. He denounces the "fast" set in which she lives, her disregard of his wishes, and her heartless neglect of their child. Finally, he tells her that he has resolved to sell his English property and take her out with him to Queensland. Of course, she refuses point blank to go; but at the eleventh hour—when he is on the point of starting alone—she relents, and consents to accompany him, leaving it an open question whether Queensland will convert her to commonsense and the domestic virtues, or whether she will introduce the fashion of female gambling and easy-going adultery into Australian society.

The parts of Jack Frobisher and Lady Alethea Frobisher were exactly suited to Mr Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, who have seldom been more happily cast. Mr Bourchier's stalwart figure and strong and powerful style were admirably adapted to the interpretation of the burly and resolute Queenslander, and he acted throughout with unforced energy, vigorous earnestness, and sternly effective emphasis. Miss Violet Vanbrugh looked subtly fascinating and artistically fashionable as Lady Alethea, and played the part with a delicacy of appreciation and a discriminating tact which made her impersonation as real and vivid as it was interesting and amusing. The modern "smart" woman, with all her characteristics, has seldom been more strikingly sketched than in this instance; and Miss Vanbrugh certainly met the author half-way by her very clever rendering of his work. Mr Sydney Valentine, as a sentimental gold-digger who marries into the "smart" set, in spite of the warning given to him by his friends' troubles, acted with his usual ease and ability; and Mr O. B. Clarence's Marquis of Steventon was distinguished by a senile "stylishness" which was very effective, and equally removed from colourlessness and caricature. Mr David Domville took full advantage of his brief opportunity as Lord Drayton; and Mr H. Nye Chart represented, with great skill the type which was once commonly referred to as the "masher." Miss Kate Serjeantson as Lady Westerby gave a most agreeable impersonation of a clever woman of the world with a heart beneath her *chiffonerrie*; Miss Elfrida Clement played Miss Mornington with great crispness and *chic*; Miss Lena Halliday was excellent as the card-sharping Duchess of Matlock; and Miss Muriel Beaumont depicted a worldly *ingénue* with remarkable tact and truth. All the minor rôles had careful and competent representatives; and Mr Harford's scenery, and Mr Sydney Valentine's assistance to Mr Bourchier in the production of the play, completed the success of *The Walls of Jericho*. The applause at the close was hearty and unanimous, and Mr Bourchier, coming forward with his hand on his heart, said that Mr Sutro was in the house, but was affected with a complaint uncommon in actors and authors—excessive modesty. Mr Bourchier, however, promised to convey to him the favourable verdict of the audience, whom he thanked for their attendance, and for the assistance which they had enabled him to give to the victims of the recent unfortunate Dogger Bank disaster.

MR W. T. LOVELL was engaged by Miss Olga Nethersole for her production at the Shaftesbury Theatre, but she released him to join Mr Edward Terry on his American tour in December.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

Cavalleria Rusticana and *Pagliacci* have been often performed together, and on Wednesday these two operas attracted an enormous crowd, filling every corner of the Opera House where standing-room could be obtained. In Mascagni's opera the most attractive feature was Madame Giachetti's Santuzza, a powerful dramatic and vocal study which has rarely been equalled by any modern prima donna. Madame Giachetti perhaps found some difficulty with the music, but she is such a fine artiste that she conquered these difficulties with the greatest ease. Signor Anselmi was heard at his best as the faithless Turiddu, and he acted extremely well. Signor Sammarco made an excellent Alfio, and Madame Ferraris as Lola was thoroughly efficient. The opera throughout went remarkably well, and the dramatic *Pagliacci* even better, Signor Caruso as Canio being more effective as the deceived husband than any tenor we have previously seen in the part. Signor Caruso, both in acting and singing, gave the utmost expression, passion, and tenderness to the various scenes. Signor Sammarco was magnificent as Tonio. His delivery of the prologue caused quite a sensation, and he was compelled to appear four or five times before the curtain could be raised for the opera to proceed. Madame Wayda represented Nedda with considerable effect, but she hardly impressed the audience so much as her masculine associates. But generally she succeeded fairly, and was well received. In other respects the performance was satisfactory, and the band and chorus, familiar with the music, gave Signor Campanini no trouble. Every fresh representation seems to increase the reputation of the admirable San Carlo company. It is many a year since we have had such autumn opera performances at Covent-garden.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged descriptions are specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

21,771. Sir Hiram Stevens Maxim, 7, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London. An improved device for producing illusionary effects.

21,830. Wallace Fairweather, 65, Chancery-lane, London. Improvements in panoramic cameras.

21,274. James Abbott, 1, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, London. Improvements in and relating to roundabouts.

21,280 Michel Rosen, 81, High Holborn, London. Improvements in or relating to the construction of theatres, hospitals and similar buildings.

21,578. John Jefferson Duffie, 6, Lord-street, Liverpool. A new or improved burlesque hanging.

20,685, Luigi Bertorelli, John Rose, and Rose, Coop, and Rissone, Limited, 37, Chancery-lane, London. Improvements in the construction of automatic piano playing apparatus.

20,929. Henry Shepley Booth, 6, Bank-street, Manchester. Improvements in aerial machines.

MISS EDITH GRENFELL.

Miss Edith Grenfell, whose portrait appears below, is about to produce *The Red Café*, which is founded on Henry Greville's novel, "Les Epreuves de Raïssa," and has been played to crowded houses for some

Photo by Schmidt.

MISS EDITH GRENFELL.

years past in the United States. It will shortly be presented by the authors at a London theatre, with new scenery and effects. The piece is taken from the same source as *Vilma*, in which Miss Lewis Waller has been appearing. A third version, entitled *Nadia*, by Lady Violet Greville, was produced at the Lyric Theatre in May, 1892. In this instance Mr Arthur Bourchier played Count Rezof, and the unfortunate heroine was depicted by Miss Olga Brandon.

150th NIGHT OF "SERGEANT BRUE."

The 150th performance of Madame Liza Lehmann and Mr J. Hickory Wood's amusing piece with the above title, which took place at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Wednesday, gave us a second opportunity of admiring the brightness, the fun, and the merry music which the collaborateurs have provided. The career of *Sergeant Brue* since its production at the Strand Theatre on June 14 last has been continously successful, and, in its new home, it is as popular and prosperous as ever. Some important alterations have been made in the cast since the first night, Miss Madge Lessing being now the representative of Aurora Brue. Miss Lessing, with her ripe Southern beauty, her arch and winning style, her graceful poses, and her daintv and accomplished dancing, quite bewitches the audience. She shares with Mr Farren Soutar the honours of a new song and dance, "Joseph, James, and John," which have been inserted in the first act. It is extremely quaint, and its originality and oddity prove irresistible. Another new-comer to the cast is Miss Jessica Lait, whose depiction of the little servant Daisy is full of briskness, point, and movement, and who hits off the Cockney character very cleverly. The Mabel Widgett is now Miss Nina Wood, who looks remarkably ingenuous and pretty, and by her charming acting and pleasing vocalism makes herself an immense favourite with the audience. Mr Arthur Appleby's Gerald Treherne is effectively individual, and suggests capacity for even more exacting work; and Mr Arthur Laceby as the Crawlborough-street magistrate, Mr Crank, is thoroughly efficient and satisfactory. Miss Millie Legarde as Lady Bickenhall is crisp, chic, and expressive; and gives a reading of the rôle which is both original and appropriate. Mr Willie Edouin repeats his deliciously comical and absolutely natural embodiment of the good-natured Sergeant of Police; and its drollery, its eccentricity, and its technical thoroughness show no signs of abatement. Mr Arthur Williams's Crookie Scrubbs is as exquisitely and dryly humorous as ever, the actor's facial play and comic business in dumb show being as artistic and laughter-provoking as ever. Mr Farren Soutar sustains with unflagging vivacity and excellent tact the part of Michael Brue; and the minor rôles are all ably enacted. The piece, as a whole, has been much improved during its run, the alterations and additions which have been made being both judicious and beneficial. This musical farce is one of the most amusing, most merry and active, and most inoffensive entertainments which is now being offered to the London public; and its success has proved that playgoers can enjoy honest fun and clever workmanship without any infusion of impropriety or suggestiveness. There can be little doubt that *Sergeant Brue* took a "new lease of life" when it went to the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

"JOHN BULL'S OTHER ISLAND."

A New and Unpublished Play, in Four Acts, by Bernard Shaw,
Produced at a Matinée at the Court Theatre, on Nov. 1.

Broadbent	Mr LOUIS CALVERT
Larry Doyle	Mr J. L. SHINE
Tim Haffigan	Mr PERCIVAL STEVENS
Hodson	Mr NIGEL PLAYFAIR
Keegan	Mr GRANVILLE BARKER
Patsy Farrell	Mr GRAHAM BROWNE
Father Dempsey	Mr CHARLES DALY
Corney Doyle	Mr F. CREMLIN
Barney Doran	Mr WILFRED SHINE
Matthew Haffigan	Mr A. E. GEORGE
Aunt Judy	Miss AGNES THOMAS
Nora	Miss ELLEN O'MALLEY

Mr Bernard Shaw is, we imagine, incorrigible; in any case, as a playwright, he is impossible. Here is a man with acute perceptions, a flow of real humour, and a bright imagination—"instead of which," he goes about writing irrational "hotch-potch"—as like *John Bull's Island*, which was produced at a matinée at the Court Theatre on Tuesday last. We are weary of the analysis and exposition of Mr Shaw's work; we must fall back on simple description.

The action opens in the office of Broadbent and Doyle, civil engineers. Broadbent is a caricature of the average Englishman—honest, energetic, impulsive, and intensely self-satisfied. Doyle, an Irishman, is a mixture of qualities. He has kept a "nice" girl named Nora hanging on in Roscullen for eighteen years in the hope that he will propose to her, and has neither broken of the connection nor made her his wife. Broadbent believes in the future of Ireland, and he and his friend agree to go out to Doyle's native place and study the national characteristics.

So far, so rational. In the second act Mr Shaw pulls out the crazy stop. A pallid and imbecile gentleman, who formerly belonged to the priesthood and is subject to delusions, has a long conversation with a grasshopper, in which the uncomfortable conclusion is arrived at that this world is Hell. A comic Irish peasant comes from behind a big boulder, and implores the ex-priest not to send the grasshopper to haunt him o' nights. Broadbent arrives without his friend, sees Nora near a certain Round Tower under the moonlight, falls in love with her and tells her so. She says that he has drunk too much punch, and sees him, amiably, home. In the third act there is a meeting of villagers to choose a local candidate for the next election. Larry Doyle, who is asked to stand, gives a statement of his opinions. He says that the farmer tenants who have become small proprietors under the Land Acts are harder, greedier, and meaner than the old absentee landlords; and that he would like to have a law made to prevent the new men paying their labourers less than a pound a week. He would also establish the Roman Catholic Church, and thus make it practically powerless; for Established Churches are helpless, while Noncomformists are combative and to be dreaded. Doyle is rejected as impossible, and Broadbent, after some conventional electioneering oratory, is chosen as the coming candidate.

In order to win the hearts of the electors, he tries to convey a pig belonging to one of them to the latter's house on a motor-car. The pig escapes, and is run over, the car doing much damage to the villagers and the village. In the last act, Broadbent finds Nora weeping because Doyle does not propose to her, and seizes the opportunity of pressing his own suit. She accepts him, and in the next scene gives her laggard swain a good "talking to." Then the crazy stop comes out again. The imbecile ex-priest maunders at some length about Capital invading the peaceful country-side, about certain Trinitarian and Socialistic visions, and about the absurdity of any hope of real Progress. Broadbent's candidature is, however, unaffected, and his plans for bringing gold and golf into the place remain unaltered.

Mr Louis Calvert's Broadbent was the mainstay of the production. He was an ideal representative of the rôle, which he played with sterling ability and admirable command of technique. Mr J. L. Shine was almost inaudible in the first act, but became more distinct in delivery as he went on, and gave a peculiar and subtle interpretation of the character sketch, in which, let us hope Mr Shaw has libelled his countrymen. Mr Percival Stevens contributed an effective and energetic embodiment of an Irish ex-tenant with a standing grievance; and Mr Nigel Playfair was excellent as Hodson, Mr Granville Barker, by his "eerie" manner and impressive utterance, quelling all impeding ridicule as the insane ex-priest. Mr Graham Browne's Patsey Farrell was a natural and humorous assumption, and Mr Charles Daly was judiciously efficient as Father Dempsey, Mr F. Cremlin giving an easy, unforced, and faithful sketch of an Irish type as Corney Doyle. Mr Wilfred Shine's Barney Doran was another admirable little study, and Miss Agnes Thomas's Aunt Judy and Miss Ellen O'Malley's Nora had the freshness and direct inspiration which often compensate for absence of experience. It must be stated of the performances of all the minor parts that they had an air of reality and first-hand observation which made them genuinely interesting and artistic. There was hearty applause at the conclusion of the performance, but Mr Shaw had left the house. The Court Theatre looked remarkably bright and pretty, and the management by Mr J. E. Vedrenne leaves little to be desired.

COVENT-GARDEN BALL.

The third of this season's fancy dress balls, arranged by Mr Frank Rendle and Mr Neil Forsyth at Covent-garden, was held on the night of the 28th ult. The attendance was again large, and the prizes were both numerous and valuable. One of the dresses which attracted most notice was that called "Trafalgar's Day," which gained the second prize (lady's). It was of white satin, and on it were various beautifully-painted panels depicting "The Victory in Portsmouth Harbour," "A naval fight in the time of Nelson," and "The Death of Nelson." On the bodice was a painting of the Hero of Trafalgar surrounded by a wreath of laurels, the frozen leaves of which were illuminated by electric lights. A miniature Nelson's Column formed the head-dress. The design was Mr W. Clarkson's, as was a "Firework Fantasia," a red satin gown with chiffon flounces, painted with different set pieces in fireworks. A finely lit "golden rain" head-dress effectively completed the idea. Mr Clarkson also won a first prize (gent.'s) for a novel dress entitled "The Rajah of Ceylon," and several other prizes for 'Carmencita," "Spring Flowers," &c. The best of Madame Jeanne's creations was "Winter in the Rockies," a costume of white velvet adorned with hand-paintings. A cape of electric blue velvet hung from the shoulders, and the hat was wing-shaped and of silver fringe. The dress was besprinkled with numerous coloured glow lamps. The electric light was used in the dress of "The Beautiful White Devil," and "Blue and Yellow Folly" and 'The Rising Sun" also had points of beauty and artistic merit. After parading in front of the judges the competitors moved in procession across the stage, and everyone present had a good view of all the best dresses. An excellent programme of music was rendered by Lieut. Dan Godfrey's orchestra of eighty skilled musicians.

MESSRS LUSH AND COOK, LIMITED, the enterprising theatrical cleaners of 91, Mount-street, are working at very high pressure preparing for the annual feast of pantomime. During the past few weeks this firm have cleaned dresses for the following London pantos:—Theatre Royal Drury-lane, Pavilion Theatre, E., Coronet Theatre, Kennington Theatre, Camden Theatre, Crown Theatre, and the King's Theatre, also very heavy consignments from the provinces. The growth of Messrs Lush and Cook's theatrical business speaks volumes for the excellence of the work done by this firm.

THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

HOW TO HELP IT.

The Actors' Benevolent Fund, as some people may remember, was originally started with the idea of its being supported and maintained entirely by actors and managers. After a few years, however, it was found that the subscriptions of the individual actors and managers were totally insufficient to enable the committee to relieve all the distress that existed. It was, therefore, decided to have an annual dinner, at which the public would be asked to assist. Owing to the generosity of the public at the dinners and matinées the Fund has been able to assist a great many more needy "professionals" than would otherwise have been the case.

Mr C. I. Coltson, the secretary, to whose unbounded energy much of the success of the Fund is due, informs us that the subscriptions of actors have during the past few months fallen off considerably. Probably the depressing state of touring has contributed largely to this condition of things. We all know that matters in connection with travelling companies have been deplorably bad during the past few months as far as the financial aspect is concerned, and if there be a continuance, very heavy calls are likely to be upon the Actors' Benevolent Fund. But even at the present moment the institution requires all the monetary support it can possibly obtain. Some of the principal members of the profession are performing a good service by selling their autographs and forwarding the proceeds to the Actors' Benevolent Fund. There are, however, several prominent actors and actresses who give their signatures free of charge. Might we suggest to these ladies and gentlemen the pressing needs of their less happily placed brothers and sisters, many of whom are practicaly entirely dependent upon the Actors' Benevolent Fund for their very subsistence? We feel sure that, if a minimum charge of sixpence were imposed upon autograph collectors, a goodly sum of money would be handed over to the fund. We hear that the demand for theatrical autographs is on the increase, and if actors and actresses will kindly follow the example of Sir Henry Irving, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr Lewis Waller, and others, the result would undoubtedly be an addition of several hundred pounds a year available for charitable distribution. The system put into practice by Mr Beerbohm Tree is this:—On receiving an application for his autograph, he replies to the effect that if a sum of half-a-crown is sent to the secretary of the A.B.F., his signature and a receipt for the money will follow in due course.

Then there is the question of free admissions to theatres. In America this affords a prolific source of revenue to the theatrical charities, a tax of sixpence being met by every non-paying visitor. We suggest that English managers should charge the same sum. If this amount were collected from each person admitted free to a performance, a very considerable amount of money would accrue during the course of the year to the benefit of suffering artists. Surely it would be a very simple matter for every theatre in the United Kingdom to adopt such a rule as that here suggested. Mr Walter Reynolds, of the Theatre Royal, Leeds, was a great collector of this class of tax, and helped the Fund very much, while only last week the Fund received £5 from Mr Robert Arthur, being a tax on theatrical free admission to Kennington Theatre, per Harold Entwistle; £2 14s. 4d. from Mr Cecil Beryl, Theatre Royal, Brighton; and £1 4s. 3d. from Palace Pier, Brighton, per Mr Drew Mackintosh, these amounts being obtained by means of a small tax on free admission. Excellent examples to follow.

We have before referred to the performances which are given in aid of hospitals and other charities disassociated from the theatrical profession, and we have before pointed out whenever an artiste is asked to contribute his or her services for the benefit of some charitable object a bargain should be struck to the effect that ten per cent. of the receipts should be placed to the credit of the A.B.F., and in this way the benevolent offices of the Fund would be greatly increased. We fail to see what difficulty there is in making such a plan universal and effective. And when one reflects on the immense resources at the easy disposal of the dramatic profession, and the advantages it commands in the way of securing the cash of the charitably disposed, it seems almost ridiculous that the Actors' Benevolent Fund should be obliged to be constantly appealing for donations. Cannot managers and proprietors of theatres throughout the country arrange an annual matinée for the benefit of an institution from which even they themselves—or some of them—may at a future date be compelled to invoke temporary financial assistance? It is only when dark shadows cross our path that we begin to realise what other people in their poverty have suffered. It is then, too, that we begin to realise how much we might have done in the past that has not been done. Is it wise, is it just, is it right for those of us with our purses filled to-day to regard the morrow with sublime contempt and disregard.

The A.B.F. gladdens the hearts by sending remittances every week to seventy-two old actors and actresses, who are absolutely dependent upon the Fund for their daily bread. In addition to these, however, many other cases of distress are attended to as the applications pour in to the offices at 8, Adam-street, Strand, W.C. The committee of the Fund never allow an actor or an actress to be buried in a pauper's grave, and, as a matter of fact, eight deceased members of the profession were given a decent interment by the Fund last month alone.

The following is a letter from an actress, aged seventy-four, who appeals for a renewal of the weekly allowance for herself and her mother (aged ninety-three). The names of the parties are kept strictly private, and we ourselves do not know who they are.

I am so very ill and nearly blind, with nothing to depend upon for my existence but the kind allowance that you have hitherto granted me. I therefore humbly ask for the renewal of the same so kindly given. I also have to ask for the renewal for my poor old mother, now in her ninety-third year. I need scarcely say she is infirm and helpless.

And another reads thus:—

With deepest gratitude and thanks, I beg to acknowledge your past kindnesses, and beg for a renewal of my life's support under God, whose great mercy to us passeth all understanding. May the light of His Grace direct you and prosper you in all your undertakings, helping you always, as you so benevolently help those dependent upon your bounty.

What more need be said?

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Oct. 31, the Drama in Four Acts, entitled
"EAST LYNNE."

This well worn but ever-popular drama is occupying the boards at this theatre during the present week, and is giving every satisfaction. Foremost among the performers is Miss Eugenie Magnus, who as Lady Isabel sustains that very trying character in excellent style. The part of Barbara Hare has an efficient interpretation from Miss Rosemary Rees; and Corney Carlyle is amusingly portrayed by Miss Marie M'Aulay. Mr Felix Pitt's excellent acting as Francis Levison gained a full measure of execration, and Mr Lionel D'Aragon's Archibald Carlyle was well received. Ample justice was done to the eccentricities of Mr Justice Hare and Dill by Mr Champion Abbott and Mr Fred De Vere. Henry St. Ledger was well placed as Lord Mountsevern, Willie Carlyle was in the able hands of Miss Bertha Baker, and as the Constable Mr Newman Maurice caused plenty of merriment. A sketch, entitled *The Magic Bird*, precedes the production.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

ANYTHING which reminds a theatrical audience of the possibility of a conflagration in a theatre is injudicious as tending to encourage panic; and we think that, instead of the words "fireproof curtain"—upon the curtain which has to be once lowered, nightly, by order of the Lord Chamberlain—which are calculated to promote nervousness, a plan of the house, showing all the exits, should be painted on the curtain in question, so that while it is down each of the audience could realise the geography of the house and study the shortest way of escape in case of need.

MR LIONEL BROUGH'S health is still, we regret to hear, imperfect. He was unable to take part at the Royalty Theatre on Thursday in the matinée for the benefit of the Nursing Sisters of the Sick Poor, and his many admirers in the house were much disappointed at the absence of their favourite, who is evidently not strong enough to play twice a-day.

MR MAURICE FARKOA, who has just returned from the Antipodes, once had the honour of singing before the Khedive and his household at Cairo. Of course, he did not see the ladies, but frequent laughter from behind the curtain where they sat showed that his dainty French songs were thoroughly appreciated. Mr Farkoa is of French and English parentage, and was born in Smyrna, Turkey. Over forty thousand gramaphone records have been sold of his well known laughing song. He makes a welcome reappearance at the Morton Testimonial matinée, at the Palace Theatre, on Tuesday.

MR BEERBOHM TREE and his company from His Majesty's Theatre have been commanded by the King to appear at Windsor Castle either on the 17th or the 19th inst., in *A Man's Shadow*, during the visit of the King and Queen of Portugal. Mr Tree will appear as Laroque and Luversan, Mrs Tree as Julie, and Mr James Fernandez as De Noirville, and Mr Lionel Brough and Mr E. M. Robson will resume their old parts in the play. The theatrical profession may congratulate itself warmly upon living in the reign of such a beneficent monarch as Edward VII., who is always a liberal patron and constant friend of actors and managers.

THE annual dinner of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, which is to be held on Dec. 7 at the Whitehall Rooms of the Hotel Metropole, will be presided over by the famous counsel, Sir Edward Clarke, K.C. Sir Edward has sent an appeal to a great number of prominent ladies and gentlemen, and the result, it is anticipated, will be of a highly satisfactory nature. The following is a copy of Sir Edward's letter asking for support for the Actors' Benevolent Fund:—"On Wednesday, Dec. 7th, at the Hotel Metropole, I am to have the honour of presiding at the annual dinner of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and I am making an urgent appeal to all lovers of the dramatic art to maintain and extend the usefulness of this valuable charity. May I ask you to support me by being present at the dinner, and by allowing your name to appear on the list of stewards? If you are not able to attend, I shall be grateful for a donation to the Fund; you may be sure that it will be expended carefully and sympathetically in the relief of real distress. I am, faithfully yours, EDWARD CLARKE."

MR T. B. THALBERG, who has just returned from a long, successful tour in South Africa, wishes it to be known that he has decided to adopt, professionally, for the future his own name, Thalberg Corbett. We hope this deservedly popular actor, who has not been seen in London since he played Ned Falkner, in *The Liars*, with Sir Charles Wyndham, will not be long absent from our stage.

MISS NELLIE STEWART has written as follows to the Melbourne press:—"Permit me to contradict an error made in recent paragraphs, viz.: That I am part manageress and partner in Mr George Musgrove's dramatic company, as it is entirely false and misleading to the public. I am a member only of that company on a salary."

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER has forwarded a cheque for £150, being the proceeds of the first performance of Mr Alfred Sutro's new play, *The Walls of Jericho*, which took place at the Garrick Theatre on Monday, and has received a most grateful letter of thanks from Mr William Jarman, the Mayor of Hull, for the same, saying that he will at once place it to the credit of the fund for the sufferers and relatives of the victims of the North Sea Disaster.

"DO WE BELIEVE?" is a subject at present agitating the minds of men. That there is a great deal of deep religious feeling among playgoers was proved by the rapt attention paid to the prayer in *The Coal King* by the audiences visiting the Elephant and Castle Theatre last week. On Saturday night the pit and gallery joined fervently with the entombed miners in the singing of the beautiful old hymn "Jesu, lover of my soul," and more than one "Thank God!" was heard when the rescue party broke through.

THE satire of *The Walls of Jericho*, at the Garrick Theatre on Monday, proved anything but acceptable to many of the occupants of the stalls. Between the acts sneering remarks were made about "attacks on society" and "riding the high horse," and, amidst the loud and enthusiastic applause which followed the final descent of the curtain, the faces of the malcontents were an interesting study. The author's work was evidently too true to nature, and the members of the smart society set who were present found that the cap fitted them.

THE "Kalgoorlie incident" referred to in these columns last week bulks largely in Western Australia. From a number of pulpits on the first Sunday of October the Chief Secretary was denounced for permitting Mr Beerbohm Tree's company to play *The Sign of the Cross* and *The Eternal City* on Sunday. One clergyman apparently considers this touring combination a cut above the common, for he declared that no company, "however respectable," should have been allowed to do such a thing. Another, with more frankness than logic, said he had seen *The Sign of the Cross*, and, while the piece was calculated to produce a good moral effect, and had of benefit to men and women, it should never have been presented on a Sunday. A third bellicose parson declared that he would "fight against Sunday newspapers, Sunday theatrical entertainments, Sunday river excursions, and Sunday flower shows." The Mayor of Freemantle, Western Australia, gave a civic entertainment in the Town Hall to celebrate the opening of the new King's Theatre. Responding to the toast of his health and the health of Mr Beerbohm Tree's touring company, who gave the first performances in the building, Mr Julius Knight said the erection of a theatre was one of the surest signs of the prosperity of a town. He cordially congratulated Freemantle on the acquisition of such a well-appointed, up-to-date temple of the drama.

MR G. M. MONTANINI, the acting-manager of *The Traitor Prince* company, and who also plays the part of the Hon. Bobby Vavasour Dalrymple in that drama, met on Monday evening with what might have proved a serious accident. The company was playing at the Theatre Royal, Leicester, and Mr Montanini was loading a revolver with blank cartridges, when it accidentally exploded, wounding his hand. The theatre medical adviser, Dr. Southam, was at once summoned, and the injured hand having been attended to, Mr Montanini pluckily went on with his part.

"SO Jefferson is going to retire. I can't understand it. He has no business to. He is only seventy-five. But maybe he will change his mind and act again next year. It is not so easy to give it up as it seems." Thus spoke Mrs G. H. Gilbert, the commencement of whose farewell tour in America at the age of eighty-three is recorded in another column. Mrs Gilbert has spent more than sixty years of her life on the stage, but for all that she confessed to an interviewer a fear that she might suffer an attack of stage fright when she made her first appearance in the new play that had been written especially for her. "However, I hope I don't cry," she said, "I am afraid I am still an over-sentimental person. I let my feelings get away with me and choke up and sob until I can't speak. It is very annoying, and it isn't fair to the audience. Whenever I did that in Mr Daly's company he used to say, 'Go and drink a glass of cold water and drown your emotion.' It was a good way, too—only one of the many good things that Daly knew. He was a delightfully great man in the theatrical business. I was with him for thirty-six years."

MRS GILBERT said that she had been very fortunate in her managers and associates. She played with John Owens for a long time, and he taught her more about comedy than any one she had ever been associated with. Owens, Daly, and Frohman were the names that would stick in her memory. Mr Charles Frohman, in particular, had been very kind to her. She had kept no record of the hundreds of parts she had played. If she had a favourite rôle it was a little bit that had been given to her in *No Thoroughfare*. But the late "Billy" Florence cut it out. "That's odd, isn't it?" said the veteran actress, "The part I liked best was the smallest I ever played, and so unimportant that it was cut out. But the small parts sometimes make the big hits."

MRS GILBERT thought she was in a pretty fit condition for her farewell tour. While she had no desire to pose in any "sweet sixteen" rôle, she strongly objected to being put down as a doddering old woman. Any intimation that she was feeble would be met with a prompt rebuke. In conclusion she said, "My voice is not very strong or heavy, but they tell me it still has good carrying powers. It is not the heavy voice that you can hear best, by any means. The only difference I notice is in studying my part. I can memorise as well as ever, but I don't hold it as well as I used to. That is, if I learn a scene perfectly to-day I may have forgotten it to-morrow. Still, I think I will be letter perfect on Monday night. I do hope, though, I shall not be frightened. I just know I shall cry. I can't help it. So silly of me, too."

MR NAT GOODWIN, the American actor-manager, has an original way of "waking up" the absent-minded members of his company. During a performance of *The Usurper* at Chicago, one of the actors had a lapse of memory in the middle of a sentence, which he endeavoured to cover up by a series of incoherent mumblings. The next speech, as supplied to Goodwin by the author, was, "Won't you stay and have breakfast?" which the clever comedian promptly supplemented with—*and look over your lines!*"

A PERFORMANCE of four scenes from *The Tempest* was given on Monday afternoon at His Majesty's Theatre by some of the little girls appearing as fairies in Mr Beerbohm Tree's production. The proceedings were private, only the parents and friends of the children being present. The stage-manager was the call-boy at the theatre. In an interval one of the small actors appeared and said, "We have just received this telegram from Lord Charles Beresford:—'Fired on the Russian fleet, mistaking them for trawlers.'" In another interval Mr Tree's younger daughters went on the stage, and handed the juveniles two boxes of sweets as a present from their mother. Mr Tree had given the children complete control of the stage, and as he was about to speak to the call-boy he was ordered off it by a little girl, who told him he had no business there.

AT the committee meeting of the Scenic Artists' Association, held at their offices, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, on Monday last, Oct. 31 (Mr Walter Hann in the chair), Mr John Hare was elected an honorary member of the Association under Rule 11, which gives the committee power to elect as honorary members gentlemen distinguished in art, literature, science, or travel, or who have rendered signal service to the Association by forwarding its aims and objects. The following scenic artists were duly elected members, viz:—Messrs. W. B Bostock, of Hulme; J. A. Cameron, of Leigh; James Carl, of Brixton; Richard Durant, of Putney; Harry Mapleson, of Ealing; W. A. Martin, of West Croydon; A. W. Moore, of Wakefield; J. G. Rutland, of Denmark-hill; and W. R. Young, of Birmingham. Messrs A. E. Craven, Joseph Harker, W. Harford, and W. T. Hemsley were elected to serve with Messrs Walter Hann, E. G. Banks, and W. B. Spong on the exhibition sub-committee.

MISS OLGA NETHERSOLE will on Thursday next commence her season at the Shaftesbury Theatre with Mrs Craigie's new play, *The Flute of Pan*. The tale is mainly a love story, and in order to attain realism in the dialogue it was read over to the people who "sat for their portraits" as the amorous pair, with the result that it was highly approved of by them. The scenes of the piece are laid in Venice, Florence, and Siguria. The heroine is a princess and the hero an English nobleman.

MISS LENA ASHWELL and her accomplished company had a crowded audience at the Palace Theatre, Belfast, on Wednesday afternoon, when they appeared at a "flying matinée" in *Mrs Dane's Defence*. With characteristic energy Miss Ashwell travelled from Dublin—over one hundred miles distant—in the morning, and it was indeed gratifying that this gifted actress received such a tremendous reception from the innumerable playgoers in the Northern Capital. Miss Ashwell's clever and finished impersonation of Mrs Dane fairly captivated the house, who accorded her an ovation at the close of each act. Miss Ashwell's emotional acting in the trying cross-examination scene was most praiseworthy, and her triumph in Belfast was in every sense complete. Mr Frank Mills was also most successful as Sir Daniel Carteret, his natural and excellent performance being quite a feature. Praise is also due Mr Charles Groves for his admirable embodiment of Canon Bonsey, and as the mischief making Mrs Bulsom-Porter, Miss Marie Hudspeth sustained a difficult part with credit to herself. Mr L. Race-Dunrobin furnished a very skilful interpretation of Lionel Carteret, and other roles were satisfactorily filled by Miss Helen Macbeth (who was splendid as Lady Eastney), Miss Sidney Farebrother, and Messrs H. Hawley, Chas. A. Doran, and Cyril Peace.

AT the New King's Theatre, Pitfield-street, Hoxton, a free dinner to 100 local children was given on Thursday by Mr Leonard Mortimer, the lessee. Roast beef, vegetables, and plum pudding were served in the theatre, knives, forks, and plates being provided by Sir Thomas Lipton's gift, the Alexandra Trust. The house was hung with flags, and an orchestra played tunes.

WE are glad to announce that Miss Louise Moodie has quite recovered from her late severe indisposition. She hopes soon to be at work again. Miss Moodie made her first appearance at the Royal Alfred Theatre, London, in the part of Camille, in 1870, in an English version of the drama of the same name by Dumas the younger.

MR HERBERT WARING appeared at the London Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday, before Mr Registrar Linklater, on his public examination. Mr Le Breton, K.C., appeared on behalf of Mrs Lilie De Bathe (Mrs Langtry), the petitioning creditor, and Mr Hemmerde for the debtor, who applied to pass on accounts showing gross liabilities £3 731, of which £2 725 is unsecured, and assets £28. In examination by Mr Grey, Official Receiver, the debtor stated that his name was Herbert Waring Rutter, and that he was professionally known as "Herbert Waring." He was at present under engagement to Miss Olga Nethersole at a salary of £40 a-week. In June, 1901, he, with others, formed "Play, Limited," with a capital of £5,000, for the purpose of producing the play *A Man of His Word*. About £4 100 of the capital was subscribed. The play was to be produced at the Imperial Theatre, of which he had obtained a lease from Mrs Lilie De Bathe at £100 a-week, on behalf of the company. The play was not a success, and resulted in a loss of £1 980. It cost £2 000 to produce, and only ran for five weeks. The loss was about £500 a-week. He was served with a writ for the rent, notwithstanding that he had assigned the lease to the company in July, 1901.

MR WARING defended the action on the ground that the company was liable, and succeeded before Mr Justice Phillimore, but it was decided against him on appeal, and formed, with the costs, the debt of the petitioning creditor. Mr Grey—Your income averages £1,000 a year, and your expenditure £1,500 a year?—So it appears.—So that that also accounts for your failure?—To some extent.—Have you any engagement at present?—Yes, with Miss Olga Nethersole. The engagement is for the run of the piece with a minimum of a month. The salary is £40 a week. By Mr Le Breton—Since the writ was issued he had had an engagement in America at £100 a week with Mrs Patrick Campbell for eighteen weeks, six weeks at the Lyric in *Othello* at £50 a week, twelve weeks at the St James's in *The Cardinal*, and sixteen weeks at the Haymarket in *Joseph Entangled* at £40 a week. The examination was concluded.

THE public will learn with regret of the serious illness of Mr George Aspinall, the well-known composer and vocalist, who is suffering from an acute attack of paralysis, and will be unable for a long time to follow his profession. His friends are organising a concert for his benefit, for which many of our leading artistes have volunteered their services. It will take place at Bechstein Hall on Thursday evening, Dec. 1, and tickets may be had from J. B. Cramer and Co., of Oxford-street.

MR HENRY TWEEDIE, who represents Miss Olga Nethersole in the provinces, recently had a unique experience. An utter stranger, staying in the same hotel, approached Mr Henry Tweedie, and asked if he was particularly engaged the next morning; because, if not, he would be so grateful if Mr Henry Tweedie would act as best man at his wedding the following day. The plea was too polite to be resisted.

MISS KATE FLINN'S system of voice production has long proved its great merit, and continues to be very successful. Amongst recent pupils of Miss Flinn's are Miss Etty Morrison, who has been engaged by Mr George Edwardes and Miss Gaynor Rowlands, who is appearing in *The Orchid*—both very promising young artists who do credit to the training of their expert instructress.

MR GEORGE DAVEY, as a great attraction for his early-door patrons at the Grand Theatre, Islington, has secured Mr Fred W. Millis, the popular and clever Australian ventriloquist, who introduces to the audience an entertainment of great originality entitled "The Dear Homeland." The episode, which is written round a simple theme, deals with the anticipations of a wounded Australian who has been fighting in Africa as to his speedy departure for home, together with the nurse who has tended him, and the very realistic dream he has on lying down to rest. This scene, which represents his far-away home, shows the members of his family sitting outside the house, and Mr Millis, who quickly changes places from the couch to the centre of this group, gives a display of ventriloquial versatility which is remarkable. This will be obvious when we mention that the seven lay figures represented are an elderly colonial and his wife, an aboriginal, a Scotchman, a Chinaman, and a small boy, together with a baby blessed with particularly healthy lungs. Mr Millis, however, who was assisted by a lady who impersonated the nurse, gave a singularly fine exhibition of his powers, and at the conclusion of the act was compelled to acknowledge an enthusiastic call. The attraction should prove an immense success during his ensuing visit "down under."

MISS VERA BERINGER, who is to be leading lady in *The Coming Race* at St. George's Hall, commenced her career in the biggest part ever written for a child—Little Lord Fauntleroy. She has not had nearly as much theatrical experience as her sister Esmé, who made her début at about the same time. After appearing in her mother's problem play, *Tares*, doubling the parts of the Prince and the Pauper in an adaptation of Mark Twain's story, and acting with Miss Minnie Terry in *Boots at the Holly Tree Inn*, Miss Vera Beringer was not seen on the stage for several years. Then after her reappearance she played Juliet to her sister's Romeo, and since that time has occasionally appeared in London, her engagements including a season with Mr Van Biene and another with Mrs Patrick Campbell.

MR LEON M. LION will produce at the Opera House, Cheltenham, on Nov. 10, an English adaptation by Herbert Dansey of Sardou's play *Ferreol de Meyrac*, a matinée of which was given at the Royalty Theatre last February. The play has been renamed *The Chain of Evidence*. The cast will include Mr Henry Renouf, Mr Frederick Annerley, Mr Leon M. Lion, Mr Alan Borthwick, Miss Ada Marius, and Miss Maud M. Magrath.

MR JOHNNY DANVERS, who is to take the place of Mr Herbert Campbell in the Drury-lane pantomime this year, was one of poor Dan Leno's oldest friends, having been the fourth member of the little company consisting of Mr and Mrs Leno, sen., and their son. He tells many good stories of the old days so well described in "Dan Leno, Hys Booke." The two boys shared a room, and established a rule that the one who could tell the funniest story, or make up the best song, on the spur of the minute, should rise from his bed—even in the depths of winter—and bow many times to an imaginary audience outside the window.

MR DANVERS, having formerly belonged to the Mohawk Minstrels, afterwards became the best corner man with Moore and Burgess at St. James's Hall. His first appearance of all was with a company of children in the days of his earliest youth. His sole duty was to fire a gun, but the stage manager entertained grave doubts as to his physical strength. But little Johnny Danvers was so confident it would be "all right on the night," that he was allowed to try. He succeeded in letting the gun off, but the shock was so great that the small gunner fell flat on his back, much more seriously injured and frightened than the approaching enemy.

MR GEORGE DAVEY claims that the Grand Theatre is the first place of entertainment in England to exhibit a pantomime bill concerning the Christmas production. The poster, which is placed outside the main entrance, is a sixteen-sheet double crown size, and is of a very striking design.

A SPECIAL matinée to assist the Nursing Sisters of the Sick Poor (Little Sisters of the Assumption), was given on Thursday afternoon at the Royalty Theatre by permission of Miss Kate Santley. Mrs Madeleine Lucette Ryley appeared in a comedietta of her own writing entitled *The Best of the Argument*; and Mr Charles Warner appeared in the dramatic sketch *Heard at the Telephone*. Items were contributed by Mrs Brown-Potter, Miss Mabel Love, Miss Fannie Ward, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Janet Alexander, Mr Lennox Pawle, and Mr George Alexander, while vocal contributions, grave and gay, were given by Miss Kate Santley, Miss Eva Estelle Isaacs, Miss Ruth Vincent, Miss Kate Cutler, Miss Sybil Arundale, Miss Kitty Gordon, Miss Marie Studholme, Miss Dorothy George Edwardes, Mr Lionel Mackinder, Mr C. Browne, Mr George Graves, Mr Lawrence Rea, Mr Aubrey Fitzgerald, and Mr Edmund Payne; and Miss Belle Napier, Miss Bertha Moore, and Herr Liebling gave their services as solo pianists.

CAPTAIN ROBERT MARSHALL will withdraw *The Duke of Killiecrankie* from the Criterion Theatre next Saturday week, and on the following Tuesday the house will be reopened with Mr Gordon-Lennox's play *The Freedom of Suzanne*, performed by Miss Marie Tempest and company.

THE King has commanded Mr Lewis Waller, Miss Evelyn Millard, and the Imperial Theatre company to appear at Windsor Castle during the visit of the King and Queen of Portugal. The play to be presented will be *Monsieur Beaucaire*. The cast will include Mr Lewis Waller, Mr Edward Ferris, Mr Frank Dyall, Mr Charles Goodhart, Mr W. Gayer Mackay, Mr Sydney Brough, Mr A. E. George, Mr Charles Allan, Mr L. B. Brereton, Mr Arthur Lewis, Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Constance Walton, Miss Mary Lewis, Miss Florence Sinclair, Miss May Chenery, and Miss Catherine Vyse. The scenery will be painted by Messrs Walter Hann, Gordon, and Harford, and E. G. Banks. Mr Wallé Keene will be stage-manager, and the performance will be under the superintendence of Mr Lyston Lyle.

MDLLE. ALICE NIELSEN, who made such a pronounced success in *La Bohème*, at Covent-garden on Friday night, was born in Southern America, passed her childhood in Kansas City, Missouri, made her dramatic début in the Eastern States, and studied for grand opera in Italy. Well as she sang before, Mdlle. Nielsen has to thank Mr Henry Russell, director of the San Carlo company, for the development of her voice and the cordial encouragement that has enabled her, after a comparatively short training, to appear in London in star parts. It is hardly two years ago that she came out at the Theatre Bellini, Naples, as Marguerite, in *Faust*, followed by a performance of *La Traviata*, which she sang twelve times in the San Carlo Theatre. She is very well known in the beautiful Italian city, and goes by the name of La Belle Americaine.

MDLLE. NIELSEN'S first attempt at an operatic solo was made in the far-off days in Kansas City. The place was a real stage, the hour was between a matinée and evening performance; there was no orchestra, and there was an unseen audience of one man—the manager of the theatre, who had refused to show little Alice Nielsen what it was like behind the scenes because she was so small he was afraid that she might be frightened, or even knocked down when the scenery was being changed. She contrived to slip in, however; hid herself during the performance, and, when it was over and the place was deserted, boldly marched into the middle of the stage, dimly lighted by a few gas-jets. Her little shoes dangled from her hand, for she loved to take them off and walk barefoot; her dark hair was in a tangle on her shoulders, and she had no idea that the manager was in the house. Being ambitious, even in those days, she sang "I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls" in a high, childish voice to an imaginary audience. The manager, delighted as he was, thought it as well to give her a lesson not to enter a theatre uninvited, so he turned off the flickering gas-jets. The diminutive débutante was left in absolute darkness, and experienced her first and only fit of stage fright.

MR ALFRED SUTRO'S translation of Maeterlinck's *Aglavaine and Selysette* is to be presented at the Court for a series of six matinées, commencing on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 15th inst., with a cast including Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Thyrza Norman, Miss Marion Plarr, Miss Florence Farr, and Mr Walter Hampden.

THE committee of the Scenic Artists' Association have now under their consideration a proposal for the holding next February the first of their annual exhibitions of the works of scene painters—past and present—and scenic artists, theatrical managers, and others who are willing to lend models, sketches of scenes, portraits of scene painters, and articles of historical interest in connection with scene painting are invited to communicate with the secretary of the Association, Mr H. Lawrence Harris, at 5 Robert-street, Adelphi-terrace, W.C. The Engagement Bureau is now working very successfully, and London and provincial theatrical managers are being put daily into communication with scenic artists who are free to take contracts or accept engagements.

PRINCESS TE RANGI PAI, who gave a successful concert at Steinway Hall on Wednesday evening, is a daughter of Colonel Porter, C.B, whose distinguished services in the South African War will not readily be forgotten. Of Maori descent on her mother's side, she passed her childhood in New Zealand. The Princess possesses many interesting specimens of Maori carving in green stone, including a very curious ornament that she nearly always wears on a long gold chain round her neck. It is about three inches in length, and apparently represents, in a crude manner, the soul or spirit in a most elementary human shape.

MADAME DE CISNEROS, the young contralto, who made such a successful début at Covent-garden lately as Amneris, in *Aida*, was born in New York, of British parents, her father being Scotch and her mother Irish. She studied singing under the late Murio Celli, a once famous dramatic soprano of the old Italian school, also with Madame De Johnson, of the Marchesi school. After three years' training, she made her début at the Metropolitan Opera House, in New York, she being the first American to sing there without a European reputation. The chances of appearing in grand Italian opera in America, as in England, are very limited, and, acting on the advice of Mr Edouard De Reszke and Mr Maurice Grau, the young singer went to Italy, where every town has its opera season and every small boy is familiar with the grand operas, music being the recreation of the people. One month from her arrival, strictly on her merits she was engaged for a season at Turin, making her début there as Amneris, in *Aida* and scored a genuine success. She subsequently appeared in Milan (two seasons), Trieste, Ferrara, Parma, and many other towns of Italy. Last season Madame De Cisneros was engaged at the San Carlos Theatre, Lisbon, where she greatly added to her reputation. *Semiramide* was specially revived to enable her to appear as Arsace. The opera previous to this had not been given in Lisbon for fifteen years, when Scalchi sang the part. She is re-engaged for the next season at the San Carlos, commencing in December and lasting to March next. Having experience in oratorio Madame De Cisneros should be a valuable recruit to the ranks of our oratorio singers. In America she sang under her maiden name of Eleanor Broadfoot. She has since married Count De Cisneros, a member of a fine old Spanish family in Cuba.

MISS KITTY DAVIS, daughter of Mr Owen Hall, will make her début at the Camden Theatre on Monday, Nov. 14 with Mrs Langtry, in the piece entitled *Mrs Dering's Divorce*. If Miss Davis has inherited the talent and brightness of her clever father, then, indeed, she will be a great ornament to the English stage.

MESSRS LEONARD PAGDIN AND LEWIS GILBERT have secured the rights of *A Woman of Impulse*, and will tour the same in the spring with a strong cast. The play is booked at several first-class theatres, and the spring tour is almost filled up.

MISS EDITH OLIVE, who is playing Aglavaine, in Mr Alfred Sutro's translation of Maeterlinck's *Aglavaine and Selysette*, to be produced at the Court Theatre, made her first success in a very different style of part and play—Louisa Dexter, in Mr H. Arthur Kennedy's farcical comedy *The New Wing*. She has also figured, on tour, as the heroine of a Drury-lane melodrama. She played a long engagement several years ago under the management of Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry. Miss Olive is the wife of Mr Arthur Applin, who acts, writes stories, and has challenged fate with at least one dramatic work, called *The Passion Flower*, written in collaboration with Mr Charles Thurston.

M. LE BARGY, the French actor, is on his holiday, during which he will play in England, Belgium, Portugal, and Spain. He will be accompanied by Georges Grand, the new jeune premier of the Comedie Française, Paris, who was so long associated with Porel at the Paris Vaudeville. This tour will necessitate M. Grand's renouncing his rôle in the production of *King Lear* at Antoine's Theatre. Loti and Vedel have made an exact translation of Shakespeare's play. Their version was at first offered to Claretie on Antoine's advice, he generously declaring that no one could adequately interpret the rôle of King Lear except Mounet-Sully. But Shakespeare's Anglo-Saxon proved a trifle too much for the classic house of Molière, and the MSS. found its way back to Antoine, who gave it a hearty welcome.

MADAME JEANNE WAYDA, who made a phenomenal success at Covent-garden, Wednesday, Nov. 2, as Nedda, in *Pagliacci*, is a Pole, and was born at Warsaw. In her early youth her father was a man of means and position; but as she was approaching womanhood he suffered great losses, which determined her to try and turn her gift of song to account. Madame Sembrich, her compatriot, having endowed the Conservatoire at Lemberg (her native town) with two scholarships, the young student was successful in gaining one, which entitled her to four years' study. On the completion of her term she made her début at Lemberg, in *Sonnambula* with such success that she was immediately engaged for Warsaw, where she remained for five years, playing for eight months each year. During this engagement the young singer appeared with many well-known artistes, including Caruso, Sammarco, Battistini, Marconi, &c., first as a soprano leggero and later, as her voice developed, in heavier rôles. At Warsaw Madame Wayda created the rôle of Uliana in Paderewski's opera of *Manru*. After the opera had been produced a grand concert of his works was given, and five singers were selected to sing songs composed by the great pianist. Madame Wayda sang "Dudziarz" with such expression that the composer declared "He only then fully realised the full depths of the music he had written." She next appeared in Berlin, and last season sang at the San Carlos, Lisbon. At the end of the present season at Covent-garden she will fulfil an engagement in Odessa. The singer's répertoire includes *Lohengrin*, *Tannhäuser*, *Walkure*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *Tosca*, *Manon* (Puccini), *Bohème*, *Pagliacci*, *Otello*, *Ernani*, *Trovatore*, *Andrea Chenier*, and *Faust*. Two years ago she married Monr. L. Wayda, a doctor of law, her maiden name being Jeanne Korolevitch, and their permanent home is in Lemberg.

MR GEORGE DAVEY has thought it desirable to alter the date of the matinée which he has arranged to give at the Grand Theatre, Islington, for the benefit of the fisher folk who suffered in consequence of the outrage committed on the Hull trawlers by the Baltic Fleet. The performance will now take place on Nov. 17 instead of, as formerly announced, on the 10th inst. The stage on this occasion will be under the direction of Mr Charles Browning, the well-known music hall agent, who has secured the artists for the matinée. The function is to receive the patronage and active support of Mr A. M. Torrance, J.P., Mayor of Islington, and late chairman of the L.C.C.; Sir Albert Rollit, M.P. for South Islington; Mr Thomas Lock, M.P. for West Islington; Sir George T. Bartley, M.P. for North Islington; and the local councillors, who will act nominally on the committee. The entire staff of the Grand Theatre will give their services free at this matinée.

MISS CASSIE BRUCE, who is to play a typical child of *The Coming Race*—a boy of ten years named Taë—in the forthcoming production at St. George's Hall, has been a member of Mr Maskelyne's company for about six years. She comes of a theatrical family, and her own experiences behind the footlights have been punctuated by many amusing and interesting events. Her very first speaking part was in the original production of *My Lady Bountiful*, when she had to make a bob and announce that the bride's carriage was at the door, or words to that effect. When the curtain fell at the end of the first act on the night of the dress rehearsal, the author was heard to ask from the stalls for the little country girl, and Miss Bruce had to walk into the centre of the stage, uncertain whether she was to be highly praised or summarily dismissed before the whole company. It turned out, however, that Mr Pinero only wished her to be "less graceful in the bob."

TOURING with a Shakespearian company Miss Bruce had the pleasure of seeing one of the funniest accidents that ever occurred during a performance of *Hamlet*. Ophelia herself, instead of a dummy, was carried on to the stage in the graveyard scene and lowered into the open grave. This required very careful management, and the Second Gravedigger, in his anxiety, leaned too far forward, lost his balance and fell. It was an awful second—especially for Ophelia—but the King and Laertes were equal to the occasion. They each seized a leg as the luckless gravedigger tipped forward, and, by dint of great exertion, upheld him in this ridiculous position, head downwards, until the curtain fell. The gravedigger was *not* allowed to take the "call" uproariously demanded by the audience.

MISS CASSIE BRUCE seems to have had a leaning towards England's Home of Mystery from her childhood, for she has a vague recollection of being taken to the entertainment at Egyptian Hall long before her acting days, and afterwards practising Mr Maskelyne's clever plate-spinning, with disastrous results to the best china at home. Her first part on joining the company was Susan, in *Trapped by Magic*, which she played 850 times. There are many illusions with regard to the stage. Miss Bruce's experiences may be said to be a practical proof of it. She has appeared at Egyptian Hall as a floating head, a living statue, a little Japanese concealed in a huge pie, a flying spirit, and a vanishing lady. In the illusion that has now been running for such a long time, called "Well, I'm ——" she disappears from the stage, and is discovered a few seconds later at the back of the gallery. Last week an old gentleman, who had watched the performance with an anxious expression, greeted her appearance with the words, "I'm very pleased to see you, miss, safe and sound!" He seemed to imagine that the life of a young lady was sacrificed by Mr Maskelyne every day to add effect to the illusion.

HENRY IRVING AT DUNDEE.

Sir Henry Irving was entertained on Tuesday evening in the Royal Hotel, Dundee, at a public banquet, which was attended by over 150 ladies and gentlemen. Mr W. L. BOASE, of Binrock, presided, and amongst the others present were Sir James Low and Lady Low, Principal J. Yule Mackay, the Rev. Kenneth Mackenzie, and Mr Eade Montefiore. The representatives of Sir Henry Irving's company present were:—Mr Bram Stoker, Mr and Mrs H. J. Loveday, Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, Mrs Cecil Raleigh, Miss Maud Fealy, Mr and Mrs H. B Stanford, Mr and Mrs James Hearn, Mr Gerald Lawrence, Mr Sydney Faulks, Mr F. Tyars, and Mr Percy Burton.

After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts the CHAIRMAN proposed "Our Guest," and in doing so he said they were fortunate indeed in having as a guest a distinguished man, and one of the greatest actors of their day. In their name he offered Sir Henry a hearty welcome, and assured him of the great pleasure he gave them by his presence. Sir Henry had done much for their instruction and for their entertainment by revealing to them so vividly the wonderful creations of the Drama. They only knew how great the genius of Tennyson or Shakespeare was when a great actor unfolded to them the beauties of their works; when, for the time, they felt that they were actually living amongst these historic characters, and were sharing in the joys and passions which swayed them. How great then was the art of him who could thus move them! How rare the talent; Yet for years Sir Henry had exercised this influence over the audiences of this land and in America who had had the pleasure of hearing him. "What is the secret of his success?" said the speaker. "Talent, no doubt, but above all (I think Sir Henry will agree with me) earnest study and unwearying and infinite pains. It is so in all professions, though genius surely counts for much.' How little they thought of the power of will, which, when all other difficulties were surmounted, enabled a great actor to put aside the disappointments, and vexations, and trials incidental to their daily lives, and it might be stifle even pain itself, in order to fulfil engagements and not disappoint the public—a public often too exacting. It was surely little wonder that the day arrived when he should think of rest and quiet, and find that even to him there was no perpetual youth. "This is the one note of sorrow," concluded Mr Boase, "in our meeting to-night, a dominant chord, I fear, so far as we are concerned, for we shall be sorry to say farewell, but when we do so it will be with every wish for Sir Henry's health and happiness, and for ourselves we shall have still happy memories of the past."

The toast was pledged with the greatest enthusiasm.

Sir HENRY IRVING, in rising to respond, was received with cheers. He said:—It is to me a great pleasure to act in Dundee once again before I take my leave of the stage, and I cannot tell you how happy it makes me to be in the honourable position of guest of this brilliant gathering to-night. Unhappily, just before I was to have visited you six years ago, I was unable through illness to keep my professional engagement, or to appear at the banquet so kindly arranged by friends in this great city as a welcome to Miss Ellen Terry and myself. This hearty greeting of yours, and the most kind words to which I have just listened, are deeply gratifying to an actor who is not far from the end of his career. And I feel your good-fellowship all the more because it shows me how well I have retrieved my earliest misfortune—the misfortune of not being a Scot. I did my best to repair the error of my parents and my pedigree by spending much of my apprenticeship in Scotland. It was a good school, gentlemen; full of discipline; no enervating luxury; no suppers after the play—well, none on this scale. You will recollect Sydney Smith's famous description of the early Edinburgh Reviewers cultivating literature on a little oatmeal. Well, I remember how I cultivated the drama here in Dundee on a very little marmalade.

SIR HENRY'S DUNDEE REMINISCENCES.

Man and boy, as the First Gravedigger would say, I remember it these six-and forty years. Yes, I believe it was in the summer season of 1858 that the company of which I was a humble recruit came over from the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, with our repertory of plays, among which, of course, was *Hamlet*. That reminds me—you see that one effect of your hospitality is to set me talking at large about very old times—that when I was playing Hamlet in London thirty years ago, a famous old actor, Henry Compton, who really was a Scot, opened the evening bill with *A Fish Out of Water*. "Come and see me in *A Fish Out of Water*," he used to say to his friends, "and I think you had better stop and see a young fellow named Irving in the after-piece." Well, "'twas in the prime of summer-time" in '58 that we brought that after-piece from Edinburgh to Dundee. I should not say that summer was the best season for theatricals in your city. But what were we to do? There was a vacation in Edinburgh, and nobody had asked us to go yachting round Skye, or salmon fishing in the Spey—a little oversight that happened sometimes. So we decided to stick to business if we could get any. We formed ourselves in what they call a commonwealth. I don't know that would work itself out, but on our principle it was that if you had £1 a-week you would take a percentage if the £1 did not come in. If more than £1 did come in of course you got more. Everybody took a percentage, and it generally resulted in this sort of thing, that if you had £1 a-week you got 10s.

Our 'prentice han'
We tried on mac——

and the man was Shakespeare. How it all comes back to me! I see that remarkable production of *Hamlet* in Castle-street Theatre. It was no sumptuous. Those critics who tell you that when we produce Shakespeare nowadays we paint the lily and gild refined gold—they would have been pleased with the absolute simplicity of our scenery and accessories in that blessed summer time. When the King drank to Hamlet—I was the King—I was also the Ghost, and several other useful persons—well, I drank to Hamlet out of one of Keiller's empty jars. I do really believe that the finest old family plate of Elsinore—the richly chased goblet—would have passed unnoticed. But when the playgoers of Dundee—there were not many of them for our summer season; but, if few, they were appreciative—I say when they saw that simple marmalade jar, which had done its duty in one of their own happy, unpretending homes—they rose at it with tumultuous joy. And when the First Gravedigger handed the skull of Yorick to Hamlet—a skull which was visibly a small, attenuated, consumptive, and rather grimy turnip—then we knew that we had put our trust in the power of illusion, and not in vain! Well, gentlemen, a great deal has happened to me since then, and upon some of it Mr Boase has touched in his most flattering speech. I have had the good fortune—which is very strongly in my mind to-night—to make troops of friends on both sides of the Border. Many of them are here. If I have lost any it is by the hand of death alone, and they, alas! are not a few in all the years that have passed since first I saw Dundee. But I am proud to know that, in the ups and downs of a life full of toil, I have won and kept your regard by the faithful, if imperfect, practice of a rare and difficult art. At least there has been a purpose steadfastly pursued, whatever the shortcomings of achievement—a purpose which has always aimed at the highest standard of the theatre. It is not a standard fixed in a groove. If I may say so, there is some variety in the little bill I am submitting to you this week. The drama touches life at so many points that it can take a very wide compass indeed without forfeiting its mission of intelligent recreation. "The web of our life is of a mingled yarn, good and ill together; our virtues would be proud if our faults whipped them not; and our crimes would despair if they were not cherished by our virtues." To be amused in a theatre—well, we all want to be amused in a theatre; but not to be amused by what is merely vapid. We want to be amused, I take it, by the employment of true sympathy, humour, and imagination. It is to the imagination that the drama makes its highest appeal. And with the hope that, as an interpreter of the drama, I have done something for that, I shall carry your generous voices in my memory and in my heart as long as my days do grow.

Mr W. F. DICKIE, in proposing "The Other Members of Sir Henry Irving's Company," said that Sir Henry himself, with the chivalry of his nature which formed one of his many personal charms, had admitted that he could not have attained the success which he had done unless he had been aided and supported by the talented companies with whom he had been so long associated. He coupled the toast with the name of Mr Bram Stoker, who was well known in the dramatic world, and an old friend of Dundee. Mr Stoker was, however, an older friend of Sir Henry's, and had for many years been his right-hand man.

Mr BRAM STOKER, acting-manager, in reply, returned thanks for his comrades. For his comrades he would say this, that they were all comrades of their chief. The effects which they had seen were only got by loyal comradeship, because in that little microcosm—and the stage was a microcosm; it was a little world of its own—there was as much necessity for loyalty and unity and each giving way and supporting the dominant idea in the production of their plays as there was in the Government or in fighting the battles of the country.

Principal MACKAY gave "The Stage," and expressed regret at the departure of Mr Eade Montefiore from Dundee, and in his new sphere they wished him God-speed.

Mr EADE MONTEFIORE, in reply, expressed regret that his managing-director, Mr Robert Arthur, was not present to answer for his stewardship of the stage in Dundee. He was afraid that his experience of Dundee had taught him that art in connection with the stage was a heritage of the past, and not an actuality of the future. He felt that the theatre was faced with the great danger of losing its grip on dramatic art, for commerce and art had to walk hand-in-hand. It was, however, the visits of Sir Henry Irving and his coadjutors in their great artistic work that gave an impetus to Shakespeare and poetic drama. Unfortunately, many artistic plays of decided merit came and went, and were heard of no more. The public seemed nowadays to think that the theatre should be an entertainment house only, and that the duty of the manager was to provide a light and airy programme which was only a slight remove from the music hall, and the managers of the moment had to confess that the popular possession of the stage lay with musical comedy and its ilk. He prophesied that the Dundee stage to-morrow had, with such constituency, a future of exceeding promise. He looked forward in the years to come, with the passing of the older generation, to a positive support from the municipal authorities that was to-day sadly wanting. He thought the duty of the City Fathers was not only to judge on the subject of theatre licensing, but, as men of the world, to do their duty to their citizens by an actual presence, and so learning, understanding, helping, and safeguarding the public pleasures.

A LARGE number of gentlemen connected with the music publishing trade assembled at St. Pancras Station on Friday morning to bid farewell to Mr Stanley F. Mullen, of the John Church Music Publishing Company, and till recently the energetic secretary of the Musical Copyright Association. Principally by reason of his health, this respected gentleman is proceeding to Australia, maybe permanently, and bears with him the hearty good wishes of all who have come in contact with him, with the exception, perhaps, of the "music pirates." Mr Mullen, who is accompanied by his wife and daughter, was the recipient recently of a handsome testimonial, and most of the subscribers thereto were on the platform. Among the many present were the Misses Mullen and Mr Fred Mullen, Mr Read, of the John Church Company, Mr Fred Day (representing Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter), together with Mr J. Thurlow (Mr David Day's secretary), Mr G. C. Holbeach, well known in the world of music; Miss Puttick, Mr John Abbott, assistant-secretary of the Musical Copyright Association; Mr C. Constanduros, Mr Herbert Hadley, Mr W. H. Watts, Mr Fred Blott, Mr John Smith (Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter's manager), and several prominent song-writers and representatives of the Press. The party later embarked on the Orient liner Ophir for Melbourne.

SONNET TO LIONEL BROUGH.

The Rev. W. J. Gomersall, F.R.S., sends us the following sonnet to Lionel Brough, suggested by the celebration of his jubilee on the stage:—

What though to-night we retrospective gaze
O'er fifty years, our Yorick still thou art;
Still, as of old, in these thy full-orbed days,
Nature thy mirror is, and jest thy part
Lover of Nature, nor of Man the less—
Whether o'er wolds and lands wandering, or where
The millioned City throbs—we thee confess,
Who e heart ne'er learnt on cynic's food to fare.
Faithful and kind, in sorrow, joy, or loss,
Whether as husband, father, brother, friend,
We've learned to know thee, and, whate er thy cross,
Patient and unrepining to the end.
Oh! then, to-night let lips acclaim once more,
The while with joy and jest the feast flows brimming o'er!

MISS FLORENCE ST. JOHN, who had the misfortune to break two ribs and some of the small bones in one of her feet, is, we are delighted to hear, making steady progress to recovery. She is now able to walk about, and has left Bedford-square for Brighton for rest and recuperation.

"LAL" BROUGH AND THE O.P.'S.

The assembly of the members of the O.P. Club at the Criterion on Sunday was a "record" gathering, even in the annals of this prosperous club, whose long list of entertainments since its foundation is indeed something to be proud of. The object of this particular feast was to pay affectionate and admiring tribute to one of our most genuine, most gifted, and most sterling comedians. The arrangements of the Jubilee Dinner were entirely in the hands of Mr Carl Hentschel, who originated the idea of paying this well-deserved tribute to Mr Brough's many merits. Mr "Lal" Brough's career has been so often recounted, and he is so familiar a figure to all playgoers, that one has only to mention his name to create associations of ability, of honesty, of humour, and of kindliness. It was a most interesting, and, as Mr Stead would say, "challenging" thing, this meeting of so many young and ardent devotees of the drama with this hale, genial, and still sturdy and strenuous dramatic artist. When he rose to respond to the toast of his health he seemed to stand as a monument of a class and type which are steadily disappearing, and to be a link with a literary and dramatic age which will soon become traditional.

The Grand Hall at the Criterion was filled by a cheery company, who gave expression to the enthusiasm created by the occasion in loud and hearty cheers and plaudits. Mr Algernon L. Collins occupied the chair, and the company included Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir Francis Burnand, Mr F. P. O'Connor, M.P., Mr H. Beerbohm Tree, Sir W. Quayle Jones, Mr Cecil Raleigh, Lieut. Colonel Newnham-Davis, Mr Carl Hentschel (hon. treasurer), Judge Leicester Holme, Mr H. V. Esmond, Mr Fred Uptor, Mr Richard Green, Mr Algernon Lindo, Mr A. Van Biene, Mr Edward Ledger, Mr Sydney Brough, Mr John Le Hay, Mr Arthur Faber, Mr F. A. Bovett, Mr Louis Bradfield, Mr A. F. Robbins, Mr John Hare, Mr Harry Nicholls, and Mr Stanley Greig and Mr J. Davis Smith (joint hon. secretaries).

After the toast of "the King" had been honoured,

The CHAIRMAN proposed "Our Guest," and congratulated Mr Brough on his recovery from his recent illness. Sir Henry Irving had written regretting his inability to be present on "such an interesting and memorable occasion." He wrote, "Lionel Brough is one of the oldest of my friends, and it is a sincere regret to me not to be able to be present to aid in doing him honour—honour which he has well and honestly won in a long life of artistic work. His abilities have shone with their own light, and by his genuine art and skill as a player and by the great and natural gifts showered upon him he has won the public to him, as much as he has by his charm and generosity and solid worth endeared to him his many friends. Please add to whatever tributes the meeting may yield to him my faith and tender and warmest regards and remembrance."

Mr LIONEL BROUGH, who was received with loud cheers, said he did not like quite so much reminiscence and research as had been displayed by their Chairman. He started life as an office-boy at the offices of the *Illustrated London News*, and there he came into contact with many of the leading literary lights of the time, being patted on the head by such men as Mark Lemon, Dickens, and Thackeray. He referred to his connection with the Newsboys' Corps. Uniforms, he said, were found for about two hundred and forty, but in a month's time the corps was reduced to eighty, the remainder having left and taken their uniforms with them. He also spoke of the time he spent in the office of the *Morning Star*, where he had the immense advantage of knowing John Bright. He was sorry to say that he was the only one alive of the nine men who started the Savage Club. He related a variety of interesting reminiscences of his career, and told a number of anecdotes of famous men with whom he had come in contact. He mentioned a certain journalist connected with the *Illustrated London News* office who was somewhat uncleanly in his habits. The editor once remarked to Douglas Jerrold that he—the editor—could not understand why the man's hands were always dirty. "I can't say," replied Jerrold, "unless it is that he has a habit of rubbing them over his face." Mr Brough also described how he had been "kicked on to the stage." A friendly actor on his—Mr Brough's—first appearance—it was in the character of a bailiff—came to the wings to back him up, and did so literally by giving him, on his entrance, a tremendous kick behind. Incidentally Mr Brough remarked that after he had got used to the sea of white faces on the other side of the footlights, he lost all his nervousness until he had been for some time before the public. He observed that he did not think the actor who was not nervous "worth a Continental." The artist of experience was nervous because he realised what he had to gain by success, and what he had to lose by failure. Mr Brough traced his career through a variety of adventures and experiences. He was, he said, the first man who ever presented *Pepper's Ghost* before Royalty. The Emperor Frederick of Prussia saw the show, and implored Mr Brough to disclose to him the *modus operandi*. Mr Brough consented, on the condition that the Emperor would promise not to go into business against him. He then took the Royal explorer behind the scenes, and appeared to the spectators to stab him to the heart. The Empress, who was in a box in front, shrieked aloud; but the Emperor reassured her by exclaiming, "It is noding! I am not hurt!" Speaking of the recent years of his connection with Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr Brough said that they had been the best of his life. The company at His Majesty's, he said, were often inclined to think, when a new piece was in preparation, that Mr Tree was too particular about apparently trivial matters; it was only when they saw the "tesselated pavement" in its place that they appreciated the value of Mr Tree's insistence on detail. The conclusion of Mr Brough's speech was delivered with deep and earnest feeling and was listened to with respectful and sympathetic attention. Many boys and girls, and many men and women, he said, now had ideas about going on the stage, and the profession was crowded, but he did not think it was crowded with the right sort of people. His ideas of the stage, of its surroundings, its honesty, and its morality were such that he had brought up his four children to go upon it. During the fifty years he had been upon the stage he had made more true and honest friendships than he could have done in any other profession in the world, and he could not call to mind that he had made a single enemy. With regard to his present manager, Mr Tree, the best part of his time had been spent under him. He thanked them for their kind reception that night, and said, in conclusion, that, during his fifty years, he had never brought any disgrace upon or smirched the profession he loved so well.

A vote of thanks to the chairman was proposed by Mr T. P. O'CONNOR in a humorous speech, in which he told of a pawnbroker in a certain town in Ireland, who having "pledges of regard" from almost all the literary men in the place, was allowed at public meetings to be as prosy and elaborate in his orations as he pleased. He said that he was glad Mr Brough, who was a Home Ruler like himself, had not gone into Parliament, as he would have been a very dangerous rival from his popularity and eloquence.

Mr BEERBOHM TREE in seconding the proposal, said he was not quite as accustomed as Mr O'Connor was to be unexpectedly called upon to orate; and he almost feared to follow him—to "tread on the tail of his coat." After paying an eloquent testimony to Mr Lionel Brough's merits, Mr Tree concluded by saying, "I am glad to think that both he and his son are to be associated with me in my next production."

Mr ALGERNON COLLINS responded to the vote in fitting terms. With the latter toasts was interspersed an agreeable and varied entertainment, under the direction of the hon. secretaries, Messrs J. Davis Smith and Stanley Greig, provided by such excellent artists as Messrs Jas. A. Bovett, W. Louis Bradfield, Tom G. Clare, E. Gordon Cleather, Fred T. Daniels, Arthur Faber, Richard Green, John Le Hay, Richard Temple, and the Miles-Stavordale Quintette. Mr Algernon Lindo and Mr Sinclair Mantell were excellent accompanists.

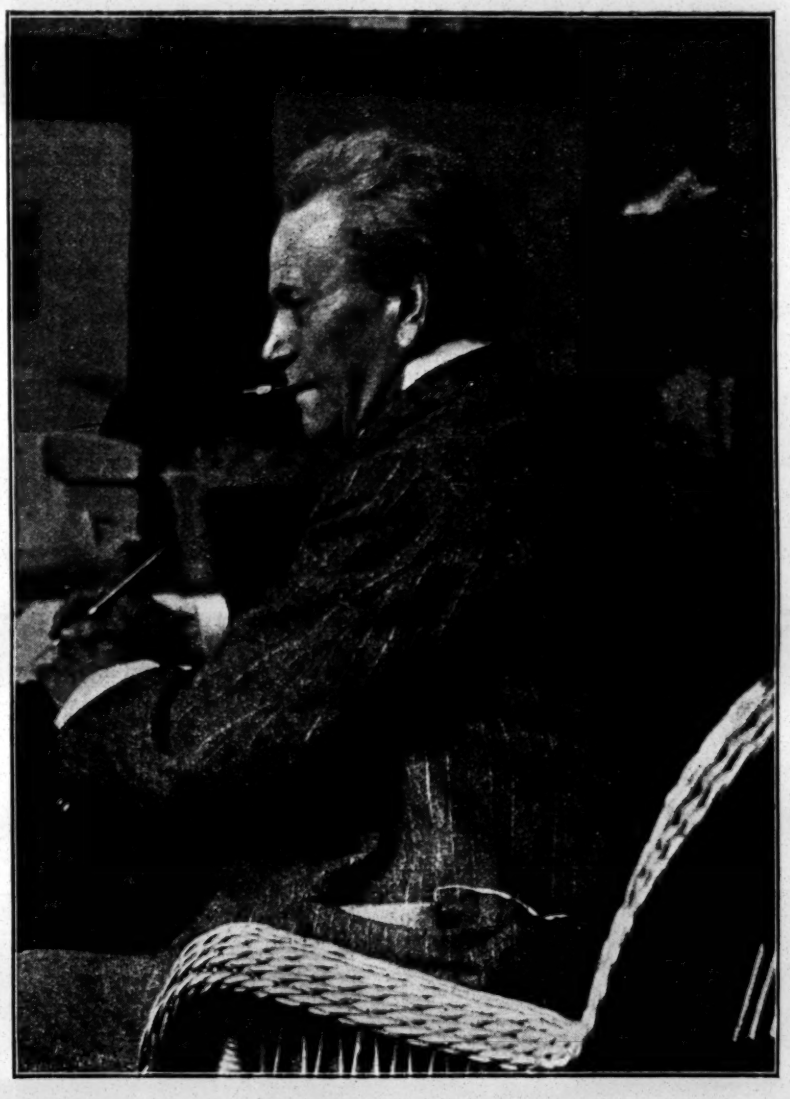


Photo by Ellis and Walery.

MR. LIONEL BROUGH.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Mrs Frederick Wright, actress—Saturday, Nov. 5.
Joe Griffiths, music hall artist—Saturday, Nov. 5.
George H. Cosman—Saturday, Nov. 5.
Lily Roselle—Saturday, Nov. 5.
Eva Ellis—Saturday, Nov. 5.
H. E. High, music hall artiste—Nov. 5.
Chris Horn, music hall artist—Nov. 5.
Jenny Lynd, music hall artiste—Nov. 5.
G. H. Cosman, music hall artiste—Nov. 5.
Pat Carey, music hall artiste—Nov. 6.
J. Paderewski, musician—Sunday, Nov. 6.
Mrs John Wood, actress—Sunday, Nov. 6.
J. P. Sousa, musician—Sunday, Nov. 6.
Frank Wyatt, actor—Monday, Nov. 7.
Jessie Merrilees, burlesque actress—Nov. 7.
Walter Scott—Monday, Nov. 7.
Richard Morton, song writer—Monday, Nov. 7.
Evelyn Waring—Monday, Nov. 7.
Fred Fowler, actor—Monday, Nov. 7.
Fifi Gordon, burlesque actress—Nov. 7.
Blanche St. Marie—Monday, Nov. 7.
Maude Millett, actress—Tuesday, Nov. 8.
Agnes Fraser, actress—Tuesday, Nov. 8.
Lionel Rignold, actor—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Fred Thorne, actor—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Fred Terry, actor—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
W. G Elliot, actor—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Millie Herbert—Wednesday, Nov. 9.
Harry Jee, music hall artiste—Nov. 9.
Amy Elvira, music hall artiste—Nov. 9.
Walter W. Hook—Wednesday, Nov. 9
Rita Reedan, music hall artiste—Nov. 11.

MR NORMAN V. NORMAN, who has lately been playing with the greatest success on a tour he has been making through Ireland, on Monday paid a flying visit to Clonmel, and gave a special performance of *David Garrick*. The house was crowded in every part, many people being unable to obtain admission. The audience included her Grace the Duchess of St. Albans.

LIONEL BROUGH.

AN APPRECIATION.

BY A BROTHER ACTOR.

Think of it, ye budding, aspiring, perspiring, but seldom retiring amateurs—fifty years untiring stage work, and still able to show you how to act, how to be modest, and how to make friends! Lionel Brough—"Uncle Lal," as he is affectionately termed by the thousands who know and love him—never posed as a "society actor," and yet he is always welcome in any society, from the Old Kent-road to Park-lane—aye, and the many residences of our gracious King, God bless him! Think of it, I say. Fifty years a gifted, hard-working actor; still working, still gaining more laurels, still genial and perfectly unaffected, and still the same amiable, amusing, "story-telling" Bohemian of the good old "fifties." I won't say how many years ago it is since I first secured "Lal's" friendship, but I was in petticoats, and he was in the Hoy Hotel, Margate. I can just remember he gave me a large piece of cake and a few anecdotes. Since that we have been firm friends, and whenever and wherever we meet I get the welcome Brough alone knows how to give an old acquaintance. "Lal" is still a confirmed raconteur, He has always something fresh to tell you, and he tells it with the gusto—and far more originality—of any man thirty years his junior. When success attended him—and he must have had hundreds of successes—he never had a swollen head or "put on side." In reverses he was ever plucky and philosophical, he never grumbled or bemoaned his fate. In domestic tribulation—and he was but recently robbed of wife, a son, and a daughter—he bore with unflinching bravery and unparalleled fortitude three successive blows, and suffered his pain without a murmur. So let us drain a bumper to "Uncle Lal," king of Bohemian story tellers, prime minister of pure humour, and best of friends. May he enjoy a diamond jubilee in health and prosperity; may he double his number of friends, and still remain "the comedian without an enemy."

To give an exhaustive account of Lionel Brough's unique historic career would severely tax the space of a journal even more bulky than *The Era*, so I can at the present moment give but a cursory and attenuated record of his life's work, but of this be assured, it has always been strenuous, artistic, and unfailingly honourable!

Brough was born in Pontypool, March 10, 1836. Son of Barnabus Brough, at one time a dramatist of no mean repute and writing under the pen name of "Barnard De Burgh," "Lal" had two celebrated brothers, William and Robert (popularly known as "the Brothers Brough"), authors. Lionel Brough began "pushing for a living" in the office of John Timbs, when that good gentleman was editor of the *Illustrated London News*, and when among its shining literary lights were Albert Smith, Douglas Jerrold, Charles Dickens, and the great William Makepiece Thackeray. In the early years of its existence he was assistant publisher of the *Daily Telegraph*. In that capacity Brough lays claim to having originated the system of selling newspapers in the streets, having organised in London for the *Daily Telegraph* a staff of 240 boys for that purpose. He made his début in December, 1854, at the Lyceum Theatre, under the management of the artificial Madame Vestris and the volatile and debonnair Charles Mathews, in an extravaganza by his brother, William Brough, entitled *Prince Pretty Pet*, and a farce, *My Fellow Clerk*. After this Vestris died, and Brough for a short period left the stage, returning to the Lyceum in 1858, under the management of Mr Edmund Falconer, and in that year played in *The Siege of Troy* under the *nom de theatre* of Lionel Porter, and in his manager's drama, entitled *Francesca*. He then gave the stage a rest for five years, and filled in the interval by joining the editorial staff of the *Morning Star*. Following this tentative engagement he presented to London entertainment seekers "a show," of which the *pièce de résistance* was *Cinderella*, written by Byron, Leicester Buckingham, the Brothers Brough, Frank Telfourd, Andrew Halliday, and others. Then followed a year's engagement at the Polytechnic Institution, and he toured after that with the celebrated "Ghost" exhibition.

Brough had the honour of appearing, in conjunction with the members of the Savage Club, before Queen Victoria, Prince Consort, and Royal Family, in aid of the "Lancashire Famine Relief Fund." Later, the Queen gave him a scarfpin, which, in his own words, he swears he "will wear to his dying day, even when he hasn't got a scarf." In February, 1864, he joined Alexander Henderson's company at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, and remained a much-admired ornament to that company for over three years. Following this came an engagement at the old Amphitheatre, then under the management of Copeland, Henderson, and Byron. Brough became an enormous favourite in Liverpool, and the result was a lucrative engagement in London, where he appeared under the management of Labouchere, who is to this day still the embodiment of "truth." At this Theatre (the Queen's) he made his first striking success in a burlesque on *The Strangers*, written by an author who could write—Robert Reece. At the same time he made a pronounced "hit" as a character actor in H. J. Byron's *Dearer than Life*. This stamped Brough as a legitimate comedian, and as Tony Lumpkin and Bob Acres, and in any Shakespearean comedy part, he is unrivalled. On the opening of the St. James's Theatre by Mrs John Wood he was selected to play Tony in the ambitious revival of Goldsmith's masterpiece, and has since played the part to the tune of nearly 790 times.

In 1885 Lionel Brough paid a visit to America, and in 1889 went on a professional tour in South Africa playing various standard pieces, such as *Milky White*, &c. On his return from this expedition he accepted an engagement under Mr Horace Sedger to play the leading comic part in *La Cigale*.

Mr Brough during his long career has appeared in every town of importance in the United Kingdom, and his ever-welcome name has figured in the following metropolitan playhouses:—The Old Queen's, the St. James's, the Holborn (known afterwards as the Duke's), Covent-garden, Gaiety, Criterion, Folly, Imperial, Drury-lane, Terry's, Comedy, Globe, Opera Comique, Lyric, Avenue, Royalty, Haymarket, and His Majesty's. In the banquet given to Brough at the Criterion the other night he proved that he had lost none of his powers. If there is a proud and happy man to-day "Lal" should be that man, and in his happiness he should be joined by his clever daughter Mary ("Polly") and his sunny son "Bob" (Sidney Brough).

MR OSWALD BRAND has revised the old drama *The Peep o' Day*, and will produce it at the Grand Theatre on Monday. The piece has not been performed for a long time, and next week's revival should, therefore, be an interesting one.

MISS ELEANOR ROBSON, who has made such a distinct hit as the servant in Mr Zangwill's play, *Merely Mary Ann*, at the Duke of York's Theatre, will return to America next month, sailing by the s.s. Deutschland on Dec. 16. It was originally intended that her visit to this country would terminate about the middle of this month, but in consequence of the great success with which her efforts at the Duke of York's Theatre have been met, Messrs Liebler and Co., the managers, "cancelled time" in the States in order that London playgoers might have a further opportunity to witness her clever representation of Mary Ann. On arriving in the American capital Miss Robson will appear in *Merely Mary Ann* at a special matinée to be given at the Amsterdam Theatre on the 23rd prox. Three days later she will open in the same play at St. Louis, and this engagement will be followed by a tour of the States.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The Lady Mayoress presented the prizes to the successful students of the Guildhall School of Music at the Guildhall on the 29th ult. The Lord Mayor presided, and amongst those present were Mr G. H. Heilbuth, chairman of the Music Committee of the Corporation, and Mrs Heilbuth, Mr Alderman and Sheriff Strong, Mr Sheriff Woodman and Mrs Woodman, Mr Alderman Morris, Dr. Cummings (Principal of the School), the Rev. F. Clementi-Smith, Sir F. and Lady Green, and Mr Carl Hentschel and other members of the Music Committee. There was a large audience.

Dr. CUMMINGS, in his report on the progress of the school during the past year, said that there were matters to regret in the loss of old and valued professors who by their good work had identified themselves with the best interests of the institution. On the other hand, their students had shown greater assiduity in making the study of the art of music more substantial and thorough. A proof of the excellence of their work was afforded by the fact that several students had recently left the school, having won valuable scholarships in other institutions. He made special mention of one student, Mr Gordon Burgess, who had not only won the school pianoforte prize, the Lady Jenkinson prize, and the school composition prize, but had also successfully passed the examination for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Organists, and gained the organ scholarship at Wadham College, Oxford, where he proposed matriculating and taking his degree. It was still more satisfactory to know that he remained a pupil of the school, and travelled to and from Oxford to have the advantage of their special instruction. By the generosity of a member of the Musicians' Company, they had a series of lectures on "University Examinations," which he hoped would do much to help students who contemplated adopting music as a profession. They were as anxious to assist these as they were to cater for the larger class of amateur musicians who desired to cultivate the various branches of music for the purpose of brightening their homes and adding an additional charm to their lives. They were also indebted to the Worshipful Company of Musicians for the medal presented by them, on Tuesday last, to their distinguished pupil Mr Henry Geehl; and still further for allocating to the school two handsome scholarships, with money provided by Mr Andrew Carnegie, a member of the company. Their thanks were due to those eminent professors who, not connected with the school, had generously given their time to hear and adjudicate the prizes—Sir Squire Bancroft, Herr Backhaus, Mr Lloyd Chandos, Mr Ellis Roberts, Dr. Markham Lee, Mr Herbert Bunning, Mdlle. Rosa Olitzka, Mr Percy Such, Mr W. Vaughan, Mr Miriam Timothy, and Miss Ada Crossley, who forwarded five guineas to be competed for by contralto vocalists next year.

The LADY MAYORESS then presented the medals, prizes, and certificates. The following are the principal awards:—School medals for 1904 (awarded to the first three associates for the year):—Gold medal, Catherine Higgs, pianoforte; silver medal, Frederick J. Daff, pianoforte; bronze medal, Julie C. Huntsman, elocution. The other associates are:—Ernest J. Downer, theory of music; Lillian E. Plummer, pianoforte; May Ottaway, elocution; Nellie Tubb, mandoline; Ethel C. Thomson, violoncello; Mabel M. Newland, mandoline; Adeline B. Carter, pianoforte; Florence Nightingale, pianoforte; and Minnie M. Macfarlane, singing. The special prizes were awarded as follows:—The Lord Mayor's prize, a purse of £5 5s. for soprano vocalists, to Dorothy Tinney; the Lady Mayoress's prize, a purse of £5 5s., for pianoforte students, to Wallis Bandey; the Sheriff's prize, a purse of £5 5s., for mezzo-soprano vocalists, to Ethel Sherlock; the Sheriff's prize, a purse of £5 5s., for contralto vocalists, to Cecile Vicars; the Knill Challenge Cup, with silver medal for an eminently deserving student, to Henry L. C. Finucane; the Chairman's prize, a gold medal for lady vocalists, to Grace Cole; the Davies gold medal, for a deserving student, to Jennie Hyman; the Worshipful Company of Musicians' silver medal, for the most distinguished student, to Henry E. Geehl; the Tillie gold medal, for a distinguished lady violin students, to Dorothy Bull; the Knight prize, a purse of £5 5s., for bass vocalist, to Edwin Evans; the Jenkinson prize, a purse of £5, for pianoforte student to M. Gordon Burgess; the Alexander prize, for elocution students, to Veronica Webb; the Tubbs' prize, a gold mounted violin bow, of the value of £10, for violin students, to William T. Ward; the Carwardine prize, a purse of £5 5s., for violin students, to Albert E. Cazaubon; the Spencer prize, a purse of £4 4s., for organ students, to Henry J. Tufnell; the Accompanist prize, to Kate Richards; the Domoney prize, a purse of £5 5s., for soprano and tenor vocalists, to Dorothy Tinney and E. Lewis Arney; the Hart prize, a violin, bow, and case, value thirty guineas (presented by Messrs Hart and Son), to Ella Ivimey; the Dove Memorial prize, for general excellence, assiduity, and industry, to Eric Leftwich; the Max Hecht scholarship, £10 per annum, for British vocalists studying German classics song, to Edith M. Smith; the Libotton Memorial prize, a violoncello bow (with inscription) and bronze memorial plaque, to Ethel C. Thomson; the Heller prize, a silver medal and one year's free tuition, for mandoline students, to Lily Selden; the Sight-singing prize, to Anna Forbes.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress and to the Sheriffs for their attendance.

An excellent concert was provided by students of the school, under the direction of Dr. Cummings.

AT the Grand Theatre last Saturday evening pictures were thrown on the Biograph screen showing the results of the wanton outrage on Hull fishing boats perpetrated by the Baltic fleet. Views were presented of the battered holds of the damaged trawlers, a few of the Russian warships, and some of the relatives of the victims. Scenes of the funeral of the two fishermen who were killed by the Russian shells were also shown, to the accompaniment of Chopin's "Funeral March," played by the able orchestra under the conductorship of Mr W. T. Gliddon.

MR EDWARD COMPTON leaves Southampton to-day on the Union Castle Steamship Company's fine boat the Dunvegan Castle, for a cruise to the Mediterranean. He will be back early in December to rehearse with the Compton comedy company, in readiness for a prolonged tour, commencing on Dec. 26 at Leamington.

AT the Royal Opera House, Berlin, on Thursday, Weber's *Die Freischütz* was given by Royal command. The ticket-takers at the doors strictly exacted evening dress, and many ladies who appeared in street costumes rushed to the cloak-room, tore open their collars, and with the help of scissors knives, pins, and needles, prepared themselves to pass the doorkeepers with "low necks."

At the usual weekly meeting of the council, held last Tuesday, the hon. solicitors to the Actors' Association were requested to apply on behalf of certain members for payment of amounts claimed by them as damages for breach of agreements. Dr. Reginald Ingram, of 149, Warwick-street, Eccleston-square, was elected as an hon. medical officer to the Actors' Association. The secretary received instructions as to communicating with the hon. medical officers on the subject of their re-elections for the year 1905. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received, and it was resolved that next year the council should put in force the power given to them by Article 7 to determine the membership of those whose subscriptions are three months overdue.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

MARRIAGES.

ROYDAN—LEWIS.—On Oct. 29, at Registrar's, Brentford, London, Tom Roydan to Emmeline Lewis.

DEATHS.

BURROWS.—Nov. 1, at 37, Prospect-terrace, University-road, Belfast, Harriett Minnie, the beloved wife of Chas. H. Burrows (professionally known as Minnie Palmerston). Deeply regretted. Not lost, but gone before.

DUNVILLE.—Oct. 31, 1904, after long and painful suffering, Eunice Stanaslas Dunville (Meg Rehan), the beloved wife of Fred Charles Dunville. Deeply mourned; but only gone before. R.I.P.

LENO.—Oct. 31, at his residence, Springfield, Clapham-park, from heart failure, Dan Leno (George Galvin), comedian, aged forty-three.

RILEY.—Sept. 28, at Karachi, India, after intense suffering through an accident whilst performing, William Thomas Riley, professionally known as W. Ritter-Riley, in his thirty-second year. Deeply mourned by mother and only brother.

SERPETTE.—Nov. 3, at Paris, from heart disease, Gaston Serpette, French composer.

IN MEMORIAM.

CIRNOC.—In memory of Paul Cirnoc (Handcuff King), who died en route for Australia, Nov. 8, 1903. Never forgotten in his lonely grave by loving pal, Flo Morton.

HOWARD.—In loving memory of my darling wife, Miss Lizzie Howard (Mrs Pat Carey), who departed this life, Nov. 5, 1901. Never forgotten by her loving husband and daughter.

Oh for the touch of a vanished hand,
Or the sound of a voice that is still.

MYNOTT.—In loving memory of dear mother, who fell asleep Nov. 8, 1890. Ever missed by her affectionate daughter, Mrs G. W. Moore.

THURLOW.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, James Edgar Thurlow, who died Nov 3, 1903. Deeply mourned. "Rest in peace."

TRANSFIELD.—In loving memory of Bellamina Transfield, who died at Lincoln Nov. 6, 1899. Gone but never forgotten by those she left behind.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir HENRY IRVING, March 3d, 1898.

Will be of great service.—CHARLES WYNDHAM, March 1st, 1898.

Mr A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era*, March 5th, 1898.

Very useful.—*Sporting Life*, March 4th.

Mr Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*, March 19th.

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News*, March 11th.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its page, they may avoid much misapprehension and troubles.—*Star*, March 9th.

Should be of great value. An ably compiled digest of the law relating to the theatrical profession generally.—*Daily Mail*, March 11th, 1898.

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun*, March 20th.

Clearly set out, concise, and altogether comprehensible.—*Pall Mall Gazette*, March 19th.

AN application was made on Monday last to Mr Fordham at the North London police-court, by Mr C. V. Young, to license a little girl to play at the Dalston Theatre. Mr Young said the child was over twelve and a-half years old, and had been acting for several years; that she went on in the play several times at long intervals, and was out of the theatre by 10·45. Mr Fordham—Too late for so young a girl night after night; still, she looks in the perfection of health. How is she educated? Mr Young—She goes to school every day, wherever the company is, and her aunt, who is also in the company, looks after her in the theatre, and teaches her as well. The magistrate, handing his pencil and a sheet of paper to the child, asked her to write her name, which she did—"Minnie Ethel," without hesitation. Mr Fordham then set her two sums—one of addition and one of multiplication—these she did very quickly and with much confidence. The magistrate looked at them, and said, "Really, you have done both these sums as well as I could, for they are both correct, and you did them quicker than I could. Very well, Mr Young, though this child, in my opinion, should be in bed by 8 0 o'clock, she is evidently in the best of health, is particularly bright and happy, and very well educated for her age, and I shall grant the licence. The profession of the actor should rank as one of our learned professions; the theatre, when properly used, is a great educational power for those behind the curtain and those in front. Take your licence."

M. GASTON SERPETTE, the well-known composer, died in Paris on Thursday evening of heart disease. M. Serpette was born at Nantes in 1846, where he studied law; but developing a passion for music, he, in 1868, entered the Conservatoire. In 1871 he obtained the Grand Prize of Rome with a cantata, *Jeanne d'Arc*, which was produced successfully the same year at the Opéra. Returning from Italy he devoted himself to dramatic composition, and occasionally wrote musical criticisms. Among his works were the following:—*Madame le Diable*, *La Princesse*, *Adam et Eve*, *Gamine de Paris*, *Surcouf*, *La Bonne de Chez Duval*, *La Petite Muette*, *La Branche Cassé*, *Le Manoir du Pic Tordu*, and *Le Moulin du Vert-galant*.

THE dismantling of the Gaiety Theatre, Anglesey Castle, took place on Thursday. The theatrical drop and panel scenes were bought for £65. A local lady paid £40 for the French furniture of a private box from which the marquis's guests witnessed the performances. The drapery, which originally cost £180, only fetched £12. Adorning the walls of the theatre were a large number of pictures of the Marquis of Anglesey in different theatrical costumes. Sixteen pounds were paid for the first offered, but the remainder went at prices which averaged £9 each. An album which his pantomime company presented to the marquis in recognition of his début in the rôle of Pekoe only realised two guineas.

WITH regard to the temporary closing of the Paris Hippodrome, it appears that Mr Bostock lent his hall to a committee sitting in judgment on the safety of a theatre adjacent to his establishment. All that he got for his courtesy was to have the committee turn round and tell him his own building was not above improvement, and they promptly closed it. Mr Bostock, who is a man of resource, promptly asked what they wanted done, and complied at once with their requests or commands, opening his theatre again so quickly that the ungallant and ungrateful committeemen gasped and rubbed their eyes at the speed of this go ahead *entrepreneur*. On the fête day of All Saints Bostock took 17,000f., and refused 2,000 people admittance.

AT the Garrison Theatre, Shoeburyness, on Nov. 9 will be produced a one-act comedietta, by Major Gillespie-Addison, entitled *The Risks We Run*, respectfully dedicated to Mr Adolf Beck; and a one-act operetta by Herbert Harraden, entitled *The Choice*. The latter is performed in dumb show, the incidents being described in narrative form by an invisible soloist, accompanied by the orchestra.

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 7.

ACTOR'S ROMANCE.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
AMORELLE.—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
AMORELLE (N.).—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
ARE YOU A MASON? (MACDONA).—Rugby.
ASSASSIN.—Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.
BANDMANN-PALMER, MRS.—L. T., Pentre.
BANK OF ENGLAND.—T. R., Birkenhead.
BEAUTIFUL AVENGER.—Alex. Theatre, Birmingham.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Opera House, Radcliffe.
BELLE OF NEW YORK.—Grand T., Halifax.
BENSON, MR F. R. (A).—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
BENSON, MR F. R. (B).—Town Hall, Retford.
BEST MUST WIN.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
BID FOR FORTUNE.—Grand Theatre, Brighton.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—Scarborough.
BROKEN MELODY.—Elephant and Castle T., S.E.
CARL ROSA.—Alexandra Theatre, N.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (M.)—O. H., Norwich.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (N.).—T. R., Brighton.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA) (S.).—Bridgwater.
CONSCRIPT.—Empire Theatre, Dundee.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER.—Paisley.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (M.).—T. R., Bolton.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (N.).—E. T., Oldham.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (S.).—S. T., Chatham.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA) (N.).—Kendal.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA) (S.).—Mountain Ash.
COUNTRY MOUSE (N.).—Glasgow.
COUNTRY MOUSE (S.).—Wolverhampton.
COUSIN KATE (S.).—Ealing.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—T. R., Jarrow.
DARLING OF THE GODS (N.).—N. T., Cambridge.
DARLING OF THE GODS (S.).—Broadway T., S.E.
DISGRACE TO HER SEX.—P. T., Newcastle.
DISHONOURED.—Devonport.
D'OYLY CARTE.—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC (S.).—G. T., Croydon.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC.—G. T., Leeds.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE.—New Theatre, Oxford.
EDGE OF THE STORM.—O. H., Cheltenham.
FAIRY'S DILEMMA.—Opera House Southport.
FATAL FORTUNE.—Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.
FATAL WEDDING (M.).—T. R., North Shields.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—T. R., Dewsbury.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Lowestoft.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—O. H., Harrogate.
FOR THE WOMAN HE LOVES.—G. T., Rawtenstall.
FRIVOLITY.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
GAY PARISIENNE (MACDONA).—Pontefract.
GEISHA.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
GIPSY JACK.—T. R., West Stanley.
GIRL FROM JAPAN.—O. H., Dudley.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (N.).—T. R., Bradford.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (S.).—T. R., Middlesbrough.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS (BRUCE).—O. H., Workington.
GOLDEN LADDER.—Theatre Royal, Greenock.
GREEK SLAVE.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
GRIP OF IRON.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
HARVEST OF SIN.—T. R. Seaham Harbour.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—Q. T., Manchester.
HENRY NEVILLE.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—P. T., Bradford.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Macsteg.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
HOT NIGHT.—Grand Theatre, Birmingham.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—T. R., Bristol.
IN DAHOMEY.—T. R., Belfast.
INDIAN MUTINY.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
IRVING, HENRY.—Lyceum T., Edinburgh.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.—Batley.
JOSEPH ENTANGLED.—Grand T., Hull.
KENDAL, MR AND MRS.—T. R., Newcastle.
KING OF CRIME.—Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Swanage.
LADY OF OSTEND.—P. O. W. Theatre, Liverpool.
LADY SLAVEY (GREET).—Weston-super-Mare.
LAUGHTER-LAND.—Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.—Ipswich.
LETTY.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
LIFE'S REVENGE.—Theatre Royal, Tyldesley.
LIGHTS O' LONDON.—Avenue Theatre, Kettering.
LIGHTNING'S FLASH.—Carlton T., Birmingham.
LITTLE COQUETTE.—Prince's T., Accrington.
LITTLE MARY.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
LONDON ACTRESS.—Prince's T., Blackburn.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Theatre Royal, St. Helens.
MAN TO MAN.—Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.
MANXMAN.—Opera House, Coventry.
MARRIAGE OF KITTY.—Kidderminster.
MASTER CRIMINAL.—Coliseum T., Oldham.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—A. T., Sheffield.
MODERN ADVENTURESS.—Queen's T., Liverpool.
MODERN JUDAS.—Royal West London Theatre, W.
MONEY-MAKERS (N.).—Southend.
MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE.—Worthing.
MOODY-MANNERS (A).—Theatre Royal, Hull.
MOODY-MANNERS (B).—T. R., Worcester.
MOODY-MANNERS (C).—Alloa.
MY LADY MOLLY (RED).—T. R., Edinburgh.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—P. O. W. T., Mexboro'.
NEW EAST LYNNE.—G. T., West Hartlepool.
NEW HOUSEMAID.—Met. Theatre, Birkenhead.
NEW MEPHISTO.—Theatre Royal, Gloucester.
NO MAN'S LAND.—Met. T., Hoyland.
ONE OF THE BEST.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
ONE OF THE FAMILY.—King's Lynn.
ON THE STROKE OF 12 0.—Hastings.
ORCHID (EDWARDES).—P. T., Manchester.
ORCHID (S.).—County Theatre, Reading.
PATH OF THORNS.—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
PEGGY MACGREE.—P. O. W. T., Grimsby.
PRINCE OF ROGUES.—Falkirk.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Darwen.
QUALITY STREET (BRIGHT).—Brixton T., S.W.
QUALITY STREET (FROHMAN).—S. T., Liverpool.
RICHARD LOVELACE.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (S.).—L. T., Stafford.
SAPHO.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
SAPHO (ANNIE BELL).—Luton.
SATURDAY TO MONDAY (N.).—Exeter.
SCHOOL GIRL (S.).—Opera House, Crouch-end.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—T. R., South Shields.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Century T., Motherwell.
SILVER KING (N.).—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
SILVER KING (S.).—Gaiety Theatre, Hastings.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Wolverhampton.
SINS OF A CITY.—Miners' Theatre, Ashington.
STILL ALARM.—Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
SUNDAY.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
SUNDAY (N.).—Theatre Royal, York.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
TEARLE, OSMOND.—C. T., Spennymoor.
TEARLE, EDMUND.—Theatre Royal, Stockton.
TERRY, ELLEN.—P. O. W. Theatre, Birmingham.
TERRY, EDWARD.—Opera House, Londonderry.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (S.).—Bury St. Edmunds.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (I).—M. T., Holloway.
TOMMY ATKINS.—Opera House, Northampton.
TRAITOR.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Olympia Theatre, Newcastle.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—Crystal Palace.
TRIUMPH OF TRUTH.—Theatre Royal, Crook.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—Ton-y-Pandy.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (N.).—C. T., Peckham.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (S.).—A. T., Lancaster.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—Stockport.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY).—Tunbridge Wells.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—Star T., Liverpool.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
VICTIM OF VILLAINY.—Lyceum Theatre, Govan.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Osborne T., Manchester.
WALLER, MRS LEWIS.—P. O. W. T., Richmond.
WARNER, GRACE.—Windsor.
WEARIN' O' THE GREEN.—Ayr.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—T. R., Aston.
WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN.—Abertillery.
WILLARD, MR. E. S.—Coronet Theatre, W.
WOMAN AND WINE.—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
WOMAN'S PLUCK.—Opera House, Wakefield.
WORLD.—Opera House, Burton
10 30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Long Eaton.

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NEW-CROSS EMPIRE.

A large and delighted audience assembled on Monday night to enjoy the excellent programme submitted by the management of this admirably conducted hall. First on the bill came clever Miss Jennie Belmore, who danced and sang with much go and spirit her Mephistophelian ditty, "I'm behind 'em." Mr Victor Travers, correctly termed "a quaint comedian," evoked roars of laughter w'th his comicalities, consisting mainly of patter and dance. He was succeeded by Les Burnelleys, who presented a remarkable gymnastic entertainment, consisting of a novel performance executed on stilts of varying height. A very attractive item was the scena by Mr Post Mason, in which he was assisted by a lady whose name did not appear. It consisted of a spirited rendering of "Son of the Desert am I," illustrated by attractive scenery and costumes. The famous Trapnell Family of acrobats next gave an exhibition of marvellous agility and grace. This turn was an excellent one, and the youthful artistes looked very nice in their fresh and pretty dresses. Werner and Reider, billed as the two Tyrolean stars, sang with power and expression, and their imitations of the nightingale and skylark were eminently successful. Mr Harry Lawson caused much amusement by his quaint rendering of a medley based on the titles of popular songs. Miss Winona Winter, assisted by Mr Walter Banks, presented a novel entertainment called *When I Help Ma do the Washing*. The scene opens with Miss Winter busy washing. A tramp enters, and learns that the lady aspires to be an actress. He persuades her to put on a stage costume and show him what she can do. He then sends a manager to interview her, with the result that her future success is a foregone conclusion. Clever Miss Millie Hylton contributed three taking songs—viz., "Suburban Belle," "Novaho," and the ever-popular "Knights of the King's Highway." She had a most flattering reception. The concluding item was the sporting sketch, by Joe Elvin and Wal Pink, entitled *Over the Sticks*. Mr Elvin, who is as amusing in this as in previous productions, was excellently supported by his capable company, and especially by Miss Florence Harcourt, Miss Amy B. Ellis, Mr Harry Low, and Mr Henry Gregory. This popular house continues to be packed at every performance. This fact is doubtless owing to the careful selection of attractions, and the unfailing courtesy of Mr H. Raymond and Mr H. Burdette.

THE sixth German season, under the direction of Hans Andresen and Max Behrend, will commence at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Monday. The house has been renovated throughout, and has been provided with new steam-heating and lighting arrangements. Messrs Andresen and Behrend have succeeded in securing the services of many first-class artists, in addition to the re-engagement of former favourites. The répertoire will consist of high-class plays, and some of the most recent successes in Germany have been secured for production. Performances will be given every evening during the week and there will be a matinée every Saturday. The prices for twenty subscription performances will be as follows:—Stalls, £6 10s.; dress circle (first and second rows), £5 10s.; dress circle (third to seventh rows), £4; upper circle, £2 10s.; and pit, £1 10s. At these prices subscribers may book either a fixed seat for a specified night or obtain a booklet of twenty coupons, which may be exchanged at the box-office against seats for any performance.

AT the Grand Theatre on Monday and during the week, the special early-door attraction will consist of an entirely new extravaganza, entitled *Ancient Lights*, which deals with a pre-historic age—"2,000 years before what you think," says the author, who for the present is unnamed. The little production is to last thirty minutes.

M. ERNEST LAROCHE has just finished a dramatisation of Tolstoi's "Anna Karenine" in collaboration with the well-known Russian writer, Nadège Nastri. It is to be produced in Paris towards the end of the season.

MISS LENA VERDI has been engaged by Howard and Wyndham to play the part of Dandini in the pantomime at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

MESSRS LIEBLER and Co. have secured Madame Réjane, who will be seen at the Lyric Theatre, New York, for a period of some four weeks. The same managers have also engaged Signor Novelli, the famous Italian actor, for a short run at the New York Lyric Theatre, the production, in all probability, being *Louis XI.*, with the title-rôle of which Signor Novelli has for a long time been associated.

MR CHARLES MACDONA'S principal company will present *Three Little Maids* next week at the Marlborough Theatre, Holloway, the company afterwards leaving London for the principal provincial centres.

A NEW musical comedy, *Peggy Machree*, will be produced by Mr C. E. Hamilton at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby, on Monday. It will afterwards be taken on a short provincial tour prior to production at a West-end theatre. Miss Marie Dainton and Mr Denis O'Sullivan are included in the cast.

IN the King's Bench Division on Thursday, before Mr Justice Grantham and a special jury, was heard the case of Stephens and Another v. Fry and Sons, Ltd. The plaintiff, through a Mr Stafford, manager of the refreshment and programme department of the Grand Theatre, Fulham, made a contract under which the defendants undertook to supply their chocolates in fancy boxes to be sold in the theatre for a period of two years from June, 1902. Some time after the contract had been running Mr Stafford wished to have a different kind of box and cheaper chocolates. Permission for the change was obtained from defendants, and chocolates at 1d. per ounce instead of 2d. per ounce was put into the boxes. After the contract had run for eleven months it was determined by the defendants, and the present proceedings accordingly taken. For the defence, it was denied that permission was given to put a lower-priced chocolate in fancy boxes that were not defendant's boxes. The jury, without leaving the box, found for the defendants.

MR W. SCOTT PHIPP is running a Christmas season of ten weeks with Mr Edmund Edmunds, of the well-known Albert and Edmunds Troupe, four weeks of which will be at a London theatre with the pantomime *Babes in the Wood*. Mr Scott Phipp will be responsible for the book and the music.

MISS RAY WALLACE had the honour of entertaining the members of the London Press Club on Saturday at the Criterion, on the occasion of the club's annual dinner. Miss Wallace is the only lady artist who has ever been invited to this very select annual function. Her admirable imitations were enthusiastically received.

AT the Theatre Royal, Wallsend, Messrs Imbert and Wright's company has been appearing this week in the interesting drama, *First Class*. As Dan, the miser, Mr Fred C. Imbert causes continuous merriment; Mr G. M. Newell gives a powerful rendering of Lewis Montford; and Mr F. Trevor makes the most of the part of Philip Roscoe. Mr Leonard Clark is a smart Jack Stroud; Miss Ellen Armour is exceptionally clever as Peggy; and Miss L. Ingles is pleasing as Florence Franklin.

THE production of Henri Bataille's new play, *Maman Colibri*, at the Paris Vaudeville has been postponed till Tuesday. Up to that date, therefore, *Les Trois Anabaptists*, by Berr le Turique, will continue in the evening bill.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 13)

SITTINGBOURNE.

TOWN HALL.—Lessee, Mr G. W. Bowes.—One of Miss Inez Howard's companies in the original drama *Between Two Women* was at this hall on Monday. The piece was well staged. The rôles of Violet Thornton and Carmen De Savareaux were admirably taken by Miss Bessie Ellis and Miss Lilla Wilde, while Harry Millard was capital in the part of the hero. All the other characters were in suitable hands. Mr Henry Chattell was the business-director, and Mr Bowes made the local arrangements.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—Mr John Denton's powerful company is here this week, and the new sensational melodrama, in four acts, entitled *A Modern Judas*, is being very successfully presented before good audiences. Mr Harry Browne depicts in fine style the character of Mr James Rivers; Mr Frank Beresford finds a difficult part in Jack Vasasour, and which is capitally expounded; Captain Melbourne is most characteristically portrayed by Mr Percy Rhodes; Mr Willie Scott is a mirth-making Tom Hopkins; Mr John Denton is an excellent Elkanah Pearce, Mr Trueman Towers is well suited as Bennett; Miss Dolly Harcourt wins favour as Polly Hopkins, Miss Ada Palmer is an admiring Agatha Pearce, Miss Kate Walbran plays her part of Elise very creditably; and Claire Rivers finds an able and clever exponent in Miss Violet King.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Excellent houses are appreciating Fredk. Melville's cleverly written drama, *Between Two Women*, which the popular lessees have under engagement for the current week. Mr Fredk. Melville's company includes Mr Albert Ward, who is extremely popular here. His fine declamatory and restraintful powers, aided by a handsome presence, are adequate abilities which are advantageously used as the Rev. Phillip Carton. A bold and dignified treatment is given Henry Earl of Millard, by Mr Sidney Price. The Harry of Mr Harry Marlow is buoyantly natural. Another portrayal meriting individual praise is Mr Fred Morgan's James Durwood. The petty worries of Jack Pringle are irresistibly interpreted by Mr Tubby Edlin, whose antics evoke considerable mirth. Miss Sybil Hammersley pleasingly sustains Polly Pop; Miss Alice Bower's acting and singing as the Blind Boy are plaintive and touching; the title-rôle is represented by Miss Marie Robson as the true-hearted Violet Thornton; and Miss Marita Valdar appears as the scheming Carmen De Savereaux. Both these ladies act with contrasting charm, grace, and emotion, quite in harmony with their rôles. The smaller parts are interesting, and especial mention should be made of Messrs Graham Woods (Major Strangeways), Fredk. Sandy (Dick Burgess), J. W. Waters (Jacques Spado), and Miss Winnie Morgan (Lady Customer).

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—A pleasing bill is submitted this week, including Fred Ginnett in his laughable sketch, *Rejected Remounts*. Abel and Welsh evoke roars of laughter by their distinctly droll patter. Dashing Lily Burnand renews acquaintance here, and Katie Holloway is another comedienne of noteworthy charm. The songs and dances submitted by the Eight of Hearts are good. Shavo is a comedy juggler of merit, and Harry Dent is to the fore with two excellent songs. Blanche Haddon, a ballad vocalist, enlists admirers; and Ted Cowan, comedian, is successful.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Manager, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—Another meritorious programme is headed by the Mudlarks, whose ability in song and story is agreeably acknowledged. Wee Mona is a charming child artist. A good comedy act by the Padleys, and some amusing songs by J. C. Morris, comedian, are appreciated. Louis Kerno, coon artiste, is an old Shields pierrot and therefore a favourite. Rose Tilley, comedienne; Harry Bent, mimic; and Carlotta Lunn, vocalist; all submit able turns.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—Mr Robert Perris's company is presenting the American melodrama *A Fight for Millions* here this week. The scenery is very pretty, and is capitally staged. Mr Perris as Ted Manley submits a sound impersonation; Miss Eva Purcell is decidedly good as Pearl Rivers; Mr Horace Booth depicts the villainy of Richard Dudley in the darkest of shades; Miss K. Eckhart gives a powerful delineation of Helen Dudley; Miss Fanny Williams appears with credit as Mrs Hudson Rivers; and little Winnie Acton is very pleasing as Madge. Mr Larry Clements and Mr Fred Acton afford much amusement as Willie Neverwork and Solomon Moses respectively, and Miss Gertie Douglas makes a sprightly Betty.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—Messrs George Edwardes and Charles Frohman's company opened on Monday for the first time here with *Are You a Mason?* Mr Anthony Fawcett acts well as George Fisher; Mr Harry Ashford is a capital Amos Bloodgood; Mr Stephen Wentworth is exceedingly good as Frank Perry; Mr Tom Mowbray scores a genuine success as John Halton; Mr Frank Ridley is excellent as Hamilton Travers, as is also Mr Valentine O'Connor as Ernest Morrison. Miss Harriet Trench's portrayal of Mrs Bloodgood could not be improved upon; Mrs Perry has a good representative in Miss Violet Graham; and Miss Lily Beagle as Annie, Miss Isla Glynn as Lulu, Miss Mabel Younge as Mrs Halton, Miss Lucy Edwin as Lottie, and Miss Gertrude Spencer as Fanchon Armytage are all deserving of mention.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Miss Vesta Victoria, star comedienne, is at the head of the bill here, and is a decided success. The programme also includes excellent turns by Mr J. H. Scotland, baritone; Mdlle. Vanda, in a juggling act on rolling globes; Harrison Brothers, comedians; Rita and Roma, vaudeville entertainers; Mr Charles R. Whittle, comedian; the Cullane Trio, in *The Dude's Dilemma*; and La Belle Tosca, wire performer.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company in the new version of *East Lynne* is here. As Archibald Carlyle Mr Wm. Heilbronn makes the most of his rôle; Mr W. T. Clifford's Francis Levison leaves little to be desired; and the Justice Hare of Mr Robert Wilton is likewise a success. Excellent comedy is given by Mr W. Faulkner Cox as Murty O'Flynn; Miss B. Stewart's Cornelia Carlyle is a good character study; and Miss Agnes Imlay's Lady Isabel is full of pathos.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Sutton Theatre Syndicate; General Manager, Captain Clayton.—Mr Frank Lindo's capital domestic drama *Home, Sweet Home* opened here on Monday to a crowded house. Mr Lindo is excellent as David Armitage; Mr G. F. Black as Stephen Armitage plays the rôle of the captain of the lifeboat crew very effectively; the heavy part of Lucas Lyle, the Duke's secretary, finds an able exponent in Mr Arthur Rodney; whilst Miss Ivy Ellaline Thorne (Sybil Fay) and Miss Marion Wakeford (Joan) delight the audience with their refined comedy. The scenery and effects are also worth a word of commendation.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—The visits of Mr J. W. Turner's English Opera company are invariably welcome here, and the usual hearty reception has been accorded it by large and fashionable audiences throughout the week. *Lily of Killarney* was presented on Monday, with Mr J. W. Turner in excellent form as Miles-na-Coppaleen and Miss Constance Bellamy a most pleasing and successful Lily. Mr Tom Griffiths as Danny Mann was admirable, his vocal efforts being repeatedly encored. *Faust* was the attraction on Tuesday, and on Wednesday *The Bohemian Girl* was presented. *The Waterman, Il Trovatore, Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Maritana* are also in the bill.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—The Henry H. Hamilton's Excursions close this week a most successful three weeks' stay.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr Geo. Dance's company is paying a return visit here this week in *The Girl from Kay's*. As Winnie Harborough Miss Simeta Marsden is seen to advantage. Mr H. C. Barry as Max Hoggenheimer gives a capital representation of the part. He is ably assisted by Mr Leslie Roy-Cathie as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle. Miss Maisie North was pleasing as Ellen, while Miss Alice Russon capably fills the part of Nora Chalmers. Mr Charles Hanbury is good as Harry Gordon.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Haddon and Loader's company in *The King of Thieves* occupies the boards here this week. Mr Jack Haddon as Galston, Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam as Mary Galston, Mr John Cecil as Travers, and Mr E. Munro as Sir Gilbert Redville are prominent. In the comedy parts Mr Harry Liddle, Mr R. W. Bedford, Miss Lottie Pearce, and Miss Marguerite Thorne are equally good.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alfred Brown.—Rohda Brothers submit in clever style an equilibristic act; Verto contributes a first-rate musical turn; Lily Langtry is as lively as ever; and F. H. Douglas, monologue artiste, is amusing. Ailsa Douglas, the Lancashire soprano; Collins and Rice, comedy speciality artistes; Walter Stockwell, character comedian; Olive Trio, comediennes and dancers; and Vernon's animated pictures complete the programme.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—*A Chinese Honeymoon* is again here, played by Mr Charles Dance's company. Mr Helier Le Maistre makes a very good Emperor, and Mr Rudolph Kloss scores as the Lord Chancellor. Tom Hatherton is well played by Mr J. Warren Foster, and Mr Gus Wheatman keeps the house highly amused as Mr Pineapple. Miss Elsie Carew is remarkably good as Mrs Brown; Miss Nellie Wigley as Soo-Soo and Miss Dot Stephens as Mrs Pineapple are excellent, and sing well. Miss Gwennie Harcourt as Fi-Fi is also greatly appreciated.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—The American drama, *The Klondyke Nugget*, now on its farewell tour, has been the attraction during the week, played by Mr S. F. Cody's company.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—The programme here includes the Kremo Family, an exceedingly clever troupe of Risley artistes; Fred Earle, eccentric comedian; Amy Russell, a charming vocalist; Alice Ormonde, a pleasing comedienne; Walter King, a capital vocal comedian; Burt Shepard, a good American comedian; Horace Wheatley, comedian and expert dancer; the Rayfords, comedy artistes; Downe and Langford, eccentric comedians and capital dancers; and Walter Groves and company in the comical sketch *Artful Jim*.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr F. H. Lucas.—The successful Adelphi drama *The Bells of Hastemere* was staged for the first time in this town on Monday and witnessed with much interest and enthusiasm by a crowded audience. It was played by a capable company, under the personal management of Mr Chas. A. Chandler, Mr H. Whyte being responsible for the capital staging. Mr Leonard Yorke's fine impersonation of Frank Beresford was a brilliant achievement, for which he was deservedly applauded. The scheming John Silkstone was cleverly depicted by Mr Montague Turner, while Mr C. A. Chandler as Captain Vere and Mr Douglas Hamilton as Matthew Brookfield were each seen to distinct advantage. Mr Chas. Cecil as Reuben Armstrong was eminently successful, and kept the audience in good spirits, and the part of Joseph Thorndyke was excellently undertaken by Mr Fred F. Allen. Miss Harrietta Polini submitted a most effective delineation of Evelyn Brookfield; Miss Mary Hardacre deserved a full measure of credit for her admirable study of Mary Northcote; and Miss Stafford Smith and Miss Florence Chandler were equally successful and pleasing in their respective parts.

TON-Y-PANDY.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr S. Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr H. Counsell.—Mr and Mrs Wm. Giffard with their No. 1 company, in *The World's Desire*, occupy the boards here. Mr Giffard shows a thorough grasp of the character of the Hon. Ellis Tridley; as the twin brothers, Robert and Henry Selkirk, Mr C. Rean doubles most effectively; Nathaniel Mutley, a drunken solicitor, is well played by Mr Geo. Child; Mrs Wm. Giffard evinces considerable power in the rôle of Dora Mutley; and Miss Ella Seton ably portrays Helen Berkshaw.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr S. Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr F. Burland.—Topping the bill here are Starr and Leslie, who gain unstinted applause for their clever speciality act. The Gentle Brothers Lang evoke laughter. Remaining from last week we have Frank Craig (Coffee Cooler) and Vera and Royal, both of which turns are highly appreciated. Judge's cockatoos give a good show. Happy Attwood and Miss Bouverie Pleydell sing in a well-approved style.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr R. Smeedon; Secretary, Mr A. Pearce.—Mr George Edwardes's *San Toy* company paid a return visit on Monday. Miss Dora Harradine made an acceptable San Toy, Miss Florence Arnold a lively Maid, and Miss Mabel Lavelle a pretty Poppy. Mr. G. J. Williams was a typical British Consul, Mr Cliffe Davies a properly ponderous Emperor, whilst Mr Alfred W. Clark was good as Yen How, and Mr Alfred Beers funny as Li.

Continued on Page 27

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. B. COLES.—*The late Dan Leno made his first appearance in a Drury-lane pantomime at Christmas, 1888, and appeared every subsequent season.*

U. CRABTREE.—*(1) We do not know the song Inquire of the leading London music publishers (2) Mr Ben Greet, 3, Bedford-street, Strand; Mr G. Dance, and Mr C Macdona 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London.*

W. E. ASHCROFT.—*Bonnie Dundee was produced at the Adelphi Theatre on March 10, 1900.*

F. C. DAUBENEY.—*(1) Proof was revived at the Grecian Theatre on May 16, 1881, with Mr J. H Clyndes in the part of Pierre Lorance (2) The last performance at the Grecian Theatre took place on the night of Aug 9, 1882. The pieces then played were* Lost in London *(with Mr Clyndes as Job Armroyd) and* Little Don Cæsar de Bazan.

C. L.—*An acting-manager's duties appertain more particularly to the front of the house; the duties of a business-manager are of a more general kind.*

H. G. A.—*We do not know of any volume that will give you the material you require; but surely you can, with a little thought, furnish your own arguments in support of your thesis.*

H. M. S.—*The song mentioned was first sung by Mr Harry Randall.*

QUESTIONER.—*Miss Phyllis Dare appeared as Mab in* Blue Bell in Fairyland, *produced at the Vaudeville Theatre, on Dec 18, 1901. Last Christmas she was the Fairy Godmother in the pantomime of* Cinderella, *at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, and she has appeared in other productions.*

G. O.—The Little Minister *was produced at the Haymarket Theatre, on Nov. 6, 1897;* The Wedding Guest *at the Garrick Sept 27, 1900, and* Quality Street *at the Vaudeville, September, 1902.*

J.G.—*Yes, at the Royalty Theatre.*

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MISS WARD, who has been playing Honor Symes in *Her Fatal Past*, has had a very nasty attack of influenza this last week at Theatre Royal, Stratford, E. So suddenly and acutely did the "Grippe" lay hold of her that—almost at an hour's notice—she was obliged to relinquish her part, which was undertaken by Miss Millane. Miss Ward, we are glad to hear, is on the highway to recovery.

THE new wonder child, Mischa Elman, the twelve-year-old Russian violinist, gave a concert at Berlin on Saturday, and gained a complete triumph. He is considered by local critics to be superior even to little Franz Von Vecsey, and is said to be quite the most marvellous player of his age ever heard there.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1904.

SOCIETY AND THE DRAMA.

In one of Mr W. H. MALLOCK'S novels there is an incident which is supposed to occur at the time when an East End mob is marching through the streets in angry procession to Hyde-park. A member of Society, the son of a small tradesman who has managed to work his way up into a "good" social set, comes amongst them radiating with delight because a man in the mob has thrown mud at him, and called him a (sanguinary) aristocrat. We fear a similar spirit may account for some of the objections which have been made to Mr SUTRO'S clever play *The Walls of Jericho*, which was produced at the Garrick Theatre on Monday. The London world may be divided into people who are in Society, people who are trying to get into Society, and people who have no chance of ever getting into Society, and are embittered accordingly. Those who are really in the best society will not misunderstand Mr SUTRO'S meaning, but the other two classes are very likely to do so. The individual who is in what we many term the literary and artistic Borderland, and, of course, holds a brief for the class just above him which he hopes ultimately to enter, will pooh-pooh the author's protest; while the third class—the sort of people who read *Reynolds'* and agree with Mr JOHN BURNS'S description of British army officers as "gilded popinjays"—will applaud Jack Frobisher's orations without discrimination and will wish more power to Mr SUTRO'S elbow. To them his attack will seem directed against Society as a whole, that wicked class where, in gilded salons, debauchery is the rule and decency the exception, and Vice and Dissipation go hand in hand.

Mr SUTRO, therefore, will find himself placed between the cross-fires of misconception, and he may well pray to be delivered from his friends as well as from his enemies. An author should be judged, however, by what he writes, not by what his critics may imagine him to have written; and Mr SUTRO distinctly intimates that Frobisher's remarks apply, not to Society as a whole, but only to a particular fraction of it. The outbursts of the irritated Queenslander in *The Walls of Jericho* must be taken as the expressions of feeling of a particular "personage of the drama," and not as sermons interjected by the playwright. That the personage should speak as he would have spoken in real life is the Horatian receipt for dramatic realism; and what Frobisher says is just what a man in his plight would say. The Australian, of course, has acted absurdly. With all the different "sets" in society to choose from, he has selected his spouse from what used to be called a "fast" one. In one of FIELDING'S novels there is a misanthrope, who has come to grief from choosing his bosom friend from a gambling hell and his wife from a house of ill-fame. Frobisher has only himself to blame for his foolishness; but, having got himself into the difficulty, he takes the only way out of it, and that leads him out of the country. We can, by a great effort, imagine Lady Alethea living a decent and useful life in Queensland; but we cannot fancy her still in London and in any set but that to which she belongs when she is first introduced to us on the stage.

In the interest of dramatic art we protest against an author's work being misinterpreted to suit the prejudices of a clique or a class. Unfortunately for the ignorant, the particular division of London Society which is most in evidence is the most frivolous and vicious. The great success of our fashionable restaurants is caused by the rage for display that is one of the characteristics of the modern smart set, which has a childish delight in playing with fire and parading its faults and follies. As the particular set in question in its ordinary conversation is accustomed to infer its immorality, it would probably be much offended if anyone accused it of virtue. Adultery is an eternal form of idle enjoyment, and gambling is another. Given a number of average men and women with plenty of money and nothing particular to do, and they are certain to engage in both of the above-mentioned pursuits. The error is to take a separate and "showy" section of Society as representative of the mass. Two-thirds, at least, of Society is industrious and ambitious. The component parts of the major section are the Royalties with their wives and families, and the diplomats, the wealthy bankers and financiers, the lawyers, judges, divines, soldiers, doctors, the statesmen, and the leading artists of all kinds, with their wives and families. This Society is regarded by the "smart" or "fast" set as "slow" and "frumpish," but it is of real importance and value; whereas the "smart" set is of no importance whatever, except to the restaurateurs, milliners, and other "fancy" tradesfolk. But it is just what the "outsiders" take to *be* Society; instead of being only a department thereof. It is absolutely absurd to suppose that adultery can be common amongst the old aristocracy, amongst the industrial aristocracy of Jewish and German extraction, and amongst the Parliamentary, political, and official classes. Unless we suppose that the complaisant husband is as common in England as he is reputed to be across the Channel, the result of adultery being widely practised would be a constant succession of divorce cases in "high life." Unfortunately the fast set in London society is the most accessible from below, besides being, as we have said, the most in evidence. The point at which the Bohemian and the *littérateur* touch the *monde* is the rotten point. A man who tastes the brown bit in an imperfect pear is very apt to inveigh against pears altogether. Frobisher, in *The Walls of Jericho* is a rank "outsider." He naturally imagines that his father-in-law is a typical English peer, and that his wife is a typical English lady of fashion. A good many people who will see the piece at the Garrick Theatre may share the delusion. As an indictment of a certain social section, the satire is quite warranted by facts; and it approaches the subject in quite a different spirit from the half-hearted, pandering, and weakly indulgent one which has distinguished some of our recent "Society" plays.

"THE LADY BURGLAR."

A One-Act Comedy, by Charles H. F. Brookfield, Produced at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Thursday, Nov. 3.

Mr Darcy FitzHerbert .. Mr JAMES WELCH
Miss Honora Macfarlane Miss AUDREY FORD

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A smartly written little trifle, though somewhat long drawn out, is *The Lady Burglar*. There is an element of originality in the story, and wherever played by a couple of capable artistes the piece will find acceptance. Miss Macfarlane, fresh from college, and cherishing some advanced ideas regarding the unequal distribution of wealth, resolves to put into practice her contention that possessors of too much should give the surplus to those who have not enough by secretly entering, during his absence, the bachelor flat of Darcy FitzHerbert, K.C., whose acquaintance she had recently made at a social gathering. The idea of a lady thieving may seem somewhat strained, but the author is responsible for that. Whilst she is gathering together some of his property, the barrister unexpectedly enters and discovers his strange visitor. Then some neat dialogue ensues, after which he produces from his curios a pair of handcuffs, with which he playfully fastens the lady until he investigates the extent of her depredations. The natural conclusion to the affair is apparent at an early stage by the young man's repeated assertion that she has stolen more than his property. Eventually the lady promises to abandon her burglarising proclivities, and the all-along expected love match is the outcome of the night's adventure. In the hands of Mr Welch and Miss Ford the smart curtain-raiser ran merrily, and provoked much laughter. As hinted, a slight curtailment would be an improvement.

AT the Southwark County Court, on Monday, was heard the claim by May Burgess Barratt, an actress, against Charles Henry Houghton, a theatrical agent, of Waterloo-road, for £6. The lady was engaged by the defendant as understudy for the leading part in *My Wife*, which his company was touring, at a salary of 27s. a-week. She was at Sunderland when she received a telegram telling her to go immediately to Wolverhampton. There, however, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, she was informed that there was nothing for her to do. Houghton told her, when he came down, to take the leading juvenile part.

WHEN the plaintiff asked Houghton for something on account of salary he offered her eighteenpence. Afterwards the company became stranded, and she received 6s. The defendant said that as the plaintiff did not reply to his telegram he sent another lady. His Honour—I think it very hard upon these poor women that you should treat them like this. These poor women come up here time after time and tell me they have been sent travelling about the country and cannot get paid. Judgment was given for the plaintiff for £6 and costs.

THE prosperity of the Guildhall School of Music is sufficiently attested by the fact that at the concert on Saturday last it was announced that 2,500 pupils were studying under the admirable professors of the institution which Dr. Cummings so successfully controls. The concert of Saturday was honoured by the presence of the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, and the Sheriffs, and the Lady Mayoress distributed a great number of medals, prizes, and certificates, the most successful of all the students being Mr Burgess, who, besides the remarkable gifts he has displayed at the school, has passed an examination at the Royal College of Organists and has gained the organ scholarship at Wadham College, Oxford. Another brilliant pupil was Miss Dorothy Ball, who has studied under M. Johannes Wolff, and clever students also deserving recognition were Miss Holbrook, Miss Grace Cole, Miss Finney, Miss Ethel Wynne, and Messrs Alfred Carr and Leftwich. Dr. Camming was greeted with the greatest enthusiasm, and may be heartily congratulated on the splendid success attending his labours, the Guildhall School at the present moment having reached a position unequalled during the twenty-five years it has been established, and giving promise of still greater triumphs in the future.

"MISS MISCHIEF."

Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, Book and Lyrics by Mr Reginald Bacchus, Music by Dr. F. Osmond Carr, Produced at the West London Theatre on Monday, Oct. 31.

Private Harris	Mr FRED EASTMAN
Admiral Sir Hannibal Bethune	Mr T. E. CONOVER
Captain Jack Bethune	Mr CECIL CURTISS
Hiram Q. Peg, Esq.	Mr J. C. BLAND
Lord Percy Fitz-Sherry	Mr G. H LIOT
Count Von Himmelblau	Mr G. ELSMERE
Jules	Mr W. LANE
Graf Von Gruber	Miss REICHENBERG
Furst Von Ahrenshelmer	Miss NELLIE RENE
Matilda	Miss ZARA KRIESBERG
Arabella	Miss POPPY LYTTON
Priscilla	Miss DESMOND
Virginia	Mdlle. THELMA
Frau Schmutte	Miss ELLA DOUGLAS
Lady Orrery	Miss EILEEN GUILBERT
Mary Anne Smith	Miss CRISSIE FRANCESS
Kitty Malone	Miss EVALYN HUGHES

The West Londoners are staunch lovers of melodrama. They love a bloodthirsty villain, a chivalrous hero, and a heroine laden with tribulation; and to woo their suffrages with the frivolity of musical comedy says much for the boldness of the Messrs Bailey, who put on a brand new piece—spiced with variety and scintillating with gems of melody—on Monday. It is from the pen of Mr Reginald Bacchus, a young writer of considerable ability and no little poetic fancy, and the music is from the practised and accomplished pen of Dr. F. Osmond Carr, who was associated with such successful productions as *Morocco Bound*, *His Excellency*, *In Town*, and others. The partnership is undoubtedly a fortunate one, and *Miss Mischief*, which will proceed on tour next Monday, should find her pretty deceptions, her artless coquetry, and her fascinations all conquering. She is an heiress is this happy little maid, and her name is Kitty Malone. She arrives from Argentina at the home at Boulogne of her uncle and guardian, Admiral Sir Hannibal Bethune—who, by the caprice of the author, is also Hereditary Grand Duke of Bildenbad, in Bavaria—and finds that her maid, Mary Anne Smith, who has preceded her with her diamonds, valued at £100,000, has been mistaken for the mistress. She thinks it excellent fun to keep up the deception. Captain Jack Bethune, who has met Kitty at Dover as the heiress, is very naturally surprised to discover on his arrival at his uncle Hannibal's that Kitty has become Mary Anne, and that the latter is now posing as the heiress. It makes no difference to his affection, however, and the impecunious Admiral, who is determined that his nephew shall marry money, becomes highly indignant at the young officer's obstinacy in sticking to the pretty little girl he had met at Dover, and at his refusal to heighten his worldly prospects by a marriage with the supposed heiress. Mary Anne, of course, has more than one suitor. Her alleged wealth secures her the attentions of Private Harris, Captain Bethune's soldier servant, and of a dude—Lord Percy Fitz-Sherry—the nephew of Lady Orrery, an impecunious member of "the smart set" who has designs on Hiram Q. Beg, an American speculator and enterpriser. Beg proposes to the Admiral that he shall form a syndicate with the object of bringing the town of Bildenbad up to date by building there a casino and establishing it as a fashionable gambling resort. The proposal is accepted, and in the second act the whole of the characters arrive at the Bavarian town. Kitty, who has been charged with the theft of her own jewels, has escaped with Mary Anne, and both are found at Bildenbad. The casino does not answer the expectations of Beg. There are no profits, and, as he says, there must be a leakage somewhere. The syndicate is being robbed by Count Von Himmelblau, the chamberlain, whose defalcations are discovered when Private Harris is appointed croupier. A braggart German prince, it appears, is seeking a duel with one of the students, and young Bethune, who has graduated at the University of Bildenbad, draws the black token by which he is chosen to fight. The "prince" is none other than Miss Mischief, and her identity is discovered. Kitty proclaims herself to be the real heiress, and Jack Bethune, having won £25 000 at the tables, gives it to Mary Anne Smith in order that she may become the dowered bride of Private Harris, who has a very comic duel with Hiram Beg.

This is a sufficient outline of the plot, which gives opportunity for much clever comedy business, some admirable songs, some spirited concerted numbers, and some fascinating dancing. Mr Bacchus is not only ingenious enough to contrive comic situations, but he can write dialogue that smacks of smartness. The members of the company, too, engaged by Mr Godfrey Lamplugh work together with inspiriting heartiness, and the chorus especially may be complimented on the singing of the finale to the first act, a number that is particularly fascinating and well composed. The cast is headed by Mr Fred Eastman, who plays the part of Private Harris. Such a genuine comedian, given plenty of opportunity, is bound to be a success, and his resourcefulness is never at fault. He sings early in the piece "How I Won the V.C.," with the refrain "Just the three of us—no more," and the liveliness of the number catches the fancy of the West Londoners. A "bathing" song is another diverting item to which Mr Eastman does not fail to do complete justice; and he is encored in "A Croupier's Life," which he sings in the second act. Mr Eastman is most loyally supported in his songs by Misses Desmond, Poppy Lytton, Zara Kriesberg, and Mdlle Thelma, a quartet of young ladies whose piquancy as the pet parlourmaids of the old Admiral is quite irresistible. They dance exceedingly well, and their gyrations and high-kicking are much enjoyed. The title-rôle is capitally sustained in every way by Miss Evelyn Hughes, who has the rare merit of being a good listener. She makes love very prettily and tenderly, and, besides, is an arch and dainty dancer. An excellent number and one that is quite up to date is Kitty's song, "Merely Mary Anne," which she sings in the character of a housemaid, and herein Miss Hughes scores a genuine triumph. "From far distant Argentine" is another of her solos, and still another is "My Indian Maid," in both of which her refinement of style is very apparent. Miss Crissie Francess revels in the low comedy part of Mary Anne Smith, and is exceedingly funny in her love scenes with Mr Fred Eastman. She has an excellent solo in "Maisie married a millionaire," with a lilting melody that has been caught up during the week by the music-loving patrons of the theatre. Mr Cecil Curtiss as Captain Bethune sings some excellent sentimental ballads, in one of which, "Let my love be my sword," he is encored, and he, with Mr Eastmar, Miss Hughes, and Miss Francess, shares the success of the quartet "A duty we owe to Society." Mr J. C. Bland is the incarnation of good humour as Hiram Q. Beg, and his incidental Dutch business is intensely funny and his dance clever. Miss Eileen Guilbert is an attractive Lady Orrery, and sings a lyric which we may call "Style." Mr G. H. Liot as Lord Percy Fitz-Sherry plays the part on the traditional lines, and is decidedly amusing in his fatuousness. Mr T. E. Conover is sufficiently bluff and splenetic as the Admiral, and sings "I'm seventy-one to-day" with rare gusto. The part of the Chamberlain is effectively handled by Mr G. Elsmere, and Miss Ella Douglas, Miss Reichenberg, and Miss Nellie Rene are seen to advantage in minor parts. The Chevalier Le Grand conducts with great care, and secures an excellent ensemble. On the first night author and composer had to respond to a very hearty call. The scenery is excellent, the plage at Boulogne-sur-Mer being a pretty bit of brushwork. There should be a hearty reception awaiting *Miss Mischief* in the provinces.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA GUEULE DU LOUP."
Farcical Comedy in Three Acts, by MM. Maurice Hennequin and Paul Bilhaud, Produced at the Nouveautés, Oct. 28.

Gaston Challindrey	M. NOBLET
Barentin	M. GERMAIN
Edgard	M. TORIN
Planturel	M. LANDRIN
Bélois	M. GAILLARD
Baptiste	M MARCHE
Antoinette Planturel	Mdlle. CERNY
Gilberte Barentin	Mdlle. CARLIX
Françoise	Madame ROSE
Rose	Mdlle. DELACOURT
Hortense	Mdlle. MORGAN
Gaby	Mdlle. BUARINI

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, NOV 3.—There can be no doubt that the Nouveautés is one of the luckiest playhouses not only in Paris but in the whole of France. Nearly every piece brought out there turns out a success; and it looks very much as if M. Michaud, the shrewd Nouveautés manager, will not have to alter his programme for a long time to come. There certainly is nothing novel in the plot of MM. Hennequin and Bilhaud's new work. We have the same old situations, the same kind of intrigue we find in other vaudevilles. But the two clever playwrights possess a remarkably light touch, and have imparted a special charm to the work by the delicate and skilful manner in which they have handled some of the most risqué situations. Barentin has a mistress, Emilienne, of whom he is very jealous, and a wife, Gilberte, of whom he has not the least suspicion, not knowing, of course, that Gilberte is on the point of succumbing to Gaston Challindrey, diplomatist and lady-killer. In fact, she has promised Gaston to call on him in his garçonnière, but a scruple holds her back. It is her husband's birthday, and as she does not want to celebrate this event in that form she unbosoms herself to her friend Antoinette Planturel, and asks her to call on Gaston and tell him that she (Gilberte) has decided never to be his mistress. And Antoinette is all the more pleased to accept this mission as it will give her an opportunity of seeing again the fascinating Gaston, whom she once met and has never forgotten. When Antoinette makes her appearance in Gaston's chambers the latter is somewhat taken aback, but Antoinette is pretty, and things might have taken a queer turn, when Antoinette suddenly hears her husband's voice in the next room. He has made a mistake, and has entered Gaston's apartment instead of going one story higher. For on this floor above lives his mistress, Emilienne, the same Emilienne who bestows her favour upon Gilberte's husband. The plot here becomes very entangled, and it requires all the skill of the dramatists to unravel it properly. Gilberte does not break her marriage vows, but it is Antoinette who succumbs and becomes Gaston's mistress. The piece was admirably played. Mdlle. Cerny scored a real triumph as Antoinette, a rôle that required to be handled with the utmost delicacy. I know of very few actresses who could have achieved this feat. Mdlle. Carlix acted very cleverly the part of Gilberte, the woman oscillating between her conjugal duties and the desire to embark upon a little adventure. M. Noblet never strives after effect. With the slightest inflection of the voice, with a gesture he can speak volumes, and these qualities stand him in good stead in the not easy rôle of Gastor. M. Germain did not make too many grimaces, and M. Torin's impersonation of a manservant was perfection itself.

SOME ten years ago we had here a Napoleonic epidemic, which, however, did not last long. It now looks as if we were to have a fresh outbreak, for we are promised a *Napoléon*, by M. Martin Laya, at the Porte-Saint-Martin, and the Ambigu will also produce the great Corsican in *La Belle Marseillaise*.

"M. DE LA PALISSE."
Operette, in Three Acts, by MM. Robert De Flers and G. De Caillavet, Music by M. Claude Terrace, Produced at the Variétés, Nov. 2.

Baron Placide De La Palisse	M. BRASSEUR
Don Diego	M. CLAUDIUS
Comte Bertrand	M. ALBERTHAL
Beni-Zouzou	M. VAUTHIER
Domingue	M. BERNARD
Inésita	Mdlle. LAVAILLIÈRE
Héloise	Mdlle. LAPORTE
Dorette	Mdlle. LANTHENAY
Augustine	Mdlle. FOURNIER
Françoise	Mdlle. DORLAC
Lola	Mdlle. DEBACKER
Biscotin	Mdlle. LAVERNIÈRE

The new operette will not set the Seine on fire, but both libretto and music are pleasing, and, as usual at the Variétés, the new work is magnificently staged. The story is by no means complicated. Placide De La Palisse, the descendant of M. De La Palisse—who, as every French schoolboy will tell you, "was alive a quarter of an hour before his death"—is a good young man whose sole ambition is to lead a quiet life among his ducks, chickens, and cows. Anxious to perpetuate his race, yet knowing that woman is always a disturbing element in a man's existence, he decides upon marrying Héloise De La Verdure, a widow of mature age, and, therefore, past the age of frivolity. Fate, however, has decided otherwise. Bertrand, a brilliant cavalier, and the very opposite of his cousin Placide, makes his appearance. Bertrand is on his way on a diplomatic mission to Spain, with a train of followers, among whom is Dorette, a delightful damsel. Bertrand then sprains his foot, and, unable to continue his journey, begs of Placide to start for Spain in his stead. Placide does not relish the idea of leaving his quiet retreat, but he goes nevertheless, and arrives in Seville, where he falls in with old Don Diego, the governor of the town, who has a charming niece, Inésita. Placide at once loses his heart. His fate is sealed, or rather Inésita seals it for him by carrying him off, whilst old Diego runs away with Dorette. The music, well in keeping with the story, is tuneful and capitally orchestrated. The interpretation was fairly good. M. Brasseur was always amusing; M. Claudius sufficiently grotesque as the Governor; M. Alberthal very elegant in the rôle of Bertrand; Mdlle. Eve Lavaillière full of *entrain*; Mdlle. Lanthenay a fascinating Dorette; and Mdlle. Leonie Laporte amusing as the amorous elderly Héloise without being ridiculous.

M. CAMILLE DE SAINTE-CROIX, the talented author of *Gildis*, the great work to be brought out soon at the Odéon, is anxious to contradict the rumour that he intends to take over the Odéon management. There is not and there has never been a question of this. M. Ginisty has no intention whatsoever of throwing up his post, nor has M. De Sainte-Croix the desire of replacing him.

FIRE IN A THEATRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—At the slight fire last week at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, while Mr Martin Harvey's company were rehearsing, far from the actors and actresses hastily leaving the theatre, it was they who got out the hose and subdued the fire before the fire-engines arrived. As no notice has been taken of this fact, I should be greatly obliged if you would give publicity to it.

Yours faithfully, FRANK B. O'NEILL.
Theatre Royal, Hull, Oct. 31.

MR MULHOLLAND, in consequence of the great success made by Mr Levilly's company, including Mr Eric Thorne and Miss Stella Gastelle, with *La Poupée* at the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, three weeks ago, has engaged it for a return visit next week, with the new and charming opera, *Amorelle*. The version is the same as originally performed at Kennington last year.

BRITANNIA REOPENED AS THEATRE.

Mr Tom Barrasford, who is one of the apostles of the two-houses-a-night plan, beautified the great house in Hoxton last year, brought it up-to-date, installed the electric light, and in a superlative degree increased its comfort, elegance, and safety. With a new face upon the old house he made a drastic change in the form of entertainment. Five-act melodrama was disestablished, and the bi-nightly programme that he gave contained a short sketch—either dramatic or farcical—and varieties. To the staunch supporters of the late Mrs Lane and the stock company representations the changes were not quite palatable; and the theatre has now reverted to the old plan of drama, farce, and varieties which up to the commencement of the new century had been in vogue for thirty years. The Britannia Syndicate, with Mr Sydney Hyman as managing-director, which is responsible for the spirited revival of the old traditions of the "Brit.," as it is invariably called by the lovers of the play in the vast north-east district of London, has secured an excellent manager in Mr John M. East, and a capital all-round company. The choice of the opening piece fell upon the last autumn production of Drury-lane Theatre—the melo-farce, *The Flood Tide*, by Mr Cecil Raleigh. There are fine scenic effects and mechanical sensations in the piece which require a large and spacious stage, and to the thrilling episode of the bursting of the dam complete justice is done. The interior of the Brighton Metropole is also an excellent set, and the paddock at Kempton Park, with its jockeys and "sports," appeals to the horse-loving instincts of the Hoxton "Britons." The company is headed by Mr H. Hamilton Stewart, who is seen to considerable advantage as Captain Jack Champion, V. C., a character that is by no means easy to play. There is an artistic restraint in Mr Stewart's rendering that is very commendable, and this was especially the case in the scene in Jack's quarters. Mr Maitland Marler, an excellent low comedian, displays rare comic ability as George Wellington Clipp, who for the purposes of the plot poses as a millionaire. One never pities the woes of the low comedian, and Mr Marler's humour was irresistible in the scene where Clipp is seen recovering from his maltreatment at the hands of the angry race-course crowd. Mr Harry Griffen in the rôle of the serio-comic lunatic Macnaughton evinced considerable care in his treatment of an extraordinary character—the idiosyncracies of which were not quite grasped probably by the Britannia "gods." The return of Mr Charles A. East to the boards he graced during the latter days of the old stock company was a happy thought on the part of the management; and Mr East's conspicuous ability was shown in the capital part of Dick Champion, the repentant innkeeper. Mr East brought out the traits of the character admirably, and delineated the tenderness and fatherly affection of the elder Champion with no little skill. Mr Horace Pollock did not over accentuate the disagreeable peculiarities of the Earl of Sutton; Mr Graham Wentworth made a soldierly Colonel Sir Russell Corry; and Mr Fred Groves's Menotti Derago did not lack the essential qualities of malice and moral turpitude. Mr J. B. Howe, who is the oldest actor at present playing on the London boards, found that his long career at the Britannia had been remembered by his friends in front, and on his entrance as Podmore Blackman he had a greeting of which a prime minister might have been proud. Similar honours awaited Miss Julia Summers, whose years of service under the banner of Mrs Sara Lane were lovingly remembered by the boys and girls seated in the cheaper parts of the house on Monday night. Such loyalty to players is fortunately not rare on the English stage, but the kindly feeling expressed on Monday none the less did honour to the humble toilers of Hoxton, whose vivid remembrance of happy hours at the local playhouse may be regarded as a happy augury for its future. Miss Mildred Cottell, who has succeeded to the part of the Baroness Pitchioli, originally embodied at Drury-lane by Mrs Tree, has a commanding presence and a distinction of style that eminently fit her for so responsible a part. The caressing tones simulated by the Baroness when addressing her dupes were well contrasted with the real manner of the adventuress, and Miss Cottell's decision of style and aristocratic bearing made her success quite certain. Miss Rose Ralph was a handsome and completely satisfactory Marie Pitchioli, and the faith and love of Mabel Corry were depicted with much sweetness by Miss Dorothy Casey. Miss Marie Wright became a favourite with the audience on her first entrance as Polly Champion, and her spirit and vivacity in the part were warmly recognised. Miss Ethel Enever contributed a neat character sketch of Madame Muriel; and Miss Rose Harris was responsible for good work as Mrs Meredith. Mr Brun Ellis was a capable Sir Valentine; Mr A. Winslow submitted a life-like sketch of Billy Bunn; Mr Sydney Teversham's Mr Newman may be given a word of praise; and other parts were adequately presented. The scenery by Bruce Smith R. Caney, and R. C. M'Cleery was exceedingly fine, and the incidental music composed for the drama by Mr J. M. Glover was well played by the band. The varieties were contributed by Burley and Burley, comedy acrobats and patterers; Miss Clara Sefton, a speciality dancer of considerable attainments; and Mr Charles Clark, a dialect comedian of much resource. An entirely new series of animated pictures was also a much appreciated feature of the incidentals; and the bill concluded with the laughable farce *Paddy Rooney's Blunders*, with Mr Brian Daly in the part of Paddy. The whole evening was a great success, and bids fair to bring back the successful reputation the Britannia always had. At the conclusion of *The Flood Tide* Mr Jesse Sparrow made a speech from the stage and introduced the new management, at the same time remarking he himself was a man of the district, having known the house for the last thirty-five years, and he wished the new proprietors every success. The Rev. Cartmael Robinson, vicar of Hoxton, in the course of a few remarks from the stage-box, said he was more than pleased to be present that evening, and he felt sure the performance he had witnessed during the evening was just what was required in the district, and he thought people could learn as much and more by visiting a theatre than from the church. Among the many friends of Mr Hyman who looked in during the evening were:—The Rev. Cartmael Robinson, Messrs Jesse Sparrow, Fred Baugh, Tom Claxton, H. Cory Woodrow, Tom Tinsley, Charles Chapman, Tom Shaw, Taff Volta, Harry Wieland, Gallimore Fox, Jas. Fortune, Dave Cohen, Ernest De Vere, Chas. Read, Jack Munro, W. Henderson, Fred Thorne, C. Chaplin, Ted Volta, Francis Bull, W. Wollheim, Sam Hart, Tom Pacey, William Edelsten, Henri Cazman, E. Macdermott, Geo. Simmonds, J. Page, Burrows-Smith, Richard Cass, Percy Hart, Bobb Hutt, Carlton, Cayley Calvert, and Ernest Edelsten. On Monday next will be produced the moral drama *It's Never too Late to Mend*.

MR. TERRY HURST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—It is ever a great pleasure to me to read of the pronounced successes of those who in the past have been engaged by me for the testing qualities and arduous duties of stock business.

My attention has been kindly called to Mr Charles Carte's biography in *The Era* of the 29th inst., re the *late* Mr Terry Hurst.

I should like to say that I am still in existence, active, and, like, Barkis, "willing."

Yours faithfully, TERRY HURST.
Scotgate, Stamford, Oct. 31, 1904.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

The funeral of the late Mr Dan Leno will take place on Tuesday next. Mourners are to assemble at 11·30 a.m. at the residence, Springfield House, Atkins-road, Clapham-park, and an hour later the funeral cortège will proceed by way of Cavendish-road, through Cathles-road, and across Balham High-road, to the Church of the Ascension, Malwood-road, Balham, arriving there about one o'clock, when the first portion of the burial service (fully choral) will be conducted by the Rev. Mr Curtis, the Vicar, who will also read the committal sentences at the grave. The sad procession of funeral carriages will wend its way to Lambeth Cemetery, Tooting, where the interment is to take place about a quarter-past two.

The coffin, which is to be of solid oak, will bear the following inscription:—

GEORGE GALVIN
("Dan Leno"),
Who entered into rest October 31, 1904,
Aged 43.

The special brick vault which is being built as a last resting-place for the remains of the lamented comedian is on the first plot inside the main gates. It is a double vault, and the length of time required for its preparation accounts for the date of the funeral being protracted longer than would otherwise have been the case. Mr Theophilus Dunkley, the well-known undertaker, of 88, Westminster-bridge-road, is attending to the whole of the arrangements in connection with the funeral. Deputations from every society attached to the profession will be present at the graveside.

The chief mourners will be Mrs Leno, the widow; John and Ernest Leno, sons; Mrs Lubbock (Georgina Galvin Leno), eldest daughter; Mr C. Lubbock, son-in-law; Mr Johnny Danvers and Mrs Danvers, Mr and Mrs Rish, Mrs Dobson, and Mr and Mrs Reynolds.

Mrs Leno has received over 100 telegrams and upwards of fifty letters of sympathy from the leading ladies and gentlemen of the profession. Among the messages of condolence and regret were those of Sir Henry Irving and Miss Ellen Terry, Mr E. S. Willard, and many other prominent members of the theatrical profession.

The passing away of Dan Leno, who has died at the comparatively early age of forty-three, has saddened not only the world of entertainers but the world beyond the footlights. He was essentially the people's comedian. He understood—no one better—the struggle for life among the masses, and in his presentation of the comic side of domesticity there was always a sub-stratum of reality in his patter and business that, while it set everyone in a roar, gave the necessary touch of nature. But, apart from his great gifts as a comedian, he had qualities which endeared him to all with whom he came into contact. He never turned a deaf ear to the claims of charity, and his services were always being requisitioned for bazaars and theatrical and music hall matinées. Who does not remember his appearance as a fun maker at the annual Music Hall Sports and at several comic cricket matches at Kennington Oval on behalf of philanthropic societies? He showed always a warm interest in the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and occupied the chair at the annual dinner in 1901. He was also an earnest advocate of the claims on the profession of the Music Hall Home.

Had Dan Leno not been an entertainer, he would probably have become an artist. He was intensely fond of drawing, and had considerable ability. Many of his pictures in oil and water-colour adorn the rooms of Springfield, his beautiful, old-world suburban residence at Clapham, and many of his friends were proud to hang specimens of his brush work on their own walls. His skill as a scene-painter enabled him to furnish the whole of the scenery of the children's pantomime produced at the old Grand Music Hall, Clapham, in which Miss Georgina Leno made her first appearance on any stage. The cast was made up entirely of children of members of the music hall profession.

He was always ready for a jest; and one of his North London friends, who met him once with Herbert Campbell and the Brothers Griffiths at a party given by Harry Randall at Highbury, relates how Dan got up an impromptu burlesque of the Mohawk Minstrels, with the lamented Herbert as interlocutor, himself as sentimental singer, and Joe and Fred Griffiths as corner men. How excessively funny the travesty was our readers may well imagine.

The removal within a few months of the two popular comedians who worked year by year together as the chief fun-makers in Old Drury's pantomimes leaves Mr Arthur Collins in an awkward position. We are given to understand that overtures are being made to the London Pavilion directorate to break the Christmas engagement of Phil Ray, so as to allow of him appearing in poor Leno's part. There has also been some talk of securing the services of Harry Tate, who has lately blossomed into a humourist of the first water; but he is booked some time ahead, and cannot in the circumstances come to Drury-lane until the year after next.

A few weeks ago Mr Leno met Mr Arthur Collins and Mr Hickory Wood to discuss his part in the pantomime of *The White Cat*. Dan was told that the chief point in his character would be a fondness for gardening. "Well, guv'nor," he answered, "you must let me have some geese with me on the stage if you want any cackle." A few years ago he perpetrated a joke at Old Drury by painting a property cow black—it was originally white. The stage-manager could not understand the change of colour, and inquiries were instituted as to who was responsible for the mischief. Dan gazed wistfully at the animal, and said "I expect she has been out in a thunderstorm. Lightning turns everything black."

The news of the death of Mr Dan Leno was received with profound regret in Belfast. A most unique tribute to the memory of the late comedian is a life-sized cartoon, drawn by Mr George Harrison, of the Palace Theatre orchestra, Belfast, and hung up in Mrs Stamford's (widow of the late J. G. Stamford), the well-known professional house. The drawing, a most faithful likeness, is carefully draped in mourning, and is being admired both by the profession and patrons of the house.

Owing to the funeral of Mr Dan Leno, president of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association, on Tuesday next, the offices will be closed on that day. At the 379th meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday afternoon, with Mr Fred Neiman in the chair, the committee expressed its deep regret at the sad news, and immediately dispatched a telegram of sympathy to Mrs Leno. It was also decided to appoint a deputation from the Association to attend the funeral and to send a wreath.

"Dan Leno, poor Dan!" is the sorrowful exclamation that goes out from the lips of all whose happy lot it was to know him. Mr Frank Egerton, having for over thirty years rubbed shoulders with him as a brother artiste and friend, had on Wednesday evening last an opportunity of paying a tribute to his dead comrade. In the saloon of Collins's Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, was unveiled a crape-bound portrait of "Dan" when in his merriest mood and his best form. The company present, headed by Mr Eugene Stratton, uncovered, and drank the silent toast, "Peace to his *manes*."

Mr Oswald Stoll, who is ever ready and foremost to assist any deserving charitable work, with his usual courtesy granted the entire free use of the Leicester Palace Theatre on Sunday evening for a concert on behalf of the funds of the Leicester Infirmary and Wycliffe Cottage Homes for the Blind. The beautiful building was packed with the leading townspeople, and Miss Marie Corelli, the well-known authoress, was present, and spoke a few words of appeal, referring to Mr Stoll's kindness in granting the use of the hall. Miss Ellen Terry, the eminent actress, was also present in a box with Mrs Vidal, the wife of the manager. The Mayor (Alderman Sawday), the Mayor-elect (Councillor Hilton), Sir Thomas Wright, and Alderman Wakerley (Parliamentary candidate for the Melton Division) were among the audience.

The Mayor-elect of Leicester moved a vote of thanks to Mr Oswald Stoll for his kindness in placing his handsome and well-managed theatre at their disposal, and Mr Leonard Vidal, in a few well-chosen words, thanked the audience on behalf of Mr Stoll. We should not omit to mention that the staff, headed by Mr Leonard Vidal (the courteous acting-manager), Mr Arthur Brogden (the assistant-manager), and Mr Bertram G. Isles (the stage-manager) gave their services, and did all in their power to make the concert the big success it undoubtedly was.

Dr. Walford Bodie has been recuperating during the week at his pretty home, Bohemia House, Macduff, N.B. He has been amusing himself with rod and line, catching the "Macduff haddie." This delicious fish, fried in butter, is a dish fit for Epicurus himself.

The Imperial Hippodrome and Circus, Belfast, will reopen for the season on Monday. Many novelties will be introduced by the proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco, who are also adopting the two houses a-night system. This experiment, which is certainly novel as far as circus business is concerned, will be watched with interest. Everything possible will be done to satisfy the patrons, and to repeat the "Hippodrome" success of last season. In this connection no one will be more energetic than the deservedly popular manager, Mr Irving Bosco, and his assistant, Mr George Dobler.

Mr Otto C. Culling, the popular manager of the Theatre Royal and Circus of Varieties, Bury, was elected on the 1st inst. to represent Redvales Ward on the Bury Town Council. He polled 783 votes, and displaced Mr H. Hargreaves, who had been a member of the council for the last three years.

Miss Marie Kendall, on Monday evening, at the second house at the Palace, Leicester, was about to reply to the demands of the audience for yet another song with "Just like the ivy, I'll cling to you," when she was seized with a sudden faintness, and could not proceed. Her friends will be pleased to know that she shortly afterwards recovered, and made her appearance on Tuesday evening amid the plaudits of an enthusiastic audience.

Miss Rachel Lowe has returned to London after a pleasant Continental tour, and resumes business on Monday next. Miss Lowe, who is a smart business woman as well as an original performer, while in Paris purchased the original costumes of the scena which made so great a success at the Folies-Marigny last summer, and will use them in an elaborate production of her song, "Any Rags," in her forthcoming pantomime engagement at the Kennington Theatre, where she will play Aladdin.

Miss Lilian Doreen, the charming ballad vocalist, is scoring at the London Pavilion with her delightful songs, "The Garden of Life" and "There's nothing new to say." Miss Doreen has made so great a success with the former song that the publishers, M. Witmark and Sons, have reserved it for her.

Miss Daisy Mayer, who has no equal as a singer of characteristic coon songs, has secured from M. Witmark and Sons a peculiar number with the significant title, "I won't be your lady friend no more."

As pantomime season is approaching, we note great activity among the music publishers, whose publications have so much to do with the success of these annuals. As usual, M. Witmark and Sons are early in the field, and from the compliments and kind words showered upon them by the leading managers and pantomime producers, have certainly this season excelled themselves in their selection of Christmas songs.

A number which has become an epidemic in America, entitled "Good-bye, little girl; good-bye," threatens to attain the same popularity on this side of the water. Mr Charles Warren, the London manager of this popular firm, in speaking of the season's prospects, says that at no time in the history of the "house of Witmark" have "we ever had so many really good numbers. In fact, the difficulty lies in the choosing. We have excellent numbers of every sort, and, indeed, several pantomime managers have selected all their numbers from our catalogue, as we can supply anything in the line of music from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Our rooms at the Witmark building are filled with artists, managers, and producers, and we can always find something suitable for each and every applicant."

In the Parisian production of *The Country Girl* at Olympia they are using the great American song success, "Good-bye, little girl, good-bye," "Tizan," and "Pretty Molly Shannon."

In a personal letter to Mr Charles Warren, of "Witmarks," Mr Max Dearly, the celebrated French comedian, thanks him for having called his attention to these numbers, as they have done not a little toward the success of the piece, which is playing nightly to crowded houses.

The Edison Bell Consolidated Phonograph Co., Limited, of 39, Charing-cross-road, have some excellent records of the late Dan Leno's songs. They include "The Waiter," "The Huntsman," "The Swimming Master," "Clever Mr Green," "Courting the Widow," "The Beefeater," "The Railway Guard," "The Recruiting Sergeant," "The Salvage Man," "The Shopwalker" and "Mrs Kelly." They have been sung into the Phonograph by Mr Harry Bluff, who has established a reputation by the distinct and loud quality of his productions. The small records can be had for 1s. each, and the series is entitled the Edison Bell Gold Moulded Records. The larger size, entitled Concert Records, are 5s. each.

The following sum has been collected for the Fred Chapman testimonial by Mr Wilkie Bard:—Miss Lil Hawthorne, £2 2s.; T. Barrasford, Esq., £2 12s. 6d.; George Peel, £2 2s.; Arthur Hart, £2 2s.; W. Westmoreland, £1 11s. 6d.; Ambrose Manning, £1 1s.; Frank Leo, 10s. 6d.; Harry Day, 10s. 6d.; Hartley Milburn, 10s. 6d.; Cavour, 10s. 6d.; and Wilkie Bard, £5 5s.; total, £18 18s. The matinée was a record success, the following artistes travelling from London to participate:—Little Tich, George Robey, Edmund Payne, Wilkie Bard, Queenie Leighton, Bessie Featherstone, Nellie Stratton, and Miss Lil Hawthorne.

Mr Douglas Crichton has resigned his position on *The Era*, and is, therefore, no longer connected with this paper

Mrs John Lawson became the mother of a fine boy on Oct. 24, the day, curiously enough, on which *Mr Todd of London* was produced at Bristol. The proud father received many congratulations from his friends in the west country, and also from his company.

Miss Lil Hawthorne commences an engagement at the Empire, Cardiff, on Nov. 7, with Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, and Leicester to follow. She then goes to Bristol to rehearse for pantomime at the Prince's Theatre. Miss Hawthorne plays the Prince, in *Sleeping Beauty*, a part specially written for her by J. Hickory Wood.

The absurd report that has recently been put into circulation regarding the alleged edict issued by the Lord Chamberlain ordering those theatres which have recently forsaken drama for variety to return to drama has arisen in this way. The Lord Chamberlain's licence expired last week, and the London County Council hold their sessions next week for granting licences to establishments south of the Thames. From a strictly legal point of view, therefore, the recently converted halls hold no licence whatever during the short interregnum, and they await the County Council singing and dancing licence. No change of entertainment, however, has been at all necessary, and a return to legitimate drama has not been thought of. As a matter of fact the Lord Chamberlain has no power to enforce such an order.

Miss Millie Hylton is under contract to Mr Oswald Stoll, who is booking artistes of the very highest reputation, and will appear at an early date at the new Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, in a special scena, written for her by Mr John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn. It is entitled *The Feast of Lanterns*, and is a Japanese love idyll. Great taste and lavish expense will mark its production, and there will be specially painted scenery, novel effects, and numerous auxiliaries. Messrs Harrington and Le Brunn are also writing a number of other songs for Miss Hylton, and one of them, "Boccacio," has been accepted for production by Mr Stoll. This is a character that should be specially suited to such a clever burlesque artiste as Miss Hylton.

The introduction into the ballet *L'Entente Cordiale* of a dramatic scene representing the North Sea incident is causing great enthusiasm at the Alhambra. Other strong features of an excellent programme are Mdlle. Nadji, queen of equipoise; "Dida," the mystery; Miss Violet Elliott, the famous Australian singer; and wonderful series of Urban pictures of the British navy in action, with all the accompaniment of launching torpedoes and exploding mines.

The Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, Limited (82,345), has been registered with a capital of £11,000 in £1 shares. The object is to adopt an agreement with T. de la Pole Temple-West to take a lease of the Surrey Theatre, lately transformed, or about to be transformed, into a music hall, and to carry on there the business of music hall and theatre proprietors, variety entertainers, and caterers for entertainments and exhibitions.

The Surrey Theatre has been acquired by the Macnaghten Vaudeville circuit, and will be worked in connection with the other enterprises of the Macnaghten directorate in London—viz., Sadler's Wells, Bow Palace, and Foresters'. Mr Chris Wordsworth, the acting-manager at Bow Palace, will be installed in a similar position at the theatre over the bridge; but before he leaves the East-end to take up his new duties he will be accorded a farewell complimentary benefit. A number of Mr Wordsworth's friends have formed themselves into a committee, and Mr J. R. Warren has volunteered his services as hon. sec., Mr A. J. Fruin being the hon. treasurer. The benefit will take place on Thursday next.

The Charles Morton matinée which is to take place at the Palace on Tuesday, is arousing wide-spread interest. There is a great demand for seats, and by every post come further subscriptions from friends desirous of showing their sympathy. Sir Henry Irving, Miss Ellen Terry, Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr Leopold De Rothschild, Mr Alfred De Rothschild, Mr J. L. Toole, Mr Paul Rubens, Mr Henry Arthur Jones, Mr C. Dundas Slater, Mrs D'Oyly Carte, and Sir Charles Wyndham are among those who are interesting themselves in the project. On the programme the names of the following well-known artistes will appear:—Mr Rutland Barrington, Mr Arthur Bourchier, Mr Louis Bradfield, Mdlle. Adeline Genée, Mr Seymour Hicks, Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Ruth Vincent, Miss Agnes Fraser, Mr Henry Lytton and the Cosy Corner Girls from the Lyric, Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Ada Reeve (who will come specially from Cardiff), Mr Arthur Roberts, Miss Esmé Beringer, Mr Maurice Farkoa, Miss Topsy Sinden, Mr Lewis Waller, Mr Charles Warner, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Mr Ernest Shand, Mr H. B. Tree, "Phroso," Mr Malcolm Scott, Mr Harry Tate, Mr Arthur Prince, Mr Mark Melford, Mr Robert Ganthony, Mr Harry Lauder, Chirgwin, and Mr R. H. Douglass; and an extract from the Alhambra *Entente Cordiale* ballet will be performed by the Alhambra corps.

The programme itself will be sold by charming actresses, including Miss Gertie Millar, Miss Madge Lessing, Miss Marie Studholme, Miss Sarah Brooke, Miss Lily Hanbury, and Miss Kate Cutler, and will contain original drawings by Mr Tom Browne, Mr Dudley Hardy, and Mr John Hassall. Within the covers of the programme will be found a mezzo-tint portrait of Mr Charles Morton suitable for framing

The monthly committee meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund was held at the York Hotel on Wednesday afternoon. Mr Pat Carey (president) occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs Frank Heath (hon. treasurer), W. Wainratta, Leslie Reed, Tom Carney, and W. Brisco. A vote of condolence with the widow and family of the late Mr Dan Leno was unanimously passed. The arrangements for a benefit performance on behalf of the Society were discussed, and some business of a private character having also been disposed of, the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mr Arthur Roberts will appear on Monday at the Palace in the new sketch *Brummagem Jem*, the name part being a traveller in jewellery for the firm of Sparke and Flashel. He will have many opportunities of showing his versatility, and his return is eagerly looked for by his many admirers.

In one respect, at any rate, the music hall and the theatre are getting more and more into line. No less than three of the west-end houses have put on variety turns in the place of curtain raisers. At one Mr Frank Lincoln tells his amusing stories; at another Miss Fanny Wentworth obliges with a musical sketch; and a third employs those versatile entertainers, the Japs. This is hard on the writers of plays; but the neglect of the curtain raiser by managers, who mostly put it on with an indifferent cast, is largely responsible for the attitude of the public towards it.

Mr Harry Mountford, who with such conspicuous ability occupied the chair at the recent annual meeting of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Rates Association at Gatti's (Road), desires to contradict the statement that he ever occupied a reporter's seat in the gallery of the House of Commons. He would have been proud to have done so, of course; but the allurements of Thespis claimed him at an early age. There is no reason, however, why Mr Mountford should not one day stand up for the music halls as a member of the House. He is an excellent speaker.

In addition to supplying Miss Marie Lloyd with several specially written numbers this week, Messrs John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn have also written an entirely new and original monologue of a novel character, entitled *After the Match*, for Mr Sidney Wood (Miss Marie Lloyd's youngest brother), which will be shortly produced at a leading West-end music hall.

Mr Chris Davis and Mr George Gray have settled their differences in respect of *The Fighting Parson*, a sketch which has had a most extraordinary success at the principal London and provincial halls. The Metropolitan, which recently produced the sketch, will appeal against the fine inflicted by Mr Curtiss Bennett on the ground of excessive damages.

Miss Ida Renf, having just returned from her successful American tour, will make her reappearance at the London Pavilion on Monday at ten o'clock, when by special request she will sing "The Rake's Progress" and "Selected MSS." by Mr Morris, the writer of "Rhoda and her Pagoda."

Mr George Dance will open the Richmond Theatre as a music hall on Boxing Day, when he will produce a pantomime entitled *Cinderella*, written by himself, and intended to play for an hour and a half. The other part of the programme will consist of variety turns. Mr Dance intends to have only one house a night, at any rate for a few months.

The Water Rats will follow their custom this year of producing a little novelty at their annual entertainment, which will be given on the afternoon of Monday, Nov. 21, at the London Pavilion, by kind permission of the directors. They will produce for one day only a play with the title *The Wife with the Smile*, the sub-title being *Go Away, you Boys*. The author is "A. W. Needle-ero," and the cast will include Mr George Gray as Ralph Ironclaw, the father and earth owner; Little Tich as Herbert Vane, the villain and heart-breaker; Mr Fred M'Naughton as the hero, Victor Thornbury; Mr Tom M'Naughton as Clothilde, the daughter of Ironclaw; Miss Alice Lloyd as Beatrice; Mr Tom Woottwell as Plantagenet, Mr Paul Martinetti as Advocaat, Mr Alfred Martinetti as Kummel, Mr Fred Karno as doctor, and Mr Harry Tate as the servant. There will also be a doll—a very mysterious figure indeed.

The name of Miss Arabella Allen, the pretty girl who made a hit at the London Pavilion some weeks back with impersonations of characters from Dickens, has already crossed the Channel. The smart little Paris paper, *La Vie Populaire*, published two of her portraits, as Nell's grandfather and as "herself," on its front page last week, praising her turn very highly and saying that no one would recognise her "enfantin et charmant visage dans les traits ridés du viellard." Miss Allen is now appearing at the suburban halls and preparing an elaborate study of Scrooge for the Christmas season. Her performance of the old skinflint of Dickens's immortal carol will be accompanied by a series of biograph pictures, showing his adventures with the Three Spirits.

Miss Allen has lately been working under difficulties. She had the misfortune to burn her arm a few weeks ago, and an accident that seemed trifling at the time has caused her a great deal of pain and anxiety. She has not allowed it, however, to interfere with her engagements, although the difficulties of her quick changes of dress and make-up have necessarily been increased. Miss Allen resembles Mr R. A. Roberts in her dislike of "trick" costumes. The popular protean actor was once persuaded to experiment with an ingeniously made "trick" waistcoat, but he found it a nervous strain, for, instead of thinking of his performance, he caught himself wondering all the time whether the waistcoat would act at the right minute. Miss Allen has had a similar experience, but, fortunately, she only made use of her "trick" suit for the part of Uriah Heep, at a strictly private rehearsal, for it had a way of falling to pieces at the most unexpected times.

Miss Reba Kaufman, the tiny toe dancer who remains at the Alhambra for another two months, made her appearance this week in a frock of golden gauze, with underskirts of rose pink. She is one of the American girls whom *The Prince of Pilsen* has left behind, having understudied Billy, the bell-boy, and danced at the Shaftesbury. Miss Kaufman was formerly a child actress, but when she grew up—in years, not in height—relinquished her old parts in favour of dancing. At first she played the banjo and danced in clogs on a marble slab 12in. square, but changed her style of work two years ago, adding point, in more ways than one, to her clever steps.

Mr Charles Pond has been fortunate enough to secure an engagement at the Alhambra, and to be the subject of special bills, as his name is not announced on the current programme. He is a new entertainer who, we think, should "go far," and in "Glimpses of Street Life" he has a subject with almost endless possibilities. His success has been immediate and deserved.

With very little preliminary make-up Mr Pond starts his interlude with a sketch of the workingman on strike. It will be remembered that our dear old friend Eccles, according to that gentle humourist, Tom Robertson, used to shout in the public-houses of Little Stangate:—"Are we working men slaves?" and Mr Pond's representative mechanic might very appropriately do the same. "Orace," as his hard-working wife calls him when she brings him a "cup o' tea in the mornin'," is given to "worriting" over the woes of his fellows, and he has laid down his tools seven years agone on a "mere matter o' principle." "Orace's" ambition is to become a member of Parliament. He would "tell the 'Ouse somethin'." He is an entirely different character to the bus-driver with his genial confidences and his sarcastic remarks to other jarvies; and the gentleman who handles the ribbons has no resemblance whatever to the coster with a grievance against the police for being "chivied," and against the public for not buying his wares. There is keen observation in each of these characters, and the accent of each has been surprisingly well caught. The niceties of expression, too, are well preserved, and equally well differentiated is each of the sketches, which are both artistic and highly humorous.

Mr Pond must have had some training in elocution and some little practice on the stage, and we learn from him that he has played clown in a pantomime in Scotland, and that legitimate drama has also enlisted him in its service. Eventually he fell in with Mr Arthur Roberts, who engaged him to play a part in the sketch, *Where's the Count?* at the Palace some weeks ago. He was formerly a member of the London Stock Exchange, and things were so bad that he took to the stage. We have a remembrance of a Mr Charles Pond some years since giving a recital of scenes from Shakespeare. That gentleman, we believe, was a pupil of Mr Hermann Vezin.

Datas, the man of memory, has arranged to start upon a tour of the world after he has completed his English contracts. The tour will include America, South Africa, and Australia, and at the conclusion of it—in two and a half years' time—he will, he informs us, retire from the stage altogether. We should imagine that his necessity of keeping himself posted in affairs of current interest, as well as in the history of the past, and memorising the dates of the events which have occurred, must be tremendous strain upon his mental resources.

Mr Herman Finck—who, by the way, celebrated his birthday on Friday—meets with a great many funny experiences in his capacity as musical director at the Palace Theatre. He often arranges, and occasionally composes, music for the different turns. Some time ago an American with a trained dog asked him to play some jingling airs that were quite unsuitable, and Mr Finck suggested an alteration. It was decided that he should write some special music, and when it was finished the American expressed himself as highly pleased. He did not, however, say a word about a fee, so Mr Finck, who had taken considerable trouble over the matter, broached the subject himself. "That's all right," said the American in a lofty manner, "What do you name the amount?" The composer named it, and the other man stared at him and exclaimed, "Why, I didn't give as much as that for the dog!"

On Thursday Mr H. E. Moss invited members of the leading newspapers to the London Hippodrome to witness a private performance of Herr Georg Lettl. Lettl gives all his feats of strength "free standing"—that is to say, he stands without support of any kind. His truly marvellous accomplishments consist of (1) lifting a huge anchor, weighing 850lb. with his hands alone, and with two men standing on it, making a weight of 1,170lb.; ditto with four men—1,500lb. (The world's record lift is 1,100lb.) He then encircles his body with a strap, and attaches the same to the back of a 14 h.p. or 16 h.p. Leonard motor car, stands still, whilst the car is set running at top speed—viz., 2,000 revolutions of engine, or thirty-five miles an hour. He not only pulls against it and retards its progress, but drags it backwards by pure strength across the area. The car then sets "full speed" reverse at 40 h.p. speed. Lettl pushes it forward across the arena, despite the engines going the opposite way. He then gets between two 8½ h.p. cars, which are turned back to back. They start off in opposite directions at full speed. By sheer finger strength he holds on to both from between, and they cannot move. Herr Lettl will appear at the Hippodrome publicly on Monday.

The directors of the Alhambra have kindly granted the use of that theatre for a morning performance in aid of the rebuilding fund of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. This will be given on Thursday, Dec. 8. Applications for tickets should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the Appeal Fund, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

"Dan Leno" is announced to be the Rev. W. Carlile's topic on Sunday evening at St. Mary-at-Hill, Monument, and the collection will go to the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

Mr Tom Costello is reviving his well-known patriotic song "The Fighting Ships of England," which was a few years since dedicated by special permission to the Earl of Drogheda, president of the Navy League. The song, which has one of George Le Brunn's finest march melodies, has now been made "free" for both the halls and theatres. It is published by Messrs Francis and Day.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, on the 28th ult., a sitting was held for the public examination of Oscar Lotinga, described in the receiving order and known as Oscar Luck. The debtor stated that his engagements were at music halls and theatres in England and Scotland. He had been associated for twelve years with a troupe known as The Six Brothers Luck, his associates being his real brothers. This was the commencement of his business career. The liabilities are returned at £787, and assets nil, the deficiency account disclosing betting losses £476, and loss in connection with a cinematograph tour £500. In the absence of the debtor the examination was adjourned.

An important feature in the great military spectacle, *Woman and War*, to be produced by Harry Bruce and Ernest Ball at the Royal next Monday, is that, although there are only six speaking parts, the remainder of the company will be made up of leading actors for the non-speaking parts and the fight. The only supernumeraries that will be seen will be those lying dead on the battlefield.

Ahrensmayer has been drawing large crowds during the week to the Palace, Walthamstow and on Monday he is to be seen at the Empress, Brixton, and the Palace, Croydon. His enormous success in Glasgow recently has resulted in contracts for the entire Barrasford tour at a very large salary. A curious feature of his Glasgow engagement, by the way, was the extraordinary interest evinced by the Scotch medical fraternity. Not only were they nightly in evidence to witness his stage performance, but not a day passed without at least half a dozen doctors calling during the time that Ahrensmeyer devotes his powers free of charge to sufferers. That they were impressed by what they saw is positive by the fact that during the week no less than four patients were actually sent to Ahrensmeyer by Glasgow medical men.

On Thursday, in the Westminster County-court, Messrs Nathan and Somers, music hall agents, of Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, sought to recover £13 17s. 6d., as commission on engagements, from Miss Fanny Wentworth. In cross-examination, Mr Ben Nathan said the commission was to be paid on the original and next engagement, and was the form of contract adopted at the conference of owners and agents. Miss Wentworth would never have signed a contract she did not understand. She came to his office and called him a liar, and he ordered her out and told her never to enter it again. Defendant said she paid another agent for the engagements in question. There were high words at Mr Nathan's office, and when he turned her out and told her not to go there again she did not make any further call. His Honour adjourned the case to allow the defendant to counterclaim damages in connection with terminating the agreement.

Mr Edwin Brett and Miss Emmeline Orford the popular vaudeville artists, who are just now scoring very heavily on the Stoll tour in their new musical duologue, will be the Abanazar and Aladdin at Brixton Theatre this Christmas.

Miss Victoria Monks is singing a smart new song entitled "There's a Girl Inside." The words and music are from the pen of William Hargreaves, who is also the author and composer of Miss Monks's coon creation, "If you want to have a row wait till the sun shines," which has been acquired for publication by Charles Sheard and Co. The same firm has also in the press Mr George Robey's "Say no more about it," which is the joint work of William Hargreaves and C. G. Cotes.

Mr A. J. Towers, of the Victoria Hotel, Queen-street, Exeter, was appointed as agent in that town of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Rates Association. The secretary reported that twenty-three new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,674.

The Lavers and Lake Combination appeared on Monday at the Foresters' in a new production entitled *The Bloomsbury Burglars*, a farcical extravaganza written by Mr Harry Boden. Mr Harry Lavers appeared as Guy Prescott, an artist, and Mr Lew Lake as one Nobbler, a mirth-provoking window-cleaner. Miss Queenie Lancaster took the part of Edith Arlington, and others who assisted in the representation were Messrs Ernest Webb, Will Roberts, and Bob Morris. The sketch was well received.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE EMPIRE.

That popular divertissement *The Milliner Duchess* had by no means exhausted its popularity when it was withdrawn from the bills of the Empire, and its revival there on Monday night for a few short weeks is a wise move on the part of the management. The entire production has been designed and supervised by Mr Wilhelm, and the action and dances have been arranged by Miss Katti Lanner. Surely no further testimonial could be desired concerning the excellence of the ballet, unless we add that the scenery is by Mr Joseph Harker and the music has been selected and arranged by Mr Leopold Wenzel. The cast has not a weak place. The commanding style and stately grace of Mdlle. Francesca Zanfretta admirably fit her for her position as the trading Duchesse; Miss M. Paston is duly business-like and severe as the Manageress; and Mdlle. Cora as Louisine is actively graceful. A genuinely clever piece of low comedy is furnished by Miss E. Clere as Tilda, an errand girl. Tilda is quite a Sans-Gêne of the gutter, and her enthusiasm in the execution of a jig or breakdown readily communicates itself to the audience. In a duo Miss Clere has for companion Mr Fred Farren, and it is a delightful number. The chief honours are, of course, secured by Mdlle. Adeline Genée, whose coquetry in a scène dansante is a clever display of the art of miming. In her danse gracieuse Mdlle. Genée "reviews," as it were, the modes of a century, and her pretty solo that comes later is an exquisite exhibition of dancing. Mr Hugh J. Ward, Mr Will Vokes, Mr Farren, and Mr Sundberg, with Misses Edith M'Farlane, F. Shaw, G. Thomas, and E. Tree, are responsible for an eccentric dance, which brings down the house. Mr Cuthbert Clark directs the fine orchestra, and secures an excellent performance of the music, which contains some fascinating numbers. Mr Clark's selection of nautical airs played just previously to the rising of the curtain on the ballet winds up, as it should do, with "Rule, Britannia," and there was a patriotic ring in the applause on the night of our visit which reflected the public excitement concerning "the political crisis." The variety business is largely composed of silent turns, but in Mr Charles T. Aldrich we have a "speaking" performer whose versatility seems to be endless. He opens his entertainment with some lightning-like changes of character, and impersonates in rapid succession Hazel Kirke, Bill Sykes, David Garrick, and Edmond Dantès (Count of Monte Cristo)—mere thumbnail sketches, it is true, but replete with character. He then changes to the rôle of tramp juggler, and plays with an old boot, a cigar stump, and a battered hat. He amuses himself with composing a rag picture of a comic-looking peacock, which in due course lays an egg; and keeps the audience surprised and amused by his clever fooling in a burlesque of a Chinese magician. Mr Aldrich is a very remarkable entertainer, and his show is absolutely unique. Morris Cronin, who made his first appearance in London some years ago on the other side of Leicester-square, has elaborated and improved his act, being now assisted by four other club-wielders—two of whom are particularly quaint. The stage set is very pretty, and there is some amusing screen business, which gives an air of mystery to the show. We can only speak of the club juggling as superlatively clever, and we know of no greater expert than Cronin, who is possessed of all the smartness and coolness attributed to the Yank. A musical performance of a very exceptional character is that of Georges Schindler, who is described as a mouth organ virtuoso. The instrument suggests ear-torturing cacophony; but Schindler, like another Orpheus, subdues it to correct harmonies and plays a portion of the overture to *William Tell* and the more popular selections of "Hiawatha" and a Sousa march. The tone is organ-like and mellow, and the runs have a flute-like quality that gives much delight to the music lover. Tom Browne appears as a waiter at an American bar, and while preparing a cocktail is pleased to whistle a piccolo solo. He also sits down to the piano and accompanies himself in some variations on "The Carnival of Venice," one of them being a specimen of double-note whistling, a decidedly rare accomplishment. Mr Browne's notes are particularly pleasant; happily they have none of the "ear-piercing fife" quality about them, which is something to be thankful for. Melot Hermann struggles manfully with our language in introducing his conjuring tricks, which are extremely neat and puzzling. He has an inexhaustible hat, from which he throws a number of button-holes, and his flag and canary tricks cause considerable astonishment. The Delbosqs in their vaulting speciality are clever, the double somersault over the heads of sixteen men winning loud applause. There is a deal of acceptable quaintness in the comedy act of O'Neil and Torp, the juggling of the one partner being supplemented by the head-spinning feats of the other. The tricks are eccentric and amusing generally, and the "business" introduced makes for laughter. From tall steel uprights topped by fixed horizontal bars, two of the Luken Brothers Quartet swing their partners to each other, and the pirouetting, double pirouetting, and double somersaulting form a series of feats that causes much excitement. On occasion, one of the somersaulters misses his "grasp," with the result that he falls safely on a specially prepared bed, and there is much cheering when the trick that has been missed is really accomplished. The Three Meers present a comedy wire act that has been admired and applauded in all parts of the world, and its originality and humour win for it a very hearty reception. The Yulian family of acrobats accomplish a number of smart Risley feats and some difficult shoulder tumbling; and the Two Brothers Hereleb show themselves to be genuinely comic acrobats. The Biograph winds up an excellent programme.

THE METROPOLE.

There may be a greater galaxy of variety theatre stars elsewhere, but for a real genuine two-and-a-half hours' enjoyment the entertainment Mr Lloyd Townrow has provided for the patrons of this cosy little theatre on Denmark-hill this week would be hard to beat. The most important features of the capital programme are a vaudeville entitled *Betsy Mine;* a one-act play, *Her Good Name;* and the drama *For the Honour of the Regiment.* Taking them in the order in which they were presented. *Betsy Mine* is a bright, merry, and brisk American farcical comedy, in which Horace Booley, an amateur stockbroker, dealing in mine shares without his wife's knowledge, and having a servant Betsy, soon finds himself at cross purpose with his wife. She intercepts a telegram which reads, "Get rid of Betsy at once," this having reference to the mine shares, and she comes to the conclusion that her husband has been carrying on a liaison with her maid. After many amusing passages which evoke roars of merriment, everything is explained, reconciliation follows, and the domestic barometer once more is "set calm." This trifle is amusingly written and capitally played throughout by Mr Charles Graydon as the speculating and much-abused Booley. Miss Kitty Willmore as his pretty and sorely-perplexed wife, Marie, is charmingly natural; while the smut-faced domestic Betsy, who "hasn't done nuffin'," is treated in a most artistic vein by Miss Nelly Lional. *Her Good Name* comes in the middle of the programme. The plots reveals how the successful chemist, John Vyce, of Darley-street, in his eagerness to discover more of the secrets of science, has left his young and charming wife to enter into the gaieties of a London season unattended. He, however, gets a rude awakening when he sees her and his dearest friend, the Hon. James Acrum, meet and enter a house together. He awaits his wife's homecoming in his study, where he has just discovered a subtle poison, which gradually renders a human being mad after the space of twelve months. On his wife's return with the Hon. James in close attendance he tells them of this deadly drug, and also hints that he has discovered their guilty secret. He sends his wife for coffee, and while she is away tells his friend that he knows all, and that in the coffee he has just drunk is the drug that will render him a maniac after many months of mental torture. He screens the senseless form of his false friend from his wife, whose guilty fears bring her back to ascertain her lover's fate. The now angered and outraged husband turns on his wife and openly accuses her at the same time he reproaches himself for his neglect of her. Acrum, recovering from the effects of morphia, which Vyce had substituted for the more deadly drug, overhears Adelaide avow her love for her husband and tell him that she had gone with Acrum that evening on purpose to tell him that their intimacy must cease. Vyce relents and forgives his wife, and on hearing a movement from behind the screen, rushes round in time to save Acrum from shooting himself. As the wronged husband Mr Monte Bayly is admirable. As Acrum Mr A. Fellows-Bassett plays with all the ease and bonhomie of a man of the world. Miss Diana Hope as the wife has much to do, and acts with force, grace, and delicacy. The last is the condensed drama *For the Honour of the Regiment*, which, as performed by Mr Frank Hardie's specially selected company, wins unreserved approbation. Mr C. Lidford Delph as the Colonel is martial and dignified; Mr George Grahame invests the character of the renegade Major with a cool, calculating villainy that is both effective and artistic; as Captain Dare, V.C., Mr William Felton gives a manly, earnest, and vigorous impersonation; as Private Jones Mr H. Day has little to do, but does that little well. Mr Frank Hardie as Lieutenant Bertie Clive is admirable, showing with artistic skill that under the thin veneer of a society dude there is still the unadulterated nature of a brave soldier and a gentleman. As Vera Dare Miss Irene Carlton combines with an admirable stage presence all the instincts of an artiste, and imbues her part with a womanly fervour and a firm confidence in "a woman's instinct against a man's reason." The variety turns include Mr Alix Lukos, who gains premier honours for a well-rendered recitation and song "Pictures in the fire," in which he revives many old memories of the stage, politics, and history. Miss Dolly St. Clair adopts the novel method of making her changes for a series of international dances in full sight of her audience, but would do better if she changed the character of her dance with her costume. Pat Doherty, an Irish comedian of the good old school, displays marvellous activity in a genuine Irish jig, and wins applause. Christo, an American illusionist, does some neat and clever card tricks, and his "apparent" volunteer assistant provokes much merriment. Massona, a skilful, smart, and amusing juggler, gains hearty applause for his amazing manipulation of a bundle of billiard cues. Miss Nancy St. John is successful in her very active cake-walk, which is as much admired as her chic and pretty costume. The efficient orchestra, under the direction of Mr W. Snell-Robinson, with the merry overture "All the Girls," put the audience in an excellent humour for the good things that follow.

DUCHESS, BALHAM.

A long lease in the affections of the Balham public has evidently been taken by the pretty Duchess since that charming theatre has been devoted to the purposes of variety under the able administration of Mr Walter Gibbons. The people of the thriving suburb have shown their preference for the lighter form of amusement, especially when presented in such attractive shape, and admirers of the entertainment are so numerous that both houses are liberally patronised each night, a felicitous result that owes much to the capable management of Mr Clifford King. Special attention has been paid in this week's programme to the element of fun, which enters largely into its composition, and is chiefly maintained by Mr Will Evans in his sketch *Building a Chicken House.* The inimitable droll has greatly elaborated the sketch since its first production, with the result that the erection of the poultry domicile proceeds to an accompaniment of mirth which never flags. The protracted struggles with timber, zinc roofing, and wire-netting have become more complicated, the encounters with an inquisitive neighbour wax still more furious, and the startling descent of the fowls from the skies forms a side-splitting conclusion. Shouts of laughter follow the progress of the skit, and admiring plaudits are reserved for the talented comedian at the end. A bright performance is furnished by Miss Gwennie Hasto, whose pretty voice lends itself agreeably to the sweet melody of "Don't fly away, Robin," the sentiment of which is well suited to popular feeling. In her acrobatic dance the fascinating comedienne presents a kaleidoscopic picture of dainty grace, the applause which it provokes bringing forth a number of neatly turned Catherine wheels. The Allisons put a deal of genuine comedy into their "sequels of courtship briefly told," and to their duet of "Isabella" is attached a skilful dance, which is performed to a quaint and tuneful melody. They are a clever couple, and no inconsiderable portion of their success lies in the mutual support which distinguishes all their work. Admiration is aroused by Mr Gilbert Girard, who gives an imitation of the Æolian harp, producing two distinct sounds at one and the same time by the use of his vocal cords alone. Mr Girard has quite a répertoire of imitations, from a dog-fight to the starting of a locomotive on a Canadian railway, all of which are embellished with remarkable facial play and a fund of comic patter, and encores innumerable are the outcome. The acrobatic feats of Eugene and Willie are smartly performed, none the less so because they are playing all the while on violins, keeping the tunes going in many inconceivable positions. Their show is enthusiastically commended, and delights as much by its cleverness and neatness as by its novelty. Mr Fred Herbert voices in reasoned rhymes and tuneful strains the claims of Englishmen against those of the Chinese in the Transvaal, and later employs his melodious baritone in the telling of what "John Bull said to Britannia," adding on Monday night a verse about the late Dan Leno, which was well rendered and admirably received. Two gentlemen of colour, named Pete and Juno, sing of "Angeline," but it is to their dancing that most attention is paid, one of the "coon" artistes doing a sand dance which is remarkable by reason of its intricate steps and the facility with which they are performed. A varied sketch is given by Lord, Murray, and Lord, whose ball-punching exploits are wont to excite astonishment; Ruffle's Imperial Bioscope gives interesting pictures bearing on the North Sea outrage, besides the comic film "Off for the Holidays;" and Mr Harry Morgan, comedian, also contributes to the bill. The orchestra, conducted by Mr T. A. Hannavy, keep admirable time and tune, the overture being a well-played excerpt from Suppé.

HARRY LAUDER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—On page twenty-three of last Saturday's *Era* you have a paragraph referring to Harry Lauder giving a trial show at Gatti's (Road), in 1900, through the kind auspices of Mr Walter Munroe. May I point out that it was through the auspices of

Yours faithfully,
WALTER F. MUNROE, Variety Agent.
Circus of Varieties, Rochdale, Nov. 1, 1904.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

CHAT WITH MR. CLARENCE C. CORRI.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

Surely one would predict something for the career of a man who at the age of six year becomes an actor in a stock company. And the prediction would have been justified in the case of Mr Clarence C. Corri, the musical director at the Hippodrome, for since the time when at the age of six he appeared at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, in the burlesque of *Nell Gwynne*, his has been a steady and well-deserved advancement. But he once made an earlier appearance than that, in public, too. It occurred when he was no more than three years of age. One night his mother took him to the Theatre Royal at Rochester. A young lady happened to be playing the "Guards' Waltz," regardless of time and tune. Suddenly, to his mother's astonishment and dismay, young Clarence jumped upon the seat and shouted, "No, no, that is all wrong; 'iss is the way 'oo should play it." This is, perhaps, not so surprising when one remembers that Mr Corri comes of a very musical family. His father was for many years a bandmaster in the Royal Navy, and used to relate stirring stories of his experiences during the Crimean War, when he was attached to the Olga frigate.

Greenwich was the birthplace of Mr Corri, and there his early days were spent in an atmosphere laden with sweet seductions of music. Reared in such circumstances, we need hardly wonder at his gaining admittance to a London orchestra when he was but fourteen years of age. He certainly commenced early enough, but it is to these early efforts at the Standard Theatre that Mr Corri rightly attributes his practical knowledge of orchestral work which has stood him in good stead as he advanced in his profession. His father insisted that the lad should begin at the bottom rung of the ladder, and to the wise judgment of the musical mariner we must ascribe no small degree of Mr Corri's subsequent success. His first engagement as a conductor came to him from Mr J. L. Shine, with whom he travelled during the run of *Little Don Juan, Junior*, a burlesque produced by the versatile Shine. Mr Corri's début as bandmaster took place at the Theatre Royal, Portsmouth, and since then he has toured all over the United Kingdom. It was in 1887 that his first really important commission came. Towards the end of that year he was engaged by Mr Michael Gunn to arrange and compose the music for the pantomime of *Robinson Crusoe* at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin. In this line Mr Corri has since done some notable work, his dainty tuneful fancies being especially adapted for the light and airy branch of pantomime compositions. He had not long to wait for his next promotion, for Mr Mansell brought him to the Queen's Theatre, Manchester at the latter end of the 1888-89 season, and here Mr Corri wrote the music for one of the most successful "annuals" ever produced at that theatre. His success as composer on that occasion was the more noteworthy in face of the fact that he had only five days in

Photo by Hana.

MR. CLARENCE C. CORRI.

which to prepare the whole of his music. He was at this theatre when the memorable conflagration took place, and he stayed at the Queen's during Mr Pitt-Hardacre's management of 1890-91, producing still another pantomime.

Mr Corri's next step was an ambitious one, for he left the Queen's Theatre to go out on tour with his cousin's (Mr Robert Blatchford's) charming comic opera, *In Summer Days*, the music for which was composed throughout by Mr Corri. Less than twelve months later, however, he was back again in Manchester, but this time under the banner of Mr Ramsay at the Theatre Royal, where he composed the music for the pantomime of *Cinderella*. So popular did his share of the work prove that on the second night of the run he was engaged for the following season. This latter engagement he fulfilled with as great a measure of success as attended his first term at the Manchester Royal. In 1893 Mr Corri was appointed musical director at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool, where he remained for five years during the summer seasons, going to the Theatre Royal, Manchester, in the winter. His first big work at the Winter Gardens was the ballet, *America's World's Fair*, in which he introduced some very enchanting numbers. Later on he produced at the same place his charming extravaganza entitled *Jack*, and *The Carnival Electrique*. Some of his most successful dances about this period were a couple of polkas, "A Ring of Bells" and "Poodle Polka," and a bewitching dance to which he gave the title of "Le Jeu de l'Eventail."

At the conclusion of Mr Oscar Barrett's pantomime of *Aladdin*, produced in Manchester in 1898, and for which the subject of this interview wrote the music and conducted the orchestra, Mr Corri opened at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, with *The Dandy Fifth* opera, for which he composed the music, and for which Mr George R. Sims wrote the lyrics. Mr Corri then travelled with the piece on its first tour of nine weeks, and at the conclusion of this provincial tour—which, by the way, re-started in the following August—he went to London to assist in the production of *The Dandy Fifth* at the Duke of York's Theatre. Mr Corri proudly claims to be the composer of an opera which has performed what is, perhaps, a record, the playing for fifty-two consecutive weeks without a break, not even excepting Good Friday and Christmas Day. When, subsequently Mr George R. Sims wrote the book of *Miss Chiquita*, Mr Corri attended to the musical numbers, and he performed a similar work in respect of *Gay Piccadilly* for the late Mr Dan Leno. All the three pieces were produced by Mr Frank Parker, now the stage-manager at the Hippodrome. After a short engagement with Mr Tom B. Davis, Mr Corri performed notable service for five Christmas seasons at the Coronet Theatre, Notting-hill, London, for which house he composed and assisted in the production of *The Babes in the Wood*, *Dick Whittington*, *Aladdin*, *Forty Thieves*, and *Blue Beard*. In addition to these, he wrote the music for four pantomimes which proved extremely successful at Camden Town, appearing for several seasons in the intervening months under Mr George Edwardes's management. Some eighteen months ago Mr Corri was engaged by Mr H. E. Moss as director of the orchestra at the London Hippodrome, and there he is still to be found. He composed the music for *The Redskins*, which was produced at the Hippodrome last year, as well as that for the pantomime extravaganza entitled *The Golden Princess*, presented last Christmas.

Mr Clarence C. Corri is one of the most genial men one could possibly meet. If we are to believe a pen-picture of his late father, written by "Nunquam" more than a decade ago, we should say that our present Mr Corri bears a striking resemblance to his male parent. In view of what we have already said about the latter it may be interesting to revert to the description referred to. It is as follows:—

"In the orchestra of a London theatre you may see any night a certain short stout gentleman with a double chin and an eyeglass, who sits in a faultless evening costume, flourishing a little wand and conducting a band through the mazes of the Bullfighters' chorus or the overture to *Fra Diavolo*. A nice, obliging, good-tempered family man he is, and one with whose bland, smiling face and round, comfortable figure you would never associate ideas of storm and travel and romance and war. Yet that same mild, well-bred musical conductor has once been young and adventurous, has been a mark for Muscovite bullets, and would now, if need were, conduct a storming party or a cutting-out expedition as calmly and as smilingly as he now conducts an orchestra."

The difference, however, between the careers of Mr Clarence Corri and his father is that the former has never engaged in warlike operations, and as far as we are aware has no intention in that direction. He satisfies himself with witnessing, when he is able to lay down his wand for a few seconds, the little mimic warfares which take place on the stage and in the arena of the Hippodrome. And if music be the pivot round which revolve his mental activities, it seems no less to agree with his physical make-up, for Mr Corri has the appearance of being a healthy and well-contented enough sort of individual.

THE ROYAL.

The two houses a-night and popular prices policy has proved remarkably successful at the Royal, and crowded audiences continue to be the rule. An item that has received bold advertisement this week is the special series of animated pictures depicting the disastrous results of the recent Russian outrage on the Dogger Bank. The first view shows the entrance to the dock, and then comes a panorama of the damaged trawlers, twenty-two in number. The terrible effects of some of the shells are plainly visible, more particularly a damaged engine-room showing the riven plates. A panorama of the Russian Fleet is received with hisses, while the pictures of the scenes at the funeral of the victims of the outrage arouse a feeling of genuine sympathetic interest. The hearses bearing the bodies of the two fishermen who were killed pass slowly along to the burial-ground, followed by the mourning coaches and a large crowd of fisherfolk and others. Portraits of some of the survivors are also shown, and when the well-known features of Lord Charles Beresford are revealed there is a hearty outburst of applause. An excellent engagement is that of Mr George Bastow, a comedian who is always successful in thoroughly amusing an audience. There is genuine humour in his ditty, "Don't forget your poor old father." The aged head of the family finds himself neglected and he gives vent to his dissatisfaction with the conduct of his son, who shows a preference for the society of a young lady. Laughter and tears are ever closely associated, and the neglected father might easily become a pathetic figure more calculated to excite pity than to evoke laughter. However, Mr Bastow wisely regards the old man's position from a strictly comic point of view, and the result is in every respect satisfactory. This popular comedian also does well with a song concerning "Woman's Rights," which are sometimes said to have a close connection with "man's wrongs." Mr Bastow has a quaint, effective style, and justly earns a liberal share of the applause. A warm welcome is accorded Miss Belle Davis and her picaninnies in a speciality act. The lady gives a coon song and the youngsters afford very active assistance. One of them displays his skill as a silver bâton manipulator, twirling it with remarkable ease and dexterity. Miss Alexandra Dagmar is a lady of fine presence, and she is also an excellent vocalist. She gives a French drinking song, followed by American and Tyrolean ditties. Appearing again, she sings another favourite, "The Coloured Band," with great effect. The Antos, in their clever musical act, win approval. One of them represents a big doll, which plays various musical instruments, and the whole performance is neatly and most effectively worked. Cline and Clark are successful asduettists, and a well-executed sand dance is rewarded by liberal applause. Miss Rosie Bartlett sings a couple of songs in acceptable style, and the Jackley Wonders, sensational tumblers, meet with their usual success. Major Newell prospers with his skating act, a feature of which is the step dance he gives with skates attached to his feet. Mr Harry Maynard, comedian, contributes to the programme; and mention should also be made of the excellent work done by the orchestra under the able direction of Mr Frederic D. Wood. The front of the house is carefully looked after by Mr H. Kelleman, the manager.

THE anniversary at the Middlesex will be celebrated on Thursday evening, Nov. 24, and the Brighton Alhambra anniversary on Thursday evening, Dec. 8 next. This early intimation of the dates of these two events is given by Mr J. L. Graydon in order, if possible, to prevent clashing.

HEARTIEST congratulations to Mr W. L. Richards, I.S.M., the popular chef d'orchestre of the Empire Theatre, Belfast, who is to be married on Wednesday next, 9th inst., to Miss M'Cann, sister of Mr James M'Cann, the esteemed acting-manager of the Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MISS VIOLET ELLIOTT, the Australian "lady bass," has altered her style of dress since she first appeared at the Alhambra. At first she looked like a dainty comedienne—she has now become a serious vocalist. Her dress this week was of white silk net, with a slightly pouched bodice, a folded satin belt, and a graceful design round the skirt of festoons and true-lovers' knots made of narrow white satin ribbon, the transparent sleeves being tight at the shoulders and falling in very big bells of lace a little above the elbows.

THE forty-second anniversary of the opening of Collins's, which is to be celebrated on Friday next, the 11th inst., reminds us that Sam Collins opened the Lansdowne Arms, as the original house was licensed, as a music hall on Sept. 20, 1862. He was there for scarcely three years, dying at the age of thirty-eight on May 25, 1865. The place was afterwards managed by his widow, the aunt of the late Mr Sprake, who very much enlarged the "little hall on the green" during his years of successful proprietorship.

MUIR AND BARTLETT, after a five months' tour of the provinces with their répertoire of comediettas, return to London for a short season on Monday, opening at the Cambridge, Middlesex, Grand, Clapham; Granville, Walham-green; Palace, Camberwell, &c.

THE ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS.

WAKEFIELD CARRIED BY STORM.

THE WAKEFIELD HIPPODROME

Probably of all the topics of local interest the first appearance of the Elliott-Savona Troupe in Wakefield may be considered of paramount importance. An expensive engagement, running into three figures, this famous troupe, so eagerly "snapped up" by British and Continental variety entrepreneurs, has carried Wakefield people by storm with their magnificent musical performance given on various instruments, so embracing the elementary and the complexed types. The gorgeous and picturesque setting presented to the gaze of the audience when the curtain rises on the Seven Savonas ready for business transcends anything of a like nature on the variety stage we have ever seen. The beautiful colours of the flowers, the electrical illuminations in red, white, and blue, orange, and other hues, make a powerful appeal to the eye, and command admiration for these artistes, who can be artistic in other directions in addition to music. Whilst the vision is feasted with striking colour and design, the ear is enchained and enraptured with wonderful harmonies running the whole gamut of sound, the light and shade of music, from the simply melodious and delicately mellifluous to Wagnerian grandeur. A remarkable musical composition, in which a number of variety of instruments are introduced, accompanied by realistic representations of "the war of the elements" in the shape of thunder, lightning, hail, rain and wind, was given with a wonderful display of technical skill and finish. The executants are to be congratulated on their brilliant precision and harmonical accuracy. It is not surprising that at the two performances nightly the audience have been wildly enthusiastic, applauding and recalling the talented musicians with an exhausting demonstrativeness.

ASTOUNDING CHARACTER.

This week Wakefield has been startled, not by earthquakes, but by the marvellous performances that have been given each evening at the Hippodrome. On Wednesday and Thursday hundreds were unable to obtain admission. The performance is of a most astounding character. At the matinée on Saturday afternoon the Savonas will give the whole of their musical performance and arrangements have been made for extra seating accommodation. We would, however, advise everyone who have not witnessed this wonderful exhibition to be in time; in fact it will pay intending visitors to book their seats at the early doors, and we are sure that all who see it will not begrudge the small fee they pay for admission.—*Echo*, Friday, Oct. 28.

AN ADDRESS.

To have been recited at the farewell benefit performance to the late Mr Charles Morton. By a pathetic coincidence the MS. reached the directors on the morning of his death:—

If, as 'tis said, the oldest friend's the best,
To you—to-day a loved and honoured guest—
Belongs the happy privilege to say:
"Best friend am I of all who love the play—
At least, the play of jest and song and dance,
In varied turn—not problem and romance."
And so say we who know the years you've spent
In toilful zeal, with resolute intent
To raise the "halls" from obloquy and shame
To homes of art and palaces of fame.
Success has crowned your long, laborious days
And wreathed you with the best of Fortune's bays;
And so, to-day, dear Father of the Halls,
We've planned a pageant in your Palace walls,
To prove the pride and pleasure that we feel
In your untiring and triumphant zeal.
And most we love to think upon the care
You oftimes gave to build a helpful stair,
By which the young aspirant safely climbed
To giddy heights, with kindly counsel primed.
How many a "star" that shines with lustrous flame
Besides you in the firmament of Fame,
Remembring still the one-time timid knock
That craved admission to your envied flock,
Must bless the aid, auspiciously invoked,
Which bred a Thespian—booted, armed, and cloaked!
And in each breast this pleasant knowledge lies—
Fame was the target, but your smile the prize!
And now we wish—the players, public, Press—
To mark the era of your bright success.
No hour is this for parting and farewell,
But rather one new friendships to foretell.
Long from your efforts we rich pleasure drew,
To-day, old friend, we're bent on pleasing *you*.
To this the brightest "stars" have lent their aid,
With Queen of Dance, and Music, "heavenly maid."
These shed their light and sweetness on your way,
And do you homage this eventful day.
And here's the wish that all our hearts express:
Long may you live in Fortune's fond caress,
While joy and ease, with health and calm content,
Attend your conscience of a life well spent.

BERNARD MALCOLM RAMSAY.

Oct. 17, 1904.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—A memorial to the late Mr Herbert Campbell in the shape of a bust, either in marble or bronze, is to be obtained, and placed, if possible, in the vestibule of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, the scene of so many of his triumphs. Mr Harry Randall has kindly consented to act as president and Mr Edward Ledger, of *The Era*, as treasurer to the fund.

It is the intention of the committee to engage an artist of repute to execute this work to the memory of the above-mentioned generous and genial comedian. The committee will esteem it a great favour if his old friends and admirers will assist in making this memorial a success. All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

Yours faithfully, FRANK HEATH,
(Secretary).

Committee Rooms, Hummums Hotel,
Covent-garden, W.C., Nov. 2.

Sums received.

	£	s.	d.
A. Magnus	10	10	0
W. Joyner	5	5	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0
M. M. M'Neill	0	2	6

THE Terriers' social concert arranged to take place on Sunday at the headquarters, the Dover Castle Hotel, Westminster-bridge-road, has been abandoned in consequence of the death of Mr Dan Leno.

A FIRE broke out at Mr Tom Fancourt's residence, St. John's-hill-grove, Wandsworth, on Friday, the 28th ult., through a gas explosion. Part of his drawing-room was destroyed.

THE Marquis of Lansdowne was present at the Alhambra on the 28th ult. and saw the ballet, *The Entente Cordiale*,

MR JACK BROWNSON has written a funny duologue entitled *Elizabeth and the Baby*, which will be produced in a few days by that clever and popular comedy couple, Mayon and Marle (late Elvo and Evelyn).

THAT clever pair of entertainers known as Fielding and Hull are due home to-day (Saturday) per ss. Saxon from the Cape. Their novel act, *An Officer's Flirtation*, by George Arthurs and Alan Macey, made a great hit at both the Johannesburg Empire and the Cape Town Tivoli. They open in town immediately.

OWING to the success of "Tracking the Track" Miss Minni Letta is busy with Nos. 2 and 3 companies, which are coming forward for Christmas, one company of sporting girls leaving shortly for the Continent.

THE PATHE CINEMATOGRAPH:

A CHAT WITH MR. RICHARD COLLIER.

The work of producing cinématograph films has now become quite a fine art. As to its popularity there can be no doubt, and some of the animated pictures which have been presented to the public appear to be little less than the productions of genius. Many a time, as we have watched scene after scene depicting real life, has the wondering, whispered question gone forth from more than one spectator, "However have they managed to get such a picture?" We certainly do possess some knowledge of how these remarkable effects are obtained, but it would hardly be fair to disclose to the lay mind what goes on behind the scenes of cinématography. And in remaining silent we will plead the further excuse that the mystery of the thing creates an added interest from the point of view of the ordinary looker-on.

When a history of the progress of animated photography comes to be written, no inconsiderable portion of the volume would have to be devoted to the remarkable achievements of the Pathé Cinematograph Company. The great enterprise shown by this firm has been abundantly and deservedly fruitful, and their magnificent photographic creations bear ready testimony to this. The business house of Pathé in London was started less than a couple of years ago, and the firm have made remarkable strides since then. It should be mentioned that the Pathé Cinematograph Company (London), Limited, to give the full title, is quite a distinct concern from the French house of that name, although the English establishment deal only in the films which bear their name. Their great forte, as Mr Richard Collier, the able and energetic manager, puts it, is the producing of big scenes. A couple of these which proved exceedingly popular last year were "The Life of Napoleon" and "Marie Antoinette," both of which were presented at the Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue. Other notable series have been "Christopher Columbus," "The Butterfly's Metamorphosis," "Alcohol and its Victims," "Indians and Cowboys," "Annie's Love Story," "Excursions through Italy," "The Boar Hunt," and "The Bull-fight." Among their numerous fine Christmas series may be mentioned the pantomimes in picture of *Ali Baba, the Forty Thieves, The Sleeping Beauty*, and *Puss in Boots*. Their latest success is entitled "A Tragedy in the Air." In this a balloon, containing a couple of men, is seen preparing to leave the ground, its gradual upward flight, until the "basket" is no longer visible, being admirably depicted on the screen. We next get a view of the balloon and its occupants, now high up in the sky. The two men are looking through telescopes in all directions, and we are shown precisely what they see—the tops of the houses, the church spires, the ships in harbour and on the high seas, and the water dashing against the rocks. Suddenly the sky is overcast, and a storm breaks forth in all its fury. The forks of lightning dart out from the mist here and there in all the awe-inspiring splendour of their startling illumination, and the rain comes pelting down in torrents. One streak of lightning appears to pass through the balloon, which is the next instant enveloped in flames, the gas-filled bag bursts, and the car rapidly descends into the sea, the occupants being finally rescued by boatmen. Altogether it is a most realistic representation, and we can well imagine that no small efforts were exerted in order to secure the various individual portions incidental to the whole.

The longest film yet brought by the Pathé Company is one stretching out to over 2,000ft. It is a series comprising thirty-two pictures from the Passion Play, similar to that produced at Oberammergau, the entire staging being based on strictly authentic sources. This set is claimed to be one of the most beautiful that has ever been placed on the market, the Crucifixion scene being particularly striking. "The Prodigal Son" is the title of another religious subject for which the Pathé Company is responsible, other religious scenes being those connected with the Bible history of Samson and Delilah and "Joseph Sold by his Brethren." Emphatic and impressive in the lesson it teaches is the series which goes by the name of "Alcohol and its Victims," to which we have already referred. The story of the drunken husband who ruins himself, morally and physically, and at the same time ruins his home, his detention in a padded room of a lunatic asylum, and his death after delirium tremens, is pathetically told in a way that admits of no misunderstanding.

Two new sets which are certain to be of great interest will shortly be put upon the market by the Pathé company. They deal with a trip from Christiania to Cape North and with "the fountains playing at Versailles." The latter will be shown in colours, and Mr Collier informs us that it is exceedingly pretty. Among their other fresh pictures which have quite recently been seen by music hall and other audiences are films illustrating sardine fishing off the coast of France, the magnificent waterfalls in Sweden, and incidents in the Russo-Japanese War. The firm are at present busy on some further pictures which they will produce between now and Christmas, and which, we are assured, will far surpass in scenic effect and quality anything they have yet placed before the public.

We were favoured the other day by a "private view" of Pathé films in the splendidly appointed projecting room which the company has built in their big establishment at 14, 16, and 18, Lamb's Conduit street, Holborn, W.C. The scenes put forward for our special edification were of surpassing excellence, both as to the arrangement of the subjects and the steadiness and clearness of the pictures. The Pathé Cinématograph Co. are to be highly commended for their really superb productions.

DAN LENO'S BUMPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—When I was passing the Tivoli one Saturday evening late in 1897 the late Mr Vernon Dowsett asked me if I would call in after the hall had closed and examine the head of Dan Leno. I did so, in the presence of a few noted people. Dan had declared that he never would have his head examined. But as soon as I was upon the stage I started upon him at once before he was aware, with the result that he was very much surprised. I found that one of the smallest faculties was the organ of hope, so that he was, in fact, of a very melancholy nature; and, although he had the great gift of making many laugh, yet this arose from mirth, being very large, combined with a fine intellect. On this occasion I told him that the nervous system had been greatly overtaxed. His brain was large, but the great defect in the constitution was a very faulty state of the digestive organs, and this was really the first thing that caused his brain trouble. With regard to his character generally if he had not been upon the stage he would have made a splendid artist. As a sculptor he would have been a great success. The religious group of organs did not predominate; his sympathies at times ran away with his judgment. The great width from ear to ear endowed him with very great vitality. The well filled-out forehead in the centre gave him that great versatility of intellect that he possessed. His energy and spirit were seen by the large development just above the ears. The great fulness just above the forehead was the organ of imitation in an immense state of development, and endowed him with the great talent for mimicry that he possessed.

Yours faithfully, Professor W. CROSS.
Nov. 1.

THE many friends of Miss Minnie Palmerston will be sorry to hear of her death, which took place at Belfast on Nov. 1, after a short illness, from typhoid fever. She was interred in the City Cemetery, Belfast on Thursday.

DEATH OF DAN LENO.

"A fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy!" Such, indeed, was the late Dan Leno, whose unexpected death on Monday morning will be deeply mourned not only by his brothers and sisters of the music hall profession but by thousands of laughter-lovers who have enjoyed to the full his simple expedients for creating wholesome fun, his timely quip, and his rare fund of eccentricity. The immediate cause of death was heart failure, although for eighteen months the famous jester had suffered from a form of mental disease known to medical experts as general paralysis of the brain. Since his return to the London Pavilion it was painfully apparent to his friends that he was no longer the Leno of former years. Mental concentration was impossible, and it is certain now that the malady, of which the course had been arrested in a most remarkable way, was again making itself felt. On Thursday, the 20th ult., Mr Leno made his last appearance in public at the London Pavilion, and danced with the vigour that invariably characterised his efforts in the days when he claimed champion honours as a step-dancer. He was taken home to his residence, Springfield, Clapham-park, and nursed night and day. He had been confined to his bed for about ten days in charge of two attendants, but his death was not anticipated. He lapsed into semi-unconsciousness on Sunday, and was unable to recognise his relatives. His attendant on Monday morning noticed a serious change, and at once summoned Dr. Vallery and the members of the family. Surrounded by them, he passed away in his wife's arms. Poor Dan Leno! which one heard on every side when it was known more than a twelvemonth ago that he was suffering from dementia, will be repeated now, for there can be few comedians and few men living who made more unknown friends on the other side of the footlights. He was greatly liked by members of the theatrical profession, and gave his services without stint at benefit matinées. We remember him at the now defunct Globe Theatre at the testimonial performance given in aid of the late Stewart Dawson, and he took part in a performance of *The Critic* at the farewell of Mrs Billington at the Lyceum, his companions in the representation including Mr Arthur Bourchier and Miss Violet Vanbrugh. Alas! the curtain is rung down; the cap and bells have been laid aside; and the laugh of the King's Jester, as he loved to call himself, is stilled for ever!

Mr Leno, whose real name was George Galvin, was born in February, 1861, in a humble dwelling in Eve-court, in the district of Somerstown, that was swept away in the early seventies to make room for the Midland Terminus at St. Pancras. His parents were known in the profession as Mr and Mrs Johnny Wilde, and he made his first appearance at the age of three as an acrobat at the Cosmotheca, in Bell-street, Edgware-road. Later in his juvenile career he met with an accident which compelled him to relinquish tumbling for dancing, and his brother having taught him a few steps, they travelled as the Brothers Leno, the name of his step-father.

The Brothers Leno made their first appearance at a North London music hall, on a stage which was surrounded with mirrors. In 1869 his parents went to Glasgow to fulfill a fortnight's engagement. With them he toured all over the three kingdoms, as well as part of Germany, as the Leno family, and he first made a separate reputation for himself at Dublin. One week he was singing at the smallest hall in the city at 15s. a week, and the next he was engaged at the Exhibition Palace for £1 15s. a night, which was a very pleasant change. He became well known in Ireland, and at Belfast he had the honour to receive a high compliment from Charles Dickens, who saw him at the time he was lecturing there.

All this time he kept on practising dancing, at which he became a great adept, and in 1880 his father saw an advertisement in *The Era* announcing a clog-dancing competition at the Princess Palace, Leeds, for the championship of the world, and on his advice Dan entered, but had no expectation of winning. However, after dancing against seventeen of the finest performers in the profession, the judges awarded him the championship belt, and he held the title in three more competitions.

Soon after his first appearance in London in the early eighties at the Middlesex and Foresters', Dan Leno was secured for the Oxford by Mr J. H. Jennings, and we well remember his success in the song "Milk for the Twins" on that occasion, but he did not omit to wear his champion belt and rattle the clogs in an exhibition clog dance that has never been equalled. He sang the song in the costume of an old woman, and Mr George Conquest, who happened to see him, engaged him and his wife (Miss Lydia Reynolds), for the pantomime at the Surrey in 1886-87, when he appeared as Jack's mother in *Jack and the Beanstalk*. His success was immediate, and he was re-engaged for *Sinbad* in the following year. Then commenced (1888-89) a long series of triumphs at Drury-lane. Sir Augustus Harris saw the great little comedian, and immediately secured him for the part of the Baroness, in *The Babes in the Wood*. Since then he played in *Jack and the Beanstalk*, 1889; *Beauty and the Beast*, 1890; *Humpty Dumpty*, 1891; *Little Bo Peep*, 1892; *Robinson Crusoe*, 1893; *Whittington and his Cat*, 1894; *Cinderella*, 1895; *Aladdin*, 1896; *Babes in the Wood*, 1897; *Forty Thieves*, 1898; *Jack and the Beanstalk*, 1899; *Sleeping Beauty and the Beast*, 1900; *Blue Beard*, 1901; *Mother Goose*, 1902; and *Humpty Dumpty*, 1903. His Mother Goose was quite different from his Widow Twankey. The cast of *Beauty and the Beast* in 1890 included the beautiful Miss Belle Bilton, now the Countess of Clancarty. He appeared also at the Strand in the late eighties, in a burlesque called *Atalanta*, and in the first year of the present century he toured with a piece called *Orlando Dando*. Later he produced *Mr Wix of Wickham* at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, and was supported by Miss Georgina Leno, his eldest daughter, who retired from the stage on her marriage last year. Hard though his theatre work was, he preferred it to the routine of the halls, with its rapid making-up and its hurry and drive. He liked the quiet of the Christmas pantomime.

One of his earliest successes on the music halls was "Young men taken in and done for," and as an instance of his generosity of heart it may now be stated that when he heard of the distress and illness of the composer of this number he provided the poor fellow with funds that procured for him the necessary luxuries and the best of nursing until he died. "The Shopwalker" was the first of an extraordinarily successful series of impersonations, followed by the proprietor of "The Storer," with a wonderful lecture on a fowl and some conscientious remarks on eggs. "The Waiter," "The Doctor" were scarcely less successful," and an impersonation that was probably suggested by "The Shopwalker" was that of the bootshop proprietor. The professor of anatomy, with an illustrative lecture on the human form, was entirely different in treatment to the ludicrously comic "Beefeater of the Tower," the Huntsman, the Bathing Attendant, or the Railway Porter, to each of which characters—exaggerated as they necessarily were—the deceased comedian gave an individuality that could have been only the result of genius. Then there was "Mrs Kelly." What a really delightful creature she was, to be sure!

In our *Era Annual* of last year Mr Leno spoke of her and his father in an amusing anecdote which runs as follows:—"You all know Mrs Kelly—of course! you *must* know Mrs Kelly. Well, at the time I am speaking of—considerably over twenty years ago—I fancy my landlady's name was Mrs Kelly. I was engaged to play Jack, in the pantomime of *Jack the Giant-Killer*. The theatre was the old Rotunda, Liverpool, and the manager Mr Dennis Grannell. Those were the days when the harlequinade was made a feature of, and not as it is now, queenly looking daughters the unfortunate pantomimists had adroitly landed. Things were said in various quarters. I heard them. I will not repeat them, but—I remember!"

He had not only a rich fund of humour in his own quaint face and person, he had that far rarer gift—the intelligence to make use of it. In all but the root idea the long list of characters he performed in pantomime or music hall were the children of his own imagination and his own minute care for detail. His brains were as much to thank as his face or his voice for the roars of laughter he could raise for fifteen minutes without a break from a packed house in Drury-lane Theatre. He took an intense pride in the rapid rise of the music hall profession, and at a gathering of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Rates Association at the Horns, Kennington, he spoke with intense gratitude of the King's kindly recognition of the once-despised music hall artiste.

The proudest moment of his life, indeed, was when he appeared before his Majesty at Sandringham on Nov. 26, 1901, which he afterwards described as follows:—"On the Saturday as I was sitting down to dinner with my wife at the Trocadero the news came to me. 'It is the King's wish,' I was told. 'I can't,' I replied, 'I'm performing at Brixton.' 'It is the King's command,' I was told, and then it broke upon me, and I said 'Oh!' At Sandringham I felt very proud. I had a free hand. I never had a better audience. The King rocked with laughter. It was the greatest day of my life, and my happiness was complete when the King shook me by the hand and the Queen took my hand in hers. Everyone was kind, while the place was so homelike. Since my return the King has sent me a tie-pin, and down Clapham way everyone asks me, 'Show us the pin, Dan.'" It was the first Royal performance after the Coronation, and when Dan arrived at Sandringham he was exceedingly nervous, and his managers were afraid that this might detract from his success. When he got on the stage, however, he quite recovered his composure and did splendidly. He scored an emphatic success, and his Majesty was delighted with him. An amusing incident occurred after his "turn" before the distinguished company. The King asked that Mr Leno should be presented, and Dan with all haste divested himself of his make-up. It was then found that his servant had omitted to put his dress trousers in the bag. Everything was there except the trousers. At last, in despair, Mr Ashton borrowed a pair of trousers from one of the King's servants, and Mr Leno appeared and received the Royal congratulations.

In private life Mr Leno was something of an amateur farmer, and was very proud of his crop of hay, grown in a field next to his house, for which he obtained £15. He was a man of the most lavish generosity, founded on personal sympathy with those in need. His income was enormous and his popularity even greater. He was chairman of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund Dinner in 1901, the vice-chairman on that occasion being his staunch friend, Herbert Campbell, who was always proud of Dan's success.

Photo by London Stereoscopic Co.

THE LATE MR. DAN LENO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Humorist and gentleman may well be written without fear above the name of the late Dan Leno. He had to plough in rough fields long before gathering in the harvest. I remember once his saying, after a visit to the long-forgotten Malakoff in Liverpool, "Mother and father saw my start here, and watched me tight my way to Drury-lane. Now I have seen two lives, lived in two worlds, and made two names."

The thoughts of the many will go out to Dan, and live in memory land where dwells the little gentleman who contributed so much towards the gaiety of nations.

Yours faithfully, HERBERT SHELLEY.
May View, 23, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.
Nov. 1.

LENO REX.

The lord of comics—the arch-prince of jest—
Has left the busy stage for evermore,
And all his witty sayings, and the roar
On roar of mirthful laughter that his quest
For fun created, are hushed—He's at rest.
We, who oft saw him chase the goddess Mirth
And snatch her choicest treasures, knew his worth,
And deemed him, of our humourists, the best.
Ring down the curtain! Let the lights burn dim!
Make some sweet chord of music, soft and low,
To mingle with our tenderness for him,
Our monarch of burlesque, who lived to show
How strangely humour to our hearts is wed.
Ring down the curtain! Leno rex is dead!—F. T.

DAN LENO, DANCER.

AN IMPRESSION.

A correspondent sends an interesting account of his first impression of Dan Leno on the music hall stage twenty years ago. He says:—"I was in Sheffield at the time—to be precise, on September 15, 1884, just over twenty years ago. Anxious to find a suitable place of amusement at which to spend the evening, I glanced down the columns of a Sheffield paper of that date, and my eye fell upon the following announcement—

LENO'S GRAND VARIETIES, TUDOR-STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Lessees and Managers, Messrs W. LENO and SON.

Monday, Sept 15, and during the Week:—Dan Leno, Will Oliver, Miss Kate Ederwick, Harry Speirs, Miss Nina Ramsden, Mr Alex. Thomas, Miss Peggy Pond.

Police—Ladies' Free Night Every Thursday, if accompanied by a Gentleman.

Doors open at 7 o'clock, performance to commence at 7 30 prompt.

Admission:—Cushioned Seats, 1s. Circle, 6d.; Side Seats and Promenade, 4d. Gallery, 3d. No Money Returned. Disorderly Persons expelled.

"Having decided to indulge in the luxury of a 'cushioned' seat, I paid my shilling at the doof or pushed through to empty benches in about ten minutes, or, worse still, neglected entirely. Paddy Phillips, the first man that ever sang Irish comic songs with trousers on (*reason*—because he *had* no knee-breeches), was the pantaloon, and my dad was the clown. Funds in those day were not exactly plentiful, and if any of us wanted a drink we had to 'sub' it—that is to say, owe for it—so that if any refreshment was placed in our way without 'parting' for it, it had a powerful fascination. There were two large stage boxes at the Rotunda, and these boxes were so ill lit that if the occupants were seated well back it was absolutely impossible for the performers to tell whether they were empty or not. Dad, who, as I said, was clowning, was in the habit of falling into one of these boxes, which act was thought to be highly original and diverting. One night he disappeared for several minutes, much to the chagrin and annoyance of the pantaloon. Each night Dad disappeared in the same way, and each night remained for a longer period in the box, and each night he came out of the box wiping his mouth and wearing a particularly placid and self-satisfied smile. Paddy Phillips had his suspicions aroused, and one Saturday night, when the clown did his customary fall into the box, the pantaloon fell in after him, and they both remained there for heaven knows how long, leaving the harlequinade to the columbine and harlequin, who twiddled his wand and tripped across the stage until the gallery rebuked him in tones more forcible than encouraging. This brought things to a crisis. Inquiries were instituted, and it was discovered that the box was occupied nightly by some "Johnnies"—*habitués* of the theatre at pantomime time, who had received the clown with open arms and treated him to generous libations of champagne and other 'heady' drinks. The governor threatened both clown and pantaloon with a real 'Irishman's rise,' and for a time the culprits lay low and attended to their business. But one Saturday night they were consumed with a raging desire to once more sample the flowing bowl, so they both did a graceful somersault into the favourite box, each landing on to a different lap. Horror! The box was *not* occupied by the accustomed Johnnies, but by an austere and most dignified local magnate, on the laps of whose two queenly looking daughters the unfortunate pantomimists had adroitly landed. Things were said in various quarters. I heard them. I will not repeat them, but—I remember!"

He had not only a rich fund of humour in his own quaint face and person, he had that far rarer gift—the intelligence to make use of it. In all but the root idea the long list of characters he performed in pantomime or music hall were the children of his own imagination and his own minute care for detail. His brains were as much to thank as his face or his voice for the roars of laughter he could raise for fifteen minutes without a break from a packed house in Drury-lane Theatre. He took an intense pride in the rapid rise of the music hall profession, and at a gathering of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Rates Association at the Horns, Kennington, he spoke with intense gratitude of the King's kindly recognition of the once-despised music hall artiste.

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Doors open at 7 o'clock, performance to commence at 7 30 prompt.

Admission:—Cushioned Seats, 1s. Circle, 6d.; Side Seats and Promenade, 4d. Gallery, 3d. No Money Returned. Disorderly Persons expelled.

"Having decided to indulge in the luxury of a 'cushioned' seat, I paid my shilling at the doof or Leno's Grand Varieties (a transformed wooden circus) on the site of the present Lyceum Theatre. In the centre of the hall burnt a bright coke fire in a sort of square iron basket arrrangement standing on four legs. Towards the end of the performance came the turn of the star of the evening—young Dan Leno, son of the proprietor of the theatre. His contribution consisted of a clog-dancing performance which fairly brought down the house and he was encored again and again. This was the first time I saw Dan as an entertainer—clog-dancing before an 'unwashed' audience in the dingy circus hall. What a change in his fortunes had taken place since then. Never for a moment did I think to see him in later years at the very top of his profession—the wittiest, the smartest, the most versatile comedian this, or any other, century has produced."

THE ROYAL ALBERT.

Satisfaction always rests on the faces of the patrons of Mr Charles Reif's hall, who find within its cosy walls the entertainment suited to their tastes, and well calculated to relieve the stress of a day of a toil such as is spent by the dock labourers and seamen who form the bulk of the residents of Canning-town. Local tradesmen also support Mr Reif's hall in full force, and are as equally appreciative of the excellent programme which he always provides. The melodramatic playlet is never absent from the bill, and during the present week, midway in the evening, an excellent specimen of the sensational sketch has been furnished by Frances Harrold and her company. It is entitled *Murder Will Out*, and is written and produced by W. J. Mackay. Its villain is a wealthy banker named Jabez Brant, who makes dishonourable proposals to his pretty lady clerk and typewriter, Miss Courtney. Needless to say, these are scornfully rejected, and when the scoundrel gets too pressing with his attentions, he is floored by his clerk, George Harmsworth, the young lady's sweetheart. So angered is the scoundrel at being thus thwarted that he determines on ridding himself of the couple, but ere they quit his employ he endeavours to fasten a theft on young Harmsworth. He would be successful were it not for the timely arrival of a disreputable looking individual Jeremiah Smith, who was formerly an acquaintance, and who is the only living witness of a murder and robbery committed some twenty years since by Brant. The victim transpires to have been Harmsworth's father, and Smith recognising the young man promises to aid him. In the following scene Harmsworth and the typewriter, now man and wife, are seen wandering the streets homeless and almost starving. The villain afterwards has them both secured and conveyed to a wretched-looking apartment, where, after taunting them, he lights some inflammables in the cellar beneath. Smith just manages to arrive in time to save them from a terrible death; and Brant falls apparently lifeless to the ground, a victim of his own horrible machinations. The effective finale was loudly applauded by the Canning-towniter, and was well managed, the sketch throughout being much enjoyed. Miss Harrold and her company all played efficiently their respective rôles, the actor taking the part of Smith being a resourceful and funny comedian; and the couple playing an office boy and his sweetheart also aiding largely in the merriment. Much wonderment was created by the exhibition of her powers given by Mahatma, programmed as "the greatest mystery ever put on the stage." Mahatma is blindfolded and seated on a chair near the footlights. At the back of the stage is a black-board on which one of a committee from the audience writes a number of rows of figures. The gentleman who introduces the lady then points to a figure, and Mahatma immediately names it, also adding up a sum. All her answers are given with wonderful quickness and not the slightest hesitancy, and are always correct. She also successfully names different cards taken from a pack which she could not possibly see, and without receiving, apparently, any sign from her partner. Anyone is invited to go on to the stage to try and discover "how it's done," and the show, which is varied every night during the week, has proved most interesting and mystifying. Miss Nellie Camp, Scotch comedy artiste, has given some valuable advice to her fair sisters in "Oh, be careful;" and her humorous selection, "Dairy-ma-do-ma-daddy oh," has created much laughter. A comedian with a funny style and three amusing comedy songs is Mr Paul Jones, his comical lament of an ill-treated husband, "None for me," especially appealing to his audience. "Now's the time" and "Keep a little order, please," are also acceptable numbers; and Mr Jones succeeds in extracting every ounce of humour from them. Miss Idalia May, transformation dancer, gives a pretty and exhausting exhibition, her quick changes being rapidly accomplished and her many different examples of the Terpsichorean art all being cleverly executed. The descriptive songs of Mr Arthur Denville are all delivered with earnestness and effect, "Laugh and the world laughs with you" and "Vanity Fair" being both excellent numbers; and other contributors to Mr Reif's entertaining programme are Rick and Laurel, comedy artistes; the Grahams, in a comic sketch, *How I Left the Stage;* Pattie Bella, burlesque actress; and Miss May Sulyard's dramatic company in sketch, *For Honour*. Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope continues to give an interesting and up-to-date series of pictures, an always appreciated turn. Under the watchful eye of the genial and tactful chairman, Mr Walter Leaver, no more orderly assemblage could be found.

MR SAM MAYO has acquired a fine comic song by that clever writer, Fred Leigh, entitled "When I woke up in the morning."—Mr Percy Honri, the popular virtuoso on the concertina, returns to the London Pavilion on Monday to renew the popularity he has so deservedly gained on former visits by his artistic selections and his fine playing.—The Harvey Boys finish another successful "Stoll" tour to-night, and return to town, Monday, for four months.

THE Brothers Edgar desire to acknowledge the receipt for the Abe Holt Fund of the following sums, in addition to amount (£2 6s. 6d.) already acknowledged:—Mr Eugene Stratton, 10s.; Mr Geo. Gray, 10s. 6d.; Mr Harry Freeman, 5s.; Mr D. Cruikshanks, 2s. 6d.; Mr Paul Martinetti, 2s.; and Mr Tom Morris, 1s. Any further donations will be gratefully received and acknowledged.

MR FRANK WEEKS was an honoured guest at the banquet given by the Mayor of Southwark on Thursday evening to mark the conclusion of his year of office.

NAT TRAVERS and his Aristocrats open on Monday at the Oxford, Metropolitan, and Palace, Greenwich.—The Brothers Pollard are engaged by Mr Frederick Mouillot for the parts of the Ugly Sisters in that gentleman's production of *Cinderella*.—Mrs Allen M'Askell is still confined to Scarborough Hospital, and remains in a critical condition. Her husband, after five weeks' vacation, resumes business Monday next at Empire, Greenock.

THE Sisters Spellerini, daughters of a well-known Warrington tradesman, made their début in the music hall profession at the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Warrington, on Friday evening, the 28th ult. As duettists and instrumentalists they scored a signal success, and their song entitled "Army and Navy" was received with much applause.

FRED SINCLAIR and GRACIE WHITEFORD are meeting with a tremendous reception all along the line with their smart refined duologue *Getting Even* and their dresses are much admired.

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

THE HAYMARKET.

A report was received from the Theatres and Music Halls Committee recommending that Mr C. S. Peach be informed that the Council had no objection to the arrangements shown on the three plans dated Oct. 8, 1904, submitted by him with regard to certain deviations from the approved plans proposed to be made at the Haymarket Theatre, provided the following conditions be complied with:—"(1) That the doors from the pit be arranged so as not to open immediately over steps; (2) that, with regard to the stairs to the dress-circle, the top step be sloped downwards instead of upwards." Agreed to.

THE LYCEUM.

The Committee had considered plans submitted by Messrs Oldroyd and Co., Limited, showing how it is proposed to provide fire-extinguishing appliances at the Lyceum Theatre. The arrangements appeared to be generally satisfactory, and the Committee recommended "That Messrs Oldroyd and Co., Limited, be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plans, dated Oct. 4, 1904, submitted by them with regard to the proposed means for extinguishing fire at the Lyceum Theatre, provided the following conditions be complied with:—(1) "That a 2in. pipe be provided from the stage to the flies on the o.p. side, instead of the 1½in. pipe shown on the plans; (2) that the hydrants be arranged so as not to form projections, and that all recesses be suitably defended." The committee had considered a plan, submitted by Messrs E. Oldroyd and Co., Limited, of the fire-resisting curtain proposed to be fitted to the proscenium opening at the Lyceum Theatre. The arrangements appeared to be satisfactory, and the committee recommended "That Messrs E. Oldroyd and Co, Limited, be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan, dated Oct. 8, 1904, submitted by them with regard to the proposed fire-resisting curtain at the Lyceum Theatre, provided the following conditions be complied with:—(1) That the frame in which the curtain runs be provided with proper rollers at intervals of about 5ft., and that the framing be properly secured at the intersections; (2) that the sprinkler be furnished with stop and drain cocks, the former to be sealed open; (3) that the gearing to the fire-curtain and sprinkler be suitably protected, and that indicating plates be provided." The committee had also considered a plan, submitted by Mr B. Crewe, with regard to the Lyceum Theatre, showing the provision of teak doors and frames with fire-resisting glass, to the openings from the Lyceum Tavern to the pit entrance to the theatre. The committee recommended "That Mr B. Crewe be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan, dated Oct. 15, 1904, submitted by him with regard to the proposed provision of teak doors and frames at the Lyceum Theatre, provided that the large window glazed with plate glass be glazed instead with fire-resisting glass." The above recommendations were adopted.

NEW THEATRE, CHARLOTTE-STREET.

The Council, on July 21, 1903, approved plans of a new theatre to be erected on a site at the corner of Charlotte-street and Tottenham-street. The building is now rapidly approaching completion, and it is desired to open the theatre very shortly. The committee therefore recommended "That the seal of the Council be affixed to a certificate under section 12 of the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendments Act, 1878, in respect of the New Theatre, Charlotte-street, and that the certificate be issued as soon as the chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee is satisfied that the building has been satisfactorily completed." Agreed to.

ORIENT THEATRE.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Mr B. Crewe, of a theatre which it is proposed to erect at the junction of Commercial-road and Myrdle-street. "The site practically complies with the Council's regulations, and satisfactory means of exit are shown to be provided. The theatre will have seating accommodation for 1,887 persons." The committee recommended "That Mr Crewe be informed that, provided the work shown on the five plans, dated Aug. 6, 1904, submitted by him with regard to a building to be known as the Orient Theatre, and to be erected in Commercial-road, Limehouse, be commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate under section 12 of 41 and 42 Vict., cap. 32, to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the plans referred to and the regulations of the Council, and that the following conditions have been complied with:—(1) That the outlet to the hydrants in the flies be 1½in. in diameter, and that all necessary hose and fittings be provided in connection with such hydrants; (2) that chemical extincteurs of 2½ gallons capacity be provided in the auditorium, or that buckets be provided to the satisfaction of the Council; (3) that all hydrants and fittings in connection therewith as well as the chemical extincteurs, to be provided in the auditorium, be completely recessed, and that such recesses be protected by proper guard rails; (4) that the hydrants to be installed throughout the building, with the exception of those in the flies, be provided with bib-cocks for filling buckets; (5) that drawings showing the construction of the fire-resisting screen be submitted to the Council; (6) that a flap be placed on the outlet into the Council's sewer in New-road; (7) that the heating and electric lighting arrangements be made to comply with the Council's regulations." Adopted.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Mr C. E. L. Parkinson, of an iron staircase proposed to be formed from the dressing rooms at the Royal Court Theatre, Sloane-square. The committee recommended "That Mr C. E. L. Parkinson be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the three plans, dated Oct. 26, 1904, submitted by him with regard to the proposed iron staircase from the dressing rooms at the Royal Court Theatre, on condition that before the commencement of the work the licence of the Council to build over the Council's sewer be applied for and obtained, and that the door on the upper circle level be hung on the opposite side to that shown on the plans." Agreed to.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

On Saturday evening the promenade and smoking concert was well attended, the London Prize Band paying a welcome return visit. The vocal numbers were well received, and some smart and successful conjuring was accomplished by Mr Owen Clark. The skating rink in the old Concert Room was reopened for the season on Saturday evening. A number of new members have joined the Welcome Club, the indefatigable and untiring secretary, Mr H. R. Moulton, being largely responsible for this addition. The annual show of chrysanthemums by the Highgate District Society is this week in evidence, and some of the blossoms are very fine specimens.

MR CHAS. H. LESTER, who is well-known in the profession for his clever photographic work, was granted a special interview with Colonel Cody (Buffalo Bill) last week. He photographed the hands of the colonel by a special process invented by himself.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

We beg to thank Managers and the Profession generally for the many flattering expressions of opinion on our present list of Pantomime Songs. The unanimous verdict is that we have broken all our previous records. Taking into account the Firm's past achievements this is praise indeed.

Songs for Principal Girl and Boy.

Farewell my little Yo San
By MILLS and SCOTT.
Tom Costello's greatest success.

Go away Mister Crocodile
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
Will be even more popular than "Little Yellow Bird."

You are a white little girl
By SWAFFER and DAREWSKI JUNR.
Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.

The Peacock and the Dove
By WILLIAM HARGREAVES.
A very catchy chorus song.

The Carnival of Toys
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A pretty song for the children. The undoubted successor to "The Tin Gee Gee."

The Sunshine of Love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A delightful ballad with harmonised chorus.

The Statue in Trafalgar Square
By ARTHURS and LYLE.
Sung by George Lashwood.

Do you know Suzannah Simpson?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
If not, ask the author and composer about her.

Honey boy
By KENNEDY and PENN.
The composer of "Honeysuckle and the Bee," "Pancy Faces," etc., has excelled himself in this dainty number.

It's not the turkey on the table
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A song of sentiment for Christmas.

Blue Bell
By MADDEN and MORSE.
The accepted success of the year.

Girls wouldn't be wanted at all
By HARRINGTON and LE BRUNN.
Sung by W. J. Churchill.

Have you seen my girl?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
This is confidently expected to rival "There's a girl wanted there."

What a pity there are not more girls like you
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall. As pretty as the same composer's "Just like the Ivy."

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.
A most effective love ballad

There goes my soldier boy
By LEIGH and SAVAGE.
The greatest march song since the "Soldiers of the Queen."

The Home-made motor car
By MEDLEY BARRETT.
A most effective number for two or more performers, with improvised motor car.

The Angel of my dreams
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Miss Millie Lindon. The best of the many productions of these clever writers.

The snow-man and the sunbeam
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A pretty song with a moral.

She said Baa! baa! baa!
By HARRINGTON and ALLEN.
Sung by Miss Florrie Ford.

Navaho
By WILLIAMS and VAN ALYSTYNE.
Charming American-Indian Romance.

Three's jolly fine company
By COLLINS and ROGERS.
Arthur Lennard's enormous success.

If I had a girl as nice as you
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A delightful chorus song in great demand.

Dolly's a first-class girl
By LEIGH and PETHER.
A cleverly concocted song with an irresistible refrain.

So did Eve
By HARRIS and TATE.
Sung by Miss Millie Lindon.

You can't stop the sun from shining
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

Why shouldn't we fight for our own?
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Miss Katie Lawrence. A patriotic song of the "We don't want to fight" order.

Jack in the box
By MISS TRIXIE TOOLE.
This is a big speciality song. Write for particulars of idea for working.

Come and be a soldier
By STILES and NAIRN.
A grand song full of go.

Good night little girl
By ARTHURS and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Florrie Ford.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

PIONEERS OF POPULAR PUBLICATIONS.

Songs for Low Comedian and Dame.

Short Stories
By W. DAVID and MAURICE SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand, also by Fred Clements.

There's another one out of work
By T. W. CONNOR.
Sung by George Brooks.

A.B.C.D.
(The Singing Master).
By JAMES HARGREAVES.
Sung by Wilkie Bard.

It's all right in the summer time
By MURRAY and EVERARD.
Sung by Miss Vesta Victoria.

My father's jokes
By COLLINS and CASTLING.
Sung by George Brooks.

Wouldn't you be better in a home?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

My Japanesy girl
By DELMAR and PARRY.
Sung by Hal Ford.

She cost me seven-and-sixpence
By JAMES HARGREAVES and SAM MAYO.
Sung by Sam Mayo and Wilkie Bard.

Who killed Bill Bailey?
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Sandford and Lyons.

All the girls are lov-er-ly-ov-er-ly
By HARRINGTON and THURBAN.
Sung by R. G. Knowles.

He was a Sailor
By JEROME and SCHWARTZ.
From "The Earl and the Girl."

Toasts
By ERNEST SEARSON.
Sung by Ambrose Thorne.

You can't beat the old time girls?
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Sung by George Brooks.

Up in Scotland
By ARTHURS and SCOTT.
Sung by Whit Cunliff

What's the good of a £10 note?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
Sung by Tom Costello.

The new Insurance
By GEORGE ARTHURS & KENNETH LYLE.
Sung by Ernest Shand.

By kind permission of the "Daily Mail"
By BATEMAN and SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand. A clever idea for the introduction of topics.

My inquisitive kiddie
By ELLERTON and LYNNE.
Sung by Frank Lynne.

What d'yer want to talk about it for?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

All the little Japansy faces
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Mark Sheridan.

We all walked into the shop
By MILLS and CASTLING.
Sung by Dave O'Toole.

Songs for Fairy Queen and Special Singing Parts.

The Garden filled with gold
By BATEMAN and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall.

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.

Peeping Eyes
By KENNEDY RUSSELL.

The Playground in the sky
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Milner Verren.

You be daddy and I'll be you
By JOSEPH TABRAR.

The Gondolier
By WILLIAMS and POWELL.
A Venetian Romance.

If all the world said No
By HARRINGTON and PETHER.
Sung by Miss Gladys Mavius.

The sunshine of love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
With harmonised chorus.

ORCHESTRAL NOVELTIES. Including:—**LAUGHING WATER** (The popular American two step). **GLORY & LOVE** (Grand March by Warwick Williams). Full List on application.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FOR PANTOMIME USE.

MUSICAL ARTISTES DEPARTMENT. Under the direction of Mr. Lester Barrett, where you can hear any of the Songs, etc., played over, and receive suggestions for working same.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

142, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON.

STAGE PLAYS AT MUSIC HALLS.

At Marylebone Police-court, on the 28th ult., the Metropolitan Theatre of Varieties (Ltd.), Edgware-road, was summoned for on different dates in September and October unlawfully keeping the music hall for the performance of a stage play without the authority of letters patent, or the licence of the Lord Chamberlain; and Henri Gros, the managing director, and president of the London Entertainments Protection Association, was summoned, for causing and permitting to be acted and presented certain parts in a stage play, to wit, a comedy drama, called *The Fighting Parson*, at the hall, such place not being a patent theatre or duly licensed as a theatre. The summonses were issued at the instance of Mr Herbert Henry Blackmore, hon. secretary of the Theatrical Managers' Association. Mr Bodkin, barrister, prosecuted; and Mr J. P. Grain and Mr Walter Payne, barrister (instructed by Mr Philip J. Ratland, J.P.), defended.

Mr Bodkin said that these summonses were taken under the second section of the Theatre Act, 1843, and were undertaken by an association which had among its active members substantially the whole of the theatrical managers in London and the country, and included the names of Sir Henry Irving, Sir Charles Wyndham and Mr Tree. The prosecution was not taken without proper consideration, and was not brought with the slightest wish to press hardly on any place of public amusement; but it was felt that a distinction should be kept between theatres and music halls, and that in view of the continued encroachments made by the music halls upon the legitimate province of the theatre, it was necessary that the theatrical managers should take measures to protect their interests. For several years they took no steps in the matter; but to such an extent had the illegal production of stage plays at music halls been carried on that during the past year it was found necessary to proceed against at least a dozen music hall proprietors. The magistrates had clearly stated the law on the subject, and fines had been inflicted; but in defiance of this the stage plays had continued. *The Fighting Parson* had been decided to be a stage play twice or thrice, and the defendants must have known that an engagement had been entered on for its production long after the Theatrical Association had warned them about it. It was clearly a stage play, and had been submitted to the Lord Chamberlain as such and had received his sanction. Notwithstanding the fact, the defendants had produced it at the Metropolitan Music Hall for their own profit and in defiance of the law.

Mr Grain admitted that *The Fighting Parson* was a stage play, and that the defendants had committed a technical offence. He urged that the prosecution was an attempt on the part of the Theatrical Association to do away with their rivals. He referred to the decisions of other magistrates to show that the offence was, in fact, a purely technical one. He also pointed out that the committee of the House of Commons, which dealt with the subject in 1892, unanimously decided that it was desirable there should be legislation to entitle non-licensed places to perform sketches not exceeding forty minutes in length. In view of that finding sketches were allowed to take place, and it was not until twelve months ago, when the theatrical managers realised how keen was the competition, that they intervened. In these circumstances he asked the magistrate to inflict merely a nominal fine.

Mr Curtis Bennett said that the association was perfectly entitled to seek to protect its rights under the statute. The music halls were in their present position owing to their failing to obtain legislation on the lines suggested by the committee of 1892. This was a stage play, but the music hall was not licensed for its production. It was a serious and not a technical offence, for the defendants had wilfully broken the law in the face of the previous convictions by the other magistrates, as, it was said, it paid them to do so. This was an aggravation of the offence, and could only be met by severe penalties. He therefore fined the company £20 for the first date, and £10 for each of the other sixteen days, making £180 in all. The summons against Mr Gros was adjourned *sine die*, the defendant being bound over in £10 to come up if called upon.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X L C.R. SECOND A.F.C. V. ST. MICHAEL'S RESERVES A.F.C. AND THEATRICALS.

Played on Clifton Downs on Oct. 15. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X L.C.R Second A.F.C.—W. J. Horton, goal; F. Thorne (captain) and B. Moore, backs; F. Stevens (of H. Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.), W. Lloyd, and A. Mattock (of H. Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.), half-backs; A. Norman, E. Taylor, W. Austin, A. English, and F. Morgan, forwards.

St. Michael's Reserves and Theatricals.—H. Clarke, goal; T. Escott (captain), and F. Coomer, backs; Cranstone, G. Osborne, and G. Foster, half-backs; H. Brookes, G. Warren, B. Evans, A. Humphries, and F. Griffen, forwards.

Referee, J. Leonard (of Westbury Village Reserves) Linesmen, J. Tyler and B. Davis. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C., nil; St. Michael's Reserves and Theatricals, one goal. G. Foster scored for the second named team, H. Clarke playing splendidly in goal.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. SECOND A.F.C. AND THEATRICALS V. EASTVILLE ATHLETIC RESERVES.

Played on the ground of the first-named team on Saturday, Oct. 22. The following were the players:—Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C. and Theatricals.—W. J. Horton, goal; F. Thorne (captain) and E. J. Broughton, backs; F. Austin, W. Lloyd, and T. Austin, half backs; T. Poole, H. Taylor, A. English, A. Murray, and A. Norman, forwards.

Eastville Athletic Reserves A.F.C.—W. Ford, goal; B. Meads and G. Hemmons (captain), backs; G. Bracey, T. Merrick, and J. Edmunds, half backs; G. Reynolds, H. Callow, F. Pitt, F. Adams, and B. Somerton, forwards.

Referee, F. White (of Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C.). Linesmen, F. Hodges and B. Davis. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C. and Theatricals, nil; Eastville Athletic Second A.F.C., four goals. T. Merrick, G. Reynolds, F. Pitt, and H. Somerton scored for Eastville Athletic Reserves, A.F.C., W. Ford playing splendidly in goal.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS V. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, on Wednesday, Oct. 26 The following were the teams:—

Bristol X L C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding, goal; A. Cox and A. Hamlin (captain), backs; H. Slade, W. Miller, and F. Stevens, half-backs; H. Edwards, L. Hamlin, J. Aubrey, E. Bowman, and E. Belding, forwards.

Bristol Early Closers Athletic Club.—B. Yandell, goal; G. Hedges (captain), and F. Webber, backs; S. Coombes, T. Brooks, and S. Carter (of Bristol X.L.C.R A.F.C.), half-backs; W. Denty, W. Groves, A. Rossiter, A. Thompson, and J. Leonard (of Westbury Village Reserves A.F.C.) forwards.

Referee, T. Palmer (of Bristol X L.C.R A.F.C.). Linesmen, J. Lewis and P. Hewlett. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Clubs, nil; Bristol Early Closers A.F.C., two goals. J. Leonard and T. Brooks scored for Bristol Early Closers A.F.C.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—Allow me to call your attention to the fact that Decima Brooke is not in my *Cherry Girl* company. The parts of Pas-Bas and Dimples are being played by Miss Dorothy Frostick. Yours faithfully, C. LUBBOCK.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

As with all human affairs so has it proved true with the work of the Showmen's Guild. "The achievements of peace are more glorious than the victories of war." For every single corporation prejudiced and unreasonable in their crusade against the popular people's fairs there have been six found ready and willing to listen to reason and the organised expression of public opinion. No review, such as the one we are now giving of Parliamentary work, would be just or complete without honourable mention of these public bodies. Salford, Dewsbury, the Lancashire County Council, Carlisle, Leicester, Swansea, Rotherham, Selby, Bridlington, Newport, Erith, Llandrindod Wells, Aston Manor, Radcliffe, Leigh, Gateshead, Knaresborough, and Buxton are amongst the corporations who, after negotiations, dropped or amended their proposed inimical restrictions of the show business.

NOT the least important consideration before showmen is the keeping in active vigour and constant watchfulness this machinery of peaceful negotiations—the standing agency of justice and reason, with both authority and ability to speak at a moment's notice in defence of their trade and its many allied interests. For the past fourteen years the Guild has had this proud distinction—every attack has been met and dealt with by peaceful discussion and conference with public bodies first, and only when these ambassadors of peace have failed has the Guild insisted on a fight to a finish in the House of Commons or at the Home Office and Local Government Board.

IN most intimate connection with this work must be reckoned the kindred one of useful propaganda of the claims of the business as a legitimate trade and industry, part and parcel of the economic life of the empire, involving with it the scrutiny of the Press and the onerous work of answering all attacks made upon shows and showmen. An example of this was the reply we made to the attack on Nottingham Goose Fair given in our columns last week. To the credit of the Nottingham press, it must be said our answer to "A Ratepayer's" strictures, was reproduced in the paper that gave publicity to his attack. Scores of instances could be given of similar and most necessary work being done by the Guild; and it must never be forgotten that the power and influence of the Guild's past fourteen years' work is at the back of all that is attempted to-day. The Guild is the recognised agency of showman defence as well as the champion of the people's rights in their time-honoured fairs and open-air amusements, their national and local holidays.

BUT although "the pen is mightier than the sword," war is sometimes the only way left to gain peace. "The strong man armed" has always a better hope of gaining his just demands when it is known that, if necessary, he will fight. Probably the greatest gain the Guild has obtained for the whole body of amusement caterers is the respectful hearing its agents and officials now obtain when they have need to speak. Slowly, but surely, the whole condition of affairs is being changed for the better.

EVERY attack made on the people of the fair-ground is not only defeated, but public opinion is also being rapidly educated, and the theories, rude and crude, of the Puritanical faddists proved to be utterly without reason or justice. Rapidly a wholesome body of dependable facts and statistics is being built up. Take, for example, the census carried through the country by the one man able to do it with dependable accuracy. We refer to Lord George Sanger's estimate of the number of showpeople in the United Kingdom—70,000 persons. The delusion is deeply rooted in many minds that fairs are dying out, or becoming so out-of-date that they may be swept away or treated as a negligible quantity. We have shown in these columns over and over again that no trade or industry has shown greater power of adaptation to modern requirement, or greater quickness in recognising the movements of population, the growth of new trade and industrial centres, than the itinerant show and fairground business; that for every fair lapsing for the lack of people in the purely agricultural counties, two or more have sprung into life and being in the new and rapidly growing centres of life and trade; that, whilst our population has doubled in the past fifty or sixty years, our fairs have more than doubled, our shows are six more in numbers, and that the capital invested in the business has increased a hundredfold.

THESE are the broad facts that through the agency of the Guild have sunk deep down into the public mind. It is no longer a few wandering showmen or vandwellers, but a well-organised body of skilled workers, with enormous capital and many years of hard labour embodied in their trade, their talent of brain and hand, their honest and legitimate livelihood. All these things, and the hundred and one other interests in so large and well capitalised a trade, affect the other trades it feeds and draws from, which are linked with it by years of co-operation and mutual interests. All these considerations now are beginning to be operative, but let showmen remember that when they were without any organisation, or leadership, it was *The Era* that warned them of their danger—*The Era* that found them organisers, and that in the first instance sounded the alarm of danger and roused them as threatened people to organise their forces against an insistent and determined enemy.

ALL this may be very ancient history—but the story of it must be told to those not in the early strain and struggle of things, to those not touched by present danger, because peace has been won for them by the work of others. To them we say that the Guild at least has claims on your gratitude—and more, its work now is your charter of safety—and that the best investment you can make in your business is to see that its efficiency is fully maintained. We state all these things now because the advent of new societies has drawn off both workers and means from the Guild, and the danger is that venturing out in these new and most important enterprises the old Guild may be left without money or workers to continue its all-round and absolutely necessary work. This, we understand, is the position of affairs at the end of the show and fairground season of 1904. At any rate, we are near enough to the end of the ordinary season to be in a position to form a fairly accurate idea of how the Guild may stand at the actual close of the present financial year. We are well aware of the exceptionally bad state of business on the fair-grounds of England that marked the first working half of the year. We do not forget the cold and wet weather that utterly spoilt the fairs in the spring and the early summer. In any fair survey of the past ten months bad weather and poor trade must be taken into strict account. There has been a terrible slump in the takings at the receipt of custom of all kinds of entertainments. It is the sure sign of that shrinkage in the national wealth that our fiscal reformers are seeking to remedy. The people have not had the money to spend, and this economic fact has shown itself in the great central industrial belt of the country.

THE great summer and back-end fairs have, however, been prospered with glorious weather, and as a consequence a good rally of business. We hope that a corresponding rally will come to the funds of the Vandwellers' Protection Association; that the members who failed to renew their annual subscriptions in the first half of the year because of bad business will pay in now. Here we would deal with a criticism which has reached us. Why is it that the Guild has so few meeting now, whilst the other societies meet at all important fairs? In the first half of the year meetings were held of a most satisfactory kind—the usual meetings at London, Manchester, and King's Lynn. The Welsh meeting in June was a particularly enthusiastic one. So, too, was the gathering at the end of July at Longsight Wakes, Manchester. Other possible meetings have not taken place this autumn, because there has been no one available to organise and carry them out. This is a difficulty against which the Guild executive must seriously set its mind to provide. Local committee men must be made to depend more on their own resources, and not to look to headquarters for everything. When showmen hear of other societies holding many meetings, they must not conclude without thought that the Guild is somehow falling back in the race. The other societies have their agents, not only on the spot following the fairs, but also paid for this very purpose to organise and to carry through meetings on the fair-grounds.

IT is not so with the old society. The one paid officer is the secretary, whose paid work is to keep the books and accounts. The salary paid is not sufficient, and never has been, to enable anyone to give time and labour to the onerous work of conducting meetings to rally subscribers at our fairs. Here, we think, is a weak spot in the Guild's working methods. The committee may well consider the advisability of paying an organiser a salary sufficient to attend the principal fairs in the summer months and to organise meetings to rally support for its work. In answer to the personal appeal of the hon. chaplain over £50 was subscribed at two gatherings—the Lynn and Treorchy meetings. The foregoing considerations and suggestions we leave for our Showman World readers to ponder over. We shall return to them again. It is easy to criticise and to contrast the newborn fervent zeal of more recent organisations with the quiet but ever-continuing work of the parent society. New brooms are said to sweep clean—and new work always interests and is much more easily done. And, after all, it is well that it is so, for there is and can be no real rivalry between society and society—except and only rivalry in good work. All that we ask is that the good work of the Guild may not be overlooked or neglected in the onward march of other organisations.

THE work of the Vandwellers' and Showmen's Protection Association (to give the Guild its full name) goes on independently of all meetings. Its survey of the Press and public opinion never ceases. Its honorary and expert workers meet every danger as it arises, and this would be done if no meetings took place except the annual business ones. Its vigilant officials neither slumber nor sleep. Its Parliamentary agent scrutinises every danger in Parliament. Its solicitors grapple with legal tangles and fight every invasion of showman rights and privileges. Its members' interests are ever attended to, and the constant business of a wide-reaching and important organisation maintained. This is always going on, meetings or no meetings. In fact, after all these years of hard work and much explanation, it seems a reproach almost that it should still be found necessary to stump the fairs in order to persuade business men like showmen to defend themselves. Next week we hope to be in a position to make a most interesting (and as it touches the work of the Guild) important announcement.

MR JOHNSON has opened his new Theatre of Varieties at Neath to packed houses. The seating accommodation is perfect in every respect. Another new feature in this elaborate portable is the installation of boxes. New scenery, costumes, and a first-class company should ensure Mr Johnson a successful season. In an interview with the proprietor he was asked how he was going to make such a magnificent travelling concern pay. His reply was, "Keep up to date and you are bound to succeed." Judging by the large audiences he is right.

FROM the great North Round we have news of the locale of the following well-known concerns:—At Jarrow-on-Tyne Mrs Testo's Cinématograph theatre, W. J. Beavis's variety show, Davidson mechanical model, "The pit at work," Messrs Richardson Bros., Limited, electric machine set, the galloping horses, and George Pinninger's steam horses; the shooting galleries and rifle saloons of Messrs Rosher. H. O'Brian, W. Testo, H. Stephens, T. Lowther, and G. Pinninger. The park swings, high fliers, &c., of Messrs W. Spence, Geo. Pinninger, R. Brindle, A. Newsome, and Mr Coutman. Emma sheets, coker shies, football games, roll-up boards, and the usual fair-ground varieties by the following locally celebrated caterers:—Messrs J. Millar, G. Gray, sen., L. Rich, M. Watkins. W. Sedgmore, J. Thwaites, A. Newsome, T. Lowther, G. Pinninger, Geo. Gray, jun., and J. W. Gray. On the ground at Hetton, James Manders's high-class machine set, the flying cockerells, shooting concerns by Wm. Stroud, swings and high-fliers by Messrs S. Cain and T. Hartshorn, Emma sheets and coker throwing games by Messrs H. Shaw, T. Cain, and J. Wright.

AT East Hartlepool is the W. and B. Murphy aggregation.

AT Middlesbrough H. Caris's electric jumping horses, the Cinématograph theatre of Mr Geo. Payne, and several minor novelty booths, shooting ranges, bottle batteries, and various amusements by Messrs Robinson, Halliday, and others.

AT Darlington are Richardson Brothers' famous switchback, the shooters and gallery of Messrs J. Hancock and C. Robson, throwing games by Messrs Firman, Hancock, and Robson.

AT West Auckland is Mr R. Mackney's theatre of varieties and the great ghost illusion.

AT Blyth (the scene of the disastrous fire at Lind's waxworks) Walter Murphy has his superb Venetian gondola set, and Mr Toogood his shooters and rifle gallery.

SALISBURY FAIR was the trysting place of thousands last week. Here, too, as at Chichester, there is a certain alarm in the public mind about the continuance of the fair. We bid the good folk of Great Sarum Town not to be alarmed. Fairs with so great a warrant as theirs die very hard, if, indeed, their vitality is not able to surprise as well as defeat the enemy.

THE charter to hold Salisbury Fair was granted by Henry I. as far back as 1115. In the charter, which is preserved in the Library of the Cathedral, one of the clauses runs:—

You are to know that I have given to the Church of St. Mary in Salisbury, and to Roger, the bishop thereof, the right of holding a fair for a week at Salisbury, namely, on the Feast of St. Mary in September, three days before and three days after.

Henry III. granted another charter in 1226-7, which says:—

We likewise will and allow to the afore-named bishop and his successors that they may hold, once a year, for ever, one Fair in the afore-named city of New Sarum, to last from the vigil of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary until the subsequent octave of the same festival, and in every week one market in the same place all day Tuesday, with all the liberties and untaxed customs that appertain to fairs and markets of this kind.

Formerly of six days' duration, it now lasts but a little over two. Formerly the shows were allowed to enter the market place on Sunday evening, now they are kept out of it until Monday morning.

BUT although modern conditions of life, mainly through the migration of the workers to the busier centres of trade, reduce the fair to days, it is none the less enjoyed by the happy crowds that gather to see the fun of the fair. The excellent shows and fairground novelties on this round were detailed in our last week's report of Sherborne.

WE notice that a local paper lends itself to a tirade against the continuance of the fair. It is freely and fully admitted that the fair has a great historic vantage in the past of the city and the county. Its venerable charter is referred to, and then the attack begins thus:—"Charter or no charter, changes have been effected from time to time, all tending to improve the fair, until at length it shall be improved out of existence altogether. But at least one other fair must be held, for the lease of the tolls has another year to run, so that those who are still in love with the annual exhibition need not violently alarm themselves for the present. Before the Council proceeds, however, it would be well if they gathered the opinion of, say the residents in the Market-place—who, like Homocea, surround the spot—whose views in the matter should have as much weight in the settlement of the affair as those of anybody else, for to none must the delights of the occasion, if delight there be, seem more desirable, or the nuisance, if nuisance there be, seem more unbearable." Certainly, by all means ascertain the opinion of traders and other residents in the Market-square; but that is not the only Court of Appeal; there is the mind and will of the people.

WE can assure the writer of the attack on the fair that the Home Secretary will not abolish it without full ballot taken of the people. Perhaps this drastic reformer—or shall we say abolisher?—of the people's open-air amusements is not aware of the terms and conditions of The Abolition of Fairs Act. No fair may be abolished on the mere word or wish of a town council. It can only be abolished under the statute provided, and before the Home Secretary sanctions the operation of the Act, a public inquiry must be held and the consent of the people obtained.

THIS has been again and again tested, and again and again have the people arisen in their might. Justice has been done to the showmen, and the fair privileges of the town preserved. Necessary reform, if you please, good sirs; but showmen, like other mortals, object to be improved out of existence. With reference to the powers of local authorities, we advise our readers to master the interesting facts in "The Synopsis of Already Existing Bye-Laws," compiled by the Rev. T. Horne, and to be found in the "Showman's Year Book," a manual in the possession of every paying member of the Guild. Therein is set out in useful tables, city, borough, and county bye-laws, good and bad bye laws, just as they now exist throughout the country. No showman need sin against good law and government in ignorance of existing conditions and restrictions. He may ascertain the towns to avoid and the towns wherein to exercise his trade in peace and quiet, without the let and hindrance of over-officious official persons.

THE interesting test case we chronicled last week, Ebley's Portable Theatre, Blaina, Wales, is a most important one to be remembered—a most salutary check to the ever-growing exactions and restrictions of small local bodies. It cannot be too widely known that neither parish councils nor district councils have power to make bye-laws affecting shows for portable erections.

NO authority less than a county administrative area has jurisdiction. Cities, boroughs, county boroughs, and counties may make and administer such bye-laws, so when the would-be very important official of a parish council or urban district council assumes an inquisitorial power the law does not allow him. The showman is quite well within his rights in asking to see the letter of the law under which the official presumes to interfere. Nay, he may have on demand by tendering the proper fee a copy of all existing bye-laws in the county area in which the council is situated. An extremely valuable question was also settled by Blaina test case, and that is that county councils cannot delegate their authority to parish or district councils. We congratulate Mr Ebley on a victory of the utmost importance and far-reaching consequence.

ON Sunday afternoon, Oct. 23, all that was mortal of Agnes, the wife of William Wright, sen., one of the best known of Lancashire showmen, was laid to rest in the Leeds Cemetery. Mrs Wright had been in ill-health for a long time, and although the immediate demise was sudden, it was not unexpected. Mrs Wright died in her living waggon on Tommyfield, Oldham. The funeral took place from the house of Mrs Spencer, 9 Victoria-street, Hunslet-road, Leeds, a daughter of the deceased, who was buried with the full rites of the Roman Catholic Church. The coffin was covered with the many wreaths sent from various parts of the country. As the cortège passed through the streets on its way to "God's Acre" many expressions of sympathy were evoked from the hundreds of onlookers. The mourners included Mr W. Wright, Mr R. Wright, Mr James Wright, Mr Wright, jun., and Mrs Wright, Mr C. Wright, Mr Walter Shaw and Mrs Shaw, Mr J. Spence and Mrs Spence, Mr J. T. Cooper and Mrs Cooper, Mr Joseph Corrigan and Mrs Corrigan, Mr Ben Mitchell, Mr Lor. Crick and Mrs Crick, Mrs Crick, Mr Adolp Crick and Mrs Crick, Mrs Rhodes and daughters, Mrs M'Neil and daughters, Mr R. Kent, Mrs Whittingdon, Mrs Baker, J. Shaw and six grandchildren of the deceased lady, Mr W. Marsh, Messrs B. and J. Marney, and numerous Leeds friends were also present. The wreaths, which were of the most magnificent character, were from Mr W. Mitchell, Mr B. Mitchell, Mr M. Whatmore, Mr J. Green, Mr Gal Hague, Mrs Jewell, Mr Richard Sedgwick, Messrs P. and J. Collins, Col Clarke, Lorenzo Crick, Mrs Crick and family, J. W. Hargreaves, Mr and Mrs W. Wright, jun., Mr E. Holland, Mr J. Corrigan, Mr and Mrs Cornwell, Mr S. Mercer, Mr and Mrs Spence, Mr and Mrs C. Wright, Mr and Mrs W. Shaw, Mr J. Gilmour, Mrs A. Cooper.

WARMINSTER kept its annual pleasure fair with accustomed vigour and local interest. Present were Purchase's Royal menagerie and waxworks, Dooner's superb Electrograph with up-to-date war and local films, Taylor's school of athletes and boxers, and Mr Smith's abnormal exhibit and two minor shows of fine art completed the exhibition list. The excellent machines of all sorts were supplied by the well-known Gloucester caterer, Mr Wm. Symonds, who exhibited his colossal switchback and Excelsior steam horses. Two sets of juvenile swings were provided by John Gratton, three shooting concerns by Messrs Haines and Simpson, and there were also a goodly array of stalls and minor fair ground novelties.

AT Windsor recently Mary Ann Thomas, William Hastings, Samuel Jones, Richard Matthew Warwick, and William Biddell were summoned for unlawfully, in connection with a roundabout placed on certain vacant ground near to a street, called St. Leonard's-road, causing to be made by means of an organ a loud and continuous noise, to the annoyance of the residents and passengers, on Oct. 22. Mr Watson Wright, solicitor, of Leicester, and solicitor to the Showmen's Protection Association, appeared for the defence. Evidence having been heard, the summons was dismissed.

AT Filey, Yorks, were Messrs Waddington's twin steam yachts, Mr Goldthorpe Marshall's Venetian gondolas. The shows here were Captain Thos. Payne's electric Bioscope, Sahib Leo's Egyptian hall, Mr Charles Relph's Wee M'Gregor, the smallest draught-horse in the world. All the "fun of the fair" was provided by Messrs T. Chapman, A. Barker, and Carvill. The showmen combined business with pleasure at this pretty seaside resort. Each day had its special programme of fishing, boating, rock-climbing, motoring, &c., and a very enjoyable week has been spent.

WE understand that Messrs Thos. Relph and William Pedley, exhibition proprietors, are in the Normanton and Pontefract districts making extensive preparations for their grand tour of 1905.

THE ancient St. Luke's Fair, Kidwelly, was duly held last week and closed on Monday of this week. This fair is for the hiring of farm servants, the selling of horses, cattle, and pigs, as well as for pleasure. The weather this year was very fine and there was consequently a splendid attendance at the pleasure fair, at which, of course, Messrs H. Studt and Son's fine gondolas occupied premier position. Other shows included A. Good's cinématograph, Watkin's hall of laughter, distorting mirrors, and fine-art gallery; E. Booth's fine shooter and swings &c., Moore's little horses, J. Day's Mollys, and David Boswell's cokernut shies, &c., were amongst numerous other stalls. On Monday evening Mr Studt, with his usual generosity, treated all the children of Kidwelly to free rides on his beautiful gondolas.

WE are able to announce the reopening of Samuel's Exhibition Palace, Henry-street, Dublin, on Nov. 21. A very handsome fire-proof iron staircase has been erected and everything possible has been done for the comfort of the patrons.

"GRANNY" WHITE, said to be the oldest travelling show-woman in the country, who died at Falkirk on Monday at the age of eighty-nine, was born at Shoreditch. She and her husband (Joseph White) attended fairs all over the country. At one time their van was drawn by four dogs. "Granny" White was a total abstainer. She is mourned by a family of six, all of whom are in the show business.

AT Southwark Police-court, on Tuesday, Raymond Edward Woolgar, showman, was summoned before Mr Paul Taylor by Dr. A. Salter, of Jamaica-road, Bermondsey, for playing or causing to be played a steam organ in Major-road, Bermondsey, to the annoyance of the neighbouring residents. Mr Philcox, who prosecuted, said that every winter a show, with steam roundabout, &c., was held on some waste ground in Major-road. For two or three years the defendant had been in charge of a roundabout with a steam organ, which was a great nuisance. Dr. Salter spoke to him about the matter a few weeks ago, and he discontinued using the organ on every day except Fridays and Saturdays. Dr. Salter, a member of the Bermondsey Borough Council, said that he lived twenty yards away from the show ground, and when the organ was playing the noise was intolerable, and it was impossible for him to study or do any serious work. The neighbouring inhabitants had sent complaints to the borough council, and everything possible had been done to give effect to them. The council tried to stop the roundabout being taken on to the waste ground by putting some posts in the pavement, but the defendant defeated this by driving his traction engine on the pavement. Other evidence showed that the show caused some of the worst characters to assemble in Major-road. The owner of the land had been petitioned not to let the place for shows, but he had refused, stating that he realised more by letting the land for shows than he would if houses were upon it. The magistrate imposed a fine of 40s., the maximum penalty; and £1 3s. 6d. costs, with the alternative of twenty-one days' imprisonment.

AT Holloway's New Empire Theatre, Astwood Bank, this week we have had on the boards *The Moat Farm Mystery, Lashed to the Mast, East Lynne, A Woman's Love, Buffalo Bill*, and *Firematch the Trooper*; also a grand singing competition by six local gentlemen. At Astwood Bank we still have Mr Eagle's grand photographic studios, which are doing splendid business.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

THE FRANK LEONARD FUND.

Mr Frank Leonard, of the Woodbee Wonders, unfortunately met with an accident, breaking his spine, and causing death. His widow and family are left without means. A subscription is being arranged throughout the profession, and donations from artistes will be thankfully received.

Collected by Burley and Burley. Total, 17s. 6d.

Burley and Burley	0	5	0	Harry Creo	0 2 6
Tambo and Tambo	0	5	0	Jack O'Connor ..	0 2 6
Sam Vincent	0	2	6		

Collected by Mr Herbert Cross, Stage-Manager, Tivoli Theatre, Manchester. Total, £1 15s. 6d.

J. W. Rowley and Ella Dean.....	0	5	0	Gwen Howard.. ..	0 2 6
Mr Gus Elen	0	5	0	Ariel and Astarte	0 2 0
Frank Coyne and Carrie Joy.....	0	5	0	Sisters Le Roy....	0 2 0
—— ——	0	3	0	George French....	0 2 0
Mr Dunning.....	0	2	6	Bella Oliver	0 2 0
Testo Brothers ..	0	2	6	Thomas Delaney..	0 1 0
				The Redferns	0 1 0

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Enclosed please find cheque for £1 15s. 6d. sent to me by Mr Herbert Cross, stage-manager of the Tivoli, Manchester, for Mrs Leonard's benefit. The total amount collected by me up to the present is £15 6s. 6d., as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Sivroni, Burns and Evans, Tom Foy....	7	4	6
Walter Stockwell (per Sivroni)	1	14	0
Terry and Bentley (per Sivroni).....	4	13	6
Herbert Cross (per Sivroni)	1	15	6
	15	6	6

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have received a post-office order for £6 7s. 6d., and I am desirous of heartily thanking Mr Sivroni and other artists for their subscriptions and help for me and my little one. I am deeply grateful for the sums sent, which are as follow:—Collected by Mr Sivroni, Oct. 22, at the Empire, Rochdale, £5 18s.; Burns and Evans, Theatre Royal, Oldham, £1 6s. 6d.; collected by Mr Arthur Boyne, from artists at the Empire, Bristol, 10s. 6d.; collected by Mr Fred Casburn, at the Borough Theatre, North Shields, through the Rapid Help System, 4s.; collected by Mr Harry Kenyon, at the Grand Theatre, Bolton, £1 10s. I also thank *The Era* for giving publicity to my case.

Yours faithfully, (MRS) F. LEONARD.
202, Darwin-street, Birmingham, Nov. 1.

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Clifton Downs on Oct. 29. Miss Lilla Carter, although far from well, very pluckily turned out for her club. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss L. Carter and Miss E. Francis, backs; Miss C. Fowler (captain), Miss L. Belding and Miss N. Bailey, half-backs; Miss A. Bernard, Miss T. Maynard, Miss B. Godfrey, Miss M. Leonard, and Miss G. Leonard, (forwards).

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss M. Hamilton and Miss A. Gibbs, backs; Miss F. Paget (of Bath), Miss L. Coles, and Miss L. Norris, half-backs; Miss K. Montgomery, Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss A. Mitchell, Miss N. Lawrence, and Miss M. Burgess, forwards.

Referee, Miss I. Bowman (of Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Team). Result:—Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Team, nil; Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club, two goals. Miss L. Norris and Kit Montgomery scored, Miss M. Fisher playing splendidly in goal.

COUNTY COUNCIL LICENSING.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee of the County Council sat at Clerkenwell Sessions House on Wednesday to hear applications for the renewal of licences for music, dancing, and stage-plays for places north of the Thames, with Mr W. B. Yates in the chair. The applications numbered 232, only four of which were opposed.

On the application for the renewal of music and dancing and stage play licences to the London Exhibitions Buildings, Earl's-court, Mr J. P. Grain explained that some complaints had been made of objectionable pictures in the Mutoscope instruments, and gave an undertaking that there should be nothing of the sort in the future. The committee decided to recommend the renewal of the licence.

Mr C. F. Gill, K.C., supported the application for a renewal of the music and dancing licence for the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Leicester-square. The licence was recommended for renewal.

Mr Gill also applied for a provisional licence for music and dancing for the London Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane. The Chairman—When are you going to open? Mr Gill—In December. There will be a meeting of the Committee between this and the opening. The Chairman intimated that the Committee would recommend the granting of the licence.

Among the places in connection with which application for licences either for music, music and dancing, or stage plays were unopposed and recommended for renewal were:—Saddler's Wells Theatre, Olympia, Royal Agricultural Hall, Beechstein Hall, Madame Tussaud and Sons, the Oxford Music Hall, the Steinway Hall, the People's Palace, the Alhambra, Leicester-square, London Pavilion, St. James's Hall, and Tivoli Music Hall. Applications for transfers of licences which were unopposed and recommended related to, among other places, the Royal Court Theatre, Chelsea; Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith; the Royal Music Hall, Holborn; and the Coronet Theatre, Kensington.

Mr J. De Frece asked for licences for stage plays and music and dancing for the Grand Theatre, Fulham. The Committee intimated that he could not be permitted to have the two. Mr De Frece accordingly abandoned his application for stage plays, and the Committee promised to recommend the granting of his other application.

On behalf of Mr Thomas Barrasford, Mr Travers Humphreys applied for a music and dancing licence for the Lyceum Theatre, which, he said, was to be a music hall. The dancing would be confined to the stage, and no application would be made for an excise licence. Mr Barrasford took the same view as the Committee, and would not have a liquor licence if it could be avoided. The Chairman said the Committee would recommend the granting of the application.

Mr S. Meyer appeared on behalf of Mr H. E Moss in support of an application for a music and dancing licence for the Hippodrome, and asked for the removal or modification of the restriction now attached to his licence, "that no intoxicating drinks shall be sold or consumed on the premises." Mr F. Hinde, representing Mr C. Pinhorn, the Rev. J. H. Cardwell, and Mr H. L. D'Arcy Jaxone, opposed on the following grounds:—(1) That the sale of intoxicating drink is not necessary, or desirable, in a place of public entertainment; (2) that the neighbourhood is well supplied with licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor. (3) That the licence should only be granted on the condition that no intoxicating drink should be sold or consumed on the premises. Mr Meyer said Mr Moss had always felt that he suffered under a hardship by being deprived of a licence when all the other places of amusement round about had a liquor licence. Mr Hinde said as a matter of fact the Hippodrome had never had a licence since it was opened. The Chairman—We need not trouble you. The licence would be recommended for renewal on the same terms as last year.

Mr Crispe, K.C., who supported the application of Mr T. E. Polden for a music and dancing licence for the Palace Theatre of Varieties, asked for the removal of the restrictions as the sale of intoxicating drink in the auditorium. Mr F. Hinde opposed on behalf of his clients, mentioned in the case of the Hippodrome. Mr Crispe said it was not at all likely that the directors of the Palace would apply for the removal of the restriction if their interests would be imperilled by so doing. The granting of their wishes would be a great convenience to the large number of people who frequent the Palace Theatre. Mr Hinde said he had to oppose the application, on the same grounds as in the case of the Hippodrome. The Chairman—I don't think we need trouble you. The same as last year.

Notice of opposition by Mr F. Hinde, on behalf of Mr C. Pinhorn, having been withdrawn, the Committee intimated that the application for the renewal of the licence for stage plays for the King's Theatre, Hammersmith, to Mr J. B. Mulholland would be recommended.

MR. FRANK LIND'S WAXWORKS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In reference to my letter of appeal which you inserted in your issue of the 22nd ult. respecting my loss through the late disastrous fire in Blyth, when I not only lost my waxworks, but all my clothing and effects and, what I valued most of all, my conjuring tricks and apparatus, all my testimonials, press notices, &c; and, as I said before, barely escaped with our lives, with only what we had on our backs, I thought that some kind friends would generously come forward to assist us, as we have absolutely nothing pending the decision of the insurance company, and goodness knows when that will be. I can never replace all I have lost, and £350 will not cover my actual financial loss. In my time, when known as Dr. Lind, the illusionist and entertainer, and also since I have been connected with exhibition business, I have always been the first to help others, and hundreds at the present time, if they spoke truthfully, would testify that I have given them another start, and helped all I could to the extent of my power; and yet now, when I do not know which way to turn or what to do owing to my straitened circumstances, none have come forward to assist me in my time of trouble except Mr Crouch, of Glasgow, who sent me a small amount, which was most acceptable. After over a quarter of a century of professional life I did think there would be a few who would generously come forward to help me in my trouble.

Yours faithfully, H. FRANK LIND, F.O.S.
25, Percy-street, Blyth, Nov. 2.

Total value of Waxwork, Novelty, and Fine Art Exhibition, all my furniture and effects, clothing, curios, relics, conjuring tricks, and apparatus was at cost, £520—was partially insured for £175, of which I am only to get £145, and that when the Board meets—so while the grass is growing the steeds are starving. My wife, two children, and myself to keep on nothing.

THE next meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at the Coffee Tavern, Rotherham, on Tuesday, at 2·10 p.m.

MR ALF WARDHAUGH now retired from the music hall profession, has taken over the Comedy Bar, Lisle-street (off Northumberland-street), Newcastle-on-Tyne, which is within a minute from all halls and theatres. He will be pleased to welcome friends, old and new.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

A GENERAL meeting of the members of the No. 1 branch N.U.T.S.E, the Society of Theatrical Carpenters, and Heads of Departments' Association will be held on Sunday evening, at 7 30, in the St. George's Hall, Westminster-bridge-road, opposite the end of Waterloo-road, S.E. Mr J. Cullen, the president, will preside. The Executive Committee will present a report on the question of the alteration of title, amendment to rules, and amalgamation with the Society of Theatrical Carpenters. A resolution approving the recommendations of the committee will be submitted. In view of above meeting, there will not be a meeting of theatrical employees in the Royal Standard, Fleming-street, on Sunday, or on any other Sunday this month.

MR ALFRED DE ROTHSCHILD has sent a donation of £5 5s. to the benevolent funds, in aid of which the concert arranged by the Musicians' and Stage Employees' Societies will be given at the Royal Opera House on Sunday, Nov. 20. The directors of the Alhambra Theatre Company have sent £2 2s. Mr F. R. Benson and Mr Oswald Stoll have applied for tickets. The programme of music will be as follows:—March, "Fame and Glory," by A. E. Matt, specially composed for the occasion, conducted by the composer; overture, *William Tell*, Rossini; "Invocation to Battle," *Rienzi*, Wagner; "Suite Pittoresque," Massenet; overture, "1812," Tschaikovsky; and overture, *Tannhauser*, Wagner. Sir Alexander Mackenzie will conduct two orchestral items. The conductors of the military band are Mr F. L. Kettlewell, conductor of the British Imperial Military Band; Mr W. J. Price, conductor of the Apollo Imperial Military Band, and Mr G. Bryer, conductor of the Alexander Imperial Military Band. The accompanist will be Mr Percy Pitt.

MR C. PORTER, who has been master carpenter for many years at the Shaftesbury Theatre, will resume that position for Miss Olga Nethersole.

MR ALBERT WOOD has been engaged by Mr Carr as master carpenter at the Royalty Theatre, which opens on Monday.

AT the meeting of the No. 1 Branch of the N.U.T.S.E., on Wednesday evening, several applications for grants from the benevolent fund were dealt with. The settlement of a claim for compensation was reported.

THIS year has been an unfortunate one for many sections of theatrical employees, but more so for theatrical carpenters. The present demand, which has practically found employment for all West-end carpenters, is the more welcome.

MR ROBERT ANDREWS, while not fully recovered from his illness, has returned to work at the Criterion Theatre. Mr Andrews is also in charge of the stage at Wyndham's.

MR C. SHARP, master carpenter at the Adelphi Theatre; Mr P. Sheridan, electrician, the Crown Theatre, Peckham; and Mr Hatch, master carpenter of the Royal Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, have applied for membership in the Heads of Departments' Association. The application of the latter is recommended by Mr Richard Waldon, the proprietor and manager of the Royal Princess's, where Mr Hatch is employed.

THE Theatrical and Music Hall Employees' Club in Dublin is progressing so satisfactorily that the committee are looking out for more commodious premises. Arrangements are also in hand for the annual dance.

MR JOHN WHITE, the stage-manager at the Empire, Dublin, and the captain of the renowned Dublin tug-of-war team, has invented a new drop curtain device. It is a simple and instantaneous release, by which any number of cloths or suspended material may be instantly dropped to the stage in case of fire.

THE second annual concert in aid of the Benevolent Funds of the Musicians' and Stage Employees' Societies will take place on the 20th inst., in the Royal Opera House, Covent-garden, by kind permission of Messrs Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth. There will be an orchestra of 200 and a military band of 150. Sir Alexander Mackenzie has kindly consented to conduct the orchestra. The list of patrons includes Her Grace the Duchess of Leeds, the Countess of Carrington, the Earl of Carrington, Sir Henry Irving, Sir Charles V. Stanford, the Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P., Messrs Geo. Edwardes, Cyril Maude, H. E. Moss, Oswald Stoll, W. S. Gilbert, Henry Arthur Jones, Lewis Waller, Arthur Bourchier, Alfred Moul, Frank Curzon, T. B. Davis, F. R. Benson, Martin Harvey, Sidney Jones, Frank Rendle, and Neil Forsyth. His Grace the Duke of Bedford has kindly placed his private box at the disposal of the concert committee. There will be a high-class programme of vocal and instrumental music. Tickets may be obtained from the honorary secretaries, 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

ON the stage of the Palace of Varieties, Manchester, last Saturday evening, an informal and interesting "extra turn" was given. The master carpenter, Mr Thomas Povey, surrounded by his working staff, presented to Mr Charles Davies (who has held the post of stage-manager for seven years at the Palace), a gold-mounted umbrella, suitably inscribed, and thanking him for the way he had treated "the boys," wished him "good luck" in his new enterprise.

NOTICES and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

NEW MUSIC.

"SONGS OF THE EAST," by E. Duncan. Metzler and Co. The happy idea of "Songs from the East"—Japan, China, and Russia—has inspired Mr Duncan, and the result is a series of melodies founded on popular songs. A description is given of some, those of China being naturally the most quaint, as well as the most ancient. The author says:—"The old pieces of the little collection are, as might be anticipated, those hailing from China. When it is borne in mind that the Chinese musician deals only in melody—harmony being no further advanced than the combinations furnished forth by fifths and fourths, the excellence of the few airs quoted becomes strikingly apparent. No nation in the world has done better with so small means. Though the Chinaman sings or plays without expression of any kind, it is quite obvious that the tunes will gain if treated in more sympathetic mood. Of the Japanese pieces there is little to remark; they show no more merit than the Chinese airs, and lack the antiquity of the latter." The accompaniments to the songs sometimes give them a rather modern expression. But frankly we do not see how they could have been done more effectively, and we must cordially congratulate the artistic skill employed.

Messrs Metzler have also published a new edition of Wagner's "Rule Britannia" overture, arranged in various ways. This fine overture, one of the composer's earlier works, has been almost forgotten; but we may be sure it will now be widely circulated, as it is arranged for military bands and a number of instruments. It was written during Wagner's first visit to London, in 1839, in the hope that the overture would be played by the Philharmonic Society.

ADVERTISERS and SUBSCRIBERS who are moving about, and who have their Copy of "THE ERA" sent direct from this Office, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, are requested to forward the Addresses for their Papers not later than the Tuesday in each Week.

WONDERLAND.

A CHAT WITH MR. JACK WOOLF.

(BY OUR OWN COMMISSIONER.)

To the average middle-aged East-ender the name of "Wonderland" counts for a great deal. He has known it as a home of melodrama, as a training place for volunteers, as a house where several now well-established music hall artists made their début, as an exhibiting ground for all manner of freaks and weird shows, and latterly as an establishment in which boxing tournaments are held. But it may be news even to some folks in Whitechapel to be told that Wonderland stands on one of the most historic sites in London. At one time the old East London Theatre stood on this plot of ground; and this plot of ground, too, has witnessed some of the triumphs of the late Charles Dillon and the veteran J. B. Howe. The name of the old Effingham Theatre was changed to the East London Theatre, which was burnt down in 1879. Mr Abrahams was the owner of the above theatre for fifty years. When Wonderland sprang up in its place it was owned by Mr Morris Abrahams, the worthy father-in-law of the present proprietor, Mr Jack Woolf. Melodrama and variety turns were presented before the footlights, sometimes as many as three pieces being played in one night. On Mr Abrahams taking over the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end-road, Wonderland was converted into a drill-hall for the local volunteers. In November, 1887, Mr Woolf first took over Wonderland, but when he commenced to turn it into a place of entertainment he was heavily restricted by the County Council, and therefore was not able to proceed as far in his plans as he would otherwise have done. "Variety" was Mr Woolf's watchword, and the music hall habitué with the most epicurean tastes could hardly have desired a greater variety in the shows than was afforded at Wonderland. As we have already said, it was at one period of its history the happy hunting-ground of freaks. Not a few of the biggest human curiosities in the world originally made their first bow before an audience at Wonderland. "The lobster-clawed lady, now with Barnum's," says Mr Woolf, "was introduced by me. I also brought out the ossified man, Murphy, the Irish giant, as well as the Orisso Twins, three-legged boy; also the late Dr. Lyn and Arthur Auton finished their public career under my management. At one time I ran a circus here, and engaged troupes of twenty and more performers. Later on I had an Oriental Yiddish company, presenting Hebrew sketches, which proved an immense attraction." East-end folk still have very lively recollections of the beauty competitions, baby shows, trance ladies, &c., arranged by Mr Woolf at Wonderland a few years ago. In fact, there is very little in the way of public entertainments that that gentleman has not put before his patrons; and the patrons, it may be said, have long recognised in him an entrepreneur of great enterprize and originality. Then, it should be borne in mind that, in addition to the heavy work devolving upon him as a provider of amusements he has performed notable service in

Photo by Campbell and Gray.

MR. JACK WOOLF.

several public positions in the district of Whitechapel. He was a member of the Board of Works, a vestryman, a guardian of the poor, and one of the trustees for the parish of Whitechapel.

That Mr Woolf is a man to whom hard work comes to be conquered as the sun conquers darkness is evidenced by the fact that when he ran Wonderland as a variety house he used not only to superintend the whole of his productions, but also performed the duties of stage-manager, stage carpenter, ticket-collector, and dramatic author. He claims to be the forerunner of Jewish plays and sketches. Mr Woolf has frequently been to the fore in matters of charity. He it was who organised the great East-end carnival which took place in June, 1900. He acted as the chief marshal of the huge procession, and largely owing to his efforts a sum of £1,500 was handed over to the *Daily Telegraph* Widows and Orphans Fund, started to relieve distress consequent upon the late South African War. Mr Woolf has a decided taste for adventure, though we certainly don't envy him one experience he had. It was when he entered a den of lions, unaccompanied by a lion-tamer, at Wonderland, in 1899. He had an extremely narrow escape from death on that occasion, owing to a sudden fit of ferocity on the part of one of the lions. However he managed to find time to smoke a cigar half through, and to emerge from the den unhurt. He was presented with a gold medal for his plucky conduct.

For some time Mr Woolf was the proprietor of the Britannia Theatre, producing at that house a notable pantomime of the old-fashioned type, entitled *King Crookd*, which proved very popular with the residents of Hoxton. While at the "Brit." he gathered round him nearly all the old favourites who had from time to time graced its boards. He sold the Britannia in 1902.

As we glance over some of the old programmes of Wonderland, there comes the reflection that the place was appropriately named after all. What with baby shows, eating contests, boys' treacle-roll competitions, championships for butchers cutting sheep into joints, shaving matches, in which the winner was the one who performed his work in the shortest time and efficiently at that; firewood-cutting competitions, market-porters' basket-carrying contests, exhibitions of freaks, &c., we should imagine that Mr Woolf ably maintained a reputation as a provider of wonders. He has on more than one occasion shown himself to be possessed of no small amount of shrewdness when there was the least possibility of getting a cheap advertisement. One week things were "a bit flat" at Wonderland- but let Mr Woolf tell the story himself. "I saw that it was desirable to create a bit of a stir," says he, "and one morning racked my brain for a few ideas. I had a lady who had been placed in an hypnotic trance, and one day I engaged a carriage drawn by a pair of greys, and accompanied by a postilion. A coffin was put in the carriage, and my hypnotic gentleman with his trance lady paraded through the streets until they got to the city of London, when the lady was instructed by the mesmerist to distribute hand bills. It was not long before a dislocation in the traffic occurred, and the police stopped our people in Houndsditch. A summons for creating an obstruction was issued against the lady, but the City policeman whose duty it was to serve the notice found himself in an awkward predicament. The lady was still in her trance, and lay in the coffin at Wonderland. Finally, on the advice of another constable, the summons was pinned to the lady's blouse, the second officer acting as a witness of the serving process. The case was heard at the Guildhall before the then Lord Mayor and a fine of ten shillings was imposed, which I paid with all haste and joyfulness, for the advertisement was cheap at the price, as the case was placarded all over London. For several days afterwards the assistance of a small body of police had to be requisitioned to keep the huge crowds in order outside Wonderland."

Of course, as is well known, Wonderland is now given over entirely to exhibitions of the noble art of self-defence. All things considered, the hall is well conducted, and if feelings are carried a little higher than usual, as happens on some occasions, only a word to, or a look at, "the boys" from Mr Woolf is sufficient to ensure order. Mr Woolf knows the people he is dealing with, and they know him, and they know, too, that he is not the sort of man to stand any nonsense. It should be mentioned that at all the boxing matches which are held at Wonderland collections are made on behalf of the hospitals. Within the last three or four months a sum of £74, 10s. has been obtained in this way. More than half of that amount has been paid to the Landon Hospital of which institution Mr Woolf is a life governor. He has also sent various donations to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, the Music Hall Home, and other charities of a like character.

Mr Woolf has a rare collection of theatrical and artistic mementos. One of them is a capital oil-painting of the late Mrs Siddons, another being a picture of Mr J. B. Howe in his character of Richard III., presented to Mr Woolf in 1897. The latter recalls that the last words spoken by Mr Howe in public were those of Rip Van Winkle—"May you live long and prosper." Mr Woolf has, in addition, quite a multitude of portraits of theatrical and music hall celebrities, both of the old and the new school, and he is the happy possessor of Drury-lane playbills dated over one hundred and fifty years ago. Among the documents that he treasures most of all is a complimentary letter from the late Queen Victoria.

Miss Gypsy Woolf, the well-known and talented music hall artiste, is a daughter of the subject of this interview, and is rapidly making a big name for herself in the profession. It would be difficult to meet a busier man than Mr Woolf in a week's tramp. Our conversation with him the other day was disturbed over and over again by callers, but throughout the hurry and the bustle, when other people seemed somewhat to lose a goodly portion of their mental equilibrium, Mr Woolf showed himself to be cool, well-balanced of mind, and imperturbable throughout. When making calls it is always his rule to cycle, and the dirty, greasy, and dangerous thoroughfares of the East-end have no terrors for him. To the journalist who hankers after an insight into Ghetto life, we can thoroughly recommend Mr Woolf.

"CHAFFING" AN ACTOR.

At the South-West London Police-court, on Tuesday, Marius Girard, an actor, residing at 58, Gladstone-street, St. George's-road, Southwark, was charged before Mr Lane, K.C., with assaulting Sidney John Gates, a tramcar conductor in the service of the London County Council.

The complainant said there was a temporary breakdown in the tramcar service, causing some delay at Clapham. The prisoner, who was a passenger, complained and asked how much longer they were going to stay. The witness replied that the prisoner knew as much as he did. The prisoner accused him of insolence, and walked away. The witness called out, "There's nothing broke; we shall overtake you." The prisoner returned, demanded his number, and struck him in the mouth, aiming other blows with his umbrella, but he warded them off with his arm.

The prisoner—Weren't you very impertinent?—No.

Did you not say I should not be out so late, and things of that sort?—Yes, I said that.

The magistrate—People have a right to be out late at night, and your remark was uncalled for.

Police-constable 517 W mentioned that when the prisoner was in his custody the prosecutor made an effort to strike him.

The driver of the car also gave evidence, and spoke of the expression "Nothing broke" as innocent chaff, but did not know the meaning of it. After the conductor made that remark the prisoner set about him.

The magistrate—He did not like the chaff.

The prisoner, in his defence, said he had been to see a friend at Balham, and after sitting in the car for about ten minutes he asked the conductor very politely how much longer he thought they would have to remain. The prosecutor was very impertinent, and the witness told him so. He left the car to continue the journey on foot. The complainant shouted after him "There's nothing broke, old man; we shall catch you up." He returned to demand his number. The prosecutor brushed him aside with his arm, and throwing up his hand he by accident touched his face. He afterwards wanted to fight him, and the witness used my umbrella, conduct which he very much regretted. While he was in the hands of the policeman the prosecutor showed his pugilistic capabilities by endeavouring to strike him.

The magistrate said it was no part of the conductor's duty to chaff members of the public. The prosecutor had far better act respectfully, and as he brought the whole thing on himself by his misconduct the charge would be dismissed.

MESSRS C. W. MURPHY AND DAN LIPTON have just supplied Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter with a pretty and effective number. It is entitled, "Run, run, you little ones." The song is of the "Bogey-man type," the "Bogey" in this instance being the chimney sweep. Pantomime producers who are catering for the children should on no account miss securing this delightful little ditty.

PRESENTATION.—The first visit of *The Cherry Girl* to Swindon proved a popular success, the local theatre being crowded at each performance. The visit closed on Saturday last amidst extraordinary enthusiasm from an overcrowded audience. During an interval in act two a pleasing little incident occurred. Mr Lubbock, the manager of the company, came before the footlights accompanied by Mr Alfred Manners, the lessee of the Queen's Theatre. Mr Lubbock then announced that he had a very pleasant duty to perform. On behalf of his company he was about to make Mr Manners a small present to commemorate the fact that that week had witnessed the breaking of all records as regarded the attendance at that playhouse. It was also intended as a token of the company's regard and esteem of the kindness they had enjoyed at that gentleman's hands, and the kind reception they had during the week. Mr Lubbock then handed Mr Manners a handsome gold English lever watch, suitably inscribed, which had been subscribed for by all the members of the company. When Mr Manners stepped forward to express his gratitude for such a beautiful gift, he received a flattering ovation from the company by whom he was surrounded and from the vast audience.

SHOWMEN'S FIRE INSURANCE.

A CHAT WITH F. F. POPE.

"Showmen's fire insurance," says Mr Pope, "is a class of business which has hitherto been more or less neglected by fire insurance companies. The nature of the property and its itinerant character combine to put it outside the scope of most of the companies' requirements. The constant moving about also makes it a difficult business to work and adds considerably to the expenses.

"The large field for this business was first brought under my notice by Mr Alf Ball and the late Mr C. Bailey, and I came to the conclusion that, while it would be extremely risky to take occasional lines, it would be found to be workable provided suitable rates could be obtained and a sufficiently large business done to establish a reasonable average.

"After some considerable difficulty in finding an office open to adopt my views of the matter, I finally made arrangements with the Times Insurance Company, of 44, Bedford-row, W.C., under which I was to work up the business within the limits of the United Kingdom as sole agent for that class.

"I at once got to work to get into touch as far as possible with the whole of the travelling showmen in the company, so that they might have the opportunity hitherto practically denied to them of covering their fire risk with the facility enjoyed by every other class of business men.

"I have found this to be no small task, but by dint of perseverance and hard work I have succeeded in getting into direct personal contact with the greater portion of the travellers in east, south, west, and midland counties.

"I have also, through the valuable medium of the showmen's advertisement column in *The Era*, brought the business directly or indirectly under the notice of most of the travellers in the other parts of the kingdom, from whom I frequently receive letters of enquiry.

"While, however, I have found them as a whole good straightforward men of business, they are, as a rule, not first-class correspondents, and personal interviews are essential to business. I have also found that, notwithstanding the obvious risks they run, having been so long unaccustomed to cover that risk by insurance, they do not always realise the importance of it to the same extent that other business men do, and while some very readily recognise the advantages offered to them, others, for various reasons, put it off to a more convenient season.

"In more than one case this has turned out to be rather an inconvenience to the showman, and proved the truth of the old copy-book proverb 'delays are dangerous' as a fire has occurred while they remained uninsured, proving the moral of another old proverb 'Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.' However, these experiences may and probably will be a warning to others, and in the long run helpful to making the business a success.

"I should like to say that during the considerable intercouse I have had with travellers in all parts of

Photo by Andrew

MR. F. F. POPE.

the country the courtesy and cordiality with which I have been received has made my business pleasant and agreeable, and with a continuation of their assistance and co-operation, I am confident that we shall be able to supply a long-felt want to the mutual benefit and satisfaction of both parties. I may add that I have the co-operation and assistance of Mr T. H. Garside, of Manchester, for that district.

"We have already had several claims, one of the heaviest being from Mr Finshell, of Salford, who had his van burnt while travelling along the road. The following is a copy of a letter written by him with reference to his claim:—

Oct. 22, 1904.

Mr T. H. Garside.—

Dear Sir,—I thank you sincerely for the care and trouble you have undertaken in connection with my fire insurance.

The prompt settlement has been very welcome, and I shall do all I can to recommend the Times Insurance Company to my friends.

I again thank you for your exertions on my behalf.

R. J. FINSHELL."

AT the instance of Mr Robert Arthur, a private exhibition of illuminated and coloured pictures of Rome was given at the Coronet Theatre, Notting-hill, on Tuesday afternoon. The photographs, which were presented by Signore Eugenio Inguimbert, were thrown on to a white screen on the stage by a large lantern, and they included much of the fine architecture and many of the unrivalled art treasures of St. Peter's and the Vatican. At times the stage looked as if it was filled with real statues and had suddenly been transformed into a Papal gallery. The entertainment is not only interesting, but of decidedly educational value to young people, who should be taken by their elders to witness this unique exhibition.

AT Marlborough-street Police-court, on Tuesday, Annie York, thirty-five, married, and living in Victoria-road, West Kilburn, was charged, before Mr Denman, with stealing two opera-glasses of the value of £4, belonging to the International Opera-Glass Company. Mr Sims Booth, a director of the company, said that, owing to opera-glasses belonging to the company having been stolen from the Empire Theatre, a watch was kept, and on Oct. 5 the prisoner, who was employed to clean the theatre, was seen to wrench a box containing an opera-glass off the back of one of the seats. That afternoon she was seen to do the same thing, and was given into the custody of Detective-sergeant Mercer, of C division. Altogether thirty-two boxes containing opera-glasses of the value of £64 had been stolen. The prisoner admitted stealing one pair of opera-glasses, but denied the theft that took place on Oct. 5. Mr Denman convicted her on both charges, ordering her to be imprisoned for two months.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 19.)

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr J. Gar Kiddie's company, in the burlesque, *A Little Coquette*, is paying a third visit here. The part of Celia is charmingly filled by Miss Lizzie Payne; Miss Flo Warner makes a dashing Robin Adair and renders her songs in good style; Mr J. W. Groves repeats his amusing and clever female impersonation as Ann Teeke; Mr Forsyth Bruce is seen to advantage as Gabriel Grabbe; and Mr George Hestor scores a success as Scrappe, the village constable. Mr S. H. Bertram does well as Captain Nevermind; Miss Nellie Butt is smart as Charles Crowquille; able assistance is rendered by Mr J. L. Headlam as Peter Longpull. Some clever dancing is executed by the Milstead Quartet of lady dancers.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—The Bretton Troupe, in a pantomimical absurdity, head the bill this week, and provide an attractive turn. Miss Ada Fawn, comedienne, is highly appreciated. Mr Charles Milner is an amusing comedian. Fraser and Mac appear in a smart comedy turn. The Bon Bons provide an interesting speciality act, in which some clever acrobatic feats are introduced. Other items are Miss Magda, statue artiste; Roden, comedy cyclist; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; and the Alhambra Bioscope.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr Bert Coote's company is here this week in *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr Wilfred Payne is a dignified Howard Wilson; Robert Curtis is well represented by Mr Leyton Cancellor; Miss Marie Houseley plays the part of Mabel Wilson with great feeling; Miss Beatrix De Burgh leaves nothing to be desired as Cora Williams; Miss Ida Valli arouses enthusiasm as Jessie, the little mother. The humorous element is supplied by Miss Harriet Clifton as Bridget and Mr Charles H. Kenney as Toto. Mr Henry Welbeck is a popular O'Reilly, and Mr Arthur Law Raynor is suitably placed as the Rev. Dr. Lancewood. There is introduced a well-trained choir of children. Songs are given by Miss M. Barber, Miss Lillie Hudson, and Little Emmie, and Miss Gladys Rose Jones recited with great ability.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson's company is here this week with *The Scarlet Woman*. Mr Reginald Fox is a capital Michael Marchant, and Mr David M'Farlane makes Will Raymond sufficiently villainous. Mr Bryce Methven gives a capital portrayal of Philip Gordon, and as Jacob Isaacson Mr James Thompson is well placed. The title-rôle is undertaken in an admirable manner by Miss Scott-Watson. The comedy element is well supplied by Mr Matt Melrose as Samuel Hopkins, Miss Ruby Hamilton-Belasco as Charlotte Simpkins, and Miss Lalla Cowell as Fanchette.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—The Britannia Theatre company treats us this week to an excellent production of the popular Adelphi drama, *Proof*, under the direction of Mr Arthur St. John. Particularly fine is Mr St. John's rendering of Pierre Lorance, the picturesque nature of a fine part being emphasised in every look and gesture, while the telling speeches are finely declaimed. Miss Ida St. John is alternately pathetic and arch as Madeline in the prologue and Adrienne in the play. Mr James Dunlop is rewarded with frequent bursts of applause for his delineation of Chamboran. Mr F. Ferguson is an effective Lazare, and Mr C. Brandon is all that could be desired as Victor. D'Aubeterre is well played by Mr Edwin Bennett. Mr Archie Grant is impressive as the Seneschal, and Mr A. Dobell is the Sergeant. Miss Kitty Bennett is a pretty Valentine, and Miss Annie Lynn does admirably as the Duchess. Miss M'Kay plays the young Adrienne sweetly, and Miss Enid Heathcote is a good Madame Deprets.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay.—The attractions for the present week are many in number and varied in character. Probably the leading feature of the evening is the appearance of Ahrensmeyer, described as the "Wizard of the Plains." The whole "show" is decidedly clever. Hanvarr is a neat juggler. The Sisters Aindow are dainty instrumentalists. Mr Charles Gardiner is a quaint comedian, whose song, "I'm a lady," is loudly applauded. Mr Will Poluski is a droll comedian, while Queen and Le Brun patter away to their hearts' content and the infinite amusement of their audience. The Three Missouris, in *Captain Kettle and His Mates*, are rewarded with laughter and great applause. There is a series of interesting animated pictures by Ruffel's Bioscope.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—*The Royal Divorce* company, under the management of Mr W. W. Kelly, opened here on Monday. In the difficult rôle of Napoleon Mr Frederick Victor is strikingly realistic. Nothing could be better than Miss Edith Cole's interpretation of the Empress Josephine. She enters into the spirit of the part, and her acting is intense and deeply emotional. Mr Claude Agnew is a thoroughly effective Talleyrand; Mr Trevor Lowe gives a fine impersonation of the traitorous Marquis De Beaumont, and Mr Alfred Grenville is an efficient General Augereau. Mr Ernest G. Batley gives useful support as Marshal Murat; and a good character sketch is that of the innkeeper Grimaud in the hands of Mr Dennis Bryan. Mr G. Kirkham is a creditable Lord Keith, the British admiral. Marie Louise is capitally portrayed by Miss Ethyle Murray, and Miss Helen Richmond proves herself a vivacious Stephanie De Beauharnais. Miss Violet Agnew acts well the part of Blanche D'Hervas. The little King of Rome is impersonated in a delightful manner by Little Miss Doris Ivatts.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Alma Obrey, the Australian comedienne, heads the bill here this week. Clarke's Nippers score a big success in several sketches, and the Three Henriques are diverting acrobats. Harry Taft whistles several difficult solos in good style, and Pearson and Ward are a couple of experienced eccentric boxers. Bob Baxter scores with good songs, and the Royal Bioscope has some interesting pictures.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—This week Messrs Murray and Dawson's company, in *Driven from Home*, is paying us a return visit. Mr J. K. Murray in the rôle of Anthony Raybrooke gives an artistic portrayal, and as Jabez Thomas Mr Stanley Douglas contributes a fine study. Mr Jack Dawson as Walter Hatherleigh is exceptionally clever; a well-studied part is that of Walter Hatherleigh, jun., rendered by Miss Lydia Donovan; and Miss Alice Metcalf as Barbara Ashdown is warmly appreciated.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—*The Girl from Kay's* is being presented this week by Mr George Dance's company. Mr Garnet Wilson is entirely successful in the rôle of Harry Gordon. Acceptable comedy is contributed by Mr Johnnie Schofield as Max Hoggenheimer and Mr Tom Shelford as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle. A vivacious Winnie Harborough is presented by Miss Lily Lingard; and Norah Chalmers by Miss May Marton is entirely satisfactory.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Brown and Robinson are

creating quite a furore with their admirable rendering of vocal duets; the balancing by Gintaro creates something like a sensation, and his top spinning evokes applause. Silly Billy Elliott is funnier than ever; Les Bollingers give an exhibition of rag-picture building that is as novel as it is effective; the Imperial Boys' Orchestra has many expert instrumentalists; and other turns are supplied by Chummie La Mara, burlesque artist; Will Sergeant, vocal comique; and Ida Gladstone, comedienne. During the interval on Monday a xylophone solo was played by Mr Murgatroyd, the able orchestral conductor here, in a manner which called forth the warmest tokens of appreciation.

WORKINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Helsby Wright.—Messrs Geo. Harris and Fred Ferris's company opened to a good house on Monday with *Why Woman Sins*. Mr W. Campbell was excellent as the hero, and Mr F. Ferris proved a capable villain. Mr Lionel Ellis as the admiral acted with manliness and vigour; Mr George Harris was humorous as Cecil, and he was well partnered by Mr L. Ellis as Jim. Miss E. Bartlett as Nell proved a graceful heroine; Miss G. Everett was good as Ida; and generally satisfactory were Miss W. Preece as Lily; Miss M. West as Nancy, Miss A. Pierron as Mrs Bimbow, and Miss L. Kippaire as Nanette. The mounting was excellent.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Payne.—Miss Dorothy Oswald's company opened here on Monday in *East Lynne*. Miss Oswald gave an extremely clever and pathetic rendering of Lady Isabel. Mr Herbert Barrs was decidedly good as Archibald Carlyle; Mr Pascoe Bioletti's Francis Levison was sufficiently villainous; Mr George Beel was praiseworthy as Lord Mountsevern, and very commendable was the Richard Hare of Mr H. Wallace Curnock; Mr Harry Kennedy did well as Lawyer Dill; Miss Tilly Stewart made a delightful Barbara Hare; and much amusement was created by Miss Maggie Stewart as Joyce and Mr George Harvie as P.C. Jorkins. Miss E. Herries acted admirably as Cornelia Carlyle; and Little Ruby deserves a special word of praise for her impersonation of Willie.

WEST STANLEY.

VICTORIA THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr T. C. Rawes; Acting-Manager, Mr David William.—Variety occupies the boards here this week. The Seven Savonas, musical marvels, have commanded immense audiences. Senorita Elvina, queen of the air, is a treat, and as comedians Messrs Earle and Melville are really good. Miss Effie White, kaleidoscope dancer, is very clever, as is also Miss Flora Platt, descriptive vocalist. The Six Cycling Elliots are simply wonderful.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Lindon.—Mr C. Finch Hatton's company, in *From Scotland Yard*, is paying a return visit here this week. As Jack Dale Mr C. Finch Hatton is extremely good, and in the dual-rôle of Noel Dawney and Joseph Dawney Mr T. Arthur Ellis does well. Miss Josephine H. Lee is an excellent Mad Marie.

WHITEHAVEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Clark.—Mr John Cassidy's company is engaged here in the evergreen farcical comedy *Muldoon's Picnic*. Mr Edwin Garth as Michael Mulcahy and Mr W. G. Wesley as Dennis Muldoon are responsible for a great deal of fun. Mr Leo Whamboult is good both in acting and make-up as Mr Muldoon, and Mr W. H. Montgomery as Johnny O'Brien submits several songs in good style. Miss Madge Cassidy is pleasing as Kitty, and Mr Reginald Kloof secures applause for his musical speciality in act three.

ROYAL STANDARD OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Tom Dyson; Chairman, Mr Walter Lang.—This popular place of amusement reopened on Monday evening, after being painted and redecorated. A clever all-round company has been engaged, prominent amongst whom are the Peel Family, whose musical act is excellent; the Daniells, vocalists; Mr Walter Lang, an old Whitehaven favourite; Miss May Tudor, comedienne; Mr George Russel, comedian, and Mr Tom Dyson, Tyrolean vocalist.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—In the presence of large and delighted audiences Mr George Dance's charming musical play, *A Country Girl*, has been presented by a talented company this week. The part of Geoffrey Challoner is ably enacted by Mr Cyril Thompson, while the other principal male parts are in capable hands, especially that of Barry by Mr Johnny Osborne, who is irresistibly amusing. The title-rôle of Nan is gracefully portrayed by Miss May Glen, who is admirably supported by Miss Maud Harvey as Marjory Joy and Miss Nina Carlton as Princess Melaneb. Miss Edna Knollys as Mrs St. Quinton and Miss Lilian Champion as the Nurse are also prominent players. Miss Veronica Brady as Madame Sophie in her association with Barry supplies much of the fun.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—An excellent and up-to-date programme is provided this week. Vasco, "the mad musician," plays on twenty-five different instruments in fifteen minutes. The most startling turn of the evening is the performance of the mysterious Lilith, who in a hypnotic state walks, dances, &c., and performs other feats. Lilian Warren, Lily Morris, and Slade Murray are capital vocalists, and Alexandra and Bertie, in their refined aerial act, "Après le Bal," win much applause. Johnson and Bert, in a novel act entitled *A Queer Customer*; Fred Harcourt, modern magician; and Gus Hindell, comedian, are also popular. A. P. Boswell, comedy performer, creates much merriment, and the Hippodrome pictures, including the latest films, "A Drama in Mid-air" and "The Soldiers of the King," conclude the programme.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—Oswald, staircase performer and hand jumper, pays a return visit this week. Lucy Trevor and Hugh Herd are capital comedians; Agnese and Arthur Lynch are American song illustrators; and Duncan, club manipulator, and Oakdene, novelty ventriloquist, are popular. Mr W. Burns and Miss Sophie Knight, vocalists, are also well received.

WINDSOR.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Governing Director, Mr Samuel James; Business-Manager, Mr Worton David; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Nash.—Miss Marie Menzies' company has been delighting audiences this week with *A Rogue's Daughter*, by Mr M. Hall Page, produced under the personal direction of Mr A. Hall Menzies. The play is one of sterling merit, and of a powerful, moving description, tragedy and humour being intermingled in due and effective proportion, the latter element contributed mainly by the "specialities" of the Misses Millie, Doris and Mabel Hall, and Messrs Will Wilson and "Hercules" (Mr A. Hall Menzies). The company is strong and talented all through. *East Lynne*, with Miss Marie Menzies as Lady Isabel Carlyle, was billed for Friday evening.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—Mr William Greet's company is appearing here this week in the powerful play entitled *Lucky Durham*. The part of John Durham was splendidly and forcibly enacted by Mr William F. Grant. Lord Mountfallon had a good representative in Mr Henry De Solla; Mr Daniel M'Carthy was a capable Richard Vallerton; and the Hon. Reginald Steighton was admirably impersonated by Mr Paul Belmore. As Helen Vallerton Miss Phyllis Relph was excellent; Miss Mary Relph did well as Lady Mountfallon; Miss Nellie Bonser did capitally as Mrs Durham; and Miss Jessie Winter was pleasing and effective as Margaret Steighton. The remaining characters were ably filled by other members of a very good company, and the staging was well done.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Manager, Mr E. H. Compton.—This week's attraction consists of Ediscope and Barnum's animated pictures and a company of variety artistes.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—This week's programme includes the Four Francois, gymnasts; the Three Prestons, in *A Lift Man's Rise*; J. G. Graham and Zarlina Harrington, in *A Daughter of Pleasure*; Eric Graham, coster comedian; Millie Harris, vocalist; Florence Gwynne, in *The Stage struck Servant*; George Collins, vocalist; the Paul Hesse Trio, Nash and Noes, and the Empire Bioscope.

WORCESTER.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr A. Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—*The Medal and the Maid*, produced here for the first time on Tuesday, has proved a great attraction, being very well received. The two leading lady characters found ideal representatives in Miss Rita Leonhardt (Merva) and Miss Maud Lake, the Maid. Mr Tom Fancourt was very clever as Simon, and Mr Tom Graves as Levanter also scored. Miss Cissie Ventnor was most amusing as the schoolmistress, and Miss Edith Blanche ran her very closely as the humorous and yet dignified Mrs Habbicombe. Mr Wm. Bland as the brigand chief, Mr Cecil Kingsley as the naval officer, and Mr C. Bishop as Lord Belton also contributed greatly to the success.

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr Harold Neilson and company opened here on Monday in a triple bill—*The Tyranny of Tears*, *A Fool's Paradise*, and *A Bunch of Violets*. *The Tyranny of Tears* was excellently presented on Monday. Mr Harold V. Neilson as Clement Parbury submitted a beautifully finished portrayal; Mr W. Lemmon Warde was seen to great advantage in the part of George Gunning; the Colonel Armitage of Mr G. Fox was a highly typical and withal amusing impersonation; Mr George Franklin was good as Evans; Miss Amy Sangster cleverly delineated the character of Mrs Parbury; and Miss May Saker was charming as Hyacinth Woodward.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—*The Never-Never Land*, a stirring drama of a type popular amongst local playgoers, has drawn large audiences here. Jack Mowbray is the central figure; this part could not have been in better hands than those of Mr E. F. Kennedy. Mr Edward Rochelle's Nat Rudder is a thoroughly amusing personage; Mr Arthur Bolton is natural as Tom Hewley, and Miss Margaret Parker as Smudge is infinitely amusing. A more charming Sybil than Miss Caroline Barrett could not be imagined. She invests the part with much natural grace, and quickly arouses the sympathy of the audience.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sydney Brooke.—Carlotta Levey is one of the principal turns this week, her efforts being warmly applauded. The clever comedy of Kelly and Gillette is much appreciated; they are undoubtedly smart and worthy of the greatest praise. The Three Grosvenors give a smart performance; Hilton and Hilton, on the bar, are both clever and amusing; the Earles are instrumentalists of great merit; and the Warlocks, the Woelhaffs, acrobats; George Edney, character comedian; and Julian Mack complete the bill.

"A SPARROW, A MOUSE, AND A MAN."

By GEORGE H. R. DABBS, M.D.
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Dr. Dabbs is the author not only of several works of fiction, but has also tried his hand as a playwright. In collaboration with the late Mr Edward Righton, he wrote the three-act play, *Our Angels*, which was produced at the Vaudeville some years ago, and several other pieces, including *Dante*, *The Dreamers*, and *Punchinello*, &c. "A Sparrow, a Mouse, and a Man" is described as "A Study in Solitude." The story is told by a convict, a young man who once held a good position, and who does not deny that his sentence is a just one. But in his cell he is not alone; a strange friendship exists between the convict and two little creatures—a bird and a mouse. This is how it came about:—

"I was always a lover of animals, and so the mouse found me and the sparrow came to me, and I tamed them both easily. The mouse sleeps near my ear and the sparrow sits by my small table, and these two creatures of the kingdom of nature believe in me. They almost redeem my self-respect. But seven years is a long time, and perhaps they will die and leave me lonely again. Perhaps. They have given me a fright, each of them, before now. Once the mouse hid in my clothing and came out while I was at work, and once in the fields the sparrow hopped on to my shoulder. The warder in charge tried to catch them and kill them, and I, in an agony of fear, could not show that I knew them. You may, in prison, have what foes you like, but you must not have a friend."

The convict was an only son, who was punished, petted, and spoilt by his father, who, however, gave him no profession. They quarrelled, and he left his father's house one moonlight night never to return. He called on the family solicitor, who, having heard his story, agreed to advance him enough to live on until he attained the age of twenty-one, when he would have an income of £300 a year. The young man made his way to London, and joined a drawing-class. He had ability as an artist, and many admired his work.

"Among those who looked at my work was a little dealer, a cunning, despicable rogue he was, and he, pandering to my love of dissipation, induced me to become his imitative artist of the works of other men. I soon became an arch-copyist in oils and water-colours, and he soon became the arch-distributor of my work as 'originals.' And for a time the ignoble fraud succeeded. But one day it failed, and he only just escaped the criminal law. He escaped by the aid of a clever attorney, and the odium—no other punishment—fell upon my shoulders. But from that association I date my downfall. There is always a moment, if we look back, when we are at our zenith and our Nadir; there is always, in moral derogation, an instant when the noble or ignoble choice is ours—when we choose the good angel to live with us, or give our hand to the bad angel. And, though my greater error did not come for some years after this time, the seed was sown then of the implacable future whose harvest I am reaping now with the sickle of sorrow in the autumn twilight of my earthly hope."

The prisoner communes with his two little faithful friends whom he names Gabriel (the mouse) and Christabel (the sparrow), speaking aloud to them his inmost thoughts as if they had the understanding of human beings. There is a touch of pathos in this curious companionship; and the interest of the story is maintained by the unravelling of a murder mystery and the detection of the real culprit.

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LEYLAND PUBLIC HALL
LANCASHIRE.—Stage, 30ft. by 20ft. Proscenium. Seats 800. Balcony. District Population, 8,000.
Small Stock Scenery. No Sharing.
Vacant Dates for Companies or Entertainers.
Apply, MANAGING DIRECTOR, Park House, Leyland.

Still the Mascotte of South Wales.
MERTHYR, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Sole Proprietor, Freeholder, and Manager,
WILL SMITHSON.
The Business Capabilities of this Theatre are well known
Bookings include:—Geo. Dance's "Chinese Honeymoon," "San Toy," "Toreador," "My Lady Molly," Van Biene, The Leopolds, "The Eternal City," F. R. Benson and Company, "New Mephisto," "Sherlock Holmes," William Greet's "Sign of the Cross," "Floradora," "The Christian," &c., and a host of First-class Attractions. Nothing booked but Big Successes. First-class Band, Electric Lighting, Good Stock of Scenery, and Real Live Management, W. S., on spot.

MIDDLESBROUGH THEATRE ROYAL.
Vacant, through Cancelling,
Dec. 5, also Jan. 9 and 16.
No Pantomimes need apply.
Silence a polite negative.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — TEMPERANCE HALL.—Accommodates 2,000. New Heating Apparatus and Electric Light. Best Hall in the Town. 200,000 people within reach. Choirs, Minstrels, Exhibitions, &c. Apply for special terms to the SECRETARY.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
General Manager, CHAS. M. JULIAN.
Vacant Easter and Whit. for Big Musical Attractions.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

NORWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—
Enlarged, Redecorated, Lighted throughout by Electricity, Upholstered by Dean and Co.
No Vacant Dates this year.
Now Booking 1905.
Address, FRED MORGAN, as above.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.
Manager, CHARLES P. COOKE.
Vacant March 27 and Easter.
First-class Attractions only.
Silence a courteous negative.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—
The Premier Theatre. Holding Capacity, £200.
Vacant for Musical Attractions or Pantomime,
Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 13.
Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—
Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr THOMAS LUCAS, J.P.,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH.—GRAND THEATRE.—
Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class Attractions only.
For Dates, apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

PORTSMOUTH, NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the Year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PORTSMOUTH.—EMPIRE PALACE.—
Nov. 7, Caledonian Boys' Orchestra, A. Stacey, Bennett and Martell, J. Dubois, M'Connell Trio, P. Harcourt, R. Slone, F. Adair, Payne's Bioscope, B. Fox.
Rehearsal at 2·0 p.m.
All communications to the SECRETARY.

SEACOMBE. — IRVING THEATRE. — Enormous Success of the Reopening.
Travelling Managers delighted with the Nightly Receipts
Please refer to Mr Leslie Norman, "Trip to Chinatown" Company. Also to Messrs Stanley Rogers and Burch, "Gentleman Joe" Company.
A few Vacant Dates for First-class Attractions, Nov. 18, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, and onward, 1905.
Good Business done here with First-class Companies.
Wire or write to JAS. KIERNAN, Manager.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

SHREWSBURY. — CORN EXCHANGE.
Notice.
This Exchange is now Available for Concerts, Meetings, &c.
For terms and all particulars apply to the SECRETARY, Borough of Finance Office, The Square, Shrewsbury.
Not Licensed for Stage Plays.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing Director, W. MARLOW. Manager, W. MARLOW, Jun. The Prettiest and Most Popular Place of Amusement in the Town.
Bookings include:—
All the Principal Touring Companies.
Vacant Dates,
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Jan. 9, 16, and on.
Managers of First-class Companies only please apply, W. MARLOW, Jun., as above.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.—
Now Booking 1905.
WINTER GARDENS PAVILION TO BE LET on Rental or will Share with Good Variety Combinations.
CIRCUS HIPPODROME TO BE LET. Short or Long Term. Pavilion Redecorated, and New Heating System Installed. Apply, ALFRED HEMMING, General Manager.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE OPERA HOUSE and THEATRE ROYAL.
Managing-Director, CHAS. E. MACHIN.
General Manager, PERCIVAL CRAIG.
Only Vacant Dates.
AVENUE.
Nov. 28, May 22, 29, June 5.
ROYAL.
Dec. 19, Feb. 13, 20, March 27, April 10, 17, and on.
Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred.
Apply, C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.— Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre and Music Hall Reports Weekly. Address, "DRAMATICUS," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Vacant the Month of December, Jan. 2, 30, Feb. 13 (Share or Certainty), and onwards, with exceptions. Silence in all cases a polite negative for Date quoted.
SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, THE WALSALL THEATRES CO., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, W. H. WESTWOOD.—Holds £180. Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. First Vacant Dates, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, 23, and 30.

WEST BROMWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Open All the Year Round.
Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre.
Vacant Few Spring Dates, 1905.
All communications to JAMES P. MOORE.

WOKING.—PUBLIC HALL.—
JOHN SMITH, Secretary.
The Hall is fitted with Electric Light, Scenery by Hinton, Tip-up Seats by Deans, of Birmingham.
The Stage has recently been Enlarged.
Good Attractions only Required.
J. LEWIS, Manager

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—
Under the Management of Herr C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.
Vacant Dates from Nov. 21, onwards, also Christmas for good Panto. First-class Companies only. Three Days or Week. Silence a polite negative.

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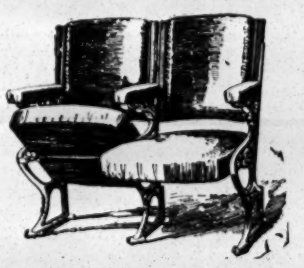
LATEST PATENT



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4.—LADIES' DRESSES cannot be CRUSHED.
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The Patent Fittings can be supplied to most Tip-up Seats in use.
Prices upon Application.
TESTIMONIAL.
A Leading Managing-Director writes:—"That your new Automatic Seats are giving every satisfaction, both in the working and the advantage gained in space by their automatic action, and the comfort and convenience ensured thereby."
IN HAND FOR THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Catalogue, "Examples of Theatre Seating," Post-free.
H. LAZARUS & SON,
UP-TO-DATE THEATRICAL UPHOLSTERERS,
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Telegraphic Address, "Malleable, London."
Telephone, Nine-one-five-three London Wall.

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The Most Complete
DRAMATIC DICTIONARY OF DATES
and
THEATRICAL TREASURY OF KNOWLEDGE
ever brought before the Public.
It will also be found to be the most Interesting Annual of the Year.
Office, 49, WELLINGTON-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

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DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR. See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1905.

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ARTISTES WANTING ENGAGEMENTS.

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LONDON, W.C.

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Forty-nine, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 20, 27, March 6, on.

MANAGERS PLEASE NOTE.
WE HAVE NO BILL ORDERS
OR FREE LIST
OF ANY KIND WHATEVER (PRESS EXCEPTED)
AT DALSTON THEATRE.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Nov. 28, Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 27, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 6 March 20, 27, April 3, 17, May 8 (Race Week).
(Musical Companies preferred.)
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 21, Dec. 5, Feb. 23 (Three Nights),
March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, on.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant Jan. 16, April 3, 17, May 1, 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 27, March 6, 27, April 3, 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
April 3, 10, 17, 24. May 15, 22 29, June 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant,
Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23 (Three Nights).
Leamington Bookings include
"Little Mary," Miss Nethersole's "Sapho,"
"Sweet and Twenty," "Florodora,"
"One of the Best," "Duke of Killicrankie,"
"The Tyranny of Tears," "If I Were King,"
"Darling of the Gods," Martin Harvey, Edward Compton,
Mr and Mrs Kendal, "Chinese Honeymoon."
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies
for Nov. 21 and Dec. 5.
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton,
and Nov. 28, County Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant Spring, 1905.
TERRISS THEATRE.
Dec. 5, 12, and Spring.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Dec. 5, 12.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Nov. 28, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Nov. 28. Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 23.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Dec. 26, March 27, April 24.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, three nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken
in one week in these two towns by
Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant Nov. 14, 21, Dec 12, 19, Jan. 9, 16, 23, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 26, Jan. 26, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Dec. 26, Three Nights, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 12,
Three Nights, Luton and Bedford;
Dec. 19, Three Nights Luton.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Comic Operas and Musical Comedies, Spring, 1905. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Plant of Electricity (Three Colours) installed. H. VERE.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr Stanley Rogers.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Preferred, Dec. 1 (Three Nights), 19 (Three Nights), Jan. 5 (Three Nights), Feb. 6, 27, March 6, 13, April 3 on, with exceptions. Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 5, 19,
Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 6, and on.
This week, "The Fatal Wedding;"
Nov. 7, Mr Edward Terry.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GEO. ROBERTSON.
This Handsome New Theatre will be Opened at Christmas.
WANTED, Companies, April 17, May 1,
and on. Stage Large enough for any Production.
Fully Licensed and every Modern Fitting.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, to Oblige "Why Smith Left Home" Company, First-class Attraction, for Week of Nov. 21. To-day, KELLY, Court, Warrington; next, Grand, Southampton.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 14, 21, Dec.
19, 26, Feb 27, March 27, and on.
Last Three Days of each Week only Booked.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Good Comedy Companies,
Now and on Three Nights.
Good Pantomime, Dec. 26.
Now booking Season 1905.
Apply,
C. A. HUTTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.
WANTED, Company for Nov. 21.
Vacant through obliging
Mr George Dance.
Nov. 21, Nov. 21, Nov. 21, Nov. 21.
Apply, FRED MORGAN.

PAISLEY and PERTH THEATRES.
Dates Unexpectedly Vacant.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions, Nov. 28,
Paisley; Dec 5, 19, and 26, Perth.
Apply, J. H. SAVILE, Paisley Theatre.

NEW GRAND THEATRE, NELSON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Musical Shows preferred, Dec. 12 and Jan. 2 (New Year's week), through disappointment. Must have big attractions. GEORGE E. MUDD, Acting-Manager.

WOOLWICH—GRAND THEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Company at above Theatre, Four Nights and Matinée, commencing Dec. 12. Address, CLARENCE SOUNES.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies.

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
Feb. 27, March 27, April 24, May 1, 8, 22.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, onward.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
March 13, 27, April 10, 17, 24, May 1
(Three Nights only).

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, June 12, 19, July 31.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, March 6.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three or Six Nights),
12 (Three Nights only), Share or Certainty;
19 (Three or Six Nights), Dec. 26 (Three Nights only).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9
(Three or Six Nights).

CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
No Vacancies.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE
Vacant,
Dec. 8 (Three Nights only),
Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2 (Three or Six Nights).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Nov. 28, Dec. 26, Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights).

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three Nights only),
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 16 (six Nights only).

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

WANTED, First-class Companies, not Drama, for Dec. 19, Jan. 9 (?), 23, 30, and various Dates onwards. Apply, G. HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL YEADON, near LEEDS.
WANTED, Good Companies, for
Dec. 1, 8, and 15, Three Nights each;
also a Good Répertoire for Dec. 26, Six Nights;
also Jan. 5, 12, 19, and 26. Trade and Business good.
GEO. BAILEY, Secretary.

WANTED, First-class Company,
Nov. 7,
to oblige George Dance.
Wire, CULLING, Theatre Royal, Bury.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for
Dec. 5, 12 (Three Nights). 19,
Required Recognised Attraction for Dec. 26.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.
WANTED, First-class Companies only from Nov. 21, onwards, also Christmas, for Good Panto. Three Days or Week. Silence a polite negative.
Manager, Herr C. ADOLF SEEBOLD.

WANTED, Company for King's Theatre,
Cardiff, for Dec. 12. Must be New to Cardiff. Best Drama only.
Address, FRANK BATEMAN.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, METHIL, FIFE.
WANTED, Companies, December, Jan. 9,
16, and onwards. Pantomime and Good Minstrels write. Share or certainty. LIVERICK.

WANTED, Good Companies,
Victoria Theatre, Mansfield,
Dec. 1, 15, 22 (Three Nights Each).

WANTED, Musical Piece, Dec. 5; also Musical and Dramatic Attractions, April 3 and 17, and all May. Now Booking Autumn, 1905. Splendid business has been done recently under present energetic Management. The Right Attractions are thoroughly boomed, and every assistance given to Travelling Managers. Enormous Business during Visit of Sir Henry Irving. The Theatre (which holds 3,000) packed from floor to ceiling at Double Prices throughout.
Address all communications, T. EDWARDES.

NEW AVENUE THEATRE, KETTERING.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 8, 15,
Feb. 9, Three Nights each. Good Terms to First-class Shows. Musical Plays Preferred. FRANK PAYNE.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY
WANTED, High-class Companies.
Vacant Nov. 21 (to Oblige),
Dec. 12, January, onwards.
Musical Comedies and Opera do Enormous Business.
Address, JOHN TULLY.

THEATRE ROYAL BATLEY.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 19, 26(?) Jan.,
16(?) February, March 6,
J. EDWARD WHITTY, 22, Berners-street, London, W.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Company, Jan. 2 and, possibly,
16. Also for Dates in March. Now Booking Summer and Autumn. J. H. CURRY, as above. Three Days' silence a polite negative, pro tem.

RAMSGATE.—SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Companies.
All Dates Filled this Year.
Now Booking Season, 1905.
Address, HENRY BOWMAN, Manager.

WHITEVALE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
The Only Amusement House in the East End of the City.
WANTED, Good Companies for Nov. 28
and Dec. 5. Musical Shows preferred. Address, GREEN.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION and OPERA HOUSE, WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Dec. 12,
week, three, or six nights; also January, onward
W. PAYNE, Manager

COMPANIES WANTED

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management
Capital, £155,000.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK
Dec. 12 (Three Nights) Dec. 19,
Jan. 2, New Year Week (?).
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
Feb. 20 (Three Nights).
KING'S THEATRE KIRKCALDY.
Nov. 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12,
Dec. 22 (Three Nights), Dec. 26.
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
Nov. 14, Dec. 1 (Three Nights), Dec. 12,
Dec. 19 (Three Nights);
NEW GAIETY THEATRE CLYDEBANK
Jan. 23, Feb. 13, 20.
Clydebank Theatre now Booming Despite Bad Trade,
Business Excellent. Last Week-end's Takings—
Thursday, Oct. 27, £49 8s. 3d.
Friday, Oct. 28, £23 2s. 3d.
Saturday, Oct. 29, £42 2s. 6d.
Important.—Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith,
please note that Stockbridge is barred.
The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.
Address all communications to R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Jan. 9, '23, 30, and on
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9, 16, Feb 20, and on.
Apply, FREDK MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton,
March 13, 27, April 3, 10, 24.
Star Theatre, Swansea,
Jan. 9, Jan. 9,
March 6, 13, 20, April 10, 24.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.
Lessee and Manager, Mr ERNEST STEVENS;
General Manager, J. MURRAY HERRIOT.
WANTED, to oblige a Manager,
First-class Attraction.
Nov. 28.
Nov. 28.
Brixton Theatre, S.W.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Proprietors, Messrs CARSON and GRANVILLE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
Jan. 23, March 13.
Business Bigger than ever.
The Dramatic Theatre Par Excellence.
Nothing too Big for this Theatre.
Address,
FRED GRANVILLE.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Good Pantomime or any
Big Attraction,
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26.
Good Business certain.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Attraction
for Dec. 19.
Also First-class Musical Shows for
March 6 and 20.

GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for
Nov. 14. Nov. 14.
Vacant through obliging.
One of the Best Dates in the Season. Add., R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand T., Glasgow. Tel. add., "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, Company, Nov. 14,
owing to Transfer.
PAYNE SEDDON, Theatre, Londonderry.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Nov.
21, Jan. 16, 23 (Three Nights), 30, on, with exceptions. Silence polite negative.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE, FOLKESTONE.
WANTED, through Disappointment, High-class Attraction (not Drama),
Nov. 21 (Six Nights).
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Good Companies. Nov. 14 (Six Nights), 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 5 (Three Nights), 12, Jan. 2, 16, and on. Will give certainty for good Panto. or Musical Comedy Christmas Week. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

WANTED, First-class Attractions
for
Dec. 5 and 19.
Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

NEW GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Holds 3,000, and over £180.
Electric Light throughout.
Heated Hot Water Pipes. Electric Ventilators.
As near to the Centre of Prince's-street as any existing Theatre in Edinburgh.
WANTED, No. 1 Company to open
Dramatic Season (Musical Comedy preferred). Could accept Pantomime Feb. 27 and March 6 (Eastern subject)
Apply, till Nov. 19, to
EADE MONTEFIORE,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCASHIRE.
WANTED (to Oblige a Manager), Good Company, Nov. 28. also Vacant Dec. 12 and Jan. 9
Address, GERALD HARDING.

LYCEUM THEATRE, GOVAN, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Dec. 26, through cancelling.
Address,
RICH WALDON as above

WANTED, for King's Theatre, Walthamstow, First-class Dramatic Companies, Nov. 21, 28, Various onwards; also Pantomime for Christmas. Enormous Success, Twice-Nightly System. Address, MANAGER.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHEFFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 12,
Feb. 27, March 20, 27, and on.
Address, F. W. PURCELL,
Alexandra Theatre, London, N.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 2 and 9 Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE.
WANTED, Strong Drama, Nov. 28, Share or Small Certainty. Wire, S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Company (Musical preferred), Monday, Nov. 7. Wire, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, for Christmas Week, First-class Attraction, Musical Comedy, Spectacle, or Minstrel Troupe. Splendid Opening for good Travelling Pantomime or any other Good Draw. Sharing Terms. HAGUE, Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEW BROMPTON, KENT
Population, 46,000. No other Place of Amusement in the Town. Seating capacity, 2,000. Lighted throughout by Electric and Gas, also Heated.
WANTED, Known, Will be Vacant for
Good Companies Dec. 12, onwards. Poole's Myriorama doing exceedingly good business, Oct. 24.
ALFRED NORTON, Hippo. Theatre, New Brompton, Kent.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for
Dec. 12, Dec. 12, Dec. 12.
Apply,
Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MR F. W. PURCELL'S THEATRES.
ALEXANDRA, STOKE NEWINGTON, N.
WANTED, Musical Attractions, Feb. 27,
March 13, 20, and onwards.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE, HOLLOWAY, N.
Wanted, Musical Attractions,
Feb. 13, March 6, 20, and onwards.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Dec 12 (?), 19, Jan. 9, 23,
30, and few On. Thanks "Florodora," "Girl from Japan," and "Trip to Chinatown" for Offers this week. It must be all right or big shows would not want to come. Shows with a reputation can rest assured of doing big business. Next week, Return of Miss Grace Warner in "The New Commander," who will do Bigger Business this visit than last, which is saying something.
Musical Show wire for Dec. 12.
FRED L. CONNYNGHAME.

WANTED, Big Combination, Dec. 12;
also Pantomimes, Jan. 2, 9, 16, on, with Exceptions, for Grand Theatres, Chorley and Radcliffe.
Address, SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. POTTS.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical
preferred, Nov. 7, 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 6, and on, with exceptions. Also First-class Musical Play for the New Year. First-class Pantomime would do well. Four or Six Nights and Two Matinées. "My Lady Molly," Jan 6 and 7.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe,
Cheshire, First-class Attractions for October, onwards. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, Good Companies, King's
Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield,
Dec. 5, 12, 19. Only Vacancies till April.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple,
Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

WANTED, Attractions, Nov. 28,
T. R., Aston; Dec. 19, Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
BARNARD,
Harborne-road, Birmingham.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards,
with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 13, 20, May 8, and onwards.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, Feb. 13, May 8.
Entire Original Production, including
Mr Albert Ward.
Christmas Vacant for First-class Theatre.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Nov. 14, Dec. 26, Jan. 2.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."
WANTED, Dec. 12, London only.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 14, Nov. 14.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Dec. 5,
Feb. 13, 20
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Dec. 12, 26, Jan. 2. Feb. 20.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

FREDK. MELVILLE'S NEW PRODUCTION
now in Preparation.
WANTED, Feb. 6, 13.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
By Walter Melville.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Feb. 20,
follow London Theatres; March 13, 27, follow Midlands and onwards. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects. Address all communications DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.
Note.
The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville.

WANTED, Dec. 19, for
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12, Feb. 27,
March 13, April 10.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction,
First-class Theatres
for Jan. 23 and 30.
Wire To-day, KELLY, Court Theatre, Warrington;
next week, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Weeks of Dec. 26 and Jan. 2,
for the
above remarkable success.
Wire, To-day, KELLY, Court Theatre, Warrington.
Next week, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23, Feb. 6,
April 24, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Stockport, Return.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28, to precede
T. R., Sheffield; Dec. 26, to follow G T., Wolverhampton. Wire, STONE, Avenue Theatre, Morpeth; next week, Theatre Royal, Workington.

CARSON, GRANVILLE, and THORNE'S COMPANY.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Gigantic
Attraction,
Jan. 2 and 23.
Playing to Phenomenal Business Everywhere.
Everything Carried.
First-class Company of Recognised Artistes.
Address,
FRED GRANVILLE,
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 26,
Jan. 2, 23, April 24, Aug. 7.
"The Biggest Scamp on Earth."
By F. A. Scudamore.
Miss Frances Delaval's Company. Now in Second Year of Tour. Wire or write, Aquarium Theatre, Scarborough.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, and Christmas
Week, for this great Attraction. Powerful Company. Splendid Scenery. Racehorses Toured. Clear Stage only required. F. G. KIMBERLEY, Rotunda, Liverpool; next, Alexandra, Widnes.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Nov. 21, Nov. 21, Nov. 21
(Mid or South-West)
Wire, DAWSON, Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.
Next, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.

WANTED, for "Bigamy," Nov. 14,
Feb. 20. "THE LIFE THAT KILLS." Wanted Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and Few Spring. "THE GRIP OF THE LAW," Wanted Jan. 16, 23, April 3, and on.
FRED MOULE, Devonport; Next, Aberdare.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including the
Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights
in London.

WANTED, Nov. 14,
Nov. 21,
Dec. 5,
Jan. 2,
Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30,
Feb. 6, 13,
March 13, 20;
also Whit Week.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Foredike, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield
W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq, Theatre Royal, Hanley;
F. Laidler, Esq, Prince's, Bradford;
J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth;
J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington;
Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston
(Holiday Week).

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
next week, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
WANTED, Jan 2 (North),
Jan. 2 (North).
Also Feb. 13, 20, March 6, 13, April 10.
H. HOLLISTER, Avenue Theatre, Kettering.

WANTED, Jan 30, to follow Alex., Hull,
"A Wrecker of Men."
MILL, Nov. 7, Theatre, Horwich; 14th, T. R., Stockton

WANTED, Dec. 26(?), Jan. 2 and 16,
"A Wrecker of Men."
C. WATSON MILL, Prince's Theatre, Horwich.

WANTED, Jan. 2 and 16, "A Wrecker of Men." C. WATSON MILL,
Nov. 7, Theatre, Horwich; 14, Theatre Royal, Stockton.

WANTED, Farewell Tour of "Kitty Grey,"
few Good Dates for No. 1 Company during September, October, November, 1905.
No Dates Vacant till September, 1905.
New Scenery, Dresses, &c.
Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Nov. 28 and Christmas on, for
Miss Emma Litchfield's Drama,
"A London Actress,"
the Play that Pleases All.
Wire for Nov. 28 Write re Christmas, on,
STUART CLEVELAND, Prince's, Blackburn.
P.S.—Refer any Manager visited.

WANTED, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, May 8, 15,
June 12, for Mrs Lewis Waller, in "Zaza," "Vilma," or Répertoire. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Richmond Theatre, S.W.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Easter and Whit Weeks
FRED BULMER, Town Hall Theatre, Macsteg.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."
WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15,
onwards. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Theatre Royal, Aldershot.

"THE TRAITOR."
Messrs Mitchelson and Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, Dec. 5, and Christmas Week,
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Jan. 16 (North), for "The Golden Chance." Everything carried, including Massive-Built Railway Engine. Splendid Plant of New Printing. JAMES HARE, T. R., Macclesfield.

"OUR NEW SLAVEY."
The Green, Gordon, and Green Combination (Tom, Nellie, and Jennie), now Concluding Five Weeks with Jasper Redfern, Esq, at the Public Hall, Barnsley. Extensive Répertoire, Change Weekly, and Tom Green's Single Turn.
WANTED, Monday next, Nov. 7, and 14.
Wire, Barnsley.

ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD.
"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."
No. 1 Company, including Miss Annie Saker.
WANTED, Important Theatres, Jan. 9 16,
Feb. 13, 20, 27, April 3
Star Theatre, Liverpool.

CHAS. A. CHANDLER'S "BELLS OF HASLEMERE." COMPANY.
WANTED, Nov. 21, Christmas Week,
First-class Theatres only. Now Fast Booking, 1905. Wire this, Swindon; next, Bury, Lancs.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S COMPANY,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, 28, Good
Theatre, Dec. 26.
EDWARD SURREY,
Avenue Theatre, Morpeth.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Dec. 26. Admitted to be the Most Popular Version now on the Stage.
Wire for Dec. 26,
JAMES BELL,
Grand Theatre, Luton.

THEATRES WANTED.

'A WOMAN'S DEVOTION.'

WANTED, for this Fine Play,
Jan. 9, Jan. 9,
Feb. 13, 20, March 6, 20, 27.

A Magnificent Production.
Every Scene a Splendid Picture.
The Café Gardens, with View of Paris.
St. Thomas's Embankment.
Leopold Chambers.
The Artist's Home
The Cornfields.
The Water Mill and Weir.
The Beechwood Arms
The Beachwood Railway Station.
Dead Man's Corner on the Line.
The Wreck of the Night Express.
The Greatest Effect ever Staged.
Elaborate Printing,
from 32-Sheet Posters downwards.
Played by one of the
Strongest Casts Touring.

Vacant
Jan. , Feb. 13, 20, March 6, 20, 27.

MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Jan. 16, 23, 30, March 13, 27.

"GREED OF GOLD,"
Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, 13.

"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION,"
Jan. 9, Feb. 13, 20, March 6.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.

"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
by Nita Rae.

Second Year of Tour.
Everything First-class.

Vacant! Vacant!! Vacant!!!
Dec. 5 (North), 19, 26.

WINIFRED MAUDE,
Miners' Theatre,
Ashington.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.

WANTED, for this Splendid Attraction,
Christmas and New Year Weeks, Jan. 9 and 23.
Rapidly Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905. Beautifully Mounted. New Special Scenery and Effects. Magnificently Advertised and Splendidly Played. Continued success.

Nov. 7, Opera House, Coventry, Third Visit.

MR WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Second Year of Continuous Successful Tour.
First-class Company, including Miss Dora Price as the Woman.

WANTED, Dec. 19. Christmas, New Year,
Jan. 23, Feb. 13, March 6, Easter, and onwards, with exceptions. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, To-day, Theatre Royal, Grantham; next, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
Elaborate Plant of Pictorials.
The above will be Toured in First-class Style by
ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.

WANTED, Jan. 30 (Midlands),
Feb. 20, 27, March 13, 20, and 27,
and various onwards.
All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON,
Strathmore, Norfolk House-road, Streatham, S.W.

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
The Entire Original Production carried,
including the Floral and Electrical Effects.

WANTED, First-class Theatres only.
Vacant
Feb. 20, March 6, 13, and 20,
April 17 and 24 (Easter), and MAY 1.
No other Dates until the Autumn.

Address, FREDERICK PHILPOTT, Broadstairs.

"AN ACTOR'S ROMANCE."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Christmas Week, Dec. 26 (Midlands or North).
Address, CECIL BARTH,
Royal Princess's Theatre, London, W.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, Big Theatres,
Nov. 21 and 28, to follow Theatre Royal, Bury;
Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 6, to follow Stratford (Return).
April 24, to follow Theatre Royal, Leeds.
C. M. JULIAN,
To-day, Alex., Birmingham; Monday, T. R., Bristol.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, for "No Escape."
Répertoire if required. Printing waiting. Everything thorough. To-day, Theatre, Burton; after, Theatre, Runcorn.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."

WANTED, Dec 26, Jan. 23, 30 (?),
Feb. 6, on.
Address, Olympia, Newcastle.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."

WANTED, Wanted, Nov. 14, Nov. 14.
Wire, STANLEY HOPE,
Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Nov. 7, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham (Six Nights).

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN."

WANTED, Theatre, Nov. 14 (through Misunderstanding), a Magnificent Production.
Chorus and Troupe of Dancers. Wire (To-day), LESLIE NORMAN, O. H., Tunbridge Wells. Nov. 7, Crystal Palace.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."

WANTED, Nov. 21, "Dishonoured."
Vacant Dec. 19, 26.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, M. T., Devonport.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."
"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."

WANTED, Nov. 21, Between Hastings and Birkenhead. Also Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 9, 21. Refer R. E. Liston, Esq., T. R., Leeds; Francis Laidler, Esq., Prince's Bradford; C. P. Cooke, Esq, Grand, Nottingham; Lingford Carson, Esq, Q., Keighley. Thanks Fred Granville, Esq, for contracts for Q. T., Liverpool. All come., H. G. WYNN, Hastings.

GUS C. LIVESEY'S COMPANY, "THE CRIMSON CLUB." A Genuine Success.

WANTED, Nov. 14 (Wire), Dec. 5,
through Disappointment (precede West Bromwich), 26, Jan. 30, and various On (North). GUS C. LIVESEY, to-day, Ferndale, Hucknall, Notts.

"THE LONDON FIREMAN,"
by Arthur Shirley and George Conquest.

WANTED, Nov. 21 (between Leigh and Tyneside). Only Vacancy this year.
Jan. 2, 23 (N.), on, with exceptions.
HENRY LUDLOW, Elephant and Castle Theatre, S.E.

"AT WAR WITH THE WORLD."

WANTED, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, 19,
Good Theatres (following Birmingham),
Christmas, January, onwards
Everything Reliable. Printing Waiting.
GEO. LYTTELTON, 22, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, S.W.

"CINDERELLA" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, Good No. 1 Theatres, January and February, for the Edinburgh Grand Pantomime, which opens on Dec. 10 for a six weeks', or more, run. Artistes include Little Zola (from Drury-lane), A. G. Spry, Percy Curry, Miss May Marton, Miss Millie Engler, the Six Lancashire Lasses, London Chorus of Sixteen, and Electric Coach with Four Shetland Ponies. Stage-Manager Frank Ayrton. Musical Director, E. T. De Banzie.
Rail Journey no object if good money can be taken with a Comic Pantomime.
Apply, FADE MONTEFIORE, Her Majesty's T., Dundee.

THEATRES WANTED.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
"MISS MISCHIEF."

A New and Original
Musical Comedy,

Book and Lyrics by Mr Reginald Bacchus.

Music by Dr. F. Osmond Carr,
Composer of
"Morocco Bound," "His Excellency," "In Town,"
&c., &c., &c.

WANTED, Dec. 5, Suburban Theatre, or near London,
Also Christmas Week,
and Several Early Spring Dates, on, for
"MISS MISCHIEF,"
Produced Monday, Oct. 31,
Royal West London Theatre,
with Greatest Possible Success.
The opinion of everyone who Witnessed the Production is that
"MISS MISCHIEF"
will Make
More Money
than
Mischief.

For Cast
see Companies' Page.

Full Chorus and Dancers.

All communications,
GODFREY LAMPLUGH,
Royalty Theatre, Chester.

Permanent address,
20, Caroline-place, Bayswater,
London, W.

"HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, and Feb. 6.

Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec 12, 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 6

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5 and 19, Jan. 2, 9, and 16.

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, and 23.

LINGFORD CARSON,

Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER" by Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres. Jan. 16, Feb. 27, May 15. W. V. GARROD, T. R., Rochdale, Lancs.

WANTED, Nov. 28 and Dec. 12,
"The Conscript."
MITCHELL and BELTON, Empire, Dundee.

WANTED, a Good Theatre Somewhere
North, for the only Vacant Week,
Nov. 28, for the Famous Kellino Vaudeville Company.
Address,
GUS GARRICK, Vaudeville Club.

ARTISTES WANTED.

SOUTH AFRICA.
LEONARD RAYNE.
Next Company Rehearses Feb. 20.

WANTED, Known, Applications, giving Full Particulars, including Permanent Address, Principal Parts Played—when, where, and under what Managements—should be made,
by letter only,
with envelope marked "Application," to
GEORGE RAYNE,
Portugal House, Portugal-street, London, W.C.

MISS MARY AUSTIN and E. VIVIAN EDMONDS' TOURS.

WANTED, "The Cotton Spinner," Commencing Scarborough, Dec. 24, Experienced Actors, for Lord Northbury (Aristocratic Old Man), Major Stretton (Fiery Old Officer), Foster Cunningham (Light Aristocratic Heavy Part), Lady Charlotte (Gushing Old Maid), Constance Harrington (Aristocratic Heavy Part). "The Golden Ladder" Tour, commencing Dec. 26, Accrington, Character Comedian, for Jim Dixon; Experienced Character Actors, Responsible Parts; Leading Lady, Lillian Grant; Chambermaid, the Tearer and Rozamazy; Young Actress, Victoria Alexandra; Experienced Actress, Mrs Dixon, Mezzo-Soprano. Address, with full particulars, photographs, terms, references, E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Theatre Royal, Greenock.

WANTED, for "Othello" Matinée, London, Nov. 16, Montano, Graziano, Lodovico, Messenger, &c. Apply, NORMAN PARTRIDGE, 4, Harrington-mansions, Cambridge-circus, W.C.

WANTED, for Christmas Tour, Petite
Actress for Child Part, to look about Ten.
Photo. and lowest terms, to
BRANDON BLAKE, Palace-chambers, Lincoln.

WANTED, a Really Smart Young Actress
for Leading Business. Good Money. Will Dora Davis write in? MIDDLETON, Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Juvenile Lady, Young, Handsome. Photos, references, to
IAN MACLAREN, Opera House, Falkirk, N.B.

WANTED, Good, Lively Chambermaid,
Sing and Dance well; Photos. imperative; height, refs., and lowest terms, NORTH, 9, Tolson-st., Dewsbury.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."

WANTED, for Three Weeks (if suitable, Spring Tour will follow), good Comedian for Irish Policeman. Rehearse Dewsbury, Nov. 15. Open following Monday. State lowest terms, height, experience, with photo., to
F. H. BINGHAM, Paisley Theatre, Paisley, N.B.

WANTED, Good Comedian for Timothy
Heighno, "Heart of a Hero."
Rehearse Dec. 12.
Full particulars, C. E. JOHNSON,
Theatre Royal, Leicester.

WANTED, Good Comedian, also Gentleman
look after Front and Play Small Light Comedy Part. If suitable Spring Tour to follow. Terms, references, JACK HADDON, Court Theatre, Warrington.

WANTED, Clever Young Actor (Tall preferred), excellent references, to Double Juvenile and Heavy; also Stage-Manage and Book good little paying Sketches. Terms, share.
Write, Box 8,678, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, an Opportunity Presents itself for a Young Gentleman, desirous of adopting the Theatrical Profession, to Play a Small Part, and Understudy in a recent London Success, now in its Tenth Month of Tour. Premium. Small salary will be paid. References given and required. Address, MANAGER, Box 8,676, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Gentlemen Amateurs, willing
to Pay Premiums for Stage Instruction,
to Play Small Parts on Tour with Leading London Lady Star.
Write, Box 455 Willing's,
125, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, a Smart Comedian for Sketches,
and to Work Leaps;
also a Gentleman for Gendarme.
Apply, with references, to H. C. LE FRE,
11, Moor-place, London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED. — A well-known Comedian about to produce a Big Music Hall Scena, would like to hear from Lady or Gent. to play in same. Beginners with a Slight Knowledge not objected to.
Box 8,662, care of "The Era" Office.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, at Once, an Attractive Young Lady, Age between Seventeen to Twenty.
Must be Good Toe Dancer.
Address, Box 8 644, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Summer, One or Two Ladies and Gentlemen (Amateurs), must possess ability, to Join High-class Concert Party. Thorough Tuition. Premium, £15. Salary, £1 a week. Ten Weeks' Engagement Guaranteed.
For interview write, Box 8,656, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Finest Items Extant, Grand Literary, Dramatic, Musical, Variety Annual. EDITOR, "Amusement," West-end, Nov. 21. Rally round, 7, Whitefriars, Fleet-street, E.C.

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ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, an Amateur Lady, Good Professional Experience, is Wishful to Play Part in Production in Spring. Premium. Box 8 510, "The Era"

WANTED, Engagement, Good Alto Voice.
Would join Sister or take part in Sketch.
JESSIE BURNETTE, 4, Church-road, Essex-road.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

"CINDERELLA," GRAND, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, to Rehearse, Dec. 5,
and open Dec. 10, Six Weeks certain,
with option of further Four.
[Ugly Sister (Short and Sing),
Pair Knockabouts,
Dandini and Second Girl (Small),
Pair of Smart "Sisters" preferred,
Demon King (and Flunkey),
Fairy Godmother,
must be Good Vocalists,
Only Recognised Artists Entertained.
Apply, FADE MONTEFIORE,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Pantomime Choristers, all Voices.
Apply, any day, between 11·0 and 1 0,
Kelson Trueman,
Regent-house, 233a, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Pantomime to Send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, a Pair of Sisters Disengaged for Pantomime to send photos, terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.

WANTED, Clever Comedian, for Twankey, and Powerful Actor with Speciality for Abanazar; also Quartette of Male Vocalists. All to Rehearse Dec. 1, Open 10. Photos. and references.
S. KING ALEXANDER, New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Quartette of Acrobatic Dancers. Age, height, references, photos., and lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Pair of Smart Knockabouts to work Animal Properties and Star Traps. Lowest terms and references to M'LEOD LOADER, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

WANTED, A Smart Pair of Sisters, Duettists and Dancers, must be clever and up to date. Also a few more Smart Show Chorus Ladies, and Six up-to-date Acrobatic Dancers. Call or write, full particulars, photos., &c., Mr SINCLAIR, 12, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Miss Amy Calcott, Charming Actress and Magnificent Danseuse (late Miss Amy Leggett, of the Leggett Combination), Vacant for Pantomime, Principal Boy or Girl and Speciality. See the Calcotts' Advert. on another Page. Unparalleled success Macnaghten Tour. Comm., ERIC CALCOTT, 4, Valmar-road, London, S.E.; or, De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, Engagement as Principal Boy and Title-Rôle by Adelina A. Levey. Booked:—Gatti's (Road), London; P., Northampton; Collins's, &c. Also Sisters Luverny.
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WANTED, Pantomime, Alma Obrey, Principal Boy; Bob Baxter, Comedian. Five Years with J. F. Elliston, Esq. Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Panto., by Tessie Vandean, First Boy or Girl. Four seasons J. Horrocks, Esq. Address, 24, Bromley-place, Nottingham.

WANTED, Engagement in Pantomime, Second Boy or Fairy Queen. Address, MARJORIE IRVINE, care of Mrs LAVENDER, Brent-st., Hendon, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Mark Milton, Principal Comedy; Ethel Cambridge, First or Second Girl. Communications, 20, Pulross-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Good Panto. by the Roystons (Phil and Ada), Première Danseuse, Parts, Second Girl, Char. Comedian. 16, Chapman-st., West Bromwich.

WANTED, Panto. by Parr, Pot-Pourri Act, Clay Modeller, Impersonator, Sand and Rag Pictures, Vent., Play Parts. Next, Hippo., Accrington.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Billy Keene and Jessie Adams, Duettists, Dancers, &c. Jessie Adams, Principal Boy or Girl; Billy Keene, Baron, Page, or any good Comedy Part. Thanks for offers.
Last Season, Sinbad and Tinbad.
Offers to 27, Phœbe Anne-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Percy True, True to the Core, at Liberty for Pantomime and other Engagements. Terms, £30.
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WANTED, Pantomime, by Victor Vernon (an Ideal Dame), Principal Comedian, Four Seasons T. R., Plymouth. Address, Pavilion T., Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Conan and Doyle, Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Pantomime.
Last Two Years, Grand, Nottingham.
Thanks John Tiller, Esq, Lester Collingwood, Esq., for Offers.
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WANTED, Known, the Two Kelsos (Bill and Tom), Comedians, Pantomimists, and Dancers, are at Liberty for Pantomime. Seven Seasons with Milton Bode. Thanks to him for Recommendation, and Mr Savile for Offer. Marsh Buildings, Cleckheaton, Yorks.

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Parts and Specialities. Pavilion, Leicester.

WANTED, Known, the Coopers, Champion All-round Acrobatic Barrel Jumpers. Jumps and Somersaults in and out of Barrels Blindfolded, Free for Pantomime. Can also Produce Kitchen Scene, introducing the Latest Novelty, the Trampoline Table. Two Big Specialities. Address (perm.), 76, Willes-road, Kentish-town, London.

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WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto Engagement, Christmas, by the Fiorador Quartette. Parts, Traps, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beattie Trixie, Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, Swansea.

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WANTED, Les Frères St. Clair, the Great Continental Comedy Knockabout Cyclists, open to receive offers for London or Provincial Pantomime.
Address, care of LEWIS LEVY,
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at Liberty for Pantomime;
also Vacant Nov. 14.
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WANTED, Good Scenic Artist,
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Commence at once.
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Theatre Royal, Blaydon.

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WANTED, the Address of Rolley Samwells
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WANTED, to Sell, in Excellent Condition, Scenery, Dresses (Eastern, Nautical, &c.), Properties of Successful Pantomimes. No reasonable offer refused. May be seen at Theatre.
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London, Provincial, and Continental Experience.
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Seven, Four and a-half, and Three and a-half;
Musical,
Good Needlewoman.

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WANTED, Berth as Manager of Variety Theatre. Has for last Three Years held similar position at London Suburban Hall; also many years a Licensed Victualler.
Disengaged end of November.
Write, D. W. A., 28, Hildreth-street, Balham.

WANTED, Management of Theatre, or Good Tour. Mr Quigley, having retired from the Lesseeship of the Grand Theatre, Cardiff, invites offers. Conservative Club, Cardiff.

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WANTED, by Electrical Engineer Engagement. Competent in Theatrical Installation Work, Lighting, Heating] Hydraulics, &c. A] B., 59 Rowallan-road, Fulham.

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WANTED, Situation as Stage Carpenter (own Tools), Resident or Tour, with good Company. Highest references. Six Years last situation.
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WANTED, Berth by Thoroughly Responsible and Competent Wardrobe Mistress. Mrs MITCHELL, 12, Sunnyside, Waldegrave-road, Teddington.

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WANTED, by Married Couple, Situation as Caretakers in Theatre or Music Hall. Age Thirty-six and Thirty-seven. No Encumbrance. Lifelong Experience. GEORGE PITCHER, Caretaker, Victoria T., Burnley.

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WANTED, First-class Conductor, of Good Appearance, for Pantomime Season at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. Pianist preferred. Must be well up in Pantomime Business and Smart Arranger. Kindly state references (which must be recent), age, and actual lowest terms, to LESTER COLLINGWOOD.

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor, First-class. Permanency. Sobriety indispensable. Terms, references, H. J. SNELSON, Theatre, Fleetwood.

WANTED, to Open Immediately, First Violinist, Competent and Reliable.
Used to Variety Business.
Reference.
HENRY KEMBLE, Manager,
Palace Theatre, Cork.

WANTED, First Violin, Trombone, for the Hippodrome, Manchester, for Nov. 21, 19 4; for Empire, Hippodrome, Ashton, Conductor, 'Cello, Tympanist (own Tymps.), expected opening Nov. 21, 1904. PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, First Violin and Bassoon, for Pantomime Season. Lowest terms, references, and age to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Endorse envelopes "Musician."

WANTED, Cornet, for King's Theatre, Kilmarnock. Permanency if suitable. Lowest terms, references, and age, to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Endorse envelopes, "Musician."

WANTED, Solo Cornet for Scarborough Town Band. Terms, Shares. Steady Men. Others save stamp. J. BURRO, 6, Auboro-street, Scarborough.

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WANTED, Clarionet, First-class Player.
Write age, experience, reference, lowest terms.
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WANTED, Double Bass Player (Experienced, Reliable), for Permanency. Address, J. W. STEVENS, Musical Director, Alhambra Palace, Hull.

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WANTED, Trombone, to Open Nov. 14.
Apply,
stating terms, &c., to
P. THORNTON.

WANTED, Trombone (Good), used to Variety. Open Monday Week. Terms and refs., MAITLAND LACEY, Mus. Dir., E., Greenock. Will Duncan write.

WANTED, Trombone Player, Immediately.
Lowest terms and references. Apply, HENRI ZERBINI, Cambridge Theatre of Varieties, Commercial-st., E.

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Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited.

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Mr FRANK ALLEN,
Head Office,
Hippodrome, Coventry-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, 'Cello (Good), commence Monday, Hippo., Belfast. Terms, 30s. Address, Sunday over, V. C. WHITE, Hippo., Wakefield; after, Belfast.

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Latest References,
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Full particulars first letter,
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Thoroughly experienced in
Variety Business.
Permanency.
Apply, stating references, salary, and age, to
MANAGER, Palace Theatre, Bath.

WANTED, a Portable Harmonium Player, with own Instrument, to commence at Once. Long Engagement to Sober Man. Address, MANAGER] Circus, Holy Cross, County Waterford.

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WANTED, Drummer with Effects, Piccolo and Flute, Cornet. Must be used to Variety Business. Address, C. MELVIN, New Coliseum, Sheerness.

WANTED, Double Drummer (Smart), Nov. 14. Sober. Used to Variety. A.M.U. preferred. MILNE, Britannia Music Hall, Glasgow.

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WANTED, Known, Call for Full Band Rehearsal, Monday, Nov. 7, at 11 0 a.m.
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WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

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MUSICIANS' WANTS

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WANTED, Known, Edward Parker, Seven Years Musical Conductor (Pianist), Elephant and Castle Theatre, Disengaged Monday. Theatre or Music Hall, London only. First-class Library of Music. Address, York House, 13, Richmond-ter., Clapham-road.

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WANTED, as Second, First, or Leader Violin, Engagement. Good Experience. Any Business. LEADER, 13, Standard-st., New Kent-rd., S.E.

WANTED, by Violin, Engagement. Theatre, Variety, or other. Age Twenty-seven, Total Abstainer. HERBERT PHIPPS, 5, Hardman-street, Liverpool.

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WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, any Business. Wages or shares. Sober and Reliable. Can open any time. J. GRUB, 2, Bilton-ter., Bideford, Devon

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WANTED, by Second Clarionet, Engagement, Known Music Hall or Theatre. Town preferred. G. SPANTON, 8, Blanchard-road, London-fields, N.F.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Would join Good Military Band if Situation found. Abstainer. BASSOON, 73, Pendlebury-road, Swinton, near Manchester.

WANTED, by Double Bass (Experienced), Engagement. Any Business. TOM C. TROLLEY, Eynsford, Thicket-crescent, Sutton, Surrey.

WANTED, by Double Bass (late Principal with Moody-Manners A Co.) First-class Testimonials. COHNHOFF, 28, St. Paul's-rd., Kennington

WANTED, by Double Bass, an Engagement, Theatre, Music Hall, or Hippodrome, BASSO, 9, Mann-street, Hastings.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement, open 14th.
J. J. HUTCHISSON, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

WANTED, by Trombone and Bass E Flat (Reliable), Engagement. Can open Nov. 7. JOS. ASTLEY, P.O., Ballinamallard, County Fermanagh.

WANTED, by Trombone (First-class), Engagement, any Business. Strict attention to Business. Box 8,671, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Euphonium (thoroughly Experienced), Engagement. Can Open at Once. Address, CHARLES GRICE, 184, Waterloo-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Engagement, any business. J. HILTON, Saturday, Sanger's Circus, Redhill, Surrey; after, 24, Alpha-road, East Croydon.

WANTED, by Oboist, Steady and Reliable, Engagement. Just Finished Season. Good refs. FLOYD, 2, Elizabeth-street, Newton-heath, Manchester.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement. Write, 'CELLO, 25, Devonshire-terrace, Hastings.

WANTED, by 'Cellist Engagement. Address, A. MONTUSCHI, 39, Calthorpe-street, Grays-Inn-road, London, W.C.

WANTED, by 'Cello, Engagement in Theatre, Variety, or Café in London. References. Thoroughly experienced. 'CELLO, 654, Fulham-road, W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl, on 'Cello.
Mr CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Viola or Violin (First-class), Engagement. Any business, good references. ALFRED BEECH, 31, Bourne-street, Netherfield, Notts.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17), Engagements. Very Successful. July 4 to Oct. 2, Britannia Pier, Great Yarmouth. For terms and dates, address, MAUD GRUNDY, 18, Lawn-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, by Flautist (Steady and Reliable), Theatre Engagement, in or about London, Deputising or with Private Orchestra. 62, Devonport-road, W.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Young, Competent, Reliable. Any Business. Good refs. ROMERIL, 28, Argyle-road, West Ealing, London, W.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Just concluded Season in Theatre. Good references. A. SCHMITT, 14, Auboro-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Pianist and Violinist, Engagement in fortnight or month's time. Experienced. Orchestral work preferred. PIANIST, 10, St. Albans-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Solo Pianist, Engagement. Accompanist, Humorous Songs, Monologues, and Sketches at Piano. Offers invited. Life Abstainer. Box 8,647, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Pianist (Combine Violin or Viola, Experienced Theatrical, Variety, or Tour; Abstainer, Smart), Engagement. R.fs. At Liberty Nov. 14. MANYON, care of CODEN, 45, Macdonald-street, Motherwell.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement in Theatre or Music Hall used to Variety Business. Address, J. E. C., 24, Bayham-street, Camden-town, N.W.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement in every Business.
Block F, 134, Thorawl-street, Commercial-st., Aldgate, E.

WANTED, by Drums, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Late Herr Rausher's Hungarian Band. NEVILL, 19, Ernest-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and Effects, good experienced, Engagement immediately. Steady and Reliable. Write or wire, Box 8,668, care of "The Era" Office.

Bands and Soloists.

WANTED, by String, Military, Ladies, Brilliant Uniforms,
Concerts, Dinners, Dances, Restaurants, Pier Pavilions. Terms, Programmes, Press Notices, Testimonials,
ALGERNON CLARKE,
63, The Grove, Hammersmith, London.
Telephone, 34, Chiswick.

WANTED, by Herr Adolf Voorzanger's Cairo Orchestra, in London, Engagements. Address, 6A, Warwick-road, Maida-vale, London, W.

WANTED, Known, Major Kent's Famous Anglo-Saxon Band has returned to England. Disengaged. SECRETARY, 3, Adam-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
"49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON, KENT.

WANTED, at all Times, First-class Novelties, Refined Variety, Comedy, and Dramatic Sketches, to Run from Thirty to Sixty Minutes. Address as above. Many thanks for Numerous Telegrams of good wishes from Mr Wolsley Poole (Myriorama), T. Dorling, C. Melvin, Mons Slippere, Mr Dalton, and numerous other friends from Maidstone, Folkestone, Dover, and Sheerness. Up to time of writing, Good.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, and on. Equestrians,
Animal Acts, Acrobats, Gymnasts, &c.
Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, for Hancock's Circus, Plymouth, Nov. 21, 1904, and onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines; Dec. 19 and onwards, Male and Female Bareback Equestrians with or without own horses, as we have good reliable horses.

WANTED, for Cirque Pinder, France, Good Troupe of Arabs (ten to Twenty Performers), to Commence Feb. 19, 1905.
Address, PINDER, 14, Rue des 2 Gares, Paris.

WANTED, Two Knockabouts. Strong Man Act, Wire-walker, &c., for World's Fair, Portsmouth. 5, Denning-road, Hampstead, London.

WANTED, to Open, Monday next, Long Tour, Smart Young Knockabout Artist, used to Leaps, Vampires, &c. MERTON, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Good Tumblers, Specialities, Novelties, Musical Clowns.
To commence Dec. 10 or 17.
Address, Mr HENGLER, Manager, the Hippodrome, Sauchiehall-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Tumbler. Must be Comical, for Long Engagement.
Lowest terms and all particular tricks, to
THE DENSMORES,
Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, a Good Top Mount.
Apply, Box 8,643, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Young Girl that can Tumble, to Join Troupe.
Apply, stating tricks, to S. H. G., 24, Wilkinson-street, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED First-class Three-Bar Performer. State tricks, terms, age, height, and weight. Victor Stoll, of Berlin, please write.
EDWARD DILLON, 185, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Smart Youth, Tumble a little, age Fourteen to Sixteen. One used to Shoulder Work preferred. Good home, salary to an energetic youth.
J. BROWN, Post-office, Glasgow.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Smart Young Girl, with Good Knowledge of Trick Cycling, to Join Well-Known Troupe.
Apply, R. G. D., Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Lady Swimmers. Send Photos. Miss Silver Sinclair write.
Miss MINNIE JOHNSON, 91, Trafalgar-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Lady Swimmers, for the Continent. Good appearance essential. Write, stating tricks, enclose photo., and lowest terms to the CITRELLS, 86, Barkham-terrace, Lambeth-road.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS on Tour. Manager, Mr G. SCOTT.

WANTED, Known, the Renowned John Scott's Family, Liberty for Winter Season, with a Number of First-class Acts, and a Good Stud of Coloured Horses. Can Supply a Full Evening's Programme if Required. For terms, &c., 22, Berkley-place, Clifton, Bristol. P.S.—Cannot accept Weekly Engagements.

WANTED, Known, W. Tudor, Four Trick Ponies, Turpin Mare, Riding Dog, and Goat. At Liberty Nov. 21.
Big Success, Transfield's Hippodromes.
Address, 85, Balmoral-road, New Brompton.

WANTED, Known, S. Anderson, Barebacked Equestrian and Clown, finishes To-night Winter Gardens, Plymouth. At Liberty. Address, 6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Robert Davies at Liberty, for Home or Abroad, as Equestrian, with or without own Horse. Irvinstown, co. Fermanagh, Ireland.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Austin, Double and Single Talking and Tumbling Clowns and Agoustes, with good Comic Entrées, and First-class Foot Equilibrist. Finish To-night Lord George Sangers' Great Circus. At Liberty Nov. 14, for Two or Three Weeks. Dec. 24, Fossett's Grand Circus, Agricultural Hall, London. 23, Cleveland-terrace, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Little Bishop, Clown and Agouste, with Trick and Comic Entrées, now appearing with big success at Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth. At Liberty for December. Well, upon my word.

WANTED, by Alec Aubrey, Renowned Gymnast, Nov. 14, 21. Grand, Newcastle. Monday, Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 28, Mayeno Trio (Two Ladies, One Gent.), Gymnaste, Wire, Acrobats, Knockabout Clown. Up-to-Date Entrées. Also Pantomime. Three Specialities and Parts. MAYON, Sands, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Viner, Triple Bar Performers, in their great Original Comedy Act, "The Gymnastic Parson," at Liberty, Nov. 14 and 21. Address, BERT VINER, Opera House Hotel, St. Giles-street, Norwich. Agent Wanted.

WANTED, Nov. 14, on, by the Maros, Bar Comedians, after comfortable Tour with Lord George Sanger. Coms., 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, The Smalleys, Smart Triple Bar Act, Liberty Nov. 14. Wire, 11, Kennington-mansions, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Performers. Three Acts combined in one. Splendid Stage Set. Free Nov. 7 and 21.
Address, Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted. Special and Important to Proprietors. The Leopold Wonders require No Licences from any Authority. Have been trained as Infants, and now of Age and Masters of the Acrobatic Art. For terms, dates, &c., address, Oliver and Holmes, 1, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, Monday and 14th, by the Delamere Trio, Original Comedy Equilibrists. Wire, E., Wrexham; after To-day, 95, North-road, Preston.

WANTED, Nov. 14, Onward, Balzens and Pei-ho, Two Gentlemen Japanese Variety Wonders. Two Distinct Specialities. Suitable every class Entertainment, also Pantomime. This and next, Pavilion, Maidenhead.

WANTED, Nov. 14, on, by Dante and Emilon, Astounding Jumpers and Comedy Acrobats. Wire or write, 36, Graham-road, London, N.

WANTED, Nov. 21 (North), Joe Hastings, the famous Jumper, Orator, and Journalist. Hippo., Boston. Up-to-date Pictorials.

WANTED, Known, Swift Trio, Humorous Bicyclists, Vacant Monday next; also Nov. 14. Address, 30, Guildford-street, Everton, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Captain A. Gérard's African Lions and Tiger-Dogs not Vacant this year. Accept offers for next year. Write or wire, GERARD, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Engagements, for Sensational Water Pantomime, High Divers, Log Rollers, Water Walkers, &c. Capt. BEN WOODGER, care of "The Era," London.

WANTED, by Good Bearer, Catcher, and Pantomimist, Join Good Troupe.
Address, Box 8,637, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Situation as Ring-groom. Four Years' Experience with Circus Abroad. Age Eighteen. PEATRO, care of Crook, 31, Nelson-street, Greenock, Scotland.

WANTED, Known, J. Rutter, Stud Groom, late of Lord George and Lord John Sanger's, at Liberty for Tenting Season. Any Number of Smart, Sober Grooms found. RUTTER, 28, Tottenham-court-rd., W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance. Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

Barney Armstrong's Scotch Tour.
Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock;
also Sixteen Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour.

WANTED, Artists to send Full List of Bookings, terms, &c., Armstrong's Agency, Tivoli Palace, Glasgow.
Big Acts Required for Immediate Dates.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every Description. Immediate Dates for Suitable Numbers. Only High-Class Acts Represented.
J. Tysoe-Smith, 15A, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Engagement, Manchester."

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Big Specialities, Big Animal, Aerial and Acrobatic Acts, Novelties, Nov. 14 onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c., Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, All Lines, Balladists, Comedians, Stars, and Novelties, for Nov. 14, 28. Wire, Alexander's Agency, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Novelties of every Description,
Variety Artists and
All Kinds of Acts,
All Kinds of Acts,
Immediate Dates
Immediate Dates
Immediate Dates
and
Future Dates.
Future Dates.
Future Dates.

Give fullest particulars, absolute lowest terms.
Geo. Zalva's Agency,
Geo. Zalva's Agency,
19, Chapelfield-road,
19, Chapelfield-road,
Norwich.
Norwich.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Monday next and on, Three Nights a-week, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; Doubles doing Singles; also Coon Dancer and Speciality write. Hall and stage Small. State lowest terms and if Lithos. or Photos. OSWALD REED, 25, Southampton-street, Reading, Berks.

WANTED, Nov. 14, on, for Wales and West, Variety Artistes all Lines, Specialities.
T. B. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Artists new to Castleford, Nov. 7, onwards. Always Vacancies.
H. BRAHAM, G.P.O., Manchester.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Variety Artistes in every Branch, for Nov. 21, Dec. 19, 26, and on. Always an opening for Good, Funny Turns.
Address, C. ALGIE.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates.

Must be Refined, or useless.

Lithos, Terms, and full particulars, to
HENRY KEMBLE, General Manager.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON, Lessee and Manager.

WANTED, Artistes to send lowest terms and Vacant Dates.
Vacancies on all Dates.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Good Vaudeville Artistes, also Cinématograph, for Two Weeks. Huddersfield and Halifax, Nov. 14 and 21. Lowest terms and particulars in first letter to MANAGER, 3, Clare-street, Halifax.

WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Nov. 21, only Dates this Year. Freaks and Novelties write.
CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for now and on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, Nov. 14 and 21. RAYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, First-class Artistes all Lines, Nov. 14, 21, 28, on.
MARCUS BOYLE, 31, Hedon-road, Hull.

WANTED, Vaudeville Artistes of every Description. Representing the Best Houses, and the best Numbers Required. Only First-class Acts. Full for Minors. If appearing in London send time.
Richard Cass's Agency, 51, Kitto-road, New-cross. Telephone, 213, Deptford.

WANTED, Artistes, in All Lines, Nov. 14, onwards.
W. BIRCHALL, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Artistes, in All Lines, for Nov. 14, 21, and on. Lowest combination terms to HUGH DEMPSEY, 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes all Lines, Vacant Nov. 7 and onwards, to communicate with CAVILL and Co., 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone, 2,140 Royal.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines.
State lowest terms, Bookings, Lithos, &c.
Have a few Immediate Dates to offer to Turns personally known to me.
Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, Morecambe.
Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c.
Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe."

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, for Gals, near Leeds, May 6. Hippodrome Agency, 11, Kennington-mansions, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Known, that Harry Poole, having started a Business-Manager's Bureau, will be glad to receive List of Dates, Terms, and Full Particulars from Artistes in all Lines.
Laurel House, Laurel-road, Barnes, S.W.

WANTED, for Fit-up Tour, Experienced Artists in all Lines, must be able to do Turn, &c., and assist with Fit-up. Grumblers save Stamps. Terms (which must be low), age, height, refs., photos, Rehearse at once.
F. E. GREEN, Town Hall, Whitchurch, Salop.

WANTED, Artistes, Open Thursday, Nov. 10. Touring Smalls; also could entertain Partner with Two or Three Good Acts (Specialities preferred) to my Three Acts. LE WIST, Lock's Memorial Hall, Bedington, Northumberland.

WANTED, First-class Artistes only, in All Lines, Nov. 7, onwards. Full particulars, Cadle's Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Specialities, &c., for Eastbourne, Dec. 26, onward. Lockhart's Elephants communicate.
Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artistes, in All Lines, for Yarmouth, Nov. 14, onward. Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines. Dates waiting. New Dramatic Piece (London). Sundays, Middays, Always. Composers, Correspondents, Programmists. 7, Whitefriars, Fleet-street.

BOROUGH THEATRE OF VARIETIES, NORTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, ARTHUR JEFFERSON.
Booking Agent, Harry Burns.

WANTED, Artistes to Know that all communications and bill matter must be addressed to Harry Burns's Agency, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool. Telephone, 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

BRITANNIA MUSIC HALL, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Artistes all Lines, Nov. 21, onwards. Good Comedians and Comedy Acts write.
GEO. SAPHRINI, Manager.

Cork, and other Irish Towns.

WANTED, Nov. 14, onward, First-class Artistes of Every Description, must be Refined. Lowest terms, full particulars,
Chester and Co.,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to Burns's Agency only, London, Hartlepool, and Manchester.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Nov. 7, at 10 o'clock prompt.
Captain Woodward's Seals and Sea Lions, Sisters Volbecque, Forest Combination, Flo D'Orville, Rose Tilley, Gus Balsiger, Burns's Bioscope, F. Warden Reed, and J. W. Rickaby.

(Signed) H. BURNS, General Manager.

Grand Opening HIPPODROME, MACCLESFIELD, Monday, Nov. 7. Lessees, H. Bendon and J. Larder.

WANTED, Known, Call for Monday, Nov. 7, Chard's Dogs, Mill May, Esdale Bros., Grace Crompton, Fred Land, Pearce and Ward, Tontino, Will Ace. Rehearsal, one o'clock. Signed, Harry Bendon. Business Manager Wanted, must be good Leader, for Monday, 7th. Wire lowest, to BENDON, Empire, Rochdale.

WANTED, Wanted, Known, Barnard and Deetrich, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool, invite Star Artistes to Communicate.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL, CARNARVON

WANTED, for Opening, Saturday, Nov. 12, and onwards, Artistes and Novelties of every Description.
WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Liverpool, St. Helens, Warrington, and Ashton, Stars and Novelties, Nov. 14, onwards.
F. WILLMOT, Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, Nov. 7, onwards.
State lowest terms, bookings, &c.
Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076, Royal.
Please note.—Can only be seen by appointment.

NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH.

WANTED, for the above, Dec. 19, 26, and onwards, The Biggest Stars and Novelties obtainable; also Acts in All Lines for Present and Future Dates.
D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH.

WANTED, for the above, Dec. 19, 26, and onwards, the Biggest Stars, Sensational Novelties obtainable; also Artistes of every Description, for Present and Future Dates.
Apply, D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy Acts, Nov. 14, onwards; also Artistes in all Lines, Vacant Dec. 12, on. Send full list of dates, litho., terms, and full particulars to Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

WANTED, Singing and Speciality Turns for Opening night, Thursday, Nov. 10, and onward. GEORGE BAKER, Hippodrome, Shanklin, I.O.W.

Samuel's Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, for Reopening on Monday, Nov. 21, 1904, and Future Dates, Double Turns doing Singles, Vents, Conjurors, and Marionettes. Lowest to MANAGER. Open all the Year Round.

SYLVESTER'S EMPIRE, HULL.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Talent of Every Description, for Monday next, and onwards.
Address, all communications to J. SYLVESTER SAGE, Sole Lessee and Manager.

ACCRINGTON HIPPODROME.

WANTED, Star Acts and Smaller Turns for Nov. 14 and 21. Don't write if Booked in Blackburn. Accrington is Barred. Call, Monday, at 10 p.m.:—Achmed Ibrahim Troupe, Nicodemus, T. Gilbey, F. Pollard, Parr, Bill Baily, Billy Elliott, Comical Walker, Flo Hill, Two Wills, Mutograph.
Artistes must be New to Accrington.
Address, Paul Vaudy, Sole Agent, Hippodrome, Acrington, to Saturday, Nov. 12.

James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
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James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, First-class Comedy Acts, Immediately and for Future Dates.
Telegrams, 'Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1,636 Royal.

American "Rapid" Agency.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, the Greatest Acts in the World. Sensational, Comic, Spectacular.
Good Goods demand Good Salaries.
Blackpool, Brighton, Manchester, and Liverpool negotiated for.
American and Continental Specialities kindly note we are in Touch with all the Leading Houses.
Terms, Bookings, and Permanent Addresses to J. CARROLL, Century-buildings, London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Star Acts and Novelties, Suitable Stage or Ring, for Four Towns (North). Send List Bookings, Vacancies, terms, E. C. Jazon, Royal Oak Hotel, Brighouse, till Tuesday; then, T. R., Darwen.

WANTED, Speciality Acts, &c., Top and Bottom, for Nov. 14. Especially those with Lithos Wire at once, LEO FEITZ, Grand, Stockton.

WANTED, First-class Acts, Every Description. Big Novelties. Immediate Dates. Star Turn for Dec. 26 (Seaside). Will pay good price for anything that can draw. Money no object.
State bookings, lowest terms, full particulars, Yates's Agency, 13, Mary-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, Five Speciality Acts, of Novel Description, to Complete Whit Company, for Northampton.
Address, M'ASKELL, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Speciality Acts for Dec. 26 and Jan. 9 and 16. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

HIPPODROMES, COVENTRY, WAKEFIELD, and IPSWICH.

WANTED, Sensational Tops, Novelties, and Big Stars for above, Mark letters "Syndicate." Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal.

WANTED, Dec. 26 (Six Nights and Matinée), a really Good Top of Bill, also First-class Variety and Speciality Turn. Good Children Show, and anything attractive. Lowest terms, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Specialities, all Lines, Lady Instrumentalists, Vocalists, Dancers, Clever Juveniles, Small Family Band. Full particulars and photos. for tour, lowest terms,
WILSON, 19, Tillotson-street, Liverpool.

QUEEN'S PALACE, RHYL.

WANTED, Pier or Troupe and Variety Artistes all Lines for Next Summer Season. Lowest terms. No fancy prices.
Send open dates to P. J. ASHFIELD, Manager.

WANTED, Refined Parties, à la Japs, Dandies, &c. State Vacancies and lowest certainties for Week. G. HAYNS, Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Good Acrobatic Comedy Cyclist. Must be Good. Tom Oval wire
Letters, HUDSON, 42, Eldon-road, Walthamstow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

THE NEW COLISEUM,
SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLING.
General Manager, CHAS. MELVIN.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Nov. 28,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26,
onwards,
Big Star
Novelties
and
Attractions
of all
Descriptions.
No Act too large,
No Salary too high
for
numbers
with
drawing
power.
Comedy Sketch Companies,
Big Animal Acts,
Clever Acrobats,
Trapeze Artistes,
Gymnasts,
Eccentrics and Comedians,
Serios, Illusionists.
In fact, Specialities of all kinds
can have Dates from Nov. 28, onwards.

A Request.
Will the Artistes engaged for the Opening, Nov. 28,
kindly send at once
Sample Lithos., Blocks, Bill Matter, &c.

Many thanks for Prompt Replies
from Artistes known to me. Will reply in due course.
Address all communications to
CHARLES MELVIN.
Coliseum Sheerness.

SCARBOROUGH.—HIPPODROME.
WANTED, Comic Items, Small Sketches, Turns with Two Acts, Nov. 14, on. Rehearse 7th for Hanco, M. Vaughan, Robb Gilmore, Martin Byam, Daisy Belfrey, Fred Casburn, Foto, Crazed Curate, Clyo, and Rochelle, &c. Lessee and Manager, QUINTON GIBSON.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Novelties for January, on. Rehearsal Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Seltina Troupe, Sid Bandon, Brothers Levetti, Little Dando, Robert Grieve, Electrograph, Clarke and Argyle, and Hill, Barry, and Lang. Letters, S. L. LEE.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.
WANTED, to Open Nov. 28, and onwards, First-class Novelties in All Lines. Address, with owest terms, Coliseum, Leeds.

WANTED, for Variety Tour, Commencing Nov. 14, High-class Novelties of every Description. Address,
Box 8,680, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, at once, Smart Youth for Cycle Troupe. Must be good Tumbler; also Young Lady to join. Address, Box 8,658, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Pair of Sisters, doing Single. Must be cheap (South); also Artistes all Lines. Leslie's Agency, Frankfort-buildings, Plymouth.

WANTED, a Good Knockabout Comedian, one that can Patter, for Sketch.
Reply, GREGSONS, Palace, Bordesley.

WANTED, Young Gent. Vocalist and Conjuror or Novelty (Two Disguised Acts). Assist Light Baggage. L., 44, Russell-st., Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, on Sharing Terms, Modern Flying Lady Show,
or would Purchase complete Fit up.
Box 8,673, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, First-class Operators, for Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscopes. Must be Experienced. Apply, P., Portsmouth, with full particulars.

WANTED, for Animated Picture Tour, Baritone Vocalist, able to Lecture if required. MANAGER, Pictures, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, Nov 7, by Miss Olive Vane, Clever Male Impersonator. Wire, Hippodrome, Carlisle; or, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, by Miss Flo Merry, Character Vocalist, Nov. 7, 14. Thanks for offers. Pantomime settled. Address, Empire, Bridgwater.

WANTED, Engagement, Francis Gramaldie, Character Comedian, Concluded Twelve Weeks' Tour with W. H. Grant, Ireland. Open for Panto, Comedy Speciality. 335, Hyde-road, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Flo Atkins, the World's Champion English Concertinist and Expert Mandolinist, at Borough Theatre of Varieties, North Shields, Nov. 7. Vacant Nov. 14. Address, 40, Chadwick-street, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Florrie Claribell, Tyrolean Songstress, Ballad Vocalist, and Dancer, Vacant Monday. Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Monday Next, by the Morrison Sisters, Comediennes and Dancers. Wire quick, 153, London-street, Glasgow. Liberty Panto, Second Boy and Girl.

WANTED, by Edith Sylvesto, Novel Lady Conto tionist, Monday, Nov. 7, 14, and 28. Wire, Parthenon; or, 6, Canterbury-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Baby Lloyd, Vocal Wonder, and Nellie Vaun, Serio and Dancer, Liberty Nov. 14, Dec. 12. Monday, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Cambo, the Musical Monkey, Big Drawing Act, Novelty. Also Ventriloquial Show.
Two Separate and Distinct Turns.
Wire, 59, Urquhart-road, Aberdeen. Any Distance.

WANTED, by Bock Pylades New Act (Great). Monday Next.
Wire, Gaiety, Oldham.

WANTED, by Frank Whiteley, Good Single Turn, Monday next, Nov. 7 and 28. Please Wire, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, South Wales.

WANTED, Monday Next, on, by Arthur Moss, Baritone Vocalist. Managers wanting First-class Turn, wire, 144, Bloxwich-road, Walsall. Agent, C. B. Cochran.

WANTED, Nov 7 and 14, for Nelson Hardy, Stars' Reunion, Walking Figures, the late Dan Leno, R. G. Knowles, Eugene Stratton, and G. H. Chirgwin. Grand Theatre. Wire at once, G. T., Bolton.

WANTED, Monday next and Nov. 28, Geo. Martinengo, Actor, Baritone, and Character Solo 'Cellist, in his Musical Scena. Wire, Regent, Salford.

WANTED, by Fred Alberto, Comedian and Dancer, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 5, 12. Tremendous hit, and Re-engaged for next week, PAVILION, MAIDENHEAD. Managers wanting a Clean, Funny, and Refined Turn and a Sure Success, address Pavilion, Maidenhead.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Woodward, Character Comedian and Actor-Vocalist, liberty Nov. 14, Dec. 19 and 26. Offers, Westminster, Liverpool.

WANTED, Parlato, 'Polyglot Entertainer," now Exposing nightly Handcuff and Box Tricks. Very interesting and a big draw everywhere Also Chapeaugraphy Up-to-Date and the "Mystic Kettle." Eight photo frames carried. For terms, Open Dates, &c., address, PARLATO, 1, Brinkburn-road, Scarborough, Yorks.

WANTED, Known, Professor Wingard, Specially Engaged, Opera House, Cork, for Grand Matinée last Saturday. Wingard, Southsea.

WANTED, Engagement, by Experienced Singles and Double. Coon, Comedy &c.
CAIRO, 10, St. Aubin's-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED.—Picitt, the Muscular Master of Manacles, doing all that Handcuff Kings accomplish, without Faked Fetters, Trick Boxes, Confederates, or Conjurors' Methods. Searched from head to feet. Big Sensational Act a Puzzle to the Police and Problem to Physicians. Assisted by a Pretty Girl in Pretty Picture Frocks. Vacant, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5. This Week, Hippodrome, Yarmouth; Nov. 7, Hippodrome, Lowestoft; Nov. 14, Hippodrome, Porth. Cook's Circus, Edinburgh; Hippodrome, Carlisle, &c, to follow.

WANTED, Monday, by Snowdon and Conway (Will and Winnie), Comedy Duettists, also Nov. 14 and 21. Big success, People's Palace.
Wire, 29, Hale-street, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Monday Next, Hyam Good, Funniest Nigger alive; and Rosa Charles, Comedienne and Buck Dancer. Wire, Alhambra, Sandgate.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Nov. 28 and Dec. 5, Ryder Davis, Comedian; Eva Ward, Comedienne. Finish to-night Grand, Clapham. Letters, Temple, Hounslow.

WANTED, Nov. 21, onward, St. Albans and Williams, England's Premier Vocal Duettists, in bright, pleasing Harmony. 179, Granton-rd., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Stanle Comedy Sketch Artists, at Liberty Nov. 21 and Panto. This, T. R., Wednesbury; next, T. R., Ilkeston.

WANTED, Known, Huntley and Palmer, Eccentric Comedians, Laughable Sketch, "Farmer Giles in Trouble," introducing Wonderful Performing Donkey, Bill Bailey, only Wrestling Donkey in England. 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool. Good Agent Required.

WANTED, by Tell and Tell, Comedians and Acrobats, Nov. 14, 21, and 28.
Address, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Grapho and Jackson Liberty Monday; also 14th. Wire, Palace, Northampton; after Saturday, the Café, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Monday Next, also Nov. 14, by Sterling and Cashen, American Speciality Artistes, Dancers, &c, Double and Single. Wire, 7, Great John-street, Manchester.

WANTED, by Halsey and Bowers, Eccentric Comedians, Monday next, through misunderstanding. Wire, 129, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Nov 14 and 21, by Wood and West, the American Comedy Couple. Funny Patter, Acrobatic Dancing, Hand and Head Balancing, Funny Falls. A Combination of Talent and Fun.
Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Dec. 5, by Dale and D'Argan. Leigh Chronicle, Oct. 21, says:—And Dale and D'Argan in a rather curious and novel act entitled, "Le Café Magique," in which the two performers prove clever conjurors, contortionists, and acrobats.
People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED. Nov. 21 and 28, by the Musical Japs (Tokio Trio), Grand Novelty Act.
Address, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Known, Edgar Forrest's Comedy Company. Always a success. Big Draw. First Vacancy, Nov. 21, 28, and Dec. 5. Wire or write, Monday, Empress, East Hartlepool; Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

WANTED, by Driscoll and Beattie Sketch Company, Nov. 14 Unexpectedly Disengaged. This, Paragon; next, Canterbury, S.E.

WANTED, some November and December Dates, also New Year's Week. Share or Salary. Mr HARRY LISTON, the Royal Entertainer, Egyptian H., W.

WANTED, Known, Caban's Sixteen Performing Ponies, Donkeys, and Dogs, including Bosie, the Smallest Pony in the World, acknowledged to be the Greatest Performing Ponies ever seen, at Liberty Dec. 5. Write or wire, CABAN, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos Vacant Nov. 7.
Wire, 6, Ashbrooke-road, Upper Holloway, London.

WANTED, Nov. 21 only, through Change of Management, by Mdlle. Roza's Great Canine Hippodrome. Sure Draw. Address, Tivoli, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Mdlle. Roza's Canine Hippo. Nov. 21, North or Midlands, through Change of Management. Top Liner. Sure Draw. Address, Tivoli, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Magic Kettle, Water Boiled on Block of Ice, also Marvellous Miltons' Latest Illusions, Vacant for Pantomime, &c. Lady, Prin. Girl. Sole Agent, Sylvester, 271, Clapham-road, London.

WANTED Engagement by Cinématograph Operator, with Machine (Electric or Lime). Terms, Box 8 682, care of "The Era"

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Dates for Bioscope Pictures; also Troupe of Dogs. The Dog Spot in his Daring High Leap a sure draw. LE CLAIR, Public Hall, Lowestoft

WANTED, Engagements for Imperial "Electrograph," steady Machine, Good Pictures, November, onwards. GRANT, 369, Eglinton-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Bioscope Open for Engagements, Up-to-date Comic Trick Films; also Marionettes 101A, Penwith-road, Earlsfield.

WANTED, Complete Cinématograph Entertainment would join other Show Touring School-rooms and Smalls in Wales. Terms, Shares. Box 8,681, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Operator, With or Without Machine, at Liberty, Nov 7.
Address, 15, Bank-street, Wakefield.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire,
on Tour or otherwise,
anywhere in the United Kingdom.
For particulars apply to
F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

Chiappa and Sons, Limited, of 6, Little Bath-street, Clerkenwell, London, and 17, Milton-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

Sole Representatives of Messrs Gavioli and Cie, of Paris.

WANTED, all Showmen to Know that every kind of repairs at reasonable prices and best workmanship, guaranteed to give satisfaction, are now undertaken at both the above addresses. Every description of Organ Playing by Cardboard Music sold at reduced prices, and all kinds of Cardboard Music supplied at once. A large stock of Second-Hand Organs, all newly done-up, with purchaser's own tunes, for Sale from £15; also large size Organs with Drums, thoroughly renovated, from £60.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities.
SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON,
66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds,
Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

Auctioneers.
WANTED, Known, Great Value Offered in Second-hand Silver Watches.
Auctioneers only supplied.
Write to-day for particulars,
C. G. CLACHER, 22, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Handsellers to know Simons is the Man for
Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery.
Send £5 for Special Parcel.

117 Houndsditch, London.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others to Know.
Simons is the Cheapest Place for
Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, and Cheap Jewellery.
Best-class French Paste Stocked for the Profession.
117, Houndsditch.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermillionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c.
Write for price list or call,
Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Bioscopes. First-class Professional Bioscope Projectors. Latest Pattern. Projectors, with Lense (Large Diameter) and 2·12 Spools, price £9. Particulars from maker, THOMASSIN, Engineer, Streatham. Bioscopes, Resistances, Arc Lamps, Jets, &c., made or repaired. Finest workmanship. Lowest prices.

WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, &c., Requiring First-class Christmas and New Year.
P. Collins, Limited,
have Positions to Let for First-class Cinématograph Show or Parading Show, Side Shows, Novelties, Stalls, Coker Nut Sheets, Shooting Galleries, &c., on the
Wolverhampton Market Place,
Christmas and New Year.
Three Grand Positions in
Birmingham,
Christmas and New Year.
We have also Grounds to Let from the Present Date and up to Christmas at the
Black Country Wakes,
West Bromwich,
Great Bridge,
Tipton,
Dudley, &c.
For Dates, price, and particulars, apply,
P. COLLINS, LIMITED,
Gondola Works,
Walsall.
Telephone, 80 Walsall.
Telegraphic Address, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED.—Spaces to Let for Switchback, Shows, Stalls, &c., of all kinds. Open for all. Best position in City. Redfield, Lawrance-hill, Bristol, for two weeks before Christmas and two weeks after.
GINNETT'S Fair Ground,
St. Thomas-lane, Bedminster, Bristol.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Stalls and Side Shows now Open during November. SIMONDS, Great World's Fair, Drill Hall, Church-street, Brighton. Apply as above.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Stalls of all kinds and Side Shows. Symonds' Great World's Fair, Portsmouth, during the Christmas, 1904. Apply direct to W. SYMONDS, Drill Hall, Church-street, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Ground to Let at Iona-street and at New Ground, Abbeyhill, Edinburgh, for Winter Season from now until end of January; then Spring Fairs. Machines, Throwing Games. Both Good Grounds. Apply, STOTT, Manager, Iona-street, Edinburgh. Artistes in all Lines Wanted for Open Carnival, Iona-street, Edinburgh, commencing Dec. 5, and onwards.

WANTED —Nixon and Holt's Waxworks has Small Room, Rent or Sharer, suitable Tatooist, Phrenologist, Wireworker. Address, as above.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL, CARNARVON.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Side Shows of every Description for Opening Saturday, Nov. 12. Apply, WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

The North Wales Trades and Industrial Exhibition Co. Exhibition at Colwyn Bay, Nov. 19 to 26.
WANTED, Known, Still to Let, a Few Prominent Spaces. Novelties preferred.
Wynnstay-chambers, Colwyn Bay.

WANTED, Space in Exhibition, or Christmas Carnival, for Large Distorting Mirrors. Address, Prof. KIRKLEY, 23, Crescent-street, Newtown, Mont.

WANTED, Novelties for Shop Business, Best Position in Dundee Large Shop. Jersey Lily write. Shares or Salary, or will Let Shop to Auctioneer. Wire for Monday, HARGRAVES, 79, Overgate, Dundee.

WANTED, Novelties, Fat Freaks, &c, Nov. 7, onwards, share or salary, for Nixon and Holt's Waxworks, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

WANTED, Novelties, Nov. 7, Onward, Ground Booth, Stratford. Share or Salary. Reply, Prof. E. SIMS, 14, Epirus-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, a First-class Living Novelty to open Christmas Week for Four Weeks. STEWART, 164, High-street, Edinburgh. Aberdeen to follow.

WANTED, Novelties, Attractions. Month Engagement certain now and Onwards. Open Monday. PHILLIPS 7, Dunraven-street, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Side Show Novelties, for Best Shop in Leeds. Ashmores, Second-sight. Five Weeks. James's Waxwork, Kirkgate, Leeds.

WANTED, for World's Fair, Side Shows and Novelties; also Space to Let. OWEN BAGAN, Proprietor, 66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Present and Future Dates, Freaks and Quick-showing Novelties with Good Flash. Shares or Salary. Great success this week of Leo, Strong Man, and Segiel, Champion Wrestler. Fares advanced to those known. MAXFIELD, 9, Mary-st., Dublin

WANTED, Good Freak or Novelty, to open Monday. Must have good flash.
COLLENA, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, suitable for Waxworks Exhibition, to open Monday and future dates Here at present: Carl Collena and Miss Zona Bell, Rifle Expert and Lady Snake Charmer. Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-pl., Belfast.

WANTED, Lady Palmist, Scientific, for South Wales.
Something Entirely New. Great Success.
Address, Box 8,641, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Gentleman Palmist, on Shares, the Best Position in Dublin.
Samuel's Exhibition Palace, 6, Henry-street, Dublin.

WANTED, a Good Comedian; also a Sentimental or Descriptive Singer, to Travel with Auction Mart. Must be refined, sober, and steady, and make themselves generally useful during the day. Long Engagement to Suitable Men. ROWLEY, Auction Mart, Ashley-road, Upper Parkeston, near Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, that the next Meeting of the
British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union will be held at the
Coffee Tavern, Rotherham,
on Tuesday next, Nov. 8,
at 2·30 p.m.,
when a good muster of Members is requested.
(Signed) T. HURST
Secretary.

WANTED, Something Good (not Anything), to follow "Lucy Moore, the Moneytaker." Wire, for Monday, MITCHELL, Exhibition, High-st., Sunderland.

WANTED, Competent Floorsman, Good Salary and Commission Offered to Reliable Man. H. KING and Co., 32, Ellingfort-rd., Hackney, London.

WANTED, Immediately, Auctioneer (Commission), Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, and usual Lines. Steady. LILLIAN, 127, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Man with Bear, to Travel
Apply, IAN MACLAREN,
Opera House, Falkirk, Nov. 7, 8, 9.

WANTED, Petrified Mummy, Two-Headed Giant, or anything of a like kind suitable for a Side Show. Would like to hear from maker of same. EXHIBITION PROPRIETOR. Post-office, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Known, the Flying Lady Illusion, Vacant Monday for Exhibitions or Large Shops. DARRELL, Hannah-street, Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, Dates Collena, Premier Rifle Shot; Zona Bell, Coloured Lady Snake Charmer; Madame St. Claire, Female Gaol Breaker. 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, Lucy Moore, Coloured Giantess, aged Twenty-one Years, weight, 40½st. Absolutely the greatest attraction in the north. Concludes one month, record business, with Mitchell, the Museum, High-street, Sunderland, and having made further arrangements with Professor Mitchell has no Vacancies this year. Apply, P.-o., Gateshead.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Ashmores, Marvellous Exponents of Second-sight, and Kaffir Chief. Five weeks, James's Waxwork, Kirkgate, Leeds.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete
COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, AND WAKES
NOVEMBER, 1904.

ENGLAND.

Nov. 5.	Beverley	Nov. 12.	Glemsford
Nov. 5.	Cartmel-in-Furness	Nov. 12.	Glapwell
		Nov. 12.	Hucknall
Nov. 5.	Clapstone	Nov. 12.	Keswick
Nov. 5.	Halifax	Nov. 12.	Kingston-on-Thames
Nov. 5.	Heckmondwike		
Nov. 5.	Mansfield Woodhouse	Nov. 12.	Maryport
		Nov. 12.	Stamfordham
Nov. 5.	Rotherham	Nov. 14.	Brampton
Nov. 5.	Rowaley	Nov. 14.	Egremont (Cumb.)
Nov. 5.	Scarcliffe	Nov. 14.	Ripon
Nov. 5.	Skegby	Nov. 15.	Warkworth
Nov. 5.	Portland	Nov. 16.	Darlington
Nov. 7.	Kirby Stephen	Nov. 16.	St. John's Chapel
Nov. 8.	Alford	Nov. 17.	Andover
Nov. 8.	Biggleswade	Nov. 17.	Ulverstone
Nov. 8.	Guisboro'	Nov. 17.	Whitehaven
Nov. 8.	Leeds	Nov. 18.	Horsham
Nov. 8.	Penstone	Nov. 18.	Yeovil
Nov. 8.	Romsey	Nov. 19.	Malton
Nov. 9.	Biddesden	Nov. 19.	Rugby
Nov. 9.	Chesham	Nov. 19.	York
Nov. 9.	Portsmouth	Nov. 21.	Pickering
Nov. 9.	Thornaby	Nov. 22.	Dover
Nov. 10.	Alston	Nov. 22.	Fakenham
Nov. 10.	Farnham	Nov. 22.	Guildford
Nov. 10.	Loughborough	Nov. 22.	Haltwhistle
Nov. 10.	Queen's-road (Manchester)	Nov. 22.	Martin Town
		Nov. 23.	Crowle
Nov. 10.	Wetherby	Nov. 23	Knaresborough
Nov. 11.	Askam-in-Furness	Nov. 23.	Louth
Nov. 11.	Bulwell	Nov. 23	Newark
Nov. 11.	Bishop Auckland	Nov. 23.	Shaftesbury
Nov. 11.	Brockley	Nov. 23.	Stockton-on-Tees
Nov. 11.	Cambourne	Nov. 23.	Whitby
Nov. 11.	Durham	Nov. 26.	Frome
Nov. 11.	Easingwold	Nov. 26.	Hartlepool
Nov. 11.	Kendal-in-Furness	Nov. 29.	Warrington
Nov. 11.	Penrith	Nov. 30.	Ilminster
Nov. 11.	Wakefield	Nov. 30.	Ludford
Nov. 12.	Cockermouth	Nov. 30.	Milborne
Nov. 12.	Epping	Nov. 30.	St. Ives

SCOTLAND.

Nov. 12.	Paisley	Nov. 19	Inverness
Nov. 15.	Dumbarton	Nov. 22.	Langholme
Nov. 16.	Govan		

WALES.

Nov. 5.	Brynmawr	Nov. 11.	Aberdare
Nov. 5.	Llangefelooh	Nov. 11.	Penmorfa
Nov. 5.	Lydney	Nov. 14.	Neath
Nov. 7.	Penygroes	Nov. 15.	Llandovery

WANTED, Engagements or Tour for Up-to-Date Punch and Judy, including Dog Toby, with Drum and Piper. Terms moderate. Prof. J. GREEN and SON, Belmont-avenue, Blackpool.

Latest Thing in Advertising.
WANTED, Known, Corella, Society Palmist, Open to Arrange with Hotel or any Large Firm. Best references. Now in Town for Interviews.
Address, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Milton's Up-to-Date Marionettes are at Liberty for Christmas. Address, ARTHUR MILTON, the Marionette King, P.O., Newtown.

BLACKPOOL.
WANTED, Known, to be Sold, by Auction, on Thursday, Nov. 10, at 95, 96, South-beach, at 2·30 p.m. (if not previously Sold by Private Treaty—and no reasonable offer will be refused), the whole of the Contents of a Waxwork Exhibition, consisting of about 116 Figures Grouped in Tableaux, together with the Wardrobes and Complete Equipments, all in First-class Order. Catalogues may be obtained from the Auctioneer,
JOHN TAYLOR,
87, Talbot-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, to Sell, a Complete Waxwork Exhibition, consisting of Fifty-one Figures, and divided into Nine Tableaux. Directly imported from the famous Musee Grevin, Paris, for exhibition at Earl's-court, where it is now on view. Some of the tableaux may be separated. All communications, by letter, to SOHO, care of STRAKER and Co, 190, Edgware-road, W.

WANTED, to Sell, a Show all Complete, £50. Organ, Front Stage Truck, Shuttered Booth, 30ft. by 36ft Blue Tilt, and Lamps. Can be seen by Appointment at Belfast. Organ Worth Money.
Apply to A. HENDERSON,
Electric Show Ground, Falkirk

WANTED, Purchaser for Unique Exhibition and Museum now on View at Pleasure Resort. Includes Set of Distorting Mirrors. Price £150, carriage paid. Printed Catalogue free. Take well anywhere.
BARON, 110A, King-street, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Love-letter, Husbands, Babies, Black List, Marriage and Liars' Licences, &c. MEURICE, 20, Bidborough-st., W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Twenty-Four Various High-class Exhibition Automatic Machines and Models, Landscape Rifle Gallery, Paterson's Registering Target, Winchester and Martini Rifles, Concert Grand Phonos., American Weighing Machine, cost £35; Orchestrian, Regina, Self-changing, Cost £72; Drapery, Shields, Flags, Good Signs, &c., £100. Will be Fitted Up and good Shop found, London, to pay £10 per Week. Address, B., 295, Upper-street, London, N.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Slot Machines. Eye, Hair, Husband, Wife. Cards, 5s. 1,000. Love Letters, 9s. 5, Denning-rd., Hampstead.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, &c., of all Kinds. Best and Cheapest in the Trade. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-rd, West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, Penny Slot Machines. Genuine Bargains, Large Stock Half price. Weighing, Delivery, Electric Shock, Models, &c. MASON, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, to Sell, Road Living Waggon, Clean and in Good Condition, Cheap Seen at White Swan-yard, Derby. C. WALDRON.

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HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.

ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.

Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
London Representative, Mr STUART CONOVER.

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New York City, U.S.A.
ALBERT J. BORIE, General Manager.

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American Artistes new in England are requested to send their Cards.

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EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
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EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
R. A. Roberts, Bros. Obo, Three Sisters Sprightley, Ambrose Thorne, Haytors, The Densmores, Bros. Webb, Griff, Harry Hayton, Harry Bickley, Jan Rudenyi.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Alec Hurley, Annie Casey, Charles Chard, Smythson Comedy Co., Florence Esdaile, Parros Bros., Phil Herman, Alexander, Calile and Walker, Three Nevaros, Edie King, George Newburn, Hagedorn's Fairy Grotto.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Prinz's Lions, James Kurry, the Brontes Bros. De Wynne, J. H. Milburn, Swan and Bambard, Will English, Doody and Wright, Margaret Ashton, Coloured Meisters, Gower's Electric Show.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Chung Ling Soo, Charles Cardow, Johnny Gilmore, the Alaskas, Helen Martin, Gallagher and Hild, Bioscope, the Anartos, Bijou Russell, Stewart and Morgan, the Kellinos.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Lil Hawthorne, Alexander and Hughes, Ray Wallace, James' Strolling Players, Harry Anderson, Bros. Edgar, Sisters Geretti, Paul Mill, Winnie Derson.

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Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
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EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
R. G. Knowles, Verno and Voyce, Young American Quintette, George Brooks, Rezene and Robini, Florador Quartette, Marie Reeve, the Ashers, Lizzie Daniels.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Vasco, Boyd and Glifain, Mabel Thorne, Fiske and M'Donough, Les Sprays, Alexandre and Bertie, Phyllis Yorke, St. James's Quintette, Three Gregsons, the Cavallinis.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Artistes holding Engagements with this Company at the Empire Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are requested to note that, in accordance with Rule 6 in their Contracts, they undertake not to appear at any Place of Entertainment within Ten Miles of that City. Any Artistes infringing this rule will do so at the risk of having their Contract for the whole of the Tour cancelled.

Carefully note that Byker and Gateshead are within One Mile of the Newcastle Empire.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Albert Chevalier, Vesper, Pia Carozzi, Iris Sisters, Selma Braatz, Lilian Lowe, Albert Le Fre, Sisters St. Julian, Lukushima Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Charles R. Sweet, Ford and Hanson, Nellie Wallace, Charles Stevens, Juan and M'Que, Aurora Troupe, Cass'e Walmer, Tribune Trio, Max Welson Troupe, Nello, Bernar's Fantoches, Fred Maxwell and Co.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Resident Director, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Trchernoff's Dogs, Flo Burris, Johnny Dwyer, Tom Leamore, Marba and Verity, Four Schultzenlieserl'n, Lieut. Travis, Abel and Welsh, Lily Burnand, Eight of Hearts, Minnie Cunningham, M'Phee and Hill.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for
T. E. Dunville, Margaret Radcliffe, Ted Cowan, Bros. Redmond, Marion Scott, De Koch Bros., Wedburns, Tourbillon Troupe, Harry Dent, Bard and O'Brien, Ginnett's "Remounts."

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Vesta Tilley, Victoria Monks, Harry Champion, Two Bostons, Morton Trio, the Labakans, Resuas Trio, L. B. Athol, Little Nelusco, Kitty Bell.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
George Gray and Co., in "Fighting Parson;" Wilkie Bard, Carl Hertz, The Barowsky Trio, The Passparte, Sisters Trentanovi, Martine and Son, Nellie Stratton,

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Joe Elvin and Co., in "Over the Sticks;" Millie Hylton, Trapnell Family, Winter and Banks, Werner and Reider, Les Burnellys, Post Mason, Harry Lawson, Victor Travers, Jennie Belmore.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
List's Bears, Mason and Keeler, Alice Maydue, Sisters Devona, The Lumars, Phillips and Terry, the Howards, Chas. Gardiner, Dome, Nellie Coleman.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Ludwig Amann, Bros. Egbert Noiset Troupe, Eros. Horne, Three Pantzer Bros., Laila Selbini, Brett and Orford, Four Olympians, Bob Hutt, Ella Retford.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Seeth's Lions, Tom Costello, Wal Pink and Co., Athis and Collins, Arthur Rigby, the Wheelers, Two Bees, Frank Maura, Jessie Albini.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
George Lashwood, Mark Sheridan, Ida Brophy, The Lannons, Ethel Dunford, May Milburn, Fred Dunstone, Three Georgis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
The Hoopers, Beatrice Willey, Austin and Cowan, Baker and Balfe, Leo Stormont, Espinosa and Nellson, Two Romers, Mr and Mrs Lucas.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Chromo-Phone, Gilbert Rogers, Daisy Dormer, Maxwell and Francis, Sybil St. Elmo, Bros. Teviotdale, Griffiths Bros., Hal Forde, &c.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for
A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out;" Dutch Daly, the Manings, Goggin and Davis, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Hill and Whitaker, Four Milons, Bioscope, Zarmo, Mabel Hind.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr Oswald Stoll, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr Frank Allen, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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MY QUEEN DIVINE.
A SMILE FROM THE GIRL I LOVE.
WILLIE, YOU HAVE CAUGHT MY EYE.
LOOK OUT FOR HER.
SHE'S A VERY DEAR FRIEND OF MINE.
THERE'S ALWAYS ONE.
I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU TOOK ME IN.
THE WAITER LAUGHED.
THEN THE CORONER SAID "OH!"
I FEEL SO SLEEPY.
QUEER LITTLE OSTRICH.
M'CORMICK.
MY GOLDEN BELLE.
DOWN IN SOMALILAND.
MY WHITEWASH MAN.
COME, BE MY HONEY.
IT'S LOVELY TO LOVE A LOVELY GIRL.
FOLLOW THE CROWD ON A SUNDAY.
THAT'S WHAT THE ROSES WILL TELL YOU.
YOU ARE THE BEST LITTLE GIRL IN THIS GREAT BIG WORLD.
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ONLY OF YOU.
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OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·30 o'clock.
George Robey, Harry Lauder, Harry Tate, Harry Randall, Queenie Leighton, Ernest Shand, M'Naughtons, Alice Lloyd, The Poluskis, Millie Lindon, Bella and Bijou, Dan Crawley, Eugene Family, Hamilton Hill, The Three Laurels, Carrie Laurie, Sisters Govell, Rosie Lloyd, Oswald Sisters, Nat Travers.
Manager, Albert Gilmer.

THE TIVOLI,

STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, George Robey, Harry Lauder, Harry Randall, Jessica Grace, The M'Naughtons, Jake Friedman, Tom Foy and Co., Dorothy Clark, The Herald Comedy Four, Myra Stansfield, The Poluskis, Doctor Jules Angelo, Gus Elen, George Mozart, Bella and Bijou, Maud Esmond.
Joint Acting-Managers { James Howell. Arthur Yates.

THE CANTERBURY,

WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
Harry Lauder, "The Favourite Scotch;" Edward Cranston and Co., in Irish Racing Sketch, "Terry; or, True to his Trust;" Ernest Shand, Gus Elen, Millie Lindon, Norman French, Datas, Sable Fern, Howe and Ardie, Gladys Mavius, the Selbinis, Rosie Archer, the Rales; Alice York and Co., in "A Yacht for Sale;" Ruffle's Bioscope.
The Fifty-second Grand Anniversary will be celebrated on Friday, Nov. 25 next.
Manager, Fred Miller.

PARAGON,

MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
"Mumming Birds," by Fred Karno's Company; Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, Geo. Robey, Will Evans, Arthur Lennard, Driscoll and Beattie, G. H. Elliott, Zanfretta and Napio, Lancashire Lads, Tom Foy and Co., Two D.'s, R. H. Douglas, Sisters Govell, Raffin's Monkeys, Ella Lane, Tom Wootwell, Ruffell's Bioscope.
Manager, Charles Brecham.

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LONDON-ROAD, S.E.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Mark Melford and Co., Wisper, Alf Chester, Three American Idols, The Two Rubies, Beattie Bloom, Fyne and Hurley, James Grant, Mueller and Coyne, Mountford and Walsh.
Manager, Frank Weeks.

EUSTON,

EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
The Boissets, "The Bricklayers;" Harry Ford, Bertha Winter, Dan Crawley, Rex Fox, Chas. Norton, Dot Hardy, The New Macs, Alix Lukoe, Esme Gordon.
Manager, Fred M'Avoy.

THE EMPRESS,

BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Ahrensmeyer, "The Cowboy Mesmerist;" Millie Lindon, Bella and Bijou, Harry Pleon, Parks' Eton Boys, The Poluskis, Mark Melford and Co., Alf Chester, Gladys Mavius, Ernest Rees, Gwennie Hasto, The Sakers, Gilbert Girard, Sisters Govell, Mark Leslie, Dezmonti and Mora.
Manager, Nelson Francis.

GRAND PALACE,

CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2·0 o'clock.
Paul Martinetti and Co., in "The Keyhole;" Tom Woottwell, Welsh Singers, J. Burnett, Glenroy Troupe, T. C. Callaghan, Sisters Silcott, Three Laurels.
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HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
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Dr. Bodie.

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SCENE IV. ON THE RAILWAY BRIDGE.—The Continental Train starts, and the Tripper waves farewell to his friends.
SCENE V. VARIOUS VIEWS FROM THE WINDOW of the train as it speeds on its way to Dover. The Tripper is too excited to sit still, and constantly leans out of the window in front.
SCENE VI. AT DOVER.—The Continental Train arrives, and the Tripper hastens to the steamer.
SCENE VII. THE STEAMER ALONGSIDE THE ADMIRALTY PIER.—The tripper goes on board.
SCENE VIII. THE STEAMER UNDER WAY.—The foamy water behind the paddle box.
SCENE IX. VIEW ON DECK OF THE STEAMER.—The Tripper is offered a cigarette, but is not feeling inclined for luxuries at the time.
SCENE X. ARRIVAL AT CALAIS.—After a short dispute about his ticket the Tripper goes ashore.
SCENE XI. THE ARRIVAL AT PARIS.—Panoramic View of the Place de l'Opera. The Tripper buys picture postcards.
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ASHERS, THE (AGNES and MIKE), now on Stoll's Tour. Monday, Empire, Swansea. New Act by Sam Richards and A. Voyce.

ASHLEY, BROS., "Next, please!" Pavilion, Leicester; 7th, Empire, Wolverhampton. G. Barclay and Fortune and Granville.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, the Society Athletes, World's Best Artistes. Monday, Palace, Blackpool. Vacant Nov. 21.

ATTILLA, BROS., Famous Strong Men, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Open. Conclude, Britannia, Glasgow; next, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

AUBYN, ALF, resting down South, Sunny Hastings. Free for Panto. Comp., G. Barclay; or, 4, Queen's-road, Hastings.

AUSTIN, LAWD. Dramatic Scena "Condemned to Die"

AUSTIN'S, RUMBO, Comical Troupe of Navvies. Gilbert's Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BABUSIAU, BROTHERS, Celebrated Acrobats-Antipodists, Require Immediate Dates and Pantomime. This, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

BAKER and BALFE, Moss Tour.

BALSIGER, Oct. 31, Boro', North Shields; Nov. 7, Empress, Hartlepool; 14th, Tivoli, South Shields; 28th, Darlington

BANDON, SID. Nov 7, Circus, Rochdale.

BANKS, HERBERT, the Original Crippled Tenor Vocalist, at Liberty. Summer offers now invited. Perm. address, Darlington.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents. Telephone, 84, Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Character and Coon Speciality Artiste and Dancer. Usual success, O. H., Workington. Next, Jubilee Hall, Carlisle. Send letters.

BARLOW, MR. HARRY, Principal Baritone, with Orchestra, Pavilion, Chorlton, Manchester. Perm., 10, Wellington-street, Stockport At Lib. Panto

BARNARD'S Life-like MARIONETTES, Usual Success of Piccaninny Burlesque. Conclude To-night, Canterbury; Monday next, Grand, Hanley.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Circus, Bury. Monday, Hippodrome, Queen's Park, Manchester. Agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

BARRY, ELLIS, American Descriptive Vocalist, Artistic Success, Victoria, Wellingborough; next, Royal, Winchester. Letters, "The Era"

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY), the Ideal Pair. Palace, Lancaster. Nov. 7, Palace, Atterclife.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE, Royal, Holborn. Next, Pier Pavilion, Southport.

BATESON'S LADIES ORCHESTRA. Conductress, Miss M. Trainer. American Choir Company, on Tour. Literary Institute, Wingate, Durham.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BEANLAND, CHARLES, a Natural Comedian, Corporation Theatre, Chesterfield. Exclusive Agents, Day's Agency.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE). "Hiawatha" Scena. Great Success. Nov. 7, Palace Theatre, Leicester. Stoll Tour.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjurer, terrific success, this, Palace, Derby. Next, Hippo., Grimsby. Thanks Vandy, Esq., and Johnson, Esq.

BELL, The H. LESLIE, and LILLY PEARL COMPANY, Presenting "A Bit of String." Nov. 7, Hammersmith and Sadler's Wells.

BELROSE, GEO., and MAUD DE VALIN, Operatic and Speciality Duettists, Pavilion, Newcastle. Pantomime, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

BENET, HARRY, Tivoli, Kidderminster. Usual success, "Little Tommy Tit-Bit," by Fred Leigh.

BENT, HARRY, the Novel Mimic; also CARLOTTA LUNN. This, South Shields. Monday, Theatre Royal, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

BERNARD, GEO., Modern Vocal Actor. In this "perfesh." the gain of love is lost by the ove of gain. Monday, Tivoli, South Shields.

BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M'Bunker, "The Mountebank." Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

BINGHAM and WEST, Comedy Jugglers. Permanent address, 31, Walsall-street, West Bromwich.

BISHOP and VALE, Conclude, Britannia, Glasgow. Monday, Empire, Greenock. Liberty for Pantomime.

BLARNEY and KENNARD, the Comedy Couple. Great success, Oxford, Middlesbrough. Monday, Boro', N. Shields Funny Song Required.

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. Pantomime, Grand T., Nottingham. Monday, Hippodrome, Manchester.

BLYTHE, MARIE, "The Cottage Across the Street," by Paul Knox, Esq. Nov. 7, Palace, Glasgow. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

BONITA. Transvaal Leader.—The best all round shot that has ever appeared in South Africa.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Palace, Blackpool. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, in his Musical Séance, Introducing his Wonderful "Bosanquephone." Scala, Haag, Holland.

BOSWELL, A. P. Big Hit. Re-engaged, Grand Hippodrome, Wigan. At Liberty Monday. Wire, wire.

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, Theatre Royal, Hebburn-on-Tyne. Look out for New Act.

BOYCE, FRANK, Vocal Comedian, Exclusively Engaged Empire, Battersea, to produce Scena, "Midnight Mail." Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. 31, Hedon-road, Hull.

BRADLEY and TRUMAN. Thanks to W. De Frece and Wife, Vesta Tilley, for Portraits. Red Lion, Costock, Notts.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE). Conclude Palace, Bradford. Monday, Hippo., Dewsbury.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Dancers. Great success, Palace, North Shields. Nov. 7, Empire, Greenock.

BRETT, HARRY, the Genial Comedian. For Vacant Dates apply, 342, Acton-lane, Acton. Best thanks Alfred Butt, Esq., the Palace.

BREWSTERS. This Week, Empire, Dudley. Next, Olympia, Bury.

BRITISH QUARTETTE, THE (JOHN BULL, SANDY, PAT, and TAFFY) Speciality Vocalists. This, P., Northampton; next, Hipp., Norwich.

BRITTON, LITTLE, Eccentric Comedian, Song and Comedy Dancer. J. Tiller's "High Jinks." This, Grand, Manchester; Next, Regent, Salford.

BROADFOOTE, MARGUERITE, Middlesex, Sadler's Wells, and Metropolitan. All communications, E. Edelsten, 164, Drury-lane, W.C.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers, Monday, Nov. 7 (Return), Pavilion, Newcastle. Panto. settled.

BROOKS, BROS., and SISTERS BRAND, Metropolitan Music Hall. Thanks Management, Grand, Hanley, for dates 1905-6-7-8.

BROWN and ROBINSON, Experts in Harmony. Nov. 7, Royal, Oldham.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. Communications, Queen's Music Hall, Glasgow.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Pontycymmer, South Wales.

BURNELLS. Next Week, Opera House, York. "Get together boys, get together." Big hit this week, Ardwick Empire.

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, Empress, Hartlepool; and at Manchester and London. Manager, C. Ferrier. 'Phone, 0231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

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BURTON'S Variety and Concert Agency, Sheffield. A. D. Burton, Manager. People seldom improve when they have no model to copy.

BUTT MARVELS, THE, Sensational Barrel Jumpers and Tumblers. Coms., 154, New Hall-street, Burnley.

CANDLISH, WILL, Comedy Musical Speciality, Liberty for Panto. Baron, King, or Scotch Part. 50, Bond-street, Byker-on-Tyne.

CAPITA, Living Marionette; KATIE MORE, Comedienne and Mace Swinger, this, H., Leigh. Nov. 7, E., Shildon. Vac. Nov. 14, 21. F., Shildon.

CARL and CARR, Comedians. Success with "Workhouse." Nov. 7, Tivoli, Mansfield, with own Company. Panto. settled, Ealing T., London, W.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team. Barnard's, Woolwich, Second Week.

CARLTON'S FRED, Mystic Kettle. Terrific Success, Tivoli, Dublin. This Week, Gaiety, Oldham.

CARR and ROSE, in Original Vocal Comedy Acts, "Their First Quarrel" and "Married for Love." C., Stockton. Regards Arthur Richards.

CARY, FRED, Comedian, Norwich. Nov. 7, Hippodrome, Ton-y-pandy.

CASEY, GEORGE, the Popular Comedian, Free for Pantomime. Close, Grand, Manchester. Monday, Return, T., Dublin.

CAVILL'S AGENCY, 15, Hotham-street, London-road, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone 2,140, Royal.

CAZMAN'S, HENRI, Musical, Dramatic, Circus, and Variety Agency. 36, Park-mansions Battersea-park, London, S.W. Telephone, 335 Battersea.

CECIL, TOM, Comedian Concertising in Scotland. Ninth Season. Serpentello's Agency, 28, Wellington-street, London, W.C.

CEE-MEE Troupe On Tour. Permanent Address, care of "The Era."

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. Few Immediate Dates. Great Tour commences Dec. 12. Address, 18, Springfield, Liverpool.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield. Monday, Boro' Theatre, North Shields.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Theatre Royal, Hebburn-on-Tyne. Own Tour Shortly.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Svea Theatre, Stockholm.

CHIRGWIN, London Nightly, Four Months. "Friends," please refrain from Copying.

CLARENCE and BELL, Comedians, in J. Gar Kiddie's "A Little Coquette" Company. Nov. 7, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, This week, Palace, Plymouth. Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

CLEVELANDS, THE, C. W. Poole's Myriorama, South Wales.

CLYO and ROCHELLE (HARRY) Hippo., Scarborough. (ROSE). Return to Town Nov. 14.

COHEN, KATIE, P.A., 67, Finborough-road, South Kensington. Disengaged Christmas. London only.

COLASSIS, THE, Great Act, "Pekin Pastimes," on Tour. Address, 34, Union-street, Warwick-road, Banbury.

COLEMAN, ROSIE, and HARRY CONLIN. Address, 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road.

COLLINS, GEO., London Star Comedian. Still Vacant Pantomime. Dame last year, Bradford. Address, 67, Mersey-road, Walthamstow, E.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE, at Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 368, Camden-road, N.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE. A Singer of Sensible Songs. Thanks for Offers. Settled, Boy, Comedy, Manchester. Hippodrome, Macclesfield.

CONROY, OLIVER, Comedian. Palace, Halifax. Always open to buy Good Songs—Authors Note.

COOKE, STEVE, Burlesque Comedian, Hippodrome, Scarborough. Vacant Nov. 14.

COOKSON, JOE. World's Vocal and Speciality Ventriloquist. Tremendous Success. Originality. People's Palace, Portsmouth. Leslie's Agency.

CORNISH, WILL, Unique Bell Act. Lively time, Palace, Halifax; next, Palace, Derby. Coliseum and Stoll Tour settled, 1906-7-8.

COVERDALE'S Show consists of Something Smart in Self-written and Melodied Songs, Stories, Sarcasm, and Imitations. Nov. 14, Chelsea Palace.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, Comedy Juggler, and his Acrobatic Dog "Dooley." This week, Hippodrome, Castleford; next, Grand, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

CROWN TRIO (Willie Davidson, Lillie Davidson, Edwin Schofield). Speciality Vocalists. Nov. 7, Metropole, Manchester.

CROWSON, WILL; CISSIE CONYERS, Pavilion, Maidenhead. Next, Palace, Tottenham.

CULLANE TRIO, FRED, Eighth Month of Tour. This, Bottom of Bill, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

CULLEN and CARTHY and LITTLE CLULEY. Enormous hit, Palace, Manchester. Palace, Northampton.

CUMMINGER, the Acknowledged World's Record Sand Dancer, in Latest, "Gipsy Lew" and "Castle on the Nile." Agent, Day.

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DAGMARS, THE THREE, Acrobats and Tumblers, at Liberty Nov. 7 and 14 Wire, Pavilion, Leicester.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Gipsy and Character Duettists, Nov. 7, F., Dudley (Fourth Return). Agents, J. T. Smith and J. Verno.

DALE, MR. HARRY, First-class Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

DALE and D'ARGAN Thank Mr F. Boulton for a most Comfortable Week. Panto. settled. Nov. 7, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

DALTON'S AGENCY. First-class Acts always Required. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

DANBYS, THE (CHARLES and ARTHUR), Hippodrome, Norwich.

DANIELS, THE TWO, tremendous success, Albert Hall, Sheffield. Now at Grand Theatre, Chorley. Address, next, 68, Main-ridge, Boston.

DANTON, CHARLES, Comedian. Monday, Empire Palace, Greenock.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. This, Palace, Aberdeen. Next, Palace, Dundee.

DAVIS, CHARLES, late Stage-Manager, Palace, Manchester (seven Years). Disengaged. Pantomime or Music Hall.

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DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Always Vacancies for Stars and Specialities.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE. Nov. 7, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

DE DIO, THE PEERLESS, Continental Tour Month of November. Central Theatre, Dresden, Germany.

DEED, OWEN (late Bert Rainer), Vocal Comedian, Vacant for Panto. All communications to 46, Marcus-st., Sheffield, will be forwarded.

DE HENAU and MOLLE ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Queen's Theatre, Glasgow.

DELAMERE TRIO, THE, Original Comedy Equilibrists, Liberty 7th and 14th Wire, E., Wrexham After Sat., 95, North-rd., Preston.

DELEVINES, FIVE, "Flirtation." Hippodrome, Coventry.

DENHAM, MISS MILLIE, is a bright actress, and would do credit to any programme.—Vide Press. P., Bradford. Monday, P., Blackburn

DENHAM, TEDDY, the Tivoli, High Shields. Vacant Panto. Communications, direct; or, Blackmore.

DENT, BERT, Manager, Barnard's Palace, Greenwich, S.E. Palace Buffet Open on Sundays.

DEROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil, Actor-Vocalist, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

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DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, Original Singing Cardboard Boxmakers. Few Dates required, 1905. Palace, Croydon; next, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

DOME, the Comedy Clay Man, Empire, Hackney.

DON, EMMA, and her Black and White Quartette of Vocalists. The Finest Harmonizing Four. Nov. 7, Hippo., Manchester. Vacant for Panto.

DONNA, AMY, Return next week Kelrnan's Palace T., Liverpool. Perm. address, 309, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Oct. 7, Empire, Leeds.

DORETTA, LITTLE, Acrobatic Speciality, Song and Dance Artist on Tour, C. W. Poole's Royal Myriorama.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Coon Impersonator, Moss Tour. Empire, S. Shields. Christmas, Principal Girl, Princess's, Glasgow (second year).

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Acknowledged by the Press to be a Juvenile Artiste of much ability.

DOUGLAS and DOUGLAS, Risley Act. Not a Dangerous Performance. Talent. Free Nov. 14, 21. Perm., 7, Busk Meadow-street, Oswaldtwistle, Lancs.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL, Hippodrome and Empire, Bristol.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Empire, Portsmouth.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Chic Comedienne, Dancer. All communications, 11, Arnold-street, Liverpool.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Comedy Artiste. Monday, Metropole Theatre, Openshaw, Manchester Vacant Panto. Principal Girl or Comedy Part.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. Nov. 7, Standard, Pimlico. Communications, Fred Durham and Sam Hart.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow. Vacant Pantomime Principal Boy or Principal Girl. Thanks for Offers.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian, concludes to-night E., York. Nov. 7, Hip., Dewsbury Regards to V. F. Ring up, I am ready.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Specially Engaged One Month W. Hamilton's No. 1 Excursions. Coliseum, Leeds.

ELCOCK, AMY, Comedienne. FLORRIE ST. ROY, Singer and Dancer. For Vacancies, 5, Eagle-mansions, Salcombe-road, London, N.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. Liberty Nov. 28, Dec. 5. Address, Hippodrome, Coventry.

ELLA'S, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Nov. 7, Hippodrome, Coventry.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, Comedian; FLORRIE BRAY, Comedienne. Liberty for Pantomime. Next, Metropole, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. To Pantomimes.—Ernie Mayne's Parody, "Bluebel's Farewell." Cert Number. Rights, £1 1s. 19, Pulross-rd., Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, 42, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough.

ELMO, NINA, Comedienne, Aquarium, Yarmouth. Graydon Tour to follow. Agents, Day's Agency.

ELTONS, TWO, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians, Smartest Knockabout Act on the Road. Monday, Prince's T., Preston.

ENDON, EDIE, Comedienne and Dancer. Big success last week, Palace, Cork. Vac. 7th and 14th. Wire, 31, Ashfield, Wavertree, Liverpool.

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ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Com., 15, Harford-street, St. James's, Bristol.

ESDALE BROS, Comedians, Vacant Nov. 14 and 21. Monday, Hippodrome, Macclesfield.

EVANS, WILL, Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond

FALCONS, THE, Barrasford Tour.

FARRIMOND, PERCY, the Great Lancashire Singing Collier. This week Westminster, Liverpool. Next, Royal, Liverpool. Open Feb. 6, 13, 1905.

FAWN, MISS ADA. Big Success of New Song, "I don't care," by Will Letters. Monday next, Nov. 7, Hippodrome, Bury.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Parkkeepers, the Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. All communications to Verno, Verno, Verno.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS. Palace, Bristol. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

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FLORADORA GIRLS Thank S. Bacon, Esq., for Congratulations and Contracts. Enormous Success, "Rival Sweethearts." Mon., Palace, Aberdeen.

FONTAINBLEAU, ALICE, Queen of the Rolling Globe, and Troupe of Trick and Leaping Dogs. Liberty onward. Marquis of Granby, Lincoln.

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FRANCISCO, Juggler, and MAYMOODIE, Piccolo Soloist. Alnambra, Brighton. Next, Grand T., Doncaster. Vacant Nov. 14 and 21. Address above.

FRASETTIS, LES, South African and Australian Tour. Address, 9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREDRICKS, CARL, YA PYN KETO'S Magic Kettle. Trades Exhibition, Drill Hall, Plymouth.

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GANNON, NELLIE, Grand, Sheffield, usual success. Monday, Pavilion, Leicester. Look out for a Song, a smasher, by Bowker Andrews, Esq

GARRICK, MR GUS. Address, Vaudeville Club, Charing-cross-road, W.C.

GEE, FRANK, Alhambra, Belfast.

GERONDS, THREE, Refined Lady Vocalists and Dancers. Monday next, T. R., King's Lynn. At Liberty for Panto. Offers, 2, Carr-place, Leeds.

GERTRELLA, Dancer-Gymnast. New Act, "In Cupid's Garden." Permanent, 3, St. James'-place, Brighton.

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GILLIN, Unique Ventriloquial Humourist. "Me Hat's Off." Theatre, Chesterfield. Sunday, Empire, Doncaster.

GLADSTONE, IDA, Nov. 7, Pavilion, Leicester. Pantomime, Principal Boy, Grand, Nottingham. Sole Agent, Harry Day.

GLENVILLE, SHAUN, at Liberty. Good Irish Songs Required. 15, Lynette-avenue, Clapham-common, S.W.

GLOBE, GEORGE, Dutch Comedian and Tyrolean Monarch, success at Hippo., Accrington. Vacant Nov. 7, 14. Perm., 8, Rumford-st., Manchester.

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GOLDEN and GREY, and FRED POLLARD. Vacant Nov. 21. To follow Britannia, Glasgow. Wire, Hippodrome, Accrington.

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GRAHAM, ERIC; MILLIE HARRIS. This week, Empire, Wolverhampton. Next week, Tivoli, Barrow.

GRAPHO and JACKSON conclude Northampton. Panto. settled, Twankey and Abanazer. Communications, The Café, Hartlepool.

GREEN, BRUCE, Comedian. Playing Rajah, with terrific success, in the successful Musical Comedy "The Belle of Bangalore" A., Ramsgate.

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HARDY, the American Blondin. "King of the High Rope." Address, 126, Doggett-road, Catford, London.

HARDY, NELSON, Stars' Reunion Ventriloquial Impersonator. Life-size Portrait Model the late Dan Leno. 8, Chivalry-road, Clapham-junction.

HARRIS and WORTH, Big Success, Barrasford Tour, Alhambra, Hull. New Act going Strong. Regent Theatre, Salford.

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HAYDEE, MDLLE., Electric Mannikin Theatre, Gaiety, Clydebank. Nov. 7, Empire, Greenock.

HEATON, PROF. TED, the World's Greatest Diver and Swimmer, at Liberty. Perm., 24, Alton-rd., Newsham-park, Liverpool.

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical Genius. The greatest English Concertina Soloist extant. Monday, Nov. 7, Hippo., Blackpool, Return.

HENDERSON, LADE, the Little Man with a Big Voice. Versatile Vocalist. London every Evening.

HENDERSON and STANLEY QUARTETTE, in their Marvellous Pot-Pourri Entertainment, at Liberty Nov. 7 and on. Wire, T. B., Oldham.

HENRIQUES, THREE, Comedy Acrobats, T. R., Warrington, Liberty for Panto; also One Week, Dec. 5. Add., Westminster Music Hall, Liverpool.

HERALD COMEDY FOUR, Tivoli, Strand.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist. R. Warner.

HERMAN, SYD, the Original Hebrew Comedian, Monday, Return, Paddington, Liverpool. Vacant Panto.

HEWITT and RITCHIE, Comedy Eccentrics, "The Man about Town" and "The Scotchman." Success, Empire, Greenock. Lib. Panto. Brit. Glasgow.

HILL, BARRY, and LANG, Eccentric Knockabout Comedians. Big Success, A., Belfast. Liberty Nov. 14. Wire, 24, Berwick-st., Manchester.

HILL, ROWLAND, the Curious Comedian. Monday, Hippodrome, Wigan, with New Funny Songs by Mark Lorne, Ralph Howard, and myself.

HILTON and HILTON, Comedy Bar Comedians. Empire, York. Monday, Hippodrome, Yarmouth. Vacant Nov. 14, 21.

HINTON and WOOTON, Starring South Africa. Permanent address, 142, Leicester-st., Wolverhampton.

HOLLAND, LOTTIE, Great Success, Hippodrome, Leith. Monday, Bury.

HOOK, WALTER W. 1,335th Consecutive Show New Century Pictures. This, Circus, Hull; next, Assembly Rooms, Durham.

HOPE, F., Sensational Trick Cyclist. Vacant Nov. 14, Dec. 26. 8, Bridgeman-street, Walsall.

HORSFALL, FRED, the Greatest Mimic with a Double Voice. This week, Corporation T., Chesterfield; next week, Westminster, Liverpool.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH and NELLIE). Empire, Hackney.

HULA, SISTERS, Vocalists and Expert Dancers, at Liberty Nov. 28; also Panto. Good Offers Invited. This, P., Atterclife; next, P., Derby.

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(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Mr Morton Powell's company is here this week in *Bigamy*. Mr Colin Hazlewood is conspicuous as Charles Dresden. Mr Ernest J. Fare is decidedly good as Lionel Craven. Mr E. S. Earle is a capable Edgar Craven. Mr Chas. Burdon is a manly Frank Merrivale. Mr Fred Moule as Rufus Cherrybull and Mr Francis Merle as Polyphemus Voltaire are amusing. Miss Lydia Mannington is an excellent Dido, Miss Elsie Capel shows much power as Sylvia Dresden, and it would be difficult to find a better exponent of Diana De Courcelle than Miss Alwynne Ermon.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—The D'Oyly Carte répertoire company opened a week's engagement on Monday with *The Gondoliers*. The performance was singularly spirited and successful. Mr Pacie Ripple as Marco is the new principal tenor. He possesses a voice of exceedingly agreeable quality, and scored greatly with several of his songs, particularly with "Take a pair of sparkling eyes." He is admirably supported by Mr Albert Kavanagh as Guiseppe. Mr C. H. Workman showed inimitable humour as the Duke, and Mr Fred Billington was, as usual, singularly successful in the part of Don Alhambra. Miss Norah Maguire is as charming as ever with her rich ringing voice in the character of Gianetta. Miss Jessie Rose had a delightful part in Tessa, and the impersonation of the Duchess by Miss Theresa Rassan was a remarkably dignified piece of work. Miss Bessie Mackenzie, a young lady with a voice of great flexibility and power, made a most favourable impression by her singing and acting as Casilda. The chorus work was marked by great firmness, the conductor, Mr T. Silver, evidently having his forces well in hand. *The Mikado* was presented on Tuesday, and other pieces that follow are *Trial by Jury*, *Patience*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—The Watson Quartet are remarkably successful with their drawing-room entertainment; and another delightful turn is contributed by Miss Bessie Goodwin and her piccaninnies. Miss Ruby Bijou, an exceedingly clever dancer, makes a great success; and the musical eccentricities of Kloof and Ramsay are keenly enjoyed. The Two Graces, vocalists and dancers, do not belie their name; and the Florodora Girls are seen to the best advantage in their latest success *Rival Sweethearts*. The Darrell Troupe win enthusiastic applause by their graceful performance; and the Courtney Combination appear in a highly amusing farce, *The Doctor*. All the other turns are appreciated.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company is here in the romantic play *Why Men Love Women*. Mr Alfred Paumier gives an admirable impersonation of Gerald Fielding, and the part of Serge Staniloff is well sustained by Mr S. Herbert Humber. Mr W. S. Hardy does good work in the rôle of Tommy Fitzherbert. Mr Edwin Lever scores as the Maharajah, as also does Mr R. Calvert Hawe as the Rev. Edward Grey. Miss Annie Saker proves herself an exceptionally charming actress in the portrayal of Violet Livingstone. A fair amount of comedy is introduced, Mr Harwood Roberts appearing with success as Orlando Figgins, ably supported by Miss Marie Glynne as Matilda Figgins and Miss Queenie Nigel and Miss Violet Godfrey as Birdie Summertop and Baby Winterbotham respectively. Miss Beatrice Sinclair as Muriel Zoluski is an artiste of no mean ability, and the remaining parts in are safe hands.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—Mr J. Gar Kiddie's company is here again this week with *A Little Coquette*. Miss Lizzie Payne plays the title-rôle with all the dash necessary, and scores a decided success. Miss Flo Warner must be complimented on her impersonation of Robin Adair, Miss Nellie Butt is equal to the part of Charlie Crowquill, Mr J. W. Groves gives a diverting impersonation of Ann Teeke, and Messrs Clarence and Bell keep the house in a good humour as Pipe Clay and Sharpshoot. Mr George Hestor is exceedingly funny as Simon Scrapps. Mr E. H. Bertram is good Captain Narcissus. Peter Longpull is capably played by Mr L. J. Headlam. Gabriel Grabb is in the capable hands of Mr Forsyth Bruce, who is conspicuously successful.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr J. Mill; Manager, Mr T. W. Moyes.—The bill here includes the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs, who go through some wonderful leaping and tumbling acrobatism. Some clever work is done by Charles Vandyke and company in a sketch, *Nicodemus* A comedian of more than ordinary merit is Billy Elliott, who fairly brings down the house. G. Gillbey, the fireman on the ladder, is a clever turn; the Two Wills are good in their line; and Miss Flo Hill is chic and neat in her work. Bill Baily completes an excellent bill-of-fare.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—*A Path of Thorns*, a powerful play, is being played in an excellent manner by the Hardie and Von Leer company. A capital impersonation of the Rev. Frank Selby is contributed by Mr Cyril W. Mackay; Mr Claude King's is a talented portrayal of John Edmunds; and as Sam Mr Alfred Lester is good. Mr Cecil Du Gué is clever as Jonas Deane; whilst the necessary amount of villainy is introduced skilfully by Mr J. H. Booth (Jim Price) and Mr Walter L. Rignold (Ratty). The difficult rôle of Nellie is ably played by Miss Stanley Burt; and from Miss Violet Luddington comes a successful embodiment of Bessie Edmunds. Miss Amy Rogerson's clever acting as Jane Adelaide is marked; and the talented portrayal of Constance Howard by Miss Mary Raby is particularly noticeable. A promising little actress is Mabel May, and she sings and dances with excellent results. Others who do well are Messrs C. Mayor Cooke, Harry F. Wright, A. C. Clark, J. Chevington, and Dunston Haye.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—*An Actor's Romance* is being played this week at the theatre by Mr Cecil Barth's company. The company is an all-round efficient one. Prominent figures are Mr Guy Hastings as the actor-hero, Miss Constance Elgin as his evil genius, Miss Bertha Northam as Louise (the true and devoted wife), Mr Percy Marmont as the infatuated lover of the female villain, Mr Ernest Rushton as the leader of a gang of thieves, Miss May Charteris as Dottie (the charming soubrette), and Little Marie Ada Dowsing as the child, Phyllis.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot.—The reputation of the New Hippodrome cannot fail to be enhanced by the excellence of this week's programme, which includes Alma Obrey, Australian comedienne, who turns her vocal abilities to the best account; Bob Baxter, whom the programme very aptly describes as "a curious one;" Beatie Foster, a charming descriptive songstress; the Harrison Bros., comedians and patterers; Tom Owen, the original Welsh comedian; Chas. R. Whittle, comic; Whitney, eccentric character vocalist; and the Violas, in their mysterious act. The Cinématograph shows some interesting pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr Fred Karno's company, in *Saturday to Monday*, is here this week. Mr Fred Kitchin as John Willie Jaggs is entirely successful and amusing; Miss Aggie Morris plays with much vivacity as Clorinda Blake; Miss Gladys White is a pleasing Violet Blake; Mr Frank Haylett acts and sings well as Tom Freeman; Mr Robert Rivers is a capable Mr Blake; and the Camille Dancing Girls also contribute successfully.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Goldman, Holles, and company top the bill here this week with a very pretty little musical comedy mélange. The Great Zaid, assisted by the Beautiful Orienta, gives a marvellous performance on the rings, and Victor Newman, the mimic, cleverly submits his various impersonations. Hector and Paulus are a pair of clever comedy acrobats; Eric Graham is pleasing as a Cockney coster; Fred Clements sings funny ditties; and Millie Harris gives her songs in first-class style.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—Mr Lewis Calvert and Mr Herbert Ross's company is paying a first visit in the domestic play *Sunday*. First honours are carried off by Miss Marie Polini, who, in the title-rôle, gives a delightful impersonation of the high-spirited and honest Western girl. Her love scenes with Mr W. Edwin Holloway as Colonel Brinthorpe were admirably acted. Mr Arthur Willoughby as the family friend, Tom Oxley, is another capital study. A quartet of gentlemen who play into each others' hands with the happiest results are Mr St. Clair Bayfield (Towser), Mr David Curtis (Davy), Mr Alfred P. Phillips (Lively), and Mr Arthur Somers (Jackey), their "confidential chats" causing much amusement and pleasure. Miss Maude Henderson makes a capital Mrs Naresby, her clear enunciation of her lines being particularly noteworthy. Miss Dorothy Gordon is duly reserved as the Nun, and Mr John Holloway does all that is required as the unmanly Arthur Brinthorpe.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—Starring here with great success are Captain Woodward's seals and sea lions, the training of which is truly astounding. Gintaro, a Japanese juggler and top-spinner, is watched with interest, and gets his reward by hearty applause. The excellent and expressive ballad singing of Arthur Aldridge is accorded due recognition. The Two Weirs, duettists and dancers, in their newest hit, *The Bootblack and the Flower Girl*, are favourites. Musical Silvo once again returns to make his usual success. Chummie La Mara, burlesque artiste, is as smart and goey as ever. Will Sergeant, comedian, has his admirers. Dora Lyric, comedienne, continues to sustain her former prestige. Jemmy Shields, the one-legged comedian and dancer, opens the programme.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Messrs H. J. Callan and Wentworth Croke's company, by arrangement with Mr Tom B. Davis, is presenting the musical comedy *Florodora*. The cast includes Mr Arthur Lenville, a most humorous Tweedlepunch; Mr C. Young Fixott, an admirable Cyrus Gilfain; Mr William Everard, a praiseworthy Frank Abercoed; and Mr J. Graham Huntley, a good Captain Donegal. Miss May Yates is a winsome Angela; Lady Holyrood is a very pleasing impersonation by Miss Dorothy Sephton; and Miss Violet Bronson makes a charming Dolores.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr O. P. De Mirlmorde.—Grand opera, as played by Mr J. W. Turner and company, is always acceptable to Barnsley audiences. The week has opened with *The Bohemian Girl*. Mr F. J. Hargrave is excellent as Thaddeus; Mr Tom Griffiths is seen to advantage as Count Arnhelm; Devilshoof is a fine delineation by Mr Sydney Clifford; Mr R. Cummings is responsible for Florestein; Miss Ethel Locker does full justice to Arline; the Gypsy Queen is characteristically played by Miss Beatrice Hill; and Buda is made the most of by Miss Maud Esdale. *The Puritan's Daughter*, *Il Trovatore*, *The Waterman*, *Faust*, and *Maritana* are in the week's répertoire.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—The successful Negro musical comedy *In Dahomey* is the attraction here this week, and is capably presented by a unique American coloured company under the management of Mr Henry Hockaday. Mr Dan Avery in the rôle of Rareback Pinkerton kept the house in roars of laughter with his funny songs and whimsicalities; and Mr Charles Hart was no less humorous in the part of Shylock Homestead, his rendering of the well-known "Jonah Man" being one of the hits of the evening. Mr Norris Smith as the Chief of the Caboceera could not easily be excelled, his fine voice being admired. As Rosetta Lightfoot Miss Pauline Freeman was charming, her vocalism being pleasing, and Mr Pete Hampton as Hamilton Lightfoot was most effective. Miss Stella Hart cleverly acted the part of Mrs Stringer, and Mr Walter Dixon made the most of his opportunities as Hustling Charlie. Mr Leon Williams succeeded admirably in the rôle of George Reader.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—Another fine bill has been presented here, the chief attraction being provided by Mr Frank Byron, a smart comedian, and the charming soubrette, Miss Louise Langdon, who have been successful in *The Dude Detective*. Mr Laurie Wylie's novel mannikins have been accorded a capital reception, and Mr Thomas E. Finglass, assisted by Miss Grania Herbert, stages a very attractive entertainment entitled "Let me be your slave" Carlton, the well-known manipulator of cards, furnishes striking proof of his dexterity, his performance being decidedly clever; and a daring trapeze act by Miss Lilian Sivado deserves all the praise bestowed on it. The Dandies appear to great advantage in their refined act, their vocalism and dancing being especially praiseworthy. The Dunlops are capital comedy cyclists, and Miss Amy Anderson's coster scena forms a big attraction. Mr Joe Archer, comedian, also appears.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—The chief attraction at this beautiful hall is supplied by the Hoopers, whose funny juggling act has been very successful. Mr and Mrs Edward Lucas appear to advantage in their several studies from Dickens. The xylophone performance by Baker and Balfe is certainly very smart, and the capital baritone voice of Mr Leo Stormont has afforded much pleasure. A remarkably clever dancing exhibition has been furnished by Espinosa and Neilson, and Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers, make a pronounced hit. The Two Romers are the happy possessors of tuneful voices, and their selections have delighted all. Miss Beatrice Willey, balladist, also appears.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The Four Herberts, comedy acrobats, top the bill, and their clever act has been accorded quite an ovation. The startling acrobatic act by the Bros. Donar forms an important feature, and Leighton and Mona furnish an attractive performance, their piano act being remarkably brilliant. Miss Alma Gray is a capital danseuse, her exhibition being loudly and deservedly applauded; and the beautiful new pictures exhibited by Weisker Bros.' Bioscope are an acquisition to any programme. The Lorrisons (Fred and Lila), comedy artistes, are certainly very talented as well as funny; and the Sisters Hall, capital vocalists, score a big success. Also appearing are Miss Kitty Gower, quick-change artiste; Mr Frank Gee, comedian; and Mr G. W. Hastings, a good descriptive vocalist.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS.—Proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco; Manager, Mr Irving Bosco; Assistant-Manager, Mr George Dobler.—This favourite place of amusement reopened on Monday its second season with a programme which is certainly calculated to please even the most tastidious taste. A decided innovation, at least in circus business in this city, is the introduction of two houses nightly, and it remains to be seen how it will prosper at this establishment. Everything possible will, no doubt, be done by Messrs Bosco and Dobler to make the system a success, and with their experience the result should be eminently satisfactory. Clown Caban headed the list of novelties presented on Monday, and his wonderful ponies and dogs perform the most remarkable feats amidst scenes of enthusiasm. An acrobatic performance of a daring and startling nature has been presented by the Four Rosaires, who quite uphold their high reputation. The Great Sloan Family are very clever equestrians; and the triple bar act by the Three Boleros has been loudly cheered. Mr Roy Ralston, sailor baritone, assisted by Miss Francis, sings several songs admirably; and a performance of no little merit is that supplied by the Three Saletos, marvellous acrobats. Other attractions are supplied by the Sisters Etherdos on the rocking ladders; Princess Annie, a charming and clever equestrienne; and the new Hippodrome pictures. The funny clowns, Handy Andy, Billy Haydon, and Ping Pong, create roars of laughter with their droll antics, and undoubtedly the entire performance on Monday was highly successful. Mr V. C. White's efficient orchestra also deserves a meed of praise.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—For the first three nights of this week Miss Gladys Silvester and Mr Fletcher Sansome's company occupied the boards with Bernard Grey's musical comedy *Jack's Sweetheart*. Mr Cecil W. Parke impersonates with vigour Jack Tremayne, and the Hon. Bertie Babington finds a good exponent in Mr Fred Laceby. Mr Dan Clifford adds humour to the piece by his interpretation of Samuel Spotter. Miss Gladys Silvester is an irresistible May Leslie, and Miss Madge Western is well suited to the rôle of Lady Dolly Dartley.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—Mr Fred L. Connynghame and his company are here this week with *A Mother's Love*. Mr Arthur Rose gives a good portrayal of the hero, Paul Wingate; Miss Laurie A. Pardy is interesting as Elaine Mervin; the heroine, Winnie Wingate, is well played by Miss Violet Macaree; and Mr John B. Shinton scores as Geoffrey Mannering. As regards the comedy element, Mr Connynghame is a host in himself as Matt Ruddock.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr Oswald Brooke's company in *The New Housemaid* is meeting with well-merited success here. Mr Ralph Roberts is inimitable in the rôle of the Hon. Bertie Rasleigh; Mr Rogers Bellamy is a capable Peter Pinkerton, J.P.,; Mr Pan E. Draco distinguishes himself as the detective, Marmsbury Doom; and the Rev. S. Stingley is well impersonated by Mr Charles Calvert. Miss Ethel L. Carylion is a charming Dulcie; and Mesdames B. Elliott, Madge Haines, and Nellie Burney also accord valuable assistance. The one-act play *Buffo* serves as a curtain-raiser.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr Henry Johnston's able combination in *The Bank of England* constitute a strong attraction. Mr Herbert S. Chambers is well suited as Sherlock Holmes, and scores heavily; Sir Sydney Barraclough is cleverly assumed by Mr Edwin Walters; the peculiarities of the Hon. Bertie Burlington are well portrayed by Mr Frank Ernstone; and Mr Charles H. Gallier is an efficient Godfrey Dane. Miss Marie Loreth displays much ability as Amelia J. Bean, and Miss Hilda Clyde plays Sylvia Barraclough carefully. The piece is creditably staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr J. D. Clarke.—Mr Bransby Williams, who is deservedly a great favourite in this town, is repeating his clever imitations of actors and comedians with, if anything, increased success. Mr Tom Edwards, an expert ventriloquist, is also a leading attraction; and Mr Fred Poplar, a versatile comedian, is on a welcome return visit. Prominent also in an excellent company are Mr Jack Lorimer, a capital Scotch comedian; Tom and Marie Motramo, in their amusing musical mélange; Burley and Burley, acrobatic comedians; the Sisters Dacre, duettists and dancers; and Miss Kitty Wager, comedienne. Mr Leonard Barry and his company remain from last week, appearing in *The Soldiers' Promenade* with much effect. Mr Ernest Denney is musical director.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*The Good Hope* on Monday enabled the many admirers of Miss Ellen Terry to see their favourite actress in a new rôle and a new light, that of Knierije, the poor husbandless fish-wife. In this Miss Terry played with heart-thrilling effect; the homeliness of the part and its hopelessness and misery forming a most irresistible appeal. Mr Matheson Lang imparted desirable spirit to the rôle of Geert. Mr E. Harcourt Williams as Barend was in capital contrast. Miss Hutin Britton wrought a deep and lasting impression by her powerful acting as Joe, and the others were in good accord. *Nance Oldfield*, with Miss Terry in her old favourite part, was earlier in the evening greeted with extreme cordiality by a full house already seated at the rise of the curtain. *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Merchant of Venice* have also brought pleasant receptions for Miss Terry and her company, which has further included Mr Alfred Bucklaw, Mr Chas. Thursby, Mr George Fitzgerald, Mr John Willes, Mr J. S. Hamilton, Mr T. A Shannon, Miss Penelope Wheeler, and Miss Audrey Campbell.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—*A Hot Night*, in which the Milton Rays and company participate with the best of results, has been received with hearty laughter and liberal applause. The setting is picturesque, and the music serves its mission well. Mr Arthur Milton is seen to considerable advantage as Frank Frith, Mr Rolando Martin displays a broad vein of humour as Whiffles, Mr Francis Hope is another amusing part as Flutterwig, and Mr Alfred Wellesley kills care as Professor Sheerman. Miss Clara Reid shines among the ladies as Lucy, and Miss Beatrice Annesley as Mrs Flutterwig, Miss Cissie Hylton as Polly Drake, Mr Jas. Sherwin as Captain Drake, and Mr Harry T. Butler as Mark Maybury are successful. The Eldorado Quartet of lady dancers go through some skipping-rope evolutions with grace and ability, and the various songs are encored invariably.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*The Beautiful Avenger* proved very much to the taste of Mr Collingwood's ever-increasing and invariably satisfied clientèle. Miss Nannie Meade as the heroine who summons science to the aid of virtue acts with much skill and charming sangfroid; and Mr Algernon Syms acts with good effect as the artist-hero "under a cloud." Mr Lionel Gillett as that amusing scoundrel, Zadok Foxbane and Mr William Diamond as his villainous son and associate, Herman, act well in concert; and Mr Arthur Richmond as Jim Jahms, the gentleman of catholic tastes, is most amusing. Miss Mabel Soudamore gains much sympathy as Edna Volta, Miss Cissie Podmore makes a hit as Baldie Manafield, and Miss Lilian Hawkins and Mr Will Ames are successful in their rôles.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*Rogues of the Turf* received a very favourable verdict here on Monday, when Mr John F. Preston's company shone to special advantage. Chief among the principals was Mr John F. Preston himself, who got a most boisterous reception in the character of the old trainer Joe Flaxman. Miss Hilda Shirley was also greeted cordially as Nelly, the trainer's daughter; and the Duchess was powerfully impersonated by Miss Gertrude Godart. Mr G. R. Montford as the principal rogue, Captain Dudley Clifton, was equal to every phase of the part; and Mr H. H. Rignold as his Jewish satellite gave satisfaction. Mr Harry Benson as an apprentice jockey and Miss Mabelle F. Barlow as Phillis score in the comedy scenes, and the fine stud of horses arouses much excitement and enthusiasm.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*The Lightning's Flash*, with that fine, capable actor of heroic parts Mr Leonard Robson as Stephen Merrick has held the audiences here spellbound. Mr Robson, who improves on acquaintance, is well supported by Mr Leslie Vyner's company, and Mr Sydney Kearns as Gordon Garville invests his rôle with all the necessary evil traits. Mr Courtney Robinson as the lesser villain, Jim Bargiss, acts in hearty co-operation. Miss F. Russell-Spiers pictures the heroine, Kate Merrick, with many charming qualities, and Miss Dora Condor, who does much for the rôle of Zuzu, Miss Blanche Vernon as Susan Slack, Mr Harry M. Vernon as Toby Gander, and Mr William Attfield as Dick Durham deserve mention.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*When London Sleeps* was received here on Monday night with all the enthusiasm and delight that pertains to a tried and special favourite, and the members of Mr Lester Collingwood's company each received a warm and kindly greeting from the crowded house. Mr Wm. H. S. Sams acts as the athlete-hero in a manly and invigorating manner; Mr Franklyn Graham as Rodney Haynes plays his sinister rôle with a merciless force that counts for one of the successes of the play. Miss Mary Brammer as Hilda Carode again compels admiration for a part she has distinguished many a time and oft before. Miss Maud Hastings obtains much applause and sympathy as the wire-walking heroine, and Miss Effie Mackintosh as Carry Jones, Mr Victor Mason as Sammy Blyth, Mr F. E. Thomas as Bob Jones, Miss Bella Power as the Signorina, and Little Dora Haslewood as Lella render most capable support.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—The principal attraction this week is Eugen Maarder with his fire-dancing horse, which gives a marvellous performance; Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq are exceedingly funny; Pat Rafferty, the popular Irish comedian, is loudly applauded; G. W. Hunter, with his amusing patter, takes well; the Wartenburg Brothers, double foot experts; and the Brothers Damm, eccentric acrobats, are exceedingly smart; Lillie Soutter, Will Musgrave, Tennyson and Wallis, comedians; and Hume, Ross, and Lewis, in their musical and dancing entertainment, are received with enthusiasm.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—The popular comedian, Frank Coyne, is topping the bill this week. William Lee and Helen Bentley, in their duologue *The Member for Middlesex*, are very entertaining. Some excellent singing and dancing is rendered by the Eight Olympian Stars, while a turn above the average is that provided by the Norman and Leonard Trio, in *The Itinerant*. The Mackweys have an amusing knockabout sketch, *A Few Minutes Fun on the Wire*. Georgina, Leonard and Carrie Joy are applauded for their songs, as also are Ben Albert and Frank Sylvo.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Houdini, the handcuff king, remains another week, while some wonderful feats of strength are displayed by the Arthur Saxon Trio. *Her Birthday* is the title of a smart sketch enacted by Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas. The long programme includes Dion Wade, J. W. Hall, Carl Reinsch, Ethel Yorke, H. A. Zetto, and F. Cumminger.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edw. Foster.—An excellent all-round programme is provided this week. The Cavallinis, in their amusing parodies, and the Three Gregsons, in their sketch, *The Dummy*, are loudly applauded. Vasco, in his musical entertainment, is well received. Fiske and M'Donough, in their comedy drama, *Brocky's Temptation*, is effective and evoke much enthusiasm. Mabel Thorne, the St. James Quintet, Phyllis Yorke, Alexandre and Bertie, Russell Wallett, and Les Sprays contribute to the strong programme.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—The comic opera *Amorelle* is being played here for the first time by Mr C. P. Levilly's company. Mr Leon Simkin is clever as Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow, and his business is very funny. As Jules Mr Arthur Cozens acts and sings well, and Mr Horace Manger is efficient as François. Mr Fred Carrington makes a capital Dotard. The part of Amorelle is played by Miss Empsie Bowman, whose singing and acting are very charming and natural. Miss Adah Grey is pleasing as Lesbia, and her singing is very artistic.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—*A London Actress* is here this week under the direction of Mr Stuart Cleveland. The principal parts are played by Mr Charles Leicester as Lieutenant Kingston, Mr Stuart Cleveland as Sergeant-Major Crawford, and Mr Sam Wilford as Pat Maloney. Hilda Mannering is played by Miss Emma Litchfield, and Miss Louise Millward appears as Biddy Maloney.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Another attractive programme is presented here this week. Miss Ethel Arden, supported by Mr Geo. Abel and company, appear in a laughable sketch *Three of a Kind*; the well-known J. W. Rowley receives much applause for his songs; the Charkassian Troupe of singers and dancers give a good turn. Valoni and his pigeons; the Bros. Ethairien, comedians; Kahn and Kahn; Mozondos, barrel jumpers and tumblers; Dunning, the ventriloquist; Millie Denham, comedienne; and Lennie and Hast, in their fantasy *The Heirloom*, are other turns.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Miss Lilian Dundas's company is here this week with *East Lynne*. Miss Dundas portrays the trying rôle of Lady Isabel with considerable skill in which she infuses in a most happy manner the requisite dramatic force. Miss Leslie Dane's rendering of Barbara Hare is also very commendable, and Miss Kathleen O'Connor is eminently successful as Corney Carlyle. Little Willie Carlyle is capably represented by Miss Marion Ryder. Mr Henry Dundas makes an excellent impression as Archibald Carlyle and Mr Wilfred Butt's impersonation of Frank Levison is extremely effective. Mr Henry J. Barrett is excellent as Mr Justice Hare, as is Mr Sidney Young as Lawyer Dill, while Mr J. H. Batson's rendering of Lord Mountsevern is capital. In conclusion, a word must be said in praise of the scenery and effects.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr F. H. De Quincey, Miss Sime Seruya, and company opened here on Monday with *The Red Lamp*. Mr De Quincey appeared as Paul Demetrius, and Miss Seruya as Princess Claudian, both giving very commendable representations. Mr Montague Lane was a satisfactory Prince Alexis, and Mr W. Henry Hargreaves essayed with credit the rôle of Allen Villiers. Kertch found an admirable exponent in Mr Philip Gordon; Mr Baliol Holloway was the Ivan Zazzalic, and Mr Kendal Chambers played General Morakoff. Olga Valerian was well acted by Miss E. Stuart Innes, Miss Evelyn F. Hall ably impersonated Felice, Miss Ada Stevens was successful as Madame Darmenberg, and Miss Leslie Brayton did full justice to Countess Voelcker. *Richelieu* and *The Twin Sister* also have a place in the week's bill. The company is under the direction of Mr Harold Reyner.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Company; Acting-Manager, Mr C. F. Morgan.—Mr Emlyn Jones's Emerald Ladies' Quartet of glee singers are proving a very attractive turn here. Lily Flexmore, comedienne and danseuse, is also a favourite, whilst Collins' Six Lancashire Lasses, clog dancers and vocalists, are encored nightly. Keen and Walad are clever acrobats; Achilles is without doubt a very strong man; Kitty Phelps sings and dances effectively; Winsford Brothers excel as barrel jumpers; and Henderson is a clever blind musician.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—Mr Tom E. Murray and company are here again this week with *Our Irish Visitors*. Mr Murray is an exceedingly clever comedian, and as Colonel M'Mahon has full opportunity for the display of his powers. Able assistance is given by Messrs J. W. Braithwaite, A. D. Adams; Misses Augusta Tullock, Edith Maynard, Poppie Sanders, and Dot Stanley. The Imperial Troupe of lady dancers are in evidence during the play.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—Miss Winifred Hare, a charming comedienne, tops the bill here this week, and is meeting with the most cordial reception nightly. Capital turns are also supplied by Frazer and Mac, comedy artists; Lena Verdi, vocalist and dancer; Atlas and Vulcana, wonderfully clever athletes; Curtis and Vanity, of cake-walk fame; Williams and Brown, funny comedians; Fred Carran, a peculiar comedian; Rita and Roma, speciality artists; Grell and Grey, in a laughable sketch; and Borrellis, musical expert. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope is also a very attractive turn.

BLYTH.

NAW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr G. E. Good.—Mr F. S. Gilbert and his opera company occupied the boards here on Monday in *Maritana*. Mr Gilbert was heard to great advantage in the part of Don Cæsar De Bazan. The part of the heroine was well sustained by Miss Constance St. Bride. As Don José Mr Karl Mora was excellent, Mr F. Halpin as the King of Spain being well received. *The Bohemian Girl*, *Il Trovatore*, *Satanella*, and *Fra Diavolo*, are also in the répertoire.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—Mr George Dance's principal company is here on its second visit with the successful musical comedy *A Country Girl*, and has been well received. Prominent among the artists is Miss Veronica Brady, who as Madame Sophie is especially good in her songs and dances. Miss Maud Harvey sings well as Marjory Joy; Miss May Glen is possessed of a good voice, and is well placed as Nan; Miss Nina Carlton ably fills the part of Princess Melaneh; and the same may be said of Mr G. Lorraine as Sir Charles Cortelyon. Mr Johnny Osborne keeps the house in a continual roar in the part of Barry, and good work is done by Mr Cyril Thompson as Geoffrey Challoner, Mr George Mudie, jun., as Sir Joseph Verity, and Mr Tom Sheridan as Granfer Mummery.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—A capital bill is provided here, the principal turn being Newhouse and Ward, who do some wonderful feats as trick and comedy cyclists. Other turns are the Max Trevally-Harley Troupe of comedy trampolin acrobats; Mdlle. Lydia and Albino in equilibristic feats; Mdlle. De Rose, lady baritone vocalist, "the female Foli;" Charles Lilburn, eccentric comedian; Vandyke and Stanley, in a comedy act; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic; Beatrice Renee, comedienne; J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist; Robins and Collier, in their new act, "The Porter and the Lady;" and the Imperial Bioscope.

OHMY'S CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—There is an entire change of programme here this week. The Alaskas, in their acrobatic performance, and Venus, lady acrobat, are exceptionally good turns; and the Brothers Testo give a smart musical act. Other items are by Mons. Marti and Julietta, gymnasts; Miss De Vena, a clever juggler and club swinger; Miss Biddall, a clever rider; the Brothers France, wire-walkers; Young Poodles, boy jockey rider; the Hannaford Troupe of bareback riders, and Mons. Aubury, gymnast.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr R. Stewart.—Mr Tom B. Davis's company is here this week with *The Medal and the Maid*. Sumptuously dressed and staged with completeness, the popular musical comedy is being enthusiastically received. Mr Tom Fancourt is possessed of a keen sense of humour, and his impersonation of Simon Pentweazle is responsible for hearty and spontaneous laughter. Mr Tom Graves is also immensely amusing as Levanter, whose eccentricities are divertingly accentuated. Mr Campbell Bishop represents in capital nautical style the part of Admiral Lord Belton; Mr Greville Hayes is forcible and expressive as the brigand chief Darion; Mr Cecil Kingsley sings and acts well as Allen Blythe, R.N.; and Mr John M. Dougall is well suited as Lionel Habbicombe. Miss Rita Leonhardt impersonates Merva Sunningdale with dainty grace and charm; Miss Maude Lake is delightfully vivacious as Josephine; Miss Cissie Sephton's Miss Ventnor is a fascinating personality; and Miss Edith Blanche gives excellent effect to the aspiring Mrs Habbicombe, and shares the unstinted applause in the comic duet in the second act with Mr Fancourt.

BURY (LANCS).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—*The Bells of Haslemere*, a popular melodrama, is being played here by a company under the direction of Mr C. A. Chandler. The leading parts are in the hands of Messrs L. Yorke, Montague Turner, C. A. Chandler, and Miss Harrietta Polini.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Otto Culling.—The Pardoes, in their comedy act "Uncle and the Cannibal," head the bill this week. The Brewsters, vocalists, dancers, sword and lance experts; Massona, juggler; Prof. M'Cann with his troupe of performing dogs; the Llewelyns, vocalists; Percy Curry, comedian; Alice Maple, dancer; and Baker E. Belphor, vocalist, are also in the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. H. Broadhead and

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson —On Monday Mr George Dance's company commenced a return visit with the popular musical comedy *The Girl from Kay's*. Miss Simeta Marsden very cleverly, and with much animation and brightness, fills the part of Winnie Harborough. Miss Alice Russon is a charming Nora Chalmers, and Miss Maisie North's dancing in the character of Ellen is very graceful. A bevy of sprightly and charming ladies fill the parts of assistants at Kay's and Norah's bridesmaids. Mr H. C. Barry is exeruciatingly funny as the vulgar millionaire, Max Hoggenheimer, and he has a capital foil in Mr Leslie Roy Cathie as the vacuous Percy Fitzthistle. In humorous and convincing style Mr Charles Hanbury plays Harry Gordon, and Mr Arthur Jackson as Theodore Quench, Mr John Wigley as Mr Chalmers, and Mr Fred Rolph as the magnificent hall porter, Joseph, help with their capital impersonations to keep the fun going without a pause.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—Mr Frederick Melville presented another of his excellent dramas here on Monday—*Her Forbidden Marriage*. George Madison, the hero, around whom the plot is woven, is a part affording Mr Horace Hunter fine scope for the display of his unquestionably fine histrionic capabilities, and Miss Isla Garnet Vayne has a part in Lucy, the heroine, which she fills charmingly. Mr Clarence Hague is distinctly effective in the rôle of the villain of the story, Charles Devereux, and a very fine impersonation is that of the Mother Superior of the Convent on the part of Miss Emily Hughes. Miss Doris Brookes capably fills the part of Lady Lucretia. Sir George Lancaster is ably represented by Mr Charles Carte, Mr Harry Ellis ton as Timothy Tuttutt, assisted by Miss Marie Kildare, affording capital comic relief.

EMPIRE. — Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—Chung Ling Soo, a clever conjuror, is performing marvellous feats here this week, which quite mystify the audience, and the Kellinos, in their picturesque and clever acrobatic entertainment, "Venetia," are enjoying well-earned and hearty applause. Chas. Cardow is a capital comedian, and Johnny Gilmore, too, contributes acceptably to the programme. The Alaskas, in their speciality act, are good; Helen Martin sings ballads acceptably; Gallagher and Hild contribute a good comedy turn; a musical sketch by the Anartos is entertaining; Bijou Russell displays agility as a sand-dancer; Stewart and Morgan's Irish duets are capitally rendered; and some excellent pictures are shown through the Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—The Imperial Boys' Orchestra, a collection of clever young instrumentalists, are delighting the audience here this week with excellent music; and W. J. Churchill, the diverting comedian, is making a welcome reappearance; singing and dancing by the Haywards in *A Dress Rehearsal* form an agreeable feature; Downes and Langford contribute a good eccentric comedy turn; Fatmah Diard is a charming vocalist; Booker and Naibis in a comedy sketch are particularly good; Andy Fagan contributes an acceptable character comedy turn, and Johnny Holland and company in a nautical absurdity provide a fund of genuine amusement, and complete a ood company

BRIGHOUSE.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. Morton Powell; Business-Manager, Mr M. Manley.—This week the boards here are occupied by Mr Bert Coote's company in the play of New York life entitled *The Fatal Wedding*. The chief parts are admirably taken, notably Howard Wilson by Mr Ernest Owttrim; Mabel Wilson, Miss Helen Russell; Cora Williams, Miss Doris Gilham; and the Little Mother, Miss Madie Andrews. A feature of the piece is the introduction of a troupe of children in act three, who must have received an excellent training to perform their parts so well. The American speciality "The Cake Walk in the Sky" is charmingly rendered.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr George Dance's No. 1 company opened here on Monday with *A Chinese Honeymoon*—performed for the first time in Brighton. Miss Vera Vere was irresistibly quaint and amusing as Fi-Fi; Mr Arthur Adeson as Mr Pineapple gave a very humorous enactment; Mr Philip Hayden made a genial Emperor; and Miss Eva Bevington was a vivacious and pleasing Mrs Pineapple. Miss Madge Temple was a charming and winsome Soo-Soo, and sang delightfully; Miss Holford Beringer was dignified and imposing as Mrs Brown, the official mother-in-law; and Mr Ernest Law's Lord Chancellor, Mr Fred Payne's Hi-Lung, and Mr Frank Crimp's Tom Atherton were well played. The chorus and orchestra acquitted themselves admirably, and the duties of conductor were in the able hands of Mr A. Romilli. The play was liberally and beautifully mounted.

GRAND THEATRE.—Under the entire control of Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Messrs J. A. Campbell and G. Fulton's company is here this week with *A Bid for Fortune*. Mr C. Brereton Borer is highly successful as Sir Philip Templemore, whose wife, Barbara, is cleverly impersonated by Miss Mary Ainslie. Mr Oswald Douglas is well suited as Kent Hickett; Mr Herbert Clifton makes a capital Sir Milton Netherley; while Mr Dick Thomas as Cobb Cuttle and Mr J. Lea Hair as Nat Goad are very amusing. Mr Arthur Trail as Matthew Mullard and Miss Jenny Bostock as Widow Nicholls are very entertaining, and others meriting praise include Mr Geofrey Fulton, Miss Gertrude Gordon, and Little Vera Guyon

AQUARIUM.—Manager, Mr W. J. Hardy; Secretary, Mr S. H. Andrews.—The Dagmars society entertainers, are here this week, the party including Miss Pattie M'Carthy, soprano; Miss Lily Beaton, contralto; Mr Henry Stockwell, tenor; Mr Ballard Brown, baritone; and Mr Marco Delmar and Mr Joseph Blascheck, who supply the comic element. Selections by the Aquarium orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter, and Ruffell's Bioscope pictures also add to the attractions.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—John Lawson and company, in *Humanity;* Howard and Collinson, in *The Porter and the Parcel;* the Gladenbecks, in their hand-balancing and silver ring speciality act; the Clarion Trio, comedians, vocalists, and dancers; the Vernon Troupe of xylophone experts; Percival, trick pianist; Frank Dunlop, comedian; Mabelle May, singer and dancer; Violet Grazia, soprano vocalist; Mdlle. Thelma, clay modeller; and the Alhambra pictures. Matinée attractions during the week comprise animated picture exhibitions of Buffalo Bill's "Wild West" show.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Albert Whelan, Australian entertainer; Boswell's stage circus; Larola, "the funny man with funny ways;" T. W. Royal, comedian and clog-dancer; Michael Nolan, Irish comedian; the Three Sisters Selwyn, vocalists and dancers; Barton and Ashley, frisky comedian and charming lady, in *Canal Boat Sal;* B. Trobo, juggler; Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians; Rose Cabani, comedienne and dancer; and animated pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER.—Manager, Mr C. Thompson Ford; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Matinée and evening performances were given here on the first three days of the week by the Jolly Japs, and on Thursday and Friday performances of the farcical comedy *Thoroughbred* were submitted.

WEST PIER. — Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr J. D. Hunter and company are here this week with *The Butler*. Mr J. D. Hunter is very humorous in the title-rôle; Miss Blanche Bayley makes an admirable Lavinia Muddle; Miss Eva Bayley is an excellent Lady Tracey; Miss Rose Temple's Lady Ann Babicombe and Miss May Straker's Alice Marshall are well played; and Mr John A. Thomson is entertaining as Sir John Tracey. Other parts are satisfactorily filled by Mr George Silver, Mr Charles Hawker, Mr Edgar Kent, and Mr Albert Victor.

COLISEUM. — Director of Entertainment, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes. —The following are here this week:—Marguerite Cornille, chanteuse eccentrique; Nell Richardson, comedienne and dancer; Wyotti, comedy juggler; the Abadaroffs, "the prehistoric mountebanks;" La Belle Atalanta, on the high wire; Charles Tempest, comedian; Ike Scott and Son; Nellie Navette, burlesque actress and dancer; and animated pictures.

CONCERT HALL, WEST-STREET.—Maskelyne and Cooke's company is concluding its engagement here this week, and is doing excellent business.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute. — Mr George Edwardes' company is here with *The Cingalee* (first time in Bristol). The musical play is superbly staged, and proves both interesting and amusing. The chorus is an exceptionally good one, and the augmented orchestra does very creditable work under the direction of Mr Harold Vicars. Miss Florence Smithson is pleasing and sufficiently vivacious as Nanoya, and she sings effectively; Miss Anna Hickisch is successful as Lady Patricia Vane, her song being rendered in artistic style; Miss Eva Sandford is capitally placed as Peggy Sabine, and both sings and dances well. Mr Harold Thorley does full justice to the part of Harry Vereker, his songs obtaining appreciation. Mr Leedham Bantock is quaintly humorous as Boobhambs, his song "Nothing more to say" getting several encores. Mr Frank Danby presents a very clever and amusing study of Chambhuddy Ram. Without being too extravagant he is always entertaining, and pleases immensely with his songs, while his funny business, in which he is often assisted by Miss Sandford as Peggy, causes much hilarity. Mr W. J. Manning makes the part of Sir Peter Loftus amusing; Mr Jack Cannot avails himself of his opportunities as Bobby Warren; and the remaining characters in a long cast are carefully taken by other members of the very capable company. There are several smart dances, the Rubies appearing to advantage as "devil dancers" and Miss May Gould doing some graceful dances in artistic style.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Mr Julian Malvern's company is presenting here the new drama *I Defy the World*, the mounting of which is highly creditable. Mr Lewis Gilbert gives a fine performance of Leon Darville; Mr Joseph W. Worley acts well as Count De Beaulieu; Miss Lina Nazeby displays considerable power as Blanche Darville; Miss Carrie Ellis is well placed as Pauline Delaporte; and other important parts are taken well by Miss Maud Lillian, Little Flo Bevan, Mr W. Denning, Mr Charles Conway, Mr Horace E. Herbert, and Mr Charles M. Julian.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—Jack Norris, blind collier lad, is appearing here. He does an acceptable musical turn, playing both the piano and concertina really well. George Leyton is here for a second week, presenting successfully his well-known scena *Boys of the Chelsea School*, assisted by local boy vocalists. Other turns are provided by Miss Alexandra Royal, a pleasing burlesque actress and vocalist; Laure Brothers, smart eccentric acrobats; Mr and Mrs Finden have an amusing farce, *A Desperate Remedy;* Miss Lillie Langtry, comedienne, is a favourite here, and is always vivacious and entertaining; J. A. Wilson, Negro comedian and dancer, obtains appreciation; C. Vincent Adams, patter comedian, is also successful; Harry Clifford, comedian, has some good songs which please all parts of the house; the Ottoways do a good act as speciality artistes and bone soloists; and the performance concludes with Vernon's animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Mr Horace Mills and Mr W. H. Rawlins, both well-known pantomime favourites in Bristol, are appearing here with a comic sketch *Mashing the Missus*. The sketch is highly amusing, and is capitally acted, valuable assistance being given by Miss Hill and Miss A. May. The Freydos present a clever turn as athletes and hand balancers; Johnny Danvers, comedian, obtains considerable appreciation; Lowell and Lowell are amusing eccentric comedians; Merton and Rydon are pleasing in their vocal speciality; Jenny Hartley, a juvenile soubrette, is decidedly clever; Monks and Woods amuse with their musical duologue *Mr Nobody;* the Elysian Troupe of coloured artistes have a good musical speciality *The Interrupted Rehearsal;* and Miss Ethel Dove is a smart and pleasing comedienne and dancer. The performance concludes with a series of interesting animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA (LIMITED). — Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—The era of legitimate drama will again be continued here on the 14th inst. Meantime the bi-nightly variety entertainment is of such excellence as to draw crowded houses. Mr James Fawn has lost none of his popularity; Mr J. G. Forde is a very good comedian; Mr C. Windermere and Clara Manifield are amusing in *Clause No. 6;* and Hettie Lee, comedienne; Levano, acrobat; Harry Bancroft, vocal comedian; and Emmie Ames comedienne, are all welcome contributors to a good bill, which also includes Margaret Hood, society entertainer, and some capital pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller. —Mr John F. Ashe presents a capital all-round company this week in *The World*. Mr Stuart Lomath as Clement Huntingford acts in a trenchant and telling manner throughout; Mr Francis Hawley is remarkably good as the dissolute spendthrift brother; a character sketch of decided ability is that of Mr Bernard J. Llell as Moss Jewell; Miss Beatrice Fay assumes the rôle of the heroine with signal success; Miss Georgette Thierry vividly portrays the suffering of the wronged wife; and performances of exceptional merit are given by Mr Jackson Hayes, Mr Adam Alexander, and Miss Maude Scott.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

ATHENÆUM HALL.—Mr Charles Macdona's company paid a flying visit here on Monday with *The Three Little Maids*. The little maids were well represented by Miss Vera Vallis, Miss Nellie Grover, and Miss Doris Trevor, who acted with great spirit, and gained double encores for several of their songs and dances. Mr Frank Henderson established himself a favourite as Lord Cheyne, and obtained double encores for several of his songs; nor was Mr R. Barrie as Cupid a whit behind—indeed, the two may be said to have divided the honours. Miss Ilma Norina made an excellent Lady St. Mallory, and Miss May Wright as Gretchen was pleasing.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr Tree's company is here in *The Darling of the Gods*. Miss Frances Dillon is an accomplished actress, and always charming, and she plays Yo San with fascinating grace; Mr Robert Pateman is also a clever actor, and in Zakkuri he has a part that suits him admirably; Mr K. Souper is in every way excellent as Kara; Mr D. Payne is very good as Inu; Miss Edith Deverell has made a praiseworthy Setsu; and Mr J. F. Simpson acquits himself creditably as Prince Tosan.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—Lovers of musical comedy are afforded a special treat this week at the Royal. Miss Ada Reeve is appearing with her London company, and presenting that bright and breezy piece *Winnie Brooke, Widow*. The representation of the fascinating widow was one that could only have come from such an accomplished actress as Miss Reeve. By her clever acting, charming singing, and graceful dancing she captivated everyone. Mr Henry Vibart gave a really fine impersonation of Dudley Mayne. Mr Leon Ashton-Jarry as Julian Croft was a conspicuous success, evoking much laughter. Reginald Frampton has an excellent exponent in Mr Edgar Stevens, who possesses a really good voice. Mr James Stevenson as the Rev. Elihu Garside and Mr Stephen Adeson as Montague Brent work hard, and deserve high commendation. Mr Fred Sharp's delineation of Toby was undoubtedly a good piece of acting, and a capital rendering of Hercules was given by Mr Edward Rigby. Miss Lucie Caine (Gracie), Miss Ruth Hazlewood (Nora), Miss Jannet Hodson (Mrs Garside), and Miss Drusilla Wills (Honoria Brown) are all to be congratulated on their clever portrayals.

KING'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—The attraction here is the new drama *A Marriage of Vengeance*, presented by Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's excellent company. The leading characters of Stella and Max Rheinhardt are effectively rendered by Miss Harrison Tate and Mr Granger A. De Gray, while the rest of the cast is in able hands.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The following attractions are in the bill here:—The Kettle of Wonders; Harry Anderson, vocal comedian; Sydney James's strolling players; Ray Wallace, mimic; Alexandre and Hughes, comedians and musicians; Paul Mill, character comedian; Winnie Dersor, comedienne; Sisters Geretti, the wonders on the double trapeze; the Brothers Edgar, comedians; and Lil Hawthorne, comedienne.

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; General Manager, Mr C. Algie.—The capital programme provided here this week is headed by the Onatis, who give an excellent juggling act. Aerian and Ostara, aerial gymnasts, are paying a return visit, and uphold their excellent reputation. Max Merlin, the human crocodile, scores a big success; Black Appollo, instrumentalist, is decidedly clever; and other good items are W. F. Cattle, ladderite; G. Globe, Dutch comedian; Miss Omega, wire-walker; Sunshine and Shadow, and the Hippodrome pictures.

NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Mr John H. Tomkinson's Gipsy Choir is the attraction here this week and opened on Monday to a packed house. Very praiseworthy was the singing of "Eileen Alannah" by Miss Alice Dunn; Mr Fred M'Lean created roars of laughter with his funny songs and eccentricities; the Lizette Troupe of lady acrobats give an exceptionally smart turn; and the Musical Keiths meet with great applause. Other capital turns include Maurice Lindsay, tenor vocalist, and the Florida Troupe of cake-walkers.

CASTLEFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—Miss Renée Glendower and company in *The Ladder of Life* are here this week. The rôle of General Gordon is ably sustained by Mr Tyrone Power, who gives a convincing portrayal of the part. The much-wronged hero, David Gordon, is played by Mr Roy Milton in a manner which wins for him the sympathies of the house. Meg Merrilees has a pleasing exponent in Miss Flora Leslie. A subtle delineation of scheming Fergus Gordon by Mr C. T. Matthews stands out prominently in the performance. Mr J. Cook Hinton gives a clever and striking performance of the treacherous Russian spy, Ivan. The Brothers Feros as the Cockney Highlanders are smart acrobats. Much laughter follows the efforts of Mr F. Morton Wright as Sergeant M'Dougal and Miss Hilda Young as Mary Jane. A clever representation, deserving of much praise, is given by Miss Stephanie Baring as Olga Sobinsky. Miss Renée Glendower is effective as Mother Flint, while Little Gordon has an excellent exponent in Miss Violet Carr.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Castleford Hippodrome Syndicate; Entertainment Directors, Messrs Herbert Cole and Harry Bancroft.—Some clever turns are provided here this week. Heading the bill is Walter Emerson, who creates laughter as a comedian. Captain Devereux with his wonderful performing dogs is a source of great attraction; Keir and Allen are smart acrobats and dancers; Bob Gardner, double-voiced vocalist, gives a good entertainment; Miss Fannie Humber delights her audience by a clever performance on a number of musical instruments; Miss Minnie Grey is well received as a vocalist and dancer; the Cinématograph is still proving a feature of the evening's amusement. A farcical comedy, *Getting Even*, is being successfully played by Mr T. C. Glenville, Mr Bert Morley, Miss Gladys Hawthorn, and Miss Dora Alex.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr Geo. G. Ridley.—Carson and Granville's company occupies the Royal with *The Drama of Life*, by Lingford Carson.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—Mr Lacey, of Erascope fame, is again up to date with his pictures in connection with the North Sea Disaster; neat and pleasing dancers are the Sisters Vincent; the Athlones display striking muscular development. The Brothers Lang, expert knockabout comedians; Stevens and Stevens, comedy artistes; Doris Lillian, comedienne; and Fred Eustace's *In Kentucky* Combination complete the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr Frank J. Donne. —Phil Ray is the bright particular star of this week's bill, and, of course, gets a big reception nightly, his songs and quaint patter going better than ever. Miss Maude Beaumont looks dashing in principal boy costume; Ernest Montefiore and company are to be congratulated upon the applause they gain for their interpretation of the sketch *The Little Colonel;* E. J. Sheldon is very popular with stories and his song "Changes," and in response to an encore he gives a laughing song. Also appearing are Herbert Rule, comedian; Miss Hettie Gale, serio; the Brothers Sweet, acrobatic comedians and dancers; and pictures by the Edisonograph.

CHESTER.

ROYALTY.—Proprietor, Mr Milton Bode; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Burgess Harries.—*Miss Mischief*, a musical comedy enacted by Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's company, is occupying the boards here this week. The play is brimful of fun and tuneful music. Mr Fred Eastman is a host in himself in the character of the servant of a military officer. He is well supported by an efficient company. A special feature in the play is the graceful dancing of two pert parlour-maids.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager Mr H. Oswald Redford.—Mr Leon M. Lion's company commenced a six days' engagement here on Monday, presenting *The Edge of the Storm* to an appreciative audience. Mr Henry Renouf excelled himself as the manly, big-hearted Jim; Miss Jean Sterling Mackinlay was a distinguished Leta; Miss Ada Marius and Mr F. Annerley threw plenty of conviction into their parts; Mr Alan Borthwick contributed light relief as the major in command; Mr Lion was dignified as Jim's native guardian; and Mr Julius Hagen as the French Governor gave a characteristic portrayal. The scenery and mounting were elaborate. On Thursday *The Chain of Evidence* was given for the first time out of London.

CHORLEY.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—The romantic drama *The Queen of the Night* is paying a welcome return visit this week, the company being under the personal direction of Mr James Stillwell, the proprietor. The principal characters are very successfully represented by Mr James Stillwell, Mr F. Thorpe-Tracey, Miss V. St. Lawrence, and Miss Irene Tracey. The scenic effects are deserving of high commendation.

CLYDEBANK.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—These boards are occupied this week by Messrs Carson and Granville's company with the drama *Defending His Honour*. Mr John Davidson as the hero, Douglas Bryce, gives a good account of himself. In the heavy part of Stephen Gerald Mr Clifton Boyle calls for special mention for his capital impersonation. He receives able assistance in his stage villainy from Mr Charles H. Herbert as George Duncan. Miss F. Melrose-Millet as Ethel Bryce looks and acts charmingly. The comic element is well looked after by Mr Willie Black as Richard Verison and Mr Kenneth Black, jun., who together keep the audience in capital fettle.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—The Craggs are appearing here in the musical absurdity entitled *Laughterland* Mr Henry B. Lewis is a host in himself as Professor Wood; Mr Harry Rousby delights the house as Dick Marlow; and Alderman Trentham is capably enacted by Mr Craigie Edwards. Miss Doris Harley successfully portrays Miss Tudor; Miss Evie Daring makes a clever Miss De Vere; and Miss Amy Hastings shows talent as Clarice.

CONSETT.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance. — Mr C. Finch Hatton's company, with *When London Sleeps*, is occupying the boards here this week. Mr H. S. Trelawney is good as Captain Rodney Haynes, and as David Ingleheart Mr Tom Roland does exceedingly well. Mr D'Arcy Kelway as Sammy Blyth is funny, and is ably assisted by Miss Hilda Young as Carrie Jones. In the sympathetic part of Queenie Carruthers Miss Ella Sennett is excellent, and Miss Grace Baring scores as Hilda Carrode.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Messrs Percy D. Standing and Arthur Burne's company opened an engagment here on Monday in Capt. Robt. Marshall's farcical romance *His Excellency the Governor*. The play is capitally performed. Mr Standing, in the title-rôle, is responsible for a clever impersonation. Mr Allison as the Private Secretary is very droll; Miss Joan Ellis, in the part of Ethel Carlton, and Miss Miriam Leigh as Stella De Gex both score in the parts. The piece is preceded each evening by G. W. Godfrey's one-act play *The Misogynist*, in which Mr Arthur Burne and Miss Ellis are seen to much advantage.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble. —There is a good programme here. Mr Harry Wenburn, comedian, is applauded in his songs; Kitty Tims is an excellent vocalist; Ryde and Beeman are capital comedy acrobats; R. C. Note, comedian, sings well; Engist and Orsa introduce a much appreciated musical comedy act; Daisy Davenport sings and dances well; Cliffe Dover, comedian, wins applause in his songs; and the Four Magnets, lady vocalists and dancers, give an interesting performance.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—*The Manxman* is paying a welcome visit to this house, and is being played by Mr Alfred B. Cross's company. Mr Cross takes the part of Pete with success, and proves a great favourite; Philip Christian is embodied by Mr Richard Vane in a forcible and satisfactory manner; and Mr Edward M'Lean makes a typical sportsman as Ross Christian. Miss Minnie Watersford plays Kate Cregeen in a forcible manner, and Miss Rosie Kearns proves capable as Nancy. Miss Muriel Clay is a sedate Miss Christian, and Mr Hilton Francis is good as the hypocritical Cæsar Oregeen.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—*The Duchess of Danzio* is here this week, and Croydon playgoers are grateful to the management of the Grand for a rich dramatic and musical treat. A full, powerful chorus and the augmented orchestra are noteworthy features. Miss Rita Presano acts the title-rôle with all the skill and tact of an accomplished actress, and scores most unmistakably. Mr Frederick Moyes plays with great power and point as Napoleon; Mr Albert Chapman is in real earnest, and takes a prominent position as François Lefebvre; Miss Alice Coverick is particularly fascinating and agreeable as Renée De Saint Messard; Mr Colin Mackay is well able to supply the necessary amount of fun to the part of Papillion; Mr Thomas C. Maxwell sings with effect, and has a commanding appearance in the dual-rôle of Philippe and Adhemar; Miss Amy Burton is a lively Lizette; Misses Edith Carlyle and May Harriss are aristocratic as the Duchess of Berg and Cleves and Princess Borghese; Mr Ralph Forster as Captain Reignier plays with credit; and the remaining characters receive every attention. Special praise should be given to the elaborate scenery and pretty dresses.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry E. Rickitt.—The boards are occupied by *The Life that Kills*. Miss Vyvyan Montgomery does herself credit as Laura Linden; Miss Mabel Kessler is successful as Tom Dicks and Johanna Dicks; Miss Cathleen Cavanagh acts with judgment as Brenda Croat; and little Mabel is a favourite as May Linden. Mr Herbert Sidney plays with force as Kendal Croat; Mr Hugh Metcalfe is a manly Hector Rodney; Mr E. D. Nicholls is natural as the Rev. Theodore Rodney; Mr Morris Maud is commendable as Valentine Telford; and Mr Harry Howe is satisfactory as Jack Joliffe.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The entertainment here is very good. The cowboy hypnotist, Ahrensmeyer, is giving his vivid performance; Ryan and Hall are clever acrobats, comedians, and wrestlers; Tom Stuart sings and acts with effect; Jimson's animals are very good; Ian Colquhoun, baritone, is well received; Walter Bellonini's juggling act is great, and he has a useful assistant; Francis and Nelli are effective in the novel musical act, "Brigands;" Michel and Polo submit a wonderful athletic turn; and a favourable word is due to Hilda Bretton, speciality comedienne; Stirtevant Swift, coon singer and dancer; and Gertrude Moore, serio and dancer. An exceedingly pretty gavotte, by Miss Dolly Partridge, is played nightly by the orchestra; and a pat on the back should be given the two "extra turn" youngsters in musical and vocal act, a performance of much promise.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Taylor.—Mr Frank Fenton's company in *If I Were King* has appeared here for three nights this week. Mr Frank Fenton sustained most admirably the character of Francois Villon; Mr Clive Currie as Louis XI. gave an excellent portrayal; the part of Thibaut d'Aussigny was in the able hands of Mr Leonard Maxwell; and Miss Marion Grey gave a sympathetic rendering of Katherine de Vaucelles. On Thursday Mr Charles Frohman presented for the first time in Crewe Mr William Gillett's play, *Sherlock Holmes*, with Mr William Rivington in the title-rôle.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Wallace Davidson. This week Messrs Mayhew and Herrick's company is here in *The Triumph of Truth*. Miss Marie Auckland, submits a sweet and pathetic rendering of Violet Anstruther, and does a remarkably quick and clever change into the part of the wronged sister Lilian. As Count D'Orville Mr T. R. Lockwood acts with telling effect, and Mr E. L. Louis is a capable Captain Jack Eversleigh. Miss Rosabel Dodd as the adventuress Blanchide Croix scores heavily, and Mr J. A. Keogh is good in the character of Sir Charles Eversleigh. Miss Lilian Ramsdale is a chic Corali, and Mr Frank Radcliffe a commendable Pierre. Mr Herrick makes the most of the part of Vitto. The comic element is in the able hands of Mr Johnny Clegg (Tommy) and Miss Lily Rogers (Katie).

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. L. Ormsby.—This week we are having a visit from Mr and Mrs Wm. Maclaren's company, who opened on Monday with *Proof*. Mr William Maclaren submitted a fine impersonation of Pierre Lorance, and was ably supported by Miss Lily C. Bandman, who gave an admirable performance as Valentine. The part of Lazare was rendered with great skill by Mr Richard Fulton; Mr Ardene Lindon was a capital Chamboran; the Duke D'Aubeterre was in the capable hands of Mr Kingsford Pearce; and Miss Gertrude Evans as Adrienne was also very good. *The Lady of Lyons*, *David Garrick*, and *East Lynne* are in the week's programme.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Mr F. Mouillot's company is here this week, producing *The Geisha* the first three nights, and *The Greek Slave* the last three nights. In *The Geisha* a clever and resourceful Wun Hi was found in Mr Edward Carlton, who scored all through. As Reginald Fairfax Mr Arthur Cartwright was in every way successful, his chief song being flatteringly received. The Marquis Imari was thoroughly satisfactorily impersonated by Mr Lionel Braham, and Captain Katani was well rendered by Mr J. Hornby. Mollie Seymour was delightfully pictured by Miss Florrie Saunders, who presented an exceedingly pleasing performance, her dancing and singing being charming. O Mimosa San was very prettily played by Miss Aimee De Leska, her "Jewel of Asia" being one of the gems of the opera, and Miss Violet Kenyon figured with acceptation as the French girl. Mr Frank Barratt made an admirable conductor.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—Miss Billie Barlow, the well-known burlesque actress, forms the star turn here this week, and her pleasing style is gaining her a gratifying reception. Sylvines Trio of Continental gymnasts submit a praiseworthy exhibition; Hyam Long musical comedian, is as entertaining as ever; Will Cornish is successful in his unique bell act; and G. W. Foster proves himself an amusing comedian. The programme also includes Reilly and Taylor diverting American-Dutch comedians; Sisters Hula, pleasing vocalists and dancers; and Major Moss and Son, vocal scenic artists.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—Playgoers here are witnessing with renewed interest, for the third time, *The Fatal Wedding*. The company is indeed in all respects the strongest that has yet visited this house, and the performance goes with a hearty swing. The rôle of Jessie is cleverly sustained by Miss Gladys Rose Jones; as Mabel Wilson that sterling actress Miss Marie Housley has a part exactly suited to her fine abilities; Mr Wilfred Payne is cast for Howard Wilson, the rôle being played with lifelike faithfulness; Mr Walter Westwood takes Peter Schwartz with excellent results; and Mr Wallace Stranack in the rôle of Curtis acts with polish and vigour. The children are all clever, and reflect infinite credit upon their teacher.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr G. Weldon.—Principal place this week may be assigned to the Albano Troupe, with an excellent musical speciality. Paddy as a wizard and Cora Grey, with selected songs, contribute much pleasure. George Edney, comedian, and the Sisters Adelaide are worthy of note. The Bransbys, duettists, earn much praise; the acrobatic display of Osmond is much appreciated; and Onda and Artell, with a gymnastic act, share in the general success.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—A variety combination is in possession of the boards this week, and the Four Kays, in the pantomime sketch *Aladdin*, are very popular. Harry Alberry, comedian, &c., imparts pungent humour into his turn. Mons. De Lil is a smart conjuror, and George and Edwards, patter comedians and dancers, were never more acceptable. Tom Johnstone, actor-vocalist and mimic, is vociferously applauded. Leon and Leoni, musical eccentrics, are clever. Francisco, juggler, performs many daring feats, and Prof. Hulbert achieves popularity as a ventriloquist. May Moodie, lady piccolo soloist, will leave behind her many reminiscences. A comedy act by Karr and Kooney, entitled "Bertie's Music Lesson," is facetiously presented. Flo Hilton's male impersonations are distinctly creditable.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—*The Girl from Japan* is paying a first visit here this week, and is meeting with a hearty welcome. Mr S. Lockridge combines effective stage-management with the well-played part of Lord Allenbury. Mr Alfred Wood is very amusing as the much-worried Sir Mulberry Flippington. Mr Percy Baverstock has a capital voice for the part of the irascible General Baugh. Mr Charles Ludlow puts in good work as Bingle. Miss Una Palmer delightfully represents Polly Perkins. Miss Nellie Valentine is a pretty and engaging Violet Meadows, and Miss Bessie Deane undoubtedly takes first honours for her graceful and captivating rendering of Countess De La Rue. She is well supported by a bevy of pretty ladies, whose innumerable costumes form a charming effect. The Misses Violet and Lillie English are exceedingly clever speciality dancers.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard. —Large audiences have been mystified here this week by the clever and interesting performances of the Marconis, electric wonders. Virto, in a musical act, assisted by his daughters Irene and Venita, is responsible for a pleasing performance. Little Zola is here again, and, as usual, keeps the house convulsed with laughter. Dollie Moore, juvenile male impersonator, is very good; and the Lynchs, American song illustrators, should be very well satisfied with their reception. The programme, which is an exceptionally good one, also includes Sisters Valner, duettists; Marie Weston, vocalist, banjoist, and dancer; and Happy Attwood, eccentric comedian, who are all old favourites here.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Fred C. Dew.—Presented by Mr T. Morton Powell's company, *The Greed of Gold* is drawing crowded houses nightly. Mr B. Fox as Tom Welstead, afterwards known as the Dumb Man, scored heavily by his facial play in acts two and four; Mr Wilson Summers plays well as Arthur Errol; Mr Carthage Caldeleugh gives an original impersonation of the villain, Harry Hood, whose accomplice, Cull Snig, is well presented by Mr Walter Cameron; Mr Brightstone, K.C., is portrayed effectively by Mr T. G. Warry; Mr Ernest Bright is excellent as the villainous Mee-Chow; Mr H. Shea as Conn Creamer supplies welcome light relief, and has a merry companion in Miss Winnie Donovan as Patty Mayfield; Miss Daisy Halling, who plays Dora, has much personal grace and charm of manner; and Miss Grace St. John truthfully depicted the varied emotions of Miss Mary Maxwell. Miss Florrie Woods is natural as Cecil Hood.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—The engagement of Mr F. R. Benson and his Shakespearian company this week has been a decided success, and on Monday a large audience filled the theatre to witness the production of *Othello*, which was played and staged in capital style. The Othello of Mr F. R. Benson was an admirable reading. Mrs F. R. Benson charmingly portrayed the rôle of Desdemona; her acting was most pleasing and impressive throughout. The character of Iago was in the capital hands of Mr Arthur Whitby, who gave great satisfaction. An interesting study of Cassio was submitted by Mr Cyril Keightley, and as Roderigo Mr Percy D. Owens was particularly good, and Miss Gertrude Scott submitted an effective Emilia. The minor parts were cleverly acted. The week's répertoire includes *As You Like It*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Macbeth*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Hamlet*, and *Richard the Second*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—Mr Charles Frohman's company occupies the boards hear this week, and is playing Arthur W. Pinero's play, *Letty*, to large audiences. Mr H. B. Irving and Miss Irene Vanbrugh appear in the principal characters, Nevill Letchmere and Letty Shell, and their acting is exceedingly clever and interesting. Miss May Blayney is an excellent Mrs Ivor Crosbie, and as Mr Ivor Crosbie Mr T. S. M'Causland Stewart does very well. In the rôle of Hilda Gunning Miss Eleanor Souray is amusing, and as Marion Allardyce Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson is admirable. Mr Scott Craven appears with success as Bernard Mandeville, and the remaining parts are satisfactorily filled.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.— Mrs Hubert O'Grady's company is here again this week, and has presented *The Fenian* with excellent results. Mr Arthur Gribbin gives a capital impersonation of Jack Lynch, and Mr G. Mallin as Colonel Tracey and Mr Alfred Weekley as Lieutenant Tracey are eminently successful. Mr Tom Nerney sustains his reputation in the rôle of Barney, and Mrs Hubert O'Grady is admirable as Nana; Mr Harry Harrild fills the part of Harry Maxwell satisfactorily, and Miss Gwendolin Hastings does well as Helen Lynch. Father Kelly is played in a capable manner by Mr Frank Fox, and the rôles of Miss Williams and Lady St. John are well filled by Miss Brereton and Miss Violet Wood respectively.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.— George Lashwood, the popular vocalist, is paying a return visit here this week, and meets with a hearty reception. Another old favourite in the person of Mark Sheridan is also here, and is well received. The Lannons are a lively pair of duettists and dancers, and Ethel Duncan is a pleasing ballad vocalist. The Three Georgis' acrobatic act meets with approbation, and May Milburn is a chic comedienne and dancer. Fred Dunstone is an able comedian, and the Empire pictures are still showing.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—Heading the bill here this week are the O'Learys, in their Oriental burlesque act. Dandy George and his dog Rosie supply a clever and interesting turn, and George Casey, comedian, makes a decided hit; as does also Caselli and James, unique banjoists. The Brothers Brighton are capital comedians, and Cissie Reece is a comely comedienne and dancer. Johnny Fuller, animal impersonator, does a smart wire act; and Cordite, Australian bush girl, gives a good exhibition of rope spinning. Amy Bell sings some pretty ballads, and Bert Holmes is a first-rate vocalist.

PAVILION, KINGSTOWN.—Manager, Mr John H. Stevenson.—There is an entire change of programme here this week, the chief attraction being Miss Lilieth Leyton and company, in their sketch *The Order of the Bath*, which receives due recognition. The Ferrari Duo, cosmopolitan dancers, meet with success; and Inez Clough, ballad vocalist, renders her songs in a pleasing manner. The Langdons, illustrated song artists, are an interesting turn; and Effie White, kaleidoscopic dancer, displays much talent. Another entertaining feature is Valvero's "Naval Bombardment," and Dolly Harmer and Pallester's American Bioscope complete the programme.

WORLD'S FAIR MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr C. A. James.—The company engaged here this week includes Horace Monto, specialty artiste; Rosie Leslie, serio and dancer; Marguerita Chappell, comedienne; Cyril Demane, conjuror; and John Chambers, the armless wonder.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—*The New Barmaid* returns here under the direction of Mr Alexander Loftus. Miss Ethel Kenyon enacts the title-rôle with much sweetness and charm. Miss Violet Osmond makes an excellent Lady Journalist; Miss Hilda Blanche as Brenda Louth is excellent; Mr Joseph B. Montague and his quaint methods evoke many laughs; and Mr Leslie Austin gives a good account of himself as Captain Lovebury.

PEOPLE'S PALACE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross. — The Daunton-Shaw Troupe of cyclists go through an exceedingly clever performance; Tom Lloyd is a great favourite; Marie Santoi sings her songs with artistic finish; Gilbert's dogs are worthy of special mention; as also are the Rozelles, acrobats; the Sisters Terry, and Les Voces. The bill also includes W. H. Downes, Alf Leverni, and J. G. Aitken.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Will Percival. —*The Conscript*, an up-to-date military drama, is here. Mr George Mitchell as the Conscript displays dramatic ability; Mr Wallie Spinner is a capital Ivan Manloff, and Mr F. H. Constable a vigorous Governor. Miss Ivy Chandos and Mr T. H. Solly supply the humorous element.

GAIETY, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr S. King Alexander.—*From Scotland Yard* is paying a return visit. Mr Finch Hatton, who has control, also cleverly undertakes the part of Jack Dale. Mr T. Arthur Ellis makes a creditable appearance as the prince of swindlers.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in the comedy *Saturday to Monday* met with a hearty reception on Monday. Miss Moyra Creegan played charmingly throughout as Mrs Wendover; Mr Stuart Champion speedily won favour as Lord Culvert; Lady Diana was depicted in admirable fashion by Miss Madeline L'Estrange; and an excellent Stanley Pidding was found in Mr Dallas Welford.

EASTBOURNE.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—The usual variety bill is presented here this week. Clown Ferreros introduces a clever and novel musical act, and he has a wonderfully intelligent assistant in his dog. Miss Victoria Dagmar possesses a fine figure, and she is an accomplished and graceful bar gymnast, while the comedy assistant contributes some agile jumping. The Four Andys are popular in their able tumbling and Risley act. The Puritan Maidens, assisted by Quenton Ashlyn, contribute a long and varied turn which pleases the audience. The Venola Brothers are flying ring experts, and introduce plenty of fun. Miss Elsa Brüll is a pleasing ballad vocalist; Mr D. W. Watson is a favourite as a post-horn and cornet soloist; and Miss Lottie Albert as a gay comedienne completes the programme.

EBBW VALE.

KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Manager, Mr Arthur Knight.—Mr S. F. Cody's company is here in *The Klondyke Nugget*. The piece is excellently staged. The scene representing the quartz mine in full swing is greatly appreciated. The Cody Family give a clever exhibition of shooting, while Mr Dan Merritt, drummer, secures loud applause for his smart manipulation by the sticks.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister. — Under the direction of Mr Frederick Mouillot the successful comic opera, *My Lady Molly*, pays a return visit to this theatre this week. On Monday there was a capital audience, who accorded the piece a hearty greeting. Miss Decima Moore appeared in her original rôle of Alice Coverdale, and charmed the house by her dainty and refined singing and sparkling comedy acting, her graceful dancing being also much admired. Miss Beatrice Edwards, the Lady Molly, gave a vivacious representation of the part, and her rich, mellow voice was heard to advantage in several charming songs. Miss Amy Cooper made a praiseworthy Madeline Mirabeau, and Miss Lottie Crawford a piquante Hester, the latter dancing neatly. Mr Harry T. Davies sang with feeling and acted with spirit as Captain Harry Romney; Lionel Bland was excellently played by Mr Ernest Mozer, Mr Augustus Cramer was highly successful as the bluff and hearty Sir Miles Coverdale, Mr John Tellac Callum made an entertaining Micky O'Dowd, singing and dancing with unflagging good humour.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General-Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—The welcome engagement of Sir Henry Irving and his company commenced on Monday with a representation of *The Merchant of Venice*, that gave unqualified pleasure to a very large and enthusiastic audience. Sir Henry, who had a worthy reception on coming forward as Shylock, was also recalled and loudly cheered at the close of every act, and had a marked ovation at the end, when he said a few words of grateful thanks to his faithful Edinburgh friends. He had admirable support from Messrs Gerald Lawrance James Hearn, Frank Tyars, Charles Dodsworth, H. B. Stanford, and John Archer, the latter a well remembered old-time favourite. Miss Edith Wynne Matheson as Portia contributed a performance of rare power and beauty to an otherwise strong cast, and made a notable impression all through the trial scene. Miss Grace Hampton was a sprightly Nerissa, and Mrs Cecil Raleigh an effective Jessica. On Tuesday evening *Becket* drew another brilliant house, and introduced Sir Henry in one of the most perfect of the many historical portraits he has given to the stage during his illustrious career. Mr Gerald Lawrence played the tempestuous Henry II. with the requisite spirit. Miss Maud Fealy gave a charming performance of Rosamond, and Mrs Cecil Raleigh an intensely vivid presentment of Queen Eleanor. *Waterloo* and *The Bells* were given on Wednesday, and *The Lyons Mail* was presented on Thursday.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—The well-known eccentric comedian, Mr T. E. Dunville, heads the bill this week, and gave samples of his peculiar humour on Monday with all the old success. The Brothers Redmond went through their diverting acrobatic turn amid shouts of laughter; and the patter and music of the Wedburns were also to the liking of the house. Bard performed a number of daring feats on the slack wire, and the Brothers De Kock, acrobats, were also well received. Harry Dent's comic songs took well, and the equestrian sketch, *Rejected Remounts*, was played by Fred Ginnett and company with immense gusto. The Tourbillon Troupe and Miss Margaret Radcliffe remain over from last week, and Ted Cowan and Marion Scott complete a capital company.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—Mr Roy Jackson's company in *The Hand of Iron* occupies the boards of this theatre, and on Monday drew a large house. Mr Roy Jackson's impersonation of "The Mystery" was highly satisfactory; and Mr Victor Vernon as the journalistic villain pleased the audience mightily. Misses Inez Harman and Louie Addison acted their respective parts nicely; and Miss Katie Douglas showed considerable emotional power in her trying rôle.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr John Henry Cooke. — The reopening of Mr Cooke's equestrian season has been causing unusual excitein this part of the town, and on Monday there was an overflowing house, numbers being unable to obtain seats. In the interval the circus has been tastefully redecorated in blue and gold, and electricity now forms a feature in the lighting. A high-class programme had been arranged, and everybody was delighted with the entertainment, which was carried through with remarkable spirit. The daring feats of Miss Powell and Mons. Henry in their acrobatic display on two bare-backed horses were warmly applauded, and Miss Ernestine Rosa Cooke introduced Kentucky Beau, a horse that gives an imitation of the cake-walk, the lady receiving a double recall at the close. M. De Gracia's elephants acted as barbers and waiters, and took part in a game of cricket with wonderful intelligence, the spectacle being decidedly amusing. The equestrianism of Miss Eva was much admired, and the Moxon Family appeared in a turn that embraced music, dancing, and acrobatics with notable success. La Belle Rose made a hit with her clever aerial performance, and the Sisters Warner were also cordially received. Horton and Linder, the Yoricks, and the Brothers Leotard gave excellent turns; and a number of Bioscope pictures were also shown. The clowns were in excellent form, and Talberto was more than ordinarily amusing in his fun without words. Mr Cooke appeared in the ring during the interval, and thanked his patrons for their support; and the evening concluded with a picturesque display, "Prairie Life Out West."

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week *The Wearin' o' the Green* held the boards. As Barney O'Hea Mr Chalmers Mackey (whose company it was) proved an inimitable comedian. The piece was well received each evening. The first three nights this week saw the production of *A Fa'al Crown* by Mr Ian Maclaren's company. Miss Elaine Verner's interpretation of the Lady Jane Grey was accomplished in every detail. Mr Ian Maclaren's Lord Guildford Dudley was very acceptable, his bearing and manner being admirable. Mr Harding Thomas as Herne the Hunter did his work with ability. Miss Maude Anderson as Mary Tudor spoke her lines with due emphasis. The part of Simon Reynard was well filled by Mr Henry Howard. On Thursday the Ben Greet company began a three nights' engagement with *Florodora*.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—With the Seven Musical Savonas heading the bill here this week large audiences have been attracted, and, on alternate nights, the Cycling Elliotts have proved an enormous draw. Regan and Ryan, comedians, prove an exceptionally good turn, as also do the Weimars, in their novel act. Maude Cliftor, descriptive vocalist, is also responsible for a good turn, as also is Senorita Elvina, queen of the air. Other capital turns are provided by Florrie Bray, versatile comedienne, and Will Ellerslie, comedian and entertainer.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphreys.—Full houses are assembling nightly to witness Mr Wentworth Croke's company in *The Christian*, with Miss Grace Chalmers as Glory Quayle and Mr Hilliard Vox as John Storm, both of whom give excellent renderings of their parts. The unscrupulous Lord Robert Ure is strongly represented by Mr Charles B. Bedells, and the conventional Archdeacon Wealthy finds an able exponent in Mr Charles E. Dering. Miss Clara Nicholls as Mrs Callender gives a fine impersonation of the amiable old lady, and Mr Stanley Radcliffe as Father Lamplugh is good.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is here this week on a return visit with *A Country Mouse*. The part of Angela, the demure country girl, is charmingly filled by Miss Dido Drake, and as Lady Silvia Bowlby Miss Dorothy Drake also gives an attractive performance. Mr Sydney Stirling makes a brisk and sprightly Archibald Vyse; Mr Charles Harley imparts considerable character to the part of John Bowlby, M.P.; the Lord Wykeham of Mr Wilson Lumley is a clever assumption; Mr Arnold Lucy sustains the part of the Duke of St. Kitts with easy humour; and Mr J. E. Watson is an admirable Jephcot; Violet Aynsley is brightly represented by Miss Eve Erskine, and an amusing Mrs Cropper is provided by Miss Emily Levettez. Miss Violet M. Hadley makes a smart housemaid. The comedy is preceded by the farce *His Landlady*.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane. —Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott received an enthusiastic welcome here on Monday, when they opened in *Mice and Men*. Miss Elliott a Peggy is a wonderfully clever performance; Mr Forbes Robertson's Mark Embury is equally fine; Mr Frank Gillmore is well placed as Captain Lovell, and acts with distinction; Mr J. H. Ryley is in his original part of the old-fashioned dancing master; and Miss Minnie Griffen is still the Matron of the Foundling Hospital. Mr Ernest Cosham now plays Peter with much dry humour, and Miss Ada Mellon as the housekeeper is an excellent contrast. Mr George Summer makes a brisk and jovial Roger Goodlake, and his flighty lady is played with due point by Miss Auriol Lee. Mr Leon Quartermaine as Sir Harry and Miss Dorothy Paget as a kitchenmaid complete the cast. On the latter evenings of the week Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott were seen in their original parts in *The Light that Failed*.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S. — Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch. —Miss Madge Girdlestone's company is drawing good houses at Mr Waldon's popular theatre in *The City of Millions*, the play being produced by Mr Martin Sabine, who is also responsible for the principal male part—that of Captain Wilfred Dread, in which he has fine scope for a powerful rendering of a more than usually unscrupulous villain. Mr Henry Nelson in the part of John Townsend does the work allotted him in a most convincing way; and the John Stacey of Mr Vernon Sansbury is sympathetic. Mr Grahame Herington is a congenial Boodle; and as Bob Westwood Mr Sam Wilkinson has a part which suits him admirably. The humour of Mr Clarmont Gaskell in the dual delineation of an artist and a policeman is at once unctuous and never overstrained. Miss Gladys Vernon is sprightly as the light-hearted and kindly disposed Kitty Taylor. In Jessie Townsend little Miss Audrey Sutherland is seen to advantage; and Miss A. Verity's acting is graceful, refined, and convincing. Chesney is in the good care of Miss Audrey Canning; and Miss Maud Stewart as the Waif has a part in which she is well suited. Miss E. Wilson is the French maid; and the Judge by Mr F. Bowman is impressive. Miss Girdlestone, who looks very handsome in some beautiful dresses, is most convincing and powerful in her impersonation of the villainess.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Mascard.—Messrs C. and F. Renad are presenting here this week *The Swiss Express*, that amusing mixture of comedy and burlesque which always appeals to the public. Messrs Renad take the parts of the two servants of Dr. Gull, and their eccentric behaviour is as funny as ever. Dr. Gull finds a capable representative in Mr Wilford Bailey, and Miss Marie Millward makes a bright and charming Virginia. Mr George Martin as Bob Rollingstone, Mr Alec Wylie as Dudley Green, and Mr George Power as Rhino all contribute to the general gaiety. The Four Brighton Girls give some clever exhibitions of dancing and sword exercises. The smaller parts are all well played.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—The stirring drama, *Mysteries of the Thames*, is this week being presented by Mr F. Brooke Warren's company. Mr Roy Portescue is very good as Richard Brandon; Miss Lallah Shelton undertakes the trying part of Kate Brandon with success; Mr F. Brooke Warren as Captain Denbigh is a capable villain; Bill Bosco gets an effective rendering from Mr Elton Morgan; Mr Gilbert Hall makes the most of the part of Jack Hammond; Mr Dan Hardie as Peter Waggles does good work; Miss Gwynne Warren is a strikingly dramatic figure as Helen Price and Grace Rochdale; Miss Nellie Palmer is a clever child actress; Miss Clare O'Sullivan is a satisfactory Bertie Fitzgerald; and Miss Flo Norman an amusing Emma Seaton.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—After comic opera we are getting strong dramatic fare here in *A Victim of Villainy*, by Messrs John A. Atkin and Walter Howe's company, the same as appeared last week at the Princess's.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green. —This week Mr Oswald Cray's company is appearing in *The Shaughraun*, with Mr John S. Chamberlain as the fun-loving Conn, a part which he plays with rollicking humour. Mr Oswald Cray makes a gentlemanly Captain Molyneux, and the Claire Ffolliott of Miss Marion Holmes is a bright impersonation. Mr Lawrence H. Stevenson as Robert Ffolliott and Miss Miriam V. Richards are well placed as the other lovers. Mr Joe English acts well as Harvey Duff, and pretty Miss Cissie Vyner disguises herself as Mrs O'Kelly. Miss Kate Lloyd is a lively Moya, and keeps the fun with Conn going well. Mr John Riley is a dignified Father Doolan, and Mr Hubert Beresford acts with vigour as Corry Kinchella. The play is well staged.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Limited.—Chas. R. Sweet, the American "musical burglar," is a big hit here with his clever piano business and original patter. The sketch *Lord Harkaway*, by Frederick Maxwell, Miss Lois Du Cane, and company, goes well, and the boxing bout which forms the closing incident is followed with interest. The Tribune Trio cause roars of laughter with their *Cheerful Idiot* sketch. Cassie Walmer's coon songs take well, and her sand dance is particularly smart. The Aurora Troupe of cyclists repeat their clever and daring performance; Juan and M'Que are a clever pair of knockabouts; and Ford and Hanson; Nello, lady contortionist; Professor Berner's Marionettes; Charles Stevens; and the Max Welson Troupe, in their strong act, are the other items on a lengthy programme.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S.—Proprietors, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr B. Armstrong; Manager, Mr T. J. Colquhoun; Acting-Managers, Messrs B. M. Armstrong and Fred Ewing.—Another excellent company is booked this week, the bill being headed by Will H. Fox, comedian-pianist, in his famous Paderewski satire. Rose Elliott, comedienne, submits numerous up-to-date songs; a sensational sketch, entitled *Repentance*, is given by Will Godwin and company; and the rest of the company includes the Jeneys, comedians; Mons. De Henau, novelty act; Forrest and King, acrobats; Rozz's Hippodrome; Jenny Reeves, comedienne; Mdlle. Aladina and her performing cockatoos; Prince Fee Lung, Japanese juggler; Mdlle. Du Roche, a clever operatic soprano; the Four Jumels, in a musical act; the Woodbee Wonders, acrobats; and Bendon's Bioscope.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Rich. Waldon and Thomas Barrasford.—Dr. Walford Bodie, the renowned wonder-worker, who makes his appearance at this fine home of varieties on the south side of the city this week, is no stranger in Glasgow, and is welcomed at each performance nightly by enormously crowded audiences. He still continues with his marvellous art and skill to administer relief to many sufferers. The rest of the programme is contributed to by the Sisters Lyle, who sing duets and dance themselves into considerable favour; Mr Tom Dewar, an acceptable comedian; and the international dances of the Garden Troupe, to exhilarating pipe music, is a pleasing feature at each entertainment. The De Roys give a conjuring turn, in which novelty and oddity are the chief features; La Petite Bella continues to be very popular; and Gerald Lopez gets nightly a large measure of applause. Miss Dolly Robson, the child wonder from Coatbridge, discovered by Dr. Bodie, makes good progress as a singer. Les Fontaines' marionette exhibition and pictures by the Palace Bioscope add acceptable variety to a programme affording much enjoyment.

BRITANNIA. — Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Manager, Mr George Saphrini.—A good programme is provided here this week. The principal item is that of "The Coastguard," a clever vocal sketch, by Denis M'Carthy. Other notable turns include Les Boie, smart burlesque jugglers; Lena Page, clever descriptive vocalist; the Three Martinettes, knockabouts; Blanche Haddon, ballad vocalist; the Gartells, instrumentalists; Tom O'Neil, quaint comic; Brindall and Cooper, comedians and dancers; and Eva Barrett, a comedienne of ability.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Mr W. H. Kirby's company in *The New Mephisto* is on a return visit. Mr W. H. Kirby gives an amusing impersonation of Dick Pilgrim; Mr Fred Lyne is, however, the chief laughter maker as Mr Mephistopheles, assuming various disguises with great success; Miss Lily Gullick as Dolly Pilgrim gives a vivacious performance; whilst Becky Pilgrim is eccentrically played by Miss Marion Armitage, who creates roars of laughter. Captain Meredith is admirably rendered by Mr H. P. Carr, and the vacuous Lord Hummingtop is meritoriously acted by Mr Herbert St. John. Mr Willie H. Vernon is commendable as the pompous Major Bantam, and Miss Dorothy Cecil makes a pleasing Mrs Gertie Gentle. Mesdames Leah Howard and Marion Keeley are seen to advantage as Connie and Prudie Gentle respectively. Miss Nellie Darrell looks well as Blanchette, as does Miss Lilian Gregory as Nichette.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—The great attraction for the week is Ahmed Madrali and his troupe, and their fine display delights large audiences each evening. Mahatma puzzles with his astonishing feats; Alber and Amber give a clever eccentric comedy juggling act; Hannah and James contribute a smart show as foot equilibrists; and other artistes appearing are Gilroy and Gross, comedians; Chas. Somers, comedian; Eva Beryl, ballad vocalist; and Edie Anderson, comedienne.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—A capital programme is again provided. The Skandia Troupe of Swedish gymnasts contribute a capital turn; Salbo well deserves his title of King of Clubs, and is also a marvellous plate-thrower; Art, Zebra, and Vora give an interesting display in illustration of Indian pastimes; Madame Collard's performing boarhounds are much admired and applauded; the Great Northern Troupe give a turn as International dancers; Dolly, Agnes, and Maude contribute a novel act as singing cardboard box makers; and amusement is provided by Hilton and Hilton, Little Bishop, and Doodles.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs H. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr E. Vivian Edmonds's company is here this week with Wilson Barrett's play *The Golden Ladder*. Mr Harry Cullenford gives a vigorous interpretation of the Rev. Frank Thornhill; Mr John Owen is amusing as Samuel Peckaby; Mr E. Vivian Edmonds adds to his reputation by his excellent acting in the part of Michael Severn; Mr Graham Winsford makes a humorous M. Peranza; Mr Joseph Rowland does well as Jim Dixon; Mr Milne Taylor distinguishes himself as John Grant; and Mr Ernest Ramsay acquits himself creditably as Noah Learoyd. Mr Hartland Rowe is fairly good as Lieutenant Valnois, as is Mr W. Chambers as Dr. Lamair. Mr Frank Martin is a manly Captain Jackson, and Mr Samuel Clegg appears successfully as Colonel Biram. Miss Mary Austin as Lilian Grant acts very winningly, and wins unstinted applause; Mrs Peckaby is well represented by Miss Nellie Graham; and Miss Frida Sheldon capably impersonates Mrs Dixon. Miss Ethel Patrick is good as Victoria Peckaby, and little Doris Dale is a charming Lily.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—At this theatre this week Mdlle. Haydee, with her marvellous mannikin, heads the bill. J. C. Morris, eccentric comedian, does well; Bishop and Vale, comedians and dancers, are applauded; Tate and Tate, comedy acrobats, are amusing; Charles Daunton, comedian and whistler, gives a good turn; the Sisters Brenton are captivating duettists and dancers; Brady and Johnson's company are seen in a funny sketch; and the Electrograph shows new pictures.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—A new musical play, *Peggy Machree*, was produced here this week by Mr Charles F. Hamilton. A special notice appears elsewhere.

HIPPODROME.—Carl Mysto, who describes himself as the monarch of manacles, has proved himself an especially smart manipulator of handcuffs. No matter how intricately trussed up with steel fetters, he never fails to release himself in a wonderfully short space of time. Lachie Thomson's Topweights have given a very smart display of boxing, wrestling, club-swinging, &c.; Henri Bekker's conjuring feats have caused considerable mystification; Harry Meir has contributed a clever gymnastic performance, exhibiting some neat somersault throwing; Harry Drew, a Welsh bass vocalist, has had a favourable reception; Larry Lewis has proved an amusing comedian; and the Paytes have also caused a good deal of laughter with their comedy sketch, *Also Ran*. A series of excellent animated pictures, including illustrations of the North Sea Outrage, has completed the programme.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—On Monday the American Photo Co., under the direction of Mr B. Kennedy, opened here for three nights. An attractive programme is submitted by a clever company of variety artistes and the Ediscope and Barnum's animated pictures. Those worthy of special mention are Le Brun and Mdlle. Irene, Continental jugglers; Lodei Lyons, ventriloquist; Musical Corlette, Belford and Mas, comedy couple; Miss Jessie Harper, Mons. Edgar, and Miss Ethel Lucerne, comedienne and dancer. The animated pictures are worthy of praise. Mr Arnold Bell and company opened on Thursday for three nights with *Ben my Chree*.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—*The Belle of New York* is paying a welcome return visit here. The company is thoroughly efficient, and reflects credit on Mr George Musgrove. The staging, scenery, and dresses are all commendable. The title-rôle is sustained by Miss Beatrice Lamotte, who is in all respects worthy of the place; Fifi is piquantly and charmingly played by Miss Lillian Digges who also sings sweetly; and Miss Winnie Browne does well as Cora Angelique. Mr Harry A. Meymott is the elder Bronson, and right well he acts the part; Mr Philip Leslie is the beau ideal Harry Bronson, and is always effective; Mr Max Copland does the lunatic business, and Mr William Pringle is an admirable Blinky Bill, and a wonderful whistler. The other parts are well attended to, the chorus is adequate, and the whole show goes with spirited movement and animation.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—Mr Fred Karno's company of comedians in *The Dandy Thieves* is the most prominent feature of this week's entertainment. The cast is large and capable, and for a full hour they keep the house in constant laughter. In addition to this big item on the programme are the M'Kays in comedy and rapid oil-painting; Kathleen Grey, a capable and attractive burlesque artist; Stern and Stern, comedy duettists and dancers; and Kit Keen, coon artist.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze. —On Monday a week's engagement was opened here by Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company in *The Silver King*. A very impressive performance of Wilfred Denver was given by Mr Austin Melford. Miss Emilie Polini as Nellie Denver by her charm of manner enlists the deep sympathy of her audience. Mr C. C. Grattan gives a good delineation of the faithful Jaikes; Miss Amy Manfree acts very intelligently as Cissy; Mr Charles Levey well presents the unscrupulous "Spider;" and Mr James L. Power does good service as Henry Corkett. Mr Arthur H. Rooke is characteristic as the "fence," Elijah Coombe; Miss Phyllis Dailly is graceful as Olive Skinner; and good character studies are afforded by Miss Amy Wood as Tabitha Durden, by Miss Margaret Rooke as Susie, and Miss Dolly Norton as Mrs Gammage. Mr Arthur H. Rooke stage-manages very successfully.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Dr. Seaton is showing an excellent series of animated photographs here this week. Interspersed in the entertainment are some harmonious handbell selections, prettily played by Mr W. Kingsley; and songs tastefully rendered by Miss Marion Williams; while Professor Calsm is amusing as a ventriloquist.

PIER PAVILION.—Pier-master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—*On the Stroke of Twelve* is being produced here this week by Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company. It is a play of forgery, love, murder, villainy, and revenge. Messrs Fred Rivers, Fred Guinness, and Creagh Hunt are the principal characters, whose unscrupulous scheming is interesting. The play is occasionally enlivened by some amusing patter, and songs and dances are given by Messrs Bass and Guinness, the eccentric comedian Mr Karl Edwards, and Mr Fred Little, the Negro artiste.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—Miss Cissie Heath, an attractive comedienne and dancer, opens a good programme; Mr Ernie Williams, comedian, sings with taste and expression; Miss Annie Laurie, comedienne, obtains a warm reception A novel turn is the blind pianist, M. Slippere, who, assisted by Miss Ramsay, imitates a variety of instruments with realistic effect. Messrs Forman and Fannan (Percy and Harold), comedians, are well received. The illusions of the Gregory Troupe are extremely smart and clever. Mr Ted Sounders, the new mimic, is very amusing. The drawing-room sketch, introduced by Charles and Lily Charlene, is a pleasing success.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson; Acting-Manager, Mr Thos. Robson.—The variety programme is this week headed by Adam Tomlinson, a clever and amusing comedian. Next we have Bert Weston, whose songs and patter, as a swell comedian, are always welcomed. Chester and Lee's "Theatre des Fantoches," namely the marionettes, give an excellent entertainment. Francis Daniels and company figure admirably in the domestic sketch, entitled *A Father's Vengeance*. The Boultons do well as musicians and dancers; Harry Bent gives some smart impersonations of various well-known comedians; Carlotta Lunn, American comedienne; the Schallers, comedy artistes and gymnasts; and Mdlle. Bartenelli, lady bender, also meet with approval.

HORWICH.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Arthur Sandiford.—Under Mr Sandiford's management the above theatre appears to have taken a new lease of life, and both the visiting companies and the audiences seem to highly appreciate his efforts for their comfort. Mr C. Watson Mill and his company in *A Wrecker of Men*, met with a hearty reception on Monday. The plot, scenery, and mechanical effects, especially the Wreck of the Yacht and the Palace of Pharaoh, are very fine, and the company is a first-class all-round one. The part of Jim Murley alias The Slogger, gives Mr Watson Mill opportunity for displaying his histrionic abilities, of which he takes due advantage. Mr Chas. Yorke is responsible for a careful rendering of the part of Pharosaphus; Mr Alfred Maurice's representation of Guise Strange is excellent; Mr Mac J. Cumming as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt is decidedly good; Mr G. Brooke's rendering of Karnaphus, the mummy, is very realistic; and Mr Alfred Harvey as Bob Birchill, the warder, looks and plays the part to perfection. Miss Rosalid Tate's portrayal of Risca Mallison, the serpent woman, is admirable, her fiendish cruelty and unnatural power being very pronounced; Miss Victoria May plays Doris Melville in a pleasing and sympathetic manner; and Miss Kitty Melville as Vavasole Slopper is decidedly funny.

HOYLAND.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Geo. S. King.—Mr Walter Melville's company is appearing here this week in *The Worst Woman in London*. In the title-rôle Miss Constance Medwyne acts with unflagging energy. Miss Lillian Ross makes a winsome Ruth Milford. The character of Hugh Drayton offers many opportunities to Mr Joe Bracewell, who clearly realises what the rôle demands. Jack Felton finds an able exponent in Mr E. J. Collins; Mr George H. Asquine causes considerable fun as Bob Goldfinch, being ably assisted by Miss H. Rigby as Matilda Parker; Mr Roy Byford gives a meritorious impersonation of James Milford; Mr B. Elton is a good Detective Curzon; and as Vincent Lyle Mr P. B. Lewers is duly callous. The stage management is in the excellent hands of Mr H. Maxwell-Payne.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager Mr Smith.—Mr Robert Perris's company opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday with the American drama, *A Fight for Millions*. Mr Perris gave a clever representation of the part of the inventor, Tom Manley, and was supported by a clever company of artistes, including Mr J. Newton Cowling, Mr Horace Booth, Mr L. Clements, and Mr F. Acton, and Miss Eva Purcell, Miss F. Williams, Miss K. Eckart, Miss Winnie Acton, and Miss Gertie Douglas, who sustained their respective rôles in a thoroughly praiseworthy manner.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—The marvellous intelligence shown by Capt. Woodward's seals and sea lions is causing nothing short of a sensation. Edgar Forrest and company perform in a sketch which produces much laughter. The dialogue, "Married or Photographed," is as popular as ever as done by F. Warden Reed and company; J. W. Rickaby has a good reception; Gus Balsiger in trick musical comedy makes a hit; the Sisters Volbecque have been seen here on several occasions and successfully introduce new business; Flo D'Orville, versatile artiste; Jack Carliss, comedian; Rose Tilley, vocalist; and Burns's pictures complete the bill.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur. — The highly coloured drama, *Woman and Wine*, is produced here by Mr Milton Bode's company. A weirdly powerful performance is given by Miss Edith Blande as Marcel. Miss Nellie Lauraine as La Colombe shows fine strength in her interpretation. Miss Ernestine Holker, with her quiet, refined bearing, vividly contrasts her part of Mary Andrews against the former two. Mr Frank R. Robertson as Dick Seymour comes successfully through an exacting part. Mr Fred Mace is quietly effective as the elder Seymour. Much hilarity results from the energetic efforts of Mr Percy Dawsone as Charles Sawter and Miss Muriel Vox as Mrs Sawter. Mr Tom Tindall is comical as Prof. Sawter; Mr Walter Thornton gives a well-defined rendering of Beaudet; Mr Herbert Landeck is effectively gruesome as Cruera; Mr Frank Eaglesfield is smart and relentless as Collins; and some vigorous and original acrobatic dancing is contributed by the Edene Troupe.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; General Manager, Mr W. F. Morton.—The Moody-Manners company is ever-popular and ever-welcome in this city, and can, at all events in Hull, look to a warm welcome. The répertoire this week is such as to command an extended patronage. On Monday evening *La Traviata* was performed, and the representation as a whole was highly commendable. The chorus and the orchestration was of the fine order which has made this company so famous. The prima-donna was Madame De Vere de Sapio, and this admirable artist was never seen or heard in Hull to better advantage. As a lyric lover few can excel Joseph O'Mara. Capital, too, was the work of Mr Dever. Herr Eckhold conducted in good style. On Tuesday *Mignon* was down, and the performance was notable by the charm and grace of Madame Fanny Moody's Mignon. It was noteworthy, and in every sense only such a performance as one could expect from so fine an artist. Fräulein Toni Seiter and Miss Kate Anderson were both conspicuously successful. Wednesday night witnessed the production of *La Juive*, with a cast including Madame Vere De Sapio, Mr Chas. Manners, Mr Pembroke Wilson. It was as successful as its predecessor. Friday night, *Carmen*, with the famous Zelie De Lussan.

GRAND THEATRE, OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—H. A. Jones's brilliant comedy, *Joseph Entangled*, is engaging the attention of the audience this week, and its reception has been hearty and sincere. The plot is decidedly novel, and shows the cleverness of the author in skating over thin ice. The dialogue is exceedingly smart, and the mounting all we could desire. The cast is a strong one. Full of vivacity and life is Mr H. F. Warner's Joseph. Miss Mona K. Oram was a charming Lady Mayne. The apparently injured husband is pleasingly played by Mr Stanley W. Ashworth.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—The ever-verdant *Still Alarm* pays its first visit to the Alex this week. Its powers of attraction are in no sense diminished with the engine, horses, and greyhound.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Local Manager, Mr A. Graham.—Mr Albert Chevalier, who is here, is both pathetic and comic, mingling cleverly the two extremes. Lilian Lowe is a charming vocalist, with a fine voice. The Lukushima Troupe are equilibrists of the first order.

SYLVESTER'S EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr Jas. Sylvester Sage.—Marie Collins, an old Hull favourite, has lost none of her popularity; the Rushforths gain much applause in some illustrated songs; Tell and Tell are smart acrobats; and other Empire favourites include Walter Bannell, Jenny Joy, King Leo, and Harry Warne. The Bioscope shows some good pictures.

CIECUS.—Resident Manager, Mr E. Emerson.—Harry H. Hamilton is showing some excellent pictures. In addition there is a good variety company, including Foo Choo, a Chinese conjuror; Hoppitt, Tony, and Terry; the Watson Trio, in a sketch, *The Tramp in Trouble*; and Urma and Kesanby's troupe of terriers.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—In possession here this week are Miss Nettie Ware and company with the sensational drama, *When Woman Hates*. Miss Ware gives a forcible and well-studied version of the inhuman Cora Daintry, and has an efficient companion in villainy in Mr Oscar Adye, who undertakes the rôle of Godfrey Lawton. Mr J. Petley plays the part of the hero, Lieutenant Frank Rokeby, naturally and with abundance of vigour. Mr Bensley Evans is highly successful as Colonel Hiram R. Vancutson; Mr Will Percy is amusing as Patrick O'Brien; Mr G. Thorn extracts plenty of humour out of the part of Alphonse Picolot; and Mr Eric Campbell submits a good character sketch as Bill Smashem. Miss Jennie Hughes as the heroine, Marie Rokeby, has no difficulty in winning the sympathy of her audience, and Miss Louise Brandon renders yeoman service as Edith Rokeby. Little Kathleen A. Crook gives an intelligent interpretation to her lines as Nelly Rokeby, and the Misses Olive Lanty and Ida Cunard are well placed as Mrs Potts and her daughter, Sally.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—*Les Cloches de Corneville* on Monday evening was presented by a company organised by Mr E. St. Alban. This comic opera—one of the best of the kind—still maintains its old interest. In the part of Gaspard Mr St. Alban is responsible for a fine assumption; the Baillie is well played by Mr George Delaforce; the Gobo of Mr Fowler Thatcher is full of drollery; Mr G. A. Fox sings and acts well as the Marquis; and the same may be said of Mr Walter Cranbourn as Grenichaux. Miss Lucy Fitzroy is a vivacious Serpolette, and Miss K. Farrell a graceful Germaine.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME.—Among the new turns in the week's programme at this attractive place of amusement in the Woodbridge-road are Mdlle. Lonsdale, a refined and powerful vocalist; Myers, an entertaining comedian; the Pereys, a pair of artists who cause much laughter by their drolleries; and Hookinge, who styles himself the "man of mystery."

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—This week's attraction is Mr H. Swinerd's company, in a musical comedy, entitled *Dare Devil Dorothy*. Mr H. C. Ward gives an excellent rendering of Captain Edward Dudley; Mr C. W. Parke is a good Captain George Fielding; Mr A. Stretton is well placed as Hawkins; Mr Arthur Verne as Silas Crump proves himself to be a comedian of the first water; Miss M. Cecil is an excellent Dorothy Montrose; Miss K. Garnon is quite at home in the part of Ruth Montrose; and Miss Nellie Harcourt is satisfactory as Judith. Specialities are introduced by the various members of the company.

KEIGHLEY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Barnes.—*His Majesty's Guests* company is here on a return visit. Mr William Rokeby's eccentricity as Sergeant Lightning creates much amusement. Mr Charles Howard is very good as Lord Essem, Mr Wellesley Smith is seen to advantage as Mr Miffio, Mr L. Stirling is a capable actor, Mr Chas. Leoville and Mr. E. C. Lilly are seen to advantage, and Miss Madge Fenton ably fills the part of Lady Essem.

KENDAL.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr R. F. Chorley; Manager, Mr J. W. Butler.—Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company was here on the 4th and 5th inst. in *Quality Street*. Miss Nellie Bowman appears with success as Phœbe Throssell, and Miss Maud Townsend lends capable support as Susan Throssell. Miss Violet Vivion scores as Patty, Mr F. Vernon Travers as Valentine Brown is excellent, Mr Edward Jephson is the Ensign Blades, Mr Egerton Hine plays Lieutenant Spicer, and other parts are well sustained. This week Mr Charles Macdona's company has been here for three nights with *A Country Girl*.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—For the first three nights of this week we had a visit from Mr Frank Wilson's company in *The Marriage of Kitty*. In the rôle of Sir Reginald Belsize Mr Frank Wilson acts in good style; Mr Sydney Orton as John Travers, the solicitor, is excellent; Mr J. F. Leighton causes much fun as Norbury; Mr Royston Keith, jun., as Hampton is also good; Madame De Semiano is effectively presented by Miss Kate Harwood; and Miss Vera Fordyce as Miss Katherine Silverton is charming and graceful.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs Lester Reekie and Howard Stephens.—Another excellent company here includes the Two Daniels, Gracie Logan, J. C. Sheffron, Sisters Grey, Raynor and Jull, singing contest, and Clara Hastings.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Hales.—On the first three nights of this week *La Poupée* was presented by Mr E. Lockwood's No. 1 company. Miss Midge Clarke's Alesia could scarcely be improved upon, and Mr T. A. Shale as the bashful Lancelot is admirable. Mr Arthur Reynolds as Hilarius is as funny and fresh as ever. The acting and singing of all the other members of this first-class company is of a high-class character. Mr Chalmers Mackey and company in *The Wearing o' the Green* were here on Thursday and Friday.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr Harry Esden.—Mr Harold V. Neilson and company in *The Tyranny of Tears* commenced a three nights' engagement on Monday. Mr Neilson filled the rôle of Parbury in an admirable manner; Mr Edward Sarley gave a convincing impersonation of the cynical Gunning; Miss Amy Sangster was responsible for an excellent conception of the jealous wife; and Miss Yvonne Orchardson made a captivating Miss Woodward. Mr John Detliv as the eccentric Colonel Armitage and Mr Ernest Noble as Evans were well placed. For Thursday *The Duke of Killiecrankie* was announced.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—The new romantic light opera, *The Duchess of Dantzic*, was awarded a flattering reception on Monday by a crowded and enthusiastic audience. Mr George Edwardes' company includes most of the original cast from the Lyric Theatre. Miss Evie Greene is responsible for a highly successful delineation of the glorified washerwoman, Sans Gêne, not the least popular feature of which is her excellent vocal work; Miss Adrienne Augarde is charming in the rôle of Renée de Saint Mezard; and Miss Billie Burke is successful with a dainty yet effective impersonation of Lisette, a lady's maid. The fine work of Mr Holbrook Blinn as Napoleon is a strong feature; Mr Herbert Clayton upholds the heavy part of François Lefebvre, afterwards Duke of Dantzic, with distinction, his fine singing being specially admired; Mr Leonard Mackay gives a manly and effective portrayal of the dashing Vicomte de Bethune; Mr Courtice Pounds elicits continual hilarity by his humorous work as the Court milliner Papillon. Miss Mabel Lorrell, Miss Elizabeth Firth and Miss Doris La Tour are the ladies of Napoleon's court, whilst Mr Morgan Williams and Mr Cecil Cameron make an excellent chamberlain and page respectively.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—The popular melodrama *Judy* opened here to a full house on Monday, and a strong presentation by Mr Kirk and Miss Neil's company was thoroughly enjoyed. The title-rôle is played with ability by Miss Florrie Groves, a juvenile actress of great promise. Mr George Kirk is in his old part of Grip, the detective, and presents it with the strength and power we are accustomed to. Mr Carlton Wallace represents the villainous Duburg to general satisfaction. Mr William Vane is a capable hero and handles his part with distinction. The adventuress Blake is a clever effort by Miss Muriel Thompson, Miss Mary Neil is prominently successful in a heavy dual rôle; and Mr Will Carey, Mr Fred May and Miss Annie Mitchell are most effective in their respective parts.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Bush.—Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry are engaged here in the presentation of their delightful new play *Sunday*, and throughout the week large demonstrative audiences have voted the piece an immediate success. Miss Neilson's fascinating portrayal of Sunday, a wayward, high-spirited girl of the backwoods, has nightly aroused the greatest enthusiasm. Mr Fred Terry plays Colonel Brinthorpe, an aristocratic Englishman in love with Sunday in his usual finished style. The four backwoodsmen, godfathers of Sunday, are cleverly acted by Messrs J. Carter Edwards, Horace Hodges, Alfred Kendrick, and Rothbury Evans. Mr J. D. Beveridge gives us a most excellent portrait of Tom Oxley, the colonel's fast friend, and Miss Bella Pateman renders capital assistance as Mrs Naresby. Mr Malcolm Cherry and Miss Adelina Bourne do all that is possible with their somewhat restricted opportunities.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—The Empire programme this week is headed by Charles Prinz, the daring lion-tamer, with his numerous troupe of lions, giving an interesting exhibition. The Coloured Meisters are big favourites, with well-rendered glees, &c. An original speciality *The Gypsies' Romance*, is presented by a fine company. Margaret Ashton earns considerable applause for her fine vocal work; the Brothers De Wynne submit an expert athletic and acrobatic show; Swan and Bambart do a deal of clever and amusing business in the same line; Will English, J. H. Milburn, and James Kurry are all entertaining; and Doody and Wright, eccentric comedy artistes, and Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte, in an amusing sketch, *Saucy Maud*, are also successful contributors to the programme.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—A strong programme is in evidence here, De Biere, the mystery man, giving a wonderful and interesting exhibition; Grand and Grant are responsible for a popular humorous speciality; the Four Merkel Sisters submit an expert and graceful gymnastic act; the Bros. Krags are also gymnasts of no mean order; Terry Lambert score the usual big success with clever comedy business; Whit Cunliffe and Wal Robbins are both popular contributors; clever speciality dancing is done by the Legay Quartet; and Mabel La Blanche, burlesque actress; Geraldo, the clever club juggler; and an interesting exhibition by Duncan's Royal Collies fill up the rest of the programme.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—Marie Kendall, the popular comedienne leads here, and her well-rendered items are thoroughly enjoyed. An expert banjo speciality by Stanley and Greenop is very popular, as also are the eccentricities of Woodhouse and Wells, patter comedians. The Haldyne Duo present a smart comedy act with success. Juno Salmo finds favour with a clever speciality in the acrobatic line. Nellie Farrell is a vocalist of considerable merit, and a local juvenile, Master Harry Butt, is in the programme by reason of his excellent vocal abilities. Steve M'Carthy, a popular Irish comedian, appears, and a remarkably fine series of animated pictures completes the programme.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—Miss Fortescue, who has not visited Leicester for some little time, is making a welcome reappearance here this week in a répertoire of enjoyable plays. *Moths* was the *pièce de résistance* on Monday, and as Fuchsia Leach Miss Fortescue was seen to great advantage. Miss Gladys Jesson created a good impression as Vere Herbert and both Miss Miriam Lewes as the Duchess De Sonnaz and Miss Madeline Meredith as Lady Dolly Vanderdecken were excellent. Miss Eugenie Vernie was capital as Princess Nadine; Mr Dalziel Heron was a conspicuous success as Lord Jura; Mr Conway Wingfield played exceedingly well as Prince Zouroff; Mr Cecil Newton was very good as Raphael De Correze; and Mr Francis Burdett as the Duke of Mull and Cantyre is also to be complimented on a portrayal of merit. The beautiful scenery, which was painted by Mr C. D. Leigh, the popular manager of the Royal Opera House, evoked the admiration of the audience. *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The School for Scandal*, *Ought We to Visit Her*, and *Comedy and Tragedy* are also in the répertoire.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—*The Heart of a Hero*, presented by Messrs Carson and Granville's company, is the attraction here this week. Miss Cissie St. Elmo as Nell Resdale scores a success, and as Jem Resdale Mr F. W. Goddard is in every way excellent. Mr Charles E. Johnson gives a clever portrayal of the villain, Wilfred Marl; Miss Lily Langley is good as May Ryder; and Miss Beatrice Hudson is well placed as Mrs Ryder.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—An exceptionally good programme is submitted here this week, the chief attraction being Seeth's lions, presented by Herr George Thielbar. Tom Costello, one of Leicester's most popular favourites, is again repeating his usual success. Arthur Rigby is another comedian who is always sure of a hearty reception at this hall. Wal Pink and company are creating the greatest merriment with their sketch *Uncle's Wife*. The Wheelers give a clever and amusing turn as cyclists. The Two Bees return, and give with success their pretty scena "Hiawatha." Albert Athas and Lizzie Collins, popular variety artists, are seen to considerable advantage in a new musical act; Frank Maura, the well known Mexican foot equilibrist, is making a hit; and Jessie Albini, descriptive vocalist, sings exceptionally well.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The star turn here this week is Sandford and Lyons, comedians and dancers, who are scoring a decided success. The Sisters Morgan, duettists and dancers, get a good reception, and it is needless to say that Nellie Gannon, Harry Wright, and the Two Stars, who are so well and favourably known to Leicester audiences are again received with their usual cordiality. Bert Lytton, swell comique, is good; Ida Gladstone scores as a vocalist; and hearty laughter is created by Sandy and Carl, acrobatic knockabouts.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—The Ben Greet company presented *La Poupée* on Monday evening. Mr Algernon Lee was an excellent Launcelot and Miss Cissie Wade a really charming Alesia. Mr Joseph A. Brull is now the Father Maxime, and wins high favour, and as Chanterelle Mr Stanley White was well worthy of his predecessors in the part; Loremois was in the able hands of Mr Harry Bishop. The inventor, Hilarius, was capitally portrayed by Mr Bert Danson, and Madame Hilarius was well favoured as depicted by Miss Margaret Ainsworth. Miss Ena Ellis was a very good Henri. Mr Bolton conducted with care, and the staging left nothing to be desired.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur; Assistant-Manager Mr Henry Blake.—Another strong programme is attracting crowded houses this week. Manning's Entertainers create continuous merriment with the Turkish bath sketch, during which some sensational tumbling is given. Roze and Calvert present a lively sketch, song and dance being interspersed with side-splitting burlesque. The Karno Trio give their "Travellers' Rest" act with any amount of life and go, and a smart turn is that of the Bros. Harlem, acrobats, dancers, and batôn manipulators. Lily Black, the St. Johns, the Darrell Trio, George Hyam, and Belle Meredith all score.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—Mr Norman V. Norman's company in a repertory of plays is appearing here with success this week. The plays include *Under the Red Robe*, *David Garrick*, *The Lady of Lyons*, and *Nell Gwyn*. Mr Norman V. Norman is supported by that clever actress, Miss Beatrice Wilson, and a very good company, including Messrs Robert Hilton, Iden Payne, Norman Leslie, Richard Havers, Barnett Parker; the Misses Lilian Kevel-Davies, Norah Doyle, Florence Glossop Harris, Kathleen Rind, and Coleman Phillipson.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—Mr Edward Terry has paid a welcome visit here, though only for two nights. *Sweet Lavender* was presented on Monday to a densely crowded house. As Dick Phenyl Mr Edward Terry delighted the audience. Clem Hale by Mr A. Hylton Allen was cleverly done, and Horace Bream was in the capable hands of Mr Allan Pollock. Mr George Howard filled the part of Geoffrey Wedderburn finely. Bulger was well played by Mr Fred Knight. Miss Vara Renny enacted Ruth Rolt with great feeling and as Lavender Miss Beatrice Terry was delightful. Miss Olive Wilton was a vivacious Minnie, and as Mrs Gilfillan Miss Beatrice Selwyn was very good. *Kerry* and *The Passport* were staged on Tuesday.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—Mr Frederick Melville's company is paying a visit here this week with the drama entitled *Between Two Women*. Mr Albert Ward gives a telling portrayal of his original part of the Rev. Philip Carton; Mr Sydney Price as the Earl of Millard is capably rendered; Mr Fred Morgan as James Durwood gives a vigorous piece of acting; Miss Morita Valdar as Carmen De Savereaux accomplishes her task in a most praiseworthy manner; while Miss Maria Robson submits a sympathetic and convincing rendering of Violet Thornton. Mr Tubby Eldin as Jack Pringle causes endless amusement whenever he is upon the stage; Miss Sybil Hammersley successfully emphasises the part of Polly Popp; too much praise cannot be bestowed on Miss Alice Bowers for her clever rendering of the Blind Boy; Mr Fredk. Sandy as Dick Burgess and Mr Graham Woods as Major Strangeways are both commendable.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—Mr J. K. Reynolds' company is here this week in the dramatic episode entitled *Conscience*. Mr Will Saunders, loose-legged comedian, does some good work; Miss Lili Gorman, comedienne and dancer, is well received; Messrs Selby and Myers, comedians and dancers, are very smart; Mr Robert Horrocks, the popular local ventriloquist, is cheered to the echo for his original performance.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—That merry musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl* made its first appearance in Liverpool this week and crowded houses have greeted it with cordiality. The company, which is a sufficiently strong one to do full justice to the work in regard to the manner of presentation, is one organised by Mr William Greet. Mr Wm. Stephens is a tower of strength as Cheese, and keeps the audience in a state of continuous merriment. Miss Dot Carey plays the part of the dog-trainer's sweetheart with much humour; Mr Percy Carr is an admirable Dick Wargrave; as the American solicitor Mr Will Hindson is a success; and Mr J. C. Graves presents a laughable Mr Talk. The host of Fallowfield Arms is capitally rendered by Mr Tom Redmond; Miss Gladys Fontaine is the strong lady, and Miss Aimée Grey the American heiress.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—Barrie's charming comedy *Quality Street* has been here this week, and was much enjoyed by good audiences. The company is that of Messrs Gatti and Frohman, and the accessories are very complete. Mr David Glassford is a capital Valentine Brown, acting with artistic ease; Miss May Whitty gives a pretty presentation of Susan Throssal, and Miss Grace Armytage Noble a sympathetic study of Miss Phœbe, the sister. Miss Mable Wynne submits a well-finished picture of Patty.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. French; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Beltram.—*The Lady of Ostend* has delighted large audiences here during the week. Given by Mr Lawrence Brough and a capable company, the merry farcical comedy has been thoroughly enjoyed. Mr Brough was the Baron De Longueville, his work alone creating great laughter. Mr Harry Hampson enacted Dick Whortles; Mr Percy Marshall, Joseph Carbury; and Mr Edmund Gurney, the prize-fighter. Included among the ladies were Miss Kate Milford, a charming Dorothy Whortles; Miss Rosamund Rokeby, a vivacious Lady of Ostend; Miss Eleanor Gilbart, an austere mother-in-law; and Miss Dora Vane, a fascinating Millie Grace. On Friday evening *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally* was staged.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—*The Grip of Iron* is still a powerful attraction, judging by the public appreciation that has been accorded it here throughout the week. The company is that of Mr E. H. Knight and George Denham, and includes Mr Fred Powell, who has played Simmonet, the strangler, over 5,000 times. The drama is presented with completeness, and the large combination of artists is good all round.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—Another good programme is billed this week. George Gilbey tops the bill with some good songs and patter. George D'Albert who foots the bill, is a delightfully versatile comedian. Jack and Evelyn are a decidedly good turn; Rosie Coleman is undoubtedly a finished and artistic sand dancer; J. P. Carroll submits an original tambourine turn; Meier and Mora are good at ball-punching and dancing; Jack Hylton has an amusing song; the Three Prestons in *The Lift Man's Rise* are laughable; Charles F. Best, as M'Bunker, the mountebank, creates a deal of laughter; Harry Conlin is a good comedian; and Lue Lord is well received.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—*Under the Russian Flag* has proved a great draw here during the week. Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company has been responsible for the production, which has been given with much effect, the scenery being particularly good. Mr Walter Howard plays the part of Captain Demetrius with distinction and power; Mr G. Arthur is a successful Michael Romanoff; Miss Ellen Snow, an actress of ability, undertakes the somewhat difficult character of Luka Marischla; and Mr F. W. Freeman is an excellent Ivan Romanoff. The remainder of the rôles are in good hands.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—This popular theatre has been well patronised during the week to witness Messrs Carson and Granville's company in *A Modern Adventuress*, a work that is full of strong dramatic points. Miss Beatrice M. Anderson undertakes very successfully the exacting part of Violet Meredith, an unscrupulous woman, Mr Leonard Aardale is a powerful Pietro Donelli, and Mr George P. Lester a detective of discretion. Mr Charles Stirling and Miss Alice Defoe filled their parts with credit, and the lighter characters are sustained by Mr Evan Roland and Miss Mimi Fisher.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Crook.—At the top of the bill here this week is Alec Hurley, who with his company present the humorous sketch *The Costa's Friendly Lead* which has provoked great laughter. A spectacle of much splendour is shown in Hagedorn's wonderful grotto, in which are fairy fountains and cascades of real water. The sight is an exceptionally pretty one and evokes loud applause. Some clever and daring equilibristic feats are performed by the Parros Brothers; the Smythson's company presents an amusing trifle *The Lie Alarm*; the great Alexander goes through a number of neatly executed tricks on the bicycle; and others in the programme are Calile and Walker, comedy artistes; Charles Chard, eccentric comedian; Florence Esdaile, ballad vocalist; Phil Herman, character vocalist; the Three Nevaros, equilibrists; George Newburn, mimic and star artiste; Edie King, comedienne and dancer; and Annie Casey, comedienne.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The "great magic kettle" is the principal attraction here this week, and its wonders have been revealed before crowded audiences. Miss Minni Letta's "Sporting Girls," with their walking and running races, provide an admirable entertainment; the Ergotti and King Luis Troupe of Risley acrobats are a good turn; Virginia and her piccaninnies, with their songs and dances, are amusing; Imro Fox proves himself a clever illusionist and conjuror; Sibb and Sibb give a good show on the trapeze; Arthur Slater is an accomplished mimic, with his imitations of favourite songsters; and the programme also includes the names of Madeline May, comedienne; Professor Welsen, with his Swedish bar; Nelson's Newsboys, with songs and dances; and Hetty King, burlesque actress and mimic.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—Foremost here this week are Lee and Arden, with their screamingly funny sketch *The Lady and the Watchman*; Whallen, an eccentric dancing comedian, is specially engaged; Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire singing collier, possesses a sweet tenor voice, and renders in good style a number of pleasant songs; and others in the bill are Winnie Terry, serio and dancer; Joe Hudo, a favourite coloured comedian and dancer; Mark Anthony, who remains another week; and Ford Williams, Welsh baritone. The cake walk competitions continue to interest.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—A first-class bill-of-fare is submitted here this week. Principal is Neil Kenyon, a smart Scotch comedian, with many funny sayings and neat burlesque acting; Charles Mildare, with his whistling and imitations, is an acceptable turn; Miss Cissie Carter possesses a charming contralto voice, and renders several good songs; Len Lever is an able comedian, with his coon ditties and dances; Primavesi goes through some clever juggling; Andy Kerr proves a talented comedian and dancer; and the Royal Bioscope provides a number of new and charming pictures.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Billy Ross and Co. are here this week earning much favour for their Irish comedy act, *The Hot Member*, which includes singing, dancing, burlesque, and scientific boxing. The company includes Miss Hilda Brandon. Sid Herman, Hebrew comedian, gives his latest success, "The Hebrew Alien;" Lidden and Hayward are a couple of exceptionally able artistes, and present their latest musical absurdity, *A Quiet Rehearsal*; Conan and Doyle provoke laughter with their quaint patter and comic actions; and others who appear are Will Letters, with song and story; Amy Donna, comedienne; and Fred Melton, "the universal sorrow-shifter." The Bioscope and competition snap-shots of people taken in the street continue to prove attractive.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—The Three Henriques are principal here this week with their comedy and acrobatic feats—a good entertainment; Oliver Conroy is an eccentric character comedian, and causes much laughter with his "I am only a little tailor, after all;" Vardor, the golfing ventriloquist, with his funny caddie, is very laughable; Charles Woodwood, an able character comedian, is loudly applauded for his latest monologue, "The Last Touch;" and others in the bill are Bertha Collins, comedienne; Fred Horsfall, mimic; Brothers Heyes, comedians; and Ray Ford, comedienne and dancer. On Thursday Mr G. Montgomery, the acting manager, took a benefit.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—There is an all-round good company here this week. In big type is Gus Harris, the delineator of Hebrew characters, with his humorous sketch *The Pedlar*; the Sisters Russell are a couple of smart exponents of burlesque and low comedy; the Clayton Twins and company present an extremely funny sketch, *Pepper and Salt*; Tom Dardan and Freda Iris are two clever vocalists and dancers, as are likewise Fred Solo and Agnes Mayo; and others in the bill are May Fallowfield, coon singer; Keith and Merson, acrobatic singing comedian; Woolhafs, pantomimists and dancers; and the Sisters St. John, duettists and coon dancers.

MACCLESFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessees Messrs Bendon and J. Larder.—On Monday the above hall was opened for the first time this season under entirely new management. The principle of two houses nightly is being tried, apparently with great success, for on Monday night both houses were comfortably filled. The programme is very attractive. Fred Ward, eccentric comedian, contributes some lively songs; the Brothers Esdale, comedians, are a smart pair; Mill May is clever in lightning-like changes; Grace Crompton, burlesque actress, is taking as well as ever; Tonini, Continental illusionist, is bewildering everybody; Fred Land, eccentric, gives a good performance; Pearce and Ward, burlesque boxers, are also an enjoyable turn; and Lieut. Chard's dogs go through a clever and entertaining performance.

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr George Gude; General Manager, Mr Arthur Alston.—A very popular attraction is Miss Cissy Harcourt, a charming ballad singer, who is a great favourite at Maidenhead. She is vociferously applauded especially for "Sammy." Mons. Pei-Ho contributes a good hoop-rolling and acrobatic turn, Arnetti supplies an eccentric musical entertainment, and Bob Gates does well as Negro comedian and speciality dancer. George Scott sings well and scores heavily with a recitation on Hector Macdonald; Rex and Ford are intensely funny as burlesque artists and patterers; Fred Alberto is re-engaged from last week; Miss Katie Le Blanche is well received as vocalist and dancer; and La Belle Sylvia is, as described, a clever child vocalist, dancer, and club performer.

MELTON MOWBRAY.

EXCHANGE HALL.—Proprietors, Public Rooms Company; Lessee, Mr Geo. Andrews.—Mr W. H. Powell's company is here this week in *There and Back*. The exploits of Henry Lewson and William Waring are admirably presented by Messrs F. Ramsdale and Victor Hill. Miss G. Burnie and Miss Marie Scharning are clever as Mrs Lewson and Mrs Waring respectively, while Miss A. Bronson's embodiment of Marie Antoinette Smith is pleasing. Mr W. H. Powell proves capable as Jack M'Rae, and Mr Wm. Osborne gives valuable support.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—The long-expected visit of *A Chinese Honeymoon* is in course of fulfilment here this week. The tuneful music and sparkling libretto are capitally interpreted by Mr George Dance's capable company. Mr Helier Le Maistre is an exceedingly droll Emperor. Good work is done by Mr Rudolph Kloss as the Lord High Chancellor and by Mr Lennox Barry as the Lord High Admiral. Mr. J. Warren Foster gives a capital impersonation of Tom Hatherton. An exceedingly humorous impersonation of Mr Pineapple is submitted by Mr Gus Wheatman; and Miss Dot Stephens is a bright and winsome Mrs Pineapple. Miss Nellie Wigley sings sweetly and acts delightfully as Soo Soo. Great praise is due to Miss Gwennie Harcourt for a clever impersonation of Fi-Fi; her songs are loudly applauded, and her quaint antics and business keep the house in the best of humours throughout the play. Miss Elsie Carew gives a smart sketch of the mother-in-law.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr Frank M. Thorne's company is this week playing here *Napoleon the Great*. Mr Henry Montgomery gives a fine embodiment of the title-rôle. Mr C. Halling is highly creditable as Colonel Meuron; the Colonel Lavarennes of Mr Henry Earlesmere is a capable study; Mr J. G. Maine plays excellently the character of Paul Laczinski; Mr F. M. Thorne (Pierre Pomponnet) and Mr C. W. Spencer (Sergeant Choupin) work capitally and provide excellent comedy. Miss Maud Russell imparts pathos and dramatic power to the character of Mdlle. Marbœuf; the Marie Waleswka of Miss Chrissie Dunbar is a careful effort; and Miss M. Harcourt is successful as Marcelle Choupin.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—A first-rate performance of Mr J. M. Barrie's clever and amusing play *Little Mary* was given here on Monday by Mr John Hare and company to a large and appreciative audience. Mr Hare as the Earl of Carlton played with his usual consummate ease, and amusing character studies of a medical specialist and the family doctor are in the hands of Mr Rudge Harding and Mr Clifford Brookes respectively. Excellent support is rendered by the Misses Helen Rous, Kathleen Gordon-Lee, Beatrice Kelston, and Messrs Carter Plokford, Eric Maturin, and Fred Grove. The honours of the evening, however, were undoubtedly those of Miss Hilda Trevelyan, whose performance of Moira Loney is extremely delightful, and marked with more than ordinary ability. *Little Mary* is preceded by a capital one-act play entitled *'Op o' My Thumb*, in which Miss Hilda Trevelyan scores a decided success and Mr Rudge Harding is seen to advantage. Miss J. Ionas-Ker and Miss Frances Wetherall should also be mentioned. At the close of the performance on Monday Mr Hare, in the course of a short speech, stated that Mr Barrie was present, but on being called for he had vanished.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Much laughter accompanied the performance here on Monday of *The Orchid* by Mr George Edwardes's company. A considerable audience was attracted by the good reports gained by the piece on its first visit some time ago, and the brilliance and humour it possessed then seem to have been enhanced by innumerable small improvements. Certainly it is one of the most enjoyable of musical plays, being exceedingly well equipped in respect of amusing characters, of dresses, scenery, songs, dances, and capable chorus. The bulk of the humour is supplied by Mr Lawrence Grossmith as the Hon Guy Scrymgeour and Mr George Gregory as Meakin, the gardenor. Other good parts are in the hands of Miss Coralie Blythe, Miss Luna Love, Miss Irene Verona, Miss Gertrude Gilliam, Mr Donald Hall, Mr Sam Walsh, Mr Sidney Vincent, and Mr Ellis Ogilvie—the latter a striking "make-up" of Mr Chamberlain.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The attraction here this week is *The Village Blacksmith*, played successfully last week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—*A Message from Mars*, played by Mr Mouillot's principal company, made a strong and successful appeal for the favour of a good house here on Monday evening. The most noteworthy feature of the performance is Mr Rawson Buckley's very clever depiction of the selfish Horace Parker, a character sketch which is especially well done in the first act. The other parts which stand out in a long and interesting cast are Miss May Saker's Minnie Templer, the Miss Parker of Miss Florence Hastings, Mr Bruce Lindley's realistic Tramp, and the Messenger from Mars manfully portrayed by Mr William H. Brougham. The somewhat perfunctory rôle of Arthur Dicey, the American rival of Horace Parker, is also sufficiently well played by Mr Frank G. Dunn.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A capital programme is submitted here this week, headed by Clark's Nippers in a club-manipulating and ball-punching act. The Terras Brothers also contribute a novelty in their acrobatic pastimes on the promenade. Mdlle Klcët is seen in a series of beautiful picture poses; the Crown Trio of vocalists sing well; and the Pender Troupe give an entertaining pantomimic sketch with success. Other good turns are the Ten Stilt Walkers; Sisters Neilson, duettists and dancers; Tony Iveson, the musical tramp; James Shingleton, the singing collier; Lydia Dudley, clever burlesque artiste; and Rivington and Gordyn, in comedy duologues.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Good business is being done here this week by Mr Edward Marris's company in a clever and entertaining sensational drama entitled *As Midnight Chimes*. Mr Frank E. Petley and Miss Gertrude Price have the heroic parts in hand, Mr Melville Bickford being seen to great advantage as Luke Dezzard. Considerable humour runs through the piece, and this is exploited chiefly by Witty Watty Walton as Tat Spavvin, the railway porter. Others who distinguish themselves among an adequate cast are Miss Annie Megson, Miss Minnie Ethel, Miss Iris M. Ward Mr John Mayall, and Mr Henry Beaufort. The staging is very effective.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—A big attraction this week is Mr Martin Harvey and company in a powerful romantic drama entitled *The Breed of the Treshams*, by John Rutherford. Nothing but praise can be accorded to the manipulation of the story, which is full of exciting incidents, and to its interpretation by the various members of the cast, chief among whom is, of course, Mr Martin Harvey as Lieutenant Raresby, known as "The Rat." This uncouth gallant fellow is exceedingly well depicted by Mr Harvey, whose superlative efforts are received nightly with unstinted applause. He is very ably assisted by Miss Coleridge as Margaret Hungerford, Miss N. de Silva as Batty, Mr Milton Rosmer as Francis Tresham, Mr Charles Glenney as Colonel Hungerford, Mr Percy Anstey as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen, Mr Albert E. Raynor as Viscount Dorsington, and Mr Gilbert Yorke as Captain Stanhope, all of whom act with remarkable sincerity and power. Even the efforts of the unnamed troopers of the Royalist army are marked by the most convincing energy, the bustle and noise of several of the scenes in which they are conspicuous lending extraordinary realism to the effect. The scenery also is well in keeping with the times.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Auto Atlas heads an excellent bill here this week, his feats of strength being most wonderful, including the lifting, with his teeth, of a motor car weighing 1,500 lbs, and containing three persons. Sam Redfern causes endless amusement with his songs and patter; George Chanti does some remarkably smart and clever national dances; Linton performs acrobatic feats on the tight rope with the greatest ease; the Ettenas are highly finished globe walking artistes; and Tom Bassett makes a hit with his Shylock and Svengali songs. Other good turns are Bliss and Bliss, with their amusing patter songs and dances; the Lavelles, whose acrobatic performance is both clever and funny; Emma Don, with her pleasing juvenile singers; and Curtis Leo and his black piccaninny, in a mysterious speciality, introducing some exceedingly smart conjuring and juggling.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The "Novel Asra" gives a fine display of juggling here this week, and gains much applause. Well received also are the marvellous rifle-shooting feats of Winona. The veteran stump orator Billy Richardson evokes roars of laughter with his witticisms; Mephisto is an astounding contortionist; Barrett and Knowles are excellent laughter makers; and the performing dogs of Cabaret are extremely clever. Other items are supplied by George Rapley, comedian; Gerald Mount, vocalist and mimic; Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist; George Foyle, comedian; whilst a series of animated pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Peggy Pryde, the well-known comedienne, provides the star turn here this week, and appears in her latest successes. Lawrence Barclay, one of our best eccentric comedians, is extremely funny, and meets with well deserved applause; Lily Morris is a pleasing comedienne, with good songs; W. P. Dempsey is a capital character comedian; and the Mayvilles (Harry and Elsie) are particularly successful in their clever Lilliputian novelty. Other enjoyable turns are provided by Edna Cragge, burlesque artist; Flo Leonard, soprano vocalist; Carlo Bianchi, equilibrist; and Harry Morgan, coon delineator.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—Sam Mayo, a capital comedian, tops the bill here this week, and meets with a hearty reception. An excellent turn also is that of Annie Dorina, who shows her ability as a quick-change artist in her latest success, *How She did It*. Lottie Lennox, a comedienne with plenty of go, is decidedly popular; Hayman and Franklin are entertaining speciality artists; and the Hollands are pleasing song illustrators. Very clever are the Five Parroscoppis, up-to-date jugglers; the Lombards, in their gymnastic speciality, introducing some fine hand-balancing; and Mdlle. Orbini, a graceful and daring gymnast. Other good turns are those of Nash and Noel, with amusing patter; J. W. Bray, comedian; George Penn, raconteur and eccentric musician; and Stella Stanley, serio comedienne. An interesting series of animated pictures complete.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Clark and Hamilton, the well-known American comedy artistes, who appear with decided success in their musical sketch *The Great Millionaire*; and the enchanting coon, Spot, in his original, startling, and up-to-date scene, "The Cake-walk Craze," are the chief attractions here this week. Leo Tell, exponent of the equine language, is one of the best imitators of sounds before the public, and his turn is both clever and amusing. Arthur Reece, vocal comedian, has a good voice; Horace White is a capital ventriloquist and solo pianist; Amy Sullivan and Madge May are pleasing comediennes; Joe Mac, comedian, sings a song with a most amusing dance added; and considerable laughter is caused by Ganty, "the little lump of fun," and by the Angelos, in their *Fun in a Studio* sketch. The Palace pictures and "Stradella," excellently rendered by the orchestra, complete an enjoyable performance.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Collins.—The chief attractions here this week are Dutch Daly, the raconteur, who is greatly applauded for his beautiful concertina selections, and a stirring military episode *Drummed Out*, excellently played by A. C. Lilly and capable company. Special mention should be made of the excellent impersonation of Miss Kitty Kirwan as Mrs O'Flanagan. The original Miles-Stavordale Quintet contribute several beautiful selections on the banjo with wonderful voice-like effect; the Four Milons are fine specimens of humanity, who do some remarkably neat acrobatic feats of strength; Goggin and Davis work hard, and earn well-merited applause in their versatile comedy acrobatic act; Hill and Whitaker appear in banjo and song, Miss Whitaker making a big hit with her American success, "Hallelujah;" the charming Mabel Hind sings nicely, and dances most gracefully as a geisha; the Maningos are highly finished acrobats and equilibrists; the American Bioscope shows the story of "A Great Strike," and incidents of the North Sea outrage; and Zarmo contributes some comedy juggling.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Theatres, Limited; Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Mr George Dance's company, with *The Girl From Kay's*, is drawing big houses As Max Hoggenheimer Mr Johnnie Schofield creates great laughter; he meets with an enthusiastic reception. Harry Gordon is capably embodied by Mr Garnet Wilson, Mr Tom Shelford makes a good impression as Percy Fitzthistle, and Mr Sam Lysons proves successful in the part of Theodore Quench. Miss May Martin as Norah Chalmers is charming, and her fine soprano voice is heard to great advantage. Miss Polly Prim proves a graceful Ellen. Miss Lillie Lingard appears in the title-rôle and scores a big success, and Miss Button Barton is a capital Jane. The company includes a beautifully blended chorus, and the dresses and scenery add greatly to the success of the performance.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Middlesbrough Grand Opera House Company, Limited; Licensee and Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—*Are You a Mason?* is this week the attraction at the Opera House. The company is under the direction of Messrs George Edwardes and Chas. Frohman. Mr Anthony Fawcett appears as George Fisher, the stockbroker, and is a decided success, and Mr Stephen Wentworth gives a capital impersonation of Frank Perry. Mr Harry Ashford as Amos is excellent, and is afforded full scope for his talents. He keeps the house in continual laughter. Mr Frank Ridley causes much amusement as Hamilton Travers, and Mr Valentine O'Connor gives a capital delineation of Ernest Morrison. Miss Harriet French creditably sustains the part of Caroline Bloodgood; and Miss Lucy Edwin does well as Mrs Perry. The play is preceded each evening by the amusing curtain-raiser *Hushed Up*.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—A-Ba-Be is a novelty which is enjoyed; Miss Lillian Lea sings with great taste; Walter Munroe, an old and valued favourite on Tees-side, is well received; Payne's Little Vagabonds, Collins and Rice, and Silent Tait all come in for a fair share of applause; and the Bio-pictures are deserving of praise.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—At the "'Varsity" *Hilarity*, as presented by Fred Karno's comedians, goes well. Wee Mona, dancer; Miss Madge Grey, comedienne; the Sisters Lytton, duettists; James Stewart, pianist; Matt Wilkinson, sketch artist; George Adams, vocalist; Young Codge, whistler; and the Bio-pictures complete the programme.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—Mr William Greet's company is paying a visit this week with *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr F. B. Woulfe is a capital Marcus, his fine portrayal meeting with hearty applause. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy is very well suited to the part of Mercia, in which she captivates the audience. Mr Charles Aldred displays sound ability as Tigellinus, and Mr J. Wetherall is well placed as Lucinius. Nero has good treatment at the hands of Mr A. Turner, and Glabrio is ably presented by Mr Frank Wood. Mr L. Winning as Viturius, Mr Robert Hare as Favius, and Mr E. J. Carlin as Titus are all worthy of recognition. Miss Ivy Millais gives an artistic reading of Stephanus, Miss Alma Bolton acquits herself well as Berenice, and Miss Cissie Carlton as Dacia is clever. Miiss Ethel Hand acts effectively as Poppæa, and the Ancaria of Miss May Fairclough leaves little to be desired.

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs S. Golden; Manager, Mr Percy Webb.—Miss Cissie Moxon's company, in *A Trip to Rum-Fum*, is the attraction this week. Larry O'Hooligan is well presented by Mr W. Garvey. Biddy O'Hooligan is cleverly handled by Mr W. S. Hutchinson. Abe Van Swanck is a good impersonation by Mr Dick Turpine. Cecil Toft is humorously delineated by Mr Charles Russell. and Thady Clancy is chic and vivacious in the hands of Miss Kathleen Kemp. Angelina Toft is nicely depicted by Miss Lilly Mayfield, and Flossie Kixie is well suited to the abilities of Miss Cissie Moxon. Miss Kitty Jones, graced with a fascinating presence and the possessor of a rich soprano voice, is to be congratulated on her delineation of Peggy O'Hooligan.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—Pleasurable emotions are freely exercised here by the performance of Mr George Edwardes's company in *San Toy*, which remains as attractive as ever. Mr E. Statham Staples as Li develops the humours of the part to the entire satisfaction of the audience. As the harassed mandarin with the plethora of wives Mr John Humphries gives a very enjoyable performance, and Mr Colin Coop submits a funny sketch of the amatorily inclined Emperor. Mr Reginald Kenneth sings well as Bobby Preston. Old favourites in Mr Stratton Mills as Sir Bingo Preston and Mr Henry Claff as Fo Hop repeat previous successes, and Mr Arthur Soames is a capable Harvey Tucker. Miss Fanny Dango is happily placed as San Toy, acting and singing with animation, and dancing very cleverly. A smart and attractive representative of Dudley is found in Miss Maud Darling. Poppy is charmingly embodied by Miss May Francis, and Miss Louie Collier's singing as Chen San calls for praise. Miss Alice Lethbridge contributes one of her always graceful dances. The musical director is Mr George M Saker.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—Mr and Mrs Kendal are affording us the welcome opportunity of again seeing them in some of their popular pieces, and, needless to say, the chance has been eagerly seized by their many local admirers, while on Thursday we were promised a performance of their latest successful production *Dick Hope*. On Monday that pleasantly interesting comedy *A Scrap of Paper* occupied the attention of the combination, and here Mrs Kendal as Susan Hartley displayed the manifold excellences of her admirable art to the best advantage, while Mr Kendal as Colonel Blake was genial and gentlemanly, characteristics which none better than he knows how to portray. Very charmingly did Miss Elise Clarens enact the part of the agitated Lady Ingram, and Miss Mary Jerrold was bright and unaffected as the girlish Lucy Franklin. Sir John Ingram had a capital representative in Mr Bassett Roe, and Mr Ernest Hendrie gave another of his clever character sketches as Dr. Penguin, while his assertive wife, Mrs Penguin, was safely entrusted to Mrs A. B. Tapping. The youthful traits of Archie Hamilton were effectively depicted by R. V. Sheldrick. *The Elder Miss Blossom* was performed on Tuesday, and on Wednesday the attraction consisted of *Still Waters Run Deep*.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—Melodramas, with ladies of doubtful morality as their central figure, have been much in vogue lately, and another such piece, under the title of *A Disgrace to Her Sex*, is being performed here by Mr Walter Melville's company. Hilda Valley, the "disgraceful" member of society, is ably portrayed by Miss Grace Heywood, who makes full use of her many opportunities. Mr Augustine Knight cleverly brings out the foreign characteristics of the sinister Jules Delarnet. Some broad comedy acting by Mr Arthur Byron as Barnaby Mugg, and Miss M. Yates as his better-half causes much laughter. Miss Winnie Tempest as Mabel Valley, Miss N. Lucas as Mildred Carrington, Mr Phil Harper as Jack Dawes, Mr David G. Noble as Arnold Travers, and Mr E. Santley as David Carrington are all worthy of mention.

ELSWICK THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Chas. M. Daly.—*When a Man Hates* is being staged here, and performed by a company under the joint direction of Miss Olga Audre, Messrs Travis Green and Arthur Hinton. The two last-named play parts, appearing as Paul and Pietro Danelli respectively, and supply some fine acting, while Mr Tom Taylor as Pepo Pimple and Miss Marie E. Robertson as Dolly Dimple give amusing performances. Miss Lelia Zillwood graphically portrays the part of Olga Gwynne, a woman with a past.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Johnny Dwyer opens the performance here, and he is succeeded by a troupe of vocalists and dancers known as the Eight of Hearts. Some amusing knockabout business is then contributed by Abel and Welsh. Lily Burnand has two capital songs, to which she does full justice. Tom Leamore appears and embellishes his vocal comedy efforts with eccentricities of a laughable description, his contribution concerning the broken down swell being particularly good. An entertainment is given by Frank Hilbert, who frees himself from handcuffs, and then shows to the audience how the trick is done, concluding by giving a practical demonstration of how the trunk mystery is worked. Lieut. Travis in his ventriloquial business is as good as ever. Minnie Cunningham is well received as usual, giving her songs with a dainty charm of manner all her own. A sporting act in which ponies and hounds appear is then presented by Tschernoff, and a turn rejoicing in the name of Schutzenlieserl'n Quartette, prove excellent vocalists. M'Phee and Hill on the triple horizontal bars give an exceptionally skilful performance, and Marbaand Verity, humourists and acrobatic dancers, successfully bring the programme to a conclusion.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—The programme at this hall is one of much attractiveness. It is headed by Andos and his Happy Little Japs, who give one of those attractive acrobatic and juggling turns with which we are so familiar. The performance is smart and pleasing. Signor and Madame Prosper Benn give a good sketch entitled *From Pavement to Stage*, in which their musical skill is much applauded. Another clever turn, and one much above the average, is that of Barney Stuart in his act "Impersonalia." Rhoda Paul, the pocket Vesta Tilley, is a capital artiste; Mike Gray and his dog are clever; and Miss Vera Mayne is a burlesque actress of considerable ability. Other turns are Mansell Fane, a smart actor-vocalist; Charles Pastor, a laughing comedian; and Ethel Rexford and Gerald Hunt in a comedy act.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is appearing here in the Oriental drama *A Traitor Prince*. Mr A. Mortimer makes a spirited Frank Derrick; the Prince has an excellent exponent in Mr Harry Lonsdale; and Mr E. Carter Livesey does much good work as Billy Bright.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—The first appearance in this city of the magic kettle is proving a very great attraction at the Pavilion, and the demonstrations given and explained in an entertaining manner by Mr Frederic Andrews prove to the liking of the audiences. A smart little sketch entitled *The Last Pitch* is played by Mr and Mrs Blake Adams. Mr Adams gives a clever study of a street minstrel and displays much ability. *A Bachelor's Dream*, another sketch included in the programme, is cleverly enacted by May Edouin and Fred Edwards; Leo Dryden is very successful in the song, "For Freedom and Japan," and in the David Garrick episode, "An Actor and a Man." The last named is beautifully staged. Miss Clothilde exhibits some performing cockatoos and parrots, who give an interesting performance; John Lloyd, stated to be the original singing collier, possesses a good voice, and earns recalls; and Belrose and De Velin, in operatic selections, exhibit vocalism of a high order; Mons. D'Musto, eccentric contortionist, performs some original tricks with barrels; and the Akimotos, Japanese troupe; the Brooklands, comediennes and dancers; and Kate Gourlay, buck dancer, are also included in the programme.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Mr Tom B. Davies's company is producing *Florodora* here this week. On Monday, through the indisposition of Mr Daley Cooper, Anthony Tweedlepunch was represented by Mr Evelyn Davies, the understudy, who is to be warmly congratulated upon his success. Miss Leonora Grieve was a most attractive Dolores, and to charm of face and figure were added grace of movement, beauty of voice, and clever acting. Miss Daisy Byford was a sweet Angela Gilfain, and Miss Rene Steadman was bright and clever as Lady Holyrood; she also danced prettily. Mr Charles J. Barber displayed plenty of dash as Cyrus Gilfain; Mr Dick Knowles was distinctly amusing as Captain Arthur Donegal; while Mr Cyril Dance sang well and acted in a convincing manner the part of Frank Abercoed.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll.—The star turn here is Burt Shepard, a clever American comedian, who is exceedingly popular and amusing in his parody on "Bill Bailey." Walter King's patter and songs are appreciated; and Horace Wheatley, who sings a capital Irish song, takes well with his audience. The Rayfords introduce a laughable little sketch, a "take off" on the quack doctor; Alice Ormonde is successful with her pretty songs; and Amy Russell gives a fine rendering of the old favourite "Blue Bells." Very eccentric is Fred Earle, who sings a tricky song "Seaweed;" the Kremo Family, a clever dozen of acrobats, perform some startling and original feats; and a funny sketch, *Artful Jim*, by Walter Groves and company, completes a bill that is most attractive.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton.—Mr Milton Bode's company is here this week in *Tommy Atkins*. Mr Frederick Ross is the beau ideal of a dramatic hero as Harold Wilson; Miss Lola Patey as the heroine Ruth Raymond deserves the applause she gains for her finished and artistic acting; Private Mason finds a clever representative in Mr Chas. A. Wenman; Mr George C. Doughty plays with consistent effect as Captain Richard Maitland; Mr John Nolan as Sergeant Paddy Molloy, Mr Billy Harman as Ebenezer Skindle, and Miss Ethel Tinsley as Kate Perkins provide plenty of fun.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton; Musical Director, Mr Walter Ashton.—A most attractive programme here is headed by the world renowned burlesque actress and vocalist, Miss Harriett Vernon, whose new song, "Karama," a Japanese love story, is most daintily and artistically rendered. Miss Ada Martine, comedienne and dancer, and Miss Amy Bellwood, chic comedienne and dancer, are both charming turns; Cullen and Carthy are a couple of clever comedians; the Electrones are comical cyclists; Arthur Bright, vocal comedian and Milanese piper, is interesting; Lord, Murray, and Lord are smart in a ball punching, boxing, and club swinging performance; and the Belmont Troupe of cyclists give a sensational show on the smallest and steepest track in the world.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—*In a Woman's Grip* is being played here this week with great success by Mr Douglas Bruce's company. Miss Beatrice May appears as Mary Langley and infuses plenty of life into the character. As Frank Haydon Mr Herbert Pearson has plenty of scope to display his abilities. Mr Bernard Copping creates a good impression as Maurice Stanton; and Mr Edwin Clarke makes an acceptable Sir Edmond Morton. Mr Robert Soane is well received as Major Edwards; Mr Fred Summers makes the most of Mr Fairley; and Mr J. W. Manning scores as Ralph Sharkey. Miss Marguerite Trevosper is successful in the part of Lillian Fairley. Miss Daisy Maynard is pleasing as Molly Smithers, and the remaining characters are satisfactorily filled.

BORO' VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—The New York Comedy Four are proving a great attraction here. V. T. Kioto, Japanese equilibrist, presents a clever act, and Master Archie Glen, boy comedian, has made quite a hit. The Itrams, gymnasts, perform some daring feats; Miss Flo Atkins, concertinist and mandoline expert, is smart; and Mr Louis Kerno, vocalist and dancer; Sisters Charnley, duettists; Mr Arthur Richards, vocal comedian; Miss Renee Walon, comedienne; and Messrs Blarney and Kennard, eccentric comedians, also appear successfully. The Hebburn Colliery Band appeared as an extra attraction on Thursday evening.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—The bill here is topped by the Two Zabros, in their eccentric gymnastic act, which causes hearty laughter; Baby Lloyd, coon song and dance artiste, is a great favourite. Mr Dan Maxford, raconteur and vocalist, is loudly applauded; and Shavo, in his juggling act, does well. The Sisters Grosvenor, operatic vocalists, have been well received; and Miss Nellie Vann, serio-comedienne; Messrs Sterling and Cashen, speciality artistes; and the Bio Photoscope all meet with favour.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr George Dance's company, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, is here this week, and a good reception is accorded it. Mr Frank A. Wood as Hang Chow, the Emperor, is most amusing; Mr P. Allerton Turner as Chippie Chop is very successful; and Mr Leonard May is responsible for Hi Lung. Mr Percy Yorke deserves praise as Tom Hatherton, and Mr Harry Brayne is good as Pineapple. Miss Jose Collins is a favourite, whilst Miss Marie Adair both acts and sings well as Soo-Soo. Miss M. Sadie is a sprightly Fi Fi, and her numbers are well received. Miss Annie Crisp as Mi Mi and Miss Alice Drummond as Mrs Brown ably fill their respective parts.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt.—An excellent programme is provided here this week, Ginnett's *Remounts* being the chief attraction, and causing great laughter. The Dandys are appreciated, Leonsen is a clever equilibrist, and Mdlle. Louise assists him in his sensational performance upon sticks and ladders. Mabel Kimpton sings very pleasingly; Henry Kaiser does some astonishing juggling tricks; Morny Cash is a good comedian; the Three Sisters Anderson, feet equilibrists, are well received; Minnie Moran is a choice comedian and dancer; Coram is an excellent ventriloquist; and the British Quartet, consisting of John Bull (Frank Bolger, baritone), Sandy (Donald Keir, bass), Pat (J. Russon, alto), and Taffy (Dave Owen, tenor), are very good. Captain Selby and his band materially adds to the evening's amusement.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LTD.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company, on a return visit, is presenting *In Old Kentucky*. Miss Amy F. Herman, as on former occasions, is enthusiastically received as Madge Brierley. Mr G. F. Steele successfully carries out the part of Frank Harley. Others deserving mention are Mr Alfred S. Bankes, Colonel Pebbley Beauchamp; Mr Gerald Kennedy, Jasper Grafton; Miss B. Shirley, Barbara Grafton; Miss Edith Halford, Alethea Harley; Miss Edith Harmer, Mrs Van Aster; Miss Alice Harmer, Minnie; with Mr H. Leander, Neb (Harley's old servant); Mr J. Shaw, Sam Goaney; Master Peter Francis, Sam Shoefly; Mr J. Stacey, Jim Jones; Mr Pete Rintoul, Tom Tinman; Mr F. R. Cooney, Ephraim; Mr Ralph Gibbs, Pete; and Mr George Harris, Rastus. Some enjoyable items are given by Miss Edith Harmer and Messrs Jimmy James and Harry Leander.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—A welcome return visit is being paid this week by *Florodora*, the ever-popular musical comedy. Miss Lena Maitland is admirable in the part of Dolores; Miss Hilda Dugdale looks charming as Angela Gilfain; Mr Frank Grans in the part of Captain Donegal is excellent; Mr Leonard Russell is well suited to the part of Abercoed, his singing earning generous and spontaneous applause; and Mr Edward Lewis is thoroughly at home as Tweedlepunch, the opportunities offered by the part being utilised by him in a highly humorous manner. Mr Fred Winn makes a capital Gilfain, and Mr William Roussell does well as Leandro. Miss Isabelle Dillon plays Lady Holyrood with excellent taste and judgment. The piece is excellently staged, and the orchestra is ably led by Mr Ashley Richards.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Chas. P. Cooke.—For the first time in Nottingham *A Great Sensation* is being presented by Miss Beatrice Isaacson's company. Mr Sydney N. Hallows is seen to advantage in the rôle of Jack Damer; Mr Alexander L. Isaacson is well suited to the part of the millionaire, Bunko Bates; and Mr Frank G. Kent makes the most of his opportunities as Wiley Jones. The heroine, Eva Dale, is admirably impersonated by Miss Beatrice Isaacson, whose grace and charm are highly appreciated. The acting of Miss Edith Wallis as Sidonie and Miss Marion Mayne as Ria is highly commendable, and Miss Maud Hetherington and Miss Ruby Carlton give adequate performances of their parts. Mr Frank V. Fenn makes a capital study of Robin Dale, and Mr Tom Robertson deserves commendation for his Henry Encombe. The play is well mounted.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—*Fiends of London*, presented by Mr Herbert Fuller's company, drew a large house on Monday. Mr Harold H. Hastings capably represents Sir Horace Bream, and Mr Herbert Fuller earns enthusiastic calls for his portrayal of the popular jockey, Bob Archer. The rascality of Captain Crawley is shown with great fidelity by Mr Francis Everard, and Mr H. Evan Gibbons, who plays Peter Shark, is an able "tool." Miss Agnes Collier gives an excellent rendering of the heroine, Laurie Christie; Mr Hugh Carmichael is to be congratulated on his assumption of Mad Joe; and a large amount of fun is created by Miss Emily Lewis (Flossie), Mr Archie Seddon (Clarence Fitzherbert), and Mr James M'Allister (Sandy Macduff). *The Sorrows of Satan* was given on Friday.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—Tina Clementa supplies ample evidence of what may be done by patience and kindness in the training of animals. The dexterous feats of Hardeen, the handcuff manipulator, are arousing the greatest interest; Binns and Binns are clever musicians; the juggling tricks of Radford and Valentine are expert; and Alcide Capitaine presents an attractive gymnastic entertainment. The Scottish Meisters intersperse their melodious vocalism with drollery; an acrobatic sketch by the Baldwin Brothers calls for special notice; and the whistling of Arthur Melrose forms an agreeable feature. Lizzie Valrose sings very pleasantly, and the humorous element is further helped by Bert Berne, comique, and Walter Stanley, comedian.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr G. Dance's principal company opened here on Monday, in the musical comedy *A Country Girl*, with Miss Maud Boyd in the title-rôle. Mr Robert Micheals as juvenile lead was excellently suited, and his duets with Marjory were well received. Mr Charles R. Walenn as Barry was the soul of humour; Mr Joe Nightingale as Sir Joseph Verity was a great success; Mr St. John Hammond as the Rajah was amusing. Miss Ethel Negretti as the Princess and Miss Maud Prenton as Sophie were captivating; Miss Daisy Le Hay was charming as Nan.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—This week "Les François Pot-pourri Acrobatique et Sauters" occupy the premier position; their performance is unequalled for smartness and gracefulness. The Sisters Phillips and Brothers Lorenzi are amusing in their sketch entitled *The Cook's Birthday*; Cliff Ryland is very funny as a comedian and storyteller; the Twin Andersons are successful as skipping-rope dancers; the Carlyles, Spanish and whirlwind dancers, are well received; Brown and Robinson, as bricklayer and labourer, contribute in excellent style; Ella Delare, American comedienne, is well received; the Three Sisters Chester, instrumentalists, and Fred Lincoln, eccentric comedian, complete the programme.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Oldham Theatres, Limited; Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The Mystic Kettle, presented by Mr F. Carlton, is a great attraction here. The Three Victorias, burlesque artistes and dancers, are well received; the Four Arizonas give a good performance of acrobatic tumbling; Rosie Morn is a charming vocalist; Will Percival, eccentric comedian, and pedestal clog-dancer, is successful; E. J. Wilkes, comedian, with his dog "Woof," is greatly appreciated; Schack Seebold, Swiss instrumentalist, meets with a cordial reception; Charles Vincent, comedian, scores; and Raymond's Bioscope is as popular as ever.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—On Monday Mr C. Frohman and Mr A. Chudleigh's company commenced a three nights' engagement here with *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Mr Langhorne Burton in the part of the Duke achieved a big success, enlisting the sympathy of his audience all through the play; Mr Arthur Grenville gave a genuinely humorous and highly effective rendering of Mr Pitt-Welby; and Mr Guy Newall did well in the small part of the reporter, Hicks. Miss Ellen Standing was a capital Countess of Pangbourne; Lady Henrietta was a fascinating and interesting personage as played by Miss Doris Templeton; and Miss Aida Jenoure gave an arch and engaging performance of Mrs Mulholland.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Mr Fred J. Kirke's company is here with *The Naval Detective*. Mr Arthur Hickman is the life and soul of the piece in the triple rôle of Lieut. J. Beresford, Rev. F. Nipper, and Pat Macguiness, and sings in good style. Mr Walter Langford gives a spirited interpretation of Hon. Bertie Fairlex, and also contributes a pretty banjo solo Mr Will Brereton is full of life as Captain Hustle; Mr Albert Evremond is good as Hans Winklepump; and Mr Robert Gilbert is a success as Dr. Schreiner. Miss Lily Seymour is effective as Rebecca Gentle; Miss Iris Banfield makes a powerful Lulu Kaufmann; and Miss E. Claris is intensely humorous as Susan Scrubbs. Miss Louie Fountaine gives a good rendering of the triple rôle of Phyllis Leslie, Mam'zelle Lucette, and Bill Mainway. Miss Mamie Walsh as Pearl and Miss Elsie Paul as Ruby contribute some pretty dances.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. Darville Vernon.—Mr Charles Marsh's company opened here on Monday with *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr Charles Marsh gives a dignified impersonation of Valerius; Mr Ronald Bayne displays much ability as Decus Fronto; the App

"DOROTHY O' THE HALL."

A New Romantic Play, in Four Acts,
by Paul Kester and Charles Major,
Produced for the First Time on any Stage at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, on Thursday, Nov. 3.

Sir John Manners..... Mr ALFRED KENDRICK
The Earl of Rutland .... Mr MALCOLM CHERRY
Sir George Vernon ..... Mr J. CARTER-EDWARDS
Sir Malcolm Vernon .... Mr WALTER EDWIN
Wm. Cecil, Lord Burleigh Mr ROTHBURY EVANS
Sir William St. Loe..... Mr VAUGHAN TREVOR
Perkin ..... Mr HORACE HODGES
Will Dawson ..... Mr ERNEST E. IMESON
Mark ..... Mr JOHN R. TURNBULL
Gregory ..... Mr ARTHUR AUSTIN
Elizabeth Tudor ..... Miss BELLA PATEMAN
Mary Stuart ..... Miss ADELINE BOURNE
Lady Vernon..... Miss GEORGIE TREWMAN
Jenny Faxton ..... Miss MARY MACKENZIE
Bess ..... Miss KATHLEEN DOYLE
Dorothy Vernon ..... Miss JULIA NEILSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Yet another first production at the Newcastle Royal, and one, moreover, which may confidently be expected to reap a rich harvest of success, if the prolific promise held forth on its initial performance is any criterion.

Dorothy Vernon is a maiden with a will of her own, and a strong one at that. This phase of her character is quickly revealed in the first scene at Haddon Hall, where her matrimonial prospects are being considered. The choice of her parents is Sir Malcolm Vernon, while she is also claimed for Sir John Manners, son of the Earl of Rutland, who is the sworn enemy of her father, Sir George Vernon. Both these suitors are unknown to Dorothy, but the virtues of the first-named have been flung at her head with such persistency that she is inclined to rebel and favour the suit of Manners, who shortly presents himself at the hall, and is mistaken by Dorothy and her parents for Sir Malcolm Vernon, who is an expected visitor. So gay and handsome a cavalier is Manners that Dorothy falls in love with him at first sight, and he is similarly affected by her charms. With the arrival of the real Sir Malcolm difficulties arise. Manners reveals his identity to Dorothy, who is momentarily indignant at the deception which has been maintained. The appearance, however, of the real Sir Malcolm is not prepossessing, and her love for Manners asserts itself. There is a nice hullabalioo raised by the wrathful parents to find out who the successful lover is, but, thanks to Dorothy, he has escaped from the hall. She is angrily questioned, but refuses to make them any the wiser, and flings off her body dress to receive on her shoulders the strokes from the butcher's whip with which she is threatened.

In the second act we find Dorothy in her room, reduced to a bread and water diet, but still defiant. She is tempted with an elaborate feast to divulge the name of her lover, but, her temper aroused, she flings the various dishes through the window with such force that their flight is only arrested by a "cloth" representing a distant country scene. Manners visits Dorothy in her room, and is discovered by Sir George Vernon, who strikes him down, rendering him unconscious. In the midst of the turmoil, Queen Elizabeth with her courtiers enters the apartment. Manners, it appears, has been secretly escorting Mary, Queen of Scots, to the coast, and Elizabeth offers to pardon him if Dorothy can get him to make known Mary's hiding place. Dorothy has no alternative, and on Manners regaining his senses she questions him, and learns that Queen Mary is secluded in his father's home. Immediately an armed force is despatched to Rutland Castle, and Dorothy, intent if possible on repairing the mischief by warning Queen Mary, exchanges clothes with her maid, and hastens there also. She arrives in time, and again exchanges costumes, on this occasion with Queen Mary. In her queenly apparel she encounters Sir Malcolm, who has been playing the game of "hares" with Queen Elizabeth and "hounds" with Queen Mary, and acting as a traitor to both. Dorothy threatens to expose his treacherous designs, and his despicable nature is further disclosed when he draws his sword, and compels her to do likewise. A fight with swords between the ill-matched pair ensues, and although Dorothy defends herself gallantly, she is being hard pressed, when Manners bursts into the room, and at the same moment, Queen Elizabeth's soldiers arrive. Manners is taken prisoner, as also is Queen Mary. The latter is led away by her captors, but through Dorothy's special pleading with Queen Elizabeth, Manners' punishment is the comparitively lenient one of a year's banishment to Wales, and, with Dorothy electing to accompany him in his exile, the lovers are united in more or less happy circumstances.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that there is little in common between the love affairs of Dorothy Vernon and Sir John Manners as handed down to us by tradition and the manner in which these episodes are dealt with in the play under notice. It was, nevertheless, a happy idea to select the subject for dramatic treatment, and with Haddon Hall and its associations for a background, the authors have dexterously evolved an exceedingly interesting and exciting romantic play embodied in dialogue of a terse and telling description. Excellent in every way are the first two acts, full of life and movement and charming love passages.

It the third act the promise of the earlier scenes is scarcely maintained, while the last act of all, that everlasting stumbling-block to playwrights, in somewhat disappointing, and the reason is not far to seek, because here the characters of Dorothy Vernon and John Manners, in whom of course the audience are mainly interested, are subordinated to those of the rival queens. How would it answer to adjust the play in such a manner as to permit of the historic elopement being effected here?

Miss Julia Neilson is admirably suited as Dorothy Vernon, and she treated us to one of her best impersonations. From first to last she was seldom off the stage, and she carried through the burden of the part with indomitable spirit and unfailing resource, every changing aspect of the character being indicated with an unerring appreciation of what is exactly required. A valuable contribution to the success of the performance was that of Mr Alfred Kendrick's, who must be warmly congratulated on his sterling piece of acting as Sir John Manners. An ardent lover and a picturesque hero, he presented the character with fine spirit and manliness, and in a manner wholly agreeable. Miss Bella Pateman gave full force and prominence to the rôle of England's Queen, declaiming her lines admirably. In contrast, the more subdued, sympathetic spirit of Mary, Queen of Scots, was presented with much cleverness by Miss Adeline Bourne. Perkin, a hunchback jester who is the faithful attendant on the lovers in their various escapades, offered Mr Horace Hodges a fine opportunity, and he gave a remarkably neat, well-conceived impersonation of the devoted follower. Mr J. Carter Edwards submitted a forceful and successful embodiment of the wrathful parent, Sir George Vernon, who seeks in vain to bend the will of his daughter to his wishes; while Lady Vernon had a capital exponent in Miss Georgie Trewman. Mr Walter Edwin brought out with good effect the despicable qualities of Sir Malcolm Vernon, while Mr Malcolm Cherry as the Earl of Rutland and Mr Rothbury Evans as Lord Burleigh satisfactorily portrayed these characters. Jenny Faxton, the maid, had a pleasing representative in Miss Mary Mackenzie. The play, which has been produced by Mr Fred Terry, had a most enthusiastic reception from a crowded house, and both Miss Neilson and Mr Terry, in response to clamorous appeals, had to speak a few words of thanks.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS MIRIAM LEWES.

MISS MIRIAM LEWES was born in Starie Russ, a village about forty miles south of St. Petersburg, in County Novgorod, and was brought to England when quite a child. She began as a singer and dancer, singing a little and dancing a lot. But Miss Lewes had no desire to remain a dancer; she wanted to act, so she obtained her first engagement in the well-known drama called *Driven from Home*. Then after further experience in melodrama she was engaged for a stock season at Rivière's Opera House. Llandudno, where she played a range of parts of such diverse character as Nora Fitzgerald, in *Harvest*; Dora Jedbury, in *Jedbury, Junior*; Lucy, in *The Silver Shield*; down to eccentric company. From there she went to play the juvenile part in Messrs Shirley and Landeck's *King of Crime*, and then followed an engagement in pantomime. She had a delightful experience as a member of Mr Lancelot Loader's Old English Comedy Company, playing Kate Hardcastle, in *She Stoops to Conquer*, Kittie Clive, in *Peg Woffington*, understudying Peg; Lady Sneerwell, in *The School for Scandal*, understudying Lady Teazle; and often playing Pauline, in *The Lady of Lyons*. Later she played Mrs Fleeter, in *My Sweetheart*; then the leading part in *The Heart of a Hero*, Mr Lingford Carson's company. It was through seeing her play this character, that the late Mr Frank Connor and her present manager, Mr Beaudyn, engaged her to play the Beautiful Fiend. M. Van Biene's manager happened to visit the theatre one night, and he offered her the part of the Duchesse De Vervierr, in *The Broken Melody*, in which rôle she continued to play for eight and a half months, also appearing as Violet, in M. Van Biene's new play which was produced without a title. Miss Lewes was then engaged by Mr J. M. East for the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, where she remained a season playing the wicked ladies in *With Flying Colours, Cheer, Boys, Cheer*, Martha, in *Little Em'ly*; Lina Nelson, in *Harbour Lights*; the Duchess of Portsmouth, in *Nell Gwynne*; and numerous "betrayed" and "wronged" ladies, about whom there was quite a monotonous sameness. She was then engaged by Messrs Egerton Hubbard and Cyril Harcourt for Donna Clotilda, in their tour of *Captain Kettle*, on which performance, by the way, she was especially complimented by Mr Cutcliffe Hyne. At the conclusion of this tour Miss Lewes went back to Hammersmith to play Loo Hexam, in the production of Mr Geo. R. Sims's *Woman from Cool*, and other parts. Mr Walter Melville then offered her the part of Barbara Waok, "the female Coupeau," in *The Girl's Cross Roads*, which proved quite an interesting engagement. She has also played the Duchesse, in *Moths*, Miss Fortescue's company, and quite recently Michelle De Crény, in Mr Charles Steuart's one act play, *Citizen Morot*. Miss Lewes has had only six years' experience as an actress, but she has evidently managed to get a good deal of work into the time. Of course, there are many parts the young actress is ambitious to play, and she hopes one day to have the opportunity of satisfying her desire.

Photo by Vanderbilt.

MISS MIRIAM LEWES.

Photo by Black and White.

MISS NELLIE CLARENCE.

MISS NELLIE CLARENCE.

MISS NELLIE CLARENCE is a descendant of one of the oldest families in France, her mother being the grand-daughter of a French nobleman. For many years she was a well-known amateur actress and vocalist, and it was not till the death of her father that she determined to use her talents as a means of gaining her independence. For three years she sang on the concert platform, and so great was her success as a vocalist that she received an offer from the late Sir Arthur Sullivan to appear in one of his operas, when a very severe illness, which resulted in partial loss of voice, compelled her to retire from public life, and she became a teacher of singing and elocution; but the stage still held its attractions, so she determined to see if she could make her name as a dramatic artiste. Her first professional engagement was at Chatham, as Gretchen, in *Rip Van Winkle*, and Marie Beaumont, in *Robert Macaire*. After a short time in stock, she went on tour as Susan Hartley, in *A Scrap of Paper*. This was quickly followed by tours with *The Black Flag, Harbour Lights, The Idler, Path of Life*, and *Greed of Gold*. A severe accident again compelled her to rest for nine months, after which she went on tour with *The Arabian Nights* and *Trilby*, playing Mrs Gillibrand in the former and Gecko in the latter. So great was her success as Gecko that she began studying juvenile men's parts and is now considered one of the best male impersonators on the stage. After *The Arabian Nights*, came tours with *Known to the Police, The Slave Girl, Uncles and Aunts*, and Mr Thomas Thorne in répertoire. Then Mr Oswald Brand engaged her to appear in all his "Dickens Dramas," and this was followed by a twelve months' engagement with Mr Thomas's répertoire company, playing during that time in *Our Boys, The Silver Shield, Stolen Kisses, The Prude's Progress, Liberty Hall, Wheels Within Wheels, The Tree of Knowledge, The Case of Rebellious Susan*, and *Mrs Dane's Defence*. Miss Nellie Clarence is considered one of the most versatile actresses now before the public, as she plays with equal success heavy lead, aristocratic old lady, character heavy, aristocratic and character comedy, and juvenile male parts.

MISS ANNIE HYLTON.

MISS ANNIE HYLTON made her first appearance at Greenock in *East Lynne*, under the management of Mr Pitney Weston, in 1891, playing small parts for about six months. Her next engagement was with Mr E. Dottridge, in *Devotion for Life*, with whom she remained for three years, playing Mary, also the heavy part, and eventually playing the lead. Her next engagement was a successful stock season at Warrington, followed by an eight months' tour with *The Lion's Heart*. Then came an engagement as juvenile lead with Mr Sydney Vereker in *The Jack o' Hearts*, which lasted about six months. She next joined Mr Kennedy Miller, of the Queen's Theatre, Dublin, and played Nora O'Neal, in *The Irishman*; Nelly O'Neal, in *Shoulder to Shoulder*; Arte O'Neal, in *The Shaughraun*; Madame de Sillery, in *Lord Edward*; or, 98, and Mrs Cregan, in *The Colleen Bawn*. This engagement last for four years. Then followed a short tour with Mr Dane Clark with *The Hand of Justice*, in which she played the lead. She was re-engaged by Mr Kennedy Miller for the same parts, the tour lasting about twelve months.

Photo by the Royal Studio.

MISS ANNIE HYLTON.

Photo by Sawyer.

MR. H. H. BARRINGTON.

Next came a stock season at the Metropole, Glasgow, under the management of Mr Mouillot, in which she shared the leading parts. After playing six weeks in Glasgow, Mr Mouillot took the company on tour for three months, visiting the best theatres, and finishing a most successful tour at the Royal, Dublin. Miss Hylton was immediately re-engaged by Mr Kennedy Miller for the third time, but on this occasion for the entire lead, the tour lasting another twelve months. After an engagement as Nellie and Annie Standish, in *The Shadows of a Great City*, she played lead for a nine weeks' summer tour with Mr F. Brooke Warren in *How Money's Made*. She was then engaged by Mr Arthur Milton for juvenile lead in *Fair Play*, autumn tour, at the termination of which the star heavy part being vacant Mr Milton engaged her for the next tour, but kindly released her so as to enable her to rejoin Mr Kennedy Miller for entire lead for the fourth time. Then came three special weeks with Mr W. Broadhead in Manchester, taking the heavy lead in *A Call to Arms* company, a special week with Mr J. A. Campbell, in *A Bid for Fortune* company, resulting in a tour of eight months as Barbara Templemere, the lead, followed by a tour of six months with Mr Frank Bateman as juvenile lead in *At War With Women* company. Miss Hylton was next engaged by Mr F. Brooke Warren for the second time to play lead, in *An Evil Life* company, the tour lasting eight months. She was then specially engaged at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, by Mr Kennedy Miller to play Mrs Cregan, in *The Colleen Bawn*, after which the same gentleman engaged her for the fifth time to play entire lead in his répertoire.

MR. H. H. BARRINGTON.

MR H. H. BARRINGTON commenced his professional career at the early age of four as Little Willie Carlyle. His school days were happy ones at Southsea. During the day he studied hard and the evenings found him acting at the old Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, in, sometimes, three plays a night. By the time he had reached the age of twenty he had been programme boy, call-boy, prompter, and stage-manager, and had also played 150 parts, finishing his mushroom days with the present J. W. Boughton at his first New Royal Theatre, Portsmouth. His varied experience has served him well. Anxious to start on tour he accepted an engagement with the first American company, *Muldoon's Picnic*, and remained until he had played every male part in the piece and also Mrs Muldoon. He then joined Miss Le Tellie's *Sweetheart* company, playing Dr. Oliver, and stayed with her until her répertoire was founded, being allotted such parts as Alfred Evelyn, Bob Brierly, Tony Faust, Brian Fitzgerald, &c. He was afterwards engaged by Mr W. H. Sharpe for the Doctor, in *Saved from the Streets*, two pantomime engagements with Mr J. F. Elliston followed, his baritone voice doing him good service as the Demon King. Joining Mr Fred Gould he made a big success in London, as in the provinces, as the Priest, in *The Father's Oath*. He also played Owen Glyndon for a lengthy period in *The Black Flag*. During a vacation he was engaged by the late Mr Andrew Melville for pantomime playing Wolf and Clown, in *Red Riding Hood*. A stock season followed when he played such parts as Father Tom, Bob Millit, Arkwright, and Cattermole. When Mr Gould took over the theatre at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and stock seasons were such a decided success, he was the stage-manager, and among the parts he played were Toby Twinkle, Blueskin, Nick Chaddox, David Deans, Uncle Tom, Wahnotee, Mathew Shore, Sampson Blackthorne, Beamish, Bloodgood, Nathan, *Leah*. His last season was thirty-nine weeks, during which time he played forty-three principal character parts. Nor is this all, for he found time to coach the Newcastle juvenile amateurs in their several operettas, and also lectured on Sunday evenings with living pictures on *The Sign of the Cross*. On leaving Newcastle his complimentary benefit given by his manager is still remembered, and "Old Jack Salt" (his sobriquet there) was greeted with a packed and admiring audience. After a five days' rest he then joined Miss Emma Rainbow for Joe Prentice, in *Proved True*. An engagement followed with Miss Gertrude Irving in *Parma Violets*, Mr Barrington playing lead and acting-management. A tour with *Jane* followed, he appearing as Kershaw with great success. On coming to London again he was immediately engaged by Mr St. John Denton for the part of Cleary, the Yorkshire bookmaker, in *Sporting Life*, produced at the Shaftesbury Theatre. So great was his success that he was engaged by Mr Leonard Boyne for three tours as stage-manager, and at short notice played the heavy part of De Carterette for forty performances. On another occasion three of the principal members of the company were taken ill, and to play the piece seemed almost an impossibility, but Mr Barrington was equal to the emergency, for so well were the understudies rehearsed that, in spite of nine changes in the cast an excellent performance was given to the delight of the local manager. On leaving *Sporting Life* he was engaged for a short time by Mr Brien M'Culloch in sketches on the halls. A tour with *The Rose of Rathboy* followed, in which he was specially engaged by Mr Sheldon to create the part of the Priest. He then joined Mr Kennedy Miller, playing the O'Grady and various parts in that gentleman's numerous dramas. Miss Marie Dagmar then engaged him to play Orloff, the serf, in *A Life's Revenge*. Mr Walter Melville's engagement was one of four years' duration, playing Milford, *Worst Woman in London*, for three-and-a-half years. A stock season at the Standard followed, at which theatre he is very popular, playing Raybrook, in *Driven from Home*, and other parts, terminating the engagement as Captain Norman, *Second Time on Earth*. His next engagement was that of the heavy part in Messrs Bailey and Cooper's musical comedy-drama *The Girl of To-day*. It will be seen from the above record that he is not only one of our most experienced but one of our most versatile actors.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

"THE FASCINATING MISS KEMP."

A New and Original Light Comedy, in Three Acts,
by Gordon Holmes,
Produced at the Grand Theatre, Margate, on Monday, Nov. 7.

Colonel Trevannion..... Mr CHARLES GARRY
Gerald Trevannion ..... Mr HUGH ARDALE
Lionel Trevannion ..... Mr HAROLD WADELY
John Meredith ..... Mr DRELINCOURT ODLUM
Rev. Mathew Blad ..... Mr S. SEBASTIAN SMITH
Wells ..... Mr C. W. HALLE
Mrs Trevannion..... Miss DORA HERITAGE
Elsie Trevannion ..... Miss CELESTINE BERTRAM
Kate ..... Miss BEATRICE BELL
Muriel Cavanagh ..... Miss ROSE PORTMAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Miss Rose Portman's new venture is an old story redressed and retold in an interesting manner and made particularly amusing. It was produced provincially as a preliminary to its appearance in London in a few weeks' time. When Colonel Trevannion, an old Anglo-Indian, was in India, it was a settled thing between him and his brother-officer, Major Cavanagh, that Muriel Cavanagh should be the wife of Gerald, Trevannion's eldest son. Cavanagh died after the Colonel came to England, and Muriel was temporarily lost sight of, but the prospective alliance was often discussed. The family solicitor, John Meredith, is staying with the Trevannions at Elmsleigh, near St. Peter's Port, Guernsey, where the first scene opens. He brings up the subject of his client, Muriel Cavanagh, who has a rent-roll of £100,000, and he reminds the Colonel of the old friendly agreement. Mrs Trevannion, with visions of what such abundant wealth would enable them to do, thinks the "dear girl," who has just come to England, ought to be invited to come and stay with them, and the match fixed up between Muriel and Gerald. They tell Gerald of Muriel's wealth, but he is tired of the name which has been dinned into his ears for years, and he absolutely declines to entertain the notion of saddling himself with a "wretched parched-up Indian curry." The suggestion that he shall go to London with Mr Meredith to be introduced to Muriel is unavailingly enforced by the peppery old Colonel, and then the inevitable happens, and the trend of the plot is disclosed. Mrs Trevannion has engaged as a holiday help a "Miss Priscilla Kemp," who, needless to say, is Muriel, who adopts this plan of seeing what her future husband is like. Of course, she is, on arrival, instantly recognised by her solicitor, who enters into the plot; whilst Mrs Trevannion is much disappointed to find that the help is so good-looking, and has fears that not only her son but her much too flighty husband may become enamoured of her charms. In the house she is heard singing delightfully. Gerald is struck by the voice, and, unfortunately in her hearing, declares his intention of ignoring the "Indian fright" and of flirting desperately with the fascinating "Miss Kemp," to whom he is the next moment introduced by Meredith.

Four days have elapsed since the introduction of "Miss Kemp" into the family, and, in the second act, it is seen that the fascinating holiday help has made a strong impression on the susceptible Colonel, his son, who is wooing in deadly earnest, and an amorous cleric. She is the idol of the children, but she is the cause of much perturbation to poor Mrs Trevannion. She is scandalised at a servant wearing better dresses than her own, putting on costly jewellery, and appearing in low-neck dresses at dinner. She fears that a man is never old enough to keep out of danger when a frivolous woman is about. But with all her manœuvring Gerald manages to find opportunities to snatch a few quiet moments with Muriel, and each time his passion increases; but she is paying him back in his own coin, and treats all his protestations as the vainglorious vapourings of a practised flirt. Gerald is in despair at the way in which he is treated. He urges his suit with greater eloquence than ever, but still to further test him she advises him to seek the dried-up mummy with the money-bags, and in a moment of pique he declares that he will.

In the next act everybody seems to have had a bad night, and all are about early. As Gerald is going to London Mrs Trevannion makes that an excuse of getting rid of Muriel. The men all realise that Mrs Trevannion is jealous of her lady help. There is a parting scene between Gerald and Muriel, which terminates in a complete understanding between the two, and he introduces his fiancee to his mother, who calls her a bad, designing hussy, until she, too, learns that the fascinating "Miss Kemp" is none other than Muriel Cavanagh. Here the story ends with the vision of a speedy marriage.

Miss Rose Portman played the fascinating Miss Kemp excellently. Mr Hugh Ardale was capital as Gerald, and Mr Charles Garry was particularly good as the peppery old Colonel. The part of John Meredith gave some fine opportunities, which Mr Drelincourt Odlum made the most of, and Mr S. Sebastian Smith was amusing as the Rev. Mathew Hind. Miss Dora Heritage as Mrs Trevannion was seen to great advantage, and as Lionel and Elsie Mr Harold Wadely and Miss Celestine Bertram were the most provoking of mischief-making young imps. Miss Beatrice Bell rendered good service as the maid, Kate; and the small part of Wells, a porter, was satisfactorily filled by Mr C. W. Halle.

The comedy was very well received, and the members of the company were accorded a warm ovation at the end of each act, the approval of the audience being marked with loud applause.

"DOMUS ET PLACENS UXOR"
("THE HOUSE AND PLEASING WIFE").

Produced for the First Time at the Grand Theatre, Margate, on Monday, Nov. 7.

Reginald Chalmers ..... Mr HENRI GERALD
Bruce Derringcourt .... Mr S. SEBASTIAN SMITH
Culver Pierce ..... Mr CHARLES GARRY
Wright ..... Miss BEATRICE BELL
Olive Chalmers..... Miss CELESTINE BERTRAM

This little one-act play, by Gordon Holmes, made a capital curtain-raiser, and was received most favourably. Chalmers invites to his house Pierce, who is a thorough-paced scoundrel, a sharper, and a debaucher of women. He deliberately sets himself to try and compromise his host's wife, and boasts that she shall come to him before long. She treats this as an idle boast, but Pierce is deep in his cunning, and his rascality is soon made apparent. Cards are played, the stakes are high. Chalmers stands the loser of £10,000, for which Pierce holds his I O.U.'s. In a mad fit of desperation, and stung into action by the threats of his opponent, he stakes his wife against the debt. The cards are cut three times, and Pierce wins. When Olive is told what has taken place, her scorn and indignation is intense. She, however, says that as she has been sold for £10,000 she will pay the debt. Pierce had bought her body for that sum, but her soul should never be his, and she shoots herself.

The little piece was well played. Mr Charles Garry played with grim earnestness the cynical, scheming scoundrel, Culver Pierce. The weak, vacillating Reginald Chalmers was excellently portrayed by Mr Henri Gerald, and Mr S. Sebastian Smith enacted the rôle of the friend with quiet and unobtrusive but firm dignity. Miss Celestine Bertram played the injured wife with excellent effect, and finely depicted the scorn and loathing of the position in which she found herself.

"RICHELIEU."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you grant me space in which to correct a slight error in Mr Percival Craig's article of Oct. 29 regarding the cast of *Richelieu* at the Lyceum Theatre, Sunderland, Sept. 18, 1856. It was Edward Dean Davis who played Richelieu, whilst my late husband, Alfred Davis, was the De Beringham and stage-manager.

Yours faithfully, JANET DAVIS.
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, Nov. 9.

"PEGGY MACHREE."

A New Musical Play, in Three Acts, by Patrick Bidwell, Lyrics by the Author,
Arranged and Harmonised by Michèle Esposito,
Produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby, on Monday, November 7.

Lady Margaret O'Driscoll (Peggy)	Miss MARIE DAINTON
Madame De La Cour	Miss MILLICENT M'LAUGHLIN
The Hon. Emily Pryor	Miss ETHEL WEYBURN
Moira	Miss FREDA BRAMLEIGH
Molly M'Mahon	Miss NESSIE WALKER
Nora	Miss PATTIE RUSHOLME
Kathleen	Miss BERTHA SEATON
Sir Lawrence Borthwick	Mr MARC M'DERMOTT
Captain De La Cour	Mr STANLEY PRINGLE
Alexander M'Dougall	Mr GRAEME CAMPBELL
Michael	Mr SHIEL BARRY
Rainey	Mr F. STORY GOFTON
Larry	Mr HOWARD SMOOKE
Patsy	Mr A. S. GARBER
Ody Ryan	Mr GEORGE M'GEORGE
Thady	Mr ERNEST BRYANT
Donovan	Mr D. LESLIE
Sergeant	Mr LESLIE LEES
A Priest	Mr WILLIAM WILSON
Barry Trevor	Mr DENIS O'SULLIVAN

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Most enthusiastic was the reception of the first performance of *Peggy Machree*, a new musical play, produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby, on Monday last. When the curtain fell on the last act there was an extraordinary demonstration on the part of the audience, who did not desist from cheering until the principals had repeatedly bowed their acknowledgments.

Peggy Machree is quite distinct from the usual variety of modern musical production. The aim of the author has been to produce a play in which music shall be a prominent feature, and in which the plot shall be on a more pretentious scale than is usually attempted in such cases. The result has been highly pleasing. The story, which is of a most romantic character, possesses great dramatic interest, and would still form a presentable play were the musical portions cut out altogether.

The scene of the play is placed in Ireland, the period being the middle of the eighteenth century. This, briefly, is the story. Lady Margaret O'Driscoll, a madcap young aristocrat, conceives the mischievous idea of posing as a peasant girl, and in this guise visiting Donnkilty Fair. The remonstrances of her major-domo—a raw-boned, more than usually canny Scot, by name Alexander M'Dougall, who assumes somewhat of the attitude of a watchdog towards his young mistress—are laughingly ignored. Lady Margaret persuades her foster-mother, Moira, to lend her the necessary costume, which she promptly dons. Enter Barry Trevor, an Irish gentleman, and his English friend, Sir Lawrence Borthwick. They are both captivated by the charming manners and singing of the little lady, whom they, of course, suppose to be a village colleen. Incidentally it may be remarked that M'Dougall and Moira, after a ten years' engagement, are to be married, and this is the wedding day. Moira has taken the precaution to have a priest at hand, who lies asleep in the cottage; but, to her unspeakable chagrin, the procrastinating Scotchman repents, and demands a postponement of the ceremony. Great preparations have been made to celebrate the wedding, and to avoid disappointing the guests Barry and Lady Margaret, who is known as Peggy Machree, agree, as a joke, to go through a mock marriage. Sir Lawrence is to borrow the sleeping father's cloak and impersonate the priest. After the wedding party leave for the chapel, however, Sir Lawrence becomes afraid, and decides to have nothing to do with the business. In the meantime the real priest has awakened, and fate decrees he shall come out of the house just as the messenger, who has been sent to summon the bogus priest, arrives. The consequence is the real priest proceeds to the chapel and performs the ceremony, and it is not until afterwards that the discovery is made that the couple are actually man and wife. Consternation then prevails, and ultimately Barry, to show his penitence for his folly, enlists in the King's army.

Between acts one and two ten years are supposed to have elapsed. Barry, after having fought in the wars, finds himself almost penniless, and becomes a strolling fiddler. He visits the castle of the O'Driscolls, and saves Lady Margaret's life, besides frustrating a plot against her, hatched by her scheming cousin. Barry, however, is totally unaware that she is the girl he married years before, nor is Lady Margaret aware of it at first. She ultimately recognises him, but allows him to remain in ignorance of her identity. Barry is also recognised by his old friend Sir Lawrence, and in act three he is found installed as the honoured guest of the O'Driscolls. Still he does not know who Lady Margaret is, but she tells him that she knows the story of his chance marriage, and has brought the girl to the castle to see him. Meanwhile, Barry has grown to love Lady Margaret, and is not at all pleased to find his wife is still alive. Lady Margaret leaves him for a while, and then returns in her old dress as Peggy. Barry then realises that the supposed peasant girl to whom he was so strangely married and the lady who has won his heart are one and the same, and everything ends happily.

The character of Lady Margaret (Peggy) was charmingly played by Miss Marie Dainton, who bids fair to repeat the success she established in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Her songs, "The Idle Colleen," "Peggy Machree," "Honeymoon Hall," and "The Old Oak Tree," were very prettily rendered, and encores were frequent. Chief vocal honours, however, went to Mr Denis O'Sullivan, whose representation of Barry Trevor gave unbounded satisfaction. His splendid baritone voice was heard to especial advantage in the beautiful Irish melodies which were expressly worked into the score. Amongst his best numbers were "The Irish Welcome," "I'm not myself at all," "The Widow Malone," and "Elen." The company, which was under the direction of Mr C. E. Hamilton, was in every respect a thoroughly qualified one. Mr Graeme Campbell's dry humour found ample scope in the droll character of the Scotsman, Alexander M'Dougall, and Mr Shiel Barry pleased everyone as the blind piper, Michael. Excellent work was also accomplished by Miss Millicent M'Laughlin as Madame De La Cour, Miss Ethel Weyburn as the Hon. Emily Pryor, Miss Freda Bramleigh as Moira, Mr Marc M'Dermott as Sir Lawrence, and Mr Stanley Pringle as Captain De La Cour.

Peggy Machree will proceed for a short provincial tour, touching Newcastle and Liverpool, and finishing in Edinburgh. It will then, early in January, be produced at a London West-end theatre.

THE usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. The secretary referred to a letter he had received from a well-known manager containing the following paragraph:—"I am very much obliged to you for all the trouble you have taken, and I shall be glad to use the Association again at some future time, if I may." R. Nitch-Smith, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (an authority on obesity), 10, New Bond-street, W.; James Smith, Esq., L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., &c., Schawfield, Falkirk; and Stephen Smith, Esq., M.R.C.S. (an authority on the cure of myopia, astigmatism, &c., without glasses), were elected hon. medical officers to the A.A. The secretary reported the receipt of certain particulars in connection with a case of alleged bogus management. The hon. solicitors, having reported they had advised several members, were requested to take the steps necessary to enforce payment of member's claim for damages for breach of contract. A member of the council referred to the fact that one of the hon. medical officers had offered a suggestion that it was desirable that a convalescent home should be provided for the use of members of the A.A.

DRURY-LANE A CENTURY AGO.

The trustees of Yale College, Connecticut, in the autumn of 1804, appropriated a sum of money for the enlargement of their library and philosophical and chemical apparatus; and they determined on sending an agent to Europe for the purpose of making the contemplated collections. Mr Benjamin Silliman, who was connected with the college as a teacher of chemistry, was commissioned to execute this trust, and sailed from New York on April 4, 1805. The name of the vessel was "the Ontario;" and Mr Silliman and his fellow passengers landed at Liverpool on May 3. At the request of a brother who lived at Newport, Rhode Island, the representative of Yale College commenced a journal which was continued from the first, without a single day's omission, till his return. Some years afterwards the author was induced to publish this account of his experiences, with certain additions, omissons, and alterations, in two volumes, under the title of "A Journal of Travels in England, Holland, and Scotland." There is much interesting reading in these pages, the author narrating in a plain, unvarnished style his visits to well-known places, while his observations concerning the England of a hundred years ago certainly repay perusal. It is evident from the tone of many of his remarks that Mr Benjamin Silliman was somewhat of a Puritan, but on his arrival at Liverpool, where he attended a circus, he thus writes:—"I shall occasionally attend the theatres, for public amusements furnish the most decisive criterion of national taste, and no contemptible one of the state of public morals, and of the dignity or degradation of the public mind; for when men go to be amused they will demand such things as they really delight in."

One of the theatres he visited was Drury-lane on an occasion when the house was honoured by the presence of King George III. and Queen Charlotte. He gives the following account of his visit:—

"At 5·0 o'clock this evening, I went to Drury-lane Theatre, with the double view of seeing this celebrated house, and their Majesties who were expected to attend that evening. It is known when the King and Queen are to be at the play by the style of the bill for the evening, which, in such case always begins thus:—

"*By command*, their majesties' servants will perform, this evening, such a play.

"This title always excites great interest, and it becomes necessary to go to the house at a very early hour, if one would obtain a seat, for there seems to be as much curiosity in the people of this country to see the King and Queen and Royal Family, as if they were newly arrived, and were the first of their kind ever exhibited. This curiosity was evinced, this evening, by a very full house, and by a great crowd collected around the door, waiting the mement when it should open. When this took place, the torrent of people poured in like a flood; the passage was narrow and such was the strife and violence, that with the screaming and fainting of females, it was somewhat of a serious affair.

"I took my seat in the pit, that I might be certain of seeing the King, for this curiosity was surely pardonable in one who had never before seen any sovereign but the people. Everything remained quiet, for a time, while they were waiting the arrival of the King and Queen. During this interval, I had leisure to survey this spacious and magnificent theatre, of which I shall not however attempt a description, for mere descriptions of fine edifices without drawings are of all attempts the least successful.

"At length His Majesty arrived, and, in an instant, the house rang with huzza! huzza! with loud clapping of hands and waving of hats; the applause was reiterated and reiterated, till they seemed as if they would never have done. The King bowed to the different parts of the house and took his seat. He is a noble-looking old man, fleshy yet not oppressively corpulent, and his countenance is so highly coloured that on the whole I think he appears younger than almost any man of his age whom I have ever seen. The outline of his countenance is very correctly delineated on the English guinea, and in many of the prints. He was dressed in a blue uniform, faced with red, with gold lace, epaulets, &c.

"The royal box is directly over the left side of the stage, as one sits facing it, and is adorned with scarlet velvet, embellished with gold; over it is a canopy supporting a crown, and two yeomen of the guards stand below on the stage supporting spears. Next came the Queen at a short distance from the King; again the theatre rung with applauses and Her Majesty having graciously acknowledged them by the usual civility, was seated at the King's left hand. She is an old lady of a pleasant countenance, but bears the marks of age in a much greater degree than the King. Immediately behind the King and Queen stood the lords and ladies in waiting. They do not sit in presence of their Majesties, and, whatever might be the honour, I did not envy them the pleasure of standing five hours in that situation, for honour will not keep limbs from aching. Next came the princesses, Augusta, Elizabeth, Mary, Sophia, and Amelia. They were received with applauses, but less ardent than those bestowed on their Majesties. They returned the compliment very graciously, and took their seats, the lords and ladies in waiting taking their stations behind them as behind the King and Queen.

"Their box is at the right hand of the royal box, and is richly ornamented with blue silk and silver lace. In a box immediately at the right of that a number of female attendants were seated—I believe they were maids of honour; they wore those formidable hoop petticoats which I mentioned on the birth-day. Above the maids of honour were other royal attendants, lords, gentlemen, &c.

"The princesses are not beautiful women; they are however, with one exception, ladies of fine stature and commanding presence, and have much dignity in their appearance. Last of all, appeared one of the King's sons, the Duke of Cumberland, but he came into the box below the princesses, on purpose, I presume, to avoid applause, for it was not given until sometime in the evening, when he rose from behind a screen and showed himself. He is a handsome man of about thirty-three or thirty-four years of age, as I should suppose from his countenance. Having finished the arduous business of introducing and seating their Majesties and the Royal Family, we will proceed to the play.

"First of all, the curtain rose, and discovered a throng of actors and actresses, on the stage, who sang 'God save great George our King.' The whole assembly, not excepting the princesses themselves, joined in singing the chorus, with a degree of zeal and animation which could hardly be surpassed. The play, which was *The School for Scandal*, was performed in a very admirable manner. Mrs Jordan and Miss Pope among the women, and Elliston, among the men, particularly excelled.

"*The School for Scandal* abounds in point, wit, and humour, for which the King seemed to have a hearty relish, for he laughed frequently and heartily. After the play 'Rule, Britannia,' was sung by the whole house with great enthusiasm, and the princesses joined in this chorus also.

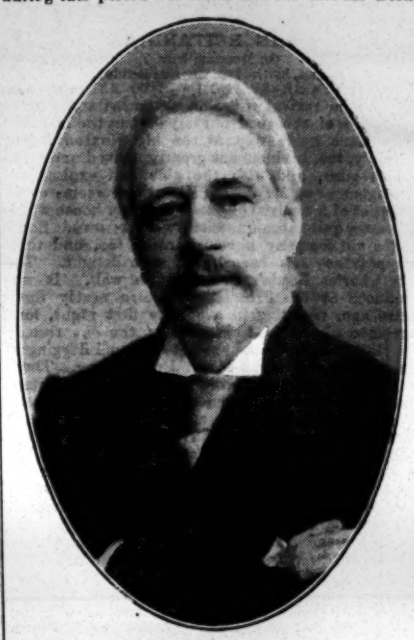
"There was a poetical prologue to the interlude, all the lines of which ended in *ation*, and Bonaparte, under the nickname of Bony, by which appellation he is contemptuously and jocosely called in England, was severely satirised, as well as his long-threatened invasion. The King seemed more delighted with this than with anything; he laughed almost continually, and the Queen even exceeded him. The after-piece was *Youth, Love, and Folly*, three personages which, it must be allowed, are usually found in company."

"HER FIRST FALSE STEP" is the name of a new four-act drama by Myles Wallerton and Francis Gilbert, which will be toured shortly in the suburbs and provinces.

FAMOUS SCENIC ARTISTS.

MR. WALTER HANN.

Mr Walter Hann is the chairman and treasurer of the Scenic Artists' Association. In 1853 he was placed under Mr J. W. Calcott at the Surrey Theatre, where he was employed for two years in drawing. Mr Tom Thompson, of Astley's, whom Mr Hann occasionally assisted, advised him to apply to Mr Charles Marshall at Her Majesty's Opera, and the experience he gained there gave him a fair start as a scenic artist. Between the seasons he went into the provinces. Mr George Gordon persuaded Mr Hann to paint and exhibit a picture at the Suffolk-street Gallery. Mr Frederick Lloyd having seen this picture obtained Mr Hann the appointment of assistant to himself at St. James's Theatre, then under the management of Mr G. Alfred Wigan. Mr George Vining about 1863 took the Princess's, and Mr Hann and Mr Lloyds were the scene painters there for over ten years, and during this period Mr Hann met the late Mr Dion



MR. WALTER HANN.

Boucicault. When Mr Hann left the Princess's he, in a fortnight, working from 8 0 a.m. to 12 0 p.m., painted an act-drop for the Lyceum, and this brought him orders from the Prince's, Manchester, where Sir (then Mr) Henry Irving saw it and ordered a duplicate of the design. For the late Mr John Hollingshead Mr Hann painted the Smithy, in *Uncle Dick's Darling*. Mr Hann was with Miss Marie Litton during her management of the Court. It was at the Olympic that Mr Hann first met the late Mr Charles Reade, an acquaintance which led to a life-long friendship. In 1872 Mr Hann took part of his present premises in Muchby-street, Oadby, and there painted nine scenes for *Babil and Bijou*, the scenes for Mr Charles Calvert's celebrated productions in Manchester of Shakespearian plays, and of his pantomimes. For the late Mr Wilson Barrett Mr Hann painted the Balcony scene for *Romeo and Juliet* at the Court, and for many of his productions later at the Princess's, including the earthquake scene in *Claudian*. Mr Hann has painted for many years scenes for Mr Tree at the Haymarket, including *Hypatia*, where he met Sir Laurence Alma-Tadema, and worked with him in the Forum scene, *Julius Cæsar*. Mr Hann modestly ascribes his success as an artist to the encouragement given him by the above mentioned managers, and by Sir Squire Bancroft, Messrs Harrison and Maude, Comyns Carr, and George Alexander, for each of whom he has painted. During the last thirty years Mr Hann has, with assistants, painted over 1,200 scenes.

MR. WILLIAM THOMPSON HEMSLEY.

Mr William Thompson Hemsley, who has his studios in Felix-street, Westminster-bridge-road, was born in Newcastle in 1850, and is a grand-nephew of John Graham Lough, the eminent sculptor. At an early age Mr Hemsley went to Swindon to work at engineering, and there spent his leisure time at the local School of Art. When only sixteen years of age he obtained a teacher's certificate and also the Society of Arts' First-class Certificate. Mr Hemsley became acquainted with

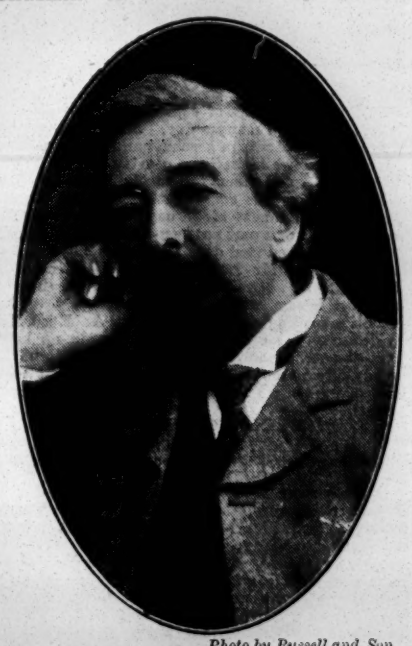


Photo by Russell and Son.

MR. W. T. HEMSLEY.

the late Rev. J. M. Bellew, father of Mr Kyrle Bellew, and by him was introduced to Mr Augustus Harris, senior, at Covent-garden Theatre, and to Mr J. O'Connor of the Haymarket Theatre, obtaining through the latter an engagement with the late Mr Beverley at Drury-lane. While Mr Hemsley was studying at the Lambeth School of Art Mr Tom Taylor, the celebrated dramatist, frequently selected for him subjects and criticised his sketches, and notably highly commended his composition of "The Lady of the Lake." In 1874 Mr Hemsley returned to Swindon, and there his artistic ability was recognised by Charles Mathews, who gave him an introduction to Miss Sarah Thorne at Worcester, and for some years he remained under her management at Margate as resident scenic artist. On the conclusion of the ninth successful pantomime Mr Hemsley was presented with a valuable gold watch, engraved with a testimonial. This was in 1885, and it was while painting scenery at Margate Mr Hemsley filled up his time by drawing caricatures for the Margate Free Press, and then went on tour to do lightning caricatures. While resident artist at Sadler's Wells Theatre Mr Hemsley painted the scenery for Kyrle Bellew's production of *The Corsican Brothers*, and for Miss De Grey's Shakespearian productions. Mr Hemsley then went to the Grand Theatre, Islington, and a little later, entering into partnership with the late Mr Charles Wilmot, he opened a scene factory in the Belvedere-road, and there painted the scenery for Mr F. R. Benson's fine production of *The Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Globe Theatre. In 1892 the partnership was dissolved, and Mr Hemsley opened on his own account his present large studios in Felix-street. Mr Hemsley's special forte is the skilful combination of mechanical ingenuities allied to scenic effects. Mr Hemsley has painted for all the leading London theatres, including *Quo Vadis With Flying Colours*, and *The Prayer of the Sword* for the Adelphi Theatre; *Monte Carlo*, *The New Barmaid*, and *The Master of Kingsgift* for the Avenue Theatre; *The Bauble Shop* for the Criterion Theatre; *The Queen's Double* for the Garrick Theatre; *The Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Hamlet*, and *Othello*, for Mr Benson's season at the Globe and other productions at the same theatre, including *Bootles' Baby*, *The Black Rover*, and *Romeo and Juliet*; *The Degenerates* and *The Tempter*, for the Haymarket Theatre; *The Eternal City* and *Resurrection* (reproductions), *The Man that Was*, *The Gordian Knot*, *Flodden Field*, *Richard II.*, and the entire original production of *The Darling of the Gods* (and the reproductions of the same for the tour) for His Majesty's Theatre; *The Bric-a-Brac Will*, *Mice and Men*, *Othello*, and *The Light that Failed* for the Lyric Theatre; *La Basoche* for the English Opera House (now the Palace); *La Poupée* and *The White Silk Dress* for the Prince of Wales's Theatre; and *La Rosiere* for the Shaftesbury Theatre, and *Wapping Old Stairs* at the Vaudeville. Mr Hemsley has also been concerned with Mr Hugh Moss, in some sixty productions and has painted for several years for the Cambridge University, and for Mr Henry Dundas all the reproductions of the Drury-lane successes.

For the principal London music halls Mr Hemsley painted *Nelson* for the Oxford, *The Last Stand* for the Tivoli, *Wellington* for the Canterbury, and *The Charge of the Light Brigade* for the Pavilion. In recent years, Mr Hemsley has painted upwards of fifty act-drops for the new provincial theatres. He takes a very active interest in the new Scenic Artists' Association, and is one of the original members of the council of management.

COLONEL MAPLESON.

One of the most prominent figures in the musical world of America and Europe is the celebrated impresario Colonel Mapleson, celebrated not only for the success and fortune he has brought to artistes now famous, but also as an amateur of sport, a writer and critic of distinction, a soldier, and a man of the world. Colonel Mapleson came naturally by his chosen career, for, as everyone knows, his father was also a great impresario. It was Mapleson *père* who took the public's breath away by paying Adelina Patti 700,000f. for thirty concerts in America. But Colonel Mapleson has just broken even this hitherto unbeaten record. On behalf of an American syndicate, he has just offered Jean De Reszke 1,100 000 for forty concerts in the principal cities of the United States. Owing to the Presidential Election this tour has been postponed until next year, and Colonel Mapleson is meanwhile arranging for the appearance in London during the coming winter of a French comedy company, to include in turn all the favourite Parisian artists. On the occasion of King Edward's visit to Paris Colonel Mapleson was entrusted with the management of the famous "Soirée Musicale," given by his Majesty at the British Embassy in honour of the President of the Republic. In speaking of this brilliant and historical event, M. Périvier, editor of *Gil Blas*, devoted a special editorial to Colonel Mapleson, from which we give the following extract:—

"The person of Colonel Mapleson is well known by all Parisians who are interested in theatrical and artistic events. In many ways the Colonel is an interesting figure. By turn impresario, journalist, globe-trotter, hunter, and soldier, his life has been an original and indefatigable one. Colonel Mapleson has won by his charm of manner, his brilliant wit, and *savoir faire*, the right of a naturalised Parisian, and his untiring labours have done much to promote the *entente cordiale*. In addition to his many accomplishments, the Colonel is a refined and experienced critic, he excels in all outdoor sports, and as a referee his decisions have invariably given general satisfaction. In private life he is a general favourite owing to his warm-hearted and generous disposition, and his popularity is fully shared by his lovely and accomplished young wife, the daughter of Señor Antonio de Roig, the rich Cuban planter. Such is the man who by Royal command organised the artistic soirée of which the success was so pronounced that King Edward sent for Colonel Mapleson and warmly thanked him in the presence of President Loubet, who also expressed his great satisfaction."—*American Register*.

MR. TERRY HURST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am very grieved indeed to find I made a mistake in my "career" by referring to the above-named gentleman as "the *late* Terry Hurst." I most earnestly hope Mr Hurst will accept my very sincere apology.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES CARTE.

AT the Theatre Royal, Hanley, Mr Laurence Irving is appearing in that cleverly-written play *Richard Lovelace*, which is presented by a highly capable company. Miss Mabel Hackney and Mr Irving appear in the leading parts. Mr Irving in the title-part is exceptionally fine, and his clever impersonation is much appreciated He acts with ease and grace. Mr William E. Ashcroft as Colonel Martin Hawley is well cast, and is decidedly successful. The rôle of Alderman Sacheverell has a capital exponent in Mr Henry Crocker; Mr Porter is well depicted by Mr Michael Sherbrooke; Mr Chris Walker is a good Adjutant; and Mistress Porter is in the capable hands of Mrs Campbell Bradley. The piece is preceded by *Daisy's Escape*, which is cleverly acted and capitally staged.

MESSRS C. W. FAULKNER AND CO., of Golden-lane, E.C., have issued a supplementary illustrated price list of their new publications in photogravure, gravure, carbon, and silver, together with novelties in framed pictures and overmantels. This book contains many charming specimens of high-class artistic work. The gendre subjects are well chosen, and there are a number of pretty landscapes, after the original pictures by D. Sherrin, Alfred D. Breanski, Douglas Cameron, Ernest Walbourne, Sidney Pike, Harold Laws, and others. The figure and animal pictures are also very good, while the coloured miniature illustrations of studies cannot fail to attract attention. In the autotype reproductions both the old and new masters are represented, and specimens from the Wallace and other notable collections are also included. Messrs Faulkner and Co. are already well-known for the excellence of their reproductive work, and their new series of pictures is certainly calculated to extend their widespread reputation.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your notice last week of my clever collaborator, Mr Arthur Applin, you stated *The Passion Flower*, a one-act play, which we wrote together, was by Mr Charles Thurston and Mr Applin. Yours faithfully, CHARLES THURSBY. Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, Nov. 9.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, NOV. 10.—*Flachsmann als Erzieher*, Otto Ernst's satirical comedy, has taken a new lease of life, and at the Royal Schauspel-Haus this time. The intendantur has promised to produce the play, but, with the dilatoriness which is one of the most marked characteristics of our Royal theatres, the première was so often postponed that the author got tired of waiting, and took his comedy to the Lessing, where it had a long run. The revival with the Schauspiel-Haus company was very successful.

THE French tragedian M. De Max has been giving a short series of representations at the Theatre des Westens, with Mdlle. Ventura and his French company. The opening performance was that of *Hamlet*. Unfortunately, the house was not so well filled as it might have been, nor as M. De Max deserved it should be, but the audience made up in cordiality what it lacked in numbers, and the talented actor achieved a triumph. His Hamlet is a very interesting study; he does not take his audience by storm, but gradually gains their sympathy, and although his conception of the character is a softer and more delicate one than that of most actors, it does not lose by that. M. de Max's voice is particularly pleasing, and his face and figure are prepossessing. Mdlle. Ventura was a delightful Ophelia, but most of the other rôles were inadequately sustained. On Wednesday Racine's *Britannicus* was put in the bill. The star gave a splendid rendering of the part of Nero, and was again excellently supported by Mdlle. Ventura. On Saturday, the closing night, *Hamlet* was repeated.

SUPPE'S pretty little comic opera *Donna Juanita* was produced at the National Theatre on Sunday, and met with a very cordial reception. It is not so good, perhaps, as *Boccaccio* or *Fatinitza*, but it is very bright and characteristic, and certainly far above the operettas with which we have been surfeited during the last few years. The charming music was capitally executed by the orchestra under Kapellmeister Reich, and the soloists on the whole were satisfactory, although several sang rather too seriously for the light nature of their rôles. Fräulein Alma Saccur gave the title-rôle in first-rate style.

SCARCELY had Madame Bernhardt left our midst, after a series of triumphs, than her great rival—or perhaps sister-artiste would be a better term—Signora Duse, arrived to give a season at the new National Theatre. The great actress commenced with Maeterlinck's *Monna Vanna*, a play which has run here in German for a most unusual length. The large building was crowded in every part; the house was "sold out," as the Germans say, and an enthusiastic welcome was accorded to the guest. Signora Duse's conception of Giovanna is wonderful, casting new and beautiful lights upon the well-known character. She is by turns tender and loving, dignified and passionate, always sympathetic and convincing, while in the final act she was magnificent, the byplay with Prinzivalli being one of the finest pieces of acting I have ever witnessed. Signora Duse carried away her audience completely, and, to make use of an expressive phrase, the house rose at her. The rôle of Prinzivalli was well played by Signor Rosaspina, of whom we entertain pleasant recollections from last season. On Thursday *Magda* was given by the company.

THE Central has made a hit with *Der Generalkonsul*, operetta, in three acts, by MM. Landesberg and Stein, music by Heinrich Reinhardt. It is filling the bill exclusively, and drawing good houses. The plot is not particularly original, but there is plenty of fun, while the music is melodious and in good taste. Up-to-date patter-songs are always appreciated, and there is no lack of these. The interpretation is satisfactory, and the management has done its best in the way of effective mounting.

"FREI IST DER BURSCH" is the title of a new play by Paul Grabeins, recently given at Cologne with complete success. The theme is the much-discussed one of the duel, and the scene is laid in the university town of Jena. A student, otherwise brave enough in his "corps" duels, has had the misfortune to offend an officer during a drinking bout. The student had been drinking, nota bene, to drown his love troubles, the fair one having proved unkind, and the matter in a less warlike country would have ended with an apology. The student is challenged, and is ready to give the satisfaction demanded, but his father implores him not to fight, and finally gains his word to that effect. All sorts of dire consequences result; the student is dubbed a coward, turned out of his "corps," and looked upon askance by all his friends. He is just about to take his doctor's degree, and the adverse circumstances appear to damn his whole career, when suddenly the girl of his heart softens—of course, she has loved him in secret all the time—and the sun is once more in the poor lad's heaven. He holds up his head again and gladly faces all obstacles, and the end is all rose-hued. It is a well-written, interesting play—particularly interesting, naturally, to Germans, and with good acting, as was the case at Cologne—is very effective.

AN excellent performance of *Die Hugenotten* was given at the Theatre des Westens on Sunday. This company improves from week to week; the performances are so good and the repertory so varied that the taste of everybody is satisfied in turn, and many people living in the west do not trouble to go all the way to the Royal Opera, but declare, justly enough, that they have everything they want in the way of good and well-executed music at the Theatre des Westens, close at home. Soloists, chorus, and orchestra (under Kapellmeister Pfitzner) were alike admirable, especial commendation being due to Fräulein Stoeller in the rôle of the Queen, to Fräulein King and Herr Haxthausen as Valentine and Raoul, and to Herren Stammer and Geissler. The mounting of the opera, thanks to the skill and foresight of Herr Grevenberg, th head stage-manager, was all that could be desired.

HERR HANS SOMMER'S new opera, *Rubezahl*, is announced for production before long at the Royal Opera. Leoncavallo's *Roland Von Berlin* is still held in reserve, despite repeated announcements as to its appearance. We are growing sceptical about Roland. Another "théâtre paré" takes place this week by the Emperor's commands, meaning that their Majesties, the Princes, and the Court will be present. The time-worn opera, *Die Weisse Dame*, by Boieldieu, has been selected for performance by the Kaiser. Strict injunctions have again been issued to the box-openers to admit nobody to the stalls or first tier who is not in full evening dress.

MR. ROBSON PAIGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I find an error has crept into my biography which appeared in your issue of Oct. 29, 1904 Mr Fred Grove kindly points out to me that prior to my appearance in the late Mr Robert Buchanan's play *A Wanderer from Venus*, it had been done at Croydon on June 8, 1896, a fact of which I was unaware; therefore, Mr John Beauchamp was the original Rev. Dr. Dullamore, and not,

Yours faithfully, ROBSON PAIGE.
10, Ospringe-road, London, N.W., Nov. 10.

PANTOMIME CLEANING.—To the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., 6, Argyll-street, W. Dear Mr Harris,—I have just finished unpacking the "Cinderella" pantomime you recently cleaned for us. I must say that I have never seen goods returned from any cleaning firm cleaned and packed in such first-class condition. It was delightful to open them. Either our stuff was exceptionally good, or you have excelled yourself. Best wishes. Hoping I shall have to worry you a lot this coming year, Yours faithfully, S. MAY (for Lewis Benjamin), 93, Middlesex-street, Bishopsgate street, E.C. Telephone, No. 6,290, Avenue. Nov. 9, 1904.—[ADVT.]

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE ROYALTY.

On Monday, Nov. 7, Revival of Congreve's Comedy,
"THE WAY OF THE WORLD"

Fainall	Mr FRANK LASCELLES
Mirabell	Mr KING FORDHAM
Witwoud	Mr NIGEL PLAYFAIR
Petulant	Mr DENNIS W. CLEUGH
Sir Wilful Witwoud	Mr WILLIAM HENRY KEMBLE
Waitwell	Mr J. HENRY TWYFORD
Coachman	Mr BROWN
Lady Wishfort	Mrs THEODORE WRIGHT
Mrs Marwood	Miss ADA POTTER
Mrs Fainall	Miss DORA HOLE
Foible	Miss META PELHAM
Mincing	Miss ALMA ELLERSLIE
Betty	Miss PEARLA GARDNER
Peg	Miss MAY MARTYN
Mrs Millamant	Miss ETHEL IRVING

When the Mermaid Society revived *The Way of the World* at the Court Theatre on April 17 last, the merits and demerits of the piece were thoroughly discussed; but Congreve's work gains a new interest from the recent discussion about the "smart" set in Society. The difference between Congreve's attitude and Mr Sutro's is chiefly one of audiences. In 1700, the playgoers were what was then called the "town." Even the pit was patronised by persons of high official position like Pepys; and it would have been impossible, even had Congreve wished to do so, to sermonise the smart set of his day to their faces. The point of view of the dramatist, who was decidedly a child of the town, was that of his associates. He did not fulminate against Vice; he simply laughed at it. It is a significant fact, however, and one showing how superficial and ignorant the good society of the day was, with all its veneering, that *The Way of the World* was a failure. It was, indeed, not quite coarse enough for Congreve's "smart" contemporaries In the course of two hundred years a good deal of water has run under the bridges; and *The Way of the World* is nearer to us than any other of Congreve's works. The scene between Millamant and Mirabell in the second act almost startles us — when we come upon it in the midst of the bronze-like satire of the rest of the piece—by its flavour of modernity. There is a touch of humanity and playfulness about it which are absent elsewhere in the piece, which is as "hard as nails." It is possible that Miss Ethel Irving's performance as Millamant has something to do with this feeling. Miss Irving's re-creation of the rôle is a marvel. Such delicious affectations, such bewitching airs and graces! Such divine supercilliousness; and such a style! And behind it all, just peeping out in the instantaneous darting of a roguish glance, the momentary flicker of a sly smile, is the indication that Millamant quite appreciates the "fun of the thing;" that her caprices and her conceit are "all put on." It is rare, indeed, to find so young and so pretty an actress with such an instinctive insight into comedy character as Miss Irving has. Mrs Theodore Wright repeats her excellent impersonation of Lady Wishfort, making every point with the greatest care and conscientiousness. Mr Nigel Playfair gives a sound and effective impersonation of Witwoud; and Mr Dennis W. Cleugh is commendable as Petulant. Mr King Fordham deserves praise for his performance as Mirabell; and Mr Frank Lascelles' Fainall is an extremely creditable rendering. A broad and bold depiction of Sir Wilful Witwoud is supplied by Mr William Henry Kemble, and Miss Ada Potter as Mrs Marwood and Miss Dora Hole as Mrs Fainall are more than satisfactory. The maids, Foible and Mincing, have efficient representatives in Miss Meta Pelham and Miss Alma Ellerslie, Mr J. Henry Twyford being equal to the demands of the character of Waitwell. The scenery and dresses are adequate to the occasion; and the piece, produced under the direction of Mr Phillip Carr, goes with great smoothness. These revivals of old comedies will serve a valuable purpose if they succeed in informing us of the existence of hitherto hidden genius. Miss Ethel Irving, we believe, only requires an opportunity in modern comedy to make a very deep impression on the public. We trust that such an opportunity may be found; and that her remarkable natural gifts may not be confined to the audience "fit though few" which saw *The Way of the World* at the Royalty Theatre on Monday.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Nov. 7,
Revival of Edmund Falconer's Drama, entitled
"PEEP O' DAY."

Edmund Falconer's drama, *Peep o' Day; or, Savourneen Dheelish*, was produced at the Lyceum Theatre on Nov. 11, 1861. In the cast then were Mr Hermann Vezin, who appeared as the unjustly accused Kavanagh; Mr Walter Lacy, who played Captain Howard; and the author, who represented Barney O'Toole. The plot was taken from one of John Banim's "Tales by the O'Hara Family," which were published in 1831. Falconer's drama was overladen with didactic dialogue, and the construction was somewhat loose and unworkmanlike. Mr Oswald Brand, in preparing the piece for revival at the Grand Theatre, Islington, this week, has done much to modify these defects; but the piece is inherently old fashioned. We use the word not altogether in a depreciatory sense, for if *Peep o' Day* has not the theatrical effectiveness of a modern melodrama it possesses an agreeable flavour of simplicity and sincerity, and is quite devoid of "clap-trap" and sensationalism. The principal part of Harry Kavanagh gives Mr Ernest Leicester opportunity for a display of excellent acting; and his deep, mellow tones and fine, manly personality are employed to advantage in the depiction of the hero. Mr Hal Collier gives a thoroughly sound and effective embodiment of Barney O'Toole, and he also supplies a very creditable piece of character-acting. Mr Joynsen Powell's Stephen Purcell is a meritorious performance, being clearly defined and cleverly conceived, and Mr C. Fenton is duly dignified and authoritative as Father O'Cleary. Mr Henry Holden is brisk and conscientious as Patrick Grace, and Mr Frank Stone makes a military and manly Captain Howard, the part of Lieutenant Graham having a commendable exponent in Mr Frank Dudley. Miss Helen Bancroft is a most tender and sympathetic Kathleen Kavanagh, and her sweet and expressive performance does much to assist the success of the revival. Miss Kate Brand gives a pleasing and praiseworthy embodiment of Mary Grace, and the unfortunate old Widow Kavanagh is well depicted by Miss Winifred Leeson Mrs Stanislaus Calhaem's Molshee is an example of the good old school of acting, such as is seldom seen nowadays. It is the work of a practised artist, who knows how to make each line tell by gesture, movement, and attitude. Miss Calhaem enters entirely into the spirit of the part, and her realistic and humorous rendering is entirely admirable. As she sits in the second act smoking a short pipe with every sign of enjoyment, she is the old Irish peasant-woman to the life, and in manner, style, and method she does credit to her long and valuable training. The revival is worthy of Mr Brand's reputation as a producer, being smooth, thorough, and complete. *Peep o' Day* is preceded by an entertainment which includes items by Mr William Wilson, who does some remarkable jumping; Mr Tom Payne, a quaint comedian; and a curiously absurd antediluvian extravaganza, entitled *Ancient Lights*. The orchestra at the Grand, under Mr N. T. Gliddon's bâton, deserves very favourable mention.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Successful Drama, in Four Acts,
by Ben Landeck and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"WOMAN AND WINE."

Good business is being done at the Pavilion this week with the revival of Messrs Landeck and Shirley's powerful drama *Woman and Wine*, which, with its stirring situations, brisk action, and well-marked contrasts of character, rivets the attention and interest of the audience throughout the course of its four exciting acts. The play as presented by the admirable stock company is capitally received, and is carefully produced and mounted, the really elaborate and artistic sets, notably Café D'Afrique, Le Bal Japonais, and The Flower Market calling forth great applause. Mr Ashley Page as the spendthrift Dick Seymour finds ample scope for his earnest and effective playing which is marked by great power; and Mr Frank Harding scores as Hugh Seymour. The ripe experience of Mr J. C. Aubrey stands him in good stead in his excellent rendition of Alphonse Beaudet, and Mr Ernest Stern ably acquits himself as Phineas Collins, while Mr Harry Bristow personates the money-lender, Mark Parkins, with the necessary subtlety. Mr Sydney T. Pease has proved himself to be a sound and accomplished actor by his intense performance of the malignant cripple, Pierre Cruceu, known as Caliban. Mr Pease has evidently well studied this character, as the fiendish delight and morbid joy at the thought of bloodshed are depicted with artistic effect, and at the same time with a due appreciation of the humorous side. It is an able and clever impersonation, and Mr Pease is to be congratulated on his success. Mr Harry Barford provokes much laughter as Charles Sawter; Mr Wilfred E. Shine appears as Professor Sawter; Mr Roberts is satisfactory as Duc D'Arnac; and a capital portraiture of Bob Tipton is given by Mr Fred Boustead. Miss Valerie Crespin appears for the first time as the demi-mondaine Marcel Rigadout, which she plays with a strength and vividness that is exceedingly telling, while her attractive presence lends important aid to the effect she is able to produce. As Mary Andrews Miss Daisy Soudamore (although suffering from domestic bereavement) plays with remarkable sweetness and gives a fine display of emotional acting, and a convincing presentment of La Colombe is given by Mrs E. Bennett, who is especially good in the duel scene. Miss Kate Leslie sustains Janet Marlow with great credit, and Miss Tina Mavro is a suitable exponent of the good-hearted Madame Perinet. Capable support is given by Mr C. Ferry as President of the Court, Mr Charles Wright as Carlo, Mr L. Merton as Foreman of the Jury, Mr Adams as Joseph, Mr R. Riley as an Advocate, and Mr E. Godfrey as a Waiter. Praise must be awarded to Paul Valentine's troupe of dancers, who perform with much skill in the Ballroom scene, and Miss Dolly M'Calla, who contributes with great success a song and dance in the second act. The costumes are of a high order of excellence and the stage-management admirable.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Nov. 7,
"THE PROFESSOR'S LOVE STORY."

Mr J. M. Barrie has the ability to treat an ordinary hackneyed, even prosaic theme in a bright, fresh, and original manner, squeezing humour out of the very driest material, and dramatically "sizing up" a situation. In *The Professor's Love Story* are shown these same qualities of humorous observation, fantasy, and dramatic instinct. What could appear to be a less promising motif than the love affairs of an absent-minded, scientific old fogey and his lady secretary? Yet out of this slender material Mr Barrie has woven a delightful little romance. As the dear old Professor Goodwille, the bookworm and scientific enthusiast, who wakens in his old age to the calls of Cupid without being able to disguise his own ailment, so ingenuous and unpractised in affairs of the heart is he, Mr E. S. Willard is entirely charming. Few would recognise in this gentle old fellow the Willard of more strenuous and exigent rôles. In the first scene of the dawn of love he presents a perfect gem of comedy, and depicts the mental aberration of the old professor, rendered doubly acute by his growing fondness for his secretary, with consummate skill and humour. Miss Maud Hoffman takes just the right view in her reading of the part of Lucy White, the Professor's secretary, and, while indicating the purity and goodness of the girl, shows the little spark of deviltry which enables her not only to win the Professor's love but to successfully combat all opposition. She contributes a very pretty and winsome performance, and shows how the gentleness and goodness of the old man won her heart. Miss Russ Whytal is excellent as the methodical managing household treasure, Effie Proctor, and both in the scene when she looks after and tends the Professor and in her bold bid for a husband she gives a genuinely comic and realistic character sketch. The parts of Pete and Henders, the two farm labourers who are rivals for Effie's hand—"a weary pair," as she fittingly terms them as they "let I dare not wait upon I will"—are presented by Messrs Walter Edmunds and William Sauter with ludicrous accuracy and incisiveness. Mr H. Cane acts with ease and affability as the commonsensical physician, Dr. Cosens. He also undertakes the duties of stage-manager. Mr A. S. Homewood as the "interesting idiot," Sir George Gilding, M.P. for Tullochmains, gives a diverting sketch of this type of invertebrate nobility. Miss Eileen Warren enters thoroughly into the part of designing, hypocritical minx, the Dowager Lady Gilding, who is "hoist with her own petard" in her matrimonial schemes; and Miss Mabel Dubois does all that is necessary as Lady Gilding. Miss Edith H. Tombs looks very handsome as Agnes Goodwille, but she hardly indicates the change from severity to sweetness wrought by the recovery of the letter from her old sweetheart. Mr J. Jefferson Farjeon acts the part of the self-sufficient ass, Dr. Yellowlees, with appropriate inanity. Mr Arthur Hardy helps the genial Mr Edward Lytton to look after the front of the house.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, entitled
"THE TWO ORPHANS."

A return is made to melodrama here this week, and Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is appearing in that favourite old drama, *The Two Orphans*. That excellent actor Mr Henry Neville is engaged for his original part of Pierre, which he plays with all his accustomed skill. Though it is many years since he first appeared in the character at the Olympic he has lost none of his grip or power. As the two orphans, Louise and Henriette, the Misses Evelyn Weeden and May Congdon were especially good. Miss Evelyn Weeden enacts the blind girl, Louise, in a most pathetic manner, and Miss Congdon's Henrietta is a well-considered piece of work, marking her out as an actress of considerable ability. The meeting of the two sisters in the last act was very pathetic, and these two actresses deserve the highest praise for their work. Another clever piece of acting is the Madame Frochard of Miss Emma Victor, who presents a clever character study, almost gruesome in its reality. Mr William Devereux makes a good Armand; Jacques is well played by Mr Cory Thomas; and Mr William Dexter makes an acceptable Count De Linière. The Picard of Mr F. G. Thurstans is most amusing; the Doctor is played in a dignified manner by Mr W. Mallalieu; Miss Barbara Gott appears as Marianna with success; and Miss Cahill plays the Countess De Linière with distinction. The play is well mounted and the dresses are picturesque.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Comic Opera,
by Barton White and Gaston Serpette, entitled
"AMORELLE."

Encouraged by the successful visit of Mr C. P. Levilly's company in *La Poupée* a few weeks ago, Mr Mulholland engaged the same organisation to appear in the new comic opera, *Amorelle*. The opera has a light and interesting story, the musical numbers are dainty and tuneful, and the interpretation given by the members of Mr Levilly's company is extremely praiseworthy. The character of Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow enables Mr Eric Thorne to display his comical resources to the utmost, with the result that the audience is kept in roars of laughter during the whole time he is on the stage. An excellent rendering of Old Dotard is given by Mr Fred Seymour, whose song "Says I" and his constant interrogation "What for?" prove very amusing. Mr John Doran is a pleasant and entertaining Jules, and Mr Newton Ide as his supposititious brother, Francois, deserves the success gained by him. Lupin is satisfactorily played by Mr Gerald Clifford, and Bolssey finds a competent performer in Mr Arthur Dennis. Alphonse, a painter, and the Count of Cideaux are creditably impersonated by Mr Maurice Carlton and Mr Robert Fairbanks. A delightful "little bit of wreckage" is Miss Stella Gastelle, whose Amorelle is a most pleasing piece of work. Her singing and vivacious acting are high-class indeed. Miss Kitty Cavendish makes a charming picture as Lesbia. Irresistibly amusing is the Marina of Miss Madge Avery, and as Jeannette Miss May Bradbury deserves and wins much favour. The chorus is an excellent one, and Mr Harry Rushworth ably conducts the large orchestra. The scenery by Mr Ernest Howard was greatly admired.

THE BRITANNIA.

On Monday, Nov. 7,
the Drama, by the late Charles Reade, entitled
"IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND."

With the revival of drama at the Britannia one is reminded of the good old days when the late Mrs Sara Lane held sway at the big Hoxton house. Happily, too, business has greatly revived under the new regime, and with the able and experienced management of Mr J. M. East there seems every prospect of a renewal of prosperity at a house which possesses quite a unique history of its own. Some of the old company have returned, too, and their reappearance has been hailed with delight. The late Charles Reade's drama wears well. It was produced at the Princess's Theatre nearly forty years ago, resulting in a stormy first night, long remembered. A leading critic of the day rose in the stalls and protested against the cruel flogging of the boy Josephs in the Model Prison scene. There was a great clamour for and against George Vining, who defied the cabal; the critics wrote down the play, but it ran 148 nights, and the profits amounted to £8,000. Many things have happened since the production of *It's Never Too Late to Mend*. We have heard the groans of the racked man in *La Tosca* and the agonising cries of the tortured boy in *The Sign of the Cross*, in comparison with which blood-curdling episode in the flogging scene sinks into insignificance. At the Hoxton theatre Mr Charles A. East gives a robust, forcible rendering of Tom Robinson, and he does not miss any of the opportunities which the part offers. Mr H. Hamilton Stewart proves to be an excellent exponent of the rôle of the manly young farmer George Fielding. Mr W. S. Hartford, a former member of the Britannia stock company, is well placed as the Rev. Francis Eden, the humane prison chaplain. Mr Brian Daly does good work as the rascally lawyer Peter Crawley. Mr George Traverner carefully portrays Mr Hawes, governor of the model prison. Mr Chas. Grover, jun., scores as Jacky. Mr Charles Langley as the Jew, Isaac Levy, merits commendation; and Mr H. H. Carrington is successful as Mr Meadows. Miss Rose Ralph is attractive and pleasing as Susan Merton, George Fielding's sweetheart; and Miss Marie Wright plays Josephs in such a manner as to win the full sympathy of the audience. Mr Fred Groves as William Fielding, and Mr J. Harrison, and Mr T. Adams as the turnkeys, and Miss Daisy Marshall as Mary are also praiseworthy, other parts being in the hands of Messrs C. Clarke, C. Enever, C. M. Thompson, and H. Smith. The varieties include Major Newell, in his roller-skating speciality; the Rubens, entertainers and singers; Charles Ashdown, comedian and legmania artist; and a new series of animated pictures, concluding with the laughable farce entitled *Shocking Events*. In this Mr J. B. Howe as Griffinhorf and Miss Julia Summers as Kitty, receive a right hearty welcome, and excellent support comes from Mr Brian Daly as Mr Pugge, Mr Chas. Groves as Capt. Spoff, and Miss D. Marshall as Dorothy. Mr Ernest Abbott has been appointed the acting manager at this house, and his experience in a similar capacity at other places of amusement will qualify him for the position.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Melodrama, in Four Acts,
by John Denton, entitled
"A MODERN JUDAS."

After their last week's enjoyment of successful musical comedy the West Londoners turned up in large numbers at Mr Bailey's cosy theatre to resume their acquaintanceship with the drama proper, which they love so well. Mr John Denton has gathered round him, to support him in *A Modern Judas*, a company of singular excellency and versatility, with the result that the play runs with smoothness from start to finish. As Jack Vavasour Mr Frank Beresford acts with great force and power, speaking his lines in clear and decisive fashion, and thereby receiving a large measure of applause at every curtain. The villainies of Captain Melbourne, are portrayed by Mr Percy Rhodes in striking style, his effort being a particularly fine one. The Tom Hopkins of Mr Willie Scott stands out as one of the best pieces of comedy acting seen by the Maryleboners for many a day. Mr John Denton as Elkanah Pearce acts in a robust and vigorous way, his various whimsicalities causing much hearty laughter. An excellent foil to Mr Denton is Miss Ada Palmer as the somewhat attenuated Agatha Pearce. As Bennett Mr Trueman Towers gives a careful study of a part not over-burdened with possibilities; Mr Fred Bell does all that is necessary as Moucher, and Mr Harry Browne is effective as James Rivers. Miss Violet King sustains the rôle of Clare Rivers with much grace and charm, her elocution calling for loud praise. As Elise Miss Walbran gives a capital study, her make-up being exceptionally good and her methods admirable. Miss Dolly Harcourt as Polly Hopkins is most lively and energetic. The play is well mounted and staged.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7,
the Comedy, in Four Acts, by J. M. Barrie, entitled
"QUALITY STREET."

A little more than two years have elapsed since Mr Barrie's comedy was produced at the Vaudeville Theatre. It was originally staged at Toledo, in the United States, on Oct. 11, 1901. The play invariably secures the favourable verdict of an audience by reason of the life-like sketches of character and the vein of genuine humour which runs through it. Very delightful is the picture presented of the period when the eighteenth century was young and the great topic of the day was the doings of Napoleon Bonaparte. The members of Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company play the comedy in quite the right spirit, and their performance meets with the success it deserves. The part of Valentine Brown, originally played by Mr Seymour Hicks, has a thoroughly capable exponent in Mr George A. Brandram. In the portrayal of a character of this type easy and natural acting is of the highest importance, and Mr Brandram is happily well able to fulfil these requirements. Ensign Blades, a dandy of a century ago, is capitally embodied by Mr Arthur C. F. Lysons, the mirth-compelling peculiarities of the young gentleman being cleverly depicted. From Mr Herbert Chown comes a neatly sketched portrait of Lieutenant Spicer, quite in keeping with one's idea of a smart young officer of the period. The Recruiting Sergeant is not a very prominent personage, but Mr Dan Dyer makes the very best use of his opportunities, and his impersonation is quite a success. So too is the schoolboy of Master Ernest Holiom, whose portrayal of Arthur Wellesley Thomson has many merits and meets with the full approval of the audience. Mr Arthur Curtis scores as the Waterloo veteran. Miss Florence Jackson plays with rare charm of manner the part of Phœbe Throssel. The various moods and methods of the lady of the ringlets she presents in a manner that is greatly appreciated. The scenes with Valentine Brown are played with much delicacy, and the effect is delightful. Miss Grace Edwin scores in the rôle of Susan Throssel, and much merriment accompanies the performance of the schoolroom scenes. The prying Misses Willoughby have good representatives in Miss Isabel Merson and Miss Marie Dennett. Miss Gwynneth Galton acts well as the maid Patty; and useful work is done by Miss Frances Leslie and Miss Lillian Rogers as Henrietta Turnbull and Charlotte Parratt. The scenery and general mounting of the piece give satisfaction.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Play, entitled
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

The prolonged success of the charming play *The Broken Melody* continues unabated, and on the evening of our visit to the Elephant and Castle Theatre an excellent house showered unstinted praise upon the clever artistes engaged in the piece. The masterly 'cello playing by Mr Van Biene is undoubtedly a great attraction, and the gifted player's solos are received with a warmth that must be exceedingly gratifying to the executant. As an actor, too, Mr Van Biene displays an artistic depth of feeling that enables him to portray the character of Paul Borinski in a manner both refined and natural, and his efforts meet with high appreciation from the audience, who on Monday were enthusiastic in calling the talented actor-musician before the curtain after each act. Miss Lena Burnleigh acts the part of Madame Borinski in a charming and sympathetic fashion, and deserves every commendation. A natural piece of acting is that given by Mr Arthur Bawtree, who makes a typical General Ivanoff, a Russian police spy. Mr T. P. Haynes, in the part of Dudley Mortimer, is amusing, and Mr Ernest Laceby is excellent as Dixon. A French impresario receives able treatment at the hands of Mr John Cummings, and Mr Henry Ludlow makes a polished Hon. Richard Spinnaker. Mr E. Edwards shines as Dr. Magrath. Miss Ida Chapman plays well as the Duchess De Verviers, and Miss Morton as the Hon. Mrs Spinnaker acts convincingly. Miss Avis Graham gives prominence to the part of Mrs Dixon.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Comedy, in Three Acts,
by Hubert Henry Davies, entitled
"COUSIN KATE."

Lovable *Cousin Kate* received a warm welcome on her reappearance at Ealing on Monday last. With two such principals as Miss Lilias Earle and Mr Yorke Stephens in the cast, this excellent play was bound to be interpreted in an efficient manner, and a full house showed hearty appreciation of the successful efforts of the whole company. Miss Earle made a charming Cousin Kate, and scored an emphatic success. Mr Yorke Stephens presented a capital rendering of the genial and witty Irishman, Heath Desmond. Mr Walter Ringham was excellent as the Rev. James Bartlett, and the same remark applies to Master Thomas as Bobby Spencer, "the only man in the family." Miss Hilda Hones played the part of Amy Spencer in a dainty and refined manner, and Miss Helen Leyton did well as the much-tried mother, Mrs Spencer. As a curtain-raiser *A Case for Eviction* was staged, and well received, Miss Betty Castle, Miss Hilda Honess, and Mr Walter Ringham being responsible for the excellent work performed therein.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, Gounod's
"FAUST."

Among the many excellent bookings that Mr F. W. Purcell provides for the patrons of his Stoke Newington house, none prove more popular than do the periodical visits of the Carl Rosa opera company, who are appearing here this week in a répertoire comprising *Lohengrin, Faust, Don Giovanni, Tannhäuser, Carmen, Cavalleria Rusticana, Pagliacci*, and *Rigoletto*. Amongst the old favourites who have appeared during the week are Misses Lizzie Burgess, Augusta Renard, and Una Bruckshaw, and Messrs E. C. Hedmondt, Julius Walther, and Edward Davies. *Lohengrin* was given on the opening night of the engagement, with Mr E. C. Hedmondt in the title-rôle and Madame Sobrino as Elsa. On Tuesday Gounod's *Faust*, which always proves one of the most attractive features of the visit, was presented. Mr Julius Walther scored an emphatic success in Faust, and his efforts received hearty recognition from his audience. Miss Lizzie Burgess again appeared as Marguerite and her splendid singing of the part found as much favour as ever, her magnificent rendering of the jewel song being rewarded with most enthusiastic applause. Mr Arthur Winckworth not only sang but acted the part of Mephistopheles in a manner that left little to be desired, and Valentine was perfectly safe in the hands of Mr Lewys James. As Siebel and Martha Misses Anna Hope and Douglas were fully equal to all demands made upon them, and the spirited work of the chorus demands due recognition. The duties of conductorship are shared by Messrs Walter Van Noorden and Eugene Goossens.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Musical Play,
"THREE LITTLE MAIDS."

Notwithstanding the many previous visits of plays of this description to Mr Purcell's theatre, the reception accorded Mr Charles Macdona's company in *The Three Little Maids* on Monday and subsequent evenings during the week has been as cordial and appreciative as ever. The company is highly capable in every respect, the chorus being especially worthy of praise. The Marlborough orchestra is, as usual, most efficient, and is, during this week, under the able direction of Mr Julian Rutt, who deserves a word of compliment for his capable handling of the bâton. The play is capitally staged, the scenery being an important feature. The handsome dresses are quite in harmony with the scenery and accessories, and altogether the presentation reflects great credit on all concerned, a special word of praise being due to Mr Stage-Manager Chas. Leverton. A hearty greeting was accorded the Misses Janet Reeve, Gertrude Melville, and Norah Tuy, who are very captivating as the Three Little Maids, Ada, Hilda, and Edna Branscombe, winning the hearts of the audience by their sparkling vivacity. Their songs and dances are ably done, and in consequence are all encored, the favourite numbers being "My gal Sal," "You men," "The girl you love" and "The miller's daughter." A clever performance is the Lady St. Mallory of Miss Kate Forster, who merits much praise, and her three protégés are played in good style by Miss Jennie Edgar as Lady Beaulieu, Miss Ethel May as Venetia Grafton, and Miss Ella Daincourt as Lady Marjory Crichton. The untiring energy and bright personality of Miss Laura Wright in her characteristic study of Gretchen, the Dutch girl, win for her the warmest recognition, and, together with Mr Gus Oxley as Cupid, provide endless mirth. Their duet, "Something sweet about me," was one of the decided hits of the performance, and for which they are encored five or six times nightly. Mr Oxley is also successful with his song, "Girls, girls, girls," whilst his agility at dancing is also well recognised. The grotesque Lord Cheyne of Mr Arthur Longley is very commendable. The part suits him in every way and he manages to keep the house convulsed whenever he appears. One would never dream he had had "such a fearful past." He scores heavily with his "Algebra" song, and his highly amusing performance will be long remembered by local playgoers. Mr Haddon Cave gives a manly and earnest portrayal of Brian Molyneux and sings his numbers in commendable style. Mr Alec Chentrens achieves success in the rôle of Mons. De L'Orme, and his rendering of "I'll dream of you" and "Could you be true?" was very effective. Miss Mabel Sarl ably sustains the part of Miss Price, manageress of the tea-shop, and Mr Chas. Leverton lends valuable aid as the Rev. Mr Branscombe. His efficient stage-managership is evidenced by the smoothness of the whole production.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts,
by James T. Tanner, Adrian Ross, and Lionel Monckton,
entitled
"A COUNTRY GIRL."

As usual with Mr George Dance's companies, this production reaches the high-water mark of efficiency. Everyone is well chosen for his or her part, and the chorus is sprightly and keeps up to its work. Mr Harry Buss is all that can be wished as Barry, and receives the heartiest of welcomes from his audiences. Mr Fred W. Pattrick as the Rajah of Bong gains many encores for his songs, and Mr Francis Ludlow makes a dashing Geoffrey Chaloner. Mr H. C. Morton is very good as Sir Joseph Verity, as is also Mr Willie Hartill as Douglas Verity. Mr Arthur Hayter brings out the humour of Granfer Mummery admirably. Mr Ernest Cresfan adds his quota to the success as Lord Anchester, and Messrs Harry Glyn, Connely, Somers, and H. J. Edwards are all that can be desired in other parts. Miss Rosie Begarnie as Madame Sophie captivates her audiences, and proves herself a remarkably capable singer and dancer; Miss Kathryn Comber as Marjory Joy has a fine voice which she uses to advantage; Miss Ernestine Desborough as Princess Melaneh has a graceful figure, and is a beautiful singer, winning much applause; Miss Nellie Cozens plays Nan with plenty of dash and go, and deserves warm praise; Miss Rosa Robey as Mrs St. Quinton and Miss Beatrice Glyn as Lady Anchester are very effective; and the Misses Desterre, Marshall, Collier, Gosling, and Maxse render able assistance.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday Nov. 7, the Comedy Opera
"MY LADY MOLLY."

The pranks and vagaries of that headstrong young damsel "My Lady Molly" have been delighting us here this week, and with reason, for it would be hard to find a more enjoyable evening's entertainment than the excellent performance by the good all-round company appearing in this bright and witty comic opera. Miss De Dreux made a great hit in the title-rôle, acting cleverly and looking particularly charming in the man's dress which is her attire during most of the evening; the mixture of dignity, impudence, and absolute fright with which Lady Molly carries off this disguise was most amusingly portrayed. Miss De Dreux is also the fortunate possessor of a full, rich voice which was heard to advantage in several numbers Miss Zoe Gilfillan played Alice Coverdale in the highest of high spirits, and with a mirthful appreciation of the ludicrous nature of some of the situations which was most contagious; her rendering of several songs and her graceful dancing were also much enjoyed. Miss Mabel Carr was a delightful Hester, acting with aplomb and a demure roguishness which was most fascinating. As Mdlle. Maribeau Miss Ebba Dancier acted well and sang with expression. Mr Leicester Tunks was well suited as Captain Romney, his determined manner being well in keeping with the character, and his strong, well-trained voice, which he had under perfect control, being heard to the greatest effect in several fine songs. Mr Stephen Fitzgerald played Micky O'Dowd in just the right key, keeping as far as possible from the usual stage Irishman; his impersonation thus gained largely in humour, and he got his laughs rather by legitimate means as an accomplished comedian than by the presentment of a conventional caricature. As Lionel Bland Mr Stuart Alexander made a manly and handsome lover, acting in a spirited manner and singing with force and earnestness. Mr H. Goodwin Hunt contributed a clever sketch of Sir Miles Coverdale. His make-up was admirable, and his rendering of the songs entrusted to him excellent. The principals were supported by a tuneful intelligent, and well-trained chorus, and all worked heartily together to secure the success which was undoubtedly gained. A special word of praise must be given to Miss Minnie Blanchard, whose artistic and graceful dancing was one of the features of the performance. Her Irish jig, in conjunction with Mr Stephen Fitzgerald, was in its way a revelation, and secured a hearty encore.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Military Drama, by
Seymour Hicks and George Edwardes, entitled
"ONE OF THE BEST."

Judging by the reception accorded here this week to the military drama, *One of the Best*, the well-known piece has lost none of its popularity. The present representation is certainly vigorous, and the acting all round is good. Mr Stanley Bedwell is the Dudley Keppel (Lieutenant of the 2nd Highlanders), and he plays the part of the dashing young soldier to perfection. Mr E. Bellenden Clarke is Philip Elsworth, and he sustains the character with care. Mr Charles Medwin is Jason Jupp, and Mr Herbert Darnley Private Jupp, of the 2nd Highlanders, and both lend effective aid in those characters. Lieutenant-General Coventry finds a dignified representative in Mr H. F. Maltby, and the same may be said of Mr Wilfred Beckworth as the Rev. Dr. Penrose. Miss Helen Haye as the daughter of Lieutenant-General Coventry acts with grace, and Miss Janette Le Gros is decidedly popular as Mary Penrose. Others in the cast include Miss Nellie Gilmore and Miss L. Norden, and Messrs Geo. Hart, W. Templar Powell, W. M'Allum, J. Patterson, F. Patmore, H. W. Plunkett, C. Phillips, C. Evans, F. Seaton, and B. Randall.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Musical Play, in Two Acts,
by Henry Hamilton and Paul Potter, entitled
"THE SCHOOL GIRL."

Mr George Dance's company is appearing here in this successful piece, and the appreciative audience gathered on the opening night displayed considerable interest in the presentation. In the cast, which was a judiciously chosen one, each particular rôle was well sustained; and the dresses and general mounting call for favourable comment. Miss Mildred King as the Mother Superior and Miss Elena Sevesi as the French *bonne* Marianne did good service in their respective parts. Miss Grace Wixon was seen to advantage in her impersonation of Mrs Marchmont, and Cicely was charmingly enacted by Miss Gracie Sinclaire. The School girl, Lilian Leigh, by Miss Ethel Beech, was a delightfully vivacious interpretation. Mr Lister Morrah as Edgar Verney not only displayed capital acting but also excellent vocalisation, the song, "An English Girl," calling for special commendation. Mr Charles Adeson was smart and humorous as General Marchmont; Mr Alfred Leslie made a consistent and diverting Tubby Bedford; Mr Cameron Carr showed experience as the stockbroker, Peter Overend; Comer was played by Mr Frank Sutton with verve and go; Sir Ormesby St. Leger was a characterisation of considerable merit by Mr Leslie Holland, his quaintness and spirited handling largely aiding the success. The increased orchestra and chorus under the direction of Mr Edward H. Whitehall did extremely well.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Japanese Play, entitled
"THE DARLING OF THE GODS"

The Darling of the Gods is meeting with an enthusiastic reception here this week, and Messrs Belasco and Long's remarkable play is most ably interpreted by Mr Beerbohm Tree's clever company. Miss Lilian Stafford is an admirable Yo-San, the darling of the gods, and in conjunction with Mr Gerald E. K. Souper (whose Kara is powerful and impressive) sustains the interest of the

performance until the final fall of the curtain. Mr G. W. Anson presents a most able and artistic piece of work as Zakkuri; Mr Ernest Stallard is a very good Kato, a fisher of carp; Mr Cecil Tresilian acts well as Yo-San's dumb servant, Inu; and Mr A. P. Kaye is excellent as Prince Saigon. Miss Augusta Haviland is good as Rosy Sky; Miss May Seaton does all that is possible with Kaede; Miss Sybil Glynn gives a clever rendering of the character of Madame Arani; and the remaining rôles in the long cast are all in capable hands.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE TOREADOR."

Mr George Edwardes's company in *The Toreador* is providing a strong attraction at the Borough Theatre this week. The dressing and mounting of the piece are quite up to the high standard usually associated with the name of this experienced entrepreneur, and the excellent singing and spirited acting of the chorus is a prominent feature in the attractions of the production. Mr Lionel Victor is always brimming with humour as Sammy Gigg, and works indefatigably with the happiest results. Mr W. H. Powell scores heavily as Pettifer, and his agile and sprightly dancing is vociferously applauded. Mr T. W. Volt hits off exactly the idiosyncrasies of the immaculate and vacuous Sir Archibald Slackett, and Augustus Trail has a buoyant exponent in Mr Fred Allandale. Mr John Donald makes a fine, upstanding figure of Carajolo; dry humour is contributed by Mr Fred Fowler as the Governor of Villaya; Rinaldo is excellently played by Mr E. Nainby, and Mr A. W. Ashdowne does exceedingly well as Moreno. Miss Daisy Wallace is a pretty and graceful Dora Selby, and sings charmingly. Miss Nancy Langtyre acts and sings with delightful effect as Nancy Staunton, and Miss Daisy Stratton's Susan is a captivating performance. Miss Nellie Bouverie plays Mrs Malton Hoppings on broad comedy lines with the utmost success; and Miss Alice Oppitz plays with striking effect as Donna Teresa, her rendering of the "Toreador" song winning loud applause. Minor parts are all creditably played.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Drama, in Four Acts, by E. Hill-Mitchelson, entitled "THE TRAITOR."

In the ranks of travelling productions *The Traitor* should hold a foremost place. With its brilliant uniforms, its splendid dresses and lavish mounting, the thorough regard for detail everywhere apparent, and its well-contrived and lucid story of Russian intrigue, duplicity, and Nihilism—a subject so dearly beloved of popular audiences—it has all the ingredients which make for success, and its representation at the hands of Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's well-balanced company is all that could be desired. A popular character is that of Prince Rudolph, a Russian noble, who, for the sake of the woman he loves, even goes to the extent of espousing Nihilism. The part suits Mr Wellesley Draper immeasurably, his fine appearance, virility, and easy diction gaining numberless encomiums. Another notable performance is that of Mr Stephen E. Scanlan as the crafty Chief of Police, and a man who is a traitor to the cause of Nihilism. Mr Scanlan acts in forcible and intense style, and with a realism which evokes many execrations from the more susceptible among the audience. Mr James E. Abbott as the fiery and amorous General Hertz is always amusing, and Mr Edward Jenner as the stolid, deliberating Captain Ross plays with ability. Mr Frank Sutherland proves himself a capital comedian as Jack Boult, and Mr Edward Lowrie makes the most of his opportunities as Zox. Miss Conyers Radcliffe looks very handsome as Zula, and acts in entire sympathy; Miss Lily Roselle plays with power and restraint as the scheming Countess Zicka; Miss Hettie Senior cleverly realises the part of the French lady detective, Elise Dupré; Cen-Cen is played with considerable charm by Miss Anena Walton; and as the young lieutenant Nicholas Miss Isabel Hunt plays most commendably, and renders the character a prime favourite with the audience. Other parts are all in capable hands.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Farce, in Three Acts, by H. M. Paull, entitled "THE NEW CLOWN."

It is not often that such genuine side-splitting laughter rings out within the four walls of the Kingston Theatre as that heard during this week, when this most amusing production was presented. Mr James Welch appears in his original part of Lord Cyril Garston, and his antics as a clown in disguise keep the house in continual good humour. He received most valuable assistance from Mr G. H. Snazelle, who plays Mr Dixon, the circus proprietor; whilst Mr Harry J. Crane acquitted himself admirably as the clown, Thomas Baker. Miss Audrey Ford made a host of friends in all parts of the house by a charming portrayal of the part of the equestrienne, Rosie Platt. Not the least amusing part of the farce is the performances of the donkey Ping Pong. Other rôles in the play are ably filled.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Nov. 7, the Play, entitled "ZAZA."

Mrs Lewis Waller, with her own company, has been appearing here on the first three nights of the week in *Zaza*. The part of Zaza suits Mrs Waller like a glove, and she throws her entire energies into the character, giving an extremely realistic representation. Very good is Mrs Waller's great scene in the fourth act, when she discovers her betrayer's duplicity and finally leaves him. Mr Eric Mayne as Bernard Dufresne gives Mrs Waller valuable support and is an ideal representative of the careless faithless, man-of-the-world who obtains a hold on good-hearted girls such as Zaza. Miss Kate Kearney as Rosa Bonne (Zaza's aunt) created the greatest amusement by her diverting rendering of the part and whose idea of curing her "heart trouble" consisted in irresistibly funny consumption of everything that even looked like a liquid. Miss Ethel Warwick was extremely bewitching as Madame Dufresne and made the most of the rather limited opportunity given her by the part. Miss Minnie Rayner was very good as Nathalie (Zaza's maid), and Miss Alice Langley did well as Alice Morel. The Duc De Brisac found a capable representative in Mr J. Spurling, and Mr Edmund Lea played capitally as Cascart, Zaza's partner in business. The minor characters were, without exception, in good hands, and long experience of their duties enabled the players to give a performance that went without a hitch from start to finish. Zaza's dresses were by Madame Lucile, which is equivalent to saying they were what the ladies call "dreams."

THE ELIZABETHAN STAGE SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As several letters have appeared in the Press about the reserving of part of the pit at this theatre last Saturday for the Elizabethan Stage Society performances (through which many people were unable to gain admission after waiting at the doors), I shall be very much obliged if you will kindly allow me to state in your columns that the management of the Court had nothing to do with the arrangements of these performances, beyond letting the house to the society.

Yours faithfully J. E. VEDRENNE.
Court Theatre, Nov. 4, 1904.

A NOVEL and attractive entertainment has taken the place, for this week, of the usual dramatic fare at the Greenwich Theatre. It consists of a series of very beautiful pictures of interesting events in the lives of our soldiers and sailors, most ably explained by the lecturer as each picture is shown. The entire entertainment is most enjoyable, and is called "Our Army and Our Navy."

MR. TREE'S A.B.F. MATINEE.

On Tuesday Afternoon, Nov. 8, at His Majesty's Theatre, Revival of the Play, in Four Acts, by Paul M. Potter, Dramatised by permission from George Du Maurier's Novel, entitled "TRILBY."

Svengali	Mr TREE
Talbot Wynne	Mr EDMUND MAURICE
Alexander M'Alister	Mr LIONEL BROUGH
William Bagot	Mr HENRY AINLEY
Gecko	Mr C. M. HALLARD
Zouzou	Mr HERBERT ROSS
Dodor	Mr GERALD DU MAURIER
Oliver	Mr S. A. COOKSON
Lorimer	Mr GAYER MACKAY
Reverend Thomas Bagot	Mr CHARLES ALLAN
Manager Kaw	Mr HOLMAN CLARK
Trilby O'Ferrall	Miss VIOLA TREE
Mrs Bagot	Miss FRANCES IVOR
Madame Vinard	Miss ROSINA FILLIPI
Angele	Miss ISABEL COLLIER
Mimi	Miss MADGE TITHERADGE
Honorine	Miss DOROTHY THOMAS
Musette	Miss CARDOZO

Mr Beerbohm Tree could hardly have made a better choice for his Actors' Benevolent Fund matinée at His Majesty's Theatre than *Trilby*. The piece is just becoming ripe for revival; and those who filled His Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon had the double delight of feeling that they were benefiting an excellent institution, and at the same time taking advantage of a very choice opportunity. To see Trilby played with so many members of the original cast taking part in the performance is a privilege which is eagerly to be captured and greatly to be enjoyed; and, in addition, there was the novelty of Miss Viola Tree's appearance as Trilby O'Ferrall. Miss Tree strikes a charming note of naturalness and gaiety, and emphasises most effectively the artlessness and affection of the heroine of the play. There is nothing affected or artificial about her reading of the rôle; and her bright spontaneousness, her free and sprightly gaiety, and the truth and sincerity of her emotional expression make her Trilby O'Ferrall entirely delightful and undeniably successful. Mr Tree's Svengali has lost none of its marvellous picturesqueness and weird vitality, and is as wonderfully enthralling and interesting a performance as ever. Mr Edmund Maurice is again unimpeachable as Talbot Wynne; and Mr Lionel Brough's Alexander M'Alister is the same admirable impersonation as of old. Mr Henry Ainley is, in face and temperament, a most poetical and artistic William Bagot, and acts with remarkable delicacy and intensity. Mr C. M. Hallard does a neat bit of acting as Gecko; and Mr Herbert Ross and Mr Gerald Du Maurier are capital as Zouzou and Dodor. Mr Charles Allan is the Reverend Thomas Bagot to the very life; and Miss Frances Ivor gives a tender and affecting embodiment of Mrs Bagot. Miss Rosina Fillipi's Madame Vinard has lost none of its completeness and truth since the initial production of the play; and Mr Holman Clark does useful work as Manager Kaw. The *Trilby* revival on Tuesday was witnessed by a large audience, who let no point pass unnoticed, and who rewarded the efforts of the artistes with enthusiastic applause.

THEATRICAL GOLF.

Mr George Edwardes on the 4th inst. headed a team of actors against a side of county cricketers in a golf tournament at Northwood. Mr G. L. Jessop was the leader of the cricketing combination, which included Mr H. H. Hilton, the open and amateur champion; Dr. W. G. Grace, Mr B. J. T. Bosanquet, Mr G. W. Beldam, Mr G. Brann, Mr C. O. H. Sewell, Mr "Morny" Cannon, and Mr L. Mackay. This side led at the end of the singles by 5½ points to 3½, each individual match counting a point, and the bye a quarter of a point. In the foursomes, however, the actors rose to the occasion, and accomplished all that was demanded of them in excellent style. They scored 4½ points to 1½, thus totalling, on the day's play, 7¾ to 6¾, and winning the contest by one point. Mr Rutland Barrington showed good form in both his rounds. Mr Jessop, crouching for his shots very much as he does at cricket, hit some remarkably long drives, and won both the match and the bye from Mr Courtice Pounds. "W. G." played a capital game, and defeated Mr George Edwardes; but, in the foursome, the latter showed the better form, he and Mr A. Hart beating Mr Hilton and "W. G." by 2 and 1. The following were the scores:—

SINGLES.

Mr George Edwardes's Team	Pts.	Mr G. L. Jessop's Team	Pts.
Mr A. Hart	0	Mr H. H. Hilton	0
Mr H. Ross	0	Mr G. W. Beldam	1
Mr Rutland Barrington	1	Mr B. J. T. Bosanquet	0
Mr A. J. Evelyn	0	Mr George Brann	1½
Mr A. Hatherton	1½	Mr L. Mackay	0
Mr Lawrence Rea	0	Mr C. O. H. Sewell	1
Mr J. D. Hart	1	Mr Mornington Cannon	0
Mr Courtice Pounds	0	Mr G. L. Jessop	1½
Mr George Edwardes	0	Dr. W. G. Grace	1
Total	3½	Total	5½

FOURSOMES.

Mr A. Hart and Mr Edwardes	1½	Mr Hilton and Dr. Grace	0
Mr Hatherton and Mr J. D. Hart	0	Mr Bosanquet and Mr Beldam	1
Mr Rea and Mr Ross	1½	Mr Sewell and Mr Brann	0
Mr Evelyn and Mr Pounds	1	Mr Jessop and Mr Cannon	0
Mr Barrington and Mr "C. More"	1	Mr Mackay and Mr "B. Rassey"	½
Total	4½	Total	1½
Grand Total	7¾	Grand Total	6¾

MASTER STANTON'S CONCERT.

At Brinsmead's convenient concert-room, Wigmore-street, a concert was recently given under the direction of Mr Lansdowne Cottell. Master Lionel Stanton has had the advantage of Mr Cottell's excellent training as a pianist, and his abilities are decidedly promising. He played "La Sympathie," by Comettant, a Rondo of Beethoven, the Spring Melody of Zimmerman, and a Fantasia on *Maritana*, by Vincent Wallace. He also took part in a duet with Mr Carl Webb. Miss Amy Henderson sang "Orpheus and His Lute" with much grace. Mr Clay Thomas, a baritone with a good voice and a good style who has been taught extremely well by Mr Cottell, sang "Go to sea" and "King of the Elves." Miss Cecil Hay, a lady baritone, who, we understand, intends to make pantomime her chief study, sang "Mary of Argyle" quite like a masculine vocalist. "Beloved, it is morn" was somewhat beyond the capabilities of Mr Lightfoot. "Partatele d'Amor," from *Faust*, was sung by Madame Gianelli. "Under the Deodar" was given by Miss Evelyn Armistead gracefully. It was her first appearance. "Life's Heroes," by Mr Louis Cottell, and accompanied by Mr Lansdowne Cottell, was sung by Miss Minnie Stevens. Madame Gianelli succeeded best in a coon song, "The Sunny Susquehannah," which afforded much satisfaction to the audience. Mr Cottell and Mr Carl Webb accompanied the vocalists with considerable skill, and notwithstanding a most unfavourable night Brinsmead's pretty rooms were completely filled.

PRINCESS LOUISE AUGUSTA OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN and suite were present at the performance of *Bohème* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, on the 4th inst.; and on the same evening the Princess of Wales and suite witnessed the performance of *Véronique* at the Apollo Theatre.—Prince Francis of Teck and Count and Countess Bernstorff witnessed the performance of *Die Grosstadtluft* at the Great Queen-street Theatre last Monday evening.

DEATH OF MR. F. A. SCUDAMORE.

We regret to record the sudden death of Mr Fortunatus Augustin Scudamore, known in the profession as Frank A. Scudamore, the well-known dramatist and actor. The deceased was found dead at his residence, Castelnau-mansions, Barnes, on Sunday morning, having expired suddenly from failure of the heart's action. He was fifty-eight years of age.

Mr Scudamore was originally intended for the church, but abandoned his studies and entered the theatrical profession at the early age of seventeen. He was a leading member of the stock companies in Liverpool, Oldham, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and Bristol. He toured with Barry Sullivan, Daniel Bandmann, Miss Marriott, and Miss Sarah Thorne, and was specially engaged by George Rignold for the production of *Henry V.* at Drury-lane. He has during his stage career held engagements for most lines of business, including juvenile lead and first low comedy; he was one of the first young actors to adopt the line of first old men and character business. At the age of twenty-four he was the first old man and character actor at the New Theatre, now the Prince's, Bristol, where he played the whole round of the business, and made a distinct hit as Caliban, in Mr Chute's production of *The Tempest*. In the early numbers of *The Era Almanack* Mr Scudamore advertised as Mr G. H. Scudamore, character actor and Scotch comedian, and was engaged by Mr Edward Price to play at the Theatre Royal, Aberdeen. Although a Gloucestershire man, he appeared there with success in the leading Scotch comedy parts, including Baillie Nicol Jarvie, Jock Howieson, Peter Peebles, &c. He also made a great success as Sir Pertinax Macsycophant, in *The Man of the World*. Mr Scudamore made it a rule never to remain more than three years in one engagement, and during that period he usually became an established favourite. When Mr Scudamore left Aberdeen some of the leading patrons of the theatre invited him to a farewell banquet, and presented him with a testimonial, an unusual compliment to a stock actor. Mr Scudamore's favourite rôles were Sir Peter Teazle, Dogberry, Polonius, and Touchstone, parts which he played with most of the leading stars and on tour with the late Barry Sullivan, who was Mr Scudamore's last manager, he leaving the great tragedian to become author, actor, and manager on his own account. Mr Scudamore had been for years working hard to secure an opening as an author. During his three years' engagement at Bristol he published a blank verse play entitled *Liberta* and a poem called "Among the Stars."

He wrote several plays and sent them the round of managers, but they were all returned "Declined with thanks." He therefore decided to produce them himself. His first venture was *Fighting Fortune* at Bolton. Shortly after he produced *Nature's Nobleman*, a romantic play, and *Presence of Mind*, a farce, also at Bolton; *Dad*, a comedy, at Belfast; and *Rags and Bones* at the Theatre

Photo by Chalkley, Gould, and Co.

THE LATE MR. F. A. SCUDAMORE.

Royal, Cardiff. Mrs Alfred Mellon appeared in this play, and made a great hit in the part of Kitty. *Rags and Bones* made a great success in America under the title of *The Inside Track*. His next production was *First-class*, followed by *Is Life Worth Living? Dangers of London, Ups and Downs of Life, Setting Day, Against the Tide*, and *The Destroying Angel*. In *Dangerous Women*, produced at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, Mr Scudamore appeared with success in the part of the hero. Other plays from his pen include *Thou Shall Not Kill*, produced at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, July 31, 1899, *Might and Right*, the Surrey play, *A Fight for Life* (originally produced in the country under the name of *Our El Dorado*), *True as Steel*, *The Mystery of the Seven Sisters*, *The Beautiful Avenger*, *The World of Women*, and *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*. In a comparatively recent production called *Because I Love You* the principal character is endowed by a freak of nature with the talons of a vulture, and the play caused considerable sensation. In another of his dramas he made a sensational use of a steam roller, and in *The Dangers of London* the phonograph was introduced for the first time as a stage factor. His last play, which he had just completed, is entitled *Her Face was Her Fortune*.

Mr Scudamore was a constant advertiser in *The Era*. He was most particular about the insertion of his advertisements, and always sent them up each week himself. Last week, for the first time for many years past, his usual advertisement did not reach the office, and, as will be seen by the sad circumstances surrounding his sudden death, the explanation is a tragic one. The funeral took place at Barnes Cemetery on Friday afternoon.

At Mortlake Coroner's Court, on Tuesday, Dr. Michael Taylor held an inquest on the body of the deceased.

Miss Daisy Bertha Scudamore, an actress, identified the body as that of her uncle, whom she had lately been in the habit of visiting every Sunday. Mr Scudamore was living quite alone, his wife being away on tour, and there was no servant. He was a most cheerful man. He had written some twenty-two well-known plays, all of which had been successful, and she believed he was negotiating with a lady for the production of a new play. Deceased went out every Thursday to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, at which he took the chair. Witness last saw him on Sunday, Oct. 30. When witness arrived at the flat last Sunday, at 1·30 p.m., she noticed the blinds down, and she was unable to get an answer to her knock. She got a key from the caretaker and entered, but, seeing the gas still alight, felt frightened, and called a neighbour.

Walter Daniels, stockbroker, who was called by the last witness, stated that he found Mr Scudamore stretched on his back in the kitchen quite dead. He looked as though he had fallen heavily.

A boy who delivered milk at Castlenau-mansions stated that he saw deceased on Tuesday, the 1st inst., but when he knocked at the door on Wednesday he got no reply.

Dr. Joseph James explained that there were no marks of violence or of a fall on the body. Death was due to syncope caused by fatty degeneration of the heart.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

"OTHELLO" AT THE COURT.

Mr Charles Fry's representations of Shakespeare, governed as they are by artistic care and reverence, command a public of their own—a studious public not wanting a pageant, and content with the beauty of the text without the aid of scenic art. In the past he has won a high reputation for sound and conscientious work, both as an actor and elocutionist, and he has the faculty of instilling his own enthusiasm into those associated with him. At any rate, to the artistic single-mindedness of his company we may set down the success on Saturday afternoon of the performance of *Othello* at the Court Theatre. The tragedy was given in a condensed form on a curtained stage, and though no attempt was made at illusion yet the text was followed with close attention by a highly intelligent and critical audience. The cutting had been done with care, and nothing of real importance to the understanding of the play was left out. It has been well said that the temperament of an actor is at once his weakness and his strength, and the truth of this aphorism is never more apparent than in Shakespearian impersonations. Mr F. H. Macey, the Othello of the afternoon, endeavoured to overcome his Anglo-Saxon coolness and to simulate the southern warmth of nature that belongs by right to the Moor, but the passion was never quite convincing and the fury attempted was sound signifying little. In depicting the affection of Othello, however, Mr Macey was more successful, and we were very carefully informed both by gesture play and intonation of the rapid progress of jealousy in the distracted warrior's mind. We liked Mr Macey best in the scene where Othello battles with doubt. If we never had the tempest of passion presented to us, still there was much to commend in the reading. Miss Olive Kennett's emotional tenderness went a long way towards her ingratiation with Saturday afternoon's audience. She at once charmed the house by her gentle appeal before the Senate, and a note of penetrative pathos ever accompanied the distress of Desdemona at her lord's displeasure. Mr Charles Fry was bold, unflinching, and cool as Iago, and had none of the apparent benevolence with which the rôle has been endowed by some actors. There was but little that was courtierlike or catlike in his rendering, the deceit practised on Othello being all the more effective, perhaps, because of this Iago's blunt outspokenness. Nevertheless in the scenes of suggestion there was some subtlety in the acting of "the ancient," and after the scene of violence with Othello, Mr Fry struck the right note of injured dignity. Miss Frances Sykes's excellent voice and purity of enunciation were advantageously employed in the part of Emilia; and to the powerful scene with Othello and Iago at the close of the play, she gave considerable power and passion. Miss Sykes is wanting in grace of movement, but her intelligence and sensibility were conspicuous. Mr Patrick Munro made a manly Cassio, and his drunken scene was very creditably managed. The dignity and stateliness of the Duke were well suggested by Mr Ernest Beharold, Mr Arthur Broughton was a capable Brabantio, Mr Stanley Leverton a satisfactory Lodovico, and Mr W. J. R. Cane an acceptable Roderigo. The music to the "Willow Song," sung by Desdemona, was specially composed by Arthur Fox, and the selections between the divisions of the play were played by members of the London Academy of Music orchestra, under the direction of Mr Ernest C. Lawrence. The costumes were designed by Mdlle. Lemle.

"THE LADY BURGLAR."

A New Comedy, in One Act, by Charles H. E. Brookfield, Produced for the First Time in the London District at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on Monday, Nov. 7.

Darcy Fitzherbert, K.C. ... Mr JAMES WELCH
Honora Macfarland, B.A. ... Miss AUDREY FORD

Mr Charles Brookfield's comedy, which was produced at the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, last week, was presented to a Kingston audience at the Royal County Theatre on Monday night, and again on Wednesday evening. It is a welcome addition to the host of curtain-raisers that have been given to the world and have survived the test of scrutiny. It is novel in conception, and the story, a pretty and amusing one, is told in language that is often graceful and polished.

The lady burglar is, however, a fancy that, as the author presents her, happily does not exist. We are familiar with the lower class female who takes to Bill Sykes' trade as a profession, but have not yet come across a refined and educated young miss, and one who has taken her B.A. at Cambridge, who prefers the thorny paths of the cracksman for that of the many honourable callings now open to her sex. But Miss Honora Macfarland is no ordinary woman. She has ideas of her own, and though they are not uncommon to both sexes, few, if any, of her sex have yet applied them in the same way. At Cambridge she studied political economy, and came to the conclusion that no one had any private ownership in property over a certain sum. This led her to think that she had as much right as anybody else to whatever property anyone possessed over that sum, and that she had a right to take it, even if the taking of it necessitated the forcing of locks, bolts, and bars. And so, when at a ball one night she danced with a young barrister named Darcy Fitzherbert, she learnt that he was not going to return to his rooms until one o'clock in the morning, she determined to take advantage of his absence to burgle his premises. She is therefore, discovered breaking into the rooms, lantern in hand, but attired in evening dress. She is not a very experienced worker, however, for she searches the most unlikely places, leaving the most likely alone, from a sense of fear and modesty will not enter a bedroom, and when she comes across an interesting book sits down to carefully read it. Of course, the barrister unexpectedly returns, and, finding her thus engaged, fondly imagines that the visit, though a little indiscreet, was due to the huge impression he had made upon her at the dance; but the lady quickly disabuses him of the idea, and, after some hesitation, naïvely declares to him the real object of her presence. There is a great deal of good-humoured banter on the part of both, but the cautious barrister takes the precaution to handcuff his fair visitor whilst he searches the house to see how much spoil is missing. He quickly discovers, however, that his charming companion is more of a burglar in theory than in practice, and so he decides to let her go, but before she leaves there is a mutual understanding that they will meet again, and that the friendship begun at the dance will ripen into a more tender association.

Mr Welch made an admirable Darcy Fitzherbert, his dry mannerism adding much to the humour of the production, and Miss Ford gave a charming interpretation of the lady burglar.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your notice of *Miss Mischief*, produced last week, you mention my name as playing Graf Von Ahrensheimen as Miss Reichenberg. It should have been, yours faithfully, ROZA REICHENBERG. 20, Caroline-place, Bayswater, Nov. 8, 1904.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

On Tuesday night an opera was produced at Covent-garden which may be said faithfully to represent the modern music of Italy, and the composer, although not yet forty years of age, is recognised as one of the rising lights of Italian musical art. He was a student in the Naples Conservatoire, and is a professor in the Florence Royal Academy, and, besides the opera produced on Tuesday, he has written three other operas, *Adriana Lecouvreur* being first heard at Milan in 1902. It has since been given in several Continental and American theatres, and with considerable success. It remains to be seen whether the composer, Signor Cilèa, will be accepted in this country with Leoncavallo, Puccini, and Mascagni, but one thing is certain, Signor Cilèa is a musician of distinct merit, and his work has been presented at the Royal Opera in such a manner as to do the composer justice. It had been announced on Saturday last, but the need of further rehearsal caused its postponement until Tuesday, when the representation proved entirely satisfactory. Scribe and Legouve's play, *Adrienne Lecouvreur*, is a striking and powerful drama, but it must be confessed Signor Colautti has had all his work to do in transforming the subject into an operatic libretto. One of the few composers who have been fortunate in obtaining a good libretto out of a popular play was the late Sir Julius Benedict, whose *Lily of Killarney* is certainly an effective setting of *The Colleen Bawn*. But *Adrienne Lecouvreur* is too full of side issues, has too much dialogue, and is altogether too complicated for musical setting. We take it for granted that the play is generally known, otherwise we fear the operatic audience would have but a vague idea of the story and the motives influencing the various characters. A brief allusion to the incidents of the play may serve the purpose of marking the principal points in the music. The work opens in the green room of the Comédie-Française in 1730. The time is just before a performance, and Michonnet is bustling about among the actors and actresses helping them to get ready for the rise of the curtain. The composer has treated this scene with much brilliancy, and the music has an agreeable sparkle in keeping with the situation. Presently two important guests appear—the Prince De Bouillon and the Abbé De Chazeuil—who are very friendly to the performers. Adrienne is much flattered, but responds in a melody, "The humble handmaid of glorious art am I." It is evidently a special night, and the famous Duclos is to appear. Adrienne is writing a letter which the Prince, her lover, is anxious to obtain, as he fancies he may find in it an excuse for breaking off with her. Adrienne has been confessing to Michonnet her affection for a young officer, in reality Maurice of Saxony, and Adrienne requests that influence may be exercised for the supposed officer at the Court of Saxony. The second act takes place at Prince De Bouillon's villa, where we see the Princess, his wife, disturbed by jealousy. She sings "Oh! the bitterness of joy!" and the second phrase is "Ah! will he come?" This is one of the most pleasing airs in the opera. The lady is anticipating a visit from Maurice, who eventually comes, but, to the lady's chagrin, admits that he loves another, and as the Prince and the Abbé are returning she conceals herself. The Prince has invited the company of the Comédie-Française, and, of course, Adrienne is present and learns for the first time that Maurice is the Count of Saxony. The third act opens with a reception by the Princess and the performance of a ballet entitled "The Judgment of Paris." Here the composer has imitated with considerable success the music of the old-fashioned French ballets. Adrienne, being asked to recite, chooses a passage from *Phèdre*, in which the lines occur—

> I am not as these bold-faced women here
> Who calmly revel in their deep disgrace,
> Without a blush upon their brazen cheeks.

She delivers the lines looking straight at the Princess. Meanwhile, the Princess has procured some poison from her husband's laboratory, and by her looks it seems clear that she intends to use it. The fourth act is introduced by an intermezzo so pleasing that it was enthusiastically encored. Michonnet tries to comfort Adrienne, who receives presents from the company on the occasion of her birthday. She learns that Michonnet has sent for Maurice, who, when he arrives, sings a love duet with Adrienne, but a poisoned flower presented to the heroine leads to her delirium and death. This duet has great beauty, and may be regarded as the gem of the opera. Signor Cilèa throughout proves himself no ordinary musician. His harmonies are pure and unforced, and his melodies, if not always original, are never wanting in grace and fluency, and frequently they are broad, flowing, and effective. Some of the concerted music is also very excellent, and the writing for the orchestra is full of ingenious passages. The chorus has not very much share in the opera, but it is always bright, animated, and appropriate. Madame Giachetti was most successful as the heroine. Her vocal skill was complete in all the music of the character of Adrienne, and her acting displayed great refinement and delicacy. Madame Giachetti possessed expression and pathos. Madame De Cisneros proved an adequate Princess De Bouillon, and was full of intelligence. As Maurice Signor Anselmi made the most of the graceful and pathetic music. In the last act Signor Anselmi and Madame Giachetti especially distinguished themselves, Signor Fornari, Signor Paroli, and Signor Sammarco were efficient, and Signor Campanini conducted with great care and zeal. An old favourite at Covent-garden, Signor Ancona, was announced in *Faust* on Thursday, and *La Tosca* on Monday next as the Baron Scarpia.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The concert of Friday, Nov. 4, opened with the Tragic Overture of Brahm, a work full of dramatic suggestions. Conducted with great spirit by Sir Charles Stanford and played with excellent effect by the students the result was in every way satisfactory. Mr Greeves Johnson sang "Hiawatha's Vision," by S. Coleridge-Taylor, in an agreeable manner. Mr Greeves Johnson was greatly applauded. The performance of Dr. Joachim's Variations for Violin in E minor by Miss Vera Warwick Evans was one of those striking displays of talent that only occur at rare intervals, and then only when the soloist is possessed of exceptional gifts. Knowing the extreme difficulty of the variations written in Dr. Joachim's most elaborate style we can fully appreciate the extraordinary skill of Miss Evans, whose pure tone, correct intonation, brilliant executior, and refined style marked her as one of the most promising students of the Royal College. Miss Evans had an overwhelming reception, and it was not more decided than it was merited. Some quartets for voices and orchestra, by F. C. S. Carey, seem to have been inspired by Brahms. They were sung by Miss Beatrice Dunn, Miss Phyllis Lett, and Messrs Ben Ivor Davies and Greeves Johnson. There is some freshness and melodic grace in the composition, but a more direct purpose and a broader style are requisite in such music. In the "Liebes Leider Waltzes" there is never any doubt as to the composer's intention, and the young musician who follows so great a master had better come to a decision at once as to the passages most desirable to take as a model. There is no harm in having an ideal. All the great composers have followed in other footsteps until they have found a path of their own. Let F. C. S. Carey persevere, and that path will probably be found. The concert concluded with the noble Symphony in C Major, by Schubert, a work that approaches nearer to Beethoven than any other modern musician has succeeded in doing. The symphony is truly a great work, and the Royal College orchestra did it justice.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

"Four Plays" by Laurence Alma-Tadema, is a delightful book that has appeared this month, published by "the Green Sheaf" firm, the edition being limited to 500 copies, of which 100 are reserved for private circulation. The authoress is a daughter of Sir Laurence Alma-Tadema, R.A., and is better known as a poetess than a playwright. Madame Liza Lehmann made use of some of her charming verses in the popular song cycle called "The Daisy Chain." One of Miss Alma Tadema's one-act plays, *The Unseen Helmsman*, was produced by the Stage Society some time ago, with Miss Edyth Olive in the chief part.

Mr Willard's American season will commence at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, on Monday, Jan. 30, with a production of the late Wilson Barrett's *Lucky Durham*. Mr Willard will also take with him Mr Louis N. Parker's version of M. Capus's *La Chatelaine*, entitled *The Optimist*, which, although successfully played elsewhere by Mr Willard in America has not yet been seen in New York or Boston, and also a dramatisation by Leon M. Lion of Tom Gallon's *Dicky Monteith*.

Mr C. I. Coltson, the energetic secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, in his annual report, pays a high tribute to those theatre managers who have levied a small tax in aid of the funds on the ever increasing number of "dead-heads" who beseige every theatre. At Mr Robert Arthur's Kennington theatre his enegertic manager, Mr Harold Entwistle is keen on demanding this toll; and in proof of how much good can be done by only asking the small sum of 2d. from each applicant Mr Harold Entwistle has sent to the Actors' Benevolent Fund within the last six months the substantial amount of £26. This, at 2d. per head, shows that over 3 000 "dead-heads" have obtained free admission at Kennington alone.

The Queen has taken ten guinea tickets for the reception which is being held by Mrs George Alexander, Mrs Kendal, Mrs Beerbohm Tree, Mrs Cyril Maude, and Miss Alice Nielsen at the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 22, in aid of the Samaritan Hospital for Women.

Mr W. Jacobs and Mr Louis N. Parker, the collaborators in the New Theatre play, *Beauty and the Barge*, were the principal guests at a dinner given by the Authors' Club, at the club in Whitehall-court on Monday night. Mr Parker, in responding to the toast of his health, said that collaboration, like poverty, with which it had much in common, made strange bedfellows. It had been his privilege to collaborate at different times with men of varied talents, not always with that financial success which the combination seemed to promise, but always with pleasure to himself and the acquisition of friendships. Most of the failures were, in his opinion, quite unjustified by the quality of the plays. His own failures were more than compensated for by such an evening as that. Mr Jacobs, in the course of a humorous reply, said that the only materials necessary for the production of a successful play were pen, ink, and paper and Mr Parker.

Miss Fanny Wentworth introduced a new song on "bridge" into her musical sketch at Wyndham's Theatre this week. Well known as she is as a drawing-room entertainer, Miss Wentworth won her first applause from an audience as a professional pianiste, having made her début when a very young girl at the Promenade Concerts in the days of Sir Julius Benedict — who was her master — and Rivière. She went on the stage a little later, and played in Sir then Mr) Charles Wyndham's company, her first part being Rebecca in *Pink Dominos*. Miss Wentworth enjoys the reflected glory of having spoken her first lines as an actress on the stage where Sir Henry Irving made his first appearance, at Sunderland, and her birthday happens to fall on the same day as Sir Henry's—Feb. 6—the year, it is needless to say, being considerably later. After an extensive tour with Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Wentworth left him to make another "first appearance," this time as the prima donna of comic opera. Her performance of Serpolette in *Les Cloches de Corneville* was followed by a visit to America, where she toured and played a stock season in Montreal, ten leading parts in ten weeks. She returned to England for *The Old Guard*, *Pepita* and other comic operas.

Miss Fanny Wentworth's first appearance at the Palace Theatre, in her present style of work, was in the summer of 1894, her trial turn being followed by a fortnight's engagement, and the fortnight extending to a run of eight months. She writes many of her own songs, a mock-serious ditty, called "The Hippopotamus and the Flea" being perhaps the best. She is an enthusiastic lover of music, and possesses many interesting souvenirs of her long tours in all parts of the world. Miss Wentworth's latest acquisition is a large collie. His name is Norval, and he arrived at Euston Station—presumably from the Grampian Hills—on a very wet morning last week. His new mistress intended to take him to his new home in a cab, but Norval did not approve of the plan, and as the combined efforts of three porters failed to get him into a four-wheeler, she determined to walk, although the rain was pouring in torrents. It was not an easy undertaking, for Norval was inclined to resist, but by the time they reached Miss Wentworth's house he evidently made up his mind that she was worthy of trust. He showed his affection by suddenly placing his great paws on her shoulders and covering her with mud.

Miss Cecilia Loftus cables to us as follows:—"Kindly publish emphatic denial of my engagement to Mr William Courtenay. The statement is absolutely without foundation."

Mr Edward Terry concluded his successful visit to Belfast on Saturday last, when *You Never Know* was presented, Mr Terry sustaining the part of Willoughby Croom with great success. At the conclusion, in response to demands for a speech, Mr Terry appeared and said:—"My dear friends, you will allow me to perform a very pleasing function, and to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the kindly way in which you have always received my efforts to amuse you in dear old Belfast, and when I say dear old Belfast' it is because it was my home, and therefore very dear to me. I thank you very much, more than I can express at this hour of the evening, for the very kindly way in which you have received me and always do receive me. It appears to me that when I come to Belfast I can always go somewhere else, and I am going to make a short trip across to the United States. Hitherto I have gone further afield—to India and Australia and as near as I can get to the North Pole, but this time I am going to see our American cousins, and I am sure I shall have a very successful trip there accompanied with your good wishes. I am sure you are hoping, as I am, that we will meet again next year still in health, and that I shall be able to give you as much gratification then as I think I have for some years past. When one arrives at nearly the prime of life, as I have, people become disgracefully reminiscent. In every part of the world I am always meeting people who will tell me how many years ago they saw me. It is very gratifying more than sympathetic—that is, if the fair sex are not present. We always wish to pass as youngsters, but unfortunately we cannot do that always. I can only say—I express myself very imperfectly owing to throat trouble—but I thank you very, very heartily, very, very deeply. I shall always look forward, as I have done for many years, to my visit to Belfast, and I am sure I shall always be received with the same kindly, affectionate greeting.

Mr Arthur Bourchier has settled that when Christmas comes *The Walls of Jericho* will be played as usual every night; but the matinées will be suspended for a few weeks until the children's holidays are over to make room for the entertainment for them, which this year will consist of a one-act play, written by Tom Gallon, which will probably be called *Jane's Christmas Party*, and an adaptation by Rutland Barrington of the two favourite "Dumpy Books" entitled *Little Black Sambo* and *Little White Barbara*, with music by Wilfred Bendall and Frederick Rosse, and additional numbers by Rutland Barrington and Milton Wellings. Miss Nellie Bowman will appear in both plays as the heroine of one and the hero of the other. Miss Madge Titheradge will be the principal girl in the musical piece; Miss Iris Hawkins will represent Little White Barbara; and Mr Bourchier has also engaged Mr Frank Lawton.

Mr Stead in the November number of the *Review of Reviews* is very severe in his criticism of Mr Pinero's play *A Wife Without a Smile*. "To be made to laugh at such a spectacle as that which Mr Pinero presents at Wyndham's Theatre is," says Mr Stead, "humiliating to one's self-respect. You feel you have been made an accomplice to an insufferable affront to your higher nature. Such a play explains and goes far to justify the attitude of the Puritan to stage plays. If all plays were like Mr Pinero's plays, then the Puritans were right. It is as inhuman a performance as was the old practice of turning out some poor natural to display his witless inanity and naked obscenity for the amusement of carousers after dinner. At first I was inclined to regard it as a mere Punch and Judy show of extravagant and farcical nonsense. It is called a comedy in disguise. It would be better described as a tragedy disguised as a roaring farce."

Mr Stead then describes the feature of the play, including the "erotometer," or doll jerked by a piece of string, remarking: "The smart set may be rotten; but surely it cannot be quite so inane, quite so imbecile as these mimes and buffoons who change wives as they change gloves, and have as much sense of morals as the small, gilded flies which hover over a stagnant pool. And if so be that true manhood and pure womanhood have so utterly gone by the board as these creatures appear to testify, then surely it is a tragedy too deep for tears, not a farce for mortal men to laugh and snigger over. That were worthier fiends." Assuming that the sniggerers were right, Mr Stead says the "erotometer" ought to have been suppressed by the police as an outrage on public decency. He concludes: "Mr Pinero may be a very clever man, but his new play would only get its deserts if it were burned by the common hangman."

Miss May Irwin, the wealthy United States actress, has announced her intention of bequeathing $100,000 as the nucleus of a fund for starting an American national theatre of dramatic art. It is stated, however, that the legacy will be encumbered by so many provisos that much difficulty is anticipated in carrying out the testatrix's intentions.

Mrs Brown-Potter will play the part of Julie, in *A Man's Shadow*, when that drama is performed at Windsor Castle on Thursday, Nov. 17. The cast will also include, besides Mr Tree, Mr James Fernandez, Mr Lionel Brough, Mr E. M. Robson, Mr Gerald Du Maurier, Mr Charles G. Allan, Mr Gayer Mackay, Mr F. Percival Stevens, Mr Robb Harwood, Mrs Tree, Miss Geraldine Wilson, and Miss Kate Cutler.

Mr E. Harcourt Williams, who is to play Romeo to Miss Margaret Halstan's Juliet in Mr Arthur Flanagan's Shakespearian revival at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, concludes a two years' engagement with Miss Ellen Terry on Dec. 6. His latest part is Eric, in *Eriksson's Wife*, Mr Christopher St. John's fine little one-act play, produced by Miss Terry at Wolverhampton a few days ago. He has also appeared as Antonio and Gratiano in *The Merchant of Venice*, Wolf in Miss Clo Graves's comedy, *The Mistress of the Robes*, Barend in *The Good Hope*, and Alexander in *Nance Oldfield*. The last-named is a part that Miss Terry declares has always brought luck to its portrayer. Mr Harcourt Williams has been very successful as a producer of pastoral plays, and he was responsible some few years ago for a clever attempt to stage an adaptation of Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" With youth, a melodious voice, and a particularly earnest and convincing manner to aid him, the advent of the new Romeo is full of promise.

Mr Hayden Coffin is about to leave his position in *The Cingalee* at Daly's Theatre, where he now has been appearing for seven years. He will take up Mr Lawrence Rea's part in *Veronique* at the Apollo, and will be a very valuable addition to the cast of that dainty "opera comique."

We are glad to find that such an intellectual writer as Mr Arthur Symons shares our scepticism as to the establishment of an endowed theatre. He writes:—"I could not help thinking that the talk which has lately been heard of a State-endowed theatre and the general support and encouragement of the drama was, after all, a little beside the question. It is useless to support a drama which no one will come to see. Is it possible that the public which buys plays when they are printed—and no play is more than half alive in print—has no curiosity to see these very plays in the form in which they were first created, and to which they must always be longing to return Well, if not, let there be no more talk of supporting a drama which is not wanted."

The play *Marriage*, by Brandon Thomas and Henry Keeling, will be performed in aid of "Maurice Hostel," Hoxton, on the 23rd and 24th inst. The cast will include the Hon. George Goschen. The stage-manager will be Lieutenant-Colonel V. Mellor.

Mr Percival Craig, who responded to the toast of "The Drama," and took an active part at the Sunderland reception to Sir Henry Irving recently, has received from him a handsome case containing Sir Henry's photograph, which is inscribed "Percival Craig from Henry Irving; with every good wish, 1904."

Mr. R. Vernon Harcourt, who is attached to the Foreign Office, and who is a son of the late Sir William Harcourt, has written a play which he calls *An Angel Unawares*. The rights have been secured by Miss Fanny Brough, who will produce it in London when she returns from America. The "Angel Unawares" is a woman from New York, who reconciles two young lovers.

Mr Henry Neville's pleasant association with Mr Percy and Miss Emma Hutchison, extending over six years, with *The Liars*, *Mrs Dane's Defence*, *Mrs Gorringe's Necklace*, *Two Orphans*, and *Ticket-of-Leave Man*, will be broken after Christmas, as Mr Neville is engaged by Mr Beerbohm Tree for his forthcoming grand production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Mr Neville's return to the London boards will be warmly welcomed by the many admirers of this ripe and experienced actor.

Mr Charles Manners, the world's provider of English opera, will be gratified to learn that Messrs Wheeler report from South Africa that the Moody-Manners opera company has opened at Durban, scoring a great success, and are doing big business. The Gaiety company in South Africa are playing their farewell week in Africa, where they finish on Saturday, Nov. 12, and sail for England on the 16th, due about Dec. 3.

Mrs Alfred Lyttelton, the wife of the Colonial Secretary, has collaborated with Lady Betty Balfour in a new comedy satirising the present craze for physical culture. Lady Betty Balfour is the wife of Mr Gerald Balfour, and the sister-in-law of the Premier. She is the daughter of the first Earl of Lytton, who was the only son of Bulwer Lytton, the famous novelist.

Mr G. S. Titheradge, who plays "her family solicitor," in *The Freedom of Suzanne*, to be produced on Tuesday at the Criterion, was one of the most popular actors in Australia before he came to London. He is a member of the Royal Horticultural Society, and takes a keen interest in flower growing, daffodils being his special delight. It will be remembered that Mr Titheradge made a great success as Grierson, in Mr H. V. Esmond's piece *Grierson's Way*. He was the original Messenger of *A Message from Mars*.

Mr Frederic Topham, who has had charge of the Ben Greet Academy of Acting during Mr Greet's absence in America, is to play George W. Larcombe, the hero of *The Coming Race*, at St. George's Hall. Larcombe is a typical American of modern times, the love interest of the play being founded on the affection he inspires in the Princess Zee of the coming race. Mr Topham's engagement with Mr Maskelyne will not affect his position at the Acting Academy in Bedford-street.

Mr Haddon Chambers's play, *The Tyranny of Tears*, has made an excellent impression, in the form of an adaptation into German, upon the Berlin critics and public, and is being given three or four times a week. It came in the light of a novelty, and the audience, says our correspondent, would have evidently liked to call the author and applaud him had it been possible.

Mrs Hayden Coffin is arranging an afternoon recital, at the Empress Rooms, Royal Palace Hotel, Kensington, on the 24th inst., to raise funds for starting a "Horse Ambulance" in Kensington. Amongst those who have promised their assistance are Miss Isabel Jay, Mr Sydney Valentine, Miss Ada and Miss Lilian Davies, Mr George Giddens, Miss Janet Duff, Mr Maurice Farkoa, Mr Hugo Heinz, Miss Toms, Mr J. Blackley, and Mr Hayden Coffin.

Mr J. T. Grein will deliver an address to the O.P. Club at the Criterion, on Sunday, on "Some things in general and something in particular." The president, Mr Algernon L. Collins, will take the chair.

Mr G. M. Montanini, the manager of *A Traitor Prince* company, who was injured by the sudden explosion of a pistol last week, has hopes that his injured hand will soon be well again, as the improvement made was satisfactory.

Mr Fred Brown, the courteous and attentive acting-manager of the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, is to be accorded, by permission of the directors, a well-deserved benefit on Thursday next. As Mr Brown's association with the Pavilion extends over a period of thirty years, it is needless to say that he has a rare fund of experience to draw from, and his reminiscences after such a long connection are a source of unfailing interest. That Mr Brown is popular is evidenced by the fact that the élite of the music hall profession have offered their services on this occasion, which bids fair to be a great night at the "Drury-lane of the East."

In consequence of the indisposition of Miss Marion Denvil, on Saturday last, Miss Kate Leslie at a very short notice, undertook the part of Ethel Kingston in *The English Rose* at the Pavilion Theatre, and gave a very excellent performance. Miss Denvil being still unwell this week, the part of Mary Andrews in *Woman and Wine* is being played by Miss Daisy Soudamore and Janet Marlow by Miss Kate Leslie.—Miss Dorothy Green, who has been playing leads with Mr F. R. Benson's North company for the past year, has now been engaged by him for his West Indian tour to play Juliet, Rosalind, Ophelia, Lady Teazle, and Queen Elizabeth.—Miss Violet Harley, who joined the Hutchison companies nearly five years ago for the part of Pamela Beechinor, the enfant terrible in *The Manœuvres of Jane*, is now playing the rôle of Angela Muir (Miss Annie Hughes' original part), in *A Country Mouse*.

Miss Leah Marlborough returned from South Africa by r.s. Quelph, after a most successful season. She is engaged for an important tour, starting in January next.

Mr William Mollison's production of the American adaptation of Ian M'Laren's novel, "Beside the Bonnie Briar Bush," will take place at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on April 3, with Mr Mollison in the leading character.

The case of "Holz v. Storey" was before his Honour, Judge Woodfall, in the Westminster County-court on the 4th inst., and was an application by Mr Fred Storey, the actor, to set aside a judgment on the ground that he was never served with the summons. After hearing the evidence of the applicant, his Honour said the judgment must be set aside and a new trial given.

Mr Norman V. Norman has just concluded a tour in Ireland, having visited every principal city there with great success. On Monday, Oct. 31, Mr Norman gave a performance at Clonmel of *David Garrick* by request, the audience including Her Grace the Duchess of St. Albans, the Marquis of Ormonde, Lord and Lady Desart, and Lady Constance Butler.

We are glad to announce that the Henry Crisp Fund is increasing each week. Nearly every actor of eminence has contributed to the good round sum which will be handed over to the unfortunate blind actor. If the managers of the touring companies will kindly send in any amounts they have collected from the members of their companies, we shall be glad to announce the subscriptions in our next issue.

Miss Stella Gastelle, who is scoring a success as Amorelle on tour, is a Sunderland girl, educated abroad, and studied singing in France and Germany, one of her teachers being Madame Marchesi, who often paid her the compliment of asking her to sing before other pupils, for the famous teacher considered her "a most talented artiste." Miss Gastelle made her début at the Prince of Wales Theatre. She sang her first song on an eventful morning when all the members of the company were gathered upon the stage for a rehearsal. It was a great ordeal for the young beginner, but she is proud of the fact that her first English applause—she had already sung on the Continent—should come from an audience of her fellow artists.

Miss Gastelle has appeared several times as the hero or heroine of pantomime Newcastle being the first place where she made a hit in a Christmas annual. At Liverpool, a couple of years later, she was awarded a pantomime cake of noble proportions as the most popular performer in Liverpool pantomimes, heading the poll by a majority of over a thousand votes. Miss Gastelle is an enthusiastic golfer, she is fond of riding, and can drive her own motor.

The incidental music for the forthcoming performances of *Aglavaine and Selysette* at the Court has been composed by Mr Donald Tovey. The orchestra which will consist of string instruments only, will be under the direction of Mr Theodore Stier. The cast of the play will include Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Thyrza Norman, Miss Marion Parr, Miss Florence Farr, and Mr Walter Hampden.

A complimentary matinée for the benefit of Mrs Edmund Phelps will take place at His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, the 25th inst. Mr H. Beerbohm Tree has very kindly lent the house, and will appear in *The Man That Was* Mr Cyril Maude, Mr Sydney Valentine, Mr Wilfred Fraser, and Miss Mary Rorke will revive *The Monkey's Paw*, by W. W. Jacobs and Louis N. Parker; Mr Arthur Bourchier will appear with Miss Jessie Bateman and company in *A Lesson in Harmony*; and Mr George Alexander will contribute to the entertainment, which will include a scene from *The Orchid*. Mr Maurice Farkoa will sing, and Mr Arthur Williams, Mr Huntley Wright, Miss Isabel Jay, Miss Eva Moore, and Miss Constance Collier have kindly consented to assist.

Mr George Alexander will revive at the St. James's Theatre on Saturday evening next *Lady Windermere's Fan*, with a cast including Mr Ben Webster, Mr C. Aubrey Smith (by arrangement with Mr Charles Frohman), Mr Sydney Brough, Mr A. Vane Tempest, Mr Leslie Faber, Mr Selwyn Seymour, Mr Murray Carrington, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Fanny Coleman, Miss Pauline French, Miss Eileen Lewis, Miss Elinor Aickin, Miss Corisande Hamilton, Miss Maud Harcourt, and Miss Marion Terry.

Miss Marie Tempest's reappearance at the Criterion Theatre on Tuesday, after more than a year's absence, will be warmly welcomed by her many admirers. In the cast of Mr Cosmo Gordon Lennox's new play, *The Freedom of Suzanne*, are, besides Miss Tempest, Mr Allan Aynesworth, Mr Charles Sugden, Mr G. S. Titheradge, Mr E. Holman Clark, Mr C. M. Hallard, Mr A. E. Matthews, Mr Horton Cooper, Miss Ada Ferrar, Miss Alice Beet, Miss Beatrice Beckley, Miss Florence Sinclair, Miss Alice Mansfield, Mr Leonard Calvert, Mr Edward Y. Rae, and Mr E. Keith-Williams.

The Playgoers' Club has arranged a concert for Sunday, Dec. 4, at His Majesty's Theatre, by kind permission of Mr Beerbohm Tree, in aid of the Playgoers' Club Pantomime Fund for Poor Children. The club is making arrangements to take from fifteen to twenty thousand children to the pantomime in the coming season, and each child will be well fed before the performance.

Herr Hans Andresen, who is cast for the principal part in *Finsame Menschen*, to be produced at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Monday, was a prominent member of the German company that appeared at St. George's Hall about four years ago. He is the son of a well-known sculptor, and the husband of Fräulein Elsa Gardemann, who completely won the hearts of her English brother and sister players at a professional matinée given by the German company at the Lyceum, by her performance of the usually unimportant character of Madle, in *Magda*. She was equally good in bigger parts, but has not appeared upon the stage for a considerable time.

An important alteration in the ending of a play after it has been produced is not often made; but Mr James Bernard Fagan, the clever author of the powerful play, *The Prayer of the Sword*, now running at the Adelphi, has been induced to bring his drama to a conclusion upon the happy note in place of the tragic one. No doubt this is in accord with the desire of the majority of playgoers who find it decidedly depressing to witness a play that ends sadly. Those who saw *The Prayer of the Sword* in its original form will remember that the Princess, interposing to save her lover from his enemy Scorla, received a scratch from a poisoned dagger and so died, the warrior-priest, who was to have married her, returning to his monastery. Now, however, all this is changed. Scorla makes his attempt on Andrea, Ilaria checks the stroke, and the dagger is buried in the breast of the would-be assassin. He dies, as in the original version, but at the last he produces a letter from the Papal Envoy recalling the excommunication, and bidding Andrea accompany him to Rome, where, it is implied, the Pope will acknowledge the "miracle" which drew the young monk from his cloister. The acting of Miss Lily Brayton, Mr Oscar Asche, and their companions continues to reach a high level of excellence, and it is a performance that should certainly not be missed.

Mr Charles Fry's Shakespearian company, which opened its eleventh season at the Court Theatre on Saturday, will give a matinée to-day of *Love's Labours Lost*, and one on Saturday next of *King Henry VIII*. The performance will be given in costume, and on a draped stage.

Mr Frederick Melville's new play, *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, which will be produced at the Terriss Theatre on Monday, is in four acts and ten scenes. The first and last scenes are laid in Naples, and one of the acts occurs aboard a steamer in Tilbury Docks. The title-rôle will be created by Miss Henrietta Watson, and the company will include Misses Beatrix De Burgh, Margaret Watson, and Nellie Jackson, Messrs Newman Maurice, Stanley Bedwell, Henry St. Leger, Fred De Vere, and Leyton Cancellor. The scenery has been specially designed and painted by Messrs George Tweedell, F. B. Muller, and Richard Douglas.

"Peggy Machree," the new musical play in three acts, which was successfully produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Great Grimsby, on Monday, will proceed for a short provincial tour, touching Newcastle and Liverpool, and finishing at Edinburgh. It will then, early in January, be produced at a West-end theatre. Mr Denis O'Sullivan, the well-known Irish baritone, has an excellent part in that of the hero, Barry Trevor, and Miss Marie Dainton is reaping additional laurels by her refined and graceful impersonation of Lady Margaret O'Driscoll, who poses as the peasant girl, Peggy Machree.

Miss Lillian Herries, who starred for a long time as leading lady with the late Mr Osmond Tearle, and won much praise for her portrayal of the sweet and gentle Desdemona, will not be able to play Desdemona at Mr Nettlefold's matinée of *Othello* at the Court Theatre on Wednesday next, in consequence of her present engagement being unexpectedly prolonged.

Robert Henry Cummings, a man of good education, who was sent to prison for six months last week for fraud, and was on Thursday charged at Clerkenwell Sessions with further offences, asked the detective who had exposed him to tell the Judge that whilst in prison he had written plays and had had them typed. The copies were handed to his Lordship, who said he could not assist the prisoner to get them printed. They showed, however, that he had done something to earn an honest living.

In the cast of Messrs Eustace Ponsonby and Frank Lambert's new comic opera *Ladyland*, which will be produced at the Avenue Theatre next month, will appear Miss Aline May, a vocalist who is now appearing at Covent-garden, and that old favourite, Miss Geraldine Ulmar. Mr E. Dagnall will be the stage-manager, and Mr François Celler the conductor.

An actor named James Percival Miller, aged forty, went to his lodgings in Birkdale, Southport, late on Saturday night last, and was soon afterwards found dead in a pool of blood in his bedroom, having inflicted a severe wound on the inside of his left elbow with a razor, severing the main artery. A verdict of suicide during temporary insanity was returned at the inquest on Monday.

"THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND."

"HOW TO HELP IT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Your article with the above heading induces me once more to urge the general adoption of the one night's salary tax as the best, and indeed the only, way to secure a regular income to the Fund.

I am this week collecting as usual from my company the salary due to them on Thursday (the first Thursday in November), and am myself, also as usual, contributing my earnings for that evening; and if this plan were generally adopted, there would surely be no need for dinners, benefits, or other uncertain methods of obtaining funds.

It is a perfectly simple matter to introduce into such contract a clause giving the manager the right to deduct the salary due on one specified night of the year, and such a clause would from custom cease to be arbitrary in the same way that the clause "Salaries are not paid on Christmas Day &c.," is now taken for granted.

Unless some such system is adopted it seems to me that the Actors' Benevolent Fund will soon be a thing of the past, and the old stage door subscription will be upon us again with all its annoyances and its degradations. Already it is beginning to make itself felt.

It has been objected by some that "compulsory charity" is a thing to be avoided; but I would ask if the payment of the Poor Rate is in any sense of the word a "voluntary" payment, and if it is found as it undoubtedly has been found, that the prosperous members of our profession—and by "prosperous" I mean all those who are in engagements—are either indifferent or neglectful of their duty to the truly unfortunate people whom the Actors' Benevolent Fund is designed to assist, they ought to be reminded of it in the practical way adopted by the Government tax collector.

To those who are in receipt of small salaries would suggest that the contribution each year of a seventh part of two or three pounds is by no means a bad investment, as it enables one in time of trouble to ask for a gift or a loan from the Fund on the strength of being a "subscriber." In such a case the request is almost invariably granted if the funds permit, without further recommendation.

I was for some years a member of the committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and can testify to the admirable work done by it. It is a fund to which all actors should subscribe. One never knows when one may want to borrow a few pounds from someone who will neither refuse nor charge interest for the loan; and such a tax as I suggest should, I think, be welcomed, because it gives one the right to ask for such a loan, apart from the fact that it should be the pride of all actors to maintain their benevolent institutions out of their own pockets, instead of continually begging the general public to assist them. Yours faithfully,

EDWARD S. WILLARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—For many years I have advocated a system of giving one performance throughout the entire country on one particular night in aid of the Actors Benevolent Fund.

I have spoken to many provincial theatre managers in the country, and every one I have approached has expressed himself perfectly willing to agree to the idea—that a performance be given simultaneously throughout the entire three kingdoms, and every artiste, every manager, every author, every stageman, every bandsman, and every attendant should on this night give his services free.

By this means a huge sum would be collected each year, and the public would become interested, and instead of a subscription they would obtain value for their money.

It is easy to see how this scheme would work—the artist getting £20 per week would be giving £3 6s. 8d., the artist getting 30s. per week would be giving 5s.; the artist who was out of engagement would give nothing, so it would not be a hardship on anybody. Then there would be no necessity for dinners and appeals to the public.

It is a simple idea, and it would be compulsory on every actor and actress to subscribe.

The present Fund is subscribed to by managers and the public who are interested in the theatrical profession. Artists do not subscribe as fully as they should.

Yours faithfully, FREDK. MOUILLOT.
4, Broad-court-chambers, W.C., Nov. 9.

At the Great Queen-street Theatre on Monday Gerhart Hauptmann's drama *Finsame Menschen* will be played for the first time in London in its original form, with Mr Hans Andresen in the principal rôle. On Thursday *Sein Prinzesschen* will be given, preceded by a new one-act comedy *Der Herrscher*, written by Annie Neumann Hofer.

Messrs W. H. Glen and Co., the leading firm of music sellers and theatrical ticket agency in Melbourne, have suggested in a letter to the local papers, a shilling subscription to place a memorial over the grave of the late Mel B. Spurr. They are confident that his many Australian admirers will like to join in such a tribute. Mr Herbert Flemming, the business-manager of the late popular monologue entertainer, has received an immense number of letters and telegrams of condolence.

Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstei will be present, accompanied by Princess Victoria at the matinée of *The Shah's New Suit* at the Court Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 29, in aid of the Incorporated Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society.

The Bandmann-Dallas opera company arrived in Jamaica on Oct. 19, after a record trip on the Elder Dempster new steamer Port Kingston. The voyage closed with a very pleasing little event. On the farewell dinner night each lady of the company was presented by Sir Alfred Jones with a handsome solid silver serviette ring engraved as follows:—"Souvenir of maiden voyage of Imperial Direct West India Mail Service R.M.S. Port Kingston, 1904."

Mr R. H. Douglass will read a paper entitled "Audiences From the Artists' Point of View," in the Victoria Hall of the Hotel Cecil, to the members of the Playgoers' Club on Sunday, the 20th inst. Mdlle. Adeline Genée will take the chair.

A meeting of the Exhibition Sub-Committee was held at the offices of the Scenic Artists' Association, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C., on Tuesday evening last, the 8th inst., when were present Mr J. Walter Hann (chairman), Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., Messrs Edmund G. Banks, William Harford W. T. Hemsley, and W. B. Spong. It was resolved to hold the Scenic Artists' exhibition the week of Feb. 20, 1905, and to carry out this project it was arranged to call at an early date in December a general meeting of the members of the association to approve the scheme and to subscribe a guarantee fund. Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., Mr J. Walter Hann, Mr W. T. Hemsley, and Mr William Harford intimated their intention to subscribe five guineas each to the guarantee fund. The next meeting of the Exhibition Committee will be held at the offices, at 7·30 on Monday next, to receive the report of negotiations pending for hire of a suitable hall.

Little Amy Manfree, who has made such a success in the part of Cissy Denver, in *The Silver King* company (South), has been re-engaged by Messrs Polini and Melford for Christmas and spring tours. Her mother, Miss Amy Wood, is also re-engaged for Tabitha Durden, in the same company.

SIR HENRY IRVING:
AN APPRECIATION.

BY BRAM STOKER.

To-day Sir Henry Irving will be presented with an address by the citizens of Sunderland, to which place he has returned to play an engagement after an interval of nearly half a century. Forty-eight years ago, when a youth of eighteen, Henry Irving made his first appearance as an actor on the boards of the old Sunderland theatre. His second and last visit is made this week, and his coming is treated as a civic event. Not merely as a player does he come, but as one who has won distinction not only for himself, but for his chosen art, and, in its own way, for his nation.

In his time of choice the stage was a very different matter from what it is now, and "going on" it was not unaccompanied by grave rigours. Macready, the towering stage figure of the immediate past—he had retired but a few years before—brought up his own children without having seen the interior of a playhouse. Nay, more; but a little longer than a generation, as the actuaries count it, had elapsed since the name of "player" had been omitted, rather than erased from the vagrancy statute. There were few of the inducements or rewards which are now offered to stage aspirants. Salaries were small, and all the usual discomforts of life followed an almost inadequate living wage. Social life as the young actor of to-day knows it was unknown.

If ever an actor was born to the stage Henry Irving was an instance. The stage was then, as it has ever been and is now, his world. Not only did he become a distinguished actor, but he founded a new school of acting. He it was who did away with the stilted styles of the setting forth of character and incident then in vogue, who threw the light of nature into the darkest corners of both tragedy and comedy, and in doing so increased the mordant powers of each. Those only who remember the storm of opinions that waged round his characterisation of Macbeth and Hamlet can understand to the full the extraordinary change he wrought. He believed that the highest phase of the art of acting was impersonation, and to this end he used all his powers. He went back to fact and history, and followed the author's meaning from his survey of the natural materials whence he drew his characters. The long gallery of the portraits which he set forth in an actor's medium are more than six hundred. Many of these were, of course, small parts played in his early days, but some are sufficiently great to mark not only an enormous energy but a seemingly endless resource. Quarrel how we will with Irving's work, find what fault we may with conception or representation—and for my own part I do not admit such cause of quarrel—we shall always find his characters interesting, self-centred, and consistent. And if opportunity be granted to us we shall find that he has thought over more deeply than we have every point which allows of discussion, and can defend his views.

HIS WORK AS MANAGER.

So long as he was an individual player he could not show whole plays as he thought they should be shown—with all parts complete and in harmony and proportion each with and to the other. It was for this reason, rather than from ambition or desire of gain, that he took over the cares of management. No one who is without the circle of the playhouse can have any conception of what the proper management of a theatre entails. The ceaseless labour, the multitude of petty cares and worries, the never-ending struggle after completeness. It is not sufficient to do the day's work, no matter what its bulk may be. To-morrow has to be thought of, and the day after, and the year after. And if the work undertaken is on grave lines, then difficulties are multiplied many times over. Periods of history have to be studied; at times literature and the records of art ransacked for guiding hints. Experts must be found who can undertake various branches of the work. Painters and musicians, costumiers, peruquiers, armourers, and the producers of that comprehensive list of items, otherwise unclassified, called "properties"—all these people have to be found and arranged with. Add to these troubles the cares of the exchequer and it can be imagined how great is the strain on one man. For over twenty years Irving did at the Lyceum Theatre what in many other countries is done by the nation, the municipality, or the Court. And his single-handed venture made his theatre as well as himself illustrious and known all over the civilised world. To the services of the stage he first sought for and gained the aid of great artists in the production of his plays. A quarter of a century since such men as now are glad and even proud to join in stage collaboration did not have such views. The opportunities which he gave and to which he invited them, the experience in a certain phase of their own craft, the bringing home of their ideas to a new circle of admirers—always grateful to artists—and even the substantial rewards which followed their labours have assured the continuance of such effort. Up to the "eighties" the artists who devoted themselves to the stage could alone be counted on by ambitious managements. But then came, at Irving's call, men who had already won great fame. Such men as Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, Sir Edward Burne-Jones, Seymour Lucas, Keeley Halswelle, and Charles Cattermole were willing to give their art, their lore, their experience, and their imagination to aid in great stage work.

In the matter of stage lighting every scenic artist of his time and of the future owed, and still owes, a debt of gratitude to Henry Irving. He first taught them how to produce soft effects with various-coloured lights thrown one through the other; to use together gaslight and limelight, both "open" and concentrated lights; to produce silhouette effect by turning down or up certain portions of the footlights, and so leaving the edges of the stage in comparatively dimmer light. All these things are nowadays matters of such general knowledge and general use that one is apt to lose sight of their beginning. But in the survey of an artistic lifetime it is but just to call to remembrance to whom they are due. Such musicians as Sir Arthur Sullivan, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford, Sir Alexander Mackenzie, Sir Julius Benedict, and Edward German were willing to subordinate their own art to assist in the completion of magnificent stage ideals. It is not too much to say that for twenty years the "productions"—to use the name applied to the *ensemble* plays—at the Lyceum were everywhere, in other countries as well as our own, regarded as exemplars of artistic excellence completeness, and taste. Certainly the public showed their appreciation of it. The records of Sir Henry Irving's management show a result of public patronage which has no parallel. The money test may be a low one, but at least it is found to be accurate, and it is thus valuable. Since 1878, when Henry Irving commenced management on his own account, the public of Great Britain and America had paid more than two and an eighth million pounds sterling to see him play. I can vouch for the figures, for the money has passed through my own hands.

Other instances of public appreciation of what he has done are not lacking. In many ways has come the recognition of the great position which he made and won for himself. Queen Victoria conferred on him the honour of knighthood. This was the first time that such an honour had been conferred on an actor—the first time that, in any country, State honour had been given to a player as such. When the French Government gave M. Got the Legion of Honour it was expressly stated that it was conferred on him as a professor. It remained for Britain to lead the way. Three great Universities, representing England, Scotland, and Ireland, have given him degrees—Dublin and Cambridge as Doctor of Literature, Glasgow as Doctor of Laws. He has received addresses from cities and universities, caskets and scrolls without number. He has been asked to give, and has given, lectures at the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge (where he gave the Reid Lecture), Dublin, Manchester, Columbia (New York), Harvard, Chicago, and Princeton, at the Royal Institution, and at many less celebrated places. He was the first actor asked to speak at the Royal Academy banquet. On the occasion of his knighthood he was presented with a golden box containing an address signed by every member of the profession to which he belongs, and to which he has brought so much honour—an event unique in the history of the stage. He originated, organised, and mainly supported in its earlier years the Actors' Benevolent Fund, which has been of inestimable benefit to so many poor players.

Even his social life, he who is so personally retiring, has had an important place in the life of London. For over twenty years there had hardly been an illustrious visitor who was not his guest at the Old Beefsteak-room of the Lyceum Theatre. "First nights" at the Lyceum were more occasions of prime social importance, and the informal supper parties on the stage which followed these performances were really gatherings representing all that was best in the life of the nation. At the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, and again at the time arranged for the Coronation of the King, it was Sir Henry Irving's privilege to entertain, by Royal sanction, the nation's guests. On both those occasions the Indian Princes and colonial notabilities attended in state, and the theatre, prepared for the reception after the nightly performance by a sort of Aladdin's lamp process, was a scene of magnificent splendour. The last was indeed the final glory of the old Lyceum. For within a month its doors were closed for ever.

This is the bare outline of the record of the young actor who began his artistic life in Sunderland and whose return thither is celebrated to-day. The detail can be filled in by any whose lives and memories are long enough—of good work, great work, done: in his art as an actor, in his productions as a manager, in his charity, in his helpfulness to others, in his loyalty to King and country, and in his noble example of self-suppression and righteous dealing as a man. Alone and unaided from first to last by State or private help he made his theatre a veritable temple of art and an example to all the world of how a theatre should be and can be conducted. In the doing of it he won the admiration and respect of all the world. And beyond even this he has been given what no man can of set purpose win—a personal devotion unparalleled in artistic history from countless numbers of persons whom he has never seen except in cheering masses. And he has so blessed the lives of a multitude of others less fortunate than himself, so strewn his way with good deeds of which I perhaps, as his almoner for more than a quarter of a century, alone know, that, if gratitude and love and justified hopes and good wishes can effect it, the closing nights of his artistic life which are yet to come will be starred with new successes and new honours.

Let us hope that many long years of well-earned rest to follow them will be crowned with happiness.—*Manchester Guardian*, Oct. 28, 1904.

"THE CINGALEE" AT DALYS.

Mr George Edwardes is never satisfied with a musical play as long as it can be improved; and the long runs that are enjoyed by his productions may be attributed in great measure to the fact that his pieces are undergoing a constant process of embellishment. During the six months or so that *The Cingalee* has been running at Daly's Theatre additions and alterations have been freely made, and the result was submitted to the audience there on Thursday evening, when the 250th performance of the amusing entertainment took place. When we say that no less than ten new numbers have been added to the score, it will be seen that the work of amelioration has been fully and energetically performed. Mr Huntley Wright has worked up his part liberally, and his Baboo English has been made more extravagantly absurd and amusing than ever. The character from the first had that basis of reality which gives flavour and meaning to the most eccentric creations, and Mr Wright has developed it very artistically. None of his jokes are "out of the character," and he maintains, with great skill, the general idea of the rôle. It is astonishing to what an extent he has improved it from the "germ" supplied to him in the beginning. It must be remembered, however, that the "germ" in question was genuinely funny; but a less artistic comedian might have been tempted to introduce what may be called "extraneous matter" in the shape of impossible "gags." This Mr Wright never does. In his wildest moments he is always within the legitimate limits of the rôle, and for this we should be grateful to him in the extreme. As for the effect of his performance, it is shown in the peals of laughter which are evoked by his many whimsicalities. Mr Wright has one new number "all to himself," a song entitled "Something devilish wrong," from which he extracts every possible point. He shares with Miss Gracie Leigh two fresh duets, "Pretty Poll," and "Won't you make a fuss of me?" which are quite up to the standard of the musical play ditty, and are well suited to the tastes of the lovers of the style of entertainment, whose name is legion. Miss Leigh, whose archness and vivacity are unimpaired by repetition of her part, has been given a capital song, "She's all right," which she sings with all imaginable expressiveness and acuteness, winning warm applause by her delightfully bright and dainty rendering. Miss Leigh is one of the liveliest and smartest of our musical play artists, and her success in *The Cingalee* is immense. Mr Hayden Coffin has an interpolated ballad, "The Planter's Life," in which his fine voice and excellent musical method are displayed to much advantage; and Mr Howard Talbot and Mr W. H. Risque have collaborated in writing and composing a very "taking" quintet for Mr Louis Bradfield and the Tea Girls, called "Mixed Marriage." This goes exceedingly well, owing greatly to the unsparing and judicious exertions of Mr Bradfield and the charming ladies who assist him. He is personally responsible for a song, "The Little Ladies," to which he devotes very quaint and clever treatment. Mr Rutland Barrington has not been forgotten in the distribution of novelties; and to his lot falls a number entitled "Nothing much more to say." Miss Topsy Sinden, whose accomplished dancing is such an attraction to all patrons of Daly's, has been provided with a new dance, in which she brings down the house by her grace, activity, and finished style; and the parts of Lady Patricia Vereker and Mr Bobby Warren have been enlarged by the addition of several amusing scenes, so that their exponents, Miss Isabel Jay and Mr Bradfield, have now increased opportunities of distinction. Miss Sybil Arundale's character of the Cingalee girl was so complete that it has not been found needful to embellish it to any important extent, and it is still the same irresistibly naïve and picturesque creation. Mr Lionel Monckton, the gifted composer of the score of *The Cingalee*, and Mr Tanner, the author of the libretto, must be delighted with the success of their work, a result which is greatly due to the liberal and enterprising management of Mr George Edwardes, who is never beguiled by success into relaxing his endeavours for the pleasure and amusement of his patrons. They reward his efforts with warm appreciation.

MISS NELLIE MORTINE who was with Mr Edward Terry throughout his South African tour in 1902-3 has been engaged by that gentleman to support him on his forthcoming American tour.

A BLIND ACTOR.
APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—An exceedingly sad case of distress in our profession has been brought to my notice by my old friend and brother actor, Mr E. M. Robson. It is that of Mr Henry Crisp, who, being fifty-one years of age, and having been an actor for thirty years, is now totally blind, and has been so from the end of October, 1903. He acted up to the last, and played for two years with the vision of one eye quite gone, while that of the other was gradually going. Out of his thirty years' experience he has held engagements as follows:—With Mrs Scott Siddons, three consecutive engagements; with Miss Jennie Lee, five consecutive years; with Mrs Langtry, four consecutive years; with Mr Penley, twelve consecutive years; with Mr Willard, three tours; and as stage-manager with Mr Tree (*Captain Swift*, Company 1). This makes very nearly thirty years, and shows that he must have been reliable and steady to have secured so many re-engagements. His salaries have always been small—£3 to £4 per week—once only reaching £8, so it is not surprising that he has no savings to fall back upon. He has a slender private income derived from the rents of three small houses. The property is mortgaged, and is in the hands of the mortgagees, who work it and allow him 15s. per week. His rent for a top room in the Kennington-road is 8s. per week, and the 7s. left has to find all the necessaries for himself and his wife, and he is not in arrears with his rent. Two years ago he was six months idle on account of illness, chiefly connected with his affliction. The expenses incurred by this, added to fees paid to various doctors in the different towns he visited on tours, reduced his income and savings considerably. He has been an inmate of the Westminster and Ophthalmic Hospitals, but with no benefit, though he speaks gratefully of the kindness shown him by a certain well-known doctor, who treated him gratuitously and secured his admission into the hospitals. There is no hope of his ever seeing again. One eye is quite gone, and is replaced by an artificial one, and the other is past being operated upon. His debts are very few and small; I have a list of them. His address is 145, Kennington-road, S.E.

I have spoken about his case to Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr Pinero, Captain Marshall, Mr Alexander, Mr Bourchier, and Sir Squire Bancroft, all of whom are deeply interested in the case, and express their willingness to help him. I have every hope eventually of organising a concert for his benefit at the Queen's Hall. In the meantime may I ask for the kind consideration which you have always shown for cases of distress in our profession, and beg you to open a subscription list on his behalf, kindly putting me down for £5?

Yours faithfully, CYRIL MAUDE.

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The case of Mr Henry Crisp is too sad for words. I enclose cheque for £10 10s. (from Mr and Mrs Kendal) with only too much pleasure to so deserving a fund.

Yours faithfully, W. H. KENDAL.
North-Western Hotel, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Crisp's case is certainly a very sad one, and I am very glad to enclose my mite towards his assistance.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WYNDHAM.
Midland Hotel, Manchester, Oct. 11, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Please accept the enclosed amount (£1 17s.) as a small donation to Mr Henry Crisp's Benefit Fund in token of the great sympathy which every member of this company bears for Mr Crisp in his terrible misfortune.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.
Theatre Royal, Limerick.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you add the enclosed cheque to the fund you have opened for Mr H. Crisp? His case is, indeed, terribly sad.

Yours faithfully, SABA RALEIGH.
Grand Hotel, Middlesbrough, Oct. 26, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Sir Henry Irving asks me to send you the enclosed cheque for £5 as his donation to the Henry Crisp Fund. He sends all good wishes for its success. Yours faithfully, BRAM STOKER.
20, Bedford-street, W.C., Oct. 26, 1904.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Kendal	10	10	0
Executors David James Estate, per Edwd. Terry	10	10	0
Mr Hales	5	5	0
F. S. Willard	5	5	0
J. H. Leigh	5	5	0
H Beerbohm Tree	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Greet and E. Englebach	5	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	5	0	0
Adelaide Neilson Fund, per Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
George Alexander	5	0	0
Arthur Bourchier	5	0	0
Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	3	3	0
Edward Terry	3	3	0
Arthur W. Pinero	3	3	0
John Hare	3	0	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
A. B. and J. J. Wright	2	2	0
Henry Kemble	2	2	0
Isabel Jay	2	2	0
David Allen and Sons, Limited	2	2	0
J. D. Beveridge	2	2	0
Saba Raleigh	2	2	0
Miss Lily Brayton	2	2	0
Fredk. Mouillot	2	2	0
Lionel Brough	2	2	0
P. S. C.	2	0	0
Ellen Terry	2	0	0
R. Gilbert	2	0	0
Phyllis Broughton	2	0	0
Charlotte E. Steele	2	0	0
"Geisha" Co., per Jas. R. La Fane	2	0	0
"Money Maker" Co., per Mary Griffiths (Mrs Arthur Lyle	1	19	6
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Co., per H. J. Montague	1	5	0
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
W Payne Seddon	1	1	0
H Cecil Beryl	1	1	0
Edward Rose	1	1	0
Horace Mills	1	1	0
May Louise Cohen	1	1	0
Frank Denman Wood	1	1	0
John and Fred Coulson	1	1	0
Robert Redford	1	1	0
Frank Bateman	1	1	0
Yorke Stephens	1	1	0
J. O. Baker	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Conway Dixon	1	1	0
C. Ward	1	1	0
Susie Vaughan	1	1	0
H. Ainley	1	1	0
Constance Benson	1	1	0
Mrs Chas. Calvert	1	1	0
Marie Studholme	1	1	0
William Peacock	1	1	0
"Blimbo"	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
Will Dennis	1	1	0
Robert Pateman	1	1	0
Arthur Whittaker	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
J. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Katherine Compton	1	1	0
J. W. Nightingale	1	1	0
Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Topsy Sinden	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Ernest Stevens	1	1	0
H. W. Waddington	1	1	0
W. Johnson and Jos. Potter	1	1	0
Eva Moore Esmond	1	1	0
L Braithwaite	1	1	0
William Mollison	1	1	0
H. N. Gibson	1	1	0
H. Jalland	1	1	0
Sydney Valentine	1	1	0
Henry A. Lytton	1	1	0
Rnul'd Barrington	1	1	0
Austin Melford	1	1	0
J. W. Broughton	1	1	0
Thomas Sidney	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Chas. Rock	1	1	0
"Two Little Vagabonds" (N.) per Eric G. Merrie	1	1	0
Maude Darrell	1	0	0
Mrs J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kinghorne	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Davidson	1	0	0
E. Lawes	1	0	0
Nancy Price	1	0	0
Anonymously	1	0	0
"R. C."	1	0	0
Miss Amy Grace	1	0	0
Leonard Rayne	1	0	0
George Rayne	1	0	0
Dawson Dewick	1	0	0
R. S.	1	0	0
Julian L'Estrange	1	0	0
"Woman and Wine" Co., per F. Withers	0	15	0
J. C.	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
G. E. M	0	10	6
H. Wilkinson	0	10	6
John Worswick, sen.	0	10	6
W. Cheesman	0	10	6
E. Holman Clark	0	10	6
D. Lyn Harding	0	10	6
Chas. Elphinstone	0	10	6
M. R. Morand	0	10	6
Miss C. Ewell	0	10	6
Herbert Shelley	0	10	6
F. Merer	0	10	6

	£	s.	d.
Fred Emney	0	10	6
Will Smithson	0	10	6
J. Fisher White	0	10	6
J. F. Elliston	0	10	6
Harcourt Williams	0	10	6
"Well-wisher"	0	10	6
Milton Bode	0	10	6
Leslie Faber	0	10	6
Adolf Schmid	0	10	6
Pollie Emery	0	10	0
Louisa Gourlay	0	10	0
Mr M. Lang	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"B"	0	10	0
James Kiernan	0	10	0
Mary Brough	0	10	0
Carlotta Zerbini	0	10	0
S. A. Cookson	0	10	0
Anon	0	10	0
Maud Hildyard	0	10	0
Tom Wood	0	7	6
Frank L. Hayter	0	5	0
Mr Avrigny	0	5	0
A. and E. F. S.	0	5	0
Mr Q Ashlyn	0	5	0
Mr Robson Paige	0	5	0
Mr W. H. Garbois	0	5	0
W. H. Nottingham	0	5	0
E. Cane	0	5	0
Chas. B. Bedells	0	5	0
N. Reynolds	0	5	0

"On the Stroke of Twelve" Company. Total, 13s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Fred J. Litt'e	0	5	0
Herbert Vere	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Karl H Edwards	0	1	6

"The Dandy Doctor" Company, per Florence Smithers Mrs Owen Dacroy). Total, £1 7s. 6d.

Mr and Mrs Owen Dacroy	0	5	0
Mr and Mrs Edward Marris	0	5	0
W. N. Gilmore	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs B. Rowe	0	2	0
Misses Stewart, Leighton, A. Nicholson, and Ivison	0	2	0

"The Edge of the Storm" Company, per Mr Arthur Fitzgerald. Total, £1 6s.

Miss Marius	0	2	6
Mr Gerald Malvern	0	2	6
Miss Mackinlay	0	2	0
Miss Magrath	0	2	0
Miss Hulme	0	2	0
Mr Henry Renouf	0	2	0
Mr Fredk. Annerley	0	2	0
Mr Leon M. Lion	0	2	0

Collected by Chas. A. Chandler's "Bells of Haslemere" Company, per Powell Jones. Total, £1 6s.

Mr and Mrs Chandler	0	10	0
Mr Powell James	0	3	0
Mr and Mrs Leonard Yorke	0	2	0
Miss Polini	0	1	0
Stafford Smith	0	1	0
Green, Kidderminster	0	1	0

Mr Geo. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Total, £4 4s.

Mr Chas. Thorburn	0	5	6
Mr Frank Lawton	0	5	0
Mr Paddy Dupres	0	2	6
Mr Max Copland	0	2	6
Mr Sealy	0	2	6
Mr Selby	0	2	6
Mr C. W. Anson	0	2	6
Mr A. Linforth	0	2	6
Mr Hugh Fleming	0	2	6
Mr Harrison	0	2	6
Miss S. Lamotte	0	2	6
Miss L. Digges	0	2	6
Miss W. Browne	0	2	6
Miss M. Young	0	2	6
Mr W. Douglas	0	2	0
Miss I. Stracham	0	2	0
Miss N. Royston	0	2	0
Miss Hubert	0	2	0
Miss Anderson	0	2	0
Mr L. Hornsey	0	1	0
Mr Stembridge	0	1	0
Mr F. Freeman	0	1	0
Mr A. Watts	0	1	0
Mr P. Foster	0	1	0
Mr G. Wood	0	1	0
Mr J. Seghelloni	0	1	0
Mr E. Lietz	0	1	0
Mr Goodwin	0	1	0
Mr Cowan	0	1	0

	£	s.	d.
William Lugg	0	5	0
Leonard Pagden	0	5	0
C. D. D. C.	0	5	0
George S. Mudd	0	5	0
Edward Fenton	0	5	0
Henry Bute	0	5	0
T. F. Dunn	0	5	0
Philip Desborough	0	5	0
Cato	0	5	0
Jessie Burgwitz	0	5	0
Gwynne Herbert	0	5	0
Miss Sanderson	0	4	6
F. G. R.	0	4	0
Mrs Udale	0	3	0
Edward Coutts	0	2	6
Mr H. B. Lewis	0	2	6
H. Palmer	0	2	6
Elinor Aickin	0	2	6
Mrs Cumming	0	2	6
"A. P."	0	2	6
L. H.	0	2	6
Gwen Stewart	0	2	6
Erica Mostyn	0	2	6
Felix and Edie Pitt	0	2	6
Mrs Darley	0	2	0
Eva Young	0	1	6
Great Percy-street	0	1	0
Marguerite	0	1	0
A. R. T.	0	1	0
A. H. Row	0	1	0
"A Beginner"	0	1	0
F. S.	0	1	0

	£	s.	d.
Fred Rivers	0	1	0
Fred Guinness	0	1	0
Harry C. Robinson	0	1	0
H. Creagh Hunt	0	1	0
Miss B. St Ruth	0	1	0

Lizzie Primmer	0	1	6
James Danvers	0	1	0
James salter	0	1	0
Walter Nugent	0	1	0
Harry Louther	0	1	0
Stanley Hirst	0	1	0
Lillian Dacroy	0	1	0
Norah Melton	0	1	0
Cissie Evelyn	0	1	0
Flo Allen	0	1	0
Elsa Nicholson	0	1	0

Mr Julius Hagan	0	2	0
Mr H. Curry, jun.	0	2	0
Mr Arthur Fitzgerald	0	2	0
Mr Montagu Turner	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Cecil	0	1	0
Mr Douglas Hamilton	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Clarke	0	1	0
Mr Fred Alton	0	1	0
Mr Harry Montagu	0	1	0
Mr Ted Stone	0	1	0
Mr Bill Stephens	0	1	0

Mr Chas. A. Chandler	0	10	0
Mr Powell Jones	0	3	0
Mr and Mrs Leonard Yorke	0	2	0
Mr Chas. Clarke	0	1	0
Mr Fred Alton	0	1	0
Mr Harry Montagu	0	1	0
Mr Ted Stone	0	1	0
Mr Bill Stephens	0	1	0

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" Company, per Mrs Charles Harrington. Total, 14s. 6d.

C. Harrington, jun.	0	1	0
Sylvia Stella	0	1	0
Hero Hathaway	0	1	0
G. P. Ellis	0	1	0
J. H. Rogers	0	1	0
J. H. Renney	0	1	0
C. B. Lenton	0	1	0
F. Charles	0	1	0

W. H. Nott	0	1	0
Major Carr	0	1	0
F. Albert	0	1	0
H. Kavalla	0	0	6
Ida Fane	0	0	6
T. Miles	0	0	6
I. Bonney	0	0	6
Shorty May	0	0	6

All subscriptions sent to Edward Ledger, hon. treasurer, *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., will be duly announced in these columns.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Harry Roxbury, actor—Saturday, Nov. 12.
Daisy Murch, actress—Saturday, Nov. 12.
Ogilvy Keith—Saturday, Nov. 12.
Amy Elvira, music hall artiste—Nov. 12.
May Henderson, music hall artiste—Nov. 13.
Aida Jenoure, actress—Sunday, Nov. 13.
Herbert Standing, actor—Sunday, Nov. 13.
W. G. Eaton, musical conductor—Sun., Nov. 13.
Walter Cross, boy actor—Sunday, Nov. 13.
Tony Wilson, acrobat—Sunday, Nov. 13.
Grace Lester, actress—Monday, Nov. 14.
Emily Spiller, actress—Monday, Nov. 14.
John Cecil—Monday, Nov. 14.
Ruby Danzell—Monday, Nov. 14.
Florrie Ormonde, music hall artiste—Nov. 14.
Joe Haynes, music hall manager—Nov. 14.
Constance Stephens, actress—Tuesday, Nov. 15.
Charles Cruikshanks—Tuesday, Nov. 15.
G. B. Bigwood—Tuesday, Nov. 15.
Henry Ludlow, actor—Tuesday, Nov. 15.
Georgie Corlass, actress—Wednesday, Nov. 16.
Lucie Verrier, actress—Wednesday, Nov. 16.
Blanche Wolseley—Wednesday, Nov. 16.
Bert Bestwick, music hall artiste—Wed., Nov. 16.
Edward Lauri, actor—Thursday, Nov. 17.
Herbert Waring, actor—Thursday, Nov. 17.
Carlotta Levey, music hall artiste—Nov. 18.
W. S. Gilbert—Friday, Nov. 18.
Cissie Moxon, actress—Friday, Nov. 18.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"CHIFFON."

Comedy, in Three Acts,
by MM. René Peter and S. Danceny.
Produced at the Athénée, Nov. 4.

Le Marquis D Esterel	M. ABEL DEVAL
Saint Aigle	M. LEVESQUE
Dupont Du Mail	M. LEUBAS
Daniel De Cogé	M. SAUDOUIN
René De Saligny	M. LEFAUR
Jacques De Saligny	M. BERRY
Verçasson	M. MARIUS DAILAY
Le Potentat	M. LOUIS SAUCE
Rosette D'Esterel	Mdlle. DULUC
Suzy De Cogé	Mdlle. LOUISE BIGNON
Madame Verçasson	Madame CAUMONT
Yolande Verçasson	Mdlle. LIA SYRDET
Mrs Hogson	Mdlle. VINCOURT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, NOV. 10.—Chiffon is the name given to Rosette, a sweet young creature, married to the Marquis D'Estérel, considerably older than herself. Yet this disparity of age does not prevent them from thoroughly loving one another, when suddenly all this happiness is marred by one of those pests called "ladies' men," who look upon every woman as their personal property. A creature of that type, by name Dupont du Mail, when he is alone with Rosette kisses her on the lips at the moment the Marquis enters the room. The Marquis, convinced of his wife's guilt, will not listen to any explanations, and he resolves to return that very night to Mrs Hogson, his mistress before he married Rosette. In the ensuing act there is an explanation between husband and wife, wherein the former, convinced of his wife's innocence, is anxious to effect a reconciliation. Unfortunately, a reconciliation has become impossible, for, on the night the Marquis left Rosette, she has watched him entering Mrs Hogson's house, and, mad with rage and jealousy, she has avenged herself by giving herself to her husband's secretary, and these two people, although loving one another deeply, will be separated for ever. An unpleasant ending to a rather unpleasant play. The acting was fairly good. Mdlle. Duluc certainly distinguished herself in the rôle of Rosette, and made it singularly attractive. M. Levesque, too, scored a genuine success as the Secretary whom Rosette had chosen as the instrument of her revenge. M. Deval, however, did not feel quite at his ease in the rôle of the Marquis, and the remainder of the cast do not call for special comment.

"L'ESCALADE.

Comedy, in Four Acts and Five Tableaux,
by M. Maurice Donnay.
Produced at the Renaissance, Nov. 5.

Guillaume Soindres	M. LUCIEN GUITRY
Gaston De Boisdugand	M. GUY
Le Testard	M. ARQUILLIÈRE
Minkjer	M. NOIZEUX
Galbaud	M. COQUET
Collette	M. CANDOL
Cécile De Gerberoy	Mdlle MARTHE BRANDÈS
Madame Lampervier	Madame DARC

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 11.)

PAISLEY.

Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—Mr Frank Bertram and company are presenting *The Convict's Daughter* here. Mr Bertram is seen to the greatest advantage as Michael Graham, the impressive force of his embodiment being wholly admirable. Mr J. K. Walton displays considerable ability as Frederick Neville; Mr G. Moreton-Williams enacts the conventional villain, Jasper Thorn, in thoroughly characteristic style; as Harold Trevelyan Mr T. W. Hurst contributes a capital portrayal; and Mr Alfred Terris fills the rôle of Patrick O'Laragan in an amusingly eccentric manner. Miss Edith M. Savery submits a capable and intelligent presentation of Edith; Marion Thorn is creditably enacted by Miss Maud Osmond; and Miss Julie Alexander makes a pert Betty Hyne.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—A company of exceptional merit is engaged here this week, and includes the Great Cinizelli, in a quaint eccentric acrobatic speciality; Darring, handcuff expert; Cissie Arris, serio and dancer; Charles Rae, Scottish comedian and dancer; and Baker and Rose, in a capital sketch. The Empire Cinématograph submits a new series of pictures.

PLYMOUTH.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—Miss Olga Nethersole and company are giving a fine representation of *Sapho* here this week. Miss Nethersole's acting as the heroine is guided by intelligence and feeling, and in the part of Fanny Miss Cecil Cromwell is bright and versatile. Jean has a clever exponent in Mr Arthur Royston. Uncle Cesaire is played by Mr Harry Dodd in clever fashion, and credit is due to Mr Arthur Poole, Mr Frank Melrose, Miss Isabel Derrie, Miss Gertrude Wynter, and Miss Jessie Melville for their share in the representation.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—Under the management of Mr and Mrs William Giffard *The World's Desire*, an attractive melodrama, is being staged here this week. It is a stirring play, many of the situations being novel and highly realistic. Mr and Mrs Giffard sustain important parts with consummate ability, and their efforts are ably seconded by experienced and capable artists, notably Mr George Childs as Nathaniel Mutley.

Palace of Varieties.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Manager, Mr J. Field.—An excellent show this week is attracting big houses. Retained from last week Fred Karno's comedians are responsible for much fun in *Mumming Birds*. Enthusiasm is evoked by the juggling feats of the Avrignys, and the up-to-date songs of Harry Freeman are well liked. A very amusing turn is that provided by Spry and Austen, and the realistic impersonations of famous artists by Miss Florence deserve warm commendation. A burlesque act by Howard and St. Clair proves very entertaining, and the ventriloquial sketch submitted by Thornbury is as enjoyable as his quick painting. Daring gymnastic evolutions by Maretti and Alice are well worth seeing.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. Carlton.—The military drama *Dishonoured* is the attraction here this week. The play, a very interesting one, is well staged. Mr Percy Ballard portrays the hero with ability, and in the double rôle of Azeemah and Leslie Maynard Miss Florence Creagh acquits herself well. Others who merit notice are Mr Fred Lloyd, Mr F. Fuller, Mr S. Palfrey, Mr H. Buckley, Mr C. Morand, and Miss V. Cranford.

PONTYPRIDD.

Royal Clarence Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—Miss Winifred Chalmers's strong company is here this week in *A Woman's Revenge*. Great interest is centred in the able rendition of Frank Drummond by Mr Henry L. Osmond; Mr W. Carridon admirably portrays the villainous Robert Overstone; Mr Elmore Frith displays great ability as Jephtha Grimwade; Mr Herbert Woodin causes roars of laughter as Dick Chilton; Miss Winifred Chalmers's Mary Lonsdale stirs the hearts of her audience; Miss Madge Palmer is a great favourite as Lottie Bromley; Miss Maude Yorke's assumption of the adventuress is excellent; Miss Lilian Sellman deserves praise as Maggie Westwood; and Little Doris Cooke as Little Mary does credit to her excellent tuition.

PORTH.

Poole's Opera House.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—Mr Fred Bulmer and his company presented on Monday the melodrama entitled *Sentenced for Life*. Mr E. D. Allen does remarkably well as Sir Wallace Stillwell; Mr Ernest Vaughan gives an excellent account of the villain, Captain Paul Derrick, his rendering being very powerful; Mr Harry Lloyd displays much ability as the hero, Lieut. Roy Stillwell; Mr Charles Whitlock capitally portrays the Rev. Martin Orris; Lady Stillwell has a very good representative in Miss Mary Dalby; Mr Dan Agar as Percy M'Gentle and Miss Madge Douglas as Kate Rennel are enthusiastically received; Miss Georgina V. France ably fills the part of Adele Gray; and Mr A. Marchant as Bill Sharkey and Mr Edward Finley as Toby keep the house in good humour as the two convicts.

PORTSMOUTH.

Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—*Little Mary* is paying us a visit this week, and a hearty welcome is being given to Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's capable company. The play is delightfully mounted, and the presentation is most thorough. Miss Christine Silver gives a charming rendering of Moira Loney, quite captivating the audience by her artless manner; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is convincing as the Countess of Plumleigh; Lady Milly is cleverly portrayed by Miss Evelyn Neillda; and Eleanor Gray is ably acted by Miss Gwendolen Richmond. The Earl of Carlton of Mr Arthur Holmes Gore is a very finished performance; Mr Arthur Kightley as Lord Rolfe is decidedly good; Mr A. W. Baskcomb in the dual-part of Terence Reilly and the Earl of Plumleigh is a success; and Mr George Mudie is a very capital representative of Sir Jennings Pyke. The curtain-raiser is *The Bugle Call*.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—Mr E. Hill Mitchelson's company is appearing here this week in the Russian drama *The Assassin*. Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson enacts the part of Prince Demetri in a vigorous and capable manner; Mr John C. Carlyle as Ivan Spanoff is well suited to his part; Mr Theo. Balfour makes the most of Duke Karl; and the General Nicholai of Mr Athur M'Culloch is excellent. Miss Ruth Sheppard as the Countess Wanda (the Assassin) is admirable; Miss Grace Aimers plays sympathetically as Nita; and Miss Katherine Vere as Katrina, Mr Paul Beckett as Evangie, and Mr Fred Yarnold as Peter are responsible for the comic relief.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The principal item at this house for the week is the Caledonian Boys' orchestra, a pleasing and entertaining turn. Bennett and Martell create merriment in their crazy comedy act; Barney Vox, singing ventriloquist, is another very good turn; Ryder Slone, vocal comedian, sings some capital songs; the M'Connell Trio, in *A Musical Mistake*, are well received; Paynes's Photo-Bioscope has some new pictures; and Eily Adair, soubrette and danseuse; Bella Harcourt, refined comedienne; James Dubois, monkey impersonator; and Arthur Stacey, eccentric comedian and dancer, also entertain.

PERTH.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Assistant-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr Frank Curzon's company in *Glittering Gloria* is drawing full houses here this week. Mr John Campbell in the rôle of Jack James, of the Stock Exchange, and Mr Stanley Arthur as Archie Toodleby are highly entertaining. Mr Haughton Macaulay creates considerable amusement as Zebedee Posket; Mr J. Worldley Hulse is an ideal impersonation of the gallant Colonel Pasquali Gallegher from El Paso; and Mr Gerald Clark as Algernon Entwistle elicits unrestrained merriment. Messrs F. Bentley and Percy Dinzar are commendable as Samuel Slapton and Robert Shreve, the Bond-street Jewellers; and Mr Charles Williams achieves considerable success as Mr Griddletop. Miss Stanley Ronalds is responsible for a clever impersonation of Glittering Gloria; and Miss Lillian Williams and Miss Peggy Harrington also distinguish themselves. The old farce, *Perfection*, is played as a curtain-raiser.

PRESTON.

Theatre Royal.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—The boards are occupied here by Mr John Leopold's company in an up-to-date version of the popular farcical comedy *Frivolity*. Mr John Gerant gives a very amusing impersonation of Oliver Buckwheat; Mr Wilfred Vaughan does well as Jules Vermiglio; and Mr Bert Lloyd works hard and successfully as Samuel Vermiglio. Daniel Teething has a praiseworthy representative in Mr John Leopold, jun., who with Miss Amy Hall (Lucy Buckwheat) introduces the coon song and dance "My Dixie Queen" to the great enjoyment of the audience. Mr Tony Leopold is a diverting Professor Fumble, and Mr Willie Leopold a lively Tickle. Miss Ruby Wyndham capably fills the rôle of Madame Cobweb. Miss Vera Violata (Vinnie Moore), Miss Mona Hall (Maud), and Miss Queenie Bronte (Nanette) commendably sustain their respective parts.

Prince's Theatre.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—There is a vaudeville company here this week. Mr Tom M'Inerney gives an exciting display of wrestling in the catch-as-catch-can style; the Marblesque Trio contribute some classical statuary tableaux; Mr H. O. Wills is encored for his humorous songs; Mr W. Walker, ball-puncher, goes through a clever performance; the Waldrons (Joe and Hetty) cause roars of laughter with their songs and patter; Dwight and Son are clever mimics and clog-dancers; the Two Eltons are expert acrobatic knockabout comedians; Lily Turner is a charming vocalist; Miss Fredrica's performing dogs and pony are well trained; Mr Tom Owen, the Welsh comedian, is exceedingly funny; and the Brothers Attilla excel in their gladiatorial feats of strength and skill.

RAWTENSTALL.

Grand Theatre.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—Mr Stanley S. Gordon's company opened here on Monday with the romantic drama *For the Woman He Loves*. Mr Stanley S. Gordon gave a manly interpretation of Philip Meredith. The part of the villain, Silas Bradley, was well sustained by Mr Wilfred Protheroe. As James Stilton Mr Harry C. Momber was exceptionally good, and had an able partner in Miss Sallie Adelstone as Bessie Bramble. Miss Nina Vaughton as Miss Mary gave a powerful portraiture; Miss Eva Lyndhurst was good as the scheming but warm-hearted adventuress, Virginie; and Miss Marjorie Simcox as Evie proved herself a promising young actress.

READING.

Royal County Theatre.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—Mr George Dance's principal company is appearing in *The Orchid*, this being its first visit here. All the parts are in capable hands, and a full chorus do ample justice to the concerted music. Mr Bertie Wright plays the part of Meakin, the gardener, in the most diverting way; Mr Ernest Darrell gives a characteristic rendering of the part of Mr Chesterton, the Minister of Commerce; Mr G. Davy Burnaby causes much amusement as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour; Mr Edmund Hollick is capital as the Doctor; Mr Edmund Page is droll as the fire-eating French Count; Mr Arthur P. Hemsley works hard as Zaccary, the orchid hunter; Miss Ethel Bryant as Lady Violet Anstruther acts and sings very effectively; Miss Mabel Sealby is an attractive Josephine Zaccary; and Miss Poppy Wilkinson, a vivacious Thisbe. Miss Madge Lucas makes a "massive" Caroline Vokins, and her singing is much appreciated; and Miss Eve Melville is excellent as Zelie Rumbert. A well-attended matinée was given on Wednesday.

ROCHDALE.

New Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*The Silver King* is here again, and continues its run of popularity. Mr Lauderdale Maitland gives a fine impersonation of Wilfred Denver. Nellie Denver is played with womanly feeling by Miss Lilian Bethell. Mr Edward J. George again fills the part of Jaikes with his accustomed success. Miss Violet St. Clair makes a winsome Cissie Denver. Mr W. V. Garrod cleverly portrays the Spider, and is ably supported by Mr Arthur Wright as Elijah Coombe. Miss Lorna Treherne is well placed as Olive Skinner, and Miss Sinna St. Clair is amusing as Tabitha.

Circus of Varieties and Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—Manager Lee continues to supply the patrons here with capital fare. Little Dando, eccentric comedian, creates roars of laughter with his dancing and singing. Clark and Argyle, dancers and pipers, submit an interesting exhibition of international dances. Hughes' Electrograph shows some capital animated pictures. Sid Bandon, character comedian; Brothers Levette, chair vaulters; Robert Grieve, ventriloquist; Hill, Barry, and Lang, knockabout sketch artistes; and the Selbini Troupe of acrobats complete a strong programme.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—Mysterious Lilith mystifies the audiences here with her performances in mid-air whilst in a hypnotic trance. Les Bollingers submit a novel and pleasing turn of making pictures with rags. Gus Hindell, comedian; Flo Wood, serio ballad vocalist; Kydd and Kydd, comedians, &c.; Lilian Warren, in vocal pictures; Fred Harcourt, modern magician; and the Empire Bioscope, with interesting animated pictures, furnish a most enjoyable entertainment.

RUGBY.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing Director, Mr A. F. Cross.—Messrs Payne Seddon and Charles Madona's company was here for three nights with *Are You a Mason?* Mr Edward Thirlby was excellent in the character of Amos Bloodgood, and as Frank Perry Mr Arthur Claremont acted with ability and humour. Mr William Pringle as George Fisher merited high praise, and in his impersonation of Fanchon he displayed talent of high order. Mr David Denard was good as John Halton, and Mr George De Lara as Hamilton Travers gave a representation replete with wit, and contributed very materially to the success of the piece. Mr Stanley Bell was good as Ernest Morrison. Miss Constance Groves gave an excellent and artistic impersonation of Mrs Caroline Bloodgood, and Miss Leila Russell as Mrs Perry was charming and effective. Miss Jennie Levens as Annie and Mrs Pearl Keats as Lulu were both well suited, and Miss Nell Douglas was effective and amusing as Lottie. As Mrs Halton Miss Lilian Elen was good, and Miss Wilson as Fanchon Armitage also did well.

ROTHERHAM.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—The special attraction for the Statutes Fair week is being provided here by Messrs Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin's company with the powerful and interesting drama *The Best Must Win*. Mr Robert Watson is a manly Paul Dumaresq, and Mr Charles Draycott ably portrays the part of Gaston Marquis De Marcel, alias the Panther; Mr Oliver J. Round is successful as Juan Minos, and Mr Harry Harrop scores as Jacques Courcel; Mr Fred Aldworth is also deserving of mention as Sabretache; Miss Maud Elliston is seen to advantage in the unpalatable rôle of Lucille La Fouche, and Miss Dorothy Elliston is a sprightly Suzette; Miss Violet Ospringe gives a correct rendering of the part of Therese Dumaresq, and Miss Lilian Watson Loyde is pleasing and sympathetic in the difficult rôle of Denise Dumaresq.

RUNCORN.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—After a very short interval Mr Coleman Davies reappeared with his talented company in a number of plays entitled *No Escape*, *The Unknown*, and *The Streets of London*. The first-mentioned was staged on Monday. Mr Coleman Davies was very much at home as Constable O'Grady; Mr M. Stanton undertook the dual-rôle of Geoffrey and Arthur Arlington with pronounced success; Mr V. Bracking displayed marked ability as Horace Hardcastle; Mr Bob Astley did well as Sampson Slowman; Mr E. Meehan was satisfactory as Jabez Guzzel; and Miss May Neilson as Molly Muggs was responsible for some able comedy work. Miss Eunice Udall delighted the house by her excellent acting as Ethel Arlington, and Miss Marie Douglas was well placed as Betty Guzzel.

SALFORD.

Prince of Wales's.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—The American-Indian actress, Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, with her American company, is again paying a welcome visit in the picturesque sensational drama, *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, the title-rôle of which she sustains in pleasing style. Manuel Lopes as Spanish Joe, the desperado, is well sustained by Mr R. Thorne; Mr C. W. Charles as Colonel Stockton and Miss Minnie Goepel as the Colonel's daughter are well placed; Mr George Courtney as Captain Franklin and Mr Theo. Alker as Chief Gar-Ne-Gua take their parts in fine style.

Regent Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—As usual the management is fully alive to what their patrons appreciate, and the result is crowded houses at each performance. *High Jinks*, by Mr Tiller's large company, is very funny indeed; the De Breans in their entertainment are well received; the Walters, Chinese equilibrists, are very good; Harris and Worth, talking and singing comedians, cause a lot of laughter; David Toole, impersonator, is popular; and Mr J. H. Scotland, baritone; the Phillipi Brothers, in smart balancing; and Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, society entertainers, are also in the bill. The pictures conclude a good night's entertainment.

Royal Hippodrome.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—A good programme is provided here. Shawlene, the whistler, is well received; the Shaffers, gladiatorial artists, are very good; Zasma, in gymnastics on the lawn, causes some fun; Hicks's Clerks and Little Peter provoke merriment; Calso comes in for applause in his mimicry; the Durant Brothers are very good in their trapeze entertainment; Johnson is an expert dancer; Smith and Johnson are clever coloured duettists; Davis and Davis are very smart; and the Sisters Kilner, dancers; the Freans, patter artists; and some comical pictures bring a good night's entertainment to a close.

SHEERNESS.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr P. Reymond.—An excellent all-round company here includes the Calden Combination in the dramatic sketch *Our Foreign Foes*, in which they are eminently successful. Among the variety turns Miss Louie Hurman, burlesque actress, is exceedingly popular. Mr Jack Foley, eccentric comedian, is also well received. Miss Maggie Marston, ballad vocalist, sings in pleasing style, and Oak and Ash, patter comedians, are also amusing. The programme concludes with the laughable farce, *A Husband's Dilemma*.

SHEFFIELD.

Theatre Royal.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—The boards are occupied this week by the Norfolk Dramatic Society in *Lady Huntworth's Experiment* and *The Magistrate*. The performances are for the benefit of the hospitals.

Lyceum Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—The continued popularity of the drama of romance was again demonstrated on Monday, when a large audience received with abundant signs of appreciation the picturesque eighteenth century play *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. The scenery was artistic, the costumes were correct, and the characters were all acted in the proper spirit of the members of Mr Lewis Waller's company. As Captain Peyton Mr Thomas Kingston looked a picturesque hero, and acted in a gallant and manly fashion. Miss Elly Malyon made a graceful and interesting Elizabeth; Mr Hilliard Vox was firm as John Calden; and Miss Alys Rees; and Mr George Mallett were both admirable in important rôles.

Alexandra Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—A drama that does honour to Mr Arthur Shirley's inventive faculty and facile pen is *The Midnight Mail*, which was again played to a large house on Monday by Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company. Mr George Harvard cleverly depicted the various stages in the career of Harry Steyne. As the long-suffering wife, Mary Steyne, Miss Ada Oakley was sincere and thoroughly convincing. The despicable character of the crafty tempter, Billy Brewer, was excellently portrayed by Mr Fred G. Evison, a good character actor. Mr Alec Alves was successful as Leonard Royal, and the villainous Hassan was painted in bold colours by Mr Arthur Gilroy. Mr Charles M'Cann earned the good will of the audience by his acting as Donald Craig, and Mr Entwistle did well as Thornleigh.

Empire Palace.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The *pièce de résistance* at the Empire this week is the clever and exciting "one man" sketch *Dick Turpin*, which is admirably represented by Mr R. A. Roberts. The Three Sisters Sprightly do a smart and amusing vocal and Terpsichorean act. Griff continues to cause great hilarity with his funny patter and original business. M. Jan Rudenyl is a cultured violinist, and other well-known and skilled performers are the Bros. Webb, musical drolls; Harry Bickley, comic lecturer and vocalist; the Densmores, sketch artistes; Ambrose Thorne, comedian; the Bros. Obo, comic duettists; Harry Hayton, comedian; and the Haytors, in their interlude *A Hot Time*.

Grand Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—"If patriotic sentiments be wanting" Mr F. V. St. Clair is just the man to meet the demand, and on Monday he again in his breezy and emphatic manner voiced the opinion of the average sturdy Briton. Lady Mansell, with her intelligent little assistants, submit a pleasing sketch, and other good turns are Hart and Rudd, eccentric comedians and dancers; and Lily Sharplin, vocal comedienne. Good business is still the rule.

Continued on Page 27

ON THE ROAD, NOV. 14.

Actor's Romance.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
Amorelle.—Theatre Royal, Brighton.
Amorelle (N.).—Opera House, Burnley.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona)—Chesterfield.
As Midnight Chimes.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Assassin—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.—Muncaster T., Bootle.
Beautiful Avenger—P.O.W.T., Southampton.
Beautiful Fiend—Cradley Heath.
Belle of New York.—Royalty T., Glasgow.
Bells of Haslemere.—Grand Theatre, Margate.
Benson, Mr F. R. (A).—O. H., Leicester.
Benson, Mr F. R. (B).—Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.
Best Must Win.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.
Bid for Fortune—Theatre Royal, Colchester.
Biggest Scamp on Earth—A. T., Brighouse.
Broken Melody.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
Bulmer, Mr.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
Carl Rosa.—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
Chinese Honeymoon (M.)—O. H., Coventry.
Chinese Honeymoon (N.).—Alexandra T., N.
Chinese Honeymoon (S.)—Deptford.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona) (S.).—Dorchester.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona) N.).—Ripon.
Convict's Daughter—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
Country Girl (Dance) (M.)—R. T., Chester.
Country Girl (Dance) (N.).—G. T., Hull.
Country Girl (Dance) (S.).—C. T., Kingston.
Country Girl (Macdona) (N.).—Lancaster.
Country Girl (Macdona) (S.).—Oswestry.
Country Mouse (N.).—Aberdeen.
Cousin Kate (S.).—Cardiff.
Dandy Doctor.—Palace Theatre, Newcastle.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—T. R., Greenock.
Darling of the Gods (N.).—Coronet Theatre, W.
Darling of the Gods (S.).—G. T., Woolwich.
Disgrace to Her Sex.—W. London Theatre, W.
Dishonoured.—Cadoxton.
D'Oyly Carte.—H. M. T., Dundee.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—P.O.W.T., Richmond.
Duchess of Dantzic.—C. T., Liverpool.
Duke of Killicrankie.—T. R., Middlesbrough.
Executioner's Daughter.—Attercliffe.
Fairy's Dilemma.—Opera House, Southport.
Fatal Crown.—Leith.
Fatal Fortune.—Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.
Fatal Wedding (M.).—T. R., Darwen.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—S. T., Liverpool.
Fight for Millions.—T. R., Stratford.
Frivolity.—Opera House, Workington.
Gay Parisienne (Macdona).—Peterborough.
Geisha.—Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.
Gipsy Jack and Mafeking.—T. R., Castleford.
Girl from Japan.—T. R., Windsor.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—P. O. W., Birmingham.
Girl from Kay's (S.).—T. R., Barnsley.
Girl's Cross Roads (Bruce).—Q. T., Longton.
Girl's Cross Roads (Melville).—A. T., Sheffield.
Golden Ladder.—Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.
Greek Slave.—Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.
Grip of Iron.—Royal Theatre, Bilston.
Harvest of Sin.—Seaham Harbour.
Harvey, Mr. Martin.—T. R., Dublin.
Henry Neville.—Clapham.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—G. T., Brighton.
Her One Great Sin.—Grand T., Plymouth.
Honour Thy Father—T. R., Scarborough.
Hot Night.—Met. Theatre, Birkenhead.
I Defy the World.—T. R., Bury.
In Dahomey.—Q. T., Manchester.
Indian Mutiny.—Opera House, Merthyr.
Irving, Henry—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
Joseph Entangled.—T. R., Nottingham.
Kendal, Mr and Mrs.—T. R., Manchester.
King of Crime.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
La Comédie Anglaise.—Bedminster.
Lady of Ostend.—Century Theatre, Motherwell.
Lady Slavey (Greet).—Opera House, Torquay.
Laughter-Land—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
Les Cloches de Corneville.—King's Lynn.
Letty.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
Life's Revenge.—King's Theatre, Nottingham.
Lights o' London.—Opera House, Southport.
Lightning's Flash.—T. R., Ton-y-Pandy.
Little Coquette.—P. O. W. T., Mexborough.
Little Mary.—Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.
London Actress—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
London Fireman.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
Lucky Durham.—Buxton.
Man to Man.—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
Manxman.—Theatre Royal, Batley.
Marriage of Kitty.—T. R., Gloucester.
Midnight Mail.—Opera House, St. Helens.
Modern Judas—P. O. W. Theatre, Grimsby.
Money-Makers (N.).—Oxford.
Monsieur Beaucaire.—T. R., Aldershot.
Moody-Manners (A)—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
Moody-Manners (C).—Leven.
My Lady Molly (Red).—T. T., Newcastle.
My Lady Molly (White).—G. T., Woolwich.
Napoleon the Great.—Q. T., Keighley.
New East Lynne.—Whitevale T., Glasgow.
New Mephisto.—Opera House, Perth.
One of the Family.—New Theatre, Stanley.
On the Stroke of 12 0.—Portsmouth.
Orchid (Edwardes)—L. T., Edinburgh.
Orchid (S.).—Theatre Royal, Bath.
Path of Thorns.—P. G. Theatre, Folkestone.
Peggy Macgree.—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
Prince of Rogues.—Paisley.
Private Secretary.—P.O.W.T., Liverpool.
Proof.—Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
Quality Street (Bright).—G. T., Norwich.
Quality Street (Frohman).—T. R., Bradford.
Richard Lovelace.—G. T., Hastings.
Royal Divorce (Kelly) (S.).—Southampton.
Royal Revenge (Clyndes)—Colosseum, Oldham.
Sapho.—H. M. Theatre, Walsall.
Sapho (Annie Bell).—Theatre Royal, Grantham.
Saturday to Monday (N.).—Ealing.
Scarlet Woman.—Grand Theatre, Boscombe.
School Girl (S.).—Northampton.
Sherlock Holmes.—Olympia, Newcastle.
Sign of the Cross.—Prince's T., Bradford.
Silver King (N.).—Grand Theatre, Halifax.
Silver King (S.).—Crystal Palace, S.E.
Sin of Her Childhood.—M. T., Devonport.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, York.
Sunday (N.).—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
Sunday (S.).—G. T., Wolverhampton.
Swiss Express.—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Tearle, Osmond.—H. M. O. H., Blackpool.
Terry, Ellen.—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Terry, Edward.—Opera House, Cork.
Three Little Maids (S.).—Lincoln.
Three Little Maids (1).—Portsmouth.
Tommy Atkins.—Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.
Traitor.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Traitor Prince.—Opera House, Radcliffe.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Pontypridd.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—T. R., Chatham.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.).—A. T., Widnes.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Stockport.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Tully)—Leamington.
Under the Russian Flag.—Q. T., Dublin.
Under Two Flags—County Theatre, Reading.
Victim of Villainy.—T. R., West Bromwich.
Village Blacksmith.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Waller, Mrs Lewis.—Crown T., Peckham.
Warner, Grace.—Shrewsbury.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Lyceum T., Govan.
When London Sleeps.—T. R., Smethwick.
Why Men Love Women.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
Willard, Mr. E. S.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Woman and Wine.—Brixton Theatre, S.W.
Woman's Pluck.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
World's Desire—A. T., Dudley Port.
10 30 Down Express.—Theatre Royal, Rugby.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Mather.—Nov. 10, at Cragside, Wallasey, Cheshire, to Harold and May Mather (née Belcham), a daughter.

Smith—Monday, Nov. 7, wife of Lieut. C. T. Smith (professionally known as Miniature Marie) of a fine boy. Both doing well.

DEATHS.

Bush.—Fred Bush (of Bush and Bushell), Nov. 15, 1903. Ever missed by his wife, Sadie Bush, and his son, Harry.

Cathie.—Nov. 7, at Margate, after seven months' intense suffering, Nina, aged twenty, the beloved wife of Leslie Roy Cathie, of 37, Abercornplace, N.W.

Cryer.—In loving memory of my dear mother, Mary Cryer, who died on Nov. 5, and was interred at Bowling Cemetery, Bradford, on Nov. 9.—Sam Cryer, Musical Director, Bradford.

Edmunda.—Nov. 7, Professor Edmunds, singing ventriloquist.

Florene.—Nov. 4, at Guildford Hospital, after a long illness, Nellie, wife of Little Florene, comedian. Buried at Aldershot, Nov. 9.

M'Kenzie.—Thursday, Nov. 3, at Stonehouse, Plymouth, the beloved mother of May M'Kenzie. Never forgotten.

Scudamore.—Nov. 1, at his residence, 8, Castlenau-mansions, Barnes, suddenly, Fortunatus Augustine Scudamore (Frank A. Scudamore), dramatist and actor, aged fifty-eight.

Wooton.—Nov. 5, at 142, Leicester-street, Wolverhampton, Douglas Frank, only son of Frank and Mabel Wooton, aged nine months.

In Memoriam.

Allen.—In loving memory of Thomas Allen (equestrian), who died Nov. 6, 1898. Never forgotten.

Haslem.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Bert Haslem, who passed peacefully away at the Phœnix Hotel, Colesburg, Cape Colony, on Nov. 11, 1903. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife, Katie Leechman.

Though lost to sight, to memory dear
Thou ever wilt remain;
This only hope my heart can cheer,
The hope to meet again.

Haslem.—In loving memory of my dear brother Bert, who died in South Africa, Nov. 11, 1903.—C. W.

Howard.—In loving and affectionate memory of our dear and beloved mother, Sarah Martin Howard, who passed peacefully away on Oct. 2, 1901, at the age of seventy-four. Deeply mourned by her eldest son, Thomas Martin Howard, and her granddaughter, Lilly Louis M. Howard (who are now in South Africa), also Andrew Martin Howard, and James Martin Howard (who are now in New Zealand), all of the marvellous Howard Family. God rest her soul.

ROYAL CHORAL SOCIETY.

The thirty-fourth season of the Royal Choral Society commenced on Thursday at the Albert Hall with Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah*, the only work of the kind that approaches closely to the masterpieces of the immortal Handel. The band and chorus were on the accustomed scale, numbering 1,000 vocalists and instrumentalists, conducted by Sir Frederick Bridge, while Mr Balfour presided at the organ with his usual efficiency. Eight sacred concerts are to be given during the season, and from the splendid results of the opening concert there is every reason to suppose that the high standard reached by the Royal Choral Society will be maintained. Miss Suzanne Adams was unable to appear owing to a severe hoarseness, but Madame Emily Squire filled her place adequately, being familiar with the music. Miss Ada Crossley was the contralto, Mr John Harrison the tenor, and Mr Dalton Baker undertook the exacting music of the Prophet, we believe for the first time. He succeeded remarkably well, owing to the beautiful quality of his voice and his artistic style. Mr Harrison was not quite so fortunate in the tenor solos, but Miss Ada Crossley was exquisite, as usual. The secondary parts were well sustained, and the effect of the whole performance was magnificent. In the course of the season *The Childhood of Christ*, by Berlioz; *The Witch's Daughter*, by Mackenzie; and Dr. Elgar's *Apostles* will be given.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

BY A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (LOND.), SOLICITOR.

Your book will, I am sure, be a valuable aid to all managers and actors.—Sir Henry Irving, March 3d, 1898.

Will be of great service.—Charles Wyndham, March 1st, 1898.

Mr A. A. Strong has compiled an exceedingly useful volume dealing carefully, intelligently, and fully with the law bearing upon things theatrical. As a book of reference this excellent digest will be found invaluable.—*The Era*, March 5th, 1898.

Very useful.—*Sporting Life*, March 4th.

Mr Strong states the whole case very clearly.—*Illustrated London News*, March 19th.

Furnishes useful information.—*Daily News*, March 11th.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its page, they may avoid much misapprehension and troubles.—*Star*, March 9th.

Should be of great value. An ably compiled digest of the law relating to the theatrical profession generally.—*Daily Mail*, March 11th, 1898.

Should prove perfectly invaluable.—*Weekly Sun*, March 20th.

Clearly set out, concise, and altogether comprehensible.—*Pall Mall Gazette*, March 19th.

At the New Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, Mr and Mrs Chalmers Mackey's company occupied the theatre on the first three nights of this week in *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr C. Mackey as Barney O'Hea acted with rollicking spirit, and had admirable support from Mr Reginald Garland, who made a capital Shamus M'Dermott. Mr Reuben Tayne as Michael Kenny was appropriately villainous; Mr Conway Hastings as Sheriff Martin did exceedingly well; and Miss Adele Liddon as Mrs Macdermott and Miss Nellie De Lacy as Nora M'Grath played exceptionally well.

Mr and Mrs Harry Scott (son of George Scott, of the Alhambra) have been especially engaged to play Tom and Isabel, in Ethel Arden's and George Abel's well-known sketch *Three of a Kind*.

Presentation.—Mr William Smith, property master, *Fatal Wedding* (North) Co., was on Saturday last presented by Miss Gwynn Herbert, on behalf of the entire company, with a well-lined purse in appreciation of his courteous conduct throughout the tour.

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. THOMPSON.—*There might be two scenes, but th arrangement would probably prove inconvenient in working*

J. T. S.—*We do not give the ages of members of the profession.*

B. DAVIS.—*(1) See reply to J. T. S. (2) We cannot say.*

G H. F.—*In Mr Tree's revival of* The Merry Wives of Wind-or *(June 1902) Pistol was played by Julian L'Estrange; Nym S A Cookson; Robin, Master Vyvyan Thomas; Simple, O. B Clarence; and Rugby, Frank Stanmore.*

BAYSWATER.—*The play entitled* Villon, Poet and Cutthroat, *was produced in London at the Royalty on June 28 1894 It was originally produced at the Grand Birmingham, in the previous April*

H. F.—Pepita, *comic opera in three acts, libretto by MM. Chivot and Duru adapted by "Mostyn Tedde" from* La Princesse des Canaries *was first produced in England at the Court, Liverpool, Dec 30, 1886; first time in London at Toole's Aug 30, 1888*

W. F. G.—*Twenty-one clear days' notice is necessary. The cost is trivial.*

CAMBERWELL.—*(1) The first London production of* Trilby *(Mr Tree's version) was at the Haymarket, Oct 30, 1895. Trilby was revived at Her Majesty's, June 7, 1897 (2) The burlesque entitled* A Model Trilby, *was produced at the Opera Comique, Nov. 16, 1895.*

RICARDO.—Julius Cæsar. *act two, scene one.*

A. N. T.—The Dandy Fifth, *English military comic opera by George R Sims, music by Clarence Corri, was produced at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, April 11, 1898, and was brought to the Duke of York's, London, Aug. 16, 1898.*

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AT the Grand, Douglas, on the 2nd inst., was given for copyright purposes a production of *The Prodigal Son*, a drama by Hall Caine, founded on his novel of the same name.

AFTER the closing performance of *Driven from Home* on Saturday evening last at the Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, a number of local friends gathered in the circle bar to wish Mr John M. Dawson, the co-proprietor of the company and a former manager of the theatre, success in the future. The opportunity was taken to present Mr Dawson with a solid plain gold ring as a slight token of how his old friends in Wednesbury remembered him. Mr Sydney Webb, a well-known local gentleman, made the presentation on behalf of the subscribers, and paid a high tribute to Mr Dawson's ability as a manager. Mr Macduff followed, and in eulogistic terms related how Mr Dawson had endeared himself to local playgoers, and wished Mr and Mrs Dawson every success in the future. Mr Dawson returned thanks in a few well-chosen words.

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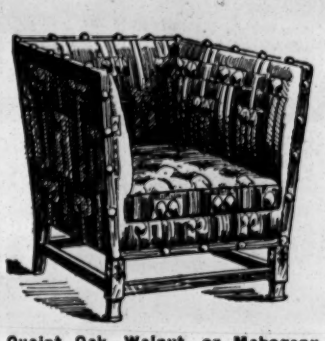

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Nov. 21, "My Sweetheart."

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Doors open 6 45; commence 7 0. Early Door, 6 30.
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Nov. 14, and during the Week, Nelson's Newsboys Quintette, Alice Pierce, Florrie Forde, Cliff Ryland, Eight Lancashire Lads, Brothers Borne, Katie Cohen, Lily Adair, Viviana, Belle Braham, Ben Albert, Fred Russell, with Coster Joe; Charles Austin, Sussi and Frotti, Clyo and Rochelle, Dan Thomas, Philip Sefton, Edson and Dog, M'Connell Trio, Rich and Rich, Alix Lukos. Telephone, 206, Kensington. General Manager, Mr JESSE SPARROW; Acting-Manager, Mr E. Bridgen.
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Rehearsal on Monday, at 6 0 o'clock. Musical Director, Mr I. W. Baker. Manager, Mr Tom Tinsley.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.—
Proprietor, J. C. COE.— Monday, Nov. 14th, 1904, and during the week. One Performance Nightly. George Robey, Arthur Lloyd Trio, Zanfretta and Napio, Ada Cerito, Lottie Siegenberg, G. H. Elliott, the Chocolate-Coloured Coon; Marguerite Broadfoote, Queenie May, Little Ganty, Teviot Dale, Brown and Kelly Combination, Dan Crawley, Pat Carey, Mueller and Coyne, Florrie Gallimore, Edisonograph (including Dan Leno's Funeral), Fielding and Hull, Tom Foy and Company, "The Yorkshire Lad in London." Telephone, 106, Hammersmith.
Acting-Manager, Lewis Vincent.

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(Facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. S. DUKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, Nov. 14, the Collinson Combination, Rose Hamilton, G. H. Elliott, Edie and Ramsden, Lawrence Barclay, Belle Brahame, Katie Butler, Lottie Siegenberg, in "The Lazy Slavey;" Frank Case, Pat Carey, Raymond Trio, Delia Cherry, Arthur Elvy, Edisonograph, and others. Doors open 7 30 (Saturdays, 7 0); commence 7 40 (Saturdays, 7 20). Rehearsal, 1 0 o'clock Monday. Telephone, 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Maurice Volny.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. — Proprietors, Messrs TOM MALTBY and HENRY WICKES.—Monday, Nov. 14, T. B. Lloyd and Company in "Restored by Death;" Alexandra Dagmar, Syd Godfrey, Maggie Rennie, Herald Comedy Four, Sadie Simpson, Wal Roberts, Antonia Medcalf, Sisters Mersea, Walker and May, Baroux and Bion, the Sprays, Four Merry Mimes, Edwin Boyde, Augustus G. Lytton's Dramatic Company.
Manager, Joe Haynes.
Full Band Rehearsal every Monday, 1 0 o'clock.
All must attend.
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Telephone 298, Eastern.

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YORK-ROAD, BATTERSEA.—General Manager, Mr E. E. GILES; Secretary, H. G. Stower.—Monday, Nov. 14, and Twice Nightly, Brien M'Cullough and Co., in "The Winner;" Sisters Lunelle, Maudie Forde, Clifton and Gibson, Exhibition of Photos., Cliff Ryland, Sylvia Love, Beattie Bloom, Wisper, Morris and Morris.

Doors open 6 30 and 8 50. Commence 6 50 and 9 10.
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All Artistes are notified that they must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 0 o'clock, Mondays. All Artistes engaged must attend. Artistes not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at the option of the Management.

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MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' RAILWAY
ASSOCIATION.

STATUTORY NOTICE.
Under Rule 26 the Executive Committee of the above Association hereby convene an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING on THURSDAY, Nov. 24, of the above Association for the purpose of electing a Hon. President for the forthcoming year, 1904-5, in the place of the late Mr Dan Leno. All nominations must be sent to the Chairman of the Executive Committee, M.H.A.R.A., 28, Wellington-street, Strand, on or before Tuesday, Nov. 22. Such nominations must bear the signatures of two or more members of the Association, and must be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee.
Time, place, Chairman, and all particulars will be duly announced. See Rules 5 and 27.
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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904
"The Era" Annual for the current year preserves all the features which have made it popular among actors and actresses in the past—short stories, some of them very good and some of them not so good, by well-known entertainers, countless photographs, and a list of plays produced during the year which should make it useful to students of stage history. It is a sign of the times that Omar Khayyam should be quoted on the first page of the almanack.—Morning Post, Jan. 23d.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
The veteran J. L. Toole has a good story in "The Era" Annual (49, Wellington-street, Strand) a publication which is highly valued by all who have anything to do with the stage. He says:—I was once playing in "Dearer than Life" with Irving and Billington at Leeds. After the performance several gentlemen were in the general room of the hotel where we were staying, and among them a certain Mr Jones, who professed to have a large acquaintance in the profession, and who appeared to have a local reputation as a judge of ages.
"Well, how old," said someone, "would you take Mr Toole to be?'
"Well," said he, "sixty-five, if he's a day."
"Do you know him?" I asked.
"Oh, yes; I know him very well indeed."
"Ah! and how old should you take me to be?"
"Well, I should take you to be forty, if you're a day."
Irving asked Mr Jones if he didn't think Mr Toole was nearer seventy-five than sixty-five. "No," he said; "sixty-five, if he's a day," and the company present seemed to put it down that that would be my age. They had most of them been to the theatre and seen me—for the first time probably—playing an old man; and as it was my first visit to the town, and we were going on by the mail train that night, I had a fancy not to go away and leave them under the impression that I was this very old gentleman. I found that Jones was a decent sort of fellow, and I said to Irving that before I went I should just give him my card and let him know what a mistake he had made. By and bye, when our cab arrived, we said good-night to our casual acquaintances, and, taking Mr Jones aside, I handed him my card, whereupon he said "Oh, indeed!" in a very offensive manner, turned upon his heel, and walked away.
"Well," I said to my friends as we drove away, "that's the most impertinent fellow I think I ever met." Whereupon Billington and Irving went into fits of laughter, and confessed that they had warned Mr Jones that I was continually passing myself off as Toole, and he was to be quite prepared for my handing him a card and trying the imposition upon him.—Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury, Friday, Jan. 22d, 1904.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, contains, as usual, many items and statistics of use and interest to all connected with the stage, and, in addition, a number of sketches and short stories by leading artistes, managers, and others. Among the contributors are J. L. Toole, Dan Leno, George R. Sims, George Robey, Huntley Wright, Harry Randall, Bransby Williams, A. W. Pinero, Louie Freear, Little Tich, George Mozart, and Douglas Crichton. The publication is cheap at a shilling.—Birmingham Daily Gazette, Jan. 16th, 1904

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the features that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again contains a list of new plays and important revivals at the London and suburban theatres, with dates of production to the end of November; new plays submitted in the provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary for the year; and other stage matters concerning which information is often desired. Each branch is excellently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sandwiched by forty short stories by popular actors and entertainers, the interest of these contributions being increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle, Jan. 16th, 1904

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Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1904.

A WORD FOR THE POOR ACTOR.

All the arts are regulated by the same laws of demand and supply as those which govern commercial affairs. The ebb and flow of trade is irregular, but constant. When the demand for a particular commodity is great the supply responds to it. Many who would not otherwise engage in the business are tempted to enter it. Eventually the market becomes overstocked, and there is not sufficient employment for all who are connected with the trade. A few leave it, but the bulk of those who make a living by it are unable to change their calling immediately. They can only do so, if they can do so at all, after a period of stress and endeavour. Meanwhile a large floating population of "unemployed" persons is created, and much distress and want have to be endured.

There can be no doubt that the acting profession is overstocked at present. In the old days the drudgery and humiliation which had to be undergone before an aspirant could hope to reach the London boards kept all except the real enthusiasts from "taking to the stage." The social status of the actor was low, his surroundings sordid, and his life during his novitiate a very hard one. Things have been altered considerably since PIERCE EGAN wrote "The Life of an Actor." Instead of the "barn-storming" and strolling which went on in the "early eighties" we have admirably conducted country companies visiting provincial theatres, many of which are as handsome and comfortable as those in the metropolis. Instead of the profession of actor sharing the scorn which is felt by respectable people for "rogues and vagabonds," it gives the possessor the key to a great deal of social consideration Shorn of so many of its disabilities, the profession of acting seems an ideal one to those young people who, like Fred Vincey, in "Middlemarch," want a profession without any disagreeables; and the result of late years has been an influx into the profession from a social grade entirely above that from which it was formerly recruited. Other things being equal, this may be an advantage; but, unfortunately, the possession of private means enables many of the new school of dramatic recruits to undersell those who live by their acting alone. The result is that a number of experienced and thoroughly trained actors and actresses find themselves out of engagements for long periods; while entirely incompetent persons, who have been introduced into the profession, remain in it and swell the number of its unemployed.

Of course, in time, "things will right themselves." Warned by what they have undergone, the impoverished artistes will bring up their children to anything except the stage. A certain percentage of the semi-amateur and "self-supporting" brigade will weary of being so often out of work; and if we can only do something to stem the tide of precocious juveniles who are being brought up to the profession, and who will, as they grow up, help to swell its overcrowded ranks, we may again attain, for the average actor and actress, a fair amount of steady employment and reasonable remuneration. But this amelioration will take time; and meanwhile, staring us in the face, immediate and obvious, is an appalling amount of distress and want.

One of the most valuable agencies for the relief of the poor and unfortunate in the profession is the Actors' Benevolent Fund. It is administered with a combination of sympathy and discrimination which is, we believe, without parallel in the history of charities; and this is rendered possible by the comparatively small numbers in the profession and by the interest which is taken in the Fund by our leading managers and actors. But the task which the Fund has before it in the coming winter is likely to be even more than it can accomplish with the means at its disposal. The subscriptions of actors to the Fund have during the past few months fallen off considerably. Touring business is sadly depressed; and an increase in the calls upon the Fund is almost certain to take place. In common parlance, some means must be found of "raising the wind;" and we beg every one of our readers to consider whether he or she cannot individually help the Fund.

One of the easiest and fairest methods is the sale of autographs. In their easy generosity many actors and actresses are in the habit of giving their "sign-manuals" to whoever writes for them. These autographs are often obtained gratis in order to swell collections which, when complete, are sold for considerable sums. Here we have a simple and easy means of assisting the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Let every actor and actress of note imitate the example of Sir HENRY IRVING, Sir CHARLES WYNDHAM, and Mr BEERBOHM TREE. Mr TREE'S plan may be quoted as being especially admirable. On receiving an application for his autograph he replies to the effect that if a sum of half-a-crown is sent to the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, his - Mr TREE'S—signature and a receipt for the money will follow in due course. An admirable idea is that of Mr E. S. WILLARD, who introduces into all his contracts with artists a clause giving him the right to deduct salary due on one specified night of the year, the amounts thus collected, together, of course, with the manager's own salary, going to help the A.B.F. And then there is that always effective method of appealing to the public, the benefit matinée, of which such an excellent example was supplied by Mr TREE when he generously gave a morning performance at His Majesty's last Tuesday for the benefit of the Fund.

Another excellent plan is that which has been adopted by several of our provincial managers—we mean the imposition of a tax on free admissions. The idea has been put in practice by Mr WALTER REYNOLDS, at the Theatre Royal, Leeds; Mr ROBERT ARTHUR at the Kennington Theatre; Mr CECIL BERYL, at the Theatre Royal, Brighton; and Mr DREW MACKINTOSH, at the Palace Pier, Brighton, with excellent results. Also, it is desirable that whenever an artist is asked to contribute his or her services at an entertainment for the benefit of some charitable object an arrangement should be made to the effect that ten per cent. of the receipts should be placed to the credit of the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

The amounts raised in this way would have the great advantage of indirect taxation—they would not "be felt." When a person is in sufficiently easy circumstances to have a hobby, he can well afford an occasional half-crown for its gratification. When an individual is given the price of admission to a theatre, he can well spare sixpence; and when a charity is fattening on the obliging disposition and generosity of actors and actresses who appear at entertainments for its benefit, the institution can surely spare a fraction of its gains to help poor and starving histrions. Actors have done, and are doing, too much for Society. We were in company this week with a very bright and clever actor, who, since his return to England last January, has been appearing frequently at charity matinées, and yet has not had a single engagement. Aristocratic young men and women crowd our ranks and take the bread out of the mouths of thoroughly trained and experienced artists who appear at entertainments for "Society" charities for nothing; and, while they lavish their energies on objects with which the profession has nothing directly to do, they neglect "those of their own household." It is time they should turn over a new leaf, and think first, at any rate, of their unfortunate fellow artists In view of the painful distress which we are called upon to face, we ask managers, actors, and all concerned with the profession to support an institution which so nobly endeavours to help the poor actor in his time of need.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The concert of Thursday evening at the Royal College of Music included the splendid quartet for strings in A major of Beethoven, one of the great tone poet's most masterly inspirations in his earlier period. The quartet was played by Miss Vera Warwick-Evans, Miss Sumner, Mr Frank Bridge, and Miss Marion Harrison, full justice being done to the beautiful music. The sonata for violoncello in F by the old composer Porpora afforded Mr Ivor James scope for the display of neat execution and refined taste. Miss Agnes Coates succeeded well in "Schöne Wiege," the beautiful song of Schumann, which she gave with great taste and refinement. Chopin's Fantasia in F minor employed the talent of Miss Lucy Polgreen in the most satisfactory manner. The young lady has acquired the correct Chopin style. Songs by Miss Dorothy Purser made an excellent impression. She was heard in the Four Nursery Songs of Taubert—charming compositions—which she gave with refinement and delicacy, which fully justified the cordial approval of her friends and students. The concert concluded with the Trio of Schubert in B flat for pianoforte and strings.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, SEPT. 20.—*Sunday* was welcomed by the largest and most fashionable house of the season at Her Majesty's Theatre on the 17th. The popularity of the authors, Thomas Wigney Percyval, Horace Hodges, and Edward Irwin—though now disguised under a verboglomerate "Thomas Raceward" made the première of an extra interesting character. In a country where diggings are well-known places, the story has a familiar smack, and needs no searching for Bret Hartian origin, for Walter Cooper gave us this theme for drama many years ago. The first Australasian appearance of Miss Tittel Brune was an unequivocal success. She was the Sunday the authors meant the character to be. The natural girl shone through her surroundings, whether on the diggings or in the English mansion. Then comes Mr J. B. Atholwood in the part of Davey, a rugged, big-hearted son of the mine, true and fatherly, a fine impersonation. Mr Arthur Greenaway comes back after eight years' absence with his careful methods matured, his clear, resonant voice improved. His Jacky was a strong performance. The quartette of "fathers" was completed by Mr E. B. Russell's sturdy embodiment of the rôle of Towser. Mr Gaston Mervale returned to play a short but strong character, Arthur Brinthorpe, and he made it apparent that an experienced actor was again with us. Mr Roy Redgrave impressed the audience by his dignified yet impulsive Colonel Brinthorpe, and he will be of great value to the repertory of Mr Williamson's company. Tom Oxley, the sterling friend of the Colonel and Sunday, was charmingly acted by Mr Roland Staveley. It needs no assurance of mine to convince your readers that Miss Mabel Lane was a handsome and winning Mrs Naresby, and Miss Minnie Terry made a convincing and stately Nun. The play is stage-managed by Mr W. J. Hazlitt, the orchestra conducted by Mr George Hall, and the beautiful scenery painted by Mr W. R. Coleleman.

"THE OTHER MAN'S BUSINESS" is a three-act farce written by G. W. Elton and E. F. Petley, and deals with complications arising from the diversion to other purposes of a sum of money given by an uncle to a nephew to start a tobacconist's shop. Ananias himself would be beaten in the competition for inventing lies to deceive the old man. But the discovery by the nephew and his wife of the uncle's entanglement with a pretty soubrette gives them a lever which compels pardon and further disbursement. The farce bristles with fun, and Mr W. F. Hawtrey has done wisely in staging it for the last two weeks of his Criterion season. Mr Hawtrey is old Rattlechip, and he invests the character with all his finesse and conscientious attention to detail. Mr G. W. Elton is a precocious schoolboy, Horatio Bloggett, and the impersonation was a mirth-provoking one. Mr O. P. Heggie as Hill, an assistant tobacconist, created very loud laughter. Mr Gregan M'Mahon was the mendacious nephew, Authony Bloggett, and Mr Leonard Stanley made an energetic Simpson.

"THE WHIRLIGIG" is the American travesty stars' latest and merriest pack of nonsense at the Palace. There is no subterfuge about a plot, not even a pretence; it is a curtain to curtain scream with Barney Bernard, Kolb and Dill as chief perpetrators of jokes, tricks, and entanglements—all free from offence.

MR BLAND HOLT sees no reason to withdraw *The Flood Tide*, as the Royal is profitably filled to see this perfectly staged melodrama, or melo-farce as it is billed.

THE Tivoli saw on Saturday the return of Bob Bell and Tom Dawson two established favourites, and the appearance of Ben Goodson, the cyclist, as a baritone vocalist. The Peschkoffs, Nat Clifford. Maggie Fraser, Nellie Kilburn, Ward Lear, Irving Sayles, Ella Wellington, Maud Faning, and the Diamond Duo are supplemented by views of a motor-car climbing the Alps.

"THE THREE LITTLE MAIDS" finale was gloriously enthusiastic. All the artists were called many times, and Mr G. P. Huntley made a capital speech, thanking the public for hospitality, generous support, and kind appreciation, promising to return here in two years' time. This was loudly applauded. Mr Tours was the recipient of a presentation from the members of the orchestra, and Mr George Stephenson was presented with a handsome travelling rug by the principals. He returns at the end of next January, under engagement to Mr J. C. Williamson. The company sailed on Saturday by the Himalaya, but Miss Maud Hobson went to America.

SYDNEY, SEPT. 27.—*My Friend from India*, considerably shortened since its production here about seven years ago, was revived by Mr Walter Sanford's American Players at the Lyceum on the 24th inst. The acting of Mr Sanford himself as Augustus Keene Shaver was far and away the best work he has done in Sydney, and the ogling scene with Miss Ada Clare (Mrs Streete), was provocative of great laughter. Mrs Powis-Stuart as the female dude, Marion Hayshe, looked and dressed handsomely, whilst Miss Adelaide Boothby made Tilly, the German servant, an intensely amusing caricature.

"SUNDAY" grows in favour at Her Majesty's. Its intensely human interest has captured the performers as well as the audiences, and the hut scenes between the miners and their ward, are highly enjoyable. Mr Edmund Gwenn is a tower of strength, and his departure for London (when *Sunday* is withdrawn) and that of his wife, Miss Minnie Terry, give cause for universal regret. The play now under rehearsal is *L'Aiglon*.

"THE FLOOD TIDE" so satisfies Mr Bland Holt and his patrons at the Theatre Royal that no hint at a change of bill has been found necessary, and all the cleverly worked effects and carefully acted incidents maintain the prestige of the popular actor-manager.

THE AMERICAN TRAVESTY STARS will conclude their season at the Palace Theatre on Oct. 6. Meanwhile the fast and furious—and withal wholesome—fun of *Whirligig* is drawing delighted crowds. Theatre parties are the rage here. On Friday the proprietor of the Waverly Brewery, Mr Resch, treated 260 of his employees to a night's amusement at the Palace.

THE TIVOLI is booming just now with Mr Whimsical Walker at the head of the entertainers. His reception on Saturday was cordial, and all he did was loudly cheered. Miss Hilda Lane, Sydney's best mezzo-soprano, made her first appearance in a vaudeville show, and gave a high musical tone to the programme. Miss Goldie Collins, a clever young song and dance artiste, made a deep impression; and the Great Peschkoffs hold their own in their unique entertainment. Ben Goodson, Nellie Kilburn, Tom Danson, Bob Bell, Maud Faning, and a host more please Mr Harry Rickards' audiences with the best that they all can do.

A NEW great contralto has been discovered in Goulburn by Mr Rivers Allpress amongst the competitors at the London College of Music examinations. This young singer, Miss Ella Caspers, is not yet fifteen years old, yet she has the full rich voice of a woman of thirty. At the classical chamber concert on the 21st, Miss Caspers sang "Abide with me" (Liddle), and fairly took the expert audience by storm. She certainly has the grandest contralto voice yet heard here. Her friends have decided to leave her for yet a while with the sisters at the Goulburn Convent, and Mr Rivers Allpress has control of her musical career.

MR ALFRED HOLLINS, the blind organist, who is drawing crowded houses at the Town Hall, administered a well-deserved rebuke to the City Council who attempted to get free Sunday recitals out of him at the close of his contract. Mr Hollins naively asked for a fee of £50!

SYDNEY.—OCT. 4.—*Other People's Money* is a screaming three-act farce played by Mr George Stephenson's American Comedy Company at the Criterion. The principal parts are played by Miss Olive Evans and Mr Charles J. Stine, and these clever artistes are ably and enthusiastically supported by Miss Kate Douglas (an Australian), Miss Marjorie Ford, Miss Reba Bicknell (who with Mr Ralph Bicknell does some wonderful dancing), Mr Win Douglas, Mr Charles F. Bates, and Mr Claude A. Hunt. Mr C. R. Bailey is business manager, and Mr F. W. Duval is Mr George Stephenson's representative.

MR WALTER SANFORD'S American Players are appearing at the Lyceum in *The Pace that Kills*. Miss Laura Wall is singularly pathetic as Marie, the blind girl, and Miss Adelaide Boothby makes Kitty, a light-hearted waitress, pleasantly prominent. Mr Sandford represents Harry Burton, and his assumption of the character of an Italian desperado is excellent. Mr Jean de Lacy is a fine Franzetti, Mr George Kimkel, a good comedian, sings several songs as the Negro, Nimrod, and Mr Martyn Hagan is a capital Police-sergeant M'Shane. Mr Johnson Weir as Philip Lyndon and Mr Leo De Chateau as Stephen Morton complete a competent cast. Mr G. F. Salas is business manager for Mr Sanford.

"SUNDAY" will run until Friday night, when Australia will see the last for some time at least of Mr Edmund Gwenn and Miss Minnie Terry. Miss Minnie Tittell Brune has leaped into public affection, and her next effort as L'Aiglon will be watched with especial interest. Mr J. C. Williamson is staging Rostand's play in splendid style, and to mark the production he has prepared an elaborate souvenir.

"WHIRLIGIG" will run only three more nights at the Palace Theatre. On Thursday night Mr Harry James's American Travesty Stars will give their final performance. So far this company of capital comedians, good singers and sprightly dancers has not given any travesty, but it is on the cards that a return visit will see Miss Maud Amber, Mr Wingfield Blake, and Messrs Kolb, Dill, and Barney Bernard in their famous versions of well-known productions, notably Miss Maud Amber's malversion of *Zaza*

THE Tivoli bill had an attractive addition on Saturday, when the Sisters O'Meers appeared and went through their marvellous feats on the tight wire. Miss Gregson and Mr Goodfellow also made their first appearance, and all the newcomers were heartily welcomed. The gifted soprano, Miss Hilda Lane, sings charmingly. The Peschkoff Quintette of wondrous dancers, Ward Lear, Nellie Kilburn, Little Goldie Collins, and a host more are all in Mr Rickards's bill.

THE GERMAN THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 7, at the Great Queen-street Theatre, the Farcical Comedy, in Four Acts, by Oskar Blumenthal and Gustav Kadelburg, entitled "DIE GROSSSTADTLUFT."

Martin Schröter	HUGO ROGALL
Sabine	ROSE URAWZ
Walter Lenz	HANS STOCK
Antonie	CAMILLA DALBERG
Bernard Gempe	HANS ANDRESEN
Fritz Fleming	RUDOLF LEYRER
Dr. Crusius	MAX BEHREND
Frau Dr. Crusius	BETTY L'ARRONGE
Rector Arnstädt	BRUNO WIBURGER
Frau Rector Arnstädt	IDA WEISS
Marthe	GRETE LANGFEILD
A Decorator	KARL BERGER
A Servant	ROLF YVERSON

The management of the German Theatre acted wisely in selecting for their opening performance Blumenthal and Kadelburg's singularly witty and successful comedy *Grossstadtluft*, which might be translated with "Town and Village." The plot of this exhilarating play is quickly narrated. The action opens in a room at Walther Lenz's, a solicitor in Berlin. His friend, Mr Schröter, a rich manufacturer from the provinces, and his daughter Sabine, are staying with him. Sabine is in love with Fleming a young engineer, who proposes to her. Sabine, of course, accepts him, but her father at first refuses, Fleming being a native of Berlin, and Schröter knowing well what town Berlin is. In the end he yields, however, being talked over by Lenz, Lenz himself, who is a married man, has been leading a somewhat loose life; his wife Antonie had found him out a year ago, but had wisely refrained from making any scenes. Now, however, that the probation year is over, she emphatically declares that the first time he again deceives her she would leave him.

In the second act we are at Ludwigswalde, the home of Mr Schröter. Sabine and Fleming are married and are living with her father, who had only given his child to Fleming on condition that he should leave the dangerous town and live with him. Fleming, who is honestly in love with his wife, is, of course, bored to death in the dull provincial town. He finds a sympathetic friend in the physician, whom a similar fate in his youth had brought to Ludwigswalde. The doctor promises to do his best to get him away. Enter Antonie, who, to teach a lesson to her incorrigible husband, has run away in company with her cousin Bernhard. The doctor's trick to get Fleming away under the pretext of illness is found out by Schröter. In the third act the inhabitants of Ludwigswalde are scandalised to learn that a woman, run away from her husband, is staying at Mr Schröter's house. Fleming has firmly made up his mind to leave the place and take a house in Berlin. Meanwhile Lenz comes to see his wife and ask her forgiveness, which she eventually grants, seeing that he is sincere in his contrition.

The fourth act takes place at Berlin, where Fleming is supervising all the preparations for the reception of his wife, for whom he is longing. He is about to go to Ludwigswalde and fetch her, when she appears in the door; she has secretly left her father's house to meet her husband. Suddenly Mr Schröter is announced; he comes to fetch Fleming back to Ludwigswalde, and finds, to his surprise, that his daughter has joined her husband; but he is eventually reconciled to their idea of living in town.

It will be seen that the story, albeit by no means new, is straightforward and sufficiently amusing to serve as a vehicle for the famous authors' ingenuity in creating comical situations and inventing brilliant dialogue. The play was on the whole capitally acted by Misses Dalberg, L'Arronge, Crawz, and by Messrs Rogall, Behrend, Leyrer, and Andresen, who had a particularly hearty welcome. It might, if well adapted, be a success on the English stage.

AT the Grand, Hanley, the Magic Kettle is meeting with much success. Grais' baboons do a most interesting turn; Arthur Gilbert does well with his nicely rendered songs; Flo Chevalier is a smart comedienne; Barnard's Marionettes are much appreciated; Harry Edson, with his cleverly trained dog Doc, meets with his usual success; Arthur Machin, the handcuff king, is exceedingly smart in his line of business; Alf Gibson meets with favour in his really funny songs; and the Korries in their new act merit the applause they receive.

THE prohibition by the police authorities of Berlin of the performance of the piece *Der tote Löwe*, by Herr Oskar Blumenthal, has been confirmed by the Governor of the province of Brandenburg, to whom the author and the manager of the Berliner Theatre appealed. The Governor, in giving his decision, states that in a monarchical government it is impossible to allow political events, such as the resignation of Prince Bismarck, to be made the subject of dramatic treatment. It is more than clear that Herr Blumenthal's drama, in spite of the fact that it is placed in Spain in the fourteenth century, is a dramatic representation of the fall of the Iron Chancellor. The officials, who are responsible for public order in Berlin, cannot therefore allow this piece to be performed. Herr Blumenthal and the manager of the Berliner Theatre have now appealed to the Administrative Court of Appeal against the Governor's decision.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

MRS DAN LENO, through our columns, wishes to tender her heartfelt thanks to those who sent such beautiful floral tributes, also to the many hundreds who forwarded sympathetic telegrams and letters of condolence on the loss of her dear husband, whom she feels was held in such great respect by all.

ONE of the late-lamented comedian's last acts of kindness was to visit the Belgrave Hospital for Children, at Kennington, to leave a donation. This happened on the day before he took to his bed.

AMONG the many wreaths sent to poor Leno was one from two old friends at Oldham, with whom Dan spent many of his early days. It consisted of a pair of clogs covered in violets, white moss rose, and lillies of the valley. The card was inscribed "To the king of clogs, from two old friends with old remembrances."

ATTACHED to the floral tribute sent by Mr Claude Trevelyan was a card bearing the following appreciative lines:

In Memoriam.
DAN LENO.
(George Galvin.)
1861—1904.

D ear to us all wert thou whose mobile mood
A ttuned the whole wide world to mirth at will,
N or ever, in thy maddest, merriest strains,

L et humour stoop to sting one homely heart.
E 'er shall we miss "The Jester of the King!"
N or cease remembrance of that kindly "hand
O pen as day for melting charity!"

A THOUGHT that is uppermost in the minds of the friends of the late Dan Leno is the establishment of some memorial that would perpetuate his name. As he was ever ready, at immense personal sacrifice, to give his services in aid of charitable funds of all kinds, it is proposed by some that subscriptions should be asked for the formation of a permanent charitable bequest, to be called the Dan Leno Fund. This would be similar to the Adelaide Neilson bequest, and would be invested in the names of trustees and devoted to the aid of cases of severe misfortune among members of the variety profession. Another suggestion is the establishment of a Dan Leno pension for aged comic singers, for which election would have to be sought; and still another proposal is the formation of a fund for the education and maintenance of orphans of deceased members of the profession. Either suggestion, if carried out, would shed lustre on the memory of a comedian whose hand ever followed the promptings of his heart in the cause of the poor and afflicted.

THE Lyceum Christmas production is to be *Enoch Arden*, the subject being, of course, taken from the late Lord Tennyson's poem. Mr George Leyton will be seen in the title-rôle. The monologue will be in three scenes, and will be from the pen of Mr J. P. Harrington, the music being composed by Mr Bennett Scott. Messrs Francis and Day have purchased the words and music. For the first time during their existence they will issue the whole monologue complete to the public in book form at the price of 6d. The subject is an entirely new one, and it will be a fresh experience for the popular Mr George Leyton to undertake the delineation of so serious—even pathetic—a character. Hitherto we have seen him as warlike heroes from Henry V. down to Wellington. Whether he will become at the Lyceum a hero whose beard "the silver hand of peace hath touched" remains to be seen.

MR FRANK HEATH is working energetically in the promotion of a memorial of the late Mr Herbert Campbell. It will take the form of a bust, which, it is proposed, shall be placed in the vestibule of Drury-lane Theatre, where the deceased comedian played in pantomime for so many years. Subscriptions may be sent to Mr Edward Ledger, the hon. treasurer, care of *The Era*, 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

A SPECIAL performance in aid of the management expenses of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be given at Collins's on Friday, Dec. 9, by permission of the proprietors, Messrs Richards, Burney, and Co. Already a number of well-known artistes have promised their valuable services. It will be remembered that the late Mr Herbert Campbell was a member of this fund almost from the year of its formation, and held the position of president for a long period. According to the terms of the Friendly Societies Acts none of the subscriptions of members can be appropriated for the necessary expenses incurred in the management, including secretary's salary, postage, &c. We feel sure that no sick or provident fund is carried on with such a small outlay. A weekly contribution of 6d. secures a sum of £1 per week while a member is laid aside by illness; and for a weekly subscription of 9d. the sick pay is 30s. The sum of £10 is paid to the nearest relative on the death of a member. The president of the fund is Mr Pat Carey, the well-known Irish comedian; and the hon. treasurer is Mr Frank Heath.

THE bold Mr Frank Macnaghten, in taking over the Surrey and making it into a theatre of varieties on the two houses a-night principle, has stepped in where Mr Walter Stephens has feared to tread. But the latter gentleman has submitted plans, through Messrs Owen and Ward, to the Council for a proposed music hall at the junction of Lewisham High-street and Limes-grove. The latter thoroughfare is at present a cul-de-sac, and the site will not comply with the Council's regulations unless this road be continued to Clarendon-road, a distance of about sixty yards. The building is planned with seating accommodation for 1,642 persons, and the exit arrangements will comply with the regulations. Lewisham, which is rapidly increasing in population, has at present neither theatre nor music hall, the nearest places of entertainment being at Greenwich and New-cross.

THE executive committee of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association, under Rule 26, convene an extraordinary general meeting of the members of that association for the purpose of electing an honorary president for 1904-5, in the place of the late Mr Dan Leno. All nominations must be sent in to the chairman of the executive committee, M.H.A.R.A., 28, Wellington-street, Strand, on or before Tuesday, Nov. 22. Such nominations must bear the signature of two or more members of the association, and must be accompanied with the written consent of the nominee.

THE new members of the committee of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association are mostly members of the fraternity of Water Rats, who will form a powerful progressive party in opposition to the moderates, who wish to confine the Association to the limitations marked out by the railway authorities themselves. The nineteen newcomers include Joe Elvin, Wal Pink, Phil Ray, James Finney, Fred M'Naughton, Fred Griffiths, Bob Leonard, Fred Russell, Tom M'Naughton, R. G. Knowles, George Booker, J. O'Gorman, Cliff Ryland, Michael Nolan, Paul Martinetti, Pat Rafferty, Harry Freeman, and Frank Gerald. Mr Eugene Stratton polled 953 votes.

MISS VESTA TILLEY has just acquired a song by that rising composer Kenneth Lyle, entitled "The Right Kind of Girl." The composer had the privilege of himself playing the composition over to the great artist, and it was instantly secured. Mr Lyle's work is in great request, and his individuality and style make for future greatness. His "Statue in Trafalgar-square" is an exemplification of what he is capable of.

THROUGH the magistrates having refused to renew the licence of the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, if run on variety lines, all artists holding contracts are desired to at once put themselves in communication with G. and F. Peel, Granville House, Arundel-street, W.C., without delay.

MESSRS PETER LECKIE AND A. H. WATERHOUSE are opening the King's Theatre of Varieties, Liverpool, on Boxing Day, Dec. 26. The house is an old one with a new name, and has been known for many years as the Roscommon, but it is undergoing thorough repair and redecoration, and new scenery and the electric light will be installed. A grand special company is booked for the opening, under the general management of Arthur H. Waterhouse.

THE proprietors of the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, High Shields (Mr J. K. Hall and Mr Joe. Sweeney) were the defendants in an action at Nottingham County Court on Wednesday, Frederick and Florence Mason, known in the profession as Paul Pry and Marie St. John, suing them for £10 damages for breach of contract. Dr. Lindley appeared for plaintiffs and Mr Barlow for the defendants.

MR BARLOW raised the question of the court's jurisdiction, and said, as the contract was signed by the defendant at South Shields, and the breach, if any, took place at South Shields, the Shields court was the proper place of action. This was disputed by Dr. Lindley, who explained that the defendant's agent advertised in *The Era* for artists to perform at the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, South Shields. The plaintiff communicated with him and terms were arranged. It was customary in the theatrical and music hall professions for two agreements to be signed, one by the artist and the other by the management. The two were necessary to the contract, and as part of the contract was thus entered into at Nottingham, he submitted the action could be tried here. Further, solicitors who were acting before Mr Barlow was engaged acknowledged the court's jurisdiction by making an interrogatory application before the Registrar, and by their action the defendant was bound. This contention the judge upheld.

THE evidence was that plaintiffs contracted to perform at Shields during the week commencing May 16, and sent matter for the bills on April 30 On May 2 they received a telegram, "Tivoli closed for rebuilding. See last Saturday's *Era*. Second week's notice. All engagements cancelled." It was then too late to book elsewhere, and they therefore went on the date arranged to Shields and found the theatre had been sublet for a month. A short time ago they applied for another engagement (which was promised in the advertisement to all artists whose engagements had had to be cancelled), and it was owing to the new manager holding he was not bound by that that the action was brought. Judgment was given for the plaintiffs, and the judge certified for counsel.

"THE old Mayor out and the new Mayor in," together with "God save the King," were the popular themes throughout the country on Wednesday, and in no town in the country were these anniversaries celebrated with greater enthusiasm than at Stoke-on-Trent. Amid cordial greetings and flattering compliments Mr A. Lynam retired from one of the most successful years of office, and as a parting gift Mr Frank Egerton, on behalf of Mr Patrick Collins, of the Hippodrome, tendered him a cheque for £47 7s. 4d., the result of the sacred concert given on Oct. 15 last. This was the fourth benefit tendered in aid of the local charities during the short space of six months. In responding to the enthusiastic toasting of Mr Collins's health Mr Egerton assured Mr Risely, the coming mayor, that the Stoke Hippodrome would ever be at the disposal of any and every cause upon which philanthropy and charity had a claim.

MR E. J. DEXTER, the able manager of the Gaiety Theatre, Oldham, has established matinées every Tuesday, and judging from the attendance at last Tuesday's performance there is every appearance of the innovation being a permanent success. Should this good fortune not be brought about, we may be certain that it will not be for lack of zeal, diligence, or enterprise on Mr Dexter's part.

IT will be of interest to the patrons of the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, and the numerous personal friends of Mr George Knowles, to know of the high compliment which was paid to that popular acting-manager on Saturday. As a token of the respect and esteem in which he is held by the staff he was presented with a beautiful morocco dressing-case, a silver-mounted briar pipe, and tobacco pouch.

MR H. A. JORDISON (the well-known pantomime producer and managing director of the Empire Theatrical Agency, Limited), accompanied by Mr Shackleton, estate agent of the Calico Printers' Association, Manchester, was looking at the new exits at St. James's Theatre, Manchester, on Thursday, the 3rd inst., when he fell between two joists, a distance of some 4ft. or 5ft., and injured his leg rather seriously. We are glad to state he is making rapid progress, and the doctor gives him hope of being out again next week.

FISHING for four hours in private waters near Worcester, on Friday of last week, Mr Albert Bushell, the popular manager of the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, caught fourteen pike, weighing in the aggregate 140lbs. The fish, which were remarkably fine specimens, were on exhibit at the Gaiety on Friday evening, the 4th inst. Wal Pink, Tom Holmes, Ernest Shand, Chirgwin, Paul Martinetti, Barney Vox, 'Gene Stratton, and a few others, please note

MR TOM PRICHARD, of the Empire, Dudley, on Tuesday evening, spoke from the stage concerning the late Mr Leno, as follows:—"To-day Dan Leno has been carried to the grave, and the music hall stage has lost its most splendid star. His untimely death came as a particular shock to us in Dudley, inasmuch as he was a sponsor at the birth of our Empire, when, on that occasion, in his own inimitable style, he honoured these boards. He has gone from us, leaving a place which will not be easily filled, and we are left rich in kindly memories of happy evenings he has made for us. Let us then give to his memory at least the tribute of one moment's silent homage." A fine portrait of the deceased comedian was shown.

THE fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Inkerman was celebrated on the 4th by the members of the Bristol Crimean and Indian Mutiny Veterans' Association, who, by the kindness of a number of friends, were enabled to dine together at their headquarters, Orchard-street, St. Augustine's. A good number of the old soldiers were present. After dinner, Captain Norman, in an interesting address, recalled many memories of the momentous struggle. Afterwards the veterans attended a performance at the People's Palace, where, by the kindness of the management, seats had been reserved for them. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed, and the patriotic song by Mr George Leyton came in for special marks of appreciation. At this stage of the proceedings Mr Horace Livermore, accompanied by the Rev. J. Wain and Mr W. S. Paul, appeared on the stage, and the former extended a hearty welcome to the members of the Bristol Veterans' Association. The Rev. J. Wain stated that the proceeds of the sale of Mr Leyton's songs which would be sold in the hall would be given to the funds of the Association.

MR JOSEPH LYONS, who has invariably shown great interest in the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, was unanimously elected as president of the fund for the ensuing year. We may be sure that such an excellent organiser and such a lover of the stage will do his best to secure a record year for a charity that has such constant and ever-increasing calls upon its exchequer. Mr Lyons has twice occupied the chair at the annual dinner.

MR J. C. COE, proprietor of the Hammersmith Palace, is by way of increasing his responsibilities, as we are given to understand that he has become managing director of the company running the Grand, Fulham. This theatre will open as a music hall on the twice-nightly plan on Monday, Nov. 28. Mr Jack De Frece, of the Metropole, Camberwell, and formerly of the London Shoreditch, will be general manager, and will fill a similar position at Hammersmith.

AT the benefit given to the late Mr Charles Morton on March 19, 1891, at the Alhambra, the result was announced as a sum that did not quite reach a thousand pounds; but as the list of subscriptions was kept open for some little time after the benefit, it is believed that sum was reached. The amount realised by the entertainment at the memorial matinée on Tuesday, it is anticipated, will swell to four figures, so that Mrs Morton's monetary resources, which are stated to be very slender, will receive a very welcome addition.

MR JACK EDGAR, we may again remind our readers, takes his annual benefit at the Metropolitan on Thursday next, the 17th, when he announces a special programme of immense attractiveness. It is always a popular celebration, and one that invariably attracts a packed house.

F. V. ST. CLAIR, who has just become owner of the Hawse Tor Farm and Moorland, in the Westmorland lake district, reminds us that he procured the biggest salary (on paper) for the late Dan Leno which that famous comedian ever received. It was for the Hop Pole Gardens at Norwich, the year that Dan won the clog-dancing championship. It happened in this way. F. V. was appointed by Mr Harper, the proprietor, to engage the talent for the Assize Galas. He engaged Dan at £12 10s. per week, but when the contract arrived from Mr Harper, that gentleman, who was very illiterate, and ignorant of the rules of punctuation, had made it to read "£1210 weekly." This contract is reproduced in one of the many books published on the life of the famous comedian.

MR ST. CLAIR considers that he owes a great deal of his success on the stage to the late comedian's parents. He was engaged with Dan at "Old Jeffs," at Rochdale, the week after the championship contest. Mrs Jeffreys used to give her favourites a gold locket medal, and Dan was selected to receive one on the Friday (his benefit) night. F. V. was chosen to make the presentation, and in a telling speech he informed the audience that a certain competitor had stopped Dan in the Briggate, Leeds, and told him "That if an angel came down from heaven he (the speaker) could not be defeated," but he was defeated that very night, and by Little Dan. Mr Leno (the father) was so delighted with St. Clair's remarks that he procured him something like a dozen contracts for the Scotia, Glasgow; Day's, Birmingham; Star, Liverpool; &c. That was over twenty years ago, and F. V., who has never looked back since, often thinks that if he had not met the Leno Family at Rochdale he might to day be dispensing medicine behind the counter of a country chemist's shop, as he was seriously thinking, if contracts came in no faster than they were doing, of returning to his old profession.

A LARGE audience at the Palace on Monday welcomed Mr Arthur Roberts with much heartiness in a comedietta, which has been specially written for the popular comedian by Captain Basil Hood. Let it be said at once that the distinguished author has taken Mr Roberts's measure exactly, and has supplied him with an excellent vehicle for his mirth in the character of Brummagem Jem, from whom the trifle takes its name.

JEM intrudes at a Paris hotel on the privacy of a great traveller named Clutterbuck. This celebrated globe-trotter has engaged rooms for himself and his wife, who is hourly expected. Unknown to Clutterbuck, a lady journalist desirous of interviewing him has passed herself off as his spouse, and thereby gained admission to his rooms, where she is hiding. Of course she interviews the wrong man, and an amusing conversation ensues between her and Jem, the commercial. When asked if he has obtained any "orders" he does not understand her to mean decorations, and she is shocked when he produces a jewelled "garter" for her inspection. The interview has a pleasant, even a sentimental termination, the union of the happy couple being a foregone conclusion at the curtain falls. Mr Roberts is genuinely funny and amusing in his own way as the commercial traveller, and Miss Ruby Celeste makes a charming representative of the lady journalist, Anna Byers. Mr Stanley Damerell does well as Manley Clutterbuck; and Mr O. E. Lennon is quaint as the hotel manager.

MR HARRY BAWN has good cause to remember Nov. 5. "For the sake of the little one at home" he had prepared a pyrotechnic display, and shortly after commencing it he discovered to his surprise that a stray firework had found its way into one of his rooms, where it exploded, and in very quick time had started what promised to be a serious outbreak. In a hurried endeavour to pull down burning curtains, &c. both his hands were badly burned, but fortunately he was able to prevent the fire spreading beyond the destruction of the contents of the room in which the excitement commenced. Although both his hands are bandaged Mr Bawn has been able to put in full time at the Grand, Clapham.

WE regret to announce the death of Professor Edmunda, the singing ventriloquist, who passed away on Monday at a comparatively early age. The deceased gentleman appeared occasionally in London, but was better known in the provinces, where he was a great favourite.

MR HARRY BURNS, dramatic and variety agent, had a very successful business tour last week, ending in £3,600 worth of bookings in the Midlands in four days.

MR BRANSBY WILLIAMS, who was a great friend and admirer of the late Mr Dan Leno, was unable to accept the invitation to attend the funeral in consequence of his engagement with Mr D. J. Clarke, at the Argyle, Birkenhead. Mr Clarke could not see his way clear to releasing his star turn for the night. Mr Williams, who sent a letter of condolence and a wreath, has been presented with an original pen and ink sketch of Mr Dan Leno, in one of his most successful female impersonations, the work of Mr W. Hartley.

INTO his nightly entertainment Mr Bransby Williams introduces a powerful dramatic poem entitled "Devil-May-Care," written by Charles H. Taylor, the author of "Commissionaire" and many musical comedy lyrics, the music being by Mr Cuthbert Clarke, *chef d'orchestre* at the Empire. It is an immense success, and will shortly be published.

MR GEORGE BASTOW will produce on his return to London a new song, entitled "'Cos I'm one of them there funny sort o' chaps!" The words and music are from the pen of William Hargreaves, who is now engaged upon a new dialogue song for the same popular comedian.

THE Lord Provost of Edinburgh has appointed Mr Horace Edward Moss, J.P., of Ormelie, Edinburgh, and Middleton, Mid-Lothian, to be a deputy-lieutenant of the County of the City of Edinburgh. It is not necessary to inform our readers that Mr Moss is the chairman of Moss's Empires and the popular manager of the London Hippodrome.

THE long-promised production of *Mr Todd of London* in the Metropolis is to take place on Monday, when the new and startling sketch will be seen both at the Canterbury and the Islington Empire. The large sets for what Mr John Lawson calls an illusion will be put on at the big establishment across the Bridge, and the smaller sets will be shown at Upper-street. Mrs John Lawson will make her reappearance shortly in the production, *A Bride for a Living*.

MR ERNEST SHAND has accepted for immediate production a new song of a most whimsical character, specially written for him by Messrs John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn, entitled "She said 'Look ——!'" which song this popular comedian confidently anticipates will be as successful as anything in the répertoire of vocal "plums" with which he is about to enter upon his pantomime engagement this year. Messrs Harrington and Le Brunn have also equipped Miss Katie Lawrence with a new low comedy number, entitled "The butcher kept his eye on 'Liza."

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"In none of the many notices of the late Dan Leno that have come under my observation during the past fortnight have I seen any reference to his impersonation of Black-eyed Susan. The play, burlesque, travesty—what you will—was *Two Lovely Black-Eyed Susan*, written by Horace Lennard, composed by Oscar Barrett, and produced by the latter gentleman during his tenure of the Crystal Palace Theatre. The title of the piece, I may mention, was suggested by Charles Coborn's song, "Two lovely black eyes," Dan made a great success at the Palace during the six nights—or was it days?—the play ran, and shortly afterwards it was produced at a special matinée at the Strand Theatre. But he was heavily handicapped on that occasion by a violent cold, and only rose by the exercise of his indomitable will from his bed at midday in time to reach the theatre. He played with wonderful pluck, but utterly collapsed at the end of the trying performance."

MISS MARIE DAINTON has scored an enormous hit in the new opera, *Peggy Machree*, and therein has introduced two charming songs, "By the old oak tree" and "Honeymoon Hall." The latter is by John W. Brutton, whose songs, "Maud" and "My cosy corner girl," have found such favour in musical comedy. Miss Dainton has found in this number a song which will doubtless attain the popularity of the other successes of this popular composer.

MISS MADGE LESSING, the original "Rosy Posy," will to-night introduce in *Sergeant Brue* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre an American song, entitled "Lucy Linda Lady," by the eminent American song-writer, Dan Reed, jun. Miss Lessing is most careful in her selection of songs, and in this number will doubtless add another flower to her vocal bouquet.

TO sing eight songs a-night—four in each house—is a little unusual in this time of lightning programmes. This, however, has been demanded by enthusiastic audiences of Miss Rachel Lowe at a leading provincial music hall. To please the public is the delight of every artiste, so Miss Lowe and her famous duck, Hoppy, must be correspondingly happy.

THE Hippodrome, Brighton, football team played on Tuesday a match with the Brighton Alhambra, on the ground of the Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club. The game, which was for the sake of sweet charity, was witnessed by a large crowd, and a close contest resulted in favour of the Hippodrome boys by five goals to two.

MISS MARGARET RADCLIFFE has been appearing with conspicuous success during the past fortnight at the Empire, Edinburgh, and goes to play in pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, at the termination of her present tour of the Moss Empires.

MRS ALLAN M'ASKILL has had one continual relapse. Her case was regarded as hopeless last Sunday. She has outlived the relapse. Now the doctors fear heart failure. Oxygen is given to her every twenty minutes at enormous cost. Her husband was detained from proceeding to Greenock as late as last Sunday evening.

MR W. G. HURST has opened a school of physical culture and gymnastics at Olympia, Victoria-road, New Brighton. It is fitted complete with every requisite for all kinds of gymnastic work for pros., who can practice in the fine, bracing air of New Brighton. It is only a mile or two from Liverpool, and can be reached from that town in twenty minutes by boat or train.

THERE is much diversity of costume to be seen on the Palace Theatre stage just now. Mdlle. Marsalskaja opens the ball in a gipsy suit of glaring, but effective colours—canary yellow, vivid cerise, and deep blue. Miss Bertha Palliser, who is the next lady to appear, wears a glittering dress of white satin, covered with white silk net flecked with silver. The coral balls, hanging like pale-pink cherries from her ears, are decidedly a happy thought. The Palace Girls make their first entrance in frocks that are both smart and pretty, being a combination of bright red rose and delicate pink, much befrilled, their lamp-shade bonnets being adorned with chiffon strings and bunches of roses under the brim. Miss Daisy Jerome wears a Paris "creation" of pale blue, elaborately embroidered with pearls. There are only two ladies in the cast of *Brummagem Jem*, Captain Basil Hood's traveller's tale. Miss Ruby Celeste plays the part of Miss Anna Byers, of the *Daily Female*, and looks the character of the vivacious lady journalist to the life in her white serge frock with a pointed turquoise blue velvet belt, and a big black hat with snowy ostrich plumes. Miss Lucy Webling as Mrs Clutterbuck wears a smart travelling coat with collar and cuffs of cerise velvet, her hat being white velvet trimmed with touches of black and a broad buckle. The dainty little magpie frocks—black and white—of the Three Pierrettes, in *The Follies*, are a welcome change from the usual chiffons and spangles of costume parties.

MISS DAISY JEROME, who reappeared at the Palace Theatre on Monday evening after her Continental tour, is a little American girl still in her teens. She comes from New York, and has already "experimented" in musical comedy, pantomime, and variety work, all her experiments turning out a success. She started in *The Pierrot's Life* as a child pantomimist, and, after an interval of school in Germany, went on the stage in sober earnest, her first opportunity occuring at the Lyric Theatre, when Miss Ada Reeve suddenly lost her voice, the day after the production of *The Medal and the Maid*, and little Daisy Jerome played her part for six nights. Miss Reeve presented her with a silver mirror as a souvenir of this exciting occasion; the admiration of Mr Sydney Elliston, who produced the musical comedy, took the form of a circle brooch of pearls; while the author gave her a two-pound piece, the clasp, on a red ribbon, being engraved with these words:—"For daringly entering the breach and rescuing her comrades from disaster this Medal is presented to the Maid by Owen Hall."

THE first meeting of the newly elected committee of the Music Hall Artistes Railway Association will be held on Tuesday next at one o'clock, when all the members in London are particularly requested to attend.

A DEPUTATION from the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association was present at the funeral of the late Mr Dan Leno, who had been president of the society since its formation, eight years ago. The following were in the four carriages:—Messrs F. W. Millis (Vice-President), Douglas White (Hon. Treasurer), and Pat Carey, C. C. Cornish, H. Mountford, Bob Hutt, Chas. Gardiner, J. C. Jimsor, Harry Blake (who travelled from Leicester to be present), Joe Lavender, and C. Douglas Stuart (Secretary). The floral emblem of respect from the Association was a handsome white and violet cross.

MR ROLAND YORKE AND MISS GERTRUDE BONSER have fully copyrighted and protected an original dramatic scena entitled *Napoleon*, in four tableaux, and its success has been immediate. The principal crises in the great little Corsican's life, culminating in the disastrous retreat at Waterloo, are shown in a dream. Mr Yorke makes an excellent Napoleon, and Miss Bonser is a pathetic and tender Josephine. The costumes are by Messrs Willie Clarkson, Morris Angel, and H. and M. Rayne, and there are five special scenes.

AT the matinée given on Wednesday, at the Palace, Blackpool, for the benefit of the Chief Constable's Poor Children's Clothing Fund, a special prologue was spoken by Mr Cyril Chantler. It was from the pen of Mr George E. Martin, of the Tower Palace, and its delivery evoked frequent outbursts of applause. The function was promoted by the Theatrical and Music Hall Sports Committee, of which Mr Geo. H. Harrop was chairman. Mr Henry Sharrock and Mr Tom Brunskill acted as hon. treasurer and hon. secretary respectively. Among the turns entertaining were Winifred Hare, Sam Mayo, Signor and Madame Borelli, Miss Lena Verdi, Atlas and Vulcana, Tom E. Murray, Grell and Grey, Rita and Rôme, Curtis and Vanity, and *The Little Charwoman* sketch.

DR. WALFORD BODIE has just concluded a very happy week's holiday at his beautiful Highland home, Macduff. Before leaving he gave a grand supper and dance to his tenantry. He is one of the most popular landlords in the North. While in Macduff last week the doctor's solicitor, Mr J. J. George, Town Clerk of Macduff, arranged with Marshall and Mackenzie, the famous architects of Aberdeen, for plans to be drawn for the erection of a grand new mansion in Macduff. To secure his ground the doctor will have to pull down four large dwelling-houses. The mansion will be used as his private residence.

HE opened on Monday at the Palace Theatre, Glasgow, which is one of the largest theatres in the provinces, and at both houses the huge building was packed to suffocation, hundreds having to be turned away. Despite the fact that this is his sixteenth visit to the city, the doctor seems to gain in popularity every visit.

MISS AGNES MOLTENO the well-known and favourite prima donna, is producting next week at the Metropole, Camberwell, a new and original scena, entitled "Edna's Dream." The music is written and arranged by Denham Harrison, and the words are by Roland Carse. In this Miss Molteno has three or four lightning changes, and she plays the piano, and sings in two quite different styles. There should be much success in store for the novelty.

THE popular artiste, Miniature Marie (the daughter of Mr Frank Egerton), and now the wife of Lieutenant C. T. Smith, is the proud mother of a son and heir, who was born on Monday. Mr and Mrs Smith have received a number of telegrams of congratulation from their numerous professional friends.

CHEEVERS AND KENNEDY, who were such favourites at the Cambridge during the late Mr Will Riley's time, open at the London, Shoreditch, on Monday. Many years have elapsed since they last appeared in the East.

MISS FLORRIE GALLIMORE, the popular comedienne, returns from a successful tour in the provinces to-morrow, and will make her reappearance at the Bedford on Monday to the delight of her admirers. She will be very busy while in town.

MRS ABE HOLT, widow of the late comedian of that name, desires, through our columns, to thank the Brothers Edgar for the sum £3 15s. collected by them, and also to acknowledge the kindness of the following ladies and gentlemen who helped her in her trouble:—The Waldrons (Joe and Ettie), Alf Chester, Pat Rafferty, Daisy de Roy, Paul Courtney, the M'Connell Trio, May Henderson, Mr Cussick (Palls and Cussick), and Mr Phillips (Phillips and Terry).

THE Liverpool Coroner held an inquest on Wednesday on the body of Harriet Parkhurst, aged twenty, a music hall artist. It was stated that the deceased travelled with two music hall artists, and at her own wish was trained for the profession. She was not successful, and became despondent. On Monday, after a quarrel, she took salts of lemon, writing to her sister in London that her temper had got the better of her. A verdict of suicide whilst temporarily insane was returned.

A BILLIARD contest between several of the artists engaged this week at the Empire, Rochdale, took place on Thursday at the Wardleworth Liberal Club (by permission of the secretary), resulting in a victory for the Empire artists by 112 points. Score:—Empire,—Fred Harcourt, 150; Gus Hindell, 149; and Will Kydd, 150; total, 449. Circus,—Little Dando, 104; Sid Bandon, 150; and Paddy Lang, 83; total, 337.

OWING to the loss *en voyage* from Dublin to the Empire, Liverpool, of a portion of their luggage, the Smytheons were, on Monday, placed in an unenviable quandary, and were unable to play the sketch *The Lie Alarm*, for which they were billed. However, with admirable promptitude they at once purchased fresh costumes and the necessary properties, and performed their sketch, *Our Suite*, to the plaudits of the huge audience assembled.

MR E. J. MACDERMOTT, son of the late Mr G. H. Macdermott, has purchased the agency founded by and run under the direction of his father.

MR ARTHUR PRINCE, the well-known ventriloquist, has been on the sick-list this week. He was unable to answer his number at the London Pavilion on Monday, and indisposition prevented his appearance at the Morton Memorial matinée on Tuesday.

MR T. P. DUIGNAN, the late manager of the Blackpool Hippodrome under Signor Pepi, has been appointed as acting-manager of the Bow Palace by Mr Frank Macnaghten, and left the popular Lancashire seaside resort on Monday to take up his new duties. Before his departure he was presented on Sunday night at the Lane Ends Hotel, Blackpool, with an illuminated address and a purse of gold. The testimonial, an artistic piece of work, was signed by Messrs G. H. Harrop, the popular Lancashire caterer and manager; F. Waller, J. Tranter, A. M. Fletcher, R. Nickson, Dr. Calvert, H. Powell Jones, Colonel Leslie, F. T. Rundall, J. E. H. Gorst, H. Brooke, H. Hawkins, and Tom Brunskill. Mr C. Morgan, who succeeds Mr Duignan at Blackpool, comes from Barrow-in-Furness

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

LONDON PAVILION.

It is evident that Mr Frank Glenister in his scheme of amusement at the fine house in Piccadilly-circus gives the widest possible interpretation to the word variety; for we have jugglers, an impressionist, comic singers, burlesque artistes, patterers, instrumentalists, and a remarkably funny skit. The last mentioned is presented by Mr Harry Tate, whose humorous powers, which were shown to such advantage in *Motoring*, have experienced further developments in *Fishing*, which is received with shouts of laughter. The scene, which is from the artistic brush of Mr W. T. Hemsley, is a backwater on the Thames. Mr Tate is accompanied in his angling expedition by a professional fisherman, and there is enough refreshment in the way of strong drink to stock an ordinary public house. The amateur has the very best of tackle and plenty of groundbait in the way of bread, which is thrown from the punt in great quantities—thus perpetuating the ancient connection between loaves and fishes. The amateur Isaak Walton, owing to his eagerness to get at the bait, is unable to free his hand from the tin pot containing it, and as he at the same time hooks himself in that portion of the anatomy known as the seat of honour, the situation is ludicrous enough. But the unkindest comment of all on the elaborate methods of the fly thrower is the success of the "village idiot," a hobbledehoy who throws snuff on the water and kills the fish when they come up to sneeze. But we need go no further in our description of a piece of tooling that loses its point in analysis. Mr Tate is exceedingly funny, and the generous encouragement meted out to him is well deserved. When, through the action of the theatres, sketches with plots are forbidden on the variety stage, it is well to be able to rely on comedians with so much resource as Mr Tate to supply such a plotless and harmless piece of nonsense as *Fishing*. The gentleman who plays the professional angler, and who calls himself George Washington, is entitled to a word of praise, and the youngster appearing as the village idiot does all that is demanded of him with unconscious humour. Miss Ida René, who has returned from a successful visit to America, is one of the greatest favourites at the London Pavilion, and her appearance is greeted with warm applause. She sings once again "The Rake's Progress," with its plentiful references to the devil and hell, and the dramatic strength of the number has increased since we last heard the fair singer, who also gives much charm to a lyric that may be labelled "Divine Comedy." Mr Malcolm Scott, with his amusing comments on the Beck case, the Dogger Bank tragedy, the actor-manager system—with special reference to Mr Tree and a burlesque of his style of acting—and a skit on the latest Pinero play, supplies a clever, bright and sparkling interlude, into which he further introduces a skit on Mr Hall Caine's drama *The Christian*. Miss Millie Lindon's charming song "The rain came pitter-patter down," with its idyllic story of love and faithfulness, enables her to score a great success, which is further added to by another well-written number which may be entitled "The cat took another sardine"—a proceeding made quite easy by the easily understood preoccupation of a courting couple. Miss Lindon's articulation is clear and distinct, her singing never forced or harsh, and the hearty recalls of the delighted audience set the seal on a success that is thoroughly well deserved. Miss Alice Pierce is back again with "impressions" of theatrical favourites, which include Mr Tree as Caliban, Miss Stella Gastelle, in *La Poupée*, and Miss Edna May in *The Schoolgirl*. We are quite sure the last-mentioned lady is more distinct in her utterance than Miss Pierce, who winds up her entertainment with an imitation of Miss Lena Ashwell in the prison scene of Tolstoi's *Resurrection*, produced last year at His Majesty's. High-class instrumentalism is always favoured at the London Pavilion, and we again have to recognise the excellent concertina playing of Mr Percy Honri, who is fulfilling a return engagement. Since his last visit to the London Pavilion, Mr Honri has been to the other side of "the pond," and has come back with his artistic powers deepened and his executive facilities ripened. After a little trifling in the way of imitations of bag-pipes and the curate who sings a version of "He don't know where he are" to the strains of "The Lost Chord," the concertinist gets to such serious work as the two final dances from Edward German's incidental music written for the Lyceum production of *Henry the Eighth*. Technique and expression are admirable, and the player may be congratulated on a success won by the most artistic means. The Zanettos, jugglers, return to repeat their great success, and a similar compliment may be paid to Mr Walter Bellonini. The Rales open the bill with some excellent dancing; Mr William Gourlay, comedian and dancer, burlesques the drama amusingly; Rich and Rich have some excellent patter; Mr Norman French's sand dance has many touches of eccentricity; and Nipper Lupino Lane is a clever descendant of a family renowned in dramatic and music hall annals. Mr George Mozart presents a capital skit entitled "Going to the Races;" Mr Edwin Boyde presents an old song with success; Ernesto astonishes with his juggling and balancing feats; and Miss May Henderson, who returns after a short absence, is as successful as ever in her entertainment, which includes some admirable step dancing. Miss Pollo Jerome is a lithe and graceful trapeze performer; and other names on the bill are Miss Lilian Doreen and Mr Arthur Prince.

THE GRANVILLE.

At the popular and pretty Granville Theatre of Varieties at Walham-green Mr Jesse Sparrow has shown a most enterprising disposition, and it is his firm intention and desire to keep up a high standard of variety, and by providing the best and brightest shows to deserve the success which ever attends assiduity and keen study of the public taste. The house has been full to overflowing during the week, and though this state of affairs leaves only standing room for the harmless necessary critic, still one must not carp at "good business" even when it means discomfort and inconvenience to oneself. Mr George Robey, fitly dubbed the "prime minister of mirth," is inimitable as ever, and he remains unchallenged by the "opposition" as the leader of the mirth-moving fraternity, more especially when he steps forth in shining armour and scanty garments as "The Gladiator." In his other song, "Say no more about it," he is equally funny, and by fixing his eagle eye on any one of his audience he always contrives to provoke screams of uncontrollable laughter. Chirgwin, the white-eyed musical Kaffir, is one whose joyful quips and carols age cannot wither nor custom stale. Nothing escapes him, from Pinero's doll and the cheap fares to America—holding forth a lure to the British alien to emigrate to Yankeeland—to the author of "Bill Bailey" and the "jaw" stopper of renown. His song "My fiddle is my sweetheart" is both quaint and pretty, and his burlesque imitation of an operatic songstress is killingly funny. Edwin Boyde, the sad-eyed comedian, causes shrieks of laughter by his diverting rendition of his ditties "Lord love me, what am I going to do?" and "She's My Wife." Arthur Lennard is well to the fore with "And the organ played" and other ditties. Miss Lizzie Fletcher has a song, "It's warm, really warm," which is well delivered, and she gives us a taste of her quality as a vocalist in "My dear old home." Eugene and Willie, the musical grotesques, with their acrobatic violin-playing, provide a clever and attractive turn. Miss Leah Laurie shines as a comedienne in her "Toodlioo" song, and gives imitations of music hall artistes. Miss Cora Caselli warbles a sort of coon song, "What a girl to wish to die for," which is set to a good tune and sung with much spirit, afterwards submitting a picturesque and graphic scena of song and dance in imitation of a Spanish Toreador, into which she throws herself heart and soul. Mr George Formby, the quaint comedian, who terms himself "the man from Lancashire," patters amusingly through his well-known song "Oh, oh, oh!" and then chants his amusing number "When uncle plays the cornet." Starr and Leslie give their club-juggling act, and the Hamiltons (Jack and Alice) give a comedy duo. Little Gitana is seen and heard to advantage in her little song and dance sketch entitled "A School Girl's Holiday," in which she proves herself a miniature marvel; and the Three Sisters Hayden deserve favourable mention, especially for their song of "cheap street music," which is cleverly composed and sung with great gusto. The Harvey Boys, boxing comedians; Tony and Flo Vernon, in their well-known *Bojey* sketch and paper-tearing act; Miss Rose Newport, comedienne; and George Bendon, the white coon, complete the programme. Mr W. S. Bassett still ably presides over the orchestra. Mr Ernest Bridger, the acting-manager, is assiduous in his devotion to duty, and is thoroughly in sympathy with the high aims of his chief.

GRAND, CLAPHAM.

The promise of prosperity is already shown at the Grand Hall at Clapham, which, having embarked on the two-houses-a-night plan, seems quite to realise the best anticipations of Mr Walter Gibbons, whose enterprises are manifestly born to success. First-class programmes and able management are the principal factors in the achievement, and in the latter department few are more qualified than Mr Harry Bawn, the courteous acting-manager, whose devotion to duty is such that he has remained at his post this week even though carrying his arm in a sling—the unfortunate result of burns contracted through the vagaries of a fugitive firework on the "Fifth." A costly list of artistic turns is included in the current bill, the attractiveness of which has been reflected in the enormous business done. A notable feature of the programme is Mr Paul Martinetti and company, who are seen in *The Keyhole*, a sketch that has done the troupe good service. Mr Martinetti's reputation as a mime was made a quarter of a century ago, but he still remains an example of the finest pantomimic art, and the laughter he arouses is as genuine and spontaneous as ever. His part of the love-stricken amateur actor is crammed with ingenious bits of eccentricity, and as he has to take part in a mock duel and to impersonate an odd old woman four feet high, full scope is given for artistic elaboration. The result is a most excruciating performance, in which the members of the company share, Mr Alfred Martinetti being a comic valet and Miss Clara Martinetti making a vivacious servant-girl. Miss May is a comely and expressive maiden, whose stern parent is ferociously played by Mr Emile Josset, while Mr John Heard enacts the ludicrous antics of a "dude" with comic skill. Mr Joe Peterman's company in *The Belle of the Orient* is also a potent attraction, fulfilling all the requirements of a musical comedy, the splendour of the scenes, the pretty faces, the richness of the costumes, the extravagant fun, and the lively songs and choruses all combining to keep the audience delighted. Mr Peterman has the happy faculty of turning all things to the purposes of fun, of which his "Pawnbroker's Cake-walk" in the part of a Jew moneylender forms a novel specimen. Support of an adequate nature is given by the long cast, Miss Madoline Rees exercising an irresistible charm both in singing and acting as Ruth Verney and Mr Chas Grant making a gallant Lord Exmore. Added to these two elaborate productions are a number of fine turns which are necessarily restricted by the pressure of time, but a glimpse is afforded of the low comedy ability of Mr Tom Woottwell, in "I don't like a little bit at all," which gathers a rich harvest of mirth. The Laurel Trio use a "ping-pong" table as a base for acrobatic operations, somersaults to hands and clever wrist-work forming part of their well-performed show, which is varied by the drollery of one of the trio, who also does some expert hat-catching. The Glenroy Troupe of dancers give a taste of their quality in a hornpipe, the three ladies of the company, in picturesque Highland uniform, singing "The boys of Britannia's Empire," and giving a pretty display of sword exercise and military manœuvres. The Sisters Silcott, tastefully arrayed in white, burlesque the coon lilt, and perform a dashing dance; Mr T. C. Callaghan is funny in his song "All among the sawdust;" the Royal Welsh Singers send forth a torrent of melody in a stirring glee, the lady rising to remarkable heights in the soprano; and Miss Jessie Burnett also figures in the list. The orchestra, under Mr James Sale, prove equal to all demands made upon them in the course of an arduous evening's work.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

A distinct class of variety lover is to be found at Poplar, and Mr Joe Haynes, in his management of Messrs Tom Maltby and Wickes's establishment, has proved that he is able to cater for them to a nicety. As a consequence, the patronage of the cosy hall never fluctuates, and the large audience that gathers each evening is always sure of an excellent entertainment. A big favourite in the current week's bill is the droll Mr George Mozart, a comedian whose methods of amusing are original and always effective. He first gave his laughable impersonations of an old lady, a boy, and a coster crossing a busy thoroughfare, each character being an admirable portrait and evoking much merriment. His song, "At the Races," in which he humorously describes the adventures of a "Juggins" on a racecourse, was also a clever and laughter-compelling number, and Mr Mozart, who is apparently as big a favourite in Poplar as he is in the halls further West, was acclaimed with an enthusiasm which must have been most gratifying. Flattering also was the reception accorded Mr Wilson Hallett, a sifflieur and infant impersonator of decided cleverness. In his song with whistling accompaniment, the occupants of the balconies were evidently determined to lend him assistance, and the item altogether was much appreciated. Very amusing and faithful was his imitation of a youngster reciting at a party; and his anecdotes relating to children also proved diverting. In response to a persistent demand for an encore Mr Hallett gave an imitation of a three weeks-old baby lifting up its voice in song, a remarkably clever piece of mimicry. Early in the programme Miss Daisy Palmer sang the tuneful and popular "I'se a-waiting for yer, Josie," with much acceptance, and contributed a dance that was distinguished by neatness and dexterity and applauded at its true worth. "No, thanks, that'll doodle-do," was the first number of Mr Wally Scott, an eccentric comedian, who also scored unmistakably in his song descriptive of his adventures at a party, his clever dancing largely contributing to the enjoyment of the audience; and Cribb and Cribb are a couple of cross-talk comedians who indulge in amusing conversation and dance with expertness. The Musical Palmers can always be relied upon to furnish an enjoyable and varied turn, and on Monday evening their initial effort was an admirably played fantasia, by three of the party, on the post-horn that was loudly applauded. "Asthore" and "Under a Panama" were excellently given by a quartet of brass, and the manipulation of the sleigh bells by a lady resulted in a tuneful selection of popular airs that was especially appreciated. Their concluding contribution was the spirited march "Stars and Stripes," Miss Daisy Palmer impersonating the famous composer, Sousa, conducting his band. Miss Nellie Wilson has an amusing and popular number in "If you can't buy a motor-car, buy a motor-cap;" and also dances with much expertness, and lovers of the Terpsichorean art were afforded a treat by the many difficult evolutions indulged in by the New York Quartet, four attractive damsels, who looked particularly smart in the bright red coats they donned to sing "Under a Panama." Other clever and entertaining varieties were contributed by the Donator, wonderful one-legged dancers and jumpers; Mr Harry Taft; and the Wyn pantomime combination. The dramatic sketch of the programme was entitled *In Dark Siberia*, and was given by Mr T. B. Lloyd and company. The principal interest in this is centred in the treachery of a Russian officer, Major Waroff, towards an Englishman, Captain Victor Gordon, and his heartless cruelty to a Hebrew boy, Paul Gregorivitch. The "sensation" scene is reserved till nearly the finish of the playlet, when Waroff, unable to get the boy to lie at the court-martial of the Englishman, injures his limbs, and has hot irons applied to his eyes until he is sightless. The sketch was admirably enacted throughout, the head of the combination supplying the only comedy relief in his impersonation of a petty officer, Sergeant Petrovitch, who befriends the innocent. The capable orchestra here is under the experienced and careful control of Mr George Hatley.

GATTI'S (ROAD).

Small profits and quick returns is a principle that appears to work very well at Gatti's hall in the Westminster-bridge-road, where a long evening's entertainment, embracing all that is best in the variety market, is always provided by Mr Tom Tinsley, while the prices are so moderate as to be within the reach of the humblest patrons of variety. The bill-of-fare is this week of exceptional excellence, and early patrons are well entertained by Miss Elsie Robey, who, in *The Slavey's "At Home"* gives a droll performance at the piano, singing and dancing and going through any number of eccentric evolutions that win her abundant favour. The Sisters Lunelle exercise their fascinations effectively in singing and dancing. They are attractive duettists, and whether singing of "Dolly" or "Lucy" or posing as the "best little girl that I know," they are quite successful in bewitching the audience. Mr Bert Brantford makes a bold bid for laughter in a couple of effusions, of which his song as a "navvy coon" is by far the best. Armed with a bundle tied in a handkerchief, he pays eulogy to his "Dinah," a name which refers, not to a lady of the cotton-fields, but to the steak-pudding and vegetables which are to constitute his midday meal, of which an eccentric and skilful dance forms a most acceptable course. It is a ludicrous impersonation drolly conceived and cleverly carried out. A great diversion is created by the Two M'Naughtons, who arrive at their destination by means of the subtlest drollery, but which the audience are not slow to grasp. The dry humour of the imperturbable Tom is sufficient to lift up the most despondent, however deep in the "dumps" he may be, especially when he combines the melodies of "Excelsior" and "Bill Bailey" in the interests of mirth, or excites his partner to frenzy by his references to the Fifth of November. The provoking ingenuousness of the audacious comedian is irresistible, and the work of he and his talented partner has such an effect on the house that it echoes continuously with bursts of laughter. A highly entertaining performance is that given by the Three Laurels, whose intrepid acrobatic feats are marked by originality, which the comicality of one member of the trio does not cloak. He causes roars of mirth by the gravity with which he juggles with hats, the tricks themselves being clever. Somersaults from a table to his partner's hands and from other positions are also performed neatly and cleanly by one of the trio, who are loudly cheered. Mr George H. Elliott achieves distinction by his appearance as the "Chocolate-coloured Coon," whose songs are all of love, to the melodious airs of which his robust voice gives every effect. "Daisy" is the first to be celebrated in song, closely followed by "Lazy Maisie," who earns her appellation by going to sleep at every opportunity, even at the psychological moment when her copper-skinned bridegroom is about to adjust the wedding-ring. Mr Elliott has later to extoll the "Brown Havannah Queen" and to perform a dance which is very graceful and expert, and which gains unlimited applause. A first-rate favourite is found in Miss Daisy James, whose chorus of "Kiss your Goosey-Poosey" is merrily trilled by the audience, while the piquant drollery of "Smart!" is well recognised, so pointedly is it brought out by the charming comedienne. A still greater impression is aroused when the young lady appears as a domestic servant, waving a red flag, to sing "My fellow's a hero," an amusing lyric relating to the guardian of a steam-roller whose noble exploits in the pursuance of his calling and in the search for beer are prolific of merriment. Miss Alexandra Dagmar has a touching song of sentiment in "Boy in Blue" which she sings with excellent expression. There is a dashing sound about "Listen to the big brass band" of which Miss Dagmar makes the most, while in the song with the refrain "Will my dream come true?" a verse relating to the North Sea "incident" alternates with others of a comic nature, into which the audience enter with zest. The Three Sisters Silcott make their greatest hit with "The Seaside Girls," but there is excellent satire in their coon trio, in which they make an impressive appearance, and do a dance with great spirit. The Mutograph continues its successful career with interesting and well diversified pictures, and the rest of the bill is made up of the Glenroy Troupe with their clever characteristic dancing; the Risto Brothers, contortionists and hand-balancers; Miss Peggy Primrose, comedienne; and Arthur Rose, comedian.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—A memorial to the late Mr Herbert Campbell in the shape of a bust, either in marble or bronze, is to be obtained, and placed, if possible, in the vestibule of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, the scene of so many of his triumphs. Mr Harry Randall has kindly consented to act as president and Mr Edward Ledger, of *The Era*, as treasurer to the fund.

It is the intention of the committee to engage an artist of repute to execute this work to the memory of the above-mentioned generous and genial comedian. The committee will esteem it a great favour if his old friends and admirers will assist in making this memorial a success. All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

Yours faithfully, FRANK HEATH, (Secretary).

Committee Rooms, Hummums Hotel, Covent-garden, W.C., Nov. 2.

Sums received.

	£	s.	d.
A. Magnus	10	10	0
W. Joyner	5	5	0
Joe Elvin	3	3	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0
J. Hickory Wood	1	1	0
H. Comfort	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
Jesse Sparrow	1	1	0
Pat Doherty	1	1	0
W. Clarkson	0	10	6
M. M. M'Neill	0	2	6
Per Harry Randall:—			
Harry Randall	5	5	0
Eugene Stratton	2	2	0
Little Tich	2	2	0
Eccentric Club	2	2	0
J. Bernard Dickson	1	1	0
Charles Hector	0	10	6

MISS FLORENTIA GLYNNE (Mrs Valvo), who has now been ill for three months, has been under three doctors, each in turn having given her up. On Friday, Nov. 4, she had a relapse, and was at once admitted into the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, where she is receiving the most skilful medical attendance.

"WOMAN AND WAR."

A New Military and Romantic Sketch, by Harry Bruce, Produced at the Islington Empire, on Monday, Nov. 7.

Harry Alford	Mr HARRY BRUCE
Sergeant M'Finney	Mr JOHN G. M'MAHONE
Captain Villiers	Mr ERIC A. GRANT
Colonel Manners	Mr ERNEST BALL
Helen, alias Will, Trooper 215	Miss FLORENCE NIGEL / Miss IVY ALBERTO

Recent events have tended to impart a special interest to a military sketch which recalls the great conflict between this country and Russia fifty years ago; and Messrs Ernest Ball and Harry Bruce have undoubtedly chosen the right moment to produce their miniature drama. And in regard to this production music hall managers need have no fear, inasmuch as Messrs Ball and Bruce have received a guarantee from Mr Blackmore on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association that no proceedings will at any time be taken against those responsible for the staging of the piece. The author founds his plot upon a supposititious incident of the Crimean War. The hero, Harry Alford, is a trooper in the 11th Hussars, and when the curtain rises upon the first scene, revealing a distant view of Balaklava Heights, we find that he is a prisoner, and has been condemned to be shot for a serious military offence. The charge against him was that of being drunk whilst on duty as sentry. His friend, Sergeant M'Finney, discovered in the trenches a flask of brandy; Alford took a mouthful of the spirit, and soon afterwards fell down unconscious. Found in this condition, he was charged with drunkenness and convicted of the offence. He is confined in a hut, and a young trooper named Will Gunstock is placed in charge. He is a friend of the prisoner, and urges him to escape. But Harry refuses, giving his companion to understand that he has ceased to value his life since the woman he loved deceived him, throwing him over in favour of an officer of the regiment, Captain Villiers, who presently makes his appearance. He gloats over the fact that Alford is about to be shot, and in an interview with the prisoner makes certain revelations, with a sinister object. He informs Alford that the woman he loved has always been faithful to him, and was still devoted to him. The captain, however, thought he had a chance to win her after his rival had suffered an ignominious death. The colonel of the regiment arrives with the information that the young soldier has been granted the Victoria Cross for gallantry shown on the field of battle, and tells him he would grant any request he chooses to make. Will asks that Harry Alford may be set free, but the Colonel refuses, although the trooper had twice saved his life during a brush with the enemy. However, Sergeant M'Finney interposes and produces the flask of brandy, which was purposely dropped by Captain Villiers. On making an examination the Colonel discovers that the spirit has been drugged, and releases Alford, while the captain is placed under arrest. At this crisis the colonel receives the order that the Light Brigade is to charge the Russian gunners, and he confides to Alford the hopelessness of the position. It is then that the so-called Will reveals to Harry that she is the woman whose memory he cherishes so tenderly, having joined the regiment by exchanging places with her brother Will. She insists upon being by his side in the famous ride, and in the last scene—"the Valley of Death"—there is an exciting fight for the standard. Harry and his devoted sweetheart are seen engaged in a deadly sword fight against overwhelming odds, but they are finally triumphant. This combat is waged to the accompaniment of the roar of a heavy cannonade, the curtain falling upon a highly realistic and sensational tableau. Mr Harry Bruce plays well as Harry Alford, and Mr Ernest Ball supplies a capital portrayal of the peppery colonel of the regiment. He also introduces a song, "The Boys of the Light Brigade," which he sings in good style. Mr Eric A. Grant is well placed as Capt. Villiers, and Mr John G. M'Mahone is brisk and amusing as Sergt. M'Finney. Owing to the great strain involved in the sword fight, two ladies are engaged to play the part of Helen, alias Trooper 215, Miss Florence Nigel appearing at the first house and Miss Ivy Alberto at the second. Comparisons are proverbially odious, but it may be said that both ladies play the part admirably, and show considerable skill in the sword fight. The scenery and effects are all that can be wished, and the new sketch may be regarded as an undoubted success.

THE M.H.A.R.A. NEW COMMITTEE.

The following are the members of the new committee of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association, and the number of votes obtained by each:—

Chas. Edgar	1348	Borelli	816
Will Edgar	1316	F. Russell	808
Chas. M'Connell	1299	Clemart	803
Frank Coyne	1151	T. M'Naughton	798
E. Stratton	953	J. Burnell	796
J. Collinson	942	R. G. Knowles	793
H. Blake	891	G. Booker	789
Pat Carey	886	J. O'Gorman	779
H. Mountford	870	C. Ryland	768
J. Elvin	868	H. Wright	768
Wal Pink	864	M. Nolan	761
Chas. Gardiner	859	R. Abel	759
Phil Ray	850	P. Martinetti	758
H. Griff	849	F. Harcourt	757
J. Finney	848	P. Rafferty	756
F. M'Naughton	848	H. Freeman	744
J. Alexander	845	Capt. Slingsby	737
Walter Munroe	832	J. E. Dunedin	736
F. Griffiths	818	F. Gerald	726
B. Leonard	817	Bob Hutt	723

The following candidates did not succeed in obtaining a sufficiency of votes, and are therefore among the rejected:—

T. Costello	719	L. Tell	574
J. Lavender	692	P. Delevine	568
F. Neiman	689	C. Mildare	563
J. Allison	685	G. Bandurria	558
J. Vendome	683	C. Kitts	556
G. H. Smythson	677	E. W. Manning	548
J. Lawrence	662	H. Delevine	540
W. Lee	654	F. Travis	536
W. Benn	648	A. Howard	527
J. Seul	638	J. H. Maccann	519
C. Cornish	634	J. P. Dane	474
T. Young	629	H. Gee	473
H. Tate	617	F. Herbert	469
T. Leopold	607	G. Preston	429
B. Stavordale	599	W. Hallett	377
J. D. Humphreys	598	Ibrahim	370
F. Donaldson	594	M. Scott	355
J. Le Fre	590	E. Leamy	303
B. Shepard	589	F. Halter	274
J. Elvo	583	H. Hill	228
E. Brown	582	H. Clary	155
A. Martinetti	581	B. Woodger	159
J. C. Jimson	578	W. Cyrus	142
T. M'Kay	576		

(Signed) HARRY NATION, CHAS. PASTOR, JERRY HART, Scrutineers appointed at the General Meeting.

The total number of voting papers were 1,799, and the number disqualified reached 108. The first meeting of the new committee will be held on Tuesday next, at one o'clock, when all the members in London are particularly requested to attend.

PROF. WINGARD was specially engaged at the matinée last Saturday at the Opera House, Cork, and took the place of a curtain raiser with great success. He is specially retained to perform this Saturday by General Sir Reginald and Lady Pole Carew.—The Musical Palmers returned to town on Monday after a three months' successful tour, opening at the Palace, Bow, and the Queen's, Poplar.

THE MORTON MEMORIAL MATINÉE.

No better evidences could be adduced of the admitted service of the late Mr Charles Morton to the world of entertainment and the public than the list of representative men acting as the honorary committee of the memorial fund matinée and the packed state of the auditorium of the Palace on Tuesday afternoon, when this interesting function was brought to a most successful issue. The high-class programme, long as it undoubtedly was, might have been almost indefinitely lengthened, so eager were people prominent in theatrical and music hall circles to appear. Mr Alfred Butt, the new manager of the Palace, who worked so hard and successfully, set the entertainment going soon after one; and Mr Herman Finck's orchestra opened it with a fine rendering of the late Sir Arthur Sullivan's "In Memoriam" overture, a selection that we do not remember to have ever heard before in a music hall. Nothing could have been more appropriate, as it was written by the composer when he was plunged into sorrow by the sudden death of his father. The great disappointment of the afternoon was the absence of Miss Ada Reeve, who had intended journeying from Cardiff to be present, but was prevented carrying out her wish by an attack of laryngitis, which keeps her in bed. Miss Reeve sent a cheque for £5, and a similar course was followed by Miss Evelyn Millard, who also sent a long telegram of regret that indisposition compelled her to absent herself. Mr Lewis Waller came along to recite with fine martial spirit the "Once more into the breach" harangue from *Henry the Fifth*, and there was a special fitness in the appearance of Mr Charles Warner. It was this excellent actor who was specially charged by the late Mr Clement Scott with the delivery of an address to the late Mr Charles Morton on the occasion of his benefit at the Alhambra on March 19, 1891, when a sum of £1,000 was raised for "the father of the halls." Mr Warner as his contribution to the programme chose *Heard at the Telephone*, a tragic little piece from the French of MM. De Lorde and Foley, produced at Wyndham's Theatre on March 1, 1902. The popular actor exhibited all his old command of emotional intensity, and the distress of the helpless husband at hearing his wife's shrieks—by wire as it were—was absolutely painful as depicted by Mr Warner, whose treatment of the thrilling situation was rewarded with immense applause. Mr Warner had excellent support from Mr Henderson Bland and Miss Gunn. Miss Esmé Beringer, who has fulfilled several successful engagements at the Palace, exhibited her fine elocutionary gifts in Frank Desprez's powerful poem, "Lasca." The lighter vein was struck by Mr Louis Bradfield and a contingent of fascinating Empire girls, who sang "Mr Mosenstein;" by Mr Seymour Hicks and eight Gibson Girls, who gave "A Quaint old Bird," from *The Catch of the Season*; by Mr Henry Lytton, Miss Agnes Fraser, and the Lyric Girls, in "A Cosy Corner;" and by Mr R. A. Douglass, in a capital monologue. Mdlle. Adelina Genée came from the Empire to bewitch us all with a couple of songs from *The Milliner Duchess*, and several excerpts were given from the Alhambra ballet, including the evolutions of *les petits Japonais*, a polka by Miss Slack and Miss Josephine Casaboni, and the *danse des rubans*. Miss Camille Clifford, a Gibson girl, gave an original character sketch of "The girl who goes out walking all day," and sang prettily; Miss Maude Courtney's American stories went down well; Miss May Gurney chose the well-known ballad, "Sing me to sleep," to which she gave much expression; Mr Arthur Roberts, with the Palace girls, scored a pronounced success; Mr Rutland Barrington, apologising for lack of voice through a cold, gave a short and amusing recitation, entitled "Alexander;" Mr Maurice Farkoa sang "Bedella" in French; the Follies performed the burlesque cantata, *The Pearl of Peckham*; and Mr Robert Ganthony submitted a quaint sermon on the incomplete record of "Little Bo-Peep." The artistes from the halls included Mr G. H. Chirgwin, an established Palace favourite, in much-appreciated selections from his varied répertoire; Miss Marie Lloyd, in "Eh, what, what?" Mr George Robey, in "Say no more about it;" Dataz, the "living almanac;" Desroches and Bianca, Parisian eccentrics; Mr Mark Melford—heartily laughed at in his amusing sketch, *Nonsuited*; the Magic Kettle in its reversal of Nature's laws; Miss Alice Pierce, with some impressions of favourite actresses; Phroso, as a doll, quite as mysterious as Mr Pinero's at Wyndham's; Mr Malcolm Scott, pattering in his own amusing way; Mr Ernest Shand, admirably emphasising an amusing song; and Miss Bessie Featherstone, with "The Latest London Betting." As honorary musical directors, Mr G. W. Byng came from the Alhambra, Mr Cuthbert Clarke from the Empire, Mr Carl Kiefert from the Vaudeville, Mr Hamish M'Cunn from the Lyric, Mr Bond Sayers from the London Pavilion, and Mr Howard Talbot from Daly's. The honorary stage-managers were Mr George Capel (Empire), Mr George Fielder (Vaudeville), Mr J. A. E. Malone (Daly's), Mr E. Royce, junior (Lyric), Mr W. Warde (Daly's), and Mr Charles Wilson (Alhambra). Some charming actresses sold programmes, button-holes, and chocolates, and the rates ruled high. Among those assisting in this work were Miss Gertie Millar, the Misses Madge and Ruth Vincent, Miss Pauline Chase, and Miss Edith Blaiberg. The programme, by-the-way, was embellished with drawings by Tom Browne, Dudley Hardy, and John Hassall, and given away with it was an excellent portrait—the last taken—in mezzotint, by Langfier, of the late Mr Morton. The entertainment lasted four and a-half hours.

A VERY charming act is that given by Mdlle Nadji at the Alhambra. The fair performer is a handsome specimen of womanhood. Her feats of balancing are neatly performed. She demonstrates how easy it is to ascend or descend a staircase on her hands with body poised in the air, and also how to dance upside down. Mdlle. Nadji is an acrobat of no mean order. The clever lady finishes her entertainment by seizing a pad with her magnificent set of teeth, and while supporting the weight of her body, revolves with great rapidity. The apparata used in this performance is particularly smart and up to date, and the lady is gracefully attired, making one of the most successful turns on an excellent programme.

MRS FRANK LEONARD, of 202, Darwin-street, Birmingham, writes as follows:—"I am desirous of heartily thanking Mr Milner Verren for the sum 10s. 6d. collected from the artists at the Hippodrome, Coventry; Mr Fred Little, for 5s.; and Prof. M'Cann, for his collection (£1 7s. 6d.), from the following artists at Ohmy's Circus, Bolton:—Mr John Irvin, 5s.; Mr Hector, 5s.; Mr Ohmy, 5s.; Mr Hanneford, 5s.; August and September, 5s.; Claude Ohmy, 2s. 6d. I also thank *The Era* for giving publicity to my case."

CLYO AND ROCHELLE return to town on Monday after thirteen weeks' successful provincial tour, opening at the Granville, Walham-green.—Mr Will Cornish, the celebrated companologist, has signed through Messrs Nathan and Somers, for two dates at the London Coliseum (four weeks each date) and also for all Mr Stoll's other halls for 1906-7-8.

AT West London Police-court, on Saturday, Mr P. Hedderwick applied to Mr Rose, on behalf of the Theatrical Managers' Association, for process against Mr Coe, the proprietor of the Hammersmith Palace of Varieties, for permitting a stage-play, *The Fighting Parson*, to be performed at his music hall on six different evenings. Mr Coe was fined a short time ago under similar process in respect of the same play. The magistrate, having perused the sworn information, granted a summons.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

They have a pleasant custom at Hammersmith of celebrating the anniversary of that fine establishment by a week's variety festival; and when we arrived on Wednesday we found the place packed to listen to a remarkable list of artistes in the current programme and to several extra turns. A strong attraction of the regular company is Little Tich, with his impersonation of a torero, who, to please his inamorata, is burning to distinguish himself in the arena, and longs to give a fierce Spanish bull his quietus. Fortune is kind to him in this respect, and in his description of the weird encounter is found plenty of opportunity for laughter. It would be astonishing, indeed, if the diminutive comedian were ever allowed to depart from a hall without giving his big-boot dance—an item in his répertoire that has done him good service since the early eighties. Mr Harry Pleon, another star of the regular programme, exploits some amusing mimetic business when he gives his impression of the way in which Sir Henry Irving, Mr R. G. Knowles, and Mr Gus Elen would sing "Bluebell." Mr Pleon also imitates Mr Eugene Stratton, with dance. The versatile comedian also has another funny trifle in "How to make a book," in which he impersonates a "juggins" who seeks information from an expert at laying odds. He is initiated into the mysteries of "backing 'em" by a "fly" turfite, and his experiences on the course are as expensive as they are unpleasant. His misfortunes, presented as they are so amusingly by Mr Pleon, are heartily laughed at. Cline and Clark, the black-and-white comedy artistes, sing and dance with much expertness; and the Collinson combination is seen to great advantage in *The Cook's Guest*. In this comic trifle is introduced an important interlude—nothing less than a burlesque of a scene in *The Sign of the Cross*, which is drolly worked. The singing of Mr Jake Friedman is always worth listening to, and though his skit on opera is not to be taken seriously—in fact it is intensely amusing—yet we think he could do justice, if called upon, to several of the florid arias of Donizetti and Bellini that he treats with such unctuous humour. The Maples introduce one of the cleverest items in the programme, giving examples of Parisian and American dancing into which they manage to introduce some wonderful movements, tumbling, &c. The Two Errolls, comedy acrobats, are rightly so-called, the gentleman of the pair being a genuine droll. He successfully clears a number of chairs and a table on which his lady partner stands, and the show is generally very smart. There is nothing better in the way of eccentric tumbling than the tricks of the Missouris; and nothing more laughable in the way of buffoonery than the motoring sketch of Mr Harry Tate, who is as great a favourite at Hammersmith as he is elsewhere. Miss Mignonette Kokin is a delightful dancer, who fascinates all by her art; and Miss Elsie Roby introduces plenty of drollery into her turn as a comedienne pianist, dancing to her own accompaniment. Mr Henri Cazman is responsible for an entertainment that shows great versatility; there is genuine vim in the dancing of Miss Florence Yeaman, who emits a peculiar shrieking whistle which is much appreciated; and other turns in the regular bill include such excellent turns as Mr Dan Crawley, eccentric comedian; Kitts and Windrum, smart society entertainers; Spry and Montl, vaudeville artistes; Mr Leslie Bell and Miss Lily Pearl, in *A Little Bit of String*; Mr Walter Wallis, comedian; the Sisters Lunelle (Louie and Nellie), soubrettes; and Miss Edie Maddigon, comedienne. The Edisonegraph winds up the entertainment with an exhibition of some excellent films. The stage on Wednesday was under the management of Messrs Fred Reeves and Cadle, and the extra turns included G. H. Elliott, W. Young, St. Mayo and Coombes, Little Cliffe, and Miss Archbutt. On Tuesday Mr Jack Collins, Cussack, and Talma, illusionist, added to the interest of the programme, and on Monday additional entertainment was forthcoming from Mr Herbert Shelley, Miss E'sa Joel, Mr Herbert Maden, Mr Alix Lukos, and Miss Marguerite Broadfoote. It is evident that Mr J. C. Coe, who has to cope with formidable opposition in his immediate neighbourhood, is determined to give his patrons the very best talent that is to be obtained in the variety market. He is loyally backed up by Mr Lewis Vincent, his acting-manager.

PARIS MUSIC HALL NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THERE was much interest evinced over the production of *The Country Girl* at Olympia, and on the whole, the French adaptors, Cottens and Fordyce, have done fairly well. It was a trifle disconcerting to find that the part of Nan had been entirely eliminated, and a few of her numbers given to Mariette Sully as Sophie. The principals wander on and off as though they had no very vital part in the play, but in this case the play is merely the vehicle on which to carry Max Dearly to a singularly genuine success. Everything centres round Barry, and Dearly gives a faithful imitation of all Huntley Wright's quaint mannerisms, introducing also an imitation of poor Dan Leno's famous harp interlude, which set us all laughing at Drury-lane, though it made me sad to see the humour of "the King's Jester" travel over the Channel to Paris, where it set all Parisians laughing heartily and wholesomely at the very moment that the originator of so much laughter was lying still for ever. Dearly dances gracefully, and is full of life and energy. He carries the entire play on his shoulders, yet is never obtrusive. He has caught the sense of the humour, a thing imitators usually lack, and one was sincerely glad to see that Parisians, though they may scoff at our art and jeer at our comedy, still can laugh as heartily as we do over genuine clean fun when once they have overcome their astonishment at finding that fun does not necessarily need to be salacious. Mariette Sully did her best to support Dearly in her various duets with him, but her ignorance of the first principles of dancing made it very hard work for her. They should have let pretty Marion Winchester sing the "poultry song" with Dearly, for she is an exquisite dancer, and would not have been afraid of the efforts entailed in this amusing duet. This charming little American danced an English country dance in the first act to the delight of the audience. She is as light and as graceful and as gay as a bird. Later she sang a song and danced a very graceful *pas seul*. We have another American, in the person of Miss Whitney, but she had little opportunity of showing us what she can do.

GABRIANI'S rich, mellow tones were heard to perfection in her two solos as the Indian Princess. It was regrettable that she was only permitted to sing one verse of "Under the Deodar," to which she did ample justice. Alice Bonheur sang the songs allotted to her acceptably, but a Parisian's idea of a Devonshire lassie's work-a-day dress is marvellous. She looked like a Belgian peasant on a fête day, and her voice is not suitable to the soft tones necessary to the charming "Cooey" song. Dekernel has none of the fat facetiousness and quiet humour of the original "Rajah of Bhong," and his careful imitations of Mr Rutland Barrington's little mannerisms were lacking in point.

IN fact, the music caught on at once. People hummed the refrains and joined *sotto voce* in the choruses, which, by the way, were sung in English by Mr Tiller's sixteen energetic young ladies, who had appeared earlier in the evening in a number, entitled *The Phantom Guards*, in which they executed some graceful and complicated evolutions, and were very cordially received. The electric light effects utilised in their sword display were very pretty and effective, as was also their novel act.,

FUNERAL OF DAN LENO.

Only a few days ago was borne to the grave, at a ripe old age, the veteran who was known far and wide as the "father of the halls," the late Charles Morton. And now the famous little comedian who was justly proud of the title of "the King's jester," has been laid to rest, at an age when most members of his profession are regarded as still in their prime. The deep regret expressed at the passing away of one who added so much to the innocent gaiety of the patrons of both theatre and music hall has been universal; and that the funeral of Dan Leno on Tuesday should have evoked remarkable demonstrations of the widespread popularity of the deceased comedian was only to be expected. It was a bright, cheerful morning; but as mid-day approached heavy clouds gathered, threatening rain, and a cold wind blew across Clapham-common. Along the main road one perceived a stream of people all hurrying along in the direction of the residence of the deceased comedian. Just at the point where the funeral cortège had to cross the Balham High-road a vast crowd had gathered, and the traffic was entirely suspended while the procession wound its way to the Church of the Ascension, where the first part of the service was conducted. Even the L.C.C. tramcars, which were packed inside and out, were compelled to stop running for the time being. The funeral procession was timed to leave Mr Leno's residence, Springfield, Atkins-road, Clapham-common, at half-past twelve, but for more than a couple of hours previously people began to assemble in the neighbourhood of the house, and, under the control of the police, lined the footpaths which led in the direction of the Church of the Ascension. The body of the late comedian, enclosed in a coffin of solid oak, had been placed in the large drawing-room. The brass plate bore the following inscription—

George Galvin
(Dan Leno).
Who entered into rest Oct. 31, 1904,
Aged 43.

On the head of the coffin was a massive crown, sent by Mr John Leno, son of the deceased. At the foot was a large globe composed of white chrysanthemums, with the words in violets, "Lost to his children; lost to the world." A heart made husband, Mr and Mrs Fred Griffiths, Mr and Mrs Fred Emney, Mr and Mrs Seymour Hicks, "Some Visitors to the Empress, Brixton," Staff of the Empress, Brixton, Little Zola, Staff of the Empire, Dudley, the London Entertainment Protection Association, Tom White's Arabs, Mr and Mrs Alf Lotto, Mr and Mrs Wilkie Bard, Mr and Mrs Will Poluski, the artistes, managers, and equestrian staff of the London Hippodrome, Sir Thomas Dewar, Mr and Mrs Boissett, Mr and Mrs Vento, the stage-manager and staff of the Palace Theatre, Sunderland, Mr and Mrs H. J. Ward, Mr Weedon Grossmith, Mr Edward Compton, Mr Gus Elen, Mr Arthur Collins, Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, Mr George Robey, Mr Lionel Rignold, Miss F. Robina, Mr George Mozart, Mr Joe Elvin, Mr John Lawson, Mr Carl Hertz, Mr C. Angelo, the Haytors, Walton and Lester, Mr Oswald Stoll, Mr Pat Carey, the "Water Rats" (a large shield), The Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association, Artistes and Staff, Empire, Johannesburg; Mr and Mrs Lowen, Mr and Mrs Dunkley and family, Mr and Mrs Monk, Mrs Dobson and children, The Gramaphone Company, Mr F. H. Nicholls, Bradley and Truman, Mr and Mrs Fisher, International Artistes' Lodge, Berlin, Proprietors of the Hotel de L'Italie, Papa Brown, Mr and Mrs Jesse Burton, Miss Alice Beare, Mr and Mrs F. Cates, Crown Bowling Club, Mr Edgar Budden, Mr Tom Carter, Mr George Lill, Mr F. Leon and Miss Lizzie Kirk, Mr Gus Garrick, The Kellinos, Mr H. Darnley, Mr R. Frantz, C., A, and E. Hearn, Mr and Mrs Wal Pink, Mr C. Sarina, Mr Eddie King, Mr J. Finney, Mr Will Oliver, Mr Jack Collinson, Mr Harry Jee, Sisters Richmond, Sisters Preston, Staff, People's Palace, Sunderland; Mr Frank Coyne, Mr Leon Victor, Mr and Mrs G. A. Burton, Mr Thomas Trodd, Mr and Mrs Baggallay, Schneider Family, Messrs A. and S. Gatti, Mr and Mrs Heeley, Mr and Mrs Watson, Mr and Mrs Harry Hunter, Mr Crawsher, Mr Bond Sayers, Mr and Mrs Brisley, Friendly Aid Society, the Boys of Covent-garden, the Oxford Music Hall, the Servants, Miss Lena Williams, Mr Leonard Ball, Mr Wybrow, Mr Alf Browne and staff, Mr Will Crackles and Mr Tom Collier, Mr C. Thorburn, Mr Handcock, Mr and Mrs O'Brien, Aunt Fanny, Queen and Le Brunn, Mr F. Stuart, Mr Jesse Sparrow, Mr and Mrs John Reynolds, Mr and Mrs Crisp and Miss Hounds, Mrs Wallace, Dr. Canon Curtis, vicar, officiating, assisted by the Rev. A. W. Hooper. As the coffin was borne into the sacred edifice, which was crowded, the hymn "Brief life is here our portion" was sung. The other hymns during the service were, "There is a green hill far away" and "Now the labourer's task is o'er," and at the close an eloquent address was delivered by the vicar. In the course of it he characterised the occasion, with its vast assemblage of mourners, as a last tribute of respect to "a great genius." He spoke of the good that lay in genius which can provoke genuine mirth, make men forget their troubles, and innocently refresh their brains, and emphasised the fact that in the course of his brilliant public career the lamented comedian had never "done an act or said a word that could offend the most fastidious eye or ear." From this remark the preacher passed naturally on to the reflection that if every play and song seen and heard upon the stage were clean and wholesome, the theatre and the music hall would be truly uplifting to the vast community which seeks its pleasures within their walls. Incidentally the address made mention of the fact that of his "princely income" the dead comedian devoted a large part to the succour of those members of his calling less fortunate than himself. As the body was carried from the church at the conclusion of the first part of the service Chopin's Dead March was played.

The procession was then reformed, and the cemetery at Tooting was reached about 3·0 o'clock. The committal sentences were read by the Rev. A. W. Hooper, and with the pronouncing of the Benediction by Canon Curtis the service was brought to a close.

Besides those already enumerated, a large number of others were present at the interment, in their ranks being Mr Arthur Collins, Mr Sidney Smith, Mr George Gray, Mr Frank Glenister (of the London Pavilion), Dr. Valerie (Mr Leno's medical attendant), Miss Marie Loftus, Little Tich, Mr Richard Warner, Mr Harry Tate, Mr Will Oliver, Mr Fred Karno, the Selbinis, Mr E. De Vere, Mr A. Lotto, Mr F. W. Millis, and Mr C. Douglas Stuart, the secretary of the Music Hall Artists' Railway Association, and others too numerous to mention.

In spite of the notice on the gates to the effect that the public would not be admitted, thousands

Photo by Charles Edwards and Co.

FLORAL TRIBUTES TO THE MEMORY OF MR DAN LENO, "THE KING'S JESTER."

of people besieged the entrance to the cemetery, and a posse of horsed police had all their work cut out to prevent serious crushing. Only a small section of the public were admitted, and these were passed through in batches of a hundred at a time. The brick vault which had been built as the last resting place of the remains of the lamented comedian is on the first plot inside the main gates. The burial place was hidden from view by a solid marble slab, on which was inscribed "The family vault of George Galvin (Dan Leno)." The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr Theophilus Dunkley, assisted by his son, Mr H. R. Dunkley.

of beautiful flowers and pierced with an arrow came from the widow. Another striking floral offering was from the Terriers' Society, and consisted of a large easel with a white palette and brushes, bearing the word, "Dan." Accompanying it was a stool on which was the inscription in flowers, "A vacant stool." Miss Vesta Tilley had sent a wreath with the words, "Sleep well, old friend." A full-sized harp, sent by "an admirer," was another of the chief floral tributes. From Miss Marie Loftus came a magnificent cross; and Miss Marie Lloyd sent a large lyre. Mr and Mrs Lubbock forwarded a floral tribute in the form of a Bible composed of white bloom, with a book mark of Parma violets, having on one page the word "Fame," and on the other, "Peace." Mr Ernest Shand sent an original design consisting of a pair of clogs in violets on a cushion. Mr Sid May's floral tribute took the form of the proscenium of a stage with the act drop down, across which were the words "The stage waits." A beautiful harp came from the Sisters Preston, and another from Mr and Mrs A. Chevalier. Mr George Leybourne, jun., sent a scarlet cushion of flowers; Mr and Mrs Johnny Danvers, a cushion with the words "Rest, Dan, Rest;" and a beautiful tribute ("With deepest sympathy") came from Mr and Mrs Harry Randall. Other offerings came from Mr Beerbohm Tree, Madame Melba (whose wreath was inscribed, "A tribute to a great artist"), Lord Monkswell, Mr Gordon Craig ("In remembrance of the work of a great creative artist"), Mr J. L. Toole, Mr Martin Harvey, Mr Arthur Bourchier, Mr J. L. Graydon, Mr H. E. Moss, Mr Oswald Stoll, Mr J. R. Dixon, Mr Milton Bode, Mr Bransby Williams, Mr and Mrs Smithson, Mr Ohmy and staff of Ohmy's Circus, Mr William Gourlay, Mr Wm. Clarkson, Mr Eugene Stratton, Mr Angelo Asher, Mr and Mrs G. W. Moore, Miss Kate Carney, Mr John Hyman, the London Pavilion Orchestra, the staff of the Canterbury, Mr and Mrs Cliff Ryland, Mr and Mrs Edgar Romaine, the Chelsea Relief Society, the directors of Drury-lane, the directors and managers of the London Pavilion, the staff of the London Pavilion, Mrs Herbert Campbell, the Empire Music Hall, the Selbino Family, Datas, Miss Ada Blanche, Zanettos, Mr Will Evans, Mr T. E. Dunville, Mr R. G. Knowles, Miss Lil Hawthorne and Valerie, Miss Gladys Crockford, Mr and Mrs Douglas Stuart, Dr. Sangster, Mr Tom Foy, Mr Sharp, Mr Claude Trevelyan, Sisters Jonghmanns, Mr and Mrs Webb, Mr and Mrs Rish, Mr Will Reynolds, Mr and Mrs Harry Galvin (brother), Miss Vesta Victoria, Little Tich, Mr and Mrs F. Karno, Mr and Mrs T. and Mr and Mrs F. M'Naughton, Mr Joe O'Gorman, Mr and Mrs Fred Russell, Mr and Mrs Paul, and Mr and Mrs Alfred Martinetti.

A large number of telegrams were received by the family, the senders including Sir Henry Irving, who wired, "Pray accept my deep and respectful sympathy with you and your family in your great sorrow;" Messrs Albert Chevalier, Weedon Grossmith, J. L. Toole, whose telegram ran, "Accept my deep sympathy in your great trial;" Mr Martin Harvey, Mr and Mrs Harry Randall, Mr George Grossmith, Mr Cecil Raleigh, Mr and Mrs Eugene Stratton, Miss Vesta Tilley, Mr Hickory Wood, and Mr and Mrs Moore.

The hearse was drawn by six horses, which were decked with black plumes and elaborate trappings, and on one of them rode a postilion. In the first of the mourning coaches which followed were Mrs Leno (the widow), Mr John Leno and Mr Ernest Leno (the sons), and Mrs Lubbock (the daughter). In the second rode Mr and Mrs J. Danvers, Mr and Mrs Rish (the last-named a sister of the deceased), and Mr Lubbock; in the third, Mrs Dobson, and Mr and Mrs Reynolds (Mrs Leno's father and mother), and Mr Will Reynolds; and in the fourth Mr Brisley, Mr Leon Victor (who had acted as Mr Leno's agent from the outset of the comedian's career), and Mr and Mrs H. Galvin (the former being the deceased's brother.

By the side of the coffin walked, as pall-bearers, the president of the Water Rats Society—Mr Tom M'Naughton—and those who have formerly filled that office, namely: Messrs Paul Martinetti, Fred Russell, Joseph O'Gorman, Eugene Stratton, Joe Elvin, James Finney, and Wal Pink.

Following the mourning carriages came six coaches with members of the Water Rats Society, four coaches with representatives of the Music Hall Railway Rates Association, of which Mr Leno had been for eight years the president, and two coaches with members of the Terriers Society.

The service at the church was fully choral,

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM V. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Clifton Downs on Nov. 5. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss E. Francis, and Miss L. Carter backs; Miss C. Fowler (captain), Miss L. Belding and Miss N. Bailey, half-backs; Miss K. Elvin, Miss G. Leonard, Miss M. Leonard, Miss B. Godfrey, and Miss G. Thomas, forwards.

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club.—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss R. Davis and Miss M. Hamilton, backs; Miss L. Norris, Miss E. Lawrence, and Miss L. Coles, half-backs; Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss N. Lawrence, Miss A. Mitchell, Miss M. Burgess, and Miss K. Montgomery, forwards.

Referee, Miss I. Bowman (of Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Team). Result:—Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team, nil; Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club, two goals. Misses W. Bradley and N. Lawrence scored, Miss M. Fisher playing splendidly in goal.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "Larola" preserves the Skin and Complexion from the effects of the sun, wind, and hard water. Removes and prevents all roughness, redness, chaps, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS the SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after dancing, cycling, tennis, motoring, &c. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores, or Post-free from the Makers, M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.

FOOTBALL

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS V. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Oct. 29. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.—H. Belding, goal; J. Lewis and A. Hamlin (captain), backs; F. Stevens, W. Miller, and S. Carter, half-backs; L. Hamlin, P. Hewlett; T. Palmer, J. Aubrey, and E. Belding, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; J. Tyley and F. Arni backs; T. Neagle (captain), W. Hinder, and J. Lacey, half-backs; D. O'Connor, W. Meadows, P. Reardon, B. Cullen, and W. Boyce, forwards.

Referee, H. Hare (Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.) Linesmen, H. Edwards and T. Denton. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C., one goal; Music Halls A.F.C., three goals. J. Aubrey, J. Lacy (two), and P. Reardon scored for their respective sides.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS V. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS A.F.C.

Played near Bristol on Wednesday, Nov. 2. In the evening an enjoyable smoking concert was arranged by Harry Belding, the following contributing to the programme:—Miss Lilla Carter, Miss Lillie Belding, Miss Ethel Bowman (banjo solos), Miss Ivy Bowman (violin solos), Miss Gracie Leonard, Harry Belding, George Hedges, Jack Lewis, Bert Green, Arthur Rossiter, Syd Carter, Leonard Hamlin (harp solos), Harry Edwards (cornet solos), Percy Hewlett (piccolo solos), Alf. Mattock ('cello solos). Harry Hare gave half-an-hour with the leading London music hall artistes on his powerful monarch gramaphone, and also presided at the piano. During tea, the Bijou orchestra played selections from *The Orchid*, *Veronique*, and *The Duchess of Dantzig*. In the match, the following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding (captain), goal; A. Hamlin and J. Lewis, backs; S. Carter, F. Stevens, and P. Hewlett, half-backs; L. Hamlin, J. Aubrey, H. Edwards, B. Green and E. Belding, forwards.

Bristol Early Closers A.F.C.—B. Yandell, goal; G. Hedges (captain) and W. Vowles, backs; F. Bartlett, A. Lucas, and D. Rogers, half-backs; S. Coombes, H. Turner, A. Rossiter, T. Willis, and W. Denty, forwards.

Referee, H. Hare (of Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.). Linesmen, A. Cox and W. J. Horton. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, nil; Bristol Early Closers A.F.C., three goals. S. Coombes (two) and W. Denty scored for Early Closers A.F.C., B. Yandell playing splendidly in goal.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS V. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Nov. 5. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding, goal; A. Hamlin (captain) and J. Lewis, backs; H. Slade, S. Carter, and A. Mattock, half-backs; H. Edwards, P. Hewlett, J. Aubrey, T. Palmer, and H. Clements, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; F. Arni and J. Tyley, backs; J. Lacey, T. Neagle (captain), and W. Hinder, half-backs; P. Reardon, B. Cullen, D. O'Connor, W. Meadows, and F. Hanford, forwards.

Referee, J. Leonard (Westbury Village Reserves). Linesmen, H. Hare and A. Cox. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, two goals; Music Halls A.F.C., four goals. A. Hamlin, T. Palmer, J. Tyley, J. Lacey (two), and F. Hansford scored for their respective sides.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME V. BRIGHTON ALHAMBRA.

Played at Goldstone Ground, Hove, on Nov. 8. The following were the teams:—

Brighton Hippodrome.—J. Downs, goal; A. R. Hollands and A. Robertson, backs; T. Whittingham, B. J. Brown, and C. Collins, half-backs; W. Faulkner, J. Meades, D. Dwain, J. Tree, and T. Gaitley, forwards.

Brighton Alhambra.—G. Reeves, goal; C. W. Scott and S. Freeman, backs; A. Dobson, J. Hutchinson, and A. Rossiter, half-backs R Stephens, Gunn Stone, Riely, and J. Satcher forwards.

Referee, Mr J. J. Gardiner. Result:—Hippodrome, five goals; Alhambra, one. For the Hippodrome Dwain scored three goals; Meades, one; and one resulted from a scrimmage. Stephens and Hutchinson netted the ball for the Alhambra.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

SIR PHILIP BURNE-JONES, BART., and Messrs Banks, Craven, Hann, Harford, Harker, Hemsley and Spong (with power to add to their number) have been elected by the Scenic Artists' Association as a Committee to organise their first annual exhibition, to be held the week of Feb. 20, 1905. Several of the leading London managers have promised their kind co-operation by loan of models of their theatres, sketches, and photographs of scenes by present and past scene painters, and other articles of artistic and historic interest, and by graciously granting permission to the artistes under their respective managements to volunteer their services to entertain at the Scenic Artists' Exhibition.

THE concert on Sunday evening, Nov. 20, in the Royal Opera House, Covent-garden, in aid of the Benevolent funds of the three London branches of the National Association of Theatrical Employees and the London branch of the Musicians' Union promises to be a great success. Amongst the artistes who will appear are Madame Blanche Marchesi, Madame De Cisneros, Mr Joseph O'Mara, Mr Walter Kirby, Mr W. A. Peterkin, and Miss Vera Warwick-Evans (solo violinists). An orchestra of 200 will be conducted by Sir Alexander C. Mackenzie, and there will be a military band of 150.

NOTICES and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged descriptions are specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

17,347. Samuel Henry Crocker, 9, St. James's-walk, London. Improvements in moving picture machines.

17,376. Sir Hiram Stevens Maxim, 7, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London. Improvements relating to roundabouts and similar contrivances for public recreation.

17,885. John Wanklyn M'Connell, David Mein Nesbit, and Robert Ernest Atkinson, 18, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London. Improvements in processes for heating and ventilating and air-cleansing apparatus.

22,462. Catherine Bates, 139, Kennington-road, London. New sporting wrestling pole act.

AT the Palace, Croydon, last Saturday, Charles Usher, three years stage-manager for Mr Fred Karno, was presented by the ladies and gentlemen of *The Dandy Thieves* company with a handsome gold-mounted umbrella, also by Mr Dan Rolyat (Sergeant Lightning) with a silver cigar and cigarette case and silver match-box

THE LATE MEL. B. SPURR.

(FROM OUR MELBOURNE CORRESPONDENT.)

At Melbourne, on Sept. 26, the remains of the late Melancthon Burton Spurr were interred in the Church of England compartment of the St. Kilda cemetery. The occasion was one surrounded by extreme sadness. Up till Tuesday, Sept. 19, the genial entertainer had held the stage of the Melbourne Athenæum for a period of four weeks, throughout which exceptionally large audiences had been attracted by what is generally admitted to have been one of the best "one-man" shows ever held in this city. Although Mr Herbert Flemming, Mr Spurr's manager, interrupted the farewell season last week on account of his principal's indisposition, it was thought then that he was simply run down through overwork, and needed a few days' complete rest. Dr. Felix Meyer attended him for an attack of angina pectoris, combined with throat trouble. He appeared to be rallying till Friday, Sept. 22, when an unfavourable change took place. Dr. Meyer called Dr. Springthorpe in consultation, but, despite unremitting attention, diabetic coma, which invariably has a fatal termination, supervened on Saturday, Sept. 23, and ended in death at 4 30 on the following Sunday afternoon. The deceased artist had suffered from diabetes for the last ten years, and the heavy work of an exceptionally successful tour through Australia and New Zealand doubtless told upon him. He was about fifty-eight years of age, and practically died in harness. Up till last Thursday, Sept. 21, he was most anxious to keep faith with the public and complete his Melbourne season. It was only by strict order of his medical adviser that he was dissuaded from doing so, and only a day or so before his death he composed a song for inclusion in his répertoire. Mr Flemming, Mr Morgan, and two nurses were in constant attendance on him towards the last. At the actual moment of death Mr Flemming, who was holding his friend's hand, states that a gold cable ring worn by the deceased broke—a mournful symbol peculiarly appropriate to the sadness of the occasion. The funeral was largely attended by representative gentlemen from the theatrical and social worlds, and the pall-bearers comprised Messrs Herbert Flemming, John Kemp, James Morgan, Clive Meynell, A. E. Bayliff, and Dr. F. Meyer. Tributes in the form of many beautiful wreaths were received from Mrs Beatrice Wall (mother of the deceased); Mrs Mel. B. Spurr, "his little girl," a ten-year-old daughter; Mr W. Mayne, "his old pal and partner;" Messrs Reynolds, London publishers; Mr Herbert Flemming; Dr. and Mrs Clive Lowe, of Auckland; Mr and Mrs Bland Holt, at present in Sydney; Mr James Maskelyne, Egyptian Hall, London; Mr A. H. Judd and Queen's Hall staff, Sydney; "His Boyhood Friend" of Hull, England; Green Room, Yorick, and Savage Clubs, London; Mr James Morgan, Mr Claude H. Whaite, Mr J. A. Riedel and Dunedin friends, Miss Ellie Marx and Mr J. H. Winterbottom, Cape Town; Melbourne Savage Club, Mr F. M. Clark, Mr C. Lake, Mr George Musgrove, Mr E. B. Manning, Mr Lawrence Campbell, Mr and Mrs Harris, and Messrs Glen and Co., of Melbourne; and others from South Africa, New Zealand, Sydney, Tasmania, Brisbane, and Melbourne.

Mr Flemming having decided to stay in Australia, Mr Clive Meynell had arranged for an Indian tour, and Mr Spurr had actually completed arrangements with Mr J. Nevin Tait to "go on ahead." Poor Spurr "heard the East a-callin'," but it was not to be.

Is is one of life's little ironies that in the September issue of an Australian magazine Mr Spurr contributed an article on "The Day's Work of an Entertainer," the concluding paragraph of which read as follows:—"A good constitution is, of course, a *sine qud non*, and this, I am thankful to say, I possess. If I had not, I think travelling in South Africa would have finished me off. In a train for three and a-half days, and then show for two hours at night. But I survived it. Then, of course, I take care of myself. I eat well and sleep well, take plenty of exercise, and very little liquor. I try not to worry even when my jokes go wrong, and I like to find some good in everything and everybody. My motto is, 'God gives us our relatives; thank God we can choose our friends.'"

Mr Flemming has received a large number of cables, telegrams, and letters of condolence from all parts of the Empire. A shilling subscription has been started in Melbourne, the object being to erect a memorial over Spurr's last resting-place. So popular had the late artist become throughout this country that the promoters of the memorial are anxious that all classes should be accorded an opportunity of contributing—hence the nominal sum fixed.

MISS RITA GALLALLY'S DRAMATIC RECITAL.

At the Steinway Hall on Thursday evening Miss R. Gallally gave a dramatic recital before an appreciative and crowded audience. A most enjoyable evening's entertainment was opened by the young and charming débutante (a pupil of Mr and Mrs S. Hasluck) with a powerful rendering of Dickens's "Death of Sidney Carton," which prepared the audience for the good things that followed. Her second item was Hans Andersen's fairy story, "The Red Shoes," to which Dr. Walmsley Little's incidental music lent an added charm to a performance that was natural and pleasing. In proof of this artist's resource she next gave a selection from *Henry V.*, in which she sustained the character of Princess Katherine with much daintiness. A marked feature of this really excellent performance was her broken English. At the finish she was presented with several floral tributes. In this scene she received able assistance from Mr W. Bloye Higgs whose King Henry V. deserves a special word of praise. Miss R. Gallally in a trio of recitals, (a) "The Lesson of the Watermill," (b) "Once upon a Time," (c) "A Lesson with a Fan," won a well-merited encore, to which she responded. With dramatic force and effect she held the attention of her audience with her pathetic word-picture of Re Henry's "A Frenchwoman's Story," which was a marked feature of her extensive répertoire. At the close, in Theyre Smith's comedietta, *A Happy Pair*, the character of Mrs Honeyton received all the bright vivacity the part demanded at the hands of Miss Gallally. As Mr Honeyton Mr W. Bloye Higgs merited the meed of appreciation his efforts commanded. Lack of space prevents us from individualising the vocal items of Mr Edgar Coyle, which were splendidly executed with great feeling and expression. The same must be said of the violoncello solos by Miss Amy Flood-Porter, which were interpreted with a brilliancy that evoked enthusiastic approbation. The splendid work of the accompanist, Miss Kate Murdoch, deserves a special word of praise, being executed throughout with marked skill.

PRESENTATION.—Mr Wallace Stranack, manager of *The Fatal Wedding* (North) company, was on Saturday last at the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, the recipient of a testimonial address, and was presented with a silver-mounted pipe, pouch, matchbox, and gold-mounted amber cigar holder in silver case, as a mark of esteem from the adult and juvenile members of the company. Mr Norman Latham, musical director, gave Mr J. Wilfred Chilton, the advance manager, a handsome silver-mounted pipe in case, in token of good fellowship.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

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We beg to thank Managers and the Profession generally for the many flattering expressions of opinion on our present list of Pantomime Songs. The unanimous verdict is that we have broken all our previous records. Taking into account the Firm's past achievements this is praise indeed.

Songs for Principal Girl and Boy.

Farewell my little Yo San
By MILLS and SCOTT.
Tom Costello's greatest success.

Go away Mister Crocodile
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
Will be even more popular than "Little Yellow Bird."

You are a white little girl
By SWAFFER and DAREWSKI JUNR.
Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.

The Peacock and the Dove
By WILLIAM HARGREAVES.
A very catchy chorus song.

The Carnival of Toys
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A pretty song for the children. The undoubted successor to "The Tin Gee Gee."

The Sunshine of Love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A delightful ballad with harmonised chorus.

The Statue in Trafalgar Square
By ARTHURS and LYLE.
Sung by George Lashwood.

Do you know Suzannah Simpson?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
If not, ask the author and composer about her.

Honey boy
By KENNEDY and PENN.
The composer of "Honeysuckle and the Bee," "Pancy Faces," etc., has excelled himself in this dainty number.

It's not the turkey on the table
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A song of sentiment for Christmas.

Blue Bell
By MADDEN and MORSE.
The accepted success of the year.

Girls wouldn't be wanted at all
By HARRINGTON and LE BRUNN.
Sung by W. J. Churchill.

Have you seen my girl?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
This is confidently expected to rival "There's a girl wanted there."

What a pity there are not more girls like you
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall. As pretty as the same composer's "Just like the Ivy."

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.
A most effective love ballad

There goes my soldier boy
By LEIGH and SAVAGE.
The greatest march song since the "Soldiers of the Queen."

The Home-made motor car
By MEDLEY BARRETT.
A most effective number for two or more performers, with improvised motor car.

The Angel of my dreams
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Miss Millie Lindon. The best of the many productions of these clever writers.

The snow-man and the sunbeam
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A pretty song with a moral.

She said Baa! baa! baa!
By HARRINGTON and ALLEN.
Sung by Miss Florrie Ford.

Navaho
By WILLIAMS and VAN ALYSTYNE.
Charming American-Indian Romance.

Three's jolly fine company
By COLLINS and ROGERS.
Arthur Lennard's enormous success.

If I had a girl as nice as you
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A delightful chorus song in great demand.

Dolly's a first-class girl
By LEIGH and PETHER.
A cleverly concocted song with an irresistible refrain.

So did Eve
By HARRIS and TATE.
Sung by Miss Millie Lindon.

You can't stop the sun from shining
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

Why shouldn't we fight for our own?
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Miss Katie Lawrence. A patriotic song of the "We don't want to fight" order.

Jack in the box
By MISS TRIXIE TOOLE.
This is a big speciality song. Write for particulars of idea for working.

Come and be a soldier
By STILES and NAIRN.
A grand song full of go.

Good night little girl
By ARTHURS and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Florrie Ford.

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Songs for Low Comedian and Dame.

Short Stories
By W. DAVID and MAURICE SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand, also by Fred Clements.

There's another one out of work
By T. W. CONNOR.
Sung by George Brooks.

A.B.C.D.
(The Singing Master).
By JAMES HARGREAVES.
Sung by Wilkie Bard.

It's all right in the summer time
By MURRAY and EVERARD.
Sung by Miss Vesta Victoria.

My father's jokes
By COLLINS and CASTLING.
Sung by George Brooks.

Wouldn't you be better in a home?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

My Japanesy girl
By DELMAR and PARRY.
Sung by Hal Ford.

She cost me seven-and-sixpence
By JAMES HARGREAVES and SAM MAYO.
Sung by Sam Mayo and Wilkie Bard.

Who killed Bill Bailey?
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Sandford and Lyons.

All the girls are lov-er-ly-ov-er-ly
By HARRINGTON and THURBAN.
Sung by R. G. Knowles.

He was a Sailor
By JEROME and SCHWARTZ.
From "The Earl and the Girl."

Toasts
By ERNEST SEARSON.
Sung by Ambrose Thorne.

You can't beat the old time girls?
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Sung by George Brooks.

Up in Scotland
By ARTHURS and SCOTT.
Sung by Whit Cunliff

What's the good of a £10 note?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
Sung by Tom Costello.

The new Insurance
By GEORGE ARTHURS & KENNETH LYLE.
Sung by Ernest Shand.

By kind permission of the "Daily Mail"
By BATEMAN and SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand. A clever idea for the introduction of topics.

My inquisitive kiddie
By ELLERTON and LYNNE.
Sung by Frank Lynne.

What d'yer want to talk about it for?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

All the little Japansy faces
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Mark Sheridan.

We all walked into the shop
By MILLS and CASTLING.
Sung by Dave O'Toole.

Songs for Fairy Queen and Special Singing Parts.

The Garden filled with gold
By BATEMAN and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall.

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.

Peeping Eyes
By KENNEDY RUSSELL.

The Playground in the sky
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Milner Verren.

You be daddy and I'll be you
By JOSEPH TABRAR.

The Gondolier
By WILLIAMS and POWELL.
A Venetian Romance.

If all the world said No
By HARRINGTON and PETHER.
Sung by Miss Gladys Mavius.

The sunshine of love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
With harmonised chorus.

ORCHESTRAL NOVELTIES. Including:—LAUGHING WATER (The popular American two step). GLORY & LOVE (Grand March by Warwick Williams). Full List on application.

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JOSEPH JEFFERSON.

Joseph Jefferson, the famous American actor, announces his intention of retiring immediately from the stage, on the ground of failing health. Jefferson, who is seventy-five, commenced acting as a child, his two celebrated parts being Rip Van Winkle and Bob Acres. He was born at Philadelphia on Feb. 20, 1829. Mr William Winter, the eminent American critic, writes of him:—"He was reared amidst theatrical surroundings, and when only four years old was brought upon the stage, at the Washington Theatre, by Thomas D. Rice, the famous delineator of Negro character. This comedian, on a benefit occasion, introduced the child, blackened and arrayed precisely like himself, into his performance of Jim Crow; and little Joe was carried upon the scene in a bag, by the shambling Ethiopian actor, and emptied from it, with the appropriate couplet—

Ladies and gentlemen, I'd have you for to know
I'se got a little darkey here to jump Jim Crow.

An eye-witness of this first appearance—that admirable actress, Mrs John Drew, of Philadelphia—says that the boy instantly assumed the exact attitude of Jim Crow Rice, and sang and danced in imitation of his sable companion, and was a perfect miniature likeness of that long, ungainly, grotesque, and exceedingly droll comedian.

In 1837, when eight years old, this little lad is found at the Franklin Theatre, New York, with his parents, and it is recorded that he appeared upon the stage, Sept. 30, in a sword combat with "Master Titus."

Often in those days the youthful Jefferson participated in performances that were given in the dining rooms of country hotels, without a scrap of scenery. This kind of experience, indeed, was not uncommon with the children of Thespis in the earlier times of the American stage. After many rough experiences Jefferson came out at Chanfrau's New National Theatre, in 1849, as Jack Rackbottle in a representation of *Jonathan Bradford*.

On leaving the National Theatre, in the early fall of 1850, Jefferson and his wife proceeded to the old Olympic, where they acted in November; and about this time the young comedian applied, but without success, for a position in Brougham's Lyceum—opened Dec. 23, that year. A little later, in the season of 1851-52, Jefferson was attached to the company of Anna Thillon and the Irish comedian, Hudson, who gave musical plays at Niblo's Garden; and shortly afterwards at this theatre he was associated with Mr and Mrs John Drew, William Rufus Blake, Lester Wallack, Mrs Stephens, Mrs Conover, and Charles Wheatleigh. He then formed a partnership with Mr John Elsler, and took a dramatic company through a circuit of theatres in the south, visiting Charleston, Savannah, Macon, Atlanta, Augusta, Wilmington, and other cities. After this tour was over he settled for a while in Philadelphia, and then in Baltimore—first at the Holiday-street Theatre, and then at the Baltimore Museum, where he was manager. In the summer of 1856 he made his first trip to Europe, his purpose being to study the acting then to be seen on the London and Paris stage. On Nov. 18, that year, the beautiful Laura Keene opened her new theatre, afterwards the second Olympic, at Nos. 622 and 624, Broadway, New York, and Jefferson was soon added to the force, already very strong, of her recruits. On Oct. 18, 1857, for the first time anywhere, was presented Tom Taylor's comedy of *Our American Cousin*, and this brought the crisis in Jefferson's professional life. He acted Asa Trenchard in this piece, and he was instantly famous.

The season of 1858-59 at Laura Keene's Theatre lasted till July 14 in the latter year, when Jefferson's relations with her company were ended, and on Sept. 14 following he appeared in the dramatic company engaged by Dion Boucicault and William Stuart for the Winter Garden Theatre, then opened with Mr Boucicault's adaptation of *The Cricket on the Hearth*. The first presentation of Mr Boucicault's powerful drama of *The Octoroon* (Dec. 5, 1859) was an important incident of this season; and on Feb. 2, 1860, a new theatrical version of Dickens's novel of "Oliver Twist," made by Jefferson himself, was for the first time presented, the withdrawal of Mr Boucicault, who left the theatre suddenly, on a disagreement as to business, having opened the way for the presentment of new attractions. The Winter Garden season, meantime, was still further signalised by the production (Feb. 19) of Mrs Sydney Frances Cowell Bateman's play of *Evangeline*—a work based on Longfellow's poem of that name—in which Miss Kate Bateman began the more mature portion of her professional career, and in which Jefferson acted the humorous character. He withdrew from the Winter Garden in the spring of 1860, and on May 16 opened Laura Keene's Theatre for a summer season, which lasted till Aug. 31.

Early in 1861 Jefferson's first wife suddenly died; and this bereavement, together with apprehension prompted by his own delicate health, now persuaded him to seek refuge and relief in travel and new scenes. At first he proceeded to California, arriving in San Francisco on June 26, 1861, and on July 8, immediately following, he made his first appearance in that city. This event occurred at Maguire's Opera House in Washington-street, and Jefferson's California season lasted till Nov. 4, that year, when he made his farewell appearance. The next day he sailed for Australia, where he passed four of the most prosperous years of his life."

On Sept. 4, 1865, Jefferson appeared as Rip Van Winkle at the London Adelphi. His success was great. The British public instantly took *Rip Van Winkle* to its heart. Jefferson arrived in New York, on his return from England, Aug. 13, 1866, and on Sept. 3 appeared at the Olympic Theatre as Rip Van Winkle. The performance was received with delight by all classes of spectators. The next year, 1867, he was at the Olympic Theatre again (from Sept. 9 to Oct. 26), and played nothing but Rip Van Winkle, which drew crowded houses.

Jefferson had married in 1867. In 1869 he bought a large estate near Hohokus, New Jersey. The year 1872 was signalised by a severe and dangerous illness. In June, 1875, he went again to England—this time on a professional expedition, remaining abroad two years and a half. His first London engagement, at the Princess's, extended from Nov. 1, 1875, to April 29, 1876, and his second, from Easter, 1877, to the ensuing midsummer, when he went to the Haymarket for a brief season of farces, under the management of John S. Clarke. Jefferson arrived home on Oct. 17, 1877, and on Oct. 28, at Booth's Theatre, under the management of Mr Augustin Daly, again accosted his countrymen as Rip Van Winkle. A warm-hearted welcome greeted him, and he again made a successful tour of the United States. In 1878 he paid a second visit to California, and on Dec. 16 that year he acted in New York, at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, under the direction of Daniel H. Harkins and Stephen Fiske. After that he was absent from the metropolis of the east till October, 1879, when he appeared at the Grand Opera House; and in that theatre his New York engagements have since been fulfilled. In the autumn of 1880 he effected, at the Arch-street Theatre, Philadelphia, a careful and brilliant revival of *The Rivals*, and made an extraordinary hit as Bob Acres; and his professional exertions have since been largely divided between Acres and Rip Van Winkle.

AT the Hippodrome, Stoke, Miss Vesta Victoria is scoring a huge success. Prince Ishmael, illusionist, contributes a marvellous entertainment Igo, boy comedian, meets with success; Ray and Mills are very funny in their act; Harry Barker pays a welcome visit, and is much appreciated; Ella Rose sings her songs admirably; Arthur St. George is a capital comedian; Craig, Rose, and Craig, athletes, contribute a really good turn; and Collins's Bioscope shows some capital pictures.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Rev. T. Horne, the hon. organising chaplain of the Showmen's Guild, has occupied for the past eight and a half years the onerous position of chaplain of the Union Hospital and Workhouse, West Didsbury, Manchester. That work he has recently resigned, and will shortly commence ministerial duties in a busy North London parish. In making this change in the sphere of his clerical work the rev. gentleman has been careful to only accept such fixed ministerial duty as shall give him all necessary time to continue, and even to extend, his labour of love for the Guild and also increase his work on *The Era*. Now that the necessary difficulties attending so very important a change are over, the Rev. T. Horne wishes it to be widely known that his new work will enable him to be even more useful to his showmen friends than ever he has been in the past, that his voice and pen will be more than ever at their service. His removal to London and his increased writing for *The Era* week by week will be a manifest gain to the whole body of travelling showmen. More than that, he will give himself ample time to visit most of the principal fairs, especially those parts of the country where hitherto the Guild has lacked members for want of someone on the spot to organise meetings and to explain the society's work.

This necessary propaganda work the Hon. Chaplain will endeavour to carry through, and in accepting clerical work in London he has been able to make most excellent arrangements for liberty of action and time wherein to carry out work amongst the people of the fairgrounds of the United Kingdom. The many possibilities of increased usefulness and the changes that may be thought advisable that the settlement of Mr Horne in London involves, will be considered by the executive committee of the Guild at a special meeting to-morrow, Sunday, Nov. 13, at the society's room, The Black Lion Hotel, Salford, 7·0 p.m. See advert. The Hon. Chaplain will attend and address the committee.

BEFORE we attempt to outline a future policy of work for the Guild something further must be said of the serious burden the Guild has been trying to bear with regard to the Parliamentary work of trade defence. The Guild has striven for the past four years to bear this financial burden with an income ample enough for the necessities of its work other than Parliamentary defence. It began four years ago to battle for the rights and liberties of showmen in the Private Bills Committee Rooms of the House of Commons. With a reserve fund of over £200, aided by the continued munificence of its honoured president, Lord George Sanger, whose donation of £100 every year has been such an enormous help, the Guild entered upon this absolutely necessary work. Yet, whilst we recognise the generous response of a certain number of showmen to our continued appeals for funds, the fact remains that four years' Parliamentary defence work not only exhausted the reserve funds, but also the yearly income of the society, and to-day the executive have to face a serious deficit and accumulating financial responsibility.

WHAT are showmen going to do? There is one thing they cannot afford to do, and that is to lose all the very substantial advantages that Parliamentary Defence has gained for them. As men of business, as men of progress they must see to it that every point gained in the national recognition of their enterprise is fully maintained. Nay, it is true that if they do not continue to advance they must lose ground and fall back in the strenuous struggle for their true place in the national life. When victory is already won, to neglect the opportunity of gathering in the fruits of that victory were to stamp themselves in the sight of all men as being unfit to enjoy the full rewards of their hard-won fight for citizenship.

WE pointed out last week that whether the Guild, like the other societies, held many meetings or few, its work went on unceasingly, that its executive—honorary or paid workers—were ever watching and ever energetic in all the varied and necessary departments of work—the present year being, without doubt, the most brilliantly successful of its many years of useful enterprise—yet, except the response at King's Lynn and at Treorchy, the Society's work has hitherto met with but poor appreciation.

WHATEVER may be said of the lack of meetings since Treorchy, it certainly cannot be said that it has been through lack of information. We have again and again in these columns fully explained the position of the Parliamentary Defence Fund, and the immediate need of subscriptions to pay for the work so ably done by the paid agents and experts engaged in the successful work of trade defence. We ask, therefore, that even now, late in the day as it is since the victory was won, let the money roll in, and let the men who have done their work so well be paid.

WE hasten to explain that although the urban district council of Acton, when their Bill was defeated, had to pay the legal expenses of the showmen's defence, there were other expenses the Guild had to bear—unavoidable expenses that could not be charged to the defeated corporation. It must also be remembered that in almost every instance where victories were won without a Parliamentary fight (we refer to the negotiations with reasonable and amenable corporations), petitions had to be prepared and lodged, and at every point fees paid and unavoidable expenses incurred. We state this now because we wish to correct any possible mistaken impression as to the relief in expenses the victory over Acton meant to the Guild funds. Of course, it meant a great relief as regards Acton, but it did not touch the expenses of some six other petitions lodged in the Private Bills Office of the House of Commons.

THE work of 1904 in Parliament is finished—well and truly done. Showmen are the last men in the world to want to deny good and true work its full reward and wages. Again, we say, let the subscriptions roll in rapidly; let them be willing and generous in full gratitude for the splendid work accomplished and the victories won.

AT the Newcastle Trades' Exhibition, in addition to the vast array of trades exhibits, we noticed Aldison's hall of laughter, Yorke's electrical exhibition, and the colliery exhibition. A grand treat to musical visitors was provided by the Royal Garrison Artillery Band. The exhibition has been well patronised, and great credit is due to the manager, the genial Mr Cowie.

AT the Market-yard, West Hartlepool, were William Murphy's "Golden Venice," Beaumont's aerial flight, shooting gallery and range, Emmas, and fancy stalls; Testo's exhibition of wonders of the deep; Beans, with a moving stereoscope; Kitson's coker-nuts and gold-fish aquarium; Mrs Campbell's China bazaar; Smith's new football game; and Slavin's strength register.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES were enabled to study natural history by practical demonstration of the world's life by the visit on Saturday last of the well-known concern of Messrs Bostock and Wombwell's No. 1 Aggregation, which was well patronised by the inhabitants. A feature of the show was the horse, Linus, with an extraordinary abundance of hair from mane and tail, an hirsute wonder in reality. The management of the show is in the capable hands of Mr H. Birkett, with Mr Burns on ahead.

BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S are due to exhibit at West Hartlepool on Nov. 12 and Hartlepool East on Nov. 14. A good patronage should await them, as it is a long time since a menagerie of so large dimensions paid a visit to the Hartlepools. Morpeth Hirings was held on Wednesday with all the fun of the fair erected in the streets of the little Northumberland town. Amongst many showmen and stallholders we noticed Walter Murphy, with his looping-the-loop gondolas; Miller's North country varieties, with the new addition, the splendid traction engine, which has been named the "Stella Mattina;" Toogood's fancy bazaars, Walker's coker nuts, fancy stalls by Messrs Stockwell, Cottam, Nace, Rigby, Blomfield. There was a large number of street auctioneers in addition.

ALNWICK Hirings was held last Saturday in the market square, Alnwick, the country seat of the Duke of Northumberland. Alnwick Hirings is one of the old-time fairs where the customs of engaging servants on hire in a public market are still adhered to. A striking feature of the honesty displayed in entering into engagements by verbal contracts between master and servant are the rarity of their being broken. On the pleasure side we noticed Walter Murphy's looping-the-loop gondolas, which had travelled through from Morpeth by special train; Toogood's bazaars, Walker's coker nut sheet, Knight's dolly stalls, Stockwell's stalls, Slavin's machines of height and weight.

STOCKTON Hirings was largely attended. Amongst the shows present were Mr William Murphy's "Golden Venice," which has lately been renovated, Messrs Richardson Bros. Limited, Venetian gondolas, Harry Carls with his four-abreast jumping generals, Crow and Son's galloping horses, Robinson's gallery shooter, coker-nuts, Emma stalls, and juvenile swings, Sheeran's bottle breaker, with repeating rifles, Emma stalls, Hancock's Emma stalls, gallery and shooter; Newcome's miniature horses, and Moore's troupe of boxers.

WE understand that Mr Wm. Murphy is giving the entire proceeds of the takings of his "Golden Venice" towards the Stockton and Thornaby Hospital on Monday night, Nov. 14. We hope a good round sum will be realised for a most deserving and charitable cause. The arrangements relating thereto are in the capable hands of Mr Sanderson, secretary, Stockton and Thornaby Hospital, Mr Geo. Campbell, agent general; and Messrs Murphy brothers.

SOUTH SHIELDS fair was held on Wednesday in the Market-square. Amongst the shows were Walker Hoadley's magnificent four-abreast generals with the large traction, Belle of the Road; Hamilton's galloping horses with traction, Billy No 1, driving the dynamo for electric light; W. and B. Murphy's Venetian gondolas with traction, Queen Alexandria; Cooper's Cinématograph, and Collena's museum. The north round concludes at the Garrison Field, Sunderland, Christmas carnival.

FROM the Midland Round we have news of the continued success of Holloway's New Empire Theatre at Astwood Bank. Mr Holloway is applying for a month's extension of his licence. He signalises the end of the present licence by a benefit performance for the Astwood Bank and District Hospital Society. The entire proceeds will go to the funds of this most excellent charity.

AT Bromsgrove, Jennings's Alexandra Theatre is located for a short season. The répertoire this week includes *A London Outcast*, *The Unknown*, *The Factory Girl*, *Lady Audley's Secret*, *Man and Wife*, and *Meet Me in the Lane When the Clock Strikes Nine*. Good business has rewarded the efforts of the management.

THAT clever contortionist Snakello is giving his unique performance in the Royal Hotel Yard, Redditch.

CHAS. HERBERT'S fair ground amusements are now at Headless Cross for the winter season. Whilst stationed here the whole aggregation will undergo the necessary renovation for the next year's enterprise.

AT Darlington are the concerns of Messrs Geo. Payne's Cinématograph theatre, W. J. Beavis's fine art, Prof. Moore's fistiana, Richardson Bros.' roundabouts, J. Hancock's Winchester range, and Messrs W. J. Firman, Hancock, and Robson, with varieties, cokers, &c. James Manders with ostriches and Messrs H. Shaw, T. Cain, and J. Wright's varieties are at Hetton-le-Hole. H. Carls with steam horses, C. Robson and J. Robinson with shooters, and Geo. Halliday with roll-up boards are at Stockton-on-Tees.

AT North Shields are Messrs Richardson Bros., with steam gallopers, W. Testo, Rosher, Lowther, Stephens, and H. C. Brian, with shooters; and Messrs M. Watkins, J. Smith, J. Millar, H. Stephens, A. Newsome, Coultman, and Sedgmore, with varieties, cokers, &c.

AT South Shields are Messrs Spencer, with big boats, and Pinninger, with swings and highfliers.—Mr R. Mackney's theatre of varieties and ghost illusion Pavilion is at Witton Park.—H. C. Brian, with fine-art gallery, and Walker Hoadley, with steam horses, are at Willington.—Messrs W. and B. Murphy's electric gondolas are at Easington-lane.—Mr Testo's cinématograph theatre is at West Hartlepool.

THE singularly clear and unmistakable decision of the Blaina and Nantyglo bench of magistrates *re* Ebley's portable theatre and building bye-laws is being challenged by the district council. The council, evidently smarting under its sense of defeat, will not take "No" for an answer. It was a decided "No." They do not possess, nor can they be given, power to control portable erections. That control is only within the province of the county council, acting under bye-laws sanctioned by the Local Government Board, to interfere with portable erections of the character of Mr Ebley's theatre. However, the latest news from Blaina is that the clerk to the Urban District Council is instructed to ask the magistrates to state a case for appeal to the higher court.

THIS is another instance amongst many of late years in which public money—the hard-earned money of the ratepayers—is being recklessly squandered by their elected representatives in order to bolster a claim to exercise powers that the law does not allow. Not only is this a grave injustice to the ratepayers, but it also inflicts most unnecessary loss of time and money on travelling showmen. During the past four years the Showmen's Guild has spent over a thousand pounds in opposing the demand of local bodies for the powers that Blaina and Nantyglo wished to exercise, though they had them not. In this case the people of the district, who earnestly desire to have their theatre, will have to find the money to defeat the very object they wish to secure. The opinion of learned counsel will be sought by the elected autocrats of the council, and the poor outraged ratepayers will have to find the money.

BEVERLEY hirings took place on Nov. 5 and 7. Here were Goldthorpe Marshall's Venetian gondolas, W. Shipley's three-abreast and the four-abreast of the same proprietor, Messrs Waddington's twin yachts, T. Neal's juvenile swings, and Carvill's over-boats. The shows included Mr John Mander's moving waxwork, Capt. T. Payne's Bioscope, Sahib Leo's Egyptian hall, Mr Charles Relph, and Wee M'Gregor. The supplementary fun of the fair was provided by Messrs A. Barker, T. Ross, F. Hume, G. Bradshaw, P. Brindle M. Tearney, and others.

LANCASHIRE showmen must be watchful or else they will lose one of their best fairs. The following incident occurred in the Wigan Council Chamber the week after the fair, and it clearly shows that the fair has enemies in the Corporation. When the minutes of the Markets and Fairs' Committee were submitted for approval they contained the following:—"That it be an instruction to the markets superintendent that at all future pleasure fairs the proprietors of stalls, vans, or roundabouts of any description be not allowed to commence building up on the Market-square before one o'clock on the Friday preceding the fair." Before the minutes were confirmed the enemies of the pleasure fair made their attack.

COUNCILLOR BENSON asked, When are we going to abolish the pleasure fair? The Mayor pointed out that the question would have to come before the Council upon a resolution after due notice. The councillor retorted that he gave notice then and there for the next meeting of the Council. Alderman Richards reminded Councillor Benson that the people of Wigan had a say in the matter, and that before any steps could be taken a poll of the inhabitants would be demanded. Alderman Johnson sided with Councillor Benson and expressed his opinion that to abolish the Fair would be a good thing. Alderman Richards again defended the Fair with the economic fact that it would mean a loss of £500 a year in tolls to the town.

ALDERMAN JOHNSON then trotted out the ancient "bogie," that fairs are a menace to public health. Councillor Gaskell followed with the old, old fallacy that the fair was a disgrace to the town, and Councillor Deakin said that for the sake of the regular market people, the fair ought to be abolished. Fortunately Wigan has its local showmen and hosts of friends and champions of the fair. The point of real danger is that by insidious and vexatious new regulations they may endeavour so to cripple the business of showmen that they may hesitate about continuing their attendance at Wigan Fairs.

THIS is an old dodge of the enemies of the fairs throughout the country. They cannot carry the people with them in their abolition crusade. They can, and do, use their power on the Town Council to pass hindering regulations like the one we have given above. This will lead the way to some other attack. The fair may suffer in popularity, and, of course, in revenue to the town, and, last of all, the argument will be used—"See how the fair is dying out!" Let us give it the quick and merciful dispatch.

AFTER having undergone renovation and having been handsomely redecorated, Cooke's Circus, Lothian-road, Edinburgh, will reopen for the season on Monday evening. The programme, prepared by Mr Cooke on this occasion, vies in attractiveness with the best that has been seen at the circus. In addition to the usual equestrian acts, acrobatic "turns," and other circus business, a thrilling and sensational spectacle entitled *Prairie Life Out West* has been arranged, and will be presented by Mr Cooke, who will, no doubt, enhance his reputation as an amusement caterer by this entertainment. Smoking will again be permitted in all parts of the circus.

THE singular collection of bric-a-brac paintings, waxworks, old carved oak, monuments, and effigies got together by the late Mr R. S. Wilson, of Tuxford Hall, Notts., is to be dispersed. Mr Wilson was a wealthy eccentric. He converted his residence into a wonderful museum, and in his grounds he had constructed a deep pit, which represented "Hell," presided over by a figure of Satan, bound to the earth with chains. In the "Hell" were figures representing the late President Kruger, religious lawyers, drunkards, hypocrites, and others whom Mr Wilson had condemned to fire and brimstone. Within the hall were relics of Napoleon, Wellington, and Nelson; Byron, King John, Cromwell, and Charles Stuart. Full-size waxwork figures repose on carved oak bedsteads, and with figures in armour, are disposed in extraordinary fashion in the various rooms.

MR WM. TAYLOR was granted a licence for his excellent portable theatre, for a month's season, after the following interesting debate by the East Grinstead Urban Council.

MR WHITEHEAD proposed and Mr Miles seconded that the licence be granted. Mr Morris strongly opposed it, and contended that the theatre was taking money from those who could least afford it and from some of those who, before the winter was over, would be asking the ratepayers for assistance. Mr Morris aroused some laughter by describing what he saw on the occasion of a recent visit by himself to the theatre, and argued that the witnessing of a presentment of tragic scenes was likely to do far more harm than merely reading about them. He contended that the Council was the custodian of the morals of the place and their object should be to make the world better for living in it. Mr Whitehead bore testimony to the excellent way in which Mr Taylor managed his place and said nothing took place there that was injurious to the morals of the town.

MR GALLARD spoke in a similar strain, but denied that they had anything to do with the morals of the place; all they were concerned in was to see that there were proper precautions against fire. The theatre was a place that brought many people into the town from surrounding villages, and they all spent something before they went back. There might be a few things they ought to shut their eyes to, but on the whole people could learn many things for their good in such a place. Mr Taylor's theatre was conducted in a proper manner. Mr J. Rice said he should not vote, as he had not yet had an opportunity of visiting the place, but he would do so during the ensuing month, and according to what he saw so would his vote be given, if further extension was applied for. Mr Hills doubted the right of the Council, even if they disagreed with the theatre, to say that people who did favour it should be debarred from visiting it. Personally, he had no feeling either way.

AT the Four Courts, Dublin, on Monday, was heard an appeal from a decision of the Recorder dismissing an action brought by James T. Jameson, trading as the Irish Exchange News Bureau, against the defendant, who trades as the Ampere Electrical Company, to recover damages for breach of a contract, entered into by the defendant for the supply of an engine and dynamo of sufficient power and capacity to exhibit a Biograph in Limerick, Ennis, Galway, and Cork during October and November last year. The engine and dynamo, which had been forwarded by rail on Oct. 2 to Limerick, did not reach there in time, and when the dynamo was started, it only gave a light for a few seconds owing to the breakdown of the engine. The result was an uproar in the theatre, and the plaintiff was obliged to refund the £30. The defence was that the agreement protected the defendants against responsibility for accidents and breakdowns. The Judge reversed the Recorder's decision, and gave a decree for £30 and costs.

AT Holloway's New Empire Theatre, Astwood Bank, large houses attend nightly to witness the excellent performances given by Mr Holloway's first-class company. The singing competion was won by Mr W. Bint, of Astwood Bank. Mr Holloway has kindly offered to give the proceeds of a performance to the Redditch Hospital. Mr Eagle's photographic studios are still doing good business. He has also all the latest automatic machines and living pictures.

A SHOWMAN CASE.

We briefly reported last week another bye-laws decision, this time by the Windsor magistrates. A victory against a bye-law—manifestly *ultra vires*—was obtained by the able advocacy of Mr T. Watson Wright, solicitor to the Vandwellers and Showmen's Protection Association. The Town Clerk, Mr E. U. Durant, stated the case for the prosecution against the well-known show and roundabout proprietors, Messrs Hastings and Weyman, Wm. Biddell, R. M. Warwick, and Mr Thomas. The bye-law reads as follows:—"No person shall, in connection with any roundabout, show, exhibition, or performance placed or held in any street or on any vacant ground adjoining or near to a street, make or cause to be made any loud or continuous noise by means of any organ or other similar instrument to the annoyance of residents or passengers."

Detective officer M'Lain said on Saturday, Oct. 22, in consequence of instructions from Head-constable Nicholls, he went to a field at Spital, nearly opposite to the Duke of York publichouse. There was an entrance from St. Leonard's-road, passing by Mr Garlick's shop. Witness on approaching the field heard a great noise. He then saw a number of stalls and roundabouts. The first roundabout was commonly known as galloping horses. The next was a switchback, and the third was galloping horses. The first show was a cinématograph exhibition, the second a peep show and fine art exhibition, and the third a cinématograph show. There was an organ attached to each of these shows, and they were playing. The motive power of the organs was mostly steam. Witness first went to Mrs Thomas, who was taking the money at the first roundabout.

There were cymbals attached to the organ, and there was also a whistle blowing at intervals. Witness next went to the owner of the peep show, called a "fine art exhibition." Witness there saw the defendant Warwick. There was an organ attached to his show driven by a small steam engine. It was at work and making a noise. Witness asked Warwick for his name and address. He replied "What for?" and witness said "It is for committing an offence against some new bye-laws. Have you been cautioned?" He replied "I have not; but if it's the organ I will stop it." He then stopped it.

Witness then went to the switchback, roundabout, and a cinématograph show, owned by the defendant Hastings. Witness asked him who the owner was, and he replied, "Hastings and Weyman, York Hotel, Llanelly, Carmarthen, but if there is any trouble I will take the responsibility for both." There was a steam organ and also a whistle blowing at intervals. The next show he went to was Samuel Jones's, where there was a steam organ attached to a roundabout. It was playing. The noise of all the organs was loud and continuous. Jones gave his address as White Bear, Hounslow. At Biddell's show there were stage performances and an animated picture show. At this show an organ turned by hand was playing with a big drum attached to it.

Mr Watson Wright admitted that attached to these roundabouts and shows was an organ to each making a loud and continuous noise.

Cross-examined by Mr Wright, Detective-officer M'Lain said these shows were in a field containing about seven or eight acres. The shows were nearer the far end of the field than St. Leonard's-road. The whole of the field was fenced in either by hedges or wire, except a small portion which was opened for the purpose of people going in, or admitting shows. There was another entrance. The actual entrance into the field was about thirty-one yards from the road, and this entrance goes between houses and back gardens. Witness had known these shows and roundabouts to be in this field or the next field year by year for the past fourteen years. The owners of the shows always conducted themselves properly, and carried out their business properly. He (witness) told defendants that the proceedings were being taken in consequence of complaints

The Town Clerk, in answer to the Bench, stated that the field belonged to Colonel Bulkeley.

Mr Watson Wright said £25 was paid for the use of the field to the agent (Mr Mason) of Colonel Bulkeley.

Mr Thomas Clegg, of 2, Dorset-villas, Bolton-road, a turning out of St. Leonard's-road, said his house was roughly about 300 yards from the field where the roundabouts and shows were. On Saturday last, at six o'clock in the evening, he heard noises from five mechanical organs, three drums, two pairs of cymbals, one cornet, four rattles, two brass bells, numerous whistles, and periodical revolver shots. All the noises proceeded from the field, and as a resident he was excessively annoyed, and the noises prevented him from following his usual occupation. The noise was loud and continuous.

Cross-examined by Mr Wright: Personally he did not agree with that class of amusement. He would not object if he could not hear the noise with his doors and windows closed. Witness had objected through the public Press to the noise made by the draghounds. He had also complained in the Press of Messrs White's mineral water vans passing his house. Witness had complained before the magistrates of a fried fish shop near his house. He (witness) went to the field the previous evening so that he could get evidence in support of any fresh summonses. The police had taken proceedings on his initiative. Witness stated on his oath that he could hear the noises inside his house. He walked three-quarters of a mile away from the field on Saturday night, and he could still hear the noises distinctly. Witness did not say he would object to them at that distance. He objected now as they interfered with his comfort and business avocations. There were houses less than half the distance to his field. Although the wind was blowing in a direction away from his house the night previous he still heard the noises. The dwellers in the houses nearer the field must have heard them. Witness got up a memorial to the Town Council against the noises. The blacksmith near the spot did not sign it, as he did not ask him. Two persons only refused to sign. Witness was a literary agent, and he had a considerable amount of editing to do. During the last three years this fair had continued from six to fourteen days. Witness had only resided there three or four years.

Inspector Verrall, of the R.S.P.C.A., of 2, Olive-villas, Bolton-road, said his house was about 300 yards away from the place where the roundabouts were fixed. On Saturday last he heard the noise of organs starting at about six in the evening. Witness was disturbed by the noise, which was loud and continuous. He went with Detective-officer M'Lain, and his evidence was correct. Witness was disturbed in writing his reports to his society, which he wrote in the evening, and he had to catch the nine o'clock post. Witness signed a petition to the Town Council.

The memorial was produced and read by the clerk. Amongst others it was signed by witness.

Mr Wright objected to the memorial being put in.

Cross-examined by Mr Wright, witness said he had been an Inspector six years, but he had never summoned a showman for cruelty. The noise was certainly an annoyance to him. He (witness) would not object if he could not hear it in his house. He could hear the noise in his front room facing Bolton-road when the doors and windows were shut.

Head Constable Nicholls said he received complaints of the noises from Mr Clegg.—The letter containing the complaints was produced and read.

Mr Wright formally objected to the letter being put in as evidence.

Witness proceeded to say that in company with the three last witnesses, he went to the field where the show was, and corroborated the evidence given by Detective-officer M'Lain and other witnesses as to the noises. Witness was at present residing in Frances-road, at about half a mile from the field in question, and while in his garden he could hear the noise complained of most distinctly. He did not, however, personally complain of it. Witness also heard the noise at the police-station the same night.

Police-sergeant Barham said on Saturday last, about 1·20, he went into the fair field and saw the defendants, Mrs Thomas, William Hastings, Samuel Jones, and William Biddell. Witness had a copy of the bye-laws with him, and read bye-law No. 9 to each individually. Biddell pointed out that his organ was a hand organ. He asked if the bye-law said anything about the distance from the road, and he replied "No."

Mr W. B. Mason, auctioneer and land agent, said he was agent for the owner of the field in question, Colonel Rivers Bulkeley. It was not vacant land. They had allowed a man to have the feeding on the land on the condition that he kept the fences in order. The entrance to the field was a private occupation road. It was with his sanction that the ground was let to the fair people.

Mr Watson Wright, in the course of an able speech for the defence, said on the merits of the case this complaint was not reasonable, and the bye-law did not apply in this instance. Of course, to the people concerned, the case was an important one, and also to the public of Windsor and the authorities. If the magistrates decided upon a conviction, it would be serious for these people travelling about the country, who were following a lawful occupation. If they were excluded from going into towns by reason of such a bye-law their trade would be ruined. There were one and a-half millions of pounds invested in these shows throughout the country, and there were several thousand pounds' worth of property on the field at Windsor. Mr Wright then went on to point out to the magistrates that the show field was an enclosed ground, and did not adjoin a public street, nor was it "near to" a public highway. It was not "vacant ground" either. It was not waste land or common land, but a rateable field. Thus the bye-law did not apply in such a case. It was meant for beanfeasters and such people.

The Clerk said the case seemed to hinge on this—Is this land vacant ground and was the noise a loud and continuous noise?

Mr Watson Wright said the witness called by the prosecution (Mr Mason) had proved that it was not "vacant ground," and as to the noise being a nuisance, he could call volumes of evidence from persons residing within 130 yards of the show to say that it was no nuisance, and that their children were able to sleep soundly while the organs were playing. These show people were reasonable people, and they always tried to comply with the wishes of the police.

After further argument, Mr Wright quoted cases bearing on the matter, and said he had been engaged in numerous similar cases.

The Chairman, after conferring with his brother magistrates, said they had come to the conclusion that it was unnecessary for Mr Wright to call evidence. They could not make up their mind that this field was "vacant" land. It had been stated by one of the witnesses called that it was not vacant ground, and there was nothing to show that it was vacant ground. Therefore, they felt the bye-law did not support a conviction in this case, and they dismissed the summons.

Mr Durant said the Town Council would apply to the Home Office to make an amendment to the bye-law. If they said they would not pass any amendment to it, then it settled them.

Mr Wright—That is so.

Mr Durant said he had had a deal of correspondence with them, and one or two words were altered by the Council, but they had afterwards to be amended back to the model bye-laws.

Mr Wright said the Home Secretary did not wish these show people to be unreasonably interfered with. They on their part did not desire to be a nuisance to anybody, and instead of staying in Windsor six days, as originally intended, they were leaving that day. Those people who did not like the noise might go away for the few days the fair was here if it upset them so; but there were hundreds of others who liked the noise and movement at a fair.

The most important results may follow from this decision of the Windsor magistrates. The determination of the Town Council to seek for a revised bye-law will give the local showmen an opportunity of appealing against the bye-law as being bad, not only in its construction, but also in its penalising rigour and unreasonable restriction. We shall watch with great interest the next step in this most important case. To compel the Town Council to revise its bad bye-law is in itself a big gain. We heartily congratulate the showmen concerned and their legal champion, Mr T. Watson Wright.

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

LEWISHAM PALACE OF VARIETIES.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered plans submitted by Messrs Owen and Ward, on behalf of Mr Walter Stephens, of a music hall proposed to be erected at the junction of Lewisham High-street and Limesgrove, in respect of which proposed building application for a music and dancing licence will be made. Limes grove is at present a cul-de-sac, and the site will not comply with the Council's regulations, unless this road be continued through to Clarendon-road, a distance of about sixty yards. The building is shown to have seating accommodation for 1,642 persons, and with a slight alteration to the dress-circle exits the exit arrangements will comply with the regulations. The committee recommended "That Messrs Owen and Ward be informed that, provided the works are commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate under Section 12 of 41 and 42 Vic., cap. 32, to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the plans referred to, and the regulations of the Council, and that certain stated conditions have been complied with." Approved.

CHILDREN EMPLOYED AT THEATRES.

The Public Control Committee reported with reference to legislation during the year affecting the work of the Council. With regard to the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act, they stated that it is practically a re-enactment of another Act, which it repeals, but there are a few alterations and additions, most of which have reference to the neglect or ill-treatment of children. The principal changes affecting the work of the Council relate to the employment of children for profit at theatres, music halls, and other places licensed for public entertainments. The Act regulates the exhibition of children at such places; and it prohibits the training of a child under sixteen as an acrobat, &c., except under licence. The Act also empowers a petty sessional court to grant licences, subject to restrictions and conditions, for the employment of children over ten years of age to take part in, or be trained for, entertainments in premises licensed for public entertainments or in any circus or other place of public amusement. The person to whom a licence is granted is required by the Act to send forthwith a copy of the licence to the Council, and it is the duty of the Council's inspectors to see that the restrictions and conditions contained in the licence are duly complied with. They have taken the necessary steps to draw the attention of the managers of theatres, music halls, &c., to this provision of the Act. The Act also places the onus of proving the age of a child in respect of whom an offence has been committed under the Employment of Children Act, 1903, upon the person charged with the offence. The Act came into operation on Oct. 1, 1904.

"LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST."

This comedy, which is now mostly relegated to the study, was among the earliest of Shakespeare's original plays, if not the earliest. "*Love's Labour's Lost* I once did see," wrote Robert Tofte, in 1598, in his *The Month's Mind of a Melancholy Lover*. The play was therefore then no longer new. "In its original form," writes Dr. Herford, "it no longer exists. A few months before Tofte wrote, it had been revised and expanded by Shakespeare for performance before the Queen as a part of the Christmas festivities at Whitehall. The text thus 'newly corrected and augmented' was published in the following year, and is known as the first quarto. Soon after the accession of James I. the play, which had pleased Elizabeth, was resorted to by Shakespeare's company in one of the embarrassments created by the vigorous dramatic appetite of the new Queen.

"The 'corrections' of 1597 have, doubtless, removed many marks of early style; happily, however, they have also, indirectly, given us a unique clue to them; fragments of the original version having, in at least three cases, remained embedded in the 'corrected' text. The earlier version of Rosaline's compact with Biron (v. 2, 827-832) is singularly jejune. The past mistress of quips and cranks seems to take up the rôle of moral censor as a new phase in the game of outwitting the lords, and to impose her penalty by way of flinging a last decisive shot at her adversary. In the latter version (v. 851 f.) she has passed, like the princess, into a serious and feeling mood (announced to the reader by Biron's question: 'Studies my lady?'), and the demand, before petulantly tossed at him in somewhat jerky iambics, is now gravely formulated in lines of subtly varied movement and eloquently rounded phrase, and with a moral dignity for which certainly nothing in her previous bearing prepares us. But then Shakespeare, when he thus 'corrected,' was already the creator of Portia."

Schlegel thinks *Love's Labour's Lost* a humorous display of frolic. "A whole cornucopia of the most vivacious jokes is emptied into it. Youth is certainly perceivable in the lavish superfluity of labour in the execution; the unbroken succession of plays on words, and sallies of every description, hardly leave the spectator time to breathe; the sparkles of wit fly about in such profusion that they resemble a blaze of fireworks; while the dialogue, for the most part, is in the same hurried style in which the passing masks at a carnival attempt to banter each other."

In his informative commentary on the play Mr Sydney Lee writes:—"The hero of *Love's Labour's Lost* is the King of Navarre, in whose kingdom the scene is laid, and the play was produced at a time when the bearer of such a title in France was attracting the serious attention of earnest-minded Englishmen. Similarly, the two chief lords in attendance in the comedy—Biron and Longaville—bear the actual names of the two strenuous supporters of the real King of Navarre; while the name of the Lord Dumaine is a common Anglicised version of that Duc De Maine, or Mayenne, whose name was so frequently mentioned in popular accounts of French affairs in connection with Navarre's movements that Shakespeare was not unnaturally led to number him also among his supporters.

"If we recall the anxious interest with which contemporary movements in France were watched by England from 1589 to the end of 1594—the exultation that followed every victory of Navarre's party, and the dejection that followed every defeat—it seems impossible to attribute to any mere chance coincidence the introduction of these names. It was in 1589—in or about which year our most trustworthy critics are agreed that *Love's Labour's Lost* must have been written—that England was startled by the news of the assassination of Henry III. by a fanatic monk, and that the dissensions between the Bourbon and Guise claimants to the vacant throne were to be settled at the sword's point. It was in the same year that Elizabeth for once belied her constitutional vacillation, and promised that some appreciable assistance should cross the Channel to aid Navarre.

"The only personage introduced into *Love's Labour's Lost* who will in any way compare with the productions of Shakespeare's after years is Biron. Coleridge saw in him the original sketch of Benedick, and there can be no doubt that to his characterisation Shakespeare devoted special attention. Most of his speeches are so superior in their workmanship to the rest of the play that we cannot but believe that they were worked up after the comedy was first produced, and are to be included among the corrections and augmentations mentioned in the title-page of the 1598 Quarto as having been recently made. The relation in which Biron stood to the English people between 1589 and 1598 would fully account for the distinction thus conferred upon him.

"Biron was well-known by repute and highly popular in England; the English contingent sent by Elizabeth in 1589 usually serving under his command, and finding him 'very respective to her Majesty and loving to her people.' His gaieties were proverbial, and the delightful portrait drawn by Rosaline of her lover is substantially true to the historical Biron. Armado, the 'phantasime Monarcho' is undoubtedly intended to recall an eccentric figure well-known in London some years before under the name of the 'Phantastical Monarcho'; his 'epitaph,' written by Churchyard (1580), speaks of him as a compound of folly and wit, 'grave of looks and father-like of face," who uttered 'strange talk' before strangers, sententious, not inclined to mirth, but 'well disposed' if any Prince took pleasure in any mirth he made,—'loved to hear him lie,' as the King says of Armado.

"The points of resemblance between this historical supporter of Navarre's and Shakespeare's Biron are numerous. The bravery, the common sense—the necessary complement of good generalship—and the love of recreation of the dramatist's hero at once suggest the popular Frenchman. His protest against the 'barren task' his companions impose on themselves—'not to see ladies, study fast,'—his 'salve for perjury' after all the oath-takers are forsworn, where he contends 'to see no woman' is 'flat treason 'gainst the kingly state of youth,' readily recall the leading features of his living namesake's court life."

Dr. Herford adds:—"Clearly, the pith of the play lies in the pleasant exposure of these affectations of Elizabethan culture. It is a 'comedy of humours,'—Shakespeare's one experiment in the genre which a decade later Jonson made his own. Shakespeare, like Jonson after him, has his fling at the 'vainglorious knight,' 'the profane jester,' 'the affected courtier;' but the animus of their satire is not altogether the same. Jonson assails these affectations with the downright scholar's scorn for shams; Shakespeare laughs at the 'lost labour' of those who, in one or other of these ways, insist (in Biron's phrase) on 'climbing over the house to unlock the little gate.' But his laughter is not all in the same key. Holofernes and Armado are purely comic figures, commended to us by no single sympathetic touch, and sent off the stage sadder but in no degree wiser than they entered it. Armado serves for the 'quick recreation' of Navarre and his bookmen. But Shakespeare has not a whit more respect for their own projected Academy of study, fasting and seclusion, and mercilessly derides it through the lips of Biron. But when they 'of mere necessity' forswear their asceticism, and the 'lost labours of love' actually begin, the satiric note becomes more equivocal. In the finest scene of the drama—one of the finest comic scenes in all the early dramas—where their perjury is discovered, the ridiculous situation of the perjured students contrasts strangely with the lyric beauty of the love-strains put into their mouths."

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 18)

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—A powerful variety company is appearing here this week, headed by Lily Marney, who gives her latest success "The Spanish-Irish Girl" and a few of the older favourites. Amongst the other good turns we find the Vyponds, in a smart little patter absurdity, *Engaging the Servant*; Nancy Renshaw, the laughing Negro comedienne and bone soloist; the Werners, in a marvellous exhibition of cycling on, or rather in, a teacup track; Mr J. Linson, ballad and descriptive vocalist; Mdlle. Flora Lumiere's Fairy Grotto, including her kaleidoscopic and fire dances; the Summersons (Will and Maggie), a clever pair of comedy duettists, dancers, and pantomime artistes; Campkin tramp cyclist; the Hucos, burlesque entertainers; Blanche Gerard, vocalist; and Mdlle. Luba De Sarems, with "Sports from the Far East, including a performing wild mountain bull, two thoroughbred Java ponies, eight handsome performing dogs, and the bucking and kicking donkey Snowball. The Irving Bioscope is also in full swing each evening with the latest series of animated pictures.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—*Why Woman Sins* holds the boards here this week, the drama being successfully presented by Messrs Geo. Harris and Fred Terriss's company. Lieut. Maxwell is carefully and successfully treated by Mr Wallace Campbell. Captain Carlton as interpreted by Mr Terriss is a typical villain. Mr Harris is a capable Cecil Spencer. The Jim Rainbird of Mr Lionel Ellis is a meritorious performance. Mr Clifford Spencer as Sam Spavins, Mr Forbes Harrison as Orlando Whiffles, and Mr Cecil Churton as Captain Algie Steward give effective help. Lily De Vere is vivaciously played by Miss Winifred Preece; Miss Gussie Everett as Ida Valette wins much approval; Nell Desmond is skilfully portrayed by Miss Effie Bartlett; and Miss Susanne Kippaire is successful as Nanette.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—The powerful detective play *Sherlock Holmes* was presented here on the opening nights of this week by Mr Chas. Frohman's excellent company. The title-rôle was in the capable hands of Mr Kenneth Rivington, by whom it was admirably sustained; Mr Fred Inwood made a capital Dr. Watson; Mr Chas. E. Scott was successful as John Forman; Mr Howard E. Laing was a capable Sir Edward Leighton; Mr Wm. Watson was all that could be desired as Count Von Stahlberg; Mr Arthur B. Murray as Professor Moriarty merited praise; Mr Ernest Gray played with much ability the part of James Larrabee; Mr Harry Stafford was alert as Sydney Prince; Mr Harry Mann was successful as Alfred Bassic; Mr F. Clive Ross made a burly ruffian as Jim Craigin; Mr George Fairburn was good as Tim Leary; Master Charles Chaplin was smart as Billy; Mr Harry Wright was excellent as Lightfoot M'Teague; Mr M. M. Louis as John was successful, and Mr G. F. Anson satisfactory as Parsons. The part of Alice Faulkner was effectively played by Miss Florence Radcliffe; Miss Ethel Gordon as Mrs Faulkner acted with ability; Miss Carrie Lacey was exceedingly good as Madge Larrabee; Miss Hattie Newcombe as Mrs Smedley was successful; and Miss Marjorie Murray made a capital Terese.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Mr Charles Frohman is represented here by Mr H. A. Saintsbury and a powerful company in *Sherlock Holmes*. Mr Saintsbury vividly portrays the idiosyncrasies of the popular and astute Conan-Doyle detective, his acting being admirable in every detail. Mr W. F. Sterling also displays aptitude by contributing a striking sketch of Moriarty. Miss Vera Longden is a graceful and warm-hearted Alice Faulkner; Miss Maud Linden, a charming and handsome Madge Larrabee; Mr Walter Hicks, a smart Billy; Mr Pelham Raynor, a neat Sidney Prince; Mr Lawrence Leyton, a characteristic Dr. Watson; and Mr Leslie Carter, a blustering James Larrabee.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—The animated talking and singing pictures, billed as the greatest invention of modern times, are being received here with curiosity, mingled with approbation. The Griffiths Brothers are among the oldest of favourites here, and their funny burlesque wrestling bout not only maintains but enhances their reputation. Daisy Dormer is dainty alike in singing and dancing; a Herculean equilibrist act by the Brothers Teviotdale is a strong feature; Maxwell and Frances appear in a good vocal speciality act; Gilbert Rogers, vocalist and humourist, contributes successfully; Hal Forde is a clever and artistic comedian; Sybil St. Elmo with some charming ballads lends varied character to the performance; as also does the tramp cycling act of Gusto.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—Packed houses are testifying to the popularity of the performances given here. This week's bill has Walter Stockwell, whose amusing quips and eccentricities are quite to the popular taste. The Countess (Charlie and Marion) render some humorous duets in bright and animated fashion; Baroni and Kemp, quick-change artistes, provide a comic speciality act; Florence Gwynne in her musical scena entitled "The Stage-Struck Servant" is afforded excellent opportunity of exhibiting her talent; and R. F. Forde, T. B. Fayme, George Bernard, and Teddy Denham are all commendable in their particular line of business.

STAFFORD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Jas. Elphinstone.—*A Royal Divorce* is attracting appreciative audiences this week. An unusually powerful company is headed by Miss Edith Cole as Josephine and Mr Frederick Victor as Napoleon, these parts receiving excellent treatment. Talleyrand is ably delineated by Mr Claude Agnew; Mr Albert Grenville is a robust General Augereau; Marie Louise is in the capable hands of Miss Ethyle Murray; and Stephanie De Beauharnais is charmingly played by Miss Helen Richmond.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Limited; Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—This week we have Mr Willliam Greet's company in *Lucky Durham*, which is scoring a decided success. The principal parts are exceedingly well enacted by Messrs W. F. Grant (in the title-rôle), H. De Solla (Lord Mountfallon), Daniel M'Carthy (Vallerton), and Paul Belmore (Steighton); Misses Mary Relf (Lady Mountfallon), Phyllis Relph (Helen Vallerton), Nellie Bonser (Mrs Durham), and Miss Jessie Winter (Margaret Steighton). The remaining characters have competent representatives and the piece is capitally well staged.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Cornell.—We should have been favoured this week here this week with a visit of Miss Marie Loftus; but owing to a motor-car accident which befell her last week she was unable to appear. The Nelson Newsboys, however, deputise for her, and score a success. The Six Brothers Luck are provocative of great merriment in *The Demon of the Cellar* and *The Wizard*. Other good turns are given by Wat Tyler, character vocalist; the Zaros, acrobats of high merit; Les Belles Americaines, vocalists and dancers; Herbert Berts, eccentric comedian; and the Bodina Trio, in their musical speciality.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr G. Hewitson.—There is a triple bill here this week, and considerable interest centres in the cinématograph slides depicting incidents in the Dogger Bank outrage. These pictures are admirably shown by the British Bioscope Company (Messrs Lee and Steele) and were very much appreciated on Monday by a large audience. The chief attraction is, however, the drama *Under Two Flags*, founded on Ouida's famous novel. The rôle of Cigarette is admirably sustained by Miss Laura Walker; Mr Alfred Goddard's impersonation of the hero, Bertie Cecil Royellieu, is one of the successes of the evening; Mr R. Harley West gives a capable enactment of Barklie; and from Mr Charles Brooke comes an acceptable Lord Royellieu; Mr C. Douglas Carlile as Lord Rockingham realises the part of the languid aristocrat very well; Mr Will Hook, an accomplished young comedian, plays the part of Rake, the devoted valet, with a good deal of humour; Mr Charles D. Pitt scores as the Black Hawk; Miss Celia Gordon makes a graceful Princess Venetia Corona; Miss Joan Stean acts charmingly as Countess Olga; Miss Bertha Kingston is all that can be desired as Lady Beatrice Guinevre; and Miss Daisy Carlton is seen to advantage as Lavinia.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company commenced a three nights' engagement here on Monday night with their sporting farce entitled *The Money-Makers*. Mr Frank Lacy is eminently suited in the rôle of Captain Archie Fitzgerald, known as Fitz; Mr Edward Binfield makes a good Fred; Matthew M'Dougall finds in Mr Allen Thomas an admirable exponent; Miss Muriel Ashwynne and Miss Lorna Lawrence as Dot and Mabel respectively give good impersonations of their sporting characters, and are most creditably upheld by Miss Frances Davie as Bella, who is responsible for all the scheming; and Miss Mary Griffiths makes a capital Mrs Bannerman. *Two in a Trap* precedes each evening.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—A cordial reception was accorded to Miss Lena Ashwell, who paid her first visit to this theatre on Monday, when the romantic play, *Marguerite*, was presented. Although not seen to the best advantage in the title-rôle, Miss Ashwell's conception of the part was entirely satisfactory, and merited unstinted praise. She was capably supported by an excellent company, prominent amongst whom were Mr Charles Groves, who gave a brilliant interpretation of St.-Phar, and Mr Frank Mills, who submitted a realistic and effective portraiture of Neuville. Miss Sydney Fairbrother played exceedingly well as Mdlle. Senedar, and Miss Helen Macbeth essayed the part of Madame Trial successfully. During the week *Mrs Dane's Defence* was presented.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—An unusually attractive bill-of-fare is provided here this week in the shape of the Osmond Tearle Shakespearian and classical répertoire company, who are presenting a round of Shakespearian drama. A beginning was made on Monday with *Othello*, which was witnessed with keen interest by an appreciative audience. Mr G. Alexander Marsh as the Moor submitted a sound and artistic portrayal. As Desdemona Miss Carrie Baillie gave a decidedly fine and impressive impersonation. Iago as depicted by Mr John Burton was distinctly good, whilst Roderigo met with capable treatment at the hands of Mr Cyril Grier. Mr George Tearle displayed creditable abilities as Cassio, and Miss Fannie Chamberlain made the best of Emila. The other characters in the cast were well sustained, whilst the costumes and other stage appurtenances were very good.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldor Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Mr Edmund Tearle and company are here in a round of the legitimate. On Monday *Virginius* was staged, and on Tuesday a very delightful performance of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was given. As Sir John Falstaff Mr Tearle acted with a bluff humour well befitting the part, and was in all respects excellent. Mr Walter Raynham's Justice Shallow was a careful study; Mr W. J. Miller's Master Ford and Mr V. O. Crabtree's Master Page were cleverly done. As Dr. Caius Mr T. W. Benson was as near perfect as possible; and Mr J. V. Fairley's Sir Hugh Evans was also clever. Mr R. Melton's host of the 'Garter" and Mr Edmund Grogan's Bardolph were good impersonations. Miss Kate Clinton's Mistress Ford was piquant and Miss Violet Lesborough's Mistress Page was also worthy of note. Good work was done by Miss E. Tearle as Ann Page and Miss Mary Campbell as Mistress Quickly.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—This week's bill is headed by Miss Florrie Gallimore, who appears with her usual success. Carr and Rose, in their vocal comedy act, "Their First Quarrel;" the Four Royal Welshmen, glee singers; the Picquays, unique acrobats; Evelyn Taylor, male impersonator; the Dorothy Quartet of dancers; Vance Bros., comedy musicians; and the amusing series of films by Payne's Bio., entitled "A Trip to the Sun" are also among the attractions in a well-arranged bill.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—The return visit of Mr Charles Harrington's company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* has not failed to attract large audiences here this week. Mr J. Carr gives a sympathetic impersonation of Uncle Tom, and Mr B. Lenton makes a capital Mr St. Clair. Mr John Henry Rogers gives a realistic impersonation of Simon Legree, and Mr Guy P. Ellis acts ably as George Harris. Mr Charles Harrington portrays the part of Phineas Fletcher with ability, and Mr Fred Charles is amusing as Marks, the lawyer. Miss Zerlina Zerbina (Mrs Harrington) as Cassy acts effectively, and Miss Hettie Johnson is a pleasing Eliza Harris. Miss Sylvia Stella is clever and mirth-provoking as Topsy, and Miss Ida Fane is satisfactory as Aunt Ophelia.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—On Monday Mr Gordon Starkey's company opened here on Monday in *A Message from Mars*. The presentation was most effective and the several leading artistes came in for a cordial reception. Mr Cyril Austen-Lee as Horace Parker gave a clever impersonation. Mr Percy Tyler as a Tramp displayed marked ability. The character of Arthur Dicey was well sustained by Mr A. Collins Rolfe. Mr William Lockhart as the Messenger from Mars scored a great success. Miss Edith Cuthbert as Minnie was exceptionally clever, as were Miss Florence Heather as Mrs Clarence and Miss Violet Auberles as Miss Parker. For the last three nights of the week we have a return visit of *No Cross, No Crown*.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr Wilson Barrett's play *The Never-Never Land* is being produced here this week by Messrs John Hart and H. Armitage's company. Mr E. F. Kennedy gives an excellent representation of the part of Jack Mowbray. Mr Geo. M'Kenzie as Jack Laudale, Mr Edward Rochelle as Nat Rudder, and Mr Cecil Elgar as Lord Thorland are equally good in their respective parts. Miss Caroline Barrett as Sybil gives a fine portrayal; as Lady Walgrave Miss Marion Fawcett is capital; and Miss Julie Kennard and Miss Margaret Parker are good as Sal Berker and Smudgee.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Carlton and Armitage's company, in *In the Ranks*, occupies the boards here this week. As Ned Drayton Mr Edward Lloyd gets all that is possible out of the rôle; Mr Archie W. Chappell as Captain Holcroft is good; Mr H. Cecil's Gideon Blake is praiseworthy. Miss Edith Blair-Staples as Ruth Herrick gives an excellent impersonation; and Miss Ella Milner does well as Barbara Herrick.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—The American Comedy Four, vocalists, head the bill here this week. The Three Romas give a gladiatorial exhibition which is both clever and neat. A most amusing turn is that of Conway and Leland; Slade Murray is a favourite; Harry Coates, the singing navvy, does well; and Katie Holloway, comedienne, and May Lilian Levey are much appreciated. Vernon's animated pictures conclude each performance.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—*The Belle of New York* has been presented here by Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard. Ichabod Bronson was well sustained by Mr Arthur Rickett. Mr Harold Wardroper was good as Harry Bronson, Mr Walter Emro as the Polite Lunatic, Mr Guy Forde as Doc Snifkins, and Mr Walter Uridge, as Kenneth Mugg were as comical as ever and caused great amusement. Miss Mora Hersee was a charming Violet Grey and sang prettily; Miss Helen Rose was excellent as Fifi Fricot; and Miss Ida Grandison (Cora Angelique) looked and played well as the "queen of comic opera."

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—During the current week the boards here have been occupied by Mr J. Rice Cassidy and his company, including Miss Lillian Clare, presenting *Dan the Rake* and *The God of War*.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—The interesting programme here includes the following:—R. G. Knowles, the popular comedian; Marie Reeve, a charming comedienne and smart step-dancer; the Florador Quartet, in their laughable comedy sketch, *Naughty Nin*; Rezene and Robini, amusing and clever trapesists; the Ashers, capital duettists, in *The Dude and the Soubrette*; Lizzie Daniels, a delightful comedy soubrette; the Young America Quintet, charming vocalists and excellent dancers; Geo. Brooks, an excellent comedian; and Verno and Voyce, excellent singing comedians.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr F. H. Lucas.—Local playgoers are being attracted in large numbers this week to enjoy a second visit of that bright and pretty musical comedy *The Lady's Maid*, fitted with new dances and several new musical numbers. Mr Gore Ousley's company, under the business management of Mr Harry Humphries, is an unusually strong one; and the scenery, staging, and pretty dresses are in excellent taste. Miss Isa Bowman's artistic abilities are so well known by playgoers throughout the kingdom that her popular success in the title-rôle need not here be described. She is full of life, and her songs and dances are most highly appreciated. Miss Pauline Hague plays the part of Alison Grey with remarkable freshness and charm. Mr Denis Drew appears successfully as Charlie Marchmont; Mr Chas. T. Chaloner, a great favourite in this town, is almost irresistible as Sammy Spriggs; Mr Harry Fischer as Josiah Biffin is also genuinely funny; and Mr Harold Eden as the Hon. Augustus contributes largely to the success. Miss Noel Neville is a vivacious Zaza Marmosette.

TON-Y-PANDY.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr B. Counsell.—Mr W. H. Hallatt and company are here in the romantic drama *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Mr Hallatt does ample justice to the character of Commander Noel Tregarthen. As Richard Redstone (Lieutenant R.N.) Mr L. Booker displays much ability, as also does Mr E. Warden in the part of Captain Tom Yorke. Admiral Grey, R.N. (retired), is well played by Mr G. C. Murray. Messrs S. Cotterell and A. Horton give good interpretations of Ben Baxter and Jim Royston respectively. Miss Blanche Steel is thoroughly at home in the rôle of Lola Grey, alias Lola Yorke. Mildred Grey is played with much dignity by Miss Marie Daventry. The title-rôles are safely entrusted to Miss M. Day as Cyril Grey and Miss E. Frances as Tom Yorke.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr F. Burland.—Fred Cary tops the bill here with success in his funny songs and patter. Fanny Robina gains much favour by her vocalism. Very sensible songs are sung by Florrie Cooper, who wins a host of friends. Rodin, tramp cyclist, does some smart things. Mdlle. Magda, Billy Bint, and the Solari Duo, together with Berno's Pictures, contribute to the success of the evening.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Captain Welton Dale; Acting-Manager, Mr F. E. Manaton.—The first part of the week has been devoted to a return visit of Mr John Tully's American company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, in which Mr J. L. Franklin gives a powerful impersonation of the old slave. For the remainder of the week *Why Smith Left Home*, with Mr Horace Lingard as Smith, is exercising the risible faculties of the audience.

WALLSEND.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr T. Richardson.—Messrs Perry and Stanton's company with *The Sporting Girl* opened here on Monday. Mr George Perry is exceptionally clever as Penton Hook, and Mr Charles Sanders causes considerable amusement as Jack Garling. Mr Marcus Gray gives a powerful impersonation of Marcus Castellino, and Mr J. H. Sterling makes the most of the part of George Drewitt. Miss Madge Stanton is a pleasing Kitty Fitzroy, and as Amy Beddoe Miss Clara Knowles leaves little to be desired. The leading feature of the entertainment is the excellent speciality dances, introduced by Miss Lily Mathews, and Miss Gertie Montrose, their cake-walk being received with great enthusiasm; they also capably fill the rôles of Kate Darlin and Jennie Chitley.

WEXFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr E. P. Ronan.—Mr E. Oswald Brook's No. 1 company was here on the 3rd and 4th inst. with the farcical comedy *The New Housemaid*. Mr Somers Bellamy was entrusted with the part of Peter Pinkerton, and it could not have been placed in better hands. Mr Montague Ashley was efficient in the rôle of Pinkerton's nephew, Arthur, while Mr Charles Calvert's impersonation of the Rev. Stephen Stingles was excellent. Mr Pan E. Draco gave a capital character sketch of the detective, Marmsbury Doom, while Mr Campbell Coldsmid was amusing as Rosebery. Mr Ralph Roberts as the Hon. Bertie Rasleigh had a lot to do, and did it in first-class style, the house being kept in a continuous roar of laughter while he was on the stage. Miss Madge Haines as Caroline Pinkerton was hugely enjoyed, and received well-merited applause, while Miss Ethel Caryllon made a fascinating Dulcie. Miss Pattie Elliott as Agnes created a most favourable impression, and Miss Ella Edgar as Nellie Haddock and Miss Nellie Burney as Lettice sustained their respective rôles in a capable manner.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company in the drama *A Woman's Pluck* occupies the boards this week. Mr James Willard gives a fine rendering of Dick Darrell; Mr Edward E. Ashby exhibits dramatic power as Winston Dale; Mr J. P. Dryden is able in the dual-rôle of Mark Scanlon and Jim Daremont; Mr Charles F. Wentworth is seen to advantage as Sir Noel Fordyce; Mr Harry Emmerson is humorous as Roger Pippin; Mr Cecil Raymond is capital as Sir John Daredevil; and Miss Tina Shaw ably fills the part of Bertie Daredevil. Miss Jessie Yatman makes a charming Jessie Pope; Miss Daisy Dale is well suited as Gertie Fairfax; Miss Agnese D'Aragon is pleasing as Mrs Pippin; Mr William Hayward does justice in the character of Matthew Pope; and Miss East-Robertson submits a clever, realistic portrayal as Grace Daremont. The piece is well mounted.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Morney.—The Dayton Family of Risley acrobats perform some marvellous feats; the Five Delevines appear in a successful musical sketch entitled *Flirtation*; Messrs Grant and Allen are amusing comedians; the O'Malleys, patter comedians, are well received. Mr Harry Barclay, comedian; Miss Bessie Willows, ballad vocalist; M. Handell, in a speciality act; Duncan, club manipulator; and Mons. Oswald also appear.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—The musical comedy, entitled *The Houp-la Girl*, played by Mr Henry Johnston's company, is here this week. Mr Thomas Barry is a capital Prince of Felsenberg; Mr Lancelot Fisher as Lieutenant Archibald Lambton is most humorous, and causes much laughter; Mr Jack Durant as Frank Savill, the artist, is exceedingly good, his songs being well received; Mr Harold Perry is a dashing Major Daffney. Miss Florence Brandon, in the title-rôle, is charming; Miss Edith Haley and Miss Maggie Fraser respectively play the parts of Dick and Isobel admirably. The Rosie Rice Quartet of dancers are seen to advantage.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr Frank E. Burdett's company, in *The Indian Mutiny*. Mr H. Ryeland-Leigh gives a manly rendering as Lieut. Manley; Mr H. G. Brandon is most successful as Capt. Manley; Mr W. S. Tindall is a satisfactory Major Ingleby; as Terry O'Brien Mr George Scully is very humorous; Miss Agness Kingston makes a charming Kate Ingleby; Miss Maud Digby acts with much dramatic power as Ghuz-nah; Miss Kate Bruce is well placed as Mrs Major Ingleby; Mr Villiers Stanley and Mr J. S. Shedden as Nebu Sing and Abul Khan lend good support.

WALTHAMSTOW.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr George F. Slatter.—Many features of an attractive nature figure in the programme here this week, and it could not be truthfully said that there is a single weak point in the entertainment. Mr Fred Karno's comedians are here in their side-splitting skit on music hall performances, *The Mumming Birds*. Since this sketch was here before many alterations have been made in the cast, but the present company sustain the rollicking humour of the amusing idea with a gusto that admits of no comparison. Every member works with a loyal desire to conduce to merriment, and their united efforts receive, and deserve, the reward of loud laughter and vehement applause. The Sisters Wingrove are as pretty a pair of duettists as can be seen; their good looks are greatly in their favour, their dresses are chic, and their dancing extremely neat. A great success is achieved by Mr George Antill, "the Evening Shadow," who sings a clever parody of "Pansy Faces" with much humour, and dances in such a manner as to make his audience crave for more. The Sixtonis give a clever burlesque scena *Opera Gone Mad* in capital style, the manner in which the gentleman "throws himself about" being extraordinary. Much has been said of My Fancy in praise of her dancing, and it is only necessary to add that she is at her best this week. Mr Fred Russell with Coster Joe is very successful, every quip and crank being eagerly taken up and applauded to the echo. The singularly quaint manner of Mr Jack Pleasants finds admirable outlet in his songs "Naughty Boy" and "How did he get to know?" both of which, although old favourites, are as popular as ever. The Eight Lancashire Lads give a capital exhibition of many varieties of dancing, while their singing of "The Lost Chord," with which their turn opens, is irreproachable. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope gives a pretty series of pictures. The Palace orchestra, under the direction of Mr B. Petersen render the overture to Auber's *Masco Spada* with brilliancy.

KING'S THEATRE.—Good business is the order of the day at the King's, the new and original drama *A Rogue's Daughter*, by M. Hall Page—an interesting story, well supplied with effective situations and told in vigorous language—being exactly suited to the tastes of a drama-loving public. The company engaged in the interpretation is that of Miss Marie Menzies, and that lady herself gives a very pathetic and powerful rendering of the heroine, Letty Grey. Mr Alex Wills is a finely declamatory Sir George Mynard. Possessed of a handsome presence and a resonant voice, Mr Wilfred Blair soon makes himself popular as Frank Tyler; while Mr Richard Ferris contributes a clever study of the cool, calculating order of villainy as Colonel Foster. Mr A. Hall Menzies as John Gibbs, otherwise "Hercules," works untiringly and with pronounced success. These chief actors are well supported by a good all-round company.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Batteraby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Mr Ernest R. Abbott's London company is here in the patriotic naval drama *The Mariners of England*. Mr Ernest R. Abbott in the rôle of Lord Nelson gives a strong and characteristic impersonation; and as Admiral Talbot Mr Clifford Clifford is seen to advantage. An artistic rendering of Captain Hardy is given by Mr John Lester; Mr W. H. Garbois as Captain Letaudy proves himself a capable artiste; Mr Edwin Keene as Tom Tripp is highly amusing; an interesting part is that of Marston, ably rendered by Mr W. H. Davis Brown; Miss Ada Abbott makes a charming Mabel Talbot; and as Nellie Dell Miss Linda Riley is seen to advantage. Miss Isabel Singleton as Polly Appleyard proves a success. On Thursday and Friday *East Lynne* was played.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—The bright and smart little play *A Country Mouse* is being performed here this week by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company. The part of the Hon. Archibald Vyse is taken by Mr Charles Esdale, whose portrayal is admirably done. Mr John Nesbit does capitally as John Bowlby, M.P.; Mr George Traill is amusing as the Duke of St. Kitts; and Mr George Trollope is good as Lord Robert Wykeham. As the unsophisticated Angela Muir Miss Ida Richardson plays demurely; Miss Madeline Maude is an excellent Lady Sophia Bowlby; Miss Edith Walker a capable Violet Aynsley; and Miss Adie Boyne a very efficient Mrs Cropper. The comedy is preceded by *A Bit of Old Chelsea*.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Manager, Mr E. J. Compton.—This week Mr J. A. Campbell's company is appearing here in *The Sin of Her Childhood*.

WARRINGTON.

Royal Court.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Messrs Haddon and Loader's company, in the stirring drama *The Greatest Scoundrel Living*, is the attraction here this week. Mr Frank Munro is a manly hero; Mr John Cecil is a dignified Jasper Moulton; and Mr Jack Haddon as Percival Haines acts with dramatic force. A clever sketch of the adventurous Greek is submitted by Mr George Herbert; Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam is a graceful Rosa Moulton; and Miss Marie Rayner scores as Mabel Cross. The laughter element is in the capable hands of Mr Wilton Bedford, Mr Harry Liddle, and Miss Lottie Pearce. The staging is very effective.

Royal Theatre of Varieties. — Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—The Jackson Family head the bill here this week, and as musicians supply an excellent turn. Haig and Novel score in an acrobatic act, and Tom Heys is a smart boy comedian. Oma and Calderon are clever tumblers, and Rose Harvey is a popular favourite. Harry Walker has a spice of originality in all his songs, and the Royal Bioscope, worked by Mr Wiesker, shows some excellent pictures.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Grand.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—Mr W. W. Kelly is presenting *The New East Lynne* with a company of all-round excellence, which includes Miss Agnes Imlay, who achieves a triumph in her rendering of the rôle of Lady Isabel; Mr W. Faulkner Fox, who endows the part of Murty O'Flynn with some refreshing Irish comedy; and Mr William Heilbron, who as Archibald is responsible for some effective acting. Mr Walter T. Clifford ably fills the part of Francis Levison, Miss Lily Ellison makes a success of Willie Carlyle, Joyce is well played by Miss Lizzie Maddocks, and other parts which are played with ability are Barbara Hare by Miss Helen Stewart, Cornelia Carlyle by Miss B. French Stewart, Justice Hare by Mr Robert Wilton, Lord Mountsevern by Mr M. Talbot, and Richard Hare by Mr James Willoughby.

Palace. — Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Undoubtedly the strongest turn this week, although not in bill or programme, is "Aga," a mysterious illusion, which Mr Macnaghten has secured in Paris, and now places on the stage for the first time in this country. Another number on the programme which is the cause of much wonderment is "The Magic of Japan," as exhibited by Max Sterling. Some smart and clever acrobatic feats are done by Zenary Brothers. Nelson and Thomas are funny and brisk in their sketch, *On the Ra-Ta*. The Sisters Caselli give an alert exhibition of high kicking. Johnny Alexander's company in the pantomime absurdity *Our Lodger* and Permane's educated bears have been here before, and are as popular as ever, and another attractive turn is done by Leslie Race, comedian. Edgar Budden, bone soloist and roller skate dancer, is also on the programme.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

Victoria Hall.—Manager, Mr E. W. Sully.—Mr William Greet's company opened here on Monday with *The Lady Slavey*. Miss Addie Lennard was extremely vivacious as Phyllis; Miss Millicent Marsden acted and sang with distinction and looked remarkably handsome as Flo Honeydew; Miss Jean Van Dalle as Maude and Miss Ethel Ashton as Beatrice both gave excellent interpretations, their Terpsichorean efforts gaining loud applause. Mr Walter T. Hybert's Lord Lavender was an ideal impersonation of the dude. The broad humour displayed by Mr Frank Sherlock as Roberts fairly convulsed the house with laughter. Unstinted praise must he given Mr Harry Walsh for portraying a typical Irishman as Major O'Neill, and Mr Allan Morris's Vincent A. Evelyn cannot be eulogised too highly.

WEST STANLEY.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Lindon.—Mr Henry Bedford and company were here this week. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday *Gipsy Jack* was produced, wherein Mr Bedford in the title-rôle does remarkably well, and is ably assisted by Miss Jeffreys as Mother Hunt. Miss Bessie Bedford gives a highly satisfactory delineation of the part of May Harvey, whilst Mr Sid Bedford as Joe Banks and Miss Jennie Risley as Jennie Huggins supply the comic element. On Thursday and Friday *Mafeking* was produced.

Victoria Theatre. — Proprietor, Mr T. C. Rawes; Manager, Mr David Williams.—Mr T. Jarman's company, with the stirring drama, *In Dark Siberia*, is here this week.

WHITEHAVEN.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Clark.—Miss Daisy De Roy's variety combination is appearing here this week. The following artistes contribute to the programme:—Miss Daisy De Roy, comedienne and vocalist; Fred Brooks, comedian; Rae and Rae, tumblers; Bendo, a clever contortionist; the Musical Japs, Giacomo, chapeaugraphist and mimic; and Miss Hilda De Gray, vocalist.

Royal Standard of Varieties.—Manager, Mr Tom Dyson.—The company engaged at this place of amusement is mostly the same as last week. Mr George Russell, comedian, is an established favourite; and the Peel Family continue to merit the applause they receive. The Daniels, sketch artistes; H. Sheppard, in a musical act; Mr Walter Lang, vocalist; and Mr Tom Dyson, vocalist, work hard towards the success of the programme.

WIGAN.

Royal Court Theatre.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—Mr Ben Greet's talented company is presenting to crowded audiences nightly Mr Hall Caine's *The Eternal City*. The part of Baron Bonelli is ably portrayed by Mr D. Lewin Mannering; Miss Edith Anton Laing as Donna Roma is admirable.

Grand Theatre and Hippodrome. — Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—Yukio Tani, a remarkably clever Japanese wrestler, and Apollo, the "ideal Scotch athlete," in a classical entertainment, are two great attractions here this week. Beattie Worth, burlesque actress and vocalist; Harry Hughes, singing collier; Carson Hicks, sand dancer; Lucy Weston, comedienne; Harry Leybourne, a clever mimic; Rowland Hill, comedian; and Sam Shipley, character comedian, complete a good list of artistes.

Empire.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—Onda and Leon, comedy performers; Julie Ormsby, ballad vocalist; George Goldburn, character comedian; and Steeley and Dowton, a lively comedy couple, are popular. Ted Hensey—as a substitute of Fred. Nairne—comedian and dancer; Albert Rostel, comedian and dancer; Alice Coventry, character comedienne; and Denby and Dent, in a comedy act, are also well received.

WINDSOR.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Governing Director, Mr Samuel James; Business-Manager, Mr Worton David; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Nash.—Bright, musical, and altogether pleasing as it was when played here the week after production at Hastings in February last, *The New Commander*, a naval, musical comedy, has returned to Windsor this week greatly improved all round. It has been strengthened by judicious and important changes in the cast, several delightful new numbers and lyrics have been introduced, and the play goes with a merry swing. Miss Grace Warner, whose company this is, is, of course, in chief command, assisted by Mr George Gordon and Mr Val Kim, the able and energetic business-manager and acting-manager respectively. Mr Caffyn Baxter is the talented and efficient conductor. Miss Grace Warner as Violet Flintheart enacts the role, if possible, with greater charm and dramatic effect, and Mr George Gordon is still strong and efficient as Lieutenant Frank Harding. Mr St. Bernard Wyntour, who previously played Lieutenant Jack Tremingway, is now a most excellent Sultan of Ramjamjah, while Mr George Handel ably succeeds him as Tremingway. Matthew Flintheart is well represented by Mr Francis Searle, and Mr Miller Anderson proves humorous and diverting as Tittums, the waiter. Miss Maud Warburton is a capital Freddie Bounce, midshipman. Miss May Dallas is highly successful as the sprightly Vivette. The Misses Marian May, Nellie Stephens, Violet Kilner, and Bell Reyne, ladies of the harem, are highly skilful dancers. The screaming musical comedy *The Little Widow* was billed for Friday night.

WORCESTER.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—Lovers of the lyric drama have experienced a great treat this week in the performances of the Moody-Manners No. 2 opera company, whose répertoire for the week was most attractive, as the following will show:—Monday, *Tannhauser*; Tuesday, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*; Wednesday, *Maritana*; Thursday, *Carmen*; Friday, *Lohengrin*; Saturday matinée, *Daughter of the Regiment*; Saturday evening, *Bohemian Girl*. Principals, chorus, and orchestra alike scored a great success in the opening performance of *Tannhauser*, as a prelude to which Mr Harrison Frewin, the musical conductor, gave a short "explanatory chat." The title-rôle was most efficiently undertaken by Mr Edward Arthur, who, already well-known here in other capacities, won fresh honours by his really fine singing and dramatic force; Miss Enriqueta Crichton as Elizabeth made a most favourable impression, her impersonation being marked by true artistic perception.

WORKINGTON.

Queen's Opera House.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Stanley Rogers.—On Monday *A Girl's Cross Roads* opened to an excellent house. Miss Lily Hammersley gave a powerful rendition of Barbara Wade, scoring an unqualified success. Miss Ethel Bracewell was charming as Constance; Miss Kate Watfred revealed spirit and ability as Nellie; Mr W. G. Gaisford was a manly hero; and Mr W. Fraser-Brunner was an insidious villain. Other members deserving of praise were Miss G. Newcombe as Tilly; Mr Wm. Corrie admirable as Toby; Mr W. E. Griffiths as Farmer Meadows; and Mr E. Howard as Dr. Weston. The scenery and general mounting were excellent.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Wright.—Charles R. Stone's company produced on Monday night *What Became of Mrs Racket?* to an appreciative house. The piece went swimmingly, and there were encores for the good singing and dancing. Mr G. Wyatt gave a clever impersonation of Tolman. Mr E. Rawlinson was interesting as Racket; he sang with effect. Mr E. O. Clarke was capital as Mr Dalroy; Mr C. R. Stone was amusing as Obadiah; and Mr S. Junior was good as the waiter. Miss E. Madelle was vivacious as Mrs Racket; Miss E. Kelsey was clever and lively as Mrs Tolman; and Miss D. Stone was graceful as Katy. Miss V. Hill, Miss E. Hill, and Miss L. Flopp as the Frippett trio secured applause.

WORTHING.

Theatre Royal. — Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Mr Norman Macowan's London company is here with *Monsieur Beaucaire*. As Monsieur Beaucaire Mr Norman Macowan is perfection; the Duke of Winterset of Mr Stuart Willson is a masterly performance; Mr Herbert Cornish deserves praise as Major Molyneux; Mr P. Ramsey Forman is a forcible Captain Badger; Mr H. A. Young is extremely good as Beau Nash; and Mr Hans Schlesinger ably portrays the double part of Marquis De Mirefoix and Francoir. Miss Violet Sterne is really excellent as Lady Mary Carlisle.

YORK.

Royal.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington.—*Sunday* is undoubtedly a charming play, and Mr Louis Calvert's excellent company is doing the fullest justice to it this week, the consequences being large and delighted audiences. In the title-rôle Miss Nita Faydon is admirable. Most of the work falls upon the shoulders of this accomplished artist, who, however, is equal to all emergencies, and her impersonation is as charming as it is natural. Mr J. Edward Pearce is exactly suited to the rôle of Col. Brinthorpe; Mr Whitford Kane is particularly smart and effective as Jacky; and the remaining parts are in the able hands of Mr C. B. Vaughan, Mr E. A. Douglas, Mr F. Powell, Mr J. H. Manley, Mr T. Norman Walter, Miss E. Watson, and Miss Olive Adair.

Grand Opera House.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sydney Brooke.—Austin Rudd once more heads the bill, and is as popular as ever. David Poole is a ventriloquist of the first rank, and scores heavily. Ailsa Douglas is a pleasing soprano, and much fun is caused by the drolleries of Mr Wal Croft. Bert Woodward gives a smart cycling show; and Law and Norman; the Burnells, acrobats; Charles Milner, vocalist; and Mdlle. Lucretia make up an excellent bill, and meet with much success.

GROVE'S DICTIONARY OF MUSIC AND MUSICIANS.

London: Macmillan and Co., Limited.

A new edition of this standard work is being issued by Messrs Macmillan and Co., and the first of the five volumes has been published. Since the original edition saw the light more than a quarter of a century ago, the scope of the dictionary has been enlarged in many ways. For instance, as we learn from the preface to the work, "upon the first edition a limit of time was imposed, the date 1450 being fixed as the beginning of the music that could be expected to interest modern readers. The study of ancient music, and in particular of that which belongs to ecclesiastical plain-song, has been so widely spread (partly as a result of the scientific articles written by the late W. S. Rockstro in the later part of the dictionary) that no book on music could now be considered complete which made its starting-point as late as the middle of the fifteenth century." It is also pointed out that there was no article on acoustics in the first edition, and such composers as Bach, Berlioz, Brahms, and Chopin were inadequately treated. These five headings, and that of Defrees in music, may be referred to as indications of the alteration of plan in the new edition. It is stated by the editor, Mr J. A. Fuller Maitland, that the three great articles which are Sir George Grove's chief work in musical literature, those on Beethoven, Mendelssohn, and Schubert, have not, indeed, been left intact, but the alterations in them have been made in strict obedience to the writer's own wishes in the matter of additions and corrections. At his death he left a large quantity of material intended for use in a later edition of the dictionary, in connection or amplification of these great articles, and the work of incorporating them in the text has been done in the case of the article on Beethoven and Mendelssohn, by writers to whom he himself entrusted the materials.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

BIRMINGHAM.—THEATRE ROYAL.

Managing-Director, Mr Tom B. Davis.

Will Reopen at Christmas, 1904-5, with Pantomime.
Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905.
For Dates, address Mr Tom B. Davis,
Lyric Theatre, London.

BIRMINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor Mr J. W. Turner;
General Manager, Mr V. Turner.
The Largest Theatre in Birmingham.
A Few Spring and Autumn, 1905, Dates Vacant.

BLACKPOOL.—HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE,
WINTER GARDENS.
THE PRINCIPAL THEATRE.
Holds MORE MONEY at ORDINARY PRICES, and has better average Business throughout the Year than any Theatre in the Town.
The most Comfortable, Elegant, and Best Equipped Theatre. Large and Well Electric-Lighted Stage and First-class Orchestra.
All Visitors to the Theatre have Free Admission to the Winter Gardens, Floral Hall, Empress Ball-room, and Pavilion Entertainments, thus Companies visiting Her Majesty's Opera House have this additional attraction, which no other Theatre can offer. Only best No. 1 Companies booked.
For Dates address, Jno. B. Huddlestone, Manager,
Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

BOOTLE.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre and Music Hall Reports Weekly.
Address, "Dramaticus," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.).
Managing Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.
A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
No Vacant Dates in this Year.
Now Booking for 1905. Silence polite negative.
Address, Mr W. B. Redfern, as above.

CHELTENHAM. — VICTORIA ROOMS (late Corn Exchange), HIGH-STREET.—Lessee and Manager, Edward B. Shenton (late Lessee of the Old Theatre Royal and Assembly Rooms). Available for Entertainments, Concerts, Lectures, &c. Share or Rental. Seat 1,000 Persons. Full Dramatic Licence.

COATBRIDGE, N.B.—THEATRE ROYAL.
Proprietrix, Mrs Mary Watson.
Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.
One of the most Up-to-Date and Successful Theatres in Scotland.
Lighted throughout by Electricity.
Stage Dimensions:—
Stage to grid, 45ft.;
Footlights to Back Wall, 30ft.;
Wall to Wall, 65ft.;
Opening, 21ft. by 25ft.;
Between Fly Rails, 32ft.
Seating Accommodation, 2,000.
Prices:—Private Boxes, 21s. and 15s.; Single Seats, 3s. and 2s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Balcony, 1s. 6d.; Pit Stalls, 1s.; Pit, 9d.; Gallery, 6d.

Communications re Dates to
Manager.

COLCHESTER, THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Charles Macdona.
Vacant Dates, Jan. 16, 23 (?), 30, and onwards.
Apply to
Charles Macdona, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

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Address, "Dramaticus," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

DUBLIN.—QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.
Sole Proprietor and Patentee, Mr Ellis Jones.
Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitehead.
Vacant Dec. 5, through Breach of Contract.
Address, Mr J. W. Whitehead.

Silence in all cases a respectful negative.

DUDLEY.—OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement.—Proved Holding Capacity, 2,049 Persons. Immense surrounding Population. Dudley Port and Tipton, One Penny Fare to Theatre doors; Brierley Hill, 2d.; Stourbridge, 4d. First-class Companies only.

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GLASGOW.—GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan. Glasgow's Premier Theatre.
The Royal Princess's, Glasgow; Metropole, Glasgow; Royal, North Shields; Royal, Blyth; and Scotland's Provincial Theatres booked in conjunction.

GLASGOW.—WHITEVALE THEATRE.
The Only Theatre in the East End of the City.

Now Booking Autumn (1904) and Spring (1905).
All communications re Dates,
George Green, Sole Proprietor.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

GREENOCK, THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The Executors of the late Alexander Wright; Managers, A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Now Booking Spring and Autumn, 1905. First-class Companies only. Silence a polite negative.

GREENOCK. — THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—The New Theatre to be Opened in August, 1905. Now Booking only No. 1 Attractions.
All communications re Dates,
R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.
Proprietors, Prince of Wales's Theatre Co., Gt. Grimsby, Limited.
Managing-Director, Joseph H. Curry.
Few Autumn Dates at Liberty,
Now Booking 1905.
Telegraphic address, "Curry, Grimsby."

HANLEY, THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Please note.—The Staffordshire Potteries for all Dramatic Purposes must be considered as one Large Town. The following Attractions are Booked for the Autumn Season of 1904:—Miss Ellen Terry and full Company, Mr E. S. Willard and full London Company, Moody-Manners No. 1 Company, Sir Henry Irving and his Répertoire Company; also the following No. 1 Companies:—"Belle of New York," "Sapho," "Earl and the Girl," "School Girl," "Girl from Kay's," "Duchess of Dantzic," Beerbohm Tree's "Darling of the Gods," "Florodora," and others.
Hanley has undoubtedly the Largest Theatre and Stage in Staffordshire. Lighted by Electricity; accommodation for 3,700 People. Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to ends of the District, Longton, Stoke, Burslem, and Tunstall.
Vacant for First-class Companies only,
Dec. 12 and 19, also from Jan. 23, 1905.
Chas. E. Elphinstone, Managing-Director.

HOXTON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Reports Weekly of the Britannia Theatre.
Address, "Dramaticus," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

HULL, THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Wm. Morton.
Bookings this year and the Spring include:—Moody-Manners Opera (Two Weeks), Beerbohm Tree's Shakespearian Répertoire Company, "Quality Street," Henry Neville, in "The Two Orphans;" "Sign of the Cross," Martin Harvey (Two Visits), "The Only Way" and "The Breed of the Treshams;" "Florodora," "The Prince of Pilsen," "New Barmaid," Tom E. Murray, "In Dahomey," Mrs Lewis Waller, W. S. Gilbert's "The Fairy's Dilemma," "The Darling of the Gods," Pantomime, "Sleeping Beauty," at Christmas. Special Production.
Vacant at the Theatre Royal for any High-class Attraction, Feb. 6, 13, March 6. Address, W. Morton.
Note.—The New Alexandra Theatre (Morton's, Limited) Caters for the Drama-loving Public, and is a uniform Success. Holding Capacity, 3,000. Popular Prices. Sliding Roof. Smoking permitted.
Address, W. Morton.

HULL.—THE CIRCUS.—General Manager, Edward Emerson.
One of the Finest and Largest Halls in the Provinces, Fitted with Large Stage, and Suitable for Circus, Minstrels, Panoramas, Concert and Choir Parties, &c. Rental, Share, or Salary. Only a Few Vacant Dates.

ILKESTON, THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr L. F. A. Rogers.
Vacant, Jan. 2 (Six Nights), Feb. 13,
March 13 and 27, onwards
Silence a courteous negative.

ILKESTON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre and Music Hall Reports Weekly.
Address, "Dramaticus," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL.
BARROW.—ROYALTY T. AND OPERA HOUSE.
CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.
Vacant Dates:—Jarrow, 1905 Barrow, for First-class Musical Attractions, Jan. 2 and 30, March 27, and various, on. The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions Touring. Consett, Dec. 12 and 19, and Jan. 16, on. All applications for Dates to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE, and ST. JULIAN'S HALL, GUERNSEY.
Population, 100,000 out of the Season,
Absolutely no opposition.
Address, C. Robert Perkins, Jersey.

KIDDERMINSTER.—OPERA HOUSE.
A Beautiful Theatre and pronounced success.
Old Theatre Receipts trebled in the New.
Holding capacity £100. Vacant few Spring Dates, 1905.
All communications, J. P. Moore, West Bromwich.

KIRKCALDY.—KING'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, R. C. Buchanan.

Erected at a Cost of £20,000.
The Largest Theatre, so far, Built by this Syndicate.
This Magnificent Building opens on
Monday, Nov. 14,
with
"Florodora."
The Inaugural Reception
takes place on Saturday, Nov. 12,
at 6.0 p.m.,
when the Theatre will be declared open
by John Barry, Esq., J.P.,
of Messrs Barry, Ostlere, and Shepherd,
the well-known Linoleum Manufacturers.
Kirkcaldy is the best break between Edinburgh or Glasgow and Dundee.
Population of Town and Districts,
76,000.
The Electric Tram Service is being greatly extended.
New Harbour Works about to be commenced at a cost of £150,000.
Esplanade Scheme just passed. Probable cost, £18,000.
Trade in general good.
The Money Capacity of Theatre,
£170.
The Prices range from 4d., to 3s.
It is intended to book this Theatre with Falkirk,
Three Nights each,
thus ensuring an enormous week's business.
The Bookings comprise:—
'Florodora," Wentworth Croke's Company in "The Christian," Laurence Brough's "Lady of Ostend," Horace Lingard in "Why Smith Left Home," Charles Frohman's "Are You a Mason," Fred Karno's "His Majesty's Guests," Charles Macdona's "Chinese Honeymoon," Edward Compton and Company, "Belle of New York," Fredk Mouillot's "Runaway Girl" and "A Message from Mars," Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's Companies, &c.
Vacant Dates,
Nov. 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12,
Dec. 26, and Feb. 27.
All communications re Dates to
R. C. Buchanan, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.
Sole Proprietor, Lieut.-Col. J. A. Winstanley.
No Vacant Dates Spring, 1905.
Re Autumn Dates, 1905, address,
Geo. M. Slater,
Royal Opera House, Leicester.

LEYLAND PUBLIC HALL, LANCASHIRE.—Stage, 30ft. by 20ft. Proscenium. Seats 800. Balcony. District Population, 8,000. Small Stock Scenery. No Sharing.
Vacant Dates for Companies or Entertainers.
Apply, Managing Director, Park House, Leyland.

Still the Mascotte of South Wales.

MERTHYR, THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Freeholder, and Manager, Will Smithson.
The Business Capabilities of this Theatre are well known.
Bookings include:—Geo. Dance's "Chinese Honeymoon," "San Toy," "Toreador," "My Lady Molly," Van Biene, The Leopolds, "The Eternal City," F. R. Benson and Company, "New Mephisto," "Sherlock Holmes," William Greet's "Sign of the Cross," "Floradora," "The Christian," &c., and a host of First-class Attractions. Nothing booked but Big Successes. First-class Band, Electric Lighting, Good Stock of Scenery, and Real Live Management, W. S., on spot.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — TEMPERANCE HALL. — Accommodates 2,000. New Heating Apparatus and Electric Light. Best Hall in the Town. 200,000 people within reach. Choirs, Minstrels, Exhibitions, &c. Apply for special terms to the Secretary.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee, Julian Malvern.
General Manager, Chas. M. Julian.
Vacant Easter, Whit, and on, for Musical Attractions.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Nov. 14. Theatre Royal, Bury.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

NEWARK.—CORN EXCHANGE.—The Largest and most Beautiful Room in Newark. Used for all classes of Entertainments, &c. Capacity, 1,200. Population of District, upwards 25,000. Good Opening for Christmas Holidays and New Year.
R. P. Almond, Managing Director.

NEWARK (NOTTS).—IMPERIAL HALL.
Accommodates 500 to 700; Population, 14,992.
General Manager, J. C. Turner,
This Hall is "not" on the Outskirts, but in the very Centre of the Town.
Vacant Dates for Fit up Companies, &c.

NORWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Enlarged, Redecorated, Lighted throughout by Electricity, Upholstered by Dean and Co.
No Vacant Dates this year.
Now Booking 1905.
Address, Fred Morgan, as above.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.
Manager, Charles P. Cooke.
Vacant Easter.
First-class Attraction only.
Silence a courteous negative.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Vacant for Musical Comedy or Pantomime,
Jan. 30, Feb. 13.
Address, Ernest Dottridge.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to
Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.,
Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PECKHAM.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre Reports Weekly.
Address, "Dramaticus," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

PLYMOUTH. — GRAND THEATRE. — Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class Attractions only.
For Dates, apply, Mr O. F. Williams,
Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

PORTSMOUTH, NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton.
Open throughout the Year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PORTSMOUTH.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Nov. 14, G. Bastow, Sisters Hula, Norman-Leonard Trio, F. Cary, the Mayvilles, G. Formby, the Summ-rons, G. Leonard, W. Levetto, Spry and Monti.
Rehearsal at 2·0 p.m.
All communications to the Secretary.

SEACOMBE. — IRVING THEATRE. — Enormous Success of the Reopening.
Travelling Managers delighted with the Nightly Receipts.
Please refer to Mr Leslie Norman, "Trip to Chinatown" Company. Also to Messrs Stanley Rogers and Burch, "Gentleman Joe" Company.
A few Vacant Dates for First-class Attractions,
Nov. 28, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, and onward, 1905.
Good Business done here with First-class Companies.
Wire or write to Jas. Kiernan, Manager.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing Director, W. Marlow. Manager, W. Marlow, Jun. The Prettiest and Most Popular Place of Amusement in the Town.
Bookings include:—
All the Principal Touring Companies.
Vacant Dates,
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Jan. 9, 16, and on.
Managers of First-class Companies only please apply,
W. Marlow, Jun., as above.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.—Now Booking 1905.
WINTER GARDENS PAVILION TO BE LET on Rental or will Share with Good Variety Combinations.
CIRCUS HIPPODROME TO BE LET. Short or Long Term. Pavilion Redecorated, and New Heating System Installed. Apply, Alfred Hemming, General Manager.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE OPERA HOUSE and THEATRE ROYAL.
Managing-Director, Chas. E. Machin.
General Manager, Percival Craig.
Only Vacant Dates.
AVENUE.
Nov. 28, May 22, 29, June 5.
ROYAL.
Dec. 19, Feb. 13, 20, March 27, April 10, 17, and on
Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred.
Apply, C. E. Machin, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD. — Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre and Music Hall Reports Weekly. Address, "Dramaticus," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. — Sole Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.
Vacant Dec 5, 12, and 19.
Silence in all cases a polite negative for Date quoted.
Apply, Sherwood, Theatre, Wakefield.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, W. H. Westwood.—Holds £180. Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. First Vacant Dates, Nov. 28, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, 23, and 30.

WEST BROMWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Open All the Year Round.
Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre.
Vacant Few Spring Dates, 1905.
All communications to James P. Moore.

WOKING.—PUBLIC HALL.—John Smyth, Secretary.
The Hall is fitted with Electric Light,
Scenery by Hinton, Tip-up Seats by Deans, of Birmingham.
The Stage has recently been Enlarged.
Good Attractions only Required.
J. Lewis, Manager.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Under the Management of Herr C. Adolf Seebold. Vacant Dates from Nov. 21, onwards, also Christmas for good Panto. First-class Companies only. Three Days or Week. Silence a polite negative.

NEW ARRIVALS AT CROSS'S ZOOLOGICAL TRADING ESTABLISHMENT.—220 Brace Imported Hungarian Partridges, 50 Hungarian Pheasants, 1 Imported Lion, 2 Lionesses, 2 Wolves, 2 Hyenas, 1 Brown Bear, 2 Jackals, 4 Opossums, 5 Agouties, 23 Ferrets, 22 Mongoose, 1 Crested Porcupine, 2 Armadillos, 5 Jerboas, 2 Slender Loris, 2 Paradoxure and 1 Civet Cats, 2 Cara-Caras, 4 Curassows, 5 Pairs Peafowl, 5 Pairs American Wild Turkeys, 1 Large Condor, 1 Black Vulture, 5 Pairs White Swans, 2 Pairs Egyptian, 5 Pairs Chinese, and 2 Pairs Australian Geese, 6 Pairs Mandarin, 5 Pairs Rosybill, 4 Pairs Pintail, 10 Pairs Teal, 10 Pairs Wigeon, 10 Pairs White Call, 10 Pairs Brown Call, 5 Pair Wandering Tree, 5 Pairs Chilian Pintail, 5 Pairs Pochard, and 2 Pairs Red-Billed Tree Ducks; 5 Grey and 10 Amazon Parrots, 14 Ringneck Parrakeets, 2 Pairs Banded Parrakeets; 5 Pairs Pope and 3 Pairs Crested Cardinals; 10 Pairs Java Doves, 20 Pairs Budgerigars, 6 Pairs Napoleon Weavers, in full colour; 30 Pairs Grey-Headed Love Birds, 1 Talking Indian Mynah, 2 Macawa, 20 Pairs Senegal Finches.
Telegrams and Cables, "Cross, Liverpool;"
Nat. 'Phones, 6,491 Central and 728 Royal.
Liverpool.

LIVE STOCK NOVELTIES.—CHIMPANZEES.
Consignments of Chimpanzees constantly arriving.
1 Youngster, Ten Months Old, in First-class Condition.
1 Skin and Skeleton of Monster Gorilla.
1 West African Colobus.
30 West African Mixed Baboons.
1 Very Fine Long-legged, Long-armed Baboon.
2 Large Barbary Apes.
1 Small Barbary Ape.
50 Common Indian Monkeys.
2 Kangaroos, Small.
2 Russian Bears, good size, for £10.
1 Lioness, Adult, acclimatised, for £10.
2 Porcupines, Adult, acclimatised, for £8
3 Hyænas, half-grown, for £12.
1 Kangaroo, roufous necked, for £8.
Usual Small Animals and Birds. 1,000 in Stock.
John Hamlyn, 221, St. George's-street, London, East.

LIONS.—Splendid African Lioness and Lion, Thoroughly Trained, Cheap.
Also a Pair of Indian Hogs, £6.
One Wallowroos Kangaroo, £30.
Harris, Naturalist, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, April 17, on.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 27, April 3, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 6, March 20, 27, April 3, 17, May 1, 8 (Race Week).
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Nov. 21, Feb. 23 (Three Nights),
March 20, 27, April 3, 17, May 1, 8, on.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, April 3, 17, May 1, 8, 22, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 27, March 6, 27, April 3, 10, 17, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 15, 22 29, June 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant,
Jan. 2, 9, 16 (Six Nights each) 23 (Three Nights),
Feb. 16, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant Spring, 1905.
TERRISS THEATRE.
Dec. 5 and Spring.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Dec. 12. Also Big Attraction for Jan. 9.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Dec. 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 23.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Dec. 26, March 27, April 24.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Company.
Theatre Royal, Stockton.

Nov. 28, Vacant.

Wire, BACON, Gateshead.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, three nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by
Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 6, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 26, Jan. 26, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Dec. 26, Three Nights, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 12, Three Nights, Luton and Bedford; Dec. 19, Three Nights, Luton. E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County T., Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Good Drama, Dec. 19, through transferring. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Electric Plant (Three Colours) installed. Address, HERBERT VERE.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRISTOL.
WANTED, Big Dramatic Attractions for remaining Vacant Spring and Autumn Dates.
Address, ERNEST CARPENTER.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Dec. 5 (Three or Six Nights), King's T., Gainsborough. Second Week of Opening after Big Alterations. CARLTON, Crownhill, Devon.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Good Comedy Companies, Now and on, Three Nights.
Good Pantomime, Dec. 26.
Now booking Season 1905.
Apply, C. A. HUTTON.

WANTED, Good Dramatic Companies, Dec. 26, 1904; Jan. 2, 9, 16, 1905.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, Good Dramatic Co, Dec 19.
Have also Jan. 2, on, with exceptions.
E. H. PAGE.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
WANTED, First-class Companies,
Dec. 5, 12, Feb. 13, 1905, and on.
Apply, WELTON DALE,
Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions.

ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 20, April 3, 10.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH,
March 13, 27, April 3, 10, 24, May 1.

STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA,
Jan. 9, March 6, 13, 20, April 10, 24.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
AVENUE OPERA HOUSE, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions for Above,
Nov. 28.
Nov. 28.
Nov. 28.
Owing to Cancellation of Tour.
One of the Best Dates in the Year.
Apply, C. E. MACHIN, as above.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for
Dec. 5 and 12.
Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, W.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE, DUNDEE
WANTED, Big Attractions,
Jan. 23, onwards.
S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager.

GRAND THEATRE (late EDEN), BRIGHTON.
Under the Control of Mr ERNEST CARPENTER.
The Dramatic Success of the South.
WANTED, Big Attractions, for Remaining Spring and Autumn Dates.
Address, ERNEST CARPENTER.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Nov. 21, 28, and on. Also Good Christmas Attraction and Pantos. Splendid Business is being done under present Personal Management. Inquire any Manager who has recently visited. Address, MANAGER.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management
Capital, £155,000.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK
Dec. 12 (Three Nights) Dec. 19,
Jan. ?, New Year Week (?).
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
Feb. 20 (Three Nights).
KING'S THEATRE KIRKCALDY.
Nov. 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12,
Dec. 26.
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
Dec. 1 (Three Nights), Dec. 12.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE CLYDEBANK
Jan. 23, Feb. 13, 20.

The Week's Leading Line.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Most Popular Theatre in Town.
Last Week's Receipts,
£523 5s. 9d.
Important.—Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith,
please note that Stockbridge is barred.
The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.
Address all communications to R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Jan. 9, 23, 30, and on
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Nov. 28 (?), Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9, 16, Feb 20, and on.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Dec. 19.
Also First-class Musical Shows for March 6 and 20.

WANTED, Company for Dec. 19 at
Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHEFFIELD.
WANTED. First-class Attractions, Dec. 12, Feb 27, March 20, 27, and on.
Address, F. W. PURCELL,
Alexandra Theatre, London, N.

HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEW BROMPTON, KENT.
Population, 46,000. No other Place of Amusement in the Town. Seating capacity, 2,000. Lighted throughout by Electric and Gas, also Heated.
WANTED, Known, Will be Vacant for Good Companies Dec. 12, onwards. ALFRED NORTON, Hippo. Theatre, New Brompton, Kent.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec. 12 (?), 19, Jan. 9, 23, 30, and few on. This week, Miss Grace Warner; next, "Girl from Japan." Thanks Mr Macdona for Offer, "Monsieur Beaucaire." FRED L. CONNYNGHAME.

POOLE'S THEATRES, WALES and GLOUCESTER.
WANTED, Nov. 14, onwards, with exceptions, Good Companies, Pontypool. Also some Vacancies, Porth, Treherbert, Maesteg, and Gloucester. Good Business for Good Companies.
POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

WANTED, for Poole's Theatres, through Cancelling the Best Companies, Gloucester, Dec. 5 and 19; Porth, Dec 5 and Feb. 27; Treherbert and Maesteg (Three Days each), Dec. 12; Pontypool, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, Jan. 9 and 16. POOLE, Wooton Lawn, Gloucester.

WANTED, Really First-class Attractions for Christmas Week, Gloucester and Porth.
Share or Certainty for the Best.
Apply, POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Jan. 8 and 23, Feb. 6, 1905, and onwards. Silence polite negative pro. tem. Now Booking Autumn, 1905, and Spring and Autumn, 1906.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Pleasington, Blackburn.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD.
WANTED, Strong Attraction, Dec. 19, Three Nights.
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Vacant Jan. 2, 16.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS.
Vacant May 8, onwards.
FRANK MACNAGHTEN, Palace-chambers, Lincoln.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Dramatic or Variety, Dec. 12. Also good Pantomimes, Jan. 2, 9, 16, or with exceptions. Address, SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.

WANTED, for Christmas Week, First-class Attraction, Musical Comedy, Spectacle, or Minstrel Troupe. Splendid Opening for good Travelling Pantomime or any other Good Draw. Sharing Terms. HAGUE, Spa Theatre, Bridlington.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe, Cheshire, First-class Attractions for October, onwards. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, Good Drama, Nov. 24, 25, 26, Dec. 8, 9, 10, 12, and 19.
Address, H. J. SNELSON, Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.

PARDOE'S THEATRE, MIDDLETON, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Sound Attractions, Dec. 19 and 26, and on; also could Arrange for Good Pantomime in January. Fullest particulars, W. PARDOE, above.

TOWN HALL THEATRE, METHIL FIFE.
WANTED, Companies, Dramatic, Nov. 21, Dec. 1, Three Nights each; Dec. 12. LIVERICK.

WANTED, for Royal Hall, Gainsborough, First-class Attractions, Nov. 24 and Dec. 1, Three Nights each, to follow "Les Cloches de Corneville." Albert Theatre Staff. Good Band. B. KIRK.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE
AND HIPPODROME, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Twice Nightly, at 7·0 and 9·0.
WANTED, the Biggest Combinations, Variety and Dramatic (Drama must be Played in Two Acts, in One Hour and a-Half, and Preference will be given to those who can Play Two Dramas Nightly), Travelling. Open to Arrange with Responsible Manager for a Circus Season. Vacant Dates, Dec. 12, 19, 26 (must be something big), and onwards.
Can Arrange for Good Pantomime Production, Dec. 26, for Two or More Weeks.
Anything with real Drawing Powers write.
Terms no object to the Right Thing.
Population of Wolverhampton, 95,000.
Within a radius of Three Miles, 250,000.
Address,
FRED J. LITTLE, as above.

WANTED, for Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, Entertainment complete in itself, for Nov. 28. Gipsy Choir write in.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, SWINDON
WANTED, Dec 12, First-class Attraction, Musical Comedy preferred. Silence a polite negative. Address, ALFRED MANNERS, as above.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Good Companies. Nov. 28, 29, 30, Dec. 5, 6, 7, Dec. 12, and on. Give certainty for Pantomime or Musical Comedy Christmas. JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 12 and Jan. 9. Good Panto. write for January Date or early February. Address, GERALD HARDING.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies.

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
March 13, 27, May 1, 8, 22, 29, June 5.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 6, 20, March 6, 20, 27.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
March 13, April 10, 17, May 1
(Three Nights only).

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, June 12, 19, July 31, Aug. 7, 14.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Nov. 14, Dec. 19, Feb. 27, April ?.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three or Six Nights),
12 (Three Nights only), 19 (Three or Six Nights),
Jan. 23 (Three or Six Nights).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Nov. 21 (Three or Six Nights), 28 (Three or Six Nights),
Dec. 5.

CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
No Vacancies.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE
Vacant,
Dec. 8 (Three Nights), 12, 19, Jan. 2, 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights), 24, May 1, 8.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three Nights), 19,
Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 6 (Three Nights).

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Proprietors, Messrs CARSON and GRANVILLE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
Jan. 23, 30.
A few open Dates in May and June for Good Shows only.
First-class Pantomime write in.
Address,
FRED GRANVILLE.

PALACE THEATRE,
NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Productions
for
Christmas
or
New Years Weeks.
Musical preferred.
Apply,
T. W. ROWE.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, No. 1 Companies.
Feb 27,
March 6, 20, and various, April and May.
Pantomime (Eastern subject), wanted for Feb. 27, March 6.

The Grand Theatre is as near to the Centre of Prince's-street as any existing Theatre in Edinburgh. Holds over 3,000 people, and £180. Electric Light throughout. Heated Hot Water. Smoking allowed by the Authorities.
All communications re dates to
EADE MONTEFIORE,
Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr STANLEY ROGERS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Preferred, Dec. 1 (Three Nights), 19 (Three Nights), Jan. 5 (Three Nights), Feb. 6, March 6, 13, April 3, on, with exceptions.
Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

WHITEVALE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Population, 250,000, within One and a Half Miles Radius.
WANTED, for Nov. 28 (Vacant through Obliging), and Dec. 5, Good Companies. Wire for Nov. 28. Address, GREEN.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Musical Preferred, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12, Six Matinées and Two Nights. Jan. 9 and 16, Open for Good Touring Pantomime. DREW MACKINTOSH, P. P., Brighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, OXFORD.
WANTED, First-class Musical Companies, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 13, and on.
Good Pantomime Wanted. ALBANY WARD.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Good Pantomime or any Big Attraction,
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26,
or could Open Dec. 24.
Good Business certain.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Bury.

WOOLWICH.—GRAND THEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Company at above Theatre, Four Nights and Matinée, commencing Dec. 12. Address, CLARENCE SOUNES.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Peterborough Good Company, Nov. 28. Also Pantomime, Jan. 30. A. D. VERNON.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions.
April 3 and Onwards, with Exceptions.
GEORGE E. GOOD,
Beaconsfield-street, Blyth.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr E. MACKNIGHT.
Business-Manager, CHARLES E. HARDY.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 28 and onwards, with exceptions.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 2, 9, and Feb. 6. E. B. GOULDEN.

COMPANIES WANTED

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 6, and on.
This week, Mr Edward Terry.
Monday, £102 8s.
Tuesday, £122 0s. 9d.
Derry was once noted for citizens whose tastes inclined very much to the drama. In fact, they were a theatre-going public. But theatrical life in Derry for a good many years past has been dull in the extreme. With the advent of an enterprising theatrical manager to our city, such as Mr Payne Seddon—to whom Irish provincial towns owe a deep debt of gratitude for the efficient manner in which he catered for them in his tours—let us hope that a new era has dawned on the local theatrical sphere, and that we may see nightly at the Derry Opera an audience such as was witnessed last evening.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GEO. ROBERTSON.
This Handsome New Theatre will be Opened at Christmas.
WANTED, Companies, April 17, May 1, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Nov. 14, 21, Dec. 19, 26, Feb 27, March 27, and on.
Last Three Days of each Week only Booked.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, N.
WANTED, High-class and Musical Attractions, Feb. 27, March 13, 20, and onwards.
Address,
F. W. PURCELL, Alexandra Theatre, N.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
The Sensational Success of South Wales.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 5.
New Grand Hall, Aberavon, Booked in Conjunction.
Musical Attractions Preferred.
Address, JOHN TULLY.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE, HOLLOWAY, N.
WANTED, High-class and Musical Attractions.
Feb. 13, March 6, 20, and onwards.
Address, F. W. PURCELL, Alexandra Theatre, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Company for Dec. 12, Dec. 12, Dec. 12.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Lessee, Mr FRANK BOYCE;
Acting-Manager, Mr WALTER BELLIAN.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Musical Preferred, for Nov. 28.
Wire particulars, BELLIAN.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Dec. 5, 12 (Three Nights), 19,
Required Strong Attraction for Dec. 26.
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE,
DUNFERMLINE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. POTTS.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred, Nov. 21, Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, and on, with exceptions.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Week of Dec. 5.
for Week of Dec. 5.
Wire, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

WANTED, Good Companies,
Victoria Theatre, Mansfield.
Vacant Dec. 15, 22, 29 (Three Nights Each Week).

WANTED, Good Companies,
King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Vacant Dec. 5, One or Two Dates onwards.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Jan. 16, 30 (?), Feb. 6, 20 (?), 27th, on, with exceptions.
Many thanks to Managers who wrote in re recent Dates. All now filled.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb 20.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Aug. 7, 14.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Feb. 13.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Fredk. Melville's
New Production.
WANTED, Jan. 16, and 23.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 30, Feb. 13.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 13, 20, near London.
FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Feb 20, follow London Theatres; April 3, follow Midlands, and onwards. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects. Address all communications,
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.
Note.—The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville.

WANTED, Dec. 19,
"A Girl's Cross Roads."
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

WANTED, Feb. 20, for
"The Girl who Lost Her Character.
DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec 12, Feb. 27, March 13, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction,
First-class Theatres
for Jan. 23 and 30.
Wire, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Weeks of Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, for the
above remarkable success.
Wire, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, April 24, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Stockport, Return.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Nov. 28, between Newcastle and Sheffield;
Dec. 19 and 26 (Christmas)
between Wolverhampton and Doncaster;
Jan. 9, onwards, with exceptions.
CHARLES B. STONE, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S COMPANY.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres only, then and On. CHALMERS MACKEY,
Lyceum Theatre, Govan, Nov. 14 (Six Nights).

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
WANTED, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, on.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Grand, Plymouth.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION,"
by George A. De Gray.
WANTED, Dates for this Sterling Attraction,
Managers Booking this Play
are Securing
a Good Drama
Performed by a Strong Cast
Lavishly Advertised.
Magnificently Mounted.
Each Set a Splendid Stage Picture.
Act 1. The Café Gardens and View of Paris.
Act 2. St. Thomas's Embankment.
Leopold Chambers.
The Artist's Home
Act 3 The Cornfields at Beechwood.
Beachwood Police Station.
The Old Mill and Weir.
Act 4. The Beechwood Arms
The Railway Station.
Blind Man's Corner.
The Railway Smash.
The Finest Picture ever Staged.

Vacant
Jan. 9, Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27, April 24.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 20, 27, March 13, 27.

"GREED OF GOLD,"
Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, 13, 20.

"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION,"
Jan. 9 (?), Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27, April 24.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, Nov. 28, Nov. 28, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 19,
for this great Attraction.
All Scenery carried.
Powerful Company. Racehorses Toured.
Refer Alexandra, Sheffield, or Rotunda, Liverpool, as to Show.
Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Alexandra, Widnes; next, Prince's, Blackburn.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
Elaborate Plant of Pictorials.
The above will be Toured in First class Style by
ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.
WANTED, Feb. 20, 27 (Midlands), March 13, 20, 27 (South), and various onwards.
All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON, Strathmore, Norfolk House-road, Streatham, S.W.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.
WANTED, Theatres, Dec 26, Jan. 2, 23, 30, and few later. Rapidly Booking Autumn. Rebookings include.—Grand, Southampton; Newport, Boscombe, Coventry, Liverpool, Manchester, Harrogate, Dover, Burnley, Devonport, Rotherham, Ton-y-pandy, Gloucester, Swansea, Accrington, Ramsgate, &c.
Nov. 14, Theatre Royal, Batley.

WANTED, Jan. 30 and June 12, for Mrs Lewis Waller, in "Zaza" or Répertoire.
Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

"SILVER KING."
WANTED, Dates, Dec 26 (Mid-England), Jan. 23, May 1 to 29, Sept 4 11, Oct. 16, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec 4, 1905.
Address, POLINI,
93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER" by Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, May 29, June 5. W. V. GARROD, Grand Theatre, Halifax.

WANTED, Farewell Tour of "Kitty Grey," few Good Dates for No 1 Company during September, October, November, 1905.
No Dates Vacant till September, 1905.
New Scenery, Dresses, &c.
Apply, C. St. John Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," Christmas and Jan. 2. Splendid Printing, Eight Sets of Scenery, Big show of Supers. C. CLIFFORD, New, Hawick, N.B.; next, Dunfermline.

WANTED, for "Bigamy," Jan. 30, Feb. 20.
"The Life That Kills," Wanted Dec. 12, 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and Few Spring. "The Grip of the Law," Wanted Jan. 23, April 3, and on
FRED MOULE, Aberdare; next, Pontypool.

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash, Nov. 28, South Wales.
Wire, LESLIE VYNER, Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Easter and Whit Weeks.
FRED BULMER, Star Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, Dec. 12 (near Liverpool),
"The Conscript"
MITCHELL and BELTON, Empire, Dundee.

"DISHONOURED."
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Grand, Plymouth.

"FLORADORA."
H. J. CALLAN and W. CROKE'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Jan. 23 (North).
Apply,
H. J. CALLAN, Lyric Theatre, London, W.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Theatres for Christmas and New Year's Weeks;
also Spring Dates, 1905 Possibly vacant Dec. 5.
Address, STANLEY HOPE,
Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.
Nov. 14, Prince's Theatre, Horwich (Six Nights).

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" COMPANY.
WANTED, Nov. 14, Unexpectedly Vacant, also Nov. 28.
Wire, SURREY,
Avenue Theatre, Morpeth.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28, Jan. 2.
Fourth Year of Tour.
Also "The Sorrows of Satan,"
a Magnificent Middle-of-the-Week Attraction.
Wire, to-day, LOIE ESMOND, Theatre Royal, Pontypool; Nov. 14, Treherbert and Maesteg.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."
WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15, onwards. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, Jan. 9, 16 23, 30, for this Really Remarkable High-class Attraction.
An Assured, Distinct, and Pronounced Success.
A Great Play. Splendid Production. A Strong Company
J. H. CLYNDES, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

"THE NEW HOUSEMAID."
"THE NEW HOUSEMAID."
WANTED, Christmas and New Years' Weeks, for this most Successful Farcical Comedy. Also Jan. 9 (Three Nights precede Oxford), Jan. 16, and Feb. 13 (Three Nights, precede Cambridge). Apply, E. OSWALD BROOKS, this and next week, M. T., Birkenhead.

"THE TEMPTER'S POWER."
WANTED, Nov. 28 and Dec. 26, and on, for this Grand Production. Everything Carried.
Address, CECIL DEAN, Theatre, Northwich, Cheshire.

"A WRECKER OF MEN."
WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and 30.
C. WATSON MILL, Theatre Royal, Stockton.

"A WRECKER OF MEN."
WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and 30.
MILL, Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and 30, No. 1 Original Company, "A Wrecker of Men."
MILL, Theatre, Stockton-on-Tees.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

Including the
Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, Nov. 21,

Dec 5,

Jan. 2,

Jan. 9 (?),

Jan. 16, 23, 30,

March 6,

March 13, 20;

also Whit Week.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield
W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq., Theatre Royal, Hanley;
F. Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford;
J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth;
J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington;
Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston (Holiday Week).

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. Carlton Wallace,
next week, Theatre Royal, Leeds.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Dates for
"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
by Nita Rae.

Second Year of Tour.
Everything First-class.

Vacant! Vacant!! Vacant!!!
Dec. 5 (North). 19. 26.
Many Thanks for Offers.

Winifred Maude,
Elswick Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MR WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Second Year of Continuous Successful Tour.

WANTED, Dec. 19 Dec. 29 (Three Nights, Midlands) Jan 23, March 6, and onwards, with exceptions. William A. Armour, To-day, T. R., Chesterfield; next, Royalty, Barrow.

JOHN TULLY'S "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Now in Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.

WANTED, Nov 28
for this Truly Remarkable Revival.
Address, John Tully,
Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

"SAPHO."

WANTED, Dec. 12, 26.
Dec. 19, 26. The Most Popular Version Touring.
Playing to enormous Business everywhere.
Wire for Dec. 12. 26. Wire.
James Bell, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

CHAS. A. CHANDLER'S "BELLS OF HASLEMERE." COMPANY.

WANTED, Nov. 21 (only Vacant Date this Year), Jan. 2 (North preferred). Fast Booking 1905. Wire this, T. R., Bury; next, Grand, Margate.

WANTED, for F. A. Scudamore's Enormously Successful Drama, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," Miss Frances Delaval's Tours, Dec. 5, Christmas, and New Year. A., Scarborough; next, A., Brighouse.

"THE TRAITOR."
Messrs Mitchelson and Fineberg's Magnificent Production.

WANTED, Dec. 12, Feb 20, March 20, 27.
E. Hill-Mitchelson, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

"AT WAR WITH THE WORLD."

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Christmas, onwards. Wire, wire.
Everything Reliable. Printing Waiting.
Geo. Littleton, 22, Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, S.W.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Dec. 5.
Wire, To-day,
"Vagancy, London."
E. P. Clift,
110, St. Martin's-lane, W.C. Tel. No. 7,504, Gerrard.

WANTED, Good Christmas Date for the Ben Greet No. 1 "Belle of New York" Company. Vacant owing to fire at Carlisle Theatre. Address, J. Bannister Howard, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

MISS OSWALD'S "EAST LYNNE."

WANTED, March 27, April 10, 17, May 1, on. This Splendid Musical Version holds Drama Record at many Theatres, and is the Finest and Best Advertised Version extant Thanks for several offers, but Pantomimes preclude running through Christmas. Herbert Barbs, Opera House, Torquay.

"THE SEAL OF SILENCE."
(M. B. BUCKSTONE and I. K. COX'S COMPANY.

WANTED, Nov. 21, 21, Between Hastings and Birkenhead. Dec. 5, 12, 19, and Christmas. Refer R. E. Liston, Esq., T. R., Leeds; Francis Laidler, Esq., Prince's Bradford; C. P. Cooke, Esq., Grand, Nottingham; Lingford Carson, Esq., Queen's, Keighley.
H. G. Wynne, Pier Pavilion, Hastings.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED. Big Theatres,
Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 6, to follow Stratford (Return);
April 24, to follow Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Address,
Chas. M. Julian, Theatre Royal, Bury.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Dec. 19, Christmas, and New Year Weeks.

Mr Gore Ouseley's
No. 1
Company.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

The
Newest,
Brightest,
and
Best
Musical Comedy
on Tour.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

A Splendid Production.
A Superlative Cast.
A Stupendous Success.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

The Piece has met
with a
Magnificent Reception
Throughout the South.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

Not a Tour,
but a Triumphal Progress.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

Each Number Greeted Nightly
with a Roar of Acclamation,
Culminating in Salvoes of Applause.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

Miss Isa Bowman and Mr Chal. T. Chaloner's Duet in Second Act
necessitated Nine Encores on Monday Night.
The greatest difficulty
was experienced
in subduing the frenzied excitement
of the Audience.

A Superlative Cast.

Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.

Her performance is nothing short of a triumphant creation of genius.—Western Daily News.

Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.

Kept the house in a roar from the rise to the fall of the curtain. His part bristles with humour, and, consummate artist as he is, he made every syllable and sentence go for all it was worth.—Sussex Daily News.

Mr Chal. T. Chaloner.
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner.
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner.
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner.

Secured a veritable triumph as Samuel Spriggs, the waiter. He has a great part, which he plays with consummate humour, skill, and ability.—Eastbourne Daily Gazette.

Miss Pauline Hague
Miss Pauline Hague
Miss Pauline Hague
Miss Pauline Hague

has a charming voice and appearance. Her success was immediate, every number being vociferously encored.—Western Daily News.

Miss Noel Neville
Miss Noel Neville
Miss Noel Neville
Miss Noel Neville

has perhaps the best part in a piece endowed to an extraordinary extent with really good acting parts. Her song "Vanity Fair" is one of the most striking numbers in a play which has the good fortune to possess songs and dances of surpassing excellence.—London Advertiser.

Mr Dennis Drew,
Mr Dennis Drew,
Mr Dennis Drew,
Mr Dennis Drew,

with a splendid rich baritone voice, easy bearing, and fine stage presence, brought down the house with his magnificent soldier song, which cannot help being the rage at every town visited by "The Lady's Maid."—Sussex Daily News.

Mr Harold Eden
Mr Harold Eden
Mr Harold Eden
Mr Harold Eden

plays the funniest characterisation of a stage dude it has been our good fortune to witness in the funniest possible manner.—Eastbourne Society.

THE CHORUS.

lent valuable and material help to the principals. They will compare favourably with any of the highly lauded American choruses imported to our shores in recent years. They work with astonishing verve and go, have magnificent and, what is just as important, really well trained voices. To us who are not in the secret as to how these things are managed it is an inexplicable puzzle how a number of ladies of such surpassing loveliness can be gathered together in a single company.—Eastbourne Society.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

A dainty, delightful musical comedy, admirably produced, was the unanimous verdict of an enormous house at the Queen's Theatre last Monday night.—Swindon Advertiser.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

In addition to above,
Mr Joseph Wilson
joins the Company this week.

Wanted
Dec. 19.
Christmas Week and New Year Week.

Gore Ouseley,
6, Panton-street, Haymarket, W.
Telegrams, "Ouseley, London."
Telephone, 7,159 Gerrard.

THEATRES WANTED

"HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, and Feb. 6.

Wire, Carson,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 20.

Lingford Carson,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5 and 19, Jan. 2, 9, and 16.

Lingford Carson,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, and 23.

Lingford Carson,

Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

CARSON, GRANVILLE, and THORNE'S COMPANY,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."

WANTED, for this First-class Attraction, Jan. 2, 23, and 30
Everything Carried.
Strong Company.
A Production Second to None.

Address,
Fred Granville,
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
Also Grand Revival,
"£1,000 REWARD."

WANTED, Dec 26, Jan. 23, 30.
Address, Opera House, Radcliffe.

THE EDINBURGH GRAND "CINDERELLA"

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 23, 30, Feb 6, 13,
for the Entire Production and Company from the Grand, after Special six Weeks' Season, opening Dec. 10.
Miss May Marton as Cinderella,
Miss Minnie Engler as Prince,
Miss Fanny Wright as Dandini,
Little Zola (from Drury-lane) as Page,
Mr A. G. Spry as Baron,
Messrs Conan and Doyle as the Johnnies,
Mr Percy Curry } as Ugly Sisters.
Mr —
The Six Lancashire Lasses,
The Four American Idols,
London Chorus,
Electric Coach, with Four Shetland Ponies.

Address all communications till the 20th to
Eade Montefiore,
Her Majesty's Theatre Dundee.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, Nov. 28 and Dates onwards, for the Royal Star Pierrot Concert and Comedy Company. A Splendid Troupe of Artistes and Big Speciality Acts write for Day Bill. We give Sacred Concert on Sunday Nights. At Liberty for Christmas and New Year. Dillon, Theatre, Thornley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, in and around London, Theatres, Music Halls, &c., for Gospel Missions. Sundays and Weekdays. Send Vacant Dates, Seating Accommodation, and Terms, to Captain C. F. Merrick, Organising Secretary, Theatres Mission Dept., Church Army, 130, Edgware-road, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Halls or Theatres, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 9 Onwards, for Hamilton's Excursions by Bioscope, the Greatest of all Animated Picture Shows. Programme entirely up-to-date. Share or rental. Hamilton, Assembly Rooms, Woolwich.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"STRANGE ADVENTURES OF MISS BROWN."

WANTED, for the above Farcical Comedy,
Ladies and Gentlemen to complete Cast.
Education and Refinement most essential,
with Experience,
to Dress well on and off (strictly enforced).
A good Agent and Acting Manager may write.
Photos. and all references, which will be applied for,
Fred Willis,
General Manager from Mr H. Edwards Cecil,
10, Stanmore-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Two Amateur Ladies may write.
Small Salary given.

WANTED, for King's Theatre, Walthamstow, Entire Company for Frank Harvey's "Shall We Forgive Her," those who have Played Parts preferred, Week of Nov. 21. Address, Sara Mignon.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, for "A Woman's Devotion" Tour, First-class Juvenile Leading Gentleman, Aristocratic Heavy Leading Actor, with power and intensity; Juvenile Gentleman, to double small part; Second Comedian, tall, to play French waiter and double small part and combine stage-management; Juvenile Leading Lady, with power and pathos; Good List Agent in Advance. All to Rehearse Dec 6, open Dec. 19. Terms and references in each case, Morton Powell, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, for Spring Tour of Successful Musical Comedy, Several Ladies and Gentlemen. Small premium required, which will be returned in salary. Good Amateurs please write. Apply by letter first instance, Marshall, 1, Rosebery-sq., London, E.C.

Fit-ups and Small Theatre Tour. Going through Xmas.

WANTED, Young Comedian and Chambermaid, also Lady for Small Parts, capable of Old Women Last two refs., photos., and lowest terms, to Julian Baimbridge, P.O., St. Austell, Cornwall.

WANTED, Young and Attractive Lady Dancer (acrobatic, &c.), Character Comedian, and Light Comedian (both to Sing) to Tour through Christmas, onwards. Particulars, re voice, age, height, refs., terms, with photo essential, Stone, T. B., Whitehaven.

WANTED, Lady (Play Small Part and Understudy Lead) or Gent. (for Acting Management) to Invest Small Amount in First-class Musical Comedy-Drama. Experience not necessary. An excellent opportunity. For full particulars, apply Box 8,692, care of "The Era" Office.

"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS" COMPANY.

WANTED, with good Speciality; Aristocratic Old Lady; Child over fourteen, to look younger; also smart Young Lady for Chambermaid, to Sing and Dance and combine Speciality; also other possible Vacancies for Christmas Tour. Apply, with photograph, stating age, height, references and lowest terms, &c., to Robert Pervis, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Smart Comedian, for Talking Part in Sketch, for Liverpool, and to Work Leaps. Height (short preferred), terms (low).
Apply, H. C. Le Fre, 11, Moor-place, Liverpool.

THE ARMADALE REPERTOIRE COMPANY.

WANTED, Intelligent Young Actor for Small Parts, Dec. 5. Photos., terms, height, to Armadale, 106, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Young Lady about eighteen. Must have good knowledge of Singing and Dancing. Good appearance and figure indispensable. Photos. if possible, to be returned. Apply to Mr Rhynal, Manager.

To Amateurs and Others.

WANTED, Three Young Men; must be Tall, Clean Shaven, and Good Looking, and have some Stage Experience, to take Small Parts in Amateur Performance. Apply by letter, stating very lowest terms. Write, C. H. 85, Willing's, 162, Piccadilly.

WANTED, Ballet Dancer for Continental Circuses Tall and Good-looking. Forward photos. Only by Appointment. Guise, 27, Bonham-rd., Brixton.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, 19, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Marjorie Lawrence relinquishing Engagement in "The Master Criminal" Company. Specially Engaged by Bert Coote to play Little Mother, "The Fatal Wedding." This, Coliseum, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, an Amateur Lady, Good Professional Experience, is Wishful to Play Part in Production in Spring. Premium. Box 8 510, "The Era"

WANTED, Known, Miss Leslie Armitage, Contralto Vocalist, Guitarist and Mandoline Soloist, Violin. Mansfield House, Clifton-gardens, Maida-vale, W.

WANTED, Known, Young Gentleman, Tenor (compass C to B), wishes Evening Engagements. Moderate terms. W., 51, The Vineyard, Richmond, Surrey.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Choristers, all Voices.
Apply, any day, between 11·0 and 1 0,
Kelson Trueman,
Regent-house 233A, Regent-street, W.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
Christmas, 1904.

WANTED, Recognised Principal Girl for Princess, in "Aladdin;"
also Funny Little Comedian for Wishee-Washee.
Address, with full particulars, and state where can be seen at work for the next two weeks, to
James Kiddie.

WANTED, Good Principal Boy for Crusoe, Opera House, Cheltenham, and Tour. Qualifications—Must be Young, Refined, a Good Singer (essential). Terms and references, and also state where can be seen next week, if not known, to J. Walters, Theatre Royal, Blackpool.

WANTED, a Good Comedian for a First-class Pantomime Money no object for a Good Man. Box 8,685, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Pantomime Artistes Disengaged Next Christmas to send Photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Juggler, to Play Comic Waiter in Pantomime. Terms must be moderate.
Apply, Brooks' Agency, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Lad, about Sixteen, for Cat. Must Tumble; also Acrobatic Lady Dancers.
May, 19, Handsworth-road, South Tottenham.

WANTED, for the Alexandra Palace, Three Weeks, Tour to follow, Artistes in all Lines. Good Ballet Troupe, Conductor (to Arrange). No notice will be taken unless age, height, references, and lowest terms are stated, and Ladies' Photo sent.
E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford

WANTED, all Lines and Specialities. Photos (imperative), references, terms. Write, J. Wright Aitken, Agent, 6, Stockwell-avenue, S.W.

WANTED, Smart Principal Boy (Aladdin), Second Boy and Girl, Fairy Queen, and Male Quartette. All to open Dec. 10. Rehearse Dec 1. Photos. and lowest terms, S. King Alexander, Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Scotch Comedian, who has Played in Pantomime. Apply by letter only, with Photo, references and lowest terms, to Mr Robert Arthur, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, Pantomime Artistes, all Lines, for "Cinderella" Fit-up Tour, Open at Once. Wire, Manager, Oddfellows' Hall, Kirkby Stephen.

LITTLE and DAROY'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, Good Second Boy, Must Sing and Dance. Photos, references, and absolute terms imperative.
Address, Fred J. Little, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Clever Young Pantomimist (Light). Grotesque Part. Support Young Performer. Athletic Speciality. Knowledge Rings advantage. Full particulars, Box 8,701, care of "The Era."

WANTED, a Good Burlesque Illusion for Pantomime, or will Buy outright.
Letters, with particulars and price, to
Rish and Rich, London Pavilion.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Miss Little Billie (late with Miss Billie Barlow), open for Pantomime, aged Twelve. Clever Vocalist. 1902, at Crystal Palace. Fairy Crystal last Year, Grand, Birmingham Saddens, Horley.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Miss Maud Marsden, Rough Comedy or Coloured Topsy Part. Wire, 443, Borough-road, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Emily Clegg, Refined Ballad Vocalist, at Liberty Panto., Second Boy or Fairy Queen. This week, Public Hall, Grange. Next, 18, Greame-street, Alexandra-Park, Manchester. Thanks Miss Jessie D'Alton for Offer.

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty for Pantomime. Principal Boy. Offers invited. All communications to Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Panto., Alma Obrey, Principal Boy; Bob Baxter, Comedian. Dame preferred. Five Years with J. F. Elliston, Esq. Camberwell M. H.

WANTED Pantomime by Fanny Erris, Refined Character Comedienne. Principal Boy or Good Second. Fine Speciality Songs. This, Palace, Chelsea; next, Grand, Gravesend.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers, the Sisters Rose, Novel Entertainers, Vacant for Pantos. Babes or Riding Hood, with good Specialities. Managers will do well to secure these little Artistes. All coms. to Perm Add., 39, Cardigan-ter., Leeds.

WANTED, by T. W. Westmore, Vocal Comedian and Burlesque Actor, Panto. Engagement, any Part. 42, Bullverd-st., Bolton; or, Geo. Ward.

WANTED, Pantomime, Walter Levetto, the Dancing Wonder, Knockabout Parts or Animals, and Clog Dancer. Levetto, F., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Offers, Chas. Tempest and Miss Ida Fair, Principal Boy or Girl and Principal Comedian. Address, Coliseum, Brighton.

WANTED, by Rex and Ford, Eccentric Patter Comedians, Parts and Musical Speciality. Address, Monday, Alhambra, Sandgate.

WANTED, Known, Sandy and Carl (the Originals) at Liberty for Pantomime, Parts and Speciality. Monday, Palace, Bath, "to be corse."

WANTED, by Neuman and Doyle, Versatile Artists, Good Pantomime, Speciality and Parts. At Liberty Dec. 15. Post-office, Pattingham, near Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Bishop and Vale, the Originals, are at Liberty for Pantomime. Six Seasons with Milton Bode. Com., Britannia, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Smarte Brothers, Knockabout Acrobatic Grotesques, at Liberty for Panto. Parts and Speciality. Permanent address, 31, Arter-street, Balsall-heath, Birmingham.

WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto. Engagement, Christmas, by the Florador Quartette. Parts, Traps, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beattie Trixie, Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Known, Original Empire Quintette (Part Singers), open for Panto. Concluded Oct. 22 Ten Months' Tour with Mr Fred Karno's No. 1 "His Majesty's Guests" Co. Permanent address, Town Hall Hotel, Leeds.

WANTED, Panto., by the Hudson Powell Troupe, Acrobatic Pantomimist, Animal, or other Parts. Borough, Stratford. Nov. 17. Alhambra, Brighton.

WANTED, Known, Les Freres St. Clair, the Great Comedy Knockabout Cyclists, at Liberty for Pantomime.
Address, care of Lewis Levy,
14, Rue de Deux Gare, Paris; or, "The Era."

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of every Description Painted to Order. Large Stock of New and Secondhand Cloths, Flats, &c., on hand. New Cloths 18ft. by 24ft. from £4 High-class Work guaranteed. Sykes's Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of Every Description. F. E. Bodek, the Reliable London Scenic Artist, Newport-street, Lambeth. Falcon Bridge write.

To Pantomime Producers.

WANTED, to Sell, in Excellent Condition, Scenery, Dresses (Eastern, Nautical, &c.), Properties of Successful Pantomimes. No reasonable offer refused. May be seen at Theatre.
John Hart, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, Fit-up Scenery of All Kinds, Proscenium, Act Drop, Gas Fittings, and other Accessories. Must be in First-class Condition. Write, with full particulars, and stating where stuff can be seen, to
Box 8,714, "The Era."

WANTED, to Sell, Full-sized Scenery and Four Baskets of Dresses for "Aladdin" Panto. To clear, £45. Parker, G.P.O., Birkenshaw, near Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Specially Made and Painted Plant of Pantomime Scenery for "Robinson Crusoe." Only used Seven Weeks. Seven Scenes, including Realistic Wreck and Storm Set. Forge Scene. Egerton's Scene Factory, Bradford.

WANTED, Engagement, by Frederick Stafford, Scenic Artist. First-class references and Designs forwarded. 24, Shearer-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, Engagement, as Contract. Address, 110, Wenlock-street, New North-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, Known, J. I. Keith, Scenic Artist, at Liberty.
London, Provincial, and Continental Experience.
170, Hampton-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement or Contract, Town or Provinces. References. 43, Elgin-terrace, Maida-vale, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, First-class Stage-Manager for Pantomime
Rehearse Dec. 1.
Silence a polite negative.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Stage-Manager,
for
Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

References and terms Sam Duckworth,
Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Acting-Manager for Small Provincial (Lancashire) Theatre. References and Security (Deposit or Guarantee) required. Full particulars, photo., and salary expected, Charles Olliver, Central Hotel, Rochdale.

WANTED, Smart, Up-to-date Manager for Small Music Hall in Scotland. State Experience, Salary required. Box 8,716, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, as Acting-Manager, Theatre or Music Hall.
Address, Box 8,711, care of "The Era" Office,

WANTED, a Limelight Man for West Indian Tour, to Travel his own Apparatus with Limes, and to generally assist.
Apply, by letter only, Manager,
Benson's Office, 11, Henrietta-street, Covent-garden.

WANTED, Thoroughly Experienced Practical Property Man; must be able to make, model, and repair, for first-class production at London theatre. Also Good Honest, Energetic Baggage Man for Music Halls. Walter Summers, 28, Vaughan-rd., Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Experienced Wardrobe Mistress for Pantomime. Apply, 10 o'clock Monday, Cranston's, Agency, 6, Chandos-street, Strand.

WANTED, Known, Acting-Manager is Open to Invest £20 £25, Panto. or Drama Tour. Must be Fully Booked up. Fit-ups not objected to. Undertake Business Management. Apply, No. 8,703, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Donald Cameron, Acting-Manager,
"A Night for Millions" Company,
Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Engagement, Resident Acting-Manager or Permanency in a London Theatrical Office. Late Acting-Manager for Mr Charles Macdona's ("Cousin Kate") Company. Richard Sullivan, Box 8,687, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Experienced Acting-Manager Disengaged. Good Theatre or Music Hall. Apply, Box 8,715, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Immediate Offers, Management or Advance. Now at Liberty. Salary and per centage. Martin Comstock, Hippodrome, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Harry Liston is Open to Pilot, Engage, Manage, or Share with Sterling Attractions. Thirty Years' Managerial Touring Experience, so I know the Map. Address, Egyptian Hall.

WANTED, by Practical Property Master, Modeller and Maker, a Permanency in a London Theatre. F., 32, Sudeley-street, Islington, N.

WANTED, by Electrician, Engagement. Good experience and references.
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WANTED, by a Respectable Widow, Employment for the coming Christmas Season as Dresser or Assistant in Wardrobe-room, Cloak-room, &c. Good reference. F. Baker, 6, Grange-rd., Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Re-engagement in by Box-office Young Lady, Well Educated, Experienced. Good reference. Address, Box, 2, West-street, Croydon.

WANTED, by Lady, Post as Housekeeper, useful Companion, Amanuensis, or any post of trust. Thoroughly domesticated. Good needlewoman. Apply, Box 8,696, care of "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leader, also First Violin (First-class), for Barrasford and Waldon's Palace of Varieties, Glasgow, S.S. Two Houses Nightly. To open Nov. 21. Apply, stating age, terms, references, to Arthur Fellowes, Musical Director.

WANTED, Good Leader.
Apply by letter,
M. D.,
Lyric Opera House, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Musical Director (Piano) for Royal Varieties, Oldham, to Open Dec. Must be used to Variety Business. Latest refs and lowest terms to Ernest Dottrider. All letters to be marked outside envelope, "Conductor."

WANTED, Permanent Appointment in Really First-class Theatre or Empire by well-known Talented Conductor. Address, Box 8,713, care of "The Era."

WANTED, First Violin for Empire, Cardiff.
Apply,
Stating Salary required and giving references, to
Oswald Stoll, Empire, Cardiff.

WANTED, First Violin Immediately. Capable of Leading. Terms and references to F. Rebb, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, First Violin and Viola, for Pantomime Season. Must be experienced and have undeniable references
Signor G. D La Camera,
Musical Director, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

WANTED, Cornet, to Open at Once. Lowest terms and references first letter Please mark letters, "Cornet." Santi, Theatre, Radcliffe.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Cornet, for Orchestra of Theatre Royal, Blackburn, to open 21st inst. must be well up in Operatic Work. Apply, with references and lowest terms permanency, to FRED TAYLOR, Conductor.

WANTED, Folo Cornet, for Newport, Mon., Prof. Town Band.
SEC., South Wales Inn, East-street.

WANTED, Double Bass (Thoroughly Experienced in Variety), to open Nov. 21.
Address, with references,
W. CLOSS, Musical Director, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, Trombone Player, used to Variety business Apply at once, with experience and lowest terms, J. MILL, the Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Second Horn for B Company; also Organist for C Company
MOODY-MANNERS, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

THEATRE ROYAL, BELFAST.
WANTED, Celloist (through Disappointment), Good, at Once.
Lowest terms, copies of references, and full particulars to FRED W. WARDEN, as above.

WANTED, 'Cellist (First-class).
Terms and references,
CHAS. D. JOHNSON,
Hippodrome, Brighton.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Managing Director, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR.
WANTED, Oboe Player, for permanent Orchestra, to commence Nov. 21, 1904; also Wanted, Second Flute and Piccolo Player, for run of Pantomime, to commence Dec. 19, 1904. Apply, with terms and references, to J. O. SHEPHERD, Musical Director.

WANTED, Experienced Harpist, for Premier Provincial Theatre. Apply, with references and Salary Required, to Box 8,710, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Harpist or Portable (Good), to Accompany Player on Clarionet, Piccolo, and Speciality Solo Wind Instrument. Good Al Fresco Business. Address, Box 8,707, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Flautist, for Empire, Cardiff. State names and addresses for references, and wages expected, to OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff

WANTED, Good Pianist, for a Few Weeks. Apply personally to HENRY SPRAKE, Musical Director, Crown Theatre, S.E.

WANTED, Efficient Pianist Town near Chester, Dec. 26 next Write, FRED M'ARTHUR, 104, St. Lawrence's-road, Clontarf, Dublin.

County Asylum, Whittingham, Preston.
WANTED, Musician Attendants. Strings and Solo Tenor Slide Trombone. None but thoroughly Competent Players need apply. Wages commencing at £33 per Annum, increasing to £38 in the First year, then by Annual Instalment up to £45, and, according to promotion, to £50 and £65, with Board, Lodging, Washing, and Uniform. MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Conductor, Leader, or Violinist, Engagement. Good arranger, any business W. EVANS 5, Stanley-street, Southport.

WANTED, Re-engagement, Leader or First Violin, Experienced, Good References. Variety or Dramatic Business. F.B., 2, Liddle-road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Permanent Engagement. Experienced and Reliable. Good References. SHARPE, Norman-cross, Peterborough.

WANTED, by Conductor (First-class Pianist), Engagement. At Liberty for Panto. and Spring Tour. CONDUCTOR, 12, Winifred-terrace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Engagement as Leader Brass Band or as Cornet Player. Circus Business. T. REYNOLDS, Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

WANTED, by Conductor (Violin), Engagement. Stock of Up-to-date Music. Experienced and reliable. J. CARPENTER, Gilpin-street, Liverpool.

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WANTED, by Musical Director, Engagement (First-class) Experienced in all Branches with Large Orchestras. Excellent Pianist, Combine any Reed Instrument. Composer and Arranger. Abstainer. Now at Liberty.
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WANTED, by Second Violin, Engagement Theatre or Music Hall. Good references, steady and reliable. Address, MULLEN, 5, Audley-st Blackburn.

WANTED, by Violinist (First-rate), Employment.
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WANTED, by Second Violin, Deputising.
G., 40, Ordnance-road, St John's-wood, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Engagement Age, twenty-six. Moderate wage.
G., 40, Ordnance-road, St. John's-wood, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Engagement, any Business, experienced, steady, and reliable, can combine Clarionette. Box 8,695, care of "The Era."

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WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Orchestral, Dramatic, and Variety Business. References. G. F. EATON, 26, Queen-street, Folkestone.

WANTED, by Repiano or Second Cornet, Engagement, any business Address, ALBERT HANDEL, 107, Shaftesbury-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement in London or Suburbs. Any Business. Can Open at once. CLARIONET, 24, Chertsey-road, Leytonstone.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement in Theatre or Music Hall. Best references, thoroughly experienced in business. T. CRAWSHAW, 89, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's-bush, London, W.

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WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Best reference as to Sobriety, Attention to Duty, and Ability. Variety, Dance, &c. BRYANT, Harbour-st., Ramsgate.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Can Combine English Concertina Solo. T. S., 15, Stonefield-street, Islington, N.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Double Bass or 'Cello, Engagement. Long experience. Any business.
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WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, Experienced, Reliable, Steady. Excellent reference. Well-up in Variety. H., 29, Palatine-road, Stoke Newington.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Late Principal with Moody-Manners & Co. First-class testimonials. COHNHOFF, 28, St. Paul's-road, Kennington, S.E.

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WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement Address,
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WANTED, by Euphonium, Trombone (Valve), can combine 'Cello and Bass, Engagement, through Disappointment. Good refs. LAW, 26, Clyde-street, Deptford, London.

WANTED, by Euphonium (Experienced) Engagement. Would join Good Works Band if Employment found. EUPHONIUM, 9, Station-rd., Norwich.

WANTED, by Euphonium, Cornet, E Flat Horn (Experienced), Engagement. J. A. send address. J. MARTIN, 4, Meyrick-road, Willesden-green.

WANTED, by Second French Horn, Engagement for Panto. Season in Orchestra. Thoroughly experienced. Sober. ROBERTS, French Horn, Almondbury, Huddersfield.

WANTED, by Oboe and Eng. Horn, Engagement. Experienced in all kinds of business. T. CARRY, 23, North-street, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Oboeist (experienced), Steady and Reliable, Engagement. Just finished Season. Good refs FLOYD, 2, Elizabeth-st., Newton-heath, Manchester.

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WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement in Theatre, Variety, or Café (London) Experienced in all Lines. Highest refs. 'CELLO, 654, Fulham-road.

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WANTED, by Solo Pianist, Engagement, Theatre or Variety, London or Suburbs only. Brilliant Soloist and Accompanist. Experienced. First-class Sight-reader Highest References. Address, Pianist, Geneva House, 63, Portsdown-road, Maida-vale, W.

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WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement. All Effects, any Business.
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WANTED, Known, Guitarist (Lady) would like to hear from anyone requiring same.
Address, Box 8 689, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Bateson's Orchestra, Offers, Variety or Concert, always a success. Extensive Répertoire. Miss Maude Trainer, Conductress, apply. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Band of Eight Performers, Engagement, through Termination of Season with Sir Robert Fossett's Circus. Apply, COOK, Bandmaster, Stag Inn, Woodhouse, Sheffield; or, wire, Saturday, Oundle, Northamptonshire.

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"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

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WANTED, for this Grand, Successful Circus, the Greatest Novelties and New Sensations now in England. Nothing too big. Money no object for Up-to-Date Star Turns. Also Useful Circus Artistes in all Lines. Write at once for present and future Dates. Can arrange with something good for Nov. 21.
Address, King OHMY, Grand New Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, for Hippodrome, Belfast, Big Startling Acts of every description suitable for Circus Ring; Risley Performers, Acrobats, Flying Shows, Animal Acts. Nothing too Big. Money no object for good Numbers. Lowest terms to BOSCO, Circus, Belfast.

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WANTED, for Dunkirque and Calais, for January and February, Great Attractions. Circus Building. GUISE, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton-hill.

WANTED, First-class Three-Bar Performer. State tricks, terms, age, height, and weight.
EDWARD DILLON, 185, Aston-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Apprentice, with Talent for Juggling.
Fifteen or Sixteen Years old,
State all particulars,
Letters only,
MORRIS CRONIN,
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London.

WANTED, Good Animal Act for Dec. 26, South Coast. Stage, 28 by 28. To follow Ella's Lions. Day's Variety Agency,
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WANTED, a Youth for Well-known Troupe, that can Tumble, and Shoulder Work. Age Fifteen and Sixteen. Good Home and Salary.
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WANTED, Young Girl or Lad, not under Fourteen, for Acrobatic Business. TOM HALL, 8, Dudley-terrace, Beaumont-street, Mile-end, London

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WANTED, Young Man, Good Back-bender Apply,
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WANTED, by Groom, Experienced, Sober, and Reliable, situation with Horses or Dogs. Wire or write, HARTLEY, 35, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

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Apply, by letter, HALES, 40, Wellington-street Strand.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ellas Lions, Acknowledged Best and Cleanest Wild Beast Show Existing. Vacant Dec. 12 and 19, for Midland or North. Only Vacancies this Year. Still a Few Dates 1905 Vacant. Now Fast Booking for 1906. Address, Nov. 14, Empire, Burnley; Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, Known, the Hanneford Family of Equestrians (Four in number, Two Ladies and Two Gents.) are now appearing with great success at Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.
Will be at Liberty Nov. 21 with a Number of First-class Bareback Acts.
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WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, just Finished Ohmy's Circus, Bolton. Lib. Mon. Own Horse. 144, High-st., Deptford.

WANTED, Known, W. Tudor, Four Trick Ponies, Turpin Mare, Riding Dog and Goat.
Open Nov. 14
GILBERT, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, by Alec Aubrey, Astounding Gymnast. Circus, Bolton. Monday, Hippodrome, Castleford.

WANTED, by Leona and Maude, Monday next and onwards, for Classical and Refined Stage Gymnastic Act, Tight Wire, and Tyrolean or Ballad Vocalist (Three Acts). Touring Companies invited to communicate to permanent address, 19, Harold-mount, Burley, Leeds; or, Will Sley.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Three Bar Comedians, Liberty Nov. 14, 21, 28.
Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull. That settles it.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte (Lady and Gent.), Smartest of all Gymnastic Potpourri Acts. 14th, Transfield's Hippodrome, New Brompton. Free Nov. 21, 28. Address, as above.

WANTED, Known Three Dagmars, Three, Acrobats, Equilibrists, and England's Greatest Tumblers, at Liberty Nov. 28, and Dec. 26, 1904. Can accept Pantomime for Palace Scene this Winter. Next week, Hippodrome, Perth, Wales. Agent, E. De Vere, 72, Waterloo-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Tell and Tell, Eccentric Acrobatic Act, Nov. 21 and 28.
Address, Hippodrome, Norwich, or J. FIONI, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Brothers Lloddge, Silver Chain Acrobats. Wire, Pier Pavilion, Southport. After, 55, King-cross street, Halifax.

WANTED, Known, Hand-to-hand Balancer, Acrobat, and Tumbler, at Liberty to accept Engagement with Straight or Comedy Show. 8,719, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Australian Comedy Boys; the Bros. M'Auber, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians. Vacant, Nov. 21, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26 Address, next week, Hippodrome, Perth.

WANTED, Known, Les Uniques Electrically Illuminated Perpendicular Ladders, by Two Ladies, Two Gents. Offer weeks of Nov. 21 and 28. Wire Camberwell Palace till Sunday; after, 90, Victoria-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Mayeno Trio, Two Ladies, One Gent., Gymnastic, Acrobats, Wire Walkers, Knockabout Clown, Up-to-Date Entrées Also Specialities and Parts, Panto. Address, MAYON, Sands, Carlisle.

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WANTED, by the Flying Zedoras, Original Stage Flying Trapeze and Versatile Gymnastic Act, Nov. 21, to break journey to Ireland. Camberwell Palace of Varieties, London.

WANTED, Delamere Trio, the Original Comedy Equilibrists. Liberty, 21st and 28th. Wire, New Empire, Wigan.

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WANTED, Capt. A. Gerard's African Lions and Tiger Dogs, accept Offers for Next Year. Write or wire,
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PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
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WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

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Scotch Tour.
Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock;
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Big Acts Required for Immediate Dates.

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Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.
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WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every Description. Immediate Dates for Suitable Numbers. Only High-Class Acts Represented.
J. Tysoe-Smith, 15A, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Engagement, Manchester."

WANTED, Variety Artistes in all Lines for Manchester, Ashton, Bury, and Preston, from Nov. 21, onwards. WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippo., Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Big Specialties, Big Animal, Aerial, and Acrobatic Acts, Novelties, Nov. 21 onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c., Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for Bancock's Circus, Plymouth, Nov. 21, 1904, and Onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines. Dec. 19 and Onwards, Male and Female Bare-back Equestrians, with or without own Horses, as we have Good, Reliable Horses.

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WANTED, Variety Artistes, All Lines, Nov. 21, on Doubles doing Singles preferred. Comedians, Serios, &c. Hall small. GEO. GUDE, Proprietor.

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WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every Description. Vocalists Funny Turns, Animal Acts, Acrobats, Gymnasts; in fact, any Act that can be done in a Ring, which is boarded.
Address O. ALOIS.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

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Artistes,
Artistes,
Artistes,
Artistes,
Artistes,
Artistes,
Big Acts of all Kinds
Big Acts of all Kinds
Big Acts of all Kinds
Big Acts of all Kinds
Big Acts of all Kinds
Big Acts of all Kinds
to send
Full List of Bookings
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Lowest Terms, Lithos, &c.,
Lowest Terms, Lithos, &c.,
Lowest Terms, Lithos, &c.,
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all Towns.
all Towns.
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all Fresh Bookings.
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Write at once.
Personally next week, Hip., Ton-y-Pandy.
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Telegrams, "Granbeste, West Didsbury."

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TONYPANDY,
and
LYCEUM THEATRE,
PENTRE.
WANTED, Variety Artistes, in All Lines.
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Theatre Royal, Tonypandy.

WANTED, Variety Artists, All Lines Nov. 21 on, for Hip., Castleford. New to town and used to Yorkshire audiences. Address, Braham, Agent, 15, Beresford-street, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Variety Artistes, Acrobats, Dumb Shows, and Novelties, Nov. 21 and 28. Lowest terms first letter, to save time.
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WANTED, Variety Artistes, Doubles doing Singles, Three Nights a-Week, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays. OSWALD REED, 25, Southampton-st., Reading.

WANTED, Good Variety Artistes, Big Specialties, &c; for Nov. 21, 28, also Christmas Week. HUGH DEMPSEY, 47, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

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WANTED, Nov. 14, onward, First-class Artistes of Every Description, must be Refined.
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GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON,
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WANTED, Artistes to send lowest terms and Vacant Dates.
Vacancies on all Dates.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager,
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WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double Turns, Two Weeks, Nov. 21, only Dates th's Year. Freaks and Novelties write,
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WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now, on. Apply, Mr SCOTT,
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WANTED, Artistes in all Lines from Dec. 19, onwards. Lowest terms to DAVID WILLIAMS, Victoria Theatre Stanley Durham.

WANTED, Artistes, in All Lines, for Yarmouth, Nov. 21, onward. Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines, Lancashire Towns, Nov. 21 (2), Dec. 12, 19, 26, on.
Address, WILL ONDA, Kenwyn Villa, Penwortham, Preston.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, for Saturday Night Concerts near London Lowest to KARDOC, 320, High-road, Chiswick, W. Cinématograph write.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines for Pavilion, Altrincham, near Manchester. Funny Acts, Doubles doing Singles. State terms, FRED BUDD, Red Lion Hotel, Altrincham. Silence a negative.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines suitable for Open Carnival. High Wire, Skaters, Bicyclists, Acrobats, &c., to open Dec. 12 and onwards. Will Mr Mayon write again? Last address. STOTT, Manager, Iona-street Carnival, Edinburgh. Send lowest terms.

WANTED, Star Artistes in All Lines for Newcastle and Gateshead.
Address,
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Telegrams "Bacon, Gateshead.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, Nov. 21 and 28
REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, on, for Four Halls, North. Lowest terms and vacancies, E. C. JAZON, 21, Bank-street, Darwen.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS VARIETIES, DEWSBURY
General Manager, GEORGE WELDON.
WANTED, Artistes of Every Description, for Dec. 26 and Future Dates. Those not known to the Manager please state where can be seen. Comedians must be funny without vulgarity. Preference given to those who have not appeared in Dewsbury.

WANTED, Vaudeville Artistes of every Description.
Representing the Best Establishments, and the best Numbers Required.
Only First-class Acts Full for Minors.
If appearing in London send time.
Richard Cass's Agency, 51, Kitto-road, New-cross.
Telephone, 213, Deptford.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Vacant Nov. 14 and onwards, to communicate with CAVILL and Co., 15, Hotham-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Overture, Liverpool." Telephone, 2,140 Royal.

WANTED, First-class Artists, All Lines, Specialities, Comedy Acts, &c., for Newcastle, Dec 5 and 12 State when last there. Lowest terms, lithos., to FRED HARCOURT Olympia, Bury.

WANTED, for Perth Theatre, Perth, Star Artistes, Specialities, and Variety Artistes of all Kinds, for Dec. 5, 19, and other Dates. Nothing too Big, the Bigger the Better, for One, Two, or Three Weeks. Terms, to DELNO FRITZ Empire, Paisley.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines (Known to Me) Vacant January, on, and going North, to communicate.
FRED SOUTHERN, 45, Vicarage-lane, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Artistes in Every Line.
Papa Brown,
Agent,
30, Streatham-place,
Brixton, S.W.
'Phone., 233 Streatham. Tele. add., "Jibbers, London."

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Specialities, &c., for Eastbourne, Dec. 26, onward. Lockhart's Elephants communicate.
Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, Variety Artistes of every description, Big Novelties, Star Comedians, in fact, all Branches of the Equestrian and Variety Profession.
Apply direct to T. M. SYLVESTER.

WANTED, for the Wakefield Hippodrome, for present and future dates, the very Cream of the Variety and Equestrian Profession, Big Novelties with good Drawing Power, Sensational Attractive Specialities, Ballets, Aquatic and other great Spectacles; in fact, all the Greatest English and Continental Stars are invited to send their vacant dates and terms. We will pay from £1 to £200 for any Single Artiste, providing they are worth it.
Apply, stating terms, to T. M. SYLVESTER,
Consulting Manager,
Auditor for all Contracts
Address, Hippodrome, Coventry.

WANTED, for the Ipswich Hippodrome and New Coliseum, Star Artistes in every Branch of the Variety Profession. Only the Best need apply. It is needless to mention what Artistes are already engaged for above Hall, as a List appeared in these Columns some weeks ago. The Date fixed for the Opening of Coliseum is Dec. 12. Building commenced on Monday, Oct 3, 1904. Truly a Record in Building. A visit to Ipswich will convince any interested person why on Monday, Oct. 25, Ipswich people turned out in thousands. It was because they were flocking to see Miss Florence's Walk to the New Coliseum. We shall say no more. Ask the Police.
Communications,
T. M. SYLVESTER.

WANTED, for the Coventry New Olympia, opening about January, Equestrian and Variety Artistes. None but the best required. Any price paid. Fast booking. Artistes can be booked for Olympia and the Coliseum. Both Halls will be under the same Management. Olympia will have Stage and Ring, the Stage being the largest in the Provinces. For further particulars see next week's "Era."
Apply, T. M. SYLVESTER, Hippo., Coventry.

Good Musical Conductor, well up to the Circus and Variety Business, able to compose and arrange for Pantomime Spectacles, &c., to supply an Orchestra of not less than Eighteen Performers.
All must be competent.

WANTED, for King's Theatre of Varieties (late Roscommon), Liverpool, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines, January, onwards.
Write at once, lowest terms.
Wanted, hear from Kloof and Ramsey, Owen and Moore, Robins and Collier, Law and Norman, the Glovers, Tom Parker, Van Gilder, Dido and James, the Lannone, &c.
Address, to ARTHUR H. WATERHOUSE, Manager,
Eden House, Breckside-park, Liverpool.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artistes of Every Description
for the North of England and Scotland.
Can book anything good.
The bigger the better.
Star Artistes wishing to fill in a few odd weeks North please forward list of Dates, &c., to
WALTAR BENTLEY,
Post-office, York

BRITANNIA MUSIC HALL, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Nov. 21, 28, onwards. Artistes holding Contracts for here write, as I may be able to confirm same.
GEO. SAPHRINI, Manager.

WANTED, First-class Artistes only, in All Lines, Nov. 14, onwards. Full particulars, Cadie's Agency, 105 and 106, Strand, W.C.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL, PAVILION, CARNARVON.
WANTED, Artistes in All Lines, Nov. 21, onwards. Big Aerial Numbers, Bar Performers, Animal Acts; anything with good Drawing Powers.
WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines. "Amusement," Sixpence monthly, secures Engagements universally. Artistes uniquely pushed. Always Vacancies. 7, Whitefriars Fleet street. Write, call.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
WANTED, Stars of Every Description, Nov. 21, 28, and Onwards. Good Refined Comedians, Sisters, Serios, Comediennes, Dancers, &c. Lowest terms to
HENRY KEMBLE, Manager.
Call Monday, Nov. 14.
Four Herberts, Maisie Pelham, Kid Johnson, Reed and Lerce, Fred Dunston, Harry Parker, Edison's Bioscope, Gillir.

WANTED, Stars and Novelties, Nov 14, onwards
Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment."
Telephone, 2,076 Royal.
Note.—On account of Increasing Business, removing to More Convenient Premises.
New Address will be advertised in "The Era" next week.

WANTED, Stars, all Lines, Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 12.
Lord Geo. Alstoun,
22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.
Telegraphic Address, "Antics, London."
Telephone, 1,949 Hop.

WANTED, 260 Turns to appear Twice a Year in a Small, Old-established, Well-known London Music Hall, Two Houses Nightly. Twenty-six Small Sketches, £12 to £14; Twenty-six Sketches, £18 to £20; Twenty-six Turns at £9, Twenty-six Turns at £8, and Twenty-six Turns at £7, £6, £5, £4, £3, and £2 each. No Agent need apply, and no Commission will be Deducted from Artiste's salary. Artists will be required to Sign for a Five Years' Engagement.
Please reply by letter, stating full particulars, to
MUSIC HALL, care of PELLING,
7, Station road, South Norwood, London.

WANTED, for the Greatest Picture Show, Double Turns to Work Singles. Six Months' Theatre Tour. State lowest. KENNEDY G. T., Doncaster.

WANTED, Attractive Speciality and Variety Turns; also Good Stars, Dec. 26, Six Nights and Matinée. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T., Stafford.

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE,
6, Henry-street, Dublin (open all the year round)
WANTED, for Monday, Dec 5 1904, and Onwards, Double Turns (doing Singles), Vents, Conjurors, Marionettes. Lowest to MANAGERS.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy Acts, Nov. 21, onwards; also Artistes in all Lines. Send full list of dates, litho., terms, and full particulars to Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6 915 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

HIPPODROMES, COVENTRY, WAKEFIELD, and IPSWICH.
WANTED, Sensational Tops, Novelties, and Big Stars. Jess Verno's Agency, 13, Seymour-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal. Note.—Removing to more Convenient Premises shortly.

WANTED, Specialities Disengaged for Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 16, and Other Dates, to send terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Empire, Paisley, Specialities; Comedians, and Variety Artistes of all Kinds for Nov. 21 and onwards. Address, DELNO FRITZ above.

WANTED, First-class Acts, every Description. Big Novelties. Immediate Dates. Star Turn for Dec 26 (seaside). Will pay good price for anything that can draw. Money no object.
State bookings, lowest terms, full particulars,
Yates's Agency,
13, Mary-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, the Best of Variety Acts, Dec. 5, Known to us Fullest particulars,
PARDOES, Pardoes' Theatre, Middleton, Lancs.

WANTED, Variety, Animal Acts, &c., for Empire, Norwood, Nov 21, onward. HALT and Co., 7, Lancaster House, Ardville-road, Brixton, S.W.

Now

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

English, Français, and Deutsch.
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
39, York-terrace, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
Yarmouth, Lowestoft,
Scarborough,
Manchester, Leeds,
Belfast,
and other Towns,
Immediate and Future Dates,
Immediate and Future Dates,
Big Specialities,
Big Specialities,
Novelties,
Novelties,
and
Variety Artists
Variety Artists
of every Description.

Give
full list of Bookings,
and
quote absolute lowest terms.

Geo. Zalva's Agency,
39, York-terrace, Great Yarmouth.

THE NEW COLISEUM,
SHEERNESS.

Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLING;
General Manager, CHAS. MELVIN.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Onwards,
New Sensations,
Latest
Novelties,
Big Tops.
The very best in all
Lines.
Salary no object.
Must be Refined and
New
to
Sheerness.
Send Sample Lithos. (if any),
Vacant Dates,
and lowest terms at once.

WANTED, The Finest Talent Obtainable,

Dec. 5 and onwards (North).

G. and F. Peel,
Granville House,
Arundel-street,
W.C.

WANTED, the Best of Talent in Every Line for Immediate and Future Dates, Nothing too Big; also Great Circus Specialities and Animal Shows. State very lowest terms and full particulars to BARNARD and DIETRICH, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

WANTED, Sopranos, Contraltos, Lady Vocalists and Cake-Walkers, Dancers, and Specialities in all Lines, Lady Instrumental Vocalists. Photos., full particulars, and lowest terms in first instance, age, &c. Long Tour. Address, Wilson's Agency, P.O., Bishop Auckland.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to
Burn's Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and
Manchester.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday,
Nov. 14, at 1·0 o'clock prompt.
Carl Mysto, the Handcuff Marvel;
Will Ellerslie, Florrie Bray, Oliver Conroy,
Original Three Sisters Lee,
Burnes's Bioscope, Percy Curry,
the Countees, and
Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs.

(Signed) H. BURNS, General Manager.

THE ARMADALE REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
WANTED, Known, Call Dec. 5, 12·0 noon, T. B, Dumfries. Will F. Booth Conway send address for Panto. immediately to 109, Rusholme-road, Manchester?

HIPPODROME, MACCLESFIELD.
WANTED, Known, Call for Monday, Nov. 14. Hill, Barry, and Lang, Brownie Sisters, Billy Richardson, Latusama, Sam Weller, Edith Beatrice, Madame Fauntleroy. Artistes write for Nov. 28 and on.—Signed, HARRY BENDON, Business-Manager.

ELSWICK THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Enormous Success. Enormous Success.
WANTED, Really Tip-Top First-class Variety Combinations with Ten Distinct Turns, including Two Strong Well-known Stars and Sensational Acts and plenty of Up-to-Date Picture and Letterpress Printing. Two Houses Nightly. Please note.—Mr Sidney Bacon, of Gateshead and Byker Theatres, does not bar; also the Biggest Star Acts in the Variety World. Vacant Dates, Dec. 19, March 6, 13, April 3, onwards. Address, CHAS. M. DALY, Elswick Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, First-class Comedians and Acts of every Description, for every Hall throughout England, Immediate, onwards.

Harry Burns's Agency.
Empress Theatre of Varieties, Hartlepool.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns," Empress,
87, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.
Continental Correspondence only.
No Calls whatsoever.
344, Bury New-road, Manchester.

L. HOCKSCHILD, Manager.
Continental Representatives,
A. Von Praag, Frankfort-a-Main;
Louis Soloman, Madison-avenue, New York;
Guido Hirsch, 17, Rue Biene, Paris.

COLLINS'S HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Sole Proprietor, Mr P. COLLINS.
Manager, FRANK EGERTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for Christmas and onwards,
the Biggest and Best
of Variety Novelties.
Only the Best Entertained.
All Communications must be addressed to
FRANK EGERTON, Manager,
Collins's Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Novelties, January, on. Rehearsal Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Jackley Wonders, Mansell Fane, W. A. Kay, Gertie Gitana, Signor Bandoni, Bob Gardner, Will Saunders, O'Connor and Brady. Letters, S. L. LEE.

ACCRINGTON HIPPODROME.
WANTED, the Best, New to Town, for Nov. 21 and 28.
Accrington is Barred by Blackburn.
Call, Nov. 14, at 1 0:—Palles and Cussick, the Lynches, C. Walker, the Bruces, G. Warren, Renson and Waite, Chas. Milner, Rowland Hill, Bros. Zampa, Mutograph. For Dates, apply, Paul Vandy, Barnes, London, S.W. Wires, "Vandyking, London."

WANTED, Known, C. Cook, of Cook's American Diorama, will Tour this Season under the name of Van Hamburg. Wanted, for Van Hamburg's American Minstrels, Corner Men, Baritone, Big Boot and Cake-Walk Dancers, Ventriloquist, Specialities with Lithos, Useful People, Two Agents, Men for Sit Round and Bill, to Rehearse Dec. 20, to Open Dec. 26 near Lincoln. Address, VAN HAMBURG, Post-office, Smethwick, near Birmingham.

THE CARNIVAL, GLASGOW.
WANTED, a Spectacle for Thirteen Nights at Christmas and New Year. Must be complete in Every Detail. Special Scenery would be Painted for a Good Show. Address, GREEN, Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, Young Serio, Sisters, Nov. 21, Short Tour. Write or call To-day, 2·0 to 6·0, EVERETTO, Sunning-hill, Chevening-road, Kensal Rise.

WANTED, Monday, Nov. 14, onwards, Refined Comic Specialities, Good Ventriloquist. Wire, lowest terms, HAMILTON, Assembly Rooms, Woolwich.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Young Gent., do Two Distinct (Disguised) Acts at Refined Concerts. Photo., age, terms, refs., Mr HARRY LISTON, P.O., Thirsk.

WANTED, First-class Operator, for Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope. 54, Daleview-road, Stamford-hill, London, N.

WANTED, Immediately, Experienced Bioscope Operator, Electric and Lime. Lowest terms and references, HAMILTON, Assembly Rooms, Woolwich.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Bertha Norwood, Descriptive Vocalist, Comedienne, and Dancer, at Liberty, Nov. 28 Offers for Panto., Second Girl or Boy. Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Monday Next, Nov. 14, also 21, by Miss Sadie Bush, Descriptive Contralto Vocalist and Burlesque Artiste. Walkley-street, Walkley, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Florrie Claribell, Charming Tyrolean Songtress and Dancer. Monday next. Wire 4, Wilton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements, by Miss Ellie Stuart, Comedienne and Dancer. Would suit Refined Concert Party. 18, Princess-st., Eastwood, Notts.

WANTED, Known, Ella Rose, Versatile Vocalist. Enormous success. This, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent. F. R. is a ballad vocalist of a high order. —Vide Press, Nov. 10. Dis. Nov. 21; also Panto. (Good Singing Parts). All coms., 26, Linton-st., Islington, N.

WANTED.—Baby Lloyd, Vocal Wonder, Nellie Vann, Serio, Liberty Nov. 14. Big success, Central P., North Shields; after Saturday, 158B, Witton-road, Aston, Birmingham. Near Birmingham preferred.

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Armitage, in Splendid Costumes, Small Band, Sketches, Entertainment Party, Vocalists, and Instrumentalists. Mansfield House, Clifton-gardens, Maida-vale, W.

WANTED, Re-engagement. Two Sisters want more Experience in Variety or Choir, Song and Dance, and Piano. Willing to assist. Live in or out. One or both. Small Salary. Dresses. Box 8,704, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Alfred Poynton, the Great Impersonator of Celebrities (superb Costumes), Vacant Nov. 21, through misunderstanding. Managers and Agents requiring a glittering Act should book it at once. Sure draw. Also Chapeaugraphist, a Man with Forty Faces. Next Week, Macclesfield, Hippodrome.

WANTED, Nov. 14, 21, 28, and Dec. 5 by Herr Schuyler, World's Greatest Saxophonist. Panto. settled. Wire, 49, Peter-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Fred Alberto, the Greatest Character Comedian, Vocalist, and Dancer on the British stage. Wire, Pavilion, Maidenhead.

WANTED, Monday, Cambo, the Musical Monkey, Big Novelty; also Vent. Show. Two Great Acts. Wire, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Monday, by F. H. Dundas, through mistake. Big success. This week, Alhambra, Brighton. See back.

WANTED, Six Nights, Nov. 21 and on till Christmas, by Bernardo, Comedy Juggler. Address, Opera House, Torquay. Pantomime Settled.

WANTED, Known, Cornil Bard, Humorist. "Ain't you comin' out, my Juliette?" Huge Success. Write, Terms, Dates, 94, Narbonne-avenue, Clapham-common.

WANTED, by Arthur Medwin, Comedian, Sing, Dance, and generally useful, Engagement, Small Parts, Anything, Sketch, Troupe, or Assistant to Star. Eight Months, Harry Tate's "Motoring" Company. Address, 5 Bookham-street, Hoxton, N.

WANTED, by Herbert Banks, the Original Crippled Tenor Vocalist, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12. At Liberty Jan. 9, 1905, for Good Combination or Concert Tour. Good Agent Wanted. Herbert Banks, known as the crippled tenor, is an excellent artiste, and greatly appreciated were the songs rendered by him.—Yorkshire Herald, Oct. 14, 1904. 76, Northgate, Darlington.

WANTED, Nov. 14, Onward, Albert Collins, Character Comedian and Vocalist (Author and Composer) Another sure success in Chorus Song "Why should they run down the Working Man?" Wire or write, 3, The Terrace, Palmerston-road, Wealdstone.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bill Bailey, Patter Comedian; also T. F. Gilbey, Monarch of the Unsupported Ladder. Wire, Hippo., Accrington.

WANTED, Known, Arthur Bright, Everybody's Favourite Comedian, Vacant Monday next. Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Great Bock Pyiades. Entirely New Fit-up. Wire, Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, by Fred Casburn, Eccentric Comedian in a Dress Suit, Hipp., Scarborough, Monday, also 21st. Wire, Sat., after, Hertford-street, Hunslet, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, the Original Kardoc, King of all Handcuff Kings and Jail-Breakers, Escaping from Handcuffs in Full View of the Audience. I don't have the Traps in Cell Doors left open. I open them myself. Vacant November and December. Wire, 320, High-road, Chiswick, London, W. Sure Draw. Lithos., Police Certificates and Press Opinions. Sensational Escapes from Coffins that cannot be given away.

WANTED.—Picitt, the Muscular Master of Manacles, Handcuff King, without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes, Vacant Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, through transfer of Dates. This week, Hippodrome, Lowestoft. Next week, Specially Engaged for Opening of New Hippodrome, Porth, South Wales. Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh; Hippodrome, Carlisle, &c., to follow. Wire for Big Sensational Act. Beautifully Staged.

WANTED, Leo Selwyn, Illusionist, Handcuff Manipulator, and Challenge Box Artiste. Also Operator with Finest Biograph with Latest War Films and "Is it you?" if required, Open for Good Tour. Vacant Nov. 14 and on. Together or separate. Wire for Monday, SELWYN, Alexandra Hall, Newton Abbott.

WANTED, by Leslie H. Murray, Magician and Card Manipulator, Monday next. Wire, Transfield's Hippodrome, New Brompton.

WANTED, Monday, by Carr and Roll (Charley and May), Comedy Artists; also Charley Moore, Comedian and Dancer. Wire, People's P., Portsmouth.

WANTED, Nov. 14 and 21, by Chas. Tempest and Ida Fair. Wire, one or both, Colliseum, Brighton. Comedian and Serio.

WANTED, Engagement, 21st and later, Comedian, Lady, Illustrated Songs and Bioscope. Three Distinct Turns. BIOSCOPE, T., Kidderminster.

WANTED, Monday next, the Percys (Harry, Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers. Distance no object. North preferred. Wire, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Ryder Davis, Smart Comedian; Eva Ward, Burlesque, to follow Barnsley. Coms, 46, Hanover-gdns., S.E.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec, 5, 12, North, by Rodin, Eccentric Knockabout Comedian with a Bicycle; Mdlle. Magna, in her Classical Posing Act. Two distinct Specialities. Wakefield News, Nov. 2.—The most beautiful and artistic statuary act that has appeared in Wakefield. Nov. 21, Northampton. 8, Lodge-st., Bristol.

WANTED, Known, Smith and Johnson first Produced "Navaho" as Indian Scena, Park Palace, Liverpool, Sept. 12. Immediate Success.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, North, by the Two Melvernes, Living Marionettes, and Major Newling, Ventriloquial Etonian. One or Both Acts. Reliable. Enormous Success, Bristol. This week, wire, P.O., Bristol.

WANTED, by Denton and Dale, Cross Talk and Boxers, Nov. 21, and later Dates. Liberty for Panto. 15, Randolph-street, Camden-town, N.

WANTED, Known, Carr and Rose, in Vocal Comedy Act, "Their First Quarrel." No Vacant Dates till Aug. 28, 1905. G., Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Pair of Acrobatic Knockabouts wish to join Comedy or Pantomime Sketch. Can join at once. W. DUNN, 3, Abercromby-street, Glasgow.

WANTED.—Grand Theatre.—And the Two Daniels as banjoists, dancers, &c., are a host in themselves.—Chorley Guardian, Nov. 5, 1904. Wanted, Nov. 28.—Address, 63, Sherbourne-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagements, by the Two Danbrooks, Solo Harpists and Novel Instrumentalists (Good Refined Musical Act), Nov. 21, and onwards. Good Agent required. 26, Headworth-rd, Lower Tooting.

WANTED, Known, Huntley and Palmer, Laughable Sketch, "Farmer Giles in Trouble," introducing Bill Bailey, only Wrestling Donkey in England. Agent, Monk, 24, Elizabeth-street, Blackpool.

WANTED.—Douglas and Douglas Commence New Comedy Act, "A Clean Sweep." Nov. 28 will be known as Neil and Noel.

WANTED, Nov. 21, on, for Wales and West, Variety Artistes all Lines, Specialities. T. E. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, by Tell and Tell, Eccentric Acrobatic Act, Nov. 21 and 28. Address, Hippodrome, Norwich, or J. FIONI, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Harley and Le Mar (Dan and Lola), High-class Duettists, Patterers, and Dancers. An Act of Genuine Merit. Tremendous success this week, People's Theatre, Pontycymmer. Next week, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Abercynon. Lib. Nov. 21; also Panto. Wire quick, People's Theatre, Pontycymmer.

WANTED, Dec. 12, on, to follow Hippodrome, Porth, by Robert Grieve, Ventriloquist Extraordinary. Success, Gaiety, Oldham. This, Circus, Rochdale. Nov. 14, Hippo., Carlisle. All Returns. That's proof. Open for Pantomime.

WANTED, Monday next and 21st, the Rushforths, Song Illustrators; King Leo, Ventriloquist. Empire, Hull. Wires, 29. King-street.

WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, by Stavordale Quartette Absolutely Unique. Tels., "Stavordale, London." Letters, Tom Shaw; or, 11, Cheriton-square, Balham.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28, by Billy Ross and Company. Starring this week, Paddington, Liverpool; next, Park Palace. Wire for Great Comedy Act.

WANTED. by R J. Golding, Ventriloquist and Conjuror, Nov. 21, &c. This week with Hamilton's Biograph, Woolwich; Nov. 14, P., Maidenhead.

WANTED, by the Musical Albanos, Monday next, through misunderstanding; also Nov. 28 and Dec. 5. Topping the bill this week at the Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Managers ask Geo. Weldon, Esq., about our Act. The talk of Dewsbury. Wire, the Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Known, the Villions, Acrobatic and Comedy Cyclists, and the Only Lady executing Twenty-five Pirouette Somersaults in Succession, at Liberty Nov. 28 and Dec. 12; also Dec. 26. Big Success for Speciality in Pantomime. Hippodrome, Wakefield.

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."
WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Patriotic Juvenile Naval-Military Spectacle, Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, and Christmas. Address, Palace, Belfast.

"OUR NEW SLAVEY."
The Green, Gordon, and Green Combination (Tom, Nellie, and Jennie), now Concluding Five Weeks with Jasper Redfern, Esq., at the Public Hall, Barnsley. Extensive Répertoire, Change Weekly, and Tom Green's Single Turn.

WANTED, Monday next, Nov. 14, and 21. Wire, 118, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, Bookings, Dec. 28, 29, 31, New Year's Week, and later. Salary or Share. Mr HARRY LISTON, the Royal Entertainers, Egyptian Hall, London.

WANTED, Through Change of Management, by Tom Hall's Burlesque Acrobats, Dog Great and Monkey Funny, Dec. 5. Address, Paddington Palace, Liverpool; or, Geo. Aytoun, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28, Spangeletti's Circus, Novelty, Comedy Animal Act. Sure success. This week, E, Wrexham; next, P. P., Liverpool.

WANTED, Nov. 14,
Chard's Gigantic Dog Circus.
Hippodrome, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Dates, for the Royal Bioscope. Guaranteed Finest Picture Show in England, with the Magnificent Film, "Sign of the Cross," and all the Latest Comics. HUGHES, Holcombe Hall Varieties, Tottenham.

WANTED, Dates for Bioscope Pictures, also Troupe of Dogs. The Dog, Spot, in his Daring High Leap, a Sure Draw. LE CLAIR, P. H., Lowestoft.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Engagement, by Cinématograph Operator with own Machine (Bioscope). Electric or Lime. Box 8,717, care of "The Era."

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Urgent Notice.—The United Kingdom Showmen and Van-Dwellers' Protection Association (the Showmen's Guild).

WANTED, Known, all Members of the Council and the Committee, within easy access of Manchester, are hereby summoned to meet at the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, on Sunday (To-morrow), Nov. 13 at 7·0 p.m. sharp. Important Business.
T. HURST, Hon. Sec.
H. M. HORNE, General Secretary.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom. For particulars apply to F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities, SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON, 66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Handsellers to know Simons is the Man for Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery. Send £5 for Special Parcel.

117, Houndsditch, London.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others to Know. Simons is the Cheapest Place for Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, and Cheap Jewellery. Best-class French Paste Stocked for the Profession. 117, Houndsditch.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermillionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c.
Write for price list or call,
Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Living Novelties, Ghost, Marionettes, Conjurors, and others with Paintings or Good Posters, Large Shop, Wales. Write, FLETCHER, Waxworks, Dowlais.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, for Grand Christmas Carnival and World's Fair in Winter Gardens, Southport, Novelties and Side-shows of all kinds on Sharing Terms. Spaces to Let for Stalls, Exhibitions, &c., inside. Plots to Let in Gardens outside for Waxworks, Wild Beasts, or any Suitable Show, on Rental.
Apply to ALFRED HEMMING, Manager.

WANTED, Novelties. Anything suitable for Shop and Boots. Can open at once. Share or Salary. Address for Three Months,
I. HARRIS,
Exhibition, 368, High-street, Stratford, London, E.

WANTED, Novelties, to write in with Vacant Dates, for Shop in London, about to be Opened. Address, B., 104, Bishopsgate-street Without.

WANTED, Novelties, for the Best Shop in Chatham. Next door to Gaiety.
R. J. LOVEGROVE, 51, High-street.

WANTED, a First-class Novelty, to Open Christmas week, for Four weeks. Aberdeen to follow. STEWART, 164, High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Novelties, Shops, South Wales. Month's Engagement Open Monday next. Herculine Mephisto write. PHILLIPS, 7, Dunravon-street, Ton-y-pandy.

WANTED, Novelties of all Descriptions, now and Future Dates, Four weeks certain. Shares or Salary. Wire for Monday. Fares advanced if required. Apply, CODY, Exhibition, Ballymena, near Belfast, Ireland.

WANTED, Monday next, for best position in Ryde, large shop, electric light, big business. Good Up-to-date Novelty. Share or salary. Other shops to follow. Wire, 148, High-street, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Freaks of Every Description and Quick-showing Novelties, Good Window Flash, to send Present and Future Dates. Share or Salary. Fares advanced if required. MARFIELD, 9, Mary-street, Dublin.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, suitable for Waxworks Exhibition, to open Monday, Nov. 21. Also Good Freaks for Christmas Week. A. CARTER, 10, Castle-place, Belfast.

WANTED, Monday, Nov. 14, onwards, Good Living Freaks or Novelties. Share or Salary. Fare advanced. Castania, the Human Ostrich, very satisfactory. Wire, BARRON, Arcade, Lowestoft.

LEAMINGTON SPA TRADE EXHIBITION, February, 1905.
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Send particulars to
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WANTED, for my No. 1, 2, and 3 Auction Marts, steady, experienced Auctioneers, Planksman, Comedians, and Pianist Vocalist. Experienced men only write. Also gentlemanly Medicine Leoturer, good lurker, to manage Barber's Red Cross Medical Marquee. Those only preferred who can look after my business. All join in fortnight's time. FRED M. BARBER, Auction Pavilion, Old Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Good Auctioneer, used to Tents, to Open First Week in January, 1905; also Good Planksman, Pianist, &c. Good wages to good people.
Address, W. WEST, in care of BAILEY,
No. 471, Blackburn-road, Astlebridge, Bolton.

WANTED, at Once, Lady Palmist. Terms, Shares.
STEWART, Waxwork, High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Engagements or Tour for Up-to-Date Punch and Judy, including Dog Toby, with Drum and Piper. Terms moderate. Prof. J. GREEN and SON, Belmont-avenue, Blackpool.

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WANTED.—Castania, the Human Ostrich, is at Liberty Monday, Nov. 14. Lithos., Photos., and Good Wardrobe. Share or Salary. Wire, CASTANIA, Scotch Exhibition, Arcade, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Paddy Watson, Planksman, Comedian. Not afraid of work. Liberty. 16, William-street, Ebbw Vale, Mon.

WANTED, Situation, by Licensed Auctioneer, used to Tents, Halls, &c, age 28. Address, AUCTIONEER, Star and Garter Hotel, Colnbrook, Bucks.

WANTED, Known, Celebrated Character Reader Disengaged for Drapers' Shops or Bazaars Sharing Terms or Salary. Great Attraction. Letters to Box 8,686, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement to Roundabout Proprietor as Agent or any line of Show Business. Plenty of experience both England and Ireland. Can join at once. Open for any part of the world. Address, WILLIAM HILL, care of White Swan Hotel, Derby.

WANTED, Shop; also Smart Man to Join, Equal Amount, Auction, Run Out, or Bazaar. Address, Box 8,694, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, that Bound's No. 1 Show, the Bear Lady, has No Vacancies till 1906. Thanks to all Directors and Managers for offers. The Bear Lady is now in Berlin, Germany, at the Passage Panapticum, where she has been for five months, and remains until the first of January. From there she goes to France.
The Greatest Attraction in the World.
Good and Long Stays every place she goes.
Directors and Managers Write Again,
February, 1906.

WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, &c., Requiring First-class Christmas and New Year. P. Collins, Limited, have Positions to Let for First-class Cinématograph Show or Parading Show, Side Shows, Novelties, Stalls, Coker Nut Sheets, Shooting Galleries, &c., on the Wolverhampton Market Place, Christmas and New Year. Three Grand Positions in Birmingham, Christmas and New Year. We have also Grounds to Let from the Present Date and up to Christmas at the Black Country Wakes, West Bromwich, Great Bridge, Tipton, Dudley, &c. For Dates, price, and particulars, apply, P. COLLINS, LIMITED, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telephone, 80 Walsall. Telegraphic Address, "Gondola, Walsall."

TOFF and TURNBULL.
Christmas Carnival, Chapel Fields, Belfast.
WANTED.—Spaces to Let for Circuses, Cinématograph, Ghost, and good Novelty Shows. No sole right given. Travellers requiring ground should write in at once to save disappointment. TOFF and TURNBULL, Oxford Lodge, Oxford-road, Ranelagh, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, that a Christmas and New Year's Carnival will be held on Enclosed Ground in Barrack-street, Gallowgate, Glasgow, facing Old Carnival Ground. Date and particulars apply, S. EVANS' Jumping Horses, Moncur-street, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Shooter, Doll Frame, Rings, Stalls, &c. Leslie's World's Fair and Carnival, Drill Hall, Portsmouth. Opening shortly, Winter Season. LESLIE, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Switchback or Galloping Horses, Swings, &c., position at Custom House, London. Apply, for terms and particulars to Biddall's Menagerie, Dudding-hill, Willesden, N.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Wildman's Gigantic Carnival, Pavilion, Carnarvon. Special Notice.
WANTED, to Let, Splendid Positions for Novelties of all Descriptions. Rent or Share, by the Week or Monthly. 60 by 30. Simply Paintings required. Everything ready for Big. Upwards of 30,000 attend the Carnival. Apply, WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

WANTED, to Let, from Dec. 1, Extensive Lower Ground Floor of Shop in the Best Position in Strand, London. Good Entrance and Separate Exit. Electric Light. Splendid Chance for Christmas Side-Shows. Would be Let in part or whole. To wide-awake Showmen this is a golden opportunity.
Apply, Box 8,700, care of "The Era."

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WANTED, Monday, 14th, Shop and Booth. Shares or Salary. Must have Paintings or Posters. Wire, COLLENA, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, to Hire, for Three Months, Six or Eight Distorting Mirrors. Must be Cheap as I may Purchase them. Large Size 6ft. or so. Address, B. PEARCE, 2, Hazlitt-road, West Kensington.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Love-letter, Husbands, Babies, Black List, Marriage and Liars' Licences, &c. MEURICE, 20, Bidborough-st., W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, &c., of all kinds. Best and Cheapest in the Trade. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-rd., West Kensington, London, W.

WANTED, to Sell, a Complete Electric Light Plant, consisting of a Five-horse Compound Engine, by Savage, fitted with Balance Cranks, Pickering Governors, and all the latest Improvements, mounted on Truck, with Hood supported by Twisted Brass Pillars; together with Twenty-Arc Dynamo, by Young, of Birmingham; Nine Arc Lamps, Fancy Switch Board with Volt, and Amp. Meter, and all Complete. Considered one of the Finest Plants on the road. All in First-class Order and Equal to New. We can dispose of the above lot end of December next. For Price and Particulars, address,
S. ANDERTON, Empire Palace, Fair Field, Dorchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Portable Electric Plant, or Savage's Engine only. Guaranteed in excellent condition. Also 9ft. Living Waggon (Road). Perfect as New; well fitted up. Also Two very useful Trucks, delivery in January. All can be seen at Doncaster Market, Wednesday till Saturday inclusive. Also, for immediate delivery, nearly new Shuttered Booth and Front, 26ft. by 24ft.; beautifully carved Cinematograph Frame and Act Drop, Two 60ft. Gas Cylinders. Address, E. LAWRENCE, 52, Claremont-road, Forest-gate, London.

WANTED, to Sell, 8 h.p. Burrel's Showman's Engine, with Dynamo and Electric Plant complete. Also One Seven-figure Organ, One Two-figure Organ, and One Trumpet Organ.
WALKER, Engineer, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Road Living Waggon, sound condition, 10ft. by 6ft., Furnished Complete as now in use. Bargain. C. BARRON, Fair Ground, High-street, Lowestoft.

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WANTED, to Sell, Complete Concern—Pullman Living Carriage, Sale Waggon, Trolley, Shuttered Booth, and all Accessories—together or separate. Apply, MELCHER, 80, Crwys-road, Cardiff.

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WANTED, to Sell, a Handkerchief Embroidery Machine, in thorough working order. Cost £12. Cash, £4.
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Complete with Fittings for Showing.

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Seen in London by appointment.

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WANTED, to Buy, Two Front Rail Waggons, with Show Front and Shuttered Booth, complete. Send full particulars and lowest price for cash to JAMES PATTISON, Prize Model Exhibition, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Purchase, or Arrange Hire, Quick-showing Illusion for Side Show. Christmas, Six Weeks, London. Write, ALF REEVES, Palace Theatre, Bristol.

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WANTED, Posters, suitable for Midget Show. Small or Large Quantity. PICKARD, American Museum, Glasgow.

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WANTED, to Sell, a First-class Modern Fully Licensed Theatre (Freehold). Noted as a good Paying Property. Owner retiring cause of Selling. Would not object to Lease to a good Solid Management. None but good Sound Financial Persons need apply. Box 8,690, "The Era" Office.

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WANTED, Known, Operatic Tenor, Actor-Vocalist, Comedian, would join Mezzo-Soprano or Baritone as Duettists, &c., or would Collaborate with both to form Operatic Sketch. Box 8 655, "The Era."

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WANTED, Known, that Hamley's are now Selling the Great Balloon Production from Hat, Four Large Air Balloons are Produced from an Empty Opera Hat. Price 21s. Post-free. Spring Flowers, only 4s. 6d. per Hundred. Finest Hat Coils, Six Colours, 3s. 6d. per Dozen. Grand Illustrated Catalogue, nearly 1,000 Illustrations, 6d., Post-free. Sole European Agents for "Mahatma," the Conjuror's Monthly Newspaper. Post-free, 5½d. Grand Magical Saloons, 231, High Holborn, W.C., and 85, New Oxford-street, W.C.

WANTED, Known, for Ventriloquial and Marionette Figures, and all Specialities, address, LE MARE and SON, Coupland-street, Oxford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Ventriloquial Marionettes, Punch Figures to order, Superior Movements. SMITH, 34, Church-st., Ilfracombe. Marionette Show for Sale.

WANTED, Known, that F. G. Wright, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker, makes every Description of Stage and Aerial Shows. 66, Kennington-rd., S.E.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Known, C. Kinch, Gymnastic Apparatus Maker (Ten Years with Wright). 17, St. Mary-square, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, that the Business of the late James Metcalfe, Theatrical Bootmaker, 139, Copperas-hill, Liverpool, is still carried on at the above Address by his Widow and Son. All Orders punctually attended to.

WANTED, Ladies wishing to Purchase or Exchange High-class Second-hand Wardrobe, call or write, Madame GATEHOUSE, 123, Kennington-rd., London.

WANTED, Known, Band Parts, 3s. 6d Copied, 3d. Part; Transposed, 3½d.; Melodies, 5s.; Piano Score, 2s. COTTLE, 86, Coldharbour-lane, London.

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WANTED, Managers who are making their arrangements for Pantomime and Spring Tours to call now and inspect our latest samples of American Printing. Every class of Entertainment can be suited with Novel and Attractive Printing by the above Agency, representing the principal Show Printing Houses of the United States, and Managers would study their own interests by giving us a call before ordering elsewhere. New Samples arriving by every steamer. A large stock of Circus, Menagerie, and Cinématograph Printing always on hand for immediate sale. Address, A. DE FRECE, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.

WANTED, Managers of Travelling Companies holding Contracts with the late Management of the above Theatre please communicate with the present Manager, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, the Address of a Good Dog Trainer. Box 8,649, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Miss Flo Viller will in future be known as Miss Enie Les Carrie.

WANTED, Known, We, the Undersigned, Beg to Thank Mr and Mrs Liverick for most comfortable Week's Engagement at the Theatre, Methil; also for Grand Supper served on Stage after the Show on Friday Night. Wishing them every success. Signed, on behalf of the Company, The MUSICAL JAPS, FOB STEPHENSON, Comedian; ALBERT MORROW, Illusionist.

WANTED, Drawing for Orchestral Organ. All Blocks to be returned immediately M. DELANY, Crampton House 9, College-street, Dublin.

St. Helens Pantomime, "JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."

WANTED.—All Artistes Engaged please send Four Weeks' Address immediately to M'LEOD LOADER, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

WANTED, Artistes to Know that I have no Connection with any other Fritz in the Business. Address, DELNO FRITZ, Paisley.

WANTED, Known, to Artists Requiring good Digs in London, can highly recommend the following:—Mrs Neal, 27, St. Lawrence-road, Brixton.—The HOWARDS.

WANTED, Known.—Will Howell Webb, of "The Convent Bell." Communicate with HENRY BOWMAN, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate?

WANTED, to Thank All Artists that Replied to my Advertisement last Week, and to kindly accept silence as a polite negative. Still open to future Dates. GEORGE BAKER, Hippo., Shanklin, I.W.

WANTED, Known, Smith and Johnson thank Mr Baugh for sending special Scene at his London Halls for 'Navaho.' Also returns.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Prince Samouda to communicate with Mr H. E. Moss, re Waverley Market Carnival, Address, Hippodrome, London, W.C.

BROUGHTON.—VICTORIA THEATRE.

WANTED, Known, the Magistrates having Refused to Renew the Licence of the above Theatre if carried on with a Variety Entertainment, will all Artistes holding Contracts kindly Communicate at once with G. and F. Peel, Granville-house, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Gentleman with influence among Lessees and Managers to Introduce Electric Patent, Saving 75 per cent., as adopted by Alhambra. Good Commission. Box 8 693, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Miss Ada Webb to please communicate with H. B. MARINELLI, 134, Long-acre, London, W.C.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON, KENT.

WANTED, all Artistes holding Contracts for Nov. 28, onwards, to communicate at once to T. G. TRANSFIELD Important.

WANTED.—You receive Two Guineas, by answering "When are sailors like sign-posts?" See "amusement" everywhere. 7, Whitefriars, Fleet-street, London.

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OSWESTRY PLEASURE FAIR, 1905.

This Pleasure Fair will be held for a WEEK, from the THURSDAY preceding the FIRST WEDNESDAYS in MARCH and MAY, 1905.

The Fair will be largely attended by the Inhabitants of a Big District, of which the excellent Market Town of Oswestry is the Centre.

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WILL BE ARRANGED AND ALLOTTED ACCORDING TO APPLICATIONS.

All applications must be accompanied with Full Measurements, Frontage and Depth, together with Permanent Postal Address of Applicant.

All applications, with deposits, must be sent in by Jan. 1, 1905, to

J. W. THOMAS,
Finance Clerk,
Guildhall,
Oswestry.

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"THE CRUISE OF THE OPHIR,"

Cinématograph Show, and the Bookings were effected within a week.

Yours faithfully,
H. GOLDSMITH-WHITTON,
Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.
London, May 19, 1904.

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IN ANSWER to ONE ADVERTISEMENT in the

WANTED COLUMN of "THE ERA."

Mr ALBERT HENGLER, writing from the HIPPODROME, GLASGOW, says:—

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THE GIST OF

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affecting the

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The Act came into force on

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

NAME.	DATE.
Adams, the Late Mr Bert	April 23, 1904.
Adams, Miss Nina Blake	September 17, 1904.
Aldred, Mr Charles	May 7, 1904.
Alexander, Mr George	March 12, 1904.
Alleyne, Miss Frances	May 14, 1904.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs	May 7, 1904.
Bard, Mr Wilkie	September 10, 1904.
Barrett, Mr Oscar	March 26, 1904.
Barrett, the Late Mr Wilson	July 23, 1904.
Barth, Mr Cecil	June 11, 1904.
Bartlett, Mr J. J.	July 2, 1904.
Barton, Miss Adah	April 16, 1904.
Beaufort, Mr Leslie	March 12, 1904.
Bertram, Miss Celestine	July 2, 1904.
Billington, the Late Mr John	September 10, 1904.
Bint, Mr Billie	September 3, 1904.
Bland, Mr R. Henderson	March 12, 1904.
Blande, Miss Edith	June 25, 1904.
Bodle, Dr. Walford, M.D.	April 9, 1904.
Booth, Mr J. H.	August 6, 1904.
Bracewell, Mr Joe	May 14, 1904.
Brayne, Mr Harry	July 16, 1904.
Brough, Mr Lionel	November 5, 1904.
Browning, Mr Charles	May 21, 1904.
Burnett, Mr Frank E.	March 19, 1904.
Butt, Mr Alfred	July 30, 1904.
Cabourn, Mr John	August 13, 1904.
Campbell, the Late Mr Herbt.	July 23, 1904.
Campbell, Miss Audrey	October 8, 1904.
Carne, Mr Joseph	May 7, 1904.
Cathie, Mr Leslie Roy	May 21, 1904.
Charles, the Late Mr Fred	August 6, 1904.
Cheevers, Mr J. E.	October 1, 1904.
Chippendale, Mr James	September 17, 1904.
Clark, Mr Outhbert	October 15, 1904.
Clavering, Miss Marie	October 8 1904
Clyde, Miss Hilda	May 21, 1904.
Coleman, the Late Mr John	April 23, 1904.
Colona, the Late Don Edgardo	August 20, 1904
Corri, Mr Clarence C.	November 5, 1904.
Craven, Mr Hawes	October 8 1904.
Danbury, Miss Ethel	September 17, 1904.
Dansey, Mr Herbert	March 5, 1904.
Davis, Miss Flora	September 10, 1904.
Day, Mr David	October 8, 1 04.
Dent, Mr Bert	April 16, 1904.
Deverell, Mr John W.	May 21, 1904.
Dobler, the Late Herr	March 26, 1904.
Doherty, Mr Pat	April 9, 1904.
Dowsett, the Late Mr Vernon	April 9, 1904.
Draco, Mr Kay	June 4, 1904.
Dryden, Mr Leo	July 16, 1904.
Dunrobin, Mr L. Race	July 9, 1904.
Edmunds, Mr Edmund	September 3, 1904.
Edwin, Mr Walter	March 26, 1904.
Elgin, Miss Constance	February 27, 1904.
Entwistle, Mr Harold	May 14, 1904.
Evelyne, Miss Alma	October 29 1904.
Farrell, Miss Cissy	July 2, 1904.
Farren, the Late Miss Nellie	April 30, 1904.
Farrington, Miss Helen	April 9, 1904.
Felber, Mr H. H.	August 13, 1904.
Franks, Mr Wilfred	May 7, 1904
Freebar, Mr Sydney	July 30, 1904.
Fysher, Mr Edwin F.	September 3, 1904.
Gascoigne, Mrs Henry	May 21, 1904.
Gelderd, Mr James	July 2 1904
Garrod, Mr W. V.	July 16, 1904
Gilfain, Miss Trixie	May 14, 1904.
Godfrey, Mr Dan	May 14, 1904.
Grahame, Mr J. Lynward	April 9 1904.
Grey, Miss Marion	March 19, 1904.
Griffith, Miss Mary	October 22, 1904.
Gunn, Miss Haidée	August 6 1904.
Hamer, Miss Florence	March 26, 1904.
Harcourt-Williams, Mr E.	July 9, 1904
Hardy, "American Blondin"	April 16, 1904.
Harrison, Miss Bessie	April 9, 1904.
Henderson, Miss Millie	August 13, 19 4.
Herbert, the Late Miss Ethel	April 16, 1904.
Hildyard, Miss Maud	October 8. 1904.
Hollingshead, the Late Mr J.	October 15, 1904.
Howard, Mr J. Bannister	March 19 1904
Howells, Mr C. E.	August 27, 1904.
Howitt, Mr Charles	August 13, 1904.
Huggett, Miss Dora	July 16, 1904.
Humber, Mr S. H.	August 13, 1904.
Hunt, the Late Mr G. W.	March 5, 1904.
Hunter, Mr J. D.	July 9 1904.
Hyde, Miss Mariette	April 9, 1904.
Imeson, Miss Nita	April 23, 1904.
Jacques, Mr Frederick	October 29, 1904.
Jose, Mr Edouard	October 8 19 4.
Kennedy, Mr E. J.	October 1, 1904.
Kilburn, Mr Harry	March 19, 1904
King, Mr Clifford	February 13, 1904.
Knight, Mr Arthur	October 8 1904.
Kremer, Mr Theo.	July 9, 1904
Lang, Mr Matheson	August 27, 1904
Leno, the Late Mr Dan	November 5, 1904.
Lester, Mr Harry	May 7, 1904.
Lilly, Mr A. C	June 25, 1904.
Limpus, Mr Bernard	October 22 1904.
Linden, Mr Ardene	September 24, 1904.
Ling, Mr Edwin	September 3, 1904.
Llewellyn, Mr Fewlass	October 15 1904.
Lloyd, the Late Mr Arthur	July 23 1904.
Lowe, Miss Rachel	June 11, 1904.
Loyd, Mr Frederick	August 27, 1904.
Lurich, George	June 4, 1904
Lysons, Mr Arthur C. P.	August 20, 1904.
Mackintosh, Mr Drew	September 10, 1904.
Maclaren, Mr W.	September 10, 1904.
M'Kim, the Late Mr R. Stuart	April 23, 1904.
Manners, Mr Charles	August 27, 1904.
Marsdene, Miss Beatrice	August 13, 1904.
Marsdin, Miss Dorothy	May 21, 1904
Martin, Miss Edie	August 6, 1904.
Meadows, Miss Connie	February 27, 1904.
Milton, Miss Maud	July 16, 1904.
Moncrieff Miss Rose	August 6, 1904
Morton, the Late Mr Chas.	October 22, 1904.
Munro, Mr Ernest	September 17, 1904.
Myers, Miss Tessa	August 13 1904.
Nelson, Miss Carry	April 23, 1904.
Norwood, Mr Eille	July 23, 1904
Owen, the Late Miss Jennie	May 14 1904
Paige, Mr Robson	October 29, 1904.
Pauncefort, Miss Claire	October 22, 1904
Pope, Mr F. F.	November 5 1904.
Reed, Miss Eva	August 6, 1904.
Resdan, Miss Rita	March 12, 1904.
Rignold, Miss Marie	May 7, 1904
Robina, Miss Fanny	September 3, 1904.
Ross, Miss Enid	October 29, 1904.
Routledge, Miss Millicent	July 30, 1904
Ruskin, Miss Sybil	July 9, 1904
Russell, Miss Kenna	May 14, 1904.
Schofield, Mr Johnnie	October 22, 1904.
Sealby, the Late Mr Walter	October 22 1904.
Serpentello	May 14, 1904
Sibley, Miss Lucy	May 7, 1904.
Sinclair, Miss Maude	June 4, 1904.
Soldene, Miss Emily	May 14, 1904.
Solly, Mr T. H.	May 28, 1904
Sprake, the Late Mr Herbert	May 14, 1904.
Spurr, the Late Mr Mel B.	October 1, 1904.
Stanley, Miss Blanche	March 12, 1904.
Stewart, Miss Edith	September 3, 1904.
St. John, Miss Amy	September 3, 1904.
Swanborough, Mr Edward	May 7, 1904.
Taber, the Late Mr Robert	March 12. 1904.
Taylor, Mr S. F.	October 1, 1904.
Tinsley, Miss Louie	August 6, 1904.
Toft, the Late Mr William	October 22, 1904.
Topham Mr F.	May 21, 1904.
Varna, Mr H. W.	June 11, 1904.
Vicary, Miss Helen	September 3, 1904
Villiers, the Late Mr B. F.	May 7, 1904
Walker, Miss Laura	March 12. 1904.
Wallace, Mr G. Carlton	May 21, 1904.
Walton, the Late Mr William	July 16, 1904.
Ward, Mr Albert	February 27, 1904.
Waring, The Late Bertha	September 3, 1904.
Wilkie, Mr Allan	May 7, 1904
Wilkinson, Miss Flossie	July 9, 1904.
Willett, Mr Ernest	July 2, 1904.
Williams, Mr Jesse	August 6, 1905.
Wilson, Miss Nellie	April 23, 1904.
Wilson, Miss Lucy	August 13, 1904
Woolf, Mr Jack	November 5, 1904.
Wright, Mr Henry	May 14, 1904.
Wright, Mr Harry	August 6 1904.
Wyndham, Sir Charles	May 14, 1904.
Yates, Mr Arthur	September 17, 1904.
Yorke, Mr Philip	February 27, 1904.

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General Manager, Mr FRANK ALLEN.

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Office Hours: 11·0 a.m. to 3·0 p.m.; Saturdays, 11·0 a.m. to 1·0 p.m.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1904.

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Cranbourn-street, Leicester-square, W.C.
Twice Daily, at 2·0 and 7·45 p.m.

"Zutka," Mendel, Paul Conchas, Diane De Fontenoy, in "An Artist's Model," Onllaw Trio, Leamy Troupe, Robertus and Wilfredo, Staley's Transformation Co., Chas. Baron, Marceline, Rossow's Midgets, Felix De Marco, the Mysterious Kettle, George Lett.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for The Kellinos, James Kurry, Bros. Webb, Fanny Robins, Flake and M'Donough, J. W. Rickaby, Damm Bros., Pat Rafferty, M'Kays, Ambrose Thorne, Eugen Marrder's Fire Horse.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Chas. R. Sweet, Edie King, J. H. Milburn, Aurora Troupe, G. W. Hunter, Three Mascotte Sisters, Ruth Lytton, Six Lancashire Lassies, Hal Forde, Brown and Le Clerq.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for A. C. Lilly and Co., in "Drummed Out;" Will Musgrave, Alaskas, Harry Coates, Hagedorn's Fairy Grotto, Bros Obo, Alexander, the Densmores Sisters Iris, Tennyson and Wallis, Wartenburg Bros., Alec Hurley.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Lukushima Troupe, Chas. Cardow, Helen Martin, Stewart and Morgan, Phil Herman, The Anartos, Frank Hilbert, Coloured Meisters, Mabel Hind, Calile and Walker, Pia Carozzi.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Hugh Stanton and Co., in "For Reform;" Harry Hayton, Vosper, Griff, Tourbillon Troupe, Leo Tell, Swan and Bambard, Margaret Ashton, Miles Stavordale Quintette, Charles Leb's Animals.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Tschernoff's Dogs and Ponies Harry Bickley, Johnny Gilmore, Gallagher and Bi'd, Bijou Russell, Brothers De Wynne, Doody and Wright, Sisters Sprightley, Alexandre and Bertie, Eight of Hearts, Vasco.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Fred Maxwell and Co., Ted Cowan, Wedburns, De Kock Brothers, Albert Le Fre, Max Welson Trio, Bioscope, Four Schultzenlieserl'n, Harry Dent, M'Phee and Hill, Ginnett's "Remounts."

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Resident Director, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Marie Loftus, Daisy Dormer, Chas. Russell, Bard and O'Brien, Three Georgis, Jan Rudenyl, Cavallini Bros., Lee and Kingston, Lilian Lowe, Brontes, Sisters St. Julian, Singing and Talking Pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for Albert Chevalier, Sybil St. Elmo, Gilbert Rogers, Abel and Welsh, Benar's Fantoches, Lily Burnand, St. James's Quintette, Maxwell and Francis, Cassie Walmer, Tom Leamore.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Bros. Egbert, Pantzer Brothers, Jerry and Joey, Bioscope, Brett and Orford, Lallah Selbini, Blake and Granby, Four Olympians, Bob Hutt, Ella Retford.

PHILHARMONIC HALL, ST. MARY-ST., CARDIFF.
Cinématograph Exhibitions, Curio Halls, Roller Skating, Phonograph, Waxworks, Galatea, Magic Maze, Shooting Ranges.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for R. G. Knowles, Verno and Voyce, Young American Quintette, George Brooks, Florador Quartette, Rezene and Robini, Marie Reeve, the Ashers, Lizzie Daniels.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Lil Hawthorne, Alexandre and Hughes, Ray Wallace, James' Strolling Players, Sisters Geretti, Brothers Edgar, Paul Mill, Hy. Anderson, Wionie Derson.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Sampson's Kettle of Wonders, Kremo Family, Walter Groves and Co., Horace Wheatley, Burt Shepard, Fred Earle, Two Bees, Walter King, The Rayfords, Amy Russell, Alice Ormonde.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Seeth's Lions, Alice Maple, Brothers Harrison, Fred Lincoln, Maggie Walsh, The Gowers, H. J. Kisbey, Alfred Hurley, The Nevarros.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for List's Bears, Alice Maydue, Sisters Devona, Bioscope, the Howards, the Lumars, Phillips and Terry, Charles Gardiner, Dome, Nellie Coleman.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Vesta Tilley, Victoria Monks, The Bostons, Harry Champion, Morton Trio, The Labakans, Resues Trio, L. B. Athol, Little Nelusco, Kitty Bell.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for George Gray, in "Fighting Parson;" Wilkie Bard, Carl Hertz, The Barowsky Trio, Trentanovi Sisters, The Passparts, Martine and Son, Nellie Stratton.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Tilly Bebe's Lions, Byron and Langdon, Theo Hardeen, Lily Marney, the Selbinis, Morton and Elliott, Auto and Mobil, Hall and Earle, Virto and Irene, Wilson Hallett.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Joe Elvin, in "Over the Sticks;" Millie Hylton, Werner and Reider, Winter and Banks, the Trapnell Family, Les Burnellys, Post Mason, Harry Lawson, Victor Travers, Jennie Belmore.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Eugene Stratton, Tina Clements, Noiset Troupe, Binns and Binns, Alcide Capitaine, Scottish Meisters, Walter Stanley, Lizzie Valrose, Arthur Melrose, Bert Byrne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for The Hoopers, Beatrice Willey, Baker and Balfe, George Newburn, Tally Ho Trio, Espinosa and Neilson, Two Romers, Leo Stormont, Austin and Cowan, Mark Sheridan.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Rousbey's Electrolytes, Ethel Dunford, Ford and Hanson, May Milburn, Chas. Stevens, Nello, Margaret Radcliffe, Juan M'Que, Tribune Trio.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. Thornton.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Selma Braatz, Flo Burns, Bioscope Sisters Brand, Johnny Dwyer, Edie Gray and White Coons, Brothers Brooks, G. W. Foster, Minnie Cunningham

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, Oswald Stoll.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for Arden and Abel, in "Three of a Kind;" Caicedo, Arthur Rigby, American Comedy Four, Slade Murray, Greil and Grey, the Wheelers, Baldwin Bros., Henry Kaiser, Frank Maura, Jessie Albini, Flo D'Orville.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr Oswald Stoll, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr Frank Allen, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.
Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelopes.
Telegraphic address "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

LIVERMORE TOUR.
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PEOPLE'S PALACE, DUNDEE;
PEOPLE'S PALACE, SUNDERLAND
PEOPLE'S PALACE, BRISTOL;
NEW PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
Address all communications, Billing Matter, &c. for Aberdeen and Dundee (two clear weeks in advance of opening), to
Ernest Sheldon, New Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.
For Sunderland, Bristol, and Plymouth to
L. C. J. Livermore,
Wiltshire House, 51, Wiltshire-rd., Brixton, London, S.W.
Telegrams, "Liverare, London." Nat. Telephone, 323 Hop
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THERE'S ALWAYS ONE.
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THE WAITER LAUGHED.
THEN THE CORONER SAID "OH!"
I FEEL SO SLEEPY.
QUEER LITTLE OSTRICH.
M'CORMICK
MY GOLDEN BELLE.
DOWN IN SOMALILAND.
MY WHITEWASH MAN.
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Manager, Fred Miller.

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Ernestine	Fräulein Levermann

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, NOV. 17.—Being—as the name implies—a military piece from beginning to end the new play met with a most cordial reception. Some of the scenes, notably those of the second act, where the action passes in the barracks, are full of broad humour, and amused the audience immensely. There is hardly any plot, but a series of episodes are intertwined, and many of the scenes are so loosely woven in as to appear at first sight to have little connection. Young Lieut. Robert Von Winterfeld loves Fränze Kurz, the daughter and heiress of a very wealthy man. Although the girl reciprocates his affection in secret, she gives him to understand she believes his motives are purely mercenary ones, and says she does not wish to be married for her fortune. Robert is cut to the heart, and proposes himself for active service in Africa. In the third act—by the intervention of good-natured Captain Witte—Fränze owns her love, and she and Robert become engaged just on the eve of his departure, it being too late to draw back. In the final act we learn that a hard fate has overtaken Fränze; her lover is killed by the Hereros. Another and happier couple are—or lead us to believe with certainty that they will become such—a compositor, who is serving his time in the army, and the daughter of a retired colonel. The young man—a worthy and very talented fellow—is a writer in his spare hours; his works are successful, and by the end of the play he is a celebrated author. These are the chief incidents in *Soldaten*, which was excellently acted throughout.

AN interesting performance of Costa's pantomime, *L'Histoire d'un Pierrot*, was given at the Theatre des Westens last week with so much success that it is filling the bill several times this. Frau Prasch-Grevenberg gave the part of Pierrot as gracefully and cleverly as she did that of L'Enfant Prodigue some years ago. Her facial expression was wonderfully good, and her every gesture suited the music exactly. The piece is well-known to your readers, so a description would be superfluous. Other rôles were satisfactorily acted by Fräuleins Doninger and Schultz, and Herren Ziegler and Geissler. The mounting was effective, and the pleasing music was admirably interpreted by the orchestra, under Kapellmeister Roth. The ever-popular operette, *Die Kleinen Lämmer*, preceded the pantomime.

SIGNOR DUSE'S brief season is at an end, and we can only deplore its brevity. Six performances are far too few for a city of the size of Berlin; the National Theatre was "sold out" every night, and many eager Berliners were unable to see "die Duse," to their great chagrin. *Hedda Gabler* was given on Thursday, and the famous actress's interpretation of Ibsen's heroine astonished even the critics, some of whom had doubted her powers as regards this particular character. It was a masterly rendering, such as was scarcely surpassed by that of Clara Jadair, in Donnay's *L'Altro Pericolo*, which formed the closing performance on Saturday, and which latter rôle is considered by many to be Madame Duse's best. The enthusiasm of the audience on Saturday knew no bounds; handkerchiefs were waved, flowers in endless numbers handed up, and cries of "au revoir" resounded through the house. It must not be forgotten to mention the excellent support Signor Rosaspina afforded to the star. The rendering of Jörgen Tesman especially was a highly commendable one.

NICOLAI'S comic opera, *Die Lustigen Weiber von Windsor*, was revived last Monday at the Royal Opera, and met with an unusually hearty reception. It was a new cast, the scenery and costumes were for the most part new, and great pains had been expended upon the whole performance. Frau Herzog and Fräuleins Rothauser and Dietrich, Herr Naval and Herr Knüpfer sang and acted splendidly, Herr Knüpfer giving a particularly fine account of Falstaff. Kapellmeister Richard Strauss conducted, and under his capable direction the orchestra played brilliantly. It was an evening of genuine enjoyment, such as even our Royal Opera seldom offers.

SOPHOCLES' tragedy *Electra*—Hugo Von Hofmannsthal's adaptation—has reached its seventy-fifth performance (not consecutive) at the Kleines. The play is more Hofmannsthal than Sophocles, and is certainly—possibly for that reason—the most successful adaptation for the modern stage extant. It is a powerful, effective work, and doubly so, acted as it is here. Frau Gertud Eysoldt gives—in the title-rôle—one of those marvellous renderings for which she has become famous, and in which few can compare with her. It is the weird, unusual, passion-torn characters that seem to appeal to this singularly-gifted and fascinating artist, and Electra and Salome are, perhaps, her greatest triumphs. Frau Bertens—who has hitherto given the rôle of Clytemnestra in admirable manner—was succeeded by Fräulein Durieux with less success, but the rendering of Chrysothemis by Fräulein Hoeflich was a very fine piece of acting. Among the audience sat Signora Duse, and followed the play with close attention. *Electra* is being translated into Italian for Signora Duse, who will produce it next season.

THE next novelty at the Kleines will consist of three one-act plays by the well-known Austrian writer, Arthur Schnitzler. They are *Der Grüne Kakadu* (which was done some time back at the Deutsches), *Der Tapfere Kassian*, and *Hans Delorme*.

THE Luisen Theatre produced Adolf Wilbrandt's four-act drama *Die Tochter des Herrn Fabricius* on Thursday last, and the results were all that could be desired. The audience appreciated the interesting play—which has already been detailed in your columns—and applauded the artist warmly. On the whole the cast was good.

"DER WEIBER-KONIG" having reached its fiftieth consecutive performance at the Thalia, the management is preparing a piece to take its place. At present, however, nothing definite is announced, and the *Weiber-Konig* is drawing so well that it would be a pity for him to abdicate.

THE next novelty at the Deutsch-Amerikan Theatre is a musical farce in five acts, entitled *New York*. Herr Adolf Philipp is again the author and composer; he is, moreover, the manager and the principal actor. There has, surely, never existed a more popular or talented author-actor-manager than the versatile Mr Philipp. His laughable farce, *Ueber'n Grossen Teich*—already described in your columns—is still running successfully, having reached its 400th performance.

HERR LUDWIG FULDA'S latest drama, *Maskerade*, will be produced at the Deutsches Theatre next week. The production of Rüderer's drama, *Morgenröte*, takes place at the Neues this evening, and talking of productions reminds me that Leoncavallo's *Roland Von Berlin* is announced for first performance at the Royal Opera on Dec. 13. Whether this date will again be changed remains to be seen; in any case, *Roland* is in steady rehearsal.

HISTORIC PROVINCIAL PLAYHOUSE.

BY T. H. BARROW.—VI.

Tate Wilkinson was in many respects an odd specimen of humanity. He avoided the plain, wholesome dietary beloved of the average Englishman, and became terror-stricken at the bare sight of a round of beef or any other large joint. He had, on the contrary, a penchant for delicate dishes and dainty confections. To gratify the pleasure of unexpected discovery he would hide confectionery in dark holes and corners of his garret. Avoiding the Burgundy wine for which the capital city of the north was then justly celebrated, he developed a strong partiality for old Madeira, but a few glasses of this grateful and stimulating beverage would invariably confuse his intellect and confound his utterances.

Here is a piquant example. Michael Kelly, an actor of repute, had supped with Tate, and under the potent influence of the merry wine of Spain

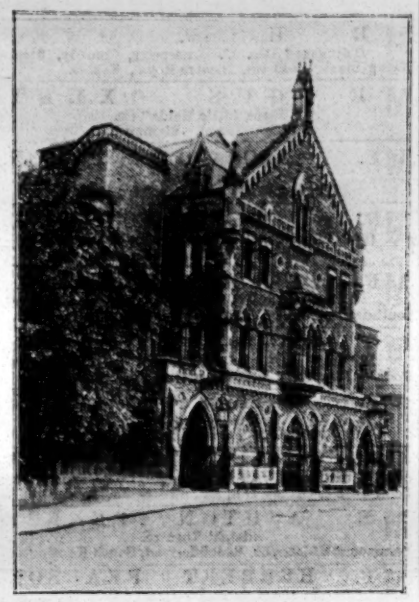


Photo by Debenham and Co., York.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.

both were in high glee. Barry, a brother actor, became the subject of conversation.

"Sir," exclaimed Tate, with an accentuating thump with his fist on the table, "Barry, sir, was as much superior to Garrick in Romeo as York Minster is to a Methodist chapel—not but I think that if lobster sauce is not well made a turbot isn't eatable, let it be never so firm. Then Mrs Barry, too, was very fine and very majestic in Zenobia. Siddons in the same play was very good—not that wild rabbits are better than tame ones. Though Mrs Barry was so great in her day yet Mrs Siddons—stewed and smothered with onions, both of them are delicious. Mrs Pope was admirable in Queen Elizabeth. A man I had here made a very good Oronooks—not but I would always advise you to have a calf's head dressed with the skin on; but you must always bespeak it of the butcher, though the last bespeak of Lord Scarborough did nothing for me—nothing at all. The house was one of the worst of the whole season—with bacon and greens—not twenty pounds altogether—with parsley and butter."

Thus the muddled eloquence of Madeira! Tate would babble on with persistent garrulity until the monotone of his own voice sent him to sleep—and his guests were grateful to be able to slip away home. From the top of the gallery he was wont to view a new piece. Once, indignant at what he considered slovenly acting, he commenced to hiss his own company. The "gods" were not only less critical, but turned upon him with counter indignation, and promptly ejected him from his own theatre!

Tate's marriage was not without its romantic side. In 1765, fulfilling an engagement under Baker, he had occasion to visit a milliner's shop in the city. In an obscure corner, Mrs Doughty, a little elderly lady, sat knitting. She was evidently indulging in a critical commentary on the previous night's performance at the theatre. Without looking up from her work to see who had entered the shop, she chattered on—"Well, I am sure, Nanny, you never shall persuade me to go to the play again to see that hunchbacked Barber. Give me the Mourning Bride and Mr Frodsham and then there is some sense in it. But for that man, that Wilkinson as you call him, from London—pray let him go back and stay there, for he is the ugliest man I ever saw in my life; and so thinks Jenny. I am sure if he was worth his weight in gold he should never marry a daughter of mine!"

Jenny happened to be the daughter. Whether or not she shared her mother's antipathies to Tate at that time is difficult to say, but three years later she married the ugliest man the good old lady ever saw in her life, and with the latter's consent. Six children were born to them. A son, John Joseph Tate, married an actress named Miss Reynolds, and succeeded to the management of his father's theatres. A daughter, Patty, became deeply attached to Mrs Siddons, and when that good lady's

Photo by Arthur and Co., York.

THE OLD CRYPT,
THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.

own daughter died, became her companion, and inherited a legacy of £500.

The following sonnet was addressed to Mrs Robinson by an admirer who witnessed her performance of Jane Shore in the York Theatre, in February, 1786:—

So full of Nature is thy mimic art
In the sad portrait of repenting Shore;
Soft pity melts each virtuous Fair One's heart,
And prostitutes resolve to Sin no more.

Each manly breast, too, owns thy magic pow'r,
Pierced with her sorrows and remorseful fears,
Nature's just tribute all with plaudits show'r
Heart-felt, involuntary floods of tears.

(To be continued.)

A COMMITTEE of the London County Council is considering whether their proposed Bill providing for the registration and inspection of servants' registry offices shall also apply to theatrical and music hall agencies.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—The play this week is *A Country Mouse*, which is cleverly acted and greatly enjoyed by large audiences. Miss Violet M. Harley gives a most delightful representation of Angela; and the other ladies' parts are excellently filled by Misses Edith Walker, Eve Erskine, Emily Levettez, and Agnes Allan. Mr Charles Harley plays admirably as John Bowlby, and the other characters all receive due justice. The curtain-raiser, *His Landlady*, is smartly acted.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr. Ernest Sheldon.—Payne's Little Vagabonds have a great reception, and another notable turn is that of Zarmo, the juggler. The Daunton-Shaw Troupe of cyclists are again conspicuously successful; and the Floradora Girls continue popular. Among the other clever artists who appear with success are Mr Tom Lloyd, a most resourceful comedian; Mr W. H. Downes, one of the best singers on the variety stage; Les Voces, two splendid vocalists; Mr J. C. Morris, a smart comedian; and Queen and Le Brun, popular comedians and dancers. The programme concludes with the Bioscope display of pictures.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—This week we are favoured with a special return visit of Mr S. F. Cody's powerful American company in the sensational drama, *The Klondyke Nugget*. As Sam Deats Mr Edward Leroy is polished and effective; Mr Vivian Cody as Joe Smith plays the part for all it is worth; Mr Leon Cody is a robust example of an Indian chief; Bill Sykes as played by Mr Jim Barker is full of interest; as also is Tom Lee by Doc Horsfall. Mr Tom Gilmore is responsible for humour in the part of Dr. Paddy O'Donohue, his singing and dancing being much appreciated; Judge Matherson is in the capable hands of Mr Bob Throp; Mr Geo. Leigh as Jim Wilson is powerful; Miss Lillie Kerr as Nellie is pleasing; and Miss Edith B. Mumford is a charming Rosie Lee.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—Mr Wm. Maclaren's company opened here in *Proof* on Monday. Pierre Lorance was a masterly performance by Mr W. Maclaren; Lazare was well played by Mr R. Fulton; Chamboran had a good exponent in Mr Ardene Linden; and Mr E. St. Clair Pearce must be complimented on his embodiment of the Seneschal; Miss Lily C. Bandmann gave a clever rendering of Valentine; Madeline was well played by Miss Gertrude Evans; and Miss Gertrude Coates was good as Adrienne. *East Lynne* and *The Lady of Lyons* are also in the week's scheme of attractions.

HIPPODROME.—An excellent bill is being provided here this week. Palles and Cussick, Rowland Hill, and Charles Milner are all excellent in their several lines. The Lynches are another good turn; Renson and Waite are also very funny. The Bruces complete a capital entertainment.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—The delightful manner in which the charming costume play *Monsieur Beaucaire* is produced by Mr Norman Macowan's company is really worthy a special line of comment. Miss Violet Sterne's refined and talented interpretation of Lady Mary marks her an actress of great ability. Mr Norman Macowan's powerful conception of Monsieur Beaucaire is followed with fascinating interest. It is, indeed, a clever piece of acting throughout. Mr F. Stuart Wilson's Duke of Winterset is a meritorious performance; Mr Herbert Cornish gives a capable interpretation of Major Molyneux; and Mr Conybeare Gough's clever impersonation of the humorous Mr Rakell is very acceptable. Mr Hans Schlessinger's fine appearance and natural foreign delivery causes his Marquis De Mirepoix to stand out prominently, and as the belligerant Captain Badger Mr P. Ramsay Forman is good.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—The well-known operatic tenor, Mr J. W. Turner, and his company commenced at the Theatre Royal a week's series of English opera performances. On Monday evening *The Bohemian Girl* was performed, with Miss Ethel Locker as the gipsy maid, Arline, and Mr F. J. Hargrave as the Polish refugee, Thaddeus. Both are vocally gifted, and sang the varied solo and concerted music with great power, sweetness, and artistic grace. The Gipsy Queen of Miss Mabel Dennis was a success, both histrionically and vocally. As the Count Mr Jno. Ridding was as vocally effective as ever, and of Mr Sidney Clifford's Devilshoof and Mr Cummings's Florestein it is unnecessary to speak. They are both genuinely droll. The band and chorus were efficiently led by Mr T. Lawton. *The Lily of Killarney*, *Faust*, *Il Trovatore*, *The Waterman*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Maritana* are also in the répertoire.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot.—This week's bill here includes the performances of those clever jugglers Hanvarr and Annie Lee, whose speciality is entitled "The Golfer and the Maid." The Bodina Trio harmonise vocally and sweetly. One of the stars of the performance is the pocket "Vesta Tilley," Miss Flo Hilton, male impersonator. Rosie Harvey, burlesque actress, creates a good impression, and Mattie Crawford is an excellent serio and dancer. Harry Walker attracts attention with comic eccentricity, and Drum and Major, duettists and bâton swingers, create quite a furore with their amusing antics. The reappearance of Atlas and Vulcana, society athletes, has drawn admirers of physical beauty and skill. The Hippo. Bioscope still continues to be a feature of the entertainments.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—A ripple of joyous merriment pervaded the theatre while *The New Barmaid* had her three nights' lease of the place. Mr Joseph B. Montague was responsible to a great extent for this pleasing state of the house, for his acting of the part of Bertie White was admirable. The dignified acting of Mr Herbert Cottesmore as Colonel Claymore was a rare foil for showing up the idiosyncrasies of Bertie, and so was the burly brother William of Mr Alex Loftus. Mr Leslie Austin as Captain Lovebury both acted and sang well, and the same may be said of Mr Frank Melroyd as Mons. Bonsor, who, in consort with Miss Violet Osmund as Dora Heather, danced delightfully. Miss Jean Gilmour as Lady Moulton was dignified and charming, while Miss Hilda Blanche and Miss Maude Nicoll as the old and the new barmaid respectively left nothing to be desired, and it would have been hard to have improved upon their acting. The piece was excellently staged, and the whole was under the direction of Mr Alexander Loftus.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—Messrs Armadale and Warren's company is the attraction here this week in the sensational drama, *The Face at the Window*. Mr E. Hoggan Armadale assumes the principal rôle as Le Loup, and puts a wonderful amount of dramatic force into his interpretation of the part, Mr T. W. Dunscombe cleverly depicts the business-like detective, Paul Gouffet. Mr Alfred Richards is the hero, Lucien Cortier, and works hard; while Mr Bob Anderson makes a very funny character of Peter Pottlebury. Mr George Pythian makes a good impression as Henri De Brisson, and Mr C. Allen-Hineson is well placed as Le Blanc. Miss Maria Florence fully maintains the interest which centres in the character of Marie De Brisson. La Pinau is well represented by Miss Jeannie Dempster, and Miss Lizzie Chambers excites no little merriment as Babette.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Mr George Dance presented another excellent musical play here on Monday—*The Girl From Kay's*. Miss Lily Lingard very cleverly portrays Winnie Harborough; Norah Chalmers is capitally played by Miss May Marton; Ellen affords fine scope for the talented Miss Polly Prim; Mr Johnnie Schofield is intensely humorous as the vulgar Max Hoggenheimer; he is well supported by Mr Tom Shelford as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle; Mr Garnet Wilson is distinctly effective as Harry Gordon; Theodore Quench, Q.C., is made the most of by Mr Sam Lysons; and Mr Charles Goold does full justice to the part of Joseph, the hall porter.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—*The Orchid* is being presented in an excellent manner by Mr George Dance's principal company. Mr Bertie Wright gives an exhilarating performance as Meakin. Mr G. Davy Burnaby as Guy Scrymgeour is received with approbation. The wonderful eccentric dancing of Mr Arthur P. Hemsley as Zaccary is watched with amazement, the clever performer evoking hearty recalls. Mr Edmund Page, in addition to the heavy duties of stage-management, undertakes the character of the Frenchman, Comte Cassignat, his duelling scene with Mr Wright creating immense hilarity. Other gentlemen who assist in the fun are Mr Edmund Hullick (Dr. Fausset) and Mr Ernest Darrell (Mr Chesterton); Miss Ethel Bryant is a pleasing Lady Violet; and Miss Madge Lucas as Caroline Vokins has a congenial part. Miss Mabel Sealby is a captivating Josephine Zaccary; Miss Poppy Wilkinson makes a bright and engaging Thisbe; and Miss Eve Melville (Zelie Rumbert) and Miss Ida Chichester (Lady Anstruther) sustain the general high level of the representation.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—Harry Tate's company is presenting the laughable skit *Motoring* this week to the accompaniment of incessant laughter; Barlee and Smith in their smart turn *A Rehearsal* are popular, the singing of the lady being particularly good; Francis, the intrepid juggler of cannon balls, is well received; Sam Redfern, the black boss, is as good as ever; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, the original singing cardboard box makers, meet with acceptance; Sandy and Carl, knockabouts and burlesque boxers, have a large following of admirers; Walter Emerson, comedian, returns to gain fresh laurels; and the banjo medley of the Sisters Redfern is well performed.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—Mr Charles Frohman's company, including Mr H. B. Irving and Miss Irene Vanbrugh, opened here on Monday with Mr Arthur W. Pinero's capital play entitled *Letty*, which roared a great success. Miss Vanbrugh appears in her original part of Letty, and this accomplished actress delighted all with her skilful impersonation. Mr H. B. Irving upheld his established reputation by his remarkably clever acting in the rôle of Nevill Letchmere, and his success was in every sense noteworthy. A fine portrait of Hilda Gunning was furnished by Miss Eleanor Souray; and we have nothing but praise for Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson, who interpreted the rôle of Marion Allardyce with consummate skill. Mr Scott Craven admirably sustained the part of Bernard Mandeville; and Mr Leslie Victor was all that could be desired as Richard Perry. Miss May Blayney appeared to much advantage as Mrs Ivor Crosbie; and the rôle of Ivor Crosbie was capitally sustained by Mr T. S. M'Causland Stewart. Mr Vernon Steel was highly effective as Coppinger Drake.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—The chief attraction here is furnished by Messrs Hume, Rose, and Lewis, the famous American comedy team, whose act has been most successful. The great naval and military spectacle *For King and Country*, presented by Mr Tom Herman, is a great feature of the bill, the performance by many local children being very praiseworthy. The patriotic tableau "Great Britain; or, England is Ready," is undoubtedly a fine spectacle. Dandy George introduces his canine wonder Rosie, whose performance is certainly very remarkable; and Regan and Ryan are very droll comedians and smart dancers. The Harry Du Cane Trio made a big hit with their entertaining aerial gymnastic act, and the clever ventriloquist Miss Bessie Travis, whose talent is obviously hereditary, created a furore on Monday. Also appearing are Mr Fred Fox, comedian; Miss Kitty Time, comedienne; and Mr Jack Lorimer, comedian, whose Scotch songs are intensely funny.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brook.—The chief feature at this popular hall is supplied by Rousby's Electrical Review of Paris, presented in four tableaux, a singularly beautiful show, exhibiting some of the most interesting features of the French capital. The Tribune Trio appear in their exhilarating sketch, *The Cheerful Idiot*; Ford and Hanson stage a fine musical show, their manipulation of several musical instruments being very clever indeed; Miss Margaret Radcliffe is a talented vocalist, her pleasing voice being hard to great advantage in "Blue Bell;" and Nello is undoubtedly a wonderful lady contortionist. Miss Ethel Dunford has a sweet voice, which has been heard with pleasure in several songs, and others appearing are Juan and M'Que, comedians; May Milburn, the accomplished comedienne and dancer; and Mr Charles Stevens, comedian.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The Original O'Learys top the bill at this old-established hall (so ably managed by the experienced Mr H. T. Downs), and gain much success with their burlesque act. The great Vandinoff is truly described as a marvellous artist in oil colours, his paintings being beautiful. A novel performance is submitted by Cordite, billed as the "world's champion rope spinner;" and the coloured comedians, Pete and Juno, have gained a capital reception, fully deserved. Weisker Brothers' Bioscope, which has enjoyed a full measure of success here, exhibits some new and decidedly interesting pictures this week; and the acrobatic comedians, Testo Brothers, submit a most enjoyable performance. Also appearing are Cissie Reece, Sid Bandon, and Bert Holmes.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS.—Proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco; General Manager, Mr Irving Bosco; Assistant-Manager, Mr George Dobler.—Congratulations to Messrs Carter and Bosco on the success of the reopening of this popular place of amusement, and it is also only due to Mr George Dobler to say that not a little of the success is due to his energetic efforts. This week another fine programme has been provided, the Flying Dillons being the stars. Their thrilling and exceedingly clever aerial performance has been cheered to the echo nightly. Clown Caban's performing animals remain a great feature of the entertainment. The high ladder performance of the Escaladers has created quite a sensation; and the act supplied by Mr H. Stone proves him to be a fine equestrian. Max Merlin, the human crocodile, is very smart, and the graceful and accomplished equestrienne, Princess Annie, is accorded an

ovation nightly. The juggling act of the Tarrias is also quite amazing. The clowns, Happy Burgess, Ping-Pong, and Handy Andy, are great favourites, and their droll antics create roars of laughter. Praise is also due to the Hippodrome Pictures, furnished by the management, the subjects being most entertaining. Mr Harry Metcalf acts as equestrian director with conspicuous success.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—This week Mrs Henry Mayhew and Mr Charles Herrick's company has paid a visit in *The Triumph of Truth*. Miss Marie Auckland as the Twin Sister played with conspicuous ability; and the part of Blanche De Croix was in the capable hands of Miss Rosabel Dodd. Miss Lily Rogers as Katie Bright was quite in keeping with the name of her character. Little Nellie Kenneth as Lena gave a pathetic portrayal; Jack Eversleigh was played with much verve by Mr E. L. Louis; and Mr Johnny Clegg as Tommy Woodhead infused much humour into the piece. Mr J. A. Keogh left nothing to be desired as Sir Chas. Eversleigh; and T. Renaud Lockwood made a good French mobsman. Mr Chas. Herrick as Vitto Mascagni was entirely successful.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—The first three evenings of the current week were devoted to *The Mariners of England*, by Mr Ernest R. Abbott's company. As Lord Nelson Mr Abbott has a character which suits him admirably. He is well supported by Mr W. T. Riley as Harry Dell; Miss Linda Riley as Nelly Dell; Miss Ada Abbott as Mabel Talbot; and Mr W. H. Garbois as Captain Lebaudy. Mr Edwin Keene is capital as Tom Tripp, and so is Miss Isabel Singleton as Polly Appleyard. A "special version" of *East Lynne* by the same company was underlined for Thursday.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Milton Ray's company in *A Hot Night* forms the attraction here. Mr Rolando Martin creates considerable amusement in the rôle of William Whiffles; Mr Arthur Milton is a capital Frank Frith; Fontenoy Flutterwig is admirably represented by Mr Francis Hope. Mr Alfred Wellesley does well as Professor Heenan, and Mr Harry T. Butler is a capable Mark Maybury. Miss Cissie Hylton is a vivacious and clever Pollie Drake; Mrs Flutterwig is efficiently assumed by Miss Beatrice Annesley, and Mesdames Clara Reid, May Mulvey, and Alice Alders also appear to advantage. The Eldorado Quartet of dancers are an acquisition.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Miss Emma Litchfield's combination in *A London Actress* command extensive patronage. The somewhat trying part of Hilda Mannering is carefully and effectively filled by Miss Litchfield, Miss Violet Lawson earns distinction as Phyllis Crawford, and Biddy Malone is well played by Miss Louise Millward. Mr Stuart Cleveland is well to the front with a vigorous rendering of Sergeant-Major Clive Crawford. Mr Sam Wilford makes the most of his opportunities as Pat Maloney, and Mr Fred Fernan contributes a good character sketch of Moses Mendoza. Subordinate parts are well filled, and the scenic effects are above the average.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—A company which reflects credit on Mr Clarke's liberal catering includes Mr George Lashwood, Mr Tom Costello, Mr Malcolm Scott, and Dutch Daly, all of whom well maintain their high reputation as comedians, each individual artist scoring heavily on this, one of many return engagements here. Miss Marie Kendall, the accomplished comedienne, is fulfilling a highly successful engagement, as also are Spry and Austin, whose humour and ability is a leading feature. The Zaros give an imposing and clever acrobatic display. Fredrica's dogs are well received, and Steve M'Carthy, the Irish coon, completes an excellent programme. On Thursday Mr Clarke, with his accustomed generosity, gave his annual benefit in aid of the local charities, the gross proceeds of a matinée performance being devoted to that worthy object, the Argyle company being reinforced by several extra turns from the Liverpool halls.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—*A Message from Mars*, under the direction of Mr Mouillot, is making a welcome reappearance here this week. Mr Rawson Buckley gives a capital performance of Horace Parker; the Messenger is effectively played by Mr W. H. Brougham; and admirable support is afforded by Mr Bruce Lindley as a Tramp, Mr Frank G. Dunn as Arthur Dicey, Mr H. E. Laneeley as Dr. Chapman, and others. Miss May Saker as Minnie Tempier acts in a pleasing manner, and Miss Flora Hastings appears to advantage as Miss Parker. The other parts are well filled.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—*Bound to Win*, the attraction here this week, is meeting with much success. Mr F. G. Kimberley is good as Harry Lyndon, and other parts are well-played by Mr Sidney Renneff as Squire Forbes, Mr Frank Strickland as Phillip Ayre, Mr James Hont as Ned Oakley, Miss Nina Blake Adams as Marion Forbes, and Miss Evelyn Robson as Gladys Orme. An effective touch of realism is afforded by the introduction of two thoroughbred horses.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Phil Ray heads the bill this week, and met with a capital reception from a crowded audience on Monday. Peggy Pryde was accorded much favour for her songs. Other good turns are Will Matcham, vocal and musical comedy artist; Booker and Narbis, in their sketch *The Interviewer*; Maud Ross, comedienne; E. W. Selman, comedian; Brothers Harlem, rifle and bâton manipulator; Kit Keen, coon comedian; the Haywards, in a clever act; and the Australian Twin Andersons, in their skipping-rope act. The benefit of the popular manager, Mr Will Murray, is announced for next Friday evening.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr Herbert J. Montague's Osmond Tearle répertoire company is catering for the public here this week. *The Merchant of Venice* was played on Monday, with Mr Alexander Marsh as Shylock and Miss Carrie Baillie as Portia, both artists acquitting themselves with credit. Bassanio had a capable exponent in Mr Cyril Grier, whilst Mr Godfrey Tearle did well as Lorenzo. Messrs George Tearle, John Burton, William Lowe; and Misses Fannie Chamberlain and Kathleen Magee are also members of the company. *The School for Scandal*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *As You Like It*, *Julius Cæsar*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *David Garrick* are included in the week's bill.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Company.—The most pleasing turn here this week is supplied by Frances Haskoll, whose illustrated songs are most cordially received. Madge Grey, comedienne, is also a favourite; Victor Newman is a clever mimic; the Cullane Trio give a funny sketch; Nancy Renshaw is a charming soubrette; Cameron is a clever conjuror; Larry Lewis makes many jokes; and Kioto contributes a novel equilibristic act.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—The chief attraction here this week is Phroso—what is it? Other turns include Les Bollingers, the rag painters; Beatrice Rénee, a charming comedienne; the Two Weirs, duettists and dancers; the Valdares, wonderful trick cyclists; Rachel Lowe, novelty vocalist; Harrigan and Holt, comedians; and Arthur Forrest, speciality artist.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*The Girl from Kay's* has returned considerably improved and brightened, and with a company, under Mr George Dance, which does excellent justice to the piece. Great pleasure has been expressed in the appearance of Miss Simeta Marsden as Winnie Harborough, this being a charming impersonation, and one that brings this clever artiste supreme honours. Mr H. C. Barry is another great success in the rôle of Hoggenheimer, and the theatre rings with laughter at the sallies of this unctuous comedian. Miss Alice Russon as the distressed bride, Norah, acts and sings with infinite charm. Mr Chas. Hanbury as the unfortunate Benedict, Harry Gordon, gives a most polished performance, and Miss Maisie North as the Maid, Miss Ada Crossley as Mrs Chalmers, Mr Jas. Wigley as Chalmers, Mr Leslie Roy Cathie as Fitzthistle, and Mr Fred Rolph as Joseph are very successful.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—*San Toy* has been revived here under most auspicious conditions. Miss Fanny Dango excels in the part of San Toy, which she invests with a dainty spirit and true artistic perception. Miss Louie Collier adorns the rôle of Chu San with her vocal charms. Miss May Francis fascinates the house as Poppy; and Miss Alice Lethbridge dances with all her accustomed grace. Mr E. Statham Staples is in the forefront as Li, evoking the utmost hilarity with his quaint conception. Mr Colin Coop increases the gaiety with his clever humours as the Emperor; Mr Stratton Mills ably fills the rôle of Sir Bingo; Mr John Humphries emerges from the difficulties of the mandarin with success; Mr Reginald Kenneth as Captain Bobby sings well and acts with capital ardour; and the cast and production all round evoke the most hearty applause.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*The Mysteries of the Thames*, presented here for the first time on Monday, fully sustains the prestige of this well-conducted house. Mr Roy Fortesque is most successful in depicting the sufferings and struggles of the ruined Dick Brandon. James Denbigh is represented by Mr F. Brooke Warren, who sows the seeds of suspicion and crime with the art of a practised stage villain. Miss Gwynne Warren cleverly doubles the rôles of Flash Nell—an excellent and by no means a flashy conception—and her forsaken cripple sister, Grace Rochdale, which she plays with true and irresistible pathos. Miss Lallah Shelton obtains much sympathy for the wife, Kate Brandon, and the audience is genuinely moved at the sufferings of little Doris, ably portrayed by Miss Nellie Palmer. Mr Elton Morgan as Bill Bosco plays with rugged force, and Messrs Gilbert Hall, Dan Hardie, and the Misses Clare O'Sullivan and Flo Norman act their parts with much ability.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*Driven from Home*, in which Messrs J. K. Murray and J. M. Dawson's company appear, has provided a pathetic and sensational success nightly here. Miss Lydia Donovan is accountable for two cleverly-enacted rôles, Laura Raybrooke and Walter Hatherleigh. Mr J. K. Murray acts as the inflexible parent, Anthony Raybrook, with the utmost success. Mr Jack Dawson portrays the elder Walter Hatherleigh in a satisfactory manner. Mr Cyril Harrison as Geoffrey Waring plays a villain's part with easy grace; and Mr Aylmer J. Williams represents Dick Saunders with much success. Jack and May M'Kenzie as Mr and Mrs John Anderson contribute valuably to the comic side of the story, and score with a clever speciality scene.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*The World*, which bears the hall-mark of Drury-lane drama, was presented here on Monday by Mr John F. Asche to a crowded and highly delighted audience. Mr Stuart Lomath as the good Sir Clement was specially admired for his effective acting. Mr Francis Hawley as the unworthy brother, Harry Huntingford, received from the wrath of the "gods" the finest tribute a villain's powers could evoke. Miss Georgette Thierry proved a most capable as well as beautiful exponent of the wronged wife, Mabel Huntingford; and Miss Beatrice Fay as Mary Bly the won sympathy, admiration, and tumultuous applause. Mr Bernard J. Lieli as Moss Jewel kept the house amused, and Mr Jackson Hayes as Martin Bashford, Mr Adam Alexander as Langley, and Miss Ellen Owen as Miss M'Tabb were also in favour.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*Otto the Outcast* once more introduces that clever and popular comedian, Mr Harry Starr, in his well-known and successful study of the title-rôle. In addition to this, Mr Starr has gratified his admirers with his historical reincarnations of the first Napoleon and Lord Nelson, in which he effects a striking quick-change act, and which is greatly appreciated. Mr Richard Harris renders good support as Roderique D'Estalier; Miss Lizzie Webb gives a successful impersonation of Lara, the flower-girl; Miss Rita Rosslyn acts cleverly as Corinne Jarbeau; Mr Conrad Clerke as the Marquis and Mr William Miller as Daddy Bruneau show much ability; and the humorous rôles of Carotte and Susette are well sustained by Mr J. Turner and Miss Edna Lester respectively.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—Packed houses this week are appreciating the performance of the Kellinos in their speciality act, "Venetia." Eugen Maarden's fire-dancing horse remains another week, as also does Pat Rafferty and the Brothers Damm. O. T. Fiske and Nellie M'Donough in their comedy-drama, *Brocky's Temptation*, go exceedingly well; and Fanny Robina is a most entertaining burlesque artiste. The Bros. Webb, the M'Kays, James Kurry, J. W. Rickaby, and Ambrose Thorne add to the mirth of the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—That particularly bright star, Harriett Vernon, is the big attraction here this week, her songs being well applauded. Her latest is "Karama," a Japanese song which is loudly encored. Lilian Lea, whose voice is one of purity and power, rendering Tosti's "Good-bye" with fine effect; Athas and Collins have a good comedy act; and the Abadaroffs, prehistoric mountebanks; the Brothers Redmond, eccentric acrobats; the Korries, Billy Tucker, Gus Garrick, and Martin and Myers evoke much enthusiasm.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The big turn this week is John Tiller's company of fifty artistes, in *High Jinks; or, Fun on the Sands*. The scenery and dresses are effective, the dances are pretty, and the comedians provide many opportunities for laughter, the most prominent being Bob Selvidge and Fred French. A clever and daring acrobatic display is presented by Ergotti and King Luis. The Five Parroscopplis, Martin Conway, Lowell and Lowell; Virginia, with her piccaninnies; Dave O Toole, J. W. Bray, and T. W. Russell are also in the bill.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edward Foster.—The principal attraction this week is Seeth with his twenty-three forest bred lions, who give an interesting performance. The Hungarian dancing of Anny Store and Company in *The Gypsies' Romance* is loudly applauded. Maggie Walsh, the Lancashire mill girl, is responsible for some fine singing; Alfred Hurley, has a good song which goes well; an exceedingly smart equilibristic turn is supplied by the Nevarros; and other excellent turns are Fred Lincoln and Alice Maple, the Brothers Harrison, J. H. Kisbey and the Barangay Trio.

BLYTH.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Resident-Manager, Mr G. E. Good.—An excellent attraction has been provided here by Mr Douglas Bruce's company in the drama entitled *In a Woman's Grip*, which was presented to a Blyth audience for the first time on Monday. Mr Frank Lichfield was a prominent figure as Dick Langley, an ex-prizefighter, and Miss Beatrice May as Mary Langley, otherwise Convict 43 and the Princess Zyaroff, put in some excellent work.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson's company is the attraction here this week, in *The Scarlet Woman*. Mr Reginald Fox is seen to advantage as Richard Marchant, Mr David M'Farlane gives an effective rendering, on conventional lines, of the villain Will Raymond, and Mr Bryce Methven's impersonation of Philip Gordon is well received. Mr Mat Melrose rouses much hearty laughter as Samuel Simpkins. Miss Laila Cowell appears as Fanchette, and the character of Mrs Desmond finds a capable exponent in Mrs Scott-Watson, while Jeanne is represented by Miss Gracie Walker. Miss Scott-Watson plays the title-rôle with a full perception of its possibilities. *Trilby* was billed for Friday. The productions are under the direction of Mr Charles Dravcott.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr R. Stewart.—Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company in *Little Mary* opened here on Monday to a large and enthusiastic audience. The play was really excellently presented by a well-balanced cast. Mr A. Holmes-Gore as the Earl of Carlton was, of course, a conspicuous success. Mr Arthur Kightley played Lord Rolfe with a delightful ease, and was very convincing. Two capital character sketches were given by Mr George Mudie and Mr Archie Bascombe as Sir Jennings Pyke and the Earl of Plumleigh respectively. The latter character, although a small one, is full of detail, and stood out prominently. Mr Ean Macdonald duplicated the parts of Terence Reilly and Dr. Topping very cleverly. Miss Gertrude Burnett was charming as Moira Loney, and played the part with delicacy and finish. As Countess of Plumleigh Miss Elspeth Dudgeon was really good, but just missed achieving a great success by being inclined to overplay the part. Miss Evelyn Neilida and Miss Gwendolen Richmond as Lady Milly and Eleanor Gray complete a very strong cast. The comedy is preceded by *The Bugle Call*.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. R. Richardson.—A return visit of Messrs. A. and S. Gatti and Charles Frohman's company with Mr J. M. Barrie's quaint and charming comedy *Quality Street*, has proved very welcome to Mr Hart's patrons, and the usual excellence marks the representation of the piece. Mr David Glassford in a convincing manner plays the dashing Valentine Brown; Mr A. Carlaw Grand's Ensign Blades is a well-studied caricature; in a very winsome manner Miss Grace Armytage Noble sustains the part of Miss Phœbe Throssell; and as her sister Susan Miss May Whitty is excellent.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—*The Sign of the Cross* has not lost any of its singular powers of attraction, as was evident on Monday, when a large audience again greeted very cordially Mr Wm. Greet's company in the play. The cast is practically the same as on the occasion of the last visit here, and the play is staged in the same admirable manner. Mr F. B. Woulfe's Marcus Superbus is a well-studied, bold, and finished effort. The emotional acting of Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, who is a charming and graceful Mercia, moved her audience visibly. The senile Emperor Nero has a clever exponent in Mr A. Bernhardt Turner. Much broad but admirable humour marks the Glabrio of Mr Frank Wood. The villain Tigellinus is represented with effect by Mr Charles Aldred. Miss Ivy Millar is powerfully emotional and convincing as the boy Stephanus, and Miss Alma Bolton's Berenice, and Miss Ethel Land's Poppæa are noticeable amongst the other excellent efforts of the company engaged on the representation of the popular play.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—There are many deserving old favourites amongst the company here this week, Hugh Stanton and Miss Jessie Burgwitz being prominent in their satire, *For Reform*. Harry Hayton, comedian, contributes an acceptable turn, and Vosper, with his facial imitations, is again enjoyable. Griff, the clown juggler, as usual, contributes immensely to the evening's enjoyment; and the Tourbillion Troupe of acrobatic cyclists again evoke applause. Leo Tell gives remarkable imitations of animals and instruments. The comic acrobatic work of Swan and Bambard is clever and diverting; Margaret Ashton sings acceptably; the musical performance by the Miles-Stavordale Quintette (an excellent combination) is very enjoyable; and Charles Leb's animals are remarkable and entertaining examples of training.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—A capital company includes Jordan and Harvey, American comedians, who on Monday made a successful first appearance here with quaint "patter" and amusing burlesque; Nellie Gannon pleased her audience with descriptive song and dance; Cullen and Carthy, comedians, and Little Cluly won both laughter and approval in their amusing turn; and Harry Wright, character extemporé singer, contributed successfully. Dolly Harmer, comedienné, submitted one of her usual acceptable specialities; the Zenary Bros., in "The Meeting at the Club," gave a clever acrobatic display; a good turn was given by the Two Stars, duettists and dancers; Edith Courtney sang ballads very well; and the Bros. Ethairlen reappeared in their delightfully humorous eccentric comedy turn.

BRIGHOUSE.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. Morton Powell; Business-Manager, Mr M. Manley.—The attraction at the above theatre this week is Miss Frances Delaval's company in *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*. Miss Delaval is a powerful Naomi Belvedere; Miss Dorothy Mahomed plays the part of Irene May charmingly; and the part of Mother Hawk finds a talented interpreter in Miss Patty Groves. The Scamp is most ably portrayed by Mr Percy Carne Waram.

BURY (LANCS).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Mr Julian Malvern's company is presenting the drama, *I Defy the World*, here this week. Mr Lewis Gilbert plays finely as Leon Darville; Mr Joseph W. Worsley is a fine villainous Count de Beaulieu; Miss Carry Ellis is good as Pauline Delaporte; and Miss Lina Nazeby is worthy of mention as Blanch Darvil.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Mr Culling provides a good programme at this house, and this week Mr Fred Harcourt, the modern magician; Leveta, the Oriental Mystery; Texas Hattie, tight-rope walker; Harry Morris, comedian; Amy Elvina, comedienne; and Charlene and Charelene are here.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead.—Excellent performances are given here this week by Cabaret and his wonderful dogs; Dale and D'Argan, in "Le Café Magique;" Omega, slack-wire artist; Henriques, acrobats; the Dorothy Quartet of dancers; the Onatis Troupe of jugglers; and Billy Williams, comedian.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr C. P. Levilly's company opened here on Monday with *Amorelle*, which was admirably staged. Mr Eric Thorne was highly amusing as Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow, and Miss Stella Gastelle sang and acted charmingly as Amorelle. Mr Fred Seymour made a capital Dotard, Mr John Doran was very effective as Jules, Mr Newton Ide's François, Mr Gerald Clifford's Lupin, Mr Arthur Dennis's Boissy, and Mr Robert Fairbank's Count of Cideaux were well played. Miss Kitty Cavendish was a pleasing Lesbia, Miss Madge Avery proved entertaining as Marina, and Miss May Bradbury was successful as Jeanette. The full chorus and augmented orchestra acquitted themselves admirably, and the duties of conductor were in the hands of Mr Harry Rushworth. At Thursday's special matinée, Mr Arthur Bourchier, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, and the Garrick Theatre company, appeared in *The Walls of Jericho*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Under the entire control of Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Mr Frederick Melville's company is here this week with *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Mr Horace Hunter gives a very fine portrayal of the hero, George Madison, and Miss Isla Garnet Vayne is earnest and winsome as the heroine, Lucy. The villainous Charles Devereux finds an excellent representative in Mr Clarence Hague; Miss Emily Hughes merits warm praise for her sympathetic treatment of the character of the Mother Superior; Miss Doris Brookes is well suited as Lady Lucretia; and Mr Charles Carte is effective as Sir George Lancaster. Mr Harry Elliston as Timothy Tuttutt and Miss Marie Kildare as Pattie Lovejoy sustain the comic element with much success.

AQUARIUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Bernhardt.—On Monday Mr Bernhardt inaugurated his lease of this theatre with afternoon and evening concerts. The very enjoyable programmes were admirably sustained, the artists who appeared including Mr W. Louis Bradfield, Little Miss Decima Brooke, Miss Madge Temple, Madame Edith Welling, Miss Olive Jarvis, Mr Douglas Lott, Mr Victor Benham, Miss Jessie Jolly, Miss Maude St. Malo, Mr H. Coombs, Miss Minnie Cooper, Miss Audrey Anderson, Miss Addie Croker, Stanelli, the Misses Dorothy and Violet Edge, Miss Rita Everard, and Miss Jennie Franklin. Other attractions were furnished by the Aquarium orchestra under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter, and by a series of animated pictures.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—George W. Leslie and company, in *Chums*; Little Barney, eccentric comedian; the Sisters Govell (Annie and Lottie), character impersonators, vocalists, and dancers; Frank Seeley, in his latest London successes; Ernest Ball, actor-vocalist; Lennie and Hast (Peggie and Walter), in a humorous opera-bouffe fantasy, *The Heirloom*; the Hudson-Powell troupe, in *The Young Recruits*; Lillie Lassah, comedienne and dancer; the Denmark Pair, in *Arguments*; the Reed Oetzmann Troupe of pantomimists, in *On Tour in the Tyrol*; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Al. Lawrence, American mimetic comedian; the Freydos, athletes and hand balancers; the Elysian Troupe, in an enjoyable musical turn; Charles Vandyke and company, in *Nicodemus*; Foreman and Fannan, the "eccentric millionaires;" F. Cumminger, sand dancer; Katherine Dahl, American prima donna and burlesque actress; Florence Hill, burlesque actress and dancer; and animated pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Under the personal direction of Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Mr Orton Tewson's company is here this week with *My Sweetheart*, the musical numbers of which have been introduced and arranged by Mr Broughton Black. Miss Grace Arundale as Tina acts and sings with great charm, and Mr Broughton Black, who is an excellent Tony Faust, also displays expressive vocalisation. Mr Charles D. Steele is an amusing Dudley Harcourt. Mr R. Noel Barton M'Guckin's Joe Shotwell and Miss Gertrude Le Sage's Mrs Fleeter are able representations. Miss Pollie Marshall as Mrs Hatzell and Mr Ambrose Skinner as Farmer Hatzell are effective. Mr Harry A. Gribben is a capital Harold Bartlett, and Mr Charles Stephenson is well placed as Dr. Oliver.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Miss Maude Thompson and Mr Arthur Eldred's company is here this week with *Lady Huntworth's Experiment*. Mr Frank G. Bayly achieves great success as Captain Dorvaston; Mr Henry Bute is well suited as the Rev. Audley Pillenger; Mr Arthur Eldred proves very amusing as Gandy; Mr Hawley Francks's Mr Crayll is admirably played; Miss Maude Thompson gives a finished representation of Caroline Rayward; and Miss Joan Burnett makes an entertaining Keziah. Other parts are ably sustained by Mr Coningsby Brierly, Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere, and Miss Edith Stewart.

COLISEUM.—Lessee and Director of Entertainments, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes.—The following are here this week:—The Dandies, society entertainers; Lily Black, comedienne; A. C. Revel, in a juggling act, with electrical effects; Dainez's comedy circus; Helen Andrews and Walter Thompson, American operatic comedy duo; Charles Woodward, actor-vocalist; the Three Sisters Jonghmans, vocalists; Flo Cecil, soubrette; and the Coliseum pictures.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—There was a large attendance here on Monday evening, the attraction being Miss Lena Ashwell and a strong company in the interesting drama, *Marguerite*. The play is excellently staged, the scenery being realistic and the Louis XVI. costumes rich and appropriate. Miss Ashwell presents a clever study of the name part, powerful sometimes, vivacious often, and always charming. Mr Frank Mills was earnest and effective as Neuville; Mr Charles Groves was highly successful as St. Phar; Mr Thomas Holding acted cleverly as Phillippe, Marquise De Pommeuse; Mr Charles A. Doran made the most of Citizen St. Juste, as also did Mr L. R. Dunrobin as Berton, Mr Edward Knox as M. L'Abbé, Mr H. Pellew as Viscomte De Cosset, Mr C. P. Peele as De Luneville, and Messrs L. G. Saville, W. Belgrave, and Cecil Pearce as the Emissary, De Noailles, and Officer of the Austrian Army. Miss Beryl Mercer, Miss Sidney Fairbrother, and Miss Marie Hudspeth were capital in their respective parts of Gertrude, Mdlle. Senedar, and Madame Brunet. Mr Harry Halley was amusing as Barelle, and other artistes in Marguerite's theatre were satisfactorily taken by Misses Helen Macbeth, Hilda Dick, Mabel M. Aldridge, Messrs G. Drayton, T. Melton, H. Cotsford, F. Irvine, A. Fairchild, H. Longford, and H. O. Cusack. The performance commenced with the comedietta *Out of the Question*, nicely played by Miss Hilda Dick, Miss Mabel M. Aldridge, and Mr Thomas Holding. *Mrs Dane's Defence* was billed for performance later in the week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—This week we have Mr Hill-Mitchelson's company in the Russian drama *The Assassin*, which in all respects is admirably staged. Mr Hill-Mitchelson plays Prince Demitri effectively, displaying both dignity and power when necessary for the exposition of a somewhat unthankful and difficult part. Miss Ruth Sheppard plays with much distinction as the Countess Wanda, presenting a fine powerful performance of an impressive part, her rapier duel with Prince Dimetri obtaining much applause. The parts of Nita and Ivan Ipanoff are nicely taken by Miss Grace Aimers and Mr John C. Carlyle, and other characters of more or less importance are satisfactorily impersonated by Miss Alice Barber, Mr Fred Wilberforce, Mr Edward Swinton, Mr Fred Yarnold, Mr Theo Balfour, Miss Dora Woodward, Miss Ada Douglas, Miss M. Armstrong, Mr Arthur M'Cullock, Mr Paul Beckett, Mr C. H. Henderson, Mr Cyril Maitland, Mr Leo Waller, and Mr Alfred Hall.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—Fred Karno's company is here with two pantomime sketches, *Jail Birds* and *Mumming Birds*, both being capitally played. Harry Freeman, a comedian who is always popular here, has some good songs; Bert Lytton, comedian, is also popular; Miss Florence presents a good turn as a mimic of well-known artistes; Thornbury appears successfully in his speciality of ventriloquism and lightning painting; Russell Hatton pleases all parts of the house with his clever character sketches from Dickens; the Avrignys are smart jugglers; and Paul is expert as a foot equilibrist. The performance concludes with a new set of animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Miss Minnie Hunt and Mr Rhys Thomas are appearing here in their musical duologue *Her Birthday*. Miss Hunt's charming voice is heard to advantage in a solo, duets with Mr Thomas go well, the duo-sketch is both clever and amusing, and it is capitally acted. Grant and Grant have a good speciality of song and dance; Miss Rose Cabani, comedienne and expert dancer, obtains appreciation; Larola does a smart tumbling, &c., act; Michael Nolan's Irish songs are well received; the Arthur Saxon Trio obtain applause for various strong acts; J. W. Hall, comedian, has some amusing songs; the Lombarts have a good gymnastic speciality; the Waltons display considerable skill as Chinese equilibrists; and the performance concludes with a display of animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA.—Managing-Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Fifteen weeks appear to have been sufficient to test the inclinations of the inhabitants of this district, and variety bi-nightly shows gave place to more legitimate theatrical performances on Monday evening, when a very large house gave Mr Tom E. Murray a flattering reception. It was not a sudden change, as the performance was the musical farce, *Our Irish Visitors*, and no restriction had been put on smoking; but this will no doubt naturally follow during the week. Mr Murray is a favourite in the locality, and as Colonel M'Mahon he kept the audience in roars for three hours. He was ably assisted by Mr J. W. Braithwaite as Mr O'Brady, Mr Alfred D. Adams as Olly Softsolder, Miss Augusta Tullock as Mrs Softsolder, and Miss Helena Coe as Mrs M'Mahon.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Mr Fred Karno's company with *His Majesty's Guests* is the attraction here this week. Mr Harry Roxbury, a smart comedian, gives a droll portrayal of Sergeant Lightning; Mr Charles F. Howard as the swell burglar is thoroughly efficient, his singing gaining much applause; Mr Wellesley Smith is quite at home in the character of Universal Provider; Miss Jessamine Newcombe displays much dash and spirit as Lady Maud Easem; Mr E. C. Lilly, Mr Chas. Cordon, Mr James Ross, Mr Chas. Leoville, Miss Florence Moore, and Miss Madge Campbell add materially to the success of the piece.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

ATHENÆUM HALL.—Mr W. S. Penley's company with *Charley's Aunt* was here on Monday. Although it is some considerable time since the last visit the piece seems to have lost none of its attraction. Mr E. H. Wynne as Lord Fancourt-Babberley, was, of course, the life and soul of the play; he was greeted with a round of applause on his first appearance, and a perfect ovation on his assuming the title-rôle. Mr A. Mallalieu played Jack Chesney with a proper dignity and Mr M. Wylton was a good Charles Wykeham. Brassett, the college scout, lost nothing in the hands of Mr F. Epitaux, and Miss B. Fitzgerald was a charming Kitty Verdun.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr James Welch and his company were well received here on Monday on a return visit of *The New Clown*. As Lord Cyril Garston Mr Welch kept the audience in good humour. Mr G. H. Snazelle again appeared as Mr Dixon, the circus master, and rendered valuable assistance. Miss Audrey Ford was charming as Rosie Platt. The other members of the cast, viz., Mr Cyril Harcourt, Mr Leopold Profeit, Mr H. J. Crane, Miss Alexandra Carlisle, and Miss Estelle Winwood, all met with distinct approbation. On Monday and Tuesday *The Lady Burglar* was played as a curtain-raiser, in which Mr Welch embodied Darcy Fitzherbert, K.C., and Miss Audrey Ford, Honora Macfarlane, B.A., their original parts. On Wednesday *The Man in the Street* was given.

CASTLEFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—Mr Henry Bedford and company are here this week with *Mafeking* and are attracting enthusiastic audiences. Mr H. Bedford himself undertakes with success the rôle of Colonel Fleyden Howell, and is very popular. Mr Alec Alexander is consistent and energetic as Captain George Hart, whose manly sentiments please the house. Mr H. Dobell Lyle shows excellent restraint and self-possession as Lieut. Cecil Rayne. Mr Robert Seymour presents a capital exposition of Van Haag, the unscrupulous villainy of the man being ably depicted. Mr T. Arthur Plummer's Schubert is a powerful performance. Mr Sid Bedford shows considerable cleverness and resource in his droll delineation of Tommy Atkins, keeping the house in roars of laughter. Miss Bessie Bedford is a charming and vivacious Alice Leigh. Miss Gertrude Gilbert gives a sympathetic and clever portrayal of Lady Muriel Denbigh. Miss Jennie Risley plays gracefully, naturally, and even pathetically as Annetta. Miss Enid Trench gives a winsome reading of the part of Sister Ursula. Messrs John Worth, Cuthbert Nobes, and Leonard Page are excellent in their respective parts of Pat, Sandy, and John Jones.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Castleford Hippodrome Syndicate; Entertainment Directors, Messrs Herbert Cole and Harry Bancroft.—A capital programme is again being presented here. Mdlle. Devena gives a clever exhibition as a club juggler. W. H. Morgan soon establishes himself a favourite, and is deservedly applauded for his fine rendering of songs. Parr supplies a capital turn. Walter Bannell is a smart comedian and dancer. Miss Jennie Joy is an able vocalist and is well received. Alec Aubrey, gymnast, is much appreciated. Two sketches *Everybody's Widow* and *Judith*, *The Queen of Crime*, are well acted by Messrs T. C. Glenville, Bert Morley, Herbert

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—An admirable performance of *Cousin Kate* was given here on Monday by Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company. The audience seemed delighted with the piece, and frequently expressed their approbation. Miss Lilias Earle appeared in the title-rôle, and by her charming and fascinating impersonation quickly won the admiration of all. Mr Yorke Stephens was another unqualified success, his rendering of Heath Desmond being a capable piece of acting. These two clever artistes are in a large way responsible for the success. The Rev. James Bartlett had an exceedingly good portrayal from the hands of Mr Walter Ringham; Miss Hilda Honess made a sweet and natural Amy Spencer; and an excellent delineation of Mrs Spencer was given by Miss Helen Leyton. The piece is preceded by a comedietta entitled *A Case for Eviction*, in which Miss Betty Castle, Miss Hilda Honess, and Mr Walter Ringham achieve success.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company in the well-known drama *Alone in London* is paying a return visit here this week. The villainies of Richard Redcliffe are capitally brought out by Mr Stephen Ewart; Walter Burnaby is ably depicted by Mr Percy Davison; Miss Madge Devereux gives a sympathetic rendering of Nan, the flower girl; and the natural impersonation of Mrs Maloney given by Mrs C. Wood deserves the highest praise. Miss Ada Elliston as 'Liza Jenkinson and Mr Lonnen Meadows as Charley Johnson give an excellent account of themselves. Capital support is found in Miss Letty Lewis (Ruth Clinton), Mr Stafford Smith (Mr Burnaby), Mr Hugh Brady (Spriggins), Mr Henry George (John Biddlecombe), Mr J. W. Wilkinson (Jenkinson), and Miss Ada Tilley (Tom Chickweed).

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—An excellent variety company has been engaged for this week, and includes the Brothers Egbert, the happy dustmen, with "A Quaint Scene in a Backyard;" the Three Pantzer Brothers, holders of the American championship for head to head and one arm balancing; Bob Hutt, comedian; the Four Olympian Stars, burlesque vocalists and dancers; Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford, in their bright and breezy vaudeville, *Two Love Birds;* a new series of animated photographs; Miss Lallah Selbini, the musical bicyclist, assisted by Midget Harry; Blake and Granby, comedy duologue artistes; Miss Ella Retford, comedienne; and Jerry and Joey, in their droll equestrian act.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager Mr H. Oswald Redford.—This week *My Lady Molly* holds the boards, and is proving as fresh and attractive as ever. Miss Edmee De Dreux, in the title-rôle, submits a charming impersonation, and Miss Zoe Gilfillan as Alice Coverdale is at her best. Mdlle. Ebba D'Arcier as Alice's governess is praiseworthy; as Captain Harry Romney Mr Leicester Tunks is successful; and Mr Stuart Alexander does well as Lionel Bland. Mickey O'Dowd finds a capital exponent in Mr Stephen Fitzgerald, and Mr H. Godwin Hunt is excellent as Sir Miles Coverdale. Mr M'Closkie is good as Judge Romney, as is Mr R. Cooper in the part of Reuben Oats. Miss Mabel Carr as Hester is appreciated.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—The boards here this week are occupied by Mr C. Finch-Hatton on a return visit with *From Scotland Yard*, and on Monday the house was well filled. Mr Finch-Hatton, who appears in no less than five different characters, shows excellent capabilities. Mr T. Arthur Ellis powerfully portrays Dean Fordyce; Mr James F. Firth comically enacts Weary Marsden; and Joe Staggers is successfully rendered by Mr Mike Johnson. Miss Josephine H. Lee deserves the highest praise for her impersonation of Mad Marie; Miss Ada Stelling is appreciated as Dolly Beetles; and Sybil has a clever representative in Miss Helen Lowther.

COLNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr G. Harding.—Mr Henry Johnstone's company is here this week with the thrilling drama *The Bank of England*. Mr Hubert Chambers makes an excellent Sherlock Holmes; Mr Charles Goff in the rôle of Tommy Sprouts causes much amusement; Mr C. Ninian proves himself a capable Gordon Isaacs; and Mr C. H. Gallier is decidedly clever as Godfrey Dane. Mr Juan De Alberti is capital in the character of Stephen Hartley, whilst Mr Frank Ernstone makes an admirable Bertie. The leading ladies include Miss Hilda Clyde as Sylvia Barraclough, Miss Marie Loreth as an American widow, and Miss Ada Ryder as Margaret Dane. The remaining characters are taken by other capable members of the company.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's company is here this week with *A Marriage of Vengeance*. The chief character of the play, Stella, is acted with a considerable amount of power by Miss A. Harrison Tate; Mr Alfred George Fry is seen to advantage as Paul Earnscliffe; and as Glynne Earnscliffe Mr Charles Coventry is a capable exponent. Mr Louis Norman in the villainous part of Geoffrey Fannock, alias John Ridley, proves himself a capital artist. Mr George A. De Gray as Max Rheimhardt makes the most of his opportunities. Mr Seymour Perry as Bob Shorner causes much amusement, and is ably supported by Miss Etta Turner as Amelia. The part of Elsie Dean is quietly but effectively sustained by Miss Maud Stuart.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Mr Ben Greet's energetic company is drawing good houses with the ever-green *Belle of New York*. Miss Mora Hersee, in the title-rôle, is lively, cheerful, and fascinating; Miss Helen Rose is a most captivating Fifi Fricot; and Miss Ida Grandison is jolly and pretty as Cora Angelique. Mr Arthur Ricketts scores as Ichabod Bronson; Mr Harold Wardroper plays with finish as Harry Bronson; Mr Walter Emro is amusing as the Polite Lunatic; Mr Guy Forde makes a comical Doc Snifkins; Mr Walter Uridge deserves congratulations for his rendering of Kenneth Mugg; and the remaining characters are well enacted. The chorus, scenery, and dresses leave nothing to be desired. The piece is produced under the able direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry E. Reckitt.—Miss Beatrice Isaacson's company is here with *A Great Sensation*. Mr Sydney N. Hallows is appropriate as Jack Damer; Mr Alexander L. Isaacson scores as Bunko Bates; Mr Frank G. Kent is invigorating as Wiley Jones; Mr Frank V. Fenn is an interesting Robin Dale; Mr Tom Robertson is admirable as Henry Encombe; Miss Beatrice Isaacson wins sympathy with a consistent performance as Eva Dale; Miss Edith Wallis acts creditably as Sidonie; and Miss Marion Mayne is good as Ria. Mr Harry E. Rickitt is a courteous manager.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—A strong array of talent is attracting good houses here. The bill includes Mr Gus Elen, coster comedian; Chard and Clarey, in the comedy episode *A Covent-garden Ball;* Tots and Ettie Davis, in the scena *The Flower Girl and her Blind Sister;* Mr John E. Coyle, comedian; Miss Daisy James, comedienne; the Dellers, the Two Bells, Mr Ernest Rees, the Two Rubies, Mr Hamilton Hill, the Sisters Oswald, Mr Frank Boyce, the Karno Trio, and Mr Fred S. Partridge's orchestra.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—Miss Ida Millais and company is paying a welcome return visit here with the sensational drama *No Man's Land*. The scenery has been greatly improved, and the water sensations, in which real water is used for a tropical storm and water falls, is exceptionally smart and effective. The company includes Mr Henry Herne, a capital exponent of Harry Oaklands, and Mr Fred Conyers, excellently presenting Silas Moore. Nat Marsden is safely entrusted to Mr William Matthews; Mr Alfred Byron is good in the dual-rôle of Gilbert and Captain Norman Bathurst; Mr Sydney H. Morton smartly undertakes Solomon Jacobs, Mr A. Burrows being good as Thompson Poodle. Mr Claude Haviland capably renders Dr. Buxton, and as Mary Bathurst Miss Ida Millais is particularly charming and effective.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Mr Edward Terry opened a week's engagement here on Monday in *Sweet Lavender*. His impersonation of the part of Dick Phenyl is intensely humorous, and he is as fresh and vigorous as ever. He is ably supported by a good company. Mr George Howard as Wedderburn showed himself to be an experienced actor; Mr Allan Pollock as Horace Bream played effectively; Miss Vara Renny was pathetic as Ruth Rolt; as Mrs Gilfillian Miss Beatrice Selwyn played in an engaging manner; and Miss Beatrice Terry as Lavender did exceedingly well. *The House of Burnside, Bardell v. Pickwick, The Telephone, You Never Knew, Love in Idleness, Kerry,* and *The Passport* are also in the répertoire.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble.—There is a really fine programme here this week. The Four Herberts, give a comedy act, *On the Farm*, into which they introduce some clever acrobatic feats; Fred Dunston, comedian, is well received in his songs; Maisie Pelham, comedienne and dancer, submits an agreeable turn; Kid Johnson is responsible for a good display with the clubs; Reed and Lane, comedians, create much amusement; Harry Barker, vocalist and actor, sings well; Sadie Cooper, soprano and dancer, also pleases; Gillin gives a clever ventriloquial performance; and Edison's Bioscope shows some fine war pictures.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—Mr George Dance's company in the musical comedy *A Chinese Honeymoon* is paying a successful return visit here this week. Mr Frank A. Wood makes a most imposing Emperor of Ylang-Ylang; Mr Leonard is a capital Hi-Lung, Lord High Admiral, and causes great amusement; Mr Percy Yorke is successful in his impersonation of Tom Hatherton; Mr Harry Brayne is amusing in the character of Mr Pineapple; Miss M. Slade as Fi-Fi is immediately established as a firm favourite, and well deserves it; Miss Jose Collins is charming as the jealous Mrs Pineapple; while Miss Alice Drummond deserves credit as Mrs Brown, the "official mother-in-law;" and Miss Marie Adair is graceful as Princess Soo-Soo, and also possesses a capital voice. The musical numbers and choruses, which have been added to since the last visit, are received in a satisfactory manner, and a capital entertainment is assured.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—This week sees a return visit of Mr Auguste Van Biene with *The Broken Melody*, which hardy annual, it is interesting to state, seems to have lost none of its powers of attracting the play-loving public. Mr Van Biene's impersonation of Paul Borinski is too well known to require comment here, but it may be said that his 'cello contributions are received with rapt admiration nightly. Miss Lena Burnleigh is to be complimented upon her charming portrayal of Mabel, which is an outstanding feature of the production. As the Duchesse Miss Ida Chapman's performance is such as to do her infinite credit. Mr Arthur Bawtree gives a good account of General Ivanoff; Mr H. Ludlow and Miss Morton are highly amusing as the Hon. Richard and Mrs Spinacher, as also is Mr T. P. Haynes as Dudley Mortimer; while Mr J. Cummings makes a capital Beaujour. Mr E. Laceby and Miss Avis Graham do well as Mr and Mrs Dixon respectively, and Mr E. Edwardes is an acceptable Dr. M'Grath. The play proper is followed by a one-act comedy, entitled *The First Night*, in which Mr Van Biene alike astonishes and convulses his audience with his diverting impersonation of Achille Talma Dufard, an old French actor.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—The principal attraction here this week is provided by the original Leopolds, a troupe of exceedingly clever lady and gentleman acrobats, whose performance is of a very creditable character indeed. Terry and Bentley appear in a variety entertainment, entitled *The Hunt*, in which they provide some smart singing, dancing, and acrobatic work. Harry Meir, described as the man with the hat, is wonderfully diverting, his tricks receiving hearty approval. Henry Drew, Welsh basso, sings his songs in fine style, and is cordially received. Harry Attwood, eccentric comedian, provokes much hearty laughter. Rozel submits a startling aerial gymnastic performance. Bertha Norwood, coon singer, is well worthy of mention. The pictures submitted by the Sheffield Photo. Company are entertaining.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—Mr Frank Bertram's company this week is playing an excellent drama entitled *The Convict's Daughter*. The cast is an all-round powerful one, and full justice is done to the many stirring incidents. As Michael Graham Mr Frank Bertram is sufficiently powerful; in the rôle of Patrick Mr Alfred Terris is witty; Mr T. W. Hurst as Harold Trevalyen is capable; Mr G. M. Williams is the cowardly villain to the life; and Mr J. K. Walton puts in a sterling performance as Frederick Neville. Miss Maud Osmond gives quite a clever portrayal of Marion, Miss E. M. Savery is capable as Edith, and Miss Julie Alexander as Betty is well placed.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr George Weldon.—Cyrus and Maude, in their farcical "Turpin" speciality, again meet with much success; the Smythsons, in a clever sketch, are deservedly praised; Paddy continues to shine with his versatile business; and George Mack, comedian, meets with general success. Miss Eva Reed is a dainty comedienne, and T. B. Fayme has several catchy songs. The Radium Girls are very bright, and Kydd and Kydd have much amusing patter. The Bioscope continues to give fresh pictures, and the orchestra, under the able bâton of Mr Willcox, is still a pleasing feature.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, the Dover Theatres, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Fred C. Dew.—Mr T. Arthur Jones and company are here with *Life's Sweetest Sins*. The plot, scenery, and mechanical effects, especially the submarine act, are very fine, and the company is a first-class all-round one. Miss Madge Morley won all hearts by the utter absence of artificiality in her portrayal of Doreen Rivers, the part suiting her admirably. Miss Amy Rudd scored an emphatic success for her excellent acting as Fay Colbrooke, and a dainty and captivating Bess Grayson was found in Miss Sara Dudley. Mr T. Arthur Jones, a favourite with Dover playgoers, played in his usual manly, invigorating, and forcible manner as Captain Harold Marston, and Mr Charles Sewell as Ernie Woodstone gave a particularly clever study of a part not over-burdened with possibilities. Mr A. Bartlett Garth impersonated Dr. Colbrooke with just the right trace of subtlety, and received excellent support from Mr George R. J. Austin as Sam, the Scribe, and Mr C. Vernon Proctor as Flash Jim. Mr Arthur Andrews was the life and soul of the piece as Bob Tanner, and together with Mr Bertram Lee as Martin, provides a fund of genuine amusement. *Called Back* was played on Thursday.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Councillor J. W. Chapman.—A delightful variety entertainment is the attraction here. Vivid and graphic animated pictures afford great pleasure; Le Brunn and Irene, in their juggling act, are a good turn; Loder Lyons is a capable exponent of ventriloquism; the Musical Carlettics are vociferously received; Clown Ohmy, with his performing dog, Toby, is extremely humorous; Belford and Mars, comedy duettists, are deservedly popular; and Will Ivor, stilt performer, is smart. Ethel Lucerne, comedienne, is acceptable; the Three Funnyosities, sketch artists, are amusing; Mons. Edgar, trapezist, is agile; and Jessie Harper, the singing mill-girl, is distinctly a *persona grata*.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—Mr Lewis Waller's company, under the direction of Mr Peter Davey, is appearing here this week with the romantic play *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, which was heartily enjoyed by a very crowded house on Monday. Mr Thomas Kingston gave a spirited and dashing reading of the character of Captain Harry Peyton; Miss Eily Malyon submitted a charming portrayal of Miss Elizabeth; Mr Elliott Ball distinguished himself in the rôle of Mr John Colden; and Mr George Mallett cleverly interpreted the part of Mr Valentine. Miss Alys Rees was most bewitching in her representation of Mistress Sarah Williams; Mr J. Harold Carson as Major Murphy and Mr Keith Fraser as Captain Massey were both effective in their respective rôles; the John Edwards of Mr J. Attfield was a capital performance; and Black Sam was capitally presented by Mr Tom Taylor.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Frederick Moullíot; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—Dublin's favourite actor, Mr Martin Harvey, commenced a twelve nights' engagement here on Monday night with *The Breed of the Treshams*, and there was a large and fashionable audience present. The play was magnificently staged and was well played by a clever company. Mr Martin Harvey again delighted the audience with his excellent representation of "Rat" Lieutenant Keresby. Miss Coleridge appeared with distinct success in the rôle of the Hon. Margaret Hungerford, and Miss N. De Silva was again seen in the character of Batty. Mr Charles Glenney acted splendidly the part of Colonel Hungerford, and the Viscount Dorsington was ably represented by Mr Albert E. Raynor. In the rôle of Francis Tresham Mr Milton Rosmer displayed considerable skill and ability, and Mr Percy Anstey gave great satisfaction as Colonel Sir Henry Curwen. The other parts were creditably sustained.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—*Under the Russian Flag* is being played here this week by Messrs Paumier and Howard's company. Mr Walter Howard gives a realistic impersonation of Captain Demetrius; as Luka Marischka Miss Ellen Snow submits a careful study; General Romanoff is capitally presented by Mr Charles Reyne; and Miss Ada Champion is most effective as Vera Vasiloff. The parts of Michael and Ivan are played in a satisfactory manner by Messrs George Arthur and F. W. Freeman respectively, and as Ogarito Miss Agnes Howard is amusing.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—The programme presented here this week is a good one, the leading feature being the Hoopers, in a ridiculous juggling act which causes much laughter. As a mimic Geo. Newburn has few equals, and the Two Romers, operatic duettists, score successfully. Beatrice Willey is a charming ballad vocalist; the Tally-Ho Trio give pleasing concerted pieces; Leo Stormont is a capital baritone; and Espinosa and Neilson are expert dancers. Austin and Cowan are an entertaining turn, and Baker and Balfe in their xylophone act are decidedly good. Mark Sheridan, who remains from last week, is nightly encored, and the Empire pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—Topping the bill here we have Auto Atlas, whose wonderful feats of strength elicit applause. The Brothers Donar, acrobatic equilibrists, are well received; Harry Conlin is a comedian of more than average merit; the Sisters Hall are highly pleasing as vocalists; and Leighton and Mona are a smart pair of comedy artistes. Ryde and Beeman, comedy acrobats, meet with success, and Alma Gray, who dances admirably, is much appreciated. The Lorrisons, comedy artistes, are a capital pair, and Harry, conjuror, and Frank Gee, comedian, are also billed.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—The Ben Greet company, in *The Eternal City*, is paying a welcome return visit here this week. Mr D. Lewin Mannering is still master of that very difficult character, Baron Bonelli, and Miss Edith Anton Laing is seen at her best as Donna Roma. All the other characters are in capable hands.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—Prof. Inman Hocking, American hypnotist, electrician and scientist, is not only providing the large audiences here this week with amusement by his hypnotic powers, but is also doing wonders with people suffering from paralysis and chronic rheumatism. Amber Austa, comedienne and dancer, is a great favourite, and capable turns are given by the Two Manzanares, speciality artistes, Sylvines Trio, Continental gymnasts; Chas. Pastor, laughing comedian; Molly Doon, comedienne; Geo. Barron, comedian; and Will Haines, comedian.

DUNDALK.

TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Payne Seddon.—Mr Edward Terry presented on Wednesday to a house packed from floor to ceiling his ever-popular *Sweet Lavender*. As Dick Phenyl Mr E. Terry greatly pleased the audience; Mr A. Hylton Allen as Clem Hale played the part to the life; Mr Allen Pollock was highly effective as Horace Bream, and added much to the humour of the piece; Mr George Howard as Geoffrey Wedderburn was well placed; the part of Mr Bulger was played with distinction by Mr Fred Knight; while Mr Arthur Cornell made a capital Dr. Delaney. As Ruth Rolt Miss Vera Renny acted with great feeling, and Miss Beatrice Terry in the title-rôle was charming. Mrs Gilfillan represented, by Miss Beatrice Selwyn, was in excellent hands, and Miss Olive Wilton was a successful Minnie.

DUNFERMLINE.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week *A Fatal Crown* appeared here before good audiences. Mr Ian Maclaren did ample justice to the part of Lord Guilford Dudley; Earl Northumberland was in the capable hands of Mr J. M. Rowe; Simon Renard was well handled by Mr Henry Howard; Mr Thomas Harding scored as Herne, the Wizard; Mr Willie Atom was very amusing as Xit; Mr Harold Batt did well as Izzod Clay; Miss Elaine Verner was excellent as Lady Jane Grey; Miss Maud Anderson gave a capable rendering of Mary Tudor; Miss Dorothy M'Kenzie as Barbara did well; and Miss Kythe M'Kenzie made a good Dorcas Dossitt.

EASTBOURNE.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Mr Alfred J. West's entertainment, entitled "Our Navy," is being given here. The very fine photographs, the excellent animated pictures, and the realistic effects provide amusement and instruction in a most pleasant manner. Pictures of the Japanese and their ships bring the entertainment well up to date, and the lecturer contributes some well-rendered songs.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Hague; Acting-Manager, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—Mr F. H. De Quincey and company are here this week in a répertoire of plays, including *The Red Lamp, Richelieu, Othello,* and *The Twin Sister*. Mr De Quincey renders the various leading rôles in an artistic manner, and is well supported by Miss Sime Seruya and a capable company.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—The very welcome engagement of Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott attracted a crowded audience to this theatre on Monday. *Mice and Men* was the play chosen for the occasion, and it is needless to say that it received a most effective rendering from Mr Forbes Robertson and company. In Peggy Miss Gertrude Elliott had an eminently suitable rôle, and she charmed everyone by the exceeding naturalness and spontaneity of her acting. The love scenes were given with much tenderness and charm, and altogether her performance was one to be remembered. Mr Forbes Robertson gave a quiet and dignified rendering of the noble-minded Mark Embury, his acting being marked throughout by that artistic reserve which characterises all his performances. At the close of the play both Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott had a most enthusiastic recall. Mr George Sumner played Roger Goodlake with the necessary bluffness, while Captain George Lovell was capitally rendered by Mr Frank Gillmore, who made a dashing and irresistible lover. Mr J. H. Ryley presented a clever picture of Kit Barniger, the dancing master, and Messrs Ernest Cosham and Leon Quartermaine were excellent in smaller parts. Miss Auriol Lee was a fascinating Joanna Goodlake, and Miss Ada Mellon acted with point and humour as Deborah, Misses Minnie Griffin and Dorothy Paget completing the cast. The piece was nicely staged. On Thursday *The Light that Failed* was given, with Mr Forbes Robertson and Miss Gertrude Elliott in their vivid impersonations of Dick and Maisie.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—A return visit of Mr George Edwardes's company in *The Orchid* drew a crowded attendance on Monday, when an enjoyable performance of the successful Gaiety comedy was given. There are one or two changes in the cast, a cordial welcome being given to Mr Lawrence Grossmith, who made quite a hit as the Hon Guy Scrymgeour. He worked hard all through, and proved himself an admirable comedian. Mr George Gregory, another newcomer, was seen to advantage in the comical rôle of Meakin, and his diverting acting evoked unbounded merriment. Mr Donald Hall resumed his old part of Dr. Fausset, and Mr Ellis Ogilvie gave the touch of a true artist to his clever picture of the orchid-loving Aubrey Chesterton. Mr Sam Walsh displayed unusual versatility as Comte De Cassignat, and Zaccary, the orchid hunter, had an agile representative in Mr Sidney Vincent, his dancing being loudly applauded. Among the ladies Miss Coralie Blythe's impersonation of Lady Violet was specially noteworthy, and Miss Gertrude Gilliam earned high honours with her delightful acting as Josephine. This is an exacting part, and Miss Gilliam played it to the full satisfaction of the house. Caroline Vokins was undertaken by Miss Irene Verona, who exhibited dramatic and vocal ability of a high order, all her music being encored. Miss Luna Love was a charming secretary to the great minister, Miss Ethel Griffies threw a dash of romance into her rendering of Zelie, and Miss Amy Payne distinguished herself during the evening by the grace and spirit of her dancing. The choral numbers and dance movements were brilliant and effective, and lavish mounting and dressing added much to the success of the comedy.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Mr Albert Chevalier, the coster comedian, secured another great triumph at this theatre on Monday, when he made his reappearance before a large and enthusiastic audience. The whimsical humour of his varied creations again appealed to his admirers, those given on Monday being portrayed with marvellous skill. Mr Chevalier brought the East-end of London before the house with happy effect, and poetry and pathos were exemplified in "My Old Dutch," which still maintains its hold upon the public. Miss Lily Burnand's smart songs were a distinct success, and Mr Tom Leamore's eccentric personations kept everybody well amused. Miss Sybil St. Elmo's cultured ballad singing was deservedly applauded, and the contributions of the St. James's Quintet of vocalists were greatly enjoyed. Professor Berner's marionette entertainment proved as delightful as it was ingenious, and the duets, patter, and dancing of Maxwell and Frances pleased the house immensely. Cassie Walmer, a dusky beauty, created quite a furore with her fine singing, while as a sand dancer she is unrivalled. Gilbert Rodgers, raconteur, and Abel and Welsh, grotesque eccentrics, also appeared.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—*My Native Land*, played by Mr Oswald Gray's company, has occupied the stage here this week. There was a good audience on Monday, and the performance was hugely enjoyed. Mr Gray appeared as Andy Blake with success; Mr John Riley played the rascally Norry Boyle in a masterly way; and Mr Joe English proved not only a good actor but an excellent singer and dancer as Solomon Moses. Miss Cissy Vyna gave an effective embodiment of Winny Blake; Miss Marian Holmes was an efficient Myra Payne; and little Pearlie Richards made an interesting appearance as the child.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr John Henry Cooke.—The reopening of the present season has proved the most brilliant Mr Cooke has ever had, and appreciative audiences crowd the circus nightly. Another recherché programme was arranged for Monday, and the reception accorded to the various artists who appeared has been most enthusiastic. The chief attractions of last week remain, and none have received more applause than Kentucky Beau, the cake-walk horse, that, under the guidance of Miss Ernestine Rosa Cooke, performs quite an interesting series of rag-time dances. Robed in a habit of silver and blue of unique design, emblematic of the national colours of America, Miss Cooke looked distractingly lovely, and entered into the spirit of her well-trained horse's rhythmic movements with a grace that is all her own. De Gracia's wonderful performing elephants have also drawn forth lavish encomiums from both Press and public, and their nightly game of cricket pleases old and young alike. The balancing feats of the Brothers Leotard have been well received, and among other new items the musical mélange of the Stanzars has given much satisfaction. The acrobatic dancing of the Sisters Warner is another feature, and Mdlle. Eva has again distinguished herself in a dashing bareback act, where she manages three horses with astonishing skill. Mr Anthony Powell's boxing stallions give a pugilistic display, while the pictures shown on the Bioscope have all proved interesting. "Prairie Life out West" is one of the most elaborate arenic productions ever seen here, and introduces Mr Leicester Alfred Cooke, Talberto and Douglas, and the full strength of the company, numbering over a hundred performers.

EBBW VALE.

KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Manager, Mr Arthur Knight.—After a run of drama, a welcome change took place on Monday, when Mr J. H. Morton's company appeared in the musical burlesque and pantomime, *The Rajah of Ranjapore*. Mr Alvin Sawyer as Horatio Chick takes first place, and Mr Harry Cornwell's Mr Stubbs is a capital impersonation. One of the greatest hits, however, is made by Mr Bert Harrow in the amusing part of Thisles. He is admirably partnered by Miss Marion Walker as Eliza, who keeps the audience in roars of laughter by her amusing portrayal of the housemaids part.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—Exeter playgoers are enjoying *Florodora* this week, and the crowded house that welcomed Mr Tom B. Davis's company on Monday, when the piece was presented under the direction of Mr Wentworth Croke, showed how gratifyingly they appreciated the production. It was a thoroughly enjoyable performance, Mr Daley Cooper as Tweedlepunch kept the house in roars of laughter, and Miss Leonora Grieve as Dolores displayed real artistic talent, and was very loudly applauded, her singing and acting making a most favourable impression. The other principal characters were most ably sustained.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—*Why Woman Sins*, a stirring naval drama, was produced on Monday by the company of Messrs Geo. Harris and Fred Terris. Mr Wallace Campbell's presentation of the character of Lieut. Harry Maxwell, the hero, was characterised by much dramatic power, and the same remark might be fittingly applied to Mr Fred Terris's Captain Herbert Carlton, the villain. As the suffering and wronged Nell Desmond Miss Effie Bartlett displayed much ability. Miss Gussie Everett as Ida Valette played her part with vigour. The light comedy touches of Miss Winifred Preece as Lily De Vere, a music hall star, and Mr George Harris as Cecil Spencer were much enjoyed, and the broader humour of Mr Clifford Spencer as Sam Spavins, Mr Forbes Harrison as Orlando Whiffles, and Miss Marie West as Nancy Nibble provided a continual feast of laughter.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Messrs Hardie and Von Leer's company, in *A Path of Thorns*, is here this week. Mr Cyril W. Mackay is a manly Rev. Frank Selby; Mr Claude King highly successful as John Edmunds; Mr Alfred Lester amusing as Sam Hallett; Mr Cecil Du Gue is in every way excellent as Jonas Deane; Mr G. Mayor Cooke is well placed as Edward Langley; Jim Price finds an able representative in Mr J. H. Booth; Mr Walter L. Rignold scores as Ratty Gabbitt; Miss Mary Raby is good as Constance Howard; Miss M. Stanley Burt acquits herself well as Nellie Hallett; Miss Violet Luddington's portrayal of Bessie Edmunds is pleasing; Miss Amy Rogerson as Jane Adelaide is decidedly funny; and Little Mabel May as Lucy acts and sings charmingly.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Limited; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—An attractive bill submitted here includes the Max Trevally-Harley Troupe of acrobats, who provide an acceptable turn. The Burnells, musical and comedy artistes, are also responsible for good business; the boy comedian, Archie Glen, is acceptable; Gus Harris, Hebrew delineator, and the Haldyne Duo create much amusement; and other capable turns are provided by Harry Nelson, Tyneside comedian; the Clarks, America's banjo duo; Miss Florence Wood, comedienne; and Martino, in "A Nest of Vipers."

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—The principal turn here is that of the Seven Savonas, the musical marvels. Their performance is a great musical treat, and has evoked enthusiastic demonstrations at each house. The performance is bright from start to finish, and one that there is undoubtedly a big demand for, judging from its enormous success here. In addition to their musical display the Savonas give a wonderfully clever cycling turn as the Six Cycling Elliotts. Other clever turns are those of Vasey and Ramsey, eccentric dancers of great ability; Miss Flora Platts, a refined vocalist, with illustrated songs; Senorita Elvins, a wonderfully smart trapeze act; Teddy Denham, a good comedian; Cecilia Jackson, dancer; and Elsie and Annie, duettists and dancers.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is this week being presented by Mr Frank Wilson's company. Mr Frank Wilson plays the part of Sir Reginald Belsize in effective manner, whilst John Travers is successfully sustained by Mr Sydney Orton. Mr J. F. Leighton gives a merry rendering of Norbury, and Mr Royston Keith, jun., acts in able style as Hampton. Miss Vera Fordyce invests with much charm the character of Katherine Silverton, Madame De Semiano is praiseworthily delineated by Miss Kate Harwood, and Miss Averil May is noticeable as Rosalie. The curtain-raiser is the amusing farce entitled *He and She*.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—Messrs Fred J. Webb and Wilson Benge's company opened here on Monday for three nights in the military drama *The Two Hussars*. Mr Valentine Vivian makes a model Colonel Manners; as the hero, Harry Alcock, Mr Wilson Benge is a conspicuous success; Mr Fred J. Webb is good as the villain, Paul Villiers; Mr G. Paradise is a capital Sergeant M'Finnie; Mr Louis Nanton as Robert Runn and Miss Lallah Price as Molly Cutts keep the audience in continuous good humour; Marie is delightfully played by Miss Danvers Smith; Miss Sadie Smith sustains the dual-rôle of Ellen Maythorne and Will Gunstock in excellent style; Mr S. James acquits himself ably as Lewis Montague; and Mr Chas. Fynes is a clever Carew Jones. A special feature is the songs and dances introduced by Mr Louis Nanton and Miss Lallah Price.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr Henry Swinerd's company is here this week, with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*. Mr Walter Boyce is a capital General Garston; Mr Cecil W. Parke is convincing as Captain Fielding, and sings well; Mr Henry C. Ward shows ability as Captain Dudley; Mr Wilfred Carr enacts Featherstone Haugh acceptably; Mr Arthur Verne is amusing as Silas Crump; Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith sings and dances well; Miss Kathleen Gannon is good as Ruth Montrose; and Miss Marjory Cecil as Dorothy Montrose is a general favourite. Miss Mabel Blake and Miss Lillie Blake are expert dancers.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—Mdlle. Roza's Canine Hippodrome heads the bill this week, and is well received. Ray and Mills, musical ball performers, give an acceptable turn; Bob Stephenson, Irish comedian, is applauded; Craig, Rose, and Craig perform some amazing dental feats; Nelson and Thomas, sketch artistes, are good; Eck Ray's School Boys, comedians, are amusing; Kate Holloway, comedienne, is successful; and a good turn is given by Burg, Haud, and Wise with the comedy act *Ye Brown Cow Inn*.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphreys.—Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry are here this week with their latest success, *Sunday*. Miss Neilson's acting of the title-rôle made a very strong impression on the audience, particularly in the heavier scenes, which were carried through with thrilling effect. The Colonel Brinthorp of Mr Fred Terry was marked by all his customary naturalness and feeling, and as Arthur Brinthorpe Mr Malcolm Cherry gave quite an intense performance, while Mr J. D. Beveridge's conception of Tom Oxley was a pleasing feature of the production. The four miners are well drawn characters, and with Mr Rothbury Evans as Towzer, Mr J. Carter-Edwards as Davy, Mr Horace Hodges as Lively, and Mr Alfred Kendrick as Jacky, they lost nothing in make-up or in acting. Miss Bella Pateman made a delightful Mrs Naresby, and Miss Kathleen Doyle represented the Nun with great tenderness, and as Abbot Mr Ernest E. Imeson was also good.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. W. Downie.—Mr George Musgrove's company, with *The Belle of New York*, is this week paying a farewell visit. The Violet Gray of Miss Beatrice Lamotte is a charming performance, and her fine voice gains for "Follow on" the usual success. Miss Lilian Digges as Fifi renders her numbers charmingly. Mr Philip Leslie acts and sings with good effect as Harry Bronson, and Mr Harry A. Meymott is exceedingly funny and entertaining as Ichabod Bronson. Mr Max Copland supplies a humorous study as the Polite Lunatic. Mr Cecil Burt does good work as Doc Snifkins. Mr William Pringle as Blinky Bill proves himself an able comedian, and his whistling solo is loudly applauded. Miss Ida Lawrence is equally successful as Kissie Fitzgarter. The Portuguese Twins are suitably represented by Mr Alfred Selby and Mr Albert Sealby. Kenneth Mugg is ably acted by Mr Paddy Dupres. Miss Winnie Brown makes a handsome Cora. The chorus is strong and well-balanced.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—Considerable interest attaches to the present visit of Sir Henry Irving and his company, in view of the approaching retiral of the famous actor. Happily we in Glasgow are promised another visit before that event takes place, but it is evident from the enthusiastic reception accorded to Sir Henry that playgoers here are determined to make the most of him while they have the opportunity. On Monday *The Merchant of Venice* was presented, and Sir Henry Irving's masterly embodiment of the wily Shylock was never better given. Every word and gesture told with unfailing effect, and the large audience followed the play with sympathetic interest. Miss Edith Wynne Mathison was the Portia, and acted with grace and charm in the Belmont scenes. In the Trial scene she fully rose to the occasion, and her delivery of the "mercy" speech was particularly good. Mr Gerald Lawrence made a handsome Bassanio, while the Antonio of Mr James Hearn was a dignified and touching portrayal. Mr H. B. Stanford as the light-hearted and talkative Gratiano was specially well placed. Mr F. Tyars as the Prince of Morocco and Mr F. Archer as Tubal were seen in familiar parts. Mrs Cecil Raleigh made a charming Jessica, and Miss Grace Hampton infused a deal of humour into the part of Nerissa. Mr Charles Dodsworth's Gobbo was an excellent bit of fooling and Mr T. Reynolds, cleverly made up, proved a suitable foil to his humour as Old Gobbo. Mr Mark Paton, Mr F. D. Daviss, Mr Lionel Belmore, and Mr Vincent Sternroyd also lent able assistance. On the other evenings of the week *Becket*, *Waterloo*, *The Bells*, and *The Lyons Mail* were given.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S. — Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—The attraction provided here this week is one that is sure to be welcomed on the south-side, viz., Mr Wentworth Croke's No. 1 company in the popular drama *The Christian*. Miss Grace Chalmers as Glory Quayle plays with earnestness, while the able support given by Mr Hilliard Vox in a great measure contributes to the success of the production. The other characters are all in capable hands, notably that of Horatio Drake, Mr Jackson Wilcox, but the list would be incomplete without the names of Messrs Stanley Radcliffe, Charles B. Beddels, and Misses Gertrude Homewood and Clara Nicholls.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Mascard.—After a fairly long absence *Gentleman Joe* has returned to Glasgow. Mr Milton Bode's company presents the comedy, under the direction of Mr Stanley Rogers, and Mr Kennedy Allen appears in the title-part. He is quite a success, whether in song, patter, or dance, and sustains the heaviest part of the evening's work. Mr Robert Vincent as Lord Donnybrook, Mr W. H. Moore as Mr Ralli Carr, and Mr G. Wyley as Mr Jacqueson sustain these characters admirably, and combine with Mr Allen in making the performance thoroughly enjoyable. Mr Sydney Benson is excellent as Dawson, the butler, and works to equal purpose with the page boy, William, a part sustained with considerable merit by Miss Edith Benson, while James, a footman, is capitally represented by Mr Jack Harper. Mr J. W. Hooper is the Pilkington Jones, boisterous and voluble to a degree, and whose three daughters are fittingly impersonated by Misses Enid Russell, Minnie Linscott, and Marie Hayden. There is some capital singing and dancing in the piece, in which Miss Hebe Bliss, Miss Mabel Kerridge and Miss Eida Burman take good part respectively as Mrs Ralli Carr, the Hon. Mabel Cavanagh, and Miss Lalage Potts, all of whom are clever and receive much-deserved applause. Miss Maud Marriott is the Emma of the play, and by graceful dancing and good vocal contributions invests her work with a pleasing degree of interest to the large audience present. She has many fine opportunities with Mr Kennedy Allen, which neither artiste lets slip. The other parts are in good hands; the chorus is large, tuneful, and well dressed, the scenery and staging are attractive and appropriate, and in act two the Edingale Trio of dancers and the Margate Minstrels appear to great advantage, the former being warmly recalled.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—Mr Frank Bateman's company is here with *At War with Women*, in which Miss Lizzie Montague acts with artistic finish the part of the wicked Auriel Romanoff; against whom Baron Kirsch wages war, the Baron being represented by Mr Clinton Baddeley with declamatory emphasis. Auriel's companion in ill-doing is ably acted by Mr A. G. Polson-Turner as Ivan Clovitch; and Mr Edward Louis as a young Russian officer gives a fine impersonation of the lover, Alexis, besides doubling the part of a Russian refugee. Miss Marion Warren is attractive as Frida Malakoff, and Mr Fred Vaughan makes a soldierly General Malakoff. Mr Fred Wilson as Jerry Blake, Mr George Dent as Hans Phocas, with M. Leigh as Katinka, give a spice of grotesque comedy to the drama.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden. — Mr Chalmers Mackey is always a welcome visitor in Govan, and this week he is appearing with his clever company in *The Wearin' o' the Green*. Mr Mackey is well supported by Mr Reginald Gorland, Mr H. Sainsbury, Mr C. Hastings, Miss Lalla Stanhope, and Mrs Chalmers Mackey.

WHITEVALE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr George Green.—This week we have *The New East Lynne*, presented by W. W. Kelly's company. Miss Agnes Imlay, who takes the part of Lady Isabel, is realistic in her acting, and gains the sympathy of the audience. Mr William Heilbronn as Archibald Carlyle is very natural, and proves a popular favourite. Mr W. Faulkner Cox is really funny as Murty O'Flynn, and causes much laughter by his Irish bulls. Mr Walter T. Clifford as Francis Levison, the scheming villain, acts well. Miss B. French Stewart as Cornelia Carlyle acts the part of an old maid admirably. Mr James Willoughby takes the part of Richard Hare, which he plays very well; Mr T. W. Ford as Mr Dill, an old bachelor, creates much amusement; Miss Helen Stewart as Barbara Hare acts very well as Carlyle's second wife; Mr Albert Wilton (Justice Hare) is good as the forgiving father; Miss Lily Ellison as Willie Carlyle promises well; Miss Lizzie Maddock in the double part of Afy and Joyce Hallijohn is very funny; and Mr M. Talbot scores as Lord Mountsevern.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss's Limited.—The principal turn here this week is given by Mr Fred Maxwell and company in a sensational little romance entitled *The Corsican Brothers*. Mr Fred Maxwell takes the dual-rôle of the brothers, and, assisted by a very able company, gives a remarkably strong piece of acting. Another little sketch of a most amusing nature, *Rejected Remounts*, is produced by Mr Fred Ginnett. The De Koch Bros., acrobats and hand-balancers; M'Phee and Hill, in their horizontal bar act; and the Max Welson Troupe, with their strong act on the hanging ropes, are all very successful. The Schutzmeisterl'n Quartet contribute a pleasing musical entertainment; and the Wedburns, as comedy artists, give an acceptable turn. Albert Le Fre, comedian and dancer, is well received; and Harry Dent and Ted Cowan both make creditable appearances as comedians.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S.—Proprietors, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; Managing-Director, Barney Armstrong; Acting-Managers, Messrs T. J. Colquhoun and Fred C. Ewing.—The one house a-night performance at each of these theatres has distinctly caught on, crowded houses being the order of each evening. Mr Will H. Fox, "Paddy-whiski," has been a pronounced success in his humorous musical satire. Miss Rose Elliott again charms by her characteristic singing, her "Bluebell" being in great favour. The Four Jumels repeat their unique musical performance, their banjo playing being worthy of mention. The Sisters Charnley and the Sisters Neilson vie with each other as capable exponents of the dancing art. Variety is given to the programme by the whistling solos of Arthur Slater and the clever acrobatic display of Cinizelli. Forrest and King are well received, as are also Tate and Tate, who deservedly head the bill. Other attractions include Bendon's Bioscope, the Three Woodbee Wonders, Gilbert's cats and dogs, and Miss Flo Schuberth.

BRITANNIA. — Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr George Saphrini.—Another good company here includes Zarma, in his unique mystical performance; Fred Pollard, the lively comedian; Zooroff, mimic of animals, &c.; Charlie Cowper, an eccentric comedian of much ability; the Valadons, Harry Glynn's comedy turn, Fred Golden and Kitty Grey, and other smart turns.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr William Biggam.—Harrigan and Holt, pantomime favourites, are responsible for much merriment; Jim Harte and party, in a sketch, *The Mummy*, are a pronounced success; Elvo and Evelyn give a diverting little sketch; J. K. M'Farlane, a clever Scotch comedian; Carne Curre, in his comedy act, displays much humour; J. W. Cralgie, soprano, has a pleasing voice; and J. W. Bowie, tenor; the Victoria Troupe of all-round dancers; Alf Walker, Negro comedian; and Andrew Brown, tenor, complete the bill.

GRANTHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor and Manager, Edward Marris.—Musical plays are always popular at Grantham, and one with the reputation of *Three Little Maids*, which visited here last week-end, was certain to receive a cordial welcome. A daintier trio of damsels could not be imagined than Miss Vera Vallis, Miss Nellie Groves, and Miss Dora Trevor. Mr Frank Henderson as Lord Cheyne was irresistibly funny, and Mr R. Barrie, in the congenial part of the Caddie, and Miss May Wright as Gretchen provided a great deal of amusing business. Mr H. A. Welchman as Bryan was distinctly good, and M. Jules Charmettes was a most vivacious M. De L'Orme. The latter gentleman played a delightful 'cello solo in the third act.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—The two shows a night are now being given at the cosier and more centrally situated theatre instead of at the Aquarium. In a capital programme Mr J. W. Rowley soon wins favour by his effective singing and acting; Mahatma continues to please with his mystic performance; the Walonells contribute a clever comedy triple bar act; the Rushforths gain favour in their illustrated songs act. Miss Ella Dean, burlesque actress; Frank Hope, trick cyclist; Maud Dewey, lady whistler; Musical Stidder, and King Leo, ventriloquist, help greatly towards the success of the entertainment.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—Tremendous applause greets the clever turn of the Klein Troupe of cyclists; Aniam and Ostra contribute a smart aerial show; Eugene and Willie give an enjoyable eccentric musical performance; the Mozondos excite laughter and wonder with their wonderful barrel-jumping; Miss Alicia Mayne sings well, her songs being illustrated; Mr Tudor's performing ponies evidence careful training; Little Bishop and Doodles amuse with their funnlosities; and other items in a long and varied programme are well received.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — A new melodrama by John Denton, presented by the author's own company, has appeared here this week. The play, which is entitled *A Modern Judas*, contains several scenes of a sensational character. Mr Frank Beresford satisfactorily undertakes the part of the wrongly accused man, Jack Vavasour; whilst the character of Claire Rivers, his betrothed, is well portrayed by Miss Violet King. Mr Percy Rhodes is sufficiently vindictive and desperate to make a success of the part of the disreputable Captain Melbourne, and he finds an able seconder in Mr Trueman Towers as Bennett. Miss Kate Walbran does good work as Elise. An abundance of comedy is provided by Mr Willie Scott as Tom Hopkins, Miss Dolly Harcourt as Polly, and Mr John Denton and Miss Ada Palmer as the eccentric brother and sister Elkanah and Agatha.

HIPPODROME.—The "Gentle" Mackweys, artists who somewhat belie their adopted name by doing a good deal of knockabout business, have greatly amused the audiences here this week with their speciality, *A Few Minutes' Fun on the Wire*. Will Cornish has given a capital musical turn. He is particularly clever in the art of handbell ringing. The Three Victorias, although unable to appear on Monday, owing to their luggage having gone astray, have during the remainder of the week contributed some pleasing dancing and singing. Comedy has been supplied by Walter Blake, and by Reilly and Taylor, American-Dutch comedians. Other good turns have been given by Vernando, ventriloquist; Houpla and Heels, equilibrists and acrobats; and Mabel May, singer and dancer.

HOYLAND.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Geo. S. King.—Miss Olga Audré and company in *The Mockery of Marriage* were received with enthusiasm on Monday. In the leading rôle Mrs George S. King plays the part with much sensibility; Mr Arthur Wimpenny as Dick Kenyon is very successful; Mr Frank Dalton as Seth Pearce is most acceptable; and Miss Florence Zillwood as Alva Kenyon is very good, and meets with applause. The Four Aces are responsible for good acrobatic performances.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Messrs Polini and Melford have a very capable company here in *The Silver King*. Mr Lauderdale Maitland gives a fine performance as Wilfred Denver; Mr E. J. George still plays old Jaikes with deep feeling and sympathy; Mr W. V. Garrod is effective as Captain Skinner, playing with a quiet determination that is very effective; the rôle of Corkett is cleverly handled by Mr Philip Renouf; and as Nellie Denver Miss Lilian Bethell is seen to great advantage.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—An interesting bill this week is headed by Sam Mayo, a comedian whose quiet style is evidently to the taste of Halifax audiences, for he is in great demand. W. J. Churchill, a comedian of much popularity here, also goes well; Downes and Langford, duettists and dancers, keep the audience entertained; the Bros. Durant, grotesque acrobats, are both clever and amusing; the Sisters Casselli are capable dancers; and Professor Dunning gives a ventriloquial show which is well done.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—Miss Ellen Terry and company are appearing this week in a round of standard works. On Monday *The Merchant of Venice* was presented with the greatest possible success. Miss Terry as Portia contributed her usual brilliant performance, which was greatly appreciated. Mr Alfred Bucklaw as Shylock was natural and effective; Mr Charles Thursby as Antonio proved himself to be a master of his art; Bassanio in the hands of Mr Matheson Lang was admirably acted; Mr E. Harcourt Williams as Gratiano was a decided success; Mr F. S. Hamilton and Mr George Fitzgerald in the respective parts of the Duke of Venice and the Prince of Morocco were well placed; Mr John Willes and Mr L. Craske were seen to much advantage as Launcelot and Old Gobbo; Miss Hutin Britton as Jessica portrayed the part with much skill; and the Nerissa of Miss A. Campbell was a performance worthy of the highest commendation. *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Good Hope*, and *Nance Oldfield* are in the week's programme.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—The premier position is held this week by Yukio Tani, the Japanese wrestler, who displays much ability, his performance also being most interesting. Griffin and Marks are a pair of funny knockabout sketch artistes; the Brothers Lloyd contribute a marvellous performance on the tight rope; Miss Whitaker is a singer of much ability, her harp playing being also applauded; Arthur Pearl sings a capital song, the audience taking up the chorus heartily; Harry Leybourne is a comedian of merit, his quick changes being excellent; the Two Comos are musical eccentrics who meet with appreciation; Valoni presents his exhibition of trained pigeons, which is applauded; and Victoria Lytton sings her songs well.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—On Monday Mr Lawrence Irving, supported by an excellent all-round company, presented his play *Richard Lovelace* to a well-filled house. Mr Irving appeared as Richard Lovelace, whose high-souled honour and chivalry he most successfully portrayed. The Lucy Sacheverell of Miss Mabel Hackey was a delightful performance. Mr William E. Ashcroft as Colonel Martin Hawley played forcefully. The minor characters had excellent impersonators in Mr Henry Crocker as the Alderman, Mr Michael Sherbrooke as Mr Porter, Mr Chris Walker as the Adjutant, and Mrs Campbell Bradley as Mistress Porter. The serious play was preceded by *Daisy's Escape*, in which Miss E. Halford-Thompson amusingly portrayed the wayward heroine.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION. — Entertainment-Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter. — Messrs M. B. Buckstone and J. K. Cox's company opened here on Monday in the sensational drama *The Seal of Silence*, which was staged with close attention to detail, and afforded lovers of realism full enjoyment and excitement in the fight for life of the second act and the explosion tableaux of the third act. Mr Albert Sefton makes a benevolent Kenneth Morrison; Mr George Langdon is thoroughly the villain as Captain Norman; Mr C. Arrol Alderoyde is realistic as the scientist, Dr. Renwood; Mr Magill Martyn plays vigorously as Juggler Jack. A clever child is little Daisy Cook, who is much in evidence as the boy Victor; Miss Gertrude Hunt gains sympathy as Lillian Desbrooke. Some welcome comedy is supplied by Mr Chas. W. Coleman as Bimbo, a clown; and Miss Cissy Cleveland as his sweetheart Dora.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—An attractive bill is contributed to among others by Newhouse and Ward, skilled bicyclists in humorous business; and the Five Whiteleys, who are clever equilibrists, acrobats, and xylophone players and excel as wire walkers. M. Gintaro executes remarkable juggling and top-spinning feats, and secures a fine reception; Lily Lena proves a dainty comedienne and is well received; Mystery Gauze shows great talent as a female impersonator; Mary Thorne, comedienne, charms her large audience by her grace and style; Ena Beryl pleases as a vocalist and plays the mandoline cleverly; songs are well rendered by Alec Kennedy, and Mr Dalmayne deserves a word of praise for his new Bioscope pictures. A special matinée on Wednesday was attended by over a hundred of the aged and young inmates of the Hastings workhouse by special invitation of the popular manager, Mr Harold Penny.

ROYAL CONCERT HALL.—Kubelik and party, under the auspices of Dr. Abram, gave a concert matinée here on Wednesday, which attracted a crowded house.

PUBLIC HALL.—On Saturday night Herr Simon Wurm brought his series of proposed winter concerts to a premature conclusion. The orchestra played a popular programme well, and Miss Effie Ingram proved a vocalist of pleasing voice and ability.

HORWICH.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Arthur Sandiford.—Mr Sandiford has provided his patrons with a strong dose of melodrama this week by engaging Mr Stanley Hope's company, in *The Master Criminal*. Miss Nellie Thearle plays Cecile in most artistic style; Telford Lestrage, in the hands of Mr Alfred Guyon, is well played; Mr John Power plays Philip Manners with great feeling; Mr Julius Wright presents Ben Beaudav, detective, very effectively; and Mr Wilton Marsh as Gentleman Jim and Mr Roy Gordon as Dawney the Traitor show to advantage. Miss Enid Edoni's rendering of the part of Mabel is extremely pleasing and sympathetic; Little Gladys Marshall plays Winifred prettily; Miss Bessie Armitage makes Mary Murphy a fine robust character; and Tod Squires as Tommy Dull keeps the house convulsed with his songs, dancing, and eccentricities, being ably assisted by Miss Kitty Terris as Peggy Perks.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur. — Mr Frank Fenton's company is here for the week with the romantic play *If I Were King*. Mr Frank Fenton ruffled it gaily as the poet, François Villon; Mr Clive Currie was curtly sinister as his Majesty Louis XI. of France; Mr Fred Garrett as Tristram displayed appropriate surliness; Miss Louise Vansittart was gay as Huguette Du Hamel; Miss Marion Grey played with fine judgment as the aristocratic Katherine De Vaucelles; Mr Leonard Maxwell put in good work as D'Aussigny; and Miss Violet Monkton made a dignified Queen of France. The play was carefully mounted and dressed.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—The list this week includes the Achmed-Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs, in their tumbling and gun-spinning exhibition; Florrie Bray, in some well-rendered songs; Will Ellerslie, in his amusing mimicry; and the Sisters Lee, in one of the smartest acrobatic turns seen here for some time. Carl Mysto heads the bill, and creates wonderment by the way he releases himself from numerous handcuffs, chains, &c. The Countess evoke considerable applause in their harmoniously rendered duets, and Oliver Conroy, comedian; Percy Curry, the Tyneside vocalist; and the Burns' Bioscope are also among the attractions.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson; Acting-Manager, Mr Thos. Robson.—Another first-class variety company is presented here this week. Stylo, the hoop king, gives an excellent and well appreciated performance; the Grosvenor Sisters met with a most enthusiastic reception as operatic vocalists; Kloof and Ramsey are amusing as well as clever instrumentalists; George Bernard is an actor-vocalist of considerable ability; Beatrice Bonnie is an admirable serio-comedienne; Capita, the living marionette, gives a novel performance; and Katie Moore, comedienne and bâton manipulator, is also very good.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Resident Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—There are few companies, if any, more popular than the Karnos, who are once again in our midst, giving their very acceptable entertainment, *His Majesty's Guests*. It is round Mr Fred Kitchen, the Sergeant Lightning, that most of the fun rotates, for he is the very heart and being of the play. Adequate and efficient support is given by the other members of the company.

GRAND THEATRE, OPERA HOUSE. — Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—Mr George Dance's *Country Girl* company is here playing to good houses. Under the very efficient stage-management of Mr J. J. Daly *A Country Girl* makes a very brave show. Mr Joe Nightingale was a capital Sir Joseph Verity. Miss Daisy Le Hay was a capital Nan; she was intensely natural, and soon won for herself a place in the audience's heart. The Marjory of Miss Maud Boyd was such as one expects from an artist so talented. In the vocal numbers she gave fitting expression, whilst her acting was in excellent taste. Miss Ethel Negretti was a pleasing Princess. The hit of the evening was made by Mr Charles R. Waleron in the part of Barry; the humour was fresh and spontaneous, and in female garb he secured a laugh without recourse to any vulgarity. Mr Waleron has won for himself a high place in the audience's appreciation, and is assured of a warm welcome the next time he visits the city. The rest of the cast worked hard.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—*The Worst Woman in London* is a play not by any means new to Hull. The Frances Vere of Miss Constance Medwyn is a creditable piece of histrionic art. The fight is as effective as usual, and brings down the house.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Manager, Mr A. Graham.—The Tschernoffs are at the top of the bill this week, and deservedly so, for the cleverness of ponies, dogs, cats, and pigeons is marvellous. Vasco, the mad musician, is always popular here, and finds favour with the audience. The Sisters Sprightly are comediennes of the first order.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr John Sylvester Sage.—The Sisters Phillips and Brothers Lorenzi are the principal turn here. Cattle, on a ladder, performs some very smart tricks. Les Prinellas present a sketch entitled *A Country Flirtation*. Ada B. Kingsley proves herself a capable burlesque artist. Joe Gill meets with much favour. Sunshine and Shadow and living pictures are also in the bill.

CIRCUS.—Resident Manager, Mr F. Emerson.—Harry H. Hamilton's Excursions are drawing big houses. A good variety company is also engaged.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—Mr J. Rice Cassidy's company is appearing here this week in *Dan the Rake*. Mr Frank Copeland acts with earnestness and conviction the rôle of Lieutenant Charles Kavanagh; the villainous side of human nature is graphically depicted by Mr Fredk. Biron as Captain Tom Cooper; Mr F. Orchard makes an admirable Colonel Flamer; and Messrs Stephen Crossley and Chas. Crosby as General Lake and Trooper Jackson render good service. Abundance of comic relief is furnished by Mr J. Rice Cassidy in the title-rôle and Miss Lilian Clare as Madge, and they are ably assisted by Mr Norman Hall as Archille. Miss Florence Halton is a charming Helen, and Miss Ada Rosco a highly successful Mrs Donelly.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—*Tommy Atkins* was played here on Monday by Mr Milton Bode's company. Mr Frederic Ross was an earnest and manly representative of Harold Wilson; Mr George C. Doughty was a villain of a "mildly mannered" type; and Mr Maurice Drew as the stern parent and Mr C. A. Wenman as the unwilling host of his superior officer were each of able assistance to the cast. The female parts were also strongly represented by Miss Ethel Tinsley as Kate Perkins, Miss Lola Patey, and Miss Marie Fontaine.

HIPPODROME. — Another change of programme was submitted on Monday, among the newcomers being Rappo and Ella, equilibrists; Warde and Wylie, comedians; Alec Thomas and Andy Fagan, vocalists; and Grand and Allen, variety artists.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—*The Grip of Iron*, played by Messrs E. H. Knight and George Denham's company, is the attraction here this week. It includes Mr Fred Powell, who has played Simmonet, the Strangler, over 5,000 times. The company is strong all round, and the drama is effectively mounted.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs Lester Reekie and Howard Stephens.—"Is It You?"—snapshots of local people thrown on the screen—is a novel item that is packing the house this week. Joe Hastings, jumper, leaps lightly over a six-barred gate, &c.; Carl Howard, the crazy conjuror, evokes hearty laughter; Charles Bradford, Clara Hastings, Brenda Leslie, Lister Reekie, and Gibbon's Bio-Tableaux complete the bill.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Mr Hubert Leonard.—The attraction here this week is the ever-popular comic opera *Les Cloches de Corneville*, performed by Mr St. Alban and company. Mr St. Alban plays with much power the part of the miser, Gaspard; Mr Geo. A. Fox as Henri, Marquis de Corneville, sings well; Grenicheaux is capably played by Mr Walter Cranbourne; Mr George Delaforce as the Bailie is amusing; and Mr Fowler Thatcher as Gobo keeps the house in roars of laughter. Miss Dolly Royce is a charming Germaine, and Miss Lucie Fitzroy an amusing and vivacious Serpolette. Great praise is due to the work done by the chorus and augmented orchestra, under the directorship of Mr F. T. De Banzie.

LANCASTER

ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—*A Country Girl*, as given by Mr Chas. Macdona's company, is the attraction this week. Miss Lilly Shaw sings with taste and expression as Nan; Miss Clara Judge looks pretty and acts in a piquant manner as Marjory, and as Sophie Miss Marjory Moore has a true grasp of the rôle and makes it very charming. Mr Chas. Marston in the rôle of Geoffrey Chaloner is really admirable in both action and song, Mr Frank Hill's Sir Joseph Verity is full of humour, and as Barry Mr Harry Emerie keeps the house in roars of laughter.

LEEDS

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—Mr John Hare and company are here with J. M. Barrie's comedy *Little Mary*. The leading lady is Miss Hilda Trevelyan, and her conception of Moira Loney is highly artistic and thoroughly convincing. Mr Hare wins the appreciation of the audience by his admirable personation of the Earl of Carlton; and Miss Helen Rous plays the Countess with distinction. A capital delineation of the pompous physician, Sir Jennings Pike, goes to the credit of Mr Rudge Harding; and Lord Rolfe is ably presented by Mr Carter Pickford. Mr Fred Grove is responsible for a capital study of Terence Reilly, the principal character in the prologue. The curtain-raiser is *'Op o' Me Thumb*, for a pleasing presentation of which we are indebted to Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Mr Rudge Harding.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Bush.—The musical comedy *Kitty Grey* continues to be a big attraction, well presented by Mr St. John Denton's company. Miss Hilda Guiver acts the name-part with distinction, always winning the demonstrative approval of her audience. Lady Binfield is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Edy Helene. Miss Constance Hamilton makes a charming Sadie Poulson, and Mrs Bright is a no less successful effort by Miss Emily Stevens. The important rôle of Lord Plantagenet is in the hands of Mr Leslie Harris, whose clever and amusing work is exceedingly popular. Mr Robert Whyte, jun., and Mr Innes Smith, are also effective in leading parts.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—The popularity of C. and F. Renad's famous farce *The Swiss Express* is again evidenced by the good business done here this week. Messrs Chas and Fred Renad again provide a strong lead, their untiring efforts having a good deal to do with the success this piece has achieved. Mr Harwood Cooper gives powerful assistance in his heavy dual-rôle, and Mr George Martin, Mr Alex Wylie, and Miss Marie Millward handle big parts in effective style.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—The Lukushima Troupe of Japanese acrobats and equilibrists are prominent here with a remarkably fine show. The company also includes Pia Carozzi, an accomplished harp soloist. The Coloured Meisters remain a second week, and are big favourites; Frank Hilbert, handcuff expert, claims to expose the methods of handcuff manipulators; Mabel Hind does a pleasing song and dance; Helen Martin, vocalist, finds favour; two clever comedians are appearing, namely, Phil Herman and Charles Cardon; and vocal selections by Stewart and Morgan fully merit the unstinted applause which they receive. The Anartos are giving a clever musical sketch with success; and Callie and Walker score with a smart comedy act.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—Houdini, the handcuff king and prison-breaker, is a huge attraction here. An excellent company supports the Phillipi Bros. being prominent with a speciality turn, *Shunting*. Of acrobatics there are clever exhibitions by Sibb and Sibb and the Picquays. George Penn is entertaining and amusing in an original musical act. The De Breans once more submit their Japanese speciality in good style. Ethel Yorke is a successful comedienne. John Lloyd, vocalist, describes himself as the singing collier, and Algie and Reggie, comedians and eccentrics, submit further acceptable entertainment.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—The outstanding feature of the week's entertainment is a smart comedy and juggling turn by Alber and Amber, a clever pair in the guise of tramp and waiter. Joe Peterman presents his excellent musical comedy sketch, *The Belle of the Orient*, with great success; Sinclair and Whiteford are an entertaining comedy duo; Hicks' Clerks again appear in a fine vocal act; George Gilbey, the popular comedian, is one of the strongest turns on the bill; and Famous Henderson, a blind but accomplished musician, pleases by his expert concertina solos. George Foyle, character vocalist, and Marie Weston also contribute to a most attractive programme.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr Harry Esden. —This week *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is being presented here by a capable company, in which Mr Kara Deanrajah as Uncle Tom and Miss Florence Venimar as Eliza are the outstanding characters. The play is realistically staged, and an excellent variety company appears in the fourth act.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—We are this week having a personal visit of Mr F. R. Benson and company, who are presenting a most enjoyable répertoire. The engagement opened with *Hamlet*, in which, of course, Mr F. R. Benson essayed the title-rôle, and the extremely satisfactory manner in which this gifted artist played this difficult part evoked the plaudits and admiration of a delighted audience. The Ophelia of Mrs F. R. Benson was another very successful portrayal, worthy of all praise. Mr A. B. Pittar as Claudius rendered an excellent account of himself, and Mr H. O. Nicholson as Polonius, Mr Cyril Keighley as Laertes, and Mr Clarence Derwent as Horatio were admirably placed. Mr Percy D. Owen and Mr George Buchanan as the courtiers, Rosencrantz and Guildenstein, were very good. Mr George R. Weir, who is a favourite here, made a conspicuous success as the First Grave Digger. Miss Gertrude Scott was capital as the Queen of Denmark, and others who rendered good service were Mr Philip Sanders (a son of Canon Sanders, of St. Martin's Church, of this town), Miss Steddall, Miss Violet Vorley, Mr G. F. Hannam-Clark, Mr Savile Percy, Mr Hugh S. Hay, Mr J. P. Wilson, Mr Clark, Mr Lewis, Mr Reginald G. Davis, and Mr Arthur Whitby. The programme of music included a minuet, "Old England," by Herr Theo. Klee, the musical director, which was admirably played by the orchestra.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—A welcome return visit is being paid here this week by Mr William Bourne's company in *Voices of London*. The drama is a powerful one, and Mr Charles Boult as Arthur Leyland, Mr Ellis J. Preston as Eustace Courtney, Mr Frank Liston as Stephan Woodleigh, and Miss Maud Buchanan as Eleanor Lisle are to be singled out for embodiments of great merit.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—The attractive programme here this week is topped by Eugene Stratton, who is scoring a success in his songs of coon life. At the other end is Tina Clementa, who submits a very pleasing show with her remarkably trained horse and dogs. Binns and Binns return and arouse hearty laughter and admiration in their musical burlesque speciality, *The Vagabonds*. As performing cyclists the Noiset Troupe stand out as amongst the most daring and clever. Alcide Capitaine is seen to considerable advantage in a smart and graceful gymnastic display. The Scottish Meisters, the Highland comedy quartette, give a popular and enjoyable turn. Lizzie Valrose, a lady well-known to Leicester people, gets a cordial reception for her song, "Bluebell." Walter Stanley, who makes a first and successful appearance at this hall, is a funny and versatile comedian. Arthur Melrose, whistling comedian, goes well, and Bert Byrne, a capital comique, also entertains.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The sensational sketch *Humanity*, presented by Edward Renier and company, by arrangement with Miss Cissie Lawson, is the big attraction here this week, and holds the audience spellbound. The other artists appearing with success are Will Johnson eccentric comedian; Little Dando, the diminutive eccentric comedian; Charles Johnson, comedian and cake-walker; the Wiltons, in their comedy bar act; Daisy Martell, comedienne and dancer; and Jimmy Shields, one-legged dancer.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—Messrs Garside, Knowles, and Lullow's company is appearing here this week in a drama entitled *The London Fireman*. Mr J. Forbes Knowles gives a manly interpretation of Hal Curtis, a young fireman; Mr Arthur Pringle is capital as Viscount Fleming; Mr Edward L. Garside is excellent as Henry Curtis; and Mr Charles Preece is amusing as Nixey Stringer, receiving able assistance from Miss Nellie Garside as Polly Bramble. Miss Violet Temple looks charming as the Countess Fleming, and as Ida Curtis Miss Mona Gray is very pleasing.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. H. Dunlop.—The Four Rosaires, gentlemen acrobats, who top the bill here this week, are exceedingly clever; Miss Olive Vane, male impersonator, is good; Mr Tom Williams, tenor vocalist, sings in capital style; Galino contributes an interesting musical turn; the Brothers Ashton, patter comedians, score; the Three Boleros, in a comedy bar act entitled "The Tramp and the Dude," are loudly encored; Mr Frank Mulvan, swell comique, is also well received; and the Hippodrome pictures are all that can be desired.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—Mr Charles Macdona's company in *The Little Maids* supplies the attraction here this week. Miss Vera Vallis as Ada is delightful both in song and dance, and Miss Nellie Groves as Hilda and Miss Doris Trevor as Edna also win the highest favour. Miss Iris Coley, Miss Margaret Douglas, and Miss Eva Swinborne are excellent as Lady St. Mallory's protegées, and that lady herself is happily placed with Madame Ilme Norins. Miss May Wright is a capital Dutch girl; Mr Frank Henderson scores all along the line as Lord Cheyne, and his "Algie" song evokes continuous mirth; Mr H. A. Welchman as Brian and M. Jules Chumettes as De L'Orme are also well suited, and the latter proves himself a clever 'cellist. Mr R. Barrie is a laughter-maker as the caddie, Cupid; while Mr W. P. Morgan is very good as the Vicar, and Mr Louis Lavel conducts a very effective chorus and band. The staging is a feature of merit.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur.—Here is a big programme in which song and dance are the chief features, and every item of which manages to hit the popular taste. Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes; Lady Mansell and her clever juveniles; and the Charkassian troupe of whirlwind dancers are the pick of the programme; T. W. Johnson, Stevens and Stevens, Hart and Rudd, Sisters Chester, Wilfred and Walter Clyde also appearing with complete success.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—This week we have *A Woman's Revenge*, played by Miss Winifred Chalmers' company, including the well-known actor, Mr Henry L. Osmond, who appears with much success as Frank Drummond. Miss Chalmers takes the part of Mary Lonsdale in a clever manner. Miss Elmore Frith as Jephtha Grimwade and Miss Maude York as Mabel Wentworth are both very good. Mr Herbert Woodin makes a capital Chilton, and Miss Madge Palmer as Lottie Bromley is most capable.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—Mr Harold V. Neilson is playing here this week staging *The Tyranny of Tears*, and *A Fool's Paradise*. As Clement Parbury in the former, Mr Neilson is very good, and Mr W. Lemmon Warde sets George Gunning excellently; Miss Amy Sangster as Miss Parbury is very effective, and Miss Yvonne Orchardson plays Hyacinth Woodward in admirable style

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—*The Duchess of Dantzic*, played by Mr George Edwardes's original London company, occupies the boards here. Miss Evie Greene is the Duchess, and the cordiality with which her delightful performance was greeted on Monday must have afforded that lady every satisfaction. The Napoleon of Mr Holbrook Blinn was a carefully though-out study, and Mr Courtice Pounds was responsible for much of the laughter that prevailed, his Papillon proving very diverting.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—*The Geisha* has been the attraction here during the week. Miss Aimée De Leska was a charming O Mimosa San; Miss Florrie Saunders danced and sang most engagingly as Molly Seymour; a quaintly amusing Wun Hi was Mr Edward Carlton; Marquis Imari was ably sustained by Mr Lionel Braham; and praise is due to Mr Arthur Cartwright for his manly Reginald Fairfax.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. French; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Beltram.—The ever-popular *The Private Secretary* has attracted considerable attention here this week, the company responsible for the production being that of Mr Eugene C. Stafford. All the eccentricities of the bewildered Rev. Robert Spalding were duly presented with effect by Mr Geoffrey Guise; a capital Mr Cattermole was portrayed by Mr W. Hargreaves; Miss Dora Grey was Edith; Miss Deverell the Eva Webster; Mrs Alfred Davis, Miss Ashford; Miss Cicely Wade, Mrs Stead; Mr Austen Leigh was consistently good as Douglas Cattermole; and others who afforded able assistance were Mr Vivian Gilbert, Mr Raymond Chester, and Mr Wilfrid Compton. *Good for Nothing* was the curtain-raiser.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—The popular comedy-drama *In Old Kentucky* has been given here this week by an excellent all-round combination. Included in Mr J. F. Elliston's company are Mr J. George Steel, who enacts the hero, Frank Harley, and Miss Amy F. Hermann, a charming Madge Brierley. Mr A. S. Bankes is a creditable Colonel Beauchamp, and Mr Eric Hudson acquits himself well as Jasper Grafton. Some capital turns are provided by Mr Jimmie James, banjo soloist and bone manipulator, and Miss Edith Harmer, vocalist.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—A good programme is headed by Mr and Mrs Lem Hughes, in their sketch *A Matrimonial Substitute*, which evokes roars of laughter. F. V. St. Clair is loudly applauded for his topical songs; Brothers Attilla are well received and greeted with loud applause for a fine exhibition of weight lifting; and Mdlle. Flora Lumiere's "Fairy Grotto" is greatly enjoyed, particularly the fire dances. Others who contribute to a most enjoyable evening include Josh Dixon, eccentric comedian; Burke and M'Coy, in a comedy act; Tatten Hall, comedian; Harris and Worth, patterists; and Major Sutherland, described as the spinning marvel.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—Packed houses have been the rule here this week, the attraction being *The Fatal Wedding*, played by Mr Bert Coote's company. Mr Wilfred Payne is good as Howard Wilson, and Miss Marie Houseley delightfully sympathetic as Mrs Wilson. The adventuress, Cora Williams, is presented effectively by Miss Gertrude Harrison; Mr W. Stranack is a typical man about town; and Miss Gladys Rose Jones is to be complimented on her "little mother." The cake walk, with songs and dances, performed by the children in the third act, is very pleasing.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—*The Golden Ladder* is in the hands of a capable company, under the direction of Miss Mary Austin and Mr Vivian Edmonds. The latter enacts the rôle of Michael Severn with dramatic power, and Miss Austin is graceful and effective as Lillian Grant. A capital Rev. Frank Thornhill is presented by Mr Harry Cullenford. The bioscope between the acts continues an attractive feature.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—Head of the bill here this week is the sketch company of Mr A. C. Lilly, who present *Drummed Out*, which, with its military aspect, is somewhat effective. The popular Alec Hurley and his company remain another week to create great laughter with *The Piccaninnies* and *The Lambeth Walk*. A remarkable series of equilibristic feats are performed by the Four Milons; the refined comedy act of the Alaskas is neat and amusing; and continuous laughter greets *An Early Morning in the Kitchen* by the Densmores. The beautiful grotto, with its fairy fountains and cascades, shown by Hagedorn, remains another week; an exhibition of really smart foot balancing is that of the Wartenberg Brothers; and others in the programme are the Great Alexander, trick cyclist; Brothers Obo, comedians; Will Musgrave, eccentric comedian; Sisters Iris, duettists and dancers; Harry Coates, the "singing navvy;" and Tenny-son and Wallis, comedians.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Included in a capital bill this week is Carl Reinsch, who provides an interesting turn with horses and dogs. For still another week we have the Magic Kettle and also Miss Minnie Letta and her sporting girls. These items have proved an immense draw. A pretty scena is that provided by Selkirk's juvenile spectacle *Japan's Handy Men*, performed by 100 Liverpool children; and good work is done by three able comedians, Alf Gibson, Austin Rudd, and Dion Wade, each of whom is well received. Mr and Mrs Paul Knox are a pair of accomplished society entertainers, and B. Troba is an expert juggler.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—A principal engagement here this week is that of Curtis and Vanity, the well-known cake-walkers. Their work is loudly applauded. Mr T. W. Barrett, an old-time favourite, renders some of his best songs; Professor Bennett is a clever ventriloquist and humorist; Miss Millie Harris is a "singer of sensible songs"; and Mr Arthur Stratton gives a good turn as comedian and vocalist. Others in the programme are Kirby Stevens, eccentric comedian, and Harry Conder, quick change artiste. The cake-walk competitions and the electograph continue to interest.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Elwin W. Smith.—Dan Conroy heads the bill here this week. He is a comedian of ability and brings with him his best songs. Barrett and Knowles, a pair of smart comedians and patterers, make a first appearance, and are accorded hearty applause; a sweet singer is Miss Ailsa Douglas, the Lancashire soprano; Vardon, the golfing ventriloquist, provokes much merriment; Louis Murray gives a capital turn as a character vocalist; and Tom Neeldon is a smart comedian and dancer. The Bioscope proves a feature of the evening.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan.—Good patronage continues to be bestowed upon the popular East-end house. This week the bill is headed by the Woellhats, whose diversified turn as pantomimists, dancers, and patterers gives great satisfaction. The Sisters Russell provide a refined show of burlesque and low comedy. Dardan and Iris in their speciality act as vocalists, dancers, &c., are good. Keith and Merson give an interesting acrobatic singing turn; and the remainder of the artistes who appear are May Fallowfield, coon singer; Solo and Mayo, duettists and dancers; and Blanche Gerard, comedienne.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery. Signor and Madame Borelli are at the head of the bill here this week with a very neat musical act, a feature of which is their cat duet; the Four American Belles provide a smart turn with their singing and dancing; Lanton and Lane, the popular comedians, create great laughter; Nellie Amphlett is a vivacious comedienne; Joe Huda, comedian and dancer, pays a welcome return visit; Fred Bronte has a voice of sweetness and power, his several songs being well received; and Lil Esplin is a charming comedienne.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—The programme here this week is full of good things. Top is Spangelettis' Circus, introduced into a comedy act, where Brown and Spinks, a pair of smart comedians, put ponies and dogs through clever manœuvres. Billy Ross and company, including Miss Hilda Brandon, provide a laughable act, *The Hot Member*; Syd Herman, with his "Hebrew Alien," is very diverting; Conan and Doyle are a couple of able comedians; and others on the bill are Amy Donna, comedienne; Violet Rivers, eccentric male impersonator; George Martinengo, character vocalist; Mona M'Donald, comedienne; and the Three Novells, who are clever acrobats and tumblers.

LONG EATON.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This week there is good patronage for a capable company, including Miss Grace Lester, in the historic dramas of *Lady Godiva*, *Nell Gwynn*, and *Jane Shore*. Opening with *Lady Godiva*, Miss Lester was seen in one of her best parts, and she was ably assisted by Miss Jessie Leslie as Lady Aldyth, Miss Westerleigh as Elfrida, Mr James Duncan as Leofric, and Mr Lewis Leslie as Algar. Mr Edward Beecher was excellent as Tom. The pieces are admirably staged.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. Sherriff Howard.—Mr Douglas Bruce's well-balanced company is presenting *A Girl's Cross Roads* for the first time in the district this week. Mr W. E. Griffiths gives a masterly impersonation of an old farmer, and quickly enlists sympathy and interest; Mr George Galsford is well suited with the juvenile part; Mr Wm. Eraser Brunner gives a convincing performance as Cuthbert Lumley, and Mr Wm. Corrie keeps the house in roars of laughter as Toby Turner. Miss Lily Hammersley as Barbara Wade, the dipsomaniac, gives a most convincing reading of the character.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—This week we have an able all-round company under the direction of Mr Hare, presenting *The Golden Chance*. Mr J. Hare gives a powerful portrayal of Stephen Clinton; Mr H. M. King as Arthur Hastings is realistic; Miss Agatha Halford presents a sympathetic Lydia Hastings; Mr J. A. Stimson as Sam Brown and Miss Jenny Hallworth as Susan keep the audience in a good humour; and Mr D. Arkinstall as Isaac Shelberg is very good.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessees, Messrs Bendon and Lardeu.—The big attraction here this week is a funny absurdity *A Hot Reception*, which is given by Messrs Hill, Barry, and Lang. Billy Richardson is a popular favourite; Sam Shipley, comic singer, has some good songs; Satsuma, the marvellous Japanese conjuror, astounds the audience with some remarkable tricks; Miss Violet Beatrice, ballad vocalist, is the possessor of a good voice; Little Lady Fauntleroy, ventriloquist, gets a good reception; and other good turns are Sam Weller, comedian and dancer; and Miss Beatie Worth, balladist.

MAIDENHEAD.

NEW PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr George Gude.—This week a farcical quick-change sketch, entitled *The Crazed Curate*, is presented by Mr Martin Byam and Miss Mildred Vaughan, the lady also contributing a pleasing turn as comedienne and dancer. Foto cleverly executes lightning cartoons of celebrities, George Romano neatly presents sleight-of-hand tricks, and Golding is an amusing ventriloquist. George Trusty is successful with patriotic songs, particularly with "The Colours of our Empire's Flag," the chorus of which is well taken up by "the boys"; Charles G. Thorn mimics popular artists, Tom E. Hall appears as an eccentric character comedian, and Warner and Wilson cause much amusement as "cross-talk" comedians.

MAIDSTONE.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Manager, Mr Beslee.—This week Mr Joshua Dyson's diorama and gipsy choir are fulfilling an engagement here, and although this is by no means their first visit they are drawing crowded houses nightly. Mr J. L. Hersee is responsible for the musical portion of the programme, which is of a varied character. Miss Flora Orchard is a clever elocutionist; and Miss Ethel Barson, sleigh bell soloist; Miss Gertrude Bland, with auto-harp selections; and the contralto solos of Miss G. T. Winterburn call for special mention. An interesting selection of animated photographs and a sketch make up a popular programme.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—Good business is ensured here this week by the presence of Mr and Mrs Kendal in a répertoire of well-known plays. *A Scrap of Paper* was given on Monday evening with great success, a large audience continually signifying its high appreciation of the excellent work of the two principal members of the company. Mrs Kendal's Susan Hartley and Mr Kendal's Colonel Blake, both portrayed in splendid style, were also supplemented by capital performances of several others of the cast, notably Mr Bassett Roe's Sir John Ingram, the amusing Dr. Penguin of Mr Ernest Hendrie, and the various interesting rôles of Mr R. Sheldrick, Miss Elise Clarens, Miss Mary Jerrold, and Mrs A. B. Tapping. Tuesday's performance of *The Elder Miss Blossom* was characterised also by acting of a very high quality, Miss Elise Clarens as Sophie Blossom being seen to great advantage in support of the premier couple. The remainder of the week's programme, *Still Waters Run Deep* and *Dick Hope*, could not be improved upon in point of attractiveness, the last-mentioned play being billed for two evenings and a matinée.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Mr Tom B. Davis's company occupies the stage here in the always popular *Florodora*. The strong feature of the cast is the inclusion of Mr Edward Lewis as Tweedlepunch, a part which the popular comedian plays with exceeding gusto. It is much to the advantage of the piece also that Mr Leonard Russell still retains his part of Frank Abercoed, his singing of the song "The Shade of the Palm" being undoubtedly one of the successes of the evening. Miss Lena Maitland's Dolores is rendered nicely and in good voice, Miss Isabelle Dillon playing the prominent rôle of Lady Holyrood with capital effect. Mr Fred Winn as Cyrus Gilfain and Mr Frank Grans as Arthur Donegal contribute largely to the amusement. Miss Hilda Dugdale makes a pleasing Angela Gilfain. A capable chorus and an augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr Ashley Richards.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mr Edward Marris's company are here this week in *As Midnight Chimes*, after a successful week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—A brilliant and pleasing performance of *The Toreador* was given here on Monday by Mr George Edwardes's company before a very large audience. Miss Dasie Wallace as Dora Selby and Miss Nancy Langtyre as Nancy Staunton are both charming as the centre of the love interest, which is heightened by the clever and amusing performances of Mr T. W. Volt as Sir Archibald Slackett and Mr Fred Allandale as Augustus Trail. Mr John Donald makes a fine Carajolo; Miss Alice Oppitz is very effective as Donna Teresa; and Miss Nellie Bouverie gives a good comedy sketch of Mrs Malton Hoppings. Mr W. H. Powell's clever dancing as Pettifer is worthy of special note, and Mr Lionel Victor does exceedingly well in the ample part of Sammy Gigg. Others who distinguish themselves in a long cast are Mr Fred Fowler, Mr E. Nainby, Miss Daisy Stratton, and Mr Harry Scott.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead. —A capital programme here this week is headed by Charles Chard, the successful eccentric comedian. Other prominent and excellent turns are David Poole, a very smart ventriloquist, and Shawlene, well described as the world's greatest and sweetest whistler. Capital business is contributed also by Calvo, the double-voiced mimic; Tom Bassett, Shakespearian comedian; Meler and Mora, speciality artistes; Haig and Novel, in a clever comedy act; the Brewster Troupe of speciality artistes and vocalists; Annie Casey, comedienne; and the Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A decided attraction is here this week in the shape of Messrs Preston and Doherty's company in *The Rich and Poor of London*. Max Goldberg's drama is full of interesting and sensational crises, and the performance gave pleasure to a large house on Monday evening. Mr Sidney C. Cranston as Gussey Lamb and Mr Sidney Danch as Spider Jack (who direct the company), contribute much toward the success. Miss Dora Danch and Master Bert Danch have also good parts, excellent performances being given by Miss Bella Tilbury, Mrs E. F. Brady, Little Arline T. George, Mr Andrew Money, and Mr Harry Tilbury. A number of minor rôles are quite satisfactorily rendered, and the staging and general effect leave nothing to be desired.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—Messrs Dan Avery and Charles Hart's company, in *In Dahomey*, has been delighting large audiences here. As Rareback Pinkerton and Shylock Homestead Messrs Dan Avery and Charles Hart are seen to great advantage, the audience being kept in continuous merriment. Excellent support is afforded by Messrs Pete Hampton, Fred Douglas, Walter Dixon, Leon Williams, Pete Washington, William Garland, and the Misses Laura Bowman, Stella Hart, Pauline Freeman, and Fanny Wise. Great praise is due to the artistes who take part in the spectacular cake-walk in the last act, the dancing being something exceptional.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The top star attraction here this week is Boswell's Circus, introducing well-trained ponies, donkeys, and dogs in an interesting and humorous performance. Ada Fawn, comedienne, contributes a popular turn; Harry Weldon is a great favourite, his singing and patter, given in a quaint style, being much appreciated; Tom E. Hughes makes a hit with his song "I'm One of the Upper Ten;" Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist, has a finished and pleasing style; Gerald Mount entertains at the piano, and has some good songs; Terras Brothers are smart acrobats; and considerable amusement is caused by the ball-punching and burlesque boxing efforts of Clark's Nippers. Other pleasing items are Lydia Dudley, of the new female police force; the Dunvilles, in their musical speciality; Dingle Dale, comedian; and the Hippodrome pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A farcical sketch, *A Bit of Bacon*, contributed by the Geoffreys with success, and the clever mechanical novelties and dancing of George Chanti, are the principal items in this week's programme Madame De Rose sings baritone songs to the satisfaction of the audience; Mdlle. Kleet poses in a number of beautiful, artistic pictures, with limelight effects; the Lavelles give an amusing acrobatic act; Emma Don and company are responsible for some enjoyable solo and quartet singing; and Zasma gives an acceptable gymnastic performance. Other satisfactory items are supplied by George Reeves, vocal comedian; J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist; and Smith and Johnson, the coloured couple. A series of animated pictures completes.

TIVOLI. — Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—An all-round excellent programme here includes that famous character actor Bransby Williams, whose artistically rendered dramatic recitals and imitations are enthusiastically received. Florrie Robina, burlesque actress, has several good songs, and is also appreciated. Lillie Souter, characteristic comedienne, is highly amusing; and Charles Faning's humorous patter and songs cause much laughter. Albert Darnley is a first-rate character comedian; the Wilsons are decidedly entertaining in their speciality; Nellie Farrell sings in a pleasing manner; the Two Wills are clever and amusing herculean acrobats; and Ida Gladstone contributes an enjoyable song. A fantasia on "The Village Blacksmith," arranged by the musical director, Mr Frank J. Smith, is excellently rendered by the orchestra.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—Prominent and well-received turns here this week are George D'Albert, a versatile comedian, who is particularly successful with a descriptive song; Brown and Nivarro, American speciality artistes, who dance and sing well; and John Grun Marx, the modern Hercules, who lifts twenty-five persons at one time. Kitty Clover's comedy company are seen to great advantage in a capital sketch entitled *Not a Word*, and Lew Wills contributes a pleasing musical comedy act. Other good turns are Carr and Rose, vocal comedy couple; Merton and Rydor, vocal speciality artistes; Bert Leslie, comedian; and George Prince, "the crazy comic." Some interesting animated pictures are also shown.

PALACE. — Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—At the Wednesday matinée here a new sketch entitled *The Lady Boxer* was produced successfully by Messrs Dottridge and Longden. The scene is the lady boxer's apartment, which contains a ball-punching apparatus, and in which she is visited by a gentleman—one should rather say a villain—with whom she has lived. The villain's chief business in life seems to be the betraying of women, young and innocent ones by preference; and an acrimonious scene occurs in which the lady boxer accuses him of the death of one young girl, and vows to prevent his designs upon another, a flower girl, whom she has already befriended. When a little time after, in the same scene, the flower girl is at the mercy of the rascally fellow, she manages to open a door which lets loose a big dog; and the dog tumbles him about the stage in realistic style. In the midst of the fun the lady boxer returns; and then comes the great scene of all. Certainly the villain needs much persuasion to put his hands up to the indignant lady; but when he does so it is with the intention of settling her pretensions to the ability to give him what she emphatically calls "a damned good hiding." Needless to say, her use of the gloves is far too much for him, the alacrity with which she floors him time after time evoking much applause from the house, and, incidentally, considerable laughter from the lady's boy servant, whose delight it is to "bait" the villain from a safe distance. Finally, the man is allowed to make his escape with the big dog once more at his heels. The parts were well played by a cast whose names did not appear. The week's programme is an exceptionally strong one, the star turns being R. A. Roberts, the unrivalled Protean actor, in his celebrated sketch, *Dick Turpin*, and Chung Ling Soo, the Chinese conjuror, whose remarkable feats are exceedingly popular and gorgeously put on. A strong turn also remaining from last week is that of Clark and Hamilton, the American comedy artistes, while other excellent business is contributed by Hector and Paulus, comedy acrobats; the Lannons, duettists and dancers; Florence Esdaile, soprano vocalist; Tom Edwards, an exceptionally good ventriloquist; Little Zola, comedian; Tray and Rich, black and white faced artistes; Arthur Reece, vocal comedian; and Amy Sullivan, comedienne. The Palace pictures are also included in the programme.

ARDWICK EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Will Collins.—A big attraction here this week is Ethel Arden and George Abel, assisted by a capable company, in a laughable sketch, *Three of a Kind*, which keeps the audience in roars of laughter from start to finish. The great Caicedo performs some remarkable dancing on the wire; Slade Murray has some exceedingly smart patter; the American Comedy Four sing in a highly finished manner, and cause some amusement with their eccentric methods; Frank Maura goes through an astonishing performance in foot juggling, and earns substantial applause; and the clever juggling of Henry Kaiser, including his eight candle trick, is well received. Considerable merriment follows the efforts of the Baldwin Brothers in their clever acrobatic sketch, and of Grell and Grey, in their absurdity *Bertie's First Lesson in Tennis*. The Wheelers are quaint cyclists who do some smart tricks; Arthur Rigby scores with his song, "For he's a married man;" Flo D'Orville dances gracefully; and Jessie Albini appears in descriptive songs.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr F. Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Mr Chas. A. Chandler's company is here with *The Bells of Hastemere*. Mr Leonard Yorke gives a stirring presentment of Frank Beresford, and Mr Montague Turner is capital as John Silkstone. Mr Charles A. Chandler plays Capt. Vere efficiently, and Mr Douglas Hamilton is seen to advantage as Matthew Brookfield. Mr Charles Cecil and Mr Fred F. Allen do well in their respective rôles of Reuben Armstrong and Joseph Thorndyke. Mr Charles Clarke as Patrick Desmond, Mr Powell James as Capt. Salem, Mr Ted Stone as Benjamin Tremble, and Mr Harry Montague as Toby each play capitally. Miss Harrietta Polini is successful as Evelyn Brookfield, and Miss Stafford Smith does well as Dorothy Tremble. Miss Mary Hardacre in the rôle of Mary Northcote makes a favourable impression, and Miss Florence Chandler is a pleasing Norah Desmond.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business-Manager, Mr Charles E. Hardy.—Miss Marie Menzies' company is here with *A Rogue's Daughter*, in which Miss May Wynlard sustains the title-part charmingly. Mr Alexander Wills puts in useful work as Sir George Mynard, and Mr Wilfred Blair is in evidence as Frank Tyler. Colonel Foster is ably interpreted by Mr Richard Ferris, and Mr Charles Stimson is a good exponent of rascality as Isaac Isaacs, Mr Will Wilson as Ebenezer Dunnem, Mr A. Hall Menzies as John Gibbs, and Mr E. Palarlet as Christopher Crummle are capital. Mr George Shorrock as Inspector Bates and Mr T. Rowe as Inspector Morris are excellent. Miss Millie Doris is amusing as Priscilla Jenkins, Miss Mabel Hall plays with good effect as Dicky, Miss K. Raile excellently sustains the rôle of Mrs Jenkins, and Miss Marie Menzies is seen to advantage as Lotty Grey.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—*The Indian Mutiny*, presented by Mr Frank E. Burdette's company, opened to a full house on Monday. Miss Maud Digby displayed ability in the arduous rôle of Ghuz-nah. Mr Villiers Stanley as Nebu Singh, Mr Ernest Kean as Ra Goonga, and Mr J. S. Sheddon as Abul Khan were exceedingly good. Mr H. Ryeland-Leigh played well as Lieut. Stanley, Captain Stanley had a capable representative in Mr H. G. Brandon, Mr W. S. Tindall was good as Major Ingleby, and Mr George Scully scored as the humorous Teddy O'Brien. Miss Kate Bruce as Mrs Ingleby and Miss Agnes Kingston as Kate Ingleby both did well.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Messrs Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's company is here in *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Mr Langhorne Burton appears in the title-rôle with much success, and Mr Arthur Grenville in the amusing part of Mr Pitt-Welby, M.P., is capital. Mr Guy Newall gives a neat study of Mr Hicks; Miss Doris Templeton submits a charming rendering of Lady Henrietta; and Miss Aida Jenoure is a capable Mrs Mulholland. Miss Clarke, Miss Irene Hamilton and Miss Helen Roberts act well in their respective rôles. *Barbara* is an excellent curtain-raiser.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee and Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—*In the Ranks* is here this week, and an admirable performance is given by Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage's company. Mr Edward Lloyd and Miss Edith Blair-Staples appear in the title-rôles. They give a powerful study of their parts, and meet with great success. Miss Ella Wilmer is an excellent Barbara Herrick, and Miss Barley-Clarke is good as Mrs Timms. Mr Arthur Palling and Mr Archie Chappell appear as the Grenadier Guards, and Mr Herbert Cecil makes a good impression as Gideon Blake. Mr Leon Ainscliffe plays with distinction as Sergeant Searle.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—Leonard Barry and his company in *The Soldier's Promenade* head the bill. The sketch is well played, and creates much amusement. Raffayette's dogs give an astounding performance, and Florence and Lillian in their adept drawing-room scene are great favourites. Lee and Bentley in the sketch *Castles in the Air* prove a capital turn, and Laurie Wylie's patter is good. The Maningoes give a clever acrobatic show; Joe Mac, comedian, creates a good impression; and Millie Denham sings pleasing songs. Some interesting films are shown on the "Bio."

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—The Teesside favourites, Bella and Bijou, head the bill here. They meet with a hearty reception. The Revell Troupe, in pantomimic act *Mischief*, are favourites, and Fred Curran receives well-earned applause. Bert Weston, comedian, pleases everyone, and George Edney, comedian; Varley and Sinclair, duettists; Louis Kerno, vocalist; and George and Edwards and the "Bio" make up an excellent programme.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—Good entertainment is provided this week by Mr Lawrence Brough's company with *The Lady of Ostend* and *The Cruise of the Saucy Sally*. *The Lady of Ostend* was staged first, and as the Baron De Longueville Mr Brough was most amusing. Mr Percy Marshall was clever as Joseph Carbury, and Mr Harry Hampson was the cause of much laughter as Dick Whortles. Mr Edmund Gurney gave a good display as Toby Krockitt, the prize-fighter. Miss Rosamund Rokeby was a vivacious Lady of Ostend, Miss Kate Milford made an attractive Dorothy Whortles, and Miss Eleanor Gilbart was comical as the sedate mother-in law

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr J. Gar Kiddie's company is this week presenting *A Little Coquette*. Mr J. W. Groves is decidedly clever as Anne Teeke; Mr F. Bruce gives a skilful sketch of the miser, Gabriel Grabbe; as Scrapp, the village constable, Mr Geo. Hester is thoroughly entertaining; Mr E. H. Bertram does well as Captain Nevermind; and Messrs J. Bell and J. Clarence assist capably in the comedy. Miss Lizzie Payne is delightfully chic in the title-rôle; Miss Flo Warner is most successful as Robin Adair; and Miss Nellie Butt is smart as Charlie Crowquill. The Milstead Quartet of lady dancers perform very gracefully.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—*My Lady Molly*, with its fine old English flavour, and Mr Sidney Jones's flowing melody, always in keeping with the spirit of the piece, is again being performed here by a company under the direction of Mr Frederick Mouillot. Miss Decima Moore fortunately reappears in her old part of Alice Coverdale, and she is as dainty and charming as ever. Lady Molly Martingale is acted with commendable liveliness and spirit by Miss Beatrice Edwards, who sings capitally. Miss Lottie Crawford is also successful as Hester, and the Madeline Mirabeau of Miss Amy Cooper is an enjoyable performance. Mr Harry T. Davies as Harry Romney scores considerably from both an acting and singing point of view, and his friend Lionel Bland is agreeably presented by Mr Ernest Mozar. Mr John T. M'Callum now appears as Mickey O'Dowd, a character which loses nothing of its mirth-provoking qualities in his capable hands. A very admirable performance is the Sir Miles Coverdale of Mr Augustus Cramer, his acting and singing calling for warm praise. Mr Frederick Silverton is to the fore as Reuben Oates.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—Not long have we had to wait for the appearance of the newly produced musical play, *Peggy Machree*, which is this week being presented by Mr Chas. E. Hamilton's company, and on Monday was accorded an appreciative and encouraging reception from a large audience, who found a certain charm in the simple and unpretentious piece, as well as in the music, which is chiefly characteristic. A nice sentiment pervades the production which is wholly agreeable. Mr Denis O'Sullivan as Barry Trevor and Miss Marie Dainton as Lady Margaret O'Driscoll are especially prominent and successful. Mr O'Sullivan acts with power and fine feeling, and the same may be said of his rendering of the Irish songs, which are immensely enjoyed, thanks to his artistic efforts. The Lady Margaret of Miss Marie Dainton is a winsome and dainty performance, and her several songs, which she gives with much charm, notably "The Old Oak Tree," with its graceful dance, are also repeatedly encored. Mr Graeme Campbell as Alexander M'Dougall, a gaunt Scotchman in kilts, acts with much dry humour. Well-drawn characters also are those of Moira and Michael, servants of the O'Driscolls, which are depicted with many happy touches by Miss Freda Bramleigh and Mr Shiel Barry respectively. The foppish Sir Lawrence Borthwick is well acted by Mr Marc Macdermott, and Captain De La Cour has an effective exponent in Mr Stanley Pringle.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—Mr Edward Marris and company are paying a welcome return visit this week in *The Dandy Doctor*. Mr Marris again appears in the title-rôle, and his performance throughout is excruciatingly funny. He is ably assisted by Miss Florence Smithers, who continues to display low comedy of marked ability in the part of Jane. Mr Walter Nugent sings and acts pleasingly as Arthur Vandyke, and Mr W. N. Gilmore submits a delightfully refreshing rendering of the dude. Mr James Danvers makes the most of his opportunities as Colonel Pendred, and is also responsible for a speciality act on the piano, in which he receives excellent assistance from Miss Elsa Nicholson. Miss Lizzie Primmer is decidedly successful as Ivy Pendred. The Dandy Belles (Misses Flo Allen and Cissie Evelyn) are expert dancers; and Mr Ben Rowe and Miss Holden receive a big encore for their cake-walk speciality.

ELSWICK THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Charles M. Daly.—Here we have Miss Winifred Maude's company, in *The Sins of a City*. Miss Maude herself appears as Seaweed—a part she acts very cleverly. Miss Marie Lyons also creditably sustains the rôle of Lesbia; and the slavey, Midge, has an amusing representative in Miss Agnes Norman, who contributes songs and dances. Mr J. W. Baxter doubles the parts of Joe Woodleigh and his miserly twin brother with excellent results, and Ralph Blackwater is depicted very effectively by Mr Leslie Beaufort. Mr Victor Du Cane as a comical Jew causes plenty of laughter. The Sandy M'Donald of Mr Royce Carleton is a good performance.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Marie Loftus, whose popularity remains undiminished, is receiving the heartiest of welcomes here, and her comedy powers are again amply demonstrated in her various efforts, the most entertaining and amusing of which is undoubtedly the skit on pantomime she so cleverly presents. We have a novelty in talking and singing animated pictures, and this act is stated to have been given here on Monday for the first time in this country. James Bard on the swinging wire gives a skilful exhibition, and his white-clad figure with the stage draped in black adds to the effect of his performance. Lilian Lowe is encored in unmistakeable fashion for her excellent rendering of "The song that reached my heart," and Charles Russell in a song descriptive of famous historic episodes earns approval. In the sketch given by Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte the latter is especially amusing as a cockney slavey with romantic ideas. Much admiration is excited by Jan Rudenyi, the Hungarian violinist. Daisy Dormer is indeed a dainty comedienne, and the Cavallini Brothers occasion amusement in their funny parodies. Entertainment of an enjoyable description is provided by Lee and Kingston, the comedy duo; the Three Georgis are clever and amusing as comic acrobats; and pleasing duettists and dancers in the Sisters St. Julian also appear.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs R. Thornton and S. Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—The visit of *Sherlock Holmes* has attracted good houses this week. The thrilling adventures of the famous detective have been keenly followed by enthusiastic audiences, who show their appreciation of the production in no half-hearted manner. Mr H. A. Saintsbury is responsible for the title rôle, and has been entirely successful. Good support is forthcoming from a good all-round company.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—The extraordinary properties of liquid air as demonstrated by means of the magic kettle are again proving interesting and instructive. Dusty Rhodes, who casually informs the audience that on a wet day his name is "Mud," appears in the guise of a tramp, and submits an entertainment which is decidedly clever and in many respects original. Possessed of a really excellent voice he uses it to the best advantage in his imitations of sundry singers, which he invariably introduce with some apt and humorous remark, and the hearty laughter and applause which he evokes are testimony to his success. Donaldson Brothers and Ardel and company find plenty of scope for their pantomime business in *A Zoological Comedy*, which they are again successfully presenting. Very cordial is the reception accorded the Falcons, who submit a smart and amusing acrobatic comedy act. Miss Nellie Ganthony, society entertainer, gives proof of her ability in this line; and J. H. Scotland is an excellent baritone vocalist with an agreeable manner. Ella Shields sings a budget of American songs in good style, and the sketch *How She Did It* serves to introduce Addie Dorina as a quick-change artiste. Whit Cunliffe is a clever and versatile entertainer, Nora Emerald is a bright comedienne; and Browning and Wally, gymnasts, and Alphonse Silvano also contribute successfully.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—*A Soldier and a Man* is being presented here by Mr Clifton Alderson and company. Mr Clifton Alderson's impersonation of Harold Sinclair is a fine character study; Miss Billie Doyle's Rose Melbury is an ideal heroine; Mr Frank Powell does well as the villain, Herbert Walgrave; Mr Harry Wright's impersonation of Jim Ferron is a clever mixture of humour and pathos; and Miss Nettie Sobrier makes a bright Sergeant Jane Wicks. The piece is capitally mounted.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll.—R. G. Knowles is the star turn here, and on Monday the house accorded him a warm welcome. Verno and Voyce, who possess good voices, sing some good duets, and George Brooks, comedian, causes hearty laughter. The Florador Quartet, in their comedy sketch *Naughty Nin*, provoke a good deal of merriment; the Young American Quintet, conducted by Miss Mattie Boorman, create a favourable impression; and Marie Reeve is applauded for her clever step dance. Rezene and Robini provide a turn that is clever and amusing; the Ashers, in *The Dude and the Soubrette*, are amusing; and Lizzie Daniels, soubrette, completes a good programme.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Elward Compton; Resident Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—*The School Girl* is being presented here by Mr George Dance's principal company. Miss Ethel Beech is very good as Lillian Leigh; Miss Grace Sinclair is a handsome Cicely; Miss Mildred King as the Mother Superior makes a hit with her song; Miss Hope is a model Saafedza; Miss Elena Sevest is a presentable French bonne; and Miss M. Walbran, Miss N. Minshull, and Miss Florence Lee are pretty and dashing American girls. Mr. Leslie Holland is a comical Sir Ormesby St. Leger, Mr Charles Adeson is very funny as General Marchmont, and Mr Alfred Leslie as Tubby Bedford completes a comical trio. Mr Lister Morrah is good, dramatically and vocally, as Edgar Verney, and Mr Cameron Carr gives a consistent representation of Peter Overend. The chorus and orchestra do well under the direction of Mr Edward H. Whitehall.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton; Musical Director, Mr Walter Ashton.—The excellent vocalism of the Yorkshire Mill Lasses (Miss Mona and Miss Gladys Wells), whose sweet and powerful voices are used with artistic grace in duets, please all here, and the varied instrumentalism of Messrs Barton and Franklin is also admired. The Five Delevines (three gentlemen and two ladies) give an acrobatic, pantomimical, and musical act, which is amusing. The Olive Trio of comediennes and dancers supply a novel turn. T. C. Callaghan is a clever comedian, and his songs go well, and Gertrude Moore, transformation dancer, Flo St. Clair, and J. W. Ellison also contribute with success.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Messrs George Edwardes and Charles Frohman's company is presenting *Are You a Mason?* here this week, which has been cordially greeted. As George Fisher, the stockbroker, Mr Anthony Fawcett gives a really clever impersonation, and his reception has been an enthusiastic one. Mr Stephen Wentworth is capital as Frank Perry, and Mr Harry Ashford is very funny in the rôle of Amos Bloodgood. Mr Frank Ridley is smart as Hamilton Travers; Mr Valentine O'Connor creates a good impression as Ernest Morrison; and Mr Tom Mowbray proves successful in the part of John Halton. As Mrs Caroline Bloodgood Miss Harriet Trench is seen to advantage; Miss Lucy Edwin gives an entertaining performance of Lottie; Miss Violet Graham is a satisfactory Eva (Mrs Perry); and the other characters are ably filled. The play is preceded by an enjoyable comedietta, *Hushed Up*.

BORO' VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—The Andos, happy little Japs, are at the head of an enjoyable bill-of-fare, and their clever performance gains much applause. Mr W. Permane's educated bears are proving very attractive, and Mr Walter Stockwell, the popular comedian, makes a great hit. Messrs J. C. Scatter and Son, Tyneside comedians, are good; Miss Marie Gibson, soprano, is received with favour; and Miss Florence Gwynne, in her musical scena "The Stage-Struck Servant;" Mr Jack Carlin, comedian; and Mr J. P. Carroll, military tambourine player, also contribute successfully.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm Mould.—Messrs Ike Scott and Son, with "The Blind Coster," are here, and have lost none of their popularity. Mr Barney Stuart, in "Impersonalia," is received with much favour; Signor and Madame Prosper Benn, in their sketch, *From Pavement to Stage*, are loudly applauded; Young Codge, the whistling street arab, is smart; and Miss Kitty Marlor, comedienne and soprano vocalist; Miss Edith Sylvesto, in her speciality act; Mr Ben Nevis, raconteur and dancer; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope all meet with favour.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's No. 1 company in *Quality Street* is here this week. Mr George A. Brandram as Valentine Brown acted with much care and ability; Mr Arthur F. C. Lysons was amusing as Ensign Blades; Mr Dan Dyer was good as the Recruiting Sergeant; Master Ernest Hollom deserved commendation for his portrayal of Master Arthur Wellesley Tomson; and Mr Herbert Chown as Lieut. Spicer and Mr Arthur Curtis as a Waterloo Veteran ably accounted for their respective parts. Miss Florence Jackson as Miss Phœbe Throssell was the life of the piece, and her admirable acting met with warm approval. Miss Grace Edwin was exceedingly good as Susan Throssell; Miss Gwynneth Galton was genuinely funny as Patty; whilst Miss Isabel Merson as Miss Willoughby, Miss Marie Dennett as Fanny Willoughby, Miss Frances Leslie as Henrietta Turnbull, Miss Lillian Rogers as Charlotte Parratt, Miss Violet Hollom as Isabella, and Miss Beryl Burnie as Harriett were respectively good in their several characters. The staging and dressing deserve mention.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt.—A capital programme is presented to provide amusement to country friends visiting the Cattle Show this week. The celebrated Geo. Bonhair-Gregory Troupe head the bill, and give a wonderfully clever Risley performance; Tell and Tell as comedy acrobats provide much fun; Harry Radford and Mdlle. Valentine, American burlesque jugglers, are amusing; the Four Mezanos are clever musicians; Charley Dixon, crazy comedian, is very good; Bob Hamilton, character comedian, has a favourable reception; Kate Lynd is a successful comedienne; Steeley and Dowton receive applause for their comedy legmania act; and Grey and Welford are excellent patter comedians and comedy boxers.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—The presentation of Mr Henry Arthur Jones's comedy *Joseph Entangled*, on Monday, roused much interest, which was sustained throughout the play. Miss Mona K. Oram acts Lady Verona with a delightful touch, showing up the frivolous character with delicate tact, and in the final scene revealing the true womanly nature with a tenderness that wins all hearts. Mr H. B. Warner makes a handsome and gallant Sir Joseph, acting with taste and discrimination, his impersonation throughout being full of true artistic feeling. Mr S. W. Ashworth embodies Hardolph Mayne with the requisite amount of dramatic force. Mr Horace Lane offers a most most natural portraiture of the vacuous Harry Tavender, and his feather-brained, but pretty wife, is capitally drawn by Miss Shelley Calton. Miss Rosamond Bury imparts a charm to her small part as Lady Joyce. Mr Lawrence Grant makes a distinct hit as Jermyn Pyecroft, his philosophical pleasantries evoking great hilarity. Mr Cecil Brooking is highly amusing as Professor Tofield, and a couple of servants are excellently typed by Miss Claire Cavendish and Mr Everard Digby.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—Mr Arnold Bell's company occupies this theatre this week, opening on Monday with the presentation of *Ben-My-Chree*. In the rôle of the excitable hero, Dan Mylres, Mr Arnold Bell is seen to advantage, acting with great force and taste. Mr Cuthbert Imrie is entirely successful as Ewan Mylres, and great credit is due to Mr H. M. Clifford for his convincing impersonation of Gilchrist Mylres. Miss Frances Campbell as Mona Mylrea acts in a most charming and winsome manner, and Miss Violet Campbell as Kitty gives a dainty rendering. Miss Lillian Earle and Miss M. Heildon are both excellent in their respective parts, and not a little is added to the success of the piece by the clever portraiture of Hommey-Beg, the deemster's deaf servant, by Mr Joe Bardsley. Mr William Reid as Davy Fayle and Mr D. Farrough as Mr Harcourt, the Governor, are both very good; and mention should be made of Mr F. C. Robson as Thorkell Mylrea. *The Shaugraun* and *The Octoroon* are also in the week's bill.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—The stirring events depicted in *A Life's Revenge* by Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr F. G. Somerfield's company, have found much favour here. Mr John F. Traynor plays the hero, Paul Starovitch, with ease and manliness, and Mr T. G. Vane assumes the kindly Maurice Trevor with distinction to himself. A strong and realistic portrayal of the villainous Prince Strogoroff is given by Mr Somerfield, and the scheming Michael Orloff finds a capable exponent in Mr Walter Roberts. Miss Dagmar brings undoubted histrionic gifts to bear on the part of the Princess Vanda Ivyala. Miss Amy Ellam acts with energy as Marcia Vittoria, the adventuress. Humorous relief is capitally afforded by Miss Maudie Grayson (Daphne Dashaway), Miss Amy Hughes (Acculina), Mr Charles E. Warne (Col. Tumbleoff), and Mr Sydney Ernest (Nicholas).

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—"The Marvellous Tea Kettle" has made its appearance here, much to the delight and wonderment of crowded audiences. The operators, a lady and gentleman, were kept busy on Monday night producing the many extraordinary effects, and were accorded a hearty reception for their interesting experiments. It is impossible to speak too highly of the Kreme Family of acrobats. The dexterity and neatness with which they accomplish their many difficult feats evokes a perfect storm of applause. Walter Groves and company, in the sketch *Artful Jim*, cause continuous laughter throughout their "turn." Amy Russell renders a song with animation, and Alice Ormonde wins favour by her singing. Fred Earle's comical song, "Seaweed," gains him high popularity, and the Two Bees are again heard in "Hiawatha," which continues a huge success. Items are also well served by Walter King, comedian; Burt Shephard, comedian; Horace Wheatley, comedian and dancer; and the Rayfords, comedy artistes.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—The Ben Greet company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, is doing good business here this week with *La Poupée*. Mr Algernon Lee makes an exceedingly amusing Lancelot, whilst the grotesque humour of Mr Bert Danson, in the part of Hilarius, keeps the house in a state of merriment from beginning to end. Miss Cissie Wade makes an exceptionally charming Alesia, and is soon in favour with the audience. Mr Joseph A. Bull gives a fine study of Father Maxime, and, with Mr H. T. Parr, Mr Williams, Mr Chas. Flynn, Mr G. Speed, and Mr James as brother monks, gain a repeated encore with "The Jovial Monk." Praise also is due to Miss Margaret Ainsworth as Madame Hilarius and Miss Eva Ellis Henri. The augmented orchestra is successfully conducted by Mr Bolton.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr Louis Calvert's company is occupying the boards here in the London success *Sunday*. Miss Nita Faydon is portraying the title-rôle with remarkable ability; Mr J. Edward Pearce as Colonel Brinthorpe is conspicuous in a manly part; Mr Ernest A. Douglas as Tom Oxley receives due appreciation for his clever acting; the Towzer of Mr Frederick Powell is very effective; Mr John A. Manley is good as Davy; and the Lively of Mr T. Norman Walter is all that can be desired. Mr Whitford Kane as Jacky is responsible for a clever impersonation; Miss Elizabeth Watson as Mrs Naresby is sympathetic; Miss Olive Adair is effective as the Nun; and Mr Charles B. Vaughan is exceedingly breezy as the devil-may-care Arthur Brinthorpe.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—Captain Woodward occupies premier position here with his performing seals, their wonderful tricks eliciting great admiration. Edgar Forrest's comedy sketch company is well received in *My Friend the Enemy*; Talberto and Douglas are successful as knockabouts; Harry Ray and Lillie Calden receive cordial appreciation for their dancing comedy act; as a baritone vocalist George Adams does well; Collins and Rice, comedy and speciality artistes, are a success; and Patty Yole, comedienne; Maud Beaumont, burlesque actress; and Fred Clements, comedian, are well received.

GAIETY.—Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—A capital company here includes Johnny Holland and company, in *My Friend Boots*; the Sisters Mitchel (Madge and Nell), comediennes and expert dancers, give a clever turn; Fred Poplar, comedian, wins several encores; France and Francis, eccentric comedians, are responsible for a capital performance; Lil Hartley, descriptive vocalist, is very successful; Mozetti, the boy juggler, gives a capital performance with billiard balls and Indian clubs; Kitty Wager is very smart with her catchy songs; and the Bioscope is as popular as ever.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—The latter half of last week Mr Frank Wilson's excellent company gave capital performances of *The Marriage of Kitty*. This week Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company has been drawing full and highly appreciative houses with *The Money-Makers*. Mr Frank Lacy plays Fritz in light agreeable fashion; while his Uncle Matthew is performed by Mr Allen Thomas in a dry and humorous style that is highly effective. Miss Muriel Ashwynne makes a fascinating and attractive Dot, and is well supported by Miss Lorna Lawrence as Mabel; but the honours of the play are carried off by Miss Frances Davie, whose Bella is such a light, vivacious performance as to keep the house in good humour right through the agreeable play.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Miss Gladys Silvester and Mr Fletcher Sansome's musical comedy company is this week paying a return visit here with *Jack's Sweetheart*. Mr Harry C. Lovell makes an attractive Jack Tremayne, and Mr Murray Yorke is effective as the villain, Captain Dugard. Mr Dan Clifford is the life and soul of the piece as Samuel Sherlock Spotter, and is ably assisted by Miss Nellie V. Warden in a clever interpretation of Sally. Mr Fred Laceby is droll as Hon. Bertie Babington, and Mr Fletcher Sansome is successful as Sir Henry Stanhope. Mr Edward Smyth is forcible as Ben Reeve; Miss Madge Western gives a successful portrayal of Lady Dolly Dartley; Miss Augustus Rocheford is adequate as Mrs Hopkins; and the Misses M. Clarke, A. Valerie, and M. Isabelle dance in pleasing style. Miss Gladys Silvester makes a dainty and charming May Leslie.

TOWN HALL.—Managers, Messrs Sidney Acott, Harris, and Co.—Maskelyne and Cooke's Mysteries are paying us a most welcome return visit here this week, and opened to a crowded and delightful audience on Monday. The programme includes *The Gnome's Grotto* and *Will, the Witch, and the Watchman*, but Mr David Devant's delightful conjuring still continues to be the great attraction of this most successful show. The Chamounix Alpine Orchestra contributes some capital music and pretty songs.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Porprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—Miss Madge Girdlestone's company is giving successful performances this week of *The City of Millions*. Miss Girdlestone acts with dramatic power the rôle of Rosa De Valois, and Miss Agnes Verity is thoroughly natural throughout in her assumption of Jessie Townsend. Mr Vernon Sansbury's depiction of John Stacey is particularly pointed and good; as Captain Wilfred Dread Mr Martin Sabine is remarkably successful, his acting being imbued with the necessary force and emphasis; Mr Henry Nelson furnishes an excellent embodiment of John Townsend; the Hon. Benjamin Boodle is characteristically delineated by Mr Grahame Herington; and the parts of Bob Westwood and Joseph Smudgely are humorously rendered respectively by Mr Sam Wilkinson and Mr Claremont Gaskell. Clever sketches are submitted by Miss Gladys Vernon as Kitty Taylor and Miss Maud Stewart as Timothy Tippit. Little Audrey Sutherland displays ability as a child actress.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—Here this week are presented pleasing items by Les-Bois, burlesque juggler; the Gartells (Sid and Will), eccentric musical comedians, patterers, and dancers; Charles Danton, character comedian; Neta Anderson, vocalist; and Tom O'Neil, character comedian. The Empire Cinématograph submits a new series of pictures.

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—This week a variety show of a high order is attracting large audiences. Topping the bill are the Marconis, whose electric act is a triumph of scientific display. Lord, Murray, and Lord, in their athletic speciality, are exceedingly clever; Burley and Burley are amusing in their comedy acrobatic feats; Ada Twibell, comedienne, deserves praise; the Two St. Johns are much appreciated in their musical act and double dance; Will Dalton is a droll comedian; and Condon and Preston create much laughter by their refined patter. Ted Young is a good character comedian.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Assistant-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr Roy Jackson with his No. 1 company, including Miss Kittie Douglas, is engaged here for the week. On Monday and Tuesday the romantic drama, *Quasimodo*, was staged. Mr Roy Jackson assumes the title-rôle and displays considerable talent; Mr G. Lambton scores as Claude Frollo; Mr Percy B. Braithwaite is amusing as Jehan Frollo; Mr H. Storey Bates gains immediate popularity as Captain Phœbus; Mr Victor Vernon is responsible for a pleasing diversion from the dramatic element as Pierre Gringoire, poet and showman; Miss Inez Harman is seen to advantage as Fleur-de-Lys, a jealous lover; and Miss E. Benson proves an attentive Babette. Miss M. Taylor makes an admirable gossip as Oudarde; Miss B. Richardson is thoroughly amusing as Coucou; Miss E. Townsend is sympathetic as a sorrowing mother; and Miss Kittie Douglas is awarded quite an ovation for her exceptionally good acting, singing, and dancing, while her pet goat, Di Djali, is deserving of note. On Wednesday and Thursday *Trilby* was staged.

CITY HALL.—Mr George Grossmith gave a delightful humorous and musical recital here on Monday evening. The first part of the programme comprised a modern musical comedy, concluding with the possible fate of Hamlet and Ophelia; the second part included "Miserable Moments," and the concluding part consisted of selections from répertoire.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—*The Cingalee* is proving a great attraction here this week. Miss Anna Hickish as Lady Patricia Vane captivates the audience, her vocalism and acting being much enjoyed. A charming Nanoya is Miss Florence Smithson, who uses an attractive voice in pleasing fashion. As Peggy Sabine Miss Eva Sandford makes a great hit, and in conjunction with Mr Danby she does exceedingly well. That versatile actor is at his best as Chambhuddy Ram; Mr Leedham Bantock provides another successful impersonation; and as Sir Peter Loftus Mr W. J. Manning is very entertaining; Mr Harold Thorley being capital as Harry Vereker.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester Jackson, supported by a capable company, are appearing here this week with much success in *Her One Great Sin*, an interesting drama. Mr Sam Arthur gives a robust and forcible rendering of Reuben Warhurst, and Mr Jackson carefully and ably portrays Arnold Thornhill. As Jerry Jumble Mr Fred Hodson does good work, and equally effective is Mr C. E. Lambert as Dan Hundle. In the part of Grace Warhurst Miss St. Albans misses no opportunity to win the full sympathy of the audience, her elocution calling for praise.

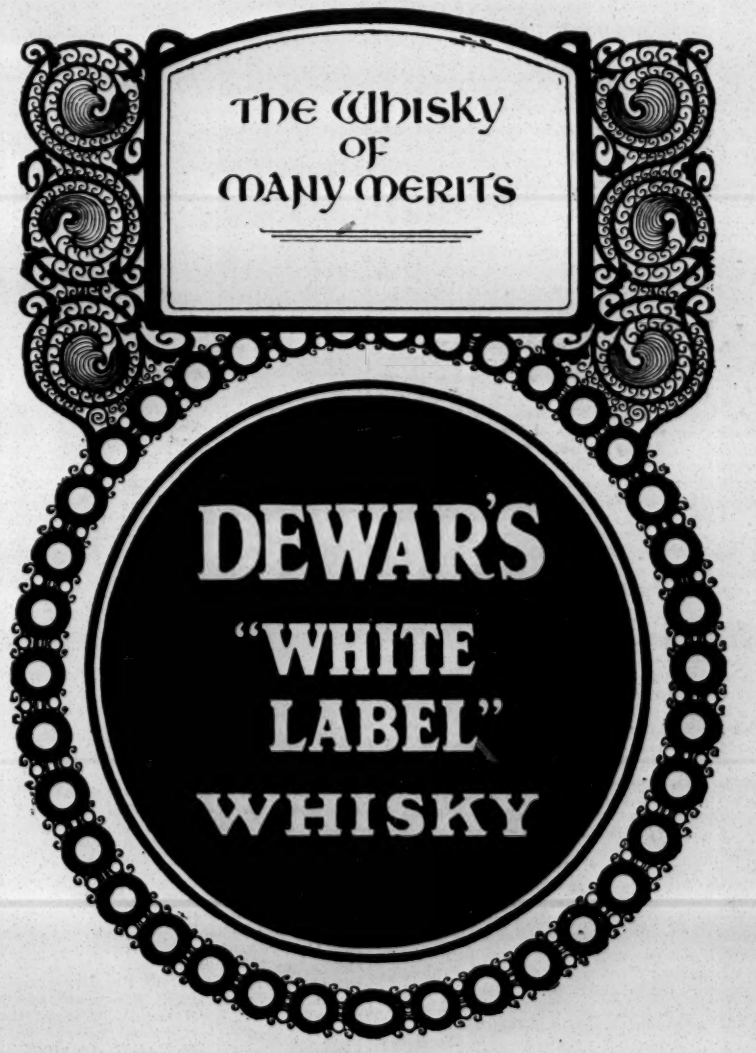
METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. Carlton.—*The Sin of Her Childhood* is being staged here this week by Mr J. A. Campbell's company, and is proving very attractive. Generally speaking, the acting merits commendation, the various characters being well placed. Mr Campbell, Mr Charles Fancourt, Miss Mary Fulton, Mr Austin Milroy, Mr Fred Elvin, and Miss May Pratt appear in important rôles and with conspicuous success, the play going with a swing from start to finish.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros; Manager, Mr J. Field.—A varied programme is attracting good business here this week. George Leyton, the popular actor-vocalist, tops the bill, and another good turn is provided by Zertho's dogs. Harry Clifford's songs take well; Mr and Mrs Finden appear in an amusing sketch; a sprightly comedienne is Miss Lillie Langtry; J. A. Wilson, the Negro comedian and dancer, is a warm favourite; and the Warlocks are funny to a degree. The Skandias, four Swedish gymnasts, execute some very clever and novel evolutions.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—*An Actor's Romance* is a drama of strong emotional interest, and it is being most effectively presented here this week by Mr Cecil Barth's company. Mr Guy Hastings proves himself a talented actor in the rôle of Harold Davenport. Mr Ernest Rushton is thoroughly capable as Robert Livingstone; and much praise is due to Mr F. H. Dobell for his clever and amusing delineation of Charlie Cummings. Jack Woodford has an excellent representative in Mr Percy Marmont. Miss Bertha Northam gives a sympathetic portrayal of Louise Davenport. Little Marie Ada Dowsing acts pleasingly as Phyllis Davenport. Miss May Charteris is a vivacious and charming Dottie Dillingham. The Sal Wiggins of Miss Louise L'Estrange is a realistic embodiment; and Miss Constance Elgin displays genuine dramatic ability in the part of Florence. The special songs and dances of the Pansy Quartet are an enjoyable feature in the performance.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—Miss Cissie Moxon's company is appearing here this week in the musical comedy *A Trip to Rum-Fum*.



PONTYPOOL.

Royal Theatre.—Lessees, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; General Manager, Mr J. H. Stephens.—Mr Morton's powerful company, under the direction of Mr Fred Moule, opened here on Monday with a successful representation of a new play, *Bigamy*. Miss Alwynne Ormon's acting as the bigamist is a feature of the play. Mr Colin Hazlewood gives a capable exposition of Sir Charles Dresden; Mr E. Earle and Mr Ernest Fare are particularly effective as the twin brothers: Miss Elsie Capell portrays Sylvia Dresden with much pathos; and other parts deserving special mention are the Frank Merrivale of Mr Charles Burdon, the Rufus Cherrybull of Mr Fred Moule, and the ubiquitous Frenchman of Mr Francis Serle. The piece is picturesquely staged.

PONTYPRIDD.

Royal Clarence Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—Mr W. H. Hallatt and company are paying a welcome return visit to the above theatre this week with *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Chief honours were appropriated by Mr W. H. Hallatt as Commander Noel Tregarthen; Mr Leonard Booker well portrays Lieut. Redstone; Captain Tom Yorke is most ably taken by Mr Ed. Warden; Mr Geo. Cecil Murray is a typical retired Admiral; Mr Oscar Power a breezy Jack Jolly; and Mr Sid Cotterell a highly diverting Ben Baxter. Miss Marie Daventry interprets the part of Mildred Grey with great ability, Miss Blanche Steele is admirably suited as Lolo Yorke, and great praise is due to Miss Hilda Taylor as Lucy Wilson. Miss May Day and Miss Ethel Frances are two fascinating little sailor boys.

PORTH.

Poole's Opera House.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—Mr W. H. Kirby's No. 1 company is here in the successful musical comedy entitled *The New Mephisto*, Mr W. H. Kirby is decidedly popular as Dick Pilgrim. Mr Fred Lyne scores a distinct success as Mephistopheles and also in various other characters. Mr Herbert St. John capitally portrays Lord Hummingtop. Miss Lily Gullick meets with much approval as Dolly Pilgrim. Miss Marian Armitage delights all by her amusing impersonation of Becky Pilgrim. Miss Dorothy Cecil is much admired as Mrs Gertie Gentle. Miss Leah Howard as Mrs Connie Gentle and Miss Marian Keeley as Mrs Prudie Gentle deserve mention. Captain Meredith is excellently played by Mr H. P. Carr. Mr Willie H. Vernon is particularly good as Major Bantam. The choruses are effectively rendered, and the Thalian Glee Singers are well received.

PORTSMOUTH.

Theatre Royal.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Mr George Dance's principal company is here this week presenting *Three Little Maids*. The play has been put on in a highly satisfactory manner. The Three Little Maids are personated by Miss Janet Reeve as Ada, Miss Gertrude Melville as Hilda, and Miss Nora Gay as Edna Branscombe in a charming and vivacious way. Lady St. Mallory is ably embodied by Miss Kate Forster. The Gretchen of Miss Laura Wright is a capable and clever performance, and, with Mr Gus Oxley as Cupid, provokes great merriment. Mr Arthur Langley as Lord Cheyne is happily suited with the part. Brian Molyneux and M. De L'Orme are respectively in the hands of Mr Haddon Cave and Mr Alec Chentrens, and both do good work.

Prince's Theatre.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company is here this week in the musical comedy drama *On the Stroke of Twelve*. Mr Fred Rivers is clever and painstaking as Jack Rutledge. Mr H. Creagh Hunt as James Hoxton is successful, Mr Harry C. Robinson does well as Henry Rutledge, and the same may be said of Mr Karl H. Edwards as Moses Levi. Miss Elma C. Turner's impersonation of Marie Bergerre is very good. Miss Bertha S. Ruth as Doris Rutledge and Miss Nellie Moore as Jess Bainbridge are commendable.

Empire Palace.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The management of this house has provided a rattling good programme, which includes George Bastow, with new songs; the Norman-Leonard Trio of excellent musicians in their musical sketch *The Itinerant*; Fred Carey, eccentric comedian; the Mayvilles, Lilliputian novelty artists; George Formby, the man from Lancashire; Spry and Monti, speciality artistes; the Summersons, comedy artists; the Sisters Hula, duettists and expert dancers; Georgina Leonard, burlesque actress; and Walter Sevetto, high pedestal dancer.

RAMSGATE.

Sanger's Amphitheatre. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr H. Bowman.—The powerful drama, *The Life that Kills*, has been staged here this week by Messrs Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls's company. Mr Hugh Metcalf is a capital Hector Rodney, while the part of Laurie Linden is effectively filled by Miss Vyvyan Montgomery. As Kendal Croat Mr Herbert Sidney plays admirably; and as the Rev. Theodore Rodney, an old English gentleman, Mr E. D. Nicholls is extremely popular. Mr Morris Maud as the scapegrace, Valentine Telford, gives an excellent representation. Miss Cathleen Cavanagh as the adventuress, Brenda Croat, submits a capable impersonation; and the dual part of Tom Dicks and Johanna Dicks is handled with skill by Miss Mabel Kessler, who incidentally introduces "specialities" in playing in first-class style upon the bugle, cornet, and posthorn. A clever child actress is Little Mabel, who sustains the rôle of the cripple, May Linden.

ROCHDALE.

New Theatre Royal, Limited. — Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*A Woman's Pluck* is in possession of the boards here this week. Mr James Willard is a host in himself as Dick Darrell, Mr Charles P. Wentworth makes the most of Sir Noel Fordyce, Mr Edward E. Ashby portrays with earnest feeling Winston Dale, Mr J. P. Dryden cleverly enacts the dual-rôle of Mark Scanlan and Jim Daremont, and Mr Cecil Raymond is amusing as Sir John Daredevil. Miss Tina Shaw is lively as the incorrigible Bertie Daredevil, Miss Jessie Yatman makes a winsome Jessie Pope, Miss Helen Elmar acts with becoming dignity as Lady Daredevil, and Miss East Robertson admirably fills the rôle of Grace Daremont.

Circus of Varieties. — Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—O'Connor and Brady's combination of artistes have had a gratifying reception here. As comedians Messrs O'Connor and Brady submit a turn which evokes irresistible laughter; the Jackley Wonders, acrobats, display clever agility; Mansell Fane, actor-vocalist, sings some stirring songs; W. A. Kay amuses with his living marionettes; Miss Gertie Gitana, comedienne, is a popular artiste here, and sings and dances with great success; and Signor Bandoni, the one-man band; Bob Gardner, vocalist; and Will Saunders, comedian, complete the list.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—Park's Lion Boys head the bill here this week; their vocalism is of a high quality and secures well-earned applause; Harry Morgan sings coon songs and dances with acrobatic agility; Florence Leonard is a pleasing vocalist, with well-chosen songs; Edna Cragge, prettily attired, vocalises with power and effect; Young Igo is a clog dancer and comedian of much promise; and Lucretia, burlesque artist and speciality dancer; the Empire Bioscope; and E. J. Wilkes, comedian, with his dog Woof, contribute to an entertainment well worth seeing.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS DOROTHY FIRMIN.

Miss Dorothy Firmin made her first appearance on the real stage at the age of eleven at the Crown, Peckham, in Mr Isaac Cohen's pantomime of *Cinderella*, in 1899. She was next engaged for small parts, including the Bad Girl with Mr Austin Melford, in *The Silver King*, and Little Lucy, in Mr Henry Dundas's *East Lynne*, and following which she played Little Willy, in Mr Harold Davidson't production of *East Lynne*. Miss Firmin was then engaged by Mr Fred L. Connyngbame to create the part of Marjory Wingate, in *A Mother's Love*, which she played with great success for over twelve months. Mr James Willard next engaged her to create the part of Lord Arthur Selwood, in *A Woman of Pleasure*. She next created the part of Stella, in Mr Hill-Mitchelson's *When the Lights are Low*. Afterwards Mr Trevor Lowe secured her for the title rôle in *Alice in Wonderland*, in which part she greatly added to her reputation by her natural acting, charming singing, and dainty dancing. Miss Firmin's next venture was to leave the "legitimate" to play Shakespearian sketches in the London halls. Her répertoire included the following:—Prince Arthur, in *King John*, and Portia, in *The Merchant of Venice*, which she played with such marked success that she was engaged by Mr J. H. Leigh to play the part of Ariel, in his production of *The Tempest*, at the Royal Court Theatre, London. The revival had a most successful run, and Miss Firmin had eulogistic descriptions of her performances in the London papers, and was a great success. Miss Firmin was then re-engaged by Mr Trevor Lowe to play Tom, in *The Water Babies*, at Brighton, Christmas, 1903 4, where she again distinguished herself. Miss Firmin is now engaged by Mr Robert Arthur, for one of his London pantomime productions the coming season.

Photo by Hana.

MISS DOROTHY FIRMIN.

Photo by N. S. Kay

MISS NELL OLIVER.

MISS NELL OLIVER.

Previously to entering the profession Miss Oliver recited at concerts a great deal, her first appearance as a reciter being at the age of seven. A few months before her professional début she joined an amateur society, playing such parts as Lady Chichele, in *The Princess and the Butterfly*; Ferdinand, in *The Tempest*; the part of the Mother, in *My Son and I*; &c. After successfully undergoing the ordeal of two Academy examinations, Miss Oliver made her first professional appearance in *Frocks and Frills*, at the Haymarket Theatre, under the management of Messrs Harrison and Maude; then she played the part of the Comtesse De Blaire, in *Sapho*, at the Adelphi Theatre, under Miss Olga Nethersole's management. She was next engaged by Mr Henry Dundas to sustain the rôle of the Countess Fahfield, in the Drury-lane drama *Hearts are Trumps*; and was re-engaged for the following spring for Honourable Blanche Rossitter, in *White Heather*. One evening she played at only a quarter of an hour's notice the heavy lead, Lady Hermione De Vaux, which led to being re-engaged for that part for the following autumn. Between the spring and autumn tours Miss Oliver joined a stock company, which, in her opinion, is the best possible experience for all young actors and actresses. She played such parts as Henriette, in *The Two Orphans*; Anne Chute, in *The Colleen Bawn*; Marian Beryl, in the old Lancashire drama *Grelley's Money*; &c. Last spring she went on tour with Mr Douglas Bruce's company, playing the lead, Barbara Wade, in Walter Melville's play *A Girl's Cross Roads*, in which she made a marked success.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL.

Mr Percy Marshall left the Civil Service to enter on a stage career in April, 1883, when he joined Mr Edward Compton's well-known comedy company. Playing a variety of parts in all the old comedies, he remained under this management until the summer of 1887, including a six months' season at the Strand Theatre, and then started on a lengthy list of farcical comedies, which has continued almost unbroken up to the present time. *Nancy and Co.* and *Our Regiment*, *Modern Wives* (with Lal Brough), *Turned Up* (with Ramsey Danvers), *Paper Chase* (again with Mr Lal Brough), and *The Barrister*, in all of which Mr Marshall played the leading light comedy parts, being his career up to the end of 1889. The successful *Our Flat* was then sent on its first tour, and the choice of Mr Marshall for the part of Reginald Sylvester, was the commencement of an association with Mr Willie Edouin of a long and most agreeable nature. After eighteen months with *Our Flat*, brief spells of *Our Daughters* and *A Night's Frolic* at the Strand Theatre intervened, and Mr Marshall performed the somewhat uncommon feat of appearing at a matinée at the Strand Theatre in *Our Daughters* and the same night at Leicester in *Our Flat*. After a ten months' engagement with Sir Augustus Harris in the original tour of *The Late Lamented* (playing Stuart Crosse), and a short stock season at Newcastle under the same management, Mr Marshall again enlisted under Mr Edouin's banner, and played Corney, in a long tour of *Niobe*, and principal light comedy part in the production of *Trooper Clairette*, at the Opera Comique, in December, 1892. Two London productions engaged Mr Marshall's appearance as a reciter being at the age of seven. A few months before her professional début she joined an amateur society, playing such parts as Lady Chichele, in *The Princess and the Butterfly*; Ferdinand, in *The Tempest*; the part of the Mother, in *My Son and I*; &c. After successfully undergoing the ordeal of two Academy examinations, Miss Oliver made her first professional appearance in *Frocks and Frills*, at the Haymarket Theatre, under the management of Messrs Harrison and Maude; then she played the part of the Comtesse De Blaire, in *Sapho*, at the Adelphi Theatre, under Miss Olga Nethersole's management. She was next engaged by Mr Henry Dundas to sustain the rôle of the Countess Fahfield, in the Drury-lane drama *Hearts are Trumps*; and was re-engaged for the following spring for Honourable Blanche Rossitter, in *White Heather*. One evening she played at only a quarter of an hour's notice the heavy lead, Lady Hermione De Vaux, which led to being re-engaged for that part for the following autumn. Between the spring and autumn tours Miss Oliver joined a stock company, which, in her opinion, is the best

Photo by Morrison.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL.

MR. PERCY MARMONT.

attention in 1893—the ill-fated *Two Johnnies*, at the Trafalgar Theatre, and the more successful *Mrs Othello* at Toole's and, subsequently, the Vaudeville. In March, 1894, Mr Marshall entered the ranks of managers and toured *The Late Lamented* in the principal provincial towns. An engagement to play the Judge, in *A Gaiety Girl*, under Mr Augustin Daly's management, gave Mr Marshall his first opportunity of visiting the United States of America, the tour lasting six months. On returning to England Mr George Edwardes offered him a provincial tour of *An Artist's Model*, and six months after landing from America Mr Marshall was on his way back with the Daly's Theatre company on a long and successful trip with that production. The company included Miss Marie Studholme, Miss Gladys Homfrey, Miss Louie Pounds, and Messrs John Coates, Lawrence D'Orsay, Fred Wright, jun., Maurice Farkoa, E. W. Garden, and Harry Eversfield, the last-named dying at the close of the New York run of the piece. On returning, Mr George Edwardes engaged Mr Marshall for a tour of *My Girl*. In 1897 came a long tour as Pinglet, in *A Night Out*. In 1898 he appeared as Tom, in *The J.P.*, at the Strand, and also as the Physician, in *Macbeth*, at the Lyceum. In 1899 Mr Marshall joined the Vaudeville company, and after playing Mr George Giddens's part of George Godfray, in *On and Off*, for a month during his absence, commenced a tour in the autumn in the same piece. Taking over the comedy under his own management, Mr Marshall toured the whole of 1900. After a brief rest he joined Mr Lawrence Brough's company in April, 1901, and in addition to Carbury, in *The Lady of Ostend*, and Jack Buncombe, in *Saucy Sally*, has lately played in Guy Boothby's new farce *In Sunny Ceylon*, creating the part of Sir Benjamin Bangle. Mr Marshall married a daughter of the late Godfrey Turner, the well-known journalist.

MR. PERCY MARMONT.

Mr Marmont's first professional engagement was with Mr F. Rawson Buckley in 1899, playing the Viscomte De St. Evremond and M. De Maury in *The Only Way*. It lasted three months, then followed his first engagement with Mr Ben Greet, with whom he has been for some years, on and off. He started under that management, playing small parts in *The White Heather* and understudying Dick Beach, which he was fortunate enough to have the opportunity of playing for several nights. He was then re-engaged by Mr Greet for the tour of *With Flying Colours*, followed by *The Second in Command*, in which he played Medenham, that led to an offer from the Haymarket Theatre, but being under contract with Mr Greet he was unable to accept it. He made use of it, however, some twelve months later, after the tour of *Sherlock Holmes*, and went thence for the run of *There's Many a Slip*, playing a small part and understudying in that play, also in *The Ghost of Jerry Bundler*. He was re-engaged by Mr Cyril Maude to understudy in *The Unforeseen*, but, having an offer from the late Mr George Walton, left the Haymarket and set sail for South Africa, where he played such parts as Gussie Stilton, in *Little Miss Nobody*; Bertie Milton in *Bilberry of Tilbury*; John Smith, in *Mr Wix of Wickham*; Hon. James Fitz-James, in *The American Heiress*; Prince Sing Sing, in *The Handy Man*, and many other rôles in musical comedy. He had a very successful tour lasting about nine months, and everything went well with the exception of a slight mishap in the shape of a shipwreck. It was not, however, an unpleasant experience, for he and his fellow-travellers spent a very delightful week in the Grand Canary Islands whilst awaiting the arrival of the next boat to pick them up. On his return from Africa he was engaged by Mr J. Bannister Howard to play David Rossiin *The Eternal City*, which part he has played since Christmas. Mr Marmont sustained many Shakespearian parts during Mr Greet's répertoire tour, and also with Mr Kenyon Musgrave, a few being Sylvius, Nym, Rosencrantz, and Borachio. Gilbert Vaughan, in *Called Back*, which was originally produced at the Haymarket Theatre with Mr Tree as Macari; Colonel Trevanion, in Mr Sydney Grundy's play *The Glass of Fashion*, and Bamfield, in *Sunlight and Shadow* have recently been added to his gradually growing list.

THE GERMAN THEATRE.

On Monday, November 14, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Gerhart Hauptmann entitled "Einsame Menschen."

Vockerat	Max Behrend
Frau Vockerat	Betty L'Arronge
Johannes Vockerat	Hans Andresen
Käthe Vockerat	Else Gademann
Braun	Hans Stock
Anna Mahr	Camilla Dalberg
Pastor Kollin	Hugo Rogall
Frau Lehmann	Ida Weiss
Amme	Adele Meysel
Hausmädchen	Grete Langfried
Wagenschieber von der Bahn	Phil Lesing

Einsame Menschen (Lonely Souls) was, as will be remembered, first produced in this country by the Stage Society. It was then generally voted a work of great depth, but little theatrical effectiveness. Now that we have seen the play in its original version we are inclined to think that the translation and performance may have had something to do with the lukewarm praise of this superb, though very depressing, tragedy. It seems to us that Hauptmann, inspired not so much by Ibsen as by his own domestic unhappiness, set himself to describe the terrible fate of men who marry women beneath their intellectual level, and whose sensitiveness and activity are constantly played havoc with by those whom they expected to turn to as sympathetic collaborators and congenial comrades. This conception of the drama was fully borne out by Herr Andresen's subtle yet intensely impressive and convincing rendering of the principal part. It is not too much to say that anything finer than his acting we have not seen for many a day, and that it would be hard to find his rival in naturalness and versatility. Herr Andresen is undoubtedly an amazingly fine artist. High praise is also due to Fräulein Gademann, L'Arronge, and Weiss, and to Herr Stock for their consummate and realistic impersonations of their difficult parts. Fräulein Dalberg and Herr Behrend, on the other hand, albeit satisfactory, did not completely realise the possibilities of their respective parts.

A more delightful one-act comedy than *Der Herrscher (The Ruler)* it would indeed be difficult to find. Annie Neumann-Hofer is an American by birth, but a German by marriage with the well-known dramatic critic and theatrical impresario. Writing under the *nom de plume* Annie Bock, her maiden-name, she made her mark as an exceptionally prolific novelist. Her novels, "Simson und Delila," "Gräfin Sofie," "Ellen," "Dora Peters," "Einsamkeit," and "Familie Rizzoni," have, one and all, achieved notable success, testifying, as they undoubtedly do, to the authoress's keen imagination and admirable descriptive talent. Of the various plays which the versatile authoress has given to the stage (*Dora Peters*, *The Prodigy*, &c) none, perhaps, has met with a larger measure of success than that altogether delightful skit on Bohemian life and the varying moods of musicians, namely, *Kollegen (Colleagues)*, which, it will be remembered, was one of last season's successes. At present Frau Neumann-Hofer is at work on a new version of the *Marie Antoinette* tragedy, to be performed shortly at the Berliner Theatre, and upon a modern play, written in English, and destined for production in London.

Paul Berstroem, upon his return from a brief holiday, is greatly surprised at finding a radical change in the appearance of his flat, and at the cold welcome extended to him by his hitherto devoted wife Rosa. The latter is much concerned about what she considers the dangerous illness of their ten-weeks-old baby. She has no eyes for her husband or for his friend, Robert Wilson, who has come on a visit to Paul. The latter quickly perceives that there is not the slightest cause for Rosa's anxiety, and further, that she does not any longer regard him as her ruler, being entirely absorbed by baby's and nurse's moods. Nurse, in particular, seems to be a special favourite of Rosa, and Paul, feeling himself powerless to combat the latter's despotism and to put an end to the quarrel between her and the parlourmaid (who finds an eloquent advocate in Robert), yields to the sway which the baby has over the whole household; thus forgetful of his dignity, he assists his wife in searching for baby's lost toy, and is happy that its discovery procures for him his wife's first kiss since his return. The discord ends in perfect harmony, and happiness reigns supreme when the new ruler is brought in to receive homage from his humble and loving subjects.

The plot is original, the dialogue crisp and full of sly humour, the characterisation consistent and fascinating, and it is thus small wonder that the whole play proved a notable success. Like *Colleagues*, it does its authoress, Annie Neumann-Hofer, the utmost credit, and would no doubt be welcome in an English adaptation. The acting, too, was of the highest order, Fräuleins Dalberg and L'Arronge and Herren Stock and Walter carrying off the chief honours. *Sein Prinzesschen* had at the last moment to be replaced by *Jugendfreunde*, owing to the indisposition of Herr Andresen. It is unnecessary to say more about Fulda's clever and original comedy than that it created an even more favourable impression than upon its first performance in this country at the Comedy three years ago.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The students' concert at the Guildhall School of Music on Wednesday attracted a very large audience, a display of fencing adding greatly to the interest of the programme. The musical portion was given first, and opened with a selection by the mandoline orchestra pupils of Madame Waldahoff, who played brightly, assisted by Miss Amy Parsons at the pianoforte. Miss Hilda Davies sang with much taste, but not quite sufficient volume of tone, Gounod's "O Divine Redeemer." Mr Frank Desprez's recitation, "Lasca," was gracefully delivered by Miss Gertrude Hill, a clever student of Mr Chapuy, who did herself and her teacher credit. Miss Minnie Jones acquitted herself well in Sullivan's "Orpheus with his lute.' The Misses Malenoir and Sapey sang duets by Dvorák with refinement and grace. The only fault of Mr Dunstall was in choosing a difficult operatic solo only fitted for the stage. "Fille des Rois," from Meyerbeer's opera *L'Africaine*, could not possibly prove a complete success in the concert-room, and, if Mr Dunstall was overweighted in the air, it can easily be understood, and next time he will do well to make choice of a less exacting composition. The instrumental solos in the concert were of considerable merit. Mr Wallis Bandey played solos of Schumann and Moszkowski on the pianoforte effectively. He is the winner of the Lady Mayoress's prize of 1904. On the 'cello Miss Ethel Thompson played Godard's "Sur le lac" elegantly. After the concert the fencing by pupils of Mr Mortlake Mann greatly delighted the visitors, and when the sparks flew briskly in the rapier and dagger contest no doubt many were reminded of the scene so vividly described by Dickens in "Nicholas Nickleby," where the provincial manager, Mr Crummles, is so excited over the broadsword combat. Other fencing bouts were equally successful; for instance, the rapier and buckler of Messrs Stevens and Stanley Vine. The graceful attitudes of the young ladies were much admired, and the grand salute at the conclusion was greeted with hearty applause, Mr Mann's success with his pupils being universally recognised. Among the lady students who greatly distinguished themselves may be named Miss Margaret Smith, Miss Letty Gordon, and Miss Gladys Hope. The services of Mrs Charles P. Smith, in charge of the young ladies, were as efficient as usual. Gounod's opera *Romeo and Juliet* is in rehearsal, under the direction of M. Jacobi, for performance in English.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 9.—Madame Gabrielle Réjane, supported by her own company of French players, from the Vaudeville Theatre, in Paris, began an engagement at the Lyric Theatre last Monday that will last four weeks. Madame Réjane's previous visit to this country was made in 1894, when Abbey Schoeffel and Grau paid her 200 000f. for 100 performances. This season her American tour is under the management of Messrs Liebler and Co. On the first three nights of this week Madame Réjane appears in a double bill, consisting of *Lolotte*, a farcical playlet, by MM. Meilhac and Halévy, which gives opportunity for the display of her light comedy powers; and *Amourette*, a three-act play, by M. Georges De Porto-Riche, originally produced at the Paris Odéon, the story of which deals with the love affairs of Etienne Feriand, a distinguished scientist, who, having found reasonable comfort in an affair with a courtesan named Catherine Villiers, decides that he would be happier if the woman were respectable. He looks upon his liaison as a sort of novitiate for the state of marriage, and believes he will find in the latter state complete comfort and happiness; therefore, when at the age of thirty-five he marries Mdlle. Germaine (Madame Réjane), eighteen and pretty, he is prepared to settle down and get out of life all there is in it. But he gets an overdose of real love, and for eight years is caressed and hampered in his work by it. Eventually he is almost driven mad by Germaine's tender tyranny. The quarrel, impossible to avoid for ever, comes at length, and in a moment of anger Fériand turns upon his dutiful wife, declares he cannot love her longer, and throws her into the arms of Pascal Delannoy, an old lover of the woman, who has been content to live in the pure atmosphere of her smiles. In the end the horror-stricken girl goes to Pascal, and the husband returns to his old life. But this proves more trying than an over-affectionate wife, and eventually he craves forgiveness, pardons Germaine in turn, and intimates that he will forgive Pascal, although he has threatened to kill him.

Madame Réjane's reception on the opening night showed that she had not been forgotten during her ten years' absence. Society was out in force, and there was a large and brilliant attendance. Madame Régane was delightful in both pieces, her finesse and versatility moving the audience to frequent laughter and applause. M. Dumeny gave a fine portrayal of the selfishness and inconsistency of the husband, and M. Gorieux, as the interloper, Pascal, played with admirable tact and strength. Madame Suzanne Avril, Madame Clery, and Madame Rose Lyon gave excellent impersonations of minor characters. Madame Réjane will appear during the latter part of the week in *La Passerelle*, which was presented here last season by Miss Marie Tempest under the title of *The Marriage of Kitty*.

MISS MAY IRWIN, jolliest of American comediennes, has returned to the metropolitan stage after two years' absence, and large audiences are gathering nightly at the Bijou Theatre, the scene of her many triumphs, to enjoy the performances of *Mrs Black is Back*, an amusing comedy, by George V. Hobart, some particulars of which were recently given. Mrs Black, whom Miss Irwin impersonates, exercises the feminine prerogative of being untruthful about her age when she marries her second husband, and is nearly "found out" when her grown-up son, Johnny (Mr Edgar Atchison-Ely), who has been attending school in England, and is supposed to be ten years old, suddenly appears on the scene. Johnny, a big, healthy-looking Englishman with a bull dog pipe in his mouth, dashes in and folds his mother in his arms. Professor Black, the second husband, enters unexpectedly and asks: "Who is this man?" Mrs Black, of course, is greatly confused, but she manages to summon sufficient presence of mind to introduce her son as the physical culture instructor whom her husband has engaged to put him through a course of exercise. The rest of the play is consumed in unravelling the resulting complications, Miss Irwin is irresistibly funny as usual, and when she sings her "coon" songs the audience is "just tickled to death."

ANDREW MACK, the Irish singing comedian, has a new play entitled *The Way to Kenmare*, by Edward E. Rose, and has just produced it at the Fourteenth-street Theatre. There are four acts, the scenes being laid in a Fifth-avenue mansion, a road-side inn at Ballyscanlan, in Ireland, a ruined church at Kenmare, and the Castle of Kenmare. Except for the absence of the customary red coats, the story runs along popular lines, affording Mr Mack—this time called Dan Maguire—abundant opportunity to display his valour, fidelity, and other virtues, and finally to develop into an Earl. Dan has been working in the Colorado mines and has fallen in love, his rival being an English officer, Capt. Clement Fairley (Mr Hugo Toland). Dan visits his native Ireland in order to prove his mother's marriage to his father, and this being done, he establishes his identity as the grandson of the Earl of Kenmare, inherits a fortune, and wins the girl of his choice. Whilst the plot is being unfolded Mr Mack sings "The Legend of the Maguires," "The Rose of Kenmare," and other songs, and easily maintains his popularity.

GEORGE M. COHAN, a clever young comedian, who has written numerous songs and vaudeville sketches, is appearing this week at the new Liberty Theatre in his new musical play, *Little Johnny Jones*, in which he plays tht part of a jockey who has been ruled off the course in England on false charges. His accuser is a gambler. Johnny Jones leaves England for San Francisco, where he learns that his sweetheart has been kidnapped and taken to Chinatown. He eventually finds the distressed maiden, exposes the gambler, and clears his own reputation. The scenes represent the Exterior of the Hotel Cecil in London, the Pier of the American Line at Southampton, and a Street in Chinatown, San Francisco. The company includes Jerry J. Cohen Helen F. Cohan, Ethel Levey, Truly Shattuck, Sam J. Ryan, and Tom Lewis, all of whom have made their mark at the vaudeville houses. The music is catchy and the numerous "specialities" are highly diverting. George M. Cohan, as usual, does some clever dancing, which is full of acrobatic surprises. Ethel Levey impersonates Rosario Fanchette, a French music hall artiste, and also the Earl of Bloomsbury, a fortune-hunter. Tom Lewis makes a big hit as a good-natured heavy weight, called "the Unknown," in a chronic state of inebriation, who goes abroad by mistake in one of his "trances."

DAVID HIGGINS is the "star" of another play of the turf produced last Monday at the American Theatre, under the title of *His Last Dollar*. The action takes place on Long Island, and at the Sheepshead Bay race track. The chief characters are a rich Kentuckian, Joseph Braxton (Mr Higgins), who comes to New York to speculate on the Stock Exchange; Tom Linson, the villain; and Eleanor Downs, a young Kentucky girl, who enters her horse, Mongrel, in the Futurity Race. The remnant of Braxton's fortune is staked on Mongrel, and at the last moment the jockey, having been disabled, Braxton rides him to victory. Eleanor has been obliged to sell her horse to the lucky rider through poverty, but Mongrel is not lost to her, as she falls in love with Braxton and accepts him as her husband. The Futurity scene is well managed and proves very exciting.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

"A FISHER-MAIDEN."

A Light Opera, in Two Acts,
Written and Composed by Geoffrey Blackmore,
Additional Lyrics by Arthur Phillips and James W. Cox,
Produced at the Public Hall, Croydon, on Monday, Nov. 14.

Sir Esmond Branscombe	Mr FRANK MAGUIRE
Jeremiah Hapgood	Mr SYDNEY DE BURGH
Josiah Belsack	Mr JOHN LOVEYS
Captain Donaldson	Mr VINCENT REAY
Lord Carlton	Mr EDWIN H. MEEK
Lord Beverley	Mr BASIL DEAN
Oswald Harcourt	Mr F. OSWALD SMITH
Jim Trevor	Mr W. PERCY MIERS
First Fisherman	Mr LAUNCELOT O. KING
First Villager	Mr ALFRED J. OFFEN
Molly	Miss EDITH FENTON
Gladys	Miss JENNIE MORTON
Una	Miss DOROTHY DAY
Dorcas	Miss HILDA GUDGEON
Ruth	Miss WINNIE MAITLAND
Salome	Miss WINNIE RELTON
Deborah	Miss ETHEL BRISCOE
Rebecca	Miss LILLIAN DAY
Zara	Miss JENNY LOVEYS
Eileen	Miss MILDRED M. REAY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

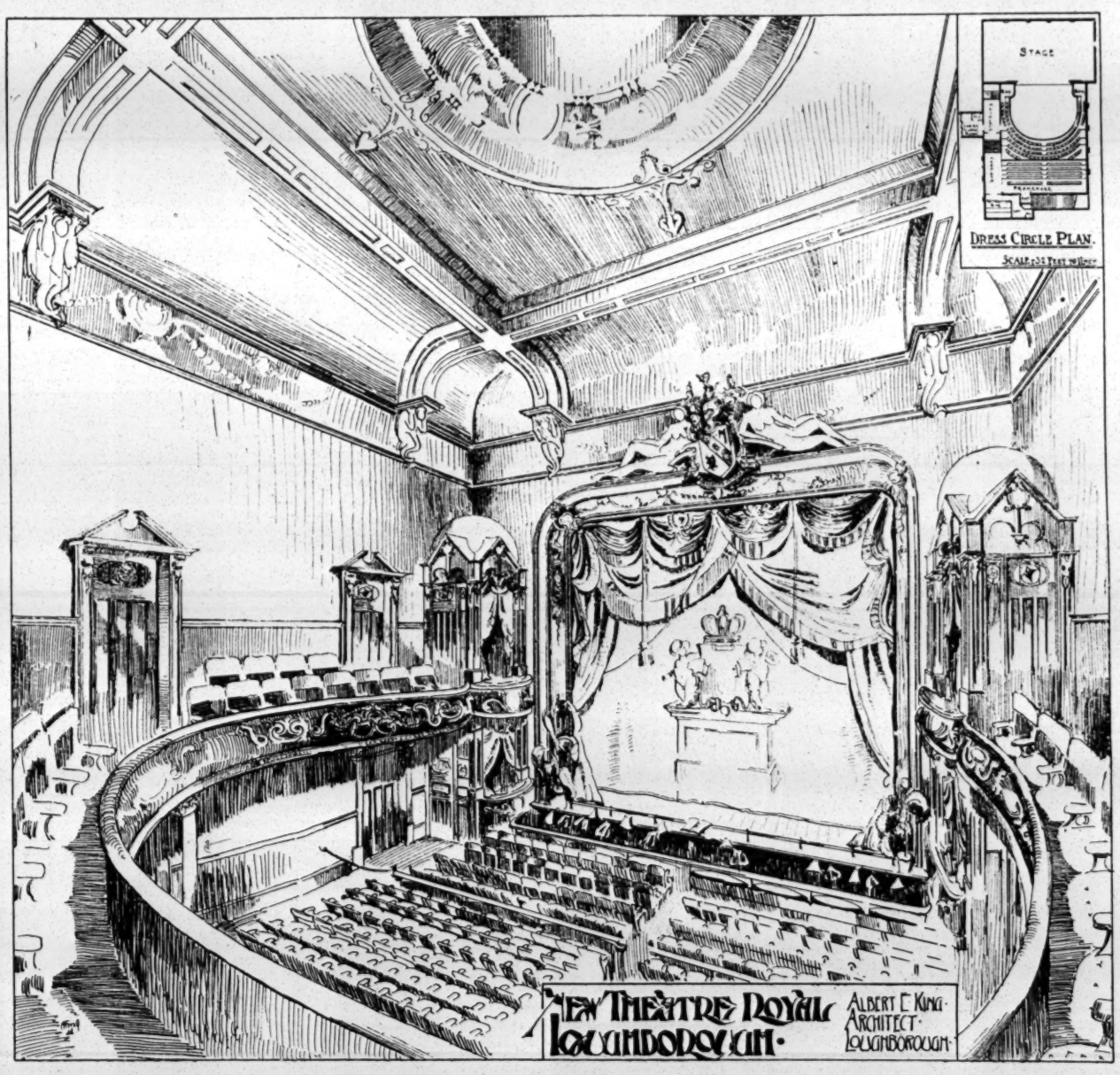
A large audience witnessed the first production of *A Fisher-Maiden*, and gave it a good send-off. The play opens in a fishing village, which is visited by Sir Esmond Branscombe incognito, in search of the heiress to the Glendale Hall and estates. She was stolen by gipsies when a child, and was last heard of in this out-of-the-way village. The missing girl is the only one who stands between Sir Esmond and the estates, but he is an honourable man, and is anxious to find the rightful owner. He is assisted in his search by a gipsy woman named Zara, but in the meantime he has come across a charming fisher maiden called Eileen, the adopted daughter of Josiah Belsack, the village coastguard. It is a case of mutual love, and Sir Esmond and Eileen are evidently intended for each other. Jeremiah Hapgood, the landlord of the Angler's Arms, has two wards, Gladys and Una, who are firm friends. Gladys is full of ambition, and aspires to be a lady. Whilst in this mood her guardian induces her to pass herself off as the missing heiress. At first she consents, but upon further reflection Gladys proves herself to be possessed of more sterling qualities, and refuses to take part in the fraud. In the end Zara proves by certain birthmarks that Eileen is the rightful heiress to the Glendale estates, and all is happy for her marriage to Sir Esmond. Dovetailed into this brief plot we have minor characters in a midshipman, Jim Trevor, and his sweetheart Molly, who considerably brighten the first act; Capt. Donaldson, Lord Carlton, and Lord Beverley, friends of Sir Esmond, who are in the village for a holiday, and cause amusement by masquerading as smugglers; and Oswald Harcourt, bailiff at the Hall, at first in love with Eilleen, but who transfers his affections to Gladys. Amongst the musical numbers we can select for special mention "Jack the Love of All" (Jim Trevor); a song and dance by Jim and Molly; "Down by the Shore" (Sir Esmond); "Honey, my Honey," with baby coon dancers; "Meet Me" (Eileen), with dance; and a minuet danced by Mr Launcelot O. King and Miss Hilda G. King. Other items of note are "Scorn not my Love," "That Happy Day," "The Smugglers," "Pride of the Village," and "I only want you dear." Miss Mildred M. Reay made a winsome and enchanting Eileen, and her musical voice stood her in good stead. Her love scenes were interesting and natural, and altogether she may be congratulated upon an artistic performance. Miss Jennie Morton's neat little style and method admirably suited the rôle of Gladys. She danced very nicely, delivered her lines with good elocutionary effect, and was both fascinating and agreeable. Miss Edith Fenton's merry presence in the character of Molly was always welcome; Miss Jenny Loveys spoke her lines with histrionic ability as the gipsy Zara; and Miss Dorothy Day was a charming Una. Mr Frank Maguire was commendable in the part of Sir Esmond Branscombe; Mr W. Percy Miers made the utmost of scanty opportunities as Jim Trevor; Messrs Vincent Reay, Edwin H. Meek, and Basil Dean played well together as Captain Donaldson, Lord Carlton, and Lord Beverley. Mr John Loveys, with the aid of a trick telescope, caused laughter as Josiah Belsack, the coastguard; and useful aid was given by Mr Sydney De Burgh as Jeremiah Hopgood, and Mr H. Oswald Smith as Oswald Harcourt. Misses Hilda Gudgeon, Winnie Maitland, Winnie Relton, Ethel Briscoe, and Lilian Day looked entrancing as lady friends of Gladys and Una. A full chorus, with well balanced voices, and the picturesque dresses were noteworty features. The large orchestra was under the bâton of the composer, and the opera was staged under the direction of Mr Arthur Phillips. We can compliment Mr Geoffrey Blackmore upon an opera which has many good points and is full of melody.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

On Saturday evening the Alexandra Palace Choral and Orchestral Society, under the conductorship of Mr Allen Gill, gave a performance of Edward Elgar's "Dream of Gerontius." The principal violin was Mr George Wilby; organist, Mr G. D. Cunningham. The words are from the poem by Cardinal Newman. Briefly, the argument represents Gerontius lying at the point of death, and he sees, as in a dream, the passing of his soul from earth towards the judgment seat of the Almighty. Mr William Green represented Gerontius, and his fine, well-trained voice was heard to advantage. The part of the Priest in part one and the Angel of the Agony in part two was entrusted to Mr Frederic Austin, whose efforts were worthy of commendation. Miss Edna Thornton's sweet voice as the Guardian Angel was duly recognised, and the solo, "Softly and gently, dearly ransomed soul," was much appreciated. Perhaps the most meritorious effort of the choir was the Chorus of Angelicals, "Praise to the Holiest in the height." Never has this well-known choir been heard to greater advantage, and the whole performance redounds highly to the credit of the painstaking conductor, Mr Allen Gill.

THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.

This handsome new brick and stone theatre, which is now nearing completion, is being built by Messrs Payne Seddon and George Robertson, who have for four years been lessees of the Town Hall. It will seat 850 and hold 1,200 persons. The architect is Mr Albert E. King, of Loughborough and Leicester; the contractor, Mr A. Faulks; the decorator, Mr G. H. Cox, of Leicester; the furnishing is by Armstrong's, Loughborough; and the heating by Messenger and Co. The building is situated in Mill-street, with five exits and early-door exit in Packe-street, within one minute of the Market-square. It is lighted and ventilated throughout by electricity, and full dramatic and excise licences have been granted. The stage is 56ft. by 36ft. 6in., and will accommodate any size scenery. It is 32ft. from fly-rail to fly-rail. The dressing-room accommodation is very ample. The theatre will be opened in January next.



THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.

PROPRIETOR, MR. W. PAYNE SEDDON. ARCHITECT, MR ALBERT E. KING.

IN Messrs Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge's three days' sale, opening on Monday, the "lot" which attracted most attention was an imperfect copy of the Bible of 1613, with the New Testament of 1611. This volume, with the signature "William Shakespere, 1614" on the reverse of the title to the New Testament, and again on the end cover, "Willm. Shakespeare Off S O.A. (i.e., of Stratford-on-Avon), His Bible, 1613," was discovered near Manchester, about 1850, by the vendor's grandfather, Mr William Sharp, a well-known book and print collector; at his death, in 1881, it was inherited by his only daughter, the mother of the vendor. The volume contains, in addition to the alleged Shakespeare signatures, a number of other inscriptions by its successive owners, and one of these proves that the book was in Shakespeare's county seventeen years after his death. The bidding began at £105, and at £210 the volume become the property of Messrs Pearson and Co., the well-known booksellers, who were buying for an American collector. On Tuesday "The Most Excellent and Lamentable Tragiedie of Romeo and Juliet," 1637, an excellent copy of the fifth edition in quarto, and the last of the early quartos—went for £119 (Pickering); and "A Collection of the Vocal Music in Shakespeare's Plays, including the whole of the Songs, Duets, Gleas, Choruses, &c.," chiefly from the collection of W. Kitchener, M.D., 1815, revised and arranged by John Caulfield, a scarce volume containing the first collected form of Shakespearian music, fetched £9 15s. (Pearson).

NEW ENGLISH & FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we shall publish from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purposes. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"HANNELE'S ASCENSION."

Play, in Two Parts, by Gerhart Hauptmann.

PART I.

Scene 1.—Tulpe, Hedwig, and Hanke, in an almshouse in a small village in Silesia, gather round Pleschke, a pauper like themselves, and are quarelling over the division of the booty which the latter has brought home from his day's begging. *Scene* 2.—Enter Gottwald, the local schoolmaster, and Seidel, a wood-cutter. They are carrying Hannele Mattern, the fourteen-year-old daughter of Mattern, a villager known for brutality and heavy drinking. Hannele is gradually recovering consciousness; her mother's recent death and her father's heartless cruelty have caused her to endeavour to end her pitiable existence in the river. She has been dragged out of the water by Seidel. Gottwald, beloved by all for his humanity, has assisted Seidel in bringing her here. Both have the utmost difficulty in pacifying Hannele, who is in constant fear lest her father may come. *Scene* 3.—Berger, the magistrate, arrives to question Hannele and to probe the mystery of her attempt at suicide. His kindly words do not, however, prevail upon Hannele to answer. Gottwald, whose every word produces a look of ecstasy on the girl's face, asks her why she did not stay at home, Timorously and mysteriously Hannele replies that "the Lord bade her come." Berger leaves, intimating that he will issue a warrant for the arrest of Mattern, and promises to send a doctor and a sister. *Scene* 4.—Doctor Wachler enters. He expresses the fear that the hours of Hannele's life are numbered; her whole body is covered with scars and cuts, and her mind starts wandering again. She murmurs half-uttered words expressing a fervent desire to join her poor mother. Her features brighten when Sister Martha enters; she takes her for her mother. For a moment Hannele regains consciousness, entreating Sister Martha to forgive her all her sins. Then, however, fear that her father is approaching her sick-bed takes hold of her. Sister Martha succeeds in calming her, and asks her to rest quietly for a few minutes whilst she goes next door to fetch some cold water. *Scene* 5.—During her absence the hallucinations of the girl's mind are given real existence. The first vision is that of her father. She unconsciously hears him command her in coarse words to light the fire, and she is found by the fireside when Sister Martha returns. *Scene* 6.—With the pauper's help she succeeds in bringing Hannele back to life; in feverish words Hannele assures Sister Martha that Herr Gottwald, whom she speaks of in words of deepest reverence—believing him to be the mouthpiece of the Almighty—has promised her to be soon relieved of all bodily and mental agonies and that her soul will find perfect rest in Heaven. Her ecstasy increasing, she imagines she sees angels, and devoutly entreats Sister Martha, whom she calls "beloved mother," to sing the cradle-song which shall lull her into eternal sleep. Sister Martha calms her, and turning out the light asks Hannele to try and sleep. All the following scenes of the first act are filled by Hannele's dream.

It is dusk. At the edge of the bed is seated a deadly pale, ghost-like apparition; a "Frauengestalt." It is the vision of Hannele's mother, driven like Hannele unto death by Mattern's cruelty. Hannele asks her: "Mother, dost thou bring me glad tidings?" The "Frauengestalt" answers "Yes!" "Whence dost thou come?" asks Hannele. Whereupon the apparition answers "A hundred thousand miles through the darkness!" Hannele raves about her mother's beauty and eagerly listens to her description of the happiness that awaits her in Heaven (Hauptmann has imbued this scene with the great depth of sentiment and with poetical charm of language hardly equalled even by him in any other poetical play). The "Frauengestalt" vanishes, and to Hannele's exultant joy angels appear, lulling her into sleep and alluding in allegorical words to Hannele's past "autumn (misery) and imminent "spring" (happiness).

PART II.

Hannel's delirium now passes momentarily. Her features still bear the expression of ethereal joy. She ardently confides to Sister Martha that her mother and angels have visited her. Falling again into unconsciousness, Hannele in her dream (which fills all the remaining scenes but the last) addresses an angel attired in black, and Martha, thinking her asleep, slowly leaves the room. This vision is the "Diakonissin." Although younger and more beautiful than the "Frauengestalt" she is again regarded by Hannele as her mother. Hannele tells the Diakonissin to help her; for she is afraid of the figure she sees approaching. The vision replies that Hannele need not fear, the figure being her friend so eagerly desired—Death. Hannele, to the figure of Death: "I have often longed for you. Now I am afraid of you." The Diakonissin: "Get ready." Hannele: "For death?" Diakonissin: "Yes." Hannele (after a while, with childish timidity): "Shall I lie in the coffin in my torn and tattered rags?" Diakonissin: "The Lord will clothe you." A small hunch-backed tailor appears, carrying a bridal dress, veil, garland, and (glassy) slippers. The Diakonissin dresses Hannele, who is overwhelmed with joy at this great good fortune, and tells the Diakonissin that now she awaits death with gladness. But hardly has the vision of the tailor disappeared when Hannele is once more seized with terror at the thought of death. The Diakonissin, moved by Hannele's agonising entreaties, bids the "black angel" disappear. The strain of the funeral-march is heard, and Gottwald, followed by Hannele's fellow pupils and attired in mourning, appears. The Diakonissin: "Why are you so sad?" Gottwald: "Because she is dead." The Diakonissin: "We need not grieve; she has entered the Dominion of Eternal Peace; let us not begrudge her bliss." Gottwald asks the children to come with him into the death-chamber, and in eloquent and affecting words tells them that Hannele, in life the poorest, is now the richest and happiest of them all. He makes them obtain Hannele's forgiveness for all the wrong they have done her in life. Gottwald being left alone cannot any longer suppress his terrible grief and bids the dead Hannele farewell in heartrending, deeply religious words. Some mourners, villagers, and paupers now enter; they feel sure Hannele is a saint upon seeing four "white angels" approach with a coffin of glass. They give vent to their indignation at Mattern not attending the funeral of his child whom he has murdered. Mattern, however, now puts in an appearance; he is inebriate and fails to understand the reason for the villagers' presence. He is on the point of assaulting them when a "Stranger" ("Der Fremde") enters and humbly supplicates Mattern to take from him his pain and relieve his hunger and thirst. Mattern scorns the idea, but the "Stranger," with kind and impressive words, asks him to remember that he himself may one day require relief and then shows him the dead child's body. Mattern, who knew nothing of Hannele's death, is at first terrified thereby and by the general cry of "Murderer!" but after a moment he insolently replies to the "Stranger's" earnest but stern question that he is not responsible for the death. He is swearing his innocence when a miracle happens: Hannele raises her hand holding up a primrose. Mattern stares at the apparition like a madman, trembling from head to foot. The "Stranger": "Mattern, thou liest!" The villagers: "A miracle, a miracle!" Mattern cries "I will hang myself," and rushes off as if followed by the Furies. The "Stranger" implores the villagers not to be afraid of Hannele, who, he says, is not dead, but merely asleep. He calls on Hannele to rise; she opens her eyes, looks at the "Stranger," recognises in Him the "Great Saviour"—whom in life she knew as *Gottwald*—and steps out of the coffin. The villagers are seized with horror and hasten out of the room. Hannele, overcome with joyful emotion, kneels down before Him, and in a voice choked with tears humbly beseeches the "Stranger" to cleanse her soul as white as snow. The "Stranger": "With thy tears I cleanse thy soul of the dust and woe of terrestrial life. I will gather thee unto the fold!" The "Stranger" and angels now guide the poor troubled soul of Hannele Mattern into the "Celestial Realm!"

Hannele lies on the bed, poorly dressed as before. Dr. Wachler bends over her. Sister Martha holds the candle, and looking anxiously at the doctor, asks: "Dead?" The doctor nods sadly: "Yes; dead!"

COVENT-GARDEN BALL.

The fancy dress balls at Covent-garden, under the admirable management of Messrs Frank Rendle and Niel Forsyth, have proved as successful as in any previous season, and on the night of the 11th inst. there was again a large attendance. Among the dresses which appealed to the imagination was one entitled "The Poet's Dream of Fame." This was a white satin dress picturing a poet falling asleep on the doorstep of the workhouse, and setting forth in a pictorial manner the visions of his dreams of fame. "The Elements" was another dress that was beautiful in its suggestiveness, and gained for Mr W. Clarkson a first prize (lady's). The well-known perruquier also won a first (gents.) for a novel costume entitled "Madame Batavier's Brother," a second prize for "The Poet's Dream of Fame" already mentioned, and several other smaller prizes. Other special prize winners were "The Autumn Exodus," "Cupid's Corner," "My Canadian Home," and "Winter Roses." One of the features of the evening was the impersonation of a great bear, escorted by Signor B. Volpi, of the Royal Italian Circus. Many of the dancers were quite nervous as the huge brute approached them, and were under the impression that it was the renowned Madame Batavia, "the bear that looks like a woman," of Stock Exchange fame. Madame Batavia, however, was prevented from dancing owing to a chill contracted on the previous day, but early in the evening she drove to Covent-garden and surveyed the merry throng for a short time. The march past at two o'clock was, as usual, an exceedingly pretty sight. The platform was transformed into an Italian garden, in the centre of which Mr Dan Godfrey's band was placed, and the programme of music gave complete satisfaction. The "Centenary" ball will take place on Friday, Dec. 2 next. The theatre is to be redecorated, and the stage will once more be available for "sitting out." The first prize is to be a diamond, ruby, and sapphire butterfly brooch, and a souvenir will be given to every lady visitor.

HOCKEY.

MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM V. A BATH LADIES ELEVEN.

Played near Clifton Downs on Nov. 12. The following were the teams:—

Miss Winifred Bradley's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss I Bowman and Miss A. Gibbs, backs; Miss C. Fowler, Miss L. Norris, and Miss L. Belding, half-backs; Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss K. Montgomery, Miss B. Godfrey, Miss N. Lawrence, and Miss A. Bernard, forwards.

A Bath Ladies Eleven.—Miss J. Wilson, goal; Miss F. Cook and Miss A. Murdock, backs; Miss G. Harrison, Miss M. Fletcher, and Miss R. Fletcher, half-backs; Miss E. Clarke (captain), Miss N. Thompson, Miss M. Hancock, Miss A. Rees, and Miss L. Denman, forwards.

Referee, Miss E. Lewis (of Cheltenham). Result:—Miss Winifred Bradley's Ladies Team, one goal; a Bath Ladies Eleven, four goals. Misses L. Norris, A. Murdock, M. Fletcher, G. Harrison, and M. Hancock scored for their respective teams.

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LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.

On Tuesday Afternoon, Nov. 15,
for the First Time in England, the Play in Five Acts, by Maurice Maeterlinck, translated by Alfred Sutro, entitled

"AGLAVAINE AND SELYSETTE."

Aglavaine	Miss EDITH OLIVE
Selysette	Miss THYRZA NORMAN
Yssaline	Miss MARION PLARR
Meilgraine	Miss FLORENCE FARR
Meleander	Mr WALTER HAMPDEN

The one clear impression made upon most people after witnessing such a play as *Aglavaine and Selysette* is that it is for the study rather than for the stage. The want of action, the long speeches, and the certainty as to the ending of the slight story, all combine to make the piece unsuitable for the stage. It is of too fragile and delicate a nature to bear the glare of the footlight; and the dialogue, beautiful as many of the ideas and suggestions unquestionably are, does not possess the directness and vigour essential to the making of a successful play—successful in the sense that it wins the favourable verdict of the vast majority of the audience. The characters are shadowy creatures of strange moods; there is an air of unreality about their actions and their surroundings; and one seems to listen to them and to watch their movements as in a dream. Mr Alfred Sutro, who has translated several of Maeterlinck's plays, may be accepted as an excellent authority when judging of their merits—and their meaning. Writing of one particular series of the Belgian poet-dramatist's published plays, he remarks in his interesting introduction to the volume:—"A curious fatalism runs through them all; we feel that the men and women before us are merely unravelling the web that destiny has spun round their lives—destiny being a mysterious and inexorable force whose behests they must blindly obey. They are the slaves of their passions, slaves of the events which befall them; they are primitive beings, the mainspring of whose action lies for ever exposed on the surface; they are creatures in whom deed follows instinctively on thought—and yet are we curiously conscious the while of the struggle in their soul, of their vague and helpless desire, as fate hurries them swiftly along to their doom." Referring to the much-discussed question of the symbolic significance of the plays and the probably mistaken assumption that there is scarcely a line in Maeterlinck's writings but has its "special cryptic meaning," Mr Sutro says:—"Symbolism there certainly is, but it is broad and general; one central idea, or set of ideas, will govern the whole; the plays, however, are invariably simple and direct, and by no means underlined with constant symbolic suggestion. The air, it may be, is charged with mystery, but only such as pertains to the shadowy twilight in which the characters move and have being." The story of Aglavaine and Selysette is so extremely simple that it can be told in a few lines. The trouble and difficulties which arise when two women are in love with the same man is the foundation of the plot. One of them resolves to sacrifice herself and commit suicide to secure the happiness of those she loves. It is a situation that is as old as the hills, only Maeterlinck has his own peculiar method of presenting the characters and working out the details. As an instance of what we mean we may take the curious incident of the strange green bird. Poor Selysette, accompanied by her little sister Yssaline, betakes herself to a lonely tower, which looks upon the placid sea. Yssaline goes with her because she is devoured by curiosity to see the bird, which, according to her sister, never seems tired of flying round and round the tower and has wings of "a strange pale green, inconceivably strange and pale." But the child is disappointed, for the bird never appears; and Selysette throws herself off the tower though she takes precautions to make it appear an accident. Alighting on a sandbank she is fatally injured, and being found she is carried home to die. The players responsible for the representation were well fitted for their by no means easy task. Miss Edyth Olive deserves every credit for her admirable embodiment of Aglavaine. She spoke her lines in such a manner as to impart to them their utmost significance, and her utterance was always delightfully distinct and clear. Miss Thyrza Norman was also successful in her treatment of the part of Selysette. The character presents formidable difficulties, which might have daunted an actress of far greater experience. Miss Norman won sympathy, and admiration as well, by her clever portrayal of the weaker—physically and mentally—of the two women, and the natural irresolution of the one who intends to take her own life. Mr Walter Hampden played well as Meleander, a part that does not afford its exponent many opportunities. Miss Florence Farr was duly impressive as the aged, paralysed grandmother, and little Miss Marion Plarr greatly distinguished herself as Selysette's little sister, Yssaline. A more natural and intelligent child performance we have seldom witnessed. The scenery was quite in keeping with the mystic nature of the play, though the frequent changes were somewhat tiresome. The incidental music was expressly composed for the production by Mr Donald Tovey. It was for strings only, and fairly reflected the spirit of the poem-play.

On Wednesday a special matinée performance of *Othello*, under the direction of Mr F. J. Nettlefold, with the following cast:—

Duke of Venice	Mr ALFRED HEATH
Brabantio	Mr FRANKLIN WALFORD
Gratiano	Mr FRANK ROYD
Lodovico	Mr PERRY KYNASTON
Montano	Mr CECIL DUNCAN
Othello	Mr F. J. NETTLEFOLD
Cassio	Mr NORMAN PARTRIDGE
Iago	Mr GILBERT HUDSON
Roderigo	Mr ESMONDE BRAMLEY
Antonio	Miss LIDDIE MORAND
Julio	Miss EVA VERNON
Giovanni	Mr BERTIE TRIPP
Luca	Mr A. HODSOLL
Lorenzo	Mr RUPERT MORLEY
Messenger	Mr GASTON DRANE
Marco	Mr H RAYMOND
Cosmo	Mr CHAS. CREWE
Paulo	Mr R. SILVER
Desdemona	Miss MILLIE FORD
Emilia	Miss AGNES INGREVILLE

Wednesday's matinée was in the nature of an experiment. It is proposed by the management to institute a course of morning performances (under the auspices of a society to be formed), at which English plays, both modern and classical, shall be presented in a manner worthy of their merits. The matinée on Wednesday proved so successful that we may look forward to a series of similar performances. They are deserving of liberal patronage, as they will, we may assume, afford opportunities to young actors and actresses which they would not otherwise obtain. We cannot say whether the scheme includes the production of entirely new plays; if it does the great unacted would also have a chance of getting their dramas produced; and the Court Theatre matinées would serve a double useful purpose.

Wednesday's representation of *Othello* was interesting, and if it did not actually result in the discovery of a new and brilliant star in the theatrical firmament, there was much to commend in the acting of the principals. The Moor himself had a worthy representative in Mr F. J. Nettlefold, who gave a bold and vigorous portrayal of one of the best known of Shakespearian characters. Young, manly, and dignified in appearance, Mr Nettlefold quite realised one's conception of the brave soldier who, as a commentator puts it, "is too magnanimous, too self-confident, and too devoid of penetrating subtlety of brain to grapple successfully with a difficult situation." The savage desperation born of suspicion of his wife's infidelity was depicted with power and conviction; and, generally speaking, the embodiment was, if not a strikingly brilliant effort, at least a thoroughly sound one, which did infinite credit to the actor. Mr Gilbert Hudson presented a careful study of the character of Iago, who, although the most clear-sighted person of the play, shares the tragic blindness which befalls his victims and becomes a tragic figure too. Mr Hudson forcibly expressed the hatred and envy which prompt the Ancient to plot against Othello's peace of mind. Mr Norman Partriege greatly distinguished himself in the part of Cassio. He was the gallant, light-hearted soldier to the life, and his assumption of drunkenness was excellent, without being in the least overdone, while the lieutenant's subsequent feelings of shame and remorse after the fight with Montano were admirably expressed. Mr Esmonde Bramley did good work as Roderigo; Mr Alfred Heath as the Duke of Venice spoke his lines with dignity and effect; and Mr Franklin Walford scored in the part of Brabantio. Mr Cecil Duncan as Montano, Mr Frank Royd as Gratiano, and Mr Perry Kynaston as Lodovico lent able assistance. Miss Millie Ford was a girlish and graceful Desdemona, her performance winning the favourable verdict of the audience. Miss Agnes Ingreville was seen to considerable advantage in the rôle of Emilia, and all the minor rôles were satisfactorily sustained.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Geo. R. Sims and Henry Pettitt, entitled
"THE SILVER FALLS."

Mr George Davey has revived this Adelphi drama, the interpretation being again entrusted to the stock company. The drama, with its western flavour, lends itself strongly to picturesque mounting, and Mr Oswald Brand has availed himself of the opportunity with good results. Mr Ernest Leicester as Eric Normanhurst played in his usually easy and effective manner, and added another laurel to the many he has gained here. Mr Arthur Estcourt as Marcus Valles played an intense rôle with his experienced touch and skill. Mr Hal Collier as Jack Slingsby once again brought his amusing personality to bear on his performance with happy results. Mr Frank Stone as Maquire was the typical Irishman to the life, and he is to be complimented on his brogue. Mr Joynson Powell as Dick Redmayne was again excellent, giving a very clever reading; Mr J. Dudley as Lord Avondale was dignified and effective; Mr George Elliston as Tennesee Bill was amusing; and Mr H. Trevor as Yokohama Joe was commendable. Messrs H. Baines and H. Jelly as the Sheriff and the Inspector were both adequate in their respective parts. Miss Kate Brand as Primrose Easterbooke did well. Miss Helen Bancroft, too, as Lola deserves warm praise for a signally good performance. Miss Winnie Leeson as Nora O'Reilly was humorous in a rather poor part; and Miss Winnie Wood deserves mention for her performance. The drama was received with every indication of approval. Mr Davey's early-door attractions this week include, besides the Bioscope, Judge's famous cockatoos and Kier and Kempton. Mr C. W. O'Connor, the courteous Press representative here, discharges his duties with his accustomed urbanity.

THE PAVILION

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, by Martyn Field and Arthur Shirley, entitled
"HOW LONDON LIVES."

The favourite Princess's drama, *How London Lives*, by Messrs Martyn Field and Arthur Shirley, is being cordially received at the Pavilion this week. Mr Ashley Page submits a capital study of Jack Ferrers, acting throughout with earnestness and vigour. The embodiment of the unscrupulous Stephen Grainger by Mr Frank Harding is convincing and praiseworthy, and Mr J. C. Aubrey acts Colonel Sir George Ferrers with great ability and power. Mr Harry Barford is satisfactory as Lieut. Harry Maxwell, and Mr Wilfred E. Shine is well to the fore as the Microbe, while Mr Harry Bristow plays neatly as Bertie. Mr Fred Boustead, well made up, is thoroughly efficient as the Pawnbroker, and Mr Roland Riley is a capable Sandy M'Grab. Miss Marion Denvil as Gladys gives a sweet and sympathetic reading of the character, being especially good in the garret scene. Miss Valerie Crespin, although somewhat nervous, scored as Lady Ferrars; and Miss Tina Mavro is a pleasing representative of Molly Crockett; while Maudie finds in Miss Kitty Cardigan a vivacious exponent. Miss Sara Besant makes a charming Katie; while Miss Milly Murray as Mrs Delaney, Miss Beaumont as Janet, Mr F. Withers as Billy Tigser, Mr Johnson as Snitch, Mr Godfrey as Crumpets, and Mr Gibbs as Benson render adequate support. The remaining characters are well filled by Messrs Charles Fisher, F. J. Hood, J. Black, Sewell, and Master Joe Conn. The piece is mounted and staged in admirable style, due to the excellent management of the stage by Mr Fred Boustead. The fine playing of the Pavilion orchestra, under the direction of Mr Charles Aves, is still a source of great satisfaction; while this week great praise must be given to Mr F. W. Oliver, late Sergeant R.A, for the gratifying success he achieved by his brilliantly executed cornet solo "The Lost Chord."

THE BRITANNIA.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Paul Meritt and George Conquest, entitled
"MANKIND."

Mr Sydney Hyman and Mr John M. East, in pursuance of their policy of reviving the taste for melodrama among the staunch lovers of the theatre to be found in Hoxton and its neighbourhood, are reproducing this week at the big theatre the Surrey drama entitled *Mankind*, written for that famous transpontine house in the palmy days of the Conquest régime by the late Paul Meritt and George Conquest. The collaboration of these two experienced playwrights had secured many dramatic triumphs at the old Grecian Theatre in the City-road, and the Surrey-side playgoers found very palatable fare in *Mankind*, which, when it originally saw the footlights, on Oct. 3, 1881, was divided into no less than seven acts. It was then considered one of the most marvellously constructed plays imaginable. The spectator is kept in a state of the utmost interest and keenest excitement as the piece progresses and develops, showing the handiwork of a master craftsman in construction and a skilled writer. Mr George Conquest originally played the principal part, Daniel Groodge, a hoary-headed scoundrel, aged 101, and at the Britannia the son of the deceased author-actor is playing his father's character on the lines laid down by his sire. Groodge boasts that he shook hands with Nelson after the battle of the Nile, and he strongly objects to washing the hand the hero pressed, its griminess being sacred. But though he has a pretty wit and a nice sense of sarcasm at the expense of a younger generation he is a very savage when roused. One of the strongest scenes of the play is his murder of Peter Sharpley, his partner. It is a terrible exhibition of human malevolence and passion, and creates immense excitement among the Hoxton Britons. The wheedling hypocrisy and benevolent cant of the old humbug are very amusingly emphasized by Mr Conquest, and he is extremely powerful in the scene to which we have just referred. Mr Charles A. East lends most admirable support as Peter Sharpley, the crafty money-lender, whose schemes are so sensationally terminated by his aged partner in usury and villainy. Mr H. Hamilton Stewart as Edmund Sharpley makes a callous-hearted man of the world; and Edmund's hypocritical reconciliation in the first act with the wife he has deserted evokes cynical comments from gallery and pit—tributes that are decidedly complimentary to the actor. Mr W. S. Hartford, an old Britannia favourite, who has been globe-trotting since he last held an engagement in Hoxton, shows all his old power in the part of the virtuous and cheery Philip Warren; Mr Charles Langley is responsible for good work as George Melton; and the cruelty of Joshua Monkeytrick—a distinct libel on the showman class—is well emphasised by Mr H. H. Barrington. The adventures of Barnaby and Arabella Bright are a continual source of amusement, and the loving couple's plight when they take a voyage on the wrong steamer causes shouts of laughter. Mr Sydney Harcourt's Barnaby is a refreshing piece of low comedy, and from his pearlied "round-me-houses" to his saucy-looking "kadi" he is the very type of a good-humoured coster. Barnaby's continual references to his moke and the twins have just the touch of nature that is demanded in domestic stage scenes, and Hoxtonites are immensely tickled thereby. Miss Marie Wright is also genuinely funny as Arabella, and the affectionate nature and the warm-heartedness of the faithful spouse of the coster are brought into strong relief by this capable actress. Miss Rose Ralph is pathetic in the tear-compelling part of Alice Maitland; Miss V. Temple is adequate to her responsibilities in the part of Keziah Bickerton; Miss D. Cacey is effective as Constance Melton; Miss Marshall is amusing as Jane Agnes Frisby, the parlourmaid; and Miss C. Bezant begets sympathy for the sorrows and hardships of Jessie. Messrs Brian Daly, Fred Groves, Charles Groves, J. Thomas, and C. Seaton also lend adequate aid in the other characters. The piece, which is mounted with great care and elaboration, is followed by a variety entertainment, in which Mr Jake Friedman makes a hit in an operatic burlesque. Other turns include Miss Lily Stewart, serio and dancer; Herbert Rule, with quaint songs; and an interesting series of animated pictures. The programme winds up with the farce *Paddy Miles's Boy*.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Nov. 14,
"THE DARLING OF THE GODS."

Mr H. Beerbohm Tree's carefully selected company holds the boards this week at the pretty Coronet theatre with David Belasco's picturesque and stirring drama *The Darling of the Gods*. The effective tableaux consisting of the garden within the yashiki of Prince Tosan, and the first celestial heaven (in the clouds), are splendidly set forth in a manner well worthy of the traditions of His Majesty's Theatre, and a most finished and artistic performance is given by Mr Tree's clever company. With the war-cloud in the east hanging over the whole of Europe, and the fateful happenings in the Orient, any play that gives us a peep into lotus-land is specially interesting, appropriate, and instructive. This drama shows us the semi-barbaric splendour and superstition out of which the present progressive and powerful nation has sprung, and it helps us to understand the contempt of danger and death which possesses the patriots in the Far East. The part of the grim, saturnine, omnipotent, far-seeing, relentless Zakkuri is most forcibly rendered by Mr Robert Pateman, who makes of him a far more bestial, licentious being than Mr Tree did. He is a veritable Caliban among men, a monster full of unbridled passions, while equally relentless, and full of vaulting ambition as the crafty minister of state. Miss Frances Dillon gives a very sweet and charming performance as Yo-San (the Darling of the Gods), who opines that she was "not created to suffer." Mr Douglas Gerrard creates a good impression as Kara, the fearless outlaw prince and leader of the Samurai. He has just the air of quiet dignity and dauntless resolution necessary for the part, besides being an excellent elocutionist. Mr Arthur Vezin is good in the small part of Tonda-Tanji, Zakkuri's "highly-scented" nephew. Miss Eve Muriel is bright and attractive as Rosey Sky (a dweller in the "city without nights"), and she acts with verve and spirit in the closing scenes of the geisha's downfall. Miss Rhoda Ray dances well and looks nice as Madame Asani, the war minister's passing fancy; Miss Edith Deverell contributes a pleasing picture of Yo-San's maid, Setsu; and Miss Maud Ruthven as Niji Oana, Rosey Sky's maid, and Miss Dorothy Brunt as Nu (a singing girl) are eminently satisfactory. Mr Douglas Payne is excellent as Inu (Yo-San's dumb servitor), and he makes his mark by a most finished performance of this difficult part. Mr Hubert Druce does well in the rôle of Kato, the fisher by the inland seas, and he also fulfils the duties of stage-manager most creditably. In a long cast Mr Alexander Haviland as a noble, Mr Ivan F. Simpson as the Prince of Tosan, and Messrs Harry Wallace, George Harrison, W. J. Robertson, Arthur Lyons, Allestone, and A. Sherridan as Zakkura's creatures deserve favourable mention. Mr Horace Cole assists Mr Edward Lytton at the front of the house.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

Written in quite his happiest vein, this realistic drama of Mr Walter Melville's has quickly secured a hold on the feelings of the susceptible Marylebone playgoers, who dearly love their plays packed with sensational and emotional scenes. Needless to say, *A Disgrace to Her Sex* in no way disappointed them. The chief honours were easily carried off by Mr Augustine Knight, whose Jules Delarnet was the hit of the evening. No more competent actor than Mr Knight could be found to play the fawning, obsequious Frenchman, and his success was most marked. Mr Phil Harper enacted Jack Dawes in a spirited, manly way, making a good impression; Mr Arthur Chisholme was quietly effective as Dexter; Mr Eugene Santley praiseworthy as David Carrington; and Mr David G. Noble as Arnold Travers acted with much ability. The comedy powers of Mr Arthur Byron found ample scope in the part of the dog fancier, Barnaby Muggs, and he quickly became a warm favourite, as did Miss Madge Yates as Bella Muggs, she playing up to Mr Byron in capital style. Miss Winnie Tempest was exceedingly graceful and charming as the unfortunate Mabel Valley, and Miss Nellie Lucas was equally winsome and delightful as the more fortunate Mildred Carrington. The trying rôle of Hilda Valley was sustained by Miss Grace Heywood in forcible fashion, her acting at times rising to a high level. All the minor characters were carefully played, and the mounting and staging were up to the usual high standard that one associates with Mr Walter Melville's productions.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, entitled
"WOMEN AND WINE."

Mr Milton Bode's company is here in Messrs Ben Landeck and Arthur Shirley's realistic drama, *Women and Wine*, and the play is presented in admirable style by a capable company. Miss Edith Blande in the character of Marcel Rigadout gives a powerful rendering of the part of a French demi-monde, who lures Dick Seymour away from his home and happiness. Miss Ernestine Holker acts sympathetically as the heroine Mary Andrews, who remains true to her first love, in spite of his many faults. La Colombe has a capital representative in Miss Nellie Lauraine, and in the fight to the death with Marcel these two artists are seen to advantage. Mr F. Robertson as Dick Seymour, the spendthrift, acts exceedingly well. Mr Fred Mace is pathetic in the part of the blind father, who believes in his boy to the end. Mr F. Eaglesfield as Phineas Collins and Mr E. R. Beaumont as Mark Perkins, the two scoundrels who assist Marcel in her treachery, act well. A clever study of Pierre Crucru, who is never so happy as when gloating over the prospect of bloodshed, is given by Mr Herbert Landeck. Mr Tom Tindall as Professor Sawter, Mr Percy Dawsone as Charlie Sawter, his son, and Miss Muriel Vox as Janet Marlowe are very funny in their respective parts, and cause the audience to roar with laughter whenever they were on the stage. Mr Walter Thornton as Alphonse Beaudet does well as the lover of La Colombe. Mr H. Compton as Duc D'Arnac and Mr R. Lynn as Bob Tipton give a good account of themselves. Mr Fred Harcourt as President of the Court; Mr A. Mitchell, Foreman of the Jury; Mr A. V. Webster as Joseph; Mr H. Wheatley, an Advocate; Mr Percy Cooper as Carlo; Miss Rose Galloway as Madame Perinet; and Miss Lucy Langley as Suzanne lend their valuable assistance to make the play successful. The Edène Troupe of lady dancers deserve a word of praise for their speciality dances in "Le Bal Japonais." The paly was mounted in lavish style, and the dresses were magnificent.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Nov. 14,
the Musical Play, in Two Acts, by George Dance, Composed by Howard Talbot, entitled
"A CHINESE HONEYMOON."

Mr George Dance's company are paying another visit here this week with the phenomenally successful play, *A Chinese Honeymoon*, the vitality of which seems inexhaustible. Mr Martin Adeson is still very much to the fore as Mr Pineapple, and his performance has lost none of its vigour by frequent repetition. Miss Madge Temple is a charming exponent of the Princess Soo-Soo, and her singing is one of the most enjoyable features of the production. She has a capital song in "Egypt," but the liberal allowance of encores that is given becomes a little irksome. A very alert and active Fifi is found in Miss Vera Vere, and her amusing and entertaining performance of the impossible little waitress in provocative of incessant laughter in every scene in which she is concerned. An imposing Emperor of Ylang-Ylang is Mr Philip Hayden, who contrives to invest the part with no little humour; and the Chippie Chop of Mr Ernest Laws and the Admiral Hi Lung of Mr Fred Payne are both in their way excellent performances. Mr Frank Crimp is a breezy and vivacious Tom Atherton, and scores heavily with his topical song in the second act. A clever sketch of the official mother-in-law, Mrs Brown, comes from Mrs Holford Beringer, and Miss Eva Bevington makes the very most of the many excellent opportunities the part of Mrs Pineapple affords her. The good work done by the chorus deserves recognition, and the mounting and dressing of the piece leave nothing to be desired. Mr A. Romilli is the musical conductor.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Musical Comedy, by Malcolm Watson, entitled
"WINNIE BROOKE, WIDOW."

Mr Purcell is again to be congratulated on the fare he has provided for his patrons this week, for the verdict of the house each night has been unanimous; and Miss Ada Reeve cannot but feel highly gratified at the heartiness of the welcome that has been accorded her in Holloway. A load of responsibility rests upon the shoulders of Miss Reeve, and at the end of each act, even to the last, she receives an ovation for her piquant and resourceful acting, and more especially, perhaps, for her singing which is greatly admired. Her songs, "Woman," "Something to learn," and "Born, not made," meet with warm recognition; and her duet, "If you were a schoolboy," with Mr Edgar Steevens as Reginald Frampton is one of the hits of the evening. Mr Henry Vibart must come in for high commendation for his Dudley Mayne, a part he fills in a most capable manner. Mr Edgar Steevens, as before mentioned, essays the rôle of Reginald Frampton, and gives a manly and hearty impersonation. He scores an early success with his rendering of "Love is sweet," and also shares honours with Miss Reeve in the duet referred to above. Mr Leon Ashton-Jarry gives a capital interpretation of Julian Croft, one of Mayne's Brotherhood; and Mr Stephen Adeson meets with warm recognition for the clever representation he gives of the solicitor, Montague Brent, causing much mirth with his song, "The popular roundabout way." Mr James Stephenson is responsible for a large amount of fun as the Rev. Elihu Garside, and Mrs Garside has an admirable representative in Miss Janet Hodson. A very clever impersonation is that of Mr Edward Rigby as the odd boy, Hercules Grant. He has a quiet but particularly humorous manner, which keeps the audience highly amused. Miss Drusilla Wills very ably supports Mr Rigby as Eustacia Eglantine Honoria Brown, and wins golden opinions for her impersonation. Mr Frederick B. Sharp, in addition to the heavy duties of stage-management, is especially worthy of praise for his thoroughly able portrayal of Toby Blossom, porter at Mr Mayne's. His performance is a strikingly marked feature, and his clever acting is greeted with applause. The parts of Gracie Hampton and Nora Caswell are capably filled by Miss Lucie Caine and Miss Ruth Hazlewood. We must not forget to compliment Mrs Charles Maltby on her very clever contribution to the success of the play in the part of Hannah, the mild humour of the character being skilfully carried out. The remaining members of the cast, and the chorus in particular, work well, and the Marlborough orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. A. Robertson, deserves credit for its admirable work.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, for the First Time in London, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Max Goldberg, entitled
"THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE."

Barry Phelps	Mr JOHN F. PRESTON
Rev. Walter Meredith	Mr ERNEST R. ALLEN
Adolphus Green	Mr C. H. PULLEN
Morris Morris	Mr ARTHUR HARTLEY
Steve Morris	Mr GEO. R. MONTFORD
Captain Goodman	Mr JAMES PAGE
Tim Toosh	Mr HARRY BENSON
Jem Butterworth	Mr FRANK A. OSBORNE
Mr Movington	Mr HARDY MACRO
Sanitary Inspector	Mr ERNEST WAGHORNE
Superintendent of Police	Mr ALBERT WADE
Lady Longthorpe	Miss GEORGIE WALTON
Sal Jenkins	Miss POLLY TAYLOR
Maggie Miggs	Miss MABELLE F. BARLOW
Mary Maynard	Miss HILDA SHIRLEY
Liz	Miss GERTRUDE GODART

A play which exposes the iniquitous methods of men who gain wealth at the cost of their fellow creatures' health and even lives serves a good purpose, inasmuch as it must of necessity tend to create a strong feeling that such glaring abuses in our social system should be got rid of as speedily as possible. Indeed, Mr Max Goldberg's drama (which was first seen at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, last May) teaches a wholesome lesson which may profitably engage the attention of the social reformer. It reveals in a vivid light the detestable ways of the sordid sweater of labour; and the deplorable results of his hateful money-making system. Ministers of religion are not always popular characters on the stage—they are too often of the type of the Rev. Robert Spalding—but in *The Voice of the People* we have a "fighting parson" of the right sort, who preaches and practices true Christianity. His stand up fight with a bully is one of the most effective scenes in the play. This fine example of the muscular Christian is the Rev. Walter Meredith, who brings to the work of social reform much enthusiasm and the hopefulness of youth. In the miserable sweater's den are seen young women employed at sewing machines making shirts for 1½d. each, under the eagle eye of a cruel taskmaster, who haggles over their work with the pitiful object of reducing the miserable pittance he offers them. Morris Morris, who has became wealthy by enforcing in his workshops the sweating system, is tackled by the young clergyman, who in solemn tones warns him that the "voice of the people" will bring about a righteous retribution. His son and heir Steve Morris, is leading a gay, reckless life, and of course is in need of money to spend on his pleasures. Father and son have a quarrel, and Steve murders the old man. Then, imitating the voice of his deceased parent, he telephones to the nearest police station informing the authorities that he is being murdered in his own house by the clergyman Meredith. The accused is arrested, but he is fortunately able to prove an alibi, and so defeat Steve's vile plot. Nor does the parricide attain his purpose of securing the newly made will, which is seized by Steve's property agent, Barry Phelps, a broken-down actor who has been a witness of the crime. Steve, fearing that Barry may betray him, contrives to get him placed in an asylum, but he does not remain an inmate very long. Happening to meet a girl named Liz, who was formerly employed in the sweater's den, he makes the discovery by means of a portrait locket that she is his own daughter. He, it appears, deserted her mother soon after Liz was born. The friendless girl is heiress to a fortune bequeathed to her deceased mother, who had wealthy relatives, a friend of whom, Captain Goodman, at last discovers the whereabouts of Liz. He had been searching for years for the missing heiress. In the third act there is presented a realistic street scene—the Exterior of the Craven Arms. The mob make an attack upon the public house, smashing the large plate-glass windows with stones. This is one of the most sensational scenes in the play. Before the curtain falls for the last time Steve and his accomplice Jem Butterworth are arrested whilst engaged in an attempt to rob Walter Meredith, the police having received a timely warning from Barry. The clergyman marries Mary Maynard, a work-girl who becomes a nurse; and he is enabled to improve the condition of the poor work-people, whose cause he has so nobly taken up. Mr Ernest R. Allen was well placed as the zealous and sturdy clerical reformer, the Rev. Walter Meredith, and his fistic encounter with the bully arouses the audience to a high pitch of enthusiasm. Mr G. R. Montford carefully and effectively portrayed the unprincipled scheming Steve Morris, who comes to an ignominious end. Mr Arthur Hartley made good use of his opportunities as the repentant sweater, Morris Morris. Mr John F. Preston (otherwise Max Goldberg, the author of the play) has a capital character in the broken-down actor, and his presence on the stage was always welcome. The fallen star has a habit of quoting Shakespeare, but the passages are often altered just to suit the situation. Mr Preston secured by his happy rendering of the part a large share of the honours of the evening. Mr Frank A. Osborne was excellent as Jem Butterworth, the tool of Steve Morris; and Mr James Page was satisfactory as Captain Goodman. Mr C. H. Pullen was amusing as Adolphus Green, Lady Longthorpe's nephew, a dude; Miss Gertrude Walton won the sympathy of the audience by her admirable embodiment of Liz; Miss Hilda Shirley did well as Mary Maynard; Miss Georgie Walton was sufficiently dignified as the wealthy but narrow-minded Lady Longthorpe; and Miss Mabelle F. Barlow showed a keen sense of humour as the servant Maggie Miggs. Miss Polly Taylor as Sol Jenkins, a loafer, Mr Albert Wade as Superintendent of Police, Mr Harry Benson as Tim Toosh, Mr Hardy Macro as Mr Movington lent able assistance. The drama was staged in a manner that gave complete satisfaction.

THE ELEPHANT AND CASTLE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, by Messrs Paul Merritt and George Conquest, entitled
"FOR EVER."

The autumn stock company, organised by Mr. Ernest E. Norris, the enterprising manager of this popular suburban playhouse, is rendering a good account of itself this week in the exciting and interesting drama *For Ever*. Mr Fred Conquest is responsible for the principal character, Zacky, the man-monkey, and his representation of the part is highly efficient. He speedily gains the close attention of the house by his thorough and earnest acting, and his efforts are greeted with enthusiastic appreciation. Mr Ernest E. Norris essays the rôle of Captain Jasper Daremont with great success, and his virile and forcible impersonation is quite to the liking of the onlookers. As Abel Rockley Mr Jo Monkhouse is eminently suited, whilst Mr Harry Paulton, jun., creates much amusement in the part of Tim Tifany. Mr Edwin Bennett is aristocratic and dignified as Sir Philip Daremont. Potkins is capably played by Mr Howard Templeton, and Mr Ernest Percy gives a good study of a polished and unscrupulous scoundrel. Mr Paige Lawrence looks austere as Mr Justice Wigney, and Mr A. Davis is efficient as Dorkins. Mrs Bennett acts with all her accustomed sincerity in the part of Phillis, and conveys a true insight into the character of a much-injured and falsely accused wife. Miss Judith Kyrle deserves a full meed of praise for a convincing rendering of a difficult rôle, that of Abel Rockley's daughter. Her performance is a most finished one, and she thoroughly earns the warm encomiums showered upon her. Miss Agnes Paulton is distinctly bright and pleasing in the part of Polly Patcham. The numerous minor characters are all intelligently interpreted, and the general mounting of the drama is in every way excellent.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Comedy, in Three Acts, by F. Fenn and R. Price, entitled
"SATURDAY TO MONDAY."

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's excellent company is occupying this pretty theatre with *Saturday to Monday*, being the first appearance here of this successful comedy, which is drawing good business. Miss Moyra Creegan, the fascinating Mrs Wendover, is the life and soul of every scene in which she appears, and her finished performance is of the utmost value. Mr Stuart Champion is a favourite as Lord Culvert. His acting is as natural as it is effective, and his efforts meet with general appreciation. Mr Dallas Welford has appeared here before, and his interpretation of Stanley Pidding is up to his usual mark, and Miss Madeline L'Estrange as the eccentric Lady Porchester, is all that could be desired. Able support comes from pretty Miss Nancy Beresford as Angelis, Mr Thomas Sidney commendably plays the rôle of Rev. Lemuel Toop and Miss Joseph Kaye makes the most of her opportunities as Miss Ursula Toop. Miss Ida Laurie is quietly effective as Miss Skeet, and a word of praise is due to Mr Thomas A. Braidon as Probyn Dyke. The comedy is preceded by *Judged by Appearances*, in which the following take part:—Mr Dallas Welford as Arthur Denison, Miss Nancy Beresford, Helen; Mr Thomas Sydney and James Wyche as Burglar and Constable respectively.

GREENWICH THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Musical Comedy-Drama entitled
"ONE WOMAN'S WICKEDNESS."

Mr Sharp has made an excellent engagement for this week in arranging for the appearance of Mr Charles H. Phelps and company in *One Woman's Wickedness*, of which drama Mr Phelps is the author and representative of the leading male part, Jem Craggs, which he plays with considerable power and ability. Mr Lawrence Brian is a capital representative of Philip Beaufort. Mr Hubert Humphreys is excellent as Paul Roque, and also as Justice Hotpot. Mr Arthur Ferris makes a very good impression as Lord Algernon Fitznoodle; Mr Howard Ward plays Limpy Larry characteristically; Miss Frances Jessop is good as Marrienne Beaufort; Miss Florence Lloyd is a pleasing Janet Raymond; Miss Florence M. Daly is excellent as Aunt Crasy; Miss Ethel Ashbury is bright and smart as Jenny Jiggles; and Miss Louie Davis is very successful as Lillian Craggs.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 14, Shakespeare's Tragedy,
"JULIUS CÆSAR."

Local Shakespearian admirers are receiving with delight and meet appreciation the visit of Mr Tree's répertoire company, which is fulfilling a week's engagement at the Borough Theatre. On Monday night *Julius Cæsar* was presented to an enthusiastic audience, eloquent testimony that Mr Tree's laudable desire to familiarise stage representations of Shakespeare's works with suburban and provincial audiences, maintained in such style as to add true locale and atmosphere and interpreted by artists who speak Shakespeare properly, is reaping its due reward. Mr Wm. Haviland's interpretation of Mark Antony is a skilful and artistic performance, and his speech to the people quite a triumph in elocution. Mr E. A. Warburton plays with virility, directness of method, and deep feeling as

Marcus Brutus, and Mr Herbert Bunston contributes a well defined and tactful reading of Cassius. Casca receives admirable treatment from Mr Charles Bibby; Mr Reginald Ian Penny makes up well and acts with distinction as Julius Cæsar; and Mr V. L. Granville is an excellent Octavius Cæsar. Mr V. Leslie plays with judgment as Cinna; Mr George Robertson is an able and efficient Publius; and the three minor conspirators receive careful treatment at the hands of Mr Allan Wilkie, Mr Arthur Bruce, and Mr A. E. Anson. Miss Constance Collier is a handsome and stately Portia, and gives an admirable rendering of the character. Miss Margaret Halstan makes the most of her opportunities in the part of Calphurnia, and is highly successful. The crowds show the result of much careful training, and Mr Eardley Turner as the First Citizen and Mr Arthur Machen as the Second Citizen play their respective rôles in just the right vein. Other parts all receive sound renderings. At Wednesday's matinée and on Thursday evening *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was the attraction, and on Friday *Twelfth Night* was performed.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Malcolm Douglas, entitled "A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."

The patrons of Mrs Ellis-Fredericks's comfortable melodrama theatre made acquaintance with *A Fight for Millions* on Monday night, and their opinion of the piece was entirely favourable. Although the drama, which comes from "the other side," cannot lay claim to much literary merit, it teems with sensational effects, the introduction of a wireless telephone capable of being heard a thousand miles off, and the incidents in which the somewhat ambitiously described submarine boat is utilised, being the more prominent. The members of Mr Robert Perris's company acquit themselves very creditably, Mr Perris himself portraying the hero, Tom Manley, in buoyant and pleasing manner. Mr Horace Booth as the rascally Richard Dudley plays in forcible style, and as the pawnbroker, Solomon Moses, Mr Fred Acton presents the accepted type of heavy comedian stage Jew with excellent effect. Mr Larry Clements is decidly amusing as Willie Neverwork, and Mr J. Newton Cowling plays appropriately as Hudson Rivers. Pearl Rivers is charmingly delineated by Miss Eva Purcell, and Miss Fanny Williams is a natural Mrs Hudson Rivers. Miss Kathryn Eckart makes a sympathetic Helen Dudley, and Miss Gertie Douglas plays with considerable vivacity and piquancy the dual rôle of Betty and Mag Brady, besides contributing an enjoyable vocal item. Other parts are rendered with intelligence and care.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Drama, entitled "THE TWO ORPHANS."

This favourite old drama has been drawing good houses here this week. Mr Henry Neville plays his original part of Pierre with his usual skill, his grip of the character being as strong as ever. The two orphans have sympathetic exponents in Misses Evelyn Weeden and May Congdon. The former as the blind girl acted with fine pathos, and the latter obtained much applause by the dramatic force she displayed. The meeting of the two sisters in the last act has moved the house to tears. Miss Emma Victor is so realistic as the drunken old mother of Jacques and Pierre as to excite the gallery to hisses and shouts of disapproval. Mr William Devereux gives a good rendering of Armand; the Jacques of Mr L. Cory Thomas is a bold and dashing performance; the Count De Linière of Mr William Dexter is satisfactory; Mr William Mallalieu as the Doctor is excellent; and Mr F. G. Thurstans gives a comical rendering of Picard. Miss Cahill as the Countess De Linière is most sympathetic; Mrs Mason makes an interesting Mother Superior; and the other parts are well sustained, Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company being highly capable. The scenery is appropriate and effective, the dresses are picturesque, and the play is well mounted. At the Wednesday matinée and on Thursday evening Mr Henry Neville and the company gave excellent representations of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, which goes as well as ever.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, by James T. Tanner, Music by Lionel Monckton, entitled "A COUNTRY GIRL."

Attracted by that charming production *A Country Girl*, bumping houses have been the rule at the Kingston playhouse this week. Mr George Dance's company includes Miss Kathryn Comber in the part of Marjory Joy, who quite captivated her auditors by a charming impersonation of the part, in which she disclosed the possession of a voice of rare power and sweetness. She was ably assisted by Mr Francis Ludlow, who invested the part of the naval officer, Geoffrey Chaloner, with a breezy hilarity. Mr Harry Buss appeared once more as the amusing midshipman, Barry, and by his characteristic drolleries never failed to keep the audience in good humour when he was on the stage. An attractive piquancy was thrown into the part of Madame Sophie by Miss Rose Begarnie, a young actress who has won favour at Kingston before, and Mr Arthur Hayter acquitted himself well as the aged Granfer Mummery. A clever piece of character acting was that of Miss Rosa Robey as Mrs St. Quentin. Others who deserve particular mention are Mr H. C. Morton as Sir Joseph Verity, Mr Fred W. Pattrick as the Rajah of Bhong, and Miss Ernestine Desborough as Princess Melaneh. The comedy was produced under the direction of Mr Austen Hurgon, and Mr Otto Manns had charge of an augmented orchestra. The excellent scenery is painted by Mr Joseph Harker and Mr Ernest Howard.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Comic Opera entitled "THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."

Mr George Dance's company in the exceedingly popular comic opera, *The Duchess of Dantzic*, has drawn crowded houses here this week. Miss Rita Presano as Catherine Upscher (known as Sans-Gêne) follows worthily in the footsteps of Miss Evie Greene, the clever creator of the rôle. Miss Presano is possessed of a fine voice, which she uses with the greatest effect in rendering the music allotted to her, and she is, in addition, endowed with more than ordinary capabilities as an emotional actress. Miss Amy Burton is an effective Lizette. Mr Thomas Maxwell is very good, first as Philippe, Viscomte De Bethune, and afterwards as Adhemar, Viscomte De Bethune, his fine voice being of great assistance in the concerted numbers in which he took part. Mr Albert Chapman has also proved himself a singer of much capability, and gives a capital rendering of the part of Sergeant François Lefebvre (afterwards Duke of Dantzic). The Court milliner, Papillon, is humorously played by Mr Colin Mackay, who gains one of the successes of the evening with his "Milliner" song in the second act and his quaint, but most effective, dance at the end of it. Miss Alice Coverick is a pretty and dainty Renée De Saint-Mezard, and sings and acts tunefully and neatly. The part of Napoleon is effectively rendered by Mr Frederick Moyes, who thoroughly grasps the idea of the character. The masterly way in which Mr Moyes depicts the hard, unflinching, and unbending spirit of the famous Emperor does him infinite credit. The chorus was extremely good, and the dresses and scenery were of the high standard usually associated with Mr Dance's productions. A special word of praise should be given to Mr B. J. Paterson for the able manner in which he conducted throughout the evening.

THERE was produced, for copyright purposes, at the King's Theatre, Nottingham, on Saturday, a one-act scena, by Herbert Fuller, entitled *A Burglar's Darling*.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."

A New and Original Play, in Four Acts, by Frederick Melville, Produced at the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, on Monday, Nov. 14.

Jack Merriman ..... Mr STANLEY BEDWELL
Hubert Gold ..... Mr LEYTON CANCELLOR
Antonio Luchesi ..... Mr HENRY ST. LEGER
Tom Redvers ..... Mr BILLESDEN CLARKE
Griffiths ..... Mr W. A. MALTBY
Lamerel ..... Mr FRANK BROWNE
Paolo ..... Mr J. LAWRENCE
Fritz ..... Mr CECIL POPE
Gend'arme ..... Mr ARNOLD WINTERS
White ..... Mr GEORGE POTTER
Grab ..... Mr JOHN HALDER
Jasper Herrick ..... Mr NEWMAN MAURICE
Quick ..... Mr TOM SAWYER
Bullock ..... Mr F. LEIGHTON
Mr Green ..... Mr H. SANDHURST
Raggles ..... Mr FRED DE VERE
Doctor Carr ..... Mr ANDREW MONEY
Morita ..... Miss MARGARET WATSON
Aggie Browne ..... Miss NELLIE JACKSON
Rose Courtenay ..... Miss BEATRIX DE BURGH
Ugliest Woman on Earth Miss HENRIETTA WATSON

The "women" of the brothers Melville have been beautiful though bad, but the heroine of the latest drama of Mr Frederick Melville, produced on Monday at the Terriss, Rotherhithe, with every sign of success, is exactly the reverse. Except that she has shot at a man in defence of her honour, her life is in every respect a blameless one, but her ugliness is so pronounced that through the four acts of a stirring melodrama she is compelled to hide her face. The action opens in Naples, where a young artist, Tom Redvers, is discovered endeavouring to put on canvas the beautiful scene on which he is privileged to gaze. He is interrupted by the fair Morita, a young Italian girl who passionately loves him, and who implores him to give up gambling and keep his promise to marry her. He has apparently tired of her, and soon bids her depart, and meeting the villain, Hubert Gold, readily assents to again try his luck at the cards. Much against his inclination, the hero, Jack Merriman, also consents to play, and is accused by Redvers of cheating, Gold, of course, being the guilty party. Blows follow words, and while Merriman goes to seek Morita, Redvers is stabbed by Gold, Jack being accused of the murder on his return. Previous to this it is understood that Jack is engaged to Rose Courtenay. By the terms of a will it is to the advantage of both that they shall marry, but it is soon apparent there is no real love between them. Indeed, Rose promises Gold that when once she has become Jack's wife she will leave him and live with Gold. We first see the Ugliest Woman—her name is not mentioned in the play—in her apartments at an hotel at Nice. She is travelling with a scientist, Doctor Carr, and is heavily veiled, and whilst lamenting the fact that she is friendless and alone, and never likely to become a wife or a mother, Jack enters her room in order to escape the gend'armes. After a little explanation the veiled lady allows him to remain, and when his pursuers knock at the door for admittance she hides him in her bedroom. Morita, however, who has taken the oath of the vendetta, and imagines Jack to be the murderer of her lover, sees his hat on the table, and insists on the room being searched. Morita almost succeeds in stabbing Jack when he comes from the apartment, but the veiled lady stays her hand, and Jack is enabled to escape by a window. In the next act all the principals are on board the steamship Osprey, en route for England. Jack has fallen deeply in love with the veiled lady, and his attentions to her have aroused the jealousy of Rose, who is now more determined than ever on marrying him. She and Gold concoct a scheme to obtain £10,000, and also endeavour to have the boat stopped at a port and Jack given in charge, but they are frustrated by the comedy couple, Jasper Herrick and his sweetheart Aggie. Morita, disguised as a boy, is also still determined to have a life for a life; and, meeting the veiled lady at the landing-stage at Tilbury, obtains Jack's address. At his rooms, where the next scene takes place, she learns who the real murderer is; and the veiled lady also becomes conscious of her love for Jack, but tells him she can never become his wife. While Jack is anxiously awaiting the arrival of Doctor Carr, who is attending him for some trouble with his eyes, he is attacked by a hooligan named Raggles, in the pay of Gold, and when assistance arrives it is found that he is totally blind. Now that he cannot see, the veiled lady no longer repulses him; and when he is taunted by Rose on never having seen her—the veiled lady's—face, he declares that he would continue to love her were she the "ugliest woman on earth." When he has gone and she is left alone, the veiled lady goes to the back of the stage where there is a mirror, and, raising the covering from her face, gazes in the glass. The sight so horrifies her that she smashes the mirror, and falls sobbing to the ground. We learn in the last act the cause of her unsightliness, and Jack, who recovers his vision, will marry her without having once gazed on her face. Vengeance is, of course, also meted out to the wicked ere the final descent of the curtain.

The company presenting the play is in every instance praiseworthy, specially to be commended being Miss Henrietta Watson, the clever and experienced actress, who created the title-rôle. It must have been a unique experience to play through four acts with her face hidden from view, and scarcely an enviable one. The difficulty of her task, however, was cleverly overcome, and her impersonation throughout was dignified and impressive, especially pathetic being her acting in the scene where she raises her veil and looks in the mirror. A more finished or sympathetic rendering of the part could not be imagined, and Miss Watson is to be warmly complimented on her portrayal of a character which, in less experienced or gifted hands, could easily have been made ludicrous. Mr Stanley Bedwell contributed an easy and in every respect praiseworthy enactment of Jack Merriman; and the scoundrelly Hubert Gold was undertaken quite satisfactorily by Mr Leyton Cancellor. His "tool," Antonio Luchesi, was capably played by Mr Henry St. Leger, a versatile and painstaking actor; and Mr Billesden Clarke was convincing as the young artist, Tom Redvers. A clever and entertaining study of the London hooligan, Raggles, came from Mr Fred De Vere; Mr Andrew Money gave a neat little sketch of the elderly scientist, Dr. Carr; and Mr W. A. Maltby was quite capable as Griffiths. Most of the laughter heard during the evening was the outcome of the many humorous antics and funny lines of Jasper Herrick, played with much success and apparently great enjoyment by Mr Newman Maurice, the popular acting-manager. He had a smart and hard-working little partner in Miss Nellie Jackson, who played Jasper's sweetheart, Aggie Brown, and the pair were immense favourites from their first entrance. The passionate and revengeful Italian girl, Morita, was realistically and cleverly undertaken by Miss Margaret Watson, and Miss Beatrix De Burgh is entitled to praise for her careful and capable enactment of Rose Courtenay. The numerous minor rôles were all efficiently undertaken. Mention should be made of the magnificent scenery and effects, for which Messrs F. B. Mullen, Richard Douglas, George Tweddell, and Thos. Rees are responsible, and the piece, which went very smoothly for a first performance, was produced by the author.

THE death is announced of Mr Garnet Wolseley Cox, a young composer, who was educated at the Royal Academy of Music. He wrote many successful songs, and his overture "Pelléas et Mélisande" was played at the Philharmonic Concert of 1903.

MR LESLIE NORMAN has made a genuine revival of *A Trip to Chinatown*, the result being that his company rebooked at all the important theatres which it has visited.

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—An exceedingly sad case of distress in our profession has been brought to my notice by my old friend and brother actor, Mr E. M. Robson. It is that of Mr Henry Crisp, who, being fifty-one years of age, and having been an actor for thirty years, is now totally blind, and has been so from the end of October, 1903. He acted up to the last, and played for two years with the vision of one eye quite gone, while that of the other was gradually going. Out of his thirty years' experience he has held engagements as follows:—With Mrs Scott Siddons, three consecutive engagements; with Miss Jennie Lee, five consecutive years; with Mrs Langtry, four consecutive years; with Mr Penley, twelve consecutive years; with Mr Willard, three tours; and as stage-manager with Mr Tree (*Captain Swift*, Company 1). This makes very nearly thirty years, and shows that he must have been reliable and steady to have secured so many re-engagements. His salaries have always been small—£3 to £4 per week—once only reaching £8, so it is not surprising that he has no savings to fall back upon. He has a slender private income derived from the rents of three small houses. The property is mortgaged, and is in the hands of the mortgagees, who work it and allow him 15s. per week. His rent for a top room in the Kennington-road is 8s. per week, and the 7s. left has to find all the necessaries for himself and his wife, and he is not in arrears with his rent. Two years ago he was six months idle on account of illness, chiefly connected with his affliction. The expenses incurred by this, added to fees paid to various doctors in the different towns he visited on tours, reduced his income and savings considerably. He has been an inmate of the Westminster and Ophthalmic Hospitals, but with no benefit, though he speaks gratefully of the kindness shown him by a certain well-known doctor, who treated him gratuitously and secured his admission into the hospitals. There is no hope of his ever seeing again. One eye is quite gone, and is replaced by an artificial one, and the other is past being operated upon. His debts are very few and small; I have a list of them. His address is 145, Kennington-road, S.E.

I have spoken about his case to Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr Pinero, Captain Marshall, Mr Alexander, Mr Bourchier, and Sir Squire Bancroft, all of whom are deeply interested in the case, and express their willingness to help him. I have every hope eventually of organising a concert for his benefit at the Queen's Hall. In the meantime may I ask for the kind consideration which you have always shown for cases of distress in our profession, and beg you to open a subscription list on his behalf, kindly putting me down for £5?

Yours faithfully, CYRIL MAUDE.

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The case of Mr Henry Crisp is too sad for words. I enclose cheque for £10 10s. (from Mr and Mrs Kendal) with only too much pleasure to so deserving a fund.

Yours faithfully, W. H. KENDAL.
North-Western Hotel, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Crisp's case is certainly a very sad one, and I am very glad to enclose my mite towards his assistance.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WYNDHAM.
Midland Hotel, Manchester, Oct. 11, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Please accept the enclosed amount (£1 17s.) as a small donation to Mr Henry Crisp's Benefit Fund in token of the great sympathy which every member of this company bears for Mr Crisp in his terrible misfortune.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.
Theatre Royal, Limerick.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you add the enclosed cheque to the fund you have opened for Mr H. Crisp? His case is, indeed, terribly sad.

Yours faithfully, SABA RALEIGH.
Grand Hotel, Middlesbrough, Oct. 26, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Sir Henry Irving asks me to send you the enclosed cheque for £5 as his donation to the Henry Crisp Fund. He sends all good wishes for its success. Yours faithfully, BRAM STOKER.
20, Bedford-street, W.C., Oct. 26, 1904.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Kendal	10	10	0
Executors David James Estate, per Edwd. Terry	10	10	0
Mr Hales	5	5	0
F. S. Willard	5	5	0
J. H. Leigh	5	5	0
H. Beerbohm Tree	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Greet and E. Englebach	5	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	5	0	0
Adelaide Neilson Fund, per Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
George Alexander	5	0	0
Arthur Bourchier	5	0	0
Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	3	3	0
Edward Terry	3	3	0
Arthur W. Pinero	3	3	0
John Hare	3	0	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
A. B. and J. J. Wright	2	2	0
Henry Kemble	2	2	0
Isabel Jay	2	2	0
David Allen and Sons, Limited	2	2	0
J. D. Beveridge	2	2	0
Saba Raleigh	2	2	0
Miss Lily Brayton	2	2	0
Fredk. Mouillot	2	2	0
Lionel Brough	2	2	0
P. S. C.	2	0	0
Ellen Terry	2	0	0
R. Gilbert	2	0	0
Phyllis Broughton	2	0	0
Charlotte E. Steele	2	0	0
"Gelsha" Co., per Jas. R. La Fane	2	0	0
Thalberg Corbett	2	0	0
"Greed of Gold" Co., per Mr W. M. Cameron	1	15	0
"Money Maker" Co., per Mary Griffiths (Mrs Arthur Lyle	1	19	6
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Co., per H. J. Montague	1	5	0
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
W. Payne Seddon	1	1	0
H. Cecil Beryl	1	1	0
Edward Rose	1	1	0
Horace Mills	1	1	0
May Louise Cohen	1	1	0
Frank Denman Wood	1	1	0
John and Fred Coulson	1	1	0
Robert Redford	1	1	0
Frank Bateman	1	1	0
Yorke Stephens	1	1	0
J. O. Baker	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Conway Dixon	1	1	0
C. Ward	1	1	0
Susie Vaughan	1	1	0
H. Ainley	1	1	0
Constance Benson	1	1	0
Mrs Chas. Calvert	1	1	0
Marie Studholme	1	1	0
William Peacock	1	1	0
"Blimbo"	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
Will Dennis	1	1	0
Robert Pateman	1	1	0
Arthur Whittaker	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
J. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Katherine Compton	1	1	0
J. W. Nightingale	1	1	0
Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Topsy Sinden	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Ernest Stevens	1	1	0
H. W. Waddington	1	1	0
W. Johnson and Jos. Potter	1	1	0
Eva Moore Esmond	1	1	0
L. Braithwaite	1	1	0
William Mollison	1	1	0
H. N. Gibson	1	1	0
H. Jalland	1	1	0
Sydney Valentine	1	1	0
Henry A. Lytton	1	1	0
Rud'd Barrington	1	1	0
Austin Melford	1	1	0
J. W. Broughton	1	1	0
Thomas Sidney	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Chas. Rock	1	1	0
"Two Little Vagabonds" (N.) per Eric G. Merrie	1	1	0
Ada Blanche	1	1	0
Sims and Barratt	1	1	0
Maude Darrell	1	0	0
Mrs J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kinghorne	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Davidson	1	0	0
E. Lawes	1	0	0
Nancy Price	1	0	0
Anonymously	1	0	0
"R. C."	1	0	0
Miss Amy Grace	1	0	0
Leonard Rayne	1	0	0
George Rayne	1	0	0
Dawson Dewick	1	0	0
R. B.	1	0	0
Julian L'Estrange	1	0	0
R. B., an old acquaintance	1	0	0
"Woman and Wine" Co., per F. Withers	0	15	0
J. C.	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
G. E. M.	0	10	6
H. Wilkinson	0	10	6
John Worswick, sen.	0	10	6
W. Cheesman	0	10	6
E. Holman Clark	0	10	6
D. Lyn Harding	0	10	6
Chas. Elphinstone	0	10	6
M. R. Morand	0	10	6
Miss C. Ewell	0	10	6
Herbert Shelley	0	10	6
F. Mercr	0	10	6
Fred Emney	0	10	6
Will Smithson	0	10	6
J. Fisher White	0	10	6
J. F. Elliston	0	10	6
Harcourt Williams	0	10	6
"Well-wisher"	0	10	6
Milton Bode	0	10	6
Leslie Faber	0	10	6
Adolf Schmid	0	10	6
E. Vivian Reynolds	0	10	6
Pollie Emery	0	10	0
Louisa Gourlay	0	10	0
Mr M. Lang	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"B"	0	10	6
James Kiernan	0	10	0
Mary Brough	0	10	0
Carlotta Zerbini	0	10	0
S. A. Cookson	0	10	0
Anon	0	10	0
Maud Hildyard	0	10	0
William Holloway, per Mr Morton Powell	0	10	0
Tom Wood	0	7	6
Frank L. Hayter	0	5	0
Mr Avrigny	0	5	0
A. and E. F. S.	0	5	0
Mr Q. Ashlyn	0	5	0
Mr Robson Paige	0	5	0

"On the Stroke of Twelve" Company. Total, 13s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Fred J. Litt'e	0	5	0
Herbert Vere	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Karl H Edwards	0	1	6
Fred Rivers	0	1	0
Fred Guinness	0	1	0
Harry C. Robinson	0	1	0
H. Creagh Hunt	0	1	0
Miss B. St Ruth	0	1	0

"The Dandy Doctor" Company, per Florence Smithers Mrs Owen Dacroy). Total, £1 7s. 6d.

Mr and Mrs Owen Dacroy	0	5	0
Mr and Mrs Edward Marris	0	5	0
W. N. Gilmore	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs B. Rowe	0	2	0
Misses Stewart, Leighton, A. Nicholson, and Ivison	0	2	0
Lizzie Primmer	0	1	6
James Danvers	0	1	0
James Salter	0	1	0
Walter Nugent	0	1	0
Harry Louther	0	1	0
Stanley Hirst	0	1	0
Lillian Dacroy	0	1	0
Norah Melton	0	1	0
Cissie Evelyn	0	1	0
Flo Allen	0	1	0
Elsa Nicholson	0	1	0

"The Edge of the Storm" Company, per Mr Arthur Fitzgerald. Total, £1 6s.

Miss Marius	0	2	6
Mr Gerald Malvern	0	2	6
Miss Mackinlay	0	2	0
Miss Magrath	0	2	0
Miss Hulme	0	2	0
Mr Henry Renouf	0	2	0
Mr Fredk. Annerley	0	2	0
Mr Leon M. Lion	0	2	0
Mr W. H. Garbois	0	5	0
W. H. Nottingham	0	5	0
E. Cane	0	5	0
Chas. B. Bedells	0	5	0
N. Reynolds	0	5	0
William Lugg	0	5	0
Leonard Pagden	0	5	0
C. D. D. C.	0	5	0
George E. Mudd	0	5	0
Edward Fenton	0	5	0
Henry Bute	0	5	0
T. F. Dunn	0	5	0
Philip Desborough	0	5	0
Cato	0	5	0
Jessie Burgwitz	0	5	0
Gwynne Herbert	0	5	0
Hita Yolivet	0	5	0
Miss Sanderson	0	4	6
F. G. B.	0	4	0
Mrs Udale	0	3	0
Edward Coutts	0	2	6
Mr H. B. Lewis	0	2	6
H. Palmer	0	2	6
Elinor Aickin	0	2	6
Mrs Cumming	0	2	6
"A. P."	0	2	6
L. H.	0	2	6
Gwen Stewart	0	2	6
Erica Mostyn	0	2	6
Felix and Edie Pitt	0	2	6
Nora Neil	0	2	6
Mrs Darley	0	2	0
Eva Young	0	1	6
Great Percy-street	0	1	0
Marguerite	0	1	0
A. R. T.	0	1	0
A. H. Row	0	1	0
"A Beginner"	0	1	0
F. S.	0	1	0

Collected by Chas. A. Chandler's "Bells of Haslemere" Company, per Powell Jones. Total, £1 6s.

Mr and Mrs Chandler	0	10	0
Mr Powell James	0	3	0
Mr and Mrs Leonard Yorke	0	2	0
Miss Polini	0	1	0
Stafford Smith	0	1	0
Green, Kidderminster	0	1	0
Mr Montagu Turner	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Cecil	0	1	0
Mr Douglas Hamilton	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Clarke	0	1	0
Mr Fred Alton	0	1	0
Mr Harry Montagu	0	1	0
Mr Ted Stone	0	1	0
Mr Bill Stephens	0	1	0

Mr George Dance's Company, per B. Ralland. Total, £2 3s. 6d.

Bertie Ralland	0	2	6
Percy Yorke	0	2	6
Mr Wood	0	2	6
Harry Brayne	0	2	0
José Collins	0	2	0
M. Sadie	0	2	0
H. Williams	0	2	0
G. Barnes	0	2	0
Marie Adair	0	2	0
P. A. T.	0	2	0
Miss Drumond	0	2	0
Mr Dawkins	0	2	0
E. H.	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Austin	0	2	0
N. Cassidy	0	2	0
Leonard May	0	1	0
Frances	0	1	0
M. Maxwell	0	1	0
Gladys Gay	0	1	0
Mr Parry	0	1	0
R. S	0	1	0
L. Beckmann	0	1	0
L. W.	0	1	0
A. Knowles	0	1	0
L. Hildroe	0	1	0
D. Kersey	0	1	0
D. M. B.	0	1	0

Mr Norman V. Norman's Tour, "Under the Red Robe." Total, £1 18s.

Norman V. Norman	0	10	6
Miss Beatrice Wilson	0	5	0
Robert Hilton	0	2	6
B. Iden Payne	0	2	6
F. Glossop Harris	0	2	6
Miss Kathleen Rind	0	2	0
W. Howard Ashley	0	1	0
Miss Lilian Kevill-Davies	0	1	0
Miss Norah Doyle	0	1	0
W. Marshall	0	1	0
A. Long	0	1	0
W. Barnett Parker	0	1	0
Richard Havers	0	1	0
Miss Coleman Phillipson	0	1	0
Norman Leslie	0	1	0
Cooper Willis	0	1	0
Eric Maxon	0	1	0
V. Cooper Willis	0	1	0
Mrs Long	0	1	0

Mr and Mrs Kendal's Co. (collected by Mr Bassett Roe). Total, £8 17s.

Mrs A. B. Tapping	1	1	0
Miss Elise Clarens	1	1	0
Mr Ernest Hendrie	1	1	0
Mr Basset Roe	1	1	0
Mr T. Byrne	0	10	6
Mr Reginald Sheldrake	0	10	0
A. W.	0	10	0
Mr R. Burnett	0	5	0
Miss Lola Duncan	0	5	0
Miss Mary Jerrold	0	5	0
L. H.	0	5	0
Miss Edith Bottomley	0	2	6

Mr Geo. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Total, £4 4s.

Mr Chas. Thorburn	0	5	6
Mr Frank Lawton	0	5	0
Mr Paddy Dupres	0	2	6
Mr Max Copland	0	2	6
Mr Sealy	0	2	6
Mr Selby	0	2	6
Mr C. W. Anson	0	2	6
Mr A. Linforth	0	2	6
Mr Hugh Fleming	0	2	6
Mr Harrison	0	2	6
Miss B. Lamotte	0	2	6
Miss L. Digges	0	2	6
Miss W. Browne	0	2	6
Miss M. Young	0	2	6
Mr W. Douglas	0	2	0
Miss I. Stratham	0	2	0
Miss N. Royston	0	2	0
Miss Hubert	0	2	0
Miss Anderson	0	2	0
Mr L. Hornsey	0	1	0
Mr Stembridge	0	1	0
Mr F. Freeman	0	1	0
Mr A. Watts	0	1	0
Mr P. Foster	0	1	0
Mr G. Wood	0	1	0
Mr J. Seghelloni	0	1	0
Mr E. Lietz	0	1	0
Mr Goodwin	0	1	0
Mr Cowan	0	1	0
Miss K. Liddley	0	1	0
Miss Webb	0	1	0
Miss F. Wellbourne	0	1	0
Miss D. Cammell	0	1	0
Miss Grey	0	1	0
Miss Burr	0	1	0
Miss Macdonald	0	1	0
Miss Minta	0	1	0
Miss So

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR HENRY IRVING has, by his kind offer to co-operate, shown his approval of and interest in the removal, initiated by Mr H. M. Cundall, F.S.A., of the memorial tablet to Edmund Kean from the exterior to the interior wall of the parish church at Richmond. Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr Lewis Waller, Mr and Mrs F. M. Paget, and others connected with the profession have subscribed to a fund to meet the cost of the re-erection, which will ensure the preservation of the tablet from injury and decay.

MR HAYDEN COFFIN is an excellent judge of what suits him and what does not; and, after carefully studying the part of Florestan De Valiancourt in *Veronique*, he has decided not to take Mr Lawrence Rea's place in the cast of that opera after all. An important change will, however, soon be made in the company; for Mr Willie Edouin is hard at work rehearsing the character of M. Coquenard, which was so cleverly performed by Mr George Graves when the piece was produced in its English form at the Apollo on May 18 last. Mr Edouin will take Mr Graves's place when that gentleman is called away to fulfil his engagement in pantomime at Manchester.

MR W. S. GILBERT, in his capacity as Justice of the Peace, heard an interesting case at Edgware on Wednesday, when Miss Gertrude Ayto, assistant mistress at the Hendon Council's schools, summoned one Caroline Smith for assault. Mabel Simpkins, one of the scholars, in giving evidence, stated that a blow was struck. "Was it a blow with the fist or merely a touch with the open hand?" asked Mr Gilbert. When the girl said that it was a deliberate blow, Mr Gilbert invited her to come up on the bench and show him what she meant. The juvenile witness did so, dealing Mr Gilbert a light blow on the back. "No harder than that?" said he; and then he merely bound Mrs Smith over to keep the peace and ordered her to pay costs.

THE president of the Smith College for Girls at Northampton, Massachusetts, recently issued orders forbidding the students to attend a performance of Mr Pinero's *Letty*, which he declared to be unfit for decent people to witness. As they could not get the money returned for tickets they had bought, one hundred of the girls went to the local theatre, preferring the risk of being horrified to the certainty of losing their cash.

THE command performance of *A Man's Shadow* which was given by Mr Beerbohm Tree and his company in the Waterloo Chamber, Windsor Castle, on Thursday night, was a great success. A special stage had been erected by the staff of His Majesty's Theatre, working under the direction of the heads of departments, and the Waterloo Chamber was provided with seats to accommodate about 130, the music being supplied by Herr Gottlieb's band, under the leadership of Mr Adolf Schmid, from His Majesty's. In addition to the programme, an epitomised version of the story of *A Man's Shadow* was prepared in French for the King and Queen of Portugal and their suite. The cast included Mr Tree, Mr James Fernandez, Mr Clarence Blakiston, Mr Lionel Brough, Mr E. M. Robson, Mr Gerald Du Maurier, Mr Charles G. Allan, Mr Gayer Mackay, Mr F. Perceval Stevens, Mr Robb Harwood, Mr J. B. Fraser, Mrs Tree, Miss Geraldine Wilson, Miss Kate Cutler, and Mrs Brown-Potter, the stage-manager being Mr Cecil King, and Mr Henry Dana being the general manager. The general arrangements, under Mr George Ashton's personal supervision, were excellent; and after the performance Mr and Mrs Tree and the members of the company had supper at the Castle, and returned to London by special train at an early hour on Friday morning.

AT the reception which Mrs George Alexander, Mrs Kendal, Mrs Beerbohm Tree, Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Alice Nielsen, and Mrs Hubert Roberts are giving at the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon, in aid of the special appeal fund for the Samaritan Hospital for Women, the auditorium will be transformed into a delightful salon. The six lady hostesses will entertain the guests at tea on the stage, which will be decorated with real flowers, palms, and an "old-world" sun-dial. The musical arrangements are in the hands of Mr Henry Russell, director of the Opera, Covent-garden, who has most generously given his services, as have also five members of the San Carlo opera company. There will be a distribution of coupons of the value of £10 each among the guinea ticket holders. These coupons are presented by a number of first-class West-end firms, and each coupon will entitle the possessor to select goods to the amount of £10 free of charge at the particular establishment named on the ticket.

MR MAURICE BARRYMORE, the once-celebrated American actor, is dying in a lunatic asylum. By the side of his bed is a pack of cards, and with these he builds a theatre; and then, standing up, repeats for hours the lines of his old parts. It was in *Captain Swift* that Barrymore made one of his greatest hits, and it is as Wilding that he thrills his fellow-patients, who crowd round the door of his cell and burst into tumultuous applause at the climax of the adventurer's suicide.

MRS BEERBOHM TREE on Monday night gave an interesting recital to the members of the Sutton Coldfield Institute. She read the Forum scene from *Julius Cæsar*, and followed this with the Mad scene from *Hamlet*, the Trial scene from *The Merchant of Venice*, and the Sleep-walking scene from *Macbeth*. After reciting a couple of short poems by Kipling and Scott and a short humorous sketch, Mrs Tree concluded with the dispute between Sir Peter and Lady Teazle from *The School for Scandal*.

MISS MADGE LESSING, who is at present appearing as Aurora, in *Sergeant Brue*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, is a thorough believer in Sandow's methods. She attributes her extreme youthful appearance of face and figure to judicious exercises and long walks, often extending to six and seven miles daily. She is an expert swimmer, and some time ago was nearly drowned in attempting the rescue of a lady who had been seized with sudden cramp. The incident in question occurred at Narragansett Pier, Rhode Island. One morning in August Miss Lessing repaired to the beach for her usual swim, and in company with two other ladies left the crowd of bathers sporting near the shore, and started for a long swim out to sea.

WHEN half a mile from shore, Miss Lessing, who was leading, heard a shriek, and looking round saw one of her companions disappear. The young actress, without a moment's hesitation, turned to assist her unfortunate companion, and by a few vigorous strokes got up in time to grasp her by her bathing-dress as she was sinking for the second time. Then ensued a struggle for life, the drowning girl, unheeding repeated commands to remain perfectly quiet, clutched her rescuer firmly in her arms, and in her endeavour to keep her own head as far as possible above water, forced Miss Lessing under. In the meantime, the other lady, who was a horrified witness of the struggle between life and death, made frantic efforts to attract the attention of some men in a boat not far away. They eventually rescued both ladies, but not before Miss Lessing was completely exhausted and the other lady had lost consciousness. When taken from the water Miss Lessing quickly recovered, but the other lady was only resuscitated after half an hour of anxious manipulation.

MR ARTHUR BOLTON has sent us a cheque for one guinea for the Actors' Benevolent Fund. We have forwarded the amount to Mr C. I. Coltson.

MR GEORGE DANCE will close the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Richmond, at the end of the autumn season, having run the house absolutely without profit for two years. When he announced his intention of giving there a high-class variety entertainment it was discovered that a clause in the deeds prevented this, and to remove the restriction he agreed to pay £750. The Surrey County Council granted the necessary licence, subject to the provision of an extra emergency exit. Mr Dance's plan for this alteration was rejected, and the county surveyor directed an opening to be made in the wall leading to an adjoining garden. This would have entailed the purchase of property at a cost of £7,000, and Mr Dance declined to go to that expense.

SIR EDWARD CLARKE, K.C., will preside at the annual dinner of that excellent institution the Actors' Benevolent Fund, which is to take place on Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole.

MISS STELLA BRERETON (Mrs Richard Douglass) is about to "bring out" another of her pupils, Miss Maude Lacy, who will make her first appearance at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Tuesday next, playing the principal rôle in a new piece entitled *Lady Hamilton; or, The Last Signal*, by F. Wiber Wood. Mrs Douglass, who has served under the banner of Mr and Mrs Kendal and Mr Hare, Wilson Barrett, Sir Augustus Harris, and others, also Miss May Birch, a famous teacher of dancing and deportment, holds a very high position as an instructress, and is most fortunate with her pupils.

MISS ISIDORA RUSH, a well-known American actress, while bathing in the surf at San Diego, California, on Monday, was seized with heart failure, caused by a blow from a huge wave, which bore her into deep water. She was rescued, but was so badly frightened that she died when taken ashore.

THE green-room at the Bath Theatre, about which so much has been written of late, still exists, and is much valued by Mr Egbert Lewis, the lessee. Miss Ellen Terry, during her recent visit to Bath, expressed great delight at finding that this link with the past had been so carefully preserved by Mr Lewis.

THE theatregoers of Swansea missed the opportunity the other day of seeing Miss Ellen Terry and the majority of the members of her company, in the quaint Dutch dresses worn in *The Good Hope*, give a series of tableaux on the sea shore. The object of the posing was to obtain photographs with real rocks and waves for background; and it speaks well for the costumes, designed by Miss Edith Craig, that they looked as pretty and dainty in the sunshine as they do behind the footlights.

MISS HILDA JACOBSON, who plays the Hon. Honoria Bedford in *The Catch of the Season* at the Vaudeville, is first cousin of three other well-known actresses—Miss Lily Hanbury, Miss Julia Neilson, and Miss Nora Kerin. She herself has been on the stage for about five years, her first appearance, in *Cupid and the Princess*, at the Lyric, being the outcome of an amateur performance of *The Home Secretary*, in which she played so prettily that a friend advised her to enter the profession and introduced her to Mr Tom B. Davis, from whom she obtained her first engagement. Miss Jacobson leaves the cast of *The Catch of the Season* at Christmas to play Colin, in *Mother Goose*, at Manchester, returning to the Vaudeville next year. She always designs her own costumes for pantomime.

MISS JACOBSON was a member of the Savoy company, in London and on tour, after she left the Lyric, and she also played under Mr George Edwardes's management, appearing in *The Toreador* on the last night at the old Gaiety, and in *The Orchid* on the first night at the new Gaiety. She is an expert swimmer, but nearly lost her life in the water some time ago. Being seized with cramp when far out of her depth, she had the presence of mind to turn on her back and float, calling for help as quietly and calmly as possible, to prevent her mother, who was on shore, from being alarmed. Fortunately her cousin, Miss Hanbury, came to her assistance. Another of Miss Jacobson's most trying experiences was when she was staying in Edinburgh, and a fire broke out in the house. Her rooms were on the sixth floor, she had just returned from the theatre, and was the first person to give the alarm.

THE programme for the benefit to be given, by permission of Mr Tree, to Mrs Edmund Phelps at His Majesty's Theatre, next Friday, will include the names of Mr Hayden Coffin, Mr George Robey, Miss Ida Hamilton, and Miss Phyllis Broughton. Mr Tree himself will appear as Austin Limmason, in *The Man Who Was*; and Mr Cyril Maude will resume his old part in Mr W. W. Jacobs' *Monkey's Paw*. Those who did not see Mr W. J. Locke's pretty playlet *The Flower o' the Rose* when it was produced at a solitary matinée last season will have the pleasure of witnessing it at the Phelps benefit, when Mr George Alexander will play the Florentine merchant, Messer Simone Cambi. Mr Arthur Bourchier and Miss Jessie Bateman will be seen in Mr Alfred Austin's *Lesson in Harmony*. Miss Marie Studholme will sing "Little Blanche Marie," from *The Orchid*, assisted by the Misses Olive May, Minnie Baker, Doris Beresford, Ethel Olive, Gertie Glynn, and Kitty Mason. Mr Alfred Austin has generously given his fee for *A Lesson in Harmony* to the benefit, and Mr W. Clarkson is supplying all the wigs, &c., free of charge.

AN amusing incident occurred during the visit of *The Convict's Daughter* company to a provincial theatre. In the third act the heroine makes an impassioned entreaty to the villain, ending up by reminding him that she is an orphan. A woman in the pit was so moved by the pathetic appeal that she stood up and, in a loud voice, assured the girl of her sympathy, adding to her protestations that she (the speaker) was also an orphan herself.

MR JAMES WELCH will be the leading comedian in Mr Arthur Collins's forthcoming annual at Drury-lane. The versatile comedian may be trusted to be as successful in pantomime as he has been in comedy and farce.

GREAT preparations are being made for the Christmas pantomime at the New Ealing Theatre, which Mr Arthur Carlton will produce, entitled *Aladdin*, which will be the first he has undertaken, and will comprise 150 artists, most of them from the Hippodrome. No expense is being spared to make it a success.

THE last five weeks of Miss Eleanor Robson's appearance in *Merely Mary Ann* at the Duke of York's Theatre are announced, Miss Robson having to fulfil engagements to play the part throughout the United States.

IT having been announced that *Sergeant Brue* will return to the Strand Theatre on Dec. 3, Mr Owen Hall, the author of the "book," is applying for an injunction to restrain its transference by Mr Curzon to that house, contending that such a transfer would be in contravention of the agreement between himself and Mr Curzon relating to the play. He claims that under his contract Mr Curzon agreed to provide a first-class theatre to be approved by him—Mr Hall. He does not approve of the Strand.

MISS MADGE LESSING scored an instantaneous hit with her new song, "Lucy Linda, Lady," in *Sergeant Brue*, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM recalls an incident that occurred at Sandringham when the Prince of Wales, now King Edward, sent for him to play *David Garrick* at the little private theatre there. Sir Charles tells the story as follows:—"'What a lot of carpenters you have brought down,' said the Prince, while we were discussing matters in the afternoon. I explained that I had not only brought the full company, but the entire force of stage hands as well, that we might give the same performance we did in London, with all the quick changes, and so on. 'Oh, that's quite right,' said he; 'quite right. I am only wondering how I can take care of them. You see, I am more or less limited here. Sandringham is not Windsor, and I don't know where I can give them their supper,' I asked him not to bother about that, as we could easily find accommodation at some inn. 'Not at all. I would not think of it,' he replied. 'You know it would please them to stay here, and so they must.' Well, the upshot was he did arrange it somehow, and not only that, but he went down and visited them while they were at supper. They were a very proud lot of stage hands after that."

ON another occasion *David Garrick* was given at Windsor Castle. After the performance the King said, "Wyndham, when are you going to get a new play? I have seen this one seven times now." In Berlin, when *David Garrick* was presented there, the manager, being disappointed with the translation, made a public apology for the play in advance, and to make matters worse on the opening night the "curtain-raiser," performed by the German company, was hissed off the stage. "Imagine my feelings," says Sir Charles, "as I stood in the wings when that occurred and heard someone in the stalls say, 'Now we will get the English clowns.' Fortunately, Miss Moore was in her room and did not know of the bad start. However, by the end of the second act we had won them over, and they treated us most kindly. The critics sent us a joint note of congratulation."

AFTER that it will be remembered Sir Charles took the play to St. Petersburg and Moscow, and when he had returned to England the Czar sent him a ring which Sir Charles now wears. At first, though, he thought it was a joke and sent it back. "A little while before," says Sir Charles, "a friend and I arranged a practical joke on another actor to make him believe that the Tsar had sent him a jewel. We bothered the poor fellow almost out of his wits and kept it up for weeks. When the real ring came I thought our victim was paying us back. I was obliged to offer all sorts of apologies to the Russian Ambassador when I learned of my error."

SIR CHARLES knows of few promising actors among the younger members of the profession in England. There are, he says, no longer any schools for them; and long runs are fatal to the development of actors. The young actors sent out with a "road" company are told to copy the work of the originals in the metropolitan production, and imitation is a most deadly practice for an actor. As soon as he begins to copy it is all up with him. "Teach acting!" says Sir Charles, "Nonsense! You cannot teach acting. As well teach a man to be a poet or a humourist. The more a man is taught to act the less he will act. The graduates of the dramatic schools—machine-made actors, turned out by the gross—are apt to be a sorry lot. The only real school of acting is the stage, with frequent changes of bill."

IN the company now appearing in Old English plays at the Royalty Theatre are included several ex-University men. They are Mr Philip Carr, Winchester and Brasenose College, Oxford; Mr King Fordham, Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge; Mr Nigel Playfair, Harrow and University College, Oxford; and Mr Frank Lascelles, Keble College, Oxford.

MR CHARLES MANNERS, of the Moody-Manners opera company, recently offered, with the co-operation of musical friends, to amalgamate his two companies and visit Sheffield, any profits made to be devoted to the furtherance of the University movement in that city. A committee of local gentlemen was appointed to organise the "Festival," and every seat in the house was booked for this week, the repertory including *Faust*, *Carmen*, Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde*, *Mignon*, selections from Wagner's *The Valkyrie*, *Siegfried*, *Lohengrin*, and *Tannhäuser*. At two matinées, rendered necessary by the exceptional bookings, *Pagliacci* and *Cavalleria Rusticana* were performed. On Wednesday, owing to the indisposition of Mr Joseph O'Mara, *Tristan* had to be postponed, and *Tannhäuser* was given. Mr Manners' generosity and enterprise have created great enthusiasm.

MR BERNARD SHAW lectured on Monday afternoon to the pupils of the Academy of Dramatic Art on "Elementary Economics for Actors." After stating that he was not sure whether he liked the drama or political economy the better, he went on to divide actors into two classes—fields and strawberries. The first class were those out of which money could be made, those which "draw" the public; the second those who merely fill a part, and bring in no money to the manager who pays them. The salaries of the first class may be called rent, those of the second class are the current price for the article in the market at the moment; and salaries on both scales have to be reckoned on a severely economic basis. Passing from economics to the art of acting, Mr Shaw stated that what had most struck him in the acting of Italians, especially of Ristori and Salvini, was the artistic economy they practised. Unlike the emotional, hot-headed English, they kept their heads, and so husbanded their resources. Salvini, in particular, would go through half a play without beginning to use more more than a small part of his powers. In conclusion, Mr Shaw declared that he was especially interested in the academy as possibly the nursery of some actors and actresses who would produce and believe in his plays.

MR FELIX EDWARDES, who is now supporting Mr Nat. C. Goodwin on his American tour, in a strong character part in Mr Goodwin's new play *The Usurper*, has disposed of the American and Canadian rights of Mr George Rollit's farcical comedy *The Money Makers* to Mr Thos. W. Ryley. Mr Edwardes was stage-manager during the run at the Royalty Theatre, and will, by kind permission of his management, produce the play for Mr Ryley during Mr Goodwin's New York season. The piece will have a liberal production.

OVER ten tons of cut glass will be used in one scene in *The Babes in the Wood* at the Grand Theatre, Islington, this Christmas. Thousands of lustres will adorn the stage, and form a gigantic centre-piece representing the Prince of Wales's feathers. There will be more than 500 electric lights used in the spectacle.

AT the sale of the contents of the drawing-room at Anglesey Castle, on Tuesday, an album, containing an autograph letter from Sir Henry Irving, fetched six guineas.

THIS week the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, will have been open exactly twenty-one years. The house was opened to Birmingham playgoers on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 1883. The Grand then had upper boxes reserved in advance at the price of half-a-crown each, and there were also reserved pit seats at eighteenpence each. The first programme of the Grand, twenty-one years ago, included *Good as Gold*, *Ici on Parle Français*, and *At the Seaside*, a triple bill in which the late Mr Andrew Melville bore his full share under the readily-perceived disguise of "Mr A. Emm."

MR ISRAEL ZANGWILL, according to a New York interviewer, "is as serious as a coal bill, and at the same time as voluble as a phonograph." In expressing his opinions on the present condition of the American stage and theatrical affairs generally Mr Zangwill was pessimistic. He said: "The public is entirely to blame for the present wretched condition of the stage. It can have any kind of a dramatic condition it wants, and apparently at the present time it wants a very poor kind. Theatrical trash is popular and is lauded to the skies, while worth is apt to be ignored the moment the public realises that it is worth."

THIS low taste among theatregoers Mr Zangwill attributed to the "illogical, inconsequent, and meaningless musical plays that are so much in vogue now, and over which the public seems to have gone daft." He saw no prospect of a change for the better. The outlook for dramatic art was very gloomy. A national theatre would be a step in the right direction, and Mr Zangwill couldn't understand why the wealthy Americans did not subsidise a theatre and set the drama on its feet, where it belonged. He thought that Mr Carnegie, for instance, should do something for the stage. But another remedy was the curtailing of the present prodigality of expenditure for scenery and costumes. The picture should receive more attention than the frame. Mr Zangwill said that things were just as bad in London.

"COMMERCIALISM rules the theatre, and in the main art can go hang. It is nonsense to talk about art and theatrical management in the same breath. They have nothing to do with each other. Theatrical management is a business not an art. As such I respect it. When it poses as art my contempt is aroused. In this country it is not considered derogatory to be in business. Personally I do not consider it a degradation either. If a man wants to go into the business of making pork pies, very well and good. There is a public demand for pork pies and it must be supplied. At the same time the making of the pork pies is hardly as elevating an occupation as painting a masterpiece."

ANOTHER thing that Mr Zangwill did not believe in was the "star" system, for the reason that "it gives only the picture of one individual and forces all the other characters into a blurred, confused, and slovenly background. That is a condition which is true to neither life nor art. In consequence the play is likely to be top-heavy, one-sided, and generally awry. On the other hand the author's drawing of the star character is sure to be a better finished piece of work and fuller of detail."

MR ZANGWILL believed that long runs had a demoralising effect on actors, and made them indifferent and lazy. In the stock companies, where the bill was changed every week, things were different. He had found the Yiddish stage in New York in a very good condition. At a Yiddish theatre on the Bowery he had seen acting which would compare very favourably with what he had seen on Broadway. Mr Zangwill said he intended to write both plays and books in the future.

"THE secret of real enjoyment in your work," he said, "is to vary it. A play-writer should never be judged by what he has done before or by what others have done. Every play should be judged entirely by itself and without comparison of any kind. Each thing should stand or fall on its own merit. Because a writer turns out some light, frivolous trifle it is no sign that his next work will not be a thoughtful and studied effort. He quite likely wrote the trifle as a relaxation and to gratify a whim. Neither do I believe in a writer putting all that is best in him into one work. He should husband his genius and avoid that awful slough of despond known as 'writing oneself out.' It is a handicap that few can struggle under."

MR ZANGWILL says that his prime mission to America at this time is to interest the Jewish people there in the Zionist movement, but during his stay in New York he will attend to the producing of his one-act comedy, *Six Persons*, in which Miss Isabel Irving will appear. Mr Zangwill is anxious to try his hand as his own producer and stage-manager, as he has not always been satisfied with the production of his plays.

MR OGILVY KEITH'S brother has just been appointed by a large majority minister of the parish of Shotts, Lanarkshire, one of the finest livings in Scotland. His great-grandfather, grandfather, and father were in succession ministers of the Parish of Alyth, Perthshire. His uncle is the Rev. Dr. Ogilvy-Ramsay, of Closeburn, Dumfriesshire. Surely "Church and Stage" are in this case closely connected.

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER, owing to the great demand for seats to see *The Walls of Jericho*, at the Garrick Theatre, has been unable to cope with the applications, and has, therefore, decided to give an extra matinée on Thursday, Dec. 1, in addition to the two on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

MR JOHN DENTON has decided to change the title of his drama, *A Modern Judas*, to that of *Wealth, Women, and Wickedness*. The drama has made for itself an excellent reputation, and the new title should certainly increase its attractiveness. Mr Trueman Towers is now booking a ten months' tour for 1905.

"THE SCILLY GIRL," a tale of the Scilly Isles, will be produced at the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, on Dec. 12. The book and lyrics are by Athol Mayher, and the music by William Neale. A good company has been engaged, and the tour is under the direction of Mr Frank Nelson.

A MUSICAL play entitled *The Maid and the Minstrel*, written by Mr Sydney Cubitt and composed by Mr Carl St. Anary, will be performed at the Lyric Theatre this afternoon for the benefit of the Princess Louise's Gordon League, and the charities of St. Saviour's, Pimlico.

MR EDWARD TERRY, who is sailing early in December for America to make his first appearance in the United States, will be entertained at a farewell dinner in his honour at the Savoy Hotel on Sunday evening, Dec. 4, under the presidency of his Grace the Duke of Abercorn, K.G. The committee, to which fresh names are being daily added, includes the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., Sir Henry Irving, Lord Glenesk, Sir Squire Bancroft, the Earl of Euston, Mr J. L. Toole, Sir Edward Carson, K.C., M.P., P.C. (Solicitor-General), Mr John Hare, Sir Bruce Seton, Bart., Mr W. H. Kendal, Mr Alfred De Rothschild, Mr H. Beerbohm Tree, Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., Mr George Alexander, Sir Edward Letchworth, Mr W. S. Penley, Colonel Clifford Probyn, L.C.C., J.P., Mr Henry Neville, Mr W. R. M'Connell, K.C., D.L., Mr George Edwardes, Mr C. F. Gill, K.C., Mr A. W. Pinero, Mr Cyril Maude, Mr Henry Arthur Jones, Mr Arthur Bourchier, Mr Charles Mathews, K.C., Mr Lewis Waller, Mr John Strachan, K.C., Mr Arthur Collins, Mr W. F. Fladgate, Mr William Greet, Mr Louis N. Parker, Mr Frederic Harrison, Mr Comyns Carr, Mr Weedon Grossmith, Lord Rathmore, Sir Francis Burnand, Sir Douglas Straight, Mr Augustus F. M. Spalding, Mr Henry Evill, Mr C. J. Matier, Mr Frank Curzon, Dr. Clement Godson, Mr Arthur Chudleigh, Mr Walter Emden, Mr Malcolm Watson, Mr Otho Stuart, Mr Edward Ledger, Mr J. H. Leigh, Mr J. D. Langton, Mr Henry Times, and Mr Stanley J. Attenborough. Tickets, which are limited in number, may be obtained from the honorary secretaries, Messrs Charles J. Davies and E. B. Norman, at Terry's Theatre.

THE first performance of *The Taming of the Shrew* at the Adelphi Theatre will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 29. Mr Oscar Asche will enact Christopher Sly and Petruchio; and the cast will include Mr Alfred Brydone, Mr Roper Spyers, Mr Walter Hampden, Mr Herbert Grimwood, Mr H. R. Hignett, Mr C. Angelo, Mr E. Lyall Swete, Mr Charles Rock; Miss Constance Robertson, Miss Pamela Gaythorne, and Miss Lily Brayton. Messrs Joseph Harker and W. T. Hemsley have painted some pretty scenery for the production.

MR A. W. PINERO'S play, which he is writing for Mr George Alexander, will be of serious interest, and will be produced at the St. James's Theatre after Mr Alexander's provincial tour next autumn. In his absence the theatre will be occupied by Mr and Mrs Kendal.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM AND MISS MARY MOORE and company appeared at the Lyceum Theatre, New York, last Monday night, in *David Garrick*. Sir Charles was enthusiastically greeted by the fashionable audience.

MISS EVELYN MILLARD will open the annual exhibition of the Stage Needlework Guild, which will be held on the 29th inst. at 93, Eaton-square, by permission of Lord and Lady Armstrong, at 3·30. The speakers will include Mrs Craigie, Mrs E. Compton, and Miss Carlotta Addison.

THE new comic opera *Ladyland*, written by Eustace Ponsonby, with music by Frank Lambert, is in active rehearsal at the Avenue Theatre for production in December. The cast will include Messrs Richard Green, John Tresahar, E. Dagnall, H. Mansfield, and Geo. Giddens; Mesdames Aline May, Geraldine Ulmar, Nancy Girling, Gurney Delaporte, Margaret Cooper, Kitty Lindley, and Ethel Irving. The orchestra will be under the direction of Mr François Cellier, and the piece will be produced by Mr E. Dagnall.

MISS ADRIENNE AUGARDE will play the leading part in *The Madcap*, the new musical comedy by Colonel Newnham Davis and Mr Paul Rubens, which will be seen at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Dec. 10. Mr G. P. Huntley, Mr Fred Emney, Mr George Carroll, Mr Denis Eadie, Mr Leedham Bantock, Mr Frank Danby, Mr Herbert Sparling, Mr Fraser, Miss Delia Mason, and Miss Madge Crichton will also be in the cast.

THE matinée of *Trilby*, kindly organised by Mr Beerbohm Tree for the benefit of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, will, we are pleased to announce, add to the funds of that institute over £300.

THE first night reception of Mrs Craigie's play, *The Flute of Pan* having excited controversy, Mr Sidney Dark will deliver to the O. P. Club, on Sunday evening, an address on "The Tyranny of the First Night." Mr Alfred F. Robbins will take the chair.

"THEODORA" will be revived early in the spring, 1905. The entire production will be new, and everything carried, including a den of lions. Miss Grace Hawthorne will again be seen in her great creation of Theodora; Mr Stanley Killby will play Andreas; and Mr Sydney T. Pease will renew the part of the Emperor, Justinian. Miss Hawthorne, pending her revival, will immediately commence a short tour with *Camille*, *Poor Nance* (a special version of "Oliver Twist"), *Leah, the Forsaken*, and two new plays adapted from the French—viz.: *A Divorce*, and *Fanchon*. The tour will be under the direction of Mr Stanley Killby, and the bookings and business management will be in the hands of Mr Sydney T. Pease, who will also play important parts.

THE Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund asks us to acknowledge the receipt of 30s. autograph money, which he has just received from Mr James Welch.

MISS LILIAN HALLOWS will return at the end of the month from South Africa, where she has been playing lead with Mr Leonard Rayne in a répertoire of over twenty plays. In Cape Town her Juliet and Portia caused great enthusiasm, coming as those performances did after the successes Miss Hallows achieved in such widely different rôles as Sunday, Filiberta in *The Cardinal*, and Dolly Kershaw in *A Snug Little Kingdom*.

MR DAVID DAY, who is at present in New York, has secured the English rights of the latest American craze, "The Troubadour," by W. C. Powell, composer of "The Gondolier." It is arranged as an intermezzo, and in this form has caught on instantaneously in America. The vocal version, copies of which are now ready for pantomime, may be had from Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter. This charming composition, which is presented to the public, both in vocal and instrumental arrangements, is confidently expected to outrival "Hiawatha" in popularity.

CANON CRESSWELL STRANGE, preaching at Worcester Cathedral last Sunday, made some remarks which were suggested to him by the recent visit of *The Sign of the Cross* to the Worcester Theatre Royal. They must all agree, he said, that the stage was a magnificent agency under God for doing good, and he felt to some extent in sympathy with them when they introduced into their midst plays of a higher class, which inculcated sound morality. He was not a very frequent visitor at the theatre, but there were two plays which impressed themselves upon him. The one was *The Sign of the Cross*, and it made him pray, as he believed it did many another man, that he might be a faithful servant of the great Crucified. The other play he had in his mind was Shakespeare's splendid tragedy *Julius Cæsar*. This, the preacher said, speaking with all reverence, presented a type of Jesus Christ, and by means of the description of the wounds that killed Cæsar, as set forth in the oration of Mark Anthony, he metaphorically showed the effects of sin on "one who was greater than Cæsar."

MR R. H. DOUGLASS, the comedian, will read a paper to the members of the Playgoers' Club at the Hotel Cecil on Sunday evening on "Audiences from the Artist's Point of View." Mdlle. Adeline Genee, of the Empire Theatre, will take the chair.

MRS MAESMORE MORRIS has been interviewed on her return to Melbourne as a leading member of Mr George Musgrove's comedy company. Before coming to London she was one of Melbourne's fashionable beauties, and took part in amateur theatricals there. She made her first professional appearance in *The Prisoner of Zenda*, under the management of Mr J. C. Williamson.

AT the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday Colonel Rotton presented a petition from the Lord's Day Observance Society asking that the Council at its annual licensing meeting on the 25th inst. would require obedience to the Statute law as to Sunday opening of places of public entertainment, as set forth in the terms of the Council's own licence.

THE performances of *Parsifal* in English during the past week at the New York Theatre, New York, have won critical approval, and from an artistic point of view the production is an undoubted success. But the unusual length of the representations has militated somewhat against a large attendance, and it is certain that if the immense amount of money that has been sunk in this production is ever recovered it will be when it is taken "on the road," and not during its run in New York. The curtain now rises at 7·15 p.m., nearly two hours later than on the opening night.

"THE FREEDOM OF SUZANNE."

A Light Comedy, in Three Acts, by Cosmo Gordon Lennox, Produced at the Criterion Theatre on Tuesday, Nov. 15.

Suzanne Trevor	Miss MARIE TEMPEST
Charles Trevor	Mr ALLAN AYNESWORTH
Fitzroy Harding	Mr CHARLES SUGDEN
Sir Horace Hatton	Mr G. S. TITHERADGE
Lord Datchet	Mr E. HOLMAN CLARK
Captain Harry Cecil	Mr C. M. HALLARD
Tommy Keston	Mr A. E. MATTHEWS
Mason	Mr HORTON COOPER
Lady Charlotte Trevor	Miss ADA FERRAR
Miss Fanny Minching	Miss ALICE BEET
Lady Isobel Bury	Miss BEATRICE BECKLEY
Mrs Tunstall	Miss FLORENCE SINCLAIR
Mrs Putnam	Miss ALICE MANSFIELD
Mr Budd	Mr LEONARD CALVERT
Porter	Mr EDWARD Y. RAE

Mr Cosmo Gordon Lennox's piece is called "a light comedy," but it is really a comedy with a moral, logically deduced after the manner of the Gallic playwright. This is not surprising, considering that the piece is founded to a certain extent on a novel by the lively and "spicy" Gyp. Despite the glaring indecency of *Divorçons*, it had an ethical object, i.e., to show that a great deal of the grievances of the dissatisfied wife against her husbands are usually caused by his being the husband. His official position as *le mari*, said Sardou, is against him; and, while in reality he is no worse than any of the lady's bachelor friends, they seem to the lady to be a great deal better from the fact that she is not bound to them by any legal tie. When the husband has ceased to be the husband, and enters the competition unhandicapped, he appears to the released wife to be the pleasantest and most desirable of acquaintances. Of course, such a sermon could only be addressed with profit to a society in which Duty had been banished to an extent which would satisfy even Mr Bernard Shaw; and the charm of pieces like *The Freedom of Suzanne* is that they introduce us into a kind of "fairy tale" atmosphere. The heroine of Mr Lennox's piece is a giddy-pated but good-hearted little fool, who amuses us by her wit, startles us by her silliness, and keeps us in a constant state of expectation as to what she will do next. Suzanne Trevor is the wife of Mr Charles Trevor, a quiet but wise young man, who would be the *raisonneur* of the piece, only that we are "bored to death" by *raisonneurs* in England. Trevor does not say much, but his silences are as eloquent as Lord Burleigh's historical shakes of the head. Suzanne demands perfect freedom to flirt with whom she likes, to go where she likes, to wear risky costumes in public charity performances, and to rehearse impassioned scenes in private with seductive Frenchmen. Trevor endeavours to indulge her, but there are things that he cannot endure, and it is with one of these "freedoms" that the action of the play commences. We see Trevor, his stately mother, Lady Charlotte, Suzanne's uncle, Mr Fitzroy Harding, and others in a kind of family counsel discussing Suzanne's latest escapade—an absence of six hours, in the course of which she has involved herself in a succession of adventures, and has been very nearly kissed by a young man under the impression that she is no better than she should be. She has long talked of her intention of divorcing her husband, and her attempts to secure evidence of his cruelty by keeping at hand a witness in the person of her companion, Miss Minching, are all in the same "feather-headed," frivolous key. The first act ends with the little incident—her husband shaking her and seizing her by the wrists—which is to constitute the "cruelty" in the application for divorce.

This first act sparkles brightly with vivacity, life, and fun. After that the piece, by comparison, deteriorates. It is not easy, indeed, to imagine how, with such a brilliant beginning, the "pot could be kept boiling" for the rest of the evening. The initial section of Mr Lennox's play is a rare and precious example of artificial comedy. In the second and third acts, semi-philosophic seriousness "breaks in." It appears that Trevor is a masterful experimentalist, who has "colluded" with Suzanne in getting a divorce in order that she may realise her folly in jumping from the marital frying-pan into the celebatarian fire. When she has been sufficiently schooled, Trevor, who loves her *quand même*, will step in and receive back to his arms his now-repentant spouse. Thus we pass into the domain of philosophical comedy, mingled with some of the smart airs of the first act. Suzanne, "freed" by her divorce, soon finds her position quite uncomfortable. She is pestered with the attentions of three admirers, the most eligible of whom insults her by offering to make her his mistress. Disgusted with them, she is irritated, too, by the idea that her ex-husband is flirting outrageously with her most detested "friend," a Mrs Tunstall. Trevor encourages the idea, and lets her think that he is going up to town with the lady, to discuss a little supper—and other things—at his flat. Suzanne's unreasonable jealousy is thoroughly aroused; and one of the very cleverest scenes in the piece—a gem of comedy writing—is that in which she alternately snubs and kisses her utterly uncomprehending companion. Then she disguises herself in a man's motoring costume, and dashes up to town to spy on her ex-husband's doings.

The last act is devoted to the repentance of Suzanne and the reconciliation of the couple. She gives in her submission to matrimony, and confesses her mistake; he accepts her surrender, and, as the decree is not made absolute, and the King's Proctor's spy has seen enough to suggest collusion, it is simply a case of "as you were."

Though, unfortunately, the strength of *The Freedom of Suzanne* is at the wrong end of the piece, it is bright and smart, by flashes, throughout; and, above all, it supplies Miss Tempest with a rôle which shows her as one of the few gifted comediennes on the English stage at present. Throughout she was simply irresistible. Fun, malice, sadness, and "temper" were depicted by her by turns in the daintiest and most artistic way. Her Suzanne was the essence of airy caprice, a creation of a delicate and individual kind—deliciously droll, ever-animated and *pirpant*, with every point sharpened by the "cutest" and cleverest facial play and the most vivid gestic expression. The comedy is well worth seeing if only for her performance of the principal part, to which all the rest are distinctly subordinate. Thus, Mr Allan Aynesworth as Charles Trevor had to make most of his effect by inference, and the way he accomplished this—notably, his reserved force while "tinkering" with a Kodak in the second act—proved his ability very distinctly. The combined power and moderation of Mr Aynesworth's work were, indeed, remarkable. Mr Charles Sugden gave an unimpeachable performance of the part of Fitzroy Harding; Mr G. S. Titheradge was irreproachable as a family solicitor; and Mr E. Holman Clark, Mr C. M. Hallard, and Mr A. E. Mathews, with indifferent opportunities, did well as the three admirers. Miss Ada Ferrar was so superb as Lady Charlotte Trevor that one felt it a pity she could not have more to do with the action; and Miss Alice Beet was quaintly characteristic as Miss Fanny Minching, Miss Beatrice Beckley being an amiable Lady Isabel Bury, and Miss Florence Sinclair hitting off neatly the characteristics of Miss Tunstall. Miss Alice Mansfield as a charwoman and Mr Leonard Calvert as a King's Proctors' agent made the most of their rather poor opportunities. The first act of *The Freedom of Suzanne* was enthusiastically received on Tuesday, but the interest slackened as the performance proceeded, and the author did not appear. Judged critically, therefore, the comedy was not completely satisfactory; but the general public thinks more of persons than of plays, and we should not be surprised if the delightful acting and popular personality of Miss Marie Tempest more than answered all objections. The genuine humourist, Mr Frank Lincoln, gives his amusing entertainment as a prelude to the comedy.

"THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND."

"HOW TO HELP IT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am fully in sympathy with the views expressed by you editorially, and by Mr Willard and Mr Moullot. I will join any movement to put the practical into practice. Yours faithfully,

HERBERT BEERBOHM TREE.

His Majesty's Theatre, Nov. 15.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have read with great interest the letter addressed to you by Mr Willard re the Actors' Benevolent Fund and how to help it, and I should like to express my entire sympathy with his views of the case. For some time I had hopes that Mr Cecil Raleigh's scheme might be feasible, and that a day might be set apart in the year on which a performance might be given by every acting company for the benefit of the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage Fund, but such terrible difficulties had arisen with regard to the carrying out of this idea that I have come to the conclusion that the only possible scheme is, as Mr Willard suggests, to tax all the members of the companies and the managers of those companies, if the managers would all agree to deduct the salaries due on one specified night, and would, of course, also give a guarantee that they would contribute their own earnings on that evening. No doubt in a few years the Actors' Benevolent Fund will be self-supporting, and the charity dinner, which is so degrading to us all, will be a thing of the past.

Yours faithfully, CYRIL MAUDE.

New Theatre, Nov. 12.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have read carefully the suggestions put forward by Mr E. S. Willard and Mr Frederick Mouillot in your last issue of *The Era*, and I agree with them thoroughly in every detail, and I have no doubt that every member of the profession, manager or artiste, will do likewise. It is not asking much from anyone to forego one night's salary in twelve months, when they are working, and the amount realised would, no doubt, be almost enough to make tht A.B.F. independent of outside help and in a position to relieve any deserving calls that may be made upon it. Of course, there are side issues. No manager would care to have the amount of his one night's salary-list published. Also there may be cases in a company where an artiste, although working, may be in very straitened circumstances, through having to support a large family, or other causes, and not in a position to forego even his one night's salary. This, no doubt, would be left to the discretion of the manager. These are only details, and could be easily adjusted; but I think the scheme itself ought to be commenced at once, and if a representative number of managers and artistes agree, I shall be only too pleased to insert the clause in all my contracts and give the movement my heartiest support.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES DRAYCOTT.

Theatre Royal, Sunderland, Nov. 16.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I fear that Mr Willard's scheme for benefitting the above would prove to be not only unpopular but unworkable and un-English, savouring somewhat of the "truck" system and the "sweating" at the stores. Few of us would, I am certain, refuse to give one night's salary to the fund. Few of us—even in these days of overcrowding and keen competition—would sign a contract containing a clause making that donation compulsory. Besides, let us see how it might work out. Mr A taxes his company for the A.B.F., Mr B does ditto for the Dogs' Home, Mrs C the Home for Stray Cats, and Mr E the Refuge for Escaped Poll Parrots. So that, if Mr Willard's idea became fact, I might, in the course of a year, serve under the four managers I have enumerated, and be taxed accordingly. I regret having no alternative to propose, but for one will, on next Actors' Saturday, give my salary for that night, or, if not acting, a sum *pro rata* on my present year's emoluments. Yours faithfully,

MARK A. KINGHORNE.

St. James's Theatre, S.W., Nov. 16.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The idea of giving one performance throughout the entire country on one particular night in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund is decidedly a good one. Let the managers that are agreeable make a start, and let every manager grant the free use of his theatre; every author give his fees, and every actor and actress whose salary exceeds three pounds weekly give a seventh of his or her salary. I make this reservation because the pinch of living on three pounds weekly in the provinces is ofttimes great. Just such an appearance is necessary to a three pound man as for a ten pound man, and living expenses practically the same. Forty weeks per year is now rarely experienced; and let us consider the present everyday needs of our poorer real hard workers.

Yours faithfully, HENRY TWEEDIE,

Manager, Miss Olga Nethersole's "Sapho" Company.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I consider it an excellent scheme, and should only be too pleased to help to further it in any way.

Yours faithfully, E. CARTER LIVESEY.

Opera House, Radcliffe, Lancs., Nov. 16.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I think Mr Willard's and Mr Mouillot's suggestion for helping the Actors' Benevolent Fund an admirable one, and personally I should be very glad to give my salary one night a year to such an excellent institution.

Yours faithfully, GERTRUDE BURNETT,

Theatre Royal, Bournemouth, Nov. 12.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I think Mr E. S. Willard's suggestion of a deduction of one night's salary every year a most reasonable and excellent one, but why enforce it in a contract. Surely no artist would refuse a request such as this for so good a cause. I think that if every touring manager agreed to collect on a fixed day every year voluntary subscriptions from all the artists in his company, and those engaged in the theatre at which the company is playing, a very handsome return could be paid over to the Fund. Boxes could also be passed amongst the audience the same night, in the same way as "the Lifeboat" collections have been made.

Yours faithfully, F. SHAPLAND-DEE.

Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Mouillot's ideas are always excellent. I would heartily support any movement such as he suggests in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, should the scheme be generally adopted.

Yours faithfully. PERCY HUTCHISON.

THE managers of the San Francisco Theatres have decided that "deadheads" in the future shall be taxed ten cents. each for the American Actors' Home. As the passes are presented at the box-office the tax is demanded and the stamp is affixed, without which it is not accepted at the door. The stamps are about the size of an ordinary postage stamp and are of two varieties, red for two persons and green for one. On them are the words, "Actors' Home Fund," and on the top and bottom is printed the value, ten or twenty cents. as the case may be. The Actors' Home is situated on Staten Island, and was dedicated about two years ago. Among the aged and infirm artists being cared for there now are Madame Janauschek and Mr James Ward.

MRS. EDMUND PHELPS.

Phelps! Samuel Phelps! What a name to conjure with in the fifties! Shades and glories of the stern, but illustrious, past. What scenes of triumph (to those who are old enough to remember) does it not bring back, back, we'll say, to 1852, when Phelps amused all playgoing London with his impersonation of Sir Pertinax Macsycophant, in the good old comedy, *The Man of the World*. Who that ever saw Phelps's James VI. will ever forget it? His command of the Scotch dialect, his walk, his look, his attitude were as palpable indications of character as the perfect Scotch dialect he employed. There was not a turn of his mouth or a leer of his eye that was not in harmony with the general design. His pride, terror, abasement, doubt, triumph, and final despair were all given with a marvellous versatility. It was a truly wonderful performance. The whole like a Dutch picture, laboriously minute in all its details and perfect as a finished whole. When we think of the great, the polished, the dignified Phelps we naturally think of the beloved histrionic home of many a dead genius—dear, quaint picturesque old Sadler's Wells. Ah! those were the days, indeed, when the playhouse *was* the playhouse, not a variety theatre without the compensating smoke. People went to see Phelps as Bottom, the weaver, James VI., Brutus, Falstaff, Macbeth, or Christopher Sly, as the case might be. They cared not about the setting being ornate, or even whether the dresses were "a dream." They wanted Phelps and the play. Those were not the days of problems, "smart sets," inuendos, and influential amateurs; they were the days of work, energy, powder, fire, and ability, and so may it please providence to keep green and revered the memory of Samuel Phelps, one of the giants of an age the loftiness of which but few playgoers, alas, can recall. Phelps had no equal in characters requiring the full force of rugged strength. He always upheld the nobleness of his calling. He gazed upon it as an art, not as a trade! He passed through a long and arduous career without a breath of scandal being whispered about him. He took little part in public or club life. His great delight when not acting was to go fishing. In a piscatory and histrionic way he could hold his own. In Scottish characters he was unrivalled. There was something dour and almost pragmatical about the man's nature that may account for his extraordinary success in such parts. It may be interesting to note that Phelps in 1853 published a scholarly edition of Shakespeare.

And now, "lest we forget," let us all tenderly think of the welfare of Samuel Phelps's daughter-in-law, Mrs Edmund Phelps, who in the late autumn of a strictly honourable, strenuous, and ever creditable career, finds thorns in a path which all true lovers of the drama would have had happily strewn with roses. Mrs Edmund Phelps, through no fault of her own, finds herself at the ripe age of sixty-seven face to face with the necessitous difficulties and cruelties attendant upon a brave semblance of

Photo by W. E. Wright.

MRS. EDMUND PHELPS.

exhausting gentility. Apart from the honoured name she bears, Mrs Phelps has for nearly fifty years served the stage with credit and distinction. She has played—and played well—with many of our great luminaries, and it would indeed be pleasant to think that the winter of her bravely, well-spent life will through the kindly efforts of her sister and brother professionals be passed in something like independence and simple comfort. Mrs Phelps is an object lesson in indomitable pluck; though weighed down with domestic affliction and accumulating responsibilities she is willing when occasion demands to once more face the music and show the public and managers that her well-known and delightful powers of comedy are undiminishing; therefore, must we all appreciate the kindly action of Messrs Tree, Henderson, Miss Warley, and other celebrities in organising a benefit in honour of Mrs Edmund Phelps. At this well-timed bespeak will be presented *The Man Who Was* (with Mr Tree in his original part), *The Monkey's Paw* (with Mr Cyril Maude, Mr Sydney Valentine, Mr Wilfred Fraser, and Miss Mary Rorke), Mr George Alexander, Miss Genevieve Ward, a scene from *The Orchid* by the Gaiety company, Miss Isabel Jay, Mr Maurice Farkoa, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Constance Collier, Mr Arthur Williams, Mr Hayden Coffin, Mr George Robey, and Mr Huntley Wright, also Mr Arthur Bourchier and Miss Jessie Bateman, who will give *A Lesson in Harmony*.

Mrs Edmund Phelps as an artiste is one of a quickly vanishing school. As a type of English feminity she is inestimable. In the society of Mrs Phelps one meets with an old-time fragrance and unaffected simplicity, rare as it is, refreshing and delightful.

The younger generation of playgoers will remember Mrs Phelps best by her excellent performances in Mrs John Wood's company at the Court Theatre. It was during this engagement that she played Lady M'Phail, in A. W. Pinero's *Cabinet Minister*, and the cook, in Mr Horner's *Late Lamented*. And now for a bit of retrogression. In 1862 Mrs Phelps appeared at Sadler's Wells under the management of her distinguished father-in-law, Samuel Phelps. After this followed an engagement with Madame Celeste at the Lyceum, and a season at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, then under the control of Mercer Simpson. At the London Lyceum Mrs Phelps met Lydia Thompson, George Vining, Henry Neville, and John Drew. The principal item was *Paris and Pleasure*, a piece interpreted by good artists, but lame in diction and construction.

When Mrs Phelps gets "warmed up," so to speak, she loves—bless her!—to speak of the happy, hopeful, bygone days when the heart was young, engagements plentiful, and ambition unfettered. Mrs Phelps will tell you with enviable lucidity how she started with Harry Rutley at the old Theatre Royal, Portsmouth. It was in this theatre she first met "Charley" Stephenson and his bright and clever wife. Stephenson, by the way, was the original Father Tom, in Boucicault's never-to-be-forgotten *Colleen Bawn*.

To give an exhaustive account of Mrs Phelps's interesting stage record would fill a fat volume. She toured America with Sir Charles Wyndham, appearing in *Pink Dominos*, *Brighton*, *Naval Engagements*, &c. At the Vaudeville Theatre those who remember the *Night Out* will think more than pleasantly of her performance in this amusing piece. Then as Lady Grey, in *A Gaiety Girl*, with John Hare at the Garrick, and in many other engagements entailing solid, wholesome, legitimate work.

Dear old Mrs Keeley, in writing Mrs Phelps and complimenting her upon a certain performance, expressed herself in these terms:—"You're a dear little woman and a clever little woman; as to Jimmy Fernandez, I have lost my heart to him, but don't expose me, for the sake of my family!"

A good many years ago Mrs Phelps toured with Mr H. B. Conway in "olde comedies." Miss Marie Illington, by the way, was a member of this company. The combination had a journey from Liverpool to Dover. The baggage went astray; lost on the line. 7·30 p.m., and nothing to wear. The house packed to see Harry Conway and company in *The Rivals*. Situation explained to audience, and offer made to return money at box-office. Audience said, "Get on with the play; never mind the costumes," and so the old play was performed in the strangest and most weird assortment of street garments ever seen on a modern stage.

The members of the profession (who are always so ready to assist any sister or brother artist who are less fortunate than they deserve to be) will gather together and help in making the matinée at His Majesty's Theatre on the 25th inst. into the brilliant success which Mrs Phelps so well deserves.

THE A.B.F. AT SEA.

A most enjoyable concert was given on board the Royal mail steamer Kenilworth Castle on her voyage to the Cape on the Oct. 15. The saloon provided seats for about three hundred passengers, but nearly as many more had to be contented with "standing-room only." The chief contributors to a most excellent programme were Miss Helen Charles, Mr and Mrs King (late of the Palace Theatre, London), and Mr William Gould, who will be remembered as one of the original *Belle of New York* company at the Shaftesbury Theatre. At the request of the chairman Mr J. G. Morrison made an appeal on behalf of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and said:—Ladies and gentlemen, I have been asked by your chairman to say a few words on behalf of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and I do so with much pleasure. As you are doubtless aware, it is usual to enlist the help of someone possessed of eloquence for a duty of this sort. I can lay no claim to that distinction, but when I tell you I have taken a keen interest in theatrical charities for many years, you will, I hope, grant that my knowledge of the good they do justifies my appeal, halting though it may be. If we leave out the outer circle of the theatrical profession, and by that I mean the friends who are much in sympathy with the actors' art, and are happy to subscribe to their charities, I think I can endorse the proud assertion that so far as the great public is concerned the profession never appeal to them without giving more than good value in return, and those of you who have seen the entertainments put forward in London and the large provincial cities of the United Kingdom when charitable institutions are sought to be benefited will bear out my assertion. Ladies and gentlemen, this is Saturday night and nine o'clock on this night, and at this hour on every sea and every ocean the lonely ones toast "Sweethearts and Wives." This is the time for kindly sentiments, and if there is one virtue more entitled to walk hand in hand with the tender thought expressed in the universal toast it is charity. Ladies and gentlemen, I can see by your happy, interested faces that you will respond to my appeal. To each of you I say, open your heart, open your purse, give what you can spare, help the Fund which day by day helps those who, unfortunately, cannot help themselves. Later in the evening Mr J. S. Morrison intimated that the collection amounted to £21 14s. 3d, but that some friends had made it up to twenty-five guineas.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

W. S. Penley, actor—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Ffolliott Paget, actress—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Lottie Siegenberg, burlesque actress—Nov. 19.
Daisy Halling, actress—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Lillie Mowbray—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Frank Perry—Saturday, Nov. 19.
Aimée Grattan-Clyndes, actress—Nov. 19.
Zeffie Tilbury, actress—Sunday, Nov. 20.
E. Carter Livesey, actor—Sunday, Nov. 20.
Marie De Roos, actress—Sunday, Nov. 20.
Lawrence Leyton—Sunday, Nov. 20.
Alma Murray, actress—Monday, Nov. 21.
Dorothy Drake, actress—Monday, Nov. 21.
Wallace Davidson, actor—Monday, Nov. 21.
Marie Trevor—Monday, Nov. 21.
Clarence Ibbetson—Monday, Nov 21.
Gladys Elvaston—Monday, Nov. 21.
Herbert Sidney—Monday, Nov. 21.
George Leglere, music hall artiste—Nov. 22.
Percy Baverstock, actor—Tuesday, Nov. 22.
Edith Finlay, actress—Wednesday, Nov. 23.
Thomas Thorne, actor—Wednesday, Nov. 23.
George F. Black—Wednesday, Nov. 23.
Sir Gilbert Parker, author—Wednesday, Nov. 23.
C. Blyth Pratt, music hall manager—Nov. 23.
Nellie Wilson, music hall artiste—Nov. 24.
Marie Loftus, music hall artiste—Nov. 24.
Percy Marmont—Friday, Nov. 25.
H. F. Maltby, actor—Friday, Nov. 25.

THE O.P. Club's ladies' annual dinner will be held at the Criterion, on Sunday, Dec. 11, with Miss Lily Brayton in the chair.

MR VALENTINE CAMERON PRINSEP, R.A., died at Holland-park on Friday, the 11th inst., from the effects of an operation. He was born in 1838, the second of the three sons of Henry Thoby Prinsep, all of whom became distinguished men. His first work done in association with Rossetti and Morris was at Oxford, where he painted one of the compartments of the hall of the Oxford Union. A little later he spent some time in Paris, and it is no secret that he unconsciously sat for the portrait of the big Taffy in his friend Du Maurier's famous novel of "Trilby." After his time of training was over, Prinsep returned to London and began to exhibit with great success.

MR VAL PRINSEP, who was a man of varied talents, wrote for the stage. His earliest effort was a comedietta named *Cousin Dick*, produced by Mr John Hare at the Court Theatre—then under his management—in the spring of 1879. In this Miss Cissy Grahame and the late Mr Wenman appeared, and the piece was revived at the Criterion in the summer of 1886. His other dramatic production, *Monsieur le Duc*, was the opening work at the St. James's Theatre, when that house started its memorable Hare and Kendal season in the autumn of 1879. The play had previously been successfully tried in the provinces. Mr Hare appeared as the lady-killing Duc De Richelieu. The late Mr William Terriss, the late Mr R. Catheart, Mr Wilfred Draycott, Mr Albert Chevalier, and Miss Grahame were in the cast. Four years previously, when Mr Hare entered upon his management of the Court Theatre, Mr Val Prinsep designed a new act-drop, which he personally painted, in conjunction with Mr O'Connor. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Brompton Cemetery, and a memorial service was held in the morning at St. Paul's Cathedral.

"THE FLUTE OF PAN."

A Comedy, in Four Acts, by John Oliver Hobbes, Played for the First Time in London at the Shaftesbury Theatre, on Saturday, Nov. 12.

Princess Margaret of Siguria	Miss OLGA NETHERSOLE
Boris, Earl of Feldershey	Mr HERBERT WARING
Prince Adolf of Nymwegen	Mr C. W. SOMERSET
Count Rixensart	Mr DAWSON MILWARD
Harry Baverstock	Mr W. T. LOVELL
Count Marche	Mr FARREN
Captain Bernstein	Mr BERTE THOMAS
Emilio	Mr BRISCO OWEN
Hassell	Mr ALBERT SIMS
Clockmaker	Mr W. HAZELTON
Member of Council for Finance	Mr SLAINE MILLS
Member of Council for War	Mr CHARLES WELLESLEY
Member of Council for the Interior	Mr HEATH HAVILAND
Member of Council for the Home Department	Mr COUCH JOHNS
Max Von Sender	Mr GERALD V. AYLMER
Countess Bertha Rixensart	Miss ANNIE HUGHES
Countess Feldershey	Miss FRANCES IVOR
Baroness D'Albreuse	Miss KATE PHILLIPS
Madame Von Rauser	Miss ADELINE BOURNE
Frau Von Sender	Miss OLIVE STETTITH
Duchess of Drossett	Miss MABEL DURRANT
Countess of Amersham	Mrs KEMMIS
Lady Adlington	Miss ELISABETH KIRBY
Lady Wimborough	Miss MABILIA DANIELL
Lady Kinnerbeigh	Miss WINIFRED PEARSON
American Student	Miss MADGE FIELD
First Student	Miss MOLLY PEARSON
Flower Girl	Miss ROSE STANLEY
First Dresser	Miss CONSTANCE RAYMOND
Second Dresser	Miss VIOLET DELVA

Are we not making Royalty on the stage a little too cheap? The tendency to ridicule which was noticeable when the "pomp and circumstance" of a Court was elaborately reproduced in *The Flute of Pan* at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Saturday, suggested that, after Captain Marshall and others have done so much to knock down the reverent admiration that hangs about regal ceremony, it is not easy to set it up again. "John Oliver Hobbes" is not at her best in *The Flute of Pan*. It is a backbone-less, "talky" play, in which the two principal characters are tepidly moved by a cheaply constructed misunderstanding, in which the dialogue is dotted with many pretentious and puzzling epigrams, and in which the comedy business has rather an unsavoury twang.

Boris, Earl of Feldershey, is an eccentric nobleman who has adopted a certain physician's advice to live on sixpence a day and earn it. In the first act he is at work in his studio, where he has painted a picture celebrating the power of simple nature. His cousin, Princess Margaret, the reigning sovereign of Siguria, visits him; and, referring to her former refusal of his addresses, cancels it and invites him to become her consort and repress certain threatened rebellions in her domains. He consents, but, on their very wedding day, he conceives a jealous suspicion. A certain Baverstock, an Englishman who is on a diplomatic mission to the court of Siguria, is carrying on an intrigue with the wife of the Master of the Horse, Count Rixensart, a lady who, under the mask of idiotic simplicity, conceals a most "coming-on" disposition, and throws herself at the head of every man she meets. Thus, when Boris, like Fritz in *The Grand Duchess*, is hurried off to fight for his country on his very wedding-day, he takes ill-feeling with him; and, when he returns victorious, he is still unsatisfied. He asks the Princess what Baverstock is doing at the Court; but, as this is a State secret, she refuses to tell him. Ultimately, she decides to abdicate, and, in the presence of her whole Court, divests herself of the signs of her royalty. This scene is mounted and dressed with very costly elaboration. In the last act, the obvious explanation and reconciliation take place. Boris has returned to his studio; and there he is found by the Princess, who convinces him that he had no cause for jealousy, and no reason to resent her silence, which was caused by one of the sternest duties of her position.

The authoress of the piece may congratulate herself on the care and liberality which were devoted to the production of her work. Everyone concerned in the performance on Saturday night worked hard and well; and the fullest justice was done both to the dialogue and the situations. Miss Olga Nethersole's Princess Margaret of Siguria had the very valuable quality of queenliness. The spirit of regal artificiality was very skilfully introduced, and, in her dealings both with her lover and her Court, Her Royal Highness bore herself nobly and graciously. Unfortunately there was no strong dramatic scene to employ Miss Nethersole's fullest capacity; but she made the most of her materials, and, whenever there was the least chance of scoring, she was earnest, emotional and expressive. It is rather uphill work, however, to go on "queening it," through three acts; and it is a still greater test of an actress's aplomb and verve for her to be obliged, by the necessities of her part, to march solemnly and silently in, bearing the sceptre in one hand and the orb in the other. It was a warm tribute to Miss Nethersole's command over herself and her audience that, at this difficult point, she never flinched, and by her perfect serenity repressed the giggles of the unthinking and the jibes of the sarcastic. Her treatment of the love scenes between the Princess and the Earl was tactful, considerate, and clever; and she bore the burden of her part with an ease and authority that showed the practised and experienced artist. It was to be regretted that so earnest and powerful an actress had not more opportunities of distinction than were given her in the character of Princess Margaret. Mr Herbert Waring did all that was possible with the rôle of Boris, Earl of Feldershey, and sustained it with a stern directness and a virile energy which were most appreciated. He hit off the brusque obstinacy of the painter-warrior very spiritedly; and at times, by his bold and emphatic embodiment, infused serious interest into the performance.

The supporting artists were more generously provided for by the authoress, and consequently had less to complain of. Miss Annie Hughes endeavoured, by an assumption of artlessness, and by developing the comedy of the rôle, to obscure the decided unpleasantness of the cynically-drawn character of the Countess Bertha Rixensart; Miss Kate Phillips had some rather "trying" costumes to wear, and not many good lines to speak as the Baroness d'Albreuse; and Miss Adeline Bourne played carefully as that rather ill-defined personage Madame Von Rauser. Mr C. W. Somerset suggested with skill and confidence the impish amorosity and senile conceit of the Prince Adolph of Nymwegen; and Mr Dawson Milward's fine style and polish, tall figure, and well modulated voice made his Count Rixensart a most natural and "convincing" embodiment. Mr W. T. Lovell was quite thrown away on the part of Harry Baverstock, and this fine actor is much to be commiserated on the poorness of his chance. It need hardly be said that he acted unimpeachably; but he is capable of much better things, and we hope to see him soon entrusted with a task more worthy of his powers. Mr Farren depicted Count Marche with great sharpness and firmness and Mr Berte Thomas was excellent as Captain Bernstein. The Councillors and the domestics had sound and suitable representatives, the tall and handsome ladies who were engaged to embody the ladies of the Court doing their work creditably and carefully. The mounting was dazzling and sumptuous. Mr W. T. Hemaley's scenes made grand backgrounds for the stage pictures formed by the grouping of the grandees of both sexes in their costly costumes; and Miss Nethersole's robes and jewels were beautiful and brilliant.

At the conclusion, when she and the principal members of her company had been called again and again the audience endeavoured in vain to entice the authoress upon the stage; Mrs Craigie, with her accustomed tact and good taste, wisely refraining from putting in an appearance.

ON THE ROAD NOV. 21.

ACTOR'S ROMANCE.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
AMORELLE.—Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
AMORELLE (N.).—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
ARE YOU A MASON? (MACDONA).—Peterborough.
ASSASSIN.—Metropole Theatre, Devonport.
BANDMANN-PALMER, MRS.—Victoria T., Mansfield.
BEAUTIFUL AVENGER.—P. T., Portsmouth.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Sutton-in-Ashfield.
BELLE OF NEW YORK.—Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.
BENSON, MR F. R. (A).—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
BENSON, MR F. R. (B).—Queen's T., Farnworth.
BEST MUST WIN.—Theatre Royal, West Stanley.
BID FOR FORTUNE.—Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—A. T., Dudley Port.
BULMER, MR.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
CARL ROSA.—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (M.).—T. R., Stockport.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (N.).—Borough T., E.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (S.).—Crystal Palace.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA)(N.).—L'ond'nderry.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA(S.).—Sidmouth.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (M.).—O. H., Cheltenham.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (N.).—T. R., Newcastle.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (S.).—C. T., Reading.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA) (N.).—Pontefract.
COUNTRY GIRL (MACDONA) (S.).—Ludlow.
COUNTRY MOUSE (N.).—Perth.
COUSIN KATE (S.).—Gloucester.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—O. H., Workington.
DARLING OF THE GODS (N.).—T. R., Manchester.
DARLING OF THE GODS (S.).—T. R., Bradford.
DISGRACE TO HER SEX.—G. T., Hastings.
DISHONOURED.—New Theatre, Aberdare.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC (S.).—T. R., Hanley.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC.—P. T., Bristol.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
EXECUTIONER'S DAUGHTER.—Barnsley.
FAIRY'S DILEMMA.—Theatre Royal, Sheffield.
FATAL FORTUNE.—Theatre Royal, Rugby.
FATAL WEDDING (M.).—Court Theatre, Bacup.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—R. T., Chester.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—Pier, Hastings.
FRIVOLITY.—Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.
GEISHA.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
GIPSY JACK and MAFEKING.—A. T., Kettering.
GIRL FROM JAPAN.—Lyceum T., Newport.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (N.).—P. T., Manchester.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (S.).—Opera House, Norwich.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS (BRUCE).—A. T., Lancaster.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS (MELVILLE).—Birmingham.
GOLDEN LADDER.—Osborne Theatre, Manchester.
GREEK SLAVE.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
GRIP OF IRON.—Theatre Royal, Bilston.
HARVEST OF SIN.—Miners' Theatre, Ashington.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—T. R., Dublin.
HENRY NEVILLE.—Woolwich.
HER FATAL PAST.—A. T., Stourbridge.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—Q. T., Swindon.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Greenwich, S.E.
HONOUR BRIGHT.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
HONOUR THY FATHER.—Grand T., Nelson.
HOT NIGHT.—Metropole Theatre, Birkenhead.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—R. T., Morecambe.
IN DAHOMEY.—Crown T., Peckham.
INDIAN MUTINY.—Opera House, Perth.
IRVING, HENRY.—H. M. Theatre, Aberdeen.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.—Seaham Harbour.
KING OF CRIME.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Alresford.
LADY OF OSTEND.—Century T., Motherwell.
LADY'S MAID.—Metropole Theatre, Birkenhead.
LADY SLAVEY (GEEKT).—Grand Theatre, Boscombe.
LANGTRY, MRS.—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
LAUGHTER-LAND.—Theatre Royal, Batley.
LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE.—Peterborough.
LETTY.—P. O. W. Theatre, Birmingham.
LIFE'S REVENGE.—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
LIGHTS O' LONDON.—Theatre Royal, Ashton.
LIGHTNING'S FLASH.—Ebbw Vale.
LITTLE COQUETTE.—Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
LITTLE MARY.—Grand Theatre, Southampton.
LONDON ACTRESS.—Theatre Royal, Middleton.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Grand Theatre, Middlesbrough.
MAN TO MAN.—King's Theatre, Nottingham.
MANXMAN.—Theatre Royal, Darwen.
MARRIAGE OF KITTY.—T. R, Blackburn.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Liverpool.
MISS MISCHIEF.—H. M. T., Walsall.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—T. R., Castleford.
MODERN JUDAS.—Opera House, Harrogate.
MONEY-MAKERS (N.).—Hull.
MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE.—T. R., Exeter.
MOODY-MANNERS (A).—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
MOODY-MANNERS (B).—Queen's Theatre, Keighley.
MOODY-MANNERS (C).—Arbroath.
MY LADY MOLLY (RED).—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
MY LADY MOLLY (WHITE).—Cambridge.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—O. H., Blackpool.
NEW EAST LYNNE.—Olympia T., Newcastle.
NEW HOUSEMAID.—Garrick Theatre, Hereford.
NEW MEPHISTO.—Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
ON THE STROKE OF 12 0.—Pontypridd.
ORCHID (EDWARDES).—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
ORCHID (S.).—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
PATH OF THORNS.—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
PEGGY MACBRE.—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
PRINCE OF ROGUES.—Paisley.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Opera House, Cork.
PROOF.—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.
QUALITY STREET (BRIGHT).—C. T., Kingston.
RICHARD LOVELACE.—Opera House, Leicester.
ROYAL DIVORCE (KELLY) (S.).—Broadway T., S.E.
ROYAL REVENGE (CLYNDES).—Wedgwood, Burslem.
SAPHO.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
SAPHO (ANNIE BELL).—Colosseum T., Oldham.
SATURDAY TO MONDAY (N.).—Croydon.
SCARLET WOMAN.—Grand Theatre, Margate.
SCHOOL GIRL (S.).—New Theatre, Oxford.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Grand Theatre, Stockton.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
SILVER KING (N.).—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
SILVER KING (S.).—Ealing Theatre, W.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—P.O W., Southampton.
STILL ALARM.—Theatre Royal, Scarborough.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.
TERRY, ELLEN.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
TERRY, EDWARD.—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (S.).—Chesterfield.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (1).—T. R., Plymouth.
TOMMY ATKINS.—Opera House, Crouch-end.
TRAITOR.—Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—New T., King's Lynn.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—T, R, Bristol.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (N.).—T. R., Croydon.
TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS (S.).—Q. T., Dublin.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—York.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY).—Cradley Heath.
UNDER THE RUSSIAN FLAG.—W. T., Glasgow.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., Birkenhead.
WALLER, MRS LEWIS.—Marlborough Theatre, N.
WARNER, GRACE.—P. O. W. T., Nuneaton.
WEARIN' O' THE GREEN.—T. R., Coatbridge.
WEE-TON-NO-MAH.—T. R., North Shields.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—T. R., Worcester.
WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN.—C. T., Warrington.
WILLARD, MR. E. S.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
WOMAN AND WINE.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
WOMAN'S PLUCK.—St. James's T., Manchester.
WORLD'S DESIRE.—L. T., Stafford.
10·30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Opera House, Dudley.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

MADAME HELEN TOWNSHEND'S pupils, the Misses Florence and Kitty Lindley, are engaged for the production of *Ladyland*, at the Avenue Theatre. Miss Florence Redfern will appear in the Christmas play at the Court, and many other pupils of Miss Townshend will be seen in provincial pantomimes.

WAGNER IN NEW YORK.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Parsifal, in English, was performed for the first time in New York on the 31st ult. at the New York Theatre by a company organised by Mr Henry W. Savage. New York was indebted to Mr Savage for the excellent performances of the Castle-square opera company a few years ago, and his more recent undertakings in the light opera field have been conspicuously successful. The production of Wagner's sacred "festival play" in English is the culmination of one of his long-cherished plans and an earnest of similar undertakings in the future, his intention being to present the master works of the operatic stage in a manner comparable with the best achievements of the opera houses on the Continent. The representations at the New York Theatre are praiseworthy in every respect, and are drawing overflowing audiences. The evening performances begin at six o'clock. Between the first and second acts there is an intermission of one hour, the curtain rising again at nine o'clock. Two matinées are to be given each week, these beginning at eleven o'clock. The company is composed entirely of young singers, selected by Mr Savage during his recent visit to Europe. The choruses have been admirably trained, and the scenery, lighting, and mechanical effects show care, imagination, and due regard for the intentions of the great composer. Three artistes appear alternately in the title-rôles, viz., Allois Pennarini, principal tenor of the Hamburg Opera House; Francis M'Lellan, a pupil of Georg Henschel; and Christian De Voss, principal dramatic tenor of the Royal Netherlands Opera House at Amsterdam. The three singers engaged for the rôle of Kundry are Madame Kirkby-Lunn, who appeared last year at the Metropolitan Opera House; Madame Hannah Mara, leading dramatic soprano of the Breslau Opera House; and Miss Florence Wickham, a young American, who made a success at the Court Theatre in Munich. For the rôle of Amfortas, Mr Savage has engaged Johannes Bischoff, a successful baritone from Cologne, and Franz Egenieff, from the Theater des Westens in Berlin. For the Gurnemanz, there are Putnam Griswold, a young American, from the Frankfort Opera House, and Ottley Cranston, an English singer of reputation. The part of Klingsor is sung by Homer Lind, formerly a member of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, and J. Parker Coombs, an American, who has been popular in concert work. The conductors of the orchestra, which is seventy strong, are Walter H. Rothwell, a Londoner, from the Hamburg and Amsterdam Opera House, and Moritz Grimm, a young musician who is regarded as a Wagnerian conductor of promise. The stage director is Joseph Engel, who made a reputation at Kroll's Opera House in Berlin, and the Stadt Theatre in Strasburg.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

DEATHS.

COX.—Nov. 11, at Cranham Lodge, Stroud, Garnet Wolseley Cox, only child of Colonel C. Wolseley Cox, J.P., of Clare, King's County, Ireland, musical composer, aged thirty-two.

MORRELL.—Nov. 8, Millie Morrell, late Sisters Morrell (Mrs Walter Scott). Deeply loved and sincerely mourned by her sister Lilly (Mrs M. H. Lindon). Her end was peace.

PRINSEP.—Nov. 11, at Holland-park, Valentine Cameron Prinsep, R.A., Royal Academician and dramatic author.

RAINBIRD.—Nov. 9, suddenly, at Beckett's Hospital, Barnsley, Marie Rainbird, the beloved wife of Fred Danvers, aged thirty years. Rest, dear heart; rest, till we meet again.

THE Theatre Royal, Margate, being one of the comparatively few patented theatres in the country, is under the direct control of the Lord Chamberlain, who has recently insisted upon some very expensive alterations being carried out. These have just been completed; and among other things this work has involved the complete cutting off of the stage from the auditorium by new brickwork, iron safety doors, and an iron fire-proof curtain. The stage has been practically remodelled, and all the scenery treated with non-combustible solution. The dressing-rooms are shut off from the stage, and everything has been done that ingenuity can suggest and money provide to ensure the greatest safety for both audience, artistes, and staff. The theatre from the wings and the front of the house has been fitted with direct telephonic communication with the Central Fire Station, which is only a short distance away, the breaking of a square of glass being sufficient to ring the alarm, whilst Borough firemen are always on duty at each performance with a complete system of hydrants and fire appliances at command.

AUSTRALIA'S only municipally owned theatre—Her Majesty's, in the town of Geelong—which is about fifty miles from Melbourne, is the subject of a sketch in a Melbourne weekly by a recent visitor. He found a gory melodrama of the old transpontine type, *The Russian Spy*, in progress. The theatre he describes as handsome and well-appointed, and he naturally wonders why the ratepayers, who find the money to keep it going, do not put it to better dramatic uses.

MR SANDON PERKINS has been engaged by Mr Robt. Arthur to succeed Mr Eadie Montefiore as manager of Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee. Though Mr Perkins has only been in England for about seven years, having before that lived in America, he is well known throughout the provinces, having been resident at the Royal, Sunderland, for a couple of years, and since then being identified with the management of Miss Emma Hutchison and Sir Chas. Wyndham's touring companies. Mr Perkins has been specially released by Mr Percy Hutchison, in the middle of a most successful tour of *Cousin Kate*, in order to accept this appointment.

AT the Broadway Theatre this week, Mr George Dance's company has appeared in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr Helier Le Maistre is enthusiastically applauded as the Emperor Hang-Chow; Mr Rudolph Kloss is very successful as the Lord High Chancellor; Mr Lennox Barry is excellent as the Lord High Admiral, Hi-Lung; Mr J. Warren Foster is an earnest and manly Tom Hatherton, and Mr Gus Wheatman wins marked favour in the character of Mr Pineapple. Miss Elsie Carew gives a good representation of Mrs Brown, Miss Eva Weigh is an attractive Mi-Mi, Miss Nellie Wigley is a charming Soo-Soo, Miss Dot Stephens is a delightfully vivacious Mrs Pineapple, and Miss Gwennie Harcourt gives a quaint and enjoyable performance as Fi-Fi.

MR E. H. SOTHERN and Miss JULIA MARLOWE are appearing at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, in *Much Ado About Nothing*. It is a long time since Shakespeare's comedy was so handsomely mounted and so well acted in that city. Mr Sothern's Benedict has found more favour with the critics than did his Romeo; in fact, it has received high praise as an interpretation of keen intelligence and delightful humour. His acting in the church scene with Beatrice wins hearty and prolonged applause, and in the quarrel scene with Claudio he again scores. Miss Marlowe is a captivating Beatrice, and her impersonation of this character will be classed among her finest achievements. Mr Rowland Buckstone gives a capital representation of Dogberry; Mr Norman Hackett is an excellent Claudio; and Messrs Sydney Mather, William Harris, and W. H. Crompton distinguished themselves in prominent rôles.

MR ERNIE LEECH wishes to thank Messrs Sylvester and Bale, Coventry, for their kindness in releasing him on account of the serious illness of his mother.

FAMOUS SCENIC ARTISTS.

MR. RICHARD DOUGLASS.

MR RICHARD DOUGLASS, who is the second son of the late John Douglass, the well-known manager, was articled early in life to Mr William Telbin, father of the present artist of that name, and, under the direction of his distinguished master, his first work with the brush was assisting in the original production of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* at the Olympic Theatre. The panorama of *The Holy Land* for Mr J. B. Buckstone was at this time being prepared for the Haymarket Theatre, whilst the pantomime at Dublin, *Hercules and Omphale*, burlesque, for Miss Herbert, of the St. James's Theatre, quickly followed. The New Year saw *Manfred* staged at Drury-lane, and one year later *Time and Tide* at the Surrey and *The Antipodes* at the Holborn, to all of which Mr Douglass contributed.

Soon after this Mr Richard Douglass began working on his own account at the Standard Theatre, then under his father's management, although he continued occasionally to assist his old master when required. At the well-known National Standard Theatre for twenty consecutive seasons his charming pantomime scenery was universally admired. In the meantime he was gaining a vast experience through the number of "stars" appearing at this theatre, for whom productions were made from time to time of such plays as *Othello*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *King Lear*, *King John*, *Henry IV.*, *Henry V.*, *Julius Cæsar*, *Cymbeline*, *Richard III.*, *A Winter's Tale*, *Twelfth Night*, *Merchant of Venice*, *The Tempest*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Bridal*, *Duchess of Malfi*, *Richelieu*, *Manfred*, *Man of the World*, *Guy Mannering*, *Rob Roy*, and the whole répertoire of English opera. As if this amount of work were insufficient, there were the several spring and autumn productions at the Standard Theatre, which were, year after year, staged with a perfection of detail and realistic effects unprecedented even at the West-end of London. Many of these dramas added greatly to the artist's fame. Such stage pictures as the Wynd and the Highlands, in *Hal o' the Wynd*; Rotten Row, *Glad Tidings*; the Derby Racecourse and the Cock at Sutton, *Daybreak*; and the beautiful representation of Windsor Park and the Hunting Country, in *The Silver Wedding*, were really gems. But the biggest coup was yet to come, for in October, 1886, London was startled by the enthusiastic praise bestowed by all sections of the press on the lovely painting, Henley Regatta, in *The Dark Secret*. The next year, in *The Royal Mail*, came the still more wonderful sets, The Irrawaddy and the Mumbles Head, which effectually set the seal on the artist's renown. During the time he was thus employed he became interested, in 1880 and 1881, in the Park Theatre, Camden-town, where some notable scenic triumphs were achieved. And Mr Douglass's contributions to *Little Em'ly*, *Amy Robsart*, *'Twixt Axe and Crown*,

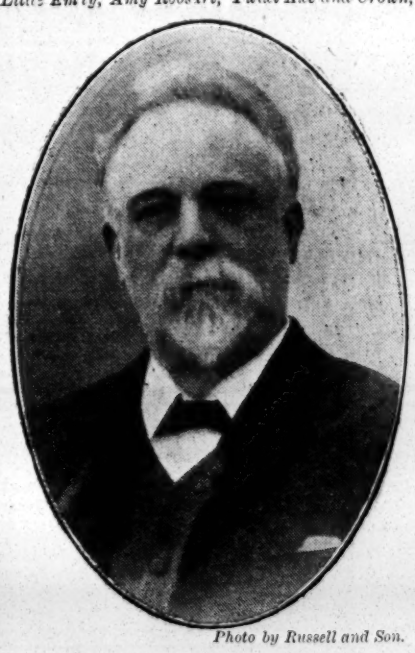

Photo by Russell and Son.

MR. RICHARD DOUGLASS.

Delilah, *Poor Relations*, *True till Death*, *The Power of Love*, and other dramas, will always be pleasantly remembered.

After the Naval Exhibition at Chelsea in 1891 (for which Mr Douglass furnished the stage) he speedily made himself a reputation for the mammoth canvasses, which have delighted thousands of visitors to the Earl's-court exhibitions during the last eleven years. The gigantic paintings "A View in Surrey," "Rock Temples of India," "Windsor Castle—from the River," "Gibraltar," "Richmond Hill," "Balmoral Castle," "Warwick Castle," and "Lago Maggiore," bear witness to his success in this department of art. His latest work has been three scenes for Mr Tree's present production of *The Tempest* at Her Majesty's Theatre. Many act drops in London and the provinces, and the scenery of many touring companies, bear the signature of Richard Douglass on the canvas—at once the hall mark of efficiency and artistic excellence. With reference to the production of *The Duchess of Malfi*, mentioned earlier in this article, a very humorous incident occurred to the artist. Mr Douglass, being very young in his profession, and naturally ambitious of pleasing the "star" (in this instance the well-known Miss Glyn), he painted a splendid set of the Castle by the River at Night, and had a large moon and a mechanical reflection—or ripple—below, to give additional effect.

When the scene was being set he noticed, with horror, that the reflection of the moon (the ripple) was brilliantly lighted, but the moon was black as pitch. Running round behind to learn the cause, the following dialogue took place between the artist and the man in charge of the limelight:—

THE ARTIST.—Hullos, where's the moon?
THE LIMELIGHT MAN.—There it is, guv'nor, up there.
ARTIST.—But light it up, man. Light it up.
L. L. MAN.—Beg pardon, sir, but father hasn't come yet with the limes, and I've only got one here. So I thought I'd light up the ripple as it's prettiest, and we can do without the moon.

This amusing incident illustrates what artists have sometimes to put up with.

AT the committee meeting of the Scenic Artists' Association, held at the offices, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, on Monday evening, with Mr Walter Hann in the chair, there were present Messrs Edmund G. Banks, William Harford, H. W. Owen, Harry Potts, and W. B. Spong, and Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart. Mr Hedley Churchward and Mr H. Lyneham were duly elected members of the Association. It was resolved to adopt the report of the Exhibition Sub-committee, and to convene an extraordinary general meeting of the members at the Caledonian Hotel, Adelphi, at 8·0 p.m. on Monday evening next, the 21st inst., to receive the report of the committee for the past six months, and to approve the proposed arrangements for an exhibition of scenic art, the week of Feb. 20 to 25, and to increase the Exhibition Guarantee Fund. The chairman announced that Mr Richard Douglas and Mr Harry Potts had subscribed £5 5s. each to the Guarantee Fund.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 12.)

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is here with *A Traitor Prince*. Mr Henry Lonsdale fills with credit the important part of Prince Rae Dalmierez; Alexander Temple is very good as Lieut. Frank Derrick; Mr E. Carter Livesey is well placed as Billy Bright; and Mr Austin Mortimer is a good Hon. Bobby. Mr A. H. Longford is acceptable as Col. Vane, and Miss Lilian Rosebery is a dainty Lola Vane. Miss B. Western ably assists as Vashti.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—The stage here is this week occupied by Messrs H. B. Levey and J. Walter's juvenile company in the extravaganza, *Beauty and the Beast*, which opened on Monday to a highly delighted and enthusiastic audience. The piece goes exceedingly well. Miss May Gibson as Spirit of Good sings delightfully and acts gracefully; as also does Miss Mary Hardacre as Prince Charming. As the "knockabouts" Masters Paddy Mills and Charles Elbon are screamingly funny. La Petite La Ray as Will Scarlett, Miss Lottie Harper as Maid Marion, Miss Kitty Trewhit as Tommy Tucker, Miss Isa Gibson as Marjory Daw, Miss Dorothy Milnthorpe as Billy Buttons, and Master T. Halton as Baron Smallcash are all thoroughly capable.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company is here this week with *The King of Crime*. Mr William Clayton gives a powerful portrayal of the part of Ronjarre, and Mr W. H. Porter is successful as Simon Gandelu. Messrs Herbert Evelyn and Val W. Gully as Louis Mascorot and Toto Chapin are able accessories to Ronjarre. Mr Walter Dale is amusing as Mick Maloney, and Mr Edwin Maydew scores as Perpignan, and Mr Will R. Percival gives a careful rendition of the part of Tabaret. Miss Marion Turner submits a sympathetic representation of the rôle Henrietta Lemaire, and Miss Elizabeth Turner-Elliott is pleasing as Matilde. Miss Kitty Russell is a sprightly Clarisse, and Miss Ada King deserves mention as Mère Crouchard.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Miss Rose Faith's company is here in the drama entitled *No Cross, No Crown*. Mr J. P. M'Bride commands unstinted praise for his clever portrayal of Sir Francis Luttrell; Mr Logan Darra is an equally pronounced success in the heavy work of Austin Blake; Mr C. George is a leading feature as Rawson Haines; Mr Frank Hudspeth is highly elevating and much to the fore as Dr. Ashby; Miss Gwen Stewart provides a study of really exceptional merit as Margaret; and Miss Rose Faith does sterling work as Clare. Miss Kate Carnegie is suited as Annabel Sylvester, and the juvenile efforts of Miss May Warden as Doris and Miss Dolly Turner as Plato attract much attention.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company on Monday presented to a large house the many stirring incidents forming the well-known drama, *Why Men Love Women*, which was well received. Mr Alfred Paumier did full justice to the character of the falsely accused Gerald Fielding; Serge Staniloff was well sustained by Mr S. Herbert Humber; Miss Annie Saker made a favourable impression as Violet Livingstone; and Mr Harwood Roberts as Orlando Figgins. Miss Q Nigel as Birdie Summertop, Miss V. Godfrey as Baby Winterbottom, and Miss Marie Glynne as Matilda Figgins combined to keep the audience highly amused. Mr W. S. Hardy as Tommy Fitzherbert, Mr Edwin Levey as the Maharajah, and Miss Beatrice Sinclair also sustained their several characters with care and ability.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—Good houses find plenty of sterling amusement this week. Vesta Victoria is not allowed to rest until she has come on for the fourth time. Roars of laughter are caused by Horace Mills and W. H. Rawlins and company in the oddity *Mashing the Missus*. Amy Augarde pleases with her songs. The other excellent turns include the Waldrons, burlesque adepts; H. A. Zetto, comic juggler; the Kyaskas, athletic marvels; the Legay Quartette, amazing Parisian acrobatic dancers; Madeleine May, versatile comedienne; Cissy Cutler, comedienne; and Albert Whelan, Australian entertainer and mimic.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—There is a good company here this week. The novel Azra does some clever juggling with billiard balls, &c.; Amy Anderson and company do good business in the novelty *A Costly Incident*; the marvellous Winona is an expert lady rifle shot; and Tony Iveson, the musical tramp, is duly appreciated. Very good performances are also given by the Crown Trio of clever speciality vocalists; Geo. Rapley, versatile comedian; Rivington and Gordyn, high-class comedy duettists; the Rozells, in a comedy bar act; Lily Jackson, male impersonator; Bliss and Bliss, refined patter comedians and dancers; and Mark Lane, comedian.

SHEERNESS.

VICTORIA PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. C. Dorling.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company opened here on Monday with *The Greed of Gold*. Mr B. Fox plays with ability the important part of Tom Wolstead. Mr Carthage Caldcleugh is excellent as the villain, Harry Hood; and Mr Brightstone, K.C., is capably represented by Mr T. G. Warry.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr P. Reymond.—An enjoyable programme here includes the Calden company in the dramatic sketch, *Bound to Win*. Mr Fred Langley, comedian and patter vocalist, and Miss Minnie Ransome, comedienne and dancer, are both deserving of special mention. Mr Jack Foley, eccentric comedian; and Miss Louie Hurman, burlesque actress, are also remaining for this week. The programme concludes with the comedy sketch, *Irish Aristocracy*.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Miss Grace Warner, supported by a large company, is here this week with *The New Commander*. Miss Warner worked and sang effectively as Violet Flintheart; Mr George Gordon was a capital Lieut. Frank Harding; Mr George Handel acted capably as Lieut. Jack Tremingway; Mr St. Bernard Wyntour was droll as the Sultan of Ramjamjah; Mr Townley Searle contributed some good songs as Matthew Flintheart; Mr Miller Anderson was an amusing waiter; Miss May Dallas was particularly smart and pleasing as Vivette, and numerous other parts were in capable hands. The Primrose Quartet of dancers were agile and successful.

SLIGO.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Corporation.—The Ben Greet company opened here on Monday with *A Fatal Wedding*. Mr J. E. Clive was popular as Howard Wilson; Miss Eva Moss was successful as Mabel Wilson; as Jessie Miss Maisie Richardson was exceptionally good; Mr L. Shirley created much amusement as Lota; Miss Carrie Fenton made a capital Irish cook; the parts of Peter Schwartz and Constable O'Reilly were ably duplicated by Mr Sharley Lea; and Mr C. A. Cullens as Robert Curtis and Miss Beatrice Whitney as Cora Williams were both successful.

SCARBOROUGH.

SPA.—Manager, Mr Fras. Goodricke.—The company's orchestra plays each evening under the direction of Mr Charles Godfrey, junior. Mr John Child is the vocalist this week.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Henry Mayhew.—The sensational drama *Honour Thy Father* is being played here by Mr Morton Powell's company. Mr J. W. Evelyn is good as Gabriel Garth; Jack Halyard finds a manly representative in Mr Douglas Watson; the villain is ably played by Mr Ernest Hartington; Mr W. H. Coombes causes amusement as Dicky Dobbs; Miss Mabel Coleman wins the sympathy of the audience as Lilian Garth.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr Wm. Kitchingman.—Mr Frank Curzon's company is appearing with much success in the farce *Glittering Gloria*. Both the company and the play are a long way above the average. Mr John Campbell is an excellent Jack James; Mr Stanley Arthur acts well as Archie Toddleby; Mr Haughton Macauley creates much laughter by his eccentricities as Zebedee Posket; Mr Wordley Hulse puts in good work as Colonel Gallegher; Mr Gerald Clark as Algernon Entwistle ably seconds his efforts; Mr Charles Williams as Mr Griddletop succeeds in making things lively as the assistant Superintendant of Luggage; Miss Lillian Williams is a refined Mrs James James; and Gloria finds a pleasing representative in Miss Stanley Ronalds.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr Quinton Gibson.—One of the most popular items on the programme here is the reappearance of Mr Quinton Gibson in his lady impersonations; Mr P. Clements, the navvy reciter, has had a cordial reception; the Three Tudors give a good turn in their cycle act; Harry Bennet, comedian; Queenie Snow, dancer; the Two Vervains, vocalists and dancers; and the Franko Midgets are amongst the good things included in the programme.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—A strong variety company here this week includes Woolford's Grand Continental Circus, with a clever stud of trained animals, and a novel horse riding machine which renders accidents to learners practically impossible. The Two Eltons, a clever pair of knockabout comedians on the triple horizontals; the Royal Victorian Troupe of international dancers; Leon and Leoni, musical eccentrics, in a smart musical act; Joe Hennessey, Scottish athletic club juggler and manipulator; the Vyponds (Fred and Maude), in a bright little patter absurdity, *Engaging the Servant*; Sisters Marion, dashing duettists; the Marbleque Trio, in their classical and descriptive statuary tableaux; Carlo Borrello, artistic comedy juggler; and Clayton Twins and company in their sketch, *Pepper and Salt*. The Irving Bioscope also presents each evening the latest series of animated pictures.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—*Lost in Paris* forms an admirable attraction here this week, the drama being played by Mr Henry Furnival's company. Mr W. J. Butler portrays the Count De Linieres in good style. Adrien finds a capital exponent in Mr A. V. Dixon. Mr Furnival delineates the cripple, Pierre, with consummate skill. Jacques is played to the life by Mr Edward Valentine. Miss Louisa Peach gives a highly meritorious portrayal of Henriette. Miss K. Willoughby invests the part of Louise with much charm. La Frochard is realistically played by Miss Pattie Hastings. The Countess De Linieres is given in finished style by Miss Alice Oliver. Mr H. Charles as the Marquis De Presles, Mr J. Fulton-Millar as Picard, Mr W. Garrett as Doctor Duvals, and Mr Leo Harrison as Lafleur successfully portray their parts.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—The great event here has been the brilliant performances by the Moody-Manners opera company, in connection with the University College. Mr Manners has pleased all sections of the community by his generous action in devoting the profits of the festival to the funds of the Sheffield University College. For the purposes of the festival the two principal Moody-Manners troupes were amalgamated. On Monday Gounod's *Faust* was given, Miss Fanny Moody received a thoroughly Yorkshire greeting on her appearance as Marguerite, and the well-known music of the part was rendered by her with all the sympathetic ability of the finished artiste. Mr Charles Manners' fine representation of Mephistopheles is well known to opera-goers. He again made a striking picture in the traditional scarlet dress, and the sardonic humour of the fiend was admirably expressed. Mr Manners sang "The Calf of Gold" and the Serenade in a magnificent manner. The Faust of Mr Wilson Pembroke was an excellent performance, and his singing gave universal pleasure. Mr F. H. Erle possesses the keen dramatic insight and vocal talent requisite for the part of Valentine, and he acted and sang with great emotional power. Mr W. Barrett's Wagner was good; Miss J. M'Carthy was a comely and humorous Martha; and Miss Rosina Beynon was the Siebel. On Tuesday there was again a crowded and representative audience, and Bizet's *Carmen*, superbly staged, was received with every demonstration of delighted approval. On Wednesday, *Tristan and Isolda* was performed; on Thursday (matinée), *Pagliacci* and *Cavalleria Rusticana* and (evening) *Mignon*; on Friday, acts from *Valkyrie*, *Seigfried*, and *Lohengrin*. It is worthy of mention that the use of the theatre was granted free by Mr Purcell for the Thursday matinée, as were the services of Mr Manners' company. The heavy bookings assured a financial success before the opening night.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—On Monday Mr William Greet's company opened to a delighted house in the lively and tuneful musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl*. The scenery and dresses were artistic and beautiful, and the acting, singing, and dancing were first-rate. Mr William Stephens kept the audience in roars of laughter as Jim Cheese, and his coster business was replete with characteristic humour. As the Earl Mr Percy Carr wes decidedly successful, and his fine baritone voice was heard to great advantage. Mr W. Hindson acted cleverly as the solicitor, and the fun was kept going by Mr. J. C. Graves as Mr Talk and Mr Tom Redmond as the landlord of the inn. Miss Aimee Grey made a pretty and captivating American heiress; Miss Dot Carey was a bright and vivacious representative of the light-hearted Lena Shoddem; Miss Gladys Fontaine caused much amusement as the strong woman; and that big local favourite Miss Florence Imeson was a graceful and chic Daisy Fallowfield.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—Mr Walter Melville's interesting and powerful English drama of modern life, *A Girl's Cross Roads*, was acted for the first time in Sheffield on Monday to a large and evidently well-pleased audience. The stirring episodes were watched with rapt attention, and the applause had the true ring about it so sweet to the ears of dramatist and player. Miss Beatrice Homer submitted a fine study of feminine character as Barbara Wade; Miss Octavia Noel made a prepossessing and energetic Nellie Meadows; Miss Violet Barton-Astor was a naïve, pleasing, and natural Constance, and the Tilly Vane of Miss Emily Custance was a merry and spirited comic creation. A fine performance was the Jack Livingstone of Mr Wingold Lawrence, and that sound actor, Mr Edwin Wilde, did effective work as Mr Meadows. Mr John Hitchens furnished cause for abundant mirth as Topsy-Turvy; a well-considered impersonation was the Dr. Weston

of Mr Charles Terry; Mr John Brookes was suitably cast in the part of Ramsden; Mr Leonard did well as Lumley; and Mr Charles Dawe as a thief and Mr Richard Zan as a police officer were in the picture. The mounting was quite in accordance with the high standard set by Mr Walter Melville's former productions.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The following well-known artistes are contributing to the programme this week:—Charles R. Sweet, the original "musical burglar;" Ben Brown and George Le Clerq, in the time-honoured but always laughter-compelling Nigger interlude, *Black Justice;* Hal Forde, a new candidate for honours as a vocal comedian; the Sisters Mascotte, three charming lady gymnasts; Ruth Lytton, dialectic vocalist; Edie King, comedienne and dancer; Collins' Six Lancashire Lasses, in a smart and novel act; the Aurora Troupe of acrobatic cyclists; G. W. Hunter, the Mark Twain-like humourist; and that big Sheffield favourite for over a quarter of a century's duration, Mr. J. H. Milburn, in new songs and familiar character impersonations.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—The clever Leggett combination opened on Monday in their laughter-provoking sketch; and other artistes who appeared were Ruby Bijou, comedienne; Belle Meredith, serio; Captain Holt, George Kuper and his talented children, in a novel act; the Cecils, and Mons. Friscari.

ALBERT HALL.—Manager, Mr Auguste Lyons.—The popular concerts continue successful here. The Merrions, comic sketch artistes; Dick Geldard, comedian; and other performers delighted the audience last Saturday.

SMETHWICK.

ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—The production here this week is the well-known drama *When London Sleeps*, which is being presented by Mr Lester Collingwood's capable company. Monday's performance was witnessed by a large and appreciative audience. Mr Franklyn Graham as Captain Rodney Haynes plays his sinister rôle with a force that counts for one of the successes of the play. Mr William H. Sams as David Engleheart, the hero, does credit to the character. Mr Victor Mason is very amusing as Sammy Blyth. Mr Frank Eden scores as Bertie Broomhead. Mr Fred J. Waller is well suited to the part of Mark Blackwood, waiter and attendant. Miss Maud Hastings is quite a success in the sympathetic part of Queenie Carruthers, and she obtains much applause and sympathy as the wire-walking heroine. Miss Mary Brammer as Hilda Carode again compels admiration. The character of Carrie Jones, a circus rider, is cleverly sustained by Miss Effie Mackintosh. Other parts that are well filled are those of Maudie De Frere (Miss E. M. France), Mrs Jones (Miss Bella Power), while little Dora Haslewood, the child actress, showed considerable promise by the engaging way she interpreted the part of Lella. It is interesting to note that Miss Haslewood is a Smethwick girl, and she met with a very hearty reception.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company is here in *A Royal Divorce*. Mr Frederick Victor scores successfully as Napoleon, his acting being remarkably fine. Miss Edith Cole gives a good portrayal of the Empress Josephine. Mr Claude Agnew is a striking Talleyrand, and Mr Trevor Lowe is impressive as the Marquis De Beaumont. Mr Alfred Grenville displays humour as General Augereau, and Miss Helen Richmond as Stephanie acts ably. Miss Ethyle Murray does well as Marie Louise, and Miss Violet Agnew is efficient as Blanche. The remaining parts are all in good hands, and the scenery and appointments are excellent.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—An excellent all-round company is here this week with *The Beautiful Avenger*. Mr Algernon Syms plays Cyrus Telford with effective dignity. Mr Lionel Gillet and Mr W. Diamond as the two Foxbanes are equally successful. Miss Nannie Meade as Vashti Volta acts with great charm, Miss Mabel Scudamore is extremely successful as Edna Volta, and the other parts are all well played.

PALACE.—The Vernon Troupe excel here as xylophone experts, and win loud applause. Queenie Leighton is popular in her latest success "On and Off the Stage," and the Venola Bros. score as comedy gymnasts. Wal Pink and company cause great hilarity in a sketch *Uncle's Wife*, and Slippere, the blind pianist, does a capital musical turn. The Autos, Woodhouse and Wells, and Nina Elmo complete an attractive company.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—The audiences this week are large, and liberal in their appreciation of the many commanding features of the merry musical comedy entitled *Miss Mischief*, represented by Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's company. Mr Cecil Curtis as Captain Jack Bethune causes admiration by his capital rendering of his musical numbers. Miss Evelyn Hughes in the title-rôle displays much ability. Her acting and singing are dainty, and her dancing is greatly admired. Mr Fred Eastman is prominent as the new croupier Private Harris, V.C. Mr J. C. Bland is a quaint Hiram Q. Pegg. Mr T. E. Conover as the breezy old sea-dog Admiral Sir Hannibal Bethune and Mr G. H. Liot as the foppish Lord Percy Fitz-Sherry are acceptable. Mr H. Ellesmere does well as the knowing Count Von Hummelblan. The impecunious Lady Orrery of Miss Eileen Guilbert is a charming performance, and Miss Crissie Francess is amusing as the illiterate cockney, Mary Anne Smith. The well-balanced full chorus and orchestra, owing to the indisposition of the musical director, Mr T. F. Maver, is under the able bâton of the composer, Dr F. Osmond Carr.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Selma Braatz, lady juggler, who furnishes the chief turn this week, is decidedly dexterous. Minnie Cunningham is a pleasing comedienne, and her ability is readily acknowledged here. Edie Gray and Coons appear in a bright entertainment. The American Bioscope, showing the funeral of the late Dan Leno, is an up-to-date film. Brooks Brothers are funny comedians and speciality dancers; Sisters Brand are expert dancers; and Johnny Dwyer, eccentric comedian, is an old favourite; and others in the programme are Flo Burris, comedienne, and G. W. Foster, comedian.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—The New York Comedy Four are a striking principal attraction. The Itrams, gymnasts and jugglers, are given a good reception, and Gus Balsiger, comedian and trick musician, is smart. Vera Mayne, comedienne, scores a signal success with "Oh, what a shame." Flo Atkins, in a good musical entertainment; Lilian Levey, comedienne; Arthur Richards, character vocalist; and Renee Wallon, comedienne and dancer, also appear.

Continued on Page 27

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. BURT.—*As far as we can ascertain the lady mentioned has not appeared in pantomime at the Britannia since 1884.*

KENNINGTON.—*We can find no record. Write to the manager.*

C. SPINK.—*The play was first called* The Girl from Jay's, *but an action at law was threatened, and the title was thereupon changed before the piece was produced.*

DUNCAN M'CALLUM.—*Alfred Vance died Dec. 26, 1888; George Leybourne, Sept. 16, 1884; Harry Payne, Sept. 27, 1895.*

W. H. G.—*The sense will be obtained by changing "our" into "nor," and "for yet" into "forget," "Come, let us go; Nor, corn to reip, forget our tiith's to sow."*

NEMO.—*Try Hachette and Co., publishers, Adelaide-street, London W.C.*

A. F.—*Mrs Jordan was the assumed name of Miss Bland, the actress who became mistress of the Duke of Clarence, died July 3, 1816. On separating from her the Duke settled £4,400 per annum upon her. This was coupled with the condition that if she returned to the stage the care of her four daughters, together with £1,500 a-year should revert to the father. When Mrs Jordan did so return the condition was carried out in its entirety, and she died in France in extreme mental misery.*

FRED.—Called Back *was produced at the Prince's Theatre (now Prince of Wales's) on May 20, 1884. The principals were Messrs Beerbohm Tree (Macari) G. W. Anson (Ceneri), Kyrle Bellew (Gilbert Vaughan), H. J. Lethcourt (Arthur Kenyon), Frank Rodney (Anthony March), and S. Caffrey (Petroff), Misses Lingard (Pauline), Tilbury (Mary Vaughan), and C. Parkes (Mrs Wilkins).*

J. K.—*The Mint authorities would, no doubt, have something to say against your proposal.*

HIPPO.—Too Much Johnson *was produced at the Garrick, April 18 1898 Mr William Gillette played Billings. Miss Ida Conquest, Mrs Billings; Miss Kate Meek, Mrs Batterson; Mr S. Reed Faddish; Miss Hope Ross, Leonora; Mr A. Daly, Mackintosh; Mr J. Brennan, Johnson; Mr Francœur, Dattris; Mr William B. Smith, Purser.*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders.
No Circulars admitted to this List.

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Fulton, Miss Violet
Gallagher, Mr Tom
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THE usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. The secretary referred to complaint made as to the condition of a dressing-room in a provincial theatre and read the reply of the management to such complaint. The council were well satisfied with the explanation given by the management and directed the secretary to thank them for their attention to the matter. The hon. solicitors reported they had advised several members and were requested to demand payment of certain monies due to a member for arrears of salary, &c.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
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Published at "The Era" Offices,
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Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 23th, 1901
Those who are interested in "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" will derive much valuable intelligence by reading Mr Albert Strong's book bearing the above title, published at "The Era" Office.—Pelican, Aug. 3d, 1901.

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Tuesday, at 8·0, CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA, followed by PAGLIACCI.
Wednesday, at 8 0, FAUST.

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Every Evening, at 8·20 punctually, Shakespeare's Comedy,

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Every Evening, at 8·0 (Doors open 7·40), Matinée, Saturday Next, at 2·0 (doors open 1·40), a New Musical Play, THE ORCHID.

Box-office (Mr A. P. Oxley) open Daily 10·0 till 6·0 and 8·0 till 10·0.

ST. JAMES'S.—MR. GEO. ALEXANDER,
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To-night (Saturday), at 9·0, will be Revived

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At 8·15, THE DECREE NISI, by Joshua Bates.
Matinée every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2 15.
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Every Evening at 8·15, the Comic Opera, VERONIQUE.
VERONIQUE.
By A. Vanloo and G. Duval. English Version by Henry Hamilton. Lyrics by Lilian Eldee and Percy Greenbank. Music by André Messager. Matinée every Saturday at 2·0.

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Every Evening, at 8·30, in THE WALLS OF JERICHO, by Alfred Sutro.
The Cast also includes Mr Sydney Valentine, Mr O. B. Clarence, Mr H. Nye Chart, Miss Kate Serjeantson, Miss Muriel Beaumont, Miss Elfrida Clement.
Matinée every Wednesday and Saturday, at 2·30.
Special Matinée Thursday, Dec. 1, at 2 30.

DUKE OF YORK'S THEATRE.—
Lessee and Manager, CHARLES FROHMAN.
Every Evening, at 8 20,
Charles Frohman presents Miss Eleanor Robson (by arrangement with Messrs Liebler and Co., New York) in MERELY MARY ANN, a Comedy in Four Acts, by Israel Zangwill.
Matinée, Every Thursday and Saturday, at 2·20.
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Lessee and Manager, OTHO STUART.

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Sixth German Season.

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Matinée To-day, 2·30, EINSAME MENSCHEN.

GRAND THEATRE, ISLINGTON.—
Sole Lessee, Mr GEORGE DAVEY.
Manager, Mr Oswald Brand.
Monday, Nov. 21,
Early Doors, 6·30, the Biograph and Special Varieties. A treat for all Children.
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The Premier Theatre of S.E. London.
Monday, Nov. 21, Five Nights and Thursday Matinée, Mr Henry Neville and Company in THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN.
Friday Evening (by Special Desire), THE TWO ORPHANS.
Matinée every Thursday.
Box-office open all Day and Evening.
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Monday, Nov. 21, for One Week,
Miss Ada Reeve and Company, in Musical Comedy, WINNIE BROOKE, WIDOW, from the Criterion Theatre.
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Monday next, for Six Nights, at 7·45,
Matinée, Thursday, at 2·30,
Mrs Lewis Waller and Company, in VILMA and ZAZA.

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For Few Remaining Spring Vacant Dates address, F. W. Purcell, Bedford House, Amhurst-park, N.

BRIXTON THEATRE, S.W.—
Lessee and Manager, Mr ERNEST STEVENS.
General Manager, J. Murray Herriot.
Monday, Nov. 14, "Woman and Wine."

Monday, Nov. 21, THE CHERRY GIRL.
Matinées, Saturdays, at 2·30.
Box-office, 10·0 to 3·0, 6·0 to 10 0. 'Phone, 50 Brixton.

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Nov. 28, "The Ladder of Life."

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Saturdays, 7·0 o'clock.

BRITANNIA THEATRE, HOXTON, N.—
Lessees, the Britannia, Limited.
General Manager, Mr J. M. East.
Monday, Nov. 14, at 7 0 (One House Nightly), the Great Military Play, DEATH OR GLORY BOYS.
To be followed by Varieties and Farce.
Doors open 6·45; commence 7·0. Early Door, 6 30.
Popular Prices, 3d., 6d., 9d., 1s.
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For Vacant Dates, Address, Arthur Carlton.

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KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.
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Monday, Nov. 21, by Special Desire, QUALITY STREET.
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MIDDLESEX, DRURY-LANE, W.C.—
Will Evans, in his Latest Successes; Florrie Gallimore, Burley and Burley, Rosie Bartlett, Atroy, Johnny Alexander and Company, Maudie Ford, Condon and Preston, Harry Tate, the New Bioscope, George Antill, Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo Piccaninnies, Ernest Rees, Martine and Son, Princess Pauline, Mdlle. Violi, Edward Ranier and Company, in "The Bank Robbery." Commence 7·15. Saturdays One Hour Earlier. Popular Prices. Note.—J. L. Graydon's Anniversary, Thursday, Nov. 24, next.

GRANVILLE, WALHAM-GREEN.—
Nov. 21, and during the Week, production of a Matrimonial Mixture, entitled "The March of the Married Men," by Arthur Rigby and Company of Matrimonial Martyrs; Millie Hylton, Bonnie Goodwin and Picaninnies, George Mozart, Brown and Le Clerq, in "Black Justice;" Georgena Leonard, Celeste, Nipper Lupino Lane, Leo Stormont, the Two Bees, Rosie Adams, Bert Brantford, Sisters Morde, Frank Leslie, Marie Burdell, Collins and Rice, Nellie Lewis, Rohda Brothers, the Poluskis. Telephone, 206, Kensington. General Manager, Mr JESSE SPARROW; Acting-Manager, Mr E. A. Bridgen. It is imperative that all Artistes should send in bill matter fourteen days beforehand, according to contract. Mr Sparrow invites all Artistes holding contracts at the Granville to compare dates with him, so that any mistakes can be rectified.

CAMBERWELL PALACE OF VARIETIES.
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Commence 7·30. Prices from 4d.
Telephone, 1,095 Hop.
General Manager, Mr J. SPARROW.
Important Notice.—The particular attention of Artistes and Agents is called to Clause 5 (the Barring Clause) in all Contracts, which will be strictly enforced.

PALACE, CROYDON.—
Directors, Messrs FRED WILLIAMS, T. GARDINER HALES, and JOHN PARKER.—Monday, Nov. 21, and Nightly, at 7·45, Happy Fanny Fields, Charles Austin, Glenroy Troupe, the Gladenbecks, Zanfretta and Napio, Alma Curzon, the Mezzettis, Fred Spencer, the Arthur Lloyd Trio, Professor Vox, Howard and St. Clair. A Special Matinée, Saturday, Nov. 26, at 2·30, for the Mayor's Fund for Underfed Children attending the Elementary Schools. Extra Turns Saturday Night. Start 7 30.

Resident General Manager, Eustace H. Jay.

GATTI'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
214, WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD.—Proprietors, Messrs G. and L. CORAZZA-GATTI. Telephone, 236 Hop. Bransby Williams, Starr and Leslie, Dan Crawley, Alexandra Dagmar, Edwin Barwick, Sadie Simpson, Fred Poplar, Sisters Leslie, Woodhouse and Wells, Lambert and Glover, Katie Butler, Charles Ashdown, Maud Vera, and the Mutograph.
Rehearsal on Monday, at 6 0 o'clock. Musical Director, Mr I. W. Baker. Manager, Mr Tom Tinsley.

NEW BEDFORD PALACE OF VARIETIES (Limited), CAMDEN-TOWN, N.W.
Mr A. F. LOVESEY, Manager.
Twice Nightly, at 6·10 and 9·10.
The Magic Kettle, Tray and Rich, Arthur Boyne, Gilbert Girard, Marguerite Broadfoote, Harry Pleon, Nellie Navette, Michel and Polo, Baffin's Monkey's, Katie Butler, Imperial Bioscope.
All Artistes are notified that they must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1·0 o'clock, Mondays. All Artistes engaged must attend. Artistes not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at the option of the Management.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.—
Proprietor, J. C. COE.—Monday, Nov. 21st, 1904, Grand Extra Week. Fred Karno's Company, in "Mumming Birds;" Norman and Leonard Trio, Belrose and De Velin, the Royal Zerbinis, Harry Cotton, Rachel Lowe, Woodhouse and Wells, Cora Caselli, Les Rupertos, the Zampas, Myra Stanfield, Phil Ray, Tom Yorke, Brian and Lawrence, Sisters Wingrove, Herbert Shelley, May Henderson, Herbert Madden, Glenroy Troupe, C. B. Jerome, Edisonograph, John E. Coyle, Geo. Bastow, Capt. Woodward's Seals and Sea Lions.
Acting-Manager, Lewis Vincent.

ROYAL STANDARD MUSIC HALL
(Facing Victoria Station).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. S. DUKIE.—One House Nightly. Monday, Nov. 21, the Collinson Combination, in "Archibald Jones, the New Hamlet," John E. Coyle, Williams and Brown, Geo. Gilbey, Kittee Rayburn, Lawrence Barclay, Belle Braham, Brian and Lawrence, Alma Obrey, Sinclair and Parr, Cecilia Maude, Pat Carey, Marcelle Eirle, Edisonograph, and others. Open 7·30 (Satr., 7 0); commence 7·40 (Satr., 7·20). Rehearsal, 1·0 o'clock Monday. Tel., 503 Westminster. Assistant-Manager, Maurice Volny.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES,
HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. — Proprietors, Messrs Tom MALTBY and HENRY WICKES.—Monday, Nov. 21, Albert and Edmunds's Troupe, in "Two up a Tree;" Harrigan and Holt, Violet Mills, the Summersons, Chas. Bigneli, Mabel Vine, Oliver and Williams, Mdlle. Kloe, Chas. Cobden, Gwennie Hasto, Harrison Brothers, Sisters Calthorpe, Carrie Johnson, Cosmo and Bonso, Carlo and Male, Chas. Windermere and Company, including Miss Clara Manifield, in "The Clown;" Sisters Wingrove, Harry Maxim.

Manager, Joe Haynes.
Full Band Rehearsal every Monday, 1·0 o'clock. All must attend.
Artistes (not Agents) must send in Bill Matter direct to the Manager Two Weeks before opening as per Contract.
Telephone 298, Eastern.

BATTERSEA EMPIRE,
YORK-ROAD, BATTERSEA.—General Manager, Mr E. E. GILES; Secretary, H. G. Stower.—Monday, Nov. 21, and Twice Nightly, Johnny Alexander and Company, in sketch, "The Lodger;" Henri Cazman, Bert Brantford, Florence Yeaman, George Bastow, Peggie Lennie and Walter Hast, in "The Heirloom;" Syd May, Flo Challis, Exhibition of Photos, the D'Araignée, and Arthur Lenpard. Doors open 6·30 and 8·50. Commence 6·50 and 9·10. Telephone, 206, Battersea.

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Varieties by Vanola, ROSINA CASELLI'S WONDERFUL DOGS, URBAN Bioscope, "WHIRLING THE WORLDS," Reba Kaufman, Mdlle. Nadje, Bonnes Brothers, Master Tom Cruwys, Asra, Spring and Spring, and Scenes from ALL THE YEAR ROUND. THE MYSTIFYING ILLUSION, DIDA. Doors, 7·45.
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PALACE.—
Arthur Roberts, The Follies, The Palace Girls, Datas, Ameenabonhamed Troupe, Desroches and Bianca, Daisy Jerome, E. J. Coyle, A. Aldridge, R. H. Douglas, Bertha Palliser, and a New Series of Bioscope Pictures.

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Manager, Mr ALBERT GILMER.

By kind permission of the Directors, A GRAND MATINEE in Aid of the MUSIC HALL BENEVOLENT FUND will take place on MONDAY, Nov. 28, 1904.

For further particulars see Future Announcements.

Music Hall Benevolent Fund, 18, Adam-st., Adelphi, W.C.

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President, Henri Gros, Esq.
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ROYAL ALBERT MUSIC HALL,
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(Opposite Canning-town Railway Station).
Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr CHAS. RELF.
Monday, Nov. 21, Mr Leonard Mortimer and Company, in "Spectres;" Gilroy and Gross, Sisters Hula, Arthur Patmore, Two Gems, Dan Filmer, Hettie Gale, Little Spot, Muir and Bartlett, Condon and Preston, Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope. Acting-Manager and Chairman, Mr Walter Leaver.

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New Artistes, New Mysteries. Mr Martin Chapender, a New Prestidigitateur of Extraordinary Ability. Walter Graham's Mysterious Lilliputians, the Funniest Performance ever seen. Gems of Animated Photography, "Well, I'm——" and the Latest Egyptian Hall Mysteries. Prices, 5s., 3s., 2s., 1s. Children under Twelve Half-price.

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ALYS BATEMAN
will give a VOCAL RECITAL, Monday Evening, Nov. 21, at 8 30, assisted by JOHANNES WOLFF, EVELYN SUART.
Tickets, Sofa Stalls, 21s., 10s. 6d.; Area Stalls, 7s. 6d., 5s.; Balcony, 2s.; of all Agents and at the Hall.

THE SCENIC ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION.
President, Hawes Craven, Esq.

Register kept of Scenic Artists Disengaged and Wanted. Prospectuses of the Secretary, H. Lawrence Harris, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. Office hours, 10 0 to 4 0.

SCENIC ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION.
A GENERAL MEETING of the Members will be held at the CALEDONIAN HOTEL, ADELPHI, at 8 p.m., on MONDAY NEXT, 21st inst.
H. LAWRENCE HARRIS, Secretary.
5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. Nov. 14th, 1904.

WILLIAM B. BOSTOCK,
THE SCENIC ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION, 5, ROBERT-STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

FRANCIS H. BULL,
THE SCENIC ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION, 5, ROBERT-STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

FRANCIS H. BULL, M.S.A.A.,
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RICHARD DOUGLASS,
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THOS. F. DUNN,
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Director—Sir C. HUBERT H. PARRY, Bart., D.C.L., M.A., Mus. Doc.
Hon. Sec.—CHARLES MORLEY, Esq., M.P.
Fifteen Free Open Scholarships will be competed for in January 1905. Last day for entering, Dec. 23. Next Examination for Associateship (A.R.C.M.), April, 1905.
Syllabus and Official Entry Forms may be obtained from FRANK POWNALL, Registrar.

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Warden—EDMUND H. TURPIN, Mus. D.

Nov. 23, at 5·0 o'clock, Students' Invitation Concert.
Dec. 1, Last Day of Entry for One Scholarship and One Exhibition.
Dec. 3, Last Day of Entry for the Higher Examinations for Teachers, Diplomas of Associate and Licentiate, and for Certificates in Practical and Theoretical Musical Subjects, which take place in January next.

Prospectus, including the Regulations for Scholarships and Examination Syllabus, may be had from the undersigned.

By Order, SHELLEY FISHER, Secretary.
Trinity College, London, W.

Just Published, Price 6d., "Music in Speech; Drama in Song," being the Queen Victoria Lectures delivered at Trinity College, 1904, by Albert E. Drinkwater, M.A., Merton College, Oxford. Sold by A. Hammond and Co., 6, King-street, Regent-street, W.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.
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Hon. Treasurer, Edward Terry, Esq.
Charles J. Davies, Secretary, Savoy House, Strand.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the
ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND
will be Held at the HOTEL METROPOLE, on WEDNESDAY, Dec. 7.
Sir EDWARD CLARKE, K.C., in the Chair.
A Selection of Music under the direction of Mr J. H. Maunders. Miss Ellen Beach-Yaw, Mdlle. Giulia Ravogli, Mr Ben Davies, Mr Charles Copland, Flute, Mr Albert Fraussella, are kindly giving their services.
Donations will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Sir Edward Clarke, Thorncote, Staines; or by Mr G. I. Coltson, the Secretary of the Fund, from whom Dinner Tickets (One Guinea) may be obtained. Offices, 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION,
10, KING-ST., COVENT-GARDEN, LONDON, W.C.
Secretary, CHARLES CRUIKSHANKS.
Entrance Fee, 5s. Annual Subscription, 15s.
Notice.—Old Members may Rejoin the Association upon Payment of 7s. 6d., Reinstatement Fee (in lieu of arrears), and Subscription for the Current Year.

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NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above Fund will be held at the TROCADERO, Piccadilly, by the kind permission of Joseph Lyons, Esq., on WEDNESDAY, Nov. 23, at 3 0 o'clock, to receive the Report of the Committee and the Accounts of the Fund for the Year ending Aug. 31, 1904, and to Elect the Officers for the forthcoming Year.
By Order, HORACE MARRIOTT, Secretary.
Nov. 15, 1904.

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NOTICE is Hereby Given that the DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SICK FUND, Register No. 126, held at 9, Adam-street, Strand, W.C., in the County of London, is dissolved by Instrument, registered at this Office, the 5th day of November, 1904, unless within three months from the date of the "Gazette" in which this advertisement appears proceedings be commenced by a member or other person interested in or having any claim on the funds of the Society to set aside such dissolution, and the same is set aside accordingly.

J. D. STUART BUIR, Chief Registrar.
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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.

Published at "The Era" Offices, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual for the current year preserves all the features which have made it popular among actors and actresses in the past—short stories, some of them very good and some of them not so good, by well-known entertainers, countless photographs, and a list of plays produced during the year which should make it useful to students of stage history. It is a sign of the times that Omar Khayyam should be quoted on the first page of the almanack.—Morning Post, Jan. 23d.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, contains, as usual, many items and statistics of use and interest to all connected with the stage, and, in addition, a number of sketches and short stories by leading artistes, managers, and others. Among the contributors are J. L. Toole, Dan Leno, George R. Sims, George Robey, Huntley Wright, Harry Randall, Bransby Williams, A. W. Pinero, Louie Freear, Little Tich, George Mozart, and Douglas Crichton. The publication is cheap at a shilling.—Birmingham Daily Gazette, Jan. 16th, 1904

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the features that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again contains a list of new plays and important revivals at the London and suburban theatres, with dates of production to the end of November; new plays submitted in the provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary for the year; and other stage matters concerning which information is often desired. Each branch is excellently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sandwiched by forty short stories by popular actors and entertainers, the interest of these contributions being increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle, Jan. 16th, 1904

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1904.

GEORGE ALEXANDER'S EXPERIMENT.

We often see it stated that the actor-manager—to whose existence the alleged degraded condition of the English stage is, in certain quarters, attributed—has no ambitions outside those of making money, and appearing in parts which give him opportunities of distinction. Again and again is the calumny repeated; and again and again have the actor-managers quietly refuted it by their deeds. Who was it that produced play after play by TENNYSON? Sir HENRY IRVING. Who introduced HENLEY and STEVENSON'S *Beau Austin* to a London audience? Mr BEERBOHM TREE. Who gave Mr HENRY JAMES his theatrical chance in the shape of a one-act piece—it was an absolute failure—at the St. James's Theatre? Mr GEORGE ALEXANDER. Who have done most to increase appreciation of MAETERLINCK in London? An actress-manageress, Mrs PATRICK CAMPBELL, and an actor-manager, Mr MARTIN HARVEY. We might go on multiplying instances, including Mr TREE'S and Mr ALEXANDER'S bold experiments with Mr STEPHEN PHILLIPS'S works; but nothing will satisfy the critical malcontents but an institution where a committee of "cranks" could play ducks and drakes with the taxpayers' money and present irrational plays to half-empty benches.

Obviously, all national theatres, endowed theatres, and subsidised theatres must be impotent to inspire or create high art. For the theatre is not supported by a few rich patrons, but by the public at large. If, therefore, the art offered at the endowed theatre is more elevated than that submitted at the ordinary playhouses, the public will not support it; otherwise the ordinary managers, who are always on the alert for what is attractive, and are excellent judges of the same, would have offered it already; and if it is merely the same art, it is unnecessary to tax the ratepayers to supply wares which are already manufactured by private enterprise and which sell readily.

On the other hand, there is the plea for the representation of the playgoing minority, however small and "select" it may be. It would certainly be a defect in arrangement if, though we had a Royal Academy for the general public, we had no New Gallery and no private "shows" of the works of the originals and the eccentrics. But while the idealogues have been agitating for the establishment of an endowed theatre, practical persons with peculiar palates have been doing something for themselves. With the Mermaid Society, the Stage Society, and the experimental performances which have been recently given at several theatre, all tastes, it would seem, must be suited. A characteristic symptom is the following notice printed on the programmes of the *Othello* matinée at the Court on Wednesday. "Should this matinée prove successful financially, an endeavour will be made to form a society, the members of which will be entitled, on payment of a moderate subscription, to a certain number of seats annually, at performances that will be given of English plays, both modern and classical. It is hoped in this way to introduce many good plays that are too little known, and to afford opportunities to young artistes and authors which the present system of long runs makes it difficult for them to obtain."

There is, however, one thing left to be desired. The Philistine majority is not altogether unconvertible. There are many in it who, dimly conscious of a yearning for the fantastic, the poetical, the eccentric, and the literary in dramatic art, are practically waiting for these to be "put under their noses." The ordinary member of the public is scarcely cognisant of what goes on amidst The Mermaids and the MAETERLINCK-ians. Amongst the large "following" of each actor-manager there must be many who, once having tasted the roast pig of the rare, the odd, and the "advanced" in drama, would become enthusiastic pork-eaters. Thus reasons Mr GEORGE ALEXANDER, and he reasons soundly; and, keen and energetic as he ever is, he is about to put his ideas into practical form. They will take the shape of matinées at the St. James's Theatre of an experimental and unconventional kind. The great advantage of such entertainments will be that they will not seriously affect the prosperity of the theatre one way or the other. Mr ALEXANDER has, so to speak, the "plant" for the experiment ready to hand. There is a vast difference between taking a playhouse and offering an eccentric play to the public for a run, and merely using a house, already rented, for a series of afternoon entertainments. And then there is the advantage of the "vogue" and the position. People will not go, unless there be a very strong attraction, to unfamiliar or distant theatres. The Court Theatre certainly has the great advantage for experimental entertainments that it is in the heart of the West End; but the St. James's, with all its associations, is the very place for a "repertory" entertainment. Mr ALEXANDER will give a series of special Wednesday matinées, presenting at them a large number of pieces that for one reason or another he cannot put into his evening bill. He will stage no play that he is not convinced will appeal strongly to the playgoer's artistic sense, although the list will be as varied as he can make it. He will produce both English and foreign plays, the latter, of course, translated, and will specially select "pieces that smack of masterpiece." "Many pieces," says Mr ALEXANDER, "would interest a few thousand Londoners, but would be hopeless to put up for a West-end run. Some plays are unsuited to a London evening bill by their awkward length or their brevity that one would yet like to stage. Others are open to other technical objections. As things are one has to pass by every year quite a lot of pieces that, under my Wednesday afternoon scheme, I shall be quite willing to risk a few hundred pounds apiece upon." His first matinée will present to the London public Dr. GEORGE HENRIOT'S two-act play *L'Enquête*, with which Antoine recently startled Paris. It has been translated by Mr DU CANE, and it deals with the case of a French police official who, having unconsciously committed a crime, is entrusted with the task of investigating the case. Then there will be a revival of Mr FREDERICK FENN'S amusing little piece *Judged by Appearances*, which Mr WELCH produced some time since. The idea is quite in accordance with Mr ALEXANDER'S high reputation for enterprise and artistic ambition, and we wish him every success in carrying it out.

GRAND, WOOLWICH

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Play, in Five Acts, entitled
"THE DARLING OF THE GODS."

The Darling of the Gods has been here this week, and has proved a good attraction. This, indeed, was to be expected, for at a time when everything Japanese is receiving so much attention, this drama of elder Japan, capably interpreted as it was by the excellent company got together by Mr Tree, was bound to excite great interest. The somewhat difficult part of Yo-San was entrusted to Miss Lilian Stafford, whose fine performance fully justified her selection for this important rôle, for while following fairly closely the methods of Miss Lena Ashwell, the original exponent of the part, she was by no means content to give a slavish imitation, but allowed her own individuality and talent full play. The girlish simplicity of the opening scenes and the tenderness of the love-making were admirably contrasted with the strong scene in the fourth act, when Miss Stafford's impassioned acting fairly held her audience spellbound; indeed, she played with such force, and, withal, such charm, that she may well be said to have been the "darling" not only of the "gods" but of the whole house. Mr G. W. Anson gave a performance of Zakkuri which proved that he had made a careful and thoughtful study of the character, for his impersonation was full of subtle touches reminiscent—but by no means imitative—of Mr Tree at his best. As Kara Mr Gerald Kay Souper gave a strong and clearly defined portrayal of the last of the Samurai, being equally good as a lover and as a warrior. His finest chance came in the scene where Kara discovers that Yo-San has been deceiving him, and Mr Souper played it for all it was worth. Mr A. P. Kaye submitted a clever sketch of Saigon, Prince of Tasan; he, too, has a good chance in the third act, and his passionate command to Kara to "fight to kill" rang in one's ears for some time. The remaining characters were admirably undertaken by a cast much too lengthy for individual mention, though a word must be spared to Mr E. Stallard's earnest impersonation of the Fisher of Carp and Miss Sybil Glynne's strong rendering of the Geisha. The play was mounted and staged with an elaborateness which one would have hardly thought practicable in the case of a touring company, especially worthy of mention in this direction being the scene showing the Old Sword-room in Zakkuri's Palace.

APPROPRIATENESS of surroundings is now universally recognised as a necessary detail in the presentation of a play. Nowadays it is an unwritten law, observed by all wise managers, that the simplicity of a cottage or the elegance of a palace shall be represented with equal completeness. Sumptuous elegance is the distinguishing note of the new comedy, *The Flute of Pan*, at the Shaftesbury Theatre. Messrs Oetzmann and Co., of 62-79, Hampstead-road, have supplied a magnificent Louis XVI. suite in carved and gilt wood covered in softly rich red silk bearing the Royal crown and cypher; some elegant and console writing tables, and a lovely red silk screen of the same period; some fine high-backed carved antique chairs, and a wonderful old oak coffer with repousse panels, all marvellously picturesque and artistic.

MR AND MRS KENDAL will produce on Nov. 29, at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, for the first time on any stage, a new piece entitled *The Housekeeper*.

"FOR CHURCH OR STAGE."

A Play, in Three Acts, by the Rev. Forbes Phillips, Vicar of Gorleston,
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Mrs Randall	Miss SARA DE GROOT
Stella	Mrs BROWN-POTTER

Not much need be written concerning the Rev. Forbes Phillips's play *For Church or Stage*, which was first performed at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on April 21, and was presented at the Savoy Theatre on Saturday afternoon last, as a preliminary to *Cavalleria Rusticana*. The Rev. gentleman has chosen a theme which, in the hands of a skilful dramatist, might have developed into a strong piece. He is, however, evidently inexperienced in the art and practice of writing for the theatre; and his main plot is certainly not strong enough to atone for the ineptitude of his construction and arrangement. The story is that of the fascination of a married clergyman by a lady, who, though she isn't wedded to a certain Captain Gerald York, "ought to be." The Rev. Noel Faber falls deeply and most reprehensibly in love with one of his parishioners, the beautiful Stella, who passes as Mrs York; and she gradually comes to reciprocate his passion. The influence of the poetical priest inspires Stella with a desire for respectability; and she asks York to marry her. He refuses. She then comes to the conclusion that she loves the parson, and soon learns from his own lips, in a moment of infatuated expansion, that he adores her. Mastering his feelings by a superhuman effort, he rushes out, and she faints against a doorway moaning "Come back!" In the last act we see them sit down to a dainty little supper in Stella's rooms at the Savoy Hotel. York, who is going out to South Africa, now wants to marry Stella before he leaves the country, so as to go into action with a clear conscience. He calls on her with a proposal to that effect, which she rejects; and then the parson emerges for a place of temporary concealment, and grows jealous of the visitor. York departs, and a quarrel takes place between Faber and Stella, which ends in her breaking off the *liaison*. The parson goes back to Mrs Faber and the neglected parishioners whom he has left down in the country; and Stella, having "fallen between two stools," moralises a little in a melancholy manner before the curtain falls.

In connection with a piece of this sort it is useless to criticise seriously the efforts of the artists engaged. The most strenuous acting is thrown away when an author sends in an unconsciously funny waiter to interrupt the most pretentiously sentimental eloquence by bringing in food and drink. All that can be said is that Mrs Brown Potter played Stella in the style that has won for her so many admirers, and with all those charming idiosyncrasies that have made her so popular with the British public; and that Mr W. Lawson Butt was commendably strong and fervent as the amorous cleric. Mr Jerrold Robertshaw did what could be done with the poor part of Captain Gerald York, his dumb show before his exit in the last act being quite excellent; and Miss Granville was easily equal to the demands made upon her by the rôle of Lady Violet Chester. Mr Roger Alwyn enacted the waiter at the Savoy with praiseworthy correctness; and his acting had nothing to do with the merriment his appearances created. The audience at the Savoy on Saturday afternoon refused to take *For Church or Stage* seriously; and endeavoured in vain to get the reverend author to face the footlights.

"LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST" AT THE COURT.

The production of such a little known play as *Love's Labour's Lost* at the Court on Saturday afternoon by Mr Charles Fry and his company of players was an interesting event, not only to the many young people that might have been seen in all parts of the theatre, but even to the hardened theatre goer. The play, which, Dr. Herford tells us, was produced in 1598 was revised later by Shakespeare for performance before Queen Elizabeth as a part of the Christmas festivities at Whitehall. Soon after the accession of James the First, the play, which had pleased Elizabeth, was resorted to by Shakespeare's company to entertain the new queen. In this connection Sir Walter Cape in 1604, writing to Lord Cranborne, says:—"I have been hunting all this morning for players, jugglers, and such kind of creatures," but "they are hard to find. Burbage says there is no new plays that the queen hath not seen, but they have revived an old one called *Love's Labour Lost*, which for wit and mirth he says will please her exceedingly." Notwithstanding the favour shown to the play in Court circles it entirely disappeared from the stage. The one person introduced into the play who will in any way compare with the production of Shakespeare's after years is Biron. Coleridge saw in him the original Benedict. This part on Saturday was played by Mr Charles Fry, who cleverly assumed the lightsome disposition and the true spirit of amusing raillery that make the character such a grateful one to play. "Now step I forth to whip hypocrisy," says Biron in one of his best speeches and Mr Fry suggested with no little cleverness the mental superiority of the French courtier and soldier, and played the part with the necessary distinction. The fantastical compound of folly and wit in the character of the eccentric Armado was cleverly realised by Mr Patrick Munro, whose command of humour was well displayed. Ferdinand, King of Navarre, was particularly well played by Mr Vincent Nello, whose voice and method gave general satisfaction. Miss Frances Sykes had all the charming waywardness that one expects in the witty and affectionate Rosaline, and her speech to Biron in the second scene of the fifth act was given with eloquent fervour. Miss Olive Kennett in the same act and scene also distinguished herself as the Princess of France. Mr Henry Morrell as Dumain made excellent use of his opportunities; and there was much to commend in Mr Hughes Jones's Longaville, in Mr Ernest Beharold's Boyet, and in Mr T. M. Cottam's Mercade. Mr W. J. R. Cane as Sir Nathaniel, Mr Percy Varley as Holofernes, and Mr Vivian Davies as Dull were all blessed with a sense of the humour of those characters; and Mr C. Frances was broadly eccentric and clownish as Costard. Miss Muriel Strawbridge also treated the rôle of the country wench Jaquenetta with a humorous breadth that was all to her credit. Miss Consie Dale as Moth, the page, was quite equal to the rendering of the pretty song "It was a lover and his lass," and Miss Helen Lynden, who represented Spring, introduced "When Daisies Pied," from *As You Like It*, with Dr. Arne's original setting of the verses, first heard by the public on the revival of the comedy at Drury-lane, on Dec. 20, 1740. The delightful number was very sweetly rendered. Mr Edwin Webster, as Winter, also did justice to "When icicles hang by the wall." Miss Marian Blanche and Miss Paula Vialet were also in the cast. The incidental music by Mr H. M. Higgs and other selections were well played by members of the London Academy of Music orchestra under the direction of Mr Ernest C. Lawrance. Mr William Stewart was the assistant stage-manager.

"MRS. DERING'S DIVORCE."

Light Comedy, in Three Acts, by Percy Fendall,
Played for the First Time in London,
at the Camden Theatre, on Monday, Nov. 14.

Captain Dering	Mr PAUL ARTHUR
Jimmy Foster	Mr ERNEST STERN
Lord Grampier	Mr COURTENAY THORPE
Mr Gordon	Mr HAROLD CARFAX
Mr Clive	Mr HAROLD BROOKE
Footman	Mr NORMAN WRIGHTON
Parker	Mr IVAN BERLYN
Mrs Gordon	Miss DI FORBES
Duchess of Lawshire	Miss BESSIE HARRISON
Lady Grampier	Miss HELEN PALGRAVE
Mrs Dicky Fowler	Miss DAVIS
Mrs Haydon	Miss LEILA REPTON
Miss Verner	Miss LILIAN REVELL
Mrs Dering	Mrs LANGTRY

It is sometimes supposed, and stated, that an average English audience will not listen patiently for long to duologue, however witty, unless it be accompanied by plot and action; but the theory has met with disproof this week at the Camden Theatre, where Mr Percy Fendall's light comedy, *Mrs Dering's Divorce*, has been delighting and amusing excellent audiences. There is very little "story" in the play; indeed, at times there is an actual excess of conversation over construction; yet, as long as the "talk" is amusing, its hearers seem quite prepared to put up with this defect. Mr and Mrs Dering are a fashionable spendthrift couple, who are reduced to extremities in their pretty house in Mayfair. Mr Dering has almost worn out his wife's endurance by his many infidelities, and she has not unnaturally developed "a temper." She is, indeed, an extravagant, capricious, inconsistent, and rather foolish personage, who never knows her own mind for any great length of time. Her mother, who is rich, is willing to support her liberally if she will divorce her husband; and as the water supply and the electric light of the Mayfair abode have been cut off in defect of payments, and the rent is demanded under threat of distraint, Dering thinks it best for both parties that they should get a *decree nisi*.

This having been obtained with an ease which is more frequent on the stage than in real life, Mrs Dering begins to want her husband back again. She wears mourning for his loss, and rejects the proposal of marriage which is offered to her by a rich youth named Jimmy Foster. Dering is not so sentimental. He pays court to a wealthy heiress, Miss Verner, a tall and grim lady with advanced views, who comes to Mrs Dering to get her ex-husband's "character," just as if she (Miss Verner) were inquiring about a servant. Out of pique, Mrs Dering becomes "tentatively engaged" to Foster, who, in the last act, is persuaded by Dering to test the reality of her affection for him by announcing that his father, a banker, has failed in business, and that he, the son, will therefore be reduced to poverty. Mrs Dering does not attempt to "throw over" Jimmy when she learns of his alleged misfortune; but she does so immediately that he confesses to her his imposture. Miss Verner, who is a "sympathetic character" in the play, has released Dering from his engagement, because the heiress is convinced that his wife still loves him; and, in the end, the couple—chastened, let us hope, by their experiences—resume their original relations.

Mrs Langtry has surrounded herself with an excellent company, which does its work remarkably well. A better Captain Dering than that admirable artist Mr Paul Arthur could hardly be desired. His style and his method are equally good; and his appearance is no small factor of his success. Mr Ernest Stern is irreproachable as Jimmy Foster, and dresses and looks the part particularly well. Miss Bessie Harrison makes a fine, imposing Duchess; and a very crisp, judicious, and dainty performance is contributed by Miss Leila Repton as Mrs Haydon, Miss Lilian Revell being well cast as Miss Verner. Miss Revell, we are sorry to say, was taken seriously ill after the performance on Monday evening, and Miss Anne Mildmay undertook the rôle at short notice, and played it with success for the rest of the week. Mr Courtenay Thorpe plays Lord Granpier effectively; but, we fancy, on mistaken lines. His dress and make-up might be more that of a well-preserved old dandy, and the characteristics of age need not be so marked. Mr Thorpe is such an able artist that he can easily modify his conception; his execution is commendably fine and forcible. Mrs Langtry's acting improves steadily as time goes on, and has now even more tenderness and expression than of old. She plays Mrs Dering quite naturally, and with many touches of sweetness and humour. A tendency to exaggerate the business—notably in the "row," in the last act, over the bridge table—is probably due to a prolonged experience of provincial patrons in the rougher towns. The piece, which is quite well mounted and dressed, is preceded by Mr Henry Byatt's "curtain-raiser," *The Brothers*, in which Mr Courtenay Thorpe as the Sailor and Mr Harold Brooke as the Solicitor give good accounts of themselves, and act with force and fervour.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

A most important reappearance on Tuesday at Covent garden was that of the distinguished baritone M. Maurel, who has not been seen at the Royal Opera since 1895, when he in sang Verdi's *Falstaff* with such great success. He also appeared in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Rigoletto*, and *Faust*. Again on Tuesday M. Maurel represented the unhappy jester with splendid dramatic force and pathos. Unfortunately, Time has taken his customary liberties with the voice of the French baritone; but still M. Maurel can produce no little effect owing to his artistic gifts, and he wisely refrained from forcing his organ beyond legitimate bounds. Throughout the opera his fine acting made a remarkable impression, and at the close of the second act M. Maurel was called to the front amidst the warmest applause. Nor was this the only time when his great abilities were recognised. Miss Alice Nielsen made a charming Gilda, and sang the beautiful "Caro Nome" with the utmost grace and refinement. Her improvement since leaving comic opera is wonderful, and every time she is seen in a new part she takes a higher position as an artist, while her finished acting entitles her to cordial praise. As the artless daughter of the jester she fully realises the character, and the music was always safe in her interpretation. Signor Anselmi sings the music of the Duke with much animation and beauty of tone. Signor Arimondi and Madame Ferraris gave valuable assistance, and the band and chorus under Signor Campanini did ample justice to Verdi's delightful music. The time draws near for the departure of the San Carlo company. They have won universal approval. No autumn season of opera has reached so high a standard, and the attendance of Royal and aristocratic visitors has been most gratifying.

Faust this year has not kept its old place, and on Wednesday night, when it was given for the second time, a new vocalist, Madame Wayda, appeared as the heroine, but was scarcely able to hold her ground remembering the brilliant artists who have been seen in Gounod's popular opera. Madame Wayda succeeded best in the Church scene, and least in that of the Garden, where her vocal skill appeared but moderately effective. Signor Arimondi was somewhat out of his element as Mephistopheles. The fierce sardonic manner of the fiend, which makes so splendid a contrast to the simplicity of the other characters, was lacking. As Valentine Signor Ancona displayed his old power and volume of tone, and Signor Dani as Faust delivered the expressive music, including the "Salve dimora," with much grace and tenderness. Orchestra and chorus, under the direction of Signor Campanini, merited commendation. The week ended with *Lohengrin*, given on Friday night and at a matinée on Saturday.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

Mr H. E. Moss was able to announce the 3,000th consecutive performance at the London Hippodrome on Friday evening. No other place of entertainment in the world can boast of having opened to two houses a day for a longer period than one year. It is interesting to learn that the London Hippodrome since its inception has, from a mechanical standpoint, almost undergone a complete transformation, under the direction of Mr Frank Parker, the stage-director. Within a few days further improvements will be commenced.

We may congratulate Mr Albert Gilmer on the fact that his charming and accomplished wife, Miss Kate Tyndall, will take part in the command performance to-night at Windsor Castle of *Monsieur Beaucaire*. Miss Tyndall, it will be remembered, was the original Dick, in the Princess's production of *Two Little Vagabonds*, George R. Sims and Arthur Shirley's adaptation of *Les Deux Gosses*.

Mr James Welch is to take the place of the late Mr Dan Leno, in *The White Cat*, at Drury-lane. Besides Mr Welch, the comedy forces include Mr Harry Randall, Mr Danvers, Mr Tom Wootwell, Miss Queenie Leighton, and Miss Marie George.

Mr Arthur Collins has had hundreds of applications for Dan Leno's part. One applicant stated that he was fourteen years old, and added a postscript to his letter asking that it should not be thrown into the waste-paper basket. Mr Collins admired his enterprise, and sent for him. He was a curly headed boy in knickerbookers, and began the conversation by "hoping the job wasn't gone." "He could sing a bit" and "could dance the waltz." Mr Collins persuaded him not to begin with Dan Leno's part, and he will probably appear at Drury-lane first as a lizard.

The late Mr Dan Leno has not left a will, and his property will consequently be divided between his widow and six children. A few years ago he insured his life for £10,000, and at various periods he bought shares in the Granville Theatre of Varieties, the Camberwell Palace, and Drury-lane Theatre.

In reply to the suggestion that a home be founded in memory of Dan Leno, Mr J. Fruin, secretary of the Music Hall Home, very properly points out that such a home is, and has been for some few years past, in existence. Poor "Dan" took a very keen interest in it, and was president for a considerable time.

Though Captain Basil Hood, in *Brummagem Jem*, has written an interesting and a dainty little sketch for the Palace Theatre, it was thought that the situations and development of the story did not lend themselves to the exhibition of the more farcical side of Arthur Roberts's humour. With the object, therefore, of giving that comedian greater opportunity, the little piece has been revised, and another scene, in which Mrs Clutterbuck figures as an enraged wife, has been added. The sketch in its new form will be presented for the first time to-night at the Shaftesbury-avenue house. Miss Alice Aynsley Cooke has been specially engaged to play the part of Mrs Clutterbuck, and such an experienced and talented actress is sure to give the requisite breadth of conception to the character, and make the most of her scene with Mr Roberts, who will be himself once again, only more so.

Notwithstanding the statements in our daily and weekly contemporaries, we have the best authority for stating that up to the time of writing no actual appointment of assistant-manager has been made by the Palace Theatre directorate.

The twelfth anniversary of the Palace Theatre will be celebrated on Tuesday, Dec. 13, when Mr Alfred Butt will endeavour to present a record programme, to which the principal theatrical and variety stars will contribute.

A special committee meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel on Wednesday next, at 2·0 o'clock, to further consider the arrangements for the benefit performance at Collins's Music Hall, fixed for Friday, Dec. 9. A number of popular artistes, including Messrs Gus Elen, George Mozart, Harry Tate, Harry Ford, Dan Thomas, and Morny Cash, have already promised to appear, and the Terriers are kindly co-operating in ensuring a successful benefit.

Whimsical Walker has arrived on old England's shores per the liner Oriva from Australia. The popular clown has established a record in theatrical history—that is, he has travelled 26,000 miles to perform for ten nights only. He received an urgent cablegram at Melbourne: "Return at once."

Mr Joe Elvin will depart for a provincial tour on Monday next with *Over the Sticks*, which he will present to the gallant Welshmen at the Empire, Cardiff. The only Joe will of course return to town at Christmas, and equally of course to the Oxford, where he has been a tower of strength in many a Yuletide bill. We may look out for a new production, too, at the festive season. It will be of a farcical nature, and from the versatile pen of Mr Wal Pink, the actor-author. Mr Albert Gilmer will produce, and special scenery and effects are promised.

In the notice of the Grand, Clapham, last week, we referred to Mr Harry Bawn as acting-manager. As all the world knows, that popular gentleman, who is rapidly recovering from his accident, occupies the position of manager.

No more significant commentary on the change in the tastes of the amusement-loving public can be imagined than the adoption of a music hall programme at two such historic houses as the Surrey and Lyceum. The Blackfriars house dates back to 1782, when it was called the Royal Circus and Equestrian Philharmonic Academy. Charles Dibdin, the famous song-writer, was appointed stage-manager; Charles Hughes, equestrian director; and all the stage entertainments were performed by children. Among the sixty children engaged was Miss De Camp, afterwards Mrs Charles Kemble. On Aug. 12, 1805, the circus was burned down, and a new theatre erected on the site cost £14,500. This house was taken by Elliston, who opened it as the Surrey on Easter Monday, 1809, with a melodramatic spectacle and a pantomime. Tom Dibdin succeeded Elliston, who again became lessee in 1827. Messrs Shepherd and Creswick were lessees when the house was burnt down on Jan. 30, 1865.

At a building called the Lyceum, erected on ground formerly belonging to Exeter House, entertainments were given as far back as 1768, and in 1789 Charles Dibdin rented the place for his "Sans Souci" entertainment. Here, too, in 1803, Windsor exhibited his experiments in gas-lighting. In 1809 a Mr Samuel John Arnold obtained a licence for the theatre, and it was opened on June 26 of that year. The old theatre finally closed on Sept. 16, 1815, and the new theatre, built from the plans of Mr Samuel Beazley, was opened on June 15, 1816. At the end of 1817 the experiment was tried of dividing the performance into two distinct parts, so that there might be two audiences on the same evening. The first performance began at six o'clock and lasted till nine, the second commenced at half-past nine o'clock and ended about midnight. Thus it will be seen the two-houses-a-night plan is by no means new, and if Mr Thomas Barrasford adopts it at the latest Lyceum, history will be only repeating itself.

Once more the poor children of Blackpool will find themselves provided for this Christmastide, and again they have to thank the generous-hearted members of the theatrical profession in a large measure for the store of good things that Father Christmas, personified by the Chief Constable, will have at his disposal to distribute amongst the ill-fed and the worst-clad of Blackpool within the course of the next few weeks.

Mr G. H. Harrop, the head of the Tower Palace Combination, placed the Palace at the disposal of the Theatrical and Music Hall Sports' Committee, with Mr Harry Brooks as inspirer, Mr Harrop as the chairman, Superintendent Sharrock as the treasurer, and Mr T. Brunskill as the secretary, whilst the bulk of the organisation fell on the shoulders of Mr Fred Waller, seconded by Mr G. E. Martin. It is anticipated that between £150 and £200 will be the result of the effort.

The date of the celebration of the anniversary of the Alhambra, Brighton, has been changed from Thursday, Dec. 8, to Wednesday, Dec. 7. This alteration has been decided upon in order that the Thursday matinée at the popular house should not be interfered with.

The Southport Hippodrome, which has been closed for some time, will, after being redecorated throughout and brought thoroughly up-to-date, reopen on Dec. 12, under the direction of Murray King and Clark. These gentlemen will run it as a high-class circus and variety entertainment on the two shows a-night system.

The Bohemian Twins—the Misses Rosa and Josefa Blayek—natives of Shrejchov, will make their first appearance in public at the Hippodrome, Brighton, on Monday next, and during the week. They were residing in London, but, as they cannot stand the London fogs, Mrs Barrasford has sent her beautiful motor car up to town to bring them down to Brighton privately. On Friday there was a special reception for doctors, surgeons, medical students, nurses, and the Press.

Mr Barney Armstrong, who, after six years of management, is retiring from the Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, takes his farewell benefit at the Tivoli on Friday next, when the programme will be the biggest ever known in Glasgow. Amongst the turns will be Eugene Stratton, Geo. Lashwood, Marie Kendall, Imro Fox, W. F. Frame, Tom Leamore, and Lily Burnand. Mr Armstrong's popularity in and out of the profession will guarantee a bumping house. During his management it may truly be said that Mr Armstrong has worked in harmony with all his brother managers in the city; and Mr Frank Allen, for Moss's Empires, and Mr Barrasford have kindly given permission for any of their turns to appear. Telegrams have been sent by the Water Rats, and a great number of Mr Armstrong's friends, wishing him the success he so richly deserves.

Mr Armstrong commenced his career, it will be remembered, as one of the Brothers Armstrong, whose knockabout business was so realistic that it speedily became the talk of the town, and from the Sebright, to which hall they were brought by the enterprising Mr George Belmont, they went to the leading halls in London, including the Alhambra. The public, however, tired of comic horseplay, and Mr Barney Armstrong, turning his opportunity to gold, became a comic singer, and a very successful one, too. In time, however, the natural business enterprise of Mr Armstrong asserted itself, and he became lessee of the Tivoli, Glasgow, and then the Queen's, and now that these establishments are run by a company, he retires upon his well-earned laurels.

On Wednesday Mr Harold Penny, the popular manager of the Hastings Hippodrome, entertained a large number of the inmates of the Hastings Poor House, by consent of the guardians, to whom the invitation was addressed. The aged and the young greatly enjoyed themselves. Other friends provided cakes and delicacies.

A cablegram from Mr Harry Rickards to Mr Richard Warner, the well-known agent, contains news that Hackenschmidt is in the private hospital of Dr. M'Cormick undergoing a serious operation.

Mr Charles B. Cochran, his agent, has cabled to Hackenschmidt concerning his condition, and has received the following reply:—"Old damaged arm necessitates immediate attention. Otherwise very well. When arm attended to shall be better than any time this last two years." Shortly before the historic match at Olympia, Hackenschmidt hurt himself at the London Music Hall, and when he wrestled Madrali he was practically a cripple, being unable to lift one arm above the shoulder. He, however, continued to wrestle two or three times nightly right up to his departure to Australia. Several letters from him written *en voyage* have referred to his bad arm, but have spoken of his general health as splendid. There is, therefore, little doubt that with proper attention he will, in a few weeks, be in better trim than he has been for a long time.

Mr Hyram Travers, "the pearly king," upon his last night (Oct. 21) at the Johannesburg Empire, was presented by Mr Fred Linton on behalf of the comedian's admirers on the Rand with a solid silver cigar and cigarette case and matchbox. Hyram goes on to the Tivoli, Cape Town, and returns to the old country in time to wish his many friends the "compliments of the season."

Mr Otto C. Culling, on behalf of the Northern Theatres Company, Limited, has arranged with Mr J. H. Wood to provide and conduct a clog dancing contest at the Theatre Royal, Bury, for the Championship Belt of Lancashire.

Miss Florrie Forde is producing a new song by the same authors, entitled "Don't cry, little girl," and Mr Geo. Formby has also secured three new songs from them.

Mdlle. Anna Dancrey, the Parisian music hall artiste, who obtained great success in the halls last winter, entered into a contract with the managers of the Alcazar d'Eté and the Ambassadeurs to sing at their establishments. She had to appear in the Champs Elysées last June, her salary being fixed at £140 a month. In February, however, she informed the managers of the two places that they must not count upon her, as her state of health prevented her from singing on a stage in the open air. The directors declined to accept this statement, and informed the artist that they expected her to fulfil her engagement.

Mdlle. Dancrey still refused, and she was sued for breach of contract, the directors claiming £400 damages. The judges declared that before they could say whether or not the artiste had acted from caprice, it would be necessary to have her vocal cords examined by three medical experts. The examination duly took place, and the doctors found that it would be harmful to the health of Mdlle. Dancrey to sing in the open air. The Court therefore non-suited the directors.

Quite a gathering of professionals assembled during the week at The Highlander, Dean-street, Soho, to congratulate Prof. Monti, the well-known conjuror and entertainer (whose marvellous impersonation of Father Christmas has delighted each Yuletide the little folks of many of the stately homes of England), on his marriage with the proprietress of that artists' rendezvous. The lady was herself once in the profession, and was known as Miss Nellie Whisker.

The annual matinée in aid of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund will be held at the Oxford, by the kind permission of the directors, on Monday, the 28th inst.

The Middlesex anniversary will be celebrated on Thursday next by a brilliant star programme that will last from 6·30 until midnight. The floral festival that was initiated by Mr J. L. Graydon many years ago at these annuals will be again an agreeable feature of the carnival, which invariably attracts an immense audience, and is graced by all that is best and brightest in variety land.

In reference to his application to the Licensing Committee of the London County Council for a music and dancing licence for the Lewisham Palace of Varieties, yet to be built, Mr Walter Stephens writes:—"In writing as I did to the Young Men's Christian Association I had been greatly provoked in the matter and charged with a desire to erect a hall to 'demoralise' the youths of the borough. I also received several anonymous and abusive letters, so that I think I had some justification for writing what I did. Nearly three thousand persons signed my petition in favour of the hall, *i.e.*, residents and ratepayers, while only eight hundred and eighty-two persons signed the petition against it. It is intended to build the hall and apply for the licence at the next sessions."

Whilst "Zutka" was being driven in a box on the top of a four-wheeled cab from the Hippodrome through Fleet-street to a firm of photographers on the 11th inst., the ends of the box suddenly flew open. A pair of long, thin, yellow-covered legs shot into the air from one end, and what appeared to be the head of a pierrot fell out from the other. There was a good deal of commotion whilst "Zutka's" manager sent for a fresh box and put his charge into it. Throughout the ordeal the only sign of animation that could be detected in "Zutka" was the occasional quivering of an eye.

We would call attention to an advertisement in another column regarding the great American success, *The Babes in Toyland*. The proprietors, Messrs Hamlin and Mitchell, having learned that it was the intention of certain managers to incorporate one of the song hits of the piece in certain pantomimes, give notice that the piece has been duly copyrighted, and that in event of infringement their solicitors will take immediate action.

Medley Barrett, whose "Home-made motor-car" will be a feature of many "annuals," has just published with Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, a stirring sea song, "The Navy of the King," which Hamilton Hill will sing immediately. The same writer has also furnished Mr John E. Coyle with a comic song, named "Oh; I say."

Miss Rachel Lowe, the singer of novelty songs, finishes her short provincial tour at the Palace Blackpool to-night, and returns to town, opening at the Tivoli, Oxford, and Hammersmith prior to her engagement at the Kennington Theatre, where she plays Aladdin in the usual Christmas pantomime.

To the historic collection of Madame Tussaud's has now been added a portrait model of the late Mr Dan Leno, who we believe is the first music hall comedian to be thus honoured. The counterfeit presentment in wax of the lamented entertainer is placed between Sir Henry Irving and Ellen Terry on the one side, and Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft on the other.

Mr R. H. Douglass, the clever monologue entertainer of the halls, will lecture on Sunday to the members of the Playgoers' Club at the Hotel Cecil on "Audiences from the Artist's Point of View." Mdlle. Adeline Genée, the delightful *prima donna assoluta* from the Empire, will occupy the chair. The talent and wit of the lecturer and the winning charm of the chairwoman should draw a large audience.

Miss Daisy Jerome put a new song into her turn at the Palace Theatre this week. "The jolly little American girl" is going to play in *Mother Goose* at the Royal Theatre, Manchester, this Christmas, other important parts in the pantomime being taken by Miss Hilda Jacobson, Mr Harrison Brockbank, and Mr George Robey and his wife, Miss Ethel Haydon. Miss Jerome has met with several exciting adventures during her two engagements in English pantomimes. On one occasion she had to climb to the top of a lofty tower to witness a fight between the principal boy and the yellow dwarf. Unluckily the tower collapsed, a greater part of the scenery falling on the head of the poor little principal girl. A short time afterwards, in the same pantomime, her chiffon skirts caught on fire, and she was rescued by one of the comedians, who scaled the walls of the "magic, inaccessible tower," and promptly extinguished the flames.

The Palace Girls made their appearance in new and elaborate costumes at the Palace Theatre on Monday evening. Intended to represent the banners of France and England, the dresses are made of stiff silk—blue, rose red, and white mingled—with very full chiffon flounces edged with tiny frills of different shades of the same colours, one side of the skirts being embroidered with the Order of the Garter and the other with the word "Liberté." Big tri-coloured rosettes of narrow ribbon or chiffon are placed on the shoulders, the special points of the whole dress being punctuated with golden sequins. The head-dresses consist of gold bands with ostrich plumes, red, white, and blue, clasped with a large ornament representing the Royal arms. A Palace Girl never seems to appear without a long, early Victorian curl over the left shoulder.

Vanola, one of the best foot equilibrists on the music hall stage, reappeared at the Alhambra, after a successful provincial tour, on Monday night. He juggles a barrel and three large balls with his feet, ending his turn by balancing tricks with a big umbrella. "Dida" and her double are as great an illusion behind the scenes at the Alhambra as they are from the front. It is a mystery that really mystifies, even at close quarters. Master Tom Crowys, a boy soprano, made his first appearance at the Alhambra this week, and scored a success with his high, clear voice, and self-possessed, but unassuming manners.

Amongst other pantomimic producers who have purchased pantomime rights of Mr W. J. Churchill's successful song, "Girls wouldn't be wanted at all," written by Messrs John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn, are Mr Tom B. Davis, who has secured this tuneful and "goey" lyric for the New Theatre, Birmingham. This song is evidently in great demand this year.

Miss Lulu Carlyle, the whirlwind dancer, has quite recovered from the accident that happened to her last Monday evening at the Royal, Oldham, and will resume business again next Monday at the Grand, Hanley. She thanks numerous friends for their kind inquiries.

The gaol-breaking exploits of Houdini, the Handcuff King, have been rivalled by a real prisoner, who was locked up in a cell at Steelhouse-lane, Birmingham, on the 10th inst. All the doors and windows at the police-station are locked and barred night and day, and communication with the outside world is confined entirely to a small aperture protected by a sliding door, through which inquiries are answered. Nevertheless, the prisoner, a deserter from the South Wales Borderers, disappeared, and the only explanation, impossible as it seems, is that he escaped through the slide, though it is only a few inches wide. All trace of the man has been lost.

Mr J. W. Edgar welcomed a crowd of friends on Thursday evening at the celebration of his annual at the Metropolitan, and in his speech of thanks to the directors, artistes, band, staff, and public he expressed his regret at the absence of Mr Henry Gros, who was away in the provinces. His friends of the Beaufort Club supported him handsomely, having taken five rows of stalls and five boxes by way of compliment to their brother member. Mr Gros sent his trusted lieutenant a cheery telegram, and heaps of congratulatory speeches were showered upon him by a large contingent of managers and agents in the saloon.

The programme, a long, strong, and varied one, commenced early and finished late. Among those who entertained were Marie Lloyd, Ernest Shand, Arthur Lennard, Fred Russell, George Robey, R. H. Douglass, Bessie Featherstone, Nina Martino, Amy Clevere, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, the Bandurrias, Elsa Joel, Sisters Alndow, Dan Crawley, the Collinson Combination, Keith and Kent, Morton and Bowman, Hal Chapter, Flo Penley, Nat Travers, Esme Gordon, Fred Hallam, Kimberley Boys, Howard and St. Clair, Jack Charman, Bros. Hayes, Frank Cass, Dolly M'Calla, Kitty Rayburn, Lina Verdi, Harry Coverdale, Marco, Dorothy Clark, Bessie Featherstone, and Maud Mortimer.

Miss Lilian Doreen, whose health has been anything but good since her sad bereavement, has sailed for South Africa, departing on Saturday last by the Kildonan Castle. It is hoped that the voyage will restore her to health, and banish the nervous prostration which has prevented her filling so many of her lucrative engagements. In about four months' time she will return. In the meantime we are confident that this accomplished vocalist will win fresh artistic triumphs in our new colonies.

An extraordinary general meeting of the members of the M.H.A.R.A., for the purpose of electing a new president in the place of the of the late Mr Dan Leno, will be held on Thursday next at one o'clock at Gatti's Music Hall, Westminster-bridge-road. Mr Douglas White will preside. Members must show their green cards to obtain admission.

Mr Harry Mountford, whose ability as a chairman is generally recognised by the profession, has been on the music hall stage for upwards of twelve years, and made his first appearance in London at the Star, Bermondsey, as one of a duo, known as the Two Darrells. Later the young comedian was secured by Mr Mark Melford to play his part in *Desperation*, when that sketch went on the Moss and Thornton tour. He was connected with several more sketch combinations in one way or the other—notably with Mr Joe Elvin's, Mr J. M. East's, Mr Johnson's, and Mr J. P. Dryden's—before he became responsible for his present entertainment with Miss Walsh. He has played in eleven pantomimes, of which he produced nine.

Mr H. E. Moss, at the London Hippodrome, has discovered a machine called the Chronophone, a combination of animated photography, vocal music, and mechanical ingenuity. This will be placed in the programme on Monday next, together with some excellent circus acts, all of which are calculated to rejoice the hearts of youngsters during the coming holidays.

Mr Paul Cinquevalli, the great juggler, will return to England early next month, after a most triumphant tour of our new South African colonies. He expected to sail from Cape Town on the 16th inst. per the s.s. Norman, and is due in London on Dec. 3. After a week's holiday he will commence rehearsals for Mr Frederick Mouillot, who has secured him for pantomime for Belfast and Dublin.

Miss Nellie Wallace, during her fortnight's rest, has purchased six numbers from the pen of Harry Adams (of "On Guard" fame), set to music by Orlando Powell. Mr Adams's daughter, Miss Rosa Adams, after a short successful provincial tour, opens in London at the Middlesex and Granville on Monday. Her répertoire contains some of her father's best efforts. She has fulfilled no fewer than forty-six engagements during her first twelve months in the profession.

Judge Woodfall gave judgment in the Westminster County Court on Monday for Miss Fanny Wentworth on her claim against Mr Ben Nathan, but against her on the counterclaim. He held that each contract with the agents was made afresh for each engagement, and that the office scene, which was described by the reporters as a very stormy one, was a termination to business relations. He made no order as to costs.

Leonard Barry is returning to town after a run in the provinces with his successful song scena *The Soldier's Promenade*, which, if enthusiastic receptions may be taken as a prophecy, has every appearance of outrivalling his former success, *The Moocher's Walk*.

The Palace Theatre was able on Tuesday night to show an excellent picture of the arrival of their Majesties the King and Queen of Portugal at Portsmouth, together with views of the fleet assembled for their reception.

Mr J. Fruin, secretary of the Music Hall Home, has received from the Donald Currie Company a cheque for seven guineas for that charity, as the result of an entertainment organised by Mr Billy Hobbs on board the Kildonan Castle, en route for South Africa.

The 381st meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Charles Coborn, vice-president, presiding. Mr Joe O'Gorman was elected as chairman of the committee for the year, and Mr Charles Edgar vice-chairman. Mr Arthur Reece was elected a member of the committee. Mr George Gray's card as a member was reissued, and five members of his company were elected members. Mr Frank H. Greves, of the Waggon and Horses, Hall-street, Derby, was appointed as agent in that town. The secretary reported that twenty-five new members had joined during the past week, making a total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,731.

Members of the M.H.A.R.A. are requested to note that the time for the issuing of vouchers in the provinces is not the same in all towns, and they should ascertain from the agent when placing their names on the list the time at which they should call on Saturday.

The beautiful floral anchor sent by Mr Teddy Swanborough, of the Chelsea Palace, in memory of his dear friend, Dan Leno, was omitted from the list of the floral offerings published in our last issue. Another omission was the lovely wreath sent jointly by the staffs of the Canterbury and Paragon.

Mr Clifford King has now entered upon his new duties as general manager for Mr Walter Gibbons's enterprises, and is installed at the offices, 1, Tottenham-court-road, W.C. Mr King, it will be remembered, formerly held the position of manager of the Duchess Palace, Balham.

Mr Henry Carlton, the popular young comedian, starts a four months' provincial tour on Monday at the Palace, Bradford, returning to town in March, when he opens at three halls. Mr Carlton, with few exceptions, is booked as far ahead as December, 1906.

After a most successful stay in London of fourteen weeks, Miss Daisy James visits Chatham for the week. She will then return to tour again to the Royal Standard, Hammersmith Palace, and the Duchess Balham.

Miss Florrie Forde concludes her London engagements to-day, and opens at the Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, on Monday next, following on to Birmingham. She returns to town in time for pantomime rehearsals.

Mr John Lawson has sold the No. 2 rights of *Mr Todd of London*, and in the minor halls the sketch will be put on with the effects of the original production, only that smaller models will be used. The blue heart sensation, on which Mr Lawson sets great store, failed to show itself on Tuesday, owing to the brittle nature of the glasses, Mr Lawson himself being burnt by the electric wire he carries about with him. On Tuesday evening Mrs Lawson was an interested spectator of the performance of *Mr Todd of London* at the Canterbury.

Mr Frank Macnaghten has added yet another establishment to his well-known "circuit." This is the old Surrey Theatre, which will reopen, under the new title of the Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, at a special matinée, on Monday, Nov. 28. The transformation that has taken place within the old Surrey walls is very remarkable. The whole of the pit floor and stage has been relaid, and the whole scheme of decoration—a charming combination of cream, pink, and gold—is most artistic. The beauty of the interior is also much enhanced by a large number of prettily designed electroliers around each tier, and, in addition to a powerful sun burner, the large dome is brilliantly illuminated by eighty-seven depending electric lamps in the form of stalactites. The seating arrangements have been remodelled, so that a clear view of the stage can be obtained from any part of the house, and the prices range from twopence to a shilling. There will be two performances nightly, and a special matinée for ladies and children every Monday. The general management will be in the experienced hands of Mr Fred Baugh.

Carl Mysto, on Monday, in the presence of the Chief Constable (Mr Winterbottom) and the Mayor (Mr Butterwick), and several other gentlemen, gave a private exhibition at the Hartlepool Police-station. He was stripped perfectly nude, handcuffed with three pairs of handcuffs, locked inside one of the police cells, his clothes being locked in another. He succeeded in escaping out of the cell in which he was placed, and entered the one where his clothes were. He dressed himself, even in his overcoat and hat, unlocked all the other cell doors in the police station and the iron-barred gate in the corridor in less than three and a-half minutes.

Mr George Bastow has politely but firmly declined to sell pantomime rights of his remarkably successful dame song "My husband left me again." This number, which created a furore on production, is by those two versatile writers, C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton.

Mr C. W. Murphy and Mr Dan Lipton are more than pleased at the way their pantomime songs are being received on all sides. In addition to their first batch, which contained the now well-known "Go away Mr Crocodile" and "If I had a girl as nice as you," they have written several more special numbers, perhaps the prettiest being the charming "Run, run you little ones." This simple little song has, at the eleventh hour, jumped into immediate favour. Applications are pouring in from *Cinderella* and *Babes in the Wood* producers especially.

Post Mason, the American baritone, is this week at Shepherd's Bush Empire, where he is singing his new song scena, "Son of the Desert am I," with marked success. The song gives him an excellent chance to display his vocal ability.

Miss Alexandra Dagmar requests us to announce that she has secured the sole singing rights of the song, "The Coonville Coloured Band," from M. Witmark and Sons.

Mrs F. Leonard, of 202, Darwin-street, Birmingham, acknowledges, with gratitude, the receipt of cheque and postal order, value £2 13s., which we have forwarded to her.

Mr James Cook has painted for the Cinque Ports Assembly Rooms at Rye, Sussex, a fine drop-curtain, the subject being a view of the ancient town itself from the south. It is very effective, and has been greatly admired.

Miss Maud Esmond is to be congratulated on the success of her new song, "My Jersey Lily," which bids fair to become even more popular than any other of her previous successes. The words and music are by Messrs Alf J. Lawrance and Harry Gifford, and the song is in the press, having been secured the night after production at the Tivoli by Messrs Hopwood and Crew, Limited.

Mr and Mrs Charles Brecham are much interested in the National Lifeboat Institution, and are, therefore, rejoicing in the excellent result of a collection made on Saturday night last among the Paragon audience. Volunteers with boxes secured a sum of no less than £4 11s. from the hardy tollers of the East-end.

Members of the Council and Ladies' Committee of L'Entente Cordiale Society and their friends, to the number of more than 200, were present at the Alhambra on Tuesday night to witness the performance of the new ballet, *The Entente Cordiale*, into which was introduced an incident illustrating the signing of the Anglo-French Peace Convention.

G. W. Foster and Alf Rick, whose abilities have been recognised by some of our biggest artists, have joined forces as song-writers,—One Billy Farrell, who is doing well with some new songs at the Hippodrome, Wakefield, has written a number for his brother, Frank Cumminger, entitled "The Way to Go."

The Luken Brothers, whose sensational trapeze act is one of the latest successes at the Empire, only landed in England three days before they started their five weeks' engagement that has already been extended to ten. They are an admirably matched troupe, Mr Harry Luken and his brother Gus being of exactly the same height and almost the same weight, and their two assistants also resembling each other closely in build and weight. They are all Americans, and have worked together for the last five years. At the end of their run at the Empire they go to the Coliseum for five weeks, followed by a Continental tour.

On a trapeze 18ft. high, with a net underneath 2ft. from the stage, the Lukens go through a most startling and clever performance, having no need to add to the excitement of their turn by pretending to fall before accomplishing a trick. One of the "feather weights" of the troupe can turn three somersaults in the air before he drops into the net, and Mr Harry Luken hopes to introduce a new and difficult feat next week. Hanging head downwards from the bar, he will throw one of the boys into the air and catch him again when he has turned two somersaults. It took a year's steady practice to accomplish this neatly. One of the acrobats met with an accident when it was first attempted, broke his leg, and had to stay in hospital for six months. The Luken Brothers carry on the business of a large gymnasium in Reading, Pennsylvania. They have a firm belief in acrobatic work on the bar as the best means of physical culture, and have taught themselves all they know. Their first appearance was in a small travelling circus, with a handsome income of £3 a week, and their present salary is about the same—with £77 added.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE CANTERBURY.

A lavish hand is apparent in the entertainment which Mr G. Adney Payne provides at the Canterbury, where Mr Fred Miller, the popular manager, has ever the satisfaction of seeing the immense auditorium crammed to repletion. In the current bill at least one novelty is to be found in the "episode of fiction" called *Mr Todd, of London*, in which the weirdest traditions have been supplemented by the most gruesome horrors of the imagination. According to the sketch, Vanderdecken, the "Flying Dutchman," having uttered a blasphemous vow that he would weather Cape Horn in his ship The Star, becomes possessed by the evil spirit of Todd, and is condemned to fight the storm and tempest until the death of Todd shall release his soul. The vessel has been ten months at sea, and Esther Oakley, one of the passengers, is despairing of ever reaching London, where her sister Joanna dwells. She makes the acquaintance on board of Sailor Mark, her sister's sweetheart, to whom she entrusts a valuable pearl necklace. When the vessel at length reaches port, there comes on board Colonel Jeffreys, part owner, who has the girl murdered in her cabin, and Sailor Mark takes the place of the body and is conveyed on shore. He goes to be shaved at the shop of Todd in Fleet-street, where he meets with the traditional fate of Todd's customers, and is afterwards seen in the cellar below, where has been conveyed in a box the body of Colonel Jeffreys, who has been murdered by his wife to secure her own safety. Sailor Mark conceals himself in the box, and when Todd enters he plants his fist in his face and escapes by means of the rope by which the barber had descended. Then the ghosts of his murdered victims rise up before Todd, who nevertheless makes his way out and returns to his shop, where Joanna Oakley, seeking to save her lover, applies for a situation as a boy. Todd is about to compass her death when Sailor Mark appears, and after a terrific struggle smashes with a chair the ladder which the barber is mounting, and Todd comes tumbling down. Forthwith he is placed in the revolving chair, and speedily disappears through the floor. No other than Mr John Lawson could conceive such details as are presented in the playlet, and to no other is it given to impersonate a dual-rôle as that of Todd and Vanderdecken with such appreciation of grim realism, and in this respect Mr Lawson perfectly satisfied his admirers. Mr E. S. Vincent gave a robust and powerful impersonation of the crafty Colonel Jeffreys, and in Miss Lillian Herries the dual-part of Joanna and Esther Oakley found a sweet and refined exponent. Miss Mabel Wynne made a dashing and at times intense Lady Jeffreys, and Mr Bailey Cohen was the embodiment of boldness and chivalry as Sailor Mark. The story was illustrated by elaborate scenery, more or less assisted by the Cinématograph, and the sketch achieved a profound impression. Of the stars that shine in the other part of the programme one of the most popular is Mr Arthur Lennard, whose song of "Three make jolly fine company" falls upon ears that drink in the tuneful melody. The song is following in the wake of Mr Lennard's most marked successes, as is shown by the heartiness with which the refrain is chorused. In "That's what the organ played" opportunity is given for the exercise of low comedy talents, to which the verses lend themselves admirably, their humour always being sufficiently plain to get a roar of laughter. Mr Harry Ford also claims a monopoly of merriment in "That's enough," a phrase that fits into his droll impersonation of a policeman, while the affecting query "Wasn't that a silly thing to do?" brings mirth unceasing in its train. Princess Pauline has a well-written song describing the different ways of the "saloon" and the "four-ale" bar, in which a homely touch of pathos at the end arouses a sympathetic cheer. The bombardment of Datas is carried on with unceasing activity, the performer surrounding the answers to many questions with a wealth of interesting detail. He is equal to giving replies to queries such as the origin of billiards, the institution of the postage-stamp, and the careers of divers murderers to everyone's satisfaction. Mr Harry Lauder maintains a constant state of hilarity by his individual oddities in "Stop yer tickling, Jock," and by his artistic laziness in "Rising early in the morning;" and Mr G. H. Chirgwin again proves his ability to hold an audience entranced by the power of his humour, his clever quips, and his melodious singing of "My fiddle is my sweetheart." Madame Yvette's miniature hippodrome creates abundant interest. With a dog that turns somersaults, an equestrian canine, and a mite of a pony that is brought in in a portmanteau, the turn proves extremely attractive. The Lancashire Lads give an exhilarating selection of clog-dancing; Miss Gladys Mavius gains favour for her song and dance; the Harvey Boys submit their boxing sketch to a chorus of merriment; the latest pictures are shown by Ruffle's Bioscope; and in the programme are also Miss Millie Lindon, Mr Norman French, Miss Maude Mortimer, Mr R. H. Douglass, and Miss Amy Langtree.

THE PARAGON.

A programme that includes the "wizard of the plains" and "the prime minister of mirth" may be said to be far-reaching in its variety. The wizard in question is Ahrensmeyer, the cowboy hypnotist, who exercises his gift upon one of the weaker sex, with the result that the Paragonians have an opportunity of seeing a sleeping lady in the vestibule, free, between 12 30 and 4 0 o'clock each day. She is awakened each evening by the hypnotist on the stage. The feat, however, that excites more wonder among the spectators is when a large piece of stone, placed on a hypnotised lady, extended on two chairs, is broken by a sledge hammer. It is not for us to speculate on such peculiar exhibitions; sufficient to say that they create a feeling of astonishment among the Mile-enders, who have volunteered many opinions as to how it is done. Mr George Robey, who fills the position of the prime minister of mirth, makes his East-end admirers laugh consumedly at his amusing song, "Say no more about it," with its eloquent business, and another fun-maker whose efforts are rewarded with loud laughter is Mr Tom Foy, who represents a Yorkshire lad from Sowerby Bridge. The bucolic youth is not quite such a fool as he looks; and, to use an Americanism, he manages to get the bulge on his Londer employer in a very artful and amusing sort of way. The Harvey Boys have a boxing sketch which is largely charged with horseplay. One of the "boys" has a peculiar notion of the London masher, whose dialogue, with its tiresome repetitions, might be pruned or written up with advantage. There is plenty of hilarity, however, when the "fighting dummy" has a set-to with the representative of the "uppah suckles," and disappears at the finish through a window. The youngster of the trio, who plays a little "hooligan," is clever in his song and dance. Mr Rex Fox, the wire-walker, submits some very remarkable feats. While standing on the thin filament of steel on one foot, he manages to keep a walking-stick and then a lighted lamp balanced on the other, while playing as a mandoline solo the celebrated Intermezzo from Mascagni's *Cavalleria Rusticana*. There is plenty of appreciation for Miss Rosie Archer's series of imitations. Howe and Ardle as comedy gymnasts do not belie that description, and Miss Raffin's monkeys are intelligent creatures who do their various clever tricks with alacrity. Miss Gwennie Hasto, who also comes early in the programme, tells a pretty story in song concerning a robin and Christmas, and then breaks out into an exhibition of legmania dancing, for which she is famous. Miss Gladys Mavius, a step-dancer of remarkable agility, is loudly applauded for the rapidity and neatness of her jig; Miss Sable Fern, a very great favourite in Mile-end, has a capital chorus song in "Where is the heart that can never beat for a girl?" which rivals in popularity her celebrated number, "She is my lily of the valley." This she also sings to the loudly expressed delight of her listeners in all parts of the house. Miss Carrie Laurie's juveniles include some clever youngsters, who are heard to very great advantage in simple and effective songs; and the boy comedian gives evidences of real talent as a humourist. As a wind-up to a very lengthy programme no better choice could be made than Mr Fred Karno's company of comedians, in that mirth-provoking farce, entitled *Jail Birds*, in which break-neck comedy of a very original type runs riot. Other turns in the bill are Mr Harry Ford, the Hanlon troupe of gymnasts, and the New Macs, knockabouts. Mr Charles Beecham, the resident-manager, by his firmness and tact, makes himself very popular.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE.

One of the principal items in a well-varied bill-of-fare is the appearance of Mr Richard List and his performing bears. These intelligent animals have received a careful training, and the result is that they go through an interesting and remarkable performance. They display the docility and the ready obedience which one usually associates with the performing dog, so that the word "bearish," when applied to these well-behaved beasts, ought not to be taken in an uncomplimentary sense. The white bear is considerably larger than his companions, and he presides at a banquet which takes place, and at which the guests disdain the use of glasses and drink from the bottle. One of them refuses to leave the festive board until a second bottle has been brought him and he has imbibed its contents. Then there is the bear who rides around the enclosure in a motor car, guiding it with wonderful precision. Lastly, Mr List has a wrestling bout with the white bear, who would prove a formidable opponent were he to exert his full strength. Happily for his trainer he does not, and after the friendly contest the pair retire arm-in-arm. The lady and gentleman known as Phillips and Terry appear in a sketch called *The Revolt of Man*. This is a new version of a well-known farce in which Mr J. L. Toole took the leading part, that of a householder who undertakes the domestic work while his wife devotes herself to business affairs. In the sketch which is being played at Holloway we are supposed to have arrived at an era when man is under complete subjection to woman. While the lady in male attire marches off to the city her husband, poor Pertinax, is left at home to look after the baby, wash the clothes, and prepare the dinner. He bitterly complains that she has not kissed him for several days, and when left alone he seeks consolation by drinking gin from a bottle. But a revolution comes about—the men revolt against the tyranny of women, and Pertinax also throws off the yoke and asserts himself with the rest. The little piece is played in true comedy spirit by the lady and gentleman engaged, and the audience—particularly the ladies—laugh heartily at the spectacle of a man washing clothes and peeling potatoes. Miss Alice Maydue, Irish comedienne, appears in the character of a stage-struck servant, who represents both the hero and the heroine; and her mock heroic utterances are excellently delivered. She obtains a flattering reception. So also does Miss Nellie Coleman, whose impersonation of an Irish comedian is a very clever piece of work that meets with due appreciation. She also represents a comic singer of the ordinary type, and again secures the favourable verdict of the audience. The Lumars, consisting of two male and one female performer, appear in a novel acrobatic act, their business being very smartly worked. The two men support horizontically a bar upon which the lady, whose dress is brilliantly illuminated with electric lights, rapidly revolves. Mr Chas. Gardiner, as a garrulous old dame, sings a capital song, and is very desirous of giving the girls advice on the all-important question of marriage. The Sisters Devona are applauded for their graceful act, in the course of which they perform some skilful evolutions. Dome has won renown as a clay modeller, and his ability in this line of business is evidenced by his portraits of Mr Joseph Chamberlain, General Buller, Li Hung Chang, and other celebrities, including the notorious Bill Bailey. The Howards, a lady and gentleman, indulge in some amusing patter, and also give proof of their skill as instrumentalists. The American Bioscope shows graphic pictures by which one can obtain a very good idea of the damage done by the Russian warships in the North Sea. Mr Chas. W. Abrams continues to look after the front of the house with his usual assiduity, and Mr Thomas Gray and his orchestra ably perform their important duties.

THE MIDDLESEX.

The standard of excellence which has always characterised the entertainments at Mr J. L. Graydon's old-established and prosperous Drury-lane hall is well maintained, and business is such as would gladden the heart of any music hall manager. After the excellently rendered overture by the orchestra, under the direction of Mr William Skerry, the first item to claim the attention of the vast audience on Tuesday was that given by the Sisters Selwyn, a pair of prepossessing and smartly costumed young ladies, who sang with considerable charm that frequently-heard and pretty number "Under a Panama;" also appearing as a couple of stylish damsels who intend to set the fashion, and who compel admiration and applause by their neatly executed and exhausting dance. Jubal and Joyce, a pair of entertaining cross-talk comedians and dancers, were responsible for some hilarity; and Miss Mabel Toney, male impersonator, contributed "The Prodigal Son" and another item to the evident enjoyment of the audience. Some exceptionally expert sleight-of-hand and card-palming was done by the mysterious Cristo, who also managed to join together eight apparently solid brass rings with a dexterity which was amazing. The rings were handed to the audience to examine, but they failed to detect any means of connecting them. Cristo also executed a smart piece of conjuring when he extracted from an empty hat yards of bunting, a number of tin plates, and a lively little terrier, and his entire exhibition was much appreciated and loudly applauded. Muir and Bartlett presented an amusing and well-acted little duologue, *A Clerical Complication*, a parson and a lady sketch that is similar in idea to one that has long been popular on the halls, but which, nevertheless, proved vastly entertaining to the audience; and the Rales were accorded some of the heartiest plaudits heard during the evening for their attractive and clever dancing turn. The fine figure of Miss Daisy Morrell was seen to much advantage in a handsome principal boy's costume, and her song, "One of the King's Royal Navy," was admirably rendered and cordially received. Those amusing drolls, Walton and Lester, grotesquely made up and dressed, created abundant merriment with their duet and amusing telephone business, afterwards appearing as a Chinese conjuror and his "interrupter," and indulging in some entertaining mock magic. The "world's worst wizards" also gave their screamingly funny burlesque on the Magic Kettle act, a trifle that was well worked and productive of continuous hilarity. Miss Hettie King, a male impersonator of decided ability, first appeared in a handsome naval officer's costume to sing of the love of a Chinese maiden for a "sailor man;" her second contribution, in which she was attired in immaculate evening dress, being an entertaining and well-rendered number. Miss King makes an admirable "boy," and there is a finish and intelligence in her impersonations which are seldom encountered, and which should enable her to occupy a leading position in the business for which she is so well equipped. Evidently a favourite at the "Mo," she was loudly acclaimed at the conclusion of her turn. The clever and amusing acrobatic turn of Kelly and Gillette, "Fun on a Billiard Table," is also a prominent feature of the programme, the wonderful somersaults of the couple evoking loud expressions of admiration; and the amusing fooling of the "tramp" creating abundant hilarity. An extremely interesting exhibition is given by Grais' Baboon Prodigies, including Diavoleno, the daring and clever young baboon, who successfully cycles the loop; and other items in the entertaining programme include the Maples, exceptionally expert speciality dancers, in some original movements; Charles Sloman, comedian; Frank and Free, comedy artistes; and Frank Boyce, comedian. The sketch of the bill is the Shakespearian episode *Shylock; or, the Merchant of Venice*, to which complete justice is done by Albert Wynham and company; and some excellent and up-to-date pictures are shown by the New Bioscope. On Tuesday an "extra" was forthcoming in the shape of a farcical sketch largely concerning the telephone, a trifle which was smartly acted throughout, and proved really entertaining.

DR. BODIE'S NEW SENSATION.

On Monday, at Messrs Rich. Waldon and Thos. Barrasford's fine hall, the Palace, Glasgow, Dr. Walford Bodie gave for the first time a new hypnotic act. Before introducing Miss Marie Walford, Dr. Bodie made some interesting remarks about the wonders of mental telepathy and hynotic suggestion, as exemplified in many well authenticated cases, and as known to every member of the audience in such simple incidents as that of two friends at the same moment commencing to talk on the same subject, without any previous leading up to it, and similar everyday incidents, showing a distinct suggestion of mental sympathy and similarity of thought. The doctor then introduced Miss Walford, and with a few passes of his hand put her in a hypnotic trance, after which he blindfolded her and led her to the front of an easel on which were several large sheets of white paper. He then allowed members of the audience to select from a number of cards on which were written the names of well-known people and equally well-known musical compositions. These members then went on the stage as a committee of inspection, and one by one their various cards were shown to the audience. The first contained the name of Buller, and immediately without any apparent communication between Dr. Bodie and his "subject" the latter began to draw on the sheet of paper in front of her, in "lightning-cartoonist" style, but much more carefully, an easily recognisable portrait of that popular general. Next was shown to the audience the name of General Gordon, and his portrait was drawn in equally mysterious style. Miss Walford was then led to a piano, and one of the committee wrote on the easel the word "Florodora." Though the young lady was at the other

Photo by Laird.

MISS MARIE WALFORD.

side of the stage, with her back to the audience and blindfolded, she at once commenced a well-played selection from Leslie Stuart's favourite opera. More remarkable still, at a sign from Dr. Bodie, made by waving his hands towards her, she stopped, and after an interval recommenced at the exact place where she had left off. This was repeated numerous times, Dr. Bodie further taking signs from the audience, and transmitting it to the lady with the same effect. Another member of the committee then wrote the words, "Swanee River," and that old-time favourite air was treated in the same mysterious fashion. It was all very wonderful, and, however it may be explained, forms a puzzling performance as far as the audience is concerned, especially as there are no words spoken to give Mystic Marie any clue, as in the case of some former "thought-reading" séances. Dr. Bodie's regular performance continues to excite much heated controversy, and the cure, or at least partial cure, of a young soldier discharged from the Gordon Highlanders as unfit owing to paralysis has itself done much to enhance the reputation of this wonderful man on this, his sixteenth, visit to the City of Glasgow. A clever variety programme is also submitted, but fades into insignificance compared to the interest attaching to the Doctor's cures and his Trilby business.

CHELSEA PALACE.

The genuine attractions that are presented here week after week by Mr Henri Gros and his directorate have made the Chelsonians proud of their local palace in the King's-road, and the audiences that assemble twice nightly are among the most appreciative to be found in London. Every care is taken that the best attractions of the halls come in their turn, and refinement is the very essence of the weekly programmes, but at the same time there is no lack of fun. For instance, this week there is that wonderful hotch-potch of horse-play and frolic known as *The Bricklayers*—a pantomime in reality, and one about which the Theatrical Managers' Association need not trouble itself; for it would puzzle the whole of his Majesty's counsel to discover any semblance of plot. The British workmen in front of a very realistic-looking scaffolding give themselves up to the whim of the moment, which seems to be everything but work. The dinner hour brings in its train much practical joking, and the layers of bricks dance "on the light fantastic" to the strains of a piano-organ. There are alarums and excursions and daring feats, and much buffoonery, and the scheme of fun is ably aided by Frank, Willie, and Albert Boisset, who work loyally together and do not spare themselves. The auditorium resounds with laughter, and the hearty merriment is sufficient testimony of the success of the comic entertainment without any praise from our pen. Among the single turns is Mr Charles Coverdale, whose drollery is undoubted. He has a song with a long tale of humorous and well-written verses, containing many verbal quips. He sings it exceedingly well, and then gives some imitations of sawing wood, of the starting and progression of a train, and of the approach of a motor-car, with a break-down to finish up. But it is the patter so volubly given during these imitations that enables Mr Coverdale to score such a decided success, and he is already a great favourite at Chelsea. Miss Dolly Elsworthy is a sprightly and vivacious comedienne whose heart is evidently in her work. There is nothing very remarkable in the tune or words of her first song, "Ob, the motor car," but she has an excellent number in "Navahoe," a pretty coon lilt with an accompanying dance, in which she brings down the house. Miss Elsworthy has the makings of an excellent artiste, and should rapidly go ahead. Miss Alma Jones quite justifies her description as a charming ballad vocalist by her singing of "Idle Dreams," but she secures her greatest success in "The Lost Chord," during which the house is stilled to silence, broken at length by salvoes of applause, which make the triumph of the singer complete. Mdlle. Martha, who is termed "the greatest of all lady gymnasts," is lithe and graceful on the swinging trapeze, from which she hangs by her feet and toes. As a *tour de force* she hangs by her teeth, and spins herself round with great velocity like a teetotum, the feat evoking much cheering. As a finale to her act she does a very graceful rope descent. Mr Harry Kirk is what might be termed a facial artiste, as he distorts his features in every conceivable way. There is much cleverness, nevertheless, in his thumb-nail sketches of character, and he is a master of expression as well as a good jo leller. The Sisters Desmond present in animated fashion the aristocratic and the plebeian side of life in their impersonations of the lady motorist and her less fortunate sister. Mr W. H. Clemart introduces a most interesting ventriloquial family, which figure in novel and amusing deliberations that are exceedingly droll, and prove their author to be a clever polyphonist. Mr Marriott, "the man in red," is particularly smart in his songs "On the Sands" and "Just to satisfy her curiosity," with which he winds up the programme. Mr Teddy Swanborough, assisted by Mr Leon Zeitlin, is assiduous and courteous in front; and Mr Angelo Asher's orchestra does its work artistically under his capable direction.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

The fame of the "Demon Kettle" has bespoken large attendances all the week at the Empress, where Mr Nelson Francis is adapting himself admirably to the task of accommodating huge audiences, the attractiveness of an extraordinary programme being increased by the manifestations of the power of "liquid air." The spectators are lost in wondering admiration while the wonders of the magic fluid are being demonstrated by Dr. Irve Hayman, F.R.S., who turns grapes into bailstones, fries an egg and sausage on ice, makes ice-cream by fire in two seconds, and even turns the wondrous air to the purposes of a pipe or cigar. Professor Hayman has an excellent delivery, and besides performing the feats rapidly and without a hitch, makes the most of the humorous possibilities of the act, so that astonishment and laughter go hand-in-hand. The Eight Lancashire Lads put in a welcome appearance in the early part of the evening and give their clever clog dancing in many varieties. One boy has a strong voice, which he employs in a melodious rendering of Sullivan's "Lost Chord," the refrain being repeated by the troupe, who boast both bass and tenor among their number. A lively rag-time song and dance is also contributed, some of the boys making a quaint appearance in skirts. Mr Harry Pleon creates an impression on his entry as the oddest little policeman imaginable, his song of "Sergeant Ballantyne" and the mock melodramatic recitation which he interpolates being as funny as could be wished. In his latest piece of nonsense "How to make a book" Mr Pleon, who is assisted by Tom Kent, jun., impersonates a "mug" who parts with his money to a knowing "sport" for information on turf matters. The broadest fun possible is made out of the confusion of feminine names, and laughter becomes general until the little comedian is finally carted off the stage by a burly policeman. Miss Daisy James has in "Smart" a song which enables her to exercise her comedy powers with effect; while her newest effusion, "My fellow's a hero," allows her to give with many comic embellishments the life history of a man who precedes the steam-roller. His bravery in checking the mad career of the machine, his powers of drinking beer, and his conquests with the ladies are all dwelt upon merrily by Miss James, who becomes the object of an ovation. Some quiet sarcasm at the expense of the fair sex is indulged in by Starr and Leslie, who have numerous methods of diversion. While the lady sings a medley of tuneful songs, her male partner juggles with three Indian clubs, in which he is afterwards joined by the fair vocalist, who is equally expert. Their performance forms a pretty display which is enthusiastically appreciated. Mr George Antill, who rejoices in the appellation of "the Evening Shadow," makes much of his leanness in "I was the man they sent for," and supplements his song, "Carrying On," with some droll "patter," and a dance which is remarkable for the eccentric movements of his limbs. A cadaverous countenance and a tight-fitting suit give a sepulchral hue to the impersonations, which receive great applause. An attractive turn is supplied by the Seebolds, Swiss mountain instrumentalists, who utilise peculiar metal rods for the purposes of melody. Mr Seebold is a fine piccolo player, performing a tuneful solo on that difficult instrument, and the rendering of Souza's "Semper Fidelis" on the xylophone is also greatly enjoyed. Miss Maud Esmond in a dainty Court dress of brown velvet, appeals to popular sentiment in "Two little tell-tale eyes," and in "My Jersey Lily" she proves that the coon ballad still possesses the power to please. Barnard's Marionettes provide a varied and complete show, the figures being skilfully manipulated and voiced; Mr Mark Melford and company give the comic sketch *Black and White; or, Between Two Stools*, in which Mr Melford as the "Bounder" puts the audience into throes of mirth; and Ruffle's pictures illustrate up-to-date events, including the funeral of the late Dan Leno and the outrage on the fishing smacks by the Russian Fleet. Mr Harry Rogerson proves himself a marvel of eccentricity, and the programme is further made up of Mr Harry Cook, patterer; Miss Dot Hardy, low comedienne; and Les Sprays, Continental artistes. Mr Robert Allington, the new musical director, controls the orchestra efficiently.

ANOTHER "BOGEY MAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I notice in your issue of Nov. 5 a paragraph to the effect that Messrs Murphy and Lipton have supplied Messrs Francis and Day with a number of the bogey-man type, the "bogey" in *this* instance being the chimney-sweep. As I produced my bogey-man "sweep" song on July 20, 1896, at Collins's, Islington, and also sang it all through Miss Cissy Grahame's tour of *All Abroad*—in which I played Mr Beaver—singing it also as late as June 29, 1903, at the Tivoli, Strand, and last Easter week at the London Pavilion, I trust I shall not be accused of copying another's *original* idea when I produce my "chimney-coloured coon" song (William Hargreaves), which was suggested by my "sweep" song. Yours faithfully,

HARRY PHYDORA.

88B, Bedford-road, Clapham, S.W. Nov. 13.

MR TOM COSTELLO has given Miss Alma Obrey permission to sing his latest hit, "Farewell, my little Yo San," by Bennett, Scott, and Mills, at the Royal Standard, this week.

A WOMAN OUT OF NOTHING.

"DIDA" AT THE ALHAMBRA. A GREAT CREATION.

Some years ago the patrons of the halls were greatly mystified by an illusion known as "the disappearing lady." A girl was seen seated in a chair, a screen was then placed in front of her for a few seconds, and when it was removed she had, to the bewilderment of the audience, vanished from sight. An illusion which in its ingenious working out is the reverse of the disappearing lady trick was introduced at the Alhambra on Monday evening, under the title of "Dida," and has since been the subject of much discussion as to "how is it done." Briefly described on the programme as "the creation of a woman out of nothing," the new illusion is evidently the work of an inventive genius, and is certainly more mysterious than most stage tricks that have been presented to the public. As far as the apparatus itself is concerned the arrangements are simplicity itself. In the middle of the stage stands a glass tank between five and six feet in length supported on a wooden stand with four legs, and the gentleman who apparently works the trick gets into the tank, and also shows that the space between the legs of the stand is vacant. Then buckets are passed along by the attendants and emptied into the glass receptacle until it is nearly full, giving a depth of over two feet. The operator next places a piece of silk drapery over the glass, completely concealing it for a few moments. When the covering is withdrawn a young lady in pink fleshings is seen lying in the water, apparently asleep. The puzzle is, of course, how did she get there? When addressed the lady awakes, rises to the surface, and descends to the stage. The operator then, addressing the audience, remarked that he was afraid only those ladies and gentlemen occupying the front seats could see how the trick was done, and he desired that all should learn how it was worked. Thereupon the illusion was repeated in precisely the same manner, but when the covering was removed, another equally charming young lady was seen reposing in the water, and she also made her way to the stage and disappeared at the wings. Subsequently the two ladies reappeared and bowed their acknowledgments of the applause. Mr George Scott, the able manager of the Alhambra, may be congratulated on having secured another powerful attraction in "Dida," the latest mystery of the stage. His brother managers will thank him for introducing to the English stage a very powerful turn for their programmes.—*The Era*, Oct. 29, 1904.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—A memorial to the late Mr Herbert Campbell in the shape of a bust, either in marble or bronze, is to be obtained, and placed, if possible, in the vestibule of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, the scene of so many of his triumphs. Mr Harry Randall has kindly consented to act as president and Mr Edward Ledger, of *The Era*, as treasurer to the fund.

It is the intention of the committee to engage an artist of repute to execute this work to the memory of the above-mentioned generous and genial comedian. The committee will esteem it a great favour if his old friends and admirers will assist in making this memorial a success. All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

Yours faithfully, FRANK HEATH, (Secretary).

Committee Rooms, Hummums Hotel, Covent-garden, W.C., Nov. 2.

Sums received.

	£	s.	d.
A. Magnus	10	10	0
W. Joyner	5	5	0
Joe Elvin	3	3	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0
J. Hickory Wood	1	1	0
H. Comfort	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
Jesse Sparrow	1	1	0
Pat Doherty	1	1	0
G. A. E. Hussey	1	1	0
W. Clarkson	0	10	6
M. M. M'Neill	0	2	6
Per Harry Randall:—			
Harry Randall	5	5	0
Eugene Stratton	2	2	0
Little Tich	2	2	0
Eccentric Club	2	2	0
J. Bernard Dickson	1	1	0
Charles Hector	0	10	6

SKETCHES ON THE STAGE.

At West London Police-court, on Saturday, Mr John Charles Coe, the proprietor of the Hammersmith Palace of Varieties, appeared to answer a summons issued by the Theatre Managers' Association for keeping his music hall open on Oct. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, for the public performance of a stage play, viz., *The Fighting Parson*.

Mr A. H. Bodkin (instructed by Stanley and Co.) supported the summons, and Mr J. P. Grain and Mr W. Payne (instructed by Mr Philip Rutland, J.P.) defended.

Mr Bodkin, after giving a lengthy recapitulation of the law on the subject of stage plays, observed that the case was really a bad one, because only last March Mr Coe was fined on a precisely similar summons, and yet he continued to defy the law for his own personal profit, while as regarded the play itself, *The Fighting Parson*, this was the fourth time that it had formed the subject of prosecution. It would be a lamentable thing if a body, however wealthy, could persistently break the law without being subjected to the usual consequences.

Evidence was given by Mr Williams, clerk to Stanley and Co., solicitors for the prosecuting association.

Mr Grain urged that the proceedings were persecution rather that prosecution. The Act of Parliament under which the summons was issued was not directed to the modern state of things, as was proved by the preamble to the Act, which spoke about the "vice of idleness" then prevalent, &c.

The Magistrate—I think that those flowers of rhetoric are perennial. I am not sure that the same evils so elaborately enumerated in the preamble don't exist to-day.

Mr Grain contended that it was a point of the highest significance that the London County Council, which was the licensing authority over music halls, should have been totally uninfluenced in the granting of renewals of licences to Mr Coe and other music hall proprietors by the fact that these prosecutions had been taken.

The magistrate (Mr Rose) observed that his sole duty was to administer the law, and however beneficial this particular play might be, and he believed it was, if it was being performed under illegal circumstances the person responsible must be punished. He imposed a penalty of £7 per diem, or £42 in all.

MR JAR WOOD'S song, "Chrysanthe-mum-mum-mum," has reached six editions, and a new title-page is being printed, with a very fine picture of Miss Lily Elsie on it. Orders have been executed by Mr Wood for new songs, "The Orange and the Jam Jar," "The Phonographic Doll," and "The Smart Set Girls," all published by Messrs Price and Reynolds, 41, Berners-street, W.

THE directors of the Palace and Derby Castle Limited, Douglas, Isle of Man, attribute the lessened receipts during the past season to the reduced spending power of the visitors to the island. The total receipts were £28,649, and the gross profit £9,617. The disposable balance is £4,946, enabling them to pay a preference dividend of five per cent. and two and a-half per cent. on the ordinary shares, leaving £196 to be carried forward.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

THERE was but a poor attendance at the committee meeting of the Vandwellers' Society, held at their Salford Guild room last Sunday evening, many of the members being still engaged at the late winter fairs or on rounds too far away to attend a Manchester gathering. However, important business was discussed, and resolutions arrived at of great interest.

THE Rev. T. Horne, as one of the hon. secretaries to the Parliamentary Defence Fund, submitted the sessional report of its work. The report dealt with matters we have already touched upon in these columns. The separate costs of each petition lodged with the Private Bills Committee office at the House of Commons were laid before the committee, and a most useful and informing discussion took place. Great satisfaction was expressed at the excellent work of Messrs F. Millar, Parliamentary agent, and T. Watson Wright, Parliamentary solicitor. A generous meed of praise was accorded to the Rev. T. Horne for work done in connection with Parliamentary Bills, and also to the Hon. E. Charteris, the Parliamentary counsel.

THE ad interim financial report showed a serious deficit, of course entirely owing to the expensive work of Parliamentary defence of the showman's business. The outstanding subscriptions now in the hands of members of the committee, if paid in to the secretary at once (with subscriptions promised but not paid) would relieve to a certain extent the financial distress, over a hundred pounds being required to meet immediate liabilities. Now is the time for new subscribers to show their appreciation of the work of the Guild, a work that defends all open-air amusement caterers whether travelling or stationary.

THE committee wished the hon. chaplain Godspeed and all success on his settlement in London, and much satisfaction was felt in the coincidence Mr Horne's new parish is within easy distance of the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, the site of the World's Fair every Christmas. In replying to the many kind and appreciative remarks of his friends, the rev. gentleman said that his interest in shows and showmen grew with the passage of time—grew with his own growth. He knew that his work amongst them was valued, and that his work had been of general interest—as ministering to the need of the nation in a great department of human life. The provision of amusement and recreation for the toiling masses of the empire. The man of God ought to aim at touching the whole of human life—the common life of the people at all times—in its joys as well as its sorrows, its worktime and its playtime.

HE had striven, he ventured to say, to carry into the life and work of the Church this high ideal of service—For God and for good, in the work-a-day world, and the needful hours of rest and relaxation from brain and body toil. He testified gladly to the rapidly increasing acceptance amongst his ministerial brethren of these views, views which less than ten years ago made him a marked man, a sort of "freak in clericals." But things were moving so rapidly that bishop after bishop, as they grasped the significance and the importance of the movement in which they were so vitally interested, had written to him wishing him God-speed in his work. That work he still regarded as one of the best efforts of his life, and he was greatly comforted in the thought that his sphere of work in London would give him more time than ever to develop at all points his labour of love in the showman world.

ROTHERHAM Statutes Hirings Fair is a striking illustration of the rapidly charging order of town life. The county borough, as it is now, from being a small town (of some historic note it is true), has become the centre of the allied industries of coal, steel, and iron for South Yorkshire, and is rapidly growing in population and importance. The growth of the town necessitated the absorption of the fair ground for municipal works—gas and electricity mainly. During the past ten years, but for the enterprise of individual showmen like Messrs J. and P. Collins and Mr Tuby, of Doncaster (the local caterer), the shows would have been squeezed out for lack of room at the Statutes Fair. First the large field known as 'Aizlewood's on the Greasborough-road, and in closest proximity to the rapidly dwindling Corporation fairground. Then the best of all possible sites, the railway ground in the heart of the borough, the Station-road ground, leased by Mr John Collins. These private fair grounds provided what the Corporation neglected to provide—that is, ample room for all comers. So that, instead of going down, the fair has manifestly increased in interest and in its hold upon public favour and patronage.

A CURIOUS incident may be profitably recorded here. We refer to the desire of the Corporation to obtain control of private fair ground business within the borough—a monopoly, in fact.

FOR this purpose a clause was inserted in a Corporation Private Bill as follows:—

The Corporation may make and enforce bye-laws for prescribing places within the borough and the hours within which during any fair, or at any other time, any show, booth, caravan, circus, or exhibition may be held and kept open, and for preserving order therein; but no such bye-laws shall come into operation unless and until they shall have been confirmed by one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State."

Against this the Guild, through two of its members, petitioned—namely, Messrs F. T. Salva and George Cornwell, two well-known showmen frequenting the fair:—

Your petitioners are proprietors of travelling shows, &c., and for the purposes of their calling have resorted, and still do resort, to the Borough of Rotherham. Your petitioners, their property, rights, and interests are injuriously affected by the Bill, and they object thereto for the reasons hereinafter stated.

Your petitioners humbly submit that the power to make bye-laws prescribing the places at which any shows, &c., may be held and kept open is in excess of the powers of the general law, and a serious infringement of the rights of your petitioners, and that it is contrary to the public interests that any restriction should be placed upon the letting or hiring of land for the purposes of your petitioners' businesses, whether during fair time or otherwise.

Your petitioners further submit that the power to prescribe the hours within which shows, &c., may be kept open would enable the Corporation to seriously curtail, and possibly to destroy, the businesses of your petitioners; and the exercise of such power would at the same time constitute an infringement of the rights of persons desirous of resorting to your petitioners' shows, &c.

To the great credit of the Rotherham Corporation we chronicle the fact that when Messrs F. Millar and T. Watson Wright, acting for the petitioners, opened up negotiations for an amicable settlement, they came to the conclusion to withdraw the proposed clause entirely. This was because it was clearly brought home to them that in other cases—notably, Halifax—the same powers had been sought for, but had been refused by Parliament as being not only in excess of the general law, but also an infringement of the liberty of the subject and the rights of property.

ROTHERHAM was for several years the scene of Mr Horne's ministerial labours. Fourteen years ago, when curate of Whiston, near Rotherham, he first came forth as the showmen's friend and champion. For many years one of the best of all showmen's meetings took place in the Statutes fair. Everybody in the town knew of the Showmen's Guild and its hon. chaplain. To this good feeling of Rotherham people for shows and showmen may be largely attributed the spirit of kindly goodwill and appreciation with which the pourparlers of the negotiations were conducted, and the straightforward way in which the objectionable clause was withdrawn, a conclusion of the utmost value and satisfaction to all concerned.

AT Rotherham for the Statute week were Chipperfield's menagerie, Mrs Baker's circus, Randall Williams's Kinemato Theatre of life and picture (Monte Brothers), G. H. Kemp's Anglo-American Combine, Enoch Farran's and Holdsworth's fine art exhibitions, Dartnell's giant show, Frank Gess, with boxers and athletes; Prince Samonda, the Temple of Mystery, and Farran's laughing mirrow show; John Collins, with three machines; the gallopers, the bike motor track, and the ships in the air; P. Collins, Limited, with two machines, the gondolas and the flying ostriches; Arthur Twigdon's gondolas; Mrs Waddington's gondolas; Walter Shaw's steam swings; and J. Gavin's manual swings. The shooting concerns were by Messrs Cornwell Radcliffe, Fossett, Marsden, Lever, Hughes, Bentley, Richards, Lieske, and Tom Smith. Cokers, throwing games of all kinds, variety and pannum stalls of all sorts were supplied by Messrs Mercer, Ingham, Steward, Holdsworth, Cooper, Middlebrook, Whatmore, Lever, Sutherland, Pullen, Farrar, Fawcett, Cornwell, Smith, and Wilson.

OUR word of warning last week with reference to the threatened Wigan fair was followed by immediate action by Lancashire showmen. The matter came before the Guild committee at its last meeting, and Mr Hurst, hon. secretary, with Messrs Wm. Mitchell, John Green, R. Dixon, and the Rev. T. Horne, were appointed a sub-committee to deal with the Wigan authorities, and report back to the society. We reiterate here for the satisfaction of our showmen readers what we have briefly referred to on previous occasions, and that is that fairs cannot be abolished on the mere wish or pleasure of corporations or local governing bodies. There is Statute law for this very purpose—an Act passed in the year 1871, and called "an Act to further amend the Law relating to Fairs in England and Wales" (34 Vict., cap. 12).

THIS act may be cited as "The Fairs' Act, 1871," and is the last Statute dealing with fairs, feasts, and wakes. The procedure is as here given. Clause 3 provides that—

In case it shall appear to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, upon representation duly made to him by the magistrates of any petty sessional district within which any fair is held, or by the owner of any fair in England or Wales, that it would be for the convenience and advantage of the public that any such fair shall be abolished, it shall be lawful for the said Secretary of State for the Home Department, with the previous consent in writing of the owner for the time being of such fair or of the tolls or dues payable in respect thereof, to order that such fair be abolished accordingly: Provided always that notice of such representation, and of the time when it shall please the secretary of State for the Home Department to take the same into consideration, shall be published once in the *London Gazette*, and in three successive weeks in some one and the same newspaper published in the county, city, or borough in which such fair is held, or if there be no newspaper published therein, then in the newspaper of some county adjoining or near thereto, before such representation is so considered.

In the preamble of the Act is set the very definite reasons that must govern the operation of the law, and reads as follows:—

Whereas certain of the fairs held in England and Wales are unnecessary, are the cause of grievous immorality, and are very injurious to the inhabitants of the towns in which such fairs are held; it is therefore expedient to make provision to facilitate the abolition of such fairs.

THE conditions precedent to using the Statute are unmistakable. In the case of Poole, and again with reference to Leicester, the charges of immorality had to be withdrawn before the Home Secretary would consider the remaining reasons. There was not a tittle of evidence beyond surmise or hearsay. So the graver charges against the fairs had to be withdrawn. There is no instance on record of a fair being abolished for immorality.

OUR point is this, that in recent years—certainly since the showmen, through their trade defence organisation, have challenged the proposals to abolish them—few fairs have been abolished, and not one for the graver reasons of danger either to public morals or health. The fair may, as with Leicester, have outgrown its ancient site in the heart of the town, or it may have, by the migration of the people to other centres of work, ceased to be a necessity. There are no reasons whatever why the fair at Wigan should be interfered with. The area of market ground is ample—the interference with the ordinary market days of the slightest kind. The revenue or easement of public burden from tollage at the pleasure fairs is over £500 per annum. The people love the fair. It is a holiday time deeply rooted in the life of the town and district. To interfere with it would be an invasion of public rights of the uncalled-for character.

AMBROSE TILLER'S Theatre of Varieties finished a most successful season of three weeks at Aberfan, Merthyr Vale on Thursday, and opens in Troedyrhiw to-day. Wadbrook's living pictures were at Troedyrhiw on Monday and Tuesday. Haggar's original picture show is at Aberdare.

MESSRS BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S MENAGERIE (Business Manager, Mr Frank Bostock) opened on the Cattle Market, Norwich, on Wednesday. This is always a favourite show here, and, as usual, is well patronised.

AT the Market Yard, West Hartlepool, were Capt. Beaumont's world's fair, Kitson's cokers and gold fisheries, Smith's football hoops, Blakey's exhibition of jugglery and Bunce freak shows.

THERE is no doubt the Japanese are great show people, yet one would hardly expect to see in a place like Tokio a gigantic panorama built on the same principle and size as the one of the Siege of Paris, so long one of the attractions at the Crystal Palace; but such is the case, and it depicts the scene of the Boxer trouble, and is beautifully painted and built out, and evidently the work of an artist of great merit. Then at Asakusa one will always find "the fun of the fair" at its height, archery, fishing for gold fish—the cruellest of sport, because the hooks are continually catching in the fish, who ninety-nine times out of a hundred release themselves after being severely maltreated, and which "sport" is carried on all day. The side shows consist of balancing, cheap theatres, one very fine museum containing freaks, and also an aquarium containing fish that one has possibly never heard of in Europe. The aquarium is built after the style of a small cavern and lighted from the top by thin blue glass, and then on each tank is thrown a white light, giving the whole a most weird appearance.

OF roundabouts there is only one, and that, in all probability, a pattern taken from an English one fifty years old. There are some very fine bazaars, which by the way, are greatly the fashion all over Japan, of gigantic size. Nothing is charged for admission, but they are very tedious, owing to the continual round of passages. Should a fire occur Heaven help those inside! Outside of all these fairs there are the usual cake-sellers, beggars, and balancers all mixed up. Again at Asakusa they have a very fine Zoo, admission to which is only about two sen, the other shows being about the same. Inside the Zoo contains, besides animals, a waxwork show and a large marionette show. So the Japs are not slow at amusing themselves.

PENRITH is near enough to the Scottish Border for the showmen north of the Tweed to cross over and make the fair glad and joyous with Scotch "humour and weet." Here were the Wilmots, with gondolas "fra Glasca;" the Macintoshs with varieties and throwing games; Geo. Green, also of Glasgow fame, with his Cinématograph theatre; and Messrs Palmer, Patrickson, Hiscox, Day, Biddall, Hughes, and Broughton with steam horses, swings, tubs, cokers, and the usual addenda of a well-planned fair.

WE have news to hand of Alford Fair, which was well maintained. The roundabout concerns of Messrs Smith and Warren, and Thurston; the assault-at-arms and athletic tourney by Professor Wheatley and his school of boxers, the shooters of Messrs Western, Neal, and Boulton; Emmas, cokers, and varieties by Messrs Boulton and Warren.

MR HURST, acting for the Showmen's Guild and the British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union, has rallied the friends of the fair at Wigan. The various organisations of local tradesmen have most important interests at stake. Mr Hurst was more than gratified at his success in the preliminary interviews with the local agencies, the known friends and defenders of the fair. Up to the present time (this news is official), the Clerk has received no notice of motion from the enemies of the fair. They said that they would move, but no notice has been left at the Town Clerk office. As that is the very first in the attack, the defence is as yet a day too soon. Perhaps these valiant warriors against the people's fairs may yet think discretion the better part and not proceed to follow words with deeds.

THE holding of a wool fair at Landore at the same time as the historic fair at Llangyfelach has given rise to threats of legal proceedings. The fair at Llangyfelach has been sparsely attended, while that at Landore has reaped the advantage, and so a solicitor's letter has been served on the weavers patronising Landore threatening an injunction against the landlord and subsequent proceedings against his patrons for setting up, promoting, or establishing a fair or fairs at or near Landor, "so as to be an invasion or disturbance of the prescriptive fairs belonging to the owner and tenant of the Plough and Harrow, Llangyfelach, and their rights therein."

AT Stockton-on-Tees, on Monday night, a charity gala night was held by the showmen who attended the hirings. In the market-place were erected Mr Wm. Murphy's Golden Venice, and the result of the night's takings from this machine were £48, from Mr H. Caris's galloping horses £20, and from Mr Robinson's fairground games £15, making a total of £83. There is some collecting money to come in yet, which will help to augment the above total.

A LARGE staff of willing workers gave their services and the management was successfully carried out by Mr Sanderson, sec., Stockton and Thornaby Hospital, and Mr Geo. Campbell, agent-general for Murphy Brothers.

THE Second Hirings at Stockton-on-Tees took place on Wednesday last. William Murphy's Golden Venice was well patronished, also H. Caris's jumping generals, Ralph and Pedley's Bioscope wonders of the world, Moore's Athletes, and the fair ground concerns of Messrs Hancock, Sheeran, Crow, and A. Newsome.

THE great fair of the hirings round on the Border is Cockermouth, held this year on Nov. 14. Here were the Cinématograph exhibitions of Geo. Biddall and Mrs S. Johnson, the fine art shows of Messrs F. Walton, H. Kelly, and J. Watson; Prof. Wood's fistiana saloon, and H. Chapman's performing birds; John Caris, with switchback gondolas; Wm. Caris, with steam horses and manual swings; J. Wingate, with bike motors; C. Baker and Sons' steam yachts, and H. Newey's range of park swings; D. M'Gregor's Winchester rifle range; and Messrs Slater, Shields, and Irvenson, with cokers throwing games, and varieties.

AT Hexham Hirings on the 11th inst. we noticed Mr Walter Murphy's looping the loop gondolas, Newsome's highflier, Toogood's bazaars, Chapman's shooting range, Walker's cokernuts, the fine art exhibition of H. O'Brian, and the fancy stalls of Messrs Cottam, Nace, Bloomfield, and Goleski.

AT South Shields Fair last Wednesday W. and B. Murphy's No. 2 gondola set was to the fore, flanked by Hamilton's flying and galloping roosters, the miniature horses of Messrs Kay and Newsome, Cooper's North Country exhibition of living pictures, Durland's South African native village entertainment, Marwood's stereoscopic show, and Mons. Paul Lundi's weight lifting booth.

AT Holloway's New Empire Theatre, Astwood Bank, this week, Mr W. Redmond sings some capital songs in good style, and Mr W. Holloway does a clever spade dance. Smart bone solos are also performed by Mr W. Redmond.

AT the New Empire Theatre a benefit has been given in aid of the Astwood Bank and District Hospital Society, the sum of £10 being taken. Mr W. Holloway has also generously offered to give a performance in aid of a children's treat and entertainment at Christmas.

CARMARTHEN November Pleasure Fair was held on the Corporation fair ground on Monday. Messrs Henry Studt and Son's fine electric switchback was the chief attraction, and Messrs J. North's and Boswell's Aunt Sallies and cocoanut shies were well patronised.

AT the Aberdare Fair on the 13th inst. the shows were Wadbrook's and Hagger's Cinématographs, Sedgmoor's fine arts, freaks, &c., Collie's and Scaveat's boxing, Mr John Studt's gondolas, jumpers, and Alpine slide; Butlin's and Audley's horses, Neal's swings, Freeman's, Robert's, and Clark's Winchester ranges, Butlin's, Jones's, and Audley's Emmas, Freeman's and Jones's cokers, and E. Clark's roll-up boards.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

THE FRANK LEONARD FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you kindly make known in *The Era* this week that Mrs Frank Leonard wishes to thank the following artistes for their great kindness towards her and her little one.

Collected by Mr Frank Mozondos, at the Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

Mozondos (Frank and Lizzie)	0	10	0	Valoni	0 2 6
Ethairien Bros. ..	0	5	0	Lennie and Hast	0 2 6
Karno Trio	0	3	0	Mrs Oscroft	0 1 0
Harlem Bros.	0	2	6	George Hyam	0 1 0
				Fred Cribb	0 1 0

Thanking you for all the publicity you have given to my case, Yours faithfully,

Mrs FRANK LEONARD.

ONE of the biggest hauls of pirated music ever made took place on Wednesday last in Banner-street, St. Luke's, when the ubiquitous Mr John Abbott, the secretary of the Musical Copyright Association, with the assistance of other members of that body, captured no fewer than 168,247 copies of illicit music. Some sixty minutes elapsed before they could effect an entry into the premises, during which time the pirates themselves destroyed some 150,000 copies, a total "bag" of nearly 318,000 pieces.

MUSIC AND DANCING LICENCES.

The Theatres Committee of the London County Council met at the Newington Sessions House on the 11th inst., to hear applications for music and dancing and stage plays licences for premises south of the Thames. Mr W. B. Yates, chairman of the committee, presided, and the other members present were Sir Algernon West, Colonel Rotton, Messrs S. Waterlow, Howell Williams, Timothy Davies, B. S. Straus, Joselyn Brandon, and W. J. Greenwood.

Ninety-five of the applications were for renewals, ten for transfers, three for removal of certain existing restrictions, and eight for new licences. The total number of applications was 114, as compared with 232 north of the Thames.

CANTERBURY MUSIC HALL.

Mr George Adney Payne applied for a music and dancing licence for the Canterbury Music Hall. The committee complained of the exits from the balcony and gallery, and that nothing had been done to improve matters, though the first request was made two years ago.

Mr Payne, counsel for the applicant, stated that £4,000 had already been spent in alterations, and his client was perfectly willing to meet the wishes of the County Council.

It was arranged that the applicant's architect should meet the council's architect in conference with a view of settling the details in dispute.

Mr Payne intimated that the further requirements of the Council would involve an expenditure of £500 or £600 and mean the loss of fifty or sixty seats, which was a serious matter.

The chairman advised the applicant to come to an arrangement before the Council met to confirm the licences.

The application was provisionally granted.

BALHAM EMPIRE.

Mr Alfred William Deer asked for a music and dancing licence, and one for stage plays for the Balham Empire, 75 High-road, Balham.

The application was supported by Mr G. Elliott, and opposed on behalf of the Duchess Theatre by Mr Payne.

Mr Payne said there was no objection to the music licence, but the applicant had agreed not to carry on music hall business. If he got this licence he would have no power under the agreement to use it. It was a solemn farce to make this formal application every year.

Mr Elliott contended that the opposition was clearly and purely a personal matter and not one of public interest. It was in no sense on behalf of the neighbourhood or anybody usually heard on these occasions, but due entirely to private interests. If he had to select between the two licences he would prefer to have that for music and dancing.

In reply to Mr Waterlow,

Mr Elliott admitted that the hall had been absolutely closed for the past twelve months.

The chairman, after the committee had retired to consider the case, announced that the committee would recommend the council to grant the music and dancing licence only.

IMPERIAL HALL, DULWICH.

Mr Edward Alfred Wakefield applied for a transfer of the Imperial Hall, Dulwich, and the music and dancing licence attached, to Mr William George Newman. Mr Blaiklock, counsel, asked for the removal of restrictions which prevented occasional variety entertainments and the taking of money at the doors for dances. He had no desire to supply intoxicating liquors or to give regular music hall entertainments, but the restrictions seriously hampered the use of the hall and militated against its commercial success.

The chairman observed that no plans had been submitted for a music hall, and the place was not structurally suitable for such entertainments.

Mr Blaiklock replied that the hall was built in 1900 on the latest principles and in accordance with every requirement of the County Council at a cost of £10,000, but owing to the restrictions on the licence the place did not pay. The population of Dulwich was 97,000, and there was no hall in the district where regular music hall entertainments were given. Under these circumstances the proprietor felt that he should have the power of giving occasional variety turns and comic songs in character. This hall had been built by local men with local capital, and there were ten exits, so the safety of the public was thoroughly secured. The building was absolutely fire-proof.

The town clerk of Camberwell (Mr Tagg) opposed the application in the interests of the locality, and pointed out that it would reverse the terms upon which the licence was originally granted.

The committee intimated that they would recommend the County Council to make no alteration in the terms of the licence, which would be transferred on the same conditions.

CARLTON THEATRE, GREENWICH.

The proprietor of the Carlton Theatre, Greenwich, Mr Arthur Carlton, appealed to the committee to grant him a full licence for stage plays, including the right to supply intoxicating liquors. He explained that when he purchased the property he understood that Mr Morton had a drink licence, but did not use it because he was a teetotaller, otherwise he would not have paid the money he did for it. His house was a black sheep among London theatres, inasmuch as it was the only one where drink was not allowed to be sold. The licence would carry with it the privilege of smoking. At present his only privilege was to open the doors. There had been no complaint whatever against his house, and he asked for the privileges enjoyed by similar places of entertainment.

In reply to the chairman,

Mr Carlton said that Mr Gates was his acting-manager, and Mr Tharpe was the new lessee.

Mr Kershaw, barrister, opposed the application on behalf of the Portland Hotel, next door. He said there was nothing new since the full licence was last refused, and he hoped the committee would decline to remove the present restrictions.

Mr Blaiklock also opposed as representing a number of local gentlemen.

The chairman said the committee would recommend the Council to remove the restrictions on the licence, but Mr Carlton must be prepared for possible opposition when the licence came up for confirmation.

LEWISHAM PALACE OF VARIETIES.

Mr Walter Stephens (represented by Mr Bodkin) applied for a music and dancing licence for a new palace of varieties he proposed to erect at the junction of Limesgrove and Lewisham High-road, Lewisham. Mr Bodkin explained that the cost of the hall would be £25,000, and the performances would be of a very high-class character. The nearest house at present was at New-cross. He did not ask for a liquor licence. There would be two performances nightly, with early doors. He was opposed by Mr Bournes, the president of the Young Men's Christian Association, who held views that were happily not in accordance with the vast majority of Londoners. The application was supported by a petition signed by 3,000 persons. One of the objections raised was that the hall would be at the corner of a cul de sac, but it had been arranged to carry the road through.

Mr Elliott (counsel for objectors)—You cannot do it.

Proceeding, Mr Elliott read what he described as a disgraceful letter which the applicant had sent to Mr Bournes. It showed the temper of the man, and the tone in which he assailed opponents. The letter described the Young Men's Christian Association petition (which had been sent to him) as "a tissue of falsehoods," and as "full of malicious statements." Another of its passages was as follows:—

"I find you and your association tried to procure my site, but, failing to do so, seek now to revenge your spite and ill-feeling on me and my scheme because I have outdone you. Such are the methods clearly of a so-called Christian Association; but to me they are the methods of a Devil's Association, and I loathe and abhor nothing more than such self-constituted bodies as yours, who sit in critical and un-Christian judgment on their fellows, and who turn out prigs into the world, and also hypocrites like yourselves."

The reading of the letter caused much amusement in court. Mr Elliott having called evidence in support of the opposition,

The chairman said the committee would recommend the Council not to grant the application.

METROPOLE, DENMARK-HILL.

On behalf of Mr John De Freece, Mr G. Elliott applied for a licence for music and dancing for the new Metropole, Denmark-hill, intimating that he intended to give up the Lord Chamberlain's licence and that for selling intoxicating liquors. The hall held 2,200 persons, and during the time it had been open it had been patronised by 120,000 people.

Mr Payne, who opposed on behalf of rival houses of entertainment, said that these halls had sprung up all over London with mushroomlike rapidity, and a time for checking their further growth seemed to have arrived in order to secure that existing institutions might be carried on successfully.

The committee decided to recommend the grant of the licence, subject to the restriction that no intoxicating liquors should be sold.

SURREY EMPIRE.

This was the last application for new licences, and was for music and dancing for the Surrey Empire and Palace of Varieties in Blackfriars-road, Southwark. Mr Bodkin, who supported it, said it was exactly similar to the last case.

The chairman said the committee would recommend the granting of a licence, subject to the provision that no intoxicating liquors were sold and that the licence for stage plays should be abandoned.

Mr Bodkin informed the committee that the latter licence had only another month to run.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE.

Mr H. A. Freeman applied for the renewal of the licence of the Sadler's Wells Theatre. The application was adjourned from the Clerkenwell sitting of the committee. Mr Freeman stated that the requirements of the Council had been complied with, and the committee will recommend that the licence be renewed.

UNOPPOSED APPLICATIONS.

Among the applications for renewal which were unopposed were the Broadway Theatre, New-cross, the New-cross Empire of Varieties, Camberwell Palace of Varieties, Gatti's Palace of Varieties, Westminster-bridge-road, South London Music Hall, Grand Theatre, Woolwich, and Theatre Royal, Woolwich. The Empress Theatre of Varieties' licence was transferred from E. V. Page to N. Francis, and the Duchess Palace, Wandsworth from W. G. R. Sprague to Walter Gibbons.

CHALLENGING A HYPNOTIST.

At the Ipswich Borough Police-court on Monday, before the Mayor and other magistrates, Stanley Jeffery, commission agent, Cemetery-road, was charged with disturbing the public peace by behaving in a disorderly manner. The evidence showed that the case was the outcome of a visit to the Woodbridge-road Hippodrome on Monday night last, and the giving of a hypnotic performance by Mr Hockinge, "The Man of Mystery."

Police-constable Blomfield deposed that about 11·0 o'clock he saw a crowd outside the Hippodrome entrance. Upon going up he heard the defendant, who was in a very excited state, offering to bet £25 that Hockinge could not hypnotise him. It was a long time before he could persuade the defendant to go away. In cross-examination, witness said there was no one connected with the Hippodrome who wanted to fight with a certain gentleman who was not the defendant. Frederick Bennett and Henry Paxman, attendants at the Lyceum, saw something of the disturbance as they were going home, but the principal witness was Charles Lawrence, an attendant at the Hippodrome. He said that when defendant came out of the house he used abusive language about Mr Hockinge, the gentleman who was "supposed to be a mesmerist and hypnotist." Presently Mr Hockinge came out, and defendant told him to his face that his "mesmeric power" was all a fraud.

Defendant (cross-examining)—Did you want to fight a gentleman who was there?

Witness—I accepted a challenge from one of your friends.

Did you take off your coat?—Yes.

Who put it on for you?—I have not the faintest idea.

You haven't! Were you drunk?—No, I was not.

Did anyone put it on for you?—Yes, it was helped on.

The defendant said that he went to the Hippodrome, and this Professor Hockinge challenged anyone in the audience to come up and be hypnotised. He went up to be hypnotised, and when he got on the stage the operator said quietly to him, "Are you going to assist me?" "What do you mean?" he asked. The professor replied with another question—"Are you going to let me overcome you?" The witness said that if Hockinge could overcome him by will-power he was welcome to try. As a matter of fact, the professor could not hypnotise him. As to the row outside, it was begun by the attendant at the Hippodrome wanting to fight a friend who was with him, and taking off his coat for that purpose. Witness prevented the fight, acting as peacemaker, and helped the attendant on with his coat. Later in the week, by invitation, witness went to the Hippodrome to be hypnotised, but the professor could not do it, and they turned him out.

After a short consultation with his colleagues, the Mayor said that the Bench by a majority found defendant guilty of an act of disorderly conduct. He must be bound over in the sum of 40s. to keep the peace for six months, and pay the costs (19s.)

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

15,748. Roundabouts. Sir H. S. Maxim, Thurlow Lodge, Norwood-road, West Norwood, Surrey. Relates to roundabouts fitted with suspended passenger cars resembling flying machines, each car being fitted with a propeller, which may be driven by an electric or other motor, and with an aeroplane to cause the cars to swing outwards and upwards in addition to the centrifugal action. The structures may be used for public recreation or for experimental purposes in connection with aerial navigation. The central shaft is built up of steel tubular sections, bolted or otherwise secured together. The shaft rotates in a step bearing and in a bearing-block adjusted by screws in the supporting plate, carried by a frame consisting of upright angle irons braced by cross-bars. The cars are of a boat, bird, or fish shape, and are suspended from the arms by four rods, which form a quadrilateral figure with crossed diagonals, thereby preventing any forward or backward swinging movement. The rods connect in pairs to a bar, to which the car is connected by other rods, fitted with clamping-pieces. The suspension arms are attached to a rotary or fixed hub, and are supported by tension rods. The aeroplanes, which are of a rectangular, bird's wing, or other shape, are curved, and are attached to the bars at an inclination. The passengers enter and leave the cars by means of a raised circular platform

PARIS MUSIC HALL NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TILL quite recently lovers of "animal acts" had to go in search of them to the various fair which go on the entire year, but since Bostock's advent, with his enormously popular show, most of the variety theatres and circuses have started presenting similar turns, and now Mr Barrasford has sent us the latest novelty. "If you want to see one of the finest animal acts in the world, go to the Alhambra," Frank Bostock said to the writer the other day. This was a generous meed of praise of a rival show; but there is nothing small about Bostock, and as he had waxed so enthusiastic over Sawade, his advice was promptly followed, and we went down to Mr Thomas Barrasford's theatre.

RICHARD SAWADE gives a magnificent show. He presents six tigers, four lions, four bears, and four dogs. The animals are in excellent condition. They are some of Hagenback's best specimens, and have been admirably trained. They answer to the crack of the whip instantly. Sawade is a young German, modest and unassuming in his manner. His methods are just the opposite of Capt. Bonavita's, who is the idol of the Hippodrome patrons. The former uses the whip incessantly; Bonavita, on the contrary, has taught his twenty-seven lions to obey the simple gesture or low word of command. Though his lions seemed to feel the atmosphere of Paris, which rendered them somewhat dull and drowsy, much to his vexation, Bonavita had no cause to complain when they once more sniffed the breezes of Coney Island. They became unmanageable, and Baltimore, a huge beast, who was always savage and treacherous, nearly took Bonavita's life. He succeeded in maiming him, and the gallant, gentle trainer, after many months in hospital, is now walking about with a terribly mangled right arm, of which he impatiently awaits the cure, to permit him once more to enter the arena. Till the coming of Bonavita Jean Carrère, the Frenchman, held first place in the hearts of the Parisians.

THE French people have never before shown any interest in the training of wild animals; they cared only for the taming. The two classes of entertainment differ absolutely. They were not content to see wild animals simply go through a series of tricks or poses. They wanted to be thrilled and excited. They could not appreciate the danger, difficulty, and patience needed for the training of these savage beasts. "Travail de férocité" is what they loved and yelled for. Danger to the dompteur or tamer was what they had paid their sous to see and what they clamoured for, and this quite suited Carrère, who has no patience to train animals, but who enjoys the danger, the excitement of their performances with him in spite of the terrible risks he runs. He has a unique method. To please a Parisian audience it used to be necessary to tease and irritate the animals to a pitch of uncontrollable fury. When Carrère had lashed them up to a sufficiently high pitch of exasperation he snarled back at them, speaking curious incomprehensible words to them, then flung himself right up to their murderous jaws. He then stood looking scornfully at the raging, howling, infuriated beasts after he had teased them sufficiently, and then contemptuously turned his back on them.

THERE is an excellent programme at the Alhambra apart from this star attraction. The Magic Kettle still boils merrily on blocks of ice, and Anna Thibaud and Bergeret both contribute pleasant vocal items to the programme. Abdullah and La Superbe are hampered in their wonderful performance owing to the police restrictions regarding fire-proof material. But Parisians will shortly see their electrical show with its 2,500 lights. La Superbe dances gracefully. The Manhattan Quartet prove themselves as good comedians as they are vocalists; the Brothers Ward are entertaining, as are the Pickard Troupe in their old-fashioned pantomime knockabout act. The Olracs are very popular, and Simms and Simms, the burnt cork minstrels, discourse sweet music. Maud Caswell opens the evening's entertainment. She is a clever performer in the contortionist, eccentric style of acrobatic dancing, but the number suffers from the absence of her former partner, Arnold, the clever barrel jumper and acrobat. Pauline Zaro dances prettily, as does Alma Mary, a former première danseuse from the London Alhambra.

AT the Hippodrome Bostock has introduced several excellent variety turns, the best being the Aerial Potters, who arrived in the morning from the States and worked at night. They introduce several novelties in their work, some of the flights being extraodinarily dangerous and daring. The Stein-Eretto Family are capital performers, leaping obstacles and mounting and descending heights on their hands. It is unique and clever work, and is rapturously applauded. The Three Rickards are too well known and have been too often favourably criticised to necessitate us saying more than that they are as good as ever in their acrobatic number. Macpherson gives an excellent act with some African lionesses and a lion. They pose very cleverly, and are well under control. Grace Selica's number, with her lionesses, to whom she dances so gracefully, is a most attractive feature of the entertainment. Madame Morelli is enthusiastically welcomed on her rentrée from her visit to America. Francisco Ursus wrestles with a fine bull, and finally overthrows it, and the Cablacs, Mason and Forbes, and the Bros. O'Brien all help to make up a very agreeprogramme.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS V. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Nov. 12. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding, goal; J. Lewis and A. Hamlin (captain), backs; W. Miller, S. Carter, and A. E. Bailey, half-backs; E. Belding, T. Palmer, J. Aubrey, E. Bowman, and H. Edwards, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; J. Tyley and F. Arni backs; J. Lacey, T. Neagle (captain), and W. Hinder, half-backs; B. Cullen, P. Reardon, H. C. Douglas, W. Meadows, and F. Hansford, forwards.

Referee, H. Clements (Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.). Linesmen, D. O'Connor and H. Hare. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, one goal; Music Halls A.F.C., one goal. S. Carter and J. Lacy scored for their respective sides.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. SECOND AND THEATRICALS V. ST. MICHAEL'S RESERVES A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, in summer weather, on Nov. 12. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. Second and Theatricals.—W. J. Horton, goal; F. Thorne (captain) and E. Harwood, backs; B. Austin, W. Lloyd, and A. Roland, half backs; A. English, A. Norman, F. Morgan, H. Taylor, and L. Clayton (of Bristol X.L.C.R. first XI.), forwards.

St. Michael's Reserves A.F.C.—H. Clarke, goal; G. Osborne and A. Mattock, backs; T. Escott (captain), T. Moore, and B. Humphries, half-backs; G. Foster, F. Griffen, G. Warren, J. Edmunds, and T. Brookes, forwards.

Referee, W. Ford (of Eastville Athletic Reserves). Linesmen, T. Poole and F. White. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. Second and Theatricals, nil; St. Michael's Reserves A.F.C. one goal. J. Edmunds scored for St. Michael's Reserves, H. Clarke playing splendidly in goal.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

We beg to thank Managers and the Profession generally for the many flattering expressions of opinion on our present list of Pantomime Songs. The unanimous verdict is that we have broken all our previous records. Taking into account the Firm's past achievements this is praise indeed.

Songs for Principal Girl and Boy.

Farewell my little Yo San
By MILLS and SCOTT.
Tom Costello's greatest success.

Go away Mister Crocodile
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
Will be even more popular than "Little Yellow Bird."

You are a white little girl
By SWAFFER and DAREWSKI JUNR.
Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.

The Peacock and the Dove
By WILLIAM HARGREAVES.
A very catchy chorus song.

The Carnival of Toys
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A pretty song for the children. The undoubted successor to "The Tin Gee Gee."

The Sunshine of Love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A delightful ballad with harmonised chorus.

The Statue in Trafalgar Square
By ARTHURS and LYLE.
Sung by George Lashwood.

Do you know Suzannah Simpson?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
If not, ask the author and composer about her.

Honey boy
By KENNEDY and PENN.
The composer of "Honeysuckle and the Bee," "Pancy Faces," etc., has excelled himself in this dainty number.

It's not the turkey on the table
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A song of sentiment for Christmas.

Blue Bell
By MADDEN and MORSE.
The accepted success of the year.

Girls wouldn't be wanted at all
By HARRINGTON and LE BRUNN.
Sung by W. J. Churchill.

Have you seen my girl?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
This is confidently expected to rival "There's a girl wanted there."

What a pity there are not more girls like you
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall. As pretty as the same composer's "Just like the Ivy."

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.
A most effective love ballad

There goes my soldier boy
By LEIGH and SAVAGE.
The greatest march song since the "Soldiers of the Queen."

The Home-made motor car
By MEDLEY BARRETT.
A most effective number for two or more performers, with improvised motor car.

The Angel of my dreams
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Miss Millie Lindon. The best of the many productions of these clever writers.

The snow-man and the sunbeam
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A pretty song with a moral.

She said Baa! baa! baa!
By HARRINGTON and ALLEN.
Sung by Miss Florrie Ford.

Navaho
By WILLIAMS and VAN ALYSTYNE.
Charming American-Indian Romance.

Three's jolly fine company
By COLLINS and ROGERS.
Arthur Lennard's enormous success.

If I had a girl as nice as you
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A delightful chorus song in great demand.

Dolly's a first-class girl
By LEIGH and PETHER.
A cleverly concocted song with an irresistible refrain.

So did Eve
By HARRIS and TATE.
Sung by Miss Millie Lindon.

You can't stop the sun from shining
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

Why shouldn't we fight for our own?
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Miss Katie Lawrence. A patriotic song of the "We don't want to fight" order.

Jack in the box
By MISS TRIXIE TOOLE.
This is a big speciality song. Write for particulars of idea for working.

Come and be a soldier
By STILES and NAIRN.
A grand song full of go.

Good night little girl
By ARTHURS and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Florrie Ford.

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Short Stories
By W. DAVID and MAURICE SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand, also by Fred Clements.

There's another one out of work
By T. W. CONNOR.
Sung by George Brooks.

A.B.C.D.
(The Singing Master).
By JAMES HARGREAVES.
Sung by Wilkie Bard.

It's all right in the summer time
By MURRAY and EVERARD.
Sung by Miss Vesta Victoria.

My father's jokes
By COLLINS and CASTLING.
Sung by George Brooks.

Wouldn't you be better in a home?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

My Japanesy girl
By DELMAR and PARRY.
Sung by Hal Ford.

She cost me seven-and-sixpence
By JAMES HARGREAVES and SAM MAYO.
Sung by Sam Mayo and Wilkie Bard.

Who killed Bill Bailey?
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Sandford and Lyons.

All the girls are lov-er-ly-ov-er-ly
By HARRINGTON and THURBAN.
Sung by R. G. Knowles.

He was a Sailor
By JEROME and SCHWARTZ.
From "The Earl and the Girl."

Toasts
By ERNEST SEARSON.
Sung by Ambrose Thorne.

You can't beat the old time girls?
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Sung by George Brooks.

Up in Scotland
By ARTHURS and SCOTT.
Sung by Whit Cunliff

What's the good of a £10 note?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
Sung by Tom Costello.

The new Insurance
By GEORGE ARTHURS & KENNETH LYLE.
Sung by Ernest Shand.

By kind permission of the "Daily Mail"
By BATEMAN and SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand. A clever idea for the introduction of topics.

My inquisitive kiddie
By ELLERTON and LYNNE.
Sung by Frank Lynne.

What d'yer want to talk about it for?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

All the little Japansy faces
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Mark Sheridan.

We all walked into the shop
By MILLS and CASTLING.
Sung by Dave O'Toole.

Songs for Fairy Queen and Special Singing Parts.

The Garden filled with gold
By BATEMAN and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall.

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.

Peeping Eyes
By KENNEDY RUSSELL.

The Playground in the sky
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Milner Verren.

You be daddy and I'll be you
By JOSEPH TABRAR.

The Gondolier
By WILLIAMS and POWELL.
A Venetian Romance.

If all the world said No
By HARRINGTON and PETHER.
Sung by Miss Gladys Mavius.

The sunshine of love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
With harmonised chorus.

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142, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON.

"THE PRODIGAL SON."

By HALL CAINE. London: William Heinemann.

"The Prodigal Son" is the ninth novel written by Mr Hall Caine, but we believe it is correct to assert that no previous work of his has been received with such a general chorus of praise, and there can be no doubt that it has already become one of the most widely read stories of the day. And the reasons for Mr Caine's success are not far to seek. The construction shows the hand of the skilled and experienced craftsman, and there is no pause in the telling of an intensely dramatic story from the first page to the last. The author has already turned his latest novel into a play, and unquestionably there is abundance of rich material for a powerful drama, full of thrilling incidents, brought about quite naturally by the play of human passions and the weakness of human nature. One may reasonably assume that Mr Caine had the theatre in view when he constructed this simple yet clever and impressive tale of two brothers and the woman whose fate for weal or woe is closely bound up with their own. The story opens in Iceland. Stephen Magnusson, the Governor General, has two sons, Magnus and Oscar, whilst his friend, Oscar Neilson, commonly called Factor Neilsen, is blessed with a couple of daughters, Thora and Helga. The younger, "Helga, was at all points the opposite of her sister. She had black hair, a broad brow, large hazel eyes that were often half closed, a nose that was very slightly turned up at the tip, and a large mouth with thin red lips which were generally a little awry. A witch may be found under a fair complexion, and an angel under a dark skin, but Helga did not belie her looks. She was as bright as a pebble of the brook, and just as hard and self-centred.

"The sons of the Governor were not less unlike each other. Magnus was a big, heavy, black-haired boy, silent and slow, and thought to be rather stupid. He found it hard to learn, and his face had often a puzzled expression, sometimes a gloomy and morose one. On the other hand, his moral character was as sensitive as his intellect was sluggish.

"Oscar was so totally unlike Magnus in every quality of mind and heart that it was difficult to believe they could be brothers. He could learn anything without an effort, and he had an extraordinary ear for music. Before he could speak properly he imitated the notes of any instrument from the organ to the guitar, and before he knew his alphabet he wrote mysterious musical hieroglyphics on scraps of paper, which the Governor carried off to his bureau and hoarded up like treasures more precious than gold. But in giving him something like genius Nature had taken away character—without which genius is a curse. The merry little soul did not seem to know right from wrong, or truth from a lie.'

As the children grow up Oscar is sent to Oxford, and his elder brother is taken by the Factor as an apprentice. Magnus falls in love with Thora, and their marriage, with the ready consent of the parents, is arranged, when Oscar returns from England, having failed to take a degree at Oxford. But he is more successful with the fair sex, and he, in his gay, thoughtless way captures the heart of little Thora, who finds that she has only loved Magnus as a brother. When Magnus makes this discovery he sacrifices his own feelings for the sake of Thora, and by his refusal to agree to the marriage contract causes the match to be broken off. This leaves the way open for Oscar to take his place as the affianced husband of Thora. Helga, who had been away for some years, returns to Iceland, and the volatile Oscar quickly succumbs to her charms; but, nevertheless, he conceals from Thora the fact that his feelings have changed, and in due course they are married. The foolishly innocent young wife insists that her sister shall accompany them on their honeymoon, and this leads to dire disaster. Helga increases her influence over Oscar, and when she loses money at the gaming tables at Monte Carlo he is induced to forge his father's and his father-in-law's names to a bill to pay her gambling debts. The story of the death of poor little Thora and what leads up to it is pathetic in the extreme. She dies, leaving a baby girl, and the remorse of her husband, whose conduct has indirectly been the cause of her early death, is very keen. When the Governor discovers that Oscar has forged his name he meets the claim, but turns his guilty son out of the house. Oscar goes to London, and Helga follows him after a few months, and finds him on the verge of starvation. However, through the influence of an old friend and fellow countryman, he obtains a position as conductor of an orchestra at Covent-garden. Once again the scene changes to Monte Carlo, with Oscar gambling heavily, and the sinister influence of Helga once more paramount. Oscar is rightly accused of cheating at the tables, and in the tumult which ensues he is hustled into the "manager's" private room. The report of a pistol shot quells the infuriated crowd. The "manager" then bundles Oscar off the premises. "I have told them you have shot yourself," he says, "you must get away at once. From this time Oscar is known as Christian Christiansson, and as the years roll on he becomes famous all over Europe as a musical composer. Comparatively rich, he returns to his native land to see his child Elin, now a girl of sixteen, and to make some amends for the past. The farm where his mother and brother live (his father has been dead some years) is to be sold by the sheriff, and he arrives only just in time. He is so greatly changed in appearance that even his own mother fails to recognise him. There is a touching scene between father and daughter, who has been taken charge of by her grandmother and Uncle Magnus. Oscar offers to pay all his brothers's debts on condition that he is allowed to adopt Elin and take her away with him, but the girl refuses. Then Oscar sees her alone.

"His voice faltered when he came to what he had to say next, but he rallied and went on—

"'It was very sweet of you, too, to remain with your uncle and your grandmother, instead of coming to a stranger, for being of your own flesh and blood they have naturally the first claim upon you. But if—if, instead of Christian Christiansson, I had been your own father, would you—would you have come to me then?'

"Elin did not answer him immediately, and he looked steadfastly into her face, feeling that all hope of happiness for the remainder of his life hung on her reply.

"'Would you?'

"The sweet young face looked troubled for a moment, and then slowly—very slowly and sadly—Elin shook her head.

"He felt like a man who had been sentenced to death, but while his face clouded and fell, the girl's rose and became beautifully calm.

"'But if I were to say to you, "My child, my dear, dear child, I may have done nothing for you, but still I am your father, and you are the only one who is left to me now, and I want you to come to me and be my daughter, and we shall never be parted again"—if I were to say that to you, would you still hold to your uncle?'

"The tremulous fervour with which he spoke these imploring words brought tears to the girl's eyes, but her heart stood firm and strong.

"'Yes,' she said, 'I couldn't help it, because Uncle Magnus has been my real father after all.'

"It was all over. His last hold of the girl was lost. Again he felt as if the world had gone away from him, as if the dark column of hope which had shown its bright face for a moment had turned again, and now all was hopeless darkness."

For the finish of the story we must refer our readers to the book itself, in which all those qualities which have made the author one of the most popular novelists of the day are, perhaps, more conspicuous than in any previous work from the same clever pen.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"NAPOLEON,"
National Epopée, in Three Parts, Six Acts, and Forty Tableaux, by M. Leopold Martin-Laya, Produced at the Porte-St.-Martin, Nov. 10.

Napoleon	M. DUQUESNE
Fouché, Bertrand	M. MAXENCE
Lucien Bonaparte, Las Cases, Gourgaud	M. LIABEL
Duroc, Cambronne	M. VOLNEY-CHARLET
Hudson Low	M. LE BRUN
Josephine	M. BARBIER
Laetitia	Mdlle MALVAN
Marie-Louise	Mdlle. FLORA MIGNOT
Caroline	Mdlle. DEPENTIER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, NOV. 17. — Two premières and one revival in one evening are a large order; but the ways of our Paris theatrical managers are always dark and mysterious. What induced the Porte-St.-Martin management to exhume Napoleon and trot him out in a piece of forty tableaux? It was whispered that this performance was a "political move" in view of a Bonapartist propoganda. If so it was but a poor excuse. The present generation is not more interested in the late Emperor than in any other historical figure, and the forty tableaux—each of which lasts but about four minutes—failed to rouse the enthusiasm of the house. Curiously enough the battle scenes—like the Beresina with the soldiers dying in the snow—fell rather flat, whilst the Emperor's "home life" appeared to interest the spectators. Napoleon's divorce, his conversations with his wife, and, above all, his hysterical dispute with Queen Caroline, found much favour. The work appeared like an old picture-book. M. Duquesne, of course, was excellent as Napoleon. I say "of course" because he created that rôle in *Madame Sans-Gêne*, and has made a speciality of impersonating the "Corsican Ogre." MM. Maxence, Liabel, and Volney worked with a will; Mdlle. Barbier was very touching as the luckless Josephine; Mdlle. Malvan gave us a delightful Laetitia; and Mdlle. Depentier's outbursts of temper when she upbraids her Imperial brother imparted a little life to a rather tame performance.

"TIRE AU FLANC,"
Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by MM. A. Sylvane and Mouëzy-Eon, Produced at the Theatre Déjazet, Nov. 10.

Colonel Brochard	M. CHARLIER
Dubois d'Ombelles	M. PHILIPPON
Turlot	M. MORINS
Bourrache	M. HASTI
Daumel	M. MAX ANDRE
Mufflot	M. BENEDICT
Mouillard	M. VILDOR
Georgette	Mdlle. LUCE COLAS
Solange	Mdlle. SORIS
Madame d'Ombelles	Mdlle. BERTY
Madame Fléchois	Madame HOREL

No plot whatsoever, but a long chain of more or less funny incidents. The comic element in the piece is supplied by two recruits, one a "society poet" and the other a valet. The latter's sweetheart, a cook, Mdlle. Georgette, is so upset at the idea of seeing her "bon ami" leave for the regiment that she follows him and gets engaged at the regimental canteen. The valet becomes in time a good soldier, whilst the poet abhors barrack life and uses every possible trick to be exempted from drill and other duties. Of course, he gets into constant trouble, and so does his brother-in-arms, which does not prevent one from marrying his rich cousin and the other from becoming the husband of his beloved cook, Georgette. A good all-round company did full justice to this unpretentious trifle.

"LA CIGALE ET LA FOURMI,"
Operette, in Three Acts and Ten Tableaux, by M.M. Duru and Chivot; Music by E. Audran; Revived at the Gaité, Nov. 10.

Guillaume	M. LARBAUDIER
Frantz	M. DALCOURT
Mathias	M. REYNARD
Le Duc	M. MUFFAT
Thérèse	Madame SIMON GIRARD
Charlotte	Mdlle. JEANNE LECLERC
Leonora	Mdlle. DE ROSKILDE
La Frivolini	Mdlle. HEGRE
Vincent	M. SOUMS

The Gaité management made a similar mistake as their neighbours of the Porte-Saint-Martin. Why did they unearth this operette, the libretto of which is neither witty nor original? Thérèse, the heroine, leaves her village to sell flowers in the town. There she learns singing, and is engaged at the Opéra. Her voice brings her in untold gold, which slips through her fingers, after which, broken-hearted and ruined, she returns to her native village. In the end, however, she marries the rich young nobleman who never ceased to love her. The music is in keeping with the story. But what made the work famous when it was first produced, and caused it to have a long run, was that Madame Jeanne Granier sang the rôle of Thérèse. At that time nobody thought of the silly plot, nor of the rather colourless music. People went to hear Madame Granier, who gave us a Thérèse such as the authors and the composer never dreamt of. This time it was Madame Simon-Girard who interpreted that rôle, and she could not deal with it in the same way as her talented predecessor. On the other hand, we had Mdlle. Jeanne Leclerc, a delightful Charlotte. M. Soums sang with much taste, and M. Dalcourt had a good opportunity for displaying his fine voice and excellent style. The work was fairly well mounted.

"NOTRE JEUNESSE."
Comedy, in Four Acts, by Alfred Capus, Produced at the Théâtre Français, Nov. 16.

Chartier	M. COQUELIN *cadet*
Lucien Briant	M. DE FERAUDY
Briant *père*	M. LELOIR
Sepquy	M. G. BERR
De Clénord	M. R. DUFLOS
Liverdon	M. DELAUNAY
Davenan	M. GARRY
A Manservant	M. LATY
Hélène Briant	Madame BARTET
Laure De Roice	Madame PIERSON
Aline De Bernac	Madame SOREL
Lucienne	Madame PIERAT
A Maidservant	Madame FAYLIS

The plot of *Notre Jeunesse* can be told in a few words. Lucien Briant, a rich manufacturer in Besançon, has accepted an invitation with his young wife Hélène, and his father, to spend a month at Trouville with his old friend Chartier, a bachelor, and Madame De Roine Chartier's widowed sister. During their visit Lucienne, a young girl, comes to ask Chartier's assistance. Her mother, recently dead, always spoke of this friend of the girl's father as a good fellow, and Lucienne has come for advice. She tells him her story, and Chartier learns that she is the illegitimate daughter of Lucien Briant. Briant left the Quartier Latin and the pretty stationer many years ago; he gave her all the money he could spare at the time for her and her child, and went back to the provinces and married. He has never seen the child, and has no wish to, even when Chartier tells him she is in the neighbourhood. He consults his father, who rules his household, and together they arrange that a suitable allowance shall be made the young person if she will return to her native village. Lucienne is a charming girl, seventeen and sensitive. She refuses assistance so ungraciously offered and decides to accept a berth in South America. Hélène Briant, Lucien's wife, pleads for the girl, and eventually in a pathetic scene Briant acknowledges his daughter, and she finds a home with him and Hélène. The dialogue, brilliantly epigrammatic, plays round the old and new ways of accepting what are called irregular situations, showing the world more charitable, more habitable in its new acceptations. M. Leloir made a capital study of old Briant, the hard-headed tyrant, prejudiced against innovations of any kind. His make-up was perfect, with the touch of the plebeian necessary as the father of Féraudy-Briant, jun. Madame Bartet was sympathetic and charming as ever as Hélène; MM. Coquelin *cadet* and Duflos, and Mesdames Pierson and Sorel all that could be desired in their respective parts. But the acting of M. De Féraudy and Mdlle. Piérat, in the scene between father and daughter, brought down the house. A touch of the hand on the girl's hair, a change of expression in the girl's face—a scene that lasted a moment, yet so admirably played that it shook the most hardened, and all the women cried. Artists, great artists, both M. De Féraudy and Madame Piérat.

DANCE ON DEPRESSION.

Mr George Dance, the well-known and successful organiser of touring companies, has explained the alleged "theatrical depression" in the provinces.

"The cause," says Mr Dance, "is that resident managers have economised their resources, instead of attempting to put forward better attractions than those given at the local music halls. There are numbers of towns which my companies do not visit because the managers of the theatres will not pay a percentage sufficient even to clear my expenses. This means that the residents in those towns have no opportunity of seeing good modern pieces; they have to be satisfied with old dramas and played-out musical comedies, presented by inadequate and inexperienced companies, who are satisfied with the small percentage offered them.

"In a first-class town in the country, the manager of a good travelling company asks for 65 to 70 per cent. of the takings, the balance going to the resident manager. The travelling manager brings with him the entire company, dresses, scenery, and generally the band, and he pays the fees to the author and composer of the piece he is touring. In addition, he pays for the advertisements on the hoardings, and also provides them. What does the resident manager do for the balance? For the thirty or thirty-five per cent. of the takings he finds the theatre and provides the staff. He benefits by the sale of programmes and refreshments, and improves his property, if he is enterprising, at little or no risk to himself.

"The public might say that it would pay the resident manager to accept the fourth or fifth-rate company at a forty to forty-five per centage. But this company would attract only from £100 to £150 to the house if it were phenomenally successful, whereas the first-class manager would bring to the house from £500 to £1,000 with his first-class attraction."

AT Greenwich police-court on Wednesday, Chas. Howitt, an actor, of Brockley-road, Brockley, was summoned by the London County Council for failing to send his daughter Gladys, aged eleven, regularly to school. Mr Harper, school attendance officer, said the child had attended thirty-eight times out of sixty-three. The child said she formerly went to school at Clapham. For about three weeks she attended at His Majesty's Theatre on most days, and was not attending school then. She had been taking part in the play at His Majesty's since its production, and reached home about a quarter to twelve every night. She did not go home alone. Mr Purner (superintendent of visitors)—And when you go to school in the morning you are tired? I am tired on some days, but not very. And you are not able to do your work?—Sometimes. Mr Purner—It is shameful that this girl should be kept up late at night and have to go to school in the morning. I do not think Mrs Howitt is to blame. I wish her husband was here. Mrs Howitt said she had no idea, when the child went to the theatre, that she would have to go to school. She was going to a boarding-school as soon as the engagement was over at Mr Tree's theatre. It was stated that the child had made a full attendance at school since the issue of the summons, and Mr Baggallay fined the defendant 5s. and 4s. cost.

AT the Theatre Royal, Worcester, the popular musical comedy *San Toy* has been this week efficiently played by Mr George Edwardes's company. Miss Don Harradine in the title-rôle and Mr Edmund Sherras as Captain Bobby Preston have been most successful, their songs and duets being rendered in a manner which won the highest encomiums. The humorous parts of Li (Mr Alfred Beers) and Yen How (Mr Altred W. Clarke) were cleverly impersonated. Poppy Preston and Lieutenant Harvey Tucker had two good representatives in Miss Mabel Labelle and Mr Walter P. Wright. Miss Florence Arnold sang well as Missee Tootley, and Mr G. J. Williams was amusing as Sir Bingo Preston. Fo Hop (Mr Clinton Reynold) was very comical, and the dancing of Miss Beatrice Gradella was exceedingly graceful.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy on Wednesday before Mr Walter Boyle, assistant official receiver, was held the first meeting of creditors under the failure of Henry Slocombe, who was described as of an address in Osborne-road, Forest-gate. The debtor up to September last acted as a director of the Colchester Theatre Company (Limited). He attributes his present position to his unwise speculation in that company, in which he was a considerable shareholder, and which proved unsuccessful, and to other causes. His statement of affairs showed liabilities £947, of which £235 were unsecured, and no assets. The matter remains in the hands of the official receiver.

THE many Birmingham friends of Mrs Stockham, the well-known harpist and leader of the Ladies' Grecian Band of Harps, recently arranged a benefit concert to recoup her in a measure for the loss she sustained by the fire which occurred at South Parade Pier, Southsea, in July last, by which she lost some valuable harps, costumes, and music, worth in the aggregate £370. The concert took place in the Birmingham Town Hall last Tuesday night, in the presence of a crowded audience. The artistes, all of whom volunteered their services, were Miss Louie Collier, Miss May Heath, Miss Evelyn Ball, Mr Herbert Bates, Mr Sidney Stoddard, the Birmingham Male Voice Choir, the Ladies' Grecian Band of Harps, and Mr C. Robins Pierce, society entertainer.

THE natal anniversary of King Edward VII. occurring last week during the presentation at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, of *The New Commander*, Miss Grace Warner dispatched a message of congratulation to His Majesty on Nov. 9. In due course the King's Secretary sent a telegraphic acknowledgment, which Miss Warner displayed in the Theatre Royal and in the town.

A VERY interesting little book of 114 pages is that entitled "Thumb-nail Plots." It is a collection of synopses of operas, operettas, cantatas, sketches, plays, and musical plays. In connection with the various musical plays, whose plots it describes, useful help to stage-managers is given in the form of a bar of music, showing the compass required in the voices for the various songs, and the highest and the lowest note of the range of each voice. This helpful little book can be had for the asking; and we think Joseph Williams, Limited, of 32, Great Portland-street, W., will have enough to do next week to supply the demand.

PRINCESS HENRY OF BATTENBERG and suite were present at the performance of *La Tosca* at the Royal Opera, Covent-garden, last Monday night.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In the Theatrical Gossip of your last issue, you mentioned Mr Wilfred Fraser as playing in *The Monkey's Paw* for Mrs Phelps's benefit, to be given at His Majesty's Theatre on Nov. 25. It should have been yours faithfully, WILFRED FORSTER. Green Room Club, Nov. 14.

NEW PLAYS IN PARIS DURING THE YEAR 1903.

JAN. 6. *Le Secret de Polichinelle*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Pierre Wolff—Gymnase.
" 6. *Le Grain De Beauté*, vaudeville, in one act, by M. Emmanuel Matrat—Bouffes Parisiens.
" 7. *Les Tabliers Blancs*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Louis Bernière—Antoine.
" 8. *Une Femme Precieuse*, comedy, in one act, by M. Pol Dick—Déjazet.
" 10. *Le Pelerin d'Amour*, piece, in verse, in one act, by Emile Victor Michelet—Odéon.
" 14. *Les Dernières Cartouches*, drama, in five acts and ten tableaux, by MM. Jules Mary and Emile Boucher—Ambigu.
" 15. *La Servante De Molière*, piece, in one act, by M. Maurice Millot—Française.
" 15. *Le Rire*, apropos topical, in one act, by M. Lucien Meunier—Odéon.
" 16. *La Famille du Brasseur*, vaudeville, in three acts, by M. Tristan Bernard—Folies-Dramatiques.
" 17. *Incognito*, comedy, in one act, by M. Slany Orbier—Vaudeville.
" 17. *Ma Bonne Cousine*, comedy, in three acts, by M. P. Flers—Cluny.
" 17. *Maison Tranquille*, comedy, in one act, by M. Jacques Baschet—Cluny.
" 20. *Titania*, opera comique, in three acts, by MM. Louis Gallet, André Corneau, George Hüe—Opera Comique.
" 20. *L'Homme Masqué*, vaudeville, in one act, by M. Jacques Yvel—Palais-Royal.
" 21. *La Chute de L'Aigle*, by Eugene Foreau—Théâtre de la République (Chateau d'Eau).
" 21. *Pour être Aimé*, fantastic comedy, by MM. Xanrof and Michel Carré—Athenée.
" 21. *L'Invité*, comedy, in one act, by M. Leon Xanrof—Athenée.
" 22. *Garconnière à Louer*, comedy, in one act, by MM. Aug. Monnier and Eug. Larcher—Folies-Dramatiques.
" 24. *Balthy-Colis*, revue, in one act, by M. Michel Carré *fils*—Athenée.
" 27. *Florodora*, operette, in three acts, by Mr Owen Hall and Mr Leslie Stuart, and MM. Adrien Vély and F. Schwab—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 27. *Mossieu Le Maire*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. G. Stoskopf and Jean La Rode—Déjazet.
" 29. "Revue," in two acts, by MM. Henri Blondeau and Hector Monreal—Olympia.
FEB. 7. *Andromaque*, tragedy, in five acts, by Racine—Sarah Bernhardt.
" 10. *Les Gaités du Veuvage*, comedy-bouffe, in three acts, by M. Grenet-Dancourt—Cluny.
" 13. *Bonne Fortune*, comedy, in two acts, by M. André Picard—Antoine.
" 13. *Le Colonel Chabert*, drame, in three acts and four tableaux, by M. Louis Forest—Antoine.
" 14. *Aline Reine de Golconde*, piece, in one act, by Paul Degouy—Odéon.
" 14 *La Famille Boléro*, play, in three acts, by M. Maurice Hennequin and Paul Bilhaud—Nouveautés.
" 15. *Le Cake Walk*, vaudeville, in one act, by Louis Varney—Nouveautés.
" 15. *Les Poires*, comedy, in one act, by Serge Basset and Hen Darcourt—Gymnase.
" 17. *L'Epave*, operette, in one act, by M. Ernest Depré-Louis and Herel Em. Passard—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 20. *La Petite Duchesse du Casino*, fantasy, in one act, by M. Jules Oudet and David Champclos—Casino.
" 23. *Chasté-Croisé*, vaudeville, in one act, by MM. Paul Gavault and Geo. Berr—Athenée.
" 23. *L'Enfant du Miracle*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Paul Gavault and Robert Charvey—Athenée.
" 26. *Les Appeleurs*, piece, in three acts, by M. Ambroise Janvier—Odéon.
" 26. *Le Message*, drama, in one act, by MM. Paul Dellard and Geo. Mitchell—Odéon.
" 27. *Heureuse*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Hennequin and P. Bilhaud—Vaudeville.
" 27. *Le Beau Jeune Homme*, comedy, in five acts, by M. Alfred Capus—Variétés.
MARCH 5. *Werther*, a piece, in five acts, by M. Pierre Decourcelle—Sarah-Bernhardt.
" 5. *L'Indiscret*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Edmond Sée—Antoine.
" 7. *La Reconciliation*, ballet pantomime, in one act, by MM. Jos. Hansen and F. Deslandes.—Gaité (Matinée).
" 7. *Infame*, drama, in five acts, by M. G. Spitzmuller.—Bouffes du Nord.
" 11. *Le Dernier Rêve*, piece, in one act, by M. Maurice Magre.—Odéon.
" 11. *La Rabouilleuse*, piece, in four acts, by M. Emile Fabre—Odéon.
" 12 *Pour les Pauvres*, monom, in one act, by MM. A. Keraval and Reré Thorel—Bernhardt.
" 16. *Sans Lui*, comedy, in one act, by M. Marcel Girette—Français.
" 18 *Muguette*, opéra-comique, in four acts, MM. Michel Carré, *fils*, Ed. Missa, et Geo. Hartman.—Opéra-Comique.
" 19. *Une Lecture Interrompue*, pantomime, in one act, by MM. Fab. De Champville et Francis Chassaigne—Déjazet.
" 21. *Cochon*, comedy-bouffe, in three acts, by MM. Ralph and E. Cody—Trianon.
" 27. *La Famille Gaudissart*, farce-vaudeville, in three acts, by M. L. Artus—Cluny.
" 27. *Le Reve D'Anaick*, comedy, in one act, by M. A. Mouëzy Eon—Cluny.
" 28. *Le Vol de l'Elephant Blanc*, piece, in one act, by MM. Max Fischer and Alex Fisch—Odéon (matinée).
" 28. *Les Surprise Kodak; ou, Ma Femme a un Amant*, comedy, in one act, by MM. Eug. Gugenheim and Luc. Cressenois—Gymnase.
" 28. *Clarisse Arbois*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Maurice Boniface—Renaissance.
" 28. *Cringuebille*, piece, in three acts, by M. Anatole France—Renaissance.
" 31. *L'Innocent; ou, Lorcau est Acquitté*, piece, in one act, by MM. André De Lorde, and Eug. Morel—Antoine.
" 31. *Miss Chipp*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Michel Carré, *fils*, André De Lorde, and Henri Berens—Bouffes-Parisiens.
APRIL 1. *Le Roman de Françoise*, drama, in five by M. Louis Leloir—Ambigu.
" 3. *Les Amis avant tout*, vaudeville, in one act, by M. André Lemoine—Palais Royal.
" 4. *Le Chevalier qui donna sa Femme au Diable*, in one act and two tableaux, by MM. Eugene and Ed. Adenis—Odéon.
" 4. *Ou est donc Papa?* vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Jean Septmons and Alexis Caille, and Maurice De Feraudy—Déjazet.
" 9. *Tonton*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Louis Péricaud, Lucien Rozenburg, and R. Bodet—Palais-Royal.
" 11. *A Sainte Hélène*, piece, in two acts, by Sévérine—Antoine.
APRIL 16. *Le Sire de Vergy*, opera-bouffe, in three acts, by MM. G. De Caillavet and Rob De Flers, music by Claude Terrasse—Variétés.
" 18. *Congé Aimable*, piece, in one act, by M. Alponse Allais and Tristan Bernard—Renaissance.
" 20. *Les Affaires sont les Affaires*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Octave Mirbeau—Comédie-Française.
" 20. *La Cousine Agathe*, comedy, in one act, by M. Em. Matrat—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 23. *Vacalisettes*, piece, in one act, by M. Leon Jancey—Opera Comique.
" 23. *Dis qu'tes Medecin*, pantomime, in one act, by MM. Louis Janot, Louis Lacroix, and Henri Contesse—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 29. *Petite Mère*, play, in four acts, by M. Emile Bergerat—Vaudeville.
" 29. *La Neige*, comedy-drama, in two acts, by MM. Jeoffrin Ibels and Pierre Morgand—Vaudeville.
" 29. *Le P'tit Jeune Homme*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Lugné Poë, Charles Vayre, and Gauthier Villars—Bouffes Parisiens.
MAY 1. *Le Ruban rouge*, drama, in four acts, by M. Pierre Sales—Ambigu.
" 6. *L'Attaque Nocturne*, play, in two acts by MM. Masson Forestier and De Lorde—Antoine.
" 6. *Monsieur Vernet*, play, in two acts, by M. Jules Renard—Antoine.
" 6. *Le Supplice du Silence*, comedy, in two acts, by M. Julian Berr de Turique—Antoine.
" 7. *Les Grandes Manœuvres*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Gaston Marot and Alevy—Cluny.
" 7. *Les Petites Femmes de Marigny*, revue, in three acts, by Victor De Cottens—Marigny.
" 7. *Plaisir d'Amour*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by MM. Troyez and Georges Berr—Palais-Royal.
" 12. *Maître Nitouche*, vaudeville, in three acts by MM. Maurice Desvallières and Anthony Mars—Nouveautés.
" 14. *Le Mariage au Tambourin*, opera comique, in one act, by MM. Ferd Esselin and Jules Chastan—Bouffes Parisiens.
" 16. *Ton Coq et ma Poule*, comedy, in one act, by M. André Mouëzy Eon—Cluny.
" 20. *Jozelle*, play, in five acts, by M. Maurice Maeterlinck—Gymnase.
" 29. *Petite Tache*, vaudeville, in one act, by M. Chas. Duprez—Bouffes Parisiens.
" 30. *Je ne me gene pas avec Ernest*, vaudeville, in one act, by MM. Louis Bouvet and Chas. Darantière—Déjazet.
JUNE 5. *La Petite Maison*, opera-comique, in three acts, by MM. Alex. Bisson and Geo. Docquois, music by M. Will Chaumet—Opera-Comique.
" 6. *Le Grand Aciul*, play, in one act, by M. De Verlhac and Montgauge—Odéon.
" 11. *Wania*, drama, in two acts, by S. Persky—Odéon.
" 11. *L'Equilibre*, comedy, in two acts, by M. Pierre Soulaine—Odéon.
" 13. *Les Nuls*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Loic De Cambourg—Bouffes-Parisiens.
JULY 2. *Ames en Peine*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Marcel Ballot and Ambroise Janvier—Française.
" 21. *L'Irresolu*, comedy, in four acts, by M. G. Berr—Française.
AUG. 8 *Le Maquignon*, drama, in five acts, by MM. Virgile Josz and Louis Dumur—Bernhardt.
SEPT. 1. *L'Homme du Jour*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Pierre Morgand and Claude Rolland—Gymnase.
" 1. *Castes Postales*, comedy, in one act, by M. Louis Baulard—Gymnase.
" 15. *La Preuve*, vaudeville, in one act, by M. Leon Miral—Palais-Royal.
" 17. *Les Vendredis*, vaudeville, in one act, by Jean Rambaud—Cluny.
" 19. *En Espagne*, in one act, by Maria La Bella and Ed. De Anduaga.—Casino.
" 25. *Le Petit Nenfant du Miracle*, parody, in three acts, by MM. Fernand De Rouvray, A. De Mauprey, and A. De Lannoy—Déjazet.
" 28. *La Légende du Cœur*, play, in verse, in four acts, by M. Jean Aicard—Théâtre Sarah-Bernhardt.
" 28. *Une Dette Pressée*, comedy, in one act, by M. Ernest Depré—Variétés.
" 30. *Ce Bon Emile*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Chas. Samson and Georges Maurens—Cluny.
OCT. 12. *Italie et France*, apropos, in one act, by M. Jean Aicard—Bernhardt.
" 13. *La Tosca*, dramatic lyrique, in three acts, by MM. Sardou, Paul Ferrier, Illica, Giacosa, and Puccini—Opera Comique.
" 13 *La Fille de la Mère Michel*, operette, in three acts, by M. Daniel Riche, music by M. Ernest Gillet—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 15. *La Mère Providence; ou, Vive Rapins*, vaudeville, in one act, by Madame Rozier-Plisson—Bouffes-Parisiens.
" 17. *L'Epave*, play, in five acts, by MM. Eugene Gugenheim and Geo. Le Faure—Gymnase.
" 19. *La Marmotte*, comedy-vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Antony Mars and Leon Xanrof—Palais-Royal.
" 22 *Antoinette Sabrier*, play, in three acts, by M. Roman Coolus—Vaudeville.
" 22. *Tel Chante Le Vieux Coq*, comedy, in one act, by André Sardou—Vaudeville.
" 23. *L'Adversaire*, play, in four acts, by MM. A. Capus and Em. Arène—Renaissance.
" 27. *Le Jumeau*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Jacques Monnier and Eug. Larcher—Folies-Dramatiques.
" 29. *L'Héritier*, comedy, in three acts, by M. Pierre Soulaine—Odéon.
" 29. *L'Idiot*, drama, in two acts, by M. André De Lorde, A. Flache, and Jean Thorel—Odéon.
" 29. *Poste Restante*, drama, in one act, by M. Serge Basset—Odéon.
" 30. *La Flamenca*, musical comedy, in four acts, by MM. Henri Cain, Ed. Adenis, Eug. Adenis, and Lucien Lambert—Gaité.
NOV. 1. *Qui trope-t-on-ici?* vaudeville, in one act, M. Jacques Blanchard—Palais Royal.
" 3. *Horrible Details! ou, Le Comte de Grandmère*, fait divers, musical, in four acts, by MM. Louis Decori, Maurice Lefevre—Cluny.
" 3, *Ill ou Elle?* comedy, in one act, by M. André Mouëzy Eon—Cluny.
" 5. *Le Dieu Vert*, drama, in one act, by M. Albert Keim—Bernhardt.
" 5. *Jeanne Wedekind*, play, in three acts, by MM. Felix Philippi and L. Krauss—Bernhardt.
" 6. *Les Sentiers de la Vertu*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. R. De Flers, and G. Armand De Caillavet—Nouveautés.
" 6. *Cadet-Roussel*, play, in three acts, in verse, by M. Jacques Richepin—Théâtre Victor-Hugo.
NOV. 7. *La Guerre au Village*, play, in three acts, by M. Gabriel Trarieux—Antoine.
" 7. *La Maternelle*, comedy, in one act, by M. Gabriel Astruc—Antoine.
" 7. *Au Perroquet Vert*, drama, in one act, by MM. Emile Lutz, Stephane Epstein, Arthur Schnitzler (translator)—Antoine.
" 7. *Infame*, drama, in five acts, by M. G. Spitzmuller—Bouffes du Nord.
" 7. *Josette*, play, in five acts, by MM. Paul Reboux and Daniel Jourda—Bouffes du Nord.
" 20. *L'Oncle d'Amérique*, play, in four acts, by MM. Victor De Cottens and Victor Harlay—Chatelet
" 22. *Paris aux Variétés*, revue, in three acts, by M. Paul Gavault—Variétés.
" 25. *La Paix chez soi*, comedy, in one act, by M. Geo. Courteline—Antoine.
" 25. *Le Prince Consort*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Leon Xanrof and Jules Chancel—Athenée.
" 26. *Gil-Blas de Sautillane*, drama, in five acts, by MM. Armand D'Artois and George Duval—Porte Saint-Martin.
" 28. *L'Absent*, drama, in four acts, by MM. Georges Mitchell and Fernand le Borne—Odéon.
DEC. 2. *Au Public*, apropos, in one act, by M. Migues Zamacois—Vaudeville.
" 2. *Les Côteaux du Médoc*, comedy, in one act, by M. Tristan Bernard.
" 3. *Le Retour de Jérusalem*, piece, in four four acts, by M. Maurice Donnay—Gymnase.
" 4. *L'Etranger*, musical play, in two acts, poem and music by M. Vincent D'Indy—Opéra.
" 4. *Monsieur la Pudeur*, vaudeville, in three acts, by MM. Alphonse Allais Paul Bonhomme and Felix Galipaux—Cluny.
" 4. *Enlevement au Serail*, operatic comedy, in three acts, by MM. Lucien Solvay, Julius Benedict, Mozart, Maurice Kaufferath, Paul Vidal—Opera Comique.
" 8. *Les Apaches*, vaudeville, in three acts, by M. Alex. Bisson—Palais-Royal.
" 9. *Maternité*, play, in three acts, by M. Brieux—Antoine.
" 12. *La Citoyenne Cotillon*, drama, in five acts by MM. Ernest Daudet and Henri Cain—Ambigu.
" 14. *L'Oasis*, piece, in five acts, by M. Jean Jullien—Nouveau.
" 15. *La Sorcière*, drama, in five acts, by M. Victorien Sardou.—Bernhardt.
" 19. *Le Dédale*, play, in five acts, by M. Paul Hervieu—Comédie-Française.
" 19. *Cherchez la Femme*, revue, in two acts, by MM. Henri de Gorsse and Geo. Nanteuil—Casino.
" 20. *Le Droit de la Femme*, comedy, in one act, by M. Louis Artus—Gymnase.
" 21. *Le Renouvement*, comedy-vaudeville, in one act, by Geo. Docquois (comedy in verse)—Francais.
" 23. *La Reine Fiammette*, opera, in four acts, by MM. Catulle Mendés and Xavier Leroux—Opéra-Comique.
" 25. *Capitaliste*, comedy in verse, in one act, by M. Em. Matrat—Antoine.

IN the new and very modern comedy at the Criterion Theatre, *The Freedom of Suzanne*, we are introduced to some really handsome scenes. The opening set—Mrs Trevor's drawing-room in Curzon-street—and the final one—Charles Trevor's flat in Jermyn-street—are both very luxurious. Antique French furniture in rich gilt frames and soft tapestry upholstering figure largely in the first, while in the last not only do we see some lovely old French "pieces," but also some in "Empire" style in excellent preservation, and of historical interest as having been in former days the property of the Emperor Napoleon III. The mounting of the play is, indeed, bright and sumptuous throughout, and much credit is due to Messrs Oetzmann and Co., 62-79, Hampstead-road, W., whose long experience in the art of stage furnishing makes it possible for them to supply precisely the things that are wanted.

"A DAY IN PADDY'S MARKET; or, Life in Liverpool," a piece in three acts, by Max Fax, was produced for copyright purposes on Monday, at the Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.

A VARIED and interesting programme was presented at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on the afternoon of Thursday, Nov. 17, for the benefit of the North Sea outrage cause. Several well-known artists kindly gave their services upon this occasion, the result being in every way satisfactory. Among the performers were George Mozart, Harry Pleon, Russell Wallett, Tom Craven, Godfrey and Duncan, Daisy James, Lottie Lennox, Mr Joynsen Powell, in a well-delivered recitation, "Parrhasius;" and Mr Ernest Leicester, Miss Helen Bancroft, and Miss Kate Brand, in an interesting scene from "Bleak House." The entertainment concluded with an address written by Mr Geoffrey Thorn, entitled "Fro' the Northern Sea," and powerfully delivered by Mr Ernest Leicester. The stage was under the able management of Mr Charles Browning.

ST. JAMES'S HALL AND ASSEMBLY ROOMS, King's Lynn, were completely destroyed by fire on Saturday morning last. The first floor of one portion of the building contained a carpenter's shop and rooms, in which a large quantity of bazaar scenery was stored. The fire broke out in the carpenter's shop, and spread very rapidly. The hall and rooms were occupied for the purposes of a ball until late on Saturday afternoon, when flames were noticed, and within an hour the whole building was in ruins. The damage done is estimated at several thousand pounds.

AT the 139th Open Night Recital of Mr and Mrs S. Hasluck's students, held at the Polytechnic, Regent-street, on the evening of the 11th inst., an enthusiastic audience gave the twelve aspirants for dramatic honours well merited encouragement for their really excellent performances. Those who won premier honours were Miss Rita Gallally and Mr W. Bloye Higgs for their admirable little comedietta, *A Happy Pair*. Miss Imogen Surrey, for her scene from *Adam Bede;* Miss Lillian Church, *Fauntleroy;* Mr Arthur Foxon, *The Verdict;* Miss Bessie Wenmoth, *The Little Girl of Campania;* Mr A. F. Bangert, *Retrospection;* Miss Maud Drew, *My Old Piano;* and Miss Ethel Chandler for Jerome's *Jack and Jill*. Highly creditable were Miss Hilda Flanagan's *The Idyll of Battle Hollow*, Mr H. Waterman's *The Bashful Man*, and Mr A. C. Kickatson's *Speech of Brutus*.

PRESENTATION.—Mr F. Edgar Manaton, the acting-manager of the Tunbridge Wells Opera House, has been the recipient this week of a presentation from the Mayor and Mayoress of the borough, in remembrance of their official visits to the theatre. The gift consists of a solid silver cigarette-case, inscribed:—"Mr F. E. Manaton, from the Mayor and Mayoress of Tunbridge Wells, 1904."

PRESENTATION.—At the conclusion of the performance on Saturday evening last, Mr J. Danson, proprietor of the *Driven from Home* company, late manager of the Theatre Royal, Wednesbury, was the recipient of a handsome gold ring from the staff of the theatre, in recognition of the many valuable services rendered by him whilst manager of the above theatre. Mr Dawson, who was received with every enthusiasm, said it was a happy day for him to be able to be with them once more on such an occasion, and thanked them heartily for the beautiful memento they had so kindly presented him with.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 19)

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—This week's attraction is one of Mr Walter Melville's plays entitled *The Female Swindler*, which is successfully presented by Mr Tom H. Taylor's company. The play is prettily mounted, and from start to finish gains well-merited appreciation. Mr Jerrold Heather plays the rôle of Jack Coulson in a clever manner, his criminal investigations making him the favourite actor; Abraham Mikestein is well impersonated by Mr Rule Pyott; Mr Luke Forster is remarkable for his vivacity as an ambitious young man; Miss Evelyn Marrable makes a good servant as Mary Ann Mee; May Andrews is represented in admirable style by Miss Florrie Kelsey; Geoffrey, alias Captain Stanton, is capitally portrayed by Mr Weldon Atherstone; Mr A. Kenyon Grey gives good effect to the character of James Oliver; Mr George Unwin is well suited as Harold Travers; and Miss Violet Ellicott deserves every praise for her effective impersonation of Lu Valroy, the female swindler.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the Opera House and Winter Gardens Company (Limited); General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—The latest of W. S. Gilbert's plays, *A Fairy's Dilemma*, has greatly amused large audiences here. The cast is a strong one, and the various members lend admirable support. Of the Mortals Mr Frank Collins is praiseworthy as the Judge, and Mr Assheton Tonge as the Colonel and Mr Frank Stanmore as the clergyman are well placed. Miss Elise Cooke is charming as the Fairy, and Mr Herbert Hewetson clever as the Demon Alcohol. *The Conversion of Nat Sturge* is an interesting curtain-raiser.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—The late Mr F. A. Scudamore's drama *First-class* is being played here this week by Messrs Imbert and Wright's company. As Lewis Montford, alias First-class, Mr G. M. Newall has a congenial task; Mr Fred C. Imbert submits a clever impersonation of Dan, the miser; sweetly pathetic and appropriately sustained is the Peggy of Miss Ellen Armor; Mr Leonard Clarke gives a manly tone to his interpretation of Jack Stroud; as Nosey Mr Sam Roberts is very droll; Mr Francis Trevor makes the most of Philip Roscoe; and Miss Lizzie Ingles does justice to the rôle of Florence Franklin. Miss Emily Handley as Mrs Stroud, Miss Isabel Innes as Mildred, and Mr Gerald Nolan adequately perform the tasks allotted to them.

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Leighton Rooke.—We have here this week the drama *A Modern Adventuress*, by Mr Lingford Carson. The piece is beautifully staged and capably acted by Messrs Carson and Granville's company. The title-rôle is played by Miss Beatrice M. Anderson with much power, and Mr Leonard Aardale in his original part, Pietro Donelli, leaves nothing to be desired. Mr Evan Roland is a bluff and hearty Yorkshireman; Miss Alice Defoe a charming Vivette; and Miss Mimi Fisher a most capable comedienne. Messrs Charles Stirling and W. R. Winning as the hero and villain give good renderings of important rôles.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Limited; General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—*The Midnight Mail* is being enacted here this week in a very creditable manner by Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company. Harry Steyne finds a capital exponent in Mr George Harvard, who plays with much skill and force. Mr Fred Evison leaves little to be desired as Billy Brewer; Mr Arthur Gilroy represents Hassan Padisha in an effective style; Leonard Royle and Donald Craig find competent representatives in Messrs Alec Alves and Chas. M'Cann; Miss Ada Oakley wins golden opinions by her charming portrayal of Mary Steyne; and Miss Mildred Carr and Miss Milly Stevenson are seen to advantage as Nancy and Lady Phyllis respectively.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—The star turn here this week is De Biere, who mystifies all with his clever sleight-of-hand and conjuring tricks; the O'Malleys are an amusing Hibernian pair; Tom Heyes scores well as a juvenile comedian; the Jackson Family are good musicians, and are held in high favour; Omar and Calderon give a smart acrobatic comedy act; Haydee's mannikins are well received; as are Harry Gold, vocal comedian, and the Nick Nacks, vocalists and dancers.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Mr C. Watson Mill and company in the sensational drama *A Wrecker of Men* is the attraction for the week. Mr Mill, author of the play, takes the part of Jim Murley, and does capitally; Mr Sidney Flennes's Railton is capitally done; and Mr Chas. Yorke's Pharosaphus is very acceptable. Mr Alfred Maurice as Guise Strange is full of vigour, and Mr Gilson Brooke's two rôles, Karnaphus and Ezekiel Isaacs, are both successfully undertaken. The comic slavey's part, Vavasole Slopper, as played by Miss Kitty Melville causes much fun; Miss Victoria May's Doris Melville is acted with refinement; and Miss Rosalind Tate's Risca Mallison is a powerful personation.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—The Francois Troupe of clever acrobats top the bill here. We also have Rose Tilley, serio and dancer; Blarney and Kennard, a couple of smart patterers and vocalists; Wal Croft, in funny songs with a Scotch flavour; Maude Clifton, a refined vocalist; and Aga, with a wonderfully clever illusion, "The Suspended Maiden," one of the best seen here. Mdlle. Luba De Sarema, with her trained bull, ponies, and dogs, gives a good show; and Payne's Bio winds up with the North Sea Outrage and other films.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—Mr Norman V. Norman and his répertoire company opened a revisit here on Monday, with *Under the Red Robe*. Mr Norman himself in the rôle of Gil De Berault gave an excellent impersonation. Miss Beatrice Wilson was a charming Renée, Mr Robert Hilton a good Cardinal, Miss Kathleen Rind played exceedingly well as Madame De Cochefôret, and Miss F. Glossop Harris was a capital Suzette. *Nell Gwyn* was down for Tuesday and Friday, and *David Garrick* for Wednesday.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—The attraction at this house during the week has been provided by Mr Fred Bulmer's company with Mr Frank Bateman's stirring drama, *Sentenced for Life*.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—The programme at this house for the week includes Lil Hawthorne, the popular American comedienne, who was loudly applauded for her capital songs; Harry Anderson, the popular vocal comedian; Sydney James's Strolling Players, in a capital turn; Kay Wallace, an excellent mimic; Sisters Geretti, a pair of wonderfully smart trapezists; the Bros. Edgar, clever comedians; Paul Mill, a capital character comedian; Winnie Derson, a charming comedienne; and Alexandre and Hughes, popular comedians and musicians.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—*The Lights o' London* has been presented here this week by Mr Herbert Hollister's company with marked success. Mr Cecil G. Calvert acts ably as Horold Armytage, and Mr Albert Brasque makes a capital Clifford Armytage. As Seth Preene Mr Herbert Hollister is exceedingly good, Mr Ernest R. Nelson as Philosopher Jack is very amusing, and Mr Percy Compton as Jarvis, Miss Emilie Dawson as Mrs Jarvis, and Miss Gladys Murray as Shakespeare Jarvis fill their respective parts excellently. Miss Jeannie Burgoyne acts with ability as Bess.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—General Manager, Signor Pepi.—This establishment reopened on Monday with a variety entertainment, headed by the New York Nippers in their clever speciality *Bedtime*. Fields and Lewis, in their comedy act, were pleasingly greeted; whilst Barney Vox was highly successful in his ventriloquial entertainment. Onda and Leon gave a marvellous performance on the triple bars; and Lily Currie was applauded for her vocalism, other capital items being the performance of the Two Neros, contortionists; Nellie Martell, comedienne and dancer; and Vernon's Bioscope.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—Mr Egerton this week heads the bill with Brino, in his marvellous exhibition of strength and balancing; the Brothers Artois, on the horizontal bars, are really marvellous performers; Lydia and Albino provide a pretty and artistic turn, the lady executing some clever feats upon a horizontal bar; the Five Bon-Bons, in their pantomimic turn, are funny; Harry Albery is a smart comedian and dancer; Madge Roberts is a singer who pleases everybody; Roxborough and Wright are a smart and funny pair; and the Bioscope shows the trawlers which were fired on by the Russians.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; General Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Mr E. Lockwood's company, in *La Poupée*, is paying a farewell visit here this week. Mr T. A. Shale's representation of the part of Lancelot is particularly good. The part of Hilarius is in the hands of Mr Arthur Reynolds, and the whole of the time he is on the stage he keeps the house in roars of laughter. Mr Eliot Skinner as Father Maxime submits a capital portrayal. Miss Midge Clark gives a delightful and vivacious rendering of Alesia, and Miss Florence Shaw as Henri and Miss Lillie Leigh as Madame Hilarius are good.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Acting-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin's company presented the drama entitled *The Best Must Win* on Monday. Mr C. Draycott as the Marquis De Marcel, Mr Robert Watson as Paul Dumaresq, Miss Lillian Watson Lloyd as Denise, Mr Harry Harrop as Jacques Courcel, and Miss Dorothy Elliston as Suzette, aro all good in their respective parts.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—Jack Morris's blind collier lad has proved a very popular turn. Horace White is extremely clever in a refined ventriloquial and musical act. Charles Vincent, comedian, sings two songs with much success. Vincent Walker, Negro comedian, is well received. The Vivians in a musical travesty contribute a pretty and clever item, and the Laure Brothers are smart acrobats. The principal attraction is Looping the Loop, by Miss Madeline, which was successfully performed on Monday night. Tuesday night's performance was brought to an abrupt conclusion, Miss Madeline meeting with a shocking accident, particulars of which will be found in another column.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners.—After an absence of nearly eleven months, Mr Arthur Hart's company with *My Lady Molly* is here again. This bright and tuneful comedy-opera is under the direction of Mr David M. Miller. An important feature is the excellence of the chorus and augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Mr Carlton Mason. In the title-rôle Miss Mabel Lait acts winsomely, and the songs allotted to the part are charmingly rendered. Miss Maude Thorne's delightful impersonation of Alice Coverdale is full of charm and vivacity, and her cultured vocalism wins the heartiest applause. Miss Sybil Thorne is a pleasing exponent of Hester, and Miss Lottie Sargent as Mdlle. Mirabeau proves herself an artiste of no mean ability. Mr George Grundy is the possessor of a full rich voice, which he uses with telling effect in the part of Captain Harry Romney, while his acting leaves nothing to be desired. The part of Lionel Bland is successfully entrusted to Mr Frank Stather, and Mr Frederick Hobbs must be highly commended for the distinction he gives to the rôle of Sir Miles Coverdale. Mr Arthur Powell again appears as Micky O'Dowd, and his performance is still remarkably rich in humour.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director and Lessee, Mr R. Smerdon; Secretary, Mr A. Pearce.—Mr William Greet's *The Lady Slavey* company is here this week. In the name part Miss Addie Lennard was active and acceptable, Miss Millicent Marsden, with her commanding presence, being a capital foil. Mr Allan Morris did well as the American Millionaire; Mr Frank Sherlock was very funny as the Sheriff's Officer; and Mr Walter T. Hybert specially good as Lord Lavender. Mr Harry Walsh was typically Irish as the Major, and the Misses Van Dalle and Ashton danced to an appreciative house.

WALTHAMSTOW.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slatter.—One of the principal attractions here this week is Mr Fred Karno's troupe of "speechless comedians," in the laughter-provoking pantomime burlesque, *Early Birds*. This amusing sketch has been seen on these boards before, but its boisterous fun is as gladly received as if it were played for the first time. Another amusing contribution to the evening's entertainment is found in Mr John Alexander and company in their sketch *Troubles of a Tourist*, in which Mr Alexander is very humorous in his delineation of Johnny Brown, an English tourist staying at the Grand Hotel, Paris. The chief is admirably supported by Mr Rob Ralston, Mr Woodville, Mdlle. Clarette, and Miss Greasley. The Sisters Darrell are pleasing duettists and dancers. The Neevillacs make a decided hit. Miss Cora Caselli is as dramatic as ever in her fine impersonation of a Spanish woman, while her dancing might be described as the poetry of motion. One of the prettiest turns of the evening is the Imperial Quartet, whose vocal and saltatory achievements are highly appreciated. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope shows some interesting and beautiful pictures.

KING'S THEATRE.—An acceptable performance of the stirring military drama *In the Ranks* occupies the boards at this house for the week, and receives ample justice from the clever company engaged. Miss Sara Mignon presents, as Ruth Herrick, one of those graceful impersonations in which she excels and is admired. There is much beautiful pathos in Miss Mignon's acting, relieved every now and again with outbursts of genuine passion when the scene demands its display. Mr Edward Charles is a soldierly looking Ned Drayton, and acts with convincing power. Mr Lillford Delph is good as the rascally Gideon Blake. Mr James Chippendale makes the most of his comic opportunities as Joe Buzzard. All the other parts in the long cast are adequately filled, while the scenery and general mounting of the play are irreproachable.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—During this week the stage here has been occupied by the musical comedy, *The Lady's Maid*, played by Mr Gore Ouseley's company. "The Maid" is impersonated by Miss Isa Bowman, who invests the rôle with spirit and brightness and contributes some smart dances. Mr Harry Fischer is amusing as Josiah Biffin; Mr Chal. T. Chaloner displays high talents as a comedian, his Samuel Spriggs being highly diverting; Mr Dennis Drew sings in excellent style as Lieutenant Marchmont; Mr Harold Eden is admirably suited as the Hon. August Puphpayst; Mr Joseph Wilson acts well as Pietro Conti; Miss Pauline Hague is a delightful Allson Grey; and Miss Noel Neville ably sustains the part of Zaza Marmosette.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—The Villions head the programme this week, and their clever entertainment wins unstinted applause; Bennett and Martell, comedians, cause roars of laughter; M. Stewart, tramp pianist, contribute a smart turn; the Mezzettis give a good turn on the three bars; Billy Farrell, black comedian, scores a success; Miss Flo Neville, ballad vocalist, sings well; Keir and Allen, comedians, are amusing; Walter Adams, comedian, is favourably received; and Mdlle. Florence, globe-trotter, wins hearty appreciation with her clever feats.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—This week Miss Olga Nethersole's company is here in *Sapho*. Miss Cecil Cromwell scores in the title-rôle; Mr Arthur Royston as Jean, the lover, plays with dramatic force; Uncle Césaire is in the capable hands of Mr Harry Dodd; while Mr Frank Melrose as Caoudal and Mr George Norman Burt as Déchélette are effective. Miss Florrie Rutter's Joseph and the other characters are well represented.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Messrs Marston and Buckstone's company, in *The Silver Cross*, is here this week. The rôle of Ben Adams is characteristically portrayed by Mr Frederick A. Marston; Mr Cliff Allen and Mr Harry Glenney do remarkably well as Arthur Merton and Philip Frewin; Ida Adams is ably delineated by Miss Maud Western; Mdlle. Pardoe contributes some excellent dances; and Mr Wilfred Hargreaves is a capital male soprano vocalist.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Mr Charles Frohman's company, under the direction of Mr C. E. Hamilton, in *Sherlock Holmes* is the attraction here this week. Mr Kenneth Rivington is entrusted with the character of the detective, and he fills it excellently. As Professor Moriarty Mr Ernest Gray scores a big success, entering into the spirit of the "emperor of crime" with praiseworthy faithfulness. Mr Fred Inwood enacts Dr. Watson with much commendation; Mr Charles E. Scutt as John Forman and Mr Charles Chaplin as Billy both do remarkably well. Mr Ernest Gray as James Larrabee, Mr Harry Stafford as Sydney Prince, and Mr Harry Mann as Alfred Bassic are all that can be desired. Miss Florence Radcliffe is admirable in the part of Alice Faulkner, and Miss Carry Lacey is well suited to the part of Madge Larrabee, and their acting is in every way excellent. Miss Marjorie Murray as Thérèse. Miss Ethel Gordon as Mrs Faulkner, and Mr J. F. Ansen as Parsons deserve mention.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Tom and Marie Motramo are here again, and in their musical act prove as great favourites as ever. Flo Deighton, ballad vocalist, is an acceptable turn; and Jack Hilton is an accomplished comedian. Moretta and Alice, gymnasts; Lue Lord, comedienne; Beaty and Blanchi, duettists; Dwight and Son, mimics and clog dancers, are all well received, and the pictures shown on the Royal Bioscope by Mr Wiesker delight crowded audiences.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Mr Fred L. Connyhame's No. 1 company is here in the powerful domestic drama *A Mother's Love*. Mr Arthur Rose as Paul Wingate and Mr Shenton as Mr Fred Geoffrey Mannering evoke loud applause. Matt Ruddock is efficiently embodied by Mr Fred Connyngham; Mr Willie Barrett as Joe Jackson and Mr E. Vicars Rees as Martin Yeast do excellent work; Miss Laurie A. Pardy portrays the part of Eilaine Mervin in excellent style; Miss Violet Macaree submits a fine study as Winnie Wingate; Miss Bertha Hanbury scores in the role of Marjorie Wingate; and Miss Lallah Davis is very good as Mary Smart.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—Mr Edmund Tearle, who is at all times a welcome visitor here, is once more appearing with his company. In *Virginius*, which was played on Monday, Mr Tearle is seen to advantage in the title-rôle, and Miss Esther Tearle plays with touching pathos the rôle of Virginia. Mr Edmund Grogan as Icilius handles the part with naturalness. Mr Wm. J. Miller is a satisfactory Appius Claudius. The répertoire for the week includes *Julius Cæsar*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Jeanie Deans*, and *Under the Red Robe*.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—At the head of the company here are the Sisters Merkell, four smart young ladies, who go through some astounding acrobatic feats. The sketch, *A Little Piece of String*, is well played by the Harris L. Bell and Lilly Pearl company. The Leslie Brothers are responsible for considerable merriment in their funny musical potpourri; Daisy Davidson, soprano, charms all by her rendering of favourite selections; Onda and Artell are gymnastic artistes of considerable ability, and the turns by Ida Ross, Tyrolean vocalist; Star and Jerome, coon vocalists; and Lily Flexmore, legmania danseuse, are all successful.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAAILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Payne.—Messrs W. T. Elworthy and J. Buckley's company is appearing here this week in *Liberty Hall* and *A Pair of Spectacles*. In the former play Mr Leonard Pagden gave a thoroughly artistic interpretation of Mr Owen; the William Todman of Mr W. T. Elworthy was a character-study meriting the highest praise; Mr Brember Wills acted admirably as Mr Hickson; Mr Harold Standing as Mr Gerald Harringay and Mr Escott Robson as J. Briginshaw were commendable impersonations; Mr C. Welden was excellent as Mr Pedrick; and Mr J. Wilkinson, jun., as Robert Binks and Mr J. Squires as Luscombe were both laudable performances. It is impossible to speak too highly of Miss Beth Elliott's Blanche Chilworth, and Miss Kathleen Maitland made a charming Amy. As Miss Hickson Miss P. Davies exhibited much talent, and Miss Enid Ross was good as Crafer.

WEXFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr E. P. Ronan.—A first-class variety company occupies the boards this week, and the innovation is much appreciated by local playgoers. Chivers and De Monti gave a clever exhibition of trick and fancy skating; Ivy Graham songs are thoroughly enjoyed; Arthur Beecham is funny, his dancing also proving acceptable; and Akbar's gymnastic turn is one of the best. Bella Leaburn is heard to advantage in her latest successes; Le Hurst gives a fine exhibition as a ventriloquist; and Charles Ousley, the coloured artiste, in his eccentric songs and dances, creates much enthusiasm.

WHITEHAVEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Clark.—Mr Charles R. Stone's company is appearing here in the musical comedy *What Became of Mrs Rackett?* Mr C. R. Stone appears as Obadiah Dawson, and is very droll. Mr Gerald Wyatt is responsible for a lot of the fun as Timothy Tolman, and Mr E. Rawlinson is good as Robert Rackett, singing and acting in a clever manner. Miss E. Madelle is a charming Mrs Rackett, and Miss Daisy Stone a lively and pleasing Katey, whilst excellent support is given by Mr S. Junior (Hobson), Mr E. Clarke (Mr Dalroy), and the Misses Vida Hill, Emmie Hill, and Letitia Flop.

ROYAL STANDARD OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Tom Dyson; Manager, Mr Walter Lang.—The company engaged here includes the Peel Family, instrumentalists, vocalists, and dancers; H. Shepard, musical expert; Miss May Blowden, serio; Jessie Lloyd, ballad vocalist; Fred Myers, comedian; Walter Lang, vocalist; and the Saxons, duettists and dancers.

WIDNES.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr James Kiddie; Secretary and Manager, Mr T. Swinton.—Hardie and Von Leer's company, in the popular play *Two Little Vagabonds*, is once again occupying the boards here. Miss Phyllis French and Miss Violet Carr as the two chums, Dick and Wally, arouse sympathy; Miss Elena Lonsdale as Marion Thornton acts with womanly charm; and Miss Daisy Royale is very successful in the part of Barbara Scarth. Mr Talbot Homewood is well suited to the rôle of George Thornton; Mr Douglas Cecil impersonates Captain Darville in a manly spirit; the humorous element is ably carried out by Mr H. Hesselgrave and Miss Eleanor Papéry as Bill and Biddy Mullins; and they are ably supported by Mr Charles T. Doe and Mr Chas. H. Hughes as Dido and the Coughdrop respectively.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—This week's engagement consists of Mr Louis Calvert and Mr Herbert Ross's company in *Sunday*. Miss Marie Polini appeared in the title-rôle, and her delineation was characterised by much skill, the lively and pathetic parts being alike artistic and clever. Mr W. Edwyn Holloway was seen to advantage as Colonel Brinthorpe; Mr John Holloway was good as Arthur Brinthorpe; and Mr Arthur Willoughby did well as Tom Oxley. In the part of Towzer Mr Henry Stephenson did admirably; Mr David Curtis was an efficient Davy; Mr Alfred Phillips scored as Lively; and Mr Arthur Somers was capital as Jacky. The remaining characters were well filled by Mr Hugh Breton, Miss Maude Henderson, and Miss Dorothy Gordon.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Manager, Mr Henry L. Compton.—The attraction here this week consists of *The Queen of the Night*, which is being performed by Mr James Stillwell's company, including Miss V. St. Lawrence and Mr Bert Atherton.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—A number of popular turns at this house include Sandford and Lyons, comedians; Tom Woottwell, comedian; and Belle Davis and her piccaninnies, vocalists and dancers. The Brothers Levett, acrobats; Nellie Young, vocalist and dancer; Private John Clark, the soldier vocalist; the Seltina Troupe of acrobats; Irene Rose, vocalist; the Eight Olympian Stars; and the Bioscope are also in the bill.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, in the drama, *The Village Blacksmith*, is at the Court Theatre this week. Mr Sam Livesey gives a powerful portrayal of the part of John Strong, in the title-rôle, and Miss Ethel Kay admirably impersonates the character of the blacksmith's wife. The other parts are also well represented.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—The Six Brothers Luck give a number of very amusing sketches. Keen and Walad are recalled in their comedy acrobatic act, and Mabel Thorne is an admirable comedienne. H. O. Wills, comedian, is popular, and Heywood and Lidden give an acceptable musical mélange. Mrs Luck, comedienne; the Three Gregsons and Charles Beanland, comedian, are also very entertaining.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—The Jetneys are fulfilling a return engagement as the "dusky dandies," and John Marks, tenor vocalist, and Miss Maud Dellar, comedienne, are loudly applauded. York, Mack, and York cause much merriment in a comedy act. Stern and Stern, vocalists and speciality artistes; Teddy May and Harry Slade, comedians, and the Delamere Trio, comedy equilibrists, are well received.

WORKINGTON.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Stanley Rogers.—Mr John Leopold's company opened on Monday with the *New Frivolity*, which kept the audience in roars of laughter. The acrobatic performance of the Leopolds secured hearty applause. Mr H. Lewis as Buckwheat was excellent; Mr W. Vaughan as Jules was effective; Mr B. Zupino as Samuel was attractive; as the French detective Mr John Kelly was amusing; Miss R. Wyndham was good as Madame Cobweb; and she was well supported by Miss Amy Hall, Miss Vera Violate, Miss Mona Hall, and Miss Queenie Bronte.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Helsby Wright.—On Monday night there was a large audience to welcome Miss Daisy De Roy, an old favourite, and her variety company. She was artistically attired, and her singing and dancing were frequently encored. She was supported by Mdlle. Dora, who was successful on the oboe; the Musical Japs, who were well received; F. C. Brooks, Rae and Rae, Miss L. Weldon, Mr F. Royle, Bendo, Miss Hilda De Gray, Wallace, and Giacomo.

WREXHAM.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls.—This week the Five Rhynes, a clever quintet, head the bill, while among those appearing are Doolan and Daly, Luke Sharpe, Albert Ventor, and Lil Gorman.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—After a long absence *The Still Alarm* is with us again, meeting as usual with great success. All the members of the company are artistes of sterling merit, Mr Matthew H. Glenville as the hero being particularly conspicuous, giving a breezy and natural rendition. As Elinore Fordham, Miss May Lovett looks charming and acts in a delightfully fresh style. Hetty Zillwood is lively and amusing as Carrie Wilber, and Mr Tom Beasley as Willie Manley has a part in which he is a distinct success. There is some clever glee singing, and the performance throughout is both bright and interesting.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sydney Brooke.—Neil Kenyon is anything but an unspeakable Scott, and during the week has been delighting large audiences by his quaint, and what is more to the point, original sayings. Mr Charles Morritt is an illusionist of the first rank, his show astonishing all. Angeline, lady juggler, does some remarkable feats with a cannon ball; Prince Fee Lung's conjuring tricks are enjoyed; Miss Dora Lyric quickly sang herself into popularity; and Mr R. W. Bently is vociferously applauded for his really amusing singing. Tom Owen, Flemine, and a blind calculator complete the bill.

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BOOTLE.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre and Music Hall Reports Weekly. Address, "DRAMATICUS," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

BRADFORD.—PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Will all Companies please note that Mr Francis Laidler has only Oct. 23, Nov. 6, 13, and 27 Vacant in Autumn, 1905, for the greatest Dramatic Attractions only. He has positively no other Vacant Date, except one week in July next, until March, 1906.

Whilst wishing to be courteous to all, as Mr Laidler finds it impossible to reply to the great number of applications for Dates, silence must please be taken as a Polite Negative.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE (Ltd.). Managing Director, Mr W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L. A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times. No Vacant Dates in this Year. Now Booking for 1905. Silence polite negative. Address, Mr W. B. REDFERN, as above.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

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Erected at a Cost of £20,000.
The Largest Theatre, so far, Built by this Syndicate.
This Magnificent Building opened on Monday, 14th inst., to a Crowded and Enthusiastic Audience, who welcomed the inception and testified their appreciation of this Beautiful and Up-to-date Theatre in no measured terms.
The opening attraction, "Florodora."
Kirkcaldy is the best break between Edinburgh or Glasgow and Dundee.
Population of Town and Districts, 76,000.
The Electric Tram Service is being greatly extended.
New Harbour Works about to be commenced at a cost of £150,000.
Esp'anade Scheme just passed. Probable cost, £18,000.
Trade in general good.
The Money Capacity of Theatre, £170.
The Prices range from 4d. to 3s.
It is intended to book this Theatre with Falkirk, Three Nights each,
thus ensuring an enormous week's business.
The Bookings comprise:—
"Florodora," Wentworth Croke's Company in "The Christian," Lawrence Brough's "Lady of Ostend," Horace Lingard in "Why Smith Left Home," Charles Frohman's "Are You a Mason," Fred Karno's "His Majesty's Guests," Charles Macdona's "Chinese Honeymoon," Edward Compton and Company, "Belle of New York," Fredk. Mouillot's "Runaway Girl" and "A Message from Mars," Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's Companies, &c.
Vacant Dates,
Nov. 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12,
Dec. 26, and Feb. 27.
All communications re Dates to
R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.
Sole Proprietor, Lieut.-Col. J. A. WINSTANLEY.
No Vacant Dates Spring, 1905.
Re Autumn Dates, 1905, address,
GEO. M. SLATER,
Royal Opera House, Leicester.

LEYLAND PUBLIC HALL,
LANCASHIRE.—Stage, 30ft. by 20ft. Proscenium. Seats 800. Balcony. District Population, 8,000. Small Stock Scenery. No Sharing.
Vacant Dates for Companies or Entertainers.
Apply, MANAGING DIRECTOR, Park House, Leyland.

Still the Mascotte of South Wales.
MERTHYR, THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Freeholder, and Manager, WILL SMITHSON.
The Business Capabilities of this Theatre are well known.
Bookings include:—Geo. Dance's "Chinese Honeymoon," "San Toy," "Toreador," "My Lady Molly," Van Biene, The Leopolds, "The Eternal City," F. R. Benson and Company, "New Mephisto," "Sherlock Holmes," William Greet's "Sign of the Cross," "Floradora," "The Christian," &c., and a host of First-class Attractions. Nothing booked but Big Successes. First-class Band, Electric Lighting, Good Stock of Scenery, and Real Live Management, W. S., on spot.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

MIDDLESBROUGH. — TEMPERANCE HALL.—Accommodates 2,000. New Heating Apparatus and Electric Light. Best Hall in the Town. 200,000 people within reach. Choirs, Minstrels, Exhibitions, &c. Apply for special terms to the SECRETARY.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE.
Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN.
General Manager, CHAS. M. JULIAN.
Vacant Easter, Whit, and on, for Musical Attractions.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN.

NORWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Enlarged, Redecorated, Lighted throughout by Electricity, Upholstered by Dean and Co.
No Vacant Dates this year.
Now Booking 1905.
Address, FRED MORGAN, as above.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE.
Manager, CHARLES P. COOKE.
Vacant Easter.
First-class Attraction only.
Silence a courteous negative.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—The Premier Theatre. Telephone, 362.
Vacant Dates for Musical Attractions,
March 20, 27, and various in May.
ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr THOMAS LUCAS, J.P., Managing-Director.
Silence a polite negative.

PECKHAM.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre Reports Weekly. Address, "DRAMATICUS," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

PLYMOUTH. — GRAND THEATRE.—Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class Attractions only.
For Dates, apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS,
Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

PORTSMOUTH, NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. BOUGHTON.
Open throughout the Year.
First-class Companies.
Weekly Matinées.

PORTSMOUTH.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Nov. 21, Harry Edson, H. Lee, G. H. Elliott, Sisters Leroy, W. J. Churchill, Great Scott, Barton and Franklin, the Daintons, Great Northern Troupe.
Rehearsal at 2·0 p.m.
All communications to the SECRETARY.

SEACOMBE. — IRVING THEATRE.—Enormous Success of the Reopening.
Travelling Managers delighted with the Nightly Receipts.

Vacant Dates for First-class Attractions 1905.

Required, First-class Pantomimes for February, 1905.

Good Business done here with First-class Companies.
Wire or write to JAS. KIERNAN, Manager.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.—EMPIRE THEATRE. — Managing Director, W. MARLOW. Manager, W. MARLOW, Jun. The Prettiest and Most Popular Place of Amusement in the Town.
Bookings include:—
All the Principal Touring Companies.
Vacant Dates,
Nov. 21, 28, Jan. 9, 16, and on.
Managers of First-class Companies only please apply, W. MARLOW, Jun., as above.

SOUTHPORT. — OPERA HOUSE.—One or Two Spring Dates Vacant for First-class Attractions.
WINTER GARDEN PAVILION to Let, on Share or Rental. High-class Concerts, Entertainments of like kind, Panoramas, Pictures, &c.
ALFRED HEMMING, Manager.

SOUTHPORT.—HIPPODROME.—Re-opens on Monday, Dec. 12, under the Direction of MURRAY KING and CLARK.
Two Performances Nightly.

ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA. — PIER PAVILION.—Seating accommodation for 1,000 persons. Over 500 tip-up chairs. Permanent stage, 33ft. by 18ft. Good Dressing Rooms. Available on sharing terms or rental for Concert Parties, Variety Companies, Minstrels, Entertainers, Exhibitions, and Lectures, &c.
Apply, MANAGER, THE PIER, ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE OPERA HOUSE and THEATRE ROYAL.
Managing-Director, CHAS. E. MACHIN.
General Manager, PERCIVAL CRAIG.
Only Vacant Dates.
AVENUE.
Nov. 28, May 22, 29, June 5.
ROYAL.
Dec. 19, Feb. 13, 20, March 27, April 10, 17, and on
Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred.
Apply, C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre and Music Hall Reports Weekly. Address, "DRAMATICUS," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

WAKEFIELD. — OPERA HOUSE. —
Vacant Dec 12, 19, and 26.
Silence in all cases a polite negative for Date quoted.

Apply, SHERWOOD and Co., Theatre, Wakefield.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, THE WALSALL THEATRES Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, W. H. WESTWOOD.—Holds £180. Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. First Vacant Dates, Dec. 12, Jan. 16, April 3, 10, and 17.

WEST BROMWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Open All the Year Round.
Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre
Every Date Booked till Autumn, except May 22 and 29.
All communications to J. P. MOORE, on the Spot.

WOKING.—PUBLIC HALL.—JOHN SMYTH, Secretary.
The Hall is fitted with Electric Light,
Scenery by Hinton, Tip-up Seats by Deans, of Birmingham.
The Stage has recently been Enlarged.
Good Attractions only Required.
J. LEWIS, Manager.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Under the Management of Herr C. ADOLF SEEBOLD
Vacant Dates from Dec. 8, onwards, also Christmas for good Panto. First-class Companies only. Three Days or Week. Silence a polite negative.

WORTHING.—THEATRE ROYAL.—Under entirely New Management. Bookings include Mrs Lewis Waller, "Duke of Killicrankie," "Monsieur Beaucaire," Mrs Bandman Palmer, Benson's Shakespearian Company, "Message from Mars," "La Poupée," "Florodora," &c. Vacant Dates from Dec. 8, onwards Three Nights and Matinée. C. ADOLF SEEBOLD, Manager. First-class attractions only. Silence a polite negative.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRES,
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"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies for
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, April 17, on.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, 17, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 6, March 20, 27, April 3, 17, May 1, 8 (Race Week), 15, 22, 29, June 5
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Feb. 23 (Three Nights), March 20, 27, April 3, 17, May 8, 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, April 3, 17, May 1, 8, June 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
Feb. 27, March 6, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 22, 29, June 5, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant,
Dec. 12, Jan. 9, 16 (Six Nights each), Feb. 16, 20, March 6, 13, 20, 27, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant Spring, 1905.
TERRISS THEATRE.
Dec. 5 and Spring.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Dec. 5, 12. Also Big Attraction for Jan. 9.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Company,
Theatre Royal, Stockton.
Nov. 28, Vacant.

Wire, BACON, Gateshead.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Good Drama, Dec. 19, through transferring. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Electric Plant (Three Colours) installed. Address, HERBERT VERE.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, three Nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 6, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Nov. 24, Dec. 1, 26, Jan. 26, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies Dec. 12, Three Nights, Luton and Bedford; Dec 19, Three Nights, Luton. E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Dec. 26, Three Nights, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 13 and 27.
Receipts Last Week,
£305 in Three Nights.
Derry was once noted for citizens whose tastes inclined very much to the drama. In fact, they were a theatre-going public. But theatrical life in Derry for a good many years past has been dull in the extreme. With the advent of an enterprising theatrical manager to our city, such as Mr Payne Seddon—to whom Irish provincial towns owe a deep debt of gratitude for the efficient manner in which he catered for them in his tours—let us hope that a new era has dawned on the local theatrical sphere, and that we may see nightly at the Derry Opera an audience such as was witnessed last evening.—Belfast Evening Telegraph, Nov. 8.
Next Week, "A Chinese Honeymoon."
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GEO. ROBERTSON.
This Handsome New Theatre will be Opened at Christmas.
WANTED, Companies, April 17, May 1, and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 19, 26, Feb. 27, March 27, and on.
Last Three Days of each Week only Booked.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, Good Comedy Companies, Now and on, Three Nights.
Good Pantomime, Dec. 26.
Now booking Season 1905.
Apply, C. A. HUTTON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL
WANTED, First-class Musical Attraction for Dec 12, week.
Address, till Monday morning,
JNO. H. FRENCH, Eccentric Club, Shaftesbury-ave., W.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Dec. 5, 19, Jan 2, 9 Address, E. F. GOULDAN.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec 12 (?) Jan. 23 (?), 30, Feb. 13, 20 (Musical), April 10 (Musical). Thanks Miss Grace Warner for offer of Third Return within Thirteen Months. This speaks for itself This week, "Girl from Japan." Also thanks Percy Hutchison, Esq., for offer, "Cousin Kate" and "A Country Mouse," No. 1 Cos. Also Charles Macdona, Esq., for Offer, "Monsieur Beaucaire." FRED L. CONNINGHAME.

RAMSGATE.—SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Company, Jan 25 (Three Nights).
Address, HENRY BOWMAN, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, CHESTERFIELD,
Vacant Dec, 19
THEATRE ROYAL, ATTERCLIFFE.
Vacant Dec. 19.
WANTED, Sound Dramatic Attractions.
FRANK MACNAGHTEN, Palace Chambers, Lincoln.

THEATRE ROYAL, RUNCORN.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 5, 19, and 26
Address, CADDICK.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr STANLEY ROGERS
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Preferred, Dec. 19 (Three Nights), Jan. 5 (Three Nights), Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, on, with exceptions.
Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

HARROGATE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.
WANTED, First-class Company,
Dec. 5, 6, 7, Three Nights.
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
March 13, 27, April 24, May 1, 8.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 6, 11, March 6, 20, 27.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
March 13, April 10, 17, May 8, 15, 29, June 5.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, June 12, 19, July 31.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, Feb. 27, April 3, 10, 17.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three or Six Nights), 12 (Three Nights only), 19.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Nov. 28, Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23.

CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
No Vacancies.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 9 (Three Nights).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights), 24, May 1, 8, 15.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three Nights), 19,
Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 6 (Three Nights).

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Attraction for Dec. 19.
Also First-class Musical Shows for March 6 and 20.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, Jan. 23, 30, March 13 and 20.
Business Better than Ever.
First-class Pantomime write.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Dec. 12 (Three Nights), Dec. 19.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON.

GRAND THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Lessee, Mr FRANK BOYCE;
Acting-Manager, Mr WALTER BELLIAN.
WANTED, Good Attraction, Musical Preferred, for Nov. 28.
Wire particulars, BELLIAN.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Good Pantomime or any Big Attraction,
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26,
or could Open Dec. 24.
Good Business certain.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, General Manager.

WANTED, through Cancelling. First-class Attraction for Royal Court Theatre, Warrington, Dec. 5. Address, J. POTTER.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Good Attractions for Dec. 5, 12, 19, on.
Christmas and New Year Open,
Two Big Holiday Weeks.
Apply, H. ADDISON, LIMITED.

WANTED, a First-class Attraction, Dec. 12, for the Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, Empire, Oldham.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE,
SOUTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Dec. 5 and 12,
First-class Dramatic Attractions.
Open through cancelling to oblige.
Wire, GORDON, as above

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Company for Dec. 12,
Dec. 12,
Dec. 12.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

GRAND THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.
WANTED, First-class Company for Dec. 12,
Dec. 12,
Dec. 12.
Silence in all cases a polite negative.
Apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS, Theatre Royal, Plymouth.

WANTED, First-class Attractions
for
Dec 5 and 12.
Apply,
Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24a, Regent-street, S.W.

WANTED, Musical Comedies and Good Plays for Winter and Spring Dates.
Apply, H. E. BRAMMALL, Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Companies Vacant, Nov. 22, 29 30, Dec. 5, 6, 7, Dec. 12, and on; also Christmas for Musical Show. Share or certainty. JAMES ELPHINSTONE

WANTED, Good Combination. Big Attractions, Nov. 28, Chorley (through Cancelling), Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Grand Theatres, Chorley and Radcliffe. SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, Companies, Dec 19-26, April 10, 17. J. EDWARD WHITTY, 22, Berners-st., London, W.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management
Capital, £155,000.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK
Dec. 12, Dec. 19,
Jan. 2, New Year Week (?).
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
Feb. 20 (Three Nights).
KING'S THEATRE KIRKCALDY.
Nov. 28 (Three Nights), Dec. 12, Dec. 26.
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
Dec. 1 (Three Nights).
NEW GAIETY THEATRE CLYDEBANK.
Jan. 23, Feb. 20.
NEW CENTURY, MOTHERWELL.
Business Booming.
Last Week's Receipts, £347 16s. 9d.

Important.—Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred. The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.

Address all communications to
R. C. BUCHANAN.
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Jan. 9 (?), 23, 30, and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Jan. 9 (?), 16, Feb. 20, and on.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON, N.
WANTED, High-class and Musical Attractions, Feb. 27, March 13, 20, and onwards.
Address,
F. W. PURCELL, Alexandra Theatre, N.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE, HOLLOWAY, N.
WANTED, High-class and Musical Attractions.
Feb. 13, March 6, 20, and onwards.
Address, F. W. PURCELL, Alexandra Theatre, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, SHEFFIELD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Dec. 12, Feb. 27, March 20, 27, and on.
Address, F. W. PURCELL,
Alexandra Theatre, London, N.

PALACE THEATRE,
NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Productions
for
Christmas
and
New Year's Weeks.
Musical preferred.
Apply,
T. W. ROWE.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Booked in Conjunction with the
NEW GRAND HALL and THEATRE, ABERAVON.
Three Nights each. Short Journey.
WANTED, Big Attractions,
Dec. 5, 12, onwards.
Christmas Vacant at Aberavon.
Address, JOHN TULLY, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

NEW GRAND HALL, ABERAVON.
This Magnificent New Theatre, now nearing completion, will open on Nov. 24.
Lighted throughout by Electricity.
Specially heated with Hot-water Pipes.
Seated with Tip-up and Upholstered Chairs.
Stage to accommodate anything Travelling.
The most comfortable Theatre in Wales.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
Three Nights Each.
Booked in conjunction with Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.
All communications re dates to
JOHN TULLY,
Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, April 17, and Dates in May and June. Now Booking Autumn, 1905. Splendid business has been done recently under present energetic Management. The Right Attractions are thoroughly boomed, and every assistance given to Travelling Managers. Enormous Business during Visit of Sir Henry Irving. The Theatre (which holds 3,000) packed from floor to ceiling at Double Prices throughout.
Address all communications, F. EDWARDS.

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, for Week of Dec. 5.
Wire, To-day, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Southampton.
Next week, Broadway Theatre, New-cross, S.E.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Co. or Pantomime, Jan. 2, 1905. E. H. PAGE.
Have February, on, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.
WANTED, through obliging a Manager, First-class Company,
Dec. 5.
Address, J. F. ELLISTON.

PALACE PIER THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
Vacant unexpectedly through obliging.
WANTED, Nov. 28 and Dec. 5 Weeks, Six Matinées and Two Nights. Musical Attractions Preferred. Also Jan. 9, 1905, onwards. Full particulars, DREW MACKINTOSH, P. P., Brighton.

WANTED (through Cancelling), First-class Attractions only, Musical or Dramatic, for Dec. 12 and 19, 1904, and few Vacant Dates in 1905.
Address, DEWHURST,
New Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs.

IPSWICH LYCEUM.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 8 (Three Nights), Dec. 12 (Six Nights).
Apply, W. G. FISK.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe, Cheshire, First-class Attractions for October, onwards. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, Attractions, Theatre Royal, North Shields, Jan. 16, 30, March 13.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House.
Silence infers courteous negative for these dates.

KING'S THEATRE, CARDIFF.
WANTED.—First Vacant Date, March 6, through "Temptress" going off Road. Must be New to Cardiff. Best Dramas only. FRANK BATEMAN.

HIPPODROME THEATRE, NEW BROMPTON, KENT.
Stage 30ft. opening, 33ft. deep, 21ft. high.
WANTED, for Christmas and onwards, on Share or Rental, a complete Pantomime Company capable of producing an Up-to-date Draw. Suitable applicants are invited to inspect the Building. An immediate reply is requested. My Season here only terminates Dec 17, 1904, through arrangements previously made for another town. T. G. TRANSFIELD, Hippo. Theatre, Gillingham, New Brompton.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 16 and Feb. 6.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, for Shodfriar's Hall, BOSTON, First-class Companies, Two Nights, December; also Christmas open and January. Musical Comedy preferred. Mrs B. STORR, Lessee.

COMPANIES WANTED

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.
Dec. 12, March 27, April 3, 24, May 1, 8.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
Now in floodtide of success.
Good Attractions Take Good Money.
Closed Last Week, £53, Saturday,
the worst night in the week being £20.
Full Staff, Good Band, Well Advertised.
Vacant for First-class Attractions Only,
Feb. 20 27, March 20, April 10.
STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA,
Jan. 9 (possible Jan. 2), March 6, 13, 20,
Only the Very Best Attractions Entertained.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."

WANTED, Feb. 27, March 6, Pantomime or Musical Show preferred.

This Theatre is as near to the centre of Prince's-street as any Theatre in Edinburgh. Is Heated hot water both back and front. Electric Light throughout. Holds 3,000 people; Seats 2,500. Over 400 Tip-up Stalls (2s. and 1s. 6d.). Smoking allowed by authorities. Electric Fan Ventilators and all Modern Conveniences.

Several Autumn Dates and a few Spring Dates open for Best Dramatic and Musical Attractions only.
EADE MONTEFIORE, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."
Telephone, 2,000.

THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Musical preferred,
Nov. 21,
Dec. 12, 19, 26,
Jan. 23, 30,
Feb. 6, and on, with exceptions.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
Vacant, through Transfer of Date, Dec. 12 next.

WANTED, High-class Drama only.
Wire or write,
CLARKE, General Manager,
Theatre Royal, Leicester.

WANTED, First-class Company,
Victoria Theatre, Mansfield,
Dec. 1, 2, 3, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 (three Nights only).

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12 (South),
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 20.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Aug. 7, 14.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, Feb. 13.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Fredk Melville's
New Production.

WANTED, Nov. 28 (possibly Vacant), Jan. 16 and 23.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 30, Feb. 13.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

WANTED, Feb. 13, 20, near London.
FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

WANTED, Important Theatres, March 6 and April 10. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects Bookings include:—Grand, Islington; Shakespeare, Clapham: Terriss Theatre; Alexandra, Hull; Liverpool, Jarrow, Brixton Theatre, Elephant and Castle Theatre, West London, Middlesbrough; Metropole, Birmingham; Junction and Osborne Theatres, Manchester; Broadway Theatre, Deptford. Note.—The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville. Address all communications, DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."

WANTED, Weeks of Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, for the above remarkable success.
Wire, To-day, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Southampton; next week, Broadway Theatre, New-cross, S.E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Feb. 6 and 27.
Wire, To-day, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Southampton; next week, Broadway Theatre, New-cross, S.E.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23, Feb. 27, April 24, or.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, York, Return.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
No Vacant Dates until Nov. 13, 1905.

WANTED, Big Theatres only, then and on, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge, Six Nights, Nov. 21st.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"

WANTED, Good Theatres, Dec. 19, 1904; Jan. 9, 1905, onwards, with exceptions.
CHARLES R. STONE,
Wire, To-day, Theatre Royal, Whitehaven; next week, Theatre Royal, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

"SILVER KING."

WANTED, Dates, Dec 26 (Mid-England), Jan. 23, May 1 to 29, Sept 4, 11, Oct. 16, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4, 1905.
Address, POLINI,
93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Feb. 27, for "Her Fatal Past." Good Theatre only. Big Success at T. R., Stratford; also this week, Sutton-in-Ashfield. Please refer communications, WARD, A. T., Stourbridge.

"THE GRIP OF IRON."
"THE GRIP OF IRON."

WANTED.—Unexpectedly Vacant, Jan. 2 and 9,
North or Scotland.
GEORGE DENHAM,
this, Opera House, Kidderminster; next, Royal, Bilston.

CARSON, GRANVILLE, and THORNE'S COMPANY,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."

WANTED, for this Enormous Production, Jan. 23 and 30.
Everything Carried.
Exceptionally Strong Cast.
Drawing big Money everywhere.

Address,
FRED GRANVILLE,
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, Big Theatres,
Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 20, to follow Nottingham;
April 24, to follow Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, Royalty, Morecambe.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."

WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15, onwards. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Grand Theatre, Swansea.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."

WANTED, Jan. 2 (through Misunderstanding). FRED BULMER, Star Theatre, Swansea.

"IF I WERE KING," Frank Fenton's Spring Tour.

WANTED, Three Nights, Feb. 16, 17, 18, to Follow Cambridge, Three Nights, March 20, 21, and 22, to Precede Oxford; April 10, 24, May 1, on with Exceptions.
FRANK FENTON, O. H., Leamington.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER" by Wilson Barrett.

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, and March 6.
W. V. GARROD, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including the

Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, Dec. 5,
Jan. 2,
Jan. 9 (?),
Jan. 16, 23, 30,
March 6,
March 13, 20;
also Whit Week.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield;
W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq, Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Mrs Gordon, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Southampton;
F. Laidler, Esq, Prince's, Bradford;
J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth;
J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington;
Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston (Holiday Week).

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Theatre Royal, Leigh (Lancs).

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
A Great Revival.

WANTED, Jan. 2 and onwards.
An Unprecedented Success under the present Management.
Chorus and Troupe of Dancers,
added to a First-class Cast and a Magnificent Production
New Scenery and Costumes.
Bookings and Rebookings this Year:—
Shakespeare, Clapham; Opera House, Cheltenham; Crouch-end, Theatre Royal, Plymouth; Bath, Nottingham, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells; Norwich, Wakefield, Theatre Royal, Hull; Bournemouth, Southampton Liverpool, Lincoln, Seacombe, Colchester, &c.
Christmas, Easter, and August Bank Holiday settled.
LESLIE NORMAN,
King's Lynn, Three; Grantham, Three.

MISS WINIFRED MAUDE'S COMPANY.

"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
by Nita Rae.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 19, 26.

Thanks Frank Macnaghten, Esq., Messrs Sherwood Brothers, Addison, Ltd.; George Greene, Esq, E. Whitty, Esq., for offers.
A Production Second to None.
Nov. 20, Cambridge Theatre, Spennymoor.

"SAPHO."

WANTED, Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 9,
Dec. 12, Jan. 2, 9.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the Most Popular Version on the Stage.
Enormous Business being done everywhere.
Wire for Dec. 12, Jan 2, 9,
JAMES BELL, Coliseum Theatre, Oldham (Return).

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."

WANTED, Nov. 28, Nov. 28, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 19,
for this great Attraction.
All Scenery carried.
Powerful Company. Racehorses Toured.
Refer Alexandra, Sheffield, or Rotunda, Liverpool, as to Show.
Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Prince's, Blackburn; Next, Grand, Stalybridge.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S
"A LONDON ACTRESS" COMPANY.

WANTED, Christmas and New Year Weeks for above really good Show. Birmingham Owl says:—"A London Actress" is an alluring title, and proves a real money-maker.
Christmas and New Year Vacant, and on with exceptions.
Address, STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Middleton; Nov. 28 Theatre Royal, Aston.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
Also Grand Revival,
"£1,000 REWARD."

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 23, 30.
Address, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
Elaborate Plant of Pictorials.
A Drama of Intense Human Interest, interspersed with Original Comedy and Up-to-Date Musical Numbers.
The above will be Toured in First-class Style by
ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.

WANTED, Dates in Spring and Whit Week (South), and various onwards.
All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON,
Strathmore, Norfolk House-road, Streatham, S.W.

IAN MACLAREN'S TOUR.
"THE PRINCE OF ROGUES."
"THE PRINCE OF ROGUES."

WANTED, Theatres for this Splendid Attraction,
January and onwards, with Exceptions.
Excellent Cast, Beautifully Mounted, Dressed, and well Advertised.
IAN MACLAREN,
This, New Gaiety Theatre, Leith;
next Paisley and Perth.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Jan 9, to follow St. James's, Manchester.

Mr Gore Ouseley's
No. 1
Company.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID"
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

The
Newest
Brightest,
and
Best
Musical Comedy
on Tour.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

A Splendid Production.
A Superlative Cast.
A Stupendous Success.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID"
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

The Piece has met with a Magnificent Reception Throughout the South.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID"
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

Not a Tour,
but a Triumphal Progress.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

Each Number Greeted Nightly with a Roar of Acclamation, Culminating in Salvoes of Applause.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID"
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

Miss Isa Bowman and Mr Chal. T. Chaloner's Duet in Second Act necessitated Nine Encores on Monday Night. The greatest difficulty was experienced in subduing the frenzied excitement of the Audience.

A Superlative Cast.

Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.
Miss Isa Bowman.

Her performance is nothing short of a triumphant creation of genius.—Western Daily News.

Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.
Mr Harry Fischer.

Kept the house in a roar from the rise to the fall of the curtain. His part bristles with humour, and, consummate artist as he is, he made every syllable and sentence go for all it was worth.—Sussex Daily News.

Mr Chal. T. Chaloner.
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner.
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner.
Mr Chal. T. Chaloner.

Secured a veritable triumph as Samuel Spriggs, the waiter. He has a great part, which he plays with consummate humour, skill, and ability.—Eastbourne Daily Gazette.

Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.
Miss Pauline Hague.

Has a charming voice and appearance. Her success was immediate, every number being vociferously encored.—Western Daily News.

Miss Noel Neville.
Miss Noel Neville.
Miss Noel Neville.
Miss Noel Neville.

Has perhaps the best part in a piece endowed to an extraordinary extent with really good acting parts. Her song "Vanity Fair" is one of the most striking numbers in a play which has the good fortune to possess songs and dances of surpassing excellence.—London Advertiser.

Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.
Mr Dennis Drew.

With a splendid rich baritone voice, easy bearing, and fine stage presence, brought down the house with his magnificent soldier song, which cannot help being the rage at every town visited by "The Lady's Maid."—Sussex Daily News.

Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.
Mr Harold Eden.

Plays the funniest characterisation of a stage dude it has been our good fortune to witness in the funniest possible manner.—Eastbourne Society.

THE CHORUS.

Lent valuable and material help to the principals. They will compare favourably with any of the highly lauded American choruses imported to our shores in recent years. They work with astonishing verve and go, have magnificent and, what is just as important, really well trained voices. To us who are not in the secret as to how these things are managed it is an inexplicable puzzle how a number of ladies of such surpassing loveliness can be gathered together in a single company.—Eastbourne Society.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

A dainty, delightful musical comedy, admirably produced, was the unanimous verdict of an enormous house at the Queen's Theatre last Monday night.—Swindon Advertiser.

"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."
"THE LADY'S MAID."

In addition to above,
Mr Joseph Wilson
joined the Company last week.

Wanted
Jan. 9,
to follow St. James's, Manchester.

GORE OUSELEY,
6, Panton-street, Haymarket, W.
Telegrams, "Ouseley, London.
Telephone, 7,459 Gerrard.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR LEIGH LOVEL'S
COMPANY
in
"THE DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE,"
"THE DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE,"
"THE DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE,"
"THE DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE,"
"THE DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE,"
with
the
Original
Scenery,
from
the
Criterion Theatre.

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 2, 16, &c., North. Wanted,

Mr Lovel
Holds all Rights
in the Piece
from
May 6, 1905.

He can
visit any Town
between
then and now
except those already
Booked
for the Spring
by
Messrs
Frohman
and
Chudleigh
Good Season Dates
Wanted
at Coast Towns
also
Booking
Autumn.

LEIGH LOVEL,
10, King-street,
Covent-garden,
London,
W.C.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Dates for "HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 20, 27.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

"GREED OF GOLD,"

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, 13, 20.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION."

WANTED, Jan. 9, through Misunderstanding; also Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 23, 30, and few later. Rapidly Booking Autumn. Nov. 21, Theatre Royal, Darwen.

WANTED, Jan. 30, May 22, June 12, for Mrs Lewis Waller, in "Zaza" or Répertoire; also Dec. 26, Jan. 2.
Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Marlborough T., Holloway.

JOHN TULLY'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Now in Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.

WANTED, Nov. 28
for this Truly Remarkable Revival.
Wire, TULLY, Theatre, Llanelly.

MR FRANK LINDO and CO., in
"HOME, SWEET HOME,"
The Great Original Domestic Drama.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, and 23.
Address,
FRANK LINDO, Theatre Royal, Blyth.

WANTED, for "Bigamy," Jan. 30, Feb. 20.
"The Life That Kills,"
Wanted Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 13, and Few Spring.
"The Grip of the Law," Wanted April 17 and on.
FRED MOULE, Prince's Blackburn.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."

WANTED, Dec. 12 (North or Mid.). Wanted, Dec. 12 (North or Mid.).
H. HOLLISTER,
Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.

"THE TRAITOR."
Messrs Mitchelson and Fineberg's Magnificent Production.

WANTED, Dec. 12, March 20, 27.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Metropole Theatre, Devonport.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" COMPANY.

WANTED, Nov. 28, also Dec. 5, Lancs or Yorks Preferred. EDWARD SURREY, this, Avenue Theatre, Morpeth; next, Theatre, Houghton.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," Christmas, Jan. 2, March 20, onwards.
C. CLIFFORD, Empire, Dundee (Return).

"A WRECKER OF MEN," No. 1 CO.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and 30.
C. WATSON MILL, Prince of Wales's T., Salford.

"A WRECKER OF MEN," No. 1 CO.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and 30, also Easter Week.
MILL, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

"A WRECKER OF MEN," No. 1 CO.

WANTED, Easter Week, only Holiday Date Vacant. MILL, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

"A WRECKER OF MEN," No. 1 CO.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and 30.
MILL, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

"A WRECKER OF MEN," No. 1 CO.

WANTED, Aug 14 and 21, 1905, between Leeds and Birmingham. MILL, P.O.W.T., Salford.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5, Christmas, New Year, Easter, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore, Miss Frances Delaval's Powerful Company. Wire, to-day, Brighouse; next, A., Tipton.

J. BANNISTER HOWARD'S COMPANY,
"EAST LYNNE."

WANTED, Good Theatres, Nov. 28 and Dec. 5. Hardacre's Version.
Address, J. BANNISTER HOWARD,
3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Christmas Week for the Ben Greet "Florodora" Company.
Address,
J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, London.

MADAME WILLOUGHBY'S
"BABES IN THE WOOD" PANTOMIME.

WANTED, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, and onwards, with exceptions. Really Good Show. Magnificent Scenery, Gorgeous Dresses, and Elaborate Properties. Theatres or Halls.
Address,
Madame WILLOUGHBY, 37, Rutland-street, Ilkeston.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12, Feb. 27,
March 13, or, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR,
Standard Theatre, London, E.

MR FRANK WILSON'S CO.,
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, and 19.
Wire, FRANK WILSON, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, for this
Really Remarkable High-class Attraction.
An Assured, Distinct, and Pronounced Success.
A Great Play. Splendid Production. A Strong Company.
J. H. CLYNDES, Wedgwood Theatre, Burslem.

WANTED, for "The Lightning Flash," Christmas, Jan. 2.
Wire, LESLIE VYNER, Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

"DISHONOURED."

WANTED, Big Theatre, Dec. 26, on.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, C., Greenwich, S.E.

THEATRES WANTED

MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE'S
REPERTOIRE COMPANY.

WANTED, Immediate Dates,
First-class Theatres.
Miss Grace Hawthorne,
pending Grand Revival of
"THEODORA,"
Presents the following Répertoire,
Supported by Entire London Company:—
"CAMILLE"
(Bernhardt Version),
"SAPHO"
(Grace Hawthorne's Special Version),
"POOR NANCE"
(Special Version of "Oliver Twist"),
"LEAH,"
and Two New Plays, Adapted from the French, viz.,
"A DIVORCE"
and
"FANCHON."
Tour under the Direction of Mr Stanley Kilby.

Business Manager,
SYDNEY T. PEASE, 62, Stamford-hill, N.,
to whom Address re Dates.

"HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Nov. 21, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, and Feb. 6.
Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 20.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5 and 19, Jan. 2, 9, and 16.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, and 23.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

EDINBURGH GRAND "CINDERELLA."

WANTED, Jan. 23, 30 (?), Feb. 6, 13, for the Entire Production, after Six Weeks' Run (Opening Dec. 10).
Company includes:—
Miss May Marton as Cinderella,
Miss Millie Engler as the Prince,
Miss Fanny Wright as Dandini,
Little Zola as the Page,
Mr A. C. Spry as the Baron,
Mr Percy Curry and Mr Gus Wheatman as the Ugly Sisters,
Messrs Conan and Doyle as the Johnnies.
Principal Dancers,
the Six Lancashire Lasses
and
the Four American Idols.

London Chorus.

Four Shetland Ponies and Electric Coach.

EADE MONTEFIORE, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh." Tele., 2,000.

"THE SCILLY GIRL"
(a Tale of the Scilly Isles).
Book by Athol Mayhew.
Music by William Neale.
A New and Original
Musical Comedy.
First-class Artists,
Chorus, and Dancers.
Entirely New Plant of Scenery by Egerton.
New Dresses, New Music.
Will be Produced
at the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, Dec. 12.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Christmas and New Year, and Immediate Spring Dates.

Wire,
FRANK NELSON,
11, Claverton-street,
London, S.W.

WANTED, Theatres, Herbert Fuller's Tours, the Racing Play "Fiends of London," Christmas, Jan. 9, 16, 23 30, Feb. 6, March, on. "Passion of Life" and "A Triple Vengeance," Vacant Christmas, New Year (follow Lyceum, Glasgow), and various onwards
This and next, Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall (Return).

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c, Dec. 5, 12, and Dates Onwards, for the Royal Star Pierrot Concert and Comedy Company. A Splendid Troupe. We give Sacred Concert on Sunday Night. Christmas and New Year's Weeks Vacant. Must have good terms as this is a First-class Show, Big Specialities. Managers send for programme, DILLON, Miners' Hall, Hetton-le-Hole, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, for the Fays, Original American Mysteries, Mesmerism, and Great Combination. Full Show. Splendid Printing.
Address, Town Hall Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Juvenile Leading Man, Heavy Lead, at once; Carpenter, own Tools, combine Baggage; Scenic Artist, immediately; Artists, all lines, open about Dec. 12 Mention if working London next Week Letters only, with actual lowest, photos. (absolutely necessary), last two references, Sketch and Drama,
FRED G. BROOKE, 55, Ridley-road, Dalston, N.E.

MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE'S COMPANY.

WANTED, Rehearse immediately, First-class Artistes. Robust Character Actor, Character Old Woman, Singing Soubrette, Comedian, Smart Baggage Man (capable of Lines) Photos., terms, recent refs., &c, to STANLEY KILBY, 55, Dourhty-st, W.C. N.B.—Letters only.

WANTED, Low Comedian, Soubrette, Baritone, &c., for Tour, No. 1 Musical Comedy.
Apply, BUSINESS DIRECTOR, The London Theatrical Exchange, 6, Panton-street, Haymarket.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen, Tour No. 1 Musical Comedy. Call to-day (Saturday) between 12·0 and 2·0, with song, THE LONDON THEATRICAL EXCHANGE, 6, Panton-street, Haymarket, W.

WANTED, Young Artiste of Exceptionally Smart Appearance, who Can Sing and Dance, for London Engagement. Call To-day or Monday (with Song) between 12·0 and 1·0 o'clock, AUGUSTUS BINGHAM, 3, Air-street, Piccadilly, W.

CARSON and GRANVILLE'S TOURS.

WANTED, for "A Modern Adventuress," a First-class Chambermaid, to open on or about Dec. 12.

Terms, references, photos., to
F. L. ARTHUR,
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Tall Juvenile Lady; also Little Girl, look Ten. Must be used playing parts. Height, references, parts played, terms, photo., MARK BLOW, 11, St. Edmund's-terrace, Regent's-park.

"HER FATAL PAST." Spring Tour.

WANTED, Recognised Chambermaid, with Dramatic Power, and Sound Actor for Parts and Stage-Management. Address, with photos. (stamped envelope), to T. E. WARD, A. T., Stourbridge.

WANTED, Powerful Leading Lady to play Lady Isabel (own Script), and Gents. for Carlyle and Levison. Special week, commencing Nov. 28. Rehearsing Thursday, 24th. Probable few weeks' Tour to follow. Address, with terms and photos., to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Lady Amateur, to Train and Understudy Leading Actress about to start on Tour with own Company. Must be refined, well educated, and of medium height.
Premium, repayable in salary.
Box 8 743, care of "The Era" Office.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, through Misunderstanding, First-class Heavy Leading Actor.
Address, terms, references, age,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre Farnworth, Bolton.

MR GEO. KIRK'S "JUDY" COMPANY.
WANTED, First-class Heavy Man, Tall, thoroughly Experienced. Dress well. Also Character Comedian. Photos, height, terms, references, full particulars. Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs

Drama Tour.
WANTED, Immediately, Strong Character Actor, Strong Juvenile Leading Gentleman, Dashing Heavy Lady, Second Juvenile Gentleman, Character Old Woman (Frouchard Part), and Clever Boy. AUSTIN and Co., 20, Bedford-street, W.C.

WANTED, immediately, for "The Grip of Iron." First-class Comedian, of average height, to play The Smiler. Must be robust, and possess dramatic power. Apply GEORGE DENHAM, this, Opera House, Kidderminster; next, Royal, Bilston.

WANTED, Good Juvenile Man, Strong Voice. Lowest terms, references, and photo, CHARLES CLIFFORD, Empire, Dundee.

WANTED, at Once, Two Gentlemen Amateurs to Train for Good Parts in First-class Tour. Premium repayable in salary.
Box 8,742, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Singing Character Comedians, Lady Vocalists (Actresses), Pantomimists, and Male and Female Choristers, for Important New Production. Rehearse immediately.
Box 8,763, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Three Ladies, One Gent., for Sketch Premium £5. Salary, 30s. weekly. Genuine concern, well booked. DIAMOND, T. R., Cadoxton.

WANTED, for West-end Theatre, Big Coloured Man. Must be Tall.
Apply, C. St John Denton,
34, Malden-lane Strand.

WANTED, Fifty Smart Chorus Ladies for Town and Country.
Apply personally,
between the hours of 12·0 and 3·0,
this day (Saturday),
Nov. 19,
to
FREDERIC BAUGH,
Foresters' Music Hall,
Cambridge-road,
Mile-end, E

WANTED, Young and Smart Acrobatic Dancers, everything found, immediate Engagement. Miss MAYNARD, 2, Oxford-hcuse, 87, Great Titchfield-st., Oxford-st., W.

WANTED, Two Smart Young Ladies, good Instrumentalists, play Mandolines, good Voices, slight knowledge of Dancing and Variety Business. Send Photos., BURRELL, 40, York-road Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Sopranos, Contraltos, Pianist, Vocalist, and Lady Instrumentalists, Clever Juveniles, Vocalists, Dancers, for tour. WILLSON, P. O., Darlington.

WANTED, Soprano Vocalist (Young), for Established Costume Party. Must be Good Pianist with Stage Experience. Particulars, with Photo., F. AUSTIN, 155, Camden-grove, North Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Baritone for Established Quartette. State age, lowest terms, and experience.
Apply, Box 8,746, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Young Ladies used to Choir Business. Lowest terms, age, photo., full particulars, to DILLON, Miners' Hall, Hetton-le-Hole, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Clever Children, Boys and Girls, Must have Good Voices. Age, Fourteen Years, to look younger. Apply, 12 0 to 4 0, Edaville, 15, Torrens-road, Brixton-hill.

"STRANGE ADVENTURES OF MISS BROWN."
WANTED.—Will the Artists who wrote in please accept this as thanks? Parts now filled and photos. returned, or under consideration. FRED WILLIS, General Manager, 10, Stanmore-rd., Birmingham. Lady Pianist may write.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Alwynne Ermon (Mrs Arthur Clifton), Starring as Diane, in "Bigamy." Engaged by T. Morton Powell, Esq., for original part, Cora, in "A Woman's Devotion." Mr A. C., General Manager for T. Morton Powell's "Honour Thy Father." Prince's, Blackburn.

WANTED, Known, Miss Helen Haye, with Walter Melville's "Girl's Cross Roads." Nov. 21, Metropole, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, an Amateur Lady, Good Professional Experience, is Wishful to Play Part in Production in Spring Premium Box 8 510, "The Era"

WANTED, Known, Clever Comedienne, Vocalist, and Musician, plays Banjo, Piano, Mandoline, and Cornet; Comedy and Character Parts, Good Appearance, Boy or Girl. Would join Partner or Musical Act. Box 8,758, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Brilliant Vocalist, Pianiste (Lady), Experienced Artiste, requires London or Suburban Engagements. Fee, 7s 6d. References, Répertoire, Appearance. Box 8,735, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Pianiste-Vocalist and Sketch Artiste, at Piano (Brilliant), Engagement. Write or wire, Miss GABRIELLE HOPE, 25, High-rd., Streatham.

WANTED, Known, Genuine Male Alto (late Lincoln Cathedral and Welsh Bohemian Glee Singers), at Liberty to join Good Quartette, Christmas, N., Box 8,755, care of "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Smart Pantomine Producer.
Apply,
stating
lowest terms
and
past
experience,
to
FREDERIC BAUGH,
Foresters' Music Hall,
Mile-end-road, E.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Pantomime (London or the Provinces) to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

EDMUND EDMUNDS' COMPANY.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
London, Four Weeks. Tour, Six Weeks.
WANTED, Troupe of Eight Dancers and Principal Girl. Send photos (stamped envelope for return) and full particulars, stating where can be seen working, in or near London.
W. SCOTT PHIPP, 37, Grosvenor-park, S.E.

WANTED, Principal Boy, Principal Girl, Child Artiste (over fourteen), good figure, for Boy Babe; Fairy Queen, Wardrobe Mistress, Chorus Ladies, and Troupe of Dancers. Age, height, references, terms (including Matinées), and photos. In all cases (stamped addressed envelope for return), EGLINTON, 71, Gilesgate, Durham.

WANTED, One Good Comedian and a Pair of Knockabout Artistes for First-class Pantomime.
Apply, Box 8,723, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Male and Female Choristers for Pantomimes. Apply, LAWRENCE, care of H. E. Brammall's Offices, Crystal Palace.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Pantomime Artistes for "Sinbad," Theatre, and Fit-up. Principal Boy and Girl, Second ditto (sisters preferred), Comedians, Quartette of Dancers, Chorus Ladies, Pianist, Smart Agent, &c. Terms, photos, references, to WALTER EDGAR, 49 Wellington-road, Rhyl.

WANTED, for "Bo-Peep," Alexandra Palace, Three Weeks, Tour to follow. Artistes in all Lines. Good Ballet Troupe, Wardrobe Mistress, Conductor (to arrange). No notice will be taken unless age, height, references, and lowest terms are stated, and Ladies' photos. sent. E. G. FALCON, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, Capable Acrobatic Comedian for Cat, in "Dick Whittington."
Apply, by letter, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 24A, Regent-street, S.W., with references, terms, &c.

James Kiddie's Pantomimes,
Christmas, 1904,
"ALADDIN," "CINDERELLA,"
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
WANTED, all Artistes Engaged for above Productions, to send addresses for the next Four Weeks to JAMES KIDDIE, Caen Villa, Highfield-rd, Widnes

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty for Pantomime. Principal Boy. Offers invited. All communications to Gaiety Theatre, Chatham.

WANTED, Panto., Alma Obrey, Principal Boy; Bob Baxter, Comedian. Dame preferred. Five Years with J. F. Elliston, Esq. Royal Standard.

WANTED, Known, Miss Little Billie, age twelve (late with Miss Billie Barlow), is open for Pantomime. Excellent Vocalist. Last Year, Molly, Grand, Birmingham. Address, L SANDERS, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Amy Allnutt, Principal Boy; Fred Dice, Dame; Single or Joint. Letters, 15, Torrens-road, Brixton-hill, London.

WANTED.—Well-known Lady Entertainer (just Concluded Twenty-eight Weeks' Tour), Young, Good Appearance, Willing to accept Pantomime Engagement. Splendid Speciality, Imitations, enormous success. Would also take Part of Principal Girl. Good Experienced Actress. Smart. Good Vocalist. Box 8,733, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, the Sisters Roze, Novel Entertainers, Vacant for Pantomime, Babes or Ridina Hood with good Specialities.
All communications, 39, Cardigan-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, by T. W. Westmore, Vocal Comedian and Burlesque Actor, Pantomime Engagement, Any Part. Address, 42, Bullock-street, Bolton; or, Geo. Ware.

WANTED, Known, J. P. Dane, Comedian, at Liberty for Pantomime. From all the Principal Theatres. Address, Tower Palace, Blackpool.

WANTED, Pantomime, Little Levite, Grotesque Comedian; also Belle Ida, Boy or Girl Parts in opening. Clown, &c. 103, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED, Pantomime.—Chas. F. Best, as M'Bunker, the Montebank, offers the Funniest Silent Comedy Act before the Public, for Street Scene or Market-place. Suit any Pantomime. Refined and without vulgarity. Address, 17, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Pantomime by Kyoto, the Great Cat Contortionist. Own Magnificent Skin. Also May Geraldine, Comedienne. Casino De Paris, Paris.

WANTED, by Small Comedian and Dancer, known to London, position in a decent Panto. or Variety Show. Address, Box 8 762, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, through Disappointment, recognised Brilliant Soprano and Low Comedian, at Liberty for Panto., Joint or Single. Offers for Musical Comedy, Character Parts, Juveniles, or good Concert Company invited. Address, "FILIS," 2, Denton-road, Upper Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Keir and Allen, the Great Eccentric Knockabout Comedians. Parts and Speciality. Offers, 21, Woolman-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Sandy and Carl, at Liberty for Pantomime, Parts and Speciality. Well up in Pantomime. Monday, Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Bishop and Vale, the Originals, are at Liberty for Pantomime. Six Seasons with Milton Bode. Come., Empire, Paisley.

WANTED, Rosaires, American Leading Acrobats (Four Men), and the Three Boleros, Comedy Triple Bar Act, Vacant Dec. 26, for Pantomime; play Parts. 5, Sutton-st., Holloway Head, Birmingham.

WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto Engagement, Christmas, by the Fiorador Quartette. Parts, Traps, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beattie Trixie, Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, Nottingham.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, at once, Good, Quick Scenic Artist, for Three Weeks.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of every Description Painted to Order. Large Stock of New and Secondhand Cloths, Flats, &c., on hand. New Cloths 18ft. by 24ft. from £4 High-class Work guaranteed. Sykes's Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

To Pantomime Producers.
WANTED, to Sell, in Excellent Condition, Scenery, Dresses (Eastern, Nautical, &c), Properties of Successful Pantomimes. No reasonable offer refused. May be seen at Theatre.
JOHN HART, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Specially Made and Painted Plant of Pantomime Scenery for "Robinson Crusoe." Only used seven Weeks. Seven Scenes, including Realistic Wreck and Storm Set. Forge Scene. Egerton's Scene Factory, Bradford.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery, Costumes, Uniforms, Rifles, "Sapho," "Poisoner," "Living or Dead," 100 other MSS. Wybert, Agent, Liverpool.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Manager for Variety Theatres in Glasgow. Apply, stating terms and salary expected, and enclosing references, to JAS. STEVENSON, Secretary, for Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited, 67, West Regent-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Smart, Energetic Acting-Manager, able to take Entire Control; also Thoroughly Efficient Musical Director (Pianist-Arranger) for Musical Comedy. Letters only, FRED KARNO, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, a General Manager for a Large Variety Entertainment Hall at a Popular Summer Season Watering Place on the East Coast. Apply, stating age, salary required, experience, and references, to Box 8,722, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Agent. Rolando Bros., Athletes, Day Show only, Nov. 29, Royal Theatre, Oldham. Permanent, 8, Austerberry-street, Oldham.

WANTED, First-class Electrician for important London Suburban Theatre. Must be thoroughly experienced, steady, sober, and reliable. Send terms, refs., &c., Box 8,738, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Immediate Offers, Advance Management. At Liberty Monday next, Nov. 21. Address, ROBERT J. WILLIAMSON, New Theatre, Ealing. Seven Years with Mr William Greet.

WANTED, Known, Mr. H. Creasey Disengaged for Advance, Acting-Management, or Bill Inspector. 7, Beechwood-walk Cardigan-lane, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Percy Talbot Open for Good Offers to Pilot Show. Thorough knowledge of Business, Acting or Advertising Management. Open to Book Tours. Address Town Hall, Lower Edmonton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Engagement as Acting-Manager, Theatre or Music Hall. GEORGE, 25, Fleemangrove, West Bridgford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Acting-Manager (Resident) Open for Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. Moderate Salary. Theatre or Music Hall. Box 8,759, "The Era."

WANTED, Resident-Managership of Good Theatre or Music Hall by Performer of Repute. Experience and Enterprise. Willing to pay Substantial Premium for Suitable Position. Address, Box 8,761, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Arthur W. Howard, Advertising Expert, Successfully Piloting Mr Percy Hutchison's "Money Makers" Co. Dis. shortly. This and next, G. T., Hull.

WANTED, Known, Secretary and Manager of Large Commercial Company, aged Twenty-seven, is available for Evening Work (4 30 p.m. onwards). Trained Accountancy Expert, used to handling Extensive Staffs and Refreshment Bar Sales and Accounts. Moderate terms. Box 8,752 care of "The Era."

WANTED.—Mr. George Henry, Scenic Artist, if at Liberty, kindly wire. Address, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED, Situation as Chief Electrician, London Theatre. Similar position Four Years. Address, Box 519, Willing's, 125, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Electrician (one used to Lantern Work) to take charge of Show. Letters only, P. H., care of J. LAURIE GRAYDON, 164 Drury-lane, W.C.

WANTED, by Baggage Man, Position. Good appearance and Scholar. Could take Small Part. Disengaged. G. BURGHLEY, 24, Mervan-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Young Man, Nineteen, Height, 5ft. 6in., Theatre or Music Hall, as Attendant, Programmes, &c. G. T. H., 345, Crystal Palace-road, E. Dulwich.

WANTED, Known, that Inventive Expert Offers Services in the Production of Constructional Attractions. Write, O., 1, Arlington-road, Twickenham-park, S.W.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Re-engagement in Box-office. Experienced, Well Educated. Good References. Box, 2, West-street, Croydon.

WANTED, Known, Young Man (Twenty-five), Married, Active, Good Address, requires Situation, Theatre or Music Hall. Low Salary accepted. Box 8,724, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S PANTOMIMES, 1904-5.
WANTED, First-class Musical Director (Pianist), Stage-Manager to produce, Comedian for Cat, Comedian for Page, and Second Boy and Girl. Silence a polite negative
Address, MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First Violin for Empire, Cardiff.
Apply,
Stating Salary required and giving references, to
OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff.

WANTED, at Once Smart Young Violinist, as Leader, Cheltenham Municipal Orchestra, Fourteen Performers. Must send good References or Play to Conductor before being engaged. Apply, HORACE TEAGUE, Violinist, Musical Director, Rosenetth, Cheltenham.

WANTED, First Violin, to Combine Viola, Open Dec. 26.
H. T. TAYLOR, M.D., Lyceum, Ipswich.

WANTED, Violin, and Portable or Harpist, to join other Instrumentalist for pitching London. Shares. INSTRUMENTALIST, 11, Porten-road, West Kensington.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM'S THEATRES, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Solo Cornet, Two First Violins, One Double Drummer. Must be First-rate, or no use. Apply, with copies of recent testimonials, to
ALFRED CARPENTER, Theatre Royal, Glasgow,

WANTED, for Trades Exhibition, Wolverhampton, Dates, Nov. 29 to Dec. 9, Cornet and Second Violin, Ladies or Gentlemen. State terms, JONES, 59, Alexandra-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, First Cornet, for Empire, Ardwick, Manchester.
State names, addresses for references, and wages to
OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff.

WANTED, Bass, for Salford, Open Nov 28, 1904, Variety Business; also Second Violin, Dramatic, for Nov. 28, Manchester; and Flute, Dramatic, for Dec. 5, 1904, Manchester. Apply, stating age, reference, &c., to PERCY B. BROADHEAD, J. T., Manchester.

WANTED, Double Bass Player (Good), well up in Variety Business and Orchestral Music. Terms and reference, BENJAMIN PARRS, P., Southampton.

WANTED, Trombone (Good). Must wear Evening Dress and assist with Fittings.
J. WOLSELEY POOLE, Drill Hall, St. Albans.

WANTED, Euphonium Player (First-class), Late Army. Disengaged now. BANNISTER, 1, Italian-villas, Sydney-rd., Hayward's-heath, near Brighton.

WANTED, Experienced Harpist, for Premier Provincial Theatre. Apply, with references and Salary Required, to Box 8,710, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Flute, Bass, Trombone, One Week, commencing Nov. 21, at Chorley, Grand Opera. Lowest terms first letter, SANTS, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Pianists (to combine other Instruments) for King's Theatre Kirkcaldy, and Grand Theatre, Falkirk; also Double Drummer, for King's Theatre, Kilmarnock. Permanency if suitable. Lowest terms, references, age, to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Mark envelopes "Musician."

BOGNOR PIER PAVILION. Season, 1905.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Band. The Bognor Urban District Council invite Tenders for the Lease of their Pier Pavilion, for a term of Five Months, from the early part of May, 1905 A copy of draft conditions of Lease and other particulars may be obtained from the undersigned. Tenders must be accompanied by original Testimonials, and evidence of means and reputation of applicants, with full particulars of class of entertainment to be provided, the same to include a small Orchestra for at least Eight Weeks during Season. The Council will require security for payment of rent and due performance of covenants, and do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender. Tenders must be marked on the outside, "Pier Pavilion," and be forwarded to the undersigned on or before Wednesday, Nov. 30. HENRY LAYTON STAFFURTH, Clerk to the Council, High-street, Bognor, Nov. 16 1904.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Full Orchestra, to Open Saturday Evening, Dec. 10, Rehearsals Three Days Prior, for Pantomime.
Apply,
EADE MONTEFIORE,
Grand Theatre,
Edinburgh.

WANTED, for the Happy Valley, Llandudno, from about Whitsuntide, for the Summer Season, First-class Musicians. State Salary required. CHARLES and WILLIAM PERRY, 10, Cornwallis-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Edward Parker, Seven Years Conductor (Pianist), Elephant and Castle Theatre, Disengaged. Theatre or Music Hall. London only. 13, Richmond-terrace, Clapham-road.

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, an Engagement. Thoroughly experienced, can open at once. JAS. HEAP, 25, Dane-street, Burnley.

WANTED, by Bandmaster, Engagement to Teach One or Two Bands.
Terms, G. L., 50, Pentney-road, Balham.

WANTED, by Conductor-Pianist, Engagement (Pantomime). Composer, Arranger. Excellent references. Address, FRANCIS WOODWARD, 69, Warwick-road, Maida-vale, W.

WANTED, by Conductor (Well Known, Highly Gifted), Permanent Appointment in Really First-class Theatre or Empire. Box 8,750, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Engagement, Any Business. Can Combine Clarionet. Experienced, Steady, and Reliable. Box 8,734, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Violinist and 'Cellist (Ladies), Experienced, Engagement.
Miss MATTHEWS, 2, County-grove, Camberwell New-rd., S.E.

WANTED, by Violinist and 'Cellist (Ladies), Experienced, Engagement. Miss MATTHEWS, 2, County-grove, Camberwell New-road, S.E.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Re-engagement. Moderate wage desired. Age Twenty-six. G., 40, Ordnance-road, St. John's-wood, London, N.W.

WANTED, by Violinist, Pianist (able to Conduct), Engagement, Theatrical or Seaside Hotel, or other. Thoroughly Experienced. Late Student at R.A.M. Box 8,718, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Violinist (Good), Ex-Army Bandsman, Engagement.
Bonus Offered to anyone securing him same.
Write, Box 8,749, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Engagement. Any Business.
Apply, D. P., 30, Silver-crescent, Gunnersbury, W.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement (through Termination of Season with Sir Robert Fossett's Circus) E. COOK, Stag Inn, Woodhouse, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Solo or Second Cornet, Engagement. Any business. Can open at once. Address, ROBERT HORROCKS, 6, Nut-st, Halliwell, Bolton.

WANTED, by Cornet (Experienced), Engagement. Any business.
WM. FLETCHER, 95, Hornby-street, Bury, Lancashire.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement in London or Suburbs. Just finished Season.
D. SHEEHAN, 160, Seaside, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Clari nettist, Engagement. Last Eight Years with Buxton Pavilion Orchestra. Theatre, Variety, or Orchestral Works. Best references. EDWARDS, Pavilion, Buxton.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Best Refs. Thoroughly Experienced in Business. T CRAWSHAW, 89, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's-bush, W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, in Orchestra. A Good One. Try me. London or Suburbs. Box 8,739, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, any business First-class references. Apply, R. HARDMAN, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Experienced in Opera, Dramatic, and Variety Business. E. J. ELINCOR, 59, Vassall-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Bassoonist (Experienced), Engagement. Any Business or Opera Weeks.
VICKERSTAFF, Long Eaton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement (late Principal in Moody-Manners "A" Company). High-class Testimonials. COHNHOFF, 28, St. Paul's-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Good refs.
Steady and reliable.
Address, R. H. DOUGHERTY,
2, Caroline-street, Kendal.

WANTED, by Trombonist (First-class), Engagement, any Biz. Would deputise London. GEORGE NICKS, 4, Trinity-street, Islington.

WANTED, by First-class Trombone, Engagement. Thoroughly experienced in Opera and Dramatic Business. SCRAGG, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

WANTED, by Euphonium (Experienced), Engagement. Any Business. Can open at once. Address, CHARLES GRICE, 184, Waterloo-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by Oboe and English Horn (First-class), Experienced in all kinds of Business, Engagement. J. CAREW, 58, Frith-street, W.

WANTED, by Viola or Second Violin, Engagement, Experienced in all kinds of business. FRANK PETERS, 58, Frith-street, London, W.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, an Engagement in Theatre, Variety, or Café. Thoroughly Experienced. Highest refs. 'CELLO, 654, Fulham-road, London, W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl on 'Cello.
Mr CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Oboe, Four Weeks' Engagement to Dec. 17. For terms, address, W. E. HARRISON, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17). Engagement. July 4 to Oct. 2, Yarmouth, and Hotel Cecil. MAUD GRUNDY, 18, Lawn-road, Hampstead.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo Player (Experienced) Engagement. Competent and reliable. References. F. FLINT, 198, Rolls-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Pianist, Violinist, Engagement at once. Experienced Permanent address, MADELEINE TUGMANN, 10, St. Albans-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Pianist, combine Violin, Engagement. Library. Good references.
EDWARD MANLEY, 311, Leeds-road, Nelson, Lancs.

WANTED, by Pianist (Certificate, Trinity College), Re-engagement as Private Accompanist to Singer. BEATRICE, 79, Ramsay-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, by Soloist Pianist, Engagement, Accompanist, Humorous Songs, Monologues, and Sketches at Piano. Offers Invited. Life Abstainer. Box 8,647, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Tympanist and Double Drummer (own Tymps), Engagement in Theatre or Music Hall. Thoroughly experienced and reliable. J. PARSONS, 42, Medina-road, Finsbury-park, London, N.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and Effects, Good Engagement. Steady and Reliable. Wire or write, HAYDN SLACK, 62, Glen-road, Netheredge, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Rosabel Ladies' Orchestra, Concert Party, Society Entertainers, Engagements for Piers, Hotels, Exhibitions. 10, German-pl., Brighton.

WANTED, by Bateson's Orchestra, Offers, Variety or Concert, always a success. Extensive Répertoire. Miss Maude Trainer, Conductress, apply. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr C. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, by String Band (Splendid Little), Engagement (any number), any Business. References and Répertoire. Moderate. GREENHEAD, Sen., Herne Bay.

WANTED, Offers, Variety or Concert, just concluded Tour, Extensive Répertoire, Bateson's Orchestra. Miss Maude Trainer, Conductress. Apply, BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Mrs. Hunt's Famous Ladies Bands, Engagements. Les Merveilleuses and Les Militaires. As Performed at Marlborough House before their Majesties the King and Queen, and under the following distinguished patronage:—Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, their Highnesses the late Duke and Duchess of Teck and the Leading Members of the Aristocracy. Splendid Répertoire, First-class Artists, and Picturesque Uniforms. At Liberty to accept Engagements in England and Abroad. Concerts, At Homes, Balls, Receptions, or for Dramatic Business. Address, 12, Park-mansions, Vauxhall.
Interviews by appointment.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
"49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
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"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

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"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND NEW CIRCUS, BOLTON.
WANTED, Everything that can Draw the Public to this Grand New Circus. Money no object for Good Turns. Useful Circus Artistes in all Lines write at once. Great Sensations can be Booked all over the World if a success at this Circus.
Address, KING OHMY,
Ohmy's Grand Circus, Bolton.

LORD JOHN SANGER and SONS' LIMITED,
ROYAL HIPPODROME.
Tour 1905.
WANTED, Jockey Act Rider, also Good Tumblers, to make themselves generally useful, and any Novelty Act that can be done in a Tent. Address, stating terms, full particulars, and where they can be seen to
LORD JOHN SANGER and SONS,
Burstow Lodge, Horley, Surrey.

WANTED, for Hancock's Circus, Plymouth, Nov. 21, 1904, and onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines; Dec. 19 and onwards, Male and Female Bareback Equestrians, with or without own Horses, as we have Good Reliable Horses.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME, BELFAST.
WANTED, for Nov. 28, a Really Big Act. Good Sensation. Nothing too strong. Also Required, Useful People for "Siberia." Those doing an act preferred. Good Troupe of Russian or other Dancers write in for Dec. 19. BOSCO, Circus, Belfast.

WANTED, Circus Artistes (not Riders), Variety Talent, Dec. 24 and January, Lancashire World's Fair and Carnival Spaces to Let for High-class Illusions, and Novelty Shows. Covered Building. Ring and Stage. Artistes state number of Acts, lowest terms no interviews),
E. A. WARD, 1, Upper Duke-street, Manchester.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL,
PAVILION, CARNARVON.
WANTED, Nov. 28, Flying Trapeze, or Any Sensational Numbers with Drawing Powers.
WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
WANTED, for December, January, and on, Specialities, Animal Acts, and Refined Funny Variety Turns, to work in Ring, which is boarded; also stage. Address, C. ALGIE. P.S.—Good Temporary Circus Builder communicate.

WANTED, Scene Act Rider, Posturers, Benders, Wire Walkers, Clowns, Sketch Artists, Nigger Comedians. No Fancy Salaries. Terms must be low. Open at once, Hyde, for Short Season. DENNIS, Circus, Hyde, Cheshire.

WANTED, First-class Dumb Shows in all Lines, Seven or Thirteen Nights, Dec. 24. Terms, &c., CALVERTO, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Animal Act for Dec. 26, South Coast. Stage, 28 by 28. To follow Ella's Lions. DAY'S Variety Agency,
Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London." Tel., 6,915, Gerrard.

WANTED, Good Back Bender for Troupe.
TOM MILFORD,
62, Fg. St. Martin, Paris, France.

WANTED, a Top Mounter; also Second Mounter and Catcher, for Acrobatic Business.
Apply, LEOPOLD LEGLERE, 2, Bruce-street, Northampton.

WANTED, at Once, for First-class Troupe a Lad aged Sixteen to Twenty-one. Must be Smart Tumbler. State Tricks, Height, &c. Apply, Box 8,741, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Girl or Lad, not under Fourteen, for Acrobatic Act.
Address, TOM HALL, Paddington Palace, Liverpool.

Animal Groom.
WANTED, for the Continent, Steady, Reliable Man, accustomed to Elephants.
Stuart can write again.
Address, J. PITT HARDACRE, care of "The Era" Office

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, Liberty Monday next and Boxing Day. Thanks for offers. 144, High-st, Deptford, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Andrew Whelan, First-class Jockey and Bar Act Rider, at Liberty. Address, the Compasses, Longton, Staffs.

WANTED.—Happy Armstrong, Lightning Pyramid Drummer, Instrumentalist, &c. Vacant 28th, onwards, exceptions. 40, Aspinall-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Jan. 9, Mayeno Trio (Two Ladies, One Gent), Gymnasts, Acrobats, Tight Wire Knockabout Clown, up-to-date entrées. Address, Olympia, Sunderland.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Three-Bars Comedians Next week, Grand Theatre, Doncaster. Liberty, Nov. 28, Dec. 5. Address, above; or, Dalton N.E.

WANTED, by Onda and Leon, Conversational Triple Bar Act, Monday next.
Wire, Hippo., Stockport.

WANTED, Known Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Gymnastic Pot-pourri Acts, Free Nov. 21, 28.
Wire, Transfield's Hippodrome, New Brompton.

WANTED, Known, The Rabys, Acrobatic Hand-balancers and Gymnastic Marvels, take all by surprise. Terms, 29, Garden-street, Todmorden.

WANTED, Known, Four Zolas, Lightning and Herculean Male and Female Acrobats, at Liberty Nov. 21, 28. 40, Silverton-road, Bournbrook, Birmingham. Will John Matherson please write?

WANTED, by the Two Zemblas, Hand-balancers, Acrobats, Jugglers, &c., Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5. Panto. settled. 80, Durham-st., W. Hartlepool.

WANTED, Known Leo and Seigel, Acrobats and Strong Men, and Novel Feats of Strength, at Liberty Monday. Old Town Hall, Consett.

WANTED, Monday next, by Brothers Lloddge, Silver Chain Acrobats. Wire, Hippo., Accrington. After Saturday, 55, King-cross-st., Halifax.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Harland and Rollison, after a short holiday in Paris, opened Casino Kursaal, Lyons, A Big Success. Good Music and Original Refined Comedy will tell. Nov. 2?, Alcazar, Marseilles, Two Weeks. Other towns to follow, because it's best. It's a lovely day.

WANTED, for January, February, March, April, 1906, Engagements for John Fredericks Troupe, Champion Strength Statue Picture, Acrobats, Equilibrists, and Head-to-Head Balancers. A New Act on a Revolving Apparatus. Three Ladies, One Gentleman. Address, JOHN FREDERICKS TROUPE, Folketheatrets-Variets, in Odense, Denmark.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Austin, Pyramid of Chairs and First-class Foot Equilibrists, Two Acts, at Liberty Monday next and 28th. Address, 8A, Electric-avenue, Brixton. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, 21st and 28th, by Delamere Trio, the Original Comedy Equilibrists. Wire, Empire, Wigan. After to day, 95, North-road, Preston.

WANTED, Known, Lad, Good All-round Tumbler, wishes to join Comedy Sketch Company ro Troupe of Tumblers. 10, Dale-st., Tradeston, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Two Brothers, Situation with Thoroughbreds or any Travelling Horses. Thoroughly experienced. Excellent references. Wire or write, LEWIS BROS., 73, Romelly-crescent, Cardiff.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.
WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward
Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

Barney Armstrong's
Scotch Tour.
Tivoli, Glasgow;
Queen's, Glasgow;
Palace, Kilmarnock;
also Sixteen Weeks, W. F. Frame Tour.
WANTED, Artists to send Full List of
Bookings, terms, &c., Armstrong's Agency,
Tivoli Palace, Glasgow.
Big Acts Required for Immediate Dates.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.
WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant
Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every
Description. Immediate Dates for Suitable Numbers. Only High-Class Acts Represented.
J. Tysoe-Smith, 15A, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic Address, "Engagement, Manchester."

WANTED, Nov. 28, on, for Wales and West,
Variety Artistes all Lines, Specialities.
T. R. GANNON, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Big Specialities,
Nov. 23, onwards. State lowest terms, Bookings, Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artists, All Lines,
Nov. 28, on, for Hip, Castleford. New to town.
Brahan, Agent, General Post-office, Lincoln.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Doubles doing
Singles, Three Nights a-Week, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Hall very small. State if Lithos. or Photos. OSWALD REED, 25, Southampton-street, Reading. Rizonis write.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Specialities,
Animal Shows, and Children's Spectacles, Dec. 26, Six Nights. Former applicants write again.
ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

IRISH TOUR.
TIVOLI, DUBLIN;
ALHAMBRA, BELFAST.
WANTED, Artists, Stars. Good Novelties,
Serios, Comedians, Comedy Sketches, Acrobats, Jugglers, New and Novel Acts.
Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes, Monday, Nov. 28, on,
Stars and Specialities of Highest Calibre, for Principal London and Provincial Houses.

Pantomime Artistes write.
Principal Boy, Girl, Comedian, Dame, &c.,
Trap Scene, Quartette, and Big Specialities.

Novelties and Sensations Required for
Grand Christmas Carnival in the North, Side Shows, Illusions, Roundabouts, Richardson Theatres and all Class of Fair Ground Attractions write.

Letters only, with full particulars, no Interviews,
HENRI CAZMAN'S Agency,
Battersea-park, S.W.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate
and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager,
WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines,
from now on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artistes, Single and Double
Turns, for Dec. 9, 10, Write lowest terms to
NEAL, Bulstrode Hotel, Hounslow.

WANTED, Artistes all Lines, Monday next,
onwards, Serios, Sisters, Comedians, Sketches. Hall small. Lowest. Wire, KENDALL, Empire, Winchester.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, Nov. 21,
onwards.
JACKSON, Theatre Royal, Hebburn.

HIPPODROME, LEIGH, LANCS.
WANTED, Artists all Lines, Nov. 21,
onwards. Will share with Big Tops. Can treat with Good Combinations.
Address, H. DUNLOP, Pavilion, Carnarvon.

WANTED, Artistes to Note, all Dates for
this Year are Filled. First Vacant Date, Feb. 13 Double and Single Turns write in. Can Book Freak at once. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes all Lines, Comic and
Turns doing Two Acts, Nov. 28. Rehearsal at 2 0 for all Engaged Nov. 21. QUINTON GIBSON, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Artistes, in All Lines, for
Yarmouth, Nov. 21, onward. Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Come-
dians, Small Sketch Companies, Nov. 28 and Dec. 5 REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, for
Nov. 28 and Dec. 26 Big Specialities.
Write, HUGH DEMPSEY, 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes of Refinement for my
Sixteenth Great Annual Concert early in February. Inclusive Terms to WILL MAY, F.O.S., Ipswich.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Nov 28,
onwards.
W. BIRCHALL, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big
Specialities, &c., for Eastbourne, Dec. 26, onward. Lockhart's Elephants communicate.
Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artists, All Lines; also Magic
Kettle Act, New to Workington, Rochdale, Radcliffe, and Chorley, Dec. 5, 12, 19, and 26. Address, WILL ONDA, Kenwyn Villa, Penwortham, Preston.

WANTED, Artists, all Lines, suitable for
Animated Picture Show, Contraltos, Sopranos, Serios, and Sisters; also Pianiste and Agent. Absolute lowest terms and Photos for long Tour.
Address, ALVARNO, 16, Huntley-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, First-class Artists, All Lines,
Specialities, Comedy Acts, &c., for Newcastle, Dec. 5 and 12. State when last there. Lowest terms, lithos., to FRED FARCOURT, Empire, Burnley.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK
General Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, Dec. 5, and onwards,
Artistes,
all Lines.

Must be Refined,
or useless.

Call,
Monday, Nov. 21.

Du Gros Trio,
Sisters Radium,
Bob Stephenson,
Flo Melville,
Harry Walker,
Kavados
Jordison's Empire Quartet,
Souplessi.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Artistes, January, on.
Rehearsal, Monday next, Nov. 21, 2·0 o'clock, for Hicks's Clerks, Maria Santoi, the Coopers, Three Dagmars, Prof. Wallace, Gracios, Lord, Murray, and Lord, and A. G. Spry. Letters, S. L. LEE.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Artistes of Every Description,
Good Lady Turn, and Comedy Sketch,
for Nov. 28 and Dec. 5;
also Tops of Bills, for Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 26, 1904, Jan. 2, 9, and 23, 1905, for North.
Also Star Turns and Comedy Acts for Scotland, 1905-6.
Forward list of dates to
WALTER BENTLEY,
Theatre Royal, Oldham.
London Offices, 169, Stamford-st. 'Phone, 12,703 Central.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines Grand
Balaclava Nights, "Annual," Dec. 9. Composers, Correspondents, Programmists, write, "Amusement" (6d. Monthly), 7, Whitefriars, London.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN-ON-TYNE.
Lessee and Manager, W. A. JACKSON.
WANTED, Artistes in all Lines,
Nov. 28 and Jan. 2.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to
Burns' Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and
Manchester.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday,
Nov. 21, at 1 0 o'clock prompt.
New York Comedy Four,
Vasey and Ramsey, J. W. Ellison,
Louis Kerno, Marie Gibson,
Dainty Daisy Dormer,
Burns's Bioscope, Coram, Harry Grey,
Signor and Madame Borelli.

(Signed) H. BURNS, General Manager.

Note.
WANTED, Known, All Artistes Holding
Dates at Borough Theatre, North Shields, must communicate at once to
HARRY BURNS,
Empress, Hartlepool.
Telephone, 0231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre
of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.

Acts New in Dublin
for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.

Direct
or through Agents.

All communications
to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."

Telephone, 09 144.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Stars
Singing Turns,
Novelties,
Specialities
for
Immediate
Dates
Price No Object.

Lithos and
terms,
Will Sley,
Oxford-street,
Manchester.

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE,
6, Henry-street, Dublin (open all the year round).
WANTED, for Monday, Dec. 5 1904, and
Onwards, Double Turns (doing Singles), Vents, Conjurors, Marionettes. Lowest to MANAGERS.

NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH.
WANTED, for the above, Stars, Specialities,
and Artists
of every Description.
All communications,
D. TAYLOR,
Tyvica House, Pontypridd.
Call for Monday, at 11 30:—
for Brothers Lloyd, Mdlle. Rassina,
Three Escaladers, Lilian Dorrie,
Two Comas, France and Francis,
Dunlops, Per Pains,
Bioscope, Ulrick, Alexandra's Circus Company,
and Full Staff.
Artists please note Day Performance, Monday, at 2·30.
Tom Johnstone send address. Important.

Please Note Address of our New Offices.
Please Note.
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Stars and Novelties, anything Big, for Liverpool, Glasgow, Manchester, Blackpool, Bolton, Oldham, Wigan, Rochdale, Stoke, Dudley, Middlesbrough, York, Northampton, Grimsby, Derby, Attercliffe, Leeds, Bury, St. Helens, Ashton, Preston, Warrington, Norwich, Rhyl, New Brighton, Coventry, Ipswich, Wakefield, Doncaster, Harrogate. Artistes at Liberty Nov. 21, onwards, communicate quickly. We can place you.
Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment."
Telephone, 2,076, Royal.

BRITANNIA MUSIC HALL, GLASGOW.
WANTED, the Biggest Stars in the Business.
Anything with Drawing Powers. Old Contracts taken over if suitable Vacancies Nov. 28, Dec. 5, onwards. Good Comedians and Comedy Acts always Required. GEO. SAPHRINI, Manager.

WANTED, 260 Turns to appear Twice
a Year in a Small, Old-established, Well-known London Music Hall, Two Houses Nightly. Twenty-six Small Sketches, £12 to £14; Twenty-six Sketches, £18 to £20; Twenty-six Turns at £9, Twenty-six Turns at £8, and Twenty-six Turns at £7, £6, £5, £4, £3, and £2 each. No Agent need apply, and no Commission will be Deducted from Artists' Salary. Artists will be required to Sign for a Five Years' Engagement.
Please reply by letter, stating full particulars, to
MUSIC HALL, care of PELLING,
7, Station-road, South Norwood, London.

WANTED, for Nov. 28, at Doncaster,
Several Good Turns to complete Bill.
Also for April 24 and Oct. 30, 1905.
Black and Heyworth,
Variety Agents,
8, Peter-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy
Acts, Nov. 21, onwards; also Artistes in all Lines. Send full list of dates, litho., terms, and full particulars to Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London." No connection with any other Firm.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

English, Français, and Deutsch.
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY.
39, York-terrace, Marine-parade
39, York-terrace, Marine-parade,
Great Yarmouth.
Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Big Novelties of Every
Description,
and Variety Artists
of all kinds,
for the
Yarmouth
and Lowestoft
Hippodromes.
Also for
Blackpool,
Manchester, Leeds,
Bradford,
Scarborough, Bournemouth,
Belfast,
and America and the Continent.

Hengler's, Glasgow
Wanted,
specially for Mr Albert Hengler,
the Best of Acts
that can be performed in an Arena
to open Saturday, Dec. 17,
and Four following weeks.
One Month's Engagement.
One Month's Engagement.

Please say
when and where
in Glasgow before.

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In touch
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Leading Managers
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Send
fullest particulars

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M. CHESTER and CO.,
Dramatic
and
Variety Agents,
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Telegrams,
"Amusements."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Turns
all kinds,
for
Cork
and
other
Irish Towns.

Must
be
Refined.

WANTED, Variety Turns and Specialities,
able to Work on Small Stage, Nov. 28, on. Doubles doing Singles. Terms must be low. Address, T. M. PAUL, Empire Theatre, Shildon, Durham.

WANTED, Wanted, Talent,
Christmas
and New Year's Weeks.

Communicate,
the Leading Provincial Firm,
James Fioni's Agency.
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1,686 Royal.

WANTED, Talent of all kinds Suitable for
Stage or Outdoor, weather permitting, for Christmas and New Year's Carnival; also 500ft. Ground to Let for Side-shows and Novelties. Best position in Glasgow, Facing Old Carnival Ground. Apply, S. EVANS, Jumping Horses, Moncar-street, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted
Dec 5, 12, 19, 26,
the Finest Talent obtainable.
Artistes holding Contracts, Victoria Theatre, Broughton, communicate immediately.
G and F. Peel,
Granville House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, First-class Specialities, for
Varieties and Circus. Send full particulars, with lowest terms, to Variety Department, 3, Denmar-street, Piccadilly-circus, London, W.

WANTED, Specialities, for Four Days,
Twice Daily, Whit Week, Northampton. Terms, lithos., to M'ASKILL 25, Elizabeth-st., Ibrox, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Tour, Refined Specialities,
Two Acts, Jugglers, Japanese Balancers, or anything Sensational, Novel, Refined, and with drawing powers. Address, BRAID, Victoria Hall, Abercarn, S. Wales.

WANTED, for the Hippodrome, Accrington
(Ring and Stage), Sensational Act
with Drawing Power, for Dec. 5;
also Christmas and New Year.
All Turns must be New to Town,
and please note that it is barred by Blackburn.
Call at 1·0, Monday, for De Gracia's Elephants, Prof. Hocking, M'Cann's Dogs, C. Coverdale, D. Maxford, Conway, Sardou, Woelhaffs, Walker, Mutograph.
Vandy's Agency,
Hippodrome, Accrington, to Nov. 26.

WANTED, Top Liners only,
Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 19.
Best Establishments.
Geo. Aytoun's Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.
Telegraphic Address, "Antics, London."
Telephone, No. 1,949 Hop.

WANTED, Known, Rehearsal, 1·0 o'clock,
Monday, for all concerned, Grand Theatre, Doncaster. MARCUS BOYLE.

BOROUGH VARIETIES, NORTH SHIELDS.
WANTED, all Concerned to Know:—
In accordance with conditions of Contract (Clause 3) Artistes concerned are hereby notified that the above building will Close Saturday, Nov. 26 inst., and all Engagements entered into from that date onwards are hereby Cancelled.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Proprietor.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE
AND HIPPODROME, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Twice Nightly, at 7·0 and 9·0.
WANTED, the Biggest Combinations,
Variety and Dramatic (Drama must be Played in Two Acts, in One Hour and a-Half, and Preference will be given to those who can Play Two Dramas Nightly). Travelling. Open to Arrange with Responsible Manager for a Circus Season. Vacant Dates, Dec. 12, 19, 26 (must be something big), and onwards.
Can Arrange for Good Pantomime Production, Dec. 26, for Two or More Weeks.
Anything with real Drawing Powers write.
Terms no object to the Right Thing.
Population of Wolverhampton, 95,000.
Within a radius of Three Miles, 250,000.
Address,
FRED J. LITTLE, as above.

WANTED, for Elswick Theatre, Newcastle-
on-Tyne, for Dec. 19, March 6, 13, April 3, 10, 17, May 1, First-class Combinations, Ten Turns. Two Stars, and Good Printing. Enormous Business. Also Biggest Stars in the Profession. Share or salary.
Address, CHAS. M. DALY, as above.

WANTED, Small, Strong Variety Com-
binations, Choirs, Minstrels, Circuses, Pierrots, also Artistes, now and on. MANAGER, Hippo., Llandudno.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

THE NEW COLISEUM,
SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLING.
General Manager, CHAS. MELVIN.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
the Biggest Stars in the Variety Profession.

All Kinds of Acts Required.

Big Acrobatic Numbers.

Eccentric Comedy Duettists.

Great Fanny Sketch Companies.

Animal Acts with Drawing Power.

Novelties, Sensational and Good.
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Onwards.
The Grand Opening of the Above
takes place on
Monday, Nov. 28,
and amongst the Artistes engaged are
Achmed Ibraham's Bedouin Arabs (Ten in Number),
The Mezettis, Comedy Bar Performers.
The Swift Trio of Trick Cyclists.
T. C. Callaghan, Comedian.
Miss Alma Evelyne, Ballad Vocalist.
The Great Orme Comedy Glee Singers.
Miss Florrie St. Clair, Comedienne.
Lynn, the Original American Singing Newsboy.
Geo. Dardini, Comedy Juggler.
Hal Collier, the Famous Comedian,
with his
Comedy Sketch Company,
&c. &c., &c.
All communications to General Manager, C. MELVIN.

WANTED, Smart Young Girl,
with Good Knowledge of Trick Cycling,
to Join Well-known Troupe.

Apply,
R. G. D., Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Petite Young Lady as Assistant
to Carl Mysto, the Handcuff King.
Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
Twelve Miles from Newcastle.
WANTED, Comedians, Triple Bar Acts,
Artistes in all Lines for Immediate and Future Dates, Small Sketch Company for Three or Four Weeks, Change Sketches weekly, write in. Preference given to Artistes giving Two Acts. Send absolutely lowest terms, and if can be seen working near here shortly. Full particulars to DAVID WILLIAMS.

WANTED, for the Happy Valley, Llan-
dudno, from about Whitsuntide for the Summer Season, Comedians and Vocalists. Preference given to Instrumentalists. Must be first-class. State salary required. CHARLES and WILLIAM PERRY, 10, Cornwallis-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Smart Gent, Double Turn (One
Disguised), not Comic, Refined Concerte. Attend to Light Baggage.
Terms, photo., Mr HARRY LISTON, P.O., Pocklington.

WANTED, Young Man, Comedy Legmania
Artist, for Big Panto. Troupe. State salary and age. Mr W. DENT, Post-office, Derby.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who
experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Eva Reed, Comedy
Comedienne, Grotesque, and Top Boot Dancer, Dis. Dec. 5. Refer G. Weldon, Esq., Circus, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Six Nights, Monday next, by
Lily Howen, Vocalist Great Speciality Dancer. Wire, 3, North-street, Ilkeston. Novel Speciality Turn.

WANTED, Known, Flo Atkins, World's
Champion Concertinist and Expert Mandolinist, This Week, Tivoli, South Shields. Vacant Nov. 21. Address, 40, Chadwick-street, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Flo Viller will in
future be known as Miss Enie Les Carres
Monday, Parthenon, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Three
Sisters Grosvenor, Operatic Vocalists. Popular Songs Harmonised. Wire this week, T. R., Hebburn. Permanent address, 39, Electric-avenue, Brixton.

WANTED, Known, Henriette, Instrumen-
talist and Vocalist, Vacant Monday, 21st, and Nov. 28 Splendid Act Wire, write, Hippodrome Coventry.

WANTED, Known, Ella Rose, High-class
Balladist. Vide Press, Nov. 10:—Ella Rose is a ballad vocalist of a high order, her songs being well chosen. All communications, 4, Askew-road, Shepherd's-bush.

THE GREAT MACCANN.
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12.
ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE, Nov. 21.
The Concertina King.
£5 0 Worth of Instruments.

WANTED, Known, George Ritter, Vocal
Musical Speciality Comedian (Good Pianist). Good Rept. of Songs. Can open at once. Any Business
145, Penarth-road, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, John Irvin, Foot
Equilibrist, just Finished (two Weeks), Ohmy's Circus, Bolton. Liberty Monday next. 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Engagements, by Sylvester
Stuart, Boy Comedian and Dancer. At Liberty Monday, onwards. Wire or write to 6, Clare-rd., Cardiff.

WANTED, Nov. 21 and 28 by Arthur
Moss, the Favourite Baritone. Fine Voice and Good Songs. Sure success. Wire, Blowick-rd., Walsall.

WANTED, Monday, also 28th, Cambo,
Musical Monkey; also Vent. Two Big Acts.
Wire, Empire, Bolsover, Derbyshire

WANTED, Monday, also 28th, by Fred
Usburn, Eccentric Comedian in a Dress Suit.
Wire, Hertford-street, Hunslet, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday, by Syd Herman,
Character Comedian and Hebrew Speciality Artist. Also Nov. 28. Wire, 12, Bittern-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Arthur Lovell, Female
Impersonator, Disengaged for Nov. 21 and 28.
Offers Invited. Address, 35 Pascoe-road, Lewisham.

WANTED, One Week, Monday next, by
Jimmy Shields, Comedian and One-Legged Dancer, through obliging. Wire, Pavilion Palace, Leicester; after Saturday, 167, St. Mary's-road, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Alec Aubrey, Renowned
Gymnast, Nov. 28, Dec. 12 Hippodrome, Castleford; Monday, Tivoli, South Shields.

WANTED, by Chris. Lindale, the Man
Bird, Tricky Tramp, Whistling Mimic, Monday, Nov. 21 onwards. Box 8,747 care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Picitt, the Muscular Master of
Manacles, the Handcuff King, without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes. A Puzzle to the Police and Problem to Physicians. Sensational Escapes in the Middle of the Circus Ring, after being Searched from Head to Feet. Conjuror's methods impossible. Two Hundredweight of Fetters, Chains, Instruments of Torture, and every known Handcuff carried, all on the Stage and used as selected by the Committee. Absolutely different Act to any other. A Rival to Nobody. My Bookings are:—Conclude, To-night, Hippodrome, Porth; Monday, 21st, Pavilion, Carnarvon; 28th, Palace, Dundee; Dec. 5, Vacant. Wire, quick. Dec. 12, Cook's Circus, Edinburgh; Dec. 19, Hippodrome, Carlisle; Dec. 26, Vacant, and Few Dates 1905

WANTED.—Kardoc, Jail Breaker, terrific
success everywhere, House-packing Act different to all others, Splendid Stock of Lithos. (see Card) Free Nov. 28, on with exceptions. Touring own Co. shortly.

WANTED, by Frank Spring, Jumping
Wonder, Sketch Troupe, or Partner, Jumper or Juggler. View of Sensational Act. 50, Shepherd-st., Bury.

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WANTED, Immediate Dates by James Carl,
Magician, with an Original and High-class Act. Sure draw. Write for Sample Lithos., Terms, &c.
103, Chester-green-road, Derby. Good Agent Required.

WANTED, by Leona and Maude, Monday
next and onwards, for Classical and Refined Stage Gymnastic Act, Tight Wire, and Tyrolean or Ballad Vocalist (Three Acts). Touring Companies invited to communicate to permanent address, 19, Harold-mount, Burley, Leeds; or, Will Sley.

WANTED, Known, Kyoto the Original
Comedy Jap; and May Geraldine, Comedienne, Vacant Dec. 5, 1904, to Feb. 13, 1905. Casino, Paris.

WANTED, Monday, also 28th, Bob
Hartley, Comedian, and Doris Dane, Comedienne. Liberty Panto. Wire, 2?, New-buildings, Waterloo-road. Stockport.

WANTED, Monday next, also Dec. 5,
Belford and Mars, "The Postman and the Slavey" Vocal Comedy Act. Wire. Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.—
Rodin, Eccentric Knockabout Comedian and Cyclist; Mdlle. Magna, in her Beautiful and Classical Posing Act. Two Distinct Specialities
Liberty Nov. 28, Dec. 5
Nov. 21, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, Harley and Le Mar,
High-class Duettists, Patterers, and Dancers, terrific success P. O. W. T., Abercynon. Monday, Q. T., Pembroke Dock. Liberty Nov. 28. Wire quick.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Tell and Tell,
Comedy Acrobats
Wire, T. R., Great Yarmouth; or, J. Fioni, Liverpool.

WANTED, Monday next by Rex and Ford,
Patter Comedians; also Arnetti, Musical Clown. Two Distinct Acts. Wire, Alhambra, Sandgate.

WANTED, Known, Reed and Lerne, the
Novel Comedians, Vacant Nov. 28, through Boro' T., N. Shields, closing. Wire, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, Known, Wood and West,
American Comedy Couple, Vacant Nov. 28. Big success, Gaiety, Dundee. Wire, Pavilion, Altrincham, Cheshire.

WANTED, Monday, by Fields and Acres,
Comedy Park Keepers. The Laughing Hit of the Programme, Hippodrome, Scarborough, where wire.

WANTED, Monday next, also Dec 5 by
Sterling and Cashen, American Speciality Artistes, all-round Dancers, &c. Wire 143, Standish-gate, Wigan.

WANTED Dec. 12 26, Sardou's Illusionists,
Marvellous Mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, Balladist. Monday Next, Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, the Boultons and
Mdlle. Bartenelli on and after April 3 will be known as Boulton and Bartenelli. Two Acts Rolled into One with Special Scenery. Address, Public Hall, Barnsley.

Theatre Royal, Oldham, Nov. 29, Day Show only.
WANTED, Known, Proprietors, Managers,
Agents must not miss seeing Brothers Rolando in the latest Sensational and Comedy Strong Show. A genuine motor car lifted.

WANTED, Nov. 21, 28, by Stavordale
Quartette Absolutely Unique. Tels., "Stavordale, London." Letters, 11, Cheriton-square, Balham.

WANTED, by the Musical Albanos, Nov.
28 and Dec. 5 Wire or write for this, one of the Greatest Refined Musical Acts of the World. A Draw. The Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Known, the Villions (Four in
Number), Acrobatic and Comedy Cyclists, introducing the Greatest Lady Tumbler, executing Twenty-five Pirouette Somersault's in succession. Big Drawing Speciality for Panto. Last Season. Ealing and Dalston Theatres, London. Vacant Dec. 26.
Address, Regent Theatre, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Immediate Dates for New Sketch,
"Our Fighting Navy," an Episode of the Baltic Fleet Outrage. Intensely Patriotic, with Comic Element. Great enthusiasm. Cast of Six Recognised Artists. Ends with Exciting Fight with Fists between a Russian Spy and a Naval Officer. Wire for terms, &c., DALKEITH, 92, Brunswick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Nov 21 onwards, for
Phenomenally Successful Juvenile Military Spectacle, "Russo and Japanese War," assisted by 100 Local Children. Complete Elaborate Production; also the Two Clarkes, in their Novel Acrobatic Speciality Act. CLARKE, 2 in 236, Great College-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, for Mr. Harry Liston and Miss
Lord Lumley's "Merry Moments," December and New Year Bookings. Egyptian Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Seven Wulfrunas, in
Comedy Acrobatic Sketch entitled "A Waiter's Troubles," Liberty Dec 26 and onwards. Address, Metropole, Camberwell.

WANTED, Agent to Book Good Concert
Company. Six to Sixteen Artists.
R. SLATER, Oldham (Northern Opera Concert Company).

WANTED, to Break Journey, Preston,
Swansea, Nov. 28, the Melverns, Living Marionettes; Newling Major, Vent. One or both Acts. Post-office, Preston.

WANTED, Known, that Lorenzo, with his
Up-to-date Troupe of Performing Dogs, will be at Liberty for Pantomimes or otherwise week before Christmas. Long engagement, moderate terms LORENZO, High Mast Performer, 21, Addison-street, Knowsley-road, Bootle, Liverpool.

WANTED Nov. 28th Dec. 5th, Charlie's
Dog Circus, the Greatest of all Dog Shows.
Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Devereux's Great Dog
Act, Liberty Monday, through obliging Proprietor. Wire, Albert Hall, Sheffield.

WANTED, a Few Immediate Dates, a
Walking Advert, that Clever Arabian Spotted Donkey Domino. Great Panto. Speciality. BURR, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, Known, Arthur Preston,
Brighton Alhambra,
Specially Engaged to introduce
the Sensation of the Age. ?Sweery?

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced
Singles and Doubles, Coon, Comedy, Comedy Sketches, &c. This week, Kynaston P.O., Bradford-on-Avon.

WANTED, Engagement by Smart Per-
former, Legmania Artist, and Pantomimist. Late of Brothers Luck. MARTIN DON, 107, Loughborough-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement by Cinématograph
Operator with and without Machine (Bioscope), Electric and Lime. Box 8,725, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Bioscope Operator at
Principal London Hall, Dates with "Sign of the Cross," Grand New Film. Box 8,730, Care of "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement, Monday next and
Future Dates, for the Edison Paul Animated Pictures. Big Show of Up-to-date Films. Several First-class Machines always on hand T. M. PAUL, Empire, Shildon, Durham. Telegrams, Paul, Shildon.

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Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

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Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

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Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery.
Send £5 for Special Parcel.

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WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom. For particulars apply to F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

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LEAMINGTON SPA TRADE EXHIBITION, February, 1905.

WANTED, Side Shows (Latest and Up to Date) Send particulars to H. HAMMOND, Secretary, 39, Bath-street, Leamington.

WANTED, Several Good Side Shows, on Sharing Terms, for Three Weeks, commencing Dec. 24. Full particulars to Box 8,753, care of "The Era."

WANTED, for World's Fair, Side Shows and Novelties; also Space to Let. OWEN BAGAN, Proprietor, 66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks for Shop Business. Shares or certainty. Wire for Monday First, F. L. MORDAUNT, 79, Overgate, Dundee.

WANTED, Novelties, Shop Business, Eight Weeks certain, Dundee, Arbroath, Montrose, Aberdeen. Shares or Salary. Wire for Monday, MORDAUNT, 79, Overgate, Dundee.

WANTED, Novelties, for the Best Shop in Chatham. Next door to Gaiety. B. J. LOVEGROVE, 51, High-street.

WANTED, all Kinds of Quick Showing Novelties, Madame Herculine and Mefesto going Great this week. Send present and future dates. MAXFIELD, 9, Mary-street, Dublin Fares advanced if required.

WANTED, Novelties (Willing Workers). Six Weeks' Engagement certain. Shops, South Wales. PHILLIPS, 7, Dinraven-street, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Novelties and Attractions, Good Window Show, for Shields, Newcastle, and Sunderland. COLLENA, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, to open Monday next, Good Living Novelty or Freak, with Flash Shares or Salary. Wire, SHERMAN, Exhibition, Public Hall, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Good Freaks and Sensational Shows, to follow Lucy Moore, Sunderland and Gateshead. A First-class Show, with First-class Flash (Paintings or Posters), can have Four to Eight Weeks certain. Shares or Salary. Fear not, and write Mitchell's Continental Museum, High-street, Sunderland.

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WANTED, at Once, Good Freak, Conjuror, or other Show with good Flash. Large Shop. Wire for Monday, FLETCHER, Waxworks, Dowlais.

WANTED, Two Doormen, one for Leeds and one for Liverpool. Sobriety indispensable. Permanent Situations to suitable Men. Address, C. WILSON, "Sticky Backs," London-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Thank all those who answered Advert. last week. Have settled. Require Pianist-Vocalist. BARBER, Auction Pavilion, Old Hill, Staffs.

WANTED, Engagements or Tour for Up-to-Date Punch and Judy, including Dog Toby, with Drum and Piper. Terms moderate. Prof. J. GREEN and SON, Belmont-avenue, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Fred Horsenail, Licensed Auctioneer; Cissie Horsenail, Pianist, at Liberty, Tents, &c. HORSENAIL, Golden Cross Hotel, Colnbrook, Bucks.

WANTED, Auctioneers to Know, Frank Fern, Vocalist, with Bioscope, Latest Films, Disengaged Nov. 26. Living Car, Lancaster-st., Leicester.

WANTED, Known, the Flying Lady Illusion is causing a great sensation at the Plymouth Exhibition. Vacant Nov. 28, onwards. D. DARRELL.

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors and Managers wanting a Good Exhibit for Nov. 28, onwards. Note.—Madame Vane, the Modern Witch, Second Sight Up-to-date; Lady Ella, the Tattooed Marvel, Tattooed from Head to Foot; Maji, the Egyptian Wonder, with his Mystic Power and Illusions. Every Exhibit Perfect, not a makeshift. Good Paintings, Posters and Wardrobe. Address, till Saturday, 19th, Post-office, Pontnewydd, Mon.; after, People's Theatre, Pontycymmer.

WANTED, Known, Madame Herculine, Strong Lady, at Liberty Christmas and New Year. Offers Invited. 31, Lower Gardiner-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Dates, for Mdlle. Lillian, Unique Lady Contortionist. Liberty Nov. 28. Stewart's Waxworks, High-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Dates, by Miss Zona Bell, Coloured Lady Snake Charmer; Madame St. Clair, Female Gaol Breaker; and Collenas, Rifle Experts. Continental Café, 10, Waveney-road, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman with Large Caravan, with Open Stage Lighted by Acetylene Gas, is Open to Engage. Suitable for Lecturer or Al Fresco Entertainment. Address, ENTERTAINER, Major Oak, Worksop.

WANTED, Showmen, Stallholders, &c., Requiring First-class Christmas and New Year. P. Collins, Limited, have Positions to Let for First-class Cinématograph Show or Parading Show, Side Shows, Novelties, Stalls, Coker Nut Sheets, Shooting Galleries, &c., on the Wolverhampton Market Place, Christmas and New Year. Grand Positions in London and Birmingham, for Christmas and New Year. We have also Grounds to Let from the Present Date and up to Christmas at the Black Country Wakes and Fairs. For Dates, price, and particulars, apply, P. COLLINS, LIMITED, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telephone, 80 Walsall. Telegraphic Address, "Gondola, Walsall."

TOFT and TURNBULL. Christmas Carnival, Chapel Fields, Belfast.

WANTED, to Let, Spaces for Circuses, Cinématograph, Ghost, and good Novelty Shows. No sole right given. Travellers requiring ground should write in at once to save disappointment. TOFT and TURNBULL, Oxford Lodge, Oxford-road, Ranelagh, Dublin.

WANTED, to Let (Symonds' Great World's Fair, Portsmouth), Ground, for Roundabouts, Switchbacks, Wild Beast Shows, Picture Shows (outside or inside, near the Empire Palace). Free Sights and Special Attractions. Open Dec. 4, 1904.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED, to Let, Ground, for any Kind of Roundabouts, in Arundell-street, Portsmouth. Apply, for both the above, direct to W. SIMONIS, Drill Hall, World's Fair, Brighton.

WANTED, to Let, Ground Behind the Red Lion Hotel, Oldham, for the great Christmas and New Year Fair Ground. Rent Reasonable. Also Ground to Let for Hyde, Hightown, Liverpool-street, Eccles, Moss Side, and Trafford-road, Christmas and New Year Fair, Show Stalls, 'Emmas, 1s. per foot. apply to Mr WM. HOLMES, 92, Trafford-road, Salford.

WANTED, Known, to Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Stallowners, Hyde-road, Manchester, Christmas and New Year Fair. The Best Christmas Fair in Manchester. Having taken the whole of the above Ground for Christmas and New Year from Mr John Collins, I am now prepared to Let Spaces Reasonable Rent. JAMES HIBBERT, Bloom-st., Stockport.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Switchback, Shows, Stalls, &c., of all Kinds, Two Weeks before Christmas and Two after. Old Fairground, Redfield, Lawrance-hill, Bristol. PRUETTS, St. John's-lane, Bedminster, Bristol.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Latest Novelties. Large Moneytakers. Send for lists and special low prices. Also Photos and other Machine Cards all kinds. Cheapest and best. W. HAYDON and BARROW, Church-street, London, N.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Love-letter, Husbands, Babies, Black List, Marriage and Liars' Licences, &c. MEURICE, 20, Bidborough-st., W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, &c., of All Kinds, Best and Cheapest in the Trade. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

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WANTED, to Sell, Complete Concern— Pullman Living Carriage, Sale Waggon, Trolley, Shuttered Booth, and all Accessories—together or separate. Apply, MELCHER, 80, Crwys-road, Cardiff.

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THEATRICAL, MUSICAL, AND EQUESTRIAN OBITUARY FOR 1904. See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1905.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL CALENDAR See THE ERA ANNUAL, 1905.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904. The veteran J. L. Toole has a good story in "The Era" Annual (49, Wellington-street, Strand) a publication which is highly valued by all who have anything to do with the stage. He says:—I was once playing in "Dearer than Life" with Irving and Billington at Leeds. After the performance several gentlemen were in the general room of the hotel where we were staying, and among them a certain Mr Jones, who professed to have a large acquaintance in the profession, and who appeared to have a local reputation as a judge of ages.

"Well, how old," said someone, "would you take Mr Toole to be?'

"Well," said he, "sixty-five, if he's a day."

"Do you know him?" I asked.

"Oh, yes; I know him very well indeed."

"Ah! and how old should you take me to be?"

"Well, I should take you to be forty, if you're a day."

Irving asked Mr Jones if he didn't think Mr Toole was nearer seventy-five than sixty-five. "No," he said; "sixty-five, if he's a day," and the company present seemed to put it down that that would be my age. They had most of them been to the theatre and seen me—for the first time probably—playing an old man; and as it was my first visit to the town, and we were going on by the mail train that night, I had a fancy not to go away and leave them under the impression that I was this very old gentleman. I found that Jones was a decent sort of fellow, and I said to Irving that before I went I should just give him my card and let him know what a mistake he had made. By and bye, when our cab arrived, we said good-night to our casual acquaintances, and, taking Mr Jones aside, I handed him my card, whereupon he said "Oh, indeed!" in a very offensive manner, turned upon his heel, and walked away.

"Well," I said to my friends as we drove away, "that's the most impertinent fellow I think I ever met." Whereupon Billington and Irving went into fits of laughter, and confessed that they had warned Mr Jones that I was continually passing myself off as Toole, and he was to be quite prepared for my handing him a card and trying the imposition upon him.—Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury, Friday, Jan. 22d, 1904.

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ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.

Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
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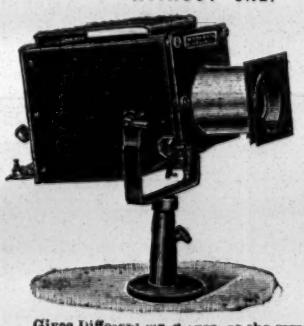

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THE

"CRUISE OF THE OPHIR."

ONE THOUSAND POUNDS

FOR

TWENTY-FIVE SHILLINGS.

TO THE PUBLISHER, "THE ERA."

Sir,—

It may possibly interest you to learn that a Quarter-Column Advertisement in "The Era" (One Insertion) resulted in over £1,000 Bookings for an Entertainment with which I was connected some little time ago. The Entertainment was entitled

"THE CRUISE OF THE OPHIR,"

Cinematograph Show, and the Bookings were effected within a week.

Yours faithfully,
H. GOLDSMITH-WHITTON,
Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.

London, May 19, 1904.

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HULL THEATRE ROYAL AND ALEXANDRA.
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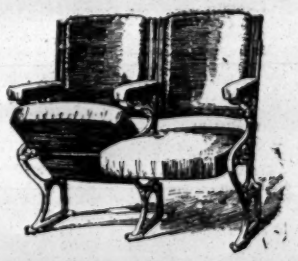

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

ALPHABETICAL LIST
OF
ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES.

Name.	Date.
Adams, the Late Mr Bert ..	April 23, 1904.
Adams, Miss Nina Blake	September 17, 1904.
Aldred, Mr Charles	May 7, 1904.
Alexander, Mr George	March 12, 1904.
Alleyne, Miss Frances	May 14, 1904.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs	May 7, 1904.
Bard, Mr Wilkie.....	September 10, 1904.
Barrett, Mr Oscar	March 26, 1904.
Barrett, the Late Mr Wilson.	July 23, 1904.
Barrington, Mr H. H.	November 12, 1904.
Barth, Mr Cecil	June 11, 1904.
Bartlett, Mr J. J.	July 2, 1904.
Barton, Miss Adah.....	April 16, 1904.
Beaufort, Mr Leslie	March 12, 1904.
Bertram, Miss Celestine	July 2, 1904.
Billington, the Late Mr John	September 10, 1904.
Bint, Mr Billie	September 3, 1904.
Bland, Mr R. Henderson....	March 12, 1904.
Blande, Miss Edith	June 25, 1904.
Bodie, Dr. Walford, M.D. ..	April 9, 1904.
Booth, Mr J. H.	August 6, 1904.
Bracewell, Mr Joe.....	May 14, 1904.
Brayne, Mr Harry	July 16, 1904.
Brough, Mr Lionel.....	November 5, 1904.
Browning, Mr Charles	May 21, 1904.
Burdett, Mr Frank E.	March 19, 1904.
Butt, Mr Alfred	July 30, 1904.
Cabourn, Mr John.....	August 13, 1904.
Campbell, the Late Mr Herbt.	July 23, 1904.
Campbell, Miss Audrey	October 8, 1904.
Carne, Mr Joseph	May 7, 1904.
Cathie, Mr Leslie Roy	May 21, 1904.
Charles, the Late Mr Fred ..	August 6, 1904.
Cheevers, Mr J. E.	October 1, 1904.
Chippendale, Mr James	September 17, 1904.
Clarence, Miss Nellie	November 12, 1904.
Clark, Mr Cuthbert	October 15, 1904.
Clavering, Miss Marie	October 8, 1904.
Clyde, Miss Hilda	May 21, 1904.
Coleman, the Late Mr John..	April 23, 1904.
Colona, the Late Don Edgardo	August 20, 1904
Corri, Mr Clarence C.	November 5, 1904.
Craven, Mr Hawes.....	October 8, 1904.
Danbury, Miss Ethel.....	September 17, 1904
Dansey, Mr Herbert.....	March 5, 1904.
Davis, Miss Flora	September 10, 1904
Day, Mr David	October 8, 1904.
Dent, Mr Bert.....	April 16, 1904.
Deverell, Mr John W.	May 21, 1904.
Dobler, the Late Herr	March 26, 1904.
Doherty, Mr Pat	April 9, 1904.
Dowsett, the Late Mr Vernon	April 9, 1904.
Draco, Mr Kay	June 4, 1904.
Dryden, Mr Leo	July 16, 1904.
Dunrobin, Mr L. Race	July 9, 1904.
Edmunds, Mr Edmund	September 3, 1904.
Edwin, Mr Walter.....	March 26, 1904.
Entwistle, Mr Harold	May 14, 1904.
Evelyne, Miss Alma	October 29, 1904.
Farrell, Miss Cissy	July 2, 1904.
Farren, the Late Miss Nellie.	April 30, 1904.
Farrington, Miss Helen	April 9, 1904.
Felber, Mr H. H.	August 13, 1904.
Franks, Mr Wilfred	May 7, 1904.
Freebar, Mr Sydney	July 30, 1904.
Fysher, Mr Edwin F.	September 3, 1904.
Gascoigne, Mrs Henry	May 21, 1904.
Gelderd, Mr James	July 2, 1904.
Garrod, Mr W. V.	July 16, 1904.
Gilfain, Miss Trixie	May 14, 1904.
Godfrey, Mr Dan	May 14, 1904.
Graname, Mr J. Lynward ..	April 9, 1904.
Grey, Miss Marion.....	March 19, 1904.
Griffith, Miss Mary	October 22, 1904.
Gunn, Miss Haidée	August 6, 1904.
Hamer, Miss Florence	March 26, 1904.
Harcourt-Williams, Mr E. ..	July 9, 1904.
Hardy, "American Blondin"	April 16, 1904.
Harrison, Miss Bessie	April 9, 1904.
Henderson, Miss Millie.....	August 13, 1904.
Herbert, the Late Miss Ethel	April 16, 1904.
Hildyard, Miss Maud	October 8, 1904.
Hollingshead, the Late Mr J.	October 15, 1904.
Howard, Mr J. Bannister ..	March 19, 1904.
Howells, Mr C. E.	August 27, 1904.
Howitt, Mr Charles	August 13, 1904.
Huggett, Miss Dora.....	July 16, 1904.
Humber, Mr S. H.....	August 13, 1904.
Hunt, the Late Mr G. W. ..	March 5, 1904.
Hunter, Mr J. D.	July 9, 1904.
Hyde, Miss Mariette.....	April 9, 1904.
Hylton, Miss Annie	November 12, 1904.
Imeson, Miss Nita	April 23, 1904.
Jacques, Mr Frederick.....	October 29, 1904.
Jose, Mr Edouard	October 8, 1904.
Kennedy, Mr E J.	October 1, 1904.
Kilburn, Mr Harry	March 19, 1904.
Knight, Mr Arthur	October 8, 1904.
Kremer, Mr Theo.....	July 9, 1904.
Lang, Mr Matheson	August 27, 1904
Leno, the Late Mr Dan	November 5, 1904.
Lester, Mr Harry	May 7, 1904.
Lewes, Miss Miriam	November 12, 1904.
Lilly, Mr A. C	June 25, 1904
Limpus, Mr Bernard.....	October 22, 1904.
Linden, Mr Ardene	September 24, 1904.
Ling, Mr Edwin	September 3, 1904.
Llewellyn, Mr Fewlass	October 15 1904.
Lloyd, the Late Mr Arthur..	July 23, 1904.
Lowe, Miss Rachel.....	June 11, 1904.
Loyd, Mr Frederick	August 13, 1904.
Lurich, George	June 4, 1904
Lysons, Mr Arthur C. P.	August 20, 1904.
Mackintosh, Mr Drew	September 10, 1904.
Maclaren, Mr W.	September 10, 1904.
M'Kim, the Late Mr R. Stuart	April 23, 1904.
Manners, Mr Charles	August 27, 1904.
Marsdene, Miss Beatrice	August 13, 1904.
Marsdin, Miss Dorothy.....	May 21, 1904.
Martin, Miss Edie	August 6, 1904.
Milton, Miss Maud.....	July 16, 1904.
Moncrieff Miss Rose.....	August 6, 1904.
Morton, the Late Mr Chas...	October 22, 1904.
Munro, Mr Ernest	September 17, 1904.
Myers, Miss Tessa	August 13, 1904.
Nelson, Miss Carry	April 23, 1904.
Norwood, Mr Ellie.....	July 23, 1904
Owen, the Late Miss Jennie..	May 14, 1904.
Paige, Mr Robson	October 29, 1904.
Pauncefort, Miss Claire	October 22, 1904.
Pope, Mr F. F.	November 5, 1904.
Reed, Miss Eva	August 6, 1904.
Resdan, Miss Rita	March 12, 1904.
Rignold, Miss Marie	May 7, 1904.
Robins, Miss Fanny	September 3, 1904.
Rose, Miss Enid	October 29, 1904.
Routledge, Miss Millicent ..	July 30, 1904
Ruskin, Miss Sybil.....	July 9, 1904.
Russell, Miss Kenna	May 14, 1904.
Schofield, Mr Johnnie	October 22, 1904.
Scudamore, the Late Mr F. P.	November 12, 1904.
Sealby, the Late Mr Walter..	October 22, 1904.
Serpentello	May 14, 1904.
Sibley, Miss Lucy	May 7, 1904.
Sinclair, Miss Maude.....	June 4, 1904.
Soldene, Miss Emily	May 14, 1904.
Solly, Mr T. H.	May 28, 1904.
Sprake, the Late Mr Herbert	May 14, 1904.
Spurr, the Late Mr Mel B. ..	October 1, 1904.
Stanley, Miss Blanche	March 12, 1904.
Stewart, Miss Edith	September 3, 1904.
St. John, Miss Amy	September 3, 1904.
Swanborough, Mr Edward ..	May 7, 1904.
Taber, the Late Mr Robert..	March 12, 1904.
Taylor, Mr B. F.....	October 1, 1904.
Tinsley, Miss Louie	August 6, 1904.
Toft, the Late Mr William ..	October 22, 1904.
Topham, Mr F.	May 21, 1904.
Varna, Mr H. W.	June 11, 1904.
Vicary, Miss Helen	September 3, 1904.
Villiers, the Late Mr R. F. ..	May 7, 1904.
Walker, Miss Laura	March 12, 1904.
Wallace, Mr G. Carlton	May 21, 1904.
Walton, the Late Mr William	July 16, 1904.
Waring, The Late Bertha ..	September 3, 1904
Wilkie, Mr Allan	May 7, 1904.
Wilkinson, Miss Flossie	July 9, 1904.
Willett, Mr Ernest	July 2, 1904.
Williams, Mr Jesse	August 6, 1905.
Wilson, Miss Nellie	April 23, 1904.
Wilson, Miss Lucy.....	August 13, 1904.
Woolf, Mr Jack	November 5, 1904.
Wright, Mr Henry.....	May 14, 1904.
Wright, Mr Harry	August 6, 1904.
Wyndham, Sir Charles.....	May 14, 1904.
Yates, Mr Arthur	September 17, 1904.

Copies of the above can be obtained by communicating with The Publisher, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines

ABADAROFFS, Prehistoric Mountebanks, Success Gaiety, Birmingham. Monday, Hippodrome, Stoke. Vacant Panto. Perm. 95, Stretford-rd., Manchester.

ABDULLAH, ALMA, and LA SUPERBE. Permanent address, 155, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

ABEL and WELSH. Terrific Success of New Act. Empire, Glasgow. Permanent address, 28, Upper Kennington-lane, S.E.

ACNOSKI, the Wonderful Jap on Slanting Wire, Pavilion, Carnarvon; Monday, Hippodrome, New Brompton. Lib. Nov. 28.

ADAMS and BAMFORTH, Refined Instrumentalists, introducing the only Jhamphotophone in existence. Address, 34, Mortimer-st., Oldham.

ADRIENNE, THREE SISTERS, This week, Hippodrome, Porth; next week, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy. Vacant Nov. 28; also Panto.

ALBANO TROUPE, Musical Speciality. 38, Macdonald-street, Wavertree, Liverpool.

ALBERTO, FRED, Character Comedian and Dancer, King's Theatre, Burnham. Vacant Nov. 21 and 28. Wire, 10, Bond's-villas, Burnham, Bucks.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company. Empire, Battersea; and Middlesex.

AMERICAINES, LES BELLES, This Week, Westminster, Liverpool. Next Week, Alhambra, Belfast. Agent, H. Day.

ANDERSON, MISS EDIE, the Little Gem, Smart Comedienne and Dancer, Nov. 28, Barnard's, Chatham. Vacant Dec 5. Wire.

ANDERSONS, AUSTRALIAN TWIN. Perfect wonder-workers with the skipping-rope.—Vide Oswald Stoll. Palace, Bradford.

ANDOS, Japan's Greatest Troupe. Grand Theatre, Stockton.

ANDYS, FOUR, Smartest of Risley and Double Somersault Artists. Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Carlisle. Open Dec. 19 and 26.

ANTHY, in his Marvellous and Refined Wire Act. Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

ARA, ZEBRA, and VORA, Gaiety, Birmingham.

ARIZONAS, FOUR, Acrobatic Tumblers, Jugglers, and Staircase Workers. Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

ASHLEY, BROS., "Next, please!" Hippodrome; 21st, Palace, Glasgow. G. Barclay and Fortune and Granville.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, the Society Athletes, World's Greatest Artistes, Nov. 21, Palace, Lancaster. Require Dec. 5.

ATTILA, BROS., Artistic Strong Men. Conclude Lyric, Liverpool. Next, Hippodrome, Norwich.

ATTWOOD, HAPPY, Six Songs Nightly, Palace, Derby; Monday, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

AUBYN, ALF. Grand Fishing at Hastings, Sunny South. Free Pantomime. Communications G. Barclay.

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BABUSIAN, BROTHERS, Celebrated Acrobats-Antipodists, Require Immediate Dates. This week, Metropole, Manchester.

BAKER and BALFE, Moss Tour.

BANDON, SID. Nov. 21, Tivoli, Dublin.

BANKS, HERBERT, the Original Crippled Tenor, at Liberty Jan. 9, 1905. Summer Dates Required. Add., 76, Northgate, Darlington.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents. Telephone, 84 Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, big success on Tour, Mechanics' Hall, Haltwhistle. Monday, Eden T., Bishop Auckland. Emmeline write quick, important.

BARNARD'S Life-like **MARIONETTES**, Dolls alive.—Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq. Usual Success, E., Brixton. Nov. 21, Hippo., Norwich.

BAROUX and BION, Nov. 21, Alhambra, Hull.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Hippodrome, Blackpool. Agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY) the Ideal Pair. Empire, Burnley. Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE. Next week, Middlesex and Cambridge. Pantomime Settled, Principal Girl. 10, Effra-road, Brixton.

BATHURST, AMY, Serio and Dancer, at Lib. Panto., Second Boy or Girl. Care of Henderson, 28, Henery-street, Seaham Harbour, Durham.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BEANLAND, CHARLES, a Natural Comedian. Hippo., Wigan. Monday next, Palace, Attercliffe. Agent, Harry Day.

BEATRICE, SISTERS, Duettists and Dancers, now on Tour in Germany. All communications to 35, Florence-street, Islington, N.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE). "Hiawatha" Scena. Great Success. Finished Stoll Tour. In Town a Month,

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjuror, big success, this week, Tivoli, Dublin. Next, Alhambra, Belfast. Talk of the Town.

BELROSE, GEO., and MAUD DE VRLIN, Speciality Duettists, Hammersmith and Camberwell. Pantomime, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

BENRT, HARRY, an excellent comedian.—Scarborough Post. "Little Tommy Tit-Bit." Hippo., Scarborough. Thanks John Lawson, Esq., for releasing.

BENTLEY'S AGENCY, 169 Stamford-street, S.E. Telephone, 12 706 Central. Manager, H. Sheldon.

BERNARD, GEO., Modern Actor-Vocalist, will Shortly produce "The Last of the Light Brigade" Monday, E., Paisley (Return).

BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M'Sunker, "The Mountebank." 17, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

BISHOP and VALE conclude Harmonic Halls, Glasgow. Monday, Empire, Paisley. Liberty for Pantomime.

BLARNEY and KENNARD, the Comedy Couple, great success, Grand, Stockton. Liberty Nov. 28. Panto settled. 96, Cresswell-street, Liverpool.

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. Monday, Empire Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

BLOUNT, ARTHUR, A Comic Singer of Comic Songs. Next week, Palace, Tottenham, Sixth Return.

BLYTHE, MARIE, Concluded a successful Barrasford Tour. Nov. 21, Tivoli, South Shields. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

BONITA. Transvaal Leader.—The best all round shot that has ever appeared in South Africa.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Empress, West Hartlepool. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, in his Musical Séance, Introducing his Wonderful "Bosanquephone." Scala, Haag, Holland.

BOSWELL, A. P., Comedy Performer. Special Concerts, Great Yarmouth. Address, 7M, Market-road,

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, Public Hall, Barnsley. Look out for New Act.

BOYCE, FRANK, Vocal Comedian, Monday, South London Palace. Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

BRADLEY and TRUMAN. Thanks to W. De Frece and Wife, Vesta Tilley, for Portraits. Red Lion, Costock, Notts.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Expert Dancers. Big success, Palace, Lancaster. Nov. 21, Empire, Rochdale.

BREWSTERS. This Week, Metropole, Manchester. Next, Hippodrome, Manchester.

BRIGHTON GIRLS, THE, Lance and Sword Experts and Acrobatic Dancers. This, T. R., Leeds; next, Prince's, Bradford. "Swiss Express" Co.

BRITTON, LITTLE, Eccentric Comedian and Comedy Dancer, Mr J. Tiller's "High Jinks." This, Hippodrome, Birmingham; next, Tivoli, Leeds.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. This, Grand, Bolton; Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

BROOKLYN BOYS, Comedians, Pantomimists, Speciality Knockabouts. Only Vacancy. Panto. Starring Nov. 21, Royal, Cadoxton Barry.

BROWN and ROBINSON, Experts in Harmony, Nov. 21, Foresters'.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Empire, Middlesbrough.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Carmarthen, South Wales.

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, 344, Bury New-road, Manchester. Manager, L. Hochschild. And at Hartlepool and London.

BURNS'S, HARRY, Agency, Empress Varieties, Hartlepool. Manager, C. Ferrier. 'Phone, 0231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." And at Manchester.

BURTON'S Fête, Gala, and Variety Agency, Sheffield. Controlled by Arthur D. Burton. "The time is never lost that is devoted to work."

BUTLER, HARRY T., Disengaged, Light or Eccentric Comedy. Concluded Fourth Tour with Milton Ray's Cos. 82, Hilltop-mount, Roundhay, Leeds.

BUTT, THE, MARVELS, Sensational Barrel Jumpers and Tumblers. Unrivalled. Agents, S. Nutter and Sons.

CALVERTO'S ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, GLASGOW. Shall be pleased to hear from First-class Artistes or Companies coming North.

CANDLISH, WILL, Comedy Musical Act, Funny, Funny. On Tour. Vacant Panto., King, Baron, or Scotch Part. 50, Bond-street, Byker.

CARL and CARR, in Refined Comedy Act, "Workhouse." This, T., Sutton-in-Ashfield; next, Queen's T., Fleetwood. Christmas, Ealing Theatre.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team. Palace, Bradford.

CARMEN, HARRY, DAISY LANE, Finish To-night, R. A., Canning-town. Monday, Palace, Bow.

CARNEY, TOM, Palace, Chelsea. London and Collins's to follow. Address, above; or, 13, Hollingsworth-street, Holloway, N.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), in Original Vocal Comedy Act, "Their First Quarrel." Hippo., Norwich. Thank A. Richards for new linen.

CAZMAN'S, HENRI, Musical, Dramatic, Circus, and Variety Agency. 36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, London, S.W. Telephone, 335 Battersea.

CECIL, TOM, Comedian, Concertising about Scotland. Serpentello's Agency, 28, Wellington-st., London, W.C.

CEE-MEE Troupe On Tour. Permanent Address, care of "The Era."

CHANT and CHANT, the Comedy Couple. Another great success, A., Sandgate. Monday, E., Dover Vacant Nov. 28.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. Hippodrome, Llandudno. Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE), Monday, Second Week, Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow.

CHESTER and COMPANY, Dramatic and Variety Agents. 19, Oxford-street, Manchester.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Trades Exhibition, Town Hall, West Hartlepool.

CHEVALIER, FLO, Vocalist and Comedienne. Monday, address, Royal Varieties, Liverpool.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Svea Theatre, Stockholm

CHIRGWIN, London Nightly, Four Months. "Friends," please refrain from Copying.

CHIVERS and DE MONTI, Comedy Skaters and Chair Jumpers, finishing Tour in Ireland. Liberty Dec. 5, on. 204, Breck-road, Liverpool.

CLARENCE and BELL, Comedians, in J. Gar Kiddie's "A Little Coquette" Company. Nov. 21, Alexandra Theatre, Hull.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Tyrolean Songstress and Dancer, Vac Panto., Prin. or Second Girl. Address, 66, Grove-lane, Camberwell, London, S.E.

CLARKE'S NIPPERS finish To-night Hippodrome, Manchester. Next Week, Queen's-park, Hippodrome, Manchester.

CLARKS, THE, Lady and Gent., Liberty for Panto. with Two Distinct Original and Novel Acts. 18, Sunderland-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

CLEGG, EMILY, Refined Vocalist. At Liberty Panto., Boy or Fairy Queen. Address, 18A, Greame-street, Alexandra-park, Manchester.

CLEVELANDS, THE, on Tour. Letters, care of "The Era" Office.

CLYO and ROCHELLE (HARRY) Enormous success on our Return (ROSE). to the Granville, this week. Monday, Star, Bermondsey.

COBORN, CHARLES, just Returned from America. Palace Theatre, Bordesley.

CODMAN, G., Highest Pedestal Dancer in Great Britain, and Bone Soloist. Top Bill this week. Vac. Monday, Nov. 21. Wire, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

COLEMAN, ROSIE, and HARRY CONLIN. 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

COLLINS, ALBERT, Character Comedian and Vocalist. Agent, G. Thacker, 71, Lorne-road, Northampton.

COLLINS, GEO., the Quaint Star Comedian, still Vacant for Pantomime, Dame. Monday, Regent, Salford, Barrasford's. Managers invited.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE, at Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 368, Camden-road, N.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE. Popular Singer of Sensible Songs. Panto. Settled with J. Gar Kiddie, Esq. Mon., H., Wakefield. Lib. 28th.

CONROY, OLIVER, Comedian, Empress, Hartlepool. Monday, Return. Parthenon, Liverpool.

COOKE, STEVE, Comedian. Grand Theatre, Stockton.

COOKSON, JOE, the Clever Young Ventriloquist, in Novel Act. Re-engaged another Week, owing to Tremendous Success. Hippo., Shanklin, I.O.W.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. This, Hippo., Grimsby; next, Palace, West Hartlepool.

COVERDALE, CHAS., proved what he stated last week re Chelsea Palace and Metropole, Camberwell. Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Accrington.

COWEN, CHARLIE, Comedian and Author, concludes Big Success at Britannia, Glasgow, this week, and is Re-engaged for next.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers Palace, Belfast.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, Comedy Juggler, and his Acrobatic Dog "Dooley." This, Theatre Royal, Darlington; next, Grand, Stockton.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Company. London Hippodrome,

CREW, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW, usual success, Gaiety Palace, Chatham. Thanks Oliver and Holmes for Contracts.

CROWN TRIO (W. Davidson, L. Davidson, E. Schofield), Speciality Vocalists, Salford Hippo. Engaged, New Empire, Ashton-u.-Lyne, Opening Week.

CROWSON, WILL, and CISSIE CONYERS, Empire, Dover.

CULLEN, CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY, big hit, Palace, Bradford. Grand, Sheffield.

CUMMINGER, the Acknowledged World's Record Sand Dancer. Owing to success on Barrasford Tour have been booked for Alhambra, Paris. Day's.

CUNNINGHAM, CHARLES, "V.C." by Sutton Vane, and "The King's Hat," by Chas. Cunningham.

CURRY, PERCY. Address, Salford Hippodrome. Agent, James Fionì, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Quite an Original Comedian.—The Era.

CUTHBERT, MAUD Serio and Ballad Vocalist. Address, A. Robini, Empire, Nottingham.

DAGMAR, VICTORIA, and Comedy Assistant, Premier Lady Gymnast. Grace and Talent Combined. Vacant Nov. 21. Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne.

DAGMARS, THREE, at Liberty Dec. 26, 1904. Can also accept Panto. Monday next, Nov. 21, Circus Varieties, Rochdale. Agent, E. De Vere.

DAINTON GIRLS, THE, Concluded Fourth Return. Empire, Dudley. Many Thanks to Mr and Mrs Prichard for Comfortable Week and Return.

DALE, MR HARRY, First-class Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena. Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

DALE and D'ARGAN, in a novel act "Le Café Magique," are very popular.—Bury Times. Panto. settled. Nov. 21, E., Wigan.

DALE and VALE, Refined Singing and Dancing Speciality. Palace, Glasgow.

DANBYS, THE (CHARLES and ARTHUR). Empire, Dudley.

DANIELS, FRANCIS, own Sketch Company, "A Father's Vengeance." Permanent address, 51, Brunswick-street, South Shields.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Smart Black Versatile Artistes and Dancers, Require Nov. 28 and Dec. 5. 63, Sherbourne-road, Birmingham.

DANTON, CHARLES, concludes Empire, Paisley. Monday, 28, Nelson-street, Bridlington, Yorks.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. This, Palace, Aberdeen. Next, Tivoli, Glasgow.

DAY and MORE, Comedy Acrobats, also SAVARO, Bird Mimic, Require Nov. 28, North preferred. Write, Savaro, 21, Lothian-street, Edinburgh.

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAYS VARIETY AGENCY, 116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Always Vacancies for Stars and Specialities.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE. Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

DE DIO, THE PEERLESS, Continental Tour Month of November. Central Theatre, Dresden, Germany.

DE HENAU and MOLLE ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Macclesfield.

DELAMERE TRIO, THE, Original Comedy Equilibrists Vacant 21st and 28th. Wire, Empire, Wigan; after to-day, 95, North-rd., Preston.

DELEVINES, FIVE, New Act, "Flirtation." Empire Theatre, Brighton.

DEROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil. Actor-Vocalist, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

DIAMONDS, THE, the World's Champion Knife Throwers; also SYLVESTER, Negro Comedian. Liberty Monday next. Black Swan, Great Yarmouth.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. Rather successful, Hippodrome, Norwich. Monday, Return, Empire, Dudley.

DODDY and BELLE (the Long and the Short of it), Two Splendid Comedians, Liberty for Panto. Address, "The Era" Office.

DOLF, SIDNEY DOLF, Society Entertainer. Successful Two Weeks at St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey.

DOLLY, AGNES and MAUD, Singing Boxmakers. Unexpectedly Vacant, 21st and 28th, only Vacancies till May, 1905. Wire, Palace, Bath.

DOME, the Comedy Clay Man, Empire, New-cross.

DON, EMMA, and CO., including the Black and White Quartette. Thanks to Mr Broadhead and Mr Bostock for Contracts. Monday, Pal, Derby.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Nov. 21, Empire, Newcastle.

DORETTA, LITTLE, Acrobatic Speciality, Song and Dance Artist. Touring with C. W. Poole's Myriorama.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Coon Impersonator, Empress, Hartlepool Sole Agent, Tom Claxton.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Acknowledged by the Press to be a Juvenile Artiste of much ability.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Chic Comedienne, Dancer. Nov. 21, Borough Theatre, North Shields. New Songs, New and Pretty Dresses.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Versatile Artiste, usual success, H., Manchester. Monday, Boro' Theatre, North Shields. Vac. Panto., Principal Girl or Comedy.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler; OSWALD, Staircase Performer, and Hand-jumper. Monday, Hippodrome, Stockport.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. Nov. 21, Temple of Varieties, Hounslow. Coms, Fred Durham or Sam Hart.

DUNNING and KAHN and KAHN, the Two Finest Magical and Ventriloquial Acts Extant. Monday, Palace Theatre, Blackpool.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Nov. 21, Empire, Greenock. Liberty Panto., Principal Boy or Girl. Thanks for offers, must have terms.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian. This Week, Oxford, Middlesbrough. Nov. 21, Boro' T., N. Shields "Ring up, I'm ready."

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Youthful Versatile Instrumentalists and Dancers, Specially Engaged One Month, W. Hamilton, Col., Leeds.

ELCOCK, AMY, Comedienne. **FLORRIE ST. ROY**, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 28. 5, Eagle-mansions, Salcombe-road, London, N.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also **LA BELLE TOSCA**, Two or Three Acts. Liberty Dec. 19. Address, Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lynne.

ELLAS, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Empire, Burnley.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, and FLORRIE BRAY Free for Panto. Thanks H. Burns, Esq., for Contracts. This, Empress, Hartlepool; next, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. Ernie Mayne and Ben Albert's "Bluebell" Parody, Cert. Panto. Number. Rights, £11s. 19, Pulross-rd., Brixton

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, 42, St. Paul's-road, Middlesbrough.

ELMO, NINA, Comedienne, Palace, Southampton. Hippodrome, Hastings, to follow. Agents, Day's Agency.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Principal Boy, Dottridge and Longden, 1904-1905, Third Year. Next week, Walthamstow Palace.

ELVIRA, AMY, Burlesque Artiste, usual success, Circus, Bury. Vacant Dec. 12. Permanent address, 67, Swinton-street, London, W.C.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer. Part and Speciality. G. T., Islington, Christmas. Address 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Nov. 21, Hippodrome, Porth, S.W.

ESDALE BROS, Comedians. Vacant Dec. 12 and 19. Monday, Haymarket, Liverpool. Still Rehearsing New Act. Julian Mack write, important.

ETHARDO, OTTO; MDLLE. PARDOE, Comedy Juggler, Speciality Dancer and Acrobat, this, Grand, Walsall; next, Alexandra T., Birmingham.

FALCONS, THE, Barrasford Tour.

FERRARIS THE, Modern and Cosmopolitan Dancers Nov. 21, Circus Carre, Amsterdam.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Parkkeepers. Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. Hippo., Scarborough. Vacant Monday. Wire.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS. Latest success, "A Mare's Nest." Royal, Holborn. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

FLORADORA GIRLS, enormous success, "Rival Sweethearts." Conclude To-night, Aberdeen. Mon., M., Gateshead. Panto. settled. Mouillot, Esq.

FLORIZELL, MISS, Flexible Lady, in a Series of New and Startling Sensational Feats. Ahead of them all. Monday, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

FONTAINBLEAU, ALICE, the Great Rolling Globe Equilibrist, and her Troupe of Canine Quadrupeds. Per., Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Empire, Dublin.

FORREST'S, EDGAR, Comedy Company. Talk of the town. Hit of programme. T. R., Oldham. Vacant Nov. 28. Wire as above

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard

FOSTER, G. W., ALF RICK, the Songwriterr. Address, Empire Theatre, Newcastle.

FOX, ALEX., Great Ventriloquist, now on Tour, Tiller's Bioscope and Mannikins. Just concluded, Aberyan. Monday, Troedyrhiw, S. Wales

FOY, TOM, and Company. Euston, Paragon, Hammersmith. Monday, Palace, Manchester.

FRANCE and FRANCIS, Comedians and Acrobats, Gaiety, Oldham. Monday, Hippodrome, Porth, South Wales.

FRANCISCO, Juggler, &c; **MAY MOODIE**,

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Address, 5, Phœnix-lodge-mansions, Brook-green, W.

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(Miss Nelly Howitt) at Liberty.
10, Clarendon-gardens, Maida-vale, W.

MR. and MRS. FRANK E BURDETT,
Own Tour with "The Indian Mutiny."
Nov. 28, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

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Character, Comedy, and Old Men.
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MR. CARTHAGE CALDCLEUGH,
Harry Hood, "Greed of Gold."
Theatre Royal, Torquay.

MR. DONALD CAMERON,
Acting Manager, Mr Robert Perris' Co., "A Fight for Millions." P.O.W. Theatre, Southampton.

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H. C., Mr Willard's Tour. Mrs Cane at Liberty.
Town or Suburbs. 22, Linden-gardens, Chiswick, W.

MR. and MRS. G. CANNINGE.
Address,
124, Whittington-road, Bowes-park, N.

MR. CHARLES CARTE No better actor has been seen on the Douglas stage during the last decade.—Isle of Man Times, Dec. 8, 1902.

MR. LESLIE CARTER,
as Jim Larrabee, "Sherlock Holmes."
Nov. 28, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

MR. DOUGLAS CECIL,
Captain Darville, "Two Little Vagabonds."
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth. Disengaged Dec. 5.

MR. and MRS. JOHN CECIL (Miss Minnie Leslie) invite Offers, Lead, Heavies, Chambermaids, Boys, Soubrettes. Address, Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.

MR. GORDON CHASEMORE,
Costume Designer,
Foy Boat Hotel, Ramsgate.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE CHILD
(Frances Bruce), Mutley and Hook, in "The World's Desire." Nov. 28, Goole, Three ; Grantham, Three.

MR. CECIL CLAYTON,
Joe Buzzard, "In the Ranks,"
Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen.

MR HAYDEN CLIFFORD, Comedian and Dancer. S.-M. for W. Greet, Esq. Dis. Dec. 18. This, T. R., Preston ; next, O. H., St. Helens.

MR. J. H. CLYNDES,
"A Royal Revenge"
Victoria Opera House, Burnley.

MR. HAL COLLIER,
In Own Comedy-Sketch, "Uncle's Legacy."
Opening Week, New Coliseum, Sheerness, Nov. 28.

MR. EDWIN J. COLLINS,
Jack Felton (Lead), "Worst Woman in London."
Nov. 28, Theatre Royal, Smethwick, Six Nights

MR. ARTHUR COLLINS-ROLFE,
Arthur Dicey, "A Message from Mars" (Starkey).
En route ; or, 116, The Grove, Denmark-hill.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON,
as Gibson, "The Private Secretary," and William, in "Jane." Nov. 28, Limerick (three), Galway (three).

MR. T. E. CONOVER,
"Miss Mischief" Company.
Opera House, Leicester.

MR. FRED CONQUEST,
Zacky, in "For Ever."
Pantomime, Prince's, Bristol.

MR. FRED CONYERS,
"No Man's Land" Co., Ebbw Vale, Three ; Abertillery, Three. Disengaged Dec. 12, Lead or Heavies.

MR. HORTON COOPER,
"The Freedom of Suzanne."
Criterion Theatre, W.

MR. BERNARD COPPING,
Lead ; Miss ISA BELLINGTON, Lead and Comedy.
Dis. 41, Wakehurst-road, New Wandsworth, London.

MR. J. W. CORDINER,
'Dare-Devil Dorothy." Fourth Year.
Nov. 23, Queen's Theatre, Leeds

MR. VERNON COWPER,
Bluejkin, "Jack Sheppard."
Nov. 28, Alhambra, Belfast.

MR. ERNEST H. G. COX
Disengaged Dec. 15.
Nov. 21, G. T., Woolwich ; Nov. 28, G. T., Manchester.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE.
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MR. ALEC CRICHTON,
Principal Comedian. Disengaged.
49, The Drive, Fulham-park-gardens, S.W.

MR. HENRY CROCKER,
Sacheverell and Stage-Manager, Mr Laurence Irving's Co. Nov. 28 Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

MR. JULIAN CROSS
Disengaged.
Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR CURTIS
Disengaged Dec 10.
10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MR. HERBERT CYRIL,
Comedian.
To-night, The London, To-night.

MR. LIONEL D'ARAGON
Disengaged. Lead. Disengaged.
8, Blenheim-villas, Marlborough-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. CHARLES DAVIES,
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New Address The Orchards, Burnage, near Manchester.

MR. COLEMAN DAVIES Dis. Panto.
Last Xmas, Baron, Princess's, Glasgow. Great Success. Refer R. Waldon. Nov. 28, F. T., Newcastle.

MR. HAMILTON DEANE,
Starring, "In the Shadow of Night,"
This, Stratford ; Next, Lowestoft.

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE
Disengaged for Spring.
100, Russell-street, Peterborough.

MR FRANK H DENTON
Disengaged Dec. 17.
Address, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

MR. WILLIAM DEXTER
Disengaged. Offers invited.
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MR. FRED DOBELL
at Liberty now and for Christmas. Robust Character, Comedy, and Dialect Parts. Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

MR. OSWALD DOUGLAS and MARY AINSLIE, Heavy Lead and Lead, "A Bid for Fortune" Company. Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.

MR. and MRS. K. DRACO
(Miss Mimi Fisher). K. D, Manager, Gen. Dance's "Duchess of Dantzic." Nov. 28, Pavilion, E.

MR. STANLEY DREWITT.
Address,
Elderden, Staplehurst, Kent.

MR. ALBERT C. DUNCAN,
Business-Manager. Disengaged.
Address, 116, Englefield-road, Canonbury, N.

MR. CHARLES A EAST,
Lead and Heavies, and Character. Britannia Theatre, N. Disengaged Christmas. 17, Adie-road, Hammersmith.

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Special week Brighton.

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Richelieu, Cæsar, Icilius, Buckingham, Wah-no-tee, Sir Hugh Evans, &c. E. Tearle Rép., en route.

MR. CHARLES H. FENTON
at Liberty Dec. 12. This week, Camden Theatre, N.W. ; next, T. R., Manchester. E. S. Willard's Tour.

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concluded with "The Edge of the Storm."
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as Captain Lebaudy, "The Mariners of England" Company. New Opera House, West Bromwich.

MR. W. V. GARROD,
the Spider, "The Silver King."
Theatre Royal, Norwich.

MR. JOHN GERANT,
Montague Brent, in "Winnie Brooke, Widow."
Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

MR. DOUGLAS GERRARD,
Prince Karl, Mr Tree's North Company, "The Darling of the Gods." Empire Theatre, Oldham.

MR. FRANCIS GLYNN,
Tenor, The Close, Stratton St. Margaret, Near Swindon, Wiltshire. Telegrams, "Glynn, Stratton St. Margaret."

MR. ALFRED GODDARD,
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MR. LAURENCE GROVE, Noel Le Jolys, in "If I Were King" Co. Dis. Nov. 26. Juv-Light Comedy. Add., 69, Huron-rd., Upper Tooting, S.W.

MR. and MRS. VAL GULLY (Miss Pollie Denville), Engaged for Mr Macnaghten's Christmas Production, "King's Pardon." 52, Norfolk-st., Rotherham.

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MR. FREDERICK HARKER
Disengaged.
Berkeley, Chester-road, Erdington, Birmingham.

MR. CHARLES HARLEY,
"A Country Mouse" Company.
Nov. 28, Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

MR. MORRIS HARPER,
Acting-Manager, "Peggy Machree" Company.
Nov. 28, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

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on Tour with own Company.
Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield (Return).

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Address,
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Disengaged for Juvenile Leading Business.
Rock Valley, Mansfield, Notts.

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(Miss Ida Millais)
Disengaged shortly. King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

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at Liberty.
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Disengaged, Old Men, &c.
Address, 31, Crowndale-road, N.W.

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Acting-Manager, "As Midnight Chimes" Company, Colosseum, Oldham ; Dec. 5, H. M. T., Aberdeen.

MR. BALIOL HOLLOWAY
Disengaged. Address,
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MR. A. S. HOMEWOOD
Disengaged very shortly.
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MR. FRANCIS HOPE,
Eccentric and Light Comedian, Disengaged.
69, Huron-road, Upper Tooting, S.W. Blackmore.

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(Miss Clara Earle), with Edward Terry, Esq.
Nov. 28, New Theatre, Oxford, Three Nights.

MR. and MRS. WILSON HOWARD (Miss Carlotta Anson), Lead and Heavy Lead, Stage-Man. Dis. Dec. 12. Offers invited. T. R., Chesterfield.

MR. LEONARD HUBERT,
on Tour with Mr and Mrs Kendal.
Nov. 28, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Birmingham.

MR. RALPH HUTTON,
Mr Tree's "Darling of the Gods" Company (South).
Disengaged Dec. 10. Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
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MR. GEORGE JAMES,
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Next week, Empire Theatre, Oxford.

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MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Orsino, Horatio, Oliver, Slender, Lorenzo, Faulkland, Hastings, Benvolio, &c., Mr F. R. Benson's North Co.

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MR. OGILVY KEITH.
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Jack Chesney, "Charley's Aunt."
Nov. 28, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham-junction.

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Juvenile Leading Business, Disengaged Dec. 12.
Nov. 28, Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

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King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

MR. AUGUSTINE KNIGHT,
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N.W.

MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE,
Lead, Mr Walter Melville's "A Girl's Cross Roads" Company. Nov. 28, Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth.

MR. BERT LESLIE
will in future be known as
Leslie Race.

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MR. ARDENE LINDEN,
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Arrangements Complete.
43, Albermarle-street, Piccadilly, London.

MR. GEORGE H. LIOT,
"Miss Mischief" Company. Disengaged Dec. 12.
Nov. 28, Opera House, Leicester.

MR. FRANK LISTER
Disengaged Dec. 5. Pantomime or Play.
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Business Manager, Lead, Juveniles.
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Olympia Theatre, Newcastle.

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Disengaged March 4, 1905.
Nov. 28, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.

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as the Hon. Ernest Worley, in "The Admirable Crichton," with William Gillette. Empire T., New York.

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Nov. 28, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

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Roberts, "The Lady Slavey,"
Theatre Royal, Bath. Disengaged Dec. 10.

MR. NORTON SHIELDS,
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Broadway Theatre, Deptford, S.E., Nov. 20, 1904.

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"DIE SIEBZEHNJAHRIGEN."
Play, in Four Acts, by Max Dreyer,
Produced at the Lessing, Nov. 19.

Von Schlettow	Herr BASSERMANN
Annemarie	Fräulein LEHMANN
Frieder	Herr STIELER
Oberst Von Schlettow	Herr PATRY
Erika	Fräulein SCHIFF
Vorbrodt	Herr FUCHS
Miele	Fräulein POHNISCH
Bramstädt	Herr PAULY
Blau	Herr MULLER
Timpel	Herr BOROWSKY
Minna	Fräulein STOLLE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, NOV. 24.—Herr Dreyer is one of our most realistic dramatists. Himself a young man, he loves to depict the passions and follies of youth; his characters are—or appear to be—mostly drawn from life; his plots are always interesting, and the language is robust and sentient. The first three acts met with genuine appreciation, the final one falling off somewhat. This time also Herr Dreyer has selected young people for his hero and heroine—as the title says, "seventeen-year-old ones." We will hope there are not many such over-ripe, unhealthy-minded girls of seventeen as Erika Von Gellenhofen, who repays the kindness she has received from her cousin and adopted sister so basely. Werner Von Schlettow, a retired major, lives a happy family life with Annemarie, his wife, Frieder, his son—a cadet of seventeen—and Erika, his wife's cousin—an orphan. For a time only the happiness lasts; then the tragedy begins. It is the tragedy of a boy of seventeen, but none the less a tragedy for that. Frieder has grown up under the wise and loving care of a good mother, and he respects and admires his father above all men. That he is boyishly in love with Erika is natural enough, but it is an innocent, ideal love, very different to the sensuous passion of the girl. Major Von Schlettow is a cavalier, and he is an artist; Erika's beauty attracts him more and more, and the girl does all she can to draw him on. He does not intend to be unfaithful to his wife, of whom he is fond enough, but he cannot resist Erika's fascination. Frieder witnesses a love scene between the two, and at one blow the boy's faith in his father is destroyed. He could overcome his own disappointment in losing Erika's love, but he is filled with grief at the thought of his mother. His ideals have vanished, life seems too horrible to be lived, and Frieder shoots himself before the door of a summer-house where his father and Erika have a rendezvous. These are the contents of the first three acts. The last is devoted to the wife, to Annemarie, and in the opinion of some of the critics this is the best act. When Annemarie learns—as she does by degrees—why her beloved son took his life, she is prepared, after the first burst of grief, to sacrifice herself for her husband's happiness and leave him to Erika. But Schlettow, who had always suffered with his eyes, is now, in consequence of the excitement attendant upon Frieder's death, threatened with blindness, and his wife remains to nurse and comfort him. Fräulein Lehmann as Annemarie gave one of the magnificent renderings for which we know her, and Herr Stieler acted faultlessly the rôle of the cadet. The remaining characters were sustained as they always are at the Lessing—in a manner above all praise. Herr Dreyer was "called" repeatedly.

THE Neues Theatre produced a novelty last week in the shape of a partly historical, partly romantic comedy, by Josef Ruederer, entitled *Die Morgenröte*. It is five acts in length, the five acts are very long, and the easy-going humour scattered through them does not render them less wearisome. The action—of which there is little enough—passes in Munich in the revolutionary year of 1848. The King's favourite, Lola Montez, and a frequently plucked student named Xaver Singlspieler are the principal characters, and round them are grouped all kinds of loosely woven episodes. There are plenty of beer-drinking scenes, as a matter of course, and some playful satire about the good-for-nothing among the undergraduates. The end of the whole matter is that Xaver—who has fallen in love with naughty little Lola, and fancies himself one better than the King, after having supped with her and been allowed to kiss her—is purged by holy water and incense to avoid contamination. The conclusion was regarded as a huge joke by many, but was evidently distasteful to others of the audience. Had it not been for the capital acting the piece would certainly not have taken as well as it did. It was also staged in a highly effective manner. The author was called and warmly applauded.

AT the Lustspiel-Haus Misch's *Biederleute* is holding the boards for the present. In a few days a play will be produced by Fräulein Gabriele Reuter, one of the foremost German women authors. The piece is entitled *Das Böse Prinzesschen*. A military comedy, *Kamerad Von Zick*, by Arthur Zapp, was recently produced at this theatre, meeting with a cordial reception. Herr Zapp is a writer of entertaining novels, and his first attempt at playwriting is decidedly successful.

SIGNORA FRANCESKA PREVOSTI is the star of the moment at the National Theatre, the acoustics of which building, by-the-way, are far more suited to operatic performances than dramatic ones. The opening attraction was *Traviata*, in which Signora Prevosti has often appeared here, and always with equal success. The rôle of Violetta is one of the best in her repertory, and the audience—an unusually large one—applauded rapturously. *Der Barbier* and *Figaro's Hochzeit* are in the bill this week. Signora Prevosti is admirably supported by the National company, particular commendation being due to Herr Melms, possessor of a powerful and effective baritone.

AT the Belle Alliance the gruesome one-act drama *Wer?* by MM. De Lorde and Montignac, is still being given at intervals, attracting those persons who delight in cold shivers and nerve-rousing spectacles. The climax is reached when the criminal is confronted with the supposed corpse of his victim, and thrills of horror go audibly through the audience. The piece is well acted and adequately staged. The majority of the spectators breathe a sigh of relief when the curtain falls, and contemplate with pleasure the prospect of *Die Sugendglocke*, the second play of the evening. This week Max Kretzer's volks-piece *Die Millionenbauer* is filling the bill almost exclusively.

ANOTHER Italian guest within our walls is Signor D'Andrade, who is giving a lengthier season than usual and attracting large houses at the Theater des Westens. D'Andrade is one of those artistes who seem specially favoured and always remain young. I remember hearing him in his most famous rôle of Don Giovanni at Krolls nearly twenty years ago. The effect he made then—it was his début in this city—was tremendous; the audience knew no bounds in their enthusiasm after the star's rendering of the Champagne song. It is quite the same to-day, and Signor D'Andrade, who comes to us regularly every year at the beginning of the season, has lost none of his popularity. The opening performance last week was, of course, *Don Juan*—critics and public alike declaring with one voice that there is but one Don, and D'Andrade is his name.

"RIENZI" is now frequently to be heard at the Royal Opera, whereas some years ago it was hardly ever done. A fine performance of this interesting work took place on Thursday, Herr Grüning singing the title-rôle. Frau Goetze, Fräulein Reine, Herren Berger, Bachmann, and other important members of the company did excellent service. In the pantomime, in the second act, Fräuleins Urbanska and Kierschner, with several gentlemen of the Imperial corps de ballet, gave a good account of the parts entrusted to them.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—Sir Henry Irving opened what is first, and also unfortunately, his last visit to Aberdeen on Monday, with *The Merchant of Venice*. It is superfluous at this time of day to criticise the great actors' portraiture of Shylock, sufficient is it to say that it made an ineffaceable impression on the audience. Miss Edith Wynne Mathison's Portia was a fine piece of acting; Mr James Hearn made a sound and dignified Antonio; and the parts of Bassanio and Gratiano were admirably filled by Mr Gerald Lawrence and Mr H. B. Stanford; while Jessica and Nerissa were presented with much charm by Mrs Cecil Raleigh and Miss Grace Hampton. The other members of the company gave most efficient support.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—The greatest attraction this week is "The Magic Kettle," which is introduced by Mr F. Carlton. Mr W. L. Murray contributes some remarkable feats of strength, and Payne's Little Vagabonds repeat their success of last week. Among others who make a hit are Mr Tom E. Hughes, Negro comedian; Miss Rosie Elliott, a sprightly comedienne; the Sisters Terry, charming vocalists and mimics; Dale and O'Mally, clever knockabout comedians; the Lyons Trio of pantomimists and dancers; and "Royal" Best, the facial artist. The Palace Bioscope maintains its freshness.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr W. Ventom.—This week Mr James Stillwell's No. 1 company is here in *Queen of the Night*. Mr Charles V. Sandford is easy and natural as Frank Cavendish; Mr James Stillwell is effective as Philip Stoneleigh; Mr F. Thorpe-Tracey is quite at home in the part of Old Briskett; Mr Herbert Colley is especially funny as Adolphus Briskett, his songs being quite excellent; Miss Polly Denville as Kitty White is appreciated; Mr Paul E. Teulon as David Pentreath is excellent; and Miss Irene Tracy makes an ideal Dick. Miss Katherine Barnett as Maude Sylvester is delightful; and Miss V. St. Lawrence in the rôle of Paulina employs excellent delivery and ready resource.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—Mr Henry Eglington's company is presenting *When the Lights are Low*. Miss Adelina Mercandalli gives a smart performance as Nancy Christie; Miss Kate Froude is responsible for a capital embodiment of Violet; Miss Maude Leonard most successfully depicts Kathleen; Miss Josie Love pleasingly plays Stella; Guy Goldsworthy is vigorously represented by Mr Geo. Daiper; and Roland is well played by Mr Edward Avinal. Mr Tom R. Seymour is successful as Ikey Isaacson. The rôle of Donald Macpherson is ably depicted by Mr J. P. Marsden, and the parts of Willie and Tim Wilkins are carefully sustained by Mr Dick Seddon and Mr Fred Carlton.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Mill; Assistant Manager, Mr T. Moyse.—The bill this week is headed by De Gracia's clever trio of elephants. Other successful turns are Professor Hockinge, hypnotist and electrical specialist; M'Cann's clever terriers; Chas. Coverdale, comedian and patterer; the Woellhafs; Sardou, illusionist; Dan Maxford; Comical Walker; and Martin Conway, a local athlete.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr George R. Sims's drama, *The Lights o' London*, is the attraction here this week. Mr Cecil G. Calvert and Miss Jeanne Burgoyne represent the hero and heroine, Harold Armytage and Bess, with marked success. Miss Burgoyne as Bess is sweetly pathetic from first to last. Mr Percy Compton as Jarvis, the kind-hearted showman, and Miss Emilie Dawson as his better-half win golden opinions from the audience. Mr Herbert Hollister as Seth Preene gives breadth and effect to the character he represents; and Mr Albert Brasque as Clifford is admirable as the cool and gentlemanly villain.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmott; Acting-Manager, Mr L. Campkin.—Mr Neil Kenyon, the popular Scotch comedian, is one of the features of the week's programme. The "canny Scot" exhibits in song and patter all that is best in Scotia's quaint humour, and he elicits much laughter. The Jackson Family, too, is another "big draw." Expert instrumentalists and vocalists, they give a refined and artistic entertainment well worth seeing. There is also capital succession of turns given by a number of other clever artistes. La Belle Tosca astonishes her audience with her agility and daring on the silver wire; the Knick-Knacks are refined comedy speciality dancers; Tom Heyr, clever, precocious boy comedian; the wonderful performances of Vanda in her up-to-date juggling act on the rolling globe, are applauded; Burke and M'Voy give a good comic acrobatic act; Hess and Lisbon are funny grotesque skaters; and the Sisters Ashton charming duettists and dancers. The Bioscope is also attractive.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—Mr Bert Coote's company is here this week with *The Fatal Wedding*. Miss Doris Gilham made an excellent Cora Williams, an adventuress. Robert Curtis was safe in the hands of Mr Oliver Rogers; Mabel Wilson was well played by Miss Helen Russell; and Mr Ernest Owttrim did well as Howard Wilson; the Jessie of Miss Marjorie Lawrence was deserving of great praise; Miss Maud Locker as Bridget was very amusing, and she was well supported by Mr W. R. Chewd as Toto. Mr Jack Waring was a capital O'Reilly; and Mr J. Graham played the Rev. D. Lanceford in good style. Some pleasing songs and dances, including a cake walk by the children, are introduced in the third act.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr John F. Preston's répertoire company is here with *Jane Shore*. Miss Grace Lester in the title-part acted with much ability; Miss Nina Westerleigh was a good Elizabeth Woodville; and Mr James Duncan's Matthew Shore was a convincing and dignified effort. Mr Lewis Leslie was a capable Anthony Yeaste; Mr Ernest Hamilton a characteristic Boniface; Mr Alf Wade an admirable King Edward IV.; and Mr Ed. Beecher a capital Duke of Gloucester. On Wednesday and Thursday the esteemed and popular resident-manager, Mr George Stone, took his annual benefit. The company performed *Still Waters Run Deep* and *Nell Gwynne*, preceded each evening by the comedietta *Hushed Up*. Messrs Len Worral, W. Y. Oakes; the Mdlles. Annie Stone and Lily Oakes taking part. Specialities were also contributed by W. H. Downes and Miss Beatrice Wiley.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Terry and Lambert, with a comedy sketch, top the bill here this week. Kioto, the marvellous Japanese, scores greatly in his novel equilibristic act; Keen and Walad are one of the successes of the evening in an eccentric acrobatic act; W. H. Downes, the coloured vocalist, sings some good songs; and Miss Beatrice Willey shows excellent taste in her ballad singing. Carlo Bianchi, a Risley performer, is heartily applauded.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—A return visit is being paid here by Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company in *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr Edward M. Hamilton, successfully enacts Monsieur Roche; Mr George Beverley is clever as the villainous Felix Marius; Paul Rovel is admirably played by Mr Wilson Howard; Mr W. H. Sharpe scores heavily as Kretch; Mr E. W. Avery is a typical Tom Holmes; and Vivian Ormonde is made the most of by Mr Sinclair Holden. Miss Dorothy Riddell is a pleasing Annette; Miss Carlotta Anson, a natural Felice; Sally Kingt evokes praise as depicted by Miss May Rosine; and Miss Beattie Moore is a sympathetic Christina.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr Jasper Redfern.—The top of the bill here is "Kardoo" the wonderful manipulation of locks, bolts, and bars. Mdlle. Bartinelli, supplies a novel and clever gymnastic act; the Pereys are smart in their performance; the Two Daniels, take well as comedians and dancers; Ryder Davies is a facile actor-vocalist; the Boultons are successful as Limelight Coons; Eva Ward is an excellent burlesque artiste, and the well-known animated photos are much appreciated.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—*The Toreador* has been presented here by Mr George Edwardes's company. Mr Lionel Victor (Sammy Gigg), Mr T. W. Volt (Archibald Slackett), and Mr W. H. Powell (Pettifer) all work hard, and their efforts are received with acclammation and applause. Mr Fred Allandale is a capital Augustus Trail, his rendering of the newly introduced "River" song gaining an unmistakable encore. As Rinaldo and Moreno Mr E. Nainby and Mr A. W. Ashdowne deserve praise. Miss Nellie Bouverie's clever impersonation of Mrs Malton Hoppings is successful. Miss Nancy Langtyre and Miss Daisy Wallace are charming as Nancy Staunton and Dora Selby, and sing and dance with the happiest results. Miss Alice Oppitz's Donna Teresa remains quite a feature of the performance; Miss Daisy Stratton is ever fascinating as Susan; and Mr John Donald is a commanding Carajola and Mr Fred Fowler a nimble Governor of Villaya. Mr Edward Thornton has full control of the large chorus and augmented orchestra, and the staging is lavish and effective.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—The Dandies' refined and artistic interlude of song and dance is loudly applauded here. The Bandurrias' skilful playing upon mandolines and guitars is also greatly appreciated; the Bros. Durant do some smart acrobatic feats with success; the Sisters Caselli shine in high kicking and eccentric dancing; Capt. Slingsby returns with his well-known ventriloquial act; Roze and Calvert, in their comedy sketch *Captain Cuttle*, are amusing; Urk, illusionist, is clever; and Mr O'Leary, baritone vocalist, deputises with acceptance.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walton R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Miss Lena Stanton's company, in the musical play *The Belle of Bangalore*. The music thoughout is popular, the orchestra being under the able direction of Mr Raymund M. Lancaster. Miss Lena Stanton's voice is well suited to the title rôle, to which she does full justice; Small Sing finds a vivacious interpreter in Miss Marie Gerrard; Little Keno, a juvenile wonder, causes much amusement with his comicalities; Mr Harry Jay makes an excellent Pat Murphy; and Mr Bruce Green submits a majestic impersonation of the Rajah. Rum Omyo is well portrayed by Mr George James; the Sisters Vell are quite a success in their musical dancing performance; and the Cecil Troupe of dancers also do well.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—Mr Mouillot's company opened here on Monday with the favourite opera, *The Geisha*. The company is a powerful one, and includes the delightful actress, Miss Aimee De Leska, who submitted a piquant, graceful, and charming interpretation of O Mimosa San. In the rôle of Wun-Hi Mr Edward Carlton assisted materially in the success of the piece, his unexaggerated humour being responsible for the heartiest laughter. Miss Florrie Saunders sustains the rôle of Molly Seymour admirably; and the part of the French interpreter, Juliette Diamante, was prettily and cleverly sustained by Miss Violet Kenyon. Miss Aubrey Ashton was delightful as Lady Constance Wynne, and Mr Lionel Braham sustained the rôle of Marquis Imari most humorously and effectively. As Reginald Fairfax Mr Arthur Cartwright was highly successful, his fine voice being heard to great advantage; and Miss Blanche Browne was a capital Tom Stanley. The officers of H.M.S. Turtle, Dick Cunningham, Arthur Cuddy, and George Grimston, were excellently portrayed by Messrs Edward Granby, F. P. Wilfred, and Bay Russell; and other parts were satisfactorily sustained by Misses K. Birkbeck, Lucy Egerton, Marie Gilbert, E. Rimington, and Messrs H. Reynolds and J. Hornby. The orchestra and chorus, under the direction of Mr Frank Barrett, were in every sense efficient. *The Greek Slave* was performed on Thursday and Friday.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr J. P. Beardmore.—The chief attraction here is furnished by Malcolm Scott, comedian, whose humorous songs and up-to-date patter have been hugely enjoyed. The Burnells provide their exceedingly funny sketch *Over the Garden Wall*, which has been received with enthusiasm. Mr Cecil Lidden and Miss Elsie Hayward appear to advantage in their musical absurdity *A Quiet Rehearsal*, by Mr Cecil Lidden. Messrs Goggin and Davis have been very successful with their smart comedy acrobatic act; and a most attractive and exhilarating sketch entitled *The Doctor* has been supplied by the Courtney Combination. Messrs Craig, Roze, and Craig's gymnastic feats are quite a feature of the programme, and others appearing are Ray and Miles, comic jugglers; Rosemond and Clare's Vaudeville Company in their cake-walk competition; and the Three Woodbee Wonders in their herculean speciality.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brook.—The Tally Ho Trio head the bill here, and there attractive vocal items have been accorded an enthusiastic reception, fully deserved. The Wedburns are paying a return visit, and at once command success with their mirth-provoking patter. Much interest has been evinced in the unique performance of the Wartenberg Brothers, aptly described as double foot experts. The Miles-Stavordale Quintet delight all with their entertainment, and those humorous comedians, Messrs Tennyson and Wallis, are exceedingly droll duettists and dancers. Mr Harry Dent is a capital comedian with a good style, and also appearing are Fred Cowan, comedian, and Beatrice Renee, comedienne, whose dancing has been much admired.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—A capital bill has been provided here by Mr Downes, the popular manager, the top position being occupied by that droll comedian Mr Harry Conlin, whose funny songs have been very successful. A trapeze act of a startling nature has been supplied by the Sisters Urma, their remarkable feats being enthusiastically received. Mr Fred Weston and Miss Julie May stage with much success their musical comedy act *Married Life*. A capital entertainment is provided by Les Belles Americaines, vocalists and exceptionally smart dancers; and Mr

Henry Bekker is a wonderfully clever illusionist. Davis and Davis, the refined comedians, are well received; and also appearing are La Belle Idalia, in her graceful feats of equipose; Mr Fred Bronte, actor-vocalist; and Miss Lil Esplin, character comedienne.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS.—Proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco; General Manager, Mr Irving Bosco; Assistant-Manager, Mr George Dobler.—The special attractions this week include Auto Atlas, who has been engaged by Messrs Carter and Bosco at an enormous salary. His feats of strength include the lifting in his teeth of a heavy motor-car in which are three men as extra weight. Hardy, "The American Blondin," is one of the most marvellous and daring tight-rope walkers in existence. Some wonderful feats of horsemanship have been exhibited by the Sloan Family, and the Trampolin act by Les Granados is certainly capital. Cuban's ponies furnish a remarkably smart performance; and Princess Annie, who is now a great favourite here, is a graceful equestrienne. The new Hippodrome Pictures are an attraction; also appearing are Mr Jean Steckles in his jockey act; Silent Steck, a very funny clown; and Ping Pong, whose appearance nightly is the signal for much applause.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—*The Grip of Iron* is here played by a company under the direction of Messrs E. H. Knight and G. Denham. Mr Denham portrays Paul Blanchard admirably, and Miss Nellie Grant supports him effectively as Sophie. Jagon and Loustalot are capitally depicted by Mr Fred Powell and Mr Andrew Liston. Coucou and Dodot are in the safe hands of Mr Harry Agar-Lyons and Mr John Brittain. Miss Hilda Baynton makes a very good Marie Guerin; and the Cora Simmonet of Miss Georgie De Lara makes a favourable impression Mr J. Wilton-Richards carefully enacts Lorentz De Ribas.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—A spirited representation of *The Lady's Maid* by Mr Gore Ouseley's company, under the direction of Mr Joseph Watson, is decidedly successful. Miss Isa Bowman captivates all by a vivacious and telling rendering of the title-rôle, Jane Taylor. Josiah Higgin is in the capable hands of Mr Harry Fischer, and Mr Drew displays vocal abilities of a high order as Lieut. Marchmont.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Messrs Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company, in *The Village Blacksmith*, are doing excellent business. Mr Sam Livesey is admirably suited as John Strong, a part to which he does full justice. Mr Joseph Carter as Captain Leo invests the part with the necessary force and effect, and Mr Thos. E. Marshall is an excellent Parkins. Mrs Parkins is finely played by Mrs J. C. Livesey, and Mesdames Maggie Edwards and Ethel Kaye, Messrs. Geo. Wilton, Geo. V. Campbell, and Fred Wills lend good assistance.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Barton and Ashley, in their amusing sketch *Canal Boat Sal*, are prominent in the programme here, as also are Park's Eton Boys, clever vocalists and an attractive turn. The Hartley Wonders, in their jumping feats, contribute an interesting show; Miss Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl, is on a welcome return visit; and Mr Charles Lilburn, character comedian; Tally O'Smith, character vocalist; Regan and Ryan, good knockabouts; Miss Ida Gladstone, descriptive vocalist; Grant and Grant, Negro acrobatic dancers; and Mr Chris Richards, comedian and eccentric dancer, appear to advantage.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*Letty*, presented by Mr Charles Frohman with all the advantages that come of a full London cast, has attracted much interest and the most substantial support. Mr H. B. Irving has been applauded to the echo for his clever creation of Nevill Letchmere; Miss Irene Vanbrugh has been also highly acclaimed for her charm as Letty; Miss Eleanor Sourey carried off the effronteries and vulgarities of the fussy Hilda Gunning in the most humorous manner; Mr Scott Craven realised the coarse instincts of Bernard Mandeville to the full; Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson acted as Marion with fine feeling and capital expression; Mr Leslie Victor was successful as Richard Perry; and Mr Charles Troode as Neale and Mr Tom Heslewood as Ordish appeared to good avantage.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—*The Earl and the Girl*, presented by Mr William Greet, received a splendid ovation here on Monday, when it was produced for the first time in Birmingham. Miss Aimee Grey as Elphin Haye won loud and and frequent encores for her graceful acting and singing. Mr Percy Carr as Dick Wargrave presented a polished picture of the "real heir," and proved himself a musician to boot; and Mr Bertie White as the supposed heir showed similar attributes. Mr William Stephens as Jim Cheese proved a constant provocation to mirth with his smart and resourceful farcical play; Mr William Walshe as the irate uncle added to the humours of the situation immeasurably; and Mr Will Hindson acted capably as Downham, the American solicitor. Miss Dot Carey gave a humorous study of Liza Shoddam; and the production teems with clever dancers, graceful figures, and rich melody.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*The Silver Cross*, despite a heavy fall of snow which since Tuesday has enveloped the city, meets with the appreciation of crowded houses. Miss Maud Western presents all the tender and trustful impulses of Little Sunshine, the owner of "the silver cross," and the adopted daughter of Old Ben, a part which is played by Mr F. A. Marston with much rugged force, as well as with humour and pathos. Mr Harry Glenny places the villainous character of Philip Frewin beyond doubt; Mr Cliff Allen is popular as the hero, Arthur Merton; Mr W. A. Buckstone is successful in the clerical rôle; Mr Syd Bazley as Tomkyns diverts the audience, and is well aided by Miss Poppy Denby as Sally. Miss C. Glenney acts gracefully as Laura Beechcroft, and the drama is plentifully interspersed with songs.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*A Girl's Cross Roads* is one of the best of Mr Walter Melville's many creations. Miss Beatrice Homer depicts the unfortunate dipsomaniac, Barbara Wade, with stirring power and intensity; and the patient and suffering husband is admirable realised by Mr Wingold Lawrence. Miss Kate Hallam gains much compassion in her well-acted rôle of Constance Cornell; Miss Helen Haye takes up the rôle of Nellie Meadows in a most apt way; Mr Edwin J. Wilde compels respect for the part of the old farmer. Messrs Lionel Gadsden and Jno. Brookes shine as the villains, Cuthbert Lumley and Luke Ramsden; and Mr John Hitchins and Miss Emily Custance play comic rôles.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*Woman to Woman* faces the footlights this week, under Miss Mary Dalby's direction. The play deals with the Russo-Jap War, and Miss Dalby is seen to advantage as the Queen of the Koreans. Miss Georgina V. France creates a favourable impression as Lillian Lorne. Miss Madge Douglas proves herself equal to the rôles of Monica Stokes and Elba, a Koreun convert. Mr Chas. Whitlock bears himself with dignity as the Rev. Lesley Lorne. Mr Ernest Vaughan as Lieut. Padroski plays a villain's rôle well, and Mr E. D. Allen lends humorous relief as Denny O'Hagan. Mr Dan Agar as a comic correspondent causes excellent diversion.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*A Great Sensation* is the title and motif of this week's fare, which is supplied by Miss Beatrice Isaacson and company. Miss Isaacson conveys a pleasant impression as the florist, Eva Dale; Miss Edith Wallis is indefatigable as the villainess, Sidonie; and Miss Marion Mayne as Ria diffuses much humour around, together with Mr Frank G. Kent as Wiley Jones and Mr Harry Ugar as the comic postman. Mr Sydney N. Hallows displays all the ability requisite for the hero's part; Mr Tom Robertson is similarly equipped for the part of Henry Encombe; and Mr H. Clayton as Stephen Damer, Mr Frank V. Fenn as Robin Dale, Mr Alexander L. Isaacson as Bumko Bates, and Mr Geo. Collinson as Bruce win favourable comment. The "great sensation" is well sustained in the end.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—*The Marriage of Kitty* is being played here this week by Mr Frank Wilson's company. Mr Wilson appears as Sir Reginald Belsize, and the other characters in the piece are sustained by Mr Sidney Orton as John Travers, Miss Kate Horwood as Madame De Semiano, and Miss Vera Fordyce as Kitty Silverton.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—A drama entitled *Bigamy* is the attraction here this week. The author, Mr Fred Moule, plays the part of Rufus Cherrybull. Miss Alywinne Ermon appears as Diana De Courcelle, and is well supported by Miss Elsie Capell as Sylvia Dresden. Miss Lydia Mannington as Lilian Lambkin, Mr Colin Hazlewood as Sir Charles Dresden, Mr Francis Serle as Polyphemus Voltaire, and others.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—The star turn this week is the Nannie Goldman and William Holles's company, in their musical comedy sketch *The Little Charwoman*. The Three Laurels give a good performance in their speciality on the ping-pong table. The other turns are D. J. Pedley, comedian and dancer; Edith Courtney, ballad vocalist; Arthur Gill, in some clever imitations; Bailee and Smith; Jack Lorimer, comedian; the Three Sisters Chester, vocalists and dancers; Marie Joyce; and T. B. Fayne, Yorkshire comedian.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—Mr Frank M. Thorne's company is here this week with *Napoleon the Great*, in which Mr Hugh Montgomery gives a good account of himself in the title-rôle, and Miss Chrissie Dunbar presents a strong characterisation as Marie Waleska. The heroic Colonel Jules Meuron is creditably portrayed by Mr Charles Halling, whilst Mr J. G. Maine contributes a clever study of Paul Laczinska. Mr C. W. Spencer supplies genuine comedy as Sergeant Choupin, and Mr Frank M. Thorne, the author of the play, is successful as Pierre Pomponnet.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.—Another big programme is provided here this week. Herr Fritz is a clever illusionist, and performs novel tricks with lightning rapidity; Barrett and Knowles give pleasure with their racy patter; and Ida Ross is an excellent Tyrolean vocalist. The Two Neros supply a contortionist turn; Edgar Granville is very popular as a society entertainer; Kathleen Gray is a charming burlesque artist; Star and Jerome shine as coon vocalists; and the Lorrisons are very funny comedians.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—The world-renowned athlete Brinn tops the bill here this week, and presents his amazing act, *Pastimes on a Battleship*, with great success. Orito sings taking songs; Lotto, Lilo and Otto perform some wonderfully clever cycle tricks; Minnie Duncan and Arthur Godfrey appear in a coster sketch; Marie Terry and J. S. Bentley contribute a comedy act, entitled *The Hunt*; Charles J. Johnson sings nigger songs; Kahn and Kahn supply a conjuring turn; Professor Dunning ventriloquises; The Two Countees sing duets; J. P. Dane dances well; Ernest Ball is successful as an actor-vocalist; and Ada Cerito scores as a low comedienne.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—The annual visit of the Moody-Manners opera company to Bolton is being made this week. On Monday Wagner's *Tannhäuser* was given under the direction of Herr Richard Eckhold. Miss Toni Selter gave a fine rendering of Venus; Mr Joseph O'Mara was at his best as Tannhäuser; Mr William Dever essayed the part of Wolfram; Miss Carter sang prettily as the young shepherd; Madame De Vere was in excellent voice as Elizabeth; and Mr Charles M'Grath was an imposing Landgrave. Admirable assistance was given by F. H. Erle, T. C. Fairbairn, J. Alexander, and V. Brodo. On Tuesday Mdlle. Zelie De Lussan appeared as Carmen; and on Wednesday *The Jewess* was given with Madame De Vere as Rachael. The other operas during the week were *Mignon*, *La Traviata*, and *Maritana*.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—An attractive programme here includes Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, in their amusing pantomimic comedy, *After the Covent-Garden Ball*; Ernie Mayne, comedian; Miss Bessie Willow, serio; Arthur Gilbert, comedian; Reilly and Taylor, dialect comedians, in "Nonsense;" Frank Sylvo, quaint comedy juggler; Hector and Paulus, comedy acrobats and equilibrists; Joe Mac, patter comedian and eccentric dancer; Conway and Leland, "The Merry Monopedes;" and the Imperial Bioscope.

OHMY'S CIRCUS AND VARIETY HIPPODROME.—There is a capital all-round company appearing here, including Aerian and Ostara, who perform some daring feats in mid-air; the Zolas, a clever troupe of acrobats; Mons. Lupero, contortionist; Claude Ohmy, in leaping and jockey acts; Miss Lilly, with her performing ponies; and the Sisters Zaney. There has also been introduced the Magic Kettle, by Dr. Savant.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr William Greet's company is staging *The Lady Slavey* here this week, Mr Harry Walsh proves a capital exponent of Major O'Neill, and Mr Allan Morris's impersonation of the American millionaire is distinctly good. Roberts, the sheriff's officer, as represented by Mr Frank Sherlock is most entertaining, and is greeted with many a roar of laughter. The rendering of Lord Lavender submitted by Mr Walter J. Hybert is also eminently diverting. The dancing of Miss Jean Van Dalle and Miss Ethel Ashton as the Major's two daughters, Maude and Beatrice, is much appreciated, and Miss Millicent Marsden is excellent as Flo Honeydew. Miss Addie Lennard's clever and vivacious rendering of the title-rôle is received with marked favour.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr R. Stewart.—Mr George Edwardes's company in *San Toy*, under the direction of Mr J. A. E. Malone, is again here. Miss Don Harradine in the title-rôle sings charmingly, her duets with Bobby Preston (ably played by Mr Edward Sherras) being received with great applause. The part of Yen How is very well filled by Mr Alfred Clark, as is that of Sir Bingo Preston by Mr G. J. Williams. Mr Alfred Beers evokes much merriment as the mendacious Li, while in the small part of Fo Hop Mr Clinton Reynald is distinctly good. As the Maid Miss Florence Arnold scores heavily. Miss Mabel Lavelle as Poppy looks and acts the character admirably. A well selected chorus and an augmented orchestra under the baton of Mr Albert Bartlett complete a very strong show.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—*The Darling of the Gods* was presented here on Monday by Mr Tree's company to a deeply interested audience, to whom the strangeness of the production, with all its magnificent stage effects and tableaux, lent a peculiar fascination. The applause was very enthusiastic, and the principals of the clever company were frequently recalled. The part of the grim, licentious, and relentless Minister, Zakkuri, is very powerfully represented by Mr G. W. Anson; and Mr Gerald Kay Souper creates an excellent impression by his convincing acting as the outlaw, Prince Kara. In a very efficient manner Mr A. P. Kaye plays Prince Saigon. Mr Cecil Tresilian is powerful in his impersonation of the dumb Inu; and very impressive is the acting of Mr Ernest Stallard as Kato. Miss Lilian Stafford's Yo San is full of real earnestness and grace; Miss Sybil Glynn is a charming Geisha, and dances well; and very efficient are the Setsu of Miss Irma Foldi, the Rosy Sky of Miss Augusta Havilland, the Kaede of Miss May Seaton, the Nu of Miss Lorraine Stevens, and the Niji-Onna of Miss Rhoda Strauss.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—Those inimitable pantomimists Messrs C. and F. Renad, are here again with *The Swiss Express*, and laughter reigns supreme. The diverting piece is, as usual, capitally staged, and the Renads have a clever company to support them. Mr Wilford Bailey is capital as the much tormented Dr. Gull; Virginia is well played by Miss Marie Millward; whilst her persistent admirer, Bob Rolingstone, is well taken by Mr G. Martin. Mr Alec Wylie is good as Dudley Green.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—A well-acted sketch, viz., *A Bachelor's Dream*, by May Edouin and Fred Edwards, is an interesting feature of the good programme presented here this week. G. W. Hunter, the comedian, dry, quaint, and funny as ever, makes a welcome reappearance. Mabel Hind is dainty, Callie and Walker are a pair of good comedy artists, and the Three Sisters Sprightly win applause for good variety turns. The Brothers Obo dispense good comedy; an equestrian novelty by Joko and Koko is a fine example of animal training; a clever acrobatic performance is given by the Brothers Damm; Phil Herman sings smartly some good character songs; the Brothers Webb are diverting clowns and very accomplished musicians; and Alexander does some smart and clever things as a trick cyclist.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E Berry.—In their equestrian sketch, *Rejected Remounts*, Claude Ginnett's company presents a distinct novelty which is highly diverting. Ruby Bijou dances very daintily, and Steeley and Dowton present clever acrobatic dancing in their comedy turn. Clemart's ventriloquism is of an entertaining order. Henry Carlton, supported by a comic trio, presents an amusing turn, *Obliging a Lady*. Sandy and Carl's knockabout business and burlesque boxing are both funny. Friscari does some smart juggling and hat manipulating. Kit Keen's coon songs and bone solos are acceptable items, and the Australian Twin Andersons contribute some smart dancing.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr John Hare and company are here this week with *Little Mary*. Mr John Hare gives a finished portrayal of the Earl of Carlton; Miss Hilda Trevelyan achieves conspicuous success with her delightful impersonation of Moira Loney; Mr Carter Pickford is an excellent Lord Rolfe; and Mr Rudge Harding is well suited as Sir Jenninga Pyke. Mr Fred Grove's Terence Reilly and Mr Clifford Brooke's Dr. Topping are able representations, and admirable support is given by Mr Eric Maturin, Miss Helen Rous, Miss Kathleen Gordon-Lee, and Miss Beatrice Kelston. *Little Mary* is preceded by *'Op o' me Thumb*, in which Miss Hilda Trevelyan and Mr Rudge Harding are especially prominent.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Under the direction of Mr George R. Montford, the racing play *Rogues of the Turf* occupies the boards here this week. Mr John F. Preston is highly successful as Joe Flaxman; Mr George R. Montford gives a very forcible representation of Captain Dudley Clinton; Mr H. H. Rignold is entertaining as Moses Solomons; Miss Hilda Shirley makes a pleasing Nellie Flaxman; Miss Mabelle F. Barlow is a bright Phillis Warzell; Mr Ernest R. Allen gives a praiseworthy portrayal of Arthur Somerton; Miss Gertrude Godart is powerfully effective as Marion Lady Heathcote; and Mr Harry Benson affords amusement as Sam Flaxman. The play is admirably staged.

AQUARIUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Bernhardt.—Very attractive programmes are sustained here this week by Ye Merrie Peasants (Miss Lilian Sanders, Miss Marie Longmore, Mr Trefelyn David, and Mr Charles Hinchcliff); Little Miss Decima Brooke, vocalist and dancer; and Miss Jennie Franklin, "la femme Grossmith."

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—? Kweery ?—which comprises a cleverly worked illusion; Lanny and Dode, comedy artistes; Alec Kennedy, in his chorus song, "Arthur and Martha;" Cissie Heath, comedienne and dancer; Silent Tait, "the eccentric wizard;" the Three American Idols, song and dance artistes; Sam Mayo, the immobile comedian; the Two Maningos, gymnasts and equilibrists; Stella Stanley, comedienne; Frank Lynne, comedian; Queenie Leighton, the London Gaiety actress; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—The Bohemian Twins, Rose and Josefa Blazek, who are making their first appearance in England; Harry Meier, "the man with the hat;" Will M'Iver, tenor vocalist; Fred Russell, ventriloquist, with his famous automaton, "Coster Joe;" J. W. Hall, comedian; Charles Diamond, harpist, and Miss Beatrice, soprano saxophone soloist; Miss Ella Shields, "the Southern nightingale;" F. V. St. Clair, vocal comedian; and animated pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Under the personal direction of Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Mr W. H. Powell's company is here this week with *There and Back*. Mr Edwin Ramsdale acquits himself admirably as Henry Lawson; Mr Victor Hill is well placed as William Waring; Mr W. H. Powell makes a capital Jack M'Rae; Miss G. Burney's Mrs Lewson and Miss Marie Scharning's Mrs Waring merit warm praise; Miss Ada Brenan is a pleasing Marie Antoinette Smith; and Mr William Osborne is effective as Guy Grindling.

WEST PIER.—Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr F. H. De Quincey, Miss Sime Seruya, and company opened here on Monday with *Richelieu*. Mr F. H. De Quincey gave an excellent portrayal of the Cardinal; Miss Sime Seruya made a charming Julie De Mortemar; Mr Baliol Holloway was an admirable Chevalier De Mauprat; Mr Kendal Chalmer's Joseph and Miss E. Stuart Innes's François were well played; and satisfactory support was given by Mr Francis C. Coates, Mr W. Henry Hargreaves, Mr Charles Langton, Mr Montague Lane, Mr Philip Gordon, and Miss Evelyn F. Hall. The programmes for the week also included *The Twin Sister* and *Othello*.

COLISEUM.—Licensee and Director of Entertainments, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes.—The following are here this week:—C. Emlyn Jones and his Emerald Ladies' Quartet; the Five Delevines, comedy artistes, in *Flirtation*; the Four Figaros, international character vocalists, in *Ten Minutes on the Continent*; Madame Collard, with her highly trained dogs, which impersonate lions and tigers; Alice Yorke and Royston Keith, in *A Yacht for Sale*; Lima Hicks, male impersonator; Cyril Demane, with his "enchanted" kettle and conjuring feats; Hughes and Elliott, ragtime vocalists and trick and sand dancers; and the Coliseum pictures.

BRIGHTON GREEN ROOM CLUB.—On Wednesday the members of this club gave a matinée performance of *Mice and Men* at the Brighton Alhambra.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—There was a large attendance here on Monday evening in all parts of the house, the audience evidently being much interested in the first performance here of *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Mr George Edwardes's original London company played well all round, the light opera is staged with much taste and liberality, both in the way of scenery and dresses, the chorus is strong and effective, and the augmented orchestra did efficient work under the direction of Mr P. W. Halton. Miss Evie Greene scored a very pronounced success as Catherine, her acting was exceptionally clever throughout the play, and the vocal numbers allotted to the part were all rendered in highly artistic style. Mr Herbert Clayton both acted and sang well as Lefebvre; Mr Holbrook Blinn presented a good study of Napoleon; Mr Courtice Pounds was decidedly clever as Papillon. Mr Leonard Mackay was impressive in the first act as the Vicomte De Béthune. He has a fine baritone voice, and sang his solo with much taste and expression, and in the remaining acts as Adhémar, son of the Vicomte, he both acted and sang in effective style. Miss Mabel Lorrell displayed considerable dignity as the Empress Josephine; the Misses Elizabeth Firth and Doris La Tour were well placed as the Sisters of Napoleon; Miss Moir Sackville was a sprightly and vivacious Lisette; and Messrs Morgan Williams, A. J. Evelyn, and Frank Greene were well placed as Captain Reigner, Sergeant Flageot, and Corporal Glidon.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Mr W. H. Hallatt's company is here with the interesting drama, *Two Little Sailor Boys*, which is staged in good style. Mr W. H. Hallatt gives a fine performance of Noel Tregarthen, Miss Blanche Steele acts with considerable power as Lola Grey, Miss May Day and Miss Ethel Frances are both highly pleasing as Cyril Grey and Tom Yorke. Mr Tom E. Sinclair and Miss Hilda Taylor are capital in the amusing parts of Ben Baxter and Lucy Wilson, and Mr Leonard Booker, Mr Edward Warden, Mr Ambrose Horton, Mr G. C. Murray, and Miss Marie Daventry all do well in their respective parts of Lieut. Redstone, Capt. Yorke, Jim Royston, Admiral Grey, and Mildred Grey.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—Fred Karno and company are here for a second week, appearing with much success in *Early Birds* and *Mumming Birds*, two very amusing pantomime sketches. Zertho's dogs give a smart performance, evincing perfection of training; the Wilsons are amusing "cross-talk" comedians; Charles Faning, patter comedian, obtains applause; Slade Murray, actor-vocalist, is appreciated; Vincent Walker, Negro comedian, has some good songs; the Warlocks have a smart vaudeville act, *Provoking*; the Two Graces are clever duettists, their Spanish dance being especially captivating; and Miss Daisy Morrell is a pleasing vocalist and burlesque artiste. Vernon's animated pictures conclude a good entertainment with some new and interesting subjects.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The leading attraction here this week is Miss Minni Letta and her sporting girls, in "Tracking the Track." The large audience is much interested in a series of walking and running races on a moving track driven by a motor, the distances covered being registered automatically. In addition to the feats accomplished by Miss Letta and her sporting girls, local amateurs try their skill on the track for prizes, more or less successfully, and cause considerable amusement. Ergotti and King Luis Troupe of Risley acrobats do an expert turn; Tom Costello, comedian, amuses; F. Cumminger is exceptionally skilful as a sand dancer; Wills and August amuse as comedy jugglers; Miss Ethel Yorke is a pleasing comedienne; Charles Vandyke and company have a good pantomime absurdity *Nicodemus*; and Miss Florence Hill is a smart comedienne and an expert step dancer. The performance concludes with some interesting animated pictures.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA.—Proprietors, the Broughton Theatres Syndicate, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Mr Henry Hare's company in *The Girl from Chicago* is here this week. Mr Buckstone Clair is an amusing Judge Ananias Hussel; Miss Nelly Vicott is responsible for much laughter as Lucretia Flatfoot; and Mr Clarence Ibbotson is a quaint Brother Obadiah Caccles. Miss Lily Beverley cleverly sustains the character of Flora Boomer; Mr Harry Dobbs as Billy M'Guffin, Mr Henry Hare as General Boomer, Mr Douglas Vigors as Percy Montgomery, Mr James Quinn as Sam Slappit, and Miss Lily Beaumont as Mrs Sweetlove also do well. The Misses Nellie James, Lena Adams, and Madge Shaw give exhibitions of expert acrobatic dancing. The comedy is preceded by some excellent turns by Lee and Kingston, artistic comedy duo; Katie Cohen, vocalist; Albert Christian, an amusing baritone; and Eva Kelland, vocal actress.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Mr Chas. Macdona's company is here for the week with *The Gay Parisienne*. In the title-rôle Miss Jennie Richards sings and dances in a telling manner; Mr Ebenezer Honeycombe finds a clever exponent in Mr Tom May, a really good comedian; Major Fossdyke is played to the life by Mr Arthur Watts; and his daughters are represented in a charming way by Miss Florence Brewster, Miss Dora Macmahon, Miss Minnie Percy, and Miss Ethel Lisle. Miss Madge Soutter is most amusing as Ruth, and gives her song in good style. Miss Gwen Clifford as Mrs Honeycomb and Miss Ethel Wade as Norah both do well, and Mr Chas. A. Maynard shines as M. Pompier, infusing plenty of go into his part and dancing with agility.

BURY (LANCS).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—*An Actor's Romance* is being played here this week, Mr Guy Hastings gave a capital interpretation of the part of Harold Davenport. Florence Hastings was represented with ability by Miss Constance Elgin. Jack Woodford had a capable exponent in Mr Percy Marmont. Little Marie Ada Downing was clever as Phyllis Davenport. Humour is displayed by Mr E. H. Dobell as Charlie Cummings, Mr Ernest Ruston was a capital villain, and others well cast were Miss Bertha Northam as Louise Davenport, Mrs L. L'Estrange as Sal Wiggins, and Mr John Detliv as Isadore De Valois.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—May Lilian Levey, the "ideal English swell," is well received. Others on the bill are George Formby, comedian; the Ettemas, globe speciality artistes; Bob Hamilton, Scotch comedian; Shamrock Trio, dancers; Les Bollingers, rag painters, a new and exceedingly clever turn; Charles Bowker, singing cobbler; and the Brothers Artois, funny and clever bar experts.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead.—The chief items are Dinah Morris and Troupe of coons; Bounding Lintons, rope performers; Calvo, double-voiced mimic; Fred Nelton, comedian; Tony Iveson, musical tramp; Budd and Budd, a smart couple; and the Blind Collier Boy, a clever musician.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redford, J.P., D.L.—Mr Frederick Mouillot's company, with *My Lady Molly*, gave a welcome return visit here on Monday. Miss Edna De Dreux acted the title-rôle charmingly. Miss Zoe Gilfillan was equally successful as Alice Coverdale. Mr Stephen Fitzgerald's presentation of Mickey O'Dowd was highly humorous, his singing and dancing being hugely appreciated. Mr Leicester Tunks made a manly Captain Harry Romney. Lionel Bland was well played by Mr Stuart Alexander. Mr H. Godwin Hunt's portrayal of Sir Miles Coverdale was all that could be wished. Miss Mabel Carr was a winsome Hester, while Mdlle. Mirabeau was pleasingly represented by Mdlle. Ebbs Darcie.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—*The Orchid* was presented here by Mr George Dance's principal company on Monday. Mr Bertie Wright is undoubtedly the life and soul of the piece, and in his exceedingly amusing impersonation of Meakin keeps the audience convulsed. Mr G. Davy Burnaby as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour is particularly droll and quaint, and scores with his well rendered song. Mr Edmund Page gives a clever and humorous portrayal of the fire-eating Comte De Cassignat; Mr Ernest Darrell submits a capital delineation of Mr Chesterton; Dr Fausset has a reliable exponent in Mr Edmund Hullick; and Mr Arthur Hemsley's performance of Zaccary is decidedly good, his clever dancing being a prominent feature. Two charming impersonations of Lady Violet and Josephine Zaccary are given by Miss Ethel Bryant and Miss Mabel Searby, the former lady's rendering of "Little Mary" gaining great applause. Miss Madge Lucas as Caroline Vokins is good; while Miss Sylvia De Lacy's Zelie Rumbert is archly presented.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—The popular lessee of the King's does not fail to keep his patrons well supplied with excellent drama. The attraction this week is the sensational drama *Mysteries of the Thames*, elaborately represented by Mr F. Brooke Warren's company. An exceptionally fine piece of acting is given by Miss Gwynne Warren, who, as Flash Nell, displays undoubted skill. Mr Roy Fortescue as the hero, Richard Brandon, wins the applause of the house, while no less successful in gaining hisses is Mr Brooke Warren as the villain, Captain Denbigh.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The excellent programme provided includes the successful sporting sketch *Over the Sticks*, acted by the popular comedian Joe Elvin and company; Jennie Belmore soubrette; Victor Travers, a quaint comedian; Miss Winona Winter, assisted by the singing comedian Mr William H. Banks; the two Tyrolean stars, Werner and Reider; the Trapnell Family, graceful Continental acrobats; the American baritone Post Mason, in the song scena "Son of the Desert am I;" Les Burnellys, in their gymnastic novelty act; Harry Lawson, eccentric comedian; and the Noiset Troupe, performing cyclists on a revolving table.

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; General Manager, Mr C. Algie.—This week the Four Andys top the bill, and give an excellent acrobatic performance. The most popular member of the troupe is Miss Lena, whose wonderful somersaults bring down the house. The Weimars provide an entirely novel and amusing turn, and are big favourites. Mystery Ganze, Indian female impersonator, is also a turn quite out of the common, and meets with unqualified approval. An interesting item is the return visit of Professor M'Cann, who exhibits all his old skill, and as a concertina player still holds a high place in the esteem of the audience. Mr C. Gray, in a table and pedestal act; Eltenos, comedy triple bar act; Mdlle. Dora, oboe soloist and dancer; Miss Lil Gorman, a taking vocalist; Logo, a smart juggler; and the Hippodrome pictures add to the attractiveness of the programme.

CASTLEFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—Miss Olga Audre's company is here this week in *The Mockery of Marriage*. Mr Arthur Winpenny as Dick Kenyon succeeds admirably in his portrayal; Mr Harry Stebbing is a sufficiently good Jack Stanley; Mr Frank Dalton as Seth Pearce plays with power; Mr Harold Graham acts with sincerity as Joseph Verham; Miss Florence Zillwood makes an acceptable Alva Kenyon; Miss Lydia Audrey gives an intelligent interpretation of Rose Vernham; the comedy scenes are well placed in the hands of Mr Will Skelton as Toby Wright and Mrs Sydney Hailing as Mary Ann. The Four Aces deserve high commendation for their acrobatic turn.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Castleford Hippodrome Syndicate; Entertainment Directors, Messrs Herbert Cole and Harry Bancroft.—*Life for Life* is played with briskness throughout by Messrs T. C. Glenville, Bert Morley, Herbert Cole, and Misses Dora Alex and Gladys Hawthorne. Another capital turn is given by the Two Wills as comedy acrobats and equilibrists; Dave Hallie presents an amusing entertainment; the Two Pedleys as quaint duettists appear with success; George Mack is diverting in a comedy act; Miss Laura Etherdo comes out strongly as a vocalist and dancer; and *Quiet Lodgings*, a comedy sketch, is full of laughs.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr Geo. G. Ridley.—Once again we have a visit from *The Belle of New York*, presented by a company toured by Mr Ben Greet, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard. The Misses Mora and Florence Hersee are scoring as Violet Gray and Mamie Clancy respectively; Mr Arthur Ricketts, with fresh songs, is again the Ichabod Bronson; and Mr Walter Uridge reappears with success as Kenneth Mugg.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—Daisy James tops the bill here, and of course attracts greatly; Spry and Monti are proving as lively as ever; Walker and Lake patter to the accompaniment of roars of laughter; and Will

CARMARTHEN.

Assembly Rooms.—Public Rooms Company; Secretary, Mr Edward Baldwin.—This week Carmarthen has received a welcome visit from Mr C. W. Poole with his colossal Myriorama and excellent combination of variety artists, and the entertainment has been well patronised. Graphic scenes are portrayed of the great war between Russia and Japan, and the audience is likewise taken for a tour around the principal cities and towns of interest in the world. A fine show of animated pictures is also given. The variety programme includes the Six Clevelands, lady and gentleman acrobats, in a clever and interesting show; the Sisters Zetina, graceful and entertaining acrobatic dancers; Mons. Henri with a good strong-man and equilibristic exhibition; the Four Burgatiles in their pantomimic and musical mélange; and the Almo Trio in their bar performance, Miss Myria Lo-La being exceptionally good as a lady performer. Mr Alan Hanbury and Mr Cecil F. Cowper contribute nightly a number of comic and descriptive songs, which create roars of laughter. The orchestra, which is under the direction of Mr A. S. Morrell, supplies excellent music, while the entire arrangements are in the capable hands of Mr J. Roberts-Jones.

CHELTENHAM.

Opera House. — General Manager Mr H. Oswald Redford.—This week Mr George Dance's principal company presents *A Country Girl*. Miss Veronica Brady as Madame Sophie is a shining light and Barry, in the person of Mr Johnny Osborne, is irrepressible. Miss May Glen as Nan is seen to great advantage; Mr Cyril Thompson as Geoffrey Challoner does well both in acting and singing; and Sir Joseph Verity finds a capital exponent in Mr Geo. Mudie, jun.

CHESTERFIELD.

Theatre Royal, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holbery Hardy.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company occupies these boards with *The King of Crime*. Mr William Clayton's portrayal of Ronjarre is a powerful one. Mr W. H. Porter is a success as Simon Gandelu. Messrs Herbert Evelyn and Val W. Gully as Louis Mascorot and Tota render able assistance. Mr Walter Dale amuses as Mick Maloney, Mr Edwin Maydew scores as Perpignan, and Mr Will R. Percival renders the part of Tabard with care. Miss Marion Turner gives a sympathetic rendering of Henrietta Lemaire, Miss Elizabeth Turner-Elliott is a pleasing Matilda, Miss Kitty Russell is a vivacious Clarisse, and Miss Ada King is worthy of mention as Mere Crouchard.

Corporation Theatre.—Mr Charles Macdona's company forms the attraction here in *Three Little Maids*. Miss Vera Vallis is a delightful Ada, Miss Nellie Groves as Hilda and Miss Doris Trevor as Edna win high favour. Miss Iris Coley, Miss Margaret Douglas, and Miss Eva Swinburne excel as Lady St. Mallory's protegees, the lady herself being well placed with Madame Ilma Norina. Miss May Wright makes a capital Dutch girl; Mr Frank Henderson is a huge success as Lord Cheyne, especially in his "Algie" song; Mr H. A. Welchman as Brian and Mr Jules Chumettes as De L'Orme are respectively well cast, the latter's 'cello playing being greatly admired; Mr R. Barrie causes great laughter as the Caddie, Cupid; Mr W. P. Morgan is good as the Vicar. Mr Louis Lavel is the conductor of a very effective chorus and band.

CLYDEBANK.

New Gaiety Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—The attraction here this week is *From Scotland Yard*, presented by Mr C. Finch-Hatton's company, on a return visit. Mr Finch Hatton again assumes the character of Jack Dale, the detective, in which he displays wonderful histrionic ability. As the prince of swindlers, Dean Fordyce, Mr T. Arthur Ellis makes a creditable appearance; Mr Jack Armitage is passable as Richard Drake, Mr Harry Rose is good as the insurance agent; Mr Harry Rutland is worthy of high praise for his capital impersonation of Jim Mullins, his death scene being particularly fine. Another strong piece of acting is the Mad Marie of Miss Josephine H. Lee. The comic element is very strong, and in the persons of Mr James F. Firth as Weary Marsden and Mr Mike Johnson as Joe Staggers, we have a pair of clever comedians, who work hard and with much success. Miss Helen Lowther is good as Sybil, and Mrs Ruggles is safe in the hands of Miss V. Gould Bourne.

COLNE.

Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Gerald Harding.—*No Cross, No Crown*, is being presented here this week by Miss Rose Faith and company. Mr J. P. M'Bride is highly successful as Sir Francis Luttrell, whose wife, Clare, is cleverly impersonated by Miss Rose Faith. Mr Logan Darra is well suited as Austin Blake; while Mr Harrison Chapman as Professor Nebb and Mr Frank Hudspeth as Dr. Ashby are good. Miss Gwen Stewart vividly portrays the part of Lady Margaret Luttrell, Miss Maud Elliott makes an excellent Priscilla Barclay. As Plato Miss Dolly Turner and Miss May Warden as Dorris Luttrell are pleasing.

CONSETT.

New Theatre.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—The legitimate drama occupies the boards here this week, and the visit of the Osmond Tearle répertoire company is proving a big success. *Julius Cæsar* was produced on Monday night with Mr Alex. Marsh in the rôle of Brutus, an exceptionally good performance, and Miss Carrie Baillie scored as Lucius. *Hamlet* was played on Tuesday, and *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *David Garrick*, and *Richard III.* are in the week's programme.

CORK.

Opera House.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Mr Eugene Stafford's company opened a week's engagement here on Monday, in *The Private Secretary*. Mr Geoffrey Guise as Rev. Robert Spalding was most amusing; Mr M. Hargreaves as Mr Cattermole supplied a capital study; Edith was charmingly portrayed by Miss Dora Grey; Mr A. A. Leigh as Douglas Cattermole was all that could be desired; Mr Vivian Gilbert as Harry Marsland, Mr Wilfred Compton as Sidney Gibson; Miss Cecily Wade as Mrs Stead, Miss Mary E. Deverell as Eva Webster, and Mrs Alfred Davis as Miss Ashford filled their respective rôles ably.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble.—The Du-Cros Trio, in their eccentric aerial act, supply a marvellous turn here; the Radium Girls are effective in their speciality dances; they are also good vocalists. Mr Bob Stephenson, Irish comedian, is well received in his songs; Jordison's Empire Quartet as vocalists and dancers evoke loud applause; Kavados is a juggler who performs some really clever business; he is also an expert equilibrist and cannon ball performer. Flo Melville, burlesque artiste, is applauded in her songs; Harry Walker is much appreciated as a parody singer, and his dialogues are good; and Souplessi, a contortionist, does a very clever turn.

COVENTRY.

Opera House —Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—A visit of Mr Fred Karno's company in the successful musical farce entitled *His Majesty's Guests* is proving an attraction here this week. Mr Wm. Rokeby is a source of merriment in the part of Sergeant Lightning, especially in act two as a shop assistant. Mr Chas. F. Howard is a good Lord Easem; Mr E. C. Lilly makes the most of the character of Mr Minks; Mr Charles Cardon is a good Doorkeeper Fritz; Mr James Ross makes up very well as Selina; Miss Jessamine Newcombe shows capability as Lady Maude Easem; Miss Florence Moore is clever as the new woman, Miss Manley

CREWE.

Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—The manager is to be congratulated on his special bill-of-fare here by engaging the two excellent productions entitled *Sunday* and *Three Little Maids*. Miss Nita Faydon in the title-rôle of the former play proved an immense success. Mr J. E. Pearce played the part of Colonel Brinthorpe in a manly earnest fashion; Miss E. Watson has a good conception of the character of Mrs Naresby. The part of Lively was well sustained by Mr T. N. Walter and Mr W. Kane was praiseworthy as Jacky. *Three Little Maids* was staged on Thursday.

CROYDON.

Grand Theatre.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Miss Emma Hutchison's company is visiting here with *Saturday to Monday*. Mr Stuart Champion is a host in himself as Lord Culvert of Alcester; Mr Thomas A. Braidon works hard as Probyn Dyke; Mr Thomas Sidney is first class as the Rev. Lemuel Toop; and Mr Dallas Welford's rendering of Stanley Pidding tickles the fancy of the audience. Miss Moyra Creegan puts in genuine work as Mrs Wendover; Miss Madeline L'Estrange is diverting as Lady Diana Porchester; Miss Nancy Beresford is a bright Angela; Miss Josephine Raye is amusing as Miss Ursula Toop; Miss Ida Laurie makes a hit as Miss Street; and Miss Olive Loftus Leyton and Mr Augustus Davenport are adequate as Thompson and Jarvis. The comedy is preceded by *Judged by Appearances*.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry E. Reckitt.—The drama, *Two Little Vagabonds*, is here. Mr J. W. Henson gives a telling performance as George Thornton; Mr Wolston Foster is invaluable as Captain Darville; Mr Basil Hillier acts with force as John Scarth; Mr Alfred Russell submits a bold portrayal of Bill Mullens; and Messrs Frank Gordon and Fred Archer are accurate as Dido Bunce and the Cough Drop. Miss Laura Hansen acts with tenderness in the rôle of Marion Thornton; Miss Nell Oliver plays with finish as Barbara Scarth; Miss Lenna Vernon is painstaking as Sister Randall; Miss Marie Pritchard gives a neat sketch of Biddy Mullens; Miss May Hart is intelligent as Dick; and Miss Dorothy Marsden is praiseworthy as Wally. The remaining parts are in good hands, and the scenery is worthy of mention.

Palace Theatre of Varieties, Limited.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—A remarkably good show at this popular resort. Alma Curzon, comedienne and burlesque artiste, is always welcome here; the Arthur Lloyd Trio make a hit in sketch, *Little Charlie*; Fred Spencer is a sterling comedian who should be seen at the West-end; the Mezzettis are very funny in a unique triple bar act; Professor Vox is a ventriloquist of no mean ability; Zanfretta and Naplo, Continental grotesques and musical knife-grinders, are well applauded; Charles Austin, comedian, is quaint and curious; the Gladenbecks are smart in a silver ring speciality act; the Gotham Quartet sing and act brilliantly in an operatic sketch, *Miss Green*; Charles Dillon, comedian, is liked; and warm encomiums are due to Mr C. S. Kitts and Miss Rhoda Windrum in an exhilarating sketch, *The Entr'acte*.

DARLINGTON.

Theatre Royal.—Manageress, Mrs Jennings.—On Monday night Mr Frank Curzon's company opened here with *Glittering Gloria*. As Jack James Mr John Campbell plays well. Mr Stanley Arthur is amusing as Archie, and Mr Haughton Macauley excellent as Zebedee Posket. Mr Wordley Hulse as Colonel Gallegher, Mr Gerald Clark as Algernon, and Mr Charles Williams as Mr Griddletop do some good work. Miss Stanley Ronalds in the title-rôle is very successful. Miss Lillian Williams (Mrs Jack James) and Miss Dorothy Kenworthy (Archie's fiancée) are good. As a curtain-raiser, *Perfection*, a smart comedietta, is played. On Thursday and Friday the same company appeared in *Tom, Dick, and Harry*.

DARWEN.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. L. Ormsby.—The attraction here this week is Mr Hall Caine's play, *The Manxman*, which is being presented by Mr Alfred B. Cross's company. The company is an exceedingly capable one, and the part of Pete is cleverly portrayed by Mr Cross. Miss Minnie Watersford as Kate Cregeen, Miss Rosie Kearns as Nancy, and Miss Kitty Livesey as Bella Kelly give excellent support. Other characters in the cast are played by Mr Hilton Frances, Mr Richard Vane, Mr Edward M'Lean, and others.

DERBY.

New Grand Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Miss Olga Nethersole's company is paying a return visit here with *Sapho*. In the name-part Miss Cecil Cromwell scores an artistic success, her representation securing her the heartiest appreciation all through. The Jean of Mr Arthur Royston is another highly successful impersonation, and the Uncle Cesaire of Mr Harry Dodd deserves warm commendation. Mr A. T. Hendon and Miss Jessie Melville are amusing as M. and Madame Hettema, and Mr John Barnum merits special mention as Dr. Potter. A praiseworthy Dechelette is found in Mr George N. Burt, and Flamant is satisfactorily played by Mr Hodson Taylor. As Divonne Miss Isabel Derrie does well, and Irene has a charming exponent in Miss Gertrude Wynter. The remaining characters are all capably depicted.

Palace. — Lessee and Manager, Mr T. A. Edwards.—The bill is headed this week by the Mackweys, whose merry turn on the wire is one of the most amusing the patrons of the Palace have enjoyed for some time. The return visit of Emma Don and company in a vocal scena, introducing a black and white quartet, is also an exceedingly popular feature. The Athlones are athletes of exceptional merit, and give a show that of its kind literally leaves nothing to be desired. Nelson and Thomas, in an absurdity ycleept *Ketchup*, are diverting; and among other contributors to a capital programme are Ernest Heathcote, a comedian; Walter Blake, another comedian, who also shines as a dancer; Mabelle May, a charming vocalist and artistic dancer; and Vandineff, a clever lightning painter in oil colours.

DONCASTER.

New Grand Theatre and Opera House, Limited.—Managing-Director, Mr J. W. Chapman.—The popular taste is still for variety entertainments here. Hanco, the handcuff king, has given several private as well as public exhibitions. Mildred Vaughan is a pretty dancer; Foto, the lightning cartoonist, is clever; Black Apollo, an instrumentalist, is deserving of praise; Miss Ada Whitton, burlesque actress, is acceptable; the Maros, bar performers, elicit surprise; *The Crazed Curate*, a character sketch, is well acted by Mr Martin Byan and Miss Vaughan; Daisy Belfry is a delightful comedienne; and Marcus Boyle has funny songs.

DUDLEY.

Opera House.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr Horace Stanley's company is here this week with *The 10·30 Down Express*. Mr Stanley shines conspicuously in the part of Sam Wagstaffe; Mr Harry Wood ably represents the hero, Jack O'Malley; Miss Adelaide Clarke is pathetic and winning as Bessie Leigh; and Miss Kate Killpack shows plenty of vivacity as Peggy Potts.

Empire.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—Bert Byrne heads the bill here this week and again proves popular; Baron and Kemp are exceedingly clever change artistes; Rose Tilley is versatile and winning; the Danbys are clever eccentric comedians; Allis and Cassati are funny and clever comedians. Other good turns make up a good programme.

DEWSBURY.

Theatre Royal. — Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—The return visit here, after five years' absence, of Mr J. W. Turner's renowned opera company has been eagerly awaited. The engagement on Monday opened with *Il Trovatore*, witnessed by an enthusiastic audience. As Manrico Mr E. J. Hargreaves entered fully into the spirit of the rôle; Mr Tom Griffiths as Count Di Luna did well; Miss Alice Boaden as Leonora won golden opinions for her decidedly finished rendering; and Mr Sidney Clifford sang well as Ferrando. On Tuesday *The Lily of Killarney* was staged.

Hippodrome and Varieties.—General Manager, Mr George Weldon.—In a capital programme the Cee Mee Troupe lead. Stern and Stern have good patter; and James Dubois, in his monkey antics, gives an acceptable turn. Massona's juggling act meets with much approval, and the Bowery Boys acquit themselves with credit. Dan Noble is an excellent comedian, and Miss Marie Yorke proves an attractive turn.

DOVER.

Theatre Royal.—Messrs Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' carefully selected company holds the boards this week with the stirring drama, *The Life that Kills*. No more competent actor than Mr Herbert Sidney could have been found to interpret the revolting character of the "laughing murderer," Kendal Croat, and his success was most marked. The part of Valentine Telford, a villain in a lesser degree, was played with conspicuous ability by Mr Morris Maud, a versatile and painstaking actor; and Mr Hugh Metcalf gained the plaudits of the house for his thorough and earnest acting as Hector Rodney. A fine character study of the democratic Lord Kelmarch was given by Mr E. D. Nicholls, who must be warmly congratulated on a most pleasing performance. Mr George Clark lent admirable support as Dr. Brackley, and Mr Pat Kemble was convincing as the warder, Tobias Langdon. Most of the laughter heard during the evening was the outcome of the many humorous antics and funny lines of Jack Jolliffe and Samuel Flatfoote, played with much success by Messrs Harry Howe and Wilton Drury. An exceedingly finished and sympathetic rendering of the part of Laurie Linden was given by Miss Alice Rocheforte, and this talented lady must also be commended for her excellent elocution. A big attraction has been found in Miss Mabel Kessler, who, besides playing with praiseworthy zeal the vivacious part of Johanna Dicks, is also responsible for several well-rendered solos on the cornet, post horn, and bugle. Miss Cathleen Cavanagh deserves a full measure of praise for her admirable rendering of the difficult rôle of Brenda Croat, while a charmingly natural study of the crippled child, May Linden, was given by Little Mabel.

DUBLIN.

Gaiety Theatre. — Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland — A large and appreciative audience was present here on Monday night to witness the production by Mr Edward Terry and his excellent company of *The House of Burnside*, which was heartily enjoyed throughout. Mr Edward Terry's portrayal of Richard Burnside was a most powerful performance, his acting evoking the warm encomiums of the audience, and Miss Daisy Murch displayed undoubted ability in the rôle of Marion Burnside. A meed of praise is due to Mr Arthur Cornell for his conception of the part of Robert Parminter, and Mr Fred Knight was most successful in the rôle of John. Mr A. Hylton Allen was satisfactory as Jack Morrow, and Miss Beatrice Selwyn was commendable as Betty. As Margaret and Richard (Burnside's grandchildren) Miss Beatrice Terry and Master Roy Lorraine were satisfactory. Mr Allan Pollock made a capital Mr Williams, and Miss Olga Kay a pleasing Jenny. The drama was followed by the Trial scene from *Pickwick*. Mr Edward Terry, in the rôle of Sergeant Buzfuz, caused hearty laughter, and the other members of the cast were also successful.

Queen's Theatre. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—The boards are occupied here this week by Hardie and Von Leer's *Two Little Vagabonds* company, which has been well patronised. Mr Talbot Homewood gives an admirable delineation of George Thornton, and Miss Elena Lonsdale enacts Marion Thornton effectively. The Captain Darville of Mr Douglas Cecil is excellently depicted, and as John Scarth Mr Harry Major plays well. The rôle of Bill Muggins is in the capable hands of Mr H. Hesselgrave, and the parts of Dido Bunce and the Cough Drop are ably sustained by Messrs Charles Doe and Dick Winslow. Mr C. W. Crowe acquits himself well as Lesson, and Mr Dudley Harcourt is capital as Hargitt. Miss Frances Ferina is creditable as Dick, and the same may be said of Miss Phyllis French as Wally. As Barbara Scarth Miss Daisy Royale is satisfactory, and as Sister Randall and Mrs Mullins Miss Kate Hesselgrave and Miss Evelyn Shaw are both good in their respective parts.

Empire.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—Fred Maxwell's company in *Lord Harkaway* is the attraction here this week. Ford and Hanson, the musical millionaires, score a success; as does also Margaret Radcliffe, burlesque artiste. The Tribune Trio, in *A Cheerful Idiot*, evoke hearty applause; and Nello displays much ability as a contortionist. Juan and M'Que are a smart pair of comedians; and Charles Stevens is an exceedingly good character vocalist. George Newburn, who remains from last week, is still to the fore; and the Empire pictures are admired.

Tivoli.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—This week the Max Trevally Troupe of trampolin acrobats top the bill and are nightly applauded; Fred Lloyd and company, in their sketch *The Blind Spinster*, are amusing; and Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, take well. An acceptable turn is provided by the American Comedy Four; and Testo is a capital musical acrobat; Harry Barker is a good character humourist; and Sid Bandon is an excellent actor-vocalist. Frank Hope, cyclist, Eileen Conroy, and the Bioscope pictures complete the entertainment.

DUNDEE.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Landon Perkins.—*In the Ranks* is staged here this week, and is interpreted by Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage. Mr Edward Lloyd was seen to much advantage in the character of Ned Drayton. Mr Herbert Cecil as Gideon Blake brought out the villainous traits of the character with much force. Mr Cecil Clayton was very fair as Mr Buzzard; Mr Walter H. Wilson made a good appearance in the character of Richard Belton. Miss Annie Beaumont made a humorous Mrs Buzzard, and Miss Maud Staples as Barbara Herrick was in every way satisfactory. Miss Edith Blair Staples was very sympathetic as Ruth Herrick.

Palace Theatre.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—Zarmo, comedy juggler, once more scores a success here. P. P. Bell, a local comedian, is well received; the Four Jumels are clever banjo players; and an entertaining musical turn is given by Queen and Le Brun. Fred Clements and J. C. Morris excel as comedians, and Frances Haskoll is heard to advantage in her illustrated songs. The Gartells, in a vocal comedy act, complete the bill.

Empire Theatre.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Will Percival. — Mr and Mrs Clifford's company presented *On Circumstantial Evidence* here on Monday. Mr Charles Clifford gave a vigorous rendering as Captain Hamilton; Mr A. M. Jones made an excellent Colonel. Mr Monson Thorpe acted with much spirit as Jack Ogilvy; Mr Henry Cooke was very much in demand, and kept the house in the best of humour with his ditties. Miss Maud Camfield as Violet Ogilvy and Miss M. Trevelyan in the double rôle of the Sisters Brandoni, gave excellent impersonations.

Gaiety, Limited.—Manager, Mr S. King Alexander.—*The Hand of Iron* is occupying the boards this week, and is played by Mr Roy Jackson's company. Mr Jackson undertakes the title-rôle with great success, and proves his skill as an actor. Mr George Lambton as Lucky Ned is capital. Mr Victor Vernon is very funny in the part of Hiram Duck. Mr Edward Ouston enacts the Jew ably. Miss Kitty Douglas as Marie Durogue, and Miss Inez Haram as May Sutherland both do well.

DUMFRIES.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—The Ben Greet company was here for two nights (Monday and Tuesday last) with *Florodora* and *The Belle of New York*. Mr Gus Danby was a great success as Anthony Tweedlepunch, keeping the house in fits of laughter; Mr Edward Chester was well placed as Cyrus W. Gilfain; Mr Edward Crossland was very good as Frank Abercoed; Captain Arthur Donegal was in the capable hands of Mr Morrice Holmes; Miss Daisy Lake as Dolores showed great ability; and Miss Crissie Ralland as Lady Holyrood was very charming.

EASTBOURNE.

Pier Pavilion.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—The first half of the variety programme is contributed by the Yokels; Miss Maggie Bowman is bright and animated in all her singing and dancing; Mr Tom J. Morton is most amusing; Miss Irene Marriott is very dainty; and Mr Leslie Gaze has a fine appearance and sings well in a rich tuneful voice. Miss Gertrella again charms as a graceful and daring gymnast "In Cupid's Garden;" Mr Bert Woodward is again a favourite in his neat cycle act; Mr Henry Kaiser is very smart as a juggler; the Ongars are clever quick-change artists and work hard as dancers; Musical Silvo excels with his novel musical instruments; and the Katos, with new songs and business, introduce their living marionettes.

EBBW VALE.

King's.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Manager, Mr Arthur Knight.—A return visit of Mr Leslie Vyner's company in *The Lightning's Flash* was the attraction the first three nights of the week. Mr Leonard Robson as Stephen Merrick won frequent applause for a spirited impersonation. Gordon Garville was in the capable hands of Mr Sydney Kearns, and Mr Courtney Robinson as Jim Bargler was quite a success. Miss F. Russell-Spiers was seen to considerable advantage as Kate Merrick. On Thursday and Friday Mr James Stillwell and company appeared in the drama, *Queen of the Night*.

EDINBURGH.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—*The Belle of New York* is paying a farewell visit to this theatre, and presented by Mr George Musgrove's company, drew a large and appreciative audience on Monday. Mr Harry A. Meymott played Ichabod Bronson in a clever and capable manner, singing and acting with untiring zest and humour. Harry Bronson was happily acted by Mr Philip Leslie, whose singing was much admired. Mr William Pringle made a great hit as Blinky Bill, his whistling solos being loudly encored, and Messrs Alfred Selby and Albert Sealy caused great amusement by their comical antics as the Portuguese Twins. Mr Max Copland was a first-rate Karl, and Mr Paddy Duprez played Kenneth Mugg with humour and effect, Mr Cecil Burt making a praiseworthy Sniffkins. Miss Beatrice Lamotte was a charming Violet Grey, singing and acting with sweetness and grace. Fifi Fricot had a dainty representative in Miss Lillian Digges, and Miss Ida Lawrence danced delightfully as Kissie Fitzgarter. Miss May Young was a lively Mamie Clancy, and Miss Alice Rene did well as Cora Angelique.

Lyceum Theatre.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—*Sunday*, presented at this theatre on Monday by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry, has proved very successful. The play was effectively staged and admirably acted by all concerned. The four rough miners of Silver Creek were cleverly and amusingly portrayed, Towzer being represented with conspicuous power by Mr Rothbury Evans, while Mr Alfred Kendrick, the exponent of Jacky, endowed the part with a dramatic intensity that was very telling. Mr J. Carter-Edwards also deserves special praise for his graphic rendering of Davy, and Mr Horace Hodges secured instant recognition for the happy vein of drollery in his masterly sketch of Lively. Mr Fred Terry played Colonel Brinthorpe with marked ability, his easy, natural manner suiting the character well. Mr J. D. Beveridge was excellent as the plainspoken Tom Oxley, and Mr Malcolm Cherry intensely effective as the scapegrace, Arthur Brinthorpe. Sunday, in the hands of Miss Julia Neilson, was an impersonation of exceptional brilliance, her bright spirits, emotional tenderness, and exquisitely finished acting forming an absolute attraction to the large audience, who received the performance with enthusiasm. Miss Bella Pateman was clever and charming as Mrs Naresby, and Miss Kathleen Doyle made a satisfactory appearance as a nun.

Empire Theatre.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Some very beautiful effects were produced here on Monday, when Hagedorn's fairy grotto was exhibited. The scenic and kaleidoscopic surroundings were exceedingly pretty, and when the limelight was thrown in myriad hues upon the five fountains that played on the stage the spectacle was quite enchanting. Miss Selma Braatz introduced a number of difficult juggling feats, and was warmly applauded for her smartness. Lieut. Travis gave a capital ventriloquial entertainment, and among other first-class items the comic bull fight of the Cavallinis, the expert triple bar act of M'Phee and Hill, and Stewart and Morgan's Irish selections may be mentioned. Mr Albert Le Fre secured his usual success as a comedian and dancer, and the eccentric comedy of Mr Johnny Dwyer also pleased well. Miss Minnie Cunningham sung her ballads with artistic effect and an indefinite charm all her own, and Miss Flo Burris and Mr Charles Russell also appeared.

Pavilion Theatre.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—*When a Man Hates* was put on the stage here in an effective manner on Monday evening by a company under the triple management of Miss Olga Audre and Messrs Travis Green and Arthur Hinton. Pietro Danelli was cleverly represented by Mr Arthur Hinton; Mr Travis Green made an excellent Paul; and Mr Maurice Wynton was seen to advantage as Detective Smart. Mr W. Horsham also rendered good service to the cast as Lawrence Hastings. Miss Lelia Zillwood sustained the rôle of Olga Gwynne successfully, and commendation is due to Miss Marie E. Robertson for her clever appearance as Dolly Dimple.

Cooke's Royal Circus.—Proprietor, Mr John Henry Cooke.—Excellence and variety are the order of the evening here, and the week's programme fully maintains the high level of enterprise the proprietor has accustomed us to. Texas Hattie, an Indian girl, gives a clever exhibition on the tightrope, some of her feats being truly surprising. Madame Estella presents the trained stallion, Cigarette, in an elegant liberty act, and Clown Barker and Miss Roziska provide another enjoyable turn; while Miss Powell and Mons. Henry repeat their marvellous acrobatic triumph on horseback amid renewed acclamations of favour. Kentucky Beau, the Yankee cake-walk horse, also remains a notable feature of the bill. In the comic department Talberto and Douglas scintillate in one of their most hilarious scenes, and appearances by the Yoricks, the Brothers Leotard, and Horton and Linder are cordially received. *Prairie Life Out West*, with its dramatic incidents, picturesque mounting, and admirable acting, runs better than ever, and keeps the audience interested and amused till the last tableau has been shown.

EXETER.

Theatre Royal.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—*Monsieur Beaucaire* came here on Monday, and the repute which Mr Norman Macowan's company has acquired and the merits of this interesting costume drama were sufficient to make it a special attraction. Miss Violet Sterne as Lady Mary was both refined and graceful; Mr Norman Macowan deserves especial mention for his powerful and artistic rendering of the title-rôle; Mr F. Stuart Wilson did exceedingly well as the Duke of Winterset, and Mr Hubert Cornish's Major Molyneux was meritorious. Mr Conybeare Gough was both humorous and smart as Mr Rakell; and Mr Hans Schlesinger's Marquis De Mirepaux deserves special mention.

FALKIRK.

Grand Theatre and Opera House.—Managing Director, Mr R. C Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—*The New Barmaid* has been here. The whimsicality of Mr Joseph B. Montague as Bertie White proves highly amusing; Mr Alex. Loftus, under whose direction the comedy is produced, is very entertaining as William White; the singing of Mr Leslie Austin as Captain Lovebury is much enjoyed; as Dora Heather Miss Violet Osmund is pleasing; and Mr Frank Melroyd, in the character of Mons. Bonsor, does well. Others in the company worthy of note are Miss Hilda Blanche (the Old Barmaid), Mr Norman Bowyer (Gussie), and Mr Herbert Cottesmore as Colonel Claymore.

FOLKESTONE.

Pleasure Gardens Theatre.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr Arthur Eldred and company, in *The Night of the Party*, are here. Miss Maude Thompson makes a good Lady Hampshire; Miss Gladys Bartle-Frere is capable as Mrs Younge; Miss Blanka Stewart is a smart Gipsy Vandelier; Miss Beryl Graham and Miss Mabel Morley are excellent in their respective rôles of Nannie Portland and Baby Hastings; Miss Edith Stewart shows talent as Paulina; Mr Charles Lupton is in every way efficient as Sir Charles Hampshire; Mr Frank G. Bayley acts with judgment as Frank Frayne; Mr Hawley Francks as Mr Crosbie plays with credit; Mr Arthur Eldred sustains admirably his original rôle of Mr Roundle; Mr Coningsby Brierly is commendable as Mr Bogle; and Mr Alec Crichton is well suited as Alderman Hargen.

GAINSBOROUGH.

Royal Hall —Manager, Mr R. Kirk.—Mr St. Alban's company appeared here for three nights last week in the ever-tuneful *Les Cloches de Corneville*. Mr St. Alban gave an effective rendering of Gaspard; Mr Geo. A. Fox sang well as the Marquis; Mr Geo. Delaforce and Mr Fowler Thatcher were amusing as the Baillie and Gobo respectively; and Miss Lucie Fitzroy was a vivacious Serpolette. The chorus was excellent.

GATESHEAD.

Metropole Theatre.—Proprietors, the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Limited; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—J. W. Rowley, the well-known comedian, who heads the strong variety bill submitted here during the week, is responsible for an exceptionally good turn, as is Otto Schumann with his performing horses and dog. Chas. Pastor, laughing comedian, provides a capable turn, as also do Conan and Doyle, comedians. James Grant, comedian, causes much amusement, and the Revell Troupe are responsible for a very laughable sketch. Other good turns are provided by the Floradora Girls and Cordite.

GILLINGHAM (KENT).

Transfield's Hippodrome has the following attractive bill-of-fare:—Barney Stuart in his act entitled "Impersonalia;" the Three Sisters Gilbert, comediennes and top-boot dancers; Houpla and Hecla, equilibrists and acrobats; Blanche Newman, comedience and dancer; Alvantee on the sloping wire; Miss Unity Vezzey with her two performing dogs; John Yelding in an equestrian act; the sketch, *His Lordship from Abroad;* comicalities by Valdo, the clown; animated pictures, and a beauty show.

GLOUCESTER.

Theatre Royal.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is appearing here in the charming comedy *Cousin Kate*. Mr Yorke Stephens, who was on the programme to play Heath Desmond, was unfortunately unable to sustain the character owing to sudden indisposition, and the part was undertaken by Mr Walter Ringham, who deseves high praise for his clever and effective interpretation. Mr Ringham's usual part, the Rev. James Bartlett, was enacted by Mr Donald Maclean with conspicuous ability. Miss Lilias Earle acts with irresistible charm as Kate Curtis; Miss Hilda Honiss gives great satisfaction as Amy Spencer; and Master Vyvian Thomas is excellent as Bobby Spencer. Mrs Spencer is ably embodied by Miss Helen Leyton, and Miss Betty Castle scores a laugh at every appearance as Jane. *A Cure for Eviction* precedes.

GOOLE.

Theatre Royal —Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—The dramatic musical comedy *The Naval Detective* was presented here on Monday night. The villain, Dr. Schreiner, is cleverly presented by Mr Allen Charles; Mr Arthur Beaufort gives a breezy and natural rendering of the part of Captain Hustle; the characters of Pat M'Guinness, Rev. Frequent Nipper, and Lieut. Jack Beresford are capably treated by Mr Fred J. Kirk; Mr Walter Langford's impersonation of the Hon, Bertie Fairlox evokes roars of laughter; Mr Albert Evremond does exceedingly well as Hans Winklepump; Miss Louie Fountain sings and acts charmingly in the dual-rôle of Phyllis Leslie and Bill Mainstay; Miss Edith Claris is full of humour in the part of Susan Scrubbs; Miss Olga Rosina as Lulu Kaufmann and Miss Lily Seymour as Rebecca Gentle are also highly successful. A special feature is the graceful dancing introduced in the Saloon scene by the Gaiety Girls, Miss Mamie Walsh and Miss Elsie Paul. On Thursday and Friday nights Mr Charles Macdona's company presented *A Country Girl*.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

Theatre Royal.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—An excellent programme is again provided here, the favourite turn being the Okito Family, who in a Chinese magical act perform most astonishing feats. Little Uno proves himself a clever boy comedian. The Cranks provide a smart show as expert cyclists. The Brooks Brothers, comedians and patterers; the Sisters Brand, duettists and dancers; Arthur Royce, comedian; Sadie Seymour, comedienne and dancer; and Tell and Tell, equilibrists, help greatly in the success.

Hippodrome.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—Crowded houses are the rule this week, and tremendous applause greets the band of the Scots Greys, which plays selections each evening. In addition, Martino gives a wonderful show as a contortionist; Florizell provides a pretty mirror act; Mrs Gilbert introduces her clever pony, Spot Beauty; the Zalvas give an amusing and smart comedy wire performance; James Stuart does wonders as the tramp at the piano; Alicia Mayne sings delightfully; Tudor's performing animals go through a clever turn; and fresh pictures are shown by the Bioscope. Little Doodles and Bishop succeed in keeping the audiences in roars of laughter.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Humphrys.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company is here with *Alone in London*, Mr Henry George playing the young miller, John Biddlecombe, in a pleasing manner; while the villainous Richard Radcliffe is ably performed by Mr Stephen Ewart. Mr Hugh Brady as Spriggins, the would-be dude, and Mr J. W. Wilkinson as the philosophic Jenkinson act amusing parts with much versatility. The part of the heroine, Annie Meadows, is satisfactorily rendered by Miss Madge Devereux; and Miss Ada Tilley is charming as the wandering waif, Tom Chickweed. Mr Lonnen Meadows as the travelling showman, and Miss Ada Elliston as his partner, Liza, add their full quota of fun to the drama. Mr Stafford Smith as a banker acts the staid man of business; and Mr Percy Davidson his erring son admirably.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—That popular combination, the D'Oyly Carte Répertoire Company, opened here on Monday in *The Mikado*. Most of the old favourities are in their familiar places, notably, that clever artist, Mr C. H. Workman as Ko-Ko, Mr Fred Billington as the all-pervading Pooh-Bah, Mr Albert Kavanagh as the Mikado, Miss Theresa Rassam as Katisha, and Misses Norah Maguire and Jessie Rose as Yum-Yum and Pitti-Sing. A newcomer, Mr Pacie Ripple, as Nanki-Poo, proved himself a tenor of excellent vocal abilities, and a first-rate actor as well. Miss Mabel Burnege made a charming Peep-Bo, and gave her dialogue and songs with piquant effect. Mr Fred Drawater as Pish-Tush was of much value in the madrigal and other concerted pieces, his fine voice being much admired. *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *Gondoliers*, *Iolanthe*, *Pinafore*, and *Trial by Jury* formed the programme on the later evenings of the week.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—This week Mr George Edwardes's company in *The Orchid* is paying a return visit to this city. Miss Coralie Blythe and Miss Gertrude Gilliam again take their respective parts of Lady Violet and Josephine, and receive a hearty welcome. The humour of Mr Lawrence Grossmith's Guy Scrymgeour appeals strongly to the audience, and Mr Donald Hall is still popular in the part of Dr. Fausset, the Cassignat of Mr Sam Walsh being another excellent bit of comedy. The part of Meakin is taken this visit by Mr George Gregory, who proves himself a comedian of considerable resource, while Mr Sidney Vincent, an expert dancer, fills the part of Zaccary in good style. Miss Irene Verona reappears as Caroline Vokins with capital results, and Miss Luna Love shows versatile talent in the part of Thisbe, other clever assumptions being the Countess Anstruther of Miss Kate Leechman and the Zelie Rumbert of Miss Ethel Griffies. In manner and make-up the Chesterton of Mr Ellis Ogilvie is admirable, and as the eccentric Frenchmen Messrs E. Rutland and E. G. Woodhouse are funny, the Registrar of Mr Frank Hector being also amusing. The chorus and orchestra are outstanding features in this production, and are under the direction of Mr Ernee Woodville.

PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—Mr John Leopold's company is here in their musical absurdity, *New Frivolity*. Mr Herbert Lewis as Oliver Buckwheat is funny in his various disguises. Mr Barry Lupino as Samuel Vermiglio is good, acting the mischievous schoolboy admirably. Mr Tony Leopold takes the part of Professor Fumble very well. Miss R. Wyndham as Madame Cobweb, the school mistress, is amusing. Miss Amy Hall as Lucy Buckwheat is excellent. Mr John Leopold, jun., as Daniel Teething, is a good singer and dancer. Mr Wilfred Vaughan as Jules Vermiglio, plays the part of a Frenchman very well, and causes much laughter. Mr Willie Leopold as Tickle, the page, is extremely funny, and his antics cause much amusement. Mr Levesque as Tocassar, an eccentric waiter, is also very good.

METROPOLE.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—Messrs Haddon and Loader's company, in *The King of Thieves*, has been well received here. Mr Jack Haddon appears in the title part, and scores in his several disguises. Mr Ernest Munro is effective as Sir Gilbert Redville, and Mr John Cecil convincing as the young fireman, Harry Travers. Mr Walter Domoney as Arthur Redville makes much of the part of the young spendrift, while Mr Harry Liddel as a lawyer's clerk is seen to advantage in a rôle that gives scope for some comedy, in which he is ably assisted by Miss Marguerite Thorne as Mrs O'Brien and Miss Lottie Pearce as Polly Puff. Maud Desmond finds a good exponent in Miss Marie Rayner. She and Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam as Mary Manners have several opportunities for the display of their ability. Mr Jack Lennol is particularly good as the French Cook, Jean Vitelli, and Mr Geo. Herbert is a sufficiently repulsive bully.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden. — Dr. Walford Bodle's entertainment is drawing crowded houses. Profound wonder is caused by his demonstrations in bloodless surgery. This, however, is soon followed by general amusement at the antics of people under his hypnotic influence. The Schallers, comedy gymnasts, give a very lively contribution to the programme; and the Marionette palace is a distinct success. Dolly Robson sings very sweetly; several songs are very capably rendered by Gerald Lopez and La Petite Bella; and the Sisters Lyle are smart duettists and dancers. The Garden Troupe of international dancers and pipers do a very smart turn, and are thoroughly appreciated.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green.—*Under the Russian Flag* is this week being ably presented by Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company. Mr F. W. Freeman gives a clever reading of Ivan Romanoff; Miss Ada Champion sustains the part of Vera Vassiloff with ability; Mr Walter Howard cleverly presents Captain Demetrius; and Mr George Arthur as Michael Romanoff is a capital villain. Miss Ellen Snow submits a good character sketch of Luka Marischla; Wolf Marischla finds a capable exponent in Mr Charles Liddon; and Mr Charles Reyne, who doubles the rôles of General Romanoff and Colonel Souvaroff, gives good interpretations. The comic element as depicted by Mr Hal Forde as Petor Poluskie, Miss Agnes Howard as Ogarita, and Mr Alfred Bennett as Alexis Skopolopki contributes largely to the enjoyment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss's Limited.—Eugene Stratton is going stronger than ever, his "Lily of Laguna," "I may be crazy," and a new song, "That gal of Johnson's," all proving big favourites. Tom Leamore's eccentricities are most amusing, and his dude song is particularly happy. Lily Burnand has some catchy songs, and gives them with good effect. Leona Dare's wonderful feat of holding from a trapeze a lady vocalist and an organ, while the lady sings and plays, is a sensational turn. Sybil St. Elmo gives "Il Bacio" with much taste, and good musical items are contributed by the Schutzenlieserl'n Quartet and the St. James's Quintet. Tom Maxwell and Virginia Frances are making a big hit here in their comedy duets and dances. De Kock Brothers, head balancers; Gilbert Rogers, vocalist; Abel and Welsh, knock-about contortionists; and the Bioscope complete a good show.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S.—Proprietors, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; Managing-Director, Barney Armstrong; Acting-Managers, Messrs T. M. Colquhoun and Fred C. Ewing. — Very large audiences testify to the appreciation of the bill-of-fare provided here. Mr W. F. Frame—"the man you know"—heads the list, and neither time nor age seems to impair his originality or popularity. Miss Marie Kendall is the next "star" in a good constellation, and she adds to her present reputation as a first-class comedienne nightly. The Daunton-Shaw Troupe are in the front rank of marvellous cycle riders, and it must be admitted there are now many clever devotees of "the whirling wheel." Variety is imparted by that funny couple Tate and Tate, acrobatic comedians; Mr Arthur Slater, comedian; Mr Geo. Prince, and Dandy George and his clever dog. The Orpheus instrumental speciality is a most entertaining one; Mr Steve Cooke and the Sisters M'Carthy entertain in quite charming style, and are heartily applauded. Valoni introduces a clever and pleasing turn with a troupe of well-trained pigeons; and the Sisters Neilson attract considerably. Bendon's pictures are varied and enjoyable.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Rich. Waldon and Thomas Barrasford; Assistant-Manager, Mr H. M'Kelvie.—The programme arranged here for the week is full of interest. The outstanding item is Staig's motor sensation—racing on an aerial circle—which was breathlessly watched by the large audience. Another good turn is that of Duncan's Royal Scotch Collies. The other items include Clive Watts, comedian and dancer; the Wallonells, gymnasts; Dale and Vale, comedians and dancers; Kitty Clover's comedy company, in a laughable sketch; Brothers Ashley, in a clever boxing act; Imro Fox, illusionist; the Picquays, acrobats; and a series of up-to-date animated picturer.

BRITANNIA. — Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr George Saphrini. — A first-class company is billed here this week, the programme submitted being varied and interesting. The Henderson and Stanley Quartette top the bill and had a great reception, their musical selections and clever jokes being all that could be desired. The singing and dancing of Malcombe and Sullivan are much appreciated, and Miss M. Bennie, soprano, and Mr A. Murray, baritone contribute excellent songs. The other members of the company include Katie Holloway, serio; D. Wright, comedian; Alec Kendal, comedian; M'Askell, talking conjuror; J. G. Aitken, comedian; Charlie Cower, eccentric comedian, and the farcical sketch, *Sweethearts and Wives*, produced by Messrs Gregory and Pollard's company.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr Wm. Biggam.—Polly Heath, in her smart songs and clever sand dancing, is a draw here. G. W. Fyvie's Irish ditties go well, and he is a dancer of much ability. The Downes Family give some clever musical and vocal items; Bonetti and Carrie introduce a smart juggling act; Wm. C. M'Phie and Miss Isa Hamilton each contribute good songs. and Bishop and Vale, Tom Berrick, Tony Black, and Fred Collins ably sustain the humorous element.

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr David Hart.—The company here this week includes Menotti, the Stockholm wonder and high telephone wire cyclist, who carries a man across the wire. Minnie Dare, bright comedienne and dancer; Harry Martell, a favourite comedian and dancer; Ovieto and Bray, interesting comedy and speciality artistes; Daisy Ray, sweet coon singer and novel sand dancer; Mark Leslie an extremely original and amusing comedian, and the clown Learto, in his diverting performance with his clever dog Babs, are all well received.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr Frank Bateman's company is playing *At War with Women* here. Mr Gordon Godfrey distinguishes himself as Dr. Mandle, Mr Clinton Baddeley does well as Antolski, and Mr A. G. Polson-Turner fills the rôle of Count Clovitch with success. The part of General Malakoff is excellently played by Mr Fred Vaughan, Mr Arthur Balmoral is very good as Captain Volsky, and Mr Edward E. Louis embodies Lieutenant Alexis with care. Mr Fisher Smith is a first-rate exponent of Fedora Pannovlski, and the part of Jerry Blake is creditably performed by Mr W. C. Bland. Mr Fred Parkes deserves praise for his Hans Phocas, Mr Herbert J. Walton is effective as Lazinski, and Mr Frank Davies is commendable as Francesca Corblanque. Mr Bert Hammond as Antonio and Mr John Wood as Stephano are both clever. Miss Lizzie Montague gives a realistic portrayal of Auriel Romanoff, Miss Marion Warren as Frida Malakoff is applauded, and Miss Mabel Leigh is well received as Katinka. Miss Louise Cavanagh is a powerful Louise Tolska, and the parts of Mirette, Evangeline, and Dame Miska are capably enacted by Miss Eva Laner, Miss Cissie Isaacson, and Miss Edith Matt respectively.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington. — Prince Fee Lung heads the bill here and does a number of amazing conjuring feats. Marion Edwards, soprano vocalist is good. Stanley and Tichbourne are clever comedians and patterers. Selbo is an expert club juggler and plate thrower. Madame Loule, thought reader, supplies an interesting turn. The Jeteys, coloured comedians, are exceptionally able. Mdlle. Du Roche operatic vocalist, sings sweetly. Fred Curren, comedian, is amusing, and the Mezondos are smart barrel jumpers.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Mr Fred Karno's comedians have presented their latest laughab'e production *Saturday to Monday* here this week. Mr Fred Kitchen is the central figure, his drolleries and quaint mannerisms as John Willie Jaggs causing much merriment. Miss Aggie Morris acts with pleasing vivacity as Clorinda Blake. The parts of Jaggs' eccentric juveniles are amusingly represented by Mr Dick Harcourt as John Willie, jun., Mr Lepo as Bartlett, and Master W. Bentley as Jane Eller. Excellent singing is accomplished by Mr Frank Haylett as Tom Freeman, whilst Miss Gladys Whyte charmingly portrays Violet. Miss Ada Maskell is responsible for some laughable burlesque as Aunt Skinner, whilst mention must be made of Mr Charles Baldwin as Mr Potts and Mr Walter Purvis as Mr Blake. Besides the numerous comedy incidents a number of smart musical specialities are introduced in the course of the three acts.

THE HIPPODROME.—The Dayton Family have proved as popular as ever at the Hippodrome this week, and their exhibition of difficult feats of tumbling, which are exceptionally neatly performed, has nightly been accorded long rounds of applause. *The Porter and the Parcel* is the title of a particularly amusing sketch, presented by Howard and Collinson, the antics of the porter and a supposed mechanical doll which is introduced causing roars of laughter. Besides accomplishing smart dancing, the Sisters Bartholomew have sung some very pretty songs. Onda and Artell have displayed remarkable skill on the trapeze, whilst the juggling of Primavesi has also created much interest. Other good turns have been given by Happy Attwood, comedian and juvenile impersonator, and Gracie Logar, vocalist and dancer, whilst the Sheffield Photo Co. have exhibited a series of new animated pictures.

HORWICH.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Arthur Sandiford.—This week variety reigns supreme. Mdlle. Dorvigny, the celebrated Parisian cantatrice, tops the bill, her rendering of several old ballads being a great musical treat. Avon and Crest are capable duettists and speciality artistes; Will Letters is funny in his good songs; Nancy Renshaw, Negro comedian and bone soloist, is responsible for an interesting performance; Lily Le Breton's daring feats on the high trapeze are loudly applauded; Nellie Graham, speciality dancer, is decidedly good; and Little Renie, child impersonator. Alice Jumell, banjo and mandoline soloist; and Mr John Montgomery, humorous sketch artist, are very successful.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—*La Poupée* (Mr E. Lockwood's company) is here this week. The principals are all worthy of praise, and include Miss Midge Clarke, a charming and clever Alesia; Mr T. A. Shale, an ideal Lancelot; Mr Eliot Skinner, who sings well as Father Maxime; Mr W. H. Page, good as Balthazar; Mr Arthur Reynolds, a humorous and effective Hilarius; and Messrs Chas. M'Lagan and Fred Walsh as Loremois and Chanterelle.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—This week's bill includes Dutch Daly, solo concertinist; Maud Rose, comedienne and dancer; Will Mitcham, who plays on various instruments; Zenary Brothers, acrobats; Clayton Twins, comedians; the Haywards, a couple of versatile young ladies who are particularly good dancers; Ian Colquhoun, baritone vocalist; Leslie Brothers, musicians and comedians; Dolly Harmer, vivacious comedienne; and Drew and Alders, comedians.

HANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr C. Elphinstone.—Mr Chas. Elphinstone is to be congratulated upon his excellent bookings. Following Miss Ellen Terry, we have this week Mr George Dance's company in that successful light comedy *The Duchess of Dantzic*. Mr Albert Chapman as Sergeant Lefebvre is exceedingly well placed; Mr Frederick Moyes as Napoleon contributes a really clever impersonation; Sans-Gêne has a most praiseworthy exponent in Miss Rita Presano, who sings nicely; and Miss Alice Coverick as Renee does exceptionally well in the part. Mr Maxwell is also seen to advantage.

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr C. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—Mr Joe O'Gorman heads the bill this week and meets with much success, his tale-telling causing roars of laughter. Spry and Austin are a really humorous pair; the Missouris are once more seen in their funny acrobatic turn, which is really clever; the O'Learys are also acrobats of the first water; Thornbury as an artist is most entertaining; Miss Florence is a capital mimic; Miss Marie Weston dances in good style; and the Carlyles are smart Continental dancers.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager Mr Smith.—Mr John Denton, supported by his clever company, opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday with the drama, *A Modern Judas*, in which Mr Denton gave a vigorous interpretation of the part of Eikanah Pearce. Mr Frank Beresford's Jack Vavasour was also a fine performance. The villainies of Captain Melbourne were portrayed in striking style by Mr Percy Rhodes, and Mr Willie Scott gave a fine piece of comedy acting as Tom Hopkins. Miss Ada Palmer as Agatha Pearce and Miss Violet King as Clara Rivers were extremely successful, and as Elsie Miss Walbran gave a capital study. The Polly Hopkins of Miss Dolly Harcourt was also a lively and energetic performance. Mr Henry Eglington's company, in the farcical comedy, *One of the Family*, were announced for Thursday evening.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Messrs Councillor Everton and J. W. Cragg; General Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—A musical treat of exceptional quality is afforded this week by the New York Comedy Four, who in duets and concerted pieces are being well received. Another musical turn that calls for especial praise is that by Signor and Madame Borelli in their humorous and musical tit-bits. Dainty Daisy Dormer has many admirers, and deservedly so; her talents in singing and dancing are exceedingly good. Marie Gibson prettily renders some popular ballads. Caram's ventriloquial entertainment is marvellously clever and exceptionally funny. J. W. Ellison, vocal comedian, and Louis Kerno are old favourites. The eccentric comedy dancing by Vasey and Ramsey is a brilliant success. Harry Grey, "the comedy merchant," is well received, and Burns's Bioscope continues to attract.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—On Monday Mr Walter Melville's company opened here with *A Disgrace to Her Sex*. Miss Grace Heywood as Hilda Valley gave a fine impersonation of the complex character. Mr Eugene Santley acted commendably as David Carrington; Mr Harry Marlow as Jack Dawes successfully enacted the lover of Mildred; Miss Nellie Lucas was sweet and amiable as Mildred Carrington; and Miss Winnie Tempest easily won admiration for her natural delineation of Mabel Valley. Mr David G. Noble played in a manly fashion as Arnold Travers. Some amusing comedy was supplied by Mr Arthur Byron as Barnaby Mugg and Miss Madge Yates as Bella, and Jules Delaret was very ably embodied by Mr Phil Harper. Mr Arthur Chisholm as Dexter and Miss Cecile Rene as Lucy acted with distinction.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—*A Fight for Millions* is being performed by Mr Robert Perris's company. Richard Dudley is well represented by Mr H. Booth, and Mr F. Acton is good as Solomon Moses. Mr Perris gives a good character sketch of Tom Manley. An excellent representative of Dudley's deserted wife is Miss Eckhart. The Tramp is well acted by Mr L. Clements. As little Madge Miss W. Acton is attractive, and Miss E. Purcell gives a charming rendering of Pearl Rivers.

ST. LEONARDS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—The inaugural performances of a winter orchestra took place here on Tuesday. The opening ceremony was performed by the Hon. Mrs Freeman-Thomas, who was supported by Mr Freeman-Thomas, M.P., Lord Brassey, the Mayor of Hastings, &c. A large band will be conducted by Mr Val Marriot; and Miss Maude Thornton will be the principal solo vocalist.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—Miss Nina Elmo, an attractive comedienne, is here; Miss Lillie Lassah, coon singer and dancer, is warmly welcomed; Mr Henry Troy has a cultivated tenor voice; Tostis, mandolinist, is appreciated; Olivetta is a very smart and original juggler; Ross and Grayson score successfully in their versatile comedy; Miss Lilian Lea submits delightful renderings of popular ballads; and Messrs Burns and Evans keep the audience in good humour with an amusing sketch.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Resident Manager, Mr W. F. Morton.—Thanks to the enterprise of Mr Morton, the Beerbohm Tree Shakespearian répertoire company paid its first visit to this city on Monday, with *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The Falstaff of Mr Eardley Turner was very humorous, and Mr Arthur Bruce was capital as Caius. As Master Ford Mr Wm. Haviland made the very best of the rôle. Mr E. A. Warburton was a capital Host. Mr Reg. Ian Penny was commendable as Master Slender. Mr Chas. Bibby's Hugh Evans was a delightful study. The sweetness of Miss Margaret Halstan's Anne Page was earnestly recognised, and Mistress Ford and Mistress Page were embodied with skill by Miss Constance Collier and Miss Cicely Richards. On Tuesday Mr Wm. Haviland had his opportunity in *Julius Cæsar*, his elocutionary skill and histrionic ability being strongly in evidence.

GRAND THEATRE, OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—*The Money Makers* is here this week. Miss Frances Davis, to whom the rôle of Bella is allotted, makes the most of her chances. The confiding Dot and Mabel find satisfactory representatives in Miss Lilian Locke and Miss Lorna Lawrence. Mr Allen Thomas as the Scotchman keeps the house in a roar.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson; Acting-Manager, Mr Thos. Robson.—A much-appreciated turn is provided here by W. Permane and his educated bears, which evoke much amusement and interest in their wonderful performance. The Two Eltons meet with a cordial reception in a comedy bar act. Percy Hannan, the American boy baritone, is heard to advantage; Ady Burns contributes successfully as character comedian and dancer; some clever statuary posing is submitted by the Marblesques; Clarice Mignon is a clever banjo soloist; Ben Nevis is a quaint comedian and dancer; and Dora Denmark completes the bill.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur. — Mr Edward Morris and company are presenting that inconsequent medley *The Dandy Doctor*. Miss Florence Smithers as Jane simply bubbles over with humour. Mr Edward Morris, a brisk comedian, is well fitted in the part of Brown, the tinned-meat millionaire. Mr James Danvers has a crisp, telling style as Colonel Pendred, being ably assisted in his burlesque of the pianoforte virtuoso by the Pierette. Miss Lizzie Primmer sings with go as Ivy Pendred; Mr Walter Nugent is capable as Arthur Vandyke; and Mr W. N. Gilmore has a congenial part as Bertie Bolingbroke. There is some clever acrobatic dancing by Miss Florence Allen and Miss Cissy Evelyn. Mr Ben Rowe and Miss Holden—a real coloured pair—contribute a strikingly graceful variation of the time-worn cake-walk. The chorus is bright and well costumed, and some pretty scenery adds to the attractivess of the production.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—Messrs H. J. Callan and Wentworth Croke's company is here this week, representing *Florodora*. Mr C. Young Fixott as Cyrus W. Gilfain is happily suited to the part. Messrs William Everard and J. Graham Huntley as Frank Abercoed and Captain Arthur Donegal respectively act admirably and sing with musicianly feeling, and Mr A. E. Colbey makes an efficient Leandro. Mr Arthur Lenville is excruciatingly funny as Anthony Tweedlepunch. Miss Violet Bronson is a charming Dolores, and renders her numbers with sweetness and expression. A bright and vivacious Lady Holyrood is Miss Dorothy Sephton, and Angela Gilfain has a dainty representative in Miss May Gates, whose songs and dances are well received. The chorus is well balanced and the staging is excellent.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—*Under Two Flags* has been played here during the week. Mr Alfred Goddard as Bertie Royellieu gave a manly and earnest impersonation; Mr Charle D. Pitt was a villain of the orthodox type; and Mr Will Hook was a humorous valet. Miss Celia Gordon and Miss Laura Walker did well in the chief female characters. *Aunt Rebecca* is the opening farce.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME.—Among the fresh attractions this week at the Woodbridge-road place of entertainment were the Imperial Boys' Orchestra, a troupe of clever instrumentalists and vocalists; Bert Atherton, comedian and patter singer; Tom Collins, a clever dancer; Master Wallace, boy comedian; the Marlingtons, variety artists; and Matt Wilkinson and company, in an amusing sketch entitled *The Registry Office*.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—This week Miss Nettie Ware's company is paying a visit with a drama entitled *When Woman Hates*. Mr W. Yates gives a good account of Sir Henry Rokeby; Mr J. Petley is capable as Lieut. Fred Rokeby; Mr Oscar Adye gives a powerful rendering of Godfrey Lawton; Mr Bensley Evans is quite at home as Hiram R. Vaneuton; Mr Will Percy is droll as Police-constable O'Brien from Cork; Miss Olive Lanty gives a first-class portrayal of the part of Cora Daintry; Miss Jennie Hughes is good in the part of Marie Rokeby; Nellie Rokeby is presented with ability by Little Ivy Henigan; and Miss V. Carlyle submits a good rendering of Mrs Sally Potts.

KETTERING.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. Fowkes.—Mr St. Alban and company are here with *Les Cloches De Corneville*. Mr St. Alban presents a fine performance of Gaspard, and Mr Geo. A. Fox is a capable Marquis De Corneville. Mr George Delaforce as The Baillie and Mr Fowler Thatcher as Gobo keep the audience highly amused by their efforts; Mr Walter Cranbourne is a satisfactory Grenichaux; and Miss Lucie Fitzroy as Serpolette leaves nothing to be desired.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—The attraction this week is Mr Henry Bedford and company in *Mafeking* and *Gipsy Jack*.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—The Ben Greet company is here the first three nights this week with *The Eternal City*. Mr D. Lewin Mannering is seen to great advantage in the rôle of Baron Bonelli. Miss Edith Anton Laing deserves congratulation on her acting of the part of Donna Roma. For Thursday *A Bunch of Violets* was the play produced.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Mr Herbert Leonard.—On Monday *A Trip to Chinatown* was presented by Mr Leslie Norman's company, which is exceptionally strong. A special feature was the smart dancing by the Three Canadian Belles in the third act. Mr Charles Seguin as Welland Strong, the dying man, is excellent; Mr Jerrold Manville as Ben Gay is highly successful; Mr Leslie Norman does well as Rashleigh Gay; Mr Will Smith makes a good Noah Heap; Miss Harriet Fawn as Mrs Guyer, the widow, sings well; Miss Dorothy Vicott as Flirt is good; and Miss Florrie M'Innes is charming as Tiny Gay. Mr M'Innes is the musical director. On Thursday Ben Greet's company appeared in *East Lynne*.

KEIGHLEY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Barnes.—The Moody-Manners opera company provide a musical treat here this week. *Faust* was performed on Monday evening to an enthusiastic audience. Mr Edward Arthur possesses a good voice, and his Faust was very successful. Mr Charles Tilbury scored heavily as Mephistopheles; Valentine was in the capable hands of Mr David Fuller; Marguerite had charming interpretation from Miss Crichton; Miss Teify Davies delighted all as Siebel; and Mr Frank Rowe and Miss Moore completed an excellent cast. *Carmen* was performed on Tuesday, with Miss Teify Davies in the title-rôle.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr Harry Eaden.—A welcome return visit is being paid by *If I Were King*, which is most adequately played by Mr Frank Fenton and company. Mr Fenton enacts the rôle of Villon in a thoroughly artistic manner, and Miss Marion Gray's Katherine is a wonderfully clever study. The part of the King is ably taken by Mr Clive Currie; Miss Louise Vansitter is a successful Abbess; and all the other characters are in capable hands.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—*The Duke of Killicrankie* is at the Grand this week, and proves a thoroughly enjoyable tit-bit. Mr Langhorne Burton presents the name-part very creditably, his acting throughout being pleasing and effective. Mr Arthur Grenville is exceedingly amusing in his humorous caricature of Mr Pitt-Welby, M.P., Miss Doris Templeton submits the part of Lady Henriette with exceeding charm and grace; and Miss Aida Jenoure proves a most effective foil in the rôle of Mrs Mulholland, the glue-maker's widow. *Barbara*, the curtain-raiser, is well played by Miss Margaret Damer, Miss Gillian Scaife, and Mr Guy Newall.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Bush. — Mr Walter Melville's powerful new drama, *The Female Swindler*, is having a week of success here in the hands of Mr Tom H. Taylor's strong company. Miss Violet Ellicott leaves nothing to be desired in her accomplished presentation of the adventurous Lu Valroy, an exceedingly fine performance. The part of the detective, Jack Coulson, is cleverly presented by Mr Jerrold Heather. Mr Luke Foster has a many-sided rôle, and is effective in every phase of it; Mr Weldon Atherstone makes a powerful stage villain; and Mr Rule Pyott, Miss Florrie Kelsey, and Miss Evelyn Marrable are also seen to advantage.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—The visit of Fred Karno's company with that most attractive farce *His Majesty's Guests* is an exceedingly popular engagement. Mr Harry Roxbury as Sergeant Lightning is immensely successful; Mr Charles Usher is Miffin; Mr Fred Whittaker displays great acrobatic proclivities as the ubiquitous flunkey; and a clever portrayal of Lord Easem goes to the credit of Mr Frank Morton. Maud, the shoplifter, is well represented by Miss Lenora Castelle; Miss Edith Ager is a charming Dolly Miffin; and Mr Harry Stuart and Miss Blanche La Rose sustain leading comedy parts with success.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—The famous lion-tamer Herr Julius Seeth is here giving his wonderful exhibition with twenty-three of his pets. Rosie Archer is a popular contributor with clever mimicry; Griff again submits an amusing turn; Hal Forde is a smart comedian; Fanny Robina, comedienne, is on a welcome return visit; the Eight of Hearts sing and dance in pleasing style; as also do the Sisters Iris; a comedy sketch by Fiske and M'Donough goes extremely well; Vesper contributes an original turn; and Fred Lincoln and Pat Rafferty are also appearing.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—One of Mr John Tiller's entertaining companies is here with the diverting farce, *High Jinks*. A popular turn is that of Amy Augarde, the accomplished burlesque actress. Dion Wade, an eccentric comedian, again scores a success; as also do Harris and Worth, patter comedians, and the Kyaskas, in a clever athletic speciality. Madeleine May is an enjoyable comedienne; J. H. Scotland renders baritone solos very acceptably, and the programme is completed by Mons. Hurman, expert juggler, and T. W. Royal, comedian and speciality dancer.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—The leading turn here is Jordan and Harvey, a pair of exceedingly clever Hebrew comedians, who score a big success with original business. Cassie Walmer, the well-known comedienne, is as popular as ever; Billy Williams again sings his clever little ditties to general satisfaction; the Sivronis are entertaining in their clever burlesque sketch; Bob and Jennie Leonard submit their original show with great success; and the Sisters Pine have a clever act, which is greatly appreciated. A pantomimic sketch by the Five Bon-Bons is a popular line; the Langdons submit the usual illustrated song turn; and Harry Zetter, comedian and dancer, is also in the bill.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—Messrs John A. Atkin and Walter Howe's company is appearing here this week in *A Victim of Villainy*. Mr Walter Howe is excellent as Frank Manton, the part of the villain, Stephen Cavanagh, is in the capable hands of Mr Sydney Arnold; Mr Arthur Staples makes the most of the comedy part of Tom Leckie; and as Walter Lennox Mr Leonard Howe does exceedingly well. Miss Marietta Hyde makes a sympathetic Mary Manton; as Alice Cavanagh Miss Helena Walbran acts with much force; Miss E. H. Russell is well suited as Mrs Leckie; and as Vera Diamond Miss Connie Meadows is pleasing, Miss Cissy Bertrant deserving praise as Eric.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—The welcome accorded on Monday to Mrs Langtry in *Mrs Dering's Divorce* was an enthusiastic one. In Mr Paul Arthur as Captain Dering, Mrs Langtry had an able supporter, his grasp of a somewhat difficult character being meritorious. Miss Lilian Revell was a capital Miss Verner; Miss Lellia Repton gave pleasure with her Mrs Haydon; as Lord Granpier Mr Courtenay Thorpe was masterful; and Miss Helen Palgrave and Mr Ernest Stern acted with finish and effect. A curtain-raiser was *The Brothers*.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J Gaffney.—The melodious *Florodora* has attracted large audiences here this week, Mr Tom B. Davis having sent a talented company of artists. An old Liverpool favourite, Mr Edward Lewis, was responsible for continuous laughter that greeted his Tweedlepunch, receiving valuable assistance from Mr Fred Wind, an able artist. Miss Lena Maitland presented a delightful Dolores, being loudly applauded for her singing. Miss Hilda Dugdale was a sweet Angela Glifain, Miss Isabella Dillon an imposing Lady Holyrood, Mr Fred Wise a good Cyrus Glifain, and Mr Leonard Russell a satisfactory Frank Abercoed.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. French; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Beltram.—*A Pair of Spectacles* has commanded much attention at the "little house in the square." Mr Brember Wills was an admirable Benjamin Goldfinch; Mr W. T. Elworthy played the brother with distinction; a neat piece of work was the Mrs Goldfinch of Miss Beth Elliott; and other artists of merit were Mr Harold Standing, Mr A. Leonard, Mr C. Weldon, Mr Sam Wilkinson, jun., Miss Kathleen Maitland, and Miss Escott Robson.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—Mr Walter Melville's play with the striking title *Her Second Time on Earth* has during the week occupied the boards of the north-end theatre. The company responsible belongs to the author, and includes Miss Hilda Beverley, who with credit enacts Dora Grey, the principal character. The play is one that suits the taste of a Rotunda audience, which is evidenced by the marked appreciation that has been shown to it.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—Mr J L. Shine, supported by Messrs Chas. Stuart, E. Story Gofton, and Miss Nora Levenston, in the prettily written sketch, *Hogmanay*, tops the bill here, and unstinted applause is evoked by the delightfully acted piece. Woolford's circus is very well received; Johnny Holland and company, in the sketch *My Friend, Boots*, are the cause of much amusement; the Pardoes' mixture of sketch and gymnastics is original, laughable, and interesting; Drum and Major are very good at patter; Bros. Esdale are answerable for much amusement; Mollie Doon is always a favourite; *The Dude's Dilemma*, by the Cullane Trio, is well applauded; and George Foyle is a good character vocalist.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—A treat has during the week been provided here. Mr Arnold Bell, an accomplished actor, and his first-class company have for five nights given *Benmy-Chree*, and on Friday played *The Shaughraun*. As Dan Mylrea Mr Bell was admirable; Miss Frances Campbell proved a charming Mona Mylrea; Mr Cuthbert Imrie acted well the rôle of Ewan Mylrea; Mr Frank C. Robson was a stern Deemster; and Mr H. M. Clifford presented a well-finished character of the Bishop.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company have been playing here to large audiences *The Midnight Mail*. Mr George Harvard made a capital engine-driver, Harry Steyne, and his wife Mary was presented with success by Miss Ada Oakley. Mr Fred G. Evison submitted a humorous sketch of Billy Brewer, a drunken stoker. Other rôles were in the hands of Mr Charles M'Cann, Mr Alec Alves, Miss Mildred Carr, and Miss Millie Stevenson.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—A bill of a varied character was presented here this week. At the top is Mr R. A. Roberts, the protean actor, who gives with much success his sketch *Dick Turpin*. Messrs A. C. Lilly and company remain another week with *Drummed Out*, and the Lukushima Troupe of Japanese equilibrists submit a brilliant performance; Mark Sheridan creates great laughter with his songs and business; a pretty turn is that given by Baker and Balfe on their xylophones; and others are the Four Milons, equilibrists; George Reeves, the M'Kays, Ambrose Thorne, Espinosa and Neilson, dancers; Margaret Ashton, Austin and Cowan, and the Three Georgis.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Vesta Victoria is in big type here this week, and has charmed large audiences with her excellent songs and dances. Edward Ransley's electric aerial orbit has created some sensation, and surprise has been expressed at the daring feats of cyclists on an elevated and revolving track. Carl Reinsch, with his highly-trained dogs and horses, puts in another week; the Saxon Trio give a good exhibition as strong men; Lew Wells renders an appreciated musical comedy act; Lowell and Lowell are a pair of laughable comedians; and others in the list are Mr and Mrs Blake Adams, with their dramatic trifle *The Last Pitch*; Dora Martine, a graceful and daring gymnast; and Cissy Cutler, comedienne.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—Gerald Mount is principal here this week, and has been cordially received for his songs and mimicry at the piano. Joe Humphreys, an able comedian, comes with several new items; Pulo, for a boy, performs some exceptionally clever juggling feats; Carl Osmond, lightning cartoonist, is an expert at producing portraits of well-known people; Lilly Martell provides a neat turn with her singing and acrobatic dancing; and others are Vardon, with his wonderful caddy, and Lil Hartley, serio-comedienne.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—Included in a good all-round programme here this week is Gertie Gitana, of "Dolly Varden" fame, whose scena, "A School-Girl's Holiday," is very neat. Oliver Conroy creates a deal of amusement; Joe Huda is an able comedian and dancer, as is also Fred Roden; Enie Les Carres is a burlesque actress with tasteful songs; and Joe Humphrey a comedian with a number of humorous ditties. The Royal Bioscope shows new pictures each week.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Tom Hall's Nippers, at the top of the bill here this week, give a capital performance as juvenile acrobats. The Three Novells, society acrobats and tumblers, go through a neat act; the Sisters Marion are a couple of juvenile duettists and vocalists; George Martinengo shows ability as a vocalist and solo 'cellist; Merton and Rydon have some capital songs and duets; and the programme also includes Violet Rivers, eccentric male impersonator; Alf Brooks, quaint comedian; and Mona M'Donald, comedienne.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—Among a good list of artistes engaged here this week is Gerald Mount with his clever mimicry at the piano; Vernando, ventriloquist, who causes great laughter with his act, "The Deaf Guest;" the Two St. Johns, in a refined musical act and smart dancing; Harry Wright, a vocal comedian of ability; Miss Nellie Gannon, who gives some nea; English and Irish songs in character; and Edith Sylvesto. The Bioscope and the cake-walk competitions continue to attract much attention.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—The greater part of the bill here this week is occupied by Preston and Doherty's extensive company, with their sketch, *The Rich and Poor of London*, which contains a number of interesting and dramatic episodes. There are also many variety turns, principal among them being Sidney C. Cranston, comedian, with his "Oh, Gussie;" Sidney Dench, entertainer; and Belle Tilbury, elocutionist. Good business has been done.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D Leigh.—Mr Laurence Irving and company met with an enthusiastic reception here on Monday, when *Richard Lovelace* was presented for the first time before a Leicester audience. The name-part allows Mr Laurence Irving every opportunity for the display of his histrionic abilities, and he is to be highly complimented on the success he achieves. Miss Mabel Hackney as Lucy Sacheverell gives a charming embodiment. Mr William E Ashcroft, who directs the tour, is exceedingly well placed as Colonel Richard Hawley, his portrayal being especially praiseworthy. Mr Henry Crocker is good as Alderman Sacheverell, and the other parts are in capable hands. The play is preceded (by Sir Henry Irving's permission) by *Daisy's Escape*.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—*The Face at the Window* is again proving a big attraction this week, the company responsible for its presentation being Messrs Armadale and Warren's. The play is especially well mounted. Both Mr Augustine Knight as Lucio Delgado and Mr T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet have strong parts, in which they are eminently successful. Mr Alfred Richards makes an excellent Lucien Cortier, and as Marie De Brisson Miss Marie Florence is also to be highly complimented. Miss Lizzie Chambers and Mr Bob Anderson are very amusing as Babette and Peter Pottlebury, and keep the audience in continual laughter.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—The audience here have at length been afforded the opportunity of seeing the interesting experiments with the "Kettle of Wonders," which are witnessed with the greatest amazement and delight. As Risley performers no finer, cleaner, or smarter troupe have been seen in Leicester than the Kremo Family. Fred Earle, comedian, is scoring a big success with his song "Seaweed." Walter Groves and company, in *Artful Jim*, create the greatest merriment. Horace Wheatley, who is an exceptionally clever dancer, scores with his songs, and repeats his usual success. Burt Shepard, a smart American comedian, sings an amusing parody on "Bill Bailey." Other artists who are also finding favour with the audience are Amy Russell, vocalist; Alice Ormonde, comedienne; Walter King, in new songs; and the Rayfords, comedy artistes.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—Lady Mansel and her juveniles in their speciality *A Concert Rehearsal* are the star turn here, and are cordially received. Clark and Argyle, pipers and dancers, are well applauded for their smart turn. Wilfrid, the Canadian flexible marvel, is a contortionist of great ability; the Sisters Redfern, instrumentalists, give a popular show; Rudd and Hart, eccentric comedians and dancers, are good; Billy Hubbard is a capital comedian; Kloof and Ramsey are very amusing in their musical eccentricities; Blanche Marion, burlesque actress and dancer, also entertains.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—The periodical visits of Messrs Maskelyne and Cook's mysteries always arouse great interest here. Their show, which is thoroughly up to date, includes some remarkable performances by Mr David Devant, whose skill is so well known. The audience accord the various items submitted unstinted applause, and the selections, both vocal and instrumental, by the Chamounix Alpine Singers and Swiss Orchestra are an entertaining and enjoyable feature. The Mystic Kettle is also presented by Mr David Devant.

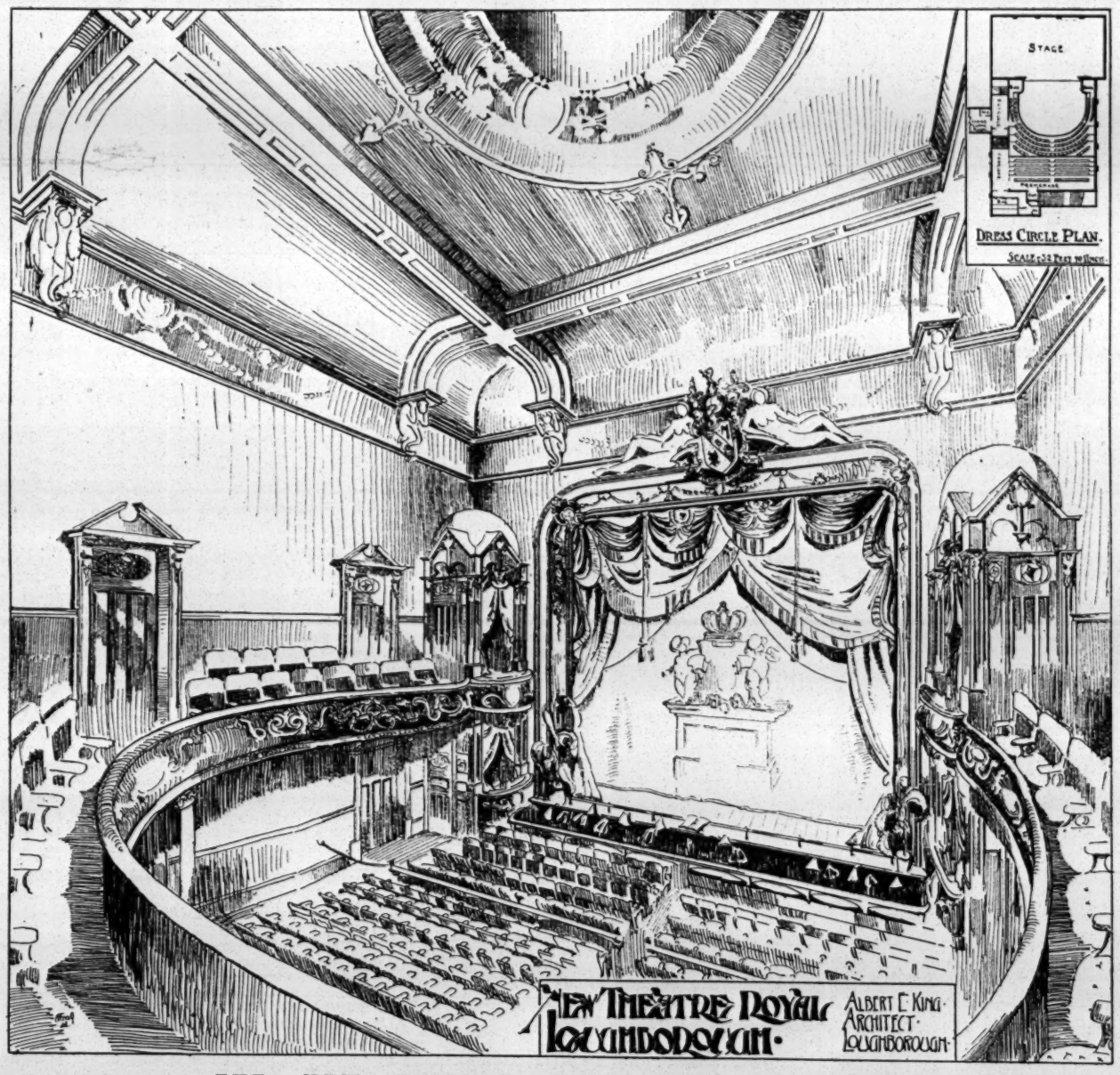
LANCASTER.

ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—This week we have Mr Douglas Bruce's company in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, which has proved a big attraction. Miss Lily Hammersley gives an exceedingly clever portrayal of Barbara Wade; Miss Kate Walfred is successful as Nellie Meadows; and Mr W. E. Griffiths as John Meadows, Mr George Gaisford as Jack Livingstone, and Mr Wm. Fraser-Brunner as Cuthbert Lumley all contribute to the success.

PALACE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—Capital business is again being done here, and Bennett and Martell come in for rounds of applause; Atlas and Miss Vulcana are paying a return visit; as also are Curtis and Miss Vanity, cake walk dancers. Bros. Wynford are clever jumpers; and others who make up a capital programme are Miss Kitty Phelps, comedienne, and Miss Dot Stanley, burlesque artiste. Walter Payne's Biophotoscope is still an attractive item.

NEW THEATRE AT LOUGHBOROUGH.

The new Theatre Royal at Loughborough, which is being built for Messrs Payne Seddon and George Robertson, is now rapidly nearing completion. After much delay and difficulty a site was obtained in close proximity to the Market-place, in the centre of the town, and although the contract was not signed until the end of September of this year, the work has progressed so rapidly that the theatre will be opened in January. The new building will seat about 850 and accommodate about 1,100. The proscenium opening is 26ft. wide and 20ft. high, and special attention has been given to the stage, which is 57ft. by 32ft. 6in. The flies are exceptionally wide, and there is a space of 32ft. from rail to rail. Above these is the grid, extending from back to front of the stage, at a height of 40ft., thus allowing the scenery to be raised without rolling. The interior of the auditorium will be elaborately upholstered, the dominant colours being red and cream. Electric light will be installed all over the building, with emergency gas footlights. The building will be connected with the National Telephone Company's system, and a private service will provide inter-communication between each part of the theatre. There are eight exits, and the dressing-room accommodation is very ample. The holding capacity, with prices ranging from 6d. to 3s., is about £80. A full dramatic and excise licence has been obtained, and there will be two bars; the dress-circle bar being in connection with a wide corridor lounge. A thorough system of ventilation and heating will be provided, and every possible care taken to ensure the safety of the audience in case of panic. The contractor for the work is Mr A. Faulks, of Loughborough and Reading. Mr F. Gadsby is carrying out the electric lighting; Mr G. H. Cox, of Leicester, the decorative plaster work; the heating arrangements are by Messrs Messenger and Co., Ltd., of Loughborough; and the upholstering and seating by Messrs W. Armstrong and Son. The architect is Mr Albert E. King, of Loughborough and Leicester. The proprietors have for some years been lessees of the Town Hall, Loughborough.



THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.

PROPRIETORS, MESSRS. W. PAYNE SEDDON AND GEORGE ROBERTSON. ARCHITECT, MR. ALBERT E. KING.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Ernest A. Smith.—Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's company are appearing this week in the drama *A Marriage of Convenience*. Miss A. Harrison Tate appears to advantage in her rôle of Stella Burgon.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—Some capital turns are provided this week. The bill includes Stirling and Love, in their pleasing and refined musical act; Jean Seul; Mdlle. Lumiere's electrical fairy grotto; the Rushforths, illustrated song artistes; Three Bolanos, comedy artistes; King Leo, "vento" sketch; Four Rosaires, acrobats, &c. On Wednesday evening the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr and Mrs E. E. Tuttle), together with members of the Lowestoft Corporation, attended the performance. The stage duties are effectively carried out by Mr Stanley Steeds.

LIMERICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Robert Fogerty.—The Ben Greet company is here with *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr G. E. Olive sustains the part of Howard Wilson with great ability, and the rôle of Robert Curtis is capitally interpreted by Mr Cecil A. Collins. Toto has a most efficient impersonator in Mr W. Rushton Evan, and Mr E. Shirley is a clever Peter Schwartz. Mr T. Crossby makes an excellent Policeman O'Reilly, and Master Freddy Clark is a very pleasing Little Frank. Miss Maisie Richardson is a clever and pretty Jessie, and Miss Eva Moss is a delightful Mabel Wilson. Miss Beatrice Whitney acts well as Cora Williams, and as Bridget Miss Carrie Fenton is good. Pat, Molly, and Tim are impersonated by Misses Lottie Chamberlain, Cissie Clarke, and May Mannett.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—Mr Charles March this week presents the spectacular play of the Roman period *The Priest of the Temple*, of which he is the author and in which he finely plays Valerius. Miss Marie North is a sweet Praestantia, Miss Evelyn Hope is excellent as the Tiberian Polita; Mr Ronald Bayne works hard as Decus Fronto; Mr Henry Moxon rises to great heights in his assumption of the rôle of the fiery chief, Appius Herdonius; and Mr Stanley Mav is effective as Hermanus.

PALACE. — Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur.—A very attractive bill is meeting with the due reward of excellent patronage. The four Sisters Merkel present a unique acrobatic performance characterised by remarkable finish and aplomb. Will Musgrave pays a welcome return visit; Baker Belphor sings "Bluebell" to storms of applause; Little Dando repeats his previous success; and the Brothers Ethairien with their mechanical horse cause boundless amusement. Daisy Davidson, the New Zealand soprano, sings three songs with much charm, and is especially successful with "Whisper and I shall hear." J. A. Wilson presents a nigger turn of the good old-fashioned kind, and the evening is concluded with Pallister's films, including the latest cinématograph marvel "A Drama in the Air."

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—Messrs J. K. Murray and J. M. Dawson's company is here this week, and has played with success *Driven From Home*. Miss Lydia Donovan as Laura Raybrook proves herself to be a sympathetic and clever actress. Mr J. K. Murray is good as Anthony Raybrook, Mr J. Dawson as Walter Hatherleigh, Mr Cyril Harrison as Geoffrey Waring, Miss Alice Metcalf as Barbara Ashdown, and Miss May M'Kenzie as Margaret Bailey are all capable.

LONG EATON.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—The return visit of Mr Henry Johnston's *Bank of England* company has pleased the patrons of this now popular theatre. Mr Hubert S Chambers has a big share in the play as Sherlock Holmes; Stephen Hartley is ably played by Mr Juan De Alberti; Mr Charles Ninian is an ideal Isaacs, a money-lender; Mr Frank A. Hilliard is Eric Dane; Miss Hilda Clyde gives a good representation of Sylvia; and Miss Marie Loreth is sprightly as the American widow.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. S. Howard.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company with *A Traitor Prince* is here this week. Mr Henry Lonsdale presents the chief character with marked success; Mr Carter Livesey as Billy Bright keeps the house merry; Miss Lilian Rignold ably assisting. As Frank Derrick Mr Alex. Temple gives a hearty rendering; Mr Austin Mortimer makes a good dude; the choleric Colonel Vane is played with the requisite force by Mr Austen H. Longford; Miss Beatrice Western does well as Vashti; and Miss Lilian Roseberry cleverly depicts the character of Lola Vane.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—*One Woman's Wickedness* is having a capital representation at the hands of Mr Chas. H. Phelps and company. Mr L. Brien acts the part of Phillip Beaufort in a pleasant, breezy manner; Mr H. Humphreys well accentuates the character of Paul Royal; Mr C. H. Phelps gives a powerful impersonation of Jem Craggs; Mr A. Ferris as Lord Fitzdoodle shows ability; Mr H. Ward as Limpy Larry is most successful and is well supported by Miss Ethel Ashbury, who shines as Jenny Jiggles; Miss Louie Davis as Lillian Craggs capably realises her part; Miss Florence Lloyd as Janet Raymond is capital; and Mr C. Horget as John Fossett does well.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessees, Messrs Bendon and Larder.—At the top of the bill here we have V. J. De Henau, the armless wonder, who, with his feet, paints landscapes and is a clever instrumentalist and crack shot. Another good turn is Mdlle. Bena Adalina with her wonderful troupe of trained cockatoos; Great Gillin, ventriloquist, is amusing; Edie Endon, coon vocalist, is a remarkably clever dancer; Alec Thomas, Negro comedian, is interesting; Arthur Stratton, character comedian, is very funny; Chris Masters, character vocalist, is a good turn; and Eunice Titiens is a charming balladist. The Edison Bioscope completes an enjoyable programme.

MAIDENHEAD.

PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr George Gude.—Schack Seebold, with his many musical accomplishments, is a great attraction here, as is also Edwin Fay, female impersonator. Blanche Cunningham sings and dances well; Charles Penn is well received in a similar line; and the Sheppards, legmania-acrobatic dancers, do a clever turn. Fred Riley uses a fine voice in descriptive songs; Tom E. Carr sings acceptably; and Evered and Vaughan are applauded for their sketch, *Romance and Reality*. Praise is due to little Nora Doone for her dancing.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—The second visit to Manchester of Mr Tree's company in *The Darling of the Gods* proved an attraction here on Monday. The strangeness and quaintness of this old-time tragedy of Japan forms not only a novelty to audiences used to European drama, but the story is one which can be followed with the deepest interest. Miss Frances Dillon is impressive as Yo-San, Mr Douglas Gerrard arouses sympathy as Kara, and Mr Robert Pateman is formidable and sinister as Zakkuri. These are the prominent parts, but those played by Mr Ivan F. Simpson (Saigon) and Miss Rhoda Ray (Asani) are worthy of mention at the head of a long and capable subsidiary cast. The scenery and dresses are highly effective, and the representation as a whole is nothing less than powerful.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—A capital company, under the direction of Mr George Dance, occupy the stage here this week in that popular musical comedy *The Girl from Kay's*. The possibilities of the humorous rôle of Hoggenheimer are exploited to the utmost by H. C. Barry; and Miss Simeta Marsden, a favourite with Manchester playgoers, is quite at her best as Winnie Harborough, "the girl from Kay's." Mr Charles Hanbury as Harry Gordon and Miss Alice Russon as Nora Chalmers also do well in their parts. Miss Maisie North dances well as Ellen, the maid, while Mr Fred Rolph as Joseph and Mr Leslie Roy Cathie as the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle contribute to the amusement. The lyrics by Adrian Ross and others, and the music of Ivan Caryll are bright and pleasing throughout. The production is strengthened by a full chorus and an augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr Victor Champion.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs Wilson Barrett and G. R. Sims's play *The Woman Ladder*, presented by a company under the direction of Miss Mary Austen and Mr E. Vivian Edmonds, is the attraction here this week. Mr Harry Cullenford and Miss Mary Austin have the heroic parts in hand, and Mr Vivian Edmonds makes a powerful villain. The action is relieved by considerable humour, the bulk of which is contributed by Miss Nellie Graham, Miss Frances J. Foley, and Mr John Owen. A good word should be added for Miss Ethel Patrick as the Peckabys' daughter. The play is very well staged, and was well received by a good house.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn. — A capital performance of *Kitty Grey* was given here on Monday by a company under the control of Mr C. St. John Denton. This piece has the advantage of possessing somewhat more solid interest than the majority of musical comedies, and it lacks nothing in the way of appropriate lyrics, music, and dancing. Miss Hilda Guiver is seen to considerable advantage in the title-rôle, and she is admirably supported by Mr Leslie Harris, Mr Innes-Smith, Mr Robert Whyte, jun., Miss Elly Helene, Miss Emily Stevens, and Miss Constance Hamilton, all in prominent parts. Mr Albert Vernon conducts the orchestra and chorus.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr W. P. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Quality is again the keynote of the entertainment provided here this week. Prominent turns are given by the Marvellous Winons, whose shooting business is much applauded; the Henriques, in a comic acrobatic mélange; Mr E. Hughes, an effective comedian; the Babusians, acrobats; Harry Weldon, a smart entertainer; and Agnes Krembser, lady juggler. Other good turns are those of Smith and Johnson, coloured couple; Three Sisters Kinner, vocalists and dancers; Flo Deighton, soprano vocalist; and George Rapley, comedian.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A drama of more than average merit, *A Woman's Pluck*, by James Willard, is presented here this week by a company under the direction of Messrs Dottridge and Longden. Strong parts are in the hands of Mr James Willard and Miss East-Robertson, the latter being especially successful in her boxing scenes. Mr Edward Ashby is satisfactory as the heroic Winston Dale; and Mr Harry Emerson and Miss Agnese D'Aragon supply much acceptable humour. The efforts of the entire cast, indeed, combined with elaborate and effective scenery, make up a really capital show.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—The success of *Peggy Machree*, a new Irish musical play, was beyond doubt here on Monday, the audience repeatedly signifying its approval of the many choice gems of song which it contains. The piece is in the hands of a company under Mr Charles E. Hamilton, the principals being Miss Marie Dainton, a very charming actress, and Mr Denis O'Sullivan, who is the possessor of a fine bass voice. The play was fully noticed in last week's issue.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Will Onda and capable company head the bill here this week, and cause much merriment with the well-known absurdity *A Quiet Night*. Charles Chard, comedian, is successful in songs and some quaint dancing; and very entertaining is David Poole, a really smart ventriloquist. Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire collier, has an excellent voice, and renders his songs in good style; Charles Sherra, equilibrist, performs some clever feats on the "white columns;" and other interesting items are the Brewster Troupe of vocalists, acrobats, and dancers; Madame De Rose, lady baritone vocalist; Rivington and Gordyn, in a short, amusing duologue; J. H. Hawtrey, actor vocalist; Annie Casey, comedienne; and a series of up-to-date animated pictures. An effective new act-drop, depicting an Eastern scene, has been painted for the proprietor of this popular hall by Mr Joseph G. Symes, of the Scenic Artists' Association, and was shown for the first time on the 17th inst. It is an ambitious piece of work, and reflects great credit on the artist.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broad-

head.—Boswell's circus, with its educated ponies, donkeys, and dogs, after a successful week at the Hippodrome, are here this week. The Bros. Terras with their acrobatic novelties are also good; whilst the comedy bar acts of the Rozalis are extremely smart and amusing. Tom Bassett caricatures Shakespearian characters very cleverly; Clark's Nippers punch the ball, and give a laughable display of burlesque boxing; the Sisters Volbeque are pleasing comedy duettists; Meir and Mora, American specialty artistes, sing acceptably and play on a novel instrument; and Harry Taft arouses interest and amusement by his whistling and his patter. Other enjoyable items are Lily Jackson, male impersonator; Mark Lane, comedian; and the animated pictures.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—The star turns here this week are Alf Gibson, whose songs and style are exceedingly popular, and Austin Rudd, whose eccentricities are much enjoyed. Bessie Travis is a smart young lady ventriloquist; Bessie Featherstone, comedienne, looks and sings well; the Haldyne Duo are seen in an amusing sketch; Leona and Maude are clever aerial gymnasts; Mabel Osborne is a pleasing comedienne; and H. S Prosper is an amusing comedian. An unnamed deputy took the place of Ray Maskell on Monday.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Collins.—An extraordinary attraction is here this week in Albert Chevalier, who is delighting large audiences with his clever and refined sketches of coster character. Radford and Valentine give a most amusing juggling act, and another excellent turn is that of Binns and Binns in their musical burlesque speciality. A fine gymnastic performance is given by Alcide Capitaine; Marie Collins, comedienne, sings a couple of effective songs; Tina Clementa's trained horse and troupe of performing dogs are a pleasing item; and Lee and Bentley are seen to great advantage in a clever comedy sketch. Other good turns are Walter Stanley, comedian; Harry Drew, the Welsh basso; and Harry Coates, the original singing navvy.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—Those delightful society entertainers, Bella and Bijou, head the bill here this week, this performance being, as usual, much appreciated. Another good turn is that of the Akimotos Troupe of Japanese jugglers and balancers. The Dixon Bros. as Algie and Reggie are highly amusing comedians and eccentric musicians; and clever turns are supplied by Alfonso Sylvano, equilibrist, and the Silvester Brothers, head and hand balancers. Other good turns are Charles Whalen, a capital eccentric dancer; Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, refined entertainer; and the pleasing dancing of Cissie Reece, comedienne, and of Mattie Crawford, serio comic vocalist. A series of animated pictures complete.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Chung Ling Soo, the well-known Chinese conjuror, continues the attraction here, and nightly mystifies the audience with his remarkable tricks. Remaining also from last week is Tom Edwards, a really good ventriloquist, and the Lannons, duettists and dancers. The new comers include the Ernestine Trio, introducing that capital comedian, Tom Foy, in his inimitable impersonation of the "Yorkshire Lad in London." Harry Freeman, the popular comedian, makes a hit with his songs, "That's him!" and 'Dodging along;" Les Voces are exceptionally good operatic vocalists; the Five Fossappear in an amusing speciality *The Excursion Depot;* Hettie Leo, comedienne, has a pleasing style; and the Anartos are delightful musical sketch artistes. Other enjoyable items are the Palace pictures, introducing the latest and most fantastic series ever conceived, "Whirling the Worlds;" Tom Parker, comedian; and a well-rendered overture, "Siege of Rochelle."

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—*The New Mephisto*, presented by Mr W. H. Kirby's No. 1 company, is paying a first visit here this week. Mr Kirby fills the rôles of Mr Mephistopheles, Mr Stubbs, Silas Wagg, Jeames, Count Vesuvius, and William in first-class style; Mr W. H. Vernon is decidedly funny as Dick Pilgrim; and Miss Marion Armitage is quaint and amusing as Becky Pilgrim. Capt. Meredith has a capital exponent in Mr H. Carr; Lord Hummingtop is well represented by Mr Herbert St. John, and Mr Arthur Randall is an able Major Bantam. Miss Lily Gullick is bright and lively as Dolly, and the three widows have creditable representatives in Misses Dorothy Cecil, Leah Howard, and Marion Keeley. The Italian Glee Singers render some effective part songs.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Meltor.—Mr B. Kennedy's variety company occupies the boards here this week. A prominent feature is a number of up-to-date cinematograph films, the lantern being capably manipulated by Mr W. H. Greenwood. Smart turns are given by Clown Ohmy and dog, Snowdon, a graceful dancer and coon singer; Corlettie, instrumentalist; Cecil Terre, a quaint comedian; Le Brun and Irene, distinctly clever jugglers; Loder Lyons, ventriloquist; Will Ivor, high stilt performer; Mons. Edgar, a clever trapeze artist; Jessie Harper, the singing mill girl; and the Three Funniosities in an amusing sketch.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—*The Worst Woman in London*, as presented by Mr Walter Melville's company, draws interested audiences to the popular parts of the house. Miss Constance Medwyn gives a powerful impersonation of the title-rôle; Mr Paul Lewers acts well as her accomplice; Mr Bernard Medwyn portrays the character of Philip Armstrong well; and fun is provided by Mr Edward Collins, Mr Geo. Asquin, Miss Lillian Ross, and Miss Helena Rigby.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee and Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—Lovers of high-class plays are this week given an opportunity of seeing *Lucky Durham*, the late Wilson Barrett's last production Mr Wm. Greet's company, which is composed entirely of those who played with the late actor-author, present the piece in a manner which commands high commendation. Mr Wm. F. Grant is responsible for the rôle of John Durham, and he is a pronounced success in the character. As Lord Mountfallen Mr Henry De Solla is deserving of much praise; Mr Paul Belmore is a capital Hon. Reginald Steighton; and the Richard Vallerton of Mr Daniel M'Carthy is distinctly good. Helen Vallerton is very ably portrayed by Miss Phyllis Relph; Mrs Durham is touchingly played by Miss Nellie Bonsor; as the Hon. Margaret Steighton Miss Jessie Winter is very pleasing; and Lady Mountfallen is well played by Miss Mary Relph. The play is admirably staged.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—Capital houses this week greet Captain Woodward and his admirably trained seals and sea lions; Donaldson Brothers and Ardel, in the pantomime sketch, *A Zoological Comedy*, as funny as ever; Athas and Collins, highly valued favourites on Teesside; Burg, Haud, and Wise, comedians; Horace White, in a refined ventriloquial turn; Miss Ivy Dawn, who sings classic songs with fine taste; Miss Annie Laurie, a pretty dancer; Harry Leader, comedian; and the Bio pictures.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—Miss Billie Barlow, comedienne, is the principal turn here. She sings some capital songs, which are favourably received. Mdlle. Martha, gymnast, gives an interesting display on the trapeze; and Brady and Johnson present a sketch *Turning the Tables*, which produces roars of laughter. Fleming, the one-legged acrobat, goes through several difficult feats; Miss Nora Emerald's songs are popularly received; W. F. Wilson, tenor, is heard to advantage; Miss Florrie Bray, comedienne, is good; and W. Ellerslie, entertainer, and the Bio pictures complete the programme.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—This week we have Mr Milton Bode's company in *Gentleman Joe* here. In the title-part Mr Kennedy Allan is very clever. Mr Robert Vincent as Lord Donnybrook is amusing. Mr W. H. Moore is smart as Mr Ralli Carr, and as Mr Jacqueson Mr G. Wyley pleases the audience greatly. Mr Sydney Benson as Dawson, Mr Jack Harper as James, and Mr J. Hoopes as Pilkington Jones all do well. The Emma of Miss Maud Marriott is much admired, and her singing and dancing evoke well-merited applause. The Ellingale Trio of dancers earn encores, and the Margate Minstrels are very clever.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C Sutcliffe.—One of the more important engagements of the season is being fulfilled here this week by Mr Forbes Robertson, Miss Gertrude Elliott, and company. Both the plays they have elected to stage, namely *Mice and Men* and *The Light that Failed*, have previously been seen in Newcastle, but an additional lustre is given to their performance on this occasion by the appearance of the gifted actor and actress in the leading rôles. In *Mice and Men*, which was presented on Monday, we have an apt and cleverly worked out illustration of the ever-recurring truism on which the play is based. A fine feeling pervades Mr Forbes Robertson's dignified and effective impersonation of the elderly scholar Mark Embury, and his performance afforded unfeigned enjoyment to his many admirers. Equally noteworthy is Miss Gertrude Elliott's embodiment of Peggy, a character she invests with every charming and graceful attribute. Mr Frank Gilmore endows with all the requisite manly, lover-like qualities the part of Captain Lovell. Roger Goodlake has a capital representative in Mr George Sumner. Miss Auriol Lee depicts with much cleverness the part of Joanna Goodlake. *The Light that Failed* was played on Friday.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—*A Country Girl*, probably one of the most literally endowed with tuneful melodies of all the musical comedies, is being attractively presented here by Mr George Dance's company. Miss Daisy Le Hay cleverly assumes the broad countrified manner of Nan, and also sings in good style. Vocalism of a high order is always forthcoming from Miss Maud Boyd, who again distinguishes herself as Marjory Joy. Miss Ethel Negretti does well as the Princess, the favourite number, "Under the Deodar," being tastefully rendered. Miss Maud Prenton meets with full approval for her bright and lively performance as Madame Sophie. The mercurial Barry is acted with an irrepressible buoyancy and humour by Mr Chas. R. Walenn. An enjoyable impersonation is given by Mr St. John Hamund as the Eastern potentate, the Rajah of Bhong. Geoffrey Challoner has a spirited representative in Mr Robert Michaelis. Mr Joe Nightingale as Sir Joseph Verity, Mr J. Jack Daly as Douglas Verity, and Mr P. L. Corray as Lord Anchester also appear to advantage.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—That famous Drury-lane drama *The World* is being successfully performed here by a company under the direction of Mr John F. Asche. Praise must be bestowed on the manner in which the piece is staged, the various scenic effects being capitally presented. Mr Stuart Lomath is commendably forceful and spirited as Sir Clement Huntingford, his brother Harry having an excellent exponent in Mr Francis Hawley. Mr Bernard J. Lieli as the Jew, Moss Jewell, acts the part cleverly and with humour. Martin Bashford has a vigorous representative in Mr Jackson Hayes. Miss Georgette Thierry supplies some good acting as Mabel Huntingford, and Mary Blythe has a pleasing exponent in Miss Beatrice Fay.

ELSWICK THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Chas. M. Daly.—Here we have Miss Winifred Preece and company, who are engaged in making known to frequenters of this place of entertainment some of the reasons *Why Woman Sins*, as exemplified in the drama of that name.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—T. E. Dunville, with his laughable eccentricities in the way of gesture and facial expression is keeping audiences here highly amused, and the popular comedian is scoring his usual success. A very entertaining and lively turn is given by Doody and Wright, the male partner especially distinguishing himself as a dancer. Vasco, the mad musician, is a clever performer on all manner of musical instruments, and of course his eccentric behaviour is good for mirth. Chas. Baron presents his novel and interesting animal show with success; and Arthur Melrose, the word-whistling comedian, submits an acceptable exposition of his talents. Pia Carrozi is a brilliant executant on the harp, pleasing particularly in her rendering of the intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana*. Gallagher and Hild meet with approval in their comedy business, and an admirable aerial act is contributed by Alexander and Bertie. Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte remain for another week, and there are also acceptably appearing G. W. Foster, eccentric comedian; the Two Romers, operatic soloists; and Johnny Gilmore, the quaint comedian.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—The Francois Troupe is the leading turn here, and their clever exhibitions prove them to be acrobats of much excellence. Hoop manipulating is the speciality of Stylo, who is very skilful. Banjoists of merit in the Clarkes are well applauded, and there are also successfully appearing Bros. Hampson, patter comedians and dancers; Flo Wood, comedienne; Daisy Cody, dancer; Florence Hilton, the pocket of Vesta Tilley; and Ella Dean, a charming vocalist.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company is appearing here in *The New East Lynne*. The rôle of Lady Isabel is safely entrusted to Miss Agnes Imlay, who makes full use of her many opportunities. Some fine acting is supplied by Mr Wm. Heilbronn as Archibald Carlyle; and Mr Walter T. Clifford as Francis Levison portrays the character with good effect. Miss Helen Stewart appears with credit as Barbara Hare. An enjoyable performance is given by Mr W. Faulkner Cox as Murty O'Flynn. Miss B. French Stewart is seen to advantage as Cornelia Carlyle.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Will H. Boardman.—Houdini, the jail-breaker and handcuff expert, is reappearing in this city, and his clever entertainment has attracted large audiences. He introduces several new tricks which prove a source of wonderment to his auditors. Edward and Nettie Masse, comedy ugglers, introduce a sketch entitled *Frolics in a Dining Room*. The male performer possesses a fund of humour, and his juggling act is both original and refined. The Phillipi Brothers are prominent in an amusing act entitled *Shunting*. In this they introduce some novel mechanical effects and an acrobatic display of more than ordinary ability. The Patty Brothers, acrobats and head walkers, have been seen here before, but their contributions to the programme still prove very popular. George D'Albert is a vocalist who both sings and acts his songs in finished style. He receives hearty recalls. Chas. B. Whittle, comedian, provides several pleasing songs; and Stanley and Vandyke appear in a sketch in which much humour of a robust nature is introduced. Warden, Reed and Glenny also appear in a production entitled *Married or Photographed*, and the Legay Quartette of Dancers are included in the company. A series of Animated Pictures are also exhibited at each performance.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—Mr Brandon Thomas's company is here this week with his well-known farcical comedy, *Charley's Aunt*. The cast is entirely new, with the exception of Mr Stanley Cooke, who is still in the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley, and a better exponent of the ci-devant Charley's aunt could not be wished for. Mr Walter Beaumont is an amusing Stephen Spettigue, Mr Lumsden Hare is capital in the part of Col Sir Francis Chesney, Bart.; Mr C. B. Keaton as Jack Chesney and Mr Richard B. Mason as Charley Wykeham are excellent; Miss Lena MacNaughton is a dignified representative of Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez; Miss Iris Banfield as Kitty Verdun and Miss Geraldine Greville as Amy Spettigue are charming; Miss Dorrie Roberts is sweetly sympathetic as Ela Delahay, and Mr Sydney Compton gives a finished rendering of the part of Brassett, the college scout.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—The programme is a very attractive one this week. The card manipulation of Carlton is clever, and, aided by comic patter, is vastly amusing; Roddin is a smart eccentric comedian and cyclist; Francis is an apt juggler with cannon balls, &c.; Fred Cary is a true comedian; the Donator, the well-known one-legged acrobats, give their excellent turn with great success; E. W. Selman gives a couple of comic songs in good style; Mdlle. Magna introduces a series of classical poses which are highly appreciated; and the Four Herberts, jolly Californian farmers, get a good reception for their clever comedy act, *On the Farm*.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—The boards here this week are occupied by Go-Won-Go-Mohawk and her American company with *Wep-ton-no-Mah*, which has proved attractive. In the title-rôle Go-Won-Go-Mohawk gives an interesting performance; Mr Richard Thorne as Spanish Joe is very acceptable; Colonel Stockton is played by Mr C. W. Charles with satisfactory results; Mr George Courtney presents a good impersonation of Captain Franklin; and Mr Theo Alker is a capital Chief Gar-Ne-Gua. Miss Minnie Goepel is clever as Nellie Stockton; Miss Jessie Hart makes the most of Matilda Sniffles; and the remaining parts are in good hands.

BORO' VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson.—The principal attraction here is the Boris Fridkin Troupe, operatic singers and acrobatic dancers, who are loudly applauded. Luba De Sarema, with performing bull, ponies, and dogs, gives a wonderfully smart show, and the Moxons, speciality artists, are clever. Lauri Wylie, with his mimicking mannikins, have made a hit. Miss Lydia Dudley, comedienne; Miss Bertha Duckett, child vocalist; Miss Evelyn Taylor, male impersonator; and Mr George Edney, comedian, also appear.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—The Four Onatas, Algerian jugglers, top the bill here, and are held in high favour. Messrs Denby and Dent are amusing comedians, and Mr George Daunton, vocal comedian, is popular. Omega, on the silver wire, is clever, and Mr Fred Durran, comedian and mimic; Messrs Stanert and Yondi, in their musical comedy act; Messrs Alvens and Cleo, gymnasts; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope contribute with success to a good bill-of-fare.

NOTTINGHAM

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—The visit of Mr James Welch with *The New Clown* is responsible for good business here. As Lord Cyril he finds innumerable opportunities for his resourceful humour, and keeps his audience in a continual state of uproarious merriment. Miss Audrey Ford plays Rosie Platt with delightful sauciness and natural vivacity; Mr Cyril Harcourt looks to the life the easy-going good-natured Captain Trent; and Mr Henry Belding effectively interprets the strong man Billy. Mr G. H. Snazelle is capital as the circus proprietor, and Mr Harry J. Crane adds to the fun by his assumption of the real clown, Baker. Misses Alexandra Carlisle and Estelle Winwood as Winnie and Maud Chesterton are worthy of praise for their bright performances; and excellent assistance is also given by Messrs Leopold Profeit, C. C. Headley and Lloyd Earle, *The Man in the Street* and *The Lady Burglar* are the curtain-raisers.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—The company touring under the direction of Mr C. M. Polini and Mr Austin Melford in the ever-popular drama *The Silver King* occupies this theatre this week. Nothing but praise can be accorded to Mr Lauderdale Maitland for his finished and powerful rendering of the part of Wilfred Denver, and he is most ably assisted by Miss Lilian Bethell as Nellie Denver, whose acting is perfect. Mr Edward J. George makes a very good Daniel Jakes, and the work of Mr. W. V. Garrod as Captain Skinner is easy and convincing. Miss Lorna Treherne is successful as Olive Skinner, and Miss Violet St. Clair and Master Jack Evan are a charming pair of children as Cissy and Ned. Mr Arthur Wright as Coombe and Mr Alfred Northway as Cripps are both admirably suited to their parts, and Mr Eric Store as Mr Parkyn has an admirable conception of a comedy parish clerk.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A W. Bull.—*When Darkness Falls* is another capitally written play by Mr Wm. Bourne, and his company is giving an interesting rendering here this week. Mr Charles Boult essays Captain Harold Montrevor with conspicuous success. Mr Frank Liston presents an acceptable portraiture of the Rev. Arthur Graham; Mr Ellis J. Preston makes a thoroughly convincing villain as James Woodruffe; and Mr Tom Roydon is adequate as Berlin. Miss Maud Buchanan plays Helen Montrevor with tenderness and expression; and Miss Amy Vennimore fills the rôle of the vengeful Mrs Woodruffe with commendable emphasis. The lighter vein is supplied by Mr Will Clement (Mike) and Miss Emmeline Glover (Jenny), whose drolleries cause plenty of laughter.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—The quaint, jerky method of R. G. Knowles never fails to excite merriment, and his comical sayings and entertaining "patter" keep the house in a roar of laughter. Verno and Voyce aptly describe themselves as singing comedians, and their "turn" is received with genuine pleasure. The Levinos present the sketch *The Rival Arts*, which enables them to display their many accomplishments as vocalists, harpists, and cartoonists. Another sketch, *Naughty Nin*, by the Florador Quartet, is given with amusingly volatile suggestion. The mercurial drollery of Rezene and Robini is rewarded with peals of responsive hilarity. The Young American Quintet sing and dance with unflagging animation, and Marie Reeve submits an attractive item as a step-dancer. Lizzie Daniels renders a song spiritedly, and the Ashers win favour by their selection. A droll song, "His day's work was done," is given with inimitable gusto by Geo. Brooks.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr Harry Foxwell and his powerful company occupy the boards this week in *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr Howell Travis is most successful as Tom Cooper, Mr Newton Pearce creates amusement as Jim Farren, Mr Harry Foxwell is excellent as Abe Nathans, and Mr Chas. Vivian ably represents George Benson, as does Mr Arthur A. Tomlin as Arkwright, and Mr J. Robert as Simon Abler. Miss Sheila Walsh excites much sympathy as Annie Standish, and is much appreciated later as Nellie Standish. Miss Nellie Gray appears as Mrs Higgins, and Miss Dorothy Neville is well received as Biddy Roonan.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt.—Among the items this week Barnard's famous marionettes are to the fore, and have a good reception. The Attilla Brothers exhibit some clever feats of strength, and challenge any competitor to equal them. The Albano Troupe are clever musicians and an excellent turn. Capt. Devereux introduces his highly trained dogs, who go through some remarkably clever tricks, concluding with a sketch, *The Streets of London*. F. T. Nelson's Newsboys are well received, and deserve the applause given. Amy Anderson and company create much laughter. Carr and Rose render a pleasing vocal comedy entitled *Their First Quarrel*. Andy Fagan is successful as a comedian and dancer, whilst Charles Woodward, character comedian and actor-vocalist, has had an excellent reception.

BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S MENAGERIE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Bostock; Manager, Mr Frank Bostock.—This menagerie concluded its stay in Norwich on Monday evening, having been excellently well patronised. Capt. Cardona gave some remarkable and exciting performances in the lions' den, and equal interest was taken in Capt. Forster. Capt. Cardona's thirty years' connection with the show as a lion-trainer is a feat in itself.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Miss Ellen Terry's répertoire company is here this week. *Much Ado About Nothing* was selected for Monday. Miss Ellen Terry portrayed the part of Beatrice with her accustomed ability and vivacity, and greatly delighted a large and appreciative audience. Mr John Willes as Dogberry was a decided success, as was Mr Tom Poulton as Verges. Mr Matheson Lang's Benedick was all that could be desired; Miss Hutin Britton as Hero was excellent; Mr E. H. Williams as Claudio was clever; Mr George Fitzgerald as Leonato acted with dignity. The rendering of Don Pedro by Mr Charles Thursby and Mr T. A. Shannon's presentment of Don John were very satisfactory. Mr Penderel Price's treatment of the song "Sigh no more, ladies," was capital. The scenery and mounting were excellent.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—Morritt presents here a remarkable illusionary entertainment which is heartily appreciated; Grell and Gray cause great amusement by their sketch, *Bertie's First Lesson in Tennis;* Elias B. Seenor's Imperial Russian Troupe of singers and dancers are greatly appreciated; Hill and Whittaker are very successful in a musical entertainment; the Bros. Redmond do some smart acrobatic work; R. W. Bently, comedian; Marion Scott, Jessie Albani, comediennes; and Dora Lyric, refined comedienne, ably contributed to the programme.

GAIETY.—Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—Gintaro, Japanese juggler, gives an excellent and novel performance; Harris L. Bell and Lily Pearl and company are successful in their sketch *A Bit of String;* Parr does some smart modelling and caricature sketching; G. W. Hastings is notable for his singing; T. W. Johnson is admired for his comic vocalism and clever sand dancing; W. A. Kay submits some adroit miniature figure manipulation; Miss Kitty Gower, danseuse, gives a clever presentation of national characters; and Raymond's Bioscope is enjoyed.

OSWESTRY.

VICTORIA ROOMS.—Manager, Mr Wallace Ollerhead.—Mr Charles Macdona's No. 1 company visited the town on the 17th inst., and presented in these rooms the well-known musical comedy *A Country Girl* to a crowded and appreciative audience. Mr Herbert Standing, jun., as Geoffrey Challoner acted and sang well; Mr W. O. Billington was excellent as Sir Joseph Verity; Mr Bernard Vaughan played the Rajah of Bhong with refreshing ease; Mr M. Raven made an aristocratic Lord Alchester; Mr A. Carr was suitably placed as Lord Grasmere; the rôle of Barry was in safe hands, Mr Richard Telford's acting eliciting roars of laughter. He was ably supported by Miss Sadie Neville as Madame Sophie. Miss Lucie Nevill elicited warm approval in the part of the Princess; Miss Florence Hallam as Marjory Joy gave a finished impersonation; while the part of Nan, played by Miss Florence Burdett, could not have been in safer hands.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—This week Mr George Dance's company is here with *The School Girl*. Miss Ethel Beech makes a charming Lilian Leigh and sings delightfully; Miss Gracie Sinclaire is quite successful in her fascinating performance of Cicely Marchmont; Miss Grace Wixon makes an imposing and stately Lady Marchmont; and Miss Nell Hope a handsome model. Mr Leslie Holland is immensely funny as Sir Ormesby St Leger and dances well; the same can be said of Mr Alfred Leslie's Tuby Bedford and Mr Charles Adeson's General Marchmont, a trio of comedians that will take a deal of beating. Mr Lister Morrah sings in pleasing fashion as Edgar Verney, and Mr Cameron Carr gives a capital sketch of Peter Overend, of the Stock Exchange.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Miss Gladys Silvester and Mr Fletcher Sansome's company is continuing another week's engagement here with the musical comedy *Cissy*. Mr H. C. Lovell makes a convincing lover as Victor Carleton; the villain, Gilbert Temple, is in good hands with Mr Murray Yorke; Mr Dan Clifford infuses a large amount of life and humour into the play as Titus Thomas, B.A.; and Mr Fletcher Sansome portrays Dossy Bowers in effective style. Miss N. V. Warden, as usual, is quite a favourite as Mary Mopps; Miss A. Rochefort is adequate as Olive Temple; and the Misses Western and Swires as Gertie Easem and Flossie Sparkles dance effectively.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—For the first three nights of the week Mr Ian Maclaren and his company were in possession here with *The Prince of Rogues*. The leading characters were meritoriously embodied, notably the Geoffrey Flint of Mr Ian Maclaren, the Frank Farrell of Mr George Davis, the Winifred Harwood of Miss Elsie Roberts, and the Rita Congrieve of Miss Dorothy Mackenzie. Mr Johnny Fisher was highly amusing as Josh Buggins. Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in *A Country Mouse* was announced for the remaining nights of the week.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—Of undoubted ability is the company engaged here this week. The artistes include George Bernard, actor-vocalist; Bishop and Vale, eccentric comedians and dancers; James Hennessey, descriptive vocalist; Harry Glynn and his company of comedians in a round of funny sketches; and Gilbert's troupe of dogs and cats. The Empire Cinématograph is a decided attraction.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company (by arrangement with Mr Frank Curzon) was here on Monday in the comedy *A Country Mouse*. Mr Charles Hewitt, who assumed the rôle of the Hon. Archibald Vyse, was thoroughly amusing; Mr Charles Harley was an excellent exponent of the dignified John Bowlby, M.P.; Mr Arnold Lucy drew an ideal impersonation of the fastidious Duke of St. Kitts; Mr Wilson Lumley's merits were readily perceived in the part of Lord Robert Wykeham; no better impersonation of a faithful butler could be desired than Mr John E. Watson's Jephcot; Mr Thomas Hope's footman was a capable piece of acting; Miss Edith Walker played powerfully as Lady Sylvia Bowlby; Miss Eve Erskine was likewise successful in the part of Violet Aynsley; Miss Emily Levetter' Mrs Cropper was thoroughly amusing; and Miss Violet M Harley successfully enacted the rôle of Angela. *His Landlady* preceded.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. Darville Vernon.—Mr Charles Macdona's company is here this week with *Are You a Mason?* The Amos Bloodgood of Mr Edward Thirlby is remarkably good; Mr George De Lara is an excellent George Fisher; Mr Arthur Claremont is capitally suited as Frank Perry; Mr Stanley Bell achieves success as Morrison; and Mr David Denard gains applause by his funny impersonation of John Halton. Miss Nell Douglas is well placed as Lottie; Miss Lelia Russell makes a charming Eva; Miss Constance Groves is successful as Mrs Caroline Bloodgood; and Miss Janie Levens and Miss Pearl Keats score as Annie and Lulu.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—*Three Little Maids* is being presented here this week by Mr Charles Macdona's No. 1 company. Since its last appearance in the West the piece has been improved by the addition of several tuneful numbers. Bright and bewitching are Miss Gladys Ward, Miss Gertrude Melville, and Miss Nora Guy as the Three Maids; whilst the trio of ladies are impersonated in graceful fashion by Miss Jennie Edgar, Miss Ethel May, and Miss Ella Daincourt. Miss Laura Wright is a sprightly and amusing Gretcher, and, together with Mr Gus Oxley, the caddie, evokes roars of laughter. As Lady St. Mallory Miss Kate Forster is a success. Mr Arthur Longley's study of Lord Cheyne is very clever; Mr Haddon Cave sings and acts well as Brian Molyneaux; and Mr Alec Chentren's vocalism is pleasing and refined. Mr Charles Leverton is a dignified cleric.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Assistant-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—That evergreen favourite *San Toy* is the attraction here this week, Messrs Hart and Malone's company doing full justice to the dainty and charming piece. As the merry maiden Miss Fanny Dango is delightful in all that she sings, says, and does. Miss Maud Darling imparts plenty of dash to the rôle of the English girl, and, in conjunction with Mr E. Statham (the heathen Chinee), is seen to advantage, both providing lots of fun. A meed of praise is due to Mr Reginald Kenneth, who as Captain Bobby Preston elicits warm approval. Others worthy of commendation are Miss Louie Collier, Mr Charles Medwin, and Mr Stratton Mills. The piece is very effectively staged, and the chorus work is first-class.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros; Manager, Mr J. Field.—Miss Peggy Pryde's songs here this week are much enjoyed, the gifted artist singing clever compositions in inimitable style. A military monologue *The Boys of the Chelsea School*, by Mr George Leyton, is also a strong turn. A remarkable trapeze performance is forthcoming from the Skandias, and there are realistic impersonations from Dickens's novels by Mr Russell Hatton. A variety act of a very attractive description is submitted by Hume, Ross, and Lewis; a popular verdict is secured nightly by the illustrated songs given by the Lynches; as duettists and dancers the Weirs excel; and a clever comedian is Mr Bert Lyttor, who sings good songs well. Miss Lily Foy is to the fore as a character comedienne, and a well-balanced orchestra acquits itself with credit.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton.—A Russian drama, *The Assassin*, holds the boards here this week, Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's company appearing in it with much success. The chief rôle is essayed by Mr Hill-Mitchelson, who acts with dramatic force, Mr J. C. Carlyle as Ivanoff, the hero, is manly and convincing, and both actors earn unstinted approbation. Miss Ruth Shepherd, Miss Grace Aimers, and Miss Alice Barber undertake serious parts with ability, and Mr Arthur M'Culloch well sustains the part of a Chief of the Police. Humour of a high order is supplied by Messrs E. Swinton, F. Wilberforce, F. Yarnold, and Miss Armstrong.

WINTER GARDENS.—Proprietors, Messrs W. C. and S. Hancock.—The attractions this week comprise a display of living pictures; a comedy spectacle entitled *Crossing the Line;* amusing songs by Jake Nolan; an entertaining turn by Cissy Lomax, comedienne; Josey and his mule; and a riding act by Mr John Fossett, jun.

PONTYPRIDD.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company, in the comedy-drama *On the Stroke of Twelve*, is proving a huge success here. Mr Fred Rivers makes a manly Jack Rutledge, being ably seconded by Mr Fred Guinness as George Bainbridge. Mr H. Creagh Hunt portrays James Horton in realistic fashion; Henry Rutledge is in the able hands of Mr Henry C. Robinson; Mr Karl H. Edwards is worthy of praise as Moses Levi; Mr Fred J. Little contributes a masterly assumption of Jasper; Pat Cahill is well portrayed by Mr Will Bass; and Miss Elma C. Turner has a most attractive appearance as Marie Bergerre. Miss Nellie Moore is to be congratulated on her interpretation of Nell Bainbridge; and Miss Bertha St. Ruth wins encomiums as Doris Rutledge.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—The attraction here this week is Mr Frank E. Burdett's company in a new version of the military play entitled *The Indian Mutiny*. Miss Maud Digby is decidedly successful, and displays much ability as Ghuz-nah; Captain Manley is exceedingly well rendered by Mr H. C. Brandon; Mr W. S. Tindall scores as Major Ingleby; Terry O'Brien has a most amusing representative in Mr George Scully; Mr Ernest Keand does remarkably well as Ra Goonga, so does Mr J. S. Shedden as Abul Khan. Mr H. Ryeland-Leigh is successful as Lieutenant Manley; Miss Kate Bruce as Mrs Major Ingleby and Miss Agnes Kingston as Kate Ingleby deserve mention in their respective parts.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Miss Ada Alexandra; Managing-Director, Mr D. Taylor; General Manager, Mr E. Pryce.—This new building was opened on the 17th inst. It has accommodation for about 800 persons, and is conveniently situated. The management has spared no effort in making it as comfortable and attractive as possible. The building is lit both by electricity and gas. Some excellent turns were provided for the opening, including Pleitt, the handcuff king; the Cranks, comedy cyclists; the Three Dagmars, acrobats and tumblers; Mdlle. Rosa, the charming gymnast, &c. The musical portion of the entertainment was supplied by Miss Zette Handel's ladies' orchestra. This week the programme includes the Brothers Lloyd, in their marvellous tight-rope performance; the Three Escaladers, lightning acrobats, give an excellent turn; Ulrick, the Tranka king and barrel wonder, is decidedly clever and meets with much approval; Robert

Francis, grotesque acrobats, create some genuine fun; Rabbit and Hairpin, the two clowns, are to the fore with their comicalities; and some excellent pictures are shown each evening by the Biomyrograph.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Presented at this theatre for the first time, Mr C. P. Levilly's clever company, with the comic opera *Amorelle*, has been received by large and appreciative audiences during the week. Mr Eric Thorne makes the best use of his opportunities as Dr. Napoleon Bonaparte Crow, and keeps the house in one continual ripple of laughter. In the title-rôle Miss Stella Gastell is conspicuously successful, her vivacity eliciting hearty approval. Miss Kitty Cavendish plays with delicacy and refinement the part of Lesbia; Marina is very effectively taken by Miss Madge Avery; Mr John Doran makes a manly and capital Jules, his singing being much admired; and as François Mr Newton Ide does very well.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—*The Beautiful Avenger* has been received here this week as presented by a powerful company. The very exacting dual-part of Vashti Volta, "the beautiful avenger," and Victor Stanhope, "a scientific explorer," in the able hands of Miss Nannie Meade, was a highly meritorious performance. Miss Mabel Seudamore gave a clever impersonation of Edna Volta. Mr Algernon Syms enacted the part of Cyrus Telford, "an artist under a cloud," and did sterling work. Mr Lionel Gillett as Zadok Foxbane and Mr William Diamond as Herman Foxbane acted well a villainous father and son. Mr William Ames as Peregrine Patch and Miss Lilian Hawkins as Arabella Binks were responsible for the lighter side, and provoked much merriment.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—A capital programme is submitted here this week. W. J. Churchill, eccentric comedian, has some very popular and highly amusing songs. Harry Edson and "Doc" give a pleasing and diverting turn. Hettie Lee, comedienne and danseuse, is very taking. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, gets a flattering reception; Great Scott, the ladder king, submits a clever balancing turn; Barton and Franklin, expert instrumentalists, vocalists, and dancers, are very good; the Daintons, in an up to-date comedy act, find favour; and the bill is completed by the Great Northern Troupe of International dancing experts and the Sisters Leroy, duettists and dancers.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—Mr William Greet's No. 1 company is here this week on a return visit with *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr F. R. Woulfe gives a powerful delineation of Marcus; Mr A. Bernhardt Turner effectively impersonates Nero; Mr Charles Aldred acquits himself well as Tigellinus; and Glabrio has an excellent representative in Mr Frank Wood. Miss Alma Bolton is seen to advantage as Berenice; much praise is due to Miss May Fairclough for her presentment of Ancaria; Stephanus is cleverly portrayed by Miss Ivy Millais; and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy is an impressive and convincing Mercia.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Sawyer and Woodruff.—A grand vaudeville company is here this week. J. K. Reynolds and company cause a great sensation in the sketch entitled *Conscience;* Mr Orlando Martin creates much amusement with his comic songs; Mr T. E. Gilby is clever on the unsupported ladder; Keith and Imerson are exceedingly good acrobatic comedians; Rose Harvey is a charming vocalist; Lue Lord contributes some good songs. Harry Clifford, actor vocalist, is a good turn; Young Igo is an expert clog dancer and comedian. The Royal Bioscope shows a series of interesting up to-date pictures.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—Messrs Henry Charles Mayhew and Herrick's company is the attraction here with *The Triumph of Truth*. Mr C. W. Stanley is good as Captain Jack Eversleigh, and Mr T. Renaud Lockwood is well placed as Count Raoul D'Orville. The part of Pierre Choppard is well filled by Mr Frank Radcliffe, and Mr Johnny Clegg is amusing as Tommy Woodhead. Miss Rosabel Dodd displays talent as Blanche De Croix, and Miss Lilian Ramsdale is a lively Coralie; Miss Lily Rogers doing good work as Katie Bright.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—A return visit has this week been paid by Mr T. Morton Powell's capable company in the exciting drama *Greed of Gold*. The rôle of the hero is admirably filled by Mr Wilson Summers (Arthur Errol); the part of odious Harry Hood is skilfully impersonated by Mr C. Caldcleugh; Miss Daisy Hakling plays Dora in effective fashion; while as Tom Welstead, the dumb man, Mr B. Fox is really excellent. Mr H. Skea (Conn Creamer) and Mr W. M. Cameron (Cull Snig) infuse much humour into the show. The scenic effects are carried out in first-rate style.

REDHILL.

MARKET HALL.—Mr H. Denies Roberts's Royal Animated Pictures and Concert Party are filling a week's engagement here under the local management of Mr G. W. Bowes. The pictures are well up to date, being clear and distinct, the large variety of subjects presented pleasing everyone present. The vaudeville programme is supplied by Miss Lilian Candy, Prof. Ventl, Mr Sidney Dolf, and the Musical Scoreys, this highly talented family fairly capturing the house with their diversified turns.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—Mr C. P. Levilly's company with *Amorelle* is paying its first visit here. On Monday a crowded house accorded an enthusiastic reception to this charming comic opera. Dr Crow is in the hands of Mr Leon Simkin, whose conception of this part kept the audience in roars of laughter. Mr Arthur Elwyn made a dignified Count Cideaux; Mr George Paulton did well as Boissey; Mr Arthur Cozens acted and sang in the part of Jules with marked effect; Mr Horace Manger submitted a capital portrayal of Francois; Lupin and Alphonse were both in the safe hands of Mr J. Stephens and Mr Longford Reed, and Mr Fred Carrington was admirably placed as Dotard. Miss Adah Grey sang and acted with artistic taste as Lesbia; Miss Von Bargen was very popular with a capital portrayal of Marina; and Miss Emmsie Bowman delighted the audience by her charming and piquant embodiment of Amorelle.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—Topping the bill here is Mr A. G. Spry, comedian, whose quaint dry humour provokes irresistible laughter. Other smart turns are submitted by Hicks's Clerks, vocalists and comedians; Marie Santol, comedienne; Prof. Wallace, ventriloquist; Lord, Murray, and Lord, sketch artistes; the Three Dagmars, acrobats; the Coopers, instrumentalists; and Giacomo, mimic.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves. — The Bedouin Troupe of real Arabs (ten in number) perform some astonishing feats of balancing, tumbling, and vaulting. Connie Nicholls, comedienne; Sisters Brenton, duettists; Benson and Waite, comedians; Lily Turner, vocalist; Carl Verdi, instrumentalist; Mdlle. Haydes, with her wonderful electric mannikin performance; and the Empire Bioscope, with new animated pictures, complete a strong list.

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PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS VERA SCHLESINGER.

MISS VERA SCHLESINGER commenced her career as a violinist. It was the late Col. Mapleson who discovered she had a dramatic soprano voice of great power and quality. Having an introduction to the late Sir Augustus Harris, he suggested an operatic career. To this end she was sent to the Royal Academy of Music and studied under Signor Fiori, taking the pianoforte as her second study. Owing to the lamented death of Sir Augustus Harris, she was compelled to abandon for the time being her operatic studies, and accepted a good engagement to sing the prima donna rôles in *The Old Guard, Pepita*, and *Falka*. Engagements followed in rapid succession. She was the Fairy Queen, in Mr Milton Bode's pantomime at Bolton, afterwards appearing with great success as Alma Somerset, in *The Gaiety Girl*. Her first London engagement was at the Royalty Theatre as Miss Pope, in *A Court of Honour*. Whilst playing there she met the well-known young composer and baritone the late Mr Walter Head, whom she married at the conclusion of the run. Making their residence in the North of England, she devoted herself to concert and oratorio work, and a large portion of her time was taken up in teaching, having in Southport, Liverpool, and Manchester alone over fifty pupils. Their successful vocal recitals gained for them great popularity, the Northern press designating them the Mr and Mrs Henschel of the North. On the death of her husband she returned to London, giving up a very large teaching connection, and joined Mr Tree's company at His Majesty's Theatre to sing in *Ulysses*. At short notice she played Chloris. She remained at His Majesty's, appearing in *The Merry Wives of Windsor, Trilby, Red Lamp, The Eternal City*, &c. Receiving a tempting offer from Mr J. M. East, she accepted an engagement to play Fairy Queen in the Lyric, Hammersmith, pantomime. Miss Schlesinger is an accomplished musician, a brilliant pianist and a good linguist, and also studied German Lieder with Hugo Heirtz. Also she thoroughly understands harmony and scoring for orchestra, and has sung with great success in many Roman Catholic Churches in the North of England. Among other engagements Miss Schlesinger was specially selected to sing at the Sullivan Memorial Concerts. Her great ambition is to sing in Italian opera, in which she has a most extensive répertoire. The compass of her voice extends from the low G to D flat in alt. Miss Schlesinger is devoting her spare time to compiling a small work on the art of voice production, formulated on the fundamental basis of natural breathing and tone colour, and illustrated by photographic diagrams.

Miss Schlesinger has been engaged by Mr Montefiore as Fairy Queen in the forthcoming pantomime, *Cinderella*, to be played at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh. Miss Schlesinger, who is a tall, graceful actress, should prove a great attraction in the pantomime. "Bid me discourse," by Bishop, is the song with which the Fairy Queen will enchant the pantomime patrons.

MISS VERA SCHLESINGER.

MR. GEORGE MILLER.

MR GEORGE MILLER commenced his professional career in a stock season at the Opera House, Torquay, in Romaine Callender's version of *Drink*, entitled *D.T.*, on Easter Monday, 1882. Amongst the company were Miss Laura Villiers, the late Adelaide Newton, Charles Dodsworth, George Mudie, and John Amory (Barry Sullivan's son). During the season Amory played Richard III., his father witnessing the performance, Mr Miller appearing as the Lieutenant of the Tower. From Torquay he went for a stock season with the late Andrew Melville at the Star Theatre, Swansea. Plenty of work and experience there. The usual routine was—rehearsal 10·30, afterwards a visit to the wardrobe for anything required at night. As he played several parts in the farces, pieces, or burlesques, his wardrobe would make a nice pile in the dressing-room, and he had to keep a list of his various characters so that he should not appear as Lady So-and-so's footman dressed as a village poacher, or what not. Often after the performance one had to write out one's part for the next night from a manuscript and pass it on to somebody else, and get rough perfect in the words before going to bed. One Whit week the company played seventeen pieces, dramas, farces, and burlesque. *The Courier of Lyons, William Tell*, and *Richard III.* were three of them. On Saturday nights they invariably finished with an exciting last piece, such as *Jack Sheppard* or *Cartouche*, in which there was always a terrific broad sword combat, and Mr Miller, amongst many others, was slaughtered by "Emm," whose weapon generally was a frying-pan. From Swansea he went for a season to the late Fred Neebe, who then had the Bath, Exeter, and Devonport Theatres. Following this came a tour with *The Parvenu* and old English comedies. In 1884 he joined Miss Marriott's company, playing in *Jeannie Deans, Elizabeth*, and *Hamlet* with her. Later in the year he joined Jas. Buchanan's company, playing Jacky, in *Never Too Late to Mend*, and in *After Dark* and *Drink* for several tours. When Charles Dornton bought the rights of *Never Too Late to Mend* he engaged Mr Milton to play Jacky, and afterwards he appeared as M. Jollivett, in *Michael Strogoff*, and Picard, in *The Two Orphans*. Tours with Mr J. B. Mulholland as Ginger Jim, in *Conspiracy;* H. Hardy as Trolsky, in *Siberia;* and Mr Fred Cooke followed. With the latter he had an eighteen months' continuous engagement, playing every day except Sundays, including Good Friday and Christmas Day. On Good Friday they were in Scotland and on Christmas Day in Wales. In 1891 Mr Miller began a three years' engagement with Mr Auguste Van Biene, broken only by pantomime engagements at Glasgow and Edinburgh. Whilst with Mr Van Biene he played Don Sallust, in the Gaiety burlesque of *Ruy Blas;* Jim Chowne, in *The Lights of Home;* and Dudley Mortimer, in *The Broken Melody*. Next followed tours as Sergeant O'Reilly, in *The English Rose;* Admiral Darby, in *The Case of Rebellious Susan*, and Baron Fontenoy in *All Abroad*. In 1897 he commenced a long engagement with Mr E. Lockwood, playing Mathieu in *A Night Out*, for two years and a half. During this engagement, whilst on a journey from Portsmouth to Plymouth, the company had the ill-luck to be in a railway accident, the train leaving the metals near Tavistock, owing to some obstruction having been placed on the line. The train ploughed along the up line twisting the metals and making matchwood of the sleepers; finally it was brought to a standstill, and they all walked through the snow to Tavistock, having suffered nothing worse than a bad shaking. Had the engine turned the other way they would have gone over an embankment 20ft. high, and the curtain would have been rung down on most of them. In 1899 Messrs Lockwood and Levilly revived the comic opera, *Falka*, with a fine cast, and engaged Mr Miller for the Lay Brother Pelican. The Christmas of that year he went to the Garrick Theatre to play Dame Shortly, in *Puss-in-Boots*. The late Charles Lauri was the Cat, Letty Lind, Ethel Sydney, Florence Lloyd, George Gray, and Robb Harwood being also in the cast. Following this he played the Nurse, in *The Babes in the Wood*, in the Easter pantomime at Belfast. Then came tours as Brother Tamarind, in *A Runaway Girl*, and at Christmas he played Priscilla, the nurse, in *The Invisible Prince*, with Messrs Howard and Wyndham at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. He was re-engaged for the same part the following year at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and last Christmas he played the Nurse, in *Robin Hood*, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. In the interim were tours of the opera *Les Saltimbanques* and a suburban tour as the Reigning King, in *Blue Bell in Fairyland*. Next Christmas will find him once more donning the skirts in the pantomime at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

Photo by Brookes.

MR. GEORGE MILLER.

Photo by Draycott Galleries.

MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY.

MR ALFRED NORTHWAY.

A LONDONER by birth, Mr Alfred Northway started life as a clerk in an insurance office with the idea of eventually launching out as an underwriter at Lloyds. The work, however, proving uncongenial, he resolved to abandon City life for a profession he felt more drawn to. His first step was to enrol himself as a student at that excellent dramatic studio supervised by Mr Henry Neville, but he had scarcely been there three months when he received an offer from Mr Harold Entwistle to play small parts in his tour of *The Fatal Card*. He made his début at the Theatre Royal, Oldham, and shortly afterwards played on several occasions the leading heavy part, which had been given him to understudy. He was next engaged by Mr Frank Lindo to create the part of Mathew Derrick, in Mr Wilson Barrett's drama, *The Sledge-Hammer;* and was also the original Gamphire, in Mr Lindo's version of *Garrick*, and played important rôles in *Gringoire* and *The Legacy*. Then followed a tour with *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, Mr Northway appearing as Dr Wagner, and also as Jessop, in *Lady Fortune*. After accepting a special engagement to play the juvenile leading part in *The Sledge-Hammer*, he was engaged by Miss Muriel Wylford for Henri De Cochefôret, in *Under the Red Robe*. In Mr Henry Dundas's *A Life of Pleasure* company he played Sir John Berkeley, and next joined Miss Lilian Bennett to play Lord Petworth, in *Sowing the Wind*, afterwards creating the leading heavy part in *Children of the Night*. Returning to his old manager, Mr Frank Lindo, he appeared in the original production of *Night and Morning*, but at the conclusion of a long tour he was unfortunately overtaken by a serious illness, which incapacitated him for work for nearly six months. In January, 1902, Mr Northway joined Mr Walter Bentley's company, and appeared in a répertoire of Shakespearian and classic plays, including *Hamlet, Othello, The Merchant of Venice, Richelieu, The Bells*, &c. A summer tour with *A Bunch of Violets* then followed, at the conclusion of which his services were secured by Mr Douglas Bruce to play the leading part in *Dangerous Women*. Having fulfilled a special engagement under Mr Walter Melville's management in *The Great World of London*, Mr Northway went to the Britannia Theatre for the stock season. Again appearing in *Dangerous Women*, with Mr Walter Melville's company, he was subsequently engaged by the same management for Philip Armstrong, in *The Worst Woman in London*. He once more returned to Mr Lindo, in January of the present year, to play the Duke of Ancaster, in *Home, Sweet Home*. Mr Northway, who more recently appeared in *The Silver King*, has, in conjunction with Mr W. V. Garrod, acquired the entire rights of *The Sledge-Hammer*. An excellent tour has been booked, which commences at the West London Theatre the week previous to Christmas.

MISS CORA LINDA.

MISS CORA LINDA.

MISS LINDA started her professional career with Mr William Gifford's *No Cross, No Crown* company, playing Doris Luttrell, also Washington Dobbs, in *The World's Desire*. Miss Linda then thought she would try farcical comedy, and was engaged to play the part of Sybil Candebec, in *The Eiderdown Quilt*, under Miss Nina Cressy's management. Then she returned to the drama with Mr Henry Chattell's *Tommy Atkins* company, playing the juvenile part. She remained with this management for six months. Reverting again to farcical comedy, she played Sheba, in Mr A. W. Pinero's *Dandy Dick*,, under the management of Mr and Mrs Reginald Dartrey. At the conclusion of the tour Miss Linda was engaged to play the juvenile leading parts in their répertoire company, playing, among other parts, Madalena, *Leah;* Barbara Hare, in *East Lynne;* and Alicia, *Lady Audley's Secret*. Being a quick study Miss Linda took up at very short notice the juvenile leading part in Mr J. Witton Richard's *Under Remand* company, and during this tour was cast for the part of May Edwards, in *The Ticket-o'-Leave Man*. Messrs Hopkins Bros. then secured her to play the title-rôle in their Welsh drama *The Maid of Ce'n Ydfa* for a special twelve weeks. Miss Linda played the juvenile lead in Messrs Benton and Rennef's *A Life's Story* company, and was engaged by Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley to play the leading part in *A Sister's Sin*.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin and Complexion from the effects of the sun, wind, and hard water. Removes and prevents all roughness, redness, chaps, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS the SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after dancing, cycling, tennis, motoring, &c. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores, or Post-free from the Makers, M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

BRITANNIA THEATRE.

The committee reported that they had considered a plan, submitted by the secretary of the Britannia Theatre, Limited, showing the removal to a position nearer the stage of the barrier between the pit and stalls at the Britannia. The proposed alteration will not interfere with the exit arrangements, as the exits from the pit and stalls are practically common to both parts. They recommended "That the secretary of the Britannia Theatre be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan, submitted by him with regard to the barrier in question, provided the seating and gangways shown on the plan be spaced out in accordance with the Council's regulations with regard to measurements from back to back, centre to centre, width between seating and width of gangways."

DALY'S THEATRE.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Messrs E. Runtz and Ford, showing how it is proposed to give effect to certain of the Council's suggestions for the improvement of Daly's Theatre Cranbourne street, and recommended "(*a*) That Messrs E. Runtz and Ford be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two plans submitted by them with regard to the screens proposed to be provided in Portobello-passage, and the provision made for hats and cloaks at the back of the dress-circle at Daly's Theatre, on condition that, as regards the screens, proper means of ventilation be provided; (*b*) That Messrs E. Runtz and Ford be informed that the arrangements shown on the plan, with reference to the gangways in the gallery at Daly's Theatre, are, in the opinion of the Council, unsatisfactory."

LONDON COLISEUM.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Messrs F. Matcham and Co., showing a trap door proposed to be formed in the floor of the flies on the op. side at the London Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, and also an alteration to the entrance in Chandos-street. They recommended "That Messrs F. Matcham and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two plans submitted by them with regard to certain alterations at the London Coliseum, on condition that, in connection with the alterations to the entrance in Chandos-street, the two pillars be removed."

PRINCE'S THEATRE, POPLAR.

The committee had considered a plan, submitted by Messrs Owen and Ward, showing the provision of four steps in the pit exit of the Prince's Theatre, Poplar. They recommended "That Messrs Owen and Ward be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by them with regard to the proposed erection of four steps in the pit exit of the theatre."

SURREY THEATRE

The committee had considered a plan, submitted by Messrs Kirk and Kirk, on behalf of Mr Temple-West, showing how it is proposed to construct new boxes, a urinal, an iron and glass roof over the side entrance, and an entrance to the heating chamber at the Surrey Theatre, Blackfriars-road. They recommended "(*a*) That Messrs Kirk and Kirk be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan submitted by them with regard to the construction of new boxes and a urinal, at the Surrey Theatre, provided the undermentioned conditions be complied with:—(1) That the boxes be constructed of non-flammable material. (2) That the sanction of the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Southwark be obtained for the construction of the urinal. (*b*) That Messrs Kirk and Kirk be informed that the arrangements shown on the plan, dated Nov. 7, 1904, submitted by them relating to the construction of an iron and glass roof over the side entrance are, in the opinion of Council, unsatisfactory, and that with regard to the entrance to the heating chamber sufficient details are not given to enable the Council to come to a decision."

All the above recommendations were adopted.

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITIONS.

The committee reported:—On Nov. 8 a slight fire occurred in the iron box enclosing a cinematograph which was being exhibited at the Royal Assembly Rooms, Woolwich. The fire did not result in any damage, beyond the destruction of a quantity of film, and slight injury to the operator, who received some burns about the hands in endeavouring to extinguish the flame. On Nov. 15 another fire occurred in the cinematograph box, and resulted in the destruction of a quantity of film, and in one of the operators being slightly burned on the head and left hand in his endeavours to extinguish the flames. The apparatus was entirely enclosed in an iron box, in accordance with the Council's regulations, and the fire was confined within these limits, and eventually extinguished by means of the hose. There was no panic, but on the contrary several persons helped the attendants to get the hydrant into use, and when the Council's inspector visited the premises about ten minutes after the occurrence he found the majority of the audience still seated. Notice of the fire was given to the brigade by the police and a steamer and four men attended. The cause of the fire in both cases is unknown: the apparatus was inspected by the Council's officers the day before the first fire, and was quite satisfactory. After the fire another inspection was made, and the apparatus was again found to be satisfactory. As the Council is aware, the films used for the cinematograph pictures are highly inflammable, and we think the facts in connection with these two fires amply demonstrate the necessity and value of the stringent regulations made by the Council with regard to cinematograph exhibitions.

THE OXFORD.

MR EDWARD SMITH asked the Chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee whether their attention had been called to the alleged overcrowding in the gangways and exits at the Oxford Music Hall, and whether they would take the necessary steps to prevent its continuance.

MR YATES replied that the committee's attention had been directed to the matter, and visits had already been paid to the Oxford. He would arrange for a repeat visit.

AT the Subscription Rooms, Stroud, Mr Gordon Starkey's *A Message from Mars* company appeared. In the rôle of Horace Parker Mr H. Wentworth Smith meets with distinct success; Mr Percy Tyler personified the tramp in admirable style; Mr William Lockhart was excellent as the Messenger; Miss Violet Auberies was seen to advantage as Miss Parker; and Miss Florence Heather as Mrs Clarence and Miss Maud Shortland as Minnie Templar did full justice to their parts.

PRESENTATIONS — Mr Albert J. Lewis, who has occupied the position of assistant-manager at Worcester Theatre Royal for a considerable period, this week began his career as manager of the Theatre Royal, Merthyr Tydvil. Prior to leaving Worcester Mr Lewis was the recipient of several presents, which indicated the esteem felt for him by those with whom he had been professionally associated, and their recognition of the genial manner in which he had performed his duties. The presents included a silver-mounted inkstand, which Mr Louis Karpe, manager, handed to him on the stage, on behalf of the theatre staff, also an elegant umbrella for Mrs Lewis, who has had charge of the ticket office; while Mr Austin, on behalf of the orchestra, presented Mr Lewis with an ebony walking-stick. Mr Karpe and Mr Austin spoke in highly appreciative terms of Mr and Mrs Lewis, and Mr Lewis made an appropriate response.

MUSICIANS & STAGE EMPLOYEES.

The second annual concert in aid of the Benevolent Funds of the London branches of the National Association of Theatrical Employees and the Musicians' Union was given on Sunday last in the Royal Opera House, Covent-garden, by kind permission of Mr Frank Rendle and Mr Neil Forsyth. There was a good attendance, and the concert was in every way a great success. The audience was thoroughly representative of the profession, and included Mr and Mrs George Alexander, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Winifred Arthur-Jones, Miss Ethel Arthur-Jones, Miss May Harvey, Mr C. J. Fulton, Mr C. T. H. Helmsley, Mr and Mrs Vivian Reynolds, Mr Mark Kinghorne, Mr V. Nevaux, Mr H. R. Kimpton, Mr Harry Lytton, and Mr Fabar, the Danish Consul.

It is not often the public have an opportunity of hearing an orchestra of 200 and a military band of 150, together with such distinguished artistes as Mons. Maurel, Madame Giachetti, Madame De Cisneros, Mr Walter Kirby, and Mr A. W. Peterkin. Madame Marcheshi and Mr Joseph O'Mara, who had been announced to appear, were unable to do so, much to the regret of the concert committee. Sir Alexander C. Mackenzie was in command of the orchestra, and the military

W. J. PRICE,

CONDUCTOR OF THE SUITE "SCENES PITTORESQUE" BY MASSENET.

band by Mr F. L. Kettlewell, conductor of the British Imperial Band; Mr G. Bryer, conductor of the Alexander Military Band; and Mr W. J. Price, conductor of the Apollo Imperial, Mr Percy Pitt acting as accompanist and stage-manager, assisted in the stage arrangements by Mr Robert Affleck and Mr G. H. Dyball. The cheaper parts of the Royal Opera House were crowded last Sunday night, and, we understand, hundreds failed to obtain admission who could not or would not pay for the seats ranging from 7s. 6d. to £3 3s.

On the front page of the programme the following lines by Longfellow gave an appropriate indication of the evening's entertainment:—

And the night shall be filled with music,
And the cares that infest the day
Shall fold up their tents like the Arabs,
And as silently steal away.

When the curtain rose a wonderful sight was presented. The orchestra, admirably arranged by Councillor J. B. Williams, general secretary of the Musicians Union, was like a sea of faces. Sir Alexander Mackenzie appeared, and received an ovation as he mounted his rostrum to conduct the National Anthem. As soon as the first notes were played by the orchestra the audience seemed to feel that something grand was in reserve for them. The volume of tone and sound left little to be desired on that point. The programme proper opened with Mr A. E. Matt's new march "Fame and Glory," with the composer as the conductor. At the head of this page of the programme was Shelley's couplet:—

Pour forth the sound like enchanted wine,
Loosen the notes in a silver shower.

True enough the notes were loosened in a silver shower, and Mr Matt had the pleasure of hearing his latest work under circumstances that do not occur every day. He is, however, to be congratulated upon composing a worthy successor to his "Dawn" and other works. The following is the synopsis of "Fame and Glory":—Commencing with a

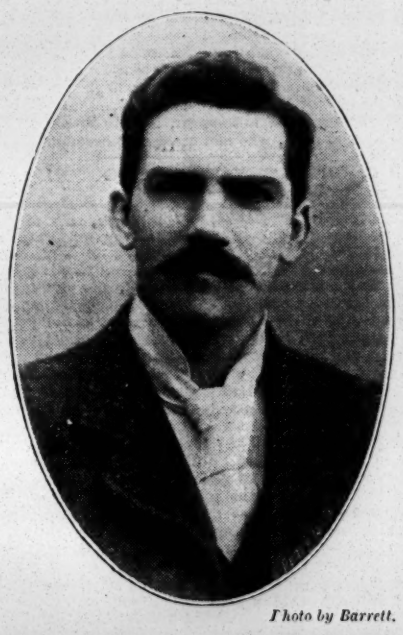

Photo by Barrett.

MR. W. JOHNSON,

bright and forte introduction in the key of D major, we enter upon the first theme, bold and somewhat martial in character, which may appropriately be termed the "Fame" portion of the composition. This contains important work for the brass, answered by strings and wood wind, and after a contrapuntal treatment leads us back to the opening passages. A pleasant contrast is shown with the trio; it has a broad and melodious melody for the strings and wood wind, which is intended to represent the "Song of Glory." After a repetition of the first theme there follows a rapid ascending passage for strings and wood wind, and the trio is again played by the full orchestra in the tonic key, leading to a rallentando and pause. Here a vigorous finale is reached, with ascending passages for strings and wood wind, and descending passages for 'cellos, bass, and trombones.

At its conclusion Mr Matt was warmly applauded both by the orchestra and audience.

The next item was Stephen Adams's ever-popular song "The Holy City," sung with feeling by Mr Walter Kirby.

Mr Kirby, who has a very fine tenor voice, has recently arrived in this country from Australia, where he has been touring with Madame Melba. We shall certainly hear a lot of this fine artist in the near future. Item three on the programme brought on Sir Alexander Mackenzie again, this time to conduct his "Britannia" overture.

The orchestra, who seemed to appreciate the honour of playing under Sir Alexander's baton, responded splendidly to the composer's demands. The following description of this work is from the pen of Mr Percy Pitt:—"This overture, which is, perhaps, the most popular of all its composer's works, was first performed at Queen's Hall on May 18, 1894, at a concert given to celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the foundation of the Royal Academy of Music, when the programme consisted entirely of works by past and present students. After two preliminary bars of kettle-drum, the horns and tuba call to attention with a phrase suggestive of the first principal theme. This is twice repeated, and, after a short *accelerando*, the first theme is given out by the flutes and oboe; and after this has been dwelt on for a short time, an episode of a singularly vigorous character is reached. The time then changes to *tranquillo*, and a broad and melodious second subject—also reflecting the style of an English seasong—is enunciated by clarinets and violas. The episode is then repeated, and in the *coda* we have the clarinets and the horn giving out anticipations of "Rule Britannia," combined with figures from the well-known College Hornpipe. The development is also for a considerable time chiefly concerned with this and kindred material, and is carried on with great humour and unflagging energy. The *reprise* begins with a statement of the episode in the unexpected key of G, followed by the first subject in the same key. In this key, too, the second subject is anticipated, and the tonic (E flat) is not reached till after considerable modulation. The second subject is then dealt with somewhat fully, and combined occasionally with fragments of "Rule Britannia" and the Hornpipe, the organ helping to emphasise the former. The *coda* is based on the Hornpipe tune, the whole culminating in emphatic allusions to the opening passage, which first appears in an augmented form ten bars from the end."

The overture went well from start to finish, and the orchestra were warmly applauded for their rendering of Sir Alexander's difficult and scholarly work.

Page three of the programme was headed by a quotation from Carlyle:—

We look for moments across the cloudy elements into the eternal Sea of Light, when song leads and inspires us.

These noble words formed a suitable introduction for Madame Eleonora De Cisneros, who sang Donizetti's "O Mio Fernando," from *La Favorita*, with great effect, and was well received.

The next item was the William Tell Overture, which was magnificently played by the orchestra, who were now in good form. The 'cello solo by Mr Edgar Fawcett at the opening was very effectively played, as was the Cor Anglais solo, played by Mr W. E. Fitzgerald, with the flute obbligato by Mr Gilbert Barton. It goes without saying that there was a demand for more, but the length of the programme made an encore out of the question.

At No. 7 Madame Giachetti appeared in place of Madame Marchesi, and sang "Non conosci il bel Suol," from Ambroise Thomas's opera *Mignon*. An encore here had to be granted to save time.

After this we arrived at page four of the programme with the following quotation as a heading:—

So, Song—like Fate itself—is given
To scare the idler thoughts away;
To raise the human to the holy,
To wake the spirit from the clay.—Schiller.

Then came the famous *Tannhäuser* overture, in which the orchestra seemed to revel. But Sir Alexander Mackenzie had them well in hand. The opening for the horns and bassoons, representing the Chant of the Pilgrims on their way to Rome, was beautifully rendered. As the sounds grew louder and louder, with the entrance of the trumpets and trombones, and then gradually died away as the pilgrims passed, the orchestra sounded magnificent. The story of Tannhäuser is so well known that it is unnecessary to repeat here. Suffice it to say that the playing of the overture by the orchestra, which, after all, was only got together for this one concert, was grand, particularly the orchestra and military band, which were organised by the London branch of the Musicians' Union. A number of the members of the Orchestral Association kindly volunteered their services. The orchestra comprised 208, and the military band 150. The following is the list of those who played:—

FIRST VIOLINS.
J. Skuse, R.I.O. (Leader)
F. Peters
T. Saunders
De Beriot Green
F. Tipper
W. Skerry
W. G. Coltham
A. R. Johnston
F. Allwood
V. Denti
J. Beckwith
W. F. Lawrence
F. Walsh
W. Piercy
G. Sargent
A. Bondt
R. Turrell
T. Oldaker
A. Korschik
W. Sweeney
R. Hopes
F. Clinton
D. Goldstein
K. G. Carter
C. F. Pritchard
A. Bulley
L. J. Walker
C. Langman
C. Stewart
J. A. Tribe
J. K. Clarke
W. T. George
J. Lloyd
W. R. Bissmire
J. Francis
F. W. Hatley
F. C. Schove
C. Ayes
G. W. Richards
H. E. Hatley

SECOND VIOLINS.
C. Henwood (Principal)
H. Quirk
C. Kershover
A. Cooke
C. Constable
E. Wright
R. W. Allen
H. Kearney
H. George
T. B. Vosper
R. Homan
B. Green
J. Owen
A. Marsh
A. Popplesdorf
B. Reillie
T. Tottem
J. Penrose
E. Galione
S. Stubbs
F. Fensome
E. Tepper
A. Stanley
S. Waller
A. E. Drew
E. Rodbourn
F. Zielle
H. A. Bryan
J. Thorne
E. W. Fyles
W. Bacon
W. Jenkins
J. F. Bodin
E. Parker
B. Thomas
R. Bernard

VIOLAS.
J. Lewell (Principal)
P. H. Barrow
E. H. Brazier
C. Aliman
J. Towler
F. Brazier
J. Egan
A. B. Fernandez
F. C. Brown
L. Piller
— Brooke
F. Champion
G. Searby
J. Navarro
J. Barber
J. Reillie
A. W. Lane
— Lasserson

'CELLOS.
E. Fawcett (Principal)
H. Stanislaus
T. Dowton
H. Matthews
R. T. Hainton
— Bondt
D. M. Loughlin
O. Bentley
E. Durant
H. Pearce
T. Charnock
A. E. Tyler
H. Field
— Harrison
— Brazier
S. Angless
J. Willmore
H. Lynd

BASSES
H. Sterling (Principal)
F. Underhay
T. Aldridge
F. Willmer
J. Head
V. Melandri
O. Oohnhoff
E. Cruft
W. Stevenson
W. Sterling
F. Francis

F. Hulley
W. Cox
M. Reed
F. G. Cushing
G. Carlo
H. A. Powell
C. Tigwell
F. C. Brock
J. Chapman
G. Crawley

FLUTES.
G. Barton (Principal)
A. Couzens
J. Holland
A. Bondt

PICCOLOS.
V. E Ball
H. Wotton

OBOES.
H. Stanislaus (Principal)
W. F. Fitzgerald
I. Fitzgerald
H. Quinton

COR ANGLAIS.
W. E. Fitzgerald

CLARIONETS.
C. Fawcett (Principal)
F. Stutely
D. Healy
W. Collins

BASSOONS
J. Anderson R.I.O. (Principal)
R. H. Williams
J. Wight
A. Cotton

HORNS
E. Knott (Principal)
F. Adams
G. Spencer
A. F. Andrews
A. Gradella
P. Einhauser
G. Evans
Beck

TRUMPETS.
A. Holland (Principal)
G. Hann
J. Pickupp
H. Hyde

CORNETS.
B. Alexander (Principal)
W. Wibberley
A. Gay
G. Tomkins
F. Oliver
F. G. Williams

TUBAS
R. Travis
M. Reed
J. Ashton
H. A. Raltray (Cheshelm)

TROMBONES.
H. Herring (Principal)
G. Miles
D. Greenwood
R. Travis, jun.

BASS TROMBONES.
T. Guitridge
P. Jones

TYMPANI.
F. Bolton
E. Scrutton

BASS DRUMS.
F. Hayes
P. Gordon

SIDE DRUMS.
E. Erlan
A. Jessop

CYMBALS.
P. Lombardini
W. Colson

EFFECTS.
G. Light
W. Clegg

H. Maloney

THIRD CLARINETS
J. Holdsworth
C. Preston
A. Hall
W. Wilkins
J. Young
G. Bussin
F. Webb

SAXAPHONES
C. Gozzi
Bartlett

BASSOONS.
J. Anderson
R. H. Williams
A. Cotton

A. Augarde, jun.
H. O'Sullivan

SECOND CLARINETS.
L. Bridgland
W. Crawley
C. Walters
G. Carlo
— Percello
W. Spooner
H. Augarde
L. A. Koppen

T. Stevens
R. H. Chambers

TROMBONES.
E. Parnum
D. Greenwood
W. J. L. Smith
W. Lewis
G. Miles
W. Brady
A. Holfert
W. Goff

BASS TROMBONES.
C. Clare

F. Jones
S. Wedge
S. C. Clode

EUPHONIUMS.
F. Ashton
A. Forrest
A. J. Croxon
H. A. Rattray

POMBARDONS.
R. Travis
C. Tont
H. Godfrey
E. Parr
E. Horne
G. Tinker
R. Riddle
M. Reed

DOUBLE BASSES.
C. Tigwell
F. Wilmer
W. Stevenson

G. BRYER,

CONDUCTOR OF THE INVOCATION TO BATTLE FROM WAGNER'S "RIENZI."

LIBRARIAN.
H. Mallinson

MILITARY BAND.

FLUTES AND PICCOLOS.
G. Barton
E. Hall
J. Holland
E. Jenkins
J. Furt
S. Oliver
E. Flint
J. H. White

OBOES.
H. Stanislaus
W. E. Fitzgerald
H. Quinton
L. Fitzgerald
E. Wilkinson

Photo by Window and Grove.

SIR A. C. MACKENZIE.

E FLAT CLARINETS
C. Castle
W. Stewart
P. Castagnola
E. Holt

FIRST CLARINETS
J. Hughes (Solo)
C. Fawcett
T. Augarde
D. Healy
W. Richardson
G. Henderson
W. Collins
J. Browne, sen.

H. Stuteley
S. Charlton
H. Crout

P. Sudbury
J. Wight
W. Knight
C. Patient
J. Einhauser

HORNS.
G. Spencer
F. Adams
C. Harrison
G. Chapman
A. E. Andrews

G. Evans
A. Gradella
P. Einhauser
R. André

T. Aldridge
H. Sterling
V. Melandri

TIMPANI.
F. Bolton
E. Scrutton

BASS DRUMS.
F. Hayes
A. Farrell
P. Gordon

SIDE DRUMS.
D. Geldis
H. Heathfield
F. Erlam

CYMBALS.
P. Lombardini
W. Colson

CHARLES JESSON,

SECRETARY AMALGAMATED MUSICIANS' UNION.

A. Augarde
J. Browne, jun.

REPIANO CLARINETS.
J. Paulton
G. Howes
P. George
W. Sweeney
G. Linsell
J. C. Barber

TRUMPETS.
W. Davis
R. Gamble
A. Holland
G. Hann

CORNETS.
J. Pickup
W. Wibberley
E. H. Furner
W. E. Chamberlain
A. Flowers
H. Monkhouse
T. Smith

EFFECTS.
J. E. Clegg
G. Light

BELLS.
A. Jessop
C. Henwood
W. A. Hyde
H. Matthews
F. Pearce.
D. Chambers

LIBRARIAN.
H. Mallinson

The lines in above list represent musicians who kindly volunteered their services, but did not send in their names.

CONCERT COMMITTEE.—Representing the Musicians: Mr J. Lewis, Mr C. Jesson, Mr E. J. Cook, Mr J. Fitzgerald, Mr A. Stanley, and Mr C. Evanser. Representing the Heads of Departments' Association: Mr James Cullen, Mr G. H. Dyball, and Mr Wm. Barbour. Representing the No. 1 Branch Nat. A.T.S.E. (General Staff Branch): Mr Wm. Johnson, Mr C. Thorogood, and Mr P. Thomas. Representing the Society of Theatrical Carpenters: Mr A. Palmer, Mr R. Andrews, and Mr G. Hughes. Chairman Mr J. Cullen. Treasurer: Mr G. H. Dyball. Hon. Secretaries: Mr William Johnson and Mr Charles Jesson.

The *Tannhäuser* overture was followed by three songs, beautifully sung by Mons. Maurel, who took the place of Mr O'Mara at very short notice. This ended the first part of the programme, and the second part commenced on page five, at the top of which appeared the following lines by Thomas Moore:—

Music! oh, how faint, how weak;
Language fades before thy spell!
Why should feeling ever speak,
When thou can'st breathe her soul so well.

When the curtain rose again it was to reveal the military band seated ready to undertake their part of the programme. Mr G. Bryer took charge of the large band first, and led them through "The Invocation to Battle," from Wagner's *Rienzi*. The contrast between the orchestra and military band was most striking. Mr Peterkin followed with J. Airlie Dix's song "The Trumpeter," which was well received and loudly applauded.

This was followed by Massenet's "Scenes Pittoresque," by the band. Mr W. J. Price as conductor succeeded in bringing out the beautiful quality of the clarionets, led by Mr J. Hughes, L.R.A.M., and the other reed instruments to perfection, notably in "The Angelus." Next in order came another song, by Mr Walter Kirby, "Angels Guard Thee," admirably sung with a voice that seemed to fill every part of the vast theatre. Then came Madame De Cisneros again in a Goring Thomas song, "A Summer Night," This was so beautifully rendered that an encore was demanded both by the audience and the band, and the lady responded with the ever-popular "Comin' thro' the Rye." This brought us to the last item of the programme, the "1812 Overture." Those who have never heard Tchaikowsky's famous overture performed with a military band of 150, with all the effects, cannot possibly realise the alternate stirring strains of the Marseillaise, the Russian Hymn, and the Russian National Anthem as the story of Napoleon's disastrous retreat from Moscow is unfolded in music. It makes one's blood course through the veins at boiling point. The following is the synopsis of this famous work:—"In 1812 Napoleon encountered his first rebuff at Moscow, where, rather than surrender to the French, the inhabitants set fire to their city, driving the invaders out. The broken army's miserable retreat from Moscow has been the subject of a well-known painting. It is round the story of the fighting that the Russian master has built his symphonic poem—it can scarcely be described as an overture—and the reason for its popularity is not far to seek. A broad flowing melody, taken from one of the chants used in the Greek Church, opens the work, and this is presently succeeded by some vividly picturesque 'battle music.' The fight has begun, and the all-conquering French, ever sanguine of victory, at the first have matters all their own way. High above the tumult rises the 'Marseillaise,' triumphantly trumpeted forth; but presently a theme of obviously Russian extract appears, the two motives alternating as the fight gives advantage first to one side and then the other. As time goes on, the Slavonic theme becomes more and more predominant, and the 'Marseillaise' dies gradually away. Napoleon is beaten, and his army is in retreat. The victorious Russians give themselves up to rejoicing; bells peal joyously, and the fine rhythmic melody of a great hymn of praise is heard. As the climax approaches, the Russian Hymn is thundered out on the brass, together with the march-like figure heard earlier in the work and the clamorous pealing of the joy-bells, the whole forming a magnificent finale to what is undoubtedly one of the most vivid and striking tone pictures to be found in the whole history of music." Mr Fred L. Kettlewell took charge of the band here, and the audience prepared themselves for something great in the way of descriptive music, and they did not prepare in vain. Eyes began to turn towards the huge bass drum which had stood silently on the stage all the evening. The band prepared for action. The opening bars over, all settled down to their share of the musical description of the grim tragedy of "1812." The band was admirably balanced and the lights and shades were skilfully depicted. Climax follows climax in quick succession until the end approaches and the French are in full retreat. Then the joy of the victors is expressed in the ringing of the bells of Moscow, the playing simultaneously of the Russian Hymn and National Anthem, and the firing of the guns. All this was realistically given on the Royal Opera House stage by the large band of the Musicians' Union. As one section of the band played the Greek Hymn, the trombones and trumpets thundered out the Russian National Anthem. All the large and small bells belonging to the stage department of the Royal Opera House were set ringing by lusty arms; and Mr F. Hayes, who had armed himself with a huge drum-stick, and had been silently preparing for action, commenced operations on the huge nine feet diameter drum. The stick was raised in the air, and after a whirl came down crash on the drum. The audience were inclined to treat this at first as an amusing incident, but the effect was so overpowering that laughter was out of the question. Undoubtedly, the hero of the evening was "the man behind the drum" in the "1812" Overture. He is assuredly a mighty hitter. The playing of "God Save the King" brought the entertainment to a close, and so prevented the possibility of an encore. From an artistic point of view the concert was a great success, and we have no doubt it was so financially. The Musicians' Union are to be congratulated upon their share of the work, which must have taxed the loyalty of its members to the straining point, seeing that many gave up lucrative engagements to attend, while others holding Sunday engagements paid for the services of deputies to attend either the concert or to their private business.

The stage day staff at the Royal Opera House deserve great praise. All of them worked from noon on Sunday to the end of the performance to arrange the stage and help in carrying out the arrangements back and front. Mr Robert Affleck, the master carpenter, rendered every possible service before and on the day to ensure the success of the concert. The members of his staff who gave their services were Messrs Ed. Keating, W. J. Hindley, James Phelps, W. Templeman, T. Bennett, E. Bonnett, H. Wetherhill, S. Highgate, S. Stevens, W. Jackson, G. Taylor, H. Wesson, G. Cooper, S. Gardiner, A. Helsden, P. Smith, P. Flannagan, C. Lee, W. Lee, A. Jones, P. Mahoney, F. Glover, and J. Fitzmaurice. Mr Wm. Crawshaw, the electrician, also gave his services and help in many ways. The members of his staff who assisted were Messrs H. Body and J. Lester. The stewards were, in addition to members of the Concert Committee, Mr T. Atterton, Mr G. Stow, Mr H. Bowmer, Mr H. Powell, Mr J. Haley, Mr J. Phelps, Mr W. J. Hindley, and P. Mahoney.

The floral decorations were provided and arranged by Messrs John Russell and Co., Haverstock Hill. The piano was kindly lent by Bechstein.

The souvenir programme was designed by Mr G. M. Bussey. The music was lent by Messrs Hawkes and Son, Messrs Chappell and Co., Limited, and Messrs Rudall Carte.

The Concert Committee desire to express their most grateful thanks to Comm Robert De Sanno, of the San Carlo Opera Company, Mr Frank Rendle, Mr Neil Forsyth, Mr Eades (the acting-manager), Mr Percy Pitt, and to the ladies and gentlemen who contributed to the programme. The committee greatly appreciate the magnificent assistance they received from the managers and staff at the Opera House. At no other theatre would it have been possible to secure greater facilities or more generous treatment that the committee received. The committee desire also to thank those who kindly assisted in the sale of tickets. They received assistance from stage-managers, conductors, members of the orchestra, and staff connected with most of the London theatres and music halls.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The Royal Academy student's concert at Queen's Hall on Monday afternoon contained some notable items, reflecting the utmost credit on the students and their professors, and showing also that everything possible is being done by Sir Alexander

F. L. KETTLEWELL,

CONDUCTOR OF THE FAMOUS OVERTURE "1812" BY TSCHAIKOWSKY.

Mackenzie and his brilliant staff to uphold the traditions of the oldest of English schools of music. The programme opened with two movements from Mendelssohn's Octet for Strings in E flat, Op. 8, a work that retains its freshness and beauty notwithstanding the unworthy efforts made of late to disparage this great composer. But the creator of *Elijah* will hold his place among the greatest musicians of the world let detractors say what they will. Mr Woof, Miss Jessie Bowater, Miss A. M. Price, Miss Elsie W. Owen, Mr James T. Lockyer, Miss Rebecca T. Clarke, Mr Bertram W. O'Donnell, and Mr Kenneth Park were the executants, and upon the whole were fully entitled to commendation. One or two slight defects it would be ungracious to mention. Nor was original composition lost sight of, and here it may be worth while to remark the fact that the Royal Academy of London not only provides education for native students, but even Germany sends pupils to "Unmusical England." We can teach them as they cannot elsewhere be taught in Europe. In proof of which statement there was given on Monday the first movement of a Trio in E Flat, for pianoforte, violin and violoncello, by Miss Zénie Weisberg, a work of decided promise, melodious in character, and not deficient in individuality. The fair composer was assisted in the performance by Messrs Woof and O'Donnell, who did justice to their fellow student's clever work. Perhaps the most brilliant of all the solos was that of Miss Hilda F. M. Barnes, who displayed remarkable talent in the Polonaise in A of Wieniawski for Violin. A very youthful performer, Miss Myra Hess (Ada Lewis scholar), also proved herself a pianiste of distinction in Mendelssohn's Fantasia in F Sharp Minor, an exacting piece for so juvenile a performer. That Miss Myra Hess is destined to become famous can hardly be doubted. Another charming pianist remains to be mentioned—Miss Gladys Law, who

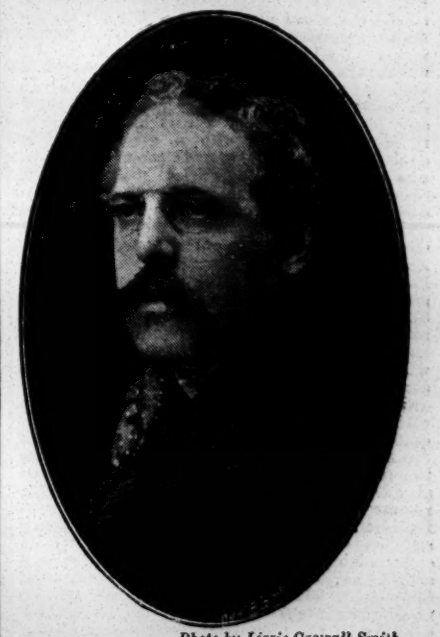

Photo by Lizzie Caswall Smith.

MR. PERCY PITT.

played the Ballade in F, of Chopin, as few students would have done. Some of the vocal students distinguished themselves, but we must warn Miss Maude Thornton to devote her fullest attention to the subject of intonation, which in "Mignon's song" was by no means perfect. Mr Philip Simmons, the possessor of a beautiful and well-trained voice, sang "Memories," by Goring Thomas, in excellent style. Miss Caroline Hatchard sang effectively two songs by Liszt, the second "Jugendglück" being the most pleasing. Three Celtic songs by Mr Arnold E. Trevor Bax were not entirely successful, but the concluding song was the most effective. Miss Ethel M. Lister sang them with taste. A sonata of Boccherini gave Mr Bertram O'Donnell an opportunity of displaying a good tone and refined execution on the 'cello. Mr Percival Driver sang two songs of Handel, and the concert concluded with a neat performance of the Chaconne, Opus 150, for two pianofortes, by Raff, the executants being Miss Marjorie Wigley and Miss Dorothy Grinstead.

A committee meeting of the Touring Managers Association will be held at 3, Bedford-street, on Friday next, at half-past twelve o'clock.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE ST. JAMES'S.

On Saturday, Nov. 19, Revival of "LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN."

Lord Windermere	Mr BEN WEBSTER
Lord Darlington	Mr C. AUBREY SMITH
Lord Augustus Lorton	Mr SYDNEY BROUGH
Mr Charles Dumby	Mr A. VANE-TEMPEST
Mr Cecil Graham	Mr LESLIE FABER
Mr Hopper	Mr SELWYN SEYMOUR
Parker	Mr MURRAY CARRINGTON
Lady Windermere	Miss LILIAN BRAITHWAITE
The Duchess of Berwick	Miss FANNY COLEMAN
Lady Plimdale	Miss PAULINE FRENCH
Lady Cowper-Cowper	Miss EILEEN LEWIS
Lady Jedburgh	Miss ELINOR ADKIN
Lady Agatha Carlisle	Miss CORISANDE HAMILTON
Rosalie	Miss MAUD HARCOURT
Mrs Erlynne	Miss MARION TERRY

Few more enjoyable evenings have been spent at the St. James's Theatre than that of Saturday last, when an audience almost exuberant in its delight and satisfaction met to enjoy *Lady Windermere's Fan*. Few can have forgotten the memorable evening of Feb 20, 1902, when at the conclusion of the performance the author stepped to the footlights with one hand in a trouser pocket and the other holding a half-smoked cigarette, and told the house that he was glad to find they liked his play as much as he did. It is curious to notice the increase in cynicism that has taken place in playwriting in the last twelve years. Compared with some of our modern pieces *Lady Windermere's Fan* is a fount of purity and freshness. Adultery and its results are nowadays the commonplaces of dramatic construction. Taking three comedies now running in London, in one of them the wife divorces the husband on account of his infidelities and "takes him on" again when she finds she cannot do without him; in another the wife goes up to the very verge of "going wrong" with a lover, and is very much enraged when the husband objects to her thus "carrying on;" and, in the third, a wife is so determined to do as she likes in the matter of "flirtation" that she divorces her husband in order to obtain her "freedom." The growing disinclination to marriage, of which we hear so much, may possibly be due to the feeling of bachelors that it is hardly worth while going through so much in order to obtain so little. *Lady Windermere's Fan*, with its essential wholesomeness and surface cynicism, comes like a stream of water in a very thirsty land to those who have been fed on modern theatrical fare. It would appear, by-the-way, that one great improvement has been made, or was made, in the piece since the first night. At the original performance, it is stated, the audience was not informed till late in the evening of the relationship between Mrs Erlynne and Lady Windermere. They are taken now into the author's confidence at the end of the first act. The piece went splendidly on Saturday; and Mr Alexander, who sat at the back of a private box, must have been pleased with the applause which was lavished on the performance. The members of the original cast who were secured for the revival had "tremendous" receptions, especially Miss Marion Terry, who played Mrs Erlynne with all her old artistic accomplishment and irresistible charm and cleverness. Every line of hers told, and Miss Terry's share in every scene in which she took part was of the most valuable and vivid description. The tact, the skill, and the finish of her embodiment were even more entirely effective than in the original production. Miss Fanny Coleman's consummate comedy characterisation as the Duchess of Berwick again sent connoisseurs of good acting into ecstasies; and Mr A. Vane-Tempest was again unimpeachable as Dumby. Mr Ben Webster, the Cecil Graham of the original production, played Lord Windermere with the refined ease and complete confidence which this well-trained artist has ever at his disposal; and Mr C. Aubrey Smith's firmness, solid presence, and polish made him an excellent Lord Darlington. Mr Leslie Faber, whose style, appearance, and diction are really exquisite, was an ideal Cecil Graham; and Mr Sydney Brough showed his versatility by a very creditable performance of the part of Lord Augustus Lorton. Miss Lilian Braithwaite's rôle of Lady Windermere suited her extremely well, and she filled it admirably; and Miss Corisande Hamilton acted intelligently as Lady Agatha, the minor characters all having careful and conscientious representatives. The enthusiasm created by the revival was most demonstrative. The principals had "ovations;" and Mr Alexander bowed his acknowledgements of the gratitude of the house for his "happy thought" in again putting on the piece.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Nov 21, the Drama, in Five Acts, by the late George Conquest and Paul Meritt, entitled "MANKIND."

Islington is indebted to Mr Brand, the manager here, for the very complete manner in which he has staged the above play. *Mankind* is essentially a most interesting play, and aroused universal interest. The late Mr George Conquest, who created the singular character of Groodge, is, alas! no longer with us, but his son, Mr George Conquest, has been specially engaged for the production, and naturally his appearance in a part his father made famous was awaited with a great amount of curiosity by those playgoers in the neighbourhood who could recollect the original production. Mr Conquest came through the ordeal with flying colours, his portrayal of the old, vindictive moneylender being very effective, and quite successful. One experienced member of the stock company, Mr Arthur Estcourt, gave a very fine performance as Peter Sharpley, and is entitled to very hearty congratulations. Mr Joynson Powell as Edmond Sharpley once more presented a keen, incisive reading. Mr Ernest Leicester as Phillip Warren had unfortunately a somewhat limited scope in which to display his talents. Nevertheless, he succeeded in fixing himself prominently on the attention of the audience, who were effusive in their plaudits. Mr Frank Stone as Pinpool was quite "in the picture," and is to be commended for a sound impersonation. Mr Hal Collier as the pugnacious cockney, Barnaby Bright, found abundant scope for the display of his humorous resources, and the result was an amusing performance. Mr George Elliston gave an impersonation of a brutal showman that was very commendable. Mr H. Dudley as Melton was satisfactory, and acted with obvious sincerity. Miss Helen Bancroft as Alice Maitland added a fresh triumph to the many she has gained here, her depiction of the much-tried and unfortunate wife being clever and effective. Her contribution to the success of the performance was considerable. Miss Kate Brand as Constance Melton was again excellent, and merits warm praise. Mrs Stanislaus Calhaem as Mrs Bickerton delighted the audience with a clever and realistic reading, her experienced touch enabling her to make much of the rôle. Miss Winifred Leeson was amusing as the much-tried wife of Bright, and Miss Christine Williams, a young lady, was very good as the child; the remainder of the company being adequate. The incidental music, together with an attractive programme, was excellently rendered by Mr Gliddon's orchestra. The Bioscope as an early door item continues to attract.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Nov 21, the Russian Drama, by Bartley Campbell, entitled "SIBERIA."

A hearty welcome is being extended this week to the revival of Mr Bartley Campbell's Russian drama *Siberia*, which is picturesquely staged, and receives an excellent interpretation from the Pavilion stock company. Mr Ashley Page plays Nicholai Neigoff in a manly and sympathetic fashion; an artistic and clever rendering of the cruel Lieutenant-Governor Jaracoff is given by Mr Frank Harding; Mr James C. Aubrey acts with strong dramatic power as the spy, Sparta; Mr Harry Barford is well placed as Ivan Nordoff; and a characteristic performance of the Governor-General is given by Mr Fred Withers. The comedy element is in the hands of Mr Wilfred E Shine and Miss Tina Mavro, who as Michael Trolsky and Vera respectively cause much merriment. Mr Fred Boustead is extremely good as Lieutenant Smalloff, and Mr Harry Bristow scores heavily as Count Stanislaus. Miss Marion Denvil gives a sympathetic and forcible impersonation of Sara, depicting with admirable effect the courage and strength of purpose underlying the character. Miss Daisy Scudamore deserves high praise for her excellent assumption of Marie, receiving great applause for her fine acting in the Palace scene. A touching portrayal of the Countess Stanislaus is given by Miss Kate Leslie, and Miss Kitty Cardigan is bright as Drovna. The remaining parts are capably represented by Miss Beaumont, Miss Clarke, Mr R. Riley, Mr Godfrey, Mr Lloyd Merton, Mr Stirling, and Mr A. G. Payne. *Siberia* is preceded by a farcical sketch entitled *Grandfather's Clock*, which is rattled through very effectively by Miss Daisy Scudamore, Miss Kate Leslie, Mr Harry Bristow, and Mr Harry Barford, who is screamingly funny as the Lunatic. On Nov. 17 the benefit of the courteous acting-manager, Mr Fred Brown, took place, when the theatre was thronged with an audience that packed the house from floor to ceiling, testifying conclusively the great popularity of the bénéficiaire. The performance started at seven and lasted until close upon midnight, and amongst the many attractions presented we must especially mention Mr Dan Crawley, Miss Lottie Lennox, Miss Carrie Laurie's juveniles, Mr Jake Friedman, Mr Dan Thomas, Mr Russell Wallett, Miss Dinah Morriss and Piccaninnies, Messrs Walton and Lester, the original Russian Troupe of dancers, Mr H. E. High, Mr Arthur Lawrence, the Lavender Troupe of cyclists, Miss Pattie Bells, Mr Ted Saunders, the Errols, and Edie Rivers.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Nov. 21, "THE ELDER MISS BLOSSOM."

Mr and Mrs Kendal are appearing this week in a trio of pieces, including Ernest Hendrie and Metcalfe Wood's clever play, *The Elder Miss Blossom*, on Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday matinée; in *Still Waters Run Deep* on Wednesday and Saturday evenings; and in that delightful play, *A Scrap of Paper*, on Thursday and Friday evenings. Needless to say, they are receiving a hearty welcome from "the nobility and gentry" of Notting-hill-gate and its vicinity. *The Elder Miss Blossom* is a drawing-room drama, in which tears and laughter alternate. Had not the dramatists sketched their subject very lightly, skilfully, and neatly, and thereby avoided the Scylla and Charybdis of low comedy and bathos, satiric, or, at least, Homeric, laughter would have greeted some of the scenes and incidents of pathetic import. It is not in every play that a middle-aged spinster heroine can earn the tear of pity and compel our admiration and respect, and of course, Mrs Kendal's finished and artistic rendering of the part of Dolly Blossom of the title-rôle has no little to do with the marvellous success of the character. Her deft handling of difficult situations, the determined way in which she bridges the abyss between the sublime and the ridiculous, and above all her infinite tact and delicacy are fully deserving of the success which they attain. Mr Kendal is seen to great advantage in the part of Andrew Quick, F.R.S., the famous anthropologist, who finds such grave difficulty in preserving the balance of his "moral compass" under the untoward circumstances in which he finds himself placed. It is all so easy and natural, the mistake which causes the imbroglio, and so easily and naturally explained and set to rights, and in no small degree this is due to the illuminative performances of Mr and Mrs Kendal. Miss Elise Clarens is a very pretty and winsome ingénue, and acts with grace, ability, and discretion. Mr Ernest Hendrie is as amusing as ever as the stupid, well-meaning old country bumpkin, Christopher Blossom, who muddles along and escapes all the unpleasantness which besets the other more alert characters. Mr Leonard Hubert is satisfactory as the golfing young parson, Rev. Arthur Leacroft. Mr Bassett Roe is fairly good as Major Twentymann, the imaginative raconteur, who supplies the *Hambledon Guardian* with such spicy and interesting matter. Mr R. Burnett gives a careful and natural performance as the enterprising editor and author of *Entre nous*. Mr Metcalfe Wood causes much laughter by his droll rendering of the part of the stammering Withers (valet to Andrew Quick), who is mistaken for a "Pawnee," and generally maltreated, till Cooper, the parlour-maid (a part capitally played by Mrs A. B. Tapping), solaces him with her heart and hand. Miss Lola Duncan as the housekeeper at the Albany, and Mr W. M. Rutherford, caretaker at Quick's chambers, complete the small cast.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play, by Henry Arthur Jones, entitled "THE MIDDLEMAN."

For the second time this year Mr E. S. Willard and his company are appearing here, and a very popular welcome was accorded to this fine actor when he stepped on the stage in the character of Cyrus Blenkarn, in *The Middleman*. Cyrus Blenkarn ranks amongst Mr Willard's finest creations. It is a wonderfully finished impersonation, and it gives the actor a capital opportunity of showing his power. Mr Willard held the audience throughout, and enlisted their entire sympathy for the character. There is always one point about this actor that cannot fail to charm, and that is his elocution, which is almost perfect, and his softest tones may be heard all over the theatre. Mr Willard has excellent support from his company. Mr A. S. Homewood is notably good as Joseph Chandler, while Captain Chandler is carefully embodied by Mr W. Sauter. Batty Todd is capitally played by Mr H. Cane, who is also responsible for the stage-management. Miss Maud Hoffman plays Mary Blenkarn in a pathetic manner. Nancy is quite safe in the hands of Mrs Russ Whytal, while Nancy's lover, Jesse Pegg, is humorously depicted by Mr Walter Edmunds. Mr J. W. Laurence makes a good Sir Seaton Umfraville and Miss Eileen Warren is seen to advantage as Lady Umfraville. Miss Mabel Dubois is acceptable as Maud Chandler. Among others who give valuable assistance are the Misses Violet Furnival and Edith H. Tombs.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 21st, the Drama, by Ben Landeck and Arthur Shirley, entitled "WOMAN AND WINE."

The members of Mr Milton Bode's company, appearing this week at the Dalston Theatre in the drama *Woman and Wine*, are receiving a very encouraging welcome. The production goes with all its old success of movement and incident from start to finish. Mr Frank R. Robertson is a manly Dick Seymour, and succeeds in making his audience quite concerned about the troubles which beset him as the result of "seeing life." They have positively tearful sympathy with his blind father, Hugh Seymour, an old artist. Miss Ernestine Holker as Mary Andrews being a character intimately associated with the younger Seymour in what may be referred to as the best side of his career naturally shares with him the applause of the onlookers. Alphonse Beaudet finds a suitable representative in Mr Walter Thornton, and the remarkable character of Pierre Crucru, otherwise known as "Caliban," is represented with appropriate weirdness by Mr Herbert Landeck. His expressions of hatred of human nature in general and the fair sex in particular are, as heretofore, received as specimens of dry humour. Marcel Rigadout, represented by Miss Edith Blande, and La Colombe, played with force by Miss Nellie Lauraine, are both characters which leave an impression on the mind; and Miss Rose Galloway as Madame Perinet and Miss Lucy Langley as Suzanne do all that is needed of them. Mr Tom Tindall is much appreciated as the would-be ever-young Professor Sawter, and Mr Percy Dawsone presents a splendidly vitalised sketch of reckless youthfulness as his son Charles. The work of both these capable actors is ably supported by Miss Muriel Vox's vivacious representation of Janet. Mr Henry Compton's Duc D'Arnac is a careful study, Mr Frank Eglesfield is efficient as Phineas Collins, and Mr E. R. Beaumont, in addition to the duties of stage-management, appears as Mark Perkins. The cast also includes Mr Ralph Lynn, Mr Fred Harcourt, Mr Arthur Mitchell, Mr A. V. Webster, Mr H. Wheatley, and Mr Percy Cooper.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Nov. 21, a New and Revised Version of the Romantic Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled "MY SWEETHEART."

Mr Orton Tewson's company is here this week in a revival of that old-time successful play, *My Sweetheart*. Miss Grace Arundale filled the title-rôle in a most captivating manner, acting and singing with much ability. The Tony Faust of Mr Broughton Black stood out as a meritorious piece of work. Mr Charles D. Steele portrayed the eccentricities of the elderly dude, Dudley Harcourt, in expressive fashion; Mr Harry A. Gribben lent distinction to the part of Harold Bartlett; Mr Ambrose Skinner was satisfactory as Farmer Hatzell; Mr Charles A. Stephenson played in easy, effective style as Dr. Oliver; and Mr R Noel Barton M'Guckin gave a clever and realistic impersonation of the "old sport," Joe Shotwell. Miss Pollie Marshall deserves mention for her Mrs Hatzell, as does Miss Violet Knight for her Gretchen; and the lady who played Mrs Fleeter in place of Miss Gertrude Le Sage made the most of her opportunities. The play was preceded by the farce *Leave It to Me*, in which Messrs Orton Tewson, Charles Clayton, Allan Cleaver, Ambrose Skinner, and Mesdames Violet Knight and May Daniel took part.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

The Carl Rosa opera company, now in its second week at the King's Theatre, gave on Wednesday evening a delightful representation of *Faust*. Mr Edward Davies, who is possessed of a beautiful voice, sang the music allotted to Faust in an enjoyable manner, and his acting was quite satisfactory. Mephistopheles was rendered by Mr Arthur Winckworth in excellent style, his fine organ being heard to excellent advantage. The Valentine of Mr Lewys James was an extremely able impersonation. Mr Alexander Richard made a capable Wagner, and Miss Anna Hope created a favourable impression as Siebel. Madame Una Brucksbaw won much success by her highly impressive representation of Marguerite. Martha was amusingly embodied by Miss Douglas Wilson. The chorus was excellent, and the largely augmented orchestra was ably handled by Mr Walter Van Noorden. At the usual Thursday matinée *Carmen* was performed, with Herr Julius Walther, Herr Charles Victor, and Madame Augusta Renard in the principal parts, and in the evening *Maritana*, with Mr E. C. Hedmondt and Miss Lizzie Burgess as Don Cæsar and Maritana, was given.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Nov. 21 the Musical Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled "WINNIE BROOKE, WIDOW."

On Monday the attraction at this popular theatre was the new musical comedy, *Winnie Brooke, Widow*, with Miss Ada Reeve in the title-rôle. Last week at Mr F. W. Purcell's other theatre, the Marlborough, this capital show was strikingly successful, and the booking is excellent at the Alexandra. Miss Reeve has a part most admirably suited to her fascineting style, and was immensely popular throughout the evening. It was small wonder that the members of Mr Dudley Mayne's brotherhood fell victims to her charms, and the enthusiastic applause of the audience indicated their complete sympathy. Song and dance by the famous comedienne were repeatedly encored, and the point and vivacity of her interpretation won the entire admiration of the delighted audience. As the Rev. Elihu Garside Mr James Stevenson provoked great amusement, and Dudley Mayne had an excellent representative in that accomplished actor Mr Henry Vibart. Miss Drusilla Wills, Mrs Charles Maltby, Miss Janet Hodson, Mr Price Evans, and Mr Frederick Sharp were the pick of a well-balanced, clever cast. The bright music was well rendered, the chorus in general being most vivacious. Well dressed, well mounted, full of good things, *Winnie Brooke* should have an exceptionally prosperous tour.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Nov. 14, the Comedy Opera, in Two Acts, entitled, "MY LADY MOLLY."

Mr Arthur Hart's excellent company have been drawing good houses here during the past week. The scenery by Joseph Harker is effective and the ladies' dresses are pretty. Mr Carlton Mason conducted an enlarged orchestra, and the chorus sang tunefully and with great spirit. Miss Mabel Lait, in the title part, played and sang in a most acceptable manner, and Mr George Grundy made a gallant and dashing Captain Romney. Miss Maude Thorne as Alice Coverdale was as saucy and captivating as could be desired. Mr Fred Hobbs was a good Sir Miles; and Mr T. Norbury was satisfactory as the landlord, as was also Mr David M. Miller as Judge Romney. Miss Sybil Thorne as Hester was good. Mr Arthur Powell as Micky O'Dowd was a most amusing performance, and while he was on the stage the fun was fast and furious. His efforts were ably seconded by Miss Lottie Sargent as the little French governess, her rendering of the rôle greatly delighting the house, who applauded her efforts most heartily. Mr David Fisher, jun., made the most of the character of the Head Groom. Miss Maud Lucy and Miss Sophie Grundy were good as serving maids, and Miss Nancy West was a thoroughly capable housekeeper.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Musical Comedy, entitled "THE CHERRY GIRL."

The Cherry Girl is being performed here by a good all-round company. Miss Katie May, in consequence of the indisposition of Miss Elsie Molloy, undertakes the part of the Queen, and does well both in song and dance. Mr H. Herbert as Moonshine and Happy Joe gives a very good burlesque of Datas in the first act, and an excellent skit on the cake-walk in the second. Mr Lawrence Wensley, who sustains the dual-part of Starlight and the Squire of Homewood Hall, has an excellent voice, and vocalises ably. Master Harry Williams is a very good Snowball, and Miss Dorothy Frostick stands out prominently as Dimples, and sings and dances beautifully. The Steinway Quartet and Happy Joe's men smartly render their musical numbers, and Miss Lottie Stone's troupe of lady dancers, the Four Wisterias, and a large and tuneful chorus, under the able direction of Mr Clement Locknane, give excellent support. The scenery and costumes are effective.

LYRIC OPERA HOUSE, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play, entitled "A MAN'S SHADOW."

There could be no doubt about the interest aroused by the above play on Monday evening, when the audience at the Lyric, Hammersmith, closely followed the intensely exciting and interesting situations. An effective and masterly performance of the dual-part was given by Mr J. J. Bartlett, and his impersonation did him great credit. The rôle of De Noirville was excellently sustained by Mr Charles Weir, his acting in the Court scene arousing hearty enthusiasm. Picolet and Tristot were amusingly portrayed by Mr George Rowlands and Mr Alfred Donohoe. Mr Edward Boddy was a satisfactory Gerbier. A very capable Lacroix was Mr John Macfarlane; and Mr Alfred Holles was a dignified President of the Court. Miss Florence Dalton was eminently successful as the passionate Julie De Noirville; and Madame Laroque was represented by Miss Winnie Whyte with sympathy and fine effect. An intelligent representative of Suzanne was Little Ida Thompson, and Miss Nellie Marler was a painstaking Victoire. The scenery was in all respects adequate.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled "THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN."

Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company has been here this week, playing *The Ticket-of-Leave Man* and *The Two Orphans*, with Mr Henry Neville in his original characters. It is needless to say that Mr Neville's Bob Brierley, in the former play, was as great a success as ever; he enacted the part with all his old fire and vigour, and the fortunes of the much-maligned Lancashire lad riveted the attention and exacted the sympathy of his audience from start to finish. While displaying plenty of reserve force, Mr Neville was careful not to under-act, and, with the appreciation of the true artist, made the most of the many telling lines and situations with which the play abounds. One of his best scenes was that in the last act, in which Brierley turns on the man who has been the means of his losing situation after situation. May Edwards found an eminently suitable exponent in Miss Evelyn Weedon, who acted with considerable power and pathos, and whose sympathetic rendering showed true insight into the character. Mr William Devereux gave a strong representation of James Dalton, and was particularly successful in emphasising the difference between Dalton in his own haunts and Dalton as a respectable member of society; indeed, had a criminal managed to make so complete a change in personal appearance in real life, one may suspect that the police would be as puzzled as was their stage prototype, Hawkshaw. The last-named character was capably rendered by Mr L. Cory Thomas, who fully realised the careful and conscientious but good-hearted detective, the expression of whose determination not to "round on" the unfortunate ticket-of-leave man was received with great applause. Mr William Mallalieu contributed a clever character sketch of Mr Gibson, the bill-broker; and Mr F. G. Thurstans was a typical Jew "fence" both in make-up and manner. The task of interpreting the comic element of the play was chiefly entrusted to Miss Florence Wix and Mr E. H. Cox, who, the former as a music hall artiste and the latter as alternately a "gilded youth" and a vendor of pigs' trotters, were responsible for considerable amusement. A good deal of fun was also caused by Miss Adie Boyne's portrayal of a diminutive but dashing office boy, seconded by Miss Emma Victor as the boy's mother. The orchestra of the theatre is now under the skilful bâton of Herr A. Blome, whose violin solo during one of the intervals was much appreciated.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov 21, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones, entitled "THE SILVER KING."

This popular play is attracting appreciative audiences here this week. It is presented by Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company. Mr Melford, in the title-rôle, plays with sincerity, and gives a natural representation of the character. Miss Emelie Polini, who is a fascinating Nellie Denver, portrays with true feeling a wife's love for her unjustly accused husband, and Mr C. C. Grattan is excellent as the sympathetic old servant Daniel Jakes. Little Miss Amy Manfree and Master Jack Evan as Cissy and Ned are worthy of a word of praise. Mr Charles Levey as Captain Herbert Skinner is very effective, and gives a finished performance of the scoundrel Spider. Mr James L. Power, Mr Arthur H. Rooke, and Mr C. P. Amalia as Henry Corkett, Elijah Coombe, and Cripps respectively are at their best, and greatly add to the success of the performance. Mr Marriss Lindon is a capital detective, and does his work well as Sam Baxter. Mr Eric Store and Messrs Bingham and S. Hathway create much amusement as Mr Parkyn, Messrs Binks and Bronson. Mr H. Laundy as a passenger is funny. Mr P. Redmayne as Frank Selwyn deserve passing notice. The remaining artists, Miss Phyllis Dailly as Olive Skinner and Mr A. Shoesmith as the railway porter, deserve mention. The play was well staged.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Drama entitled "TOMMY ATKINS."

This sensational play was presented on Monday by Mr Milton Bode's well-selected company, the attractive scenery being a great feature of the production. Mr Frederic Ross as Harold Wilson scored heavily in the interpretation of the rôle; Mr George C. Doughty acted with vigour as Captain Richard Maitland; Mr Reginald Holmes was a buoyant and breezy Captain Robert Sparrow; Mr John Nolan was the essence of Irish humour in the part of Sergeant Paddy Molloy, being ably assisted by Miss Ethel Tinsley, who was also amusingly artistic. Mr Chas. A. Wenman made a good character study of the half-repentant villain, Private Mason; Mr Billy Harman appealed strongly to the risible faculties of the audience in his eccentric interpretation of Ebenezer Skindle; Mr Maurice Drew handled well the small part of Stephen Raymond; Miss Marie Fontaine cleverly sustained that of Margaret Maitland; and Miss Florrie Vickers deserves a word of praise for her interpretation of Elsie Wilson. Miss Kitty Omar made the most of the part of Rose Selwyn, and Miss Lola Patey presented a consistent reading of the heroine, Ruth Raymond.

BROADWAY THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Nov. 21st, "A ROYAL DIVORCE."

Mr W. W. Kelly's company, headed by Miss Edith Cole, is appearing here in this favourite play, which is meeting with a warm reception from large audiences. Miss Cole repeats her successful performance of the unfortunate Empress Josephine, and the reception accorded her should quite satisfy this clever artist. Mr Frederick Victor is a fine Napoleon. Mr Claude Agnew is a clever and courtly Talleyrand, Mr Trever Lowe is a good Marquis De Beaumont, Mr A. Grenville is a characteristic General Augereau, Mr Ernest C. Batley is excellent as Marshal Murat, Mr H. J. Powell is good as Dr. Corvisart, as is Mr Dennis Bryan as Grimaud. Miss Ethyle Murray is a powerful Marie Louise, Miss Helen Richmond a charming Stephanie De Beauharnais, and Miss Maggie Cardiff a pleasing King of Rome. The other characters are well acted.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.

Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr Leicester Jackson are appearing here this week with considerable success in the strong emotional drama entitled *Her One Great Sin*. Miss St. Albans gives a remarkably powerful and impressive performance of the character of Grace Warhurst. The rôle of Reuben Warhurst is admirably enacted by Mr Sam Arthur. Mr J. Leicester Jackson is very successful as Arnold Thornhill, his performance being clever and consistent throughout. Mr Fred Hodson is an amusing Jerry Jumble, and Mr Charles L. Lambert is excellent as Dan Hundle. Mr Jack Royston acts well as Mr Benton. Messrs Tom Stacey, Byron Williams, W. W. G. Dudge, Gerald Smythe, and C. Dale are all good in their parts of Ben Barkley, Robert Brown, Jim Bates, Tom Green, and Police-constable Jackson. Miss Nellie Lambert is a pert and pleasing Nancy Whinpenny, Miss Louise Walton a clever Bet Bundle, Miss Phillis Damien an excellent Charlie, and Miss Maude Lambert a pretty Gracie.

"LADY HAMILTON;" OR, THE LAST SIGNAL."

A Play, in Three Acts, by H. F. Wiber Wood, Produced at a Matinée at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Tuesday Nov. 22.

Lord Nelson	Mr JULIAN CROSS
Captain Hardy	Mr FRANK STONE
Capt. Hon. H. Blackwood	Mr WILFRID BECKWITH
Prince Hofleben	Mr STOCKALL WARD
Lord Tavistock	Mr WALTER RUSSELL
Mr Martin Shee, R.A.	Mr ORLANDO BARNETT
Tom Allen	Mr A. T. HILTON
Lady Jerningham	Miss ALICE CHAPIN
Cornelia Knight	Miss GERTRUDE CLARIDGE
Fanny Bolton	Miss MARY STUART
Emma, Lady Hamilton	Miss MAUDE LACY

A piece quite above the usual level of suburban matinée productions in tone is *Lady Hamilton*, which was presented at the Grand Theatre, Islington, on Tuesday afternoon last. It is certainly deficient in character interest; indeed, it is difficult to imagine how the life of Nelson could be moulded into an effective play. *Lady Hamilton* is a series of tableaux, in which the dialogue is greatly in excess of the action, whereby a certain tediousness is created. But there is much charm in the refinement of the author's dialogue, in his intimate acquaintance with the details of his theme, and in the mere presentation of the character of our great naval hero on the stage. Nelson, according to all evidence, was an imaginative man, and, so to speak, innocently theatrical; and in all probability the staginess of the conversations between him and Lady Hamilton in Mr H. F. Wiber Wood's play is faithful to fact. The charm of Nelson which endeared his especially to his sailors was the combination of sentiment with the acme of energy in action. He "let himself go" in a way that Wellington, for instance, never did; and accordingly was loved as Wellington never was. Mr Wood has evidently studied Southey's biography and other sources of information carefully; and we have a fairly correct view of Romney's studio in Cavendish-square, with Mr Martin Shee, R.A., and Lady Hamilton coming to arrange about a portrait. Here she and Nelson engage in some of the numerous conversations of which the piece is chiefly composed. In the second act, which takes place in the garden at Merton Abbey, Nelson's approaching departure is discussed, and there are sundry scenes of sentiment, the curtain falling upon the picture of his kneeling in prayer by the foot of the cot containing the little Honoria. In the first division of the last act the preliminaries of Trafalgar are settled on board the Victory; and in the second part Lady Hamilton and her friends are awaiting with anxiety news from the fleet. A female emissary from the Queen and from Lady Nelson comes to ask for information. This leads to an explosion of feeling on Lady Hamilton's part; and when she is left alone she has a vision—admirably depicted in a tableau vivant at the back of the stage—showing Nelson's death in the cock-pit of his ship.

The piece was capitally acted; and had it been an effective drama, the result would probably have been a complete triumph. As it was, great praise can only be given to the acting, which was excellent all-round. That ripe and accomplished artist, Mr Julian Cross, gave us a Nelson which was natural, poetical, and manly, and which quite came up to the ideal of the naval hero which is cherished by all Englishmen. Miss Maude Lacy, a pupil of Miss Stella Brereton surprised everyone by the confidence and technical merit of her acting. Every line was distinctly spoken, every point was made firmly and without haste or nervousness, and, though handicapped by the monotonous nature of her part, and by the "crooning" key of melancholy in which it was pitched, Miss Lacy achieved a thorough victory, and, wherever the author gave her a chance, carried the audience with her entirely. Miss Brereton, one of the very cleverest and most practised of our dramatic teachers, must be indeed gratified with the results of her labours in "coaching" Miss Lacy; for though the young lady is decidedly intelligent and apt, she evidently owed most of her success on Tuesday to the painstaking and acute instruction which she has received at Miss Brereton's admirable and valuable Dramatic "Academy" in Park Village East. The secondary rôles were played in quite superior style, and with a remarkable degree of refinement and reality. Captain Hardy and Captain Blackwood had dignified depictors in Mr Frank Stone and Mr Wilfrid Beckwith; and Mr Stockall Ward gave Prince Hofleben just the necessary touch of insinuating slyness and courtly polish. Mr Walter Russell made Lord Tavistock a fine old English gentleman *tempora* 1803; and Mr Orlando Barnett did good work as Mr Martin Shee, Mr A. T. Hilton as Tom Allen looking as if he had stepped out of one of Gilray's naval caricatures, and acting as if he had emerged from one of Marryat's novels. Miss Gertrude Claridge gave a neat and discreet embodiment of Fanny Bolton, Miss Gertrude Claridge being pleasing and competent as Cornelia Knight, and Miss Alice Chapin being efficient as Lady Jerningham. The scenery was appropriate and picturesque and the piece, produced by Mr Oswald Brand, went quite smoothly. The author was called for at the conclusion and did not appear, but Mr Julian Cross led on Miss Lacy, who had quite an "ovation."

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Comedy in Two Acts, by J. M. Barrie, entitled "QUALITY STREET."

A return visit of this charming play to Kingston was made on Monday, when Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's No. 1 company, who appeared in it, found a numerous and appreciative audience awaiting to witness it, and the manner of its presentation, both then and at each subsequent performance during the week, justified the hopes of the most sanguine. The company is a thoroughly capable one all round, and gave a rendering of the quaint, old-world comedy that was a credit to themselves and to all concerned. Mr George Brandram carried off chief honours as the dashing Mr Brown, a part that he filled with much ability. Many encomiums were also earned by Miss Florence Jackson, who filled the part of Phœbe Throssell with a charm in whatever mood she was in. As her prim sister Susan Throssell Miss Grace Edwyn acquitted herself with great ability, and Mr Arthur Lysons made a capital Ensign Blades; whilst Miss Lillian Rogers gave a most engaging impersonation of the part of Miss Parratt. Much notice was taken of Miss Gwynnette Galton in the part of the servant Patty, which had evidently been carefully studied, as it was carefully acted. Other parts in the cast were well placed. The play was admirably staged and most favourably received.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association, held last Tuesday, it was resolved that a copy of the report for the year 1904 should be sent to every member of the Association together with notice of the holding of the next annual meeting, and also any other printed matter of interest. Dr. A. Ellenbogen, 4, Elizabeth-street, Liverpool, was elected an hon. medical officer of the A.A. The secretary reported the receipt of particulars of a case of alleged bogus management. The hon. solicitors reported that a dispute had been amicably settled. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received.

AT the Newport Lyceum this week Mr Fredk. E. Philpott's company, with *The Girl from Japan*, is delighting good houses. Mr Ernest Spalding is clever and amusing; and Miss Madie Scott is bright and droll. Mr Percy Baverstock's General Baugh is breezy, Mr Alfd. Wood does well as Sir Mulberry Flippington, and Mr S. Lockridge sings ably as Lord Allenbury. Miss Nellie Valentine as Violet Meadows and Miss Una Palmer as Polly Perkins make good use of their opportunities.

"THE BROKEN HEART."

A Tragedy, in Five Acts, by John Ford,
Revived at the Royalty Theatre, on Monday, Nov. 21.

Amyclas	Mr WILLIAM H. KEMBLE
Ithocles	Mr FRANK LASCELLES
Orgilus	Mr J. H IRVINE
Bassanes	Mr A. E. DRINKWATER
Armostes	Mr J. HENRY TWYFORD
Crotolon	Mr ARCHIBALD MACLEAN
Prophilus	Mr H TRIPP EDGAR
Nearchus	Mr DENNIS W. CLEUGH
Tecnicus	Mr CYRIL CATTLEY
Hemophil	Mr ALEXANDER CLIFTON
Groneas	Mr E. V. BUFFUM
Amelus	Mr ALFRED GRAY
Phulas	Mr PHILIP DURHAM
Penthea	Miss ADA POTTER
Euphranes	Miss DORA HOLE
Christalla	Miss PEARLA GARDNER
Phelma	Miss HILDA BLACK
Grausis	Miss META PELHAM
Calantha	Miss IRENE ROOKE

The Mermaid Society is responsible for the revival of Ford's tragedy. The last occasion on which it was played was on June 11, 1898, when the piece was revived at St. George's Hall by the Elizabethan Stage Society, the performance being under the direction of Mr William Poel. Miss Calhoun then appeared as Calantha and Miss Virginia Carlyle as Penthea. When *The Broken Heart* was published in 1633 it had already been acted by His Majesty's Servants at a house in Blackfriars. The plot may be briefly summarised. Ithocles, who may be regarded as the hero of the piece, insists on the marriage of his sister, Penthea, to a jealous old nobleman named Bassanes, notwithstanding that she has given her heart to Orgilus, son of Crotolon, a Councillor of State. Ithocles speedily repents of his share in forcing this ill-assorted union on Penthea, who not only forgives him, but commends him to the Princess Calantha, daughter of Amyclas, King of Laconia. Penthea, after losing her reason, dies broken-hearted. The fierce, passionate Orgilus counts her death as the work of Ithocles, whose one error, followed though it be by many excellent resolves, shatters the young people's lives. Orgilus inveigles Ithocles into the death chamber, and after making him gaze on the inanimate form of Penthea, stabs him to death. Ithocles had won the fair Calantha for his own, and while she is presiding at some Court revels the news of the death of her father and Penthea and the murder of her lover is brought to her. These tragic events appear to have no effect upon her, and she even urges the music to a livelier strain. At length the festivities end. She is crowned, and demands of her attendants whom they would wish her to marry. Their choice falls upon the Prince of Argos. She arranges the conditions of the union, nominates the Argine Prince her successor, and makes testamentary provision for her friends and servants. At the marriage ceremony a bier is brought on to the stage on which rests the body of the murdered Ithocles. Clad in the royal robes Calantha places the wedding ring upon his finger. But she can restrain her pent up feelings no longer, and at the foot of the bier she falls dead of a broken heart. As regards the merits of the tragedy eminent critics differ widely. Charles Lamb is quite enthusiastic in his praise. He writes:—"I do not know where to find in any play a catastrophe so grand, so solemn, and so surprising as this. This is, indeed, according to Milton, to 'describe high passions and high actions.' The fortitude of the Spartan boy who let a beast gnaw out his bowels till he died without expressing a groan is a faint bodily image of this dilaceration of the spirit and exenteration of the inmost mind which Calantha, with a holy violence against her nature, keeps closely covered till the last duties of a wife and a queen are fulfilled." On the other hand Hazlitt spoke disparagingly of Ford's style; and Mr J. R. Lowell thought his plays "chiefly remarkable for that filigree work of sentiment which we call sentimentality. He abounds especially in mock pathos. Even in that play of Ford's which comes nearest to the true pathetic, *The Broken Heart*, there is too much apparent artifice. His diction is hackneyed and commonplace, and has seldom the charm of unexpected felicity, so much a matter of course with the elder poets." There was some excellent acting in the latest representation of the old play, which, in spite of some fine sentiments sonorously expressed, can scarcely escape the charge of being dull and depressing. Miss Irene Rooke scored a decided success in the part of Calantha, her great opportunity coming in the last act of the tragedy, when the daughter of Amyclas, widowed in her love and struggling with the silent grief that cuts the heart strings, places her mother's wedding ring on the finger of the corpse of the Spartan youth she so deeply loved. At this moving crisis in the play, Miss Rooke struck the true tragic note and deeply impressed the audience with a sense of her powers as an actress. Miss Ada Potter gave an excellent embodiment of Penthea, her portrayal of madness being especially effective. Mr Frank Lascelles played very well as Ithocles, and Mr J. H. Irvine gave a powerful rendering of the passionate Orgilus. Mr William H. Kemble made good use of his opportunities in the minor rôle of Amyclas, King of Laconia; and Mr A. E. Drinkwater did good work in his representation of the odious Bassanes. Mr H. Tripp Edgar deserves a word of praise for his impersonation of Prophilus, and efficient assistance was given by Mr Dennis W. Cleugh as Nearchus, Prince of Argos, Mr Cyril Cattley as Tecnicus, a philosopher, and Mr J. Henry Twyford and Mr Archibald Maclean as Armostes and Crotolon, Councillors of State. Miss Meta Pelham was well placed as Grausis, and Miss Dora Hole was a satisfactory representative of Euphranes, a maid of honour. Mention should be made of the charming incidental music from composers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries arranged by Mr C. W. Smith, the musical director, who also composed the song introduced in the fifth act. In this act was also given the dance known as the pavane, which, according to the programme, "although an obvious anachronism in Greek costume, probably represents most nearly the effect intended by the author." The play was produced under the direction of Mr Philip Carr, and Mr Richard Maynard was the business-manager.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Play, entitled
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

Mr Auguste Van Biene, supported by a powerful company, is paying a special visit to this theatre prior to his commencing his forthcoming Australian tour. Mr Van Biene himself takes the part of Paul Borinski, a musician, and incidentally he also plays the 'cello, speaking to the audience almost as plainly by means of his skill as a musician as by his powers as an actor. One could listen to his charming playing the whole evening with pleasure. Mr Arthur Bawtree is a characteristic General Ivanoff, a secret Russian police spy, and lends the greatest assistance to his colleagues. Mr T. P. Haynes is quite efficient as Dudley Mortimer, a music hall (or musical) agent, and appears to be a comedian of considerable ability, although his part gives no real scope for him to show it. Dixon, a lodging-house keeper, is well portrayed by Mr Ernest Laceby, and Mr John Cummings and Mr Henry Ludlow make the most of the small parts of Beaujoir and the Hon. Richard Spinacher respectively. Mr E. Edwards as Dr. Magrath has little to do, but does that little well. Miss Lena Burnleigh most successfully undertakes the part of Mabel, wife of Borinski, and shows very considerable gifts as an emotional actress. Miss Avis Graham as Mrs Dixon is extremely good, and Miss Morton is equally commendable as the Hon. Mrs Spinacher. Miss Ida Chapman plays the part of the scheming Duchesse De Verviers as though to the manner born, and her portrait of the high-bred treacherous lady of title is full of life and most effective.

"THE MAID AND THE MINSTREL."

Musical Comedy, in Two Acts,
Written by Sydney Cubitt, Composed by Carl St. Amory,
Produced at the Lyric Theatre on Saturday, Nov. 19.

The King of Gladeia	Mr ARTHUR THESIGER
Count Von Shlootherbutter	Mr NICHOLAS HOLTHOIR
Franz	Mr ERNEST THESIGER
Fritz	Mr RALPH CAMERON
Domo	Mr CLAUDE SERCOMBE
First Courtier	Mr R. LEWIS
Second Courtier	Mr BEYNON
The Queen	Miss JOAN WODEHOUSE
Princess Carita	Miss HERSEY MALTBY
Camilla	Miss ALICE WODEHOUSE
Nymia	Miss GLADYS GROVE
Hey	Miss EILEEN MALTBY
Farinelli	Mr RICHARD GREEN

The proceeds of the matinée at the Lyric on Saturday were to be divided between the Princess Louise's Gordon League and the charities of St. Saviour's, Pimlico, and if we may judge by the crowded state of the house the sum realised must have been a goodly one. The brand new musical play that was produced has the attractive title of *The Maid and the Minstrel*. It is one that conjures up recollections of our youthful historical studies and the stories of Blondel and Chastelard. The author and composer, Messrs Sydney Cubitt and Carl St. Amory, have not achieved anything very novel or smart, but we may pay the work the compliment—which we think a high one—that it is specially adapted for children, who will delight in its fairy scenes and pretty but conventional story. The music is ambitious, but not particularly striking, and though Mr St. Amory occasionally is happy in a melodious ballad, much of his music sounds indefinite. The "maid" of the plot is the Princess Carita, the sad-eyed daughter of the King of Gladeia, one of those idiotic monarchs of the pattern to be met with in opera-bouffe. Carita is the maid without a smile. Even her father's propensity for punning—a grievous thing indeed for a responsible ruler to be guilty of—do not move her. A proclamation brings various suitors, two of them being the sons of Count Von Shlootherbutter, and another Farinelli, the king's minstrel. The last-mentioned has won the heart of the maid before he sings his love *lied*—"Carita, my princess, I love but thee"—and it is scarcely necessary to state that she smiles on his suit, much to the chagrin of the King. He will have none of it. The maid must mate with royal blood, and as she proves obdurate she is imprisoned, and the minstrel banished. In the second act the fairies—fluttering as moths—come to the aid of the lovers, who meet in the glade wherein is growing the wishing oak.

EADE MONTEFIORE'S FAREWELL

Mr Eade Montefiore on Saturday evening laid aside the duties of manager of Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, and at the same time gracefully introduced his successor. The ceremony took place between the acts in a performance of *The Yeomen of the Guard* by the D'Oyly Carte company, and following on the appearance before the footlights of Mr Montefiore and the new manager, the curtain rose to disclose an interested company of representative citizens, flanked by representatives of beefeaters and London maidens of long ago. In the group were Mr David Mackie (President of the Chamber of Commerce), Mr J. Mollison Kidd, Mr George Cox, Mr Ronald Cox, Mr Methven Cox, Mr J. C. Methven, Colonel Smith, Mr J. B. Taylor, Councillor High, Mr David Wylie, Mr Alec Thomson, Mr D. A. Maxwell, Mr J. C. Scott, Mr W. F. M. Ross, Mr C. B. L. Fernandez, Mr J. M'Arthur, Mr Harry Kenny, Mr George Serymgeour, Mr James Buchan, and very many others.

Mr MOLLISON KIDD, inviting Mr Montefiore's presence on the stage, said that the honour of being spokesman probably devolved upon himself because he knew something of the difficulties, disappointments, and triumphs of such a position as their friend was vacating. He begged Mr Montefiore to accept an illuminated address subscribed to by very many friends as a token of esteem and good feeling. He also asked the acceptance of a cheque for £154 15s, and in doing so said he felt sure that all present were most unwilling to say good-bye to Mr Montefiore, for during the past three years he had laboured hard to maintain the dignity and to elevate the status of his profession. Mr Montefiore carried with him to Edinburgh sincere wishes that he might long be spared to successfully continue the work he had so ably carried out in Dundee. The address, a richly artistic illumination by Mr Richard G. Murray, opened as follows:—

To EADE MONTEFIORE, Esq.,
General Manager of Her Majesty's Theatres,
Dundee and Aberdeen.

We, as playgoers of this City and County of Dundee, cannot allow you to depart from our midst to assume the direction of the Grand Theatre, in our capital city of Scotland, without placing upon record our loyal appreciation of your earnest and enterprising management of Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee.

You have, in an all too short three years, brought to bear upon our dramatic interests a personality of such force of character that has kindled a great sentimental regard for the theatre as an institution of this city.

You have raised the tone of the drama, its playhouse, and its player by the lofty and dignified regard for the amenities of a public position.

You have, by your resolute strictness and by your respect and love for the art of which you are so worthy a master, gained the confidence of the commonwealth for the improved conduct of our theatre.

You have, by an individuality strong in its direct aim for good, gained the admiration of those even who view the theatre from an antagonistic standpoint.

You have by self-sacrificing and unwearying labour, by untiring enthusiasm and admirable astuteness, so raised the financial and moral status of the Dundee Theatre that all the great artists of the day realise that our city is now to be numbered amongst the favoured theatrical cities of the United Kingdom.

You have been associated during your régime with the visits of Miss Ellen Terry, Wilson Barrett, Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and Sir Henry Irving.

You have called forth to the public knowledge pæans of praise for your individual work from the great ones of your profession, and we feel in bidding you farewell that an exceptional representative goes out from Dundee and Aberdeen to battle once more for fame and fortune.

We cannot but place on record the pleasure you have afforded in your brilliant innovations, which enabled us—the playgoers—to meet in social intercourse many favoured visitors, notably Mr Tree, Miss Viola Tree, and Miss Fortescue, at receptions within the walls of Her Majesty's.

We remember, too, your experienced labours which gave to us for three successive summers that fine organisation, the Arthurian Company of Players, who, selected by your ripe judgment, gave us summer entertainment that was held up by your stage journals and our local press as a pattern of executive management.

We so extol your work as an open example and encouragement to the less strenuous, and we rejoice a reward has now come that may lead you personally to high and permanent place in your profession. We trust you will keep bright before you the mirror of all that is best and good on the stage, and rise as a leader amongst men for the amelioration of public entertainment. Bidding you then farewell; counselling you to be of good cheer; to fight on; to hope on; and ever remember that you carry with you our gratitude, our thanks, and our admiring applause.

The signatories to the above address included most of the leading Dundee people, including Principal J. Yule Mackay, LL.D. (of the Dundee University), the Rev. Dr. George Mackness, D.D., the Rev. J. C. Cater, the Rev. Harcourt M. Davidson, Miss Cox (of Clement Park), Mr and Mrs Geo. M. Cox, Mr and Mrs Geo. M. Cox, Mr and Mrs James Cox Methven, Mr and Mrs J. C. Scott (of Tay Park), Colonel William Smith (of the Black Watch), and the leading representatives of legal, literary, and commercial society in Dundee.

Mr M'GIVERN, representing the staff of Her Majesty's, with whom was associated Mr Davidson, of Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, spoke a few kindly words about his old manager, and presented a beautifully illuminated address from the employees of the two houses. It read:—

We wish to place on record the very kindly and courteous manner and the unfailing tact with which you have handled even the smallest matters pertaining to your office, and we may venture to say that we feel, on your departure, that we are losing a personal friend, as well as a very kindly and capable manager. It is the sincerest wish of your staff at these theatres that you may long continue to go forward in your profession with the signal success of which the present status of the theatres is an eloquent testimony.

Aberdeen Staff Heads of Departments.—JOSEPH DAVIDSON, JOHN SMALL, FRANK SMITH, JAMES KERNAN, JOHN THOMSON, SAMUEL LESTER, JOHN BENZIE.

Dundee Staff Heads of Departments.—A. W. RAMSAY, JOSEPH FREEMAN, JAMES M'GIVERN, WILLIAM AITKEN, WILLIAM AIRD, Mrs E. M'KAY, JAMES GOVE.

And with Mr MONTEFIORE having fittingly replied, the curtain fell amidst loud applause.

After the farewell on the stage, Mr Montefiore entertained in his beautiful room in the theatre the leading ladies and gentlemen of the neighbourhood, many of whom had had farewell dinner parties in his honour earlier in the week.

Mr Montefiore left Dundee for Edinburgh on Sunday last. It is pleasant to know that from their former manager several members of the staff at Her Majesty's received a portrait enclosed in a silver frame, and a very merry parting hour was spent in a specially laid-out "green room."

The following letter and testimony were sent Mr Montefiore on the eve of his departure by the Chief Constable of Dundee:—

Dear Sir,—I enclose certificate, which I deem it proper to send you. Hoping you may be successful in your new venture, Yours faithfully, (Signed) D. DEWAR.

Eade Montefiore, Esq., Manager, H.M. Theatre.

I have pleasure in stating that Mr Eade Montefiore has been for upwards of three years manager of Her Majesty's Theatre and Opera House, Dundee. He has during the whole of that period discharged his duty in a most satisfactory manner. He is possessed of great energy, high business qualifications, and is a strict disciplinarian. I am satisfied that few could be found to discharge similar duties more efficiently. He now leaves Dundee for Edinburgh, where it is to be hoped he will be as successful as he has been in this city. (Signed) DAVID DEWAR.

Chief Constable's Office, Dundee, Nov. 19, 1904.

ARTISTS AND AUDIENCES.

Mr R. H. DOUGLASS lectured before the members of the Playgoers' Club, at the Hotel Cecil, on Sunday night, on "Audiences from the Artists' Point of View." He very much objected (he said) to the man who would sympathise with his next door neighbour because it was that unfortunate individual's first visit, and who, to prove that he himself had been there twenty times, would insist on humming the songs with the artists—generally in a different key. For self-importance, Mr Douglass asked to be commended to the deadhead. Probably they had heard the story of the deadhead—an actor—who went to a pantomime in the provinces. The pantomime was so bad that he went to the acting-manager, and wanted his card back. Having referred to the selfishness of late comers, he described the Australian audience as the most sympathetic of all, particularly to every English artist. Whether the artist was famous or unknown made no difference. It was sufficient that he came, as our Australian cousins said, from "home." He characterised as unthinking the audiences which tolerated many of the melodramas which were on tour at present. Did it not prove that insanity was on the increase when people would put up with such impossible situations as were met with in those melodramas? The influence of audiences was greater than they imagined. Their applause was the artist's reward. When condemnation was expressed he did not advocate hissing. He would rather they followed the example of our American cousins, and like the Arabs "fold their tents and steal silently away." From a music hall artist's standpoint the London audience was the best.

Mdlle. ADELINE GENEE, who was in the chair, opened the discussion which followed. When she faced an audience, she said, she had two objects in view. In the first place she liked to please the house at large, but she did her best and most difficult work for the understanding few—perhaps one in a hundred—who had studied dancing, and who knew that in the work of a *prima ballerina* all was not gold that glittered.

Mr J. T. GREIN ascribed the varying of audiences to the fact that human beings were temperamental. The weather, draughts in the house, or similar matters might affect the audience, but one thing was greater than all, and that was the unspoken occult feeling of magnetism which at moments made all mankind and womankind kin.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—Your Warrington correspondent, whilst praising the rendering of the part of Professor Moriarty, in *Sherlock Holmes*, in your last issue, falls into a slight error, and attributes it to the wrong artiste. The part is now being and has been for months past played by, yours faithfully, ARTHUR B. MURRAY. Theatre Royal, Ilkeston, Nov. 24.

THE GARRICK THEATRE LEASE.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, before the Lord Chancellor, Lord Davey, and Lord Robertson, Brickwell v. Gilbert was an appeal from a decision of the Court of Appeal (Lords Justices Vaughan Williams and Romer, Lord Justice Mathew dissenting) dated Aug. 6, 1902 which affirmed the judgment of Mr Justice Kekewich of Nov. 22, 1901. The question was whether certain letters passing between the appellant and respondent on March 29, 30, and 31, 1900, constituted a valid contract entitling the appellant to specific performance thereof and the grant of a lease by the respondent of the premises known as the Garrick Theatre, in Charing cross-road and St. Martin's-lane, in the city of Westminster, for a term of twenty one years from April 13, 1910, on the terms indicated in the respondent's letter of March 30, 1900. The Courts below held that, having regard to all the circumstances, the letters did not indicate a final agreement, and that the appellant was not entitled to the lease from the respondent. The letters are in the following terms:—

Garrick Theatre, Charing-cross-road, W.,
March 29, 1900

Dear Sir,—Can I arrange with you direct to take over the lease of the Garrick Theatre from the year 1910? I am, as you are no doubt aware, at present a sub-tenant of Messrs Greet and Engelbach, who purchased the lease from Mr John Hare. I ask you thus far ahead as your decision will considerably affect the future of my son, who is twenty-two years of age. A line at your convenience will oblige. Yours truly,

(Stamp 6d.) H. T. BRICKWELL.

Grim's Dyke, Harrow Weald, March 30, 1900.

Dear Sir,—I am willing to enter into an arrangement for granting you a lease of the Garrick Theatre as from 1900 on the following terms:—You are to pay me £500 per annum until 1910, and I am then to grant you a twenty-one years' lease of the Garrick Theatre at a clear rental of £5,000 per annum—all outgoings of whatever description (except landlord's tax) to be paid by you. In other respects on the covenants as to repairs, re-entry, &c., customary in first-class theatre leases.

Yours faithfully, W. S. GILBERT.

H. T. Brickwell, Esq.

Garrick Theatre, Charing-cross-road, W.,
March 31, 1900.

Dear Sir,—Many thanks for yours of the 30th inst., re the new lease of the above theatre for twenty-one years from April, 1910, the terms of which I agree to. Before placing the matter in our respective solicitors' hands I should like, if possible, to have a personal interview with you to discuss sundry details and so try to avoid some of the unnecessary legal expenses I was put to when taking over the theatre in 1898.

Yours very truly, H. T. BRICKWELL.

W. S. Gilbert, Esq.

On April 12, 1900, the respondent wrote to the appellant a letter as to a scene dock and a right of way, and on April 19, 1900, the appellant and the respondent met by appointment at the office of Messrs Horne and Birkett, the respondent's solicitors, where, in the presence of Mr Percival Birkett, the appellant verbally agreed to take a lease of the scene dock at the rent of £100 per annum, and the respondent agreed to defray out of his own pocket the annual charge payable in respect of the right-of-way. A draft contract was prepared and further correspondence took place between the appellant and the respondent, and between their respective solicitors. The appellant on Nov 20, 1900, tendered to the respondent the sum of £500, payable according to the respondent's letter of March 30, 1900, but such tender was refused. The appellant then instituted the action for specific performance.

Mr Asquith, K.C., and Mr Frank Dodd were for the appellant; Mr Haldane, K.C., and Mr C. Gurdon for the respondent.

The Lord Chancellor, in moving that the decision of the Court of Appeal should be reversed, said that this was a reasonably plain case, the single question being one of fact whether there was an agreement between the parties or not. The whole matter rested on the three letters of March 29, 30, and 31. Mr Brickwell's first letter asked whether he could take the lease over from Mr Gilbert. The latter's answer was in effect "Yes." In the third of the letters the appellant referred to Mr Gilbert's letter, and said, "the terms of which I agree to." If there was any finality in human language, it was to be found in those letters. There was a consummate agreement constituted between the parties by these letters, and, indeed, there did not seem ever to have been a difference between the parties as to the terms proposed. This view of the case was really confirmed by Mr Gilbert's letter of April 12, in which he spoke of a matter which he had omitted to mention "when arranging for the new lease." On the theory that the parties were still only in negotiation there was no need of this apology.

Lord Davey and Lord Robertson concurred, and the appeal was allowed.

MARTIN HARVEY AS HAMLET.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The character of Hamlet was played for the first time by Mr Martin Harvey at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, on Monday. The full cast of the revival was as follows:—

Claudius	Mr CHARLES GLENNEY
Hamlet	Mr MARTIN HARVEY
Ghost of Hamlet's Father	Mr ALBERT E. RAYNOR
Horatio	Mr PERCY ANSTEY
Polonius	Mr FRED WRIGHT, Sen.
Laertes	Mr MILTON ROSMER
Rosencrantz	Mr GEORGE COOKE
Guildenstern	Mr ARTHUR MAUDE
Osric	Mr EUGENE WELLESLEY
First Player	M. GILBERT YORKE
Second Player	Mr CHARLES J. CAMERON
Marcellus	Mr REEVE ONEIGH
Bernardo	Mr P. HEWLAND
Francisco	Mr J. CHARLES
First Gravedigger	Mr P. ALEXANDER
Second Gravedigger	Mr J. ALEXANDER
Reynaldo	Mr O. T. CARLE
A Priest	Mr H. BARBER
A Messenger	Mr H. PHILIP
Gertrude	Miss MAUDE MILTON
Player Queen	Miss EDITH COLEMAN
Ophelia	Miss N. DE SILVA

There was an exceptionally large audience. Mr Harvey's performance was a brilliant one, and he is to be congratulated for his successful and impressive achievement. He was most warmly greeted after each act. Miss N. De Silva (Mrs Martin Harvey) was very graceful in the rôle of Ophelia. Miss Maude Milton gave an excellent reading of that of the Queen, and the part of the King was ably enacted by Mr Charles Glenny. Mr Albert E. Raynor did admirably as the Ghost, Mr Fred Wright, sen., made a capital Polonius, Horatio was cleverly depicted by Mr Percy Anstey, and Mr P. Alexander was very good as First Gravedigger. The play was most artistically mounted, the scenery being painted by Mr George J. Dodson, from designs by Mr Harvey himself. The dresses were also excellent, and were designed and executed under the personal direction of Mrs Martin Harvey. Mr Norman O'Neil was responsible for the overture and incidental music, which were heartily appreciated.

Mr Martin Harvey's reception was of the most flattering character. It was several moments before he could speak, so great was the applause when he first came upon the stage. At the end of every act he was vigorously applauded, and at the close, after recalling him four or five times, the audience cheered and clamoured—at 12.30—for a speech. Mr Harvey said it seemed almost impious at such a late hour, after such a splendid tragedy, to make a speech. He could not refrain from thanking them, however, for the generous reception they had given him. It was the crowning ambition of every actor to play Hamlet. Many years ago, when he first came to Dublin and experienced the warmth of his reception, he resolved that if and when he produced *Hamlet* he should do so first in Dublin. In conclusion, he thanked the audience for the deep interest, the quiet attention, and the appreciation with which they followed the performance.

MR EADE MONTEFIORE'S ROOM IN HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, DUNDEE.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

MISS OLGA NETHERSOLE evidently considers that by throwing open the Shaftesbury Theatre free to the public last Wednesday evening, and inviting the judgment of those assembled on *The Flute of Pan*, she supplied a crushing reply to all who have found fault with the piece. The members of this audience, it appears, wrote their opinions on voting papers which had been handed to them, 1,200 being in favour of the play, twenty-two against it, and eight writing qualified disapprovals. To "pack" a house with "dead-heads" and then invite their verdict on the entertainment offered is like giving a number of persons a free dinner and then asking their opinion of the menu. In both cases the guests would be very ungrateful if they did not say that it was good.

MR HENRY V. ESMOND celebrates his birthday next Wednesday. The author of *The Wilderness* is a Londoner, and the son of a doctor. He made his début as an actor nearly twenty years ago, but he still excels—when he chooses to play them—in boys' parts. Mr Esmond's success as playwright has been as pronounced in America as it is in England. He was married to Miss Eva Moore in 1891.

MR HARRY PAULTON, JUN., who is leading comedian in the stock company at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, is always accompanied to the theatre by his terrier, Dick. Dick is a most intelligent animal, and never dreams of following his master out of the dressing-room until the performance is over. He is, however, quite equal to appearing behind the footlights. A few seasons ago Mr Paulton allowed him to run on to the stage, during a pantomime, and do a little "business" with a rag dog. After the first week Dick knew the music of his cue, he would fetch the rag dog himself from beneath the table, and wait in the wings for the signal to go on. Mr Paulton has been, as might be expected with the son of his father, thoroughly grounded in all work connected with the stage. He went straight from school to America, when he was a lad of about seventeen, to produce *Erminie* in New York. He has toured his own companies, and acted all sorts of parts. Last year he was stage-manager at "the Brit," and found it the most "hustling" work he had ever undertaken, for he played at the same time himself, and put on a pantomime with a big cast. His sister, Miss Agnes Paulton, is also engaged at the Elephant, having joined the stock company in the spring. Mr Paulton, jun., is the husband of Miss Kate Connaught, who is so well known in the provinces in the character of Niobe.

MR ARTHUR GARRETT, the general manager to Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry, was one of the victims of the recent snow block on the North British Railway. Says Mr Garrett—"I left by the express from St. Pancras for Edinburgh at 9 30 on Tuesday morning. At 4 30 in the afternoon we reached Carlisle, and proceeded as far as New Castleton—about twenty-one miles further north. There we were brought to a standstill. Many of us asked various officials to take the train back to Carlisle, but they replied they could neither go forward nor backward. At midnight, after seven wretched hours amid the snow, frost, and bitterly cold wind, the train was put on the down line, as we had suggested at first, and taken back to Carlisle, there to await the clearing of the line."

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT, on Wednesday, presented to the students at the Charing-cross Hospital Medical School the scholarships, medals, prizes, and certificates awarded during the winter session 1903 4 and the summer session 1904. Sir Squire, in a brief speech, said the dean had reminded them that the last occupant of the chair at that school was a most distinguished member of the profession to which he himself belonged for some years. It was a great pleasure to him to know that the players were so appreciated there. He did not think actors were ungrateful people, and one thing he was sure of, they would be always grateful for the words spoken by the Prince of Wales at the last meeting of King Edward's Hospital Fund, when he referred to the "frequent, substantial, and unassuming help derived by the hospitals from the theatrical profession." One piece of advice he wished, as a layman, to give them. It was, "Be cheerful!"

MR J. M. BARRIE has written a fairy play, in three acts, which will be produced at the Duke of York's Theatre after Christmas, with Miss Nina Boucicault, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Mr Gerald Du Maurier, Miss Dorothea Baird, Mr George Shelton, Miss Joan Burnett, Miss Pauline Chase, Master George Hersee, and Miss Ella Q May in the cast.

MR FRANK BOYCE, the lessee of the Grand Theatre, Swansea, who had been in ill-health for a long time past, died on Tuesday morning, in London, at the residence of his brother. He was forty-seven years of age, and the cause of death was dropsy. He left Swansea about a month ago. Mr Boyce, whose fortune had been bound up with the Grand Theatre since its opening on July 29th, 1897, and who, a short time ago, undertook sole responsible management, was a man reticent in demeanour, though none the less respected on that account. His father was a governor of a prison, and Mr Boyce first saw the light of day, in consequence, from inside a gaol. He was in his younger days an actor, and before going to Swansea managed the Theatre Royal, York. In Swansea, Mr Boyce made many friends, though the theatrical enterprise he has been identified with in Swansea was, as stated, only opened in 1897 under the joint control of Messrs Morell and Mouillot. To the Grand and the Star descended the traditions of the past, and Mr Boyce, for his part, did all in his power to maintain the far-reaching influence of the players' art upon men and morals. Mr Boyce's death is widely regretted throughout theatrical circles, in which he was so well known.

"TRAUMULUS," which the German company at the Great Queen-street Theatre will perform on Tuesday, has been the success of the past Berlin season. "Traumulus" is the nickname given by his pupils to a typical German professor, a dreamer full of youthful optimism and realism. Although this play was only produced in Berlin on Sept. 24 last, it is already being played all over Germany; and, contrary to all custom, the management of the Lessing Theater, Berlin, has had, owing to the immense popularity of the piece, to exclude all others from their bill. There will be no performance by the German company at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Monday.

THE St. Leonard's-on-Sea Kursaal was opened on Tuesday afternoon by Mrs Freeman-Thomas, wife of the borough member. The enterprise is assisted by the Municipality. The company on Tuesday included Lord and Lady Brassey and Major Freeman-Thomas, M P, the Mayor and Mayoress, and other local notabilities. After the reception and opening by Mrs Freeman-Thomas there were congratulatory speeches, and a concert under the direction of the conductor of the orchestra, Mr Val Marriott.

MR EDWARD SASS, who is to play the amusing Mr Burgess, in Bernard Shaw's *Candida*, in place of Mr J. H. Barnes, is very well known as an actor-manager in South Africa and Australia. One of his biggest successes in London was made in *The New Clown*, when he played an old-fashioned circus proprietor with as much humour as Mr James Welch displayed as the poor little clown. Mr Sass married Miss Emma Gwynne, a sister of Mrs George Edwardes.

THEIR Majesties the King and Queen and the King and Queen of Portugal were present on Saturday evening at a performance given in the Waterloo Chamber, Windsor Castle, by Mr Lewis Waller's company from the Imperial Theatre. The cast, of *Monsieur Beaucaire*, which was the piece performed, included Mr Lewis Waller, Mr Edward Ferris, Mr Frank Dyall, Mr Charles Goodhart, Mr W. Gayer Mackay, Mr Norman M'Kinnel, Mr A. E. George, Mr Charles Allan, Mr S. B. Brereton, Mr Arthur Lewis, Mr H. Savile, Mr J. Byron, Mr C. M'Guinness, Miss Evelyn Millard, Miss Constance Walton, Miss Kate Tyndall, Miss May Chenery, Miss Catherine Vyse, Miss Mary Lewis, and Miss Minnie Griffin. Some charming entr'acte music was played by Mr Gottlieb's Vienna orchestra. At the close of the performance the Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery (the Lord Steward) conveyed to Mr Waller the King's satisfaction with the performance; and he and his company were then regaled in the Audience Chamber.

THE chaplain of Hanwell Lunatic Asylum, the Rev. Robert Andrews, has written the libretto of a musical play, for which the Rev. W. J. Pressey, rector of Foxearth, Essex, has composed the music. The work is called *The Shah's New Suit*, and it will be produced by the Apollo Amateur Operatic Society at the Court Theatre on Monday afternoon in aid of the Incorporated Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society. The scene is laid in the Island of Padagascar, and the hero is the Shah of "Mersia." There will be a chorus of forty, and the piece will be elaborately mounted.

MR EDWARD TERRY, who is fulfilling an engagement this week at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, was entertained on Thursday to a luncheon given in his honour by the local Corinthian Club, at which Sir Charles Cameron presided.

MR GEORGE DAVEY has started a novel competition in connection with the forthcoming pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Islington. He will, during the run of it, give each week several prizes, consisting of a really admirable "rag-book" of nursery rhymes, to the three children who write the best account of the story and performance of the "Babes in the Wood." Over 8,000 children have already written for and received the set of pantomimic pictorial postcards presented by Mr Davey.

MR G. H. SNAZELLE, who has been engaged by Mr Robert Arthur to take the part of "The King of the Cannibal Islands" in his London production of "Robinson Crusoe," has travelled all over the Southern seas and given lantern exhibitions to the cannibals of the New Hebrides and to the islanders of Polynesia, and while in Fiji he became possessed of King Cocoabau's (pronounced Thookabo's) gala costume. In this he has had his photo taken, and happening one day to show this to Mr Arthur, the latter at once suggested he should take the part of the King of the Cannibal Islands. "Done," said Mr Snazelle, and the compact was signed on the spot.

MR SANDON PERKINS, who has succeeded Mr Eade Montefiore as manager of Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, is a native of Yorkshire. He was at first intended for the ministry, but at the age of seventeen he emigrated to America, where he took part in many adventurous projects. Subsequently he roughed it in British Columbia, Australia, and Japan, and gained some distinction as a lecturer. Under the auspices of the British Columbian Government he visited this country and lectured on the Klondyke Goldfields. In 1899 he became manager of the Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

AT the Bouffes Parisiens, Paris, on Wednesday night, at the dress rehearsal of *La Fin de l'Amour*, a curious incident occurred. Many people had been invited, but those who arrived after the performance had begun were not allowed to take their seats. They were compelled to remain in the draughty corridors until the curtain had gone down. The ladies raised their voices, the gentlemen protested, and they even entered their complaints in a book which they handed to one of the officials. Dress rehearsals in Paris are private functions to which one is "invited;" and the management certainly did not show their guests that courtesy to which they can lay claim.

AT the Shaftesbury Theatre, on Monday, shortly before the raising of the curtain for the performance of *The Flute of Pan*, a gas gridiron at the back of the stage fell and severely injured the head gasman, Mr Piggott. He was at once taken to Charing-cross Hospital, but died from his injuries soon after being admitted. The deceased, who lived in Walpole-street, New-cross, leaves a wife and six children.

"THE EARL AND THE GIRL" will be withdrawn from the Lyric Theatre on Dec. 17, to be followed by a musical play, written by Mr Seymour Hicks, and composed by Messrs E. Haines and Evelyn Baker, with lyrics by C. H. Taylor. This is in two acts, the action of the first taking place in a large shop in Regent-street, and that of the second in barracks near Windsor. Mr Robert Evett, Mr Henry Lytton, Mr Walter Passmore, Miss Maude Darrell, and Miss Sydney Fairbrother will be in the cast.

MISS ELLEN TERRY, who will be at the Camden Theatre next week, has kindly consented to enact Portia, in *The Merchant of Venice*, at a matinée at the Lyric Theatre on Tuesday, Dec. 6, with Mr Norman Forbes as Shylock.

MR W. S. PENLEY'S lease of the comedy *Charley's Aunt* having expired, all rights in the play have reverted to the author, Mr Brandon Thomas, and the run of the piece will continue under his direction.

A REMARKABLE scene took place on the 18th inst. after the brilliant gala performance in conjunction with the University Opera Week, at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield. The students of the college assembled in force outside the theatre, and at midnight a procession was formed, headed by mounted police and the band of the Engineer Volunteers. Mr Charles Manners and Miss Moody were drawn in triumph in an open carriage, surrounded by grotesquely attired torch-bearers. The progress through the streets was witnessed by thousands. Later Miss Fanny Moody appeared on the balcony of the Royal Victoria Hotel, and, amid impressive silence, sang "Home, Sweet Home," to an immense assemblage. It was a thrilling culmination to a week of triumphant success.

MADAME RÉJANE appeared in *Zaza* at the Lyric Theatre, New York, on Monday night. The house was not full, as a first night at the Opera proved a counter-attraction. The New York Press praise Madame Réjane's performance, but condemn the shabby mounting of the play.

M. COQUELIN'S performances in Cairo have created great enthusiasm. When the French actor was playing in the *Gendre de Monsieur Poirier* the other day, he was called to the Khedive's box in one of the entr'actes, and received compliments from the Khedive and the promise of a donation to the Home for Artists recently founded by M. Coquelin.

MR WAT LAURI, who has just returned from a successful tour of four years' duration in South Africa with Messrs Sass and Nelson, has been engaged for a lengthened period by Mr George Dance, commencing on Boxing Day. For family reasons Mr Lauri has decided in future to appear under his own name of Lauri De Frece.

BEFORE Judge Woodfall, in the Westminster County Court on Wednesday, Mr Herbert Clarke, acting-manager of the Vaudeville Theatre, was sued by Blackmore's Dramatic Agency for the recovery of £20, on a commission note. The plaintiff, Mr Herbert Blackmore, said he secured for the defendants in February, 1900, an appointment as acting-manager with Messrs Gatti, of the Vaudeville and Adelphi Theatres, at a salary of £8 a week. In consideration defendant handed to him a commission note, engaging to pay 10 per cent. on the first ten weeks of each consecutive year of the engagement. For the first two years he paid the commission. In 1903 his salary was increased to £10 a week, and defendant then refused to pay. The claim was on that year's commission and for the present year. Mr Clarke said the first engagement at the Vaudeville was for four weeks, and he never remembered signing the contract binding him to pay commission yearly. He paid the first two years as a bonus, but not because of the contract. The judge said the contract was made by responsible, grown-up parties, who were bound by it. Plaintiffs were premature in claiming on this year's engagement, but they were entitled to the 10 per cent. commission for 1903. Judgment would therefore be given for £10, with costs on "A" scale.

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM began his New York engagement at the New Lyceum Theatre on the 14th inst., appearing in *David Garrick*. It was fourteen years since Sir Charles had made his last visit to America. His previous engagement in New York was fulfilled at the old Star Theatre, below Fourteenth-street, the scene of Sir Henry Irving's earliest appearances in the Empire City. The New Lyceum, managed by Mr Daniel Frohman, was opened about a year ago, and is a very handsome and commodious theatre. Situated in West Forty-fifth-street, its location marks the northern boundary of the metropolitan theatre district of to-day, and points the great difference between the past and the present in this regard, all the first-class playhouses being now situated in a section of New York known not so many years ago as "up town." Sir Charles, who was greeted with a hearty burst of applause when he made his first entrance, gave his fine embodiment of David Garrick with as much spirit as if the part were being played for the first time, and his superb acting, in the intoxication scene particularly, completely captivated the senses of his audience. Of their enthusiastic appreciation Miss Mary Moore as Ada Ingot won a goodly share. Mr Alfred Bishop played Alderman Ingot admirably, and Mr Frank Atherley's Squire Chivy was an artistic portrayal.

IN response to persistent applause at the close Sir Charles Wyndham appeared before the curtain and said:—"In acknowledging this reception on behalf of Miss Moore, my company, and myself, I want to say that in your greeting after fifteen years I see what we have missed. I think I can promise that I will not be so long away again. It is no easy task to play to an unfamiliar audience, and the play that we began in fear and trembling we have finished in insufferable conceit, for which the responsibility is on your own shoulders."

MRS BENNETT, who is leading lady at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, has a gift for learning—and dressing—any part in an incredibly short space of time. She has, perhaps, done more stock season work than any other actress in London. Her long engagements at the Surrey, at old Sadler's Wells—where she made her début as a child—and other suburban houses have given her the opportunity of playing every sort of persecuted heroine to be found in stageland. She is equally well known in the halls, having often supported Mr Joe Elvin and other sketch artists, besides reciting on her own account. Mrs Bennett is very fond of riding and driving, but since her husband met with a serious carriage accident some time ago she has not enjoyed her old pastime nearly as much. She is a good needlewoman, and has a clever knack of adapting dresses. For instance, she looked very picturesque in the third act of *The Union Jack* this week, in an evening gown of stamped white satin with a silver girdle, originally a Shakespearian costume, but brought up to date with flowers, jewels, and telling little touches in the arrangement of the sleeves and bodice. The leading lady at the Elephant receives many tributes of admiration from unknown friends in front. Two hand-painted plaques were presented to her a few weeks ago. An elaborately-worked satin handkerchief-case is another of her recent acquisitions, and the very latest gift was a large coloured photograph of a girl whom she has never seen.

A RECEPTION was held at the St. James's Theatre on Tuesday afternoon in aid of the appeal fund on behalf of the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women in Marylebone-road. Mrs George Alexander, Mrs Kendal, Mrs Beerbohm Tree, Mrs Cyril Maude, Miss Alice Nielsen, and Mrs Hubert Roberts were the hostesses. Mr George Alexander kindly lent the house, on the stage of which were placed tables, at which tea was dispensed to the visitors. Tickets of admission cost a guinea, and upwards of 500 were disposed of at this price, seats at a lower rate being reserved in the upper circle and balcony. Mr George Alexander, Mr Kendal, Miss Beerbohm Tree, and the Marchioness of Granby and others helped the hostesses to "receive," and Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Grace Lane, Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mrs Thurston, Miss Lily Brayton, Mr Oscar Asche, Mr Allan Aynesworth, Mr Henry Kemble, Mr C. Hayden Coffin, Miss Nancy Price, Lady Harmsworth, the Dowager Duchess of Sutherland, and Sir A. K. Rollit, M.P., were among the guests. Signor Tanara directed an agreeable concert, which was given by members of the San Carlo Opera Company, and selections of music were contributed by Ashton's Italian Band.

MISS LIZZIE BURGESS, who has been with the Carl Rosa opera company for four seasons, commenced to sing when she was so little that she cannot remember the exact time, but her ambition may be said to have been aroused by the gift of a doll, when she was six, as a reward for entertaining some friends with a song. Her next remembrance is of being put on a stool in chapel to sing hymns. A few years later she made a success with ballads, being still quite a little girl. Miss Burgess is now, as music-lovers know, a lyric soprano, with the freshness and charm of her high voice unspoilt by the hard work she has done in oratorio, on the stage, and on the concert platform. She comes from Hurst, a small town in Lancashire, studied with Signor Moretti, of Milan, and possesses an exceptionally quick and good memory. As proof of this, she once played Elvira, in *Don Giovanni*, at two days' notice; and, more wonderful still, the part of Elizabeth, in *Tannhäuser*, after studying it for only half that time. She has recently created Madeleine, in *Andre Chenier*. Elsa, in *Lohengrin*, is one of her favourite parts. Miss Burgess is of middle height, fair, and soft-voiced. She never wears a wig on the stage, her own hair being sufficiently long and thick, even for the plaits of Marguerite.

MR LILFORD ARTHUR leaves London to-morrow with his company supporting Mr Charles Collette in *Jones's Jaunt*, and opens on Monday at Cardiff. In the strong cast are Mr J. R. Crawford, the popular actor; Mr Ernest Wintour, and Mr David Sellar.

COUNCILLOR H. CECIL BERYL, the esteemed lessee of the Theatre Royal, Brighton, has been elected chairman of the Pavilion Committee of the Brighton Town Council. During his two years' representation of the Pavilion Ward, Mr Beryl has done very valuable work for the town, and has thoroughly won the respect of his colleagues.

WHEN Sir John Vanbrugh's comedy, *The Confederacy*, is revived at the Royalty Theatre by the Mermaid Society, on Monday, the cast will include Mr W. H. Kemble, Mr A. E. Drinkwater, Mr Frank Lascelles, Mr Dennis W. Clough, Mr Bufton, Mr Hasluck, Mr J. A. Grant, Miss Ada Potter, Miss Pearla Gardner, Miss May Martyn, Miss Dora Hale, Miss Meta Pelham, and Mrs Theodore Wright.

MR FRANK CURZON desires us to state that the report that Mr Willie Edouin has been rehearsing the character of M. Coquenard, in *Véronique*, is entirely without foundation. Mr Edouin is still sustaining, with very great success, the principal character in *Sergeant Brue*.

MR GEORGE MUSGROVE'S *Belle of New York* company, now on its farewell tour, which terminates at the Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield, next week, has been doing big business "all along the line." At the Royalty Theatre, Glasgow, last week—despite the fact that Sir Henry Irving at one theatre, and Julia Neilson and Fred Terry at another, were in opposition—scenes of indescribable enthusiasm were the order of every evening. Stalls and circle were booked long in advance—the queue for the unreserved parts of the house commenced to form as early as 9·0 a.m. each day—and for Saturday evening the attendance surpassed all records, and special barriers by order of the police had to be erected to ensure the safety of the public. At the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, this week a similar state of affairs has prevailed. On the opening night a large section of the audience, in a felicitous spirit, at the fall of the curtain sang "Will ye no come back again?" Of the seventy-two members of the company only five of the originals remain, viz., Cecil Burt, who has been engaged for *Sergeant Brue*; Philip Leslie, C. W. Anson, Arthur Linforth—the latter retained to produce the Borough Theatre, Stratford, pantomime for the third time—and Mr Hugh Fleming, secured by Mr Mouillot for the Christmas tour of *A Runaway Girl*, in his inimitable rôle of advance director. Mr Charles Thorburn, general manager of the company, whose vigilant eye and untiring energy have been such important factors in the longevity of *The Belle's* popularity, will start almost immediately upon a lengthened Continental trip to secure novelties for the forthcoming tour of *The Prince of Pilsen*.

WHEN the late Wilson Barrett's domestic play *The Sledge Hammer* is revived at the West London Theatre on the 19th prox., included in the cast will be Messrs W. V. Garrod, H. H. Barrington, Chas. Halling, Chas. Herberte, Frank Dallas, L. St. Clair, Laurence Konrad, Charles Grant, and Alfred Northway; Misses Fanny Thorne, Ivy Ellaline Thorne, and Bertha Kingston. That the revival of this successful play is being welcomed is evidenced by the fact that dates at twenty-six theatres have already been booked.

"THE FOLLIES OF YOUTH," a play rewritten by Mr Fred L. Connynghame and Mr Frank Price, is about to start a tour, under the direction of Mr Arthur Rose, and will open at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, on Monday next. In the cast will be the celebrated Mr Walter Bentley, the charming actress Miss Violet Macaree, and Mr Arthur Rose himself, a well-known ornament of the stage and exponent of the drama, with Mr Beresford as the manager of the company.

THE pantomime at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, this year will be *Cinderella*, and will be written and produced by Walter Summers. The production will be by arrangement with Mr Fred Karno, who has engaged a company including Miss Winifred Hare, Miss Godwynne Earle, Miss Lilian Lea, Miss Amy Lorisson, Mr Niel Kenyon, Mr William Gourlay, Mr W. E. Richardson, Messrs Fletch and Palmer, and "Joe" Cave, who will play a witch. There will be a ballet of 200, and the whole of the music will be specially composed by Mr Dudley Powell. The entire production will be under the personal supervision of Mr Fred Karno and the author, and the first performance will take place on Boxing Day afternoon.

MR ERNEST E. NORRIS, the energetic and painstaking manager of the Elephant and Castle Theatre, will take his first annual benefit on Friday, Dec. 2, when a new romantic drama, entitled *A Gentleman of England*, by Messrs E. Norris and F. Llewellyn, will be played for the first time. It will be remembered that the latter gentleman was part-author of *The Coal King*, produced there a few weeks ago. Mr Harry Paulton, sen., will appear on the same evening in a new one-act farce, called *A Meredith Marriage*, dealing as it does with "marriage on the leasehold system."

IN *Lady Windermere's Fan*, revived at the St. James's Theatre on Saturday evening, Miss Braithwaite, in the first act, which takes place in the morning-room of Lord Windermere's house, wears a gown of apricot-coloured taffetas, trimmed with cream spotted net and lace, and a scroll of ruched silk at the hem of the skirt. Very distinctive are the sleeves. Starting on the shoulders are big puffs of taffetas, at the elbows are further puffs of spotted net, and thence to the wrist the arms are covered with deep lace gauntlets. A black velvet bow is worn in the hair.

MISS MARION TERRY does not appear until the second act, the drawing-room scene of Lord Windermere's house. She is then wearing a magnificent dress of the softest white satin mousseline, decorated with gold roses and embroidery, and carries a bouquet of purple orchids in her hand. Her evening coat, with its enormous sleeves, is superb, and is made of emerald green chiffon poxed upon satin, which shimmers beneath the cloudlike draperies of gauze, with wondrous beauty. The present favour vouchsafed to ribbons is demonstrated in this case, for showers of green satin streamers fall over the front of the wrap, while another modern touch borrowed from the past is evident in the form of the big hood that finishes the mantle.

THE dress Miss Lilian Braithwaite wears in the same act is a very pretty blue moiré silk gown, another form of silk that is to be most modish this winter, upon which appear motifs of embroidery done in cream and black sequins. The dress just described is worn by Miss Braithwaite in the third act as well as the second, but in the third, which is played in Lord Darlington's rooms, an excessively graceful cloak is added to the toilette, the loveliest piece of raiment, composed of white lace, with a broad band of oyster white panne at the edge and more about the shoulders: a gossamer-like wrap fit for summer at its zenith.

IN the last act, once more played in the morning-room of the first scene, a graceful pink gown is worn by Miss Braithwaite, with cream lace trimmings and a world of novelty about the bodice, which not only displays the clever draperies now applied to the newest corsage, caught together beneath sparkling buckles, but a satin corselet with the latest arrangement in front, a spade-shaped one, instead of a sharp point.

THE exquisite dove-grey cashmere gown, a chef d'œuvre in dresses, is worn by Miss Marion Terry in the same act. A plain skirt, made very full at the waist, has the fulness caught together all the way down the front in a marvellous manner, beneath a series of little steel buckles. The lovely bodice has sleeves made of tulle, the grey hat is beautifully adorned with shaded purple ostrich feathers and tulle, and at the waist is worn a knot of deep crimson roses.

MR H. J. GRANT-SEYMOUR will reopen the Avenue Theatre on Thursday, Dec. 8, with the new comic opera *Ladyland*, written by Eustace Ponsonby, with music by Mr Frank Lambert, who is known to the public by his charming songs and ballads. He hails from Nottingham, was educated at Rugby, and developed when quite a boy his extraordinary gift for music. Mr Eustace Ponsonby, the author of the book and lyrics of *Ladyland*, was for many years a "shining light" in the Windsor Strollers and the Canterbury Old Stagers. He is an old Etonian.

MR J. HICKORY WOOD AND MR ARTHUR COLLINS'S Drury-lane pantomime, *The White Cat*, will have the advantage of being performed by a cast including Mr Harry Randall, Mr Johnny Danvers, Miss Queenie Leighton, Mr Fred Eastman, and Mr James Welch. Mr Hugh J. Ward, who made such a success as the Scarecrow last year, will appear as Simeon, the missing link, and Miss Jennie Macdonald, Miss Ruth Lytton, and Miss Marie George will also be in the company.

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER will begin his annual Christmas children's matinée entertainment at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 21, and *The Walls of Jericho* will be played every evening as usual.

MR HAYDEN COFFIN wishes us to mention that there is not the slightest truth in the statement that he will not go to the Apollo Theatre and play the part of Florestan De Valiancourt, in *Véronique*, at present sustained by Mr Lawrence Rea.

MR J. E. VEDRENNE has secured the rights of *Le Berceau*, by Brieux, also *Der Biberpelz*, by Hauptmann, which will be included in the next series of matinées at the Royal Court Theatre, together with two plays by Mr Bernard Shaw, another Greek play by Professor Gilbert Murray, and an Ibsen drama.

MR AND MRS WILLIAM HOLLES have suffered a very sad loss in the startlingly sudden death of their only daughter, Rosalie, aged nine years. On Thursday last, Dr. Webb, of Parson's-green ordered her to the West London Hospital for an immediate operation for appendicitis, which was performed by the specialist, Mr Keetley. Unfortunately, the poor child did not get over it, and breathed her last an hour or two before her mother reached London from Blackburn on Sunday morning last.

MISS MINNIE GRIFFEN, who is touring with Mr Forbes Robertson, left Edinburgh after the performance on the 18th inst. to sustain her original part, in *Monsieur Beaucaire*, at the command performance at Windsor Castle, returning to Newcastle to rejoin the company. Miss Griffen was with Mr Lewis Waller during the long run of *Beaucaire*, and at the same time played in *Mice and Men* with Mr Forbes Robertson, going from one theatre to the other during a period of twelve months.

AT St. Albans Hall, Bedford-park, on the 18th inst., was produced for copyright purposes a new one-act play entitled *Quits*, by Roland Bottomley, adapted from a story of W. W. Jacobs.

THE directors of the Rugby Theatre Company have instructed their architect, Mr T. W. Williard, to submit plans of the new local theatre at the next meeting of the Council. The directors have decided to build on the present site in the Railway-terrace, which is the main approach to the town and immediately opposite the new county buildings.

THE tour of *The Scilly Girl* starts at the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, on Dec. 12. In the cast will be Miss Dot Stephens, Miss Dorothy Vernon, Mr Alfred Donohoe, Mr H. E. Garden, and Mr Chas. Cautley. The tour will be under the direction of the last-named gentleman and Mr Frank Nelson.

MRS M'CALMONT, one of the leaders of society, will give some elaborate "tableaux-vivants" at Cheveley, her place near Newmarket, in December, in which her daughter and son-in-law, Lord and Lady Vivian, will take part. The party will be a small one, but many residents in the neighbourhood will be invited to the "tableaux-vivants," which will be given on the stage which the late Colonel M'Calmont erected some years ago at a considerable cost. The stage has a beautiful drop-scene, velvet curtains, and electric lighting appliances.

THE pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, will be *Puss in Boots*, and will be produced on Saturday, Dec. 24. The libretto is by Mr J. Hickory Wood, and the music by the resident conductor, Mr Samuel P. Swanton. The principals include Miss Minnie Jeffs, Dorothy Sefton, Edith Adeson, Jos. Colona, Phyllis Stuart, and Messrs Martin Adeson, Paul Cinquevalli, Fred Lyne, J. W. Hewson, Marriott Edzar, Allen Davenport, &c. Specialities will be introduced by Mr Paul Cinquevalli, the Cecilian Glee Singers, and Tiller's "Superbs" troupe of dancers. The scenery, for which Messrs K. J. M'Lennan, Ernest Howard, and G. Jansen are responsible, will be elaborate, and the costumes have been designed by Mr J. Howard Russell, and executed by Alias and others. The production will be under the supervision of Mr Fred W. Warden, managing director, of Theatre Royal and Palace, Belfast.

MADAME REJANE, who has been recently appearing at the Lyric Theatre, New York, was eating a caviare sandwich between the acts on the 17th inst., when she was taken seriously ill and the performance had to be stopped. It was a case of acute thirst, caused by an excessive use of smelling salts during the excitement of acting.

THE gross receipts of the Crystal Palace Company for the half-year ended June 30 amounted to £62,460, and the gross expenditure to £53,437, leaving a credit balance of £9 022. This compares with a credit balance of £11,288 in the corresponding half of last year, which had the advantage of the Triennial Handel Festival, the total receipts from which amounted to £12,712. Apart from the Festival, almost every item in the revenue account shows an improvement, amounting to a total increase of nearly £8,000. After providing £8,224 for debenture and loan interest, the debit balance was reduced £797 to £21,062. The number of visitors for the half-year was 1,252,052, compared with 1,262,259 in the corresponding period of last year, but the money taken for admissions shows an actual increase of £3,200.

THERE was a crowded and enthusiastic audience at the recent reopening of the Hereford Theatre by Mr Arthur Carlton, who has taken the building on a long lease; and, in honour of the great actor whose birthplace was Hereford, has decided to call the local playhouse in future the Garrick Theatre. Among the audience were Mr H. C. Beddoe (ex-Mayor), Councillor E. C. Gurney, Councillor J. Mitchell, and a host of other well-known citizens. Quite a transformation has been effected in the building itself. The electric-light has been completely installed, handsome electroliers have been put into the auditorium and in the main entrance. The stage is thoroughly lighted by electricity, no less than 150 eighteen-candle power lamps having been installed, whilst 2,000 candle-power arc lamps have been fitted at the sides for stage effects. The whole of the theatre has been artistically decorated and the comfort of patrons has been studied in every way.

MR WILL PERCIVAL, manager of the Empire Theatre, Dundee, has taken the management of the house into his own hands, and it is confidently expected that he will make this already popular establishment even more popular.

HENRY IRVING AT ABERDEEN.

Sir Henry Irving, at the conclusion of the performance of *Becket* at Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, on Wednesday night, was the guest in the Imperial Hotel of the Aberdeen Pen and Pencil Club. Mr G. W. W. BARCLAY was chairman, and the representative company, which numbered about a hundred, included Mr Bram Stoker, Mr H. J. Loveday, the Earl of Aberdeen, Bishop Chisholm, Lord Provost Walker, Mr Archibald D. Reid, A.R.S.A., Mr Joseph Farquharson, A.R.A.; Mr William Moffatt, manager Great North of Scotland Railway; and Councillor Barron. The menu card had a representation on the front page of Sir Henry in the character of Becket, and the supper tables were beautifully decorated with flowers. After supper the chairman rose to propose the health of the distinguished guest of the evening.

Mr BARCLAY said:—I wish it were possible to avoid reference to the melancholy, the deplorable fact that Sir Henry Irving is not a Scotsman. But this early mistake on his part cannot be ignored. I have made every effort to discover extenuating circumstances—to find some fact, however trifling, which would justify me in claiming him as a countryman of ours, but without success. Unlike the great Greek poet who lived before the days of registers, Sir Henry appears to have had only one birthplace, and Somerset is really so outrageously far south of the Border that I could make nothing of it. That, starting in life thus seriously handicapped, Sir Henry should have attained his present eminent position is one of those mysteries which will probably never be unravelled. He seems himself to have had at an early age an intuitive sense of the serious nature of the disability under which he laboured, for the moment he made up his mind as to the profession he was to adopt he set his face northward, and in the autumn of 1856, being then nineteen years old, made his first appearance on the stage at Sunderland. But Sunderland was only a halting place; his goal was the capital of Scotland, and in Edinburgh, in 1857, began his real apprenticeship. During the two years and a half spent there he had abundant opportunities for study, and of these he availed himself with that zeal and earnestness which have characterised him all his life. What a period of strenuous labour that must have been, and how often since must he have congratulated himself on having then "lived laborious days and scorned delights;" for it was, beyond doubt, in those thirty months that he laid the foundation-stone of all his future success. While in Edinburgh he played over 400 "speaking" parts, and one of his ingenious biographers has calculated that, allowing for periods during which the theatre was closed, this meant something like an average of a new part every night! From Edinburgh he went to Manchester for five years, and then wandered from one place to another until, in 1866, he began his career in London, having by that time played the immense number of nearly 600 different characters. You will not expect or wish me to give a biography of our guest, and I must pass over the first five years he spent in London and hasten on to the year 1871, when commenced Sir Henry's long and honourable connection with the Lyceum Theatre—a connection which constitutes one of the most remarkable episodes in the history of the stage in England. In that year, on Nov. 25—therefore almost exactly thirty-three years ago to-day—was produced for the first time at the Lyceum Theatre a play which, in a single night, made London ring with the name of Henry Irving. The play was *The Bells*, and from the date of its production until the doors of the Lyceum were closed a couple of years ago the name of Irving was associated with all the triumphs of the theatre. For nearly a quarter of a century he was not only leading actor but manager, and it may be said without exaggeration that, during that time, he raised theatrical management to the level of a fine art. I cannot attempt to convey to you even a slight idea of the amount of work done on the stage of the Lyceum during Sir Henry Irving's connection with the theatre. The quality which is to be found in all Sir Henry's impersonations is, I think, subtlety—and this subtlety is, I take it, one of the manifestations of genius. You will find signs of this elusive and delicate quality in all his work—you will find it in each of the four impersonations which we are having placed before us this week—characters so totally different one from another as Shylock, Mathias, Brewster, and Becket. In the delineation of each of these there are innumerable subtle touches—a mere glance, a movement of the muscle so slight that unless you have eyes to see you miss it—a demi-hemi-semi-smile, a shadow of a frown, a gesture interrupted before it is completed—I need not multiply instances, for you all know what I mean—which show that the actor is living the part; and for want of any better single word that occurs to me, this is what I call subtlety—an acute, penetrative quality, which glorifies such performances as that which we have witnessed to-night, and places them on an entirely different level from others with which we are familiar. Real genius, honest, hard, conscientious work, a sincere and consistent devotion to a high ideal, will never fail in this country to secure the esteem of the people. In Sir Henry's case they have done much more. Not only has he reached by dint of life-long conscientious labour the highest place in his profession, but he has secured for all his fellow-workers on the stage a position infinitely superior to anything they could, as a body, have looked forward to before he became their champion and advocate. The honour of knighthood conferred upon him by his Sovereign was something more than a mere recognition of his own gifts and his position as the leading actor of his time—it was an encouragement to every true actor in the kingdom, and a compliment and incitement to a profession which includes in its ranks a very large number of hard-working, intelligent men and women, and many earnest and cultured scholars. I have said little in comparison with what might have been said of his wonderful power as a manager, his astonishing versatility as an actor, his facility and felicity as a speaker, and his remarkable talents as a litterateur. If I have made no reference at all to his personal qualities—to his gracious, nay, courtly, bearing—to the suavity, geniality, and charm of manner which form such a fascination to those who know him off the stage—to those deeper and finer gifts which endear him to those who have the privilege of his friendship, I hope and think he will believe the omission is due to the difficulty of speaking of such things in the presence of the possessor of these gifts. I believe that for every known enthusiastic admirer he has, all over the world, a thousand admirers not less enthusiastic, of whom he will never know. I believe that to multitudes of thinking men and women in this country and in America he has been an educative power of the highest order, particularly in his revelation of some of the wonderful depths of that most wonderful of writers, Shakespeare. I believe that to great numbers of the members of his own profession he has been an inspiration, an oracle, and a guide. I believe his example will be an incentive to honest, earnest, intelligent actors for years to come, and that his beneficial influence on the stage will endure long after he has left it.

The toast was enthusiastically pledged with Highland honours, the company singing "He's a jolly good fellow."

Sir HENRY IRVING, in reply said:—I must confess to you that your most cordial greeting is reassuring to the stranger who comes among you for the first time, with his head full of your old traditions, which are quite new to him. Yes, sir, I will make a clean breast of it. With the help of some kind Aberdonians, I have been studying the lore of your "silver city by the sea, whose white foot rests on golden sands"—your city of Bon-Accord. And I am greatly struck by two of those traditions first of all. One of them you have generously observed by drinking to your guest to-night out of the Cup of Bon-Accord, and that is why I feel reassured; for the other tradition tells me that Bon-Accord was the watchword of the Aberdeen burghers on the very unpleasant evening when they made away with all the English in the city at the bidding of Robert the Bruce. Your tastes, I am glad to note, are milder now; and when you have a thirst you choose some other beverage than the English actor's blood, whatever you may think of his acting. I was a good deal cheered to read how Queen Elizabeth's players in 1601 came here with a recommendation to King James VI. of Scotland, who is reported to have said to them, "On, ay! ye may call yourseis actors or ony damned thing ye like!" I know there is another version of the story, that the King made this feeling remark to certain advocates—lawyers of his own Kingdom. But that does not matter. The rivalry between the Bar and the Stage has ever been most brotherly, and King James may easily have mistaken the one profession for the other. But I want to remind you that in 1601, when the English actors came, the manager of the company, Worshipful Master Lawrence Fletcher, friend and colleague of Shakespeare, received the freedom of the city. No, sir, I am not throwing out any hints, though it might be a graceful thing to give one the chance of sauntering in an ermine gown, with a gold chain round one's neck, and singing the praises of Aberdeen, with your poet, William Forsyth, "by silent Don and crystal Dee." But, believe me, this is not really the point of the reminder. I have been accused by the ever genial and joyful *Punch* of pretending to be a very old actor, who began his career in various parts of Scotland centuries ago. For instance, according to my friend *Punch*, I have asserted that I acted with Robert the Bruce at the Theatre Royal, Bannockburn. Gentlemen, it is false. I never said that. And to prevent any further misrepresentation, I beg to assure you most earnestly that when Queen Elizabeth's actors were here in 1601, I was not a member of the company.

Well, Sir, the theatrical history of Aberdeen has interested me deeply. I gather that you have been pretty ardent playgoers for at least many years. There may have been influences at one time to distract your minds from the dramatic Muse, on the plea that she was no better than she should be. During that dark period, I am informed, the theatre then existing held no more than £65. At the present moment, I am glad to say, your appreciation of the drama is rather better than that, and I hope the new theatre, now in course of building, will record a still higher scale of enthusiasm. In Aberdeen the drama is happy in the encouragement it receives from the University students, of whom William Watson must have been thinking when he wrote that fine sonnet in *Blackwood's Magazine*:—

> The towers of learning and of peace,
> That brood benignant on the Northern foam.

An old friend of mine, the late Professor Minto, who was so much beloved at the University, never failed, I am told, to urge the students to the playhouse when Shakespeare was there. Gentlemen, I have seen something of that benignant brood of Aberdeen scholars here and elsewhere, and I can say, "Happy is the cause that captures their minds, and fortunate is the man who inspires their devotion!" The drama, gentlemen, is a true stimulus to the studious, though it may keep them out at nights, and sometimes require that animated discussion which garnishes the supper table. I remember a dear friend of mine in America, a physician in Boston, coming to me with harrassing anxiety pictured on his face, and saying, "For heaven's sake lend me some books about Thomas Becket! My family have seen the play, and they are so full of questions that I can't face them at breakfast again till I know something about the subject!" There was the true spirit of inquiry and emulation, which ought to be cultivated at breakfast, and even in the small hours when you drink to the players from the Cup of Bon-Accord.

My own inquiries, as you see, have taught me something about the drama in Aberdeen. I yearn towards the days when you had a stock company, and when Mrs Pollock stood high in the admiration and esteem of an earlier generation, succeeded by another well-known theatrical family—the Ryders. In those days the stock companies maintained a strong bond between players and audience, and every actor was a citizen, and took his part in the local affairs. In my own time the stock company was managed usually by an actor with a genuine interest in the artistic quality of the work. I am not by any means one of those crusty old stagers who believe that everything worth living for is dead. But that theatrical system of the bygone days had advantages which we have lost; and the lamentable result is that many people who frequent the theatre nowadays are not playgoers, for the simple reason that there are seldom any real plays to be seen. You have been good enough, Sir, to dwell in flattering terms on my own career. I have simply been the devoted servant of an art which is among the humanising influences we can least afford to ignore. Whatever may be the changes of theatrical taste, depend upon it the theatre will always remain a great instrument of our social organisation. It is for you to determine—you who wield the power and the charm of pen and pencil—that the highest standards of the theatre shall be upheld, and that it shall not cease to be a spur to honourable ambition. And it is for me gratefully to remember that you received me in Aberdeen with such a stirring welcome, and that your cup of Bon-Accord overflowed with sympathy and goodwill.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Louie Freear, actress—Saturday, Nov. 26.
Vesta Victoria, music hall artiste—Nov. 26.
Jesse Sparrow, music hall manager—Nov. 26.
Nell Oliver—Sunday, Nov. 27
Acton Bond, actor—Sunday, Nov. 27.
Philip F. Howley—Monday, Nov. 28.
Sir F. C. Burnand, dramatic author—Nov. 29
T. E. Worth—Tuesday, Nov. 29.
Joe Elvin, music hall artiste—Tuesday, Nov. 29.
Clarissa Talbot—Tuesday, Nov. 29.
Kitty Gresham—Tuesday, Nov. 29.
Lydia Dreams, music hall artiste—Nov. 29.
Lydia Donovan—Tuesday, Nov. 29.
H. V. Esmond, actor and author—Nov. 30.
John Glendinning, actor—Wednesday, Nov. 30.
Ben Brown, music hall artist—Nov. 30.
Maud Hobson, actress—Wednesday, Nov. 30.
Mary Stuart—Wednesday, Nov. 30.

IN the Court of King's Bench, on Wednesday, Mr Macarthy (instructed by Messrs Slark, Edwards, and Co.) said he applied on behalf of the plaintiff, who was an author and playwright, to have the hearing of the action, Davis v. Curzon, expedited. In the action the plaintiff sought to restrain the defendant, Mr F. Curzon, who was the lessee of several theatres, from producing the play entitled *Sergeant Brue* at the Strand Theatre. The plaintiff's case was that he was entitled to have the play produced at a first-class West-end theatre, and that if it were taken to the Strand Theatre an irreparable injury would be done to him. Under these circumstances, he (the learned counsel) asked that the action for an injunction should be tried at an early date. Mr Justice Ridley said he understood that the action had not yet been set down for trial, and, therefore, he could not accede to the application, which was adjourned.

"THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND."
"HOW TO HELP IT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I heartily endorse Mr Cyril Maude's letter under this head in your last issue.

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR BOURCHIER.
Garrick Theatre, Nov. 19.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Many of the theatres I have visited have lacked any charity box whatever, let alone one for A. B. F. Cannot something be done so that in every place there should be an A. B. F. box brought prominently under the notice of free admissions; and, speaking of free admissions, why should not the bill order people be made to contribute their mite, if only a copper? It would all help to swell the total. I could mention one theatre in particular (shortly to open as a music hall) where over one hundred free professional admissions—all, I have every reason to believe, genuine—were granted the week I was there. In fact, d.-c. and stalls were a professional club and no charity box of any kind there. This at a tax of one penny each would amount to over £20 per annum, and if bill orders were taxed as well the whole would amount to a substantial sum.

As to the matinée question, let every actor before giving his services insist that ten per cent of receipts be given to the A. B. F.

Mr Mouillot's idea as to giving one performance every year throughout the entire country, every artiste, &c., to give their services, is an excellent one, but again unanimous co-operation is needed, and I am afraid my remarks at commencement apply.

Mr Willard's suggestion of tax on salary is good, but unless compulsory, some would give and some would not, and those who do not are usually the first to apply for assistance.

Yours faithfully, FRANK LISTON.
Theatre Royal, Leicester, Nov. 17.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Whilst fully realising and approving the assistance annually given to impecunious members of the dramatic profession, I fail to see why an attempt should be made to levy toll on the provincial resident theatrical managers by the means suggested in Mr Henry Tweedie's letter in your last issue. Is it not enough for the managers and members of touring companies to know that in a very large percentage of cases resident managers in the country are almost at their wits' ends to know how to keep open their houses in these troublous times without having before them the prospect of having to give one night's use of their theatres and staff to aid the funds of an institution which, however deserving and commendable in itself, never yields one penny for the benefit of this particular class? It is within my knowledge that many large and old-established theatres in the provinces are at this moment playing to houses (one a night) of less than £5 each. Of course I do not wish to disguise the fact that the touring companies suffer in comparison, and no doubt that fact accounts for the number of companies who "dry up," and are consequently unable to proceed from town to town in fulfilment of their engagements. During the last twelve months I have had to help companies both into and out of the town to a greater extent than in any combined ten years of my long experience. As "charity begins at home," I say let those who reap the benefits provide the bounty.

Yours faithfully, LOCAL MANAGER.
Nov. 21.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The idea of a "special night" in aid of the A.B.F. is an excellent one, and should undoubtedly be encouraged. But Mr Willard's suggestion to make it compulsory for everyone to give a night's salary would, I'm afraid, meet with much opposition. If it is to be done, let it by all means be voluntary, but in these days of low salaries for the small part people, a night's salary is perhaps too much to ask for, especially if the person has been "out" for many weeks and only just "opened."

I would suggest that five per cent. of everyone's week's salary be given on the particular night (of course observed annually), the owner of the theatre, managers, staff, and the editors of the various theatrical newspapers included. This would mean a fine sum being realised, and perhaps would do away with the many begging letters that we encounter in every town, although there are many genuine cases of want which do not get the help necessary.

The system of taxing free admissions in many theatres is not in my opinion a fair one, for in the first place many actors and actresses out of work give, perhaps, their last few coppers when they are really in want themselves, and in the second place, the manager of the theatre generally gets the credit of the contributions, not the actual giver. Perhaps the "special night" would do away with this also. I certainly think a committee should be formed to organise the "special night" which I would suggest takes place next spring, when most companies are "on the road," and shall be pleased to give all the assistance I can.

The members of *Her Forbidden Marriage* company held a private meeting on Tuesday morning to discuss the best means to help it. They agree that something should be done, and will be pleased to give their help.

Various suggestions were made—viz., the idea of a full night's salary they thought rather heavy, and that half a night, or five per cent. of the week's salary, would be more readily agreed to. Also that the scheme should be confined to actors, actresses, and managers only, and not the working staff or band.

It was also suggested that the actual sum sent by each company be not published, but should be totaled with, say, five other companies, thus—"The following amount has been received by the undermentioned companies." Then follows the names of the various companies, as it would be a serious matter and unfair to managers for their salary lists to be made public. It was also suggested that each Christmas a Shilling Fund be opened at every theatre, no person to give more or less than one shilling. This, of course, in addition to the annual Fund night.

Yours faithfully, FRANK MUNDILL,
General Manager, *Her Forbidden Marriage* Co.,
Queen's Theatre, Swindon, Nov. 23.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The suggestions of both Mr E. S. Willard and Mr Fred Mouillot are excellent ones to augment the Actors' Benevolent Fund, but to carry them out would be very difficult. A company with a piece that draws, sailing merrily along, artistes paid well, would not object to fall in with either of the suggestions, but when you come across a large number, perhaps the majority, of companies who are losing heavily every week it will require a generous heart above the average to give up one night's entire receipts, making perhaps a loss of £20 into one of £30.

Then again, with regard to docking one night's salary—an excellent suggestion I think, but one must take into consideration that there are artistes, and a large number especially this autumn, who have been obliged to take a considerable reduction, getting scarcely enough to provide lodgings and bread.

I think that if one Sunday in the year was set apart called Actors' Sunday, and on that evening a concert was arranged to be given in every theatre, everyone giving their services in addition to local help and support, the Actors' Benevolent Fund would be enriched by a considerable amount.

Yours faithfully, HARDING THOMAS.
Spring Bank, Victoria-road, Worthing, Nov. 18.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The suggestions of Messrs Willard and Mouillot are, I think, excellent ones. I also think that the taxing of complimentary admission to theatres and charging for autographs would prove of great benefit pecuniarily to the Fund. I have always taken the deepest interest in the Actors' Benevolent Fund, which I know does admirable and most necessary work, and I am astonished that it does not meet with more unanimous support from the dramatic profession. As you say in your article in *The Era*, of Nov. 5, the dramatic profession possesses such immense resources in being able to get large sums of money from the charitable public that I think that it is most deplorable that the Fund, the existence of which is an absolute necessity on account of the precarious nature of our calling, should be pinched for means and in danger of collapse when by so small an effort it could be put on a firm financial basis.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES ALLAN.
Garrick Club, W.C., Nov. 19.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I fully sympathise with the suggestions put forward by Mr Willard and Mr Mouillot, and should be glad if they were to meet with general approval, but I am afraid the obligatory clause in an agreement would create many difficulties. Perhaps an alternative scheme which would provide for two or three "Actors' Saturdays" in the year instead of one as at present, would meet the case as well and avoid any "compulsory giving," which many, it would appear, object to. Actors' Saturday now falls, I think, on some date in January, when, in the provinces, the majority of theatres are given over to pantomime, and a number of actors and actresses are disengaged. A great many must omit subscribing through this fact. If dates were also fixed in the spring and autumn I think many more subscriptions would be forthcoming. To illustrate my argument I may mention that there is a Hospital Sunday as well as a Hospital Saturday. Appeals might also be sent to members of theatrical companies in the Colonies and abroad.

Yours faithfully, ALFRED HARDING.
86, Haydon-park-road, Wimbledon, Nov. 20.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am quite in sympathy with the scheme suggested in Mr Willard's and Mr Mouillot's letters, but rather fear, however, that they are asking a little too much.

It would be a grand scheme, if the whole profession would combine to make it so. Would there not be great difficulties in the way of getting all members to act with unanimity, and if they once agreed do you think they could be relied upon for the support when wanted? My experience is that actors are never unanimous amongst themselves, but what they would be when joined by managers, acting-managers, musical directors, scene shifters, carpenters, and theatre proprietors, &c., and all who would under the new scheme combine to help the Fund, I do not know.

Then again, there would be the strong objection to all concerned if it should be necessary to disclose the salary list.

There is one question I should like to ask, and that is, would the actor or actress who is not in an engagement on the date selected by the Committee for the Fund Performances be deemed to have helped the Fund, or would he or she be left out of it and not considered a subscriber, and therefore disentitled to share the privileges?

In the main the scheme has my entire approval, and I should support it to the best of my ability.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES MACDONA.
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W., Nov. 22.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The discussion of this topic in your columns can but lead to good results if it only succeeds in awaking the profession out of their present apathetic attitude.

There are grave practical difficulties, though, in the way of both the excellent suggestions of Mr Willard and Mr Mouillot, the chief of which seems to me to be this—that many companies, alas! are playing to a loss, and it might well be that not even a performance for the A.B.F. would attract a good house, in which case the unfortunate manager would either have to make public confession of the unattractiveness of his play or would have to dip his hand into his pocket to an extent he might be very ill-able to afford.

Another case is that of the actor who, having been for months out of an engagement, happens to be in harness for a few weeks at the time selected for the A.B.F. performance or for the collection of the tax.

I think we must go far beyond schemes of compulsory taxation, and look straight in the face at the reasons why the receipts of the Fund decrease while the demands on it increase.

A strong stand on the part of real theatrical managers against the overpowering expenses with which they are confronted, against the iniquitous profit rentals of most of the theatres, against the inadequate percentages allowed by many of the suburban and provincial landlords, and against the wholesale and useless advertising in the ever-multiplying columns of obscure newspapers; a determination on their part to resist all this blackmail and to place themselves in a position to give long engagements, so that the money taken in the theatres may go to them and their companions, and not into the pockets of landlords and speculators, would bring about an improvement of which the Actors' Benevolent Fund would soon both directly and indirectly feel the result.

I, personally, have always advocated on the committee an alteration of the date of Actor's Saturday. I cannot believe that Christmas bills stimulate our charitable instincts, and there is no object, in London at all events, in making the collection at Christmas time. Alternative dates might be arranged to suit the convenience of actors, with some of whom pantomime time is their best season as it is the worst with others.

Many influential actors have expressed their strong disapproval of our annual dinner. Much as I respect their opinions, I cannot agree with them. Many of the pensioners of the A.B.F. have in their time given their services freely in aid of other folks' charities, and I can see no reason why the public should not assist them in their hour of need. In conclusion, I express a hope that after the eloquent advocacy of our cause which we shall soon hear from Sir Edward Clarke, the profession at large will show its appreciation of the importance of this subject.

Yours faithfully, FREDERICK KERR.
12, Essex-villas, Kensington.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I do not think the suggestions made by E. S. Willard, Esq., and Fredk. Mouillot, Esq., re above discussion would be taken up in anything like a friendly spirit by the vast majority of the profession. To quote Mr Mouillot, "it is easy to see how this scheme would work. The artiste getting £20 per week would be giving £3 6s. 8d.; the artiste getting 30s. per week would be giving 5s., so it would not be a hardship on anybody."

It may not be a hardship on the artiste getting £20 per week to spare one night's salary, but supposing the man who is getting 30s. or £2 per week should be married? Let us apportion his money:—£1 per week to his wife, 16s. per week board and lodgings, 2s. per week laundry, 2s. pocket money.

It is very easy to see the loss of one night's salary in the case of a person being married, and only getting £2 per week would mean a great sacrifice, and husband or wife going short of something themselves. How much harder would this be in the case of an artiste earning only 30s. weekly, the receiver of this salary also being married.

No, I feel convinced it would not work, at least amicably, between manager and artiste. Two and a half per cent, representing the £20 a week people, it would not hurt, but the remaining 97½ per cent., representing £2 to £5 per week, it most assuredly would.

I venture to suggest a very simple scheme, which, I emphatically say, not one single member of the profession would refuse to support.

Every Saturday the manager of every company on the road would collect the simple sum of one penny from every member of the crowd. A small notebook to be kept with all names entered, and all payments noted with dates of collection.

Resident managers of theatres to adopt the same system. It is easy to calculate the collection made in a theatre with sixty persons all told on the staff. £13 per year would be handed over, and with all companies and all theatres adopting my idea we should have a very large sum indeed, and all for a simple penny-a-week collection, which no self-respecting artiste could refuse.

By this simple method an artiste getting 30s. weekly would, if working the whole year, practically subscribe his one night's salary, but in a manner which could not possibly be felt by him, whereas one night being suddenly stopped in one week would be a serious blow to him. My ideas may seem on a very small scale, but the results would be great indeed.

Of course, no artiste would be tied to the sum of one penny per week—many, I have not the slightest doubt, would express their intention to subscribe more; however, large or small contributions, all would be noted each week and sent to the secretary every month before a given date. As I have said before, the results from even such an insignificant sum would be astounding.

Yours faithfully, O. SILVERSTONE,
Manager, *Swiss Express* Co.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I never could understand how a man lying in a warm bed, opposite a brightly burning fire, could feel the cold. And yet I suppose it is so, as witness the suggestions of the two big managers on the above subject. First let me point out how this compulsory charity one-night free performance would be a failure almost from its conception.

For argument sake, we will say that Monday, Dec. 5, has been set aside for the charity performance.

Now suppose that for eight or nine weeks I, as a struggling actor, have been out of an engagement. This, of course, through not having sent my disengaged card to *The Era*.

The previous week some enterprising manager, hearing that my talent (?) is "to let," engages me to open on the 5th. I have to spend a considerable sum on clothes, &c., and am also in debt, so that my salary is pretty well mortgaged for a while. The very first performance I give I find is a charity one, and a portion of my first salary must go to augment a fund which is neither more nor less deserving than the one which, in this case, justly "begins at home." Even supposing I had been working for some weeks, who knows what unforeseen claim for money might arise just at the date of the free performance; and I suppose that I am not the only one who has more than one mouth to feed, and, on the enormous salaries paid nowadays, this free show, which one would practically be bound to give, would to many come as a great hardship, tending to tighten the purse-strings on other no less deserving occasions. No, sir, I always like to help, if in a position to do so, but certainly should object to support a scheme for "compulsory charity." But to show that I am willing and anxious to help, I append the following suggestion, which I give for what it is worth; but, after very careful thought, I venture to think that, if tried, it would be found to be a solution to the question of raising funds:—

Let every local manager be supplied with numbered roll-tickets, bearing the words, "Received 3d. for the Actors' Benevolent Fund." Let him either personally or through the travelling manager ask the members of every visiting company if they would care to purchase a ticket, but only one. This is important, as if any number could be bought we immediately find that the leading lady must take ten, as the juvenile lady took five, and the heavy man is not going to be outdone by the comedian, and we at once get compulsory charity again.

The tickets in the first instance are distributed by the A.B.F., who register starting number, and name of manager supplied, and every three or six months the manager returns his unsold tickets, together with the threepences to the amount due according to his finishing number.

Let *The Era* and kindred journals acknowledge once every six months the sums so collected, and also the receipt from artists of so many purchased tickets, mentioning the senders' names. The total of these tickets would be a fairly accurate check on any unscrupulous seller of same, and at the same time meet the views of those people who like to see their charities publicly acknowledged, not from any "free-advertisement motive," but to be sure that everything is perfectly straight.

The London theatres would sell their tickets once a week. No one would miss 3d. in a week. I believe it has even been known that the poorest actor has put that sum down for a "small lemonade" without a second thought.

Yours faithfully, EDWARD VAN BIENE.
Business-Manager, *Broken Melody* Company,
Dalston Theatre, N.E.

TO THE EDITOR OL THE ERA.

Sir,—I shall be glad to fall in with any arrangement that may be ultimately arrived at by the majority of my fellow-artists. Mr Raleigh's, Mr Mouillot's, and Mr Willard's schemes all appear to me very excellent, although I must confess I look with a little suspicion upon Mr Willard's proposed "Clause in Contract." In many companies the idea would work well enough, but in others it would only cause irritation and bitterness, still further complicating the already delicate relations between master and man. Besides, if an Actors' Saturday be once universally accepted, the moral pressure of such an institution would be sufficient to prod on the apathetic and the grudging, whilst for the bulk of the profession no pressure would be necessary.

Might I suggest the institution of a ballot, immediately, throughout the entire profession, in order to settle the point. Mr Willard's, Mr Raleigh's, Mr Mouillot's, and other schemes might be briefly recapitulated, with voting spaces opposite each name. The clerical work entailed might be mitigated if the manager of each company would take the matter in hand, forwarding properly classified results of the voting, together with the voting-papers, all ready and arranged for more comprehensive treatment at headquarters.

The present apathy is, of course, lamentable; but is it not partly because of the all too frequent demands upon the professional purse from outside quarters? Nor have there been lacking signs on occasions that make one sadly wonder whether self-advertisement, and not charity, may have prompted responses to some of these outside claims. Yours faithfully,

EDITH WYNNE MATTHISON.
Nov. 24.

THE very numerous friends of Mr Johnny Thornborrow, the genial and able manager of the Empire, Middlesbrough, will be pleased to learn that he is about and attending to his duties once more after a somewhat serious attack of hemorrhage. The popular little Teesside manager, however, though making satisfactory progress towards recovery, is far from himself as yet.

ON THE ROAD NOV. 28.

Actor's Romance.—Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
Amorelle.—P. O. W. Theatre, Richmond.
Amorelle (N.).—Opera House, Bury.
Are You a Mason? (Macdona)—King's Lynn.
Assassin—Theatre Royal, Ton-y-Pandy.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.—Junct. T., Manchester.
Beautiful Avenger—Metropole T., Devonport.
Beautiful Fiend—Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.
Belle of New York.—Lyceum T., Sheffield.
Benson, Mr F. R. (A).—Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
Binson, Mr F. R. (B).—Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
Best Must Win.—Miners' Theatre, Ashington.
Bid for Fortune—P. O. W. T., Great Grimsby.
Biggest Scamp on Earth—A. T., Stourbridge.
Bulmer, Mr.—Metropole Theatre, Hoyland.
Carl Rosa—Theatre Royal, Brighton.
Chinese Honeymoon (M.)—Preston.
Chinese Honeymoon (N.).—Hammersmith.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona) (N.)—Sligo.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona) (S.).—Weston.
Convict's Daughter—Grand Theatre, Radcliffe
Country Girl (Dance) (M.)—Grand T., Croydon.
Country Girl (Dance) (N.).—P. T., Manchester.
Country Girl (Dance) (S.).—T. R., Chatham.
Country Girl (Macdona) (N.).—Durham.
Country Girl (Macdona) (S.).—Aberystwith.
Country Mouse (N.).—Dundee.
Cousin Kate (S.).—Colchester.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Queen's T., Leeds.
Darling of the Gods (N.).—E. T., Oldham.
Darling of the Gods (S.).—T. R., Huddersfield.
Dishonoured.—Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.
D'Oyly Carte.—Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
Duchess of Dantzic (S.).—Pavilion T., E.
Duchess of Dantzic.—Borough Theatre, E.
Duke of Killicrankie (Lovell).—Worthing.
Duke of Killicrankie (Frohman).—G. T., Dublin.
Executioner's Daughter—Chesterfield.
Fairy's Dilemma.—Cambridge.
Fatal Crown.—Workington.
Fatal Fortune.—Burslem.
Fatal Wedding (M.).—Carlton T., Greenwich.
Fatal Wedding (N.).—Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Female Swindler—Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
Frivolity—Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
Gay Parisienne.—Kidderminster.
Geisha—Opera House, Cork.
Girl from Japan.—Grand T., Margate.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Grand T., Hull.
Girl's Cross Roads (Bruce).—P. T., Preston.
Girl's Cross Roads (Melville)—P. T., Portsmouth.
Golden Ladder—Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.
Greek Slave.—Opera House, Cork.
Grip of Iron—Theatre Royal, Wednesbury.
Harvest of Sin.—Theatre Royal, Blaydon.
Harvey, Mr Martin—T. R., Belfast.
Her Forbidden Marriage.—Q. T., Liverpool.
Her One Great Sin.—Loughborough.
Honour Thy Father—Grand T., Nottingham.
I Defy the World—Morecambe.
In Dahomey.—Grand Theatre, Birmingham.
Indian Mutiny.—A. T., Birmingham.
Irving, Henry—Court Theatre, Liverpool.
It's Never Too Late to Mend.—T. R., York.
La Comadie Anglaise.—Fareham.
Lady's Maid.—Royalty Theatre, Glasgow.
Lady Slavey (Greet).—Theatre Royal, Bath.
Langtry, Mrs.—Coronet Theatre, W.
Laughter-Land—Theatre Royal, Darwen.
Latty—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
Life's Revenge.—Theatre Royal, Attercliffe.
Lightning's Flash.—Theatre Royal, Cadoxton.
Little Coquette.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
Little Mary.—New Theatre, Leamington.
London Fireman.—Cambridge T., Spennymoor.
Lucky Durham.—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
Man to Man—King's Theatre, Nottingham.
Manxman.—Queen's Theatre, Dublin.
Marriage of Kitty—Opera House, Southport.
Master Criminal.—Theatre Royal, Croydon.
Midnight Mail.—Manchester.
Miss Mischief.—Opera House, Leicester.
Mockery of Marriage.—T. R., Batley.
Money-Makers (N.)—Sheffield.
Monsieur Beaucaire—Grand T., Plymouth.
Moody-Manners (A).—Theatre Royal, Hanley.
Moody-Manners (B).—O. H., Cheltenham.
Moody-Manners (C).—Stonehaven.
Napoleon the Great.—T. R., Jarrow.
Neville, Henry—Manchester.
New East Lynne.—Grand T., Rawtenstall.
New Housemaid—New Theatre, Ilkeston.
New Mephisto.—Treherbert.
On the Stroke of 12 0.—Cardiff.
Orchid (Edwardes)—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
Orchid (S.)—Grand Theatre, Southampton.
Path of Thorns.—Lyceum Theatre, Newport.
Peggy Machree.—Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.
Prince of Rogues—Workington.
Private Secretary.—Limerick.
Proof.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
Quality Street (Bright).—R. T., Chester.
Richard Lovelace.—Grand T., Wolverhampton.
Royal Revenge (Clynes)—O. H., Burnley.
Sapho—Theatre Royal, Aldershot.
Sapho (Annie Bell).—Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Saturday to Monday (N.).—Bournemouth.
Scarlet Woman.—Grand Theatre, Margate.
Sherlock Holmes.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Sign of the Cross.—Theatre Royal, St. Helens.
Silver King (N.).—Opera House, Norwich.
Silver King (S.).—Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.
Sin of Her Childhood—Grand T., Brighton.
Still Alarm.—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.
Swiss Express.—Court Theatre, Warrington.
Terry, Ellen—Camden Theatre, N.W.
Tarry, Edward.—New Theatre, Oxford.
Three Little Maids (S.).—Burton-on-Trent.
Three Little Maids (I).—T. R., Exeter.
Ticket-of-Leave Man.—Manchester.
Tommy Atkins.—County Theatre, Reading.
Traitor—Theatre Royal, Rotherham.
Traitor Prince.—Nuneaton.
Trip to Chinatown.—T. R., Grantham.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Queen's T., Swindon.
Two Little Vagabonds (N.).—Q. T., Manchester.
Two Little Vagabonds (S.)—Q. T., Farnworth.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—A. T., Sheffield.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Tully)—T. R., Weymouth.
Under the Red Robe—T. R., Shrewsbury.
Under Two Flags—Luton.
Village Blacksmith.—R. T., Liverpool.
Waller, Mrs Lewis.—O. H., Tunbridge Wells.
Warner, Grace—T. R., Worcester.
Wearin' o' the Green.—Opera House, Perth.
Wealth, Woman and Wickedness.—Folkestone.
Wep ton No Mah.—P. T., Glasgow.
When London Sleeps.—C. T., Birmingham.
When Woman Hates,—G. T., West Hartlepool.
Why Men Love Women.—O. H. Harrogate.
Willard, Mr. E. S.—T. R. Manchester.
Woman and Wine—O. H. Northampton.
Woman's Pluck—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
World's Desire.—Goole
10 30 Down Express.—Kettering.

"The Era" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

At the Opera House, Cape Town, on the 25th ult., was given a copyright performance of a new comedy, in three acts, entitled *The Triumph of Deceit*, written by R. Brighten Salisbury.

At the Gaiety Theatre, Ayr, this week Mr Lawrence Brough has been appearing with his *Lady of Ostend* company. The part of Dick Whortles was in the capable hands of Mr Harry Hampson, who acted throughout with judgment and ability. Mr Percy Marshall as Joseph Carbury was excellent; Mr Lawrence Brough was delightful as Le Baron De Longueville; and a decided hit was made by Mr Edmund Gurney as Toby Krockitt. Miss Kate Mitford was restrained and dignified as Mrs Whortles. What Miss Rosamond Rokeby had to do as the Lady of Ostend she did exceedingly well, and the Millie Grace of Miss Doris Vayne was commendable.

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—An exceedingly sad case of distress in our profession has been brought to my notice by my old friend and brother actor, Mr E. M. Robson. It is that of Mr Henry Crisp, who, being fifty-one years of age, and having been an actor for thirty years, is now totally blind, and has been so from the end of October, 1903. He acted up to the last, and played for two years with the vision of one eye quite gone, while that of the other was gradually going. Out of his thirty years' experience he has held engagements as follows:—With Mrs Scott Siddons, three consecutive engagements; with Miss Jennie Lee, five consecutive years; with Mrs Langtry, four consecutive years; with Mr Penley, twelve consecutive years; with Mr Willard, three tours; and as stage-manager with Mr Tree (*Captain Swift*, Company I). This makes very nearly thirty years, and shows that he must have been reliable and steady to have secured so many re-engagements. His salaries have always been small—£3 to £4 per week—once only reaching £8, so it is not surprising that he has no savings to fall back upon. He has a slender private income derived from the rents of three small houses. The property is mortgaged, and is in the hands of the mortgagees, who work it and allow him 15s. per week. His rent for a top room in the Kennington-road is 8s. per week, and the 7s. left has to find all the necessaries for himself and his wife, and he is not in arrears with his rent. Two years ago he was six months idle on account of illness, chiefly connected with his affliction. The expenses incurred by this, added to fees paid to various doctors in the different towns he visited on tours, reduced his income and savings considerably. He has been an inmate of the Westminster and Ophthalmic Hospitals, but with no benefit, though he speaks gratefully of the kindness shown him by a certain well-known doctor, who treated him gratuitously and secured his admission into the hospitals. There is no hope of his ever seeing again. One eye is quite gone, and is replaced by an artificial one, and the other is past being operated upon. His debts are very few and small; I have a list of them. His address is 145, Kennington-road, S.E.

I have spoken about his case to Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr Pinero, Captain Marshall, Mr Alexander, Mr Bourchier, and Sir Squire Bancroft, all of whom are deeply interested in the case, and express their willingness to help him. I have every hope eventually of organising a concert for his benefit at the Queen's Hall. In the meantime may I ask for the kind consideration which you have always shown for cases of distress in our profession, and beg you to open a subscription list on his behalf, kindly putting me down for £5?

Yours faithfully, CYRIL MAUDE.

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The case of Mr Henry Crisp is too sad for words. I enclose cheque for £10 10s. (from Mr and Mrs Kendal) with only too much pleasure to so deserving a fund.

Yours faithfully. W. H. KENDAL.
North-Western Hotel, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Crisp's case is certainly a very sad one, and I am very glad to enclose my mite towards his assistance.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WYNDHAM.
Midland Hotel, Manchester, Oct. 11, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Please accept the enclosed amount (£1 17s.) as a small donation to Mr Henry Crisp's Benefit Fund in token of the great sympathy which every member of this company bears for Mr Crisp in his terrible misfortune.—Yours faithfully,
NORMAN V. NORMAN.
Theatre Royal, Limerick.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you add the enclosed cheque to the fund you have opened for Mr H. Crisp? His case is, indeed, terribly sad.

Yours faithfully, SABA RALEIGH.
Grand Hotel, Middlesbrough, Oct. 26, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Sir Henry Irving asks me to send you the enclosed cheque for £5 as his donation to the Henry Crisp Fund. He sends all good wishes for its success. Yours faithfully, BRAM STOKER.
20, Bedford-street, W.C., Oct. 26, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Please accept the enclosed donation of five pounds (£5 bank note) from the Lyceum Theatre Provident and Benevolent Fund to the Henry Crisp Fund, as an expression of the sympathy the members bear for him in his misfortune.

Yours faithfully, THOMAS REYNOLDS
(hon. sec. Sir Henry Irving's company).
Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, Nov. 23.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Kendal	10	10	0
Executors David James Estate, per Edwd. Terry	10	10	0
Mr Hales	5	5	0
F. S. Willard	5	5	0
J. H. Leigh	5	5	0
H Beerbohm Tree	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Street and E. Englebach	5	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	5	0	0
Adelaide Neilson Fund, per Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
George Alexander	5	0	0
Arthur Bourchier	5	0	0
Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
Lyceum Benevolent Fund, per Thos. Reynolds	5	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	3	3	0
Edward Terry	3	3	0
Arthur W. Pinero	3	3	0
John Hare	3	0	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
A. B. and J. J. Wright	2	2	0
Henry Kemble	2	2	0
Isabel Jay	2	2	0
David Allen and Sons, Limited	2	2	0
J. D. Beveridge	2	2	0
Saba Raleigh	2	2	0
Miss Lily Brayton	2	2	0
Fredk. Moulilot	2	2	0
Lionel Brough	2	2	0
W. and W. A. Haile	2	2	0
P. S. O.	2	0	0
Ellen Terry	2	0	0
R. Gilbert	2	0	0
Phyllis Broughton	2	0	0
Charlotte E. Steele	2	0	0
"Geisha" Co., per Jas. R. La Fane	2	0	0
Thalberg Corbett	2	0	0
"Greed of Gold" Co., per Mr W. M. Cameron	1	15	0
"Money Maker" Co., per Mary Griffiths (Mrs Arthur Lyle	1	19	6
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Co., per H. J. Montague	1	5	0
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
W. Payne Seddon	1	1	0
H. Cecil Beryl	1	1	0
Edward Rose	1	1	0
Horace Mills	1	1	0
May Louise Cohen	1	1	0
Frank Denman Wood	1	1	0
Robert Bedford	1	1	0
John and Fred Coulson	1	1	0
Frank Bateman	1	1	0
Yorke Stephens	1	1	0
J. O. Baker	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Conway Dixon	1	1	0
C. Ward	1	1	0
Susie Vaughan	1	1	0
H. Ainley	1	1	0
Constance Benson	1	1	0
Mrs Chas. Calvert	1	1	0
Marie Studholme	1	1	0
William Peacock	1	1	0
"Blimbo"	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
Will Dennis	1	1	0
Robert Pateman	1	1	0
Arthur Whittaker	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
J. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Katherine Compton	1	1	0
J. W. Nightingale	1	1	0
Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Topsy Sinden	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Ernest Stevens	1	1	0
H. W. Waddington	1	1	0
W. Johnson and Jos. Potter	1	1	0
Eva Moore Esmond	1	1	0
L. Braithwaite	1	1	0
William Mollison	1	1	0
H. N. Gibson	1	1	0
H. Jalland	1	1	0
Sydney Valentine	1	1	0
Henry A. Lytton	1	1	0
Rutl'd Barrington	1	1	0
Austin Melford	1	1	0
J. W. Broughton	1	1	0
Thomas Sidney	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Chas. Rock	1	1	0
"Two Little Vagabonds" (N.) (per Eric G. Merrie	1	1	0
Ada Blanche	1	1	0
Sims and Barratt	1	1	0
Albert Chevallier	1	1	0
J. F. C. Sims	1	1	0
James Fernandez	1	1	0
Maude Darrell	1	0	0
Mrs J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kinghorne	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Davidson	1	0	0
E. Lawes	1	0	0
Nancy Price	1	0	0
Anonymously	1	0	0
"R. C."	1	0	0
Miss Amy Grace	1	0	0
Leonard Rayne	1	0	0
George Rayne	1	0	0
Dawson Dewick	1	0	0
R. B.	1	0	0
Julian L'Estrange	1	0	0
R. B., an old acquaintance	1	0	0
"Woman and Wine" Co., per F. Withers	0	15	0
J. C.	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
G. E. M.	0	10	6
H. Wilkinson	0	10	6
John Worswick, sen.	0	10	6
M. W.	0	10	6
W. Cheesman	0	10	6
E. Holman Clark	0	10	6
D. Lyn Harding	0	10	6
Chas. Elphinstone	0	10	6
M. R. Morand	0	10	6
Miss C. Ewell	0	10	6
Herbert Shelley	0	10	6
F. Merer	0	10	6
Fred Emney	0	10	6
Will Smithson	0	10	6
J. Fisher White	0	10	6
J. F. Elliston	0	10	6
Harcourt Williams	0	10	6
"Well-wisher"	0	10	6
Milton Bode	0	10	6
Leslie Faber	0	10	6
Adolf Schmid	0	10	6
F. Vivian Reynolds	0	10	6
Pollie Emery	0	10	0
Louisa Gourlay	0	10	0
Mr M. Lang	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"B"	0	10	0

"On the Stroke of Twelve" Company. Total, 13s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Fred J. Little	0	5	0
Herbert Vere	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Karl H Edwards	0	1	6
Fred Rivers	0	1	0
Fred Guinness	0	1	0
Harry C. Robinson	0	1	0
H. Creagh Hunt	0	1	0
Miss B. St Ruth	0	1	0

"The Dandy Doctor" Company, per Florence Smithers Mrs Owen Dacroy). Total, £1 7s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Owen Dacroy	0	5	0
Mr and Mrs Edward Marris	0	5	0
W. N. Gilmore	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs B. Rowe	0	2	0
Misses Stewart, Leighton, A. Nicholson, and Ivison	0	2	0
Lizzie Primmer	0	1	6
James Danvers	0	1	0
James Salter	0	1	0
Walter Nugent	0	1	0
Harry Louther	0	1	0
Stanley Hirst	0	1	0
Lillian Dacroy	0	1	0
Norah Melton	0	1	0
Cissie Evelyn	0	1	0
Flo Allen	0	1	0
Elsa Nicholson	0	1	0

"The Edge of the Storm" Company, per Mr Arthur Fitzgerald. Total, £1 6s.

	£	s.	d.
Miss Marius	0	2	6
Mr Gerald Malvern	0	2	6
Miss Mackinlay	0	2	0
Miss Magrath	0	2	0
Miss Hulme	0	2	0
Mr Henry Renouf	0	2	0
Mr Fredk. Annerley	0	2	0
Mr Leon M. Lion	0	2	0
Mr Julius Hagan	0	2	0
Mr H. Curry, jun.	0	2	0
Mr Arthur Fitzgerald	0	2	0
Mr Lynward Grahame	0	2	0
Mr Alan Borthwick	0	1	0

Collected by Chas. A. Chandler's "Bells of Haslemere" Company, per Powell Jones. Total, £1 6s.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Chandler	0	10	0
Mr Powell James	0	3	0
Mr and Mrs Leonard Yorke	0	2	0
Miss Polini	0	1	0
Stafford Smith	0	1	0
Green, Kidderminster	0	1	0
Mr Montagu Turner	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Cecil	0	1	0
Mr Douglas Hamilton	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Clarke	0	1	0
Mr Fred Alton	0	1	0
Mr Harry Montagu	0	1	0
Mr Ted Stone	0	1	
Mr Bill Stephens	0	1	0

Mr George Dance's Company, per B. Ralland. Total, £2 3s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Bertie Ralland	0	2	6
Percy Yorke	0	2	6
Mr Wood	0	2	6
Harry Brayne	0	2	0
José Collins	0	2	0
M. Sadie	0	2	0
H. Williams	0	2	0
G. Barnes	0	2	0
Marie Adair	0	2	0
P. A. T.	0	2	0
Miss Drumond	0	2	0
Mr Dawkins	0	2	0
E. H.	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Austin	0	2	0
N. Cassidy	0	2	0
Leonard May	0	1	0
Frances	0	1	0
M. Maxwell	0	1	0
Gladys Gay	0	1	0
Mr Parry	0	1	6
R. S	0	1	0
L. Beckmann	0	1	0
L. W.	0	1	0
A. Knowles	0	1	0
L. Hildroe	0	1	0
D. Kersey	0	1	0
D. M. B.	0	1	0

Mr Norman V. Norman's Tour, "Under the Red Robe." Total, £1 18s.

	£	s.	d.
Norman V. Norman	0	10	6
Miss Beatrice Wilson	0	5	0
Robert Hilton	0	2	6
B. Iden Payne	0	2	6
F. Glossop Harris	0	2	6
Miss Kathleen Rind	0	2	0
W. Howard Ashley	0	1	0
Miss Lilian Kevill-Davies	0	1	0
Miss Norah Doyle	0	1	0
W. Marshall	0	1	0
A. Long	0	1	0
W. Barnett Parker	0	1	0
Richard Havers	0	1	0
Miss Coleman Phillipson	0	1	0
Norman Leslie	0	1	0
Cooper Willis	0	1	0
Eric Maxon	0	1	0
V. Cooper Willis	0	1	0
Mrs Long	0	1	0

Mr and Mrs Kendal's Co. (collected by Mr Bassett Roe). Total, £6 17s.

	£	s.	d.
Mrs A. B. Tapping	1	1	0
Miss Elise Clarens	1	1	0
Mr Ernest Hendrie	1	1	0
Mr Basset Roe	1	1	0
Mr T. Byrne	0	10	6
Mr Reginald Sheldrake	0	10	0
A. W.	0	10	0
Mr R. Burnett	0	5	0
Miss Lola Duncan	0	5	0
Miss Mary Jerrold	0	5	0
L. H.	0	5	0
Miss Edith Bottomley	0	2	6

Mr Geo. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Total, £4 4s.

	£	s.	d.
Mr Chas. Thorburn	0	5	6
Mr Frank Lawton	0	5	0
Mr Paddy Dupres	0	2	6
Mr Max Copland	0	2	6
Mr Sealy	0	2	6
Mr Selby	0	2	6
Mr C. W. Anson	0	2	6
Mr A. Linforth	0	2	6
Mr Hugh Fleming	0	2	6
Mr Harrison	0	2	6
Miss S. Lamotte	0	2	6
Miss L. Digges	0	2	6
Miss W. Browne	0	2	6
Miss M. Young	0	2	6
Mr W. Douglas	0	2	0
Miss I. Stranham	0	2	0
Miss N. Royston	0	2	0
Miss Hubert	0	2	0
Miss Anderson	0	2	0
Mr L. Hornsey	0	1	0
Mr Stembridge	0	1	0
Mr F. Freeman	0	1	0
Mr A. Watts	0	1	0
Mr P. Foster	0	1	0
Mr G. Wood	0	1	0
Mr J. Seghelloni	0	1	0
Mr E. Lietz	0	1	0
Mr Goodwin	0	1	0
Mr Cowan	0	1	0
Miss K. Lindley	0	1	0
Miss Webb	0	1	0
Miss F. Wellbourne	0	1	0
Miss D. Cammell	0	1	0
Miss Grey	0	1	0
Miss Burr	0	1	0
Miss Macdonald	0	1	0
Miss Minta	0	1	0
Miss Soma	0	1	0
Miss Fenton	0	1	0
Miss N. Donovan	0	1	0
Miss B. Middleton	0	1	0
Miss Lawrence	0	1	0
Miss L. Royce	0	1	0
Miss B. Royce	0	1	0
Miss Frederika	0	1	0
Miss Vincent	0	1	0
Miss M Walsh	0	1	0
Mrs Williams	0	1	0
Mr O. Wakeman	0	0	6
Mr C. Hood	0	0	6
Mr Cookson	0	0	6
Mr Raynham	0	0	6
Miss V Vaughan	0	0	6
Miss Kendrick	0	0	6
Miss Percival	0	0	6
Miss M. Foster	0	0	6
Miss R. Wren	0	0	6

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" Company, per Mrs Charles Harrington. Total, 14s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
C. Harrington, jun.	0	1	0
Sylvia Stella	0	1	0
Hero Hathaway	0	1	0
W. Pettitt	0	1	0
G. P. Ellis	0	1	0
J. H. Rogers	0	1	0
J. H. Renney	0	1	0
C. B. Lenton	0	1	0
F. Charles	0	1	0
W. H. Nott	0	1	0
Major Carr	0	1	0
F. Albert	0	1	0
H. Kavalla	0	0	6
Ida Fane	0	0	6
T. Miles	0	0	6
I. Bonney	0	0	6
Shorty May	0	0	6

"An Actor's Romance" Company, per Mr Cecil Barth. Total, £1 6s. 6d.

Miss Bertha Northam, Miss Constance Elgin, Mrs L'Estrange, Miss May Charteris, Miss Marie Dowsing, Miss Edie Kelly, Miss Nora Cameron, Miss Beatty Gorspeed, Mr Guy Hastings, Mr Ernest Ruston, Mr E. H. Dobell, Mr Edwin Coates, Mr Percy Marmont, Mr John Dethy, Mr J. Carl Lyle, Mr Albert Wainwright, Mr J. Crondace, Mr Claude Wallis, Mr F. Wood.

Collected in Pavilion Theatre (per Tina Mavro). Total, £4 3s.

	£	s.	d.
Mr Isaac Cohen	0	10	0
Mr Ashley Page	0	2	6
Miss Marion Denvil	0	2	6
Miss Tina Mavro	0	2	6
Mr Fred Brown	0	2	6
Mr Wilfred Shine	0	2	6
Aves	0	2	6
Orchestra	0	2	6
Mr Harry Howell	0	2	6
Mrs A. Wood	0	2	6
Mr Frank Harding	0	2	0
Mr Harry Barford	0	2	0
Mr James Aubrey	0	2	0
Mr Ernest Stern	0	2	0
Miss Daisy Scudamore	0	2	0
Miss Valerie Crespin	0	2	0
Miss Alice Beaumont	0	2	0
Mr Jack M'Carthy	0	2	0
D. M., a Friend	0	2	0
Mr Harry Samuels	0	2	0
Mr Woolf Jacobs	0	2	0
Mr Willie Laing	0	2	0
Miss Kate Leslie	0	1	0
Miss Clara Ebstol	0	1	0
Miss Kitty Cardigan	0	1	0
Mr Sidney Pease	0	1	0
Mr Fred Boustead	0	1	0
Mr Harry Bristow	0	1	0
Mr Roland Ryley	0	1	0
Mr C. Langdon	0	1	0
Mr J. Chappel	0	1	0
Mr P. Hyams	0	1	0
Mr Jack Jacobs	0	1	0
The Kid	0	1	0
Little Sara Beszant	0	0	6
Ida Ody	0	0	6
Dot	0	0	6
Mater	0	0	6
Mr Fred Withers	0	0	6
Mr Tommy Trotman	0	0	6
Mr A. P. Brooks	0	0	6
Per Mr Willie Laing	0	11	0

All subscriptions sent to Edward Ledger, hon. treasurer, *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., will be duly announced in these columns.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Blake.—Nov. 22, at 15, Tennyson-street, Westparade, Lincoln, the wife of Mr Brandon Blake (Miss Edith Rolfe), of a daughter. Both doing well.

Blow.—Nov. 18, at 11, St. Edmund's terrace, Regent's-park, to Mark and Ida (Molesworth), a son.

MARRIAGES.

Butt—Grimond.—Nov. 24, at St. Michael's Church, Burleigh-street, Strand, Wilfred Lawson Butt (third son of Captain H. A. Butt, Clifton, Bristol), to Margaret Grimond, daughter of David Grimond, of Broughty Ferry, N.B.

Dodgson—Green.—Nov. 23, by the Rev. J. F. Scoles, S.J., at St. Wilfred's Roman Catholic Church, Preston, R. H. Dodgson, of The Crookins, Penwortham, to Ellen Green, eldest daughter of John Green, roundabout proprietor, late of the Farmers' Arms, Preston, and Old Barracks Carnival, Glasgow.

DEATHS.

Bassano.—Nov. 21, at Rosslyn, Lower Hagley, Stourbridge, Nance (Nancie James), the beloved wife of Frank Bassano, in her twenty-fourth year.

Boyce.—Nov. 22, in London, at the residence of his brother, of dropsy, Frank Boyce, lessee of the Grand Theatre, Swansea, aged forty-seven.

Graham.—Nov. 20, J. P. Graham (Graham and Vine, duettists).

Holles.—Rosalie Elaine Holles, the dearly beloved daughter of Mr and Mrs William Holles, 8, The Drive, Fulham, S.W., aged nine years.

Percy.—Nov. 19, Mrs Fred Percy. Buried Nov.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—"TEMPEST," Act II., Scene II.

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Boxing Day, "Cinderella," the Eighth Alexandra Pantomime.

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Monday, Nov. 21, 'The Cherry Girl.'

Monday, Nov. 28, GENTLEMAN JOE.
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Dec. 5, "The King of Crime."

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Doors open 7·15; commence 7·30. Early Door, 7 0.
Popular Prices, 3d., 6d., 9d., 1s.
Early Door, 4d., 9d., 1s., 1s 3d.
Half-time, 9 0 o'clock.

EALING THEATRE, EALING-BROADWAY, W.
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CAMBERWELL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Monster Attraction, Harry Lauder, Harry Ford, the Poluskis, Millie Hylton, Godfrey and Duncan, in Coster Act. "Me and 'Er;" Florence Yayman, Bellonini, Gladys Mavius, Henri Cazman, Spry and Monti, Bertha Winder, Slade Murray, Lily Jackson, Harrigan and Holt, the Edisonograph, Collins and Rice, Cyclo, Rohda Brothers, and Paul Martinetti and Company, in the Greatest of all Pantomime Sketches, "A Terrible Night." Commence 7·30. Prices from 4d. Telephone, 1,095 Hop.
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Important Notice.—The particular attention of Artistes and Agents is called to Clause 5 (the Barring Clause) in all Contracts, which will be strictly enforced.

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Rehearsal on Monday, at 6·0 o'clock. Musical Director, Mr I. W. Baker. Manager, Mr Tom Tinsley.

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All Artistes are notified that they must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1·0 o'clock, Mondays. All Artistes engaged must attend. Artistes not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at the option of the Management.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.—Proprietor, J. C. COE.—Monday, Nov. 28, 1904, and during the week, Special Engagement of the Wizard of the Plains, Ahrensmeyer, every Evening at 9·15; Cyrus Dare, Mastra and Ella, Arthur Denville, Harlem Bros., Alice Lloyd, Marion Hood, Karno Trio, Muir and Bartlett, Harry Rogerson, Motor Cycling in Mid-air, by the Belmont Troupe; Hal Forde, Sanford and Lyons, Saxo, Elma May, Carle and Carmanelli Trio, Ben Albert, Lily Morris, the Edisonograph, Leonard Barry, in the Latest Great Successful Song Scena, entitled "The Soldiers' Promenade." Doors open 6 30, Commence 7·0. Tele., 106, Hammersmith. Acting-Manager, Lewis Vincent.

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QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES, HIGH-STREET, POPLAR. — Proprietors, Messrs TOM MALTBY and HENRY WICKES.—Monday, Nov. 28, Joe Peterman's Musical Scena, "The Factory Girl," supported by Miss Nellie Lewis, Dante and Elton, Dave Bentley, and a Full Chorus of Genuine Factory Hands; Fyne and Hurley, Charles Ashdown, Bob Allen, Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo Pleiadinnies, Charles Lloyd, Flo Penley, Camplin and Camplin, Charles Welch, Sisters Lunelle, Melvernes, Four Ballonies, Hurtz and Kurtz, Charles Freeman's Combination, including Miss Florence Tench, in "A White Demon."
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Donations will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Sir Edward Clarke, Thorncote, Staines; or Mr O. I. Coltson, the Secretary of the Fund, from whom Dinner Tickets (One Guinea) may be obtained. Offices, 8, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

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Advertisement of Dissolution by Instrument.

NOTICE is Hereby Given that the DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL SICK FUND, Register No. 126, held at 9, Adam-street, Strand, W.C., in the County of London, is dissolved by Instrument, registered at this Office, the 5th day of November, 1904, unless within three months from the date of the "Gazette" in which this advertisement appears proceedings be commenced by a member or other person interested in or having any claim on the funds of the Society to set aside such dissolution, and the same is set aside accordingly.
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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
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"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Mr A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette, Aug. 2d, 1901

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

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Being a Digest of the Law relating to Theatres and Music Halls, and containing Chapters on Theatrical Contracts, Theatrical, Music and Dancing and Excise Licences, Dramatic and Musical Copyright, &c. With an Appendix containing the Acts of Parliament relating thereto, and the Regulations of the London County Council and Lord Chamberlain

By A. A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1904.

"BOOING" BAD PLAYS.

Anyone who stands in London at a busy corner where many omnibuses halt to take up passengers will notice a complete change in the attitude of the "average man" towards what is, it would appear, ironically called the "weaker" sex. At one time it was considered incumbent on a male individual to yield to any lady his turn in the crowd or *queue* which compete for the vacant places in public vehicles. Now there is no distinction of sexes, and it is a case of "first come first enter."

This alteration is the result of a radical change in the characteristics of the average woman. At one time she acted up to her reputation of "weakness." She showed consideration for the rights and feelings of others, and placed herself at the mercy of Man, who thus felt pleasure in gratuitous self-sacrifice for her benefit. Then came the New Woman movement; and, for a while, the Sex "had it both ways." They were no longer bound by any obligation to "gentleness" or "weakness;" and they elected to hold the men still under the old rules of "chivalry." A woman would expect a man to open a railway carriage door for her or give up to her his seat in an omnibus, but she scorned to reward him with thanks or a smile. She would readily take a seat offered to her by a young man; but she would never think of rising and relinquishing hers to an elderly or invalid lady or to an aged and infirm gentleman. And, to save herself the trouble of walking half the length of a railway platform, she would enter a carriage quite full of passengers, and stand in placid martyrdom till, for very shame, the nearest male gave up to her his seat. This one-sided arrangement could not last long; and those who regret the decay of "chivalry" should appeal to the ladies on the principle evoked by the witty Frenchman, who, when asked to assist in abolishing the death penalty, suggested that *messieurs les assassins* should take the initiative.

The latest example of the tendency of the fair sex to want to "have it both ways" is the fuss which Miss OLGA NETHERSOLE and Mrs CRAIGIE have been making about the "mixed reception" of *The Flute of Pan* at the Shaftesbury Theatre on the 12th inst. Both ladies tell most pitiful tales. They have worked—oh, how they have worked!—at the construction, the mounting, and the stage-management of the piece. And the money that was spent on it before the curtain was rung up on the production on Saturday week last! Furniture, we are told, was brought from Italy, real Irish Guards were engaged from His Majesty's barracks, and four of the King's trumpeters were secured to fanfarade. Two hundred persons were employed in the production, some of them with women and children dependent upon them for a living. Six trained choir boys had to be examined before one "with the most bell-like voice" was selected; and, to crown all, when a song had to be sung by a gentleman supposed to be in a gondola, an artist from the Palace Theatre was engaged for the purpose. Is it fair, ask Miss NETHERSOLE and Mrs CRAIGIE, that anyone should not think *The Flute of Pan* a good play, after all that has been done for it?

The logic of the appeal is characteristically feminine. If *The Flute of Pan* had been a ballet or a spectacle, these arguments might have held good. But Mrs CRAIGIE is the authoress of that very clever piece *The Ambassador*; and from her a first-night audience expects, not a spectacle, but a play. Labour and expenditure are required for any theatrical production. As for a piece being ruined by expressions of disapproval on the first night, the idea is absurd. What are the newspaper critics for, if not to give their independent opinions irrespective of those of a portion of the audience? The *rationale* of play-presentation may be briefly stated as follows. A manager endeavours to secure, as judges of his production, a roughly representative audience. The conventional method of expressing delight with a stage play is clapping the hands together; the conventional method of showing displeasure is by musical moans—commonly called "booing." At the close, those present are invited to express its opinion "in the usual manner"—that is by applause or by hissing or "booing." Those who think the play a good one clap their hands; those who are not satisfied with it hiss or "boo." It would no doubt be possible to exact absolute silence at the close of each act and at the end of a *première*; and it would be entirely consistent to do so. What is entirely *in*-consistent is to greedily accept the applause and tearfully protest against the "boos;" to enter the lists as rivals to male playwrights and claim equality with them until the "disagreeables" of the trade are felt, and then to take refuge in tears. Such a course reminds us of the lady who sent her novel to ABRAHAM HAYWARD for review with a note which said, "Let me have your *real* opinion; and please let it be *all* praise!" When a woman enters the art field she lays aside her sex privileges entirely. She is supposed, when she becomes a competitor, to cease to be a suppliant. In the early Spartan days, young men and young women used to box together in the public arenas. It would scarcely have been considered fair if, just as one of the lady pugilists had dealt a mere male a tremendous blow on the jaw, and he prepared to return the compliment, she had arrested him with the exclamation "Coward, to strike a woman!" Ladies who embark in dramatic authorship and in theatrical management must endeavour to cultivate a little more of the masculine philosophy which teaches us to take the rough with the smooth, and failures with successes. If they must "have a good cry" on first nights when their experiments are not exactly successful, let them do it in solitude and secrecy, and not make a public parade of their sorrows. Mrs CRAIGIE is not the first playwright who has written a rather tedious piece, and Miss NETHERSOLE is not the first actress-manageress who has produced one expensively. We must learn to bear these things more quietly, as Sir JOHN MOORE said to the private soldier at Corunna. Suppose every manager who produced a failure, or a quasi-failure, were to come before the footlights and weep; what a "new terror" the practice would add to first-night performances! This parade of labours and expenses, this appeal from justice to foolish indulgence, is absurd. If every piece, no matter how imperfect and uninteresting, is to be applauded, of what value is a "great first night success?"

TRINITY COLLEGE CONCERT.

The steady advance of Trinity College as a musical institution is making its impression on the musical world of London, and the concert we attended on Wednesday last gave us a most favourable idea of the talent of the students and the care bestowed upon their cultivation. There were degrees of merit, of course, but in many instances we could fairly award hearty commendation. Miss Edith Richards, a young lady organist, opened the concert with a sonata for the organ by Felix Borowski, and did herself no little credit, while Mrs Milbourne Goldschmidt, a lady with a charming voice, only requiring a little more firmness in style to be quite satisfactory, sang Landon Ronald's "Oh! Lovely Night." The Fantasia in F minor of Chopin was admirably performed by Miss Winifred Palfreman, who has won distinction not only at Trinity College but at the Royal Academy, having no less than eight letters attached to her name. Miss Florence Imhof rather dragged the tempo in Meyerbeer's "Nobil Signor," but she produced a good tone. The once-popular "Hommage à Handel," by Moscheles, for two pianofortes, was given with much animation by Miss Winifred Crowley and Mr Spencer A. Thompson, both executants being entitled to commendation. A little more dramatic expression would have increased the effect of Hullah's "Storm," as rendered by Miss Eve Tindell. The concerto of Mendelssohn in G minor was given as regards the Andante and Finale by Miss Beatrice Bond in good style; a second pianoforte rendering the orchestral accompaniments, for which Mr Percy Brier was responsible. Among other items may be named "The Two Grenadiers," the well-known song of Schumann, Chopin's Ballade in A flat by Miss Entwistle, a song of Handel by Miss Ruth Freeman, and a postlude for the organ by E. Beck Slinn. Altogether a creditable record for Trinity College.

MISS MARIE DAINTON has made such a success with the songs "Honeymoon Hall" and "The Old Oak Tree" in the new musical play *Peggy Machree* that many demands have been made for the introduction of the ditties into pantomime. C. E. Hamilton, who owns *Peggy Machree*, announces that, by arrangement with Messrs Witmark and Sons, of London and New York, the songs are reserved absolutely for Miss Dainton, and that no one will be permitted to use them except that lady.

ALTERATIONS AT DRURY-LANE.

In order to comply with the requirements of the recent award of arbitration between the London County Council and the proprietors of Drury-lane Theatre, an extensive scheme of improvement, designed by Mr Philip E. Pilditch, the consulting architect to the Marquess of Salisbury and the Duke of Bedford, is being carried out energetically in preparation for the pantomime reopening. Two new staircases have been provided at either side of the building. These are built one above the other, so that four separate streams of people will be able to leave the gallery at once. Additional gangways have been formed in the first and second tiers. The old ceiling has been replaced by one of fibrous plaster, richly adorned with paintings representing the months of the year and the four seasons. A fine electrolier will hang from the centre of the roof, and the ceiling will be fitted with hundreds of electric lamps. The old proscenium ornamentation has been replaced by fibrous plaster embellishments. In the centre is the Royal coat of arms modelled in gilt. At the sides are marble pilasters, and the entablatures rest upon steel and fibrous plaster columns. On the stage a new "decking" of teak has been laid. There will be new flies and a new "gridiron." All the scenes will be raised by an elaborate counter-balance system. The flexible steel wire supporting the twenty-two tons of weights is of a total length of 46,000ft., and the ironwork that goes up the walls to carry the weights would turn the scale at twenty-one tons. There are 120 four-wire sets of these weight-carriers, and attached to these are 1,270 pulley wheels. The whole of this apparatus is entirely new at Drury-lane, and by its aid one man will be able, with one hand, to move with ease a scene weighing fifteen hundredweight, which under the old system would have required from six to eight men to handle. The new "gridiron" is 3ft. 8in. higher from the stage than the old one, being now at an altitude of 64ft. This will enable the larger scenes to be taken right up out of the sight of the audience. Beneath the stage the alterations are being made on an extensive scale. Wooden joists have given place to steel ones, and an iron gangway is suspended from the floor where once there was a structure of wood. This transformation has rendered the Drury-lane stage, which measures 78ft. from the footlights to the back, one of the most perfectly fireproof structures in the kingdom. All the old wooden traps have been removed, for them being substituted metal devices connected with intersecting galleries made of steel. A clearance has been made of the hempen ropes and nothing but steel wire is now employed. The gallery and balcony have each been extended by the addition of two rows of seats in the middle portion, and both these parts of the house have been given a sharper incline, to afford a better view of the stage. And the corridors of gallery and balcony are being raised to meet the new level, while the walls have been broken away in order to remove the refreshment bars from the corridors and push them back into fireproof recesses. There will be a dozen different exits from the back of the house to the street, and the dressing-room on the ground floor will be used as a stalls refreshment buffet. Offices for the management are being erected above Vinegar-yard. The improvements described will cost from £25,000 to £30,000. The requirements of the County Council have been met without the necessity of using two separate sources of supply, the Charing-cross and Strand Electric Supply Association being able to supply distinct installations from one controlling station.

A short time before the commencement of the alterations the proprietors secured from the Duke of Bedford a forty-year extension of the lease, which has now some seventy odd years to run. That the attitude of the theatre company towards the London County Council in opposing all suggested alterations which were considered vexatious or unnecessary was warranted, is abundantly proved by the fact that they have been spared by arbitration an outlay of £15,000, the difference between the total cost of the London County Council suggestions and the actual work ordered to be done by the arbitrator.

On Monday rehearsals of *The White Cat* will begin at the theatre, the iron curtain being lowered to shut out the noise of the workmen in the auditorium.

THE MEANING OF "THE TEMPEST."

MR BEERBOHM TREE, in presiding in the afternoon of the 18th inst. at a special lecture, given at the Polytechnic, Regent-street, by Mr J. Churton Collins, on Shakespeare's play of "*The Tempest*: Its Philosophy and Significance," said that some of those present might be aware, though it might have been kept from them in the newspapers, that he had recently endeavoured to present the play of *The Tempest* in a practical way to the public. In doing so he had sought to make Shakespeare sufficiently clear to the understanding and common sense of the audience. He had occasion recently to remark that whatever tended to quicken the imagination of an audience was legitimate on the stage, and he believed that whatever tended to detract from that illusion was reprehensible in art. That was the limit which was set to the duty of the stage manager. He was, of course, quite aware that there were many literary persons who had objections to that modern way of interpreting Shakespeare; but an author must live in his own time, and who was so modern as Shakespeare? To an audience of to-day educated up to a certain standard, anything which fell short of that standard must be distracting. At any rate, he thought that whatever might be the shortcomings of the representations, if they brought home to the public a more vivid appreciation of our great national poet they were excusable; and he was sure that at no time had Shakespeare been so popular as he was to-day, when so many books about him were being circulated.

MR CHURTON COLLINS said two great allegories ran through Shakespeare's marvellous work of *The Tempest*. In the first of these was shadowed forth the Christian conception of the relation of God to man and of the Divine government. In the other—a very pathetic allegory—the poet seemed to identify himself with his taking leave of active life, and even of the world itself. That was the point which he wished chiefly to put before his hearers. Between the years 1603 and 1610, Shakespeare confined himself almost entirely to the study of life in its saddest aspects. He looked the facts of life steadily in the face in the light of the philosophy of Christianity, and the existence of a God ruling the world not merely in justice and righteousness, but in benevolence, forgiveness, and mercy, not only towards individuals, but towards all. There was, withal, a singular absence of religious unction in Shakespeare. There was every probability that *The Tempest* was the last work he wrote—its composition belonging to, perhaps, the end of 1612 or the beginning of 1613. In the mysterious island of the play we saw represented an image of the world almost before man came upon it, and in the characters that figured in the play a representation of nearly all the leading types of humanity, set forth with a remarkable harmony. In describing the leading characteristics of the *dramatis personæ*, Mr Collins suggested that Prospero was intended to symbolise the great poet himself in the views he desired, in his latest work, to put forward.

MR TREE, in acknowledging a vote of thanks to the Chair, conveyed the thanks of the audience to Mr Collins, remarking that, as for himself, he would leave the place with a deeper interest in *The Tempest* than he had before.

THE GERMAN THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 21, the Farcical Comedy, in Four Acts, by Max Dreyer, entitled
"DAS THAL DES LEBENS."

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Fritzinger	ADOLF WALTHER
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Hans Stork	HANS STOCK
Der alte Stork	PHIL LESING
Der alte Leibel	WILHELM SCHMIDT
Lisbeth Leibel	CAMILLA DALBERG
Die alte Leibelin	IDA WEISS
Putz	HEINRICH PABST
Die Wehmutter	BETTY L'ARRONGE
Feldweibel	C. MENDEL
Die Kastellanin	GRETE LANGFRIED
Deren fünfjährigen Sohn	K. WEISHEIT
Kammerfrau	A. BERGER
Kammerdiener	ROLF YVERSEN

The scene of *Das Thal des Lebens* is laid in a country village. A christening festivity is about to take place, and the grandmothers are making preparations. A peculiar feature of the life of the village is that free love reigns supreme; most of the children are born out of wedlock, and the mothers go to the adjacent town as wet-nurses to the nobility, thereby bringing money to the home. The lovers, however, are absolutely true to one another, and the girls are proud of their children, and also that they are instrumental in improving the race of the town-born weaklings. An old fiddler who has come to the feast says the Markgraf has decreed that all immorality shall cease in his kingdom, and that his minister is coming to the village to put a stop to their way of living. When the lovers, with the clergyman and neighbours, are feasting and the fun is fast and furious, the minister and troops arrive and denounce the "terrible state of things," and insist that from now forth only legal marriages may be contracted. The women are furious; Hans as a father is offended, protects his mistress, insults the minister, and is arrested and carried off by the troops, leaving his Lisbeth and all friends unhappy in the village and determined to be revenged.

In the second act five months have elapsed, and we are in the palace of the Markgraf. The clergyman from the country village comes to intercede for Hans, who has not been allowed to return home, but is a soldier in the town. Lisbeth has come with him, anxious to get a glimpse of her lover. The Markgraf has the officer of the regiment called, and Hans is brought before him and asked why he wishes to leave the regiment. He answers, "because he is always with dull, old people, and besides, no one in the Royal guard may marry." Lisbeth, who is hiding in an ante-room, hears Hans' voice and rushes out; they embrace and kiss, to the utter disgust of the Markgraf, who now remembers the whole history of their illegal relations. He decrees that Hans shall not return home, but must remain, and is to do special duty before the Margravine's apartments. Lisbeth shrieks and screams, and is only quiet when Hans caresses her. The pastor begs the Markgraf to let the two marry as they now wish to, but he remains stern. A great feeling of envy is shown when the Markgraf hears of Hans' sturdy son, he himself being childless. Unless an heir is born the Principality will go to Prussia. A scene between the Markgraf and his consort, a young, pretty woman, now follows, in which he takes affectionate farewell of her, as he is leaving town for a few days. He tells her that as her bodyguard she will have a young man—"a young man with a peculiar reputation;" he can only whisper what he is, it is too fearful to say aloud—he is called "king of the wet-nurses!" She is shocked, but evidently amused; and when the Markgraf leaves her rejoices with her old lady-in-waiting on the new sensation and delight in store for her—a youth, and a naughty one; what a treat in all her dulness!

In the third act the Margravine is seen in her apartments in the palace. She hears the guard outside, and sends the lady-in-waiting to bring the young man to her. He refuses to leave his post, and she goes to fetch him herself. She is delighted with his youth, beauty, and freshness, and she impresses him most favourably. They laugh and joke, and flirt together. Hans tells her he is a watchmaker by trade, and when the commanding officer comes to reprove him for deserting his post and threatens punishment, the Margravine says she has ordered him up to look at her clock. She wishes him to take up his quarters in a kiosk in the garden, of which she will have the key, and he is to be exempt from military duties. She then tells Hans she and he are the only young people in the castle; but she rejoices in his society. He is only too willing. At length she bids him "Au revoir."

Nine months have elapsed when act four opens. We are again in the village, from which now all happiness is fled. Cannon shots are heard—a hundred and one guns—and the old fiddler says, "Now you will believe me, a young prince is born! Now joy will return to our village, for the Prince must have a wet-nurse, and only here can one be found! I know the Markgraf is coming to-day." Lisbeth, dejected and miserable, appears. She has not heard of Hans for nine months, when one dread day they heard he had escaped from the castle and left the country. Putz comforts her, and says he will soon come back. From the hillside Hans comes towards the village, and is welcomed by the fiddler. He is much interested and amused to hear of the birth of a Prince, inquires after Lisbeth, and is overjoyed when she appears. They embrace and kiss; he tells her he is in business just over the frontier, and she and the boy are to join him. She wants to know what he has been doing all the time; has he been true to her, and how did he succeed in escaping? He has been moderately faithful, and is reluctant to say how he got away from the castle, hinting that feminine influence was at work. They both go indoors to see their boy. The Markgraf, cheerful as becomes a proud and happy father, arrives to tell the good news in the village, and discovers Hans, the deserter, who tries to evade him by climbing up a tree. The Markgraf says he will pardon him if he will come down on his honour as a father. Hans seems doubtful as to the truth of his statement of fatherhood, though there may be an heir, but he comes down nevertheless. The old clergyman says they will all be jolly together, as they all belong to one family, and of this, at any rate, Hans seems sure. Lisbeth and Hans embrace and are happy. The Markgraf has come to find a wet-nurse, and is told no such thing exists since his edict, neither have there been free love unions or marriages in the valley. What can be done? Since time immemorial the young princes have been nursed by girls from this valley. Slowly seven girls advance. "So there are nurses after all," he exclaims, "although I forbade such unions. What shall be the penalty?" he asks his minister. "Death," is the reply. "Yes," says the Markgraf, "but, I am too pleased to have found my nurse. Let us dance and sing." The old fiddler plays up, and the curtain falls.

The acting was of a high order, Rosie Grawz—an altogether delightfully natural and captivating actress—Hans Andresen, and Hans Stock excelled themselves, and a special word of praise is due to Herr Behrend for his thoroughly efficient production of the play, which was received with warm favour.

MR EDITOR,—Sir,—In your issue of to-day, you mention Gertrude Walton as playing the leading part in *The Voice of the People* at the Dalston Theatre. It should have been, yours faithfully, GERTRUDE F. GODART. Dalston Theatre, N., Nov. 19.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

The many friends of Mr Walter Gibbons will be sorry to hear that his only child is lying so dangerously ill that but faint hopes are entertained of her recovery. The grief and anxiety of Mrs Gibbons have unhappily caused her to be seriously indisposed. We tender our sincere sympathy to the young couple—a sympathy that we feel sure will be shared by a large number of our readers.

Mr Harry Randall, whose leading position in the profession justifies his election as president of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association, has been on the stage for nearly a quarter of a century. In his early youth he was a chorister, and the love of sentimental singing stuck to him until, by a mere accident, he tried a comic song, and elicited the opinion, uttered by a good-natured friend, that he was funny, and he has been funny ever since. He will play a prominent part in the Drury-lane pantomime *The White Cat*, this being his second season at the National Theatre.

The world of variety will read with a great deal of pleasure that her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by Princess Victoria and Prince and Princess Louis of Battenberg, was present at the Alhambra on Monday night to see the performance of *The Entente Cordiale*. To this successful ballet divertissement has been added a tableau representing the signing of the Anglo-French peace treaty, in which, with prophetic instinct, America is included.

The reputation of Fragson, who is as great an idol of the Parisian public as Paulus was some fifteen years since, has long since reached these shores. Everybody who goes to *la ville lumière* returns sounding the praise of Fragson's versatility, and Mr Arthur Collins has now discovered that he is an Englishman, and has engaged him for next year's pantomime at old Drury. The English impresario saw Fragson at the Parisiana Music Hall, and wanted to secure him for this season, but as the artiste has to fulfil an engagement at the Folies-Bergère at the end of his present contract he was unable to accept. For years it has been Fragson's ambition to perform in London. He made his first appearance at a cabaret in Montmartre (a sort of free-and-easy), and afterwards went into the provinces at the magnificent salary of two francs a-night. Now he earns the honorarium of a prime minister.

The variety contracts that are now being drawn up are framed with the view of keeping as many as possible of the comedians of the halls at those establishments during the Christmas season. The engagements for pantomime have long been settled for this year, and many of our variety favourites are engaged a year or two ahead; but the threatened famine in pantomime comedians will surely be averted by timely legislation. Signs are not wanting that music-hall comedians will be recruited from the ranks of musical comedy, and several of these gentlemen, it is understood, will bridge the small gulf between the two stages by means of pantomime.

"Many persons have visited the cemetery every day since the funeral" is a sentence that occurs in the report of the superintendent of Tooting Cemetery relating to Dan Leno's funeral, which was read to the Baths and Cemetery Committee of the Lambeth Borough Council one day this week. Such is the touching tribute of the people to one who lightened the burden of their cares by wholesome laughter.

Mr R. H. Douglass, the monologue entertainer, is an excellent story-teller, as the audience at the Hotel Cecil discovered—not for the first time—on Sunday last. In his interesting lecture on "Audiences from the Artist's Point of View" he caused much laughter by his anecdote concerning a certain "star" comedian, who had, like most of us, a strong aversion to paying income-tax. In his expenditure list figured the item "Grease paint £95." Such a large amount puzzled the collector, who reminded the star that the amount put down in the last year's paper for that commodity was very much smaller. "Just so," was the reply, "but you see I am so often working at halls where there are two performances nightly. It is quite the fashion now."

Probate has been granted in London of the will of the late Mr Charles Morton, late manager of the Palace Theatre, London, the "Father of the halls." By his will, dated May 16, 1900, he named as sole executor his wife, Mrs Kate Morton, to whom he left the major portion of his estate. The estate has been returned as of a gross value of £2 078 13s., and the net personalty sworn at £1,844 9s. 11d. He left fifty guineas to each of his daughters for the purchase of some article of jewellery, and ten guineas to Alfred Beyfus, of 69, Lincoln's-inn-fields, his friend of many years standing, as a token of esteem and regard; and he appointed him to be his literary executor. Mr Beyfus alone will be entitled to decide any question or matter in connection with the publication of papers connected with the testator's life, or the book he was contemplating.

Into the sketch, *Brummagem Jem*, at the Palace, was introduced on Saturday night an interview between Mrs Clutterbuck and Mr James Harris (who travels in jewellery). The situation lends itself to farcical business, in which Mr Arthur Roberts finds an excellent coadjutor in Miss Alice Aynsley Cook, who plays Amanda. The sketch is played nightly to the accompaniment of roars of laughter.

Mr Nat Clifford, who has been diverting the Cornstalks in Melbourne, Sydney, and other cities of Australia, returned from the land of the Southern Cross on Monday very fit and well. It will be remembered that Mr Clifford's health gave his friends some anxiety early in the year, and while he was playing the chief comedy part in the Borough Theatre, Stratford, pantomime he had to give up. To that theatre he returns this Christmas, and will, no doubt, be heartily welcomed. The pantomime is *The Forty Thieves*, and Miss Claire Romaine, who is such a favourite in Stratford, will again play a prominent part.

Messrs Hopwood and Crew have acquired the publishing rights of Miss Marie Lloyd's highly-humorous latest song, entitled "Naughty! Naughty! Naughty!" which the famous comedienne is now nightly exploiting with such marked success at all her London "turns." They will produce the song in music form at an early date. It is from the joint pens of the author and composer of so many of Miss Marie Lloyd's past successes, Messrs John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn.

A good deal of romance attaches to the career of Miss Ivy Dawn, who is to play the important part of fairy queen at the Grand, Islington. She knows too well the pinch of poverty, and she was compelled to sing anywhere for a few pence. One evening, however, the fine quality and rich tone of her voice attracted the attention of a passer-by, who is a well-known composer. This gentleman took the young vocalist in hand. Soon discovering that she had a voice of extraordinary range, he arranged a year's careful instruction, with the result that when the late Mr Charles Morton heard her sing he at once gave her an immediate engagement at the Palace Theatre, and made a contract to extend over a number of years. Her reception at the Shaftesbury-avenue variety house was so encouraging that the management very soon transferred her to the leading position on the programme. Special songs by prominent composers have been written for her engagement at Christmas.

Mr S. King Alexander, late of the Gaiety Theatre, Dundee, has been appointed general manager of the Tivoli and Queen's Variety Theatres, Glasgow.

Mr Alfred Selwyn, who has so successfully managed the Pavilion Theatre, Scottish Zoo, and Glasgow Hippodrome for Mr T. Barrasford during the last ten months, has been engaged by that gentleman to manage the Lyceum Theatre, London.

The clog-dancers' contest next week at the Britannia, Glasgow, is for the Championship of Scotland, and not the world, as advertised last week by a clerical error.

As we go to press we learn that the benefit to be worthily accorded to Mr Barney Armstrong, managing director of the Tivoli and Queen's Theatres at Glasgow to-night (Friday), promises to be quite an event in the history of Glasgow music halls. Every seat has been taken at unusually high prices, a programme, including the cream of talent, has, by the kindness of his brother managers in the city been arranged, and the occasion will be quite a "red-letter day" in that gentleman's career. Mr Armstrong is very popular in "the second city," and will carry away the good wishes of the citizens for his future prosperity.

The 382nd meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr W. J. P. Monckton, V.P., presiding. The appointment of Mr Frank Greves as agent in Dudley was cancelled, the services of Mr Tom Pritchard, of the Empire Palace, Dudley being retained. Nominations were received for the Trustees of the Association and also for the Hon. President. The secretary reported that sixty new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,791.

During the first house at the Empress, Hartlepool, on Monday, some youths in the gallery were somewhat unruly, and Councillor Everton, the proprietor, whose geniality is often in such cases more successful in bringing about the desired effect than the presence of his numerous gallery officials, proceeded to the domain of the gods to use his influence in quieting the disturbers; but, unfortunately, in the act of pacifying the offenders the popular "Bob" dislocated his knee. With assistance Councillor Everton was conveyed to his home, where he received the surgical attentions of Dr. De Jong. Upon inquiry later we learned that Mr Everton was progressing favourably.

On Saturday evening, at the New Prince's Theatre, Horwich, a packed house witnessed a grand clog dancing performance by Mr T. H. Fox, who was billed to attempt to lower Dan Leno's record of 222 half steps in eight bars. The judges were Mr John Walsh, of Dublin; Mr J. Rigby, Bolton; Mr Alf Tweedale, of Manchester; and Mr Tod Squires, all well-known exponents of step dancing, assisted by Mr John Power, of *The Master Criminal* company. The unanimous verdict was that Mr Fox made 228 half steps in the eight bars, thus beating the record by six. Afterwards Master Allen Price, aged eleven years, gave an exhibition of step dancing. This youth will very shortly be heard of, and has a great future before him, his steps being very neat.

Dr. Walford Bodie finished a phenomenal twelve nights' engagement with his own company on Saturday at the Palace Theatre, Glasgow, where he has broken all records. The Palace is one of the largest theatres out of London, and was packed nightly to the doors at both houses, over 8,000 people paying nightly for admission. So great was the nightly crush that overflow tickets had to be issued. This is the Doctor's sixteenth visit to Glasgow, but his popularity still seems to be on the increase, for close on 100,000 persons paid for admission during the two weeks. The takings amounted nearly to the large sum of £1,400.

As Miss Fanny Robina was leaving the Empire, Birmingham, on Saturday night, a little fellow ran after her and asked her if she would accept a small present from a gallery boy. He then gave her a parcel, for which Miss Fanny Robina graciously thanked him, and asked him to call on her on Sunday morning. On reaching home she found the packet contained a beautiful fret-work frame covered with coloured silk, with the words cut out in white letters round a photo in centre: "Presented to Fanny Robina." The gift will be hung at the halls where Miss Robina will appear. There is no need to say that the popular lady will highly prize this souvenir from a gallery boy admirer (made by himself) When he called on Sunday the little fellow said he did not want money, but only a photo signed by Fanny Robina. He said he cut the photo out of a penny song-book, which he framed in his own ingenious way.

It will be remembered that recently a Sunday concert was held at Collins's Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent, when a cheque for a handsome sum was handed to the retiring Mayor. On Thursday the present Mayor, Mr Riseley, together with many of the magistracy and council, attended at the saloon of the "Hip." and presented to Mr P. Collins an illuminated address and vote of thanks for his kindness in giving the use of his establishment, and to Mr Frank Egerton for the hearty and indefatigable manner in which he "worked up" the very successful affair. The incident had a pleasant termination in "Success to Charity" and "God Save the King."

Many persons in Wolverhampton remember Dan Leno in the early stages of his career, when he appeared at the old Boot and Star Concert Hall, now the Empire Palace, in Queen-square, as the champion clog-dancer, his champion belt being exhibited in the window.

Miss Ada Alexandra was prevented, through indisposition, from fulfilling her engagement at Bolton this week. She has gone to Southsea and Plymouth to recuperate, and will resume business with her Merry Dutch Girls in a fortnight.

Miss Margaret Ashton, the popular American soprano, who was this week to have fulfilled an important engagement at the Empire Palace, Liverpool, has, owing to severe nervous prostration, been ordered by her London physician a complete rest. Her many admirers will learn with regret of her enforced absence from the stage, and it is to be hoped that she may speedily recover in time to undertake her forthcoming Irish tour. She is at present confined to her rooms at the Hotel Metropole, London.

The Ameen Abou Hamad Troupe of acrobats are fulfilling a most successful engagement at the Palace Theatre, where their act causes much surprise and induces the somewhat phlegmatic stallites to become quite enthusiastic. A great deal of ingenuity is displayed by these sons of the desert in their wonderful pyramids. Each member of the Troupe bears a part in the series of graceful groupings, and the top-mounters climb like cats to the shoulders of their stalwart comrades. No sooner has one formation been applauded than the swarthy acrobats commence another, which seems even more difficult and more ingenious than the last. In their tumbling work the Arabs display wonderful smartness and astonishing agility in their somersaults, handsprings, and pirouettes. They are intensely earnest in their work, and their cries of encouragement one to the other are very amusing.

The Middlesex carnival on Thursday evening drew an immense crowd to the people's hall in Drury-lane, and Mr J. L. Graydon and his son, Mr Laurie Graydon, were heartily congratulated by a large contingent of managers, proprietors, agents, and other people prominent in the music hall world. The specially printed programme was made more than usually interesting by a couple of facsimiles of Middlesex bills. One, bearing the date Oct. 5, 1885, contains the following announcement: —"First appearance in London of Dan Leno, the great British comic vocalist and present champion dancer of the world." The second facsimile was of a bill dated Nov. 23, 1891, which was headed by "the inimitable vocal and patter comedian Dan Leno, in all his latest successes;" and contained also the names of G. H. Chirgwin and George Robey "in his latest successful songs."

It will be seen by these reprints that Mr Graydon has always been abreast of the latest novelties in variety, and the anniversary bill contained no less than 140 names, including the cream of the profession. A special item, announced for "one night only" was entitled *The Gathering of the Clans; or, I Am the Other*, by Messrs Laurie Graydon and Clifford. The scene was the reception room of Mr John Lawson, who was supposed to have invited several of the stars of the music hall firmament to dine with him—among them George Robey, Joe Elvin and R. G. Knowles. These characters were to be played by Messrs Syd May, Charles Norton, Charles Austin, Tom Stuart, and others. Marie Lloyd was one of the star turns on Thursday, and her welcome from the Middlesex boys was as robust and hearty as when she first entertained them during her teens. She was presented by Mr Graydon with some very handsome bouquets.

Other artistes included Burt Atherton, Rosie Bartlett, Ernie Williams, Atroy, Maudie Ford, Syd Godfrey, Datas, Viola, Dolly M'Calla, Herbert Rule the sketch, *The Order of the Bath*, Geo. Antill, Sisters Edwards, Burley and Burley, Walter Wallis, Lina Verdi, Sisters Wingrove, M'Naughtons, Starr and Leslie, Dorothy Clark, Johnny Alexander and company, Nina Martino, Will Evans, Martine and Son, Julia Mackey, Esmeralda, Sisters Desmond, Alice Lloyd, the Poluskis, Kate Cutler, the Three Rayes, Harry Tate's *Motoring*, Gipsy Wolf and company, Lottie Lennox, Nat Travers, Irene Meldon, Harry Cotten, Arthur Prince, Princess Pauline, Dot Hardy, Harrigan and Holt, George Robey, Gilbert Girard, and *The Gathering of the Clans*. The stage-manager was Mr C. E. Chapman (from R. Warner and Co.), assisted by Mr Sam Hart.

After the curtain had fallen on the Water Rats matinée at the London Pavilion on Monday, at six, the thanks of the fraternity were conveyed to Mr Frank Glenister, to whom was given a pair of handsome silver-framed mirrors; to Mr William Cobbett, to whom was handed a set of fruit cutlery; to Mr Bond Sayers, the orchestral chief, who was endowed with a case of razors; and to Mr Adolf Tressider, the stage-manager, who was particularly pleased with the tantalus spirit stand presented to him. The loyal and indefatigable assistance of these gentlemen did much for a matinée that seems to grow in popularity each year.

Mr Frank Weeks is always prominent in charitable work, and his New Year entertainment for the poor children of Southwark will take place at the South London on Friday afternoon, Jan. 6, 1905. It will be under the patronage of Mr R. K. Causton, M.P., who will be supported by the mayor, aldermen, and councillors of Southwark. This is the third year that Mr Weeks has busied himself in organising a treat for the children at the South London. His example might be followed in other parts of London.

Mr Harry Bawn, the manager of the Grand, Clapham, has hung an illuminated scene, which was painted for the children's pantomime at the old hall some years since by the lamented Mr Dan Leno. It forms a pretty stage setting for the accomplished dancer My Fancy, and was received on Monday with enthusiasm and admiration.

Mr Hannen Swaffer, the song-writer and journalist, has been commissioned to write a series of stories about music hall life. The first of the series bears the title, "The Story of the Bogus Star." The latest of Mr Swaffer's song successes is "You are a little white girl," which is being eagerly snapped up by pantomime producers, and with which Miss Winifred Hare has made a great hit.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs Blanchett, the mother of Mr George Belmont, who passed away on Sunday at an advanced age at her residence at Barkham-terrace, Kennington. The remains of the deceased lady were interred on Friday. Mr Belmont is now located at the Alma, Hoxton, a neighbourhood that teems with toilers. Entertainments are given twice weekly, and artistes of budding promise are afforded a chance of showing their quality. It was at similar establishments in the seventies that some of our present stars made their first appearance.

That clever little lady Miss Venie Clements has been engaged by Mr John Hart to play principal girl, Jill, in *Mother Goose*, at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, this Christmas. For the past three years she has made a conspicuous success, playing principal girl at Fulham, Glasgow, and Stratford.

A remarkable boy singer, Master Tom Cruwys, has appeared this week at the Alhambra. He is a scholar of St. Paul's, Hammersmith, and has just turned the age of twelve. He has a voice of sweet quality and remarkable range, and his high notes are particularly clear.

Our readers will regret to hear that Mr J. P. Graham (of Graham and Vine), succumbed to consumption last Sunday. In the days of duologue sketches, some fifteen or twenty years since, the names of Graham and Vine were often found in the programmes of the leading London variety halls, but the newer generation knew them not.

Mr Harrison Brockbank, who has recently been playing Captain Lovebury in *The New Barmaid* on tour, has returned to the London Pavilion, where he is presenting, with very great success, his new nautical scena, entitled *Sea Chanties*.

Mr Pat Doherty is specially engaged by Mr George Davey to appear in the Palace scene during the run of the Grand, Islington, pantomime, in a new chorus song, written and composed by W.T. Gliddon, the conductor of the orchestra, entitled "The Irish Dude." This is Pat's fourth engagement since June at the Grand, where he seems to be a big favourite.

Day's Variety Agency, of Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, must indeed be a busy firm. What with booking exclusively for the Bedford and five provincial halls, including the South coast, Yarmouth, and Southport, the business seems to be exceedingly promising.

Mr Charles Cunningham, of *V.C.* sketch fame, has written and will produce (in conjunction with Mr H. Howard), a new romantic episode entitled *The King's Hat*, which will be in one scene, playing twenty-five minutes. The initial performance takes place on Monday, Dec. 12, at the Hackney Empire.

The youngest daughter of Harry Wright and Nellie Gannon has made a successful début as a low comedy artiste at the Westminster, Liverpool. She will be known as Miss Peggy Fame.

Mr Pat Carey desires to state that he has resigned his position on the committee of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association.

The date of the opening of the Grand Theatre, Fulham, as a variety house has not yet been decided, and the announcements that the house will start on its new career on Monday are incorrect. Arrangements are being made as rapidly as possible, but no definite date has been fixed.

At the meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund on Wednesday, Mr Pat Carey, president, in the chair, it was announced that good progress was being made with the arrangements for the benefit entertainment in aid of the expenses of administration to be given at Collins's on Friday evening, Dec. 9. Among the artistes who have promised their services are Mr Gus Elen, Mr Harry Tate, Mr George Mozart, Mr Harry Ford, Mr Dan Thomas, and the M'Naughtons. The Terriers, individually and collectively, have also announced their intention of supporting the benefit.

A large contingent of the Canonbury Club, of which Mr Harry Randall, the new president of the M.H.A.R.A., is a popular member, will occupy a number of boxes and stalls at Collins's on the night, and Mr Charles Hector, the genial manager of the Islington-green house, is actively engaged, in conjunction with the secretary, in promoting the success of the affair. Mr Will Oliver has kindly consented to act as stage-manager, and Mr Frank Heath, the hon. treasurer, and members of the committee will be "in front" to look after the comfort of the visitors. We may add that the Music Hall Sick Fund was founded many years since for the purposes of thrift and provision in time of illness by artistes for artistes, and from very small beginnings has accumulated a capital of £1,200, which has lately been invested in Consols. It has the reputation, which is thoroughly deserved, of being the most economically administered friendly society in existence.

This year the production of the pantomime *Cinderella* at the Alexandra Theatre, Mr F. W. Purcell's Stoke Newington house, will be by arrangement with Mr Fred Karno. Miss Winifred Hare, who has been in former years principal boy at the Coronet, Notting-hill, will play the part of the Prince, and Miss Godwynne Earle will be the cinder-wench heroine. Mr Neil Kenyon, a Scotch comedian, whom we are likely to hear at the principal London halls, will be seen in a chief comedy part; and Mr William Gourlay, a nimble dancer; and Messrs Fletch and Palmer will also appear. The two last-named gentlemen were discovered by Mr Karno in America.

Mr G. H. Elliott, the "Chocolate-Coloured Coon," just prior to his departure into the provinces last week purchased the sole singing rights of a new song, the locale of which is laid in South America, with the title of "De Independent Coon," which he will produce at the Tivoli and other foremost London halls on his return to town on Boxing Day. The ear-haunting melody to this lyric of the prairie has been composed by Miss Adrienne Nivloch, a lady composer, who, although new to the music halls, is well known in Bedford musical circles, and the appropriate words have been specially written for Mr Elliott by the ubiquitous Mr John P. Harrington.

Miss Marie Weston whilst travelling from Leeds to Hanley last Sunday had rather a novel experience. Leaving Leeds she got into a third-class compartment which she thought to be empty. After having travelled some considerable distance, however, she discovered a little boy under the carriage seat. She asked him to come out and explain why he was there. Whilst he was explaining she heard someone laugh, and on looking under the seat again she discovered two more boys and a girl, making four in all. They were in a filthy and ragged condition. They told her that they got into the carriage at Bradford and were going to Staffordshire. None of them had tickets. The youngest was about three years of age and the eldest (the girl) about eight. At the next stopping station Miss Weston gave them in charge of the guard, who handed them over to the station-master.

At the grand matinée which takes place at the Alhambra on Thursday, Dec. 8, on behalf of the rebuilding fund of St. Bartholomew's Hospital the following well-known artistes, amongst many others, have kindly consented to appear:—Misses Sybil Arundale, Mabel Love, Maggie Duggan, Marie Lloyd, Topsy Sinden, Marie Studholme, Harriet Vernon, and Messrs Rutland Barrington, Louis Bradfield, C. Hayden Coffin, Dutch Daly, Gus Elen, Seymour Hicks, George Mozart, Arthur Roberts, George Robey, Fred Russell, Ernest Shand, Harry Tate, and Little Tich. The souvenir programme, which will be sold by leading actresses on this occasion, will contain stories and sketches by celebrated writers and artists.

The present popularity of the Folies Bergère is undoubtedly due to the efforts of those kings of merrymakers Billy Reeves—whose amusing performance has been recently criticised in these columns—and to W. C. Fields—whose comic juggling is the best that has been seen. He is a true comedian; very neat and quick in his work—so neat, in fact, that the majority of the audience do not appreciate the difficulty of the work he does. They are too busy roaring at his comicalities. His billiard playing is marvellous, and the "break" he makes rouses envy in the hearts of all lovers of this fascinating and scientific game. All who desire a hearty laugh should hurry up, as Mr Fields is leaving shortly for Manchester, where a part has been sufficiently written in for him, or rather where a space has been left for him to introduce his specialities at the Prince's pantomime. Later Klaw and Erlanger, the American managers, have engaged him. We are not to see Mr Fields back in Paris until 1907. The other notable number in the bill is the Novellos, a troupe of excellent acrobats, who make a fine display with an elephant, several ponies, some Indian servants, and some remarkably clever little boys who do some smart hand balancing. The Bobby Pandurs are always favourites. They are very clever equilibrists. The Two Therons are good bicyclists; the girl is, as before, by far the better rider of the two.

There is an excellent programme at the Casino this week. Mason and Bart give us a new number. Mason is dressed as Captain Kettle, and gives an amusing sketch of that popular hero of fiction, besides an admirable display as an acrobat and athlete. Some of his tricks are not only very daring and clever, but they are new. His partner, made up like an ape, is equally amusing, and is also a very fine acrobat. Horace Goldin gives some smart conjuring tricks and some interesting illusions, his trunk trick is well arranged and admirably executed. Fraed is a good ventriloquist, and his dolls are very human; Eleonora La Bella presents a series of Spanish dances; the Hermance are amusing in their table acrobatics, diverting the audience immensely by the indolent air with which they accomplish very clever tricks. The pantomime *Feminissima* is too trivial for words, and needs no description. A good word must be said, however, for the miming of Maris Duberny as the amorous schoolboy.

The new Revue at the Scala delights Parisiens, but puzzles foreigners. It has the usual innumerable tableaux, the same old, old music, the same processions, and the same fatigued chorus ladies, who condescend to do nothing save wear their fragmentary costumes with nonchalance. French artists unknown across the channel form the company.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

The New Coliseum in St. Martin's-lane, which is to be opened in a few weeks, will be the largest building of the kind in the metropolis. The building has an imposing frontage to St. Martin's-lane, and extends back to Bedfordbury. Surmounting the front of the stone building is a lofty tower in beautiful mosaics. To right and left, and above the spacious main entrance, are tea and reading rooms and lounges. Anyone who wishes to combine business with pleasure will find at his hand a telephone exchange, a staff of typists to whom letters can be dictated, and abundant messengers.

In the interior the seating accommodation has been arranged in three tiers, each of which may be reached by lifts as well as by staircases. These balconies running round the building have been devised in such a way that even in the topmost one a perfect view of the stage can be had. Each seat in the three tiers is cushioned and divided from the rest by arms, and each, from the highest priced to the lowest is numbered, and can be reserved. The fronts of the balconies are in marble. In the central position on the ground floor, facing the stage, is the Royal box, which forms a conspicuous feature of the auditorium, into which it slightly projects beyond the other stalls and boxes. The width of the front is nearly twelve feet, and is carried out in polished white marble, with handsomely moulded balustrading, plinths, and rail, and panelled sides At either side are continuous panelled and moulded pedestals, in the same material, for supporting sculptured figures. The canopy over the box consists of elaborate fibrous plaster work, with the Royal Crown as a terminal, and is supported on highly polished white marble columns. High above the auditorium is an immense dome-shaped roof, brilliantly lighted, and provided with ventilating apparatus. The prevailing colours of the decorations are white and gold. Gilden chariots, drawn by teams of lions, surmount the topmost boxes next to the proscenium. On either side of the auditorium, close to the stage, are two large boxes on the ground level, and these are to be used by the vocalists who have been engaged to contribute the choruses in the musical portions of the entertainments. Some three thousand people will find seating accommodation in the vast building.

The proscenium opening has a frontage of 55ft., the stage immediately behind being 120ft. in width. The stage is really three moving platforms in the form of concentric rings. The outer table is 75ft. in diameter, the intermediate 50ft., and the centre table 25ft. Each table is mounted independently upon a ring of carrying wheels, some of which are driven by electric motors. These immense rings move with almost mathematical precision, and can be made to revolve at a rate of twenty miles an hour. These are to be used in securing panoramic effects, which are to be a special feature of the beautiful spectacles to be seen at the new theatre. Various ingenious and novel devices have been introduced for the movement of scenery, and, as far as the mechanical appliances are concerned, they are of the most complete description.

Four performances are to take place daily, commencing at noon, an interval of an hour occurring between each. The first and third and the second and fourth will be similar. Among the forthcoming spectacular effects is a representation of warfare in the Far East, and a realistic reproduction of the race for the Derby. Mr Walter Slaughter has been engaged as director of music, and Mr Maurice Jacobi will be one of the conductors. Mr Arthur Sturgess, Captain Basil Hood, Mr Hickory Wood, and Mr Roland Carse will write lyrics and duologues for the establishment. Mr Oswald Stoll, the managing-director, has engaged a large staff, including Mr Marshall Moore as general director of staff and producer, Mr Frank Harrison as stage-manager, Mr John Donald as acting-manager, Messrs Bruce Smith and Hicks as scenic artists, Mr Will Bishop as ballet master, Mr Sidney Ash as master of the horse, and Mr Thomas Coates as Press representative.

M.H.A.R.A.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am instructed by the Executive Committee of this Association to inform you that, at a meeting held yesterday, a hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to you for your great kindness in receiving the voting papers for the recent election of the committee at your office.

Yours faithfully, C. DOUGLAS STUART,
Secretary, Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association.
28, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C., Nov. 23.

Mr Will Murray took his benefit at the Palace Theatre, Blackburn on Friday, the 18th, and was rewarded with two crowded houses. There was a large array of professional and local talent, and amongst the "extra turns" was Mr Alec Hurley, who travelled specially from Liverpool for the occasion. During the second house Mr Phil Ray came on to the stage and made a short speech, in which he enumerated the good qualities of the bénéficiaire, and also said that he had been desired by his brother and sister artistes to mention how very comfortable they had always been made on their visits to Blackburn. Mr Ray then made several presentations to Mr Murray. They consisted of a purse of gold from the artistes, some friends, and the staff, a handsome gold mounted walking stick from a well-known patron of the palace, and a case of silver fish carvers from the staff to Mrs Murray. In a short speech, Mr Murray said that such large houses showed, he thought, that his efforts as a manager had been appreciated. He then briefly thanked the donors of the presents, and also the audience.

Mdlle. Nadji, termed the "queen of equipoise," is finishing her engagement this week at the Alhambra, where, by the way, she is re-engaged for two dates by Mr Geo. Scott. We have commented before upon this charming young lady's refined and graceful act, which in its particular line is not excelled. Miss Nadji had the honour on Monday of appearing before Queen Alexandra and other members of the Royal Family.

Messrs C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton have this week sold to Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter two of Mr Joe O'Gorman's songs. One is the much admired "When Kitty comes home from the play," the other being an intensely funny song, written to take the place of the singer's famous "Three men went out a-hunting."

Mr Norman French will shortly produce at the London Pavilion a wildly eccentric dude song, written and composed by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton. This firm has also supplied Miss Ruth Lytton with a polyglot song, which she will doubtless sing during her Drury-lane pantomime engagement.

Mr Harry Blake will shortly produce a new scena, a sequel to his "Hiawatha," with which, it will be remembered, he scored so great a success in London and the provinces. In the new production "Hiawatha" is married and settled. Minnehaha, his squaw, carries a "papoose" slung at her back, and domestic joy reigns supreme. The Indian, however, has some stirring lines, in which he protests as a son of the soil against the appropriation of the land of his forefathers by the paleface. The verses are from the pen of Mr Voyce (of Verno and Voyce).

Messrs N. Witmark and Sons desire us to state that the exclusive rights of the song, "The Coonville Band," were given to Miss Alexandra Dagmar when the song first came from America in 1903.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE BEDFORD.

Mr B. Pearce Lucas is an advocate of constancy to change, and with the laudable desire to give his Camden Town patrons the best that is to be obtained in the variety market, is presenting the great magic kettle act, "direct from the Palace Theatre, London," and large audiences during this week have shown an immense amount of interest in the scientific demonstrations. The lecturer, whose name is not given on the programme, is careful to assure the spectators that there is neither conjuring nor illusion in the wonders displayed, and proceeds to "poach" eggs, make ice-creams, wash a pocket-handkerchief in a hat, and harden cranberries with the liquid air that "steams" so copiously from the wonderful kettle. It boils so merrily on a block of ice, and even blows its own trumpet. The exhibition is a most interesting one, and some of the speculative theories as to how it is done, which were uttered on the night of our visit, were particularly amusing. It shows a very remarkable advance in the character of the Bedford audiences—which, in former days, had a reputation for rowdyism—that they should so thoroughly appreciate a scientific demonstration. The humour of the halls has an early exponent in Mr Harry Pleon, who makes amusing capital out of a piece of nonsense, written by himself, and entitled *How to Make a Book*. It is a duologue, in which Mr Tom Kent, jun., "feeds" the comedian. The instructions about laying the odds, and the expressions a "stumer" and a "skinner" are supposed to be Greek to the amateur "bookie," and the remarks about the various favourites and their performances afford plenty of opportunity to the little comedian, who is a great favourite with the Bedford folk. Miss Katie Butler, who is termed "the coming comedienne," has a very clever notion of domestic humour, which she displays to considerable advantage in her song "Nosey Parker"—a slang term that suggests a knowing person who is given to meddling with other people's business. "Nosey" in this instance, however, seems to know a good deal, and her revelations are droll enough to cause the greatest hilarity. Miss Nellie Navette, one of the most charming and accomplished dancers on the variety stage, appears in a particularly fetching costume to sing of the "dandy boys," a crowd full of the "joy of living," and then, in her own sweet way, exhibits the art in which she stands *facile princeps*. Grace and elegance of pose and delightful facility of step are the chief characteristics of Miss Navette's solo, which it is a delight to watch. Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, a pretty cantratrice, sings of Harry and Carry, who marry and go to Paree, and the play on the words is worthy of Mr Harry Hunter, who was responsible for the celebrated "I saw Esau kissing Kate." In another song Miss Broadfoote has some amusing parodies of well-known nursery rhymes. Mr Gilbert Girard gives a series of clever instrumental imitations—that of the Jew's harp being remarkably deceiving. His mimicry of animals and birds is also very amusing, especially the peacock, the rooster, and the donkey. For the best amateur copyist of Mr Girard a prize was to be given on Friday. Miss Raffin's monkeys are docile little creatures, whose trapeze and barrel performances demonstrate the immense patience that has been expended on their training, and other turns on the bill are Arthur Boyne, who possesses hereditary talent as a comedian; Tray and Rich, black and white comedians, who are excellent dancers; and Michel and Polo, whose smart gladiatorial athletics are very much to the taste of the audience. The Imperial Bioscope has some excellent pictures of a burglary at a bank and the arrest of the delinquents. Mr A. F. Lovesey's supervision of the entertainment and management of the house give the greatest satisfaction.

THE STANDARD.

Constant and undeviating fidelity is shown by the patrons of the Standard, for the delectation of whom Mr T. S. Dickie always prepares an entertainment of the best and brightest, the result being that the comfortable hall opposite the Victoria terminus is invariably thronged with a crowded and well-pleased audience. Appreciation is early secured in this week's programme by Miss Marcelle Eirle, a lady who sings in praise of "The Mazy Waltz," and also has a number that wins applause in "A Soldier of Japan." That popular Irish comedian, Mr Pat Carey, is received with a cordiality that is reserved for old favourites, and has a humorous and telling ditty in "They were all Irish;" his rendering of the rollicking "Bedella," and his accompanying dance, being loudly acclaimed. Miss Cecil a Maude a vocal comedienne with a good voice and appearance, has a well-written and interesting song quite out of the usual line in "It's pluck not luck that wins," and the ear-haunting and tuneful "Bluebell" is also admirably given by the fair vocalist, whose reception is of the most flattering description. The droll eccentric comedian Mr Lawrence Barclay has a parody on "Good-bye, little yellow bird," that is not over-burthened with humour, but he, nevertheless, contrives to move his auditors to mirth with it, so its inclusion in his répertoire is justified. Much funnier is his second number, "Yes, verily, yea," in which he appears as a clerical gentleman not averse to a mild flirtation when he gets a chance, and the song undoubtedly is made all the more ludicrous by the droll rendering given it by Mr Barclay, who is to be commended for his distinct enunciation. Another comedian who largely contributes to the gaiety of the audience is Mr George Gilbey, a funny man who gets his laughs by a quiet and unforced method which is very effective. He has a quaint and original song in "Why should I?" the drollery of which is admirably brought out, and his female impersonation, "Oh, how I've missed my little Arthur," is also a most mirth-provoking number. Little Arthur must have been a bit of a terror, for his garrulous widow in her humorous lament tells how the kitchen poker has joined the unemployed since his decease, and her tale of woe as to his eccentric behaviour generally makes for continuous merriment. That popular comedienne, Miss Kittee Rayburn, warbles with the necessary point "The Christening of the Baby," and her domestic ditty "My old man and me" likewise secures her liberal applause; and a couple of really entertaining cross-talk comedians are Williams and Brown, whose conversations concerning "Hoodid" and clever "Question" song compel laughter and win for them a most flattering reception. Sinclair and Parr, operatic vocalists, contribute one of the most-appreciated items in the programme in their vocal trifle which may be called "A Concert Rehearsal." The couple, who possess excellent voices, give a cultured rendering of a medley of popular Irish songs, and their vocalism is interspersed with remarks of a humorous nature. Brian and Lawrence, comedy duologue artistes, present a farcical playlet which makes for merriment, the gentleman being an expert whistler and a smart actor; and receiving valuable assistance from his lady partner; and Miss Alma Obrey, Australian comedienne, vocalises to the evident enjoyment of the audience, who loudly applaud her selections. The illustrated songs of Miss Belle Braham are a popular feature on any programme, and her renderings of "Just for the sake of society," a pathetic story of a neglected child, admirably pictured on the screen, and "My old Kentucky Home," showing some pretty views of the "blue grass country," are warmly acclaimed. The pictures displayed on the Animatograph include a panoramic view of the Earl's-court Exhibition, showing the water-chute and the flying machine in operation, a most realistic picture; a clever trick film, the Devil's Pot; Picking Strawberries, the Club Raid, and a Fire-Brigade Turn-out. Mr John E. Coyle, a comedian whose songs and patter can always be relied upon to amuse, and the Collinson Combination, in their burlesque absurdity, *Archibald Jones, the New Hamlet*, are also in the entertaining programme. Mr Maurice Volny is Mr Dickie's astute and courteous first lieutenant, and the excellent orchestra is under the careful control of Mr J. E. Turner.

SOUTH LONDON.

Infinite variety is contained in the bill-of-fare at the South London, where Mr Frank Weeks, who has had excellent practice in the management of huge crowds, has this week increased opportunities for the exercise of a wise control, such is the attractiveness of a programme bulging with items of all sorts and sizes. An element of the marvellous is secured in the performance of Prof. James Finney, who gives the feats of natation which he recently performed before the King. In company with his sister, Miss Marie Finney, who has won the distinction of "heroine of London-bridge," he goes through a series of clever tricks in the water, eating and drinking therein, the lady diving for eggs, and the professor picking up with his mouth from the bottom of the tank a quantity of coins to the number of sixty-one. His endurance under water is thoroughly tested when he goes to sleep, Miss Finney doing some graceful floating tricks meanwhile, and the admiration of the house is shown in frequent cheers. A swimming competition was arranged for Friday evening, three money prizes being offered for the best performance of three tricks set by the Professor. *A Trip to Boulogne* provides the Albert and Edmunds Troupe with a sketch in which the comic adventures of a couple of English tourists at a French hotel are depicted. The fun grows frantically furious during an elusive dinner, and reaches a climax when the tourists engage in what is certainly the most eccentric duel with pistols that ever occurred. The New Macs also contribute a turn upon which much laughter is expended, their smart sayings, their knockabout feats, and their skilful dancing commending them highly to popular favour. Miss Mabel Thorne long since won the hearts of the youth of South London, who wait upon her every word in the song, "If I were a millionaire," which deals drolly with the possession of wealth by various persons, but which is also turned to pathetic as well as patriotic purposes. A certain "Bill Bailey" is later sought for by the fascinating comedienne, who finds him eventually in a private box, and begs him with flattering endearments to "come home," all of which gives delight to the audience. Mr Edgar Romaine sings of "Sweethearts" of all ages, a ballad of such a tuneful nature that the entire vocal resources of the audience are enlisted in the refrain. A well-mixed mélange is submitted by the Calcotta, who impress various instruments into the service of amusement, the gentleman, who aspires to be a comedian, playing well on the banjo and piano. He is later joined by his lady partner in a 'cello and mandoline duet, the favourite "Eileen Alanah," being very sweetly discoursed. The lady has also dancing capabilities which she displays in a sand dance attached to a coon song and wins unstinted applause. A large share of popular acclaim is bestowed on the pictures shown by Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope, which includes the Funeral of the late Dan Leno. A fine view is obtained of the coffin being conveyed to the carriage and of the procession starting from the house of the lamented comedian, well-known members of the variety profession being plainly visible. Pictures of pathetic interest are also displayed in "Driven from Home," in which an angry father witnesses the meeting of his daughter and her lover, and bids his child depart. Years elapse, and the young wife is seen in her miserable room mourning the death of her husband, while a little child tries to comfort her. The next scene is a pawnbroker's, where the child brings her dolly to pledge, the broker being none other than the aged father, who, touched by the child's simplicity, takes her home to find that it is the abode of his long-absent daughter, to whom he is reconciled. A great impression is made by the pictures, which are admirably shown and vigorously cheered. Humorous films are also abundantly supplied, that of "Off for the Holidays" being productive of continuous shouts of merriment. The Three Sisters Jonghmanns blend their voices harmoniously in a song of the circus, with the refrain of "Houp-la" and dresses that suggest the sawdust ring, and later a trio of demure damsels are presented, who sing with ruthless severity of "Man," and the means of emancipation from him, executing a quaint dance in celebration thereof. Jimson's animals further supplement the programme, to which Mr Frank Boyce, comedian; the Olive Trio, and the Sisters Dorrell also contribute. Mr Charles E. Howells leads the efficient orchestra with a skilful hand.

THE BOHEMIAN TWINS.

Mr Henri Gros issued invitations to a number of members of the Press on Thursday to interview at the Metropolitan the Bohemian Twins, who will make their first appearance in London on Monday at the Edgware-road hall. This latest freak, who bears the names of Rosa-Josepha Blazek, presents one of the most extraordinary and interesting examples of twin formation. According to the doctors, they show a juncture at the hips similar to that of the well-known Hungarian sisters, Helene and Judith, but differing from the "union" that joined the Siamese twins. They are pleasant, good-tempered, cheery-looking brunettes, short in stature, and as they shook hands with Mr Gros' guests on Thursday afternoon they seemed to thoroughly enjoy the experience. They were born in the village of Skreychov, an obscure hamlet in Eastern Bohemia in 1878, so that they are twenty-six years old. Their birth caused considerable amazement among the simple peasantry, who looked upon the strangely formed freak as and evil omen, and for a long time the dwelling of the parents was shunned by the superstitious neighbours. A Brighton doctor who has seen them thinks their case absolutely unique. They have two heads, four arms, and four legs, but possess one body in common. It is difficult, therefore, to know whether to speak of them as one or two persons. We prefer the plural because they readily maintain two totally independent conversations in German and Czech—languages that both speak with fluency. They have never been known to quarrel, which proves that one has the stronger will, and one dresses the other's hair.

They never both sleep at the same time, but one head maintains a constant vigil during the repose of the other, reading or conversing in the meantime. After a lapse of about two hours, these peculiar circumstances are reversed, the watching head falling into a profound slumber immediately as the other awakes to assume the duties of sentinel.

Their peculiar and unique conformation does not in the least interfere with their activity, for they are able to run up and down stairs with wonderful celerity. They seem to enjoy each other's society, and appear perfectly happy and contented with their lot, which has rendered them an object of wonder and curiosity to the thousands that have flocked all over the Continent of Europe to see them. Both have musical tastes, and play the violin and xylophone.

The father and mother are still alive, the entire family including two other sisters, of twenty-two and twenty-three years of age respectively, and a brother of twelve, all of normal growth. The mother was twenty-two years old at the time of Rosa-Josepha's birth, and is a woman of robust health.

At the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, this week, Miss Harriett Vernon's songs are loudly encored, The Scottish Meisters show first-class ability and evoke enthusiasm. Ara, Zebra, and Vora do a clever trapeze act. A smart turn is provided by Sandford and Lyons. Little Ganty, Irene Rose, Madge May, Alice Maple, and George Barrow are popular.

MUSIC HALL BENEVOLENT FUND.

The annual general meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund was held at the Trocadero on Wednesday afternoon. The president, Mr HENRI GROS, occupied the chair, and there were also present Messrs Joseph Lyons, George Adney Payne, Richard Warner, Sydney Hyman, Jack Harrison, W. Clarkson, Frank Weeks, Douglas Stuart, H. De Frece, Pat Carey, H. E. High, F. Boyce, Dan Thomas, Angelo Asher, Joe Lavender, and H. Marriott, secretary.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the financial statement and the annual report were submitted as follows:—

In submitting the report for the year, the committee have great pleasure in stating that one of the great causes of complaint and reproach against the want of support from the profession itself has been mitigated up to a certain extent, but, unfortunately, this reproach must still be made. The committee do not think that it is through any want of sympathy (because the good work they are doing must appeal to all), but from thoughtlessness and forgetfulness, caused by the busy rush of the profession.

If the members would only come up to the office and investigate for themselves and take a personal interest in the working of their own Fund, the committee feel sure it would result in a very large accession to their coffers and enable them to still further enlarge the scope of their benevolence. One substantial recognition of the committee's year of labour has been made by the collective approval of the distinguished Society of the Water Rats, apart from the interest and support the Fund receives from some of its members individually. They, as a representative body, have made a donation of £100. The importance of this generous act is fully appreciated by your committee, and they feel that it will bear fruit in the near future.

Your committee takes this opportunity of again thanking Mr Frank Allen for his good and noble work on behalf of the Fund. During his year of office he promoted and organised matinées in the provinces, with the gratifying result of benefiting the Fund in two years to the extent of over £1 000. His grand efforts ought never to be forgotten by the members of the music hall world. The committee have the pleasure to report that under the guidance of Mr Henry Gros, president for the year, the Fund has fully maintained its usefulness, and, in some respects, surpassed its efforts of former years. And they wish to thank him for the many things he has done in an unostentatious manner, and for the deep feeling and sympathy he has always displayed for the welfare of the poorer members of the profession. The constant and persistent appeals your president made to the profession resulted in a total list of donations of over £600. The annual dinner was a complete success, which was mainly due to his unremitting efforts; he spared no pains or trouble to bring about the gratifying result of collecting over £700, with a net benefit to the Fund of £431—the largest amount received since 1899. During his presidency the collection in the pence boxes has more than doubled, and the thanks of the committee are gratefully given to all the managers who have worked for the Fund by collecting. Thanks are due to all, but mention may be made here of the splendid result from the efforts of Mr Frank Weeks, at the South London Palace, he having collected over £50 in about twelve months. We respectfully submit that Mr Weeks' methods might be followed.

From the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Rates Association the Fund is indebted for several donations during the year. There has been a falling off of the annual receipts on account of repayments for loans granted, and the committee intend to curtail to some extent this branch of its work, and only to grant loans under very special circumstances. Some years ago your secretary called the attention of those interested in the music hall business—proprietors, directors, shareholders, tradesmen, &c.—to the subject of testamentary bequests in aid of the Fund, and asked that the claims of our charity might be taken into consideration, and the committee have now the pleasure to report that they have received their first legacy of £100, from the late Walter Pallant, Esq. In studying the position of other benevolent institutions and charities and our own, your secretary was much struck by the fact that no bequests had ever been made to us, although the number of moneyed and successful members of the profession far outnumbered those of many other businesses, whose list of bequests was so considerable that the yearly interest from their investment rendered them quite independent of such annual functions as dinners or sports, both of which we have mainly to depend upon for support. This, it must be admitted, is precarious to a dangerous degree, for a wet day or a poor attendance might be fatal to our existence. This state of affairs ought not to be. The remedy is simple. If those he mentioned were to follow the example of the late Mr Pallant, and in their testamentary dispositions leave a small amount to the benefit of their own charity, it would help to place it on the firm basis to which it is surely entitled, considering the social standing and position of those connected with the industry of the music halls, which is occupying such an important position to-day, and which is destined to occupy a still more important one in the near future.

We are all thankful for our first legacy, and may the kindly spirit of Walter Pallant emulate others to follow his charitable lead. The anxiety of your committee may well be imagined. They are very grateful for the support they have received, which has enabled them steadily to increase the number of pensioners from six to thirty in a period of seven years, in addition to the weekly grants and loans. They have also buried over one hundred poor professionals in the like period. It is quite out of their power to do all that ought to be done. During the past year they have investigated over 1,500 cases, and relieved the wants of the aged and infirm as far as the funds would allow. The committee beg to thank Mr Richard Warner, one of the trustees, and also one of the founders of the Fund, for having prevailed upon his friend, Joseph Lyons, Esq., to again help the Fund by accepting the presidency for the coming year. Mr Lyons' efforts on behalf of the Fund are well known, and his constant interest is recorded in the minute books of the Fund. To the ladies and gentlemen who so kindly give prizes to be competed for at the annual sports, the thanks of the committee are also due, and also to the ladies and gentlemen throughout the country who assisted at the various functions for furthering the objects of the charity.

JOHN LAWSON, Chairman.
TOM PACEY, Vice-Chairman.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FROM SEPT. 1, 1903, to AUG. 31, 1904.

RECEIPTS.

Dr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward	1,132	3	9
,, Donations and Annual Subscriptions, including Receipts from President's Appeal and Provincial Matinées	628	6	11
,, Pence Boxes	95	8	0
,, Returns from Recipients	55	14	0
,, Receipts from Dinner (Net)	431	13	10
,, Receipts from Sports (Net)	42	10	9
,, Interest on Trustees' Account	19	18	7
	£2,405	15	10

Cr. PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Grants for Relief and Eleven Funerals, including Expenses of Distribution				914	7	4
,, Rent of Offices (Five Quarters)				62	10	0
,, Secretary's Salary				208	0	0
,, Sundry Expenses, Stationery, Postages, Housekeeper, &c.				47	9	10
,, Advertising, Printing, &c.				47	1	2
,, Loss on Benefits				8	3	8
,, Balance, viz.:—						
Investments in India Three and a-half per cent Stock	705	0	0			
Cash at Bank	338	13	6			
Cash in Hand of Secretary	74	10	4			
				1,118	3	10
				£2,405	15	10

We have examined the above with the Books and Vouchers, and find same in accordance therewith.
NEWSON-SMITH, LORD and MUNDY,
Chartered Accountants, 37, Walbrook, E.C.
(Hon Auditors).

Nov. 17, 1904.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, referred to some of the principal items, and said he hoped that others would follow the example set by the late Mr Walter Pallant, and leave bequests for the benefit of the society. He regretted that members of the profession who were earning princely salaries did not adequately support the fund. The action of the Water Rats' Society, in subscribing £100, was one of the most pleasant features of his year of office. Heavy demands were made upon artistes to give their services in the cause of charitable objects, and there was also the call made upon managers to obtain artistes on such occasions. The greatest credit was due to Mr Weeks, the manager of the South London. The fact that £50 had been collected in one year at a hall where the prices ranged from only 2d. upwards showed what could be done in this direction to help the Fund. He had actually been in office as president only nine months, but had done better than he had anticipated. Sometimes harsh criticism was passed upon the management, but this generally arose from want of knowledge. In the work of collecting and promoting the Christmas appeal it was absolutely necessary that there should be a large expenditure upon advertisements and circulars. This had to be done in order to get the money in. For every pound subscribed there was a large amount expended. The expenses had been at the rate of 6s. in the £, and he maintained that it was a shame that these expenses were necessary. But sports, prizes, &c., involved a large expenditure; and the only remedy was by subscribing more largely. When he took the chair at the annual dinner he made an appeal to the 15,000 or more members of the profession, and asked for two thousand guineas a year in support of the Fund. His appeal also appeared in the newspapers, and the only answer he received was a promise of a guinea if he (Mr Gros) would give the donor an engagement. At that time he was approached by the late Mr Herbert Campbell and Mr Wm. Bailey, the then president and hon. treasurer of the Music Hall Sick Fund, with a proposal that if he obtained the two thousand guineas a year he asked for, there might possibly be an amalgamation, and the £1,000 belonging to the Sick Fund transferred to the Benevolent Fund account. He had done all in his power during his year of office, and if he had not satisfied the members it was not his fault.

Mr G. ADNEY PAYNE seconded the motion, which was carried.

On the motion of Mr F. WEEKS, and seconded by Mr HENRY DE FRECE, the trustees and officers were re-elected as follows:—Trustees; Mr G. A. Adney Payne and Richard Warner; honorary treasurer: Mr J. L. Graydon; and the secretary Mr Horace Marriott.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed that the following rule be substituted for rules three and four:—It shall be managed by a committee of sixty members, exclusive of officers, and the said committee or any quorum thereof, at any ordinary meeting, shall have the power of electing additional members, who, having paid their subscriptions, shall notify their desire for election in writing to the secretary; and, further, that the committee have power to appoint sub-committees, ex-presidents to be members of the committee ex-officio.

Mr R. WARNER seconded the proposition, as he considered that the election of sub-committees would add to the efficiency of the Fund.

The motion was then carried.

Mr G. ADNEY PAYNE next proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, vice-chairman, and committee of the Fund, who, he said, had carried out their duties in a most energetic manner. It was an unthankful task, and entailed a great deal of labour on their part.

Mr GROS seconded, and again made reference to the valuable assistance which had been given by Mr Weeks. As a small token of gratitude and regard he had great pleasure in presenting Mr Weeks, whom he had known a long time, with a silver cigar case. Their hearty thanks were due to Mr Weeks for his sympathetic support of the Fund.

Mr SYDNEY HYMAN proposed a vote of thanks to the trustees, the solicitors, and the hon. auditors of the Fund.

Mr E. GRANVILLE seconded the motion, which was carried.

The CHAIRMAN, in nominating Mr Joseph Lyons as president of the Fund for the ensuing year, said he was a very busy gentleman, but he was willing to put his shoulder to the wheel in aid of the society. He foresaw great benefits to the Fund from the presidency of a gentleman so widely known and so influential as Mr Lyons.

Mr R. WARNER, who seconded, said he was very glad he had induced Mr Lyons to accept the presidency. A better man for the position could not be found. Mr Lyons had twice taken the chair at the annual dinner, for his sympathies were with the profession. The thanks of the committee and members were due to him for consenting to act as president.

The motion having been carried unanimously,

Mr LYONS took the chair. He said he should like to have seen a much larger attendance on such an occasion as the annual meeting. He felt in a somewhat difficult position, because he had to follow a gentleman possessed of sound judgment, and one who was closely associated with the profession, while he himself was only a layman. He had consented to become President for two reasons. The first was his sympathy with the Fund, for he knew there were many deserving cases which it had relieved; and if they could make it independent to such an extent that they had not to go round with the hat collecting he should be more than delighted. His second reason for consenting to become the President was that he had some exceptionally good friends—men he had known for many years, and the longer he knew the more highly he esteemed and respected. He had attended many of the annual dinners of the Fund, and had had the honour of speaking at some of them. He had also listened to the Presidents and members of the committee, and it seemed to him that every year the same ideas cropped up, the same arguments were used, and yet there was not one proposition that had been practically carried out. Bad trade and the consequent distress caused so many calls to be made upon the public that they were unable to give such large amounts to this Fund as they had formerly done. The decrease this year, he found, was very considerable. Subscriptions from firms he had done business with were less every year; and in his own case where he used to give £10 he now gave £5, and where he gave £5 he now gave £2. He never refused when the cause was a good one, but there was a limit to everything. What they should endeavour to do was to place the Fund upon such a basis that it was not dependent upon private subscriptions or the support of the public. The suggestion with regard to collecting boxes was a good one. Mr Weeks had done wonders, and there was no reason that other managers should not follow in his footsteps. Proprietors should make it a part and parcel of the manager's duty, and he was quite sure that the former would be prepared to make a present to the manager who had the largest collection. As president he should be prepared during his term of office to present a gold watch and chain to the gentleman who made the largest collection. A proposal had been made that in support of the Fund a small sum—a penny or a halfpenny—should be deducted from artist's salaries. That was a very serious question, for he believed that ninety-nine per cent. of the artistes would object to it. He had spoken to many artistes on the subject, and their reply to the suggestion was that they were called upon very frequently to put their hands in their pockets to assist fellow artistes in distress, and though it might only be a shilling or sixpence each time it amounted to a considerable sum in the course of a year, and it would not, therefore, be fair to tax them any further. Another suggestion that had been made was that a matinée should be given for the benefit of the Fund once a year, the proprietor to ask nothing for the use of the hall and the artists to give their services. But they were told that a matinée was likely to be a failure, and in some cases would affect the takings at the evening performance to a considerable extent. But if a matinée could not be satisfactorily arranged it was surely possible to organise an evening benefit performance at which artists would give their services. Or supposing the average takings at a hall were £100, and by the extra attractions £150 was realised, 25 per cent. of the total might be devoted to the Fund, and the proprietors of the hall would not suffer any loss. This was a practical solution of the question, and at all events it would not do to depend upon the support of the public. He should do his best to further the interests of the Fund during his year of office in every possible way. He had, in conclusion, a pleasing duty to perform, and that was to propose a vote of thanks to Mr Henri Gros, the retiring president, a gentleman he esteemed and respected. What Mr Gros had done for the Fund was simply marvellous. He had held the office of president during a year when the country was suffering from a bad depression in trade; and though the Fund had paid out more money, yet the total expenditure showed a decrease of £14.

Mr G. A. PAYNE seconded the motion, and said he thought he was the right one to do so, because it was he who induced Mr Gros to accept the position.

The motion was carried.

Mr GROS, in reply, said he undertook the office with considerable diffidence, as he was a busy man, and did not enjoy the best of health. Much of the success achieved was due to the officers, the committee, Mr Payne, and Mr Warner.

The PRESIDENT called attention to the fact that there were present only twelve members of a committee consisting of fifty-eight members; and it was decided to hold a special committee meeting at an early date to consider the best means of placing the Fund on a more independent footing.

Mr PAT CAREY pointed out that at the recent meeting of the M.H.A.B.A., a resolution had, on the motion of Mr Voyce, been passed that a sick fund should be started in connection with the Association, whereby the Music Hall Benevolent Fund was deprived of £20. Mr Voyce was apparently ignorant of the fact that there was already a Music Hall Sick Fund in existence, and its annual benefit performance was announced for Dec. 9 at Collins's Music Hall. He hoped he had not done wrong in mentioning this matter.

Mr DOUGLAS STUART, the secretary of the M.H.a.B.A., informed the chairman that at a committee meeting on Tuesday the proposition was considered impracticable, and it had been decided to retain this sum until the annual general meeting.

Mr GROS said he was glad that Mr Carey had brought the matter forward. The concessions to members of the profession had been granted on the understanding that any surplus over the working expenses should be divided amongst the Music Hall and Railway Charities.

The proceedings then closed with a vote of thanks to the secretary, Mr Horace Marriott.

THE WATER RATS' MATINÉE.

"Fraternity," which is an excellent motto for any professional or other coterie, has its charitable obligations, and no one has appreciated the strength of this truism with greater unanimity and heartiness than that most influential brotherhood the Water Rats. They relieve "the poor, distrest" with both hands, as it were, and without fuss, their administration of funds, mostly contributed from their own purses, being carried out privately. Such is the extent of their expenditure under the head of charity that they decided a few years since to appeal to the public by means of a music hall entertainment. The directors of the London Pavilion immediately fell in with the idea and the success was so great that the Water Rats' matinée has become a hardy annual. The reasons of this are not far to seek. First and foremost, the entertainment given is unique of its kind, as it invariably includes among its contributors the majority of the stars of the profession; and, secondly, there is generally a laughter-compelling novelty—an apropos skit or travesty—in which some at least of the most prominent people in the halls are seen out of their ordinary groove. This year the announcement on the programme of Monday's entertainment that a "psychological enigmatical erotic (with the accent on the *rot*), in three scenes, entitled *The Wife With a Smile*, by A. W. Needle-ero," suggested the production of a burlesque of Mr Pinero's latest "comedy in disguise" now being played at Wyndham's, which has recently excited the wrath of the new dramatic critic, Mr W. T. Stead. Unfortunately nothing of the kind happened, and as the character of "Dolly" was cut out we must suppose that something happened to upset the original scheme, for *The Wife With a Smile* was simply a wild burlesque of melodrama, in the style of the late Arthur Matthison's *More than Ever*. We had, however, the opportunity of seeing that excellent comedian Mr Tom M'Naughton in the silver sheen of a costume made by a tasteful West-end modiste, and in his impersonation of Clothilde, the beautiful and highly emotional daughter of Ironclaw, he gave an amusing parody of the intense mood of Mrs Brown Potter. The curly-headed hero, who quoted scraps of *Othello*, was played with mock sincerity by Mr Fred M'Naughton, who acknowledged his indebtedness to Mr Willie Clarkson; and Little Tich, in an immense pair of sewer boots, dissembled and scowled as a black-hearted and bloodthirsty villain. Mr Wilson Hallett, who took the part of Ironclaw, which should have been played by Mr George Gray, made a tearfully funny ancient and doddering parent; and Miss Alice Lloyd did well in the rôle of the faithful Beatrice. The duel scene between the hero and villain ended in the whole of the characters dying on the stage. Mr Paul Martinetti, with a wonderfully funny make-up, was droll as a silent second, scrupulously accurate about measurements; and Mr Alfred Martinetti, Mr James Finney, Mr Harry Athol, and Mr Fred Karno were also seen among the corpses that strewed the stage. Mr Harry Tate managed to be droll as a footman. The burlesque came at the end of an enormously long bill, which kept an immense audience in their seats for upwards of four hours. An interlude that evoked shrieks of laughter was the parody on the sport of Izaak Walton for which Mr Harry Tate was responsible. *Fishing* in his hands has developed into a droll absurdity that adds immensely to his reputation as a comedian. Mr George Mozart repeated his successful "Day at the Races," which immensely tickled the large number of sports that were present; Mr Bransby Williams, with fine elocutionary strength, recited "Devil-may-Care;" Mr Fred Karno's comedians and company were as funny as ever in their new and original pantomimical travesty on the modern music hall entitled *Mumming Birds*; Mr Harry Lauder's special Scotch selections were full of their customary pawkiness; and Mr Carl Hertz, gracefully assisted by Mdlle. D'Alton, made a capital showman in his exhibition of the wonders of the Magic Kettle. Zutka puzzled all when in his box, and when out of it; Yukio Tani's wrestling was loudly applauded; there were compliments in plenty for Mr John E. Coyle, Mr Ernest Rees, Mr Dan Crawley, and Mr Wilkie Bard, whose various exhibitions of comedy were the cause of much mirth; and the gentler sex were well represented by Miss Jessica Grace, Miss May Henderson, Miss Lizzie Chase, Miss Dolly Golden, Miss Nina Martino, Miss Florrie Robins, and Miss Millie Lindon, with her delightful song, "The rain came pitter-patter down." High-class instrumentalism came from Percy Honri, concertinist, who played German's dances on an English concertina; and from Mr Olly Oakley, one of the finest banjoists we have heard, who gave a fragment of Schubert. Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes played a domestic sketch; and other turns included Rich and Rich, Chevers and Kennedy, Arthur Prince, and the Bale Troupe.

MR ALEC HURLEY will shortly produce an original song, entitled "His Nibs," written and composed, by Medley Barrett. This smart writer will be seen at Christmas as Simple Simon, in *Bo-Peep*, at the Alexandra Palace Theatre, his wife being the Fairy Queen.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

THE sessional report of the Parliamentary Defence Committee, discussed last week at the meeting of the Showmen's Guild, contained a solemn warning to timid or half-instructed fair-ground caterers. The society spent over £20 in the preliminary defence work of safeguarding the fair rights of the town of Swindon. When the committee at the London meeting determined to oppose all the Corporation Bills attacking the show business amongst which were the Bill promoted by the corporation of Swindon asking, amongst other additional powers, the right for the mayor (or any constable sent by him) to close any show circus or menagerie on mere suspicion, and that such arbitrary action, even if afterwards proved to be wrong, would incur no penalty or damage obtainable at common law for illegal closure. This, it will be seen, was a new weapon of attack to be used against shows at the autocratic will of any "Jack-in-office" acting with the sanction of the mayor. This was the first attempt of this character to hinder and penalise the itinerant showman in the exercise of his lawful business. The executive committee realised the seriousness of the position, and determined at all costs to oppose this drastic proposal. Negotiations with the promoters of the Swindon Bill failed. Two local showmen, whose names for the present we do not mention, consented at the London meeting to sign the petition against the Bill drafted by the Guild officials.

MR MILLAR prepared the petition, and Mr Watson Wright went to the trouble of making a special journey to the neighbourhood of Swindon and interviewed one of the local showmen who had pledged his word to appear as petitioner; but even then, when all this trouble had been taken and expense incurred, he refused to keep his promise and sign the petition. The result of this lamentable vacillation (we can hardly call it ignorance, for at the London Committee Meeting the Guild Parliamentary agent explained the matter fully to this particular showman and his colleague, who undertook to be the second of the two absolutely necessary signatories) was calamitous. The petition was ready, but because it was not signed could not be presented. The Bill passed the Committee with all its evil clauses. Our Parliamentary counsel was ready, but could not plead the showmen's cause on account of the absence of petition and petitioners against the Bill. When will showmen learn the lesson we have been teaching for the past six years, in season and out of season, from the pages of *The Era* and many platforms? Parliamentary defence work is a highly technical business governed by fixed rules of procedure, and if one rule is broken your case is lost, for you cannot get a hearing except you comply with all the conditions of the Parliamentary Bar.

As we have said, £20 was spent of the Guild's money in the preliminary work of opposing the Swindon Bill. If the Guild could have appeared by petition there is no doubt that the inimical clauses would have been thrown out by the Committee of the House of Commons, as all other clauses opposed by the Guild have been. The warning briefly stated is this:—Let no showman neglect to sign petitions in the future. When the officials give individual showmen the assurance that the Guild will bear all expenses, and that this is being done in the interests of all travellers, why should there be any hesitation or suspicion on the part of individuals? Fortunately, except as establishing a bad precedent, the case of Swindon only touches a few showpeople, Swindon being outside any of the big runs or cycles of fairs.

YORK, the Metropolitan Tee of the north, held its accustomed Fair of St. Martin on Monday last. Curiously enough, though it is one fair, it is governed by two dates—the portion of the fair held in Parliament-street must close business at the end of four days; the fair ground proper—the market square—continues two days longer. The ancient city has great admiration for shows and showmen, and keeps its pleasure fair with undiminishing gusto. There is at York a wonderful camaraderie of the classes and the masses. The cathedral dignitary rubbing shoulders with the city dustman, the college don for the nonce joining with the country clown in all the fun of the fair, "ye gentles" and "ye simples," the "baron and the boor" attracted by the same never-failing magnet, "Ye Fair of Martinmas," find themselves in the wonderland where childhood and youth, paterfamilias, materfamilias with their attendant olive branches, for at least once in the twelve months enjoy the sweet abandonment of a rollicking day at the fair, for if the bishop and the dean may ride the galloping horses and enjoy the variety of the cinématograph theatre or the Mysteries of Egypt and Memphis it is quite proper for all and sundry to follow such excellent leadership.

SUCH is the charm of York Fair. This year "Ye Merrie Men," "Ye Mountebanks," and "Ye Magicians," were as is here given. On the six-day fair-ground, Chipperfield's French menagerie, Captain Tom Payne's Bioscope, Sahib Leo's portable Egyptian Hall, Mr Charles Ralph's freak exhibit, the Wee M'Gregor (equine midget), Aspland's superb gondolas (managers, Ben Howden and Son); P. Collins, Ltd., magnificent machine, the Racing Cockerells (manager, Mr Summer Hayes); and the high-class shooting concerns of Mr G. H. Cornwell. With these were the usual olla podrida of a well-equipped fair-ground. On the Parliament-street ground (the four days' fair) were Sedgewick's Yankee menagerie, Prince Samouda's temple of Oriental magic, the marvellous second-sight demonstrations of the Mystic Hutins, Sidney Braham's charming exhibition, the educated birds, Mr Enoch Farrer's two concerns, the fine art gallery and the laughter-provoking mirror pavilion; Arthur Payne's premier set, the British generals, the photographic concerns of Messrs Frank Walton and James Eden. Amongst the minor providers of amusement of the variety stall, coker sheet, dolly frame, and roll-up board order were (with many others) Messrs W. Fisher, T. Burgin, A. Carroll, E. Johnson, W. Stewart, and Wright and Co.

THE Saturday before York, Malton Hirings took place. At this fair were the following concerns:—Captain Tom Payne's Bioscope, Sahib Leo's Egyptian Hall, Ralph's Wee M'Gregor, Goldthorpe Marshall's Venetian gondolas, Arthur Payne's gallopers, and varieties by Messrs Barker, Chapman, Fostieri, Bridge, and Brown. As we have reached the end of the winter hirings, we may now usefully discuss their origin and modern changes. As centres for the purpose of hiring servants for either farming or domestic purposes their utility is a fast disappearing quantity. In fact, it is only in purely agricultural districts that the hiring part of the fair serves any useful purpose. It is curious to notice that, despite their diminishing interest as hirings, the pleasure fair remains deeply rooted in the heart and affection of the people.

THE Executive Council of the United Kingdom Showmen and Vandwellers' Protection Association (the Showmen's Guild) wish their members to understand that, until the end of the present financial year (Dec. 31) all subscriptions and official communications must be sent to the resident secretary, H. M. Horne, 137, Burton-road, West Didsbury. Communications not financial, but of a public or Parliamentary character may be addressed to the Rev. T. Horne, care of *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

THOUGH Jack and Jill come not to the fair to take the "fastening penny," they will come to enjoy its transient pleasures. There is within a radius of many miles of the fair a unanimous determination to cease work and make holiday. This strike of daily toil is not only the mark of the common labourer, but Farmer Giles and Mrs Giles and all the little Gileses drive to the fair, and for one day at least master and man, mistress and maid, make merry together. This is a use of the fair, a goodly custom of our national life that never grows less, but increases with the nation's growth. The origin of Hirings is "wropt in mystery." Some antiquarians tell us that they arose from the custom of the Roman Emperors holding a carnival or Olympian games to celebrate great victories.

AFTER the Imperial banquet the signal for the games in the arena, where the gladiators, riders, and wild beast performers exhibited their prowess, was the dropping of the Emperor's napkin or "mappa." From this word "mappa," arises the peculiar name hiring fairs are known by in the Midlands, and in the west they are called "mops," a broadening of the word "mappa." In the far north hiring fairs as known as "hoppings," a manifest reference to the games and dances of these carnivals.

ON the settlement of the country and the development of agriculture the local "mappa" or "mop" became the business opportunity for the selection of suitable labour. There are, of course, various periods for the holding of these fairs in different parts of the country. In the west and south-east, also in the great Midland belt, it is in the month of October that these fairs take place, in many cases on or about the feast of Michaelmas. In the north, pre-Easter and Martinmas are the principal times

THE only fairs in Ireland of which we are aware as occurring during the Christmas and New Year holidays are at Dublin and Belfast. We shall be glad to hear from Irish showmen the names of other places. The list given above of Christmas fixtures is not an exhaustive one; we shall be glad to hear from lessees of fair grounds, market superintendents, additions or corrections to the above list, which we will publish in our next issue.

AT Carmarthen Borough Police-court, on Monday, before the mayor and other magistrates, Thomas Pickup, a van-dweller, was charged with assaulting William Boswell, a showman, on the fair-ground on Saturday night. Evidence was given by the complainant to the effect that he was protecting his father from North (another showman's) twosons, who were quarrelling with him, when the defendant kicked him, and he was taken on a stretcher to the infirmary. Dr. R. Felix, the house surgeon of the infirmary, gave evidence of the injury. For the defence James Gordon gave evidence to the effect that he saw Pickup kick Boswell and run away. Boswell was fighting North's son. Defendant said he had done it in self-defence. He interfered when Boswell was beating North. Phil Ray, another showman, stated that if Boswell had not kicked when he did he would have been knocked down. The Bench fined the defendant 2s. 6d. and costs.

COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CHRISTMAS CARNIVALS FOR DECEMBER, 1904.

Dec. 9. Reigate	Dec. 22. Ryde
Dec. 10. Ringwood	Dec. 22. Salford (Flat Iron)
Dec. 13. Leighton Buzzard	Dec. 22. Salford (Trafford-road)
Dec. 14. Exeter	
Dec. 14. Millom	Dec. 22. Southampton
Dec. 20. World's Fair, Islington	Dec. 22 Southport
	Dec. 22. South Shields
Dec. 21. Birmingham	Dec. 22. Uttoxeter
Dec. 22 Deptford	Dec 22. Wolverhampton
Dec. 22. Dorking	Dec. 23. Sheffield
Dec. 22. Jarrow-on-Tyne	Dec. 23. Bradford
Dec. 22. Liverpool	Dec. 24. Rowthorne
Dec. 22 Middlesbrough	Dec. 26. Sampford Courtenay
Dec. 22. Nantwich	
Dec. 22. Newcastle-on-Tyne	Dec. 26. Sandbach
Dec. 22. Northampton	Dec. 28 Lancaster
Dec. 22. North Shields	Dec 28. Leek
Dec. 22 Norwich	Dec. 29. Newport (Salop)
Dec. 22. Plymouth	Dec. 29. Rugeley
Dec. 22. Preston	

IN SCOTLAND.

Dec. 19. Glasgow	Dec. 22. Govan
Dec. 19. Greenock	Dec. 22. Leith
Dec. 19. Paisley	Dec. 22 Motherwell
Dec. 22. Edinburgh	Dec. 22 Renfrew

IN WALES.

Dec. 22. Barry Dock	Dec. 22. Morriston
Dec. 22. Cardiff	Dec 22. Newport
Dec. 22. Carmarthen	Dec. 22. Pontypridd
Dec. 22. Caerphilly	Dec. 22 Swansea
Dec. 22. Dowlais	Dec. 22. Ton-y-Pandy
Dec. 22 Merthyr Tydfil	

MR F. TESTO'S marionettes and Cinématograph show visited Kidwelly this week, and did very good business.

DARLINGTON main hirings was held on Monday last in wintry weather, but there was a good attendance. Amongst the showmen present we noticed Mr William Murphy, Golden Venice; Messrs Richardson's switchback and galloping horses, Mrs Crow's three-abreast gallopers, Cooper's Bioscope, Testo's Wonders of the Deep, Ralph and Padley's Cinématograph, Moore's athletes, and the fair-ground concerns of Messes Hancock, Sheeran, Newsome, Kelly, Smith, and Johnson.

WE understand that on Tuesday Messrs Murphy and Richardson and other showmen will contribute towards the funds of the Darlington Hospital. We hope their efforts will meet with success. The arrangements relating thereto are in the hands of Mr Ward, hon. secretary, Darlington Hospital: the market superintendent, Darlington; and Mr George Campbell, agent general of Murphy Brothers.

THE North of England Stallholders' Society recently held their annual general meeting at the Grapes Inn, Durham. There was a good gathering, at which we observed Mr Walter Murphy, Mr W. Hoadley, Mr M. Richardson, Mr H. Caris, Mr T. Hartshorn, Mr G. Halliday, Mr G. Gray, and Messrs Firman, Noble, Cowie, Newsome, Robson, Johnson, Robinson, and O'Brien. A satisfactory report was read and adopted, and a successful year's working has enabled more members to be enrolled.

AT the Market Yard, West Hartlepool, Captain Beaumont's World's Fair was in full swing; also Mr Walter Murphy's "Looping the Loop" gondolas, and fair ground concerns of Kitson and Smith.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

ALEXANDRA PALACE.

On Thursday, the 17th, the first skating carnival of the season took place here, it having been postponed in order to avoid clashing with other important events. Although king fog reigned supreme in the north of London, the attendance was not in any material degree lessened to witness the novel hockey match and other performances. Numerous prizes were awarded for the best and most attractive costumes in various classes, both for ladies and gentlemen, the decisions arrived at apparently giving general satisfaction. Mrs Percival Derley, the wife of the new lessee, had the pleasant task allotted her of distributing the awards to the fortunate recipients, and her graceful bearing and pleasant manner were conspicuous. A well-chosen orchestral band did duty during the evening.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE:

By the REV. T. HORNE
(Hon. Chaplain, Showmen's Guild.)

MACCOMO AND THE LIONS.

TOLD BY THE DOORSMAN.

"The first appearance of Maccomo, sir, was at Rotherham Statutes Fair. I remember it well, though it is over forty years ago. At that time Billy Manders was at war in a business sense with the two big Wombwell shows. Old Mother Wombwell and Barney Edmonds (the lump of an Irishman who married old Wombwell's niece, and ran the Windsor Castle Menagerie), combined for the purpose of running Manders off the road. There was no dodge too shady—of course, sir, in a business sense—that either party would not descend to in order to secure an advantage. Now, sir, you must know that the greatest lion tamer of those days was old Tim Newsome, who, to-day, at the wonderful age of over ninety years, is still seen at some of our North Country fairs. Tim has a little African blood in him, and undoubtedly until the discovery of Maccomo, was the star of the menagerie world. Manders had 'sharped' Edmonds of Newsome. Old Mother Wombwell through her advance-agent 'sharped' Manders of the lion tamer. Rotherham was billed extensively with large posters representing Tim Newsome surrounded by an immense group of lions. When the fair opened it was discovered that Tim, lured by the extra money offered by Wombwell's, had 'scarpered,' and there was no lion tamer to satisfy the demand of the eager fair ground patrons. Manders an hour before the show was to open was in despair, and even thought that he would have to fill the gap by tackling the lions himself. In this dilemma a real hero came to the rescue in the person of the camelman, known as Black Jack. Accosting Manders, Jack said, 'Don't you worry, master; me go in de den and knock de lions about.' 'Will you?' said Manders. 'Here, take this pistol and shoot the first beggar that attempts to bite.' 'Me no want a shooter, I'se afeared of no creature, let alone a lion.' Taking a broomstick as his only weapon of defence, but, of course, all the time covered and protected by Manders, with pistols ready for the emergency, the brave camelman made his first attempt at 'knocking the lions about;' and it was a revelation. Then and there Martini Maccomo, the African lion hunter, was born to fame and to fortune. Black Jack, of Liverpool, died, and in his place stood for all time the 'one and only Maccomo.' It is no exaggeration to say, sir, that Manders made Maccomo, but Maccomo himself was worth all the trouble that Manders took, and was the most fearless performer with wild beasts the world has ever known, the first man to 'break' tigers, and to combine in one performance lions and tigers. He had all the vanity of his race, coupled with a genius for learning any set lesson, and imposing it, however Munchausen-like the story might be. Why, bless you, sir, I have heard him at the Queen's Hotel, Manchester, where Manders always took a set of rooms for him, surrounded by a crowd of big 'nobs,' scientific professors and naturalists, discoursing at large on his adventures in Central Africa shooting big game. He would tell circumstantially how such and such animals in such and such waggons of the show were the creatures he had bagged and brought with him to England. The secret was so well kept, and the boom so well carried through, that showmen were 'let in,' as well as the general public. Yet the truth is Black Jack, the camelman of Rotherham Statutes Fair, reincarnated as Mattini Maccomo, was born and dragged up in a Liverpool slum, and had never been out of England's happy land. I think, sir, that the finest bit of 'piffle' I ever heard was Billy Manders' introduction on the show front of Maccomo; it ran something like this:—'Behold the one and only Martini Maccomo, the African lion hunter, whose daring and intrepidity is the wondering theme of universal comment.' And then, placing his hand on the little bald patch on the top of Martini's head, he would say in touching tones, 'scorched by Afric's burning sun.' Then, with a majestic wave of the hand towards the big paintings picturing Martini amongst the lions, the eloquent Billy would continue—'At every performance Martini Maccomo, the lion hunter from Afric's distant shore, will enter the den of twenty-eight forest-bred African lions and put them through their matchless demonstration of the lion hunt, capture, and reconciliation of the mighty kings of the forest, illustrating the marvellous power of man over the brute creation. In addition to this unique exhibition of man's supremacy in the animal kingdom, Martini Maccomo will describe from his own actual experiences in the jungle land and Asiatic forests the habits of life and peculiarities of every individual bird, beast, and reptile within the limits of this, the most complete aggregation of animal life the world has ever known. The band will now play the National Anthem, and after that we shall positively commence. The charge for admission to all classes is sixpence.' Then Maccomo, casting his toga of tiger skin over his finely developed chest, would follow his leader, Manders, the orator, inside the show. This, of course, was invariably followed by the rush of the crowd with their ready sixpences. There may be a few old veterans of the road who remember with me these 'palmy days' when such giants as Manders, Batty, Pablo Fanque, Lomas, the Three Sangers, William, George, and John, Barney Edmonds, Ewins with waxworks, Sam Wild, Old Thorne, Kitty Lee, Jim Preston, and others who like George Sanger and Tim Newsome still survive, were the acknowledged kings of the showman world. Of course, sir, an old stager like myself, who for years has been 'off the hooks,' is prone to see but little good in new men and new methods. I admit, sir, the wonderful progress of the fair ground business, but I lament the modern tendency to depend on noise and dumb show in preference to the golden age plan of good 'Dooring,' when you had to 'patter' and give a 'bona' outside slang to draw the people in. Anyhow, sir, the Maccomo boom lasted for years. There was a slump in white lion tamers and a rush of black performers. The white men to be accepted had to take to burnt cork. Tim Newsome's occupation was gone. White men, however clever, could find no market, and every wild beast show had its African swashbuckler, who entered the lions' den, to quote again the words of 'Black Jack,' the camelman, 'to knock the lions about.' Maccomo, owing to his reckless daring and complete dependence in his method of dealing with animals upon 'terrorism,' was many times badly mauled by the infuriated beasts. At last he met his death by the fury of the lions at a performance given in the town of Newcastle-on-Tyne. I have in my possession a relic of Maccomo, one of the actual brace of pistols presented to him by Manders, who, in the giving of the weapons, laid upon him the strict injunction that in the moment of danger he must use them. That, sir, is the story of Black Jack, the camelman, who became (inspired by the genius of a Manders) 'Martini Maccomo, African lion hunter.'"

AT the Hippodrome, Birmingham, this week, Mr Ralph Dean is presenting his magic kettle, and Selkirk's juvenile spectacle, *Japan's Handy Men*, is performed by 100 local children. *The Interrupted Rehearsal* is a smart musical turn provided by the Elysian Troupe. The Lombards in their gymnastic performance excel, and other popular turns are done by Russell Wallett, society entertainer; Rose Cabani, comedienne and dancer; Larola, Bert Leslie, Michael Nolan, and Marriot Edgar, comedians.

THE Deutsche Volksbühne, Berlin, exists no longer. The management under that name having come to grief, the theatre, under the direction of Herr Fischer, has resumed its old name of the Carl Weiss Theatre.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' RAILWAY ASSOCIATION.

An extraordinary general meeting of the members of this Association was held at Gatti's Music Hall, Westminster-bridge-road, on Thursday afternoon for the purpose of electing a new president in the place of the late Mr Dan Leno.

MR DOUGLAS WHITE (hon. treasurer) presided, and the attendance was very poor as compared with that at the recent annual meeting.

THE SECRETARY (Mr Douglas Stuart) having read the notice convening the meeting Messrs J. Lawrence, Cornish, Humphreys, and Preston were appointed tellers of votes.

Before proceeding with the election,

MR HARRY MOUNTFORD moved "That the following words be added to Rule 5:—'That the hon. officers of the Association shall be *ex-officio* members of the committee.'" He explained that this resolution should have been moved at the last general meeting.

MR FRED M'NAUGHTON seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

THE CHAIRMAN said they had now to proceed to the election of an hon. president. They were all aware of the good work which the late president had done for the Association, and it was with much regret they had to call a special meeting to fill up the vacancy caused by Mr Dan Leno's death. According to the agenda paper the four candidates were:—Mr Charles Coborn, proposed by Mr Monte Maitland, seconded by Mr B. H. Almon; Mr J. W. Cragg, proposed by Mr Chas. Edgar, seconded by Mr J. W. Edgar; Mr Harry Randall, proposed by Mr W. G. Newham, seconded by Mr Joe Lavender; Mr Eugene Stratton, proposed by Mr W. H. Clemart, seconded by Mr Wilson Hallett.

MR GEORGE GRAY said he hoped they would not look upon him as an obstructionist; but he deferentially and conscientiously objected to the election of a president by such a mere handful of members. Out of some eight thousand members there were only about fifty present. It was not at all fair. They might at least have advertised in the newspapers the names of the candidates.

THE CHAIRMAN—The committee did advertise the place and time of meeting for electing a new president, and if the members fail to turn up I don't see how you can justly blame us.

MR PAT CAREY—Does Mr Gray mean that the voting should be taken by proxy?

MR NEIMAN—Where are the members of the new committee? Out of twenty-two there are only two of them present to-day.

MR MOUNTFORD called attention to the rule which directed that a president and other officers shall be elected at a general meeting, and they had no power to elect in any other way. Mr Gray or any other member was entitled to move an amendment to this rule at the next general meeting of the society.

MR GRAY—I was only expressing my opinion that it is not fair. I am not antagonistic at all.

The election was then proceeded with by means of voting cards, the members putting a cross opposite the name of the candidate he or she voted for.

The names of Messrs Coborn and Cragg having been struck off, the final voting was as follows:—Harry Randall, 37; Eugene Stratton, 23.

THE CHAIRMAN—I have much pleasure in announcing that Mr Harry Randall has been elected president of the Association.

The announcement was received with loud cheers.

THE CHAIRMAN—Mr Randall is so well known to you all that there is no need for me to dwell upon his qualifications for the position. I will only say you have chosen a very worthy successor to our late lamented president.

MR MOUNTFORD moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, also regarding it as some slight recognition of his work as their hon. treasurer during the past eight years.

MR MILLIS seconded the motion, which was carried and duly acknowledged by the Chairman.

The meeting closed with votes of thanks to Mr Cattaneo for the use of the hall (replied to by Mr TOM TINSLEY), to the Press, and to the tellers.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—A memorial to the late Mr Herbert Campbell in the shape of a bust, either in marble or bronze, is to be obtained, and placed, if possible, in the vestibule of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, the scene of so many of his triumphs. Mr Harry Randall has kindly consented to act as president and Mr Edward Ledger, of *The Era*, as treasurer to the fund.

It is the intention of the committee to engage an artist of repute to execute this work to the memory of the above-mentioned generous and genial comedian. The committee will esteem it a great favour if his old friends and admirers will assist in making this memorial a success. All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK HEATH,
(Secretary).

Committee Rooms, Hummums Hotel,
Covent-garden, W.C., Nov. 2.

Sums received.

	£	s.	d.
A. Magnus	10	10	0
Henry Joyner	5	5	0
Joe Elvin	3	3	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0
J. Hickory Wood	1	1	0
H. Comfort	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
Jesse Sparrow	1	1	0
Pat Doherty	1	1	0
G. A. E. Hussey	1	1	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0
Thos. Cracknell	1	1	0
Arthur W. Bray	1	1	0
Lydia M. Roberts	1	1	0
Mrs M. A. Hearn	1	0	0
W. Clarkson	0	10	6
A. Lazarus	0	10	6
Mrs C. L. Lawson	0	10	6
A. May	0	5	0
M. M. M'Neill	0	2	6
Per Harry Randall:—			
Harry Randall	5	5	0
Eugene Stratton	2	2	0
Little Tich	2	2	0
Eccentric Club	2	2	0
J. Bernard Dickson	1	1	0
Charles Hector	0	10	6

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES ATHLETIC XI. v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB

Played near Clifton Downs on Nov. 19. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies XI.—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss L. Carter and Miss E. Francis, backs; Miss M. Stuart, Miss C. Fowler (captain), and Miss L. Belding, half-backs; Miss A. Bernard, Miss T. Maynard, Miss G. Leonard, Miss B. Godfrey, and Miss G. Thomas, forwards.

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss A. Gibbs, and Miss R. Davis, backs; Miss L. Norris, Miss E. Lawrence, and Miss L. Coles, half-backs; Miss M. Burgess, Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss N. Lawrence, Miss K. Montgomery, and Miss A. Mitchell, forwards.

Referee, Miss M. Hamilton (of Cotham and Redland Ladies Club). Result:—Miss C. Fowler's Ladies Athletic team, one goal; Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Club, one goal. Misses A. Bernard and W. Bradley scored the goals for their respective sides.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

The programme submitted twice nightly at this well-appointed variety theatre under Mr Sam Gething's able management is always of the very best, and that provided for the current week is no exception to the rule. Pride o place on the bill is occupied by Miss Vesta Tilly, who has endeared herself to the hearts of Stratfordians on previous visits, and consequently her reception is most cordial. Appearing first in a perfect-fitting flannel suit she tells of the goings on of the would-be "Seaside Sultan," a pretentious young spark with colossal cheek and little else, whose final discomfiture is brought about by meeting his employer. As a typical college boy she appears next and gives the very popular "Following in Father's Footsteps," and lastly gives "Wise Old Owl," rather a new ditty, which has a somewhat rag-time refrain, and is full of topical allusions. Sung in faultless evening dress by Miss Tilley—who, by-the-way, has indeed solved the problem of a suit for a song—it was received with enthusiasm. The Two Bostons, in their "Novelty Showmen" act, have all the material for an ingenious and versatile display of the burlesque. The introduction of a back cloth with the alluring advertisements of a travelling showman vividly portrayed is a capital and most effective idea, and their miscellaneous entertainment, given with the assistance of highly trained cats and dogs, interspersed with plenty of pointed gags and witticisms, and concluding with some wonderfully dexterous step-dancing by the younger of the duo, is always acknowledged by unstinted applause. Miss Victoria Monks creates a most favourable impression when tastily attired she sings, "There's a girl inside," a tuneful ditty explaining the keen interest taken by members of the sterner sex in a particular railway carriage, and in other vehicles, and were the "girl inside" as fair to behold as the singer, such anxiety is easily understood. Her next item is an imitation of a coon songster and dancer, rendering "Ain't I no use, Mr Jackson?" which, though having the element of burlesque, is exceedingly interesting, and a striking example of the artiste's powers of mimicry. The Resuas Trio present some startling feats of strength and balancing, the difficulty of which is hardly apparent from the ease and grace of execution, and the reception they gain is thoroughly well merited. Harry Champion is received with great cordiality when he appears to sing "Ping Pong," and he afterwards renders a ditty the title of which might be "Oh-er," the applause for which is so great that he has to appear again, this time giving "Yer hat don't fit you very well." The Morton Comedy Trio, in *The Dandy Bandits*, supply a judicious blend of excellent vocalism and brisk comedy business, and their efforts to interest and amuse are crowned with complete success. Little Nelusco as a juvenile conjuror shows considerable promise; his feats are performed with all the dexterity and finish of a much older performer, and with plenty of confidence and assurance. His trick with birds in a cage proves exceptionally mystifying. Miss Kitty Bell, although styled a vocalist and dancer, only contributed a nimble Scotch reel at the first performance on Monday, but her capabilities have probably had more scope at subsequent performances. L. B. Athol proves himself a resourceful character comedian, and the Labakans, with their highly trained dog "Folly," contribute an interesting turn, which meets with general appreciation. Early comers are regaled with F. Von Blon's march "With the British Colours" by the orchestra, under the bâton of Mr Augustus Greco, the skilful chef d'orchestre, who throughout does excellent work in this important phase of musical exertion.

THE NEW EMPIRE HIPPODROME, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This new hall, built on land secured by the Messrs Broadhead in the centre of the town of Ashton-under-Lyne, and in the immediate vicinity of the Theatre Royal, Oldham-road, is practically completed. It stands on about 2,000 square yards of ground, and will comfortably seat 2,000 people. It is a noble structure, built entirely of brick, and after the design of Mr Broadhead's other halls in Manchester. It is the latest addition to the group of variety halls which Messrs Broadhead have erected. The interior decorations and appointments are on a lavish and attractive scale. The prevailing adornments of the circles, boxes, ceiling, proscenium are plaster mouldings, the raised designs of which are a cream ground, picked out in gold and colours. The auditorium is brilliantly lit with electric lamps, supplied from the firm's own plant. The furniture and carpeting are of pretty design and shade. The stalls are seated by tip-up chairs, upholstered in maroon velvet, and the grand-circle seating is upholstered plush chair seating. There is an immense pit, seated with backed-forms, and the gallery is well provided with seats. The boxes are elaborately adorned, and fitted with velvet upholstered chairs. There is a spacious foyer, the walls of which are adorned with mirrors. The stage is spacious and the dressing-rooms up-to-date for conveniences. There is every facility for exit and entrance, and the theatre is heated with the latest apparatus. The whole of the scenery and cloths for the stage have been painted by Mr Daley, Mr Broadhead's principal scenic artist, and assistants, and there are some really artistic cloths and side wings. The scenery is worked on the latest scientific principles, and besides the velvet Golding curtains, there is a massive steel fire proof curtain which shuts off the stage from the auditorium in case of fire. The comfort and convenience of visitors has been studied in every possible way, and the desire of the proprietors has been realised in every department.

The opening performance took the shape of a matinée on Monday afternoon, and brought together an immense audience, which filled the hall in every part. Members of the corporation were present in the stalls, and the opening was a good augury of success. A splendid band, numbering fourteen expert instrumentalists, form the orchestra, conducted by Mr C. Lawrence. The manager of the new house is Mr Wm. P. Broadhead; acting-manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead; secretary, Mr H. Winstanley; and the resident acting-manager, Mr W. Leech. The company for the week includes the Tom Davis Trio of cyclists, with their bicycle sensation, "Whirling the Whirl," and Georg Chanti, a foreign performer, who introduces some quick and startling changes of scene and dress. He gives us the Neapolitan in his unique surroundings and dress; the Chinaman, the Scotchman, the Spaniard as a Matador in the bull-ring, the Russian, and other characters. The characters are each impersonated with the perfection of art in characterisation. Another pleasing turn is Mr John Tiller's famous troupe of lady Mascottes (eight in number) who pose and pirouette in the most agile and graceful manner to music by the orchestra, their fairy-like robing and dainty figures suggesting the nymphs of mystical forest haunts and daisied meads. Marguerite Hood, the clever and refined society entertainer, sang sweetly to her own piano accompaniment some pleasing melodies. The Crown Trio, two military characters and a waitress, sang some pleasing part music, beautifully harmonised, and Shawlene, the world's sweetest whistler, gave an exhibition of his skill as a soloist. His tone and power were the cause of wonder, and excited great enthusiasm. H. A. Kisbey was funny as the "Call Boy," and Johnson and Bert gave an amusing song and patter act. The Bros. Donar astonished as well as greatly diverted the audience with some comical knockabout business. Cinématographic pictures concluded the show.

THE MAGICAL DRAMA.

St. George's Hall is not only to be the new home of mystery, but its enlarged and admirably equipped stage is to witness at Christmas a most interesting experiment in the production of a magical drama, founded on the novel by Lord Lytton, entitled "The Coming Race," the adaptation being by Mr David Christie Murray and Mr Nevil Maskelyne. The latter gentleman, whom one afternoon this week we found surrounded by a small army of workmen, gave us some interesting particulars of the new piece, which certainly promises to be a great novelty. In the first place, young Mr Maskelyne wishes the public and the press to regard *The Coming Race* as a drama worthy of the serious consideration of the critic. Such effects as are seen in the piece assist in the development of its story and are in no instance outside the action, which is never hampered for the sake of introducing a magical device. The play, indeed, has been the thing, and if any effect were cut out of it, it would cripple its dramatic interest. It is in a prologue and three acts, being divided into fifteen scenes, most of which belong to a world other than our own. This is discovered quite by accident by a couple of mining engineers—George W. Larcombe, of Massachusetts, and Henry Wentworth, of London. Having reached the deep level of Porthmorran Mine, in Cornwall, these gentlemen discover an immense fissure. They pass through. The Englishman is smashed on the rocks, but the American is saved by Princess Zee, who falls in love with him, and finds that her affection is returned. Larcombe, indeed, thinks she is about the nicest "gal" he has "struck" since he left the States, and he is not abashed by her undoubted superiority to him, for the Princess is the daughter of the Tur, who rules a people gifted with power over life and death—a subterranean race so miraculously endowed indeed that it thinks very little of the mere human. Zee herself has quite the proper notions concerning the levelling power of love; but the "coming race" to which she belongs regards the proposed union of their princess with a common mortal as an insult to their kin, and demand the death of Larcombe.

We should mention that the mysterious power possessed by this wonderful people is called Vril, and it is exercised by the waving of a staff. Zee demands a trial for her lover, and she speaks most eloquently in his defence, but it is of no avail. The sages who sit in judgment are not to be convinced, and he is condemned to die. Larcombe reviews matters with phlegmatic calm, and takes advantage of the "silent hours"—a period of the day when strange monsters float over the subterranean city—to have a refreshing sleep. While slumbering, the devoted princess flies through his window, and bears him away to the palace garden. There she proposes to return with him to this earth, and by her magic power to make him a king among men, she to be his queen. The closing of the fissure through which Larcombe originally descended presents no difficulty to the princess, for by her Vril-staff she engineers an upheaval of the earth—a novel idea in stage earthquakes—and the two find themselves in the upper level of the mine. Larcombe thinks over the proposal, and guesses that it will not pan out satisfactorily. He therefore declines, and with a sorrowful farewell Zee returns to her subterranean home, the earth closing over her form as she descends, not before she has warned the engineer that the time will come when the members of her race will increase and finally come above the earth and conquer the surface races.

In the drama fantastic shapes will fly about, and a huge monster, which is called by Lytton the "Krak," is destroyed in the fifth scene of the first act by Taë, the brother of Zee, a mere boy. The "Krak," we should add, is geologically correct, being modelled from an extinct specimen of the carnivora, known to scientists as the pariasaurus. It is all ready to take its flight through space when *The Coming Race* is produced at Christmas. The novel itself at a first reading does not attract the playwright, but the authors have so arranged the story that its dramatic interest is considerably augmented, and they are wise in making the loves of the engineer and the Princess the pivot of the play, for that way lies sympathy. Both Mr David Christie Murray and Mr Nevil Maskelyne possess the instinct of the theatre. In what way, however, the responsibilities of collaboration have been divided it is not for us to say. But we may be certain of this, that the possibilities of stage illustration will be much increased by the wonderful developments of engineering and electrical science. Airships, landslides, a marvellously realistic upheaval—which will be the very antithesis of the toppling columns in *Claudian*—will be among the wonders to be seen during the representation of *The Coming Race*. The play will, therefore, be marked by weird effects, mechanical sensations, and strange devices. The cast of the play includes Mr Hermann Vezin as the Tur, Miss Vera Beringer as Princess Zee, Mr Frederick Topham as Larcombe, Miss Cassie Bruce as the boy Taë, Mr Horace Morehen in two rôles, Mr E. S. Elton as Zuron, and Mr J. B. Hansard as Thor-Met. From the above list it will be seen that the favourites of the Egyptian Hall will find places in the new St. George's Hall, where also Mr F. Cramer, who has done such good service in Piccadilly, will direct an orchestra.

We may now say a word or two concerning the new stage at St. George's Hall. It has been brought forward, and thereby its capacity has been much increased. There will be no wings, their place being taken by an inner and outer proscenium, to both of which a curtain will be hung. As to the lighting of the stage, Mr Nevil Maskelyne has entirely revolutionised it. Framing the outer proscenium are no less than 300 electric bulbs. This arrangement of illumination entirely disposes of unnecessary shadows, which are so difficult to get rid of. When the actor walks to the footlights he is surrounded by a ring of unseen lamps. There are no less than two thousand incandescents on the stage, and the power can be lowered to the merest glimmer, or, by insensible gradation, increased to a potential glare. Thus all sorts of effects, from the feeble light of the breaking dawn to the blaze of noonday sunshine, can be readily simulated. The illumination of the stage can be made to die by degrees or to grow in intensity. These results are attained by the employment of Wirt dimmers, of which twenty-seven are required for the eight hundred lamps affixed to the battens, besides the movable lamps, which will be used at special points. Messrs J. Defries and Sons (Limited), Houndsditch, are making the installation this week.

THEATRICAL PATENTS.

The following abridged description is specially drawn for *The Era* by Messrs Hughes and Young, patent agents, 55 and 56, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., who will give advice and assistance free to our readers on all patent matters.

24,027. Isaac Nathaniel Lyons, 1, Queen Victoria-street, London. Improvements in or relating to machinery for raising and lowering theatrical scenery and the like.

24,034. Alice Josephine Crosse, 72, Cannon-street, London. Improved cannon for acrobatic performances.

24,067. William Kennedy-Laurie Dickson and Eugene Lauste, 18, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London. Improvements relating to revolving rooms for amusement.

24,289. Nele Loring, 40, Chancery-lane, London. A suspension railway for recreation or amusement.

24,369. Fritz Brandt, Birkbeck Bank-chambers, Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London. Improved arrangement of electric emergency lamps in theatres and like buildings.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

THE WORLD'S SONG PROVIDERS.

The following Songs have been selected by all the principal Managers and Artistes, and will be featured in every Pantomime in the Kingdom.

Songs for Principal Girl and Boy.

Farewell my little Yo San
By MILLS and SCOTT.
Tom Costello's greatest success.

Go away Mister Crocodile
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
Will be even more popular than "Little Yellow Bird."
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

You are a white little girl
By SWAFFER and DAREWSKI JUNR.
Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Carnival of Toys
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A pretty song for the children. The undoubted successor to "The Tin Gee Gee."

The Sunshine of Love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A delightful ballad with harmonised chorus.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Do you know Suzannah Simpson?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
If not, ask the author and composer about her.

Blue Bell
By MADDEN and MORSE.
The accepted success of the year.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Honey boy
By KENNEDY and PENN.
The composer of "Honeysuckle and the Bee," "Pansy Faces," etc., has excelled himself in this dainty number.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Girls wouldn't be wanted at all
By HARRINGTON and LE BRUNN.
Sung by W. J. Churchill.

Have you seen my girl?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
This is confidently expected to rival "There's a girl wanted there."

There goes my soldier boy
By LEIGH and SAVAGE.
The greatest march song since the "Soldiers of the Queen."
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Angel of my dreams
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Miss Millie Lindon. The best of the many productions of these clever writers.

Navaho
By WILLIAMS and VAN ALYSTYNE.
Charming American-Indian Romance.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The snow-man and the sunbeam
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A pretty song with a moral.

If I had a girl as nice as you
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A delightful chorus song in great demand.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Dolly's a first-class girl
By LEIGH and PETHER.
A cleverly concocted song with an irresistible refrain.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

So did Eve
By HARRIS and TATE.
Sung by Miss Millie Lindon.

You can't stop the sun from shining
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

Come and be a soldier
By STILES and NAIRN.
A grand song full of go.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

PIONEERS OF POPULAR PUBLICATIONS.

Songs for Low Comedian and Dame.

Short Stories
By W. DAVID and MAURICE SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand, also by Fred Clements.

There's another one out of work
By T. W. CONNOR.
Sung by George Brooks.

A.B.C.D.
(The Singing Master).
By JAMES HARGREAVES.
Sung by Wilkie Bard.

It's all right in the summer time
By MURRAY and EVERARD.
Sung by Miss Vesta Victoria.

She cost me seven-and-sixpence
By JAMES HARGREAVES and SAM MAYO.
Sung by Sam Mayo and Wilkie Bard.

Who killed Bill Bailey?
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Sandford and Lyons.

All the girls are lov-er-ly-ov-er-ly
By HARRINGTON and THURBAN.
Sung by R. G. Knowles.

He was a Sailor
By JEROME and SCHWARTZ.
From "The Earl and the Girl."
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

We all walked into the shop
By MILLS and CASTLING.
Sung by Dave O'Toole.

You can't beat the old time girls?
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Sung by George Brooks.

The new Insurance
By GEORGE ARTHURS & KENNETH LYLE.
Sung by Ernest Shand.

My inquisitive kiddie
By ELLERTON and LYNNE.
Sung by Frank Lynne.

What d'yer want to talk about it for?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

Songs for Fairy Queen and Special Singing Parts.

The Garden filled with gold
By BATEMAN and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall.

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Peeping Eyes
By KENNEDY RUSSELL.

The Playground in the sky
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Milner Verren.

You be daddy and I'll be you
By JOSEPH TABRAR.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Gondolier
By WILLIAMS and POWELL.
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'CHALLENGING A HYPNOTIST."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In fairness to myself, I think it only right that your many readers should know the rights of this case. In the first place, I may state that I do not style myself "The Man of Mystery," nor ever did. I did not challenge any person to come on the stage and be hypnotised. I simply asked for volunteers for my hypnotic experiments, expressly stating that I wished no one to come up who was under the influence of drink, or was prepared to oppose my will, as my time did not permit me to deal with such cases, the bulk of my time being devoted to relieving sufferers from paralysis, &c. The defendant, in spite of this, came forward, and seated himself in a defiant attitude. I went to him at once, and asked him in a tone of voice loud enough to be heard by anyone near the stage, "Are you going to resist me?" The defendant replied to my query, "Yes, I am." Then I said, "You had better go down." After a little persuasion he went down. I then finished my performance, and sent my assistant to find him and tell him I should be prepared to meet him next day (Tuesday) at one o'clock if he would come, and try to convince him of my hypnotic powers. He gave my assistant a card bearing the name of "Stanley Jeffrey," and a message that he would come at the time appointed. I therefore thought no more about the matter until I got outside, when defendant was shouting like a madman about my "show," as he called it. The disturbance spoken of took place after this whilst I was at home. With that I had very little to do except as a witness to the opening scenes. However, Tuesday, one o'clock came, but "Stanley Jeffrey" came not. I concluded he had thought better of it after sleeping. But on Friday, whilst I was busy about 12·30 treating cases privately, he came, and I tried hard to treat him as a gentleman; but in spite of all I said or did, he would persist in making the most insulting remarks as to my character that any man could make in respect to my powers as a hypnotist. This I passed over, but the stage-manager finally took exception to his insults and turned him out, so his boast that I could not hypnotise him is idle talk: in fact, I have witnesses to prove that I made him a fair offer to try and hypnotise him if he would let me use my own means, but he refused this, suggesting I might harm him.

Trusting this letter will be read by all lovers of fair play in the spirit in which I write,

Yours faithfully, J. HOCKINGE.
Hippodrome, Accrington.

THAT gifted musician and keen judge of a song, Mr Oscar Barrett, intends making a special item of Miss Millie Lindon's fine ballad, "The Angel of my dreams," in the forthcoming pantomime at the Prince's Manchester. It is by Fred Leigh and Henry E. Pether. The song, which is issued by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, is enjoying a ready sale.

MR SAM MAYO has made a great hit at Brighton and elsewhere with his new song entitled "When I woke up in the morning," by Fred W. Leigh. Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter have acquired the ditty.

DUNNING AND KAHN AND KAHN return to town on Monday, opening at the Pavilion and Canterbury with their magical and ventriloquial acts.—Mr Fred Lloyd has started a tour with his laughable sketch entitled *The Blind Spinster*.—The Dixie combination will be seen shortly at Barnard's Varieties, Chatham, in a "Silver coon" scena.

MESSRS ARTHUR MOORE AND TOM STONE desire, through the medium of our columns, to thank those artistes who were kind enough to give their services at the entertainment on behalf of the Brixton and Streatham Omnibus Men's Benefit at the Empress, Brixton, on Thursday, the 17th inst. The M'Naughtons, who were unable to appear, have kindly promised a donation of two guineas.

BY displaying in his shop window the flora wreath which was sent to Mr Dan Leno's funeral by the fraternity of the Terriers, Mr A. J. King, a Walthamstow florist, caused such a crowd to assemble that the police summoned him for obstruction at Stratford on Saturday. It was argued on his behalf that if a trader could not display his goods he might as well shut up shop. Taking this view the magistrates dismissed the case.

MRS FRANK LEONARD, of 202, Darwin-street, Birmingham, wishes to thank the following artistes for their great kindness in helping her and her little ones. The following are their names:—Collected by Mr Lee, Circus, Rochdale: Smith and Lee, £1; Auld Town, 5s.; Cavil, 2s. 6d.; Mrs Coulthard, 2s. 6d.; A Friend, 2s. 6d.; Miss Taylor, 2s.; C. Bush, 2s.; Bass, 1s.; Prof. M'Cann, 5s.; Friend, 6d.; Friend, 1s.; Tory Lord, 2s. 6d.; Harry Bent, 5s.; Milner Verren, 5s.; Floradoras, 5s.; Mignon, 2s.; Renstone, 2s. 6d.; Alec Kennedy, 2s. 6d.; W. A. Nichol, 2s. 6d.; Vol Becque, 1s.; Swift Trio, 2s.; Mdlle. De Rose, 2s. 6d.; J. H. Hawtrey, 2s. 6d.; W. Whitney, 1s.; J. Kerhaw, 2s. 6d.; A Friend, 1s.; Gartside, 1s.; A Friend, 1s.; Dando, 1s.; W. Wycherley, 2s. Collected by Mr Hayworth, 8, Peter-street, Manchester, of Black and Hayworth, Variety Agents: Hayworth, £12 12s.; Charles Digale (secc.), £4 11s. 9d; James Holden, £2 6s. 4d.; Hippodrome, Bury, 14s. Total, £24 13s. 1d. Collected by Mr Terry from artistes, Theatre Royal, Woolwich, 10s.

ON Tuesday, at Barnet County Court, William George Barker, of the Autoscope Company, Gray's-inn-road, was mulcted in £5 damages and costs for trespassing at Rowley Green Farm, Arkley. Mr Poole, solicitor for Mr King, farmer, the plaintiff, described the trespass as particularly impudent. Defendant drove up with two van loads of people, and entered a fifteen-acre field, untethered the horses, and trod down the aftermath, on Sept. 20, doing damage to the amount claimed. No permission had been asked or obtained. Defendant admitted that he had done wrong in entering the field, but thought the case would be met without going into court, by paying £1 to a local hospital. He had only two waggonettes and thirteen persons all told. They took 11,000 or 12,000 photographs, but did not roam over the whole fifteen acres of grass in the field.

AT the Newport Empire this week Paul Mill, comedian, is popular; the Brothers Edgar, old favourites, win much applause; and Minnie Derson, a charming artiste, finds favour. Alexandre and Hughes are applauded; Ray Wallace shows considerable musical ability; and Harry Anderson is a warm favourite. Sydney James's Strolling Players present a miscellaneous entertainment; Lil Hawthorne is charming in costume and song; and the Sisters Geretti perform marvellous feats on the trapeze.

AT the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, this week that popular comedian Charles Coborn is being well received. The Stella Troupe's songs and dances are applauded; Carl and Mary Ohm have a clever animal exhibition; and amongst the acrobatic turns are those of the Baldwin Brothers, the Five Olraes, and the Three Mascottes, Nellie Young, comedienne, and Will Newman, comedian, are encored for their songs, and Prince Kokin does a clever juggling act.

PRESENTATION.—At the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, on Saturday, Mr Joseph Myers, who has had charge of the box-office for the last eighteen months, was presented with a handsome silver-handled walking stick by his fellow workers and friends, on relinquishing the position to take up an appointment with his uncle, the Mayor of Cape Town.

SCENIC ARTISTS IN COUNCIL.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA)

Mr WALTER HANN presided over the eleventh meeting of the Committee of the Scenic Artists' Association, held at the offices, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, at 7·0 p.m., on Monday last, Nov. 21st. There were present Messrs E. G. Banks, J. J. Markwell Davis, Richard Douglass, Joseph Harker, W. T. Hemsley, Herbert Hinton, H. W. Owen, Harry Potts, H. W. Robinson, W. B. Spong, and George Tweddell; also Messrs Phil Harker and G. R. Hemsley (auditors), Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart. (as member of the Exhibition Sub-Committee), and Mr H. Lawrence Harris, secretary.

A letter was read from Mr Hedley Churchward, of the Opera House, Cape Town, accepting the post of honorary representative of the Association in Cape Colony.

The SECRETARY reported that he had sent each member notice of the general meeting in the form following:—

THE SCENIC ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION,
5, Robert-street, Adelphi-terrace, London, W.C.,
Nov. 14, 1904.

Dear Sir,—An Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of this Association will be held at the Caledonian Hotel, Robert-street, Adelphi-terrace, Strand, at 8·0 p.m., on Monday next, the 21st November instant, for the purposes of—*(a)* Considering the report of the Committee from April 30 last to date; *(b)* considering the report of the Exhibition (1905) Sub-committee; and *(c)* considering the ways and means of increasing the Exhibition Guarantee Fund, to which Sir Philip Burne-Jones (an honorary member), and Messrs Richard Douglass, Walter Hann, William Harford, W. T. Hemsley, and Harry Potts have subscribed £5 5s. each.

Please inform me by return of post if you will be able to attend the meeting, and send me on or before Saturday next, the 19th inst., a copy of any resolution you may propose to move at the meeting, that same may be included in the Chairman's agenda paper. A form of proxy is annexed for use in the event of it not being convenient for you to attend personally.

Please present this circular on entering the room on Monday, and kindly sign the attendance book.

By Order of the Committee,
H. LAWRENCE HARRIS, Secretary.

On the nomination of the CHAIRMAN, Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, R.A., and Messrs Frederick Harrison and Cyril Maude, of the Haymarket Theatre, were unanimously elected honorary members of the Association.

Mr H. P. Hall, of Seacombe, Cheshire; Mr John M. O'Farrell, of Paisley, N.B.; and Mr John W. Wilson Woodward, scenic artist, Metropolitan Music Hall, were duly elected to the membership of the Association.

The third (extraordinary) general meeting of the Scenic Artists' Association was held at the Caledonian Hotel at 8 o'clock in the evening of Monday, Nov. 21.

In the unavoidable absence of the president, Mr Hawes Craven, the chair was taken by Mr JOSEPH HARKER, vice-president, and the vice-chair by Mr WALTER HANN.

There were present Messrs E. G. Banks, F. Browning, Jules Camus, Alfred E. Craven, Hedley Churchward (by proxy), T. C. Daly (by proxy), J. J. Markwell Davis, Richard Douglass, F. J. Dowling, Thos. F. Dunn (by proxy), Richard C. Durant (by proxy), William Harford, Phil Harker, G. R. Hemsley, H. M. Hemsley, W. T. Hemsley, Herbert Hinton, E. J. Hirst, J. I. Keith (by proxy), Edward H. Lyneham, Harry Mapleson, William R. Martin, J. Davies Massey, H. W. Owen, S. H. Paterman, Harry Pierse, Harry Potts, H. W. Robinson, A. C. Rogers (by proxy), R. S. Smythe, W. B. Spong, W. Telbin, George Tweddell, H. Warner, Harry Woolls, and W. R. Young (by proxy), Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart. (an honorary member), and Mr H. Lawrence Harris, Secretary.

The notice convening the meeting was read and the minutes of the general meetings held respectively on April 30 and May 24, 1904, were read and confirmed by the meeting and signed by the chairman.

The CHAIRMAN (Mr Joseph Harker) said—I think I can congratulate you, gentlemen, on the satisfactory progress the Scenic Artists' Association has made since the last general meeting in May. There are now seventy-four ordinary members. I may here mention that one of our honorary members, Sir Philip Burne-Jones, has subscribed £1 1s. to our general funds and £5 5s. to the Exhibition Guarantee Fund.

The principal object of our meeting this evening is to invite your approval of the committee's scheme for an exhibition to be held in February next, as provided for by Rule No. 16. The Exhibition sub-committee will put before you a project necessitating a guarantee, and it is for you, gentlemen, to approve or amend the project, and to say what sum you will each individually subscribe to the Guarantee Fund. Before proceeding to the particular business of the evening, I will call upon the secretary to read you first a brief report of the work of the committee, between April 30 last and the present date, and ask you to adopt the same, and convey to the committee and the other honorary officers of the Association your appreciation of their arduous labours on your behalf. I may add that the committee have held no less than ten meetings with an average of attendance of eight members at each meeting, and Mr Walter Hann has presided over nine of these meetings, and Mr Richard Douglass over one. Messrs E. G. Banks, Richard Douglass, Harry Potts, and H. W. Robinson have only been absent from two meetings. The secretary will now read the report of the committee.

The SECRETARY then read:—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

At their first meeting on June 1 your committee resolved that the secretary keep a register of artists wanted and artists seeking employment. Between Sept. 15 and Nov. 14 the secretary received seventeen applications for artists (an average of over two per week), and thirteen artists entered their names as disengaged. Mr Walter Hann and Mr Harry Potts were authorised on Aug. 8 to take, on a three years' agreement, the present offices, 5, Robert-street, and the secretary was instructed to purchase the necessary furniture. Possession was taken of the offices on Aug. 27 last.

At the fourth committee meeting, held on Aug. 31 the rules as passed at the general meeting of May 24 were clerically revised as they now appear in the printed book of rules, and the secretary was instructed to charge members 6d. for each copy.

On Oct. 3, at the seventh committee meeting, Mr George Tweddell was elected a member of the committee, Mr Joseph Harker having at an earlier meeting been nominated Vice-President.

On the eighth meeting, held on Oct. 17, Messrs E. G. Banks, Walter Hann, and W. B. Spong were appointed a sub-committee to draft the scheme for an exhibition of scenic art to be held in February next, and at the meeting, held on Oct 31, Messrs A. E. Craven, William Harford, Joseph Harker, and W. T. Hemsley, and Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart. (an honorary member) were added to the sub-committee, and on the 14th inst. reported to the committee that they recommended the renting of Clifford's-inn Hall for the week of Feb. 20, 1905, with the option (if possible to obtain) of a renewal for a second week in the event of success, and this report your committee decided to consider further after hearing the views of the members generally at the present meeting.

Mr G. R. HEMSLEY, in a neat speech, proposed a vote of thanks to the committee and other honorary officers of the Association for their services during the past six months.

This was seconded by Mr J. DAVIES-MASSEY and carried nem con.

Mr WALTER HANN, the vice-chairman, then said:—Gentlemen, you will be pleased to hear that Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, R.A., having signified that it would be agreeable to him to become a member of the Scenic Artists' Association, was elected an honorary member at the committee meeting held an hour ago, and Sir Philip Burne-Jones has kindly consented to convey to Sir Lawrence an appreciation of the honour he will do the association in accepting membership. I have also pleasure in informing you that Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema has kindly offered to lend to our proposed exhibition a model and sketches he made for the production of *Coriolanus*. It also gives me pleasure to announce, gentlemen, that Mr Frederick Harrison and Mr Cyril Maude have also been elected honorary members.

Mr WALTER HANN then stated the efforts made by the committee to secure a suitable hall or gallery at a moderate rent for the proposed exhibition, and moved on behalf of the Exhibition Sub-Committee that the Association's Exhibition of February, 1905, be held in Clifford's-inn Hall. An amendment was moved that the Exhibition be held in a Bond-street Gallery, and Mr TELBIN stated that if the latter resolution were carried he would exhibit and subscribe at least £10 10s. to the Guarantee Fund. Both resolutions were then put to the meeting, and on a show of hands the Chairman declared the amendment carried.

Mr W. TELBIN moved, and Mr OWEN seconded, and it was unanimously resolved, that the works of past scenic artists be eligible for exhibition.

Mr SMYTHE moved that no member shall receive relief from the Benevolent Fund until he has been a subscriber for at least twelve months, and Mr BANKS moved as an amendment that the administration of the Benevolent Fund be left, as per Rule No. 8, to the sole discretion of the committee. The amendment was carried.

Mr T. C. DALY moved (by proxy) that original water-colour drawings to be exhibited be mounted on cardboard, and be framed or not, at sender's option. Mr BANKS moved as an amendment that all drawings and paintings exhibited be framed, and the latter resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the subscriptions from members present to the Exhibition Guarantee Fund amounted to £71 10s. 6d., and that the secretary would write to each of the members absent asking for subscriptions and particulars of their intending exhibits.

There being no response to his enquiry if any member had any further business to bring forward the Chairman declared the business of the evening ended.

Mr HARRY POTTS then proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for their able conduct of the proceedings. This, being put to the meeting by the secretary, was carried by acclamation.

"BROTHER JACQUES."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

At the Nixon Theatre, Pittsburgh, recently, Miss Annie Russell and her company produced a comedy by Henry Bernstein and Pierre Veber, entitled *Brother Jacques*, adapted from the French. A charming young heiress called Genevieve is staying with her aunt, Madame Morange, and her old playmate, Jacques Jouvenin, at the château of the aunt outside of Paris. They live in undisturbed happiness until Genevieve reaches the age when she ought to marry and make a home for herself. This question seriously occupies Madame Morange and Jacques Jouvenin, who are anxious about Genevieve's felicity, and when the Marquis De Chantalard and his son Jean make their appearance both hit upon the idea of giving Genevieve to the young nobleman, who belongs to the best family in the country. The Marquis, on his part, bent upon finding a rich wife for his son in order to retrieve his shattered financial position, hails the opportunity, and a wedding is arranged by Jacques' aid, who persuades Genevieve to accept young Chantalard. In the second act we are introduced to the wedding party, a gay company, and learn of Jacques's intention to accept a situation in South America, in order to do something and have a change of surroundings. Genevieve, who is about to leave on her honeymoon trip, on being informed of his intention bursts into tears, and takes a long farewell of him, making Jacques promise to write to her, and not forget her. In the next act the newly married couple are alone together for the first time in Genevieve's boudoir, where supper has been laid for two. Young Chantalard, who, besides being a simpleton, does not care the least bit for his young wife, forces himself to appear agreeable, but he can ill conceal that the telegram which he had shortly before received from his ballet-girl in Paris has upset him. Genevieve is informed of this state of affairs by the family lawyer when it is too late to retract the step taken. Mons. Bellecontre, however, tells her how she can rid herself of her husband. Genevieve talks to Chantalard about his Loulsette. He is at first surprised at her knowing about it, but finally confesses that he still loves her very much. Genevieve advises him to take the next train for Paris, and see her to-night. He hesitates, fearing his father's wrath, but ultimately accepts the proposition and makes his departure through the window. When he is gone, Genevieve rings for her maid, has all the guests called into her boudoir, and throws herself on the ottoman crying and shrieking "He has left me! I want a divorce." When all learn the cause of this uproar, Chantalard's father offers to bring his son back, but Genevieve will not hear of this, and after much parleying, and several futile efforts on the part of the Chantalards, a divorce is agreed upon. Meanwhile, Madame Morange, guessing the reason of all this trouble, wires to Jacques and asks him to come back, as the family is ruined, the lawyer having badly invested their fortune. This unpleasant news brings Jacques back. The meeting between him and Genevieve is touching, and they discover that they love each other. Both Jacques and the lawyer fume when they learn that they have been tricked by Madame Morange, but they soon forgive her, for it means Genevieve's happiness. There being no further obstacle for their union, Jacques and Genevieve determine to become united, to the delight of their friends. Miss Annie Russell was a sweet, charming little Genevieve, and played admirably. Jacques Jouvenin was given by Mr Oswald Yorke in a masterly way. Mr Grant Stewart made an excellent Marquis De Chantalard, and Mr Joseph Wheelock, jun.'s Jean Chantalard was a good character sketch. Mrs Chas. W. Walcot as Madame Morange was delightful, and so was Miss Elizbbeth Johnson as Flossie Adams, the American heiress and Genevieve's bosom friend. The rest of the company supported ably.

THE principal attraction at the Britannia Theatre this week is the drama entitled *Death or Glory Boys*, played by the stock company. Mr Hamilton Stewart as Jack Malden gives a manly embodiment of this important part, and Mr W. S. Hartford as Captain Glynn Ferrers ably depicts the villainous character of the man. Mr Fred Groves scores as Captain Duff. Mr Charles Langley is well placed as Colonel Ferguson, and that useful actor, Mr Charles A. East, does admirable work as Carn. Mr Tom Wallace gets a good deal of fun out of the part of Nat Wilks, and is ably seconded by Miss Marie Wright as Jane. Miss Rose Ralph is seen to considerable advantage as Nena Ferguson, and Miss Dorothy Cacey deserves every credit for her excellent impersonation of Edith Malden. The contributors to the variety entertainment include Luis Hardt, a miniature Hercules whose feats of strength are greatly admired, and Nellie Royd and John Tudor. The farce, *Family Jars*, capitally played by Messrs Fred Groves, C. E. Never, Tom Wallis, Charles Groves, Thornton, and Misses Marshall and V. Temple, brings the programme to a merry ending.

THE German novelist and playwright, Herr Hans Von Hopfen, died at Lichterfelde, near Berlin, on Saturday morning. Herr Von Hopfen, who was in his seventieth year, was a native of Munich, and till the year 1860 he resided in the Bavarian capital, and was a member of the literary circle which enjoyed the patronage of King Maximilian II. His dramatic efforts included *Die Gottin der Vernunft*, *Aschenbrodel in Böhmen*, and his more recent fantastic comedy, *Der Hexenfang*, but they were less successful than his novels, notwithstanding his unusual command of dramatic technique.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"UNE AFFAIRE SCANDALEUSE."
Farcical Comedy, in Four Acts,
by MM. Paul Gavault and Maurice Ordonneau,
Produced at the Palais-Royal, Nov. 22.

Hector Dandinet	M. GALIPAUX
Hippolyte	M. CH. LAMY
Jabotin	M. HURTEAUX
Dandinet	M. GUYON *fils*
Anatole	M. TREVILLE
Des Clampettes	M. HAMILTON
Madame Jabotin	Madame BERTHE LEGRAND
La Môme Angora	Mdlle. AIMÉE SAMUEL
Denise	Mdlle. DEMAY
Noemie	Mdlle. JANE FABER
Clairette	Mdlle. BERLAND
Titine	Mdlle. CORCIADE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, NOV. 24.—The Palais Royal has returned to its old traditions, and has produced a farce on the time-honoured lines. The house resounded with genuine laughter, and it is to be hoped that fortune will smile once more on this popular theatre. There certainly is no lack of fun. In the small town of Nevers the two families Dandinet and Jabotin hate one another with a deadly hatred. But, if the parents are at war, the same cannot be said of the children. Hector Dandinet loves Denise Jabotin, and the young lady reciprocates his feelings. Denise, however, by her father's orders, had to promise her hand to Anatole, a wealthy young idiot; and the story opens on the day of the signing of their marriage contract, a ceremony to which many guests have been convened. In this supreme hour Hector makes his appearance, and, in a tête-á tête with Denise, swears that he will use fair and foul means to prevent this match. He starts work at once. Having shaved off his beautiful long beard he disguises himself as a waiter, takes the place of the man whom the Jabotins had engaged for the marriage contract ceremony, and succeeds in stealing the contract from the family lawyer's pocket. So far all right. But the hateful Anatole is still Denise's fiancé, and a trap must be laid to compromise him in the eyes of his intended father-in-law. With the help of two of Hector's chums the guileless Anatole is induced to give a farewell dinner to his friends at a famous restaurant, and Hector arranges with the proprietor to be allowed to act again as waiter. Hector has made all his preparations. He had engaged some cocottes to join the feast, and when Jabotin, to whom Hector sent an anonymous letter, suddenly enters the room, he finds Anatole seated on the sofa struggling with four ladies, who overwhelm him with caresses. Unfortunately, the unforeseen happens. Jabotin, at first incensed, is induced to drink champagne, after which he becomes bolsterous and embraces the ladies. This plot having failed, Hector promptly devises another trick. One of the damsels—"La Môme Angora"—invited to the feast puts in an appearance late, and Hector instructs her to entice Anatole into the adjoining room, and, when alone with him, throw open the window and call for help. The damsel does as she is told, but to no purpose, for by some mistake on her part it is not Anatole but La Bobine, a stone-deaf countryman, who finds his way into the room.

Poor Hector, beaten on every side, now makes another effort. Remembering that on the night of the banquet Jabotin was hopelessly drunk, Hector, disguised as a gasman, calls on Jabotin and succeeds in making him believe that he (Jabotin) assaulted "La Môme Angora" and also struck the waiter, who died the next morning of his wounds. The frightened Jabotin thereupon offers him money to keep the matter secret. But the gasman is not mercenary. Hector, he says, is his benefactor, and all he wants is to see Hector happy. If Jabotin will but let Hector marry Denise, he (the gasman) will remain silent. And Jabotin is compelled to give his consent. Hector's joy at the success of his stratagem does not last long. His friend, Des Clampettes, calling on Jabotin, commits an awful blunder, whereupon the latter takes back his promise. The distracted lover then plays his last card. Jabotin is constantly thinking of the waiter he is supposed to have murdered; and Hector now appears in the character of a ghost. This time he would certainly have succeeded in frightening the old man into submission but for Anatole, who, having got hold of the clue, informs Jabotin that Hector, the waiter, the gas man, and the ghost were one and the same person. And Anatole in his indignation cannot help upbraiding his future brother-in-law and telling him that he, as a magistrate and an intelligent man, should not have allowed himself to be bamboozled in such a silly fashion. This is too much for Jabotin. He shows the tactless Anatole the door, and vows that neither Hector nor Anatole shall have Denise. But at this critical moment the girl herself comes to the rescue. "Hector," she says to her father, "certainly played you some horrible tricks but, at all events, he appreciated your qualities. He looks upon you as a genius." These few words of flattery have the desired effect. The father relents, and Denise is at liberty to marry her Hector. The weight of the piece rested principally on the shoulders of M. Galipaux, who has a rôle that suited him down to the ground. As usual, he was excellent in the different parts he had to play. M. Hurteaux supplied a capital caricature of the silly old magistrate; M. Préville gave us in Anatole a naif and distrustful provincial; and MM. Lamy and Guyon made the most of their short rôles. There are many pretty women in the piece; they have little to do, but that little they did well.

AT the Porte-Saint-Martin there are ructions between the managers. It was rumoured that M Clèves intended to resign his post. To-day, however, we are officially informed that it is not M. Clèves but M. Paul Clerget who will sever his connection with that playhouse.

"A FLEUR DE PEAU, the new revue brought out at La Scala, Paris, contains a rather dramatic scene. It is called Le Cabaret des Petits Anges. In a low bar, below stairs, some sinister-looking individuals are drinking with a number of women. Georgette makes love to Julot, Clara's man, whereupon Clara throws herself upon her rival. She seizes a knife, and, in the excitement of the fight, stabs Blanche, who has tried to interpose. And when the police, attracted by the noise, enter the room, the men and women start dancing and singing round the corpse to deceive the policemen, who go away without having seen anything.

A HIGHLY CORDIAL reception was accorded to *In the Shadow of Night* by the large audience present at the Stratford Theatre Royal on Monday, the many thrilling situations and exciting incidents which pervade the piece appealing with eloquent force to those present, and in the River Thames scene, when the stage is flooded with water, a high pitch of enthusiasm is reached, albeit the applause has a sympathetic ring for those who have to suffer immersion during the prevailing inclement weather. Mr Howard L. Tracy acts with buoyancy, and speaks his lines spiritedly as Gordon Allington, and Mr Hamilton Deane contributes a clever exposition of gentlemanly blackguardism as Clifford Yorke. Mr Chisholm Taylor is a manly and alert Tom Nainby, and Mr Fred Norburn is responsible for a well-defined sketch of Jake Grudgewell. Mr George Harvey makes a dignified figure of Squire Allington, Mr Ern Carlton, is a bluff and hearty James Woodstock; and Mr Archie Selwyn in the dual rôle of a "milk-and-water" curate and an aged, deaf postman displays much ability. Miss Nellie Sheffield is charming and vivacious in the important rôle of Mollie Woodstock; Miss May Richardson contributes a sympathetic embodiment of Violet Kingston; and Miss Millie Gordon becomes a general favourite as the little tramp Bob.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

The performance of *Lohengrin* suffered slightly owing to the absence of Teutonic earnestness, which adds greatly to the German representations, and which we can hardly expect a Neapolitan company to revel in. Madame De Cisneros evidently understood the German tone of *Lohengrin* better than her companions, and her rendering of Ortrud had some excellent points. Madame Wayda sang with considerable taste as the heroine, but she lacked sufficient volume. Signor Vignas displayed ability as the Knight of the Swan. The choruses were well rendered under Signor Campanini, who also kept the orchestra well in hand, and did not overpower the vocalists.

On Monday last the ever-popular *Carmen* was given with two new vocalists, Madame Lafargue and M. Cornubert. The lady has a good voice, a little uncertain, however, in the upper register. M. Cornubert has evidently not been used to singing in so large a house, and this fact was to some extent against him, but Miss Alice Nielsen did herself credit as Micaela, and Signor Amato sang well as Escamillo. In other respects Bizet's opera was satisfactorily represented.

The revival of Verdi's fine opera *Otello* was an event of unusual importance at Covent-garden on Thursday night, especially as M. Maurel, the original Iago, once more appeared in the character he played with such wonderful force and power. Written when the "Grand Old Man" of Italy was four score years of age, the strength and freshness of the music of *Otello* astonished not Italy alone, but the whole world, and the greatest of marvels was how an Italian composer could have so completely caught the spirit of the English poet as Verdi has done, although he has at times added a little of Southern grace, such, for example, as the exquisite Madrigal. A performance to equal the original could hardly be expected, yet, upon the whole, there was so much to praise and so little to condemn that we can afford to give the Neapolitan company almost unqualified commendation. Perhaps the chorus was a little weaker than it has been, but the vocalists have had hard work, and it was a courageous effort of the San Carlo troupe to give this noble dramatic opera so late in the season. The orchestra did well under Signor Campanini, who kept his forces somewhat subdued, and rightly too, or the refined singing of Madame Giachetti as Desdemona would have been overpowered. The prima-donna hardly realised our ideal of the "gentle lady who loved the Moor" in appearance, but as an artist she reached a high standard of excellence, and her acting was graceful and impressive. M. Maurel could not give us quite the Iago of old days, but the veteran's acting was as fine as ever, and his power in the famous Credo could not be denied. M. Duc did not make us forget the stentorian notes of Tamagno as Otello, and he was also out of voice, but at times he almost reached the height of his great argument. The other parts were fairly filled, and altogether it was another triumph for the San Carlo company.

"FOURCHETTE AND COMPANY."

A New and Original Play, in One Act,
by Brandon Thomas, Produced at the Opera House,
Northampton, on Monday, Nov. 21.

Prince Del Crillo	Mr HENRY AINLEY
Isabella	Miss RUTH SUFFIELD
Sergeant Robert Fletcher	Mr LUMSDEN HARE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

The action takes place in a present-day café-restaurant near High Holborn the ostensible proprietors being the firm of Fourchette and Co., but the real owner being Prince Del Crillo, who has been trying to retrieve his fortunes by commercial pursuits. Successful at first, he meets with a young and pretty English girl, and eventually marries her under his sub-title of Count Monte, but conceals from her that he is running a restaurant. His business begins to fall off. An aggressive opponent secures his chef and best assistants, and he is left alone with no one to help him and no customers. His wife and her brother, Sergeant Fletcher, who has just come back from the South African campaign, wanting refreshment, select the prince's restaurant as being quiet. He attempts to serve as proprietor, manager, and waiter, but Isabella penetrates her husband's disguises, tells her brother who the restaurant keeper is, and asks him to aid her in exciting her husband's jealousy by pretending to make love to her. This causes some amusing misconceptions, when, as things are at their worst for the Prince, a compromise offered by the rival restaurant keeper helps to bring about explanations. Miss Ruth Suffield made a pretty and bonny English girl. Mr Lumsden Hare was excellent in the rôle of the Sergeant, playing it carefully and artistically.

AT the Elephant and Castle, on Monday, was revived the drama, in five acts, by Sydney Grundy and Henry Pettitt, entitled *The Union Jack*. Almost another generation of playgoers has arrived since those clever dramatists and collaborators Mr Sydney Grundy and the late Mr Henry Pettitt gave to the dramatic world the series of powerful melodramas that made the old Adelphi walls echo with the enthusiastic cheers of excited audiences. Although at the present day some lovers of dramatic fare take their pleasures more soberly, there is no mistaking the keen enjoyment of this theatre's *clientèle* in following the fortunes of pretty Ethel Arden and her manly sailor-lover Jack Medway, in Mr Ernest E. Norris's highly creditable revival this week of the old Adelphi drama *The Union Jack*. As Jack Medway Mr Ernest E. Norris sustains the part with the earnestness and vigour that mark all this gifted actor does. As Ethel Arden Mrs Bennett gives another of those charming embodiments that have made her a firm favourite here. It is full of sincerity and grace. As Ruth Medway Miss Judith Kyrle imbues the character with delicacy and feeling, and easily wins the sympathies of her audience; she shows artistically the pathos of regret and the bitterness of despair. Miss Edith Tasca Page as Ivy Arden gives a very pleasing performance, full of simple and genuine sentiment. Mr Ernest Percy invests Captain Morton with a calculating cruelty that is highly effective. As Sir Phillip Yorke Mr Howard Templeton acts admirably. Mr Paige Lawrence as Lieut. Stanley plays with dignity and power, and contributes much to the general success. The comedy parts are safe in the hands of Miss Agnes Paulton as Polly Pippin, Mr Harry Paulton, jun., as Peter Fly, and Mr Jo. Monkhouse as Tom Chuckle. As Mrs Pippin Miss Sophie Shenton gives another of her delightful character sketches. Minor parts are well filled and carefully handled by Miss Blanche Jordan as Mrs Stone, Mr Edwin Bennett as Stone, Mr Thomas Ball as O'Grady, Mr Edward Snow as the Inspector, Mr Dudley Hayes as the Sergeant, and Mr Arthur Wilson as an officer. The mounting deserves special commendation, and the highly efficient orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. Nurnberger, deserves a word of warm praise.

AT the Grand Theatre, Margate, this week, Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson's company has been appearing in *The Scarlet Woman*. Mr Reginald Fox is a capital Michael Marchant, and Mr David M'Farlane makes the character of Will Rayment sufficiently villainous. Mr George R. Butt gives a satisfactory portrayal of Philip Gordon, and as Jacob Isaacson Mr James Thompson is well cast. As Marie Brandon in the title-rôle, Miss Rosalind Scott-Watson plays admirably a very trying part. Mr Mat Melrose as Samuel Hopkins, Miss Ruby Hamilton-Belasco as Charlotte Simpkins, and Miss Lalla Cowall as Fanchette contribute ably.

ALL the arrangements for the two command performances at Windsor Castle during the visit of the King and Queen of Portugal were admirably carried out by Mr George Ashton on behalf of his Majesty.

AMUSEMENTS IN BRUSSELS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

BRUSSELS, NOV. 23.—Although our town is rather quiet, as it always is at this time of the year, the theatres are playing to good houses; Royalty is taking the lead, and others follow. This week only, the Théâtre De La Monnaie, the Théâtre Royal Du Parc, and the Palais d'Été have been honoured by the presence of T. R. H. the Countess De Flandre, Prince and Princess Albert of Belgium.

THE Monnaie has revived Gounod's ever-green *Faust*, with a fine cast, new scenery by Dubosq, new dresses, and a splendid ballet; then have commenced performances of *Tannhäuser* and *Die Walküre*, with the tenor, Van Dyck, surrounded by first-class singers.

AT the Parc Donnay's *Retour de Jérusalem* has given place to Brieux's *La Déserteuse*, with Madame Rosa Bruck in the title-part. Another of Brieux's plays, *Maternité*, is on the bill at the Théâtre Molière.

M. BERR DE TURRIQUA'S play *Le Marocain*, otherwise *The Portfolio*, has made a hit at the Alcazar. This theatre has been quite redecorated, and has a new hall more spacious and much nicer than the former ones. The management announces special performances of *La Vie Parisienne*, with Mdlle. Méaly.

AT the Vaudeville, Antony Mars's *La Marmotte* does not keep the audiences sleepy, as one can hear from the roars of laughter it provokes every night.

THE Circus Wulff presents a fine programme of attractions and a gorgeous pantomime. Special mention should be made of Colonel Bordeverry gradually undressing a lady with his clever shots, and in the comic note Tom Bibb and his Agouste Petit.

AFTER a short run of a new operetta, *Arlette*, composed by Jane Vieu, the Galeries are producing Serpette's *Little Red Riding Hood*. Last week their store-rooms were entirely burnt down. The losses, which are heavy, are only partly covered by the insurances. The Société du Passage, proprietors of the scenery, will bear the consequences of this unfortunate accident.

THE Olympia is still drawing full houses with their fine revue *Bruxelles-Sahara*, to which has been added one entirely new act. Fun and prettiness and no vulgarity are always a draw. The Scala's revue *Tout l'monde Marche*, is still doing well. At the Palais d'Eté, who announce their last performances of the season, a splendid programme is presented, including Mdlle. Auriac, a Parisian singer; Miss Floye Thropp, American transformation singer and dancer, a really good turn; Charles D'Aix and his dog Merveille; Arthur Arnold and Miss Alba in their jumping and modelling act; the Three Braggs, acrobats; Fred Gillett Trio in *Fun at a Hairdresser's*; the clever Harveys on the wire; Macarte's dogs and monkeys circus; Henriette Leblond, a comic songstress; and the Werner Amoros, in their world-renowned pantomime *Caught in the Act*. The Palais D'Eté closes it doors on Dec. 11, and the Pole Nord opens a few days later, to the intense delight of skaters on real ice.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The quartet for strings by Mr Frank Bridge, called "Novelletten," produced at the concert on Thursday last, had considerable merit, especially in the andante moderato and finale. The scherzo was so short that it literally flashed through the quartet and made us wish for more. It was well played by the composer and Messrs Kinze, Armstrong, and Ivor James, and made a most favourable impression, besides giving agreeable promise for the future. Miss Olive Blume, in the study in waltz form by M. Saint-Saëns, acquitted herself admirably, and Mr T. Greeves Johnson's beautiful voice told well in the "Three Serious Songs" of Brahms. The "Chanson Provençal" of Dell' Acqua was charmingly sung by Miss Dorothy Court, and the Sonata in A of Boccherini was beautifully played by Miss Beatrice Jones, who did ample justice to the fine old Italian master of the violoncello. The trio of Tschaikowsky in A minor concluded the concert.

COUNCILLOR HENRY TAYLOR (ex mayor), the manager and lessee of the Lyceum Theatre, Crewe, was on Wednesday last re-elected to the chair of the Health Committee for the ninth consecutive year.

THE exhibitions which are offered annually by the board of the Royal Academy and Royal College of Music have this year been awarded to the following candidates:—Pianoforte.—Miss Cordelia H. Montgomery; Miss Eleanor G. Parry. Violin.—Miss Constance M. Walden. These exhibitions entitle their holders to free musical education at the Royal Academy of Music or the Royal College of Music for two, and in some cases three, years. The exhibitions which have been held for two years by the Misses Dorothy L. Grinsted (pianoforte), Helen F. E. Boyd (violin), Gwendolen Griffiths ('cello), at the Royal Academy of Music, and by the Misses Winifred M. Gardiner (pianoforte), and Theresa M. Lightfoot (singing), at the Royal College of Music, have been renewed for another year.

MR VAL GULLY, who has just concluded a successful tour as Toto in Messrs Dottridge and Longden's *King of Crime* company; and Miss Pollie Denville, who has been playing in Mr Stillwell's *Queen of the Night* company as Kitty White, have been engaged by Mr Frank Macnaghten for Phyllis and Ebenezer Muggins in his Christmas production of *The King's Pardon*.—Mr Herbert Marle, who has just concluded a highly successful tour with Mr Leonard Rayne's company, has been engaged by Messrs B. and F. Wheeler for their tour, visiting all the principal towns in South Africa, to play in *The Sign of the Cross*, *The Silver King*, and *Are You a Mason?* He expects to return to England early next year.

THESE was produced for copyright purposes on the 10th inst. at the Theatre Royal, Leeds, a play, in four acts, by G. Carlton Wallace, entitled *The Better Life*.

A FEW members of the profession are organising a benefit for Mr Fred Percy, who has just lost his wife, and who has had a very hard time of it lately.

PRESENTATION.—Mr J. Herbert Asquith, the resident manager of the Theatre Royal, Dewsbury, and Mrs Asquith, were presented on the 18th inst. by the theatre working staff with a fine £2 piece mounted in 18 carat gold, and a beautifully bound floral album elaborately inscribed. The gifts were feelingly acknowledged.

PRESENTATION.—Mr Claude Trevelyan, amongst whose pupils may be counted many of our leading actresses and vocalists, received, on the occasion of his recent birthday, a very beautiful gold-mounted ivory bâton with the inscription, "To Claude Trevelyan, Esq., in token of his skill and courtesy, from a few of his grateful pupils."

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—Owing to a programme error, the parts of Dick and Wally, in *Two Little Vagabonds* (S.) company, were attributed to Miss Phyllis B. French and Miss Violet Carr in your notice last week of Widnes. The parts were sustained by Miss Frances Ferina (Dick) and Miss Phyllis B French (Wally).—Yours faithfully, PHYLLIS F. FRENCH, Queen's Theatre, Dublin, Nov. 24

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps *The Era* is posted on Saturday in time to reach London Subscribers by the *first* Town Delivery, and Country Subscribers should receive their Papers by the *first* London Post. Address, the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

"PHILIP OF MACEDON."

A Tragedy, by FREDERICK WINBOLT.
Alexander Moring, Ltd., The De La More Press, 32, George-street, Hanover-square, W.

Philip II, King of Macedonia, was famous as a warrior, but in private life he was anything but a saint. He was self indulgent and a sensualist, he was not a man of his word, and quite unscrupulous as to the ways by which he gained his ends. It was true he had to deal frequently with factious and faithless opponents, which may help to explain if it does not justify his policy; while his clemency as a victor has won the admiration even of the virtuous Cicero, who pronounces him "always great." That he had force and energy of character cannot be denied, and contemporaries bear witness to his acuteness, fertility of invention, and eloquence. He was also a lover of learning and a liberal patron of learned men. Such was the man who plays the leading part in Mr Winbolt's tragedy, and whose tragic death forms the climax of the play. When he was within a few years of fifty he became enamoured of a beautiful girl, Cleopatra, daughter of Attalus, one of his generals, and in the first act of the tragedy we learn that Philip's wife Olympias, is jealous of her rival. She makes a confidant of her son Alexander—afterwards Alexander the Great—telling him how the King, his father, formerly leant on her advice, for she "was the foremost in the land, the first! the wife of Philip, ruling, ruled by none! And now!—now I am fallen, fallen to the depths where degradation dwells; for to be second is to be the last!" Referring to her youthful rival she exclaims:—

> So young—so beautiful!—that is man's judgment!
> The fairness of a face—the outward form!
> The mind that ever lighted his ambition
> Fades before this—this dwarf of intellect—
> This feeble comprehension of a man
> Born for great actions, born to govern realms
> Boundless and vast. And he is satisfied,
> He is o'erjoyed to see this nothing smile,
> To hear her emptiest sentence!—while I stand
> Hidden within myself—as one long dead—
> Lost in the darkness of indifference!

Polygamy was permitted in those days, and Philip proposes to make the fair Cleopatra his wife. One can sympathise with the middle-aged woman whose youthful charms have faded; and who admits that she is "now too old, too cramped in years, too usual a sight in Philip's eye to please it as of yore." Addressing Cleopatra she says:—

> Youth in her kindest mood hath kissed th's cheek,
> Hath filled these eyes with all her morning dew,
> Hath stroked this flowing hair, and made it soft,
> To ride upon the least faint wind of summer.
> O to have beauty is to know the gods
> Have loved us at our birth—yet is it futile
> If it must ere remain as fairest lands
> That never have been viewed by loving eye.
> But thou, sweet happy maiden, know'st no slight,
> No lack of fond affection; thou hast brought
> A warrior of might, a potent king
> To make thy smile the glory of his joy,
> Thy gloom his misery. Then be content!
> Be satisfied that thou dost rule us all,
> And that we are as nothing in the sight
> Of Macedonia's lord—whilst thou, sweet maid,
> Outweigh at the world itself, art more to him
> Than fortune, power, possessions, victories!

The bitter jealousy of the slighted woman breeds criminal designs, and she makes a sinister appeal to Alexander to kill his father, but he upbraids her for giving utterance to such thoughts. At a banquet in celebration of the marriage Attalus, whose tongue has been loosened by wine, addressing the regal bridegroom, expresses the hope that his daughter, the new queen, may give "thy throne an heir legitimate and true, a worthy son well fitted to be King and rule the land," whereupon Alexander starts up from the table and hurls his goblet at the speaker, exclaiming:

> Legitimate and true! What sayest thou—
> Thou low-born, base-born nothing! Am I then
> A bastard? Answer me, thou serf! thou churl!
> Thou wine-filled upstart! Speak, thou menial!

Philip, resenting the insult to his guest, draws his sword and rushes towards Alexander, but stumbles and falls. Olympias, in a bitter speech, supports her son, and both are banished the Court. However, a reconciliation takes place, and Olympias makes an eloquent appeal to the King to promise that her son shall be the future ruler. Philip declines to give any promise, and Olympias resolves to compass the death of her husband. Pausanias, a young man who hates the King because Philip has refused to punish Attalus for a wrong done to him, is a ready tool in the hands of Olympias, and he slays the monarch as a procession passes through the streets. Thus Alexander becomes King; and lifting one of his murdered father's hands he exclaims:

> Inspire me, father, with thy manhood's strength!
> That valour which no enemies could shake,
> No swords could shatter! I would be a son
> Worthy to folly thee, to tread thy track,
> High in the hearts of men—a king whose power
> Lifts up the dauntless spirit of his people,
> And e'er in battle gives them victory!

REOPENING OF THE MAIDENHEAD THEATRE.

This theatre, formerly known as the Empire, after having been closed for a considerable period, is now called the Grand, and was reopened on Monday, the 21st, under the management of new lessees, Messrs Edgar Dereve and F. L. Schmitz. A visit shows that the affair is in capable hands, for the many improvements are unmistakable. The whole of the interior has been renovated, decorated, and carpeted, tip-up seats, by Messrs A. R. Dean and Sons, being supplied for the orchestra stalls. New scenery has been admirably painted, and the entire staff both before and behind the curtain, seem well up to their work. The theatre is fully licensed, and well-arranged refreshment buffets add to the comfort of visitors. On the opening night the Mayor (Mr Councillor Hobbis) appeared before the act-drop and made a short speech, in which he emphasized the fact that not only the success of the venture from the lessee's point of view, but also the character and consequent value of the entertainment to be provided, would depend on the demand made by the public, and on their appreciation of an endeavour to provide them with high-class plays. That the new proprietors are well in touch with prominent people in the profession is evidenced by the list of companies already booked, and by others which are "pencilled." Sir Henry Irving gave his benediction in the following telegram: "All success to-night and my best wishes. Should be delighted it opportunity came of playing in your theatre, for I have many good friends in Maidenhead."

The attraction on Monday and during the week has been Mr Eugene Bertram's company in *The Fascinating Miss Kemp*. This bright little piece presents opportunities for several good character studies, and it is only fair to say that on this occasion they are entrusted to decidedly capable performers. Mr Charles Garry sufficiently brings out, without overdoing, the eccentricities of the Anglo-Indian (Colonel Trevannion); Mr Drelincourt Odlum gives an intelligent and interesting rendering as John Meredith, and Mr S. Sebastian Smith causes much amusement as the unctuous Vicar of St. Luke's. Miss Rose Portman plays the title-rôle in a quiet but pleasing and effective manner. Mr Hugh Ardale is smart and energetic as Gerald; Mr Harold Wadeley and Miss Celestine Bertram do exceedingly well as the juveniles, Lionel and Dods, and Miss Dora Heritage is very good as Mrs Trevannion. The two remaining characters, Wells and Kate, are well filled, Miss Beatrix Bell making a success in a small part.

MR FRANK BROWN, of the Coliseo-Argentino, Buenos Ayres, left on the 18th inst., per Royal Mail steamer Nile, for South America, and will return to this country in the beginning of February to take the first company over.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 12)

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr Fred C. Somerfield are paying their annual return visit here with *A Life's Revenge*. Mr John F. Traynor is a manly Paul Starovitch; Mr Fred C. Somerfield gives a capital portrayal of Prince Boris Strogoroff; Mr Walter Roberts as Michael Orloff continues to please the audience; Mr T. G. Vane is a smart Maurice Trevor; Mr Sidney Ernest scores as Nicholas; and Mr Charles E. Warne is amusing as Colonel Tumbleoff, Mr Martin Bigham as Lieutenant Semaloff being also deserving of mention. Miss Amy Ellam as Marcia Vittoria gives a capable rendition, and Miss Maudie Grayson is smart as Daphne Dashaway. Miss Amy Hughes as Acculina dances with general acceptance, and Miss Marie Dagmar gives a pleasing and sympathetic representation of the rôle of Princess Vanda Ivyala.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr Penton Field's company presented here on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday nights *A Fatal Fortune*. Mr Harry Tresham is excellent as Jack Weston, and as Mary, Miss Shirley Dalton is very good. Mr Raymond Thomas gives a vivid impersonation of Captain Seton Desmond. Mr Percy Boucher as Tim Larks shows great ability, and causes much amusement. Miss Florrie Hall as Becky displays ability of high order. Mr Dalton J. Bosber as Daniel Salmon gives a very clever and humorous performance, and as Beauty Glitters, Miss Madeline Clifford is artistic and effective. Mr G. M'Leod is good as George Thornton, and as Martin Miss Maud Martin does well.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Mr T. E. Worth's company in a new musical comedy-drama, entitled *The Rose of the Ring*, is appearing here. Mr Edmund Edwards as Lord Desborough displays vocal and histrionic ability. Mr T. E Worth is highly interesting as Timothy Trippet, being ably assisted by Miss Nellie Stewart as Lavarina Lovejoy. Mr E. St. Clair Forbes as Captain Vereker, the "heavy," is smart. Miss Maudie Vincent is equally successful as Rose Meredith, Miss Grace Chesterfield acts with much emphasis as Dora Venimore, and Miss Dolly Gilroy as Dick is a juvenile artiste of much merit.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—*A Wrecker of Men* is here. The author ably sustains the character of Jim Murley. The rôle of Rosa Mallison gives Miss Rosalind Tate opportunities—which she successfully seizes—of making a deep impression. Miss Victoria May is seen to advantage in the somewhat trying part of Doris Melville. Good support is afforded by Mr W. B. Sommerville as Railton, Mr C. Yorke as Pharosophus, Mr Alfred Maurice as Guise Strange, Mr Mac J. Cumming as the Hon. Reggie Verincourt, Mr Harry Rutland in the dual-rôle of Karnaphus and Ezekial Isaacs, and the other members, one of whom, Miss Kitty Melville as Vavasole Slopper, very cleverly kept the house in roars. The staging is very good.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—A good entertainment here is headed by Al. Lawrence, vaudeville mimetic comedian, who gives the audience a laughable fifteen minutes. John Grun Marx, the modern Hercules, gives an astonishing exhibition. The quick changes by Addie Dorina, in an amusing sketch "How She Did It," are very smart. The other excellent turns include The Villions, clever cycle acrobats; Gilroy and Ross, comedians; Abd'el Kader Trio, with their beautiful coloured pictures and paper manipulation; George Collins, amusing character comedian; Jack Haggerty's Troupe of wrestlers and boxers; Kate Gourlay, coon singer and buck dancer; and the animated pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—Ada Fawn, comedienne and burlesque actress, gives a pleasing turn. Charles Matthews astonishes with his jumping. The programme also includes Arthur Albert, actor-vocalist; Lavelle's funny comedy acrobats; Cabaret, with his clever dogs; Haig and Novel, in their funny clever comedy act; Eva Reed, comedienne and grotesque dancer; Percy Curry, comic; Private Clark, soldier vocalist; and Lanton and Lane, comedians, with the animated pictures, illustrating "The Coster's Wedding."

L. AND N.W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—Several old favourites are engaged this week, including Marion Claremont, ballad vocalist; Ted Wootton, baritone descriptive and laughing comedian; Sam Higham, vocal comedian; Maud Kay, comedienne; and Charles Hughes, vocalist.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Miss Cissy Moxon's company is appearing here this week in the musical comedy *A Trip to Rum-Fum*. The rollicking Hibernian, Larry O'Hooligan, is impersonated in characteristic style by Mr W. Garvey, Biddy O'Hooligan being cleverly presented by Mr W. S. Hutchinson. Mr Dick Tupp gives a good comic study of Ebenezer, and Mr C. Russell appears to advantage as Cecil Toft. Sharp Scrivener (Mr J. Rogers), Thady Clancy (Miss Katherine Kemp), and Percy Vere (Miss Marjorie Manifold) are all capital in their respective rôles. Mr Ernest Victor causes plenty of fun as Paddy Doyle, and Miss Maggie Lawson presents a clever rendering of Martha, a stewardess. Peggy O'Hooligan is well rendered by Miss Kitty Jones, Angelina Toft being nicely played by Miss Rose Stewart. Miss Cissie Moxon is vivacious, humorous, and consistent as Florrie Kixie, a music hall artiste. The Saxon Troupe of International dancers give some capital exhibitions.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—*It's Never Too Late to Mend* forms an acceptable change this week, the drama being capably played by Mr John Wainwright's company. George Fielding finds an adequate exponent in Mr Alfred E. Carver; Susan Merton is artistically represented by Miss Kitty Carew; and Tom Robinson is a difficult rôle successfully played by Mr Wainwright. Mr Hornby Warburton does meritorious work as the Rev. Francis Eden; Mr Edwin Davies as Isaac Levy is very good; Peter Crawley's rascality is cleverly portrayed by Mr Henry Lee; Mr Fred Owen is successful as Jacky; Josephs is treated in a sympathetic manner by Miss Millie Wilton; and Mary is satisfactorily performed by Miss M. Ashton.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow, sen.; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—An excellent variety programme is submitted here this week, and Monday's gathering augured well for similar programmes. Astleys American Circus causes profound interest; Sloper, the unrideable mule, provides a good deal of fun; a popular character comedian is Mr Geo. Fairburne; Miss Ruth Dorris is a charming serio-comic and dancer; a pretty skirt dancer is Miss Lockyer, a local young lady; the Five Ashleys are clever and versatile in *Fun in a Laundry;* Miss Clorinda Thurtell is a capital operatic vocalist; Mr Harry Leybourne gives some clever mimicking; Bernard and Weston are two amusing patterers and dancers; and the Two Tees are responsible for plenty of enjoyment as musical eccentrics.

SMETHWICK.

ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—The audience here on Monday once again followed the fortunes of *Otto the Outcast* as shown by Harry Starr and company. Mr Starr does not lose his popularity in spite of Father Time, and the songs of this well-known comedian are fresh because they are inimitable. Mr Richard Harris does well as Roderique D'Estalier. Mr William Millar gives a characteristic reading of Daddy Bruneau; Mr Conrad Clarke as Otto's Uncle is well placed; Mr J. Turner causes plenty of humour; and as Lara, a flower girl, Miss Lizzie Webb wins admiration. Miss Edna Lester as Suzette, a Parisienne coquette, is very effective. Miss Rita Rosslyn as Corinne Jarbeau successfully handles the part.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—The historical romantic play *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner* was presented here for the first time on Monday evening to an appreciative audience by Mr Lewis Waller's company. Prominent in the cast was Mr Thomas Kingston, who undertook the rôle of the hero, Captain Harry Peyton, with manly and realistic effect; Miss Elly Malyon was very successful in her interpretation of the necessities of the part of Miss Elizabeth; and Brenda had a skilful exponent in Miss Edith Elton.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter—The whimsical domestic pantomime *The Fairy's Dilemma* gave much pleasure to a good audience on Monday. The artists engaged by Mr Arthur Bourchier had evidently been most carefully chosen. Mr H. Asheton-Tonge made a dashing Colonel Sir Trevor Mauleverer. Mr Frank Stanmore was a funny and truly Gilbertian vicar; Mr Frank Collins made a comical judge, and a very creditable "old 'un;" and Mr C. Herbert Hewitson was simply the acme of unconscious absurdity as the Demon Alcohol. A more charming Fairy Rosebud could not be desired than Miss Elise Cooke; Miss Ada Homer acted with grace and intelligence as the Lady Angela, and a more beautiful columbine has never graced the Royal stage. Miss Gertrude Hope was a pretty Clarissa. The curtain-raisor was *The Conversion of Nat Sturge*.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—The charming comic opera *My Lady Molly* began a third visit here on Monday, when, beautifully mounted and well played by Mr F. Mouillot's company, it again delighted a good audience. The dainty, tuneful, and popular artist, Miss Decima Moore, made a piquant representative of Alice Coverdale. Miss Beatrice Edwards was a fascinating Lady Molly, and Miss Lottie Crawford and Miss Amy Cooper were both very successful. Mr John T. M'Callum made a rollicking "broth of a bhoy" as Mickey O'Dowd. Mr Harry T. Davies acted and sang with romantic fervour and the true eighteenth century spirit as Harry Romney, Mr Augustus Cramer presented a fine portrait of a rare old English gentleman as Sir Miles Coverdale, and all the other characters were cleverly played.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—*The King of Coiners*, a drama replete with thrilling situations and humorous scenes, was played on Monday to a crowded audience. The piece was effectively staged, and leading characters were cleverly represented by Miss Lillie Monckton, Mr T. Frederick Kent, and other members of Mr Alexander Dallas's company.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—Miss Marie Loftus is again starring here. There have been many Maries since Marie Loftus set the fashion in music hall nomenclature, and originated a distinct style of music hall serio-comedy, but the charming and versatile "Glesca lassie" still remains the prime Marie in the affections of the Sheffield public. Other artistes appearing this week are the celebrated Kellino Troupe of acrobats; Charles Vincent, comedienne; Annie Store and Co., in a Hungarian sketch; James Kurry, eccentric vocalist; James Bard, wire performer; Florence Esdaile, balladist; Smythson comedy company, Fred Ginnett in *Rejected Remounts;* the Aurora Troupe of cyclists, and the Raies.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Booker and Narbis, Cullen and Carthy, George and Edwards, Zasma, Silly Billy Elliott, an old local favourite, and the Wiltons, two expert bar performers, are appearing to delighted audiences.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Mr Edmund Tearle, supported by Miss Kate Clinton and répertoire company, presented *The Three Musketeers* on Monday. Mr Tearle essays D'Artagnan with evident skill, and Miss Clinton creates an impression as Miladi. Miss Mary Campbell is a dignified and impressive Anne of Austria. The fair Constance has a conscientious exponent in Miss Esther Tearle. Mr William J. Miller cleverly portrays Richelieu. *The Merry Wives of Windsor, Under the Red Robe, Virginius,* and *Joanie Deans* are also in the week's programme.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—The principal turn, Frank Hilbert, is exposing handcuff manipulation. Jan Rudenyi, in his violin solos, displays an admirable technique which is heartily appreciated. Lilian Lowe is included among the popular ballad vocalists who visit here, her singing and personality being equally pleasing. An excellent marionette performance is submitted by Prof. Berner. Bijou Russell is a meritorious comedienne and sand dancer, Leo Tell is a diverting mimic, and Walter Munroe, Irish comedian, also appears successfully. Sisters St. Julian, duettists and dancers, and James Lowrey, singing furnaceman, complete an excellent programme.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—A fine handcuff entertainment, which completely mystifies the audience, is given by Carl Mysto. Jack Pleasants is an exceedingly funny comedian, and Downey's living pictures are entertaining. The remaining turns are Marie Blythe, J. P. Carrol, Mdlle. de Vena, Alex. Aubrey, and Doris Lillian.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Mr Charles Frohman's company, in the sensational play, *Sherlock Holmes*, is here on a return visit. Mr H. A. Saintsbury is still in the title-rôle, Monday seeing his 748th appearance in the part—a sufficient proof of his powerful acting; Mr Lawrence Leyton's Dr. Watson is capitally done, and Mr J. Poole Kirkwood's Alfred Bassick is also a finished study. Mr W. F. Stirling's Professor Moriarty is played in a very powerful style, and Mr Leslie Carter's James Larrabee leaves little to be desired. Miss Maud Linden's Madge Larrabee is clever, and Miss Vera Longdon's Alice Faulkner is done with much grace and charm. The remainder of the cast is in good hands.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—A good programme is given here, premier place being taken by the Ando-Japanese Troupe in a clever and unique show. The Solari Duo, lady vocalists and mandoline players; Gus Harris, Hebrew vocalist; Mike Cray, comic juggler, and his highly-trained dog, Dooley; the Waldrons, comedy artistes, who find much favour; Steeve Cooke, comic; Will Godwin, in a clever scena, entitled "Repentance," also a great success; and Payne's Bio likewise contribute to the bill.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND.—This week Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company is presenting J. M. Barrie's comedy, *Little Mary*, for the first time here. Miss Gertrude Burnett carries off chief honours for her delightful embodiment of Moira Loney; Mr Arthur Holmes-Gore is very successful as the Earl of Carlton; Mr Arthur Kightley does well as Lord Cecil; and Mr Edward Jephson is effective as the Earl of Plumleigh. Mr George Mudie is characteristic as Sir Jennings Pyke, and Mr Ean Macdonald in the dual-rôles of Terence O'Reilly and Dr. Topping lends efficient aid. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is an excellent Countess of Plumleigh, and Miss Evelyn Neilida as Lady Milly and Miss Gwendolen Richmond as Eleanor Gray also render good service.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Mr J. A. Campbell's company is this week appearing in *The Sin of Her Childhood*, which is being cordially received on its initial visit here. Mr J. A. Campbell is a convincing Captain Thornton, and Mr Chas. Fancourt is successful as the Rev. Alan Grey. A feature of the performance is Little Dot Moss, whose singing is excellent. Miss Mary Fulton also proves herself a capable actress, and the comic element is well sustained by Mr Fred Elvin, who as Barney O'Reilly keeps the house in a continual roar.

PALACE.—The George Bonhair Gregory Troupe, in their wonderful Risley act, are the top-liners here, and score a huge success. An old favourite, Frank Seeley, enhances his already brilliant reputation, and Foreman and Fannan are simply great. The Sisters Govell, Beattie Bloom, Wisper, Newhouse and Ward, and Little Barney also contribute their quota to an excellent all-round programme.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, the St. Helens Theatre, Limited; General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—The American sporting drama *In Old Kentucky* seems to possess as much vitality as ever, for although it has appeared here times without number it had a most cordial reception on Monday. Mr A. S. Bankes scores immensely as Colonel Beauchamp; the machinations of the villain, Grafton, are ably depicted by Mr Eric Hudson; Mr G. F. Stell displays histrionic power and ability as Frank Harley; Mr Gerald Kennedy and Mr Harry Leander are very effective as Joe and Old Neb respectively. Miss Amy Hermann is an admirable Madge Brierley and Miss Beatrice Shirley is very clever as Barbara. The remaining parts are all satisfactorily filled and the staging of the piece is effective.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Among the new comers here are the Sutcliffe troupe of acrobats, pipers, and dancers; Tom and Marie Motramo in their musical comedy; Beatty and Blanche, duettists and dancers; Miss Frederick with her clever dogs and ponies; Wallau, juggler; Geoffreys and Benson in a clever sketch entitled *Spoofed;* and Tatton Hall and Josh Dixon, both of whom are comedians of much merit.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—Mr George Dance's company, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, has had a hearty reception from large audiences here this week upon its return visit. Mr Harry Brayne as Mr Pineapple is genuinely funny, and Mr Frank A. Wood is highly pleasing as Hang-Chow, the Emperor. Mr Leonard May is mirth-provoking as Hi Lung and Mr Pallerton Turner makes a capable Chippi-Chow, whilst Mr Percy Yorke fills the part of Tom Hatherton most successfully. Miss M. Sadie as Fi-Fi is pleasing and clever, and Miss Marie Adair most charming as Soo-Soo, whilst Miss Alice Drummond as Mrs Brown is admirable. The chorus is an excellent one, and the scenery and dresses magnificent.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—General Manager, Signor Pepi.—A company of varied and excellent talent is appearing here this week, headed by the Black Troubadors, the well-known and popular vocalists, who have achieved much success. Charles Mildare, comedian and whistler, has been pleasingly received, whilst the imitations of animals and birds by Mr Will Hall have met with applause. The Brothers Zampa, the one-legged marvels, are clever and amusing, and Oswald, the hand balancer, accomplishes some clever feats. Vincent is an expert acrobat, and the Great Duncan, club juggler, is successful. Vernon's Bioscope, showing latest pictures, is an additional and distinctly pleasing attraction.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—At the head of the bill here is Miss Florrie Forde in her latest successes, which are much appreciated. A capital turn is provided by Felton and Manley in their sketch *A Rural Relative*. Schuyler is an instrumentalist of much ability, his saxophone playing being quite a feature in the evening's entertainment. Grant and Allen are very funny with their thoroughbreds, Wargrave and Wild Oats; the Abadaroffs are excellent acrobats; Horace Slade dances admirably; Vera Mayne sings her items capitally; Harry Martell is a funny comedian; and the Bioscope shows several most interesting pictures.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—The attraction for this week is a return visit of Mr T. Edward Ward's company with *Her Fatal Past*. Miss Edith Ward, who has appeared here several times, played up to her reputation in the character of Honor Symes; Miss Dorothy as Little Leonard gave a faithful impersonation; Miss Helen Ingleow in the dual-rôle of Ruth Fernside and Belle De Lara acquitted herself admirably; Mr Joseph Millane as Mark Desmond and Mr Watson Hume as Leonard Fernside played their parts with success; Mr Wilson Coleman proved an able exponent of the character of Gilbert Fernside; and plenty of fun was caused by Messrs T. E. Ward and Miss Marie Ault.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—*A Path of Thorns* has been the attraction here during the week, played by Hardie and Von Leer's company. John Edmunds was exceedingly well played by Mr Claude King, and Miss Violet Luddington gave a clever impersonation of Bessie Edmunds. Mr Cyril W. Mackay made a capital Rev. Frank Selby; Mr Alfred Lester was very amusing as Sam Hallett; Mr Cecil Du Gue was admirable as Jonas Deane; and Mr J. H. Booth gave a powerful rendering of Jim Price; while Constance Howard and Nellie Hallett were in the capable hands of Miss Mary Raby and Miss M. Stanley Burt respectively.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—The attraction at this house during the week has been *A Woman's Revenge*, played by Miss Winifred Chalmers and company, including Mr Henry L. Osmond.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—A strong programme is given here this week, headed by Prinz's seventeen performing lions. Miss Ella Retford is a pleasing comedienne; Miss Lalla Selbini, assisted by Midget Harry, is a clever trick cyclist; the Three Brothers Pantzer are smart head-to-head and arm balancers; the American Bioscope presents a new series of capital pictures; Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford appear in a capital little sketch *The Love Birds;* the Four Olympian Stars, burlesque vocalists and dancers, do well; Bob Hutt is a popular comedian; and the Brothers Egbert score in "The Happy Dustmen."

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr F. H. Lucas.—The attraction here this week is Mr Frederick Melville's company, playing that gentleman's stirring drama *Her Forbidden Marriage*. Mr Horace Hunter as George Madison submitted a fine study of the manly hero, and Miss Isla Garnet Vane sustained most admirably the part of Lucy. The villainies of Charles Devereaux were skilfully portrayed by Mr Clarence Hague, and Miss Doris Brookes imparted all the necessary spitefulness to the part of Lady Lucretta. A word of praise is due to Miss Emily Hughes for her clever embodiment of the character of the Mother Superior. The fun-making is entrusted to Miss Marie Kildare as Pattie Lovejoy and Mr Harry Elliston as Timothy Tuttutt, and both are highly successful in their task.

TON-Y-PANDY.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr S. Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr H. Counsell.—*The Rajah of Ranjapore*, played by Mr Jno. H. Morton's company, is this week's attraction here. Horatio Chick is well embodied by Mr Alvin Sawyer; Mr Harry Cornwall is suitably cast as Mr Stubbs; the Captain Hertage of Mr A. Reid is a good exposition; Messrs E. F. Welsh and B. Harrow are praiseworthy as Ted Perkins and Thisles; as Flora Glendenning Miss E. Mozell is meritorious; and Miss Nell Ascott shines as Primrose Stubbs.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr S. Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Fred Burland.—Heading the bill here are the Three Goldinis, who are well received. The Brothers M'Auber are smart on the triple bar. As vocalists and burlesque artistes the Three Sisters Adrienne are great favourites. Adding to the success are Millie Denham, Anthy, a clever wire equilibrist; Chas. Cassel, and Verno's pictures.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Captain Welton Dale; Acting-Manager, Mr F. E. Manaton.—On Saturday Mr Alan Mackinnon and a distinguished company of amateurs, including Lieutenant-Colonel Newnham-Davis and Mrs Charles Crutchley, gave two successful performances of *The Prisoner of Zenda*. This week is Mr F. R. Benson's annual Shakespearian season, with a nightly change of répertoire. A special performance of *Richard II.* was also given for students entering the Cambridge Local Examinations.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—The farcical comedy, *Are You a Mason?* played by Mr George Edwardes and Mr Charles Frohman's company is paying a return visit this week. Mr Authony Fawcett is good as George Fisher, Mr Harry Ashford plays well as Amos Bloodgood, and a sound performance of Frank Perry is given by Mr Stephen Wentworth. John Halton finds an amusing exponent in Mr Tom Mowbray, and Mr Valentine O'Connor is praiseworthy as Ernest Morrison, and Mr Frank Ridley satisfactory as Hamilton Travers. Miss Harriet Trench does excellent work as Mrs Caroline Bloodgood. Miss Violet Graham (Eva), Miss Lily Beagle (Annie), and Isla Glynn (Lulu) look well and act their respective parts charmingly. Miss Mabel Younge (Mrs Halton) and Miss Gertrude Spencer (Fanchon Armytage) are both entitled to praise. A comedietta entitled *Hushed Up* precedes.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—Miss Ella and her troupe of lions give a most daring entertainment, which is loudly applauded; Mr Ernie Myers is a versatile comedian; Miss Grace Compton, comedienne, wins favour; Miss Lily Lonsdale, ballad vocalist, sings with much charm; the Three San Remo Girls prove themselves clever dancers. Other turns are Alf Bishop, comedian; Tom Owen, Welsh comedian; and Raymond's Bioscope.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's company is here this week in the musical comedy, *Miss Mischief*. Mr Fred Eastman is very prominent as the new croupier, Private Harris, V.C.; Mr Cecil Curtiss as Jack Bethune causes admiration by his capital rendering of his musical numbers; Miss Evelyn Hughes in the title-rôle displays considerable ability; Mr T. E. Conover as Admiral Sir Hannibal Bethune is very acceptable; Mr H. Ellsmere is well placed as Count Von Himmelblau; Mr G. H. Liot is very comical as Lord Percy Fitz-Sherry; Mr J. C. Bland is a quaint Hiram Q. Pegg; Lady Orrey is successfully depicted by Miss Eileen Guilbert; and Miss Chrissie Francess is most amusing as Mary Ann Smith.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—On Monday Mr Ernest M. Abbott's company opened here with *The Mariners of England*. As Lord Nelson Mr E. M. Abbott is all that can be desired; Mr Clifford Clifford as Admiral Talbot is responsible for a good portrayal; as Harry Dell Mr W. T. Riley gives a fine and manly interpretation; Mr Edwin Keene makes a humorous Tom Tripp; Miss Ada Abbott is a charming Mabel Talbot; Miss Isabel Singleton shows great ability as Polly Appleyard; and Miss Linda Riley does well as Nelly Dell. The latter portion of the week was devoted to *East Lynne*.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—An interesting revival of Frank Harvey's clever play, *Shall We Forgive Her*, is doing good business this week. The interpretation is in some cases excellent, and in all adequate. Mr Sydney Pease is an impressive Paul Elsworth, Mr W. Lawrence is a rugged and forcible Neil Garth, and Mr R. N. Davidson does good work as Oliver West. A fine presentation of the heroine, Grace, is given by Miss Phyllis Atherleigh. That experienced actress, Miss Alice Raynor, renders able service as Joanna Lightfoot.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slatter.—A bright programme is presented this week by Mr Barclay, and one of the most attractive features is the performance of Mountford and Walsh (Harry and Maud), who combine delicacy of comedy touch with every laughter-making faculty. Another clever pair of artistes somewhat in the same line are Eadie and Ramsden, who are exceptionally neat. The gentleman, made up as an Eton boy, indulges in some extraordinary dancing and contortions, which, however, are full of grace. His companion sings with great expression, looks charming, and dances *à merveille*. The Sisters Lunelle are pretty and attractive soubrettes and dancers. Mr Tom Stuart gives his life-like imitations of well-known footlight favourites to the manifest delight of the audience. Miss Mignon Tremaine is as fascinating as ever. The Two Bells sing tastefully, and dance with the greatest elegance. Mr R. H. Douglas makes quite a bit in his humorous contests between the old and the new style of all manner of things—love-making, singing, dancing, acting, and so forth. A short resumé of Tom Taylor's once-popular play *Plot and Passion* serves to introduce Mr Adderley Howard and company in a costume piece, which deeply interests the spectators. Mr Howard is dignified and subtle as the scheming Fouché. A most interesting performance of the crafty Fouché's still craftier secretary, here called Fagan, is supplied by Mr Frederic Monti, Mr George as Henri St. Just and Mr Charles Standing as Paul Devine know how to wear Empire wigs and breeches. Miss Dolly Elsworthy is a charming and at times dramatic exponent of Marie De Lisle, and Miss Nellie Watson all that is necessary in the small part of Julie. Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope presents a series of clever pictures. The Palace orchestra, under Mr H. Petersen's direction, is heard at its best in the overture to Balfe's *Siege of Rochelle*.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Messrs Paumier and Howard's company is reappearing here this week, in the romantic play *Why Men Love Women*. Good business is again done, and the high standard of excellence which marked the efforts of the members when last here is maintained, Miss Annie Saker again scoring a big success as Violet Livingstone.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Tom M'Inerney tops the bill here this week, and his expositions of wrestling, catch-as-catch-can style, are greatly enjoyed. The Royal Bioscope depict some fine pictures detailing a "Story of the Turf." Jack and Evelyn are capable comedians and sand-dancers, and an acceptable turn is that of W. Walkiss, ball-puncher. Len Lan, coloured coon, sings several capital songs, and the Bodina Trio of musicians are expert artists. Beatie Foster is a refined comedienne, and Wallace Whitney an eccentric comedian. Major Sitherland is rightly defined as the "spinning marvel."

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Mr Stanley Hope's company, in the new melodrama entitled *The Master Criminal*, is here this week. Mr Albert Guyon cleverly enacts the rôle of Telford Letsage, alias Anthony Harley, the Master Criminal. Mr John Power as Philip Manners and Mr Wilton Marsh as James Sharples are exceptionally good in their respective parts. An ideal rendering of Tommy Dale is given by Mr Tod Squires; Miss Nellie Thearle as Cecile, alias Lady Travennes, is warmly applauded; the rôle of Mrs Manners is artistically rendered in the person of Miss Edith Lawrence; Miss Kitty Terriss provides an amount of humour in her interpretation of Peggy Perks; and Miss Bessie Armytage is responsible for the rôle of Mary Murphy.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—*A Message from Mars*, at all times welcome, is being played this week by Mr Mouillot's excellent company, which includes Mr Rawson Buckley, who gives a masterly and finished portrayal of the character of Horace Parker. Mr William H. Broughton's impersonation of the Messenger is a powerfully impressive one. The tramp is capitally played by Mr Bruce Lindley. Some charming acting is done by Miss May Saker as Minnie Templar, and other characters in the list which find able exponents are Arthur Dicey, by Mr Frank G. Dunn; Miss Parker, by Miss Flora Hastings, and Dr. Chapman, by Mr H. E. Lanceley.

PALACE. — Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—The sketch, *Three of a Kind*, as played by Miss Ethel Arden and her company, is well received, and keeps the audience in a roar throughout the performance. As boy musicians it would be difficult to excel the Original Caledonian Boys; their performance is a real musical treat. Harry Bickley's lecture on wild beasts provokes unbounded laughter; Downes and Langford have a good reception in song and patter; Moretti and Alice, continental equilibrist; Belle Meredith, comedienne, and Will Cornish, in a novel musical act, are well received; and Rafayette's clever dogs give evidence of wonderful intelligence and patient training.

TOWN HALL.—The Trades, Arts, and Industrial Exhibition, which is being held here under the management of Mr Geo. Scott, is again proving a distinct success. In addition to the numerous exhibits in the lines mentioned, a vaudeville performance is given each day and evening on the main stage by a company of artistes which includes the Musical Bentleys, who have upon previous visits to the town been so very popular. The Bolton Trio of banjo experts give a splendid exhibition of their musical talents; and the Mona Welsh Ladies' Orchestra secure a flattering reception in their vocal and instrumental efforts. Side shows are given by Chester and Lee's Marionettes, Signor Rupert, character reader, and a glass modelling and spinning operator.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Payne.—Mr Norman V. Norman's company opened here on Monday in *Under the Red Robe*. Mr Norman though suffering with a severe cold gave an excellent interpretation of Gil De Berault. Special praise must be accorded to Mr Robert Hilton, who doubled the parts of Cardinal De Richelieu and Henry De Cochefôret, and made each character stand out with distinction. Mr Eric Maxou was decidedly good as Captain Larolle, and Mr Cooper Willis was very successful as Sir Thomas Brunt. Mr J. Forrest was a praiseworthy Marquis De Pombal. Mr B. Iden Payne's impersonation of Clon was extremely clever. As Lieut. Manet Mr Norman Leslie did good work. Miss Beatrice Wilson looked remarkably handsome as Renée De Cochefôret and gave a portrayal of of the character which was replete with artistic touches. Miss Kathleen Rind gave a pathetic rendering of Madame De Cochefôret. Madame Zaton found an able exponent in Miss Lillian Kevill Davies and Miss F. Glossop-Harris was successful as Suzette.

WEST STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Lindor.—Messrs Chas. Draycott and H. B. Peppin's company is here this week with *The Best Must Win*. As Gaston Mr Charles Draycott is really good, and Mr Robert Watson does well as Paul Dumaresque. Mr Oliver J. Round is successful as Juan Miner, and as Sabretache Mr Fred Alworth is all that can be desired. Miss Maud Elliston in her part acquits herself with ability, whilst as Theresa Dumaresque Miss Violet Ospringe is very pleasing. Miss L. Watson Loyde is a sympathetic Densie Dumaresque. *East Lynne* was played on Thursday night.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. C. Rawes; Resident Manager, Mr D. Williams.—The attraction here this week is the interesting play *First-class* by Messrs Imbert and Wright's company. Mr Fred C. Imbert is an excellent Dan, the miser, and Mr G. M. Newall scores as Lewis Montford. Miss Ellen Armour ably sustains the rôle of Peggy, and as Florence Franklin Miss Lizzie Inglis does full justice to the part. Miss Isabel Innes is good as Mildred, and as Nosey Mr Sam Roberts is very funny.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—This week's attraction consists of *East Lynne*, which is being performed by Miss Lilian Dundas and company. The parts of Lady Isabel and Archibald Carlyle are taken respectively by Miss Lilian Dundas and Mr Henry Dundas, their impersonations leaving nothing to be desired. Other characters are well played by Miss Leslie Dane (Barbara Hare), Miss Kathleen O'Connor (Miss Corney Carlyle), Miss Lilian Adelle (Affy), Mr Rowley Hyde (Richard Hare), Mr Wilfrid Butt (Captain Francis Levison), and Mr Henry J. Barrett (Justice Hare).

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Manager, Mr Henry L. Compton.—The engagement here consists of *The Sins of the Fathers*, which is presented by Mr Hugh Osborne's company. This includes Miss Edith Le Ray and Miss Amy M'Neill.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—Phroso is the leading line this week, and mystifies the audiences. The Stoll Brothers, bar performers; Mephisto, assisted by Mdlle. Marie, contortionist; the Dainez circus; Ainslie Burton, mimic; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic; Alma Gray, dancer; Nellie Farrell, vocalist; and the Bioscope are also in the programme.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—Messrs John Hart and H. Armitage have presented for the first time in Wigan the late Mr Wilson Barrett's drama, *The Never-Never Land*. The part of John Mowbray is very ably enacted by Mr Edmund F. Kennedy, while Mr Edw. Rochelle as Nat Rudder and Mr Arthur Bolton as Tom Hemley are extremely effective. The part of Sybil is admirably taken by Miss Caroline Barrett, and Miss Marion Fawcett as Lady Walgrove, Miss Blanchette Grand as Lorna Mannerley, Miss Julie Kennard as Lal Barker, and Miss Margaret Parker as Smudgee, give capable representations of their respective parts.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick. — The programme here includes the unique act given by the Klein Family, bicycle performers, who go through a number of marvellous feats. Stelling and Revell give a comic gymnastic act, and are highly appreciated. Mdlle. Lucretia is a burlesque artist and speciality dancer, and Harry Kirk is a vocal comedian and "facial expert." The Four Royal Welshmen are the original Rhondda Valley glee singers, and are recalled for their songs. Larry Lewis is a peculiar comedian, whilst the Seddons, comedy jugglers; Ryde and Beeman, American comedy acrobats; Florence Leonard, soprano vocalist; and Harry Morgan, coon comedian and dancer, are popular.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—Dale and D'Argan, comedy acrobats and conjurors, give an acceptable performance; Read and Wright are clever comedy duettists and top-boot dancers; and Miss Maggie Leigh, comedienne; Mansell Fane, descriptive vocalist; Miss Georgie Heaton, male impersonator; Velo, boy juggler; and Harry Albery, comedian and dancer, complete a good list of artists.

WINDSOR.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Lessee and Licensee, Mr Fred L. Connynghame; General Business-Manager, Mr Worton David.—Mr Fred L. Connynghame's No. 1 company has presented to Windsor audiences this week the new and powerful drama *A Mother's Love*. Miss Violet Macaree portrays the much-injured wife of the vicar, Winnie Wingate, in touching manner. Miss Laurie A. Pardy impersonates Ellaline Mervin with much grace and dignity. Miss Bertha Hanbury is delightfully natural and pleasing as Marjorie. Mr Fred L. Connynghame as Matt Ruddock provides with great success the broad humour, combined with original villainy. Mr Arthur Rose as Paul Wingate gives an excellent study of a clergyman. Mr John B. Shinton's rendering of the gentlemanly villain, Geoffrey Mannering, is striking and true.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr Lester Collingwood's company is appearing here this week in the melodrama *When London Sleeps*, which met with a popular reception on Monday evening. The exciting scene, in which the heroine walks along a telephone wire in order to escape from a burning house, was vividly portrayed and greatly applauded. Miss Maud Hastings cleverly impersonated the heroine, Queenie Carruthers; and the other leading character, David Engleheart, had an efficient representative in Mr W. H. S. Sims, while the villain, Rodney Haynes, found a forcible exponent in Mr F. Graham. Miss Mary Brammer as Hilda Carode was successful; while as Little Lella Miss Dora Haslewood charmed the audience. Mr Victor Mason (Sammy Blyth), Miss E. Mackintosh (Carrie Jones), and Miss Bella Power (Signorino Jonesio) created plenty of fun, and the performance altogether was excellent.

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company is here this week in *The Heart of a Hero*. Mr F. W. Goddard as Jem Rosdale is excellent; Mr A. B. Mackay is typical as Mark Marl; Mr Alle Carruthers is exceedingly funny as Timothy Heigho; Miss Beatrice Hudson is good as Mrs Barker and Mrs Ryder; and Miss Lily Langley is extremely successful as May Ryder. The remaining characters are well placed.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. Calvert Dent.—Mr Charles Harrington's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* company is appearing here after a long absence. Mr J. Carr is a picturesque Uncle Tom, and Mr J. H. Rodgers is sufficiently villainous as Legree. Mr Harrington in his old rôle of Phineas Fletcher scores as of yore, and much pathos is displayed by Mrs Harrington as Cassie. No end of fun is caused by Miss Sylvia Stella, who gives a thoroughly enjoyable and amusing performance of a popular rôle.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sydney Brooke.—Welland, comedy juggler, has been a great attraction during the week, his comical efforts being highly appreciated. Florence and Lillian give a clever musical sketch which never fails to please; the Zaros are acrobats of great skill and daring; George Hyam sings some funny songs in a funny manner; and the Franko Midgets' astounding entertainment is applauded. Cliff Ryland, Eugene and Willie, Mueller and Coyne, entertainers; and Ethel Ryland complete the bill.

FOOTBALL.

MR HARRY BELDING'S XI. v. BRISTOL EARLY CLOSERS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs, on Nov. 16. The following were the teams:—

Mr Harry Belding's XI.—H. Belding (captain), goal; J. Lewis and F. Arni, backs; S. Carter, T. Neagle, and F. Stevens, half-backs; F. Belding, H. Clements, P. Reardon, H. Edwards, and J. Aubrey, forwards.

Bristol Early Closers A.F.C.—B. Yandell, goal; G. Hedges (captain) and B. Green, backs; A. Lucas, S. Coombes, and H. Slade, half-backs; T. Broods, A. Rossiter, F. Jackson, W. Denty, and C. Perry, forwards.

Referee, J. Lacey (Music Halls A.F.C.) Linesmen, W. Vowles and A. Cox. Result, Harry Belding's XI., one goal; Bristol Early Closers A.F.C., three goals. P. Reardon, S. Coombes, B. Green, and A. Rossiter scored for their respective sides.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. A.F.C. v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Nov. 19. Harry Hare was unable to assist his club, owing to being laid aside with a severe attack of pleurisy. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.—H. Belding (captain), goal; J. Lewis and A. Cox, backs; S. Carter, H. Slade, and A. E. Bailey, half-backs; J. Aubrey, H. Clements, E. Rowman (of Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.), E. Belding, and M. Leonard, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; J. Tyley and F. Arni, backs; W. Hinder, T. Neagle (captain), and J. Lacey, half-backs; B. Cullen, H. C. Douglas, P. Reardon, W. Meadows, and F. Hansford, forwards.

Referee, F. Thorne (captain, Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C.). Linesmen, L. Clayton and S. Richards. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C., two goals; Music Halls A.F.C., one goal. A. Cox, M. Leonard, and P. Reardon scored the goals.

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OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Dec. 5 (wire) 12, 19, 26 (?)
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Dec. 19
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
Dec. 26.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, three Nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by
Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant, Dec 12, 19, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Dec 1, 8, 26, Jan. 26, Feb. 9, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 12, Three Nights, Luton and Bedford; Dec. 19, Three Nights, Luton. E. GRAHAM FALCON, County T., Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Dec. 26, Three Nights, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, MR HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Good Drama, Dec. 19, through transferring. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Electric Plant (Three Colours) installed. Address, HERBERT VERE.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."
WANTED, Feb. 27, March 6, Pantomime or Musical Show preferred.

This Theatre is as near to the centre of Prince's-street as any Theatre in Edinburgh. Is Heated hot water both back and front. Electric Light throughout. Holds 3,000 people; Seats 2,500. Over 400 Tip-up Stalls (2s. and 1s 6d.) Smoking allowed by authorities. Electric Fan Ventilators and all Modern Conveniences.
New Smoking-rooms, Lounges, and Cloakrooms Added.
Pantomimes, "Cinderella" and "Red Riding Hood."
Several Autumn Dates and a few Spring Dates open for Best Dramatic and Musical Attractions only.
EADE MONTEFIORE, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."
Telephone, 2,000.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Proprietors, Messrs CARSON and GRANVILLE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
Jan. 30, March 13 and 20.
One or Two Open Weeks,
June and July.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
March 6, 20, and April 3.
Also First-class Musical Shows for
March 6 and 20.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, HARROGATE.
WANTED, First-class Company for
Dec. 5, 6, 7 (Three Nights).
Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, Good Companies for
Dec. 12 (Three Nights), Dec. 19.
Address,
THOS. SWINTON.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON.
WANTED, Good Pantomime or Musical Attraction for Christmas
Absolutely no opposition.
Wire or write,
MR CHAS. MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Good Pantomime or any Big Attraction,
Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26.
Good Business certain.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LONGTON.
WANTED, Good Pantomime,
Jan. 16 and 23, or either Week.
Address, H. SHERRIFF HOWARD.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Companies for
Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 6, on.
Christmas and New Year Open,
Big Holiday Weeks.
Apply, B. ADDISON, LIMITED.

COUAT THEATRE, GALWAY.
WANTED, Genuine Attractions, Jan. 9, 16, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, May 1, and onwards, with exceptions. Within easy distance of Limerick, Waterford, Cork, and other Irish Cities. For terms, &c., apply to P. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Proprietor.

LYCEUM, NEWPORT.
WANTED, a Good Attraction, not Drama, for Feb. 6. Apply, SIDNEY COOPER.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
March 13, April 24, May 1, 8, 29, June 5.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 19 (Three Nights only), 23, Feb. 6, 13, March 6.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
March 13, April 10, 17, May 8, 15, 29.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 16.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, June 12, 19, July 31.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, Feb. 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Dec. 12 (Three Nights only), 19 (Three or Six Nights), Jan. 23 (Three or Six Nights), 30 (Three or Six Nights), Feb. 6 (Two Nights only).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant.
Dec. 12 (Three or Six Nights), 19 (Three or Six Nights), Jan. 2.

CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.
CARLTON and DUCKWORTH'S THEATRES.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, March 20, 27.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE
Vacant,
Dec. 8 (Three Nights only), 12, 19, Jan. 2, 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights only), 24, May 1, 8.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three Nights only),
Jan. 16, 23, Feb. 6 (Three Nights).

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

MR. MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Powerful Attractions.
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
March 13, 27, April 3, 24, May 1.
ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE,
(Musical) Feb. 20 (?), 27, March 20, April 10.
STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA,
March 6, 13, 20, April 10 24, on.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, May 29, June 5, 19, 26.
Silence polite negative.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

WANTED, for the Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, First-class well-known Attraction for Jan. 2. Applications to HUGH ROBERTSON, Jarrow.

WANTED, for Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Dec. 5, 19, Jan. 2, and Feb. 6. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

WANTED, Good Companies, Victoria Theatre, Mansfield, Dec. 8, 9, 10; 15, 16, 17; 29, 30, 31. Last Three Nights of Week only.

WANTED, Strong Attraction for the New Klondyke, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Dec. 5, 12, 19. Splendid business. Refer Managers.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON, MANCHESTER.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions for Dec. 12, 19,
and Onwards.
Wire or write,
JAMES M. HARDIE, jun.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Productions. Jan. 2, 9, and 16. Apply, T. W. ROWE

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, Big Productions, Jan. 2, 9, 16.
Apply, T. W. ROWE.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Dec. 19 and for various Dates, February onwards.
Address, G. HAYES, Manager, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Attractions, Dec 12 (?) Jan. 9, 16 (Three Nights), 23, and few on. FRED L. CONNYNGHAME.

THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for Dec. 26 Week. Wire To-day, KELLY,
Broadway Theatre, New-cross, S.E.
Next Week, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

P. O. W, NUNEATON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions only, Feb. 13, March 20, April 3, 24. Good Cinématograph and Variety, April 17, with Sacred Concert Good Friday. Now Booking Autumn.
A. F CROSS.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.
WANTED, Good Company, Jan. 16, through misunderstanding.
Few Spring Dates Still Vacant.
Apply, J. B. CURRY, as above.

WANTED, Companies, North Shields, Dec. 26, Feb. 27, June 26 (Race Week); Blyth, Dec. 19, Jan. 2.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

WANTED, at Once, First-class Musical Comedy for the Reopening of the Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds, which has been closed for Six Months.
Apply, stating earliest date disengaged, to
REGINALD LACY SCOTT, Manager and Secretary, pro. tem., 87, Guildhall-street, Bury St Edmunds.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Neath (late Assembly Rooms), strong Dramatic Attractions (Three or Six Nights), Dec 5, and onwards. Christmas Vacant. Theatre redecorated, made cosy and comfortable, new Gallery added. Everything done to ensure success. A. JAMES, Billposting Company, 6, Windsor-road, Neath, South Wales.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management
Capital, £155,000.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK
Dec. 12, Dec. 19.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
Dec. 12 (Three Nights).
KING'S THEATRE KIRKCALDY.
The Kingdom's Success.
Dec. 19 (Three Nights).
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
Dec. 22 (Three Nights).
NEW GAIETY THEATRE CLYDEBANK.
Feb. 20, March 6, 13.
NEW CENTURY, MOTHERWELL.
Feb 6.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
Feb. 13.

Important.—Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred. The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.

Address all communications to
R. C BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Booked in conjunction with the
NEW GRAND HALL and THEATRE, ABERAVON.
Three Nights each. Short Journey.
WANTED, Company Dec. 5
Christmas Vacant at Aberavon.
Wire, TULLY, Theatre, Llanelly.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Jan. 9, 23, 30, and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BOURNEMOUTH,
Dec. 12.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Jan. 9.
Apply, FRED MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, April 17, and Dates in May and June. Now Booking Autumn, 1905. Splendid Business has been done recently under the present energetic Management. The right Attractions are Thoroughly Boomed, and every Assistance given to Travelling Managers.
Address all communications, T. EDWARDS.

THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. POTTS.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
Musical preferred,
Dec. 12, 19, 26,
Jan. 23,
Feb. 6, and on, with exceptions.
Address, W. E. POTTS.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Co., Jan. 2, 16, 30. E. H. PAGE.
P.S.—Can arrange for really good Company.

Dec. 19,
Dec. 19,
Dec. 19,
THEATRE ROYAL, SUNDERLAND.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attraction, for Dec. 19.
Avenue Theatre closed this Date for Panto. Rehearsal, No opposition.
Apply, C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 5, 19, 26, Feb 27, March 27.
Last Three Days of each Week only Booked.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GEO. ROBERTSON.
This Handsome New Theatre will be Opened at Christmas.
WANTED, Companies, May 1 and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 5, 12, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 13 and 27.
Receipts last Week over £300 in Three Days.
Opening for Good Pantomime.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, HORWICH, LANCASHIRE.
WANTED, Big Attractions,
Dec. 5, 12, 19.
Christmas Vacant,
Good Panto wrlte.
Good Companies make Money.
Splendid Business.
Packed from Floor to Ceiling Saturday last.
Address,
MANAGER.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr STANLEY ROGERS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Preferred, Jan. 5 (Three Nights), Feb. 6, March 6, April 3, on, with exceptions.
Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 9, 23 (to Oblige a Manager), and Feb. 13.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, for Irving Theatre, Seacombe, Cheshire, First-class Attractions. Under the sole management of the proprietor, JAMES KIERNAN.

WANTED, Companies from Dec. 8, onwards, Three Nights and Matinée, for Worthing Theatre Royal. Under entire New Management Bookings include Mrs Lewis Waller, "Duke of Killicrankie," "Monsieur Beaucaire," and all the Latest Attractions.
First-class Companies only apply to
C. ADOLF SEEBOLD. Silence a polite negative.

THEATRE ROYAL, RUNCORN.
WANTED, Dramatic or Combination Companies, Dec. 5 and 19 Address, CADDICK.

WANTED, Companies, Dec. 5 (Three Nights), Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, 16, 23 (Three Nights), and on. Give Share or Certainty. Good Panto. Write. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL,
PAVILION, CARNARVON.
WANTED, Pantomime for Dec. 26, Share or Guarantee. Must be good, as the Pavilion commands the Greatest Attraction in North Wales. WILL GREGORY.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

WANTED, Fit-up Dramatic and Variety Companies, Nov. 28, Dec. 5 and 12. Address, W. H. DUNANT PHILLIPS, 16, Queen's-road, Aldershot.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

LYCEUM THEATRE, ECCLES.
Lessees, Messrs POTASCH and WARBLE.
Change of Management.
WANTED, Known, all Communications Re Contract to be addressed to Mr P. POTASCH or Mr R. FLANAGAN. Note.—Queen's and St James's Theatre can be Booked in Conjunction with above.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 20.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 7, 14.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 5 (South), Feb. 13.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Fredk Melville's
New Production.
WANTED, Jan. 23 and 30.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 13, March 27.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 13, 20, near London.
FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, March 6 and April 10. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects. Bookings include:—Grand, Islington; Shakespeare, Clapham: Terriss Theatre; Alexandra, Hull; Liverpool, Jarrow, Brixton Theatre, Elephant and Castle Theatre, West London, Middlesbrough; Metropole, Birmingham; Junction and Osborne Theatres, Manchester; Broadway Theatre, Deptford. Note.—The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville. Address all communications, DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12, Feb. 27, March 13.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Feb 6, March 6 and 13.
Wire, To-day, KELLY, Broadway Theatre, New-cross, S.E.; next week, Grand Theatre, Nottingham

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan 23, 30, Feb. 27, April 24, on.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Alexandra T. Sheffield (Return).

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
No Vacant Dates until Nov. 13, 1905.
WANTED, Big Theatres only, then and on.
Paisley Theatre, Paisley,
Six Nights, Nov. 28.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Good Theatres Dec. 19, 1904; Jan. 9, 1905 onwards, with exceptions.
CHARLES E. STONE,
Wire, To-day, Theatre Royal, Blaydon-on-Tyne; next week, Opera House, Perth.

"SILVER KING."
WANTED, Dates, Dec 26 (Mid-England), Jan. 23, May 1 to 29, Sept 4, 11, Oct. 16, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec 4, 1905.
Address, POLINI,
93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 6, 13, 20, March 6 (Three Nights), and May 1.
Address, J. W. CORDINER.
Nov. 28, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

WANTED, Jan. 30, April 2, Sept. 11, 18, Oct. 23, for Mrs Lewis Waller in "Zaza" or Répertoire. Wanted, Dec. 26, Jan. 2. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Opera House Tunbridge Wells

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, Jan. 9, onwards, with exceptions, for this Really Remarkable High-class Attraction. A Genuine, Emphatic, and Pronounced Success. A Great Play. Splendidly Produced. Strongly Acted, and the theme of Universal Admiration.
J. H. CLYNDES, Victoria Opera House, Burnley.

BEAUDYN and LIVESEY'S COMPANIES.
The New Oriental Play, by G. A. De Gray,
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
Also Grand Revival,
"£1,000 REWARD."
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 23, 30.
Address, P. O. W. Theatre, Nuneaton.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Feb 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 20, to follow Nottingham;
April 24, to follow Theatre Royal, Leeds.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE."
WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15, onwards. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

"A SOLDIER AND A MAN."
WANTED, Jan. 2, 16, March 13, 20, and 27.
ALDERSON, Opera House, Porth, S. Wales.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Dec. 5, to follow
Theatre Royal, Bristol
Wire, to-day, DAWSON, Royalty Llanelly; next, Theatre Royal, Bristol

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S
"A LONDON ACTRESS" COMPANY.
WANTED, Christmas and New Year Weeks for above really good Show.
Christmas and New Year Vacant, and on with exceptions.
Address,
STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Aston.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, March 6, May 22 and 29, Aug. 28. W. V. GARROD, T. R., Norwich.

HARRY STARR'S "OTTO THE OUTCAST" TOUR.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Midlands or North, Jan. 23 and 30 Wire or write, This, Theatre Royal, Smethwick; next, Theatre Royal, Rugby.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, for "The Life That Kills."
Jan 30, Feb. 20, March 6, for "Bigamy."
FRED MOULE, this, Prince's Blackburn; next, Bilston.

WANTED, Jan. 9 and 16 (through obliging), between Dundee and Spennymoor, for "The Golden Chance." Everything carried, including Massive Railway Engine. JAMES HARE, O. H., Harrogate (Three), T. R., Goole (Three).

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash," Christmas and Jan. 2.
Wire, LESLIE VINER, Theatre Royal, Cadoxton.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, Dec. 25 for this Powerful Attraction; also Few Spring Dates Vacant.
Now Booking Autumn, 1905.
Address, STANLEY HORE,
Nov. 28, Theatre Royal, Croydon, Six Nights.

"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
"THE LIGHTS O' LONDON."
WANTED, through Obliging,
Christmas Week at Important Theatre.
H. HOLLISTER, Opera House, Wakefield.

"WHEN DARKNESS FALLS."
WANTED, Dec. 26 and Jan. 9, for this Great Attraction.
WILLIAM BOURNE, King's Theatre, Nottingham.

"DISHONOURED." Company includes Messrs Percy Ballard, Cecil Morand, Horace Buckley, Reginald Hunt, A. Duval, Thane Garth, Frank Fuller, Frederick Loyd, Mesdames Violet Cranford, Nell Ingram, Florence Oreagh.
WANTED, Theatres, Christmas and New Year, Vacant Christmas and New Year. This week, Aberdare; next, Pontypridd. Wire, J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Theatre, Greenwich.

THEATRES WANTED.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
MR GODFREY LAMPLUGH'S COMPANY.
WANTED, Dec. 26 (Midlands or North), Jan. 9, and Several Spring Dates, On.

"MISS MISCHIEF,"
by
Mr Reginald Bacchus
and
Dr. F. Osmond Carr,
Composer of
"Morocco Bound," "His Excellency," "In Town," &c.

Universal Opinion—
One of the Smartest and Brightest Pieces Produced Recently.

All communications,
GODFREY LAMPLUGH,
to-day,
Her Majesty's, Walsall;
next week,
Opera House, Leicester.

"THE SCILLY GIRL"
(a Tale of the Scilly Isles).
Book by Athol Mayhew.
Music by William Neale.
A New and Original
Musical Comedy.
Full Chorus and Dancers.
Two New Sets, Everything Carried.
The Following Artists are Already Engaged:—
Miss Dot Stephens, of Geo. Dance's "Chinese Honeymoon.
Miss Dorothy Vernon, of "The Belle of New York."
Mr Chas Cautley, of Mr Mouillot's Répertoire.
Mr Alfred Donohoe, of Mr Geo. Edwardes' Co.
Mr H. E. Garden, late Mr Geo. Edwardes' Co.
Production, Grand Theatre, Woolwich, Dec. 12.
WANTED, Christmas, New Year, and Immediate Dates, Onwards.
Wire, FRANK NELSON, 9, Claverton-street, London, S.W.

MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE'S
REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, First-class Theatres (South or Midlands), to follow Brighton and Southampton, pending Grand Revival of "THEODORA."
Miss Grace Hawthorne
Presents the following Répertoire
(as Played by Madame Sarah Bernhardt),
Supported by Entire London Company:—
"CAMILLE"
("La Dame aux Camelias"),
"FROU-FROU,"
"ADRIENNE LECOUVREUR."
"FANCHON" (New Version);
a New Play, Adapted from the French, by Adolph Belot, viz., "A DIVORCE"
and the Original English Version of
"SAPHO,"
as created by Grace Hawthorne.
Tour under the Direction of Mr Stanley Killby.

Bookings and offers include:—Brighton, Worthing, Southampton, Channel Islands, Plymouth, Gloucester, Bedford, Luton, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, London (Suburban)
Business Manager, SYDNEY T. PEASE, 62, Stamford-hill, N., to whom Address re Dates.

MISS WINIFRED MAUDE'S COMPANY.
"THE SINS OF A CITY,"
by Nita Rae.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2.
Many thanks for offers.
First-class Theatres only.
Production Second to None.
Nov. 28,
Theatre Royal, Consett.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, Jan. 2, 9, North Preferred.
Success repeated at Oldham again This Week.
Oldham Evening Chronicle says, Nov. 22:—The "Sapho" which Oldhamers have the opportunity of witnessing this week is a perfect performance, and we can strongly advise a visit to the Coliseum. Miss Annie Bell gives a perfect study of the part of Fanny Le Grand. Her work was greatly admired last night . . . and created an interest in the play which was never once lost by the audience.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the Most Popular Version on the Stage.
Wire for Jan 2, 9. Wire, Sat., JAMES BELL, Coliseum T., Oldham. Monday, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

EDINBURGH GRAND "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Feb. 6, 13, and 20, for the Entire Production, after Six Weeks' Run (Opening Dec. 10).
Company includes:—
Miss May Warton as Cinderella,
Miss Millie Engler as the Prince,
Miss Fanny Wright as Dandini,
Miss Vera Schlesinger as Fairy Godmother,
Little Zola as the Page,
Mr A. C. Spry as the Baron,
Mr Percy Curry and Mr Augustus Wheatman as the Ugly Sisters,
Messrs Conan and Doyle as the Johnnies,
Mr Geo. Traverner as the Demon King.
Principal Dancers,
the Six Lancashire Lasses
and
the Four American Idols.

London Chorus.

Four Shetland Ponies and Electric Coach.

Stage-Manager, Mr FRANK AYRTON;
Musical Director, Mr E. T. DE BANZIE.

The Magnificent Scenery and Dresses have been added to by a special purchase of Mr Hardacre's Manchester Gold Palace Scene and Gold Dresses, forming a most brilliant finale.
EADE MONTEFIORE, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh." Tele., 2,000.

WANTED, Christmas and New Year's Week for "The Boys and the Girls." The Smartest Musical Comedy ever brought over from America. Forty Artistes. Everything Travelled. Send open time, Christmas, Onwards, to SCHUMAN and SWANN, c.o. Bell Hotel, Liverpool.

MISS ROSE MONCRIEFF'S COMPANY.
"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD."
WANTED, Jan. 9 (North), through Dunfermline changing hands, Feb 27 (Midlands). Only Vacant Dates. NEWMAN MAURICE, Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, S.E.

WANTED Theatres, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," F. A. Scudamore's enormously successful Drama. Miss Frances Delaval's Tour, Christmas, New Year, Jan. 9-23, March 6, Easter. Wire to-day, DUDLEY, Port Tipton. Next Theatre, Stourbridge.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Jan. 2.
FRED BULMER, Theatre Metropole, Hoyland.

WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, and Christmas Week, "The Seal of Silence," also Jan. 2, 9, 23.
Refer E. F. Liston, Esq., Lingford Carson, Esq., C. P. Cooke, Esq., Francis Laidler, Esq.
Bookings 1905 include
T. R., Leeds (Return) Edinburgh, T. R., Rotherham (Return). Alex., Birmingham; T. R., Chesterfield (Return), Queen's, Liverpool; Prince's, Bradford (Return); Grand, Nottingham (Return). F. G. WYNN, T. R., Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 30 (only Date) for "Dick Whittington;" Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 20 (only Dates), "Sinbad." DAISY DE ROY, Circus, Rochdale

Christmas Week.
WANTED, Dec. 26, also Jan. 9, at Good Theatre for the Most Powerful Holiday Attraction "Man to Man."
WILLIAM BOURNE, King's Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," Christmas, Jan. 2, March 20, onwards.
C. CLIFFORD, Pavilion, Edinburgh.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including the

Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, Dec. 5,

Jan. 2,

Jan. 9 (?),

Jan. 16, 23, 30,

March 6,

March 13, 20;

also Whit Week.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield;
W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq., Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Mrs Gordon, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Southampton;
F. Laidler, Esq., Prince's Bradford;
J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth;
J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington;
Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston (Holiday Week).

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

General Manager,
G. CARLTON WALLACE,
Theatre Royal, Leigh (Lancs.).

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Jan 16, 23, 30
"GREED OF GOLD,"
Jan 9, Feb 13, 20, 27.
"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION,"
Feb. 13, 20, March 20, 27.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.
WANTED, Theatres for this Sterling Attraction.
Vacant Dec. 26,
Jan. 2, Jan 9 (South),
and few later.
Rapidly Booking Autumn.
Queen's Theatre, Dublin, Nov. 28.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, Dec. 26 and Jan. 9
for this great Attraction.
Racehorses Toured.
All Scenery (Seven Sets)
and Company of Exceptional Strength.
Refer any Theatre visited.
An Ideal Christmas Attraction.
F. G KIMBERLEY,
Grand, Stalybridge; Next, Theatre Royal, Stockton.

E. OSWALD BROOKS'S COMPANIES.
"THE NEW HOUSEMAID,"
by Charles Windermere.
The Funniest Farce on the Road.
WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, 10, 11, 16, Feb. 6.

"THE GIRL FROM BOND-STREET,"
by Roland Oliver and L. La Rondelle.
A New, Original, and Up-to-date Musical Comedy, in Three Acts.
All Special Scenery, Chorus, Ballet, &c.
Vacant Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 6, 13, &c.

E. O. BROOKS, 3, St. George's-circus, S.E.
Telephone, 2,726, Hop.
Telegraphic address, "Distinctly, London."

Mr WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Fifteenth Month of continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, Dec. 19 Dec 29 (Three Nights),
Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 13, 20,
March 6, and onwards, with exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, To-day, 18, Booth-street East, Manchester; next, Grand, Walsall.

"AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan 2, 9, Feb. 6.
Rebooked at the very best Drama Houses. Cast includes Melville Bickford, Frank E. Petley, Walter Wilby, Percy Maitland, Gertrude Price, Iris M. Ward, Nita Imeson, &c. Acknowledged to be a Scenic Revelation. MELVILLE BICKFORD, Colosseum, Oldham.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
WANTED, Dec. 12, Jan. 2 and Easter;
also "THE SORROWS OF SATAN,"
Either or both Plays.
Wire, To-day, LOIE FENNOL, Theatre Royal, Worthing.
Nov. 28, Whitevale Theatre, Glasgow (Two Weeks).

"THE GRIP OF IRON."
"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED.—Unexpectedly Vacant, Jan. 2 and 9,
North or Scotland.
GEORGE DENHAM,
this, Royal, Bilston; next, Royal, Wednesbury.

"THE TRAITOR."
Messrs Mitchelson and Fineberg's Magnificent Production.
WANTED, March 20, 27.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Theatre Royal, Tonypandy.

JOHN TULLY'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Now in Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Dec. 19, Jan. 2 and 9,
for this Truly Remarkable Revival.
Address, JOHN TULLY, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

THEATRES WANTED

"HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 19, Feb. 6 and 13.
Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 20.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec 5, 19, Jan. 16 and 30, Feb. 6 and 20.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, and 23.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

CARSON, GRANVILLE, and THORNE'S COMPANY,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT.'
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Money Maker, Jan. 23 and 30.
Everything Carried.
Clear Stage Required.
First-class Company.
Address,
FRED GRANVILLE,
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire scenery carried for this Production.
A Drama of Intense Human Interest, interspersed with Original Comedy and Up-to-Date Musical Numbers.
The above will be toured in First-class Style by
ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.
WANTED, Dates in Spring and Whit Week (South) and various onwards.
All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON,
Strathmore, Norfolk House-road, Streatham, S.W.

Buffalo Bill's
Wild West Show
Reproduced
on the
Biograph,
with
First-class Turns,
giving a
Full Evening's
Entertainment.
WANTED, First-class Theatres and Halls, on Sharing Terms or Rentals.

A Company starts
Marina Theatre, Lowestoft, Dec 5.

B Company starts
Taunton, Dec. 5.

Address,
BIOGRAPH COMPANY,
18, Great Windmill-street,
London, W.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c., Dec. 5, 12, and Dates Onwards, for the Royal Star Pierrot Concert and Comedy Company. A Splendid Troupe. We give Sacred Concert on Sunday Night. Christmas and New Year's Weeks Vacant. Must have good terms as this is a First-class Show, Big Specialities. Managers send for programme. Address, DILLON, Workmen's Institute, Trimdon Grange, Co. Durham.

ARTISTES WANTED

Productions, METROPOLE, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Artists, for "World's Verdict," "Orphan Heiress," and "London by Day and Night," Three Weeks, Commencing Jan. 2, 1905. Rehearse week previous, Dec. 26, 1904
Ladies: Heavy and Juvenile Lead, Juvenile, Chambermaid, Comedy Old Woman, Waif, Responsibles.
Gentlemen: Lead, Heavy and Juvenile Lead, Juveniles, Comedian, Character Comedy, Aristocratic Old Man, Responsibles
State age, height, recent references, inclusive terms. Enclose photo., if possible. Mark envelopes, "Met." Address, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, Entire Company, with exceptions, for above. Rehearse Dec. 5. Photo. (stamped envelope), lowest terms, and particulars to MURRY and DAWSON, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, Musical Comedy Artistes in all Lines; also Chorus; also Versatile Comedian ("Charley's Aunt" type), for Farcical Comedy, to probably open first week in January. Apply by letter only, with photo., to E. OSWALD BROOKS, Reliance Dramatic Bureau, 3, St. George's-circus, S.E. Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, for Special Week, at Brighton, Dec. 5, Mrs Glyn Stanmore, Kate Merryweather, Simeon Strong, in "The Idler." Particulars, H. V. NEILSON, West Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, for Christmas and Spring Tour of "Two Little Sailor Boys," open Cambridge Boxing Day, Rehearse Week previously, Leading Actor (Juvenile). Powerful Declamatory Actor (short, but important), Double Aristocratic Heavy as Understudy, and Lady for Juvenile Lead. All particulars, height (important), photo. (stamped, directed envelope for return), recent references, and, in all cases, lowest terms, to W. B. HALLATT, 1, Groundwell-road, Swindon.

"THE GOLDEN LADDER."
WANTED, Leading Emotional Actress, Comedian, also Good Carpenter, Baggage Man, to open Dec. 26, Accrington Address particulars, references, &c., E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

WANTED, First-class (Dainty) Principal Lady (Soprano Actress), work with Comedians. Extravaganza, Music Halls.
Cadle, 105, Strand.

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash," a Character Actor, to Rehearse Pontypridd, Dec. 14. references, photo., &c., LESLIE VINER, T. R., Cadoxton.

WANTED, Big, Robust Bass-Baritone Actor, Burlesque Heavy Part in Extravaganza.
Cadle's, 105 Strand.

WANTED, Really First-class, Experienced Dude Comedian. Mock Heroic Part. Sing.
Cadle's, 105, Strand.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman (Amateur), with Small Capital, could Play Small Parts in Musical Comedy.
Apply by letter at once.
Box 8,792, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Young Tall Gentlemanly Amateur, for Long Tour. Apply with Photo. and particulars to Box 8,780, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Several Good Contraltos and Choristers. London Engagement.
Apply to Donald Arthur's Agency, 434, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, to Open Monday, Lady Soprano, to Combine Piano and Play in Sketches. Terms, refs., photo., FRED RAMSDALE, Public Hall Shefford, Beds.

WANTED, Boy Singer, Age about Fourteen to Seventeen Years, who can sing "Holy City" or "Dream of Paradise," &c.; also Boy Instrumentalists Required. Small Boys Preferred,
Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Imperial Boys' Orchestra, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Girl, over Fourteen. Must be Small and Pretty. Letters only, H. B., care of LAWRIE GRAYDON, Esq., 164, Drury-lane, W.C.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Engagement, Juveniles, Light Comedy, &c. Special Singing Parts, EDWARD RAYMOND, 20, Alder-road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Engagement, by Versatile Comedian, Mus. Com., Sketch, Concert Party, &c. Young, Good Voice. P., 72, Springdale-road, Stoke Newington, London.

WANTED, Situation by an Accomplished Young Man, Twenty-four, on Stage. Any capacity. Monology, Singing. Excellent Scholar. Elocutionist. C. S., 30, Woodbury-road, Tundridge Wells.

WANTED, Known, Baritone Vocalist, thorough Musician, would join Quartette Party, &c.
N. M.,
Rushmoor, Spring Copse-road, Reigate.

WANTED, Two Smart Girls, Tall, Good Figures, Instrumentalists, and Good Vocalists. Photos essential. Amateurs not objected to. BURRELL, Glen Lynn House, Runwell-terrace, Southend-on-Sea.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

MILTON RAYS' COMPANIES
PANTOMIME, "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, for Prince, Tall Lady Vocalist (Must be a Good Ballad Singer).
Pantomime, "BO-PEEP."
Wanted, Principal Boy for Ferdinand the Fearless, Tall, Dashing, and Good Singer.
First-class Musical Director (Pianist) apply.
Address, ARTHUR MILTON, 45, Broadgate, Preston.

JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-class Burlesque Actress for Second Boy.
No other Vacancies.
Address, with lowest terms, and state where can be seen at work for the next two weeks, to
JAMES KIDDIE, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Pantomime, London and Provinces, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for "Bo-Peep," Alexandra Palace, Three Weeks, Tour to follow, Artistes in all Lines, Good Ballet Troupe, Wardrobe Mistress, Conductor (to Arrange). Age, height, references, and terms, and Ladies' photos. E. G. FALCON, County P., Bedford

---

Mr Barr's Pantomimes.
WANTED, Ladies for Prince, Dandini, and Cinderella, Petite, Sing and Dance well. Four Weeks Torquay and long Tour. Also Princess, Pekoe, and Pianist-Conductor. Moderate terms, photos. and references. HERBERT BARRS Opera House Torquay.

LITTLE and DARCY'S PANTOMIMES.
WANTED, First-class Quartette of Lady Dancers.
Photos., references, and terms to
FRED J. LITTLE,
King's Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Smart Principal Girl, who can Harmonise; also Smart Pair of Sisters, Good Duettists and Dancers, for Second Boy and Girl; Comedian, for Ugly Sister; Troupe of Right Up-to-date Acrobatic Dancers; and Tall Show Chorus Ladies. Also a Troupe of Four Acrobatic Dancers, one able to arrange the Ballet; also other Acrobatic Dancers to augment Troupe. Apply personally (10 0 to 4 0), Mr Sinclair, 12, Walcot-gdns, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Principal Boy, also Two Quartettes of Accomplished Dancers. Spring Engagement may follow. EDWARD MARRIS, T. R. Grantham

---

WANTED, for Pantomime, Smart Pair of Comedians; also Principal Boy. Write, with full particulars, J. W. Johnson, Agent, 86, Waterloo-rd., S.E.

WANTED, Smart Acrobatic Dancer, for Troupe. Long Panto. Tour. Age, height, photo., particulars, 8, 43, St. James-street, Leeds.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty for Pantomime. Principal Boy Offers invited. All communications, 229, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Panto., Alma Obrey, Principal Boy; Bob Baxter, Comedian. Dame preferred. Five Years with J. F. Elliston, Esq. Lyric, Liverpool.

WANTED, by "Del" Levey (Late Three Famous Levey Sisters). Panto. Offers. American and Continental Offers invited.
Address, to be forwarded, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Madame Barsano Disengaged for Christmas. Ballet Mistress, Speciality Dances Dresses For Sale. Songs, Music. 31, Vassall-road, Brixton-road Ladies taught

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WANTED, Pantomime, by Tessie Vandeau, First Boy or Girl. 29, Bromley-place, Nottingham, till Monday; after, Post-office, Eastwood, Notts

---

WANTED, Engagement by Young Lady in Pantomime, Contralto, Good Voice, Tall. G.L., 6, Raymede-street, Notting-hill, W.

WANTED, Pantomime. Sisters Roze (Cissy and Roza), Vocalists, Patterers, Sketch Artistes, and Expert Dancers. Parts and Specialities. Roza, Brilliant Pianiste, Boy's Parts a Speciality, with Songs and Dances. Cissy, Petite Girl's Parts, a Juvenile Actress and Character Vocalist A useful Sister Turn to any Show. Per. address 39, Cardigan-terrace, Leeds.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Pantomime
by Sarina, Sarina, Sarina,
the White Demon Contortionist, from Drury-lane Theatre.
Suit Forest or Cave Scene.
Gaiety Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Pantomime by the Great Kyoto, Cat and Speciality. Own Magnificent Skin. Casino, Paris, Nov. 30. 25, Devonshire House, Bath-terrace, S.E.

WANTED, Pantomime.—Chas. F. Best, as M'Bunker, the Mountebank, offers the Funniest Silent Comedy Act before the Public, for Street Scene or Market-place. Suit any Pantomime. Refined and without vulgarity. Gaiety Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Engagement in Pantomime, by George Ogden, Comedian. Address, care of Mrs ROBERTSON, 19, Tenth-street, Cardenden, Fifeshire

---

WANTED, Known, Disengaged for Panto., Halls, or Show Business, Young Strong Man. Well built, refined appearance. M., 9, Hythe-bridge-street, Oxford.

WANTED Pantomime, Turle and Turle, Knockabout Gymnasts. Speciality, Harlequinade Played Principal Theatres. 10, Berwick-street, all Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, that Sandy and Carl, the Originals, Great Acrobatic Knockabout Comedians, Vocalists Dancers, &c., are at Liberty for Pantomime, Parts and Speciality. Last Year, Prince's, Bradford, big success. Monday, Palace, Blackburn, Lancashire.

WANTED, Pantomime by C'Doyle and Dempsey, Cross Talkers, Comedy Wrestlers, and Boxers. Address, 6A, Vienna-road, Bermondsey, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Hewitt and Ritchie, Comedians, Dancers, Liberty Panto. Last season, Green and Stout. O.H., Londonderry. Add., Pav., Dundee

---

WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto Engagement, Christmas, by the Florador Quartette Parts, Traps, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beattie Trixie. Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, Leicester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Villions (Four in Number), Acrobatic Cyclists, in their Latest Comedy Act, and Introducing the Greatest Lady Somersault-thrower in the World, executing Twenty-five Pirouette Somersaults in succession, Feet to Feet. Vacant for Dec. 26. Speciality in Panto. Also Turn, Dec. 19, to go with the London Pavilion. Address, W. VILLION, 1, Torrington-square, Russell-square, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, the M'Kays have a Good Pantomime Trick in the shape of a Magic Kettle to Boil on Ice. See Advt. E., Belfast.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of every Description Painted to Order. Large Stock of New and Secondhand Cloths, Flats, &c., on hand. New Cloths 18ft. by 24ft. from £4. High-class Work guaranteed. Sykes's Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

To Pantomime Producers.
WANTED, to Sell, in Excellent Condition, Scenery, Dresses (Eastern, Nautical, &c.), Properties of Successful Pantomimes. No reasonable offer refused. May be seen at Theatre.
JOHN HART, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery, Costumes, Uniforms, Rifles, "Sapho," "Poisoner," "Living or Dead," 100 other MSS. Wyberr, Agent, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement by Frederick Stafford, Scenic Artist. First-class references and designs forwarded. 24, Shearer-road, Portsmouth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a First-class Producer to Produce One and a-Half Hour Pantomime and then Stage-Manage. Must be strict.

Write full particulars and terms to
C. LUCK, 66, Doddington-grove, Kennington-park, London.

WANTED, a General Manager for a Large Variety Entertainment Hall at a Popular Summer Season Watering Place on the East Coast.
Apply,
stating age salary required, experience, and references, to Box 8 722, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Very Smart American Business Manager for well-known Music Hall Lady Star. Box 8,788, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Applications for Position of Acting-Manager (Vacant about Christmas) by letter, stating salary required, particulars of Appointments previously held, and reason of vacating them, giving present addresses of references, to
OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff.
Wanted, also, an Assistant Acting-Manager about same time.

WANTED, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," Shortly, Carpenter, must be trustworthy, play small Comedy Part; also child, over Eleven, must be small. FRANCES DELAVAL, Alhambra T. Stourbridge.

WANTED, Six Good Window-Billers.
Apply, MANAGER, Roberts's Animated Photo. Company, Market Hall, Redhill

---

WANTED, Good Window Billers; 25s per week. Full particulars,
RALPH PRINGLE, Palatine Hall, Lancaster.

WANTED, a Tall, Smart Young Man as Poster Writer and Bill Inspector. Abstainer preferred. Refs., &c., to J. WORSWICK, jun., Hippo., Wigan.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.
WANTED, Young Lady for Box Office. Shorthand and Typewriter. Address, by letter only, with references, F. W. PURCELL, as above.

WANTED, Good Wardrobe Mistress, one that can cut and make from Sketch. Send lowest terms, DAISY DE ROY Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, Cut out Square-cut Uniforms, Two Weeks, London. State terms, references, BLOW, 11, Edmund's-terrace, Regent's-park.

WANTED, Situation, to learn Acting-Managing, by Young Gentleman, aged Nineteen. Four Years' experience in Theatrical and Variety Business. Slight knowledge of Typewriting Good references. Address, R. W., 50, Gardner-street, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Secretary and Manager of Large Commercial Company, aged Twenty-seven, is available for Evening Work (4.30 p.m. onwards). Trained Accountant. Expert, used to handling Extensive Stuffs and Refreshment Bar Sales and Accounts. Moderate terms. Box 8,732, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Position, Manager, in First-class Musical Comedy or Pantomime Co. preferred. Can invest £100. Sharing terms Box 8 787, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Offers for Business or Advertising Management, Town or Resident; nothing too big. Highest references as to ability, P. TALBOT, Town Hall, Edmonton.

WANTED, Good Engagement by Advance Agent of varied experience Young, good appearance. First-rate Testimonials. Box 8,785, "The Era."

WANTED, Situation as Chief Electrician, London Theatre. Similar position Four Years. Address, Box 519, Willing's, 125, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, by Electrician and Bioscope Operator, Engagement. Good References.
E. W., 39, Rowallan-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Two Young Men, Tall, Evening Employment. Theatre or Music Hall. Used to Stage. W. NELSON, 54, Shandy-street, E.

MUSICIANS WANTED

H. D. ROBERTS' ANIMATED PHOTO. CO. No. 1 CO.
WANTED, Conductor-Pianist (Good) and First Violin. Music found. Comfortable Engagement. Goddard write immediately.
MANAGER, Market Hall, Redhill.

WANTED, First Violin for Empire, Cardiff.
Apply,
Stating Salary required and giving references, to
OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff.

WANTED, Violin Player, must be a Good Leader, &c., for stationary Band.
Good position for First-class Player.
Engagements and Emoluments are A 1.
Apply E. S., care of HAWKES and SON, Denman-street, Piccadilly-circus, London.

WANTED, a Violinist, to Open at Once.
A Good Shop to a Suitable Man. Money Low but Sure. Send lowest terms to W. H. GRANT, Bazaar and Variety Combination,
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WANTED, Solo Cornet, also Clarionet. Both to open Monday 28th.
Wire terms, MELVIN, Manager, Coliseum, Sheerness.

WANTED, Cornet, First-class Player, Permanency. Open always. State age, terms, and full particulars of experience.
Address, CORNET, the Pier, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Trombone, 'Cello, Violin, Second Cornet South London, One Week, Nov. 28. Box 8,768, Care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a French Horn Player for the Permanent Staff.
Man serving on Line Engagement preferred.
Apply by letter to
THE ADJUTANT, 3d Battalion East Surrey Regiment, Kingston-on-Thames.

WANTED, Good 'Cellist who can Sing Bass or Baritone. Good appearance essential.
Write Box 8,789, care of "The Era."

WANTED, 'Cello (Smart), from Monday, for the Empire, Ashton. Apply, stating age, refs., &c., to PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Junction T., Manchester.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Viola.
Apply,
H. C. ARNOLD, jun., Grand Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Oboe and Bassoon, to Open Dec. 3 for Winter Season. Terms, £3 per week. Only First-class Men.
Apply, CAVILLE, Albert-street, Wednesbury.

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WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489. Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LESS, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Conductor (First-class), Engagement. Also Disengaged, Violin and Cornet. Up-to-date Library of Music. Box 8,766, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Thos. Dearlove, Musical Director, at Liberty in December, Termination of Tour. Music Hall, Theatre, or Tour. Next week, Royal, Warrington.

WANTED, by Musical Director (First-class), Engagement for Pantomime, &c.; also Engagement by good Orchestral Pianist. Apply, CONDUCTOR, Winter Gardens, Cleacton.

WANTED, by Musical Director or Leader, Engagement. Thoroughly experienced. Present engagement three years. Address, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 27, Charles Holden-street, Bolton.

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WANTED, by Cornet Player or Leader, Engagement. Used to Circus Business. Long experience. T. REYNOLDS, Marquis of Granby Hotel Lincoln.

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WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Dramatic, Variety, or any business. References.
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WANTED, by Clarionet (Experienced), Engagement. Disengaged through closing.
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Address, ONSLOW, Palace Pier, Brighton.

WANTED, by Clarionet or Horn, Engagement. References if required.
W. WRIGHT, 39, St. Mary's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement. Any businness. Twenty Years' experience. First-class references. Could take 'Cello. Vacant Dec. 3.
VINCENT, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate

WANTED, by Double Bass or 'Cello, Re-engagement. Thoroughly experienced. Excellent references. LYND, 170, Drakefell-rd., Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement. Disengaged until Dec. 26. Theatre experience and refs, &c. W. H. FENTON, 50, Merrion-st., Brigate, Leeds.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, any business. First-class references. Apply, R. HARDMAN, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Trombonist (First-class), Engagement, any Biz. Would Deputise, London.
GEORGE NICKS, 4, Trinity-street, Islington, London.

WANTED, by Euphonium Player (First-class), late Army, Engagement. BANNISTER, 1, Italian-villas, Sydney-rd., Hayward's-heath, near Brighton.

WANTED, by Bombardon and Euphonium, Situation. Band. No objection Good Pitching Band. Good refs. TANBY, Prince Wales's-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by Viola, Permanent Engagement. Experience, Dramatic and Variety. W. HALEY, 40, Newport-road, Manningham, Bradford.

WANTED, by Viola (Combine Violin) Engagement, Theatre, Variety, or other Business. Reliable and sober. Please apply Box 8773, "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cello (Experienced), Engagement, any Business, Pantomimes Varieties, Hotels, or Yachts. Ad., Box 8,774, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement. Slight experience. Could combine Brass. Any capacity. Age Twenty-two. Apply, G. B. G., 26, Leonard-road, Landport, Portsmouth.

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WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl on 'Cello.
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WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo Player, Engagement. Last Place Three-and-a-half Years. Experienced in Opera, Dramatic and Variety Business. Address, Box 8 779 care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class) Twenty-four, Colonial Gentleman (Senior Honours T.C.L.), Musical Sketch Artist and Prestidigitateur, Engagement. VIVIAN, 31, Cloudesley-square, Islington, N.

WANTED, by Brilliant Pianist, Soloist, Vocalist and Sketch Artiste at Piano, Engagement. Write or wire, Miss GABRIELLE HOPE, 25, High-road, Streatham.

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WANTED, Known. Miss Dora Blanche, Drums, Tympani, Xylophone, &c., Disengaged. Address, Sedgford House, Rusthall-avenue, Bedford-park, London, W.

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WANTED, by Tympanist and Double Drummer (own Tymps), Engagement in Theatre or Music Hall. Thoroughly Experienced and Reliable. J. PARSONS, 3, Afghan-road, Clapham-junction, S.W.

WANTED, by "Nell Gwyn" Orchestra (Miss Queenie Howard's), Engagements. Now playing daily, Eastbourne and Kensington. Address 131, Goldhawk-road, London, W. The Era Notice.—Very enjoyable was the attractive and delightful Queenie Howard Orchestra in the Crown Room. The ladies wore pretty Nell Gwn dresses in amber and blue satin.

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WANTED, Known, Rosabel Ladies' Orchestra Concert Party, Society Entertainers. Piers, at Homes, &c. Dir. 10, German-place, Brighton.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED, Family Quartette, Violin, Bass, Flute, Piccolo, and Piano, Engagement. Disengaged Shortly. Thoroughly Experienced in Variety, Dramatic, and Orchestral Business. Moderate Terms for Permanency. Box 8,770, care of "The Era."

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

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WANTED, the Talent of the Earth and Air for this successful Circus.
Anything and Everything Good write at once.
Address, KING OHMY,
Ohmy's Grand Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, for Hancock's Circus, Plymouth, Dec. 5, 1904, and onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines. Good Specialities, no Fancy Prices, but Money sure; also Dec 19 and onwards, Male and Female Bareback Equestrians, without Own Horses, as we have Good, Young, Reliable Horses. Wanted, Novelties for Side Show, Shares or Salary. Good Marionette Show Write

WANTED, for December, First-class Circus Company, on Share or Salary.
Full particulars,
EDWARD EMERSON,
General Manager,
Circus, Hull.

WANTED, to Engage for Christmas Carnival and World's Fair, North Haymarket, Liverpool (under cover) a Circus Troupe, with Horses and Variety Artistes; also Wire-walkers, High-divers, or any Suitable Attractions for Circus Ring. To Perform Twice Daily. Terms and Acts, COLLINS and WALLIS, World's Fair, Scotland-road, Liverpool. No Sole write.

World's Fair and Carnival.
Commencing Dec. 24. One Month.
WANTED, Artistes for Ring and Stage, Gymnasts, Acrobats, Clowns, Variety Artistes, and Sensational Acts; also Positions to Let for Side Shows, Illusions, Marionettes, Games, Fancy Stalls, Wire-workers, or Exhibits of any kind Covered Hall. Artistes please state lowest terms, or useless; also Lithos.
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WANTED, for the New Hippodrome Circus, Southport, commencing Dec. 12 onwards, Artists in all Lines, Animal Acts, Pad Acts, &c. All Acts perform in the Ring. Apply by letter, marked "Hippodrome," to Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, a Dwarf,
Wanted, a Dwarf,
Wanted, a Dwarf,
Capable of Doing Clown,
for
Acrobatic Show.
Good Engagement.
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"The Era" Office.

WANTED, Triple-Bar Performer, to do few Tricks with Comedy. Particulars, Tricks, &c. BAR-ACTOR, 8, East-street, Bloomsbury.

WANTED, a Good Tumbler and a Good Top Mount.
Apply, Box 8 778, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, at Once, for First-class Troupe a Lad aged sixteen to Twenty-one. Must be Smart Tumbler. State tricks, Height, &c. Apply, Box 8,741, care of "The Era" Office.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, a Boy, must be a Good Acrobatic Hand-to-Hand Balancer, about 8st.; age about fifteen. 208, Hyde-road, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, a Lad, about Fifteen, must be Good Tumbler and do Acrobatics.
Addr ss, B. B., 10, Little Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, at Once, for South Africa, a Thoroughly Competent and Reliable Tent Master. Must Know his Business and be Able to Control his Men. Would like to hear from Dick Wilson.
Apply by letter to
E. H. BOSTOCK,
Cambridge-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lions. Best existing in the Profession.
Vacant Dec. 19. Only Date till Feb. 27, 1905.
Vacant also Easter Week and Whit Week.
Write or wire, Nov. 28. Transfield's Hippodrome, New Brompton, Kent; Dec. 5, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, Captain A. Gerard's African Lions and Tiger Dogs.
Accept Offers for 1905 and 1906.
Apply, GERARD, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

WANTED, Known, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, 11b Mon next and Boxing Day. Thanks for offers. 144, High-st., Deptford.

WANTED, Known, Lillian Davies, Bareback Equestrienne (own Horse), at Liberty Christmas and on. Address, Irvinstown, Co. Fermanagh.

WANTED, Known, John H. Swallow, Equestrian, now concluding a most Comfortable and Successful Ten Months' Tour with Cirque Pinder, France, shortly at Liberty for Home or Abroad, with or without own Ring Horse; also a First-class Trick Mare.
Address, 6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, F. Yelding and Miss Scott at Liberty Dec. 5 for Two Weeks Only. Settled with Sir Robert Fossitt for the Winter, Second season.
All letters, Hippodrome, Porth, S. Wales.
Will Walter Scott kindly write?

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (F. Anderson), Talking Tumbling and Knockabout Clown and Agouste. Just finished Successful Engagement, Hippodrome, Belfast. Now at Liberty.
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WANTED, Known, Little Bishop, Clown and Agouste, now appearing with success, Hippo., Great Yarmouth. Re-engaged by Geo. Gilbert, Esq., until further notice. P.S.—Many thanks to Proprietors for offers.

WANTED, Known, Alveno and Cleo, South African Novelty Gymnasts on Revolving Breakaway Ladder, the Smartest Act of its kind. This week terrific success, Palace, North Shields; next, Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth. Vacant Dec. 5 and 12. Wire or write. Thanks to W. A. Jackson, Esq., for ref.

WANTED, Known, J. Wilson, Comedy Bar Performer, at Liberty Nov. 28, onwards. Would join Partner C.O. MARS, Phœnix, Donabate, Co. Dublin

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Marvellous Lady and Gent Gymnastic Pot-pourri Act. Free 28th Dec. 12. Wire, Saturday, 14, Mead-row, Kennington-road; after, Hippodrome, Porth.

WANTED, Known, Zola Troupe, Lightning and Herculean Male and Female Acrobats, at Liberty Nov. 28 and Dec. 5 through misunderstanding. Wire for Monday, Ohmy's Circus, Bolton; or, permanent, 40, Tiverton-road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Nov 28, Dec 5, Wayeno Trio (Two Ladies, One Gent), Acrobats, Wire Walkers, Flying Rings, Knockabout Clown, Up-to-date Entrées. Wire, till Sunday, Olympia, Sunderland; after, the Sands, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, The Rabys, Acrobatic Hand-balancers and Gymnastic Marvels, take all by surprise. Terms, Lithos., 29, Garden-st., Todmorden.

WANTED, by Harland and Rollison, Alcazar, Marseilles, France, Second Week. Doing well. Why? Because we are Foreigners.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Bros. Lloddge, Silver Chain Acrobats. Wire quick, 55, Kingcross-street, Halifax; or, James Fioni, Agent.

WANTED, Known, Percy True, Wire Act, New, Tight and Slack. Lowest terms, £20 per Week. 106, Cromwell-road, Kensington

WANTED, Known Bros Austin, Comic Pyramid of Chairs and Foot Equilibrists, Monday next, Hippodrome, Yarmouth At Liberty Dec. 5 for Two Weeks. Dec 24, Fossett's Grand Circus, Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, Monday and Dec. 5, by Delamere Trio, Original Comedy Equilibrists.
Wire, 95, North-road, Preston

WANTED, Known Volray, Juggler Conjuror, and Clown, Liberty Dec. 12 Halls or Panto Particulars, 1, Mabbott's-place, Holland-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Huntley and Palmer, Eccentric Comedians, Original Comic Sketch, introducing Wonderful Acrobatic Goat and Wrestling Donkey, the only one in England. Liberty Monday, Ring or Stage. Big Act for Panto. Per., 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

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WANTED, Tom Hall and Burlesque Acrobatic Nippers, Dog, and Monkey, Dec. 5. Splendid success, Paddington P., Liverpool; next week, Park P.

WANTED, Known, Proprietors, Managers, Agents must not miss seeing Brothers Rolando in the latest Sensational and Comedy Strong Show. Theatre Royal, Oldham, Nov 29, Day Show only.

WANTED, by Comedy Gymnast (Rings, &c.) and Acrobatic Knockabout, join any Dumb Act. Reliable; own Apparatus, Dresses. Write, Box 8,775, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Two Brothers, Situation with Thoroughbreds or any Travelling Horses. Thoroughly experienced. Excellent references. Wire or write, LEWIS BROS., 73, Romilly-crescent, Cardiff.

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MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

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PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
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Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
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Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
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WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every Description. Immediate Dates for Suitable Numbers. Only High-Class Acts Represented.
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Telegraphic Address, "Engagement, Manchester."

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Eleven miles from Swansea.
WANTED, Dec 5, Week, Refined Variety Artistes, in all Lines.
Address,
JOHN TULLY.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety Artistes of Every Description, Big Vocal and Specialty Acts, Dec. 5 onwards. State terms. All Artistes at Liberty Christmas and New Year's Weeks, onwards, send lowest terms, bookings, lithos.
Edgar Stebbings' Agency, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Refined Comedian, Doubles, doing Singles, Dec. 5, 12, Christmas Week, Chelmsford. The FATS, Q.T., Fleetwood.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, in all Lines, Dec. 5, onwards, for Manchester, Ashton, Bury, Preston. WM. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artistes of Every Description, including Good Bioscope, Ventos., and anything Attractive, for Three Months' Tour near London, commencing Boxing Night. Photos., terms, bills, &c., to C. F., Crown Hotel, St. Martin's-court, W.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety Artistes of every description
Specialities and Novelties all kinds.
Send fullest particulars,
absolute lowest terms,
photos, lithos., &c.
MANAGER, Prince's Theatre, Norwich.

WANTED, Variety Artists in All Lines. Sisters, &c. Dumb Shows that can be done on Small Stage, Dec. 26, onwards. Hall (small). ARTHUR TURLS, 51, Trafalgar-road, Mosely, Birmingham.

IRISH TOUR.
TIVOLI, DUBLIN;
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WANTED, Artists, Stars, Good Novelties, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Sketches, Acrobats, Jugglers, New and Novel Acts.
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WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artists, Dec. 5 and On. Turns with Two Acts. Rehearsal Nov. 28 for all Engaged. QUINTON GIBSON, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines from now, on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

THE PAVILION, ALTRINCHAM.
WANTED, Artistes in All Lines. Good Comedy Acts, Doubles doing Singles, Sisters, &c. Write, lowest terms (hall small), FRED BUDD, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester. Silence a polite negative.

WANTED, First-class Artistes of Every Description to communicate at once. Also opening for Two Clever Amateurs. Highest references exchanged. Letters only, J. W. L., 18, Green-street, W.C. Tel. 7,447 Gerrard.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, suitable for Open Carnival. High Wire, Skaters, Bicyclists, Acrobats, &c., to open Dec. 12 and onwards. SCOTT, Manager, Iona-st. Carnival, Edinburgh. Send lowest terms

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Specialities, &c., for Eastbourne, Dec. 26, onward. Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Star Artistes for Dec. 26 and Onwards. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE,
6, HENRY-STREET, DUBLIN. Open all the year round. Gigantic success of Reopening. Hundreds turned away.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines (Equestrians excepted) Write in for Present and Future Dates. No best offers. Lowest terms to MANAGERS.

WANTED, Artistes to Note, all Dates for this Year are Filled. First Vacant Date, Feb. 13. Double and Single Turns write in. Can Book Freak at once. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

HIPPODROME, MACCLESFIELD.
WANTED, Artistes, Dec 5 and onwards.
Address, HARRY BENDON Business Manager

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROMES, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Artistes, January, on. Rehearsal, Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Miss Daisy De Roy and Own Star Company

WAKEFIELD HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, THE WAKEFIELD HIPPODROME CO., Limited.
WANTED, Artistes of Every Description, Big, Bright, Glittering Stars, Big Novelties, Animal and Circus Shows, Big Spectacles; in fact, Anything that will Draw and Please the Public. To follow Elliotts and Savonas, Ella's Lions, Maggie Duggan, &c. Consulting Manager, T. M. Sylvester. Agents Please Note.—No Contracts will be Recognised unless on the Company's Printed Form, and Signed by the Secretary. All Bill Matter to be forwarded direct to the Company's Registered Office, Teall-street, Wakefield, and addressed to the Secretary. WALTER EMMETT (Secretary).

ST. ANNE'S-ON-SEA PIER and PAVILION.
WANTED, Applications from Good Artistes Competent to Form and Lead a First-class Company of Pierrots or Minstrels for next Season, commencing at Easter. Applications, with terms and references, to MANAGER, The Pier, St. Annes-on-Sea

DERBY, GRIMSBY, and ATTERCLIFFE.
WANTED, Dec 12, onwards, Star Artistes of every description. The Biggest and Best in the Business may communicate. Good Bioscope, with constant change of Pictures, can have Tour at reasonable figure. T. EDWARDES, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, Nov. 28, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c., Brown's Agency, 150, Old-st., Ashton-under-Lyne

WANTED, Artistes, Monday, Nov. 28, on, Stars and Specialities of Highest Calibre, for Principal London and Provincial Houses.
Pantomime Artistes write.
Principal Boy, Girl, Comedian, Dame, &c.,
Trap Scene, Quartette, and Big Specialities.
Novelties and Sensations Required for Grand Christmas Carnival in the North, Side Shows, Illusions, Roundabouts, Richardson Theatres and all Class of Fair Ground Attractions write.
Letters only, with full particulars, no Interviews, Henri Cazman's Agency, 35, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, S.W.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies Dec. 5 and 12. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Artistes all Lines, Dec. 5, onwards. Good Comedians and Comedy Acts. GEO. SAPHRINI, Manager, Britannia, Glasgow.

THE NEW COLISEUM, SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, T. C DORLING.
General Manager, CHAS. MELVIN.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, onwards,
the Greatest Star Artistes.
The Biggest Novelties.
Acts with Drawing Power.
Acrobats,
Gymnasts,
Sketch Companies,
Illusionists,
Comedians, &c.

WANTED, Artistes, Doubles doing Singles Tour Small, Dec. 1. Partner with Two or Three Good Acts to my Three entertained. Good Cinématograph preferred. LE WIST, c.o., Mrs RIDGE, Trimdon Colliery, Co. Durham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Star Artistes. Wanted, Novelties, Big Acts, Comedians, Only First-class Turns, Dec. 5, and Onward. List of bookings, &c.,
Yates's Agency,
Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, for Colwyn Bay, Commencing Whitsun, 1905, First-class Al Fresco Artistes, all Lines, Vocalists, Comedians, Dancers, Specialities, for the Finish season of the Premier Al Fresco show in the Bay. Good and Reliable Artistes. Write, age, references, &c., HARRY REYNOLDS, 104, Great Dover-street, London, S.E.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Grand Annual; West-end Concerts; City Entertainments; Suburban, Provincial.
"Amusement" (60, Monthly), 7 Whitefriars, London, E.C.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Artistes of Every Description,
Tops of Bills, for Dec. 26, 1904,
Jan. 2, 9, and 23, 1905, for North.
Also Star Turns and Comedy Acts for Scotland, 1905-6.
Forward list of dates to
WALTER BENTLEY,
Palace, Aberdeen.
London Offices, 169, Stamford-st. 'Phone, 12,703 Central.
Artistes please accept thanks for writing; no time to write to all.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.
All communications must be addressed to Burns' Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and Manchester.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Nov. 28, at 10 o'clock prompt.
Boris Fridkin Troupe of Vocalists,
Brothers Esdaile, George Hyam,
Keith and Merson, Baroni and Kemp,
J. P. Carroll, Burns's Bioscope,
Items, Doris Lillian.
(Signed) H. BURNS, General Manager.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin
for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct
or through Agents.
All communications
to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted, Big Stars
Singing Turns,
Novelties,
Specialities
for
Immediate
Dates
Price No Object.
Lithos and
terms,
Will Sley
Oxford-street,
Manchester.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON,
Lessee and Manager.
WANTED, Big Star, Comedy, and Musical Acts,
for Dec. 19 and 26, Jan. 2, 23, and 30.

ERNEST L. WARNER'S AGENCY, 156, Stockwell-park-road, Brixton, S.W. Telephone, 674 Brixton. The Sole Provincial and London Representative, E. C. Jaxon.
WANTED, Stars, Novelties, and Good Funny Acts (Stage and Ring), Immediate and Future Dates, London and Provinces. Can give suitable Acts Six Weeks, North, with easy Journeys. Send Bookings (not Vacancies) and absolute lowest bed rock, and mark letters "Tour."

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES, BURY.
WANTED, Stars and Big Novelties, Dec 26, and onward
Full Particulars to OTTO C. CULLING.
No Wires and no Interviews.
Silence a polite negative pro tem.

Please Note Address of our New Residential Offices.
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Stars and Novelties, anything Big, for Liverpool, Glasgow, Manchester, Blackpool, Bolton, Oldham, Wigan, Rochdale, Stoke, Dudley, Middlesbrough, York, Northampton, Grimsby, Derby, Atterclife, Leeds, Bury, St. Helens, Ashton, Preston, Warrington, Norwich, Rhyl, New Brighton, Coventry, Ipswich, Wakefield, Doncaster. Artistes at Liberty Nov. 28, onwards communicate quickly Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment" Telephone, 2,076, Royal.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 6 Stars in all Lines
Stars in all Lines,
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

M. CHESTER and CO.,
Dramatic
and
Variety Agents,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams,
"Amusements."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Turns, all kinds, for Cork and other Irish Towns. Must be Refined.

WANTED, Star Turns, Novelties, &c., of every description (nothing too big), for Opera House and Empire, York;
Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough;
Grand Opera House, Harrogate.
Apply,
WILLIAM PEACOCK,
Grand Opera House,
Harrogate.

WANTED, Any Turns, suitable for Outside Carnival, Comic Bicycles, Three Bars, or Skaters. Salaries low. Iona-street Carnival, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Week Show, Commencing Dec. 26 to 31, Smart Novelty Turns, viz., Musical Animals, Juggler, &c. Apply, HAMILTON, Humourist, Rotherham.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy Acts, Nov. 28, onwards; also Artistes in all Lines. Send full list of dates, litho., terms, and full particulars to Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Telephone, 6 915 Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other Firm.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Turns and Startling Sensations, in all Lines. Money no object for Novelties, Equestrians, Animal Acts, &c. Send Full List of Bookings and lowest terms, in first letter, to Barnard and Deetrich, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

WANTED, Refined Turns, Dec. 26, for Town Hall near London. Absolute lowest in first letter. Good Operators also write.
WALTER PAYNE, 23, Brixton-road, London.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL PAVILION, CARNARVON.
WANTED, Dec. 5, onwards, Specialties of every description with Drawing Powers. Flying Trapeze Artistes, Funny Comedy Numbers, &c.
WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY,
39, York-terrace, Marine-parade,
Great Yarmouth.
WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec 5, 12, 19, and 26, onwards,
Big
Specialities,
Variety Artists,
Performing Animals,
for
Stage and Ring.
Good Acts
can be
Booked at once.
Here are my recent Bookings:—
Cee Mee Troupe,
Gruber's Horse and Elephant,
Gerard's Lions,
Ara, Zebra, and Vora
Miss Lumiere,
Achmed Ibrahim Troupe (four dates),
Vernette and Dionne (five dates),
Frantz Troupe (six dates),
Band of H.M. Scots Grays. Forty in Number (two dates),
the Four Maisanos, Marconis (Two Dates),
Kitts and Windrum, Mystery Gauze,
the Albanos, Primavesi,
Rumbo Austin's Nippers (Two Dates),
Arian and Ostara (Four Dates), Eleonora and Vanda,
Eugene and Willie, Hilton and Hilton, Mozondos,
Klein Family, Florizell (Four Dates),
Rushforths, Mardno,
Bodina Trio, Alveno and Cleo,
Madame Collard's Dogs, Juno Salmo,
Glenroy Troupe (Two Dates),
Bros. Lauri, Hicks's Clerks,
The Singing Cardboard-box Makers.
Send
fullest particulars
as to
Bookings.
Geo. Zalva,
39, York-terrace,
Marine-parade,
Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Top Liners,
Top Liners,
for the Biggest Syndicate in the Business.
for the Biggest Syndicate in the Business.
Geo. Alstoun's Agency,
22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.
Telegrams, "Antics, London."
Telephone, 1,949 Hop.
Nothing
Big Enough.

WANTED, for M'Indoe's Twelfth Annual New Year Carnival,
Talent of Every Description.
Artistes used to Fêtes and Galas write.
Large Covered-in Stage.
Commencing Dec. 31.
Terms,
H. M'INDOE,
Carnival Grounds, Paisley.
Ground to Let
for Side Shows, Novelties, &c.

WANTED, the Finest Talent Obtainable,
Dec. 5 and 12 (North).
Artists booked, Victoria, Broughton, com. immediately.
G. and F. Peel, Granville House, Arundel-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, a Big Speciality, Top of Bill, Dec 26, and other Turns. Write in, HUGH DEMPSEY, 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Star Acts, all Lines, Comedy Turns, &c., Dec. 12. State when last in Newcastle. Lithos, &c.
FRED HARCOURT, Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Six Nights and Matinée, Good Attraction, Top of Bill, and Variety Artists. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, for the Accrington Hippodrome (Ring and Stage), Grand Attractions New to Town, for Dec. 12, 19, Christmas, and New Year.
Please note.—Accrington is barred by Blackburn.
Call, Nov. 23, at 10.—Saxon Trio, Mahatma, Henri C. Verdi, Mutograph, Bessie Travis, Ethel Yorke, Lee and Arden, L. B. Jolly, Walker, Arthur Croxon.
Vandy's Agency, Hippodrome, Accrington, to Saturday, Dec. 3. Lowest terms, Lithos, &c. first letter.

WANTED, Big Top of Bill, Dec. 12, 19, and 26, 1904, and Jan. 16, 1905. Apply, with lowest terms, to BARNARD and DEETRICH, 7, Clayton-sq., Liverpool.

ARMSTRONG'S AGENCY.
WANTED, First-class Numbers, All Kinds, to send Dates and terms immediately.
Special Notice.—As I have retired from the Management of the Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, all Contracts made through me for Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited, will stand good. Artistes please send their bill matter in fourteen days previous to opening, to be addressed to the Manager, Tivoli Theatre.—Signed, BARNEY ARMSTRONG. All coms. for BARNEY ARMSTRONG to be addressed, 353, Bath-street, Glasgow.

PALACE, LANCASTER.
WANTED, Good Comedy Acts, Comedians Comediennes, Sisters, &c.
State Last Appearance,
Lancaster or Morecambe.
Letters to PORTER and FERGUSON.

WANTED, Good Comedy Sketches for London Music Hall, Dec. 12 and onwards. Terms and particulars to Brooks, 34, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Smart Soubrette, who can Sing and Dance Really Well, for a London Music Hall Engagement. Must be of Exceedingly Attractive Appearance, with Good Figure, and Refined.
Apply, personally or letter, to Mr AUGUSTUS BINGHAM, 3, Air-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

WANTED, Combination. Big Attractions, Dec. 12, 19, 26 (through transferring); also Big Pantos., Jan. 2, 9, 16, Grand Theatres, Chorley and Radcliffe. Address, SANTS, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Good Strong Combination for Hippodrome, Castleford, Dec. 5 and on. Write, BRAHAM, 15, Baresford-street, Camberwell, London, S.E.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
General Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, and onwards, Star Comedians,
Specialities,
Serios, Sisters,
Musical Acts, &c.
Must be Refined,
or useless.
Call,
Monday, Nov. 21.
Craig, Rose, and Craig,
Sisters Morrison,
Pete and Juno, Ray and Miles,
Learto, Happy Attwood,
Three Sisters Lee,
Goliath, Dale and D'Argan.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, Comedians, Triple Bar Acts, Artistes in all Lines for Immediate and Future Dates, Small Sketch Company for Three or Four Weeks, Change Sketches weekly, write in. Preference given to Artistes giving Two Acts. Send absolutely lowest terms, and if can be seen working near here shortly. DAVID WILLIAMS. Good Bioscope write in.

WANTED, Good Trapeze, or some Similar Act, for Four Days, at Northampton, June 12. Address, M'Askell 40, Victoria-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Vent. or Entertainer. Winter Engagement if suitable.
JONES, 6, Emery-street, Chippenham.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Smart, Young, Unmarried Gent., do Double Turn. High-class Concerts. Photo., refs., terms, Mr H. LISTON, P.O., Frodsham, Cheshire.

WANTED, Wrestlers, for the Winter Gardens, Plymouth, on Sharing Terms. Good Business here for Good Wrestlers. Can either work before or after Christmas. Apply to W. C. and S. HANCOCK.

WANTED Christmas Week, Town Hall, Dover, Cinématograph, War and Panto. Pictures; other turns. R. FORSYTH, Broadmead-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, First-class Cinématograph Operators. Full particulars, RALPH PRINGLE, Palatine Hall, Lancaster.

WANTED, Magic Kettle Act Dec. 5, Midlands. Particulars and Prices, Box 8,793, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Liquid Air Kettle Act. Donald Arthur's Agency, 434, Strand, W.C. Tel., 7,279, Gerrard.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Baby Lloyd, Vocal Wonder, and Nellie Vann, Serio, at Liberty Dec. 26, On, through Halls closing. Monday, care of Pringle's Show, Lancaster.

WANTED, Florrie Claribell, Tyrolean Songstress, Ballad Vocalist, and Dancer. Vacant Monday. Wire, 66, Grove-lane, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, Known, the Two Volbecques, Clever Comedy Duettists. Terrific success Queen's Park, Manchester. Monday, Empire Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester. Wil Haydon James send Music?

WANTED, Known, Sisters Verne, Vocalists, Speciality Dancers, Lib. Monday. Wire, 7, Lumley-ter., Chester-le-Street. North preferred.

WANTED, Known, the Casino Girls, Six Juvenile Performers on Brass and String Instruments, Open for Booking. Apply, Agent, Serpentello's, 28, Wellington-street, Strand.

THE GREAT MACCANN.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12. Nov. 28, HIPPODROME, BELFAST. The Concertina King. Instruments Value £500. A Challenge to all, without Fear or Favour, for £10 to £50. H. Higham, 9, York-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Tony Freedman, the Great Little Comedian. Terrific success Scotch Concerts. No Vacancies 1904 First Vacant Date, Jan. 9, 1905. Booked Solid from May till October. Terms to 81, London-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known Arthur Lovell, Female Impersonator, at Liberty Nov. 28 and Dec. 5. Thanks H. Eglington, Esq., for offer.

WANTED, Nov 28 and Dec 5, Herr Schuyler, World's Greatest Saxophonist. Wire, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Witty Will Pearce, very Smart Vocalist and Extraordinary Animal Mimic, Wants Monday. Wire, Tivoli, Bury.

WANTED, Six Nights Monday next, by Harry Albery, Eccentric Comedian and Dancer. Wire, Empire Palace, Wigan. Wire. Any distance.

WANTED, by Frank Whiteley, Dec. 5 and 12, great success Hippodrome, Porth. Monday next, 28th, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Monday, also Dec. 5, by Fred Usaburn, Eccentric Comedian in a Dress Suit. E., Wrexham; after Sat., Hertford-street, Hunslet, Leeds.

WANTED, Picitt, the Muscular Master of Manacles, Handcuff Marvel, without faked fetters, trick boxes, or conjuror's methods. Searched from Head to Feet. A Puzzle to Police, Physicians, and especially Handcuff Kings. An Act entirely different to any other, an Act that cannot be copied. This week, Pavilion, Carnarvon; next week, Palace, Dundee. Dec. 5 Vacant, wire. Dec. 12, Cook's Circus, Edinburgh. Dec. 19, Hippodrome, Carlisle. Dec. 26 Vacant; also Few Dates Next Year.

WANTED, Known, Kardoc, Handcuff King. Big Act. Still a Draw. Different to others. Local Police Tests. Lithos Wire or write. Free Dec 5 on, with exceptions. This Act is not a Copy. Audience search me from head to foot. See Card.

WANTED, Immediate Dates by James Carl, Magician, with an Original and High-class Act. Sure draw. Write for Sample Lithos., Terms, &c. 100, Chester-green-road, Derby. Good Agent Required.

WANTED, Known, Parmwell, Coin and Card Manipulator, a Magician without apparatus. Who will book my first week's engagement? A good, cheap Turn. Liberty Dec. 5, on. Address, care of J. BURNS, 28, Butler-green, Hollinwood, Oldham.

WANTED—Leo Selwyn, Magician, Handcuff Manipulator, and Challenge Box Artiste. Vacant Nov. 28, and on, for Tour, Home or Abroad. Wire for Monday, SELWYN, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, Wales.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday next, through Barring Clause, Marcus Boyle, Ada Whitton. One or both. Wire, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

WANTED, Known, the Danbys, Liberty Monday next. Extra Smart Comedy Act. Clean. Wire, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Monday next; also Dec 5, by The Percys (Harry, Lillie). Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers. Wire, Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, Known, Dan Noble, Comedian; Marie Yorke, Comedienne. Lib Dec. 5 and 12. Hippo., Dewsbury. Offers, Hippo., Macclesfield.

WANTED, Smart Agent by the Rolando Bros., Athletes, Day Show only. Nov. 29, Royal Theatre, Oldham. Permanent Address, 8, Austerberry-street, Oldham.

WANTED, by Engist and Orsa, Musical Comedians, Immediate Dates Big success. Palace, Cork, and T. R., Waterford. Coms., 17, Berwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Ray and Ransford, from the Adelphi Theatre, London, still at Liberty. The Comedians, the Dancers, and Pantomimists Thanks Mr Mouillot for offer. Care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Dec. 12 and 26, by Warner and Wilson, Comedians. A Sure Success. Double and Singles. Nov. 28, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday next, by Chant and Chant, Comedy Duettists Hippo., Salford, to follow. Will Buy Atkins Wig Cheap. Wire, E., Dover

WANTED, Dec. 5, by Dale and D'Argan, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurors, in a Funny and Original Act. Palace Theatre, Cork.

WANTED, Dec. 5, through Hall closing, by Carl and Carr, Comedians, in Great Refined Comedy Act, "Workhouse." Wire, Queen's T., Fleetwood. Monday, 2, Neil-st., Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Sill and Sillcott, Premier Pantomimists, Extravaganzas, "Left Luggage," Liberty Monday; also Dec. 5. 5, Shaw-st., Oldham.

WANTED, Dec. 12, Les Frères Baptiste, Novel Comedy Juggling Act "Fun in the Kitchen," also Liberty Panto Address, Bridge-st. Hall, Reading.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday Next and Dec. 5, Two Good Distinct Acts. Beautiful Posing Act and Comedy Sketch. Wire LARTI, Hippodrome, Leigh.

WANTED, Nov. 28, Dec. 5, by Stavordale Quartette Absolutely Unique Tels, "Stavordale, London." Letters, 11, Cheriton-square, Balham.

WANTED, Dec 5, by Tom Hall and Nippers. Dog and Monkey. Big Success, this, Paddington: next, Park P., Liverpool. Geo. Aytoun.

WANTED, Monday next, the Dunlops, Comedy Cycle Act; Lillian Sivado, Lady Gymnast; Two Distinct Acts. Wire, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs

WANTED, by the Musical Albanos, Dec. 5 and 12. This week the talk of Norwich. Wire or write, the Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Bert Williams, in his unique Ventriloquial speciality. Clever, Refined, Original. Managers wanting Sound Turn, wire, Queen's-park, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday, Gillin Ventriloquist; also Bioscope. Perfect Pictures. Wire, Hippodrome, Macclesfield. "Me Hat's Off."

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."

WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Patriotic Naval, Military Spectacle, concluded Palace, Belfast. Next week, Theatre Royal, Breck-road, Liverpool. Vacant Christmas.

WANTED, Immediate Dates for Juvenile Military Spectacle "Russo and Japan War." Letters, CLARKE, 2 in 236, Great College-street, London, N.W.

WANTED, Dates for Up-to-Date Short Dramatic Sketches. First-class Productions. Incidents, Russo-Jap War and Anglo-French Alliance. Wire, MANAGER, 6, Sussex-street, London, S.W.

WANTED, Dec. 5, for Matt Wilkinson's Screaming Comedy Sketch, "The Registry Office." Wire, Hippo., Ipswich; next, Hippo., Wakefield.

WANTED, Monday, by Billy Ross and Company, in the Great Comedy Act. Parthenon, Liverpool, this week. 9, St. Vincent-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, by the Elvins, in their Dramatic and Comedy Sketches, "A Woman's Sin" and "My Friend the Policeman." Excellent Répertoire. Address, Post-office, Salisbury.

WANTED, Dec. 28, 29, 31, New Year's Week, and later, Salary or Share, for the Royal Entertainers Mr HARRY LISTON, Egyptian Hall, W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Levite's Pantomime Troupe; also Belle Ida, Burlesque Artiste, Boy or Girl. Com., 103, Acre-lane, Brixton.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Spangelettis Stage Circus, Animal Act. Laughing Hit of programme. This, Pavilion, Carnarvon; next, Circus, Rochdale.

WANTED, Known, Judge's Cockatoos Vacant Nov. 28, Dec. 5 Wire, 6, Ashbrook-road, Upper Holloway, London, N.

WANTED Known, Buer's Arabian Talking Donkey, Cooke's Royal Circus, Edinburgh. Free Jan. 16. Communicate, 18, Springfield, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Young Gent, age Twenty-one, Smart. Good appearance, who has had good experience with Illusions, Engagement as Assistant to Illusionist or Conjuror. J. C. C., 38, Pursers-cross-road, Fulham.

WANTED, by Knockabout Tumbler and Expert Boxer, a Shop. Sketch or Sensational Acts. SAM LEO, 5, Ely-terrace, Mile-end-road, E.

WANTED, Engagements, Now and Onward, for the Edison-Paul Animated Pictures. Latest Subjects, "Whirling the World," "North Sea Outrage," &c. Experienced Operators. Add., T. M. PAUL, Empire Theatre, Shildon, Durham Telegrams, "Paul, Shildon."

WANTED Dates, for Bioscope Pictures, also Troupe of Dogs; the High Leaping Dog a sure draw. LE CLAIR, Fleece Hotel, Bishop Auckland.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Monday next, Onwards, Hewson's Bio-Tableaux, all Up-to-date Pictures. Electric or lime. Wire, Hippodrome, Leigh, Lancs

WANTED, Known, Bioscopes, Highest-class Professional Instruments. All latest Improvements. Steady, Brilliant, Flickerless. Best designs, material, and workmanship. Projector Mechanism. With lense and 2·12in. Spools, £9; or with lantern, &c., in travelling case, complete, £13 10s. THOMASSIN, Engineer, Streatham.

WANTED, Known, Royal Bioscope Vacant Nov. 28, onwards, with all the latest Films Terms moderate HUGHES 37, Cedars-avenue, Walthamstow

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities. SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON, 66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Handsellers to know Simons is the Man for Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery. Send £5 for Special Parcel. 117, Houndsditch, London

Showmen's Fire Insurance.

WANTED, Known, al kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom. For particulars apply to F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others to Know. Simons is the Cheapest Place for Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, and Cheap Jewellery. Best-class French Paste Stocked for the Profession. 117, Houndsditch.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermilionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Write for price list or call, Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

Chiappa and Sons, Limited, of 6, Little Bath-street, Clerkenwell, London, and 17, Milton-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

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Last Week's Advertisement was a clerical error.

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ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.

Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
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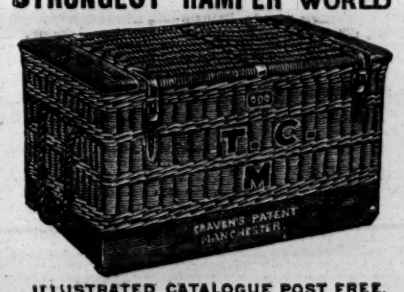

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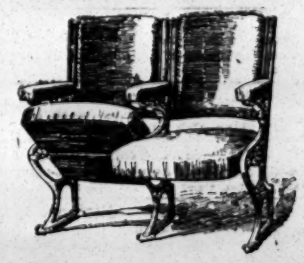

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CHIRGWIN, London Nightly, Four Months. "Friends," please refrain from Copying.

CHIYO and MDLLE. MOTO, Japanese Sword, Wire, and Perpendicular Rope Performers. Lib shortly. 27, Cowper-rd., Acton, W. Agents Required.

CLARENCE and BELL, Comedians, in J. Gar Kiddie's "A Little Coquette" Company. Nov. 28, Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.

CLARION TRIO, usual success, Empire, Burnley. Monday next, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

CLARKE'S NIPPERS finish To-night Hippo., Manchester. Next Week, with W. Mould, P., N. Shields A sure, Comfortable Week.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, Principal Girl, Jill, Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

CLEVELANDS, THE, on Tour. Letters, care of "The Era" Office.

CLYO (HARRY) and ROCHELLE (ROSE), Star, Bermondsey.

COBORN, CHARLES, Empire, Newcastle. New Song, "The Missis knows better than I do."

COLEMAN, ROSIE, and HARRY CONLIN. 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

COLLARD, MADAME, with her Highly Trained Boarhounds, Impersonating Lions and Tigers. Next Week, Barnard's, Chatham. Dec. 5, H., Lowestoft.

COLLIN and IRENE, Second-Sight Experts and Illusionists. Theatre Royal, Ferndale. Nov. 28, Pavilion, Carnarvon.

COLLINS, GEO., Quaint Star Comedian. Big success, Regent, Salford. Monday, Sanford, London. Vacant Panto, Dame. Last Christmas, Bradford.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE, at Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 368, Camden-road, N.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COLVIL and TATE (JACK and ANNIE), the Comedy Two, Duettists and Speciality Dancers. Care of Murray, 62, Waddell-street, Glasgow.

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COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE. Popular Singer of Sensible Songs. Lib. Mon. next, one week, prior to Panto. rehearsals. Wire, H., Wakefield.

COOKE, STEVE, Comedian. Hippodrome, Carlisle.

CORNISH, WILL, in his Unique Musical Bell Act. This week, Palace, West Hartlepool; next, Palace, Lincoln.

COVERDALE, CHAS., the Droll Comedian, Very big Talking success at Hippodrome, Accrington, at 7·56 and 10·1. Nov. 28, Empire, Middlesbrough.

COWPER, VERNON, Blueskin, "Jack Sheppard." Nov. 28, Alhambra, Belfast.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Palace, Cork.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, Comedy Juggler, and his Acrobatic Dog "Dooley." This week, G., Stockton-on-Tees; next week, Hippo., Bury.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Company. London Hippodrome.

CREW, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW, Starring Return, H., Dover. Bonnie Maud Marlow and Quaint J. H.

CROWN TRIO (W. Davidson, L. Davidson, E. Schofield), Speciality Vocalists. This, Empire, Ashton; next, Queen's Park Hippodrome, Manchester.

CRUIKSHANK, the Quaint Musical Jester. Returns Monday next to the City Varieties, Leeds.

CUMMINGER, the Acknowledged World's Record Sand Dancer. Barrasford Tour. New Scena by Brother, One Billy Farrell, entitled "The Way to go"

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DALE and VALE, Refined Singing and Dancing Specialité. This week, Palace, Glasgow; next week, Pavilion, Glasgow.

DALE and D'ARGAN, Comedy Acrobatic Conjurors, in a Novel and Original Act. Vacant Dec. 5. Nov. 28, Palace, Cork.

DANIEL, FRANCIS, Own Sketch Company, "A Father's Vengeance." Permanent address, 51, Brunswick-street, South Shields.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Negro Delineators, Now at Public Hall, Barnsley. Vacant Dec. 5 and March 20. Wire, 63, Sherbourne-road, Birmingham.

DANTON, CHARLES, Comedian. Communications, 28, Nelson-street, Bridlington.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. This and next week, Tivoli, Glasgow.

DAVIS, RYDER, and EVA WARD, finish To-night Public Hall, Barnsley. Vacant Dec. 5, 19. Communications, 46, Hanover-gardens, S.E.

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DAYTON FAMILY, THE. Nov. 28, Palace, Northampton.

DE DIO, THE PEERLESS, Continental Tour Month of November. Central Theatre, Dresden, Germany.

DE HENAU and MLLE ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Address, care of "The Era"

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DELEVINES, FIVE, New Act, "Flirtation." The Palace, Plymouth

DENBY and DENT, Comedians. Monday, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. Panto. settled.

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Dec. 5, New Theatre, Cambridge, Three Nights.

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MR. LEONARD HUBERT,
on Tour with Mr and Mrs Kendal,
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MR. RALPH HUTTON,
Mr Tree's "Darling of the Gods" Company (South).
Disengaged Dec. 10. New Theatre, Oxford.

MR FRED INWOOD,
Charles Frohman's "Sherlock Holmes" Company,
Dec. 5. Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

MR. and MRS. FREDERIC JACQUES
(Miss Minnie Rayner), "Zaza." Dec. 5, Grand Theatre, Derby. Disengaged Six Weeks Christmas

MR. GEORGE JAMES,
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MR. POWELL JAMES, Business-Manager and Captain Salem, Chas. A. Chandler's "Belle of Haslemere" Co. This, Athenæum, Lancaster.

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Concluding Forty Weeks' Engagement with Grace Warner. Retained for Acting-Management next Tour.

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King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

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41, Upper Gloucester-place,
N.W.

MR. WINGOLD LAWRENCE,
Lead, Mr Walter Melville's "A Girl's Cross Roads" Company. Dec. 5, Brixton Theatre.

MR. EDMUND LEA
concludes Fifteen Months' Engagement with Mrs Lewis Waller Dec. 17. Address, 30, Bedford-st., W.C.

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MR. F. MORLAND.
Address,
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as the Hon Ernest Worley, in "The Admirable Crichton," with William Gillette. Empire T., New York.

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MR. and MRS. DRELINCOURT ODLUM
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Disengaged Dec. 12. Character, Comedy, Stage-Management. Tunbridge Wells, Three; Dover, Three.

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"Three Little Maids" Company.
County Theatre, Kingston.

MR. LEONARD PAGDEN,
Mr Owen, "Liberty Hall.
Dec. 5, P. O. W. Theatre, Liverpool.

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MR. DOUGLAS PAYNE,
Playing Inu, Mr Tree's N. Co., "The Darling of the Gods." Dec. 5, Theatre Royal, Hanley. Dis. Dec. 19.

MR. B. IDEN PAYNE, Mr. Norman V. Norman's Company. Engaged by Mr F. R. Benson for his Jamaica Tour, 1905. Letters, 10, King-st, W.C.

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MR. W. E. RICHARDSON
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Panto., Stage-Management, Prince's, Manchester.

MR. WALTER RINGHAM
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At Liberty. 13, Clarence-square, Brighton.

MR. and MRS. GORDON ROBEY
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All communications to Oakham, Dudley.

MR. LEONARD ROBSON, Starring
Engagement, Stephen Merrick, "The Lightning's Flash." New Theatre, Aberdare.

MR. DAN F. ROE,
Bellicose Betterton, "Nell Gwynne," &c.
Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS.
Address all communications,
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Comedian and General Manager, "Laughter Land" Tour, Royal, Darwen. Next, Grand, Radcliffe (Return).

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Lead, Miss Madge Girdlestone's Company.
Disengaged Dec. 12 To-day, Bolton; next, Bury.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES SEWELL,
Mr T. Arthur Jones's "Life's Sweetest Sins" Company, Theatre Royal, Rugby.

MR and MRS. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
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Address, 28, Clephane-road, Canonbury, N.

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Queen's Theatre, Swindon. Disengaged Dec. 12.

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Principal Comedian,
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Special Engagement with Fred L. Conyinghame, Esq., Resuming Original Part (Lead) with Miss Nettie Ware.

MR. GEORGE SHIRLEY
Disengaged, Acting-Management.
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Disengaged Dec. 10. Comedy Character, Pantomime. "Money-Makers," Opera House, Cheltenham.

MR. JULIUS SIMPSON,
Manager,
Sadler's Wells Theatre.

MR. FRED SINCLAIR,
Comedy Duologue.
Regent Theatre, Manchester.

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Character Actor, Disengaged Pantomime or Drama.
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Dec. 5, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

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Disengaged. Character, Light Comedy, &c. Stage-Management. Eversleigh, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

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Grand Theatre, Islington.

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Disengaged.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, W.C.

MR. HARRY WALSH,
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Playing the Biggest Scamp on Earth.
Queen's Theatre, Dublin.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, contains, as usual, many items and statistics of use and interest to all connected with the stage, and, in addition, a number of sketches and short stories by leading artistes, managers, and others. Among the contributors are J. L. Toole, Dan Leno, George R. Sims, George Robey, Huntley Wright, Harry Randall, Bransby Williams, A. W. Pinero, Louie Freear, Little Tich, George Mozart, and Douglas Orichton. The publication is cheap at a shilling.—Birmingham Daily Gazette, Jan. 16th, 1904.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904
"The Era" Annual for the current year preserves all the features which have made it popular among actors and actresses in the past—short stories, some of them very good and some of them not so good, by well-known entertainers, countless photographs, and a list of plays produced during the year which should make it useful to students of stage history. It is a sign of the times that Omar Khayyam should be quoted on the first page of the almanack.—Morning Post, Jan. 23d.

THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
"The Era" Annual, 1904, reappears with all the features that to metropolitan and provincial playgoers make it invaluable as a work of reference. It again contains a list of new plays and important revivals at the London and suburban theatres, with dates of production to the end of November; new plays submitted in the provinces; the theatrical, musical, and equestrian obituary for the year; and other stage matters concerning which information is often desired. Each branch is excellently classified. What may, for convenience sake, be termed the "useful" portions of the "Annual" are sandwiched by forty short stories by popular actors and entertainers, the interest of these contributions being increased by autographs and portraits.—Daily Chronicle, Jan. 16th, 1904

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Theatre Royal, Darlington, Nov. 28, 1904.

Dear Sir,—Many thanks for blue and silver dress embroidered with lilies, which, together with my furs, you have returned up to time and beautifully cleaned. They look like new. I have dealt exclusively with your firm for six years.

Many thanks, truly yours,
MARIE AUCKLAND.

"Silver King" Co.,
New Ealing Theatre, W.,
Nov. 28, 1904.

Dear Sir,—I received muslin dress and am very pleased with it.

Yours faithfully,
MARIE POLINI.

Comedy Theatre,
Panton-street, S.W., Nov. 28, 1904.

Dear Sir,—I am very pleased with the white crêpe de chine blouse sent this morning.

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THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA FIN DE L'AMOUR."
Fantastic Play, in Five Acts, by M. R. Bracco,
Produced at the Bouffes-Parisiens, Nov. 24.

Anna	Mdlle. LEONIE YAHNE
Comte De Fontaneau	M. HENRY KRAUSS
Marquis Gaetan	M. RIVERS
Docteur Besnard	M. MARNY
Des Vannières	M. SIX
Hautepanne	M. COLIN
Julien	M. PRADALY
Antoine	M. EDMOND

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, DEC. 1.—If M. Baur, the new manager of the Bouffes-Parisiens, had exercised a little more judgment in the selection of his "noveltiès," he would have noticed that *La Fin de L'Amour* is not only an incoherent production but that the work, with hardly sufficient material for one act, has been needlessly spun out to four tableaux. The story is very simple. Anna de Fontaneau's husband, a viveur, has left her, and Anna lives in retirement in her country villa, surrounded by five admirers, whom she keeps at a proper distance. These five gentlemen are a doctor, a sportsman, a poet, a dramatic author, and a neurasthenic creature somewhat used up by the pleasures of the world. All at once Anna's husband returns and sees his wife in the midst of her five adorers. Will he be jealous? Not a bit. He has implicit faith in her, and when she refuses to admit him to her bedroom he philosophically spends the night on a sofa in the drawing-room. He then departs the following morning, not having even attempted to force his way into the conjugal chamber. Anna thereupon resolves to take a lover, and her choice falls upon the sportsman. But the husband returns as suddenly as he went, and Anna discovers that it is not always easy for a woman to run off the rails. The only two important rôles, those of Anna and her husband, were admirably impersonated by Mdlle. Leonie Yahne and M. Krauss. The remainder of the cast was also in able hands.

"ARMIDE ET GILDIS,"
Drama, in Five Acts and Six Tableaux,
by M. Camille De Sainte-Croix,
Produced at the Odéon, Nov. 26.

Renaud	M. DORIVAL
Penbrock	M. ALBERT LAMBERT
Evrard De Bavière	M. COSTE
Clotaire De Paris	M. MARIE DE L'ISLE
Gilles De Rousillon	M. E. VIOLET
Evandre	M. SEVERIN
Sire Guelf	M. GODEAU
Comte Odoard	M. MAXUDIAN
Princesse Gildis	Mdlle. EVEN
Armide	Mdlle. SERGINE
Phénicée	Mdlle. TAILLADE
Zahra	Mdlle. DERIVES
Daoul	Mdlle FELIX
Zamileh	Mdlle. CALVILL

The Paris public, as a rule difficult to move, was roused to a high pitch of enthusiasm on the first night of *Armide et Gildis*, an enthusiasm which points to a big and lasting success. Written in admirable and flowing musical verse, abounding in lofty thoughts, M. Camille De Sainte-Croix's play is not only a magnificent literary production, but a work of art in the highest sense of the word. The talented author has taken from Tasso's "Jerusalem Delivered" the two important characters of Renaud and Armide around whom he has woven a delightful story, fantastic and poetical, yet intensely human. The Knights of the "Dragon D'Aventure," among whom is Renaud, are, with Godfrey of Bouillon's army, besieging Jerusalem, when Armide, the beautiful enchantress, appears and succeeds in enticing to her famous palace in Damascus a number of the knights, where, having kissed her hands, they become demented. Renaud swears to save them from their degradation, and leaves for Damascus, where he finds his comrades-in arms in a pitiful plight. He too, sees Armide, and he, too, succumbs to her charms; and whilst his comrades are allowed to depart in peace, he remains in her power. Then it is the turn of Gildis, Renaud's fiancée, to deliver her knight. Accompanied by Odoardo, both of them disguised, they reach Damascus; but the fraud is discovered, and the incensed Armide orders them to be burned at the stake. Renaud sees them, and, forcing his way through the yelling crowd, he delivers his fiancée and brings her safely back to Jerusalem. But the magic has penetrated into Renaud's heart. His thoughts are with Armide, and with the cry of anguish, "Damas! Damas!" he invokes the image of the woman he loves. Overcome with grief, he refuses to join his comrades in their attack on the city, when suddenly he hears that Armide has been conducted by the Moslems to Jerusalem to suffer an ignominious death for having allowed him, an infidel, to escape; and, at the head of his knights, he rushes to the ramparts and delivers Armide. Armide is vanquished, yet triumphant, for she has won the love of the man for whom she was ready to die. Gildis despises Renaud, who fought, not for glory and for his cause, but for a woman; and Renaud leaves her his Crusader's sword, which the warlike maiden clasps to her breast. It is the triumph of love, a triumph greater and mightier than that of the sword. The interpretation was in every respect worthy of the work. Mdlle. Sergine, who secured first prize this year at the Conservatoire competition, was fortunate enough to make her début in this great play, and scored a tremendous and well-deserved success. Mdlle. Even was an excellent Gildis, the maiden full of warlike enthusiasm but deaf to the voice of love. The difficult rôle of Renaud had been entrusted to M. Dorival, and no better selection could have been made. MM. Albert Lambert, Coste, Marié De L'Isle, and Mesdames Taillade, Derives, and Félix also rendered valuable aid. The Odéon has done wonders in the way of mounting, and every praise is due to them for the care bestowed upon the work.

THE Theatrical Trust question has now entered into an acute state, and threatens to cut the throat of our powerful Authors' Society, who were silly enough to evoke the evil spirit. The Society having excommunicated MM. Richemond and Deval, lessees and managers of the Folies-Dramatiques and the Athénée, for having organised the obnoxious Trust, refused, as you know, to renew their treaty with the first-mentioned playhouse, which expired in October last. M. Richemond took no notice whatsoever of these proceedings. Now, however, the question has become more serious, owing to the fact that M. Chancel has a play, *Madame L'Ordonnance*, in rehearsal at the Folies-Dramatiques, and that the Society has forbidden him to have it produced there. M. Chancel, being a member of the Society, protests against this high-handed proceeding, alleging, with perfect right, that it is the Society's mission to protect his interests, and not to sacrifice them to private revenge. If the case is fought out in a court of law the Society may find that with their draconic edicts they have infringed the law, which would greatly diminish their prestige. M. Richemond has retained as counsel M. Millerand, whilst M. Poincaré will represent the Society. Both these gentlemen are famous lawyers, and in the theatrical world further developments are eagerly watched. I cannot, however, help thinking that the powerful body will give in at the last moment for fear of being worsted in a legal battle.

AT St. Pancras, on Tuesday, an inquest was held on the body of Corrini Geogette Sybil Wheeler, aged fifty, the wife of an actor, living at Gloucester-street, W.C. It appeared that on Saturday, the 19th inst., a fire occurred in deceased's room, and she was badly burned about the legs, and she died about a week afterwards. While in the hospital deceased said that she had knocked a lighted paraffin lamp off a table on to the bed, setting the room on fire.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

LONDON.

Nov. 1. *John Bull's Other Island*, play, in four acts, by Bernard Shaw—Court.
,, 7. *Die Grossstadtluft*, farcical comedy, in four acts, by Oskar Blumenthal and Gustav Kadelburg (opening of German season)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
,, 12. *For Church or Stage*, play, in three acts, by the Rev. Forbes Phillips (originally produced at the Royal Aquarium Theatre, Great Yarmouth, June 8, 1903)—Savoy.
,, 12. *The Flute of Pan*, comedy, in four acts by John Oliver Hobbes (opening of Miss Olga Nethersole's season)—Shaftesbury.
,, 14. *Einsame Menschen*, drama, in five acts, by Gerhart Hauptmann (German season)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
,, 14. *The Voice of the People*, drama, in four acts, by Max Goldberg (originally produced at the Star Theatre, Liverpool, on May 14, 1904)—Dalston Theatre.
,, 14. *The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, play, in four acts, by Frederick Melville—Terriss Theatre.
,, 14. *Mrs Dering's Divorce*, comedy, in three acts, by Percy Fendall (for the first time in London)—Camden Theatre.
,, 15. *Aglavaine and Selysette*, play, in five acts, by Maurice Maeterlinck, translated by Alfred Sutro—Court.
,, 15. *The Freedom of Suzanne*, comedy, in three acts, by Cosmo Gordon Lennox—Criterion.
,, 21. *Das Thal des Lebens*, farcical comedy, in four acts, by Max Dreyer (German season)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
,, 22. *Lady Hamilton; or, The Last Signal*, play, in three acts, by H. F. Wiber Wood—Grand, Islington.
,, 24. *Johannis feuer*, drama, in four acts, by Hermann Sudermann (German season)—Great Queen-street Theatre.
,, 28. *The Shah's New Suit*, comic opera, in two acts (produced by amateurs)—Court.
,, 29. *Traumulus*, play, in five acts, by Arno Holz and Oskar Gerschke—Great Queen-street Theatre

PROVINCES.

Nov. 3. *The Lady Burglar*, comedy, in one act, by Charles H. Brookfield—Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool.
,, 3. *Dorothy o' the Hall*, play, in four acts, by Paul Kester and Charles Major—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
,, 7. *The Fascinating Miss Kemp*, light comedy, in three acts, by Gordon Holmes—Grand Theatre, Margate,
,, 7. *Domus et Placens Uxor* ("The House and Pleasing Wife"), play, in one act, by Gordon Holmes—Grand Theatre, Margate.
,, 7. *Peggy Machree*, musical play, in three acts, by Patrick Bidwell, lyrics by the author, arranged and harmonised by Michèle Esposito—Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.
,, 14. *A Fisher-Maiden*, opera, in two acts, written and composed by Geoffrey Blackmore, additional lyrics by Arthur Phillips and James W. Cox—Public Hall Croydon.
,, 21. *Fourchette and Company*, play, in one act, by Brandon Thomas—Opera House, Northampton.
,, 26. *A Woman's Silence*, romantic musical drama, in three acts, by Connie Meadows (for copyright purposes)—New Theatre Royal, Leigh.
,, 26. *A Knotty Question*, piece, in one act, by F. C. Thomas—Public Hall, Woking.
,, 26. *A Burglar's Darling*, a scena, by Herbert Fuller—Grand, Manchester.
,, 29. *The Housekeeper*, farce, in three acts, by Metcalfe Wood and Beatrice Heron-Maxwell—Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham.

REVIVALS.

Nov. 7. *The Way of the World*, Congreve's comedy—Royalty.
,, 8. *Trilby*, play, in four acts, by Paul M. Potter, dramatised from the late Geo. Du Maurier's novel—His Majesty's.
,, 19. *Lady Windermere's Fan*, comedy, by Oscar Wilde (originally produced at the St. James's Theatre, Feb. 20, 1892)—St. James's.
,, 19. *The Maid and the Minstrel*, musical comedy, in two acts, written by Sydney Cubitt, composed by Carl St Amory—Lyric.
,, 21. *The Broken Heart*, play, in five acts, by John Ford—Royalty.
,, 26. *Candida*, play, by Bernard Shaw—Court.
,, 29. *The Taming of the Shrew*, Shakespeare's comedy, with the Induction—Adelphi.

PARIS.

Nov. 2. *M. De La Palisse*, operette, in three acts, by MM. Robert De Flers and G. De Caillavet, music by C. Terrace—Variétés.
,, 4. *Chiffon*, comedy, in three acts, by MM. Réné Peter and Darceny—Athénée.
,, 6. *L'Escalad*, comedy, in four acts and five tableaux, by M. Maurice Donnay—Renaissance.
,, 8. *Maman Colibri*, comedy, in four acts, by M. Henri Bataille—Vaudeville.
,, 10. *Napoleon*, national epopée, in three parts and forty tableaux, by L. Martin-Laya—Porte Saint-Martin.
,, 10. *Tire'au Flanc*, farcical comedy, in three acts, by MM. Sylvain and Moezy-Son—Déjazet.
,, 16. *Notre Jeunesse*, comedy, in four acts, by M. Alfred Capus—Comedie-Française.
,, 22. *Une Affaire Scandaleuse*, farcical comedy, in four acts, by MM. Paul Gavault and Maurice Ordonneau—Palais-Royal.
,, 24. *La Fin de l'Amour*, fantaisie, in four acts, by M. Robert Bracco—Bouffes-Parisiens.
,, 26. *Armide and Gildis*, drama, in five acts and six tableaux, by M. Camille de Sainte-Croix—Odéon.

BERLIN.

Nov. 2. *Brittannicus*, five-act tragedy, by Racine (M. De Max's season)—Des Westens.
,, 7. *Kamerad Von Zeck*, comedy, in four acts, by A. Zapp—Lustspiel-Haus.
,, 7. *Geschichte Eines Pierrot*, three-act pantomime, by MM. Beissier and Costa—Des Westens.
,, 9. *Soldaten*, play, in four acts, by MM. Stein and Walther—Berliner.
,, 12. *L'Altro Pericolo*, four-act comedy, by Donnay (Signora Duse's season)—National.
,, 19. *Die Siebzehnjährigen*, four-act play, by Max Dreyer—Lessing.
,, 19. *Däumelinchen*, three-act fairy-play, by C. Pohl—Central.
,, 25. *Ein Teufelskerl*, comedy, in three acts, by Bernard Shaw—Berliner.
,, 26. *Der Familientag*, three-act comedy, by G. Kadelburg—Lustspiel-Haus.
,, 26. *Der Tapfere Kassian*, one-act piece, by A. Schnitzler—Kleines.
,, 27. *Andromache*, one-act play, by E. Von Possart—Schauspiel-Haus.
,, 28. *Maskerade*, play, in four acts, by Ludwig Fulda—Deutsches.
,, 28. *Frau Holle*, fairy-play, in four acts, by Oscar Will—Belle Alliance.

FAMOUS SCENIC ARTISTS.

MR J. J. MARKWELL-DAVIS.

Mr J. J. Markwell-Davis was born in London in 1864, and educated at St. Mary's College, Peckham. He studied figure painting at Heatherley's for four years, and tried once only for a studentship at the Royal Academy, but failed. The following year he had a picture accepted and hung at the Royal Academy. Mr. Markwell-Davis entered the scenic profession in the year 1878 under Mr Walter Hann, to whom he acted as assistant for about seven years. During this time a great deal of panoramic work was done for the Messrs Hamilton. He also worked and helped Mr Hann on such plays as the *Old Love and the New*, at the Court Theatre, one of the late Wilson Barrett's first productions in London; *Gulliver* at the Gaiety, then under the management of the late John Hollingshead; *The Lights o' London*, *The Romany Rye*, *Claudian*, *The Silver King*, *Hamlet*, *Junius*, and *Hoodman Blind*, all produced at the Princess's Theatre by Wilson Barrett. One of the first productions Mr Markwell-Davis worked on was *Still Waters Run Deep*, at the St. James's Theatre, under the management of Messrs Hare and Kendal; *The Queen's Shilling* then being played, *Still Waters* following. He also was with Mr Hann during the productions of *In the Ranks* at the Adelphi and *Romeo and Juliet* at the Lyceum, under the management of Sir Henry Irving, for which production Mr Hann painted two pairs of most elaborate tableaux curtains, one pair being of real satin painted in water-colours. He worked occasionally with the late T. W. Hall, painting figures in panoramic scenes chiefly, in the painting-room at the old "Vic." He also painted figures in some of the act-drops by the late Albert Calleott, in the painting-room which used to exist in Great Dover-street, Borough. At the time of the Nile Expedition for the relief of General Gordon Mr Markwell-Davis was engaged by the late Joseph Hamilton to paint some panoramic scenes of the expedition, including a picture of the battle of Abu Klea, in which the gallant Colonel Burnaby was killed. His first contract was a picture of the Grand Opera House, Paris, which he painted for the late Joseph Hamilton. It was during the time mentioned above that he exhibited pictures at most of the London Galleries, viz., Society of British Artists, Suffolk-street; Institute of Painters in Oil Colours, Dudley Gallery; Royal Albert Hall, Guildhall, &c. In 1885 he was engaged by the late Michael Gunn to go to the Gaiety, Dublin, and produce the pantomime of *Whittington*, after which followed the production of *The Mikado*. He stayed in Dublin for three years, also doing the work for the Leinster Hall, which was afterwards turned into the Theatre Royal; but at the time he was there it was used as a public hall, with sometimes Mapleson's or Carl Rosa's opera companies there for a few weeks. After leaving Dublin Mr Markwell-Davis was engaged by Mr Charles W.

MR. J. J. MARKWELL-DAVIS.

Poole, of myriorama fame, also producing work for his brothers Joseph and Harry Poole. He remained with these gentlemen about three years, and then took a painting-room in Bristol, still continuing to do work for the Messrs Poole and Messrs Hamilton. When the Empire, Bristol, opened he painted the stock scenery. About nine years ago he returned to London, and has since been engaged on work for the London theatres and exhibitions.

AGENT AND ARTISTS.

Mr Noelan, a theatrical agent, was sued at the Westminster County Court on Wednesday, before Judge Woodfall, by Miss Cereisia and Mr Frederick De Quincy, co-plaintiffs, for the recovery of five guineas, paid to the defendant under an agreement to render certain services in connection with a theatrical tour. The defendant counterclaimed for extra services, postage, &c.

The plaintiffs entered into an understanding with the defendant to arrange for contracts for certain theatres in connection with a theatrical tour in the provinces, the contracts to be completed at one guinea each commission to the defendant. They paid him ten guineas in advance, and only five theatre contracts were completed, although a number were submitted. When at the end of the tour the return of five guineas was asked for the defendant counterclaimed for an allowance on the contracts which were not accepted, and for extra work for a "stock season."

Mr De Quincy, examined as to one contract at Oldham, which was not accepted, said their piece was too good for a place like Oldham.

Plaintiff's Solicitor—But Mr George Edwardes's No. 1 company of musical comedy plays at Oldham?—Ah, yes; musical comedy will take anywhere, but beautiful plays will not. Art is driven out of the market by musical comedy.

Your art?—You may say that if you like. You know nothing about my art.

Mr Noelan, in defence, said he got a number of contracts arranged, but only five were taken up. Some of them were kept as long as fourteen days, and then returned by the plaintiffs on the ground that the terms were not good enough.

Judge Woodfall gave the plaintiffs judgment for five guineas, and the defendant 30s. for his extra trouble.

THE Elizabethan Stage Society visited Liverpool on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and in the Philharmonic Hall there gave Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus* and Shakespeare's *Comedy of Errors*. The leader of the company was Mr William Poel, and the orchestra was under the direction of Mr Arnold Dolmetsch. Mr Hubert Carter as Faustus and Mr George Ingleton as Mephistopheles filled their parts with credit. In the comedy Mr Hubert Carter was Antipholus of Syracuse, Mr J. M. Troughton the Ephesian twin, and Messrs Arthur Curtis and Norman Page the two Dromios. The stage was built to represent that of the old Fortune playhouse.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Messrs Marston and Buckstone's company is here this week with the successful play *The Silver Cross*. Mr A. Verner is good as old Ned Heron. Mr Wilfred Hargreaves, the male soprano vocalist, is well suited in the part of Fudge, his songs being much appreciated. The task of interpreting the comic element of the play is entrusted to Mr Sydney Barlex and Miss Poppy Denby, who, the former as a handy man, and the latter as a maid-of-all-work, are responsible for considerable amusement; their singing being much appreciated. Mr Wilfred Marston is a capital exponent of Ben Adams, his original creation; Mr Cliff Allen is a manly Arthur Merton, and is a baritone of no mean order; Mr Harry Glenney gives a finished performance of the scoundrel, Phillip Frewin; the part of Laura Beechcroft is acted with force by Miss Cissie Glenney; and Miss Maud Western fills the rôle of Little Sunshine in a most captivating manner.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—*In the Ranks* is being presented here this week by Messrs Carlton and Armytage's company. Mr Edward Lloyd is particularly successful in the part of Ned Drayton, and Miss Edith Blair-Staples acts extremely well as Ruth Herrick. Mr Herbert Cecil's Gideon Blake also calls for commendation. The comedy element is well supplied by Miss Anna Beaumont as Mrs Buzzard and Mr Cecil Clayton as her son Joe.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—The Tally-Ho Trio score a decided success in their seaside drawing-room scene, and an exceedingly fine acrobatic act is contributed by Goggin and Davis. Miss Dora Lyric sings her songs delightfully, and Mr Fred Clements creates much amusement as a farcical comedian. The Four Estrellas are extremely well received, and other notable turns are done by the Vocal Chameleon; Mr Walter Bentley, comedian; the Gartells, comedians, singers, and musicians; and Miss Frances Haskoll, patriotic vocalist. The Palace Bioscope Pictures complete an excellent evening's entertainment.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General and Resident Manager, Mr G. W. Ventom.—Congratulations must be given to the management for securing Mr Gordon Starkey's company in *The Message from Mars*. Mr Cyril Austen-Lee must be complimented on his embodiment of Horace Parker, which was admirable; Mr William Lockhart as the Messenger gave a fine performance; Mr Percy Tyler deserves praise for his effective portrayal of the Tramp; Mr A. Collins Ralph proved successful as Arthur Dicey; and Miss Edith Cuthbert submitted a sympathetic rendering of Minnie Templar.

ACCKINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—Mr John Leopold's company is here in *Frivolity*. Mr H. Lewis is particularly good as Buckwheat; Mr John Leopold must be complimented on his Daniel Teething; Mr Wilfred Vaughan is very good as Jules Vermiglio; and Mr Barry Lupino scores as Samuel; a funny performance is Professor Tumble by Mr Tony Leopold; Miss Ruby Wyndham and Miss Amy Hall as Madame Cobweb and Lucy Buckwheat respectively do well; Miss Mona Hall is pleasing as Maud; and Miss Queenie Bronté is equal to the part of Manette.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessee, Mr J. Hall; Resident Manager, Mr T. Moyse.—The excellent bill here this week includes the Arthur Saxon Trio in their remarkable feats of strength; Miss Bessie Travis, ventriloquist; Lee and Arden; Mr Arthur Croxon, versatile comedian; Miss Ethel York, descriptive vocalist; Master Henri, the young boy juggler; Carl Verdi, the premier instrumentalist; Laffan B. Jolly; and Mahatma, a medley of mystery.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—*Sapho* is being given here this week by Miss Olga Nethersole's company. Miss Cecil Cromwell's fine acting in the name-part causes it to stand out with prominence; and Mr Arthur Royston's conception of Jean is excellent. Mr Harry Dodd as Uncle Césaire is amusing; and Mr George Norman Burt, Déchéllette, and Mr Hodgson Taylor, Flamant, are good. Mr A. T. Hendon and Misses Isabel Derrie, Jessie Melville, Fiorrie Rutter, Rosa Sullivan, and Gertrude Wynter all do well.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr J. F. Preston's répertoire company opened here on Monday in Max Goldberg's version of the old story of *Lady Godiva*. Miss Lester acted the title-part with much feeling, Mr Edward Beecher sustained with success the rôle of Tom O'Coventry, and Mr Jas. Duncan was good as Leofric. The villain, Algar, Earl of Northumbria, was ably sustained by Mr Lewis Leslie. The Lady Aldyth was sympathetically interpreted by Miss Jessie Leslie, and Miss Nina Westerleigh as Lady Godiva's maid, and Messrs Dan F. Roe and Ernest Hamilton as serving men were capital in the comic scenes. On other evenings the sorrows of *Jane Shore* were vividly depicted by Miss Grace Lester, and the revengeful and cruel nature of the crook-backed King Richard was capably interpreted by Mr Edward Beech. *Nell Gwynne* is also in the week's bill.

THE ASHTON HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr L. Campkin.—Tom and Marie Motramo are one of the chief attractions here. Their musical comedy act is most entertaining, their dancing eliciting much laughter. Ellias B. Seener's Imperial Troupe of singers and speciality dancers are applauded; Beatty and Blanche are charming duettists and nimble dancers; Len Lever, the coffee-coloured coon, is a good comedian; Jack and Evelyn are expert sand dancers and capital comedians; Mr Rolando Martin is a favourite eccentric; St. John appears in a smart musical act; Pearce and Ward, comedians, are amusing; and Nettie Corrie are clever gymnasts. Some new films are shown by the Hippo. Bioscope.

ASHTON EMPIRE HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs W. W. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr Wm. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr W. Leech.—The leading item of the programme is the wonderful illusions of the Okito Family in their Chinese magical act, Calvo, the double-voiced vocalist and humourist, evokes applause; a lady and gentleman under the names of Dickenson and Johnson do some astonishing diving tricks under water in the crystal tank; Mr Chas. Matthews, assisted by another equally clever vaulter, performs some astonishing leaps; Harry Weldon, the swell entertainer, is successful; the Babusians give a wonderfully expert acrobatic display; Linton is equally clever as an acrobatic tight-rope artiste; Smith and Johnson, male and female coloured song duettists, attract much attention and applause; and also here are the clever mimic, Harry Thurston, and the favourite extempore vocalist, J. G. Forde. The Cinématograph pictures concludes a good entertainment.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Mr Hall Caine's drama *The Christian* was here on the first three nights of the present week. The company entrusted with its production was Mr Wentworth Croke's No. 1 company. Miss Grace Chalmers possesses all the necessary qualifications for such a part as that of Glory Quaile, and scored a complete success. The rôle of the Hon. John Storm was taken by Mr Hilliard Vox, who did it every justice. Mr Jackson Wilcox's Horatio Drake was a fine performance. Mr Charles B. Bedells as Lord Robert Ure and Mr Oswald Marshall as Mr Lorimer did well, and the Mrs Callander of Miss Clara Nicholls was very attractive.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—A strong attraction is here this week in *No Cross, No Crown*, in which the scenery and dresses are a conspicuous and pleasing feature. Mr J. P. M'Bride deserves praise for his portrayal of Sir Francis Luttrell; Mr Logan Darra as Austin Blake is responsible for some good work; Mr Frank Hudspeth introduces considerable humour into his performance of Dr. Ashley; Mr C. George as Rawson Haines ably depicts that character; and Mr Harrison Chapman is efficient as Professor Nebb. The dual-rôle of Lady Margaret and Mistress Gray is well rendered by Miss Gwen Stewart; Miss Rose Faith, who is the directress of the company, is responsible for some sterling work as Clare; Miss Kate Carnegie makes a suitable Annabel Sylvester; Miss Maud Elliott creates some merriment as Dame Priscilla; and Miss May Warden deserves special praise for her impersonation of Doris. Miss Dolly Turner is an amusing Plato.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Mr F. R. Benson's North Shakespearian company is here this week. Monday night opened with *The Taming of the Shrew*. Baptista was well represented by Mrs F. Owen Chambers; Mr Courtenay Foote was good as Vicentio; Mr B. Limpus made an excellent Lucentio; Petruchio had an able exponent in Mr Henry Herbert; Mr A. Fayne and Mr G. W. Johnston were respectively good as Gremio and Hortensio; Miss Dorothy Green as Katharina supplied a charming personality; and Bianca as played by Miss Christie Laws won great approbation. *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *As You Like It*, *The School for Scandal*, and *The Merchant of Venice* are in the week's répertoire.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr Jasper Redfern.—The programme here includes Eleonora, gymnast; Chas. Castle, comedian; Mille. Vando, juggler; La Belle Tosca, wire walker; Chester and Lee; Rena and Rex; and Alf. Bishop each showing ability.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company is here with *A Modern Adventuress*. Mr Charles Stirling is a convincing Harry Dolby, and Mr Leonard Aardale is exceptionally clever as Pietro Donelli. Mr W. R. Winning is an effective Wallace Danton, Mr Evan Roland, a characteristic John Compton, and Mr George P. Lester, an acute Walter Beal. Miss Alice Defoe plays Vivette Delby with pathos and charm, and Miss Beatrice M. Anderson in the title-rôle plays a difficult part with conspicuous success.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Herr Fritz, the great conjuror, excites great wonder; Miss Ida Ross is a good comedienne; and Vernando pleases with a capital ventriloquial display. Starr and Jerome do some coon singing and sand dancing with skill; Will Godwin gives a pleasing scena *Re-United*; Chris Richards is a good comedian; and Johnson and Bert please greatly with a novel act "A Queer Customer."

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—The closing attraction of the autumn season, which is concluding rather earlier than usual, is Mr William Greet's company in that well-tried musical farce, *The Lady Slavey*. Mr Frank Sherlock still impersonates Roberts with all his old energy and drollery; Mr Walter T. Hybert's nimble dancing as Lord Lavender is exceedingly clever; Mr Harry Walsh makes a humorous Major O'Neill; Miss A. Lennard is greatly appreciated as Phyllis; Flo Honeydew is portrayed by Miss Millicent Marsden with her usual ability; and Mr Allan Morris cleverly undertakes the character of the millionaire Vincent A Evelyn. The dances by the Misses Jean Van Dalle and Ethel Ashton are agile and energetic.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—Heading a good level bill is that up-to-date comedian, W. J. Churchill, whose newest songs and racy patter make him a prime favourite. The Great Northern Troupe of international dancers win all their former success; the contortional feats of Wilfrid create astonishment; and Kit Keen, coon artiste and bone soloist, is as popular as ever. Booker and Narbis once again appear in their comedy sketch, *The Interviewer*; Sinclair and Parr return to sustain their reputation as first-rate vocal duettists; Victor Vane proves himself to be a young dramatic reciter of ability; and Pallister's biograph is always welcome.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Lessee, Mr Edward S. Michel; Acting-Manager, Mr H. F. Cowper-Smith.—On account of the pronounced success attending the costume recitals lately given at these elegant rooms by Mr Matthew Brodie and Miss Essex Dane, the new lessee was fortunate enough to be able to re-engage them for a further series of matinées, which commenced on Monday last, when these clever artistes again delighted the audience by their finished efforts in scenes *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Hunchback*, and *The Lady of Lyons*. Ballads are also rendered by Miss Geraldine Verner with acceptance. On Monday afternoon the large salon was packed with a huge audience to hear Capt. Scott relate his thrilling account of his expedition on the Discovery.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—For three nights Mr Fred J. Kirke's company, in *The Naval Detective*, is occupying the boards here. Mr Fred J. Kirke, who shows great versatility, is the life of the piece in the rôles of Lieutenant Jack Beresford, the Rev. Frequent Nipper, and Pat M'Guinness. Mr Arthur Beaufort, who supplies the lyrics, is another mirth-provoker as Captain Hustle. The humour is also well sustained by Mr Walter Langford as the Hon. Bertie Fairlox and Mr Albert Evremond as Hans Winklepump. The part of Dr. Schriener, a Boer patriot, is well portrayed by Mr Robert Gilbert; Miss Louie Fountaine capably undertakes the rôles of Phyllis Leslie, Mam'selle Lucette, and Bill Mainway, doing full justice to each part; Miss Edith Claris is quite a success as Susan Scrubbs; and Lulu Kaufman finds a good exponent in Miss Florence Hayes. Miss Lily Seymour submits a good interpretation of Rebecca Gentle. The Misses Mamie Walsh and Elsie Paul give a clever acrobatic entertainment. On Thursday Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company paid a return visit in *Under Two Flags*.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—*Bigamy* has been played here by Mr Morton Powell's company under the direction of Mr Fred Moule, who also amusingly undertakes the comedy rôle of Rufus Cherrybull. The heroine has the services of Miss Elsie Capell, and this lady makes a capital Sylvia Dresden. Miss Alwynne Ermon is seen to advantage as Diana De Courcelle. Miss Lydia Mannington is well placed as Lilian Lambkiss. Mr Charles Burdon proves a fairly good hero as Frank Merrivale, and Messrs Colin Hazlewood, Ernest J. Fare, and E. S. Earle steadily fill the requirements of the rôles of Sir Charles Dresden, Lionel Craven, and Edgar Craven respectively.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—Mr Martin Harvey and company opened here on Monday in *The Breed of the Treshams*. Mr Harvey's impersonation of Lieut. Reresby, "the Rat," was a triumph of dramatic skill, and his success was most emphatic; Miss N. De Silva impersonated Batty in a manner that calls for the highest praise; and Mr Milton Rosmer sustained the rôle of Francis Tresham spiritedly and with much credit to himself. One could not desire a more winning and delightful picture of Margaret Hungerford than that furnished by Miss Coleridge. Mr Charles Glenny made the most of his opportunities as Clement Hungerford, and Miss Bessie Elder was a vivacious exponent of Helena Pierpont. Highly satisfactory impersonations of Sir Henry Curwen and Viscount Dorsington were furnished by Mr Percy Anstey and Mr Albert E. Raynor, and other rôles were faithfully portrayed by Miss Edith Coleman and Messrs Fred Wright, sen. (splendid as Col. Bagshaw), Gilbert Yorke, George Cooke, E. Wellesley, A. Maude, &c.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—The Scotch comedian Mr Neil Kenyon heads the bill, and his funny songs and witty patter have been most enthusiastically received. Much merriment has been created by the farcical sketch *Not a Word*, produced by Kitty Clover and company, supported by Mr Reg Courtney. Zarmo, the original comic juggler, is a host in himself, his humorous performance being quite a feature of the bill. Lord, Murray, and Lord appear to great advantage in their athletic act entitled *The Intruder*. A hit has been made by the clever musical performance of Eugene and Willie. The Bros. Almalo provide an attractive act, and others appearing are Mr W. H. Morgan, a capital descriptive vocalist; Miss Bertha Vere, comedienne; and Mr Dave Hallie, the popular comedian.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—Mr Fred Maxwell's company (including the clever actress, Miss Lois Du Cane) tops the bill and appears with great success in the sensational sketch entitled *Lord Harkaway*, the glove fight being a decided attraction. Miss Lily Burnand, the charming comedienne, has delighted many admirers with her vivacious rendering of several catchy songs; and Mr George Newburn, mimic, presents some character studies marvellously realistic. Maxwell and Francis (Tom and Virginia) are a capable duo, and their comedy has been highly appreciated. Abel and Welsh are undoubtedly very funny in their grotesque act; and the M'Kays, Gilbert Rogers, vocalist, and Miss Mabel Vine, comedienne and dancer, complete the bill.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The attraction here this week is furnished by Mr Albert Voyce's company in the vocal scena *Jack Sheppard*. The part of Blueskin is undertaken by Mr Vernon Cowper in capital style, and the rôles of Jack and Bess are satisfactorily sustained by Mr Harold Perry and Miss E. Faber. Another feature of the programme is the funny sketch, *The Blind Spinster*, admirably sustained by Mr Fred Lloyd and his company. A sensation has been caused by the globe-walking performance of Mdlle. Florence, who is assisted by Mdlle. Queenie. Mr Harry Barker, a comedian with a good style, has been as successful as he could desire, and the trick cycling feats by Mr Frank Hope have been voted first-class. Also are appearing Miss Dot Stanley, serio; Mr Edgar Budden, comedian, whose bone solos and roller-skate dancing were loudly encored; and the Two Neros.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS.—Proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco; Manager, Mr Irving Bosco; Assistant-Manager, Mr George Dobler.—This week the Jansons form a considerable attraction with their novelty act, which has been a decided draw; M'Cann, aptly described as the concertina king, plays a number of selections on that instrument, his performance being received with acclamation. To-night completes the four weeks' engagement of Clown Caban's performing animals. The Sloan Family of equestrians execute some daring feats with great credit to themselves. The new series of Hippodrome pictures presented have delighted the crowds, and Ulrick, feet equilibrist, is well received. Princess Annie's graceful and accomplished equestrian feats have been loudly cheered nightly, and the funnicities of the clowns, Ping-Pong and Steck, evoke roars of laughter.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE. — Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr C. P. Levilly's company, under the direction of Mr E. Lockwood, is appearing in *La Poupée* with excellent results. Upon the present occasion Mr Arthur Reynolds is the Hilarius, and a humorous and clever rendering of the part is received with delight. Miss Midge Clark wins all hearts with a graceful and bewitching performance of Alesia. Mr T. A. Shale is admirably suited as Lancelot, and Father Maxime is played with considerable vocal and histrionic power by Mr Eliot Skinner. Mr Charles M'Lagan is an excellent Lorenzo, Miss Florence Shaw a smart Henri, and Miss Lillie Leigh is a most efficient Madame Hilarius. Mr Walter H. Page and Mr Fred Walsh render good service, and Mr H. H. Shaw is an able conductor.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—A play of considerable interest, entitled *The Seal of Silence*, ably represented by Messrs W. B. Buckstone and I. K. Cox's company, is the attraction here. Mr Magill Martyn is popular with a careful rendering of Jack Ellerslie. Mr George Longdon is an effective Captain Hedley Norman. Mr Charles W. Coleman is a good Bumbo Britten, and Dr. Mark Redmond is cleverly enacted by Mr E. Arrol Allardyce. Miss Gertrude Hunt is an admirable Lilian Desbrook. Miss Mary E. Buckstone displays great ability in the rôle of Madeline Morrison, and the remaining parts are well placed.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—Mr Wilkie Bard, the popular comedian, was announced as the leading feature, but indisposition has prevented appearance. However, a competent company includes Happy Fanny Fields, an accomplished Anglo-Dutch comedienne and a great favourite; Master James Curwell, a local juvenile pianist of exceeding promise; Silent Tait, an expert wizard; Mr Austin Rudd, a comic of exceptional merit; Miss Nellie Young, a talented vocalist and dancer; Hill and Whittaker, American speciality artistes; Howard and Collinson, in an amusing sketch; and the Stelto Troupe of lady dancers. Mr Ernest Denney is musical director.

BLYTH.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr G. E. Good. — The visit of the Osmond Tearle répertoire company, under the personal direction of Mr H. B. Montague, has proved once more a decided success. The plays, which have been chosen by a ballot of the patrons of the Royal, are as follows:—*Hamlet*, *Julius Cæsar*, *David Garrick*, *Othello*, *The Lady of Lyons*, and *Richard III.* Opening on Monday with *Hamlet*, Mr Alexander Marsh gave a masterly performance of the part of the Prince, whilst the Ophelia of Miss Carrie Baillie was a pronounced success. Miss Fanny Chamberlain was prominent as the Queen, Mr John Burton was responsible for a capital delineation of Claudius, and Mr J. J. Galier was seen to advantage as Horatio. Mr William Lowe made a good Polonius, and Mr Godfrey Tearle did some praiseworthy work as Laertes. Mr Cyril Grier was prominent as the Ghost; as the first Gravedigger Mr George Tearle was well received.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—Mr and Mrs Kendal have attracted all their old admirers, and also many new ones, with their present week's programme, which includes several old favourites and one new success, *The Housekeeper*, particulars of which will be found in another column. On Monday *The Elder Miss Blossom* once more revealed Mrs Kendal's wondrous charm in the title-rôle, Mr Kendal sharing in the success as Andrew Quick, as heretofore. Mr Bassett Roe as Major Twentyman, Miss Elise Clarens as Sophia, and Mr Ernest Hendrie as Christopher Blossom have given admirable support, and *A Scrap of Paper* and *Dick Hope* have also ministered to the enjoyment of playgoers here.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—The novel and Negroid attractions of the musical comedy, *In Dahomey*, made a first and successful appeal here on Monday last. Messrs Dan Avery and Chas. Hart pleased the house as Rareback and Shylock respectively, the latter giving the well-known "Jonah" song. The others were equally successful, including Mr Pete Hampton as Hamilton Lightfoot, Mr Fred Douglas as Dr. Straight, Mr Walter Dixon as Hustling Charlie, Mr Leon Williams as Reader, Mr Wm. Garland as Clarence, Mr Norris Smith as the Chief, Miss Fanny Wise as Pansy, Miss Laura Bowman as Cecilia, Miss Stella Hart as Mrs Stringer, and Miss Pauline Freeman as Rosetta. The piece is brought to an effective conclusion with a grand spectacular cake-walk, a prize being awarded to the most deserving couple.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*The Indian Mutiny* once more tells its tale of dead horrors through Mr Frank E. Burdett's company, Mr H. Ryland-Leigh infuses much spirit into the character of Lieut. Manley; Mr H. G. Brandon affords a humorous contrast as Capt. Manley; Mr W. S. Tindall succeeds well as Major Ingleby; Mr Geo. Scully plays the bodyservant, Jerry O'Brien, with much comic expression; Miss Kate Bruce proves a valuable ally as the martinet, Mrs Major Ingleby; and Miss Agnes Kingston is graceful and comely as Kate Ingleby. Mr Villiers Stanley as Nebu-Singh and Mr Ernest Keand as Ra Goonga invest their rôles with dignity, while Miss Maud Digby excels in the part of Ghuz-Nah.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—This week Mr Harry Eglington's company is playing *When the Lights are Low*, and "Metropolitans" have been well pleased. The sombre side of the drama is well relieved by the comedy scenes, and Mr George Daiper as Guy Goldsworthy has been upheld as a pattern of virtue. The half-brother, Roland, is capably presented by Mr Edward Avinall. Mr Tom R. Saymour is successful as the Jew. Mr Dick Seddon shines humorously as Willie Wilkins, together with Mr Fred Carlton as Tim Wilkins, Mr J. P. Marsden as Donald, and Miss Maude Leonard as the sprightly Kathleen. Miss Adelina Mercandalli as Nancy and Miss Kate Froude as Violet give most excellent studies of their parts.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—Mr Lester Collingwood's powerful company takes the stage this week with *When London Sleeps*, and much satisfaction has been expressed in the engagement. Mr Wm. H. Sams has been applauded by crowded houses for his manly impersonation of the hero, Engleheart. Mr Franklyn Graham has stirred the audiences to an unwonted heat by his cruel villainies as Rodney Haynes. Miss Maude Hastings has proved herself a heroine of much charm and beauty, and Miss Mary Brammer acts as Hilda Carode in her own matchless style. Messrs Frank Eden, Victor Mason, F. E. Thomas, Otto Clayton, and the Misses Effie Mackintosh, E. M. France, and Bella Power are indispensable supports, and are valued accordingly.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*A London Actress* has shed its effectual light here this week, Miss Emma Litchfield and company coming in for many tokens of esteem. Miss Litchfield as Hilda Mannering held the audience spellbound, and received a great tribute to her powers. Miss Violet Lawson won sympathy as Phyllis, and the Misses Louise Millward and Adele Wilford supplied two clever comic characters. Mr Chas. E. Leicester was strenuous and effective as Lieutenant Kingston; Mr H. J. Kirby was appreciated as Clive Crawford; Mr Fred Tenaur gave a clever study of the Jew, Moses Mendoza; Mr Sam Wilford appeared as Pat Maloney (with songs); and Messrs J. J. Stevenson and J. Clyde were good in their parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—An exceptionally strong bill is put forth for Cattle Show week. The well-known comedian Albert Chevalier is encored for his popular songs. May Edouin and Fred Edwards present *A Bachelor's Dream* with success. The Anartos have a refined musical sketch. The equestrian act of Joko and Koko is smart, as also is the trick cycling of Alexander. Ida Brophy and Amy Sullivan are applauded for their songs, while Florence Esdaile renders her ballads with effect. James Bard, swinging wire artiste, and Arthur Reece, comedian, complete the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—Florrie Forde has a cordial welcome from her many admirers, while the Noisetts have an excellent cycle act. Edward Cranston and company appear in the Irish racing sketch, *Terry*, which is well received. Tom Parker; Burg, Haud, and Wise; Tom Lloyd, and Charley Dixon are all highly appreciated for their comedy business, while May Terris and Cassie Walmer come in for a full share of applause.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Chas. Vandyke and company, in the absurdity *Nicodemus*, is entertaining large audiences, while Jordan and Harvey simply bring down the house. The Magic Kettle act is a most marvellous performance. Barlee and Smith show versatility in their episode, *The Rehearsal*. The Akimotos Troupe of Japanese and the Kyaskas in their athletic act are clever. Other popular turns are supplied by Florence Hill, the Brooklands, comediennes; Algie and Reggie and Harris and Worth, comedians; Dora Martine, graceful gymnast; and Mons. Hurman, juggler and hoop manipulator.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edward Foster.—The versatile R. A. Roberts, in his remarkable quick-change performance, is enthusiastically received for his sketch, *Lucinda's Elopement*, in which he plays six distinct characters. Lady Mansell and her juveniles appear in *A Concert Rehearsal*. Both clever and amusing are the Five Olracs in their eccentric acrobatic act; while the Aurora Troupe of Cyclists have some daring feats. The Paytes (in a monologue), J. G. Aitken, Charles Cranston (comedians), Maggie Rimmer, and the Three Sisters Ernest all win loud applause.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—*Sherlock Holmes* is paying a return visit this week, and is meeting with renewed success. Mr H. A. Saintsbury continues to give a fine impersonation of Sherlock Holmes. Dr. Watson finds a fitting representative in Mr Lawrence Leyton; Professor Moriarty is well played by Mr W. F. Stirling; while Mr Leslie Carter as James Larrabee and Mr Pelham Rayner as Sidney Prince are both good. Miss Vera Longden plays the part of Alice Faulkner, and Miss Maud Linden appears as Madge Larrabee.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—Mr J. Rice Cassidy's latest production, *Dan the Rake*, is the attraction here this week, Both Mr Cassidy and his talented wife, Miss Lilian Clare, are well-established favourites here. They are supported by a well-selected company, and the piece has met with much success, a realistic fight in the last act forming one of its attractive features.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—The programme this week includes De Biere, the illusionist; Dolly Harmer, comedienne; Zasma; Zenary Brothers, acrobats; Sandy and Carl, knockabout comedians; Steeley and Dowton; Brothers Durant, in their aërship; Leslie Brothers, musical comedians; and Henry Carlton, in his sketch, *Obliging a Lady*.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—Miss Madge Girdlestone and her company is here this week with the spectacular and sensational drama *The City of Millions*. The drama is excellently mounted and played by a good company, the principal characters being in the hands of Miss Madge Girdlestone (Rosa De Valois) and Mr Martin Sabine (Captain Wilfred Dread).

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—Crowded houses assemble at every performance here, the attraction being the Karno Troupe of speechless comedians, in *Early Birds*, *Mumming Birds*, and *Jail Birds*. In addition, there also appear Melot Hermann, a clever prestidigitateur, who performs some really marvellous tricks; the De Breans, in their Japanese entertainment; the Bros. Hayes, comedians and dancers; Spry and Austin, burlesque artistes; Tatten Hall, eccentric comedian; and Mueller and Coyne, speciality artistes.

OHMY'S CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Another excellent programme is submitted here, including the Three Schaffers, gladiators, air climbers, and human pedestals; Miss Delai, lady gymnast; the Bros. Valdos, musical knockabout clowns; the Two Tarrares, Japanese jugglers; the Sisters Alexandra; Mons. Zello; and the Bros. Chadwick, &c.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE. — Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's clever company is here this week in the comedy *Saturday to Monday*. Mr Stuart Champion as Lord Culvert of Alcester was happily cast, and made his points with ease, and was especially good in his scenes with Mrs Wendover, delightfully played by Miss Moyra Creegan, who looked and dressed the character remarkably well. The Stanley Pidding of Mr Dallas Welford was just to the liking of the audience, who roared again and again at his original methods. As Lady Diana Porchester Miss Madeline L'Estrange was quite successful, Miss Madge Burton as Ursula Toop and Miss Ida Laurie as Miss Skeat made the most of their opportunities. A good representation of the evangelistic vicar, the Rev. Lemuel Toop, was given by Mr Edward Ling. Miss Nancy Beresford as Angela and Mr T. A. Braidon as Probyn Dyke, both thankless parts, came through with much success. The comedy was preceded by *Judged by Appearances*, a really capital little piece, which was well acted by Messrs Dallas Welford, Edwin Ling, James Wych, and Miss Nancy Beresford.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—On Monday Mr William Greet's company appeared for the first time here in the successful musical comedy *The Earl and the Girl*, which was magnificently staged. Mr William Stephens gives a screamingly funny impersonation of the dog trainer, Jim Cheese; Miss Aimee Grey is charming and piquant as Elphin Haye; and Daisy Fallowfield has an attractive exponent in Miss Florence Imeson. Miss Gladys Fontaine as Mrs Black and Miss Helen Langton as Miss Bliss are striking personalities, and Miss Dot Carey plays 'Liza capitally. Mr Percy Carr as Dick Wargrave throws plenty of energy into the part, and Mr Bert White's Hon. Boodle is amongst the other noticeable well-filled parts in the big cast.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—Fun is rampant here again this week, Fred Karno's clever company of comedians, in *His Majesty's Guests*, providing pure rollicking comedy. The vagaries of Mr Harry Roxbury as Sergeant Lightning cause roars of laughter. As Minks Mr Harry Stuart, too, is good; Mr Fred Whittaker is capable as the footman, and excellent support is given by Miss Leonora Castelle as Maud.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann. — The Three Nevarros present a clever equilibristic performance; a trio of comedians—Fred Lincoln, G. W. Foster, and Ambrose Thorne—find much favour; handbalancing by the Kook Brothers forms a clever item on the programme; the vocalism of Madame Alice Simmons, soprano, commands special marks of approval; some clever dancing is submitted by Espinosa and Neilson; and Rosie Archer gives imitations of music hall celebrities. The duets and dancing by the Sisters Iris prove acceptable, and Fred Ginnett's funny sketch, *Rejected Remounts*, is a source of hearty laughter.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—Leo Dryden's vocal character sketches are an excellent feature of the good entertainment here this week, and he is well received. The dancing by the Three Sisters Chester is good; Will Bacchus gives a good turn as an actor-vocalist; on the rings and trapeze the Four Skandias are distinctly clever; Hart and Rudd present a capital comedy turn; and Belle Meredith is an acceptable comedienne. Mdlle. Roza's canine hippodrome is a clever and interesting feature of the evening's amusement, to which Little Dando, the diminutive comedian, and Miss Dorothy L. Clark, a charming vocalist, contribute with success.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Mr Chas. Macdona's company with *Three Little Maids* is paying a visit here this week. A charming trio of maidens are Miss Vera Vallis, Miss Nellie Groves, and Miss Doris Trevor, who play with freshness and vivacity. Madame Ilma Norina is irreproachable as the up-to-date society business lady. Mr H. A. Welchman, Mr Jules Charmette, and Mr Frank Henderson acquit themselves most creditably, the latter as Daisy creating infinite amusement by his funny portrayal. The quaint dances and humour of Mr Ridgwood Barry (Cupid) and Miss May Wright (Gretchen) are much enjoyed.

BURY (LANCS).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Mr C. P. Levilly's company is here with *Amorelle* this week. Mr Leon Simkin as Dr. Crow is excellent. Able support is given by Mr Fred Carrington as Dotard, Mr Jack Stephens as Lupin, and Mr Langford Reed as Alphonse. Miss Empsie Bowman meets with unstinted applause as Amorelle, and Miss Von Bargen as Marina is also very good.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—An excellent programme includes the Ernestine Trio, with Tom Foy as "the Yorkshire Lad in London;" the Five Foys, comedy artists; George Mackintosh, clog dancer; Lauri Wylie and his mimicing mannikins; Sisters Brenton, singers and dancers; Charles Pastor, laughing comedian; Four Royal Welshmen, glee singers; and Rosetti, quick-change artiste.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead.—Good people are again engaged here. Hicks's Clerks are capable and clever vocalists. Will Ellerslie, comedian and mimic; Mike Bray, who is good in his comedy act; Nancy Renshaw, laughing Negro comedian; De Veres, acrobats; and Florrie Bray, burlesque actress, also contribute.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—The Carl Ross company opened here on Monday with *Tannhauser*. Mr Julius Walther sang and acted admirably as Tannhauser; Madame Sobrino was highly effective as Elizabeth; Madame Augusta Renard made a captivating Venus; Mr Lewys James achieved great success as Wolfram; Mr Arthur Winckworth as the Landgrave and Miss Ethel Pender-Cudlip as the shepherd boy merit warm praise; and the remaining characters were ably sustained. During the remainder of the week Mr E. C. Hedmondt, Mr Charles Victor, and Miss Lizzie Burgess also appeared in leading parts, the other operas represented being *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Faust*, *Rigoletto*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Carmen*.

GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Mr J. A. Campbell's company is here this week with *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Miss Mary Fulton gives an excellent portrayal of Mary Haysel; Mr Charles Fancourt is seen to much advantage as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr J. A. Campbell is a manly and popular Captain John Thornton; Mr Austen Milroy is forcible as the villainous Stephen Haysel; and Little Dot Moss is a capital Hannah Spry. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr Fred Elvin as Barney O'Reilly and Miss May Pratt as Eliza Muggins.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Bernhardt.—The following are here this week:—Mr Clavering Craig's company in the episode *The King of Coiners*; Miss Vera Olga's company, in the farcical sketch *Jeremiah's Little Dodge*; Miss Florence Harman, comedienne; Little Miss Jenny Hartley, mimic; Mr Jack Hassan, in a monologue; and Mr Arthur St. George, dramatic vocalist. Selections are played by the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter; and there is a new series of Bioscope pictures.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Mons. O'Gust, Parisian clown and mimic; Miss Lilian Bowley, a charming soprano vocalist; Ross and Grayson, in *The Professor and the Pupil*; Newhouse and Ward, in a clever cycling act; Syd May, the popular mimic; Katie Lawrence, comedienne; Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic; Frank Purcell's comedy company in *Brown the Bigamist*; Mary Thorne, comedienne; Guy Ryder, boy whistler; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—The Kremo Family, acrobats; Steve M'Carthy, comedian; the Donatos, one-legged acrobats; Captain Woodward, with his trained seals and sea-lions; Marie Kendall, in her latest successes; the Three Sisters Klos, athletic wonders; Horace Mills and W. H. Rawlins and company in *Mashing the Missus*; and Animated Pictures.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Under the personal direction of Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Mr Gerald Alexander's company is here this week with *Facing the Music*. Mr Ernest Corsart as John Smith and Mr Cecil Newton as the Rev. John Smith are very amusing; Mr George Alexander makes an excellent Colonel Duncan Smith; while Mr Patrick Evans as Dick Desmond and Mr George N. Wallace as Sergeant Duffell are well suited. Miss Madge Flynn's Mabel, Miss Florence Tyrell's Nora, Miss Dollie Beaufey's Miss Fotheringay, and Miss Rose Carew's Mrs Ponting also merit praise.

WEST PIER. — Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr Harold V. Neilson's company opened here on Monday with *A Bunch of Violets*. Mr Harold V. Neilson submitted an excellent portrayal of Sir Philip Marchant; Miss Amy Sangster made an admirable Mrs Murgatroyd; Miss Yvonne Orchardson was well suited as Lady Marchant; and Miss Rachel Donne played charmingly as Violet. Mr Ernest Noble's Lord Mount Sorrell and Mr C. M. Doyle's Hon. Harold Inglis were well played, and the remaining characters were satisfactorily sustained. *A Fool's Paradise* and *The Tyranny of Tears* were also performed during the week.

COLISEUM.—Licensee and Director of Entertainments, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith Wilkes. — The following are here this week: — Winifred Hare, comedienne; Johnny Fuller, animal impersonator, in his speciality, "The Cat on the Wire;" De Voy, Hurst, and Ricks, in *The New Man*; the Brothers Testo, acrobatic musical comedians; W. H. Perrette and Bessie Shelley, in their comedy quick-change entertainment, "Teasing the General;" the Two Tees, musical eccentrics; Henry A. Moore, mimic; Ida Heath, Continental dancer; and the Coliseum Pictures.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry are here this week with the interesting play *Sunday*. Miss Neilson presents an admirable study of Sunday, her various moods being most artistically portrayed. Mr Fred Terry is equally successful as Colonel Brinthorpe; Mr Malcolm Cherry plays effectively as Arthur Brinthorpe; Mr J. D. Beveridge is decidedly good as Tom Oxley; Towzer, Davy, Lively and Jacky have in every respect excellent exponents in Mr Rothbury Evans, Mr J. Carter-Edwards, Mr Horace Hodges, and Mr Alfred Kendrick; Miss Bella Pateman is pleasingly aristocratic as Mrs Naresby; the Nun is nicely taken by Miss Kathleen Doyle; and the small part of Abbot (a man-servant), by Mr Ernest E. Imeson, completes an excellent cast. The play is acted with remarkable smoothness throughout, and it was much appreciated by the large audience on Monday evening. The staging is admirable, the two scenes, The Living Room at Silver Creek and Brinthorpe Abbey, being excellent examples of stage setting and artistic scene painting.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—A return visit of the highly successful drama *Driven from Home* is attracting a good attendance here. The company of Messrs J. K. Murray and J. M. Dawson is a competent one all round, and the play is adequately staged. Miss Lydia Donovan is interesting and sufficiently pathetic as the unfortunate Laura Raybrook. She plays the part really well, and her dying scene in the snow excites much sympathy. Later on in the play as Walter Hatherleigh the younger Miss Lydia Donovan presents a smart and interesting study, which pleases all parts of the house. As Walter Hatherleigh Mr Jack Dawson plays well, making the part quite interesting. Mr Cyril Harrison acts well and in a consistent style as Geoffrey Waring; and the same may be said of Mr J. K. Murray as Anthony Raybrook and Mr Quinton Fulford as Willie the outcast. Other characters of more or less importance are carefully taken by Miss Alice Metcalf, Miss May M'Kenzie, Little Marcella, Mr Stanley Douglas, Mr Wilson, Mr Waddington, Mr C. Stanhope, Mr Jack M'Kenzie, Mr Gilroy Aird, Mr George Thompson, and Mr A. J. Williams. Specialities of song and dance are contributed by Jack and May M'Kenzie, and the saw mills sensation in act three is vigorously applauded.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—Miss Peggy Pryde, comedienne, is attracting a large attendance here. She is always entertaining, and is decidedly popular in Bristol. Hume, Ross, and Lewis present successfully an American comedy, musical, and dancing act; Marba and Verity please as humorists and acrobatic dancers; Bernard Lapidaire and Claud Jullion's company have an entertaining musical mélange, *Les Autocrates*, it being nicely mounted and smartly played; Dolly, Agnes, and Maud make cardboard boxes and sing in good style; Miss Alice Ormonde is a pleasing comedienne; Little Zola, comedian, obtains applause; Resford and Hunt have a good act, *The Widow and the Duke*; Fred Earle comedian, has some amusing songs; Ike Scott and Son do a good and entertaining turn; the Weirs are decidedly smart as duettists and dancers; the Three Sisters Clifford are expert mandoline players and tuneful vocalists; and Vernon's animated pictures conclude a good all-round entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Brown and Nevarro, American speciality artistes, head the programme with a good turn of song, dance, and quick-change business; Miss Ella Shields is a pleasing vocalist. She has a good voice, and her songs are well selected. F. St. Clair, topical vocalist, is popular; the Macmeyes do an exceptionally amusing and smart act on the wire; Bert Leslie, comedian, has some good songs; Miss Lilly Seville, comedienne and dancer, pleases; Harry Mier does some juggling with a hat; chin-balancing, &c.; J. W. Bray, comedian, obtains appreciation; Will M'Iver is successful as a tenor vocalist; and the entertainment concludes with up-to date animated pictures. New patent draught doors have been fixed in all parts of the house, and the heating apparatus has been thoroughly overhauled.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA.—Proprietors, the Broughton Theatres Syndicate, Limited; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Under the personal supervision of Mr A. L. Baron *Trilby* commenced a week's run on Monday, when a good house gave evidence of their enjoyment of the piece. Mr A. L. Baron makes an excellent Svengali, and the title-rôle is well played by Miss Vere Mosley. Mr Ellerslie Pyne shows much ability as Little Billie, and Mr Ernest Lodge as Taffy and Mr Edward Thornhill as the Laird are very good. Mr Henry Oaman as the Rev. Thos. Bagot, Miss Lottie Wentworth as Madame Vinard, and Miss Jessie Rutter as Mrs Bagot, with the other members of the company, give good support. The programme also includes some acceptable turns by Miss Billie Barlow; Mr George Barron, eccentric comedian; and the Sisters Charnley (Edie and Annie), duettists and speciality dancers.

BURNLEY.

GAIETY.—Proprietress, Mrs T. Culeen; General Manager, Mr Jas. E. Culeen.—Mr William A. Armour's company are paying us a visit here with *What a Woman Did*. Miss Dora Price acted Elsie De L'Orme brilliantly; Mr Reginald Kloof distinguishes himself as Conrad De L'Orme; Mr Percy E. Wright gives a dramatic impersonation of Rafaelle Duroc; Mr Jim Woods is highly successful as Fritz Von Hogeithen; Mr Cyril Dundas makes a capital Peter Pippin; Pitou has a good exponent in Mr Frank Carlton; Mr R. Gerrard sustains the rôle of Andre Lafante in telling style; Mr Vincent Hales and Mr J. H. Stewart are excellent as Victor Estin and Gaspard Villeroy; Miss Elsie Day is prominent as Marie Brisson; Miss Edith Marlow is much appreciated as Terese Herve; Miss Louie Lanara is a lively Franchon; Miss Alice Rayner is a pleasing La Papillon; and Miss Norah Waylett capably enacts Nanette.

MECHANICS' HALL.—The attraction here this week is Mr Wm. Hamilton, with his ever-popular Excursions, which are drawing large audiences. Mr Claude Howell, elocutionist, gives a good performance; Mezetti and Mora, triple bar performers, do some sensational feats; Mr Tom Le May, musical clown, supplies a capital turn; and the efforts of Mr Harry Prince, comedy wire artist, are greatly appreciated.

CAMBRIDGE

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr W. S. Gilbert's fanciful domestic pantomime, *The Fairy's Dilemma*, opened most successfully here on Monday night. Mr H. Asheton Tonge made an ideal Colonel Sir Trevor Mauleverer, while as the Lady Angela Miss Ada Homer was the embodiment of grace and refinement. Mr Frank Stanmore ably depicted the Rev. Parfitt, and was well supported by Miss Gertrude Hope as Clarissa. Mr Frank Collins was simply admirable as Mr Justice Whortle. A more charming and graceful Fairy Rosebud could not be wished than Miss Elsie Cooke, and the Demon Alcohol was made the most of by Mr C. Herbert Hewetson.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robert Redford.—Mr Charles Collette is paying a return visit to Cardiff, appearing this week in the amusing comedy *Jones's Jaunt*. The play is capitally presented by Mr Lilford Arthur's company. Mr Collette in the title-rôle is a huge success, his clever portrayal of the "famous explorer," Stanley Jones, being in a large way responsible for the success of the comedy. Miss Ruby Chester gives a creditable rendering of Dollie Bonde; Mr J. R. Crauford does well as Catesby Duff; Kate is capably delineated by Miss Rosamund Ruby; and Mr Edmond Beresford as Percy achieves distinction. Mention must be made of the excellent impersonation of Birdikins, given by the clever little actress Miss Irene Ross. The few remaining characters are well sustained. As a curtain-raiser Mr Collette gives his musical monologue *Hard Luck*, in which he introduces several of his popular songs.

KING'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—Messrs Fred Darcy and F. J. Little's company has drawn large audiences this week with the musical comedy-drama *On the Stroke of Twelve*. As Jack Rutledge Mr Fred Rivers is earnest and convincing, and an easy and natural manner marks the work of Mr Fred Guinness as George Bainbridge. Mr H. Creagh Hunt is admirably adapted to the rôle of James Horton, and Mr Karl Edwards is to be commended for his amusing portrayal of the trying part of Moses Levi. Mr Harry C. Robinson is a consistent exponent of Henry Rutledge, while Van Dyke is effectively played by Mr W. Montague. Mr Fred J. Little is amusing as Jasper, and Mr Will Bass is characteristically Irish as Pat Cahill. Miss Nellie Moore adequately fills the rôle of Jess Bainbridge, Miss Bertha St. Ruth is good as Doris Rutledge, and Marie Bergerre is well depicted by Miss Elma Turner.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The programme here includes, Marie Loftus, serio; the Barowsky Trio's humorous gymnastic scena; the Sisters Trentanovi, clever lady trapeze artistes; the Troubadour Four, the Passparts, in fancy dances; Anslie Burton, comedian-mimic; the Toreadors, in their burlesque bull fight; Leonard and Francois, eccentric acrobats; Miss Childie Stuart, comedienne; and Carl Hertz, in his entertainment of sensational illusions assisted by Mdlle. D'Alton.

CHESTER.

ROYALTY.—Proprietor

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs C. E. Veitch; Manager, Mr C. Algie.—This popular place of entertainment continues to draw good houses. Victoria Dagmar is paying a return visit and her wonderful exhibition of skill and strength on the gymnastic ropes and horizontal bar is more popular than ever; Mr Joe Hastings, too, is a big favourite with his astonishing jumping feats; a clever troupe of performing dogs and cats is introduced by Mr Robert Gilbert; Chivers and Demonte give a graceful and skilful display on roller skates; and the Bros. Jean, in a burlesque boxing act; Mr Steve Cooke, a smart comedian; and Newcombe and Sullivan, wonderfully smart dancers, add to the success.

CASTLEFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business Manager, Councillor Henry Masterman.—Mr Charles M. Phelps' company is providing excellent fare with *One Woman's Wickedness*. The play is admirably staged and mounted. Miss Florence Lloyd stands out in the part of Janet Raymond. Miss Louie Davis is a quiet and pathetic Lillian Craggs. Miss Ethel Asbury puts plenty of "go" into her work. Miss Florence M. Daly is excellent as Aunt Crasy. Mr Hubert Humphreys makes the most of his opportunities as the scheming Paul Rogin, being afterwards seen to excellent advantage as Justice Hotpot. As Philip Beaufort Mr Lawrence Brien plays the part with power and earnestness. Most of the comic relief is supplied by Mr Howard Ward as Limpy Larry. In Jem Craggs Mr Charles H. Phelps has a part which suits his special powers, and he presents it with graphic and telling effect. An amusing Fitznoodle is to be found in Mr Arthur Ferris, and Mr Carlton Harget does good work as John Fossett.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Castleford Hippodrome Syndicate; Entertainment Directors, Messrs Herbert Cole and Harry Bancroft.—A good programme this week is headed by Lieutenant Chard's Dog Circus, which meets with a very flattering reception. Professor Buer's educated donkey also proves a source of attraction. Tommy Vaughan is a clever comedian and dancer; Rosie Leslie sings and dances well; Professor Bennett receives a hearty welcome as a ventriloquist; Happy Armstrong, musical grotesque and comedian, is very entertaining; Stern and Stern give a turn which is much appreciated. A sketch, *Hush Money*, is well presented, and the pictures on the Cinématograph are novel and interesting.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr Geo. G. Ridley.—We are enjoying a visit here from Mr George Dance's company, in *A Country Girl*. In the title-rôle is Miss Kathryn Comber, whose acting and singing are both admired. Miss Nellie Cozens is the Nan, and gives a fine representation of the part; Miss Rosie Begarnie is a smart and lively Sophie; and Miss Ernestine Desborough is deservedly encored for 'Under the Deodar;" Mr Harry Buss's Barry is a most laughter-provoking bit of work; Mr Fred W. Pattrick, still as the Rajah of Bhong, is, of course, recalled several times for topical verses in the "Peace" ditty; Mr Francis Ludlow makes a breezy Geoffrey Chaloner; and Mr H. C. Morton amuses as Sir Joseph Verity.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—The original Phroso is interesting and mystifying the audiences here, and proving highly attractive. Madame Collard has a capital act, entitled *Robinson Crusoe Amidst His Favourites*. Graham and Harrington's sketch, *A Daughter of Pleasure*, is well liked; Madge Grey's mimicry is out of the ordinary groove; and Edie Anderson, serio; the Four Stars, dancers; Lacey's Erascope; and Joe Mac, comedian, complete the bill.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr Frank E. Donne.—Capt. Davis is giving proof of his enterprise by engaging George Gray and company, in *The Fighting Parson*, which is being appreciated by good audiences nightly. The variety announcements include Frank and Free, comedy artistes; Harry Martell, comedian; Ovieto and Bray, speciality artistes; Flo Challis, serio; and Lade Henderson, vocalist.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE. — General Manager Mr H. Oswald Redford.—On Monday the Moody-Manners (North) opera company commenced a week's engagement here with that ever-attractive masterpiece *Faust*. The Mephistopheles of Mr Charles Tilbury was the salient feature of the performance; Mr Edward Arthur tunefully interpreted the melodious numbers allotted to Faust; Miss Grace Nicoll was sweet and charming as Marguerite; Mr David Fuller was as good as ever as Valentine; and Miss Teify Davies sang the two famous songs of Siebel with telling effect. The chorus and orchestra were admirable. On Tuesday night *Lohengrin* was the fare, and Mr Charles Carter sustained the arduous title-rôle with much success. Miss Enriqueta Crichton as Elsa, Mr Tilbury as the King, Miss Sarah Berry as Ortrud, and Mr Walter Barrett as Telramund were all good.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is here this week presenting *The Plucky Nipper*. The company includes Mr Edward Surrey, who powerfully plays the part of Bill Burgess; Colonel Fenwick is capitally portrayed by Mr G. B. Wright; Mr G. T. Greig is equally successful as Captain Frank Leslie; Mr Douglas Campbell capably undertakes the part of Tommy Atkins (with songs); Mr Edward Fryer gives full effect to the character of Richard Vanbrugh; Miss Bonwin Carlton displays exceptional skill as Polly Hithard and the Plucky Nipper; Miss Esther Lamonte pathetically renders Daisy Paget; and Miss Dora Woodbury charmingly presents Marion Vanbrugh.

CLYDEBANK.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—These boards are occupied this week by Mr C. Finch-Hatton's company, in the well-known drama *When London Sleeps*. As David Englehart Mr Tom Ronald is all that can be desired, and the same may be said of Miss Mabel Cluer as Queenie Carruthers. Miss Grace Baring as Hilda Carode looks and acts charmingly, and Mr Charles Digby in the masher part of Bertie Broomhead does well. The heavy part of Captain Rodney Haynes is exceptionally well portrayed by Mr R. S. Trelawney; Mr D'Arcy Kelway, a smart comedian, makes much fun out of the part of Sammy Blyth, being ably assisted in his comicalities by Miss Nellie Hooks as Carrie Jones.

COLNE.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Gerald Harding.—Ediscope and Barnum's animated pictures and variety company are the attraction here this week. Capital turns include W. H. Kay, miniature entertainer; Le Brun and Mdlle. Irene, jugglers; the Roches, character duettists; Miss Jessie Harper, the singing Lancashire mill girl; Loder Lyons, ventriloquist; Clown Ohmy and performing dog; and a laughable sketch by the Three Funny Ossities.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—Mr J. Gar Kiddie's company has occupied the boards of the above this week with the original burlesque entitled *A Little Coquette*, with Miss L. Payne in the title-rôle. Mr Forsyth Bruce finds good scope for his abilities as Gabriel Grabbe, and Mr J. W. Groves acquits himself well as Ann Teeke. The Milstead Quartet of dancers are most praiseworthy, and the orchestra is under the able direction of Mr E. C. Brierley.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Macdona; Resident Manager, Mr F. Graham Macdona.—*Cousin Kate* has been keenly relished by visitors to the above-named theatre during its stay of three nights. The title-rôle was taken on Monday by Miss Lilias Earle, and the house voted her an ideal Kate Curtis, her acting being charming. Mr Yorke Stephens as Heath Desmond especially delighted the audience in the second act; Mr Walter Ringham made a very capable clerical prude in his character of the Rev. James Bartlett; and everyone was captivated by the demure little maiden, Amy Spencer, as taken by Miss Hilda Honniss. The comedy was preceded each evening by *A Case for Eviction*, in which Miss Betty Castle cleverly played the character of the doctor's wife.

CONSETT.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—Miss Winifred Maude and company are paying a welcome return visit here this week with *The Sins of a City*. Mr Ivan Gore is a good Donald M'Ivor, and in the dual-rôle of Joe and Jasper Woodleigh Mr J. W. Baxter does well. Sandy M'Donald is ably played by Mr Chas. Edward Leslie; Miss Maude is exceptionally clever in the part of Seaweed; Miss Marie Lyons is a creditable Lesbia; Mr Victor Du Cane is very funny as Isaac Levi; and as Midge Miss Jenny Hackett is highly amusing.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Mr Mouillot's company opened a week's engagement here in *The Geisha*. The company is a good one, and the performance is most interesting. As O Mimosa San Miss Aimee De Leska sang well and acted in a pleasing manner; Miss Violet Kenyon as O Juliette Diamante was capital in the part; and Miss Florrie Saunders was a very pleasing Molly Seymour. Mr Edward Carlton, a diverting Wun Hi, filled the part to perfection; Mr Lionel Braham as Marquis Imari was all that could be desired; and as Reginald Fairfax Mr Artnur Cartwright also passed. The company presented *A Greek Slave* on Thursday.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble.—Craig, Rose, Craig, two men and a lady, perform some clever feats on a swing bar and the ring; the Brothers Arnold are most entertaining in a cabinet mystery; the Three Sisters Lee are very good as acrobats and vocalists; Goliath, a youth of eighteen years of age, gives a wonderful performance of weight lifting; Learto, musical comedian, is assisted by his clever dog Babs; Pete and Juno sing and dance with animation; Rays and Miles are two clever jugglers and balancers; and Dale and D'Argan are humorous conjurors.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—Mr Frank Curzon's company in *Glittering Gloria* was a great attraction here the first three days of this week. Miss Stanley Ronalds scored a success as Gloria Grant; Mr Houghton Macaulay proved very capable as Poskett, causing much fun by his introduction of his bulldog; Mr John Campbell filled the rôle of Jack James with credit; the same remark applying to Mr Stanley Arthur as Archie Toodleby. Mr J. Worldley Hulse and Mr Gerald Clark gave a capital account of themselves as Colonel Gallagher and his Secretary; and Miss Lillian Williams was seen to advantage as Jack James's wife. On Thursday the same company presented *Tom, Dick, and Harry*.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Wallace Davidson, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Wallace Davidson.—Monday night was the opening night of this theatre under the new management, and a large company assembled to witness the performance of Mr Stanley S. Gordon and company in the stirring domestic drama, *For the Woman He Loves*. As Mary Vernon Miss Nina Vaughton is a sweet and pathetic heroine, and Mr Gordon is a capital Phillip Meredith. Much amusement is caused by the whimsicalities of Mr W. Manfree, in the character of Muggleton; Miss Ida Bell is a charming Tilda.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Mr George Dance's company is paying another successful visit here with the tuneful musical comedy *A Country Girl*. Mr Johnny Osborne, an old Croydon favourite, is sparkling and merry as Barry; Mr Cyril Thompson sings capitally in the rôle of Geoffrey Chaloner; Mr George Mudie, jun., is a comical Sir Joseph Verity; Mr Vincent Bowyer is commendable as Mr Raikes; Mr J. D. Newton scores as Douglas Verity; Mr Tom Sheridan is admirable as Granfer Mummery; and Messrs Scrope Quinton and J. Bruce give noteworthy performances as Lord Anchester and Lord Grassmere. Miss Maud Harvey is charming and attractive in the rôle of Marjory Joy; Miss Nina Carlton is a handsome Princess Melaneh; Miss Veronica Brady makes a lively Madame Sophie; and Miss May Glen is taking as Nan.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry E. Reckitt.—Mr Stanley Hope's company is drawing good houses to the Royal with *The Master Criminal*. Miss Nellie Thearle displays ability as Cecile; Miss Edith Lawrence is resourceful as Mrs Manners; Miss Kitty Terriss is a light-hearted Peggy Perks; and Miss Bessie Armytage is clever as Mary Murphy. Mr Albert Guyon in the title-rôle distinguishes himself; Mr John Power is commendable as Philip Manners; Mr Wilton Marsh is skilful as James Sharples; and Mr Tod Squires is at his best as Tommy Dale. Mr Reillie's orchestra works hard and with excellent effect.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The amusements here are very good. The Finneys are causing a great sensation in their swimming exhibition, the turn being warmly applauded. Mr G. M. Marriott's company is well received in the interesting sketch *Cigarette*, in which genuine work is put in by Miss Edith Finlay, in the title-rôle; Mr Otto Minster as the Hon. Bertie and the Corporal, Mr G. Dare as Rake, and Mr Marriott as Colonel Chateauroy. The Twin Andersons, dancers; Miss Georgina Leonard, Mr Tom Yorke, Grant and Allen, Miss Teresa De Silva, Adrien and Oram, the Sisters Desmond, Mr Will Farrell, Miss Lillie Langtry, and Mr Edson form a strong variety list.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—This week the boards here are occupied by O'Connor and Brady's variety company. The Three Jackley Wonders head the bill, and do some clever feats. O'Connor and Brady are old favourites, and are well received. The singing and dancing of Gertie Gitana are much appreciated; Mansell Fane is loudly applauded for his fine singing; Mons. Henri Sardou mystifies the audience; Will Saunders is an amusing comedian; Signor Bandoni gives a good musical turn; E. J. Wilkes is a refined comedian; and Gus Balsiger, comedian and trick musician, is excellent.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. L. Ormesby.—The marvellous Craggs are paying a return visit here this week in *Laughter-Land*. Mr Henry B. Lewis is a great success as Prof. Sylvanus Wood; Mr Harry Rousby is screamingly funny as Dick Marlow; Mr Cragie Edwards gives a capable rendition of Alderman Trentham; and Mr Victor Raymond is smart as Archie. The part of Clothilda, the Alderman's daughter, is successfully portrayed by Miss A. Rose, Miss A. Hastings makes a capital Clarice, and Miss Evie Daring as Miss De Vere is also very good. Miss Cecilia Hawthorne and Miss May Leslie as Dinah and Lulu respectively sing and dance with excellent taste. Some exceptional feats of tumbling by the Craggs deserve special mention, and have been greatly appreciated.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company is paying a return visit here this week with *In Old Kentucky*. As Madge Brierly, Miss Amy F. Hermann a versatile actress, brings out the light and shade of the character; Mr J. George Steel plays in thoroughly manly fashion as Frank Harley; Mr Eric Hudson stands out prominently as Jasper Grafton, the evil genius of the piece; Mr Gerard Kennedy does excellent work as Joe Lorey; Mr Alfred S. Bankes plays divertingly as the impecunious speculator; Mr Harry Leander makes a praiseworthy Neb; as the society lady, Miss Edith Harmer sings in pleasing style, and Mr Jimmy James proves himself an expert with banjo and bones.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—The Max Trevally-Harley, trampolin acrobats, the star turn here, submit a clever handbalancing and somersaulting performance. Bennett and Martell, described as the Lunatics, create roars of laughter; Hector and Paulus, comedy equilibrists, give a clever balancing turn; the Knick Knacks appear in a smart and mirth-provoking comedy and dancing act; Primavesi, a skilful juggler, is well appreciated; Fred Cox is a quaint American comedian; and Gracie Logan is a pleasing soubrette and dancer. The Sheffield Photo. Company is responsible for some fine animated pictures.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—*A Woman's Pluck* is proving a decided success here this week. The company includes many capable artistes. Mr James Willard (the author) is at his best as Dick Darrell; Mr Cecil Raymond as Sir John Daredevil plays with admirable effect; Mr C. P. Wentworth gives an able rendering of Sir Noel Fordyce; Mr E. E. Ashby handles the rôle of Winston Dale with his accustomed power; Mr J. Pope Dryden makes an undoubted hit in the dual-rôle of Jim Daremont and Mark Scanlan; and Mr William Hayward plays Matthew Pope with care and ability. Miss East-Robertson treats the rôle of Grace Daremont powerfully.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—Mr George Weldon is presenting an interesting bill this week, the Langdons, singers of illustrated songs, holding leading position. The Dunvilles have a smart comedy sketch, and are applauded; Bob Gardner, with his pipes, is a welcome feature; and Rappo and Ella, equilibrists, meet with much success. Marie Weston, banjoist and dancer, has an attractive turn, and George Foyle, vocalist, is good. Parr is clever in his particular business, and Paddy and the Bioscope never fail to give satisfaction.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. W. Chapman.—The entertainment this week is brimful of excellence, and has commanded large audiences. "Whirling the Whirl" is a good turn by the Four Davies, champion cyclists; the Sisters St. John, vocalists and dancers, are very acceptable; Reg Bolton, comedian and patterer, is popular; Lil Gorman, burlesque, actress, is a favourite; the Three Martinettes, in *The Troubles of an Elephant*, are well rewarded; Fred Hepworth, expert whistler, gives great satisfaction; and Albert Ventor, comedian, does well. The Evremonds, in the humorous episode, *The Slavey and the Tramp*, are rapturously received; and May Lilian Levey, comedienne, provides a dainty item.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Miss Beatrice Isaacson and company are doing excellent business with *A Great Sensation*. Mr Sydney N. Hallows makes a gallant lover, and acts the part of Jack Damer with fire and vigor. Mr Alexander L. Isaacson is responsible for an amusing portrayal of Bunko Bates, and finds abundant scope for his humorous resources. Mr Tom Robertson, whose style and appearance fit him well for the rôle of Henry Encombe, plays effectively, and Mr Frank V. Fenn holds the attention of the audience throughout, and enlists their entire sympathy for the character of Robin Dale. Mr Frank C. Kent is funny as Wiley Jones, and Mr Henry Clayton is thoroughly competent as Stephen Damer. Mr George Collinson makes the most of his limited opportunities as Bruce; the comedy element is safe in the hands of Mr Harry Ugar and Miss Marion Mayne, who, as Peter and Ria respectively, cause much hilarity. Miss Beatrice Isaacson acts with considerable pathos and strong dramatic power as Eva Dale. Miss Edith Wallis gives a forcible rendering of Sidonie, depicting with admirable effect the utter heartlessness and cruelty of the part, and Miss Maud Hetherington contributes a capital little character study of the flower girl waif. The drama is well staged, the Flying Machine scene in act four, in particular, gaining the plaudits of the audience.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—*The Duke of Killicrankie* occupies the boards here this week, and is being played with great success by Messrs Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's company. Mr Langhorne Burton in the title-rôle is most effective, and in the humorous character of Mr Henry Pitt-Welby, M.P., Mr Arthur Grenville is extremely good. Miss Doris Templeton gives a charming portrayal of Lady Henrietta Addison, and Miss Aida Jenoure submits a clever reading of Mrs Mulholland. *Barbara*, which precedes, is cleverly presented by Miss Margaret Damer as Barbara, Miss Gillian Scalfe as Lilie, Mr Guy Newall as Cecil, and Mr Frank Macdonnell as Finnicum.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong. —*Florodora* is being presented here this week by Mr Tom B. Davis's company. Mr Edward Lewis keeps the audience in roars of laughter with his amusing reading of Tweedlepunch; in the part of Cyrus Gilfain Mr Fred Winn acts capitally; Mr Leonard Russell as Frank Abercoed is greatly appreciated; Miss Hilda Dugdale is a charming Angela; and Miss Isabella Dillon enacts the rôle of Lady Holyrood with vivacity. Miss Lena Maitland is greatly admired in her portrayal of Dolores, and Captain Donegal is ably presented by Mr Frank Grans.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—Mr Alfred B. Cross and company are drawing excellent houses here this week in *The Manxman*. Mr Alfred B. Cross cleverly enacts the part of Pete; Miss Minnie Watersford effectively portrays the rôle of Kate Cregeen; the character of Philip Christian is capitally handled by Mr Richard Vane; Miss Muriel Clay does admirably as Miss Christian; Cæsar Cregeen has an able exponent in Mr Henry Heller, and Miss Rosie Kearns is very good as Nancy. Ross Christian is played in a satisfactory manner by Mr Edward M'Lean, and as Monty Missit and Professor Mawley Messrs Edward Cartail and Erakholme E. Clive ably sustain their parts.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—The chief attraction here this week is Rousby's "In Paris," an electric review in four tableaux, a most interesting spectacular show. Prince Kokin is an excellent juggler; Tennyson and Wallis are clever comedians; the Miles Stavordale Quintet give a very entertaining turn; and Harry Dent is a capital comedian. The Wedburns are successful comedy artistes; Beatrice Renee, comedienne and dancer, has a host of admirers; Ted Cowan is an acceptable comedian; and the Empire pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—There is a capital programme provided here this week, the principal item being the Sisters Urma, whose daring trapeze performance elicits hearty applause. Another acceptable turn is that provided by the Three Woodbee Wonders, and the Goldina Trio, novelty carpet spinners, score a success. Les Belles Americaine, vocalists and dancers, meet with appreciation; Weston and May, in their musical comedy act, *Married Life*, are well received; Davis and Davis are a smart pair of comedians and dancers; the Bell Pearl company, in their sketch, *A Bit of String*, are highly amusing; and Bob Stephenson, comedian; La Belle Ideala, wire performer; Ernest Ball, actor-vocalist; and the Bioscope pictures complete the bill.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Sandon Perkins.—Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is here this week in *A Country Mouse*. Miss Violet M. Hartley as Angela gave a delightfully convincing interpretation. Miss Edith Walker made a dashing Lady Sylvia, and Miss Eve Erskine was a handsome Violet Aynsley. Miss Emily Levettez was a very humorous charwoman. Mr Charles Howitt as the Hon. Archibald Vyse gave a very clever and effective performance. Mr Arnold Lucy was seen to advantage as St. Kitts, and Mr Charles Harley made a dignified Mr John Bowlby, M.P., Mr Wilson Lumley as Lord Robert Wykeham and Mr John E. Watson as old Jephcott lent invaluable aid to an agreeable entertainment.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—Picitt does marvels here with handcuffs; Tony Iveson meets with a terrific reception for his clever musical comedy act; Payne's Little Vagabonds repeat their former success; M. C. Geraldo and company supply an exceedingly smart Indian club juggling performance; and Royal Best, an old favourite under a new name, is awarded the hearty applause of the audience for his clever facial entertainment. Rosie Elliott, Mabel La Blanche, and Jack Pleasants also appear.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Will Percival.—*When a Man Hates* is here. Mr Arthur Hinton gave a very creditable performance as Pietro Danelli. Miss Leila Zillwood as Olga Gwynne, Danelli's accomplice, played with true dramatic feeling; and Miss Marion Forrester very capably enacted Letty.

GAIETY THEATRE. — Manager, Mr H. Dobell Lyle.—Mr Roy Jackson's company remain here for another week and produce *Trilby* and *Quasimodo*. In the former Mr Jackson gives a very skilful rendering in the character of Svengali, and Miss Kitty Douglas ably seconds his efforts as Trilby.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr Charles March and a strong company are here this week in the powerful spectacular play *The Priest of the Temple*. Mr Charles March gives a powerful rendering of Valerius; as Decus Fronto Mr Ronald Bayne, an old favourite with Dudley audiences, is very successful; Mr Harry Moxton as Appius Herdonius is excellent; Miss Marie North as Praestantia, a Roman lady, plays a difficult character with much feeling; and Miss Evelyn Hope is seen to advantage as Polita.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—Ara, Zebra, and Vora, in "Indian Pastimes," head the bill here this week, and are proving a great attraction. Mr and Mrs Howard Law, in the comedy *On Active Service* are amusing, and Martin Conway, a favourite comedian here, is as funny as ever. Will Mitcham, musical artiste, is smart, and Rayor and Juli, in *Demonology*, give a clever performance. Other good turns are Sisters Leroy, vocalists and dancers; Maud Ross, comedienne and dancer; and Fred Collins, Scotch character comedian.

EASTBOURNE.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Miss Eugene Bertram's company is appearing here this week in *The Fascinating Miss Kemp*. Mr Drelincourt Odlum contributes the work of an excellent actor, and he is a great success as the genial, hearty Meredith. Mr Charles Garry, too, must claim a goodly share of praise for his capital assumption of the part of Colonel Trevannion. Mr Hugh Ardale is an animated Gerald, and Mr Harold Wadeley is a bright Lionel. Miss Rose Portman is a quiet, restrained Miss Kemp, Miss Dora Heritage is a most appropriate and capable Mrs Trevannion, and Miss Celestine Bertram is a pretty and girlish Elsie. In the curtain-raiser, which glories in a Latin phrase for a title, Miss Celestine Bertram and Mr Hugh Ardale are particularly successful.

TOWN HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Kennard.—Mr Joseph Poole's famed Myriorama is paying a return visit here after a lengthy absence. The pictures and mechanical effects are as interesting as ever, and the show of animated photographs is excellent. The variety portion of the bill includes the marvellous Westwoods, whose performance on bicycles is strikingly clever and novel and exceedingly daring. Mdlle. Orbasany's cockatoos show evidence of careful training; the Veronas are two pretty ladies who quickly dance into favour; Miss May Finch pleases with her patriotic ballads; Mr Felix Somers has a good impersonation act, "People we Know;" and Mr Nat Abatt is the humorous, chatty guide.

ECCLES.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Potasch and Wardle; Manager, Mr P. Potasch; Acting-Manager, Mr P. Ryan-Smith.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company is here this week in *A Beautiful Fiend*. As Wanda Lubinoff Miss May Crowe is everything suggested by the title of the play, and Miss Irene Munroe is pathetic as Nadine. Mr Montague Besudyn is a fine and manly hero, and Mr Herbert Skardon is successful as the villainous Count Karateff.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—*The New Barmaid* was presented at this theatre on Monday by a company under the direction of Mr Alexander Loftus. The performance was made interesting by the presence of Mr Joseph B. Montague, whose diverting acting in his original character of Bertie White kept the audience well amused. Mr Alexander Loftus made a capital William White; Mr Leslie Austin sang nicely as Captain Lovebury; Mr Herbert Cottesmore was effective as Colonel Claymore; Miss Maude Nicholls acted pleasantly as Ethel Joy; and Miss Violet Osmund approved herself a smart comedienne as Dora Heather, the lady journalist. Miss Jean Gilmour was an excellent Lady Moulton, and Miss Hilda Blanche gave a spirited representation of Brenda Louth. The chorus sang with effect, the dancing was particularly good, and numerous specialities introduced in the second act by the principal members of the company were highly successful.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—A visit from the D'Oyly Carte opera company is always welcome to Edinburgh music-lovers, and there was a large and appreciative audience on Monday when *The Mikado* was played. Mr C. Herbert Workman was inimitably droll as Ko-Ko; Mr Fred Billington proved vastly entertaining in the rôle of Pooh-Bah; the Mikado had a first-rate representative in Mr Albert Kavanagh; and Mr Pacie Ripple made a satisfactory first appearance here as Nanki-Poo. Yum-Yum was charmingly impersonated by Miss Norah Maguire, who sang admirably; the Katisha of Miss Theresa Ransam is still an enjoyable feature of the opera; Miss Jessie Rose made a sparkling Pitti Sing; and Miss Mabel Burnege was a satisfactory Peep-Bo. On Tuesday *The Yeomen of the Guard* was given; on Wednesday, *The Gondoliers*; on Thursday, *Iolanthe*; and on Friday, *H.M.S. Pinafore* and *Trial by Jury*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—The return of Mr Eugene Stratton was welcomed on Monday by a big house, and his coon songs, of which he gave three, were received with enthusiastic favour. His effective delivery of "That little Girl of Johnson's" made an immediate impression; and the popular "I may be crazy," with its dramatic framework and fine orchestral score, fairly captured the house. The violin playing of M. Jan Rudenyi was rapturously applauded, and Miss Lilian Lowe's tastefully rendered ballads were favourably received. Mr Horace White's brilliant piano playing gave an added charm to his delightful entertainment. Mr J. H. Milburn sang and grimaced with all the old success, and Signora Pia Carozzi, an accomplished harpist, impressed the audience with some beautifully executed solos. The part singing of the Four Black Troubadours was of a highly enjoyable character; pictures on the Bioscope have been an additional attraction; M'Phee and Hill repeat their daring triple bar act; and Gallagher and Hild and Johnny Gilmour complete the company.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—Mr and Mrs Charles Clifford's company appeared here on Monday in a four-act military drama entitled *On Circumstantial Evidence*. Mr Gordon M'Leod was a spirited Jack Ogilvy; Mr Charles Clifford played Captain Hamilton with undoubted power; Mr Harry Cooke created much amusement in the character of Jeremiah Tobin; Miss Maud Camfield made an interesting Violet Ogilvy; and Miss M. Hastings was a bright and vivacious Polly Smithers.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr John Henry Cooke.—The performances this week have been witnessed by crowded and well-pleased audiences. The Four Maisanos introduce a grotesque musical turn with success; Clown Barker's performing animals are well received; and other praiseworthy items are "Peace and War," a military display on horseback; Miss Eva's graceful and skilful "Troika" act; the clever trapeze performance of La Belle Rose and clown; the intrepid jockey act of Mons. Henry; Mr Anthony Powell's boxing stallions, in an interesting pugilistic display; the Two Yoricks, with gymnastics and fun; and "Prairie Life out West," which still runs successfully.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—*The Three Little Maids* was presented here for the first time on Monday by Mr C. Macdona's principal company. Ada was played with much sprightliness by Miss Gladys Ward; Miss Gertrude Melville as Hilda had a double encore for "A Miller's Daughter;" and Miss Nora Guy (Edna) sang nicely "What's it matter?" Miss Kate Forster makes the most of Lady St. Mallory; Mr Guy Oxley is an exceedingly comical caddie, and, in conjunction with Miss Laura Wright (Gretchen), is recalled for a smartly executed sabot dance. Mr Arthur Longley gives a capital rendering of the effeminate Lord Cheyne. The scenery and mounting are excellent, and the orchestra and chorus under the direction of Mr Julian Rutt were most effective.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week Mr Frank Bateman's company produced the sensational Russian drama *At War With Women*, which depicts in vivid colours the terrors and horrors of Siberian life. Miss Lizzie Montague as Auriel Romanoff made the part a very interesting one, and Mr Clinton Baddeley as Antolski sustained with much ability an onerous part. *East Lynne* was staged for the remainder of the week by Miss Elaine Verner and Mr Harding Thomas's company.

TOWN HALL.—Mr J. Clifford Wright's company played on Friday and Saturday evenings of last week to fairly good business at this place of entertainment. The drama was *The Black Mask*, and in the title-rôle Mr George Hunter made a very successful appearance, while Mr Wright himself as Walter Blackmore, a young doctor, created a favourable impression. Mr Fred Cherry as Samuel Winkle proved himself a comedian of more than average ability.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr John Denton's company is here this week with *Wealth, Women, and Wickedness*. Mr Harry Browne as James Rivers is excellent; Mr Frank Beresford is a manly Jack Vavasour; Mr Percy Rhodes as the villain, Captain Melboure, plays the part admirably; Mr Willie Scott is exceedingly humorous as Tom Hopkins; Mr John Denton makes a capital Elkanah Pearce; Mr Trueman Towers submits a clever character sketch as Bennett; Miss Dolly Harcourt as Polly Hopkins contributes largely to the comedy part; Miss Ada Palmer leaves nothing to be desired as Agatha Pearce; Miss Kate Walbran shows exceptional ability as Elise; and Miss Violet King as Claire Rivers acts with sympathy and power.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Crownow.—This theatre was opened on Monday by Miss Fortescue and company in *The School for Scandal*. On Tuesday *She Stoops to Conquer* was produced, Miss Fortescue giving a charming rendering of Kate Hardcastle. Young Marlow and Hastings were excellently played by Mr G. Polson and Mr Cecil Newton; Mr E. Paterson gave a clever representation of old Hardcastle; Mr E. Cossart was amusing as Tony Lumpkin; Miss Miriam Lewes was a vivacious Constance; and Miss Eugenie Vernie was a good Mrs Hardcastle. The other characters were in capable hands. During the week *Moths* was also presented.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Mr Henry Hare's company in the musical farcical comedy, *The Girl from Chicago*, is appearing here this week. Mr Buckstone Clair is a good exponent of the hustling Yankee judge, Ananias Hussel; and Mr Edwin Dobbs is an agile clerk, Billy M'Gaffin. General Boomer, an American millionaire, is well played by Mr Henry Hare. Mr Douglas Vigors impersonates Percy Montmorency capitally; Mr Clarence Ibbotson, a clever comedian, is most popular as Obadiah Cackles; and Miss Nellie Vicott makes a laughable character of Lucretia Flatfoot. Miss Lily Beverley as Flora Boomer (the Girl from Chicago) both in her singing and acting is admirable. A lively trio are found in Mesdames Nellie James, Lena Adams, and Madge Shaw, who assume the characters of pupils at a dancing academy; and Mr James Quinn as Sam Slappit and Miss Lucy Beaumont as Mrs Sweetlove strengthen the cast.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—On Monday Mr and Mrs William Giffard and company appeared here in the drama *The World's Desire*. The part of Dora Mutley was played with much power by Mrs William Giffard; a charming embodiment of Helen Berkshaw was given by Miss Ella Seton; the villainous Ellis Tridley was powerfully handled by Mr William Giffard; Mr Clifford Rean gave a fine piece of acting in the dual-rôle of Robert and Henry Selkirk; Mr George Child was responsible for a capable interpretation of Nathaniel Mutley; Mr Herbert Light was a capital Godstone Clair; and Mr Chas. Light was well placed as Washington Dobbs. Miss Alberte was good in the part of Ragged Jack, and Miss Francis Bruce was highly successful as Justerina Hook. On Thursday Mr James Hare and company were here.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Limited; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—Heading a strong variety bill submitted here during the week is the Nelson's Newsboys' Quintet, who provide an exceptionally entertaining turn. The Four Francois, acrobats, also give a most attractive show. Miss Cora Gray sings charmingly, and Denby and Dent provide a good comedy act entitled *The Singing Barber*. Silbon's trained ponies, dogs, and cats are most amusing, and James Dubois and Oliver Conroy are responsible for good turns. The Yorkshire Mill Lasses sing capably.

GLASGOW.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham: Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Mr Downie.—*The Lady's Maid* is this week visiting Glasgow for the second time. The company is now under the management of Mr Gore Ouseley and is headed by Miss Isa Bowman, who plays the title-rôle in her usual bright and engaging manner. Mr Harry Fischer's acting as Josiah Biffin keeps the house in excellent humour. In the part of Lieut. Marchmont Mr Dennis Drew proves himself a singer of some promise, and as Augustus Pupbpayst Mr Harold Eden gives an amusing study. Another very diverting performance is that of Spriggs, given by Mr Chas. T. Chaloner. As Alison Grey Miss Pauline Hague sings and acts with refined taste, and Miss Noel Neville supplies a gay and spirited impersonation of Zaza Marmosette. Mr Joseph Wilson does well as Pietro Conti; other clever assumptions being the Landlord of Mr Harry Askham and the Sergeant Tomkins of Mr Frank Randall. The production has the advantage of a full chorus and orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr Spencer Dickensor.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane. —*Our Boys* is being given in Glasgow this week by a company under the direction of Mr Russell Rosse. Mr Alf Mayne was good as Kempster; Miss Cissie Sephton showed versatile ability as Violet; and the parts of Clarissa and Belinda were sustained with dignity and vivacity by Misses Nellie De Lacey and Edith Hesketh. As Mary Melrose Miss Muriel Godfrey Turner acted in charming style. Mr M. Russell Rosse delighted all as Sir Geoffrey, and Mr Wylie Dick made a fine appearance as Talbot Champneys. As Charles Mr Thomas Holding was excellent. Mr Thorne was, at usual, admirable as Perkyn Middlewick.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr Hugh Murdoch.—Miss Go-wongo-Mohawk and her company are here in *Wep-tonno mah*. The clever Indian actress ably impersonates the brave mail-carrier of the play. Mr C. W. Charles as the General is well placed, and the scapegrace nephew is ably enacted by Mr G. Courtney. A strong performance is that of Mr R. Thorne as Spanish Joe. Miss Minnie Goepel makes a lively Nellie. Humour is plentifully supplied by Miss J. Hart as Matilda, Mr Dan Ryan as the Irish servant, and Mr Guy D. Hackney as Sam. Mr Theo Alker acts well as the old Indian chief.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar. Mr George Harris and Mr Fred Terriss's company is here, in *Why Woman Sins*. Mr Wallace Campbell gives a robust impersonation of Lieut. Harry Maxwell. Miss Effie Bartlett is pathetic as Nell Desmond. Captain Herbert Carlton has an able exponent in Mr Fred Terriss. Mr George Harris contributes excellent fooling as Cecil Spencer. Jim Rainbird is carefully depicted by Mr Lionel Ellis, who also appears as Admiral Stedfast. Miss Gussie Everett ably portrays Ida Valette. As Lily De Vere Miss Winifred Preece makes a marked success. Mr Clifford Spencer causes much amusement as Sam Spavin. Mr Forbes Harrison plays Orlando Whiffles effectively, and Miss Marie West is efficient as Nancy Nibble. Miss Georgina Thomas is expressive as Jack Smith, and the remaining parts are well played.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. B. Oakden. — Dr. Walford Bodie, in his second week at the Govan Theatre, is introducing the Mystic Marie séance which proved so puzzling to Palace audiences two weeks ago. He has added to his clever variety combination W. E Hilton, the popular Scotch ventriloquist. The De Roys give an amusing comic conjuring act; and clever turns are given by the Garden Troupe, La Petite Belle, Sisters Moray, Gerald Lopez, and others. Dr. Bodie's cures of paralytic cases continue to excite much wonder.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Webster.—This week good houses are being attracted here by *The Anarchist Terror*, as presented by Miss Lole Esmond's company. Mr Edward Neville is still the clever representative of Ravagoon; Mr J. Nelson-Turner is an amusing Silas Goldstraw; and the go-ahead daughter is played with much spirit by Miss Violet Hammersley. Mr C. T. F. O'Connor makes a dashing Lieutenant Armstrong; Mikey Doolan is enacted with infectious humour by Mr Will White; and Miss Lole Esmond as Kitty Malone shines in song and dance. Ishmael is well portrayed by Mr Gus Bowerman. Miss Annie Brunette as Marita, Miss Kate Parr as Floretta, and Miss Cecile Byrne as Zara ably sustain the female interest.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss's Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Aldin.—Hagedorn's wonderful grotto is again here, and this unique and artistic spectacle is much admired; Selma Braatz gives her artistic juggling act; Minnie Cunningham, in her quiet style, retains the favour of the audience in several new songs; Lieut. Travis gives his clever show, "Travis's Transformations;" Lee and Kingston contribute an amusing comedy duo, *Practical Joking;* the Four Milons as equilibrists and the Three Georgis as comedy acrobats are two popular turns; Johnny Dwyer, Charles Russell, and the Cavallinis all provide amusing turns. Sybil St. Elmo's refined ballad singing is a pleasant feature of the programme. Sisters St. Julian are clever duettists and dancers.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S.—Lessees, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; General-Manager, Mr S. King Alexander; Acting-Managers, Messrs Fred C. Ewing and T. J. Colquhoun.—J. W. Rowley tops the bill here, and has a hearty reception, his singing and dancing being as good as ever. J. W. Rickaby excels in his special line of business, and had to respond to an encore; while the Sisters Russell were favoured with many recalls; Allis and Cassatti are first-class sketch artistes; while Lily Sharplin is a good mimic. The company includes Orpheus, instrumental speciality; Dandy George and dog; Frances Letty; Daunton-Shaw Troupe, clever cyclists; the Mezondos, tumbling act; Tom E. Fingas, coon comedian; Valoni, novelty juggler; Paragon Trio, vocalists; George Prince, eccentric comedian; and Bendon's Bioscope.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thomas Barrasford; Acting-Manager, H. M'Kelvin.—Jack Haggerty's English wrestlers nightly create excitement here. Some marvellous trick cycle riding is done by Robins. *The Water Cure*, a farcical sketch of some merit, is smartly played by Messrs Charles Stewart and company, and is well received. Farley, Rennie, and Farley create no end of uproarious mirth in *Fun at a Railway Station*, a boisterous sketch, which pleases immensely. The Waldrons, burlesque artists, maintain their popularity as entertainers, and the banjo turn of Stanley and Greenop brings these performers notably in evidence. Comedy business, light and refined, is a pleasing contribution by Mr Whit Cunliffe, who, like the Gregsons, a mirthful sketch, is well received. The Bioscope pictures continue as popular and interesting as hitherto. Illness prevents Miss Vesta Victoria's appearance here this week.

BRITANNIA.—Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Manager, Mr Geo. Saphrial.—Leon and Williams give a capital display of knockabout business here. Other artistes engaged are the Henderson and Stanley Quartet, instrumentalists and dancers; Meta Derron, ballad vocalist; J. C. Morris, comedian; Mayon and Marle, in a musical comedy sketch; Geo. Bernard, vocalist; and Sam Thomson, comedian.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr William Biggam.—In the programme provided here Mackenzie Murdoch's violin playing is a great treat. J. B. Preston's song "The Late Bird" meets with instant approval; W. E. Hilton, Scotch ventriloquist, does a praiseworthy turn; Florence Lambeth and Robert Robertson, in their sketch *Domestic Mutual Improvement*, are universal favourites; and Sam Thomson, Scotch comedian; the Scottish Troubadours, instrumentalists; Esther Hood, soprano; the Ross Combination, Highland dancers; J. C. Middleton, baritone; and Craighall Sherry, in sketch *Erchie*, are included in the company.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—A capital three hours' variety entertainment is provided here this week. The Ransley Troupe of cyclists give a sensational act on a tea cup track. Gus Hindel provides an amusing scena in "Boys will be Boys." Mdlle. Flora Lumiere's kaleidoscopic and fire dances in the fairy grotto are much admired. Messena juggles cleverly. Chas. Woodward is successful in his monologue, "The Last Touch." Mdlle. Bartenelli contributes a novel gymnastic turn. Other artistes appearing are Leslie Digby, eccentric comedian; Newland and Nash, comedians and patterers; and the Boultons, in their comedy act "Limelight Coons."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—Crowded houses are still the rule, and an excellent programme is presented. The Cee-Mee Troupe of gymnasts provide a daring and amusing turn; Saltray proves himself an expert foot juggler; Madame Yvette's miniature hippodrome is received with applause; the Albano Troupe astonish with their musical extravaganza on all sorts of instruments; the Bolphas contribute a capital comedy triple bar act; Max Gruber's performing elephant and horse go through a number of movements at the command of their trainer; the Bros. Austin give a clever chair pyramid turn; the Dekotos in their acrobatic act win loud and long applause, Little Doodles has become quite a favourite, and his comicalities are much enjoyed.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr C. Finch Hatton's company is here this week with the drama, *From Scotland Yard*. Mr C. Finch Hatton appears in the rôles of detective, glazier, &c., with great success. Mr T. Arthur-Ellis plays with ability the part of Dean Fordyce, Mr Jack Armitage is an excellent representative of Richard Drake, and Mr Fred H. Rose acts Hawkins Bliss with no small skill. Mr James F. Firth is good as Weary Marsden, as is Mr Mike Johnson in the part of Joe Staggers, and Mr Harry Rutland does well as Jim Mullins. Miss Doris Rennee gives a sympathetic rendering of Mabel, Miss Helen Lowther is attractive as Sybil, Miss C. Gould-Bourne is a capable Mrs Ruggles, and Miss Josephine H. Lee does good work as Mad Marie.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—The New York Comedy Four head the bill this week, and are loudly applauded. Patty Yole is an elegant comedienne and dancer; Golden and Grey, in the vaudeville *The Missing Will*, are good; Les Bois are capital burlesque jugglers; Casey and Ramsey, eccentric comedians, are approved; Fred Pollard, eccentric comedian, is amusing; the Moxon Family of musical acrobats are well received; and the Electrograph completes the bill.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Barry Williams's play, *A Bid for Fortune*, has made its second appearance here this week. It is a costume drama of a highly romantic character. An excellent representation is given by a capable company under the direction of Messrs J. A. Campbell and G. Fulton. Mr C. Brereton Borer ably sustains the part of the much-wronged Sir Philip Templemere, whilst Mr Oswald Douglas realistically portrays the scheming Kent Hickett. The characters of Barbara and Agnes are admirably undertaken by Miss Mary Ainslie and Miss Olive Fulton. Mr Hubert Clifton is quite satisfactory as the miser, Sir Milton Netherley, whilst the same may be said of Mr Geoffrey Fulton as Desmond Netherley. The amusing characters of Bobb Cuttle, Nat Goodberry, Matthew Mullard, and Widow Nicholls are well played by Mr Dick Thomas, Mr J. Lea Hair, Mr Arthur Trail, and Miss Jenny Bostock respectively.

HIPPODROME.—Capt. Alfonso Gerard's troupe of lions and tiger dogs have occasioned considerable interest at the Hippodrome this week. They have given a very novel performance, and the splendid condition of the animals has caused much favourable comment. Emma Don's quartet of black and white vocalists have proved a smart lot of youngsters, and have given a highly popular turn. Exceptionally clever and really charming dancing has been accomplished by Lily Flexmore, whose business is quite of an original description. Vandinoff's exhibition of oil painting was a turn of quite a unique character. Walter Adams, eccentric comedian, has caused much merriment, as also has Ernest Heath. An amusing sketch, *Ketchup*, has been contributed by Nelson and Thomas, and the programme has been completed with a display of acrobatic feats by the Tarras.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Mr J. W. Turner's opera company is here this week. From the répertoire *Mariana* was selected for the opening night, and a capital interpretation was given. Mr Turner assumed his usual rôle of Don Cæsar De Bazan, and, needless to say, was thoroughly successful both in the portrayal of the character and in his vocal contributions. Mr John Ridding made an admirable Don José, and sang well; Mr Sidney Clifford was also commendable as the King of Spain. The Mariana of Miss Alice Boden was a conspicuous success, her clever representation of the part being accompanied by excellent vocalisation. Miss Jessie Dennis did justice to the part of Lazarillo. The chorus is good, and the whole production is worthy of commendation.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—A good all-round company is giving satisfaction to the patrons of this popular house. Much laughter is caused by the comical pair, Cullen and Corthy; Miss Edith Cole sings her songs with taste and feeling; Blake and Granby have a funny sketch in *The Man in Possession;* Raffayette has some performing dogs, which go through clever evolutions; the Glenroy Troupe of dancers give a clever and enjoyable performance; and the Caledonian Boys give a smart musical and vocal performance.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—The No. 1 company of Moody-Manners is paying a welcome return visit this week in a round of standard operas. On Monday *Carmen* was presented, and on Tuesday *Tannhäuser*. The Elisabeth was Madame De Vere, who on Tuesday made a deep impression by her dramatic perception of the necessities of the part and her really fine singing. Mr Joseph O'Mara as Tannhäuser was in excellent voice, and his impersonation was received with much enthusiasm. Miss Toni Selter as Venus was distinctly successful; Mr Chas. Magrath as the Landgrave scored admirably; Mr William Dever, who was suffering from a cold, was obliged to relinquish the part of Wolfram during the evening, and Mr F. H. Erle took it up in a manner which reflects the highest credit upon this artiste. *The Lily of Killarney*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *La Traviata*, and *Maritana* are in the programme for the week.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr C. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—The premier position is held this week by Captain Woodward's seals and sea lions, in a performance which is but little short of human intelligence; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, contribute a turn which is both entertaining and clever, their acrobatic business being really excellent; Harry Coates, the singing navvy, is received with much applause; Messrs Stewart and Morgan are duettists of extraordinary ability, and their tuneful singing was received with much enthusiasm; the Onlaw Trio present a novel and high-class tight-rope turn, several of their feats being quite new; Jack Lorimer is a comedian of ability, his Scotch song being clever; Miss Marie Blythe has a deep contralto voice, and her items are heartily applauded; the Four Jumels are smart instrumentalists, their banjo and mandoline playing being excellent; Stephens and Rennior dance admirably; and the Bioscope shows the most up-to-date pictures. Business is good.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze. —This week we have here Messrs Coventry and Collins' sporting comedy *Thoroughbred*. Mr Percy Bell, on Monday, as John Rimple kept the house thoroughly amused; Miss Mary Smith ably seconded his humorous impersonation; Miss Katherine Parry was pleasing as Della Rimple; Mr Charles Leverson Lane made a good impression as the good-natured American, A. M. Decker; Miss Ivy Hertzog was forceful as the Hon. Wilhemina Carlingham; and the sporting element was ably upheld by Messrs Lewis Sealy as Lord Sandacre and Edward A. Coventry as Blenkinsop. Miss Ruhamah Catton played with considerable dash as Miss Pallington, and the dilettante Clyde Nezril had an effective representative in Mr John R. Collins. The comedy was preceded by *Cutting Out a Prize*.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D Hunter. — Mr Arthur St. John and a powerful dramatic company are appearing this week in the historical drama *Jane Shore*. A dual impersonation of quite opposite characteristics is cleverly personified by Mr Arthur St. John, who to Richard, Duke of Gloucester, and Matthew Shore, the goldsmith, to each gives a natural and dramatic delineation. In the title-rôle Miss Patty Trounsell brings all the necessary feeling to bear upon a very difficult part. Mr E. Fergusson is capital as John Grist, the baker. Mr St. John Beecher gives a fine example of dignity as Lord Hastings. A graceful exposition of the part of Elizabeth Woodville is shown by Miss Lillian Burns. Miss E. Lucas assumes the part of Edward, Prince of Wales, in a pleasing manner. The unthankful character of Sir William Catesby is well depicted by Mr William Foster. Lighter comedy parts are thrown in by Messrs A. Grant and J. Dunlop.

ST. LEONARDS PIER KURSAAL.—Pier Master, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh. — The Kursaal orchestra is giving entertainments here under the directorship of Mr Val Marriott. During the concerts Mr Arthur S. Tomlin, society entertainer, introduces some delightful musical sketches.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—Mr Herbert Madden, comedian, heads a good company this week; Semi and Demi introduce an amusing speciality act; the comicalities of the Kimberley Boys are much enjoyed; some marvellous vocal imitations of birds are given by Mr Charles Mildare; Miss Ethel Dove is a smart and attractive comedienne; a zoological comedy by Messrs Donaldson Bros. and Ardel creates great laughter; the charming comedienne Miss Oleyne Spark finds plenty of admirers; and Mr Frank Seeley scores a great success by his eccentricities.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager Mr Smith.—Mr James Hare's company opened a three nights' engagement here on Monday in the sensational drama *The Golden Chance*, in which Mr Hare very ably played the part of Hubert Izac. Miss Irene Clifford as Viva Izac and Mother Hawk played with fine dramatic ability, whilst Mr H. M. King filled the part of the villain to the entire satisfaction of the audience. Other characters were cleverly sustained by Messrs T. Arkinstall, R. D. Bell, A. Swain, A. H. Clarke, J. Hames, A. W. Harvey, A. Conroy, T. Shaw, and E. Verne, and Misses Agatha Halford and Jenny Hallworth. Messrs A. Paumier and Walter Howard's company in the romantic play *Why Men Love Women* appeared on Thursday evening.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Craggs; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—The Boristridken Troupe of Cossack singers and dancers, who created such a favourable impression upon their last visit, are here again, fresh from their American successes; their performance is as enjoyable and exciting as ever. Other favourites who are receiving gratifying receptions are the Brothers Esdale, in song and patter; Keith and Merson, acrobatic and singing comedians; and George Hyam, a really funny comedian. The gymnastic performance by the Itrams is novel, and certainly clever; Doris Lillian's dancing is graceful, and well appreciated; Barcni and Kemp, in a quick-change act, are quite a revelation; and J. P. Carrol is deservedly recalled for his tambourine manipulations.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. A. Jackson; Acting-Manager, Mr Thos Robson.—The principal attraction here this week is the Five Rhynes, in a clever and interesting comedy act. Jas. Brady is much appreciated as the vocal joker; George Daunton is well received as comedian and vocalist; Stanert and Yondi submit a pleasing comedy and musical act; Little Auguste is amusing as the miniature Leno; the Florodora Girls give some excellent speciality dancing; and *The Academy* an amusing comic sketch, receives due recognition. Costello, comedy conjuror, and Downey's animated pictures complete the bill.

HEREFORD.

GARRICK THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; General Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank J. Pitt.—On Monday Messrs John Hart and H. Armitage's company, in *The Never-Never Land*, was greeted with applause by a large and enthusiastic audience. Mr Edmund F. Kennedy as Jack Mowbray was intensely realistic; Miss Margaret Parker as Smudge showed considerable ability; as Lady Walgrove Miss Marion Fawcett gave a portrayal of distinct merit; Mr Edward Rochelle delineated the part of Nat Ruddy successfully; Miss Caroline Barrett was capable as Sybil; Miss B. Grand was bright and taking as Lorna Mannerley; and a very striking character, Sal Berker, was portrayed carefully by Miss Julie Kennard.

HOYLAND.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr G. S. King.—Mr Fred Bulmer's company holds the boards here this week with *Sentenced for Life*. Mr Dan Agar as the Rev. Percy Mr Gentle keeps the house in a continual roar of laughter; Mr Harry Lloyd is seen to advantage as Lieutenant Roy Stillwell; Mr Ernest Vaughan is well placed as Captain Paul Derrick; and Mr Charles Whitlock as the Rev. Martin Orris is excellent. Miss Mary Dalby as Lady Stillwell is distinctly good; and Miss Georgina France as Adele Gray and Miss Madge Douglas as Kate Rennel are in every way satisfactory.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Mr Tree's company is presenting that fascinating play *The Darling of the Gods*. Mr G. W. Anson appears as the relentless Zakkurl. His imperturbable air and deadly politeness in his most cruel actions are deeply impressive. Miss Lilian Stafford as Yo-San is fascinating enough to excuse the dallying of Kara, in which part Mr Gerald Kay Souper displays fine gifts of dramatic power. Mr A. P. Kaye is dignified as Prince Saigon. Mr P. R. Goodyer as Tanda imparts a little lighter relief. Mr Cecil Tresilian plays with great cleverness the role of the dumb servant, Iku. Miss Augusta Haviland does good work as the discarded geisha, Rosy Sky.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; General Manager, Mr W. F. Morton.—That striking musical extravaganza *Saturday to Monday* has made its first appearance at this house this week. It has been seen in a less extended form at a variety theatre. It affords Mr Fred Kitchen many chances to shine, in each of which he contrives to make the fullest use of his comic powers. Corinda Blake is one of those rôles that just suits Miss Aggie Morris, who is a firm favourite owing to her past work in pantomime and burlesque in Hull. The dancing is a strong feature in this show.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—That pleasant musical comedy *The Girl from Kay's* is here again this week, and its tuneful melodies and its witty dialogue are received with much favour. Mr H. C. Barry once more is cast as Heggenheimer, and sings and dances with all the vigour that made him so popular in the past. Miss Simeta Marsden is everything one could wish as Winnie Harbrough.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—Mr Tom H. Taylor's company in *The Female Swindler* is one that is just built to meet the taste of this house's patrons. In the striking rôle of Lu Valroy Miss V. Ellicott has all the means of showing her talent as an artist of much merit and worth.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident Manager, Mr A. Graham.—Tom Leamore is here, and he gets a big reception. Mr Frank Hibbert shows how the handcuff and box trick mysteries are worked. *The Gipsies' Romance*, performed by the Barangay Trio, is another big attraction. As a trapezist Leona Dare has a great reputation in this city.

EMPIRE.—Mr Jno. Sylvester Sage.—The Original Vivians' vaudeville company, in the musical sketch *Life's Reverie*, are big favourites; Mdlle. Magna, who submits a series of artistic poses, is well received; Chas. Paver contributes some rollicking songs; Sadie Dana is a smart singer and dancer; and other turns include Le Warren and Robin, a good trick cyclist.

THE CIRCUS.—Manager, Mr L. Emerson.—Hamilton's Excursions are doing well here, and in addition to the pictures a capital company appears.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—Under the auspices of the New Sapho Syndicate, Limited, Miss Annie Bell and company are presenting here this week Mr Bernard Asphasse's version of Daudet's famous novel. Endowed with personal charms and emotional powers, Miss Bell makes Fanny Legrand a most striking and interesting character, and she is ably assisted by Mr Horatio Sinclair, who plays with earnestness and conviction the rôle of Jean Gausin. A considerable amount of humour is extracted from the part of Cesaire by Mr George Antly; Mr R. A. Greene is an efficient Paul Dechelett; a capital impersonation of Caoudal is submitted by Mr H. Langford; and Mr Archie Helsby is good as Eugène Flamant. The rôle of Joseph is intelligently enacted by Little Miss Lottie Ray, and praise is also due to Mr J. A. Storey and Miss Laura Ray as Father Legrand and Machaume respectively.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr L F. A. Rogers; Musical Director, Mr C. Keith Smith. —The company of Mr F. Oswald Brookes occupies the boards this week with *The New Housemaid*, preceded by a curtain-raiser entitled *Buffo*. In the title-rôle, the Hon. Bertie Rashleigh, Mr Ralph Roberts plays in very pleasing style; Miss Ethel L. Caryllon as Dulcie is an agreeable actress; Mr Pan E. Draco does well as Marmsbury Doom, a detective; and Mr Charles L. Calvert as the Rev. Stephen Stingles is well suited. Mr Theodore Jones as Peter Pinkerton adds to the enjoyment of the evening; Miss Ada Mansfield deserves to be complimented on her rendering of Caroline; Miss Pattie Elliott is good as Agnes; and Mr Howard Brenan makes the most of the part of Arthur. Mr Campbell Goldsmid as Rosebery and Miss Ella Burney as Lettice appear with success.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Joe Richards.—Miss Cissie Langford, descriptive vocalist, heads the bill, and is supported each evening by the Two M'Coys, duettists; Ryder Davis, comedian; Eva Warde, burlesque artiste; Harry Rochdale, comedian; and Ezra Read and company, instrumentalists.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—Mr Louis Calvert's company is here this week in *Sunday*. Mr Fred Powell is clever as Towzer; Davy and Lively have capital representatives in Messrs John Manley and T. Norman Walter; while Jacky is well played by Mr Whitford Kane. In the title-rôle Miss Nita Faydon has made a favourable impression, and others who give valuable assistance are Messrs J. Edward Pearce, Charles B. Vaughan, Ernest E. Douglas, and Miss Olive Adair.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME.—Among the new attractions this week at the Woodbridge road place of amusement are Fred Terry, a clever comedian; Harry Shelton and Happy Attwood, descriptive vocalists; Carlo and Mail, variety artists; Miss Sadie Seymour, comedienne; the Altreda Boys, and new animated pictures.

KENDAL.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr R. F. Chorley; Manager, Mr J. W. Butler.—Mr James Hare's well-balanced company presented *The Golden Chance* on the 24th ult. and two following nights. Included in Mr Hare's company are Mr H. M. King, who is good as Stephen Clinton; Mr T. Arkinstall acquits himself well as Isaac Shellberg; Mr Hare as Arthur Hastings renders an excellent account of himself; Miss Agatha Halford is consistently good as Lydia Hastings; Mr Jack Hames is diverting as Sam Brown; and is ably assisted by Miss Jennie Hallworth as Susan.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne. —Mr Horace Stanley and company are paying a welcome return visit this week with *The 10 30 Down Express*. Mr Harry Wool is a capital Jack O'Malley, and Mr Alarie Burton is disguised as Cuthbert Leigh. Mr Harry L. Doy acquits himself admirably as Huntley Mason, and Mr Scott Leighton depicts the evil nature of James Inderwick in a powerful manner. He is ably assisted by Mr Fred Roper as Seth Coombes. Mr Stanley portrays Sam Waggstaff in a humorous style, and Mr Arthur E. Francis causes a lot of amusement as Blotherby Baggs. Miss Adelaide Claire is a sympathetic Bessie Leigh; Miss E. M. Walton is seen to advantage as Letitia; and Miss Kate Kilpack gives a fine rendering of the character of Peggy Potts.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—Mr Charles Macdona's company is here this week with the musical comedy entitled *The Gay Parisienne*. Miss Jennie Richards in the title-rôle dances and sings in a clever manner. Mr Ebenezer Honeycombe is cleverly portrayed by Mr Tom May, who is very funny. Major Forsdyke is vividly played by Mr Arthur Watts, and the Major's daughters are charmingly played by Misses Ethel Lisle, Minnie Percy, Dora Macmahon, and Florence Brewster. Miss Madge Soutter causes much fun as Ruth, and sings well. Miss Gwen Clifford and Miss Ethel Wade are respectively good as Mrs Honeycombe and Norah.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Mr Herbert Leonard.—Mr Chas. Macdona's company played *Are You a Mason?* for the first three nights this week. Mr George De Lara is excellent as George Fisher; Mr Edward Thirlby as Amos Bloodgood gives a good portrayal of the character; Mr Arthur Claremont is good as Frank Perry; Mr Stanley Bell is satisfactory as Ernest Morison; Miss Constance Groves as Mrs Caroline Bloodgood deserves praise; Eva in the hands of Miss Leila Russell is all that can be desired; Annie and Lula are capably undertaken by Miss Janie Levens and Miss Pearl Keats; and Miss Nell Douglas is excellent as Lottie, the maid.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—Mr Leslie Norman's company is here with *A Trip to Chinatown*. Mr Charles Seguin as Welland Strong finds ample scope for fun-making, and keeps the house merry all the time he is before the footlights. As Ben Gray Mr Jerrold Manville contributes an amusing sketch, while Mr Leslie Norman does well as Rashleigh Gay, and Mr Oswald Grey sings admirable as Blood. Noah Heap has an acceptable exponent in Mr Will Smith, Mr E Jones is good as Jones, while Miss Harriet Fawn is most entertaining as Mrs Guyer. The Three Canadian Belles dance daintily, and Mr A. T. M'Innes conducts an excellent chorus and orchestra.

PALACE. — Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur. — The Dandies star at the head of a strong bill, and present an altogether charming entertainment of music and dance. Ian Colquhoun sings powerfully, and other very acceptable turns come from the Wiltons, the Sisters Caselli, Will Cornish, Ida Gladstone, the Haywards, and those old local favourites, Downes and Langford. Mr Sydney Arthur, the highly popular manager of the Circuit, took a well-deserved benefit on Wednesday, and was well supported.

There cannot possibly be any doubt as to the value and efficacy of this dentifrice, because

Odol is used by dentists themselves.

LANCASTER.

ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson.—*The Bells of Haslemere*, under the direction of Mr Chas. A. Chandler, was staged here on Monday for the first time. Mr Leonard Yorke gave a fine impersonation of Frank Beresford; John Silkstone was cleverly depicted by Mr Montague Turner; Mr Chas. A. Chandler appeared with success as Capt. Vere; Mr Chas. Cecil made a humorous Reuben Armstrong; and Mr Fred Allen played well as Joseph Thorndyke. Miss Harrietta Pollini gave an excellent portrayal of Evelyn Brookfield, Miss Mary Hardacre did exceedingly well as Mary Northcote, and the same may be said of Miss Stafford Smith and Miss Florence Chandler as Dorothy Tremble and Norah Desmond respectively. The drama was well staged.

PALACE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—The programme is headed this week by Arthur Gill, comedian and mimic, who is justly described as the man of many voices. The Musical Palmers provide a capital turn, which is highly appreciated, whilst Curtis and Miss Vanity, cake-walk experts, have a flattering reception. Much interest is centred in a cake-walk competition for local talent, a good many entries having been secured. Walter Payne's animated pictures; Miss Flo Wood, comedienne; Lanton and Lane, comedians; Miss Daisy Almo, soubrette; and Bert Williams, ventriloquist, make up a capital bill.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr Harry Esden. —*Little Mary* on the occasion of its first visit to Leamington is being rapturously received. It is played by an entirely competent company, which includes Mr Arthur Holmes Gore as the Earl of Carlton and Miss Gertrude Burnett as Moira Loney, the other parts being in very safe hands. *Little Mary* is preceded by the bright little curtain-raiser *The Bugle Call*.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—This week we are favoured with a belated first visit of Mr George Edwardes's company in the successful musical play *The Orchid*, and good houses have derived considerable entertainment from a capital presentation. Mr George Gregory is eminently successful in the heavy part of Meakin, the gardener, his drolleries being a continual source of merriment; Mr Lawrence Grossmith is responsible for many entertaining interludes in the rôle of Guy Scrymgeour; Mr Sam Walsh does good work as the fire-eating French Comte; and Mr Donald Hall and Mr Ellis Ogilvie also give good evidence of their capabilities in leading rôles. Miss Coralie Blythe pleases all by clever all-round work, her vocal efforts being specially successful; Miss Irene Verona contributes an effective portrayal of the amorous Caroline; Miss Luna Love makes a good impression; and Zelia Rumbert has a capital exponent in Miss Ethel Griffies. Miss Gertrude Gilliam, Miss Katie Leechman, and Mr Sidney Vincent are other prominent members of a powerful cast.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Bush.—Mr Henry Swinerd's company occupies the boards here with the musical novelty *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, with which production satisfactory business is being done. The name part is creditably played by Miss Marjorie Cecil whose fine singing is specially admired, and her efforts to please are ably seconded by Miss Kathleen Garnon and Miss Nellie Harcourt. Mr Arthur Verne is the principal comedian of the piece, and in the rôle of Silas Crump keeps the fun going. He is well supported by Mr Alf Stretton and Mr W. G. Hearson. Mr Cecil W. Parke is well placed as Capt. Fielding, the hero of the play. Mr Henry C. Ward is equally effective as the villain; and other parts are capably sustained by Mr Wilfred Carr. Miss Lillie Blake and Mr Walter Boyce.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—*The Fatal Wedding* is being played to crowded houses by Mr Bert Coote's company. The part of Howard Wilson, the wronged husband, is well presented by Mr Wilfred Payne, and a sympathetic portrayal of the much-abused wife is forthcoming from Miss Marie Housley. In the rôle of the adventuress Miss Gertrude Harrison proves herself an accomplished actress. Robert Curtis is a distinguished effort by Mr Wallace Stranach. Miss Gladys Rose Jones is seen to advantage in the role of Jessie, the child mother; Schwartz is capably embodied by Mr Walter Westwood; and in the leading comedy parts Mr Charles Kenney and Miss Harriett Clifton are very successful. The children's speciality in the second act is a thoroughly enjoyable item.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—A popular feature of the week's programme here is Bella and Bijou, a pair of vocal speciality artists, who are awarded a big reception. Eugen Maarder introduces his fire-dancing horse in an original speciality; the Sisters Sprightly go through their dashing song and dance turn with the usual success; G. W. Hunter and Chas. Vincent are both comedians of undoubted ability; and Cline and Clark distinguish themselves in song and dance. Fiske and M'Donough submit an interesting dramatic sketch; acrobatic and gymnastic turns by the Baldwin Brothers and the Wartenburg Brothers receive due appreciation; and good vocal selections are given by Margaret Radcliffe. Collins's Six Lancashire Lasses also appear in a speciality dancing turn.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—A new comedian, with an original style, Al Lawrence, presents a successful turn. An immensely popular feature is the clever musical duologue *Her Birthday*, capitally rendered by Minnie Hunt and Rhys Thomas. Imro Fox, the illusionist, submits his mystifying entertainment with huge success; clever juggling turns are done by H. A. Zetto and the Five Purroscoppis; Kate Gourlay is a clever example of the up-to-date coon artiste; Mr and Mrs Paul Knox give great satisfaction; and the Falcons appear with success in an acrobatic comedy act.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—The well-known Collinson Combination is here in their amusing comedy sketch. Cruikshank, quaintest of comedians, is having a good week, and George Formby, another smart comedian, is also exceedingly popular. Conan and Doyle, a pair of amusing eccentrics, repeat their success. Roze and Calvert are a comedy duo of more than average merit. Acceptable vocal entertainment is forthcoming from Lily Turner and also from Bert Holmes, and animated pictures complete the programme.

LIMERICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Robert Fogerty.—Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company opened a three nights' engagement on Monday in the comedy entitled *Jane*. Mr Kershaw had a delightful interpreter in Mr W. Hargreaves, and Mr Austin Leigh was a most efficient Charley Shackleton. Mr Wilfrid Compton was an energetic William Tipson, and as Mr Pixton Mr Raymond Chester was decidedly good. As Claud Mr Vivian Gilbert was artistically clever, and the tradesmen had efficient impersonators in Messrs Jones, Benford, and King. Miss Mary E. Deverell was capital as Lucy Norton, and Miss Cicely Wade was a capable Mrs Pixton. Mrs Alfred Davis was an artistic Mrs Chadwick, and no one could desire a more imposing and prepossessing Jane than was played by Miss Dora Grey. The comedy was preceded by Buckstone's comedietta entitled *Good for Nothing*, in which Miss Grey acted the humorous rôle of Nan, and Mr R. Chester the rôle of Tom Dibbles.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr U. D. Leigh.—*Miss Mischief*, the new and original musical comedy which is presented by Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's versatile company, is the attraction here this week. The dressing and mounting are worthy of special praise. Mr Fred Eastman as Private Harris, V.C., fairly revels in the part, and keeps the audience in continual merriment. Mr Cecil Curtiss is also conspicuously successful as Capt. Jack Bethune, D.S.O., Mr T. E. Conover as Admiral Sir Hannibal Bethune, and Mr G. H. Llot as Lord Percy Fitz-Sherry are very good; and both Mr J. C. Bland as Hiram Q. Peg and Mr H. Ellesmere as Count von Himmelblau do well. Miss Evelyn Hughes makes a delightful Kitty Malone, and Miss Crissie Francess is seen to advantage as the maid Mary Ann. Miss Eileen Guilbert makes a capital Lady Orrery.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—The boards are held here this week by Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's company, in *A Marriage of Vengeance*. Miss A. Harrison Tate gives a clever rendering of the part of Stella, and as Elsa Dean Miss Maud Stuart is to be highly complimented. Mr Alfred George Fry is a convincing Paul Earnscliffe, and as the evil genius, Geoffrey Fannock, Mr Louis Norman acts well. Mr Charles Coventry is good as Glynne Earnscliffe; Mr George A. De Gray is successful as Max Rheinhardt; and amusing portrayals are forthcoming from Miss Etta Turner as Amelia and Mr Walter Airton as Tacker. The play is well mounted.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—The principal attraction in this week's excellent programme is R. G. Knowles, with his easy flow of witty whimsicalities. At the other end are Vernon and Voyce, singing comedians, who delight all parts of the house with their enjoyable turn. The Levinos (Dolph and Susie) are giving for the first time in Leicester their original novelty, *The Rival Arts*, which gives these popular and clever artists every opportunity for the display of their versatile talents. The Young America Quintet of vocalists and dancers, conducted by Miss Mattie Boorum, prove a most entertaining turn; the Florador Quartet give with great success their comedy sketch, *Naughty Nin*; George Brooke, a smart comedian, makes a big hit with his song, "And his day's work was done;" Rezene and Robini are inimitable knockabouts; Marie Reeve is a clever step-dancer; the Ashers (Agnes and Little Mike) score a success in their speciality. "The Dude and the Soubrette;" and Lizzie Daniels, soubrette, also entertains.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—At the head of a capital bill this week is T. B. Fayne, the successful Yorkshire comedian; as a hat manipulator and juggler Frisoari gives a good show; Henry F. Wilson, ballad and descriptive vocalist, renders his songs in good style; Rose Tilley is a smart comedienne and dancer; and other entertaining turns are submitted by the Padleys, in their comedy act, *A Private Lesson*; Urk, magician and illusionist; George and Edwards, comedians and dancers; and Ruby Bijou, vocalist and dancer.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—Mr George Kirk and and Miss Mary Neill's company is here with the drama *Judy*. Miss Florrie Groves is an excellent exponent of Judy; the dual-rôle of Polly and Alice is cleverly undertaken by Miss Mary Neil; Miss Violet Langley as Blake is well suited; Mr George Kirk in his impersonation of Grip is greatly appreciated; Mr Carlton Wallace as Duburg sustains the part with ability; Mr William Vane as Sterling, the banker, is effective; Mr Will Casey scores as Jim, the coster; Mr J. Stoner as Mike and Mr Frank Lyndon as Dick act creditably; Mr H. Martin is a satisfactory Hogan; and as the maid, Becky Miss Annie Mitchell is well placed.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—The event of the week in Liverpool has been the visit of Sir Henry Irving and his company. The répertoire of the six nights and matinée included *The Merchant of Venice*, *Becket*, *Waterloo*, *The Bells*, and *The Lyons Mail*. Among Sir Henry's principal supporters were Mr Gerald Lawrence, Mr James Hearn, Mr Charles Dodsworth, Mr H. B. Stanford, Miss Edith Wynne-Matthison, Mrs Cecil Raleigh, Miss Grace Hampton, and Miss Maud Fealy. Needless to record, the scenic effects were charming.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—Liverpool theatregoers have had an opportunity this week of judging the merits of the new musical play *Peggie Machree*. Large audiences have been present during the week to follow with lively interest the adventures of the madcap young aristocrat Lady O'Driscoll, whose trifling with matrimonial ties has such an unlooked-for ending. The rôle was charmingly enacted by Miss Marie Dainton, who, by her sweet singing, soon gained the affections of her audience; the happy Barry Trevor, interpreted by Mr Dennis O'Sullivan, proved a prime favourite, his rendering of several catchy Irish songs being rapturously received; Mr Graeme Campbell was a sad-faced Alexander M'Dougall, full of humour; and Mr Marc M'Dermott proved an able Sir Lawrence Borthwick. The picturesque scenery added greatly to the success.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. French; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Beltram.—*Kitty Grey* has attracted considerable attention here during the week. Mr C. St. John Denton's principal touring company, which is a strong one, is responsible for the bright, sparkling production. Miss Hilda Guiver is the sprightly Kitty Grey; Mr Leslie Harris provokes roars of laughter with his Lord Plantagenet; Mr Innes Smith acts with distinct ability the part of Sir John Binfield; and Miss Eily Helene presents a charming Lady Binfield.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—Mr G. Carlton Wallace's five-act play *The Village Blacksmith* is being presented here this week for the first time in Liverpool. Mr Sam Livesey as the blacksmith plays in an impressive manner; Miss Ethel Kay as the wife, Kate Strong gives good support; Mr Joseph Carter as Captain Leo makes a powerful and designing villain; and Little Christobel is a charming child. The scenery is particularly good, and the wrestling match raises enthusiasm.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—A good programme this week is topped by Sam Mayo, a quaint comedian, who is loudly applauded by a delighted and greatly amused audience. Alma Obrey, an Australian comedienne, is a finished and artistic singer. John Grun Marx is applauded for his weight-lifting; Barrett and Knowles keep everyone in high spirits with their original and amusing patter; Haydee's mannikins are very good; and Henri Bekker is a decidedly clever conjuror. The following artistes also help considerably towards the evening's enjoyment:—Rose Harvey, burlesque actress; Tom Hayes, boy comedian; Orna and Calderon, acrobats; Stella Stanley, comedienne; and Bob Baxter, comedian.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—That old-time and excellent play *Proof*, given by Mr and Mrs Wm. Maclaren's company, has proved a strong attraction here this week. Mr Maclaren's Pierre Lorance is a fine portrayal; Mr Richard Fulton presents a good study of Lazare; Miss Lily C. Bandmann submits a sweet Madeleine and Valentine, her acting being both finished and reserved; and Miss Gertrude Evans is a charming Adrienne.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—At this popular theatre Mr Fred Melville's romantic play, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, has drawn good audiences during the week. Mr Horace Hunter displays much ability as George Madison; Miss Isla Garnett Vane is a sympathetic Lucy; Mr Clarence Hague is a typical villain as Charles Devereux; and the Lady Lancaster of Miss Doris Brookes is good. The lighter parts of the drama are in the capable hands of Mr Harry Elliston and Miss Marie Kildare.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—The Chronophone, a title applied to an arrangement which consists of animated pictures and a gramaphone, has been the principal item here this week, and has attracted some considerable attention. Mr Charles R. Sweet, the musical burglar, presents an original and diverting show; Mark Sheridan, the popular eccentric comedian, remains another week; the Four Schutzenliesel's give a good turn as a quartet of lady vocalists; the Tourbillon Troupe of cycling acrobats go through a clever performance; Ohm's ponies, dogs, &c., execute some clever tricks; Miss Nello, the lady contortionist, is a capital turn; and others in the programme are Les Voces, operatic soloists and duettists; Ford and Hanson, American musical artists; Albert Le Fre, comedian and dancer; Bros. Webb, musical clowns; Three Sisters Mascotte, gymnasts; and Chas. Stevens, vocal comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—John Tiller's company is here again this week with *High Jinks*. The "fun on the sands" never ceases to keep the audience merry. The turn given by Grant and Grant, American speciality artistes, is clever; F. Cumminger gives an excellent sand dance; Browning and Walley display their strength of teeth and arms on the trapeze; Alfonso Silvano performs several exceptionally good equilibristic feats; a number of well-received musical items are rendered by the Elysian Troupe; Larola is amusing with his grotesque juggling and balancing; Michael Nolan is a clever Irish comedian; and Rose Cabani, comedienne and dancer, also entertains.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—Foremost here this week is a naval and military spectacle *For King and Country*, given by Tom Herman's fifty Liverpool boys and girls. Delmar and Van-Dane, a smart couple of comedy artistes, present an amusing sketch *Stagemania*; the Black Apollo gives an all-round fine entertainment with his ten different musical instruments; York, Mack, and York are well received for their laughable sketch *Widow Mack's Troublesome Boys*; and others in the programme are Frank Tyrell, eccentric comedian; Miss Marie Mason, comedienne; Miss Violet Macfarlane, vocalist; Teddy May, comedian; and the Rameses, with their statuary tableaux.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—An interesting bill is presented here this week. At the top is G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, who gives a number of his successes, and is cordially received; the Martine Trio, American song illustrators, are a capital turn; the singing of Master Albert, the boy alto, being of a high quality. Curtis Lee, assisted by Noblesse, the black piccaninni, goes through some marvellous conjuring tricks and juggling; Miss Ivy Graham, a favourite burlesque actress and dancer, pays a return visit; J. F. Sterling is an accomplished comedian and dancer; Marbach mystifies with his wonderful card manipulation; and Alec Kendal is a good eccentric comedian and dancer.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan.—There is a strong company here this week. Fox and Melville, American song illustrators, introduce a number of pictures, thus mingling art with harmony; Les Manipulos, Parisian dumb magicians, perform many smart sleight-of-hand tricks; the Darktown Belles provide an interesting turn with their singing and sand dances. Fred Land, with his character costume songs, is exceedingly funny; Joseph Sheldon gives an exhibition of club-swinging; and the dancing of the Dunodian Quartet wins rounds of applause.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—The Walleys, with their juggling, are loudly applauded; Onda and Leon create much amusement with their conversational gymnastic performance; Henderson is an accomplished concertina player; Bliss and Bliss are a couple of good comedians; Reilly and Taylor provide a laughable sketch, *Blotz and Klitz*; and others in the bill are Fred Burnaby, vocalist; Inez Clough, vocalist; Chris. Masters, vocalist; and Billy Emerson, humourist.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—Included in the programme presented this week at the popular South-end music hall are Merton and Rydon, a couple of high-class comedy artists, who bring a number of new and catchy songs; Avon and Crest, specialty artists, who create merriment with their comedy act, "A Little Bit of This and a Little Bit of That;" the Sisters Marion, a pair of clever juvenile duettists and vocalists; the Lulaine Darrel Troupe of novelty gymnasts, a good turn; Tom Hall's Nippers, juvenile comic acrobats; Little Lady Fauntleroy, ventriloquist; the Freans, Irish comedians; and Alf Brooke, comedian.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—Mr S. F. Cody's *Klondyke Nugget* company is here again this week, and is as successful as usual. Mr Edward Leroy does exceedingly well as Sam Deats; the part of Joe Smith is ably taken by Mr Vivian Cody; Mr Leon Cody is good as Waco, an Indian chief; Mr Doc Horsfall as Tom Lee, an old Trapper, is most successful; Miss Edith B. Mumford as Rosie Lee is both charming and clever; and Miss Lillie Ker is lively as the Bargirl. There are several trained ponies in the show, and some clever shooting is introduced.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—The Hilton St. Just opera company is paying a welcome return visit, and appears in a number of old favourites. In *Maritana* Mr St. Just gave a delightful rendering of Don Cæsar. Mr Frank Land was a capital Don José. As Maritana Miss Louise Van Dalle sang with all her wonted charm and vivacity. *Faust* was staged on Tuesday night, in which Mr Hilton St. Just, in the title-rôle, achieved another success, and Miss Van Dalle as Marguerite was excellent. *Lucia de Lammermoor*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Il Trovatore* (by request of the Philharmonic Society), and *Lily of Killarney* were also in the week's programme.

LONG EATON.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. Meakin.—Miss Gladys Silvester and her company are here in the drama entitled *Cissy*, which gives scope for Miss Silvester and Mr Fletcher Sansome in their varied parts. With a good vocalist in Mr Harry C. Lovell the piece retains the attention of the audience, and some expert dancers have a turn.

MAIDSTONE.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Manager, Mr J. Beslee.—The attraction here this week is Professor Crocker with his educated horses. Although this is by no means the first visit of this clever animal show the performance is as popular as ever. The horses show almost human intelligence, the great battlefield scene being carried out entirely by the animals who do sentry-go, form into detachments, and defend the fort with great enthusiasm. The Equimatograph series of animated photos. is also shown.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—Mr T. E. Worth's company is paying a return visit here this week in *The Rose of the Ring*. Mr Edwards gives a telling portrayal of Lord Desborough. Mr J. C. Howard as Matthew Benson is capably rendered. Mr E. St. C. Forbes as Capt. Vercher supplies a vigorous piece of acting. Mr T. E. Worth Timothy Trippet causes great amusement whenever he is upon the stage. Miss Vincent as Rose Meredith accomplishes her task in a praiseworthy manner. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on Miss N. Stuart as Lavinia Lovejoy. Miss Grace Chesterfield gives a fine impersonation of the part of Dora Vennimore, and Little Dolly Gilroy is pleasing as Dick.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessees, Messrs Bendon and Larder.—A strong programme is in evidence here. Codge, the whistling street Arab, gives a wonderful exhibition; Kier and Allen are responsible for a popular humorous speciality. Dan Noble, eccentric comedian, in a return visit is scoring with some good songs. Miss Marie York is a pleasing vocalist; the Bendons give a refined entertainment, and are greatly appreciated. Sisters Isabella, coon vocalists and dancers, are a very good turn; Harry Gold makes a hit with some smart songs; and Cyrus and Maude, musical comedians, with their performing donkey, complete an attractive programme.

MAIDENHEAD.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Edgar Dereve and F. L. Schmitz.—Mr Harry Foxwell has a strong company here for the week, playing *Shadows of a Great City*. The part of Tom Cooper is one which appeals to all parts of the audience, and Mr Howell Travis fills it in manly fashion. Mr Harry Foxwell is a typical Jew as Abe Nathans. Mr Chas. Vivian is very successful as the rascally George Benson, and Mr Newton Pearce is energetic and amusing as Jim Farren. Miss Sheila Walsh in the double part of Annie and Nellie Standish has much to do, and she does it thoroughly well; and as the good-hearted Biddy Roonan Miss Dorothy Neville is well received.

NEW PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr George Gude.—The programme this week is in every way excellent. The Vance Bros. are immensely popular as comedy instrumentalists; Carr and Roll are amusing in their sketch; and Swann and Stanley contribute a really clever turn in *The Witchery of the Face*. These last two performers are also heard to great advantage as ballad singers, in which line Miss Adelaide Twort (gold medallist, L.A.M.) is also very successful. Cyrus Bell, Charlie Moore, and Jack Waller each do good work as comedian, eccentric dancer, and mimic respectively.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—Those who braved the fog on Monday night to witness Mr E. S. Willard in *The Middleman*, were amply repaid. From start to finish the performance was of a high quality, and the audience, though woefully small, was very appreciative. Too much praise cannot be accorded Mr Willard for his fine creation of Cyrus Blenkarn; once seen it is stamped upon the memory for ever. Other prominent parts are well brought out by Mr A. S. Homewood, Mr William Sauter, Mr H. Cane, and Mr Walter Edmunds; whilst Miss Maud Hoffman and Mrs Russ Whytal are excellent as Mary and Nancy Blenkarn respectively. Other ladies in the cast make the most of their opportunities, and look charming in their dresses. The scenery is most effective.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—In spite of many visits *A Country Girl* is always welcomed by innumerable Manchester admirers, and Mr George Dance's company is very well able to exploit to the full its many attractive features, a large audience being delighted by the performance on Monday night. The part of Barry is one upon which a great deal of the success depends, and this was played with exceeding cleverness by Mr Charles R. Walenn. Miss Daisy Le Hay makes a charming Nan and Miss Maud Boyd is to be complimented upon her neat and dainty rendering of Marjory Joy. Much good work is done also by Mr Robert Michaelis as Geoffrey Challoner, Mr Joe Nightingale as Sir Joseph Verity, Mr St. John Hamund as Mr Raikes, Miss Ethel Negretti as Princess Melaneh and Miss Maud Prenton as Madame Sophie. Mr T. Jack Daly as Douglas Verity and Mr Arthur Leyshon as Granter Mummery also do well in their opportunities. The dresses and scenery are very bright and pretty.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company occupies the boards here in a strong domestic drama, *The Midnight Mail*. Mr George Hayward as Harry Steyne and Miss Ada Oakley as Steyne's wife do exceedingly well in their parts. Mr Fred G. Evison is also capital as Brewer, the drunken stoker. Mr Charles M'Cann has a good part as Donald Craig, the manager of the line. Others who do well are Mr E. Entwistle as the signalman, and Miss Millie Stevenson as Lady Phyllis Eustace. Several of the scenes are exciting and sensational; and the production is under the personal direction of Mr James Willard.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—Old-fashioned drama is the attraction here this week in the shape of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, played by a company under the direction of Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison, and including Mr Henry Neville in his original part of Bob Brierley. The insistence with which the moral of the play is driven home at the cost of certain opportunities for robust acting here and there is to a great extent compensated by the clever way in which Mr Henry Neville handles a part which he has mentally far outgrown, and the sympathetic acting of Miss Evelyn Weedon as May Edwardes, a rôle no less below the capacity of this accomplished lady, adds further interest to the play. Mr L. Cory Thomas should be commended for a forcible depiction of Hawkshaw; while Miss Adie Boyne as Sam and Miss Emma Victor as Mrs Willoughby do well in humorous parts. The rest of the company are more or less equal to the demands upon them, and the staging is all that could be desired.

METROPOLE.—Manager, Mr W. P. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The current week's programme here is strengthened by the inclusion of Witty Watty Walton, the popular comedian, in all his latest successes, and Ada Fawn, the favourite comedienne. Madame De Rose, "the lady Foll," also contributes a notable turn, a pleasing and excellent variety of entertainment being supplied by the Lavelles in a comedy acrobatic act; Harry Taft, whistling comedian; Hannas and James, foot equilibrists; Arthur Albert, actor vocalist; Edith Sylvesto, the wonderful lady "bender;" Eva Reed, comedienne and dancer; and J. H. Hawtrey, actor-vocalist.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mrs Bandmann-Palmer opened here on Monday in a répertoire of plays, including *Mary, Queen of Scots*, *Nell Gwynne*, *Sapho*, *East Lynne*, *Hamlet*, and *Jane Shore*. Previous successful visits of this gifted actress ensured a good house on the first night, when Mr F. Skein added an excellent delineation of the Earl of Leicester to Mrs Bandmann-Palmer's powerful rendering of the title-rôle in *Mary, Queen of Scots*. The company includes such clever performers as Mr Sidney Bland, Mr William Trant, Mr Boyd Pearson, Mr A. St. Aubyn, Miss Mary Henthorn (Ophelia in *Hamlet*), Miss Margaret Hodgson, and Miss Katharine Herbert. Mrs Bandmann-Palmer was called before the curtain on Monday night, and expressed her pleasure at reappearing before a Manchester audience so kindly appreciative of her efforts.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—Mr Hardie and Miss Von Leer's company, in the *Two Little Vagabonds*, is the attraction here this week. Miss May Hart and Miss Dorothy Marsden are well placed as Dick and Wally, their performance being highly meritorious. Particularly good is Mr J. W. Henson as George Thornton, and Mr Wolston Foster looks well as Captain Darville. As Marion Thornton Miss Laura Hansen does well with a trying part and Miss Nell Oliver is successful as Barbara Scarth. The humorous element is well brought out by Messrs Alfred Russell as Bill Mullins, Frank Gordon as Dido Bunce, Fred Archer as the "Cough Drop," and Miss Marie Pritchard as Biddy Mullins.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The Eight Leopolds, lady and gentleman acrobats in ball-room costume, head a capital programme here this week, and give a highly-finished performance, some of their feats being particularly daring. Another good turn is given by the Lyons Trio, pantomimists, who cause much merriment with their droll antics. Percy Curry, the original "candy man," is successful in song and patter; Flo Deighton, a soprano vocalist, possesses an excellent voice, and is much appreciated; the Abadaroffs are extremely smart acrobats, doing some novel tumbling in a humorous manner; the Clarion Trio dance smartly and provide some amusement with their business; and the Rozells are clever and comical on the triple bar. Other good items are the Korries, in a medley act of music and conjuring; Renson and Waite, comedy couple; Harry Hayton, comedian; and the Sisters Volbecque, comedy duettists, who supply the competition act for the week.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The Du Gros Trio top the bill here this week in a comic gymnastic act, and are deservedly well received. The Great Wieland causes some amusement with his eccentric methods and clever juggling. Haig and Novel give a comedy turn that meets with approbation; the Crown Trio sing well; Rivington and Gordyn are capital in their burlesque operatic duets; and Percy Farrimond, "the singing collier," has a good voice. The Brewster Troupe are good vocalists and dancers, and give a most interesting display of sword and lance exercises; and other items are those of Ernie Mayne, comedian; Budd and Budd, burlesque artists; Wallace Whitney, eccentric character comedian; and a series of animated pictures.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Good business, as usual, is being done here this week by virtue of a capital programme, Harriet Vernon, the popular burlesque actress, figuring at the top of the bill. Her excellent business is supplemented by the highly amusing turn of Harry Wenburn, eccentric comedian, and the entertaining contributions of Mdlle. Zetta, in a graceful and clever wire act; Athas and Collins, in their up-to-date speciality; Bella Leaburn, comedy artiste; Mona M'Donald, comedienne and vocalist; Andy Kerr, comedian; Akbar, gymnast; and the Alambria Quartet of speciality dancers.

ARDWICK EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Collins.—The star attraction here this week is Queenie Leighton, who is emphatically well received in a series of well-rendered popular songs. Walter Groves and company present their successful sketch entitled *Artful Jim*; Ethel Ra Leslie, character vocalist, is heard to considerable advantage; and Horace Wheatley, Irish comedian, contributes some entertaining songs and excellent dancing. Other good turns are Rose Hamilton, burlesque artiste and dancer; Walter Curtis, humorous entertainer; Burt Shepard, American comedian; Walter King, new songs; Bert Byrne, comedian; and the Rayfords, comedy artistes. A series of pictures on the Bioscope are shown.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—A good all-round performance is provided here this week. Carl Reinsch is to the front with some wonderfully trained horses and dogs, and the Sutcliffe Troupe, Scottish acrobats, pipers, and dancers, go through a novel and meritorious performance. Lowell and Lowell, eccentric comedians, are exceptionally good acrobats and knockabouts, and come in for plenty of applause. Harry Grey, gives a decidedly funny imitation of a lady singer's first stage appearance; Monks and Woods are much appreciated in their musical dialogue *Mr Nobody*; T. W. Royal is an excellent and artistic clog dancer; Leighton and Mona as a tramp and soubrette give a smart piano act; Charles R. Whittle is a capital versatile comedian; Ray Ford, a charming comedienne, dances well; and Billy Williams, the Australian comedian, sings two songs of his own composing in fine style. A series of interesting pictures completes the bill.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Minni Letta's Sporting Girls give a novel display of walking and running on a movable track here this week, and arouse some interest in a competition therewith. The Freydos are remarkably clever athletes and hand balancers; and the New York Nippers, in their speciality act "Bedtime," introduce some smart heel and toe dancing, and are very amusing. Baker and Balfe give some delightful operatic xylophone selections; Jean Seul, "the Indian mystery," succeeds in mystifying the audience with some weird tricks; and Harry Freeman, the popular comedian, is as funny as ever. Juan and M'Que, comedians, are good singers; Alma Gray is a pleasing dancer; the Tribune Trio cause much amusement in their sketch *The Cheerful Idiot*; and Nellie Martell, comedienne, contributes a song. The Palace pictures are, as usual, excellent.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—The feature of the current week's programme at this theatre, which, after a profitless trial of variety fare on the two-houses-a-night system, reverts to drama in the near future, is the inclusion of the four-act play *Trilby*, which is presented with considerable success by a company headed by Mr A. L. Baron as Svengali and Miss Vere Mosley in the title-part. Mr Baron's depiction of Svengali is at times most impressive and powerful, and Miss Vere Mosley's Trilby is marked throughout by excellent judgment and a charming style. Mr Edward Thornhill as the Laird, Mr Ernest Lodge as Taffy, Mr Ellerslie Pyne as "Little Billee," Mr Weedon Ross as Gecko, and Mr Henry Osman as the Rev. Bagot all render appreciable support. Several variety turns ensue, the star being Billie Barlow, who sings various songs in her usual charming and familiar style. George Barron, comedian, also does well in a couple of eccentric songs, and the Sisters Charnley give a pleasing exhibition of speciality dancing.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson.—An excellent audience assembled here on Monday to extend an enthusiastic welcome to Mr F. R. Benson and company upon their second visit to Merthyr. *Othello* was produced on Monday with the most gratifying success, Mr Benson's impersonation of the Moor being characterised by great ability. Mrs Benson's acting as Desdemona calls for high praise, and Miss Gertrude Scott was in every way successful as Emilia. Mr Arthur Whitby gave an excellent reading of Iago, Cassio being skilfully acted by Mr Cyril Keightley. On Tuesday *The Taming of the Shrew* was eminently successful, and on Wednesday evening *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was performed. *The Merchant of Venice*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Hamlet* are also in the répertoire.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Mr Fredk. E. Philpott's company has been paying a return visit to Margate this week with the musical comedy *The Girl from Japan*. The cleverness of the comedians, the smartness of the specialities turns, the bright music, the charming songs, and the graceful dances make up a programme that at once attracts attention and enlists popular favour. The Rev. John Smith has a capital exponent in Mr Ernest Spalding, whose amusing impersonation is a distinct feature of the performance all through. Mr S. Lockridge is effective as Lord Allenbury, and sings in good style the songs allotted to him. Mr Charles Ludlow is amusing as Bingle; and Mr Percy Baverstock finds a congenial rôle as the bellicose General Baugh. Mr Alfred Wood is amusing as Sir Mulberry Flippington; and equally diverting is Mr Harry Russell as Horatio Binks. An exceedingly good Maud is presented by Miss Madie Scott, who sings delightfully. Miss Nellie Valentine makes a praiseworthy Violet Meadows; and Miss Una Palmer as Polly Perkins and Miss B. Deane as Countess De La Rue are successful. Miss Nellie Parker Dent plays well as Lady Flippington. Charming incidental dances are introduced by the Sisters Violet and Lillie English, and there is a tuneful and well-balanced chorus, whilst the comedy is staged most picturesquely.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr Chas. Frohman's company is presenting *Sherlock Holmes* here this week. Mr Kenneth Rivington does well in the title-rôle; Mr F. Inwood scores as Dr. Watson; the Prof. Moriarty of Mr A. B. Murray is a clever rendering; Mr E. Grey gives a capable intepretation of James Larrabee; Mr C. E. Scott wins favour as John Forman; as does Mr H. Stafford as Sidney Prince. Miss Florence Faulkner gives a faithful rendering of Alice Faulkner; the Madge Larrabee of Miss C. Lacey is a well-studied effort; and Miss M. Murray is satisfactory as Therese.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—At the Royal this week Mr John F. Asche is presenting the Drury-lane drama *The World*, and the play attracts good audiences. Miss Beatrice Fay as Mary Blythe gives a powerful impersonation; Mr Francis Hawley is seen to advantage as Harry Huntingford; and the same may be said of Mr Stuart Lomath's Charles Hartley. Miss Georgette Thierry plays Mabel Huntingford with fine effect; Mr Bernard J. Liell acts the amusing part of Moss Jewel cleverly; and Mr Jackson Hayes is capital as Martin Bashford; Mr Henry Longford being responsible for a bright rendering of Captain Pearson.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee and Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—*A Message from Mars* is being presented here by Mr Mouillot's principal company. Mr Rawson Buckley as Horace Parker wins much success; Mr William H. Brougham as the messenger gives a masterly portrayal; as Sir E. Vivian Mr Eustace French is capital; and Master Leonard Crisp is worthy of special praise as the "Emperor." Miss Joan Meredith is excellent as Mrs Clarence; Miss Peggy Yeoman makes a good impression as Bella; and Minnie Templer is capably taken by Miss May Saker.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—Miss Lottie Lennox, vocalist, heads the bill here, and sings some capital songs. Charles Morritt, illusionist, pleases well; and Drew and Alder, in their speciality, are excellent. Dale and O'Malley, comedians, provide an amusing turn; the Leonards are successful; Tom Stuart is a smart mimic; and the Sisters Pine are well received. Angeline, the female Cinquevalli, meets with hearty plaudits; and Little Barney, comedian; Charles Coverdale, comedian; and the Bio. pictures complete the programme.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr W. Ainsworth.—At the Oxford this week Barton and Ashley, in a sketch *Canal Boat Sal*, head the bill, and meet with a good reception. Barnard's Marionettes are well received; Miss Lizzie Valrose sings some capital songs; *Hands Up*, played by the Pender Troupe, creates roars of laughter; Bransby's duettists come in for well-earned applause; the Stilt Walkers submit a good turn; and Earle and Melville, sand dancers; Jack Hylton, comedian; and the Bio. pictures are also in the bill.

MIDDLETON.

PARDOE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr William Pardoe.—This week a startling racing drama entitled *The Fiends of London* occupies the stage, and the presentation of it is a credit to Mr Herbert Fuller's company. Mr Fuller in the part of a jockey acts cleverly. Miss Agnes Collier as a soldier's daughter always strikes the right note, and wins her way to the hearts of the audience. Others who contribute to the success are Messrs Francis Everard, Harold Weston, and Little Gladys.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company is here this week with *Defending his Honour*. Mr John Davidson acts effectively as Douglas Bryce, and Mr Clifton Boyle is smart as Stephen Gerald. Mr Charles H. Herbert does well as George Duncan, and as Ethel Bryce Miss F. Millet is appreciated. Mr Willie Black and Mr Kenneth Black, jun., help to keep up the comic element of the play.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred O Sutcliffe.—That mirthful farcical comedy *Are You a Mason?* is again being presented here by Messrs George Edwardes and Charles Frohman's company, and to the evident enjoyment of "Tyne" audiences. Included in the company are Messrs Stephen Wentworth, Harry Ashford, Anthony Faucett, Tom Mowbray, Frank Ridley; Misses Harriett French, Violet Graham, and Gertrude Spencer, all of whom figure to advantage.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—The late Mr Wilson Barrett's play, *Lucky Durham*, is being performed here this week by Mr William Greet's company. John Durham is the favourite of fortune who has earned the appellation "lucky," and in this character we are introduced to an admirable actor in Mr William F. Grant. Excellent, too, is the Lord Mountfallon of Mr Henry De Solla. Some capital acting is provided by Mr Paul Belmore as the Hon. Reginald Steighton. Mr Daniel M'Carthy appears with credit as Richard Vallerton, and Mr Stanley Harrison as Arthur Walcomb and Mr W. F. Clitherow as Ben Verstein give praiseworthy impersonations. Conspicuously successful is Miss Phyllis Relph as Helen Vallerton, and the outspoken Margaret Steighton has a clever representative in Miss Jessie Winter. The performances of Miss Mary Relph as Lady Mountfallon and Miss Nellie Bonsor as Mrs Durham are entirely satisfactory.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—*A Victim of Villainy* is being performed here by Messrs Atkin and Howe's company, and the drama and its performance have met with the approval of Palace audiences.

ELSWICK THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Chas. M. Daly.—At this place of entertainment the attraction is provided by Mr Coleman Davies and company with the drama *No Escape*. Mr Davies supplies a humorous performance as Constable O'Grady. The company generally is a capable one, and in some variety business which is introduced Mr W. G. Wesley figures prominently.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Chung Ling Soo worthily heads the bill here, and the Chinese conjuror gives an exhibition of his powers, which is indeed correctly described by the word marvellous. A body of Japanese equilibrists and gymnasts known as the Lukushima Troupe have excited warm admiration by the skilful manner in which they perform their various tricks. Prof. Berner utilises a miniature stage with orchestra and side boxes for his marionette entertainment, and his figures are worked with amazing accuracy and deftness. Bijou Russell at once earns favour for her enjoyable rendering of an exhilarating coon ditty, and as a sand dancer she excels. Favourite vocal comedians in Walter Munroe and Charles Coborn are both heartily received, and a round of applause is Fanny Robins's reward for her well-rendered song. A pleasing comedienne is Mabel Hind; Leo Tell, an imitator of sounds; and Charles Cardow, comedian, give satisfaction by their contributions.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—Good houses continue to be the rule here. This week the Mysterious Lilith defies all the laws of gravitation by floating in the air and stopping at the word of command in mid-air. Mr Fred Harcourt, who is responsible for the Mysterious Lilith, also gives an extremely smart conjuring performance, which was well received. Otto Schuman's horses and great Danes show to what a state of perfection animal training has reached. Miss Lilian Warren gives vocal pictures, the views being exceedingly good. Miss Grace Merton, the original street singer, sings exceedingly well. Cordite, the world's champion lady rope spinner, gives a clever exhibition of lassooing. Other turns are Lilian Neville, operatic vocalist; the Revel Troupe, who are clever in their sketch *Mischief*; Condon and Preston, comedians; and James Grant, eccentric comedian.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—Here we have Mr J. F. Elliston's company in the favourite drama *Alone in London*. An experienced actress in Miss Madge Devereux excites sympathy as the sorely-tried Nan. Miss Ada Elliston submits a clever performance as Liza Jenkinson, and Tom Chickweed has a smart exponent in Miss Ada Tilley. The swell mobsman, Richard Redcliffe, is effectively delineated by Mr Stephen Ewart. Mr Lonnen Meadows is well to the fore as Charley Johnson, and the comedy element is further strengthened by the performance of Mr Hugh Brady as Spriggins. Mr Henry George portrays in excellent style the slow but sure characteristics of John Biddlecombe.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—Houdini, the handcuff expert, continues to give his entertainment here with unabated success. Staig's motor sensation, which consists of racing around a bottomless track elevated above the stage, causes much excitement. Amy Augarde's tasteful vocalism is listened to with evident pleasure, and similar manifestations of enjoyment are occasioned by Boyd and Gilfain in their operetta entitled *Mixed Drinks*. An amusing boxing comedy sketch is provided by the Brothers Ashley; and Arthur Slater, a sifflleur and mimic, gives proof of his cleverness. The sketch *A Matrimonial Agency* furnishes the medium for the appearance of Hayman and Franklin, who are both successful. Harry Conlin in song and patter is well received, as is also Marion Edwardes, comedienne.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Hardie and Von Leer's company is this week presenting here the new emotional play *A Path of Thorns*. A strong cast is headed by Mr Claud King as John Edmunds. He plays the part with much spirit. Miss Violet Luddington depicts Bessie with considerable power, whilst the child Lucy is cleverly portrayed by little Mabel May. The heavy rôle of Jonas Deane is in the capable hands of Mr Cecil Du Gue; Miss Amy Rogerson makes a capital Jane Adelaide; and Sam Hallett, the Lancashire lad, finds a typical exponent in Mr Alfred Lester.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—Prinz's performing lions is the big sensation here, a climax being reached when Miss Marcella does a fire dance in the animal's den. The Brothers Egbert provide a turn that is well received; Brett and Oxford are bright and breezy; and some wonderful balancing is performed by the Three Brothers Pantzer. Miss Ella Retford is a smart comedienne; Miss Lalla Selbini, assisted by Midget Harry, provides an interesting turn; and the Four Olympian Stars, burlesque vocalists and dancers, come in for warm recognition. Bob Hutt, comedian, and the American Bioscope complete the bill.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—*Woman and Wine* is here again, represented by Mr Milton Bode's company. Mr Frank R. Robertson is highly successful in the part of Dick Seymour, which he plays with discretion and excellent dramatic force. Mr Fred Mace is good as Hugh Seymour; Mr Walter Thornton is well placed as Alphonse; Mr Herbert Landeck is strong in the part of Pierre Crucru; Mr Tom Tindall as Professor Sawter and Mr Percy Dawsone as his son Charles are amusing. Miss Ernestine Holker as Mary Andrews plays with a quiet sympathy that suits the rôle. Miss Edith Blande scores in the part of Marcel Rigadout, whose jealous opponent, La Colombe, is forcibly rendered by Miss Nelly Lauraine. Miss Muriel Vox is amusing as Janet, and Mr Henry Compton as the Duc D'Arnac, Mr Frank Englefield, and Mr E. R. Beaumont also do good service. The Edene Troupe give an able display of acrobatic dancing.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—A very dainty programme is provided this week. The Dayton Family are smart in their clever Risley act. Harry Zetter, comedian, gains great applause for his eccentric dancing. Robins and Collier, who appear in a musical comedy scena, with special scenery, give a lively representation of *The Lady and the Porter*. Tom Owen, the original Welsh comedian, has made a big hit with his songs and clever patter. Janet Howard Reynolds is a pretty singer of some pretty songs. The Brothers Obo fully justify their title of the "laughing duettists." Duncan's Royal Scotch collies are a well-trained troupe of animals.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Mr Frank Lindo and his company, with *Home, Sweet Home* have been warmly greeted here this week. As Stephen Armitage Mr George F. Black gives a clever impersonation of the character, and Mr Frank Lindo as David Armitage acquits himself in capital style. Captain Gerald Gambler as Duke of Ancaster renders a good account of himself. Mr George Overs is popular as Dick Redmayne, and Mr Arthur Rodney as Lucas Lyle is successful. Miss Marion Wakeford gives a highly finished interpretation of Joan; Miss Ivy Ellaline Thorne successfully depicts Sybil Fay; Miss Fanny Thorne is pleasing as Lady Summerton; Miss Ivy Rochefort makes the most of Dora; and the other parts are well sustained.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr William Mould.—Mr Charles Bignell, comedian, tops the bill here. Clarke's Nippers are loudly applauded for their clever act, and the Watson Family, vocal, musical, and comedy artistes, give an entertaining performance. Messrs Grapho and Jackson, comedians, have made a hit, and Cinizelli, comedy acrobatic act; Mr Bert Kemp, cartoonist, &c.; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope all meet with favour.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company, in *The Silver King*, is here this week. Mr Lauderdale Maitland is successful as Wilfred Denver. Miss Lillian Bethel performs in a most sympathetic way as Nellie Denver. Mr Edward J. George is excellent as Daniel Jaikes, Miss Violet St. Clair deserves every praise as Cissy, and Master Jack Evan must be mentioned as Ned. Mr W. V. Garrod is realistic as Captain Herbert Skinner; whilst Mr Philip Renouf affords amusement as Henry Corket. Mr Arthur Weight as Elijah Coombe and Mr Alfred Northway as Cripps are very good.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt.—A pleasing and attractive programme is presented this week. Ethel Arden and George Abel, in their amusing and mystifying sketch, *Three of a Kind*, create immense fun. Mons. Slippere, the blind novelty pianist, is appreciated for his musical abilities and equally for his singing, Miss Ramsay gracefully assisting him. Francis, the cannon-ball king, assisted by his satellite, Alfred, show some wonderful tricks. A. G. Sprig, humourist, is well received; Leslie H. Murray, magician and card manipulator, is very successful; the Three Dagmars are clever acrobats; the Bros. Brooks are amusing patterers; the Sisters Brand deserve the appreciation given for their singing and dancing; whilst Florence Schubert is a pleasing comedienne. Capt. Selby's band materially adds to the enjoyment of the evening.

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs S. Golden; Manager, Mr Percy Webb.—Mr Percy and Miss Stanton's company in *The Sporting Girl* is paying a return visit here this week. The good company is led by Mr Perry and Miss Maggie Stanton, who plays the title-rôle cleverly. The play goes with a swing from start to finish. During its progress Miss Jenny Hackett and Miss Betsy Brownlie are several times recalled for their excellent cake-walk. These two little girls are making their first professional appearance, having been the winners of a cake-walk competition organised by Mr Perry at Wallsend.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—*Winnie Brooke, Widow*, forms a delightful entertainment, especially when represented by so fascinating an artist as Miss Ada Reeve, whose dainty presence, vivacious manner, and graceful dancing make the part a truly charming one. Mr Henry Vibart as Dudley Maine gives a quiet, restrained performance that is altogether convincing; Mr John Gerant assumes the amorous solicitor with the requisite touch of humour; and Mr James Stevenson is sufficiently amusing as the Rev. Elihu Garside. Messrs Edgar Stevens and Leon Ashton-Jarry make a capital pair of sentimental lovers; and Misses Lucie Calne and Ruth Hazelwood render valuable assistance as their young sweethearts. Mrs Charles Maltby supplies a fine character study of an old servant, and Mr Fredk. B. Sharp is commendable as Toby Blossom. A fund of amusement is caused by Mr D. Price-Evans (Hercules) and Miss Drusilla Wills as a laundry girl.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—The return visit of *A Royal Divorce* company, under the management of Mr W. W. Kelly, has been welcomed here this week with acclamation. The character of Napoleon is essayed by Mr Frederick Victor, an actor of undoubted ability. Miss Edith Cole manifests abundant dramatic and emotional power in her assumption of the Empress Josephine, and Miss Ethel Murray makes a fitting contrast as the cold and proud Marie Louise. Mr Claude Agnew gives an incisive reading of the crafty Talleyrand, and Mr Trevor Lowe acts with discretion as the Marquis De Beaumont. Mr Alfred Grenville acceptably embodies General Augereau; Miss Helen Richmond wins favour as Stephanie; and Miss Violet Agnew makes a graceful and attractive Blanche.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company is presenting here the stirring drama, *The King of Crime*. The rôle of Ronjarre is now undertaken by Mr William Clayton, whose powerful and vigorous portrayal earns him the heartiest of plaudits. Miss Marion Turner's winsome and pathetic impersonation of Ronjarre's blind wife calls forth much sympathy, and Miss E. Turner-Elliott makes an admirable Mathilde. The malevolence of Mère Crochard is capitally shown by Miss Ada King, and praise is due to Misses M. Jones and N. Wilson. Mr A. D. Anderson plays well as the old miser, Gandelu; Mr W. H. Porter makes his mark as Simon; and Mr Herbert Evelyn contributes an admirable portraiture of Louis Mascarot. There is an abundance of humour, in which Mr Walter Dale distinguishes himself as Mick Maloney, a mesmerist, and his efforts are cleverly seconded by Miss Kitty Russell, both artists being associated in several specialities.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—The performance of Seeth's lions, presented by Herr Georg Thielbar, has drawn immense crowds this week, who watch with interest their many entertaining feats. Lil Hawthorne is a dainty comedienne, who captivates her audience; Alexandre and Hughes cleverly combine comedy and musical talent; Ray Wallace is an accomplished mimic; the Sydney James Strolling Players, a versatile combination, receive a ready reward for their whistling, ventriloquism, and vocal and instrumental efforts; the Sisters Geretti are a couple of gifted artists, whose skilful trapeze exhibition evokes enthusiasm; the Brothers Edgar squeeze a lot of fun out of their "patter;" and Harry Anderson's songs prove entertaining. Winnie Derson, comedienne; Paul Mill, comedian; and Charles Bayman Negro comedian, complete an excellent programme.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—Mr Edward Terry is this week paying us a welcome return visit, opening on Monday with *The House of Burnside*, followed by *Bardell v. Pickwick*. Mr Terry's admirable impersonation of the old shipowner met with unanimous approval, and he was well supported by Mr A. Cornell as the confidential clerk; Miss Daisy Murch, who displayed considerable emotional power as Marion Burnside; Miss Beatrice Selwyn, a capital Betty; and by Miss Beatrice Terry and Master Roy Lorraine, who were very natural and winning as the grandchildren. In *Bardell v. Pickwick*, which followed, Mr Terry was highly amusing and successful as Sergeant Buzfuz. On Tuesday night *The Passport* was given, and on Wednesday the ever-popular *Sweet Lavender* drew a capital house.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—On Monday a full and appreciative house accorded Miss Lena Stanton and her excellent company a hearty welcome on her return visit with *The Belle of Bangalore*. Mr Bruce Green is deserving of praise for his admirable rendering of Rajah Roo, and Mr Harry Jay is good as ever in his old part of Pat Murphy. Mr G. James makes the most of Rum Omyo, and Mr Fred More is good as Rum Jum. Little Kuno, as usual, scores heavily with his comic singing and humorous antics as "It, a Mystery." As Small Sing Miss Marie Gerrald is a success, and Miss Lena Stanton, always a prime favourite here, makes a charming and attractive Princess Ko-Ko. Specialities are contributed by Rynfeld, in his marvellous chair performance; by the Sisters Vell, musical artistes; by Jay and Ginger, ventriloquists; and by the Cecil troupe of dancers.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr Beerbohm Tree's company is here in *The Darling of the Gods*. Miss Frances Dillon in the title-rôle shows her accustomed power; Mr Douglas Gerrard as Kara displays marked ability; the Zukkuri of Mr Robert Bateman is a powerful bit of acting; Miss Rhoda Ray is excellent as Madam Asani; Mr Douglas Payne is clever as the dumb servant; and Mr Ivan T. Simpson as Saigon, Mr Arthur Vezin as Tonda-Tanji, and Mr Hubert Druce as Kato give clever representations.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—The engagement of the Seven Savonas and the world-famed Elliots presented a difficulty which the management obviated by submitting the Seven Savonas at one house and the Elliotts at the other. The brilliant music of the Savonas and the marvellous cycling performances of the Elliots are beyond description; the Smythsons are amusing in their comedy sketch *The Lie Alarm*; Mdlle. Lucretia is charming as a burlesque actress and dancer; Phil Ray, patter comedian, is cordially received; and Signor and Madame Borelli provide an excellent musical turn. Jeannette Latour is a capital soprano vocalist, and Boy Glen is well received for his amusing patter and songs.

GAIETY.—Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The variety programme submitted here this week includes Charles Best in a refined comedy act, "M'Bunker, the Mountebank," in which he creates roars of laughter. Gerald Mount gives a clever musical and vocal performance; Robb Gilmore, comedian, is very popular; Miss Flo Everette submits an excellent canine troupe; George Rennie, ventriloquist, is well received; Harry Nelson is successful in his songs; and Miss Ailsa Douglas sings with considerable power. The Bioscope is excellent. The Sisters Pine are well received for their smart dancing.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—*The Wearin' o' the Green*, by Mr Chalmers Mackey and company, is the attraction here this week. Mr Mackey is still the Barney O'Hea, his clever and humorous portrayal of the part being rewarded with continual bursts of applause. Mr Henry Danson plays excellently as Gerald Courtenay, and Mr H. Sainsbury gives a finished impersonation of Sir George Courtenay. Mr W. Reuben Payne has the customary greetings which await such a villain as Michael Kenny, and Mr Reginald Garland as Shamus M'Dermott is very commendable, his singing being a particular feature of his performance. Miss Lalla Stanhope performs admirably as Biddy M'Ginn; Mrs Chalmers Mackey furnishes a capable embodiment of Norah M'Grath; and Miss Adele Liddon is satisfactory as Mrs M'Dermott. Deserving of mention also are Mr Conway Hastings as Connor Martin, Mr John Neville as Sergeant Yorke, Mr Harry Mason as Mick Dolan, Miss Nellie Moore as Edith Anstruther, and Miss Mona Russell as Gladys Anstruther.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—A capital and attractive programme is being submitted here this week by the following:—Tate and Tate, trampolin comedy acrobats; Tom Berrick, the black tit-bit; Carne Curre, in a quaint comedy act; George K. Griffan, the jocular joker, in song, dance, and story; and Denis M'Carthy in "The Coastguard," played with special scenery and mechanical effects. The Empire Cinématograph submits a series of new pictures.

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—The return visit of Mr John H. Morton's popular company in *The Rajah of Ranjapore* is welcome here. Ernest Travers is in the capable hands of Mr Chas. Linney; Mr Harry Cornwall is a clever Mr Stubbs; Capt. Hertage is satisfactorily presented by Mr Arthur Reid; Mr Alvin Sawyer creates roars of laughter as Horatio Chick, being assisted by the vivacious Miss Marion Walker as Eliza; Miss Nell Ascot as Primrose is charming; Mr Bert Harrow as Thistles is responsible for a great deal of humour; and the Rajah Troupe, in acrobatic dances, contribute largely to the success.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr Charles R. Stone's company, in the American musical farcical comedy *What Became of Mrs Racket?* is delighting large audiences here this week. Miss Edith Madelle, who assumes the rôle of Mrs Racket, is certainly a vivacious young lady; Miss Emily Kelsey gives a powerful impersonation of Mrs Tolman; Miss Daisy Stone is a delightfully mischievous Katie, the maid; and the Misses Vida and Emmie Hill and Letitia Flopp are charming as the Sisters Tapplit, the Whirling Girls of the Frivolity. Mr Edward Rawlinson makes a decided success as Dr. Robert Racket; Mr Gerald Wyatt scores a great hit in Timothy Tolman; Mr Edwin Oxlee Clarke is seen to much advantage as Mr Dalroy; Mr S. Junior is creditable as Holson, the waiter, as also is Miss Winifred Maye in the part of Buttons. Mr Charles R. Stone, so well known here in connection with the visits of the Compton comedy company, receives quite an ovation for his delightful impersonation of Obadiah Dawson.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—An all-round good company, under the management of Mr Tom B. Davis, is appearing here with much success in *Florodora*. In the rôle of Tweedlepunch Mr Daley Cooper is screamingly funny, his contortions, facial and bodily, being marvellous. Miss Leonora Grieve uses a fine stage presence to advantage in the part of Dolores, whilst her singing is cultured. As Lady Holyrood Miss Rene Steadman is charming and entertaining, her dancing being most graceful. Miss Daisy Byford makes a pretty and dainty Angela. Frank Aberdeen is ably impersonated by Mr Cyril Dane, whose vocalism is superior. Other notable successes are Mr C. J. Barber, Mr Derick Knowles, and Mr Lionel Williams. The chorus work is admirable.

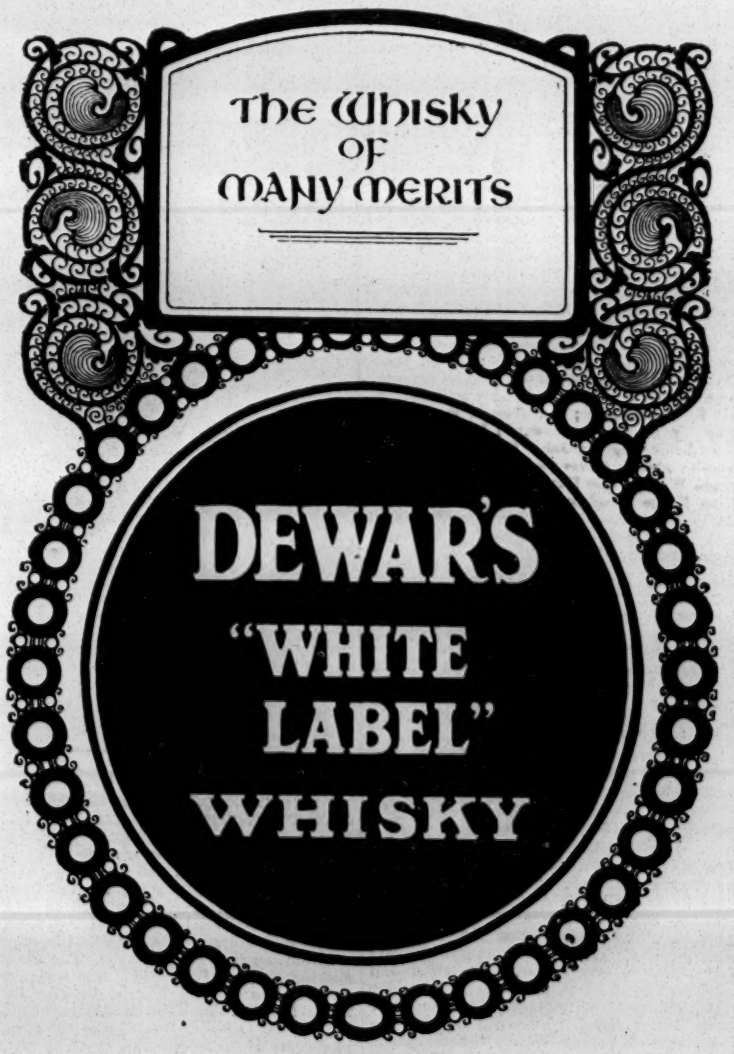
GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—That fascinating costume play, *Monsieur Beaucaire*, is being staged here this week by Mr Norman Macowan's company. The title-rôle is in the very efficient hands of Mr Macowan himself, who acts with considerable skill and is natural and unaffected. Another clever character study is forthcoming from Miss Violet Sterne, who, as Lady Mary Carlisle, is the embodiment of grace and beauty. Mr H. A. Young makes an ideal fop in the part of Beau Nash, and unstinted praise is due to Miss Millie Hamer, who essays the part of Lucy Rellerton. A strong cast also includes Mr F. Stuart Wilson, Mr Herbert Cornish, and Mr P. Ramsey Forman.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Manager, Mr J. Field.—A very attractive programme here this week includes the Five Bandurrias, whose playing on mandolines and guitars is a musical treat; a comedy circus, under the superintendence of F. R. Dainez, in which several animals display much intelligence; and a bright and amusing little comedy, entitled *Flirtation*, by the Five Devilines. Excellent coon songs and dancing are supplied by Walker and May, and Charles Faning's songs and patter hit the public taste exactly. As a ventriloquist Barney Vox has few equals, and another turn of the mirth-provoking order is that given by the Wilsons. Dainty dancing and sweet singing are noteworthy features in the turn submitted by the Graces, and Vincent Walker sings well.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. Carlton.—*The Beautiful Avenger* holds the boards here this week, and two ladies (Miss Nannie Meade and Miss Mabel Sendamore) achieve distinction on account of their commendable acting in principal parts, Mr Algernon Syms, Mr Lionel Gillett, Mr W. Diamond, and Miss C. Podmore appear in the drama with much success.

PONTYPOOL.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Resident Manager, Mr J. H. Stephens.—Messrs Preston and Doherty's powerful company, under the direction of Messrs Sidney Cranston and Dench, is attracting good houses here this week. Mr Sidney Dench as Spider Jack is the star of the piece, and his efforts are well appreciated. Mr Sidney Cranston in the rôle of the Earl of Ravenswood gives a powerful representation. Miss Dora Dench as the hospital nurse is very effective, finding an able partner in Mr Clair Forbes as Mark Stanley. Mr E. J. M'Sweeny, who is responsible for the comedy part, evokes much laughter as Billy Binks, of Billingsgate. Miss Molly Hacket makes a sprightly Polly Phillpot, and Miss Belle Tilbury is seen to advantage as Ruby Redgrave. The play is well staged, and the songs and dances are up-to-date.



PONTYPRIDD.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester Jackson's company, in the military drama *Dishonoured*, is the attraction this week. Mr Frank Fuller gives an admirable assumption of Sir William Cunningham. Chief honours are, however, appropriated by Mr Percy Ballard as Philip Cunningham; Mr Frederick Loyd ably sustains the part of the villainous Captain Payntland; Mr Horace Buckley scores a great success as Jem Stokes; Mr Cecil Morand is amusing as Mike Farthing; Mr Victor Herne does well as Mhooleb Khan; Miss Florence Crough displays great ability as Leslie Maynard; Miss Nell Ingram cannot be too highly praised as Ann Maria; and Sybil is in the able hands of Miss Violet Cranford.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—This week we are favoured by a visit of A. Clifton Alderson and company in the military play, *A Soldier and a Man*. Mr A. Clifton Alderson gives an effective rendering of Harold Sinclair; Mr Frank Powell is well suited in the part of the villainous Herbert Walgrave; Mr Harry F. Wright is amusing as Jim Farrow; Miss Daisy England presents a good impersonation of Norah Melbury; Mr A. W. Norman acquits himself creditably as David Melbury; Mr T. Marony makes a capital Colonel Sinclair; Miss B'Eare Doyle is successful as Rose Melbury; Mr T. Kirkwood and Miss Nettie Schrier as Sergeant Wicks and "Sergeant" Jane Wicks respectively are responsible for some genuine amusement; Mr Edward Fenton is well placed as Lieut. Pelham; and Colonel Westerton has a good representative in Mr Charles Percy.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Miss Ada Alexandra; Managing-Director, Mr D. Taylor; General Manager, Mr E. Pryce.—The programme here includes the Andos, Japanese acrobats, jugglers, and wire-walkers; the Brothers Attila, clever weight lifters; Hess and Lisbon, comic and scientific skaters; Aerian and Ostara, the aerial gymnasts; Carlo Boro, the mad golfer; Droll and Dryan, eccentric comedians, in their screaming absurdity, *The Boxing Lesson;* Mdlle. Bartoni, in a select "pot-pourri;" and Miss Scott, in her entertainment on the animated football. Rabbit and Hairpin, the two clowns, are still successful, and new pictures are being shown on the Biomyrograph.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Mr George Edwardes's company with *San Toy* is here this week. Miss Fanny Dango, in the name-part, is very dainty and pleasing; Miss May Francis is charming as Poppy; Mr Reginald Kenneth makes an earnest and convincing Captain Bobby Preston; the mandarin, Yen How, of Mr Colin Cook is a capital impersonation; Mr Stratton Mills as Sir Bingo Preston is excellent; Mr E. Statham Staples evokes great merriment by his comical portrayal of the cunning Li; Mr Walter Ashley makes a satisfactory Fo Hop; and Mr Arthur Clark is good as the Emperor. Mention should be made of Miss Alice Lethbridge, whose clever dancing in the second act as Miss Rose Tucker is greatly appreciated.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—The attraction at this house for the week is Mr Walter Melville's company in *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Beatrice Homer gave a lifelike and powerful impersonation of Barbara Wade; Miss Kate Hallam made a pathetic Constance Cornell; Nellie Meadows was capitally played by Miss Helen Haye; Mr Edwin J. Wilde's portrayal of John Meadows was a fine character study; Mr Wingold Lawrence was a manly and greatly appreciated Jack Living tone. The comedy parts were ably filled by Mr David Barone as Joe Coyle and Miss Emily Custance as Tilley Vayne.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The chief draw here this week is the Mysterious Kettle, demonstrated by Professor Taylor, and a most effective attraction it is. Bert Woodward, original comedy cycling coon, is clever and daring in his act. Bellrose and Develin, operatic duettists, give satisfaction. Carrie Joy, comedienne, is warmly welcomed. Frank Coyne, star comedian, is another good turn. Clark and Hamilton are received very well in their musical comedy act. Sid Bandon, character comedian, is very smart. Other artistes contributing to the programme are Agnes Hanson, soubrette and danseuse, and the Three San Remo Girls, vocalists and specialty dancers.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—A return visit of Mr Geo. Dance's company, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*, provides a welcome attraction here this week. Hang Chow has a droll representative in Mr Frank A. Wood. Mr Allerton Turner is well suited in the part of Chippi-Chop. Mr Leonard May very funnily depicts High Lung. Mr Percy York acquits himself creditably as Tom Hatherton. Mr Harry Brayne gives a genuinely amusing portrayal of Mr Pineapple. Miss Jose Collins is a dainty and attractive Mrs Pineapple, and her dancing and singing call for praise. Miss Alice Drummond capably delineates Mrs Brown. Soo-Soo is pleasingly portrayed by Miss Maud Adair, whose rendering of the song "Egypt" deserves special mention. Miss M. Sadie gives a wonderfully clever and amusing impersonation of Fi-Fi, her comic business, singing, and dancing keeping the house in continuous laughter. A strong and tuneful chorus and the augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Mr Ernest Hurman, contribute appreciably to the success of the performance.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Sawyer and Woodruff.—Mr Douglas Bruce's company is occupying this theatre this week in the play *A Girl's Cross Roads*. John Meadows is well impersonated by Mr W. E. Griffiths; Mr G. Garsford plays Jack Livingstone in a successful manner; Cuthbert Lumley's villainy is forcibly portrayed by Mr W. Fraser-Brunner; Dr. Weston is ably sustained by Mr E. Eardly Howard; Luke Ramsden is well embodied by Mr John Rogers; Miss Lily Hammersley gives a clever performance in the rôle of Barbara Wade; Miss Kate Walfred shows great ability as Nellie Meadows; Miss Ethel Bracewell makes a charming Constance Cornell; and Mr Will Corrie as Toby Turner and Miss Gladys Newcome supply the humour of the play.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—Mr Frank Bertram has got a powerful domestic drama in *The Convict's Daughter*. The lion's share of work falls upon Mr Frank Bertram as Michael Graham, and he is quite equal to the task, acquitting himself with much credit. The next in order of merit comes Mr Russell Bogue, who as Patrick O'Laragan does good work. Mr J. K. Walton as Frederick Neville is satisfactory, and Mr G. Moreton Williams depicts the villain, Jasper Thorn, realistically. Miss Julie Alexander is excellent as Betty Hyne, and Miss Edith M. Savery deserves a word of praise as Edith.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—Here this week are Mr T. Arthur Jones and company in the cleverly-constructed drama, *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Capt. Harold Marston finds an able representative in Mr T. Arthur Jones, and the part of the heroine, Doreen Rivers, a graceful and accomplished exponent in Miss Madge Morley. The odious Dr. Colbrooke is impersonated in effective fashion by Mr A. Bartlett Garth; Mr Charles Sewell acts well as Ernie Wodstone; and the rôle of Bob Tanner is humorously carried out by Mr Arthur E. Andrews.

Continued on Page 26

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MISS ADA PALMER.

MISS ADA PALMER studied elocution with Mr Samuel Hasluck, and after gaining first-class certificates for reciting from Mr Beerbohm Tree and the late Mr Samuel Brandram at the Polytechnic examinations, she studied for a year at Mr Henry Neville's dramatic studio. Her first professional engagement was in 1892 to play Maud Chandler, in *The Middleman*. This was followed by tours with *Our Regiment*, *The Lancashire Lass*, and other dramas, in which she played heavy lead. In 1894 Mr Willie Edouin engaged her for the part of Helen Griffen, in *Niobe*, on tour; and early in 1895 she went to the Strand Theatre to play Lady Rowland Buttre, in Mr Edouin's revival of *Baby*. Engagements to play Miss Prim, in *Nita's First*, and Miss Prism, in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Crafer, *Liberty Hall*, with Mr Tapping, followed, and in August, 1896, Mr Wm. Calder engaged her for the part of Mrs Jelf, in *The Span of Life*, for a forty-four weeks' tour. In 1897 Miss Palmer joined Mr Lockwood's *A Night Out* company to play Mrs Pinglet, but on the conclusion of this tour was forced to take a long rest. In August, 1899, she was engaged by Mr Walter Sealby for Mrs Parke, in *A Trip to Chicago* (three tours), and in 1901 she played Mrs Corrie Bolton on the suburban tour of Mr Frank Stayton's drama, *The Despatch Bearer*. Mr Dundas secured her for the first provincial tour of *The Price of Peace*, to play Mrs Tulk. Then followed another tour with *Niobe*, and in August, 1902, Mr Roy Byford engaged her for the part of Fair Rosamund, in *A Queen's Vengeance*. In 1903, after a short summer tour with Mr Laurence Irving's *Richard Lovelace* company, Miss Palmer was re-engaged by Mr Dundas for Mrs Angerstein, in *Hearts are Trumps*. She again joined Mr Sealby's company to play The Countess of Brierley, in *The Wedding Ring*. Miss Palmer is engaged by Mr John Denton for the autumn tour of his new drama *A Serpent's Tooth* to play the part of Agatha Pierce,

Photo by Hills and Saunders.

MISS ADA PALMER.

Photo by Whitlock Brothers.

MISS HULO HODGSON.

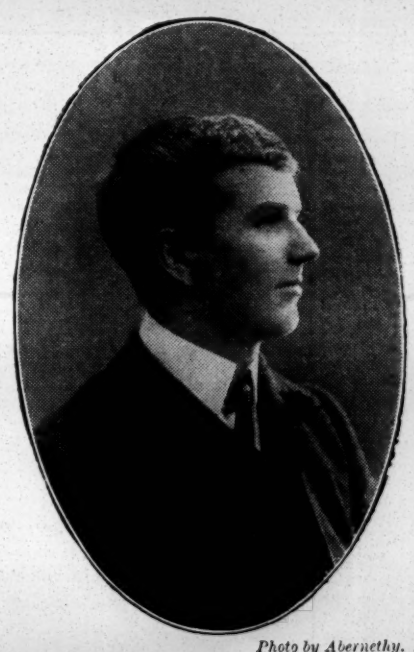
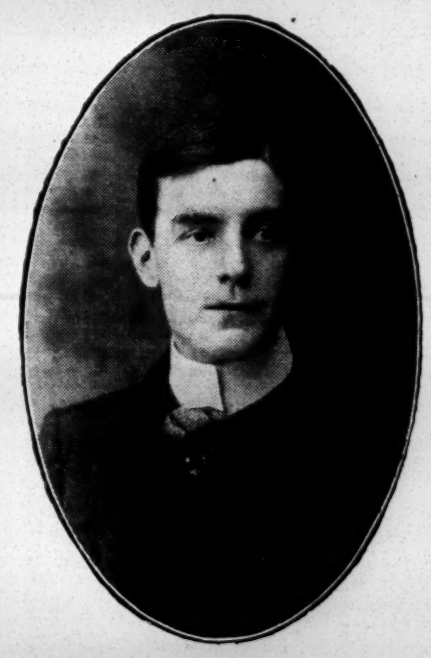


Photo by Abernethy.

MR. WHITFORD KANE.



MR. FRED INWOOD.

MR. WHITFORD KANE.

MR WHITFORD KANE was born at Larne, a seaside town in the North of Ireland, and was educated at the Royal Academical Institution, Belfast, where he was intended to follow in the footsteps of his father and read for the medical profession. Three years study sufficed him, however, and he then attempted to get his first engagement in the dramatic world. His first words of encouragement were given him by Mr and Mrs F. M. Paget after having heard him recite, and they advised him to try to get into a répertoire company. He was fortunate enough to get a start with Mr Norman V. Norman, with whom he played a round of parts in old modern English comedy for eighteen weeks. After this he did a round of the old dramas during the stock season at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, with Mr F. W. Warden, playing such parts as Mr Calton, in *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*, Maltby, in *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, &c. After seven weeks' stock work he joined the late Osmond Tearle, with whom he gained his first experience in the legitimate, was re-engaged after Mr Tearle's death by Mr Arthur Milton, with whom he stayed three tours, and amongst the parts he played during that time were the First Gravedigger, in *Hamlet;* Launcelot Gobbo, in *The Merchant of Venice;* Gaspar, in *The Lady of Lyons*, Corin, Catesby, Octavius Cæsar, &c. After this he was specially engaged by Mr Milton Rosmer for the part of Touchstone in a production of *As You Like It* at the Theatre Royal, Preston. During the summer of this year Mr Kane gave a series of pastoral performances in the north of Ireland, appearing as Jacques, Antonio *(Twelfth Night)*, and Dogberry. After this he was engaged by Mrs Bandmann-Palmer, and has appeared in the following parts with her:—First Gravedigger, Launcelot Gobbo, Crabtree, and Moses in *The School for Scandal*, Horatio, Abraham in *Leah*, Caoudal and Legrand in *Sapho*, &c. This last-named part is, by the way, his favourite one. He considers intense character work to be the most interesting, and his ambition is to give elaborate revivals of the Irish dramas, and appear as Danny Mann, Harvey Duff, &c. Last Christmas Mr Kane gave a production of *The Merchant of Venice* at Belfast, appearing himself as Shylock. He intends, owing to the success of his last venture, to give a series of classical plays annually there, when he hopes to revive some of the works of the early English dramatists, some of whom are practically unknown to the modern playgoer. Mr Kane was engaged by Mr Louis Calvert for his autumn tour of *Sunday*. During his experience he has played upwards of a hundred and fifty parts, surely an unique record for so young a man.

MR. FRED INWOOD.

MR FRED INWOOD was born at Harrow-on-the-Hill in 1879. His love of acting dates from his schooldays. It was an annual feature at King's College School every Christmas to give an English, Greek, and German play. About one act of each play was given in the same evening. Invitations were issued to the parents of the boys to come and see them act. Mr Inwood played Trip, in *The School for Scandal*, on one of these occasions. The performances were generally very successful owing to the fact that parents made an exceptionally good audience, and allowed for many indiscretions both of make-up and acting. However, after the summer vacation, Mr Inwood made up his mind to become a full-blown actor and not return to school any more. Through his father's introduction to the late Harry Monkhouse he went on tour at nothing a week to learn something of acting. Finding it rather irksome to see other people getting a salary he thought it possible he might do the same. He suggested to Mr Monkhouse that he should give him a part, which he did. He likewise got a salary—small, but still a salary. At the conclusion of this Mr Hardie and Miss Von Leer engaged him for the Footman and Hargitt, in *Two Little Vagabonds*. He remained with them a year. He next ventured into musical comedy, playing the Valet, in Mr Milton Bode's production, *Orlando Dando*. Then came an engagement with Mr Harry Nicholls in *Jane* and *The Lady Bookie*, playing Archie Barry in the latter piece. He next joined Mr Penley to play Jack Chesney, in *Charley's Aunt*. Then came a season at the Duke of York's Theatre. Mr Lestocq engaged him to understudy and play in *A Bad Penny*. He also played Capt. Sands, in *Miss Hobbs*, during the season.

MISS HULO HODGSON.

MISS HULO HODGSON made her first appearance at the Theatre Royal, Exeter, in April, 1896, under Edmund Tearle's management, with whom she played Henri, in *Belphegor;* the Duke of York; Lucius, *Julius Cæsar;* and Blind Boy, in *Ingomar*. Her next engagement was Dick, in Rass Challis's play, *The Curate*, which part she played on four tours. She then undertook juvenile lead with Fred Cooke, in *The New Mazeppa*. After that she played lead with the late Hubert O'Grady, in *The Fenian, The Famine*, and *A Fast Life*. She also played lead with the late Charles Rogers, in *The Ladder of Life*. In 1900 she went to Africa with Leonard Rayne and Osmond Tearle, playing Planchet, in *The Three Musketeers*, a part specially written for her by Mr Leonard Rayne. She also played Constance at a few hours' notice, owing to the illness of Mrs Rayne. Whilst under Mr Rayne's management she played the Prince of Wales, Hetty Preene, *Lights o' London;* Mary Melrose, *Our Boys;* Cecil Jelf, *Span of Life;* Launcelot Gobbo, *Merchant o' Venic* (really the low comedian's part); Mrs Chudleigh, *Harbour Lights;* besides several other parts. On her return from Africa she was secured by Walter Bentley for juvenile lead in his Scotch tour. She next played Dick, in Hardie and Von Leer's *Two Little Vagabonds*. After that she created the part of Marie, in *The Human Terror*, produced by Isaac Cohen at the Pavilion Theatre. Her next engagement was with the late Mr F. A. Scudamore, as Cleopatra, in *Because I Love You*, a part in which she achieved a great success. This autumn Miss Hodgson was engaged by Mr Walter Melville for his stock seasons at the Standard and Rotherhithe.

NEW ENGLISH & FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we shall publish from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purposes. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"KALTWASSER."

Play, in Three Acts, by Ludwig Fulda.

ACT I.

Dr. Slevogt is a conscientious and ambitious young doctor enjoying a widespread reputation. His sanatorium is crowded by those whose nervous system has been shattered by the strife and stress of life in big cities, and by that far less pleasing class of patients, *les malades imaginaires*. So deeply, indeed, is he interested in his professional work that his charming wife, who before her marriage was a celebrated singer, constantly complains of his coldness and lack of attention towards herself. All the patients are greatly interested in the arrival of Pilgrim, renowned as a magnificent conductor and an irresistible lady-killer. He has fled to the sanatorium to take refuge from the attentions bestowed upon him by the fair sex particularly by one, Frau Anna Sachs, a somewhat hysterical leader of society. Slevogt makes his new guest promise that he will, for some time at least, keep aloof from ladies' society, and although Pilgrim, complaining that the ladies run after him and not vice versâ, willingly consents, he nevertheless, makes love to Elvine, the doctor's wife, and also to a pretty and coquettish French maid. Shortly afterwards Mrs Sachs, the very lady whom he had wished to elude, is announced at the sanatorium. She had found out Pilgrim's whereabouts, and had taken up her residence in the house opposite—another sanatorium, but conducted on different lines—in order to be near her faithless lover. Pilgrim endeavours to explain to her that the liaison between two divorced people as they are must be of short duration, and futhermore he tells her point blank that he is absolutely tired of her. Unabashed, she replies that she cannot bear to be cast aside, and if he insists in his intentions she will poison herself. The doctor enters, and with the utmost difficulty rids his nervous patient of his excited visitor.

ACT II.

All the ladies are captivated by Pilgrim's artistic temperament and fascinating manner. Elvine in particular experiences great delight in his company; for he has succeeded in once more arousing her artistic talent. Whilst Pilgrim, terrified by a message from Anna Sachs, is meditating how to escape the amorous persecutions of the lady, his divorced wife, Minna, also arrives at the sanatorium to undergo a cure for the nervous attacks from which she has been suffering since they parted. She had recently been staying at the rival sanatorium opposite, but left it as she agreed with Slevogt that the proprietor was nothing better than a quack doctor. A *tête-à tête* between Pilgrim and Elvine follows. Pilgrim manages to enlist her sympathy and gain her love. He confides to her that it is absolutely necessary for the well-being of his art and his state of health that he should find a strong-minded and warm-hearted woman to hold him in check so that he can escape the dangers lurking in his partiality for the fair sex. He pleads his cause so fervently and with such passion and sincerity that Elvine is convinced of his affection for her. They are interrupted by Anna Sachs, but Pilgrim leaves the room in time for Elvine to have a private interview with that exasperated woman, and she elicits from Anna the reason of her objectionable persecution. On perceiving, however, that she has in Elvine a serious rival, Anna professes to give up Pilgrim, and consents to return to Berlin. Elvine thereupon confesses to her husband that she cannot any longer live with him, but that she will follow Pilgrim, who, as she says, better understands her character, and who will once more restore her fame as a singer. Slevogt does not take the matter seriously; he feels confident that this is but a passing mood, and he simply reproaches Pilgrim with having ignored his medical advice to leave the fair sex alone and to avoid any scene that might upset his equanimity. The doctor, unaware of the relations existing between Minna and Pilgrim, then becomes witness of their first meeting since she divorced him on account of his infidelity. Pilgrim's heart goes out to her, not only because he still loves her—for he actually loves all the women whom he happens to meet—but also because he perceives how she has aged since he saw her last. Minna, however, ignores him altogether, and Pilgrim finds himself in an awkward fix, when Elvine as well as Anna and the little French maid, enter and all claim him as their own particular property. Pilgrim then realises at last that the object of his visit, to obtain rest, has been entirely defeated.

ACT III.

Slevogt begs Minna to assist him in preventing Elvine's elopement with Pilgrim. Minna thereupon entreats Elvine to desist from her wicked plan, giving a very graphic description of Pilgrim's character and mode of living. Elvine, however, though well aware of Pilgrim's indifference, on learning that she will leave her husband and throw in her lot with him, nevertheless arranges to elope with Pilgrim speedily in order to outwit the ever-watchful Anna. She reckons, however, without the affection that has reasserted itself in Pilgrim for his divorced wife. Pilgrim obtains another interview with the latter, imploring her for the love of their children and for the affection he has never ceased to feel towards herself to become again united to him. Minna, moved by this passionate outburst of feeling and his self-condemnation, consents to his wishes. The carriage which should have conveyed Pilgrim and Elvine to the railway station in pursuance of their plans for elopement now carries Pilgrim and Minna instead. The news of their sudden departure quickly spreads, and Elvine, perceiving Anna's and the French maid's keen disappointment at Pilgrim's departure, realises at last from what a foolhardy enterprise she has luckily escaped. She therefore humbly beseeches and readily obtains her husband's forgiveness.

HAMPSTEAD CONSERVATOIRE.

The third concert of the Artists' division took place on the 25th ult., when the Saunders String Quartet Party, consisting of Messrs John Saunders, Charles S. Woodhouse, Ernest Tonge, and Miss Prendencers sustained the respective parts of the quartet, and Madame Sobrino was the solo vocalist. Mr Stanley Hawley accompanying. The first work was a quartet by Paul Inon, stated to be the first performance in England, but we are strongly impressed with the idea that the phrases are not altogether unfamiliar. That, however, is not of extreme importance, and the music proved agreeable, especially the third movement. The composer, if our memory serves, is of Spanish extraction. The singing of Madame Sobrino was particularly attractive, and "Der Massbaum" of Schumann was repeated by desire. Songs by Strauss and Jensen were also included, and in the second part others by Liszt and Volbach; while a fine chamber quartet of Mozart concluded the instrumental performances. At the concert on Feb. 14 the Moscow Trio will appear, and the vocalist will be that delightful singer Mrs Henry J. Wood.

ADVERTISERS and SUBSCRIBERS who are moving about, and who have their Copy of "THE ERA" sent direct from this Office, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, are requested to forward the Addresses for their Papers [not later than the Tuesday in each Week.

H. A. JONES ON THE DRAMA.

Mr HENRY ARTHUR JONES, in responding to the toast of "The English Drama" at the annual dinner of the Sheffield Press Club, in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, on Saturday last, thanked the members for the welcome they had given him and for the honour they had done him in inviting him to respond for the English drama. It gave him the greatest pleasure to meet them in a hall that had echoed the voices of the greatest orators of the time; albeit, as far as he recollected, they had been chiefly occupied with minor and dreary affairs, such as politics—minor and dreary, that was, compared with music and the drama. When he asked himself how our toiling millions were chiefly spending their evenings he owned that he was given much food for reflection. The toilers of our cities were entirely right in asking for amusement at the end of their day. If there was one man with whom he was in the fullest and heartiest sympathy it was the man who declined to be bored at a theatre. If the great masses of our cities preferred paying a shilling for being amused at a music hall to paying half-a-crown for being bored at a theatre, there was absolutely no means of which he knew of stopping them. All bright, innocent amusement—songs, dancing, athletic exhibitions, and such like—were good for the people. He was not attempting to decry popular amusement, but he wished to repeat for the thousandth time that popular amusement was one thing and the art of the drama was another. In England to-day the great theatre-going public had hopelessly confused these two things, and seemed to have lost all sense that the art of the drama was the art of representing life, and not the art of tumbling about the stage doing all sorts of funny tricks and saying all sorts of funny things. That was to say, the art of the drama was finer and higher, and gave a rarer pleasure, in so far as it grew more severe and more serious, in so far as it was further and further removed from mere popular amusement. The drama in England to-day was crushed between the upper millstone of fine art and the nether millstone of popular amusement. It lived, if it lived at all, as a competitor of popular amusement; it was denied all recognition as a literary art. But the drama could not compete with popular amusement; it could not live at all on that level; it did not live: it was everywhere going under as a result of that competition. The music halls were crowded; the theatres were empty, or only filled when they provided a music hall entertainment. He did not think it was the fault of the dramatist. The serious dramatist had been so constantly told that he must amuse his public that for the present he (Mr Jones) was afraid he had taken that worthless and utterly mistaken counsel; he had tried to go down to his public with disastrous results. He declined to believe that England to-day could not produce worthy, serious dramatic work. The first condition was that it should be fully recognised and judged on that level. Another condition, which was almost forgotten, was that serious drama should be adequately interpreted. He would not confess that the present deadlock in our drama was the fault of the serious English dramatist. He did not think it was all the fault of the public. Even if he thought it, he dared not say, he dared not hint, that the fault lay with the Press. Let them say that the fault lay with the system. In all seriousness, he thought that our present system was a very bad one. It was bad in this one cardinal respect: great plays needed great interpreters. Our present system of long runs did not allow our young actors any opportunity of getting the necessary training. The result was that we were more and more impoverished in the supply of great actors. He called yet again for a school of constant practice for young actors. Might not, he asked, our great public be gradually coaxed into seeing that there was a far higher and greater pleasure, even amusement, to be obtained from serious drama than from mere empty entertainment? He submitted that the place for tomfoolery was not every theatre in England for every night in every year. Let them indulge in tomfoolery, but let us not wallow in it as a nation.

NEW MUSIC.

LEONARD AND CO., 311, Oxford-street, W., have sent a selection of attractive pieces, chiefly for the pianoforte. One of the first of these to claim attention is a graceful dance by the well-known composer Anton Strelezki, entitled "Christmas Roses," a very appropriate title for the present season, when everybody is looking forward to that festive time. Any youthful pianist in want of a pleasing and effective solo to entertain friends at a Christmas party will do well to procure "Christmas Roses." It will neither worry the teacher nor the pupil, for although graceful it is not difficult, and it is also melodious and brightly written. There is in fact only one *real* difficulty. The student must be able to grasp an octave. It is in common time, four crotchets in the bar, and Anton Strelezki has composed some pretty harmonies. The same accomplished musician has written "Yolande," an intermezzo for the pianoforte which is even simpler in style, and is composed in the charming key of E flat. Here and there some accidental flats and sharps may prove a little puzzling to the novice. But a clever teacher will carry the pupil safely over these thorny paths. Another delightful guide, philosopher, and friend to the youthful pianist is Stepan Esipoff, whose "Cinq Morceaux Caractéristiques" consist of the "Moulin à Vent," a clever study, "Historiette," "A Witches Dance," "Reconnaisance," and "Danse de Carnival." We may just hint to the enterprising publishers that the popularity of these charming pieces would be increased by an edition with the titles in English. For example, "The Windmill" would serve quite as well as "Moulin à Vent" for the extremely clever study of "Andantino con moto," which opens the group, and which the most experienced performer would find pleasure in playing. We found it quite a model for practice, the accented notes adding to the effect. It would suit perfectly for a solo at a little concert or "At Home." The others are equally good of their kind, and display remarkable ability on the part of the composer. "Entr'acte," for piano, by Jean Bonneval, is rather more difficult for a student, as the rapid passages of "thirds" will need considerable study. But if the student does not mind a little hard work with octaves, &c., there will be ample reward. There is just an echo of the "Staccato study" of Vogrich, but the composer is not deficient in originality as a whole. A pretty and stately dance for the pianoforte by J. Perry has much merit. It is somewhat difficult at first, but when the genial key of C is reached the pupil may "rest and be thankful." We may add that the dance is called "With Courtly Grace." "Spring Song," by E. Thelman Prior, will remind some players of the "Songs Without Words" of Mendelssohn, a great musician who has of late been somewhat tabooed by the disciples of "culchaw" and the "higher development" school. But Mr Prior has chosen a good model, and the simplicity of his little piece will make it welcome to amateurs. Of course the doings of Japan will attract composers, and "Yo San," a Japanese dance of a fantastic kind by Leslie Smith, will be certain to have admirers, especially as it is not difficult. A pleasant "Gavotte Elégante," this time by a native composer, Mr Josef Holbrooke, who cannot, however, resist a French title, has a certain freshness and individuality. "A Barcarolle," also by the same gifted musician, and a waltz called "Coquette," from the same pen, are all worthy of attention as indicating that our younger composers are on the alert, and that British musicians are marking time. "Amélie," by J. Warwick Moore, is a *danse gracieuse* of merit.

Mr W. H. WEBSTER, who was acting-manager at the Grand, Glasgow, eleven years ago, is back again in that busy city in a similar capacity at the Whitevale, the east-ender's resort.

"THE FOLLIES OF YOUTH."

Rewritten by Messrs Fred L. Connynghame and Frank Price.
Produced at Windsor Theatre on Monday, Nov. 28.

Captain Ronald Druce	Mr WALTER BENTLEY
Ralph Murdock	Mr ARTHUR ROSE
Colonel Druce	Mr CARTER LINGFORD
Nat Thistle	Mr DAVID BEATTIE
Bob Roberts	Mr FRED HAMING
Matthew Merryweather	Mr BERT WALLACE
Dorothy Dornton	Miss LAURIE A. PARDY
Kitty Hawthorne	Miss ENA RUSSELL
Little Ruth	Miss BERTHA HANBURY
Gwendoline Murdock	Miss VIOLET MACAREE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

As we stated last week, *The Follies of Youth* has been entirely rewritten by Messrs Fred L. Connynghame and Frank Price, and the "revised edition" was presented at the above theatre on Monday by Mr Arthur Rose and his company at the opening of his tour. Captain Ronald Druce, of the Grenadier Guards, while indulging in the follies of youth, falls in love with a wire rope dancer, Gwendoline Murdock, and marries her abroad, under a foreign name. Within a few weeks he discovers the mistake he has made, they separate, and he returns to England. Seven years elapse, and the play really opens with Captain Druce's marriage with Dorothy Dornton, the ward of his father, Colonel Druce. Three hours later, Gwendoline, who Captain Druce believed had been killed through a fall from the wire rope, reappears and claims him as her husband. He has to acknowledge his previous secret marriage, and his father, in a rage at what he considers his deceit, orders him to leave the house for ever, and announces that he shall make a new will leaving everything to Dorothy Dornton. Ralph Murdock, a wedding guest, recognises in Gwendoline his own wife. While stealing money and the Colonel's will, he is discovered by the Colonel, whom he strangles. He also knocks senseless Bob Roberts, a drummer-boy, who witnesses the crime, and gets away. Captain Druce, coming to see his father for the last time, finds him dead, and while he is kneeling over him other persons rush in, among them Murdock, who accuses Captain Druce of the murder of his father. This he repudiates, and the drummer-boy, who has regained consciousness, is about to denounce Murdock when his memory lapses, and he ends with the word "Captain" on his lips. The knockdown blow from Murdock has destroyed his memory. Thus under suspicion, Captain Druce flies and hides from the police. Gwendoline takes possession of the house, and orders Dorothy to leave, accusing her of having stolen Captain Druce's love. Captain Druce enters the house and tries to prevent Dorothy's expulsion, declaring everything to belong to her under his father's will; but he is helpless to enforce this. Protesting her love for him, Gwendoline assists him to conceal himself in the grounds, but he spurns her advances, curses and denounces her, and at first repudiates her child, which, however, he discovers to be his own. Meanwhile Murdock and Gwendoline are plotting to get possession of the money and property, each afraid of exposure by the other, Murdock himself being a convict. Seeking to raise money, Gwendoline sends for a Jew, one Nat Thistle (alias Morgan Piermont), broker and financial agent, and it turns out that he was Murdock's best man at his wedding with Gwendoline. All this time Dorothy is living in the slums in dire poverty. Many complications occur, and in the end Nat Thistle exposes the early marriage, Gwendoline poisons herself, the drummer-boy recovers his memory and denounces Murdock, who is arrested, Captain Bruce resumes his proper position, and Dorothy finds herself in reality his wife.

The drama is exceedingly well played, the situations are strong, and the staging all that could be desired. Mr W. Bentley presented a forceful, highly dramatic, and telling conception of Capt. Ronald Druce, his fine presence and cultured ability imparting additional power to the part. Mr Arthur Rose's impersonation of Ralph Murdock, the crafty villain under a cynical polished surface, was an exceedingly able performance; and the Nat Thistle of Mr David Beattie, the oily, artful, and unscrupulous Jew, was a most excellent, realistic, and amusing presentment. Mr Fred Haming took the character of Bob Roberts, the drummer, in a very satisfactory and natural manner. Mr Bert Wallace did well as the country fellow and, subsequently, policeman, and Mr Carter Lingford did all that was necessary as Colonel Druce. The performance of Miss Violet Macaree as Gwendoline Murdock was one of great merit, displaying great dramatic force, touching pathos, tragic power, and fierce, hot, and relentless passion. Her poisoning scene was rendered with extraordinary skill and realism. As Dorothy Dornton Miss Laurie A. Pardy was winning, graceful, and womanly in the best sense. Miss Bertha Hanbury touched the hearts of everyone by her sweet and beautifully child-like picture of Little Ruth (the Captain's child), and Miss Ena Russell was merry and piquant as Kitty Hawthorne, devoted servant of Dorothy Dornton, and sweetheart of Bob Roberts.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The concert in the theatre on Wednesday evening was a creditable specimen of a students' concert, including as it did examples of every kind of music. For instance, the first item was a mandoline solo, in which Miss Nellie Tubb distinguished herself, being accompanied by a mandoline orchestra and by Miss Amy Parsons at the pianoforte. Miss Agnes Melville attempted the Rondo and Aria from Rossini's opera *Cenerentola*, an extremely difficult and brilliant composition, seldom successfully rendered by a novice, but we must do Miss Melville the justice of declaring that her execution of Rossini's music was fairly good, and the bright "Non più mesta" was given with grace and freedom. The Prologue from *Pagliacci*, as we have often said, is more fitted for the stage than the concert room; but Mr Edwin Evans may be commended for his pure tone and good expression. In the two movements from a Sonata of Veracini for the violin, Master Leonard Connabeer, a young violinist of exceptional cleverness, made a slight slip, but speedily recovered himself, and amidst hearty applause finished the piece with great effect. The famous scena from Gounod's *Sapho* was treated in a dramatic fashion by Miss G. Malenoir, pupil of Signor Gustave Garcia and Mr B. Soutten, and the young lady almost reached the operatic standard in rendering the melody of Gounod. Miss Gertrude Peachey proved herself a brilliant pianist in the Polish dances of Scharwenka. Miss Ethel Major, a clever pupil of Mr Allan Beaumont, recited Adelaide Proctor's "Faithful Soul," and was very amusing in Mr Grossmith's sketch of "The wife who sat up," evidently a "wife without a smile." Miss Florrie Chadfield gave a cymbal dance of a graceful kind. "April Morn" afforded Miss Ethel May Holbrooke an opportunity of displaying neat execution and refinement of style. In the Flower song from *Carmen* Mr J. H. Callan was not quite equal to operatic requirements, but he has an agreeable and well-trained voice. Miss Mabel Stevens sang songs by Guy D'Hardelot and Landon Ronald. Miss Alice Stroud undertook the song, "God who madest earth and heaven," by Sanderson, with a fair amount of success. The concert was largely attended, and Mrs Charles P. Smith rendered her usual services on behalf of the young ladies on the platform. Miss Kate Ward was an admirable accompanist.

At the usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association, held last Tuesday, the hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters. Dr. Walter L. Pritchard, 16, Ashburnham-mansions, Chelsea, was elected as an hon. medical officer to the Association.

HISTORIC PROVINCIAL PLAYHOUSE.

BY T. H. BARROW.—VII.

In conversational phraseology Coleman was very pompous and full of idiosyncrasies. For example, on one occasion, coaching a body of supernumeraries for some spectacular display, he suddenly exclaimed, "Don't stand there like a lot of graven images, but put on the aspect of truculent defiance!"

On another occasion Coleman had reason to be dissatisfied with the orchestra, whereupon he wrote the following notice and had it posted among the "calls" at the stage door:—"I am pained to learn that certain members of the orchestra are in the habit of indulging in the reprehensible practice of playing improvised cadenzas during portions of the pantomime dialogue. Any well-authenticated circumstance of this nature reaching the ears of the management will entail upon the perpetrator instant dismissal.—Signed, JOHN COLEMAN, Theatre

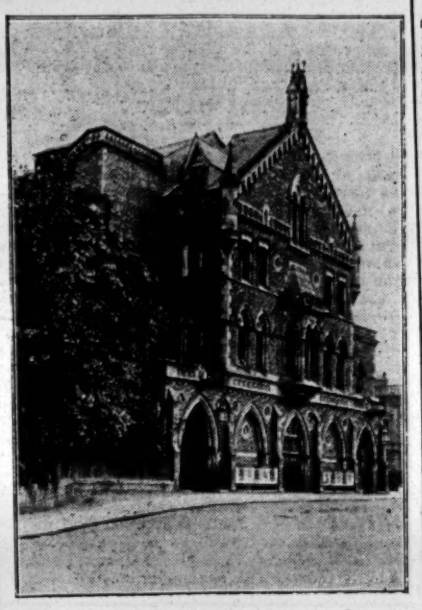


Photo by Debenham and Co., York.

THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.

Royal, York." At this period Mr J. S. Haydon, of *Cotton Spinner* fame, was a member of the York stock company.

While Coleman was considered by many of his colleagues overbearing, he could at times be just. An illustration comes to mind. In his days there was a convenient passage from the stage to the front of the house, with a door about midway. This means of communication had in some way been wrongly used—at least, he obviously thought so, as he ordered the door to be kept permanently locked, and not to be opened for any living soul. Curiously, he was the first person to endeavour to use the passage. He tried the door, hammered and shouted for a quarter of an hour, but all to no purpose, though the attendant to whom the instructions had been given heard him all the time from the other side. Finally the irate manager rushed round to the front of the house by a circuitous route, and assailed the faithful janitor with a fusillade of phrases which left no vestige of doubt as to the warmth of his feelings on the subject. But the attendant never moved a muscle.

In his leisure Tate Wilkinson, an admirable actor and manager, turned his hand to literature. In 1790 he published at York in four volumes, "Memoirs of his Own Life," introducing himself to his readers in this laconic manner: "If I had held my Pen but half as well as I have held my Bottle, what a charming hand I should have wrote by this time!" The work is "printed for the author" by Wilson, Spence, and Mawman, of York, and sold by G. G. J. and J. Robinson, Paternoster-row, and T. and J. Egerton, Whitehall, London. It was dedicated to the Duke of Norfolk. The dedication is commendably apologetic:—"If I were to assume only a familiar and easy acquaintance, I should be instantly detected as a silly though not an artful impostor. I must therefore slide imperceptibly into your Grace's presence under the fallacious and specious pretext of being a dangling twig-cousin of the alluring theatres, to which your Grace is a well-known avowed friend, amateur, and protector, as they evidently are honoured with your Grace's never-failing tribute and support. Therefore, under the guardian shades of Melpomene and Thalia, I am emboldened (by Hope) to cast my defenceless work at your Grace's feet, imploring mercy and pity for my lack of skill and non-acquaintance with the Muses. The work, indeed, is a true picture of its master, being as destitute of wit as wealth. The concurring evils of its poverty and want of natural brilliant endowments preclude, I fear, every possible chance of good fortune for preserving its life with the world's approbation, unless when they behold with wonder your Grace's condescension in raising the supplicating mendicant from the ground, and crowning its insignificance with your good wishes, which must be ever regarded as an honoured and gracious fostering."

In his preface Tate thus comments on his own Memoirs:—"I reflect on it with astonishment, and look with wonder at my patience and perseverance, as philosophy and steadiness, I dare assert, rarely attend my hobbling morning or evening walks." At

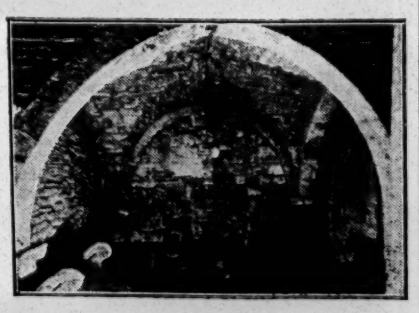


Photo by Arthur and Co., York.

THE OLD CRYPT,
THEATRE ROYAL, YORK.

the end of a long list of fashionable subscribers appears this advertisement:—"This book is entered at Stationers' Hall; whoever presumes to print or pirate the same will be punished as the law directs."

That Tate Wilkinson was a man of great experience and distinction in the profession is sufficiently proved by the fact that during his career he had active connection with every principal theatre in the three kingdoms—Drury-lane, Covent-garden, Haymarket, Smock-alley, and Crow-street in Dublin, Bath, Edinburgh, Portsmouth, Winchester, Maidstone, Birmingham, Chester, Bristol, Norwich, York, Shrewsbury, Richmond-on-Thames, Exeter, Glasgow, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Leeds, Lynn, Pontefract, Halifax, Doncaster, Hull, Wakefield, Beverley, and Bradford.

(To be continued).

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER FAMILIENTAG,"
Comedy, in Three Acts, by Gustav Kadelburg.
Produced at the Lustspielhaus, Nov. 28.

Baron Wollien	Herr LETTINGER
Richard	Herr HOEFLICH
Elli	Fräulein LIMBURG
Kaspar	Fräulein WENDT
Sigismund	Herr SACHS
Irmgard	Fräulein TROST
Ludolf	Herr SCHOENFELD
Marie	Fräulein BECKER
Gerd	Herr BARNOWSKY
Erna	Fräulein BODE
Ada	Fräulein LENZ
Dr. Von Wollien	Herr IMPEKOVEN
Otto	Herr BURG
Clothilde	Fräulein WENCK
Hilde	Fräulein WALDEGG
Kurt	Herr FAIST
Victor	Herr SPIRA
Elise	Fräulein HILLER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, DEC. 1.—Herr Kadelburg and Dr. Blumenthal, who have been for so many years successful collaborators in the fabrication of farces, appear to have dissolved partnership, each for the last year or two writing strictly on his own account. The most recent effort of Herr Kadelburg was very successful, and will, I should say, enjoy a long spell of popularity. Not that the plot is anything out of the common, in fact, it is hardly worth mentioning; but there are so many amusing little episodes, so much fun generally—of a harmless enough character—that nobody misses or desires a plot. A word as to the signification of the title. There is a custom among widely-spreading branches of German noble families which is to concentrate themselves once or so in a year, and to hold a sort of general meeting—the German, it will be remembered, are a sociable nation, and accept as near relations a fifty-third cousin, under circumstances. This meeting is called the family day (Familientag), and is always held at a first-rate hotel in the metropolis—a banquet leading the way, a discussion of family affairs following. So that when the curtain of Herr Kadelburg's play rises we are not surprised to be introduced to a dozen or so of members of the Von Wollien family gathered together in one of the luxurious rooms of Hotel Bristol. The discussion turns upon the inheritance of the family estates, the rightful heir to which is Baron Egon. Another member, however, puts a spoke in the wheel by declaring that according to written traditions a Wollien can only inherit if he marry a lady of his own noble birth. Now Egon loves a simple "Bürgerliche," merely Hilde Ramberg, a young painter, whom he has not the least intention of giving up. After the difficulties have run through nearly three acts, a learned archæologist of the family, Dr. Wolfgang Von Wollien—who has been a silent witness of everything up till now—suddenly removes them. He has discovered, by dint of much patient research, that some two hundred years ago one Wunibald, of the great Wollien race, had married the daughter of his Hofmeister, a commoner. Thus a precedent is established, and the fatal clause is proved—to Egon's satisfaction—null and void. The other incidents, comical or sentimental, will scarcely bear narrating, but must be seen to be appreciated. The interpretation was capital, Herr Schoenfeld, in the character of Capt. Ludolf Wollien—a good-humoured, honest *bon vivant*—carrying off the chief laurels. Other parts were admirably sustained by Herren Sachs and Lettinger, Frau Wenck and Fräulein Waldegg. The mounting of all three acts was particularly good. Herr Kadelburg was called and recalled, and most heartily applauded.

Mr BERNARD SHAW'S three-act comedy, *Ein Teufelskerl*, met with an enthusiast c reception at the Berliner last week. The piece being doubtless known to your readers, a detailing of the amusing plot will be superfluous. Herr Wehrlin gave the title-rôle with a good deal of humour, but I fancy both that part and the part of Judith, the pastor's wife, would have made even a better impression had they been better acted. Herr Pittschau, in the rôle of General Burgoyne—"Johnnie"—was unusually good. The applause was very genuine, and the audience would evidently gladly have seen the author, but Mr Shaw—if present—declined to appear.

The production of *Der Roland von Berlin* was originally fixed for Dec. 13. Whether a little justifiable superstition has anything to do with the matter I do not know, but the date has been changed to the 12th. Signor Leoncavallo has arrived in Berlin, accompanied by his wife, and will, by the Kaiser's special invitation, conduct the dress rehearsal. It is not probable that the composer will conduct on the evening of the production. Leoncavallo has been playing passages of his work—which he declares is the best he has ever done—to a select circle of friends, and as far as can be judged from a pianoforte performance, there are some very fine numbers. The finale of each act is considered highly dramatic and specially good.

SIGNOR D'ANDRADE'S successful season at the Theatre Des Westens is coming to an end. Don Giovanni still remains the favourite rôle of the Berliners, and it is one in which this famous artist is at his best. Less successful was the rendering of Renato, in Verdi's *Maskenball*; whether it was that the audience expected too much or that Signor D'Andrade was indisposed, the fact remains that Renato did not "go down" at all. With his capital rendering of Rigoletto, however, D'Andrade regained all his customary hold upon his audience. He sang the part magnificently, and deserved the storms of applause that rewarded his efforts. Good, too, was the support afforded by the Des Westens company, the singing of Fräulein Stoeller as Gilda and Herr Hansen in the part of the Duke being highly commendable.

AT the National Theatre Signora Prevosti is continuing to draw good houses. One of her successes is Fedora—an entirely new departure for this popular artist. On Saturday a gala performance of *Der Freyschutz* will be given, under distinguished patronage, for the benefit of a local charity.

THE charming fairy-plays so customary here about Christmas time at afternoon performances are beginning at most of our theatres. These are not pantomimes, as we understand the word, but genuine plays, founded upon some well-known legend or fairy tale, usually poetic, and always amusing for children and adults alike, while they never fall into banalities. One of these popular pieces was produced at the Central last week—*Daumelinchen*, in three acts and six tableaux, by Konstantin Pohl, the kapellmeister, by-the-way, of the Central Theatre. The music is pretty and so are the tableaux, and the piece met with a very warm reception.

OVER the performance of *Lohengrin* in the Royal Opera House on Monday an evil star appeared to lie. In the first place, a new singer, Frau Grundmann, who was billed for the rôle of Elsa, was prevented at the last moment from appearing. Fräulein Destrim was hurriedly communicated with, and came and sang and conquered. The same thing happened, however, to Herr Grüning—who was indisposed at the eleventh hour—and he was not so successfully replaced as Frau Grundmann. Herr Grüning is our Lohengrin par excellence—excepting, perhaps, Herr Kraus, and there seemed some astonishing lack of good management as regards an understudy. Herr Jörn—who was summoned to take the part for the first time—was entirely unprepared, and had not even been able to have a rehearsal.

HERR WILHELM VON SCHOLZ has completed a drama of which good things are reported. It is entitled *Der Jude von Konstanz*, and treats of a Jewish doctor of the Middle Ages, who apostatised in order to better his practice. The plot is interesting and well developed; the characters are said to be strongly and convincingly delineated.

ROYAL OPERA, COVENT-GARDEN.

The King and Queen of Portugal paid their promised gala visit to the Royal Opera on the 25th ult., when, however, it was scarcely so completely a State visit as on some former occasions, although it could not be doubted that their Majesties greatly enjoyed the performance and the hearty reception given by the crowded house. Perhaps, owing to the season, the decorations were less splendid than we have known, garlands of chrysanthemums being the chief ornaments of the Royal box, while elegant programmes, with the Union Jack and the Portuguese flag interwoven, served to show the pleasant relations existing between the two countries. Their Majesties arrived from Buckingham Palace shortly after 8 in time for the rising of the curtain and were received by Mr Neil Forsyth and Mr Henry Russell, the admirable director of the San Carlo Company. These gentlemen conducted their Royal visitors up the private staircase to the Royal box. Amongst the brilliant audience were Consuelo Duchess of Manchester, the Countess of Warwick, the Countess De La Warr, Earl and Countess De Grey, the Countess of Limerick, the Countess of Pembroke, Lord Charles Montague, Lord Westbury, Earl Howe, Lady Lister-Kaye, Lady Tennant, Prince Victor Duleep Singh, Mr Alfred De Rothschild, Mr and Mrs George Cornwallis West, Mrs Farquharson, Mrs Charles Ansell, Mr H. V. Higgins, Mr Arnold Morley, and Captain the Hon. Seymour Fortescue. The third act of Puccini's opera *La Bohème* came first, with Miss Alice Nielsen as the gentle Mimi, Mdlle. Trentini as the capricious Musetta, Signor Dani representing Rodolfo, and Signor Amato Marcello, Signor Tanara conducting in excellent style. Then followed the second act of *La Tosca* with that charming vocalist Madame Giachetti as the heroine, Signor Dani as the lover, and Signor Ancona as the fierce Baron Scarpia, Signor Paroli and Signor Volponi assisting, and Signor Campanini conducting. The programme ended with the second act of Verdi's *Otello*, M. Maurel taking his old character, and Signor Duc representing the Moor. Again Signor Campanini conducted. Our own National Anthem and that of Portugal were included in the programme, and were greeted with the utmost enthusiasm, evidently to the satisfaction of the royal guests, who expressed at the close the pleasure the operatic selections had afforded them, and their appreciation of the arrangements of Covent-garden and the thoughtful consideration of Messrs Rendle and Forsyth and the official staff.

Saturday was devoted to a matinée of *Faust*, and in the evening, instead of *Otello*, *Rigoletto* was performed, it being the last night of the brilliant San Carlo company, which, under the able direction of Mr Henry Russell, has done so much to give interest to the autumn season.

"A KNOTTY QUESTION.

A Farcical Romance, in One Act, by F. C. Thomas.
Produced at the Public Hall, Woking, on Saturday, Nov. 26.

George Washington	Mr GEORGE BEAVAN
Rev. Digby Mouseby	Mr ROBERT LEWIS
Major Wellington, Napoleon, Nelson, Bloodgood	Mr A. C. CHAPMAN
Hezekiah Samson	Mr JAMES LEWIN
Katherine Howard	Miss MARY HENDERSON
Lucretia Wordsworth	Miss VIOLET MORLEY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The scene of this new one-act play is laid in the vestry of one of the English churches in Cairo, where the nuptials of George Washington, Earl of Southend, and Katharine Howard, an American heiress, are being celebrated. The bride has refused to go any further with the ceremony on the grounds that the bridegroom has deceived her in having kept her in ignorance of the fact that he is an Earl. The officiating minister, the Rev. Digby Mouseby, is a military chaplain in temporary charge. He has given the contracting parties five minutes' grace to make things square. In the meantime he sends Samson, the verger, for the bridegroom. Samson, seeing the bride in conversation with Major Bloodgood, the best man, brings him. The Chaplain, having mislaid his glasses, does not notice Samson's mistake, and puts several pertinent questions to the Major, and some very terse dialogue ensues. On discovering his error, he asks the best man to use his influence with the bride to bring the ceremony to a satisfactory close. The Major, in spite of his names and sponsor's good intentions is, however, far too timid to dictate to an offended female. The Rev. Mouseby, seeing this, requests him to send the bride in. He elicits from her the information that she, together with a number of American heiresses, had bound herself by a solemn oath not to marry a member of the British Peerage, not even in the unlikely event of his having any cash. She furthermore states that she can see no way out of the difficulty, and leaves the vestry. The Chaplain remembers he has a christening in a quarter of an hour, and, on looking in his book, is horrified to find the baby's name Washington, and naturally connects the two names. The situation is no further advanced by an interview with the bridegroom. Miss Wordsworth, the bridesmaid, enters, and introduces some clever comedy by revealing her journalistic propensities on the mention of scandal. She asserts the only way to smooth things out is for the Earl to relinquish all claims to his title, and become plain George Washington. This course is agreed to. The verger here enters and informs the reverend gentleman—who has previously stated he is a bachelor—that the nurse is waiting outside with the baby, and that the mother, Mrs Dan Washington, the coloured lady, is following in a carriage. A coloured nurse with baby enters, and the curtain descends as the wedding party go off, the bride declaring that if the knot is to be tied, she guesses some one else will tie it.

MR. TREE'S REPERTOIRE COMPANY.

Mr Tree's Shakespearian répertoire company were most enthusiastically received last week in Hull at the Theatre Royal. For the Monday opening performance nearly every seat was booked for that evening, when *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was given, and the business grew night by night, until several extra rows of stalls were added. The Saturday matinée of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* drew more money than any other matinée since Mr Morton has been in possession of the Theatre Royal, Miss Ellen Terry previously holding the record. On the Saturday night, Mr Haviland, in addressing the audience, said:—"Ladies and gentlemen,—I will only keep you a moment or two. Before I go I should like to accord to you my most sincere and hearty thanks on behalf of our dear chief, Mr Beerbohm Tree, for the cordial and hearty welcome we have received. We came to you as strangers—at least many of us did. I myself have had the pleasure of appearing before you on a previous occasion—but some of us have come amongst you as strangers. But in this all too short time I feel we have made many friends. A little thing has just been told me to-day that a dear lady who has found a warm corner in your hearts by her talent and by her beauty made her first appearance on this stage at the age of six. I refer to Miss Constance Collier. Her visit, therefore, has been a doubly enjoyable one. I am happy to tell you this is not farewell, but only au revoir.

"Encouraged by the support—the fine support—you have given us, Mr Morton, with his usual enterprise, has induced Mr Tree to book his splendid production of *The Tempest*, which I shall have the pleasure of presenting to you in the early spring.

"I assure you we had great pleasure in coming here, and I hope our visit may be but the forerunner of many, many happy meetings. I can only say I wish, before we meet again, you may have a happy Christmas, full of love and good fellowship, and a very prosperous New Year."

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE ADELPHI.

On Tuesday, Nov. 29, Revival of Shakespeare's Comedy,
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW."

PERSONAGES IN THE INDUCTION.

Christopher Sly	Mr OSCAR ASCHE
Hostess	Miss BLANCHE CATTERSON
A Lord	Mr H. H. SIGNETT
A Page	Mr L. WILLOUGHBY
Huntsman	Mr ASHTON PEARSE

PERSONAGES IN THE PLAY.

Baptista	Mr ALFRED BRYDONE
Vincentio	Mr ROPER SPYERS
Lucentio	Mr WALTER HAMPDEN
Petruchio	Mr OSCAR ASCHE
Gremio	Mr HERBERT GRIMWOOD
Hortensio	Mr H. R. HIGNETT
Tranio	Mr CHARLES ANGELO
Biondello	Mr E. LYALL SWETE
Grumio	Mr CHARLES ROCK
Curtis	Miss C. ROBERTSON
A Pedant	Mr HENRY KITTS
A Steward	Mr ASHTON PEARSE
A Tailor	Mr R. F. ANSON
Katharina	Miss LILY BRAYTON
Bianca	Miss PAMELA GAYTHORNE
A Widow	Miss MABEL ADAIR

The late F. A. Marshall, a critic of the last generation, thus wrote of *The Taming of the Shrew*: "I cannot see why this play should be called an outrageous farce. Surely it is quite as worthy of the name of comedy as many plays so called Is *The Merry Wives of Windsor* to be stigmatised as a farce because it is full of practical jokes? If *Tobin's Honeymoon* be dignified with the title of a comedy, surely a play which is on the same subject, and is much more cleverly treated, should not be so sneeringly spoken of." We quite agree with the late Mr Marshall's observations. It is a common error to "sniff" at all physical fun and frolic on the stage as if they were always mere appeals to the childish love of noise and disturbance. The really essential point is not the extravagance of the action, but the appropriateness of that extravagance to the situation. The whole humour of *The Taming of the Shrew* is summed up in the enquiry which Don Annibal, in *L'Aventurière*, makes of Donna Clotilde when she sneers at the supremacy of man. He asks her if she has ever had a beating. Petruchio is a practical humorist. He does not attempt to argue with Katharina; he simply subdues her by reverting to primitive conditions. He becomes the "cave-man," bearing off his wife by force. He takes full advantage of the masculine strong points; he is not such a fool as to meet her on the feminine ones. He has a louder voice, and he uses it; he has a stronger will, and he uses it; he has the power of keeping food from her, and he uses this, too. Above all, he has brains and a sense of humour; which she has not. Such a comedy appeals to a modern audience just as powerfully as it did three hundred years ago. It was really delightful at the Adelphi on Tuesday evening to notice how the instinct of the assembly over-rode all modern theories, and to hear the sounds of hearty laughter and applause which greeted the revival.

The acting was remarkable for its finish, its vigour, and its distinction. Miss Lily Brayton astonished everyone by the fire and intensity of her acting as Katherina. On her first entrance—in hunting costume, leading two greyhounds—she made a striking picture, and one not easily forgotten. Throughout, her depiction of rebellious anger was superb, and in the concluding scenes, in which Katherina's regeneration is displayed, Miss Brayton acted with a sweetness and an expressiveness which were completely charming. Katharina's retorts were delivered with a fiery energy which was extremely telling, and the character of the irritable, combative, and turbulent girl was delineated with remarkable skill and ability. Mr Oscar Asche's Petruchio was an original and well-considered reading of the role. The physical predominance which is a necessity to its representative Mr Asche possesses plentifully, and he did full justice to Shakespeare's lines by his clear, appreciative, and judicious delivery. The humour of the character was well developed, and, in his virile vigour and exuberant strength, Mr Asche was entirely excellent. His Christopher Sly was a comedy performance of grotesque drollery, and was distinguished by the artistic use which Mr Asche made of his very moderate materials. Miss Pamela Gaythorne, who looked particularly sweet and pretty in her becoming costumes, played Bianca with winning tact and exquisite delicacy. Conspicuous for its quaint humour was the Grumio of Mr Charles Rock; and the other parts were played with admirable care and intelligence. Mr Alfred Brydone gave Baptista just the necessary dignity and courteous confidence; Mr Roper Spyers was efficient as Vincentio; and Mr Walter Hampden was a very romantic and picturesque Lucentio. Mr Herbert Grimwood gave a distinct and sharply defined embodiment of Gremio; and Mr H. R. Hignett was satisfactory as Hortensio. Mr Charles Angelo as the disguised Tranio bore himself with all the necessary distinction and refinement, and Mr E. Lyall Swete's delivery of Biondello's description of Petruchio's appearance and equipment was very effective. Miss Constance Robertson being commendable as Curtis. Mr Henry Kitts supplied a rich and unctuous representation of the Pedant; and Mr Ashton Pearce and Mr R F. Anson were good as the Steward and the Tailor respectively. Miss Mabel Adair taking full advantage of her short appearance as the Widow.

The mounting was a thing for which the playgoing public should be warmly grateful to Mr Otho Stuart, and his scenic artists, Mr Joseph Harker and Mr W. T. Hemsley. Only a detailed description could do justice to the lovely stage pictures and the many "little touches" and neat interpolations which showed with what thoughtful solicitude the piece had been "produced" by Mr Asche. Karl's designs for the dresses were both correct and clever, and the sets showed most judicious selection from authorities and a delicate feeling for appropriateness and suitability. In the last act some old English songs and choruses were lustily sung, and the arrangement of the text was practical and ingenious. The revival of *The Taming of the Shrew* was received—as it deserved to be—with very demonstrative enthusiasm.

THE ROYALTY.

On Monday, Nov. 28,
Revival of Sir John Vanbrugh's Comedy,
"THE CONFEDERACY."

Gripe	Mr WILLIAM H. KEMBLE
Moneytrap	Mr A. E. DRINKWATER
Dick	Mr FRANK LASCELLES
Brass	Mr DENNIS W. CLEUGH
Clip	Mr E. C. BUFFUM
Constable	Mr J. A. GRANT
Jessamin	Mr RICHARD NEVILLE
Clarissa	Miss ADA POTTER
Araminta	Miss PEARLA GARDNER
Corinna	Miss MAY MARTIN
Flippanta	Miss DORA HOLE
Mrs Cloggitt	Miss META PELHAM
Mrs Amlet	Mrs THEODORE WRIGHT

Sir John Vanbrugh's translation of D'Ancourt's *Bourgeoises à la Mode* was first performed at the Haymarket in 1705 with Mrs Bracegirdle as Flippanta. It was hardly kind to the *manes* of the deceased author for the Mermaid Society to put his piece on the stage of the Royalty Theatre on Monday evening. The piece is one of those whose merits have been taken for granted for years. Hazlitt, with a *naïveté* which an acquaintance with modern French dramatic construction would have dispelled, called *The Confederacy* "a comedy of infinite contrivance and intrigue." To us it appears as a very simple theatrical "machine," the "pivot" being an unsavoury Gallic motive, rendered more repulsive by characteristically "heavy" British treatment. The whole tone of the piece is not so much immoral as filthily sordid. The "notion" of two dingy old money-lenders, each of whom is in love with the wife of the other, and that of an *ingénue* with amorous instincts, who is courted for her cash by a card-sharper whose mother is something between a usurer and a purveyor of cosmetics, are not developed in *The Confederacy* with the refinement which, Burke opined, removed half the objection to vice. That Vanbrugh should have what is called a "classical" reputation chiefly on the strength of this translation shows the essential excellence of the French original, which not even the clumsy hand of the architect-adaptor could spoil. The piece owes its long life to the briskness and vivacity of its movement, which has been sufficient to ensure its revival, at intervals, from the date of its production until 1825, when it was performed at Drury-lane Theatre.

The performance at the Royalty on Monday evening was respectable on the whole, but uneven, and would have been improved by a few more rehearsals, several of the artists being by no means letter-perfect. Mrs Theodore Wright played Mrs Amlet with expression and energy, but was hardly sufficiently *canaille* for the character. Mr William H. Kemble gave a full-blooded embodiment of Gripe, making the scrivener a very loud and violent personage; and Mr A. E. Drinkwater supplied a well-contrasted picture of the other husband, Moneytrap, making him a dingy and diffident personage. Miss Ada Potter played Clarissa creditably, maintaining throughout an effective air of elegance; and Miss Pearla Gardner was an agreeable and acceptable Araminta. The hit of the evening, was, however, made by Miss May Martyn, whose complete unconsciousness, and keen appreciation of the points of the part of Corinna, coupled with a suitable appearance, a pleasing voice and style, and a distinct delivery, made her performance quite delightful. Mr Frank Lascelles gave an excellent embodiment of Dick, sound in conception, quick and vigorous in execution, and adorned with all the necessary veneer; and Miss Dora Hole was a bright and piquant Flippanta. The minor characters were carefully sustained, and the piece was dressed with taste, care, and sufficient liberality. The production was of interest as showing on what small foundations the fame of Vanbrugh and *The Confederacy* has been based.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Walter Melville, entitled
"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

Mr Walter Melville's company is paying Islington a third visit in this highly successful melodrama. Miss Hilda Beverley, who has been associated with the drama since its production, still plays with the same amount of power her original character—Dora Grey. Indeed, the interest of the play is mainly centred in this part. Miss Beverley succeeds admirably in holding the attention of the audience with a never-failing grasp. Miss Elaine Vanburgh as Laura Norman plays with discrimination; and Miss Nana Flensburg as Kitty Rosebud causes much amusement. One of the great successes of the evening is made by Miss Pollie Marsh as Elizabeth Burke, a repulsive study of feminine degradation which is very finely portrayed. Mr Charles Franmore submits a capital study of the ill-fated Captain Norman; Mr Cecil A. Melton as Jack Carlton plays with ease and dignity; Mr Fred Ingram as Teddy Butterfly exercises his humorous capabilities with happy results; Mr Angus Mervyn as Father Gumprill is good in a dialect rôle; Mr Charles Girdlestone as Guy Brand plays that part without sparing himself, and gains the usual reception. Quite the most artistic performance of the evening was given by Mr Wilton J. Selby as Beppo, an admirable character study. Mr St. John Stuart as Tom Norman was acceptable. The play was mounted with Mr Melville's customary lavishness.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Comic Opera,
by Henry Hamilton and Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."

An enthusiastic audience welcomed the first appearance at the Pavilion on Monday of Mr George Dance's company in the attractive comic opera, *The Duchess of Dantzic*. The bright music was faultlessly rendered and encores were frequent, the principal numbers being received with delight. The excellent chorus deserves much credit for its spirited work. An admirable exposition of the title-rôle is given by Miss Rita Presano, who sings well, and is seen to considerable advantage in the many dramatic scenes. An impressive rendering of Napoleon, showing masterful force and determination, is given by Mr Frederick Moyes, and Mr Thos. C Maxwell sings delightfully and plays in a manly fashion as Vicomte De Bethune. Miss Alice Coverick captivates as the winsome Renée, singing "Le Petit Caporal" effectively, and a capital portrayal of Caroline Murat is presented by Miss Edith Carlyle. Mr Albert Chapman was excellent as François, his melodious vocalisation being most telling and evoking hearty recognition; Mr Colin Mackay was quaintly humorous as the vivacious Papillon, his singing being particularly enjoyable; Miss Mabel Bailey was fully competent as the Empress Josephine; and Miss May Harris capably enacted Pauline. Miss Amy Burton made a charming Lisette, richly meriting the appreciation she elicited; Miss Valerie Christie was successful as Adhemar; and Mr Ralph Forster scored as Captain Reignier. Commendable work was done by Miss Grace Holmes as Madame De Chatel, Miss Olive Noble as Mdlle. De Legrange, Mr Fred Meyers as M. D'Alegre, and Mr Leslie Owen as M. De Montmorenci. The scenery is unusually good, and the opera is picturesquely dressed and mounted in elaborate style, every attention being given to completeness of detail. The augmented orchestra is under the capable bâton of Mr B. J. Patterson, and Mr Colin Mackay is the excellent stage-manager. The business-manager for Mr George Dance is the obliging and courteous Mr Kay Draco.

EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 28,
the Play, in Four Acts, by Thomas Raceward, entitled
"SUNDAY."

This successful play is being performed here by Messrs Louis Calvert and Herbert Ross's company. Miss Marie Polini, a pretty and fascinating young lady, is an able and clever exponent of the title-rôle so well played by Miss Julia Neilson in the original production. Mr W. Edwyn Holloway and Mr John Holloway as the Colonel and Arthur Brinthorpe played with ability, their acting appealing strongly to the audience. Mr Arthur Willoughby was a good Tom Oxley, and Messrs Henry Stephenson, David Curtis, and Alfred Phillips as Towser, Davey, and Lively, the "Boys," were all that could be desired. Mr Arthur Somers as Jacky fully sustained the interest of an important character in the story. Miss Dorothy Gordon made the most of her small part of the Nun, and Miss Maude Henderson as Mrs Naresby was well fitted.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Nov. 28,
"MRS DERING'S DIVORCE."

Mrs Langtry and her London company are appearing this week at the Coronet in Percy Fendall's amusing play, *Mrs Dering's Divorce*, recently introduced to the play-going public at the Camden. We may dub it a drawing-room farce, though it has excellent comedy. Mrs Langtry seems to rather take her tone from the piece. Still, she is charmingly natural and amusing in her clever silhouette of this wayward, erratic, extravagant, jealous, quick-tempered wife wedded to an equally extravagant husband, who possesses all the small vices and plaguy few virtues, but has the saving grace of invariable politeness and gentility allied to bonhomie and good temper. This husband, viz., Captain Dering, is portrayed with consummate ease, naturalness, and polish by Mr Paul Arthur, who at times reminds one irresistibly of Sir Charles Wyndham in his earlier days of rollicking farce. He is always well in the picture, and acts with distinction and eminence without being unduly obtrusive. Miss Leila Repton gives a very pleasing and attractive sketch of character as the complacent Mrs Haydon, and Miss Lilian Revell does not spare herself in her ludicrous assumption of character as that "wild impulsive child of nature," Susannah Verner, roars of laughter greeting her advent in the approved garb of the "new woman" before she literally as well as metaphorically dons the "breeks." Mr Ernest Stern throws himself thoroughly into the part of the invertebrate idiot and darling of society, Jimmy Foster, and Mr Courtenay Thorpe contributes an amusing portraiture of the senile Don Juan, Lord Granpier. Mr Ivan Berlyn deserves favourable mention for his neat and telling performance of the very discreet manservant Parker. Miss Helen Palgrave is appropriately formidable and starchy as Lady Granpier, and small parts are satisfactory rendered by Misses Di Forbes, Bessie Harrison, Davis, and Messrs Harold Carfax, Harold Brooke, and Norman Wrighton. The scene of Mrs Dering's drawing-room in Mayfair is very pretty and artistic. The *pièce de résistance* is preceded by Henry Byatt's one-act play *The Brothers*. As the unfaithful brother William Mr Harold Brooke looks appropriately crestfallen, and Mr Courtenay Thorpe puts some spirit into the part of his wronged younger brother Dick, while the part of Kitty is sustained by Miss Revill or Miss Davis.

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Nov. 28,
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Miss Ellen Terry is always sure of a warm welcome whenever she pays a visit to this theatre, and on Monday evening a large audience was present when *The Merchant of Venice* was played. Miss Terry was accorded a warm reception, and her fine playing of Portia gave unbounded pleasure, and charmed everybody by her delightful portrayal of the character. Shylock is entrusted to Mr Alfred Bucklaw, and he makes every use of his opportunities, giving a fine rendering of the part. Mr Bucklaw has a good grip of the character, and it is evident that he has given much thought to it, and it is really a notable piece of acting. Mr Charles Thursby is seen to advantage as Antonio, and Mr Matheson Lang is exceedingly good as Bassanio. Mr George Fitzgerald gives a dignified rendering of the Prince of Morocco. Mr T. A Shannon makes a capital Lorenzo. Mr Harcourt Williams plays the part of Gratiano in a breezy manner. The Duke of Venice is well handled by Mr T. S. Hamilton. Lancelot Gobbo has a clever exponent in Mr John Willes, while Mr Leonard Craske is good as Old Gobbo. Miss Hutin Britton makes a pretty Jessica; and Miss Audrey Campbell is acceptable as Nerissa. The play was preceded by Mr Christopher St. John's new play, *Eriksson's Wife*, which was produced at the Royalty Theatre a short while back. It is a dramatic and well-written play. Mr E. Harcourt Williams scored a big success as Erik, and Miss Ellen Terry undertakes the rôle of Brita, which she plays with feeling and tenderness. Both plays are staged in an artistic manner, and the costumes are exceedingly pretty. During the week *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Nance Oldfield*, and *The Good Hope* have also been staged.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Military Drama, in Four Acts,
by the late Charles Rogers, entitled
"THE LADDER OF LIFE."

Quite a meritorious performance of that well-known drama *The Ladder of Life* was vouchsafed to the West Londoners this week by Miss Renee Glendower's capable company. The excellent elocution of Mr Tyrone Power was heard to great advantage in the part of General Gordon, which he acted in good style; and Mr F. Morton Wright, in addition to his duties as stage-manager, gave a clear and bright performance as Sergeant Donald M'Dougal. Mr Roy F. Gascoigne was suitably cast as Colonel M'Gregor; Mr Alexander M'Nicol certainly deserves favourable mention for his Breezy Bill; and Mr Roy Milton as Lieut. David Gordon acted with plenty of go and spirit. As the Russian spy, Ivan Kirkovitch, Mr J. Cooke Hinton was most persevering, giving a sound performance, and playing up in good style to the rascally Fergus Gordon, a part handled with much skill by Mr C. H. Matthews. Miss Stephanie Baring sustained the rôle of Olga Sobinsky with conspicuous ability, whilst Miss Flora Leslie's playing as Meg Merrilees was marked by that ease and grace which always distinguish the acting of a part that has been carefully studied. Miss Renee Glendower, capitally made up, portrayed Mother Flint, the baby-farmer, with life-like fidelity; Miss Hilda Young was a sprightly Mary Jane Jolliboy; and Little Winnie De Lacy cut a pathetic figure as the poor boy, Gordon, speaking her lines in a pleasing and taking way. Those clever acrobats, the Feros, supplied the principal sensation in the piece when forming their famous human ladder feat in the third act; and the bagpipe playing of Pipers Findlater and M'Pherson also calls for notice. The tour is under the direction of Mr C. Finch Hatton, the business-manager being Mr C. H. Matthews.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Nov. 28 the Musical Play, in Two Acts,
by Seymour Hicks and Ivan Caryll, entitled
"THE CHERRY GIRL."

The Cherry Girl, an entertainment that enjoyed no small measure of popularity at the Vaudeville Theatre in the earlier months of the present year, with Mr Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss in the cast, is this week presented at Mr F. W. Purcell's Stoke Newington house by Mr C. Lubbock, by special arrangement with Messrs Gatti and Frohman. Mr H. Herbert, who appears as Moonshine in the first act, and Happy Joe, a knight of the road, in the second, is a comedian who works hard every minute he is on the stage, and his share in the success of the production is a very considerable one. Miss Elsie Molloy appears as the Queen, and proves herself an adept dancer. The singing of Mr Lawrence Wensley is an agreeable feature of the entertainment, and a couple of boys' parts are smartly and cleverly played by Masters Harry Williams and Sidney Grata. Messrs Charles Seymour and C. A. James contribute some amusing business of the Tweedledum and Tweedledee type, and the dancing of Miss Dorothy Frostick proves no less popular in the North of London than it did in the West. The Steinway Quartet (Messrs A. Prendergast, Percy Oakley, Sidney M'Alpine, and Robert H. Howard) contribute some admirable part-singing, and the chorus go through their work efficiently and well under the guidance of Mr Clement Locknane, the musical director.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Musical Comedy entitled
"THE CINGALEE."

The Cingalee, one of the daintiest and most graceful of all the musical pieces now on "the road," was presented here to a bumper house on Monday. Containing as it does a rippling stream of clear, unadulterated merriment throughout, it is calculated to afford the most genuine delight to all lovers of this class of play. As usual, Mr Edwardes has sent out a company of great efficiency to interpret *The Cingalee*, his name giving a kind of "hall mark" to all his undertakings. The mounting and staging of the piece is gorgeous; the dresses, although there is little scope for anything very elaborate, are still beautiful; but with all that taken into consideration, much depends on the interpretation given by the artists, and in this respect we have nothing but praise for Mr Edwardes's company, and to Mr Purcell, who has given his patrons such a rich treat this week by this important and expensive engagement. Mr Harold Thorley plays with fine effect the part of Harry Vereker, rendering two musical numbers in fine style, "The Pearl of Sweet Ceylon" and "My Dear Little Cingalee." Mr Leedham Bantock gives a successful and clever portrayal of Boobhamba, à la Rutland Barrington, and creates quite a furore with his song, "Nothing much more to say." As the peppery Sir Peter Loftus Mr W. J. Manning submits an excellent character sketch; and as Myamgah Mr Willie Warde, jun., scores a success. As Bobby Warren Mr Jack Cannot combines first-class vocalism with good acting; and Messrs Edgar Warde, F. Pope Stamper, Robert Eyett, Charles Hampden, E. W. Martin, and E. Furneaux all deserve mention for the earnest manner in which they play minor parts. By his smart and amusing ways Mr Frank Danby keeps his audience in roars of laughter, and a great amount of the success of the piece is due to his untiring efforts as Chambhuddy Ram. He is also successful with his songs, "The Wonderful English Pot" and "Something Devilish Wrong," and contributes some smart dancing. Miss Hannah Hickisch plays in a modest and charming way the rôle of Lady Patricia Vane, while her sweet vocalisation wins for her much favour, her greatest success being "My heart's at your feet," which she renders to the intense satisfaction of the house, and is enthusiastically encored. Miss Eva Sandford as Peggy Sabine plays with much vivacity, and is much appreciated. She affords justice to the musical numbers associated with the part, especially in the duet "Monkeys," which she sings in conjunction with Mr Frank Danby. The Misses Claire Marsden, Claire Pridelle, Maudie Davis, and Doris Lester deserve special mention for their attractive work as the tea-girls, Maltooma, Sattambia, Mychello, and Coorcowie. Miss Dora Glenny (Miss Pinkerton), Miss Mabel Hurst (Fraulein Weiner), Miss Florence Oppitz (Mademoiselle Chic), Miss May Gould (Signorina Tasso), and Miss Rhoda Gordon (Angy) all deserve unstinted praise. Miss Kathleen Severn as Nanoya sings and acts in a natural and effective manner. Her songs are artistically and sweetly rendered, especially "My Cinnamon Tree," which is very well received. Graceful dances are introduced by the Rubies, as devil dancers, who prove by their execution they are talented exponents of the terpsichorean art. The chorus does its work in a highly capable manner, and the Marlborough orchestra, specially augmented for this production, and lead by Mr Harold Vicars, do exceptionally good work. The comfort of those in front is, as usual, in the experienced hands of Mr F. R. Yeulett.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Musical Comedy entitled
"A CHINESE HONEYMOON."

A Chinese Honeymoon is a thoroughly bright and amusing production, and patrons of the King's have, as usual, appreciated to the full the excellent acting, admirable singing, and general atmosphere of bustle which pervades the piece. With one or two changes the cast of former visits remains the same. Mr Martin Adeson gives an enjoyable representation of Mr Pineapple. The Emperor Hang-Chow of Mr Philip Hayden deserves warm praise, his singing and acting being of valuable assistance. Mr Ernest Laws as the grim Chippie Chop is highly diverting, and Mr Fred Payne's Hi-Lung is extremely comical. Tom Hatherton is pleasantly rendered by Mr Frank Crimp. The Fi-Fi of Miss Vera Vere is amusing and bright. Miss Madge Temple as the Emperor's niece, Soo-Soo, scores by reason of her exceedingly well-trained voice and fascinating bearing. Mrs Pineapple lends Miss Eva Bevington opportunities to shine of which she takes full advantage, the result being that she meets with the greatest success. Miss Holford Beringer supplies a very ripe impersonation of the official mother-in-law, Mrs Brown, which meets with popular approval. The general bearing of the chorus is worthy of all praise, and the orchestra, under Mr A. Romilli's guidance, is of adequate support.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Musical Comedy,
by Basil Hood and Walter Slaughter, entitled
"GENTLEMAN JOE."

This week we have Milton Bode's company in Basil Hood and Walter Slaughter's well-known musical comedy *Gentleman Joe*. It is played by an excellent company of artistes. The name-part is undertaken by Mr Kennedy Allen, who gets as much fun out of the character as is possible, and when Miss Maud Marriott as Emma is with him the audience roars with laughter. Mr Robert Vincent as the impecunious Lord Donnybrook sings and acts very well, and with Miss Mabel Kerridge as the Hon. Mabel Cavanagh receives encores for two well-rendered duets. Mrs Ralli-Carr has an attractive representative in Miss Hebe Bliss, who plays the part to perfection. Miss Eida Burman as Miss Lalage Potts makes a smart American girl, and is a great success. Mr G. Wylie and Mr W. H. Moore as Mr Hughie Jacqueson and Mr Ralli-Carr do well in their respective characters; the parts of the Misses Pilkington Jones are undertaken by Miss Enid Russell, Miss M Linscott, and Miss Marie Hayden; Mr Pilkington Jones is brought out very prominently by Mr J. W. Hooper, who receives an encore for his song, "Something else;" the Uncle Bones and Uncle Ned of the Margate minstrels are well played by Mr J. Gardner and Mr William Peters; and among others of the company who stand out we may mention Miss Edith Benson as William, the page boy, who is in love with Emma, The Edingale Trio of lady dancers receive a well-deserved encore for their special dances in act two. The tuneful and pretty chorus and orchestra are under the able direction of Mr Harry Richardson. The dresses and scenery are most effective.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Comedy,
by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

This never-failing attraction has been fulfilling its mirth-provoking mission at this commodious theatre during the past week, giving emphatic proof by its cordial reception nightly that its drawing powers do not diminish with time, or that familiarity with its situations detracts from the enthusiastic applause with which the efforts of the author's excellent company are greeted. Mr Stan Cooke gave a most delightful and finished performance in the name part, and while he was on the stage the laughter and applause were incessant. His success infested the rest of the company, and the whole performance went with a snap from start to finish. Mr Walter Beaumont's subtle humour as the sleek and domineering Stephen Spettigue was highly effective; Mr Lumsden Hare made a dashing and handsome Sir Frances Chesney; Mr C. B. Keston as Jack and Mr R. B. Mason as Charley, the two college chums, played well. The Brassett of Mr Sydney Comptom was the imperturbable college gyp to the life. Miss Lena Macnaughten was a handsome and distinguished Donna Lucia from Brazil, and Miss Dorrie Roberts as her adopted daughter was satisfactory. Miss Geraldine Greville as Amy Spettigue played the part in a charming and graceful manner, the way she drew out the proposal of marriage from the bashful Jack in act two being excellently managed. Miss Iris Banfield was a piquant and ladylike Kitty Verdun. The dresses of the ladies were pretty and the scenery effective. The comedy was preceded by a curtain-raiser by the same author, entitled *Fourchette and Company*, in which, in addition to Mr Lumsden Hare as Sergeant Robert Fletcher, Miss Ruth Suffield as the English wife of Prince Del Crillo, an Italian excellently played by Mr Henry Adnes, appeared.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Musical Comedy, in Two Acts,
"THE BELLE OF NEW YORK."

On Monday Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, in *The Belle of New York*, held the stage. An excellent reception was accorded this well-selected company. The mounting and stage appointments were all that could be desired, and the new musical numbers added to the attraction of a piece the popularity of which shows no signs of being on the wane. The augmented orchestra and full chorus did ample justice to the production. Ichabod Bronson was safely entrusted to Mr Arthur Ricketts, who, although labouring under a severe cold, did full justice to the part. A highly enjoyable embodiment was that of Harry Bronson by Mr Walter Wardroper; Mr Walter Emro played in most amusing style the part of the polite lunatic, Karl Von Pumpernick; Mr Guy Ford did full justice to the part of Doc Snifkins; as Blinkey Bill Mr Mack Olive was conspicuously successful with his whistling, being ably assisted by Miss Florence Hersee, who as Mamie did much to aid the vivacity and drollery of the performance. Mr Walter Uridge gave a characteristic portrayal of Kenneth Mug; Messrs Lionel Yeoman and R. L. Cody were above the average as the Counts; and Miss Mora Hersee deserves favourable mention as Violet Gray. Miss Helen Rose presented a well-studied portraiture of Fifi Fricot, and Miss Ida Grandison was convincing as Cora Angelique.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Drama entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

A warm welcome was accorded on Monday to Mr Bert Coote's company in *The Fatal Wedding*. The play is well acted throughout. Mr Ernest Owtrim's Howard Wilson is exceedingly good; Mr Oliver Rogers is excellent as Robert Curtis; Mr W. R. Cherod causes much laughter as Toto; Mr John Wheatman is a clever Peter Schwartz; Mr Jack Waring is amusing as Police-constable O'Reilly; and Mr J. Graham scores as the Rev. Dr. Lanceford. Miss Helen Russell's impersonation of Mabel Wilson is pleasing and earnest; Miss Dora Gilham plays Cora cleverly; Miss Maud Looker as Bridget is well placed; Miss Marjorie Lawrence is a delightful Little Mother, and she is ably assisted by Master Gilbert Royce, Miss Gladys Payne, Miss Mary Thompson, Miss E. Abbott, and numerous other clever little people.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Light Opera, entitled
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."

Mr Fred Fredericks is to be congratulated upon booking such an important attraction as Mr George Edwardes's original company in *The Duchess of Dantzic*—with all the dresses, scenery, and appurtenances from the Lyric Theatre—for the Stratford Borough Theatre this week, and, judging by the crowded audiences nightly, the pecuniary results of the visit should be extremely gratifying to all concerned. Miss Evie Greene is a prime favourite in the name-part; her songs are received with enthusiasm, and her artistic embodiment of the washerwoman Duchess delights one and all. Mr Holbrook Blinn makes up wonderfully well as Napoleon, and sustains the part in very impressive and convincing manner. Mr Herbert Clayton sings and acts with telling effect as Lefebvre, and Mr Leonard Mackay makes a handsome and dashing Adhemar. The rôle of Papillon suits Mr Courtice Pounds exactly, and he scores an emphatic success. Miss Billie Burke is dainty and vivacious as Renée De Saint Mezard, and Miss M. Sackville charmingly delineates Lisette. Miss Mabel Lorrell makes a stately and dignified Empress Josephine, and Napoleon's sisters are portrayed with distinction by Miss Elizabeth Firth and Miss Doris La Tour. Other parts are all capitally played. The large chorus renders the concerted numbers with admirable precision, and the augmented orchestra is skilfully directed by Mr P. W. Halten.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Drama, in Four Acts,
by Lingford Carson, entitled
"THE HEART OF A HERO."

To popular audiences who like their dramatic fare served "hot and strong," and are not too insistent on the score of probability, *The Heart of a Hero* should undoubtedly appeal; for though it is not easy at times to follow the somewhat crudely constructed plot, there is subject matter to provide innumerable "thrills," and there is an abundance of rather boisterous comedy business. The piece is mounted and dressed appropriately, and Messrs Carson and Granville have selected a well-balanced cast. Mr Fred W. Goddard plays with much earnestness and excellent declamatory power as the Lancashire lad Jem Resdale; and Mr Charles E. Johnson easily succeeds in making the villainous Wilfred Marl exceedingly obnoxious. Mr Harry Dunning plays Jack Collinson spiritedly; and Mr Eric Forth submits a convincing portraiture of the detective Pritchard. Mr J. Harold is an admirable Chief of Police; and Mr Harry Scratchard in the much overdrawn character of a persecuted miser plays with intensity and vehemence. Mr A. B. Mackay fulfills all requirements as Mark Marl, and Mr A. Evans does well as an Inspector of Police. Miss Cissy St. Elmo plays Nell Resdale with power, finesse, and sympathy; Miss Lilly Langley charmingly acts May Ryder, and Miss Beatrice Watson successfully undertakes the dual rôle of Mrs Barker and Mrs Ryder. Mr Allen Carruthers as the rollicking, free-and-easy Timothy Heighno plays the part on broad comedy lines, never failing to elicit mirth, and is ably assisted in the laughter-making by Miss Ida Mackay, very bright and pleasing as Susie Slack. Minor parts are creditably filled.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Romantic Play, in Four Acts, entitled
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER."

The regular visitors to Mr Sounes's comfortable and commodious theatre certainly cannot complain of any lack of variety in the nature of the entertainments provided for them, for every care is taken that they shall be treated to all kinds of dramatic fare in turn. The attraction this week is *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, excellently interpreted by Mrs Lewis Waller's company. Mr Thomas Kingston gave a sterling impersonation of Captain Harry Peyton, his fine presence and resonant voice making him the beau ideal of a dashing, captivating military officer. As Elizabeth Miss Eily Malyon acquitted herself well. Miss Alys Rees was excellent as Mistress Sarah Williams, giving a natural and very happily conceived performance. Mr Elliott Ball was well suited to the rôle of Mr John Colden, which he portrayed with much insight. As Mr Valentine Mr George Mallett gave a clever character sketch, and was very amusing. The smaller parts were capably handled, and the play was well mounted and staged.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Comic Opera, entitled
"LA POUPÉE."

Mr C. P. Levilly's original company is presenting the ever-popular comic opera *La Poupée* here this week, and it must be admitted that time seems rather to increase than diminish its attractions. Mr Eric Thorne as Hilarius, the great mechanical inventor, is a tower of strength and creates unending amusement throughout what is for him a long evening's hard work. Mr Thorne's a versatile comedian, and earns his applause and makes his points in the most legitimate manner, and he never descends to buffoonery. The other star of the company is Miss Stella Gastelle, who plays the part of Alesia admirably. Her imitation of the clockwork movements of the doll she is supposed to represent are most natural and convincing, and she sings and acts in a manner entirely bewitching. The Father Maxime of Mr Newton Ide is effective, and he sings his "Monk" songs in effective style. Mr Arthur Dennis and Mr Fred Seymour are equally good as Loremois and Baron Chanterelle respectively. The Lancelot is Mr Gerald Clifford, who possesses a light tenor and uses it effectively, and who is also a character actor of ability. Miss Madge Avery makes an imposing Madame Hilarius, and Miss Kitty Cavendish a chic Henri. Miss May Bradbury is pretty and bright as Guduline, Alesia's friend. The chorus work well and sing excellently, and the scenery and dresses are on a lavish scale. Mr Harry Rushworth ably conducted the orchestra.

TREE ON "HAMLET."

Mr Beerbohm Tree delivered a lecture on Monday evening in the dome of His Majesty's Theatre, to the students of the Academy of Dramatic Art, on "Hamlet from the Actor's Point of View." There was a large attendance, including Sir Squire Bancroft.

Mr Tree said the question whether Hamlet was mad or feigned madness had vexed the minds and spoiled the tempers of countless writers. They did not understand that a man might have many facets—be everything by turns and everything sincerely. Hamlet was a young prince of lofty ideals, whose natural refinement had been cultivated by education, and he sickened when he found the nuptials of his mother being riotously celebrated by the rabble. On hearing of his father's fate Hamlet was all on fire with the passion of revenge; but the fire was too fierce and burned itself out, physical exhaustion making it impossible for him to execute his design. He called for his tablets—turning from the sword to the pen, for he was essentially a literary man, one of that race who could make copy out of their own emotions for their own edification. He afterwards intimated his intention of putting on an "antic disposition" in order to play the detective, and in the second act we found his busy with this scheme. If Shakespeare had intended to represent Hamlet as being really mad, it would surely have occurred to him, being so good a dramatist, to have written a mad death scene. Hamlet only put on his "antic disposition" with those he did not trust or had an interest in hoodwinking. Mr Tree pursued his study of Hamlet's conduct in detail to the end of the play, endeavouring to explain seeming inconsistencies of character and dwelling on the means which the actor might take to throw a clear light on Hamlet's motives and actions. The keynote of Hamlet's character, he contended, was to be found in his exclamation, "There's nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so." It was a saying which gave us the clue to the failure of many a potentially great man. The man who succeeded most in life was he who saw only one side of a matter. Incidentally Mr Tree expressed the opinion that the "business" which actors had arranged at various times ought to be recorded and preserved for the use of future generations. He had tried to do something in this direction, and he would like, if it were possible, to issue an "Actors' Shakespeare," in which all these traditions should find a place. The actor only acted for his own generation, and what he did was too often forgotten.

At the conclusion of his lecture Mr TREE said, in regard to future arrangements:—First of all, I have the pleasure to say that the lecturer's chair next Monday will be taken by Mr H. B. Irving, who will deliver an address on "The Actors' Calling." Mr Irving has, from the first, taken a deep interest in the welfare of this undertaking. I now wish to make another announcement to the students of the Academy. When it was originally opened I fully anticipated some financial loss, but I am glad to say that, as far as current expenses are concerned, the school has actually proved itself to be self-supporting. This flourishing condition is, as you may imagine, extremely gratifying to me. But owing to the necessity for separate premises, the expenditure of a considerable sum of money has been necessary, and for that reason I have decided to present to the Academy £500 out of my privy purse. I do not, however, wish to stop there, as I am desirous that this should be an institution wide in its usefulness. Much good work is being done in the Academy, but I feel that the present fees, which are twelve guineas a term, or twenty-six guineas a year, must press heavily on many, and debar a considerable number of people, who might want tuition in the rudiments of dramatic art, from attending the classes. Therefore, I have determined to reduce the fees by one-half, making them only six guineas a term, or eighteen guineas a year for whatever tuition they may obtain. The scholarships will still be maintained. The result of this will of necessity mean a deficit on current expenses, a deficit which, of course, must be met. That deficit I shall hope to be able to afford in the future, unless, indeed, multi-millionaires groaning under the burden of their riches may be inclined to lighten them in this direction. In regard to the répertoire company which I have sent into the provinces in conjunction with this movement, that, too, has made considerable progress. I believe my loss last season was £1,500. It is considerably less this season. The higher drama in the provinces is evidently looking up. The first public performance by students will be given in this theatre when we have all the work in connection with the production of *Much Ado About Nothing* behind us, and I would like now to give the date of the students' performance. It will be on Feb. 14. A small charge for admission will be made, and the amount received will be devoted to the Academy. At that performance I hope the first act of *Caste* will be an item, and that the pupils will have the advantage of some tuition from our good friends Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, the original Captain Hawtree and Polly Eccles. It is my wish to present on the same occasion some new and original play; for the Academy should not only be for actors, but should also be for the benefit of dramatic literature, which this morning's paper assures us is once more in a parlous condition. This we are told on the authority of Mr Henry Arthur Jones, who is no less prolific as a pamphleteer than as an author. That distinguished dramatist is to-day reported to have stated that the degradation of the British drama, and the failure of certain plays, is due to the fact of there being no actors to interpret them. Yet I remember several plays from the pen of Mr Henry Arthur Jones which were successes, notably *The Liars* and *The Silver King*. Dare I also refer to *The Dancing Girl*? I for one cordially hope that Mr Henry Arthur Jones may soon be more fortunate in his actors, so that he may give us another successful play. He says "the remedies" for this terrible state of things "are the recognition of the dramatist as a literary artist, and the means of giving the young actor the training which long runs deny him!" Well, we have a training school, but Mr Jones has apparently been too busy in address-provincial audiences to hear about it. And as to the recognition of the dramatist as a literary artist, who says he is not a literary artist? In the words of Dickens, "who deniges of it?" Mr Jones admits that he has stooped to the public in order to conquer it. Well, is not this in itself an admission of weakness? The strong man commands the public to follow him. As I said on a recent occasion, you must not give the public what they want; give them what you want them to have, and in time they will want it. I would recommend Mr Jones not to reach down to the public, but make the public reach up to him. Really all this talk is a little fatiguing when Shakespeare fills the house nightly. And what about *The Walls of Jericho* and *The Duke of Killicrankie* (only just withdrawn)? What about *Lady Windermere's Fan*, which is filling the house at the St. James's? What about *Beauty and the Barge* and *Merely Mary Ann?* All these plays are successful. And are we not too prone to seek for official recognition? Is poetry dignified by such recognition? What has art to do with ribbons and buttons and such like fripperies? It is but in ourselves that we are thus and thus. Mr Jones describes nine-tenths of the entertainments at fashionable theatres as "frank tomfoolery!" Of course the larger public must always like "tomfoolery," but there is also a public for the serious drama. Might I suggest to the distinguished author, who in times past has given us such fine dramas, that there is a remedy against the drama of tomfoolery ready to his own hand? When a member of the French Chamber of Deputies suggested that something should be done to do away with capital punishment in murder cases a member of the Government replied, "Que messieurs les assassins commencent." Let Mr Jones begin. But enough of criticism, which I hope may be taken in good part by my old fellow-worker. Mr William Archer has most kindly given to the school two prizes, to be competed for at the end of this term and at the end of next, for elocution, and Miss Viola Tree has joined the school. Hamlet's address to the players should be inscribed in letters of gold on the walls of the school. The text-book of the actor should be the book of nature. Remember, then, that however valuable may be the teaching you receive in this school, all must be governed by the exercise of your own individual intelligence—guiding your own individual emotions, which you cannot beg, borrow, or steal. Let your own discretion be your tutor.

Mr H. A. Jones has addressed the following letter to Mr Beerbohm Tree:—

"Nov. 29, 1904.

"My dear Tree,—In to-day's papers you are reported to have represented me as complaining that my plays have failed 'for lack of actors to interpret them.' You also represent me as dissatisfied with my public. In a paper I recently contributed to the Press Congress at Vienna, on 'The Need for a National English Theatre,' I said, 'I will gladly own my indebtedness to many of my interpreters, and I will ask them all to accept from me their own valuation of their gifts and services.' If you will tell me how I can make a more handsome acknowledgement of my gratitude to the whole body of actors and actresses who have appeared in my plays, I will forthwith make it. So far as regards English playgoers, I have always and everywhere acknowledged my gratitude to them. There is a vast difference, my dear Tree, between complaining of one's own personal position and complaining of the position that one's art occupies in public esteem. You were one of my co-signatories, if I remember rightly, in the pages of the *Fortnightly Review* last spring, when the degraded state of the English drama was bewailed in no measured terms by all the educated classes of England. You then declared that there was grave cause for dissatisfaction with the condition of the English drama, and you started a Dramatic Academy. Do I understand you now to say that the whole drift and complexion of dramatic affairs have changed in the past few months, and that the English drama, which was then, according to you, in such a bad state, has now been entirely purged and rejuvenated? I rejoice to hear it.

"But if the whole drift and complexion of dramatic affairs have not changed, will you please tell me what has caused you to change your opinion during the last few months? A short time ago you were found to be subscribing to much the same views on the English drama as I have lately expressed. You now make an entire *volte face*, and you accuse me of being prompted by personal failure in expressing dissatisfaction with the condition of the drama. You and I, my dear Tree, have had too many failures and too many successes to set an extreme value upon the one or the other. A man does not play this game for a quarter of a century without learning to take the rough with the smooth. If I have an occasional failure, please credit me with a little of the same conspicuous fortitude and philosophy that you have so often shown on similar occasions. But, as it happens, during the past season English playgoers have given me no opportunity of playing the martyr. Facts and figures are at your service. Meantime, I ask you to give me your authority for any complaint of any actor or actress who has played in any piece of mine, or for any public utterance of mine that has not expressed my great personal gratitude to English playgoers. You would have thought it strange if if you had been accused of venting personal grievances when you deplored the condition of the English drama last spring. I think it no less strange, and I am sure you will be glad of an opportunity of withdrawing your insinuations. We have a common enemy to fight, and we need not fire into our own fleet."

BOOING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Your timely article, "Booing Bad Plays," is refreshing. Many people go to theatres for something more than spectacle. Fine dresses and upholstery are to be seen in the streets and at shop windows. If drama were merely show, modern London theatres would have come near to perfection. But plays written long ago in many languages did more than looking-glasses. They showed men and women as they are, their ways, their passions, power, weakness. Clothes, scenery, mise-en-scène are accessories, language is the vehicle of the story, mind is the chariot of its soul. A good play challenges it audience, the actors must seem well, be perfect in parts properly spoken, gesture should portray situation, voice is even more essential for good acting than tune for singing. Actors can't cover defects under the hedge of orchestra; and though they be as the glass of fashion and the mould of form, they are worse than marionettes if they don't speak their parts so as to touch hearts in front of them. Well, if this is not to be had for money, still even copper has its worth over counterfeit; and you and I and all of us have as much right to cry down bad plays ill acted as we have to nail a lead sixpence to our counters. Who says I shan't applaud? The smart set, unutterable cuffs and collars, looks on. But I've paid for my place in the pit; I'm of the jury, I shall speak out. That's what most of us, we who pay, mean to do. At music halls they're generally perfect in their parts. The public want no less at theatres.

Yours faithfully GILBERT ELLIOT,
Highfield, Mottingham, Kent, Nov. 27.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Nov. 28,
the Play, by J. T. Tanner and Herbert Keith, entitled
"THE BROKEN MELODY."

Plays may come and plays may go, but, despite the contradictory element implied in the title, it would seem that *The Broken Melody*, the play in which Auguste Van Biene, the actor-musician, has appeared so very many times, would go on for ever, or certainly as long as that versatile artist is able to appear in the rôle of Paul Borinski and play his acceptable 'cello solos. The production has met with an extremely favourable reception at the Dalston Theatre this week, and it should be mentioned that although the play remains very much the same, Mr Van Biene's 'cello solos are changed every evening. Mr Arthur Bawtree assumes the character of General Ivanoff with dignity and effect, and Mr Ernest Laceby plays the part of Dixon, a lodging-house keeper, very creditably. Miss Avis Graham is amusing as Mrs Dixon; Mr E. Edwardes is a typical Dr. Magrath; Mr T. P. Haynes lets the audience in for many a hearty laugh as Dudley Mortimer, a theatrical agent; and Mr John Cummings as Beaujour, a French impresario, is quite characteristic. Mr Henry Ludlow is equally at home as the Hon. Richard Spinacher, and Miss Morton is the Hon. Mrs Spinacher. Miss Ida Chapman plays the part of the designing and relentless Duchesse De Verviers in a way which proves that she has carefully studied the character, but the main share of the work falls to Miss Lena Burnleigh, who, in addition to most efficiently representing Mabel, wife of Borinski, also undertakes the somewhat unique duty of stage manageress. The play is followed by the one-act comedy, *The First Night*, in which Mr Van Biene appears as Achille Talma Dufard.

"THE HOUSEKEEPER."

A Farce, in Three Acts,
by Metcalfe Wood and Beatrice Heron-Maxwell,
Produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, on Tuesday, Nov. 29.

Colonel Lionel Trent .... Mr KENDAL
William Hickson ..... Mr ERNEST HENDRIE
Lord Ruxeswick..... Mr BASSETT ROE
Robert C. Sledmere..... Mr R. SHELDRICK
Pennington Greene ..... Mr LEONARD HUBERT
Chippenham Berkeley .. Mr METCALF WOOD
Crane ..... Mr W. M. RUTHERFORD
Lady Robertson ..... Mrs A. B TAPPING
Mrs Billington ..... Miss ELISE CLARENS
Cicely Blake ..... Miss MARY JERROLD
Mrs Pennington Greene.. Miss LOLA DUNCAN
Mary..... Miss EDITH BOTTOMLEY
Lady Audrey Whitby .... Mrs KENDAL

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Much gratification was expressed in local playgoing circles when it became known that Mr and Mrs Kendal had arranged to produce their new play, *The Housekeeper*, during their Birmingham engagement. Consequently, a large and fashionable, as well as popular and representative, audience presented itself, and the play, which realised the most sanguine expectations, was received with ringing cheers from start to finish. Such a success as this argues exceptional merit, and the author and authoress deserve congratulations both on the quality of their work and the circumstance of its presentation. Excisions and compressions there must be, but these were light faults only, and its reception sounded the true ring of popularity. *The Housekeeper* derives its title from the amusing fact that one Colonel Lionel Trent mistakes the sister of his friend, whom he is visiting, for the housekeeper, and treats her accordingly, even to a gratuity. The plot is laid at the house of Lady Audrey Whitby, where her brother, Lord Runswick, a Parliamentarian, also resides at such times as the house is sitting. Hither comes the brusque Colonel Trent, a confirmed woman hater, on a visit to his friend, Lord Runswick, whose house he believes it is, little dreaming what fate and his friend's "house" holds in store for him. The Colonel is welcomed cordially by Lord Runswick, who promises him a "den" after his own heart, the Colonel's attitude towards "gewgaws and gimcracks" being firm and unsympathetic. A misunderstanding arises in his host's absence, and the Colonel is induced to believe that the "den" allotted him is the room wherein he stands, and proceeding to make himself at home by putting aside the little ornaments, he encounters Lady Audrey, whose services, mistaking her for the housekeeper, he promptly commandeers in unpacking his trunks. This scene was played with exquisite humour, and the house shook with laughter, and it was here that Mr and Mrs Kendal struck a high note, which was maintained throughout to the end. The fun is at its height when Lord Runswick re-enters the room, and the Colonel, who has learnt the real ownership of the house from "the housekeeper," but is ignorant still of her identity, essays to leave the house. Lord Runswick, however, prevents this "desertion," while he explains the misunderstanding, and Lady Audrey stands revealed. This situation brought down the curtain and the house at the same time, so effectively was it worked up, and the calls after this, the first act, were numerous.

In act two, which marks a lapse of a fortnight, we find the Colonel still a guest, and more than mollified with his hostess, Lady Audrey, who is beginning to neglect her secretarial duties to her brother, the Parliamentarian, in her solicitude for her guest. There are other guests, apparently, in the house, including a widow, Mrs Billington, who is being wooed by a wealthy and persistent admirer named Hickson, and Cicely Blake, who is attracted to, and by, a young subaltern named Sledmere, belonging to the Colonel's company. Lady Robertson, a very deaf old lady, Mr and Mrs Pennington Greene, and Chippenham Berkeley, who has matrimonial aspirations himself, but which yield no fruit, are also of the party. Meanwhile, the misogamist is falling head over heels in love with his fair hostess, Lady Audrey, but lacks the courage to propose. Being an unseen witness of young Sledmere's proposal to Miss Blake, however, he ventures on the same "lines," first memorising these lines by committing them to paper. Whereupon enters the deaf Lady Robertson, on whom he at once proceeds to practise his 'prentice hand, and, repeating the formula, he comes to the words "I love you," at which untimely moment the deaf lady unfortunately raises her speaking-trumpet to her ear. This, perforce, has to be explained, but worse follows; for, confusing the names, the amiable old lady trots off to Cicely Blake with the news that the Colonel wants to propose to her. Next, the paper from which the Colonel was practising his love proposal gets lost, and finds its way into Mrs Billington's hands, wrapped round a brooch, which the lady has lost. This is the unwitting work of Lord Runswick, who, picking up the paper from whence it had been unconsciously dropped by the Colonel, wrapped it around the brooch which he had found, and was restoring it to its owner. Thus the Colonel gets involved in a double entanglement, without proposing to the right lady, and all through his inordinate shyness. The Colonel, for the second time, essays to leave the house, first inditing a note to Mrs Billington disclaiming any aspiration to her hand. Mrs Billington, on the strength of the Colonel's "proposal," has been very much "off" with the old love, Mr Hickson, but speedily becomes reconciled at this point. Cicely Blake is likewise mated to her young subaltern, and the Colonel, whose ideas of women have undergone a great transformation, ruminates on the change. "We know what we are," says he, "but we know not what we may be," at which the house roared. However, the Colonel "bucks up," as he himself expresses it, and Lady Audrey, seeing no cause to doubt her gallant admirer's feelings—nor her own for that matter—finally capitulates. The curtain was raised again and again at the close of the performance, and great enthusiasm prevailed, the success of the piece being, it seemed, ensured.

Mr Kendal, whether as the rigid disciplinarian of the first act or the pliant and bashful lover of the third, was always cleverly amusing without sacrificing one shred of dignity. Mrs Kendal as Lady Audrey played with that consummate art which conceals art, and looked exceedingly charming in a "creation" of golden yellow with pale green shades and an abundance of exquisite lace. Mr Ernest Hendrie drew an excellent picture of the rich but gauchie lover, Mr Hickson. Mr Bassett Roe gave a "speaking likeness" of Lord Runswick; Mr R. Sheldrick as the young subaltern, Sledmere, plied his wooing naturally and earnestly; Mr Leonard Hubert gave a successful study of Pennington Greene; Mr Metcalf Wood, part-author, shone as the matrimonially inclined Chippenham Berkeley; and Mr W. M. Rutherford gave a true portrait of the butler, Crane. Mrs A. B. Tapping acted as Lady Robertson with empressement as well as humour; Miss Elise Clarens gave good effect to the gushing characteristics of Mrs Billington; Miss Mary Jerrold acted prettily as Cicely Blake; Miss Lola Duncan was properly forceful as Mrs Pennington Greene; and Miss Edith Bottomley appeared with credit as the maid. The play, which was frequently charming, as well as farcical, was excellently mounted, and the ladies' dresses added colour to the scene.

A NEW and original comedy, in three acts, by Gordon Holmes, entitled *The Fascinating Miss Kemp*, will be performed for the first time in London at the Opera House, Crouch-end, on Monday.

MR S. MAJOR JONES arrived in England from Cape Town on Saturday last, per Galician s.s. During his engagement as stage-manager for Mr Leonard Rayne in South Africa he has produced a large number of plays.

MRS. EDMUND PHELPS' BENEFIT

MATINÉE.

The benefit matinée which was given at His Majesty's Theatre on the 20th ult. was a most gratifying success, and Mrs Edmund Phelps, who, besides being a member of a well-known theatrical family, has done much excellent work for the stage, will reap a substantial benefit by the proceeds of a performance in which many of the most distinguished members of the profession were concerned. Mrs Phelps is the daughter-in-law of Samuel Phelps, and her husband was, in his day, a prominent actor who played leading parts. He made his first appearance in London at Sadler's Wells, where he was seen on Nov. 21, 1860, as Uzio, in Lord Byron's gloomy tragedy of *Werner*, his distinguished father appearing in the title-rôle. As is always the case in a good cause Mrs Phelps' professional brethren readily came to her assistance by giving their valuable services, and a specially interesting programme was submitted. It opened with the adaptation by F. Kinsey Peile of Rudyard Kipling's story, entitled *The Man Who Was*. Mr Tree again appeared as Austin Limmason, and his remarkably powerful impersonation of the escaped prisoner was greatly appreciated, the tragic conclusion creating a marked impression. Excellent also was the Colonel Derkovitch of Mr Edmund Maurice, the portrait of the Russian officer being correct in every detail. Miss Madge Mackintosh played with feeling as Millicent Durgan, and Miss Norah Kerin was pleasing as Sybil Mason. Mr J. Fisher White was a soldierly Colonel Durgan, whose fellow officers and comrades were capitally embodied by Messrs S. A. Cookson, Julian L'Estrange, Cecil Rose, H. Laking, Eric Leslie, Francis Chamier, and Berridge Fraser. Miss E. Inescort as Mrs Deane and Miss Dorothy Thomas as Daisy Deane completed the cast. Another item of interest was the Poet Laureate's comedy, *A Lesson in Harmony*, which was produced a few months ago at the Garrick Theatre. Mr Arthur Bourchier repeated with unequivocal success, his bright and cheery embodiment of Otto Hazlewood, Miss Jessie Bateman was charming as the young wife, Mr David Domville was well placed as Philip Leslie and Master Lipton excelled as the boy messenger. In *The Flower o' the Rose*, Mr W. J. Locke's one-act play which was produced on the occasion of the Clement Scott matinée, the scene is laid in Florence some centuries since. Lucrezia Cambi, wife of a wealthy merchant, for whom she entertains something of contempt, is attracted by the airs and graces of the Conte Nicolo da Forli. She is entertaining him at supper, when her husband unexpectedly returns. The Conte has not the wit to frame a plausible explanation of his presence, and Cambi, suspecting the truth—or, in fact, as it appears, much more than the truth—determines on revenge. He is courteous, makes no sign of exasperation, but in apparent good humour challenges the young nobleman to a bout with the sword, which can seemingly have only one end; so, at least, the wife imagines, for the man who aspires to be her lover is a master of fence and of all manly exercises; her husband, as she believes, can only use his blade to measure the cloth in his warehouse. But the fight becomes earnest, and it is the Conte who falls. Then Cambi, drawing his dagger, would execute what he regards as justice upon his faithless wife, but she declares her innocence, tells him that she loves him now that he has acquitted himself like a man, and he trusting her, they are united for the first time. Mr George Alexander again appeared as Simone Cambi, and in a part out of his usual line showed the determination and intensity required for the effective representation of the character of the jealous husband. Mr Leslie Faber bore himself right gallantly as the lover of Lucrezia Cambi, a part that was admirably played by Miss Lilian Braithwaite, minor rôles being taken by Mr Herbert Dansey and Miss Margaret Busse. The last of the four one-act plays presented was Mr L. N. Parker's adaptation of the weird story, by W. W. Jacobs, entitled *The Monkey's Paw*, produced at the Haymarket Theatre, on Oct. 6, 1903, when Miss Lena Ashwell played the part of Mrs White; her successor in the rôle being Miss Mary Rorke, whose performance on Friday was one of great merit. Mr Cyril Maude as Mr White again submitted an extremely clever study of an old man. Mr Sydney Valentine's Sergeant-Major Morris was, as on the occasion of the production of the play, a capital piece of acting. Mr Wilfrid Forster was a breezy Herbert White, and Mr Edmund Maurice rendered good service as Mr Samson. A number of attractive varieties were also included in the long programme. Miss Madge Titheradge gave the popular song and dance, "That's how the cake-walk's done," from *In Dahomey*; and Mr Huntley Wright and Miss Gracie Leigh delighted the audience with the "Gollywog duet" from *The Cingalee*. Mr Hayden Coffin sang with his usual success the ballad, "Melisande in the Wood"—the words by Miss Ethel Clifford, the music by Goetz—and, being recalled, gave an artistic rendering of "The Village Blacksmith." Mr George Robey made a decided hit with his ditty, "Say no more about it," and in response to the applause sang his new dame song. Mr Maurice Farkoa's admirably artistic method was again evidenced in his rendering of "Ninon" and a French version of "Sammy." He was accompanied by Mr Frank Tours. Miss Marie Studholme scored with "Little Blanche Marie," from *The Orchid*, assisted by a charming chorus consisting of the Misses Olive May, Minnie Baker, Doris Beresford, Ethel Olive, Gertie Glynn, and Kitty Mason. Miss Ida Hamilton gave a quaint rendering of the negro hymn "I'm on the 'Vention Ground," and "The Cocaine Song," both these contributions being received with applause. Mr A. F. Henderson was the hon. manager, Mr John Harwood the hon. stage-manager, Miss May Warley was hon. secretary, and Mr Cecil King stage-manager. The following ladies kindly consented to sell programmes—Mrs Alfred Bishop, the Misses Helen Ferrers, Ada Blanche, Kitty Bishop, Alice Greenwood, Sophie Harriss, Kitty Tindall, Eva Carrington, Eva Moore, Phyllis Broughton, and Isabel Grey. A cablegram was received from Sir Charles Wyndham wishing the benefit every success, and expressing his intention of contributing fifty guineas. Mrs Phelps was for some years a useful and esteemed member of Sir Charles Wyndham's company. It is announced that the proceeds of the benefit have amounted to between £400 and £500.

AT North London Police-court, on Monday, the manager of *The Cherry Girl* company, engaged for the week at the Alexandra Theatre, asked Mr Fordham to licence three children—a girl and two boys—to appear in the play. Mr Fordham, having read the document that was handed to him, said, eleven o'clock at night is too late for children like these to be in the theatre, because that means that they will not be in bed until twelve o'clock, which is altogether too late. I shall not grant the licence. It is too late. The applicant—They have never been refused before. Mr Fordham—Cannot you get boys and girls fifteen or sixteen years of age? The Manager—Not very well. Mr Fordham—Eleven at night is too late for such children as these, and I shall not licence them. The Manager—They are under the control of their mother. Mr Fordham—That does not alter the fact. No, I cannot grant it. Subsequently, Mr C. V. Young, solicitor, renewed the application. He said that in consequence of the magistrate's refusal to licence the children, it had been decided to cut out the children's part in the last act, and thus enable them to get out of the theatre by ten o'clock. Mr Young added that these children had been all through the run of the piece at the Vaudeville, and were not out of the theatre until after eleven o'clock at night. Mr Fordham altered his decision, and granted the licences.

"THE TYRANNY OF THE FIRST NIGHT."

There was a numerous gathering of the members of the O.P. Club at the Criterion on Sunday, when Mr Sydney Dark delivered an address on "The Tyranny of the First Night." Mr A. F. Robbins presided.

Mr DARK said that on a first night the performance was always bad; there was always a sense of unpreparedness about the whole thing. On a first night, as we saw first nights in London, a play was really seen under the worst possible aspects. The first-night test of a play was, in his opinion, absurdly unfair. A first-night audience, however, admirable and intellectual, did not represent the great army of persons who must go into the theatre before the play could be made a success. Analysing the *personnel* of a first-night audience, the lecturer remarked that newspaper critics, whose tendency was rather to praise than blame, were not what would be called a magnetic audience. In the gallery there were on first nights a comparatively small number of gentlemen who called themselves perfectly seriously earnest students of the drama. Usually the earnest student of the drama was a pessimist; he came to the theatre irritated by the cold and the messenger boy, and probably was given a hard and uncomfortable seat. The earnest student of the drama had the curious attitude of a juror at the Old Bailey; he was the Nelson of the drama, determined to do his duty, however unpleasant it might be to other people. The gallery critic *per se* was an asset of incalculable value to the English drama; he was always honest, and he was an enthusiast. The gallery critics were the "Wee Kirkers," the most particular of particular Baptists; they were the only people who were going to be saved. But these critics were followed by a host of camp followers who were not earnest students of the drama, and simply went there for the fun, and to hoot actors (cries of "No, no"). They might say "No, no," but it was beyond dispute that there were camp followers of rowdyism who emphatically went to the theatre with the hope that they would get the tip to make a row and enjoy themselves. The demonstration against plays on a first night was a dangerous thing to use, because it might be used by less honourable persons than themselves for blackmailing purposes. He did not for a moment suggest that there was not often sufficient provocation to an audience to boo on the first night of a play. Booing on a first night was bad manners, whatever else it might be. There would be no booing if there were not excessive cheering; the booing was merely a protest against the excessive cheering. The booing did not prove absolutely that a play was going to draw or not to draw the public. Boos were ineffective. Not only did they not effect the fate of the play, but they had no possible effect on any sort of theatrical policy. Booing was immodest, and, finally, is was very hurtful to the best interests of the English drama. He suggested that a remedy for first night tyranny might be found by new plays being first tried in the provinces for two or three weeks before being brought to London; newspaper critics should judge the play at the dress rehearsal, so as to be unaffected by the feelings of an audience; and audiences should cultivate sympathy, and not confuse the playhouse with the Old Bailey, and if a play was bad they should adopt the gentlemanly process of silence.

In the course of the discussion which followed, the CHAIRMAN said booing was no modern invention, and the reception of a play to-day was milk-and-water compared with the receptions which used to be given years ago. He had of late years seen a great deal of improvement in the behaviour of audiences, which improvement, he believed, would continue if the sensational Press would only let the matter alone. The right of the playgoer to express dissent was a valuable one, and would continue to be used, and he believed that the booing business on first nights had been greatly exaggerated.

Mr CARL HENTSCHEL said:—A good deal of unnecessary fuss has been made of booing. After all who popularises these demonstrations but the Press? Why should expressions of disapproval in the form of booing be objected to if applause is courted and welcomed? Miss Olga Nethersole has only her kind friends to thank for her misfortune. The public will not be bluffed into going to see a bad play. The play had a fair hearing, there were no interruptions. The laughter (which came from every part of the house, the well bred people in the stalls being the worst offenders) was caused by the quaint manœuvres of the supers taking part in the Court scene. Booing took place only at fall of curtain, and there was no other interruption. As regards booing, it is said you never hear it except on first nights; no, neither do you hear on other nights the frantic applause of the 'kind friends," those kind friends who can generally be heard damning the play between their insincere shouts of "Bravo!" as the "house" quietly dwindles away. Silence is the form of dissent I should like to see; it is far more chilling and terrible than booing. Booing is not the most artistic form of expressing disapproval; but booing has been handed down from generation to generation. The Tyranny of the First Night—is it after all so bad? Does it not exist largely in the minds of certain journalists, whose business seems to be to make a mountain out of a molehill, and exaggerate a little flutter in the gallery into a "terrible row and riot." Let the press ignore the opinion of the few. Let us have more dramatic criticism and less journalistic booing. No good play has ever been damned by booing, and no bad play will ever be turned into a success by the unintelligent applause of deadheads. The attempt to boom *The Flute of Pan* by aid of the deadheads in London has proved, as every manager or playgoer must have foreseen, a dismal failure. How is booing to be done away with? Let the manager (if he feels that he has not hit the taste of the public) lower the lights and the iron curtain, and don't let him attempt, by the aid of his friends, to convert the malcontents. Those malcontents only boo as a last resort; as a protest against the false applause of the deadheads and officials of the theatre. And let us do all in our power to induce everyone to be silent as the one dignified protest. That booing is done for pure mischief I do not believe; it is done more for the pure love of justice. A good honest boo is no more harmful to the welfare of the drama than is the inane and meaningless applause which plays (good and bad alike) often receive at the hands of the kind friends of the manager. Why do some managers never protest against the tyranny. Why have Messrs Edwardes, Forbes Robertson, Cyril Maude, and Henry Irving never complained? As for picture galleries. Do we go to the gallery and applaud a picture? At a public dinner do we all rise and call for the chef? If we are dining, say at the Carlton, what do we do? If the wine or dinner is bad, the *maître d'hotel* is called and immediately a fresh bottle of wine is brought, and a fresh cutlet or fish is served. If the play is bad do we get another one for nothing?

Mr J. JALLAND, business manager of the Shaftesbury Theatre, answering a remark which had been made by one of the speakers, denied that on the first night of *The Flute of Pan* one single ticket was given away for the pit and gallery.

Mr CECIL RALEIGH said with regard to blackmailing there was undoubtedly an opening for the danger which Mr Dark had pointed out, but it was very easy to deal with a blackmailer. He did not think booing need be objected to on the ground of blackmailing. He did not believe in first-night tyranny as a tyranny, but he did believe in first-night difficulty. They would never get an absolute verdict on a play until it was given by a paying public on the first night.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

THE next new theatre to be built in London will be on a site facing the Covent-garden Opera House. What with the rebuilt Lyceum in Wellington-street, the Coliseum in St. Martin's-lane, the Gaiety, the new houses projected in Aldwych, and this new playhouse in Bow-street, the number of places of amusement in the West Central district will be pretty numerous.

LAST Sunday evening, at a smart dinner party at which several actors were present, the conversation turned on *A Wife Without a Smile* at Wyndham's Theatre, and one of the guests observed that it seemed to him unfair that the chief "author" of the piece had not been mentioned. The doll that performs such antics in mid-air, he said, was notoriously the "success" of the play, and he thought it only fair that the person who supplied it—Mr Hamley, of Regent-street—should have the credit which was his due.

MISS ELLEN TERRY has sent the Secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund £10, which sum she has received from various ladies and gentlemen in exchange for her autographs. Miss Terry returns her sincere thanks to those who thus indirectly enabled her to assist the Fund, which Sir Henry Irving, Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr George Alexander, Mr Henry Ainley, Mr James Welch, Mrs Brown Potter, and Miss Vera Fordyce have all been greatly helping by similar means.

MR MARTIN HARVEY was the recipient of a charming souvenir from the members of his company and staff last Saturday, in commemoration of his first appearance as Hamlet at the Theatre Royal, Dublin. This took the form of the tablets used by Hamlet in act one, scene five, and was constructed of tortoiseshell and silver, with a large H in monogram on the case, and inscribed:—"To Martin Harvey, Hamlet, from his company and staff. Dublin, Nov. 21, 1904."

THE marriage of Miss Maud Jeffries to Mr James Nott Osborne took place on Oct. 25 at St. Paul's, Christchurch, New Zealand, the Rev. J. A. Julius being the officiating Church of England clergyman. Mr Osborne, if not a wealthy man in the immediate present, will probably be one some day, as his father is reputed to be one of the richest squatters in New South Wales. For some time past Miss Jeffries has been the leading lady of the company organised by Mr Beerbohm Tree to produce *The Darling of the Gods*, *The Eternal City*, and other plays in Australia and New Zealand. She was the original Mercia in the late Wilson Barrett's *Sign of the Cross*.

MR BEERBOHM TREE, at the close of his lecture on "Hamlet from the Actor's Point of View," at His Majesty's Theatre on Monday, said his Academy of Dramatic Art had proved itself to be self-supporting, as far as current expenses were concerned. But owing to the necessity for separate premises, the expenditure of a considerable sum of money had been necessary; and for that reason he had decided to present to the Academy £500 out of his privy purse, and had determined to reduce the fees by one-half, making them only six guineas a term, or eighteen guineas a year for whatever tuition they may obtain.

MR TREE also stated that, though the loss on his provincial répertoire company last season was £1,500, it was this season considerably less. The first public performance by students would be on Feb. 14. A small charge for admission would be made, and the amount received would be devoted to the Academy. The first act of *Caste* would be an item, and the pupils would have the advantage of tuition from Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft, the original Captain Hawtree and Polly Eccles.

WE present our felicitations to Mr and Mrs Barton M'Guckin, who celebrate their silver wedding to-day. Mrs M'Guckin is a daughter of the late Mr Robert Hume, of Edinburgh. She was married to Mr M'Guckin at St. Saviour's, Warwick-road, on Nov. 29, 1879. Mr Barton M'Guckin was born at Dublin in 1853, and was educated at Armagh. He was for several years the principal tenor of the Carl Rosa company, and sang before the late Queen in *Fra Diavolo*. He was long a familiar figure at Covent-garden, and sang at all the principal festivals in England, besides visiting America and Australia.

SIR HENRY IRVING was invited to luncheon in the Liverpool Adelphi Hotel on Tuesday by the Somerset Society. Sir Henry is a native of Keinton Mandeville, in Somerset. The village where he was born is one of the quietest and most old-fashioned in England, and is buried, as it were, down in a peaceful district of apple orchards and easy going indifference to the "madding crowd."

THE production of Herr Max Dreyer's play, *Der Thal das Lebens*, by the German company at the Great Queen-street Theatre, has drawn attention to the fact that the most daring things can be spoken on our stage provided it be in a foreign language. We should like to know if Mr Redford carefully perused the "wet nurse" piece before permitting it to be performed in this country after it had been prohibited in Berlin. It seems as if the most audacious play is permitted in England, if only it is not in English.

THE most extraordinary personage in the piece is the Parson. When the Minister sent by the Markgraf declares that he will describe to that nobleman the terrible state of immorality prevailing in the village the Parson urges him to make his report to the Markgraf "in French," evidently alluding to the idea that indecent things may be said in that language only without giving offence. It is stated that the population of the village make their living partly from bee-farming, the women also going to town as wet-nurses. They live, it is said, by supplying the two products, and their village is described as "the land flowing with milk and honey."

MR GEO. DANCE, in reply to a correspondent who has stated that the closing of the Richmond Theatre will entail no pecuniary loss to the town, has replied that during the forty weeks the theatre remains open in every year the outlay includes:—Wages list, at £85 per week, £3,400; printing, postage, and advertising, £800; lighting, £480; board and lodgings for performers, £1,600; cab fares for public and performers, £160; repairs by local tradesmen, £240; local rates and taxes, £240—the total for the year being £6,920.

MR BYAM SHAW, who is designing the costumes for Mr Tree's revival of *Much Ado About Nothing*, has been a member of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours for the last four years. He is an artist of rare imagination and with a keen sense of colour that should be of great assistance in the choice of dresses for a stage picture. Mr Shaw lived the first years of his life in Madras, studied at St. John's-wood School of Art and the Royal Academy Schools, and exhibited his first picture at Burlington House in 1893. He was represented last year by a characteristic oil painting, called "Now is the Pilgrim Year Fair Autumn's Charge."

A LETTER was recently sent by Mr Daniel Frohman's guests at Sherry's Restaurant, New York, to those assembled at the American Dramatist Club's dinner at Delmonico's. The message ran:—"Here all we mummers are waiting for your new plays. Hurry up, because we need them badly." The document was signed by Sir Charles Wyndham, Miss Mary Moore, Miss Virginia Harned, Mr E. H. Sothern, Mrs Patrick Campbell, Mr John Drew, and Miss Julia Marlowe.

BY this week's mail we have the balance-sheet of the first year's working of Australia's only municipal theatre—Her Majesty's, Geelong. It is not an encouraging document. As presented to the Corporation it shows a debit balance of 15s. 6d., but accusations of "cooking" have been freely made, and there is much correspondence in the Geelong papers on the subject. Some of the writers allege that interest on the capital sunk in the construction of the theatre, salaries of staff, insurance, and other items have not been included, and that the loss to the ratepayers on the year's working really runs into thousands. The new Mayor of Geelong is reported to have advised the Corporation to "candidly admit the unfortunate result of their theatrical speculation." This theatre, which is a first-class, well-equipped building on one of the finest sites in the main street of the town, was constructed after a referendum of the ratepayers. A majority voted for the project, but there was a large protesting minority headed by the Wesleyan and other clergymen.

GEELONG'S old theatre, the Royal, where Charles Mathews, G. V. Brooke, Barry Sullivan, Walter Montgomery, and other famous stars of former days appeared during their Australian tours, is now the local citadel of the Salvation Army. The Hon. George Coppin, the "Father of the Australian stage," was the lessee and manager of the Geelong Royal in the fifties, when the town was crowded with lucky gold-diggers from Ballarat. Geelong was then one of the most profitable "show towns" in Australia.

MISS RUBY CELESTE, who is the smart and pretty "special correspondent" of the *Daily Female* and interviews Brumagem Jem at the Palace Theatre every evening, tells a number of amusing stories of her long cruise in *H.M.S. Irresponsible*. She played a little middy in Mr Arthur Roberts's successful piece. In the first act she had to take a letter on to the stage and present it to Miss Queenie Leighton. One evening the letter had disappeared, and Miss Celeste did not discover her loss until the cue came. There was no time to get another letter, so she seized the first thing that came to hand—a small pair of scissors—and rushed on. In her own quaint words, "Mr Roberts was so enraged, he would not let her finish the part, but sent another member of the company on instead." On another occasion Miss Celeste and another lady ventured on to the bridge of H.M.S. Irresponsible, and did not retire when Captain Roberts ordered them to do so. The audience laughed at his vehemence, the two middies thought they were improving the scene, and the more angrily he ordered them away, the more the people in front enjoyed it. When they realised that he was in earnest, it is needless to say that the two ladies fled—pursued by the irate captain with a mop, snatched from the deck!

MISS CELESTE went on the stage when she was just the age to play the inevitable Willie Carlyle. Since that time she has appeared in all sorts of parts, from pantomime to farce, from sketches in music halls to leading characters in musical comedy. She makes a charming principal girl, and thoroughly enjoys every new part. She has acted with Mr Roberts for about three years, the rôle of the lady journalist, in *Brumagem Jem*, being her second opportunity to speak the witty lines that are always forthcoming in a piece by Captain Basil Hood, Miss Celeste having formerly appeared in the revival of his capital comedy *Dandy Dan*. She is very fond of dogs—her present pets are a whippet and a pug—and she confesses to a great weakness for pretty hats.

DECEMBER is a month of theatrical birthdays. Miss Irene Vanbrugh is to be congratulated to-day. Mr E. H. Sothern, Mr Arthur Williams, and Mr George Grossmith celebrate their anniversaries next week. Madame Nordica completes her forty-fifth year on the 12th. Two days later Miss Gertrude Elliott's many friends will be wishing her many happy returns. Mrs Lewis Waller's birthday on the 15th is shared by Miss Fay Davis, and followed by Mr Kendal on the next day. Mr Tree will enter on his fifty-second year on Saturday, Dec. 17, and five days later it will be Mr Laurence Irving's turn to receive good wishes. Mr Maskelyne's birthday is on the 22nd of the month, Edouard De Reszké's on the 23rd, and Mr Brandon Thomas's on Christmas Day.

A GREAT discussion took place among the workmen at St. George's Hall, the other day, over a large and strange piece of machinery that Mr Maskelyne had ordered to be deposited upon the stage. It was to be used, needless to say, in connection with one of the many illusions that will be seen in his forthcoming production of *The Coming Race*. This did not occur to the mind of the British workman, and he agreed with his friends to ask the first Egyptian Hall man who appeared on the scene to explain the mystery. When one of Mr Maskelyne's old employees arrived in the afternoon he was closely questioned. After a prolonged survey, and trying in vain to escape, he exclaimed, "I'll tell you what it is, but you must promise not to give it away. It's a new invention of the Guv'nor's for shelling peas!"

MR W. CLARKSON'S autograph book has been enriched by the following tribute from M. Antoine, who has just produced *King Lear* in Paris:—"Moi aussi, je viens chez Monsieur Clarkson, le maître sans lequel, il ne serait pas de *King Lear* possible à Paris. Juin, 1904.—A. ANTOINE."

MR HUGH MOSS, who for the past five years has been the stage manager for the opera at Guildhall School of Music, has been appointed by Mr F. R. Benson as the Vice-Principal of the School of Drama and Acting which he has inaugurated at the Hampstead Conservatoire. Mr Moss is the well-known stage manager and producer of plays and operas in almost every theatre in London.

MISS MAUD HOFFMAN, who has been leading lady with Mr Willard on his two provincial tours, and who has been associated with him so long in America, is not returning with him to the States, as there is no suitable part for her in *Lucky Durham*.

MR WALTER BEAUMONT was the last Spettigue in *Charley's Aunt* in the London revival at Great Queen-street Theatre with Mr Penley as Babbs; he was the last Spettigue in the country under the Penley management, and he is the first Spettigue under Mr Brandon Thomas's management.

MR FRED FREDERICKS will produce on Boxing Day morning at the Stratford Theatre an oriental pantomime entitled *The Forty Thieves*. Amongst the artists engaged are Miss Claire Romaine, Miss Rosie Sylvester, Mr Nat Clifford, Mr Kennedy Allen, and Mr Dan Paulton.

MR E. S. WILLARD'S provincial tour will finish at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Saturday, Dec. 10, Mr J. M. Chute having kindly released him from the following week at Bristol, in order that he may complete his arrangements before Christmas for his American tour. Mr Willard's programme at Brighton will include *The Cardinal*, *The Middleman*, *The Professor's Love Story*, and *Tom Pinch*.

REHEARSALS have commenced at the Grand Theatre, Islington, of the Christmas pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, the book of which is by Geoffrey Thorn, Mr George Mozart, Miss Julia Kent, Mr Tom Craven, Miss Tots Davis, and a host of well-known artists have been engaged. The scene of Sherwood Forest, will be one of great beauty, and the curtain will rise on a representation of Nottingham "Hiring Fair," a number of specialities being introduced as "side shows."

MR BEERBOHM TREE has kindly lent His Majesty's Theatre for a vocal and instrumental concert to-morrow evening in aid of the Playgoers' Club Pantomime Fund for Poor Children. The following artists have placed their services at the disposal of the Club:—Madame Lilian Blauvelt, Miss Florence Salter, Madame Alice Esty, Miss Marie Brema, Miss Ada Crossley, Miss Bertha Salter, Mr William Green, Mr Lloyd Chandos, Mr Ffrangcon Davies, and Mr Chas. Copland. The London Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, who has kindly consented to conduct, will play various selections.

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER writes:—"Being unable to attend Mr Sidney Dark's lecture on 'The Tyranny of the First Night' at the O. P. Club last Sunday night, I penned the following letter at his request:—'Personally, I cannot say that of late years I have detected any particular tyranny on the first night of a new play. The only thing that really exercises any tyranny in my opinion is a bundle of nerves which every actor or actress ought to possess. It always seems to me that a first-night audience is particularly ready to take up the good points in a play. Indeed, it is very often a fact that a play never goes so well as it does on a first night. This would rather point to the possibility that the reception of a play by a typical London first-night audience is not quite indicative of the future opinion of the general public, who may or may not throng to see it afterwards, and it is an established fact that the verdict for good or ill of a typical London first-night audience has never been prophetic of the financial success of any play.'"

MR TOM CRAVEN'S "gag book," published by French and Co., is having a large sale. Pantomime comedians, music-hall artister, and aspiring amateurs alike realise that the little red-coloured volume contains enough funny "wheezes" to stock a dozen modern pantomimes. Mr Craven will figure in conjunction with Mr George Mozart in the Grand, Islington, pantomime. They will play the Robbers in *The Babes in the Wood*.

MR CHARLES WARNER will appear as Canio in Mr Charles Brookfield's version of *I Pagliacci* at the Savoy on Tuesday. The addition of such an excellent actor to the cast is a most judicious step on the part of the management.

MR CHARLES FROHMAN has made every effort to obtain a prolongation of Miss Eleanor Robson's engagement in *Merely Mary Ann*, at the Duke of York's Theatre, but he has been unsuccessful, and he is compelled to announce the last performance of the play at the Duke of York's and Miss Robson's final appearance in London for the evening of the 15th inst. Miss Robson will sail for home on the Deutschland on Dec. 16. In order to permit Miss Robson's many friends on the other side of the Atlantic to give her a proper welcome home, her managers have consented to allow her to appear at a special matinée performance of the Zangwill comedy at the New Amsterdam Theatre in New York on the 23rd, immediately after her arrival. On the following day she will leave with her company for St. Louis, where she will begin her regular tour on the 26th. The 100th performance of *Merely Mary Ann* will be given at the Duke of York's Theatre on Dec. 6, and Miss Robson's closing performance on the evening of Dec. 15 will be the 111th of her engagement. The piece will be sent on tour in England in the first week in February.

THE Britannia, Limited, of which Mr Sydney M. Hyman is the managing director, have decided during the coming winter to give away to 250 poor people, every day between twelve and three o'clock, Mondays and Saturdays excepted, sixty-five gallons of soup. The management, in pursuance of their generous intention, distributed about a thousand tickets for soup in the gallery and pit of the theatre, besides giving away many more to the local authorities.

MR JOHN TULLY, the well-known proprietor of a successful *Uncle Tom's Cabin* company and proprietor and manager of the Royalty Theatre, Llanelly, has acquired a large interest in the New Hall and Theatre at Aberavon, and is now booking companies for both the Llanelly and Aberavon houses.

MR ALF J. LAWRANCE (of Lawrance and Gifford, the well-known song-writers) has been specially engaged by Mr Humphrey Brammall to select and assist in the arrangement of all the songs and music for no less than five forthcoming pantomimes which that gentleman is producing at the Crystal Palace, Shakespeare, Clapham; Sunderland, Sheffield, and Middlesbrough, this Christmas.

MISS ALICE ARDEN (Mrs Michael Sherbrooke) has been engaged to appear in the forthcoming Christmas production at the Court Theatre.—Mr Charles Boult, who terminated a successful five months' engagement with Mr William Bourne on the 26th ult., playing that gentleman's parts in his répertoire, has been retained by Miss Olga Audré for tour.—Mr Barrie, having cast Mr A. W. Baskcomb for a part in his new Christmas play at the Duke of York's Theatre, Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell have very kindly released him from the remainder of their *Little Mary* tour.

MR CHARLES MANNERS' Sheffield opera week has resulted in a profit of £457. This sum will be divided between the Sheffield University Fund proper and the Ladies' Endowments Fund for the same purpose.

"PRUNELLA; OR, LOVE IN A DUTCH GARDEN," by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker, music by Joseph Moorat, will be produced at the Court Theatre on the afternoon of the 23rd inst., with a cast including Mr Granville Barker, Mr Harry Dodd, Mr R. Rivington, Mr J. Deverell, Mr Orlando Barnett, Mr George Trollope, Miss Helen Grenville, Miss M. Busse, Miss Florence Redfern, Miss Hazel Thompson, Miss Violet Vaughan, Miss Nora Greenlaw, Miss Agnes Hill, Miss Emily Grove, Miss Alice Arden, Mr Tom Paulton, Mr T. Heslewood, Mr F. Cremlin, Mr F. Grove, Mr Norman Page, Mr Lewis Casson, and Miss Thyrza Norman.

IN "Leaves from the Diary of Henry Greville," edited by the Countess of Strafford, and just published by Smith, Elder, there is a curious anecdote of Ristori. The great Italian actress fainted on the stage at Naples because an official sitting in the stage-box had the "evil eye." She fell into the footlights, and was severely burned. The public withdrew from the theatre, casting glances full of hate at the accursed owner of the eye, who sat transfixed in his box, terrified, no doubt, by the effects of his fatal power. Only two hours before Ristori had written verses in the album of this terrible man with the same arm and hand which suffered in the flames.

RISTORI was playing at Madrid the night before the day fixed for the execution of a soldier for attempting to kill a sergeant who had struck him. The Queen of Spain had refused a pardon, and the unfortunate man's friends implored the actress to beg for him to be spared. "I accepted the mission," wrote Ristori afterwards, "and after the first act I went to the Queen's box and threw myself at her Majesty's feet, imploring her to spare the wretched criminal. The Queen yielded to my prayers, and at once signed the pardon of the poor man. I leave you to imagine what an ovation awaited me when I reappeared on the stage in the second act. During at least twenty-five minutes it was impossible for me to speak a word, and the applause was continued throughout the evening until I reached home."

A NEW and original play, by Mr Berte Thomas, called *A Little Brown Branch*, will be produced at the Court Theatre on the afternoon of the 14th inst., with Messrs Graham Browne, W. Farren, jun., Charles Allen, Slaine Mills, and Misses Kate Phillips, Winifred Fraser, Bessie Page, Mary Stuart, and Frances Ivor in the cast. On the afternoons of the 12th, 13th, and 15th Mr Arthur Lewis will present at the same house an adaptation of Alphonse Daudet's *Menteuse*, by Miss May Pardoe, called *Margot*. Mr Graham Browne, Mr Percival Stevens, Mr Robert Farquharson, Mr Arthur Lewis, Mr Norman M'Kinnel, Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Gertrude Burnett, and Miss Darragh will be in the cast.

"LADYLAND," a comic opera, by Mr Eustace Ponsonby and Mr Frank Lambert, will be produced at the Avenue Theatre on Thursday with a cast including:—Mr Bert Coote, Mr Richard Green, Mr John Tresahar, Mr R. Mansfield, Mr Windham Guise, Mr George Giddens, Miss Aline May, Miss Geraldine Ulmar, Miss Gurney Delaporte, Miss Margaret Cooper, Miss Kitty Lindley, Miss Nancy Girling, Miss Amy Wright, and Miss Ethel Irving.

MR ROBERT ARTHUR has added yet another suburban house to his list, having taken the Grand Theatre, Fulham, which he will open on Christmas Eve with *The Forty Thieves*, an up-to-date pantomime, written by Mr Frank Dix.

THE O.P. Club on Monday had one of their very successful Bohemian suppers and concerts at the Criterion. Over 200 members sat down under the vice-presidency of Mr Algernon Collins and Mr J. M. Freshwater. An admirable concert, under the direction of Mr J. Davis Smith and Mr Stanley Greig, was given, the following artists very kindly offering their services:—The Arcadian Glee Singers, Mr Frederick Stretton, Mr Ernest Cherry, Mr Alfred Thomas, Mr Thorpe Bates, Mr Will Edwards, Mr James Davis, Mr Maurice Victor, Mr Walter Waters, Mr Frederick Addison, Mr C. Van De Straeten, and Mr Sinclair Mantel.

MISS BATEMAN, with her usual readiness to help in matters of charity, has arranged to give two dramatic and musical performances in aid of St. Cuthbert's Church, at the Philbeach Hall, Philbeach-gardens, Earl's-court, on Monday afternoon and evening. At the afternoon performance scenes from *Romeo and Juliet* will be played, Miss Bateman appearing as the nurse. Miss Gladys Vanderzee and Miss Rita Jolivet (both pupils of Miss Bateman) will play the parts of Romeo and Juliet respectively. Miss Muriel Gough, who has made such a success as vocalist in Herr Kubelik's autumn tours, will sing both morning and evening; and Mr Robert Maitland has also promised to help Miss Bateman by singing in the afternoon.

MR J. BANNISTER HOWARD, who has arranged with Mr Edward Terry to give a matinée at his new theatre at King's Lynn on Tuesday next, playing *Sweet Lavender*, is amongst the guests invited to the dinner to be given to Mr Terry at the Savoy Hotel to-morrow evening.

MR HENRY S. H. CAVENDISH, the explorer and hunter, and the husband of Miss Isabel Jay, is advertising a "big game" shooting expedition, in which he wants one or two gentlemen of position to join. A humorous admirer of the lady's acting suggests that the best shot Mr Cavendish made was when he "bagged" the Jay.

MR ROBERT FARQUHARSON, who is to play the part of Paul Chartran, in *Margot*, at the Court Theatre, is an actor who makes a study of the art of making up. When he played Dr. Rank, in *A Doll's House*, he spent many weeks in thinking out the appearance of a man who is dying of hereditary disease. For his performance of Talleyrand, in *Mademoiselle Mars*, at the Imperial Theatre, he "built up" an effective lame foot, and he has even succeeded in making himself look one-armed, not by having the arm strapped to his side or behind his back, in the usual way upon the stage, but by allowing it to hang limply in a leather case that reached from shoulder to wrist, with a hook at the end. Mr Farquharson is of French descent, a collector of old and beautiful objects of art, and a traveller who delights in wandering far from the beaten tracks.

MISS NANCY GIRLING, who is to play Nina Weasel in *Ladyland*, has been on the stage for about seven years. One of her first engagements, in *A Runaway Girl*, lasted for eleven months. She afterwards went to the Lyric Theatre, and acted the lively French maid of the lively Lady Holyrood.

UPON the occasion of his marriage last week, Mr Geo. Ridley, the popular secretary of the Theatre Royal, Chatham, was the recipient of many gifts, among the number being a clock from the orchestra, a silver teapot from the attendants in front, and a tantalus from the stage staff. Mr E. J. Rickard, stage-manager, was deputed to present the last-mentioned article.

MR J. M. BARRIE will call his "play for grown-up children," to be produced at the Duke of York's Theatre on or about the 22d inst., *Peter Pan; or, the Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*.

MR ARTHUR BERTRAM will produce at the Grand Theatre, Fulham, on Feb. 13, the drama entitled *Hearts Adrift*, which has been a success in America, and has been toured there for two years. In the third act there is a novel scene of a fight in an airship, a magnificent property weighing over two hundredweight. Mr Edward Lytton, of the Coronet Theatre, has designed a motor to work this airship.

MR AND MRS DOUGLAS VIGORS (Miss Lucy Beaumont), who will conclude on Saturday a ten months' successful engagement with Mr Henry Hare's *Girl From Chicago* company, are engaged by Mr Samuel James for his stock season at Lyric, Hammersmith, to play lead and principal comedy, opening there on Dec. 19.

THE Moody-Manners Grand Opera company, including Madame Fanny Moody, Mr Charles Manners, and Mr John Child, will appear next week at the Richmond Theatre. The operas which will be presented are *Faust*, *Mignon* (with Madame Fanny Moody in the title-part), *Tannhäuser*, *Il Trovatore*, *Carmen*, *Lohengrin*, *Pagliacci*, and *Cavalleria Rusticana*—a most varied and attractive list.

AT the Terriss Theatre, Rotherhithe, where *Dangerous Women* is being played, a fire broke out at about two o'clock on Friday morning. A wooden receptacle used for storing old scenery and rubbish became ignited, and the theatre rapidly filled with smoke. The fireman permanently employed in the building was on the alert, and he soon got one of the theatre hydrants to work. By this means the flames were held in check until the arrival of the brigade engines, when the fire was quickly subdued. Some small damage was done to the fittings, &c., of the theatre.

MISS FLORENCE MELVILLE, who has just concluded six months' engagement with Mr Fred Karno, playing Miss Manley in the sketch, *Dandy Thieves*, has been engaged by Mr Ernest Carpenter to play a special boy's part in his Bristol pantomime.—Mr Stanley Cooke will appear in his old part in the revival of Mr Brandon Thomas's piece at the Comedy Theatre on Monday. This will be Mr Cooke's 1,475th appearance in the robes of the "old lady from Brazil," although it is just seven years since he last played Mr Penley's famous part.—Mr Leonard Barry has been engaged by Mr Robert Arthur to play principal part in his Christmas production at the Grand, Fulham.

MR LAURENCE IRVING, encouraged by the success of his present tour with *Richard Lovelace*, will again tour it in the spring of next year, and will visit all the larger towns. The tour will be under the direction of Mr William E. Ashcroft, who conducts all Mr Irving's business, and who is now booking a summer tour in addition to that in the spring.

MR BEERBOHM TREE will end the present run of *The Tempest* on Saturday, Jan. 14, and His Majesty's Theatre will then be closed for final rehearsals of *Much Ado About Nothing*, which will probably be produced on Thursday, Jan. 19, with Miss Winifred Emery as Beatrice and Miss Viola Tree as Hero.

THE practice at Drury-lane Theatre for some years past of sending many thousands of children a booklet describing the theme of the forthcoming pantomime will be adhered to this season. The true story of *The White Cat*, as told by J. Hickory Wood and Arthur Collins, will be illustrated in colours from designs by T. Mackenzie. Children desiring a copy of the book must apply, by postcard only, to the manager of Drury-lane Theatre.

MR RICHARD GREEN, who is second in the cast of *Ladyland*, to be produced at the Avenue next Thursday, is a bronze and silver medallist of the Royal Academy of Music, and made his début in *Ivanhoe* at the English Opera House, now the Palace Theatre. His success in grand opera was equalled a little later on by the hit he made at the Popular Concerts at St. James's Hall. As the hero in *The French Maid*, and, more recently, in *My Lady Molly*, Mr Green has had the opportunity to show that he is an actor as well as a singer. One of his possessions, of which he is justly proud, is a certificate from the Royal Humane Society, awarded for his bravery in saving life.

MISS RUTH LYTTON is to be second boy at Drury-lane this Christmas. Her pantomime experiences have been many and varied, including more than one season at the Hippodrome, where she made her London début in *Cinderella* nearly four years ago. Miss Lytton is an Edinburgh girl.

MR SYDNEY HARCOURT, who is a most capable and versatile actor, tells an amusing little yarn of the days when he toured with the style of companies known as "wait and hope"—wait for Friday and hope for your salary. He obtained an engagement to play low comedy, sing, and "look after props." The acting and music were easy enough, but looking after properties really meant borrowing every single article required. He managed to do it, however, by means of giving free tickets right and left. A man who would lend anything important—such as a set of furniture or handsome fire-irons—received two stalls for a week. Less obliging people had to be content with two dress-circle seats, and so on. In this way Mr Harcourt gained a nick-name that clung to him for quite a long time. It was "The Demon-pass-two."

THE Mermaid Society will revive at the Royalty Theatre to-morrow evening *The Maid's Tragedy*, by Beaumont and Fletcher, with a cast including Mr Frank Lascelles, Mr Dennis W. Cleugh, Mr H. Tripp Edgar, Mr W. H. Kemble, Mr King Fordham, Mr J. A. Grant, Mr Cyril Cattley, Mr Richard Neville, Miss Dora Hole, Miss Ada Potter, Miss Pearla Gardner, Miss Gertrude Templeton, Miss Meta Pelham, Miss Violet Falcke, and Miss Edith Fenton.

MADAME FRANCESCA JANAUSCHEK, who recently died in America, was born at Prague in 1830. She became prominent as an actress in her own country and in Germany, and in 1867 went to the United States. There she played Medea and other rôles in German, and, studying English later, made a success in tragic parts in that tongue, including Deborah, Bianca, Mary Stuart, Queen Elizabeth, Lady Macbeth, and Meg Merrilies. Madame Janauschek retired from the stage some time since.

MR HUNTLEY WRIGHT met a provincial actor some years ago who had had the good fortune to be engaged to play several of his (Mr Wright's) parts on tour, modelling his performance, it is needless to say, on the inimitable creations of the star at Daly's. A short chat about the different characters was followed by an introduction to the provincial actor's wife. "I know you will be pleased to meet Mr Huntley Wright, my dear," he observed, with an air of pleasant condescension, "because he has been playing my parts, he tells me, in London."

MR AND MRS DENIS O'SULLIVAN received congratulations this week on the birth of a son. Mr O'Sullivan, whose appearance in *Peggy M'Chree* immediately followed his success in *The Duchess of Dantzic*, is of Irish family, but was born and passed his boyhood in San Francisco. His wife, who is also American, is an exceedingly clever painter.

MR J. BANNISTER HOWARD writes:—"In view of the decision in the Law Courts on Thursday, in the case of Sydenham and Davis, I strongly advise all managers to use the new Touring Managers' Association Agreement. There are clauses in it which provide for almost any contingency."

MR WELLESLEY DRAPER, who will terminate on Saturday next a twelve months' engagement as the Crown Prince Rudolph, in *The Traitor*, has been retained by Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson for the part of Loris Vanessa, in the forthcoming production of *Revenge* at the Court Theatre, Wigan, on the 19th inst.

MISS LILLIAN DIGGES, who concludes to-night her second tour as Fifi with Mr George Musgrove's *Belle of New York* company—a part of which she was the original exponent in Australia—has been engaged by Mr George Edwardes to play René on the forthcoming tour of *The Duchess of Dantzig*. Miss Digges, who has had quite a lengthened experience of the Colonies, is a niece of that gifted actress Miss Cicely Richards, who created Belinda, in *Our Boys*.

MRS WHYTAL, a well-known American actress, who for some months has been a prominent member of Mr E. S. Willard's company, has acquired the rights and entire "production" of Mr Louis N. Parker's successful drama *The Cardinal*, and will take the play through the provinces in the spring, visiting the principal cities and a few of the London suburbs. Mr Philip Cuningham has been engaged to enact the Cardinal. Mrs Whytal made her reputation in America with Miss Julia Marlowe, and under her own management in New York and through the States.

AN extraordinary demonstration attended the departure of Mr Martin Harvey and his company from Dublin, after the production of *Hamlet*, on Sunday evening last. The station in Amiens-street was thronged with hundreds of people, who demanded a speech, which Mr Martin Harvey had to comply with from the carriage; and the departure of the train for Belfast was followed by ringing cheers from the crowd.

FOR the second annual pantomime at the Marlborough Theatre, Mr Purcell announces *Aladdin*, which will be produced on Boxing Day. In the company are such well-known artists as Harry Tate, Geo. Brooks, Rich and Rich, Miss Nancy Langtyre, and Miss Simeta Marsden. Mr Tate will introduce his wonderful impersonations of well-known artistes; Charlene and Charlene will supply specialities, and Miss Lottie Stone's troupe will do some dances. The pantomime will be produced under the personal direction of Mr J. F. Elliston.

HENRY IRVING AT LIVERPOOL.

Sir Henry Irving was on Wednesday entertained at luncheon by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool at the Town Hall. Amongst those present were the Lady Mayoress, Sir Edward and Lady Russell, Colonel Byrne, and Sir Thomas and Lady Hughes.

The LORD MAYOR proposed the health of Sir Henry, describing him as the head of the dramatic profession, and gratefully acknowledging the intellectual pleasure which for so many years past he had given to the citizens in Liverpool.

The toast was cordially drunk.

SIR HENRY, who was warmly applauded on rising to reply, said: "My Lord Mayor,—I am deeply sensible of the high courtesy which has made me your guest to-day, and of the most gratifying terms in which you have been good enough to speak of me and of my associations with this great city. I have known Liverpool nearly fifty years. I remember it in the days which were for me days of apprenticeship and struggle, but also of considerable buoyancy, stimulated by the kindness which has culminated now and in this distinguished company. Perhaps I was not quite so buoyant in the year 1860 as to anticipate the course that events were to take. In that year I spent a fortnight in Liverpool, and played a modest engagement at the old Theatre Royal. Five years later I was here again, and did something or other at the St. James's Hall in Lime-street. The eye of a young man is sometimes very prophetic; at any rate, it often seems to him in after years that he used to see a long way ahead. But I don't think my prophetic eye saw me across the gulf which separated St. James's Hall from the Town Hall. What I did in Lime-street I have forgotten—but what other people did or failed to do had the effect of leaving me to walk through that thoroughfare with a total lack of anything tangible to cling to. I must have indulged at that time in a good deal of airy speculation. There was nothing else to indulge in; but I am inclined to doubt, my Lord Mayor, whether I came down to the Exchange flags, and took a good look at the Town Hall, and said to myself, 'Well, there's a capital lunch, and there's uncommonly good company there for me—about forty years from now!'

"To the uneasy wayfarer in Lime-street there came in that year, 1865, a stroke of fortune in the shape of a six months' engagement at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, in Clayton-square. From that time dates the encouragement I have always found in Liverpool—encouragement I owe above all to my old friend, Sir Edward Russell, one of the very finest critics of the drama this country has ever known. My Lord Mayor, for an actor to talk about dramatic criticism is always a delicate matter. If he expresses his distrust of that form of intellectual exercise, as he sometimes does—in private—he is supposed to be smarting from well-merited rebuke. If, on the other hand, he grows enthusiastic, especially in the presence of a dramatic critic, he is open to the suspicion of trying to beguile the judge and corrupt the executioner.

"My old friend, I hope, does not suspect me, although there are still a few nights more of my engagement at the Court Theatre. But when an actor is near the end of his career there is not so much inducement to cajole the stern, unbending censor. Perhaps I am in a position now to look back with a discriminating eye upon our theatrical affairs for more than a generation, and I can say there is no writer to whose sympathetic insight our stage owes a greater debt than to Sir Edward Russell. And this is surely a most fitting place and occasion, my Lord Mayor, to note that Sir Edward Russell has combined this unremitting and searching zeal for the Drama with the discharge of high public duties, with the conduct of a great newspaper—perhaps I ought to say two great newspapers, now happily blended, though this arrangement may have the drawback that there will be only one theatrical notice where two grew before. Possibly some concession on this score may be made to the appetite of actors and managers for all the notices they can get.

"I say Sir Edward Russell is a living refutation of the old-fashioned notion that when a man gives his mind to the Drama he is fit for nothing else and should be watched with some anxiety by his friends. This was once a paradox, but now the time gives it proof, that a passion for dramatic art may be cherished by a responsible citizen.

"Yes, you have a practical example of this truth in Liverpool, which I should not call a sentimental or scatter-brained community; not a city where men run about looking for Utopia. And I am tempted, sir—and I gather from the expression of your countenance that it is just what you might have expected—to point this moral in favour of a Municipal Theatre. This is now a pretty old hobby of mine, and as I don't get the opportunity every day of showing its paces to the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, I might proceed to ride it for the rest of the afternoon. Don't be alarmed! I content myself, sir, with giving you a glimpse of the high-spirited animal. Yes, it is still high-spirited, in spite of years and labour, and while I have breath I shall refuse to turn it out to grass. I take leave to imagine you, sir, associating the responsibilities of your high office with an active interest in the administration of a playhouse for the intelligent recreation of your fellow-citizens. I say no more than this—except that there is evidently delightful scope in the Town Hall for that hospitality which should relieve the anxieties of theatrical management without offence to the ratepayers, and hold out to every young recruit in the municipal stock company the bright promise of that privilege which I enjoy to-day. Sir, I take this great compliment you have paid me as a tribute to dramatic art as a serious pursuit. I use the word 'serious' in your presence without any fear of misunderstanding, although it is sometimes assumed that an actor is a creature of humorous accident, and quite incapable of any solid purpose. I have not found that to be so in the course of a long career, which, whatever it may have achieved, has certainly been full of a pretty steady toil. I have always nursed the ambition to make the drama an appeal to the imagination—a means of lifting us to a higher plane of feeling without losing touch with the realities of life.

"That is the true function of the theatre—a function which can be exercised without robbing any playgoer of his legitimate amusement. The drama has its moods of irresponsible gaiety; it also has the mood for an ideal which demands artistic devotion from its interpreters. My Lord Mayor, it is in that spirit I have laboured, however imperfectly, and I am very grateful for the recognition I have had the good fortune to win from you and the people of Liverpool."

Sir Henry Irving was the guest on Tuesday, at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, of the local Somerset Society, who entertained him at luncheon. Mr W. C. Clothier, the president of the society, occupied the chair, and among those present were Sir Edward Russell, Mr D. P. Williams, C.B., Dr. C. Symes, Dr. T. W. Sheppard, Dr. Thurstan Holland, Dr. Stanley Gill, and Dr. R. Jones.

The loyal toasts having been honoured, the PRESIDENT proposed the health of their honorary president, Sir Henry Irving, whose name, he said, would be known, as long as the English language was spoken, by every student of history as that of a man who, by his unrivalled genius, was the most brilliant of the age in the art of holding up the mirror to nature. They regarded Sir Henry with an esteem which was deep, abiding, and sincere.

Dr. CHARLES SYMES (senior past-president), in supporting, said it was to be regretted that now Sir Henry had reached the zenith of his excellence he talked about retiring. One felt sad to think that he could not go on for ever in the profession of which he was at once an ornament and a master.

Sir HENRY IRVING, in responding, said:—I have been a fortunate guest at many notable feasts, but this gathering of Somerset worthies is unique in my experience, this gathering of men who keep Somerset green on the banks of the Mersey. Gentlemen, you have made me proud to feel that Somerset is my county, although my memories of the spot which saw my birth are rather vague. I remember the old quarries at Keinton Mandeville, where I was born; and my childish mind was haunted in those days by the guinea fowls which perched on ghostly trees, and made uncanny sounds. What part they have played in my career I do not know, unless they gave me a dramatic yearning for the society of Shakespeare's raven, which doth bellow for revenge. I must confess that I have only once revisited Keinton Mandeville; and then I was shown a stone edifice, supposed to be my old home. Alas! I could not truthfully say—

> I remember, I remember
> The house where I was born
> The little window where the sun
> Came peeping in at morn.

The place was quite unfamiliar to me. In this age of scepticism I am inclined to doubt the authenticity of that ancient dwelling. At any rate it is significant that the spot is marked by no colossal bust, no trophy for triumphal show. I do not hear that even a mural tablet adorns the walls which may have stifled the uproar of my infantile protests against the discomfort of being washed. Mind you, I don't say this in any spirit of resentment. Don't suppose I am suggesting that you should organise a subscription and set off to Keinton Mandeville in a body to repair any oversight on the part of the local authorities. After all, the historical evidence is doubtful; and it would be awkward to affix a mural tablet to that old house, only to find the tradition extinguished by some conscientious archæologist, who proved that my early minstrelsy never made those rafters ring.

But in my childhood I must have known something of Glastonbury, only six miles away. I will not tell you that on the Quantock Hills my father fed his flock, though he was a Somerset man before me. Nor will I pretend that I mused deeply on Alfred, who made his stronghold among the Somerset Saxons. But I think it is possible that a child on the height of Avalon may have taken into his blood subconsciously the old legends of Arthur. I am not boasting of that; but, at any rate, there came a time when I ventured to impersonate King Arthur at the old Lyceum, impelled to this bold act, no doubt, because he was a Somerset man, and so am I. How many of you, I wonder, felt it to be the duty of pious pilgrims to see that performance for the honour and glory of our county! Gentlemen, I will not press that question too hard, especially as you are good enough to take a most warm and kindly interest in the work of my life, or I should not be here. So generous is your welcome, so great is the honour you have done me, so eloquent are the words of your chairman, that I shall not be surprised to learn in the course of the next day or two that we are all suspected of a conspiracy to restore the Heptarchy, on the basis of a State-supported drama, to be played in Somerset for the illumination of the rather gray lives of the village community! Well, that might be a good thing—I don't mean the Heptarchy, but the village drama. The diffusion of a sound theatrical taste throughout the country would make for a ripe and intelligent cheerfulness. But this is a dream, and I am concerned at this moment with a reality, with the proof of sympathy and esteem you have given me to-day. I feel that I have made a host of friends. Believe me, for the years that are left, and for the work that is still to do, I shall wear the memory of this re-union in my heart's core—aye, in my heart of heart.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Jules Claretie—Saturday, Dec. 3.
Walter Munroe, music hall artist—Dec. 3.
Austin Rudd, music hall artist—Sunday, Dec. 3.
Ronald Graham, actor—Sunday, Dec. 4.
Florence Wilton, burlesque actress—Dec. 5.
Augustine Alexander—Monday, Dec. 5.
E. H. Sothern, actor—Tuesday, Dec. 6.
Nellie Carmichael—Tuesday, Dec. 6.
Sir Frederick Bridge—Tuesday, Dec. 6.
Cole Aspinall—Tuesday, Dec. 6.
Marie Jones—Tuesday, Dec. 6.
A. R. Marshall—Tuesday, Dec. 6.
Violet Cameron, actress—Wednesday, Dec. 7.
Pietro Mascagni—Wednesday, Dec. 7.
Maud Lyndhurst—Wednesday, Dec. 7.
D. E. Eastlake—Wednesday, Dec. 7.
Daisy De Roy, music hall artist—Friday, Dec. 9.
Fred C. Somerfield, actor—Friday, Dec. 9.

THE revised edition of *The Orchid* was presented at the Gaiety on Wednesday night, and met with the warm approval of a crowded audience. Amongst the new numbers which have been added are a pretty duet by Mr Lionel Monckton, "On a summer's afternoon," sung by Miss Gertie Millar and Mr Lionel Mackinder; a successful new song for Miss Millar, "I don't mind the dark;" a droll ditty for Miss Connie Ediss; a duet for Messrs Edmund Payne and C. Brown, and a trio, in which they are joined by Mr Mackinder, and an Irish ballad, "Kate O'Malley," with a whistling chorus which leads to an Irish jig, danced by Miss Olive May and Mr Mackinder, supported by a merry band of peasants in native green. A dance for girls who appear in motor garb and gradually develop into *baigneuses* was also well received. "The Beauty and the Barge" is another new number that had a good reception. Of the original numbers, "Oh, Mr Registrar," "I do the dirty work," and "Little Mary" met with as much favour as ever. On Wednesday night Mr James Sullivan, the famous "Polite Lunatic" of *The Belle of New York*, made his appearance as Zaccary, the orchid hunter, and did very well in the part. Mr Edmund Payne was if anything funnier than ever as Meakin, the gardener; Mr Charles Brown, who replaces Mr George Grossmith, jun., as the Hon. Guy Scrymgeour, made a decided hit. Miss Marie Studholme's song, "Little Blanche Marie," was much appreciated; Miss Gabrielle Ray's new number, with a dance and chorus, was greatly applauded; Miss Phyllis Blair was appropriately dignified as the Countess; and amongst others who gave satisfactory support were Messrs L. Mackinder, R. Nainby, H. Grattan, A. Hatherton, Bert Linden, H. Taylor, W. Spray, J. W. Birtley, H. Lewis, and Miss Gaynor Rowlands. The tuneful play has been newly costumed throughout and new scenery has been provided.

The King and Queen of Portugal witnessed the performance of *The Cingalee* at Daly's Theatre on Thursday evening.

MR J. B. HOWARD has arranged with Mr Tree to take over the entire rights of *The Darling of the Gods* and *The Eternal City* from Christmas. Mr Howard will send out one company only with *The Darling of the Gods* this spring, opening at Chatham on the 26th; and one with *The Eternal City*, beginning at the Borough, Stratford, on Feb. 6. Next autumn Mr Howard will have two companies out with *The Darling of the Gods* and two of *The Eternal City*, and in the spring one with *The Belle of New York*, one with *La Poupée*, and one with *Florodora*.

MISS JULIA NEILSON AND MR FRED TERRY will open at the New Theatre in January with *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, the romantic drama recently tried by them at Nottingham.

THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL.

An organised effort—the outcome of the decision of the London County Council to provide a site for an adequate Shakespeare memorial—is to be made to bring to realisation the long-discussed project of a Shakespeare memorial in London. Mr Richard Badger has offered to start the Fund with a first subscription of £2,000, an additional £1,000 for a specific purpose, and £500 for the general working expenses of a public appeal. While the London County Council, in response to Mr Richard Badger's proposal, has expressed its willingness to provide a suitable site, it has felt that it cannot in its corporate capacity resolve itself into a committee for collecting funds and for organising the movement. Accordingly, a number of those interested in the proposal have been meeting together during the past months at His Majesty's Theatre, by the kind permission of Mr Tree, and after careful deliberation a clearly defined programme has been decided upon, the essential features being as follows:—

1. The memorial to be erected on some prominent site in London; the funds collected to be in the first instance devoted to the erection of some such monument in London as the Scott Memorial or the Albert Memorial; any sum over and above that required for the monument to be used for some object or objects tending to promote the study or appreciation of Shakespeare, to be determined by a General Memorial Committee.
2. The General Memorial Committee to consist of leading men and women of the day, belonging to all parts of the Empire; representatives of the American people; and distinguished foreigners.
3. The Shakespeare Memorial Committee to be formally constituted at a public meeting to be held in London some time in February.
4. A Shakespeare Commemoration to be held in all parts of the world during the Shakespeare week, 1905 (April 23 to May 1), so that a concentrated effort may be made in connection with the commemoration to collect the funds necessary for the memorial.

This great "Shakespeare Commemoration of 1905" is the kernel of the scheme, and it is felt that if this part of the programme is steadily kept in mind by those who are in sympathy with the project, there should be no difficulty in raising such a sum of money as may ultimately result in the erection of a monument and memorial in some degree worthy of Shakespeare, as a symbol of the homage not only of his fellow countrymen but of the world generally. The Empire and America will primarily feel gratification in raising the memorial, but if, at the same time, as may well be hoped, other nations of the earth also join in bringing their tribute, the Shakespeare memorial will serve as something even more glorious than a monument to the poet—as denoting that at the dawn of the twentieth century the nations are willing to be linked in brotherhood by universal enthusiasm for the great world-poet of modern times.

The help of hosts of workers in different localities and countries will be required. In close connection with the Central Committee, local committees must be established, aided by the Press, theatrical managers, Shakespeare societies, and other agencies. As regards London, Mr Beerbohm Tree has announced his intention to hold a Shakespeare Festival in April at His Majesty's Theatre, part of the proceeds to be devoted to the Memorial Fund; and from various quarters come promises of assistance.

A Provisional Committee has been formed to deal with preliminaries, consisting of:—

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor of London.
Mr J. W. Benn, M.P., Chairman of the London County Council.
His Excellency the Hon. J. H. Choate, United States Ambassador.
The Right Hon. Lord Tennyson, G.C.M.G., late Governor of South Australia.
Mr George Meredith, President of the Society of Authors.
The Right Hon. Lord Reay, G.C.S.I., President of the British Academy.
The Right Hon. Lord Avebury, President of the Society of Antiquaries.
The Right Hon. Lord Ronald Sutherland-Gower.
Sir E. J. Poynter, Bart., President of the Royal Academy.
Sir L. Alma Tadema, R.A.
Sir E. Maunde Thompson, K.C.B., Director of the British Museum.
Sir R. C. Jebb, M.P., Regius Professor of Greek, University of Cambridge.
Mr T. Herbert Warren, President of Magdalen College, Oxford.
Sir A. W. Rücker, Principal of the University of London.
Dr. F. J. Furnivall, President of the London Shakespeare League.
Sir Henry Irving.
Mr H. Beerbohm Tree.
Mrs. Alice Gomme.
Mr Richard Badger.
Mr E. W. Brabrook, C.B., F.S.A.
Mr W. L. Courtney, Esq., LL.D.
Professor E. Dowden, Trinity College, Dublin.
Professor I. Gollancz.
Mr Frederic Harrison.
Mr Joseph Knight, F.S.A.
Mr Sidney Lee, Chairman of the Birthplace Trustees.
Rev. R. S. De Courcy Laffan, Rector of St. Stephen, Walbrook, formerly Headmaster of King Edward VI.'s School, Stratford-on-Avon.
Mr T. F. Ordish, F.S.A., Director of the London Shakespeare League.

Dr Furnivall has accepted the position of chairman of the Provisional Committee, Lord Avebury has consented to act as treasurer of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, and Professor I. Gollancz as honorary secretary of the committee. A banking account has been opened with Messrs Robarts, Lubbock, and Co., 15, Lombard-street, E.C. The Provisional Committee is anxious to give all possible help in the formation of local committees. Communications may be sent to the offices of the Memorial Committee, 32, George-street, Hanover-square.

MR E. S. WILLARD'S company for his American tour will consist of Mr Cooper Cliffe, Miss Violet Vorley, Mr J. R. Crauford, Miss Faith Reynolds, Mr William Sauter, Miss Leila Repton, Mr H. Cane, Miss Mabel Dubois, Mr Walter Edmunds, Miss Alice Belmore, Mr H. Barfoot, and Miss Marie Linden. As on all Mr Willard's previous American tours, Mr H. Cane will be his stage-manager and Mr Charles A. Moore his business-manager.

MR FRED LOCKE has completed *Goosey Gander*, his twenty-fifth successive pantomime for the Princess's, Glasgow, and it is now in active rehearsal.

AT Marylebone Police-court, on Monday, application was made to Mr Plowden for a licence to permit Nellie Turner, a child of thirteen, to take part in *The Ladder of Life*, at the West London Theatre. The child had only to recite a few lines, it was said, and would get home about eleven. Mr Plowden—Are the lines very bloodcurdling? The applicant—No, sir; slightly pathetic. Mr Plowden—So that she can cry herself to sleep? The applicant—Oh, very easily, but she has not the desire. The play is expected to last six weeks. Mr Plowden—After that she may have the opportunity to go to bed at ten, at least I hope so. Very well, you may have the licence. The applicant said he only required the licence for six days. Mr Plowden—Then my conscience is lighter.

"THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND."

"HOW TO HELP IT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In the event of your accepting Miss Wynne Matthison's suggestion that your readers should be invited to vote for whatever scheme they consider best calculated to practically assist the cause of theatrical charity, will you allow me to state exactly what my scheme was?

It was based upon the assumption that many members of the theatrical profession would gladly give work when they are unfortunately not in a position to give money.

I proposed that one morning performance of every piece being played in the United Kingdom should be given upon one and the same date, and that the proceeds should be divided, according to their needs, between the Actors' Orphanage Fund and the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

I suggested that all these matinées should be given upon one and the same day, because it would equalise the chances of their success. If a good piece were being performed in a bad town, nobody could expect a large result from it.

I anticipated the objection that would be raised regarding the revelation of bad business. I therefore suggested that the results of the matinées should be known only to a small committee of three people, who would receive the proceeds; these three people being gentlemen in prominent positions, to whom revelations concerning theatrical business would not come with the force of startling novelty.

I proposed, with a view to stimulating competition and exciting emulation, that the amounts taken by the three largest matinées in London and the three largest matinées in the country should be published.

Also with a view of exciting competition and emulation, I suggested that when a piece was not drawing particularly well, individual members of the company should do their best to assist the matinée by giving any extra turns within their power, such as songs, recitations, and so forth.

All these matinées being given upon one and the same day, to be called "Actors' Day," would, I thought, create a certain amount of excitement, which would be good for the morning performances I proposed.

I suggested that the performances in question should be morning performances, so that they should not interfere with the ordinary business of the week.

My scheme, you will see, differs only in this point from that of Mr Mouillot. I believe also that Mr Charles Hannan has suggested something very similar, but I am not familiar with its exact details.

I first urged my proposal some twelve or fourteen years ago in the columns of Mr Jerome K. Jerome's journal, *To-day*. Later on, at a charity meeting held at the Lyceum Theatre, when Sir Henry Irving was in the chair, I brought the scheme forward again, and Sir Henry and many others warmly approved of it. Later still, as Mr Maude has said, difficulties appeared in the way of its development, but just then nobody was particularly hard up. The chief difficulty that we had to encounter was, not that we did know what to do, but that we could not get anybody to do it.

I estimate that either in the month of October or in the month of March, three hundred morning performances could easily be given upon one and the same day, in the theatres of Great Britain and Ireland. If they only realised £25 each the total would amount to 7,500.

If the committee receiving this sum allotted £1,500 a year to the Actors' Orphanage, and £6,000 a year to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, nobody would be required to put their hands in their pockets for another shilling.

Most of the principal artistes appearing in pantomime come from the music halls, whose charities are large, well supported, and thoroughly organised. Most of the girls who appear in pantomime work as choristers the rest of the year, while the small part people and extras are the ordinary small part and extra people of the regular stage. Whether they, or whether pantomime artists as a whole, should be invited to make a special subscription is a matter I leave others to discuss.

With regard to my own scheme, I believe it is thoroughly practicable. I do not think it would require much organisation if people were only in earnest, and would put their backs into the job.

On one point I personally feel, and always have felt, very strongly. It is derogatory to the stage that we should go to the general public and beg for our charities. If we only worked for them we need not even beg from one another. The bed rock of our trouble is our lack of unity and organisation. Our charities should be federated—please mark I do not say amalgamated—and on one day a year we should all of us take off our coats and work for the lot.

That, sir, is my scheme.

Yours faithfully, CECIL RALEIGH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The present agitation in connection with the above is as timely as it is deserving. But to inaugurate a compulsory tax on the salaries of artistes would, in my opinion, be unfair, unpopular, and impracticable. The same would apply to a much greater extent to stagemen, bandsmen, and theatre attendants. None of the last named could or would expect financial aid from the A.B.F.

It appears to me that there ought to be a greater feeling and practice of *noblesse oblige* amongst the profession, notably managers and proprietors of general companies, principal artistes in first-class musical and dramatic companies—drawing lucrative salaries. If these would give according to their means, money would flow into the coffers of the Fund.

Let us take an example from the supporters of the M.H.B.F. and the excellent manner in which they uphold their charitable organisation, and there will be no cause for these appeals on behalf of the A.B.F.

If some or all of our West-end impresarios showed their sympathy in a practical form, I am sure managers, proprietors, and artistes would follow suit in proportion to their means. Personally, I shall be only too pleased to join in supporting this movement in any and every way possible. Yours faithfully,

E. HOWARD BINGHAM,
Manager, Mr Frank Bertram's Companies,
Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The scheme to help this Fund by compulsory subscription of one night's salary is open to many objections, and, above all, is an unwarrantable interference with the liberty of personal opinion and action which should belong to everyone.

There may be many who do not sympathise with the Benevolent Fund. Are those to be excluded from all engagements because they have the courage to refuse to sign a contract containing this clause?

And among those who relinquish their salaries without a word rather than incur the displeasure of their managers, or the unpleasant distinction of being the only member of the company not subscribing, how many there would be to whom it meant real hardship.

What of the man who, in this precarious profession, may be weeks and weeks "resting," and then, getting a special week's or fortnight's engagement, finds that in that short time he is unfortunate enough to encounter "Benevolent Night." It would more likely be called "Blackmail Night."

Many people in the more comparatively safe position in this profession talk glibly of "only 5s.," "only 10s." more, in speaking of subscriptions and donations, forgetting that there are many, many actors and actresses in the provincial touring companies to whom such a sum means really some comfort gained or lost; that they are not all happy-go-lucky spendthrifts to whom 10s. or 20s. makes little difference: and among even many of those who present an affluent, or, at any rate, comfortable appearance to their fellows, there are many who suffer from a poverty of riches, and who retain their smiling exterior at a cost of many small sacrifices.

No, Sir, this is not a sufficiently lucrative profession to compel charity, and your correspondent, Mr Tweedie, who, I suppose, knows more of the state of finances of the provincial actor than any of your correspondents up to now, puts the matter very clearly.

It is noticeable that among your eleven letters seven are from managers, who, presumably from the fact of their being managers, could afford it; these support it.

Three are from actors or acting-managers, and they strongly deprecate compulsion, and one letter alone, from an actress, commends the scheme, and I am sure that from the warm-hearted way in which she supports it she would for the same reason be the last to see any such scheme pressing hardly even upon one person.

Let us leave charity to the charitable-minded, and do not let us strain a quality that should be free and unforced to be really acceptable.

Yours faithfully, LAWRENCE GRANT.
Green Room Club, Nov. 24.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Frank Liston's suggestion to tax bill orders on behalf of the Fund is surely impracticable. I presume these orders are given for services rendered, and you cannot ask the holders of them to subscribe to our charities. May I suggest, sir, that you start a shilling fund in your columns for this most deserving object. Surely every actor and actress in the British Islands and abroad would gladly send their shilling, and many would give more, and in this way a very large sum should be collected. You cannot make a tax on salary compulsory.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES BOULT
Rosslyn, Waldegrave-road, Teddington, Nov. 28.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I entirely agree with Mr E. S. Willard, also with Mr Mouillot, with the exception of stage hands giving their services free, as they could not expect any benefit from the funds.

Yours faithfully ALFRED DAVIES.
Queen's Theatre, Dublin, Nov. 24.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—As far as I have been able to peruse the correspondence relating to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, is seems to me that Mr Willard's suggestion is the simplest method to put into operation, and I will carry out this idea with regard to my own company and myself in future; at all events until something more satisfactory is forthcoming. The request for a donation from autograph fiends does not work well altogether. I make a practice of soliciting 2s. 6d. in return for an autograph, but, the amount I receive does not amount to 10 per cent. of the applications. Such contributions as I receive I have hitherto handed over to the Actors Orphanage Fund.

Yours faithfully, MARTIN HARVEY.
Royal Hotel, Wellington-place, Belfast, Nov. 29.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Nov. 28, the Comedy-Opera, in Two Acts, by G. H. Jessop and Sidney Jones, entitled "MY LADY MOLLY."

A capital company, captained by Mr Arthur Hart, presented this tuneful production at the Royal County Theatre on Monday, when the opera received a most cordial welcome. Miss Mabel Lait in the title-rôle made a most creditable appearance. Miss Sibyl Thorne was most engaging as Hestor. A pretty and artless impersonation of Alice Coverdale was submitted by Miss Maud Thorne, whose singing and dancing were one of the most enjoyable features of the production. Miss Lottie Sargent acquitted herself well as Mdlle. Mirabeau; Mr Geo. Grundy gave a fine picture of the dashing Captain Harry Romney, possessing a voice much above the average. The house was kept in continuous laughter by the whimsicalities of Mr Arthur Powell in the part of Mickey O'Dowd; and a creditable rendering of the character of the landlord, Reuben Oates, was given by Mr T. Norbury. Mr Frederick Hobbs was an admirable Sir Miles Coverdale, his fine voice being much appreciated, and a favourable impression was created by Mr Frank Stather as the jealous lover, Lionel Bland. The opera was admirably staged, a well-trained chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr Charlton Mason, contributing greatly to its success.

CHARLES READE'S well-known play, *It's Never Too Late to Mend*, is the attraction at the Elephant and Castle this week. Mr Ernest E. Norris as Tom Robinson has no difficulty in winning the favourable verdict of the audience. Miss Agnes Paulton deserves every credit for her telling embodiment of Josephs. Mr Jo Monkhouse is successful as Geo. Fielding. Mr Ernest Percy gives a thoroughly effective portrayal of the Rev. Francis Eden. Mrs Bennett as Susan well maintains her high reputation as a clever and versatile actress. Mr Dudley Hayes makes good use of his opportunities as the brutal Mr Hawes, and Mr Howard Templeton is effective as Peter Crawley. Mr Paige Lawrence scores as Mr Meadows, and Mr Edward Snow should be accorded praise for his Mr Merton. Mr Harry Paulton, jun., as Jack causes considerable merriment, and Mr Gerald Jordan is a satisfactory Wm. Fielding.

THE Albert Theatre, Gainsborough, was reopened on Monday last by Mr Arthur Carlton under the title of the King's Theatre. During the few weeks it has been closed extensive alterations have been made. The proscenium has been rebuilt, private boxes have been added, and the whole of the building has been redecorated in a most artistic manner. An excellent stock of new scenery has been painted by Mr W. Terris, and a competent orchestra of nine, under the leadership of Miss Elsie Stearn, has been provided. On Monday the performance commenced with the singing of the National Anthem by Mr H. Meggitt, which was heartily joined in by the large audience present. After the third act of *The School for Scandal*, which was being presented by Miss Fortescue's company, that lady, in a few well-chosen words, introduced Mr Carlton, who on coming forward said:—"Ladies and gentlemen, I do not intend to weary you to-night with a long speech, because I am sure you are only too anxious for the continuation of this interesting play presented by Miss Fortescue and her most capable company. Canon Strange, preaching in Worcester Cathedral two or three weeks ago, after having seen some performances at my theatre at Worcester, told the congregation that the stage was a great agency for good when it was properly managed, and that is the idea that we all have before us. As Miss Fortescue has implied, the real thing is the pay-box returns. Your patronage will show the class of plays you must want, and those plays we shall endeavour to put before you. I hope you like the theatre in its new outfit. We have only had something like three weeks in which to change it from its old appearance to its new one, and for my part I am thoroughly well pleased with it. I think we have more reason to feel pleased when we reflect that the whole of the alterations have been carried out by Gainsborough contractors."

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" will be revived at the Comedy Theatre on Monday, with Mr Stanley Cooke in Mr Penley's part, and Mr Brandon Thomas as the Colonel.

ON THE ROAD, DEC. 5.

ACTOR'S ROMANCE.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
ARE YOU A MASON? (MACDONA).—Braintree.
ASSASSIN —Star Theatre, Liverpool.
BANDMANN-PALMER, MRS.—O. T., Manchester.
BEAUTIFUL AVENGER.—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Opera House, Doncaster.
BENSON, MR F. R. (A).—Theatre Royal, Cardiff.
BENSON, MR F. R. (B).—Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
BEST MUST WIN.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
BID FOR FORTUNE.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—Q. T., Dublin.
BOUND TO WIN —Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
BROKEN MELODY—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
BULMER, MR.—Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.
CARL ROSA.—Theatre Royal, Nottingham.
CHRISTIAN —Century Theatre, Motherwell.
CINGALEE.—King's Theatre, Hammersmith.
CONVICT'S DAUGHTER —Grand Theatre, Chorley.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (N.).—C. T., Liverpool.
COUNTRY GIRL (DANCE) (S.).—N. T., Ealing.
COUNTRY MOUSE (N.).—Ayr.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Theatre Royal, Colchester.
DARLING OF THE GODS (N.).—T. R., Hanley.
DARLING OF THE GODS (S.).—New T., Oxford.
DISHONOURED.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Tyne T., Newcastle.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC.—Kennington Theatre, S.E.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE (LOVELL).—Wolverhampton.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE (FROHMAN).—Manchester.
EXECUTIONER'S DAUGHTER.—Mexborough.
FATAL CROWN.—Batley.
FATAL FORTUNE.—Whitehaven.
FATAL WEDDING (M.).—Luton.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—T. R, Stockton.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Palace Theatre, Newcastle.
FLORODORA —Chesterfield.
FRIVOLITY.—Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.
GAY PARISIENNE.—Hereford.
GEISHA.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
GIPSY JACK AND MAFEKING.—Carlton T., S.E.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS —Brixton T., S.W.
GOLDEN LADDER.—P. O. W. T., Great Grimsby.
GREEK SLAVE.—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
GRIP OF IRON —Alexandra Theatre, Hull.
HARVEST OF SIN.—Theatre Royal, S. Shields.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN —Grand Theatre, Leeds.
HER FATAL PAST.—Pontypridd.
HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE.—C. T., Wigan.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Theatre Royal, Lincoln.
HONOUR THY FATHER —Theatre Royal, Barnsley.
I DEFY THE WORLD —R. T., Morecambe.
IN DAHOMEY.—Theatre Royal, Bradford.
INDIAN MUTINY —Rotunda T., Liverpool.
IN THE SHADOW OF NIGHT. R. T., Chester.
IRVING, HENRY —Theatre Royal, Manchester.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.—Oldham.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Uckfield.
LADDER OF LIFE.—T R, Birkenhead.
LADY OF OSTEND.—Grand T., Falkirk.
LADY SLAVEY (GREET).—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
LANGTRY, MRS.—Theatre Royal, Newcastle.
LA POUPEE.—Shrewsbury.
LAUGHTER-LAND —Opera House, Radcliffe.
LETTY —Coronet Theatre, W.
LIGHTNING'S FLASH.—New Theatre, Aberdare.
LIGHTS O' LONDON.—T. R., Huddersfield.
LITTLE MARY.—Prince's Theatre, Bristol.
LONDON FIREMAN.—New Theatre, Consett.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Theatre Royal, Preston.
MANXMAN.—Opera House, Dudley.
MARRIAGE OF KITTY —Theatre Royal, Bolton.
MASTER CRIMINAL.—Opera House, Coventry.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—June. T., Manchester.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE.—K. T., Gainsborough.
MONEY-MAKERS (N.).—Cheltenham.
MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE —Tunbridge Wells.
MOODY-MANNERS (A).—Grand T., Southampton.
MOODY-MANNERS (B).—P. O. W. T., Richmond.
MOODY-MANNERS (C).—Banff.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—T. R., Darlington.
NEVILLE, HENRY.—Liverpool.
NEW EAST LYNNE —Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
NEW HOUSEMAID —H. M. T., Walsall.
ON THE STROKE OF 12 0.—P.O.W., Wolverhampton.
ORCHID (EDWARDES) —Borough T., Stratford.
PATH OF THORNS.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
PEGGY MACGREE.—King's Theatre, Glasgow.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.
PROOF.—Prince's Theatre, Bradford.
QUALITY STREET (BRIGHT).—T. R., Hull.
RICHARD LOVELACE.—Opera House, Torquay.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Grand T., Islington, N.
ROYAL REVENGE (CLYNDES) —Q. T., Longton.
SAPHO.—County Theatre, Reading.
SAPHO (ANNIE BELL).—O. H., Kidderminster.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
SILVER KING (N.).—Theatre Royal, King's Lynn.
SILVER KING (S.).—Shakespeare Theatre, S.W.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Grand T., Nelson.
STILL ALARM.—Opera House, Middlesbrough.
TERRY, EDWARD.—New Theatre, Cambridge.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (1).—C. T., Kingston.
TRAITOR.—O. H., Southport.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—Bedford.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—Accrington.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (TULLY).—M. T, Devonport.
UNDER TWO FLAGS —Alex. T., Stoke Newington.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—O. H., St. Helens.
WALLER, MRS LEWIS.—Grand T., Derby.
WARNER, GRACE —Theatre Royal, Worcester.
WEARIN' O' THE GREEN.—Gaiety T., Clydebank.
WEALTH, WOMAN, AND WICKEDNESS.—Dalston T.
WEE-TON-NO-MAH.—Gaiety T., Leith.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS —A. T., Birmingham.
WHEN WOMAN HATES,—T. R., Chesterfield.
WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN.—T. R., Rotherham.
WILLARD, MR. E. S.—T. R., Brighton.
WOMAN'S PLUCK.—Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.
WORLD'S DESIRE.—Metropole T., Hoyland.
10 30 DOWN EXPRESS.—T. R., Leicester.

"THE ERA" can be obtained at any of Smith and Sons' bookstalls throughout the provinces.

MR WILLIAM HEINEMANN has sent us a copy of "Frank Danby's" novel "Baccarat." The book is a minor masterpiece of realistic fiction. It is as good as Bourget in its analysis of a sexual "case," and it has the advantage of being written from an English point of view of marriage. It is not a work to be placed in the hands of a young person, not because it would do her any harm, but because she would not understand half of it. But it is a terrible sermon on the effects of feminine shallowness, ignorance of life, and folly. The wife "goes wrong" without the least love for her seducer, and with a very strong affection for her husband, and his agony is analysed in a manner which must wring any reader's heart, "if it be made of penetrable stuff." Bourget, in treating adultery, always dwells, with apparent relish, on the actual details. Frank Danby, on the contrary, has reserved her "realism" for the tragical part of her work, and her description of the relations between the husband and the wife after the regrettable incident" is simply cauteric in its intensity of mental vision. "Baccarat" is calculated to "purge the soul by Pity and Terror"—but most of all by Pity.

MR ARTHUR ROBERTS has just acquired from Scott Mackenzie a humorous song which is spoken of as likely to eclipse in popularity the same writer's previous ditty "After you with that!" which was so great a hit a year or two since in Mr Roberts's hands.

DURING the wrestling bout at the Empress, Frixton, on the 25th ult., between Yukio Tani and Joe Carroll, the latter lasted fourteen minutes, and just on the finish both men fell. Carroll's head struck Tani in the mouth and knocked out two teeth. The little Japanese was unable to proceed, and he agreed to give Carroll half the stakes.

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—An exceedingly sad case of distress in our profession has been brought to my notice by my old friend and brother actor, Mr E. M. Robson. It is that of Mr Henry Crisp, who, being fifty-one years of age, and having been an actor for thirty years, is now totally blind, and has been so from the end of October, 1903. He acted up to the last, and played for two years with the vision of one eye quite gone, while that of the other was gradually going. Out of his thirty years' experience he has held engagements as follows:—With Mrs Scott Siddons, three consecutive engagements; with Miss Jennie Lee, five consecutive years; with Mrs Langtry, four consecutive years; with Mr Penley, twelve consecutive years; with Mr Willard, three tours; and as stage-manager with Mr Tree (*Captain Swift*, Company 1). This makes very nearly thirty years, and shows that he must have been reliable and steady to have secured so many re-engagements. His salaries have always been small—£3 to £4 per week—once only reaching £8, so it is not surprising that he has no savings to fall back upon. He has a slender private income derived from the rents of three small houses. The property is mortgaged, and is in the hands of the mortgagees, who work it and allow him 15s. per week. His rent for a top room in the Kennington-road is 8s. per week, and the 7s. left has to find all the necessaries for himself and his wife, and he is not in arrears with his rent. Two years ago he was six months idle on account of illness, chiefly connected with his affliction. The expenses incurred by this, added to fees paid to various doctors in the different towns he visited on tours, reduced his income and savings considerably. He has been an inmate of the Westminster and Ophthalmic Hospitals, but with no benefit, though he speaks gratefully of the kindness shown him by a certain well-known doctor, who treated him gratuitously and secured his admission into the hospitals. There is no hope of his ever seeing again. One eye is quite gone, and is replaced by an artificial one, and the other is past being operated upon. His debts are very few and small; I have a list of them. His address is 145, Kennington-road, S.E.

I have spoken about his case to Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr Pinero, Captain Marshall, Mr Alexander, Mr Bourchier, and Sir Squire Bancroft, all of whom are deeply interested in the case, and express their willingness to help him. I have every hope eventually of organising a concert for his benefit at the Queen's Hall. In the meantime may I ask for the kind consideration which you have always shown for cases of distress in our profession, and beg you to open a subscription list on his behalf, kindly putting me down for £5?

Yours faithfully, CYRIL MAUDE.

EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The case of Mr Henry Crisp is too sad for words. I enclose cheque for £10 10s. (from Mr and Mrs Kendal) with only too much pleasure to so deserving a fund.

Yours faithfully, W. H. KENDAL.
North-Western Hotel, Liverpool, Oct. 18, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Crisp's case is certainly a very sad one, and I am very glad to enclose my mite towards his assistance.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES WYNDHAM.
Midland Hotel, Manchester, Oct. 11, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Please accept the enclosed amount (£1 17s.) as a small donation to Mr Henry Crisp's Benefit Fund in token of the great sympathy which every member of this company bears for Mr Crisp in his terrible misfortune.—Yours faithfully,

NORMAN V. NORMAN.
Theatre Royal, Limerick.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Will you add the enclosed cheque to the fund you have opened for Mr H. Crisp? His case is, indeed, terribly sad.

Yours faithfully, SABA RALEIGH.
Grand Hotel, Middlesbrough, Oct. 26, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Sir Henry Irving asks me to send you the enclosed cheque for £5 as his donation to the Henry Crisp Fund. He sends all good wishes for its success. Yours faithfully, BRAM STOKER.
20, Bedford-street, W.C., Oct. 26, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Please accept the enclosed donation of five pounds (£5 bank note) from the Lyceum Theatre Provident and Benevolent Fund to the Henry Crisp Fund, as an expression of the sympathy the members bear for him in his misfortune.

Yours faithfully, THOMAS REYNOLDS
(hon. sec. Sir Henry Irving's company).
Her Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, Nov. 23.

The following subscriptions have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Kendal	10	10	0
Executors David James Estate, per Edwd. Terry	10	10	0
Mr Hales	5	5	0
E. S. Willard	5	5	0
J. H. Leigh	5	5	0
H Beerbohm Tree	5	5	0
Mr Cyril Maude	5	0	0
Mr Edward Ledger	5	0	0
Messrs Greet and E. Englebach	5	0	0
Sir Charles Wyndham	5	0	0
Adelaide Neilson Fund, per Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
George Alexander	5	0	0
Arthur Bourchier	5	0	0
Sir Henry Irving	5	0	0
Lyceum Benevolent Fund, per Thos. Reynolds	5	0	0
Sir Squire Bancroft	3	3	0
Edward Terry	3	3	0
Arthur W. Pinero	3	3	0
John Hare	3	0	0
W. Lestocq	2	2	0
A. B. and J. J. Wright	2	2	0
Henry Kemble	2	2	0
Isabel Jay	2	2	0
David Allen and Sons, Limited	2	2	0
J. D. Beveridge	2	2	0
Saba Raleigh	2	2	0
Miss Lily Brayton	2	2	0
Fredk. Mouillot	2	2	0
Lionel Brough	2	2	0
W. and W. A. Harle	2	2	0
Harry Nicholls	2	2	0
P. S. C.	2	0	0
Ellen Terry	2	0	0
R. Gilbert	2	0	0
Phyllis Broughton	2	0	0
Charlotte E. Steele	2	0	0
"Geisha" Co., per Jas. R. La Fane	2	0	0
Thalberg Corbett	2	0	0
"Greed of Gold" Co., per Mr W. M. Cameron	1	15	0
"Money Maker" Co., per Mary Griffiths (Mrs Arthur Lyle	1	19	6
Osmond Tearle Répertoire Co., per H. J. Montague	1	5	0
Mr E. M. Robson	1	1	0
Mr John Wilmer	1	1	0
Mr Alban Atwood	1	1	0
Miss B. Selwyn	1	1	0
Mr A. G. Stacey	1	1	0
Miss Ingreville	1	1	0
Horace Stanley	1	1	0
W. H. Hallatt	1	1	0
Cecil Barth	1	1	0
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0
W. Payne Seddon	1	1	0
H. Cecil Berry	1	1	0
Edward Rose	1	1	0
Horace Mills	1	1	0
May Louise Cohen	1	1	0
Frank Denman Wood	1	1	0
Robert Redford	1	1	0
John and Fred Coulson	1	1	0
Frank Bateman	1	1	0
Yorke Stephens	1	1	0
J. O. Baker	1	1	0
Mabel Love	1	1	0
George Arliss	1	1	0
Conway Dixon	1	1	0
C. Ward	1	1	0
Susie Vaughan	1	1	0
H. Ainley	1	1	0
Constance Benson	1	1	0
Mrs Chas. Calvert	1	1	0
Marie Studholme	1	1	0
William Peacock	1	1	0
"Blimbo"	1	1	0
J. W. Chapman	1	1	0
Will Dennis	1	1	0
Robert Pateman	1	1	0
Arthur Whittaker	1	1	0
Edith Wynne Matthison	1	1	0
J. Martin Harvey	1	1	0
Katherine Compton	1	1	0
J. W. Nightingale	1	1	0
Gertie Millar	1	1	0
Topsy Sinden	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Ernest Stevens	1	1	0
H. W. Waddington	1	1	0
W. Johnson and Jos. Potter	1	1	0
Eva Moore Esmond	1	1	0
L. Braithwaite	1	1	0
William Mollison	1	1	0
H. N. Gibson	1	1	0
H. Jalland	1	1	0
Sydney Valentine	1	1	0
Henry A. Lytton	1	1	0
Enid'd Barrington	1	1	0
Austin Melford	1	1	0
J. W. Broughton	1	1	0
Thomas Sidney	1	1	0
Mr and Mrs Chas. Rock	1	1	0
"Two Little Vagabonds" (N.) (per Eric G. Merrie	1	1	0
Ada Blanche	1	1	0
Sims and Barratt	1	1	0
Albert Chevalier	1	1	0
J. F. C. Sims	1	1	0
James Fernandez	1	1	0
F. Topham	1	1	0
Maude Darrell	1	0	0
Mrs J. F. Warden	1	0	0
Mr E. Graham-Falcon	1	0	0
Mr Mark A. Kinghorne	1	0	0
Mr and Mrs Davidson	1	0	0
E. Lawes	1	0	0
Nancy Price	1	0	0
Anonymously	1	0	0
"R. C."	1	0	0
Miss Amy Grace	1	0	0
Leonard Rayne	1	0	0
George Rayne	1	0	0
Dawson Dewick	1	0	0
R. B.	1	0	0
Julian L'Estrange	1	0	0
R. B., an old acquaintance	1	0	0
"Woman and Wine" Co., per F. Withers	0	15	0
J. C.	0	10	6
A. C. Lilly	0	10	6
Chas. Harrington	0	10	6
G. E. M	0	10	6
H. Wilkinson	0	10	6
John Worswick, sen.	0	10	6
W. Cheesman	0	10	6
E. Holman Clark	0	10	6
D. Lyn Harding	0	10	6
Chas. Elphinstone	0	10	6
M. R. Morand	0	10	6
Miss C. Ewell	0	10	6
Herbert Shelley	0	10	6
F. Mercer	0	10	6
Fred Emney	0	10	6
Will Smithson	0	10	6
J. Fisher White	0	10	6
J. F. Elliston	0	10	6
Harcourt Williams	0	10	6
"Well-wisher"	0	10	6
Milton Bode	0	10	6
Leslie Faber	0	10	6
Adolf Schmid	0	10	6
E. Vivian Reynolds	0	10	6
Heleanor Gordon	0	10	6
Pollie Emery	0	10	0
Louisa Gourlay	0	10	0
Mr M. Lang	0	10	0
Mr A. S. Homewood	0	10	0
"8"	0	10	0
James Kiernan	0	10	0

"On the Stroke of Twelve" Company. Total, 13s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Fred J. Little	0	5	0
Herbert Vere	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Karl H Edwards	0	1	6
Fred Rivers	0	1	0
Fred Guinness	0	1	0
Harry C. Robinson	0	1	0
H. Creagh Hunt	0	1	0
Miss B. St Ruth	0	1	0

"The Dandy Doctor" Company, per Florence Smithers (Mrs Owen Dacroy). Total, £1 7s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Owen Dacroy	0	5	0
Mr and Mrs Edward Marris	0	5	0
W. N. Gilmore	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs B. Rowe	0	2	0
Misses Stewart, Leighton, A. Nicholson, and Ivison	0	2	0
Lizzie Primmer	0	1	6
James Danvers	0	1	0
James Salter	0	1	0
Walter Nugent	0	1	0
Harry Louther	0	1	0
Stanley Hirst	0	1	0
Lillian Dacroy	0	1	0
Norah Melton	0	1	0
Cissie Evelyn	0	1	0
Flo Allen	0	1	0
Miss Nicholson	0	1	0

"The Edge of the Storm" Company, per Mr Arthur Fitzgerald. Total, £1 6s.

	£	s.	d.
Miss Marius	0	2	6
Mr Gerald Malvern	0	2	6
Miss Mackinlay	0	2	0
Miss Magrath	0	2	0
Miss Hulme	0	2	0
Mr Henry Renouf	0	2	0
Mr Fredk. Annerley	0	2	0
Mr Leon M. Lion	0	2	0
Mr Julius Hagan	0	2	0
Mr H. Curry, jun.	0	2	0
Mr Arthur Fitzgerald	0	2	0
Mr Lynward Grahame	0	2	0
Mr Alan Borthwick	0	1	0

Collected by Chas. A. Chandler's "Bells of Haslemere" Company, per Powell Jones. Total, £1 6s.

	£	s.	d.
Mr and Mrs Chandler	0	10	0
Mr Powell James	0	3	0
Mr and Mrs Leonard Yorke	0	2	0
Miss Polini	0	1	0
Stafford Smith	0	1	0
Green, Kidderminster	0	1	0
Mr Montagu Turner	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Cecil	0	1	0
Mr Douglas Hamilton	0	1	0
Mr Chas. Clarke	0	1	0
Mr Fred Alton	0	1	0
Mr Harry Montagu	0	1	0
Mr Ted Stone	0	1	
Mr Bill Stephens	0	1	0

Mr George Dance's Company, per B. Ralland. Total, £2 3s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Bertie Ralland	0	2	6
Percy Yorke	0	2	6
Mr Wood	0	2	6
Harry Brayne	0	2	0
José Collins	0	2	0
M. Sadie	0	2	0
H. Williams	0	2	0
G. Barnes	0	2	0
Marie Adair	0	2	0
P. A. T.	0	2	0
Miss Drumond	0	2	0
Mr Dawkins	0	2	0
E. H.	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Austin	0	2	0
N. Cassidy	0	2	0
Leonard May	0	1	0
Frances	0	1	0
M. Maxwell	0	1	0
Gladys Guy	0	1	0
Mr Parry	0	1	0
R. S	0	1	0
L. Beckmann	0	1	0
L. W.	0	1	0
A. Knowles	0	1	0
L. Hildroe	0	1	0
D. Kersey	0	1	0
D. M. B.	0	1	0

Mr Norman V. Norman's Tour, "Under the Red Robe." Total, £1 18s.

	£	s.	d.
Norman V. Norman	0	10	6
Miss Beatrice Wilson	0	5	0
Robert Hilton	0	2	6
B. Iden Payne	0	2	6
F. Glossop Harris	0	2	6
Miss Kathleen Rind	0	2	0
W. Howard Ashley	0	1	0
Miss Lilian Kevill-Davies	0	1	0
Miss Norah Doyle	0	1	0
W. Marshall	0	1	0
A. Long	0	1	0
W. Barnett Parker	0	1	0
Richard Havers	0	1	0
Miss Coleman Philipson	0	1	0
Norman Leslie	0	1	0
Cooper Willis	0	1	0
Eric Maxon	0	1	0
V. Cooper Willis	0	1	0
Mrs Long	0	1	0

Mr and Mrs Kendal's Co. (collected by Mr Bassett Roe). Total, £7 12s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Mrs A. B. Tapping	1	1	0
Miss Elise Clarens	1	1	0
Mr Ernest Hendrie	1	1	0
Mr Bassett Roe	1	1	0
Mr T. Byrne	0	10	6
M. W.	0	10	6
Mr Reginald Sheldrake	0	10	0
A. W.	0	10	0
Mr R. Burnett	0	5	0
Miss Lola Duncan	0	5	0
Miss Mary Jerrold	0	5	0
L. H.	0	5	0
W. M. Rutherford	0	5	0
Miss Edith Bottomley	0	2	6

Mr Geo. Musgrove's "Belle of New York" Company. Total, £4 4s.

	£	s.	d.
Mr Chas. Thorburn	0	5	6
Mr Frank Lawton	0	5	0
Mr Paddy Dupres	0	2	6
Mr Max Copland	0	2	6
Mr Sealy	0	2	6
Mr Selby	0	2	6
Mr C. W. Anson	0	2	6
Mr A. Linforth	0	2	6
Mr Hugh Fleming	0	2	6
Mr Harrison	0	2	6
Miss B. Lamotte	0	2	6
Miss L. Digges	0	2	6
Miss W. Browne	0	2	6
Miss M. Young	0	2	6
Mr W. Douglas	0	2	0
Miss I. Stratham	0	2	0
Miss N. Royston	0	2	0
Miss Hubert	0	2	0
Miss Anderson	0	2	0
Mr L. Hornsey	0	1	0
Mr Stembridge	0	1	0
Mr F. Freeman	0	1	0
Mr A. Watts	0	1	0
Mr P. Foster	0	1	0
Mr G. Wood	0	1	0
Mr J. Seghelloni	0	1	0
Mr E. Lietz	0	1	0
Mr Goodwin	0	1	0
Mr Cowan	0	1	0
Miss K. Lindley	0	1	0
Miss Webb	0	1	0
Miss F. Wellbourne	0	1	0
Miss D. Cammell	0	1	0
Miss Grey	0	1	0
Miss Burr	0	1	0
Miss Macdonald	0	1	0
Miss Minta	0	1	0
Miss Soma	0	1	0
Miss Fenton	0	1	0
Miss N. Donovan	0	1	0
Miss B. Middleton	0	1	0
Miss Lawrence	0	1	0
Miss L. Royce	0	1	0
Miss B. Royce	0	1	0
Miss Frederika	0	1	0
Miss Vincent	0	1	0
Miss M. Walsh	0	1	0
Mrs Williams	0	1	0
Mr C. Wakeman	0	0	6
Mr C. Hood	0	0	6
Mr Cookson	0	0	6
Mr Raynham	0	0	6
Miss V. Vaughan	0	0	6
Miss Kendrick	0	0	6
Miss Percival	0	0	6
Miss M. Foster	0	0	6
Miss R. Wren	0	0	6

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" Company, per Mrs Charles Harrington. Total, 14s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
C. Harrington, jun.	0	1	0
Sylvia Stella	0	1	0
Hero Hathaway	0	1	0
W. Pettitt	0	1	0
G. P. Ellis	0	1	0
J. H. Rogers	0	1	0
J. H. Renney	0	1	0
C. B. Lenton	0	1	0
F. Charles	0	1	0
W. H. Nott	0	1	0
Major Carr	0	1	0
F. Albert	0	1	0
H. Kavalla	0	0	6
Ida Fane	0	0	6
T. Miles	0	0	6
I. Bonney	0	0	6
Shorty May	0	0	6

"An Actor's Romance" Company, per Mr Cecil Barth. Total, £1 6s. 6d.

Miss Bertha Northam, Miss Constance Elgin, Mrs L'Estrange, Miss May Charteris, Miss Marie Dowsing, Miss Edie Kelly, Miss Nora Cameron, Miss Beatty Goodspeed, Mr Guy Hastings, Mr Ernest Ruston, Mr E. H. Dobell, Mr Edwin Coates, Mr Percy Marmont, Mr John Detliv, Mr J. Carl Lyle, Mr Albert Wainwright, Mr J. Crondace, Mr Claude Wallis, Mr F. Wood.

Collected in Pavilion Theatre (per Tina Mavro). Total, £4 3s.

	£	s.	d.
Mr Isaac Cohen	0	10	0
Mr Ashley Page	0	2	6
Miss Marion Deavil	0	2	6
Miss Tina Mavro	0	2	6
Mr Fred Brown	0	2	6
Mr Wilfred Shine	0	2	6
Aves	0	2	6
Orchestra	0	2	6
Mr Harry Howell	0	2	6
Mrs A. Wood	0	2	6
Mr Frank Harding	0	2	0
Mr Harry Barford	0	2	0
Mr James Aubrey	0	2	0
Mr Ernest Stern	0	2	0
Miss Daisy Scudamore	0	2	0
Miss Valerie Crespin	0	2	0
Miss Alice Beaumont	0	2	0
Mr Jack M'Carthy	0	2	0
D. M., a Friend	0	2	0
Mr Harry Samuels	0	2	0
Mr Woolf Jacobs	0	2	0
Mr Willie Laing	0	2	0
Miss Kate Leslie	0	1	0
Miss Clare Ebstol	0	1	0
Miss Kitty Cardigan	0	1	0
Mr Sidney Pease	0	1	0
Mr Fred Bousted	0	1	0
Mr Harry Bristow	0	1	0
Mr Roland Ryley	0	1	0
Mr C. Langdon	0	1	0
Mr J. Chappel	0	1	0
Mr P. Hyams	0	1	0
Mr Jack Jacobs	0	1	0
The Kid	0	1	0
Little Sara Bezant	0	0	6
Ida Ody	0	0	6
Dot	0	0	6
Mater	0	0	6
Mr Fred Withers	0	0	6
Mr Tommy Trotman	0	0	6
Mr A. P. Brooks	0	0	6
Per Mr Willie Laing	0	11	0

Collected by Edward Beecher from members of the J. F. Preston Répertoire Company. Total, 18s. 6d.

	£	s.	d.
Dan F. Roe	0	2	6
Lewis Leslie	0	2	6
Miss Jessie Leslie	0	2	6
G. Stone (Royalty T., Barrow)	0	2	6
Edward Beecher	0	2	6
James Duncan	0	2	0
Mr and Mrs Ernest Hamilton	0	2	0
Clifford Marle	0	1	0
Reg. Brown	0	1	0

All subscriptions sent to Edward Ledger, hon. treasurer, *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C., will be duly announced in these columns.

MISS DAISY JAMES has scored an instantaneous success as the Gibson Girl this week, and is having an elaborate gown made for the impersonation. She is booked for Moss's Empires till 1908.—Miss Myra Stansfield has a couple of successful songs in "Visitors are requested not to touch" and "Hullo,

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders. No Circulars admitted to this List.

Abdullah, Mr H.
Albert, Miss Lottie
Alexander, Mr Stuart
Asche, Mr J. F.
Augarde, Miss A.
Austin, Mr Ralph
Avrigneya, The
Ayrton, Mr Robert
Baird, Miss D.
Barry, Mr Nelson
Barwick, Mr Edwin
Bass, Mr Tom
Behrend, Mr Max
Bell, Mr W.
Bellatzer, Miss F.
Bertini, Mr
Biddle, Brothers
Bird, Mr J.
Bland, Mr W. C.
Boissett, Mrs A.
Bonhair, Mr George
Bonsor, Miss G.
Boris Fridkin Troupe
Boyd and Gilfain
Bradford, Mr H. W.
Bramley, Miss B.
Brampton, Mr Kenneth
Bratby, Mr J. D.
Brown, Mons. J.
Brown, Mr B.
Burkett, Miss Dora
Bushman, Mrs
Cadmar, Mr Edward
Callan, Mr John
Cameron, Miss Doris
Campbell, Mr James
Carson, Mr Murray
Castell, Mr Harry
Cee-Mee Family
Chalmers, Miss H.
Chapter, Mr Hal
Cinizelli, Mr E.
Cinquevalli, Mr Paul
Claires, Les
Clark, Colonel W.
Clifford, Mr Nat
Clinton, Miss Ethel
Cody, Young
Cole, Mr and Mrs
Collins, Miss Bella
Cooper, Mr Geo.
Corsbie, Miss Dorcas
Craig, Miss Elsa
Crawford, Mr Thomas
Cremer, Mr
Cubberley, Mr F.
Cumberland, Miss Bessie
Curzon, Miss Alma
Cuthbert, Mrs Robert
Dagmar, Miss Marie
Daniels, Mr Will
Darrell, Mr Chas.
Darrell, Mr D.
Dartrey, Mr R.
De Bessell, Mr
Decco, Mr James
De Henau, Mons. V.
Denham, Miss Millie
Donar, Mr T.
Dudley, Mr Louis
Duncan, Mr Cecil
Dunlop, Mr Frank
Dyson, Mr
Earle, Miss Eliza
Eastman, Mr Fred
Edgar, Mr Walter
Eirile, Miss Helen
Elliott, Miss Violet
Elton, Mr George
Elton, Mr Sam
Fane, Mr R. M.
Fanning, Mr Dan
Farnley and Farnley
Fenton, Mr Frank
Ford, Mr Alex.
Forde, Mr T.
Fox and Melville
Freeman, Mr A. T.
Freeman, Mr Charles
Fritz, Mr Leo
Frobel and Ruge, Messrs
Fulton, Miss Violet
Gallagher, Mr Tom
Goery, Mr Alfred
Gogxin & Davis, Messrs
Golden, Mr George F.
Goodon, Mr Stanley
Goodrich, Miss Edna
Gouriet, Mr Victor
Grazia, Miss Violet
Hanbury, Miss Lily
Handel, Miss Z.
Handel, Mr George
Harcourt, Mrs Fred
Hare, Miss Winifred
Haslam, Miss Kitty
Hastings, Mr W.
Hatton, Mr Russell
Hayden, Sisters
Haydon, Mr J. S.
Haynes, Mr T. P.
Haywood, Miss E.
Hemming, Mr Stanley
Henderson, Mrs Lade
Henriette, Mdlle.
Herbert, Miss Marion
Hillier, Mr Bob
Holden, Master Thomas
Houdini, Mrs Bessie
Houdini, Mr Harry
Hutin, Mr J.
Hybert, Mr J.
Isaacson, Mr Alexander
Johnson, Mr Kid
Jolly, Mr Laffan B.
Jones, Mr H. S.
Jones, Mr Sidney
Kalo, Mr James
Keene, Mr Billy
King, Miss Hettie
Knight, Mr F. Hamilton
Latham, Mr G. F.
Lee, Mr Alfred
Lehair, Mr
Le May, Mr Tom
Lenard, Mr Chris
Luba De Sarema, Mdlle.
Levino, Mr Dolph
Lindsay, Madame
Lindsay, Mr James
Lloyd, Miss Violet
Lorenzo, Signor
Louis, Mr King
Lowe, Mr Trevor
Luck, Mr E.
Lyncher, The
Maltby, Miss
Marsden, Miss S.
Martine, Mr Albert
Martine, Miss Vera
Marvell's Cockatoos
Mascot, Miss Nellie
May, Mr Sid
M'Cullock, Miss Helen
Melford, Mr Mark
Milner, Mr Chas.
Moxon Family
Mustrel, Miss Ada
Needham, Miss Fanny
Nichols, Mr G. B.
Nicoll, Miss Yetla
Nix, Mr J. B.
North, Miss Lillie
O'Connor, Mr D. B.
O'Gorman, Mr Joe
O'Grady, Mrs H.
Ostleer, Mr Dave
Pleasance, Miss E.
Poncherry, Mr
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Pringle, Mr
Pruncer, Madame
Radcliffe, Mr Stanley
Rand, Mr Arthur
Ray, Miss Belle
Ray, Miss Jane
Ray, Mr Arthur
Raymond, Miss D.
Raynham, Mr W.
Raynor, Miss D.
Reid, Mr Sydney
Rogers, Miss Mabel
Ross-Lea Trio, The
Russel, Bijou
Sampson, Mr C. A.
Scott, Miss Vereatta
Sennett, Mr Charles
Serra, Mr Charles
Shale, Mr T. A.
Silcott, Miss Daisy
Simpson, Mr Lewis
Soldene, Miss Emily
Spencer, Mr Fred
Starr and Jerome
Stewart, Mr J. O.
Storey, Mr Fred
Summers, Mr Walter
"Sylvo"
Symonds, Mr A.
Tearle, Mr G. S.
Thomas, Mr James
Thompson, Miss Annie
Tokio Trio, The
Tomkinson, Mr Percy
Tyndall, Mrs E. L.
Vernon, Mr Evelyn
Vint, Mrs L.
Vox, Mr Barney
Walker, Mr John A.
Waller, Mr Jack
Warner, Mr H. B.
Wayne and Lamar
Weekley, Mr Alfred
West, Miss Louie
West, Miss Stella
Whelan, Mr Albert
Whitaker and Page
Wyatt, Mr Alfred
Yelding, Mr D.
Zolvar, Mr Charles

At the New Theatre Royal, Leigh, on Saturday last a copyright performance was given of a romantic musical drama, in three acts, by Connie Meadows, entitled *A Woman's Silence*.

PRESENTATION.—At the Marlborough Theatre on Wednesday, on the birthday of the courteous acting-manager, Mr F. R. Yeulett, opportunity was taken by the staff of the theatre, aided and abetted by a number of professional and private friends, to present him with a gold chain, sovereign purse, and sleeve-links as "a token of regard and esteem."

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER, BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I. COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II. PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III. INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV. MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V. INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright," is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Mr A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette, Aug. 2d, 1901

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

Those who are interested in "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" will derive much valuable intelligence by reading Mr Albert Strong's book bearing ye tithe aboue, published at "The Era" Office.—Pelican, 901. Aug. 3d, 1

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SPICY FOREIGN PLAYS.

The question of the abolition of the Censorship in France is being warmly discussed at present owing to the assault made on the institution by M. HENRI MARET, an advanced deputy, who has been for twenty-one years in the Gallic Parliament, and is editor-in-chief of the *Rappel*. In Paris no less than five gentlemen, of whom M. PAILLERON, the well-known playwright, is one of the gentlemen who have the onerous duty of watching over the morals of their fellow-countrymen, and of defending them from the attacks made from time to time by the authors of "unsavoury" plays. M. MARET on the last vote on the subject had a majority of more than a hundred in a full house; and, if he should carry his proposal, it will be interesting to observe how the suppression of the Censorship "works" in practice.

There appears to be at present no similar "movement" in Germany, where, when a play is considered objectionable it is simply "stopped" by the police. Only last month Herr OSKAR BLUMENTHAL'S drama *The Dead Lion* was prohibited in the German capital. The piece was a thinly veiled dramatisation of the position of affairs in 1890, when BISMARCK'S resignation was accepted by the present Kaiser. The Berlin police prohibited the performance of the play, and Herr MAX DREYER'S comedy *Das Thal des Lebens*, which was played in England at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Monday by the clever German company which has been for awhile sojourning amongst us, shared the same fate.

It can hardly be imagined that *Das Thal des Lebens* was prohibited because of the likeness of its plot to incidents occurring in any existing *régime*. The country in which it takes place is as imaginary as the "Cloud-cuckoo-land" of ARISTOPHANES. The pivot of the piece is the practice, more common on the Continent than in this country, of employing "wet nurses" to suckle the babies of well-to-do persons. The custom largely prevails in Paris, where whole armies of these milky substitutes may be seen in the Champ-Elysées performing the duty, which, in spite of M. ZOLA'S stern appeal and the complaints of patriotic scientists, is generally "shirked" by the French *mère*. We were not aware that the "high-well-born" German females were similarly vicarious in their maternity; but it is so, according to Herr DREYER. A "wet nurse," as everybody knows, must be a mother; otherwise she would be technically and actually a "dry" nurse. A large proportion of these women are unmarried; and in order to cope with the demand for them there exists, in the play and in a certain fantastic German province, a regular "wet-nurse factory." The production of these full-bosomed foster-mothers is, indeed, the "staple industry" of a certain happy valley in the Fatherland, where a system of free love prevails. The women are duly organised, their "union" being presided over by a "king of the wet-nurses." Now the Margravine, the wife of the ruler of the district, is childless; and, she having thus set the fashion, the ladies of the court and aristocracy have also limited their families. The "wet-nurse" trade is "going to the dogs;" and, worse still, the Margrave has issued an edict threatening to treat every illegitimate birth as a felony, punishable with death. The "king of the wet-nurses," an agreeable young man, resents this proclamation, and is carried off by a kind of military press-gang, forced to become a soldier, and placed at the door of the young Margravine. He impresses her as favourably as Fritz did the Grand Duchess; and, nine months after his "sentry go," a child is born to the Margrave and the Margravine. This outline evidently offers great possibilities in the way of dialogue; and it is only just to M. DREYER to say that he has done his theme the fullest justice.

The newspapers just now contain various articles on the relations of England with Germany, and it is the earnest desire of every intelligent and benevolent person to maintain a friendly feeling between the two countries. Living in London are thousands of Germans, including some of the best and most meritorious of our pseudo-citizens. When one of them steps on English soil he has just as much right to have his morals protected as any born Englishman has. It may be urged that until an immigrant German takes out letters of naturalisation he is not a British subject, and that, therefore, his morals are *une quantité négligéable*. But this is a mere quibble, unworthy of a great nation like ours. Such a contemptible attitude, if maintained with respect to all things, would make international amity impossible. Now, the German Government has decided that *Das Thal des Lebens* is deleterious to German morals, and, acting through its police, it has prohibited the production of the piece. Surely the Kaiser knows his own subjects better than we can, and is best able to judge what would be poisonous to them. At any rate, as we have twice stated, the piece is prohibited in Germany. The next step on the author's part is to bring it over here, and present it to the Germans in London. It is just as if a man had the small-pox, and, being expelled from Ealing, was permitted by the local authorities to roam at large about Hammersmith. Here are thousands of German Londoners—or London Germans—left, by the culpable laxity of our Censorship, entirely at the mercy of Herr MAX DREYER! Where was their protector? Where was Mr REDFORD? Why were these poor strangers—"sojourners with us," and therefore all the more entitled to sanitary supervision—why were they exposed to a danger from which, in their native country, and by the strong and judicious action taken by their police, they were very properly protected? The German Theatre in London is supported chiefly by Germans. The ordinary Londoner is sufficiently protected from any contamination by his ignorance of the language. We have no complaint to make on patriotic grounds. But we protest most strongly against the culpable negligence of the Censorship, and its heartless indifference to the morals of a class which is both respectable and considerable. People in England—Germans especially—may well ask, "What is the use of the Censorship?"

THE HIPPODROME.

A very attractive and artistic item in the programme here is supplied by Mdlle. Diane de Fontenoy, whose beautiful *tableaux vivants* are intensely admired and enthusiastically applauded. The stage is set to represent an artist's studio, in the centre of which is a raised platform, or "throne." Mdlle. De Fontenoy, clad in modern dress, enters; and, after looking about her, hits on the idea of impersonating various characters of historical interest. The first of these is Boadicea, who presents herself holding a spear and clad in leopard skins. She throws herself into various attitudes, finally posing in one of courageous self-defence. When the curtain is next raised, we see a lovely vision indeed. Lalla Rookh, clad in appropriate Eastern garb, reclines on a couch "whiffing" luxuriously at a cigarette. Finally, she leans back and falls asleep. The next tableau is a more dramatic one. Cleopatra sits on her throne meditating suicide by the help of the asp which lies by her in a basket. After screwing her courage to the *felo de se* point, she seizes the reptile, which she applies to her arm, and then dies in great agony, her sufferings being portrayed by Mdlle. De Fontenoy with very intense expressiveness. Next we see the lady as a slave girl, clad in white, and chained to the trunk of a tree. The captive mourns her fate, and tries in vain to break her iron bonds, eventually sinking down despairing and exhausted. Last of all Mdlle. De Fontenoy appears as Queen Alexandra, in her Coronation robes, a magnificent and commanding figure. Mdlle. De Fontenoy's performance is one of the brightest and strongest attractions in the bill at the Hippodrome, which has undergone but few changes since our last visit to this admirably conducted establishment. The Mysterious Kettle, with its scientific marvels, is more interesting than ever, a small locomotive being shown impelled only by liquid air. Mendel, the blind pianist, displays his wonderful musical memory, and that charming and athletic trio, the Leamy Troupe, dazzle and delight by their daring performance on their brilliantly lighted aerial apparatus. That inexplicable mystery, Zutka, continues to puzzle and please; the Hoopers, with their *mélange* of skill and fun, are very popular; Rossow's Midgets acrobatise and box with unflagging energy; and Charles Leb's monkeys, cats, and dogs surprise by their docility and cleverness, the waltzing of two of the simians being especially admired

In order to give the German actor, Mr Behrend, a little rest after the recent productions he has so ably directed, it has been decided to postpone the matinée of *Traumulus* at the Queen-street Theatre, announced for to-day, till Saturday next. In its stead will be given by general request a matinée of *Das Thal des Lebens*, which will be also performed on the following Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. On Thursday, Dec. 8, will be produced a light comedy, in three acts, by G. Schaetzeler-Perasini, entitled *Sein Prinzesschen*, which has found great favour in Germany.

A THREATENING fire broke out a few days ago in the Cold Storage Company's large premises in Williamson-square, Liverpool, and, but for the promptitude of Mr Harris Fineberg, proprietor of the Star Theatre, which is opposite, in at once rushing to the telephone and summoning the fire brigade, the flames would have had sufficient time to obtain a good hold of the building. The storage place, by the way, is built on the site of the old Patent Theatre Royal, the front of which is still preserved. The theatre cost £6,000, and was opened in 1772 with the tragedy of *Mahomet*. Its boards have been trodden by the greatest actors and actresses of the Georgian and Victorian reigns. It was closed some twenty years ago.

THE SHAH'S NEW SUIT."

A New Comic Opera, in Two Acts,
Produced at the Royal Court Theatre, Sloane-square, at a Matinée on Monday, Nov. 28.

The Shah of Mersia ..... Mr A. J. STAIT
Shampooheshaw ..... Mr HARRY C. HEWITT
Smilee ..... Mr HERBERT LINSCOTT
Growlee ..... Mr CYRIL LEONARD
Screeno ..... Mr D. G. ALLEN
Norval ..... Mr WOODIE D. FREEMAN
Ratchemiphukan ..... Mr ALWYN STEWART
Clerk of Arraigns ..... Mr CYRUS POTT
Princess Vera ..... Miss IDA WYNN WESTCOTT
Pizzicata Simperling .... Miss JESSY CHAMBERS

This matinée entertainment was given by the Apollo Operatic Society in aid of the Incorporated Soldiers' and Sailor's Help Society, the performance being repeated on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings. The names of the authors were omitted from the programme, but we understand that the piece was written and composed by two clergymen, the Rev. W. J. Pressy and the Rev. Robert Andrews. The result of the ministerial collaboration was not very satisfactory. The music, although not without merit, failed to reveal any special talent for this kind of work; and the libretto was wofully weak, altogether lacking in those qualities which mark the dialogue and lyrics of the clever writers of modern musical comedy. By such artless lines as "Oh, what a bore! Well, then, good-bye—or rather au revoir," one was reminded of the old-fashioned pantomime book; and a chorus such as "O, sausages, beef, and ham, what a dilemma I'm in I am" does not give the composer of the music a fair chance. The plot is based upon the Arabian Nights, entitled "The Emperor's New Clothes," and a Christmas piece by Captain Basil Hood, founded on the same story, was produced a few years ago. Two impostors, taking advantage of the monarch's weakness for gay apparel, pretend that they have produced a material of remarkable fineness and beauty of colour. The Emperor, following the example of others, declares that he sees and admires the new clothes which have no real existence. In the new production the scene is the Island of Padragascar, and hither come Smilee and his friend Growlee. They are disguised as tailors, and the former is an English nobleman, who having heard of the beauty of the Princess Vera, daughter of the Shah of Mersia, is resolved to judge for himself. He, of course, falls in love with the Princess, and his companion is captured by the charms of her duenna, Pizzicata Simperling. The young ladies give the strangers every encouragement, and evidently do not believe that they are what they pretend to be. Smilee, who is of a daring and sanguine temperament, having been successful in making the prime minister, Shampoohshaw, believe that he and his partner had made a remarkably fine suit of clothes, tries the experiment upon the Shah himself with equal satisfactory results. When the Shah discovers that he has been victimised by impostors, Smilee and his friend are taken into custody by the police and brought before the high and mighty potentate. This leads to a burlesque of The Trial scene in *The Merchant of Venice*, the Princess appearing as the young advocate, and her duenna as her "junior." The Shah is considerably upset when the eloquent counsel proves to be his own daughter. But matters are put straight by Smilee, who declares that he is a member of the English nobility, and assumes the garments befitting his rank. Mr Herbert Linscott as Smilee played with melodramatic earnestness, but he used a capital tenor voice with good effect in a couple of ballads. Mr Cyril Leonard did fairly well as Growlee, his singing being also received with applause. Mr A. J. Start's Shah was wanting in dignity; otherwise it was a creditable performance. Mr Harry C. Hewitt did his best to make the Prime Minister a comic personage, and sang a rather out of date ditty "The old Parliamentary Hand" in good style. His smart dancing was greatly appreciated. Mr D. G. Allen scored as the Court Page, and Mr Woodie D. Freeman scored as Smilee's tiger. Mr Alwyn Stewart was suitably placed as the leader of the local police force. Miss Ida Wynn Westcott was a dainty Princess Vera, and sang well. Miss Jessy Chambers was a spirited representative of the duenna; and Mr Cyrus Pott as the Clerk of Arraigns completed the cast. Mr Frederick W. Belchamber was the musical conductor, and Mr Walter Browne stage manager. The dances were invented and staged by Mr Charles Raymond.

THE one hundredth of the series of fancy dress balls took place at Covent-garden Theatre on Friday night, and a special scenic panorama was prepared for the occasion. The visit of the San Carlo Opera company terminated just in time to admit of the due elaboration of the pictorial scheme, which represented a charming view of "The Bosphorus," carried out by Mr Harry Brooke, the scenic artist. A panorama of Constantinople, as seen from the entrance to the Golden Horn, was unfolded to the eye of the spectator. Some of the most noted architectural features of the city were conspicuous, the gilded domes being lit up by warm golden sunlight. This, the central picture, was continued to right and left by characteristic environments of scenery. The orchestra, which has been erected somewhat more forward towards the auditorium, was decorated with Turkish lamps, and here, as usual, Mr Dan Godfrey was the genius of the music which set a-going the tripping measure of the gay throng of dancers. Not only had Messrs Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth prepared a scenic celebration of unusually gorgeous character for their "century" ball, but they presented on this occasion prizes of exceptional value, while each lady received a handsome souvenir in the shape of an ostrich feather fan. The first prize, which was awarded to the wearer of a dress distinguished from the others either for its novelty or its beauty, consisted of a large diamond, ruby, and butterfly brooch. There were twenty-one other prizes. Supper was served in the Grand Foyer, and the orchestrion assisted in the making of music alike for those who attended the ball to dance and the many others who took seats or boxes to view the brilliant scene on the floor of the theatre.

ARTHUR W. PINERO'S play *Letty* is the attraction at the Kennington Theatre this week, played by Mr Chas. Frohman's excellent company. Miss Irene Vanbrugh enacts Letty with a passionate tenderness which at once endears the character to the audience. Nevill Letchmere is depicted by Mr H. B. Irving with striking ability. Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson gives a complete embodiment of Marion Allardyce; Mr Scott Craven represents Mr Mandeville admirably; Mr M'Ausland Stewart as Ivor Crosbie is effective; Miss Mary Blaynez as Mrs Ivor Crosbie gives a very good performance; Frederic is safe in the hands of Mr Litchfield Owen; Mr Vernon Steele does credit to the character of Mr Coppinger Drake; Miss Eleanor Souray supplies a realistic characterisation of Hilda Gunning; and Mr Leslie Victor does justice to the rôle of Richard Perry. The remaining characters are in able hands, and the piece has been well received by full houses.

PRESENTATION.—On Wednesday evening of last week, at the Marlborough Theatre, on the birthday of Mr Purcell's energetic and courteous acting-manager, Mr F. R. Yeulett, the staff of the theatre and a number of professional and private friends presented him with a gold chain, sovereign purse, and enamel and gold sleeve-links as a token of regard and esteem. Since the opening of this handsome theatre Mr Yeulett has made many friends; and this gift must be highly gratifying to him, showing him as it does that his efforts for the comfort of those he comes in contact with are appreciated.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 23.—During the past week there have been an unusually large number of openings. On the same night that Sir Charles Wyndham began his engagement at the New Lyceum Theatre, Madame Réjane changed her bill at the Lyric and appeared in *La Robe Rouge*, her répertoire for the rest of the week comprising *L'Hirondelle*, *La Parisienne*, and *Incognita*. The other openings were *Humpty Dumpty*, a Drury-lane pantomime with American trimmings, at the New Amsterdam Theatre; *Hamlet*, with Mr Sothern and Miss Marlowe, at the Knickerbocker; *Sunday*, with Miss Ethel Barrymore in the title-rôle, at the Hudson Theatre; *The Rich Mrs Repton*, with Miss Fay Davis, which proved a failure and has been withdrawn; Mrs Fiske's revival of *Hedda Gabbler* at the Manhattan; and a new musical play entitled *A China Doll* at the Majestic.

MADAME REJANE'S impersonations have evoked enthusiastic applause at every performance, and the famous French actress has been praised unstintedly in the newspapers, but the scenery used in her representations has been unfavourably criticised in connection with the fact that the prices of the best seats have been advanced to three dollars during her engagement. This week Madame Réjane is appearing in *Zaza*.

"HUMPTY-DUMPTY," as produced at the New Amsterdam Theatre, is more like a genuine English pantomime than *The Beauty and the Beast* and *Mr Bluebeard* were. The harlequinade has been retained, and the slangy songs and dialogue that changed the character of the earlier importations are in the present instance happily conspicuous by their absence.

MISS ETHEL BARRYMORE has scored a personal success in *Sunday* at the Hudson Theatre. The play is considered a pretty good picture of Western life according to British ideas.

MISS NANCE O'NEILL began an engagement at Daly's Theatre on the 21st inst., enacting the title-rôle in Sudermann's *Magda*. On the last three nights of this week Miss O'Neill will appear in *Hedda Gabler*. There will then be two impersonations of Ibsen's unlovely heroine in the field, as Mrs Fiske is playing Hedda at the Manhattan Theatre.

ECCENTRIC CLUB DINNER.

About 500 members of the Eccentric Club and guests were present on Sunday evening in the Grand Banqueting Hall of the Hotel Cecil at the fourteenth anniversary dinner of the club. The Chairman was Mr JOSEPH LYONS, on the back of whose seat was poised a stuffed owl holding a watch in his beak. The owl is a bird of wisdom. He is also a bird of night, and it is a tradition of the Eccentrics that in their club the hand of the clock or watch points at all times to the hour of four. The members say that this means 4 a.m., and conveys a hint that not later than this hour the devotees of the owl are expected to seek their several homes. The company over which Mr Lyons presided included men of business, members of the Stock Exchange, and of the theatrical and musical professions, lawyers, doctors, and journalists, to say nothing of the club's "chaplain," Mr LIONEL BROUGH, who said grace before dinner.

THE CHAIRMAN, in giving the toast of the evening, said he had often been asked why the club was called the Eccentric. There was an American once who on the occasion of a visit to Lincoln Cathedral said it was very kind of the Britishers to name their cathedral after President Lincoln. There was also Tom Emmott, the famous cricketer, who, being asked why a certain ball delivered to the batsman was called a "Yorker," replied, "What else could you call it?" So he (the chairman) was disposed to answer his interrogators in a similar strain—what else could this club be called but the Eccentric? If they as members had one dislike more strongly developed than another is was to see any brother Bohemian or member of the professions which ministered to the entertainment and amusement of the public sink into misfortune. One of the objects for which they existed was to extend at all times a helping hand to those in distress and to do what they could to raise up those who had fallen by the wayside.

THE HON. SECRETARY (Mr J. A. Harrison) acknowledged the toast, and the chairman's health was cordially pledged on the call of Mr RICHARD WARNER, the vice-chairman. After the speeches a musical programme, organised by Mr Frank Boor and Mr John Le Hay, was contributed to by many well-known artists.

THE report of Barnum and Bailey for the forty-nine weeks ended Oct. 22 states that the working agreement with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Company has been carried on as in the previous season, with the exception that, as from Jan. 1, 1904, Mr Bailey, with the consent of his co-directors, entered into a personal agreement with Colonel W. F. Cody ("Buffalo Bill") for the acquisition of the share of the late Nate Salisbury's estate in that organisation, assuming all the liabilities of the estate to Barnum and Bailey, Limited. The working agreement with Buffalo Bill's Wild West Company concluded at the expiration of the season at Hanley on Oct. 21. The Wild West Company having decided on a Continental tour, an agreement has been entered into with Messrs Cody and Bailey, dated Nov. 19, 1904, to lease to them a portion of the plant owned by Barnum and Bailey, Limited, at a fixed rental. The "Greatest Show on Earth" commenced its season at Madison-square Garden, New York, on March 19, and concluded its tour at the Coliseum, Chicago, on Oct. 19. It is intended in 1905 to open the American tour at Madison-square Garden. The total balance to the credit of profit and loss amounts to £69,125. The directors propose to write £10,000 off depreciations of leases and plant in England and America; to provide £30,000 for estimated wintering expenses in London, Stoke-on-Trent, New York, and Bridgeport, U.S.A.; and to pay a dividend of 6 per cent., leaving £13,125 to carry forward.

THE last performance of *The Flute of Pan* at the Shaftesbury Theatre was given on Saturday last.

IN the Court of Bankruptcy, on the 25th ult., Oscar Lotinga, the debtor, known as Oscar Luck, attended for public examination before the registrar. It appeared that in or about 1892 he became a member of a troupe of music hall artists known as the Six Brothers Luck. Between two and three years ago he left the troupe, and for ten weeks toured with a cinematograph entertainment on his own account, but this proving unsuccessful he rejoined the troupe, with which he has since remained at a salary of £3 per week. The debtor estimated that he had lost about £500 in connection with the cinematograph entertainment, and £476 by betting. By profession he was a music hall artist and actor, and his association with the Six Brothers Luck was the commencement of his professional career. His associates were his real brothers. The examination was closed, the liabilities being returned at £787, and assets nil.

THE Bohemian Twins, who made their first appearance in this country at the Brighton Hippodrome on Nov. 21, were presented during the week with handsome gold chains and pendants, each suitably inscribed, by Mr Thos. Barrasford as a souvenir of the event.

OWING to the severe and serious illness (neurosthenia) of Miss Kitty Olive, she is unable to fulfil her engagement this Christmas, as Dandini, at the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, where she was engaged with Mr Fred Karno. The Olive Trio have just concluded a most successful tour at the Moss's Empires, and are now back in town.

THEATRICAL CUSTOM.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday, before Mr Justice Grantham and a special jury, was heard the case of "Sydenham v. Davis." This was an action brought by Mr George Sydenham, residing at Fallowfield, Manchester, an acting-manager, to recover from Mr Tom B. Davis, proprietor of touring theatrical companies, damages for wrongful dismissal. Defendant pleaded that, by the custom of the profession, a fortnight's notice was sufficient; alternatively, that sufficient notice was given; and, thirdly, that plaintiff acquiesced in the notice. The defendant further counter-claimed for £25, which he said had been advanced for the purposes of the tour, and which had not been accounted for.

Mr Arthur Powell, K.C., Mr Frank Dodd, and Mr J. H. Pugh (instructed by Messrs Cohen and Cohen) appeared for the plaintiff; and the defendant was represented by Mr Le Breton, K.C., and Mr Harold Simmons (instructed by Messrs Steadman, Van Praagh, and Gaylor).

Mr Arthur Powell said in the years 1901-02 the plaintiff had been engaged by Mr Davis to manage some of his touring companies, in one receiving the salary of £6 a-week, and in the other £8 a-week. In those companies plaintiff remained until the close of each tour. In the summer of 1903 arrangements were made for a tour in the autumn and winter, and at the end of May or early in June he asked the defendant if he would be wanted again to manage a tour. Defendant said he would, and on June 2 plaintiff received a letter in regard to *The Medal and the Maid* tour offering an engagement as manager of the No. 1 company, which would start in October, and was booked up to Easter, less two weeks. Defendant further stated in the letter that he could only offer £6 a week. Plaintiff called and saw the defendant, when the matter was thoroughly gone into and discussed between them, the result being that plaintiff took the engagement at the reduced salary. On June 13 defendant wrote him that the tour would open on Sept. 28, and that Mr Paul Callan was being sent out as stage-manager. Nothing immaterial happened after that until Oct. 19, when plaintiff received a letter from the defendant, in which he said:—"I have been looking into my staff arrangements, both in London and on tour, very carefully, and I regret to say I shall be unable to continue to avail myself of your services after the conclusion of the week at Hammersmith, so that your engagement will terminate with me on Nov. 22. I mention this to you now, as I want you to see I am not superseding you by any new manager, but I have nothing else for Mr Morris." That letter came as a great surprise to the plaintiff, and he replied, pointing out that it would be a very serious thing with regard to his reputation to be dismissed on tour, stating that the engagement had been for the tour, and reserving any rights he might have in the matter. The defendant, in answer to this, denied that he engaged the plaintiff for the tour, and said the engagement was a business arrangement terminable upon business lines. Plaintiff, on relinquishing his engagement sent defendant a statement of the accounts, and saying he would call and settle up the next day, at the same time suggesting that the matter should be referred to arbitration. A correspondence then ensued, and eventually the writ in the action was issued. The plaintiff admitted there was a sum of £25 due to the defendant.

Mr George Sydenham was then called, and said he was first engaged by the defendant for the tour of *The Silver Slipper* in 1901. That tour lasted for over forty weeks. He asked Mr Davis for a contract, and he said, "Write out what you like, and I will sign it." No contract was written out, however. Forty weeks practically meant a year; but he was engaged for the tour, and not for a year. In 1902 he was again employed by the defendant to manage a tour at an increase of salary. The engagement was made at the end of the first tour, and was also for *The Silver Slipper*, and was a verbal arrangement. That tour ended in the latter end of June, 1903. Through those tours he worked as manager and stage-manager. It was towards the close of the 1902 tour that the defendant said he would require his services for another tour. Prior to engaging with the defendant, he had acted as manager for the tour of Morell and Mouillot and Miss Fortescue. Without a special provision for a fortnight's notice, the engagement was for the tour.

In cross-examination, witness said he was first a theatrical manager and actor in America, and his first experience in England was a tour of his own, and, secondly, with Morell and Mouillot, about five years ago. He could not remember whether his first engagement with the defendant was, or was not, in writing.

Further cross examined, witness said it was a serious thing to dismiss a manager on tour.

Mr Justice Grantham referred to a letter amongst the documents written by the defendant, in reply to a request to allow the company to come to London between the trip to Liverpool and Dublin. The defendant wrote that it was a most unreasonable request, and asking that it might be pointed out to the company that they got an engagement from July to June in the following year, and that if they came they must pay their own expenses.

Mr Frederick Talbot Cole, Mr Frank Nelson, and Mr Parrington, all theatrical managers, gave evidence to the effect that in the case of managers they were engaged for the tour of a piece, unless it was otherwise stipulated.

Mr Richard Mansel, theatrical manager, corroborated, but in cross-examination said that unless there was a clause to the contrary, a manager, like an actor, could be dismissed on a fortnight's notice.

This closed the plaintiff's case.

Mr Le Breton, for the defence, submitted that the engagement of the plaintiff was an indefinite one, and not for the whole tour, and under such circumstances was terminable by the usual fortnight's notice, though in this case the plaintiff had been exceptionally well treated, as he was practically given a month's notice.

Mr George Edwardes, theatre proprietor, theatrical manager, &c., was called, and stated that if there was no definite engagement, the theatrical custom was that an acting manager was upon the same footing as an actor, and subject to a fortnight's notice. During his twenty-five years' experience he had acted upon that custom, and no exception had been taken to it. In his contracts terms of notice were clearly stated at the end. In case of no contract, the customary practice was a fortnight's notice, and he had always acted on that.

Mr Tom B. Davis, the defendant, said the engagement upon which he was sued was an indefinite one, and not for the tour, and in such cases the usual fortnight's notice, which was the theatrical custom, would apply. In his letter which had been referred to, and in which he described the request of the company to come up to London as unreasonable, considering that they were engaged from July to the following June, he meant to infer that the duration of the tour would probably be for a year, and not that the company were engaged for the whole period.

Evidence was given by Mr Charles Darrell, a theatrical manager of twenty-seven years' experience; Mr James Bannister Howard, Mr Charles Macdona, and Mr Henry John Callan, all of them theatrical managers, to the effect that unless there was a special contract all engagements were terminable by fourteen days' notice.

The jury found that the engagement was for the tour, and that the plaintiff was entitled to the sum of £93, the actual money damage that he had sustained.

Judgment for the plaintiff for that amount with costs was then given, and a stay of execution refused.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

Mr David Day, of Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, with his wife and son, arrived safely back on these shores on Saturday last from New York, per ss. Lucania, after an enjoyable and interesting trip through Canada and the United States. Good weather favoured the travellers, and the places visited included Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Niagara Falls, Detroit, St. Louis (where, of course, the great exhibition was the attraction), Chicago, and New York, where a fortnight was spent. All along the line the principals of the music publishing concerns of the great towns and cities visited vied with each other in extending hospitality and welcome to the voyagers, the hostesses including Mrs Sol Bloom, Mrs Dreyfus, Mrs Remick, and Mrs Shapiro.

Trade generally in Canada is reported by Mr Day to be brisk and good, with everything pointing to increase of business in the New Year. In the United States, including New York, the leading firms are all active, each endeavouring to score, but, unfortunately in many instances, the activity takes the form of severe "cutting" competition with respect to the prices at which goods are offered to the public. Certain music publishing concerns recently rented counters in large departmental stores for the express purpose of pushing their own important compositions, to the exclusion of their brother publishers' wares, and then began a cross game between different firms at the hired counters of lowering prices one against the other, whilst the proprietors of the stores themselves discomfited the renters of counters by underselling them all! Fifteen cent musical pieces were in some instances retailed at three cents, so that the five cent royalty will apparently have to be, like "Dida" at the Alhambra, evolved out of nothing.

Mr Day, besides securing the great American hit "The Troubadour," recently referred to in these columns, has brought with him a song entitled "Teasing," by Albert Von Tilzer. The success of the ditty "Bluebell" in Britain has been great; in America it has been greater. But report states that its success is, and is likely to be, totally eclipsed by the newer number.

Mr Bransby Williams, who was among the entertainers at the Eccentric Club supper on Sunday evening at the Hotel Cecil, was seized with a sudden faintness during his recitation, and had to be assisted from the platform. The attack, which was due to severe indigestion, was quite of an ephemeral character, and Mr Williams speedily recovered. His many friends were soon reassured, and later in the evening he delighted them with the vigour and impressiveness of his elocution.

As monologues are the fashion in variety entertainments just now—a fact probably due to the sketch prosecutions initiated by the Theatrical Managers' Association—Mr Bransby Williams is having one specially written for him by the accomplished authoress and actress, Miss Beatrix De Burgh. It will have powerful dramatic interest and a very novel finale, which at present need not be divulged; but we are permitted to state that Mr Williams will be seen in the character of a spendthrift and gambler. The monologue will be seen at the Empire, for which house the young actor is engaged at an excellent salary, and it is scarcely necessary to add that the novelty will be elaborately staged.

Mr Alfred Butt is arranging an excellent programme for the celebration of the twelfth anniversary of the Palace, and the first under his management, on Tuesday evening next. He has obtained the services of a large number of popular artists, including Miss Kate Cutler, Mdlle. Marguerite Cornille, Mdlle. Genée, Miss Winifred Hare, Miss Alice Pierce, Little Tich, Mr Gus Elen, Mr Arthur Prince, Mr Harry Tate, Chirgwin, and Mr Charles Warner. A novel feature of the occasion is to be a new wordless musical play by Hugh J. Ward, music arranged by Julian Jones, in which Mr H. B. Warner and the author, both accomplished fencers, will fight a duel. This will be the first time on record that the Warners, father and son, will appear on the same night on a variety stage. Of course, the son has supported his father on the legitimate boards many a time and oft.

The new Empire ballet which Mr George Edwardes will probably produce there on or about the 19th inst. is an adaptation by Mr C. Wilhelm of *Puppenfee*, a work that has had considerable vogue on the Continent. Beyond the music by Herr Bayer, of Vienna, very little of the original idea is left except the scene of a toy shop—a veritable realm of dolls—at Christmas time, which is visited by a family in order to purchase presents. At the Empire a Yuletide aspect will be given to the new production, and Mdlle. Adelina Genée will have ample opportunities of exhibiting her talent, as nearly all the funny situations in doll land arise from her impersonation of mechanical figures. A great deal of new music has been added to the original score, but as yet no title has been fixed upon for the new divertissement. Some twenty years ago a puppet ballet was produced at the old Oxford by Mr Paul Valentine entitled *Dollytoyiana*. The divertissement was prettier than its name.

The engagement of Fragson for Drury-lane by Mr Arthur Collins was brought about by Mr C. M. Ercole, the cosmopolitan agent, of 22, Chaussée d'Antin, Paris, who is said to have secured an unprecedented salary for the favourite Parisian comedian. M. Ercole has been the medium of introducing many famous people to both the legitimate and variety stages in England, and he is particularly proud of his latest contract, for Fragson is among the *fine fleur* of artists.

The installation night at the Holborn Restaurant of the Pimlico Lodge is always a red letter one; but seldom has there been a jollier or a more important gathering than that of Thursday evening, when Brother W. Wilson, of Leicester, was installed W.M. The new Worshipful Master and his sons belong, as we need hardly state, to the celebrated firm of theatrical printers, who are known and highly respected in professional circles all over the United Kingdom, and the choice of the lodge is therefore an excellent one. At the conclusion of the banquet a capital entertainment was contributed to by Miss Marie Lloyd, Miss Alice Lloyd, Miss Eileen Douglas, Mr Ernest Rees, Mr Wal Grace, P.M., Brother Higham's three daughters, Daisy, Violet, and Hilda (accompanied by papa), Mr Walter Tilbury, Mr Gus Dalton, Mr Max Sterling, Miss Louie Seymour, Miss Mona May, and the gay and frolicsome Will Oliver. The accompaniments were played by Brother George Le Brunn.

Mr and Mrs Frank Glenister were present on Sunday evening at the dinner of the London Pavilion cricket team at the Comedy Restaurant, Panton-street, the popular manager of the Piccadilly-circus establishment being in the chair. Among the party were a number of Mr Glenister's friends and his assistant, Mr William Cobbett, who did excellent work as a bowler during the summer. At the conclusion of the dinner an interesting and enjoyable entertainment gave much pleasure to the guests. Among the contributors were Mr Harrison Brockbank, the accomplished baritone, and Mr Percy Honri, the well-known virtuoso on the concertina. It is as yet too early to speak of the prospects of the team for next year, but if enthusiasm for the national game and ability to play it count for anything, we may expect the Pavilion eleven to score many brilliant victories.

Mr E. P. Morgan has been appointed by Mr Oswald Stoll manager at the New Hippodrome, Manchester, to be opened on Boxing Day, and takes up his duties on Monday next.

Mr W. H. Webster, a former manager of the Grand, Glasgow, has been appointed manager of Mr Geo. Green's new Whitevale Theatre, in the east-end of that town.

Mr Arthur J. Barclay has been granted a licence to produce stage plays at the Walthamstow Palace, where there is an excellent stage, capable of taking the largest productions. The licence does not carry a permit for the sale of intoxicants.

The news of Mr Dan Leno's death touched a sympathetic chord in the breasts of his professional brethren in far-off Johannesburg, and a wreath was subscribed for by those engaged at the Standard and Empire Theatres, in the capital of the Rand. A cablegram to Sydney Hyman resulted in the sending of a floral souvenir, to the cost of which the following contributed:—H. Hyman, W. Seeley, Leon Mooser (Chung Ling Foo), Julius Rosenthal, Billy Hobbs, Hazel Burt, Du Cane Trio, Fred West, H. Blakey, Clara Moore, an Admirer, the Kings, W. Gould, Helen Charles, George Bernard, Brothers Pro, Sass-Nelson, W. Cromwell, Miss L. Hubbard, Pierre Cohen, and Miss Pearson.

Mr Oswald Stoll, who was aptly described on the Leicester Palace stage by a late Lady Mayoress as "that good Samaritan," has once again been the recipient of thanks for his generosity in placing the Leicester Palace Theatre free of all charge at the disposal of the committee organising funds in aid of the Leicester Poor Boys' and Girls' Summer Camp and Institute. The building was packed on Sunday, both in the afternoon and evening, to hear sacred concerts given by the Portsmouth Division Royal Marines Band, under the conductorship of Lieutenant Miller, M.V.O., Mus. Bac. (Cantab). The high-class musical programme was also interspersed by songs by Madame Counter, Mr Alfred Page, and Miss Florence Robinson, Miss Louie Taylor being at the piano.

Councillor Hilton (the Mayor) was present. Councillor Shaw, during an interval at the evening concert, after expressing regret at the unavoidable absence of Sir John Rolleston, M.P., and Lady Rolleston, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Stoll for his kindness in allowing the free use of that beautiful theatre as in former years; and to Mr Leonard Vidal for his great kindness, assistance, and courtesy. Mr Vidal, in a neat little speech, returned thanks on behalf of Mr Stoll. Mr Vidal had loyal assistance from Mr Arthur Brogden, the painstaking assistant manager; and Mr Bertram G. Isles, the hard-working stage-manager.

A rather interesting event in connection with Mr Frank Macnaghten's Leicester Pavilion Theatre took place on Monday at the residence of Mr Walter Lapworth, when a few patrons of the hall entertained at supper Miss Louie Reynolds. This lady, who during her connection with the hall for the past five years has won the esteem of management and patron alike by her never-failing courtesy, was about to be married to Mr Percy Marsden, a gentleman well-known to frequenters of the hall. The party in her honour included Mr and Mrs Walter Lapworth (the manager), Mr and Mrs Joe Lawrence (the stage-manager), and Mr William Willson (the well-known theatrical printer). During the evening, Mr Lawrence presented Miss Reynolds with a substantial cheque, which had been contributed by the patrons, and conveyed to her the best wishes of the donors for her future happiness. Mr Percy Marsden was also the recipient of an English lever watch. The happy couple were married by special licence on Tuesday morning, and departed for America on Wednesday.

The Empire Theatre of Varieties at Nottingham was the scene of a regrettable incident on Monday, during the first performance of Seeth's lions. The animals were placed in the roundabout structure, and the pony attached for the purpose of revolving it had just started, when one of the lions sprang on to the pony's hind quarters and commenced to lacerate it fearfully. Herr Georg Thielbar lashed the beast with his whip, and several attendants rushed in with iron implements, but all their efforts to beat off the savage brute were of no avail for some time. Luckily the other lions remained fairly quiet, but the curtain was rung down on a scene of intense excitement. Herr Thielbar appeared before the curtain a few minutes later, and was given a rousing reception. A veterinary surgeon who was in the audience attended the wounded pony, which has since died.

Miss Lil Hawthorne was so overcome at the sight of the lion attacking the small pony during the first performance on Monday evening of Seeth's lions at the Empire, Nottingham, that she could not appear during the second performance, but managed to sing on Tuesday evening, although still very nervous.

Two children made application for a licence to enable them to perform during the week at the Hackney Empire. The manager said they would be done work by ten o'clock at night. Mr Fordham—What will they do? The Manager—Sing and dance as girls. Mr Fordham—But they are now dressed as boys. Are they foreigners? The Manager—Yes. Mr Fordham—One is only eleven years of age. The Manager—And the other nearly fourteen. Mr Fordham—No, I do not think it is very desirable to license such young children. I shall not license these. One is too young, and the other looks too ill.

A novel display took place on Tuesday at Belfast. Mdlle. Florence, who is performing this week at the New Alhambra Theatre of Varieties, Belfast, travelled from the Northern Counties Railway Station on a "globe" down York-street and Royal-avenue to the Alhambra. Many hundreds of people followed her, and so dense was the crowd to witness this unique spectacle that a large force of police were employed, so that Mdlle. Florence could go through her performance without interruption. She completed the walk without once leaving the globe, and is deserving of much praise for her clever feat.

After being closed for something like sixteen months, the Swansea Palace Theatre of Varieties was again opened to the public on Monday evening. The interior of the building has undergone a thorough renovation since the termination of the last tenancy, and now looks spic and span; indeed, the hall is now one of the most cosy and comfortable of its size to be found in this part of the country. The premises have recently been taken over by Mr T. W. Grantham, who is determined that so far, at all events, as he is concerned, nothing shall be wanting to start the hall once more upon a career of prosperity. The direction of the new orchestra has been entrusted to Mr E. Southworth, who was responsible for the musical arrangements at Anglesey Castle theatrical performances.

Mr Harry Burns, the well-known agent, has secured Mr Leo Fritz as his travelling representative, thus adding another hustler to his already numerous staff. Mr Burns and Mr Fritz will leave on Saturday, Dec. 17, for Hamburg, Berlin, Dusseldorf, Brussels, and Paris in order to introduce Mr Fritz to his Continental customers, and also to search for novelties.

Miss Claire Romaine, in her forthcoming pantomime engagement at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, will make a feature of Nat Clifford's song "Pennies," which is being sung by her husband, Mr Edgar Romaine, in the halls.

Mr Lennox Barry yesterday took up his duties as general manager at the Battersea Empire, in succession to Mr E. E. Giles.

Mr A. F. Parnell, a son of Mr Fred Russell, the well-known ventriloquist, is relinquishing his position at the London, Shoreditch, to join Mr Jack De Frece at the Metropole, Camberwell.

Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter have published five enormous successes in "Navaho," "Bluebell," "Farewell, my little Yo-San," "You can't stop the sun from shining," and "There goes my soldier boy," and the Glasgow public, who are enjoying Mr Robert Courtneidge's pantomime (the first of the season) at the Grand, Glasgow, have acclaimed the tunefulness and charm of these numbers by loud and insistent encores. The Scottish heart is always attuned to simple melody, and the lilt of these songs is simply irresistible.

Her Royal Highness Princess Henry of Battenberg, Princess Ena, Princes Leopold and Maurice, and a large party visited the London Hippodrome on Wednesday afternoon and witnessed the performance of Zutka; Dr. Maxim Boyd, with his marvellous experiments with liquid air; Marceline, and the Leamy Troupe of aerial gymnasts. The Princess Ena accepted a gold kettle from Dr. Boyd, the liquid air expert, as a souvenir of the occasion.

Mr Pat Doherty, who produced the famous song, "The Irish M.P.," has been engaged to appear in the Palace scene in the forthcoming pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, at the Grand, Islington. He commenced his stage career thirty-seven years ago, when he appeared in a little church room in Islington for a fee of "a cup of coffee and a jam puff." Some time afterwards he was in partnership with a brother comedian, the firm being known as Dermott and Doyle, and acted at the Alhambra twelve years ago. On his deserting the stage, he became an Islington guardian and vestry-man, and later a borough councillor.

Mr Doherty made his first appearance on the stage of the popular Islington house some seventeen years since in the drama, entitled *Racing*, written by the late G. H. Macdermott. In the light of later events the production—which recalled to old playgoers *Flying Scud* at the now defunct Holborn Theatre—was a highly interesting one, as therein Mr Cyril Maude made his first appearance in London in the part of the Duke of Courtland. The drama saw the footlights of the Upper-street Theatre on Sept. 5, 1887, and Mr Doherty tells an amusing experience of his own. He was playing a costermonger named Ben, who had to be arrested on the racecourse by detectives. One night the sympathetic supers took the situation much too earnestly, and there was a free fight between the (stage) officers of the law and the crowd. The situation had its serious side, however, and the curtain was dropped amid considerable uproar. We should add that Miss Fanny Leslie doubled the parts of a twin brother and sister in the piece.

Mr H. E. Moss has decided that the title of the Christmas production at the palatial Hippodrome in Leicester-square shall be *Butterflies in Fairyland; or, Nature Triumphant*, a mystical evolution in seven events, invented and produced by Frank Parker, music by Clarence Corri. The production in its entirety will be one of vast mechanical, scenic, and lightning effects, with most extraordinary transformations and optical illusions, and there will be no speaking or singing parts. In order to make room for the enormous quantity of new machinery and electrical plant, it has been found necessary to reconstruct and extend the stage. In point of figures this production will exceed even those of the famous *Cinderella*, which, as it is well known, cost over £10,000. The beautiful fountains which have been such a successful feature ever since the inception of the Hippodrome are to be amplified and rearranged to such a gigantic extent that over 900,000 gallons of water will be used. By means of some newly invented spray fountains all this quantity of water will be forced into the air, and produce a series of remarkable prismatic effects.

Miss Kitty Rayburn, the bright and attractive soubrette, has been responsible for the introduction of a very popular scena at the Royal Standard during the week. It is entitled *The Coster's Bazaar*, which is illustrated by an excellently painted cloth, and its exploitation has added much to the enjoyment of Mr Dickie's numerous patrons. In the verses of the song Miss Rayburn—after asserting that the humble street vendors have as much right to hold a bazaar as richer folk—sings in spirited style of various heroes whom she would like to welcome at her stall, and at the conclusion gives a number of articles away to her delighted hearers. The scena is due to the collaboration of Messrs J. P. Harrington and Geo. Le Brunn.

The fact that her Majesty the Queen's visit to the Alhambra some nights ago has been closely followed by that of the Duke and Duchess of Fife constitutes, perhaps, something of a record for variety theatres, and may serve to recall the year of 1897, when no less than seventeen Royal personages honoured the Alhambra with their presence. In this connection it is also of interest to note that the Alhambra is the only theatre of varieties which King Edward has visited since his accession.

Miss Margaret Ashton, whose severe indisposition was announced in these columns last week, has—acting under the orders of her medical advisers—been compelled to cancel all her Irish engagements. The inclement weather lately experienced has undoubtedly retarded the recovery of this charming American lady, concerning whom many anxious inquiries have lately been made. Her innumerable friends are hoping that her health will soon permit her to grace once more the vaudeville stage.

The 383rd meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Harry Randall, president of the Association, being in the chair. He returned thanks for his election, and said he would do everything in his power to promote the welfare and success of the Association. The secretary reported that sixty-five new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,851, and submitted the names, the election of whom was confirmed by the committee.

Mr George Mozart, who is playing the leading part in the forthcoming pantomime *The Babes in the Wood*, at the Grand Theatre, Islington, had the late Mr Dan Leno as a deputy at a certain hall just previous to Mr Leno's last illness, when Mr George Mozart was transferred to take up the place on the programme which had been vacated by the celebrated comedian. Mr Mozart filled the position for a week, and on arriving one evening he found "Dan" waiting in the wings already made up. In due course he made his appearance, but later it was discovered that Mr Mozart's number was displayed on the stage and his name on the programme. "Dan" had forgotten to notify the management and the conductor that he intended to appear.

In view of Cattle Show week attractions of a special character have been provided at the Alhambra in a programme which includes Rosina Casselli's wonderful midget Mexican dogs; Asra, extraordinary juggler; the Julianos, "Music Mania;" Master Tom Cruwys, the boy soprano; the Urban Bioscope with "Whirling the Worlds" and up-to-date events; Dida, the Woman from Nowhere, and the splendidly successful ballet, *The Entente Cordiale*.

Miss Nellie Loomis and company are responsible for an attractive musical and dancing mélange, which was given at the Oxford for the first time on Monday afternoon. There is a quartet of accomplished dancers, who perform many graceful divertissements to popular tunes, among which we recognised "Hiawatha" and "Bill Bailey." Miss Loomis herself is an excellent step-dancer, as she shows in an elaborate solo, which she executes to the accompaniment of Miss Dorothy Rayner, an excellent siffleuse. The "umbrella" number, if we may so call it, is specially good, and the troupe is joined in the finale by a dainty dancer in white.

The Howards, mystifyers, have just returned from Africa in the R.M.S. Galician. They have had a most successful tour from Cape Colony to the banks of the Zambesi with Mr E. H. Bostock's South African enterprise. They return to the Waverley Carnival, Edinburgh, at Christmas with Mr H. E. Moss, making their fourteenth visit. They leave again in March to tour Australia and New Zealand.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel on Wednesday next, at 2·0 p.m. The benefit performance at Collins's is fixed for Friday night next. The members of the Canonbury Club have taken the first two rows of orchestra stalls, and a large number of tickets have already been sold.

In consequence of a prior contract at Plymouth Miss Rachel Lowe concludes to-night her present engagement at the Tivoli and Oxford. At the latter popular house she has been singing the clever song "Any Rags?" and her artistic interpretation is greatly enjoyed. It was stated in a weekly paper that Miss Lowe's "Lucky Duck" Hoppy would be "resting" during the pantomime season. Such is not the case, as she appears at the Kennington Theatre in *Aladdin*.

Miss Maria Dainton is scoring heavily with her two introduced numbers in *Peggy Machree*. "Honeymoon Hall," by John W. Bratton, the composer of "My Cosy Corner Girl," has every appearance of rivalling in popularity this song-hit in *The Earl and the Girl*.

The Empire, Johannesburg, company, sailing for the Cape to-day, by the Kenilworth Castle, from Southampton, includes Florence and Lillian, Frank Lynne, Burley and Burley, Howard and Harris, and the new scientific wonder, the "Magic Kettle," from the Palace Theatre. Among those arriving by the same boat at Southampton, from South Africa, are Paul Cinquevalli, Gracie Grahame, Stephens and Rennior, and others.

The new year novelty at Collins's is to be an adaptation in three scenes of the Parisian wordless sketch entitled *L'Idole Brisée (The Broken Idol)*. The novel scenery will partake of the character of a black and white drawing, and full justice will be done to the piece by Mr Percy Murray, who will produce. Messrs Richards and Burney's enterprise and artistic aim in presenting this novelty are much to be commended.

Mr Fred Lloyd's humorous sketch *The Blind Spinster* (now at the Alhambra, Belfast) has been very successful in the provinces. Mr J. G. Swanton, a Belfast man (brother of Mr Samuel Swanton, the efficient *chef d'orchestre* of Theatre Royal, Belfast) appears in the dual rôle of Sir R. Fenton and Rebecca Lemon, which he sustains very cleverly.

The statistical officer of the London County Council suggests in his latest report that, when the time for alteration comes round, and in the absence of direct evidence of rental value, theatres and music halls should be assessed on the basis of net earnings. This inquisitorial procedure, if adopted, will specially affect the halls.

Miss Gracie Grahame, the well-known comedienne, returns to England to-day from South Africa, where she has made a tremendous success. According to the South African press, she has been one of the biggest favourites that has ever appeared there. She opens on Monday next at the Palace, Chelsea; Camberwell, and the Bedford.

Mr Herbert Lloyd, who calls himself a Jack-of-all-trades and master of none, is rather a puzzle to his audiences at the Empire. His humour is distinctly American, and he manages to crowd the fun of half-a-dozen turns into his thirteen minutes on the stage, burlesquing every style of variety artist, from the slack wire walker to the impersonator of noted men, from the juggler to the contortionist. The automobile in which he makes his entrance suggests one of Mr E. T. Reed's pre-historic peeps in *Punch*, with its tiny candle in a huge lamp, and small wooden wheels. Mr Lloyd changes his suit of vivid red and yellow, covered with diamonds, behind a screen of about eighteen inches high, and appears as a tramp—a clean tramp—with wee electric lights dotted over his clothes and glittering in his beard, and wearing no less than a hundred "dickies," which he throws off one by one. Much of the success of his lively act depends upon the promptitude of his wife, who is billed as Miss Lillian Lilyan, and makes a pretty little figure on the stage in her pale blue frock, sparkling with sequins, and high silver boots.

The Jack-of-all-trades has only been in "the show business" for two years. He comes from Philadelphia, and was formerly a commercial traveller, but he always had a taste for juggling, and even in the days when all his time and energy were given to wholesale stationery, often entertained his friends by imitating tricks of skill and feats of strength. After a tour on the Keith circuit, Mr Lloyd played in New York and other big cities, and came to Europe a few months ago, fulfilling engagements at Amsterdam, Copenhagen, and Paris before coming to London. His wife was also a stranger to the stage until two years ago, but she soon learned to manage his properties, and he would now be quite lost without her. She also designs and makes her own frocks.

His stay in the profession has not been without its trying minutes. Before completing his own act he played for a while with an Irish comedian, and in one part of their sketch had to implore the audience, in a fit of rage, to give him a sword—a hatchet—a club—anything with which to attack his companion. One evening, in a crowded theatre in Columbus, Ohio, a man in the gallery took him at his word and threw a big jack-knife on to the stage. It struck Mr Lloyd on the temple and he fell down, but the Irishman went on talking until he was able to stagger to his feet, and they managed to finish the scene. The Jack-of-all-trades hoped that the owner of the knife would come to the stage door to claim his property, but he was too wise to do so.

Among Mr Lloyd's properties is a pair of dummy legs that he uses in a "fake" contortion act. When he was leaving a small town in the States the two coloured porters whom he had engaged to take his baggage to the railway station refused at the last minute, to his great astonishment, to carry out their bargain. He saw them whispering together and looking at him in a most suspicious manner, so appealed to the hotel manager to unravel the mystery. The manager talked to the darkies, and then returned to the variety artist with a puzzled, pained expression on his face. "This is a very unpleasant thing to mention, Mr Lloyd," he said, "but these boys declare that you've got a dead body concealed in your baggage. They say they can see the legs sticking out of one of those big baskets!"

At Manchester, recently, was heard the case of Ethel Arden Abel v. Emmott and Co., Limited, an action against the proprietors of the *Umpire* newspaper for libel. The libel complained of reflected very seriously upon Miss Ethel Arden's character. On receiving a letter from her solicitors, and after some correspondence, Messrs Emmott published an apology in more than one edition of their paper, and also in *The Era*, and some five or six other newspapers; and the purpose of the present action was to get a jury to assess the amount of damages to be paid her. Mr Taylor, on behalf of the defendants, accepted judgment for £650, including costs.

Mr Sydney Arthur, the manager of the Palace Theatre, Lincoln, recently took a benefit, when that house was packed twice during the evening. The programme was worthy of the reputation of the Palace. Additional evidence of the manager's popularity was forthcoming when the proprietor of the Palace, Mr Frank Macnaghten, stepped before the curtain and announced that he had unexpectedly been called upon to present a cheque for £50 to Mr Arthur, a present which had been subscribed to by his brother managers and several of his friends in and out of the profession. To him that was a matter for special gratification, for Mr Arthur had been not only his manager, but his assistant and companion for twenty-four years. Mr Arthur joined him in 1880, in India, and they worked there for fifteen years, and had been nine years in England.

Mr Arthur came with him three years ago to that hall, when it was considered a very doubtful point whether they would or would not succeed in pleasing Lincoln people. But, thanks to his energy and ability, they were there to-day, and he hoped they would be for many years to come. Mr Sydney Arthur had a great reception on appearing to respond. Three years ago he told them he was to be the responsible manager and live among them, and they would be able to judge of his work. The fact that it had been appreciated was testified by the way in which they had rallied round him that night. He mentioned that in the interim Mr Stuart Cecil had done a great deal of work, and concluded with thanks to Mr Macnaghten, to those who had subscribed to the handsome testimonial, to the artistes who had appeared, and to the public for their very kind patronage.

That popular song "I'se a-waitin' for yer Josie," by F. W. Leigh and E. Pether, has been in so great demand in America, mainly through the instrumentality of Dan Coleman's company in Ward and Vokes' piece "A Pair of Pinks," that the T. B. Harms company, of New York, has issued it in sheet music form. Harry Castling's well-known ditty, "Just like the Ivy," popularised in these islands by Miss Marie Kendall, has also been published in New York by the same eminent house.

The playing of Edward St. Quentin's song "Beyond" as a cornet solo by the band of the Grenadier Guards at the St. Louis Exhibition has done much to make that excellent piece popular in the United States, and the B. F. Wood Music Company, of Boston and New York, by arrangement with Messrs W. Morley and Co., the English publishers—who issue the morceau in no fewer than four keys—have produced an American edition, and it is being also introduced into France, Belgium, and Spain by Messrs Hachette, of Paris.

Messrs C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton have just written for Miss Mina Marie (formerly Miniature Marie) three new songs with which she intends to return to the music hall stage after a retirement of two years. The numbers are considered to be amongst the best this firm has turned out recently. Miss Marie will exploit them for the first time at the Tivoli, Manchester, on Dec. 12.

The members of the New Century Picture Co., who this week are in South Shields, had a very narrow escape from a serious railway accident last Sunday. Leaving Hartlepool at 4.55 p.m., and travelling at a good speed, they had scarcely commenced the journey North when they were run into by an in-coming train. The compartment occupied by them was the one next the engine, and of course this received the full force of the shock, so much so that they were hurled from one side of it to the other. The ladies of the company were the worst sufferers, their carriage being completely wrecked, and the wonder is no one was seriously injured.

On arrival at Sunderland the matter was reported to the railway company, who transferred all the belongings of the New Century company to another vehicle. The accident is, we believe, to be the subject of a special inquiry. The rear part of the train received no injury, and the members of the company from the Empress, Hartlepool, who were travelling to Greenock, suffered no inconvenience.

The Rev. T. Nightingale, at a meeting on Sunday held at Oxford-place Chapel, Leeds, expressed the opinion that every music hall ought to be robbed of its drinking licence and every drinking shop of its music licence. Municipalities, he said, should provide counter attractions to the music halls. Of course he said nothing about the extra burden to the ratepayers which would result if his ideas were carried out. The Rev. S. Chadwick followed, and asserted that it would be better both for the music halls and the public if the drink licences were taken away. The Nonconformist conscience is a fearsome thing that is impregnable to argument or the sweet influence of charitable feeling. It even scents offence in Shakespeare's lovely spring song "When daisies pied," for at an entertainment in North London an unco' guid Wesleyan altered the beautiful line "And lady-smocks all silver white" to "And ladies fair all silver white." "Smocks" was much too shocking a term for this sensitive person, whose ignorance of horticulture was only paralleled by his drurient stupidity.

"Spring is coming!" was Master Tom Cruwys's second solo at the Alhambra this week, and oddly enough the turn that followed the boy soprano was called "Spring and Spring." The name is very appropriate, for Mr Spring and his able assistant perform some astonishing feats of jumping, while Mrs Spring catches and throws the two men with great energy and strength. Both she and her husband have been in the profession all their lives, and their only daughter, a pretty little girl of eleven, promises to be equally clever. She is still at school, but practises a great many feats to amuse herself at home, and made her début as a tiny pierrot when her father was travelling with a circus, being carried into the arena in a large carpet bag, when she was only three years old.

Mr Spring is not only a clever jumper, but a good all-round athlete, having gone in for every branch of his work. He believes in horsemanship as one of the finest exercises, has great faith in the Sandow system of physical culture, and takes such a keen interest in acrobatic or tumbling feats that he is always ready to help young beginners to master the difficulties of their training. He was taken in hand himself at five years old, his master being one of the Ridley Brothers, who was well known in his day as an exceptionally good hand-balancer. Later on he met with several men who have made their mark in different ways on the stage—poor Dan Leno was one of them, also Johnny Danvers, and the Egbert Brothers—and worked his way from the bottom of the ladder in the show world. Mr Spring has met with several severe accidents, but he remains absolutely fearless. On two occasions he fell distances of 40ft. He never lets a day pass without practising, but entertains strong opinions on the danger and uselessness of over-exertion.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE METROPOLITAN.

A success of curiosity is scored at this popular hall by the Bohemian Twins, Rosa-Josepha Blazek, whose peculiar conformation was sufficiently described in these columns last week. That there is a dual personality is proved nightly by the young ladies playing a violin duet creditably; and much astonishment is caused by their skilful manipulation of xylophones. The twins are dressed in green, the skirts being short, and they are evidently pleased with their reception at the hands of the London public. They are certainly a striking attraction, for on the night of our visit the hall was packed in every part, and much enthusiasm was shown. The star turn is Miss Marie Lloyd, who with much archness sings "What, what, what!" and also gives a clever rendering of "It's the skirt that tells the tale." Both songs are of the smart set order, and the Metropolitan frequenters would, perhaps, have welcomed a low comedy selection as a variant. Mr Bransby Williams, who has returned to London after a brilliantly successful tour, still finds the public appreciation of Dickens to be highly encouraging. His knowledge of the great master of fiction may be said to be extensive and peculiar, and he is able to continually vary his impersonations. For the Metropolitan audiences he chooses Bob Cratchitt, from the wonderful "Christmas Carol," and Mr Micawber and Dan'l Peggotty, from "David Copperfield." As the old boatman Mr Williams is particularly powerful, finished, and impressive. He chooses the scene where Dan'l's sorrow gives way to indignation when he learns of Steerforth's base abduction of Little Em'ly. There is tremendous force in the old man's determination, and Mr Williams's voice vibrates with emotion as he speaks of her who has become a homeless wanderer. Miss Gladys Mavius is a most energetic and finished dancer; Mr Edgar Romaine has some success in his endeavours to persuade the audience to take up the refrain of "Saving up the pennies," a pretty number; and Mr Jake Friedman introduces much patter which evidently appeals to his audience, and causes considerable amusement when he imitates a lady with a high soprano voice singing an Irish ditty. Miss Florrie Gallimore, who takes care that her audience understand every word she utters, has a particularly taking ditty in "My Japanese Charmer," the story of an English sailor man who is enamoured of a dainty little Geisha. When he departs for old England's shores she gets married to a happy little Jap, and on the sailor's return consoles him by her hospitality. The archness and vivacity of the singer, the pretty melody, and the becoming costume worn are all hugely appreciated, and Miss Gallimore's legion of admirers are loth to let her depart. A new idea is exploited by Mr Wal Pink, the versatile comedian and sketch writer, who is now appearing *solus* in an original monologue, *Cheap Jack*. After an introductory verse he mounts the rostrum of his auction van, and proceeds to offer various articles, his patter being humorous and containing several topical and patriotic allusions. Mr Nat Travers gives his coster impersonation, "Look what education's done for Bob;" Miss Edie Veno has a humorous number, "You can't catch old birds with chaff," with a verse concerning the very inadequate inducements for a youngster to join the army. In her impersonation of a precocious kiddie Miss Veno cleverly imitates the voice of a young child. The Harrison Bros. have a droll duet in "Studying hard for the Bar," and the song concerning different walks is also amusing. The happily associated pair also cause much merriment by their fooling and cross-talk, and win loud applause for their dancing. Mr Dan Crawley is an immense favourite here, and absolutely "lifts" the audience with a couple of screamers in "That's the way to settle it," and "Now you're married." Miss Edie King is a charming exponent of the Terpsichorean art, and she invests her song, "Zaza," with much vim. Kelly and Gillette have a novel and most effective method for securing the union of fun and acrobatics by their somersaults on a billiard table. The bar loafer who sets himself alight is a genuine comedian as well as a fine tumbler. A clever and very diverting show. Other turns in a most comprehensive scheme of variety are Miss Mabel Thorne, Will Johnson, Miss Flo Elvin, and the Albert and Edmunds Troupe. Mr Jack Edgar, the popular manager here, who has been suffering from a severe cold, is rapidly nearing a state of convalescence, much to the joy of his numerous friends.

THE EUSTON.

The big line of the Euston bill is Ahrensmeyer, who is described as "the American cowboy wonder" and "the wizard of the plains," who undertakes to treat crippled, paralytic, rheumatic, and neurotic subjects free of charge by means of hypnotic power. Ahrensmeyer, a striking-looking young man in the thirties, is introduced by a lecturer, who claims for him no miraculous gifts, and asserts his (Ahrenmeyer's) respect for the medical profession, whose work it is his wish to aid, not to supersede. On the night of our visit a young man of the age of twenty-nine, stated to be an estate agent at Tooting, came forward to testify to the benefit he had derived from Ahrensmeyer's treatment, by means of which he was able to move his right arm that had been practically useless to him for a period of twenty-seven years. The limb, which was bared to the public view, appeared to be withered, and the patient seemed to be intensely pleased that he could lift it level with his shoulder. A part of Ahrensmeyer's exhibition is the performance of Miss Rhoda Cecil, who is called the mystifying and only dancing Trilby. This young lady, while under the spell of hypnotic influence, induced by Svengali-Ahrensmeyer, portrays surprise, terror, love, hate, grief, and joy, and her attitudes and play of facial expression are extremely appropriate. The sensation of the show is the indescribable stone-breaking test. A lady is first hypnotised until her body is quite rigid. In this state her head and feet are made to rest on supports, and a large stone is placed on her chest. This is broken by means of repeated blows from a large hammer wielded with some considerable force by a male assistant. There is a comic finale to this interlude of mesmerism when Ahrensmeyer's irrepressible subjects indulge in various amusing antics. Medical experts are invited to test the truth of the experiments, but on the occasion of which we are now writing none put in an appearance. Ahrensmeyer creates a deal of curiosity, and crowds have visited the Euston daily to see "the sleeping lady," who is wakened every evening at the first house. The star comedian of the bill is that prime minister of mirth, Mr George Robey, who has a side-splitting number in his dame song, "Oh? oh!! oh!!!" which will no doubt be heard in pantomime. The song is without patter, but it is illumined by some admirably humorous touches—a remark that applies with equal force to his now well-known "Say no more about it," which is also heartily laughed at. It is somewhat rare to meet with a topical singer nowadays in music hall programmes, but the success of Mr Fred Herbert completely justifies his inclusion in the scheme of amusement mapped out at the Euston. Mr Herbert has a ditty with a very defiant tone—even more defiant we think than "We don't want to fight," to which it bears some resemblance. He sings with stirring emphasis, "So let the Russian bear be careful and beware, before he tries to pull the lion's tail," and asserts the readiness of Britannia's sons, "who were never known to fail." He is somewhat more diffuse in his topical references when he tells us in song what "John Bull said to Britannia." The Beck case, the North Sea outrage, the fiscal policy, and Dan Leno are all treated in verse, more or less rhythmical, and the Eustonians express their delight in no uncertain way. Princess Pauline, in a descriptive song, describes the different manners of the frequenters of the saloon and the four-ale bar. In the latter there is a much warmer welcome for a poor old destitute soldier than in the former—a trait which is brought out with considerable dramatic effectiveness by the artiste. Miss Edie King, beneath the soft beams of the limelight, sings of "Luna," and choosing a less poetic but more up-to-date subject in the Parisian "Zaza," dances with a brilliancy and charm that are but rarely seen away from the great ballet houses. The Sisters Lunelle are attractive duettists and dancers; and the antics of Mdlle. Raffin's monkeys on and off trapezes and in and out of barrels are intensely amusing. Joe Archer gets the ear of the audience in some droll patter; and Howe and Ardie, termed the comic gymnasts, do not belie their name.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The residents of Hackney and neighbourhood owe a debt of gratitude to Mr Oswald Stoll, who was instrumental in placing in the very heart of this populous district a handsome and commodious variety theatre, which furnishes all the year round an entertainment that, in t own special line, need not fear comparison with any other, even though the programme be that of a West-end hall. During the dull days before Christmas the Londoner, enveloped in an atmosphere of fog, is naturally eager for that class of entertainment that will make him laugh and cheer him in spite of gloomy skies. Well, let him visit the Hackney Empire, and he will find that the bill of fare is so framed that it will afford a certain cure for depression and melancholy. Here, for instance, is that amusing sketch *Troubles of a Tourist*, played by Mr John Alexander and company. Johnny Brown, an English tourist, meets with some curious adventures at the Grand Hotel, Paris, being worried by the intrusion, not only of human beings, but of hungry rodents. Comical difficulties also arise from a confusion of tongues, and the fun, once set going, never ceases until the finish. Mr Johnny Alexander is a quaint and humorous exponent of Johnny Brown, Mdlle. Clarette is a vivacious Jeanette, Mr Rob Ralston scores as Adolphus, and other characters are ably played by Mr Woodville and Miss Greasley. More laughter comes with the appearance of Burke and Andrus in the sketch, *After Covent Garden Ball*. The gentlemen in evening dress having enjoyed themselves at the ball endeavour to enter a hansom cab, but they have to reckon with the animal that draws it, a remarkably clever mule, whose performance is as funny as that of his human associates. No one can help laughing at Burke, Andrus, and Frisco. Mr Alec Hurley and company are here in the sketch called *The Friendly Lead*, which well maintains its popularity. Mr Hurley leads the merry party with his old success. He sings "Thick-eared Jim" in capital style, and another song that is well received is that entitled "Only a leaf," sung by a lady member of the company. Miss Tina Clements, with her horse and troupe of performing dogs, deserves special mention. This artiste demonstrates very clearly, by the way in which she puts the horse through its facings, that she has gained a perfect mastery over it, and both the trainer and the animal are loudly applauded. The dogs also take a prominent part in the performance, and have been taught to "loop the loop" in the most approved style, an active little terrier being so keen on this curious form of amusement that he is seen still "looping" and apparently enjoying it each time the curtain is raised for his mistress to take her call. The Alaskas thoroughly entertain the audience with some remarkably clever juggling and comic tumbling which are both greatly appreciated. The Svarvasi-Ferenez troupe of singers, dancers and acrobats are decidedly popular. The balancing feats they achieve are of an astonishing nature, and the troupe prove to be smart tumblers. Clown Ferreros plays familiar airs on the smallest of concertinas, and then, going to the other extreme, performs upon an instrument of Gargantuan size, playing each with equal facility and skill. He has with him a dog who has received a musical education, and accompanied by the orchestra he plays the hanging bells to correct time and tune. This canine wonder also beats time with a bâton. Burke, Moller, and Teller cause considerable diversion in the sketch *The Professor and his Pupils*, the latter singing well and also indulging in some quaint dancing to the almost forgotten air of "Pop goes the weazle." The Picquays are applauded for their smart acrobatic display, grace being acceptably combined with some difficult performances. Mr Mark Melford and company in the sketch, *Black and White*, keep the audience fully amused while they hold possession of the stage. The orchestra, under the efficient conductorship of Mr Walter Johnson, is kept well up the mark, and Mr John Christie ably performs the duties of acting-manager.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Five years of a vigorous service in the cause of amusement have been attained by the pretty hall on Denmark-hill, and its proudest boast at the celebration of the fifth anniversary on Tuesday next might be that in all things it has fulfilled its mission well. The guiding hand of Mr Jesse Sparrow has been throughout in evidence, and it is in his unerring eye in the selection of talent, his shrewd judgment, and his personal popularity that the success of the hall has lain. Crowded houses are ever the rule, and this week enthusiastic audiences have been drawn by a programme of irresistible attractions. A foremost favourite has proved to be Mr Harry Ford, whom Camberwellians welcome with one voice. The humour of his songs is subtle at times, but not too much so for his admirers, who are quick to fathom the significance of the phrase "That's enough," or the wealth of meaning contained in the expression "It's a shame," enunciated with ever-increasing emphasis. To all Mr Ford's efforts the audience respond with hearty laughter, and the comedian is not released until he has told once more his intentions regarding the fabulous wealth that he will not get. Another item of the bill that finds the true note of popular favour is the sketch, *Me and 'Er*, in which the low comedy talents of Miss Minnie Duncan and Mr Arthur Godfrey as the blithe coster couple have effective play. Laughter is chiefly sought and found in the little play, but many a furtive tear is wiped away after the touch of homely pathos with which the sketch concludes. The dancing of Miss Bertha Winder has been the theme of admiration, the marvellous rapidity of her beats in a clog dance, and the regularity with which they are executed causing wonder and applause, while her skipping-rope dance in big boots produces enthusiasm among the audience. The Polurkis divert exceedingly by the eccentricities which have served a similar purpose in the past and the laughter that has accompanied the progress of their mock duel has been loud and frequent. Animated pictures of an amusing and instructive character are presented on the Edisonograph, an elaborate depiction of racing life being shown in "From Foal to Favourite," comic and exciting episodes being also liberally supplied. Bellonini presses chairs and tables and other articles of furniture into service in his juggling exploits, his plate-catching growing quite sensational. A highly intelligent dog and a wideawake assistant aid the effect of the turn, which is deservedly commended. Miss Gladys Mavius, who is known as the Canadian coon, has nevertheless a real sympathy with the popular feeling of the homeland, and the chorus of "Why shouldn't I love my little girl?" and "Someone loves you" are taken up with startling vigour by the audience. Miss Mavius possesses the qualifications of a strong voice and distinct utterance, and while pleasing by her singing, also satisfies by a neat dance. The character of a lady past her prime affords opportunity to Mr Slade Murray to deliver a lengthy disquisition on the perfidy of man, which realises its purpose in hearty merriment, and similar results come of the little sketch presented by Collins and Rice, whose witticisms finish up with an eccentric song and dance. The Rohda Brothers, a couple of acrobats of slight physique but great muscular activity, are more than ordinarily smart on the flying rings, their feats on which are succeeded by balancing head to head, and shoulder to shoulder—the latter a task of exceeding difficulty, which brought forth great applause when successfully accomplished. Miss Florence Yaymen displays various vocal and facial contortions in singing the refrain "Take a long walk and don't come back;" the shadowgraphy of Mr Henri Cazman is interesting and amusing; Cyclo combines humour with his skilful feats on a bicycle; and the extensive programme, which includes Mr Harry Lauder, Spry and Monti, Harrigan and Holt, and Miss Lottie Jackson, is brought to a merry conclusion by the drolleries of Mr Paul Martinetti and company in *A Terrible Night*, which keeps the house in hearty mirth till the end of the evening. Miss Millie Hylton also figured in this week's company, but an announcement was made on Monday that she could not appear through illness. The orchestral forces have a first-class leader in Mr Leon A. Bassett, and under his bâton leave nothing to be desired.

THE METROPOLE.

Under the direction of Mr Jack De Frece, the Camberwell Metropole still bids for public favour with a programme full of variety and novelty presented on the popular twice-nightly system. Delighted audiences are giving each of the fourteen turns on the programme this week an enthusiastic reception, and from the opening overture, "All the Girls," by Mr Snell-Robinson's admirable orchestra, to the fall of the curtain close on midnight, there is nothing but an endless fund of genuine enjoyment. The Emmetts are a couple of merry Dutch Girls who easily dance themselves into favour, and are followed by Tom Dunmore, a quaint comedian, whose song, "I dropped it," is good. The Great Anthy in his wire-walking antics displays remarkable skill, and is as much at home on his slender wire as on terra firma. His act on stilts is both risky and daring. Walker and Lake in merry cross-talk and smart repartee keep the house in a ripple of merriment, and their really funny song, "When you're in love," bears the stamp of originality. Beattie Bloom impersonates a precocious girl with a song about the lodger. George French in his burlesque of a militiaman is smart and funny, and his song, "Away we went to face the foe," is well written and pointed. Wisper, a pattering comic juggler, although adopting the methods of another popular artiste, is none the less clever, and his business with a storm of hats savours of originality. Maud Wilton in her mimicry of Vesta Tilley and Gus Elen shows great promise in one so young; the Olympian Black and White Quartet win hearty applause and a recall for a series of tuneful part songs and plantation melodies; Marie Wilton in her pathetic ballad "Take this Locket" sings with sweetness and expression; and the Deer Family of genuine North-American Indians, in their sensational two-scene act entitled "Indians of the Past," engage the rapt attention of the house. In addition to executing a clever "Indian cake-walk," trick dance, and an exciting knife duel, they present some artistic tableaux entitled "The Indian Camp Fire," "The Settlers' Cabin," and "The Indians' Attack." Charles Williams defies all attempt to confine him with handcuffs, manacles, iron collars, or steel chains, and, in full view of the audience, frees himself from handcuffs of all nationalities, although secured by some experienced police officials. A most fitting ending to an evening's enjoyment is supplied by Fred Southern and company in an absurdity entitled *His Lordship's Birthday*, in which one is able to recognise an ancient theatrical farce. Mr Fred Sothern as the dissipated tinker is very funny; as His Lordship and his butler Messrs A. Thursey and Frank Delmere are inseparable; and Misses Gipsy Alexander and May Emery do excellent work throughout.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

It speaks volumes for the enterprise and discrimination with which Mr Arthur J. Barclay conducts this handsome and luxurious place of amusement that, within measurable distance of Christmas, in a notoriously bad season, we find the record of twelve crowded houses every weeek. In point of attractiveness the present week's programme is no exception to the general rule, and if no particular feature stands out with especial prominence, the entire bill is capitally designed to afford an agreeable entertainment. Politeness to strangers compels us to mention first—although it stands "No. 10" in order—the performance of the Osranis, a Continental troupe of pantomimists who, unless we are greatly mistaken, make their first appearance in this country. The sketch, *Yvette*, which serves as the vehicle for the antics of the company, is of the wildest order and the slightest nature, but is amply sufficient for its purpose. The troupe consists of four gentlemen and a lady, the last-named being an exceptionally handsome and vivacious individual. Although there are many of our native productions of a similar class quite as amusing as *Yvette*, the sketch is very cleverly rendered, and the perpetual spirit of the whole thing atones for any lack of absolute novelty. It is received with continuous laughter and frequent applause. Our old friends Big Ben Brown and Little George Le Clerq are as mirth-provoking as ever in *Black Justice*, of which the faithful British public never seems to tire. Mr Charles Lilburn contributes a couple of tolerably good songs. The Bohemians (Will and Madge), musical and comedy artists, play their various instruments with fine effect. Miss Alice Yorke and a gentleman unnamed on the programme appear in an amusing duologue, "A Yacht for Sale," which turns on the time-honoured—not to say hoary—equivoque produced by the lady desiring to engage a servant and the gentleman trying to sell a yacht, with all the usual misapplications of meaning. Both Miss Yorke and her companion act with much comedy spirit. Mr Charles Austin is loudly applauded in two characteristic ditties, and Miss Ella Lane proves herself the possessor of a pretty voice and dainty style. Mr Leslie Stiles appears in an episode of London street life which would be none the worse for the infusion of a good deal more fun. As it stands, however, *Recruiting* succeeds in winning much favour. Mr Alf Aubyn is a singularly neat and melodious coon comedian. Ruffel's Bioscope displays a series of clever pictures of a big bank robbery. The overture to Balfe's *Siege of Rochelle* is finely played by the Palace orchestra, under the direction of Mr H. Petersen.

THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN AND "THE HALLS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The Lord Chamberlain has written me that the word "Royal" cannot be used in connection with the Surrey Theatre as a music hall. I see it stated in print that the new venture is to be called the "Royal" Surrey Vaudeville Theatre. When I contemplated taking a lease of this theatre I proposed calling it "The Royal Surrey Empire and Palace of Varieties."

The Lord Chamberlain has written me again, stating that the word "Royal" must not be used, as the Surrey Theatre is now out of his jurisdiction and control, and he has instructed the L.C.C. accordingly to see the word is deleted at once.

Yours faithfully, WALTER STEVENS.
12, Haymarket, W., Nov. 27, 1904.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps

THE CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY.

The glow of a thousand fairy lamps and the scent of a myriad flowers offered a warm welcome to all who entered the Canterbury on the 25th ult. to assist at the fifty-second anniversary of that ever-popular establishment, which for over a score of years has enjoyed prosperity under the ægis of Mr G. Adney Payne. Within, the auditorium from top to bottom was gay with flags and bunting, the Union Jack spreading its folds beneath the boxes, and the decorations everywhere displaying both taste and ingenuity. Added to these attractive features was the promise of a fat programme, which included the leading lights of the profession, the list reaching well into three figures. An outstanding item of the celebration was the revival of the historic production, with music by Mr Jesse Williams, happily called "Past and Present," in which the favourites of a former generation are outlined on a screen, while the refrain of one of their most popular effusions is sung at the side. Memories were in this way revived of such old-time stars as Jenny Hill, G. H. Macdermott, the "Great" Vance, Charles Godfrey, George Leybourne, and Nellie Power, all of whom had gained laurels on the Canterbury stage. The choruses enjoyed the advantage of being sung by Mr Hamilton Hill and Miss Elsa Joel, whose voices gave added melody to the old tunes, and who won the warmest applause. Interest was further stimulated by the portraits of the late Charles Morton and C. S. Crowder, succeeded by that of Mr David Cowis, the stage-manager, Mr Fred Miller, the popular manager, and Mr G. Adney Payne, each photographic presentment being the signal for loud outbursts of applause. A large portion of the evening was taken up by the sketch *Mr Todd of London*, which since its first production has been dyed a deeper red, and in which Mr John Lawson as the infamous barber seems to wallow in gore. A sketch most acceptable to the lovers of comedy was provided by Sinclair and Whiteford, who with their funny trifle *Getting Even* had the house in continuous merriment. The Harvey Boys also contributed to the mirth in their sketch *The Fighting Dummy*, and Yvette's Hippodrome presented a show in which animal intelligence and novel fooling were agreeably combined. Mr Harry Ford revelled comically in the visionary joys of a phantom fortune; Miss Kitty Wager won the ready sympathy of all in her song of the "Unemployed;" and the popularity of Miss Victoria Monks, who sang one of her latest successes, was endorsed by the cheers of the vast audience. Variations on a well-known air were given on the cornet by Mr W. Bates, who produced some exquisitely modulated notes; and the side drum was neatly manipulated by Miss Vickey Delmar. The New Macs pleased by their song and dance; Miss Dorothy L. Clark trilled "Bluebell" with delightful animation; and evidence of innate drollery was given by Little Cliffe, who sang and danced with infinite zest. Datas ran the gauntlet of questions with flying colours; Mr Sidney Williams sang "The Bay of Biscay;" and Miss Julie Mackey, Miss Lola Dalby, Harrigan and Holt, Mr Charles Pond, Miss Nina Martino, the Sisters Wingrove, Mr Hal Chapter, Miss Irene Weldon, Mr Will Evans, Sibb and Sibb, Sisters Silcott, Sisters Slater, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, Miss Lina Verdi, Miss May Henderson, Karno Trio, Miss Hetty King, Mr Herbert La Martine, Miss Queenie May, Mr Ernest Rees, Miss Lola Dalby, Lieutenant Albini, and Mr Gilbert Girard completed the list of artistes smartly placed on the stage by Mr David Cowis. Mr G. Adney Payne was present to receive the warmest congratulations, and among those who rallied to the support of Mr Fred Miller, the amiable manager, were Messrs Jesse Sparrow, Charles Beecham, J. L. Graydon, W. Gibbons, Maurice Volny, J. De Frece, Harry Lundy, J. Ruffell, Harry Masters, Tom Pacey, Fred Reeves, George Foster, F. Napoli, D. Cohen, E. De Vere, Geo. Barclay, G. Sinclair, Fortune and Granville, Cory Woodrow, and Theo Dunkley.

M. H. BENEVOLENT FUND MATINEE.

In his speech at the annual meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund last week, Mr Joseph Lyons said that "bad trade and the consequent distress caused so many calls to be made upon the public that they were unable to give such large amounts to the Fund as they had formerly done. What they should endeavour to do was to place the Fund upon such a basis that it was not dependent upon private subscriptions or the support of the public." The support of the public at the annual matinée on Monday at the Oxford was poor in the extreme, and the array of empty stalls was not a pleasant sight for the hard workers in connection with the charity, some of whom were present. The entertainment contained many attractive turns. Early in the afternoon Mr Charles Cunningham and his company appeared in the pretty little sentimental piece entitled *V.C.*, a story of two brothers—one an honoured officer of his regiment, the other a convict. The acting was very telling, and the playlet was exceedingly well received. Mr George Robey came early with his latest song, "Oh!—oh!!—oh!!!" in which he represents a tattered female who concentrates much sarcasm in the repeated exclamation quoted. Mr R. H. Douglass in his monologue which he calls "Proposals" pointed out in the funniest possible way the different styles of melodrama—"then and now," and the ancient and modern methods of proposing. He had also some droll comments to make on the new journalism. Mr Douglass brought his entertainment to a somewhat abrupt conclusion, and the audience evidently wanted more. Miss Millie Lindon gave an excellent sample of idyllic song when she sang once again in her own delightful fashion "The rain came pitter-patter down;" Mr Harry Lauder spread the contagion of mirth with his favourite Scottish song "Stop yer tickling, Jock;" Miss Alice Lloyd found genuine appreciation for an original and happily conceived song "The stockings on the line;" and Miss Kittee Rayburn just popped in to sing "He thought he wouldn't venture any farther." A great hit was made by two juvenile prodigies—Nipper Lupino Lane and Little Cliffe. The first-mentioned is related to the celebrated Lupino family, and undoubtedly possesses hereditary talent, which was shown particularly in his dance, an eccentric solo that brought down the house. Little Cliffe is also a capital dancer, and his genuine success was testified to by loud applause. Miss Nellie Loomis and company presented a series of songs and dances in very attractive fashion. A quartet of ladies manœuvred in the dress of Indian squaws to the haunting melody of "Hiawatha;" and, speedily changing their costumes, sang "Pansy Faces," introducing a little later a representative of "Bill Bailey," who was implored to come home by his female relatives. Then came a *sifleuse*, who whistled an accompaniment to a clever step danseuse. The show was cleverly varied, smart, interesting, and well dressed. Mr Ernest Shand gave one of his best songs when he sang "Short Stories;" Datas was able to state the exact time of Adam's birth and to prove himself once again a dictionary of dates; Miss Edie King danced very prettily; Miss Lina Verdi offered some clever imitations; the Eugene Family exploited a clever and smart gymnastic show; Mr Fred Herbert created interest in questions of the hour; Mr Percy Honri played the concertina as he only can; Miss May Henderson's dancing was, as usual, excellent; Miss Katie Marsh's imitations of drama and opera were supplemented by some clever eccentric dancing; and the list of turns included Miss Dot Hardy, with a slavey impersonation; Miss Gladys Archbutt, Miss Lola Dalby, and Misses Dolly and Madge M'Calla. Mr W. Burgess directed the orchestra with his customary ability, and Mr George Womack managed the stage.

THE NEW SURREY VARIETIES.

With a liberality and enterprise that should assure instantaneous success Mr Frank Macnaghten has added this historic house to his well-known circuit, and on Monday it opened its doors once more as "The Surrey Vaudeville Theatre." More than the usual excitement attending the reopening of a popular place of amusement was noticed around St. George's-circus at an early hour on Monday, and by the time the doors were thrown open for the initiative matinée performance at 2·30 vast crowds had assembled. But this was nothing to the mobs that besieged the early doors at the two evening performances, for they extended in two long queues, one reaching half way around the circus, the other far up the Blackfriars-road, and a special force of police was kept actively engaged in clearing the road for the electric cars to proceed on their journeys. Some idea of the attendance may be gathered from the fact that at the two evening performances alone over 6,000 persons paid for admission. The illumination of the front of the house is brilliant indeed, for the façade is outlined by innumerable electric lamps, and standing out boldly and effectively in electric lights on a white ground is "Twice—Surrey—Nightly." The brilliancy of the exterior is only equalled by the splendour of the interior, and old habitués of this home of melodrama will be startled at the wondrous change that has been made. The somewhat murky old Surrey is now one of the handsomest palaces of variety to be found in London. The scheme of decoration is in cream, pink, and gold, while the handsome drop curtains, the decorations of the private boxes, and the seating are of ruby plush, giving a warm tone to the whole interior. The lighting, heating, and ventilation are perfection itself. The historic boards that have witnessed the successes and failures of so many cease to exist, for the stage has been relaid, and the honour of being the first artiste to appear on the new boards fell to Miss Sybil Montague, who on the rise of the curtain came forward and sang charmingly the National Anthem, in which the audience, upstanding, heartily joined.

The inaugural programme is a good one, and although it does not scintillate with stars of the first magnitude, it is none the less enjoyable. The innate love of Surrey habitués is shown by the rapt attention bestowed on Mr Fred G. Brookes's efficient combination in the pathetic and sensational scena, *A Prisoner of the Czar*, which, although familiar, is brought fully up to date by the change of locale from Russia to Manchuria. As the heroine Miss Katherine Clarke plays a difficult rôle admirably, treating the more delicate passages with artistic care and reserve. As Lord Billy Mr Fred G. Brooke plays with manly earnestness and power; as the Russian general, Ivan Louroff, Mr Alec Forbes gives an impersonation at once bold and distinctive; as the kind-hearted Lady Barbara Miss Dora Deane acts with tenderness and grace; as the villainous Colonel Muravitch Mr Graham Woods displays a brutal frankness that creates a strong feeling of abhorrence. The mounting is elegant and the work of the auxiliaries good. The "incidentals" are varied enough to satisfy the tastes of an epicure in music hall fare. Viviana, the dancing girl, wins the early favour of the house, her clever dancing in sabots and afterwards in a merry and lively cake-walk is remarkable for its untiring activity. George Bendon, the white coon, has a voice that easily fills the vast area, and his songs, "My Bamboo Queen" and "Trixie of Dixie," are tuneful and expressive. Miss Sybil Montague renders in good style the popular ballad, "Queen of the Earth" and "Somebody waiting for me," her voice being of rare range and richness. The Brothers Kroney in their new street character act *The Lazy Coalmen* introduce some new and clever features. Johnny Danvers makes a hit with his funny ditty, "I had no luck that day," his dancing winning for him an enthusiastic recall. Russell and Roper have an original idea as "The Opera Singer and the Sandwich Man," and in their vocal efforts combine sentiment with humour. Gipsy Woolf, in a charming new scena "Seminole," indulges in a series of merry dances, and receives loyal support from her troupe of pale-faced piccaninnies. Her costume of red and silver, made by Miss Lilly Woolf, of 47, Great Portland-street, is very striking and effective. Miss Woolf made a most favourable impression, and was warmly applauded. Foreman and Fannan are ever welcome, for as Percy and Harold they have an endless fund of genuine and original humour that keeps the house convulsed with laughter. Walter Payne's Bioscope, which pictures the fantastic adventures of a tourist party by train, motor, airship, and submarine, is most amusing, and fitly ends the entertainment. The comfort of the patrons is assiduously looked after by Mr Chris Wordsworth, the acting-manager, and the general management is in the experienced hands of Mr Frederic Baugh.

THE M.H.A.R.A.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—My attention has been called to certain remarks made by my friend Mr Pat Carey at the annual meeting of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, anent a certain proposition of mine which was carried at the last general meeting of the M.H.A.R.A. It seems that I am accused of depriving the M.H.B.F. of the sum of £20. This is rather an unkind way of putting it, and probably Mr Carey did not intend his remarks to read that way. My proposition was never intended to harm or deprive any music hall benevolent institution; and for the benefit of those who doubt my general knowledge I beg to say that I am not ignorant of the existence of any of the music hall charities referred to by my genial friend Mr Carey.

When bringing my proposition before the general meeting of the M.H.A.R.A., I stated emphatically that my reason for so doing was not to interfere with the work of any charitable cause in the music hall world, but simply to increase the benefits already attached to being a member of the M.H.A.R.A.; and as I happened to be a fairly prominent member myself, I was not unmindful of the old adage, "God helps those who help themselves."

Since, however, the committee, after studying the Friendly Societies' Act, finds my proposed scheme to be impracticable and illegal (everybody knows the law is "a hass"), I shall certainly be among the first to suggest the immediate distribution of the £80 in question, just as positively as I shall be among the last to injure the good work of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund.

Yours faithfully, ALBERT VOYCE.
(Hon. Auditor, M.H.A.R.A.)
Palace Theatre, Leicester, Nov. 29, 1904.

W. L. MURRAY IN ABERDEEN.

There was a great to do last week in Aberdeen because Madame Clara Butt and Mr Kennerley Rumford did not sing classical songs at the Choral Union Concert. The patrons of the Palace Theatre, however, score this week in the classical element, though this highly popular hall would be about the last place in which one would expect to hear oratorio music. But there is a well-known exponent of physical culture "starring" on the bill—to wit, Mr W. L. Murray, winner of the great Sandow competition and gold statuette, value £500, who, previous to giving his high-class performance, entertains the audience with an excellent rendering of the very appropriate tenor solo "In Native Worth," from Haydn's *Creation*, with full orchestral accompaniment.—*Aberdeen Evening Express*, Nov. 25, 1904.

MR MORNY CASH will shortly produce a new comic song, the work of C. W. Murphy, entitled "I could have told him that!"

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.
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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

If we were asked to give in a word the greatest sign of modern life we would say "combination." The tendency of all life is from the simple to the complex. No class or body of men, whether engaged in public or private life, can afford to do without organisation. This inevitably leads to the husbanding of energy, material, and means. We have already seen the value of organisation in conserving the business interests of the travelling showman, no matter what his line of business or enterprise may be. The story of the rise and progress of the Showmen's Guild, the later development of organisation as shown in the birth of other societies dealing with important, though sectional interests, also, demonstrates the value of union for common ends and purposes. Of such societies we need only cite the two best known, in addition to the parent society the Guild, that is the "Stallholders' Amalgamation" having separate societies for the North, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, and the Midland Counties, these all working locally and well to benefit their members. Then comes the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union, a society acting on the most modern trade union lines. It is no disparagement of other societies to say that this union expresses the highest achievement of trade organisation.

THE old society, the Guild, is proud of the fact that the principal workers in this latter society were trained in the committee rooms of the Guild. This, in a great measure, is also true of the Stallholders' Amalgamation, although it has produced some of the ablest of the younger generation of workers for the common good. We now think that the time has come for a further step in advance. We mean, (and we put it here in order to provoke a friendly and useful discussion) the combination of all trade societies dealing with the fair grounds of the United Kingdom. We can see no reason for any further wasting of men and money in sectional interests that in most cases are merely local, and could be easily adjusted by reference to a standing committee of conciliation or arbitration. Our point is—and we have waited until the winter recess in the showman world to bring it under discussion in our columns—that the three organisations should agree upon a common scheme of union, joint action, and responsibility.

EXCELLENT on the whole as their separate work has been, it must be confessed by all impartial observers that the effect on the public mind would have been ten times more convincing had showmen stood together in their multitude under one banner and one leadership. The parent society has been left during the past two years to grapple with increasing expensive defence work and with a diminishing or inadequate income. This is largely due to the fact that the other societies (never, of course, rival societies) have absorbed the attention, working energy, and the support of the particular groups of showmen to whom they made their special appeal. We have never in these columns complained of this sectional organisation; on the contrary, we have encouraged and assisted them in every possible way.

WE have pointed out the danger in financial support to the Guild, and still believe that showmen will not imperil their best bulwark of defence by neglecting the primary duty of furnishing the "Parliamentary defence fund" with adequate means to carry on its absolutely necessary and invaluable work.

ALTHOUGH we have still no fear of the rally to the rescue of the old society, yet we think the time has come for showmen to set their house in order, to combine the three societies into one strong and wealthy union, with committees dealing with sectional or local matters and a standing conciliation committee.

NOW, if there is one outcome of the manifest success of the Roundabout Union, it is that its committee has had power to settle in peace disputes between lessees of grounds and rival show proprietors that would have ended in grievous loss but for the good offices of the Union and its able secretary, Mr T. Hurst. If conciliation so successful as this has been could be carried a step further and be brought to bear upon all disputes that may arise in the business, it would do incalculable good. Where the interests are so obviously one, it seems a calamity that lessees and the whole body of proprietors should be at variance with the smaller traders, caterers, and stall-holders of our fairs. At any rate, let us try to unite these necessarily common interests into one solid organisation for the benefit of the travelling community. We have said enough to indicate the lines along which we would like the discussion of this matter—all important and ripe for settlement now—to proceed. The various committees and workers of the three societies will, we doubt not, agree with us and give us their valuable assistance and opinions on the question we have thus set forth.

MR THOS. HARTSHORN, the secretary of the Northern Showmen's Society, has forwarded to the Rev. T. Horne the following interesting communication for publication in our columns:—

Sir,—Mr Wm. Murphy, with his Golden Venice, and H. Carris, steam horse proprietor, and Mr Joseph Robinson gave the whole of their takings for the benefit of Stockton and Thornaby Hospital, the amount reaching, I hear, £80. This is the second time of late years that Mr W. Murphy has given a benefit, and the third time for Messrs Carris and Joseph Robinson. The last benefit realised £100. I think this shows that the showmen of the north are in friendly touch with the public of Stockton and district. This is not a rare occurrence in the north, as Mr W. and H. Murphy's gondolas and Messrs Richardson Brothers gave a similar benefit some few weeks ago at Bishop Auckland for charitable purposes. I think myself that where the proprietors of fair grounds are interfered with by misinformed councils, &c., they ought, for the protection of themselves and their business, give them an invitation to inspect the homes and utensils of general use, and I think they will agree with us that these homes on wheels are little palaces compared with many homes that are in their own towns and under their jurisdiction.

With Mr Hartshorn's words we are in complete sympathy, and it has been our constant aim in *The Era* to be the widely read "intelligence department" of showland. All through the Movable Dwellings Bill agitation, and later on the question of bye-laws, we have consistently and persistently fought the showman's battle.

AT the Carmarthen Borough Police-court on Monday last, before the Mayor (Mr E. A. Rogers), Mr Henry Howell, and Mr Thomas Thomas (Wellfield), David Boswell, a showman, who lived in a van at the fair ground, was charged with being drunk and disorderly. The defendant did not appear, but it was stated that he had had a conversation with the Mayor and the superintendent of police before he left the town. From the evidence of Police-constable Rees it appeared that on the 9th inst., at 4.15 p.m., the defendant was in the fair ground, drunk and disorderly, cursing and swearing. He had pulled off his coat, and wanted to fight with a woman. His son and daughter took him away. It was stated that the defendant was about forty-five or fifty years of age. The Bench fined the defendant 5s. and costs.

AT Samuel's Exhibition Palace, Dublin, the proprietor and manager, Mr S. Samuels, is presenting the following artistes:—Prof. Garland, card and coin manipulator; Marie L'Este, ballad vocalist; Arthur Green, Irish comedian; Joe Gill, banjoist; Mons. Elroy, ventriloquist; Lieoce, refined entertainer; and Les Primellas, sketch artistes.

THE November fair at Heckmondwike, Yorkshire, was well maintained by Clarence Mangan's portable Theatre Royal, Harry Ashington's premier pavilion of animated photography, and Vallo's novelty booth. Mr J. W. Waddington exhibited two machine sets. The gondolas and the ostriches, highfliers, swings, &c., were Messrs Edmundson's, Blake's, and Jameson's. The various shooting concerns were owned by J. Holdsworth and Mrs Jameson. The varieties, throwing games, pannum, and other stalls and frames were supplied by Messrs Blake, F. Walker, William Joy, Redfearn, B. Watkin, Houldsworth, C. Jameson, Blackburn, Wm. Eastwood, and Mrs. Jameson.

IN Showland, in the northern counties, the present centres of activity are Stockton, with Messrs W. Murphey's Golden Venice, Richardson Brothers' gondola set, H. Carris's electric horses, Mrs Crow and Sons' galloping horses, Relph and Pedley's Cinématograph, Mrs Testo's exhibition, Professor Moore with fistiana show, and the side show exhibits of Messrs Marwood, the high-class shooting ranges, Morris tubes, and galleries of Messrs Hancock, Robinson, H. Carris, E. Sheeran, Taylor, and Mrs Twibley, a range of highfliers and swings by Mr Thomas, coker-sheets by Messrs Newsome, L. Rich, J. Robinson, and others, and varieties by Messrs Geo. Halliday, Wm. Firman, C. Robson, and J. Jackson.

SOUTH SHIELDS and North Shields have the same shows, &c., as given in last week's issue.

AT Easington-lane are James Manders' cockerels, and Lowther, Rostron, H. Shaw, M. Watkins, T. Cain, and Thos. Hartshorn with their celebrated minor concerns.

SOUTH HETTON still has for its entertainment W. Cowie's steam horses, shooting gallery, and cocoanut sheets. At Witton-park Mackney's ghost pavilion is still drawing good business.

THE following additional fixtures for Christmas and New Year are to hand:—Birkenhead (two grounds), Bedminster (Bristol), Barrack-street (Glasgow), Brighton (Symonds' World's Fair), Carnarvon, Hillkirk-street (Bestwick, Manchester), Hyde-road (Ardwick, Manchester), Ipswich, North Haymarket (Liverpool), Monument-road (Birmingham), Portsmouth, and Oldham.

WE have received the annual report and balance-sheet of the North of England Amalgamated Showmen, Stallholders, and Amusement Caterers' Society (the "Amalgamation"). It is very fully itemised, and as it is already in the possession of its members, we will only give to the general public a summary:—Grand total of income from all sources, including balance of last year (1903), stands at £397 10s. 7d; the grand total of expenditure on all counts £237 12s. 5½d. In the North-eastern Bank, invested in the trustees' names, remains the handsome balance of £249 18s. 1½d. The Amalgamation has been very active during 1904. In all eighteen meetings have been held.

WE are requested by the secretary of the Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union to urge upon our readers a quick response to the levy of two guineas a member to the Parliamentary Fund.

AT Holloway's New Empire Theatre, Astwood Bank, a benefit has been given in aid of a children's Christmas party, £3 being taken. Mr Holloway will probably stay at this town over Christmas. He is having very good houses indeed considering the weather. He recently took the handsome sum of £10 for the hospital funds.

A PLEASING feature every year is the meeting at York Fair of the Travelling Showpeoples' National Total Abstainers' Union. This most excellent society does much in the fair grounds of the country. The work of Miss Millington is above praise. Alderman Agar, J.P., recently presided over this year's gathering, and with him were Mr W. Morrell, J.P., and the hon. treasurer and editor of the quarterly paper of the society, the *Caravan*, a bright eight-page journal, that finds its way into every caravan on the road. The speaker of the evening was the Rev. J. H. Morgan, and the large hall in the Manor Rooms, Goodramgate, was crowded by showpeople and their many friends in the ancient city.

MISS MILLINGTON, hon. secretary, gave an account of the work of the union, which had been carried on for the last twenty-four years. During the present year 127 Sabbath meetings had been held in different parts of the United Kingdom, and much good work had been done by refreshment tents on the fair grounds, the holding of children's meetings, and the free distribution of the showmen's newspaper. Increased subscriptions were greatly needed in order that this useful paper might be continued. Solos were sung by Miss Glass and Mrs Wrigglesworth. Miss Laming kindly presided at the piano, and Miss Morgan gave an excellent recitation.

TUXFORD, a small market town midway between Retford and Newark, has been the scene of a remarkable auction sale this week-end of effects belonging to the late Mr R. S. Wilson, a retired veterinary surgeon. Mr Wilson, who lived at the Hall, was one of the most eccentric characters ever seen in Nottingham. He spent the years of his retirement in arranging in part of his grounds a "hell," to which place he consigned all and sundry who offended his political or religious views. He turned his house into a private museum, which all and sundry were permitted to view. In one room was the bedstead on which King John breathed his last, and in it reposed a realistic effigy of the dead monarch.

MR WILSON once said, "People declare that the devil is going about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. That is all rubbish; because I have him safely chained here!" Prominent among the helpless figures presided over by his Satanic Majesty King Alchohol is represented as being an intimate friend of the Tobacco Devil; the hypocrite and time-server were apparently cast into outer darkness at the same time; priestcraft is associated with superstition; the religious lawyer and the man who can tell to a square inch where he was converted appear to be on the same plane; the chattering charwoman and the president of the Primrose League are near neighbours; and "the woman with the proud look and lying tongue" is portrayed as beguiling the "young man whose heart is void of understanding." The Phœnix-park murderers—"Joe Brady" and "Skin the Goat"—along with President Kruger and the war party, form the principal figures in the population of the bottommost parts of hell. In addition there is a varied assortment of less notorious demons, such as ordinary liars, thieves, murderers, and other undesirable persons, who are represented as being found outside the Kingdom of Heaven.

SUCCESSFUL showmen, like poets and men of genius, are born, not made. Mr Wilson was a born showman. What originality and ability he must have had to work out the extraordinary idea that possessed him!

AT Warminster Fair Messrs Symonds, with roundabouts, and Mr Dooner, with Cinématograph, gave six hours' receipts to the local Cottage Hopital. The takings amounted to £14.

HANCOCK'S WINTER GARDENS, PLYMOUTH, is doing big business this week, a very varied programme, including a laughable sketch, fooling by clowns, up-to-date songs by Miss Cissy Lomax, Moig and St. Cleer, and animated pictures.

THE case of Oliver v. Bagan has excited considerable interest in the Glasgow district. It was heard recently before Sheriff Millar at the Sheriff's Court, Glasgow. Dr. J. C. Oliver, the well-known illusionist, sued Owen Bagan for £30, balance of account due and acknowledged by him. After hearing the evidence produced by both parties Sheriff Millar gave judgment in Dr. J. C. Oliver's favour, with £5 17s. 10d. expenses. An appeal was lodged, and will be heard on the 16th inst. Dr. Oliver was at one time on the Scientific Staff of Her Majesty's navy, holding first-class certificates for engineering, torpedo, and electricity.

ON Monday night, through the generosity of the proprietors of the shows and roundabouts in Darlington Market-place, a goodly sum was raised in aid of the Darlington Hospital. As is well known, the hospital is in pressing need of funds, and the decision of those owning the numerous sources of entertainment in the market-place to hand over last night's proceeds to the institution was warmly appreciated and heartily responded to by the public, who flocked in large numbers to the maket-square to enjoy the fun.

THE Mayor (Councillor C. H. Leach) and the Mayoress formally inaugurated the carnival about five o'clock. Subsequently an informal meeting of the representatives of those bodies interesting themselves in the hospital was held to pass a vote of thanks to the amusement caterers who had so generously come to the aid of the hospital. Among those present were the Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs Leach), Mr Edward Hutchinson, Mr G. Newby Watson, Councillor C. F. Dixon, Councillor B. Biggs, Mr F. Pearson, Mr Richard Luck, Mr R. M. Dove, Mr W. Hobson, J.P., Mr Jonathan Ward (secretary of the works representatives), Mr Leeman, Mr T. Lishman, and Mr S. Gosling.

MR G. NEWBY WATSON, on behalf of the committee of the Darlington Hospital, proposed a vote of thanks to those who had placed their roundabouts and stalls at the disposal of the committee for the night. He mentioned that they had recently built a new wing at the hospital, which they could not open for want of funds. Mr Watson announced that Mr J. Smith, jun., Olympia, Sunderland, who had found himself unable to remain in Darlington for the evening, had left a donation of 10s. with the market superintendant. Mr Leeman seconded, and the motion was carried. Mr Campbell (on behalf of the proprietors) replied. He said they were only too pleased to do what they had done, as it was but their duty.

A VOTE of thanks was carried to the Mayor, on the proposition of Mr R. Pearson, seconded by Mr Ward. The mayor, in responding, jokingly remarked that he thought he had mistaken his vocation. He ought to have been a showman. He was not sorry to be there, if only to have a legitimate excuse for a frolic. His worship suggested the holding of a united bazaar during his year of office in aid of the hospital extensions. If properly worked it should realise £2 000. The following proprietors kindly placed their shows, &c., at the disposal of the hospital Committee:—Messrs W. Murphy, Richarson Bros., Relf and Pedley, J. Hancock, E. Sheeran, F. Taylor, A. Smith, Mrs Kelly, Messrs A. Newsome, Bennett, Pattison, Adams, Wright, Clark, and Wm. Jones.

THE result of the evening's frolic was the collection of a sum of £82 9s. 7d. for the hospital, and it is expected that this will be increased by a few others yet to come in. The following were to hand last evening:—Murphy, £32 3s. 7d; Richardson, £22 17s. 4d; Pedley, £13 17s. 10d.; Bennett, £1 3s. 4d.; Clarke, £1 10s. 5d.; Jones, 1s. 10d.; Sheeran, £1 1s. 8d.; Pattinson, 13s 3d.; Adams, 4s. 10d.; Smith, £2 12s. 9d.; Kelly, 7s. 1d.; Wright, 3s. 4d.; Newsome, £4 1s. 4d.; and sundries, £1 11s.

MESSRS BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL are paying a return visit to South Shields with their famous collection of animals. The menagerie contains 700 specimens, and it is admittedly one of the finest travelling exhibitions of its kind. A novelty is provided in the wonderfully long double-maned horse Linus, which has a length of tail of 17ft. and length of mane 13ft. The animal itself is a fine specimen of horseflesh.

THE hybrid zebra, half zebra and half Scotch pony, was born in 1896, and was once the property of King Edward VII., who kept it many months at Sandringham. The wild boars on view were also the gift of the King to this menagerie. The carnivora are under the special care of two well-known and daring trainers, Captain Rowley and Captain Wombwell, who enter the cages several times during the afternoon and evening. The visitors are enlightened as to the exhibits by Mr J. Tronson, lecturer and assistant-manager.

THE School Management Committee of South Shields recommended that the offer of Messrs Bostock and Wombwell to give special performances for school children at 2l. each at the specified times should be approved; that the teachers should be authorised to arrange for the attendance of such of their scholars as were willing to pay, and that the visit to the exhibition should be treated as an object lesson in natural history.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us for the address of the Lancashire and Cheshire Stallholders and Showmen's Federation. Will he kindly send to Mr Wm. Gibson, 634, Rochdale-road, Manchester.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—With your permission I would like to make a few suggestions to the readers of the "Showman World," in your valuable paper, re the strengthening of the "Showmen's Guild," which is not supported as it should be. It would be one of the wealthiest societies in the country if showmen would only be loyal to their own interests. In the first place, I suggest that our leading roundabout proprietors, who, I am glad to say, are nearly all members of the Guild, should compel their tenants to become members of the society,

Ninety per cent. can afford to join, and pay some time in the course of a season. A showman can join any month in the year, and his membership runs for twelve months from the date he enters.

Yours faithfully, W. M. A.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

LOSS in connection with the organisation of the wrestling matches between Hackenschmidt and others for the world's championship at the Albert Hall was the cause assigned by Garabed Hohannas Topakyan, who lately carried on business as a theatrical agent in Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, for his appearance in the London Bankruptcy Court on Thursday. His creditors decided that his estate should be wound up by the Official Receiver, the statement of affairs showing liabilities £3,718 and net assets £430.

THE M'Kaye' Magic Kettle has been secured by Messrs Mark Sheridar, O'Connor and Brady, Phillips and Lorenzi, the Bentleys, Brown and Le Clerq, the New Macs, Gilbert Rogers, Abel and Welsh, and others, for pantomime.

AMONG other new items on the halls is a new musical comedy sketch, *Elizabeth and the Baby*, which is going headlong into favour, under the able pilotage of Mayon and Marle, who return shortly to London with this very successful tit-bit.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE:
(COPYRIGHT.)

By the REV. T. HORNE
(Hon. Chaplain, Showmen's Guild.)

THE SWITCHBACK IN SCLAVONIA.
TOLD BY THE MANAGER.

"Truth is proverbially stranger than fiction, and that machine, sir, but for my interference, would have changed the dynasty of a now much-talked-of Eastern kingdom. You must know, sir, that I cannot give real names, but I will sail as near to the fair winds of truth as I possibly can in this o'er true tale of political intrigue and dynastic conspiracy. As you are aware, my firm, Murdy, Hollins, and Co., Limited, have the greatest number of roundabout machines under one control in the world. When the switchback gondolas were a startling novelty, and literally coining money at every fair, it occurred to our people to send machines not only to America, the Colonies, and the principal European countries, but also to venture into the near East and Russia. The story with which I am now concerned we will place, if you please, in the city of Belgrave, the capital of one of those mushroom kingdoms on the border line of Europe proper and Turkey land.

"It was a fair, and I can tell you, as fairs go, we have nothing like the three weeks' business that marks Belgrave Fair. About the end of the second week a mysterious native began to make friends with me. I was bound to be cautious, but try as I would I could not shake him off. Suspecting that there was something more than met the eye in the man's persistence, I played up to him, and let him believe that I valued his friendship. He even went so far as to tell me that he would find all the capital and enter into partnership with me to run machines through the country. Getting a bit curious as to what his game might be I fell in with his suggestion. Then he 'let the cat out of the bag,' for he wanted to see the inner mechanism of the machine. This, of course, in loyalty to my employers and the makers, I could not allow. At this rebuff he altered his tactics, with a shrug of his shoulders, exclaiming, 'Ah, my friend, it does not matter, when we have a machine of our own as my partner in the business you will then teach me all its secrets.'

"Of course, I could not be tied to the switchback, there were times in the slack hours of the day that I was obliged to seize upon to get through my agency correspondence work. My chief assistant was a dependable man, at least, so I thought; but as the event proved he was not proof against the heavy bribery of my would-be friend. Returning to the machine after some seven or eight hours absence one day I was astonished to find the fair ground all alive with the most unexpected cause for excitement. The young king and his elderly wife were paying a surprise visit to the fair. Of course, had I anticipated this nothing should have kept me away from the ground, our concern being the biggest novelty, and its fame in all probability the main cause of the Royal visit. I cannot tell you how it happened sir, but in an instant my mind turned to my mysterious would-be friend and prospective partner. Why did this man persist so in his visits to the switchback? And all in a flash of thought I connected the man with the seething mass of intrigue and political ferment which afflicted this and the neighbouring countries.

"Turning to my man I said, 'Why is the machine not running?' After some hesitation, and not raising his head from the pay account book he was busy with in the pay-box, he answered, 'Oh, sir, a Royal runner from the palace came round an hour ago and warned us (that is, all the big concerns) to wait for the Royal party, and not exhibit until the King and Queen visited us.' I went straight up to the pay-box. I don't know why I did it, but I did, and in a passion that frightened the man demanded, 'Tell me, has that foreign devil been here in my absence?' Not giving him time to frame a lie, I added, 'I want the truth, and, by God! I will have it. Has he been here?' He trembled and paled before me, and at last confessed. 'Yes he has been here, and gave me five quid to let him be three minutes in the T section of the concern.' 'The T section,' I exclaimed, puzzled and bewildered, 'what for, what for? He could not learn the wrinkle of Savage Brothers' patent in three minutes. That's not his game. What is it? What is it?'

"At this critical moment the Royal party, some forty or fifty notabilities, headed by King Alexis and Queen Dracma, crowded the entrance steps of the 'Frame.' The excitement of their advent drove, for the moment, the doubts and suspicions I had been nursing, from my mind; and, indeed, no wonder, for it is not every day we have a Royal party on a roundabout. But no sooner were they all seated in the gondolas, when like a flash of lightning my mind reverted to its former trouble. Taking instant decision, I shouted to the man at the engine waiting my signal to start the machine. 'Stay one moment; do not start until I give you the "office."' Of course, this all took less time than it takes now in the telling. Switching on the lower examination lights, I began a rapid but thorough search of the underneath framework and tram-line grooves.

"My search was rewarded in two minutes' time, for I found slipped into the groove of the tram line, close to one of the wheels, in fact, wedging it, a powerful dynamite tube cartridge. You may imagine my state of mind. Rapidly finishing my investigation of the whole ground work of the frame, I gave the signal, "Start away." The engine throbbed, the machine moved, the organ played the Sclavonic National Anthem, and like merry children the Royalties and the Court entered into the fun of the ride, and for quite ten minutes the young king delayed the signal to cease, he and his queen enjoyed it so thoroughly. I can assure you it was with a thankful heart I watched the departure of the Royalties to the next show on the ground. The danger was over, and I had in my coat pocket the diabolical cartridge of dynamite charged with enough potential evil to wreck the fairground and hurl into eternity scores of innocent people.

"My wrath against the conspirator was a consuming fire. I guessed that he would be somewhere near, and my one object in life at that moment was to see him safely laid by the heels. The superintendent of market police was well known to me, and in a few minutes I had found him and told him enough to justify to apprehension of the villain could we but spot him on the ground. Like the moth attracted by the light of a candle, he could not keep away from the switchback. Puzzled, no doubt, by the manifest failure of his atrocious scheme, he came with the crowd of sightseers, and, of course, gave us our opportunity. It was a neat bit of work, for in a jiffy he was manacled, searched, and hustled into a 'droschka,' and driven away to the military prison. Now, I know enough about chemistry to appreciate to the full the peril of carrying about a tube 9in. long charged with dynamite, and both ends capped with a powerful detonating charge of guncotton. I was glad, therefore, in the privacy of my own room to separate the devilish machine into its different integral parts. Right glad as I was to do this for my own immediate safety, for your dynamite spirit is a queer devil to cage, I was glad also for another reason, which I will now explain to you.

"As you are aware, in Eastern lands, whether near or far, no business man can get along without a liberal use of 'palm oil.' I had been bled by the official caste in Sclavonia till I was not only tired of the infliction, but was seriously determining to return to the Continent because the business would not stand this terrible exaction of the 'Backsheesh fiend.' The biggest sinner in this respect was the chief of the secret police, and now I saw a chance of getting my own back again and with interest. So next morning found me an early visitor at the Bureau of His Excellency the Préfecteur of Police. For dramatic effect I had made dummy capsules to my dynamite cylinder. With apparent ignorant carelessness I threw the tube on to the table before the Préfecteur, exclaiming 'That's dynamite, your Excellency.' The man jumped two yards away and stood trembling for several moments. When at last he found his speech he said, 'Why do you bring it here? Take the devilish thing away.' I replied, 'It's pretty harmless now; I drew its teeth before I brought it here, but when I found it it was a real devil full armed for mischief.'

"Upon this assurance he returned to his desk, the official in him over-mastering the pardonable cowardice of the man. 'Where did you find it?' Speaking with great deliberation, I said, 'Last night; three minutes before the King, Queen, and Royal party began their ride on the switchback.' With astonishment and alarm full written upon his face, he said 'Can it be true? We never had a single word of warning concerning any plot touching the Royal party!' Now was my chance. Looking him square in the face I retorted at once, 'No, sir; both you and your chief officials are too busy exacting unlawful tollage, commonly called "palm oil," from the stranger within your gates to have time left to guard the Royal house.' He winced, and diplomatically ignoring my attack, begged me to give him full details of the extraordinary affair. I told him, and you may judge his astonishment when I supplemented the story with the capture of the chief conspirator.

"A terribly tragic note punctuated my narrative. At this critical moment there was a ring at the telephone. Taking the receiver down, he said the usual interrogation, and obtained this startling reply, which he spoke aloud for my edification—'Prisoner XXV., cell K, received last night from the Market Superintendent of Police, has committed suicide, after a fruitless endeavour to masticate a document of the most incriminating character. We have reason to believe he was identified with the body of Court conspirators known to be interested in the return of the Dragovitch family to the Throne. We await your Excellency's instructions.' Turning to me with great gravity, he said with considerable warmth—'Sir, you have done the State a great service. I ask you to regard this matter as a State secret of vital moment. I will see the High Chancellor, and it may be that the King himself will be made cognisant of the providential escape he and his have had.' Of the aftermath of this dynastic conspiracy the world at large has had most tragic knowledge. It is enough for me to say that I was bound, so long as the King reigned, to absolute secrecy. The conspirator's suicide removed the necessity for either his secret deportation or execution after public trial. The High Chancellor carried out the King's express desire that nothing should be done that might arouse public anxiety or draw attention to his uncertain tenure of the throne. His Excellency the Préfecture made me a present of a handsome cheque, which more than restored the balance as to 'Backsheesh.' And this bauble (a ruby rose set in diamonds) is the emblem of the Royal Sclavonic order, of the Red Rose bestowed upon me in private audience by the Queen herself as a mark of Royal favour, the High Chancellor handing me at the same time the King's warrant to erect and exhibit my gondola switchback anywhere within the kingdom of Sclavonia."

FRANK C. BOSTOCK.

The subject of our sketch is English by birth and American by conviction, having heaps of friends on both sides the Atlantic. "The Animal King," as the world now knows him, is a son of that fine old showman Mr James Bostock, who married a daughter of that equally representative family the Wombwells. It is not surprising, then, that Mr Frank C. Bostock (although intended by his parents for the Church, and educated at Kelvedon College with that view) should have followed his inherited tendencies, and embarked on a career which has made him to-day one of the world-celebrated managers as well as the most famous animal trainer in the history of the profession.

Dealing with two continents, he at present directs his vast enterprises in the States from Paris, where he has made the enormous Hippodrome there a success such as even its most sanguine promoters could never have dreamed of. The Paris Hippodrome is to-day as much a feature of Paris life as, on another side, the Opéra or the Louvre; and, after ruining no less than three limited liability companies to the extent of many millions, has become, under the audacious and clever management of Frank C. Bostock, a palace of clean, honest amusement to which flock all the best people not only in Paris proper but throughout France.

This feat alone would prove a sufficient success for any ordinary man, but Mr Bostock—"Bostock" tout court, as the Parisians affectionately style him—cannot rest on his laurels. Not satisfied with being probably the most envied theatrical manager in Paris, he is still continuing his popular exhibitions in America, of which the magnificent "Dreamland" at Coney Island is such a good example; he has his gigantic breeding establishment at Cleveland, and is interested in a score of schemes on this side of the Channel. His latest idea is a colossal tour throughout Europe on a scale hitherto unattempted; but the man who has fought his way to fortune at the Paris Hippodrome through every difficulty and obstacle that envy, hatred, and malice could create may be trusted to accomplish any object he attempts.

In person, Mr Frank C. Bostock is just a fine, big, handsome fellow; in disposition, genial, kindly, and just; very greatly feared by his enemies, of whom he has but few, and sincerely liked and admired by his myriads of friends.

"MACCOMO."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I read with very great interest the article in your last issue re Maccomo, the lion-tamer, a man who in his day was in every sense a "star artist." On referring to my library of menageries and circuses past and present, I cannot find any trace of his being killed at Newcastle-on-Tyne by the beasts he so ably put through their performance. Frost says he died in his bed. There have, of course, been accidents in the profession, notably Macarthy, done to death at Bolton, and another performer at Burton-on-Trent some few years ago, and many others. How we old folks miss the old shows! Edmond's Windsor Castle menagerie; Wombwell's No. 1 (his splendid brass band was an institution); Batty; William Sanger's waxwork show, with golden caryatides supporting a gorgeous front; and many others. Times have changed; and when one visits the modern "Mop" or "Hiring," one misses the "dear old pals" of long ago. Born in Newbury, Berks, where such distinguished kings of the showman world as the Sangers first saw the light, I may claim to know a good deal about the subject.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES J. CHILDS.
Ashleigh, Churchill-road, Guildford, Nov. 28.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—The Rev. Horne's reminiscences in *The Era* of Saturday, 26th, of Maccomo, the lion tamer, is in substance correct, but when he comes to deal with his death he is in error. Maccomo was not killed by the lions, but died a natural death, so to speak, of pneumonia, caused by his getting wet and cold. He died at Sunderland, and was buried there, Manders' band playing the Dead March at his funeral.

Yours faithfully, LION.
Fulham-road, London, S.W., Nov. 28.

TRADE SOCIETIES AMONGST SHOWMEN

By the Rev. T. HORNE
(Hon. Chaplain, Showmen's Guild).

III.—NORTH OF ENGLAND SHOWMEN'S SOCIETY.

When showmen, like other craftsmen, begin to organise and bind themselves together they meet with a common difficulty. All combinations of varying interests in a complex industry find the same trouble—how to hit upon a short, clear title that will fix itself in the public mind, and also do justice to the many classes and interests that the organisation champions and represents. Showmen as a body have been particularly handicapped in this respect. Every one of their societies has a long-winded, double-barrelled name. "The United Kingdom Showmen and Vandwellers' Protection Association," "The British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union," "The Federation of Lancashire and Cheshire Showmen and Stallholders," are examples of this long-windedness in nomenclature. It is only after years of hard work, under the incubus of a verbose title, that the oldest of them has acquired the expressive and terse name, "The Showmen's Guild." We are beginning to speak of "the Federation" to distinguish the Stallholders' Society from the Guild. We have even dared to speak of the British Roundabout Proprietors' Society as "The Roundabouterr," and we venture also to boil down the grand, high-sounding title of the society now under review—the North of England Amalgamated Showmen, Stallholders, and Amusement Caterers' Society—to the simple formula, "The Amalgamation." This essentially "North Countree" association had its origin three years ago at Shildon Flower Show, a famous modern fair. Mr James Hancock determined that the time was ripe for the organisation of fair ground interests in the North of England. At a meeting convened by him at Shildon, a provisional organising committee was elected. Mr Hancock was called to the presidency, Mr John Cooper to be treasurer, and Mr George Campbell, secretary. This executive body called together a mass meeting of show people at Houghton-le-Spring Feast. Mr Hancock's presidency was confirmed, and Mr Geo. Gray, sen., was appointed treasurer, and George Gray, jun., secretary.

Thus was the society launched upon its first full year's enterprise, Houghton-le-Spring being selected as the best place in the business year to hold its annual gathering.

The main object was to unite fairground traders in one common bond of interest and to secure the betterment of its members. It was organised on trade union lines, and here we find the secret of its abiding success. Mr Geo. Gray, sen, the treasurer, is a man with large trade union experience. He knew the value of trade combination, and in the councils of the Northumberland and Durham miners' associations had won his spurs as a miners' leader before he became a travelling showman.

The rules evidence the guiding hand and matured experience of an expert in trade organisation. It was doubtless of the utmost value to the well-being of the show community in the north of England both the Grays, father and son, were the organisers of the society in its early days, Mr George Gray, jun., being its secretary for the first two years, and was the immediate predecessor in that onerous office of the capable and energetic Thos Hartshorn, the present general secretary. The following extracts from the rules will bear out our observations on its strict trade union features:—

Rule 1.—This Society shall be called "The North of England Amalgamated Showmen, Stall-Holders, and Amusement Caterers' Society.' The objects shall be to raise funds by contributions, levies, fines, and donations for the purpose of mutual support; to protect all members when unjustly dealt with by lessees or managers of fairgrounds in all respects which are legal and just; and to obtain by uniting, harmony whereby the lives of showmen, van-dwellers, their wives and children may be preserved and made more healthful; and to impose restrictive conditions upon the conduct of the business or trade of showmen.

Rule 2.—Any showman, traveller, or stall-holder can become a member of this Society on paying a yearly subscription of 10s. 7d., commencing in October to October, by applying to the Secretary or any Committeeman or Trustee.

Rule 4.—The officers of this Society shall be as follows, viz.:—President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, two Auditors, and thirteen Committeemen, all composed of financial members, all of whom shall be elected or re-elected at the yearly meeting, which shall be held in the month of October, and any vacancy arising during the year shall, at the next meeting after the vacancy has been caused, be filled up by the highest vote of the members present. This Society shall have three Trustees, who shall continue in office during the pleasure of the Society, and in case of a vacancy another Trustee shall be elected by a majority of members at a meeting called for the purpose.

The control of the old trade union hand and the modern spirit of combination is best shown in Rule 15, which specifies who shall be members:—

All stall-holders, ice-cream vendors, fruit hawkers who attend flower shows, sports, fairs, feasts, &c., must be members of this society. If it is proved that any person has been long enough in the district to know of the Society, and who does not become a member at once, he shall have no ground, at any place where the Society's members are. All lessees and committee-men, and those having charge of grounds, must see that this is carried out, or they will be liable to be brought before the next meeting.

This is preferential trading, and perfectly legitimate persuasion or pressure, this society being the only one of its kind with its rules registered by the Registrar General of Trade Organisations, under the provisions of the Trade Union Acts, 1871 and 1876.

The rules deal in a masterly manner with all the questions of serious moment in the business. The competition—growing to be ruinous before the Society dealt vigorously with the evil—between lessees for the sole right to let or sub-let pitches or stands at fairs, has been stayed, the rules dealing with the matter firmly and in a most reasonable manner. So obviously has this been done, for the general good that now most of the North Country lessees and roundabout proprietors belong to the society. Of the success of this work in restraint of reckless cut-throat competition there can be no doubt, for in the first year of its organised effort ground rents were reduced 25 per cent. all round, and that advantage is, with rare exceptions, being steadily maintained.

It is equally gratifying to know that combination amongst showmen has also led to the general uplifting and improvement of the business of the fairground. Lessees of grounds and the persistent appeal of the executive of the society have brought a better class of entertainments into existence. Shady or doubtful games of chance are now strictly excluded by lessees, and a most salutary zeal for better sanitary conditions in and about the movable homes of the travellers promoted and fostered by the officials and members. It has had, above all things, this most desirable result: the union of all interests and the promotion of a sense of brotherhood, with a quickened response to the appeal for mutual help, conciliation, and forbearance, whilst maintaining the absolute freedom and liberty of th individual. The success of the amalgamation is beyond question. We have already referred to the fact of its being duly registered as a trade society. This was due to the zeal and perseverance of Mr Thomas Hartshorn, general secretary.

The financial position is a sound and prosperous one. The invested funds amount to £250. The trustees are Messrs R. Mackney, J. Robinson, and G. Halliday. There is also a working cash balance in the hands of the treasurer for all immediate necessities.

We most heartily wish the North of England Amalgamated Showmen Stallholders and Amusement Caterers' Society (registered) every success. We here also express our thanks to its excellent secretary, Mr T. Hartshorn, for the interesting and informing facts embodied in this article.

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Songs for Principal Girl and Boy.

Farewell my little Yo San
By MILLS and SCOTT.
Tom Costello's greatest success.

Go away Mister Crocodile
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
Will be even more popular than "Little Yellow Bird."
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

You are a white little girl
By SWAFFER and DAREWSKI JUNR.
Sung by Miss Winifred Hare.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Carnival of Toys
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A pretty song for the children. The undoubted successor to "The Tin Gee Gee."

The Sunshine of Love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
A delightful ballad with harmonised chorus.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Do you know Suzannah Simpson?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
If not, ask the author and composer about her.

Blue Bell
By MADDEN and MORSE.
The accepted success of the year.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Honey boy
By KENNEDY and PENN.
The composer of "Honeysuckle and the Bee," "Pansy Faces," etc., has excelled himself in this dainty number.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Girls wouldn't be wanted at all
By HARRINGTON and LE BRUNN.
Sung by W. J. Churchill.

Have you seen my girl?
By MILLS and SCOTT.
This is confidently expected to rival "There's a girl wanted there."

There goes my soldier boy
By LEIGH and SAVAGE.
The greatest march song since the "Soldiers of the Queen."
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Angel of my dreams
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Miss Millie Lindon. The best of the many productions of these clever writers.

Navaho
By WILLIAMS and VAN ALYSTYNE.
Charming American-Indian Romance.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The snow-man and the sunbeam
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A pretty song with a moral.

If I had a girl as nice as you
By MURPHY and LIPTON.
A delightful chorus song in great demand.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Dolly's a first-class girl
By LEIGH and PETHER.
A cleverly concocted song with an irresistible refrain.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

So did Eve
By HARRIS and TATE.
Sung by Miss Millie Lindon.

You can't stop the sun from shining
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Miss Sable Fern.

Come and be a soldier
By STILES and NAIRN.
A grand song full of go.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER,

PIONEERS OF POPULAR PUBLICATIONS.

Songs for Low Comedian and Dame.

Short Stories
By W. DAVID and MAURICE SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand, also by Fred Clements.

There's another one out of work
By T. W. CONNOR.
Sung by George Brooks.

A.B.C.D.
(The Singing Master).
By JAMES HARGREAVES.
Sung by Wilkie Bard.

It's all right in the summer time
By MURRAY and EVERARD.
Sung by Miss Vesta Victoria.

She cost me seven-and-sixpence
By JAMES HARGREAVES and SAM MAYO.
Sung by Sam Mayo and Wilkie Bard.

Who killed Bill Bailey?
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Sandford and Lyons.

All the girls are lov-er-ly-ov-er-ly
By HARRINGTON and THURBAN.
Sung by R. G. Knowles.

He was a Sailor
By JEROME and SCHWARTZ.
From "The Earl and the Girl."
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

We all walked into the shop
By MILLS and CASTLING.
Sung by Dave O'Toole.

You can't beat the old time girls?
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Sung by George Brooks.

The new Insurance
By GEORGE ARTHURS & KENNETH LYLE.
Sung by Ernest Shand.

My inquisitive kiddie
By ELLERTON and LYNNE.
Sung by Frank Lynne.

What d'yer want to talk about it for?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

Songs for Fairy Queen and Special Singing Parts.

The Garden filled with gold
By BATEMAN and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall.

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Peeping Eyes
By KENNEDY RUSSELL.

The Playground in the sky
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Milner Verren.

You be daddy and I'll be you
By JOSEPH TABRAR.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Gondolier
By WILLIAMS and POWELL.
A Venetian Romance.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

If all the world said No
By HARRINGTON and PETHER.
Sung by Miss Gladys Mavius.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Troubadour
The latest American craze.

The sunshine of love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
With harmonised chorus.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

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142, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON.

BARNEY ARMSTRONG'S BENEFIT.

Mr Barney Armstrong was given, on the 25th ult., a handsome benefit in the Tivoli Variety Theatre, on the occasion of his retirement from the post of managing-director of Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited, who own the Queen's and Tivoli Theatres at Glasgow. It speaks volumes for Mr Armstrong's popularity that the house was filled to overflowing, and that the programme was of such a length that about five hours' time was consumed in carrying it out. It included forty turns, and many artistes came from the Empire, Zoo Hippodrome, Pavilion and Palace Theatres, by the kind permission of Mr Frank Allen and Mr Thomas Barrasford. During the past six years Mr Armstrong has catered with genuine success for the Glasgow public, and even the high prices charged on this occasion did not prevent his troops of friends crowding the building to wish him farewell. Notable successes were made by Mr Eugene Stratton, who sang "The Lily of Laguna," and, in response to a vociferous encore, gave "The Idler." Miss Marie Kendall once more showed her talent as a comedienne; Mr W. F. Frame sang "pawky" Scotch songs in his inimitable way, and made complimentary references to Mr Armstrong as a manager and a gentleman; the Daunton-Shaw Troupe, trick cyclists, did an excellent turn; Bendon's Bioscope exhibited several new and interesting pictures; and the "strong man" turn by Willie Turnbull was an agreeable variation. Miss Lena Brunton (Mrs Barney Armstrong) earned an enthusiastic reception by her various impersonations of well-known and popular artists, apart from the reception she had as the wife of the bénéficiaire. The following artists also appeared with immense success:—Misses Mabel La Blanche, Lily Burnand, Jessie Oliver, Amy Bell, Maud Mortimer, and Jane K. Ford, the Sisters Neilson, Sisters Du Barrie, Sisters Charkley, Bros. Ashley, Will Johnson, Arthur Slater, Mons. Valone, Orpheus, Wal Robbins, George Prince, J. T. M'Millan, Tate and Tate, Geraldo, Dusty Rhodes, Imro Fox, Steve M'Carthy, Dandy George and dog, and the Boston Twins.

Mr Barney Armstrong contributed two new songs for the occasion, entitled "Oh, Mary," and "John M'Dougall," which he sang in inimitable style, and quite "brought down the house." In an interval in the programme Mr Fred C. Ewing, acting-manager, called upon Bailie William Thomson, who expressed the pleasure he had at being asked to be the mouthpiece of such a large audience present to testify their good wishes, appreciation, and friendship for Mr Armstrong. In presenting him with a magnificently carved oak cabinet-secretaire, he expressed the delight of the staffs of the Tivoli and Queen's and other friends, at having the opportunity to mark their regard for Mr Armstrong and their regret at the severance of that gentleman from the company. The secretaire bore an inscription expressing these sentiments and stating that it had been presented at the complimentary farewell benefit. Pleasing surprise was felt when Bailie Thomson announced that Mrs Armstrong had not been forgotten. In a few courteous and kind sentences he wished that she and her husband would have a long continuance of happiness and prosperity. He then handed to her a very handsome silver tea and coffee service and tray of chaste design and beautiful workmanship, and the lady bowed her acknowledgments.

Mr Armstrong, in an eloquent speech, thanked the assembly on behalf of his wife and himself. He felt, he said, much embarrassed to find due expression of gratitude for all the kindness he had received during the past six years in Glasgow; and he specially thanked the respective staffs for their assistance in carrying out the work of the company while he was their managing-director, and the artistes who had come forward and supported him so handsomely that evening. He also paid tribute to Mr R. Singleton and the augmented orchestra, to the directors for granting him the use of the theatre for his benefit, and to the public for their presence that evening, and their appreciation of the manner in which he had striven in the past to cater for and entertain them. His wife and himself, he said, would long treasure the beautiful gifts they had just received as mementos of the happy and pleasant stay they had made in the city of Glasgow. Though severing his connection with the business, he had heartfelt hopes of its continued prosperity.

At the close of his speech Mr and Mrs Armstrong had an enthusiastic "ovation." Mr Armstrong handed over to the *Glasgow Evening News* Consumptive Fund the proceeds of the souvenir programme sold on the occasion, to which he also added a handsome sum.

Among those present in private boxes and stalls were Councillors Gibson and Cohen, Mr George Maclachlan and party, Mr Argus Campbell, and several of Mr Armstrong's brother managers in the city. Mrs Armstrong was the recipient of several beautiful bouquets, and smaller, but not less worthy, other gifts were also presented to Mr Armstrong, who, after the performance, suitably entertained the artists and other friends, and individually thanked them for their generous kindness and assistance in promoting the success of what proved to be a "red-letter night" in the annals of the music hall stage in Glasgow.

Congratulatory telegrams poured in on "Barney" from all parts of the United Kingdom. Miss Marie Loftus wired that "She knew how the Scotch people treated a pal." W. H. Fox ("Paddiwhiski") "Hoped he would turn them away at a guinea a head." Dave Hart hoped he would "have to take the paper off the wall to make room." Among many others who sent wires may be named the Water Rats, Vaudeville Club Boys, Joe Elvin, Arthur Combes, Jack Wilson, Jack Selbini, the Waldrons, Glenroy Troupe, Harry Day, Harvey Boys, George Barclay, Lieutenant Albini, Manning's Entertainers, Michael Nolan, Arthur Rice, Arthur Rigby, G. W. Hunter, Willie Benn, Cliff Ryland, the M'Naughtons, the Poluskis, Hart and Leo, Papa Brown, Kate Carney, Rose Elliott, Jessie Oliver, Jessie Albini, Rosie Coleman and Harry Conlin, Starr and Leslie, "Barney's" old servant, Sam Jones, &c. No fewer than sixteen came from Leeds. On Mr Fred C. Ewing, acting-manager, introducing Bailie Wm. Thomson, Mr Ewing's reception was so very cordial as to indicate the great esteem in which he is held by directors and public alike—a well-deserved token to so young a manager.

THE many friends on both sides of the Pond of Will H. Fox, "Paddywhiski," will be pleased to learn that he is the happy father of a beautiful little girl. The presentation took place on Monday evening.

THE Dunedin Troupe are drawing crowded houses nightly to the Casino, Buenos Aires, where they are in their third month. The act is acknowledged by the public and press to be the best of its kind that has ever visited South America.

TEN little girls, in bright and varied costumes, applied at the Marlborough-street Police-court on Wednesday for licences to enable them to appear as dolls in the new *ballet divertissement* to be produced at the Empire on Dec. 19. Mr Hitchens, the manager, formally asked for the licences for six months, and Sub-divisional Inspector Smith, offering no objection on the part of the Commissioner of Police, Mr Denman granted them.

THE Floradora Girls, owing to their success in pantomime, 1902-3, will return to the Theatre Royal, Exeter, for specialities in *Robinson Crusoe*. This makes their third season with Mr F. Mouillot. They will present a new scena especially arranged for them by Harrington and Le Brunn.

COUNTY COUNCIL LICENSING.

The London County Council, sitting as the licensing authority at the County Hall, Spring-gardens, on the 25th ult., Mr J. W. Benn (chairman) presiding, had under consideration the report of the Licensing Committee upon the applications for licences heard by them at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, on Nov. 2, and at the Newington Sessions House on Nov. 11. There was a large attendance both of members of the Council and of the Bar.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee (sitting as the Licensing Committee) reported that the total number of applications for licences was as follows:—

North of the Thames.—Stage Plays: Renewals, 12, new 0–12. Music and Dancing or Music only: Renewals 197, new, 23–220; total, 232.

South of the Thames.—Stage Plays: Renewals, 7, new 0–7. Music and Dancing or Music only: Renewals, 100, New, 8–108; total, 115.

The number of applications received last year was 336, of which the Council granted 330. The number received this year was 347, and of these applications four were withdrawn by applicants and six were recommended for refusal. The committee said:—"We are of opinion that it is undesirable that licences for both stage plays and music and dancing should be granted in respect of any premises which are used as a theatre or music hall, and we have this year, in cases where both licences were applied for, recommended the Council to grant one only."

THE OXFORD PASSAGE-WAYS.

Mr E. Smith on the reception of the report, asked if any complaint had been received of the overcrowding of the gangways and passage-ways at the Oxford Music Hall; whether any inspection of the building had been made, and what steps it was proposed to take in the matter.

Mr Yates (chairman of the Licensing Committee) said attention had been called from time to time to the blocking of the passage-ways and gangways. Inquiries had been made on the subject, and in certain cases reprimands and warnings had been sent, and he hoped that all cause of complaint would be removed. The committee desired to ask the Council to lay down some general principle to guide them in these matters.

Mr Hubbard asked a question about the inspector of music halls.

Mr Yates said the Council had no inspectors of music halls, but certain persons of responsible character visited these places of entertainment in the interest of the Council.

Mr E. Smith asked whether, with reference to the Agricultural Hall entertainments, the attention of the committee had been called to certain temporary wooden erections in certain parts of the ground-floor space, and whether the practice had been discontinued.

OBJECTION TO MUTOSCOPE PICTURES.

Mr Mullins complained of the character of the mutoscope pictures at the London Exhibition buildings. He described them as immoral.

Mr Yates said the Council had no control over the Mutoscope Company, but at the licensing sessions he obtained an assurance that the exhibition of the objectionable pictures would not be repeated.

Mr Russell Spokes asked that the undertaking be incorporated in the licence to the exhibition.

Mr Kershaw, barrister, representing Mr Herman Hart, undertook that this should be done.

Subject to this undertaking the licence was renewed.

The premises of the Royal Horticultural Society in Vincent-square, Westminster, having been completed to the satisfaction of the committee, a full licence for music and dancing was granted.

GRAND THEATRE, FULHAM.

In the case of the Grand Theatre, Fulham, a licence for stage plays was granted to Mr A. F. Henderson. The application of Mr J. De Freece for a licence for music and dancing was refused.

AN OBJECTION TO MUSIC.

Mr Hy. Fireman applied for a new licence for music in respect of the Clarendon Hotel, Broadway, Hammersmith. The licence was required to enable music to be played during meals in the dining-room, smoking-room, and saloon lounge of the hotel. Some alterations to the premises were necessary to render them suitable for a licence, and the licensing committee recommended:—"That a provisional licence for music be granted with regard to the dining-room, smoking lounge, and saloon lounge of the Clarendon Hotel, subject to an undertaking that the licence shall only be used for the purpose of music during meals; and that the licence be confirmed as soon as the Theatres and Music Hall Committee report that the alterations required by the Council have been completed."

Mr Jephson objected. He thought the granting of the licence meant the beginning of a new policy on the part of the Council, and in the interests of the temperance and well-being of the people very dangerous. It was proposed to grant this licence to what was practically an ordinary public-house. He was told that this was not quite the first of these cases. He thought the Council should distinctly state whether they were prepared to grant music licences to public-houses. He had seen the outside of this house, and he thought the music would be within hearing of the bars, the lounge, and the smoking-rooms, which were not separated from the dining-rooms, and this was an application to make the attractions of a common public-house greater than they ought to be.

Mr Brandon said there was at the Clarendon Hotel a very large restaurant approached by a small passage. It was beautifully arranged and decorated, and would not disgrace any restaurant in the West-end. At meal times it was full of travellers who called upon tradesmen in Hammersmith from wholesale houses in London, and it was in fact the only restaurant to which they could go. He hoped the Council would pass the committee's recommendation.

Sir John M'Dougall had not the slightest doubt that these premises were originally a beer-house. He hoped the Council would decide against the application. The dining-room should be detached if a music licence were required.

Mr Dolman thought that the practice should not be discouraged of licensed victuallers providing meals for their customers. A music licence had been granted in the case of the Aldgate Hotel. Why not in the present case?

Mr Edward Collins thought those who knew Hammersmith-broadway at night would not be prepared to support this application if it meant that music and meals were supplied up to closing time.

Mr Waterlow said the circumstances of the Aldgate Hotel differed from the circumstances of the Clarendon Hotel.

Mr Yates defended the action of his committee. This was not a new departure. Similar licences had been granted in the West-end. This was a very simple case. At the Aldgate Hotel there was a German bar, and the entrance to the dining-room was through the bar with separate exits. Why should hotels outside the centre of London not have music licences? Theatrical licences had been granted to the suburbs, and why, if he wanted it, should the suburban resident not have music and stage plays in the district in which he made his home? The report of the Council's inspector on the Clarendon Hotel was that it was a respectable middle-class hotel, where all the business was conducted in an orderly manner. He had seen the hotel. Neither the police nor the local authorities had opposed this application, which had been before them for two months, and he supported it.

Mr Humphreys, counsel for the applicant, said the objections raised had been sprung upon him without notice, especially that relating to the separation of the dining-room from the other parts of the premises. It would have been quite simple to come with an answer to all the objections if he had had notice of them. He pointed out that structural alterations could not be made without the sanction of the licensing Bench, and that one licence could not be made to cover two buildings structurally separated. At present there was a separate entrance to the dining room through the smoking-room, which it was desired to use. He did not suppose there would be great difficulty in placing a partition upon the floor between the saloon-bar and the dining-room. Whatever structural alterations were practicable the applicant was prepared to undertake. He was also willing to comply with every reasonable condition imposed by the Council.

Sir Algernon West moved as an amendment that the licence should be granted subject to certain agreed structural alterations to shut off the dining-room from other parts of the premises; that music be played during meals only from 6 0 p.m. to 11·0 p.m., and that the orchestra be composed of men. The amendment was seconded by Mr Brandon, but was defeated on a vote, and the committee's recommendation was rejected by forty votes to nineteen. The licence was therefore refused.

PALACE THEATRE.

Mr Crisp, K.C., renewed the application by Mr Thomas Ernest Polden for a renewal of a licence for music and dancing for the Palace Theatre of Varieties, Cambridge-circus and Shaftesbury-avenue. Mr Polden also asked that the condition attached to his licence to the effect that no intoxicating drinks shall be sold or consumed in the auditorium might be removed. Before the committee the application for the removal of the restrictions to the licence was opposed by Mr Charles Pinhorn, secretary of the London United Temperance Council; by the Rev. J. H. Cardwell, of St. Anne's Rectory, 28, Soho-square; and by Mr H. L. D'Arcy Jaxone, of 15, Green-street, Leicester-square, on the grounds that the sale of intoxicating drink was not necessary or desirable in a place of public entertainment; that the licence should only be granted on the condition that no intoxicating drink should be sold or consumed on the premises; and that the neighbourhood was well supplied with licences for the sale of intoxicating liquor.

The committee decided that the licence should be granted on the same conditions as were attached to the licence granted last year—viz., that a licence for music and dancing be granted subject to an undertaking that there should be no promenade in the premises, and that no intoxicating drinks should be sold or consumed in the auditorium.

Mr Crisp submitted that it did not seem a good thing that houses like the Empire and other houses should be privileged and that the Palace Theatre, which was a highly respectable house, should be denied. He assumed that nothing could be said against the theatre. It had been well managed by the late Mr Charles Morton, and it would no doubt continue to be well managed by its new manager, Mr Alfred Butt. That being so, it was perfectly clear that the application was made in the interests of the house. With regard to the question of inconsistency, it did seem very incongruous, he would not say unjust.

The only other argument that he could suggest was that of public convenience. What they said was that it would be a great convenience to a large number of people who frequented the Palace Theatre in the upper parts of the house—where order and everything else was observed, and where very respectable people attended. With regard to those who had seats in the stalls or high priced seats there was not much inconvenience caused, because a man could leave his seat in the stalls and go and get his refreshment at the buffet, and come back again; but it was not so with regard to those who had to go into the other, and lower priced, seats in the house, which were unreserved.

The Council confirmed the recommendation of the committee without discussion.

CARLTON OR MORTON'S THEATRE.

Mr Arthur Carlton applied for a renewal of a licence for stage plays for the Carlton Theatre, London-street, Greenwich. Mr Carlton also applied for the removal of the restriction attached to his licence to the effect that no intoxicating drinks should be sold or consumed on the premises. The application was opposed before the committee by Mr Charles Pinhorn, secretary of the London United Temperance Council; Rev. F. Storer Clark, of St. Peter's Vicarage, Gloucester-place, Greenwich; Mr George Lidgett, the Grove, Blackheath, and Rev. S. Martyn Bardsley, vicar and rural dean of Greenwich, on the ground that the sale of intoxicating drink was not necessary, or desirable, in a place of public entertainment.

The committee's recommendation was that an unrestricted licence should be granted.

Mr Hubbard moved that the licence be granted subject to an undertaking that no intoxicating liquors be sold or consumed upon the premises. He said it was unnecessary to again labour the matter.

Mr Kershaw, who appeared to oppose the licence on behalf of the owners and licensee of the Portland Hotel, which adjoins the theatre, submitted that there was no reason whatever why the Council should reverse their policy of many years. This theatre was known as Morton's Theatre, and previously to 1900 was carried on as a temperance home. Members of the Council attending the theatre could get anything they might want in the house which he represented. He therefore asked the Council not to remove the restriction.

Mr Blakelock also opposed the removal of the restriction on temperance grounds.

Mr Carlton appeared in person, and reminded the Council that the theatre was a fully licensed house before Mr Morton took it. There was no doubt Mr Morton carried on the theatre successfully for some years, but that was at a time when there was not the competition which now existed. Keeping the theatre with a restricted licence did him much harm. It placed a stigma upon the theatre and upon himself and he asked the council to remove it.

Colonel Rotton adjured the Council to follow something like a consistent policy, and not deprive one theatre only of a right which had been exercised hitherto without objection or complaint. The fact was that Mr Morton flew a false flag, because he had an arrangement with the man next door for the supply of the drink. He was as strong an advocate of temperance as anyone, and he defied anyone to argue to the contrary. The way to make people sober was not to drive them into the public-house, and the committee saw no reason for placing the restriction on the theatre in future.

Mr Hubbard moved an amendment that no intoxicating liquors should be sold or consumed on the premises. Let the Council put into practice their ideas and protect the people against the ravages of drink.

Mr Carlton protested that he had had no notice of the amendment.

Mr Hubbard said Mr Carlton had no cause of complaint, because he bought the house as a temperance theatre.

Mr Mitchell seconded the amendment.

After some further discussion the amendment was carried by a large majority.

The unopposed recommendations of the committee were confirmed, and the business concluded.

MR HERBERT FLEMMING, the business-manager of the late Mel B. Spurr in Australia, after settling up that lamented entertainer's affairs in Melbourne, returns to London. Next year he contemplates returning to Australia with a new comedy company.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—Your correspondent mentions A. G. Spray as topping the bill at the Circus of Varieties, Rochdale. It should have been, yours faithfully, HICKS'S CLERKS.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 12)

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Muller.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company is here this week in *The New East Lynne*, which is one of the best versions of this favourite story. As Lady Isabel Miss Agnes Imlay is most accomplished, her acting being natural and essentially sympathetic. As Barbara Hare Miss Helen Stewart is excellent; and Miss B. French Stewart is equally successful as the eccentric and plain-spoken Cornelia Carlyle. As Archibald Carlyle Mr W. Heilbronn gives a fine interpretation, evidently the product of careful study; whilst Mr Walter T. Clifford as the despicable Francis Levison is seen to great advantage. Mr Faulkner Cox is an exceedingly good Murty O'Flynn, causing roars of laughter with his whimsicalities.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*An Actor's Romance* is the attraction here this week. Mr Guy Hastings portrays with power Harold Davenport; Mr Ernest Rushton cleverly sustains the part of Robert Livingstone; Mr Percy Marmont effectively enacts Jack Woodford; and much amusement is afforded by Mr E. H. Dobell as Charlie Cummings. Miss Bertha Northam acts with womanly feeling as Louise Davenport; Miss May Charteris is lively as Dottie Dillingham; Little Marie Ada Dowsing makes a winsome Phyllis Davenport; and Miss Florence Elgin cleverly acts the part of the unscrupulous Florence.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—Miss Daisy De Roy's combination of artistes is proving a strong attraction here this week. Miss De Roy herself contributes largely to the entertainment with some capital songs, which are received with well-earned applause. Miss Hilda De Gray, vocalist; the Three Musical Japs; F. C. Brooks, comedian and stump orator; Rae and Rae, trapeze comedy tumblers; Two Beresfords, comedians and dancers; Frank Royle, clog dancer; Miss Lillie Weldon, vocalist and dancer; Mdlle. Dora, in speciality act; Bendo, the boneless wonder; and the Spangelettis, with trained pony and dogs, complete a lengthy and enjoyable programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—De Gracia's performing elephants do some wonderful tricks, and Eric Graham, comedian; Millie Harris, vocalist; T. W. Johnson, sand dancer; the Three Hendriques, comedy acrobats; "Whirling the Worlds," by the Empire Bioscope; the Bowery Boys, patter comedians; and the Pinaros, dancers, &c., are other attractions.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—We are having a return visit this week from Messrs F. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg and company with *The Traitor*. Mr Wellesley Draper as Prince Rudolph and Colonel Nerve gives a capital exposition of the parts; and Mr Stephen E. Scanlan as Chief of Police and in the title-rôle is satisfactory. Mr James E. Abbott is amusing as General Hertz; Mr Edward Jenner is a manly Captain Ross, R.N.; Miss Isabel Hunt is seen to advantage as Lieutenant Nicholas; and Mr Frank Sutherland is a breezy Jack Boult, A.B. Miss Conyers Radcliffe is very pleasing as Zula; Miss Lily Roselle gives a careful interpretation of the part of Countess Zicka; Miss Anena Wallis is chic as Cen Cen; and Miss Hettie Senior is a sprightly Elise Duprez.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr E. Parker-Royston.—This week Mr Harry Starr's company is presenting *Otto the Outcast*. Mr Starr as Otto displays great versatility; Mr Richard Harris as Vidocq is excellent; Mr William Millar as Daddy Bruneau gives a clever character sketch; and Mr J. Turner as Augustine Carrotte is exceedingly humorous. Miss Lizzie Webb as Lara is vivacious and charming, and Miss Emma Lester as Susette gives an artistic rendering. Miss Rita Rosslyn as Corinne Jarbeau is very good.

TOWN HALL.—Mr Gustave Roselle's Merry Zingaras are here this week in a very successful entertainment. Madame Roselle is exceptionally clever in her thought-reading, and Miss Emmie Roselle's musical entertainment is very successful.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Mr Will Hebden's *Day in Paddy's Market* is the attraction this week, and is responsible for good houses and lots of genuine fun. Mr Hebden is always prominent, as whether as Johnnie, Maggie Dooley, Ellen Golightly, or the Quack Doctor, shines with humorous brilliancy. P.C. Coppem, so ably played by Mr Charles Locke; Mr Lan Maitland as Percy, the Dude, with his catch-phrase, "Don't be rude," is amusing; Mr Chris Bern as Alick, the waiter, proves he is a clever character actor, and his original song, "In our street," gains favour; Mr Chas. Lyndon as Daft Jimmie, with song is well received. The other male characters in order of importance are Messrs Milland as the Judge, Granville, Storey, Halsey, and Bowers, Mary Manners is ably portrayed by Miss Jennie Clare; and Miss Dorothy Fairley as Mrs O'Hennessy is admirable.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Messrs George Mitchell and John Belton's company is fulfilling a week's engagement here in *The Conscript*. Mr George Mitchell's impersonation of the title-rôle is very successful; Nadia Truevitch in the hands of Miss Mary Dawson gives much satisfaction; Miss Ivy Chandos as Wanda and Mr T. H. Solly as Tretch Trotoff are responsible for the comedy business; Mr Fred H. Constable as Count Paul Hardiski, Mr John Belton as Dor Doggervitch, and Mr Edward Hill as the Ferret ably sustain those evil characters. Mr Heward Travis as Ivan Manloff, little Elsie Baston as little Karl, and Miss Maud Ranford as Dame Katrina give good support.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—This week's programme, as usual, attracts full houses at each performance. Joe Bowker, bantam-weight champion boxer, gives an excellent exhibition with the gloves; Fred Sinclair and Gracie Whiteford keep the audience in roars with their musical duologue *Getting Even*; J. W. Hall's song and patter are very droll; the singing collier John Lloyd has a good reception; Nellie Ganthony's drawing-room entertainment is good; the farcical duologue *Married or Photographed?* by Warden Reed and Glenny is very clever; and other pleasing turns include the acrobatic eccentricities of Baroux and Bion, Miss Fredrica's terriers and the clever pony Dot, George Penn, raconteur and eccentric musician, and animated pictures.

SCARBOROUGH.

SPA.—Manager, Mr Fras. Goodricke.—This is the last week of the season here. The company's orchestra plays each evening under the direction of Mr Charles Godfrey, jun. Miss Beatrice Overton, this week's vocalist, has charmed the audiences by her well-rendered songs.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr W. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr Walter Kitchingman.—The stage here is occupied by Mr Howell Webb's company in *The Convent Bell*. Mr Stanley Carlton sings and acts well as Philip Vautier; Mr Charles Howell ably plays the aged Colonel Vautier; Mr Oliver Birrell puts in a lot of good work as the villain, Henri Cassella; Mr Howell Webb makes things lively as the British tar, Pickle Podds; Mr Teddy Myers is amusing as Jean; Miss Florrie Manderville makes the most of her opportunities as Suzette; Christine Valgrave finds a pleasing representative in Miss Trissie Humphreys; and Marguerite Courier is well played by Miss Ruby Maude.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Quinton Gibson.—This week's event is the appearance of Mr Tom Bassett, who gives burlesque recitals of melodrama. Other items include Cambo, the musical man monkey; Charles Thorn, comedian; Belford and Mars, comedians; Prof. Milne, ventriloquist; Tom Hall, and Herbert Betts.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—*First class* occupies the boards here this week, the drama being presented by Messrs Imbert and Wright's company. Mr Fred C. Imbert as Dan the Miser does excellent work; as Lewis Montford, alias First-class, Mr G. M. Newall is admirably cast; Mr Gerald Nolan cleverly depicts Mr Franklin; Nosey is capably given by Mr Sam Roberts; as the Rev. Arkland Grove Mr G. W. Whitfield plays with much ability; Florence Franklin is charmingly presented by Miss Lizzie Ingles; Miss Isabel Innes as Mildred gives a careful study; Peggy is sympathetically drawn by Miss Ellen Armor; and Mrs Stroud is well played by Miss Emily Handley.

SHEERNESS.

COLISEUM.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. C. Darling; Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—Rechristened, redecorated, and resplendent with every comfort, this popular place of entertainment—formerly known as the Palace Theatre—was opened for the season on Monday with an excellent programme of variety artists, the most prominent of which are the Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabian acrobats. Miss Alma Evelyne, ballad vocalist, is capitally received. The Swift Trio of trick cyclists are both amusing and clever. Lynn, the singing newsboy, is deserving of praise. The Mezzettis, comedy bar performers, appear with success; Geo. Dardini introduces various clever juggling feats; T. C. Callaghan, comedian, and Miss Florrie St. Clair, comedienne, contribute some capital songs. The programme concludes with Hal Collier and company in the comedy sketch, *Uncle's Christmas Goose*. An excellent orchestra, under the bâton of Signor Portelli, discourses appropriate selections during the evening, whilst the arrangements at the front of the house leave nothing to be desired on the part of the popular manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr P. Reymond.—The Calden combination are appearing this week in the Irish dramatic sketch *Shaun*, in which they are eminently successful. The Summersons (Will and Maggie) are local favourites here. Other capital turns include Mr Fred Donald, eccentric comedian; Miss Maggie Maraton, ballad vocalist; Mr Harry O'Moore, comedian; Mr H. C. Boon, eccentric comedian and dancer; the programme concluding with the laughable farce *A Hard Nut*.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—The screaming farcical comedy *The Money-Makers* was played on Monday by Miss Emma Hutchison's company, and received with roars of laughter by a large audience. That old Sheffield favourite Mr Allen Thomas submitted a clever character sketch as M'Dougall; Mr Charles Esdale acted in a smart and agreeable manner as Captain Fitzgerald; Mr Edward Sidney was a mirth-provoking Fred; and Mr Edward Bonfield was good as Charles Clifton. A large amount of the fun was caused by the clever comedy of Miss Frances Davies as the quick-witted Bella; Miss Mary Griffiths was a humorous representative of Mr Bannercross, the lady with an imposing personality and a voluble flow of language; the efforts of Miss Violet Lee, Miss Nita Alexander, Mr Townsend Whiting, and Mr C. H. O'Hara were recognised; and Miss Lillian Locke as Dot and Miss Lorna Lawrence as Mabel were two captivating young ladies. The first piece was *Two of a Kind*.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—Bright, tuneful, and exhilarating as ever came *The Belle of New York* on Monday, when a big audience again welcomed the popular members of Mr George Musgrove's company. Mr Harry Meymott was full of mercurial high spirits as old Bronson, and Bronson, *fils*, was acted in irreproachable manner by Mr Philip Leslie. Mr Cecil Burt was again the characteristic representative of the old-time theatrical manager Doc Snifkins; Mr W. Pringle made a hit as Blinky Bill; Mr Max Copeland acted carefully as Von Pumpernick; and the lively "Portugee twins" were smartly impersonated by Messrs Selby and Sealy. The irrepressible Mugg had a comical delineator in Mr Paddy Duprez; and those pretty and graceful ladies, Miss Beatrice Lamotte, Miss May Young, Miss Ida Lawrence, Miss Lillian Digges, and Mrs Alice Rene all acted, sang, and danced in a tuneful and graceful way. Mr A. Linforth again stage managed efficiently, the play going with all the vim and sparkle of a first night.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—That dramatic evergreen *Uncle Tom's Cabin* never seems to lose its grip on the affections of popular audiences, and a large and enthusiastic audience on Monday wept at the death of Little Eva, sympathised over the sorrows of Uncle Tom, and soundly hissed the villain Legree. Mr George Carr acted in an earnest and impressive manner as Uncle Tom; Mr J. H. Rogers painted the slave driver, Legree, in bold colours; Mr Charles Harrington again ably portrayed the character of Phineas Fletcher; Miss Sylvia Stella was a lively Topsy; Miss Hettie Johnson made a pathetic Eliza Harris; and Miss Zerlina Zerbini repeated her thrilling impersonation of the passionate and warm-hearted Cassie. All the other parts were played effectively by the white and coloured artists of Mr Charles Harrington's celebrated combination.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—Pat Rafferty, a great and deserved favourite, is again appearing here, and other clever performers this week are Swan and Bambard, Trans-Atlantic comedy acrobats; the Dark Brothers, comedy tumblers; the Three Sisters Leigh, vocalists and dancers; Calile and Walker, comedians; Lizzie Fletcher, serio-comic vocalist; Hugh Stanton's company, in a satirical sketch; Sisters Emilis, instrumentalists; and Arthur Lennard, the favourite actor-vocalist.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—The famous Maskelyne and Cooke entertainment opened for a three week's season on Monday, when a crowded audience welcomed some of the old features, and many new items, in a long and generous programme. The marvellous conjuring of Mr David Devant is still the *pièce de résistance*, but many other illusionary displays appeal strongly to the lovers of the weird and marvellous, such as the Magic Kettle, "The Gnome's Grotto," the mystic illusion, "The Sylph," Mr Devant's mental magnetism, the Chamounix singers, and the diverting magical burlesque entitled "Will, the Witch, and the Watchman."

STAFFORD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Jas. Elphinstone.—The London "Star Vaudeville Company" was here the first half of the week, and included Spargo, an exceptionally clever musical exponent; George Pitt, in an interesting weight-lifting act; the Brooklyn Boys, eccentric comedians; Kate Seymour, who sang daintily; Eventio and Event, who gave an amusing juggling performance; Dal Robling, the singing collier; and last, but not least, the Sisters Albert, whose dancing received the hearty commendation of the audience.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kierman.—The New Century animated pictures are attracting excellent audiences here this week. Some of the films create the greatest enthusiasm, especially a fine set illustrative of the Baltic Fleet outrage in the North Sea.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Mr Norman V. Norman's répertoire company has been here this week, the plays billed including *Under the Red Robe*, *David Garrick*, *Nell Gwyn*, *The Country Wife*, and *My Lady Virtue*, all of which were staged and acted in a manner that left nothing to be desired. In the first mentioned piece Mr Norman V. Norman impersonated Gil De Berault with great ability, the part being one for which he is eminently suited. Mr Robert Hilton merited high praise for his fine interpretation of the rôle of Cardinal Richelieu, and numerous other male parts found capable exponents. Miss Beatrice Wilson played with expression and success as Renee De Cocheforét, and other ladies acquitted themselves creditably. *David Garrick*, played on Tuesday evening, was thoroughly enjoyed, Mr Norman V. Norman in the Banquet scene being conspicuously talented. The Balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet* was excellently represented as a curtain-raiser. On Wednesday evening *Nell Gwyn* was admirably put on and spiritedly acted.

SLIGO.

TOWN HALL.—Proprietors, Corporation.—Mr W. Payne Seddon presented Mr Charles Macdona's company, and on Monday opened here with *A Chinese Honeymoon* to a very good house. Mr Lester Carey is capital as the Emperor Hang-Chow; Mr Percy Stephens's impersonation of the Lord Chancellor was very good; as the Admiral Mr Tom Birch was successful; Mr Edgar K. Favelle as Tom Hatherton made the most of his part; Mr George P. Ascot as Mr Pineapple played with ability, as also did Miss Dorothy Payn as Mrs Pineapple. Miss Julie St. George was amusing as Mrs Brown, and Miss Cissy Schofield highly diverting as Fifi. Miss Mamie Finbow made an attractive Soo-Soo.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—*The Worst Woman in London* once again made her bow here on Monday. The plausible doings of this attractive, but black-hearted, person lose nothing by their repetition, and the title-rôle is filled by Miss Constance Medwyn, who gives a faithful presentation of the part. Mr Edwin J. Collins contributes a well-considered rendering of the part of the cruelly persecuted Jack Felton; Miss Lillian Ross merits warm commendation for her sympathy-compelling portrayal of Ruth Milford; Mr Paul Barry Lewers's impersonation of Vincent Lyle is successfully moulded in the familiar pattern of melodramatic villainy; Mr Roy Byford gives a meritorious impersonation of James Milford; and Mr George H. Asquin causes considerable fun as Bob Goldfinch, being ably assisted by Miss Helena Rigby. Mr Joe Bracewell contributes a capital characterisation of the drink-soddened reprobate, Hugh Drayton. Mr Bernard Mervyn does extremely well the little assigned to him as the revenge-seeking Philip Armstrong. The scenery is capital.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr Sydney Paxton.—Mr George Dance's company is here with *The Orchid*. Miss Ethel Bryant as Lady Violet is delightfully vivacious, and makes a great hit with her smart song, "Little Mary," which is one of the best things in the piece. Miss Mabel Sealby plays with much grace as Josephine Zaccary, and Miss Madge Lucas causes considerable amusement as Caroline Vokins. Miss Poppy Wilkinson, Thisbe; Miss Ida Chichester, Countess Anstruther; and Miss Sylvia De Lacy, Zelle, were all received with favour. The principal comedian is Mr Bertie Wright, whose Meakin is productive of great amusement. Mr G. Davy Burnaby is successful as Guy, and sings "Bedella" in fine style. Mr Edmund Page, the hard-working stage-manager, also scores as the fire-eating Count, and Mr Ernest Darrell is a polished representative of Mr Chesterton. Mr Edmund Hollick (Dr. Faucett), Mr Arthur P. Hemsley (a nimble and alert Zaccary), and Mr Ralph Holland (Registrar) all lend useful assistance. The dresses are on a lavish scale, and the chorus does valuable service under the direction of Mr T. Tunbridge.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Manageress, Mrs J. W. Gordon; Acting-Manager, Mr Dudley Colwyn.—This week Mr Robert Perris's company is successfully presenting *A Fight for Millions* here. Mr Robert Perris gives a carefully studied reading of the part of Tom Manley; Mr Horace Booth depicts Richard Dudley with graphic power; and Mr Fred Action as the accomplice is also successful. Mr Larry Clements is excellent as Will Neverwork. Miss Eva Purcell is an acceptable heroine, and acts with great charm, and the other parts are well sustained.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr Chas. Marte.—Hamilton Hill, the famous Australian baritone, charms all by his admirable vocalisation. The O'Learys are wonderfully clever acrobats, and the Three American Idols sing and dance beautifully. The Two Maningos, equilibrists of the first water; the Sisters Oswald, dainty dancers; Alec Kennedy, comedian; Jessie Burnett, comedienne; and Frank Bernard and company, in their telephonic trifle *Hello!* make up a capital company.

SKATING RINK.—Mr Jacob Studt's World's Fair is going very strong here. The selections by the ideal Orchestraphone, the animated pictures exhibited by the Bioscope, and the switchback gondolas nightly attract large numbers.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow, sen.; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—For this week Mr Walter Melville's popular company is presenting *A Disgrace to Her Sex*. Jack Dawes has a most able exponent in Mr Harry Marlow; Barnaby Mugg and Bella Mugg, characterised by Mr Arthur Byron and Miss Madge Yates respectively, are exceedingly vivacious; Miss Nellie Lucas gives dignity to the part of Mildred Carrington; Miss Winnie Tempest as Mabel Valley wins admiration; Mr Phil Harper is humorous as Jules Delarnet; Mr Eugene Stanley is well suited as David Carrington; Mr David G. Noble does well as Arnold Travers; and Miss Grace Heywood gives an exceedingly good portrayal of Hilda Valley.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—An attractive entertainment is furnished here this week by Mr Frank Wilson's company, which is on a return visit with *The Marriage of Kitty*. Miss Vera Fordyce plays the rôle of Katherine Silverton in a vivacious and charming manner; Mr Frank Wilson submits a clever and interesting portraiture of Sir Reginald Belsize, Bart.; Mr Sydney Orton displays ability in the part of John Travers, other good character sketches being supplied by Miss Averil May, Miss Kate Harwood, Mr J. F. Leighton, and Mr Royston Keith, jun.

STALYBRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr H. Leighton Rooke.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr E. Vivian Edmonds are renewing their acquaintance with the habitués of this house, in *The Golden Ladder*. Mr Harry Cullenford figures prominently as the Rev. Frank Thornhill, and Miss Austin—first as Lilian Grant, and afterwards as Mrs Thornhill—finds much scope for her abilities. Mr E. Vivian Edmonds and Mr Graham Winsford are jointly concerned in the villainy of the plot, and they have sufficient material to make things interesting. The remaining parts are in good hands, and the scenery and general effects are excellent.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Messrs H. J. Callan and Wentworth Croke's company is providing an excellent attraction with *Florodora*. Few familiar faces appear in the cast, Mr C. Young Fixott (Gilfain) and Miss Dorothy Sephton (Lady Holyrood) being the only remnants among the principals. Mr Fixott's quiet way is diveringly suitable as Cyrus W. Gilfain, and his songs merit approbation. The vivacious acting and singing of Miss Dorothy Sephton are admired. Miss Violet Bronson, a winning Dolores, sings sweetly; and Mr William Everard lends noticeable support as Frank Abercoed, his musical numbers thoroughly deserving the encores awarded them. Mr J. Huntley Graham as Captain Arthur Donegal is recalled for his rousing rendition of "A Military Man." Miss May Yates is a dainty and conscientious Angela Gilfain. Her song in which the refrain is sung by Mr Graham and whistled by several lady members of the chorus is greatly palatable. The bulk of the comedy falls to the lot of Mr Arthur Lenville as Anthony Tweedlepunch, and his droll mannerisms evoke constant merriment. The beautiful dresses are in harmony with the scenery, and the chorus and augmented orchestra under the capital direction of Mr K. Ernest Irving is a strong feature of the performance, their tuneful and well-directed efforts meeting with just appreciation.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Tom Edwards easily ranks among the best ventriloquists of the day, and he is fully entitled to his position at the head of the bill. Vasco is well styled the "mad musician," yet there is a certain method in his madness, which produces an excellent entertainment. St. James Quintet is an ever-popular turn. Some bright and amusing cross-talk comes from Doody and Wright, Australian comiques; Alexandre and Bertie, in their aerial act, submit their clean and effective performance; Fred Dunstone sings funnily "Pilgrims of the Night;" Vosper, facial mimic, and Arthur Melrose, whistling comedian, do well; and instead of Helen Martin, whose name is billed, James Lowrey, singing quarryman, deputised successfully.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—Signor and Madame Prosper Benn are appearing in a refined music act, "From Pavement to Stage." Downey's Royal living pictures remain over from last week, and another good series of films are exhibited. A unique acrobatic skater is J. H. M'Cann; able male impersonations are contributed by Evelyn Taylor; Bertha Duckett is correctly billed as a charming child vocalist and graceful dancer; Beanland and Bath score as cartoonists; Marie Gibson, soprano, is well received, and Brothers Ajax, in a strong act, are appreciated.

ROYAL ASSEMBLY HALL.—The New Century animated pictures, under the able and courteous direction of Mr T. D. Sutherland, are pleasing. The programme, which is up to date, also includes "The War between Japan and Russia," "The Russian Outrage upon the Hull Fishing Fleet," &c. Illustrated songs of a pleasing nature are given by Miss Sanderson and Mr Healy. A packed house gathered on Monday, and good houses are the rule.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—The Garside, Knowles, and Ludlow Company opened here on Monday in Shirley and Conquest's drama, *The London Fireman*. Mr Forbes Knowles succeeded in giving a sterling performance of the title-rôle, and Mr Edward L. Garside appeared to great advantage as Hal Curtis. As the false Viscount Flemming Mr Arthur Pringle submitted a creditable interpretation. Miss Adeline Raby as Grace Curtis, Miss Violet Temple as Countess Flemming, and Miss Mona Gray as Ida Curtis were all decidedly good in their respective rôles. The comedy was smartly supplied by Miss Nellie Garside as Polly and Mr Charles Preece as Nixey. Messrs William Burgess (Abel Fortnum), Chauncey Morris (Joe Bluener), and Frank Hertie (Dr. Garrod) complete a very efficient cast.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—Mr William Greet's company, under the management of Mr W. A. M'Neil', is paying a return visit here with *The Sign of the Cross*. Mr F. B. Woulfe gives an excellent impersonation as Marcus, and Miss Evelyn D'Alroy makes a charming Mercia. Miss Cissie Carlton as Dacia, Miss Ivy Millais as Stephanus, Miss Ethel Lond as Poppæa, Miss Alma Bolton as Berenice and Miss May Fairclough as Ancaria are each to be complimented on clever delineations. Mr A. Bernhardt Turner does well as Nero; Mr Frank Wood is exceedingly good as Glabrio, and Mr Charles Aldred as Tigellinus and Mr J. Wetherall as Licinius are also successful.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—The leading line on this week's bill is Woolford's stage animal circus, consisting of three ponies, donkey and dogs which prove a great attraction. Other interesting turns are Mr Will Percival, dancer; Miss Lily Lassah, serio; Mr Arthur Bright, vocal comedian; Major Sitherland, "the spinning marvel;" the Jetneys, coloured comedians; Four Arizonas, contortionists, and Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—Mr Arnold Bell and company have been cordially greeted here this week by appreciative audiences. On Monday night *Ben-my-Chree* was presented, Mr Arnold Bell appearing as Dan Mylrea, which character he portrayed with marked power and ability. Mr Cuthbert Imrie acted with effect as Ewan Mylrea, and Mr Hy. Clifford was thoroughly excellent as the Bishop. Mr Frank C. Robson as the Deemster and Mr Dan Farrough as Mr Harcourt, the Governor, were both highly satisfactory. As David Fayle Mr William Reid was clever and amusing; Mona was charmingly acted by Miss Frances Campbell; and Miss Violet Campbell was pleasing as Kitty. On Wednesday *The Shaughraun*, and on Friday *The Octoroon* were presented.

OHMY'S CIRCUS.—General Manager, Signor Pepi.—Prof. Inman Hockinge, hypnotist and scientist, is the special attraction here this week, his entertainment being amusing and clever. W. H. Downs, coon tenor vocalist, is pleasingly applauded; and Terry and Bentley meet with success in their comedy-act *The Hunt*. Will Letters, comedian, is mirth-provoking; and Katie Gallimore is a delightful ballad vocalist. Gilbert Girard gives clever imitations of animals and musical instruments; and Vernon's Bioscope continues one of the pleasing features of the entertainment.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—Once more a capital bill is submitted by Mr Egerton. At the head are the Sisters Merkel, whose acrobatic performance excites applause. Another turn which meets with much appreciation is that of Radford and Valentine, who in a comedy juggling act cause roars of laughter; several feats performed by these gentlemen are really clever, and as humourists they have but few rivals. A pleasing turn is contributed by Miss Marie Santoi, soubrette, which is both pretty and artistic. The Zerbini Troupe of musicians are very clever, the trick solo contributed by a lady member upon the banjo being excellent. Celest does several marvellous feats on the slack wire. George Rapley is a comedian with good songs, which are exceptionally well rendered. Will Crackles also meets with success. The Bioscope shows some excellent pictures.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley's company in *Bound to Win*, is the attraction for the week. Mr Kimberley's assumption of the rôle of Harry Lyndon is quite successful; Mr Frank Strickland's Philip Ayre is as villainous as it should be, and Mr Sidney Rennef's Squire Forbes is a creditable impersonation. A good deal of fun is put into the piece by Mr Edgar Morgan as Horatio Buffett; and Mr Horace Custins' Willie Wilkins, and Miss Edie Macklin's Winnie Oakley, the latter singing a song or two in good style. Miss Nina Blake Adams is well suited as Marion Forbes, and Miss Evelyn Robson as Gladys Orme makes the most of a rather thankless part.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—An enjoyable bill here is headed by the Jackson Family, who give a refined musical turn much above the average. Louis Kerno, vocalist and dancer; the Sisters Terry, clever duettists; Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte in an amusing duologue, *Saucy Maud;* Coram in clever ventriloquism; Adams and Ward, comic acrobats; Payne's Bio, and Willis and Renton, in their comic triple-bar act, are also in the bill.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—A fair audience attended the presentation of *The Biggest Scamp on Earth* by Miss Frances Delaval's company. As Derrick Knight Mr Percy Carne Waram played well, while Miss Delaval as Naomi Belvedere was effective. A pleasing portrayal of Irene May was contributed by Miss Dorothy Mahomed, and Miss Doris Denman as Bobby was excellent. Mr Percy Brown as Vivian Wakefield, Mr Hamilton Urquhart as Sir Aubrey Knight, Mr S. Geddes as Napoleon Hawke, and Miss Patty Groves as Mother Hawke also gave effective portrayals.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Business-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—*The Still Alarm* is being played here this week. Mr Matthew H. Glenville is an excellent Jack Manley, and Mr Paul Lovett is a convincing John Bird. Mr Osmond in the amusing part of Doc Wilber is capital. Miss Mary Lovett is a successful heroine. Excellent singing is introduced into the piece by the Lyric Comedy Four.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—The Three Laurels occupy the premier position on the bill this week. They appear in their speciality on the ping-pong table, and prove themselves to be clever acrobats. Another popular item is the Three Sisters Jonghmanns, who have excellent voices. Nannie Goldman, Willie Holles, and company in the musical mélange, *The Little Charwoman*, are enjoyable. James Kurry, comedian, is well received. Miss Florence is a clever lady mimic. The Avrignys, Japanese jugglers, are very smart. The Warlocks give a most amusing dialogue act entitled *Provoking*. Thornbury, ventriloquist, also contributes.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Boyce; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—*East Lynne* has paid us another visit during the week, and still proves attractive as played by Miss Lillian Dundas and company, including Mr Henry Dundas. On Monday night Miss Dundas, in the rôle of Lady Isabel, was much liked, and the Archibald Carlyle of Mr Henry Dundas was also excellent. Barbara Hare was nicely played by Miss Leslie Dane, and Corney Carlyle was in the capable hands of Miss Kathleen O'Connor. Captain Levison was well handled by Mr Maule Cole, and Justice Hare, Lawyer Dill, Lord Mountsevern, and Richard Hare were well sustained by Messrs Harry Barrett, Henry Lawrence, John Hastings Batson, and C. Klein respectively.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—The attraction at this house during the week has been Nita Rae's social drama *Her Fatal Past*, played by Mr T. Edward Ward and his company, including Miss Ward.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—An especially strong programme is put on here this week, and includes Joe Elvin and company in their attractive sporting sketch *Over the Sticks;* Jennie Belmore, a charming burlesque actress and soubrette; Post Mason, a capital American baritone; the Trapnell Family, very clever Continental acrobats; Victor Travers, an exceedingly quaint comedian; Werner and Reider, two clever Tyrolean stars; Les Burnellys, in a novel gymnastic show; Harry Lawson, a good eccentric comedian; and Miss Winona Winter, assisted by Mr William H. Banks, in their comedy playlet *When I Help Ma Do the Washing*.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. W. Grantham.—This establishment again reopened its doors to the public on Monday, when both houses were packed. The following are the artistes under engagement for the current week:—Miss Julia Kent and Mr Alex. Keith, in the duologue *The Waiter and the Barmaid;* Ernest Sewell, conjuror and illusionist; Will Lytton, comedian and dancer; the Chicago Gaiety Girls (Louie and Clare), duettists and dancers; Payne's Palace pictures; De Vere and Kenwick, American comedy duo; John Callan, American comedian; La Hung Foo and Maggins, two marvellous foot equilibrists and hand-balancers; and the Two D's (Dorothy and Dora), in a musical scena *Anona*.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners.—That interesting drama *Two Little Sailor Boys* opened a return visit to this town on Monday, and was enthusiastically greeted by a well-filled pit and gallery. The piece was again effectively staged and played by Mr W. H. Hallatt's company, that gentleman being seen to distinct advantage as Commander Noel Tregarthen, R.N. As Mildred Grey Miss Marie Daventry greatly distinguished herself, and Miss Blanche Steele submitted a particularly powerful study of the part of Lola Grey. Mr Ambrose Horton must be highly commended for his excellent portrayal of Jim Royston. Mr Leonard Booker acquitted himself well as Lieut. Richard Redstone, R.N., and Mr Edward Warden achieved a success as Captain Yorke. The comedy element was cleverly supplied by Mr Tom E. Sinclair as Ben Baxter and Miss Hilda Taylor as Lucy Wilson, while Mr Oscar Power proved an admirable Jack Jolly. A special word of praise must be awarded to Miss Dorothy Lennox and Miss Ethel Francess for their pleasing and effective work as the sailor boys.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE. — The interesting drama *Human Nature*, written by the late Henry Pettitt and Augustus Harris, is produced here this week and is much admired. It is seldom that playgoers have an opportunity of seeing that accomplished actress, Miss Sara Mignon, in a part partaking of the adventuress description, the lady being chiefly associated with characters of sweetness and virtue, but, as Cora Grey, she plays with a rare combination of vigour and grace and adds considerably to an already great reputation. It goes without saying that Miss Mignon looks the part to perfection. Mr L. Lytton is manly as Captain Temple, and a very good impersonation of the villain, Paul De Vigne, is given by Mr William Felton. Mr G. Shaw is good as Matthew Hawker. All the other parts are well played, and the drama is handsomely staged and costumed, some of the scenery being new and effective.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Company.—*The Lights o' London* occupies the boards this week. Mr Cecil G. Calvert gives a manly rendering as Harold Armytage. Mr Albert Brasque is able as the villainous Clifford Armytage. Mr Percy Compton, a capital Jarvis, is well supported by Miss Emilie Dawson as Mrs Jarvis and Miss Gladys Murray as Shakespeare Jarvis. Mr Ernest R. Nelson deserves mention as Philosopher Jack, Miss Jeanne Burgoyne makes a sympathetic Bess, Miss Kate Randolph acts with power as Hetty Preene, and Mr Herbert Hollister is effective as Seth Preene.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome Company, Limited.—Atlas and Vulcana, society athletes, head the bill here this week, and give a smart entertainment, Vulcana also contributing some pretty poses. Wee Mona is a smart juvenile comedienne, and her excellent dancing wins much applause. Mr J. F. Dane is a versatile comedian; the Two Gems, duettists and dancers, are greatly appreciated; Mr Matt Wilkinson and company present an amusing sketch, entitled *The Registry Office;* and Mr H. O. Wills, comedian, and Raymond's Bioscope are also in the bill.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Heading the programme here this week are the famous Kellinos, in their speciality act "Venetia," which is extremely good. Alice Maple, comedienne, is smart; Harry Ray and Lillie Calden, in their comedy act, are received with much favour; De Lill, the magician, is excellent; Gus Garrick, comedian; Baffin and Lucas; Mark Leslie, coon comedian and dancer; and Les Strads meet with cordial receptions. Other items are the Mutoscope and Hulbert, ventriloquist. Picton Roxborough and Fanny Wright are capital in a musical scena "Learning the Language."

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr W. A. Armour's company is here in *What a Woman Did*. Mr Armour is very successful in the rôle of Conrad De L'Orme; Mr Kenneth Smith is capital as Raffaelle Duroc; Mr Owen Edwin is conspicuous as Pitou; as Fritz Mr Will Simpson is well placed; plenty of fun is supplied by Mr Cyril Dundas as the quack doctor; Miss Phyllis Atherleigh as Elsie De L'Orme is sympathetic; Miss Nita Imeson deserves praise, her dancing being well received; and Miss Blanche Delroy makes a capital La Papillon.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Messrs Charles and F. Renad's company in *The Swiss Express* is reappearing here this week, and despite the fact that it has been seen here several times it still retains its attractive powers.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—The Violas, in their mystifying entertainment, top the bill here this week, and have scored a success. Other excellent turns are Dan Kennedy, comedian; Cullane Trio, sketch artists; Josh Dixon, comedian; Lottie Siegenberg, ballad vocalist; Wallau, juggler; the Knick Knacks, vocalists; and the Royal Bioscope.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Messrs E. H. Knight and Geo. Denham's London company in the popular drama *The Grip of Iron* is drawing large houses here this week. Mr Fred Powell in the rôle of Jagon is loudly applauded; Mr Geo. Denham as Paul Blanchard and Mr J. Richards as Lorentz De Ribas do excellent work; as Alphonse De Coucou Mr Harry Agar Lyons scores successfully, Mr John Brittain giving an amusing rendering of Dodot. Mr W. Griffin is admirably suited in the rôle of Loustalot, the Smiler; Miss Georgie De Lara makes a charming Cora Simmonot; and as Sophie Blanchard Miss Nellie Navarro is all that can be desired. Miss Hilda Baynton does well as Marie Guerin.

WEST BROMWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, J. Page Moore.—It was satisfactory to see a well-filled house on Monday to witness *The Mariners of England*, under the proprietorship of Mr Ernest R. Abbott, to whom great praise is due for the manner in which he portrays the character of Lord Nelson. Mr W. H. Garbois in the character of Captain Lebaudy, is responsible for a clever rendering. In the hands of Miss Ada Abbott Mabel Talbot gives satisfaction. The historical scenery is worthy of any theatre. *East Lynne* was played on Thursday.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—*When Woman Hates* is being played here this week by Miss Nettie Ware and company. Mr J. Petley gives a strikingly well-finished delineation of the rôle of Lieutenant Fred Rokeby, as does Mr Oscar Adye that of Godfrey Lawton. Marie Rokeby has a sympathetic rendering at the hands of Miss Jennie Hughes, and Miss Louise Brandon is equal to the rôle of Edith Rokeby. The comedy element is safe in the hands of Mr Will Peroy, Mr R. H. Stephenson, Miss Olive Lanty, and Miss Ida Cunard, and Miss Nettie Ware discharges the rôle of Cora Daintry satisfactorily.

PALACE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—Claude Ginnett's Original "Rejected Remounts" are heading the bill this week, and are received nightly with unbounded enthusiasm. Will Musgrove is undoubtedly the most quaintly funny coon it has been the lot of a West Hartlepool audience to witness for some time, his droll songs fairly convulsing them with laughter. J. A. Wilson, Negro coon, has some good songs and funny gags; the juggling and comedy of Frank Sylvo delight everybody; Baker Belphor renders some popular ballads in grand baritone voice; the Four Andys, including Miss Lena, a really smart lady tumbler; and Stevens and Stevens, comedians and dancers, and Blanche Marion, a chic dancer, contribute taking turns.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Payne.—Miss Winifred Chalmer's company commenced a three nights' engagement here on Monday in *A Woman's Revenge*. As Mary Lonsdale Miss Winifred Chalmers was distinctly good. Mr Henry L. Osmond presented a powerful rendering of the hero, Frank Drummond. Mr Elmore Frith as Jeptha Grimwade and Mr W. Carriden as Robert Overstone were both sufficiently villainous in their respective parts. Mr Herbert Woodin must be singled out for special praise, as he proved the life and soul of the piece as Dick Chilton. Mr R. Mansell did well as John Overstone. Miss Yorke's interpretation of the adventuress, Mabel Wentworth, was an admirable one. Extremely clever, too, was Little Elsie Videau as Mary and Miss Madge Palmer gave a highly amusing impersonation of Lottie Bromley. Miss Lillian Sellman's Maggie Westwood is entitled to praise. On Thursday Mr Charles Macdona's company appeared in that successful musical comedy *A Chinese Honeymoon*.

WEST STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Mark H. Lindon.—Mr Edmund Tearle and company are appearing here this week, opening on Monday with *Ingomar*. Mr Edmund Tearle played the title-rôle with his usual ability, and Miss Kate Clinton was very fine as Parthenia. *Cramond Brig* was played as an after-piece. On Tuesday *Jeannie Deans* was produced; *The Three Musketeers* on Wednesday; *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on Thursday; and *Under the Red Robe* on Friday.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. C. Rawes; Resident Manager, Mr D. Williams.—Mr John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Children are fulfilling an engagement here. The Lizzette Troupe of lady acrobats are clever, and Miss Elsie Rubina is deservedly applauded for her feats on the high wire. Fred M'Lean, eccentric comedian, is also good, and the Musical Keiths are well received.

WEXFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr E. P. Ronan.—The Ben Greet company were here on Tuesday with *The Fatal Wedding*. Mr G. E. Clive ably sustained the rôle of Howard Wilson; Mr Cecil A. Collins gave a good impersonation of Robert Curtis; Mr W. Rushton Evan's portrayal of Toto could not be excelled; Mr L. Shirley was a humorous Peter Schwartz; and Mr Shirley Lea as O'Reilly was well placed. Miss Eva Moss gave a sympathetic rendering of Mabel Wilson; Miss Beatrice Whitney earned the execrations of the audience as Cora Williams; Miss Maisie Richardson as the Little Mother was very natural and winsome; and Miss Carrie Fenton as Bridget was all that could be desired. The specialities in act three were much appreciated.

WHITEHAVEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Clark.—Mr Chas. Majilton and company of comedians are engaged here in the laughable absurdity *Round the Clock*. Mr C. Majilton appears in his original character of Gabriel Gadforth, and causes roars of laughter. He is well supported by Mr Herbert Ashmore as Gewgaw, another amusing performance. Mr Fred Wilson as Denby, Mr Jim Bond as Burke, and Miss Madeline Majilton as Mdlle. Salprunelle are successful in their respective characters, and Miss Vesta Brownie makes a pleasing Bertie.

WIDNES.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr J. Kiddie; Secretary and Manager, Mr T. Swinton.—Mr Fred Karno's company with *His Majesty's Guests* is the attraction here. Mr Wm. Rokeby gives a very droll representation of Sergeant Lightning, and keeps the house in roars of laughter. Mr Charles F. Howard plays the burglar in very credit able style, and Mr Wellesley Smith is quite at home in the character of universal provider. As Lady Maud Easem Miss Jessamine Newcome displays great dash and spirit. Included in the cast are Mr E. C. Lilly, Mr Chas. Cardon, Mr J. Ross, Mr Chas. Leoville, and Miss Moore.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—*Beauty and Beast* is being presented here this week by Messrs H. B. Levy and J. Walters' juvenile company. The fairy extravaganza is admirably mounted and played by a company of fifty artists. The scenery is very pretty and the dresses are artistic in design. Silver Star is well represented by Miss May Gibson, and Miss Maggie Adair as the witch and Miss Mary Hardacre as Prince Charming act very effectively. Miss O'Vasey as the beast and Miss Kitty Rafferty as Beauty create a most favourable impression. The comic element has capable exponents in Masters Dan Dougherty, George Swinhoe; Paddy Mills, and Chas. Elbon as the Ugly Sisters and the Bailiffs. The piece is most successfully represented throughout.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick. — A capital bill-of-fare is provided here this week. Park's Eton Boys give an entertaining performance; Harry Tate's company, in *Motoring*, is responsible for an amusing act; Kioto, a Japanese equilibrist, executes some wonderful feats; the Bros. Redmond are acrobatic comedians; and Stylo manipulates hoops very cleverly. The Five Bon-Bons give a laughable pantomime scene; Burnetti is a quick-change musician; Beatrice Bonnie is a charming comedienne; and Harry Morris a humorous mimic and character actor. Alfred Davies, actor-vocalist, also entertains.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—The Bros. Hampson, Australia's patter comedians and dancers, give a very good performance here; the Woellhafs are up-to-date acrobatic eccentrics; and Mark Lane, comedian and dancer; Mdlle. De Vena, club manipulator; Miss Lily Jackson, male impersonator; Read and Wright, comedy duettists and dancers; Fred Williams, minstrel comedian; and Alec Aubrey, gymnast, complete a good list.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—Mr Laurence Irving's new play, *Richard Lovelace*, was introduced to local audiences on Monday. The honours of the acting should, perhaps, be accorded to Miss Mabel Hackney, whose charming and winsome portrayal of the part of Lucy Sacheverell was all that one could wish for, while Mr Laurence Irving's impersonation of the title-part was a clever and most artistic performance. The part of Colonel Martin Harvey had an admirable representative in Mr William E. Ashcroft; Mr Henry Crocker was capital as Alderman Sacheverell; Mr Michael Sherbrooke was very good as Mr Porter; and the characters of the Adjutant and Mistress Porter were efficiently played by Mr Chris Walker and Mrs Campbell-Bradley respectively.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr Fred J. Little; Manager, Mr Henry L. Compton.—Messrs Armadale and Warren's company is appearing here this week in *The Face at the Window*. The company includes Mr Augustine Knight as Lucio Delgado and Mr T. W. Dunscombe as Paul Gouffet.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—This week's bill is headed by the Mannings, who amuse their audiences by their knockabout fun in *A Hotel Boots*. Malcolm Scott, a smart comedian, is also very popular. Other items in the programme are Les Cabiacos, acrobats; Harry Drew, vocalist; the Katos; Fred Carey, eccentric; the Sisters Norde, vocalists; Millie Denham, descriptive vocalist; Frank Gee, and Kidd and Kidd.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant Manager, Mr F. Le Wards.—Local playgoers have had a novelty presented to them this week in *The New Commander*, a musical comedy, produced in an attractive fashion by Miss Grace Warner and company. Violet Flintheart is cleverly impersonated by Miss Warner, who sings and acts with great charm. Mr George Gordon, who is the object of the affections of the leading lady, is distinctly good as a naval officer and as a burlesque waiter, and as the lady's father Mr Clifford also causes much fun. Miss Dallas makes a capital chambermaid. The Primrose Quartet of dancers, led by Miss Rosa Walmsley, are responsible for some lively gyrations.

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Herr O. Adolf Seebold.—Mr Leigh Lovel's company opened here on Monday with *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Mr Herbert J. Bentley capably portrayed the part of Ian Douglas M'Bayne; Mr Lovel imbued the character of Mr Henry Pitt Welby, M.P., with a fund of humour; Mr F. Danvers Yates was well placed as Mr Ambrose Hicks; Mr Douglas Cottell was a characteristic Alexander M'Bayne; and Mr Vernon West and Mr Richard Houghton were good as the Butler and the Footman respectively. Miss Naomi Neilson deserved praise for her delineation of Mrs Mulholland; and Miss Octavia Kenmore was excellent as the Lady Henrietta Addison. Mrs Lewis Waller and company came here on Thursday.

WREXHAM.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls.—This week the following are appearing here:—The original Clayton Twins; Mr Norman De Vere, female impersonator; Miss Lilly Martell, comedienne; Harry Morgan, coon comedian; Miss Florence Leonard, vocalist; and Pulo, boy juggler.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—Mr John Wainwright, than whom there is no more capable actor on the boards, is here this week with *It's Never Too Late to Mend*. Mr Wainwright on Monday had a hearty reception from a large audience, his Tom Robinson being as full of life and vigour as ever. Mr W. R. Wilson as Mr Hawes came in for more than his share of hisses, and the unpopular rôle could hardly have been better placed. Mr Hornby Warburton was in every way an excellent Rev. Francis Eden, and Mr Henry Lee made Peter Crawley a most amusing personage. Mr A. E. Calver did capital work as Geo. Fielding; Mr Edwin Davies was impressive as Levi; and Jackey had an able representative in Mr Fred Owen. Miss Millie Wilton gave a most pathetic rendering of Josepha, and Miss Kitty Carew was an interesting Susan Merton.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke.—Walter Stockwell is a versatile artiste and is being warmly received here. Permane's clever performing bears cause much diversion; Mdlle. Martha is a gymnast of the first rank, her performance being as graceful as it is intricate and difficult; Sam Dalton, a quaint comedian, meets with success; and the Haldyn Duo have a hearty reception. Tony and Flo Vernon, Brady and Johnson, Gus Harris, and Lilian Travelli complete a very strong bill.

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THE ERA ANNUAL, 1904.
The veteran J. L. Toole has a good story in "The Era" Annual (49, Wellington-street, Strand) a publication which is highly valued by all who have anything to do with the stage. He says:—I was once playing in "Dearer than Life" with Irving and Billington at Leeds. After the performance several gentlemen were in the general room of the hotel where we were staying, and among them a certain Mr Jones, who professed to have a large acquaintance in the profession, and who appeared to have a local reputation as a judge of ages.
"Well, how old," said someone, "would you take Mr Toole to be?'
"Well," said he, "sixty-five, if he's a day."
"Do you know him?" I asked.
"Oh, yes; I know him very well indeed."
"Ah! and how old should you take me to be?"
"Well, I should take you to be forty, if you're a day."
Irving asked Mr Jones if he didn't think Mr Toole was nearer seventy-five than sixty-five. "No," he said; "sixty-five, if he's a day," and the company present seemed to put it down that that would be my age. They had most of them been to the theatre and seen me—for the first time probably—playing an old man; and as it was my first visit to the town, and we were going on by the mail train that night, I had a fancy not to go away and leave them under the impression that I was this very old gentleman. I found that Jones was a decent sort of fellow, and I said to Irving that before I went I should just give him my card and let him know what a mistake he had made. By and bye, when our cab arrived, we said good-night to our casual acquaintances, and, taking Mr Jones aside, I handed him my card, whereupon he said "Oh, indeed!" in a very offensive manner, turned upon his heel, and walked away.
"Well," I said to my friends as we drove away, "that's the most impertinent fellow I think I ever met." Whereupon Billington and Irving went into fits of laughter, and confessed that they had warned Mr Jones that I was continually passing myself off as Toole, and he was to be quite prepared for my handing him a card and trying the imposition upon him.—Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury, Friday, Jan. 22d, 1904.

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Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, April 17, on.

COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 6, March 20, 27, April 3, 17, May 1, 8 (Race Week), 15, 22, 29, June 5.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
Feb. 23 (Three Nights). March 20, 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 1, May 8, 15, 29, June 5, 12.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, May 1, 8, June 5, 12, 19, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 15, 22, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
April 17, 24, May 22, 29, June 5, 12, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant,
Jan. 16 (Six Nights each) Feb. 20 (Six Nights), March 9 (Three Nights), 13, 27, April 3, May 15, 22, on (Six Nights each).
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant Spring, 1905.
TERRISS THEATRE.
Dec. 12 and Spring.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Dec. 5, 12. Also Big Attraction for Jan. 9.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE,
Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
March 6, on.
OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Dec. 12, on (wire).
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Dec. 19 (wire), Feb. 20, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
April 26, on.
Address,
SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Dec. 12 and 19 (three Nights Each) for Grand Theatre, Luton. F. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Good Drama, Jan. 30, through transferring. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Electric Plant (three Colours) installed. Address, HERBERT VERE.

THEATRE ROYAL and OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. POTTS.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
Musical preferred,
Dec. 12, 19, 26,
Jan. 23,
Feb. 6, and on, with exceptions.

Address, W. E. POTTS.

ROTUNDA THEATRE LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, Strong Dramas, March 13 and 27, April 10 and 17.
Address, M. MONTGOMERY, Jun.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions,
March 6, 20,
and
April 3.

COURT THEATRE, GALWAY.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 9, 16, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, May 1, and onwards, with exceptions. Bookings include several of the Principal Touring Companies. For terms, &c, please address,
P. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Proprietor.

WANTED, Good Companies, Drama, Comedy, Musical, &c., Dec. 8, 12, 29, Three or six Nights, and January, February. G. E. BURNETT, Criterion Theatre, Worksop.

ROYALTY THEATRE, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Company, Dec. 26.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN.

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 12, 19, Jan 2, 23, Feb. 20, on.
New Year, Big Holiday Week,
open for Drama or Répertoire.
E. ADDISON, LIMITED.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. MACKNIGHT; Business-Manager, CHAS. E. HARDY.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 9, 23, and onwards, with exceptions.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Proprietors, Messrs CARSON and GRANVILLE.
WANTED, Strong Attractions,
Jan. 30, March 13 and 20
One or Two Open Weeks, June and July.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Companies. Vacant Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, and dates on. Good Pantomime write, JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

KING'S THEATRE, CARDIFF.
WANTED, Dec. 19, Through Company Going Off Road. Best Drama only. To Let, Six Weeks' Stock, Summer 1905, to responsible Party.
Address, FRANK BATEMAN.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.
WANTED, Companies, Dec 19, 26 (?), March 6, May 1, sundry onwards.
J. EDWARD WHITTY, 22, Berners-street, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Company, Dec. 12 and One or Two Weeks, Spring.
Big Business Waiting (Pantomime), Jan. 16.
Wire, W. B. WEBSTER, Manager for Mr GEORGE GREEN, Whitevale Theatre, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT, and THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, for Feb. 6th, Stockport, and to follow on Feb. 13, Ashton, a First-class Pantomime.
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Musical and Dramatic Attractions, April 17, and Dates in May and June. Now Booking Autumn, 1905. Splendid Business has been done recently under the present energetic Management. The Right Attractions are Thoroughly Boomed, and every Assistance given to Travelling Managers.
Address all communications, T. EDWARDES.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
March 13, April 24, May 1, 8, 29.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 19 (Three Nights only), 23, Feb. 6.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
March 13, April 10, 17, May 1 (Three Nights only).

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
Dec. 5, 12, June 19, July 31, Aug. 7.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, Feb. 27, April 10, 17, 24.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Dec. 12 (Three Nights only), 19 (Three or Six Nights), Jan. 23, 30 (Three Nights only), Feb. 6 (Two Nights only).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Dec. 12 (Three or Six Nights), 19 (Three or Six Nights), Jan. 9 (Three or Six Nights), 16 (Three or Six Nights), 30 (Three or Six).

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE
Vacant,
Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, Feb. 6, March 20, 27.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Dec. 8 (Three Nights only), 12, 19, Jan. 2, 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights only), April 24.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Dec. 5 (Three Nights only), Jan. 23, Feb. 6 (Three only).

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Strong Dramatic Attractions for weeks of
Dec. 12 and 19.
Metropole closed
Dec. 19 (week),
for Pantomime Rehearsal.
No opposition.
Wire To-day, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.
Next Week,
Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Weeks of Jan. 9 and 16. Wire, To-day, KELLY, G. T. Nottingham; next week, Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions only, Jan. 9 and 23, February and March onwards, with Exceptions. Silence Polite Negative, pro. tem.
Address, HARRY YORKE, Pleasington, Blackburn.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Jan. 16 (?), Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, May 29, June 5, 19, 26.
Silence polite negative.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Jan. 9, 23, 30, and on.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Jan. 9.
Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

VICTORIA, BROUGHTON.
WANTED, Big Pantomime or Musical Attraction,
Jan. 2.
Jan. 9.
Jan. 2.
Big Holiday Date. Holding capacity £170.
Also Vacant Jan. 9 and onwards, with exceptions.

Wire or write,
JAMES M. HARDIE, jun.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Companies,
North Shields,
Dec 26.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House.

WANTED, Companies, Blyth,
Dec. 19.

ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 9 and Feb. 6.
Address, GERALD HARDING.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for
Dec. 12 (Three Nights),
Dec. 19.
Wire, THOS. SWINTON.

P. O. W., SOUTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Dec. 19, to oblige.
J. LEICESTER-JACKSON, T. R., Lincoln.

BOROUGH THEATRE, HEYWOOD.
Proprietor, JOHN WALTERS, Esq.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for the above Theatre Jan. 2, also 9, 16, 23, and 30. Wire, ALBERT JONES, Collin's Carnival, 22, Wilbraham-street, Liverpool.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr STANLEY ROGERS.
WANTED, Good Companies, for Dec. 12, Jan. 5 (Three Nights), Feb. 6, 16 (Three Nights), March 6, April 3, on, with exceptions.
Address, STANLEY ROGERS.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management
Capital, £155,000.

WANTED. Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
Dec. 19.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKUALDY.
The Kingdom's Success.
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE CLYDEBANK
Feb. 20, March 6, 13.
NEW CENTURY, MOTHERWELL.
Feb. 6.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
Feb. 13.

Important.—Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred. The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.

Address all communications to
R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, Three Nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant, Dec. 19, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant Dec. 8, Jan. 26, March 2, 9, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."
WANTED, Feb. 27, March 6, Pantomime or Musical Show preferred.

This Theatre is as near to the centre of Prince's-street as any Theatre in Edinburgh. Is Heated hot water both back and front. Electric Light throughout. Holds 3,000 people; Seats 2,500. Over 400 Tip-up Stalls (2s. and 1s. 6d.). Smoking allowed by authorities. Electric Fan Ventilators and all Modern Conveniences.
New Smoking-rooms, Lounges, and Cloakrooms Added.
Pantomimes, "Cinderella" and "Red Riding Hood."
Several Autumn Dates and a few Spring Dates open for Best Dramatic and Musical Attractions only.
EADE MONTEFIORE, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."
Telephone, 2,000.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 19, 26, Feb. 27, March 27.
Last Three Days of each Week only Booked.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GEO. ROBERTSON.
This Handsome New Theatre will be Opened at Christmas. From Easter to Whit Week this Theatre will only be opened the Last Three Days of each Week.
WANTED, Companies, May 1 and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 2, 16, Feb. 13 and 27, and on.
Opening for Good Pantomime.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

RAMSGATE—AMPHITHEATRE
Sole Proprietor, Lord GEORGE SANGER.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 9 (Drama), Jan. 30 (Pantomime). Theatre now closed for complete Redecoration. Address, HENRY BOWMAN, Manager.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Booked in Conjunction with the
NEW GRAND HALL and THEATRE, ABERAVON.
WANTED, Companies Dec. 19 Jan. 2, on.
Pantomimes, both Theatres, first in.
Christmas Vacant at Aberavon.
Address, JOHN TULLY,
Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

QUEEN'S THEATRE FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions,
Dec. 12 and 19.
Wire, H. J. SHELSON.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON.
WANTED, Good Pantomime or Musical Attraction for Christmas.
Absolutely no opposition.
Wire or write,
Mr CHAS MACDONA, 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Strong Attractions for the New Klondyke King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Dec. 19. Few Spring and Autumn Dates.

WANTED, Good Companies, Dec. 29, Jan. 2 (last Three Nights Week only)
Victoria Theatre, Mansfield.

WANTED, First-class Companies for March, May 8, April 17,
for Theatre Royal, Chatham.
BARNARD, Harborne-road, Birmingham.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Company, Jan. 9, 1905. E. H. PAGE.
P.S.—Have several Good Dates Vacant.

WANTED, Big Combination, Musical Comedies, Dec. 12, 19, 26 (through transferring); Pantos., Jan. 2, 9, 16, on, with exceptions, Grand Theatres, Chorley and Radcliffe. Address, SANTS, Radcliffe.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Jan. 9 (?), 16 (Three Nights), 23, 30. Musical Comedies preferred. FRED L. CONNINGHAME.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

LYCEUM THEATRE, ECCLES.
Lessees, Messrs POTASCH and WARBLE.
Change of Management.
WANTED, Known. all Communications Re Contract to be addressed to Mr P. POTASCH or Mr R. FLANAGAN. Note.—Queen's and St James's Theatre can be Booked in Conjunction with above.

WANTED, for Royal Hall, Gainsborough, First-class Attractions, Dec. 15, Jan. 5, 12, 19, Three Nights each. B. KIRK (late Albert Theatre)

WANTED, First-class Companies (Fit-up), for Several Good Towns Cumberland; also First-class Pantos., Dramas, &c., for Exchange Theatre, Newark. Vacant, 12th, on. Lessee, Dr. LAURIE, Athenæum, Maryport.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, First-class Variety, Pantomime, or Dramatic Company (Fit-up), for Public Hall. Town, 13,000 Inhabitants, South-west Coast, Dec. 26 and 27, 1904
Send inclusive terms, Box 8,826, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Companies (with Fit-up and Complete Scenery) for Clarendon Hall, Watford, Dec. 26 and 27, and Corn Exchange, Maidstone, Dec. 26, 27, and 28. Share or Certainty. HENRY CHATTELL, Watford.

WANTED, Good Company, Dec 26,
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies, for Feb. 6, 13, 20, and 27, and onwards. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Feb. 20.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 7, 14.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec 5 (South), Feb. 13.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Fredk Melville's New Production.
WANTED, Jan. 23 and 30.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 13, March 27.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 13, 20, near London.
FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, March 6 and April 10. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects. Bookings include:—Grand, Islington; Shakespeare, Clapham; Terriss Theatre; Alexandra, Hull; Liverpool, Jarrow, Brixton Theatre, Elephant and Castle Theatre, West London, Middlesbrough; Metropole, Birmingham; Junction and Osborne Theatres, Manchester; Broadway Theatre, Deptford. Note.—The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville. Address all communications, DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 19, Feb. 27, March 13, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Feb 6, March 6 and 13.
Wire, To-day, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Nottingham; Next Week, Grand Theatre, Islington, N.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, April 24, May 29, June 12, on, with exceptions.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Prince's T., Accrington (Return).

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
No Vacant Dates until Nov. 13, 1905.
WANTED, Big Theatres only, then and on.
Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank,
Six Nights, Monday, Dec. 5.

CARSON, GRANVILLE, and THORNE'S COMPANY,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT.
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, for this Money Maker, Jan. 23 and 30.

Everything Carried.
Clear Stage Required.
First-class Company.

Address,
FRED GRANVILLE,
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Good Theatres, Dec. 19, 1904; Jan. 9, 1905, onwards, with exceptions.
CHARLES B. STONE,
Wire, To-day, Opera House, Perth; next week, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Theatres, Christmas and New Year. Miss Frances Delaval's Company, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore.
Wire, To-day, Theatre, Stourbridge; next, Queen's Dublin,

WANTED, Christmas and New Year Weeks for Miss Emma Litchfield's Successes
"A LONDON ACTRESS" and
"THE GUIDING STAR."
Magnificent Plant of Printing for each Play, and all Scenery bar Two Chambers carried. Each Play Three Nights will make one of the strongest Bills in the Country.
Address, STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Aston.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, Jan. 9, onwards, with exceptions, for this Really Remarkable High-class Attraction. A Genuine, Emphatic, and Pronounced Success. A Great Play. Splendidly Produced. Strongly Acted, and the theme of Universal Admiration.
J. H. CLYNDES, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Feb. 13, for
"The Life That Kills."
Jan 30, Feb. 20, March 6, for
"Bigamy."
FRED MOULE, this, Bilston; next, Wednesbury.

"SILVER KING."
WANTED, Dates, Dec 26 (Mid-England), Jan. 23, May 1 to 29, Sept 4, 11, Oct. 16, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec 4, 1905.
Address, POLINI,
93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"WHAT MEN CALL LOVE.
WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15, onwards. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Lyceum Theatre, Newport.

WANTED, Jan. 30, for Mrs. Lewis Waller in "ZAZA" or Répertoire. Wanted, Dec. 26, Jan. 2. Address, HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand T., Derby.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return); March 20 and 27, to follow Nottingham; April 10, to precede Theatre Royal, Leeds; Dec. 11, to follow Star, Liverpool (Third Visit).
Only Vacant Dates this year.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, Royalty, Morecambe.

"NO CROSS, NO CROWN."
WANTED, Jan. 2, Vacant through misunderstanding, Good Theatres only. Midlands or South preferred.
ROSE FAITH, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Jan. 2, Jan. 2
FRED BULMER, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

"THE GUILTY MAN." "THE GUILTY MAN." "THE GUILTY MAN," a Magnificent Production, and an acknowledged success.
WANTED, April 3, 10, 17, and on, with Exceptions. Special Production at Lyric, Hammersmith, Dec. 5.
JAMES HARE, Pavilion Theatre, Edinburgh.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
A Drama of Intense Human Interest, interspersed with Original Comedy and Up-to-Date Musical Numbers.
The above will be Toured in First-class Style by
ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.
WANTED, Dates in Spring and Whit Week (South), and various onwards. All communications, JOHN A. STIMSON, Queen's Theatre, Fleetwood.

HARRY STARR'S "OTTO THE OUTCAST" TOUR.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Midlands or North, Jan. 23 and 30
Wire or write, this, Theatre Royal, Rugby; next, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

"THE TRAITOR," MESSRS MITCHELSON and FINEBERG'S MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION.
WANTED, through Transfer, Christmas Week, Christmas Week. E. HILL-MITCHELSON, to-day, T. B., Rotherham; next, Opera House, Southport.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, March 6, Sept. 4. W. V. GARROD, Theatre Royal, King's Lynn.

THEATRES WANTED.

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including the

Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, Jan. 2,
Jan. 16,
Jan. 23,
Jan. 30,
March 13 (?),
March 20, 27,
May 15, 21.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield; W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull; Charles Elphinstone, Esq., Theatre Royal, Hanley; Mrs Gordon, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Southampton; F. Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford; J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth; J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington; Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston (Holiday Week).

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

Address,
GEO. KIRK,
Metropole Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, "THE SINS OF A CITY," by Nita Rae.
Dec. 26, Jan. 2.
Production second to none.
Company and Printing equal to any on Tour.
WINIFRED MAUDE,
Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Jan. 2, 9,
Jan. 2, 9.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the Most Popular Version on the Stage.
Wire for Jan 2, 9.
Wire, Sat., JAMES BELL,
Theatre Royal, Hyde.
Monday,
Opera House, Kidderminster.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.
WANTED, Theatres for this Sterling Attraction.
Vacant Dec. 26,
Jan. 2, Jan. 9 (South), and onwards.
Opera House, Dudley, Dec. 5.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Jan. 23, 30, March 6, 20.
"£1,000 Reward,"
March 6, onwards.
"A Race for Wealth,"
May 22, onwards.

BRAUDYN and LIVESEY,
Theatre Royal, Smethwick.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence" or "At Twelve Midnight," Christmas, Jan. 2, 9, March 20 27, May 15 C. CLIFFORD, Paisley T., N.B.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, Dec 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, Jan. 9, Jan. 9,
for this great Attraction. Every Scene carried (Seven Sets). Mattings and Racehorses Toured. Exceptionally strong Cast. Refer Rotunda, Liverpool; Alexandra, Sheffield; Royal, Stockton; or any Theatre visited. Parade of Racehorses Daily, with Jockeys in Colours.
Wire, wire, wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY,
Royal, Stockton; Next, Royal, Rochdale.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Fifteenth Month of continuous Successful Tour.
WANTED, Dec. 19, Dec. 29 (Three Nights, Midlands), Jan. 2, Feb. 20, March 6, and onwards, with exceptions. Thanks to Messrs Dudley Bennett, Bacon, Machin, and many other Managers for recent offers. Wire for Dec. 19. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, To-day, Grand, Walsall (Return)
Next, Queen's Liverpool.

ROBERT PERRIS'S COMPANY,
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
A Genuine Novelty.
WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, and 23.
Big Comic Opera Production in preparation.

Communications, care of
G. WALKER, Esq., 27, Chancery-lane, W.C.

"IF I WERE KING."
FRANK FENTON'S SPRING TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Easter Vacant, Midlands; also May 30, June 5.
FRANK FENTON, 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and 9.
HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs.

THEATRES WANTED.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
Mr GODFREY LAMPLUGH'S COMPANY
WANTED Jan. 9, 16, 23
and
Several Spring Dates,
On.

"MISS MISCHIEF,"
by
Mr Reginald Bacchus
and
Dr. F. Osmond Carr,
Composer of
"Morocco Bound," "His Excellency," "In Town," &c.

Universal Opinion—
One of the Smartest and Brightest Pieces Produced Recently.

All communications,

GODFREY LAMPLUGH,
to-day,
Opera House, Leicester;

next week,
Opera House Wakefield.

EDINBURGH GRAND "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Feb. 6, 13, and 20, for the Entire Production, after Six Weeks' Run (Opening Dec. 10).
Company includes:—
Miss May Marton as Cinderella,
Miss Millie Engler as the Prince,
Miss Fanny Wright as Dandini,
Miss Vera Schlesinger as Fairy Godmother,
Little Zola as the Page,
Mr A. G. Spry as the Baron,
Mr Percy Curry and Mr Augustus Wheatman as the Ugly Sisters,
Messrs Conan and Doyle as the Johnnies,
Mr Geo. Traverner as the Demon King.
Principal Dancers,
the Six Lancashire Lasses
and
the Four American Idols.

London Chorus.

Four Shetland Ponies and Electric Coach.

Stage-Manager, Mr FRANK AYRTON;
Musical Director, Mr E. T. DE BANZIE.

The Magnificent Scenery and Dresses have been added to by a special purchase of Mr Hardacre's Manchester Gold Palace Scene and Gold Dresses, forming a most brilliant finale.
EADE MONTEFIORE, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh." Tele., 2,000.

"HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 19, Feb. 6 and 13.
Wire, CARSON, Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 20.
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 16 and 30, Feb. 6 and 20.
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, and 23.
LINGFORD CARSON, Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"THE SCILLY GIRL"
(a Tale of the Scilly Isles).
Book by Athol Mayhew.
Music by William Neale.
A New and Original Musical Comedy.
Full Chorus and Dancers.
Two New Sets, Everything Carried.
The Following Artists are Already Engaged:—
Miss Bessie Pelissier.
Miss Dorothy Vernon, of "The Belle of New York."
Mr Chas. Cautley, of Mr Mouillot's Répertoire.
Mr Alfred Donohoe of Mr Geo. Edwardes' Co.
Mr H. E. Garden, late Mr Geo. Edwardes' Co.
Production, Grand Theatre, Woolwich, Dec. 12.
WANTED, Jan. 16 and on, with exceptions.
Wire, FRANK NELSON, 9, Claverton-street, London, S.W.

MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE'S REPERTOIRE COMPANY.
WANTED, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2; also Jan. 16 and 23, Feb. 7, 14.
Miss Grace Hawthorne
Presents the following Répertoire
(as Played by Madame Sarah Bernhardt),
Supported by Entire London Company:—
"CAMILLE"
("La Dame Aux Camelias"),
"FROU-FROU,"
"ADRIENNE LECOUVREUR."
"FANCHON" (New Version);
a New Play, Adapted from the French, by Adolph Belot, viz., "A DIVORCE"
and the Original English Version of
"SAPHO,"
as created by Grace Hawthorne.
Tour under the Direction of Mr Stanley Killby.

General Manager, SYDNEY T. PEASE, 62, Stamford-hill, N., Monday, Palace Pier, Brighton.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S COMPANY.
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan 2, 9 (South), Feb. 6 and 20 (Midlands), for above Attraction. Address, ED. SURREY, this, G., Chorley; next, T. R., Tyldesley (Return)

WANTED, Good Theatres for "Her Fatal Past," Feb. 27 and March 13. Round London preferred. One of the few Plays now making money.
Coms., WARD, Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Christmas Week; also Jan. 2 and 9. "The Seal of Silence," "The Seal of Silence." Refer B. E. Liston, Esq., T. R., Leeds; Francis Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford; Lingford Carson, Esq., Queen's, Keighley; C. P. Cooke, Esq., Grand, Nottingham. Bookings for 1905 include:—T. R., Leeds (Return), Alex., Birmingham; Edinburgh, Rotherham (Return), Grand, Nottingham (Return); Chesterfield (Return), Prince's, Bradford (Return); Queen's, Liverpool, &c. H. G. WYNN, Theatre, Worthing.

JOHN TULLY'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Now in Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Dec 19, Jan. 2 and 9, for this Truly Remarkable Revival.
Address, JOHN TULLY, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

MISS GRACE WARNER'S REPERTOIRE COMPANY
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 9, 16 (North), Feb. 6, 27 (?) (Midlands), for "The Little Widow," "My Artful Valet," and "East Lynne."
This and next, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

Miss DOROTHY OSWALD, in "EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Spring, Summer, and Autumn Dates. This Musical Version holds Drama records at several Theatres, and quite recently beat Musical Comedy receipts. Over £200 taken in Three Nights. This is the Finest Version ever presented. The Magnificent Pictorial Display cannot be equalled, and Company are unusually strong. Thanks for Offers to run through Christmas, but Tour is not resumed until March. HERBERT BARRS, Opera House, Torquay.

"THE WORLD."
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Vacant Jan. 2, between Stockton and Blackpool. Dec. 5, T. R., Dewsbury; 12th, Grand, Islington.
J. F. ARCHE.

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash," Christmas, Three or Six Nights, Jan. 2.
LESLIE VINER, New Theatre, Aberdare.

THEATRES WANTED

WANTED, Christmas Week, Dec. 26,
"Man to Man."
BOURNE,
Court Theatre, Warrington.

"THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH."
Grand Christmas Production.
Full Ballet and Chorus. Everything carried.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 16, 23. Address, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, 16, Oldbury-place, Baker-street, W.

"THE TRAITOR."
FINEBERG'S MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION.
WANTED, through Transfer, Christmas Week, March 20, 27.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Opera House, Southport.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c., Nov. 19, 26, and Dates Onwards, for the Royal London Star Pierrot Troupe, Concert, and Comedy Company. Big Speciality Acts. Christmas and New Year's Week Vacant. We give Sacred Concerts. This is a First-class Show, so must have terms. Address, DILLON, Workmen's Institute, West Cornforth, County Durham.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for Long Tour, "The Girl from Japan," to Rehearse Jan. 23, Musical Comedy Artistes with sound London and Provincial experience; several Soubrettes (about Twenty-two, Height 5ft. 3in.) with First-class Specialities; exceptionally Good Baritone (Lead), Refined First-class Comedians ("Charley's Aunt" type), Comedy Old Gentlemen, Juvenile Comedian ("Private Secretary" type), Eccentric Comedian (Jude), Musical Director, Smart Advance Agent; also Chorus Ladies, well built, with powerful voices, Eighteen to Twenty-one, height not exceeding 5ft. 4in.; and Two Refined Speciality Dancers. Full particulars, FREDERICK PHILPOTT, Broadstairs, Kent.

"LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Following Artistes for Long Tour, commencing January:—Powerful Leading Lady, must be tall, of Handsome Appearance, and provide at least four striking and fashionable Gowns; Young and Pretty Juvenile Lady for sympathetic part (one act only); Rough Chambermaid, about 5ft, 4in.; Vigorous Leading Gentleman, middle-aged part; Juvenile Gentleman, Clergyman rôle; Heavy Gentleman plenty of power, and dress well; Two Low Comedians, one tall, about 6ft., the other short, 5ft. 2in.; Young Character Actor; Child, Fourteen Years Old, capable of Pathos and Light Comedy Points. All must be thoroughly experienced in Melodrama, possess Good Powerful Voices, and dress parts as directed. Lowest Terms, Photos., References, Age, and Height to GEO. TESTO SANTS, Grand Opera House, Radcliffe. Kindly endorse envelope "Era."

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
Rehearse Monday next, Manchester.
WANTED, Aristocratic Old Man, Comedian for Soldier's Part, must be
Capable of Playing Straight.
Good Actor for Juvenile Lead.
Wire,
Wire,
JENNINGS,
101, Upper Richmond-road,
Putney,
S.W.

WANTED, for Christmas and New Year's Weeks, Experienced Artistes for "The Ticket-of-Leave" and "Octoroon." Rehearse Friday and Saturday previous. Lowest terms to
GLADYS GILCHRIST, Theatre Royal, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for "The Traitor," Artistes in all Lines. Rehearse 19th inst., Open 26th. Photos., references, terms, &c., HENRY CHATTELL, Watford.

WANTED, for High-class Company, next Tour commencing Boxing Day, Clever Lady Amateurs, with Good Voices, willing to Pay Small Premium. Salary given after slight experience Enormous success Reopening of Town Hall, High Wycombe. References Exchanged. Apply, by letter, REGINALD WILLIAMS, Esq., High View, Maldon, Essex.

"TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS" COMPANY.
WANTED, Chambermaid, for Lucy, Understudy Boy in case of illness. Open Boxing Day. Rehearse week previously at Cambridge. All particulars, age, height, photo. (stamped, directed envelope for return), references, and lowest terms, W. H. HALLATT, 1, St. John's-road, Richmond, Surrey. N.B.—Interviews by appointment only.

WANTED, Young Lady for High-class Tour, starting Christmas. Well-established Management. Small Premium Required.
Full particulars to H. C., 23, Nottingham-street, W.

"WHEN WOMAN HATES."
WANTED, Artist for American, Tall Thin; Frenchman, Slight; Comedy Old Woman. Dec. 19, The Dalston, Special Week. Rehearse Chesterfield.
Photos., WM. HIBBERT, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, for Tour, Soubrette and Serio, to Sing and Dance in Pantomime Sketch, with own Songs; also Ballad Vocalist.
Lowest terms, latest Photo., and references,
O. PRINZ, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

WANTED, Principal Low Comedian, for Comedy Parts, "Orphan Heiress," "World's Verdict," "London by Day and Night;" also Second Low Comedian Capable of Character Comedy, Short, for Three Weeks' Season, Metropole, Glasgow, commencing Jan. 2, 1905 Rehearsals Week previous, Dec. 26, 1904. State age, height, recent references,
ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

WANTED, First-class Short Comedian, to Rehearse Dec. 20 for long Tour; also Comedy Old Woman, doubles Hag. Full particulars, height, photos. (stamped envelope), references, &c., to T. E. WARD, Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Immediately, Good Baritone Comedian for well-established Comedy Quartette. Good money for a good man. Apply Box 8,822 "The Era."

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."
WANTED, First-class Comedian, Sing and Dance preferred. Go through till Whit. Photos., refs. (with addressees), terms, possibly other vacancies, JONES, T. P., Rugby.

WANTED, Good Character Comedian for Caleb, "The Cricket on the Hearth."
Address, CALVERT ROUTLEDGE,
16, Oldbury-place, Baker-street, W.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman (Amateurs), London Production. Premium required. Write for Interview. MANAGER, Ropley Lodge, New Southgate, London, N.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman Vocalists for a London Engagement. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

"A TRIP TO RUM FUM."
WANTED, Acrobatic and Sand Dancers. Photos., refs, and lowest terms,
J. B. LYNCH,
Theatre Royal,
Attercliffe.

WANTED, a Vocalist, Young Lady or Gent., with good Strong Voice and Appearance.
Box 8,796, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Two Young Ladies, over Sixteen Years, as Apprentices. Must have knowledge of dancing and an ear for music. Two or Three Years' Engagement certain for Continent. Everything found on and off, but must be the right people. To join Married Couple. State full particulars, with photos.,
MARTINEK LEONARD,
Concert Oscar Carré,
Amsterdam, Holland.

WANTED, First-rate Dancers for Long London Season. Must be Pretty, and under Twenty. Apply, with practice Dress, Madame CAVALLAZZI, 10, Henrietta-street, W.C., Monday, Dec. 5, 10 0 sharp.

WANTED, Several Girls, Sixteen, Knowledge of Dancing and Singing, for Christmas Production. Apply, after 6'0, at Princess Victoria, Castle-street, Great Titchfield-street, W.

WANTED, a Smart Young Lady, well up in Acrobatic and Step Dancing. Good salary.
Write, ARTISTE, Empire, Edinburgh.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Good Coach for "Dorothy," for Period Extending Five Weeks, including Three Nights of Performance. To commence duties Jan. 16. Apply without delay, stating terms, experience, &c., to the Secretary, Mr S. H. METHLEY, Barnsley Amateur Operatic Society.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Mr. Cole Aspinall Disengaged, Character Comedy, Old Men. Amateurs Coached, and Performances Stage-Managed. Permanent address, 120, Great Mersey-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Young Experienced Baritone, Powerful Voice, Engagement, Small Parts, Chorus, Pantomime or Musical Comedy. Height, 5ft. 8in. JOHNS, Mount-street, Devonport.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for Alexandra Palace (Tour to follow), Good, Dashing Principal Boy and Girl, Pair of Knockabouts, Pantomime Troupe (for Kitchen Scene), and Harlequinade. Big Speciality for Palace Scene. Age, height, references, lowest terms (no Fancy Salaries), ladies' photos., E. G. FALCON, C. T., Bedford.

JAMES KIDDIN'S PANTOMIMES.

WANTED, First-class Burlesque Actress for Prince Pekoe, in "Aladdin," Producing at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool. Address, with lowest terms, and state where can be seen working to JAMES KIDDIN, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Pantomime next Christmas, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooke, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Handsome Chorus Ladies for London and Provincial Pantomimes. Must have Good Figures. Apply, Box No. 8,794, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, First class Singing Comedian for Panto. Wire absolute lowest terms, till Sunday, C., Rochdale; after, P., Manchester. DAISY DEROY.

WANTED, Double Turn or Trio to Play Harlequinade, Donkey, and Small Parts in Opening. Apply, lowest terms and particulars, to P. FREDERICKS, Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Smart Acrobatic Dancers. Engagements waiting for the right sort. Call at once with practice dress, SINCLAIR, 12, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Pantomime Artistes, Chorus and Ballet Ladies, Acrobatic Dancers. Photos in Tights. Variety Artistes write. G. Yates, 29, Newington Liverpool.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Dame, Fitzwarren (Baritone), King Rat. Photos., where working, lowest terms, W. H. KIRBY, T. R., Grantham.

WANTED, a Smart Youth to Play Cat in Pantomime, Preference given to one who can Tumble a Bit. Terms, Age, Height, References, &c., to MISS LENA STANTON, 80, James-street, Oxford.

WANTED, Solo Dancer, Eastern Style, for London Pantomime. One able to teach preferred. Call Cranston's Agency, 6, Chandos-st., Strand.

WANTED, Producer and Ballet Mistress, for Ballet by Local Children. FRED H. ANDERSON, Northampton.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, G. Yates Supplies all Lines, Pantomime Artistes. Good Fairy Queens, Understudies, and Chorus Ladies at Liberty. 29, Newington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, "Del" Levey has appeared during 1904 as Aladdin, T. R., Plymouth, and at B. F., Worcester; Prince's, Manchester; Palace, Manchester; Tivoli, Manchester; Palace, Belfast; and at the Royal, Camberwell, Collins's, the London, Foresters', G. T, Fulham; and P., Croydon, with enormous success. For Vacancies and terms, wire, Alf. Baker and Co, 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W. Vacant Panto. and Dec 5 and 12

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty for Pantomime, Principal Boy. Offers invited. Palace, Hammersmith, S 5.

WANTED, Panto. Engagement by Queenie Palmer as Fairy Queen, Second Girl, or Princess. Offers, 11, Birches-terrace, Old Basford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Panto., by Tessie Vandean, First Boy or Girl. 144, Nottingham-road, Eastwood, Notts, till Monday, then, Queen's Palace, Ilkeston.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Florrie Claribell, First or Second Girl, with Two Good Specialities. Last two Seasons with Milton Ray's "Aladdin." Next week, Grand, Clapham, London.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Engagement in Pantomime or Musical Comedy; Good Contralto. G. L., 6, Haymede-street, Notting-hill.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Sam Mitchello, Comedian and Dancer, Dame, Page, or Ugly Sister. Address, 10, Naylor-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Daniel Gillen, Ventriloquist, Disengaged for Pantomime, Part and Speciality. Last year Wolf, in Foxwell's "Red Riding Hood" Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Poynton, the Great Impersonator of Celebrities, a Glittering Act for Speciality in Grand Scene. Terrific success everywhere. 12, Bolton-gardens, W. A Good Agent Required.

WANTED, Known, J. P. Dane at Liberty for Pantomime. Thanks for Numerous Offers. Dame or Male Part. Monday, Theatre Royal, Liverpool.

WANTED, Pantomime, by the Great Kyoto. Animal Part, Cat (Own Dress) and Speciality. The Mysterious Japanese Box, introducing Marvellous Contortion Act, Comic Conjuring and Juggling, and Dog Ky. 25, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Pantomime Engagement by the Two Castells (Harry and Mabel), Characteristic Comedy Couple; or would join Good Variety Company. Just finishing Eight Weeks' Tour. Post-office, Lincoln.

WANTED, Known, the Danvils (George and May) Comedy Speciality Artistes at Liberty for Panto., Principal Comedian and Second Boy or Girl, Vacant Dec. 12 Usual Success, Pavilion, Altrincham.

WANTED, Known, Ray and Ransford still at Liberty for Pantomime. The Comedians, the Dancers, the Knockabouts, from the Adelphi Theatre, London. Thanks to Mr Moulilot for offer. Wire, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Keir and Allen, the Great Eccentric Knockabouts. Parts and Speciality. Sure success. Offers. T. R., Liverpool

WANTED, Known, Sandy and Carl Vacant for Pantomime. Many thanks for Offers. Next week, G., Sheffield.

WANTED, Known, Condon and Preston at Liberty for Pantomime, through misunderstanding. Last Season, B., Stratford, "Dick Whittington." All coms. direct, this, G., Newcastle; next, P. P., Eastbourne.

WANTED, Known, the Mitchellos, Comedians and Dancers, Disengaged for Panto. Parts and Speciality. Can produce Kitchen scene, with Twenty Somersaults. D.C. Lithos. 14, Mead-row, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED (through Disappointment), Panto. Engagement, Christmas, by the Florador Quartette. Parts, Trape, &c., and Musical Speciality. (Includes Beatie Trixie, Boy or Girl. Clever Song and Dance Artiste.) Apply, Empire, Ardwick, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Scene Painter, used to Pantomime Work. Must be quick. Apply on Saturday to FREDERIC BAUGH, the Surrey Theatre, Blackfriars-road, London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Scenic Artist, to commence at once in London. Apply, CRANSTON, 6, Chandos-street, Covent-garden.

WANTED, a Quick Scenic Artist for Pantomime, Day Work only, London. JAMES MAY, 19, Handsworth-road, South Tottenham, N.

WANTED, Useful Scenic Artist. State terms, &c, to Box 8,805, care of "The Era" Office.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of every Description Painted to Order. Large Stock of New and Secondhand Cloths, Flats, &c., on hand. New Cloths 18ft. by 24ft. from £4. High-class Work guaranteed. Sykes's Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Good, Effective, and Cheap Scenery, Pantomime or Productions. Write, J. DAVIS, Scenic Artist, 4, Devon-street, Liverpool.

To Pantomime Producers.

WANTED, to Sell, in Excellent Condition, Scenery, Dresses (Eastern, Nautical, &c.), Properties of Successful Pantomimes. No reasonable offer refused. May be seen at Theatre. JOHN HART, Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery, Costumes, Uniforms, Rifles, "Sapho," "Poisoner," "Living or Dead," 100 other MSS. Wybert, Agent, Liverpool.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery, Box Fancy Chamber, Front Wings and Border, Greek Temple, Fit-up Frame. T. B., 55, Queen's-road, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, by Alfred Ford, Scenic Artist, Engagement for a Few Weeks, or a Contract. 110, Wenlock-street, New North-road.

WANTED, Engagement, by Frederick Stafford, Scenic Artist. First-class references and Designs forwarded. 24, Shearer-road, Portsmouth.

WANTED, by Philip Small, Scenic Artist, Engagement, Contract or Assist. Address, 43, Elgin-terrace, Maida-vale, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Business Manager for Variety Combination. Must be thoroughly experienced in Advertising, Booking, and arranging Tour, &c. Apply, with full particulars, references, lowest terms, CHAS. PRINZ, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

WANTED, Advertising Manager, for the Royalty Theatre, London. Thoroughly acquainted with West-end Work. Cyclist preferred. Apply, B. MAYNARD, as above.

WANTED, Property Man, for the Dalston Theatre. Permanency for Suitable Man. Terms and full particulars to W. R. KING, the Dalston Theatre, N.F.

WANTED, Flymen. Permanent Situations for capable and reliable men. Apply, between 12 0 and 1 0 to STAGE-MANAGER, St. George's Hall, W.

WANTED, Good, Reliable Baggage Man, one not afraid of work, to join the Marvellous Howards. Apply, with terms and references, to Box 8 810, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Music Copyist. Send lowest terms to MUSIC, 37, Grosvenor-park, S.E.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress for Few Weeks State age, lowest terms, recent references, MRS JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Secretary and Manager of Large Commercial Company, aged Twenty-seven, is available for Evening Work (4 30 p.m onwards). Trained Accountancy Expert, used to handling Extensive Staffs and Refreshment Bar Sales and Accounts. Moderate terms. Box 8,732, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Position, Acting-Manager, Music Hall, Theatre, or Pier Pavilion. Eight Years' Experience in Theatrical, Variety, and Concert Work Age, Twenty-nine. Tall, good appearance. Two Years A.-M., present position. Box 8 807, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Mr. Percy Talbot, Disengaged for Business or Advertising Management. Tour or Resident. Good Offers only. Town Hall, Edmonton, N.

WANTED, Known, Mr. E Pryce, Late Manager, Poole's O. H., Porth (Three and a-half Years), at Liberty. To-night, Hippo, Porth, S. Wales.

WANTED, Engagement, as Circus and Hippo. Manager, Assistant Manager, or Bus. Manager. C. REED, Ethelburgha, Leigh-road, Leigh-on-Sea.

WANTED, Re-engagement. Expert Advance Five Years' Experience. Open Dec. 12. Refs. Henry Chattell, Esq, H. T. Roberts, Esq., &c, SYD BERRY, P. O., Milverton, till Monday; later, P. O., Wivelliscombe.

WANTED, Known, Vocalist (French-English) pleased to inspect Manuscripts, Copyright Song-Lyrics. AMI, 57, Westmoreland-road, W.

WANTED Situation as Stage Carpenter with First-class Company or Theatre. Practical. Good References. G. A. BAILEY, Master Carpenter, Theatre Royal, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Situation, any Position in Theatre or Music Hall, by a Young Gentleman. Good Address. Box 8 802, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement as Attendant, Waitress, Programme Seller by Young Woman. Good references. R., 128, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Re-engagement as Programme or Cloakroom Attendant, Town or Country. KATE WILSON, 47, Bland-rd, Clapham-junc., S.W.

WANTED, at Once, Situation by Married Couple as Hall-keepers, in any Good Theatre or Music Hall. Age Thirty-six, Thirty-seven. Highest refs. GEORGE PITCHER, 33, Padiham-road, Burnley, Lancashire

MUSICIANS WANTED.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY, "DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY"

WANTED, for above, Musical Director (Pianist). Rehearse Dec. 15. State age, exact height, and send references (which will be applied for), photos., lowest terms, and address for next two weeks, to J. W. CORDINER, To-day, Queen's Theatre, Leeds; next week, Theatre Royal, Colchester. Kindly note.—Seventieth week of Tour without a Break.

WANTED, Two Smart Conductors and Two thoroughly Competent Leaders, all experienced in Musical Comedy, to open Dec. 26. Only First-rate Musicians. Apply at once to JOSEPH SAINTON, to-day, Opera House, Crouch-end; afterwards, Box 8 820, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Conductor-Pianist (Competent) for Long Tour, starting Christmas. Send full particulars, quoting lowest terms, recent experience, references, &c, to Box 8,827, care of "The Era" Office.

THEATRE ROYAL, BELFAST.

WANTED, First Violin and 'Cello (Good), to Open Dec. 19. Latest references and lowest terms to FRED W. WARDEN, as above.

WANTED, a Good First Violin, for Empire, Middlesbrough, well up in Variety Business, to open Monday, Dec. 12. GREENFIELD, Musical Director.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Violinist, well up in Music Hall Business. Sober and Reliable. Terms, reference, open Dec. 5, BENJAMIN PARKS, Palace, Southampton.

WANTED, Cornet and Two Clarionets. Pitching. Terms, Shares. TOM JACKSON, 8, Leslie-grove, East Croydon.

WANTED, Oboe (Good), to open Dec. 26. Apply, with terms and references, to CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

HENGLER'S HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Violoncello and Trombone (to Combine Euphonium Preferred), to Commence Monday, Dec. 12 None but Experienced Men need apply to HARRY WOOD, Musical Director, Douglas, I.O.M.

WANTED, 'Cello, Immediately, must be used to Variety. State age, experience. AUGUSTE DENTON, care of Mrs SMATHERS, 2, Lauriston-ter., Edinburgh.

WANTED, an English Harpist, to Play for Ten Days at Christmas. Good Place. All Found. Mixed Playing by Ear. Address, with terms, Mr AWENS, Sun Inn, Ponkey, near Ruabon.

WANTED, Flautist. Must be Proficient. Apply, E. DENNY, Musical Director, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, for Dooner's Bioscope and Variety Exhibition, Pianist (First-class), Must read at Sight. State previous experience and lowest salary in first letter. Saturday and Monday, Abercarn, Monmouthshire. Silence Polite Negative.

WANTED, First-class Ladies' Orchestra, Dec. 24 to 31 inclusive. Apply, with references and Répertoire, to MANAGERS, Forthcoming Exhibition, New Market Hall, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists, String and Wind, for Theatre. Lowest terms and experience, MACDONALD, 7, Virginia-street, Southport.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489 Manchester. C. JESSON, 93, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 268 Y6, Charing-cross.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Musical Director (First-class), Engagement for Pantomime, &c. Apply, CONDUCTOR, Winter Gardens, Ulceton-on-Sea.

WANTED, by Leader or First Violin, Engagement. Desirous of change. Highest references. M. P. DUDDY, E. T, Aldwick Green, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement by Experienced Leader or First Violin. At Liberty Dec. 12. J. W., 72, Market-street, Hyde.

WANTED, by Conductor Pianist, Engagement. London only. Seven Years, Elephant Castle Theatre. EDWARD PARKER, 13, Richmond-terrace, Clapham-road.

WANTED, Known, Army Bandmaster available for Appointment. Very Successful Teacher, Solo Cornettist, &c Highest refs. ALBERT STRINGER, 17, Bennett-road, Bournemouth.

WANTED, Known, Composer would like to be Engaged as Conductor. Quite understands Orchestral Works Address, Box 8 815, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Conductor-Pianist, Engagement (Panto.), Composer, Arranger. Good refs. FRANCIS WOODWARD, 69, Warwick-road, Maida-vale, W.

WANTED, by A1 First Violinist, Experienced, additional Instrument, Clarinet, with Conservatoire Training, engaged up to the present in prominent Orchestras at Home and Abroad, Steady Engagement in Opera House or Town Orchestra (permanent situation preferred). First-class references. Could enter April 1, 1905, or before. Address, F. U., 811, care of Daube and Co, m.b. H., Advertising Agents, Frankfort-o-M., Germany.

WANTED, by Violinist, Situation in London Theatre or Hall. Young, Experienced. Can Open at Once. Would Deputise. 20, Colveston-crescent, Dalston, N.

WANTED, by Second Violin, Engagement, any business. Could combine Clarionet. Young, steady, and reliable. VIOLINIST, 86, Park-place, Darlington.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement in Orchestra and to play Solos. High-class Répertoire. Experienced. R, 67, St. Agnes-place, Kennington-park, London.

WANTED, by Violinist and 'Cellist (Ladies) (Experienced), Engagement. Address, MATTHEWS 2, County-grove, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by Violinist (Experienced), Permanent Engagement Good references. Address, Box 8,799, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Violin, Engagement, Theatre, Variety, or other; age twenty-seven; abstainer. VIOLINIST, care of Mrs ANDREW, 16, Carlton-ter., Bacup.

WANTED, First Prize of Violin at Brussels Conservatoire can be Engaged to Play at Concerts or At Homes. References, if required. Apply, Box 8,816, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Violin, Engagement. Leader or otherwise. Experienced and reliable. Box 8,835, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Cornet, Situation, Theatre or Music Hall. Steady and Reliable. London preferred. F. ROGERS, 19, Belmont-street, Kentish-town.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet, Permanent Shop. Any business. Total abstainer. Experienced. Good references. B. WILKES, Potter's-lane, Wednesbury.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet (just Finished at Covent-garden, Grand Italian Opera Season), Engagement. Good references if Required. G. ROSSI, 65, Racton-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Cornet Engagement. Disengaged through closing. Reference if required. WM. BRADBURY, 15, Dorset-rd., West-green, Tottenham, London, N.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. Any Business. ALF FOWLER, Quainton-rd., Waddesdon, Aylesbury, Bucks.

WANTED, by Cornet, First or Second, Engagement, any Business. COOK, Stag Inn, Woodhouse, Sheffield.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Dramatic, Variety, or any Business. References. 26, Queen's-street, Folkestone, Kent.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Situation; any Business; London preferred. M. R., 41, Myrtle-road, Acton.

WANTED, by Clarionettist (Thoroughly Competent), Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall Preferred. First-class References. Address, CLARIONETTIST, Lyceum Theatre, Pentre, Glamorgan.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. Highest references. JOHN BURNS, 48, Haymarket, W.

WANTED, Known, Clarionet at Liberty, Theatre or Music Hall. Best refs., thoroughly experienced in Business. T. CRAWSHAW, 89, St. Stephen's avenue, Shepherd's-bush, London, W.

WANTED, by Clarionet and Horn, Engagement, any business. Steady and reliable, references if required. W. WRIGHT, 39, St. Mary's-road, Hastings.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Solo or First Clarionet (Three Diplomas), Engagement. Anywhere for Permanency. DEL PERUGIA, 344, Chester-rd, Manchester.

WANTED, by Double Bassist, Engagement. Experienced and abstainer. TOM C. TROLLEY, 197, Helmsley-road, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Four Stringed Double Bass, Experienced, Engagement. Disengaged through hall closing. BASSO, 28, Thomas-st., Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, by Trombone Player (First-class), Situation. Any Capacity. Twelve Years' Experience. Age Twenty-seven Years. Communications, 155, Canal-road, Mile-end, E.

WANTED, by Trombonist (First-class), Engagement, Experienced in all Branches. Can Play Solos if Required. Box 8,804, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Trombone (Experienced), Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall in London. Would Deputise. A. GAZZARD, Trombone, Box 8,821, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Euphonium (Experienced), Engagement Good refs. No objection good Pitching Band. CHAS. GRICE, 184, Waterlock-rd, Norwich.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, First or Second, First-class Experience. Box 8,832, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Second French Horn, Engagement. Young, steady, and reliable. Box 8 836, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Viola, Permanent Engagement. Experience, Dramatic and Variety. W. HALEY, 40, Newport-road, Manningham, Bradford

WANTED, by Lady 'Cellist (Experienced), Could Combine Piano, Engagement, two to Three Weeks end of December. Would Deputise. Refs. Apply, Box 8,803, "The Era."

WANTED, by 'Cello and Bass (Ladies), Engagement. Apply to 104, Leighton-road, Kentish-town, N.W.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl on 'Cello. Mr CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17) Engagement. July 4 to Oct. 2, Yarmouth, and Hotel Cecil. MAUD GRUNDY, 49, Haverstock-hill, N.W.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Young, Steady, and Reliable. Refs Would Deputise. 6, Viceroy-road, South Lambeth, S.W.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement. Any Business, Good Reader. Steady, Reliable. Good Refs. NEWTON ROBINSON Post-office, Shirebrook, till Monday morning; after, 35, Shetcliff-lane, Dudley Hill.

WANTED, by Pianiste (Lady), Engagement, Soloist or Orchestral. miss L. HOFFMAN, from the Academy, Amsterdam, 62, Warner-road, Camberwell.

WANTED, by Pianist (Lady), Engagement. Any Business. Three Years Olympia, Sunderland. Good Reader. Madame RIDGWAY, 3, Crowtree-terrace, Sunderland.

WANTED, by Pianist (Soloist), Humorous Songs and Sketches at Piano, Engagement Write, Miss GABRIELLE HOPE, 25, High-road, Streatham.

WANTED, by Pianist, Engagement (First class). Excellent refs, used to any Business, Open at once. Address, STOLL, 53, Albert-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Pianist (Certificated, Trinity College), Re-engagement as Private Accompanist. Singer Preferred. BEATRICE, 79, Ramsay-rd., Forest-gate.

WANTED, as Double Drummer, with Effects, Re-engagement. Variety or Pantomime. Address, FRED COOKE, 15, Fairhurst-street, Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, the Champion Band 1904, Crystal Palace National Contest, Holders of the 1,000 Guineas Trophy, Hebburn Colliery Prize Silver Band, the Tyneside Miners' Champions, Splendid New Uniform, Varied Programmes, Trophy Exhibited on the Stage, Now Accept Engagements Vacant Jan. 2 to 8, 1904. Write or wire, LINDON TRAVERS, Rodney House, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Bateson's Orchestra, Offers, Variety or Concert. Extensive Répertoire. Miss M. Trainer, Conductress. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st, London, S.E.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
"49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND NEW CIRCUS, BOLTON

WANTED, all the Best Talent in England to write at once for Present and Future Dates. Any Novelty out for Christmas or New Year Week can be Booked to start the New Year in this Lucky Circus. Useful Circus Artistes in all Lines write. Address, KING OHMY, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Bolton.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON.

WANTED, Known, the above Building Closes To-night, Dec 3, until the 26 Should be pleased to hear from some good Smart Ground Acts, also First-class Variety Turns for that date. Address, TRANSFIELD, as above. Mr Transfield begs to thank Achmed Ibrahim (Arabe) for cancelling engagement; also Mr Jessen (Ella's Lions) for his kindness

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, for Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and on, Equestrians, Animal Acts, Acrobats, Cycle Act; in fact, any Speciality. Address, C. ALGIE. P.S.—A Smart Ring Master and Equestrian Director can open at once.

THE CIRCUS, HULL.

WANTED, First-class Male and Female Equestrian Circus Artistes of all descriptions. Nothing too Big. Address, EDWARD EMERSON, General Manager.

WANTED, for Hancock's Circus, Plymouth, Dec 12, 1904, and onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines Good Specialities. Money sure; Dec. 19 and onwards, Male and Female Bareback Equestrians, without Own Horses, as we have Good Reliable Horses.

WANTED, for December, First-class Circus Company, on Share or Salary. Full particulars, EDWARD EMERSON, General Manager, Circus, Hull.

WANTED, to Engage for Christmas Carnival and World's Fair, North Haymarket, Liverpool (under cover) a Circus Troupe, with Horses and Variety Artistes; also Wire-walkers, High-divers, or any Suitable Attractions for Circus Ring. To Perform Twice Daily. Terms and Acts, COLLINS and WALLIS, World's Fair, Scotland-road, Liverpool. No Sole write.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME, BELFAST.

WANTED, the Best of Talent, for Dec. 12, on. Good Clowns write Mr. Bosco, Circus, Belfast.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

DRILL HALL, BOLTON.
Exhibition Carnival, and World's Fair
Opens Dec. 24, 1904, until Jan. 21, 1905.
Lessee, JOHN GREEN.
Manager, E. A. WARD.

WANTED, Ground Acts and Novelties for Ring, &c., to open Dec. 24 or later; also Wanted Menagerie, to include Performing Animals, for Two or more Weeks. Positions to Let for High-class Side Shows, Illusions, Marionettes, Games Fancy Stalls, Wire-Workers, Exhibits of any kind. Artistes state terms (no interviews). Silence a polite negative pro tem. All communications, E. A. WARD, 1, Upper Duke-st., Manchester.

WANTED, at Once, a First-class Comedy Acrobat, for Troupe of Acrobats. State age and weight, G. F., 8, Edward-street, Bury.

WANTED, a Good Bar Peformer, one who can do a little Tumbling Preferred. Address, with tricks, height, weight, and salary, to Box 8,797, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Smart Tumbler for Well-known Comic Act. Apply, with Correct List of Tricks, Salary, Height, Age, and Weight, to Box 8 823, care of "The Era."

WANTED, a Few Tumblers, Boys or Girls. Must be Good. From Ten Years to Sixteen. Good salary. All expenses paid from here to America. Must see work before Engage. JOHN DA COMA, Man and Scythe, Church-gate, Bolton.

WANTED, a Young Lad, Good Tumbler and do Acrobatics. Addre s letters or call, 10, Little Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E. B B.

WANTED, a Tumbler that can also Jump a little. Box 8,818, care of "The Era."

WANTED, a Young Man Tumbler, One willing to Learn Trampoline. Box 8,817, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Two or Three Smart Lads, able to Tumble a little. Address, Box 8 8 2, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Good Tumbler and a Good Top Mount. Apply, Box 8,837, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Second Mounter; also Smart Lad, must be Sixteen and Small, for Acrobatic Business. LEOPOLD LEGLERR, 2, Bruce-st., Northampton.

WANTED, at Once, for First-class Troupe a Lad aged Sixteen to Twenty-one. Must be Smart Tumbler. State Tricks, Height, &c. Apply, Box 8,834, care of "The Era" Office

WANTED, Strong Woman, Long Engagement, must have fair teeth power and good appearance. Full particulars and photo. Box 8 809, "The Era."

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty Dec. 12, Four Performing Ponies, Riding Dog, and Goat, also Turpin Mare. Six Good Acts. Address, W. TUDOR, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Lions, Best in the Profession, Vacant Dec. 19, Feb. 27, 1905; also Easter and Whit Week. For particulars, apply, L. JENSEN, Manager and Proprietor of Ella's Lions. Dec. 5, Hippodrome, Eastbourne; Dec. 12, Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

WANTED.—Captain A. Gerard, Lions and Tiger-Dogs. Wire or write for a sure draw. GERARD, Hammersmith Palace, London.

WANTED, Known Lillian Davies, Bareback Equestrienne (own Horse), at Liberty Christmas and on Address, Irvinstown, Co Fermanagh.

WANTED, Known, Happy Armstrong, Lightning Pyramid Drummer, Instrumentalist, and Orator, Immense Success Nightly. Vacant 5th and 12th. Panto. Offers invited. Wire, Hippo., Castleford.

WANTED.—Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with Entrées, Finishes To-night Sixth Week, Hippo, Accrington. Monday next, P., Leicester. Vacant Dec. 26.

WANTED, Known, Little Paddy, Australian Clown and Agouste, concluding Twelve Months' Engagement, HIPP., DEWSBURY, Dec. 24, with Second Benefit. Open with King Ohmy Dec. 26. Thanks to John Henry Cooke, Esq., for offer. Liberty Jan. 23 All New Entrées, including my Performing Roosters.

WANTED, Known, Little Albini, Tumbling, Talking Knockabout Clown, with Entrées, and First-class Agouste (Rabbit). Liberty Dec. 5 through Hippo., Porth, closing. Address, 47, Caird-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Eleonora, Lady Gymnast, La Belle Tosca, Charming Wire Expert; also Mdlle. Vanda, in her Great Juggling Speciality on the Revolving Ball. Three Distinct Specialities. Vacant Dec. 19 and Jan. 2 and 9. Address, Gilbert's Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, Dec. 12, by Alec Aubrey, Astounding Gymnast, finest Act in this line in England. Monday, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, Mayeno Trio (Two Ladies, One Gentleman), Gymnasts, Acrobats, Wire-walkers, Knockabout Clown, Champion Stilt Tumbler. Also Tenting. Address, People's Palace, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Lady and Gent. Trapeze and Horizontal Bar Performers, Circus, Bolton. Free Dec. 5, 12, 19. Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Kltenos, Comedy Three-Bar Act; Togo, Juggler, Two Acts, Liberty Dec. 12, 26, Jan. 9. Monday, Opera House, Harrogate.

WANTED, by Bros. Lloddge, Silver Chain Acrobats. Liberty Monday. Wire, 55, King-cross-street, Halifax; or, James Fioni, Agent.

WANTED, Known, The Rabys, Acrobatic Hand-balancers and Gymnastic Marvels, take all by surprise. Terms, Lithos., 29, Garden-st., Todmorden.

WANTED, Known, the Two Wills, Comedy Herculean Acrobats are Vacant Dec. 12, 19, Next week, Pardoe's Theatre, Middleton.

WANTED, Known, Percy True, Wire Act, New, Tight and Slack. Lowest terms, £20 per Week. 106, Cromwell-road, Kensington

WANTED, Known, De Ora, Speciality Aerial Act over the Stage, Vacant Dec. 5 and 12. Address, 19, Bath-street, Lancaster.

WANTED, for January, February, March, April, 1905, Engagements for John Frederick's Troupe, Champion Strength Statue Picture Acrobats, Equilibrists, and Head-to-Head Balancers. A New Act on a Revolving Apparatus. Three Ladies One Gentleman. Address, John Frederick's Troupe, Arena-Theater, Copenhagen, Denmark.

WANTED, Dec 12, by Delamere Trio, Original Comedy Equilibrists, also Jan. 9 and 16. Communications, Gaiety, Oldham.

WANTED, Dec. 19 and Jan 2, by the Beautiful Vanda, in her Great and Up-to-date Juggling Speciality. Also First-class Wire Act. Address, Gilbert's Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Sterling and Cashen, American Speciality Artistes, Dancers, &c., Want Monday Next; also Dec. 12. Wire, Parthenon, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Attilla Brothers, Artistic Strong Men. Dec. 5, 12, through Halls closing. Wire, 14, New Hampton-road West, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Jan. 16, Joe Hastings, Jumper and Orator. Thanks Proprietors for Offers of Tenting Season. There is no need to hustle just yet; probably later. Hippodrome, Carlisle.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Tony Spring, of Spring and Spring, Rosie Carlo, Acrobatic Barrel Jumpers, accepts Alex. Diaz's Challenge for £20. Six Distinct Acrobatic Gymnastic Acts ready any time.
Now Appearing, Alhambra, London.

WANTED, Monday next, by Goliath, the Strongest Youth in the World. Wire, Palace, Cork. Agents, Chester and Co., 15, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bar Performer at Liberty. Would join Partner in Knockabout Bar Act. Address, GYMNAST, 10, Lease-lane, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Good Bearer, Catcher, and Thrower, to Join Good Troupe of Acrobats.
Box 8,811, care of "The ERA" Office.

WANTED, by Two Brothers, Situation with Thoroughbreds or any Travelling Horses. Thoroughly experienced. Excellent references. Wire or write, LEWIS BROS., 73 Romilly-crescent, Cardiff.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.
WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward
Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.
WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Dec. 12, 19, 26, Variety Artistes, Serio, and Specialities, all Lines, West and Wales. T. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Artists All Lines, Specialities, &c., Dec 26, onwards, Birmingham, Hall Small. A. TURLS,
51, Trafalgar-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Variety Artists, Monday next, on Lowest Terms. Hall Small; Good Pianist. Write OSWALD REED, 25, Southampton-street, Reading.

WANTED, Known, Hugh Dempsey Requires First-class Variety and Circus Artistes for Dec. 12, 19, and 26. Big Speciality Wanted for Christmas Week. 42, Crowtree-road, Sunderland.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Dec. 12, Six Nights. Must be Good and Cheap; also for Dec. 26. Mag'c Kettle wilte, and any Novelty.
JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Coloured Ladies write also, Specialities, Bioscope, &c.; also Boy Vocalists and a Man to assist with Baggage, one who can do a Turn preferred.
Lowest Terms, DILLON,
Workmen's Hall, West Cornforth co. Durham.

SCARBOROUGH
WANTED, Variety Artistes in all Lines, Dec. 12 and 19.
Full particulars to MORGAN, Aquarium.

WANTED, Variety and Choir Artists all Lines. Terms low; Hall small. Also Tour, Bioscope, Clever Children. Dr LAURIE, Athenæum, Maryport.

IRISH TOUR.
TIVOLI, DUBLIN;
ALHAMBRA, BELFAST.
WANTED, Artists, Stars. Good Novelties, Serios, Comedians, Comedy Sketches, Acrobats, Jugglers, New and Novel Acts.
Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

ST. ANNE'S-ON-SEA PIER and PAVILION.
WANTED, Applications from Good Artistes Competent to Form and Lead a First-class Company of Pierrots or Minstrels for next Season, commencing at Easter. Applications, with terms and references, to MANAGER, The Pier, St. Annes-on-Sea.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, Big Specialities, Dec. 12, onwards. Lowest terms, list of bookings, &c., Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Stebbings is not a One-Hall Agent. Artistes just Booked at Palace, Hammeramith; Metropole, Camberwell; Graydon Tour; Tivoli, Manchester; Coliseum, Brighton; Aquarium, Yarmouth; Palace, Belfast; Palace, Northampton; Circus, Bury; Circus, Bolton; Hippodrome, Dewsbury; Hippodrome, Carlisle; Empire, Rochdale; Circus, Rochdale; Tivoli, Dublin; Alhambra, Belfast, &c. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE,
6, HENRY-STREET, DUBLIN. Open all the year round.
WANTED, Artists, all Lines (Equestrians excepted). Write in for Present and Future Dates. No best offers. Lowest terms to MANAGERS.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, Jan. 2, and onwards.
Address, DAVID WILLIAMS.

WANTED, Artistes to Note, all Dates for this Year are filled. First Vacant Dates, Feb. 13, 27. Double and Single Turns write in. Can Book Freak at once. CHAS. A. JAMES,
Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now on.
Apply, Mr J. J. SCOTT,
Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Dec. 19, onwards, for
Liverpool, Ashton, St. Helens, and Warrington.
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artistes, all lines, best class, now, onwards, Principal Halls. Particulars, Emmerton's Theatrical Agency, 348, Oldham-road, Ashton, near Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes at Liberty Monday next, who are known to me, to wire. Others write particulars, send Lithos. &c. Lowest terms. Good Doubles doing Singles preferred. Speciality with Lithos and Latest Pictures. W. H. D. PHILLIPS, 16, Queen's-road, Aldershot.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Specialities, &c., for Eastbourne, Dec. 26, onward. Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Dec. 26, Grand, Bolton; and Jan. 2, Woolwich. Combination. Apply by letter, Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies. Dec. 12 and 19 REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Artistes, Dec. 12, and Turns with Two Acts. Rehearsal at 2 0, Dec. 5 for all engaged QUINTON GIBSON, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Dec. 5, on. Fred Durham's Agency, 'Phone 2,477 Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

The Northern Variety Agency.
General Manager, Mr W. H. HARRISON.
WANTED. Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates, February on. 3 Eglinton-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines. State lowest terms, Bookings, Lithos. &c. Have a few Immediate Dates to offer Comedy Acts (North). Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency Morecambe. Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe"

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Artistes, January, on. Rehearsal. Monday next, 2 0 o'clock, for Cris Masters, Charles Bradford, Brenda Leslie, Henderson and Stanley Quartette, Boston Twins, Three Seabornes, Lee and Arden, Ivy Graham. Is it you? Letters, S. L. LEE

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Artistes, Monday, Nov. 28, on, Stars and Specialities of Highest Calibre, for Principal London and Provincial Houses.

Pantomime Artistes write.
Principal Boy, Girl, Comedian, Dame, &c., Trap Scene, Quartette, and Big Specialities.

Novelties and Sensations Required for Grand Christmas Carnival in the North, Side Shows, Illusions, Roundabouts, Richardson Theatres and all Class of Fair Ground Attractions write.

Letters only, with full particulars, no Interviews,
Henri Cazman's Agency,
36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, S.W.

THE PAVILION, ALTRINCHAM.
WANTED, Artistes, Doubles doing Singles, also Quartette of Lady Dancers for Pantomime. Hall Small. Write, FRED BUDD, 103, Rusholme-road, Manchester

ELSWICK THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
WANTED. Dec. 12 and 19, Artistes in all lines, Star Comedy Acts, Specialities, &c. State when last in Newcastle. Coms., FRED HARCOURT.

WANTED, Artistes, First-class Openings, Ernest Walcot's Benefit, Balaclava Concerts, Camberwell Nights. "Amusement" (61, Monthly), 7, Whitefriars, London.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to
Burns' Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and
Manchester.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Dec 5, at 1 0 o'clock prompt.
Herbert Betts, Fred Clarke's Nippers,
Les Granados, Bee Williams,
Burns's Bioscope, Fred Clifford,
Leighton and Mona, Rose Waller, and
Looping the Loop.

(Signed) H. BURNS General Manager.

TIVOLI and QUEEN'S VARIETY THEATRES,
GLASGOW.
Proprietors, COLQUHOUN and ARMSTRONG, Ltd.
General Manager, S. KING ALEXANDER.
WANTED the Cream of the Profession to send their Open Dates, which may be Booked Direct or through their Agents.
No Turn too big. No Terms too high.
Fancy priced Unknowns not entertained.
Several Immediate Dates Open for Good Talent.
Brilliant Top Liners wanted for New Year.
Address all letters on Business of both Theatres to S. KING ALEXANDER, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

All Artists holding Dates please remember that bill matter two weeks in advance is imperative.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.

Acts New in Dublin
for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.

Direct
or through Agents.

All communications
to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."

Telephone, 09,141.

WANTED, Wanted Wanted,
Big Stars
Singing Turns,
Novelties,
Specialities
for
Immediate
Dates
Price No Object.

Lithos and
terms,
Will Sley
Oxford-street,
Manchester.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16,
Stars in All Lines
Stars in All Lines,
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

BRITANNIA MUSIC HALL, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Stars in all Lines. Dates waiting for all the Old Britannia Favourites. Comedians and Comedy Acts always Required.
GEO. SAPHRINI, Manager.

Please Note Address of our New Residential Offices.
61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
WANTED, Stars and Novelties, anything Big, for Liverpool, Glasgow, Manchester, Blackpool, Bolton, Oldham, Wigan, Rochdale, Stoke, Dudley, Middlesbrough, York, Northampton, Grimsby, Derby, Attercliffe, Leeds, Bury, St. Helens, Ashton, Preston, Warrington, Norwich, Rhyl, New Brighton, Coventry, Ipswich, Wakefield, Doncaster, Harrogate, &c. Artistes at Liberty Dec. 5, onwards communicate quickly, Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076, Royal.

M. CHESTER and CO.,
Dramatic
and
Variety Agents,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams,
"Amusements."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Turns, all kinds, for Cork and other Irish Towns.
Must be Refined.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy Acts, Dec. 5, onwards; also Artistes in all Lines. Send full list of dates, litho, terms, and full particulars to Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London." No connection with any other Firm.

WANTED, Turns that are at Liberty Dec. 8, for One Night, to send lowest terms to appear at W. Pardoe's Benefit. Letters, Pardoe's Theatre, Middleton, near Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Variety Turns, in All Lines, for Alhambra Theatre, Tipton, week Dec. 12, Bioscope, &c. Wire, PHELPS, Stourbridge.

WANTED, Two Good Variety Turns, Monday next, Three Nights only. Must be Cheap. Wire, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

ALGIE'S VARIETY HIPPODROME,
CARLISLE.
WANTED, for Dec 26, Jan. 2, and on, Refined Variety Turns and Specialities. Always an Opening for Really Funny Turns. Troupe of Lady Dancers communicate. Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, Dec. 19, Near London, Double Turn that can dance the Cake Walk and superintend competition; also Talent in all Lines for 1905.
Papa Brown,
Agent,
80, Streatham place,
Brixton.
Telephone, 233 Streatham.
Telegraph, "Jibbers, London."

WANTED, Cheap Speciality for Workington, Monday Next, Dec 5. Wire, CNDS, Kenwyn, Penwortham, Preston, till Saturday Night; after, Theatre Royal, Workington.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

THE COLISEUM, SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLING.
General Manager, CHAS. MELVIN.
WANTED, Wanted, Known.
The opening of the above on Monday last, Nov. 28, was an unprecedented success in Sheerness, the Public who thronged there and filled the House at Early Doors being enraptured with the Gigantic Alterations made for their comfort.
Also the Huge Programme has been the theme of conversation throughout the Week, the Packed Houses nightly testifying to the fact that the efforts of the Management have not gone unrewarded.
Messrs Dorling and Melvin wish to thank most heartily the scores of Friends who sent Telegrams of Good Wishes, including T. G. Transfield, Esq., Alf. Norton, Esq., Captain Stephens, O'Connor and Brady, Stylo, and the remainder, which are too numerous to mention; also for the co-operation of the Artistes, Band, and Staff engaged, who, one and all, worked so hard to make the Opening successful.
Artistes are required to write in at once for Dec. 12, onwards, enclosing in first instance full particulars of Act, Samp'e Lithos (if any), Lowest Terms, and in all cases Permanent Address.

The Biggest Acts on the road can be engaged at this Establishment, as the price is no object for the right people.

Call for Monday, Dec. 5:—
The Brothers Hersleb; "Viturina," with his Suspended Lady; the Russian Troupe of Dancers, E. Sheldon, Geo. Trusty, the Boultons, Mdlle. Bartenelli, the Sisters Northcote, Reno and Voyce, Fanny Worth, &c.
Rehearsal 1 0 o'clock. No Excuses.

All communications to be addressed to the GENERAL MANAGER.

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK
General Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, Dec. 12, 19, 26, and onwards,
Big Specialities,
Novelties, Musical Acts,
Good Refined Sisters, Serios,
Ballad Vocalists, &c.

Must be Refined,
or useless.

Call,
Monday, Dec. 5.
Three Sisters Urma, Fred M'Arthur,
Amy Donra,
Hannaway Bros.,
La Belle Idalia, Lanton and Lane,
Sisters Hula,
Klonis,
Bros. M'Auber.

BROTHERS ARTOIS' AGENCY.
BROTHERS ARTOIS' AGENCY.
Shortly Touring the Continent.
WANTED, First-class Specialities who have not yet visited Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, or Austria, and so desiring, to communicate us at once.
We can book you.
First-class Talent only represented.
Send Terms, Dates, and Lithos.,
Brothers ARTOIS,
Lyric Theatre, Liverpool.

WANTED, Specialities for Dec. 23 and later dates. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON,
Lessee and Manager.
WANTED, Big Star, Comedy, and Musical Acts,
for Dec. 19 and 26, Jan. 2, 23, and 30.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds for
Dec. 26 Jan. 2, 30, Feb. 6.
Dec 26, Jan. 2, 30, Feb. 6.
Juno Salmo wire address.
Dalton's Agency.
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Big Acts of every Description.
Good Bird Show, Dec 26, London;
also Good Musical Clowns.
Send list of Dates, &c., to
Bentley's Agency,
169, Stamford-st. 'Phone, 12,706 Central.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL,
PAVILION, CARNARVON.
WANTED, Dec. 12, Onward, Acts of all Descriptions with Drawing Powers. Flying Trapeze, Acrobats, Comedy Numbers, &c.
WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines,
Christmas and New Year's Weeks.
Communicate
to the
Leading Provincial Firm.
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.

Telephone, 1,686 Royal.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool.

WANTED, for M'Indoe's Twelfth Annual
New Year Carnival,
Talent of Every Description.
Artistes used to Fêtes and Galas write.
Large Covered-in Stage.
Commencing Dec. 31.
Terms,
H. M'INDOE,
Carnival Grounds, Paisley.
Ground to Let
for Side Shows, Novelties, &c.

WANTED, the Finest Talent Obtainable,
Dec. 19 and 26 (North).

Artists booked, Victoria, Broughton, com. immediately.

G. and F. Peel, Granville House, Arundel-st., Strand, W.C.

ARMSTRONG'S AGENCY.
WANTED, First-class Numbers, All Kinds, to send Dates and terms immediately.
Special Notice.—As I have retired from the Management of the Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, all Contracts made through me for Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited, will stand good. Artistes please send their bill matter in fourteen days previous to opening, to be addressed to the Manager, Tivoli Theatre.—Signed, BARNEY ARMSTRONG. 353 Bath-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Varieties and Specialities, for Dec. 12, New to Runcorn.
Address, WILL PERCIVAL, Hippodrome, Bury.

HIPPODROME, ACCRINGTON (Stage only).
WANTED, Sensational Tops and Bottoms, for Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2 and 9, new to Town.
Please note.—Accrington is barred by Blackburn.
Call, Monday, 1 0 p.m., for Mutoscyph, Foo Choo, Hess and Lisbon, Duncan, G. Bernard, H. Walker, Ella Rose, Oswald, H. O. Wills, Henriques.
For Dates, write,
Vandy's Agency, Barnes, London, S.W.

GRAND, HANLEY.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for January and February, 1905, the Finest Star Top Liners in the Variety Business. Price no Object. Star Comedians Preferred. All the Leading Stars are already Engaged at the above Palatial Variety Theatre.
WYNES, Manager,
Grand, Hanley.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN-ON-TYNE
Lessee and Manager, W. A. JACKSON.
WANTED, Big Top of Bill, also Artistes in all Lines (Specialities, Comedy, and Musical Acts), Dec. 26, onwards.

Serpentello's Agency,
28, Wellington-street, Strand.
Telephone, 12 605 Central.
Telegraphic address, "Serpentello, London."
WANTED, Big Attractions,
Stars, and Novelties of all Sorts,
for Immediate and Future Dates.
Silence a polite negative, pro tem.

WANTED, for Philharmonic Hall, Southampton, lowest terms for complete Entertainment, Dec. 26, 27, 28. Minstrel Troupe, Up-to-date Bioscope, or anything suitable write, TOM COATES, Philharmonic Hall.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY,
61, St. George's-road,
Great Yarmouth.
WANTED, Sensational Novelties,
Variety Artists,
Performing Animals
Immediate Dates
Immediate Dates
and
Future Dates.
Future Dates.

Good Acts
can have
Six Weeks' Contract.

Wanted,
Good Equestrians, &c.
Dec. 26, on.

Specially Wanted, July, August, and September, 1905,
Artists
of every description
for
Seaside Tour.

Blackpool, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Scarborough, Brighton, Eastbourne, Tynemouth, Morecambe, and Southport.

Stanley and Greenop and Bessie Travis send addresses. Contracts wait

Artists, keep us posted with your addresses.

Send
fullest particulars,
Geo. Zalva,
61, St. George's-road
Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, all kinds of Animal Acts.
All
kinds
of
Animal
Acts.
Say
when
last
in
London
and
last
in
Paris;
also
lowest
terms
for
both
Towns,
with
Lithos.
and
Photos.,
if
possible,
to
Tom Shaw and Co.,
18, Adam-street,
London.
Telegrams, "Stagery, London."
Telephone, 3 871 Gerrard.

WANTED, Good Comedy Sketches, for London Music Halls, Dec. 12 and onwards. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Christmas Week (Midlands), Sisters, able to do Singles, Comedians, Conjurors, Ventriloquists. Sketch Artistes, Pictures, Pianist, &c. All must Double, Tour to follow. DRAKE, Selly-park, Birmingham

WANTED, for Tour, Good Ballad Vocalist. Able to Lecture, Pictures. Also Comedian, with Own Songs, to Sing and Dance in Pantomime Sketch. Full particulars, with lowest terms and refs., to CHAS PRINZ, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

WANTED, Comedians, Good Double Turns, Comedy, for Scotland; also Big Specialities for Three Days at Northampton, August Bank Holiday. Moxon Family, Achilles, Harry Leader, Chris Lenard, wire addresses. Contracts waiting. M'Askill, 40, Victoria-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, Young Ladies used to Working Illusions, for a London Engagement. Letters, with full particulars, to Box 8,830, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Lady Swimming Tank Performer for Three Weeks, Immediately. May lead to Long Engagement. Madam LLOYD 7, Skelgate, Ripon.

WANTED, Wrestlers, for the Winter Gardens, Plymouth, on sharing terms. Good business for good Wrestlers Can open before or after Christmas. Write, W. C. and S. HANCOCK.

WANTED, Several Good Mesmeric Subjects, State Experience and particulars of Mesmeric influence most subject to. Box 8 830, "The Era" Office

WANTED, Good Operator.
Terms, particulars,
ROBERTS, Town Hall, Hove.

WANTED, Bioscope Operator, thoroughly experienced and reliable, for few weeks Terms, references, &c., E. V. EDMONDS, P. O. W. T. Grimsby.

Second Notice
NEW HIPPODROME, PORTH.
Important Notice.
WANTED, Artistes to note that, owing to being unable to obtain a Music and Dancing Licence for the above place of Amusement, the Building will close on Saturday, Dec. 3, and all Contracts are Cancelled from that date.
Signed, D. TAYLOR,
for
ADA ALEXANDRA.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Baby Lloyd, Star Artiste, the Only Baby Coon Dancing on One Leg. The Talk of every Town. Good Songs and Dances. Essence of Refinement. Played the Prince in 'Cinderella' for the Third Time this Year, 1904, Hippodrome, Belfast; J Bosco, Esq., Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness; and Hippodrome, Scarborough, for Geo. Zalva, Esq. The hit of the Pantomimes. Liberty, through Halls Closing, Dec. 12, 26, On. Also Nellie Vann, Descriptive, Serio, and Dance Artiste. Second Week here Palatine H., Lancaster. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Flo Atkins, the World's Champion Concertinist and Expert Mandolinist. Dec. 5, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Co. Durham. 40, Chadwick-street, W. Gorton, Manchester. The challenge. I, Flo Atkins, will accept the challenge issued in "The Era," Nov. 26, by Professor Maccone, the Concertina King, if the above gentleman will send conditions of same to the above address.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Palmer, Vocalist, Liberty Dec 5, 12 Wire for sure success to 11, Birches-terrace, Old Basford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, the Factory Nightingales (Dolly, Agnes, and Maud) Require Mon. only. Terrific Success Palace. Wire, 16, Upper Maudlin-street, Bristol

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, or Good Tour, by George Ritter, Vocal Musical Speciality Comedian. Good Speciality for Panto. Good Rept. of Songs. Can Assist as Pianist. 19, Crawshay-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Barry Sheil, the New Versatile Entertainer, in his Costly Act, "Voices from the Past," Vacant for Pantomime. A Superb Act, suitable for Palace Scene. Hastings Pier, Dec. 19 Care of TOM BRASSON, Queen's Grand Saloon, Hastings.

WANTED, Known, Schuyler, Worlds' Greatest Saxophonist, Fully Booked, thanks to "The Era," and Wishes Everybody a Merry Christmas.

WANTED, Engagement, by Sylvester Stuart, Boy Comedian and Dancer, Mon., Dec. 12, Permanent address, 6, Clare-villas, Clare-road, Cardiff.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by W. Horsley, Song and Dance Artist, England's Champion Clog Dancer, Agents, Proprietors, Managers, to know I am at Liberty Dec 26 on. If not what represented will forward £10 to any charitable institute. W. HORSLEY, 16, Bedford-st., Hartlepool.

WANTED.—Alfred Poynton, the Great Impersonator of Celebrities; also Chapeaugraphist, Vacant Dec. 5 and 12 12, Bolton-gardens, W. Good Agent Required. Wire for Monday.

WANTED, Dec. 5, onwards, Joe Cookson, World's Greatest Vocal and Speciality Vent., Tour or Halls. Sure success Originality Wire, Cradley Heath.

WANTED, Dec 12, 19, by the Original Kardoe, the Handcuff King, the House Packer. A Sure Draw. Different Act to any other. Imitated, but Unequalled. The World's Challenger Escapes before everyone, and still keeps his secret Splendid Other. See Card.

WANTED, Picitt, the Muscular Master-of Manacles, Handcuff King, without faked fetters or trick boxes First Vacant Date Feb. 27, only a Few Vacancies 1905. Fast Booking 1903. All communications, Cooke's Grand Circus Edinburgh

WANTED, Parlato, Chapeaugraphist and Exposer of Handcuff and Box Trick, also Mystic Kettle, together or separate. Vacant Dec. 12. Only Date this year. PARLATO, 1, Brinkburn-rd., Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Leo Selwyn, Illusionist, Handcuff King, and Challenge Cabinet Artiste, Vacant Dec. 5 and on. Splendid Printing. Open for good Tour. Wire for Monday, 3, Victoria-grove, West Stoke Newington.

WANTED, Dec 26, by Wilton Warton, Humorous Magician, Lancashire or Yorkshire. New permanent address, 46, Torr-street, Liverpool

WANTED, Immediate and Later Dates, by James Carl, Magician. Write for Lithos, Terms, &c., to 100, Chester-green-road; or, G Thacker, Agent, 71, Lorne-road, Northampton.

WANTED, Known, the Cedrics (Marcel and Edouard), Continental Comedy Artistes, thank Saphrini, Quinton Gibson, H. Carr, G. Stewart, Esqs., for Contracts; also Thanks to Algie Bosco, Stewart Braid, for offers. Vacant Jan. 23. Empire, Paisley.

WANTED, Dec 5, 12, Gilbert Serony, Comedian; Irene Herbert, Contralto. First-class Refined Turns. Wire, 8, Cavendish-row, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, De Ora, Speciality Gymnast, and Rosie Rickards, Comedienne, Vacant Dec. 5 and 12, also 26. Communications, 25, Foy-street, Wigan.

WANTED, Monday next, Dec 5, by Ryder Davis, Smart Comedian; also Eva Ward, Burlesque Artiste. Wire, 53, North-street, Ilkeston. Any distance.

WANTED, Known, Pearce and Ward (Fred and Kitty), Comedy Artistes, conclude To-night Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne. Vacant Monday. Wire.

WANTED, Dec. 5, 12, and 19, by N. C. Bostock and Nellie Killene, Two Star Singing Turns. Wire, 163, Hardsham-street, St. Helens.

WANTED, Dec. 5, by Belford and Mars, "The Postman and the Slavey." Extra Smart Comedy Act. Wire, Hippo., Scarborough.

WANTED, by Little and Goode (Ada and Lucy) in their side-splitting Burlesque, "Wanted, a Deputy, introducing Singing, Dancing, and Funny Patter, Dec 12, 19, and 26.
Address,
20, Hillidge-place, Hunslet, Leeds.

WANTED, Monday, by the Coopers, introducing Comedy and Music, Songs, Patter, Cornets, Post Horns, Bugles, and Coach Horns. Wire, 154, Queen-street, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Dec. 5 and few Dates onward, by Kyoto, the Original Comedy Japanese Mysterious Box; also May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, 25, Devonshire House, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known Huntly and Palmer, Eccentric Comedians, in Original Comic Sketch, introducing Wonderful Wrestling Donkey, the only one in England. Liberty Monday. Circus or Halls Big Act for Panto. Permanent, 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Engist and Orsa, Musical Comedians, Immediate Dates.
Address, 17, Berwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Stern and Stern, Versatile Comedians. Wire, Hippo., Castleford after Saturday, Black Bull Hotel, York.

WANTED, by Demi and Semi, Musical Act, Patter and Dancing, Monday next. Wire Hippo., Hastings. Mon., 51, Canterbury-pl., Lambeth S.E.

WANTED, Known, Gentle Brothers Lang Palace, Blackpool
Address, 137, Drakefell-road, Brockley.

WANTED, Known, Denton and Dale, Vocal and Cross-talk Comedians. Lib. Dec 5 and later Dates Good Lithos. Wire, 35, Crowndale-road, Camdentown, London.

WANTED, by Tom Hall's Burlesque Acrobatic Nippers, Monkey, and Dog, Dec. 5.
Wire, Park Palace, Liverpool; or, Geo. Aytoun.

WANTED, Known, Les Frères Baptiste, Les Deux Chefs, in their Pot-pourri Act, "Troubles in the Kitchen," Dec. 12 and onwards; also Liberty Panto. One scream from start to finish. Address, Pavilion, Maidenhead.

WANTED, by the Great Diamonds, Knife Throwers and Sylvester, Negro Comedian. Liberty Dec. 5, 19. Wire, 25, Southampton-street, Reading.

WANTED, Known, the Three Dagmars, Three (Tom, Dick, and Harry), Acrobats and Up-to-Date Tumblers, and Black Pape, at Liberty Dec. 26, 1904. Can also accept Pantomime this Winter. Monday next, Queen's, Poplar, London. Managers and Agents will do well to see this Act. Agent, E. De Vere.

WANTED, Known, Miss Santoi and her Merry Little Japs, Complimented by P. Collins, New Scene. Hippo, Stoke Monday, Royal, Oldham.

WANTED, Dec. 12, 26, Jan 2, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers; also Marie Riviera, Balladist. Monday next, Theatre Royal, Brecknock-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dec. 12, by Bert Williams, Novelty Ventriloquist. Refined, Original, Humorous. Managers in want of Good, Clean, Sound Turn, wire, this, Palace, Lancaster; next, Pavilion, Chorlton.

WANTED, Known, Robert Grieve, Front Rank Ventriloquist. Pretty Fit-up, Funny Show, Fine Singing in Several Voices. Vacant Monday Next Dec. 5, Four Weeks. Wire, 83, Bowne-street, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, by the Musical Albanos, Dec. 5 and 12.

Wire! Wire! Wire! Wire!
for this
Great Refined Act.
Starring and Storming.
The Hippodrome,
Great Yarmouth

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."
WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Patriotic Juvenile, Naval, Military Spectacle, concluding Theatre Royal, Liverpool Next Week, Irving Theatre, Seacombe. Vacant Christmas.

WANTED, Immediate Dates for Juvenile Military Spectacle "Russo and Japan War." Letters, CLARKE, 2 in 236, Great College-street, London, N.W

WANTED, Jan. 9, for Matt Wilkinson's Screaming Comedy Sketch, "The Registry Office. Address, Palace, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Spangeletti's Stage Circus Dec 19. Away from all other Animal Acts. Laughing Hit of every Programme. Refer Daisy De Roy or Mr Lee. This week, Circus Rochdale; next week Theatre, Burslem.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, for Jan. 6 only, Performing Dogs in London.
Write, NORTON, 38, Marchmont-street, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, the Villions (Four in Number), Acrobatic Cyclists, in their Latest Comedy Act, introducing the Greatest Lady Somersault-thrower in the World, executing Twenty-five Pirouette Somersaults in succession, Feet to Feet. Vacant for Dec. 26. Speciality in Pantc. Also Turn, Dec. 19, to go with the London Pavilion. W. VILLION, 1, Torrington-square, Russell-square, W C.

WANTED, Dec. 12, through Stage being too Small, Stalg's Motor Sensation.
One of the Biggest Draws on the Road.
Just concluded one month, Alhambra, Paris;
three weeks, Pavilion and Palace, Glasgow.
Finish to-night Pavilion, Newcastle;
Monday, Tivoli, Leeds; 19th, Hippodrome, Liverpool.
Booked Barrasford Tour into 1905.
Would book good Theatre, own Company.
Address, Tivoli, Leeds.

WANTED, by Falmon, Trick and Musical Cyclist, Dec. 5 and 12.
Wire, 25, Albany-terrace, Burnley.

WANTED, Engagement, by Operator, experienced, open to accept Tour or Permanent. 93, Munster-road, Fulham.

WANTED, Bookings for Payne's Ever-Popular Bio-Photoscopes. Always the Latest Pictures. Everything New and Novel. A Large Stock of Second-hand Films always for Sale. 23, Brixton-road, London.

WANTED, Dates, for Bioscope Pictures, also Troupe of Dogs; the Marvellous High Leaping Dog. LE CLAIR, Post Offices, Thornley, Co. Durham.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Engagement, for Latest Imperial Bioscope. Everything bang up to date.
SAYERS 16, Clova-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, Monday Next and On, Gregory's Premier Bioscope, Latest Films. Finish To-night, Three Weeks Hippodrome, Porth, Wales. Also Kathleen and Welby Gregory, Song Illustrators. Reliable Turn. Wire for either turn.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that the following is a Complete

COPYRIGHT LIST OF FAIRS, FEASTS, WAKES, AND CHRISTMAS CARNIVALS FOR DECEMBER, 1904.

Dec. 9. Reigate	Dec. 22. Ryde
Dec. 10. Ringwood	Dec. 22. Salford (Flat Iron)
Dec. 13. Leighton Buzzard	Dec. 22. Salford (Trafford-road)
Dec. 14. Exeter	Dec. 22. Southampton
Dec. 14. Millom	Dec. 22. Southport
Dec. 20. World's Fair, Islington	Dec. 22. South Shields
Dec. 21. Birmingham	Dec. 22. Uttoxeter
Dec. 22. Deptford	Dec. 22. Wolverhampton
Dec. 22. Dorking	Dec. 23. Sheffield
Dec. 22. Jarrow-on-Tyne	Dec. 23. Bradford
Dec. 22. Liverpool	Dec. 24. Rowthorne
Dec. 22. Middlesbrough	Dec. 26. Sampford Courtenay
Dec. 22. Nantwich	Dec. 26. Sandbach
Dec. 22. Newcastle-on-Tyne	Dec. 28. Lancaster
Dec. 22. Northampton	Dec. 28. Leek
Dec. 22. North Shields	Dec. 29. Newport (Salop)
Dec. 22. Norwich	Dec. 29. Rugeley
Dec. 22. Plymouth	
Dec. 22. Preston	

IN SCOTLAND.

Dec. 19. Glasgow	Dec. 22. Govan
Dec. 19. Greenock	Dec. 22. Leith
Dec. 19. Paisley	Dec. 22. Motherwell
Dec. 22. Edinburgh	Dec. 22. Renfrew

IN WALES.

Dec. 22. Barry Dock	Dec. 22. Morriston
Dec. 22. Cardiff	Dec. 22. Newport
Dec. 22. Carmarthen	Dec. 22. Pontypridd
Dec. 22. Caerphilly	Dec. 22 Swansea
Dec. 22. Dowlais	Dec. 22. Ton-y-Pandy
Dec. 22 Merthyr Tydfil	

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities.
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66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds,
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WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL
PAVILION, CARNARVON.
WANTED, Side Shows, Freaks, Fat Woman, or any Novelty, from now onward.
Is Visited by 30,000 weekly.
Apply, WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

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WANTED, Novelties for Christmas and New Year's Week and future Dates. Prof. and Madame Elba please write; also John Chambers and George White, the Living Trunk. Humber's New Waxwork Exhibition, 112, George-street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Novelties and Freaks open Monday, Dec. 12, and onward. Shares or certainty. Good Shop. FRANK MORDAUNT, 79, Overgate, Dundee.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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WANTED, Immediate and Later Novelties, also Ghost Show, for Christmas. Required, Good Shop for Waxwork over Christmas. FLETCHER, Waxworks, Dowlais.

WANTED, Novelties, Willing Workers. Six Weeks' Engagement, Shops, South Wales. Open Dec. 5. PHILLIPS, 7, Dunraven-street, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, Freaks and Quick Showing Novelties. Best Position in Dublin. Also Something Good for Christmas. MAXFIELD, 9, Mary-st., Dublin.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties for Merthyr, Other Towns to follow. PROPRIETOR, Lyons' Exhibition, 34, High-street, Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties. Salary. Fend Vacant Dates. Great Success, Live Yorkshire Terrier, Five Legs. Palmist, Tattooist, write, HOLT, Waxworks, Plymouth.

WANTED, Something Good, to Follow Mdlle. De Vere. Thanks to Caleana. Mdlle. De Vere is the talk of Plymouth. Wanted, Quick-showing Novelties for Three Weeks, to open Dec. 12, Shares or Salary.
Address, T. WALLSER, Wonderland, Octagon, Plymouth.

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From there she goes to France.
The Greatest Attraction in the World.
Good and Long Stays every place she goes.
Directors and Managers write again,
February, 1906.

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WANTED, Known, Ida Campbell, Living Stump, at Liberty Dec. 12 or 19 for Waxwork or Side Show. 14, Irwell-street, Garside-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Stallholders, &c., Requiring Ground for Christmas and New Year,
P. COLLINS, LIMITED,
have Positions to Let
for First-class Cinématograph Show or Parading Show, Side-shows, Novelties, Stalls, Cokernut-sheets, Swings, Shooting Saloons, &c.,
Wolverhampton Market-place,
opening Christmas Eve, over Christmas and New Year Holidays.
London.
A New Ground. Grand Position.
Opening Dec. 14, over the Christmas and New Year.
Birmingham.
Two Grand Positions.
Best Christmas and New Year in the Midlands.
Opening Dec. 14.
Birkenhead.
New Ground, Central Position,
Well Sheltered, Good Dry Bottom.
Christmas and New Year. Opening Dec. 19.

Parties Booking on these grounds will have the Preference of Booking with us for our February and March Round.

First-class and Well-conducted Concern
Quoted Reasonable Rents.
All applications address,
P. COLLINS, LIMITED,
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Walsall.
Telephone, 83, Walsall.
Telegraphic address, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, Showmen to Know, Ground to Let.
for Good Circus or Cinématograph Show
at M'Indoe's
Twelfth Annual Carnival,
Paisley.

WANTED, Known, to Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Stallowners, Hyde-road, Manchester, Christmas and New Year Fair.
The Best Christmas Fair in Manchester.
Having taken the whole of the above Ground for Christmas and New Year from Mr John Collins, I am now prepared to let Spaces.
Reasonable Rent.
JAMES HIBBERT, Bloom-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, to Travellers, Hillkirk-street, Beswick, Manchester,
Hillkirk-street, Beswick, Manchester,
to Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, Stallholders, &c.
Wanted, Known,
Wanted, Known,
that I am Opening Hillkirk-street for a Grand Christmas and New Year's Carnival.
Same as Last Year.
Ground Rent Reasonable.
Ground Rent Reasonable.
This Fair Ground is acknowledged to be one of the best in Manchester for Business.
All applications for Space to be made to
THOS. HURST, Sole Lessee.

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This will be the Largest and Best Carnival ever held in the Provinces, and no expense will be spared to make it a great success.
Special Engagement of
Wire Walkers,
High Divers, Circus Performers,
and other Novelties.
All applications for Spaces for the above, rents reasonable, Messrs COLLINS and WALLIS,
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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

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Easy Terms to reliable people for Electric Plant.

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the whole of the Stage Effects,
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"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" (Haddon and Loader). EVERYBODY Concerned, 11·0 o'clock sharp, Tuesday, Dec. 13, 1904, T. R., ST. HELENS. W. S. STEVENSON, Stage-Manager. All Engaged must acknowledge above Call immediately by writing, M'LEOD LOADER, T. R., St. Helens.

Notice of Pantomime Rehearsal.
PRINCE'S THEATRE, MANCHESTER.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
All LADIES and GENTLEMEN Engaged are requested to attend on Dec. 12, at 11·0 o'clock.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S "ALADDIN" PANTOMIMES.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
All ARTISTES Engaged please assemble on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 11·0 o'clock sharp, on the stage NEW THEATRE, EALING, LONDON, W. (Signed) HARRY LORRAINE, Stage-Manager.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
GEO. BRYDON-PHILLIPS' PANTOMIMES. Monday, Dec. 12, at BEDFORD HEAD HOTEL, BEDFORD-SQUARE, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD (no connection with Bedford Head, Maiden-lane). SMALL PARTS and CHORUS, 11·0; PRINCIPALS, 12·0.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
J. GAR KIDDIE'S "LITTLE BO-PEEP." EVERYBODY on Stage, ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES, at 11·0 sharp, Thursday next, Dec. 8. No excuses.
(Signed) J. GAR KIDDIE.

MR ROBERT ARTHUR'S PANTOMIMES.

GENERAL CALL.—The Rehearsals for PRINCIPALS, LONDON CHORUS LADIES and GENTLEMEN, TROUPE DANCERS, and SPECIALITIES will commence at the respective Theatres specified below on Dec. 12, at 11·0 a.m.

COUNTRY.
COURT T., LIVERPOOL, "DICK WHITTINGTON;"
T. R., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, "BABES IN THE WOOD,"
T. R., NOTTINGHAM, "ROBINSON CRUSOE;"
LONDON.
KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E., "ALADDIN;"
CORONET THEATRE, NOTTING-HILL-GATE, "RED RIDING HOOD;"
CAMDEN THEATRE, N., "ROBINSON CRUSOE;"
GRAND T., FULHAM, "THE FORTY THIEVES."
This Call must be considered as final, and Artistes who have not acknowledged receipt of individual Calls sent to addresses given as permanent are requested to acknowledge receipt of this intimation to Mr Frank Dix, Kennington Theatre, S.E., otherwise their Contracts are liable to be cancelled.
ROBERT ARTHUR.

CALL FOR REHEARSAL.
JAMES KIDDIE'S PANTOMIMES.

"ALADDIN."
EVERYBODY, on the Stage of ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL, on Monday, Dec. 19, at 11·0 o'clock.

"CINDERELLA."
EVERYBODY, on the Stage of the QUEEN'S THEATRE, LEEDS, on Monday, Dec. 19, at 11·0 o'clock.

"DICK WHITTINGTON."
EVERYBODY, on the Stage of the PRINCE'S THEATRE, PORTSMOUTH, on Monday, Dec. 19, at 11·0 o'clock.

No Excuses Entertained.

Signed, JAMES KIDDIE.
N.B.—Artistes Engaged for "Cinderella" and "Dick Whittington."
A Special Train will leave Widnes on Sunday, Dec. 18, for Leeds and Portsmouth at Three-quarter Fare. Particulars sent on application.
Address all communications to
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DOTTRIDGE and LONGDEN'S
"FORTY THIEVES" PANTOMIME,
MONDAY NEXT, at 10·0 a.m., sharp,
ASSEMBLY ROOMS, HORSEDGE-STREET, OLDHAM.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
DOTTRIDGE and LONGDEN'S
"ALADDIN,"
Saturday, Dec. 17, at 10·0 a.m. sharp,
ASSEMBLY ROOMS, HORSEDGE-STREET, OLDHAM.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
DOTTRIDGE and LONGDEN'S
"GOODY TWO SHOES."
Monday, Dec. 19, at 10·0 a.m. sharp,
at THEATRE ROYAL, SHEFFIELD.

CALL FOR PANTOMIMES.
EDWARD MARRIS'S "DICK WHITTINGTONS."
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THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS, "CINDERELLA."
PALACE THEATRE, BLACKBURN, "ALADDIN."
T. R., CHESTERFIELD, "ROBINSON CRUSOE."
EVERYBODY to meet on the Stage at the respective Theatres for which they are engaged, at 2·0 o'clock on Monday, Dec. 12.
No excuses of any kind will be accepted.
Any Artistes not reporting themselves will be liable to have their Contracts immediately Cancelled.

Artistes requiring any information respecting Parts, Dresses, &c., communicate with
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EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
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EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Eugene Stratton, Cavallinis, Tom Leamore, Cline and Clark, Selma Braatz, Fred Lincoln, Sybil St. Elmo, Fred Maxwell and Co., in "Lord Harkaway;" Minnie Cunningham, Tom Stuart, Tourbillon Troupe, Tscherneff's Dogs and Ponies.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Hugh Stanton's Sketch "For Reform," Chas. Stevens, Nello, Austin and Cowan, Alexander, Ford and Hanson, Carl and Marie Ohm, Alice Simmons, M'Phee and Hill, the Rales, Lady Mansel's Juveniles.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Eugene Marrder's Fire Horse, Charles Vincent, Robertus and Wilfredo, Arthur Melrose, Mueller and Coyne, Three Mascotte Sisters, Les Voces, George Bohee, Lyane and Gek, Fiske and M'Donough.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Chung Ling Soo, Ambrose Thorne, Emilia Sisters, Rose Archer, G. W. Hunter, Margaret Radcliffe, Benar's Fantoches, Chas. Adams, Bros. Obo, Pat Rafferty.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Lukushima Troupe, Johnny Gilmore, Lilian Lowe, Geo. Newburn, Emmy's Dogs, Hagedorn's Fairy Grotto, J. H. Milburn, Coloured Meisters, Horace White, Gallagher and Hild, Pia Carozzi, Swan and Bambard.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
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Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Julius Seeth's Lions, Helen Martin, Bros. Wartenburg, Fred Dunstone, Driscoll and Beattie, Vosper, St. James's Quintette, Bioscope, Damm Bros., Tom Edwards.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for
Hermann Melot, Alexandre and Bertie, Sisters St. Julian, Five Olracs, Diamond and Beatrice, Four Milons, Walter Munroe, Doody and Wright, Three Georgis, Jan Rudenyi, Bijou Russell, Vasco.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
George Gray, in "Fighting Parson;" Victoria Monks, Morton Comedy Trio, Tae Labakans, Harry Champion, The Two Bostons, L. B. Athol, Little Nelusco, Kitty Bell.

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Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Joe Elvin, in "Over the Sticks;" Werner and Reider, Winter and Banks, the Burnellys, Trapnell Family, Victor Travers, Harry Lawson, Post Mason, Jenny Belmore.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Carl Hertz, Troubadour Four, Barowsky Trio, Trentanovi Sisters, Leonard and François, The Passparts, Childie Stuart.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Karno's "Dandy Thieves," Pantzer Brothers, Lalla Selbini, Brett and Orford, Four Olympian Stars, Hall and Earle, Bob Hutt, Kitty Marion, Ella Retford.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Prinz's Lions, Rosie Cass, Two Butterflies, Keir and Kempton, Edgar Granville, Geoffrys and Benson, Three Donals, Cole De Losse Duo, Hal Forde.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Mark Melford, Burke, Moller, and Teller, Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, the Levinos, John Alexander and Co., Szarvasi-Ferencz Troupe, Bioscope, Clown Ferreros, the Alaskas, the Picquays.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
T. E. Dunville, Grais Baboons, Max Welson Four, Alburtus and Bartram, the Jees, Bioscope, Ronay Sisters, Brothers Pueblo, the Llewelyns, Milner Verren.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Tilly Bebe, Byron and Langdon, Spot, Hardeen, Morten and Elliott, Lily Marney, Selbini Troupe, Auto and Mobil, Virto and Irene, Wilson Hallett.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
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NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
List's Bears, Alice Maydue, Wille Bros., Devona Sisters, The Lumars, The Howards, Nellie Coleman, Bioscope, Phillips and Terry, Dome, Chas. Gardiner.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Lil Hawthorne, Will Evans, Alexandre and Hughes, Ray Wallace, Strolling Players, Sisters Geretti, Harry Anderson, Brothers Edgar, Paul Mill, Winnie Derson.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Chas. R. Sweet, Ted Cowan, Abel and Welsh, Wedburns, Maxwell and Francis, Mabel Vine, M'Kaye, Gilbert Rogers, Lily Burnand,

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Edouin and Edwards, Chas. Russell, Johnny Dwyer, Lieut. Travis, Flo Burns, Brothers Webb, Prince Kokin

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Fred Karno's Company, in "Early Birds;" Florrie Cooper, Bioscope, Fanny Robina, Griff, Mabel Hind, Brontes, Charles Cardow, Nellie Wallace.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr FRANK ALLEN, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope.
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THE WAITER LAUGHED.
THEN THE CORONER SAID "OH!"
I FEEL SO SLEEPY.
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M'CORMICK.
MY GOLDEN BELLE.
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MY WHITEWASH MAN.
COME, BE MY HONEY.
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Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Little Tich, George Robey, the Eight Biseras, Gus Elen, the Barghetti Troupe, Edie King, Eileen Douglas, George Mozart, Dutch Daly, W. H. Clemart, Lily Langtry, Kitty Grey, Ernest Shand, Valazzi, the Mayvilles.
Joint Acting-Managers { JAMES HOWELL. ARTHUR YATES.

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Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
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Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
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EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
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Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Marie Lloyd, Athas and Collins, Tom Woottwell, Five Whiteleys, John Lawson, "Humanity;" Austin Rudd, Ada Cerito, Gladys Mavius, Lily Langtry, Maggie Walsh, The Anartos, Norman and Leonard Trio, Karno Trio, Chas. Fanning, Ryder Sione.
Manager, NELSON FRANCIS.

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CLAPHAM.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 2·0 o'clock.
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Manager, HARRY BAWN.

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HOLBORN.
Two Houses Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Professor Inman Hocking, George Hilleard, J. Heath and Daisy Silcott, Charles Austin, Signor and Madame Borelli, W. H. Downs, Bros. Redmond, Ruffell's Bioscops, The Ranaley Troupe, E. Barrington-Foote, E. B. Ferris, and Miss Mamie Stuart, in "An Incident."
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HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
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Robins, Madeleine May, Mr and Mrs Paul Knox, J. H. Scotland, the De Breans, Three Laurels, Miss Fredrica, Alfonso Silvano, Pictures, Jack Haggerty.

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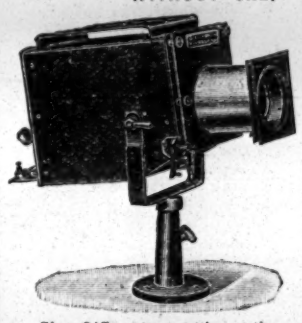

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ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.

Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
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OPEN AIR CONCERT PARTIES,
and from Entertainers generally, for
ENTERTAINMENTS ON THE SANDS,
and
LOWER PROMENADE,
and in the
PARKS AT ROKER,
FOR THE SEASON, 1905.

Persons tendering for the Stand adjoining the Holey Rock must include the provision of a troupe of strolling minstrels to perform on the beach or elsewhere at Roker, as the Corporation may decide, and the number of performers must be sufficient to allow of the latter entertainment being given at the same time as the stand is occupied.

Offers, giving full particulars of proposed performances and stating terms, should be addressed to the Chairman of the Park Committee, Town Hall, endorsed "Entertainments, Roker," and must be delivered at the Office of the undersigned before 12·0 noon on Saturday, Dec. 17 next.

The Corporation do not bind themselves to accept any offer.

FRAS. M. BOWEY,
Town Clerk.

Sunderland, Nov. 21, 1904.

SALTBURN BY-THE SEA
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,
YORKS.

THE COUNCIL
are prepared to

RECEIVE TENDERS

for the Exclusive Privilege of
Using the Sands, and the Vicinity thereof,
for
OPEN-AIR MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS
on Week-days during the
SUMMER SEASON
of 1905.

The entertainments must be guaranteed to be of a first class order.

Tenders to be sent to the undersigned by the 14th of December next, quoting the amount to be paid for the season.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

S. SPRY,
Clerk to the Council.

33, Albert-road, Middlesbrough,
Nov. 25, 1904.

MUSIC HALL CARDS.

Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines

ABADAROFFS, Prehistoric Mountebanks, success, Hippo, Manchester. Monday next, Hippo., Wigan. Perm. address. 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

ABDULLAH, ALMA, and LA SUPERBE. Permanent address, 155, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

ABEL and WELSH. Vacant for Pantomime, Parts and Speciality. Empire Theatre, Dublin.

ALBANO TROUPE, Musical Speciality. 38, Macdonald-street, Wavertree, Liverpool.

ALBERT, MISS LOTTIE, the Bright Comedienne. All communications, 6, Keppel-st., Russell-square, W.C.

ALBERTO, MR. FRED, the Quaint Irish American Comedian, Vocalist, and Dancer. Big hit, Muncaster T., Bootle; next, T. R., Attercliffe.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company. Empire Theatre, Holloway.

ANDERSONS, AUSTRALIAN TWIN. Perfect wonder-workers with the skipping-rope.—Vide Oswald Stoll. Palace, Camberwell.

ANDOS, Japan's Greatest Troupe. Empire, Portsmouth.

ANDREWS and THOMPSON, American Singing Comedy Act. Address, Banbury, Oxon; or, "The Era."

ANDYS, FOUR, Smartest of Risley and Double Somersault Artists. Dec. 5, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Open Dec. 19.

ANTHY, In his Marvellous and Refined Wire Act. Dec. 5, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

ARA, ZEBRA, and VORA, Haymarket, Liverpool.

ARIZONAS, FOUR, Acrobatic Tumblers, Jugglers, and Staircase Workers. Hippodrome, Bury.

ARLYS, England's Greatest Knockabout Cyclists. Dec. 12. Tivoli, Dublin; Dec. 19, Alhambra, Belfast. All comms., 78, Brook-street, S.E.

ASEIKY, Arab Tumbler, Liberty for Monday; also Panto., Play Animal Parts Letters, Cooke's Royal Circus, Edinburgh. Best offer.

ASHDOWN, PERCY, Author, Composer, and Arranger. 7, Great Newton-street, Liverpool.

ASHLEY, BROS. "Next, please!" Pavilion, Newcastle; 5th, Tivoli, Leeds. G. Barclay and Fortune and Granville.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, the Society Athletes, World's Greatest Artistes, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

ATTILLA, BROS., in Refined and New Act. Dec. 5 and 12 open, through Halls closing. Wire, 15, New Hampton-road West, Wolverhampton.

AUBYN, ALF, Special Concerts, Hastings. Dec. 19, Granville, Walham-green, and Croydon. Coms., G. Barclay.

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BABUSIAU, BROTHERS, Celebrated Acrobats-Antipodists, Require Immediate Dates. This Week, Hippodrome, Ashton.

BACCHUS, WILL. Actor Vocalist. This, Palace, Bradford; next, Palace, Lincoln.

BAKER and BALFE, Palace, Sunderland.

BALE TROUPE (Five in Number). Free Dec. 5, 12, 19, 26. 166, Tulse-hill, Brixton, London.

BANDON, SID. Address, care of "The Era."

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents. Telephone, 84, Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Character and Coon Speciality Artiste and Dancer. Recalled Nightly. This week, Victoria T., West Stanley. Offers invited.

BARNARD'S Life-like MARIONETTES, Dolls alive.—Vide Oswald Stoll, Esq. Monday next, Opera House, York.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Haymarket, Liverpool. Agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY). The Ideal Pair. Dec. 5, Elswick Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy. Next, the Foresters' Music Hall, London.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BAYMAN, CHARLIE. Negro Comedian, Great Success Nightly at the Empire, Nottingham. Monday, Hippo., Macclesfield. Agent, Fred. Higham.

BEANLAND, CHARLES, a Natural Comedian. Monday next, Central Palace, North Shields.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE). New Indian Scena. Second Series. Dec 5, Collins's and the London.

BEET, TOM, Merrie Musical Humourist and Character Comedian, at Liberty. Offers invited. Permanent address, 25, Stamford-street, Liverpool.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjuror, Success, this, Lyric, Liverpool. Next, Haymarket, Liverpool. Greatest Show of its kind.

BELL, THE HARRIS L., and LILLY PEARL CO. Present "A Bit of String." Tivoli, Dublin. Dec. 5, Grand, Manchester.

BELLES, LES AMERICAINES. This, T., Dublin; next, Broadhead's, Manchester. Hope F. Bronte liked his Umbrella from Les Belles. Oh dearie!

BELROSE, GEO., and MAUD DE VRLIN, Speciality Duettists. Foresters' and Pop'ar. Pantomime, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

BELL and EDWARDS, Daddy's Orbits, on the Revolving Shutter. We won't shift our Pole. Illuminated. Aq., Yarmouth; next, R., Holborn.

BENET, HARRY, Monday, Grand Theatre, Maidenhead.

BENN, SIGNOR and MADAME PROSPER, in their Instrumental Sketch entitled "From Pavement to Stage." Fortune and Granville.

BENT, HARRY, the Novel Mimic; and CARLOTTA LUNN. C. L. recovering nicely, resume business shortly. 8, Chaloner-terrace, West South Shields.

BENTLEY'S AGENCY, 169, Stamford-street, S.E. Telephone, 12 706 Central.

BERNARD, GEO., merely a Vocal Actor. Don't be hypersensitive—it invariably develops into selfishness. Monday, Hippodrome, Accrington (Return).

BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M'Bunker, "The Mountebank" Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

BETTS, MR. HERBERT, Comedian, Starring, Hippodrome, Scarborough. Next week, Empress, Hartlepool.

BICKLEY, HARRY, Pavilion, Leicester. Again with Milton Bode, Esq. Dame.

BISHOP and VALE, Comedians, Liberty for Panto. Six Seasons with Milton Bode. This, Empire, Paisley; Next, Theatre, Perth.

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. Monday, Pier, Southport.

BLYTHE, MARIE, the Successful Contralto. Dec. 5, Hippodrome, Coventry. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Musical and Comedy Artists. This Palace, Walthamstow; next, Met. and Middlesex. G. Foster, 4, Garrick-st.

BONITA. Transvaal Leader.—The best all round shot that has ever appeared in South Africa.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Dec. 5, Royal, Holborn, and St. George's Hall. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, in his Musical Séance, Introducing his Wonderful "Bosanquephone." Casino, Rotterdam.

BOSWELL, A. P., Comedy Performer and Chin Balancer. Monday, Victoria Theatre, Broughton.

BOULTON and BARTENELLI. Next, Coliseum, Sheerness.

BOYCE, FRANK, Vocal Comedian. Monday, Hippodrome, Hastings, Third Return. Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE), conclude Oxford, Middlesbrough. Monday, Grand, Bolton.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Expert Dancers. Big Act. Olympia, Bury.

BREWSTERS, this week, Hippodrome, Manchester; next week, Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham.

BROGDEN, ARTHUR, Proprietor of The Swiss Choir.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers. Hippo., Birmingham. Return, Monday, Dec. 5, P., Northampton.

BROOKS, BROS., SISTERS BRAND. Success Yarmouth; also this week, Hippodrome, Norwich. Monday, Alhambra, Hull.

BROWN, BEN, and GEORGE LECLERQ, Pantomime. Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Nantymoel, South Wales.

BURLEY and BURLEY sail to-day for South Africa. Best Wishes to all. Address, Empire, Johannesburg. No Vacancies.

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, 344, Bury New-road, Manchester. Manager, L Hochschild. And at Hartlepool and London.

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, Empress Varieties, Hartlepool. Manager, C. Ferrier. 'Phone, 023'. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." And at Manchester.

BURTON'S Advertising and Theatre Curtain Agency. Manager, Arthur D. Burton. "Though the speaker be a fool let the hearer be wise."

BYAM and VAUGHAN "The Crazed Curate." Next week, Bedford Palace, London.

CALVERTO'S ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, GLASGOW. Shall be pleased to hear from First-class Artistes or Companies coming North.

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey. The Talk of Scarborough. Monday, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Vacant, Jan. 9, on.

CARL and CARR, Comedians, in Refined Comedy Act entitled "Workhouse." Dec. 12, Panto. Rehearsals, Ealing T., London. Lib. from March.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team. Palace, Halifax.

CARMEN, HARRY, Polyglot Comedian. DAISY LANE, Chic Comedienne. Foresters Music Hall.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), the Vocal Comedy Stars, in "Their First Quarrel." Empire, Rochdale. Have another Nut. Have Two.

CARY, FRED, Comedian. Argyle, Birkenhead.

CAZMAN'S, HENRI, Musical, Dramatic, Circus, and Variety Agency. 36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, London, S.W. Telephone, 335 Battersea.

CEE-MEE Troupe On Tour. Permanent Address, care of "The Era."

CHANT and CHANT (Jack, Alice), Comedy Vocalists and Patterers. Monday, Hippodrome, Salford, Manchester.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS, Bâton Manipulators, Duettists, and Dancers, Victoria T., Broughton. Monday, Alhambra, Belfast.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Free Jan. 16.

CHESTER and COMPANY, Dramatic and Variety Agents. 13, Oxford-street, Manchester.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Tivoli, Kidderminster. No Vacancies till February.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Circus Carré, Amsterdam.

CHIRGWIN, London Nightly, Four Months. "Friends," please refrain from Copying.

CLARENCE and BELL, Rehearsals, Pincher and Naber, "Cinderella." Dec. 5, New Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Tyrolean Songstress and Smart Dancer. Monday next, Grand, Clapham. Vacant Dec. 12.

CLEMENTS, SISTERS, this, The London. Dec. 5, Collins's. Pantomime, Principal Girl and Fairy Queen. 131, Peckham-rye, S.E.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, Principal Girl, Jill, Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Manchester.

CLEVELANDS, THE, on Tour. Letters, care of "The Era" Office.

CLYO and ROCHELLE (HARRY) Enormous Hit, (ROSE), Granville and Star. Monday, Dec 5, Palace, Cambewell.

COBORN, CHARLES, Royal Aquarium, Great Yarmouth. London, Dec. 12.

COLLINS, GEO., Quaint Star Comedian. "A fiddle as old as me," and "Coming through the rhymes." Panto. Rights £2 2s. Pavilion, Glasgow.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE, at Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 368, Camden-road, N.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE. Popular Singer of Sensible Songs. Panto., with Mr J. Gar. Kiddie. Rehearsing Alex. T., Widnes, where address

CORNISH, WILL, Unique Musical Bell Act. This week, Palace, Sunderland; next, Palace, Bath.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Pavilion, Carnarvon, N.W.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, Comedy Juggler, and his Acrobatic Dog Dooley. This week, Hippo., Bury; next, Met., Openshaw, Manchester.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Company. London Hippodrome.

CREW, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW are both encored Nightly on their Starring Return, F., Dover. Mon., Starring Return, Alhambra, Sandgate.

CROWN TRIO (E. Scofield, L. Davidson, W. Davidson), Speciality Vocalists. This, Queen's Park Hippodrome; next, the Oxford, Middlesbrough.

CRUIKSHANK. Nothing succeeds like success. Monday next, the Palace, Walthamstow.

CURRY, PERCY, This, Hippodrome, Hulme. Next, Pantomime Rehearsals, Grand, Edinburgh. Ha! Ha! Agent, Fioni.

CUTHBERT, MAUD, Serio and Ballad Vocalist. Address, 3, Gatton-house, Pleasant-place, Essex-road, N.

DALE, MR. HARRY, First-class Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena. Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

DALE and D'ARGAN. Panto. settled with John A. Thompson, Emperor and Vizier. Next, People's Palace, Scarborough.

DALE and VALE, Refined Singing and Dancing Speciality. This week, Pavilion, Glasgow; next week, Pav., Newcastle.

DANE, J. P., Comedian, Hit of Bill, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Monday, Royal Music Hall, Liverpool.

DANIEL, FRANCIS, own Sketch Company, "A Father's Vengeance." Permanent address, 51, Brunswick-street, South Shields.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Negro Delineators, Open for Engagements from March 20. Address, 63, Sherbourne-road, Birmingham.

DANTON, CHARLES, Comedian. Communications, 28, Nelson-street, Bridlington.

DANVILS, THE (GEORGE and MAY), Comedy Artistes and Song Illustrators. Vacant Dec. 12, also for Pantomime. Pavilion, Altrincham.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE of Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. This, Tivoli, Glasgow; next, Hippo., St. Helens.

DAVIES, ROBERT, Equestrian, at Liberty February onwards, for home or abroad. Address, care of Post-office, Belfast.

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Always Vacancies for Stars and Specialities.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE. Dec Queen's and Tivoli, Glasgow.

DE DIO, THE PEERLESS, Wintergarten, Berlin, until further notice.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Theatre Royal, Warrington.

DELAMERE TRIO, THE, Original Comedy Equilibrists. Dec. 5, Gaiety, Oldham.

DELEVINES, FIVE, New Act, "Flirtation." Palace Theatre, Bristol.

DELLER and OXFORD, Singing, Dancing, and Pattering at the Royal Albert, Canning-town, Liberty 12th and 19th.

DENBY and DENT, Comedians. Monday, Empire, Burnley. Panto. settled.

DENHAM, MILLIE. Big success of "Lady like you," by Fred Leigh. Whistled and Sung all over the Town. Monday, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil, Actor-Vocalist, Hippodrome, Salford.

DEVEREUX'S Famous Troupe of Dogs, Tremendous Success at the Hippodrome, New Brompton, Kent. Grand Theatre, Islington, Christmas.

DE VOY, HURST, and FREDERICKS. Premier Burlesque Trio, usual success, C, Brighton. Monday, Tivoli, Manchester. Liberty, New Year's Week.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. DIXON, CHARLEY. LYND, KATE.

DODDY and BELLE (the Long and the Short of it), Two Splendid Comedians, Liberty for Panto. Address, "The Era" Office.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, Versatile Vocal Entertainer, on Tour with Kershaw's Cosmorama.

DOLLY, AGNES and MAUD, Singing Boxmakers, Terrific Success this, Palace. Require Monday only. Wire, 16, Upper Maudlin-street, Bristol.

DOM E, the Comedy Clay Man, Empire, Shepherd's-bush.

DON, EMMA, and her Black and White Quartette. Thanks Frank Allen, Esq., for Contracts. Dec. 5, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Dec. 5, Empire, Edinburgh.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Pantomime Rehearsals, Principal Girl, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow. Claxton.

DORRETTA, LITTLE, a dainty little acrobatic song and dance artist. Touring with C. W. Poole's Myriorama.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Full of Vivacity and Animation.

DOVF, MISS ETHEL, Hippodrome, Hastings. Pantomime, Royal, Croydon.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Rehearsing Pantomime. Address, 25, Horsedge-street, Oldham.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Charming Young Vocalist and Graceful Dancer. Enormous success, this week, Tivoli, S. Shields. All comms., 11, Arnold-st., Liverpool.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Comedy Artiste, usual success, Tivoli, South Shields. Communications, 1, Nelson-terrace, Stockton-on-Tees.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler; OSWALD, Staircase Performer, Hand Jumper, &c. Monday, Hippodrome, Accrington.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. This Week, Metropole, Camberwell. Communications, Fred Durham or Sam Hart.

DUNNING and KAHN and KAHN. Second London Pavilion and Canterbury. Week, London Pavilion and Canterbury.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Palace, Attercliffe. Dec. 5, P., Northampton. Liberty. Principal Boy or Girl. First-class Pantomimes only.

EARLE and MELVILLE, Patter Comedians, this Week, Oxford, Middlesbrough. Next Week, O. H., Harrogate. Required, a good Agent.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian. Usual Success, Palace, Attercliffe. Dec. 5, Hippodrome, Bury. Ring up. I'm ready.

EIRL, MISS MARCELLE, Burlesque Artiste. Big New Production, by Harry Carmen, in Preparation.

ELCOCK, AMY, Comedienne; FLORRIE ST. ROY, Comedienne and Dancer. Thanks for offers. Panto. settled. Rehearsing, New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. Liberty Dec. 19 and Jan. 2. Address, Gilbert's Hippo., Yarmouth.

ELLA'S, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Dec. 5, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, Comedian; FLORRIE BRAY, Comedienne. This, Hippodrome, Bury; next, Tivoli, South Shields.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. "Bluebell" Parody, Sung by Ernie Mayne and Ben Albert. Panto. Rights, £1 1s. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, Theatre Royal, Oldham.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Principal Boy, Third Year, Dottridge and Longden. Rehearsing. Address, 235, Horsedge-street, Oldham.

ELTONS, TWO, Triple Horizontal Bar Comedians, Smartest Knockabout Act. Liberty Dec. 12. Monday, Pardoe's Theatre, Middleton, Lancashire.

ELVIRA, AMY, Comedienne This week, Woolwich; next, Coliseum, Brighton. Vac. Dec. 26 (Town). Permanent, 67, Swinton-street, London, W.C.

EMERSON, BILLY, an Ideal Humorous Singing Comedian. Big success, Westminster Palace, Liverpool.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer, Gatti's next. Part and Speciality, Grand T., Islington. 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand-Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Dec. 5, Pavilion, Carnarvon, N.W.

ESDALE BROS., Refined Comedians. Vacant Dec. 12. Offers to perm. address, 163, Shrewsbury-street, Brooks's-bar, Manchester.

ETHARDO, OTTO, MDLLE. PARDOE, Quaint Juggler, Speciality Dancer, and Acrobat This, Empire, Cradley Heath.

EVANS, WILL, Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond.

FAME, PEGGY. Bookings this Week:—Liverpool (Three Dates), Hull, Rochdale, Warrington, Ashton. Monday, P., Lincoln. Coms., Harry Day.

FERRARIS, THE, Modern and Cosmopolitan Dancers. Dec. 5, Grand Cirque, Nouveau, Belgium.

FIELDING, ANNIE, and BERT HULL, Refined Vocal Entertainers. Dec. 5, Empire, Bristol.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Park-keepers. Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. Communications, 115, Hope-street, Salford.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS., Latest Success, "A Mare's Nest." Gaiety, Birmingham. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal,

FLORADORA GIRLS, "Rival Sweethearts." Hit of the Programme. T. Royal, Hebburn. Thanks for offers. Monday, Palace, Scarborough.

FONTAINBLEAU, ALICE, and her World-famed Troupe of Trick Dogs and Rolling Globe Act. Marquis of Granby, Lincoln.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Empire, Leeds.

FORMBY, MR. GEORGE, an Odd Fellow, Grand, Stockton.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard

FOSTER, G. W., a hit in Bradford, so "The Jackdaw" says. Monday, Empire Theatre, Sheffield.

FOX, G. H., Tenor Robusto and BEATRICE OLNA, Comedienne, continued success. V. H., Exeter, Christmas Week.

FRANCE and FRANCIS, Comedians and Acrobatic Grotesques. Monday, Britannia, Glasgow. Vacant Panto.

FRANKLIN TROUPE of Vocalists and Expert Dancers (Six in Number) Address, care of "The Era" Office.

FRASETTIS, LES, South African and Australian Tour. Address, 9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREELAND, MR. FRANK, Song and Sketch-writer. "Got to have it." Town Hall, Aylesbury.

FREIRE TROUPE, THE, Acrobats, Tumblers, Double Risley, Living Carrousel (Original) Salone Margherita, Naples, Italy.

FRENCH, MARIE, the Irish Gem. New Songs by "Brother" Barney Stuart. All coms. Prosper Benn, Tivoli, South Shields.

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue, Queen's-park, London, W.

GANNON, NELLIE, Concludes Liverpool. HARRY WRIGHT, same. Palace, Lincoln, Monday. PEGGY FAME has Exceeded all Expectations.

GEE, FRANK, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

GEMS, THE TWO (FLO and CISSIE), Conclude To-night, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Monday, Empire, Wrexham.

GERONDS, THREE, Refined Lady Vocalists and Dancers. Pantomime settled. Communications, 2, Carr-place, Leeds.

GIBB, HORACE, Comedian, and NITA MAYEU, the Vocal Spark, at home, Hotel Armada, Broadmead, Bristol. Friends, dinna forget.

GILBERT'S, ROBERT, Dogs and Cats Conclude success Hippodrome, Carlisle. Dec. 5, Prince's Theatre, Preston.

MR. ARTHUR J. BARCLAY,
Manager of the Palace, Walthamstow.
Address, Parkside, The Drive, Walthamstow.

MR. J. J. BARTLETT,
Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith; or,
12, Angel-road, Hammersmith.

MR. HENRY BEAUFORT
at Liberty for Character Parts.
226, Southwark-bridge-road, S.E.

MR. LESLIE BEAUFORT and MISS CARRIE ELLIS (Mrs L. B.). L. B., Lead or Heavies. C. E., Juvenile Lead. Dec. 12, Theatre Royal, W. Stanley.

MR. WALTER BEAUMONT,
as Stephen Spettigue,
Comedy Theatre, W.

MR. CHARLES B. BEDELLS,
Lord Robert Ure, "The Christian."
Borough Theatre, North Shields.

MR. HENRY BELDING Disengaged until Dec. 31; after then, Re-engaged by Mr Richard Flanagan. 2, Stoke Newington-common, London, N.

MR. PERCY BELL.
Disengaged.
Address, care of "The Era."

MR. T. W. BENSON at Liberty Dec. 19 for Legitimate Comedy (including Scotch). Character Parts, or Old Men. T. R., Ashton-under-Lyne.

MR. IVAN BERLYN,
Special Engagement with Mrs Langtry.
Grand Theatre, Croydon.

MR. PASCOE BIOLETTI.
Fulfilling Short Special Engagement. Disengaged Dec. 17. Address, A. A., 10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MR. KENNETH BLACK Disengaged. Christmas, Marlborough T.; Miss JESSICA BLACK, Dolly Derry, "The Water Cure," Hippodrome, Glasgow.

MR. J. S. BLYTHE
Disengaged.
12, Avington-grove, Penge, S.E.

MR. ARTHUR BOLTON,
Tom Hewley, in "The Never-Never Land."
Dec. 12, Royal, Nottingham.

MR. J. H. BOOTH
concludes Engagement with Hardie and Von Leer. Dec. 12, Panto. Rehearsals, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

MR. CHARLES BOULT,
Jack Stanley, in "Mockery of Marriage," Miss Olga Audré's Company. 59 Grosvenor-road, Aldershot.

MR. EDWARD H. BOWEN,
Juveniles and Light Comedy, at Liberty.
Address, 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. CLIFFORD BOWN
Disengaged. Comedy, Character, Old Men.
94, Vassall-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. and MRS T. B. BRABAZON,
Hop-picker and Mrs Buzzard, "In the Ranks."
Prospect House, Park View-road, Bradford.

MR. RICHARD BRENNAND
Disengaged
Address, 11, Windmill-street, W.; or, Agents.

MR. and MRS. W. RUDDLE BROWN
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MR. and MRS. FRANK E. BURDETT,
Own Tour with "The Indian Mutiny."
Dec. 12, Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.

MR. HENRY BUTE, Flambert and Stage-Management, "The Night of the Party."
Tunbridge Wells (Six Nights). Disengaged Dec. 18.

MR. HARRY T. BUTLER, Producing Panto for Six Brothers Luck, Palace, Manchester; also Milton-Rays, Ashton. Address, P., Manchester.

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H. C., Mr Willard's Tour. Mrs Cane at Liberty.
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MR. and MRS. G. CANNINGE.
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MR. TOM CARRICK, the Popular London Panto. Dame. Unexpectedly Disengaged for Christmas. 22, Wiesbaden-road, Stoke Newington, N.

MR. LESLIE CARTER,
as Jim Larrabee, "Sherlock Holmes."
Dec. 12, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

MR. H. EDWARDS CECIL,
Recovering from his illness.
10, Stanmore-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

MR. DOUGLAS CECIL
Disengaged for Juveniles.
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. JOHN CECIL
invites immediate offers. Lead, Heavies, Stage-Management. Address, Devonport Fold, Harwood, nr. Bolton.

MR. GORDON CHASEMORE,
Costume Designer,
Foy Boat Hotel, Ramsgate.

MR. EVERARD HORACE CHEER,
Comedian,
Mr Herbert Barrs's "Aladdin."

MR. ARTHUR CHESNEY.
Address,
Garrick Theatre.

MR. and MRS. GEORGE CHILD
(Frances Bruce), Mutley and Hook, in "The World's Desire." Dec. 12, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford.

MR. WILLIAM CLAYTON,
Leading Business, Disengaged Dec. 17.
Address, Opera House, Coventry.

MR. J. H. CLYNDES,
"A Royal Revenge."
Treherbert and Maesteg, Three Nights each.

MR. HAL COLLIER
Concluded long Stock Season, Grand Theatre, Islington. Re-engaged for Pantomime at above.

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All letters care of "The Era" Office.

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Comedy Theatre.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON invites offers, Light and Character Comedy, concluding Fifth Tour as Gibson, "Private Secretary." Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MR. FRED CONQUEST,
Zacky, in "For Ever."
Pantomime, Prince's, Bristol.

MR. T. E. CONOVER,
Starring as Private Harris, "Miss Mischief" Co.
Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

MR. HORTON COOPER,
"The Freedom of Suzanne."
Criterion Theatre.

MR. BERNARD COPPING,
Lead; Miss ISA BELLINGTON, Lead and Comedy. Dis. Dec. 19. 41, Wakehurst-rd., New Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. J. W. CORDINER,
Dec. 12,
Theatre Royal, Chatham.

MR. L. CORY-THOMAS
Disengaged. Theatre Royal, Oxford, till 14th inst.; then, 2, Whitley-house, Anerley, S.E.

MR. VERNON COWPER,
Blueskin, "Jack Sheppard."
This Week, Tivoli, Dublin.

MR. ERNEST H. G. COX
Disengaged Dec. 15.
All communications, 8, Darlan-mansions, Fulham, S.W.

MR. HARRY J. CRANE.
Address,
Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

MR. HENRY CROCKER,
Sacheverell and Stage-Manager, Mr Laurence Irving's Company. Dec. 12, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

MR. JULIAN CROSS
Disengaged.
Address, 13, Eglantine-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR CURTIS,
Dromio of Ephesus and Wagner, Terry's Theatre.
Disengaged Dec 17.

MR. CHARLES DAVIES,
late Stage-Manager, Palace, Manchester (Seven Years). Disengaged. The Orchards, Burnage, Didsbury.

MR. COLEMAN DAVIES Dis. Panto.
Last Xmas, Baron, Princess's, Glasgow. Great Success. Refer R. Waldon. Dec. 12, Olympia, Newcastle.

MR. and MRS. JOHN M. DAWSON,
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Permanent address, care of "The Era."

MR. GEORGE DELAFORCE,
Rehearsing, Theatre, Crystal Palace.
Disengaged Spring.

MR. FRANK H. DENTON
Disengaged Dec. 17.
Address, Theatre Royal, Exeter.

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Specially Engaged by Mr Brandon Thomas to Play Charley's Aunt, Theatre, Stoke Newington.

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MR. CHARLES ESDALE,
Captain Fitzgerald, "Money-Makers."
Disengaged Dec. 12.

MR. PATRICK EVANS,
Juveniles, Boys, and Light Comedy. Disengaged.
The Homestead, Hurst-road, Eastbourne.

MR. EDWARD FENTON,
Lieut. Pelham, "A Soldier and a Man."
Dec. 12, Llanelly; Dec. 15, Aberavon.

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Understudying Mr Brandon Thomas.
Comedy Theatre.

MR. ARTHUR FITZGERALD,
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MR. HUGH FLEMING.
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Disengaged.
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Address,
61, Gurney-street, S.E.

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Disengaged for Few Weeks.
King's Theatre, Hammersmith.

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MR. C. QUINTON FULFORD
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Good Offers Invited.
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Christmas Production, Duke of York's Theatre.
Address, 10, King-street, W.C.

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Disengaged.
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MR. HERBERT GREVILLE.
Address,
Savoy Theatre, W.C.

MR. CHARLES GREY,
Concluding Dec. 17, Fourth Engagement as John Forman, in "Sherlock Holmes." Theatre Royal, Bolton.

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MR. FRANK HARDING
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"A Country Mouse" Company.
Dec. 12, Falkirk and Kirkcaldy.

MR. MORRIS HARPER,
Acting-Manager, "Peggy Machree" Company.
Dec. 12, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. HARRINGTON,
on Tour with own Company.
Theatre Royal, Preston, Return.

MR. CYRIL HARRISON,
Geoffrey Waring, "Driven from Home."
Star Theatre, Swansea.

MR. JULIAN HARTLEIGH.
Address,
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Crown Theatre, Peckham. Disengaged Jan 9.

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Address, 86, The Drive, Fulham-park-gardens, S.W.

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MR. L. MAJOR HORNSEY, Musical Director (Piano), Empire, Bridgwater. Thanks R. C. Buchanan, Esq., for most comfortable Engagement.

MR. CHAS. HOWARD,
Acting-Manager,
Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MR. LEONARD HUBERT,
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MR. RALPH HUTTON,
Mr Tree's "Darling of the Gods" Company (South).
To-day, New, Oxford. Next Week, care of A.A.

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MR. POWELL JAMES Thanks Chas. A. Chandler for Most Comfortable Engagement with "Bells of Haslemere." Address, G.T., Islington.

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MR. G. WALLACE JOHNSTON, Orsino, Horatio, Oliver, Slender, Lorenzo, Faulkland, Hastings, Benvolio, &c., Mr F. R. Benson's North Co.

MR. A. W. JONES at Liberty Monday, 20th. A Big Success with Mr J. Lloyd's Empire. Wire or write, Jones, 5, Irishtown, Clonmel, Ireland.

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Engaged by H. Brammall, Esq.,
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Touring "Life's Sweetest Sins" and "The Girl of My Heart." Perm., 26, Wightman-road, Finsbury-park, N.

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MR. F. JOYNSEN-POWELL,
Concluded Season, Grand Theatre, N. At Liberty.
Address, 49, Waldemar-avenue, Hurlingham, S.W.

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Directing "I Defy the World" Tours.

MR. WHITFORD KANE,
Jacky, in "Sunday" (North Company).
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MR. OGILVY KEITH.
Address,
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MR. C. B. KESTON,
Jack Chesney, "Charley's Aunt."
Comedy Theatre, W.

MR. H. VAL KIMM,
Acting-Manager. Miss Grace Warner's Répertoire Company, this and next, Empire, Southend-on-Sea.

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Letters, 16, Pembury-road, Clapton, N.E.

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King's Theatre, Ebbw Vale.

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MR. ERSKINE LANG,
41, Upper Gloucester-place,
N.W.

MR. and MRS. CHARLES LANGLEY
(Jessie Price) Disengaged Dec. 12.
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Address, Richmond-terrace, Craig-y-don, Llandudno.

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Dec. 12, Theatre Royal, Hull, Six Nights.

MR. GEORGE W. LINDSAY.
Arrangements Complete.
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MR. GEORGE H. LIOT,
"Miss Mischief" Company.
Dec. 12, Royal, Sheffield.

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Man Parson and Business-Manager, "Man to Man."
12th, Queen's, Leeds.

MR. FEWLASS LLEWELLYN,
New Theatre, W.C.
23, Chelverton-road, Putney, S.W.

MR. and MRS. STUART LOMATH,
Star Lead and Comedy, "The World."
Dec. 12, Grand Theatre, Islington.

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Theatre Royal, Leeds.

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Arrangements complete till Summer, 1905.
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MR. J. T. MACMILLAN.
Address,
Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

MR. FRANK MACRAE.
Address, 7, Titchfield-terrace,
Albert-road, Regent's-park, London, N.W.

MR. GEORGE MALLETT
Dis. Dec. 19, Parts or Management, Lewis Waller, Esq.'s, "Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner" Co. K., Hammersmith.

MR. H. F. MALTBY,
Re-engaged by Mr Fredk. Melville, Dec. 12,
Standard Theatre, E. At Liberty Dec 19.

MR. MAITLAND MARLER.
Address,
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MR. PERCY MARMONT,
Dec. 12, Rotunda T., Liverpool. At Lib. Dec. 18.
Address, 4, Esmond-road, Bedford-park, W. A.A.

MR. PERCY MARSHALL,
Carbury, "Lady of Ostend," &c.
Dec. 12, Theatre Royal, Stockton.

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Specially Engaged by Messrs B. and F. Wheeler for S. African Tour. Address, Opera House, Cape Town.

MR. WALTER MAXWELL.
Address,
Vaudeville Theatre, London.

MR. CHARLES MEDWIN
at Liberty.
Address, 146, Lavender-hill, S.W.

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All Arrangements Complete.
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Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

MR. WILLIAM J. MILLER
Disengaged for Shakespearian Leads, or First-class Pantomime. Opera House, Ashton-under-Lyne.

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MR. F. MORLAND
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Savoy Theatre, W.C.

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Professor Moriarty, Chas. Frohman's
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MR. ALFRED NORTHWAY.
Address,
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Inu, Mr Tree's N. Co., "The Darling of the Gods."
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Advance Manager, On Tour.
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MR. WILFRED E. PAYNE
at Liberty Dec. 19.
Address, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

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Adelphi Theatre.
Permanent address, 65, Redcliffe-road, South Kensington.

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This and next, 165, Kent-street, Great Grimsby.

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F. Macnaghten's "Aladdin," Palace Theatre, Blackburn.

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MR. GUY RAMSDEN
will in future be known as
G. STAPLETON ROCHE.

MR. ALBERT E. RAYNOR,
Lord Dorsington, "Breed of the Treshams," with Mr Martin Harvey. Coronet Theatre. Dis. Dec. 17.

MR. ARTHUR LAW RAYNOR,
General Manager, Mr Berte Coote's "The Fatal Wedding" Co. Third Year, Grand, West Hartlepool.

MR. RANDOLFE READE
Disengaged.
10, King-street, Covent-garden.

MR. WILTON REED
at Liberty Dec. 12.
Brixton Theatre, S.W.

MR. ERNEST REGENT concluded with Scarborough A.D.C. in "Diplomacy." Offers invited. Ye Hermitage, Robin Hood's Bay, Yorks.

MR. PERCY RHODES
at Liberty Dec. 17.
Letters, 10, Elmstone-road, Fulham, S.W.

MR. and MRS. GWYN RICHARDSON
(Grace Harlington) Relinquishing Engt. with Mr Willard. Immediate offers invited. Mordington, Richmond.

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Rehearsing,
Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington.

MR. WALTER RINGHAM
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MR. HARRY H. RIGNOLD,
Character Comedy, Old Men and Dames, at Liberty.
Address, care of "The Era" Office.

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MR. DAN F. ROE,
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Theatre Royal, Worcester.

MR. STANLEY ROGERS.
Address all communications,
Brixton Theatre, London, S.W.

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Acting-Manager, "The Female Swindler" Co.
Dec. 12, Star Theatre, Liverpool.

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(Miss Mary Jocelyn),
Rehearsing, "The Cricket on the Hearth."

MR. TIM RYLEY
at Liberty Dec. 17.
Address, 84, Holbein-house, S.W.

MR. CHARLES E. SCUIT,
Charles Frohman's "Sherlock Holmes" Company,
Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

MR and MRS. MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
(Miss Alice Arden). Miss A., Court Theatre. Mr S., Dec. 12, Theatre Royal, Exeter. Disengaged Dec. 17.

MR. FRANK SHERLOCK
Disengaged.
78A, Narbonne-avenue, Clapham, S.W.

MR. JOHN B. SHINTON,
Leading Business, Lead, "When Woman Hates."
Dec. 12, Dalston Theatre, N.W.

MR. GEORGE SHIRLEY
Disengaged, Acting-Management.
65A, Long-acre, London, W.C.

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MR. GEORGE F. TULLY at Liberty. 16, St. John's-road, Deptford, S.E.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD Concluding Dec. 17, Season, Royalty Theatre, W. Dec. 12, "The Confederacy."

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MR. LIONEL VICTOR, The King, "Sleeping Beauty." Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

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MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS, Comedian, at Liberty. 30, Romberg-road, Upper Tooting, London.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS, Juvenile Lead. Theatre Royal, Greenock. Permanent, The Florence, Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS and FLORENCE WYNN, "Liberty Hall" Company. 12th, Wakefield

MR. F. STUART WILLSON, Duke of Wintersett, in "Monsieur Beaucaire." Disengaged Dec. 10 for few weeks. Perm., Ashby Villa, Finchley, N.

MR. FRANK WILSON. 249th performance as Sir Reginald Belsize, "The Marriage of Kitty," To-night, T. R., Bolton. A.A.

MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE Disengaged. Address, 2, Mall-road, Hammersmith, W.

MR. A. WOOD Address, 59, St. Mary's-road, Peckham, S.E.

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MR. LIONEL YEOMAN. Christmas and Spring settled. Disengaged end of April. Address, 7, Broom-water West, Teddington.

MR. H. A. YOUNG. Address, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

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MASTER CYRIL SMITH, as Geoffrey, in "Becket," with Sir Henry Irving, on Tour. Address, 75, Strand, W.C.

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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DIE MILLIONENBRAUT,"
Operetta, in Three Acts, by Heinrich Berte,
Produced at the National Theatre, Dec. 2.

The Marquis	Herr WERNER
Thompson	Herr ROBART
Mary	Fräulein SACCUR
Eva	Fräulein SOUDERMANN
Olympia	Fräulein RAABENBURG
Clip	Herr SEIBOLD
Davis	Herr HERTZKA
Groom	Herr WENDEL
Director	Herr STARK
Ellen	Fräulein QUIRLING
Maud	Fräulein PESCHANG
Lavinia	Fräulein DIEDERICHS
Georgina	Fräulein PULHAM
Dolly	Fräulein KOCH
Nelly	Fräulein TIMM
Elly	Fräulein E. TIMM
Anny	Fräulein GRIGOLEIT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, DEC. 8.—Despite capital acting and singing, an indefatigable Kapellmeister (Herr Saenger), and tasteful mounting, despite also a good deal of noisy applause, I fear there is not a long lease of life in store for the new opera at the National. The plot is meagre, the music is far from original, although a few of the prettiest numbers were encored. The Marquis is poor and is on the look out for a wealthy bride, whom he fancies he has found in the person of Mary Thompson, the heiress of an American millionaire. Mary will, however, none of him, and employs a detective to assist her in thwarting the mercenary plans—a very unnecessary proceeding for an American girl one would think. The detective—Clip, by name—is a sort of general factotum. Good-natured and of ready wit, he gets everyone out of his or her difficulties; and he helps Mary, too, by a little ruse. The Marquis, it appears, once had a liaison with a dancer named Olympia, who has now transferred her attentions to Mary's wealthy uncle. Clip adores the fair Olympia himself, and, to compromise her and her two lovers—past and present—he procures Mary a situation as maid to the dancer. The plan is successful, but the marquis suddenly loses his heart to the supposed maid, and finally takes to honest work as the "boots" in a New York hotel. Mary, seeing he is a reformed character, gives him, ultimately, her hand and her dollar bags. Fräulein Saccur, in the title-rôle, and Herr Seibold as Clip gave very humorous renderings, and were much applauded.

"ANDROMACHE," a one-act drama adapted from Seneca by Herr Ernst Von Possart, made a favourable impression at the New Royal Opera, where the Schauspiel-Haus company are acting during the alterations. It is deeply tragic in tone and action—almost too tragic for many of the audience, and the language is very fine. The part of Andromache was well acted by Fräulein Lindner, while Herren Krausneck and Pohl gave good accounts of the rôles of Ulysses and Lysimachos.

LUDWIG FULDA'S new and amusing play *Maskerade* is still being given several times a week at the Deutsches. The piece is more a comedy than anything else, although the author denies the impeachment. A few words will suffice for the plot. His Excellency Herr Von Wittinghoff, one time Ambassador somewhere in South America, returns home after twenty years' absence to the Fatherland. His first care is to seek his young daughter Gerda, who has no claim to her father's name, but the girl being the child of his one and only love, Wittinghof is anxious to make good his fault. He finds Gerda a teacher of languages and apparently all he could desire. She meets her penitent father with appropriate dignity, but when he tells her he wishes to adopt her she is moved to confess that she is unworthy, as she possesses a lover. His Excellency is not so horrified as Gerda thinks he will be, and finding the young man is a son of an old friend of his Geheimrat Schellhorn, he decides to bring about a marriage between the young people. On Wittinghof confiding to Schellhorn that he has a marriageable daughter, and hinting at an alliance between her and Edmund, Schellhorn at once jumps at the plan. He is a man of low principles; he knows his son is bound in honour to a girl who loves and trusts him, but he is only too alive to the advantages of a marriage with a daughter of the wealthy "Excellenz." He—having, of course, no idea of Gerda's identity—prevails upon his son to write a letter of farewell to her. Edmund does it unwillingly, for he is much attached to Gerda, but he does it, and thereby seals his fate. Instead of a happy wedding there is a scene, in which the ill-used girl comes off best. Edmund, as a just reward for his weakness, loses both the girl he loves and the wealthy bride, while Gerda goes on her travels with her newly found father, in a measure consoled by having proved her lover's unworthiness. There are a good many other characters, all amusingly sketched in, and it is no wonder the popular author was "called" repeatedly. Fräulein Hannemann gave an excellent rendering of the part of Gerda, Herr Klein was good as Wittinghof, and Herr Arndt equally so as Schellhorn, sen. The other parts were one and all adequately sustained.

THE Belle Alliance Theatre produced on Friday—as a seasonable play—an adaptation of Dickens' "Christmas Carol," by L. Ottomeyer, entitled *Harte and Co.* The adaptor has done his work very judiciously and the whole is an agreeable mixture of poetry and fun. The piece is called a Christmas comedy, in five acts, and being brightly acted and effectively mounted should enjoy a successful run.

HERR VON WILDENBRUCH'S earliest play, *Die Haubenlerche*, was revived at the Schiller Theatre, N., last week, meeting with a most cordial reception. The cast was an unusually good one all round, Fräulein Becker, in the title-rôle, and Herren Ziegel and Kirschner giving especially excellent accounts of their respective parts.

AT the Theatre des Westens a charming children's play by the popular lessee, Herr Prasch, was produced on Wednesday afternoon before a crowded and appreciative audience of juveniles and adults. Who does not know the story of Struwelpeter (Shockheaded Peter) and his various brothers and sisters—each the exemplification of a moral? Herr Prasch has written all kinds of fun and innocent nonsense round the story; there are six brilliant scenes, charming dances, and the accompanying music by Gustav Steffens—an experienced hand in things of the kind—is bright and pleasing. The mounting was exceedingly tasteful and pretty, and Herr Prasch was compelled to appear in response to the vigorous applause. Of the acting nothing but good can be recorded. Fräuleins Grünwald, Von Martinowska (guardian angel), Müller (postmaster), Herren Below (Struwelpeter), Ziegler (Rupprecht), were foremost in the capital cast.

"DIE DIAMANTEN DES SULTANS" is a sensational five-act drama, adapted by Hermann Ritter from the English of Louis Tracy, which was given on Saturday at the Carl Weiss Theatre with a fair measure of success. As I do not know the original piece I cannot judge of either translation or adaptation, but should say the work has been skilfully done. The interpretation was excellent, and Director Fischer had taken much pains with the mounting.

MISS ISADORA DUNCAN gave a highly successful "Gluck evening" in the Philharmonic on Thursday, and a Chopin evening at the High School for Music on Sunday. This charming young American dancer and idealist, who "gangs her ain gait" and dances with incomparable grace to the strains of classical music exclusively in defiance of every known precedent, has gained a firm hold upon the hearts of the Germans. In Bayreuth she was made much of by the Kaiser's sister, Princess Adolf of Schaumburg-Lippe and Frau Cosima Wagner, and she has now settled down for a time here to found a school for dancing on her own ideal principles.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

*** *Provincial Correspondents are requested to forward with their next week's Reports a full list of the Theatres and Music Halls in their respective towns, also the names of the present Lessees or Managers, for insertion in* The Era Annual, 1905.

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—*As Midnight Chimes* is here this week. The chief part is played by Mr Melville Bickford, an actor of ability, who is well supported by Mr Frank E. Petley and Mr James Salter. Miss Gertrude Price gives a graceful rendering of an emotional rôle, and good work is contributed by Misses Imeson and Ward.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—The Mannon Troupe of American pantomimists present a most amusing absurdity, *Uncle Yank*; and the Geraldos contribute an interesting juggling entertainment. The Tally-Ho trio again appear with success, and the Jackson Family give a really admirable musical turn. Fred Lloyd and company appear in an extremely funny sketch, *The Blind Spinster*; and among other successful artists are Miss Mabel Le Blanche, a very clever serio; May and Belle, excellent vocalists; and Mr Jack Pleasants, a smart comedian.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—On Monday Mr Charles Harrington's company opened here with *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. A faithful representation of Uncle was given by Mr J. Carr; Mr Charles Harrington was an excellent Phineas Fletcher; George Harris was truthfully presented by Mr Guy P. Ellis; Mr John H. Rodgers played Legree to the life; Mr St. Clair lost nothing in the hands of Mr B. Lenton; and Mr Fred Charles was very amusing as Marks. Miss Hettie Johnson was good as Eliza Harris; Mrs St. Clair was well presented by Miss H. Hathaway; Miss Silvia Stella played Topsy with drollery; and Little Minnie must be complimented for her rendering of Eva.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Mill; Assistant, Mr T. W. Moyes.—An excellent bill at the above house includes Miss Ella Rose, who has a voice of rare quality; Mr Oswald, a clever hand-balancer; Foo-Choo, the wonder, Chinese conjuror; G. Bernard, actor-vocalist; Duncan, a marvellous club-juggler; the Three Henriques, comedy acrobats; and Harry Walker, comedian.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Saunes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—*The Face at the Window* is being excellently interpreted by Messrs Armadale and Warren's company. A fine conception of the villainous Delgado is that of Mr Augustine Knight, and from Mr T. W. Dunscombe comes a powerful impersonation of the difficult rôle of Paul. Mr C. Alan Hineson is clever as the mad doctor; Mr George Phythian as Henry De Brisson is good; and Mr Alf Richards does well as Lucien. Many amusing incidents are brought into relief by Mr Bob Anderson (Peter) and Miss Lizzie Chambers (Babette). Miss Marie Florence gives a talented portrayal of Marie; and Miss Jeannie Dempster is good as La Pinau.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—At the Theatre Royal this week Mr Arnold Bell and Company occupy the stage with a number of well-known theatrical pieces. On Monday, Tuesday and Saturday evenings, Hall Caine's drama, *Bon-My-Chree*, was performed, when Mr Bell gave a very forcible, and, in parts, emotional performance of the hero, Dan Mylrea, his efforts being well supported by Miss Frances Campbell as Mona. Mr Cuthbert Imrie made an admirable Ewan Mylrea; Mr H. M. Clifford as the Bishop of Man and Mr Frank C. Robson as the Deemster filled their parts capably. Mr Dan Farrough made a capital Governor of the Island, and Mr William Reid as Davy Fayle submitted a most telling impersonation. Mr Joe Bardsley was humorous as Hommey-beg. On Wednesday evening the favourite Irish drama, *The Shaughraun*, was staged.

ASHTON HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr L. Campkin.—The managers of the Hippodrome have again provided their patrons with a capital programme. Heading the current bill is Hetty King, who sings charmingly. The popular actor-vocalist, Harry Clifford justified his engagement by humorous song and expert stepping; Mdlle. Roseltha is a neat and agile skipping-rope dancer; Stewart and Morgan, duettists, are immensely popular in their vocal speciality "Leaving Ireland;" Vera Mayne, comedienne, and Jack Martin, descriptive vocalist, each merit commendation; Satsuma, the oriental conjuror, has some clever tricks; Josh Dixon claims attention for eccentricity in song and humour; Kioto is a wonderful Japanese equilibrist, and the Bioscope presents some pleasing pictures.

ASHTON EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. W. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr W. Leech.—Every inducement is put before the amusement-seeking public by Messrs Broadhead to visit their new palace of varieties. This week's bill, amongst other notable items, announces the engagement of Woolford's educated ponies, cantankerous donkeys, and clever dogs; a couple of the quaintest of wheelers, who show what can be done with the cycle; the Saxon Trio of strong men, Herr Schular, a famous saxophone soloist; Tom Bassett, Shakespearian comedian; Miss Flo Deighton, Anglo-American soprano, in popular songs; the Pender Troupe of pantomimists in a diverting absurdity entitled *Hands Up; or, the Bold, Bad Highwayman;* the stilt-walkers in masks, an amusing turn; Mr Arthur Gilbert, the gentlemanly comedian; and H. G. Prosper, with clever female impersonation.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, North of England Theatre Corporation, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr Claude Seaton.—*A Trip to Rum-Fum* is here this week, played by a company under the direction of Miss Cissie Moxon. Miss Cissie Moxon as Flossie Kixie is full of animation; and Miss Kitty Jones as Peggy O'Hooligan renders good service. Mr Willie Garvey as Larry O'Hooligan and Mr W. S. Hutchinson as Biddy, do full justice to their rôles. Mr Charles Russell as Cecil Soft proves himself a good and capable comedian; and a very pleasing feature is the speciality dancing of the Saxon Troupe.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in the popular comedy, *A Country Mouse*, was well received by a well-filled house on Monday. "The Mouse" was played most charmingly by Miss Violet M. Harley; Mr Charles Howitt's the Hon. Archibald Vyse was very cleverly portrayed; and the same may be said of Mr Robert Lumley's Lord Robert Wykeham. Mr Charles Harley as John Bowlby, M.P., was admirable; and the small part of Jephcot, the butler, by Mr J. E. Watson was made prominent by good acting. Miss Walker as Lady Sylvia Bowlby, the society butterfly, was in capable hands; and the Duke of St. Kitts, who ultimately captures the "little mouse," was excellently played by Mr Arnold Lucy. *A Country Mouse* ran for the first three nights of this week, and was followed on Thursday by Mr Arthur Carlton's company in the military play, *In the Ranks.*

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson: Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr F. R. Benson's North Shakespearean company is here, and opened with *Hamlet*. The title-rôle was taken by Mr Henry Herbert, who gave a singularly intelligent and engaging pourtrayal; Mr Arthur Fayne being also a capital Polonius. Mr G. Wallace acted with some distinction as Horatio; Mr A. A. Harris was a capital Claudius; and Miss Margaret Cashe a dignified Queen of Denmark. Mr F. Owen Chambers was very effective as the Ghost, and Miss Dorothy Green gave a charming and fascinating picture of Ophelia. During the week *The Merchant of Venice, Merry Wives of Windsor, She Stoops to Conquer, The Taming of the Shrew, Romeo and Juliet*, and *As You Like It* have been given.

TIVOLI THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—The star turn here this week is provided by Miss Dinah Morris and her troupe of Southern State artists in a musical scena, *The Lost Coon*. It goes remarkably well. Zarmo, the comic juggler and conjurer, is a great hit; Katie Butler is a clever comedienne; and W. H. Morgan's singing is much enjoyed. Annie Laurie, a sweet vocalist; Burg Haud, and Wise, comedians of much merit; and Johnny Johnston complete the bill.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—F. S. Gilbert's English opera company opened here on Monday with *Maritana*. Mr F. S. Gilbert once more ably sustained the part of Don Cæsar de Bazan. His singing was as good as ever. Mr Stewart Bolton and Miss Kate Waite were amusing as the Marquis and Marchioness, and Mr E. Davies was duly stern as the Captain of the Guard. Mr E. Fredericks was effective as the Alcade. Mr J. Halpin as the King of Spain gave a telling performance. Mr A. German met with evident appreciation as Don José. Miss M. Burnett as Lazarillo sang with feeling, and the success of Miss Marie D'Alcourt as Maritana was complete.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company is here this week in *Honour Thy Father*. Mr J. W. Evelyn scores as Gabriel Garth; Jack Halyard is capitally played by Mr Douglas B. Watson; Mr Ernest Hartington is a sufficiently villainous Duncan Bly; Miss Ross Mylrea is excellent as Mercy Merry; Gertrude Garth is well portrayed by Miss Kate Newton; Miss Mabel Coleman is responsible for Lilian Garth; Violet Wilfred is ably submitted by Miss Maud Grey; and Miss Lizzie Morley is an admirable Poppy Cornleigh.

PUBLIC HALL.—Manager, Mr Jasper Redfern.—The Revell Troupe of Pantomimists top the bill here. The Three Sisters Adrienne introduce clever business; the Two J. J.'s perform some smart tumbling; Mr G. W. Hastings is a capital vocalist; Miss Kitty Gower is an acceptable quick change artiste; Mee and Imm are highly amusing comedians; Miss Vinnie Terry, serio, is well received; and the pictures are of a high character.

BATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—Musical and vocal turns are strongly in evidence here this week with such first-rate artists as Will Cornish, the expert handbell soloist; Miss Daisy Davidson, the young and accomplished New Zealand soprano vocalist; Orpheus, the finished performer upon reed and brass instruments; Ian Colquhoun, the well-known baritone vocalist; and Edwards and Espinosa, banjo specialists, all of whom meet with success. Hilarity abounds while those versatile comedians and dancers, Harrigan and Holt, hold the stage. That dashing comedienne and dancer, Rose Tilley, has plenty of admirers. The comedy bar work and antics of the Wiltons is excellent.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—Mr Leslie Norman's company is this week paying a visit in the musical comedy *A Trip to Chinatown*. Mr Charles Sequin infused much humour into the piece, as also did Mr Jerrold Manville. Mr Leslie Norman proved a capital Raleigh Gay, and Mr Will Smith was entirely successful as a waiter. Mr Ewart Drake caused much amusement as Jones of Chinatown. Miss Harriett Fawn was a charming Mrs Guyer, and Miss Dorothy Vicott a vivacious Flirt. Some clever dancing was performed by the Three Canadian Belles. Mr. Bert Coote's company appeared in the drama *The Fatal Wedding* on Thursday and Friday.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—Mr C. St. John Denton's company opened here on Monday with the musical comedy *Kitty Grey*, which at once achieved a big success. In the title-rôle Miss Hilda Guiver acted and sang with charming vivacity; Mr Leslie Harris was thoroughly successful as Lord Plantagenet. Another humorous impersonation was that of the King of Illyria by Mr Robert Whyte, jun., and the rôle of Sir John Binfield was cleverly undertaken by Mr Innes Smith. Miss Eily Helene appeared to advantage as Lady Binfield, and a bright and engaging impersonation of Mrs Bright was submitted by Miss Emily Stevens. Miss Hilda Scarisbrick, a charming actress, admirably realised the part of Sadie De Poulson, and other rôles were presented by Miss May Parker, Miss Florence Vernon, Miss Violet Gordon, Miss Maisie Ivie, and Messrs Edmund Russell, Laurl Lisle, G. Martinengo, &c.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—Lydia Dreams, who heads the bill at this popular theatre, provides a ventriloquial entertainment entitled "The Last Post," which is remarkably clever. Adelins, the lady facial artist, is a wonderfully realistic impersonator of celebrities; and a great and well-deserved reception has been accorded the Boccaccio Trio of instrumentalists and vocalists. Mr Gilbert Girard's mimicry of animals is amazingly clever. Mr Harry Seymour, actor-mimic, appears in his entertainment, *A Green-room Meeting*. The Three Sisters Lee gain great applause for their daring acrobatic feats and fine dancing; and Mr W. F. Wilbert, a Belfast boy, gains unmeasured approval for his clever turn. Also appearing are Talberto and Douglas, acrobats, and Mr Charles R. Whittle, comedian.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—The chief attraction here is furnished by May Edouin and Fred Edwardes, who appear to advantage in their sketch *A Bachelor's Dream*. Lieutenant Travis upholds his reputation as one of our best ventriloquists, his performance being decidedly clever; the juggling feats of Prince Kokin are remarkably smart; Mr Charles Russell is a capital comique with good songs and a voice to sing them; and the Brothers Webb are exceedingly capable musical clowns, their selections being hugely enjoyed. Mr Johnny Dwyer, a first-rate comedian, takes well; and much pleasure has been evinced at the reappearance of the popular local comedian, Mr William Gibson. Miss Flo Burrise, comedienne, completes the programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The celebrated Boris Fridkin Troupe head the bill, and their acrobatic dancing and operatic vocalism have fully deserved the success achieved. Mr Herbert

Le Martine is a capital vocalist and splendid dancer, and the Zampa Brothers are appropriately described as "one-legged marvels," their feats being remarkably clever. The funny songs of Happy Tom Parker amuse all, and the Goldina Trio provide a novel act, consisting of expert juggling and a unique carpet spinning display. The Sisters Charnley are charming duettists and capital dancers, and others appearing are Miss Julia Feaviour, comedienne and dancer; Mr Ernest Ball, an actor-vocalist of much ability; and Mr Charles Somers, the quaint comedian.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS.—Proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco; Manager, Mr Irving Bosco; Assistant-Manager, Mr George Dobler.—Another fine programme has been provided at this popular resort, the leading attraction being the Flying Zedoras, in their thrilling flights through mid-air, an astonishing performance. The Three Novels amaze all with their lightning acrobatism, and Vincent in his table act is a perfect marvel. Much praise is due to the clever Bros. Lloyd, who appear in their sensational acrobatic double rope performance. The talented Sloan Family are retained to the joy of many local admirers; and other attractions include Learto and his dog, the new Hippodrome pictures, and the amusing clowns Mac and Comical Steck.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Manageress, Miss Grace Battersby.—The new dramatic, musical comedy *The Naval Detective* is this week introduced to Bilston audiences by Mr Fred J. Kirke, who revels in his three impersonations—viz., Lieut. Jack Beresford, Rev. Frequent Nipper, and Pat M'Guinness. In three characters also—Phyllis Leslie, Mam'selle Lucette, and Bill Mainway—Miss Louie Fountaine is capable of portraying orphan, prima-donna, and sailor boy. As Susan Scrubbs Miss Edith Claris does well. Mr Arthur Beaufort is well suited to the part of Captain Hustle.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE. — Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Mr George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company is here with *Judy*. Mr Kirk is well to the front with an incisive rendering of Grip, a detective, and Miss Florrie Groves is highly popular with an excellent performance of the title-rôle. Miss Mary Neil exhibits considerable power in the trying part of Alice, and Miss Violet Langley, Mr Richard Terris, and Mr Will Casey appear with distinction.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—Miss Renee Glendower's combination in *The Ladder of Life* are favourably received. Mr Roy Milton appears to advantage as David Gordon; Mr J. Cooke Hinton is realistic as Ivan Kirkovitch; Col. M'Gregor is suitably assumed by Mr Roy F. Gasgoine, and Mr C. H. Matthews is a good Fergus Gordon. Miss Stephanie Baring is highly efficient as Olga Sobrinsky; Miss Flora Leslie is an effective Meg Merrilees, and Miss Glendower is a tower of strength as Mother Flint. The production is well staged.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—There are few greater favourites visit this town than Mr Harry Lauder, the popular Scotch comedian, who is at present fulfilling a highly successful engagement here. Dandy George and his highly trained canine associate give an interesting turn, and Miss Rosie Elliott, descriptive vocalist, is a general favourite. Sanford and Lyons, patter comedians, are prominent in the programme, and Mr Fred Cary, a genuine comedian; Miss Maud Cherry, comedienne and dancer; Mr Gerald Mount, a comedian of ability; and Mr Ainslie Burton, mimic and variety artiste, are all excellent in their respective lines of business. A good display of animated Bioscope pictures is also a leading feature.

BIRMINGHAM.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnston.—*Florodora*, with all its teeming attractions of mirth and melody, is presented here in an excellent guise by Mr Tom B. Davis's company. Mr Edward Lewis takes up the rôle of Tweedlepunch with irresistible humour. Miss Isabelle Dillon gives a clever performance as Lady Holyrood; Miss Hilda Dugdale wins favour as Angela Gilfain; Miss Lydia Granville is popular as the maid; and Miss Lena Maitland shines as Dolores. Mr Fred Winn as Cyrus Gilfain, Mr Leonard Russell as Frank Abercoed, Mr Frank Grans as Capt. Arthur Donegal, and Mr William Rousell as Leandro play their familiar parts with excellent vim, and the chorus is irreproachable.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr V. Turner.—*The Cherry Girl* was brought here on Monday by Mr C. Lubbock's company, and at once beguiled a large audience of its sympathy, cheers, and laughter. Miss Elsie Molloy gave a charming and clever impersonation of the Queen; Mr H. Herbert scored as Moonshine; Mr Laurence Wensley as Starlight turned every opportunity to account; and Mr Fred Le Frane as Esau and Master Harry Williams as Snowball were received with rapture by children of all ages. Miss Katie May had a pretty style as Pansy; Miss Dorothy Frostick in the rôle of Dimples was cheered enthusiastically for her dances; and Miss Julia Vivers stood out as Sylvia. Mr Clement Locknane conducted, and Miss Lottie Stone's Troupe, the Four Wisterias, and the Quinton Quartet appeared.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—The last nights of the season have been ushered in by Mr Collingwood's own company in the powerful and successful drama *When London Sleeps*. Last (Friday) night was commemorated the second anniversary of the Collingwood régime, when the proprietor-manager was to appear in his original and finely played character of Captain Rodney Haynes. Mr Collingwood has, by his charm of manner and *savoir faire*, won golden opinions from all sorts and conditions of men.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*East Lynne* once more proves its never-fading popularity with the public. Miss Lilian Dundas is responsible for the company and also the leading rôle—that of the hapless Lady Isabel—which she plays with true feeling. Miss Leslie Dane is successful as Barbara Hare; Miss Kathleen O'Connor is well placed as Miss Corney; and Miss Lilian Adelle as Affy. Miss Magdalene Douglas as Joyce, Miss Jessie Goodman as Wilson, and Miss Marion Ryder as Willie Carlyle do well. Mr Henry Dundas invests the part of Archibald Carlyle with dignity, Mr Maule Cole depicts Capt. Levison in a most telling manner, and Messrs H. J. Bassett, Rowley Hyde, and Syd Young act capably.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*The Sins of the Fathers* has been visited by large audiences this week, and much appreciation has been evinced. Mr Hugh Osborne's company has elicited the warmest approval. Mr Wallace Eastlake acts the hero's part to perfection; Miss Dorothy Ruth's conception of the heroine, Ethel Harmsworth, is most sympathetic; Miss Amy M'Neil presents a dramatic picture of the deserted wife, Camille Leblanc; and Mr B. Denniston gives a convincing rendering of the villain, Brandt.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*The Never-Never Land* was presented here on Monday for the first time, and with every sign of success. The company is sponsored by Messrs John Hart and H. Armitage, and includes Mr Edward Rochelle, an amusing rogue as Nat Rudder. Mr Edmund F. Kennedy gives a skilful impersonation of Jack Mowbray; Mr Arthur Bolton does well as Tom Hewley; Mr Benson North's assumption of the rascally Wolff calls for much commendation; and Miss Margaret Parker's clever acting as Smudge begets sympathy as well as laughter.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—The patrons of this hall have every reason to be satisfied with the excellent bill arranged. The eccentric comedian, Mark Sheridan, displays all his old attributes to popularity. J. L. Shine, with his company, in *New Year's Eve*, provides many opportunities for laughter. In trick cycling the Aurora Troupe excel; Brown and Robinson are responsible for some fine harmony; Arthur Lennard renders his songs with good effect; and Morris and Morris are grotesque acrobats. Lizzie Fletcher, comedienne; Calile and Walker, comedy artistes; Charles Barron, with an animal act; and Leona Dare and company, in a novel and refined trapeze act, complete the performance.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—Park's Eton Boys are paying a return visit, and are loudly applauded. Florrie Forde is more popular than ever. Most versatile are the Brewster Troupe; another big turn is Les Bollingers; the Original Rag-Pickers of Paris; and Adrim and Oram, Alma Gray, Slade Murray, Tatten Hall, and a series of animated pictures add to the attractiveness of the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—A smart sketch *A Matrimonial Agency* is being presented here by Hayman and Franklin. Miss Minnl Letta's "Sporting Girls" are here on a return visit; George Penn gives a highly interesting musical and humorous entertainment, as also does Nellie Ganthony. Kitty Glover and company in the sketch *Not a Word* cause roars of laughter, and other prominent turns are Ella Shields, Grant and Grant, F. V. St. Clair, Harry Meir, and Brown and Nevarro.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edward Foster.—Charles Prinz with his seventeen lions is drawing large audiences; Cole and Le Losse are loudly applauded for their comedy turn, as also are Hal Forde and Edgar Granville. A smart and neat athletic display is that of the Three Donals; the feats of the Two Butterflies are highly appreciated; Rosie Cass is a dainty comedienne; Geoffreys and Benson score a success in *A Bit of Bacon;* and Keir and Kempton, duettists, complete the entertainment.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke. — Mr William Greet's company in *The Sign of the Cross* is here this week. Mr F. B. Woulfe gives a good rendering of Marcus Superbus, and the parts of Nero and Tigellinus are well played by Messrs A. Bernhardt Turner and Charles Aldred respectively. Miss Evelyn D'Alroy plays the part of Mercia admirably; Stephanus finds a pleasing representative in Miss Ivy Millais; and Miss Ethel Land is effective as Poppæa. The incidental songs are sung by Miss Tessa Di Alberti.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—*Defending his Honour*, under the direction of Messrs Carson and Granville, is being played this week. The principal parts are well sustained by Messrs John Davidson, Clifton Boyne, Chas. H. Herbert, Willie Black; Miss F. Melrose Millett, Miss Kitty B. Russell, Miss Dienly Dainton, and Mrs Edmunds Lyons.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Tom Grave does a sensational cycle feat, "Flying the revolving wheel;" Friscari, is a clever hat manipulator; Gracie Vernon is a neat comedienne and dancer; W. J. Churchill, comedian; Baker Belphor, baritoner vocalist; Hart and Rudd, comedians and dancers; Four Trees; Jimmy Shields, one-legged comedian; J. A. Wilson, Negro comedian; and the Caledonian Boys help to furnish an attractive programme.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—*Saturday to Monday* is the enjoyable fare provided here this week by Mr Fred Karno's company. The major portion of the fun is supplied by Mr Fred Kitchen, a clever comedian, who plays the part of John Willie Waggs, and by Miss Aggie Morriss as Corinda Blake. Messrs Frank Haylett, Walter Purvis, Douglas Earle, and Misses Gladys White, Ada Maskell, Winifred Stewart, and May Harries also work well in their respective parts. The Camille Dancing Girls contribute to the success of the play.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—A good programme is submitted here this week. The Miles-Stavordale Quintet give a capital musical turn; the Gentle Mackweys are very amusing in their wire act; Prince Fee Lung provides a mystifying show; Fred Horsfall shines as a mimic and vocalist; Stylo is a marvellous hoop manipulator; the O'Malleys contribute a comedy act; Elsa Joel, operatic vocalist, appear in her latest expositions; Kate Chard and H. O. Clarey give a funny sketch; and the Outlaw Trio display cleverness on the wire.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.—The great attraction here this week is Dr. Boyd's Mysterious Kettle. The other turns are supplied by Will Letters, Kavados, Inez Clough, Rice and Rudge, Pete and Juno, Mdlle. E. Rizelis, Dan Conroy, and the Bioscope.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—*The Marriage of Kitty* was on Monday presented by Mr Frank Wilson's company, and is being well received. Mr Frank Wilson makes the most of the part of Sir Reginald Belsize, Bart., and Miss Vera Fordyce is delightfully vivacious as Kitty. The part of Madame De Semiano is well sustained by Miss Kate Harwood. Other characters are taken by Mr Sydney Orton, Mr J. F. Leighton, Mr Walter Craig, and Miss Elsie Saville. The comedy is preceded by an interesting little curtain-raiser, *Jerry and a Sunbeam*.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager. Mr Harry Kenyon.—A good variety programme is presented here by Mr R. A. Roberts, protean actor, who appears in his highly successful farce of *Lucinda's Elopement*, impersonating five characters; by Miss Marion Grahame, a delightful operatic and ballad vocalist; Charles Coverdale, a droll comedian and mimic; Percy Hannan, boy vocalist; Leo Tell, a clever imitator of sounds, &c.; Bert Holmes, vocalist; Mdlle. Lucretia, speciality dancer; Dale and O'Malley, comedians; the Bransbys, character duettists and comedy entertainers; and Verno and Voyce, duettists. The Imperial Bioscope is also an attraction.

OHMY'S CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—An excellent all round company here includes the John Watson Trio, in their up to date pedestal performance; the Sisters Etherdos, lady ladder performers; Mr R. Yelding, with his performing horse Ladysmith; Miss Ida Kennesly and her troupe of performing dogs; Mons. Wirson, daring gymnast; Miss Kellenno, in her globe performance; Hoppitt, Toney, and Terry, with their comic donkeys; and Miss Delat, trapeze artist. The entertainment concludes with a sketch, *The Boer War*.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Sole Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr Lilford Arthur's company, in the three-act farcical comedy *Jones's Jaunt*, fills the bill this week. The chief attraction is Mr Charles Collette as Stanley Jones, who does wonders with rather scanty material. He is ably supported by Miss Ruby Chester as Dollie Bonde, Mr J. R. Crauford as Catesby Duff, Mr Ernest Wintour as the Valet, and Miss Rosamund Bury as Kate. The remaining characters are filled by Mr Edmond Beresford, Miss Irene Ross, Mr David Sellar, and Miss Mabel Luxmore. The farce was preceded by Mr Charles Collette, in his musical monologue *Hard Luck*.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—*In Dahomey*, the Negro musical comedy from the Shaftesbury Theatre, is the attraction here this week. Mr Dan Avery, who plays Rareback Pinkerton is a clever comedian, and Mr Charles Hart is quaint and humorous as Shylock Homestead. Capital support is rendered by Mr Pete Hampton as Hamilton Lightfoot, Mr Fred Douglas as Dr. Straight, Mr Walter Dixon as Hustling Charlie, Mr Leon Williams as George Reader, Mr W. Richardson as Henry Stanfield, and Mr Pete Washington as Mose Lightfoot, Miss Pauline Freeman as Rosetta Lightfoot; and the other ladies who impersonate principal characters are bright and active, and there is a bevy of attractive ladies sustaining with much brightness the characters of Boston and Florida Girls. The humour is prolific, and the excellent dancing, which terminates with a characteristic cake-walk for a substantial prize, given by the management to the most successful couple of exponents, is a feature of the production.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—The sterling drama, *Proof*, is the attraction here for the week. Mr and Mrs W. Maclaren's company is giving a very fine representation of the play to deeply interested audiences. Mr Maclaren is effective in the part of the wronged and persecuted Pierre Lorance; and Mr Richard Fulton is powerful and convincing in his acting as the villain, Lazare. As Adrienne Miss Gertrude Evans achieves success; and as Little Adrienne, in the prologue, Miss Gertrude Coates is distinctly effective. Miss Lily C. Bandman's performance of the part of Valentine is an artistic effort. In a finished performance of D'Aubeterre Mr Kingswood Pearce scores well; Mr Alfred Wareing is good as Victor. There is excellent comedy in Mr Ardene Linden's assumption of Chamboran; and Miss S. Hay as Madame Deprets and Miss Wynne Hanley as the Duchess D'Aubeterre complete an efficient cast.

EMPIRE. — Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann. — Eugen Maarder's fire dancing horse, a wonderful example of animal training, presents a distinct novelty here this week. Charles Vincent, comedian, is eccentric and very mirth-provoking, and Robertus and Wilfredo give a capital performance in ball manipulating. As a "word whistler" Arthur Melrose submits a unique turn. There is pleasing variety in the contribution of Billy Mueller and Clara Coyne. A clever and graceful performance by the Three Mascotte Sisters on the rings calls forth deserving applause. Vocalism by Les Voces is excellent; George Bohee contributes very acceptably with the banjo; a marvellous contortionist performance is submitted by Lyane and Geks; and an American sketch, *Brockey's Temptation*, is novel and entertaining in its way.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—Sampson is providing the audiences here this week with the genuine sensation "The Kettle of Wonders," and the experiments are interesting large audiences. Zisma entertains with "Gymnastics on the Lawn;" the Great Northern Troupe of dancers are clever exponents; Wilfred, the Canadian, is a marvel of flexibility; a turn given by Miss Raffin's troupe of cleverly trained monkeys is highly diverting; T. B. Fayne, comedian, finds favour with the audience; an excellent instrumental performance is given by the Sisters Redfern; Billy Hubbard's comedy turn is acceptable; and Rafayette's wonderfully trained dogs are put through a clever performance.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr E. S. Willard and company opened here on Monday with *The Middleman*. Mr Willard, who met with a very enthusiastic reception, gave a masterly and impressive representation of Cyrus Blenkarn. Miss Maud Hoffman made a graceful and charming Mary Blenkarn; Mrs Russ Whytal achieved much success as Nancy Blenkarn; Mr A. S. Homewood was admirably suited as Joseph Chandler; Mr William Sauter's Captain Chandler and Mr H. Cane's Batty Todd were well played; and Mr Walter Edmunds acquitted himself very effectively as Jesse Pegg. Other parts were ably sustained by Mr C. H. Fenton, Miss Edith H. Tomlies, Mr John W. Laurence, Miss Eileen Warren, and Miss Mabel Dubois. The programmes for the week also included *The Professor's Love Story*, *Tom Pinch*, and *The Cardinal*.

GRAND THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—Mr Walter Melville's company opened here on Monday with *Her Second Time on Earth*. Miss Hilda Beverley submitted a very artistic impersonation of Dora Grey; Mr Bert E. Hammond was thoroughly realistic as the Italian, Beppo; Mr Chas. Franmore made an admirable Capt. Norman; Mr Cecil A. Melton was well suited as Jack Carlton; Miss Polly Marsh presented a good character sketch as the drunken Elizabeth Burke; and Miss Elaine Vanbrugh was a pleasing and sympathetic Laura Norman. Mr Fred Ingram as Teddy Butterfly and Miss Nana Flensburg were very amusing. The remaining characters were ably sustained.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Bernhardt; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry De Groot.—The Dandies are here this week, and sustain excellent programmes, comprising songs, choruses, duets, quartets, and dances with marked success. The augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter, and a Bioscope exhibition entitled "Whirling the Worlds" also add to the attractions.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Miss Ada Colley, "the Australian nightingale;" the Donaldson Brothers and Ardel, in their pantomime sketch *A Zoological Comedy;* the Sisters Oswald, in songs and dances; Maggie Rimmer, comedienne and dancer; Hamilton Hill, the Australian baritone; Mdlle. Virginia and her piccaninnies; Ted Saunders, the new mimic; Nora Emerald, soubrette and dancer; the Katos, Komikal Kidgets, in their automatic theatre; Charles Craston, comedian; and the Alhambra pictures. On Wednesday the eleventh anniversary of the popular hall was celebrated. In addition to the ordinary programme there were special attractions, the artistes announced to appear including Cora Caselli, Henry H. Moore, Daisy James, Frazer and Mac, Lennie and Hast, Harrigan and Holt, Lena Verdi, Nat Clifford, Dusty Rhodes, Marguerite Broadfoote, Harold Human, the Katos, Frank Whitman, Fred Storey, Daisy Jerome, and Millie Hylton.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Houdri, the handcuff king; Dora Martine, gymnast; Bert Leslie, comedian; the Carina Sisters, in a musical mélange; J. W. Bray, comedian; the Ilfords, gymnasts; Ergotti and King Luis, Risley acrobats; Mdlle. Flora Lumiere, kaleidoscope, serpentine, and fire dancer; the Cabriacs, acrobats; and animated pictures. On Tuesday evening Mr George M. Schilling, the American athlete, who is walking round the world for a wager, related some of his recent experiences.

NEW PALACE PIER THEATRE.—Under the personal direction of Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Miss Grace Hawthorne and company opened here on Monday with *Camille (La Dame aux Camélias)*. Miss Grace Hawthorne sustained the character of Camille with great success; Mr Harry Hiller gave an excellent impersonation of Count De Varville, and Mr Cecil Wynne was effective as Armand Duval. *Poor Nance* and *Frou-Frou* were also in the programmes for the week.

WEST PIER. — Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—Mr Harold V. Neilson and company opened here on Monday with *A Marriage of Convenience*. Mr Harold V. Neilson presents an excellent portrayal of the Count De Caudale, and Miss Amy Sangster is a graceful and charming Comtesse. Mr G. Bailey makes a capital Chevalier De Valclos; Mr Edward Sorley is well placed as the General; Miss Yvonne Orchardson is a pleasing Marton; and Mr Henry Hargreaves is effective as Jasmin. The programmes for the week also include *King René's Daughter* and *A Queen's Messenger*.

COLISEUM.—Licensee and Director of Entertainments, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith Wilkes. — The following are here this week:—Happy Fanny Fields, the American Dutch girl; Carlo Bianchi, Risley equilibrist; Kopski, classical pianist; Mona Macdonald, comedienne; F. Howard Fenwick, tenor vocalist; Nancy Renshaw, laughing Negro comedienne and bone soloist; Amy Elvira, burlesque artiste; Edwin Barwick, actor-vocalist and comedian; and the Coliseum pictures.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—This week we have another novelty, *Little Mary*, capitally staged and well played by Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company. Mr Arthur Holmes-Gore gives an able performance of the Earl of Carlton. Miss Gertrude Burnett infuses a pleasing personality into the part of Moira Loney. She plays with much charm in the prologue, and is earnest and expressive in the remainder of the play. Mr George Mudie hits off a good study of Sir Jennings Pike, obtaining able support from Mr Ean Macdonald as Dr. Topping, the latter gentleman also giving a good characteristic performance of Terence Reilly in the prologue; Mr Arthur Kightley is entertaining as Lord Rolfe; Mr Edward Jephson is amusing as the Earl of Plumleigh; Miss Elspeth Dudgeon is stately as the Countess of Plumleigh; Miss Evelyn Neilida is interesting as Lady Milly; Miss Beatrice Kelston presents a good study of Eleanor Gray; and Mr F. J. Watts, as Deighton, is a typical butler. The performance commences with *The Bugle Call*, nicely played by Miss Evelyn Neilida, Miss Elspeth Dudgeon, Miss Henrietta Leverett, Mr Ean Macdonald, Mr Arthur Kightley, and Mr G. H. Thomas.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter. — Hardie and Von Leer's company is here with *A Path of Thorns*, the drama being interesting, nicely mounted, and well played. Mr Claude King gives a fine manly performance of John Edmunds; Mr Cyril Mackay is a good exponent of the Rev. Frank Selby; Mr A. Lester is decidedly successful as Sam Hallet; Mr Cecil Du Gue is well placed as John Deane; Mr G. Major Cook makes the most of the part of Edward Langley; Mr J. H. Booth gives a fine exposition of Jim Price; Mr W. L. Rignold does well as Ratty Gabbitt; Miss M. Stanley Burt is sufficiently sympathetic as Nellie Hallet; Miss M. Raby acts decidedly well as Constance Howard; Miss Amy Rogerson is clever and vivacious as Jane Adelaide; Miss Violet Luddington presents a careful and effective exposition of Bessie Edmunds; and Little Mabel May plays prettily as Lucy Edmunds. In the last act some well-trained children sing and dance in good style. On Thursday there was a special performance with extra attractions for the benefit of Mr A. G. Palmer, principal money-taker at this theatre, who has been seriously ill for some months.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—The Five Bandurias head the programme with an excellent musical turn. Dainez' circus is popular, the various animals evincing perfection of training; the Five Delevines have a clever comedy act, "Flirtation," which pleases all parts of the house; Miss Maude Beaumont, burlesque actress, supplies a good turn; James Kurry, eccentric comedian, has some amusing songs; Celest, wire walker, &c., is expert in his line; Walter Stockwell, character comedian, obtains appreciation; Barney Vox does a good ventriloquial turn in "Ally Sloper at Home;" and Robert Williams's sword exercises, &c., are both novel and expert. Some good animated pictures conclude the entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The leading attraction this week are experiments with the Magic Kettle, the demonstrator challenging anyone to prove that any chemicals are used, or that feats of legerdemain form any part of the act. The large audience appears to be much interested and amused by the demonstrations. The Three Sisters Klos present a clever and refined athletic act on ropes; the Five Purroscoppis do a pleasing juggling act; Algie and Reggie are good eccentric musicians; Harris and Worth amuse as talking and singing comedians; the Brothers Teviotdale do a smart athletic act; the Donatos, one-legged acrobats, are both clever and amusing; Miss Vivian Dell presents a very pleasing dancing act; and Fielding and Hull are good vocal entertainers. The matinée on Wednesday was for the benefit of the unemployed of Bristol, under distinguished patronage, including the Lord Mayor of Bristol.

BURNLEY.

GAIETY. — Proprietress, Mrs Culcen; General Business Manager, Mr Jas. E. Culcen.—*The Two Hussars* is here well represented by Messrs F. J. Webbe and Wilson Benge's company. Mr William Benge acts with impressive fervour as Harry Alford; as Paul Villiers Mr Fred J. Webbe portrays the cultured scoundrel with rare effect; Mr J. E. Cunnington keeps the audience in roars of laughter by his humorous rendering of Bob Trott; Mr V. Vivian gives a vigorous and spirited representation of Harry Maythorne and Colonel Manners; Mr G. Paradise is a diverting Sergeant M'Finnie; and Mr S. James is a capital Lewis Montague. Miss M. Danvers Smith is notably successful as Ellen Maythorne; Mollie Cutts is neatly embodied by Miss Lallah Price; and Miss Sadie Smith gives a good interpretation of Marie.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA.—Proprietors, the Broughton Theatres Syndicate, Limited; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Mr John Cassidy's company in the new farcical absurdity *The New Muldoon's Picnic* keeps the house in roars. Michael Mulcahy and Dennis Muldoon are respectively in the capable hands of Mr George Hewin and Mr W. G. Wesley. Mr Leo Whamboult makes an excellent Mrs Muldoon. Miss Madge Cassidy as Kitty Muldoon and Miss Nora Waylett as Cora Muldoon are also very clever. During the evening Miss Vesta Victoria appears, and has to give at least five of her successful songs. Mr A. P. Boswell also contributes an eccentric comedy turn, which is well received.

BURY (LANCS).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Miss Madge Girdlestone and her company are here playing *The City of Millions*. Miss Girdlestone gives a fine impersonation of Rosa De Valois, a woman of the world. Mr Martin Sabine is capital as Captain Wilfred Dread. Miss Agnes Verity, Little Aubrey Sutherland, Mr Vernon Sansbury, and Mr Grahame Herington are also worthy of mention.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—This week the first clog-dancing contest for the championship of Lancashire is being held here. Heats are danced off at each "house," and the final takes place to-day (Saturday). In addition, Mdlle. Luba De Sarema's educated animals; Gintara, a remarkably clever Japanese juggler; Les Valdos, Continental eccentrics; Dezmonti and Nora, expert bar performers; Elsie Claire, soprano vocalist; and Fred Casburn, comedian, contribute.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead.—The programme here includes Witty Watty Walton, comedian; Winona, aerial rifle shot; Geo. Edney, character comedian; Joe Graham, ventriloquist; Will Percival, clog dancer; and Cribb and Cribb, burlesque artistes, in *After the Ball*.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr Edward Terry and company paid us a welcome visit on Monday with *The Passport*. Mr Terry, who is a great favourite here, was received with delight by a large audience as Christopher Coleman. Mr Allan Pollock made a dashing Ferdinand Sinclair. Mr Arthur Cornell played George Greenwood exceedingly well. Mr A. Hylton Allen (Algy Grey), Mr Allan M. Servington (Henry Harris), Mr Fred Knight (Paterson), and Mr George Howard (Schmiroff) gave efficient support. Miss Olive Wilton acted charmingly as Mrs Darcy.

CARDIFF.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Robt. Redford.—Mr F. R. Benson's company was accorded a hearty reception at the Royal on Monday, when *The Taming of the Shrew* was presented. Mr Benson's rendering of Petruchio was a very clever piece of acting, and deserves the highest praise. Equally successful was Mrs Benson as Katherina, her impersonation of this difficult part being perfect. Miss Mabel Moore made an admirable Bianca; Mr Clarence Derwent was decidedly good as Tranio; Mr G. Buchanan was seen to great advantage as Hortensio; and Lucentio was capitally portrayed by Mr Cyril Keightley. On Tuesday *Macbeth* was produced, and during the week *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The School for Scandal*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and *Hamlet* were also presented.

KING'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—*The Rich and Poor of London* has been presented here by Messrs Preston and Doherty's company. The drama is full of striking incidents, the plot is exceedingly interesting, and the capital comedy scenes keep the audience in good humour. Mr Clair Forbes gives an excellent rendering of the polished villain, Mark Stanley, and Mr Robert Hall fills the rôle of Dr. Morton in a capable manner. Mr Sidney Dench is a great success as Spider Jack; Gussy Lamb is still in the capable hands of Mr Sidney Cranston; May Braithwaite has a charming exponent in Miss Dora Dench; Mrs E. F. Brady as Auntie Scrimp gives a clever impersonation; Miss Belle Tilbury makes an excellent Ruby Redgrave; and Miss Mollie Hackett is exceptionally good as Polly Philpot. Special mention must be made of the capital delineation of Dixie given by Master Bert Dench.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—There is a pleasing variety in the programme here this week, the artistes appearing being George Gray and company in *The Fighting Parson;* Harry Champion, comedian; the Bostons, novelty showmen; *The Dandy Bandits*, performed by the Morton Comedy Trio; Little Nelusko, conjuror; L. B. Athol, character comedian; the Labakans, acrobatic grotesques; and Miss Victoria Monks.

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs C. E. Veitch; Manager, Mr C. Algie.—The top of the bill is occupied by Mr Alt Berg, whose strong act is wonderfully effective. Everything he does is smart, neat, and entertaining. Gillin, the ventriloquist, is excellent; a capital vocal turn is contributed by Miss Cora Gray; the Dardinis give a clever and comic juggling act; Mr Otto Schuman's marvellous equestrian act, which includes Miss Mena-Mona and her cake-walking pony, proves a most acceptable item. Mr Bob Padley, a neat and clever hand-balancer; Miss Evelyn Taylor in male impersonations; and the Hippodrome pictures add to the enjoyment of a smart performance.

CASTLEFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—*The Rose of the Ring* is here this week and is being presented by Mr T. E. Worth and company. Mr Edmund Edwardes gives a praiseworthy interpretation of Lord Desborough, his acting and singing both being good. Mr T. E. Worth plays effectively as Timothy Trippett and is really funny; Miss Grace Chesterfield is good as Dora Vennimore; Rose Meredith is ably impersonated by Miss Maudie Vincent, who has a fine singing voice; Miss Dolly Gilroy sings and acts ably as Dick; the part of Lavinia Lovejoy is played by Miss Nellie Stuart, who dances neatly; Mr E. St. Clair Forbes supplies a forcible impersonation of Capt. Richard Vereker; and Mr J. Court Harvard's Matthew Benson is well conceived.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—Mr Frank Bertram's excellent company is here with *The Convict's Daughter*, Mr Bertram is decidedly successful as Michael Graham. As Patrick O'Laragan Mr Russell Bogue is particularly smart. Harold Trevalyen is excellently portrayed by Mr T. W. Hurst. Mr G. Moreton-Williams capitally renders Jaspar Thorn. Mr J. K. Walton effectively undertakes the part of Frederick Neville. Miss Edith M. Savery gives a charming and artistic interpretation of Edith. Miss Julie Alexander vivaciously presenting Betty Hyne, a maidservant.

CLYDEBANK.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—This week we are having a return visit of the musical drama *Wearin' o' the Green*, presented by Mr Chalmers Mackey's company. Mr Mackey in the part of Barney O'Hea has plenty of scope for the display of his abilities; Mr Reginald Garland looks and acts well as Shamus M'Dermott, his singing being of a high order; Mr Conway Hastings possesses a fine voice, which he uses to great advantage in the character of Connor Martin; an outstanding part in the drama is Michael Kenny, and in the hands of Mr W. Reuben Payne it receives every justice; Mr Henry Danson is good as Gerald Courtenay; Mr James Neville smartly portrays Sergeant Yorke; Miss Lalla Stanhope does well as Biddy M'Ginn; Miss Adele Liddon is a capital Mrs M'Dermott; and Norah M'Grath is sympathetically played by Miss Nellie De Lacy.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Macdona; Resident Manager, Mr F. Graham Macdona.—Mr Henry Swinerd's company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, is here this week. The piece teems with bright songs and dances, and presents many humorous situations. Mr Cecil Parker makes a capital George Fielding; the character of Dorothy Montrose is nicely impersonated by Miss Marjorie Cecil. There is some capital dancing by the Sisters Blake, and an immense success is scored by Mr Arthur Verne as Silas Crump. He is very ably seconded by Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith, her dancing being

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—Mr Frank Bateman, with a powerful company, is here this week on a return visit with *At War with Women*. Mr Fred Vaughan makes an excellent General Malakoff; Mr Clinton Baddeley powerfully enacts Antolski; and Ivan Clovitch is capitally rendered by Mr A. G. Polson-Turner. Miss Lizzie Montague displays ability as Auriel Romanoff; Miss Laura Roberts is a clever Anatase; and Miss Louise Cavanagh is admirably cast as Louise Tolska. The staging is excellent.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—The Ben Greet company opened a week's engagement on Monday in *The Fatal Wedding*. The play is well staged and the company is good. Mr G. Edwin Clive as Howard Wilson fills the part capitally; Miss Eva Moss as the wife of Wilson submits an interesting impersonation; and Miss Beatrice Whitney plays the part of Cora Williams, an adventuress, admirably. As Robert Curtis Mr Cecil Collins plays with the requisite malevolence.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble.—There is a good programme here. The Sisters Urma, trapeze artistes, contribute a clever turn; Fred M'Arthur, dialect mimic, gains much applause; Francis and Melli are excellent in their musical act; the M'Aubur Brothers, in their comedy triple-bar act, are responsible for novelty; Amy Donna, comedienne and dancer, gives an interesting turn; the Sisters Hulla, vocalists and dancers, sing catchy songs and dance well; La Belle Idalia is wonderful on the electric wire; and the Brothers Hannaway, comedians and dancers, furnish some interesting items.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—*The Master Criminal* is here this week, and should prove a strong attraction. Mr Albert Guyon displays a capital piece of acting in the part of Telford Lestage, the master criminal. Mr John Power admirably portrays the part of Philip Manners, the hero. Mr Julius Wright is quite equal to Ben Beauday, a smart detective. Mr Wilton Marsh capably fills the part of James Sharples. Miss Nellie Thearle is a capable actress, and renders the part of Cecile to the satisfaction of the house. She is well supported by Miss Enid Edoni as Mabel Manners. Miss Bessie Armytage is a typical Irishwoman, Mary Murphy; while the comical business is in the hands of Miss Kitty Terriss as Peggy Perks and Mr Tod Squires as Tommy Dale, who are responsible for roars of laughter.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company has been here this week with the *New East Lynne*, in which Miss Agnes Imlay as Lady Isabel appeared to great advantage. Mr William Hellbronn as Archibald Carlyle gave a dignified and gentlemanly rendering. Mr W. Faulkner Cox had scope for his ability as Murty O'Flynn. Barbara Hare was well played by Miss Helen Stuart, and Miss B. French Stewart was a characteristic Cornelia Carlyle.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Wallace Davidson, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Wallace Davidson.—Mr Oswald Cray's company, in *My Native Land*, opened here to a good house on Monday. The company is a good all-round one, including Mr Joe English as Moses and Mr John S. Chamberlain as the Irish boy. They keep the house in great merriment.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Mr Lewis Waller's company, under the direction of Mr Peter Davey, is meeting with approval here in *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*. The mounting of the play calls for special mention. Mr Thomas Kingston gives a highly satisfactory performance as Captain Harry Peyton; Mr Elliott Ball handles the rôle of John Colden carefully; Mr George Mallett is very good as Mr Valentine; Mr J. Haiold Carson submits a neat character sketch of Major Murphy; Mr J. Attfield creditably enacts John Edwards; Mr Tom Taylor is funny as Black Sam; and praise is due to Messrs Roland Daniel, Keith Fraser, R. Watson, and F. Perry, as Lieutenant Bland, Captain Massey, Lieutenant Charleton, and Cuff. Miss Alys Rees just touches the right note as Mistress Sarah Williams; Miss Edith Elton is a pretty Molly Edwardes; Miss Marguerite Cellier does well as Brendo; and Miss Eily Malyon acts with skill and ability as Miss Elizabeth. Mr Leonard Gautier's excellent orchestra is applauded for admirable selections.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry E. Reckitt.—*The Sin of Her Childhood* occupies the boards here, and the excellent company plays the drama for all it is worth. Mr George Rowland submits a genuinely hearty performance of the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr Kyburn Dellow gives a fine, robust rendering of Captain John Thornton; Mr Bernard Copping acts powerfully as Stephen Haysel; Mr Alfred Donohoe is full of fun as Barney O'Reilly; Miss Mara Collings acts with care and judgment as Mary Haysel; Miss May Henderson is a vivacious Eliza Muggins; Miss Ida Thompson is praiseworthy as Hannah Spry; and the remaining characters are played with credit.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—Mr Jay is showing another full hand of trumps here this week. The Brothers M'Naughton are as brimful of humour as ever; Miss Alice Lloyd is an enchanting comedienne; My Fancy is a remarkably smart dancer; Cliff Ryland is a whimsical comedian; Miss Millie Hylton is a comedienne who sings with effect; Walton and Lester cause laughter with their comic act, "The Mad Sick Kettle;" Paul Courtney's combination do well in sketch, *The Doctor*; Lilian Rigby gives an acceptable musical turn; Sadie Simpson is an untiring serio and dancer; Collins and Rice are a pleasing comedy pair; Ethel Ryland is a neat comedienne and dancer; and Ted Graydon, comedian, is worth seeing.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Mrs Lewis Waller and company are paying a welcome return visit here this week. *Vilma* was presented on the first three nights. Mrs Waller assumed the nom-rôle, and scored a complete success. In the difficult rôle of Count Souvaroff Mr Eric Mayne acquitted himself with distinction; as Lieuts. Olitski and Boroff Messrs Edgar J. Coyne and T. Edmunds merited special mention; as Peter Varenski Mr Edmund Lea deserved high praise; and Mr Gomer May made a dignified Grand Duke Ivan. A stately and charming Countess Souvaroff was found in Miss Rosemary Rees, and Miss Ethel Warwick was a lively and interesting Baroness Olga Boroff. Miss Kate Kearney figured with general acceptance as Natouchka. *Zaza* was presented on Thursday.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwards.—The Five Bon-Bons are the attraction here this week, and cause any amount of laughter with their pantomime trap scene, *Hot Time for One*. Lily Flexmore, a graceful dancer, is a success; Tom Brantford is a clever comedian and mimic, his imitations being very amusing; Max Merlin is an exceptionally smart equilibrist and contortionist; the Paytes submit a diverting racing sketch; the Lannons, clever duettists and champion high pedestal dancers, are well received; Clown Leo, with his miniature burlesque circus, is well worthy of commendation; and Ernie Williams is an acceptable vocalist.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—Mr Frank M. Thorne's company is appearing here this week in the romantic drama *Napoleon the Great*, under the direction of Messrs Carson and Granville. Mr Hugh Montgomery gives a good performance of Napoleon; in the part of Jules Meuron Mr Charles Halling is much appreciated; as Paul Laczinska Mr M. Morley Carroll is responsible for some good acting; Colonel Lavarennes is ably undertaken by Mr Henry Earlesmere; as Marie Walewska Miss Chrissie Dunbar is seen to great advantage; as is also Miss Maud Russell as Leonie Marboeuf, the heroine. The part of Pierre is well played by Mr Frank M. Thorne, the author.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. L. Ormsby.—Mr Douglas Bruce's company is the attraction here this week with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. Miss Lily Hammersley gives a capable impersonation of Barbara Wade; Miss E. Bracewell is seen to advantage in the pathetic part of Constance Cornell; and Nellie Meadows is capably undertaken by Miss Kate Walford. Mr W. E. Griffiths is all that can be desired as John Meadows; Mr George Gainford is successful as Jack Livingstone; and Mr William Fraser-Brunner's impersonation of Cuthbert Lumley stands out prominently. Miss Gladys Newcombe as Tilly Vane and Mr Wm. Corrie as Toby Turner are mainly responsible for the comedy parts.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr J. Herbert Asquith.—After an absence of thirteen years, Mr John F. Asche is presenting here *The World*. The drama is played in fine style, and is replete with a first-class company. Mr Francis Hawley represents the plausible Harry Hunting ford with every degree of excellence, and Mr Stuart Lomath as Sir Clement Huntingford is decidedly clever and polished throughout this trying rôle. Mr Jackson Hayes as Martin Bashford interprets this powerful rôle convincingly, while Mr Bernard Lieli is the cunning and cynical Moss Jewell. Miss Georgette Thierry makes a welcome appearance as Mabel Huntingford, and Miss Beatrice Fay as Mary Blythe is at once charming and talented. Miss Maud Scott as Ned gives a genuine portrayal and Mr Valentine Cooke as Dr. Hawkins completes very able cast.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr G. Weldon.—The management again present a striking array of talent, and good houses are still the rule. Lieut. Chard, with a troupe of clever dogs, has a big show; and Rita and Roma, in a delightful sketch, meet with plenty of favour. Alice Townend, the Dewsbury nightingale, still continues a pleasing vocalist; while the Four Andys in a series of somersaults are good. Cambo as a monkey musician is capable, and ?, the electrical juggler, has quite an unique act. Others in the bill are Professor Milne, ventriloquist; Paddy and his Blondin donkey, and the Bioscope, operated by Mr Harris.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. W. Chapman.—Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company opened here on Monday with *A Beautiful Fiend*. Ivan Paulovitch was enacted with an artistic touch by Mr Montagu Beaudyn; Mr Herbert Skardon was an adept in the rôle of Count Fedor Karateff; Sergius Strogoff was capably presented by Mr A. M. Dudley; and the pungent humour was the chief characteristic of Mr Charles Kean's Christopher Crackles. Nadine Karateff was invested with womanly virtue by Miss Irene Munroe, and Miss Annie Clunn looked her best as Patty Woodlands. Miss Sidney Crowe was nonchalant, sinister, and malevolent in the title rôle.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Excellent performances of the ever-popular *East Lynne* have been given here on three nights by the Ben Greet company under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard. A really notable piece of acting is that of Mr F. Vernon Travers, who as Archibald played with ease, naturalness, and polish; Mr Wilfrid Beckwith plays impressively as Levison; Mr Stanley Hill portrays Lawyer Dill with a touch of dry humour which is most effective; and Mr Walter Russell submits a fine rendering of the dignified and austere Lord Mountsevern. Mr W. Templer Powell plays with much earnestness and good declamatory power as the unfortunate Richard Hare, and Mr C. Herman Pullen as the irascible Justice Hare scores heavily. The comic character of Bullock is amusingly rendered by Mr J. O. Stuart, the comedy relief being much appreciated. Miss Nora Greenlaw as Lady Isabel is charmingly natural in her portrayal of the jealous, weak, and erring wife; a graceful and altogether fascinating Barbara has been found in Miss Jeanette Le Gros; and Miss Alice Chapin, well made up, has scored an emphatic success by her effective rendering of Cornelia. The pathetic part of Willie is ably played by Miss Elsie Chapman; Miss May Gould is chic as Suzanne; Miss Lilla Nordon is earnest and sincere as Joyce; and commendable work is done by Miss Kate Vernon in the small part of Wilson. On Thursday Mr Norman Macowan and London company opened with the successful costume drama *Monsieur Beaucaire*.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr Alfred B. Cross and a good company are here this week with *The Manxman*. Mr Cross as Pete gave a manly and interesting rendering, and secured repeated applause, as also did Miss Minnie Watersford for her powerful and pathetic rendering as Kate Cregeen. Miss Rosie Kearns was a spirited Nancy, and Miss Leslie Adair a graceful Miss Christian. Mr Edward M'Lean is gifted with good delivery and stage-bearing as Ross Christian. Mr Richard Vane was highly successful in the difficult rôle of Philip Christian.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—Mr Jabez White heads the bill here, and gives a clever exhibition of pugilistic skill. Miss Florence is correctly described as a "refined" lady mimic, and Thornbury gives a clever turn as lightning painter and ventriloquist. Venola Brothers are smart comedy gymnasts; Harry Leybourne deserves praise; Russell Wallett is a mysterious "lady;" Ethel May, comedienne; and Wood and Merton, American speciality artistes, complete a strong programme.

DUMFRIES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—On Monday Mrs H. T. Charles Mayhew and Herrick's company opened here in *The Triumph of Truth*. Mr C. W. Standing as Capt. Jack Eversleigh was very well placed; Mr J. A. Keoch as Sir Charles Eversleigh played very well; Mr T. R. Lockwood as Count Raoul D'Orville was capital. Miss Marie Auckland depicted the twin sisters creditably; Miss Lilian Ramsdale was very amusing as Corall; Miss Rosabel Dodd as Blanche De Croix was decidedly successful.

DUNDALK.

TOWN HALL THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Urban Council.—Under the direction of Mr Payne Seddon, Mr Charles Macdona's company in *A Chinese Honeymoon* has had an enthusiastic reception here. Mr George P. Ascot was funny as Mr Pineapple; as Hang Chow Mr Lester Covey was highly successful; Mr Edgar K. Favelle as Tom Hatherton was a praiseworthy performance; Mr Tom Birch made a good Hi Lung; and Mr Percy Stephens was excellent as Chippie Chop. The part of Fi-Fi was played by Miss Cissy Schofield, her singing and acting bringing her much applause. As Mrs Pineapple Miss Cissie Chamberlain was quite successful, and Miss Beatrice Charle as Mrs Brown was all that could be desired. The chorus was good, and the scenery and dresses pretty.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—*The Private Secretary* is being played here this week by Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company. Mr Geoffrey Guise as the Rev. Robert Spalding kept the audience highly amused throughout, and Miss Dora Gray achieved success as Edith. Mr W. H. Hargreaves as Mr Cattermole acted his part ably, and Miss Mary E. Deverell was good as Eva Webster. The rôle of Harry Marsland was well filled by Mr Vivian Gilbert, and Miss Ashford was admirably embodied by Mrs Alfred Davis. Mr A. Austin Leigh sustained the rôle of Douglas Cattermole in clever style, and Miss Cicely Wade as Mrs Stead gave an excellent portrayal. In the one-act comedy, *Good for Nothing*, which preceded, Miss Dora Gray, Mr R. Chester, Mr W. Compton, Mr V. Gilbert, Mr A. Austin Leigh, and Mr D. Benford appeared with success.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—Mr Mouillot's répertoire company is here with *The Geisha*. Miss Florrie Saunders makes a success in the rôle of Molly Seamore, and is deservedly applauded for her excellent singing and dancing. Miss Aimee De Leska charmingly portrays Mimosa, and Mr Edward Carlton gains unstinted applause for his capital impersonation of Wun-Hi. The Marquis Imari of Mr Lionel Braham is a clever performance, and Miss Violet Kenyon is very pleasing as O Juliette Diamant. Mr Arthur Cartwright acts and sings particularly well as Reginald Fairfax, and as Dick Cunningham, Arthur Cuddy, and George Grimstone Messrs Edward Granby, F. P. Wilfred, and Bay Russell are excellent. As Tom Stanley Miss Blanche Browne is very good, and Miss Aubrey Ashton makes a capital Lady Constance. Mr J. Hornby plays Captain Katana ably, and Mr Harry Reynolds is good as Takemine. The orchestra is under the accomplished direction of Mr Frank Barret.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—Miss Frances Delaval and company are here in *The Biggest Scamp on Earth*. Mr Percy Carne Waram in the part of Derrick Knight is a capital study, and Miss Frances Delaval is seen to advantage as Naomi Belvedere. Mr Hamilton Urquhart makes an admirable Sir Aubrey Knight, and Miss Patty Groves is an excellent Mother Hawk. Mr Percy Brown acquits himself well as Vivian Wakefield, and Miss Dorothy Mahomed is effective as Irene May. The rôle of Bobby is creditably played by Miss Dorris Denman, and Mr Samuel Rock as Jack Morgan, Mr G. Geddes as Napoleon Hawk, Mr L. W. Halfpenny as Rufus Liggins, Miss Sybil Hammersley as Molly Stirling, Mr Gerald Jeapes as Joe Piper, and Mr Charles Wood as Inspector Price all earn approval.

EMPIRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—Charles R. Sweet, the original musical burglar, is well received here; Lily Burnand is meeting with her usual success; and Gilbert Rogers is a capital vocalist and humorist. Maxwell and Frances, speciality artists, are a diverting pair; and Mable Vine, comedienne, renders her songs pleasingly. Abel and Welsh, eccentric grotesques, are appreciated; and the M'Kays are most amusing. The Wedburns, comedy artists, and Ted Cowan, comedian, are still scoring highly, and the Empire Pictures are also good.

TIVOLI.—General Manager, Mr Chas. M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—At this popular establishment the Sutcliffe Troupe of acrobats, pipers, and dancers meet with a cordial reception; Albert Voyce's company, in the vocal scena, *Jack Sheppard*, are interesting; and Will Harvey is a smart character comedian. Farley, Rennie, and Farley, in their comedy act, *Fun at a Railway Station*, cause much laughter, and Dot Stanley is an excellent comedienne. Mdlle. Florence, in her speciality act on the rolling globe, meets with appreciation, as does also Edgar Budden, bone soloist and skate dancer. Lil Gorman, burlesque artiste, and Wal Croft, Scotch comedian, are successful in their respective turns, and the Bioscope pictures are much admired.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Sandon Perkins.—An entirely new departure is the appearance here of the New Century Bioscope Company. Miss Jenny Whitehead sings a number of popular songs with much acceptance. Mr Percival Hughes also proves to be a vocalist of great ability.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—Terry and Lambert top the bill with a clever American character sketch, introducing some fine harmonised vocalisation. The Four Estrellas are well received in their clever gymnastic act; Tony Iveson remains another week, and is still a great favourite with the audience; the Smythson Combination introduce a comic sketch entitled *Our Suite*, which meets with hearty approbation; the Warlocks are very entertaining in their comedy act; and Dora Lyric, John Conley, Lily Simmons, and a wrestling exhibition by E. J. Clarke, of Aberdeen, also figure in the bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Will Percival.—A very fine production, entitled *The Shadow of the Cross*, is presented here this week under the direction of Mr Robert Ayrton and Miss Adria Hill. Mr Ayrton makes a good appearance as the King of Mercia. Miss Adria Hill as leading lady appeared in a dual-rôle, and creates a favourable impression. Miss Loydall as the Queen supplies a clever piece of acting, and Miss Flo Leighton and Miss Edith Tempest are successful as the sons of Wulfere.

EASTBOURNE.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—The wonders of the "magic kettle" are interestingly shown by Dr. Taylor (U.S.A.), who freezes bacon, grapes, flowers, &c., to extreme brittleness. This turn is a scientific novelty which interests the audience. Mdlle. Alethea has a pretty face, a very attractive figure, and her graceful contortion act compares favourably with any of its kind. Mr Charles De Camo and his intelligent dog, Cora, contribute a clever act. The Five Grovinis as tumblers and acrobats secure a full amount of applause for their nimble work. Mr and Mrs Lucas appear with excellent effect in scenes and characters from Dickens. Mr James Stewart contributes one of the successes of the evening as "the tramp at the piano." Miss Effie Ingram possesses a sweet voice; Massona is a very dexterous juggler; Condon and Preston are clever step-dancers; and Miss Cissie Trent as a doll-dancer completes the programme.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—Some account of the opening of this music hall will be found in another column.

EBBW VALE.

KING'S.—Sole Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Knight.—Mr Gordon Starkey's company presented *A Message from Mars* on the 1st inst. and two following nights. Mr Cyril Austen-Lee gave a natural and delightful performance of Horace Parker. Next to him came Mr William Lockhart as the Messenger; he lent a degree of dignity and weirdness to the "man from above" that commanded attention and respect. Mr Percy Tyler was good as the Tramp. Miss Violet Auberies scored as Miss Parker, and Miss Maud Shortland did well in the part of Bella. This week Messrs Marston and Buckstone's company is here in *The Silver Cross*. Mr Fredrick A. Marston as Ben Adams; Mr Syd Bazley as Tomkyns Quinton; and Miss Maud Western as Ida Adams are prominent in a strong cast.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—Messrs George Edwardes and Charles Frohman's company is here once more in *Are You a Mason?* a farce of German origin that wears well. Mr Stephen Wentworth, a first-rate comedian, represented Frank Perry in pleasant style; Mr Harry Ashford, another clever artist, was highly successful as Amos Bloodgood; Mr Anthony Fawcett was an amusing George Fisher; and Mr Frank Ridley made a feature of Hamilton Travers. Eva Perry was well sustained by Miss Violet Graham; Mrs Bloodgood had an effective counterpart in Miss Harriet Trench; the Misses Lily Beagle and Isla Glynn were bewitching alike as Annie and Lulu; and Miss Lucy Edwin proved more than usually diverting as Lottie. The comedietta *Hushed Up* preceded.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—The French conjuror, M. Hermann Melot, heads a varied and attractive programme this week, and on Monday he quite mystified the large audience with his clever feats of sleight-of-hand. Vasco, the mad musician, proved himself a veritable orchestra, playing numberless instruments in a very skilful manner. Another excellent musical turn was the harp and saxophone playing of Diamond and Beatrice, the latter winning cordial favour for her solos. The Four Milons showed exceeding strength and agility as equilibrists; Alexandre and Bertie introduced a novel and daring aerial act; the Five Olracs and the Three Georgis did clever comic acrobatic turns; and the dancing of Doody and Wright, an Australian couple, was first-rate; Bijou Russell, a fascinating comedienne and accomplished sand dancer, was warmly received; the Sisters St. Julian, capital duettists and dancers, and Mr Walter Munroe, the genial Irish comedian, also appearing. In consequence of his success the talented Hungarian violinist, Jan Rudenyi, has been secured for another week.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—Mr James Hare's company appeared here on Monday in *The Golden Chance*, which was favourably received by a crowded house. Mr James Hare undertook the rôle of Hubert Zac with conspicuous success; Mr Herbert M. King gave able assistance as Stephen Clinton; and comedy parts were effectively filled by Messrs Tom Arkinstall and Bert Atherton. Miss Irene Clifford made a deep impression in the strongly contrasted characters of Viva Zac and Mother Hawk, and Miss Jenny Halworth was delightfully amusing as Susan Brown, her singing being loudly applauded.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr John Henry Cooke.—Several attractive items have been added to the programme this week, one of the best of these being the eccentric juggling act of Bonnetti and Corrie, who are clever artists. Another enjoyable turn is that of the Four Maisanor, Italian musical grotesques. Talberto and Douglas and the Brothers Leotard have also provided amusing interludes. Mr Leicester Alfred introduces the trained pony Regent with success, and the spirited equestrian performances of Miss Eva and Mons. Henri are applauded to the echo nightly. Bioscope pictures and the last representations of Prairie Life out West have also been given.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—*The Beautiful Avenger* has been presented here by Messrs Scudamore and Richmond's company. Cyrus Telford was exceedingly well played by Mr Algernon Syms; Mr Lionel Gillette cleverly portrayed Zadok Foxbane; Mr William Diamond as Herbert Foxbane was excellent; Miss Nannie Meade did capitally as the fair Avenger; Edna Volta was cleverly depicted by Miss Mabel Scudamore; and Miss Cissie Podmore was capable as Baldie Mansfield. Mr Arthur Richmond caused fun as Jim Jhams, and Miss Lilian Hawkins as Arabella Binks and Mr William Ames as Peregrine Patch also supplied much drollery.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—*The Lady of Ostend* was presented on the first three nights of the week by Mr Lawrence Brough's company. Mr Harry Hampson as Dick Whortles was very entertaining, and was well supported in his various subterfuges by Mr Percy Marshall as Joseph Carbury and Mr Lawrence Brough as Le Baron De Longueville, both of whom by the excellence of their acting added much to the enjoyment of the audience. As Dorothy Whortles Miss Kathleen Russell made a charming wife, and the part of Millie Grace was coquettishly taken by Miss Kate Milford. Miss Eleanor Gilbart gave reality to Matilda Carbury, and Miss Rosamond Rokeby performed satisfactorily the part of the Lady of Ostend. Mr Edmund Gurney as Toby Krockitt, a prize-fighter, was very amusing. *Margaret's Stratagem* was a pleasing curtain-raiser. On Thursday Miss Renee Glendower's company appeared in *When London Sleeps*.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr Norman V. Norman and company are here this week with *Under the Red Robe*, *Nell Gwyn*, *David Garrick*, *The Country Wife*, and *My Lady Virtue*. In *Nell Gwyn* Mr Norman V. Norman as Charles II. acted the part with considerable ability. Mr Barnett Parker made a capable Earl of Rochester; Mr Eric Maxon proved successful as Lord Dellans; Mr Robert Hilton was well placed as Master Ralph Cursitor; Mr B. Iden Payne and Mr Norman Leslie ably sustained their respective rôles of Adam Bareacres and Captain Blood; Miss Lilian Kevill-Davies was efficient and pleasing as Lady Castlemaine; Miss F. Glossop Harris gave an excellent impersonation of Louise De Queeralles; Miss Kathleen Rind was charming as Betty Arndale; Miss Nora Doyle was seen to advantage as Rose; Miss Coleman Philipson was good as Mistress Wickens; and Miss Beatrice Wilson gave an admirable rendering of the part of Nell Gwyn.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr J. H. Curry; Assistant Manager, Mr Sydney Tolfree.—Miss Mary Austin and Mr E. Vivian Edmonds, who are great favourites in Grimsby, have appeared here this week in the late Mr Wilson Barrett's successful drama *The Golden Ladder*. A capital representation is given. Miss Austin accomplishes her best work in the part of Lilian Grant, and Mr Harry Cullenford portrays with vigour the manly character of the Rev. Frank Thornhill. The villainy of the scheming adventurer, Michael Severn, is amply demonstrated by Mr E. Vivian Edmonds. Mr Joseph Rowland suitably represents Jim Dixon, whilst Severn's other accomplice in rascality, Pranza, is ably played by Mr Graham Winsford. Mr John Owen and Miss Nellie Graham are satisfactory as Samuel and Mrs Peekaby respectively; whilst the many other characters are well sustained.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes. General Manager, Mr H. F. Millar; Assistant-Manager, Mr H. H. Watson.—During this week the Eight Leopolds have again thrilled the Hippodrome audiences with their daring acrobatic feats. The main features of this troupe's performance are the absolute fearlessness which characterises their movements and the original nature of their tricks. A very laughable burlesque, *The Lunatics*, has been given by Bennett and Martell, one of the twain showing some extraordinary contortionist business. A smart quick-change act, "The Lazy Slavey," has been contributed by Lottie Siegenberg. An interesting musical turn was that given by Henderson, a blind artist; Will Anthy has been responsible for a clever wire performance; whilst other turns have been given by Bretma, an illusionist; Dan Kennedy, comedian; and Harry Thurston, mimic.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Cromo.—This week we have Miss Olga Audrey's company in a drama entitled *The Mockery of Marriage*. The villianies of Dick Kenyon were somewhat forcibly brought out by Mr Arthur Winpenny, and he was well supported in this respect by Mr Frank Dalton as Seth. Mr Harry Stebbing was a manly Jack Stanley, and Alva Kenyon and Rose Vernham were capably played by Miss Florence Zillwood and Miss Lydia Audrey. The comedy element was in the hands of Mr Will Skelton and Mrs Sidney Halling. The Four Aces introduced a clever acrobatic show in the fourth act.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Bolam and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—Dr. Walford Bodie, with his remarkable entertainment, is the principal attraction at this variety theatre during the week. The hypnotic wonder, Mystic Marie gives a wonderful turn, indeed, with the result that large crowds have been drawn throughout the week. Her accomplishments while under the magnetic influence of Dr Bodie are marvellous. Dolly Dobson, the Coatbridge child-wonder, provides a good turn, as also does Gerald Lopez in his coon songs. The Sisters Lyle, duettists and dancers, are responsible for a good show, and the Garden Troupe of dancers and pipers also give a good performance. Le Petite Bella and Les Fontaine's Marionette Palace provide attractive items.

GLASGOW.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—The attraction here this week is Mr Alexander Loftus and his company in *The New Barmaid*. Mr Joseph B. Montague again plays Bertie White with infinite skill and humour; Mr Alexander Loftus's impersonation of William White is clever; and Miss Maude Nicholls pleasingly portrays the part of Ethel Joy. Miss Violet Osmund acts and sings well as Dora Heather, being a clever dancer; Mr Leslie Austin gives a good interpretation of Captain Lovebury; as Bonsor Mr Frank Malroyd is very amusing; and Mr Cyril Rawdon is successful as Colonel Claymore. Brenda Louth finds a graceful exponent in Miss Hilda Blanche, and praise is also due to Miss Ethel Kenyon as Braddy, Miss Jean Gilmour as Lady Moulton, and Mr Norman Bowyer as Gussie. The chorus does its work well.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—A most enjoyable entertainment is provided by Mr Charles E. Hamilton's company in *Peggy Machree*, the new musical play by Patrick Bidwell, with music by Michele Esposito. As the Lady Margaret O'Driscoll, who masquerades as Peggy, Miss Marie Dainton acts, sings, and dances with unfailing sprightliness and vivacity. Mr Denis O'Sullivan is a dashing representative of Barry Trevor. In appearance, either as the gentleman of fashion or as the strolling fiddler, he seemed equally well suited, and his rendering of the various songs, old and new, in the part was perfect. Miss Freda Bramleigh was excellent as the young widow, Moira, and a particularly well-played part was the piper of Mr Shiel Barry. Mr Graeme Campbell as a stolid Scotch steward, in all the glory of his kilt, gave a clever character study. Miss Ethel Weyburn as Emily and Mr Marc Macdermott as Sir Lawrence, acted pleasantly as two society lovers. Miss Millicent MacLaughlin as the prim Madame De La Cour, and Mr Stanley Pringle as her scapegrace nephew were well placed. Miss Nessie Walker as Molly and Mr Legai Robinson (who stage-managed) as Rainez were also valuable members of the cast. The play was mounted and dressed with much taste.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—Mr C. Finch Hatton is here with his company in *From Scotland Yard*, he himself playing Jack Dale, the detective. Mr T. Arthur Ellis as Dean Fordyce, the forger, gives a strong representation of the part; and Jim Mullins is ably interpreted by Mr Harry Rutland. Miss Doris Rene makes an attractive Mabel, Miss Ellen Lowther, a sympathetic Sybil, and Miss Josephine H. Lee is highly satisfactory as Marie Dawney (afterwards Mad Marie). Mr Jack Armitage is capable as the bank cashier, and considerable fun is supplied by Mr Harry Rose as the dude, with Messrs James F. Firth and Mike Johnson as ragamuffin tramps. Songs and dances give variety to the dramatic incidents.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—Mr Roy Jackson is here this week with *Trilby* and *The Hand of Iron*. In the latter play Mr Jackson again appears with telling effect as Manuel Levigne, of the "iron hand;" and is well supported by Mr George Lambton as Edmund Singleton and Miss Kitty Douglas as Marie Durogue. The comic element is capitally sustained by Mr Victor Vernon as Duck, Mr C. Crosby as Soloman Isaacs Silver, and Miss Bell Richardson in the part of Mrs Duck. May Sutherland has an attractive representative in Miss Inez Harman, and the part of the maid is smartly filled by Miss Louie Addison. Mr Percy Braithwaite gives character to the rôle of Blogge.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Webster.—This week Mr Edward Neville's company presents *The Sorrows of Satan*. Mr Neville as Prince Lucio gives a grim and sardonic touch to the part. Mr C. T. E. O'Connor is well placed as the struggling author, Geoffrey Tempest. Miss Lole Esmond makes a lively Diana Chesney, the American heiress, and also contributes a cleverly acted character study as the landlady in the first act. Miss Annie Brunette does well as Lady Sybil, and Mavis Clare is charmingly played by Miss Phyllis French. Mr Will White is an amusing Morris. *A Kiss in the Dark* is the curtain-raiser.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss's Empires Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr Arthur Aldin.—This week's bill includes the Lukushima Troupe of Japanse acrobats, whose performance is both clever and original. Swan and Bambard are a diverting pair of acrobatic comedians; Hagedorn's Fairy Grotto proves a particularly pleasing spectacle; George Newburn very successfully impersonates several well-known comedians; and Horace White is a ventriloquist much above the average. The Coloured Meisters are a quartet of refined singers, and Pia Carozzi, harp virtuoso, plays with much feeling. Madame Emmy, with her highly trained dogs, gives a pleasing little exhibition, and Gallagher and Hild, comedy artistes, appear in a very acceptable turn. Lilian Lowe sings very sweetly, and Johnny Gilmore and the veteran J. H. Milburn are much applauded.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S, LIMITED.—General-Manager, Mr S. King Alexander; Acting-Managers, Messrs T. J. Colquhoun and Fred C. Ewing.—Several of last week's fine company are continued at these theatres this week. They are Allis and Cassatti, fine fun-makers; the Mozondos, tumblers; and T. E. Finglas, coon singer. The Dayton Troupe give a very sensational turn, novel and quite exciting; the Paragon Trio contribute vocal selections with taste; Miss Lily Sharplin is a clever mimic; and, as usual, the Bendon Pictures are a good interlude. Angelina dances neatly; Little Barney is a popular favourite; and the word Chameleon is the new term applied to a vocal entertainer and quick-change artiste. The Four Musical Palmers are clever in Sousa imitations. The singing and dancing of the Hamiltons merit applause, and Mr J. W. Rickaby is again a prominent favourite and a good draw. Mr S. King Alexander has assumed the responsible duties lately performed by Mr Barney Armstrong.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thomas Barrasford; Assistant-Manager Mr. H.

M'Kelvie.—The principal item here is Carl Reinch's clever act, which is well received. Other notable turns include Ed. F. Reynard, ventriloquist; Bob King, comedian; Gilroy and Gross, comedians and dancers; Grey and Welford, speciality artistes; the Legay Quartet, Parisian dancers; Gardner, Griffin, and Gardner, musical trio; the Sandro Duo, acrobatic equilibrists; Patty O'Brien, comedienne; and a series of up-to-date animated pictures.

BRITANNIA.—Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Manager, Mr Geo. Saphrini.—The chief attraction here is a humorous Irish sketch, entitled *Killarney; or, Paddy and the Ganger*, produced by Messrs Love, Ogden, Skea, G. Falconer, and Miss N Wilson; Jas. Brady, comedian, is heard to advantage in new songs; the knockabout business of France and Francis is first class; the Excelsior Quartette contribute good songs; and the Britannia Bioscope is much appreciated with its up-to-date war pictures. The company also include Amy Kirk, comedienne; the Douglas Troupe of international dancers; Tom Hulme, comedian; and the Two St. Johns, in their clever musical act.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Mr Orton Tewson's company occupies the boards this week with *My Sweetheart*. Mr Broughton Black is a good exponent of Tony, and Tina is vivaciously represented by Miss Grace Arundale. Mr and Mrs Hatzell are well played by Mr Ambrose Skinner and Miss Pollie Marshall respectively. Mr Harry A. Gribben is capable as Harold Bartlett, and Mrs Fleeter is ably impersonated by Miss Gertrude Le Sage. Dr. Oliver is in the hands of Mr Percy Madgwick, and Mr Chas. A. Stephenson is noticeable as Dudley Harcourt. Mr R. Noel Barton M'Guckin enacts the part of Joe Shotwell, and the cast is completed by Miss Violet Knight as Gretchen, the postmistress.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—*The Priest of the Temple* was presented here on Monday by a strong company under the direction of Mr Charles March. Mr Ronald Bayne, the Decus Fronto, has a dignified presence, and his acting merits high commendation; Mr Charles March plays Valerius with great dignity; Mr Henry Moxon gives a fine performance as Appius Herdonius; Mr Henry Oakley is deserving of praise as Caius Marcius; Mr Stanley May as Hermanus and Mr Whit Rogerson as Alertius are equally successful; Miss Evelyn Hope as Polita is highly dramatic; and Miss Marie North faithfully and effectively portrays Præstantia.

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr David Hart.—A company well up to the average has been engaged this week. The great attraction is Kitts and Windrum, who score in their laughable absurdity, *Two in a Tent*. Dave Wallace is an irresistibly funny comedian, Maudie Ford a dainty comedienne and dancer, Flo Challis a very pleasing turn, and Lade Henderson, although a little man, has the big voice which he claims. The Sisters Adelaide are sparkling and bright duettists and dancers; Marie Tilley, top-boot dancer, does well; and Jack Morris, the blind collier lad, assisted by a brother collier, is a clever instrumentalist.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—Mr Charles Coborn is received with loud applause here; the Kimberley Boys do an eccentric turn which is appreciated; Leslie Murray performs wonderful tricks with cards, &c.; the Ernest Dillon Trio provide a clever acrobatic comedy act; Miss Nellie Randall, a charming comedienne, sings and dances herself into favour; the Testo Brothers excel as musical comedy acrobats; Miss Millie Denham sings well; and some interesting pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—The Achmed Ibrahim Troupe of Arabs give a wonderful whirling and pyramid display; the Brothers Austin appear in a most amusing scena, entitled *The Grand Duchess*; Ossi Souplessi, in mid-air, illustrates the flexibility the body may attain; the Bodina Troupe, vocal, guitar, and mandolin artistes, do an enjoyable turn; Miss Vardu as the lady Cinquevalli is very successful; Mdlle. Eleonora gives a daring turn on the high trapeze; Messrs Barton and Franklin score as the Scottish musical princes; Brinn excites astonishment by his marvellous feats of strength; and Doodles and Little Bishop keep the house in roars of laughter.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr Charles Majilton's company is playing *Round the Clock* here this week. Mr Herbert Ashmore as Gewgaw is exceedingly humorous: Mr Chas. Majilton appears as Gabriel Gadforth with great success; and the part of Bartle Burke is amusingly portrayed by Mr Jim Bond. Mr Fred Wilson fills the rôle of Denby in an able manner, and the parts of Policeman and Cabman are well played by Messrs P. A. White and Charles Sweeney respectively. Miss Nellie Clarelia lively Mrs Gadforth; Miss Maddie Majilton is attractive as Mdlle. Salprunelle, and sings nicely; Miss Madge Brownie as Georgina Gewgaw does well, and the same can be said of Miss Vesta Brownie as Bertie Kelvin. Miss Carrie Foy is good as Mary Chatterton.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—Tom and Marie Motramo head the bill here, and their musical act, *Do You Reverte* proves very funny. Shavo is an expert juggler. Frank Hope is a clever trick cyclist. Tony Black, comedian, gives a good turn. Bob Hamilton, comedian and instrumentalist, is applauded. Horton and Linder, eccentric Chinese, do fairly well. Leslie Wolff is a good bass vocalist; and Royal Best gives amazing impersonations of celebrities.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager Mr Smith.—The first three nights of the week were devoted to a vaudeville entertainment, which included some capital turns. The Waldrons and Mr C. F. Best as MacBunker, the mountebank, caused roars of laughter. Mr J. P. Carroll, tambourinist, Sam Dalton, comedian, Miss Bessie Willow, and Miss Lilian Travellie, amongst others, provided much enjoyment, whilst an amusing sketch by the artistes participating in Claude Ginnett's *Rejected Remounts* also provided abundant amusement. On Thursday the Harrogate Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society took possession of the Opera House, producing *Les Cloches de Corneville* for the benefit of the Harrogate and District Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Children.

HEREFORD.

GARRICK THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; General Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Pitt.—Mr J. H. Moreton's company is appearing here successfully with *The Rajah of Ranianpore*. Messrs Alvin Sawyer and Bert Harrow as Horatio Chicks and Ted Perkins are extremely funny. Miss Nell Ascott is an acceptable Primrose; a cool and deliberate villain is Mr Arthur Reid; and other parts are adequately filled by Messrs Charles Linney, E. F. Welch, and Harry Cornwall. The Rajah Troupe of dancers deserve special mention for their clever turn, and Mr Frank Pitt is a courteous acting-manager.

DRILL HALL.—Manager, Mr A. Lovesey.—Mr Charles Macdona's company opened here on Tuesday with *The Gay Parisienne*. Miss Jennie Richards in the title-part left little to be desired, and Mr Tom May as Ebenezer Honeycombe and Mr Arthur Watts as Major Fossdyke were excellent. Ruth was admirably represented by Miss Madge Soutter, who won unstinted applause.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr Norman Robinson.—A huge favourite is here this week in the person of J. W. Hall, whose vocal efforts, quaint attitudes, and humorous allusions keep audiences in constant laughter; J. J. Dallas and Miss Bessie Alleyn do justice to a taking little musical sketch; George Leyton, assisted by a number of local boys, does his military scene, *Boys of the Chelsea School*, to the manifest approbation of the audience; Radford and Valentine do a clever juggling act, which is rendered very amusing and laughable; Boyd and Gilfain have a little operetta which they render excellently; and Messrs Sidney George, vocalist; E. W. Selmar, comedian; and Vosey and Ramsey, comedians, are billed. The Biograph has a wonderful film, "Whirling the Worlds."

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—No more popular artiste than Miss Millie Lindon comes to Halifax. Her reception this week has been most enthusiastic. Ruby Bijou, the clever little lady who dances so gracefully is appreciated; Mdlle. Roza's well-trained dogs go through a clever performance; Kurtz does a good juggling act; Conway and Leland, one-legged gymnasts, do their work well; Whit Cunliffe, comedian and mimic, is clever in his line; Henry Carlton is the chief figure in a sketch, *Obliging a Lady*; Dorothy L. Clarke sings her numbers very effectively; and the Four Skandias do some clever work on the rings and trapeze.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—This week we have Mr Tree's company, in *The Darling of the Gods*. The piece is admirably presented by a highly capable company, and the mounting and effects are capital. Miss Frances Dillon as the Princess Yo-San is well placed, and her interpretation is exceedingly clever. Mr Douglas Gerard as Kara contributes a masterly reading, his representation being particularly brilliant. Mr Ivan J. Simpson as Prince To San do s exceedingly well in the part. Mr Arthur Vezin as Tonda-Tanji acts with much skill; Mr Douglas Payne as Inu is seen to advantage; Kato finds a good exponent in Mr Herbert Druce; and Setsu as played by Miss Edith Deverell is a capital performance. Nu is nicely sustained by Miss Dorothy Brunt.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr C. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—The bill this week is headed by the Kremo Family, in their marvellous acrobatic display. The Haytors, in their comedy sketch *A Hot Time*, are most amusing. Rosie Coleman is a sand-dancer of extraordinary ability. Harry Conlin, a comedian with funny songs, is much appreciated. Goggin and Davis are seen in a humorous acrobatic display; the Three Sisters Silcott are smart vocalists and dancers; Musical Silvo, in his musical act, is always entertaining; Miss Alexandra Edwin, with a nice voice, renders her songs in a capital manner; Dion Wade is successful in his quaint songs; and the Grand pictures are always interesting.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Craggs; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—The principal item in this week's bill is Dartigan, in his sensational act "Looping the Loop." At the first house on Monday the inability to get the necessary 80ft. gradient made it impossible to give the exhibition. At the second house sufficient alterations had been made behind to enable the act to be done. Los Granados are marvels in the gymnastic line, their act being funny and clever. Fred Clifford, the popular operatic baritone, has a good reception, as also have Billy Williams, comedian, and Herbert Bette, eccentric coon. The club manipulations, ball punching, and boxing by Clarke's Nippers take well, and other turns that make a favourable impression are Rose Waller, descriptive vocalist, Leighton and Mona, and Burns' Bioscope.

HORWICH.

NEW PRINCE'S.—Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Holyoake.—This week variety again reigns supreme. The Alhambra Quartet of dancers give an excellent show of speciality dancing; Miss Freda Tudor, male impersonator, is a thoroughly efficient turn; Mr Frank Royle, siffleur and "Dutch dancing girl," scores; Whirlo, the tramp cyclist; and Mons. Duro, the strong man, also contributed. On Saturday a great cake-walk competition took place. Mr Murphy and Miss O'Hanlon and Sylvester and Sylvestre divided the first two prizes, their performance being excellent.

HOYLAND.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr G. S. King.—Mr and Mrs William Gifford's company is paying a visit here this week in *The World's Desire*. Mr William Gifford as the Hon. Ellis Tridley wins approval; and as Dora Mutley Mrs William Gifford is worthy of the highest praise. Miss Ella Seton impersonates Helen Berkshaw creditably, and Ragged Jack is exceedingly well taken by Little Miss Alberte. Mr Glifford Rean does capable work in the dual-rôle of Robert Selkirk and Henry Selkirk; Mr George Child makes a capital Nathaniel Mutley; and Miss Frances Bruce's portrayal of Justerina Hook and Mr Herbert Light's Godstone Clair are very satisfactory.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—That evergreen drama *The Lights o' London* is paying a return visit. Mr Herbert Hollister has organised a satisfactory combination to play the old piece. The leading parts are capably played by Cecil G. Calvert, Harold Armytage; Miss Jeannie Burgoyne, Bess; Mr Albert Brasque, Clifford Armytage; Mr Herbert Hollister, Seth Preene; Miss Kate Randolph, Hetty Preene; Mr Percy Compton, Jarvis; Miss Emilie Dawson, Mrs Jarvis, and Miss Gladys Murray, Shakespeare Jarvis.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—All who admire that pretty domestic comedy, *Quality Street*, have had their wishes gratified this week by again witnessing the play. Mr George Brandram in the rôle of Valentine Brown manages to combine all those manly qualities the audience ask for, tinged with just sufficient suggestion of dash. We welcome a newcomer as Phœbe, Miss Florence Jackson, whose reading of the rôle is especially fine, mingling the pathos and bravery of the character with considerable skill. Miss Grace Edwin bears herself bravely, too, as the sister Susan. Miss Galton's Patty is pleasing, whilst the small boy's part is cleverly sustained by Master Ernest Hollom. Ensign Blades receives creditable treatment at the hands of Mr A. C. Lysons.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—*Winnie Brooke, Widow*, makes her first bow in this city, and the reception accorded her is fully in keeping with what she has met with in other cities. Miss Ada Reeve in the title-rôle finds admirable scope for her powers. Mr Henry Vibart, always an actor of merit, has a rôle that just suits him as the Hon. Dudley Mayne.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—*The Grip of Iron* pays its annual visit, and has lost none of its power of attraction. Simmonet is once more in the hands of that well-known artist Mr Fred Powell, and Mr Andrew Liston is the Smiler.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident Manager, Mr A. Graham.—The great attraction this week is Chung-Ling-Soo, the Chinese conjuror, who is most dexterous in his work. G. W. Hunter is a comedian always attractive, and Pat Rafferty ever certain to draw.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—A return visit has been paid here this week by Mr Frank Curzon's company in *Glittering Glory*. The foolish Jack James had a capable exponent in Mr John Campbell; Mrs James was forcefully presented by Miss Lillian Williams; the inane Archie Toodley was cleverly portrayed by Mr Stanley Arthur; and Dorothy was charmingly presented by Miss Peggy Harrington. Mr Haughton Macaulay exhibited much comic ability as Zebedee Poskit; Miss Stanley Ronalds was well placed as Gloria Grant, whose impetuous admirer, Colonel Gallager, had a boisterous representative in Mr J. Wordley Hulse; the amorous Algernon was amusingly played by Mr Gerald Clark; the Bond-street jewellers, Slapton and Shreve, were amusingly caricatured by Messrs F. Bentley and Percy Wingar; and able assistance was rendered by Miss Mary Bune as Sarah and Mr Charles Williams as Mr Griddletop.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—Tom Taylor's popular drama, *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, is being produced here by Mr Hunter and company. The interesting drama is mounted and staged with great fidelity. As Melter Moss Mr J. D. Hunter gives a wonderfully truthful sketch of the scheming Jew. Mr Reginald Dance as Robert Brierly is natural, and the part of the Tiger is well taken by Mr St. John Beecher. Mr Chas. Hawker makes a capital proprietor of the Belle Vue Gardens. Hawkshaw, the detective, is enacted very neatly by Mr Allen Borthwick. Miss Eva Bayley is an ideal representative of the garrulous elderly lady Mrs Willoughby, and Miss Stella Leigh plays the character of May Edwards with moving tenderness.

HIPPODROME.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—The programme is opened here by the attractive comedienne Miss Rose D'Alberg. Messrs Ryan and Hall create great amusement by their comic wrestling. Mr Frank Boyce proves himself a good character comedian; the Two Maningos give a good turn as equilibrists; Blake and Granby introduce a laughable comedy duologue; Miss Ada Parker delights the audience with her pretty coon songs; the Sisters Reveni receive great applause; and Mr Leo Dryden is a successful singer of original songs.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. G. Fisk.—Mr Ralph Lumley's sporting comedy, entitled *Thoroughbred*, was the attraction here for the first three nights of the week, being played by Messrs Edward A. Coventry and John R. Collins's company. Mr Percy Bell gave a clever impersonation of John Rimple, the Mayor; Mr Lewis Sealy as Lord Sandacre was quite at home in a difficult part; and Messrs E. A. Coventry, Charles L. Lane, and J. W. Bradbury were each of the greatest assistance. Miss Ivy Hertzog scored a distinct success as the Hon. Wilhelmina Carlingham, and Miss Katherine Parry, Miss Rubamah Calton, and Miss Mary Smith each deserve a word of praise for their creditable acting. *Thoroughbred* was preceded by *Cutting Out a Prize*, by Fenton Mackay, which was pleasantly interpreted.

HIPPODROME.—The enterprising proprietor of the Woodbridge-road place of entertainment introduced several new attractions on Monday night, among them being Frank Dunlop, a droll comedian, whose patter was very funny; Tom Owen, a humorous Welsh vocalist; the Countees, pleasing duettists; the Ongarios, musical eccentrics; Miss Vivian Bell, dancer; and Miss Ethel Dove, comedienne.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—This week Messrs H. B. Levey's and Walters's juvenile pantomime company is here with *Beauty and the Beast*. Miss May Gibson gives a good account of Silver Star, her singing being highly appreciated; Miss Maggie Adair is well placed as the Witch; Miss M. Hardacre is excellent as the Prince, her singing and dancing being very enjoyable; La Pettie La Ray is well placed as Will Scarlett; Miss Lottie Harper is quite at home as Maid Marion; Miss Kitty Rafferty gives a charming rendering of Beauty; and Master Paddy Mills and Master Charles Eibon prove themselves able juvenile comedians. Some excellent dances are executed by the Marguerita Troupe of dancers.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—Miss Annie Bell and company are here in the play entitled *Sapho*. Miss Bell as Fanny Legrand is striking and Mr Horatio Sinclair plays the rôle of Jean Gaussin with great earnestness. Mr George Antley is funny as Cesaire; Mr R. A. Greene ably portrays the character of Paul Dechelette; Caoudal is in the capable hands of Mr H. Longford; Little Miss Lottie Roy prettily plays the part of Joseph. The play is well mounted and staged.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Lester Reekie and Howard Stephens.—This week we have here Chester and Lees' Marionettes, an excellent show; Miss Gertrude Moore, an artiste of varied abilities; Alf Shaw, Vic Verney, Queenie Snow, and Lister Reekie, who gives further proofs of his versatility. Mr Howard Stephens courteously looks after the comfort of the patrons and is deservedly popular.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Hales.—Messrs Carlton and Armitage's company presented *In the Ranks* the first three nights of the week. Ned Drayton is well portrayed by Mr Edward Lloyd, and Mr Herbert Cecil gives an effective rendering of the part of Gideon Blake, while Mr Arthur Palling and Mr Archie W. Chappell are capital as Colonel Wynter and Captain Holcroft. Miss Edith Blair-Staples's Ruth Herrick is a pleasing piece of work, and Miss Maud Darley is good as Mrs Flannigan. On Thursday and Friday Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in *A Country Mouse* was here.

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Mr Herbert Leonard.—The attractions here this week are *The Silver King* and Mr E. Terry and company. The management are indeed to be congratulated upon their enterprise in securing such an important engagement as Mr E. Terry and company for a flying matinée performance on Tuesday afternoon. The piece chosen was *Sweet Lavender*, with Mr Terry, who in his original part of Dick Phenyl was seen at his best. Miss Beatrice Terry in the title-rôle was charming, and the other members of the company were equally good in their respective parts. For the rest of the week we have Messrs G. M. Polini and Austin Melford's company in *The Silver King*. Mr Lauderdale Maitland as Wilfred Denver gives a powerful reading of the part; Miss Lilian Bethel is sympathetic as Nellie Denver; Little Violet St. Clair makes a particularly pleasing Cissy; Mr E. J. George as Daniel Jakes deserves praise; Mr W. V. Garrod is an excellent Spider; Mr Arthur Wright is good as Coombe.

LANCASTER.

PALACE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—Cullen and Carthy bring down the house here with their comedy act; Curtis and Miss Vanity, American cake-walkers, are great favourites; Ada Fawn has a very hearty reception; and Percy Farrimond, singing collier, merits applause. Others who contribute successfully to the entertainment are the Sisters Vobecque, duettists; the Buffaloes, rope-spinners; and Walter Payne's new series of animated pictures.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—Mr Martin Harvey opened here on Monday with his new play, *The Bread of the Treshams*. The piece supplies this fine actor with a part which suits him admirably—that of Lieutenant Beresby, a dashing, desperate military rake—and Mr Harvey's presentation of it is a triumph of his art. Powerful support is rendered by a strong company, of whom Mr Milton Rosmer is particularly successful in a manly portrayal of Francis Tresham, whilst Mr Chas. Glenney is likewise strong and effective as the villainous Colonel Hungerford. A charming and winsome Margaret, indeed, is Miss Coleridge, and Beresby's boyish friend, Batty, is cleverly played by Miss N. De Silva. Mr Albert Raynor capably acts the stern, unrelenting Viscount, and a successful effort is that of Mr Percy Anstey as Sir Henry Curwen. Mr Fred Wright, sen., and Mr Gilbert Yorke also act with distinction their respective rôles.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Bush.—A new sensational drama, *An Actor's Romance*, in the hands of Mr Cecil Barth's company, is attracting good patronage to this theatre. Mr Guy Hastings portrays the leading part of Harold Davenport with much success, Mr Ernest Ruston is no less effective in the rôle of Robert Livingstone, and marked ability also characterises the efforts of Mr W. H. Beaumont and Mr Percy Marmont as the two Woodfords. Further able assistance is rendered by Mr E. H. Dobell, Mr Albert Wainwright, and Mr John Detliv, whilst the leading feminine parts are thoroughly well handled by Miss Bertha Northam, Little Marie Dowsing, Miss May Charteris, and Miss Louise L'Estrange. The sensational shooting scene, for which the piece is famous, is effectively done.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—One of Mr Lingford Carson's successful melodramas, *A Modern Adventuress*, is filling this theatre during the present week, being finely presented by Carson and Granville's company. Miss Beatrice Anderson gives an accomplished portrayal of the name-part, carrying off many exciting situations with conspicuous ability. Mr Royce Carleton has the heavy part of Harry Delby, and plays it to general satisfaction. Mr Leonard Aardale is conspicuous with a fine sketch of Pietro Donelli, and an effective portrayal of John Crompton goes to the credit of Mr Evan Roland. Mr Geo. D. Knight is excellent as the banker, Delby, and Mr W. R. Winning and Miss Alice Defoe also render sterling assistance.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—Hugh Stanton and company head the Empire programme this week with their amusing skit *For Reform*, a thoroughly entertaining sketch. Lady Mansel and her clever juveniles again submit their vocal turn with success; a remarkably fine animal show is presented by Carl and Mary Ohm; those popular vocalists, Austin and Cowan, receive a share of plaudits; Alexander performs some remarkable feats on his bicycle; and some fine vocal renderings by Mme. Alice Simmons are much enjoyed. M'Phee and Hill are gymnasts of more than average merit; Ford and Hanson score with a musical show; and success also attends the efforts of Nello, an expert and graceful lady contortionist; Charles Stevens, vocalist; and the Raies, duettists and dancers.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thos. Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Chas. Weldon and Edgar O Waller.—A very attractive programme is in evidence here. Staig's motor act causes a great sensation with a looping the loop feat. The Akimotos, a Japanese juggling troupe, find great favour with an expert turn, and a smart comedy juggling pair appear in Edward and Nettie Masse. Heloise Titcomb is an accomplished songstress. Addie Dorina presents with success her clever quick-change speciality. Fine vocal work by Geo. Martinengo is much admired, as also are the comic items by Michael Dolan and Lew Wells, the latter a noted musical expert. The Ashley Bros. are again great favourites with a boxing sketch, and an acrobatic turn by Browning and Welby is also well received.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—Comedians figure large in this programme, Joe O'Gorman proving a popular lead; whilst other capital entertainers in the same line are Will Dalton and Fred Clements. A pair of smart comedy acrobats, Adams and Ward, do well; Young Marco, an expert card manipulator and conjuror, gets a big reception; and the remainder of the programme is subscribed by Mill May, a local juvenile vocalist of promise; Myra Stansfield, a pantomime favourite; and Vokey Gaylor, comedienne.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—A large audience here on Monday gave a cordial welcome to Mr William Greet's clever and versatile company in the bright and amusing musical comedy, *The Earl and the Girl*. Mr William Stephens makes a conspicuous success as Jim Cheese, and keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter. Mr Percy Carr is in every way excellent as Dick Wargrave, and as the Hon. Crewe Boodle Mr Bertie White is also good. Miss Aimee Grey is popular as Elphin Haye, her performance throughout being a dainty and charming one. Miss Dot Carey is a big success as Liza Shoddam. Miss Gladys Fontaine as Mrs Shimmering Black, Miss Helen Langton as Miss Virginia Bliss, and Miss Florence Imeson as Daisy Fallowfield are each to be highly complimented on clever embodiments. Praise should also be meted out to Mr William Walshe as Bunker Bliss, Mr Will Hindson as Downham, Mr J. C. Graves as Mr Talk, and Mr Tom Redmond as Mr Hazell.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—The boards are held here this week by Mr Horace Stanley's company on a return visit in the successful sensational drama, *The 10.30 Down Express*, which, as usual, keeps the audience thoroughly interested. As the hero, Jack O'Malley, Mr Harry T. Wood makes a good impression; and as the heroine, Bessie Leigh, Miss Adelaide Clare gives a clever and sympathetic portrayal. As the evil genius, James Inderwick, Mr Scott Leighton is seen to considerable advantage. Both Mr Horace Stanley as Sam Wagstaff and Miss Kate Kilpack as Peggy Potts are very entertaining. Mr Harry L. Day gives a good account of himself as Huntley Mason. Other parts are well played by Miss Clara Santley, Mr Arthur E. Francis, Miss E. M. Walton, Mr Fred C. Roper, and Mr Alaric Burton.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—At the head of a programme brimful of clever turns this week is the charming comedienne, Lil Hawthorne, who is rapturously encored for her well-rendered songs. This pretty and dainty artist also introduces a new one, entitled "Tessie," which proves a particularly attractive and successful addition to her répertoire. At the other end of the bill is Will Evans, a clever, original, and entertaining comedian, who keeps the house in a continual roar with his speech, "Food versus Love," and his burlesque of a serio by name Lucinda Wriggle. Alexandre and Hughes are genuinely funny in their humorous business, besides being accomplished artists on the concertina. The mimicry of Ray Wallace found great favour. No finer turn on the double trapeze has visited Leicester than the Sisters Geretti, their show being exceptionally clean, quick, and daring. The Brothers Edgar are comedians whose crosstalk has the merit of originality; Harry Anderson repeats his usual success; Sidney James's Strolling Players are seen to great advantage in their original and versatile entertainment; Winnie Derson is a fascinating comedienne; and Paul Mill, character comedian, also entertains.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The great attraction in a good programme here this week is the Olrnoes, who are bewildering the audience with the ease with which they escape from all kinds of handcuffs; Downes and Langford are very popular. Mons. Reklaw gives a clever turn as a rolling globe performer and juggler, being assisted by Mdlle. Winetta. Moretti and Alice, Continental equilibrists, are smart. Walter H. Pallister's Bioscope, always a welcome feature of the bill here, is projecting some new and entertaining films. Comical Walker, knockabout comedian, with his acrobatic local nippers, creates much laughter. J. G. Aitken is a versatile comedian. Will Bacchus, a local comedian, is also appearing with success.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—This week Mr Harry Foxwell and company are paying a return visit with *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr H. Foxwell, a native of this town, was loudly applauded on his appearance as Tom Cooper; as Abe Nathans Mr Will Betherton is capable; Mr Chas. Vivian as the villainous George Benson does well; Mr Newton Pearce as Jim Farren is amusing; and Mr Arthur A. Tomlin as Arkwright presents ably that detective's shrewdness. Miss Sheila Walsh in the dual-rôle of Annie and Nellie Standish makes an excellent impression; and Miss Dorothy Neville acquits herself admirably as Biddy Roonan.

LONGTON.

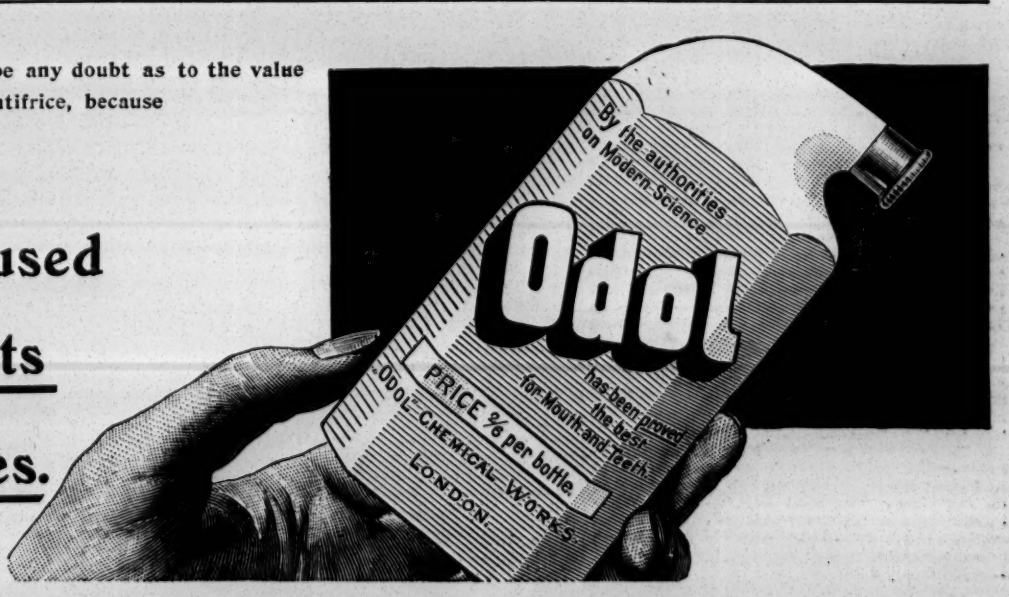
QUEEN'S THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr H. Sherriff Howard.—Mr J. H. Clyndes is here this week with a powerful and numerous company in the romantic play, *A Royal Revenge*. Mr Clyndes acts with all his old vigour and dash as Estevan Alvarez, and is excellent both as the soldier of fortune and the Prime Minister. He is most ably supported by Mesdames Evelyn Shannon, Aimee Grattan, and Bessie Elmar, and Messrs Edward Aldworth, Charles Jordan, Geoffrey Broughton, and Harold B. Lewis. The play is excellently mounted and dressed.

LUTON.

GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham Falcon; Assistant Manager, Mr Louis J. Beard.—Mr Bert Coote's company in *The Fatal Wedding* opened here on Monday to a good house. Mr Ernest Owttrim does full justice to the rôle of Howard Wilson; Mr Oliver Rogers is seen to advantage as Robert Curtis; as Peter Schwartz Mr John Wheatman does good service; and Mr Jack Waring scores as O'Reilly. Much laughter is caused by Mr W. R. Chewd (Toto) and Miss Maud Looker as Bridget. Miss Helen Russell succeeds admirably in her portrayal of Mabel Wilson; Miss Dora Gilham acquits herself well as Cora Williams; and Jessie, the "little mother," is pleasingly played by Miss Marjorie Lawrence. On Thursday Mr Leslie Norman's company presented *A Trip to Chinatown*.

There cannot possibly be any doubt as to the value and efficacy of this dentifrice, because

Odol is used by dentists themselves.



LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.—That bright and tuneful musical play *A Country Girl* has afforded extreme satisfaction to large audiences here this week. All its familiar melodies, rendered by the principal company of Mr George Dance, have been given in a manner which added to their beauty. Miss Maud Boyd, an old favourite, presented a charming Marjory Joy, and earned cordial greetings for her singing and winsome manner. Miss Glen was a successful Nan, Miss Ethel Negretti a finished Princess Melaneh, and Miss Maud Prenton a capital Madame Sophie. A very diverting representation of the Rajah was given by Mr St. John Hamund, who rendered a couple of smart up-to-date songs, introducing the latest topics of the hour; Mr C. R. Walenn infused a deal of life into the play by his vivacity as Barry; Mr Robert Michaelis was entrusted with the rôle of Geoffrey Chaloner, singing and playing in good style; and Mr Joe Nightingale made an acceptable Sir Joseph Verity.

SHAKESPEARE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. M. Hardie: Acting-Manager, Mr J. Gaffney.—The evergreen *Ticket-of-Leave Man* has been presented by the Hutchison combination before good audiences. To Mr Henry Neville, who played with all his old passion and reserve the part of the unfortunate Bob Brierley, a hearty welcome was given; Mr F. G. Thurstan was an extremely amusing Melter Moss; Mr Cory Thomas made a successful Hawkshaw; Miss Emma Victor's Mrs Willoughby was a finished picture; and Miss Evelyn Weldon was an acceptable May Edwarder. The mounting was excellent.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. French; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Beltram.—A meritorious production of that delightful drama *Liberty Hall* has been given here by Messrs W. T. Elworthy and J. Buckley's capable company. Mr Elworthy was a masterful Wm. Todman; a delightful picture of Blanche Chilworth was submitted by Miss Beth Elliott; and the Mr Owen of Mr Leonard Pagden was a capital character sketch. Miss Kathleen Maitland scored as Amy Chilworth and Miss Enid Ross was an amusing Crafer.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—That thrilling military drama *The Indian Mutiny*, by Mr George Daventry, has drawn good audiences here this week. Mr Frank E. Burdett's company presenting it with capital scenic surroundings. Mr H. Ryeland-Leigh was an able Lieut. Manley, and Miss Maud Digby an impressive Brahmin priestess; Mr W. S. Tindall displayed much military dignity in the part of Major Ingleby; and of the representatives of the Hindoos Mr Villiers Stanley, leader of the rebels, and Mr Ernest Keand, were powerfully dramatic.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—The programme this week is excellent. Neil Kenyon has some original and inimitable patter; Clark and Hamilton, who top the bill, are another good draw; the Brothers Artois, clever acrobats, are always accorded a gratifying reception; Ara, Zebra, and Vora are good in "Indian Pastimes;" Wee Mona, a child vocalist and dancer, is a very interesting and pleasing turn; Bessie Travis, the girl ventriloquist, is good; Tonini mystifies everyone with his illusions; and Harry Bancroft is popular as an actor-vocalist.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—Well-attended houses have been the order here this week to witness a good all-round presentation of Wybert Clive's *The Conscript*. The company responsible was that of Mr George Mitchell and Mr John Belton, and included the former, who submitted a powerfully drawn picture of Karl, the conscript. Miss Mary Dawson was a charming Nadia; Mr Fred H. Constable gave a striking portrayal of a Russian Governor; and Mr Howell Travers rendered with due effect the part of the Starost of Slavgorod. The scenery, mechanical and otherwise, carried with the production was excellent, the set representing a floating raft eliciting loud applause.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville.—This popular house has had a good share of patronage this week with the drama *What a Woman Did*, given by Mr Wm. A. Armour and company. Mr Armour proved a powerful Conrad De L'Orme; Mr Percy E. Wright presented an ideal villain; Mr Wm. Simpson acted very naturally the rôle of a simple German villager; and Mr Cyril Dundas was a humorous itinerant quack doctor. Miss Dora Price gave good support with her Elise De L'Orme, the heroine, and played with sympathy and grace.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—Crowded houses have been the rule here during the week, the particular attraction being Eugene Stratton, a prime favourite in Liverpool. Another capital item on a well-diversified programme is Selma Braatz, who executes feats of juggling well worthy of Cinquevalli himself. The sketch *Lord Harkaway*, given by Frederick Maxwell and company, is watched with great interest, a smart glove fight being one of the principal features. An exhibition of wonderful animal training is shown in Schernoff's entertainment with ponies, dogs, cats, &c.; the Cavallini Brothers are amusing comedians; the Tourbillon Troupe of acrobatic cyclists perform some smart evolutions; Tom Stuart's mimicry is thoroughly good; and other names on the bill are Fred Lincoln, comedian; Cline and Clark, black and white comedy artists; Minnie Cunningham, comedienne; Sybil St. Elmo, a lady with a pleasant voice; and Tom Leamore, eccentric comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—An excellent programme has been submitted here this week. John Tiller's *High Jinks* company remain another six nights. Mr A. Lawrence, an American comedian, is the possessor of great mimetic and ventriloquial powers, and his first appearance in Liverpool has won for him much success. The latest sensational feat is the Banker aerial somersault on a bicycle, a daring piece of work which takes the breath away. The Patty Brothers give an acrobatic show, in the course of which one of the performers jumps downstairs on his head. John Lloyd, the original singing collier, has a pleasing voice, and renders several attractive songs; Mons. Hurman presents a neat turn as a juggler and hoop manipulator; and Miss Kate Gourley executes some clever buck dancing and sings several coon songs with pleasing effect.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—The Schaffer Troupe of strong men are at the head of the programme here this week, and prove a good turn. The favourite Liverpool comedian, Johnny P. Dane, is cordially received; the Prices perform some clever work on the horizontal bars; Mons. Henri Sardou introduces some exceptionally smart illusions; Keir and Allen are a couple of amusing comedians, their "Terrible Tale of the Sea" being particularly laughable; and the remainder of the evening's pleasure is contributed to by Miss Ennie Le Carres, male impersonator; Chas. May, comedian; and Miss Marie Rivers, vocalist.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—The principal item on the programme here this week is the Esmond Farr Trio of comedy sketch artistes, their trifle *A Musical Misunderstanding*, provoking great laughter. Mr George Antill, a smart comedian, makes his first appearance here; Grapho and Jackson are a couple of funny burlesque actors; Pete Dwight and Son submit a neat variety turn; Gracie Lawn is a graceful comedienne and dancer; and Bert Kemp a cartoonist of merit.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan.—Among the many good items on the bill-of-fare here this week is Little Lady Fauntleroy with her clever ventriloquial act; the Freans are a couple of excellent vocal speciality artistes; Edie Endon goes through some expert cake-walking and other forms of dancing; the comedy sketch, *True Irish Hearts*, by Joseph P. Kennedy's company, is a pretty spectacle; Water Lester renders in good style several of his favourite songs; and the remainder of the programme is provided by Tom Hayes, juvenile comedian and mimic; Alf Davis, comedian and actor-vocalist; and Gracie Logan, soubrette and dancer. The cake-walk competitions are still an attraction of the evening's pleasure.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—The Burnells, who head the bill here this week, present a sketch entitled *Over the Garden Wall*, which provokes much merriment, and another of a similar class is that called *The Hot Member*, produced by Billy Ross and company, including Miss Hilda Brandon. Bill Richardson, popular stump orator, is as funny as ever; Little Dando, a comedian standing 42in., provides a bright turn; Eugene and Willie are a refined pair of acrobatic musical grotesques; and others who appear include E. J. Wilkes, comedian, and Rosy Morr, vocalist.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—George French, a comedian of ability, is at the head of the bill here this week, and has been accorded a hearty reception. For three nights Hanco appeared and gave demonstrations of releasing himself from fetters; the Dundonian Quartet are accomplished dancers; and the Parisian dumb magicians, Les Manipulos, are exceedingly clever. A good turn is that provided by the Darktown Belles, vocalists and sand dancers; Joseph Sheldon is a fine manipulator of the clubs; Fred Land proves himself a very eccentric comedian; and Miss Marion Francis is successful with her songs. The public snapshots shown on the screen continue to interest.

LONG EATON.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This week the play, *A Life's Revenge*, is being played here under the care of Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr Fred C. Somerfield, with Mr Walter Roberts as Michael Orloff. The play gives an idea of the tyranny in Russia and the terrible treatment of the peasants or serfs by the upper classes. The cast is a capable one, and the play is staged effectively.

MACCLESFIELD.

ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—An admirable performance of *No Cross No Crown* is being given here by Miss Rose Faith and company. Mr J. P. M'Bride is an unqualified success, his rendering of Sir Francis Luttrell being a capable piece of acting. Mr L. Darra submits an exceedingly good portrayal of Austin Blake. Mr F. Hudspeth as Doctor Ashby gives an excellent account of himself. Miss Gwen Stuart is a sweet and natural Lady Margaret. An admirable delineation of Clare is presented by Miss Rose Faith. Miss Maude Elliott as Dame Priscilla is very entertaining. Professor Nebb is capably portrayed by Mr H. Chapman. Miss Dolly Turner causes much amusement by her impersonation of Plato.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessees, Messrs Bendon and Lander.—An excellent variety company has been engaged for this week. It includes Read and Wright, who are making a hit here; Bella Leaburn, the popular comedienne; Reed and Lerne, comedians, who are both clever and funny; Arnold, magician, who is well received; Akbor, gymnast; Charlie Baynum, Negro comedian; Chas. Cassell, vocalist; and Miss Georgie Beaufort, comedienne and dancer.

MAIDENHEAD.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Edgar Dereve and F. L. Schmitz.—An interesting entertainment is supplied by Mr D'Arcy Clayton's Gipsies. The company consists of Miss Florence Croft, piano and contralto; Miss Barbara Antoine, soprano; Mr Fred Milner, humourist; Mr D'Arcy Clayton, tenor; Mr Eric Davidson, baritone; and Mr Robert Tattersall, conjuror and ventriloquist. Vocal solos, duets, and part songs are given in truly artistic manner, and the entire programme is at once refined and pleasing.

NEW PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr George Gude.—The great attraction this week is the Royal Welsh singers, whose contribution of duets and part songs is greatly enjoyed. Miss Iris May sings descriptive songs; Les Freres Baptiste perform tricks in juggling; and Dane Hall is acceptable in refined coster songs. Jack Waller does a clever turn, and Sidney Jones entertains with trick piano playing.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—The visit of Sir Henry Irving and his company to this theatre constitutes locally the big event of the week, and, as usual, the magnet has been powerful enough to draw enormous crowds to witness our premier actor's superb performances in a répertoire of well-tried and attractive plays. *The Merchant of Venice* was presented on Monday evening with immense success, being followed in order by *Waterloo*, *The Bells*, *The Lyons Mail*, and *Becket*. To enlarge upon the varied excellences of the principal actor is needless, and it is true that his personality dwarfs that of every other individual member of the cast. Of the latter, however, it must be said that they are one and all exceedingly capable in their opportunities, the most prominently successful being Miss Edith Wynne Matthison (Portia), Miss Maud Fealy (Fair Rosamund), and Mr Gerald Lawrence in various rôles. The plays are staged splendidly, especially in the case of *Becket*.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—A good house witnessed the performance here on Monday of Robert Marshall's farcical romance, *The Duke of Killicrankie*, by Messrs Chas. Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's company.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mrs Bandmann-Palmer and her company are the attraction here this week, after a successful week at the Grand Junction Theatre.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—An attractive operatic répertoire is presented here this week by Mr J. W. Turner's well-known company. *The Puritan's Daughter* was given with real success on Monday, Mr J. W. Turner heading the cast as the Earl of Rochester in capital style, while good parts were rendered admirably by Miss Constance Bellamy, Miss Jessie Dennis, Mr Tom Griffiths, and Mr Sidney Clifford. Messrs Charles Le Sueur, W. M. Anderson, George Ridding, Miss Lizzie Stock, and Miss Maud Esdale had also opportunities on Tuesday, in *The Lily of Killarney*, of proving the good, all-round quality of the company, Mr J. W. Turner and Miss Constance Bellamy again sustaining the principal rôles with fine effect. The orchestra and chorus leave nothing to be desired, and the staging is in every case bright and attractive. The répertoire includes *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Waterman*, *Il Trovatore*, and *Maritana*.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A capital programme, as usual, is submitted here this week, about the most successful turns being Mike Cray, comedy juggler; Tom Lloyd, comedian; the Mahatmas, occult scientists; Cycle, champion trick and comedy cyclist; and the Wallys, comedy and expert jugglers. Other clever and entertaining turns are contributed by Les Belles Americaines, vocalists and dancers; Nelly Amphill, comedienne; Harry Zetter, comedian and grotesque dancer; Bros. Lauri, Continental acrobats; Renton and Waite, in a diverting act; and Harry Hayton, comedian.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company is here this week, in *The Midnight Mail*, after a week at the Royal Osborne Theatre.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Richard Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—An extraordinarily clever and interesting musical comedy is *The Lady's Maid*, which occupies the stage here this week. It is full of good songs, tuneful music, and distinctly humorous situations, and it has the great advantage of being played by a really excellent company. Monday's audience signified its appreciation emphatically from time to time, sufficiently delighted with the inconsequent fun of song, dance, and dialogue to make no inquiry of themselves as to probabilities of plot and the like. Miss Isa Bowman is vivacious and charming in the title-part, and considerable fun is contributed by Mr Chal F. Chaloner as Spriggs, the waiter. Nothing but praise can be added for the lively efforts of Miss Geraldine Bruce, Miss Pauline Hague, Mr Harry Fisher, Mr Dennis Drew, and Mr Harold Eder.

HIPPODROME.—Manager Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead. — That clever and amusing juggler, the Great Welland, heads the bill here this week, and meets with hearty applause, and Harry Taft, the whistling comedian, proves very popular. Marguerite Hood, a refined society entertainer, sings several pleasing songs in capital style. Hannas and James are novel foot equilibrists, and Michel and Polo highly-finished athletes. Other good turns are the Sisters Desmond, who contribute some delightful duets; the Four Royal Welshmen, with well-rendered glees; Budd and Budd, in effective burlesque; Ernie Mayne, comedian; R. C. Note, comedian; and the Hippodrome pictures. Dessa and Lovett, who figure on the programme, did not appear on Monday night.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The Korries, in an amusing up-to-date medley act, are to the front this week. The Clarion Trio achieve a distinct success with their patter and dancing. Agnes Krembser, a lady juggler of considerable talent, contributes some very smart feats, and David Poole shows much ability as a ventriloquist. The pantomimic sketch and the dancing of the Lyons Trio are much appreciated, as is also the pot-pourri act given by Fred and Lila Lorrisons. Private Clark, the soldier vocalist, is worthy of note, whilst enjoyable items are contributed by Charles Chard, comedian; H. A. Kisby, "The Call Boy;" and Annie Casey, comedienne. A series of animated pictures are also included in the programme.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—The event of the week was Wednesday last, being the anniversary and benefit of Mr A. B. Wilkes, the genial manager, when quite a galaxy of stars from neighbouring halls appeared with distinct success. The current programme includes Florrie Gallimore, the well known comedienne, whose pleasing songs and dainty dresses are much appreciated. Morney Cash, a capital comedian of the eccentric order, makes a big hit; the charming Sable Fern sings in fine style; and Dan Maxford creates much amusement with his dry patter. De Voy, Hurst, and Fredericks, the black-faced trio, keep the house in a continual roar of laughter the whole of the time they occupy the stage, whilst others who appear successfully are Marie Kendall, comedienne: Alveno and Cleo, sensational gymnasts; and Frank Celli, descriptive vocalist. Steve M'Carthy, the Irish coon, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

ARDWICK EMPIRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Collins.—Alec Hurley, the popular coster comedian, figures at the top of the bill here, the principal item in his turn being *The Lambeth Walk* scena, which is exceedingly well received. The Brothers Egbert, the happy dustmen, figure prominently also in their well known "backyard" scene. A remarkably good turn is that of Gertie Gitana, whose vocal and other talents are rather above the ordinary; while good business is forthcoming also from Marie Reeve, comedienne and dancer; O'Connor and Brady, the two drolls; Spry and Austin, comedy artists; the Young America Quintet of vocalists and dancers; the Florador Quartet in a comedy sketch; the Ashers, comedy artists; and the Sisters Sprightly, vivacious singers and dancers.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—The programme here is an excellent one, George Gilbey, a comedian of more than ordinary ability, providing one of the star turns. The Harris L. Bell and Lilly Pearl company present a very acceptable musical comedy sketch; the Three Woodbee Wonders are comical acrobats of a unique kind, and cause much laughter; Harry Barker, comedian, renders two good "swell" songs in an effective manner; Wisper, in an original comic juggling act, with humorous gag, is decidedly popular; the Wynford Brothers give a splendid exhibition of chair vaulting and barrel-jumping; and Valvero, lightning cartoonist, depicts the bombardment of Port Arthur in fine style. Beattie Bloom, a good serio-comic; Will Bell, song and dance artiste; and an interesting series of pictures complete a bright and enjoyable entertainment.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—An excellent programme here this week is headed by Wilkie Bard, the popular eccentric comedian, who is seen at his best in a series of quaint songs. The Poluski Brothers, comedians; Nanno Leo and Kinko, the society marvels; and Charlene and Charlene, drawing-room entertainers, also contribute excellent business; other smart and pleasing turns being the Sisters Govell, refined character impersonators; Daisy De Roy, an accomplished comedienne; Nellie Stratton, comedienne-vocalist; Gertrude Maynard, comedienne; and last, but by no means least, Joe Peterman's novel animated song-sheet. The Palace pictures are included as usual, and the orchestral selection remains a pleasing feature of the programme.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson; Assistant Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's company opened here on Monday with *The Assassin*. As Prince Demetri Mr Paul Beckett is well placed; Mr John C. Carlyle acts manfully as Ivan Ipanoff; capital impersonations of Duke Carl, Baron Alphonse, General Nicholai, and Captain O'Neil are given respectively by Messrs Theo. Balfour, Edward Swinton, Arthur M'Culloch, and Fred Wilberforce; Miss Ruth Shepherd is successful as Countess Wanda; Connie Jonathan has a capable exponent in Miss Alice Barber; Miss Grace Aimers plays with feeling the part of Nita; and Miss Marjory Armstrong as Katrina, and Mr Fred Yarnold as Peter contribute the comedy element.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Messrs F. Darcy and F. J. Little's company is this week presenting *The Executioner's Daughter*. Mr Ed. M. Hamilton gives a fine impersonation of Monsieur Roche; the Felix Marius of Mr George Beverley is a powerful study; in the rôle of Paul Rover Mr W. Howard displays much ability; Mr W. H. Sharpe is capital as Kretch; and Mr C. W. Avery (Tom Holmes) and Mr S. Holden (Ormonde) work well. Miss Dorothy Riddell presents a refined and sympathetic portraiture of Annette; Miss Carlotta Anson plays with great power the character of Felice; and Miss May Rosine is amusing as Sally King.

MARGATE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—Mr Joshua Dyson's Dioramas and Gipsy Choir have been the attraction here this week. The programme has been varied each evening, and the views, animated photographs, songs, musical selections, sketches, &c., have gone to make up a most interesting as well as a diversified entertainment.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—*The Sins of a City*, by Nita Rae, under the direction of Mr Victor Du Cane, is fulfilling a week's engagement here. Miss Winifred Maude, who appears as Seaweed, afterwards Nora, gives a delightful portrayal; Mr Horace Herbert is conspicuous as Sandy M'Donald; Mr Ivan Gore is capital as Donald M'Ivor; Mr Victor Du Cane proves a satisfactory Isaac Levi; and Mr Wilbraque, Mr Manton, and Mr Leslie Beaufort make the most of their opportunities in their respective parts. Mr J. W. Baxter is an excellent Ralph Woodleigh; Miss Alice Granville gives a charming rendering of Mrs Miggs; Miss Marie Lyons finds favour as Leabia; and Miss Ellen Gray appears as Jenny. Miss Jenny Hackett adds much to the success by her singing and dancing.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee and Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—*The Still Alarm* occupies the boards here, under the management of Messrs H. Glenville and Fred Osmond. Mr Mathew H. Glenville takes the part of Jack Manley, the fireman, with great success; Mr Tom Beasley is a capital Willie Manley; Mr Paul Lovett is good as John Bird; and the same may be said of Mr Fred Osmond's Doc Wilber. Miss Mabel Verlton makes a sympathetic Mrs Manley, and Miss Mary Lovett is a powerful Elinore Fordham. Miss Hettie Zillwood delights everyone with her songs.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—Ross and Grayson, in *The Professor and His Pupil*, top the bill here, and provide a most amusing turn. The Three Sisters Jonghmanns are great favourites, and the Collinson combination, in the sketch *A Club Raid*, creates roars of laughter. Jean Seul, the Indian mystery, provides a capital turn; Virando is a ventriloquist of the highest class; Frank Sylvo is a comedy juggler of exceptional merit; Reilly and Taylor, dancers, receive hearty plaudits; and Beatrice Willey sings in fine style. The Bioscope pictures complete the bill-of-fare.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—The Densmores, in a sketch *An Early Morning in the Kitchen*, are the principal turn here and prove a good attraction. Coram is a clever ventriloquist, and Chas. Paver, comedian, provides an agreeable turn. The Crown Trio sing well, and the Sisters Russell are well received. The Solari Duo, in an instrumental act, are favourites; Miss Alice Maple is a pretty dancer; and James Grant, comedian, and the Bio. complete the programme. On Thursday Mr Ainsworth took a well-merited benefit, and was presented by the staff with a beautiful set of mantelpiece ornaments.

MIDDLETON.

PARDOE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr William Pardoe.—A variety programme is presented this week, in which the star turn is the Two Eltons, who are marvels of cleverness and eccentricity on the triple bars. They are amongst the foremost for getting real humour out of physical feats. The Musical Japs and other artists make up a good company.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—This week we have Mr Wentworth Croke's company in *The Christian*. In the important part of Glory Quayle Miss Grace Chalmers possesses all the power and pathos necessary. Mr Hilliard Vox is very clever as the Hon. John Storm. Mr Charles B. Bedells gives a good display as Lord Robert Ure, and Mr Jackson Wilcox does well as Horatio Drake. Mr Stanley Radcliffe makes a good Father Lamplugh, and Mr Oswald Marshall finds favour as Mr Lorimer.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—The periodical visit of the D'Oyly Carte opera company is always received with abundant signs of complete satisfaction, and the performances given of some of the famous works of Messrs Gilbert and Sullivan which constitute the répertoire for the current week have been attended, as usual, with unbounded success both from an artistic and financial point of view. On Monday the ever-popular *Mikado* was presented to a crowded house, and a similar state of things prevailed on Tuesday when *The Yeomen of the Guard* was staged. In the piece Mr C. H. Workman scored readily as Jack Point. Mr Fred Billington as Wilfred Shadbolt acted with a dry humour all his own. Mr Pacie Ripple possesses an excellent tenor voice, the quality of which was admirably displayed in the various numbers which fell to his lot as Colonel Fairfax. Mr Fred Drawater gave a highly creditable performance as Sergeant Meryll, and Mr Albert Kavanagh likewise distinguished himself as Sir Richard Cholmondeley. Among the ladies Miss Norah Maguire and Miss Jessie Rose exercised their superior charms of acting and singing to the enjoyment of all as Elsie Maynard and Phoebe Meryll respectively. Dame Carruthers was capitally embodied by Miss Theresa Ransam. Other operas performed during the week have been *The Gondoliers*, *Iolanthe*, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, and *Trial by Jury*.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham.—For the concluding week of the present season here we have a visit from Mrs Langtry and company, in *Mrs Dering's Divorce*, a smartly written and interesting comedy. The part of Mrs Dering affords Mrs Langtry plenty of opportunities, which she fully utilises, and her acting is characterised by charm and animation. An agreeable manner and an easy style are prime factors in Mr Paul Arthur's success as Captain Dering. The amiable qualities of Jimmy Foster are cleverly depicted by Mr Ernest Stern. A full measure of approval must be bestowed on the performances of Mr Courtenay Thorpe as Lord Granpier and Miss Helen Palgrave as Lady Granpier. Miss Anne Mildmay succeeds in giving a truthful impersonation of the dowdy Miss Verner. A one-act play entitled *The Brothers* precedes.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe; Business-Manager, Mr E. B. Clark.—*The Female Swindler* is once again paying a visit here. Mr Tom H. Taylor's company is responsible for the production, a feature of the performance being the excellent setting and scenic effects. In the title-rôle Miss Violet Ellicott has ample scope for the display of her abilities, the more popular parts of the house being distinctly emphatic in their disapproval of the modus operandi that she employs in her nefarious calling. We are also indebted to Mr Jerrold Heather for a spirited piece of acting as Jack Coulson.

ELSWICK THEATRE. — Managing Director, Mr Chas. M. Daly.—Here we have a departure from the usual dramatic performance, the attraction consisting of a strong variety company, headed by Fred Harcourt and the Mysterious Lilith.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Herr Julius Seeth's troupe of forest-bred lions, introduced by George Thielbar, provide a performance which abounds in features of a sensational and exciting description. Tom Edwards, ventriloquist, has an excellent style, and his smart patter and business cause much amusement. Driscoll and Beattie afford capital entertainment by their performances in the sketch *Major M'Fee, M.P.* There are also appearing with success Damm Brothers, smart acrobats; Brothers Wartenberg, expert foot balancers and jugglers; St. James Quintet, in their vocal selections; James Lowrey, the singing furnaceman; Vesper, facial artiste; and Fred Dunstone, comedian.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General-Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr E. W. Bacon.—The leading attraction here is provided by Nelson's Newsboys, in smart patter, dancing, and good singing. A marionette performance, described as Winn's Parisian Puppets, is given with success. Plenty of laughter is occasioned by Hill, Barry, and Lang, in an absurdity; and the Vyponds submit an enjoyable turn. Silbon's vaudeville circus, in which are introduced ponies, dogs, and cats, is a good attraction; and Oliver Conroy, eccentric comedian, is well received. The company is further strengthened by the performances of Harry Maynard, actor-vocalist; the Yorkshire Mill Lasses; and Dave Buchanan, Scotch comedian.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—Mr Joe Peterman and company are this week paying a visit here in the musical comedy *The Belle of the Orient*. It is of the "go-as-you-please" sort of comedies, the principal object seemingly being to create mirth, and in this it succeeds admirably. Mr Peterman himself displays a keen sense of humour as Ike, and he receives excellent support from an efficient all-round company. The play is preceded by *The Factory Girl*, a most remarkable impromptu entertainment. A cake-walk competition for juveniles has provided a popular item in the programme.

PAVILION.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr W. H. Boardman.—Apollo, who excels in feats of strength, is at the Pavilion this week, and is most successful in his clever entertainment. A novelty in this district, A Ba-Be's Picture Post-card Album, is being exhibited here, and is a pleasing feature in the programme. The Elysian Troupe introduce various musical selections and refined vocalism in their sketch *The Interrupted Rehearsal* and earn repeated encores. Messrs Keen and Waller are to the fore with their eccentric acrobatic act "Parson and Sport." They succeed in arousing the risible faculties of the audiences and perform some tricks in a daring and original style. Charles Stewart and company present a sketch, *The Water Cure*, somewhat above the ordinary; it is well written and played in spirited style by Mr Stewart and two ladies. H. A. Zetto is a comic juggler who does not belie his name, and he is a great favourite with the audiences. A particularly clever athletic and hand-balancing act is given by the Freydos, and Lottie Lennox, a comedienne of much ability, well earns her numerous recalls. The Gregsons are prominent in a sketch in which millinery models take a leading part, and others appearing this week are Dale and Vale, comedians; Nellie and Nora, musical entertainers; and the Wallonells, triple bar experts.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—*A Drama of Life* is being played here this week by Carson and Granville's company. As the hero, Harry Beach, Mr Jerrold Ord acts capably; Sylvia Beech is well sustained by Miss Cissy Bellamy; Miss Marie Murray does well as the child; Mr John J. Hocker does well in the part of the villain; Jack Lawton is well played by Mr Bulwar Pitt; and Mr Walter Steele makes an ideal detective. The humorous element is well sustained by Mr Oswald Lingard, Mr Owen Ramonde as Sir Dobson Wilde, and Miss Nellie Daly, Betty Black.

EMPIRE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—A very attractive programme here includes Miss Jennie Belmore, burlesque actress and soubrette; the American baritone, Post Mason, who scores a decided success; the Trapnell Family in a graceful and talented show; Werner and Reider, tyrolean singers, with marvellous imitations of birds; Les Burnellys in an original gymnastic act that is warmly recognised; Victor Travers, a quaint comedian; Miss Winona Winter and Mr William H. Banks in the playlet *When I Help Ma*; Harry Lawson, eccentric comedian, and *Over the Sticks* by the droll Joe Elvin and company.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—*A Marriage of Vengeance* is here this week, played by Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's company. Miss A. Harrison Tate gains applause as Stella; Miss Maud Stuart plays Elsie Dean with sympathy, Mr Alfred George Fry as Paul Earnscliffe, Mr C. Coventry as Glynne Earnscliffe, Mr George A. De Gray as Max Rheinhardt, Mr L. Norman as Geoffrey Fannock, Mr Seymour Perry as Bob Shorner; Mr Reginald Payne as Guy Vendon, and Mr L. Chaseby as Ralph Deane make the most of the parts allotted to them, and Miss Etta Turner supplies comic relief effectively.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—Datas gives unerring answers to a vast number of queries here. The Brooklands, comediennes and dancers, are a dainty pair; Stanley and Tich Bourne do an amusing turn; Bert Woodward is certainly a clever cyclist; the Rushforths give a popular display; Ethel Resford and Gerald Hunt appear in *The Widow and the Dude*; King Leo does a good ventriloquial turn; Alec Aubrey is highly successful in herculean gymnastics; and Mdlle. Du Roche, operatic soprano vocalist, is charming.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—A large and appreciative audience assembled here on Monday to welcome the Osmond Tearle répertoire company, which opened with *David Garrick*, which was presented in capital style. Mr Alexander Marsh, in the title-rôle, deserves high praise for his fine interpretation of the character, and Miss Carrie Baillie played with expression and success as Lillian. Mr Cyril Grier was clever as Sir Humphrey Basing, Mr John Burton made an excellent Squire Chase, and Mr William Lowe was a capable Mr Crabshaw. Mr George Tearle scored as Mr Fatfellow, and Mr Julian J. Gallier was an able Mr Sniffkins. Miss Fanny Chamberlain was worthy of praise as Miss Tabitha Fatfellow, and Mrs William Lowe made the most of Mrs Crabshaw. *The Merchant of Venice*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Richard III.* have also been billed.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr William Mould.—The Vivians' vaudeville company in *Life's Reverie* has been warmly greeted here. Miss Rhoda Paul, male impersonator, comes in for a hearty reception; and Selbo, club manipulator, performs some wonderful feats, for which he is loudly applauded. Mr Billy Elliott, eccentric comedian; Capito, up-to-date marionette; Miss Kitty Moore, serio; Messrs Harris and Leigh, in their comedy act; and the Bio-Photoscope are also on the bill of fare.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr Louis Calvert's company, in *Sunday*, is here this week. Mr J. Edward Pearce admirably enacts the part of Col. Brinthorpe; Mr Ernest A. Douglas is successful as Tom Oxley; Mr Frederick Powell is very good as Towzer; whilst Mr T. Norman wins much favour as Lively; Mr Whitford Kane deserves commendation as Jacky; and the same meed of appreciation must be shown Mr Charles B. Vaughan as Arthur Brinthorpe and Mr John H. Manley as Davey. Miss Olive Adair, at a short notice, assumed the double-rôle of Mrs Naresby and a nun, and acquitted herself in a praiseworthy manner. Miss Nita Faydon as Sunday

left little to be desired, and became a warm favourite all round.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby.—The Brothers Luck, in their melodramatic pantomime *The Hermit; or, The Wizard of the Glen*, head the bill, and create immense laughter at their drolleries. Mdlle. Lydia and Albino are clever equilibrists, assisted by a pleasing electrical apparatus; Amandus is a capital facial mimic; and Zenora and Foden in their inverted peregrinations and hand balancing are much appreciated. The Alskarno Trio are a good Risley turn; J. P. Lloyd is an amusing comedian; Ethel Yorke is a good descriptive vocalist; and Edna Thelma pleases in her song "Past, Present, and Future." Musical Rosina is an expert instrumentalist, and is well received. Captain Selby and his band also deserve mention. On Saturday evening last Mr F. W. Fitt, on behalf of the management, presented Miss E. Arden, the lady of the sketch *Three of a Kind*, with a handsome bouquet and silver hand glass, and Mr George Abel, the senior member of the company, with a framed photograph of the Hippodrome. Mr Fitt said, in making the presentation, the performance of the company during the week had been a source of much pleasure to the patrons of the Hippodrome and himself, and he asked the lady's acceptance of the present as a souvenir of the visit. Miss Arden expressed her pleasure as the recipient, and characterised their visit as having been of a most pleasurable character, adding it was nice to know that their efforts had been appreciated and their engagement had been so pleasant. Mr George Abel, replying, said he hoped they would say "au revoir," and not "good-bye." The incident closed amid hearty plaudits from the audience.

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Miss S. Golden; Manager, Mr Percy Webb.—Mr Chas. W. Poole's Myrioramic Realisations and Empire Variety Combine are the attraction here this week. The pictures are up to their usual excellent standard. The variety combine includes Little Dorretta, a chic juvenile song and dance artist; the Avondale Quartet; Miss Daisy Graham, with her trained birds and dog; Mr Harry Stewart, quick-change artist; the Edison Cinématograph; and Miss Woodford's canine circus and dog orchestra.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—The visits of the Carl Rosa opera company are always eagerly anticipated, and a large audience on Monday gave a hearty reception to the presentation of *Faust*. Mr E. C. Hedmont's treatment of Faust showed all his old force and vocal skill, and he was successful throughout. Mr Arthur Winckworth cleverly portrayed the grim sardonic character of Mephistopheles, and sang his numbers with considerable fervour. Miss Lizzie Burgess gave a delightfully sweet rendering of Marguerite, quite captivating the audience by her artistic vocalism. Miss Anna Hope (Siebel), Miss Douglas Wilson (Martha), Mr Lewys James (Valentine), and Mr Frank Arthur (Wagner) were all the recipients of much favour. *Rigoletto* was produced on Tuesday, and was specially remarkable for the fine interpretation of the title-rôle by Herr Charles Victor. His powerful voice gave full effect to the music, and his acting was admirable, faithfully depicting in turn the scorn, despair, and vengeful joy of the Jester. *Carmen* on Wednesday introduced Madame Augusta Renard, who supplied the right touch of vivacity to the part, and sang with charming spirit. Herr Julius Walther played and sang as José with characteristic fervour, and the Michaela of Madame Una Bruckshaw gave the utmost satisfaction. *Tannhäuser* was given on Thursday, when Madame Sobrino's cultured voice and finished method met with the fullest appreciation. Mr Eugene Goossens and Mr Walter Van Noorden conducted with their usual ability. The week's répertoire also included *Don Giovanni*, *Pagliacci*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *The Bohemian Girl*.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—Mr Charles Frohman's company received a gratifying reception on Monday, when it reappeared with the popular play *Sherlock Holmes*. The name-part is again undertaken by Mr H. A. Saintsbury, than whom no better exponent could be found. His long association with the play has enhanced his clever depiction of the famous detective, and his welcome was most cordial. Mr Lawrence Leyton correctly realised the matter-of-fact Dr. Watson; and Mr James F. Anson is good as Sir Edward Leighton. The astute and callous Professor Moriarty is well described by Mr W. F. Stirling; and James Larrabee finds a hard-working interpreter in Mr Leslie Carter. Miss Vera Longden assumes Alice Faulkner in a winsome and attractive manner, and Miss Maude Linden gives a strong and intense rendering of the vindictive Madge Larrabee. Good work is also shown by Misses Clarice Doncaster and Rosalie Notrelle and Messrs Gissing Walters and Charles Grey.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—*The Follies of Youth* is presented here by Mr Arthur Rose's company. Mr Walter Bentley makes an imposing figure as Captain Ronald Druce, playing carefully and capably, and Mr Carter Lingford is a successful exponent of Colonel Druce. Mr Arthur Rose invests the part of Ralph Murdock with a callousness and repugnance that is fully effective, and Miss Violet Macaree manifests abundant power and dramatic intensity in the rôle of Gwendoline Murdock. A striking feature of the performance is the natural and charming acting of Miss Bertha Hanbury as Little Ruth. Minor parts are creditably taken by Misses Ena Russell and Laurie A. Pardy and Messrs David Beattie, Fred Haming, and Bert Wallace.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—Fred Karno's company is again convulsing the audience by a laughable presentation of *The Dandy Thieves*. Mr Harry Roxbury makes a capital Sergeant Lightning, and he is well supported by the rest of the company. Messrs A. W. Hall and B. P. Earle are a couple of clever gymnasts and contortionists, and their drollery is also exceptionally smart. The Three Brothers Pantzer are incomparable in their head-to-head balancing, and the dexterous performance elicits unbounded enthusiasm. Miss Lalla Selbini's dainty and skilful trick cycling draws vigorous applause, which is worthily shared by her diminutive comedian, Midget Harry. Edwin Brett and Emmeline Orford supply an entertaining sketch entitled *Two Love Birds;* and the programme also contains Kitty Marion, vocalist; Ella Retford, comedienne; Bob Hutt, comedian; and the Four Olympian Star, vocalists and dancers.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryant.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company, under the direction of Mr Charles E. Johnson, is presenting here *The Heart of a Hero*. Mr Fred. W. Goddard at once wins favour as Jem Resdale, which rôle he sustains in a strikingly natural manner. Mr A. B. Makay is a good Mark Marl, and as Wilfred Mr Chas. F. Johnson is capable. Mr Harry Dunning creditably presents the part of Jack Collinson. As Dave Pritchard Mr Eric Forth does well. Mr Harry Scatchard, who also undertakes the post of stage-manager, gives a weird study of the miser. Miss Beatrice Hudson is good as Mrs Ryder; Miss Lily Langley is effective as May Rider; and Miss Cissie T. Elmo is a satisfactory Nell Resdale. The comic element is excellently filled in by Mr Allen Carruthers as Timothy, assisted by Miss Ida Mackay as Susie.

OLDHAM.

EMPIRE, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—That delightful and amusing pantomimical farce, *His Majesty's Guests*, is presented here by one of Mr Fred Karno's companies. Mr R. H. Kitchen as Sergeant Lightning is exceedingly funny. Mr Charles Cardon is admirable as Fritz. Mr Jack Fortesque as Mr Minks is very clever. As Bunker Mr H. Taylor is well received, as is Mr Wellesley Smith as Mr Miffin. Mr Charles F. Howard as Lord Easem, alias Flash Jack, Mr L. Sterling as Harry, Miss Edith Ager as Dolly, Miffin's daughter; Miss J. Newcombe as Lady Maude Easem, alias Maud the Shoplifter, ably contribute to the success of the piece.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—The success of the renowned Savonas and Elliots has resulted in their engagement for another week, their marvellous performances delighting appreciative audiences. Stelling and Revell are amusing and clever in their horizontal bar performance. Rowland Hill, comedian, is well received. Senorita Eloina, queen of the air, is successful in an unique entertainment. Vendome and Chase are heartily appreciated in their society entertainment. Lord, Murray, and Lord submit an amusing comedy athletic act, *The Intruder*. Daisy Morell, burlesque artiste; Marie Santoi, comedienne; and Chris Richards, with his catchy songs and clever hat tricks, conclude a delightful entertainment.

GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—A capital variety bill is submitted here this week, including the Five Foyr, who create laughter by their new and original act, *The Excursion Depôt*. The Ernestine Trio contribute a funny sketch, *The Yorkshire Lad*, with Tom Foy in the title-rôle. Horace Monto is successful as a novelty speciality artist. Marie Joyce is charming as a descriptive vocalist. D. J. Pedley receives due appreciation for his clever character songs and tricky dancing. Dolly Clayton, versatile comedian, is successful in some favourite airs. The Bioscope is pleasing with new pictures.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—Mr Arthur Bourchier's company played *The Fairy's Dilemma* here the latter half of last week to capital houses, who much enjoyed the excellent rendering of the play, which was preceded by *The Conversion of Nat Sturge*, in which Mr Frank Collins makes a great hit in the title-rôle, and Miss Julia Turnour gives a most clever and conscientious rendering of Julia. On Monday Mr Tree's company began a most successful week's engagement here with *The Darling of the Gods*, which had a most hearty reception from a good house. Mr G. W. Anson gives a most powerful and convincing rendering of Zakkuri, and fairly grips his audience right through the play; Mr Gerald K. Souper makes a most interesting and natural Kara; Mr A. P. Kaye is a capital Saigon; and Mr Ernest Stallard gives a clever sketch as the faithful fisherman Kato. Miss Augusta Haviland acts with power as Rosy Sky; Miss Irma Foldi is capital as Yo-San's maid; Miss Sybel Glynn is a fascinating geisha; and Miss Lilian Stafford gives a most delightful and bewitching rendering of Yo-San that completely captivates her audience. *The Darling of the Gods* is splendidly staged and mounted, and a magnificent spectacle is presented.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Miss Lena Stanton's company is continuing another week's engagement here with *The Bashful Beauty*. Mr Harry Jay does good work as Sir Aldersgate Bumkins, and Mr B. Green as Dresdina Bumkins and Mr G. James as Marinola Bumkins are both exceedingly amusing. Little Keeno makes the most of his opportunities as the Clerk, and renders some capital songs; Mr F. Smythe is good as the Beast; Miss Marie Gerrald is highly successful as Beauty Bumkins; and the Misses Maud Linn and Millie Maxwell are effective as Sir Herbert Haugh Haugh and Sir Georgie Porgie respectively. Miss Lena Stanton makes an ideal Roby Romford.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The Anglo-American Bio-Motograph company is here this week. The entertainment comprises an excellent series of pictures and a variety concert. The chief item in the pictures is "A Trip Round the World," which proves highly interesting and entertaining, the pictures being beautifully clear and continuous. Songs are contributed by Miss Millie Milton and Percy Dunckley. Major Clarke is worthy of especial notice for his clever ventriloquism, which elicits great applause; his manipulation of the figures is really good.

PAISLEY.

PAISLEY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—Mr and Mrs Chas. Clifford's company, with *On Circumstantial Evidence*, is here this week. Mr Leonard Williams plays with effect and force as Jack Ogilvy, and Miss Maud Camfield is sympathetic and convincing as Violet Ogilvy. Mr Charles Clifford submits a powerful representation of Capt. Hamilton; Mr Henry Cooke contributes a comical reading of Jeremiah Tobin; and Miss M. Hastings is humorous as Polly Smithers. Sir Laurence Kinlock is well depicted by Mr A. M. James; Mr James Stuart is successful as General Garibaldi; and subordinate parts are satisfactorily rendered by Miss Gladys Clifford (Tim), Mr F. Griffiths (Antonia), Mr T. Dyson (Sergt. Cavour), Mr M. Taylor (Sergt. Gabriel), and Mr Anderson Delph (Warder Symes).

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—The management has again an excellent company engaged here this week, including Cecil Lidden and Elsie Hayward, in their up-to-date musical absurdity, *A Quiet Rehearsal;* Tom Cowan, comedian; Rosie Leslie, serio; Whynne and Neilson (Harry and Lena), comedy artists; Lena Page, vocalist; and Elvo and Evelyn, in a funny sketch entitled *The Slavey and the Burglar*.

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Mr Gordon Starkey's company, in *A Message from Mars*, is welcomed by large and appreciative audiences. Mr Cyril Austen Lee gives a vivid portrayal of Horace Parker. Mr William Lockhart's interpretation of the Messenger is dignified. Mr A. Collings Rolfe as Arthur Dicey is well placed, and a tramp's life story is cleverly told by Mr Percy Tyler. The rôle of Miss Parker is capably handled by Miss Violet Auberies, and Miss Edith Cuthbert is charming as Minnie Templar.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—There is an excellent variety company here this week, including such favourites as Sergeant J. A. Hennessy, Messrs Bishop and Vale, knockabout comedians; Mr Andrew Murray, the Gartells, musical comedians; Miss Dora Lindsay, comedienne; the Great Cinizelli; and the Brothers Les Bois, with a display of Hubner's animated pictures.

PONTYPRIDD.

ROYAL CLARENCE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Business-Manager, Mr Rex Dooley.—Mr T. Edward Ward's company, in *Her Fatal Past*, is here. Mr Joseph Millane admirably portrays Mark Desmond, Mr Wilson Coleman as Gilbert Fernside does well, Mr T. Edward Ward is good as Jonathan Nobbs, Mr Algie Spalding is worthy of praise as Dicky Bird, Mr Watson Hume is a capital Leonard Fernside, Miss Ward as Honour Symes shows histrionic ability, Miss Helen Ingelow embodies Belle De Lam ably, Miss Maria Ault is a bright, sparkling Kitty Springwell, Miss Ettie Spalding displays ability as Maria Springwell, and Sal Jenkins is neatly portrayed by Miss Kate Newman.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—The local Amateur Operatic Society is appearing here this week in *The Yeomen of the Guard*. The piece is staged under the professional direction of Mr Shelford Walsh.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company is appearing here in *Greed of Gold*, a sensational drama replete with novelties. Mr Carthage Caldcleugh does well as the villain. Mr B. Fox appears as the dumb man, and wins well-deserved plaudits. Capital representations are also forthcoming from Mr Charles Coleman, Miss Daisy Halling, Miss Grace St. John, Miss Winnie Donovar, Miss Harriet Woods, Mr Walter Cameron, Mr T. G. Warry, and Mr Harry Creamer.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Manager, Mr J. Field.—Some clever turns are included in this week's programme. The Motogirl interests and surprises the public nightly. With his song "Seaweed," Fred Earle scores heavily; Ike Scott and Sons provide amusing sketches; Rachel Lowe's songs, "Lucky Duck" and "Any Rags," elicit warm approval; and Marba and Verity give a skilful of dancing and tumbling. Assisted by his two children, George Cooper enacts two dramatic episodes with much pathos. Alice Ormonde, comedienne, and Vernon's animated pictures are other attractions in a good entertainment.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton.—*Uncle Tom's Cabin* is being done justice to here this week by Mr John Tully's company.

PONTYPOOL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Resident Manager, Mr J. H. Stephens.—Mr A. Clifford Alderson and company in *A Soldier and a Man* are here this week, playing to enthusiastic audiences. Nothing but praise can be accorded to Mr Alderson for his finished and powerful rendering of the part of Harold Sinclair. He is most ably assisted by Miss B'Eare Doyle as Rose Melbury. Miss Daisy England as Norah Melbury and Mr A. W. Norman as David Melbury play with great effect, particularly in the scene depicting the ruined homestead. Mr Harry Wright gives a clever interpretation of Jim Farron, and the part of the villain by Mr Frank Powell is played with conspicuous ability. Miss Nettie Schrier makes the most of "Sergeant" Jane Wicks, and the remaining parts are in good hands. On Thursday night the battalion band of the 3rd V.B. S.W.B., under bandmaster Roderick, played selections on the stage during the evening by permission of Colonel Bradney and officers, and a grand tableau was presented, in which Mr Clifton Alderson, by permission of the directors of the Empire Theatre, London, gave the stirring address "For the King."

NEW DRILL HALL.—A welcome visit is being paid by Leon Vint's talented Globe Choir. The programme includes some good cinematograph views, the most striking of which is the representation of *Faust*. New choruses and songs by the choir are received with rounds of applause; and Madame Vint's clairvoyant impressions are as interesting as ever.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—Messrs J. K. Murray and J. M. Dawson's company presented on Monday the sensational and domestic drama *Driven from Home*. Miss Ella Sennett is very pathetic as Laura Raybrook, her acting being much appreciated. Mr Jack Dawson is seen to advantage as the hero, Walter Hatherleigh; Mr Cyril Harrison is a capable representative of Geoffrey Waring; Mr Bert Lloyd meets with much approval as Willie, the outcast; Mr Stanley Douglas is all that can be desired as Jabez; Mr J. K. Murray capitally portrays Anthony Raybrook; Miss May M'Kenzie as Margaret and Mr Jack M'Kenzie as John Anderson are well received in song and dance; and Mr C. Stanhope is decidedly good as Adam Marley. The Saw Mills scene in act three is much admired.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—The Portsmouth Amateur Operatic Society is devoting its energies here to the augmentation of the Viscountess Hayashi's fund in aid of the widows and orphans of the Japanese soldiers and sailors killed in the present war. The opera selected is Gilbert and Sullivan's *Mikado*, the whole being under the stage direction of Miss Louie Rene, who also impersonates Katisha in a most admirable way. Mr Frank Tebbutt is also appearing as Nanki Poo with highly satisfactory results.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—*The Mariners of England* is being presented here by Mr Ernest R. Abbott's powerful company, the rôle of Lord Nelson being taken by Mr Abbott himself in a very able fashion. Mr Clifford Clifford's Admiral Talbot is a capable performance. The Captain Hardy of Mr John Lester is a meritorious effort; Mr W. H. Garbois as the villainous Captain Lebaudy is good; and Harry Dell is efficiently played by Mr W. T. Riley. Miss Ada Abbott is successful as Mabel Talbot; Miss Linda Riley as Nelly Dell makes the best use of her opportunities, and Polly Appleyard is played by Miss Mabel Singleton in a capable and vivacious way.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The programme submitted here this week is a very good and varied one. The Ando Troupe of Japanese jugglers and acrobats take pride of place, with their skilful and wonderful balancing, and create quite a storm of applause for their work. Walter Stanley, eccentric comedian and dancer, meets with a good reception; Drum and Major, vaudeville entertainers, are clever; the Glenroy Troupe, characteristic dancers and speciality artists, are much appreciated; Alix Lukos, actor-vocalist, is quite powerful in his scena; and May Henderson, the dusky comedy queen, meets with a most cordial welcome, and is quite as energetic as ever. Nancy St. John, soubrette and danseuse; Tom Yorke, coster character comedian; and the Sisters Warner, acrobatic dancers, complete the bill.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—Mr Wilson Barrett's last play, *Lucky Durham*, effectively presented by Mr Wm. Greet's company, is a popular attraction here this week. Mr Wm. F. Grant gives a powerful and finished delineation of John Durham. As Lord Mountfallon Mr Henry De Solla acquits himself excellently. Richard Vallerton has a perfectly natural representative in Mr Daniel M'Carthy. Mr Paul Belmore's impersonation of the Hon. Reginald Steighton is as clever as it is amusing. Miss Phyllis Relph looks and acts well as Helen Vallerton. Miss Mary Relph does justice to the rôle of Lady Mountfallon. Praise is due to Miss Nellie Bonser for her successful portrayal of Mrs Durham, and Miss Jessie Winter is seen to advantage as the Hon. Margaret Steighton.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—The vaudeville company occupying the theatre this week includes the Eight Lancashire Lads, clever clog-dancers and glee-singers; Frank Tyrell contributes some good comic songs; Rozel is wonderfully smart in his gymnastic performance; Len Lever sings some good coon songs; Robert Gilbert's troupe of dogs and cats are well appreciated; Fred Melton scores as a droll comedian; Bock Pylades excels as an impersonator of past and present celebrities; Gus Harris, the Hebrew vocalist, is deservedly encored for his descriptive songs; Jack and Evelyn are worthy of praise in their sand dances; and the Royal Bioscope shows a series of interesting pictures.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—The Marvellous Craggs are paying a welcome return visit here this week in *Laughter Land*. Mr Harry Rousby is excellent as Dick Marlow, and Mr Henry P. Lewis is a great success as Prof. Sylvanus Wood. Mr Cremorne Cragg is exceedingly smart as Billy, and Mr Arthur Cragg is satisfactory as Agrippa; Mr Victor Raymond scores as Archie; as Alderman Trentham Mr Uraigie Edwards gives a good account of himself; and Mr G. Westacott is a capital Sir Vincent Marlow. Miss Agatha Rose is a successful Clothilde, and Miss Amy Hastings is a dainty Clarice. The acrobatic performance by the Marvellous Craggs is exceptionally smart and clever.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—William Hamilton's Excursions and grand variety company are here with a highly entertaining and interesting programme. The animated photographs include many notable scenes in the Russo-Japanese War. The variety company is exceptionally strong, and all the turns are received with great applause, and most deservedly so. The artistes include Hector, a fine wire performer and hoop expert; Eileen and Mayne, two "dainty dots," who bring down the house with their dancing; David Davies, Welsh whistling soloist, who has a warm welcome; Claude Howell, a fine elocutionist; Little Eily, a splendid dancer; and Mezzetti and Mora, in a fine and startling bar performance.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Burnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—Miss Olga Nethersole's company is here this week in *Sapho*. Miss Cecil Cromwell is engaged for the part of Fanny Le Grand, which she impersonates in powerful style. Mr Arthur Royston give an excellent rendering of Jean; Mr Harry Dodd is highly successful as Uncle Cesaire, and all the other characters are ably sustained.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*Bound to Win* is the attraction here this week. Mr F. G. Kimberley submits a manly impersonation of Harry Lyndon; Squire Forbes has a robust exponent in Mr Sidney Renouf; Mr Frank Strickland cleverly acts the part of the villain, Philip Ayre; Ned Oakley is safely entrusted to Mr James Hart; Mr Edgar Morgan creates much amusement as Horatio Buffet; and is ably supported in his efforts by Miss Edie Maclin as Winnie Oakley with songs. Miss Nina Blake Adams sweetly acts the part of Marion Forbes, and Miss Evelyn Robson acts with power and skill the heartless Gladys Orme.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—The Three Seabornes arouse enthusiasm with their clever balancing and acrobatic feats; Chris Masters renders patriotic songs with stirring effect; the Boston Twins, knockabouts, make a favourable impression. Others in the bill include Brenda Leslie, song illustrator; Henderson and Stanley quartet of comedy artistes; Charles Bradford, comedian; Lee and Arden, in *The Lady and the Watchman;* Ivy Graham, serio; and a novelty in the shape of snap-shot photos. thrown on the screen.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—A strong array of artistes are here this week. The Scottish Meisters, comedy quartet, obtain a persistent recall for their clever and amusing vocal efforts; Sadie Earley is a pleasing vocalist; Mephisto, with Mdlle. Marie, twists himself into remarkable postures; Onda and Leon submit an amusing turn on the bars; Will Fieldhouse, vocal comedian; Les Sprays, speciality dancers; Carr and Rose, in *Their First Quarrel*; and "Redskins and Cowboys," depicted by the Empire Bioscope, add to the list.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard and company are here again this week with *Why Men Love Women*. Mr W. S. Hardy is a manly Gerald Fielding; Mr S. Herbert Humber is seen to advantage as Serge Staniloff; Mr C. R. Haws is breezy as Tommy Fitzgerald; and Mr Edwin Lever scores as the Maharajah of Balore. Mr Harwood Roberts is most amusing as Orlando Figgings; Mr Henry Fitzgerald is deserving of mention as Rev. Edward Grey; Miss Beatrice Sinclair as Muriel Zoluski gives a thoughtful rendition of the part; and Misses Queenie Nigel and Violet Godfrey score as Birdie Summertop and Baby Winterbotham respectively. Miss Annie Saker is pleasing and sympathetic as Violet Livingstone.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Kingsley.—On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday *Life's Sweetest Sins* was presented by a company of exceptional merit. Mr T. Arthur Jones was manly and effective as Captain Harold Marston; Mr A. Bartlett Garth as Dr. Colbrooke gave a clever and able exposition; Mr G. Austin and Mr C. Procter were both good as Kimberley Coutts and Rev. Edward Grey; Mr Charles Sewell was an excellent Ernie Woodstone; Miss Madge Morley a sympathetic Doreen Rivers; Miss Amy Rudd a good Fay Colbrooke; and Mr Arthur E. Andrews an amusing Bob Tanner, being ably seconded by Miss Sarah Dudley as Bess Crayson. On Thursday *Called Back* was presented.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Penfold Field's company in the dramatic musical comedy *Fatal Fortune* had a large audience on Monday evening. Mr Harry Tresham as the hero, Jack Weston, is seen to advantage. Captain Seton Desmond in the hands of Mr Raymond Thomas is a thorough scoundrel. Miss Shirley Dalton as Mary Weston is successful. Miss Rosa Lehmann as Beauty Glitters very cleverly sustains the character of a cast-off wife, who ultimately obtains her revenge. Mr Percy Boucher as Tim Larks is assisted by Miss Florrie Hall in some excellent comedy business. Mr Dalton J. Bosher as Daniel Salmon and Mr G. M'Leod as George Thornton also give good support. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday the same company give *When Rogues Fall Out*.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—Both houses get much enjoyment out of the programme submitted this week, which includes Imro Fox, illusionist; F. Cumminger, sand dancer; Rose Cabani, comedienne and dancer; the Falcons, acrobatic comedy act; Ida Gladstone, Canadian contralto; Stanley and Vandyke, amusing comedy act; Dusty Rhodes, with his funny songs and business; Larola, a comic tumbler equilibrist, &c.; Charles Vandyke and company, in pantomime absurdity, *Nicodemus;* Florence Hill, burlesque actress and expert dancer; and the animated pictures.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—A very acceptable entertainment given twice nightly draws largely. Madame De Rose, lady baritone vocalist, has had a good reception; the Russian Imperial Troupe of singers and dancers are very good; Harry Weldon, the swell entertainer, has a new burlesque monologue, *Deserted*, which is well received; J. H. Hawtrey, actor vocalist, scores. Other excellent turns are presented by Three Victorias, singers and up-to-date dancers; Walker and Lake, patterers; Du Gros Trio, in their clever aerial comic gymnastic act; Chant and Chant, comedy couple; Wallace Witney, eccentric character comedian; and Fred Weston, in comedy and pathos; concluding with the animated pictures.

L. AND N.W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—Good business is done by the Sisters Gordon, duettists and dancers; Mr Cliffe Carter, comedian; Miss Daisy Lord, serio and dancer; and Louie Laurie, ballad vocalist.

SCARBOROUGH.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr Walter Kitchingman.—This week the attraction consists of variety. The programme includes Messrs Matt Wilkinson's comedy company in sketches; Miss Violet Beatrice, ballad vocalist; the Devone, flying wing artistes; the Three Floradora Girls, vocalists and dancers; Missena, on the silver wire; Brothers Arnold, in their cabinet mystery; Dale and Dargan, acrobatic jugglers; and a good series of animated pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Quinton Gibson.—A large audience again assembled here on Monday evening. The principal items of the programme are Tom Johnson, descriptive vocalist and mimic; Vandoni, musical eccentric; S. Merson, comedian; St. Maros, triple bar comedians; the Radium Girls, vocalists and dancers; Pearce and Ward, burlesque artistes; the Brothers Leonde, comic gymnasts; and J. C. Morris, comedian.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—There is a strong variety company here this week, headed by Hanco, who releases himself from the regulation police 'bracelets" with ridiculous ease. He is supported by Mr Percy Wright, vocalist; the Black Apollo in a clever performance on ten different instruments; Russell Hatton in some clever sketches from Dickens; Speeks and Thorne, coloured comedians, and buck-wing dancers; the Rameses with a well-studied set of Egyptian living pictures; the Three Sisters Wartana, comedy jugglers; Le Hurst and his pierrot boy; Cohen and Page (Blake and Elsie) in the novel burlesque sketch *Stage Mania*; *King and Country*, a well-managed series of tableaux in which fifty local children assist; Miss M. Farrimond, a soprano-vocalist of more than ordinary sweetness; York, Mack, and York, in their smart and always laughable act, *Widow Mack's Troublesome Boys*; Miss Marie Colling, burlesque vocalist; and O'Connor and Traynor, eccentric comedians and dancers.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—Mr Gus C. Livesey and company opened here on Monday in *The Crimson Club*. Mr Livesey interprets the wronged Richard Fenton in admirable style. The villainous Sir Philip Garside is powerfully drawn by Mr Lionel Thompson. Reginald Adolphus Garside is humorously embodied by Mr Percy Shaw, who is a clever whistler. Mr Herbert Belmore as Selby and Mr H. C. Gilpin as Craddock do good work. Julia Marsden is effectively represented by Miss Bertha Cousins. Miss Katie Cameron is a charming Muriel Lockwood. Miss Lily Day as Mrs Garside and Miss Elsie Mesnerd as Esther Craddock give efficient help. On Friday night *The Dumb Man of Manchester* was staged, preceded by *A Trip to Belle Vue*.

SHEERNESS.

COLISEUM.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. C. Dorling Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—A brilliant bill-of-fare presented here for this week includes the Brothers Hersleb, clever and amusing comedy burlesque artistes; a Russian troupe of National dancers, in a highly diverting entertainment; the Boultons, musical artistes, in their comedy act; Aga, the flying maiden, who is much admired; Mdlle. Bartenelli, lady gymnast and contortionist; Venturini, conjuror; the Sisters Northcroft, comedy duettists; Remo and Joyce, sketch artistes; E. J. Sheldon, comedian; Miss Fanny Worth, comedienne; and Geo. Trusty, comedian.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr P. Reymond.—A capital programme is arranged here and includes the Summersons (Will and Maggie), in the comedy act, *Legal Interviews*. Appearing also with success are Mr Charlie Howard, comedian; Miss Letty Young, comedienne and dancer; Mr Fred Donald, eccentric comedian; Miss Marie Lester, comedienne; Miss Pattie Power, comedienne and dancer; and Miss Bella Bright, serio. The performance concludes with the comedy sketch *In a Private Hotel*.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—On Monday Mr Charles Stone's company opened here in *What Became of Mrs Racket?* Mr Charles R. Stone distinguishing himself by a humorous impersonation of Obadiah Dawson. Miss Daisy Stone is smart and vivacious as a soubrette, and Miss Edith Madelle is a pretty and accomplished representative of Mrs Racket.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—*Sherlock Holmes* opened here on Monday, played by a company under the direction of Mr Charles Frohman. Mr Kenneth Rivington gave a firm and convincing reading of the rôle of Holmes, and the rest of the cast was in efficient hands.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—*Sentenced For Life* has again been played by Mr Fred Bulmer's excellent company. The eccentric curate is cleverly enacted by Mr Dan Agar. Miss Madge Douglas is bright and amusing, and other characters are effectively represented by Mr Graham Smith, Mr Ernest Vaughan, Mr Harry Lloyd, Miss Florence Trevor, and Miss Mary Dalby.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—The Maskelyne and Cooke entertainment is drawing crowded and delighted audiences, and the marvellous conjuring of Mr David Devant is received with enthusiastic applause. *Will, the Witch, and the Watchman* makes a good finish to a well-arranged programme.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—The Ben Greet company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, played *La Poupée* here on the first three nights of this week. Mr Algernon Lee acted conscientiously and well the part of Launcelot; Mr Joseph A. Brull, whose rich, mellow voice was heard to advantage, made a very capable Father Maxime; Mr Bert Danson was droll and clever as Hilarius; Mr Stanley White as Baron Chanterelle was successful; Mr Harry Bishop was a good Loremois, and the monks' parts were in capable hands. Miss Cissie Wade sang sweetly and played with care and talent the part of Alesia; Miss Margaret Ainsworth merited praise as Madame Hilarius; Miss Eva Ellis was bright as Henri; Miss Carr merited a word of praise as Guiluline, and other characters were well represented. The piece was nicely staged.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—Mr Edmund Tearle's visit here this week has been warmly welcomed by fairly large audiences. On Monday *Under the Red Robe* was presented with Mr Edmund Tearle appearing as Gil de Berault,

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow, sen.; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—This week's attraction here is provided by Miss Grace Warner, who presents the musical farce entitled *The Little Widow*, in three acts. The play is excellently rendered, and meets with considerable success. Mr Wilkins Potter finds a most able exponent in Mr George Gordon, who is well supported by Mr St. Bernard Wyntour as Dr. Arthur Potter, both of them being good singers; Mr Miller Anderson causes merriment in his impersonation of Auguste Bonsier; Mr Dan Clifford's singing of "He was a married man" meets with a most vociferous encore; Miss Lois James is well suited as Mrs Wilkins Potter; Emily Randall is well portrayed by Miss Maud Warburton, who sings well; Miss May Dallas makes a capital Sophinisba; and Mrs Constance Rattlebrain is exceptionally well portrayed by Miss Grace Warner, who meets with great favour.

SMETHWICK.

ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—*A Traitor Prince*, played by Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company, was warmly welcomed on a return visit to this popular house on Monday. Prince Rao Dalmierez is well presented by Mr Henry Lonsdale, his acting being easy and natural, while he has a good stage presence. A popular representation is that given by Mr A. Temple as the gallant but reckless young naval lieutenant, Frank Derrick, to whom many effective and patriotic lines are assigned. A good deal of fun is caused by Mr E. Carter Livesey as Billy Bright. Mr Austin Mortimer appears as the Hon. Bobby Vavasour Dalrymple, and his style is well suited to the requirements of the character. Mr G. M. Montenini does not lose a single opportunity in his study of Cara whom he presents with dignity. Mr A. H. Longford plays with admirably sustained force and earnestness in the dual rôle of Richard and Colonel Vane, always speaking his lines with effect. Miss Lilian Rosebery as the persecuted Lola Vane plays a sympathetic part with tenderness and simplicity; Miss Beatrice Weston's performance as Vashti, an Indian snake-charmer, is a clever piece of acting; Miss Lilian Rignold as Pansy Blossom is piquant and pretty; her tasteful singing and graceful dancing are most effective. Miss Marie Thornton presents a capital impersonation of Mrs Martha Blossom. Miss Nellie Horseley and Miss Florence Byrne as Blossom's beauties give clever turns as acrobatic dancers.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr Sydney Paxton.—Long will the present week linger in the memories of Southampton's music lovers. It is the first visit of the famous Moody-Manners opera company in grand opera and music drama. On Monday *Tannhäuser* was presented with the greatest success. Elisabeth was finely played by Madame De Vere, her acting and vocalisation alike being capital. Mr Joseph O'Mara was in excellent voice as Tannhäuser, and scored a huge success; Miss Toni Seiter (Venus) sang and acted in excellent style; and the resonant bass voice of Mr Char. Magrath sounded to great advantage in the music for the Landgrave. Useful assistance was given by Mr F. H. Erle (Wolfram), Mr G. Renshaw (Biterolf), Mr T. C. Fairbairn (Heinrich), Mr J. Alexander (Reinmar), and Mr V. Brodo (Walther). Miss Carter sang the Shepherd Boy's song very prettily. The choral work and the orchestral execution, under the direction of Herr Richard Eckhold, won flattering encomiums. On Tuesday *The Daughter of the Regiment*, with Mdlle. Zelie De Lussan in the title-rôle, was thoroughly enjoyed. Other operas included in the programme are *Faust*, *Mignon*, *La Traviata*, *Carmen*, and *The Bohemian Girl*. It is hoped Mr Chas. Manners will visit Southampton annually.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Manageress, Mrs J. W. Gordon; Acting-Manager, Mr Dudley Colwyn.—Mr Harry Johnston's company is this week appearing in *The Bank of England*, an interesting play, which is wonderfully well staged. Mr Hubert G. Chambers gives a powerful reading of the part of Sherlock Holmes; Mr Juan de Alberti is convincing as the designing Stephen Harley; Miss Ada Ryder (Margeret Dane) and Miss Hilda Clyde (Sylvia Barraclough) are both excellent; Miss Marie Loretha is successful as the American widow, Aminta J. Bean, and the fun is fast and furious while Mr Charles Goff, Tommy Sprouts, occupies the stage. The other parts are all intelligently rendered, and the visit is a popular one.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr Chas. Marte. — There is an exceptional array of talent at this popular resort. First favourite is O'Gust, the Parisian mimic, whose imitations of animals, &c., are wonderfully true to life; Chas. Mildare and Syd May are also well received for their clever mimicry; Belle Davis and her pick chicks bring down the house; and Katie Lawrence scores her usual great success. Other admirable entertainers are Percival, trick pianist; Cissie Heath, comedienne; and the Evalos, in their juggling and gymnastic mélange.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming. — Messrs E. Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company is appearing here this week in the stirring melodrama *The Traitor*, which is much appreciated, especially by the patrons of the popular parts of the house. Miss Hettie Senior played the rôle of Elise Duprey with excellent effect, and Miss Anena Walton as Cen Cen, Miss Lily Roselle (Countess Ziska), and Miss Conyers Radcliffe in the part of Zula were all excellent. Mr Wellesley Draper submitted a realistic portraiture of Prince Rudolph, and the title-part was ably depicted by Mr Stephen E. Scanlan.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Mr Henry Furnival and company are occupying the boards here in *Lost in Paris*. Miss Louisa Peach, who submits an artistic portrayal of Henriette, is warmly applauded in the part. An equally excellent representative is found in Miss K. Willoughby as Louise. Mr Edward Valentine as the bullying Jacques is well placed, and Mr Furnival is a suitable exponent of Pierre. Mr A. V. Dixon prominently essays Adrier, Chevalier Du Vaudrey, and Mr W. J. Butler (Count De Linieres) and Miss Pattie Hastings (La Frochard) had also their admirers. Mr J Fulton-Millar is an amusing Picard, and Mr W. Garrett an approving Dr. Du Vals.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—Fred Karno's comedians are causing much laughter by their droll antics in *Early Birds*; Nellie Wallace returns after a short absence, and her quaint efforts are enthusiastically appreciated; Griff, assisted by Alpha, scores his usual success; Mr and Mrs Bronte, comedy duologue artistes, are laughter-provoking; and the American Bioscope furnish a fine film, entitled "Jack's Rival." Florry Cooper, juvenile lady artiste; Fanny Robina, vocalist; Chas. Cardow, comedian; and Mabel Hind, in a scena, *A Little Japanese*, all create a favourable impression.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—The bill of fare for this week includes Jack Lorimer, Marie French, Syd Herman, Keith and Mercer, Will Ellerslie, Florence Bray, Ted Waite, and Millie Harris.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—*A Day in Paddy's Land* is being given here under the direction of Mr Will Hebden, who undertakes four different rôles, and acquits himself admirably in each. Mr Chris Bern is popular as the waiter, introducing an original song, and also contributing a banjo selection. Miss Jennie Clare is an up-to-date Mary Manners, her singing and dancing being very good.

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AMUSEMENTS IN PITTSBURGH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 21.—The event of the week is Miss Maude Adams' visit to the Nixon Theatre in J. M. Barrie's delightful comedy, *The Little Minister*. Miss Adams is considered one of the foremost present-day American actresses, and she certainly merits that reputation, judging by her excellent work as Lady Babbie. Mr Arthur Byron, who undertakes the rôle of Gavin Dishart, is excellent, and Mrs W. G. Jones as Nannie Webster deserves special notice.

ANOTHER English work occupied a place in this week's programme, the immortal *Charley's Aunt*, which was given with great success by the Harry Davis stock company at the New Alvin Theatre, Mr Fred Paulding undertaking the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley. Messrs William Courtenay and Howard Hickman as Jack Chesney and Chas. Wykeham were full of life. Mr Wm. M'Vay's Colonel Sir Francis Chesney was urbane and soldierly, and Mr Josef Dailey as Stephen Spettigue was extremely funny. The staging and scenery did Mr Davis and Mr J. C. Huffman, his stage manager, credit.

AT the Duquesne Theatre *Down the Pike*, a musical comedy by W. G. Rose and G. W. Quigley, is being played. The leading character in the play is the janitor of a big New York apartment house, and the plot shows his "carryings-on" both in his domain and at the St. Louis Fair. Mr Johnny Ray as M'Corkle, the janitor, and Emma Ray as Mrs Russell Keene are clever and amusing.

THE Avenue Theatre boards were occupied by *Hurly-Burly*, one of Weber and Field's musical comedies, containing plenty of innocent fun and catchy music. The Harry Davis Musical Travesty company, headed by Miss Eleanor Kent, acquitted itself laudably therein.

AN entertainment was presented by the Hanlon Brothers, under the name of *Superba*, at the Bijou Theatre last week, and afforded visitors a great deal of pleasure. The Hanlon Brothers enjoy a great reputation as acrobats, and *Superba* gives them many opportunities of displaying their skill. The astounding mechanical effects and illusions pleased both young and old.

"A LITTLE OUTCAST," a comedy-drama, in four acts, which has been produced at the Empire Theatre, is a thrilling story of New York life, with many telling situations and plenty of action. Mr Edwards Davis as Paul Weston plays with great power, and Miss Annie Blancke enacts Bob, the newsboy, with humour and pathos.

ANOTHER play having New York as its principal scene is *The Street Singer*, a musical drama by Hal Reid, presented by Messrs Forrester and Mittenthal's company at the Gaiety Theatre. Miss Florence Brindley captivates the audience by her clever acting and charming voice in the title-part of Violet Vodray.

A very attractive bill has been offered at the Grand Opera House during the week. Charles Hars, the clever juggler, comes in for much applause, and so does Miss Louise Brehany, who sings exquisitely. Stanley and Birbeck, "the musical blacksmiths," prove attractive. The Gausch Sisters in their head-to-head balancing act are well received. Yorke and Adams, the Hebrew comedians, evoke laughter. Willy Zimmerman gives some excellent impersonations of celebrated composers. Marion Ballou, an ex-member of the Davis stock company, pleases in monologue, and Mr and Mrs Gardner Crane present a clever comedietta entitled *Am I Your Wife?* which is vociferously greeted. Irving Jones sings darkey melodies, and others engaged are Orletta and Taylor, Trask and Gladden, "Mike" Foster's dog, Cook and Beal, and Dora Pelletier.

THE Imperial Burlesquers have paid a very welcome return visit to Harry Williams's Academy with *The Gay Widow Brown* and *The Girl from the West*, scoring well in both.

COVENT-GARDEN BALL.

The hundredth Covent-garden ball took place on the 2nd inst., and all parts of the house were crowded. The scene presented was an exceptionally brilliant one, and the beautiful new scenic productions representing the Bosphorus and Constantinople were much admired. The march past, preliminary to the prize distribution, took place in the early hours of the morning, the display of ornate and quaint fancy dress worn by the ladies being quite up to the average in merit. One lady came as "The Century Ball," and a very elaborate costume it was. Her pale blue duchess satin Empire gown, which was trimmed with spangled lace, had wide satin panels, heavily embroidered and painted to represent Covent-garden in 1804 and at the present time. On the front panel was a game of cricket, "100, not out," and on another the opera *Lohengrin*. Over this striking gown was a red velvet cloak, with a large painting representing the ball which was in progress, surmounted by a picture of the game of billiards, with the inscription, "May your 100 break cause no break to the successful run of balls," out of compliment to the management of Messrs Frank Rendle and Neil Forsyth. The headdress was an imitation of a dome of Constantinople, and the whole dress, which was covered with flowers, was lit up with over a hundred electric lights. Mr W. Clarkson deserves to be highly complimented on this costume, which gained a first prize; and from him also came another, suggestive of a fairy grotto. "Homeless and hungry," was a picture of a soup kitchen, and the poor trying to get in. Amongst other dresses which attracted special attention were "Ole Clo'," first prize, gentlemen, and "Showers of Good Luck," conspicuous for its embroidery of horse shoes. One of the gentlemen's fancy costumes, consisted of a white dress, covered with snow and frost, the wearer carrying on his head a water butt, frozen, with the words "a terrible frost" on it.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin and Complexion from the effects of the sun, wind, and hard water. Removes and prevents all roughness, redness, chaps, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS the SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after dancing, cycling, tennis, motoring, &c. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores, or Post-free from the Makers, M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.

PRIVATE VIEW OF THE GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

The management of this fine and spacious theatre issued invitations for a brilliant house-warming last night, which included the witnessing of the dress rehearsal of the pantomime *Cinderella*. Elaborate and generous hospitality was arranged, and the well-known firm, Hamilton, of Dundas-street, called in to officiate in the magnificent suite of offices, smoking-rooms, and lounges, which have, under the watchful care of Mr Eade Montefiore, been ornately decorated by Lawrence Collins, of Edinburgh, and furnished by Oetzmann, London. Distinction is given everywhere by the corridors and vestibules being hung with fine old engravings and photographs, inscribed and otherwise, of celebrities, the artistic taste evinced certainly foreshadowing first-class management. The representative list of acceptances handed to us shows how widely has Mr Montefiore's reputation preceded him, for amongst the social, military, civic, and business guests, all of whom were to bring friends, were Colonel Portal, D.S.O., and officers of the 17th Lancers; Colonel Powles and officers of the Royal Artillery, the officers of the Highland Light Infantry, Major Molyneux-Seel and officers, the Royal Scots; Colonel Hughes and officers of the Army Medical Corps, Colonel Bell and officers of the Army Pay Department, the officer commanding and officers of the Army Service Corps, the Rev. C. M. Black (and Mrs Black), vicar of Christ Church, Morningside; the Rev. P. W. Hulbert, vicar of St. Vincent's (in St. Stephen's street); the Rev. E. C. Dawson, St. Peter's, Newington; the Rev. A. M. Mackay, Holy Trinity Church; Judge Cameron and party, Major and Miss Dallas, the Rev. Pierce Egan, St. Mary's Cathedral; Ex-Bailie Pentland, Bailie Smith, Councillor Murray, L.L.B., W.S.; Mr James Buchan (Dundee), Dr. and Mrs Colin Mackenzie, Dr. and Mrs Berry Hart, Mr and Mrs J. Campbell Dewar, Dr. William Robertson, D.P.H.; Mr R. P. Marwick and friends, Mr Archibald Menzies, S.S.C., and Mrs Menzies; Mr R. D Binstead, G.P.O.; Dr. Johnstone (Actors' Association), Mr H. A. Boswell *(Scottish Guardian)* and Mrs Boswell, Mr Ronald A. H. Cox, Mr James Russell (City officer), Mr G. Ralph Hall-Caine, and some three hundred others; while among the kindly expressed regrets at being unavoidably absent were those sent by the Dean of Edinburgh (the Very Rev. J. Skinner Wilson, M.A.), who wrote that he was unable to attend himself on account of parochial duties, but he accepted the invitation on behalf of two members of his family, who had much pleasure in taking advantage of it. The Rev. Dr. Grant, of St. Stephen's Church (adjoining the theatre), regretted that he could not be present, but hoped to hear that the Grand Theatre was always conducted with decorum, and that it would become a source of real and healthy pleasure to the people of Edinburgh and the neighbourhood. The Provost of Leith was prevented from being present by a previous engagement; but Mrs Mackie attended with several friends.

PROGRAMME FRONTISPIECE.

BY E. U. SMITH.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The concert of Wednesday last opened with the Adagio and Finale from the E minor Concerto of Chopin as a duet for two pianoforter, the first pianoforte being played by Miss Florence Nightingale, the second by Mr Georg Liebling, the excellent professor, whose pupil, Miss Nightingale, did herself great credit. Indeed, the pianoforte was prominent in the concert, the "Berceuse" of Chopin being given by Miss Helena Cane, and the Polonaise in C sharp minor by the same composer by Miss Agnes Mallett, and the final item being a duet for two pianos by M. Valle De Pas, the performers being Mr Bennett and Miss Jessie Jackson. The vocal music was good. Miss Rita Milner had the unusual experience during her songs of the sudden extinction of the electric light, but neither Miss Milner nor the audience appeared in the least disturbed, and when the light was restored she went on gaily with "Driving a bargain." Miss Hilda Morris sang "Come, sweet morning," gracefully, and Mr Charles H. Pope acquitted himself well in Löhr's song, "Margarita." Miss Winifred Holme gained hearty applause in "Alone on the raft," and Miss Helena Spicer was successful in "You," by Denza, Mr T. Probyn being heard in "Don Juan's Serenade" by Tschaikowsky. The violin was represented by Miss Hilda Lett in two mazurkas of Wieniawski, and Miss Lillian Budds in a caprice of Bendas. Miss Barcham recited in good style "Marguerite of France," by Mrs Hemans, and "A Happy Afternoon," by Barry Pain. Miss Kate E. Ward accompanied, and Mrs Charles P. Smith exercised her customary efficient superintendence of the young ladies. Rehearsals of *Romeo and Juliet* are proceeding under the able direction of M. Jacobi.

ROYAL COLLEGE OPERA STUDENTS

The boldest and most successful attempt hitherto made by the Royal College operatic students was the performance of Gluck's opera *Alcestis* at His Majesty's Theatre on the 2nd inst. The theatre had been most kindly lent by Mr Tree, a gentleman always in sympathy with the sister arts. *Alcestis*, although received with much favour when produced at the Court Theatre, Vienna, on December, 1767, has not kept the stage like *Orfeo*, which still attracts the opera-goer by the beauty of its melodies. But Gluck was in his day a great performer, and sought, like Wagner in our own times, to make dramatic art of equal importance with music and to abolish the caprices of the prima donna, who, in the old operatic days, did not scruple to alter the composer's score or to introduce florid passages to suit her voice and style, not considering for a moment whether they were appropriate to the artistic effect or the dramatic situation. *Alcestis* has often been chosen by the artist for illustration; for example, the late Lord Leighton exhibited a few years since a fine picture at the Royal Academy—Hercules wrestling with Death for the body of Alcestis. It was much admired, and was considered one of his finest works. Gluck when the opera was produced explained fully his object to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, as will be seen in Sir George Grove's "Dictionary of Music." But the librettist had trusted too much to the emotional element to secure popularity, and *Alcestis* has been shelved for many a year. The opening scene is extremely sombre. The subjects of King Admetus assembled in front of the Royal palace, are grieved to hear that the King is dying. This is confirmed by the Queen, who is greeted by the chorus after the manner of a Greek tragedy. The Queen implores the people to join her in prayer at the Temple of Apollo to plead for the Royal life. Next we see the Temple of Apollo and the sacrifice made to the god, a scene treated by Gluck with true dramatic power. Afterwards the attached couple seem likely to yield to their inevitable doom, when Hercules with his club comes to the rescue, as in Lord Leighton's picture. This incident is somewhat grotesque and suggests pantomime rather than tragic opera, but there are good opportunities for a prima donna equal to the situation, and Miss Nannie Tout must be credited with surprising talent as a vocalist and actress. It is true Nature has not framed her features in a tragic mould but her natural ability is so great that we expect the day is not far distant when her name will be enrolled among the stars of the lyric stage. An occasional stiffness in her movements serves to recall the novice at times, but this will assuredly wear off with experience, and even now is seldom to be noticed. There are many operas in which she might take part without a sign of her lacking experience. She has a beautiful voice capable of every shade of expression, and with a little more cultivation it will serve her well, and enable her thoroughly to carry out her intelligent ideas—for the lady is able to grasp the full significance of a dramatic situation, and to make it understood by the audience—a rare and value able gift, and one meriting earnest study. Mr Ben Ivor Davies represented Admetus with genuine talent, both vocal and histrionic, his delivery being always distinct and clear. Mr Greeves Johnson, who doubled the parts of the High Priest and Death, acquitted himself well; and Mr J. H. Foster, although his voice was scarcely heavy enough to realise the character of Hercules, sang in good style, and brandished his club in a most business-like manner. Mr Merlin Davies as Evander, Miss Beatrice Dunn, Miss Mary A. Wheeler, Miss Gillender, Miss Purser, and Miss Wasserzug were all entitled to commendation. The freshness and good intonation of the choralists merited hearty praise, and reflected the utmost credit upon their trainer, Mr Waddington, while the sprightly dances, arranged by Mr Soutten with his customary skill, pleasantly relieved the more sombre scenes of the opera, which could not have been better stage-managed than by Mr Richard Temple. Sir Charles Stanford conducted his forces with his usual ability, his success being fully and enthusiastically recognised by the crowded audience. A new English version had been prepared by Mr Claude Aveling and was in the main extremely well done. The famous air so often heard in the concert room, "Divinités du Styx," was, however, somewhat feebly translated by—

> Ye lords of endless night,
> Ye satellites of Death,
> Never will I invoke
> Your pity cold and cruel!

That pity could hardly be "cold and cruel" speaks for itself, but the translation of this celebrated air is the only weak passage in the librette.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association, held last Tuesday, Mr D. Louis Cairns, M.D., New North-road, Huddersfield, was elected as an hon. medical officer to the Association. The hon. solicitors reported the settlement of a dispute by payment of the full amount of a member's claim. The council re-elected 225 hon. medical officers in London and the provinces for the year 1905. Mr Wybert Rousby was elected as an hon. member of the Actors' Association. The secretary was instructed to file particulars of complaints against three alleged bogus managers. The list of members whose subscriptions for the current year had not been paid was dealt with and their names ordered to be removed from the register. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received.

THE *Pelican* Christmas annual is even more interesting and attractive than usual. It is composed of stories, anecdotes, and observations by various well-known and popular people connected with the profession, illustrated by portraits. Mr Frank M. Boyd has evidently taken great pains in the preparation of this capital "Christmas number."

PRESENTATION.—Mr Frank Stanley, business-manager for Mr Walter Melville's *Disgrace to Her Sex* company, had a pleasant surprise on Saturday last, when Miss Grace Heywood, on behalf of the company, presented him with a handsome silver card case, as a slight token of their esteem and recognition of his courtesy throughout the tour.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIME.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

"CINDERELLA" AT GLASGOW.

On Thursday, Dec. 1, this theatre led the way with the production of their second annual pantomime. This year the entire arrangements of the Grand pantomime have been placed in the hands of Mr Robert Courtneidge, and it may be at once said that the magnificent spectacle he has placed upon the stage and the efforts of the first-rate company engaged have scored an emphatic and well-deserved success. The popular story of "Cinderella and the Glass Slipper" is treated with somewhat more respect than is usual in pantomime, and the book, provided by Mr A. M. Thompson and Mr Robert Courtneidge, pleasantly follows the lines of the old fairy tale, with less of extraneous matter than usual. And specially commendable is the taking away of the parts of the so-called "ugly" sisters from the male comedians and allotting them to two charming young ladies, who make one sister a tall and graceful lady of literary tastes and a facility at Shakespearian quotation, and the other an up-to-date young damsel of go-ahead style. Though this pantomime as a spectacular triumph will rank high, there is no doubt that the popular success will be mainly due to the artists playing the principal rôles, and much of the smoothness and finish which marked the first performance is owing to the fact that many of the principals played the same parts in the same pantomime last year in Liverpool. By popular acclamation the hit of the evening was made by Mr Dan Rolyat as Archibald, Baron Locklands, and every speech and action of this amusing comedian was instinct with humour. Mr Rolyat's previous appearances in drama in Glasgow had shown him to be a comedian of considerable humour and resource, but his title to place in the front rank should be assured by his impersonation of the impecunious baron in this pantomime. His fun is irresistible, and his manner throughout, though bearing a strong resemblance to the style of a well-known music hall star, is nevertheless marked by much originality, and caught the fancy of the large audience from the moment of his first entrance. His songs are all cleverly sung, and his bye-play and business most amusing. Another equally clever performance, on different and contrasting lines, is the Baroness of Mr John Humphries. His massive proportions, compared with the diminutive baron, give the fun a hearty send-off, and Mr Humphries and Mr Rolyat are indefatigable in the working up of clever business and patter. Miss Maude Mortimer, after an absence of two years, returns to the Grand again as principal boy, and her Prince is a charming impersonation. In appearance she is well equipped for the part, and her crisp delivery of the dialogue and her ability as a vocalist make her a strong favourite. In all her songs, "You can't keep the sun from shining," "Little Yo-san," "Soldier Boy" (with its spirited marching chorus), &c., she made decided hits, and encores were numerous. For the part of Cinderella Mr Courtneidge has secured a young actress of much promise in Miss Florence Smithson, who acts the pathetic little household drudge with much charm and naïveté, and in the Ball-room scene makes a Princess of dignified appearance and style. She sings "The Poplar and the Rainbow" with good effect, and gives much vivacity to the duet with Choddles, "If I had a girl as nice as you." Her happiest effort, however, was in "Comin' through the Rye," which she sang charmingly. The overbearing half-sisters of Cinderella were cleverly portrayed by Miss Lillie Soutter as Mopsa and Miss Winnie Browne as Arethuso. The former is the lively and up-to-date sister, whose conversation is at all times modern, or even slangy, while the latter affects the learned and literary style, and ekes her conversation out with lengthy quotations from the poets. Both ladies lend invaluable aid in the humour of the pantomime, particularly in the scenes with the Baron and Baroness. Mr J. A. Warden as Dandini makes the character that of a soft young swell with a great ambition to pose as the Prince, and who fairly revels in the opportunity when it comes. His acting is clever, and his song "Spoiled" is given with good effect. Miss Gwennie Hasto, the Princess Roxana, is a good singer and smart dancer, and she made a feature of the coon song "Navaho." Miss Gertrude Kuzelle as Gaston, the Prince's equerry, found her best opportunity in "Bluebell," that popular ditty being received with much enthusiasm. Mr Stephen Adeson works hard as the Baron's retainer, Choddles, and is well to the front in all the fun-making. He shares in the duet with Cinderella, 'If I had a girl as nice as you," and contributes an amusing song "We all walked into the shop." Miss Sylvia Morris as the Fairy Godmother spoke her lines with good effect, and invested the part with considerable charm. Misses May Duncan, R. Yorke, Edith Walker, and Mabel Loton appeared as the other fairies in the opening scene, and Misses Dorothy Lotor, Ethel Desmond, Madge Lumsden, Kitty Devlin, Ethel Lochner, and Marjory Clarke made a picturesque portion of the Prince's retinue. The pantomime is divided into two acts of five scenes, each, and from a scenic point of view takes high rank. The opening scene, The Clematis Glade, is a pretty set by Mr R. M'Cleery, who is also responsible for an effective cloth, The Exterior of the Baronial Hall, and for the picturesque set which concludes the pantomime, The Fairy Wedding. Mr Conrad Tritschler is represented by scene two, The Heart of the Forest, a full set of much beauty, first shown as a winter scene, and then by an ingenious change transformed into a rich summer landscape. Scenes four and five, The Baronial Kitchen and The Toilet, are also by Mr Tritschler, the first a typical pantomime kitchen of ample proportions, and the latter a cleverly devised transformation scene of fine effect, in which Cinderella is equipped for the ball by the fairies, and in this scene many picturesque effects and scenic surprises are introduced. The opening scene of act two, The Ballroom at the Palace, is another of Mr Tritschler's sets, and is a most effective interior with a substantial-looking staircase at the back. Two other clever cloths are the Interior of the Hall, by Mr James Gordon, and the Interior of the Palace, by Mr W. R. Coleman. The music has been composed by Mr Alfred Hainer, who is at his best in a lively opening chorus, "The Merry Sabot," and the striking finale to the Ball-room scene is by Mr Herbert E. Hainer. The lyrics are by Mr Charles H. Taylor, who in musical comedy has ably demonstrated his facility at this work. The ballets and processions are especially elaborate, and have been arranged by Mdlle. Rose Tyrrell. The handsome costumes and accessories are from designs by Mr Wilhelm, and the former have been made under the direction of Mrs Campell Browne. The mechanical effects are by Mr Ernest Dale. Mr H. Henderson, Mus. Bac., resident conductor at the Grand, kept the augmented band and large chorus well in hand. Mr Robert Courtneige deserves the highest praise for the perfection of stage-management shown in the performance, and in response to the enthusiastic applause at the conclusion, he bowed his thanks repeatedly, and was then induced to say a few words, thanking the audience for their hearty reception, and expressing the pleasure he felt in again appearing before a Glasgow audience at pantomime time, after so many years' absence. Mr Courtneige then withdrew, but, in response to another recall, again appeared, this time in company with Mr R. C. Buchanan, managing director at the Grand, and both were accorded an emphatic proof of the success they have achieved.

AT the Opera House, Northampton, on Friday, Dec. 2, was produced an original romantic society musical comedy-drama, by Louis H. Carlton, entitled *The Mysterious Musicians*.

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

On Tuesday, the 29th ult., the usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

DRURY-LANE, THEATRE.

In reply to Sir Algernon West, Mr W. B. YATES, chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, stated that the result of the arbitration in the matter of the Council's requirements in respect of Drury-lane Theatre was as follows:—One hundred and forty-three requirements were made by the Council and of these 111 were confirmed absolutely by the arbitrator to whom they were referred; fourteen were modified and confirmed, and eighteen were not confirmed, although the arbitrator said some were desirable, but as they were matters of management and not of structure, he could not confirm them. So it would be seen that the Council was perfectly justified in the action it took. The real test of whether they had succeeded arose on the cost, and the arbitrator had decided that the Drury-lane Theatre Company should pay the whole of it.

Mr STRAUS enquired whether it was not a fact that the cost of carrying out the requirements would have been much less if the Council's first demands had been agreed to without going to arbitration.

Mr YATES said he had not the figures before him, but he believed the answer was in the affirmative.

"A WIFE WITHOUT A SMILE."

Mr POMEROY asked whether the attention of the chairman of the Theatres Committee had been called to the performance of *A Wife Without a Smile* at Wyndham's Theatre, and, if the statements in the Press regarding it were correct, did he consider it a piece of a desirable character?

Mr YATES said Wyndham's Theatre was not licenced by the Council, but by the Lord Chamberlain. The only control they had over the theatre was as to structure and safety. As to the piece in question, he had no official knowledge.

AGRICULTURAL HALL.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee recommended "That Mr T. M'Row be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan, dated Nov. 3, submitted by him with regard to a proposed pay-box enclosure at St. Mary's Hall, Royal Agricultural Hall, provided the door to the pay-box be hung so as to close with the stream of persons passing from the auditorium to the street." Adopted

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

At the meeting held on Tuesday last the Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that they had considered a plan, submitted by Mr L. Sharp, on behalf of the licensee of the Camberwell Palace of Varieties, Denmark-hill, showing the seating arrangements in the pit and stalls at these premises. The plan shows slight modifications from the arrangements approved by the Council when the premises were opened in 1899, but the committee considered the existing arrangements may be accepted, and therefore recommended "That Mr L. Sharp be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan, dated Nov. 4, 1904, submitted by him."

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

The committee recommended "That Mr C. S. Peach be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the four plans, dated Oct. 8, 1904, submitted by him with regard to the proposed system of ventilation at the Haymarket Theatre, provided the undermentioned conditions be complied with—(1) That an automatic switch for immediately stopping the fans be provided, such switch to be worked by the descent of the iron curtain, or to be placed close to the curtain-raising gear, so that it could be operated at the same time as the curtain is released. (2) That provision be made for closing from the stage whenever necessary the opening at the back of the gallery."

FIRE-RESISTING CURTAINS.

The committee reported:—The Council on May 3, 1904, approved, subject to certain conditions, plans submitted by Messrs Owen and Ward on behalf of Mr Clarence Sounes, of a theatre which it was proposed to erect at the junction of East India Dock-road and Stainsby-road, Poplar. The plans showed that two fire-resisting curtains would be provided to separate the stage from the auditorium, one on each side of the proscenium wall. Messrs Owen and Ward have now asked that the Council will accept the provision of one fire-resisting curtain. As we pointed out in our report to the Council on Oct. 18, 1904, with reference to the Lyceum theatre, the regulations of the Council at present in force only require the provision of one curtain, and there is not any theatre or music hall where more than one curtain is provided. Moreover, in the recent arbitration proceedings respecting the requirements of the Council with regard to Drury-lane Theatre, the requirement for the provision of a second fire-resisting curtain was disallowed. The question whether the advantages of two fire resisting curtains outweigh the disadvantages sufficiently to justify the Council in making a regulation that in every new theatre two such curtains shall be provided has not been considered by the Council, and we do not think that two curtains should be required in any case before such an important question of principle has been decided. We are of opinion that the same course should be followed in this case as in the case of the Lyceum Theatre, and we recommend "That, without prejudice to the question as to the advisability of the Council amending its regulations with regard to theatres, so as to require the provision of two fire-resisting curtains in new theatres, the provision of the second fire-resisting curtain shown on the plans, dated April 13, 1904, submitted by Messrs Owen and Ward, with regard to a new theatre at Poplar, be not insisted upon."

VARIETY THEATRE, HOXTON.

The committee reported that they had considered a plan, submitted by Messrs Wylson and Long, showing how it is proposed to give effect to the Council's suggestion for the improvement of the means of exit from the balcony at the Variety Theatre, Hoxton. They recommended "That Messrs Wylson and Long be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the plan dated Nov. 22, 1904, submitted by them with regard to the alteration in the exit arrangements from the balcony at the Variety Theatre, Hoxton."

All the above recommendations were agreed to without discussion.

COMMUNICATION WITH FIRE STATIONS

In reply to Mr Yates, chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee, Mr E. Smith said that the Fire Brigade Committee hoped to be able shortly to report on the subject of connecting licensed places of amusement with the fire stations by telephone systems other than that of the Post-office.

NEW THEATRE SHELTERS.

The Building Act Committee reported as follows:—"1. On Oct. 25, 1904, the Council, upon our recommendation, referred it to the General Purposes Committee to bring up an addition to our order of reference to provide that we should, when considering any applications for permission to erect iron and glass shelters over the public way, bear in mind that the Council would not be disposed to sanction the erection of any such shelter which did not comply with certain specified conditions. The General Purposes Committee have this reference still under consideration, and although we have had before us for some time past a considerable number of applications for consent to the erection of shelters over the public way, we have considered it desirable to avoid as far as possible submitting any recommendation to the Council whilst the reference from the Council is still before the General Purposes Committee. Among the applications waiting to be dealt with is one submitted by Mr F. T. Verity on behalf of Mr E. D. Maddick for consent to the erection of iron and glass shelters at a new theatre and restaurant in Charlotte-street, Tottenham-court-road. Urgent requests have been made to us by the applicant and his client to deal with this application in order that the erection of the shelters may be completed before the opening of the theatre, which, it is stated, will take place on Dec. 3. In the circumstances we think that considerable hardship would be caused by further delaying the consideration of this application, and as the proposed shelters comply with the conditions suggested in our report to the Council on Oct. 25, we see no objection to the application being granted. We recommend "That the Council, in the exercise of its powers under sections 22 and 73 of the London Building Act, 1894, do consent to the erection of iron and glass shelters to a theatre building abutting upon the east side of Charlotte-street, south side of Tottenham-street, and north side of Pitt-street, St. Pancras, as shown on the plans, dated Aug. 7, 1904, and the plans signed by the chairman of the Building Act Committee, submitted in connection with the application of Mr F. T. Verity, on behalf of Mr E. D. Maddick, such consent being subject to the following conditions:—That the shelters be commenced within six months and completed within eighteen months from Nov. 29, 1904; that the whole of the work be executed to the satisfaction of the district surveyor; that no advertisement sign, lettering, or device, other than the name of the premises, be placed over or upon or affixed to such shelters, and that the shelters be otherwise erected and retained without any addition thereto and in exact accordance with the application for the consent, and the said plans and particulars submitted in connection with such application." The consideration of this matter was again postponed.

ROYAL ACADEMY CONCERT.

The orchestral concert usually given on the verge of Christmas took place at Queen's Hall on Tuesday last, and afforded most satisfactory evidence of the steady progress of the institution under Sir A. C. Mackenzie and his accomplished staff of instructors. In all departments of music there was something to show that the Royal Academy is keeping pace with the times, and may challenge comparison with any foreign establishment of the kind, however famous. In composition we have to credit Mr Hubert Bath with some ingenious variations on an original theme, in which the young composer has employed every instrument in the orchestra in working out his ideas, from the organ to the cymbals. He possibly owes an occasional suggestion to Dr. Elgar's work of a similar class, but there is no direct imitation, and the echo of another musician is not more pronounced than we find in a thousand other instances. Beethoven copied Mozart, Mozart Haydn, Mendelssohn reflects Bach and Handel, greatly to his own benefit, and Gounod freely admits how indebted he was to *Don Giovanni* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*. Best of all in the variations of Mr Bath is a vein of freshness, which will certainly, if thoroughly worked out, lead to something important in the future, and his treatment of orchestral resources is always skilful, and often original. The theme which serves for the variations is also pleasing. The instrumental work done by the students reached a very high standard of excellence. For example, any student might be proud of such a performance as that of Miss Gladys Clark, who, in the difficult Concerto No. 4 for the violin, by Vieuxtemps, displayed very admirable qualities. She gave the Adagio with the requisite expression and purity of tone, and the Allegro with firmness, decision, and good intonation. The vocal music was worthy of the rest. Miss Ethel H. Hantke, possessing a rich and sympathetic voice, shone in Handel's "Ombra mai fù." Beethoven's "Ah perfido" was given with intelligence and expression by Miss Ida Kahn, and Mr David Brazell deserved high praise for his pure tone and refined style in "Erl Tu," from Verdi's *Ballo in Maschera*, which Mr Brazell sang like an operatic artist. Of course due attention was given to the pianoforte, and Miss Ursula Newton gave a brilliant version of Moszkowski's Concerto in E, or rather the Andante and Scherzo from that work, which are good examples of Moszkowski's style. The Allegro from Beethoven's E flat Concerto displayed the ability of Miss Hilda Peppercorn. The orchestra did excellent work in a symphonic poem of Smetana.

MR CECIL A. MELTON, who is just finishing an eighteen weeks' tour with Mr Walter Melville's drama *Her Second Time on Earth*, has been re-engaged by him to play the lead in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, opening Christmas week at Newcastle. Mr Melton, who has been under the same management for over three years, has just celebrated his 300th performance as Jack Carlton, the part originally played by him at the Standard, London. His friends will be glad to hear his greyhound Jack is also engaged.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRMINGHAM.

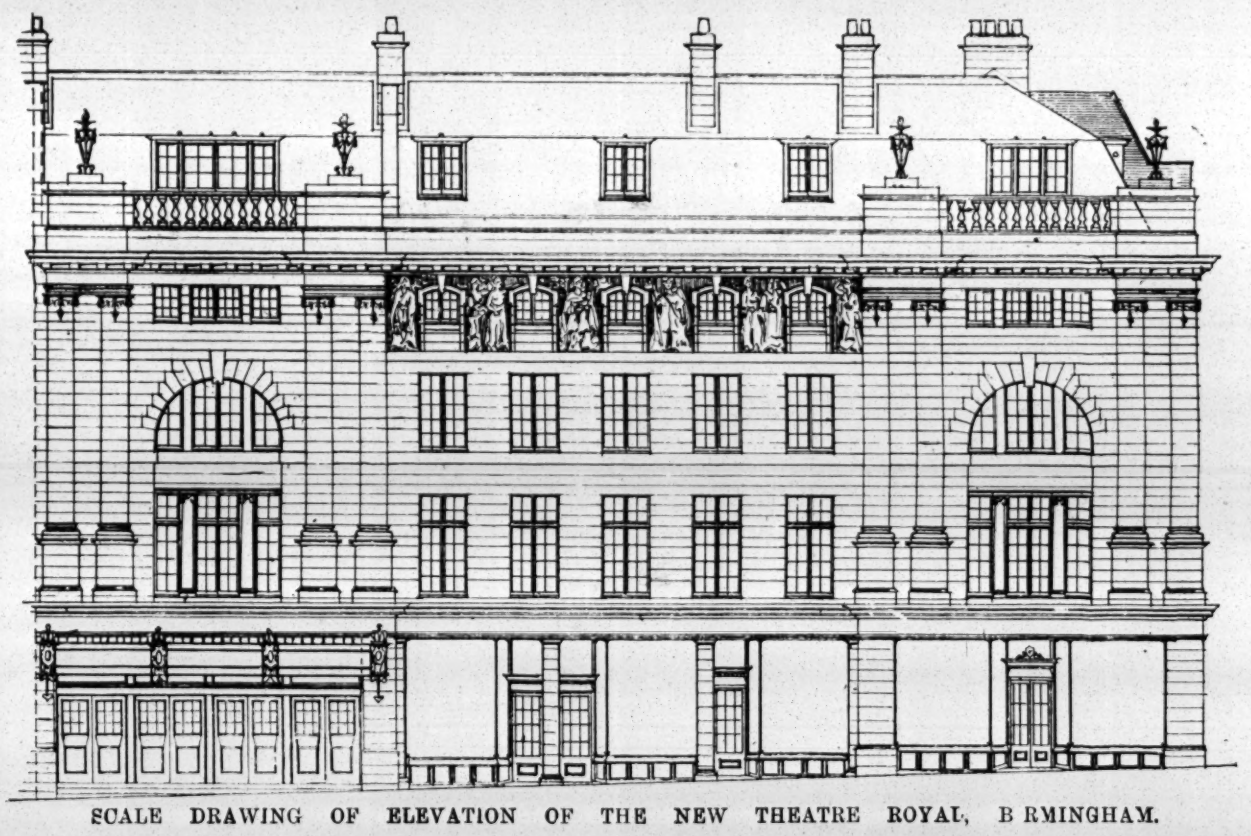
(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

Thanks in the fullest measure to Mr Tom B. Davis, the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, is now an established fact, and will ere Christmas have become an important factor in the amusement of the hardware city. Nearly three years have elapsed since the old theatre was closed for reconstruction, the last performance taking place in the first week of January, 1902, and the delays and deadlocks had been so frequent that it looked as if the theatre was closed for ever. However, Mr Tom B. Davis came to the rescue, acquired the leases, and a limited company was formed with Mr Davis as managing director, the task of reconstruction being started in real earnest in March last, since when the work has progressed so rapidly that the theatre is in its main essentials complete. The house, both externally and internally, is built on the lines of the new Gaiety Theatre, London, the architects being Messrs Runtz and Ford, of London. The building is five storeys high, having a street elevation of 60ft. and a general height of between 70ft. and 80ft. The main walls are of red brick, but the elevation to New-street is of Monk's Park stone, in the semi-classic style of the time of George III. This red and white façade is relieved by handsome bronze figures, 7ft. 6in. high, and 3ft. 6in. wide, representing "Comedy," "Industries," "Charity," "Justice," "Science," and "Tragedy," and four front shops with offices above extend from the colonnade passage to the main entrance, which is in the old position, practically (opposite Bennet's-hill), though much more commodious. This grand entrance is 23ft. wide, leading into a large crush room, in which stands the box office, and leads to the stalls and dress circle in the left and right directions. Of entrances and exits there are no end, and the local magistrates opine that none better could be devised. The entrances to the ordinary pit door and those to the early and ordinary gallery doors are by way of a long asphalted and covered passage, 20ft. wide from Stephenson-street, and as awnings are in course of erection in Collonade-passage and Stephenson-street, the queues waiting for admission will be somewhat sheltered from the weather.

The auditorium is divided into orchestra stalls, pit stalls, pit, dress circle, upper circle, and gallery, and much solicitude for the proper comfort of the public is betrayed in the arrangements and appointments thereof. Thus every visitor will enjoy a full and unrestricted view of the stage, this desideratum being achieved by the erection of apparently unsupported galleries, which nevertheless are kept up by six solid steel columns rising from the back of the pit through the circle and upper circle corridors, up to the gallery. Then running from side to side, and tied at the ends to the main wall, resting on the columns, are steel cantilevers which form the permanent strength of the three galleries. Two pillars only are visible in the dress and upper circles, the others being obscured by the corridors, and so ingeniously is it done that it has all the appearance of galleries resting on air, albeit the durability and stability of the construction is beyond doubt, while the supreme advantage of a full view of the stage is thus brought to the farthest confines of the house. Private boxes to the number of eighteen rise in tiers of three from the pit, and in front of the stalls is laid a well for the adequate accommodation of the orchestra, which will be presided over by Mr Guy Jones, an appointment which local playgoers and all music lovers will acclaim. The stage, albeit not so large as the old one, will be ample, and is equipped with every modern appliance requisite. The roof of the theatre rises to lofty altitudes, and will afford splendid breathing space to the occupants of the higher planes; and in front of the proscenium a sounding board has been constructed, while a massive 100-light ornamental electrolier is suspended from the point which divides the sounding-board from the roof.

The decoration and upholstering have been carried out with a pleasing and restful effect for the eye. Green, white, and gold are the predominating tints, and delicate rose-pink paper adorns the private boxes, which are luxuriously furnished with satinwood and pink upholstery. The auditorium is papered with green and gold, the ceiling being decorated in ivory white and gold, and the same harmonious tints are employed in the other parts of the house. The theatre will seat about 2,200 persons, apportioned as follows:—Dress circle, 380; upper circle, 350; gallery, 550; pit stalls, 116; orchestra stalls, 166; boxes, 72; and pit 550. Dressing-room accommodation has been provided on the most liberal scale, which will be ample for the largest companies visiting, and the sanitary arrangements have received the strictest attention. The refreshment bars are conveniently though unobtrusively situated, also the corridors are spacious to permit of promenading, and the entire building is lighted by gas as well as electricity. The heating and ventilation arrangements are planned on the "plenum" system, and the precautions against fire and panic are innumerable and thoughtful. Concrete has been used wherever practicable, and the whole of the plastering has been finished in fireproof material. The theatre has been built by Messrs Henry Lovatt and Co., Wolverhampton, and the work of decoration and upholstering has been carried out by Messrs Smee and Cobay, of London. The building has, it will be seen, been erected in the short time of nine months, and the cost is estimated at about £50,000.

Mr Davis does not propose to wait until Boxing Day to give the expectant Birmingham public an opportunity of admiring their new Theatre Royal, but will produce his first "Royal" pantomime on or about Dec. 17, when the act-drop, which is beautifully and gorgeously embroidered in rich gold, will rise on *The Babes in the Wood*. The "book" has been specially written by Mr A. M. Thompson (Dangle) and Mr Robert Courtneidge, with lyrics by Mr Charles H. Taylor, and special music by Mr Herbert E. Haines. Mr Davis has retained Miss Lily Iris for principal boy, and Miss Gladys Ward, Miss Mabel Lait, Miss Monica Sayer, Mr Bert Gilbert as the Baron; the Misses Phyllis Dare and Madie Andrews as the Babes; Messrs Henry Wright and Daley Cooper as the Robbers; Mr Fred Farren as the babes' faithful canine attendant; Mr J. F. M'Ardle as the Dame; and others not less talented. The scenic effects are in the hands of Messrs Stafford Hall, R. C. M'Cleery, T. Holmes, E. H. Ryan, and Philip Howden. Mr Philip Rodway, who served so well and faithfully as acting-manager under the "ancien regime," will continue his valuable services under the new, whereat local playgoers rejoice.



SCALE DRAWING OF ELEVATION OF THE NEW THEATRE ROYAL, BIRMINGHAM.

MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR. TOM B. DAVIS. ARCHITECTS, MESSRS. RUNTZ AND FORD.

MR. RICHARD TEMPLE'S RECITAL.

Mr Richard Temple, for the fifth of the second series of his recitals at Steinway Hall on Saturday afternoon, chose several favourite pieces that he had given before, and unfortunately the chief novelty of the programme—a scene from Marlowe's masterpiece *The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus*—had to be omitted, the popular entertainer explaining that his limited leisure had been so occupied with his duties as coach to the musical and dramatic students of the Royal College of Music that he had been unable to spare the time for the necessary study. We were thus deprived of hearing his interpretation of a very fine dramatic excerpt. In its stead Mr Temple gave the well-known scene from *King Lear* in the third act. Mr Temple depicted with considerable force the outburst of the "poor, infirmed, weak, and despised old man" whose reason is becoming unseated, and the pitiful passage "I am a man more sinned against than sinning" was touched with a pathos that further strengthened the deep impression made upon the audience by the humanity of the scene. As a recent commentator has remarked in regard to the sad condition of mind and body of the aged King: "Shakespeare is not concerned, as Milton and Æschylus were, in justifying the ways of God to man. Like Sophocles he looks steadily at the facts of life as sad experience had disclosed them. There is disillusionment, if you will, 'the sober colouring of an eye that hath kept watch o'er man's mortality;' but the spirit which animates the whole is not to be confused with pessimism. Shakespeare's object is to produce the peculiar pleasure which is the aim of tragedy, the pleasure of sympathetic emotion called forth by the image of an ideal sorrow." That the great spirit of Lear is tried to the uttermost the scene so finely delivered by Mr Temple sufficiently reveals; and though the law of retribution is stern enough, Shakespeare, in holding up the mirror of suffering, teaches us—so Mr W. L. Courtney asserts in his "Idea of Tragedy"—that "there is another law, that only by suffering can a man learn all the finer graces of sympathy and loving kindness flowering out of a horrible experience of evil." "A Last Confession," by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, was again given by desire, and the intense passion and remorse of the scene were on Saturday afternoon realised very graphically. The programme was lightened by an amusing excerpt from Jerome K. Jerome, entitled "Uncle Podger hangs the Picture," and a sketch written by Mr Temple himself on "Things in General." The musical selections included violin solos by Miss Alice Liebman, who played with excellent technique and fine tone a "Rhapsodie Hongroise," by Hauser, to which she gave all the necessary *brio*. In broad, impressive manner Miss Liebman also played the "Largo" of Handel, being accompanied by Miss Bertha Liebman. Miss Grace Philippa was heard in some well-rendered pianoforte pieces by Schubert, Grieg, and Chaminade.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. A.F.C. v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Dec. 3. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.—H. Belding (captain), goal; A. Hamlin (of Harry Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.) and J. Lewis, backs; S. Carter, A. E. Bailey, and W. Miller, half-backs; E. Belding, J. Aubrey, H. Clements, E. Bowman (of H. Hare's Orchestral Band A.F.C.), and M. Leonard, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; J. Tyley and T. Denton, backs; T. Neagle (captain), J. Lacey, and W. Hinder, half-backs; H. C. Douglas, P. Reardon, B. Cullen, W. Meadows, and F. Hansford, forwards.

Referee, A. Cox, (of Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C.) Linesmen, D. O'Connor and L. Hamlin. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. A.F.C., nil; Music Halls A.F.C., two goals. J. Lacey and P. Reardon scored for Music Halls A.F.C., F. B. Nicholls playing splendidly in goal.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LE CRIME D'AIX,"
Drama, in Five Acts and Eight Tableaux,
by M. M. Pugol,
Produced at the Ambigu, Dec. 3.

Papa Gérard	M. NERTANN
Lucien Gérard	M. VOLNY
Raymond Gérard	M. CAILLARD
Dupotin	M. VILLA
Leroy	M. MORNAU
Superbe	M. DENIZOT
Bilbao	M. GRÉHAN
Rose Pompon	Mdlle. ARMANDINE CASSIVE
Madame Gérard	Mdme. CANTI
Hélène	Mdlle. YRIEX
Tubereuse	Mdme. DAUVILLE
Françoise	Mdlle. MARIE GEORGES
Madame Leroy	Mdme. DE CHENY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, DEC. 8.—The Theatre de l'Ambigu, not having succeeded in its attempts to introduce a new kind of entertainment, half comedy half drama, has very wisely returned to the old-fashioned melodrama, dear to that section of the public who delight in blood-curdling scenes. Nor will the latter have reason to complain, for the author—with questionable taste—has reconstituted on the stage, with all its ghastly details, the sensational murder of a demi-mondaine committed at Aix a few months ago. The plot of the new piece is not very original. Lucien Gérard and his brother Raymond are employees in the banking firm of Leroy. But whereas Raymond is hard-working and steady, Lucien is a *viveur*, and the lover of the famous cocotte, Rose Pompon. Lucien having seduced his cousin Hélène, Raymond compels him to marry the girl, and to break off with Rose, to whom—as he has no ready cash—he gives his acceptance for 30,000f. But Rose is a business woman. She knows that this draft bearing only one signature is valueless, and, at her suggestion, Lucien adds the signature of his employer, M. Leroy. The day on which the draft falls due arrives. Rose, sadly in want of cash, awaits in Aix the arrival of Lucien, who has promised to bring the money. Late in the evening the young man makes his appearance, but without the funds, and at his request Rose grants him another week to discharge his debt. But Rose's companion,—an ex-cocotte called Tubereuse — believes that her mistress has received the 30,000f., and smuggles into the villa her lover Superbe and his friend Bilbao, who strangle Rose and tie Tubereuse to a chair, after having gagged her to save her from being implicated. In fact, we have the exact reproduction of the murder of the unfortunate Eugenie Fougère, committed at the instigation of the woman Giriat. Lucien is at first suspected of the crime, but the real culprits are soon afterwards arrested. But, although his innocence has been proclaimed, Lucien has been guilty of forgery; and old Gérard, his uncle, a stern man, who adopted him as his son, turns his back on him. Lucien, therefore, leaves his wife and enlists in a colonial regiment, where, in a fight against an overwhelming force, he saves the flag and receives the cross of the Legion of Honour. The piece is really admirably acted. The murder scene, carefully rehearsed, is horribly realistic, and Mdlle. Cassive scored therein a somewhat unenviable success. This scene lasts several minutes. When Rose sees Superbe she seizes a revolver, but the scoundrel knocks it out of her hand, and a terrible scuffle ensues. Rose rushes across the room, upsetting the furniture, shouting for help, and trying to smash the windows. But her assailant throws her on the bed and throttles her. Then he calls in Tubereuse and Bilbao, and they ransack every cupboard and drawer for the money. But not a penny is found, and in their eagerness to search below the pillow Rose's body falls on the floor, head foremost! Mdlle. Dauville supplied a remarkably clever study of Tubereuse, the mistress of the terrible Superbe, ably impersonated by M. Denizot. The old Père Gérard had an able exponent in M. Nertann, but even that talented artist, M. Volny, failed to impart colour to that miserable individual Lucien, a creature neither good nor bad, but so weak as to be beneath contempt. As a rule we see in every melodrama virtue rewarded and guilt punished. But the author, no doubt unconsciously, has reversed the order of things. Raymond, the steady, hard-working youth, is in love with Hélène, yet it is Lucien, the idle apprentice, who marries her. And whilst poor Raymond slaves behind the counter in Leroy's office, Lucien covers himself with glory on the battlefield and sports the coveted strip of red ribbon in his button-hole. It is certainly a queer moral.

"LE ROI LEAR,"
in Twenty-eight Tableaux,
Translated by MM. Pierre Loti and Emile Vedel,
Produced at the Théâtre Antoine, Dec. 5.

Lear	M. ANTOINE
Un Fou	M. SIGNORET
Le Duc d'Albany	M. MARGUET
Le Comte de Kent	M. DESFONTAINES
Le Comte de Gloster	M. MOSNIER
Edmond	M. VARGAS
Edgar	M. CAPELLANI
Le Duc de Cornouailles	M. SAVERNE
Cordélia	Mdlle. ELLERY
Goneril	Mdlle. JEANNE LION
Regane	Mdme. BRILLE

After the dress-rehearsal of *King Lear* a week ago, M. Antoine, the Lear of the cast, and the pillar of the whole enterprise, fell ill, and the première had to be put off. M. Antoine had set his heart on the performance. "I have," he said, given myself a Christmas present of something like thirty thousand francs, which the mounting of the work costs me. I suppose I will see very little of it back, but this I don't mind!" In the way of mounting M. Antoine has certainly done wonders, but twenty-eight tableaux are a large order, especially for a Paris audience, and it is more than probable that the gifted actor-manager would have pleased the public more if he had given them Devicque and Crisafulli's French version of *King Lear*, in five acts and twelve tableau, produced at the Théâtre Du Cirque in 1857. This version follows the original less closely than MM. Pierre Loti and Emile Vedel's translation, but it has the advantage of being clearer and certainly much less tiring to the eye and the ear than these endless, although splendid tableaux, unfolding themselves in a semi-darkness. As to the acting, it was not up to the standard of the little playhouse in the Boulevard de Strasbourg. M. Antoine, a great actor, cannot impersonate a monarch, and, although his make-up was perfect, there was a lack of majesty about him which marred the general effect. M. Signoret as the Fool made a decided hit, but with this sole exception none of the other artistes seemed quite at home in their rôles.

M. MAX MAUREY, the manager of Grand-Guignol, has turned his little playhouse into a "chamber of horrors." To the masses, the horrible has a greater fascination than the beautiful, and *La Dernière Torture*, the latest production of M. André De Lorde and Eugène Morel, will be certain to prove an attraction. It is not often one has the chance of seeing on the stage a gentleman, both hands cut off, uttering terrific yells whilst he dies. At the rate we are going, a playwright who could give us a realistic tableau of an execution, with a genuine guillotine and plenty of blood, would make a fortune in no time.

AT the Opera House, Northampton, was produced on Friday, Dec. 2, an original and sensational comedy-drama, by Louis H. Carlton, entitled *The Victims of Circumstances*.

ON Saturday afternoon last the Duchess of Albany was present at a performance of Vanbrugh's *Confederacy* at the Royalty Theatre, and Prince Francis of Teck was present at a special performance of *Das Thal des Lebens* by the Germany company, at the Great Queen-street Theatre. The King and Queen of Portugal witnessed the performance of *The Earl and the Girl* at the Lyric Theatre on Saturday evening.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE COMEDY.

On Monday, Dec. 5, Revival of the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Col. Sir Francis Chesney	Mr BRANDON THOMAS
Stephen Spettigue	Mr WALTER BEAUMONT
Jack Chesney	Mr C. B. KESTON
Charley Wykeham	Mr RICHARD B. MASON
Lord Fancourt Babberley	Mr STANLEY COOKE
Brassett	Mr SYDNEY COMPTON
Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez	Miss LENA M'NAUGHTEN
Kitty Verdun	Miss IRIS BANFIELD
Amy Spettigue	Miss GERALDINE GREVILLE
Ella Delahay	Miss DORRIE ROBERTS

When *Charley's Aunt* was produced at the Royalty Theatre on Dec. 21, 1892, after a preliminary trial at the Bury St. Edmund's Theatre in the previous February, we praised Mr Brandon Thomas's piece very warmly, and prophesied that "it would run for months." We should, of course, have said "years;" and, indeed, the drollery of the play would have fully justified the forecast. The long success of the piece was undoubtedly due, in great measure, to the personal peculiarities and comic gifts of Mr W. S. Penley, whose Lord Fancourt Babberley was one of the quaintest creations of modern times. That the individuality of the clever comedian, however, is by no means absolutely indispensable to the full enjoyment of Mr Brandon Thomas's amusing work was shown by the hearty laughter evoked by the performance of *Charley's Aunt* at the Comedy Theatre on Monday evening, when the play was revived at the expiration of Mr Penley's rights in it. The popularity of the celebrated farce, apart from the excruciating absurdity of the situations, is due in great measure to the cleanliness of its fun, and to the freshness and simplicity of its general tone. A situation which might easily have been vulgarised is made extremely funny without any gross or indelicate appeal. It could not have been easy to discover an adequate substitute for Mr Penley; but one has been found in the person of Mr Stanley Cooke, whose features, style, and method are wonderfully well suited to the rôle. As the pretended "lady from Brazil," he is exquisitely droll, a certain refinement underlying his most extravagant sallies. Mr Brandon Thomas resumes his original part of Col. Sir Francis Chesney, and plays it with an agreeable amount of dignity, suavity, and good breeding. Mr Walter Beaumont, capitally made up, gives a clever and quaint character sketch of the pompous and unctuous Spettigue; and a neat embodiment of Brassett is furnished by Mr Sydney Compton. The two untitled undergraduates are played in just the right spirit by Mr C. B. Keston and Mr Richard B. Mason; and Miss Lena M'Naughten's Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez is charming in its quiet ease and sweet gentleness. Miss Iris Banfield and Miss Geraldine Greville are excellent as Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue; and a dainty performance of the part of Ella Delahay is given by Miss Dorrie Roberts. The revival of *Charley's Aunt* was received with hearty enthusiasm; and at the close of the performance Mr Brandon Thomas was called before the curtain. The piece of the evening was preceded by the play, in one act, by Brandon Thomas, produced at the Opera House, Northampton, on the 21st ult., called

'FOURCHETTE AND COMPANY."

Prince Del Crillo	Mr HENRY ADNYS
Isabella	Miss RUTH SUFFIELD
Sergeant-Major Robert Fletcher	Mr BRANDON THOMAS

A certain Prince Del Crillo, an impoverished Italian nobleman, has started in business in High Holborn as a restaurant-keeper under the "style" of "Fourchette and Company." He is married to a young English girl named Isabella, from whom he has concealed the source of his income. Unluckily, his wife and her brother, a soldier just returned from South Africa, call at the restaurant for refreshment; and the Count endeavours, by assuming various disguises, to fill the places of proprietor, manager, and waiter, some amusement being created by his efforts to palm off stale food and bad wine on his patrons. His wife sees through the trick; and, in order to excite her husband's jealousy, gets her brother to pretend to make love to her. Eventually, matters are satisfactorily explained and settled, the Prince sells his business to a rival *restaurateur*, and all ends happily. Mr Brandon Thomas gave a truly military tone to his performance as Sergeant-Major Robert Fletcher; Miss Ruth Suffield was quite acceptable as Isabella; and Mr Henry Adnys worked actively, cleverly, and well as Prince Del Crillo.

THE ROYALTY.

On Monday, Dec. 5, Revival of the Play, by Beaumont and Fletcher, entitled
"THE MAID'S TRAGEDY."

The King	Mr FRANK LASCELLES
Lysippus	Mr DENNIS W. CLEUGH
Amintor	Mr H. TRIPP EDGAR
Melantius	Mr W. H. KEMBLE
Diphilus	Mr KING FORDHAM
Cleon	Mr J. A. GRANT
Strato	Mr E. C. BUFFUM
First Gentleman	Mr CYRIL CATTLEY
Second Gentleman	Mr RICHARD NEVILLE
Evadne	Miss DORA HOLE
Aspatia	Miss ADA POTTER
Antiphila	Miss PEARLA GARDNER
Olympias	Miss GERTRUDE TEMPLETON
Dula	Miss META PELHAM
First Lady	Miss VIOLET FALCKE
Second Lady	Miss EDITH FENTON

The Maid's Tragedy, revived by the Mermaid Society on Monday evening, at the Royalty, is interesting as a specimen of the kind of play which found favour with theatre-goers of a former age. It was first staged early in the seventeenth century, and more than three-fourths of the text is ascribed to Beaumont. There is evidence that the tragedy enjoyed considerable popularity till the period when at the instance of the Puritan majority the theatres were closed. It was, however, according to Fentor, performed at the Theatre Royal in the latter part of the reign of King Charles II. In 1666 or early in 1667 Pepys saw the tragedy played at the King's House, and we have it on record that on the second occasion he was much distracted by overhearing the conversation of Sir Charles Sedley, even when it consisted of "very pretty exceptions against both words and pronouncing." Sheridan Knowles was responsible for an adaptation of the play, and this, under the title of *The Bridal*, was produced by Macready in 1837. He acted the part of Melantius, and this character was accordingly "written up" for the occasion. The adaptation, however, was severely criticised in certain quarters, though it has been occasionally performed at more recent dates. Mr A. W. Ward remarks—"Opinions have differed widely among both earlier and later critics as to the merits of this tragedy, but I have no hesitation in following those who assign to it a very high, if not the highest, rank among the tragic efforts of its authors." Put very briefly, the plot turns upon the infatuation of the King for a young girl he meets at Court, Evadne, and whom he makes his mistress. Amintor, ignorant of the real relations existing between the King and Evadne, marries the girl, the monarch favouring the union with the object of avoiding a court scandal. When Amintor learns the truth he becomes the prey to conflicting feelings, and his friend Melantius, Evadne's brother, after a good deal of trouble, extracts from him a confession as to the cause of his grief and despair. Melantius has a stormy interview with his sister, whom he compels to take a solemn oath that she will kill the author of her shame. She stabs the King to death as he is lying in his bed; and in the last act both she and Amintor commit suicide. The tragedy has been considerably cut, and one character, Calianax, a talkative old man, who bears in some respects a likeness to Polonius, has been omitted altogether from the cast. The gloom which surrounds this tragic story of misplaced ambition, lust and murder, is in the version now submitted unrelieved by any comedy scenes; and the marriage masque which formed a part of the original work has also disappeared. Mr H. Tripp Edgar had an arduous part in Amintor, and succeeded very well in depicting the varying emotions of that ill-used courtier, delivering his lines with intensity and power. Mr W. H. Kemble was well-placed as the blunt, outspoken soldier Melantius; his acting was effective throughout, but more particularly in the strong scenes with Amintor and Evadne. Mr Frank Lascelles was a stately King, whose brother Lysippus had a capital exponent in Mr Dennis W. Cleugh. Miss Dora Hole pluckily contended with the difficulties of such a rôle as that of Evadne, and, considering her youth and comparative inexperience in tragedy, came out of the severe ordeal much better than could reasonably have been expected. An older actress might have displayed more passion and power in certain passages, but she would not have looked so well the character of the young girl who sins through ambition. Miss Ada Potter as Aspatia, at one time betrothed to Amintor, gave an excellent embodiment of the part, and the lady's attendants, Antiphila and Olympias, were carefully represented by Miss Pearla Gardner and Miss Gertrude Templeton. Satisfactory work was done by Mr King Fordham as Diphilus, brother to Evadne; and parts of minor importance were entrusted to Messrs J. A. Grant, E. C. Buffum, Cyril Cattley, Richard Neville, and Misses Meta Pelham, Violet Falcke, and Edith Fenton.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Drama, in Five Acts, by W. G. Wills, entitled
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

Mr Davey made a wise selection in securing this favourite play to give an impetus to the interest in the closing weeks of the dramatic season here. Certainly the appearance of the house on Monday testified to the fact that in *A Royal Divorce* Mr W. W. Kelly has secured an everlasting success. The packed audience on Monday followed the course of this drama with all the old excitement and tears, the reception throughout the evening being of the most cordial reception—an enviable tribute alike to the skill of the author and the excellence of the performers. Miss Edith Cole is again appearing in the part with which she has been so long associated—that of Josephine, and for her performance we can only tender her our congratulations. She was accorded an enthusiastic reception. Miss Ethyle Murray as Marie Louise was most commendable; Miss Helen Richmond as Stephanie portrayed that somewhat unconventional young lady with verve and humour; and Miss Maggie Cardiff as the young King of Rome was intelligent and commendable. Mr Frederick Victor as Napoleon gave a good performance, speaking his lines with intelligence and discrimination; Mr Claude Agnew as Talleyrand submitted one of the best studies of the evening, his depiction of the unscrupulous Minister of State being excellently conceived and portrayed; Mr Trevor Lowe as the Marquis De Beaumont played a thankless part with skill and judgment; and Mr Dennis Bryan as Grimaud supplied a humorous character study with great success. Mr G. Kirman as Lord Keith was dignified and impressive.

THE STANDARD.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Drama, in Four Acts, by F. Scudamore, entitled
'DANGEROUS WOMEN."

Like other dramas from the pen of the late Mr F. A. Scudamore *Dangerous Women* has its full share of exciting incidents and dramatic situations, and is not altogether free from the mysterious and impossible. The company responsible for the production give an interpretation worthy of warm praise, and the scenery is elaborate and effective. Mr Stanley Bedwell plays with life and vigour as the hero, Ronald Courtney, being earnest and impressive throughout. Mr Bellenden Clarke brings dignity to bear upon the part of Colonel Rothwell; Mr Fredk. Sandy powerfully depicts the fallen and unfortunate gambler and drunkard, Mark Raby; and Mr Chas. Fairton is well placed as Mr Dysart. A somewhat difficult rôle to properly portray is that of Dr. Paul Dysart, who has the fire of madness running in his blood and is constantly seized with fits of lunacy. The part is cleverly undertaken by Mr Leyton Cancellor. Mr Fred De Vere submits a capable performance of Sir Reggie Hopwood, and Mr William Kenworthy is a satisfactory Father Raymond. Mr Henry St. Leger is exceptionally good as the burglar, Dick Pudsey. Mr Tubby Edlin, a comedian of high merit, creates much amusement by his drollery in the character of Elijah Smudge, being ably assisted by Miss Nellie Jackson, a bright and captivating Bessie Basket. Miss Olive Weller supplies a decidedly impressive reading of the part of Sylvia Rothwell, playing with much charm and intensity. Joe Perkins has an efficient exponent in Miss Hulo Hodgson, and Miss Kate Carter sweetly portrays Pollie Perkins. Miss Nellie Hatford gives a capable presentment of Lola Lascelles, and Miss Marie M'Aulay shows considerable ability in her delineation of Cora Fay.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Dec 5, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones and Wilson Barrett, entitled
"HOODMAN BLIND."

A capital reproduction of the favourite drama, *Hoodman Blind*, is the attraction at the Pavilion this week, and an enthusiastic audience on Monday evening applauded to the echo the various exciting scenes and incidents of this popular play. As Jack Yeulett Mr Ashley Page acts with genial frankness and sincerity and gives a manly, natural, and consistent performance throughout. Mr James C. Aubrey succeeds in evoking a perfect storm of execration as a satisfactory testimony of the able and faithful manner in which he portrays Mark Lezzard. Mr Harry Barford must be congratulated on his excellent study of Ben Chibbles. Mr Alfred Ibberson scores a decided hit as Tom Lattiker, and Mr Harry Bristow is efficient as Noah Quodling. A finished and clever portraiture of Joe Swirrup is submitted by Mr Fred Boustead, and Mr Lloyd Merton is well suited as Inspector Jermin. Miss Marion Denvil has a difficult task in the dual parts of the sisters, but acquits herself admirably, the delineation of Nance being marked by much earnestness and sympathetic feeling, while the erring Jess is vividly enacted with true artistic finish. Miss Denvil is especially good at the close of the third act, and well deserves the vociferous applause she receives. Miss Sara Besant displays considerable aptitude as Kit, and Miss Cissie Besant gives a capital rendition of the cripple, Tom Tit. Miss Tina Mavro is seen to advantage as Polly Chibbles, and a word of praise is due to Miss Kitty Cardigan for her presentment of Liz. Mr Henry Roberts does well as Mr Lendon; Mr Arthur Wilson is satisfactory as Jim Dadge; and Mr Fred Withers is a capable Ephraim Beevor; while creditable work is done by Mr E. Godfrey as Mad Willy, Mr Roland Ryley as Abe Chawner, and Miss Eva Wellstead as Mrs Beevor. The stage-management is good, the mounting tasteful and artistic, and the scenery of more than average excellence, the set, the Silent Highway, being very fine and worthy of special mention.

THE BRITANNIA.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts, entitled
"A WOMAN OF PLEASURE."

The Hoxton Britons are among the staunchest lovers of the drama to be found anywhere; and the pieces so happily chosen by Mr J. M. East, the manager, are interesting enough to attract crowded houses. The great theatre, indeed, on the night of our visit presented quite its old aspect, and the manifestations of hearty enthusiasm over the struggle between victorious virtue and vanquished vice were quite in the spirit of the Britain's palmiest days. *A Woman of Pleasure*, which was staged on Monday, has not only a provincial reputation but has been favourably received in several London theatres. Its story enchains our attention from the outset by the romantic marriage of the village schoolteacher, Alice Dane, to the Earl of Carlingforth, a peer of the realm. Unfortunately for the peer the marriage does not secure for him unalloyed happiness, and the domestic hearth is darkened by the villainous shadow of Major Burrows, who is possessed of an unholy passion for the Countess. It is true she repents of her foolish infatuation, and learns to appreciate the love and devotion of a good man; but fate is unkind, and the letter she writes to the villain to say good-bye is used against her, serving only to complete the estrangement between husband and wife. The Earl finds consolation in action, and placing his services at the disposal of his sovereign takes up his position as a commander of yeomanry in the Boer war. The action quickens in interest with the transference of the principal characters to South Africa, and after many moving accidents and hairbreadth escapes, the husband and wife become reconciled on the "holy eve of Christmas," the period of charity and good will. The part of the high-minded and patriotic Earl of Carlingforth is assigned to Mr W. S. Hartford, who is no stranger to the Hoxtonians. Mr Hartford since his last engagement at the theatre has been globe-trotting, but that he has not been forgotten by the faithful toilers of the east is evident from the hearty welcome he receives nightly. He acts with a restraint and philosophic dignity that are very telling, and at the end of the second act, in the noble determination of Carlingforth to endeavour to forget the stain on his escutcheon by fighting for the honour of England, he sounds the right note of manly resolve. Mr Charles A. East as Commandant Dench of the Boer forces bears a striking resemblance to the late lamented Oom Paul, but he is well received nevertheless, and his delineation of the strenuous characteristics of a hard-headed Africander leader makes of him quite favourite. Mr Frank Harding, who has pursued a long course of stage villainy in another place, does not handle the part of Major Burrows with kid gloves, but takes care to give a strong shading of malevolence to that renegade's unholy plottings and schemings—a proceeding that excites both gods and pit nightly. Mr Arthur Burne makes a manly parson of the Rev. Luke Goddard, who not only practises what he preaches, but has a straight left for those who presume too much upon his peaceful inclinations. When the Rev. Luke knocks the villain down a rousing cheer goes up, a fact which serves to show that the heart of the audience is sound. Lady Carlingforth is not one of the strongest of heroine parts; but Miss Rose Ralph emphasises the repentant moods of her ladyship, and wins considerable sympathy. Mr Charles Groves as Bobby Bumpwell, a tourist from Chicago and afterwards a newspaper representative, makes the most of the comic scene where Bobby loses his nether garments; and the comic relief has also excellent help from Miss Ruby Hallier as Mrs Josiah Bumpwell and Miss Marie Wright as Dolly Dimple. Mr Charles Langley is a typical Michael Issit; Mr H. H. Barrington as Captain Zassatoff is earnest in his defence of the foreign legion; and other parts are efficiently handled by Mr Fred Groves, Mr Tom Wallis, Mr H. Rogers, Mr P. Thompson, and Miss Carrie Thompson. To the concluding variety entertainment Mr Harry Martell, comedian and speciality dancer; Miss Agnes Hanson, serio and dancer; and Mr Charles Jerome, coon comedian and dancer, contribute. Mrs Madeline Barber is a very popular figure as manageress, and Mr Sydney Hyman, with his lieutenant, Mr Ernest Abbott, is a vigilant and courteous supervisor.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Dec. 5 the Drama, in Four Acts, by Walter Melville, entitled
"THE WORST WOMAN IN LONDON."

Once again has *The Worst Woman in London* wended her way to Mr William Bailey's historic Marylebone playhouse, and though naturally her reception was of necessity a somewhat mixed one, nevertheless her popularity proved to be as great as ever. This company of Mr Walter Melville's is one of exceptional ability and all-round excellence, and in Miss Constance Medwyn, who enacted the title-rôle, Mr Melville showed the West Londoners an actress of much power and versatility. Throughout the four trying acts she never wavered or faltered, but relentlessly portrayed the repulsive Frances Vere in all too realistic colours. Mr Edwin J. Collins as Jack Felton was well placed, soon winning the hearts of his audience; whilst Mr Paul Barry Lewers as Vincent Lyle was equally successful in another way. Mr Roy Byford, who is Mr Melville's general manager, brought his ripe experience to bear on the part of James Milford; Mr Fred Smith was persevering as Fred Thornborough; Mr John Jackson was the right man in the right place as George Wilton; and Mr Joe Bracewell gave a skilful study of the part of Hugh Drayton. The Philip Armstrong of Mr Bernard Mervyn was a sound, genuine piece of work, and laughter loud and long was caused at frequent intervals by Mr Geo. H. Asquin as the kindly showman, Bob Goldfinch. As Matilda Parker Miss Helena Rigby played with an energy and will much to be commended; Miss Lillian Ross was decidedly charming as Ruth Milford; Miss Flora Leighton was quite at home as Florence Walkington; and Miss Mamie Rendle scores as Jane Nogood. Other parts well handled were the Sweep of Mr C. Thomas, the Bertie Heslop of Mr George Cranby, the Detective Curzon of Mr B. Elton, and the Billy of Mr F. Livingstone. The play was staged and mounted in a luxurious manner, and went with a swing from start to finish.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Comedy, by A. W. Pinero, entitled
"LETTY."

Mr Charles Frohman's London company, including Miss Irene Vanbrugh and Mr H. B. Irving, is appearing here in Pinero's clever and interesting play *Letty*. Little that is new remains to be said of this exciting, emotional play, with its disillusioning epilogue. First impressions remain, and, willy nilly, we cannot help our sympathies going out to the wrong people, nor can we help the wish that matrimonial respectability had not entailed such a falling from grace in manner and appearance in the help-meet chosen for Letty. We may even have our doubts if such a supersensitive, nervous, emotional temperament as Letty's could settle down to hum-drum happiness and mediocre contentment. Nevertheless, Mr A. W. Pinero puts his view of the matter so clearly, cleverly, and forcibly that we are convinced even against our will. Mr H. B. Irving has, perhaps, never shown to greater advantage than he does as the cynical yet kind-hearted roué, Nevill Letchmere, whose wickedness grows by destiny rather than desire. He is earnest and intense without ever ranting or lapsing into mere melodrama; indeed, Mr H. B. Irving is a splendid exponent of "reserve force" as it should be practised. Miss Irene Vanbrugh as the nervous, highly-strung Letty Shell acts with all the art and emotional ability so ready to her command. She exactly pictures the poor girl, refined, well-educated, and pleasure-loving, beset with temptations not only in private but in her business capacity, and genuinely in love with the fascinating but "impossible" Letchmere. Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson contrives to make a deep impression as Letty's *fidus Achates*, Marion Allardyce, imbuing the part with genuine feeling and pathos. Miss Eleanor Souray scores all along the line as the pretty, greedy, good-natured, selfish cockney dressmaker's assistant, Hilda Gunning, who is always "magasin" whatever happens! Mr Scott Craven does not spare himself in the portrayal of the loud, vulgar, foolish, "bucket-shop" keeper, Bernard Mandeville; and Mr Charles Troode as the commercial traveller and Mr Tom Hezlewood as the insurance agent give excellent character sketches. Mr Leslie Victor as the photographic nonentity, Richard Perry, is well in the picture. Mr Vernon Steel as Coppinger Drake and Mr Clayton Green as Letchmere's servant are eminently satisfactory, and Miss May Blayney gives a very taking portrait of the pretty, frivolous "Tiny," alias Mrs Ivor Crosbie. Messrs T. S. M'Causland Stewart, Litchfield Owen, R. Haigh, and W. Hack complete the cast. Mr M'Intyre Wickstead is the stage-manager, while Mr W. A. Seymour assists Mr Edward Lytton at the front of the house.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Musical Comedy, by J. T. Tanner and Lionel Monckton, entitled
"THE CINGALEE."

Mr George Edwardes has presented to the patrons of the King's his latest Daly's Theatre success, and the house has been crowded nightly with delighted audiences. The freshness of the acting, the capable singing, and the brilliancy of the mounting are all factors of the success; and the scenes in Ceylon give every excuse for a feast of form and colour. The honours of the evening fall to Mr Frank Danby, whose impersonation of Chambhuddy Ram is crammed with quaint humour, the result being that roars of laughter are heard when he is on the stage. Mr Leedham Bantock as Boobhamba is excellently stolid, and wins warm approval. The Sir Peter Loftus of Mr W. J. Manning is a brisk and bustling performance which is greatly enjoyed, and Mr Jack Cannot as Bobbie Warren deserves hearty praise. Mr Harold Thorley makes many friends by his manly and easy rendering of Harry Vereker. Mr Willie Warde, jun., is a capable Myamgah. Miss Kathleen Severn is a fascinating Nanoya, her sweet singing and delicate acting meeting with much success. Lady Patricia Vane is charmingly depicted by Miss Anna Hickisch, who has a nice voice. An irresistible Peggy Sabine is Miss Eva Sandford, who is a great favourite. Miss Claire Marsden is particularly bright as Naitoomi, and Miss Claire Pridelle, Miss Maudie Davis, and Miss Doris Lester complete a quartet of adorable tea-girls. The members of the chorus sing effectively, and the dances, arranged by Mr Willie Warde, are picturesque. The scenery, by Mr Hawes Craven, is superb, and the dresses and appointments are in fine taste. Mr Harold Vicars ably conducts the largely augmented orchestra.

EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Musical Play, entitled
"A COUNTRY GIRL."

Mr Fred S. Jennings caters well for Ealing playgoers, and the excellent company of Mr George Dance with *A Country Girl* is on a return visit. Mr Francis Ludlow as Geoffrey Chaloner created a most favourable impression, being encored for his singing, and Mr H. C. Morton as Sir Joseph Verity was good as the parvenu. The dignified Mr Raikes, Rajah of Bong, was ably undertaken by Mr Fred W. Pattrick. Mr Harry Buss displayed remarkable versatility and scored heavily all round in the rôle of Barry. Miss Kathryn Comber played and sang admirably as Marjory Joy, and Miss Nina Carlton, who has an excellent voice, which she uses with effect, acted Princess Melaneh well. The dainty little Madame Sophie was charmingly rendered by Miss Rose Begarnie, who has a sweet voice, and the pretty Lady Anchester was fascinatingly portrayed by Miss Beatrice Glyn. Miss Madge Christopher and Miss Norah Desterre were all that could be desired as Miss Carruthers and Mrs Egerton respectively. Miss Nellie Cozens acquitted herself with gratifying success as Nan; Mr Willie Harthill in his small part of Douglas Verity and Mr Arthur Hayter as Granfer Mummery were good; Miss Rosa Roby was a delightful Mrs St Quinton; and a word of praise is due to Miss Nora Weston as Nurse. Numerous other young and pretty ladies were in the chorus, which did well, and the considerably augmented orchestra, under the able direction of Mr Otto Manns, played some excellent selections. The dresses were exceedingly effective, and the scenery was good.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Henry Arthur Jones, entitled
"THE SILVER KING."

This famous melodrama has held audiences this week at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham-junction, spellbound. The attendance has been large, and keen enthusiasm has been manifested. Mr Austin Melford undertakes the part of William Denver with conspicuous success, playing with force, character, and conviction. Miss Emelie Polini as Nellie Denver proves herself a fine emotional actress and entirely enlists the sympathies of the audience; Mr Charles Levey gives a finished rendering of the part of Captain Herbert Skinner; Mr Arthur H. Rooke as Eliah Coombs is decidedly good; and Mr C. P. Amalia as Cripps and Mr James L. Power as Henry Corkett give invaluable help. Mr C. C. Grattan as Daniel Jaikes is remarkably capable, and is deserving of praise for his rendering of the part. Mr Warriss Lindon as Samuel Baxter, the detective, is entrusted with an important part, and proves worthy of it. Mr Arnold E. Palmer as Geoffrey Ware, Mr Phil Redmayne as Frank Selwyn, Mr Eric Store as the humorous Mr Parkyn, and Mr H. Laundy as a tipsy passenger were all excellent in their respective rôles. In minor characters Messrs Bingham, Hathway, Norton, Emery, Mackie, Singer, Shoesmith, Williams and Grant, and Misses Amy Manfree, Phyllis Dailly, Amy Wood, Margaret Rooke, and Dolly Norton gave unstinted support.

THE CROWN, PECKHAM.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Comedy, by Thomas Raceward, entitled
"SUNDAY."

This delightful piece well deserved the flattering reception accorded by a large, and evidently well pleased, audience on Monday. In the title-rôle Miss Julia Neilson charmed the patrons of this well-managed theatre by her most natural impersonation of a cleverly drawn character. Miss Neilson was most ably supported by Mr Fred Terry, whose clever embodiment of Colonel Brinthorpe gained the greatest eulogy. As Arthur Brinthorpe Mr Malcolm Cherry was very good. The accomplished actress Miss Bella Pateman made a great success of the part of Mrs Naresby. Miss Kathleen Doyle proved herself a capable exponent of the Nun. Tom Oxley was capitally depicted by Mr J. D. Beveridge. Mr Horace Hodges could scarcely be improved upon in the portrayal of the kind-hearted and well-meaning Lively. Mr Rothbury Evans as Towser displayed talent as a character actor. Similar praise is due to Mr J. Carter-Edwards for his efforts in the representation of Davy. Mr Alfred Kendrick worked hard to render Jacky efficiently, and did not labour in vain. In the character of Abbot, a man-servant, Mr Ernest E. Imeson proved equal to the demands upon his skill as an actor. The play was well staged, and the whole production was most successful.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Drama, in Four Acts, entitled
"THE SCALES OF JUSTICE."

This popular naval drama is once again occupying the boards at the Rotherhithe theatre, and is sufficiently attractive to counteract the usual slackness which habitually precedes the Christmas festival. For the production a very good all-round company is engaged. Chief among them is undoubtedly Mr Julian Cross, whose fine interpretation of Antonio Cordova is all that can be desired. An exceedingly meritorous performance of Harry Maxwell is given by Mr William Dexter. Miss Marie Robson, who doubles the parts of Mary and Jenny Maxwell, wins everyone's sympathy by her admirable embodiments; Mr Newman Maurice displays a keen sense of humour in his impersonation of Tony Wilkins; and the lighter vein has also another capable exponent in Miss Kate Carter, who appears as Polly. Mr John H. Firman satisfactorily discharges his duties as Captain Duncan; Mr Chas. H. Stephenson is seen to advantage as Lieut. Tom Duncan; Jack Breeze is capitally played by Mr R. S. Gresham; Mr E. Notefield finds ample scope as Don Juan Mendoza; and Miss Gwendolen Burney is to be complimented on her fine rendition of Inez Cordova. The scenic effects are good.

BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Musical Play entitled
"THE ORCHID."

Mr George Edwardes's company, in *The Orchid*, was very cordially received on Monday night at the Borough Theatre, where this highly successful musical composition is paying a return visit. The attractions of the production are considerably enhanced by the introduction of additional numbers, while fresh verses to existing songs have been advantageously introduced. Miss Coralie Blythe makes a very dainty and demure Lady Violet, and her songs are received with enthusiasm. Miss Gertrude Gilliam is an extremely pretty and vivacious Josephine Zaccary, and sings delightfully. Miss Irene Verona is exceedingly well suited in the broad comedy part of Caroline Vokins, and quickly becomes popular with the audience. Miss Luna Love makes a prepossessing Thisbe, and her "Pyjama" song is an item much in favour. Miss Ethel Griffies makes the most of her opportunities in the part of Zelie Rumbert, and Miss Katie Leechman is excellent as Countess Anstruther. Mr George Gregory is very droll and amusing as Meakin, and to his untiring efforts much of the success of the piece is due. Mr Lawrence Grossmith as the beaulsh Guy Scrymgeour is remarkably successful, and his songs are vociferously applauded. Mr Donald Hall is a highly commendable Dr. Ronald Fausset, and Mr Ellis Ogilvie makes up well and acts appropriately as Mr Aubrey Chesterton. Mr Sidney Vincent deserves every praise for a fine performance as Zaccary, and the idiosyncrasies of Comte Raoul De Cassignat are happily hit off by Mr Sam Walsh. The piece is sumptuously mounted and dressed, and the large and well-trained chorus and augmented orchestra, under the bâton of Mr Ernée Woodville, conduce much to the brilliant tout ensemble produced.

THEATRE ROYAL, STRATFORD.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Drama, in Four Acts, by Fred Moule, entitled
"THE LIFE THAT KILLS."

The return visit of this popular melodrama well filled the cheaper parts of the Stratford Theatre Royal on Monday night and gave unbounded satisfaction to those present. Messrs Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls' company capably interprets the piece, and the staging and mounting is exceedingly good. Mr Herbert Sidney very successfully undertakes the rôle of the unscrupulous Kendal Croat, whose derisive laughter at his own misdeeds becomes very galling to the "gods." Mr E. D. Nicholls acts with distinction as Lord Kilmarch; the vacillating, weak-kneed Valentine Telford is portrayed in a sufficiently unflattering light by Mr Morris Maud; and Mr Hugh Metcalfe contributes a vigorous and buoyant embodiment of Hector Rodney. Mr Robert Lord plays convincingly as Capt. Montague; Mr Harry Howe is always amusing as Jack Jolliffe; and Mr Wilton Drury does well as Samuel Flatfoot. Miss Cathleen Cavanagh contributes a powerful delineation of the heartless Brenda Croat; and Miss Alice Rocheforte plays with sympathy and much emotion as Laura Linden. Miss Mabel Kessler makes a bright and spirited Johanna Dicks, also undertaking the part of Tom Dicks with ability, and, in addition, contributes some very favourably received solos on the cornet, post-horn, and bugle.

GRAND, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Comic Opera, "LA POUPÉE."

The fact that the theatre-going public is essentially conservative and is always ready to welcome an old favourite was further evidenced by the cordial reception accorded to Mr C. P. Levilly's company, which has been appearing here this week in *La Poupée*. Mr Arthur Reynolds was exceedingly amusing as Hilarius; he is a genuine comedian, and gets every ounce of fun out of his lines without having to resort to that grotesque over-exaggeration which it is so easy to fall into in portraying characters of this nature. Mr T. A. Shale played Lancelot in a straightforward and manly fashion, admirably contrasting the novitiate's original child-like innocence with his subsequent interest in the ways of the world and his gradually awakening love for Alesia. The last named character was delightfully rendered by Miss Midge Clark, who sang nicely, and whose graceful movements and air of demure roguishness were charmingly in keeping with the part. Mr Eliot Skinner made an imposing Father Maxime, and sang the favourite "Jovial Monk" song with great effect. Mr Fred Walsh was a dignified and gallant Baron Chanterelle, and Mr Charles M'Lagan was responsible, as Loremois, for a clever portrayal of senile folly and vanity. Miss Lillie Leigh played with a good deal of humour and some force as Madame Hilarius, and Miss Florence Shaw was a bright and sprightly Henri.

GREENWICH THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Drama, entitled
"GIPSY JACK."

This theatre opened on Monday night for the first time on the two-houses-a-night system, and seems to have entered on a successful season. The attraction was the reappearance of Mr Henry Bedford as Gipsy Jack in the drama of that name. Mr Bedford was as successful as ever in this rôle. Mr Robert Seymour was good in the part of Sir John Dexter; the same remark applies to Mr J. Arthur Plummer as Mr Skioner; Mr Cuthbert Nobes was a very popular Rev. Francis Harvey, Mr Sid Bedford was an amusing Joe Banks, and Mr Joe Damer was good as Charley Bates. Miss Gertrude Gilbert was a pleasing Dorothy Baxter, Miss Ada Antley a clever Hagar, Miss Enid French a picturesque Gipsy Nan, Miss Jennie Risley a bright and taking Jennie Higgins, Mrs Jeffreys a competent Mother Hunt, and Miss Bessie Bedford an earnest and attractive May Harvey. The drama was well staged, and appeared to give general satisfaction.

PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, the Opera, by Ambroise Thomas, entitled
"MIGNON."

The Moody-Manners opera company are paying a welcome and much-appreciated return visit to this theatre, and on Tuesday presented Ambroise Thomas's four-act opera *Mignon*. Madame Fanny Moody herself played—or, rather, sang—the title-rôle, and charmed her audience by her finished singing and acting. The poor waif's terror of her brutal guardian on her first entrance was especially well portrayed by Madame Moody. Miss Grace Nicoll was the Felina, and possesses a pure light soprano which she uses with judgment and effect. Miss Teify Davies played the part of Frederick, a gallant in love with Felina, and although the part is comparatively a small one, Miss Davies sang and acted with such effect that the character assumed quite an important place. Mr Charles Carter was Wilhelm, a young student, and his well-cultivated voice and artistic method soon installed himself in popular favour. Lotharia, Mignon's father, was excellently played by Mr Charles Tilbury, the possessor of a really fine bass voice, whose song as he watched over the sleeping Mignon gained a rapturous encore. Laertes, an actor, found a very humorous exponent in Mr F. Brookes. Mr S. Langdale was an effective Giarno, and Mr G. King was equally good as Antonio. The orchestra was specially augmented for this company's visit by the company's own musicians, and under the able bâton of Mr Harrison Frewin acquitted itself with great distinction. The opera was well dressed, and the mounting was adequate.

MRS H. BEERBOHM TREE has consented to act as hostess to one of the tables at the Home of Recovery dinner at Prince's on Feb. 22.

FAREWELL TO EDWARD TERRY.

On the eve of his departure for America, Mr Edward Terry was the honoured guest at a farewell dinner, which took place at the Savoy Hotel on Sunday evening. The Duke of ABERCORN presided, and those present included the Earl of Lathom, Sir Eyre Massey Shaw, Sir Alfred Cooper, Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir Joseph Dimsdale, M.P., Sir Bruce Seton, Sir Edward Letchworth, Sir Francis Burnand, Mr W. R. M'Connell, K.C., Colonel Clifford Probyn, Mr Louis N. Parker, Mr Bourchier Hawkesley, Mr Agg-Gardner, M.P., Mr J. D. Langton, Mr R. D. Muir, Mr J. H. Leigh, Mr Thomas Catling, Major Henry Wright, Dr. Clement Godson, Mr Cyril Maude, Mr George Alexander, Mr Beerbohm Tree, Mr Carl Hentschel, Mr Marshall Hall, K.C., Mr Charles Mathews, Mr J. Bannister Howard, and Mr E. B. Norman and Mr Charles J. Davies (hon. secretaries).

The DUKE OF ABERCORN, in giving the loyal toasts, which were enthusiastically honoured, remarked that no greater patron of the dramatic art of the United Kingdom lived than the King, who ever since he was a boy had been devoted to that art, and had become a great critic, and was well able to discern a good from a bad play, as some London theatres had reason to know. Besides patronising the theatres, his Majesty never forgot the dramatist or the actor or actress in time of trouble.

The CHAIRMAN then announced that the committee had received many letters and telegrams of regret for non-attendance. Lord Glenesk wrote regretting that through indisposition he could not be present to honour their guest; Mr J. L. Toole said he was with them in thought, and sent all good wishes; Mr and Mrs Kendal did the same. Sir Henry Irving telegraphed from Liverpool: "Dear Duke of Abercorn, please convey to my old friend, Edward Terry, my regret that I cannot be present to-night to help in doing him honour. I wish him all prosperity in his Western enterprise, favouring breezes, and the cordial welcome that I know awaits him at the hands of our American brothers." Mr Pinero wrote:—"To my great regret an engagement of long standing obliges me to be in the country to-morrow night, and I am therefore prevented from having the honour of supporting your chairmanship and of offering personally my good wishes to my old friend Edward Terry. May I beg you to give him those good wishes on my behalf? Mr Terry is an actor who has enabled me to depart from my rule not to witness performances of my own plays, for on those occasions when he appeared in a piece of my writing I have felt sure that his skill, inventiveness, and genuine humour would help me to forget the imperfections of my work, and in this I have never been disappointed. I trust Mr Terry will have a prosperous season in America. He will at last find there the keenest and most intelligent audience in the world."

In proposing the health of Mr Edward Terry, the DUKE OF ABERCORN said:—I can truly say that Mr Terry is versatile; in tragedy, comedy, or burlesque he gratifies and pleases his audiences. In this country or in Australia, South Africa, or in the future in America, his talent in representing all classes of society will never be forgotten. With regard to his antecedents, he is versatile not only in his profession but out of it. He is one of those who out of his own profession tries to do good to his fellow-creatures. He is a great Freemason. He is Past Grand Treasurer of Grand Lodge, and one of the governors of the girls' school. He turns his attention to other things than Freemasonry. He has delivered an address at a Church congress—on popular amusements in relation to Christian life. He was one of the few theatrical representatives to receive an invitation to attend the celebrations at Westminster Abbey at the Diamond Jubilee of 1897. He is a founder of the Strand Theatrical Provident and Benevolent Fund, and a trustee of the Dramatic Sick Fund. In his private capacity when he is able to spare time to reside at his little property—I hope it is a big property—at Barnes, he is trustee of the Barnes Charity, a member for twelve years of the board of guardians, and an active member of the Barnes Working Mens' Institute. His activities have not been limited to the upper and middle classes, but he takes the same interest in the poorer classes of his district. He is a governor of the Foundling Hospital. About a year ago I had the good fortune to attend a service at the Foundling, and Mr Terry held a plate at the entrance. He looked as good as gold, and gazed mournfully at the plate where the gold ought to be. I think that with one exception Mr Terry may be described as the doyen of the profession. His theatrical life began in 1862, and he went through the many trials of the profession. He began life as a staid, prosaic commercial clerk, and private theatricals were his doom. He joined a company in Christchurch, Hampshire. His ambitions were unlimited, and he began with Shakespeare, I believe, in *Hamlet* or *Macbeth*. The company consisted of three gentlemen and two ladies. They would remember the cast was a heavy one, and he appeared in no less than half a dozen parts. In *Macbeth* one actor doubled Macduff with Banquo's Ghost. Mr Terry appeared as one courtier, and a lady in a greatcoat was another, and they made as many of themselves as they could by standing at each wing. After a fortnight the manager of the company disappeared, having forgotten to pay the salaries before his departure. Mr Terry was disillusioned as to what an actor could earn. He said in a letter to a friend that he would only believe in the existence of a manager if he could get three consecutive weeks of salary. That time was to come. At the old Gaiety, which many of you will remember, he was engaged with Kate Vaughan, E. W. Royce, and Nellie Farren. He played Mephistopheles, in *Little Dr. Faust*, and in *Robbing Roy* some of you may remember Mr Terry appearing in a very short kilt. He was a man, but the kilt was made for a boy, and I have a distinct recollection of Mr Terry's endeavours to wear his kilt gracefully. The author of the play, Sir Francis Burnand, is here to-night, but he was not the author of the kilt. Then Mr Terry opened his own theatre in 1888. His great success, Mr Pinero's *Sweet Lavender*, in which he has played his part of Dick Phenyl not less than 4,000 times in all parts of the world, will be fresh in your minds. As I think the secret of Mr Terry's success is the fact that he has never offended anyone's susceptibilities, and his plays are nearly all domestic. That is the secret of the perennial popularity of *Sweet Lavender*. He has written many plays and he has played at his theatre *Love in Idleness*—I don't know what that means—*My Pretty Maid*—I know what that means—*The Passport*, *You Never Know*, *Bardell v Pickwick*, and *The House of Burnside*, with which he will open in New York. He has been a great traveller. In South Africa he was present at Kate Vaughan's last moments, which he endeavoured to soothe. That is the nature of the man On Saturday next he leaves this country with his company, and will be accompanied by Mrs Terry. We wish him every possible success in his enterprise, and I am sure his many thousands of admirers will follow his tour in America with the keenest interest.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, and an additional cheer was given for Mrs Terry.

Mr EDWARD TERRY, who was received with prolonged cheers, said in reply—I have just returned from Ireland, where our Chairman comes from. In Limerick, which I visited, I found that the names of the streets were being put up in Gaelic, and not in our ordinary language. That was rather confusing. I went to buy a vocabulary, and asked the bookseller whether this local action was not a mistake. "Believe me," he replied, "them as put it up can't read it themselves." I am told that in Irish there are only eighteen letters, and that may be one of the causes of the differences between our country and Ireland. From what has been said of me I cannot help feeling that I must be "beastly good." I ought not to be here as an actor, I ought to be put in a window with a halo round my head, to adorn one of the places I occasionally visit. What I do outside my profession is a labour of love. From what has been said of me I must be a great man, and great men sometimes jump to opposite decisions. Mr Gladstone felled trees; I plant them. There is at Barnes a walk condemned to bear my name because I planted the trees bordering it. So far has this permeated the mind of the people of Barnes that I recently had an anonymous letter asking me to remonstrate with the local board because they were cutting down the elms round the old pound. I feel myself in a tight corner this night. I have been in tight corners before in many parts of the world. I don't know whether it could be called a tight corner to be dangling from the end of a rope over a crevasse in the Alps, but I feel I did on that occasion. I have been picked up with sunstroke on the deserts of Morocco, I have been nearly wrecked off the Seychelles, I have been taken across the veldt by a motorist who confessed that it was his first attempt at driving a car; but this is perhaps the worst fix I have been in. I feel I cannot adequately reply to the kind words of the chairman. Someone has said that speech is given to man to conceal his thoughts; you must excuse my speech, because my thoughts and feelings are too great to give adequate utterance to them. I have been on the stage forty-one years, and I hope I have done my level best to keep up the dignity of our art. I am now going to pay a visit to our American cousins. I have not been to America before. For what reason I do not know, except it is that that country is so near, and I have always been fond of a long sea voyage. I am sure I shall meet many old friends and I hope make many new ones. At any rate, I know I have your God-speed, and that will be an incentive to me to do my very best. I sometimes wonder who will be the first man to meet me in America. The first man I met in South Africa twelve years ago was at the Customs House. He said "Mr Terry, how do you do?" I said, "Do you know me?" He replied, "Know you!"—here he became unpleasantly reminiscent—"I used to see you act twenty-five years ago. How many packages have you?" and he chalked them all. In Johannesburg a man with a somewhat vitreous eye came and put a moist hand in mine and said, "Eh, mon, I used to shave you in Sauchiehall-street in Glasgie." Once when I was roped to a man on Mont Blanc, I wondered whether the insurance company would pay my widow if I were killed, and expressed my doubts to the other man, who asked which company it was, and on being told he replied, "Certainly; I am the agent." These are things that show an old traveller as I am how small the world is. I have travelled a good deal and believe in it, for it broadens the mind and teaches us the vastness of our Empire, a matter I am keen about and proud of. I am sure from some remarks made to me by my old friend Joe Jefferson, whose Rip Van Winkle will never be forgotten, that there is a fraternal feeling in America for the Britisher, and I believe I shall receive there as kind a greeting as I have in so many of our colonies. I only regret that I shall not see that dear old lady, the grand old woman of the American stage, Mrs Gilbert. I do not know I can say any more. My heart is quite too full to express adequately what I feel. The deeper one's feelings the less one is able to express them. Believe me I appreciate very much this kindly send-off I appreciate the kindness of the Duke of Abercorn in taking the chair this evening, and in conclusion I beg to thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Mr BEERBOHM TREE proposed "The Health of the Chairman." If, he said, it was wrong to abuse a man behind his back it was tasteless to flatter him to his face, but it was no flattery to say that the committee had thought they would best honour their dear friend Terry by asking the Duke of Abercorn to preside. All would wish Mr Terry a warm welcome on the other side, but he hoped it would not be so warm as he himself had on his first visit to America. Scarcely had they got to the hotel then it was burned out. That incident proved to him the great force of two institutions in America—the press and the police. A member of his company lost some jewellery in the fire, and, in fact, it was rumoured that thieves had caused the conflagration. He was asked to go to the chief of the police about it. He drove in a closed fly and saw this gentleman, who was most affable. The jewellery was restored mysteriously the same day, so that the power of the police over the criminal classes was most extraordinary, and it was shown that the power of the police as the connecting link between the law and criminality was great. When he had rested a little on return to his hotel he was waited on by seven reporters, who asked why he had been to the head of the police. "That is my business," he replied. "Oh, no," they said, "you must be strangely ignorant of the institutions of this continent; it is our business. You had better make a clean breast of it, as nasty rumours get about." So he diffidently told them that he went to the police to ask them to deal gently with the crowds which were assembling outside the theatre where he was to appear, and above all to see that there was no loss of life. The evening papers—of course published in the morning—were full of this, with the consequence that a crowd began to assemble and they were full that night. That showed the power of the Press. He hoped Mr Terry was going out properly provided with secretaries for all purposes, a journalistic secretary above all things. A friend of his own told him he took two secretaries—one for autographs and the other for locks of hair. After six months the one died of writer's-cramp and the other was bald. Mr Terry, like most of them, could not give away too many locks of hair, and that was all the more right because he was only recently married. But a truce to stories. They could not have chosen a more propitious Chairman, and they, while thanking him for his services, joined him most heartily in good wishes for the success of their guest.

The Duke of ABERCORN briefly replied, and the proceedings terminated.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" has paid her first visit to the Marlborough Theatre this week, and has received good treatment from Mr Brandon Thomas's well-selected company. Mr George Desmond seems quite in his element as Lord Fancourt Babberly, giving a very humorous impersonation. He is well supported by Messrs A. Soames and Wylie Thompson as Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham. Brassett, the college scout, has a good exponent in Mr H. Brahame, and Colonel Chesney is very ably represented by Mr Lumsden Hare. The amorous old solicitor, Stephen Spettigue, is suitably interpreted by Mr Guy Lane; the Misses Frances Routledge and Violet Cooper make the most of their opportunities as Kitty Verdun and Amy Spettigue; and Miss M. Fitzgerald plays the part of Ela Delahay in a modest and charming way. The rôle of Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez is rendered in an efficient manner by Mrs Leslie Boswell. The play is suitably staged. The new play by Brandon Thomas, *Fourchette and Co.*, in which the author himself impersonates Serjeant Fletcher, Miss Ruth Suffild plays Isabella, and Mr Henry Adnes is seen in the part of Prince Del Crillo, is the curtain-raiser. The piece is dealt with in our notice of the revival of *Charley's Aunt* at the Comedy Theatre.

AN IDEAL XMAS GIFT.—BELLIS' TURTLE OIL SOAP.—Ladies who have not used Bellis' Turtle Oil Soap have no conception what a luxury it is or its wonderful properties. Leaves the skin soft and velvety. Lasts twice as long as any other. Truth says:—Turtle Oil Soap is the nicest I have ever used. I have been recommending it to everybody. Price 2s. 6d. per tablet. On sale at all high-class chemists and stores, or T. K. Bellis Turtle Co., 15, Bury-street, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

"THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND."
"HOW TO HELP IT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I absolutely approve of Cecil Raleigh's scheme, and am willing to support it in every way. "Once a Year Actors' Day" is an excellent idea. Those who are fortunate enough to be in an engagement would never mind giving their services free for a matinée, and it would not be taking the money out of the pockets of those unfortunate ones who are out of work; and I am sure we have no right to appeal to those who support us—namely, the public.

Yours faithfully, WEEDON GROSSMITH.
1, Bedford-square, W.C., Dec. 6.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I think Mr Cecil Raleigh's scheme of the federation of the theatrical charities an exceedingly good one, and I cordially give it my support.

Yours faithfully, VIOLET V. BOURCHIER.
Garrick Theatre, Dec. 7.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Referring to the correspondence in your last issue re actors' charities, I approve of Mr Cecil Raleigh's scheme, and am willing to support it.

Yours faithfully, FRANK CURZON.
14, Jermyn-street, S.W., Dec. 7.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have read with a great deal of interest the discussion in your columns on helping the above fund, and I most heartily approve of Mr Cecil Raleigh's scheme as set forth in your columns of Dec. 3. If a committee is appointed, and appointed shortly, I believe this scheme could be easily worked. As regards Messrs Willard and Mouillot's suggestion of deducting one night's salary, I also believe this could be worked, but only when the engagement held by the artist is for a lengthy period, as it would be somewhat hard to deduct a night's salary from an artist who may have been out of an engagement for a long time, and then obtains one which lasts say for only three or four weeks.

Yours faithfully, NORMAN V. NORMAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Mr Charles Boult evidently knows little or nothing about the front of the house, otherwise he would know that in a few theatres the holders of bill-orders contribute by means of a box to a local charity, and in some the purchase of a programme is made compulsory, which almost amounts to a tax, proving the practicability of my suggestion. But the best idea up to now is, in my opinion, the penny tax a-week from all professionals, to be collected by the acting-manager of the company.

Yours faithfully, FRANK LISTON.
Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am afraid the suggestions of Messrs Willard and Mouillot in their article on "How to Help the Actors' Benevolent Fund" cannot be carried out. I have made several inquiries re same, and find the drawbacks, in most cases, are the resident management and staff.

They argue they receive no benefits from the above Fund, therefore should not be asked to contribute or forfeit a night's salary through same. Granted their argument is right; but what would the resident management or staff do on many occasions without the aid of the artists? I quite agree that every artist visiting a theatre, and obtaining free seats, should be asked to contribute a trifle in a box kept for the purpose in every theatre in aid of the above.

Also that every touring manager should collect from every member of his company a penny or twopence each week, which surely no one would refuse, and which should be entered in a book supplied for the purpose, the said book to be forwarded to the Association at the end of the tour, or at a certain date or dates each year, arranged by the Benevolent Fund. The amounts collected from each company to be acknowledged in *The Era*.

Yours faithfully, WILL WHITE, F.O.S.
Swan Hotel, Chesterfield, Dec. 8.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—On careful consideration of Mr Raleigh's letter in your last issue, it appears to me that his proposal is in all ways the most equitable. There seems to exist a pretty general impression that Mr Willard's scheme would press hardly upon the poorer members of the profession; whilst Mr Mouillot's suggestion is open to a similar objection from the managers' point of view. Mr Raleigh provides an opportunity for everybody concerned to give exactly the same amount of assistance to the Fund—namely, their work; invidious distinctions of salary, prestige, and even talent, being for the nonce set aside. The financial gain to the Fund would only be surpassed by the moral gain to the profession. It is only right, also, that the general public should be expected to help us; we are constantly helping them. Even the Church might do something as a *quid pro quo* for many favours received.

May I again urge a universal ballot on the question? If my former suggestion seems too formidable on the score of clerical work, might not each actor personally send his vote on a postcard, the same to be properly signed (name and address), and further attested, if that be thought necessary, by the signature of his manager. Or again, *The Era* might print a page of proper voting forms in its columns; these to be cut out by some energetic person in each company, and distributed among his fellows. His energy might also urge him to collect them again, and forward to headquarters. I append the following as a suggestion for the voting forms:—

CHARITY SCHEME.

Mr Willard's Scheme .....
Mr Mouillot's Scheme .....
Mr Raleigh's Scheme.....X.....

I approve of the scheme against which I set my mark.
Name .....
Address .....
Company (last, if out of engagement).....

I must apologise for the length of my letter, but a portion of it is my voting paper, which you will observe I have marked (somewhat "previously") "X," as above.

Yours faithfully,
EDITH WYNNE MATTHISON.
Manchester, Dec. 8.

THE O.P. Club's children's New Year dance and entertainment, which was such a success last year, will take place in the Grand and Victoria Halls at the Criterion on Saturday, Jan. 7.

Mr F. W. PURCELL'S Stoke Newington theatre has this week been occupied by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company, who have presented Edwin Elsner's dramatisation of Ouida's celebrated novel "Under Two Flags. As the vivandière, Cigarette, Miss Laura Walker scores an emphatic success, and her performance is one that does her infinite credit. As Bertie Royellieu, Mr Mark Blow has a part which affords him many opportunities of which he takes advantage. A very clever sketch of Ezra Boroni, the money-lender, comes from Mr Albert Rogers, and a smart and alert exponent of the groom Rake is found in Mr Will Hook. Messrs Reginald Harley West and C. Douglas Carlisle do well as Berkile Royellieu and Lord Rockingham respectively, and a notable performance is the Colonel Chateauroy of Mr Charles D. Pitt. Mr Charles Brooke appears as Lord Royellieu; and Misses May Pardoe, Joan Steam, and Bertha Kingston capably sustain the parts allotted to them. The longer play is preceded by Russell Vaun and Alban Atwood's farce *Aunt Rebecca*, the parts in which are filled by Messrs Will Hook, C. Douglas Carlisle, R. Harley West, and Miss Lesley Wynne.

"THE HOUSEKEEPER."

A Farce, in Three Acts,
by Metcalfe Wood and Beatrice Heron-Maxwell,
Produced at the Camden Theatre on Monday, Dec. 5.

Colonel Lionel Trent .... Mr KENDAL
Lord Runswick..... Mr BASSETT ROE
William Hickson ..... Mr ERNEST HENDRIE
Robert C. Sledmere..... Mr B. SHELDRICK
Pennington Greene ..... Mr LEONARD HUBERT
Chippenham Berkeley .. Mr METCALFE WOOD
Crane ..... Mr W. M. RUTHERFORD
Lady Robertson ..... Mrs A. B. TAPPING
Mrs Billington ..... Miss ELISE CLARENS
Cicely Blake ..... Miss MARY JERROLD
Mrs Pennington Greene.. Miss LOLA DUNCAN
Mary..... Miss EDITH BOTTOMLEY
Lady Audrey Whitby .... Mrs KENDAL

Mr and Mrs Kendal produced the above three-act farce to a Birmingham audience last week, and the approval gained in the capital of the Midlands by the bright dialogue and amusing situations due to the invention and sense of humour belonging to Metcalfe Wood and Beatrice Heron-Maxwell has been confirmed and strengthened by North-west London audiences at the Camden. With the rough edges rubbed off by the Brum performances, the piece now stands out as a cleverly conceived and agreeable trifle. Instead of *The Housekeeper*, it might have been called "The Misogynist in Love," for it is patent to the hardened theatre-goer that the unconventional Colonel Trent, with his scorn of womankind and his inflexible opposition to the marriage of officers in his regiment, will capitulate unconditionally to Cupid as soon as he learns something of the winning charm and graciousness of Lady Audrey Whitby, who not only finds a town house and manages it for her brother, Lord Runswick, but writes his political speeches. Of course, there are other love affairs in the piece, and the irony of the situation is great when the martinet and woman-hater plays the eavesdropper in order to learn from the youngest subaltern in his regiment how to make a declaration of attachment, taking down the actual words on a scrap of paper. This is sent to a flirting widow, who mistakes it for a proposal; and another misunderstanding is caused by the colonel practising the art of "proposing" on a deaf old lady. But, of course, all these tangles are smoothed out in a way that was sufficiently described last week in our Birmingham correspondent's account of the piece, which runs to a continual accompaniment of laughter. The authors have fitted both Mr and Mrs Kendal with excellent parts. As Colonel Trent, who mistakes Lady Audrey Whitby for his friend Lord Runswick's housekeeper, Mr Kendal on his first entrance is the unyielding martinet, the inflexible and pertinacious disciplinarian. He makes us easily understand the reasonableness of the Spartan-like simplicity that he thinks necessary to the military man ambitious of rising in his profession, and we have a shrewd notion that author and authoress have drawn the portrait from real life. At any rate, the sketch of the smart soldier—at home in barracks, but not in boudoir—is very real and life-like in Mr Kendal's hands. The brusqueness of the first act is in admirable contrast to the doubt, hesitancy, and softened speech of the second act, in which the actor shows a fine sense of the mental perturbation caused by an "affection of the heart." The love scene in the last act is most admirably written, and as admirably acted, and though the piece is labelled farce, this particular portion of it belongs to the higher realms of comedy. It is conceived with great tact, and is played with rare finesse, charm, and vivacity both by Mr and Mrs Kendal. The popular actress is beautifully gowned, and she delights the house by the incomparable sweetness of her smile and the perfect naturalness of her acting as Lady Audrey, who does not fail to let us know by her clever by-play and her expressive gesture that the colonel's attachment is quite mutual. Mr Ernest Hendrie presents a capitally drawn portrait of the parvenu, Lionel Hickson; Mr Bassett Roe's impersonation of Lord Runswick is charged with geniality and well-bred distinction; Mr B. Sheldrick as the young subaltern Robert C. Sledmere is amusing in his love scenes and tiffs with Cicely Blake, a part played with engaging simplicity by Miss Mary Jerrold; Mr Leonard Hubert makes the most of his slender opportunities as Pennington Greene; and Mr Metcalfe Wood gives a humorous touch to the vacuous and non-marrying Chippenham Berkeley. Mr W. M. Rutherford may be unreservedly complimented on his embodiment of Crane, the man-servant with his unconcealed contempt for the lower orders. He catches exactly the tone and style of the disciplined footman who imitates so amusingly the hauteur of the upper "suckler." Mrs A. B. Tapping as the deaf Lady Robertson has a capital scene with Mr Kendal, which she plays excellently; Miss Elise Clarens cleverly depicts the frivolity and worldliness of Mrs Billington; Miss Lola Duncan is quite satisfactory as Mrs Pennington Greene; and Miss Edith Bottomley is a smart Mary.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE F. BLACK.

Mr George F. Black, the actor, died on Sunday at North Shields. He had been playing a leading part with a touring company in *Home, Sweet Home*, his final appearance being on Nov. 29. A year or two ago he was seized with severe illness whilst acting at Great Yarmouth, and was incapacitated for several weeks. He never fully recovered his former vigour, but recouped sufficiently to be able to resume the active pursuit of his profession. The recent extremely severe weather was too much for him, and, pneumonic symptoms setting in, he succumbed as stated. His family and professional friends did not regard his position as serious until the 2nd, when the manager of the company telegraphed to his father that grave complications had arisen, and one of his brothers went at once to be with him.

Mr Black, who was only thirty-nine, first of all gained considerable prominence as an amateur actor, and was strongly encouraged to take to the stage as a profession. He soon became popular and made many friends. For six or seven years he was a member of Mr F. R. Benson's Shakespearian répertoire company, and gained an experience and a proficiency which attracted the attention of Sir Henry Irving, whose company he joined, playing with him at the Lyceum and on one of his famous American tours. Since then he had a more varied experience, became a member of Miss Fortescue's company, and established a company of his own with which he toured the country, his répertoire being *Hamlet*, *Othello*, in which he played alternately the Moor and Iago, *Macbeth*, *The Lady of Lyons*, &c. He also appeared with his wife (Miss Edith Blair Staples) in Shakespearean revivals in Manchester. Two or three years ago he went to Australia to fulfil an engagement, but, unfortunately, the theatre in which the tour commenced was burnt down after one or two performances. His wardrobe was destroyed, and he returned home a considerable loser by the adventure. Mr Black had a fine voice, a good presence, and a vigorous style of acting, and he played many parts as only a thoroughly capable actor could play them.

"SPICY FOREIGN PLAYS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have read your leading article dealing with "Spicy Foreign Plays," and feel that I must rectify your statement that the play *Das Thal des Lebens* is prohibited in Germany. The play has been produced all over Germany with the exception of Berlin, where it has been prohibited not on moral but on personal grounds.

Yours faithfully, ERNEST MAYER.
34, Norfolk-street, W.C., Dec. 3.

AT the Royalty Theatre on Monday, Dec. 5, a copyright performance was given of a comedietta by Frederick Fenr, entitled *The Age of Innocence*.

"THE FASCINATING MISS KEMP."

Light Comedy, in Three Acts, by Gordon Holmes,
Played for the First Time in London at the
Crouch-end Opera House, on Monday, Dec. 5.

Colonel Trevannion..... Mr CHARLES GARRY
Gerald ..... Mr HUGH ARDALE
Lionel ..... Mr HAROLD WADELEY
John Meredith ..... Mr DRELINCOURT ODLUM
Rev. Matthew Hind..... Mr SEBASTIAN SMITH
Wells ..... Mr C. W. HALLE
Mrs Trevannion..... Miss DORA HERITAGE
Elise ..... Miss CELESTINE BERTRAM
Kate ..... Miss BEATRICE BELL
Muriel Cavanagh ..... Miss ROSE PORTMAN

The Fascinating Miss Kemp, which we fully noticed after its production at the Grand Theatre, Margate, on Nov. 7 last, is a bright, pleasant, merry comedy of domestic life, written in an easy, natural strain, the author not disdaining details such as a game of blindman's buff, with a formalist clergyman taking hold of a prim elderly lady by mistake, and the agony of unsuspecting persons who seat themselves unwittingly upon inverted drawing pins. The theme is that of the heiress who, wishing to form an opinion of her intended husband, presents herself to his family under a false identity. Gerald Trevannion, the son of Colonel and Mrs Trevannion, is destined to wed Muriel Cavanagh, who has £100,000. They have never met; and Miss Cavanagh conceives the idea of engaging herself as "holiday help" to Mrs Trevannion at the latter lady's home in Guernsey. She carries out her intention; and Gerald falls in love with her in her assumed character of "Miss Kemp" and insists on marrying her in spite of his parents' objections. Mrs Trevannion, who is already jealous of the too-fascinating "Miss Kemp," dismisses her haughtily, whereupon Muriel reveals herself as the heiress, and all ends well. Miss Rose Portman plays Miss Muriel Cavanagh very prettily, and makes herself a warm favourite. Mr Drelincourt Odlum supplies a sound and firm embodiment of an easy-going solicitor; and Mr Charles Garry is amusingly irritable, brusque, and overbearing as Colonel Trevannion. Mr Hugh Ardale, whose style and appearance are excellent, gives a polished and effective impersonation of Gerald Trevannion; and Miss Dora Heritage is agreeably refined as Mrs Trevannion. A quaint sketch of an affected parson is supplied by Mr Sebastian Smith; Miss Celestine Bertram makes a bright and effusive Elise, and a simple-minded servant-maid is well portrayed by Miss Beatrice Bell. *The Fascinating Miss Kemp* is preceded by a one-act piece by Mr Henry Lewis Bedford, entitled

"WAS SHE TO BLAME"

Mr Devonport ..... Mr JAMES ENGLISH
Mrs Devonport ..... Miss GEORGINA HAMILTON
Edgar Beresford ..... Mr ORLANDO DALY
Pritchard..... Mr F. A. K. LANCY

Mrs Devonport is the wife of a gentleman who has married her in ignorance—as she thinks—of the fact that her father, in circumstances of great temptation, committed a crime of which he was convicted, being sentenced to a long term of imprisonment. Her husband, however, is aware of this, but has been silent on the point in order to spare his wife's feelings. Mr Devonport's secretary, Edgar Beresford, is also cognisant of the fact; and, being hard pressed for money, "blackmails" Mrs Devonport to the extent of £50, which the poor woman sends to him in a letter. This is opened by her husband, who conceals himself during an interview between his wife and his secretary, and overhears enough to explain to him the situation. He comes forward, and dismisses Beresford with scorn. The piece is neatly written, the dialogue being sharp and to the point; and the action, slight as it is, is well knit and progressive. Miss Georgina Hamilton acts with spirit and delicacy as Mrs Devonport; Mr James English is sober, earnest, and sincere as the husband; and Mr Orlando Daly makes the most of the unthankful rôle of the secretary. Mr F. A. K. Lancy as Pritchard contributing some amusing touches of comedy.

MR. E. E. NORRIS'S BENEFIT.

The ever-popular Mr Ernest E. Norris, general manager of the Elephant and Castle, took his first "annual" benefit at that establishment on the 2nd inst., and had an excellent house. *Matrimonial Bliss*, an item of the long programme, was smartly rendered by Mr Edwin Bennett as Major Hathaway, and Mr Paige Lawrence and Miss Agnes Paulton as Lieutenant Royce and Clara. Mr Herbert Linwood sang "The Death of Nelson" with spirit; a musical scena was performed by Mr Dudley Hayes; and Miss Kitty Tims cleverly treated a vocal waltz. Whimsical Walker was both comic and pathetic in a well-written little sketch; and there was also presented, for the first time on any stage, an anonymous skit, in one act, called

"MEREDITH MARRIAGES."

Mr Masterman ..... Mr HARRY PAULTON
Mr Delannay ..... Mr PHILIP WILLIAMS
Mrs Delannay ..... Miss GRACE MASSEY
Mrs Masterman..... Miss KATE CONNAUGHT

In this Mr George Meredith's recent proposal of "ten-year" marriages is amusingly ridiculed. There are two husbands, whose matrimonial unions are on the point of being dissolved on April 1, 1916, the date of the play. Mr and Mrs Masterman and Mr and Mrs Delannay have been looking forward to "changing partners;" but when the time comes they find that, on the whole, they prefer to remain as they are. The dialogue is very humorous, and the piece was neatly performed at the benefit by Mr Harry Paulton, Miss Kate Connaught, Miss Grace Massey, and Mr Philip Williams, all of whom did good service. Then followed, for the first time on any stage, a new romantic play, in four acts, by Ernest E. Norris and Fewlass Llewellyn, entitled

"A GENTLEMAN OF ENGLAND."

Geoffrey Pontifex } Mr ERNEST E. NORRIS
Captain Paul Ferdinand }
Michael I. ..... Mr FEWLASS LLEWELLYN
General Holseg ..... Mr HOWARD TEMPLETON
Major Roche ..... Mr ERNEST PERCY
Kurt..... Mr HARRY PAULTON, jun.
Maesteg ..... Mr JO MONKHOUSE
Officer ..... Mr EDWIN BENNETT
Petrovski ..... Mr PAIGE LAWRENCE
Sentry ..... Mr GERALD JORDAN
Railway Porter..... Mr PRIOR
Claudia ..... Miss KATE CONNAUGHT
Zenia ..... Mrs BENNETT

The hero of this piece is Geoffrey Pontifex, a young English gentleman, who, travelling in a European state called "Ivanland," is mistaken, on account of a remarkable personal resemblance, for a cowardly and unprincipled Captain Paul Ferdinand. In this character Pontifex is made love to by the wife of a military governor, falls in love with the absent Ferdinand's sister, Zenia, wins her affection by saving her from a bully, and fights a duel with the latter, in which, of course, Pontifex is victorious. He also frustrates a scheme on the part of the 'Ivanian" nobles to seize the Emperor and force him to abdicate. The dual-part of Pontifex and Ferdinand was sustained in the most gallant and "devil-may-care" manner by Mr Ernest E. Norris, who was equally good in the lighter and in the more serious passages; Mrs Bennett made a charming Zenia, winning all hearts by her grace and sweetness; Miss Kate Connaught put plenty of energy into her performance as Claudia; and Mr Howard Templeton's General Holseg was duly bluff and tyrannical. Mr Ernest Percy gave a graphic representation of Major Roche, and Mr Fewlass Llewellyn acted ably as the Emperor. A droll and quaint presentment of Kurt was supplied by Mr Harry Paulton, jun., and Mr Jo Monkhouse made a picturesque and impressive Maesteg. Some appropriate incidental music was supplied by Mr Joseph Nurnberger, the conductor at the Elephant and Castle. *A Gentleman of England*, with its stirring situations and active motion, was favourably received, and the authors may be congratulated both on their work and its interpretation. Mr Edwin Bennett, the stage-manager of the entertainment, did his duty admirably.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR EDWARD CLARKE, K.C., in his eloquent speech at the Actors' Benevolent Fund dinner on Wednesday, remarked that there was no profession in the world which, while subject to much uncertainty and many anxieties, did so much to relieve the necessities of its own members as the dramatic profession did. They had only to look at *The Era* from week to week to see this. He was delighted, Sir Edward said, to see Mr Edward Ledger among them again in good health, for under his management *The Era* had been the means of bringing immediate help to members of the profession who were in difficulties. It is indeed pleasant to find our efforts to help the profession appreciated and acknowledged by so respected and famous a counsel as Sir Edward Clarke.

THE last nights of *A Wife Without a Smile* are announced at Wyndham's Theatre, and the piece will be withdrawn next Saturday, after about seventy performances. It is satisfactory to observe that, in spite of the "sensation" evoked by its audacity, Mr Pinero's regrettable expedient to attract the public by a doll has not proved particularly successful.

MRS KENDAL, who has been appearing at the Camden Theatre this week in *The Housekeeper*, recently told an amusing story at Cheetham, a town in the Manchester district. She was opening an exhibition, and the rector of the parish, in introducing Mrs Kendal, remarked that the exhibits ranged from cushions to mantraps. Mrs Kendal thereupon advised the young ladies present to bid for the mantrap. The difficulty in the first place, she said, would be to catch the man, and, in the second place, an even greater difficulty might be to keep him. When she was married, she remembered her old nurse saying, "Well, Miss Madge, you have got a husband at last, and your difficulty now will be to keep him."

SIR HENRY IRVING recently offered a valuable challenge cup for competition amongst the Dublin bands. The present holders, the Barrack-street band, deposited the cup for safe custody with Mr Flanagan, Strand-street, Dublin, who placed it in his shop. It has now been stolen by some person or persons unknown.

AMONGST the audience on the first night of *Pagliacci* at the Savoy Theatre, on Tuesday, were the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Prince Francis of Teck, Lady Blanche Conyngham, Ellen Lady Inchiquin, Lady Minto, Lord and Lady Kinnoull, and Lord Kintore.

THE appeal which we made for Mr Henry Crisp has been liberally responded to, and the contributions so generously made to the fund for the blind actor by the profession amounts to over £286. The fund is now closed.

MR CYRIL MAUDE is to have a theatre of his own in London. Mr W. S. Gilbert, who built the Garrick for Mr John Hare fifteen years since, will perform a similar kind office for Mr Maude, and by Christmas, 1905, the new theatre will be ready for opening. It is to be called "The Playhouse." Pending his occupancy of the new building with his wife, Miss Winifred Emery, Mr Maude will go on tour, Miss Emery remaining in London.

MISS NORA KERIN, who plays "the perfect and peerless" Miranda at His Majesty's, has been a Shakespearian actress for nearly the whole of her five years on the stage. Although she is a cousin of Miss Lily Hanbury and Miss Hilda Jacobson, it was not the contemplation of their success which induced Miss Kerin to enter the profession, but a chance meeting with a manager, followed by "walking on." When *The Royal Family* was in rehearsal she happened to go to the Court Theatre to see a friend; the friend introduced her to Mr Dion Boucicault, and he, hearing that she wanted to act, kindly gave her a "thinking part" in Capt. Marshall's delightful comedy. Her second engagement was under Mr George Alexander's management, and after a year with his répertoire company she played her first Shakespearian part—Titania, in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*—at Manchester.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, where Miss Kerin was educated, has been the Alma Mater of many successful actresses, including Miss Dorothy Grimstone, Mr and Mrs Kendal's daughter, and Miss Winifred Arthur-Jones and her sister. In earlier days Miss Maude Holt, long before she became Mrs Beerbohm Tree, graduated with honours from the same college. Miss Kerin will be remembered as Esther, in *Ben Hur*. After her engagement at Drury-lane she joined Mr George Musgrove's Shakespearian company, and played in Australia and New Zealand for over a year. The audiences "down under" are famous for their generosity in giving flowers; and Miss Kerin was presented with so many bouquets on her last night that they were lifted over the footlights on to the stage in a deck-chair. She is fond of reading, cycling, and walking, and learned to swim when she was a small child. Her one pet is a thoroughbred mongrel puppy, who is said to have devoured a fur mat and the best part of a railway-rug!

THE remains of Miss Isadore Rush, the American actress, who was recently drowned at San Diego, America, have been taken to the Eastern States by train. The deceased was "laid out" in the handsome costume that she wore as Lady Holyrood in *Florodora*, and many friends came to see the body before it was removed.

IN the new Haymarket Theatre, which will be opened on Jan. 2 with *Beauty and the Barge*, transferred from the New Theatre, the restored pit will be capable of containing nearly 200 persons. The old house could seat 988 persons, but the future limit will be 900. There are five safety exits on the stall floor, and the ventilating system is elaborate and scientific. Instead of being a three-tier house, as it has been since 1820, the new Haymarket will have only two tiers—a dress circle and a family circle, with a shilling gallery. The auditorium is decorated in gold and red, and instead of twelve boxes there will be four, adorned with golden columns. Everything used in the reconstruction will be fireproof.

THE new Waldorf Theatre, which is being built from Mr W. G. R. Sprague's plans, and under his superintendence, is now making very rapid progress, and the building has already reached the level of the family circle. The decorations and furnishings of this house will be in the Louis Quatorze period.

THE production at the Théâtre Antoine, Paris, on Monday, of the translation by MM. Pierre Loti and Emile Vedel of Shakespeare's *King Lear*, reminds us of the memorable revival of the piece given by Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum Theatre on Nov. 10, 1892. In this there were sixteen changes of scene and twenty-two characters, and elaborate incidental music was furnished by Mr Hamilton Clarke. Messrs Craven and Harker specially distinguished themselves in the scenery, the Dover sets and the storm effects being extremely elaborate.

MR TREE will give three special matinées of *The Tempest*—which reaches its 100th performance to-day—on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Dec. 19, 20, and 21. There will be no evening performances that week, and after the matinée on Wednesday the theatre will be closed till Boxing night, on and after which night *The Tempest* will be played until the evening of Saturday, Jan. 14.

SIR HENRY IRVING brings a phenomenally successful tour to a close this week at Manchester. Everywhere he has played to "record" and intensely enthusiastic audiences, the advance bookings being unprecedented. Sir Henry will make his final appearances in other provincial towns from the end of January onwards, coming to Drury-lane for a short season after Easter.

MR AND MRS EDMUND GWENN are expected to arrive in London from Australia on the 19th of this month. Mrs Gwenn is better known by her maiden name of Minnie Terry. She is a daughter of Mr Charles Terry, and will be remembered as a clever child actress, Bootles' Baby having been the principal part she played in London. When she was at the pinafore age a friend reproached her for not paying attention to what she was saying on the stage. "Oh, but my aunt Ellen and I are very unequal actresses!" was the child's calm reply.

MR EDWARD TERRY sails for America to-day, in the American liner, St. Paul, and will open his season on Christmas Eve, when he will make his first appearance in the United States in *The House of Burnside* at the Princess's Theatre, New York, under the management of Messrs Shubert Bros. Mr Terry will be accompanied by Mrs Terry, and will take his own company with him, including Miss Cynthia Brook, Miss Beatrice Terry, Miss Nelly Mortyne. Miss Olive Wilton, Miss Clara Earle, Mr W. H. Day, Mr William H. Denny, Mr W. F. Lovell, Mr A. Hylton Allen, Mr Arthur Cornell, Mr George Howard, Master Lorraine, with Mr Gaston Mayer as business-manager. Mrs Langtry will commence her London season at Terry's Theatre on Jan. 16, in *Mrs Dering's Divorce*.

MISS GERTRUDE ELLIOTT has sent the secretary of the Actors' Benevolent Fund £4 3s. 6d., which she has recently collected by selling her autographs.

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER AND MR ALFRED SUTRO, owing to the success of *The Walls of Jericho* at the Garrick Theatre, have had numerous offers for the colonial and American rights. Mr James K. Hackett has secured these, and will sustain Mr Bourchier's part of Jack Frobisher. Mrs Hackett (Miss Mary Mainwaring) will play Lady Alethea. Mr Hackett joined the late Mr Augustin Daly's company when Mr Bourchier was appearing in leading rôles with Miss Ada Rehan, and he subsequently also embodied Rudolph Rassendyl, in *The Prisoner of Zenda*. Mr Sutro sails for New York to-day to superintend the rehearsals, which will commence immediately, with a view to the production of the play early in the New Year. Mr Robert Brough has obtained the Australian rights.

MR HAYDEN COFFIN desires us to correct a paragraph which appeared in our issue of Nov. 19 stating that he would not appear at the Apollo Theatre. This was not correct, as Mr Coffin always intended to appear at the Apollo, and will do so very shortly.

THERE are several actors in London who were educated at Neuenheim College, Heidelberg, an institution now celebrating the sixtieth year of its foundation. The Hon. William F. Coventry, a son of the Earl of Coventry, will preside at the next annual dinner of the old boys, which will be held on Jan. 7 at the Criterion, and the vice-chairmen include Mr John Hassall, R.I., the famous artist, and Mr B. Egerton, who distinguished himself as a bowler in the London Actors' cricket match last July.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT," which is being revived with so much spirit at the Comedy Theatre, has been translated into French, German, Russian, and modern Greek. It was twice played by Imperial command at the Court Theatre, Berlin, and the Kaiser laughed heartily at its drolleries. In India, in the French colony of Hainan, in Hong Kong, in Japan, and in the backwoods of America *Charley's Aunt* has been performed, and it has created merriment in California, Klondyke, and Louisiana. Mr Brandon Thomas, the author, was employed in a timber merchant's office in Hull, when his exploits in connection with a local amateur entertainment attracted the attention of Mrs Kendal, who happened to be present. The introduction led to his ultimate engagement to appear at the St. James's Theatre in *The Ironmaster*. *Charley's Aunt* was offered to several managers, who declined it unanimously. Then a City financier, who became Mr Thomas's backer, put down £1,000, which has since been returned to him nearly forty-fold. Mr Thomas is an enthusiastic volunteer officer, and is widely known as a generous and thoroughly good "fellow."

MR G. M. POLINI, the well-known and popular manager, will take a répertoire company to Egypt in the early spring, giving a cycle of dramatic performances at Cairo and Alexandra, and calling at Malta and Gibraltar on the way back. Mr Polini was for many years general manager for the late Mr Wilson Barrett, with whom he was on exceedingly friendly terms, and has done much with his partner, Mr Austin Melford, to popularise Mr Barrett's plays in both London and the provinces.

IN the cast of Mr Berte Thomas's comedy *The Little Brown Branch*, at the Court Theatre on Wednesday afternoon, will be found Mr Grahame Browne, Mr Berte Thomas, Mr Slaine Mills, Mr Charles Allan, Mr William Farren, jun., Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Bessie Page, Miss Kate Mills, Miss Winifred Fraser, and Miss Frances Ivor.

THE Playgoers' Club has for the past three years given an entertainment annually to raise funds to send a number of poor children to the pantomimes. Last Sunday evening it gave its usual concert with that object at His Majesty's Theatre, which was kindly lent by Mr Beerbohm Tree. The Playgoers' Club Pantomime Fund for Poor Children will doubtless benefit liberally by the generous exertions of the executive committee and of the artists who so kindly gave their services to the entertainment. The vocalists were Miss Marie Brema, Madame Alice Esty, Madame Lillian Blauvelt, Miss Florence and Miss Bertha Salter, Mr Frangçon Davies, Mr Lloyd Chandos, and Mr Charles Copland. The instrumental music was supplied by the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Sir Alexander Mackenzie, assisted by Mr Arthur Payne. Mr William Green was announced to appear, but was unfortunately prevented from doing so by a cold; and Miss Ada Crossley was unable for certain reasons to contribute to the programme.

THE band played seven selections in fine style; and Sir Alexander Mackenzie conducted his own overture, "Cricket on the Hearth," Mr E. German his *Henry VIII.* dances, and Mr Arthur Hervey his overture, "Youth." Madame Alice Esty was warmly applauded for her singing of "Ah fors è lui," and gave Tosti's "Good-bye" in answer to urgent demands for an encore. Madame Blauvelt supplied a delightful rendering of Liza Lehmann's "Spinning Song," and Miss Marie Brema sang "Sweet Isle" and a "Battle Hymn," both by Dr. Stanford, most artistically, the last item exciting intense enthusiasm. Mr Lloyd Chandos and Mr Davies contributed most valuably. The programmes were adorned by some excellent sketches by Mr Frank Chesworth. A number of professional ladies sold these pretty programmes, and reaped quite a little harvest for the Fund. It will be remembered that last December £728 was obtained for the Fund by the Playgoers' Club, and over 12,000 youngsters were taken to the pantomime and provided with a hearty meal.

MR BEERBOHM TREE will produce Mrs Humphry Ward and Mr Louis N. Parker's play, *Agatha*, at His Majesty's Theatre in February, with Miss Viola Tree in the principal part.

MR W. S. PENLEY was nominated for election as grand treasurer at the Quarterly Communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Masons of England, which was held last Tuesday night at Mark Masons' Hall, with the Earl of Euston, pro-Grand Master, in the chair.

WYNDHAM'S THEATRE has, by arrangement with Mr Frank Curzon, been taken by Mr Charles E. Hamilton for a period of five weeks for the new play *Peggy Machree*, by Mr Patrick Bidwell, which will have its first London production on or about Boxing Day. *Peggy Machree* is a play with music, and the scene is laid in Ireland in the middle of the eighteenth century. The company is headed by Mr Denis O'Sullivan, who is supported by Miss Marie Dainton. The incidental music has been arranged by Signor Michele Esposito.

MR MARTIN HARVEY, in response to the continued applause and recalls of a large and enthusiastic audience at the close of the last performance of *The Breed of the Treshams* on Saturday night last at the Theatre Royal, Belfast, said—"Ladies and gentlemen, I should like to thank you, before our very brief visit to you comes to an end, for the very great pleasure it has been to my fellow-workers and myself to have had an opportunity of appearing before you again. It was our regret and our loss, ladies and gentlemen, that it was not possible to renew our visit to your city long before, and we can only sincerely hope that it may not be so long before we have another opportunity (A voice—"You are welcome"). It was our great regret, too, ladies and gentlemen, that we were unable to present to you the last work we produced, namely, *Hamlet*, but it was found impossible at a very late hour to so adapt our scenery as to make it possible to put it on in your theatre. It was our privilege to receive approval of that work, and we can only hope that it may be our privilege to have an opportunity of submitting it to you. I hope that sometimes you will remember that other play which it was our privilege to put before you some four or five years ago, *The Only Way*. I am glad to see it still holds some place in your remembrance. With these few words I bid you all good night, and beg to assure you we shall all look forward to an early return."

THE building of Mr Seymour Hicks's new theatre in Aldwych is now proceeding apace, and Mr W. G. R. Sprague, the architect, is using every effort to have the theatre completed at the earliest possible date. The theatre will certainly be one of the most beautiful and well-equipped playhouses in London, and will be replete with all that modern science and experience can supply.

MR ARTHUR CARLTON recently made application to the Birmingham magistrates to withdraw the restriction imposed with respect to the Carlton Theatre, Saltley, prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drink. In asking for the removal of the restriction, he said he thought he was a truer advocate of temperance than the members of the deputation. He could not see that the cause of temperance was served by driving people out of the theatre into the neighbouring public-houses.

THE children's fancy dress ball in aid of the League of Mercy (Strand district) which will be held at the Hotel Cecil on the 29th inst., has been arranged by the youngest lady vice-presidents of the league, Miss Irene Hentschel, daughter of Mr Carl Hentschel, and Miss Doris Joel, daughter of Mr S. B. Joel, and will be under the patronage of the Countess Grosvenor, Dora Countess of Chesterfield, Lady Evelyn Ewart, and the Dowager Lady Lamington.

MISS EDNA MAY has brought a second action for divorce in New York against her husband, Mr Fred Titus, naming Miss Mona Desmond as co-respondent. It will be remembered that the first action for divorce brought by Miss May two years ago did not come on for trial.

MR GEORGE MOZART, who will play the leading part in the pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, at the Grand Theatre, Islington, was at one time in the army as a bandsman. He remained with the Colours until he was promoted sergeant, and was always termed the "Dan Leno" of the British Army.

THE Gaiety company arrived home last Saturday from South Africa, after a most successful tour there extending over eighteen months. The following are members of the company:—Messrs V. Gourlet, A. Grover, M. Clifton, E. Colman, H. Cropton, M. Graham, Lloyd, M'Ewan; Misses N. Brocklebank, M. Marsland, G. Lester, N. Palmer, Pollard, F. Haydon, V. Moors, N. Osborne, D. Campbell, F. Cullen, E. Risby, and K. Hamlyn. Mr George H. Smith, associate manager to Messrs B. and F. Wheeler, will return to London to-day.

MISS ADELA VERNE, who gave a grand orchestral concert at St. James's Hall on Thursday evening, is the youngest of a particularly clever trio of sisters. Of English birth, but German descent, they are all accomplished musicians. Miss Marie Wurm—as the name was originally spelt—is one of the few women who have had the honour of winning the Mendelssohn Scholarship. Miss Mathilde was a favourite pupil of the late Madame Schumann, with whom she studied for several years in Leipsic, making her début as a pianiste about fifteen years ago. Miss Adela has perhaps achieved the greatest success, having travelled extensively, and given many pianoforte recitals in London.

MR PHILIP CARR will put on Vanbrugh's *Confederacy* at the Royalty Theatre for an extra week beginning on Monday, with matinées on Wednesday and Saturday. Mr Carr will also revive *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*, with Mrs Theodore Wright as the Citizen's Wife, every evening from Boxing Day onwards. On the afternoon of Christmas Eve and daily during the holidays there will be performed *Snowdrop and the Seven Little Men*, written by Mr Carr and composed by Mr C. W. Smith.

REV. FORBES PHILLIPS, vicar of Gorlestone and playwright, will read a paper on "Church and Stage" to the members of the Playgoers' Club at the Hotel Cecil to-morrow.

MR IVAN BERLYN, who has been playing Parker and stage-managing *Mrs Dering's Divorce*, with Mrs Langtry, has been unable to accept that lady's kind offer to accompany her to Terry's Theatre, owing to a prior engagement with Mr George Dance for the rôle of Louslot, in *Véronique*.—Mr W. V. Garrod has kindly been released by Messrs Polini and Melford from the last week of their *Silver King* tour, to enable him to conduct the rehearsals of *The Sledge-Hammer*, which is to be revived at the West London Theatre on the 19th inst. Mr Garrod has played the Spider in *The Silver King* for twenty-one weeks.—Mr Cecil A. Melton, who has for some time been playing lead in *Her Second Time on Earth*, has been retained by Mr Walter Melville for *A Girl's Cross Roads*.—Mr Henry Crocker, who is playing in *Richard Lovelace*, also stage-managing for Mr Laurence Irving, has again been engaged by Mr Edward Compton to play his old parts of Sir Peter Teazle and Sir Anthony Absolute.

A HALF-YEARLY general meeting of the Touring Managers' Association will be held at the Tavistock Hotel, Covent-garden, on Friday next, Dec. 16, at half-past twelve p.m.

MR FORBES-ROBERTSON, who leaves England on the 24th inst., will produce on Jan. 9 at Toronto Mr H. V. Esmond's new modern play, in five acts, entitled *Love and the Man*. Mr Robertson will include in his company Miss Kate Rorke, Miss Madge M'Intosh, and Mr Frank Gillmore. Mr Forbes-Robertson will also visit New York, returning to London shortly after Easter.

MR KYRLE BELLEW will appear in London next autumn, under the direction of Mr Charles Frohman, in a play called *Ruffles*, based on Mr F. W. Hornung's novel, "The Amateur Cracksman."

MR WILFRED DRAYCOTT, who is now touring Australia in *The Marriage of Kitty*, under the management of Mr J. C. Williamson, has been giving some reminiscences to the colonial interviewers. He was sent to Oxford to study for the Church, but the attractions of the stage proved irresistible. He has had many years' experience of the ups and downs of the profession in England, and has played everything from pantomime to tragedy. He has been much struck in Australia by the rarity of clergymen at theatrical performances. In England they are now often seen amongst the audience. The former prejudice against the stage in the old country had practically died out. Mr Draycott is an enthusiastic botanist, and Australia is affording him ample fields of fresh study and experience in that science.

PADEREWSKI was closing his triumphant tour of Australia and New Zealand at latest mail advices. Not only has he added considerably to his private banking account, but is also bringing home a substantial contribution to the Chopin memorial in Warsaw, through the sale of his autographs at half-a-crown to a host of admiring Antipodeans. As a piece of farewell advice to young Australian musicians, the famous Polish pianist remarked: "Let your young students place the search for and the cult of the beautiful before all else. Unless they have the sense of this they will never be true musicians. Technique and execution alone never did make an artist. Be conscientious, too. Without that you will never do any good. Study, hard and unceasing, is the only way to success."

MR LEWIS WALLER will close the Imperial Theatre after this evening, but will reopen the house on Boxing Day with *His Majesty's Servant*, which will be followed by an elaborate revival of *Henry V.*, which Mr Waller produced at the Lyceum about four years since. Mr Waller will, of course, repeat his fine and spirited impersonation of the leading character.

AT the Gymnase Theatre at Liege recently, as a performance was coming to an end, smoke was seen to issue from one of the boxes, an occupant of which had slipped a lighted cigar into his pocket. His clothing took fire, and the sight of the smoke caused a panic in the audience. The smoker put out the fire himself, burning his hands badly in the act.

MISS JULIA KENT, who will appear in the forthcoming pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, at the Grand Theatre, Islington, acted as leading lady in all the plays produced by the Marquess of Anglesea. On one occasion the noble Earl had a particular desire to see what his part seemed like from the front of the house, and called upon Miss Kent at two hours' notice to play it, and sing five or six special songs. This she did most successfully, and was presented by him at the conclusion of the evening with a magnificent diamond bracelet.

MISS TOTS DAVIS, who is appearing in a leading character, Maid Marion, in the forthcoming pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* at the Grand Theatre, Islington, commenced her stage career at the age of four. At the age of seven she occupied the principal character in the pantomime at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, and at once jumped right into popular favour, gaining for herself the title of the "Pride of Peckham." This year is her first as an adult actress, as she has hitherto played child's parts in pantomimes.

THE King and Queen of Portugal and suite visited the Gaiety Theatre on the 2nd inst., and witnessed the performance of *The Orchid*.—The Duke and Duchess of Connaught and suite were present at the performances of *The Decree Nisi* and *Lady Windermere's Fan* at the St. James's Theatre on Monday evening.

MR T. EDWARD WARD'S social drama, *Her Fatal Past*, by Nita Rae, concludes to-night its first autumn tour of nineteen weeks at the Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd. Financially the tour has been a successful one, as, out of the nineteen weeks' run, no less than twelve return dates have been arranged at increased percentages. Mr and Mrs Ward will, after a short holiday, resume their tour for the spring, commencing Boxing Night at Luton. The bookings for the play extend as far ahead as March 6, 1906, when it is due to appear at the Theatre Royal, Coatbridge.

MR AUGUSTE VAN BIENE and company will leave England early in January for an Australian tour, under the direction of Mr George Musgrove.

MR G. H. SMITH, who is an executor of the late Wilson Barrett's estate, also the associate manager of Messrs B. and F. Wheeler, the well-known South African entrepreneurs, will arrive this morning from Cape Town by the ss. Walmer Castle. The Lyric Theatre will be Mr Smith's headquarters while in London.

MR W. G. R. SPRAGUE has been appointed by the officers in command at Woolwich to rebuild the Royal Artillery Theatre, destroyed by fire some time ago. The theatre will be reconstructed on the latest up-to-date lines, and will be built of fire-resisting materials, and without columns. The theatre will be handsomely decorated and furnished throughout, and will be installed with the electric light. Arrangements have been made to convert the whole of the pit level and stage into a ballroom for special occasions. Mr Sprague's plans are now completed, and the work of clearing the site was commenced last week.

AN old Melbourne playgoer, writing over the signature of "Autolycus," is contributing an interesting series of articles to the *Melbourne Argus* on the theatrical life of that city in the sixties. A curious episode of that time was the strenuous Shakespearian rivalry between Charles Kean and Barry Sullivan, who were playing simultaneously in that city. When Kean produced one of the Bard's works at the Haymarket Sullivan promptly presented the same play at the Royal. Excitement ran high, and Melbourne's playgoing population was divided into two factions akin to the Montagues and the Capulets—the Keanites and the Sullivanites. Of course, each faction claimed supremacy for its own idol, and if the higher interests of the drama were not appreciably promoted by the competition between the two stars, the treasury of both theatres had no reason to complain of the boom.

"AUTOLYCUS"—who, by-the-way, is said to be the veteran Australian critic, Dr. J. E. Neild, now in his eighty-first year—makes no secret of his belief that Sullivan was the superior. He says, "Charles Kean was not a great actor. It was the 'glamour of his illustrious father's achievements that secured him a passport to public favour.' He was small in stature, delicate in physique, and 'lacked the fiery ardour which stage historians record as the distinctive attributes of his father.' But," he adds, "Charles Kean was a gentleman endowed with the most amiable social qualities, and Mrs Kean was acknowledged on all hands as 'one of the great actresses of the period.'"

MR LAURENCE IRVING, who is cast for Don John, in the revival of *Much Ado About Nothing*, at His Majesty's, made his first appearance before an audience in comic opera. It was in the days of his earliest youth, at an amateur performance of *H.M.S. Pinafore*. His brother Harry played Captain Corcoran, and the two seamen were Master Max Beerbohm and Master Laurence Irving. The younger son of Sir Henry Irving celebrates his birthday on the 21st of this month. He is the author of several plays, and married to Miss Mabel Hackney.

MR DENIS O'SULLIVAN, who will be seen at Wyndham's after Christmas, in *Peggy Machree*, is a good boxer, and belonged, before he left San Francisco, to the Olympic, one of the most noted athletic clubs in America. His unusual strength served him in good stead on a certain occasion when he was travelling in Massachusetts. One night, in a small hotel, the door of his room was forced open and a man staggered in. Mr O'Sullivan, of course, ordered him to go at once. The stranger refused, and a short and sharp struggle ensued, in which the singer, although considerably knocked about, was ultimately the victor. He discovered the following morning that his opponent was the champion middle-weight of New England.

MR MARTIN HARVEY will conclude his autumn tour, previous to his taking a Christmas vacation, with a week at the Coronet Theatre, where he will open on Monday. During his visit he will play only *The Breed of the Treshams*, which has met with so much success throughout histour.

MR WILLARD'S opening date at the Knickerbocker Theatre, New York, has been changed from Jan. 30 to Jan. 23, and the engagement is now for five weeks instead of four.

MR WILL SPRAY, who plays Fontinbras, in *The Orchid*, at the Gaiety Theatre, and understudies Mr Edmund Payne, will be at the Grand Theatre Fulham, for pantomime, his second season with Mr Robert Arthur.—Mr Sydney Stirling has been engaged by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry for the forthcoming production at the New Theatre in January.—Mr Campbell Bishop has just finished a most successful fifteen months' engagement as Admiral Lord Belton, in Mr Tom B. Davis's *The Medal and the Maid* company, and is engaged by Mr Frank Curzon to play Mr Crank, the magistrate, in his *Sergeant Brue* company on tour.

MR STANLEY COOKE, who made his reappearance in *Charley's Aunt* at the Comedy Theatre on Monday, registered his 1,475th performance of the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley. A period of just seven years has elapsed since Mr Cooke last played it. In the interval he has made successes in a variety of characters both in London and the provinces. At Wyndham's Theatre, under Sir Charles Wyndham's management, he played Lieutenant Darby, in Mr Pinero's *Dandy Dick*, and followed this with seasons at the Criterion and Court Theatres. After this he fulfilled starring engagements in the principal towns with Mr George Edwardes's original *Toreador* company, in *Miss Francis of Yale*, *Facing the Music*, and *The Lady of Ostend*. He produced *The Wild Rabbit* at the Criterion Theatre, playing the principal comedy character; and did *The Lady Doctor*, a duologue, at the London Pavilion. Until a few weeks ago he has been touring *The New Clown*, in conjunction with Mr Herbert Greville, playing Lord Cyril Garston.

COLONEL MAPLESON has left Paris to complete the arrangements for the establishment of a permanent French theatre in London to be open all the year round. The French supporters desire to provide the artists, plays, and costumes, Col. Mapleson finding the London theatre, the scenery, and the local expenses.

MR ROBERT ARTHUR'S first Coronet Christmas pantomime, to be produced on Christmas Eve, will be on the subject of "Little Red Riding Hood," and the cast will include Messrs Johnny Schofield, J. J. Dallas, Hy. Phydora, Maitland Marler, A. Chapman, and Misses Madge Vincent, Valli Valli, Dora and Ada Fraser It is to be produced on a lavish scale of magnificence.

MR ERNEST DOTTRIDGE will produce at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, his pantomime of *The Forty Thieves*.

MESSRS BENNETT AND BENNETT have arranged for a sixth annual benefit in aid of the Bolingbroke Hospital at the Shakespeare on Monday, Dec. 19. This is an event the patrons of the Shakespeare Theatre look forward to annually, and it will be this year under distinguished patronage. The following artistes have kindly consented to appear:—Miss Mabel Love, Mr Lionel Brough, Chirgwin, Miss May Alstree, Mr Harry Phydora, Miss Kate Chard, Mr H. O. Clarey, Miss Italia Conti, Mr Frank Cooper, Les Four Papillons, Mr Ben Albert, Miss Gwennie Harcourt, Mr Rudolph Kloss, Mr Henri Cazman, and Mr Pat Doherty.

THE management of the German Theatre will produce at the Gt. Queen-street Theatre on Monday, for the first time in this country, Otto Erich Hartleben's cycle of three one-act plays, collectively called *Die Befreiten*, the best known of which is that delightful satire on pedantry, *Die Geschichte vom Abgerissenen Knopfe*, and that grim little tragedy, *Der Abschied vom Regiment*. This will be followed by that delightful military comedy, *Militarfromm*. On Wednesday *Einsame Menschen* will be given for one performance, and on Thursday *Die Goldene Spinne*, a farce in four acts, by F. V. Schonthan, will be played for the first time.

MR W. R. ROBINS, now in his eighty-second year, a colleague of Phelps, Charles Kean, and Webster, celebrates an unusual event, viz., his diamond wedding, on the 22nd inst.

MISS MARY F. SANDARS, in her recently published book on Balzac, gives an amusing description of the first performance of the novelist's drama, *Vautrin*. "All the seats," she writes, "were sold beforehand. Many of them were parted with at a profit, and in the end a large proportion of the spectators were avowedly hostile to Balzac. He was nervous beforehand, and told Goslan that he was afraid there would be a terrible disaster. The theatre was crowded for the performance, and the three first acts, though received coldly, went off without interruption. At the fourth act the storm burst, as Frédérick Le Maître, who evidently felt qualms about the success of his part, had determined to make it comic, and appeared in the stage costume of a Mexican General, with a hat trimmed with white feathers, surmounted by a bird of paradise! Worse still, when he took off this hat he showed a coiffure which was the special prerogative of Louis Philippe. It was difficult to finish the performance, so loud were the shouts, hisses, threats.

"GOSLAN went to see Balzac the day after the performance, and found him outwardly calm. He did not mention the scene of the night before, but talked eagerly of a plan to start a large dairy and to provide Paris and Versailles with rich milk. The Director of the Beaux-Arts was sent to offer Balzac money to make up for his loss. He says, 'They came to offer me an indemnity, and began by proposing five thousand francs. I answered that I did not accept charity, that for three months I had done nothing but rehearse *Vautrin*, and that during those three months I should otherwise have gained twenty-five thousand francs.' "This," said the Director of the Beaux-Arts, "is the first time that I have been refused." "So much the worse," I answered.'"

HENRY IRVING AT MANCHESTER.

SIR HENRY IRVING, at a luncheon at which he was entertained on Friday at the Town Hall, Manchester, by the Lord Mayor of that city, said:—I would it were in my power to express my appreciation of the honour you pay me to-day. The playgoers of Manchester were among my earliest friends—among the first to stimulate my ambition by their generous encouragement, and the first when success came to crown it by inspiriting and ungrudging recognition—and that recognition you have generously and graciously given to-day as Chief Magistrate of this great city. As I look back, the Manchester that I first knew in 1860 was not the Manchester it is now. This magnificent block of municipal buildings did not exist. There was no pure stream in adequate, or, perhaps, almost adequate, degree for the needs of the people from distant Thirlmere. There were no electric lights, no tramways—there was no municipal trading, and let me say in almost a whisper on this sacred spot—there was no Lord Mayor. My presence here to-day indicates considerable change in the civic point of view concerning actors. It is your business, my Lord Mayor, to exercise the functions of local government; and perhaps I may say, without any personal inflation, that the great honour you have done this afternoon to a strolling player is one of those functions, and not the least memorable. But there was a time when members of my calling, if they had been asked what they understood by local government, would not have said that it was an invitation to lunch with the Mayor. They would have said it was much more likely to be an order to put them in the stocks. Don't let us speak ill of the stocks. They afforded time for repose and meditation to many eminent men. Charles Lamb, who loved actors, and wrote glorious notices of their acting—he was once put in the stocks on a Sunday morning; I don't exactly know what for—but it was some slight to the principles of local government. But Lamb, I fancy, would be rather astonished if he could turn up now and find an actor discoursing on public affairs in this municipal chamber, with no minions of the law awaiting to pounce on him. You may recollect that when Garrick ventured to remonstrate with Junius, that amiable censor of manners retorted, "Fool, stick to your pantomimes!" And I suppose that if the ghost of Junius were lurking hereabouts, he would be strongly of opinion that the stocks were much too good for me.

And now, my Lord Mayor, you know what is coming.

I hinted it a few nights ago to a joyous company of Manchester men, and they bore it quite cheerfully. Does not Manchester pride itself, and with justice, on its interest in the arts? And if a theatre were organised as a branch of local government, you would organise theatrical taste—not all, but the best of it, on a high plane. So vast has been the progress of the last forty years, I will venture to say, that in a lesser time you will have in this great city a municipal theatre built and endowed for the common good—for the enlightenment and cultivation of the people, for the formation and preserving of a standard of taste to encourage thought and respect for conscious and organised effort for the cultivation of imagination. You would maintain a body of actors who would have a real and continuous opportunity of learning their profession. Some despairing people complain that the stage now gets the wrong kind of recruits. I don't think there is so much the matter with the recruits as with the training that is given to them. I know that when I was a young recruit in Manchester I had more chance of learning my business in a single season than most young men and women have of learning now on the stage in the course of years. In those days the apprentice did not become an actor as soon as his or her photograph had appeared in the illustrated papers. When your local government, my Lord Mayor, has flowered in the theatre, it may be well to make a regulation that no member of the company shall have a portrait in the illustrated papers without a certificate of merit and experience from the manager.

There are philosophers, I know, who still hold that an actor can never be any good unless he remain in the wild Bohemian state; and I dare say they will warn you that as a local government official he will lose that fine, careless rapture which makes his charm for the decorous citizens when they go to the play. Well, I have a friend, a comedian, who has performed the duties of Poor-law guardian, I believe, with the highest credit, and without cheating the playgoing public out of a single honest laugh. We know that when you have made the theatre a civic institution in Manchester the principal actor will not be elected some day by acclamation as Lord Mayor, on account of his mastery of local affairs and his real administrative gift? You may say that it might be a disadvantage to him to belong to a political party in order to qualify for office. But do not tell me that his political opponents, who had voted against his election, would revenge themselves by flocking to the theatre to groan at his Hamlet. I have too much faith in the artistic sense of Manchester to fear that!

The whirligig of time would bring in his revenges, indeed, my Lord Mayor, when an actor sat in your chair instead of in the stocks. I do not expect to live long enough to see it. But I have had abundant opportunity these many years to appreciate the stimulus which Manchester gives to the artistes, and to-day I know that the number of my friends in this city is even greater than I had dreamed. Sir, I am deeply grateful for the kindly and eloquent things you have said about my work. It has at least enabled me to reap such a harvest of friendship and goodwill as should content the most ambitious; and that, believe me, to the actor whose labours are drawing to an end, is the most precious of all the rewards that life can give.

This has been to me a memorable and delightful occasion, my Lord Mayor, to have the opportunity of meeting this distinguished company, and I thank you with all my heart, and for my friends and comrades whom you have honoured with invitations, for the gracious hospitality you have so bountifully extended to us.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Marie Auckland, actress—Saturday, Dec. 10.
Florrie Gallimore, music hall artiste—Dec. 10.
F. M. Paget—Saturday, Dec 10.
Vernon Cowper—Saturday, Dec. 10.
Marie Menzies—Saturday, Dec. 10
Decima Moore, actress—Sunday, Dec. 11.
Chas. E. Selwyn—Sunday, Dec 11.
Rita Resdan, music hall artiste—Sunday, Dec. 11.
Ada Branson—Monday, Dec 12.
Frances Earle—Monday, Dec. 12.
Ellen Armor, actress—Tuesday, Dec. 13.
James Chappell, manager—Tuesday, Dec. 13.
Constance Grover, actress—Tuesday, Dec. 13.
T. E. Conover, comedian—Wednesday, Dec. 14.
Geo. H. Chirgwin, music hall artiste—Dec. 14.
Maud Jeffries, actress—Wednesday, Dec. 14.
Hubert Hollister—Wednesday, Dec. 14.
Marie Tyler, music hall artiste—Wed., Dec. 14.
Alfred Conibear—Wednesday, Dec. 14.
Eva Reed—Thursday, Dec. 15.
W. B. Fair—Thursday, Dec. 15.

MR TREE'S cast for his forthcoming revival of *Much Ado About Nothing* includes, besides himself, Miss Winifred Emery, Mr Basil Gill, Mr Sydney Brough, Mr Laurence Irving, Mr Lionel Brough, Mr Louis Calvert, and Miss Viola Tree, who will play Hero.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

The fourth annual dinner of the Actors' Benevolent Fund was held at the Hotel Metropole on Wednesday night. Sir Edward Clarke, K.C., occupied the chair, and those present included Mr George Alexander, Mr John Hare, Mr Eldon Bankes, K.C., Mr Comyns Carr, Mr R. Hammond Chambers, K.C., Sir Homewood Crawford, Mr Ben Davies, Mr B. F. Hawksley, Mr Sidney Lee, Colonel Clifford Probyn, Mr Edward Ledger, Mr James Welch, Mr Morris Abrahams, Mr H. W. Mote, Mr Herbert Swears, Mr Chas. Cruikshanks, Mr Horace Marriott, Mr C. T. Hemsley, Mr Henry Evill, Mr W. Hann, Mr C. A. Hanson, Mr E. C. Silverthorne, Mr A. B. Tapping, Mr C. Cooper, Mr C. J. Davies, Dr. Middlemist, Mr G. Boydell Houghton, Mr J. C. Parkinson, and Mr C. I. Coltson (secretary).

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of "The King," which was enthusiastically honoured, said his Majesty was a generous patron of the drama and of the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

The toast, as well as that of "The Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales," was loyally honoured.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing "The Actors' Benevolent Fund," mentioned that he had received a telegram from New York from Miss Mary Moore, stating that she was posting ten guineas for the fund, and a letter from Mr Beerbohm Tree, who explained as the reason for his absence that he was celebrating the birthday of one of his daughters, enclosing a cheque for £20.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of "The Actors' Benevolent Fund," said that one did not like to strike a note of sadness on an occasion such as this, but there were two names he should like to mention—two good friends lost to them—to whom a tribute of regard and gratitude was due. One was Mr Wilson Barrett, for many years a generous contributor to the Fund, and who left a legacy that was of substantial advantage to it. Mr Barrett had been his friend for many years. He was a courageous, upright, and generous man, an actor of great ability, for no one who ever saw him play in *The Manxman*, or, in earlier days, *The Silver King*, would question his right to be ranked as a great actor. He passed through some heavy trials, but he believed that no man had departed leaving behind him amongst his fellows a more kindly feeling of regard and admiration than was associated with the memory of Wilson Barrett. Although not so well known as an actor, Mr F. A. Scudamore, who died a short time ago, was for many years a diligent worker in the administration of the charities of the Fund. He was always regular in his attendance at the committee meetings, and always anxious to carry out in the true spirit of charity the objects of the Fund. He intended to make a very practical speech, for he held it was an occasion for a practical speech. It would, of course, be possible for him to indulge himself in observations in regard to the present condition of the drama, the dramatic art, and the like; but although they were that night in a peaceful harbour there were submarine mines about, and an unconscious word on his part might produce an explosion. The question whether the plays were too good for the actors or the actors too good for the plays was one which could be discussed anywhere, but perhaps the discussion would not contribute to the harmony of the evening. At a later period, after the subscription-forms had been filled up, other speakers might venture to be less discreet, and, indeed, he should like to listen to a vivacious discussion on the subject. His duty was to get every shilling he could for the Fund. He did not address himself so much to the company before him as to the public through the Press, which on the morrow would bring some of the generous help which was so sorely needed at this time of the year. They had to congratulate themselves that in Royalty they had a generous benefactor, and that the stage was in such a condition that its exponents were accepted upon their merits as the representatives of a great profession, and entitled to take their share with other professions in the regard and honour which belonged to all who did their work well in life. The stage had become somewhat the fashion. Society had taken upon itself to accept the stage and its representatives as they should be accepted. That was not without its disadvantages. The stage considered as a working profession had not been greatly advantaged by the popularity and prestige it had obtained. The well-endowed amateur had made his way to the ranks of the profession, and those who were its hard-worked members might be somewhat embarrassed by his competition. The dramatic art was very tempting. The rewards of success were flattering, and the tribute paid to success was one that came constantly again and again. Success, too, often came early before a man had got tired of his work, and was able to enjoy the success when it came. There was another side to the picture. He did not know how the profession to which he belonged would like an invasion of its ranks by young, well-endowed men, who were able to give fees to the solicitor for allowing them to appear, and by dint of those fees and an occasional tip to the solicitor's managing clerk were able to get good opportunities of distinction in the courts. He did not think that would raise the art of advocacy, and he was sure it would interfere with the ordinary hard-working barrister who was striving to make his living in a very respectable, if not equally remunerative, calling. It was the same with the stage, and he could not doubt that the proper trade of the dramatic art was interfered with by these bounty-fed goods—good, bad, and indifferent—who came into competition with them. Another drawback was that these exponents of the dramatic art were expected to take a somewhat undue share in the charitable movements of the world. Whenever there was a great fête or bazaar hard-working actors and actresses were appealed to to sacrifice their time and energies, and were rarely appealed to in vain. A very great deal of support was given to charitable institutions in this way, but it was a severe burden upon the profession, which was after all one of singular uncertainty and trial. Apart from those who had attained the highest sphere of work the position of the actor or actress was a very anxious one. Engagements had to be made a considerable time in advance, and one never knew how long the run of a play might last. A noisy gallery on a first night or something else might put an end to hopes of a success, and the actors might be out of an engagement for months. The mystery of why plays succeeded or failed would never be cleared up; and he was afraid too, that the country theatre had been in a very unsatisfactory state during the past season. Tours in the provinces were arranged, but audiences did not come and no money was forthcoming; and the players found themselves suddenly cast adrift, having in most cases to wait many anxious weeks before getting another engagement. This was one of the difficulties of the profession which could not be avoided. Its success, as a whole, depended very much on the prosperity of the community. We were passing through a time of depression, and those who suffered first were those who ministered to the desires and enjoyments of the people which could most easily be dispensed with. The theatre suffered more perhaps than anything else, and at the present time there was a great deal of pressure upon the Fund. There were some actors who were opposed to making an appeal to the public on behalf of the profession. He honoured the feeling, but he did not sympathise with it. It was the public who enjoyed the pleasure given by the dramatic art, and it was ridiculous to say that they should not contribute to the needs of the profession. There was no profession in the world which, while subject to much uncertainty and many anxieties, did so much to relieve the necessities of its own members. They had only to look at *The Era* from week to week. He was delighted to see Mr Edward Ledger among them again in good health, for under his management *The Era* was often the means of bringing immediate aid to members of their profession who were in difficulties. With regard to the Fund, help was given in a friendly spirit. He would make a practicable proposal. He did not see why they should not make their appeal for subscriptions to society ladies as well as to wealthy men, and he proposed an application should be sent to each of those ladies who during the year appealed for and obtained the help of the profession for their bazaars. The Fund was at this moment in special need. Between seventy and eighty old actors and actresses received weekly allowances so long as the Fund was able to afford them, and every week brought to the secretary twenty or thirty applications from those in immediate want. It was a great work, and it was done in the best way. It was done sympathetically and secretly, no names being mentioned publicly. Help was given as a friend would help a friend; and it would be a lamentable thing if the Fund had to suspend its grants for want of money. Depression in the dramatic world had the result of increasing the claims made upon the charity, but limited the capacity of the profession in supporting its requirements. He trusted that the dinner would result in the raising of a liberal sum for the benefit of the Fund.

Mr SIDNEY LEE, in proposing the toast of "The Drama," said that, though the fame of England owed a good deal to its Army, Navy, and commerce, it owed most of all to its drama. To whatever part of the world they might like to go, they would find that people were always ready to acknowledge that one English dramatist had achieved the high water mark of dramatic perfection. It was a great satisfaction to know that in London two plays of Shakespeare were running on the stage with great success in every possible way. Even the Germans had only one complaint to make against Shakespeare—that he had the bad taste to be born an Englishman. A few weeks ago the Russian Ambassador sent to him a translation of *Hamlet* by a Grand Duke, a cousin of the Czar, to be presented to the trustees of the poet's birthplace at Stratford-on-Avon. Shakespeare was but one of the great galaxy of dramatists of the Elizabethan era, and a very promising experiment was being made by the production of old plays in London under the direction of Mr Philip Carr, whose father would respond to the toast. He recognised that they must have a living drama, and that they could not depend on their past only. It was a source of satisfaction to see with what glorious energy Sir Henry Irving was still maintaining the great traditions of the English stage. He certainly believed in the genius of Mr John Hare and Mr George Alexander, and he did did not think the repute of the English drama need fear much while two such plays as *Lady Windermere's Fan* and Mr Bernard Shaw's *Candida* were running.

Mr COMYNS CARR, in responding, said he did not hesitate to say that if there was a failure in the theatre it was due to the actors and not to the play. He had written plays, and, on those rare occasions when they had not been successful, he had never hesitated to come to the conclusion that the fault was due to the actors and not to him. There were many signs at this present time that others thought as he did. He had lately perused in *The Times* a controversy which seemed to be raging between Mr Tree and Mr Henry Arthur Jones as to whether actors were bad or plays were bad. It seemed to him that Mr Jones had never captured the right answer to Mr Tree, who, by founding an Academy of Dramatic Art, had acknowledged that the fault lay not with the author. He desired to point out that he had been betrayed by the secretary. He first heard that this toast would be proposed by Mr Mathews, one of the most accomplished and polished speakers at the bar. Then a rumour reached him that Mr Mathews would not propose the toast, and the speech he had prepared in anticipation of Mr Mathews's remarks was quite useless. Next he heard it was to be proposed by Lord Rosebery, and he was prepared for that. Then came the report that Mr Chamberlain would submit the toast and introduce his Fiscal policy, and he was prepared for that. But he was not prepared for a speech from Mr Sidney Lee or to return thanks for the drama as represented by Shakespeare. Neither was he prepared to admit that the drama of to-day was either decadent or despairing. Men had made the mistake of supposing that the arts advanced, like the sciences, step by step; but there might come again such a glorious epoch of the drama as that which had been referred to by Mr Sidney Lee in submitting the toast.

Mr C. CRUIKSHANKS, in responding for the Fund, related an anecdote showing the generous nature of the late Wilson Barrett. On one occasion he declined to appear at a benefit performance, but promised £50 should it not take place, as seemed probable. However, the benefit did come off, and Mr Barrett handed over the cheque all the same. Mr Cruikshanks also told a capital story at the expense of Mr James Welch, who sat next him at the table. During his recent stay at Kingston, said Mr Cruikshank, Mr Welch had cause to go to the barber's, and to fall into conversation during the progress of a shave. "I hear you've got a part in the Drury-lane pantomime," said the barber. In his modesty, Mr Welch disclaimed the honour. "No," said he, "that's not me. That's a cousin of mine of the same name." "Ah," replied the barber, "I thought that must be so. You see, me and my missis, we've seen you act!" Referring to the controversy going on in the pages of *The Era* with regard to the Fund and how it was to be made self-supporting, he said he felt a certain amount of shame in responding to the toast, because they had to appeal to the generous public for support. They had been told that the profession numbered some twenty or thirty thousand people, and yet, according to the secretary, no more than eight or nine hundred supported the Benevolent Fund. He considered that that was disgraceful. As to relief granted in deserving cases, it really ought to be five times the amount. A writer in *The Era* had suggested that there should be an amalgamation of the funds, and that they should one day in the year take off their coats and work for the lot. Well, his reply was that the committee were working all the year round, and not one day only. In conclusion, Mr Cruikshanks announced that a sum of nearly £900 had been subscribed that evening.

Mr GEORGE ALEXANDER, in proposing the health of the chairman, said that, as an actor out of work that night, he found himself cast for a sympathetic rôle in the evening's entertainment. He only wished that the toast had been placed in the hands of his dear old friend and former manager Mr John Hare, to whom the stage owed so much, and for whom he had the greatest regard and affection. It was not his intention to talk about the drama. He had only to propose the health of the chairman, and as recently a banquet had been given in his honour at which so many things had been said in his praise, it was difficult to give adequate expression to the feeling of regard in which Sir Edward Clarke was held, not only by the playgoing public, but by Society, spelt with a large S. His connection with the theatrical world might be said to have dated from the time when he attended the same school, and later became the friend of Sir Henry Irving. That would in itself endear him to every actor, but in addition to this he had always been a supporter of the drama and a true friend of the actor both on and off the stage, in success or in failure. Their chairman was not like the learned judge who, at a recent trial, remarked that he did not often see the actors on their own boards, but that he considered their opinions on real life were better than anything on the stage. He (Mr Alexander) wished that this learned judge could attend the theatre oftener; but he was possibly an Ibsenite, and his favourite play *The Master Builder*. He attributed the large sum which had been announced as the result of the esteem in which the chairman was held, not only by the profession, but by the public. This money would go far to brighten the lives of many poor players, and he only wished he could coin a word to express their sense of gratitude for Sir Edward Clarke's presence. He asked them all to drink to his health and continued prosperity.

The toast was received with musical honours.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding, referred to the fact that Mr George Alexander was chairman on the occasion when the dinner produced a record subscription list. He (the chairman) had made many friendships in the dramatic world, the eminent actors including Sir Henry Irving and Sir Charles Wyndham, and, having always enjoyed the dramatic art, he thought it incumbent upon him to make some little return. In conclusion, he proposed a vote of thanks to the musical artistes who had given their valuable services.

In the musical programme Miss Ellen Beach-Yaw sang the scena from *Lucia de Lammermoor*, and was recalled. Mr Ben Davies gave "Songs of Araby" and "Good-night, beloved," and was much applauded. Mdlle. Giulia Ravogli scored with the Habañera from *Carmen* and "Comin' thro' the rye." Mr Chas. Copland sang "The Little Irish Girl" and "Sincerity" in admirable style, and Mr Albert Fransella played a flute solo with charming effect.

A NEW SHYLOCK.

On Tuesday Afternoon, Dec. 6, Revival of Shakespeare's Play,
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE."

Duke of Venice	Mr J. S. HAMILTON
Prince of Morocco	Mr GEORGE FITZGERALD
Antonio	Mr CHARLES THURSBY
Bassanio	Mr MATHESON LANG
Gratiano	Mr E. HARCOURT WILLIAMS
Salarino	Mr EUSTACE LE GRAND
Solanio	Mr HALLIWELL HOBBES
Lorenzo	Mr T. A. SHANNON
Shylock	Mr NORMAN FORBES
Tubal	Mr CHARLES WHITTLE
Launcelot	Mr JOHN WILLES
Old Gobbo	Mr LEONARD CRASKE
Balthazar	Mr PAUL BURNAND
Stephano	Mr PENDEREL FRICE
Nerissa	Miss AUDREY CAMPBELL
Jessica	Miss HUTIN BRITON
Portia	Miss ELLEN TERRY

Mr Norman Forbes was responsible for a most interesting matinée at the Lyric on Tuesday, when, with the gracious help and warm encouragement of Miss Ellen Terry, he presented *The Merchant of Venice*, with himself in the character of Shylock and his brilliant and amiable Lyceum comrade as Portia. Hitherto Mr Forbes has been regarded as an excellent comedian—he may still be so regarded; and in essaying Shylock—a rôle to which Sir Henry Irving, his honoured chief, gave the touch of genius — he invited the inevitable comparison. We may say at once that he came out of the ordeal triumphantly, and received generous encouragement from a house crowded with celebrities in the literary and theatrical world. In a recent commentary on the play we are told that though Antonio and Shylock are scarcely tragic persons, the contrasted pictures of the friend and enemy had in them elements akin to tragic feeling. We pity the Jew most when he deplores the desertion of Jessica and the loss of the turquoise ring given to him undoubtedly as a token of affection by Leah in his bachelor days, and we feel that there is much to justify the passion of ruthless malignity towards the merchant. Mr Forbes's Shylock did not fail to strike the note of pathos in the celebrated colloquy with Tubal, and the reading of the character also clearly showed us the deep gratification that the Jew feels in his scheme of revenge. The lodged hate that Shylock bears Antonio was explained with equal force and eloquence. In the trial scene the celebrated passage commencing "To bait fish withal" was delivered with a concentrated and impressive intensity rather than with the savage malignity that the words seem to warrant. It must be remembered, however, that Shylock advances arguments that are unanswerable, and the certainty of the verdict being given in his favour is likely to temper the passion of his utterance. Mr Forbes emphasises the Jew's sense of wrong quite as much as his desire for revenge, and that way lies sympathy, which was certainly evinced on Tuesday for the bent figure of the thwarted and defeated plaintiff in the *cause célèbre*, Shylock versus Antonio. His elocution was always admirable, and his delineation held the attention of the house from first to last. By his latest impersonation Mr Forbes takes higher ground as an actor; but we may express the hope that we are not to lose his many delightful comic creations in the plays of the bard. Miss Ellen Terry scored another great triumph as Portia, which is one of the most delightful studies that the modern stage has given us. It has lost none of its sweet graciousness, womanly devotion, or dignity, and it lacked none of those exquisite little touches of comedy which Miss Terry, always delightful, knows so well how to give. Mr Charles Thursby's Antonio was shaded with dignity and manly sorrow; Mr Matheson Lang's Bassanio had warmth and impressiveness; Mr Harcourt Williams gave excellent point to the biting speeches of Gratiano; Mr J. S. Hamilton's Duke of Venice was creditable; Mr John Willes and Mr Leonard Craske followed tradition as Launcelot Gobbo and Old Gobbo; and Mr Halliwell Hobbes as Solanio distinguished himself by his excellent elocution. Miss Audrey Campbell was a satisfactory Nerissa; and Miss Hutin Briton a charming Jessica. The incidental music, composed by Mr Christopher Wilson, was appropriate, the charming setting of "Tell Me Where is Fancy Bred?" catching quite the spirit of early English music.

BRIXTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Drama, by Walter Melville, entitled
"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

Mr Melville's play gives Miss Beatrice Homer a fine opportunity of depicting the character of a dipsomanic, drug taking-woman with a vividness which is grim in realism and strength. She holds the audience spellbound from start to finish, especially in act three, where without speaking a word her acting commands a perfect silence till the end, when the audience give vent to their pent-up feelings in thunders of applause which she thoroughly deserves. Mr Wingold Lawrence gives a manly impersonation of the wronged husband, Jack Livingstone; John Meadows has a capable representative in Mr E. J. Wilde; Miss Kate Hallam plays very sympathetically as Constance Cornell, the schoolmistress, who is in love with Jack; Cuthbert Lumley, rightly named "a queer card," is well played by Mr Lionel Gadsden, who is assisted in his villainies by Miss Helen Haye, in the character of Nellie Meadows; and Mr John Brooks does well as Luke Ramsden. Dr. Weston, Jack's friend, is safe in the hands of Mr Charles Terry. The comic relief is ably looked after by Miss Emily Custance as Tilley, the maid, and Mr J. Hitchins as Toby Turvey, and these two artists cause many a hearty laugh during the evening. The minor characters are effectively played by Mr David Barone as Joe Coyle, a stableman, Mr George Wilson as Fred Hickley, Mr Harold Vernon as Harry Butler, Mr Richard Zarr as a Policeman, Mr Charles Dowe as Crofts, a pickpocket, Miss Nellie Butts and Miss Emily Crossley as Farm Girls, and Miss Gibbons and Miss Nellie Noble as Two Girls up West, who all work hard to make the play a success. The costumes and scenery are most effective.

MR BERT COOTE desires us to state that he will not be playing at the Avenue Theatre on Monday next in the production of *Ladyland*.

"PAGLIACCI."

A Dramatic Version, by Charles Brookfield, of Leoncavallo's Opera,
Produced at the Savoy Theatre on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

Canio	Mr CHARLES WARNER
Tonio	Mr GILBERT HARE
Silvio Agnietti	Mr JERROLD ROBERTSHAW
Beppe	Mr J. L. MACKAY
Tito	Mr CECIL BROOKING
Gastone	Mr ERIC LESLIE
Ottaria	Mr MORLAND
Villagers	Mr HERBERT GRENVILLE, Mr VICTOR BRIDGES, Mr HERBERT COURT
Marietta	Miss ELSIE CHESTER
Rosa	Miss SARA DE GROOT
Teresa	Miss CLARA HUBBARD
Villager	Miss THALMA ARCHER
Angelica	Miss LILY DODD
Nedda	Mrs BROWN-POTTER

One of the reasons of the "heaviness" of native English grand opera is the poorness of its librettos. The composer, apparently, considers his genius all-sufficient, for the preparation of the "book" is usually entrusted either to a private friend of the musicians, or to someone from whom advantage may be obtained by the literary "job." What a capital subject was that of Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe;" and what might have been made of it by a clever French or Italian librettist like those who supplied the "books" of *Carmen* and *Pagliacci!* The libretto of the latter and that of *Cavalleria Rusticana* are plays in themselves, not mere pegs to hang tunes upon, and the result of the experiment tried by Mr Gilbert Hare and Mrs Brown Potter at the Savoy Theatre, on Tuesday last, in turning *Pagliacci* into a drama in two acts was completely successful. Mr Charles Brookfield has treated his original with an admirable mixture of tact and boldness. Leoncavallo's music becomes merely "incidental," and some minor incidents which are added, and certain adroit alterations—such as the development of Silvio's character in the direction of fatuity, and his not sharing the fate of Nedda at the close—are decided improvements from an English audience point of view. The adaptation is thoroughly intelligent and workmanlike, and does Mr Brookfield great credit, the simple neatness of the rhymed verse in the "play within a play" in the second act being quite effective. The piece was mounted most artistically, the production by Mr Gilbert Hare being in every way excellent. To these advantages were added an allround performance of real merit. We have never seen Mrs Brown Potter in a part which suited her so well as that of Nedda. The impish femininity of the woman was cleverly indicated, and Mrs Potter's performance of the part was more free from mannerisms than any of hers which we have seen of late. She was particularly good in the little play to which we have already alluded. Mr Charles Warner's depiction of agonised jealousy was intensely thrilling, and raised the feelings of the audience to a pitch of almost painful intensity. This, towards the end of the performance, was very strong; and when the curtain at last fell on the terrible and pathetic tableau, the sympathetic stress of the house found relief in the most tumultuously enthusiastic applause. Mr Gilbert Hare was finely firm and bitterly grotesque as Tonio, and spoke the Prologue splendidly; and Mr Jerrold Robertshaw hit off the character of Sylvio Agrietti excellently well. As Beppe, Tito, Gastone, and Ottaria Messrs J. L. Mackay, Cecil Brooking, Eric Leslie, and Morland gave impersonations clearly differentiated and nicely finished; and Miss Elsie Chester, Miss Sara de Groot, and Miss Clara Hubbard were quite efficient as the principal female peasants. The Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Mr Raymond Roze, played the "incidental music" in very good style; and the whole production was full of energy, alertness, and artistic appreciation. The curtain was raised again and again at the close of the performance, and the principals in the cast were called on the stage and loudly applauded. *Cavalleria Rusticana*, which now forms the first part of the entertainment at the Savoy, is received with the same favour as on the first night of its presentation to Mr Hare and Mrs Brown Potter's patrons.

MR. JONES PROTESTS.

Mr H. A. Jones has addressed the following letter to Mr Beerbohm Tree:—

"My dear Tree,—You are elusive. I think I may fairly take exception to your account both of my actual words, and of my entire attitude. By little omissions and alterations here and there; by little sneers and insinuations; by quotations of my sentences without their context and qualifications, you have represented me as an ill-natured person, festering with personal grievances which I am impatient to lay at the doors of my actors and of the public. That is an unfair, and an untrue, picture of my feelings, of my words, of my whole bent. You will forgive my trying to correct it.

"I regret that you thought fit to introduce into a lecture upon *Hamlet* a personal attack upon myself. I think it was unwise; I think it was discourteous; I think it was quite foreign to the matter and to the occasion. I am sure you would not wish your dealings with the Dramatic Academy to wear any aspect but that of benevolent superintendence, and that you would not deliberately use it as a vehicle for personal detraction and reprisal. Throughout my discussion of this subject I have always tried to keep free from personal imputations; I have always tried to avoid giving personal offence. If my charges are mere vague assertions, they will soon fall to the ground. Let them fall.

"In any case I am sure you will agree that it is undesirable and useless to import any further personal feeling into a discussion that should be kept remote from the ambitions and jealousies and petty rancours of all of us. Yes, let me bring in a personal note, and pay a very sincere tribute to the splendid efforts you are making on behalf of the English stage, to your courage and zeal and resource, and to your fine artistic gifts. With that I hope you will allow the personal question to disappear. A far greater question remains behind. A newspaper argument is not, perhaps, the best means for threshing it out. We will leave it for the moment. We may meet 'in another place.'"

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Dec. 5, the Musical Play in Three Acts, by Paul Rubens, entitled
"THREE LITTLE MAIDS."

A return visit to Kingston of this bright, tuneful production was made on Monday, when the cosy little theatre was comfortably filled with an audience who gave the *Three Little Maids* a hearty welcome. Mr Charles Macdona's company was a thoroughly capable one all round. The vicar's three charming daughters were portrayed by the Misses Vera Vallis, Gertrude Melville, and Nora Guy, and each sang and danced charmingly, their efforts being received with marked favour. The part of the vicar was ably filled by Mr Charles Leverton, under whose direction the play was produced. Mr Arthur Longley made a capital Lord Cheyne, his assumption of the mannerisms of the West-end dandy being a most successful piece of character acting. Mr Alic Chentrens acquitted himself well as the French attaché, M. De L'Orme; and Mr Haddon Cave gave a satisfactory impersonation of the part of Brian Molyneux. Miss Kate Forster made a satisfactory Lady St. Mallory, Mr Gus Ogley did well as Cupid, and Miss Laura Wright as Gretchen added much to the fun of the production. There was a numerous and well-trained chorus, which, with an augmented orchestra, was ably directed by Mr Julian Rutt.

THE International Copyright Bureau, Limited, recently copyrighted at the Great Queen-street Theatre a comedy named *Lord Ogle's Disguise*, by F. Tolkien.

ON THE ROAD, DEC 12.

ACTOR'S ROMANCE.—Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.
ARE YOU A MASON? (MACDONA).—Glasgow.
BEAUTIFUL AVENGER.—West London Theatre, W.
BEAUTIFUL FIEND.—Theatre Royal, Kidderminster.
BELLS OF HASLEMERE.—King's Theatre, Cardiff.
BENSON, MR F. R. (A).—Theatre R, Manchester.
BENSON, MR F. R. (B).—Court T., Warrington.
BEST MUST WIN.—Theatre R., Seaham Harbour.
BID FOR FORTUNE.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
BIGGEST SCAMP ON EARTH.—Q. T., Farnworth.
BOUND TO WIN.—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
BROKEN MELODY.—Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.
BULMER, MR.—Grand Theatre, Derby.
CARL ROSA.—Gaiety Theatre Dublin.
CHRISTIAN —Borough Theatre, North Shields.
COUNTRY MOUSE (N.).—Falkirk.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
DARLING OF THE GODS (N.).—Marlborough T., N.
DISHONOURED.—Theatre Royal, Bristol.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Opera House, Southport.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE (LOVELL).—Eastbourne.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE (FROHMAN).—Newcastle.
FATAL FORTUNE.—Opera House, Workington.
FATAL WEDDING (M.).—Ealing Theatre, W.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—G. T., West Hartlepool.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
FLORODORA —Opera House, Crouch-end.
GIPSY JACK AND MAFEKING.—Greenwich, S.E.
GIRL'S CROSS ROADS —Court Theatre, Bacup.
GRIP OF IRON.—Theatre Royal, Aston.
HARVEST OF SIN.—Theatre Royal, Batley.
HARVEY, MR. MARTIN.—Coronet Theatre, W.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Royalty Theatre, Chester.
IN DAHOMEY.—Grand Theatre, Leeds.
INDIAN MUTINY.—Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO MEND.—Brighouse.
KING OF CRIME.—Theatre Royal, Coventry.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Lydd.
LADDER OF LIFE.—Muncaster Theatre, Bootle.
LADY OF OSTEND.—Theatre Royal, Stockton.
LANGTRY, MRS.—Grand Theatre, Croydon.
LAUGHTER-LAND —Gaiety Theatre, Manchester.
LATTY.—Camden Theatre, N.W.
LIGHTNING'S FLASH.—Clarence T., Pontypridd.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Century Theatre, Motherwell.
LUCKY DURHAM.—Theatre Royal, Stockport.
MAN TO MAN.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
MANXMAN.—Opera House, Northampton.
MARRIAGE OF KITTY.—Theatre Royal, Plymouth.
MASTER CRIMINAL.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—P. T., Blackburn.
MOCK MARRIAGE.—T. R., Aldershot.
MOODY-MANNERS (A) —Kennington T., S.E.
MOODY-MANNERS (B).—Ton-y-Pandy.
MOODY-MANNERS (C).—Golspie.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—T. R., Sunderland.
NEVILLE, HENRY.—Oxford.
NEW EAST LYNNE —Met. Theatre, Hoyland.
NEW HOUSEMAID —Grand Theatre, Swansea.
NORMAN V. NORMAN.—T. R, Bournemouth.
PEGGY MACBRIE.—Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
PRIVATE SECRETARY.—Theatre Royal, Belfast.
PROOF.—Theatre Royal, Hull.
REVENGE.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
RICHARD LOVELACE.—Theatre Royal, Exeter.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Borough Theatre, F.
ROYAL REVENGE (CLYNDES) —Treherbert.
SAPHO —Theatre Royal, Portsmouth.
SAPHO (ANNIE BELL).—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
SHERLOCK HOLMES.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
SIGN OF THE CROSS.—Empire Theatre, Oldham.
SILVER KING (N.).—Theatre Royal, Lincoln.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—R. T., Barrow.
STILL ALARM.—Theatre Royal, Darlington.
TERRY, EDWARD.—New Theatre, Oxford.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—Theatre Royal, Colchester.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN (HARRINGTON).—Preston.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—Alex. T., Sheffield.
WARNER, GRACE —Empire Theatre, Southend.
WEALTH, WOMAN & WICKEDNESS.—E. & C.T., S.E.
WEARIN' O' THE GREEN.—Theatre Royal, Blyth.
WEE-TON-NO-MAH.—Govan.
WHEN WOMAN HATES,—Dalston Theatre, N.
WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN.—T. R, Chesterfield.
WOMAN'S PLUCK.—Opera House, Middlesbrough.
WORLD'S DESIRE.—P. O W. T., Salford.
10 30 DOWN EXPRESS.—Theatre Royal, Bury.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

RUSSELL.—Dec. 6, at 45, Garland-street, Bury St. Edmunds, the wife of Sydney A. Russell (*Heart of a Hero* Co.), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HAYTON—COULTHERD.—Nov. 30, at St. Thomas's Church, Liverpool, Harry Hayton, comedian, to Elizabeth Hutchinson Coulthard, of Liverpool.
LLOYD—OLSSON.—On Thursday, Dec. 8, at All Saints' Church, New Park-road, Balham, S.W., Lily Lloyd (daughter of the late Arthur Lloyd) to Sven Oscar Olsson (of Olsson and Co., Borough, S.E.). American papers please copy.
SELMAN—GALLARD.—Dec. 7, by special licence, at Halifax, E. W. Selman to Miss Ivy Gallard.

DEATHS.

BERGAN.—Nov. 21, Mrs Bergan, beloved wife of Harry Bergan, passed away at her residence, Lang's Hotel, Accrington. American papers please copy.
BLACK.—Dec. 4, on tour, in North Shields, of pneumonia, George F. Black, fourth son of Thomas Black, of 74, Clyde-road, West Didsbury, Manchester. Interred on Tuesday, the 6th, at the Southern Cemetery, Manchester.
GLYNNE.—Dec. 6, after long suffering, Ella Florentia Glynne (Mrs Charles Coxon), aged twenty, beloved wife of Valvo. Deeply mourned. Until we meet again.
HODGSON.—Nov. 25, at sea, William Wilson Hodgson, beloved husband of Miss Florrie Chester, of Three Chester Sisters. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing family.
LANGSTAFFE.—Nov. 29, Arthur Langstaffe, musical director of the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham.

IN MEMORIAM.

CHAPMAN.—In memory of my brother, G. R. Chapman, who died at Bristol, Dec. 10, 1902.—F. R. CHAPMAN.
GORDON.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Walter Gordon, who died Dec. 7, 1901.
Be not afraid, ye waiting hearts that weep,
For God still giveth his beloved sleep.
SCOTT.—In loving memory of my dear husband, John Francis Scott, who departed this life Dec. 7, 1903. Missed by many; but none so much as his sorrowing wife. Dead he is not, but departed; for the artist never dies.
STEELE.—In loving memory of Richard (Albert) Steele, late of Aldershot, who died suddenly at the Law Courts, Dec. 8, 1887. Never forgotten.
THOMAS.—In loving memory of our mother, who died Dec. 17, 1899. Agnes and Jeannie Thomas.
ZOLA.—In loving memory of Freddie, son of Little Zola, aged seven years, who died suddenly on St. Pancras Station, Dec. 7, 1903 Only gone to sleep.

MASTER LORRAINE'S departure with Mr Edward Terry's company for America takes place to-day. Master Lorraine has appeared in the following characters:—Little Gulliver, Avenue; the Royal Page, *Merrie England*, Savoy; Little Hans Anderson, Adelphi; Little Ib, Terry's; Little Dicky; also in *The House of Burnside*, Terry's; and with Messrs Murray King and Clark's company.

THERE performances of *The Comedy of Errors* will be given at Terry's Theatre by the Elizabethan Stage Society on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday to allow of teachers and schools being present. The performance, being continuous, will be over shortly before six o'clock.

SHOWMEN OF TO-DAY.

THOMAS HARTSHORN
(Secretary of the Amalgamation).
By the Rev. T. HORNE.

The Showman World possesses within its borders many men of marked ability. Such a man is the subject of our sketch—alert and absolutely up-to-date (generally a day before it), highly trained, with a message of hope to his brethren. His mere presence even seems to say (without the spoken word), "Here, take my hand, brother; it's all right. Stick to me, and I'll pull you through." A born leader of men, although he is but thirty-six years of age. Not born a showman's child, but born to be a showman.

When at length in early life he found his vocation on the road he threw himself heart and soul into the stress and strain, the joy and pulse of it—a strong-willed man.

He is a stall-holder, and like his great prototype in leadership—James Dean of blessed memory—a confectioner, "a crack 'em and try 'em before you buy 'em Barcelona nut man, a Grantham brandy snap man," a keeper of a Pannum stall.

It takes all sorts and conditions of men to make this sad-eye'd old world of ours a merry world, and the fair ground is a microcosm of the world. The vaunting lessee has found out to his serious cost that his big concern alone cannot make a fair. That essentially a fair must be a combine of various interests, and a kaleidoscopic illustration of novelty. So the roundabout cannot do without the show, and these in their turn cannot do without the swings and shooters. "The small fry," as the big men say, the cokershie sheet, the dolly frame, the variety stall, and the ginger-bread stalls all must be there to make the fair.

It was during the commencement of the Stall-holders Trade Organisation in the north that Mr Hartshorn made his presence felt—a fluent speaker, with the pen of a ready writer, not unknown to our readers in the "Showman World" columns. Hartshorn was chosen by his fellows (democratic suffrage it was) to be their second vice-president, and then at the end of his year of office instead of passing into the presidential chair he volunteered for the more onerous and exacting work of general organising secretary, which office he fulfils with credit and distinction.

His sound business sense led him to press forward to a successful issue the question of registration, so that the trade status of the Northern Society might be beyond either cavil or reproach.

He is also a member and most enthusiastic supporter of the Showmen's Guild, bringing its claim for general support well before his fellow-travellers. He works fearlessly for the interests of his society, and it is no exaggeration to say that great and far-reaching improvement materially, socially, and morally has marked his work, and that of the executive committee of the society he so earnestly and ably represents.

The right man for the work is the grateful verdict of the rank and file. A just and clever man, say one and all. Whether lessee or tenant his

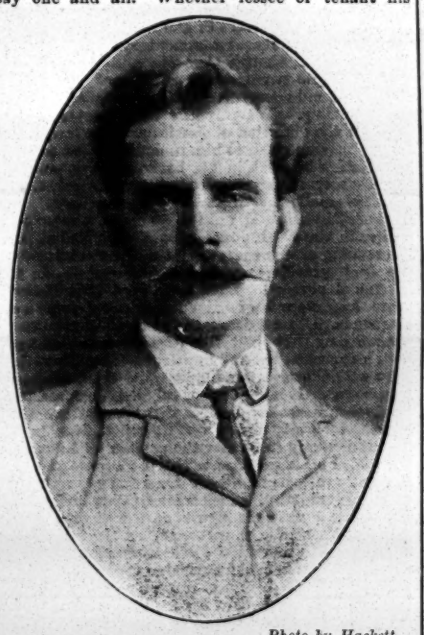


Photo by Hackett.

MR. THOMAS HARTSHORN.

trade motto is, "Be just and fear not." We look forward with every confidence to Mr Hartshorn's future career.

THE annual conference of the Incorporated Society of Musicians will be held at Manchester from Jan. 2 to 7. Among the lecturers will be Sir Frederick Bridge, on "A Weak Point in our Musical Education;" Mr W. A. C. Cruickshank, on "The Progress of Music during the Nineteenth Century;" Mr James Dawber, on "The Advisability of still further Safeguarding the Entrance to the Musical Profession;" Mr T. Henderson, on Some Blots upon English Music;" and Mr S. Midgley, on "Municipalities and Music."

OWING to the sudden indisposition of Mr Harry Elliston on the 1st inst., the part of Timothy Tuttutt, in *Her Forbidden Marriage*, was successfully undertaken at less than half an hour's notice by Mr Edgar L. Hocking.—Mr Cecil Du Gué, who completes to-day his tour as heavy lead with Hardie and Von Leer's *Path of Thorns* company, opens on Monday with Mr W. W. Kelly for his ninth engagement in *A Royal Divorce*.—Mr G. Aubrey Hall, who has just completed an eighteen months' engagement with Miss Ellen Terry, has been engaged as general manager for Miss Ina Rozant's company in *The Designers*, a new and original farcical comedy, by Fritz Zorm, author of *Bunce, the Bobby, and the Broads*, which will be produced at the Brixton Theatre on Feb. 13 next.

THE plans for the new theatre which will be erected in Park-place, Cardiff, next year, for Mr Robert Redford, lessee of the Theatre Royal in that town, have been prepared by Messrs Ernest Runtz and Ford. The building will be constructed of red brick, with terra-cotta mouldings. The auditorium will accommodate about 2,000. The stage will be 70ft. wide by 45ft. deep, and there will be twenty dressing-rooms. The estimated cost of the building is about £25,000, and it is hoped that it will be opened at Christmas, 1905.

MR CHAS. HOWARD having terminated his autumn engagement with Miss Madge Girdlestone's *City of Millions* company on tour, has been engaged by Mr Elphinstone as acting-manager for the Theatre Royal, Hanley, and commenced his duties there on Monday.—Mr Henry Belding has been engaged by Mr Richard Flanagan to play Friar Laurence in his forthcoming revival of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

MISS BEATRICE DAY returns to England to-day for a short time prior to touring Australia and New Zealand, having accepted a lengthy engagement to play lead.—Mr Charles Vane having concluded a thirty weeks' tour under under Mr Leonard Rayne's management, has been engaged by Messrs B. and F. Wheeler for their répertoire company.

STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

THE Dublin Theatrical and Music Hall Employees' Club has made such progress that new premises have been secured in Fishamble-street, where much better accommodation will be provided.

MR E. MILLS, who has been electrician at the Tivoli for the past twelve months or so, is going to India.

AT a meeting of the committee of the Heads of Departments' Association, held on Thursday, arrangements for the third annual dinner were considered. It was decided that it was inadvisable to organise next March a concert similar to the one recently given at the Royal Opera House, as had been suggested by the Musicians' Society. A proposal to organise a smoking concert on Good Friday will be considered later.

THE Financial statement of the joint concert at the Royal Opera House on Nov. 20 has now been issued. The particulars are as follows:—

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
By Sale of Tickets	118	14	6
Takings at Door	27	16	0
Programmes and Cloak-rooms	7	18	3
Donations—			
Alfred De Rothschild, Esq.	5	5	0
Sir C. V. Stanford	3	3	0
Oswald Stoll, Esq.	2	2	0
The Alhambra Directors	2	2	0
Sir Henry Irving	1	1	0
Henry Arthur Jones, Esq.	1	0	0
Total]	169	2	9

PAYMENTS.

	£	s.	d.
Rent of Theatre	30	0	0
Front of the House Staff and others	4	14	0
Printing, Posting, and Boardmen	24	7	0
Tea, &c., for Orchestra, Staff, and Artists	5	0	9
Hire of Music, Porterage, Van Hire, and sundry items	9	5	0
Postage, Telegrams, Bill Distributing, and general Expenses	17	4	6
Honorarium to Secretaries, Auditors, and others	7	5	0
	£105	2	9
Balance	64	0	0
Total	£169	2	9

CHEQUES have already been issued to distribute the balance to the benevolent funds of the societies taking part in the concert arrangements.

A COMPARISON of the above receipts with the receipts of the concert given at the Alhambra show that the takings at the door and the sale of programmes were this year about £60 less. The difference may be attributed to the support assured by the Sunday League audience. The previous concert was given during the League series of concerts at the Alhambra. More tickets were sold this year before the day, and had the takings at the door been equal to last year's concert a very substantial sum would have been available for these benevolent funds.

A MEETING of the Society of Theatrical Carpenters will be held on Sunday evening at the Salisbury Hotel, in St. Martin's-lane, commencing at 8 0 o'clock.

MR W. SHELDON, jun., has returned to take charge of the stage at the Prince of Wales's Theatre. Mr H. Powell has also been transferred from the Apollo to act as property master at the Prince of Wales's Theatre; and other members of the staff during Mr George Edwardes's last season at that house will resume their old positions.

THE General Theatrical Operatives' Sick and Benevolent Society will hold a meeting on Sunday evening in the Freemasons' Tavern, Long-acre. Business of importance will be submitted for consideration.

THE workers in every department of stage work are now for the most part fully employed, as the pressure of the Christmas productions is beginning to be felt.

AT the recent close of the San Carlo opera season at the Opera House, Comm. R. De Sanna and Mr Henry Russell present Mr Robert Affleck, the master carpenter, with a very handsome set of gold studs and links. Mr William Crawshaw, the electrician, received a silver cigarette-case, and Mr Moore, the assistant stage-manager, also received a present. From all accounts the managers of the San Carlo company's season were highly pleased with the work of the stage staff.

MR A. E. WOOD is in charge as master carpenter at the Avenue Theatre.

MR AND MRS ARTHUR PITT arrived from South Africa on Dec. 3 for a short trip. Mr Pitt has been many years chief mechanist to Mr Leonard Rayne, and has voyaged to Africa ten times.

MR HARRY COUZENS, chief mechanist for many years with Messrs George Rignold, Holloway, Anderson, and John F. Sheridan, after twenty years' absence in Australasia and South Africa, arrived in England last Saturday for a visit, and hopes to have the opportunity while here of seeing the latest up-to-date stage appliances.

NOTICES and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

A NOVELTY in pantomime ideas was introduced at the Grand, Glasgow, this year, a special invitation matinée rehearsal being given to about 800 Glasgow ladies on the day before the public production.

MR ERNEST E. NORRIS, the very popular general manager of the Elephant and Castle Theatre, may be congratulated on his enterprise in producing, at his benefit at that house on the 2d inst., two new pieces, in the writing of one of which he had a share; and he also sustained the principal rôle—a dual one. Occasions such as these may well be taken advantage of to introduce fresh dramatic work to the public; but it is not every general manager who, like Mr Norris, can be part-author of a new drama and principal actor in its cast.

A DIVORCE has been granted in New York to Mrs Adele Lederer, wife of Mr George W. Lederer, the well-known theatrical manager, with alimony of $150 a-month. Mr Lederer's name is familiar to London playgoers for his connection with various imported musical plays.

THE Bath pantomime this year is founded upon the story "Goody Two Shoes," the initial performance being announced for Boxing Day. The principal boy will be Miss Nell Richardson, and the chief comedian is to be Mr Harry Buss, who won his way into the hearts of local playgoers in a similar position some seasons ago. The whole production is in the experienced hands of Mr Peter Davey, of Kingston-on-Thames, who intends after a short run in Bath to take the pantomime on tour.

MESSRS H. AND M. RAYNE, the well-known theatrical shoemakers and hosiers, have opened a branch establishment at Charing-cross-road. Mr Arthur Collins writes them:—"Dear Sirs,—I have much pleasure in stating that the shoes and tights you have supplied for the Drury-lane pantomimes have given me complete satisfaction."

THE friends of Mr Harcourt M. Beryl, assistant manager to his father, Mr H. Cecil Beryl, lessee and manager of the Theatre Royal, Brighton, will be interested to learn that his wedding will take place on Feb. 28 next.

CHAT WITH FRANK WEATHERSBY.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mr Frank Weathersby, the subject of our interview, was met by our representative shortly after his arrival at Southampton by the Union Castle Liner Norman. He has been round the world since leaving London, five and a-half years ago, and during that period has traversed nearly 80,000 miles. Five years were spent in Australasia, and the last six months in South Africa. He speaks in glowing terms of his principal, John F. Sheridan, with whom a twelve months' contract originally ended in being extended to six years. Australia was visited in every part, including New South Wales, Victoria, South and West Australia, Queensland, Tasmania, also New Zealand (two visits). He remarked:—"Our répertoire of plays consisted of *Fun on the Bristol*, *A Trip to Chicago*, *Naughty Nancy*, *The Lady Slavey*, *Little Christopher Columbus*, *Mrs Dooley's Little Joke*, *The New Barmaid*, *A Game of Nap*, *The Girl from Venus*, *When the Lamps are Lighted*, *The Shaughraun*, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *The New East Lynne*, pantomime of *Cinderella*, &c. Taken all through, a most successful time has been passed. We shipped from Albany, West Australia, last June, and after a dreary sixteen days on the water we arrived at Durban Sunday, July 10, and, with a company of about thirty and 200 tons of scenery and effects, opened in Pietermaritzburg, a hundred miles up country, on Monday, July 11. The railway arrangements in Africa are deplorable. If you have a long journey you must send your stuff for the opening at least a week ahead.

"Yes, I must admit in a small way I have had several experiences. I was in Sydney when the plague was at its height; likewise in Queensland. Boats were not allowed to connect with the shore even by a rope until passed by the medical officer. The ropes were then tarred, and a tin funnel hung on then to prevent rats from crossing the rope. We played at Townsville, Queensland, just after the terrific cyclone, when a great part of the town was blown down. The hotel where I stayed was having the roof put on when I arrived. On another occasion, while on the Adelaide express, I had to make a hasty retreat, owing to the carriage being on fire, to another vehicle, caused through the over-heating of an axle. I have passed through dozens of bush fires at full speed on a train, and nearly blinded and choked by the dense volumes of smoke. Earthquakes have varied the monotony of travel in New Zealand, particularly in the Auckland, Napier, and Christchurch districts.

"My first visit to Johannesburg was just after the Jameson raid and the dynamite explosion, when a large portion of the town was blown up. I was in Brooklyn, New York, when the great tram strike was in progress. Each car running had an armed military escort each end of the car. I have been 3,500ft. down a Bendigo gold mine, also down diamond, coal, and silver mines. I left Durban three weeks ago at 95 in the shade, and here I am in London at the other end of the glass.

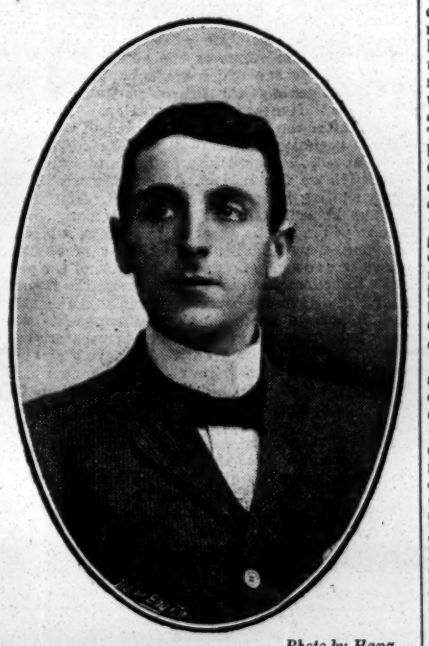


Photo by Hana.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY.

We have played matinées with burlesque and pantomime in Sydney and Melbourne up to 107 deg. in the shade. It was nothing unusual at the Royal, Melbourne, to find occupants of the front rows of dress-circle and stalls minus their coats, ties, and collars, while in New Zealand we have played to many of our audience enveloped in furs. In Coolgardie Theatre lighted fires have been placed down the centre of the auditorium. At the old Royal, at Johannesburg, when a shower of rain came on it was quite the custom to see a number of umbrellas put up. At West Maitland, N.S.W., under the town hall, we found a number of boats fully equipped; on inquiring the reason we were consoled by the information that they were always kept ready in the event of a sudden rising of the river. As we travelled nearly thirty people, and many towns boasted of but two hotels, we encountered many difficulties in the shape of accommodation. My bed at times has been in waiting-rooms, guards' brakes in goods and milk trains, dressing-rooms, property couch on stage, and recently in Africa for several nights when playing small towns our carriage was shunted on to a siding and served as the 'Sheridan Hotel,' sleeping and eating in the vehicle. While in a Transvaal compound a faction fight between natives took place, and I ran for about a mile before I felt safe from the scene of hostilities. On my first visit to the goldfields of West Australia it was always necessary to have two armed policemen to escort me from theatre to hotel with the night's takings. Happily, this is a thing of the past. I have had three escapes from fire. The last time the automatic sprinklers did great service, and I think no theatre should be without them. In Australia comfortable hotels can be got from £1 weekly, including supper, and in New Zealand they range from £1 5s. per week, whilst in Africa good hotels can be had from £2 upwards in the big towns. Of course, single rooms are a trifle more weekly. I have been actor, stage-manager, business-manager, and advance agent, have played pantaloon and wolf in pantomime, appeared in Shakespearian répertoire, and acted as poster-writer, ticket-seller and taker. I joined Mrs Langtry in 1889, was with her some years, accompanied her to America in 1894, and played twenty-four towns in the first month. I have been three tours with Miss Fortescue, was some years with the late Miss Kate Vaughan, also Miss Wallis, J. L. Toole, Arthur Bourchier, and George and Weedon Grossmith. My first visit to Africa was in 1894, with Flemming and Searelle. I was manager for two years with C. St. John Denton's theatrical agency. I recently visited the battlefields in Africa, and saw many grim tokens of the recent war. The block-houses, trenches, and barbed wire fences are still in existence, while here and there on the veldt are to be seen the graves of the fallen."

Mr Weathersby for some years has devoted most of his time to managing, and is seen very rarely now on the other side of the footlights.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MUSIC HALL.—*(1) We have no record. Write to the manager. (2) No; there are several older, but it is against our rule to give the ages of members of the profession.*
SUBSCRIBER.—*Are you not mistaken? We only reply to questions that have reference to theatrical matters.*
R. A. BROWN.—*Try Boosey, Regent-street, or Hopwood and Crew, music publishers.*
NEUMAN WOOD.—*Consult "Dramatic and Musical Law," by A. A Strong, published at* The Era *Office.*
J. C. WATERHOUSE.—*Mr Garnet W. Cox, son of Colonel Cox, died on Nov 11 last at Cranham Lodge, Stroud, aged thirty-two. We cannot say where the deceased composer was buried.*
R. L. B (Edinburgh).—*(1) We cannot say. You ought surely to be able to obtain the information locally. (2) Inquire of the manager of the theatre mentioned.*
G. TRAILL.—*The version of* Nicholas Nickleby, *to which you refer, was produced at the Adelphi on March 20, 1875. The novel was dramatised by Arthur Halliday, and the cast of the play was as follows:—Nicholas Nickleby, Mr Wm. Terriss; Ralph, Mr J. Fernandez; Squeers, Mr John Clarke; Newman Noggs, Mr G. Belmore; John Brodie, Mr S Emery; Brooker, Mr J. G. Shore; Snawley, Mr C J. Smith; Smike, Miss Lydia Foote; Mrs Nickleby, Mrs Addie; Kate Nickleby, Miss Edith Stuart; Tilda Price, Miss Hudspeth; Miss Squeers, Miss Harriet Coveney; Mrs Squeers, Mrs Alfred Mellon.*
HARRY HUNTER.—*Yes.*
ARTHUR MILTON.—Hamlet, *with Henry Irving in the title-rôle, was produced at the Lyceum on Oct 31, 1874; Macbeth, Sept. 18, 1875.*
A. G. MACAULEY.—*Yes.*
L. G.—Cymbeline *was revived at Drury-lane Theatre on Oct. 17, 1864. Miss Helen Faucit played the title-rôle, and Mr Edmund Phelps was the Pisanio. Miss Faucit's last appearance on the London stage was in June, 1876, when she appeared at the Lyceum Theatre in* King René's Daughter, *Henry Irving playing the part of Sir Tristram.*
S. T. B.—*The Court Theatre was reopened under the management of Mr John Hare on March 13, 1875 when a comedy by Charles Coghlan entitled* Lady Flora *was produced.*
BARRY SHIEL.—*Yes*
MARIE.—*The late Mr W. H. Chippendale made his début on the London stage in the character of Sir Anthony Absolute in* The Rivals, *at the Haymarket Theatre, March 28, 1853.*
SHAUS.—*A French version of* Arrah-na-Pogue *entitled* Jean la Poste; ou, les Noces Irlandaises, *was played at the Gaîté, Paris, for 140 nights.*

ACTORS AND THEIR TEETH.

One of the most frequently commented upon subjects in connection with the stage, which among the great majority of the public is so popular a topic of conversation, is the beauty of the teeth of the men and women who have adopted that branch of artistic endeavour. Indeed, it might almost seem at first sight as if the first essential to employment on the stage were fine teeth. In a general way, every form of beauty is, of course, an advantage on the stage, but fine teeth are especially so. The reason is not far to seek. The adventitious aids of the toilet can, by skilful employment, convert a plain face into one of striking beauty, give brilliancy to the complexion, lustre to the eye, and charm to the mouth. Nothing of the sort, however, can be done to the teeth, which must for the most part remain as Nature made them. For the most part, however, but not entirely—for so long as they are regular the persistent use of a proper dentifrice will make even yellow teeth white, brilliant and bright, until what had been a blemish, or at best not a striking defect, can be transformed into positive beauty. The means for doing this have now happily been brought to the hand of everyone by the invention of Odol, which is not only the finest preparation for cleaning the teeth, but the most perfect mouthwash of our day, destroying as it does not only the germs which live in the mouth, but, by preventing their growth, keeping the teeth free from possibility of decay, the gums from getting spongy and from receding from the teeth, while at the same time imparting a sense of freshness to the user, whose breath becomes delicately perfumed and pleasant. On the members of the theatrical profession, however, the use of Odol confers great advantages. Whatever may be the other requisites of an actor and they are numerous, the first, beyond all question of doubt, is speech. Speech, as every one knows, depends in no inconsiderable degree on the teeth, whose presence regulates the perfection with which certain sounds are uttered. If, through any of the many varied causes which lead to the destruction of the delicate, yet hard structures which form them, the teeth are lost, an appreciable difference in articulation is the result, for even in these days of splendid mechanical dentistry artificial teeth, however good as a makeshift, are by no means perfect substitutes for the real things. Besides, since the teeth primarily prepare the food for digestion, tearing apart the fibres of meat and vegetables and converting them and the other food substances into a fine pulp, which can be easily acted upon by the animal juices, and so become transformed into the principles of life, it is a self-evident proposition that for them to do their work in the best possible way they must themselves be in the best possible condition. Decayed teeth are no more capable of doing their full work than a decayed muscular system will enable one to undergo the same amount of exertion as before, or to lift the same weights which one was in the habit of doing. The demands made by a stage career are largely on the nervous system, which lives on the digestive organs, so that the whole nervous organisation is primarily dependent for its welfare on the teeth. But there is another aspect which makes the care of the mouth imperative to all who follow the stage. The theatre is primarily a place crowded with human beings. From them there go forth, with every breath, untold myriads of microbes, which are breathed by actors, as well as by other members of the audience. The actors, who are constantly opening their mouths, take these germs, many of which carry disease with them, into their mouth. Were great care not taken in cleansing the mouth, and so getting rid of these low forms of life, no little disaster might result. This fact has been universally recognised by the players of the day, with the result that they stand out prominently as practisers of the principles of the up-to-date hygiene of the mouth. Learning either from their dentists or from their friends that Odol is particularly advantageous in destroying germs in the mouth, they have not only become confirmed users of this ideal preparation, they are among its enthusiastic advocates. Among Odol's most enthusiastic advocates are Mrs Brown Potter, Miss Marie Studholme, Miss Julia Neilson, Miss Constance Collier, Miss Lena Ashwell, Miss Marie Tempest, Miss Violet Vanbrugh, Miss Ethel Irving, and Miss Mabel Love, and it has received warm encomiums from Sir Henry Irving, Sir Charles Wyndham, Mr George Alexander, Mr Cyril Maude, Mr Lewis Waller, and Mr Seymour Hicks. Sir Henry Irving says:—"I find Odol excellent;" and Sir Charles Wyndham writes:—"It affords me very great pleasure to add my testimony to the many encomiums which have been passed on the merits of Odol. Its general characteristics must by now be thoroughly well known to the public, and so must the advantages to be derived from the use of a preparation which is at once so beneficial, so stimulating, and so pleasant. Miss Marie Studholme's opinion is:—"Odol is the best dentifrice I have ever used. I shall have great pleasure in recommending it to my friends." Miss Lena Ashwell says:—"I have used Odol, and find it delightfully refreshing, and shall not again be without it."

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday, at the Athenæum, Lancaster, Mr Chas. A. Chandler, proprietor of *The Bells of Haslemere* company, presented his acting-manager, Mr Powell James, on behalf of his company, with a gold-mounted walking-stick. Mr James, by the bye, has been engaged by Mr Geo. Davey for the Grand, Islington, pantomime.

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

A Stamped Envelope, plainly addressed, must be enclosed with application for each Letter. Letters, after lying at this Office for One Month, are forwarded to the Postal Authorities, to be returned to the Senders. No Circulars admitted to this List.

Amphlett, Miss N.
Anthony, Mr F.
Asche, Mr J. F.
Augarde, Miss A.
Austin, Mr Ralph
Ayrton, Mr Robert
Baggasons, The
Baines, Mr George
Baldry, Mr H.
Balmain, Mr Rollo
Bass, Mr Tom
Batson, Mr J. H.
Bellatzer, Miss F.
Benson, Mr Wilfred
Bertram, Mr Arthur
Biddle, Brothers
Bird, Mr J.
Bland, Mr W. C.
Bonsor, Miss G.
Boyd and Gilfain
Bradford, Mr H. W.
Bramley, Miss B.
Brampton, Mr Kenneth
Brown, Mr B.
Brown, Mons. J.
Burdett, Mr Francis
Burnand, Miss Lilly
Bushman, Mrs
Cadman, Mr Edward
Cameron, Miss Doris
Cannon, Mr Tom
Carcassi Duo
Carr-Glyn, Mrs K.
Carrick, Mr T.
Carson, Mr Murray
Chalmers, Miss H.
Cinizelli, Mr E.
Cinquevalli, Mr Paul
Claires, Les
Clifford, Mr Nat
Clinton, Miss Ethel
Clinton, Mr H.
Cody, Young
Cole, Mr and Mrs H.
Collins, Miss Bella
Comstock, Mr Martin
Cordwell, Mr John
Corsbie, Miss Dorcas
Craig, Miss Elsa
Crawford, Miss A.
Crosbie, Mr H. A.
Crouette, Mr Hal
Cumberland, Miss Bessie
Curzon, Miss Alma
Cuthbert, Mrs Robert
Daniels, Mr Will
Dare, Mr Charles
Darnley, Mr J. H.
Darrell, Mr D.
Dartrey, Mr R.
Davis, Mr H. G.
De Bessell, Mr
Deer, Mr G. W.
Deer, Mr James D.
De Henau, Mons. V.
Douglas, Mr John
Duval, Miss Jessie
Eastman, Mr Fred
Edgar, Mr Walter
Eirlie, Miss Helen
Elton, Mr George
Elton, Mr Sam
Esden, Miss Alice
Fanning, Mr Dan
Farnley and Farnley
Fenton, Mr Frank
Fitz-Hugh, Miss Beatrice
Ford, Mr Alex.
Forde, Mr T.
Fox, Mr Will H.
Franklin, Miss Jennie
Freeman, Mr A. T.
Fulton, Miss Violet
Gardner, Mr J. Rufus
Geery, Mr Alfred
Gordon, Mr Stanley
Gore, Mr Bob
Goodrich, Miss Edna
Hall, Mr Albert
Hanbury, Miss Lily
Handel, Miss Z.
Handel, Mr George
Harcourt, Mrs Fred
Harwood, Mr Frank
Haslam, Miss Kitty
Hastings, Mr W.
Hatton, Mr Russell
Hayden, Sisters
Haydon, Mr J. S.
Haynes, Mr T. P.
Haywood, Miss F.
Heathcote, Mr Ernest
Henderson, Mrs
Henderson, Mr Walter
Henriette, Mdlle.
Holden, Master Thomas
Houdini, Mrs Bessie
Houdini, Mr Harry
Howard, Mr Sid
Hubert, Mr Leon
Hughes, Miss E.
Hughes, Mr Gene
Hutin, Mr J.
Hybert, Mr J. A.
Johnson, Mr Kid
Jolly, Mr Laffan B.
Jones, Mr Sidney
Kenney, Miss Rosa
King, Mr E.
Kirkdale, Mr F. D.
Klein, Miss Anna
Knight, Mr F. Hamilton
Latham, Mr G. F.
Lehair, Mr
Le May, Mr Tom
Le Blanc, Miss Marie
Leroy, Miss Daisy
Levino, Mr Dolph
Lewis, Mrs Anna
Lloyd, Mr Herbert
Lorenzo, Signor
Louis, Mr King
Lovol (Telegram)
Lowe, Mr Trevor
Luba De Sarema, Mdlle.
Luck, Mr E.
Mackintosh, Mr
Magrath, Mr Chas.
Maltby, Miss
Mario Di Capri, Senor
Marsden, Miss S.
Martine, Miss Vera
Mascot, Miss Nellie
May, Miss Edna
May, Mr Sid
M'Clelland, Mr Harry
M'Cullock, Miss Helen
Melford, Mr Mark
Mersane, Mr
Milner, Mr Chas.
Mouillot, Mr Fred
Mustrel, Miss Ada
Needham, Miss Fanny
Nelson's Newsboys
Nichols, Mr G. B.
Nicoll, Miss Yetta
Nix, Mr J. F.
North, Miss Lillie
O'Connor, Mr D. B.
O'Gorman, Mr Joe
O'Grady, Mrs H.
Olive, Mr Mack
Oliver, Mr J. C.
Osborne, Miss Nina
Ostleer, Mr Dave
Pearsons, Mr J. R.
Pleasance, Miss E.
Pollard, Mr Fred
Poncherry, Mr
Pringle, Mr
Prumer, Madame
Pryde, Miss Peggy
Quin, Mr R. J.
Rand, Mr Arthur
Ray, Miss Belle
Raymond, Miss D.
Raynham, Mr W.
Reid, Mr Sydney
Richards, Mr Sam
Robertson, Mr J. Forbes
Romer, Mr
Ross-Lea Trio, The
Rudd, Mr Arthur
Russel, Bijou
Sabas, Mr Victor
Scott, Miss Vereatta
Seaton, Dr.
Sennett, Mr Charles
Serra, Mr Charles
Shale, Mr T. A.
Shrapnell, Mr Philip
Spencer, Mr Fred
Starr and Jerome
Stewart, Mr J. O.
Strachan, Miss Queenie
Stuart, Mr Tom
Summers, Mr Walter
Tearle, Mr G. S.
Temple, Sisters
Thirlby, Mr Edward
Thomas, Mr James
Thompson, Miss Annie
Tomkinson, Mr Percy
Trillo, Mr
Vernon, Mr Evelyn
Vint, Mrs L.
Wadbrook, Mr T.
Walker, Mr John A.
Walton, Mr W. W.
Warner, Mr H. B.
Weekley, Mr Alfred
West, Miss Louie
Whelan, Mr Albert
Willard, Mr F. J.
Wixon, Mrs Nat
Woodward, Mr G. E.
Wyatt, Mr Alfred
Zalvar, Mr Charles

ON Friday, Dec. 2, at the Opera House, Northampton, was produced an original dramatic episode, by Louis H. Carlton, entitled *The Wrong Bottle; or, a Jealous Wife's Revenge and its Sequel.*

A GOOD company has drawn excellent houses this week at the Empire, Wrexham. Joe Hastings delights everyone with his fine jumping; Bob Stephenson, the Irish comedian and dancer, is pleasing; the Two Gems (Flo and Cissie) make a welcome return; Giacomo, an eccentric chapeaugraphist, is good; Prof. Wallace, expert novelty ventriloquist, gives an entertaining show; and the Esdale Brothers, comedians, do well.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,
BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B.
Published at "The Era" Offices,
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"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 1904.

MR. H. A. JONES AGAIN.

In a novel by STEVENSON, which created a great sensation at the time at which it was published, and which is still well remembered, the dramatic effect of a "double life" is graphically described. By some "cantrip sleight," a physician discovers the secret of creating a dual personality. As Dr. Jekyll he is all that is elevated, superior, and serene; as Mr. Hyde he revels in the most absolute freedom from all restrictions. Mr HENRY ARTHUR JONES, the author of so many clever and amusing plays, has, for years past, adopted a somewhat similar practice. As the Jekyll-lecturer, writer of essays, and deliverer of after-dinner and other orations, he advocates, with a certain secure vagueness, the most aërial views of dramatic art; as the Hyde-playwright he cares for none of these things; and to this he owes much of his success. Let us not be misunderstood. We do not mean to infer for a moment that high-class plays cannot pay. Really high-class work in all departments always does pay in the end. There are few artists, for instance, whose paintings have been more constantly photographed and reproduced than those of Mr WATTS, and the copyrights of them should be very valuable; and SHAKESPEARE is a standing example of the lasting popularity of great genius. What does not pay is the effort to rise above one's natural powers. We do not find fault with Mr JONES for having written plays according to his inspirations. No man by taking thought can add a cubit to his stature. What we object to is his long-continued practice—we exposed it as far back as 1892—of representing himself, by inference, as an artistic martyr capable of doing very high-class work, and always prevented by some "bitter disposition of the time" from doing himself justice.

The weakness of Mr JONES'S art may be summed up in a word—it is, comparatively, superficial. We cannot remember a single modern play of his which touches us as Mr PINERO'S *Iris* and *Letty* touched us, in spite of possible technical defects. Whether he is writing essays or dramas Mr JONES always seems to us to be aiming, chiefly, at *effect*. What he does is always clever; he is an admirable inventor of plots and incidents, and a most adroit *playwright*. Indeed, he is "too clever by half" to be a great artist. The act-drop in his pieces always comes down in the right place, the principal part for the leading actor or actress is always—or nearly always—just what is required; the audience is generally excited and amused; yet at bottom—when the wine has "stood" a little—one realises that the play is no more than an excellent "entertainment of the stage." We are not writing this in a grudging spirit; no one has praised Mr JONES'S work, taking it for what it is, as warmly as we have; and we admit that to the general rules we have stated there are exceptions. There is room in this world for all kinds of art, from MICHEL ANGELO'S to MAX BEERBOHM'S; and it is polite in the presence of artists of different capacities to avoid the question of degree. But when, so to speak a commoner rises and by inference and insinuation claims the rank of a duke, we are either irritated or amused, according to the state of our digestions.

We do not, however, much complain of Mr JONES for giving himself a good character, either in print or in public. Nowadays, if a man does not blow his own trumpet there are very few people who will blow it for him; and such an excellent opportunity as the annual dinner of the Sheffield Press Club on Saturday last was a temptation, we admit, hardly to be resisted. Nor does it trouble us that most of Mr JONES'S statements are incorrect as to fact. The theatres are not "empty," as anyone who has tried within the last week or so to book seats at His Majesty's, the St. James's, or any of the high-class houses can prove. If high art is so unremunerative, how is it that Sir HENRY IRVING, Mr GEORGE ALEXANDER, and Mr BEERBOHM TREE have not been bankrupts long ago? We leave it to others with more leisure at their command to riddle out Mr JONES'S Sheffield statements in detail; what we resent is the implication that he has been prevented from writing "severe and serious" plays by the consciousness that there were no artists obtainable of sufficient talent to play the principal parts in them. "Great plays," said Mr JONES, "need great interpreters"—the inference being that if he could only get the actors and actresses he—Mr JONES—would give us the great plays quickly enough. The absurdity of this suggestion may be easily proved by a survey of Mr JONES'S past productions. We fail to recal a single instance in which we have said to ourselves, after enjoying the performance of one of Mr JONES'S plays, that there was more in it than the artists brought out in performance. On the contrary, we have always felt that the success of Mr. JONES as a popular dramatist has been greatly owing to the very valuable support which he has obtained from the popular actors and actresses for whom he has worked. We can forgive him, however, for a certain bitterness; for his most "severe and serious" play, a courageous attempt to treat a large subject in an intellectual spirit, came to grief partly by misadventure. *The Crusaders*, produced at the Avenue Theatre in 1891, had for its subject the important one of the effect of fashionable Charity on Poverty. The satire was deep and keen; but the impression created on the unlucky first night was weakened by the mere accident that much of the dialogue, owing to certain miscalculations in connection with the acoustic properties of the house, was inaudible to the occupants of the gallery. Mr JONES can hardly complain, however, of the talents of his cast in this case, for it included such admirable artists as the late ARTHUR CECIL, Mr LEWIS WALLER, Mr WEEDON GROSSMITH, Mr HENRY KEMBLE, Mr ALLAN AYNESWORTH, Miss WINIFRED EMERY, and Miss OLGA BRANDON. It certainly could not be said that the above actors and actresses and the rest of the company failed to do Mr JONES'S ambitious effort the very fullest justice.

Mr H. A. JONES has, however, in his power an easy and effectual method of proving our estimate of him to be erroneous. Let him follow Mr STEPHEN PHILLIPS'S example, and publish the "great plays" of his composition which are above the capacities of any actors and actresses now available. We promise him, in that case, an appreciative and, we need hardly say, an absolutely impartial review.

A BLIND ACTOR.

APPEAL FOR MR. HENRY CRISP.

James Welch		2	2	0
Goodwin		0	1	6

T. Morton Powell's "Honour Thy Father" Co. Total £3.

Mr Arthur Clifton	0	12	0	Mr D. B. Watson	0	4	0
Mr J. W. Evelyn	0	10	0	Mr W. H. Melrose	0	4	0
Mr Claude Merton	0	5	0	Mr E. Hartington	0	2	0
Miss M. Coleman	0	4	0	Mr J. H. Ashworth	0	2	0
Miss Ross Mylrea	0	4	0	Mr Jack Burgess	0	2	0
Miss Kate Newton	0	4	0	Mr Fred White	0	2	0
Miss Lizzie Moorley	0	4	0	Mr F. W. Graham	0	1	0

Sums announced	£283	11	0
Sums now announced	5	3	6
Total	288	14	6

Fund now closed

MR WALTER HANN presided at the thirteenth meeting of the committee of the Scenic Artists' Association at 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, at 8 o'clock on Monday last. Messrs Edmund G. Banks, J. J. Markwell-Davis, Richard Douglass, Wm. Harker, W. T. Hemsley, Herbert Hinton, H. W. Owen, and Harry Potts and Mr H. Lawrence Harris (secretary) were present. Letters were read from Messrs Joseph Harker, W. Raphael, and Geo. Tweddell explaining absence. The secretary read letters from Mr Forbes Robertson accepting the office of honorary member of the association, and from Mr W. F. Bostock, of Manchester, conveying suggestions for the intending exhibition. Mr Geo. M. Bridges, scenic artist, of King's Lynn, was duly elected a member of the association. The secretary reported that since the last committee meeting, a week ago, he had received promises of upwards of £13 to the Exhibition Guarantee Fund. Mr Richard Douglass and Mr Harry Potts undertook to inspect certain galleries and halls in the West-end offered for the 1905 exhibition, and report on their suitability at the meeting next Monday evening, the 12th inst. The chairman, Mr Walter Hann, read a letter from Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., stating that the President of the Royal Academy, Sir E. J Poynter, Bart., had kindly consented to act as Chairman of the Hanging Committee of the exhibition.

"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH," by Mr G. Carlton Wallace, is doing excellent business, as the crowded state of the theatres wherever it is played abundantly testifies. Messrs Dothridge, Longden, and Livesey are to be warmly congratulated. It is not often that a young author with his first play, nor a young manager on his first essay, scores such an unqualified triumph; yet such has been the good fortune of Mr Wallace, the author, and Mr Samuel Livesey, who plays the Blacksmith so powerfully. The wrestling scene in the last act between the blacksmith and Captain Leo is nightly received with great enthusiasm, especially in the North, the home of wrestling. Every point is followed with breathless excitement, occasionally broken by cheers and loudly shouted, well-meant advice Indeed, so real does the match appear, that challenges are repeatedly being sent by local champions who wish to try a fall.

"ALADDIN" is the subject of the Brixton Theatre pantomime, which will be produced on Boxing Day. Among the artists engaged are Miss Emmeline Orford, Mr Edwin Brett, Mr Ed. Young, Mr H. O. Clarey, and Messrs Walton and Lester. The scenery is by Messrs Walter Hann and E. L. Schmitz, and the dresses by Clarkson. The processions and ballets will be arranged by Miss Eva Bayhurst, and the entire production will be under the direction of Mr Stanley Rogers, who is the author of the book.

"WEALTH, WOMEN, AND WICKEDNESS."

A Drama, in Four Acts, by John Denton, Produced for the First Time in London at the Dalston Theatre, on Monday, Dec. 5.

Mr James Rivers	Mr HARRY BROWNE
Jack Vavasour	Mr FRANK BERESFORD
Captain Melbourne	Mr PERCY RHODES
Tom Hopkins	Mr WILLIE SCOTT
Elkanah Pierce	Mr JOHN DENTON
Inspector Goodheart	Mr LOUIS HECTOR
Bennett	Mr TRUEMAN TOWERS
Moucher	Mr FRED BELL
Silas Grumble	Mr H. HIGGINS
Police-Constable I.C.	Mr WORSFOLD
Gaffer Smiley	Mr R. RIPON
Polly Hopkins	Miss DOLLY HARCOURT
Miss Agatha Pearce	Miss ADA PALMER
Mrs Tibbs	Miss ESTELLE DESPA
Elise	Miss KATE WALBRAN
Claire Rivers	Miss VIOLET KING

Under the title of *The Serpent's Tooth* this sensational drama was produced at the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, on April 25 last. It has also been known as *A Modern Judas*, and the title is now changed for the third time. The violent contrasts between good and evil, virtue and villainy are well brought out in this play, and the interest of the story is well maintained until the end, when the hero and heroine emerge triumphantly from all their difficulties. Jack Vavasour, the adopted son of James Rivers, a wealthy old English gentleman, falls in love with the latter's pretty daughter Claire. As she is heiress to her father's property she becomes an interesting personage to an unscrupulous fortune-hunter and gentleman-burglar named Captain Melbourne, otherwise known as "Slippery Jim." He learns that old Rivers keeps in his safe in the library a quantity of diamonds, and he resolves to gain possession of them. He has a confederate in one Bennett, who has obtained an engagement as butler at the house. These two partners in crime break open the safe, but are interrupted by the entrance of the owner, whom Melbourne does not hesitate to murder. The deed, however, has been witnessed by Elsie, Jim's ill-used wife, who has tracked her husband to the house and, mounting a ladder, peers through the window of the library. Thus she sees the crime committed, and falls to the ground with a shriek. She is found and taken to the Cottage Hospital; and while she is recovering there the villain pursues his evil course, after the usual manner of such gentry in melodrama. He brings against Jack Vavasour a charge of murdering James Rivers, and continues to persecute Claire with his unwelcome attentions. Other incidents of an exciting and sensational character follow in quick succession. One of the most thrilling is the encounter of Melbourne and his wife, who threatens to denounce him. He thereupon lowers her into a well with the evident intention of drowning the unhappy woman; but there happens to be no water in it, and she is rescued by Vavasour, who is hiding in the neighbourhood. He learns from her the truth concerning the death of his benefactor. Discovering at the same time that his betrothed has been entrapped and carried off to an old hut on the cliffs, he hurries thither, but is overpowered and bound to a post. Then Melbourne conceives the fiendish idea of burning out Vavasour's eyes with a red-hot poker in the presence of his promised bride, and is preparing to carry this diabolical plan into execution when rescue comes in the form of Tom Hopkins, old Rivers' groom, who fires at Melbourne and wounds him. Vavasour is again taken to prison, and Melbourne goes to the library to get possession of the diamonds he has secreted there; but ultimately Vavasour is acquitted of the charge of murder and the real culprit arrested. Mr Frank Beresford as Jack Vavasour gives a manly and spirited embodiment of the character, and Mr Percy Rhodes deserves every credit for his excellent impersonation of Captain Melbourne, whose methods resemble very closely those of "the Spider," in *The Silver King*. Mr Trueman Towers supplies a vivid and telling portrait of the scoundrel Bennett. Miss Violet King shows womanly feeling in the part of Claire Rivers, and meets with deserved success. Mr Harry Browne is well placed as James Rivers. Mr Willie Scott is exceedingly comical as Tom Hopkins, never missing a fair opportunity of getting a laugh, though he has his serious moments, as, for instance, when Tom faces the principal villain with a revolver. Mr John Denton also scores by his humorous representation of Elkanah Pierce, a gentleman of a nervous temperament. He receives able support from Miss Ada Palmer as a spinster of uncertain age, who is anxious to find a partner for life. Mr Fred Bell does good work as Moucher, a thief, and Mr H. Higgins as Silas Grumble and Mr Louis Hector as Inspector Goodheart, Mr Worsfold as a police constable and Mr R. Ripon as Gaffer Smiley are also well placed. Miss Dolly Harcourt is pert and lively as Polly Hopkins, Miss Kate Walbran is good as Elise, and Miss Estelle Despa as Mrs Tibbs also merits mention.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. A. WINSTANLEY, the proprietor of the Royal Opera House, and sole lessee of the Theatre Royal, Leicester, whose sympathies for any deserving cause are so well-known and appreciated in Leicester, which town is now suffering keenly from the prevalent distress, in order to swell the funds of the Citizens' Aid Society, on Sunday evening last gave a grand sacred concert at the Royal Opera House, the gallant Colonel defraying every penny of the expense. There was a large audience, who thoroughly enjoyed the rich musical treat provided. Lieutenant Colonel Winstanley and Mrs Winstanley, Sir Thomas Wright, Alderman Collins, Mr and Mrs S. Faire, including a goodly number of other leading townspeople, were present. Mr C. D. Leigh, the courteous acting-manager, worked "like a Trojan," and had the invaluable assistance of the Opera House staff.

THE chief item in the programme was the performance of *The Mass of St. Dominic* composed by Herr J. Theo Kler, the gifted musical director of the Royal Opera House, who conducted. We have nothing but the highest praise to bestow on the work of Mr Kler, which received a splendid interpretation from the combined choirs of Holy Cross, St. Patrick's, and Sacred Heart, numbering over seventy voices. The leading sopranos were Mrs T. R. Russell and Miss Robinson; contraltos, Mrs P. T. Clarke and Miss Belton; tenors, Mr Alfred Page and Mr J. T. Day; and bass, Mr George Evans. Mr H. P. Vann presided at the organ, and Mr Winterbalder was the choirmaster. Another noteworthy item was the rendering of the march, "The Silver Trumpet," by the combined bands of the Royal Opera House and Theatre Royal. It is rare that Mr Henry Nicholson, so well known throughout the musical world, appears on a public platform at his advanced age, but the flute duet, "Themes from *Traviata*," which he specially arranged, and which he played in conjunction with Mr Geary, a member of the Opera House Band, proved vastly enjoyable. Mr J. H. Taylor gave an interlude on the pianola, Miss Florence Robinson sang "Angels guard thee," and Mr Alfred Page and Mrs Russell gave the duet, "Love Divine."

MR AUSTIN MELFORD concludes to-night at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, the most successful tour of *The Silver King* has experienced. For the spring he has re engaged Mr Herbert Ford to play Wilfrid Denver, not wishing to leave town himself.

PRESENTATION.—Mr Sydney Milles, late of Lord George Sanger and Messrs Bostock and Wombwell, and now representing Messrs John Dewar and Sons, Ltd., Perth, was recently the recipient of a very handsome umbrella with carved ivory lion's head and mounted in 15-carat gold, the gift of Mr Bert Burnell, of the Four Burnells, and inscribed thus:—"From Bert Burnell to his old friend, Sydney Milles, 20 10-'04."

DEATH OF MRS G. H. GILBERT.

We regret to record the death of Mrs G. H. Gilbert, popularly known as "the Grand Old Woman of America." The veteran actress, who died at Chicago on the 2nd inst. while on tour, had only recently entered upon her eighty-fourth year. When Miss Rehan was a fresh young girl of twenty she and Mrs Gilbert appeared together in Augustin Daly's comedy of *Needles and Pins*. The former was the ingenuous and irresistibly comely young creature she always looked and acted so charmingly, while Mrs Gilbert, her maiden aunt of fifty in the play, was quite as giddy, twice as gushing, and in manner and appearance not half so old. The Daly company, when it came to Toole's Theatre a little over twenty years ago, included both Ada Rehan and Mrs Gilbert. Altogether different in appearance and manner from the ordinary stage old lady, Mrs Gilbert quickly became a favourite with English audiences, and playgoers retain pleasant memories of the actress who has just died at Chicago. Ann Hartley was an Englishwoman, having been born at Rochdale in October, 1821. She entered upon her long and successful professional career at Bury St. Edmunds, and afterwards she went to the Haymarket in London, and on the "Norwich circuit," where her future husband, Mr G. H. Gilbert, was, like herself, a dancer. She was married in 1846, and it is fifty-three years ago that her début was made in America. Curiously enough her start there took place at Chicago, but she did not blossom forth as an actress until she went to Cleveland in the spring of 1857. Rapidly she developed a taste for "old women," and on the eve of the terrible Civil War she was playing in Cincinnati in a theatre run by Mr John Wood. She played many parts, from that of the wife in the farce *The Toodles* to Lady Macbeth and Mrs Hardcastle. In John Brougham's *Pocahontas* she made a decided hit, and her fame spread so that she was engaged for the part of the Baroness in a comedy named *Finesse*, written by the Countess of Giffard, and produced by Mrs John Wood at the Olympic Theatre of New York in 1864, when that fine old American actor Mr J. H. Stoddart was a member of the company. From that date she was continuously before the American public, and was in the original production of *Caste* at the Broadway in 1867, its first performance in the States. She joined the Daly company at the Fifth Avenue in 1869, and she remained with her old manager until his death in 1899. The number of characters she created is far too numerous to give in detail. Burton, the actor, on one occasion, speaking of his own professional association with Mrs Gilbert, said: "I have been her father, her son, her uncle, her first husband, her second husband, her third husband, her friend, and her disconsolate widower, and I have liked her better in each relation!" New York audiences for two generations had known Mrs Gilbert as mother and as mother-in-law, as daughter and as step-daughter, as first and last wife, as sister, as cousin, as aunt, and as best of good friends, loving her always, no matter what the relationship might be. Amongst the most popular plays in which Mrs Gilbert appeared were *The Savage and the Maiden*, *The Big Bonanza*, *The Dark City*. In this country she was seen in *Dollars and Sense*, *A Night Off*, *Nancy and Co.*, and *The Railroad of Love*. She played Curtis when Mr Daly revived *The Taming of the Shrew*, with Ada Rehan and John Drew, at the theatre in Cranbourne-street bearing his name. Amongst her best-remembered characters when she appeared at the Olympic, New York, was Mrs Wilfer, in a dramatic version of "Our Mutual Friend." A well-known critic thus describes her in this rôle:—She was much given to tying up her head in a pocket-handkerchief, knotted under the chin, which, in conjunction with a pair of gloves worn within doors, she seemed to consider at once as a kind of armour against misfortune, invariably assuming it when in low spirits—her chronic condition—and as a species of full-dress; this, added to the 'condescending stitch in her side, which was her co-manner,' made her the exasperating, aggravating, identical Mrs Wilfer of Dickens himself—one of the happiest and most perfect representations of a creation of the master of English fiction ever put upon the stage." Mrs Gilbert has recently appeared in America in such modern plays as *Miss Hobbs*, Captain Marshall's *A Royal Family*, and Mrs Ryley's *Miss and Mrs*. Increasing age, however, began to tell even upon her fine constitution, and accordingly at the end of last October Mr Charles Frohman—under whose management she has been during the last five years—started her upon a farewell tour of the American cities, commencing at the Lyceum, New York. Mr Clyde Fitch wrote a four-act play named *Granny* especially for her, and in this the aged actress developed the part of a cross and suspicious old woman, finally becoming a kindly one. Mrs Gilbert had a most enthusiastic reception. It was hoped that she might survive the tour and enjoy a period of retirement, but an attack of apoplexy brought about the end very suddenly.

The funeral of Mrs Gilbert took place at New York, on Tuesday. There was a large attendance of prominent actors and actresses, among the pall-bearers being Sir Charles Wyndham.

ROYAL COLLEGE PATRON'S FUND.

The second concert of the Patron's Fund, founded by Mr Ernest Palmer for the encouragement of young British musicians—a fund which may lead to great things in the future—was given on Tuesday evening at the Æolian Hall. It opened with a Quartet for pianoforte and strings in E minor, by Mr W. T. Hurlstone, being played by the composer and Messrs Frank Bridge, Tom Morris, and Purcell Jones. The quartet was skilfully written, the second movement having some very attractive passages, the entire work showing that Mr Hurlstone has considerable claims as a composer. Perhaps we may set down the Four Preludes for the pianoforte, by Mr Paul Corder, as the best pieces that gifted young gentleman has yet produced, and they were played to perfection by Mr York Bower. The second and third prelude in particular were greeted with enthusiasm. A concert piece for viola and pianoforte, by A. E. Trevor Bax, was performed by the composer and Mr Lionel Tertis, and made a good impression. A poem by Mr Hall Caine, set to music by John F. M'Ewen, was recited by Mrs Tobias Matthay. It was a Manx version of an old Celtic legend, somewhat similar to Burger's "Lenore" and Dvorák's "Spectre's Bride." The idea of this sombre poem is that a dead lover comes from the grave to carry off his betrothed, and while Mrs Matthay is reciting the gruesome story the musical accompaniments are played by Messrs Morris, Kleze, Bridge, Purcell Jones, Dunhill, and Mrs Hedwig M'Ewen, and prove appropriate, also revealing considerable gloomy imagination. Mrs Tobias Matthay displayed her customary skill as a reciter. Three Fantasies for strings, by Percy H. Miles, had merit, and were cleverly interpreted by Miss Vera Warwick Evans, Mr Morris, Mr Frank Bridge, and Mr Purcell Jones. Several songs were included in the programme. Three by Frank Bridge were sung by Mr F. Aubrey Millward, one of the most impressive being 'Night lies on the silent highways," which might almost be taken for a song by Robert Franz. Two songs by F. C. S. Carey were sung with much taste by Miss Beatrice Dunn. The most attractive was the one entitled "When you are old," which had an expressive tone. The concert concluded with a spirited piece in C major, by George Dyson, for piano, flute, clarionet, bassoon, and horn, the performers being Mr Harold Samuel, Mr Gilbert Barton, Mr Charles Draper, Mr Thornton, and Mr Smith. Mr F. A. Sewell was the accompanist, and the concert as a whole gave a good idea of the results likely to be secured by the Patron's Fund.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

The report has gained currency in the profession that Mrs Dan Leno has received a large sum of money from Madame Tussaud's as a consideration for the placing of the figure of the late comedian in their exhibition. This has caused Mrs Leno much distress of mind, as the exhibition of the portrait model was entirely contrary to her wish. On finding, however, that she could not prevent it by law she suggested to the management of Tussaud's that they should send a small cheque to the Belgrave Hospital for Children, for which institution Mr Dan Leno worked so hard for so many years. Messrs Tussaud met the suggestion at once by forwarding a donation of ten guineas to the secretary of the hospital.

"Butterflies in Fairyland," the invention of Mr Frank Parker, which will form the Christmas entertainment at the London Hippodrome, promises to be the most weird and beautiful production ever seen in this country. Friday, Dec. 23, has been fixed for the first performance. Mr H. E. Moss promises his patrons an astonishing novelty, "a luminous spectacle." The true definition of the term would be most difficult to explain. The theme, as the title denotes, is a butterfly romance in the land of fairies. There is a tangible story but no actors; magnificent scenery to please the eye, but no paint and canvas; beautiful rippling water, scintillating with a thousand hues; and a triumphant apotheosis. The whole production occurs in "seven events."

The spectators will scarcely realise the gigantic and difficult mechanical contrivances which have been installed for the purpose of demonstrating the multitudinous illusions and scenic effects which take place. The stage rises and falls—by hydraulic power—a distance of 8ft. at ordinary times; it has now the added mechanism which makes it telescopic. At the touch of a lever the stage falls to the low level, flush with the arena, and a subsidiary stage projects and travels out into the arena, thus giving 100 per cent more stage room. When it is considered that the tearing out of the old staging, consisting of 180 tons of teak wood, relaying it with the same—the wood, by the way, is so hard that it takes three men to drive one nail in, and over 8,000 nails were used—the erection of eight powerful motors, the bolting and rivetting of 100 tons of steel girder work, and the whole completed in splendid working order, took place in one single night, it must truly be described as the greatest mechanical achievement of modern times. A locomotive was once erected in twenty-four hours, but Mr Frank Parker's efforts have surely eclipsed this record.

The charity of the profession is proverbial. Only a few days ago at a luncheon table in the West-end Mr Arthur Collins, hearing of the good work accomplished by the Model Soup Kitchen in the Euston-road, volunteered a handsome donation, and Mr George Robey then took the hat round to the other people who were enjoying their midday meal. The result of this impromptu collection was that the committee of this institution was able to give food to over 300 starving men and women.

Mr Robey was again working in a charitable cause on Monday, when he took a team to Tottenham to play the "Spurs" in a match organised for the benefit of the widow and family of the late "Jack" Jones. The event attracted between seven and eight thousand spectators, and a keen game resulted. The popular music hall comedian had chosen a powerful side, but the redoubtable Spurs won by two goals to one. Mr Robey scored the only goal for his side ten minutes after play commenced. The crowd would not take Mr Robey seriously, and spectators on the field seemed to expect to see him in a battered hat, with grease-painted face, and a tattered umbrella. But Robey loves athletics, and he finds that his laborious afternoons as a "rocker" are an excellent preparation for his work o' nights. The match resulted in a "gate" of £175.

Mr Harry Randall's part in the Drury-lane pantomime is that of the principal dame, who in this instance is an ancient fairy. Her trouble is that, like her more earthly sisters, she has lost some of her magic power with advancing age, and when she wishes to summon spirits from the vasty deep or in other ways to work wonders she discovers that her will is not obeyed. The idea is an amusing one, and the situations arising from it are ludicrous enough to afford the comedian every opportunity of exploiting a rare fund of eccentricity. Indeed, Mr Randall's elderly frolicsome females—widows or spinsters—are always as gushingly ridiculous as they can be. He is having a special number written for him by Mr J. Bernard Dickson, and its patter will be associated with women's wrongs.

Fragson, the latest acquisition of Mr Arthur Collins, for Drury-lane Theatre, is now playing no fewer than three characters in the *revue* now running at the Parisiana. They are a bourgeois, a coachman, and a female concierge, wherein he displays the virtues of a good distinct voice and irresistible facial drollery. He is also an excellent dancer. When he does a turn by himself he always appears in evening dress, and whether it is a sentimental or a humorous song, he accompanies himself, and soon has the audience beating time to the lively music of the refrain. One of his recent successes "L'Amour Boiteux" ("Lame Love,") sold over a million copies.

Jugglers from China and Japan are no great novelties, but a Chinaman who is a Chinaman and not an American imitation, who has an entertainment entirely distinct from any of his predecessors, is the great Ching Ling Foo, who some months ago was engaged at an enormous salary by the directors of the Empire. He is just finishing a long tour round the world, and will appear for the first time in England on Monday, Jan. 2, at the variety theatre in Leicester-square, accompanied by his clever company of ten other Celestials.

There was a lengthy programme at the St. Bartholomew's matinée at the Alhambra on Thursday. Mr Charles Warner read a rhymed "Appeal" by Mr B. Fletcher Robinson in his usual expressive way, and other artists who appeared were Mr Hayden Coffin, Mr Gus Elen, Mr George Robey, Mr Harry Tate, and Mdlle. B. Saverny. A pretty souvenir programme was sold by hospital nurses and other ladies, and there should be a handsome sum realised by the performance for the rebuilding fund of "Bart's."

Mr Alfred Butt, the manager of the Palace, is now staying in Berlin, where he has put up at the Central Hotel. He went on to the German capital from Hamburg, where at this time of the year there is an immense fair, at which all kinds of Continental artistes assist.

The Palace Theatre anniversary, which is confessedly one of the most attractive of the year, will be celebrated on Tuesday next. In addition to the attractions mentioned in our columns last week, the bill includes Mr R. H. Douglass, Miss Camille Clifford, De Gracia's Baby Elephants, Morris Harvey, Nelson Jackson, Miss Ruth Lincoln, Miss Nina Martino, the Ameen-Abou-Hamed Troupe of acrobatic Arabs, Yamamoto and Kayoshi, and the A-Ba-Be picture postcards. The performance will commence at 7·15.

Mr Ernest Shand is the happy father of a baby girl, who was born on Monday. There is much rejoicing at the Heathers, Poynders road, Clapham, and papa has received many hearty congratulations.

Mr Alfred Selwyn, of the Hippodrome, Glasgow, we are given to understand, has been selected by Mr Tom Barrasford as the manager of the new Lyceum Theatre of Varieties, which is rapidly approaching completion.

Mr S. King Alexander has succeeded Mr Barney Armstrong as manager of the Queen's and Tivoli, Glasgow.

Mr Barney Armstrong wishes to sincerely thank his brother and sister professionals, also other friends, for their good wishes on his benefit night at the Tivoli, Glasgow, which proved to be a record. Mr Armstrong is by way of returning to the boards, opening on Monday, Dec. 19, at the Pavilion, Glasgow.

Mr Arthur Langstaffe, late conductor of the orchestra at the Royal Theatre of Varieties, Oldham, passed away Nov. 29, and was interred at Chadderton Cemetery on Saturday. Mr Dottridge and Mr Knowles sent two magnificent floral wreaths, and others came from numerous friends. The deceased gentleman has left a widow and child to mourn his loss.

Dr. Walford Bodie has just finished a phenomenally successful run of four months in Scotland, playing everywhere to overflowing houses and breaking all his previous records despite the fact of its being his sixteenth visit to his native land. He opened on Monday at the Metropole Theatre, Gateshead-on-Tyne, with his own company, and has been playing to his usual record business, the large theatre being packed to the doors twice nightly. The Doctor has made a great hit with "Mystic Marie, the Real Trilby," the Glasgow and Newcastle Press being unanimous in declaring it to be the most sensational and wonderful act of its kind. Already Dr. Bodie has had many offers for this new act. Miss Marie will give her séance next week at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Richmond.

Mr Albert Bushell, of the Birmingham Gaiety, was to the fore on Friday week last in the cause of the local unemployed, when the proceeds of both houses, amounting to upwards of £80, were handed over to the chairman of the Watch Committee, who attended and testified to the generosity of the Gaiety directors and Mr Bushell in particular.

Mr Wm. Henry Broadhead, Kensington Promenade, Blackpool, applied at Preston Police court on Wednesday, before Mr W. P. Park and other justices, for a theatrical licence for the Royal Hippodrome, now in course of erection in Friargate, Preston. There was a strong array in opposition. Mr Parker resisted the application on behalf of the Prince's Theatre, Mr Blackhurst represented the Theatre Royal, Mr Turner opposed for owners in Swarbrick-court, but afterwards withdrew, and Mr P. H. Edelston also opposed. Mr Broadhead explained that every possible precaution had been taken to safeguard against fire, and the whole place had been erected on the best principle. He was cross-examined by Mr Edelston and Mr Blackhurst as to the suggested insufficiency of the exits, but he insisted there was ample provision. The justices appointed a committee to visit the premises, and adjourned the application for a week.

Mr Frank Macnaghten, with his usual kindness and liberality, granted the free use of the Palace Theatre, Bath, on Tuesday to the Bath Cycling Club for their annual appeal to provide a dinner for 200 of the aged poor, and also to benefit the funds of the Bath General Hospital. Several local amateur ladies and gentlemen gave "turns," in addition to the week's company. The house was crowded at greatly increased prices, and a good surplus is assured. During the evening the Mayor of Bath (Mr B. John), who was accompanied by the Mayoress, addressed the audience, and acknowledged their indebtedness to Mr Macnaghten, coupling the popular acting-manager's name in the vote of thanks. Mr Trussell, in the absence of his chief, briefly replied.

It has been decided to play a pantomime at Christmas at the Walthamstow Palace, now endowed with a theatrical licence. The subject is to be *Cinderilla*, of which story a shortened version will be written, as it will have to be played twice nightly. The direction will be in the capable hands of Mr Espinosa. Mr Barclay will give three matinées weekly.

On the morning of Dec. 6 the Mayor of Portsmouth publicly thanked a well-known and zealous official of the Musical Copyright Association—Mr W. F. Maffey—for an act of the greatest bravery, and presented him with the certificate on vellum of the Royal Humane Society, for saving, on Aug. 10, the lives of two boys named Martin, who were in imminent danger of drowning off the Hot Walls at Southsea, the most dangerous bathing place in the locality. Mr Maffey, who is a London ex-police-constable, had to dive in 18ft. of water after the two lads, and the younger of the pair, who had sunk for the third time, had to be lifted from the sea bottom. Artificial respiration was successfully resorted to. The gallant officer has previously saved two lives from fire, for which he received a certificate and £2.

Mr Edward Conybeare Foster, the manager of the Bordesley Palace, the latest addition to Birmingham's permanent places of amusement, is a son of Major Foster, R.M.A., and was born in Cork. Educated in London and abroad, where he became proficient in the French and Italian languages, he joined the banking business, entering the National Provincial Bank of England, Birmingham, in Bennett's Hill. After several years' experience in England, he entered the Bank of Bengal, in Calcutta, relinquishing his position to go on the stage. He travelled with musical comedy, drama, and comedy for two years all round the Far East, and then became connected with the management staff of Moss' Empires, Limited, at the Holloway Empire, which he left for a similar appointment at Stratford, E., whence he was promoted to Bordesley. He is fond of sport, but fonder still of his business, and, with him at the helm, the Bordesley Palace should become a property even more valuable than it is at present, for Mr Forster is evidently determined to retain and add to his already marked success by means which must command the confidence and admiration of all who rejoice to see a handsome hall discreetly and energetically conducted.

Mr Wyndham's enormously successful Glasgow pantomime, produced on Thursday, the 1st, was incidentally also a triumph for Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, the following numbers published by them being cheered to the echo:—"Navaho," "Angelina Hank," "Twenty Girls—Thirty Girls," "The Troubadour," "If I were king," and "Come and be a Soldier."

Mr Harry Hayton, comedian, was married on Nov. 30 at the Parish Church of St. Thomas, Liverpool, to Miss Elizabeth Coultherd. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr Peters, and the wedding party went from the church to the house of the bride's father, where the numerously attended reception was followed by a dance. The presents were costly, and numerous letters and telegrams of congratulations were received by the happy couple.

The latest additions just added by Mr John Smith, Messrs Francis and Day's manager, to the now famous series of "Sixpenny Pops" are "The Angel of my Dreams," "There Goes my Soldier Boy," and "You can't Stop the Sun from Shining." The catalogue now comprises 132 numbers.

Members of the Junior Institution of Engineers, who visited the Coliseum Theatre on Saturday afternoon had an opportunity of inspecting the great revolving stage. Subsequently they listened to an explanation by Mr Wingfield Bowles of the manner in which Mr Oswald Stoll's novel stage has been constructed and the effects which are possible by its use.

The programmes for the opening performances of the Coliseum, which opens at noon on Monday, Dec. 19, are now complete. The chief attractions of the performances given between twelve and two and six and eight will be a grand musical spectacle, entitled *Port Arthur*, and an idyllic scene, entitled *The Last Load*. Mr J. C. Piddock, Miss Violet Grazia, and Miss Sylvia Sablanc will be seen in this, and in *The Up-River Girl*, an attraction of the second and fourth performances, Mr J. C. Piddock will be supporting Miss Bertha Palliser. Miss Madge Lessing will also sing a military song, "Good-bye, little girl," supported by the pipers and drummers of the Caledonian Boys' Band and a detachment of Highland soldiers, to be followed by a song scena *Witches*, in which Miss Lessing is to be assisted by a picked double octet of Coliseum dancers. Another great attraction of the second and fourth performances is a scene at Epsom, entitled "The Derby."

The Coliseum company also includes Miss Millie Hylton with a special song "Dairy Mary," supported by a bevy of dairy-maids, to be followed by "The Belles' Parade," words by Oswald Stoll and music by Walter Slaughter; Mr Eugene Stratton, Mr R. A. Roberts, the Boissets, Cooke and Rothert, Mdlle. Clementa and her dogs, the Three Bounding Pattersons, Miss Decima Moore, the Reiff Brothers, Mdlle. Bonita, May Edouin and Fred Edwards, and the Debreans.

For his numerous scenas, interludes, and spectacles, Mr Stoll has engaged a chorus of eighty and an orchestra of forty-two, under the direction of Mr Walter Slaughter and Mr Maurice Jacobi. The stage producer is Mr Marshall Moore, from Drury-lane; Mr John Leonard is the acting-manager; and Mr Will Bishop the ballet master.

We may congratulate Mr W. S. Wheeler, secretary and treasurer of the Paragon, on his approaching marriage to Miss Godden, fixed for Saturday next, Dec. 17. The bride is well-known and popular among the frequenters of the popular East-end Palace, where she held a position in the refreshment department.

Mr Barrasford has made elaborate arrangements for the comfort of the performers at the new Lyceum, and the stay behind the scenes, which causes such a sense of weariness, is to be made not only tolerable but enjoyable. Professionals of the sterner sex will have the attractions of a billiard room in which to pass some of the hours of waiting, and for the ladies there will be a reception room, furnished with magazines and newspapers. As many of the artistes will be engaged exclusively, one can understand what a boon and blessing such arrangements will be to the men and women of the profession.

The size of the new Lyceum may be gauged from the fact that it is 100ft. from the back of the audito the proscenium, the opening of which is 42ft. The stage has a depth of 58ft. Much of the internal decoration is already finished, though the sliding roof has yet to be fixed in position.

Mr John Grun Malx, who supports a roundabout on his chest, and does other legitimate feats of strength, has been specially engaged for the third time for twenty weeks by Mr Tom Barrasford, also by Mr Tom Macnaghton, Mr G. A. Payne, and Mr J. L. Graydon. He has no vacant dates for 1905. Next week he is to astonish audiences at Sadler's Wells by his wonderful feats.

Yesterday (Friday) was the third anniversary of the opening of the Hackney Empire, and during the day and evening Mr Christie, the manager, and Mr Johnson, the second in command, received the felicitations of influential residents in the vicinity and of many notables of the variety world, comprising proprietors, managers, and artists. The following lines, written for the occasion, were spoken at a little informal meeting of the staff by Mr Wiltshire, a respected member thereof:—

Three years ago!—three years this very day—
Since Hackney's Empire came this way to stay,
And all the Mare-street folk (and few are silly)
Are proud the mare had such a splendid filly!
The neighbourhood will never be "off song"
While Christie's minstrel's help the boat along.
So ere we get up steam for next year's trip,
Let's toast our vessel anchored near "The Ship"—
And don't forget the man who found the coal,
So here's long life and health to Oswald Stoll!
From manager down to the boy so small
Prosperity and happiness to all.
And when three years more have gone their round,
May each of us be here, still safe and sound!
"A plague on both your houses!" Shakespeare said,
But these "two houses" find the boys in bread.
So let us hope we'll never see the day
When "'Ackney has the 'ouses took away!"

We regret to announce the death of Mr W. W. Hodgson, husband of Miss Florrie Chester, of the Three Sisters Chester. The sad event happened on Nov. 25 on board the Maori, of which vessel the deceased gentleman was second engineer. Mrs Hodgson has received many messages of sympathy in her bereavement.

Miss Fanny Wentworth, who will appear at the Oxford immediately after her present engagement at Wyndham's terminates, narrowly escaped entertaining her audience, some weeks ago, with an unrehearsed effect. There was a handsome new music-stool at the piano, and, catching sight of it half a minute before the curtain went up, she ran on to the stage to see whether it was the right height. "It will do very well," she said, without rising, to the stage manager over her shoulder. He gave the preliminary signal to ring up, but as he did so the handsome new stool collapsed. Then there was half a minute of wild excitement. The curtain went up, and discovered Miss Wentworth, calm and smiling, but with the old stool in its accustomed place.

Mr David Day had perforce to spend a portion of last Thursday, his birthday, at the Royal Courts of Justice, where, in Room Four of the King Bench Division, Mr Justice Kennedy granted a perpetual injunction, with a nominal fine and costs, against a Mr E. Matthews, of Hoxton, for infringement of certain of the firm's copyrights, including "I've made up my mind to sail away" and "Pansy Faces."

A very amusing show is that provided at the Palace just now by De Gracia's elephants. The three animals engage in a cricket match. One labelled Fyldesley takes the bat, another as Hirst handles the ball, and the third, wearing the colours of Warner, fields. When the pachyderm bowler sends up a curly one by means of his trunk, it is promptly hit to the on and smartly fielded by the good-natured quadruped standing at mid-wicket. The attempts at scoring made by this animal are exceedingly ludicrous.

The warm welcome given by the music hall public to anything new and original should incite artists to give time and thought to new business, and to depart from the old stereotyped entertainment. There is no more striking proof of this than the great success of Miss Rachel Lowe since her advent as a single turn. With her originality has meant largely increased salaries and a full date book. The Plymouth papers of the current week have evinced their appreciation of the little lady's novel songs, and the public have given every evidence of their enjoyment.

Mr David Day celebrated his birthday on Thursday last, and, as usual, was the recipient of innumerable congratulations by post, cable, wire, and telephone. During Mr Day's recent stay in New York with his wife and son, the pleasure of the party was greatly enhanced by the hospitality of Mrs Leo Feist, of that city.

Mr Walter Gibbons, well-known as one of the pioneers of the great Cinématograph industry, is a man of up-to-date ideas. He is ubiquitous. At one time he will be standing in the dress-circle of the Empire, Islington, and ten minutes later expressing his satisfaction with the aspect of the Royal interior. A few minutes afterwards he will be seen leaning over the back of the dress-circle at the Grand, Clapham—one of the finest in London—exchanging friendly greetings with his popular manager, Mr Harry Bawn. His final call will be at the magnificent Duchess Palace, Balham. How does he manage it? Why, in his 1,200 guinea 25 h.p. motor, which is in reality a luxurious brougham. The passengers sit in heavy upholstered easy chairs, which make the travelling very comfortable and without the slightest jar or vibration.

Mr Sidney Hyman and Miss Madeline Barber intend reviving the glories of pantomime at the Britannia, and the Hoxton folk, who have always shown a great fondness for this form of entertainment, will be regaled on Boxing Night with a version of *Sinbad*.

Miss Lily King-Lloyd (of the Arthur Lloyd Trio and daughter of the late Arthur Lloyd), was married quietly on Thursday, at All Saints' Church, New-park-road, Balham, to Mr Sven O. Olsson, a gentleman in business in the City. The happy couple were the recipients of many handsome presents and letters of congratulation. After the ceremony, Mr and Mrs Olsson entertained a few friends at their residence, 11, Fieldhouse-road, Balham. They then started for the honeymoon at Brighton, amid many expressions of goodwill. The Arthur Lloyd Trio resume business on Monday at the Ardwick Empire, after which they return to town.

Mr E. E. Giles, as may be gathered from our "Gossip" columns last week, is resigning his position as general manager of the Battersea Empire. He has been tendered by his directors a farewell benefit, to take place there on Wednesday evening, Jan. 11, 1905. For this occasion he has been promised the support of the most prominent artistes of the variety stage.

Mr Peter Conroy, late conductor of the Canterbury orchestra, is now installed as musical director of the Lambert Phonograph Company, at the great workshops in Euston-buildings, hard by Gower-street Station. Mr Conroy was selected from over a score of capable musicians who applied for the post, and a band of no fewer than fifty instrumentalists still follow his beat. The instruments manufactured by the company are marvels of ingenuity and simplicity, and the records turned out—a patented invention of Mr F. Matthews, of Chicago, the London manager of this flourishing concern—can be subjected to the roughest usuage without injury.

Miss Lil Hawthorne has just finished a highly successful starring tour, and will now devote two weeks to rehearsing the part of the Prince, in the pantomime of *The Sleeping Beauty*, at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol. The part of the prince has been specially written for Miss Hawthorne by J. Hickory Wood. She is making her song "Tessie" a big feature for the pantomime, and is introducing into it much original business.

Miss Nellie Wallace was re-engaged by Mr Oscar Barrett for three years further during the second week of last year's pantomime at the Prince's Theatre, Manchester, and she was only released in June on giving two doctors' certificates. The popular comedienne was also released by Mr Hyman from South Africa after an examination by his own doctor.

The ending of Miss Carrie Daniels, who was well known on our theatre and music hall stage, was very sad. For some years she was very popular as a soubrette, and her dancing and banjo-playing were highly appreciated. We remember her as a bright, clever artiste in a pantomime at the Pavilion, Mile-end. She was born in America.

Miss Ethel Arden and Mr George Abel, who have been appearing at the Hippodrome, Norwich, in their highly successful sketch *Three of a Kind*, were called on the stage on Saturday evening at the end of their performance in the first house by Mr Councillor F. W. Fitt, the part-proprietor of the hall, who, in a few well-chosen words, referred to the enormous success of *Three of a Kind*. He then asked Mrs Abel's acceptance of a magnificent bouquet and a massive silver mirror handsomely chased and engraved. To Mr Abel he handed a silver-mounted photo frame with a souvenir of the Hippodrome. In making these presentations Councillor Fitt remarked that he would look forward with pleasure to the return visit of Mr and Mrs Abel with their sketch. Miss Ethel Arden replied on behalf of herself and her husband, and the audience cheered vociferously.

Mr F. Warden-Reed has written and composed a new song for Mr George D'Albert entitled "I've clicked," which will be produced shortly. After another six months' successful tour with his duologue, *Married or Photographed*, Mr Warden-Reed returns to London for Christmas, opening again in the provinces at the Empire, Nottingham, on Dec. 26.

At the complimentary dinner given to Mr David Day on Saturday Mr J. Bernard Dickson remarked upon the record voyage that Mr Day and his wife and son had made from New York. "They were only three days crossing the Atlantic," he said. Mr Hannen Swaffer referred to the guest as a man who turned bars of music into bars of gold, and notes struck upon the piano into notes with which one could buy things.

Messrs J. W. Cragg, Joe Elvin, and R. G. Knowles have been elected as trustees of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association.

All members of the M.H.A.R.A. are requested to furnish the secretary with their permanent addresses.

Ahrensmeyer, the Cowboy hypnotist, concludes to-night a London season of sixteen weeks, and commences a provincial tour at the Palace, Sunderland, on Monday. Mr George Harrington has charge of Ahrenameyer's business affairs, and, therefore, success in the country is assured.

"What is a serio-comic?" asked the judge at the Coventry County Court on Tuesday during the hearing of an action by Miss Dorothy Wyatt, a music hall artist, against the Hippodrome Company for £16, under an alleged agreement to appear a week in Coventry and a week in Ipswich. The assistant stage-manager answered the question. A serio-comic, he said, was a lady who came on the stage, sang serio-comic songs, jumped about a bit, and perhaps kicked her legs. The plaintiff said that after the second night of her engagement the manager told her she was too refined for Coventry, and offered her £3 for the week. The jury gave the plaintiff a verdict for £8 for the Coventry engagement, finding that she was a competent artiste.

We are asked by Mr J. J. Fruin, the secretary, to state that the Music Hall Home Fund Committee will meet every Thursday until further notice at the Camberwell Palace.

The Croydon Palace anniversary is to be celebrated on Thursday, Dec. 22, when Mr Eustace Jay will present a special programme of great attractiveness.

The anniversary of the Euston has been fixed by Mr G. A. Payne for Friday, Dec. 23. Mr Fred M'Avoy is preparing a programme of festival proportions, and there will be a crowd of well-wishers to congratulate the directorate on the success of this fine palace of varieties.

Mr Henri Gros and his co-directors will celebrate, on Thursday next, the seventh anniversary of the Metropolitan, one of the most successful of the ever-increasing circle of variety palaces. Though several of the stars will have departed for pantomime rehearsals by that time, we may nevertheless expect a programme of rare excellence, and Mr Jack Edgar has already a strong list of entertainers for this much-appreciated celebration.

Mr Lennox Barry, who is now filling the position of manager at the Battersea Empire, vacated last week by Mr E. F. Giles, has been associated chiefly with musical comedy, having been engaged both in Mr George Edwardes and Mr George Dance's companies. He is, however, not quite a stranger to the variety boards, having appeared thereon both in London and the provinces.

It is understood that the Theatrical Managers' Association has determined to withdraw the offer not to prosecute in the case of the performance at music halls of sketches which do not exceed thirty minutes in duration, and contain only five or six performers. Since the offer was not accepted the association considers itself at liberty to take action anywhere.

Mr J. L. Graydon desires to heartily thank all those artistes who appeared and who were present to appear at the Middlesex and Brighton Alhambra anniversaries. He is pleased to state that with their valuable co-operation both events were extremely successful.

Mr Frank Macnaghten's experiment of giving special Monday matinées to women and children, which has been so successful in the provinces and the east of London, was tried at the Surrey on Monday, and although the excellence of the programme may have influenced the attendance, there is little doubt that the innovation has caught on.

The 384th meeting of the executive committee of the M.H.A.R.A was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Harry Mountford presiding. The secretary reported that forty-three new members had joined during the past week, making a total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,894. The names were submitted and confirmed by the committee. It was decided to appoint a sub-committee to arrange the annual dinner and dance of the Association.

On the 5th inst. the commodious new premises of F. F. W. Oldfield and Co., the well-known theatrical printers, were occupied permanently by the firm's staff, and from henceforth all business will be conducted there. The huge office, replete with every modern improvement, is situate in Dugdale-street, S.E., adjacent to Kennington-park. The Ludgate-square and Camden-town premises are still retained for the receipt of orders, and Mr Alan Macey, who represents this historic house, has been having a busy time.

Miss Marie Dainton has two exceptionally good numbers in "Honeymoon Hall" and "By the Old Oak Tree." Both songs suit Miss Dainton's chic style, and the provincial press have been very laudatory regarding them. As the delightful musical comedy *Peggy Machree*, in which they are introduced, will shortly be seen at Wyndham's Theatre, Londoners will be able to pass judgment upon them.

Miss Arabella Allen appeared at the Winter Gardens, Bournemouth, last Tuesday, and made quite a hit with her clever impersonation of Dickens characters. She commenced with Uriah Heep and ended with Quilp. Constant practice has greatly increased the thoroughness of her make-up, and, as she is always accompanied by her mother, she does not have to depend on "local talent" for the quickness of her changes of costume behind the scenes. Mr Dan Godfrey was so delighted with Miss Allen's turn that he promptly re-engaged her for a week.

Mr Ernest Montefiore — whose charming, dramatic, and musical scena, *The Little Colonel*, will be one of the features of Mr Coe's programme at the Hammersmith Palace next week—had rather a unique experience the other evening. While Captain Barton, V.C., is alone on the stage, the electric light suddenly went out. Mr Montefiore, although in the dark, went on with the dialogue quite unconcernedly until the point was getting perilously near where he casually picks up a paper and reads therein the announcement of his wife's sudden death. Fortunately the electric light "obliged" in the nick of time, and so averted what would otherwise have been a most ludicrous situation.

A concert will be given on Sunday evening at the Chelsea Palace in aid of Sir William Treloar's fund for Little Cripples under the auspices of the National Sunday League. The Cadogan Grand Orchestra, under the able direction of Mr Angelo Asher, will be a principal feature of the entertainment. The Mayor of Chelsea and members of the Borough Council will be present.

Miss Reba Kaufman, who appears as a middy and dances a bright little solo in *Entente Cordiale*, at the Alhambra, was one of the first of the many variety artistes to make a hit in America with the popular song called "Sammy." She sang it in the manner adopted by Miss Louie Pounds in *The Earl and the Girl* and Miss Blanche Ring at the Tivoli, picking out a man in one of the boxes to represent Sammy. The audiences on "the other side" seem to have appreciated the joke very highly, but on one occasion the laugh was smartly turned against the pretty little singer. After a couple of lines the supposed Sammy, instead of betraying the usual embarrassment on finding the eyes of the whole house turned upon him, calmly opened a large umbrella, and did not emerge from behind it until the song was over. On the following night Miss Kaufman divided her attention between the boxes on opposite sides of the stage. The first Sammy smiled and bowed his acknowledgments, but the other man leaned forward and requested her, in a gruff voice, to "Please go back to the other fellow." She remembered the umbrella, and took his advice.

At Westminster Police-court, on Tuesday, John Sapsford, twenty-three, bookmaker's clerk, of 49, Lambeth-road, surrendered to recognisances on remand, charged with violently assaulting Mr Wm. Johnson, music hall artist. The prosecutor, whose face was swollen and partially covered with bandages, deposed that at 12·30 on the morning of the 2nd inst. he was proceeding homeward through Lambeth-road with his sister-in-law and young daughter—the ladies having been to a concert—when he was suddenly knocked down by the prisoner, who jostled against him. While on the ground the prisoner most brutally kicked him in the face, closing one of his eyes, cutting his lips, and loosening his teeth. His disfigurement was such that for weeks he would be precluded from fulfilling a professional engagement. He never saw the prisoner before the assault. Mr Horace Smith fined the prisoner £3, or one month.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE GRANVILLE.

At the pretty home of variety Walham-green way there is no falling-off in the provision of thoroughly good, strong bills-of-fare, and as caterers for the public appetite for entertainment Mr Jesse Sparrow and his able acting-manager, Mr Ernest Bridgen, are second to none in their indefatigable endeavour to please their patrons. Every week some special "star" scintillates, in addition to a number of excellent "turns" by less well-known and sought-after artistes. Last week Miss Marguerite Broadfoote, among others, scored heavily with her latest fol-de-rol song on the subject of "nursery rhymes," very much modernised. On Monday George Robey, Gus Elen, and Ada Cerito were billed. George Robey being unable to appear, an excellent deputy was provided in the person of Ernest Shand, who rattled through his whimsical ditty, "More trouble for someone," and then gave his burlesque song and patter travestying the recent "Keiro" prosecution entitled "Professor Beiro, the palmist and clairvoyant," in which he introduces many novel features and laughable satires on the gentle art of reading the fortune by the hand. Gus Elen is as immensely popular as ever, and his latest ditty concerning the cabman, "When I'm seated on my box," goes in no uncertain fashion, but hits the bull's-eye of success immediately. His carol about his little pal the mouse, which enables him to proudly state that "I'm the king of the castle," and subjugate his wife by the well-known terror to femininity caused by a mouse, provoked such a determined encore that he was fain to oblige with the ever-popular ballad, "The new pyjama hat." Miss Ada Cerito's "If you're looking for a husband," in which she offers to supply all and sundry with a mate at prices ranging from 15s. to 2s. 6d. (but she cannot guarantee the half-a-crown ones), goes as well as ever, and so does her "slavey" song, "'Arf-a-crown, 'arf-a-crown a-week!" in which her fantastic garb causes peals of laughter to break continually from the audience. Wal Pink gives his well-known and humorous monologue, "Cheap Jack," and varies it with a capital semi-pathetic recitation, "In the Mansion Over the Way." Lawrence Barclay is certainly a most eccentric comedian, and his songs, "Yes, verily, yea," in which he appears as a "gentleman of the cloth," and his excellent parody, "Good-bye, little yellow bird," take the fancy of the audience immensely. Miss Carrie Lawrie's juveniles in their novel *Kindergarten* sketch are extremely popular, and these clever and precocious youngsters are repeatedly encored. Miss Cassie Walmer, the dusky princess, is received with acclamation in both her songs and the sand dance which follows, and proves herself nimble of wit as well as deft of foot. Miss Dolly Harmer in her "Visit to a Music Hall" shows her ability and agility in various songs and dances, and gives quite a dramatic little sketch à la Father Gaspard in *Les Cloches*. Some first-rate animated pictures are shown on the Edisonograph, including "Revenge," "Three little maids from school," "Japs marching to the front," "The fatal wig," "The upper and lower falls of Trochay (Perth)," "A club raid," &c. Alf Passmore is funny in "She told me the old, old story;" Miss Florence Yaymen is a dexterous dancer and dainty eccentrique; the Olive Trio contribute a couple of capital duets in "Fishing" and "The uses of man." Will Farrell, express comedian; Miss Hettie Lee, comedienne and dancer; Charles Fanning, humorous patterer; Charles Pastor, laughing comedian; Cullane and Conroy, vaudeville artists; and Charles Deane, who sings "Not with the milk in the morning" and "Left, right, that's how we go" complete a long and strong programme. Mr W. S. Bassett, as usual, presides over the capital Granville orchestra.

QUEEN'S, POPLAR.

The problem play is not familiar to the patrons of the Queen's, who have this week gazed with some perplexity on the "picture in three panels" of *Sapho* prepared by Mr Monte Bayley. Daudet's powerful story has suffered much by compression, and though some situations of dramatic intensity have been preserved, the dialogue lacks strength, and the humour supplied is thin and not always above reproach. The most exciting incidents of the story have been pieced together, the interest beginning with the interview of the seductive Sapho with the infatuated Jean Gaussin, under whose protection she places herself when her former lover, Flamant, has been imprisoned for forgery. Jean finds out by the photograph of Sapho's child that she has been the mistress of Flamant, and determines to leave her in spite of her earnest pleadings. Jean discovers that his affection for Sapho is too strong, and returns to her, but she meditates suicide, and allows him to go away with the impression that she is about to return to Flamant. She is in the act of taking poison when Flamant reappears, having been released from prison, and offers Sapho marriage, which she joyfully accepts. Miss Diana Hope had the difficult task of enlisting for Sapho the sympathy of an audience accustomed to the strongest melodrama, but she acted with infinite resource and with no little pathos and grace. Mr Frank Stone realised the part of Jean Gaussin in appearance, and gave a vigorous and impulsive portrayal, and Mr A. Fellows Bassett was earnest and well-spoken as Flamant. Mr Charles Darrell and Miss Amy Tempest shared the comedy rôles of Césaire and Divonne, and the author, Mr Monte Bayley, appeared as Paul Déchélette. Constant care is exercised by Mr Joe Haynes, the popular manager, in his efforts to obtain a varied and interesting programme. A most acceptable interlude is supplied by Belrose and De Velin, who render the airs of "Alice, where art thou?" and "Come back to Erin," as duets. Both artists sing with taste and expression, and appreciation is shown in the shape of a hearty recall. The Brothers Redmond have all kinds of ingenious methods for obtaining laughter, a mission in which they are particularly successful, some clever juggling and high-kicking forming an agreeable variant. Neatness and skill distinguish the somersaults and handsprings of the Three Dagmars, one of whom performs numerous funny pranks as a black page boy which are highly relished. Mr Alf Chester secures a hearty welcome from his admirers in a song in which he suggests by many artistic touches the cheery humour that may exist within a suit of blue, and the realisation secures an abundance of approval. Nadji, the Hindoo marvel, is a lithe and agile dancer, and by her contortionist and balancing feats well maintains her right to the title of "Queen of Equipoise." A strong voice and pleasing style enable Miss Madge Daly to win her way into the best regards of the audience with "Fine feathers make fine birds" and in "Molly, I love you," the latter selection being especially enjoyed. Miss Nellie Navette fascinates by her singing and dancing, her grace and elegance being particularly noticeable in the *pas seul* with which she concludes, and which is the subject of hearty applause. Mr J. H. Jennings, Houpla and Hec'a, and Victor's dogs contribute valuably to the programme, which is brought to an exciting conclusion by the dramatic episode entitled *A Daughter of Pleasure*, in which Miss Zerlina Harrington, Mr J. G. Grahame, jun., and Mr A. Bradshaw figure effectively.

SHEPHERD'S-BUSH EMPIRE.

The palatial and luxuriously appointed Empire opposite Shepherd's-bush-green and close to the Tube terminus supplies a long-felt want in the thickly populated neighbourhood in which it is situated, and an admirable service of electric cars also brings close to its doors nightly a large number of variety lovers who dwell in the rapidly-growing districts adjacent. Ever since its opening a little over a year since, unvarying prosperity has attended Mr Stoll's enterprise, and his patrons can always rely upon a really first-class and frequently unique entertainment. In the current week's enjoyable programme is the wonderful exhibition of Richard List's performing and wrestling bears, a troupe of fine animals, who go through their various tricks with apparent willingness, requiring no persuasion at all from their clever trainer. The four brown bears ride bicycles, drive a motor round the huge cage which occupies the stage, manipulate a see-saw, tumble, and even partake of a light meal at table, to the huge delight of the house, the magnificent Polar bear indulging in a wrestling bout with his intrepid master. The clumsy brute, if not exactly an expert at the "half nelson," has some very effective "hugs," but List never allows his huge antagonist to get the upper hand, and in the end manages to floor him, the bear finally lumbering off the stage arm-in-arm with his trainer. Altogether a most interesting and well-worked show. Another extremely clever turn is the fine hand and head balancing of the Wille Brothers, a trio of expert and finished artistes whose difficult feats are accomplished with an ease and sureness that are really marvellous, and earn for them some of the loudest applause heard during the evening. The Sisters Devona, in their "electrical lyre" aerial act, also give a smart acrobatic display, the girls showing great strength of arm and jaw, and contributing altogether a most attractive and varied turn. A very enjoyable musical interlude is submitted by the Howards (Ralph and Nellie), melody and mirth being cleverly combined. The pair give fine renderings on the cornet of "Eileen Alannah" and "The Boys of the Old Brigade," and the male of the duo works a humorous and original idea in "The Broken Melody." Mr Charles Gardiner gives a funny dame impersonation, his song "I'm a lady all the time," and its accompanying patter, hugely amusing his auditors; and laughter is the continuous accompaniment to the droll duologue *The Revolt of Man; or, 100 Years Hence*, played in exactly the right spirit by Phillips and Terry, the gentleman of the duo giving a screamingly funny impersonation of the "man" who is compelled for a time to wash up the plates, peal the potatoes, and perform the usual domestic duties; and his partner being equally humorous as his decidedly better half—until he strikes. Miss Nellie Coleman wins hearty approval for her realistic impersonations of an Irish comedian and a comic singer of the red nose and baggy trousers type, her step-dancing being particularly neat and skilful; and Dome, the "comedy clay man" fashions some fairly faithful portraits of General Buller, Lord Kitchener, and Buffalo Bill; Bill Bailey and a Russian admiral also being executed by the adroit modeller, who also introduces much laughter-provoking business into his novel and appreciated turn. That popular and clever character artiste Miss Alice Maydue has a funny ditty in "The Greatest London Actress ever seen," which enables her to display her undoubted versatility by her burlesque impersonations of the hero, villain, heroine, and old man in melodrama—all humorous portraits. The novel acrobatic act of the Lumars is also included in the programme, and the pictures shown by the American Bioscope are interesting and keenly enjoyed. Mr E. H. Dobson is the courteous and energetic acting manager here; and the fine orchestra is directed by Mr George Richardson.

BATTERSEA EMPIRE.

An agreeable evening is always assured at the Battersea Empire, where for the past three years entertainments have been given twice nightly with gratifying success. Every form of amusement finds a place in turn in the programme, and this week the bill-of-fare contains many items that are interesting and amusing. Battersea is always prepared for anything in the nature of sport, and it, therefore, welcomes with open arms the appearance of Mr Joe Carroll, whose fame as a wrestler had preceded him. Carroll, who hails from Manchester, and is the champion middle-weight wrestler of England, will forfeit during his engagement at Battersea's Empire £25 to any English wrestler who can stand him off for fifteen minutes; and will pay £100 to any man who successfully defeats him in that time. At the first house on Monday only one wrestler took the mat against the champion, Joe Barker, of the Navy. He made a very good show against Carroll, who was declared the winner after a little over eight minutes' apparently severe struggle. A couple of brawny Batterseatites were anxious to at once try conclusions with the victor, but the gentleman who introduced Carroll informed them and the audience that they could be accommodated at the second house. Early in the programme Miss Hettie Lee, an exceptionally agile and neat dancer and high kicker, won cordial applause for her clever and attractive exhibition; and Miss Florrie Beck, serio-comedienne, interested her auditors with her ditty "I'll come back again, lad," the story of a sailor who has to leave home and little one to brave the perils of the deep. Much amusement was the outcome of the burlesque pantomimical extravaganza, *The Rajah of Thigamy-ou*, presented by the M'Mays. The male of the duo impersonated an Oriental potentate, and his partner his English wife, and in a quarrelling duet the lady led her husband plainly to understand that she meant to be master. When he endeavoured to use force she quickly proved her superiority, an encounter with swords convincing him finally that his English spouse was not to be trifled with. Having settled their little differences, the couple engaged in an attractive song and dance, and their novel turn was warmly received. An interesting and much-appreciated item was Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope, the pictures shown on Monday representing Whirling the Worlds, the adventures of a party by rail, motor, airship, and submarine, an ingenious and funny series of films that proved exceedingly popular. Tiny Reiff, comedienne, aroused some amusement with her song "It's a nice time to come home in the morning," the lament of a mistress whose domestic arrives home with the milk; and the descriptive song of Mr G. A. Stevens, "Too Old at Forty," was well rendered, and exactly suited to a popular audience, who loudly applauded the sentiments contained therein. The Leslie Brothers are a pair of smart and resourceful musical eccentrics who thoroughly deserved the applause lavished on them at the conclusion of their stay. They gave a clever rendering of "The Carnival of Venice" on the violin, both manipulating one instrument, and their solos on brass instruments and some tuneful bells were also well-executed. Humorous byplay and numerous original devices for the creation of mirth were also interspersed with their musical selections, and their entire show was most enjoyable. The sketch of the programme is supplied by the prolific and versatile Wal Pink and his company, and is entitled *The Prize Baby*. Continuous merriment is evoked by the antics of the grown-up infant in the huge chair, the part being drolly played by the gentleman responsible for its interpretation; and the head of the combination is also very humorous as the impecunious husband of two weeks, who successfully "palms off" his dearest friend as "the prize baby." The two other characters in the amusing trifle were both capitally undertaken. The exhibition of photographs in connection with the profit-sharing scheme inaugurated some time since is also a popular feature. Mr Lennox Barry is the new manager here; and Mr W. Hinkinson carefully conducts an excellent little orchestra.

NEW CROSS EMPIRE.

Crowded audiences nightly testify their perfect satisfaction with the generous programmes submitted every week by the clever management of this handsome hall. The ever-popular T. E. Dunville heads the bill, and this artist must be well pleased with the cordial reception accorded him in his songs, entitled respectively "Enquire within," "The Scotchman," and "The railway guard." Mr Dunville's patter is very funny, and evokes roars of laughter. The Three Ronay Sisters submit a charming contribution to the evening's entertainment. These ladies style themselves the original lady clowns, and are pretty, dainty, and well-dressed pierrettes, their turn being both clever and enjoyable. Mr Milner Verren is rewarded by prolonged applause for his singing of "A Playground in the Sky," and receives much encouragement for an excellent imitation of G. H. Chirgwin. The Max Welson Four present a marvellously smart rope performance which is warmly appreciated. Two ladies calling themselves the Llewellyns, Australian operatic vocalists, give some operatic selections with skill, and wind up with "I Dreamt that I Dwelt in Marble Halls" and "A Venetian Boat Song." The Grais Baboon Prodigies excite general admiration and wonderment by their quaint performance and the skilful manner in which they have been trained, especially the baby baboon, who loops the loop so ingeniously. The Musical Jees are always welcome here in their attractive "Musical Smithy" act, and their entertainment goes with its usual smoothness and success throughout. The American Bioscope presents some most amusing pictures, including "Sardine Fishing," "Motor Mishaps," "The Boar Hunt," and illustrations of the methods adopted in the production of a newspaper. The Brothers Pueblo give a quaint and amusing turn, including a song, "My Dixie Queen," a cake-walk, and a smartly executed sand-dance. Last, but not least in point of merit, come Alburtus and Bartrum, who juggle most skilfully with clubs.

COMPLIMENTS TO MRS. HARRY BAWN.

Mrs Harry Bawn, who to the world in front of the footlights is known as My Fancy, has been entertaining Clapham folk with her superb sand dancing at the beautiful local Grand Palace. During her engagement last week she was presented with

Photo by Goy.

MY FANCY.

several beautiful bouquets, and one of them—a lovely floral trophy—that was handed to her over the footlights, was a tribute of admiration from the orchestra of the Grand, where the lady's husband, Mr Harry Bawn, is making himself exceedingly popular both with the profession and the public.

At the Granville, Walham-green, Mrs Bawn has also been honoured, and on Saturday evening last, after her wonderful Terpsichorean display at that popular house, she was given a lovely basket—four feet high—containing large lilies, chrysanthemums,

and tuberoses. The gift was a little surprise prepared for the recipient by the staff of the Grand, Clapham. In these pretty compliments paid to his charming wife Mr Harry Bawn discovers a reflected glory, and he rejoices exceedingly at the good feeling so touchingly, so delicately, and so charmingly displayed.

THE M.H.A.R.A.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In reply to my esteemed friend Mr Albert Voyce's letter, which appeared in your columns last week, I will only say that there is another old adage which says "Be just before you're generous." The profits of the M.H.A.R.A. are to be divided between the railway charities and the music hall charities, and must be equally given. This condition is, indeed, the bed rock of the said association. Neither can they be used for any other purpose, after paying working expenses. This was all I had in my mind in bringing the matter before the M.H.B.F. general meeting. I trust that this explanation to Mr Voyce and everyone concerned will be accepted.

Yours faithfully, PAT CAREY.

43, Knowle-road, Brixton, S.W., Dec. 7.

MR HARRY CARTE desires to thank the artistes for the 7s. 6d. collected at the Empire, Holloway, by Mr Harry Jee.

HARDY, the American Blondin, is drawing packed houses nightly at the Pavilion, Carnarvon, Owing to other engagements, he has had to refuse a tempting offer to prolong his stay there after Dec. 17. He has, however, been re-engaged for the near future.

MR GEORGE GULLIVER, ventriloquist, sails on Thursday next by ss. Tabor en route for Malta, where he is engaged for three months by Mr D. Gardner-Brown for his Bioscope entertainment. He returns to England at the end of March.

THE CAMBERWELL ANNIVERSARY.

A triumph in anniversaries was achieved at Camberwell on Tuesday, when the directors saw with satisfaction a houseful of enthusiastic supporters, who had met to honour the fifth annual celebration and to enjoy an evening's entertainment in which the promise of a prodigious programme was amply fulfilled. Mr Jesse Sparrow, who has administered to the amusement of the busy suburb from the first opening of the hall, has won and kept the friendship of all in and out of the profession, and it is not surprising that his popularity on occasions like the present is testified to both at the box-office and the footlights. One of the first favourites of the festive bill on Tuesday was Mr Geo. Robey, who distilled abundant comic essence from the monosyllable "Oh!" the inevitable recall being met with a song equally productive of laughter. The name of Mr Gus Elen is one synonymous with mirth which always flows unchecked, and the comic propensities of Mr Harry Gifford were also exercised with effect. A full course of hilarity was run by Mr Harry Pleon, whose sketch of "How to Make a Book" was backed by unceasing laughter; and anticipations of the Yuletide season were raised by Mr Ernest Rees in a song in which "Good King Wenceslas" figured ludicrously. Mr Paul Martinetti and company added largely to the fun with their droll performance of *A Duel in the Snow*, the finished acting of the celebrated mime and his comrades being as highly relished as ever. A new view of Miss Harriett Vernon was obtained when she appeared in the native dress of Japan, which serves to heighten her personal charm; Miss Kittee Rayburn was a source of exhilaration in her "Christening" song; and Miss Tots Davis elicited sympathy by the pathos of her impersonation of a waif. Moran and Marruce as the "musical burglars" had many strange devices for making mirth and music, including a row of railings, which produced both melody and a gorgeous display of flags. Loud applause was showered upon the Twin Sisters Anderson for their singing and dancing, in which a pretty little girl shared abundantly; the aroma of Sunny Spain was brought by the Two Graces, who sang and danced to the sound of the castanet; Miss Del Levey cut a dashing figure in the rôle of a lady-killer; Miss Marguerite Broadfoote rendered in her own charming way her quaint perversions of nursery rhymes; and among those who added to the entertainment of the long evening were Miss Peggy Pryde, May Massey, Clyo and Rochelle, Miss Gracie Grahame, the Leslie Brothers, Miss Hettie Lee, Miss Cecile Lyndon, Miss May Milburn, Mr Will Musgrave, Miss Dolly M'Calla, Major Moss and Son, Mr Jack Mansfield, Miss Flo Raynor, Miss Dorothy Royal, Silent Tait, Miss Marie Pownall, and the Edisonograph, with some well-defined pictures. Messrs Arthur W. Bray, H. Comfort, E. H. Golding, H. Joyner, and W. Howard Smith, the directors, all honoured the occasion, and received the felicitations of representatives of various branches of the profession, among whom we noticed Mr Tom Tinsley, Mr Harry Masters, Mr Geo. Foster, Mr Dave Cohen, Mr H. Burroughs Smith, Mr E. Edelsten, Capt. Woodger, and Mr Harry Lester, the secretary of the Terriers' Association, who, as on all similar occasions, attended in force. Mr Cory Woodrow governed the stage arrangements, deriving great assistance from Mr W. Broadbridge, the stage manager, and an able hand was evident in the direction of the orchestra by Mr Leon A. Bassett.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—A memorial to the late Mr Herbert Campbell in the shape of a bust, either in marble or bronze, is to be obtained, and placed, if possible, in the vestibule of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, the scene of so many of his triumphs. Mr Harry Randall has kindly consented to act as president and Mr Edward Ledger, of *The Era*, as treasurer to the fund.

It is the intention of the committee to engage an artist of repute to execute this work to the memory of the above-mentioned generous and genial comedian. The committee will esteem it a great favour if his old friends and admirers will assist in making this memorial a success. All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

Yours faithfully, FRANK HEATH, (Secretary).

Committee Rooms, Hummums Hotel, Covent-garden, W.C., Nov. 2.

Sums received

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
A. Magnus	10	10	0	Arthur W. Bray	1	1	0
Henry Joyner	5	5	0	Lydia M. Roberts	1	1	0
Joe Elvin	3	3	0	Thomas Mason	1	1	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0	C. Chuck	1	1	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0	Mrs M. A. Hearn	1	0	0
J. Hickory Wood	1	1	0	W. Clarkson	0	10	6
H. Comfort	1	1	0	A. Lazarus	0	10	6
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0	Mrs C. L. Lawson	0	10	6
Jesse Sparrow	1	1	0	Mrs White	0	10	6
Pat Doherty	1	1	0	Richard Box	0	10	6
G. A. E. Hussey	1	1	0	A. May	0	5	0
Gus Elen	1	1	0	M. M. M'Neill	0	2	6
Thos. Cracknell	1	1	0				

Per Harry Randall:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Harry Randall	5	5	0	Eccentric Club	2	2	0
Eugene Stratton	2	2	0	J. Bernard Dickson	1	1	0
Little Tich	2	2	0	Charles Hector	0	10	0

LA BELLE UNITA and PAUL arrived home on Saturday by the Umbria, after two years' engagements in the principal vaudeville theatres in the United States. Their performance met with such success on their first tour that they were re-engaged at nearly every place they appeared.

VARIETY theatre-goers in Glasgow have recently had an opportunity of renewing acquaintance with a very popular artiste in the person of Miss Frances Letty, whose appearance as an American comedienne at the Tivoli Variety Theatre, after an absence of four years, gave very great pleasure and satisfaction. The lady is the wife of a gentleman well known and much esteemed in theatrical, athletic, and cycling circles. There is every probability that Miss Letty will be seen and heard on the London variety stage shortly.

MR ERNIE LEECH, ventriloquist, wishes to thank the brother and sister artists who sent letters of sympathy in his sad bereavement at the loss of his dear mother; also to those who sent floral tributes.

MR BOB BAXTER, "The Genial One," has been engaged by Mr Robert Arthur to play the part of Mrs Crusoe in his production at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham.—Harris and Worth, comedians, have been secured by Mr Barrasford for another five years through Day's Agency.—Mr Harry Softley is appearing this week as the "Clincher," in Mr Geo. Gray's *Fighting Parson* sketch at Cardiff.

MISS MAY HENDERSON AND MR B. HENDERSON wish to thank Mr Frank Glenister for his good wishes for the young lady's success in Vienna and Berlin at Christmas. Should Miss Henderson not be comfortable she can speedily return to the London Pavilion, where she is always welcome.

MR DAVID HART, of Gravesend and Chatham, has fallen down a ladder from the flies at Chatham a distance of 15ft., hurting himself internally; but under the care of Dr. Bryden he is progressing favourably, and hopes soon to be himself again.

MISS FLO PENLEY and MR GEORGE ENGLISH are meeting with considerable success on tour in their happily conceived duologue *Four a Shilling—Fine Mackerel*. At the Palace, Swansea, where they are this week, they were re-engaged after the first night.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

If Mr Oswald Stoll had talked of or published his ideas concerning public amusement even ten years ago he would have been regarded as an unpractical dreamer, and the practical caterers of that time would have laughed him to scorn. But a decade has done much for variety. Colossal schemes are to be discovered on every hand, and the scope and purpose of what our American cousins term a vaudeville entertainment expand with the hours. The ballet-master, the scene-painter, the designer, the engineer, the electrician, and the musical composer are all called upon in turn to aid in the improvement and the remodelling of the entertainment that most emphatically may claim to be in consonance with the tastes of the people. Far-seeing men of great enterprise and rare astuteness have made their mark by their generous interpretation of the wants of the masses, and we have many beautiful Palaces, Empires, and Hippodromes, but we think the London Coliseum marks a new departure in the world of entertainment, and when this magnificent place is opened on Dec. 19 it will be acclaimed as a building worthy of the genius who conceived and carried it through.

West-enders who have grown familiar with the façade of this new home of wonder will learn from Mr. Frank Matcham, one of the most eminent of theatrical arch tects, that he has adopted throughout an Italian style of architecture—in fact, the frontage in St. Martin's-lane and the beautiful cupola that rises above it have been treated in free Italian Renaissance. The four corners of the cupola are artistically relieved with allegorical figures boldly chiselled, representing Art, Music, Science, and Architecture. What strikes the spectator on entering the unique auditorium is that there is not a single pillar or obstruction to impair the view of the stage from any part of the house, which is divided into four distinct parts or floors—the ground-floor containing the stalls, the first floor the dress circle, the second the grand tier, and the third the balcony. The stall floor is not sloped in the usual way, but is stepped up one row behind the other, back to a row of private boxes, with the Royal box in the centre. The boxes are divided by arched marble columns, with arched hoods over, and are draped in bright red antique velvet, with richly broidered embellishments. The whole of the stalls are carpeted with velvet pile Wilton. The occupants of the dress-circle look straight towards the stage, and a similar arrangement obtains in the grand circle and balcony tiers. In the balcony the armed seats are upholstered in red velvet, and the floors are covered with superior Wilton carpet. This concession to the humbler patrons, who have the comfort of what is practically an upholstered stall for sixpence, is one of the most remarkable innovations of a remarkable enterprise.

The scheme of decoration, which as yet is in a state of incompleteness, is cream, deep red, and gold. The front of the tiers is painted cream colour enriched with gold. In the centre of the ceiling is a lofty windowed dome, which lifts at intervals in the programme, and, opening up the space, clears the vitiated air in the building. The large dome ceiling under the proscenium is no less than 55ft. wide, and is perhaps the largest opening of any theatre in the world. It takes the form of a semi-circle built of marble, the corners being occupied by large figures holding aloft Roman devices. The keystone is also composed of Roman trophies, the whole being grand in the extreme. Everything that experience can devise for the safety of the public has been introduced, and, of course, the building is fireproof, and the sanitary arrangements are most complete. The building covers more than an acre.

Like all astute enterprisers, Mr Stoll has given much consideration to the comfort of the fairer portion of his audiences. Leading out of the entrance vestibule, a sumptuous apartment of large dimensions, decorated in strict Pompeian style, is the ladies' sitting-room, fitted up in the most attractive manner, with couches, writing-tables, electric reading-lamps, ferns, and flowers; also the information bureau, where for the convenience of visitors letters can be taken down from dictation, typed, and despatched. Telephones will be provided here, and messages for the public sent out by messenger-boys.

From the ground floor the grand staircase, of Italian marbles, alabaster, &c., leads to a large baronial smoking-hall, for the use of all parts of the house. It is carried out in heavy oak timbering, the walls being covered with tapestry, and the floors of polished wood-blocks are furnished with thick rugs.

The stage at the Coliseum has not the like in any place of entertainment in the world. It comprises three moving platforms, each mounted upon an independent set of carrying wheels driven by electric motors, and on the outer table a speed of revolution equal to twenty miles an hour can be obtained. By such mechanical contrivances any limit to magnificent and original spectacular productions is almost removed. The tables can carry a load of eleven tons apiece in addition to their own weight, so that the total mass that can be set in motion is about 150 tons. On either side of the stage are sockets in which poles are fixed resembling a ship's masts in size, to which scenery and other stage properties can be secured. In the depths below is a mass of machinery, almost bewildering in extent to any but the expert. The panorama gear is very comprehensive, three large power-driven rollers and four sets of hand driven rollers being provided for the purpose of winding the great lengths of panorama cloths across the stage. In this department of the prospective entertainments as well the opportunities for beautiful displays are almost unbounded.

In addition, carriages have been fitted for the purpose of bringing people and scenery quickly into the sight of the audience. These carriages consist of a light steel framework carrying a teak platform, and depend from, and travel upon, a girder fixed 40ft. above the stage level. Altogether they can carry eight tons, and their maximum speed is seven miles an hour. There will be four distinct performances given every day—from 12·0 to 2·0, 3·0 to 5·0, 6·0 to 8·0, and 9·0 to 11·0 o'clock. Of these the first and third will be identical, and the second and fourth. Two separate companies will be engaged, representing two distinct performances; so that any of the visitors, after enjoying the first show, can stay in the building, in the refreshment-room, foyer, or writing-rooms, and receive a transfer ticket for the second performance—not, of course, without additional payment. But the prices are remarkably low. They will be 4s. in the orchestra-stalls, 3s. dress-circle tier, 2s. grand tier, front, and 1s. back, and 6d. in the balcony. The seating capacity of the building represents some 3,500 persons. We may conclude our inadequate description of this colossal and beautiful structure by expressing the hope that Mr Oswald Stoll, its creator, may find it a palace lifting to the eternal summer of prosperity.

THE newest recruit to the variety halls from the theatres is Miss Maud Marlowe, the well-known actress, who has just accepted from Messrs John P. Harrington and George Le Brunn three specially written songs, entitled respectively "The Pause," "The Knock of the Postman," and "That is the Best of being a Girl," all of which she intends to produce shortly at a leading West-end music hall.

MESSRS JOHN P. HARRINGTON AND GEORGE LE BRUNN have been exceptionally busy this week, specially writing songs and duets to fit Messrs Bert Gilbert and Daley Cooper for the forthcoming pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham. Mr Daley Cooper's absurdly funny number, "Tow-row-row," from the joint pens of these prolific authors, should, in the opinion of all who have heard it, achieve a great and lasting success.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

OCT. 11.—*L'Aiglon* excited more anticipatory interest than any play since Mr J. C. Williamson produced *Ben Hur* at the same theatre. Several reasons contribute to this. Napoleonic drama is always popular here. Sarah Bernhardt was the original Duke of Reichstadt, and the part was to be played on Saturday by Miss Tittell Brune, the American actress who had made such a hit as Sunday. Her Majesty's Theatre was packed from floor to roof. Miss Brune's Eaglet was a triumph. Shouts and cheers went up from the entire audience, the curtain being raised many times after every act and at the final tableau. The Flambeau of Mr Roy Redgrave was a sturdy exemplification of loyalty and manhood, and was rapturously received. Miss Mabel Lane made Marie Louise handsome and hard, just as the Austrian woman was. Prince Metternich could hardly have had a craftier or more cruel double than Mr Gaston Mervall, and Mr Albert Gran did good work as the Emperor of Austria, suspicious and vacillating, but withal loving. Mr Paul Scardon made the tailor an important rôle, and Mr A. E. Greenaway was a good Count Prokesch. A strong character portrait was Mr J. B. Atholwood's tutor, the Baron Von Obenaus. The Countess Napoleone Camerata was sustained by Miss Helen Ferguson, and Fanny Elssler as acted by Miss Florence Gleeson was particularly good.

"ONE OF THE BEST," which is, by-the-bye, one of the best of the Bland Holt plays, was revived at the Royal on Saturday with all the completeness and vitality which characterises Mr Holt's every effort, and he and his wife sustained the comedy parts. The other characters were adopted again by those members of the company who acted there previously.

SYDNEY, OCT. 18.—*L'Aiglon* at Her Majesty's Theatre grows upon one, and each visit increases the admiration of the stupendous character of the production. If Mr J. C. Williamson had done nothing else great save this Napoleonic success, his fame were assured. Miss Tittell Brune's Duke of Reichstadt is an intense surprise. The slender, graceful young American is full of power. She fills all hearts with sympathy for the son of the world's conqueror, sacrificed to diplomacy. Mr Gaston Mervale courts all the hatred heaped on the cruel ruthless Austrian Metternich, and Mr Roy Redgrave rouses the most callous by his loyal, manly portrayal of Flambeau. But the thrilling grandeur of the vision of Wagram is the best-remembered portion of the production. On it stagecraft is lavished in unlimited generosity. *Romeo and Juliet* is in rehearsal, with Miss Tittell Brune as Juliet, and Mr A. E Greenaway as Romeo.

"EAST LYNNE" is the bill at the Lyceum, where Mr Walter Sanford's American players are appearing. Mr Walter Sanford is the Archibald Carlyle, Mr Johnson Weir the Sir Francis Levison, and Miss Laura Wall the Isabel Carlyle.

"MAMMA'S NEW HUSBAND" is resurrected at the Criterion by Mr George Stephenson's American comedy company. Miss Olive Evans and Mr Charles Stone have their old parts, full of "go" and fun; and Miss Kate Douglas is "Pearly" Brood, a decided strengthening of the cast. The Bricknells have new and startling dances, and altogether the performance is bright and refreshing.

THE Tivoli has a pleasing change for its first part. Mr Harry Rickards has removed *The Palace of Dolls*, and now, in a beautiful harem painted by Mr Alfred Clint, the ladies lounge and sing with delightful abandon. The Cadwaladr Trio, the Frasettis, O'Meers Sisters, Miss Hilda Lane, Ward Sear, Gregson and Goodfellow, Kearns and Rosslyn, and a long list of artists appear nightly.

SYDNEY, OCT. 25.—*L'Aiglon* is having a remarkable success at Her Majesty's Theatre. The splendid mounting of Rostand's great play, the fine lines, and the electrical acting of Miss Tittell Brune rouse the jaded playgoer out of his customary indifference. The author has made this so essentially a one-part play that when one has said *L'Aiglon* and "Brune" little else remains. But one should also acknowledge the sterling work of Gaston Mervale, Roy Redgrave, A. E. Greenaway, Albert Gran, and Miss Mabel Love. The last nights of *L'Aiglon* are not yet announced, but *Romeo and Juliet* and *Fedora* are in rehearsal.

"ONE OF THE BEST" proves its title at the Royal, for, though a revival, it retains public interest longer than many other plays. The military scenes are loudly cheered, and it does not seem necessary that a change should be made But on Saturday next Mr Bland Holt will stage *Sporting Life*, with its exciting episodes of racing and boxing.

IN *East Lynne* at the Lyceum a notable advance is made by Miss Pearl Hellmuth, to long a portrayer of children, but now a very capable Barbara Hare.

"MARIA'S NEW HUSBAND," by Mr George Stephenson's American Comedy Company, goes well at the Criterion, but the end of the season is near, and the last four nights of this week will witness a revival of *Brown's in Town*. In these comedies Miss Olive Evans and Mr Charles J. Stone are the chief revellers in fun.

THE Tivoli has the best bill provided by Mr Harry Rickards for a long time. The Sisters O'Meers excel in their business, their graceful daring and quaint touches of humour make the audience happy. The Frasettis contribute an excellent musical turn, and the travesty on opera, by the Cadwaladr Comedy Company is most enjoyable. Miss Hilda Lane, a delightful soprano, is highly appreciated. Gregson and Goodfellow, Kearns and Rosslyn, James Opie, Goldie Collins, Ward Lear, the Diamond Duo, Ernest Wiseman, Tom Dawson, Irving Sayles, and Tom Bell, are all engaged to provide entertainment for Mr Rickards' patrons.

MISS NELLIE STEWART had a hearty reception in Melbourne on the first night of *Pretty Peggy*, and a handsome pearl necklace, valued at £200, was handed to her over the footlights.

MELBOURNE, OCT. 31. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. — After a successful revival, lasting three weeks, *A Country Girl* was withdrawn on Friday evening last to make room for *The Orchid*, which was presented for the first time in Australia on Saturday evening to a packed house. Miss Clara Clifton, who appears amongst us for the first time, acquitted herself well in the part of Caroline Vokins, a rôle that suits her to perfection. Mr George Lauri in the character of Meakin was quite at home, his love scenes with Caroline Vokins keeping the audience well amused. The song of the evening was that plaintive and tender serio-comic "Little Mary," sung with great expression by Miss Evelyn Scott. Mr Haigh Jackson as Dr. Ronald Fausset made the most of a rather thankless part. The mounting and dressing of the play were superb, and the music was graceful and pleasing.

OPERA HOUSE.—Mr Harry James's American Travesty Stars have been drawing good houses during the week with the so-called musical comedy, *Hoity Toity*. The total absence of plot is more than compensated for by the bright choruses, smart dialogue, and well-arranged dances. Mr Winfield Blake, Miss Maud Amber, Kolb and Dill, Barney Bernard, and Miss Sutherland are conspicuous in the cast. Messrs Wirth Brothers' circus continues to meet with much favour. A feature of the entertainment on Saturday was a catch-as-catch-can wrestling match between Gunga Singh, a Hindoo member of the company, and C. A. Weber, of Melbourne. The contest was a fairly even one, Weber being wholly on the defensive. After an interesting struggle lasting eleven minutes the Hindoo succeeded in throwing his opponent.

MR J. C. WILLIAMSON'S Bio-tableaux of the Russo-Japanese War, which are being exhibited at the Athenæum Hall, are drawing large houses.

MUSIC HALL CONTRACT.

Mrs Cissie Louie Lawson, lessee of the King's Theatre, Walthamstow, and the People's Palace of Varieties, Tottenham, on the 2nd inst., sued two sketch performers, at Edmonton, professionally known as Benson and Geoffreys, for £7 10s. for breach of contract.

Mr H. Avery represented the plaintiff, and Mr O'Connor was counsel for the defendants.

The plaintiff's case was that the defendants were engaged, through Day's Variety Agency, to appear for a week at the People's Palace, Tottenham, the agreed fee being £7 10s. They did not, however, put in an appearance. The attendances during the week were less, and, instead of the usual profit, a loss was made on the entertainments. It was suggested that the defendants did not fulfil the engagement because they appeared at two other metropolitan halls.

The defence was that there was no contract. A contract form was sent from Day's Agency to Mrs Lawson in which the fee asked for was £8, not £7 10s, but no confirmation was received from the plaintiff, and no engagement was entered into.

Plaintiff's manager (Mr Payne) produced a contract in which the £8 had been altered to £7 10s. the alteration being initialled "H. D.," which were the initials of the agent. He also stated that the defendants had appeared at the King's Theatre, Walthamstow, for £7 10s.

The manager of the agency declared that he never saw the contract form as altered, and the initials were not put there either by his or Mr Day's authority.

Mrs Lawson said that when the contract form was first received she would not confirm the engagement at £8, but offered to do so at £7 10s. The form was returned to the agency, and was subsequently sent back to her as altered.

His Honour decided that there was a breach of contract, and awarded the plaintiff £7 10s.

MR. WILLIAM MURPHY.

Mr William Murphy, the subject of this biographical sketch, is one of the prominent roundabout proprietors in the North of England. He first saw the light of day some forty-seven years ago, in the market-place, South Shields, and his parents being old and respected travellers in the North of England, who will be remembered by many showmen of the present day. He is the owner of gondolas, "Golden Venice," a most elaborate carved and gilded roundabout. His route extends from Leeds in the South, to Kelso and Duns in Scotland, North of the Tweed. He is the lessee of the Corporation Feast Grounds from the City of Leeds, which includes the well attended Hunslet and Holbeck feasts. He is also the lessee of the principal feasts in Yorkshire, and has a large following of showmen, who regularly attend and occupy spaces at his carnival. In his time he has owned hobby horses, sea-on-land, flat gallopers, flying swans, galloping horses, and has, in conjunction with them, travelled as far south as Birmingham and Nottingham fairs, but of late years he has adhered to the route enumerated above. He travels entirely by railway, a special train being required for each shift, the North-Eastern Railway having the major of his traffic. He is partner-lessee of the Christmas Carnivals at the Garrison Field, Sunderland; a member of the Masonic lodge at Kelso, N.B., and is acknowledged good company by his personal friends. He has contributed largely to charitable institutions, running his machines and handing over the entire proceeds on many occasions. Of his parents, his mother, Mrs Bessie Murphy, is still hale and hearty at the ripe age of seventy. She resides at the family residence, 102, Holly-avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr Patrick Murphy, father of Mr William, lies interred at Barnard Castle. Mr Murphy has still alive two brothers and two sisters, who also occupy a place in the showman world.

Photo by Parisian Photo Co., Stockton.

MR. WILLIAM MURPHY.

THE Duke and Duchess of Connaught were present at the Royal Court Theatre in the afternoon, and witnessed the performance of *Candida*. —Princess Henry of Battenberg and Prince Louis of Battenberg were present last evening at the Great Queen-street Theatre, and witnessed the first performance of *Sein Prinzesschen* by the German company.

CAPTAIN CLAYTON'S spirited management of the new King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield, is proving very successful. With a population of 65,000 within an area of three miles, and situated in the very heart of the Nottinghamshire collieries, the new theatre, which holds 1,000 is doing, as might be expected, excellent business, much of the success attained being due to the earnest assistance rendered to Captain Clayton by his able manager, Mr Edward Gray.

IN an automobile accident which recently occurred in the suburbs of Los Angeles, America, Mr Humphrey Praed, the assistant general manager of the San Jacinto Land Company of Riverside, Cal., was killed, and Miss Mina Rudolph, the leading lady of the *San Toy* opera company, was seriously injured. The accident occurred after the conclusion of the evening performance at the Mason Opera House, where Miss Rudolph was playing. Mr Praed called for Miss Rudolph after the theatre was closed, and took her for a ride in the country. Returning several hours later, he took charge of the machine, and coming into the city at a high rate of speed turned it from the road, and ran it over a ten-foot embankment, overturning it immediately. At the hospital it was found that Miss Rudolph was suffering from concussion of the brain.

AT the Queen's Opera House, Workington, on Monday, the Kellinos were rapturously received, their performance being exceptionally clever. Other successful artists were Harry Ray and Lillie Calden, De Lill, Gus Garrick, Les Straits, Alice Maple, and Hulbert.

"NAPOLEON."

Episodic Sketch, in Four Scenes,
Produced for the First Time at
Sadler's Wells Theatre of Varieties, on Monday, Dec. 5.

Napoleon ..... MR ROLAND YORKE
Josephine ..... MISS GERTRUDE BONSER

The story of a mighty emperor's fall would seem to be a little beyond the ken of a music hall audience, but the quality of the acting and the artistic elaboration with which the sketch of *Napoleon* was presented at Sadler's Wells on Monday completely won over the immense gathering, holding them in the closest attention and gaining their hearty admiration. The little play is necessarily of an episodic character, dealing as it does with the latter career of the First Consul from the very beginning of his reverses to his captivity at St. Helena. It is upon this rock bound isle that the playlet opens, and the illustrious exile is heard lamenting his downfall in bitter terms, not, however, without a word for the valour of the British soldiers. He is full of remorse for his injustice to his wife the Empress Josephine, and, falling upon the couch, sinks to sleep with her name upon his lips. Though history has it that Josephine was in her grave long before the banishment of Napoleon to St. Helena, the injured Queen gains an entry into his apartment, and with delight hears the sleeping emperor breathe her name. In his dream Napoleon is carried back to the Palace at Fontainebleau, where, on account of her failure to give him a heir to the throne, Napoleon bids the Empress sign a decree of divorce. Josephine indignantly refuses, and after vainly entreating Napoleon to relent, defies him and all his hosts, predicting that though his arms have been victorious over the rest of nations he will never conquer Wellington. The fulfilment of Josephine's prophecy is depicted in a series of panoramic views showing the charge of the Imperial Guards and the ultimate defeat of the French at Waterloo. Mr Roland Yorke supplied the central figure in each scene, the effect of which was heightened by his impressive acting and his fine delivery. He presented a graphic picture of the iron-willed Emperor, and his rugged features, lit by the fire of passion, effectively suggested the despair of the fallen monarch, his arrogance towards his outraged wife, and the final agonies of his crushing defeat. Miss Gertrude Bonser's emotional power and refinement were admirably employed in her assumption of the Empress Josephine. The graces of youth and the art of long practice were allied in her performance, and the sweet tones of a melodic voice lent admirable aid to the impersonation. She wore a dress of surpassing loveliness, and gave a striking realisation of a queen renowned for her grace and beauty. The scenery, from the brush of Mr F. E. Boden, was ample and appropriate, and every justice was done to Mr H. G. French's stirring music by Mr Flexmore's model band. Sketches of such prettiness and dramatic excellence are welcome upon the variety stage, and the reception given to Mr Yorke and Miss Bonser when they were recalled at the end showed that the value of the piece was correctly appraised.

MUSICAL COPYRIGHT CASE.

In the King's Bench Division on Thursday, before Mr Justice Kennedy, the case of Francis, Day, and Hunter v. Matthews was heard. It was an action brought by Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, music printers and the owners of the copyright in numerous songs, for damages and an injunction restraining the defendant, Mr Edward Matthews, printer, of Charles-square, Hoxton, from continuing to print and publish several of their copyright songs —"I've made up my mind to sail away," "When the band begins to play," "All through riding on a motor," "Varmer Giles," "Just like the ivy I'll cling to you," and "Pansy Faces." Mr M'Call, K.C., and Mr Walter Payne (instructed by Mr Philip J. Rutland) were counsel for the plaintiffs, while the defendant appeared in person.

Mr M'Call, for the plaintiffs, said the defendant had been engaged in the musical piracy business since 1897, and injunctions had been obtained against him by other proprietors. The Act of 1902 only applied to cases where the words and music were printed together, and since it was passed the pirates had injured the proprietors of songs by printing the words alone on coloured sheets. The defendant had plant worth £250 to £300, which was capable of turning out 1,000 copies an hour. When it was discovered that he was publishing the plaintiffs' songs the necessary notice was served upon him.

Eventually a writ was issued, but the plaintiffs offered to drop the proceedings against him if he submitted to a perpetual injunction and paid £10 damages and £15 costs. The cause of action was admitted, and the defence set up was that the matter had been settled by a verbal agreement before the action was brought. The only real defence seemed to be that the defendant was a poor man with a large family. Unfortunately every pirate seemed to be in that position.

Mr Justice Kennedy suggested that the plaintiffs should be satisfied with an injunction, nominal damages, and costs.

Mr M'Call said his clients would be satisfied with the terms suggested by the learned judge.

The defendant said he was willing to submit to judgment for the plaintiffs for an injunction, with a 1s. damages and costs.

Mr Justice Kennedy pointed out to the defendant that if he broke the injunction he would be liable to be sent to prison for contempt of Court.

Judgment was accordingly entered for the plaintiffs for a perpetual injunction, 1s. damages and costs.

MR SAM MAYO'S laughable new song, "When I woke up in the morning" is being freely inquired for by pantomime comedians. It is in Fred Leigh's best vein.—Mr Nat Travers and his company of Merry Outcasts will be seen on Monday at the Coliseum, Sheerness.—Ben Hur, strong man, has just started a thirty-five weeks' tour.

MISS MYRA STANSFIELD has a song written by Mr T. Bingham Sedgwick, composed by Fred Elton, which is one shout. "Tommy Stout," by the same author, is also very laughter-provoking, and pantomime producers will be lucky if they can obtain these two numbers.

THE proprietor of the Parthenon, Liverpool, will take his fourteenth annual benefit on Thursday next.—Mr Phil Reymond's anniversary at the Palace, Sheerness, was a most gratifying success.—Mr Will Ellerslie and Miss Florrie Bray have just had two songs specially written for them, by Messrs Keith and Merton, entitled "I know what to do-oodle" and "Mary on the Pier."

AT the Sheffield Town Hall on Wednesday the Stage Plays Licensing Committee of the City Council received an application for a temporary licence to use the Broompark Congregational School-room, Newbould-lane on Wednesday night and Thursday evening for a performance of certain portions of Shakespeare's plays at a denominational bazaar. The programme included selections from *Othello*, *Henry the Fourth*, *Henry the Fifth*, *As You Like It*, *Julius Cæsar*, and *Hamlet*. A councillor remarked:—"I am very much inclined to think that we ought not to allow licences for stage plays to be performed in buildings which have been erected for the purpose of preaching the Gospel. It does seem to me to be a little bit out of place." The application was granted.

AT a meeting of the Wigan Watch Committee on Thursday, a full and unrestricted dramatic licence was granted to Mr John Worswick, of the Royal Court Theatre, Wigan. A licence was granted last year on condition that no Excise Licence was applied for.

.DINNER TO DAVID DAY.

A large number of song-writers and composers assembled at Holborn Restaurant on Saturday evening for the purpose of paying a well-merited compliment to Mr David Day, the popular head of the firm of Francis, Day, and Hunter, who has just returned from a business trip to America. Mr Day, his son Fred, and Mr Wm. Francis, his veteran partner, were entertained to dinner by the song-writers connected with the firm.

Mr FELIX M'GLENNON presided, and among the other authors and composers were Messrs Leslie Stuart, Frank Leo, Theo. Bonheur, Karl Kaps, Edward St. Quentin, John P. Harrington, George Le Brunn, Bennett Scott, A. J. Mills, Bernard Phelps, J. Bernard Dickson, William Murphy, Warwick Williams, Maurice Scott, Dan Lipton, F. Clifford Harris, James W. Tate, Kenneth Lyle, R. P. Weston, Fred J. Barnes, Charles J. Taylor, Hermann E. Darewski, and Hannen Swaffer.

"We wanted our old friend to ourselves for once," said the CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of the evening, and referring in the most complimentary of tones to Mr Day's many good business and personal qualities. What song-writers owed to their guest's strenuous efforts to kill the music pirate would never be estimated, added Mr M'Glennon.

The guest of the evening, who was accorded a great ovation when he rose to reply, said that the day of the song-writer was coming. The dramatist, the poet, and the novelist were often rewarded during their lifetime, but in the past the writers of songs of the nation had not received sufficient recompense. Things were changing though now, he thought. Mr DAY proceeded to give an interesting account of his experiences in America and Canada, explaining the changed conditions which existed in the song-publishing world across the Atlantic, and saying that things were by no means as satisfactory as they were in England. "It is a day of cheap music," he went on. "As you know, our firm made an experiment twelve months or so ago which might have been disastrous. We issued the most popular songs we had for sixpence, and then waited for the result. I am delighted to tell you that at the end of twelve months the result has been a decided success for publishers and composers alike. Why cannot these meetings of song-writers take place oftener?" asked the guest of the evening. "No harm can come of your having many meetings at which the rights of song-writers might be discussed and defended."

At this point of the proceedings an interesting telegram was read. It was as follows:—"Hearty congratulations. Best wishes for a pleasant evening.—WILLETTS." Mr J. F. Willetts is well known as "the king of the music pirates." There was a roar of amusement at the grim sense of humour which Mr Willetts possesses. Even on an occasion like that he had taken the opportunity of poking fun at song-writers and the man who was the sworn enemy of pirates.

Proposing the toasts of "Our Other Guests,"

Photo by N. Weston.

MR. DAVID DAY.

and coupling with it the names of Mr Wm. Francis and Mr Fred Day, Mr LESLIE STUART told the story of his early struggles as a song-writer in Manchester, where he and Mr M'Glennon started writing together years and years before. "We used to sit waiting for the dull thud in the letter-box which used to precede the postman's knock. It meant that a manuscript had been returned. There was always the dull thud. It never missed."

After Mr FRANCIS and young Mr DAY had responded, Mr DAVID DAY toasted his hosts, "The Founders of the Feast." In response, all the song-writers present rose simultaneously, and replied in a different speech. The result, of course, was a mere noise.

AT Worship-street Police-court, on Tuesday, William Tennant, trading as J. Fisher and Co., at Banner-street, St. Luke's, and other places, answered a summons, before Mr Cluer, at the instance of Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter, music publishers, to show cause why 32 089 copies of music, pirated publications of copyright works belonging to the complainants, should not be given up to them. The complainants, acting on information of sales from the premises, 59, Banner-street, obtained an order from this Court for the seizure of certain pirated copies, and on officers and agents of the complainants going there, the room in which the business was carried on could not be got into, but persons were heard inside tearing up paper, and when, after an hour and a half, entrance was obtained, a large mass of torn music was found. In addition 168 247 copies of musical publications were seized as pirations. Of these the complainants claimed 32 089 as pirations of their copyright works, and now asked for an order for their surrender to them. An order was made for the 32,000 odd copies to be forfeited to the complainants, the defendant being also ordered to pay six guineas costs.

THE management of the Queen's, Swindon, has provided patrons with a real attraction this week in Mr William Greet's *The Lady Slavey* company, under the business management of Mr T. S. Mayne. The name part is pleasingly undertaken by Miss Addie Lennard. Maude and Beatrice are brightly played by Miss Jean Van Dalle and Miss Ethel Ashton respectively, the delightful dancing of these talented artistes being quite the feature of the piece. Flo Honeydew finds an able exponent in Miss Millicent Marsden. Mr Harry Walsh, who is responsible for the neat staging, scores a great success as Major O'Neill, and also demonstrates his abilities as a cornet player. The part of the American millionaire was taken at very short notice on Monday by Mr Frank Fraser with distinct credit, and Mr Frank Sherlock (Roberts) and Mr Walter T. Hybert (Lord Lavender) were each seen to advantage.

"THE TRAGIC DRAMA."

Mr Lewis Campbell has added a learned, and what is of even more importance, a readable volume to the literature of the drama. He tells us, in his introduction to his work, that his reading has been "casual and fragmentary," but he adds "I have revered Æschylus since 1847, when I read *Prometheus* for the first time at school; and in the following year I improved my acquaintance with Sophocles by reading the seven plays without assistance for the Greek Blackstone prize at Glasgow." These facts show his love for his subject and his right to embody his reflections on the great masters of Greek tragedy. To plunge *in medias res*. What is the meaning of tragedy? The dictionary tells us that it is a dramatic poem representing an important event or series of events in the life of some person or persons in which the diction is elevated, and which has generally a tragic or fatal catastrophe. Schopenhauer, for whom the subject had a special fascination, expresses the view (vide Mr Haldane's English translation) that tragedy "is to be regarded and is recognised, as the summit of poetical art, both on account of the greatness of its effect and the difficulty of its achievement. It is very significant for our whole system, and well worthy of observation, that the end of this highest poetical achievement is the representation of the terrible side of life. The unspeakable pain, the wail of humanity, the triumph of evil, the scornful mastery of chance, and the irretrievable fall of the just and innocent, is here presented to us; and in this lies a significant hint of the nature of the world and of existence. It is the strife of will with itself which here, completely unfolded at the highest grade of its objectivity, comes into fearful prominence. It becomes visible in the suffering of men, which is now introduced, partly through chance and error, which appear as the rulers of the world, personified as fate, on account of their insidiousness, which even reaches the appearance of design; partly it proceeds from man himself, through the self-mortifying efforts of a few, through the wickedness and perversity of most. It is one and the same will that lives and appears in them all, but these phenomena fight against each other and destroy each other."

In other words the spectator of a perfect tragedy goes forth convinced that life is not worth living, But as Mr Campbell says, "Experience does not lead us to suppose that tragedy is most enjoyed in times of exhaustion or depression. The reverse has really been the case. The mind in low states of vitality seeks for lighter modes of recreation and refreshment. It is then we hear it said, as is often repeated at the present day, 'Life is full of real unhappiness; why make us weep over imaginary woes?'" Yet we never tire of Shakespearian tragedy, notwithstanding the press and strain of modern existence; and it is a question whether the public attitude towards modern tragedy would not be favourable could modern poets be found who would treat their themes with the elevation and dignity that we find in Æschylus or Sophocles. The question of a happy ending does not seem to have troubled Shakespeare, or else he might have accepted the common version of the story of Lear, in which Cordelia survives and triumphs. In selecting for his purpose a cardinal event or incident from the body of tradition, and fixing his thought upon the critical point, the world's greatest dramatist followed the example of his classic predecessors, and the Danish critic, G. Brandes, laid excessive stress on the possible relation of several of Shakespeare's dramas to crises in the poet's life, suggesting, for example, that *Hamlet* "was written soon after his father's death, or that Volumnia reminded him of his mother." In richness and depth of characterisation, Shakespeare stands alone, and in the evolution of character through situation his tragic art is unrivalled and supreme. In speaking of the three poets Mr Campbell asserts that they are found to be partakers of one spirit, yet with diversity of operations.

"Æschylus, uplifted on the wave of Hellenic progress, looked back upon the confusions of an earlier world, and saw in them a struggle towards the Athenian light of equity. The lawless and uncertain thoughts of a past age were moralised by the Eleusinian prophet. In the history of his own people from Miltiades to Aristides, in which he personally had taken an active share, he saw the rising of a spirit that was not to be overcome of evil, but, as he believed, was destined to overcome the evil with good. He exulted in a redemption of humanity which he saw to be at hand, and which among his own countrymen he believed to have begun. For Sophocles that mirage had partly been dispelled. He looked with steady, serene, and solemn gaze upon the actual world, and saw there good and evil, balanced and commingled."

According to Schlegel, "Sophocles profited by the essays of that original master, so that Æschylus appears as the rough designer, and Sophocles as the finisher and successor. The more artificial construction of Sophocles' dramas is easily perceived; the greater limitation of the chorus in proportion to the dialogue, the smoother polish of the rhythm, and the purer Attic diction, the introduction of a greater number of characters, the richer complication of the fabel, the multiplication of incidents, a higher degree of development, the more tranquil dwelling upon all the moments of the action, and the more striking theatrical effect allowed to decisive ones, the more perfect rounding off of the whole, even considered from a merely external point of view. But he excelled Æschylus in something still more essential, and proved himself deserving of the good fortune of having such a preceptor, and of being allowed to enter into competition in the same field with him. I mean the harmonious perfection of his mind, which enabled him spontaneously to satisfy every requisition of the laws of beauty, a mind whose free impulse was accompanied by the most clear consciousness. To surpass Æschylus in boldness of conception was perhaps impossible I am inclined, however, to believe that is only because of his wisdom and moderation that Sophocles appears less bold, since he always goes to work with the greatest energy, and perhaps with even a more sustained earnestness, like a man who knows the extent of his powers, and is determined, when he does not exceed them, to stand up with the greater confidence for his rights." Towards the end of the book Mr Campbell has a most instructive criticism of the character of Macbeth: "There is a vast difference between the warrior as we see him at the opening and the tyrant at the close of the play. At his first entrance he is a brave and gallant chieftain, who has nobly served his king and country and receives the meed of honour which is his due. In a less tubulent age, in a constitutional State, where the crown was not synonymous with absolute power —if otherwise mated—such a nature might have passed through life, if not as a model of exalted virtue, yet with well-deserved distinction and untarnished name. But there is in him, unknown hitherto even to himself, a lurking demon of ambition, which, once awakened, all the better counsels of his higher nature, all his knowledge of the world, his love of approbation, his milk of human kindness, his imaginative visions of the better life, are powerless to control or to repress." There are also some comments full of interest concerning *Othello* and *King Lear*. The volume is admirably printed and has a most serviceable index.

AT St. Etienne, Paris, on Monday, during a performance at the Grand Theatre of *The Wandering Jew*, when Dagobert appeared on the stage, accompanied by Rose and Blanche on horseback, the boards gave way and the artistes fell into the basement, the ladies being severely bruised.

GRIMSBY PALACE THEATRE.

The new Palace Theatre and Buffet, which is situate at the corner of Victoria-street and Corporation-road, Grimsby, is now fast nearing completion, and will be opened on Monday, Dec. 12, as a first-class theatre of varieties, under the able management of Mr Frank Macnaghten, whose experience and ability as a theatrical and variety entertainer are well-known. The theatre will be worked and booked in conjunction with the "Macnaghten Circuit," which comprises several London and provincial theatres and variety halls.

Externally the buildings are principally of red Accrington bricks with buff terra cotta dressing. The elevation to Victoria-street is early Victorian in style, and is carefully grouped and has a most imposing effect. The central feature is surmounted by a large tower capped with a cupola and flagstaff. This is flanked on either side by a smaller octagonal turrets with a terra cotta gable with centre supporting an allegorical figure representing "Music." Along the whole frontage to the theatre is placed an ornamental iron and glass verandah as a protection to the public in bad weather. The buffet adjoining is placed at the junction of Victoria-street and Corporation-road, and is designed in a quiet and more domestic manner, the flank walls being broken up by a series of bay windows and gables with a bold octagonal Oriel at the corner, the whole blending harmoniously and forming a most imposing group of buildings as viewed from Victoria-street.

The architects have designed the interior arrangements upon the most approved and up-to-date principles. Special provision has been made so that the audience leaving the theatre after the first performance will do so by separate exits, and will not come into contact with the audience entering for the second performance. There are no less than eight exits provided from the various parts of the house. All doors will be fitted with specially made automatic panic bolts, and in case of emergency the theatre can be easily emptied in less than two minutes. The house is to accommodate 2,000 persons, and consists of a large pit, orchestra stalls, grand circle, four private boxes, and a spacious gallery, and a clear and uninterrupted view of the stage can be obtained from all parts of the theatre. Four handsome saloon bars are provided, and these have tastefully designed fittings. There are excellent promenades at the rear of grand circle, &c. The main entrance is placed in the centre of the building in Victoria-street, through a large hall with wide staircases right and left leading to the circle, the walls of which are lined with a beautiful ornamental pale green tile dado.

No expense appears to have been spared in the internal decorations of the auditorium, and certainly the effect produced is almost dazzling. The richly moulded ornamental plaster work to the proscenium opening, the circle fronts and boxes, with their bold projections and dome-like treatment, supported by minarettes carrying electric lights, delight the eye. There is a large hand-painted panel arranged in the central tympana of the proscenium. The ceiling is boldly lined out in panelling worked up into a large descending enriched centre piece, from which are suspended innumerable electric globes. The decorations are carried out in the style of Louis Quinze, the scheme of colour being cream and gold, tastefully relieved with turquoise blue and rose tints. The draperies to the boxes and the tableau curtain and valance to the proscenium opening are executed in "flame red" silk plush with old gold appliqué trimmings and heavy fringes. These, together with the crimson velvet "tip up" seats in the grand circle and stalls, give a warmth and cosiness to the house which must be seen to be appreciated. The orchestra stalls, circle promenade, and saloons, together with the private boxes, are carpeted with specially woven Axminster carpets of a rich crimson colour. The cheaper parts of the theatre floors are covered with a cork carpet.

The whole of the theatre will be lighted by electricity. Handsome brass fittings are suspended from the ceiling and round the circle fronts, boxes, &c. Every precaution has been taken against an outbreak of fire. Hydrants are placed in all parts of the building, and a modern fireproof curtain is fixed to the proscenium opening, thus shutting off the stage from the auditorium in case of necessity. The building is heated and ventilated throughout by specialists in this kind of work. The stage is fitted up on the most modern lines, and is capable of producing any of the large plays touring. The size of the stage is 60ft. by 30ft., whilst the proscenium is without doubt one of the largest in the provinces, it being no less than 34ft. in width. Dressing-rooms and other rooms contiguous to the stage are arranged at the back thereof. They are well fitted up and heated throughout by hot-water pipes. The architects who are responsible for the designing and carrying out of the buildings are Messrs Owen and Ward, of Birmingham.

THE EASTBOURNE HIPPODROME.

A month ago the Theatre Royal, Eastbourne, ceased to exist as a playhouse. On Monday, Dec. 5, the house was reopened to the public as a music hall under the name of the Hippodrome in the most favourable and promising circumstances. Extensive alterations have been carried out. The grand circle has been enlarged, and a large handsome bar takes the place of what were formerly residential flats. A fine bar has also been fitted at the back of the gallery. The whole of the flooring has been covered with rich carpet of a warm, comfortable red colour, and all the seats have been reupholstered in peacock blue. Newly painted and decorated, and brilliantly lighted, the new Hippodrome is a warm, comfortable, bright, and up-to-date music hall. A gentlemen's cloakroom has been added, and the old dress-circle bar has been converted into a spacious manager's office. The attendants are smartly uniformed; charming Hebes preside over the bars, and the comfort of the public has been studied in every way. A new stage has been laid down, and a new set of scenes, including a capital drop-scene, has been painted by Mr J. Hobbs. Mr Walter Smith is the stage-manager, and the turns have been quickly and smartly put on. The two houses a-night system has been adopted, and on Monday evening both houses were crowded. For the opening Miss Bertha Vere sang the National Anthem, and an excellent variety bill followed. The programme for the week includes Miss Ella and her lions; and this turn proves a most daring and exciting one. Mr W. L. Murray is an admirably developed specimen of a man, and his feats of strength command commendation. Messrs Alber and Amber have an eccentric juggling act which is very clever. Steel and Laing, an eccentric tumbler and a pretty, dainty lady dancer, contribute a very taking and popular item. Mr Frank Gee is a highly amusing comedian and singer. Miss Bertha Vere is a most pleasing vocalist. Mr Clive Watts is a good comic singer, and the Hippodrome animated pictures complete the entertainment.

"WHO'S WHO?" has now swelled into a portly volume of nearly 2,000 pages; and the care which has been devoted to the preparation of the "biographies in brief" which it contains is as evident as ever. Like the trunk of an elephant, "Who's Who?" can deal equally well with the most important facts and with the most trivial details. We learn from it that Baron Nathan Mayer Rothschild owns about 15,400 acres, and that Mr G. R. Sims's recreations are "battledore and shuttlecock, bulldogs, and trotting ponies." The work is indispensable to all who live in the London world, and like to know as much about the prominent people in it as is possible.

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Another Record Success.

The First Pantomime of the Season contains Five Enormous Successes.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Robert Courtneidge's Pantomime, produced December 1st, contains

FIVE ENORMOUS SUCCESSES!
FIVE ENORMOUS SUCCESSES!!
FIVE ENORMOUS SUCCESSES!!!

"Navaho."
Enormous Success.
GRAND, GLASGOW.

"Bluebell."
Enormous Success.
GRAND, GLASGOW.

"Farewell, my Little Yo-San."
Enormous Success.
GRAND, GLASGOW.

"You can't stop the Sun from Shining."
Enormous Success.
GRAND, GLASGOW.

"There goes my Soldier Boy."
Enormous Success.
GRAND, GLASGOW.

We have predicted from the first that

"Navaho,"
"Farewell, my Little Yo-San,"
and
"Bluebell"

would be the three Principal Pantomime Songs of the Season, and our prophecy has been emphatically verified by the Glasgow Public, whose verdict is always regarded as the keynote of success for the Pantomime Songs of the Year.

FIVE ENORMOUS SUCCESSES!
FIVE ENORMOUS SUCCESSES!!
FIVE ENORMOUS SUCCESSES!!!

In the First Pantomime of the Year.

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PIONEERS OF POPULAR PUBLICATIONS.

Songs for Low Comedian and Dame.

Short Stories
By W. DAVID and MAURICE SCOTT.
Sung by Ernest Shand, also by Fred Clements.

There's another one out of work
By T. W. CONNOR.
Sung by George Brooks.

A.B.C.D.
(The Singing Master).
By JAMES HARGREAVES.
Sung by Wilkie Bard.

It's all right in the summer time
By MURRAY and EVERARD.
Sung by Miss Vesta Victoria.

She cost me seven-and-sixpence
By JAMES HARGREAVES and SAM MAYO.
Sung by Sam Mayo and Wilkie Bard.

Who killed Bill Bailey?
By HARRY CASTLING.
Sung by Sandford and Lyons.

All the girls are lov-er-ly-ov-er-ly
By HARRINGTON and THURBAN.
Sung by R. G. Knowles.

He was a Sailor
By JEROME and SCHWARTZ.
From "The Earl and the Girl."
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

We all walked into the shop
By MILLS and CASTLING.
Sung by Dave O'Toole.

You can't beat the old time girls?
By LEIGH and PETHER.
Sung by George Brooks.

The new Insurance
By GEORGE ARTHURS & KENNETH LYLE
Sung by Ernest Shand.

My inquisitive kiddie
By ELLERTON and LYNNE.
Sung by Frank Lynne.

What d'yer want to talk about it for?
By FRANK LEO.
Sung by Dion Wade.

Songs for Fairy Queen and Special Singing Parts.

The Garden filled with gold
By BATEMAN and MURPHY.
Sung by Miss Marie Kendall.

I love you
By SMITH and AARONS.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

Peeping Eyes
By KENNEDY RUSSELL.

The Playground in the sky
By BATEMAN and PETHER.
Sung by Milner Verren.

You be daddy and I'll be you
By JOSEPH TABRAR.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Gondolier
By WILLIAMS and POWELL.
A Venetian Romance.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

If all the world said No
By HARRINGTON and PETHER.
Sung by Miss Gladys Mavius.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

The Troubadour
The latest American craze.

The sunshine of love
By MILLS and SCOTT.
With harmonised chorus.
Free for Pantomime. Send for Band parts.

ORCHESTRAL NOVELTIES. Including:—LAUGHING WATER (The popular American two step). GLORY & LOVE (Grand March by Warwick Williams). Full List on application.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC FOR PANTOMIME USE.

MUSICAL ARTISTES DEPARTMENT. Under the direction of Mr. Lester Barrett, where you can hear any of the Songs, etc., played over, and receive suggestions for working same.

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STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE:

By the REV. T. HORNE
(Hon. Chaplain, Showmen's Guild.)

SAVED FROM THE TIGER'S MAW.

"You would hardly credit it, yet what I tell you is true. The meek and mild lady in the pay-box, whom you would scarcely believe could say 'Boo, to a goose, was, ten years ago, the most daring lion queen on the road."

"Well, certainly the lady does not impress one as being capable of deeds of derring do. Tell me the story!"

"Well, sir, it was this way. Being brought up amongst animals all her life she was without fear, and besides that inherited from her grandfather, Van Hambergh, the magnetic power of subjugating the most wild and untamable beasts of the forest. From her cradle as she toddled about the show all animals were her pets, and she was to them a pet; they all loved and held her *sacro sanct.* At twelve years of age she had a tremendous success as the 'Child Queen of the Lion's Den.' The show toured Europe, and even penetrated as far as St. Petersburg, in then almost inaccessible Russia. At sixteen her fame was world-wide. Mdlle. Zalza, the Lion Queen, was a name to conjure with. Wherever the show went the people crowded, and were as much charmed and delighted with her beauty and grace, her wit and verve, as by her undoubted fearlessness and daring."

"So this is the Mdlle. Zalza of whom I have read, but up to now have never seen. I am all curiosity to know why she lost her nerve and disappeared completely from he public gaze."

"The story is a true romance of show life, and only just now do I find myself at liberty to tell the tale. You noticed the magnificent full-grown Bengal tiger in the show?"

"Yes."

"Well it was the sister beast to that one that destroyed her nerve. At the age of nineteen she was a happy wife and mother, and still the Lion Queen. Now, it was the imminent peril of her husband and first-born that led up to the critical moment of her life, that stopped for ever her marvellous performances with wild and trained animals. The tiger was quite a cub when purchased, and for over two years the constant pet and favourite of the Lion Queen. It slept in the waggon at the foot of her bed, was fed from her hand, and followed her about the concern like a faithful hound. Like all favourites, the tiger was jealous, as our Mr Wittington found out speedily. Many a good laugh had the young couple, both in their days of courtship and early married life, over the disapproval of the tiger expressed towards the altered state of affairs that the transition from Mademoiselle to Madame involved. Still, as the tiger was the most highly-trained of the animals that Madame exhibited, its dislike to the master and to their first-born child was regarded with pardonable indulgence. But one night came the crisis. The fond mother, nursing her child after a hard day's work (it was the Monday of Knott Mill Fair), Wittington busy at the Locker counting the day's takings, and the tiger, still a member of the family circle, crouched at Madame's feet, with jealous eye upon the baby, was licking the hand of the Lion Queen. All was still, except the chink of the money as Wittington counted, the love crooning of the mother, and the bonny baby's response, when a note of discord, only audible to the mother's ear, destroyed the harmony; it was a low penetrating growl from the tiger, accompanied by the swish, swish of its tail.

"All alert in an instant, with a mother's fear, a wife's alarm, she suffered in that moment of dread discovery an age of physical and mental agony. Gazing into the eyes of the tiger, she saw in one fateful glance that all her power over the beast was gone, and gone for ever. At the same instant she discovered the cause of it all. The tiger had tasted blood. Licking her hand with its rasping tongue, the skin had been broken, and for several moments, all unfelt by her, the animal, true to its nature, had been draining her life's blood. What could she do? Her child at her breast, her husband and herself in danger from the now utterly excited beast. To scream (oh, how hard it was to prevent that!) would have brought the crouched tiger full spring upon her and the child; to shout to her husband would be but to divert the danger to one she loved better than her own life. To her agonised mind, to her quick and throbbing brain, there came in a flash of illuminating thought the way to meet the crisis.

"'In a low voice, suppressing all tone of terror or alarm, she said to her husband, 'Dick, hand me the loaded pistol, the one with shot in it.' With a look of surprise that instantly died down as he saw her terribly pale face, Wittington said not a word, but, reaching out to its place over the mantlepiece, handed her the weapon. In an instant the pistol was laid full square between the eyes of the tiger, the trigger pulled, and with a terrible howl the beast fell dead at their feet. Madame fainted, poor Wittington for weeks could only guess at the terrible sequence of events leading up to the tiger's death, poor Madame was in the gravest danger, brain fever having followed the fainting fit. When, at length, consciousness returned, and the story was told in full, the father and mother, over the child, vowed that never again would the Lion Queen exhibit her prowess over animals, either wild or trained.

"And, indeed, sir, Madame's nerve was so shattered that she no longer dared to enter the lion's den or to have animals as domestic pets."

MISS MAUD MORTIMER has scored a great success in the first pantomime of the season at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow. Her excellent rendering of "Farewell, my Little Yo San" has secured for her unbounded applause and many recalls. The author and composer may congratulate themselves on a big winner.

MR EDWARD LEWIS, through the agency of Alfred Saker and Co., has been engaged by Mr Oswald Stoll for twelve weeks at the Coliseum.—The latest to swell the ranks of the Terriers is Atroy, the well-known juggler.—Miss Ella Rose and Mr Harry Harcourt have been engaged by Mr Henry Eglington for the pantomime of *The Babes in the Wood* as Fairy Queen and Baron.—Mr Thomas E. Finglass produced most successfully a new scena at the Tivoli, Glasgow, on Monday, entitled *The Jap and the Coon.* The words and music are by J. V. Jones, of the Theatre Royal, Dublin. Mr Finglas was ably assisted by Miss Grania Herbert as the Jap.

CAPTAIN BEN WOODGER, an indefatigable member of the Terriers Association, will have a complimentary concert, under the patronage of that society, at the Dover Castle Hotel, Westminster-bridge-road, on Friday, when many well-known music hall artistes have promised their support.

MISS DEL LEVEY desires to contradict the ridiculous reports concerning her health that are rife. She was never better in her life, and one would have to travel many miles to discover so fine and well-set-up a specimen of athletic womanhood.

THE name of Arthur J. Mills was inadvertently omitted from a recent placing on record that an American edition of "Just like the ivy" had been called for. The song is by Mills and Castling.

PRESENTATION.—Mr Fred Conneaux, the popular manager of the Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool, was on Tuesday evening the recipient of a silver cigarette case, presented to him by the Hartlepool Amateur Operatic Society, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by Mr Conneaux during a recent performance, and to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of his wedding day.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

THE author of the "story" "Maccomo and the Lions" is glad to receive the historic corrections of our two correspondents of last week—Mr Charles J. Child and "Lion." He heartily thanks both. At the same time, he wishes it to be understood that the sketches he writes under the heading "Stories from Showman Life" are not historic articles but only what the word "stories" clearly indicates. There may be in some of them a basis of historic fact. A local colouring and the setting of the scenery may show technical knowledge, and the props. may be all right. For the writer knows from experience in early life all about showland, yet he makes no pretensions to making history. He is a story-teller. Truth in the tale, yes; yet, as George R. Sims expresses it,

With a little invented
And a little bit inferred.

HAD Mr Horne been in touch with his showmen books of reference the ending might have been different, but the story was written away from all authorities; in fact, when he was in the throes of removing his goods and chattels from Manchester to London.

AN extremely interesting point was raised by W. M. A. last week—the expediency of ground lessees putting friendly pressure upon tenants to join the Guild. It is a moot point with many real friends of the society. We know more than one lessee who, rather than put pressure on his tenants, sends the Guild a substantial and additional subscription. It is an old element of dispute in the councils of the society.

RULE 20 of the Guild reads as follows:—"Lessees of Ground.—To promote the interests of the Association, it is incumbent on all members who may be lessees of ground, or others who may have the letting thereof, to give preference in letting and sub-letting to members of the Association." That is, as far as law and justice permit. It is distinctly preferential trading, as clearly set forth in the test case, Whiting and Dixon v. Garside and others, wherein it was acknowledged that preferential trading was permissible, and, if not carried to excess, lawful.

STILL, in our opinion, it is a most dubious and uncertain weapon. Persuasion, yes; but a threat to compel—or, as the Fiscalists put it, "Retaliate"—is often a mistake and but seldom a success.

ADDITIONAL Christmas and New Year fixtures to hand are—Rochdale; Ordsall-lane, Salford; Bolton (in the Drill Hall), Sunderland; P. Collins's, Limited, new ground, London; Farrell's new ground at Birkenhead; and Barrack-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WE print an interesting article on Martinmas fairs by a local lady. Our point in so doing is that it shows one of the sources of the strength of the showmen's position is the national feeling. For every one against us there are a thousand for us of all classes and conditions, high and low, learned and simple.

MARTINMAS FAIRS.

"MY only glimpse of the fair this year was on Sunday morning. My meditation on the sermon I had heard was disturbed by the joyful cry of a small boy, and patter of many feet hurrying through the bar to catch sight of a huge yellow caravan drawn by an elephant and a camel! What an odd, incongruous pair they looked. One recalled other ill-matched couples one had met with on life's journey, ill-matched alike physically and mentally; and into my mind flashed the text—'Be ye not unequally yoked!'

"THOSE painted caravans took me back in thought to days of yore, when, as children, we lived but a stone's throw from the fair ground. It spelt Fairyland to us in those days. The blare of the trumpets, the pom-pom of the drums, the hoarse cries of the showmen, vieing with each other in setting forth the wonders to be seen inside the canvas walls; the roar of the wild beasts filled our childish hearts with rapture and awe. We were only allowed to attend the fair in the daytime, in charge of a supposed responsible person; but we generally managed to elude the responsible one (to our mutual satisfaction, no doubt), to meet again at the end of a passage, in which our home was situated, when the responsible one would meet us with a smile, while another would glide from out the shadows to disappear round the corner of the narrow street. We liked best to go without surveillance, sub rosa, which but added a spice to our adventures. Sometimes the spice was taken out when a wrathful paterfamilias, armed with a cane, met us on the threshold; but the strokes were powerless to extract all the sweetness from our stolen joys. How vividly fascinating it looked to us under the red glare of the flaming, spluttering oil lamps which swung from stall and booth! What good-natured jostling, hustling, joking crowds we pushed our way through. The prince and the princesses were not wanting in this enchanted ground. There they were, arrayed in much bespangled bright hued velvet and silk, with golden crowns surmounting their well-oiled locks, and their small feet encased in scarlet leather high-heeled boots, pirouetting on the entrance stage, to the admiration of the gaping crowd. Our highest ambition in those days was to be a dancer at the fair. The canvas-covered bazaar was a favourite haunt. Our purses were small, but on Martinmas Day the pence we had contrived, with much self-denial, to save, bulged them out in true aldermanic fashion. Still our fairings had to be modest ones. We gazed longingly at the toy-laden shelves with their rows on rows of dolls and trumpets, wriggling snakes and noisy rattles, wooden eggs filled with tiny cups and saucers, and countless other toys. Invariably it ended in my purchasing a 'monkey on a stick.' They had an irresistible attraction for me, in spite of my brother's rude remark that 'one monkey was enough without buying another.' Perhaps it was a family likeness drew me to them! I have, stowed away carefully somewhere, a relic of the bazaar, a shell-covered box with a heart-shaped scarlet velvet pin-cushion on the centre of the lid. Inside the box are a few faded flowers—that is a tale of the fair in later days, when my brother took other boys' sisters, and I—well every 'Gill had her Jack' in those days—and there is joy in remembrance!

"NEXT came the swing-boats and whirligigs. They were not an unmixed joy to me. I used to experience a queer feeling which I have since been reminded of when on a rough sea. I always started gaily enough; but, alas! it ended in a small, inert bit of humanity, with sickly face, being dragged from her steed, to whose neck she clung with desperate hands. A ghastly thing occurred once. My purse with its meagre contents—my little all—was stolen! It was hard to have to stand on terra-firma and watch my brother go riding gaily by; harder still to nibble a small piece of brandy-snap while he gobbled piece after piece; but, hardest of all, to see his last halfpenny bartered for cocoanut, and have it placed to my lips and bidden 'not to take a big bite!' only to find it withdrawn ere my teeth had well-nigh scraped it. Bitter and sweet mingled for me that night at the fair.

"BUT the shows were the crowning point of happiness. We wandered hand in hand through the crowds, struggling to get well in front that we might feast our eyes on the crude pictures there displayed. It took much time deciding between the rival attractions of the 'Lion-headed Lady' or the 'Giant,' the 'Fat Man' or the 'Dwarf,' the 'Two-headed Calf' or the 'Bearded Woman;' the decision had to be made, and it was invariably the most gruesome that we chose. I remember a favourite show was a miscellaneous one here. A small pony trotted round the tent picking out the children who stole the sugar or told lies! A guilty conscience gave me a bad time in that show, and glad was I when I escaped the laughter and jests which followed the knowing nod of the pony at some poor trembling child. The 'Marionettes' was another favourite; but space forbids my entering into detail of all the wonderful sights we saw. Our outing always ended in regaling ourselves at one of the stalls; our favourite condiments being hot peas, ginger-beer, hokey-pokey, cocoa-nuts, and oranges. No visions of nightmare or impaired digestion troubled our childish thoughts in those days of long ago."—*Yorkshire Herald*, Dec. 2, 1904.

THERE is a large number of showmen at present stationed in the Quarry Show Grounds, Gateshead-on-Tyne, which is one of the wintering quarters of the North County. Walter Hoadley's four-abreast gallopers make a welcome reappearance; also Piniger's hobby horses, swings, and shooting gallery, and the fair ground concerns of Messrs Black, Biddal, Palmer, Brundle, Sedgemore. Near to the above grounds we noticed the exhibition of Messrs Mitchell and Bounds, with the coloured giantess, Miss Lucy Moore.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE at present can only boast of one fair ground now open. We refer to the fair ground, Byker, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Here we noticed Messrs W. and B. Murphy, with their No. 2 gondola set, the fine art gallery of Messrs O'Brian, and the fair ground concerns of Messrs F. Newsome, Walker, and Carter. Newsome's high-flyers and Mrs Campbell's china bazaar complete the list.

IN the report of Barnum and Bailey, Limited, which shows a profit balance of £69,125 on the year's working, £30,000 is placed aside for wintering the animals in London, Stoke-on-Trent, New York, and Bridgeport. Keeping a circus in idleness is no inconsiderable drain on the resources of a proprietor.

IN aiming a wooden ball at a cocoanut "shy," a Mr Raynor unluckily hit the attendant full on the nose. The victim, Syder by name, recovered 8s. 6d., the amount of the doctor's bill, from Mr Raynor in the Romford County Court on the 2nd inst.

SIX camels belonging to Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie, now at Sunderland, were found in their temporary stable apparently dead, the place being filled with gas, which had escaped during the night. Four of the animals were brought round, but the other two could not be restored.

MISS H. M. HORNE, Manchester, general secretary, the Showmen's Guild, writes:—"For the past three years it has been evident that the society I represent is slowly but surely drifting down to bankruptcy. This would have happened four years ago but for the earnest appeal of the hon. organising chaplain and the munificent response of Lord George Sanger. May I as the secretary, and speaking with the knowledge of how the Guild finances now stand, as revealed in the cash debit and credit accounts for the current year (two funds, be it remembered—the ordinary Guild account and the extraordinary account, the Parliamentary Defence Fund), express my profound alarm at the serious deficit before us for the coming year. We are well within a fortnight of the annual audit. Yet there are certain committee men who have not yet sent in the money taken by them from subscribers during the past year. This is neglect of the most reprehensible character.

"I ALSO draw attention to the significant fact that only a few of the many business firms interested most deeply in the fair ground business have as yet subscribed. Their self-interest ought to prompt them to see that the Parliamentary defence work is their trade defence work, and I still hope that this hint, plain and unmistakable, will be a word to the wise—and in season. May I ask your showmen readers to notice the Guild advertisement in *The Era* this week? 'Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest,' as the chaplain would say. Send in your money now; the books must be got ready for the auditors.

"WITH reference to the timely discussion in *The Era* re the possible consolidation and union of all the society into one comprehensive and powerful organisation, let me say that whilst discussion is proceeding, creditors are waiting, and some them cannot afford to wait; yet committeemen hold the subscribers' money in hand that might be now, and ought to have been long ago available to pay the society's creditors. We started the Parliamentary Defence Fund last year in order that all the societies, lessees, and stall-holders alike might recognise their responsibilities and through the Parliamentary fund pay for the defence work of their trade. What was really wanted was not what was done. The Guild set the true example by paying over in 1903 the whole of its credit balance to start the Parliamentary Fund, but no other society followed suit. The British Roundabout Proprietors and Showmen's Union, instead of a grant in aid from its accumulated funds, sent the question back to its members, asking them to give two guineas each to the Fund.

"THIS, in my opinion, was not the 'wise thing'—certainly not the generous thing. An immediate grant for the Parliamentary Fund of £100 would have shown prompt business sense; but no, the official reply was, 'Our funds cannot be drawn upon for that purpose.' As though the vital interests of every roundabout owner, ground lessee, and show proprietor were not at stake. I hold that the Allied Proprietors made a mistake. At least, a grant of £100, in immediate aid, was the sum that the wealthy union ought to have voted, and not relegated the matter back to individual members. The mistake of that policy is seen in the slowness with which the subscriptions are coming in. No; a good substantial annual grant in aid is the only thing that will meet the situation. It was a mistake for another reason. It exposes the poverty of our defence machinery to the enemy—a fatal mistake once the official mind grasps the truth, that showmen are not supporting the Parliamentary work; and they will, if care is not taken in time. Mr Ledger and the Rev. T. Horne, with myself, undertake to receive subscriptions. *The Era* inserted appeals and lists of subscribers to help in every way to make the appeal known. Yet I believe I am correct in saying that not one single penny has Mr Ledger received.

"ALL that I can say is that, if disaster follow this apathy and neglect, it will be no matter for wonder, and hardly one for regret. Now with reference to the stallholders and tenants, their trade responsibility in proportion to their invested capital, is just as much in danger from bad laws as the proprietors' and lessees'. What have the stallholders and tenants done? I mean, of course, not as individuals, but as organised societies really banded together for this very purpose.

"THE only justification of this over-cautious policy would be overwhelming success. But is it successful? No; a miserable, palpable failure. Whether we agree to federate or not, one thing is clear, and that is that Parliamentary defence is the very life of the trade, and that most showmen prefer to let the enemy kill the business rather than properly defend and support it. Now will the other secretaries express their views as fearlessly?"

WE must agree with H. M. Horne that if the other societies' funds are so tied up that a grant in aid for necessary trade defence cannot be made, according to rules, the sooner the rules are amended the better.

ON Oct. 18 the Bolton Markets' Committee instructed the General Purposes Committee to include clauses in the Corporation Bill giving them power to control markets, fairs, and exhibitions in places other than those appointed by the Corporation, and to exclude convicted persons from the markets and fairs. Seeing the serious nature of this, Mr Thos. Hurst wrote to Superintendent Pike, of Bolton, as follows:—"I see by the papers that your committee are going in for powers to control outside fair-grounds. Are you aware that Eccles, Mansfield, Halifax, and Acton have applied for the same powers, which we have successfully opposed, the last-named, Acton, having to pay our costs in the House of Commons? Kindly lay this letter before your chairman, so that he will be in a position to judge if it will be wise on your committee's part to go on. If you think some friendly arrangement can be come to in the matter I shall be pleased to arrange a deputation."

On Dec. 2 Mr Hurst was pleased to receive the following reply:—"Dear Sir,—My committee on Monday last struck out the clause in the Corporation Bill relating to fairs being held on private ground in the borough.—Yours respectfully, ROBERT PIKE, Superintendent of Markets."

HANCOCK'S PLYMOUTH WINTER GARDENS are the resort of multitudes nightly to enjoy the varied programme. This week the items include animated pictures, capital songs by Will Beecham, Coon vocalism and dancing by Miss Ray Moig, and an entertaining turn by Miss Ada Wilson.

NOW the Cattle Show is over, Messrs T. and T. E. Read, lessees of the "World's Fair," at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, are making rapid progress with their preparations for the forthcoming "Fair," which opens for the twenty-sixth consecutive year on the 24th inst., and will continue for six weeks. A large and varied programme of attractions is promised, and the public may rely upon finding plenty of amusement for the modest sum of sixpence.

MR WALKER HOADLEY, proprietor of the electrical jumping horses that attend the fêtes and galas in the North of England, was born at Bradwell, Bucks, his parents being well known and respected travellers. His route extends from Darlington to Hawick, N.B., and he conveys part of his effects by railway and part by road, with the aid of a powerful traction-engine. He is the owner of a large caravan that travels by road, and is reputed to be the largest in the world. He is a member of the Masonic lodge at Sunderland. His hospitality and geniality are well known and recognised by his tenants. His winter quarters are at the show ground, Gateshead-on-Tyne, where he usually remains until the Easter holidays, his permanent address being at Gateshead.

IN partnership with Murphy and Hoadley, he was one of the first to "travel" the four-a-breast galloping horses with the overhead motion. The partnership has now been dissolved, Mr Hoadley being in business on his own account. Always ready and willing to lend a helping hand to his fellow-showmen in the cause of charity contributions he has on many occasions run his machine, and handed over the entire proceeds to various deserving institutions.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In a recent issue of your paper you make mention of Mr H. Gould as being one of the oldest showman, but go on to state that you are in doubt as to whether he is still alive. This article came to the notice of Mr Gould, who is alive and hearty, and he thought it might interest some of your readers to know that such is the case. He claims to be the oldest of the old showmen alive, and recalls many interesting events in his varied career.

Yours faithfully, A. HURST.
Stockton-on-Tees, Dec. 1.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM

Played near Clifton Downs on Dec. 3. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss I. Bowman and Miss L. Carter, backs; Miss N. Bailey, Miss C. Fowler (captain), and Miss L. Belding, half-backs; Miss A. Bernard, Miss K. Elvin, Miss M. Leonard, Miss G. Leonard, and Miss B. Godfrey, forwards.

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss R. Davis and Miss M. Hamilton, backs; Miss N. Courtenay, Miss L. Norris, and Miss L. Coles, half-backs; Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss Jessie Maguire, Miss K. Montgomery, Miss Florrie Hooper, and Miss N. Lawrence, forwards.

Referee, Miss E. Lawrence (of Cotham and Redland Club). Result:—Miss C. Fowler's Ladies Team, one goal; Cotham and Redland Ladies Team, one goal. Misses N. Bailey and K. Montgomery scored for their respective sides.

LAURI WYLIE has made an instantaneous success at the Oxford with his mimicking mannikin. With what is known as a living marionette, he gives clever impersonations in miniature of Geo. Robey, Harry Lauder, Eugene Stratton, &c. Mr Wylie manipulates the hands and feet of the figures entirely unassisted, and at the same time has to remember the voice, actions, and mannerisms of the several artistes he impersonates.

THE marvellous Howards have now in course of construction, at a great cost, one of the most humorous illusory acts ever seen, with up-to-date magical effects. They will produce it after Christmas.

MASTER CLIFF RYLAND made his first appearance last Monday at the Palace, Croydon, and his clever dancing made quite a hit. He was highly complimented by everybody, and has a bright future before him. Of course, papa is pleased.

A NEW play entitled *The Palmist*, by R. Henderson Bland, will be produced for two special matinées on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 16 and 17, at the Alhambra, Brighton, under the direction of Mr Augustus Bingham. The specially selected London cast engaged includes Miss Edyth Olive, Miss Jessie Dorynne, Mr Julian Royce, Mr Percy Nash, Mr Henderson Bland, Mr Edward Fielding, and others.

MISS FLORENTIA GLYNNE, Welsh soprano, the wife of Valvo, ventriloquist, passed away at the Royal Infirmary, Bradford, Friday, Dec. 2, from neuritis, after long and painful suffering. She was laid to rest on Tuesday in her native village, Brynford, North Wales. At the funeral of the deceased singer, who is deeply mourned, there was a large gathering of relatives and friends. Her bereaved husband, who was devotedly attached to her, has received many messages of sympathy.

MR W. F. FRAME appears next week, in his kilts, at the Empress, Brixton.—Mr Ryder Slone, who is at the Empress, Paragon, and Euston with a new character song entitled "Are yer 'sleep?" is in town for three months. He opens at the Tivoli on Monday.—The M'Kays' magic kettle will be seen in many pantomimes this season.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 12)

*** *Provincial Correspondents are requested to forward with their next week's Reports a full list of the Theatres and Music Halls in their respective towns, also the names of the present Lessees or Managers, for insertion in* The Era Annual, 1905.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader. — Messrs Dottridge, Longden, and Livesey's company is here in the interesting drama, *The Village Blacksmith*, which is meeting with a favourable reception. In the title-rôle Mr Sam Livesey gives a fine and manly impersonation of the part. Mr Joseph Carter is a sufficiently villainous Captain Leo. Miss Ethel Kay is exceedingly good as Kate Strong. The remaining characters are in the safe hands of Miss Maggie Edwards, Little Christobel, and Messrs Fr. Wells, G. V. Campbell, T. E. Marshall, and Mr. C. T. Livesey.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—The chief item here this week is the Daunton-Shaw Troupe in their marvellous trick cycling act. The Dean Tribune Trio are scoring well in their absurdity, *The Cheerful Idiot*; M'Cann's terriers and leaping dogs are very clever; Haig and Novel give a smart acrobatic turn; Miss Fanny Erris is a good burlesque artiste; Mr George Prince is popular as a comedian; Smith and Johnson are rapturously received as coloured comedians; and the Violas are good in mental telepathy.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—*The Fatal Wedding*, by Mr Bert Coote's clever company, is here on a return visit. As Howard Wilson Mr Wilfred Payne plays excellently. Mr Wallace Stranack makes a successful Robert Curtis, and Mr Charles Kenny's Toto is nicely done. Mr Jack Waring's O'Reilly is capital, as is also Mr Arthur Law Raynor's Rev. Dr. Lanceford. As Mabel Wilson Miss Marie Houseley is admirable, and plays with much feeling. Miss Harriet Clifton's Bridget is the character to the life, and Miss Gertrude Harrison's Cora is a cleverly studied piece of work. Miss Gladys Rose Jones as Jessie, the "little mother," is amazingly well done considering her age. Mr Walter Westwood appears as Peter Schwartz, and adds a good deal of humour to the piece in company with the trained troupe of juvenile singers and dancers.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—A well-arranged bill here is headed by the Mannings in their laughable sketch, *A Turkish Bath Rubber*; George and Edwards, comics and dancers; Harry Drew, a fine basso; the Three De Veres, speciality acrobats; the Watson Family, vocalists and instrumentalists; Geo. Formby, a really funny vocalist, who is in great demand; Marie Gibson, ballad vocalist; and Payne's Bio. with a fresh series of pictures.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—Another capital programme is submitted by the popular manager, Mr Egerton, this week. Ben Brown and George Le Clerq hold the premier position in a really funny sketch, *Black Justice*, which causes roars of laughter; Ben Hur in his entertainment of strength is really wonderful, several of his feats being unexcelled; the Six Seltinas in their acrobatism have but few rivals; Miss Ray Hartley is a dancer of much ability; the Bros. Levett in their acrobatic business are much applauded; Alec Kendall is a comedian of merit; the Three Raymonds in a smart musical act meet with much appreciation; Marcus Boyle is most amusing, his songs being well chosen; and Collins's animated pictures are always excellent.

SUNDERLAND.

AVENUE, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Business-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—The drama *A Woman's Pluck* holds the boards here this week. Mr James Willard as Dick Darrell is a decided success. Miss East-Robertson admirably sustains the part of Grace Daremant. Others worthy of special mention are Mr Edward F. Ashby as Winston Dale, Mr J. P. Dryden as Jim Daremant, and Miss Yatman as Jessie Pope.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Business-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Haddon and Loader's company, in a melodrama entitled *The Greatest Scoundrel Living*, occupies the boards here this week. Mr E. Munro as the hero, Frank Fielding, and Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam as the heroine, Rose Moultor, are equally successful. Mr Jack Haddon gives a clever portrayal of the scoundrel, Percival Haynes. In the comedy parts Messrs J. Lennol, H. Liddle, and Miss Lottie Pearce provide considerable amusement.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—The programme this week is headed by Boswell's stage circus, an interesting and popular item. Harry Freeman renders songs in his inimitable style. Bert Lytton, comique; Hughes and Elliott, rag-time vocalists; Baker and Balfe, xylophone players; Sisters Pyne; and Vernon's animated pictures are all excellent turns.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessees, the Executors of the late Frank Boyce; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—*No Man's Land*, a stirring and highly interesting drama, has been the attraction here throughout the week, presented by Miss Ida Millals and company under the direction of Mr Henry Herne, who appeared to much advantage as the hero, Harry Oaklands, as also did Miss Millals as Mary Bathurst. The villain, Silas Moore, was capitally played by Mr Fred Conyers; Mr Claude Haviland was well suited as Dr. Buxton; Gilbert Bathurst and Captain Norman Bathurst was ably doubled by Mr Alfred Byron; and Solomon Jacobs, James Cross, Iky Moss, and Captain Spencer were well represented by Messrs Sydney H. Morton, Percy Lawrinson, John Weston, and Vaughan Howe respectively.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—*Dishonoured*, an interesting military drama, has been presented here during the week by Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester Jackson's company.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—An enjoyable programme here includes:—Carl Hertz, assisted by Mdlle. D'Alton, who appears in an exceedingly clever illusion; the American Bioscope, with series of capital pictures; the Barowsky Trio, clever gymnasts; Three Sisters Trentanovi, graceful trapezists; Miss Kitty Bell, capital vocalist and speciality dancer; the Passports, smart dancers; Leonard and Francois, Continental artists and eccentric acrobats; Miss Childie Stuart, charming comedienne; and the Troubadour Four, capital vocalists.

PALACE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr T. W. Grantham.—The engagements here for the week are as follows:—Cheevers and Kennedy (Joe and Ned), in quick changes; Newling Major, the Etonian ventriloquial marvel; Lily Jackson, male impersonator; Three Sisters Gilbert, Anglo-American comediennes and Hungarian dancers; Payne's Photo-Bioscope; J. R. Val, eccentric comedian and dancer; the Miniature Malverne, Lilliputians; Mark Lane, comedian; Penley and English, in comedy duologue, *Four a Shilling, Fine Mackerel*.

TON-Y-PANDY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr S. Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Counsell.—Despite inclement weather, a full house on Monday welcomed Mr James Stillwell and company in *The Queen of the Night*. The play was mounted and dressed in a lavish manner. Frank Cavendish was played in a manly way by Mr Stillwell; Mr C. V. Sandford makes a thorough blackguard and schemer of Phillip Stoneleigh; Old Briskett was presented in a praiseworthy manner but as no name appeared on the programme, the praise cannot be assigned to its proper quarter; Dick, a waif, was safely entrusted to Miss Irene Tracy, and the title-rôle was cleverly sustained by Miss V. St. Lawrence.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing Director, Mr R. Snowdon; Secretary, Mr A. Pearce.—*Richard Lovelace* is the attraction here this week. Mr Laurence Irving in the name-part is admirable. Miss Mabel Hackney as Lucy Sachoverell is irresistible. The Colonel Hawley of Mr William E. Ashcroft is a clever and realistic representation, which is well seconded by the subdued presentation of the Alderman by Mr Henry Crooker; whilst Mr Michael Sherbrooke, Mrs Campbell Bradley, and Mr Chris Walker very capably sustain the minor characters.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Captain Welton Dale; Acting-Manager, Mr F. Edgar Manaton.—*Monsieur Beaucaire* has had a successful three nights' visit to Tunbridge Wells. Mr Norman Macowan admirably portrays the French Prince, and is well supported by his company, notably Miss Violet Sterne, who gives a powerful impersonation of the imperious Lady Mary. As the rascally Winterset Mr F. Stuart Wilson is also deserving of special mention, while Mr Hans Schlessinger plays the dual-rôle of François and the French Marquis. Among the ladies Miss Millie Hamer, in the part of Lucy, should also be mentioned.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's company in the new musical comedy *Miss Mischief* is here this week. The part of Private Harris, V.C., has a capital exponent in Mr T. E. Conover, whose amusing impersonation is a distinct feature of the performance; Mr Harold Stanley is effective as Admiral Sir Hannibal Bethune; Mr Cecil Curtiss sings well as Captain Jack Bethune; Mr G. H. Liot is well suited as Lord Percy Fitzherry; Mr J. C. Bland is very successful as Hiram Q. Peg; and Mr H. Ellesmere does well as Count Von Himmelblau. Miss Evelyn Hughes is a charming Kitty Malone; Miss Chrissie Frances makes a praiseworthy Maid; and Miss Eileen Guilbert is a stately Lady Orrery.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome Company, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—The Imperial Boys' Orchestra contributes a well-varied musical performance, which evokes hearty applause; a clever equestrian entertainment is provided by Miss Scott Hanneford, bareback rider; Miss Biddall, flying horsewoman; Young Poodles, boy equestrian, assisted by Clown Burgess; Miss Emma Don and company presents a vocal sketch which is well appreciated; and Miss Molly Doon, comedienne and dancer, and Mr Andy Fagan, Irish comedian, also appear.

WALLSEND.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Owners, The Wallsend Theatre Company; Acting-Manager, Mr T. Richardson.—Mr Harry Firth's company produced the pantomime *Cinderella* here on Monday night. The auditorium was filled to its utmost capacity, and the performance was most successful. Miss Dora Denmark makes a dashing principal boy, and as Cinderella Miss Madge Osmond is excellent. Mr Fred Lake is amusing as Pimple, and as the Baron Mr Ernest Wilson leaves little to be desired. The Ugly Sisters are in the able hands of Mr J. Binns and Mr H. Hains. Miss Chrissie Shannons gives a commendable rendering of the Fairy, and her songs are heartily appreciated. In the Palace scene some excellent specialities are introduced. Mignon in her up-to-date musical act; the Four Sisters Godfrey, dancers; Madge Osmond, male impersonator; Miss Rosie Lewis, legmania dancer; and Marsh and Morris, comedians, all receive a cordial reception.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr E. Oswald Brook's company opened here on Monday with *The New Housemaid*. Mr Ralph Roberts as the Hon. Bertie Rashleigh was most successful, and created much amusement. Mr Theodore Jones was a commendable Peter Pinkerton, J.P.; Mr Howard Brenan as Peter's nephew pleased everyone; and the part of Marmsbury Doom was successfully filled by Mr Pan E. Draco. Mr Campbell Goldsmid was comical as Rosebery; Miss Ada Mansfield was well placed as Caroline; and Miss Ethel L. Carylon appeared with credit in the rôle of Dulcie. Miss Mabel Verne was exceedingly good as Nellie Haddock.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr J. A. Campbell and Mr G. Fulton's company occupy the boards here this week with *A Bid for Fortune*. Mr Dick Thomas as Cobb Cuttle is exceedingly good, creating much amusement. Mr Herbert Clifton does well as Sir Milton Netherley. Mr Geoffrey Fulton is well cast as Desmond Netherley, and Mr C. Brereton Borer makes a capital Sir Philip Templemore. Miss Olive Fulton is very pathetic as Agnes Netherley, and Miss Mary Ainslie is successful as Barbara.

WALTHAMSTOW.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr C. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slatter.—Mystification is, perhaps, the principal sensation created by the doings of Carl Hertz with his "Demon Kettle—a culinary vessel which, could it be adapted to ordinary requirements, would be invaluable in many a humble home. Miss Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo piccaninnies are received with tumultuous applause; Cruikshanks' songs, parodies, banjo playing, and really comical patter call forth screams of laughter; Mr Ben Albert sings a couple of songs with much comic power; the Three Phydoras are seen in a good musical novelty act; One Billie Farrell, who claims to be "the originator of the cake walk," sings with peculiar volubility of his race, and dances with lightness and effect; the Allisons (James and Lucy) contribute a clever sketch, including song and dance; Rich and Rich "patter" amusingly; and some really clever pictures are shown by Ruffel's bioscope.

KING'S THEATRE.—The bill here this week is occupied by the well-known drama, *Queen's Evidence*, the joint work of the late Henry Pettitt and George Conquest. The cleverly constructed and interesting piece is capitally played by a good company. A very fine performance of Isaacs is given by Mr Herbert Landeck.

WEST BROMWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James P. Moore.—Mr F. Brooke Warren's company, *The Mysteries of the Thames*, has been enthusiastically received here. Mr F. Brooke Warren cleverly sustains the part of Captain James Denbeigh. The character of Richard Brandon is sustained with care and ability by Mr Roy Fortescue. The fun is in the hands of Mr Dan Hardie, whose droll style is well appreciated. Praise is due to Miss Clare O'Sullivan for her refined and clever acting as Bertie Fitzgerald, and Miss Gwynne Warren and Miss Lalah Shelton are to be congratulated on their smart portrayals of their respective rôles.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Mr William Bourne's company is here this week in the drama *When Darkness Falls*. Mr Frank Ellwood is capital as Captain Harold Montrevor, and a typical specimen of the good-hearted cleric is presented by Mr Frank Liston as the Rev. Arthur Graham. Mr E. J. Preston as the unscrupulous James Woodruffe acts with dramatic force, and Mr Will Clements makes the most of the humorous Mike Cavanagh. Miss Maud Buchanan acts with grace the part of Helen Montrevor, and a clever sketch of Mrs Woodruffe is submitted by Miss Amy Vennimore. Miss Lydia Hart as Jim and Miss Alys Eden as Harry are excellent.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Palles and Cussick, two old favourites here, top the bill. In their sketch, *The Original Firm*, they have ample scope for displaying their versatility. De Henau, the man who paints with his feet, makes a welcome reappearance. Mattie Crawford sings several songs in capital style, and the Carney Brothers are good vocal entertainers. Adelina, with her cockatoos, scores, and the Corries are clever speciality dancers. Fred Curran is a quaint comedian, and Curtis Leo an expert conjuror. The Royal Bioscope presents some fine pictures of "A Wife's Revenge."

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

PALACE. — Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—A programme, strong in every number, is submitted this week, at the head are Barton and Ashley in their absurdity *Canal Boat Sal*. The pictures by Abd'el Kader and Fatma and Aicha Ben Kader are veritable works of art. Taking songs and choruses, prettily illustrated, are done by the Langdons; the patter of Sam Redfern is inimitably funny; the comedy duo, Drew and Alders, in a novel acrobatic sketch, *The Billposters*, do some brisk and amusing work; Carne Curre's dog is wonderfully intelligent; and Charles Bowker, actor-vocalist, and Geo. Foyle, character vocalist, complete the programme.

GRAND. — General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—The Hartlepool Amateur Operatic Company, so successful in previous years in helping the funds of local institutions financially, has again come forward, and by permission of and arrangement with Mrs D'Oyly Carte, are playing for six nights *The Gondoliers*. Mr Lindsay Harman has acted as the professional coach, and in every character can the valuable work of this gentleman be traced.

WEST STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Mark H. Linden.—Mr Howell Webb's company is here this week with the sensational drama *The Convent Bell*. Mr Stanley Carlton as Philip Vaulter and Mr Chas. E. Howell as Colonel Vaulter do well in their respective parts. Mr Oliver Birrell is also good as Henri Cassilla, and Miss Ruby Maude is pleasing as Marguerite Courier. Mr Teddy Myles as Jean and Miss Florrie Manderville as Susette are very funny.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. C. Rawes; Acting-Manager, Mr D. Williams.—The management of this theatre having decided to run it as a hall of varieties, opened on Monday night with an excellent bill-of-fare. Topping the bill were the Five Rhynes. Mr Geo. Daunton, with his toy terrier, Biddy, was a complete success. The other artists included Miss Flo Atkins, mandolinist; Mr Tom E. Hall, eccentric comedian; Messrs Warner and Wilson, comedians; Stanert and Yondl, in their musical act; the Schallers, in their comedy act, "Billy's Blunders;" and Costello, the conjuror.

WIGAN.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—The New York Comedy Four give a very acceptable performance here; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, trick and comedy cyclists, do some remarkable feats; the Abadaroffs create great fun in the act entitled *Prehistoric Mountebanks*; Martha does a very entertaining gymnastic act, and is highly appreciated; and Collins and Croft are smart illustrators. The Stella Troupe are expert dancers and vocalists, and Grey and Grace, in their original comedy act *A Surprise Packet*, are entertaining. T. W. Johnson and Charles Woodward, character comedian, are capital. The Hippodrome pictures are very interesting.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—Dolly, Agnes, and Maud give some smart exhibitions of fancy cardboard box making here. Hyde and Elton are speciality eccentricities. Francis L. Kimball is a clever musician, and Lilian Kildare is a vocalist and expert dancer. Mr Robb Gilmore, comedian; the Brothers Hannaway, vocalists; and Miss Lizzie English, comedienne, complete the list of artists.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—Mr Leigh Lovel's company is appearing here this week in *The Duke of Killicrankie*, a refreshing and amusing play. Mr Herbert J. Bentley as the Duke plays the part admirably; Mr Leigh Lovel very cleverly sustains the character of Henry Pitt-Welby, his performance being natural and entertaining; Miss Octavia Kenmore as Lady Henrietta Addison displays much skill in her portrayal; and the Mrs Mulholland of Miss Naomi Neilson is an excellent impersonation. The remaining characters are efficiently filled.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr F. J. Little; Business Manager, Mr Henry L. Compton.—For this week *On the Stroke of Twelve* is provided for the patrons of this house. The play is being performed by Messrs Fred Darcy and Fred J. Little's company.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—Bransby Williams is the great attraction here. His impersonation of Dickens' and other characters are extremely good, and particularly popular with local audiences. The bill also includes Geo. Elliott, vocalist; the Danbys, comedians; the Bros. Lavelle, quasiut acrobats; Spry and Monti, comedians; the Four Magnets, vocalists and dancers; Gladys Archbutt, danseuse; and Primavesi, juggler.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—*Dan the Rake* is a drama possessing all the elements which conduce to success, and as it is capitally played by Mr J. Rice Cassidy and his able company large audiences are the rule. Mr Cassidy himself causes much amusement in the title-rôle. Mr Frank Copeland was in every way suited to the rôle of Lieut. Charles Kavanagh, and Mr Frank Orchard did well in the thankless part of Colonel Flamer. Sufficient villainy was evinced by Mr Frank Biron as Tom Cooper, and a highly meritorous performance was given by Miss Ada Roscoe, whose Mrs Downelly supplied evidence of much study. Miss Lilian Clare must be specially complimented on her lively and amusing rendering of Madge.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke.—Chanti gives an entertainment which is at once unique and clever; his reception during the week has been most flattering. Lily Turner sings in first-rate style, and the musical act of the Four Jumels is interesting and clever. Tom Costello contributes several good items, and Barnard's marionettes are successful and amusing. Victoria Dagmar's performance on the bar, &c., is clever; and Robins and Collier are comedy artistes of great ability. Miss Lue Lord and Ferris and Farnley complete a strong company.

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Only booked in conjunction, three Nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant, Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant March 2, 9, 30, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON,
County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company for Jan. 9 (Six Nights).
E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.

WANTED, Good Drama, Jan. 23, through transferring. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Electric Plant (Three Colours) installed. Address, HERBERT VERE.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Proprietors, Messrs CARSON and GRANVILLE.

WANTED, Strong Attractions,
Jan. 30, March 20
Also Dates June and July.
Address, FRED GRANVILLE.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.
Lessee and Manager, Mr E. MACKNIGHT.
Business-Manager, CHAS. E. HARDY.

WANTED, Companies, Jan. 9, 30, and onwards, with exceptions.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.

WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions,
March 13 and 20,
and
April 3.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Jan. 23, 30, and few on. Musical Shows preferred. FRED L. CONNYNGHAME.

WORTHING, THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Three Nights and One Matinée. Vacant Dates, Dec. 19, Jan. 12, onwards. Wire for Dec. 19. SEEBOLD, Worthing.

OPERA HOUSE, BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

WANTED, First-class Company, Dec. 26, Three Nights. Several Vacant Dates March to end July. Whit week open.
Address,
ARTHUR WILLOUGHBY.

WANTED, a Few First-class Companies,
Dramatic or Operatic,
for the Winter Season 1905-6.
Apply,
THE SECRETARY,
Shakespeare Memorial, Stratford-upon-Avon.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."

WANTED, Spring Attractions.
The Theatre, New Smoking-rooms, Lounges Redecorated by Lawrence Collins, Edinburgh, and Furnished by Oetzmann.
Pantomimes, "Cinderella" and "Red Riding Hood."
Several Autumn Dates and a few Spring Dates open for Best Dramatic and Musical Attractions only.
FADE MONTEFIORE, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."
Telephone, 2,000.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Feb. 6, Vacant through obliging T. M. Powell, Esq. Feb. 20 (Five Nights).
Address, THOS. SWINTON.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Jan. 9, Feb 27, on, Grand, Chorley; also Jan. 9, Feb. 6, or, Radcliffe. Address, SANTS, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Good Companies,
Jan. 5, 6, 7, March 16 and 23, Three Nights each.
MANAGER, Victoria Theatre, Mansfield, Notts.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Feb 6, 13, 20, and 27. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
March 13, April 24, May 1, 8, 29.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 19 (Three Nights only), 23, Feb. 6, 13.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
March 13, April 10, 17, May 1 (Three Nights only).

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, June 19, July 31, Aug. 7.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Feb. 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Dec. 12 (Three Nights only), Dec. 26 (Three Nights only).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Dec. 12, 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 30, Feb. 6.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE
Vacant,
Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 30, Feb. 6.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Dec. 8 (Three Nights only), 12, 19, Jan. 2, 9.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights only), April 24, May 1.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Jan. 23, Feb. 6 (Three Nights only), 13, 23 (Three only).

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GORDON STARKEY.
WANTED, Companies, March 27 and on,
Last Three Days of each Week only Booked.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GEO. ROBERTSON.
From Easter to Whit Week this Theatre will only be opened the Last Three Days of each Week.
WANTED, Companies, May 1 and on.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. PAYNE SEDDON.
WANTED, Companies, Feb. 27 and on.
W. PAYNE SEDDON, Loughborough, until Tuesday; then, Hawick.

WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 19 (Three Nights), March 9 (Three Nights), May 8, and on. MANAGER, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

THEATRE ROYAL, RUNCORN.
WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Address, CADDICK.

RAMSGATE.—SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE.
Sole Proprietor, Lord GEORGE SANGER.
Manager, HENRY BOWMAN. Now closed for entire Redecoration. When completed will rank as one of the Prettiest and most Commodious Theatres on the South Coast.
WANTED, First-class Company, Jan. 9. Musical Comedy or Strong Drama Preferred.

EDEN THEATRE,
BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 23, Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, April 3, or. Drama, Répertoire or Musical.
Apply, B. ADDISON, LIMITED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for week of Dec. 19 Metropole closed that week, no opposition. Wire To-day, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Islington, N; next week, Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime for Feb. 13
Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

THEATRE ROYAL, HUCKNALL, NOTTS.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for Christmas (Three or Six Nights). Or Company could Open on Dec. 24, and Play Four Nights. SYDNEY SPENSER.

BOROUGH THEATRE, HEYWOOD.
WANTED, Companies, Jan 2 and 9, other Dates to follow, Musical Show or Panto preferred. Wire, ALBERT JONES, 22, Wilbraham-street, Scotland-road, Liverpool.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr STANLEY ROGERS.
WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Preferred, Jan. 5 (Three Nights), Feb. 16 (Three Nights), March 6, April 3, on, with exceptions. Address, STANLEY ROGERS, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.
WANTED, High-Class Attractions only, Jan. 9 and 23, February and March onwards, with Exceptions. Silence Polite Negative, pro. tem. Address, HARRY YORKE, Pleasington Blackburn.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Good Companies, Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2d (Six Nights each), Jan. 23 (Three Nights), Jan 30, and Dates on. Address, JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

NEW GRAND HALL AND THEATRE, ABERAVON.
Brilliant success of the Opening.
Lighted throughout by Electricity.
Specially Heated with Hot-Water Pipes.
Seated with Tip-up and Upholstered Chairs.
Stage to accommodate anything travelling.
The most comfortable Theatre in Wales.
WANTED, Companies, Dec. 19, 26, onwards.
Booked in conjunction with Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.
Three Nights each. Short journey.
All communications re dates to
JOHN TULLY, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. BUCHANAN.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management
Capital, £155,000.
WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
Feb. 23, 27.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
The Kingdom's Success.
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE CLYDEBANK
Feb. 20, March 6, 13.
NEW CENTURY, MOTHERWELL.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
Feb. 13.

Important.—Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred. The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand," is in Stockbridge.

Address all communications to
R. C. BUCHANAN,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Jan. 9, 23, 30 (?), and on.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Jan. 9.
Apply, FREDK MOUILLOT,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

WANTED, Company, Blyth,
Dec. 19.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

WANTED, Entertainments (non-dramatic), Complete in themselves, Borough Theatre, North Shields. Terms, Vacant Dates, address, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Theatre Royal.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
WANTED, Strong Attraction Dec. 26, to Oblige a Manager.
Splendid Holiday Date. Musical Show Preferred.
Wire, TULLY,
Theatre, Llanelly.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 23 and 30, Aberdeen and Dundee.
Apply, Mr ROBERT ARTHUR, 21A, Regent-street, S.W.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.
WANTED, High-class Attractions, Jan. 16, Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, May 29, June 5, 19, 26.
Silence polite negative.
H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

VICTORIA, BROUGHTON.
WANTED, Big Pantomime or Musical Attraction,
Jan. 2.
Jan. 2.
Jan. 2.
Big Holiday Date. Holding capacity £170.
Also Vacant Jan. 9 and onwards, with exceptions.
Wire or write,
JAMES M. HARDIE, jun.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FLEETWOOD.
WANTED, Good Company, Three Nights, Dec. 15. Wire, SNELSON.

PARDON'S THEATRE, MIDDLETON, LANCS.
WANTED, Good Company to wire for next Three or Six Nights. Drama preferred.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity.
Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, for Christmas, Dec. 26, 27, 28, First-class Attractive Entertainment, Musical Comedy, Minstrel Troupe, Animated Picture, or other really good Variety Combination not appeared before in the Town. Liberal sharing terms. Wire or write, HAGUE, The Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, for Royal Hall, Gainsborough, First-class Attractions, Jan. 5, 19, 19, Three Nights each. R. KIRK (late Albert Theatre), 46, Bridge-street.

LYCEUM THEATRE, ECCLES.
Lessees, Messrs POTASCH and WARBLE.
WANTED, Known, all Communications re Contract to be addressed to Mr P. POTASCH or Mr R. FLANAGAN. Note.—Queen's and St James's Theatre can be Booked in Conjunction.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 20, March 13.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 14, Sept. 4.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb 13, May 1, 8.
WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Fredk Melville's
New Production.
WANTED, Jan. 23, Feb. 27, April 3.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 13, March 20.
FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 13, 20, near London.
FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, April 10, 17. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects Bookings include:—Grand, Islington; Shakespeare, Clapham: Terriss Theatre; Alexandra, Hull; Liverpool, Jarrow, Brixton Theatre, Elephant, West London, Middlesbrough, Aston, Plymouth, Sunderland; Metropole, Birmingham; Junction and Osborne Theatres, Manchester; Broadway, Deptford; Newcastle, Chatham, Note.—The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville. Address DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 19, Feb. 27, March 13, on, with exceptions.
TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Weeks of Feb 6, March 6 and 13.
Wire, To-day, KELLY, Grand Theatre, Islington, N.
Next week, Borough Theatre, E.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, April 24, May 29, June 12, on, with exceptions.
CHARLES HARRINGTON, Theatre Royal, Preston (Return)

WANTED, for Summer, 1905, Good Season Dates at Seaside and Inland Watering-places, for Laurence Irving, Miss Mabel Hackney, and Company, in "Richard Lovelace," by Laurence Irving.
Address, WILLIAM E. ASHCROFT, 35, Prince of Wales's-mansions, Prince of Wales's-road, London, S.W.

"BETRAYED; or, What Men call Love."
WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15.
Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq.
CECIL DU GUE, Borough, Stratford.

THEATRES WANTED

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including the

Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, Jan. 2,
Jan. 16,
Jan. 23,
Jan. 30,
March 20, 27,
May 15, 22.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Forsdike, Esq, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield;
W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq, Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Mrs Gordon, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Southampton;
F. Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford;
J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth;
J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington;
Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston (Holiday Week).

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

Address,
GEO. KIRK,
Theatre Royal, Croydon.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
WANTED, Jan. 9, 23, 30, and Various Spring Dates, On, for the New and Original Musical Comedy, "MISS MISCHIEF." Book and Lyrics by Mr Reginald Bacchus. Music by Dr. F. Osmond Carr, Composer of "Morocco Bound," "His Excellency," "In Town," &c. Unanimously acknowledged a great success.
All communications,
GODFREY LAMPLUGH,
to-day,
Opera House, Wakefield;
next week,
Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
A Drama of Intense Human Interest, interspersed with Original Comedy and Up-to-Date Musical Numbers.
The above will be Toured in First-class Style by ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.
WANTED, March 20 (follow Hastings), March 30, Three Nights (to follow Worthing), April 3 (precede Exeter), and various onwards.
All comps., JOHN A. STIMSON, Queen's T., Fleetwood.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres, Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return); March 20 and 27, to follow Nottingham; April 10, to precede Theatre Royal, Leeds; Dec. 11, to follow Star, Liverpool (third Visit).
Only Vacant Dates in 1905.
Address,
CHAS. M. JULIAN, Royalty, Morecambe.

WANTED, Feb. 20 and 27, for "HEARTS ADRIFT."
Played for Three Years in America.
Revised for the English stage by Gordon Holmes.
Printing: One 32, Two 16, and Ten 6 Sheets.
Twenty Lithos for Windows.
All the very best Four Colour Litho work.

All Scenery Carried except One Chamber.

Will be Produced, Feb. 13, at Grand, Fulham.
Address, A. BERTRAM, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

"IF I WERE KING,"
FRANK FENTON'S SPRING TOUR.
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Easter Vacant. Midlands; also May 30, June 5.
FRANK FENTON, 4, Park-place, St. James's, S.W.

CHARLES DRAYCOTT and H. B. PEPPIN'S COS
"THE BEST MUST WIN," by Myles Wallerton and Francis Gilbert; and "A STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT."
WANTED, Theatres for Jan. 16, 23, 30, on.
Address, Theatre Royal, Seaham Harbour.

HENRY SWINERD'S COMPANY.
"DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY."
WANTED, Jan. 2, to follow Victoria Theatre, Broughton.
Address, J. W. CORDINER, Theatre Royal, Chatham.

"THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH."
Grand Christmas Fairy Production.
Full Chorus and Ballet.
The Entire Production carried.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Jan. 16.
Address,
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE,
16, Oldbury-place, Baker-street, W.

WANTED, Good Theatres, Dec 26, Jan. 2, and on (with exceptions), for "Shadow of the Cross," "Under Two Flags," or Répertoire. Wire, HILL and AYRTON, Empire Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, First-class Theatres. Wire, HALDANE CRICHTON, Grand Theatre, Derby; next, St. James's, Manchester.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 6 and 13.
Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 19, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 27.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 20, and March 13.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, and 23, March 27,
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.
WANTED, Theatres for this Sterling Attraction.
Vacant Dec. 26,
Jan. 2, Jan. 9 (South), and onwards.
Wire, to-day, O. H., Dudley. O. H., Northampton, Dec 12.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 9, 1905, onwards, with exceptions.
CHARLES B. STONE,
Wire, To-day, Theatre Royal, Sheffield;
next week, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR,
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
No Vacant Dates until Nov. 13, 1905.
WANTED, Big Theatres only, then and on.
Theatre Royal, Blyth,
Six Nights, Dec. 12.

MR FREDERICK E. PHILPOTT'S COMPANY.
"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
The Funniest Musical Comedy on the Road.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 20 and March 6, to Precede and follow King's Theatre, W.; also March 20 and Easter.
Midlands preferred.
The Fit-up Rights are to Let on Royalty.

Address,
FREDERICK E. PHILPOTT,
Broadstairs, Kent.

Mr WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Sixteenth Month of continuous Successful Tour.
Enormous Success at Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, this Week.
Please Refer to Messrs Carson and Granville.
WANTED, Dec. 29 (Three Nights, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 13, 20, March 6, and onwards, with Exceptions.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
This, Queen's Liverpool; next, T. R., Rotherham.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Jan. 23, 30, March 6, 20.
"£1,000 Reward,"
March 6, onwards.
"A Race for Wealth,"
May 22, onwards.
Each Production Perfect.
BEAUDYN and LIVESEY,
Theatre Royal, Aston.

"HER FATAL PAST." One of the few Dramas now making Money.
WANTED, South or Midlands, Theatre, Feb. 27. Coms., WARD, 2, Hickman-rd., Penarth.

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 16 and 23.
Chorus and Troupe of Dancers and First-class Cast, added to a Magnificent Production.
LESLIE NORMAN, Theatre Royal, Colchester.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."
WANTED, Jan. 2, Feb. 27, and Whit; also 'THE SORROWS OF SATAN.'
Either or both plays.
Wire, To-day, LOIE ESMOND, Whitevale T., Glasgow;
Dec. 12, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

JOHN TULLY'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Now in Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.
WANTED, Dec. 19 and Jan. 2, for this Truly Remarkable Revival.
Wire, TULLY, Theatre, Llanelly.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Theatres, Christmas and Jan. 2. Miss Frances Delaval's Splendid Company, in "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore. Terrific Success at Queen's Theatre, Dublin. Audience and Press Enthusiastic. Wire, To-day, Dublin; next, Queen's, Farnworth, Bolton.

"THE TRAITOR." Messrs MITCHELSON and FINEBERG'S MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION.
WANTED, Christmas Week, March 20, 27.
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.

"THE HERO OF THE FLAG." MR SYDNEY SPENSER'S COMPANY, including MISS LIZZIE HALL.
WANTED, Christmas and New Year's Weeks. All Scenery carried except One Chamber. Good Plant of Special Printing. A Smart, Bright, Up-to-date Show. SYDNEY SPENSER, T. R., Hucknall, Notts.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Jan. 9, 30.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the Most Popular Version on the Stage.
Wire, JAMES BELL,
Theatre Royal, Leicester.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence; or, At Twelve, Midnight," Jan. 2, 9, 16, March 20, 27. C. CLIFFORD, T. R., Greenock, N.B.

"THE MASTER CRIMINAL."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Jan. 9; also Few Spring Dates Vacant.
Now Booking Autumn, 1905.
Address, STANLEY HOPE,
Dec. 13, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E., Six Nights.

ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD.
"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN" No. 1 CO., including Miss Annie Saker.

WANTED, Jan. 16, Feb. 13, 27, on.
To-day, Rotherham; next, Chesterfield.

"A VICTIM OF VILLAINY."
WANTED, Jan. 9, 30, Feb 13, March 6, and on, with exceptions. Every Scene carried.
Special Furniture, Props, &c.
125 Sheets Special Printing.
WALTER HOWE, St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

"THE CRIMSON CLUB."
WANTED, Jan. 30, Good Theatre, Feb. 6, April 24. LIVESEY, T. R., West Bromwich.

Christmas week.
WANTED, Dec. 26, also Jan. 9, for that Powerful Attraction, "Man to Man."
Address, this week,
WILLIAM BOURNE, Court Theatre Warrington.
Next, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, March 6, Sept. 4 and 11. W. V. GARROD, West London T., W.

"A MARRIAGE OF VENGEANCE."
WANTED, Jan. 9, 23, First-class Production. FRED BENTON, County Theatre, Reading.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, Jan. 2, Jan. 2
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 30, for Pantomimes, "Sinbad" and "Whittington."
Address, DEROY, Grand Theatre, Nelson, Lancashire.

THEATRES WANTED.

CARSON, GRANVILLE, and THORNE'S COMPANY,
"NAPOLEON THE GREAT."
WANTED, First-class Theatre, Jan. 23.
South or Midlands preferred.
Everything Carried.
Clear Stage Required.
Strong Cast of recognised Artistes.

Address,
FRED GRANVILLE,
Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

"THE SCILLY GIRL"
(a Tale of the Scilly Isles).
Book by Athol Mayhew.
Music by William Neale.
A New and Original Musical Comedy.
Full Chorus and Dancers.
Two New Sets, Everything Carried.
The Following Artists are Already Engaged:—
Miss Bessie Pelissier.
Miss Dorothy Vernon, of "The Belle of New York."
Mr Chas. Cautley, of Mr Mouillot's Répertoire.
Mr Alfred Donohoe of Mr Geo. Edwardes' Co.
Mr H. E. Garden, late Mr Geo. Edwardes' Co.
Production, Grand Theatre, Woolwich, Dec. 12.
WANTED, Jan. 16, 23, 30, and on.
Wire,
FRANK NELSON, 9, Claverton-street, London, S.W.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Dec. 26, Jan. 2,
"THE SINS OF A CITY," by Nita Rae.
Production second to none.
Company equal to any on the Road.
Printing, Twenty Varieties.
Great success at Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough.
Refer Charles Imeson, Esq.
WINIFRED MAUDE, New Theatre, West Stanley.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, Jan. 9, Jan. 9,
for this Great Attraction. A Sure Draw.
An Ideal Christmas Attraction.
Seven Sets Scenery Carried. Powerful Company, and One of the Finest Plants of Printing on the Road. Racehorses and Jockeys Toured. Parade Daily of Racehorses and Jockeys in Colours. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Royal, Rochdale; next, Royal, Huddersfield.

EDINBURGH GRAND "CINDERELLA."
WANTED, Feb. 6, 13, to follow Newcastle, for the Entire Production,
Note
Note
this Unequalled Cast for Tour—
Miss May Marton as Cinderella,
Miss Millie Engler as the Prince,
Miss Fanny Wright as Dandini,
Miss Vera Schlesinger as Fairy Godmother,
Little Zola as the Page,
Mr A. C. Spry as the Baron,
Mr Percy Curry and Mr Augustus Wheatman as the Ugly Sisters,
Messrs Conan and Doyle as the Johnnies,
Mr Geo. Traverner as the Demon King
Principal Dancers,
the Six Lancashire Lasses
and
the Four American Idols.

London Chorus.

Four Shetland Ponies and Electric Coach.

Stage-Manager, Mr FRANK AYRTON;
Musical Director, Mr E. T. DE BANZIE.

The Magnificent Scenery and Dresses have been added to by a special purchase of Mr Hardacre's Manchester Gold Palace Scene and Gold Dresses.
EADS MONTEFIORE, Grand Theatre, Edinburgh.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh." Tele., 2,000.

To Managers of First-class Provincial Theatres.
WANTED, for Three Weeks, from Feb, 29 next, First-class Theatre on Sharing Terms, for the Production, in its Entirety, with Full London Star Company, of a First-class London Pantomime.
Address, Box 8,878, care of "The Era."

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash," Jan. 2; precede Walsall, Christmas.
LESLIE VYNER, Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Theatres, Halls, &c., Dec. 19, 26, Christmas Week; also New Year's Week, and Dates onwards, for the Royal London Star Pierrot Troupe, Concert and Comedy Company, Big Speciality Acts. A Splendid Show. Beautiful Fit-up for Halls. We give Sacred Concerts on Sunday nights. This is a First-class Entertainment, all well-known Artistes, so must have reasonable terms Thanks for offers. Wire or write to DILLON, New Theatre Royal, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"THE LIFE OF A SHOWMAN."
WANTED, Following Artistes for Long Tour, commencing January:—Powerful Leading Lady, must be tall, of Handsome Appearance, and provide at least four striking and fashionable Gowns; Young and Pretty Juvenile Lady for sympathetic part (one act only); Rough Chambermaid, about 5ft. 4in.; Juvenile Gentleman, Clergyman idle; Young Character Actor; Child, Fourteen Years, capable of Pathos and Light Comedy Points. All must be thoroughly experienced in Melodrama, possess Good Powerful Voices, and dress parts as directed. Rehearsals commence Jan. 4, Nine Days. Send next Two Weeks' Addresses, Lowest Terms, Photos. (absolutely necessary), References, Age, and Height to GEO. TESTO SANTE, Opera House, Radcliffe.
Kindly endorse envelopes "Tour."

"THE GIRL FROM JAPAN."
WANTED, to Rehearse Jan. 23, Comedy Old Lady, Refined Principal Comedian (Good Voice Essential), Exceptionally Good Baritone (Humorous Lead), Clergyman, Several Young, Pretty Chorus Ladies, and Speciality Dancers. Photos. (stamp), age, height, town references (which will be applied for), absolute lowest terms,
FREDERICK E. PHILPOTT, Broadstairs, Kent.

WANTED, the following Dramatic Artistes:—Juvenile Leading Gentleman for London, Christmas; Heavy Lady for Christmas, London; also Heavy Lady, for Tour, open Christmas. Address, FRED HARMAN MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E. Also Juvenile Lady, Heavy Lady, Chambermaid, and young Character Actor, open Christmas, Touring. W. E. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, for New Musical Comedy, Ladies and Gentlemen of Refinement and Ability. Thorough Tuition. Salaried Engagement. Premium.
Care of Mr TALBOT,
46, Wardo-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Artistes, Short Character Comedian, Juvenile Lady, Gentleman for Utilities. Photos. and references. CHARLES MARCH, P. T., Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Vacancies will occur after Christmas in one of the best Répertoire Companies travelling for a Young Lady and Gentleman to be instructed in Acting; also for a Gentleman to be initiated into the duties of Acting-Management. Premium required, which will be returned in Salary. References exchanged.
Address,
Box 8,863, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Comedy Actress, Buxom, and Character Actor for Dramatic Tour, Starting February. Terms and particulars to BROOKE, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Young Lady, Good Voice and Juvenile Appearance, must have exceptional charm and refinement, for Principal Part, Christmas Matinée Production. Apply, Stage Door, Royalty Theatre, between 10 0 and 12 0 Monday.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Amateur Lady and Gentleman for Répertoire of Music Hall Sketches (Provinces). Good Training. Small Premium Small Salary.
SPRING, 32, Warwick-street, Hulme, Manchester.

MILTON RAYS' PANTOMIME COMPANIES.
WANTED, First-class Vocalist for Part of Ferdinand the Fearless, in "Bo-Peep." Must be tall, good figure, and young. All particulars, photo., age, height, and lowest terms.
Address, ARTHUR MILTON, 45 Broadgate, Preston.

WANTED, for London Music Halls (open Christmas),
a Well-Built, First-class Character Heavy Man, about 5ft 10in.
One that can play a Gentleman or a Fighting Man.
Knowledge of Boxing Indispensable.
BRIEN M'CULLOUGH, 12, Elm-grove, Hammersmith, London.

WANTED, Good Character Actor open Boxing Day. Send lowest terms, photo., last two references, ARTHUR CARLTON, Widey Court, Crownhill, Devon.

WANTED, Character Comedian; also Carpenter, Capable of Speaking Lines. Address, GEO. KIRK, this, Metropole, Birkenhead; next, T. R., Croydon.

WANTED, Comedian, very Tall and Thin, for Christmas. Apply, Stage Door, Royalty Theatre, between 10·0 and 12·0 Monday.

WANTED, through Illness, Comedian to Rehearse Dec. 20, Accrington.
Address full particulars,
E. VIVIAN EDMONDS, 52, Castle-road, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Vacancy occurs in a First-class Répertoire Company now Touring for Amateur Gentleman to play Important Part and Understudy. No Premium required. Full particulars, VAL KIMM, 72, No. folk-avenue, Southend-on-Sea.

WANTED, Gentleman, for Good Responsible Parts. Must be Tall. Terms, photos., refs. (which will be investigated), to NORMAN V. NORMAN, P. G. T., Folkestone. Letters only.

"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN."
ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD.
WANTED, Gentleman, for Heavy (Staniloff); Lady, for Mariel (Short but Good Part). Must Rehearse Tuesday at Chesterfield. Wires, Theatre Royal, Rotherham. Letters, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Tall, Gentlemanly Amateur, First-class Company.
Box 8,871, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Juvenile and Heavy Gent., Comedian, Sing and Dance. Open Oxford, Dec. 19. JULIAN BAIMBRIDGE, County Theatre, Salisbury.

WANTED, a Juvenile Lady and Gent. Open Dec. 12. Long Theatre Tour to Suitable People. MITCHELSON, 2, Stoddart-st., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Wanted, Baritone, must be a good Accompanist and accustomed to Light Opera Work.
Apply, by letter, to X.,
38, Old Bond-street, W.

WANTED, Principal Tenor, Must be of Good Appearance, for Christmas Matinée Production. Apply, Stage Door, Royalty Theatre, between 10·0 and 12·0 Monday.

WANTED, Smart Lady. Must be Good Dancer. Send terms at once, also photo. Long Engagement for Suitable Lady.
Address, J. C., 13, Margaret-street, Northampton.

WANTED, Small Children (Girls), Good Voices, for Chorus, Christmas Play, Matinées. Also Two or Three Clever Boys. Also very Small Men. Tenor and Baritone. Apply, Stage Door, Royalty Theatre, between 10·0 and 12·0, Monday.

WANTED, Artistes Suitable for Choir, Illustrated Songs, &c, Pianiste who can Sing preferred. Also Operator with Machine. HOPE, Buchanan-street, Airdrie.

WANTED, Two or Three Smart Young Girls. Must Sing and Dance, and willing to Learn Acrobatic. Address, Box 8 851, "The Era."

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Vocalist-Pianist (Lady), Brilliant, Attractive, Experienced, Engagements. Terms, Single Performance, 7s. 6d. if London or Suburban. Box 8,872, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagements by First-class Quartet Players (Ladies), together or separately, for Concerts, At Homes, Practice &c.
Box 8,845, care of "The Era."

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

THE MACNAGHTEN ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Ladies and Gentlemen for Chorus, for Touring Pantomime.
Apply personally to
FREDERIC BAUGH, Foresters' Music Hall,
Cambridge-road, London, E.,
before 3·0 p.m. Saturday,
and on Thursday
from 10·0 till 3·0 and 6·0 till 9·30.

WANTED, Artistes Disengaged for Pantomime, London and the Provinces, to send photos., terms, and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for First-class Fit-up Pantomime, Artistes in all Lines with Speciality; also pair of smart Sisters with good Specialities, Chorus ladies; must be young. Age, height, photos, particulars, HOPKINS BROS., Theatre Royal, Ferndale, Wales.

WANTED, Specialities for Pantomimes.
Terms and particulars to
Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Specialities in all Lines. Lowest terms for Run. State where Working. Apply, W. H. KIRBY, T. R., Grantham

WANTED, for Pantomime, Trio or Quartette of Acrobatic Dancers, Comedians, Specialities, &c Terms, photos., WALTER EDGAR, 49, Wellington-rd., Rhyl.

WANTED, Immediately, for Pantomime, Smart Acrobatic Dancers.
Call at Once, with Practice Dress.
Sinclair, 12, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

WANTED, Acrobatic Dancer, for Troupe. Send age, height, photo. Particulars, stamp Long Panto Tour. G., 43, St. James's-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Lady Choristers, for Touring, Panto. Experience not necessary. Good Figures, Fair Voices. Apply (with Song) on Monday, 11·0 a.m., Prince Albert Hotel, Upper St. Martin's-lane, W.C.

WANTED, for Pantomime, First-class Speciality for Palace Scene (Double Turn preferred) Male Quartette of Glee Singers, Lady Dancer (Acrobatic) Good Troupe of Lady Dancers, Chorus Ladies. Age, height, references, lowest terms, ladies' photos. E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Artistes, Chorus, and Others Engaged by J. F. Elliston for Pantomimes to observe other Advertisement for Calls. Anyone who has not received Call for his or her special Pantomime, wire at once to
ELLISTON, Bolton.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Panto., by Winnie Scott and Marie Winsome, as Principal Girl and Second Boy respectively. Unexpectedly Vacant through misunderstanding. Thanks to Frank Macnaghten, Esq., for repeated offer.
Address, Grand Theatre, Radcliffe, Lancs.

WANTED, Pantomime, Alma Obrey. At Liberty Pantomime, Principal Boy.
Address, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty for Pantomime, Principal Boy. Offers invited. Metropole, Camberwell; or, 27, St. Lawrence rd, Brixton.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Florrie Claribell, First or Second Girl, with Two Good Specialities. Last two Seasons with Milton Ray's "Aladdin." Next week, Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, Miss Lillian Drake, Good Soprano, at Liberty for Pantomime or Musical Comedy, through disappointment. Address, till Dec. 13, Moody-Manners' Opera Company, Theatre Royal, Inverness.

WANTED, Known, "Del" Levey, Vacant Panto. and Dec. 12. Enormous Success Euston, Camberwell, and Croydon. ALF. SAKER and Co., 17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W., or care of "The Era."

WANTED, Pantomime, by Sam Mitchello, Comedian and Dancer, Dame, Page, or Ugly Sister. Address, 10, Naylor-road, Peckham, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Alfred Poynton, the Great Impersonator of Celebrities. Magnificent Costumes, Fine Speciality for Grand Scene. Success everywhere. Permanent, 12, Bolton-gardens-west, South Kensington, London.

WANTED, Pantomime, Robb Gilmore, the Great Funny Little Man, Eccentric Comedian, Grotesque Dancer. Three Seasons, Comedy, Manchester; Three Seasons, Will Sley's Panto.; One Season, Grand, Glasgow; Last Season, Milton Bode's Panto. 22, Chapel-lane, Wigan.

WANTED.—Frank Gee is unexpectedly Vacant Panto. Dame or Sister Preferred. Last Year, Dame, "Goody Two Shoes" (Dottridge and Longden); year previous, Ugly Sister, Imperial T., Birmingham. Wire, Hippo., Eastbourne. Monday next, Palace, Camberwell.

WANTED, Known, Mr. Tom Carrick, the Popular London Pantomimist, Unexpectedly Disengaged Christmas. Recent Pantos, Dame, at Dalston, Kingston, and Theatre Royal, York. Wire or write, 22, Wiesbaden-road, Stoke Newington, N.

WANTED, by Young Herculean Gymnast, Engagement for Panto., Halls, or Show Business. Good Figure Address, M., 9, Hythebridge-st., Oxford.

WANTED, Known, Star Knight's New and Startling Speciality Spectacular Dumb Act for Pantomime Quite new. Particulars, 93, Camden-st., N.W.

WANTED, Place in Panto, Drama, Panorama, or Music Hall Sketch. Small Salary for Long Immediate Engagement. Well-known Petite Comedian, Good Dancer. Box 8 857, "The Era."

WANTED, Pantomime, by Keir and Allen, the Great Eccentric Knockabout Comedians. Parts and Speciality. Offers. Park Palace, Liverpool

WANTED, Panto., by the Mitchellos, Comedians and Dancers. Parts and Two Specialities, including the Latest Novelty, "The Trampoline Table with Twenty Somersaults." Suit Palace or Kitchen. D.C. Lithos. 14, Mead-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Turle and Turle. Rattling, Rollicking, Comic Speciality, "On the Flying Loops." Knockabout Trapeze Burlesque, Perch, &c. Parts and Harlequinade. Played Principal Theatres. 10, Berwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Brothers Hampson, Refined Patter Comedians and Dancers, Vacant for Panto. Exceptional references. Any Double Comedy Parts. F., Burnley.

WANTED, Pantomime, for Juan and M'Que, Comedians; Gus Walker, Dame, Baron; Sisters Reuferd, Charnleys, Blanche Haddon, Fairy Queen, &c. Ayloun, Agent, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Ray and Ransford still at Liberty for Pantomime. The Comedians, the Dancers, the Knockabouts, from the Adelphi Theatre, London. Thanks to Mr Mouillot for offer.
Wire, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Pantomime, by Demi and Semi, Musical Act and Comedian or Dame. Next, Met., Camberwell. Per., 51, Canterbury-place, Lambeth, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Juan and M'Que at Liberty for Pantomime, to Play Comedy and Knockabout Parts. Next week, Empire, Birmingham

WANTED, Christmas Pantomime, by the Floradors (Five People). Play any Parts. Trap Scene, Music Speciality, Harlequinade, &c. Includes Beattie Trixie, Clever Song and Dance Artiste. Boy or Girl. Conclude To-night successfully, Stoll Tour. Dec. 12, Middlesex Music Hall, London.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Scenic Artist, for few Weeks. Quick and effective. Lowest terms, recent references, specimen of work if possible, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of every Description Painted to Order. Large Stock of New and Secondhand Cloths, Flats, &c., on hand. New Cloths 18ft. by 24ft. from £4. High-class Work guaranteed. Sykes's Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Magnificent Scene by Walter Hann, built for Charles Frohman. Working Fountain, Beautiful Transparency Cloth, Oak Chamber, Revolve from Inn to Palace, Gauze Cloth, with Large Gates. Other Splendid Cloths. Write F. H. DE QUINCEY, 61, Albany-mansions, Battersea-park.

WANTED, to Sell, Fit-up, Quantity of Scenery and Costumes, &c. Must be cleared; no reasonable offer refused. F. MACKNIGHT, T. R., Margate.

WANTED, to Sell, or Hire, Pantomime Scenery and Dresses, suitable for any English subject. J. PITT HARDACRE, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known.—Send for Estimates to the Reliable London Scenic Artist, F. F. BODEN, 18, Newport-street, Lambeth-walk. Falconbridge communicate.

WANTED, Contracts for Scenery to Paint at Theatre or own Studio.
J. DAVIS, Scenic Artist, 4, Devon-street, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Frederick Stafford, Scenic Artist. First-class references and Designs forwarded. 24, Shearer-road, Portsmouth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, for the above, a Good General Manager, able to go in Ring when required.
Must be a Good Advertiser.
Address, P. TAYLOR,
Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Good, Smart Single Young Man, as Agent. Good Window Biller. Must make himself generally useful. Animated Photo. Show. Open Cambridge, Dec. 19. Full particulars, terms, references, HUMPHREYS, Constitutional Hall, Egham.

WANTED, Smart Agent, not afraid of Work. Week Towns. Fullest particulars.
W. F. Jury, 49, Peckham-park-road, London, S.E.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
WANTED, a competent Electrician to take charge of Lighting and work Picture Show between acts. Must be expert and Reliable Operator. Permanency to suitable man. Terms, references to
FRED GRANVILLE.

WANTED, Immediately, Active, Intelligent, Industrious, and Sober Bill-Inspector; also Two Good Bill-Posters with same Qualifications. State salary, references, &c., to FRANK EGERTON, Manager, Collins' Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

C. W. Poole's No. 1 Myriorama.
WANTED, for Bristol Season, Seven Weeks, Good Smart Window-Billers, use sticks. Age, height, and refs to J. R. POOLE, Music Hall, Barnstaple.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BOSTOCK and WOMBWELL'S NO. 1 AGGREGATION.
WANTED, Young, Active, Single Experienced Bill-Poster. Must be Good Window-Biller, Thoroughly up in Horse-keeping, and a Teetotaller, Early Riser, and Reliable Man. Constant Employment to Right Man. Wages to start, 26s. No Fares advanced. W. O. BURNS, Advance Agent, Post Restante, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Tour, Carpenter, Combine Baggage, Own Tools. Join Dec. 19, Luton. Give Two refs., experience, height. WARD, 2, Hickman-rd., Penarth.

To Proprietors of Music Halls, Theatres, and Hippodromes.
WANTED, Known, Advertiser, age Thirty, who is a qualified Architectural Draughtsman and Mechanical Engineer, with ten years' practical experience in the erection and supervision of some of the best places of entertainment, and capable of executing and designing complete plans and specifications for any of above, desires Appointment as Stage-Manager or Assistant (good knowledge of duties) or any light capacity where his professional experience could be combined with advantage. First-class testimonials. Note.—The expectation of large salary is not the object of Advertiser. Address, Box 8,853, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement as Manager of Variety Theatre.
Experienced in all details,
also as to working of the Bars.
Address, A. W. DEER,
12, Boulevard-mansions,
High-road, Balham, London.

WANTED, Position as Manager or Advance Manager in First-class Touring Company. Willing to advance capital on sharing terms. Twenty-five Years' experience. Box No. 8,867, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by a Thoroughly Experienced Manager, who has the highest references for competency in every department, books, bars, &c., the Management of a First-class Theatre or Music Hall. Well educated, good appearance, and security to any reasonable amount. Address, Box 7,300, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Secretary and Manager of Large Commercial Company, aged Twenty-seven, is available for Evening Work (4·30 p.m. onwards). Trained Accountancy Expert, used to handling Extensive Staffs and Refreshment Bar Sales and Accounts. Moderate terms. Box 8,732, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, J. Birbeck, Advance Agent, at Liberty, any class of Entertainment. Just concluded Two Years with North American Animated Pictures. Pleasant Cottage, West Malling, Kent.

WANTED, by Carpenter (Own Tools), Play Parts, Situation, Dec. 17. Very steady. Good references. J. NICHOLSON, T. R., Exeter; next week, West London T., W.

WANTED, by Accomplished Young Man, twenty-four, Situation on Stage, any Capacity. Height, 6ft. 1in., Abstainer, used Amateur Work, Monology, Singing, Excellent Scholar, Public Speaker, Elocutionist. P., 30, Woodbury-road, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Situation, any Position, in Theatre or Music Hall, by a Young Gentleman. Good Address. Box 8,802, "The Era" Office.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for the South Wales Hippodrome, Two First-class Leaders,
Four First Violins, Two Second, Two Violas,
Two 'Cellos, Two Basses, Pianist, Four Cornets,
Two Trombones, Two Double Drummers with effects,
Two Flautists and Clarionets,
all to wear Evening Dress and to
Commence Monday, Dec. 26, 1904.
State lowest terms in first letter, and mark same "Orchestra." Address all communications,
D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

WANTED, Leader and Clarionet, for Dec. 19. Business Twice Nightly, Variety, Manchester. Apply, by letter, stating references, &c., PERCY B. BROADHEAD, Junction Theatre, Manchester.

WANTED, Conductor, to Commence Dec. 20. Address, with particulars, terms, and photo., to C. and F. RENAD, 17, Loat's-road, Clapham-park, S.W.

JOHN HENRY COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS, EDINBURGH.
WANTED, Second Violin and 'Cello, immediately. Apply, stating age and experience, to AUGUSTE DENTON, care of Mrs SMATHERS, 2, Lauriston-terrace, Edinburgh.

WANTED, First Violin (good, reliable), must be thoroughly competent. Apply with lowest terms and references to F. REED, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

WANTED, First Violin, for Pantomime Season.
Apply, with full particulars as to salary, &c.,
CHAPMAN, Prince's Theatre, Bristol.

WANTED, Cornet, Clarionet and Bombardon Players at once, for Pitching (Shares). WRIGHT, 39, St. Mary's-road, West-hill, Hastings.

WANTED, Second Cornet (Good) for Theatre near London. Young, steady, Gentlemanly. Send refs. and state age, Box 8,860, care of "The Era."

EDEN THEATRE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.
WANTED, Clarinet (Good), Flute, and Piccolo, to open Dec. 26.
Rehearse 1 0 o'clock.
Give age, experience, salary, and references, to
R. ADDISON, Limited.

HOWARD AND WYNDHAM, Limited.
WANTED, Bassoon (First-class).
Open Monday.
Wire terms,
BURNLEY, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Trombone (Good, Steady), commence Dec. 22. References and terms to M'LEOD LOADER, Opera House, St. Helens.

WANTED, Oboe, Second Clarionet, Second Violin, for D'Oyly Carte's Operas (two Weeks), Seventeen Performances, Commencing Dec. 26. Terms inclusive. Apply, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Viola, Six Weeks Special, commencing Dec. 22. Terms and references to M'LEOD LOADER, Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

WANTED, a Viola Player (Good) for a Few Weeks.
Apply, HORACE TEAGUE, Musical Director, Cheltenham.

WANTED, First Viola, for the Moody-Manners Opera Company. Apply, stating if Opera experience, and lowest terms,
LANGLEY WYATT, Kennington Theatre, London, S.E.

WANTED, 'Cello, to open Monday next, used to Variety business.
Address, with references and salary required,
J. F. ELLISTON, Grand Theatre, Bolton.

WANTED, Lady 'Cellist. Must be Thoroughly Experienced and Good Soloist.
Address, Box 8,865, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Harpist (Good), Lady or Gent. One who could Sing preferred,
to join Violin Soloist with a view to Music Hall Engagements. Must be Good Player.
R., 67, St. Agnes-place, Kennington-park, London.

WANTED, Young Gent (or Lady), Harpist, who can Sing, to accompany Music Hall Instrumentalist. All music very easy. C. S. J., 187, the Grove, Goldhawk-road, London, W.

WANTED, Flute and Piccolo; also Trombone, to commence Monday, Dec. 26.
Send references and lowest terms to
J. DUNN, Musical Director, Theatre Royal, Greenock.

WANTED, Pianist (Young Man), to enlist in a crack Cavalry Regiment for Band work. Good opportunity for a musical education, &c.
Address, C. E.,
care of HAWKES and SON,
Denman-street, Piccadilly, London.

WANTED, a Double Drummer, with Effects, for Monday next, Dec. 12. Wire lowest terms to W. H. LENNON, Empire, Wolverhampton.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, the following Instrumentalists for Permanent Engagement at the Avenue Opera House, Sunderland:—
Flute, Cornet, Trombone, and 'Cello.
Opera experience and good references essential.
Apply, PERCIVAL CRAIG,
Avenue Opera House, Sunderland.

WANTED, First-class, Full, Complete Circus Band. Dec. 26. Short Season.
EDWARD EMERSON,
General Manager,
Circus, Hull

WANTED, Ladies' Orchestra, about Ten Performers,
for Exhibition,
Feb. 1, for Ten Days.
Terms, &c.,
HAIGHTON, Market-street, Colne, Lancashire.

WANTED, Lady Musicians.—First Violin, Second Cornet, Clarionet, and Drums, open Monday. Wire, MACDONALD, St. James's T., Manchester.

WANTED, Ladies, Good Instrumentalists and Vocalists, Mandolinists and Violinists preferred. Splendid opportunity.
Box No. 8 866, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489, Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by A1 First Violinist, Experienced, additional Instrument, Clarionet, with Conservatoire Training, engaged up to the present in prominent Orchestras, Steady, Engagement in Opera House or Town Orchestra (permanent situation preferred). First-class references. Could enter April 1, 1905, or before. Address, F. U., 811, care of Daube and Co, m.b. H., Advertising Agents, Frankfort-o-M., Germany.

WANTED, by Two Lady Violinists (First-class), Engagement. Could take Lead and Solos. Would accept Short Engagement. Box 8,845, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violin or Leader (Experienced), Engagement, Variety. First-class London References VERNON, 34, Woodville-road, Thornton Heath.

WANTED, by Violinist, Engagement in Orchestra and to play Solos. High-class Répertoire. R., 67, St. Agnes-place, Kennington-park London.

WANTED, by First Violin and Viola, Engagement. Disengaged 19th. At present with Moody-Manners Opera Co. A. G. HUMPHREYS, 9, Pearson-street, Kingsland-road, London, N.E.

WANTED, by Violinist, Experienced, Permanent Engagement. Good References.
Address, Box 8,862, care of "The Era."

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Experienced and reliable. Any Business.
ALF FOWLER, Quainton-rd., Waddesdon, Aylesbury, Bucks.

WANTED, by Cornet and String Bass (experienced), an Engagement, together or separate. References. JONES, 157, Charles Henry-st., Birmingham.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall, Steady and Reliable, London preferred. E. ROGERS, 19, Belmont-street, Kentish-town.

WANTED, by Clarionettist, Engagement. Steady and reliable. Theatre or Music Hall Preferred. First-class references. CLARIONETIST, Lyceum, Pentre, Glamorganshire.

WANTED, by Clarionettist, Engagement. Reliable, Experienced. Any Business. Highest references. Last eight years with Buxton Orchestra.
Address, Edward's Pavilion, Buxton.

WANTED, by Clarionet and Violinist (Accomplished), Theatre, Concert Hall, Engagement. V. MULLER, 583, King's-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, Clarionettist, Open for Engagements, Any Business, Highest references. J. BURNS, 48, Haymarket, London, W.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Re-engagement, in or near London. Excellent references. BASSO, 170, Drakefield-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall.
W. J. RUSSELL, 50, Eglinton-road, Plumstead, Kent.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement, Pantomime or other business.
Apply, J., 24, Hanover-street, Pimlico, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Short Engagement, Dec. 13 to 29, near Glasgow, any business. HARRY HARE, 8, Gardener-street, New City-road, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Four-Stringed Double Bass, Engagement, through closing Hippodrome, Experienced and good ref. Apply, BASSO, 28, Thomas-street, Ton-y-Pandy.

WANTED, by Trombonist, Experienced, Any Business. Can join at once.
GEORGE NICKS, 4, Trinity-street, Islington, London, N.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement (through disappointment).
J. J. HUTCHINSON, 88, Mitchell-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, by French Horn, Engagement, First or Second, First-class Experience.
Box 8,832, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl on 'Cello.
Mr CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Oboeist, Engagement, thoroughly experienced and highest references. ERNEST J. SIMPKINS, 7, Rose-hill, Swansea

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17). Engagement. July 4 to Oct. 2, Yarmouth, and Hotel Cecil. MAUD GRUNDY, 49, Haverstock-hill, N.W.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Young, reliable. First-class refs.
FLAUTIST, 75, Milson-road, West Kensington-park.

WANTED, by Flute and Piccolo, Engagement. Any business. Steady and reliable. Good references. FLAUTIST, 76, Dunbeth-rd., Coatbridge, N.B.

WANTED, Known, Pianist, Age Twenty-four, desiring to Adopt Profession, wishes to Join Company, Good Sight-reader, would not mind Sea Job. T. F. SMITH, 16, Fairlawn-street, Moss Side, Manchester.

WANTED, by First-class Pianist, Re-engagement, 'Cello or Viola. Permanency preferred. Young, steady. P., 12, Peckham-gr., London, S.E.

WANTED, by a Solo Pianiste (Brilliant), Engagement, with Humorous Songs and Sketches at the Piano. Wire or write, Miss GABRIELLE HOPE, 25, High-road, Streatham.

WANTED, by Solo Pianist (Accompanist), Engagement. Humorous Songs, Monologues, and Sketches at the Piano. Life abstainer. Offers invited. High-class Concert Company or Biograph. Box 8,881, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and Tympanist, Engagement. Thoroughly experienced. Highest references. W. G., 88, Sydney-st., Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, by Small Band, Engagement. Disengaged through Closing, after uninterrupted Season. Four Years. Good Players. Good Répertoire. CONDUCTOR, Palace Pier, Brighton.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Bateson's Orchestra, Offers, Variety or Concert. Extensive Répertoire. Miss M. Trainer, Conductress. BATESON, Bowness, Windermere.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
"49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, AND VARIETY HIPPODROME, MARKET-PLACE, BOLTON.
WANTED, the Best Talent in England to write at once for Present and Future Dates. Anything that can follow Ella's Lions, to Open Christmas and New Year Week. Also Useful Circus Artistes in all Lines. Note.—Big Turns can be Booked from this Successful Circus to any Place of Amusement in the World.
Address, KING OHMY, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Bolton.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
Owners, Messrs CARLTON and DUCKWORTH.
Lessee, Miss ADA ALEXANDRA
Miss Alexandra, having arranged to take over the above Place of Amusement for the Winter Season, commencing Monday, Dec. 26th, 1904,
WANTED, Artists in every Branch of the Equestrian Business, for that and Future Dates, Male and Female Equestrians, Clowns, Gymnasts, Acrobats, Stars, Specialities, and any Big Number with Drawing Powers.

Address, with full particulars and lowest terms, to
D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.
N.B.—Moxon Family, Borello, Bandoni, Lynohs, Goliath, Baby Lloyd, communicate.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME, NEW BROMPTON, KENT.
WANTED, Dec. 19, First-class Novelties, Refined Varieties, Sketch Artistes, or Good Numbers new to the District. Lowest terms, T. G. TRANSFIELD.

DRILL HALL, BOLTON.
Exhibition, Carnival, and World's Fair
Opens Dec. 24, 1904, until Jan. 21, 1905.
Lessee, JOHN GREEN.
Manager, E. A. WARD.
WANTED, Ground Acts and Novelties for Ring, &c., to open Dec. 24 or later; also Wanted Menagerie, to include Performing Animals, for Two or more Weeks. Positions to Let for High-class Side Shows, Illusions, Marionettes, Games, Fancy Stalls, Wire-Workers, Exhibits of any kind. Artistes state terms (no interviews). Silence a polite negative pro tem. All communications, E. A. WARD, 1, Upper Duke-st., Manchester.

WANTED, Circus Artistes, all Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties. Nothing too Big. State terms, lithos., &c, for Dec. 24, onwards, Edgar Stebbings, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Dunlops wire address. Contract waiting.

YARMOUTH HIPPODROME.
WANTED, a Few Useful Artistes in all Lines,
for a Few Weeks, commencing Dec. 26.
Apply,
G. GILBERT.

CIRCUS, HULL.
WANTED, First-class Equestrians and Circus Artistes of all Descriptions, Dec. 26, Short Season.
EDWARD EMERSON, General Manager.

WANTED, Gent. Scene Act Rider, Posturers, Benders, Clowns, Nigger Comedians, Useful Ground Acts. DENNIS, Circus, Hyde, Cheshire.

WANTED, for Empire, Paisley, Variety and Circus Acts of all kinds for Dec. 19 and later.
Address, DELNO FRITZ.

WANTED, Smart Young Man, one who could Agoust and Understand Aerial Fixings.
Communicate, Marvellous HOWARDS,
Office, 432, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Smart Tumbler for Well-known Comic Act.
Apply, with Correct List of Tricks, Salary, Height, and Weight, to
Box 8 854, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for Renowned Troupe, Smart Tumbler, Must be Sixteen. Send list of tricks and particulars, to Box 8,850, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Good Tumbler and a Good Top Mount.
Apply, Box 8,837, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for First-class Troupe, a Lad aged Sixteen to Twenty-one. Must be Smart Tumbler. State Tricks, Height, &c. Box 8,834, "The Era."

WANTED, a Smart Tumbler, for Comedy Trampoline Act. All particulars, Box 8,855, care of "The Era."

WANTED, a Good, Smart Circus Man (must be Good Showman), and able to introduce an Animal Performance, Ponies, &c. One able to address an Audience properly. A Good Ringmaster or Trainer would suit. One able to speak a little German preferred. Long Engagement to a Smart, Good-looking Man.
Address, BEBZAC,
Hansa Theatre, Hamburg,
Germany.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.
General Manager, GEO. SCOTT.
WANTED, Known, at present, address all communications Seven Stars Hotel, St John-street, Wolverhampton; on and after Dec. 23, The New Hippo.

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, John Irvin and Miss Pinder, Bareback Equestrians, Pigeon Charmers. Liberty Boxing Day. Good Acts. Own Horse. 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Austin, Comic Pyramid of Chairs, Double and Single Entrées; also Charles Henrick, First-class Foot Equilibrist, Finish To-night, Two Weeks, Hippodrome, Yarmouth. Monday next, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

WANTED, Known, Happy Armstrong, Lightning Pyramid Drummer, Instrumentalist, and Comic Orator. Christmas and New Year Vacant. This, Theatre, Runcorn; next, Theatre, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Known, Ping-Pong, the Circus Little Tich, Concluding Four Weeks, Hippodrome, Belfast. Liberty Two Weeks, previous to appearing Crystal Palace, London. Address, 14, Garfield-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Clown and Donkey, Comic Act, at Liberty Easter Week. The Two Dominos, Cooke's Royal Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with Good Entrées. Thanking Messrs Hancock, Boscoe, and Day for offer. Still vacant Dec. 26.
Wire or write, Grand, Sheffield.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Knowo, Eleonora, Lady Gymnast, La Belle Tosca Charming Wire Expert; a'so Mdlle. Vanda, in her Great Juggling Speciality. Three Distinct Specialities Vacant Jan. 2 and 9. Address, Empire, Cradley Heath.

WANTED, Known, J. Colma, Comedy Bar Performer, Liberty Monday, onwards. Would join Partner. 10, Lease-lane, Birmingham.

WANTED, Monday next, by Alveno and Cleo, Sensational Novelty Gymnasts, on the Revolving Breakaway Ladder. This week, usual success, Tivoli, Manchester. Free Dec. 12 and 19. Managers with disappointments Monday next wire best Offers.

WANTED, Known, Arieland Astarte, Artistic Stage Gymnastic Act. Free 12th, 19th, 26th. Wire, Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, Three Bar Comedians, this, Hippodrome, Scarborough; free, Dec. 12, 19, 23. After Saturday, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Feltina Troupe, Lady and Gentlemen Acrobats (Seven in Number), all over Age. Also Bros. Levett, Comedy Vaulting Act, Conclude To-night, Great Success, Hippo., Stoke; Mon, Empire, Dudley. Lib, Jan. 9 and 16 After Jan. 23 the Seltina Troupe will be known as the Seven Wulfrunas, in Comedy Acrobatic Sketch entitled "A Waiter's Troublee."

WANTED, Known, The Rabys, Acrobatic Hand-balancers and Gymnastic Marvels, take all by surprise. Terms, Lithos., 29, Garden-st., Todmorden.

WANTED, Known, Huntly and Palmer, Comedians, in Original Sketch, introducing Acrobatic Goat, Performing and Wrestling Donkey, only one in England. Liberty Monday. Circus or Stage. Big Act for Panto. Permanent, 42, Milbourne-street, Blackpool.

WANTED, Three Dizars, Lady and Gentlemen Acrobats; Cora Trevalla, Tight Wire; and Tom Hall's Dog and Monkey Act, Free Christmas and New Year. This, Runcorn; Next, Theatre Whitehaven.

WANTED, by Zedoras (Two Ladies, Two Gents), Original Flying Act on Stage or in Auditorium in conjunction with the Human Arrow Novelty, Weeks of Jan 2, 9, 23, and 30. Hippo., Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Percy True, Wire Act, At Liberty, Poles 8ft. Terms, £20 per week. 106, Cromwell-road, Kensington.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and 23 by Les Uniques, Original Electrical Perpendicular Ladders. Two Ladies, Two Gents. Address, Hippodrome, Belfast.

WANTED, Known, Shavo, Expert and Comed. Juggler, Finishes To-night E., Greenock. Monday, Palace, Aberdeen. Vacant Dec 21, also 26. Wire Aberdeen.

WANTED, by Comedy Gymnast (Rings), and Grotesque Knockabout. Join any Dumb Act. Own Apparatus, Dresses. Reliable. Box 8,858, care of "The Era" Office.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.
WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

GOOD TEMPLARS' HARMONIC ASSOCIATION.
Saturday Evening Soirées and Concerts.
Instituted 1869.
Season, from Sept. 3, 1904, till March 25, 1905.
WANTED, Variety Artistes, to Send Vacant Dates and Lowest Terms. Three Halls. A Turn of Fifteen to Twenty Minutes in each. Conveyances provided between the Halls. All communications to WILLIAM BIGGAM, Musical Secretary, 126, Rotten-row, Glasgow.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, CO. DURHAM.
WANTED, Variety Artistes in all Lines. Tops of Bill for Jan. 2 onwards.
Apply, DAVID WILLIAMS, Manager.

WANTED, Variety Artistes all Lines, Specialities, Double Turns, Sisters, Serios. Write full particulars, LEE, 23, Upper Marylebone-street, London, W.

WANTED, Variety Artistes in all Lines, Dec, 19, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, for Dec. 19, 26, onwards, Variety Artistes, Serios, and Specialities, all Lines, West and Wales. T. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, in all Lines, Sisters, and Funny Acts (Hall Small), Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Birmingham. ARTHUR TURLE, 51, Trafalgar-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Variety Artists, all Descriptions, also Gentleman with Bioscope, to Share with First-class Entertainment. Now on Tour. Must have Latest Pictures. Full particulars to DILLON, New Theatre Royal, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

WANTED, for Hancock's Circus, Plymouth, Dec 12, 1904, and onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines. Good Specialities. Money sure; Dec 19 and onwards, Male and Female Bareback Equestrians, without Own Horses, as we have Good Reliable Horses.

THE COLISEUM,
SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLISS;
General Manager, CHAS MELVIN.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety Artistes of all Descriptions, Large and Small, for Dec. 19, 26, onwards.
Call Monday, Dec. 12, for
Nat Travers and Company, Katie Weston, Orion Bros., the Evalos, Mr E. Carle and Carmanelli, Sisters Le Graham, Howard and Anson, the Tatlers, &c.
Important.—Rehearsal 11'0 o'clock.
Artistes book to Sheerness-on-Sea.
All communications to
GENERAL MANAGER.

WANTED, for Perth Theatre, Perth, for Week, commencing Dec. 26 (Christmas Week) and Jan. 2 (New Year's Week), Empire, Paisley, Variety Artistes of all kinds, Jugglers, Acrobats, Dog Shows, Performing Seals, anything with Drawing Powers. Lowest terms to DELNO FAITZ, Empire, Paisley.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA PIER and PAVILION.
WANTED, Applications from Good Artistes Competent to Form and Lead a First-class Company of Pierrots or Minstrels for next Season, commencing at Easter. Applications, with terms and references, to MANAGER, The Pier, St. Annes-on-Sea.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Dec. 19, onwards, for
Liverpool, Ashton, St. Helens, and Warrington.
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all Lines, Big Attractions, Star Turns, Dec. 26, onwards. Lowest terms, Bookings, Lithos, &c., first letter, Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Dunlop wire address. Contract waiting.

WANTED, Artists of Every Description, Dec. 26 Jan. 2, 30, Feb. 6.
Dec 26, Jan. 2, 30, Feb. 6.
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 30, Feb. 6.
Dalton's Agency,
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED. Artistes all Lines, Monday onward. Wire for Monday, write later Dates. REEKIE and STEPHESS, Tivoli, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, Dec. 19, week; Doubles doing Singles preferred. No rubbish, and must be cheap. Nightingale, Agent for Denman-Wood, Theatre, Bacup.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.
All communications must be addressed to Burns' Agency only, London, Hartlepool, and Manchester.
Telephone 0,231. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."

WANTED, Known, Call, Monday, Dec. 12, at 10 o'clock prompt. Magic Kettle, Three Geraldi, Ryde and Berman, Ted Waite, Gus Harris, Florence Deighton, Millie Harris, Three Sisters Urma, Burns's Bioscope, the Earles.
(Signed) H. BURNS, General Manager.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Dec. 12 and on. Fred Durham's Agency, 'Phone 2,477 Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Artists, for Dunfermline, Dec. 19. Those coming North Preferred. NOBLE, 16, Parnie-street, Glasgow.

HIPPODROME, WAKEFIELD.
Proprietors, THE WAKEFIELD HIPPODROME COMPANY, Ltd.
WANTED, Artistes of every Description, anything to follow Elliotts and Salvonas, Ella's Lions, Maggie Duggan, Atlas and Vulcana, &c.
All applications to be made direct to the Company's Offices, Teall-street, Wakefield.
Manager, D. G. MOONEY;
Secretary, WALTER EMMETT.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now, on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artistes all Lines, Good Comedy Acts, Doubles doing Singles. Open Dec. 12. Long Theatre Tour to Suitable People. Lowest terms to MITCHELSON, 2, Stoddart-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Star Artistes for Dec. 26 and onwards, for London and the Provinces. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies. Dec. 19 and 26 REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote l west, Hall small.

WANTED, First-class Artistes, to send lowest terms, bookings, and full particulars, to Yates's Agency, Harpurhey, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Doubles doing Singles. State lowest terms. Hall small. OSWALD REED, 25, Southampton-street, Reading. Pianist settled.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for Consett. To open Monday. Wire lowest. Also for Carlisle, Dec. 26. Wire, HUGH DEMPSEY, Theatre, Bursiem.

WANTED, Star Artistes, in Every Line, for Immediate and Future Dates. Nothing too Big. Please send Full List of Bookings and lowest terms, lithos., photos., &c., to
Barnard and Deetrich, Continental Hustlers, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines. State lowest terms, Bookings, Lithos, &c. Have a few Immediate Dates to offer Comedy Acts (North). Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency Morecambe. Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c. Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe."

EMPIRE, CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, Refined Artistes, all Lines, Specialities, Novelties, &c., Dec. 26, on. Also Complete Show for week, Dec. 19. Write or wire, DONALD DALKEITH, Empire, Cambridge.

WANTED, Artistes, of Every Description, Dec. 12, 19, 26, Jan. 2, and onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. I can place you, Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool, Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,676 Royal. Representative, Jesse Burton, Esq.

KING'S THEATRE OF VARIETIES, ROSCOMMON-STREET, LIVERPOOL.
General Manager, ARTHUR H. WATERHOUSE.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Write in at once, Artistes of every description, February, onwards.

James Anderson and Son, Variety Agents, 6, Great Clyde-street Glasgow.
WANTED, Known, we are Booking for all the Principal Music Halls in Scotland and Scotch Concerts. Artistes required in all Lines. Good Jumping Act wanted at once.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Specialities, &c., for Eastbourne, Dec. 26, onward. Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines for Dec. 26, Grand, Bolton; and Jan. 2, Woolwich. Combination. Apply by letter, Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

BRITANNIA MUSIC HALL, GLASGOW.
WANTED, Artistes, all Lines. Old Britannia Favourites requested to write at once. Two good Comedy Acts wire for Monday next. GEO. SAPHRINI, Manager.

HIPPODROME, MACCLESFIELD.—Lessees, H. BENDON and J. LARDER.
WANTED, Artistes, Dec. 19 and on. All comers, HARRY BENDON, Business-Manager.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.
WANTED, Artistes, January, on. Rehearsal Monday next, 2'0 o'clock, for Will Onda's Star Company. Letters, S. L. LEE

WANTED, for 19th and 26th, onwards, Artistes in All Lines. Nothing Too Big. PRICHARD, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Big Variety Star, also Magic Kettle and Lady Serio, for Dec. 26 (Six Nights). JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

To the Variety Profession.
WANTED, Known, Fredel Variety Agency, Booking Artistes for English and Continental Halls. Grand Turns, Tours arranged, Terms very reasonable. Correspondence in Six Languages. Big Stars and Novelties write immediately. Manager, J. F. HILL, 51, Butts, Coventry.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin, All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts Now in Dublin for the above, the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct or through Agents.
All communications to Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
WANTED, for the above, Commencing Monday, Dec. 26, 1904, Stars, Specialities, and any Big Numbers with Drawing Powers. Address, with full particulars and lowest terms, to D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED Wanted, Wanted, for Dec. 19, 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, and all Dates through Summer of 1905, Star Turns, Tops of Bills, all the Finest and Biggest Acts Required, Price no object, for Manchester, Salford, Ashton, Bury, Preston, Liverpool, Oldham, Rochdale, Blackpool, Morecambe, Barrow, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen Belfast, Dublin, Newcastle, Hull, Leeds, Brighton, Bristol, Birmingham, Bolton, Middlesbrough, &c.
New and Novel Acts can have Six Months' Solid Engagements. Send immediately. Terms, Photos, Lithos., &c., to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144 Manchester

M. CHESTER and CO.,
Dramatic and Variety Agents,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Amusements."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Turns, all kinds, for Cork and other Irish Towns. Must be Refined.

PALACE OF VARIETIES, STONEBRIDGE-PARK, WILLESDEN
(Close to Willesden-junction Station).
WANTED, Turns, for Saturday Nights. Terms, 5s.; Double Turns, 8s.
Apply, STAGE MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, Single Speciality Turn for Dec. 16.
G. BAKER, Hippodrome, Newport, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy Acts, Dec. 12, onwards; also Artistes in all Lines. Send full list of dates, litho., terms, and full particulars to Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London." No connection with any other Firm.

WANTED, Artistes to Note, all Dates for this Year are filled, First Vacant Dates, Feb. 13, 27. Double and Single Turns write in. Can Book Freak at once. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

GEO. ZALVA'S AGENCY,
61, St. George's-road,
Great Yarmouth.
WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, Onwards, Big and Novel Specialities. Big and Novel Specialities.
Performing Animals.
Performing Animals.
Variety Artists, of Every Description. Give fullest particulars.
Geo. Zalva, 61, St. George's-road, Great Yarmouth.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
General Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, Wanted, Dec. 19, 26, and onwards, Big Specialities, Novelties, Comedians, Sisters, Serios, Musical Acts, &c.
Must be Refined, or useless.
Call, Monday, Dec. 12.
Stalg's Cycle Sensation, Arthur Richards, The Jansons, Renee Walon, Three Etherdos, Fred Land, Bert Williams, Jean Seul.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.
WANTED, for Dec. 26, and on, Specialities, Funny Acts, Comedians, &c., To work Ring or Stage. Address, C. ALGIE.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL PAVILION, CARNARVON.
WANTED, Now and Onwards, Drawing Powers, Flying Acts, Knockabouts, Sisters. Good Cake Walkers may write to WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GREENOCK.
HARRY LAVERY SKIVINGTON, Lessee and Manager.
WANTED, Big Star, Comedy, and Musical Acts, for Dec. 19 and 26, Jan. 2, 23, and 30.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Christmas and New Year's Weeks and onwards. The Leading Provincial Firm. James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool. Telephone, 1,686 Royal.

WANTED, for Dec. 19, 26, and New Year, Accrington Hippodrome (Stage only), Good Singing and Speciality Acts, new to Town. Please note.—Accrington is barred by Blackburn. Call, 10 p m, for Revill Troupe, Jimson's Animals, Codge, C. Casseli, Onda and Leon, P. Norheen, F. Claribill, H. Boothman, Pictures. For Dates, Vandy's Agency, Barnes, London, S.W. Wires, "Vandyking, London." Telephone, 222, Putney.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Dec. 26th and onward. HORNER, Empire, Burnley.

SAMUEL'S EXHIBITION PALACE,
6, Henry-street, Dublin. Open all the year round.
WANTED, a Good Novelty, Musical or Other. Write for Monday next, Dec. 12, to MANAGER. Forward photos for picture gallery.

GEORGE PEARSON'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Good Tops and Bottoms for Dec. 26, 1904, onwards, North. Send full particulars, bookings, terms, lithos., to Mr George Pearson, 6, Dunstan-road, Honor-oak, S.E.

WANTED, Useful People for Small Variety Theatre; able to Play in Pantomime. Money low, but sure. PROPRIETOR, Wonderland, Sheffield.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

THE HIPPODROME,
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Proprietor, Mr. GEO. ZALVA.
WANTED, to Open Dec 26 and Jan. 2, the Best of Talent in All Lines, Good Animal Acts, Specialities, and any Act that can be performed in a Ring. A Couple of good, sober Window-Billers can open at once. Also a good Outdoor Manager to Combine Ringmaster. Also a good Leader to provide a String Band of Eight or Ten. Must have good Répertoire, and understand his duties. Apply, with lowest terms and full particulars, GEO. ZALVA, 61, St. George's-road, Great Yarmouth.

WANTED, the Finest Talent Obtainable, Dec. 26 (North) and Jan 2.
Artists booked, Victoria, Broughton, com. immediately.
G. and F. Peel, Granville House, Arundel-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Talent, in All Lines, Suitable for Open-air Show for Christmas and New Year. Address, STOTT, Manager, Iona-st. Carnival, Edinburgh.

TIVOLI and QUEEN'S VARIETY THEATRES, GLASGOW.
Proprietors, COLQUHOUN and ARMSTRONG, Ltd.
General Manager, S. KING ALEXANDER.
WANTED the Cream of the Profession to send their Open Dates, which may be Booked Direct or through their Agents.
No Turn too big. No Terms too high.
Fancy priced Unknowns not entertained.
Several Immediate Dates Open for Good Talent.
Brilliant Top Liners wanted for New Year.
Address all letters on Business of both Theatres to S. KING ALEXANDER, Head Office, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

All Artists holding Dates please remember that bill matter two weeks in advance is imperative.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 26, Top Lines, with Drawing Power, London and Provinces. Best Syndicate Halls
Geo. Aytoun, 22 Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." Telephone, 1,949 Hop. Quartette for Pantomime write, and Specialities.

WANTED, Good Comedy Dumb Shows, One Week, Dec. 12, Radcliffe. Lowest terms. SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe

WANTED, Trapeze, Flying Rings, Horizontal Bars, Wire Act, Globe Performers, or other suitable Acts for Three Days Twice Daily, August Bank Holiday, Franklin's Gardens, Northampton. Lithos. and actual lowest, M'Askell, 25, Elizabeth-st., Ibrox, Glasgow.

ARMSTRONG'S AGENCY.
WANTED, First-class Numbers, All Kinds, to send Dates and terms immediately.
Special Notice.—As I have retired from the Management of the Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, I wish it to be understood that all Contracts made by me for Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited, will stand good. Artistes please send bill matter fourteen days previous to opening, addressed Manager, Tivoli Theatre.
Signed, BARNEY ARMSTRONG.
Another Important Notice.
Armstrong's Agency will in future be under the Management of Bernard Armstrong (Nephew to Barney). Artistes Booked in North having any Odd Weeks Vacant, wire or write to Bernard Armstrong, 353, Bath-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Serios, Wanted Serios, Comedians, Comedians, Comedians, and Star Star Artistes, Artistes, Immediate and onwards.
Burns's Agency, London, Hartlepool, Manchester,
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." Telephone, 0,231.

WANTED, Dec. 26, onwards, for Tivoli, Mansfield, Notts, Good Serios, Sisters doing Singles, Song Pictures, Comedians, &c. Regards to Old Friends. Sisters Adrian, Sisters Hypatia, Ida Royston, Vere and Royal, Jack Heffron, Ted Fletcher, Sporgo, Daisy Turner, Harry Lowman, &c. Glad to hear from above. KATE ALLEN, Ellesmere, King's Heath.

WANTED, Smart Serios and Ballad Vocalists; also Sisters for Cambridge and Norwich. Two weeks at each. WILL TURNER, Red Cow Hotel, Cambridge.

WANTED, Experienced Knockabout Pantomimist, for the Continent. Apply, stating age, terms, and full particulars, PINAUD and CRABTREE, Hansa Theatre, Hamburg.

WANTED, a Young Man Comedian, good at Knockabout and Patter. Address, O. O., care of Mrs PALMER, 21, Lady's-lane, Norwich.

WANTED, Conjurors, Ventriloquists, and Entertainers generally to send best terms for Single Night's Programme for last week in February. SECRETARY, Arts and Crafts Exhibition, Lichfield, Staffs.

WANTED, Smart Lady, about 5ft. 6in., to assist in Big Act. Apply, by letter only, with photograph for interview, FRED CLIFFORD, 39, Brook-street, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED.—Music Hall Manager, about to Tour with Variety Company through Provinces, is prepared to engage Two Beginners. Small Salary. Travelling expenses. Premium required. Apply (Strict Confidence), Box 8,847, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Beginners, Either Sex, for Small Hall and Concerts Call Saturday, 4'0 to 8'0; or, write, MANAGER, 75, Clinton-road, Mile-end.

WANTED, Competent People (a Lady and Gentleman) who thoroughly understand the working of the Flying Lady Show. Box 8,875, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Good Hypnotic Subjects. State past experience. Lowest terms, references. Join 19th or 26th. SAVANT, 33, King-street, Dudley.

WANTED, a Black Boy, about Fourteen, to work with Troupe. Address, RHYNE, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley.

WANTED, First-class Operator for Bioscope. Thorough knowledge Electric and Lime. One used to Two-Hour Shows preferred. Permanency. Letters only, W. F. JURY, 49, Peckham-park-rd., London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Cinématograph Turn, Up-to-date, for Tour. State lowest terms and particulars, to SCENOGRAPH, Pier, Llandudno.

WANTED, for Payne's Bio-Photoscopes, First-class Operators, Well up in Electric, Alternating and Direct. 23, Brixton-road, London, S.W.

WANTED, Good Operators, Open 19th, Bioscope or Prestwich Electric. HUGHES, Olympia, Bury. (With or without own Machine.)

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Cinématograph Operator, with own Machine. Absolute lowest terms. Also Films, cheap, for cash. 37, Diana-road, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, that Gracie Bard, Juvenile, is still on Tour. Recalled again and again. Offers invited for Summer. See Cards.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Palmer, Vocalist, Liberty Dec 12 19 Wire early for Sure Success to 11, Birches-terrace, Old Basford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Miss Madge Roberts, Characteristic Comedienne and Dancer, at Liberty Dec. 26, 1904. Monday, Coliseum, Brighton

The Great Maccann.
WANTED, Dec 12, Jan. 2, 9, 1905, the Famous Concertina King, on his Patent Instruments, value, £500. 16, Dunkeld-street, Liverpool. Tele. 0,500, Anfield.

WANTED, Known, Gus Balsiger, Comedian, Vocalist, and Trick Musician, at Liberty Dec. 19. Next week, Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, Bandoni, the Original Concertina King and One-Man Band, at Liberty Monday. Address, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, through Obliging the Great Magical Kettle Act. Terms, &c, SAVANT, 33, King-street, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, F. Matthews, Refined Baritone Vocalist, late of Livermore's Court Minstrels, now at Liberty as Lecturer, &c. Offers invited from Managers of Pierrots and Concert Parties. Terms, &c., address, to 36, Salisbury-street, Belfast.

WANTED, G. Codman, alias Pete Ebo, Highest Pedestal Bone Soloist, Negro Comedian, Lib. Monday, 12th. Vac Panto. Wire, P. O., Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Mayo, Up-to-Date Negro Comedian, in his Great Copyright Original Song and Sketch, "Collier Lads of Lancashire," Six or Twelve Nights. Permanent Address, MAYO, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, Dec. 26, by Tom Hulme, Eccentric Comedian. This week, Britannia, Glasgow; next, Empire, Paisley. Also Liberty for Pantomime.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Woodward, Character Comedian and Actor-Vocalist, is Vacant Dec. 19. Comr., Victoria T., Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, Picitt the Muscular Master of Manacles, Handcuff King without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes. Act Entirely Different to any other. Searched from Head to Feet, Conjurors' Methods Impossible. A Rival to Nobody. My Act cannot be Copied. No Fetter Refused; Regulation Handcuffs not insisted upon. Big Sensational Top-of the-bill Act. Well Staged. Pretty Lady Assistant, with Nightly Change of Handsome Dresses Good Lithos., and only a Few Vacant Dates. First open Date Feb. 27, 1905. Agents; or, direct to Cooke's Grand Circus, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Dec. 19, Jan. 2, On, by the Original Kardoc, King of all Handcuff Kings, the World's Challenger. New Act, Different to all others. Startling Lithos., Sure Draw. Monday, Grand, Manchester. Booked by Will Sley, Esq. Dec. 26, Lyceum, Stafford. Notice.—This is a Handcuff Act from start to finish. Write or wire, Grand, Manchester; or Will Sley.

WANTED, Known, John Irvin, Foot Equilibrist, just finished Engagement. Liberty Boxing Day. Agents, Brothers Artois; or, 144, High-street, Deptford.

WANTED, Known, Star Knight's Wonderful Spectacular Dumb Act is suitable for Music Hall, Pantomime, or Circus Ring. 93, Camden-st., N.W

WANTED, Immediate and Later Dates, by James Carl, Magician. Write for Lithos, Terms, &c, to 100, Chester-green-road; or, G Thacker, Agent, 71, Lorne-road, Northampton.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2, through obliging, Circus Engagements for Great Magical Kettle Act. SAVANT, 33, King-street, Dudley.

WANTED.—The Great Kyoto (Original), the Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box; also May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer, just concluded Five Weeks' enormous success, Casino De Paris. Monday, Theatre Royal Worthing. Thanks to Bode, Esq, Tiller, Esq, Macnaghten, Esq, S. Byman, Esq, for Pantomime offers, also Marinelli. We have the following Immediate Dates now Open:—Dec. 19, 1904, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6 and 13, 1905.

WANTED, the Percys (Harry and Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, Speciality Performers, Dec. 19. Wire, Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, Monday next by the Coopers, introducing Comedy and Music, Post Horns, Coach Horns, Cornets, and Bugles. Wire, 154, Queen-street, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Monday Next, by Marcus Boyle, Comedian; Ada Whitton, Burlesque Actress. Wire, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 26, and Jan. 2, by N. C. Bostock and Nellie Elliene. Nothing Better, Huge Successes. Wire, Theatre, Runcorn,

WANTED, Dec. 19, 1904, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 30, 1905, by the Great Kyoto; also May Geraldine. Monday, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Wanted Known, Dec. 19, 26 Vacant for the Two American Hartleys, Comedy Sketch Artists. Address, AMERICAN HARTLEYS, 112, Eglinton-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, by Warner and Wilson, Monday next, Dec. 12, also 26th. A sure success. Double and Singles 2, Delacour-street, Stanley.

WANTED, by Engist and Orsa, Continental Musical Comedians, Immediate Dates, Address, 17, Berwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Harris and Worth, Big success at Bristol. Thank Mr Barraford releasing us Brighton. Bailiffs, "Robinson Crusoe," T. R., Chesterfield.

WANTED, Dec 19 and 26, by Denton and Dale, Vocal and Cross-talk Comedians. Good Lithos. Address, next week, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, the Renowned Turle and Turle, Liberty Monday next. Two Rattling Rollicking Distinct Acts, Knockabout, Trapeze, Comic Rings, Burlesque Perch, &c. Sure Draw. Wire, 10, Berwick-street, All Saints, Manchester.

WANTED, by Tom Hall's Burlesque Acrobatic Nippers, Monkey, and Dog, Christmas and New Year's Week. Address, Theatre, Whitehaven, or Geo. Aytoun.

WANTED, by the Five Rhynes (Two Big Comedy Acts) Monday next, Dec. 12, 19, and 26. Address, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley.

WANTED, Known, the Four Colussis' Great Act, New, Novel, and Neat, open to treat for Christmas, First-class Managers only. Thanks for offers. Must have terms. Address, 34, Union-street, West-road, Banbury.

WANTED, Monday Next, the Rushforths, Song Illustrators; King Leo, Ventriloquist (Two Star Acts). Wire, Palace, Northampton.

WANTED, Les Frères Baptiste, Les deux Chefs, in their refined Comic Juggling and Pot-Pourri Act, "Troubles in the Kitchen." Liberty Dec. 19. Address, Empire, Hounslow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by the Musical Albanos, Dec. 12 and Dec. 19.

Wire! Wire! Wire! Wire!
Wire! Wire! Wire! Wire!
38, Macdonald-street,
Wavertree, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dec. 12, Bert Williams, Ventriloquist. Managers in search of a Good, Novel, Refined Act, wire, New Pavilion, Thorlton.

WANTED, Monday next, Dec. 12 and 19, by Grieve, Ventriloquist. Big Novelty Show. Wire offers, 4, West-street, Hucknall Torkard (Notts).

WANTED, Known, Fleta, the Flying Lady Illusion, at Liberty for Christmas and onwards. BERT STEWART, Temperance Hall, Peterborough.

WANTED, Immediate Dates for Flying Lady Illusion. Usual success this week, Hancock's Winter Gardens, Plymouth. Coms., DAN DARRELL

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."
WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Juvenile Patriotic, Naval, Military Spectacle, concluding terrific success, Irving Theatre, Seacombe. Next week, Park Palace, Liverpool.

WANTED, Dates for Juvenile Military Spectacle "Russo and Japan War." Letters, CLARKE, 2 in 236, Great College-street, London, N.W

WANTED, Dec. 28, 29, 31, New Year's Week, and later by the Royal Entertainers. Salary or Share. Mr HARRY LISTON, Egyptian Hall, W.

WANTED, Known, Alfrano Tatters Troupe at Liberty, in their new Novel Funny Comic Military Sketch, "The Bear and Sentinel," for any Travelling Entertainment. Two Turns. Russian Costumes. 161, Pershore-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Good Agent to Book Novelty Comedy Sketch produced at First-class Manchester Music Hall. ALDWORTH, 79, Richmond-road, Dalston.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Rosini's Great Toy Menagerie of Performing Dogs at Liberty Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2. Permanent address, 9, Cobbold-street, Ipswich.

WANTED, Known, Spangeletti's Stage Circus, Laughing Hit of Every Programme we work, Liberty Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16, onwards. This week, Theatre, Burslem; Monday next, Hippodrome, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Immediate and Future Bookings for the Edison-Paul Animated Pictures. Latest Subjects. This week, Aquarium, Scarborough. Acknowledged by Management to be the Finest Pictures yet Exhibited. Machines and Operator always at Liberty. Seventy-fourth Week Continuous Run at Empire, Hull. Change weekly. Refer to J. Sylvester Sage. After Saturday, add., T. M. PAUL, Empire Theatre, Shildon, Durham.

WANTED, Known, Jasper Redfern's World-renowned Animated Pictures, First in 1895, Foremost ever since. Terms, JASPER REDFERN, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Engagement for Bioscope Animated Pictures. New, Novel, and Up to Date. SAYERS, 16, Clova-road, Forest-gate.

WANTED, Dates, Gregory's Bioscope. Perfection Pictures, Machine, and Expert Operator. Liberty Monday. Wire, GREGORY, 51, Scott-street, Cardiff.

WANTED, Dates, for Bioscope Pictures, also Troupe of Dogs; the High Leaping Dog the Wonder of the Age. LE CLAIR, Avenue Theatre, Morpeth.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Showmen's Guild —Annual Audit of the Accounts.
WANTED.—All Committee Men are Requested to Send in Monies received by them, and all Outstanding Advertisement Accounts in the Year Book must be Paid at once. The Books must Close Dec. 26. H. M. HORNE, General and Financial Secretary, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Handsellers to know Simons is the Man for Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery. Send £5 for Special Parcel.

117, Houndsditch, London

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, al kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom. For particulars apply to F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others to Know Simons is the Cheapest Place for Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, and Cheap Jewellery. Best-class French Paste Stocked for the Profession. 117, Houndsditch.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermilionettes, Permanent Reds, Carminee, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Write for price list or call, Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

Chiappa and Sons, Limited, of 6, Little Bath-street, Clerkenwell, London, and 17, Milton-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

Sole Representatives of Messrs Gavioli and Cie, of Paris.

WANTED, all Showmen to Know that every kind of repairs at reasonable prices and best workmanship, guaranteed to give satisfaction, are now undertaken at both the above addresses. Every description of Organ Playing by Cardboard Music sold at reduced prices, and all kinds of Cardboard Music supplied at once. A large stock of Second-Hand Organs, all newly done-up, with purchaser's own tunes, for Sale from £15; also large size Organs with Drums, thoroughly renovated, from £60.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities. SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON, 66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

WANTED, for World's Fair, Side Shows and Novelties; also Space to Let. OWEN BAGAN, Proprietor, 66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Novelties of every description, open Monday, Dec. 12, and on. Large shop in Caple-street. Stage erected 12ft. by 12ft., suitable for any Act. Shares or salary. LEO, 58, Caple-st, Dublin.

WANTED, Known, Novelties Required for next Summer Season for Side Shows. Nothing too big Apply, MANAGER, Palace, Rhyl.

WANTED, Quick Show Novelties, for Side Show with Paintings. Open at once. Shares. Address, STOTT, Manager, Iona-st. Carnival, Edinburgh.

WANTED, for Immediate and Future Dates for Shops in Very Best Positions in Portsmouth and Ryde, Up-to-date Novelties on Salary or Share. Three Weeks certain, but must be A 1. Apply, 8, Bank-gardens, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks, for South Shields and Newcastle; also Vacancy for Christmas and New Year. FRISCO, 4, Market-place, S. Shields.

WANTED, Novelties, for the Best Shop in Chatham, next door to Gaiety. R. J. LOVEGROVE, 51, High-street.

WANTED, Novelties, Willing Workers. Six Weeks' Engagement, Shops, S. Wales. Open Monday, 12th, on. PHILLIPS, 17, Dunraven-st., Ton-y-Pandy,

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Good Stage Show, Good Stage Show, also Side Show, and any Novelty.

Must be good.

Christmas and New Year.

Apply, W. A. COWIE, Newcastle Exhibitions, Limited, 43, Grainger-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Side-shows, Novelties &c., for Industrial Trades' Touring Exhibition, opening at Cambridge, Jan. 1, 1905.

Splendid opportunity for First-class Shows.

Apply, CHARLES COOKSON, Manager, Southport.

WANTED, Good Freaks or Novelties, to Follow Lucy Moore, Bigg-street, Sunderland; High-street, Gateshead; and Shields-road, Byker. Anything Special with Flash. Six Weeks Certain. Shares. Wire for Monday, the Man without an Alias, GEORGE MITCHELL, 272, Shields-road, Byker, Newcastle.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, to Open Dec. 19, Shares or Salary, for Two Weeks. Great Success of Marie De Vere, Lib. Jan. 2, 1905, Lady Sword Swallowing and Electric Light Swallowing. T. WALLSER, Wonderland, Octagon, Plymouth.

WANTED, Freaks and Quick-showing Novelties, for the Best Position in Dublin. Wire for Monday. Also Something Good for Christmas Must have Good Window Flash. MANFIELD, 9, Mary-street.

Dudley and District Trades Exhibition, Jan 23 to Feb. 4.
WANTED, Magic Kettle for Side-show. Terms, Shares. Also Distorting Mirrors. Add., MANAGER, Exhibition Office, Public Hall, Dudley.

WANTED, Tattoo Artist (First-class), to open at once. Share or Salary. PICKARD, American Museum, 101, Trongate, Glasgow.

WANTED, Good Plankeman, Comedian, Good Répertoire Songs. Used Tents. State Age, Wages, MARSHALL and WEST, Auction Vans, Farnworth.

WANTED, Good Auctioneer, used to Tents. Must understand Jewellery, &c. State age and wages. JONES, care of BAILEY, 471, Blackburn-road, Astley-bridge, Bolton.

WANTED, Good Doorsman, Steady and Reliable, with Permanency for Suitable Man Apply personally, 201, King-street, Hammersmith.

WANTED, Punch and Judy's, Marionettes, and Suitable Entertainments for Children's Parties during Winter. Address, MANAGER 84, Tufnell-park-road.

WANTED, Jan. 9 and on by Miss Zona Bell, Coloured Lady Snake Charmer. Mexican's Premier Rifle Expert; and Madame St Clair, Female Gaol Breaker. Paintings Lithos, Photos Coms., care of CROUCH, Waxworks, Glasgow. Look out for New Act.

WANTED, Known, Lena South, Artistically Tattooed Lady, Liberty Dec. 26 and on. Reply, 45, Hercules-road, Westminster, London.

WANTED, Known, Great Success, Jackson's New Fat Lady, Stewart's Waxworks, Islington. Vacant Dates, 49, Wicklow-street, King's-cross.

WANTED, Known, owing to great success of Silvia Vigor (Dolly), Armless Lady, this week, Humber's Permanent Waxworks, 112, George-st., Aberdeen, Re-engaged One Week longer. Lib. Dec. 19.

WANTED, Engagement by Ralph Edgar, Vocalist, Lecturer, Doorsman. Late Aquarium, also "Venice by Night," Earl's-court. 21, F, Rochester-buildings, Westminster.

WANTED, Known, Ali Ben Hassan, Arabian Juggler, Plate Manipulator, Liberty Monday next. Good flash. 73, Station-road, Forest-gate, E.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Dates, Exman's Marionettes, different manipulation to any other show. Proscenium Cloth, 18ft. by 24ft. Special Scenery by Leolyn Hart, London. 40, Laleham-rd. Catford, London England.

WANTED, to Let, Ground, for Machine, Shows, Shooters, Stalls, Swings, &c. Nobody barred. Apply, MORITZ CARL, Carnival, Bridge-street, Maryhill, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, to Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Stallowners, Hyde-road, Manchester, Christmas and New Year Fair. The Best Christmas Fair in Manchester. Having taken the whole of the above Ground for Christmas and New Year from Mr John Collins, I am now prepared to Let Spaces. Reasonable Rent. JAMES HIBBERT, Bloom-street, Stockport.

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Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Grais' Baboons, Brothers Reiff, Rafayette's Dogs, Max Welson Four, Alburtus and Bartram, Bioscope, the Jees, Pueblo Bros, the Llewelyns, Milner Verren.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Chas. Cunningham and Co, Sisters Klos, Alexandra Dagmar, Zertho's Dogs, Five Delevines, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Syd May, Cabby and Shirker, Ike Scott and Son, Ada Cerito.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Tilly Bebe s Lions, Byron and Langdon, Hardeen, Lily Marney, Ronay Sisters, Morton and Elliott, the Selbinis, Auto & Mobil, Virto & Irene, Wilson Hallett.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Boisset Troupe, in "The Bricklayers;" Three Pantzer Bros, Bioscope, Lalla Selbini, Hall and Earle, Four Olympians, Princess Pauline, Ella Retford, Kitty Marion.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Edouin and Edwards, Johnny Dwyer, Brothers Webb, Chas Russell, Cline and Clark, Flo Burris, Tom Stuart, Bros. Damm, Lieut. Travis.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Chas. R. Sweet, Wisper, Keene and Adams, Lillian Lowe, Horace White, Beattie Bloom, Johnny Gilmore, Jan Rudenyi.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Fred Karno's Company, in "Mumming Birds," D. J. Pedley, Rose Archer, Marie Joyce, Alex. Gay, Rosie Cass, Prof. Vox, Fred Lincoln, Emma Don and Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for Krema Family, Sisters Geretti, Leslie's Dogs, Arthur Lloyd Trio, Burke and M'Voy, Preston and Mayne, Mr and Mrs Harold Finden, Will Newman, Chas. Bayman, Paul Mill.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTS.

Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr FRANK ALLEN, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope.
Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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Rehearsal at 1·0 o'clock prompt.

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First Rehearsal, Dec 19, NEW RUNNACLEAVE THEATRE, ILFRACOMBE. all Artists engaged kindly note. No excuses. FRED WILLIS, General Manager.

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The Great Success of the Pantomime at the Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
No Production will be Complete without this Prettiest of all Japanese Love Songs.
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LOOK OUT FOR HER.
SHE'S A VERY DEAR FRIEND OF MINE.
THERE'S ALWAYS ONE.
I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU TOOK ME IN.
THE WAITER LAUGHED.
THEN THE CORONER SAID "OH!"
I FEEL SO SLEEPY.
QUEER LITTLE OSTRICH.
M'CORMICK.
MY GOLDEN BELLE.
DOWN IN SOMALILAND.
MY WHITEWASH MAN.
COME, BE MY HONEY.
IT'S LOVELY TO LOVE A LOVELY GIRL.
FOLLOW THE CROWD ON A SUNDAY.
THAT'S WHAT THE ROSES WILL TELL YOU.
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ONLY OF YOU.
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OXFORD-STREET, W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·30 o'clock.
Dan Crawley, Jake Friedman, Starr and Leslie, James Fawn, Harry Edson and Doc, the Harvey Boys, Chas. Coborn, "V.C." Sketch Company, Herald Quartette, Dutch Daly, Two Graces, Gladys Archbutt, Lauri Wylie, Katie Marsh. Edgar Romaine, New York Nippers, Edith Courtney, George Osrani and Co.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

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Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Little Tich, the Eight Biseras, the Barghetti Troupe, Edie King, Eileen Douglas, Dutch Daly, W. H. Clemart, Lily Langtry, Kitty Grey, Sisters Doherty, the Bensons, Kopski, Ryder Slone, Edgar Romaine, Rosie Lloyd, the Mayvilles.
Joint Acting-Managers: JAMES HOWELL, ARTHUR YATES.

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Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
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Manager, FRED MILLER.

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MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
Victoria Monks, Lee and Kingston, M'Connells, Grove and Chalmers, Ernest Shand, Black and White Zouaves, The Oceanis, R. W. Bentley, Geo. Rapley, Cassie Walmer, Dora Lyric, Booker and Narbis, Bessie Lind, Ruffell's Bioscope, "Whirling the Worlds."
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Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
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Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

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EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Gus Elen, The Jackley Wonders, Five Whitelegs, Nina Martino, Cunningham's "V.C." Sketch, Peggy Pryde, Athas and Collins, Wm. English, The Anartos, Ethel Loftus.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

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Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
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Band Rehearsal, which all Artistes must attend, on Mondays, at 3·0 o'clock.
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are particularly requested to read their Contracts carefully, especially the Clause as to barring, which will be strictly enforced. Any Alteration thereof can only be effected by Special Agreement in writing with the Managing-Director. For Engagements at the Royal, Holborn; Duchess Palace, Balham; Islington Empire, and Grand, Clapham, address, Mr WALTER GIBBONS, Tottenham-court-road, W. Telephone, 6,825 Gerrard. For Engagements at the other Halls, address, Mr G. ADNEY PAYNE, Managing-Director, Oxford, Limited, 1, Tottenham-court-road, W. Office Hours, 10·0 to 4·0. Telephone No. 2,035, Gerrard.

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Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
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Richard Sawade, Les Erwinns, Menestrels Parisiens, Richard Corbin, Les Lombarts, La Troupe Montrose, Mons. Mirzah, La Troupe Provenanie, James Devoy, Les Auberts, Foot-Gers, Bioscope, Cronin.

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ALHAMBRA, HULL.
Bros. Ashley, Nina Elmer, Swan and Stanley, Lew Wells, Dion Wade, Kitty Clover, Pictures, Michael Nolan, Walter Wallace, &c.

EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
Banker, Agnes Hansen, J. C. Morris, Dora Martine, Miss Nellie Ganthony, Mdlle. Fiora Lumiere, Mons. Hurman, Pictures, Joe Hayman and Mildred Franklin, Les Cabiacs.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
The Bennecelli Troupe, J. W. Bray, Florence Hill, Emma and Victor, Nellie and Nora, F. V. St. Clair, Chas. Vandyke, Addie Dorina, Gec. Martinengo, Pictures, Bros. Bellong.

PALACE, GLASGOW.
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Great Magic Kettle, Stella Stanley, Dale and Vale, Will M'Avor, Larola, Patty Bros, the Gregsons, Dusty Rhodes, Rose Cabani, Pictures, Sam Mayo.

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JAMES KIDDIE'S
CALL FOR PANTOMIMES.

"ALADDIN."
EVERYBODY, on the Stage of
ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL,
on Monday, Dec. 19, at 11 0 o'clock.

"CINDERELLA."
EVERYBODY, on the Stage of the
QUEEN'S THEATRE, LEEDS,
on Monday, Dec. 19, at 11·0 o'clock.

"DICK WHITTINGTON."
EVERYBODY, on the Stage of the
PRINCE'S THEATRE, PORTSMOUTH,
on Monday, Dec. 19, at 11·0 o'clock.

No Excuses Entertained.

Signed, JAMES KIDDIE.
N.B.—Artistes Engaged for "Cinderella" and "Dick Whittington."
A Special Train will leave Widnes on Sunday, Dec. 18, for Leeds and Portsmouth at Three-quarter Fare. Particulars sent on application.
Address all communications to
JAMES KIDDIE, Caen Villa, Highfield-road, Widnes.

J. F. ELLISTON'S
CALL FOR PANTOMIMES.

MARLBOROUGH THEATRE, HOLLOWAY,
"ALADDIN,"
Monday, Dec. 12,
11 0 a.m., EVERYBODY.

THEATRE ROYAL, MIDDLESBROUGH,
"DICK WHITTINGTON,"
Monday, Dec. 12,
CHORUS, 5·30 p.m.;
Tuesday, Dec. 13,
PRINCIPALS, 11·0 a.m.

THEATRE ROYAL, HULL.
"SLEEPING BEAUTY."
Monday, Dec. 12,
CHORUS, 5·30 p.m.;
Tuesday, Dec. 13,
PRINCIPALS, 11·0 a.m.

THEATRE ROYAL, BOLTON.
"CINDERELLA."
Monday, Dec. 12,
CHORUS, 5·30 p.m.;
Tuesday, Dec. 13,
PRINCIPALS, 11·0 a.m.

Note.—EVERYBODY Engaged must attend the Calls as above without fail.

No Excuses will be taken.
See Wanted advertisement.

(Signed) J. F. ELLISTON.
Dec. 7, 1904.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
BOROUGH THEATRE, STRATFORD,
"FORTY THIEVES,"
Monday, Dec. 12, at 11·0 o'clock,
EVERYBODY Concerned.
No Excuses.
FRED FREDERICKS.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRISTOL.
CALL FOR PANTOMIME.—
All LADIES and GENTLEMEN Engaged are requested to attend on Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 12 0 o'clock. ERNEST CARPENTER.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.—
"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD."
Monday Next, Dec. 12,
12·0 a.m sharp,
GRAND THEATRE, BRIGHTON.
No Excuses Entertained.
ERNEST CARPENTER

ARTHUR CARLTON'S "ALADDIN" PANTOMIME.
CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
All ARTISTES Engaged please assemble on Wednesday, Dec. 14, at 11 0 o'clock sharp, on the stage at NEW THEATRE, EALING, LONDON, W. No Excuses. (Signed) HARRY LORRRANO, Stage-Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
CALL FOR PANTOMIME — "DICK WHITTINGTON."
PRINCIPALS and all Concerned, Monday, Dec. 12, on the Stage, at 12 0 o'clock. Train leaves Waterloo, Sunday, Dec 11, at 12 30 noon. Those concerned assemble on Platform at 12·15.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
DOTTRIDGE and LONGDEN'S
"ALADDIN,"
Saturday, Dec. 17, at 10 0 a.m. sharp,
ASSEMBLY ROOMS, HORSEDGE-STREET, OLDHAM.

CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
DOTTRIDGE and LONGDEN'S
"GOODY TWO SHOES,"
Monday, Dec. 19, at 10 0 a.m. sharp,
at THEATRE ROYAL, SHEFFIELD.

THE FRANK MACNAGHTEN ENTERPRISES.
CALL FOR PANTOMIME.
Notice to all Artistes engaged for:—
PAVILION THEATRE, MILE-END-ROAD, E., "DICK WHITTINGTON."
PRINCE'S T., BRADFORD, "ROBINSON CRUSOE."
THEATRE ROYAL, LEEDS, "CINDERELLA."
PALACE THEATRE, BLACKBURN, "ALADDIN."
T. R., CHESTERFIELD, "ROBINSON CRUSOE."
EVERYBODY to meet on the Stage at the respective Theatres for which they are engaged, at 2 0 o'clock on Monday, Dec. 12.
No excuses of any kind will be accepted.
Any Artistes not reporting themselves will be liable to have their Contracts immediately Cancelled.

Artistes requiring any information respecting Parts, Dresses, &c., communicate with
FREDERIC BAUGH,
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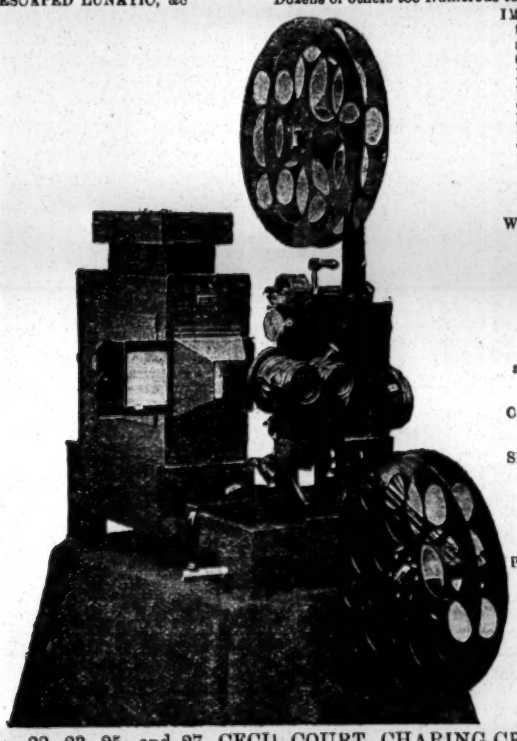

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Bartlett, Mr J. J.	July 2, 1904.
Barton, Miss Adah.....	April 16, 1904.
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Blande, Miss Edith	June 25, 1904.
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Campbell, Miss Audrey	October 8, 1904.
Carne, Mr Joseph	May 7, 1904.
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Ildyard, Miss Maud	October 8, 1904.
Hodgson, Miss Hulo	December 3, 1904.
Hollingshead, the Late Mr J.	October 15, 1904.
Howard, Mr J. Bannister ...	March 19. 1904.
Howells, Mr C. E.	August 27, 1904.
Howitt, Mr Charles	August 13, 1904.
Huggett, Miss Dora.....	July 16, 1904.
Humber, Mr S. H.....	August 13, 1904.
Hunter, Mr J. D.	July 9, 1904.
Hyde, Miss Mariette.....	April 9, 1904.
Hylton, Miss Annie	November 12, 1904.
Imeson, Miss Nita	April 23, 1904.
Inwood, Mr Fred	December 3, 1904.
Jacques, Mr Frederick.....	October 29, 1904.
Jose, Mr Edouard	October 8, 1904.
Kane, Mr Whitford	December 3, 1904.
Kennedy, Mr E. J.	October 1, 1904.
Kilburn, Mr Harry	March 19, 1904.
Knight, Mr Arthur	October 8, 1904.
Kremer, Mr Theo.....	July 9, 1904.
Lang, Mr Matheson	August 27, 1904.
Leno, the Late Mr Dan	November 5, 1904.
Lester, Mr Harry	May 7, 1904.
Lewes, Miss Miriam	November 12, 1904.
Lilly, Mr A. C	June 25, 1904.
Limpus, Mr Bernard.....	October 22, 1904.
Linda, Miss Cora	November 26, 1904.
Linden, Mr Ardene	September 24, 1904.
Ling, Mr Edwin	September 3, 1904.
Llewellyn, Mr Fewlass	October 15 1904.
Lloyd, the Late Mr Arthur..	July 23, 1904.
Lowe, Miss Rachel.....	June 11, 1904.
Loyd, Mr Frederick	August 13, 1904.
Lurich, George	June 4, 1904.
Lysons, Mr Arthur C. P.	August 20, 1904.
Mackintosh, Mr Drew	September 10, 1904.
Maclaren, Mr W.	September 10, 1904.
M'Kim, the Late Mr R. Stuart	April 23, 1904.
Manners, Mr Charles	August 27, 1904.
Marmont, Mr Percy	November 19, 1904.
Marsdene, Miss Beatrice	August 13, 1904.
Marsdin, Miss Dorothy.....	May 21, 1904.
Marshall, Mr Percy	November 19, 1904.
Martin, Miss Edie	August 6, 1904.
Miller, Mr George	November 26, 1904.
Milton, Miss Maud.....	July 16, 1904.
Moncrieff, Miss Rose.....	August 6, 1904.
Morton, the Late Mr Chas...	October 22, 1904.
Munro, Mr Ernest	September 17, 1904.

Copies of the above can be obtained by communicating with THE PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MUSIC HALL CARDS.
Alphabetically Arranged—Limited to Three Lines

ABADAROFFS, Prehistoric Mountebanks, Hippodrome, Wigan; Monday, Hippodrome, Salford Permanent address, 95, Stretford-road, Manchester.

ABDULLAH, ALMA, and LA SUPERBE. Permanent address, 155, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

ABEL and WELSH, the Great Grotesque Eccentrics. South London Palace.

ACMES, THE, Musicians and Comedians. 192, Brunswick-road, Sheffield. Vacant Dec. 19 and 26.

ADRIENNE, THREE SISTERS, Public Hall, Barnsley; next week, Victoria T., West Stanley, Durham. Vacant 19th, North preferred.

ALBANO TROUPE, Musical Speciality. 38, Macdonald-street, Wavertree, Liverpool.

ALBERT, MISS LOTTIE, the Bright Comedienne. All communications, 6, Keppel-st., Russell-square, W.C.

ALBERT, SISTERS, Vocal Duettists and Dancers. Albert, Canning-town. Vacant Panto. Offers invited. Comr., 80, Katherine-road, East Ham.

ALETHEA, Contortionist. First Free Date September, 1906. London Pavilion, Dec. 26, Eight Weeks.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company. Empire, New-cross.

ALVANTEE, King of the Slanting Wire, Finishes To-night, Olympia, Sunderland. Liberty Monday. Sunday, 17, Robert-street, C-on-M., Manchester.

AMERICAINES, LES BELLES. This week, Metropole, Manchester; next week, Hippodrome, Salford. Agent, H. Day.

ANDERSONS, AUSTRALIAN TWIN. Perfect wonder-workers with the skipping-rope.—Vide Oswald Stoll. The Cambridge.

ANDOS, Japan's Greatest Troupe. Oxford, Middlesbrough.

ANDREWS and THOMPSON, American Singing Comedy Act. Address, Banbury, Oxon; or, "The Era."

ANDYS, FOUR, Smartest of Risley and Double Somersault Artists. Dec. 12, Royal Holborn Music H., London. Open. Dec 19.

ANTHY, in his Marvellous and Refined Wire Act. Dec. 12, Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

ARA, ZEBRA, and VORA Next, Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow.

ARIZONAS, FOUR, Acrobatic Tumblers, Benders, Jugglers, and Staircase Workers. Theatre Royal, Runcorn

ASHDOWN, PERCY, Word-wrestler, Melody-maker, and Band Part Producer. 7, Great Newton-street, Liverpool.

ASHLEY, BROS., "Next, please!" Tivoli, Leeds; 12th, Alhambra, Hull. Fortune and Granville and G. Barclay.

ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, the Society Athletes, World's Greatest Artistes, Empire, Burnley. Require, Dec. 19, 26.

ATTILA, BROS., Refined Gladiators. Thanks for numerous Offers, but still Vacant Dec 12. Wire, 15, New Hampton-road West, Wolverhampton.

AUBYN, ALF, Granville, Walham-green, Croydon. Free for Panto. Communications, direct; or, G. Barclay.

AUSTIN, RUMBO, with his Comical Troupe of Navvies. Grand Palace, Clapham.

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BABUSIAU, BROTHERS, Celebrated Acrobats-Antipodists. Vacant Dec. 19. This Week, Hippodrome, Belfast.

BACCHUS, WILL, Actor Vocalist, big success on Moss-Naghten Tour. London to follow.

BAKER and BALFE, including George M. Baker's Marvellous Dancing. Empire, Middlesbrough.

BANDON, SID. See Back Page. Dec. 12, Chelsea, 7·25 and 9·55.

BANDONI, the Original Concertina King and One Man Band. Liberty. Monday, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents. Telephone, 84, Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Character and Coon Speciality. This week, Public Hall, Alnwick; next, Miners' Theatre, Ashington. Summer offers invited.

BARNARD'S Life-like MARIONETTES, the Oldest Established Show on the Road. Few Vacancies 1905. Dec. 12, Empire, Dudley.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Theatre Royal, Warrington. Tom Shaw, 18, Adam-street, Strand.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY). The Ideal Pair. Elswick T., Newcastle-on-Tyne. Dec. 12, Palace, Derby.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE. This week, Foresters'; next, Rehearsing Panto., Principal Girl, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BAYMAN, CHARLIE, Negro Comedian, Brilliant Success Nightly Hippo., Macclesfield. Monday, Ardwick Empire, Manchester. Agent, Fred. Higham.

BEANLAND, CHARLES, a Natural Comedian. Monday next, Hippo., Scarborough. Agent, Harry Day.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE) New Indian Scena by Albert Voyce, Esq. Dec. 12, the London and Canning-town.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjuror. Usual success. This, Haymarket, Liverpool; next, Varieties, Leeds. A terrific hit everywhere.

BELROSE, GEO., and M. DE VELIN, Rehearsing, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

BENET, HARRY. This Week, Grand Theatre, Maidenhead. Next Week, Opera House, York.

BENHAM, GEORGE, Prince of Wales, Prince's-square, Kennington-cross. Wines and Spirits, "The Era." Welcome to all.

BENN, PROSPER and MADAME, in their Instrumental Sketch "From Pavement to Stage." Macnaghten Tour. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

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BERNARD, GEO., merely a Vocal Actor. Sensational success, "The Last of the Light Brigade." Monday, Empire, Portsmouth (Tenth Return). G. P. write.

BETTS, MR. HERBERT, Empress, Hartlepool. Next, Specially Engaged as Judge in the All England's Comic Contest, A.H., Sheffield.

BICKLEY, HARRY, Rehearsals, Dec. 15, Royalty Theatre, Chester.

BISHOP and VALE, Comedians. Liberty for Pantomime. Come., 93, Hanover-buildings, Tooley-street, London, S.E.

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. Monday, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

BLYTHE, MARIE, Contralto. Dec. 12, South London and Chelsea Palace. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Musical and Comedy Artists. This, Met. and Middlesex; next, Met and Hammersmith. G. Foster, 4, Garrick-st.

BONANZAS, Hand-to-Hand Balancers and Chair Pyramidists. Dec 12, Pier Pavilion, Southport. Agent, Mr Chas. Parker.

BONITA. Transvaal Leader.—The best all round shot that has ever appeared in South Africa.

BONHEUR'S ANIMATOGRAPH Concludes To-night Tour, Tewkesbury. Next week, Fareham, Dorchester, Exeter, Exminster, Abergavenny,

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Dec. 12, Gaiety, Chatham. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, in his Musical Séance, Introducing his Wonderful "Bosanquephone." Great Success, Casino, Rotterdam.

BOSWELL, A. P., Big Hit in Picnic Scene, "Muldoon's Picnic," Victoria T., Broughton, Manchester. Monday, P., Lancaster.

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, Rehearsing Pantomime, Pier Pavilion, Hastings, Third Season.

BOYCE, FRANK, Vocal Comedian, Concludes (Third Return), Hippo., Hastings. Mon., A., Brighton, Third Return. Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE), conclude Grand, Bolton. Dec. 12, Gaiety, Oldham.

BREWSTERS, This Week, Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham. Next Week, Transfield's Hippodrome, New Brompton.

BRITTON, LITTLE, Eccentric Comedian, doing own Turn To-night, Saturday, Hippodrome, Liverpool, by kind permission of Myself.

BROGDEN, ARTHUR, Proprietor of the Swiss Choir. Registered Title 1882.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Dainty Comediennes and Dancers, this, Northampton. Monday, Dec. 12, Duchess, Balham.

BROOKS, ALF, Theatre Royal, Runcorn; next week, Royal Theatre, Liverpool. Lost Band Books, Monday. Finder will be well rewarded by sending.

BROOKS, GEORGE H., Dramatic and Variety Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BROWN and ROBINSON thank Walter Gibbons, Esq., for Contracts 1905-6-7-8 Dec. 12, Empire, Sheffield.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Rhymney, Mon.

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, 344, Bury New-road, Manchester. Manager, L. Hochschild. And at Hartlepool and London.

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BURTON, Theatrical and Variety Agency, Sheffield. "It's no use trying to shine if you won't take time to fill your lamp."

BUTT, THE, MARVELS, the Unrivalled Barrel Jumpers and Expert Tumblers. Dec. 12, Grand Theatre, Chorley. Vacant Dec. 19 and 26.

BYAM and VAUGHAN "The Crazed Curate." Rehearsing Pantomime. Next week, Theatre Royal, Dover.

CALOSSI'S Renowned Chinese Sports. Novel Act. Different from all others. Address, "The Era."

CALVERTO'S ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, GLASGOW. Shall be pleased to hear from First-class Artistes or Companies coming North.

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey. enormous success, Hippo., Dewsbury. Next, T. R., Bilston. Vacant, Jan. 9. Thanks M'Askell for Contracts.

CARL and CARR, Refined Comedians. All communications to Ealing Theatre until further notice. Busy Rehearsing Pantomime, "Aladdin."

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team. Grand, Sheffield.

CARMEN, HARRY, DAISY LANE, Polyglot Comedian. Chic Comedienne. Surrey Theatre.

CARNEY, TOM, Collins's. Usual Big Hit. Dec. 12, Royal Aquarium, Great Yarmouth. Liberty Dec. 26. Address, above.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), the Vocal Comedy Stars. Thanks Jackson and Fioni for Contracts. Parthenon, Liverpool.

CARY, FRED, Comedian. Tivoli, Manchester.

CAZMAN'S, HENRI, Musical, Dramatic, Circus, and Variety Agency. 36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, London, S.W. Telephone, 335 Battersea.

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CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS. Fourteen Dog Artistes. Booked at all Best Places. No Immediate Dates. Queen's Park Hippo., Manchester.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE), thank Managers for Panto. offers. Alhambra, Belfast. Monday, Return, Tivoli, Dublin.

CHESTER and COMPANY, Dramatic and Variety Agents. 13, Oxford-street, Manchester.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Home, the Back Walk, Tything, Worcester. Miss Marie Coulson please write.

CHEVALIER, FLO, Vocalist and Comedienne. Address, Monday, the Empire, Paisley.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Circus Carré, Amsterdam.

CHIRGWIN, Resting. "Friends," kindly refrain from Copying.

CLARENCE and BELL, the Bailiffs, with disguises, in "Cinderella." Dec. 12, New Queen's Theatre, Liverpool.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Tyrolean Songstress and Smart Dancer. This, Grand, Clapham. Next, Hippo., Accrington. Vacant Panto.

CLARKES, THE, America's Sensational Banjo Duo. No Vacant Dates in 1905. Dec. 12, Olympia, Bury.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, Pantomime, Principal Girl, Jill, in "Mother Goose," Theatre Royal, Manchester.

CLEVELANDS, THE, on Tour with C. W. Poole's Myriorama, South Wales.

CLVO, HARRY and ROSE ROCHELLE finish To-night Enormous Hit in Town, Palace, Camberwell. Monday, Hippodrome, Wigan.

COLEMAN, ROSIE, and HARRY CONLIN. 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

COLLINS, GEO., Quaint Star Comedian. Big success, Pavilion, Glasgow. Monday, address all letters, 67, Mersey-road, Walthamstow, London, E.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE, at Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 368, Camden-road, N.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COLVIL and TATE (JACK and ANNIE), in their Original Eccentric Comedy Act. Per. address, care of Murray, 62, Waddell-st., Glasgow, S.S.

COMELY, MABEL, This week, Empire Theatre, Cradley. Next Dec. 12, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

COOKE, STEVE, Burlesque Comedian. Coliseum, Sheerness, Dec. 12, Rehearsing Panto. Address, 173, Essex-road, Islington London.

CORNISH, WILL, Unique Musical Bell Act. This week, Palace, Palace, Bath; next, the London and Star.

CORTUS, British Athlete, Weight 10st. only, but performs the feats of 15st. men. Jackson, Sidney-road, Blackley, Manchester.

COVENTRY, LUCY, Philadelphia Star, Male Impersonator, and Acrobatic Dancer. Casino Kursaal, Lyon, France.

COVERDALE, CHARLES, the Comedian. This week, Grand, Bolton, enormous success. Dec. 26, the London Pavilion. Booked by Paul Vandy.

COWPER, VERNON, Blueskin, "Jack Sheppard." Tivoli, Dublin.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Circus, Bury.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, Comedy Juggler, and his Acrobatic Dog Dooley. Next week, Hippodrome, Salford, Manchester.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Company. London Hippodrome.

CREW, J. H., and MAUD MARLOW, Bonnie Maud and the Quaint J. H. Return to Town Monday. Come., 21, Newnham-terrace, Lambeth, S.E.

CROWN TRIO (W. Davidson, L. Davidson, E. Scofield). Speciality Vocalists. This, Oxford, Middlesbrough; next, Sadler's Wells.

CULLANE, FRED, TRIO concluded last week Nine Months' Tour. This, Granville; next, Grand, Clapham.

CULLEN and CARTHY, and LITTLE CLULEY. Terrific hit, Lancaster. Circus, Bury.

CUTHBERT, MAUD, Serio and Ballad Vocalist. Address, Robini, Theatre Royal, Grantham.

DALE, MR. HARRY, First-class Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena. Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

DALE and D'ARGAN, Rehearsing Pantomime, Emperor and Vizier, Opera House, Weymouth. First Vacancy, May 15, 1905.

DALE and VALE, Specialité Dancers Extraordinary. Continued Success Barrasford Tour. This week, Pav., Newcastle; next week, Tivoli, Leeds.

DANBYS, THE, the North Pole Explorers. Empire, Wolverhampton; Monday, Tivoli, South Shields.

DANIEL, FRANCIS, own Sketch Company, "A Father's Vengeance." Permanent address, Brunswick-street, South Shields.

DANIELS, THE TWO, Negro Delineators, Vacant from March 20. 63, Sherbourne-road, Birmingham. Next, "Robinson Crusoe," Cheltenham.

DANVILS, THE (GEORGE and MAY), Comedy Entertainers and Speciality Song Illustrators. Dec. 12, Metropole, Manchester.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE of Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. This, Hippo., St. Helens; next, Theatre, Ashton.

DAVIS, ALF., Comedian and Actor-Vocalist, Great Success, Hippodrome, Wigan. Dec. 5 and 12, Paddington Palace, Liverpool.

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DELAMERE TRIO, Original Comedy Equilibrists. Address, Hippodrome, Accrington.

DELEVINES, FIVE, "Flirtation. Empire, Hackney.

DENBY and DENT, Comedians. Monday, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent. Panto. settled.

DENHAM, MILLIE, Big Success, Aquarium, Yarmouth. Monday, Panto. Rehearsals, Coms. next week, Bridge House, High-street, Stratford, E.

DENNO, the Modern Magician, and his World-wide Wonders, at Liberty. Turn or Two Hours. Patronised by Royalty. Earswick, York.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, the Lady Foil, Actor-Vocalist, Empire, Wolverhampton.

DE VER, MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Gratton-road, West Kensington, London, W.

DE VERE, SISTERS (NORA and LILY), Comediennes and Dainty Dancers. Tour Ended. 72, Rylston-street, Fulham.

DE VOY, HURST, and FREDERICKS. Usual success, Tivoli, Manchester. Monday, Dec. 12, Palace, Attercliffe. Disengaged January, 1905.

DIGBY, LESLIE, Comedian, big hit, Aquarium, Yarmouth. This, People's Palace, Portsmouth. Panto. settled with G. Brydon Phillips, Esq.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. Monday, Palace, Northampton.

DORITO and BUXTON, Speciality Duettists, Pantomime, Emperor and Princess, B. C., Reading.

DODDY and BELLE (the Long and the Short of it), Two Splendid Comedians, Liberty for Panto. Address, "The Era" Office.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, Originator of Vocal Novelties. Touring South Wales with Kershaw's Cosmorama.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, the Original Singing Cardboard Boxmakers. Starring, E., Wigan. Next, Hippo., Dewsbury. Few Vacancies 1905.

DOM, the Comedy Clay Man, Empire, Cardiff.

DOMINOS, TWO, Clown and Donkey the Only Act with Educated Donkey, Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh.

DON, EMMA, and her Black and White Quartette, Moss Tour. Dec. 12, South Shields Empire.

DONNA, AMY, Refined Comedienne, Palace, Cork. Communications, 369, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Dec. 12, Empire, Glasgow.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Produce Pantomime To-night Saturday, "Goosey Gander," Principal Girl. Second Year.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Full of Vivacity and Animation.

DORRITTA, LITTLE, Dainty Acrobatic Song and Dance Artist. Touring with C. W. Poole's Royal Myriorama.

DROLL and DRYAN, Funny Patter Comedians, People's T., Pontycymmer; Monday, Queen's, Pembroke Dock. Vacant Dec. 19, onwards.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, "Forty Thieves," Queen's Theatre, Manchester. At Liberty for Pantomime.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Charming Young Vocalist and Graceful Dancer. Enormous success, Tivoli, South Shields. All come., 11, Arnold-st., Liverpool.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Comedy Artiste. My best leaves off there. Communications, 1, Nelson-terrace, Stockton-on-Tees.

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DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2,477, Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian. Big success, Hippodrome, Bury. Dec. 12, Hippodrome, Manchester. Ring up. I'm ready.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, (Sisters), Youthful, Versatile, Novel Instrumentalists and Dancers. Theatre Royal, Darwen.

EIRL, MISS MARCELLE, Burlesque Artiste. Big New Production, by Harry Carmen, in Preparation.

EICOCK, AMY, Comedienne; FLORRIE ST. ROY, Comedienne and Dancer. Second Boy and Girl, New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. Liberty Jan. 2 and 9. Address, Empire, Cradley Heath.

ELLAS, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Dec. 12. Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, Comedian; FLORRIE BRAY, Comedienne. This, Tivoli, South Shields; next, G., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. "Bluebell" Parody, Sung by Ernie Mayne and Ben Albert. Panto. Rights, £1 1s. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

ELLIOTT, SILLY BILLY, Thanks Proprietors for offer for Panto., but on returning from Australia secured by Mr Macnaghten for P. T., Bradford.

ENDON, EDIE, Comedienne and Dancer, this week, big success, Paddington, Liverpool; next week, also Paddington. Vacant Dec. 19. Verno.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer. Gatti's this. Part and Speciality, Grand T., Islington. 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand-Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Dec. 12, Queen's, Poplar, London.

ESDALE BROS., Comedians, Vacant Jan. 9. Letters to address, 166, Shrewsbury-street, Brooks's-bar, Manchester. Some people do promise.

EVANS, WILL. Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond.

FAME, PEGGY, the New Low Comedy Artiste, Twenty-eight weeks, 1905, already Booked. Coms., Day, Effingham House. Monday, Empire, Hull.

FAWN, ADA, Monday next, Dec. 12, 1904 Palace, Bradford. Big success. "No Other Girl," by Will Letters. Pantomime Rights, £2 2s.

FERRARIS, THE, Modern and Cosmopolitan Dancers. Grand Cirque Nouveau, Belgium.

FIELDING, ANNIE, and BERT HULL, Dec. 12, Hippodrome, Birmingham.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Park-keepers. Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. Monday, Grand, Doncaster.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS., Latest Success, "A Mare's Nest." Empire, Ardwick. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

FINGLAS, THOMAS E., Instantaneous Success of the New Scena, "The Jap and Coon," Tivoli, Glasgow. Dec. 12, London.

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FLORADORA GIRLS, "Rival Sweethearts." Enormous hit Palace, Scarborough. Monday, Palace, Lancaster. Pantomime to follow, T. R., Exeter.

FONTAINBLEAU, ALICE, Rolling Globe and Trick and Leaping Dogs. Two Fine Shows. Permanent, Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

FORD, T. W., Disengaged Dec. 19. Strong Character, Dialect, Emotional. Address, 88, Brockley-road, New-cross, S.E.

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FORREST'S, EDGAR, COMEDY CO. Always a success. Monday, Empire, Middlesbrough. First Vacancy, Feb. 6, 1905.

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FOX, ALEX, Great Ventriloquist and Farmyard Mimic. Big Success everywhere. Communications re Dates, 2, Brynteg-place, Treharris, S. Wales.

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Juvenile or Heavy Lead. Offers invited Dec. 19.
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West London Theatre.

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"Three Little Maids" Company,
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Touring Own Companies with Walter Howard.
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Inu, Mr Tree's Co., "The Darling of the Gods."
Concluding To-night. Address, Ashcroft, Bromley, Kent.

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THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"JOHANNES HERKNER."
Play, in Five Acts, by Ernst Rosmer,
Produced at the Lessing Theatre, Dec. 12.

Herkner	Herr RITTNER
Frau Herkner	Fräulein ALBRECHT
Elisabeth	Fräulein KNORR
Dr. Tachan	Herr REICHER
Miriam	Fräulein TRIESCH
Scheithammer	Herr GRUNWALD
Moedl	Herr STIELER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, DEC. 15.—The author of this piece is a lady, Frau Elsa Bernstein, living at Munich. She is a writer of well-known novels and a few plays, and the wife of an author, too, and as everyone knows and esteems her name, why she should publish her plays under the pseudonym of Ernst Rosmer is not quite clear. Three years ago Frau Bernstein's drama, *Mutter Maria*—produced at one of our principal theatres—was well noticed, and *Tedeum*, a tragi-comedy by the same authoress, met with a fair measure of success here and in other cities. Her first dramatic work, *Dammerung*—produced at the Deutsches some ten years ago, and at that time fully detailed in your columns—is perhaps Frau Bernstein's best work. To *Johannes Herkner* no very cordial reception was accorded, and I fear it will soon disappear altogether from the bill, notwithstanding the very admirable acting. The play is too loosely woven; the action is not concentrated enough, and so many inconsistencies are apparent that—in addition to some unbearably drawn-out scenes—the three middle acts tried the patience of the audience, who frankly showed their boredom. Thus it came about that a few of the scenes intended to be dramatic and moving were received with ironical mirth. The bearer of the title-rôle does not appear at all; Johannes Herkner is dead; it is his influence only that is supposed to live again, extending itself—how is not very distinctly explained—over his son Albrecht, a sculptor. The young man is a robust, even coarse, character. Between him and his friend Tachan—a Jewish journalist—there is a vivid contrast, the latter being the more intellectual. The men are close friends, and the first act—the scene of which is laid in Herkner's studio—is very bright, owing chiefly to the clever dialogue between the two men. Herkner's most beautiful model is his friend's sister Miriam, and the girl has become, freely and even preferably, his mistress. The young sculptor never thinks of matrimony, which he believes would hem his progress, and Miriam has no love for conventional forms. That the brother does not know of the liaison is a matter of surprise, but he does not. Long dissertations upon the virtues of the dead Johannes Herkner fill up three equally long acts. The widow and daughter—Albrecht's mother and sister—talk and talk and talk. Finally the sculptor become convinced of the wrong he has done to Miriam and his friend, and he confesses his fault to Tachan, and desires to repair it by marrying Miriam. The brother is horrified and cut to the heart. He tears himself from the friend who has filled his life, and goes off on his travels accompanied by Miriam, who will not leave her brother alone. Thus the sculptor is left to his conscience, but he has enough self-assurance to believe both the travellers will return to him again, so he will wait in patience. It will be seen that there is a good deal of sentimentality mixed up with the other qualities of the play, which alone detracts from its literary value. The cast, with a solitary exception—the rôle of Herkner's sister Elisabeth—was a first-rate one.

MR BERNARD SHAW has become the fashion. His *Teufelskerl* is still running well at the Berliner, and on Thursday the Deutsches Theatre produced his three-act comedy *Helden* with distinct success. The author's satirical wit, the pungent humour which is so characteristic of him, have made him a favourite with public and critics alike. The piece was well interpreted, Herr Sommerstorff, Herr Strobl, Fräulein Olly, Fräulein Hartwig, and others of the excellent company giving the chief characters. Dr. Lindau appeared on behalf of the author in response to the cordial applause.

FRAULEIN ROSA OLITZKA has been engaged for a brief season at the Theatre des Westens, and made her first appearance there on Monday in *Der Troubadour*. Her Azucena is well known, and is among Fräulein Olitzka's best rôles, but she was suffering from slight hoarseness, which was unfortunate. The members of the Des Westens company supported the "guest" in a worthy manner, and Fräulein Olitzka's reception was a very friendly one.

THE Berliner Theatre has produced its annual fairy-play for the delectation of the juveniles. It is entitled *Die Schöne Melusine*, and is in five tastefully-arranged tableaux. There is plenty of innocent mirth, and several effective dances have been introduced—notably a Dutch peasant dance and a rococo ballet. The piece, being capitally acted, will certainly prove a draw all through the holidays.

A HIGHLY interesting performance was given by a St. Petersburg company, under the management of M. Orleneff, at the Theatre des Westens last week. It was Tschirikoff's drama *The Jews* that was chosen for representation—a play which has been done here in German some time ago, and which is doubtless known in England also. It is a typically modern Russian piece, in the style that Gorki and other writers have made their own—powerful, realistic, and teeming with gloomy tragedy. The play was splendidly acted—so convincingly, indeed, that the nerves of many among the audience suffered severely. The programme was judiciously furnished with a synopsis in German, so that no difficulty in following the course of the drama was experienced. *Die Juden* was listened to with close attention, and the applause at the close was genuine and hearty.

A VERY successful evening at the Theatre des Westens was on Saturday last, when *Don Cæsar*—Rudolph Dellinger's bright little operetta—was revived. It has not been heard here for many years, so it came to many in the light of a novelty, and met with an enthusiastic reception. Herr Prasch has a happy knack of hitting upon just the right thing for his audiences, who are in consequence most appreciative. The operetta was capitally acted and sung. Herr Turmfeld, from Leipsig, gave the title-rôle very successfully, and Fräulein Linda was a charming Maritana, whose pleasing voice was heard to best advantage. Other parts were excellently taken by Frau Gaston, Fräulein Hagen, and Herr Below; chorus and orchestra under Kapellmeister Roth's careful guidance performed their duties admirably, and the setting of the work was excessively tasteful.

"HERKULESPILLEN" ("Les Dragées d'Hercule"), three-act farce, by MM. Bilhaud and Hennequin, German by Max Schoenau, has made its début at the Residenz, succeeding the successful *Hochzeitsnacht*. It will scarcely rival its predecessor either in merit or popular favour, and as the play is certainly already known to your readers it will be superfluous to describe the plot. Herr Alexander—the popular actor-manager—carried, as usual, the whole thing on his capable shoulders. In the rôle of Dr. Lucien Frontignan, Herr Alexander acted with his own original and irresistible humour, and was well supported by Herr Leisner in the part of Jonathan Brackson, Fräulein Koerner as Madame Frontignan, and Fräulein Witt as Odette. Incidental rôles were also very humorously sustained by Herren Georg, Bach, and Seldeneck.

THE 100th anniversary of Schiller's death—which falls in May next—will be celebrated throughout the country as a national event. Every stage of importance in Germany will give one of Schiller's plays on that day.

"DER WEIBERKONIG has reached its 100th consecutive performance at the Thalia, and is still running briskly. At afternoon performances twice and three times a week *Max und Moritz*, an amusing children's piece, is being given with success.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SYDNEY, Nov. 1.—Mr Bland Holt revived Cecil Raleigh and Seymour Hicks' drama *Sporting Life* on the 29th. The Earl's-court Exhibition, training stables at Newmarket, and the National Sporting Club were all there as of yore, and the house was full of those interested in sport. The same efficient cast, including Miss Francis Ross, Miss Harrie Ireland, Walter Baker, Albert Norman, Charles Brown, with Mr and Mrs Bland Holt, gave a good all-round performance.

"AFTER DARK," a perennial favourite, has been revived at the Lyceum by Mr Walter Sanford, who plays Old Tom. Mr Olly Deering is Dicey Morris and Miss Adelaide Boothby an excellent Rose Egerton. The convict, Knatchbull, gives George Kunkel a good chance, and the play has all the old-time sensations which are presented with modern appliances.

THE George Stephenson American Comedy Company finished at the Criterion on Saturday, and the theatre is now undergoing the alterations ordered by the Lord Mayor.

THE Theatre Royal is also to be improved by direction of the same official. The proposed alterations include extra exits and other costly works.

THE Tivoli has a particularly strong bill, the Frasettis, O'Meers Sisters, Cadwaladr Opera Trio, Ward Sear, Hilda Lane (a fine soprano), and Tom Dawson being included. Hackenschmidt, "the Russian Lion," has arrived, and will give wrestling exhibitions.

MISS NELLIE STEWART has scored a big win with *Pretty Peggy* in Melbourne, and the favourite actress is expected here about Christmas.

SYDNEY.—Nov. 8.—*L'Aiglon* will run yet another week at Her Majesty's. Meanwhile everybody is asking everybody else if anything better was ever done by Mr J. C. Williamson. In this most hypercritical city no word of cavil is heard as to the production, and praise of Miss Tittell Brune is general. Miss Tittell Brune will play Juliet on the 12th to Mr A. E. Greenaway's Romeo. Mr Williamson intended to produce a pantomime at Melbourne this Christmas, but the scenery, properties, and costumes were burnt on the way from America. Why it is deemed necessary to import these things, which can be equally well made here, remains a mystery.

"AFTER DARK," made less thrilling than heretofore and ornamented with good variety business, pleases Mr Walter Sanford's patrons at the Lyceum.

THE Tivoli has an additional attraction in Mr Carden Wilson, whose imitations of well-known actors are excellent. The turn was most favourably received. The Cadwaladr Trio now gives *Derryquin*, an operatic sketch, including many Irish musical selections. The Frasettis play as charmingly as ever, and the wire-walking of the Sisters O'Meers is very attractive. Miss Hilda Lane, the high-class soprano, is a great favourite. George Hackenschmidt, the famous wrestler, opens on Saturday a sixteen weeks' engagement with Mr Harry Rickards.

WEST-END BALLAD CONCERTS.

The thirty-fifth concert of the fifth season, which was given at Queen's Hall, on Dec. 9, under the control of the London Concert Direction Company, sufficiently proved the popularity of the concerts, and a very large attendance also proved the readiness of the public to support them. A programme of thirty-two items almost precludes our commenting on everyone of them, but many of the vocal and instrumental pieces revealed considerable talent, and certainly one of the best singers was Miss Lillian Barnes, whose excellent voice and pure style were fully displayed in Liddle's expressive song "Abide with me," which we have not often heard so well rendered. Miss Myfanwy Jones, whose name probably indicates a vocalist of Welsh extraction, was rather ambitious in her choice of the "Jewel Song" from *Faust*. Gounod is a little beyond her powers at present, but the fluency of her execution promises success in future, and her voice is not deficient in quality. Miss Evelyn Booth merited distinct praise for her graceful delivery of Botten's pretty song, "April Morn," and Miss Ethel Ingram sang "The Enchantress," by Hatton, creditably. Miss Ethel Osborn recited "The Pride of Battery B" in a very effective manner, and Miss Frances Barrington was equally successful in Conan Doyle's "Confessions." Miss F. Mabel Charter played the Polonaise of Vieuxtemps for the violin with considerable brilliancy, and Miss E. M. Powell displayed skill as a pianist on the "Second Mazurka" of Benjamin Godard. Mr Stimson Smith was fairly successful in Leslie Stuart's "Bandolero," and Mr Arthur L. Edwards, who has a capital voice, used it effectively in a Serenata of Mascagni. Among those who contributed to the lengthy programme were Miss Doris Greville, Mr C. Poynting, Miss Maud E. Penseney, Mr Cooke (who was set down for imitations of popular actors), and Madame Stimson Smith. Miss Powell and Miss Elkington assisted at the pianoforte.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE D. CLARENCE.

Mr George D. Clarence, an old Liverpool actor, was buried on Wednesday at Anfield cemetery in the presence of a large number of theatrical and other friends. Mr Clarence, who was universally esteemed, had reached the age of sixty years, and died on Sunday after some months of ill-health. Few living actors can pride themselves upon having had his experience, for it may be said that during forty years he was attached to stock companies, and a quarter of a century ago or more he belonged to the old patent Theatre Royal, now an ice warehouse, in Williamson-square, where "stock" work was a feature, and afterwards removed to the now defunct Adelphi in Christian-street, at which place he was manager until its close a few years ago.

The Adelphi was, perhaps, the last of the old genuine stock theatres in the country, for, unlike others, it did not lay aside for Christmas pantomime its weekly dramatic fare. Here for many years six different plays were produced every week, and sometimes (it being a two houses a-night arrangement) a change would be made the same evening, the menu ranging from Shakespeare to the most blood-curdling pistol and dagger work. Consequently every year would find the company dealing with perhaps 200 different plays! To Mr Clarence fell the task of not only arranging the stage and overlooking rehearsals every day, but the shaping of parts to suit the time allowed for representation. He was a man of liberal education and a versatile actor, being especially good in the heavy rôles. It has often been said by many who knew his abilities that he had never had a fair chance, otherwise he would have made his mark in a higher walk of theatrical life. Mr Clarence, whose memory will always be kindly recalled, was well known in Masonic circles, having been a past-master of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, 1,609.

MESSRS OETZMANN AND CO.'S list of Christmas presents and novelties is so intensely attractive that it has only to be read to suggest possibilities of generosity beyond the dreams of avarice. Most of our readers, however, will be satisfied to choose one or more of the dainty articles which are on sale at this establishment, where the variety of the exhibits is only equalled by their excellence.

MR W. H. ARMSTRONG, the well-known solicitor, has been the victim of false statements made by some evil-disposed persons who have circulated reports that he has abandoned his London practice, and gone to live in the country. He has given up his practice in the country for some time, and is now to be found at his new office in Rochester-row, Westminster.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—Mr James Stillwell's company is here in *Queen of the Night*. Mr James Stillwell does exceedingly well as Frank Cavendish. Mr Charles V. Sandford has been cast for the part of Philip Stoneleigh. Old Briskett is played with great ability by Mr Thorpe Tracey, a comedian of considerable power. Mr Herbert Colley gives an amusing impersonation of Adolphus Briskett, his songs being much appreciated. Mr Paul E. Teulon is an excellent David Pentreath. Miss Katherine Barnett is sweet and winsome as Maud Sylvester. Miss Marie Moore is capital as Mrs Briskett.

ABERDEEN.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—The big event this week is the daring cycle feat, "Looping the Loop," by Dartigan. A crowded house holds its breath nightly as the mad ride is in progress. The Jackson Family are received with much heartiness in their musical entertainment; Shavo, the comic juggler, performs a number of clever tricks; and Mr Joe Conley gives an entertaining turn as a vocalist and dancer. The Smythsons contribute a pleasing little sketch of an amusing character, and Mr John Terry and Miss Mabel Lambert brightly and humorously delineate a number of Irish characters. The Bros. Warlock are very popular, and Mr Tony Iveson is successful with his musical interlude. The Bioscope display of pictures is unusually interesting.

ABERTILLERY.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Resident and General Manager, Mr Geo. W. Ventom.—Mr John H. Morton's popular company is here again in *The Rajah of Ranjanpore*. Mr Alvin Sawyer gives a delightful and finished performance as Horatio Chick; Mr Harry Cornwall plays with good effect the part of Mr Stubbs; Mr Arthur Reid gives a clever portrayal of Captain Hertage; Mr Chas. Linney makes a dashing Ernest Travers; Mr E. F. Welch acts with much earnestness the rôle of Ted Perkins; Mr Bert Harrow as Thisles and Mr W. Harrison as Potts are exceptionally good; whilst Miss Minnie Blackmore is charming. Miss Nell Ascot as Primrose plays the part in a very graceful manner. Miss Madge Clayton as Marie gives a pleasing rendering. Miss Marion Walker as Eliza plays with much vivacity. The Rajah Troupe of lady dancers introduce some graceful dances.

ACCKINGTON.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr J. Mill; Assistant Manager, Mr T. W. Moyes.—A very attractive bill is provided here this week. Codge, the whistling newsboy, is a host in himself. Miss Flo Claribell is also very good. Onda and Leon, horizontal bar performers, are particularly clever in their line, Mr Charles Cassell, comedian, is well received. Mr Harry Boothman, with some smart patter and a good voice, meets with deserved success. The Revell Troupe are particularly smart.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—*The Mockery of Marriage* is being played here this week by Miss Olga Audré's company, and to lovers of sensational drama is proving highly attractive. A special feature of the performances is the clever acrobatic business of the Four Aces. The scenery, too, is effective. Miss Olga Audré gives a good impersonation of Alva; Miss Lydia Audrey does well as Rose; and amusement is caused by Mrs Sydney Halling's Mary Ann. Mr Arthur Winpenny is acceptable as Dick; Mr Harry Stebbing is Jack Stanley; Mr Frank Dalton as Seth is capable; and Mr Will Skelton (Toby) and Mr Harold Graham (Joseph Vernham) are well placed.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr Edmund Tearle and his Shakespearian combination are here this week. Mr Tearle appeared on Monday as D'Artagnan, the adventurer in *The Three Musketeers*, dramatised from Dumas's novel of that name, and had excellent support from Miss Kate Clinton as Miladi. D'Artagnan affords many opportunities to Mr Tearle of impressing his hearers and holding them spellbound with the intensity of his acting. Miss Clinton was equally powerful as the Spy. Effective impersonation of character was given to Richelieu by Mr W. J. Miller, King Louis XIII. by Mr F. Barlow, Villiers by Mr J. V. Fairley, Rochfort by Mr W. G. Ross, and minor male parts by Messrs T. W. Benson, W. Raynham, Neal Fitzwilliam, V. Crabtree; and Misses M. Campbell Violet Lesborough, Rose Bennett, Claire Armytage, Esther Tearle, and Nelly Bennett. On Tuesday Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor* was produced with Edmund Tearle as Sir John Falstaff, and Miss Kate Clinton as Mistress Ford. Wednesday evening saw the staging of *Macbeth*; on Thursday the Haymarket romantic play, *Under the Red Robe*, was represented; and on Friday, for Mr Tearle's benefit, Shakespeare's Roman tragedy, *Julius Cæsar*, was performed with Mr Tearle in his favourite rôle of Brutus.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Charles Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr L. Campkin.—The company here this week includes the Kellinos in their musical acrobatic act, "In Venetia;" dexterity and skill are exhibited in all they do. The Daunton-Shaw Troupe of trick and comedy cyclists are well received, as are also Beattie Kent, an accomplished serio; Les Strads, Continental illusionists; Ray and Calden, comedy and acrobatic dancers and patterers; Rappin and Lucus, a versatile couple of fun-makers; Gus Garrick, character comedian; and the Bioscope.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr W. Leech.—Heading the bill here this week is the popular comedienne Miss Marie Kendall in her latest vocal successes. Vance Brothers, comedy instrumentalists, in their act "Sharp and Flat" create much fun, and other artistes include David Poole, ventriloquial expert; Roy and Lee, gymnasts; the Sisters Lytton are charming vocalists; the Four Herberts, the Jolly Californian Farmers; Goldinis with acrobatic carpet spinning; Steve M'Carthy, comedian and dancer; Winona, lady rifle shot; the Pinaros, in their American comedy act; Mahatma, in second-sight marvels &c.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, North of England Theatre Corporation, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr Claude Seaton.—Mr Herbert Fuller's company is fulfilling a week's engagement here with *Fiends of London*. Mr Hugh Carmichael has a trying part as Joe Ormerod, but acquits himself admirably. As Captain Crawley Mr Francis Everard is sufficiently villainous to earn the execrations of the audience. As Sir Horace Bream Mr Harold Weston plays with quiet force. Mr Herbert Fuller as Bob Archer, the jockey, is well placed, and makes the part an interesting one. Tod Bailey, an American, finds an able exponent in Mr Charles Webb. The old soldier, Mat Christie, played by Mr James J. Newell, loses none of its points, and is a fine performance. A good character sketch is given by Mr Sidney Sarl as Sandy Macduff. Miss Agnes Collier has an onerous part as Laurie Christie, but she succeeds admirably in bringing out the light and shade with due regard to effect. Miss Emily Lewis is a vivacious Flossie Spring, Miss Nelson Ramsay does well as Sophie Shade, Miss Edith Leslie scores as Trixie Gilliard, and Miss Alice Lane in the thankless part of Mother Murphy is to be commended. A word of praise is well deserved by Little Gladys in the dual rôles of Sally Frost, a match girl, and Little Tim, a clown.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwards; Assistant-Manager, Mr W. Massey Baker.—An excellent bill-of-fare is provided for the patrons of this comfortable house. The Four Maisanos contribute a laughable and clever musical turn. Lillie Lassah, daintily costumed, sings well and dances neatly. An exceptionally interesting couple are the Woellhafs, who as patterers, pantomimists, and dancers secure hearty applause. Pulo, juvenile juggler, is very smart; Lily Martell, comedienne and acrobatic dancer, shows ability; Harry Thurston is a capital mimic of music hall artistes; Calvo is, as he describes himself, a "vocal wonder;" and the De Voy, Hurst and Fredericks Trio are a success in their sketch, *Dark Town Insurance Depôt*.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—*A Girl's Cross Roads* is here this week, played by Mr Douglas Bruce's company. The central figure is the dipsomaniac Barbara Wade, portrayed by Miss Lilly Hammersley with great firmness, her most violent drunken scenes being so realistic as to leave a deep impression. As the farmer's daughter, Nellie Meadows, Miss Kate Walford does not spare herself, but gives a capital study from life. As Farmer Meadows Mr W. E. Griffiths submits a delightful character sketch. Miss Ethel Bracewell's portrait of Constance Cornell is graceful and charming. As Jack Livingstone Mr George Gainsford throws heart and soul into the part, his remorse being intensely effective; and Mr E. Eardley Howard as Dr. Weston acts with sincerity and earnestness. Mr W. Fraser-Brunner's performance as the callous villain Cuthbert Lumley is sufficiently repulsive. As the irrepressible Toby Tervey Mr Will Corrie is genuinely funny; Tilly Vance finds a charming representative in Miss Gladys Newcombe; and Mr John Rogers invests the part of Luke Ramsden with characteristic force.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—The farewell visit of *Sherlock Holmes* is attracting good houses to the above theatre. The title-rôle is played realistically by Mr Kenneth Rivington; Mr Fred Inwood is an able Dr. Watson; John Forman is capably played by Mr Charles E. Scutt; Professor Moriarty is effectively presented by Mr Arthur B. Murray; Mr Ernest Gray does well as James Larrabee; Sidney Prince is a satisfactory impersonation by Mr Harry Stafford; and Mr Charles Chaplin is successful as Billy. Miss Florence Radcliffe is a clever Alice Faulkner, and Miss Carry Lacey makes a marked impression as Madge Larrabee.

BARNSTAPLE.

MUSIC HALL.—Proprietors, the Town Council; Manager, Mr O. J. Micklin.—This week we are favoured with a visit by Charles W. Poole's Myriorama, which is proving an immense draw. The programme also includes animated photographs, the Royal Comedy Four, Coma, who executes some smart juggling; Henny, a child actress and dancer of pronounced ability; Harry Raymond, coon dancer; Fanning's Fantoches, the Schafers, who introduce some novel musical turns; and the Three Condos, a Japanese troupe of equilibrists.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—Mr J. A. Campbell's No. 1 company in *The Sin of Her Childhood* is here. Mr Campbell himself plays with distinction as Captain John Thornton; Mr Chas. Fancourt is a worthy Rev. Alan Gray; and Mr A. Milroy is a capable Stephen Haysel. There is much humour in the Barney O'Reilly of Mr Fred Elvin, and Eliza Muggins is capitally rendered by Miss Nellie Freeland. Miss Jennie Hicks is a success as Maria Haysel, Miss Mary Fulton as Mary Haysel shows sympathy and power, and Little Dot Moss is an engaging Hannah Spry.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Dr. Boyd's mysterious magic kettle creates much speculation and amusement here. Primavesi is a competent juggler; the Folary Duo give a capital musical act; the Venola Brothers are clever comedy gymnasts; and Billy Richardson is as amusing as ever in his particular style. James Brady, comedian, sings with success.

BATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long.—Henry Carlton and his comedy team occupy a prominent position in their hilarious sketch *Obliging a Lady*. Signor and Madame Prosper Benn, in their smart musical interlude, *From Pavement to Stage*, are enthusiastically received. No more entertaining raconteur than Charles Pond, in his "Glimpses of Life," can be imagined. Clark and Argyle, national dancers and pipers, are welcomed with cordial pleasure. Carne Curre and his wonderfully intelligent dog returns to win further admirers and create amusement. Hannah and James are a couple of foot equilibrists that can hold their own with the best. Minnie D'Aublyn, burlesque artiste, has a capital "Toasting" song, which she delivers with much gusto and success. Baker Belphor, baritone vocalist, sings some popular ballads with feeling and approval.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—For the first three nights of this week Mr Ben Greet's company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, is occupying the boards in the drama *East Lynne*. Mr C. H. Pullen makes a good Justice Hare, and Mr Vernon Travers is well suited to the part of Archibald Carlyle; Mr Wilfred Beckwith cleverly undertakes the rôle of Sir Francis Leveson; Mr Walter Powell is entirely successful as Richard Hare; and the humour of the piece is well sustained by Mr J. O. Stuart in the character of Bullock. Miss Rosalind Ivan gives a pathetic rendering of Lady Isobel; and Barbara Hare finds a clever interpreter in Miss May Straker. The Bedford Amateur Dramatic Society appeared on Thursday in the comedy, *Mother-in-Law*, by Geo. R. Sims.

BELFAST.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr James M'Cann.—The farewell visit of Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company, in the successful comedy *The Private Secretary*, commenced here on Monday, and this "evergreen" piece was received with as much enthusiasm as of yore. The important rôle of Mr Cattermole was filled with great acceptance by Mr W. Hargraves, and no less successful was the performance of Mr Geoffrey Guise as the Rev. Robert Spalding. Miss Dora Grey, an accomplished actress, assumed the rôle of Edith Marsland in convincing style, her handsome stage presence being exactly suited to the requirements of the part. Mr Raymond Chester was strikingly convincing as Mr Marsland, and Mr Vivian Gilbert could not easily be excelled in his impersonation of Harry Marsland. Mr A. Austin Leigh most admirably portrayed Douglas Cattermole, and the rôle of the ambitious tailor, Mr Sydney Gibson, was capitally sustained by Mr Wilfred Compton. Mrs Alfred Davies was excellent as Miss Ashford, and other rôles were satisfactorily sustained by Miss Mary E. Deverell, a charming Eva Webster; Miss Cecily Wade, and Messrs D. Benford and J. Macredy. The domestic comedy *Good for Nothing* formed an attractive curtain-raiser, the various characters being cleverly interpreted by Miss Dora Gray, Messrs R. Chester, W. Compton, V. Gilbert, A. Austin Leigh, and D. Benford.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—The chief attraction here this week is the exhilarating farcical comedy *A Terrible Night*. Mr Paul Martinetti assumed the leading rôle of Benjamin Roque, and his impersonation was very successful. Other rôles were capitally sustained by Messrs Alfred Martinetti, Clara Martinetti, John Heard, Emile Josset, Adolphe Marcelli, and Harry Chapman. Stern and Stern, comedians and dancers, make a big hit fully deserved, and a welcome return visit is being made by Mr Gus Hindell, a clever comedian with a taking style. Mr George Bendon, the white coon, is the happy possessor of a fine voice, and his songs have been successful. The Doran Brothers supply a capital performance in their eccentric gymnastic display, and the bill is completed by the Mozondos, speciality artistes, and Miss Rose Waller, refined vocalist.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—Mr Charles R. Sweet, "the original musical burglar," heads the bill here, and his novel musical act has been received with enthusiasm. Mr Billy Keene and Miss Jessie Adams, the clever society duettists, have been very successful, and the artistic violin performance of Mr Jan Rudenyi is certainly one of the features of the bill. Mr Horace White, the smart ventriloquist and talented pianist, furnishes an entertainment which is admirable in every sense, and the sweet and cultured vocalism of Miss Lilian Lowe has been applauded to the echo. Wisper, the comic juggler, is funny, and others included in the programme are Johnny Gilmore, a humorous comedian, and Miss Beattie Bloom, comedienne.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The Sutcliffe Troupe head the bill, and their novelty acrobatism and smart dancing have been accorded a hearty reception. The descriptive songs rendered by Mr Arthur Albert have created quite a furore; Messrs Farley, Rennie, and Farley appear to much advantage in their exhilarating comedy act, "Fun at a Railway-station;" Mr Max Sterling submits some novel and startling feats of illusion; Baker and Rose, comedians, have been well received; Wal Croft is a good Scotch comedian, with capital patter; and others appearing are Will Harvey, character comedian; Miss Lil Gorman, vocalist and dancer, who made a big hit on Monday; and Mr Carl Verdi's talented musical act, which is an acquisition to any bill.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS.—Proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco; General Manager, Mr Irving Bosco; Assistant-Manager, Mr George Dobler.—The patronage accorded this popular circus continues to increase. This week we have a visit from Mr Otto Schuman, whose clever equestrian act is unquestionably worthy of the enthusiastic reception accorded it. The unique feats of the horses, ponies, and boarhounds are amazing; the comedy bar performance of Stoll Bros. is a great attraction; and the Sloan Family of equestrians are fulfilling a successful engagement. The ladder performance of the Four Uniques is exceptionally good. A novelty, and one that is certain to be a big attraction, commenced on Monday, viz., a steel plate rivetting competition. Also appearing are the Babusians, in their unique staircase act, and the new series of animated pictures. With characteristic generosity Messrs Carter and Bosco gave a matinée on Wednesday for the benefit of the unemployed in Belfast. The performance, which was successful, was under the patronage and presence of the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Sir Otto Jaffe, and Lady Jaffe.

BILSTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby.—The variety programme for this week includes Gambo, an ape impersonator, in a clever act entitled *The Musical Garden*. Good receptions are accorded to Joe Hastings, the popular jumper; the stylish Radium Girls; Clara Hastings, vocalist; Brenda Leslie, song illustrator; Charles Bradford, comedian; and comical Pearce and Ward, including funny Fred Ward.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—The New Century Company's exhibition of animated pictures, on a return visit, is the attraction here this week.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—A comprehensive company includes Verno and Voyce, in their popular vocal sketches; Hanco, a clever handcuff manipulator; Mr Charles R. Whittle, an excellent comedian; the Violas, second-sight artistes and expert mystifiers; Miss Lily Turner, comedienne; Jules Keller, the human enigma; Mr Slade Murray, an actor-vocalist of ability; the Knick-Knacks, dancers; Palles and Cussick, comedians; and the Bioscope pictures.

BIRMINGHAM.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—*Our Boys* won a friendly reception here on Monday, when the comedy was produced by Mr Charles Otley and company. Mr Otley himself plays the part of Perkyn Middlewick, and invests it with much interest. Mr Lawrence Grove proves successful as Talbot Champneys, and Miss Beatrice Marsden as Mary Melrose and Miss Amy Coleman as Clarissa handle these parts well. Mr Arthur Estcourt as Sir Geoffrey Champneys, Mr Frank Wade as Charles Middlewick, Mr Fitzpatrick as Kempster, Miss Ethel Verne as Violet Melrose, and Miss Marie Jonquil as Belinda complete the cast. *Our Friend the Major* has preceded the comedy.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*Parson Thorn* has won the warmest expressions of sympathy and approval, Mr Ormonde G. Smethurst acting in this clever rôle with the utmost good taste and ability. Miss Clara Knowles wins sympathy for her clever acting and singing; Miss Jessie Chandler is successful as Lady Maud, the woman with a past; and Mr Fred Harker is good as Wylde Crewell. Mr Will Priestley with his humorous acting and diverting ditties wins a big success as Paddy O'Quirk, being ably assisted by Miss Mollie George as Dotsy Doddles.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*A Traitor Prince* continues to please when and wheresoever it appears. This week it is being played at Aston by Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company. Mr Alex Temple as Lieut Frank Derrick is cheered vociferously; Mr Henry Lonsdale acts cleverly as the Prince; Mr G. M. Montanini wins respect as Cara; Miss Lilian Roseberry sustains the heroine's part in a perfectly satisfactory manner; and Miss Beatrice Western conveys a profound impression as Vashti. Messrs E. Carter Livesey, Austin Mortimer, Miss L. Rignold, and Mrs E. C. Matthews have excelled in the comedy parts, and the scenery has given great delight.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—The programme here this week is headed by Bella and Bijou, whose entertainment is excellent. *Rejected Remounts* is presented by Fred Ginnett's company, who are warmly appreciated; the Two Romers render their operatic selections with effect; Florrie Gallimore is loudly applauded for her Japanese song; a novel trapeze act is done by Leona Dare; and the gymnastic display of the Sisters Mascotte is decidedly clever. Phil Hermann, Cavallinis, and Juan and M'Que add to the fun of the evening.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—Phil Ray, comedian, wins well-deserved applause here. Ray Wallace, in her imitations, appears with success. A refined entertainment is that given by the Strolling Players, who are very versatile. Wal Pink and company appear in an amusing sketch, *Uncle's Wife*. Boyd and Gilfain, in their operatic sketches, are highly appreciated. A clever gymnastic display is that of Alethea, Arthur Holland, Walter Bellonini, and the animated pictures are well received.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—That quaint comedian, Harry Ford, displays all his old attributes to popularity. Radford and Valentine are amusing jugglers; some interesting picture postcard posing is done by A. Ba-Bee; John Lloyd has a good tenor voice; and the Donatos, one-legged acrobats; Kate Gourlay, Fielding and Hull, and Kweery, the illusionist, win loud applause.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident Manager, Mr Edward Foster.—Bransby Williams, in his impersonations of Dickens, has an enthusiastic reception here. A clever acrobatic performance is that of the Lukushima Japanese Troupe and a smart skating act is presented by Les Vicentinas. Frazer and Mac are as amusing as ever; Frank Harwood, in his dramatic scena "The Looking Glass," is highly appreciated; the Schutzenliesserin Quartet render their selections with effect; Katie Butler, character comedienne, is most successful; as also is Captain Slingsby, in his ventriloquial act.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—Mr Fred Karno's company, in *Saturday to Monday*, is the source of much amusement this week, and the comic knockabout business causes much laughter. The weight of the piece is borne by Mr Fred Kitchen as John Willie Jaggs, and he is well supported by Miss Aggie Morris as Corinda Blake, Miss Ada Maskell as Aunt Skinner, Mr Chas. Baldwin as Mr Potts, and Mr Frank Haylett as Tom Freeman. Some graceful dancing is done by the Camille Troupe.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—*The Midnight Mail* is the attraction here this week. It is played by Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—The Magic Kettle is creating much astonishment here this week. Kurtz does some clever juggling feats. Other good turns are the Sisters Hayden, comediennes; Wilfrid, the Canadian contortionist; the Northern Troupe of dancers; the Jalvans, Oriental jugglers; Dandy George and his dog Rosie; Chas. Bowker, tenor vocalist; and Mdlle. Rosa's Hippodrome.

BLACKPOOL.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—A good all-round programme is provided here this week. Datas, the memory man; Eva Westcott, in an interesting playlet; the Four Figaros, vocalists and dancers; Tom Browne, the famous siffleur; J. A. Cassels, an amusing Scotch comedian; Sybil Montague, a charming ballad vocalist; the Brothers O'Brien, bar performers; Hal Forde, comedian; Ruby Aston, a very dainty comedienne and dancer; the Hennequez, comedy acrobats; and Major Sitherland, the spinning marvel, are all well received.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.—Dinah Morris and her troupe of Southern State artists top the bill here. The Rhondda Valley Glee Singers give an excellent selection of well-known glees; Maisie Pelham dances well; Kid Johnson, club juggler and ball puncher, gives a very attractive turn; and Marie Wilson, Captain Iona, and Burg, Haud, and Wise are also included in the bill.

BLYTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr George E. Good.—*The Wearin' o' the Green* once more forms the attraction here. Mr Chalmers Mackay as the rollicking Irishman, Barney O'Hea, is undoubtedly the life of the pretty musical play, and to Mr Reginald Garland praise is due for a fine rendering of Shamus. Miss Lalla Stanhope makes a charming Biddy, whilst Mrs Chalmers Mackey has a good reception as Norah.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—A return visit is this week being made by Mr Charles Frohman's company in *Sherlock Holmes*. Mr H. A. Saintsbury gives a natural and perfect representation of the famous detective, and is well supported by a capable company, prominent amongst whom is Miss Vera Longden in the pathetic part of Alice Faulkner. The play is well staged.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—Mr Hesslegrave is appearing here in his favourite character, Soft Tommy Shuttleworth, in *Grelley's Money*. Other turns are Johnnie Renson and Rose Waite, speciality artistes; the Three Dagmars, acrobats and tumblers; Fred Spencer, comedian; Ormonde Penstone, billiard ball manipulator; Cliff Ryland, comedian; the Langdons, Williams and Brown, Mdlle. De Vernet, Alec Thomas, Eunice Titiens, and the Imperial Bioscope.

OHMY'S CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—The chief attraction here this week is Miss Ella and her forest-bred lions and boarhound. Claude Ohmy and Mr J. Yelding give a clever double jockey act; Miss Scott appears in a globe performance; and Rolo and Rando, comic gymnasts; Miss Yelding, wire performer; Turle and Turle, trapezists; and Miss Lilly Ohmy, in a leaping act, also appear.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Son; Sole Lessee, Mr Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr Norman V. Norman's company opened here on Monday. The répertoire includes *Under the Red Robe*, *Nell Gwyn*, *David Garrick*, and *Country Life*. In *Nell Gwyn* Mr Norman V. Norman gave an impressive picture of the Merry Monarch, and was much applauded. He was ably supported by Miss Beatrice Wilson, who, as the Orange Girl, played her part with vivacity and charm. As Lord Dellans Mr Eric Maxon was quite successful. Mr Robert Hilton in the part of Master Ralph Cursitor played very well, as did Mr Iden Payne as Adam Bareacre. A sympathetic rendering of Betty Arndale was given by Miss Kathleen Rind; and Miss Norah Doyle's Rose—a small part—stood out well. Others in a strong cast were Mr Barnet Parker as Earl of Rochester, Miss Lilian Kevil-Davies as Lady Castlemain, Miss F. Glossop-Harris as the Duchess of Portsmouth, and Mr Norman Leslie as Colonel Blood.

BRIGHOUSE.

ALBERT THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. Morton Powell; Manager, Mr M. Manley.—The popular drama *It's Never Too Late to Mend* is here this week, and is admirably portrayed by Mr John Wainwright's company. It's a long time ago since Mr Wainwright first took the famous part of Tom Robinson, and yet he is now as successful in the part as at any time of his career. Messrs Alfred E. Calver, Henry Lee, Edwin Davies, and Miss Kitty Carew are also very good in their several parts.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA, LIMITED.—Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company in the drama *Honour Thy Father* is the attraction this week. Gabriel Garth is a skilful piece of work by Mr J. W. Evelyn, ably assisted by Miss Kate Newton as Gertrude Garth. Mr Ernest Hartington as Duncan Bly, and Mr D. B. Watson as Jack Halyard give excellent portrayals of two opposite dispositions. Mr Fred W. Graham is very comical as Mike Copplestone, and much amusement is also caused by Mr W. H. Melrose as Ned and Miss Lizzie Moorley as Poppy. Lillian Garth is excellently presented by Miss Mabel Coleman; Miss Rose Mylrea is a charming Mercy Merry. Mr Charles Woodward appears in the second act, and gives two good songs, which are well received.

BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr T. F. Doyle; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Richardson.—The theatre is this week in the possession of the Bradford Amateur Operatic Society, who on Tuesday evening gave an excellent performance of *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Trial by Jury*. The proceeds are to be devoted to the funds of the city charities.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Francis Laidler.—The powerful play entitled *The Priest of the Temple* was presented here on Monday. Mr March himself is particularly noticeable in a bold, well-studied representation of the character of Valerius, and the Chief Priest, Decus Fronto, is a powerful performance on the part of Mr Ronald Bayne. As Appius Herdonius, father of Valerius, Mr Henry Moxon acts with force and vigour, and Mr Stanley May's Hermanus, too, is an assumption of power. Præstantia, a Roman lady, is represented with much grace and charm by Miss Marie Noath, and Miss Evelyn Hope's emotional acting as Polita arouses sympathy.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Crawford Swann.—Charming Mdlle. Diane De Fontenoy in her classic poses and tableaux is paying a welcome return visit here, and Tschernoff's performing animals are again delighting and interesting the audience. Charles Stevens, comedian, gives a meritorious turn, and double foot juggling by the Wartenberg Bros. is a distinctly clever item. Lizzie Fletcher submits a bright turn as a comedienne, and Arthur Lennard, actor vocalist, scores with some good songs. Joly is clever with the cornet, Nellie Wallace is good in eccentric comedy, the Raies are a pair of dainty and expert dancers, and Nello, the female contortionist, submits a clever turn.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—In an exceedingly well acted and very diverting sketch, *Three of a Kind*, Miss Ethel Arden and Mr George Abel are scoring a genuine success here this week, and Whit Cunliffe, comedian, has made a hit. With guitar and mandolin, the Bandurrias discourse excellent music. "Urk" gives a very clever entertainment as a magician and illusionist, and in a comedy bar act the Wiltons are smart and entertaining. Ada Fawn, comedienne, makes a welcome reappearance. The Bros. Durant submit a clever acrobatic turn, and R. W. Russell gives some excellent character impersonations, and completes the company.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr and Mrs Kendal opened here on Monday with *A Scrap of Paper*. Mr Kendal was highly successful as Colonel Blake, and Mrs Kendal was as charming as ever as Susan Hartley. Mr Ernest Hendrie made a capital Dr. Penguin; Mr Bassett Roe was well suited as Sir John Ingram; and Mr R. Sheldrick was a lively Archie Hamilton. Mrs A. B. Tapping as Mrs Penguin, Miss Elise Clarens as Lady Ingram, and Miss Mary Jerrold as Lucy Franklyn also merited praise. The programmes for the week included *The Elder Miss Blossom* and *The Housekeeper*.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Bernhardt; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry De Groot.—Mr Richard Temple's dramatic and musical recitals prove very attractive here this week. Miss Florence Allabone, a popular local soprano; and the Bioscope pictures, "Whirling the Worlds," also add to the success of the entertainments.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Harry Lauder, Scottish comedian; Harry Tate and company, in *Motoring*; Edie Gray and her White Coons, harmonious vocalists; Ryan and Hall, burlesque acrobats, eccentric comedians, and comic wrestlers; Charles Mildare, "the human parrot;" Dan Conroy, comedian; Clifton and Gibson, comedians and patterers; Cora Casselli, comedienne and dancer; Frank Boyce, character comedian; Rose D'Alberg, serio and comedienne; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—Osaph, who speaks in five different tones of voice, in a clever ventriloquial entertainment; Harry Leybourne, comedian; Algie and Reggie, in an eccentric musical turn; the Five Purroscoppis, jugglers; Imro Fox, illusionist; Mountford and Walsh, speciality artistes; the Cattaneos, eccentric acrobats; Joan Teddie, burlesque artiste; the Manhattan Comedy Four, who sing with great taste and are also very humorous; and animated pictures.

COLISEUM.—Licensee and Director of Entertainments, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes.—The following are here this week:—Madge Roberts, comedienne and dancer; J. G. Ford, extempore vocalist; Les Sprays, Continental artistes; Mark Anthony, story teller and comedian; Harry Luck, eccentric character comedian; Eva Ellersley, comedienne; and Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist. The entertainment concludes with "Whirling the Worlds," a fantastic picture series. Owing to an attack of bronchitis Millie Hylton was unable to appear.

BRISTOL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester Jackson's company is here with the military drama *Dishonoured*, the play being staged with liberality and satisfactorily performed. Mr Percy Ballard presents a fine and convincing study of Philip Cunningham; Mr Frederick Loyd is consistent in the heavy part of Captain Pentland; Mr Frank Fuller is well placed as Colonel Sir William Cunningham; Mr Reginald Hunt acts well as Captain Cholmondeley; and the comic parts of Jem Stokes and Anna Maria are taken in amusing style by Mr Horace Buckley and Miss Nell Ingram. Miss Florence Creagh distinguishes herself by a sympathetic performance of Leslie Maynard; and Miss Violet Crawford plays well as Sybil; the remainder of the cast having capable exponents in other members of the company. The performance on Thursday evening for the benefit of Mr A. G. Palmer, principal money taker here for many years, who has been seriously ill for some months, proved very successful. There were numerous extra attractions, and the attendance was very satisfactory in all parts of the house.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—The leading attraction here is "The Motogirl" (Miss Dora Chertsey). The show is both interesting and amusing, the movements of a mechanical doll being imitated to perfection. James Bard does a skilful wire act; the Leonards (Bob and Jenny) do a capital turn of cross-talk, song, and dance; Miss Madge Daly, comedienne, sings in good style; the Sisters Pine (Vesta and Minnie) are pleasing duettists and dancers; Sinclair and Parr have a good vocal sketch, *By Appointment*; the Brothers Lavelle do some expert acrobatic and tumbling work; Miss Agnes Krembser presents a juggling act successfully; Johnny Worman, comedian, has some good songs and patter; and the entertainment concludes with some interesting animated picture. The Thurday matinées continue to increase in popularity.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—There is a good entertainment here this week, the turns including Banker's sensational aerial somersault act on a bicycle, the feat obtaining prolonged applause; Joe Hayman and

speciality; J. C. Morris, a really entertaining patter comedian; Hurman, in a good turn as a juggler, club swinger, and hoop manipulator; and Miss Agnes Hanson, a capable comedienne and dancer. The performance concludes with an excellent series of animated pictures.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller.—Mr Joseph Poole's Myriorama is here with a series of up-to-date paintings and animated pictures. A good variety show is also given, in which the following appear:—Victor Howlett, with a clever marionette show; Zelda, lady instrumentalist; Mr Harry Sullivan, eccentric comedian; Wal Owen, in his burlesque juggling and conjuring act; Sulle and Saroni, vaudeville duettists; the Magnet sketch party; and Mr Frank Freeland, guide and entertainer.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Arthur Willoughby.—For Tuesday and Wednesday evenings we had the novelty of 'an amateur pantomime of *Cinderella*, in aid of the Buxton Nursing Fund and Actors' Orphanage Fund. The theatre was packed, and the performances reflected great credit upon Miss Stanley Cooper (professionally known as Miss Evelyn Aylestone), who promoted the entertainment.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—On Monday night, for the commencement of the holiday season here, Mr J. F. Elliston's company presented the sporting drama, *In Old Kentucky*. Miss Amy F. Hermann's portrayal of the true-hearted Madge Brierley was very realistic. Mr J. George Steel was equally praiseworthy as the hero, Frank Harley; Miss Beatrice Shirley played the part of Barbara Grafton admirably; while Miss Edith Halford's Alethea Harley was all that could be wished. Messrs Alfred S. Banks, Eric Hudson, Gerald Kennedy, and Mr Harry Leander were also fully up to the mark.

CARDIFF.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—A special attraction here this week is the Adelphi drama *The Bells of Haslemere*. The piece is presented by a capital company, under the direction of Mr Chas. A. Chandler. Mr Leonard Yorke's impersonation of Frank Beresford is a brilliant piece of acting. The villainous John Silkstone is cleverly acted by Mr Montague Turner, while Mr C. A. Chandler as Captain Vere and Mr Douglas Hamilton as Matthew Brookfield are each responsible for excellent delineations. Mr Chas. Cecil as Reuben Armstrong is successful in keeping the audience in good spirits, and the part of Joseph Thorndyke has a reliable exponent in Mr Fred F. Allen. Miss Harrietta Pollini submits an effective rendering of Evelyn Brookfield; Miss Mary Hardacre deserves much credit for her admirable impersonation of Mary Northcote; and Miss Stafford Smith and Miss Florence Chandler give excellent portrayals of their respective parts.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The excellent programme, which has been drawing unusually large audiences here, includes Albert Chevalier, comedian; the Lumars, in a novel acrobatic act; the Sisters Devons, in an aerial act; Chas. Gardiner, eccentric comedian; Dome, clay modeller; the Howards, Nellie Coleman, lady comedian; Phillips and Terry, in their successful *Revolt of Man* sketch; and Richard List's performing bears.

CARLISLE.

NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Mr Ralph Pringle's Animated Picture Company is delighting large audiences here this week. Some new pictures are shown, including the remarkable film "Whirling the Worlds." The pictures are interspersed with some capital varieties by a smart vaudeville company, prominent amongst whom is Miss Le Clair, who charms her audience with her rendering of "Blue Bell," beautifully illustrated.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr Geo. G. Ridley.—This week's attraction is *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, in which one of the leading features is Mr Arthur Verne's amusing impersonation of Silas Crump.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—At the top of the bill we have Miss May Henderson, supported by a well-varied list of turns.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr Frank J. Donne.—The company here includes the Borellis, operatic duettists; Mdlle. Effie White, kaleidoscopic dancer; King and Delane, in musical act, *At the Club*; Bert Woodward, the cycling coon; Maudie Ford, comedienne and dancer; Fred Walker, comedian; Amy Russell, ballad vocalist; and T. B. Lloyd and company in sketch, *In the Tempter's Coil*.

CHESTERFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holberry Hardy.—Messrs Alfred Paumier and Walter Howard's company, with *Why Men Love Women*, forms the attraction here. Mr W. S. Hardy makes a manly Gerald Fielding. Mr S. Herbert Humber is well placed as Serge Staniloff. Mr C. R. Haws is good as Tommy Fitzgerald. Mr Edwin Lever scores a success as the Maharajah of Balore. Mr Harwood Roberts is an amusing Orlando Figgings. Mr Henry Fitzgerald deserves mention as the Rev. Edward Grey. Miss Beatrice Sinclair gives a fine rendering of the part of Muriel Zoluski. Misses Queenie Nigel and Violet Godfrey do good work as Birdie Summertop and Baby Winterbottom respectively. Miss Annie Saker gives a pleasing performance of Violet Livingstone.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—Mr B. Miller's popular variety combination occupies these boards this week. The combination includes an excellent Bioscope with up-to-date films. The Wills give an exceptionally smart hand balance and acrobatic turn; while Professor Anderson, in a novel mystifying entertainment, is much appreciated. Gus Garland is good as a ventriloquist. The Butt Marvels are also acceptable. Other turns include Albert Ventor, Joe Leonard, and the Edna Trio, all capable artists in their several ways.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—Mr James Hare and company opened here on Monday with *The Golden Chance*, and met with a good reception. Mr Hare exhibits talent as Hubert Zae; Mr H. M. King successfully portrays Stephen Clinton; Mr Tom Arkinstall gives a good delineation of Isaac Shelberg; while Bert Atherton delights the audience as Sam Brown. Miss Irene Clifford displays ability in the dual-rôle of Mother Hawk and Viva Zae; Miss Jenny Halworth ably portrays Susan, and Miss Agatha Halford makes a clever Lydia Hastings. *A Woman's Redemption* is also billed.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Macdona; Resident Manager, Mr F. Graham Macdona.—The attraction this week is Mr Leslie Norman's company in *A Trip to Chinatown*, with Mr Norman himself as Rashleigh Gay. The Ben Gay of Mr Jerrold Manville leaves little to be desired, and Mr Will Smith is a humorous waiter. Mr Chas. Sequin as Welland Strong and Miss Harriet Fawn as the widowed Mrs Guyer introduce a pleasing little scene entitled "Tramps in Trampland." They are extremely clever, and add much to the popularity of the evergreen musical comedy. A charming and vivacious maid is Miss Daisy Revett, and Jones, of Chinatown, is capitally taken by Mr Ewart Drake.

CLYDEBANK.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—The attraction here this week is Mr Chas. Majilton's vaudeville company, which includes Foy and Burke, comedians; Sisters Brownie, American speciality artistes; Bunth and Bond, comedians; Herbert Ashmore, dancer; Miss Maddie Majilton, burlesque artiste; and Mr Chas. Majilton, all of them being well received. A comedy sketch entitled *The Plumber; or, She Would Be a Widow*, is also well played by the company. Another item worthy of mention is the singing of Miss Isa Clark, the winner of Mr Frank Wilson's amateur competition.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—The Kennedy Miller company appeared here on Monday in the romantic Irish drama *Lord Edward; or, '98*. As Pamela Miss Annie Hylton acted with pathos and true dramatic force. Mr Robert Faulkner as Lord Edward rendered his part in a capable manner. The rich humour of Mr James O'Brien was well displayed in the part of Thady M'Grath. *The Insurgent Chief*, *The Shaughraun*, *The Irishman*, *The Colleen Bawn*, and *Wolfe Tone* are also in the répertoire.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble.—The programme here is a very good one, the chief turn being that given by Jean Seul, an Indian man of mystery. Arthur Richards is an excellent comedian. Renee Walon, comedienne and dancer, also contributes pretty songs and dances with much taste. Bert Williams in his ventriloquial performance is well received. Marion De Verne sings catchy songs. Hyam Long contributes instrumental items which please. Fred Land is happy in his selection of songs, and the Three Etherdos give a wonderful performance on rocking ladders.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—*The King of Crime*, written by Arthur Shirley and Benjamin Landeck, is being presented by Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company at the above house this week. Mr William Clayton gives a realistic representation of Ronjarre, alias Gaston Lemaire. Mr W. H. Porter admirably portrays the part of Simon Gandelu; Mr Alfred H. Elliott makes a success as the Magistrate, M. Folgate; Miss Marion Turner shows great ability as Henriette; and Miss Elizabeth Turner Elliott is equally successful as Matilde.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Wallace Davidson, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Wallace Davidson.—Mr Harry Firth's company is here this week in the ever-popular pantomime, *Cinderella*. In the title-rôle Miss Madge Osmond looks and plays the part well; Miss Curette is a dashing Prince, and also possesses considerable vocal ability; Miss Ethel Mona makes a pleasing Dandini, and her two songs, especially "The Nigger and the Bee," are loudly applauded. As Pimple Mr Fred Lake is quaint, and Miss Rosie Lewin is charming as Dorothy. Mr E. Wilson (the Baron), Mr J. Binns (Butterina), Mr H. Haines (Margerina), and the two gentlemen who appear as Ping and Pong are all very funny. Specialities are introduced by the Sisters Godfrey, Chas. Reste, Madge Osmond, Rosie Lewin, and Messrs Lester and Ford.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Mrs Langtry, supported by Mr Paul Arthur and company, is meeting with a cordial reception here in Percy Fendall's interesting comedy *Mrs Dering's Divorce*, and the visit is giving much gratification. Mrs Langtry's great charm of manner and artistic acting as Mrs Dering are worthy of all praise, and her efforts are heartily applauded. Mr Paul Arthur is very successful in the rôle of Captain Dering; Mr Ernest Stern renders sterling services as Jimmy Foster; Mr Courtenay Thorpe has made a study of the character of Lord Grandpier; Mr Harold Carfax deserves a word of praise as Mr Gordon; Mr Harold Brooke is seen to advantage as Mr Clive; and Messrs Norman Wrighton and Ivan Berlyn are adequate as a footman and the servant Parker. Miss Lelia Repton is a handsome Mrs Haydon; Miss Annie Mildmay has got the right idea of the part of Miss Verner; Miss Davis is good as Mrs Dicky Fowler; Miss Helen Palgrave touches the correct note as Lady Grandpier; Miss Bessie Harrison is well got up as the Duchess of Lawshire; and Miss Di Forbes is reliable as Mrs Gordon. Special mention must be made of the fine rendering of "William Tell" and "Faust" by Mr Leonard Gautier's excellent orchestra.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel James; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry E. Reckitt.—Mr George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company, in *Judy; or, the Fatal Hand*, is pleasing visitors to the Royal. Miss Florrie Groves acts with good judgment and effect in the rôle of Judy; Miss Mary Neil proves herself an accomplished actress in the part of Alice; Miss Violet Langley's performance as Blake is an artistic effort; Mr George Kirk makes the utmost of his opportunities as the detective, Grip; Mr Richard Terris displays histrionic abilities in the character of Duburg; and Mr Will Casey gives a praiseworthy impersonation of Jim. The drama is creditably mounted.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The amusements at Mr Jay's varieties are of the usual high standard. Mr Fred S. Partridge's band is well to the fore; Harry Cotton, comedian, has a quaint and curious method; Lieutenant Albini, illusionist, causes a sensation with the "Mysterious Lady in Black;" the Japanese Princess is a clever contortionist; Arthur Denville, comedian, has a capital selection of songs; the Eugene Family are expert aerial gymnasts; Alf Aubyn is a refined coon comedy artiste; the Palace Pictures are worth seeing; and others who are liked are Jack Foster, vocalist; Edith Mellor, ballad vocalist; Peter Kelly, comedian; Ella Lane, serio; and Blanche Albini, comedienne. Marie Lloyd is the brilliant star, and she works with a will. She is a great favourite here, and is repeatedly encored.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. L. Ormsby.—William Hamilton's Excursions and variety company are here this week. The pictures are both interesting and entertaining. The variety portion of the bill includes Hector, wire performer and hoop manipulator; Eileen and Mayne, the two "dainty dots;" David Davies, Welsh whistling soloist; Little Elly, quick-change artist; and Mezzetti and Mora, who give a daring triple bar performance. Mr Claude Howell is a very useful and humorous guide.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr Fred J. Kirke is presenting the *Naval Detective* to Dudley audiences this week. Mr Kirke works hard in a triple rôle, and is ably supported by Miss Louie Fountaine, who also essays three parts with distinct success. Mr Arthur Beaufort deserves special mention for his excellent performance as Captain Hustle, introducing some clever legmania business; the Misses Mamie Walsh and Elsie Paul are graceful acrobatic dancers and smart banjoists; Miss Edith Claris is well appreciated as Susan Scrubbs.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—A good programme is provided here this week, headed by Barnard's Marionettes, which are cleverly manipulated. Gerald Mount is a first-class vocalist and mimic; the Clayton Twins in the amusing sketch, *Pepper and Salt*, secure hearty applause; the Sisters Volbecque prove a popular turn; the Seltina Troupe are smart acrobats; the Brothers Levett, chair vaulters; Alf. Mitchell, comedian; and Nellie Moon serio, complete the bill.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—Messrs M. H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is here, in *The Still Alarm*. Mr Matthew H. Glenville plays the part of Jack Manley, and makes a fine hero. Mr Paul Lovett as the unscrupulous John Bird is very successful; Mr Fred Osmond is capital as Doc Wilber; Mr Tom Beasley makes a smart Willie Manley; Miss Mary Lovett is an excellent Elinore Fordham; Miss Mabel Veriton is good as Mrs Manley; Miss Hettie Zillwood is successful with her songs and dances. A very pleasing feature is the singing of the Lyric Comedy Four.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—Mr Fred Bulmer's company is here this week in a melodrama called *Sentenced for Life*. Mr Ernest Vaughan as Paul Derrick, Mr Harry Lloyd as Roy Stillwell, and Mr Cecil Ravenswood as the Rev. Martin Orris, all merit commendation. Plenty of diversion is provided by Messrs A. Marchant and Edward Tinley in convict rôles. As Kate Rennel Miss Florence Trevior is praiseworthy, and Miss Madge Douglas figures agreeably as Adele Gray. The last-named contributes a good song and Mr Frank Zara, who impersonates Percy M'Gentle, also introduces songs acceptably.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—Mdlle. Luba De Sarema, with her highly trained bull, ponies, and dogs, forms the principal attraction here this week. The turn, which is an interesting one, is cordially received. The Watson Family present a high-class vocal and musical performance; Houpla and Hecla, clever equilibrists and acrobats, are as usual well to the fore; Fred Curran is successful in all that he does; Sisters Bartholomew are pleasing duettists and sprightly dancers, their merits being duly recognised; Lottie Siegenberg is highly entertaining in her variety vocal sketch, *The Lazy Slavey*; the Alberts are capable wire and hand equilibrists; and Professor Bennett is a clever ventriloquist.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. W. Chapman.—This week variety still reigns supreme. The Seven Savonas and the Six Elliotts heads the bill. Harry Morriss makes a big hit as a humorous mimic and character comedian; Fields and Acres cause roars of laughter as the eccentric parkkeepers; the singing of Eva Ward merits applause; Alexandra Royal, burlespue actress, is charming; Rennie is a ventriloquist of ability; and H. O. Wills sings with much success.

DUMFRIES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—Mr E. Hoggan Armadale and company were here the first three nights of the week. *The Vicar of Wakefield* was well received on Monday. Mr Hoggan Armadale played the title-rôle in a most pleasing manner; Mr Fred Emery as Squire Thornhill proved himself to be an actor of no mean order; Mr A. L. Baron as Mr Burchill was all that could be desired; Miss Marie Florence as Olivia was sweetly natural; Miss Violet Wilson as Sophie was well placed, the rest of the company lending able support. On Tuesday *The Sleigh Bells* was played, and Wednesday, *David Garrick*.

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Michael Gunn, Limited; General Manager, Mr Charles Hyland.—The patrons of this popular place of amusement have this week been treated to an enjoyable return visits of the Royal Carl Rosa opera company. On Monday a large audience was present when Gounod's opera *Faust* was played. Mr E. C. Hedmondt appeared in the title-rôle; his singing was excellent throughout. Miss Lizzie Burgess gave a charming embodiment of Marguerite. Mr Arthur Winckworth appeared with his accustomed success as Mephistopheles and Miss Anna Hope made an excellent Siebel. Mr Lewys James gave a praiseworthy rendering of Valentine. The choruses were perfectly sung and Mr Waller Van Noorden conducted the orchestra in a successful manner. On Tuesday night Verdi's *Rigoletto* was played. Mr E. C. Hedmondt as the Duke of Mantua, Mr Charles Victor as Rigoletto, and Miss Lizzie Burgess as Gilda appeared in their respective rôles with great success. On Wednesday, *Carmen* was played; on Thursday, *Tristan und Isolde*; and on Friday, *Don Giovanni*.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Moullot; Resident Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong.—Mr C. St. John's company is here, in *Kitty Grey*, again. Miss Hilda Guiver fills the title-rôle in excellent style, her singing and dancing being highly appreciated, and in the part of Lady Binfield Miss Lily Helene is vivacious, and displays considerable talent. The character of Lord Plantagenet is cleverly acted by Mr Leslie Harris, who causes much amusement in the part. Mr Robert Whyte, jun., is an able exponent of the rôle of the King of Illyria, and Mr Innes Smith acts in a capital manner as Sir John Binfield. Miss Emily Stevens is very good as Mrs Bright, and Miss Constance Hamilton does well as Sadie De Poulson.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is here this week with the sensational drama *The Plucky Nipper*. Miss Bonwin Carlton as Polly Hithard displays considerable ability, and the rôle of Bill Burgess is played in an admirable manner by Mr Edward Surrey. Miss Lilian Radburn is seen to advantage in the part of Ina Fenwick, and Mr Geoffrey Sutherland achieves success as Captain Frank Leslie. Mr W. Anderson cleverly acts the part of Captain Gripp, and as Daisy Paget Miss Esther Lamonte is excellent. The rôle of Colonel Fenwick is capitally played by Mr G. B. Wright, and as Henry Paget Mr Claude Kingston is acceptable.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Sandon Perkins.—A sensational domestic drama, entitled *As Midnight Chimes*, is presented here this week by a company under Mr Edward Marris. The acting of Miss Gertrude Price as the grief-stricken wife at times reaches a very high level; Miss Minnie Ethel as Little Davy gives a clever assumption of her part. Mr Frank E. Petley submits a masterly delineation of the character he portrays—that of Dave Stannard; and Mr Arthur Proctor is well to the fore in the character of a policeman.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—The top of the bill is justly assigned to the Mannon Troupe, in their comical sketch *Uncle Yank*; Clarke's Nippers, as on their former appearance, quite captivate the house with their boxing, singing, and dancing; Coram displays much ability as a ventriloquist; and a great deal of laughter results from the sketch *The Blind Spinster*, played by Fred Lloyd and company. Allis and Cassati pleases the audience immensely by a smart comedy turn; and Vasey and Ramsey prove to be skilful dancers. The others include Leslie Clare, John E. West, and Lilly Simmons.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Will Percival.—Mr Howell Webb and company are here this week with *The Convent Bell*. Mr Webb was seen to much advantage in the rôle of a bluff British sailor; a clever performance was given by Mr Stanley Carlton as Philip Vautier, who excels as an elocutionist; and Mr C. E. Howell was impressive as the Colonel. Mr Oliver Birrel made a capital villain, and as his paramour Miss Humphreys gave a quietly forceful interpretation. Mr Teddy Myles was a very funny page, and was ably assisted by Miss Florrie Manderville in his funnisities. Miss Ruby Maule was charming as Philip's sweetheart.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr H. Dobell Lyle.—The pantomime season here opened on Saturday, when *Aladdin* was presented before a crowded assemblage. New scenery and dresses have been specially made for this production, which has entirely captivated the public taste. Miss Gladys Sylvester makes a fine principal boy, and scores a decided success. The Princess Balroulbadour was capitally played by Miss Marion Edwards, and Miss Amy Elcock made a capital Peco. The Misses Florrie St. Roy and Belle Russel, as Cheekee and Selim respectively, give a good account of themselves; Mr James Stephens as the Widow Twankey submits a very quaint impersonation, and sings "An Aching Heart" with true humour. Mr Mike Johnson as Muchee Drunkee proves himself to be a comedian of resource. A capital performance is that given by Mr P. D. Bermingham, whose sallies in the part of Dougal Mactootie, the fairy Hielan'man are greatly relished. Mr E. H. Williams does some good work in the part of Abanazar; and Mr John Levey cleverly acts the rôle of the Emperor Wang. Messrs Harley and Hardon, one of whom is well known here as a smart acrobat, create great fun as the Chinese policeman. Much credit is due to Mr S. King Alexander, who produced the pantomime. Mr T. B. Jakes, the musical-director, and Mr W. Henry Young are responsible for the music; the book has been written by Mr S. Planche.

DUNFERMLINE.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—Miss Adria Hill and Mr Robert Ayrton's company is here this week. On Monday *The Shadow of the Cross* was presented. Mr Robert Ayrton made a capital Wulfere, King of Mercia; Edgar was very capably handled by Mr Charles H. Lester; Mr Edward Sheedy did well as Egbert; Miss Adria Hill's powers as an actress were seen to advantage in the double part of Werebode and Edelgitha; Miss Harriette Loydall was excellent as Ethelinda; and Miss Renie Douglas was well placed as Caloda. *Justice at Last* was played on Thursday.

EASTBOURNE.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Mr Leigh Lovell's company is appearing here this week, in *The Duke of Killicrankie*. A conspicuously successful performance is given by Miss Naomi Neilson, who, notwithstanding a very heavy cold, is a bright distinctive Mrs Mulholland, and her comedy belongs to the highest class. Miss Octavia Kenmore is a quietly effective and pleasing Lady Henrietta; Miss M'Aimee Murray is a stately Countess of Pangbourne; and Miss Helen Tytler does all that is necessary as Mrs M'Bayne. Mr Herbert J. Bentley is a manly and attractive Duke of Killicrankie, and gives point to all his work. Mr Leigh Lovel contributes a capital character sketch as Pitt-Welby, and his efforts are always legitimate. Mr F. Danvers-Yates, Mr H. D. Cottell, and Mr Vernon West give excellent help in smaller parts. The scenery is very fine.

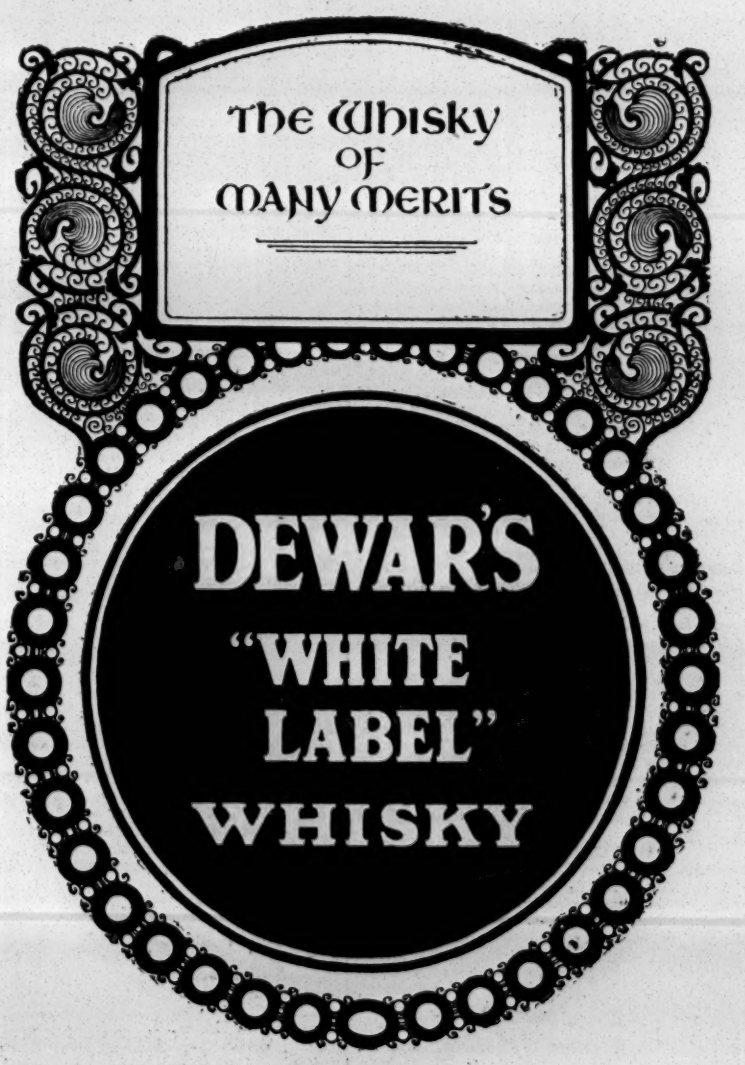
HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—A capital variety bill is being offered here twice nightly to good audiences. The Ramlos, in their triple-bar act, combine fun and extremely clever bar work, and their turn is one of the most popular in the programme. The Woolfords have an animal show which pleases the audience; Anthy is a skilful and daring wire-walker; Miss Rose Harvey, of fine figure and voice, is a successful vocalist; Miss Sadie Seymour has a charming appearance, and she sings her songs well; Mr Sydney Lee is a very smart conjuror and expert palmist; Mr Will Lytton is a skilful dancer and comic singer; Resford and Hunt contribute an amusing sketch, and the Hippodrome Pictures complete the bill.

EDINBURGH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—A new musical play entitled *Peggy Machree* commenced a six nights' engagement here on Monday evening. Mr Charles Hamilton's excellent company includes such well-known artistes as Mr Denis O'Sullivan and Miss Marie Dainton, the former making a most successful appearance as Barry Trevor. The rôle of the happy-go-lucky hero suited Mr O'Sullivan well, and his artistic and tasteful rendering of a number of tuneful Irish ballads was delightful to listen to, the vocalist having to respond to many encores. Miss Marie Dainton was a charming Lady Margaret O'Driscoll, who masquerades as Peggy, singing and acting with much spontaneity and intelligence, her dainty dancing being also much admired. Miss Ethel Weyburn made a graceful Emily Pryor and Miss Millicent M'Laughlin a praiseworthy Madame De La Cour. Miss Freda Bramleigh rendered good service as Moira, and Misses Patty Rusholme and Bertha Seaton as Nora and Kathleen were alike excellent. Mr Mark M'Dermott played Sir Lawrence Borthwick with ease and effect, and Mr Stanley Pringle was a grim Captain De La Cour. Mr Graeme Campbell looked the typical Scot as the Major Domo, and Mr Shiel Barry appeared as Michael. The choruses were sung with spirit, and mounting and dresses were alike picturesque. The company is under the able acting-management of Mr Morris Harper.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Mr Tom Edwards, an accomplished ventriloquist, tops the bill here, and gave an excellent show on Monday. Swan and Bambard are acrobatic comedians, whose business was distinctly amusing, and Prince Kokin's feats showed him to be one of the most marvellous of Japanese jugglers. The Vasilescu Troupe proved very diverting in their pantomime act on bars, and Diamond and Beatrice retained from last week, have repeated their brilliant harp and saxophone selections with increased success, the dancing of the gentleman and fine solo playing of the lady being received with delighted applause. The musical transformation act of the Loro Quartet was cleverly carried out, and the one-act comedy-drama, *Brocky's Temptation*, smartly played by Fiske and M'Donough. Mr Charles Cardow is a comedian of undoubted ability, and considerable interest was manifested in his songs, which are written and composed by himself. Miss Mabel Hind, Vosper, Ambrose Thorne, and the Five Olracs also appeared.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—This theatre—which had a varied, if somebrief, career as the Tivoli—reopened its doors on Saturday evening under new management. As we indicated last week, the interior has been improved considerably, and the decorations pleasantly brightened up, while smoking is now allowed in every part of the building. Commencing his season with a pantomime, Mr Montefiore has made a big bid for success. He has engaged a competent permanent staff, a large company, and two sets of clever dancers, who secured immediate attention. The story of *Cinderella* is popular with all audiences, and although the libretto in this instance is not of much account, the music is a feature one can dwell on with pleasure, and more than anything helped the performance forward on the opening night. To Mr E. T. Banzie, therefore, special praise



is due for his effective share in the entertainment. The plot of the old world tale is kept pretty closely to. Miss Millie Engler made a most attractive Prince Rupert, and Dandini was played with abundant animation by Miss Fanny Wright, whose acting, singing, and dancing were in keeping with the sprightly nature of the part. The Cinderella of Miss May Marton delighted everybody; she has a charming presence, a graceful figure, a sweet voice, and is evidently an accomplished dancer. The brightness and vivacity displayed by this talented lady was a notable feature of the pantomime, and will be one of the chief stays of its career. The Fairy Godmother was represented with distinction by Miss Vera Schlesinger, who sang "Bid me discourse" with ease and finish; and other characters by Misses Rhoda Beresford, Lily Piercy, Rona Merrick, Ada Jenner, and Beatice Holmes were satisfactorily filled. Little Zola made a diverting appearance as Buttons. Mr George Traverner, actor and musician, was a good second as the Demon Discontent; Mr A. G. Spry appears as the Baron De Guile. There was a large and tastefully dressed chorus, whose singing was effective, and the various groupings were well arranged, the Ball-room scene forming a gorgeous spectacle. Another feature of the stage arrangements was the electrically-lighted fairy coach which, drawn across the stage by four diminutive Shetland ponies, bears Cinderella to the Prince's ball. The Six Lancashire Lasses danced their best, and the lively acrobatic gyrations of the Four American Idols were particularly effective. This part of the entertainment was received with the greatest possible enthusiasm.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—The romantic play *Quasimodo* was put on the stage here on Monday evening by Mr Roy Jackson's company. The cast was a good one, and introduced Mr Jackson himself as the hunchback, of which character he gave a vivid presentment. Mr G. Lambton was a good Claude Frollo, and Mr Percy B. Braithwaite threw a fine comedy effect into his acting as Pierre Gringoire. Miss Kitty Douglas was a fascinating representative of Esmeralda, and Miss Inez Harrman made a charming appearance as Fleur-de-Lys.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr John Henry Cooke.—Mr Cooke is always ahead of time in his preparations for the amusement of his many patrons, and this year he anticipates Christmas by a good fortnight with his holiday entertainment. *Aqua-Wreck*, produced on Saturday last to an overflowing house, is one of the best and most startling of the water carnivals designed by this enterprising manager, and there should be a rare harvest of patronage during the festive season and after. This year the sensation is produced by the breaking down of an aqueduct, the water of which floods a village that lies below. The arena represents a rural hamlet, with its inn and village green, and the story is told in three parts—representing dawn, midday, and night. A rustic wedding forms the chief incident of the piece, which, after a realistic storm, is brought to a thrilling climax in the way above stated. The three scenes were crowded with picturesque episodes and healthy fun, and in this Mr Cooke was loyally supported by his company. The characters were well distributed. The bridegroom was played by Mr Leicester Alfred Cooke, and Mdlle. Rose made an interesting bride. Two immensely popular characters were Sally Burntheart and Louie Freezer, cleverly made-up and divertingly played by Miss Marie De Cartartet and Miss Edina Moika, a dance by the former lady being warmly applauded. The Yoricks introduced some original business as two tramps, and little Syd was here, there, and everywhere as the village booby. A Punch and Judy show was received with screams of laughter by the juveniles; and the dancing and singing of a number of young Edinburgh children was an enjoyable feature of the village sports. The equestrian and variety items that preceded included Picitt, an Australian handcuff king, who has a perfect genius for getting out of all kinds of chains, fetters, locks, and police fixings; and Arthur and Agnes Lynch, American song illustrators, who were very popular. Mdlle. Eva and Mons. Henri were again brilliantly successful, and the performing stallions of Mr Anthony Powell performed some very wonderful feats.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford.—The visit of Mr Laurence Irving and his company in *Richard Lovelace* has been anticipated with much interest by local playgoers, as was evidenced by the crowded state of the house on Monday last. Mr Laurence Irving fully sustained his reputation in the title-rôle, his enactment of the poet-cavalier being touching and dramatic and creating a deep impression. Miss Mabel Hackney was enthusiastically received, and her rendering of the heroine was most striking and pathetic. As Colonel Martin Hawley Mr William E. Ashcroft was seen to advantage, his portrayal being replete with true artistic skill. The other characters were well sustained. *Richard Lovelace* was preceded by Pinero's clever little curtain-raiser *Daisy's Escape*.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—Another varied programme was given this week, which could not fail to satisfy all classes of theatre-goers. For the first three nights *A Country Mouse* was played by the company of Miss Emma and Percy Hutchison. Miss Violet M. Harley as Angela, the fresh and unsophisticated maiden from the country, gave a delightfully sweet interpretation of the character. Miss Edith Walker's Lady Sylvia Bowlby was an artistic character study, and as Violet Aynsley Miss Eve Erskine was no less successful. The Hon Archibald Vyse is a part in which Mr Chas. Howitt displayed great ability. As the Duke of St. Kitts Mr Arnold Lucy proved most entertaining. Mr Chas. Harley's John Bowlby, M.P., was effectively portrayed, and in the character of Lord Robert Wykeham Mr Wilson Lumley was also a distinct success. All the other parts were well taken, but a word is due to Miss Emily Levettez for her acting of Mrs Cropper. The comedy was beautifully dressed and admirably staged. The one-act farce *His Landlady* was a most agreeable curtain-raiser. On Thursday Mr C. Finch-Hatton's company paid a return visit in the stirring detective drama *From Scotland Yard*.

TOWN HALL.—On Saturday evening Mr Durward Lely and his company had a hearty reception from a large audience, when he appeared in the musical drama of *Guy Mannering*. Although suffering from a severe cold Mr Lely quite charmed the audience with his singing in the character of Henry Bertram. Mrs Lely impersonated Meg Merrilees capitally, and her "get up" was most effective. Miss Jennie Sneddon as Julia Mannering, Miss E. Lorraine as Lucy Bertram, Mr R. B. Drysdale as Dominie Sampson, and Mr Albert Semper, in the capacity of Dandie Dinmont, all did well.

GLASGOW.

ROYALTY, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. M. Downie.—That amusing farcical comedy *Are You a Mason?* is after a short interval again on a visit here. The company is organised by Messrs Charles Frohman and Geo. Edwardes, and includes Messrs Harry Ashford, Stephen Wentworth, Anthony Fawcett, Frank Ridley, and Misses Violet Graham, Lily Beagle, and Isla Glynn. *Hushed Up* is given in front.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—After an interval of a few weeks only *The Earl and the Girl* is paying a special return visit to this house. The company is Mr William Greet's, and the cast is almost the same as before, the exception that the part of Crewe Boodle is now represented by Mr Fred Hill in good style. As Jim Cheese Mr William Stephens is again the source of much laughter, being cleverly supported by Miss Dot Carey, in the part of Liza Shoddam. Dick Wargrave and Elphin Haye are charmingly represented by Mr Percy Carr and Miss Aimee Grey respectively. Mr William Walshe is capitally suited as Bunker Bliss, and the Downham of Mr Will Hindson is another smart performance. The Hazell of Mr Thomas Redmond and the Talk of Mr J. C. Graves are very good. Miss Florence Imeson is attractive as Daisy Fallowfield and the Mrs Shimmering Black of Miss Gladys Fontaine is imposing, Miss Helen Langton also making a striking figure as Virginia Bliss. The strong chorus and augmented orchestra are again under the direction of Mr Evelyn Baker.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—A stirring play entitled *When a Man Hates* is being given here by Miss Olga Audre, Messrs Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company. Miss Leila Zillwood gives an admirable performance of the part of Miss Olga Gwynne; Mr Arthur Hinton as Pietro is excellent as the cool, scheming villain; Paul, a half-witted young man who helps to unravel the plot, is cleverly portrayed by Mr Travis Green; Miss Marion Forestor makes a sympathetic Letty; humour is plentifully supplied by Mr Tom Taylor as a man-of-all-work and by Miss Marie E. Robertson as Dolly Dimple. Mr Chas. Cairns as Detective Smart, Mr Phoens Gains as Sir Rupert, and Mr Edward Williams as a Police Sergeant complete an able cast.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—*Wep-ton-no-mah*, by the company of the Indian actress, Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, is appearing here this week. Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk gives a convincing study of the title-rôle; Mr C. W. Charles makes a hearty representative of Colonel Stockton; Mr R. Thorne is sufficiently villainous as the Spanish desperado; Mr G. Courtney is well suited as Captain Franklin; and Miss Minnie Goepel as Nellie Stockton acts with much grace and charm. The humorous element of the drama is well presented by Miss J. Hart as Matilda, Mr Dan Ryan as Garry, and Mr Guy D. Hackney as the Negro.

WHITEVALE.—Proprietor, Mr George Green; Acting-Manager, Mr W. H. Webster.—Mr Maurice Love is here with his company in *Fun on the Bristol*, in which Mr Love as Widow O'Brien brings out the humorous traits of the character. Mr J. R. Hews as Captain Cranberry makes a gruff and hearty old sailor; Mr Fred James as Tom is highly amusing in his delineation of bashful timidity; Mr E. Allen as Count Menaggio makes an extremely picturesque Italian; and Mr W. J. Thompson as Richard Sparks is quite satisfactory. The same may be said of Mr Joe Edwards as Steward on board the Bristol. Miss Mabel Greville enacts Nora O'Brien charmingly. Miss Florence Symons as the widow's elder daughter acts with piquancy and dances gracefully, and Miss Nellie Wilson makes an amusingly lively coloured domestic.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss's, Limited; Resident Manager, Mr Arthur Aldin.—Hermann Melot, the conjuror, heads the bill here, and his turn is very mystifying. The Brothers De Wynne are wonderfully neat and clever head and hand balancers; Gallagher and Bild take well in their "Navaho" scena; George Newburn's imitations are always successful. those of Harry Lauder and Mark Sheridan being specially good; Walter Munroe's songs go with a swing as of old; Vasco repeats his wonderfully good musical turn; Mdlle. Pia Carozzi as a harpist takes high rank, her selections being much enjoyed; and Bijou Russell, sand dancer; Alexandra and Bertie, in their "Après le Bal" act; Doody and Wright, Australian comiques; and Margaret Ashton, vocalist, make up a good programme.

IVOLI AND QUEEN'S, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr S. King Alexander; Acting-Managers, Messrs T. J. Colquhoun and Fred C. Ewing.—At these two halls clever performances are submitted and are well patronised. Ara, Zebra, and Vora appear in their smart turn, entitled "Indian Pastimes;" Bros. Lloyd give their smart and daring wire act; the Dayton Troupe are neat and clever Risley performers; the Musical Palmers contribute a turn that is heartily enjoyed; Angeline is a really artistic lady juggler; Mdlle. Yetta is a wire-walker of special merit; Little Barney, the boy comedian, is again fetching the audience with his clever songs; and Royal Best, the mimic; Bendon's Bioscope; Archd. Cameron, descriptive vocalist; Vernardo, ventriloquist; and the Cosmos, in their eccentric musical business, also provide attractive items.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thomas Barrasford; Assistant-Manager Mr. H. M'Kelvie.—The Onllaw Trio, in their daring and graceful wire act, are an outstanding feature of the programme here. Miss Frederica's performing terriers show wonderful intelligence and clever training; J. H. Scotland's excellent baritone voice is heard to advantage in several songs, including one in "Zomerzet" dialect; B. Troba contributes a wonderful display of strength and juggling; Warden-Reed and Glenny appear in an amusing duologue, *Married or Photographed*; the Three Laurels in their "ping-pong" table act; Alfonso Silvain in a smart equilibrist turn; Lily Seville and Dorothy Tremain, comediennes; and the animated pictures complete a varied programme.

BRITANNIA.—Lessee, Mr James Anderson; Manager, Mr Geo. Saphrini.—A varied programme is provided here this week, and attracted a large audience on the opening night. Harry Glynn's Combination is entitled to premier place in a humorous sketch; Sam Thomson, Scotch comedian, makes a good impression; and other attractions include Charles Cowen, comedian; Rosie Leslie, comedienne and dancer; Harry Jennings, comedian and dancer; George and Edwards, comedians and dancers; Maud Darlow, ballad vocalist; Mdlle. Leoville, conjuror; the Eltenos, comic gymnasts; and the Bioscope, with up-to date pictures.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr Wm. Biggam.—A good programme with a large proportion of the comedy element is submitted here. W. B. Whelan, Harry Jennings, George Ray, and the Stanleys, in songs and dances; Sisters Terry as baby mimics; Agnese Lynch, American song illustrator; Alice Golding, a popular favourite here; Hewitt and Ritchie, in *Macpherson's Holiday*; and J. H. Harris and Jack Beveridge, Scotch comics, all contribute clever turns.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Limited; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—The principal item in a strong bill at this theatre is the musical comedy extravaganza, *The Belle of the Orient*. Winn's Parisian Puppets provide a most interesting turn, as also does Mansell Fane, character vocalist. Craig, Rose, and Craig are responsible for an entertaining show, while Musical Silvo and the Animated Song Sheet are also good turns. Other good artistes are Harry Maynard, actor-vocalist, and Wilton Warton, magician.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Mr F. S. Cody's company, in *The Klondyke Nugget*, is appearing this week. The specialities include cowboys, trained animals, and Dan Merritt, champion drummer. The characters in the drama are sustained by Mr Elward Leroy, a most effective Sam Deats; Vivian Cody, a good Joe Smith; Waco is well played by Leon Cody; Jim Barker makes a capital Bill Sykes; and Mr Doc Horsfall does well as Tom Lee. Miss Edith Mumford is clever as Rosie Lee, and an excellently played part is that of Ted Lee by Mr Geo. Alnge.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—Edward Rainier and company give an excellent interpretation of a detective episode, entitled *The Bank Robbery*; Rappo and Ella provide a smart equilibrist and acrobatic act; Rice, Rose, Davis and the Half introduce plenty of fun into their sketch, *Ferguson's Dog*; Tom Carney's songs and dances are well received; the Terras Bros. supply a clever acrobatic turn; Mattie Crawford, vocalist; Steeley and Dowton, vocalist and comedian; and the Aquarium Bioscope complete an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—A capital programme is, as usual, provided. Tom White's Arabs, in a vocal and conversational entertainment, gain hearty applause; Burnette, the quick-change character musician, gives an interesting performance; Miss Unity Vezzey introduces her wonderful fiddling poodles; the Bros. Bastow do well as Herculean gymnasts; Ben Hur gives a wonderful exhibition of strength; Doodles and Little Bishop supply any amount of fun; and new pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr and Mrs Charles Clifford's company is here this week with *On Circumstantial Evidence*. Mr A. M. James plays Sir Lawrence Kinloch with ability; Mr Leonard Williams as Jack Ogilvy distinguishes himself; Mr Charles Clifford submits a powerful piece of acting as Captain Hamilton; Mr J. Stuart does well as General Garibaldi; Mr Harry Cooke is a capable exponent of Jeremiah Tobin; Convict 49 is well played by Mr James Long; and Mr Anderson Delph makes a good Warder Symes. Mr Hill-Cremer does justice to the part of Antenia; Miss Maud Camfield gives a sympathetic rendering of Violet Ogilvy; and Miss M. Hastings is an agreeable Polly Smithers. Miss M. Trevelyan is effective, playing the twin sisters. The play is well mounted, and is drawing good houses.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—Kioto heads the bill here, and performs some amazing balancing feats; the Paragon Trio are capable vocalists; Cinizelli, the silent jester, is amusing; Lidder and Hayward give a funny musical absurdity entitled "A Quiet Rehearsal;" Lily Sharplin, mimic, is applauded; the Gartells, eccentric comedians and dancers, give a good turn; Jessie N. Fraser is a charming soprano; and Hill, Barry, and Lang are funny sketch artists.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr J. H. Curry; Assistant Manager, Mr Sydney Tolfree.—The Slavonic drama *Under the Russian Flag*, presented by a company under the direction of Messrs Paumier and Howard, has this week made its second appearance here. It embraces a wealth of stirring incident. Mr Walter Howard, the author, himself undertakes the part of Demetrius, giving an excellent interpretation. The highly contrasting characters of the brothers, Ivan and Michael, are well portrayed by Mr. F. W. Freeman and Mr George Arthur respectively. Vera Vassiloff is pleasingly played by Miss Ada Champion, whilst Miss Ellen Snow admirably sustains the difficult part of Luka Marishla. The comedy characters are well embodied by Mr Hal Forde as Peter Poluski, Mr Alfred Bennett as Alexis, and Miss Agnes Howard as Ogarita.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; General Manager, Mr H. F. Millar; Assistant-Manager, Mr H. H. Watson.—A dramatic equestrian sketch, *The King's Highway*, has been presented here this week by Mr Frank Gerald's company. It is illustrative of incidents in the life of Dick Turpin, Mr Gerald representing the famous highwayman. An amusing pantomimic scene, in which there was a good deal of surprise trap work, was introduced by the Five Bon-Bons. Tom Brantford, comedian, has caused much laughter with his imitation of a band. A smart comedy acrobatic and dancing act was contributed by Steel and Laing, and other turns were given by Annie Laurie, comedienne and dancer; the Lannons, duettists; and Ernie Williams, comedian. A display of animated pictures by Leslie's apparatus completed the programme.

NEW PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—This new theatre was opened on Monday. A special report appears elsewhere.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr Norman Robinson.—A troupe of highly trained ponies go through a clever performance here this week, directed by Clown Caban; the Dandies, three ladies and two gentlemen, give a good vocal entertainment; Herr Fritz is a smart conjuror and illusionist; Book Pylades does a good mimetic show; Hughes and Elliott are smart dancers; and the comedians, Tom Lloyd, Fred Horsfall, and Harry Barker, each do a good turn.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—A nicely varied programme is this week headed by Miss Raffin, whose troupe of trained monkeys do some clever and laughable work; Alec Hurley enjoys a great popularity; J. A. Wilson, comedian and dancer, causes amusement; Hart and Rudd, a funny pair, are responsible for some excellent dancing; the Sisters Redfern do a musical act in artistic style; Friscarl is an adept artiste at juggling and hat manipulating; and Billy Hubbard and George Foyle, a couple of comedians, complete the bill.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—This week the stage is occupied by the drama *A Modern Adventuress*. Miss Beatrice Anderson in the title-rôle is well placed, and Mr Leonard Aardale as Pietro Donelli acts with much skill. Mr Evan Roland contributes a capital reading of John Crompton; Mr W. R. Winning as Wallace Denton is seen to advantage; Harry Delby finds a worthy exponent in Mr Royce Carleton; and Mr Geo. J. Knight as William Delby; Mr Geo. P. Lester as Beal and Mr Henry Hampton as Steve Meredith do exceptionally well; Miss Alice Defoe as Vivette Delby acts with much ease and grace; and Miss Mimi Fisher makes the most of the part of Sally.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr C. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—Edwin Boyd heads the bill, and scores most successfully in his clever songs; Zarmo, a comedy juggler, contributes a wonderful exhibition; the Arthur Saxon Trio are men of exceptional strength, their weight-lifting being much appreciated; a welcome return visit is paid by Parks' Eton Boys, who sing in their usual excellent manner; the Sisters Julian dance cleverly; the Rayfords have a capital sketch, as also have the Sivronis; Leo Tell is a wonderful mimic, his imitations being first class; Fred Herbert sings his songs admirably.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager Mr A. Smith.—The whole of the week at this popular house has been devoted to vaudeville entertainment, which has proved very popular. The artistes included the Three Sisters Lee, who were applauded for their clever dancing; "Wee Mona" gave smart imitations of Eugene Stratton; Barton and Ashby, in their comedy act, and Nellie Norton and George Ryder also displayed considerable versatility; whilst Julian Mack received an ovation for his smart patter. The vocal scena "Jack Shepherd," in which Messrs Vernon Cooper, Harold Perry, and Miss Ethel Faber took part, was also highly entertaining. Campkin, a tramp cyclist, and the Werners, tea-cup tricksts, completed a capital programme.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Craggs; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—A great attraction here is Cyril Demane, who demonstrates the working of the enchanted kettle, and does some smart conjuring. The Three Juggling Geraldos are exceptionally clever in their club manipulations; the Earles are heartily applauded; Jack Lorimer, Scotch comedian, provokes much amusement with his grotesque dancing; Florence Deighton takes well; as also do Millie Harris and Gus Harris on their return visits Ted Waite gives a well-rendered comic song; Ryde and Beeman retain their popularity; and the Three Sisters Urma on their return visit give a graceful triple bar act.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—H. R. Sylva's sensational drama, *The Greed of Gold*, is being being performed here this week by Mr T. Morton Powell's company. Mr Carthage Caldcleugh as Harry Hood gives full effect to the cruelty and baseness of the villain's character; Mr Walter M. Cameron as Hood's cowardly accomplice plays strongly; Mr Chas. Coleman well presents the true-hearted Arthur Errol; Mr B. Fox is very effective as the unlucky Tom Welstead; Mr T. G. Warry is well placed as Mr Brightson; Mr H. Shea as Conn provides much of the necessary humour, and is ably assisted by Miss Winnie Donovan as Patty. Miss Daisy Halling as Dora acts throughout with much charm, and Miss Grace St. John is dignified as Mrs Maxwell. Miss Florrie Woods plays cleverly as the youthful Cecil.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—Mr Dion Boucicault's drama entitled *The Life of an Actress* is being produced here by Mr A. B. Tapping, Miss Alice Farleigh, and company. As Grimaldi Mr A. B. Tapping may be credited with exceptional ability, the lights and shades of emotion that the character demands being finely delineated. He is well seconded by Miss Alice Farleigh, who in the difficult rôle of Violet acts with charming naturalness. Mr Charles Hawker is a good Wopshot; Mr Charles T. Doe, an amusing Selwyn Dawdle; and Miss Stella Leigh, an acceptable Julia.

ST LEONARDS PIER KURSAAL.—The Kursaal Orchestra, conducted by Mr Val Marriott, is rapidly gaining in popularity. This week their selections are interspersed by the singing of Miss Winifred Dixon, a youthful vocalist possessing a sweet voice and pleasing manner.

HASTINGS HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—An excellent company of artists is appearing this week. Miss Lily Stewart is an attractive comedienne and dancer; Mr Burton Joyce possesses an excellent tenor voice; the silent illusionists the Davenports are remarkably smart and clever; the well-rendered songs of Mr J. W. Ellison are much applauded; the graceful dancing of the Sisters Oswald finds plenty of admirers; O'Gust gives some marvellous imitations of animals and musical instruments; Mr Hamilton Hill, the Australian baritone, is cordially received; and Akimoto's clever Japanese troupe is a decided success.

HOYLAND.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Geo. S. King.—Mr W. W. Kelly's company is this week playing *The New East Lynne*. Miss Agnes Imlay as Lady Isabel merits warm praise, and Mr W. M. Heilbronn as Archibald Carlyle wins admiration for his performance. Mr James Willoughby as Richard Hare plays his part with spirit and tact; Miss Helen Stewart as Barbara Hare effectively does the work entrusted to her; Miss Lilly Ellison makes a charming little Willie; Miss B. F. Stewart as Cornelia Carlyle and Mr T. Ford as Lawyer Dill are acquisitions to the cast; and Mr Robert Wilton is good as Justice Hare. Mr W. F. Cox creates hearty laughter as Murty O'Flynn; Miss Lizzy Maddocks is well placed as Joice; and as the unscrupulous Francis Levison Mr W. T. Clifford evokes the execrations of the audience.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—The sporting drama, *Bound to Win*, as played by Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley's company, appeals strongly to the popular parts of the house. Their approval was shown by the enthusiastic applause accorded to the hero, Lyndon, Mr F. G. Kimberley; the heroine, Marion, Miss Nina Blake Adams; and their friends, Ned Oakley, Mr James Hont; Buffet, Mr Edgar Morgan; Wilkins, Mr Horace Custins; and Winnie Oakley, Miss Edie Macklin. Howls of execration were as whole-heartedly showered upon the villains of the piece, Philip Ayre, Mr D. Strickland; Blake, Mr Fred Tenaur; and Gladys Orme, a fiend in petticoats, Miss Kathleen Eckhart.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—Mr Wm. Maclaren and Miss Lily Bandmann are appearing here this week with a very welcome revival of *Proof*. As Pierre Mr Maclaren has a part which he fills with considerable success. The Madelaine of Miss Lily Bandmann was distinguished by many pleasant touches that drew the sympathy of the house, *David Garrick* and *The School for Scandal* have been included in the week's bill.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—The Hull amateur operatic company has held the boards this week.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—*Why Women Sin*, a play with a strong nautical interest, therefore very popular in this port, is the attraction this week. Mr Fred Jennings gives a manly interpretation of the rôle of Captain Herbert Carlton, R.N. Miss Cora Deane scores in the rôle of Lily De Vere of the halls.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident Manager, Mr A. Graham.—The conjuror Chung Ling Soo remains for this week, and it must be said that he is most skilful and dexterous in his tricks. Madame Alice Simmons is a vocalist with a voice of pure quality. George Bohee maintains his great reputation as banjoist and vocalist.

SYLVESTER'S EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Jno. Sylvester Sage.—The Jno. Watson Trio top the bill in a smart entertainment; Flo Melville is a smart burlesque artist; Kavados performs some neat tricks; the Schallers are a good comedy couple; and Ida Kennesley, with her terriers, and Will Fieldhouse complete the bill.

CIRCUS.—Manager, Mr E. Emerson.—"Our Imperial Army" Animated Photo. Co. shows some up-to-date pictures, and a full orchestral band adds to the interest of the entertainment.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—This week the attraction is provided by Mr J. Rice Cassidy's *God of War* company. Mr Frank Orchard gives a good embodiment of the rôle of Rega Alvado; Mr Fredk. Biron makes the character of Count Raspa Cortes sufficiently repulsive; and Mr Stephen Crossley is well placed as Carlos Armado. Another praiseworthy performance is the Lord Brandon Beamer of Mr Frank Copeland. Mr J. Rice Cassidy submits a highly amusing sketch of the ubiquitous son of Erin Dandy Donovan, and is ably supported by Miss Lillian Clare, who looks charming and acts with grace the part of Dolly Daly. Miss Florence Halton plays with feeling the rôle of Madeline Alvado; Mr Storman Wallet is entertaining as Dr. Maximo Gomez Roderigo; Miss Rose Lodge displays ability as Zella; and Mr Chas. Crosby as Marcio is deserving of praise.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr L. F. A. Rogers; Musical Director, Mr C. Keith Smith.—Mr F. S. Gilbert's opera company is paying a return visit this week, and is playing *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Maritana*, *Faust*, and *Satanella*. *The Bohemian Girl* was chosen for the opening night, when Mr F. S. Gilbert was, as usual, highly successful in the rôle of Thaddeus, whilst Miss Marie D'Alcourt gave a delightful rendering of Arline. Miss Grace Parish received much applause as the Gipsy Queen, and Mr Fletcher Sansome was a capable exponent of the part of Devilshoof. Messrs J. Halpin and Stuart Bolton as Count Arnheim and Florestein work well in their respective spheres. A well-trained chorus adds to the success.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Joe Richards.—The following turns are entertaining at this place of amusement:—Sisters Sidney, duettists and dancers; Edith Celestine, balladist; Joe Wright, vocalist; Alice Albaie, serio; and Mabel Dearing, vocalist.

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Cameron Burgess.—The Moody-Manners opera company is here, and on Monday appeared most successfully in Wallace's opera *Maritana*. Mr Edward Wynn represented the rôle of Don Cæsar De Bazan creditably, Don José found a capital impersonator in Mr Wilfred Heath, Mr Gordon played the Alcade with artistic effect, and Mr T. Sandbrook made a praiseworthy Captain of the Guard. The King of Spain was well played by Mr H. Buckley. The title-rôle was embodied by that charming vocalist Miss K. Brownless, whose rich voice drew forth the plaudits of the house. Miss Gertrude Alexander was good as Lazarillo, and Miss Coe made a clever Marchioness. *The Daughter of the Regiment* was given on Tuesday and *Faust* on Wednesday

IPSWICH.

HIPPODROME.—Among the novelties introduced into the programme at the Woodbridge-road place of entertainment this week are Kyasyas, a marvellous weight lifter; the Alskarno Trio of acrobats; Harry Grey, comedian; the Bensons, vocalists and dancers; Ernie Shelman, comic vocalist; and Miss Daisy May and Miss Tiny Reif, both graceful and clever dancers.

KIDDERMINSTER.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr Jas. P. Moore; Acting-Manager, Mr R. C. Gudgeon, jun.—The attraction here this week is Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company, in the emotional melodrama entitled *A Beautiful Fiend*. Miss Sidney Crowe in the title-rôle is all that can be desired; Mr Montague Beaudyn as Ivan Paulovitch is realistic; Mr Herbert Skardon is admirable in the rôle of Count Fedor Karateff; Sergius Strogoff is capably portrayed by Mr John Keane; and Mr Chas. Rean's Christopher Crackles is very funny. Miss Irene Munroe as Nadine Karateff is well placed.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs Lester Reekie and Howard Stephens.—Chief amongst a good company are Grapho and Jackson, Bert Kemp, Billy Bowler, and Albert Freear. Mr Douglas Randall is an efficient and popular conductor. On Wednesday afternoon a matinée in aid of the Poor Children's Boot Fund was given, and was in every way a success.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Hales.—Mr Harry Foxwell and company are appearing in *Shadows of a Great City*. Mr Harry Foxwell makes an admirable Tom Cooper, and Mr Charles Vivian gives a clever impersonation of George Benson, the man about town. As Arkwright Mr Arthur A. Tomlin does good work, as does Mr Newton Pearce as Jim Farren. Miss Sheila Walsh gives an effective rendering of the double part of Annie and Nellie Standish.

LEEDS.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager, Mr Fredk. Vincent.—A musical comedy by a Negro composer played by a complete company of Negro artistes is a decided novelty, and great crowds have flocked to the Grand this week to see *In Dahomey*, which answers the above description. The company is ably led by Mr Dan Avery and Mr Charles Hart, a pair of very able coloured comedians. The piece has plenty of tuneful numbers, and Miss Laura Bowman, Mr Howard Watson, and Mr Dan Washington receive due appreciation for their excellent work.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Bush.—*Man to Man*, which once again holds the boards here, is presented by Mr Bourne's company. Mr Frank Elwood is to be complimented on a manly performance of the hero; Mr Ellis J. Preston plays in vigorous style the villainous Richard Ellerton; that accomplished actress, Miss Maud Buchanan, capably enacts the rôle of Ethel Maythorne, the heroine; good assistance being given by Miss Amy Vennimore as Gipsy Madge. Mr Arthur Rich infuses some welcome comedy into his character, and in this direction Miss Lydia Hart also renders good service. Other parts are in the able hands of Mr Chas. Boult, Mr Frank Liston, and Mr Will Clement.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—*The Streets of Leeds* is to be seen here this week, and the piece is effectively played by Mr John F. Preston's company, that excellent actor himself appearing in an effective portrayal of Badger. The Mark Livingstone of Mr Alfred Wade is a powerful effort which arouses general enthusiasm; Mr George R. Montford makes good use of his opportunities as John Stonecastle; the part of Lucy Fairfax is cleverly presented by Miss Gertrude Godart; and some excellent comedy business by Mr Fawcett Lomax and Mr Hardy Macro is a most welcome feature. Mr E. R. Allen is also to be specially noted for a fine presentation of a heavy dual-rôle.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—Mr J. L. Shine, a talented comedian, is here this week with a smart company in *Hogmanay*, the presentation of which has aroused great enthusiasm. Another capital turn is the marionette entertainment by Professor Bernar. Carl and Mary Ohm's trained animal show is again voted a great success; the Emelia Sisters are vociferously applauded for a talented musical entertainment; Miss Florrie Robina again displays her ability as comedienne and burlesque artiste; Les Voces find favour with capital singing; the contributions of Chas. Adams, comedian; and Arthur Melrose, whistling comedian, are distinctly above the average; Mueller and Coyne are a smart comedy duo; and Lyane and Greks, novel contortionists, also contribute to a capital bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Charles Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—"The Magic Kettle" is the chief cause of the crowded state of this popular hall during the present week. An exceedingly popular contributor is Sam Mayo, a clever comedian of the immobile species. Larola also entertains with comical business; the Patty Brothers have a novel and expert acrobatic act which goes well; the Gregsons submit a good comedy sketch; Will M'Ivor evokes much applause by fine vocal work; Rose Cabani and Stella Stanley are comediennes with a pleasing variety of songs; and we are further entertained by Dale and Vale and Dusty Rhodes, comedians.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—The song scena, "The Factory Girl," is the main feature of entertainment here in the hands of Joe Peterman's company. May Lilian Levey proves a bright comedienne and a great favourite; some clever speciality dancing by Viviana is as popular as anything in the bill; that expert conjuror, Henri Bekker, again gives a mysti-

fying entertainment; Cliff and Kean are a pair of favourite comedy artistes; the Four Jumels submit their musical act with success; and Harry Hayton, comedian, is also appearing.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—The evergreen and popular military drama *In the Ranks* is the attraction here this week, being presented by Messrs Arthur Carlton and H. Armitage's capital company. Miss Edith Blair-Staples as Ruth Herrick and Mr Edward Lloyd as Ned Drayton, the heroine and hero, are both to be complimented on clever embodiments, which entirely wins the sympathies of the audience. Mr Herbert Cecil is a success as Gideon Blake, and Mr Arthur Palling as Colonel Wynter and Mr Archie W. Chappell as Captain Holcroft are both good. Mr Walter Wilson makes an excellent Richard Beleon. Mr Cecil Clayton is amusing as Joe Buzzard, the same remark applying to Miss Anna Beaumont as Mrs Buzzard. Miss Ella Wilmer is well placed as Barbara Herrick.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—Miss Annie Bell and company are here this week in the play *Sapho*, dramatised by Birkett Winning. As Fanny Legrand Miss Annie Bell is conspicuously successful with a performance of great merit; Mr Frederick Ross makes an excellent impression as Jean Gaussin; and Mr George Antley as Cessire and Mr R. A. Greene as Paul Dechelette are both good. Mr H. Langford does well as Caoudal, and Mr J. A. Storey is equally successful as Father Legrand. Miss Laura Rayn is well placed as Machaume. Little Miss Lottie Ray displays ability and intelligence as Joseph.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—The great attraction in this week's bill is the Boisset Troupe (Frank and Albert and company), who are presenting for the first time in Leicester the uproariously funny sketch *The Bricklayers*. The Three Brothers Pantzer give a remarkably clever show as equilibrists, their balancing feats arousing great applause. A pretty, clever, and versatile turn is submitted by Miss Lalla Selbini, which includes trick cycling, juggling, dancing, bâton swinging, &c. She is assisted by Midget Harry, an amusing little fellow. A. W. Hall and B. P. Earle are a couple of eccentrics who display great smartness in their acrobatic work, besides being very funny. A special feature of the programme is the Bioscope, an entirely new set of films being projected to the delight of the audience. The Four Olympian Stars, burlesque vocalists and dancers, give an enjoyable turn. Miss Kitty Marion sings exceedingly well. Miss Ella Retford, coon vocalist and smart dancer, scores a success. Princess Pauline, serio, also entertains.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth. — The programme here is headed this week by Blake and Granby, comedy duologue artistes, in *The Man in Possession*, which raises hearty laughter; the Three Novells are smart acrobats and tumblers; the Athlones, Herculean athletes, score a success in their clever speciality act; J. C. Manley, character vocalist, is good; Nellie Dunbar, a popular local vocalist and dancer; J. H. M'Cann, comedian and roller skate dancer; Collins and Croft, in their latest success, *The Aliens*; and Alice Gill, vocalist, also entertain.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—Mr Walter Jeff's New Century pictures are being shown here this week. They include a series of pretty views in colour photography. The audience accord the entertainment, which is interspersed with well-rendered songs by Miss Kathleen M'Cabe, unstinted applause.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—This week Mr Penfold Field's company is occupying the boards here with *A Fatal Fortune*. Miss Rose Lehmann as Beauty Glitters is very effective; Miss Shirley Dalton is a sympathetic Mary Weston; Mr Raymond Thomas is a capable Captain Seton Desmond; Mr Harry Treeham as Jack Weston acquits himself well; Mr Percy Boucher as Tim Larks and Miss Florrie Hall as Becky are responsible for much merriment.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—Messrs Polini and Melford once more present to us *The Silver King*, and the company are to be complimented on their representation. Mr Lauderdale Maitland finely plays Wilfred Denver, Miss Lilian Bethell gives a powerful impersonation of Nellie Denver, and Mr Charles Levey is excellent as the Spider. Mr E. J. George scores as the old servant Jakes. All the other characters are cleverly played.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur; Assistant-Manager, Mr Brandon Blake.—The Four Burnells, in their lively act, *Over the Garden Wall*, present the chief item in a programme remarkable for its dash and go. Gintaro, a Jap juggler of amazing dexterity, wins immense applause, and makes probably the hit of the evening, and another excellent turn is that of Mr J. G. Grahame, jun., and Miss Zerlina Harrington, in the well-played sketch, *A Daughter of Pleasure*. Permane's bears give a clever show. Zuma is a smart athlete, Ruby Bijou and Gracie Vernon dance most daintily, and Kit Keen's song and dance are also very taking.

LIVERPOOL.

ROTUNDA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Licensee, Mr J. G. Howard; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Montgomery, jun.—Good business has been done here during the week with *An Actor's Romance*, played by a numerous company under the control of Mr Cecil Barth. Mr Guy Hastings played with effect the part of Harold Davenport, and Miss Bertha Northam was an impressive Louise Davenport. Creditable work was also done by Mr Ernest Rushton, Mr W. H. Beaumont, Mr E. H. Dobell, Mr Percy Marmont, and Misses Constance Elgin, Gracie Woodleigh, Little Marie Dowsing, and Mrs Louise L'Estrange.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—Mr George Robey tops the bill here. He keeps the audience convulsed with laughter. The O'Malleys are amusing comedians, and come in for a good share of the applause. Smith and Johnson, the coloured couple, win the hearts of all with their characteristic coon songs; Sig. Bellany is a most daring acrobat, and is loudly applauded for his clever performance; De Henau, the armless wonder, wins the sympathies and applause by his clever painting; Aladina and her cockatoos are interesting; Len Lever is unmistakably a clever dancer; and the Korries are good in their potpourri act.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—The business done at this favourite house during the week has been particularly good, an able company organised by Tom H. Taylor having produced *The Female Swindler*. The work is one to command the close attention of an audience, and comprises many striking situations. The title part is presented by Miss Violet Ellicott, an actress of high merit, and Mr Jerrold Heather is a powerful Jack Coulson, the crime investigator. Other capable artistes include Mr Weldon Atherstone, Mr George Unwin, Miss Florrie Kelsie, Miss Evelyn Marrable, and Mr Luke Forster.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville; Business Manager, Mr F. L. Arthur.—The pantomime season in Liverpool this year has been inaugurated by the Queen's. On Monday a twelve nights' stay was commenced by Mr John Walter's *Cinderella*, and has proved very successful. Some fifty artistes are engaged, the dialogues are smart, the songs new and catchy, the dresses pretty, and the scenery picturesque. Taken altogether the show is a good one, and ought to continue to enjoy the strong patronage bestowed upon it during the early days of the week. Miss Florence Drew was a dainty and vivacious Cinderella, Miss Constance St. Bride scored as the Prince Charming; and the fun, of which there was a good supply, was provided by Messrs George Reeves, the Baron; Arthur Hickman and T. H. Solly, the ugly sisters; Ally M. Benson, Buttons; Clarence and Bell, the flunkeys, &c.; and Miss Flo Merry, the Baroness.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—Principal here this week is a somewhat uncommon entertainment, which has commanded some attention. It is entitled "Rousbys in Paris," and consists of a series of views of the French capital charmingly illuminated by electricity, accompanied by incidental music. Maxwell and Francis are a couple of able speciality artistes and dancers; the coloured Meisters sing several sweet quartets, for which they are loudly encored; Cole De Losse, comedians, perform a number of clever slack-wire feats in a humorous way; Charles Baron's animal show is very mirth-provoking; Miss Sybil St. Elmo renders several pretty songs, for which she is loudly applauded; Lily Burnand is a charming burlesque artiste; J. H. Milburn, an old favourite comedian, had a good reception; and others on the programme are the Two Butterflies, juvenile gymnasts; Fanny Robina, comedienne; Jimmy Shields, one-legged artiste; and Robertus and Wilfredo, with their dog.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Good houses have been the rule here during the week. At the head of the bill are the Bennecelli Troupe of novelty gymnasts, who put in some good work, for which they receive loud applause. Mr F. V. St. Clair, a clever artiste, gives a number of songs, including his latest success "Little Jap Horner;" Nellie and Nora are a smart pair of society musical entertainers; the singing of George Martinengo and his work as a 'cellist were of a high order; the Brothers Bellong perform some clever feats in bicycle balancing; Addie Dorina is a smart quick-change artiste; Charles Vandyke and company provide a funny pantomime sketch, *Nicodemus*; and others who appear are J. W. Bray, comedian; Florence Hill, dancer and comedienne; and Emma and Victor, vocalists and acrobatic dancers.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—A very acceptable bill-of-fare is presented here this week, the principal item being a sketch company under the control of Miss Dorothy Dean and Mr H. C. Le Fre. The scena *A Sham Hero* is exceedingly funny, and provokes great laughter. The first visit to Liverpool of the Hungarian Midget (Prince Henrich Herczeg) has been a success, and the diminutive figure has commanded attention. Little Lady Fauntleroy, with her natty ventriloquial act, is well received; O'Connor and Traynor are smart comedians and dancers; the Five Wee Macks provide a clever comedy act; Miss Bessie Willows is a burlesque actress of ability; Alf Brooks, a quaint comedian, has some catchy songs; and Miss Alma Curzon is a pleasant comedienne.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—Heading the programme here are Jack and Evelyn, a couple of exceptionally good sand-dancers who have been warmly applauded; the Victoria Troupe of quick-change dance artistes are an excellent turn; Professor Hennesey proves himself a smart club manipulator and juggler; George Renton is a comedian and mimic of ability; the Yankee tourist, Dan Kennedy, creates great laughter with his antics; Carr and Rose are a couple of able comedians, their item, "Cockney Americans," being funny; and Eva Frear sings and dances gracefully. On Thursday the proprietor took his fourteenth annual benefit, when a great array of talent from the local theatres put in an appearance.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan. The cake walk competition for silver medals continues to prove extremely interesting. George French, a popular comedian, is head of the bill, with his smart songs; Ralston and Frances provide a neat nautical musical scena; Speeks and Thorne are a couple of accomplished coloured comedians, their sand-dancing and mace-swinging being cordially recognised; Gracie Logan shows herself to be a graceful dancer; Evelyn Taylor is creditable as a male impersonator; and the remainder of the programme is occupied by Alf Davis, comedian; Marion Francis, burlesque actress; Walter Lester, comedian; and Edie Endon, acrobatic vocalist dancer.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—That uproariously funny absurdity *Muldoon's Picnic* has been the principal item here this week, James M'Grath being the Michael Mulcahy and George Casey the Denis Muldoon. The audiences of the week have been large and enthusiastic. Also in the bill are Caselli and James, an accomplished pair of banjoists; Wright and Elton, speciality eccentricities; Major Moss and Son, vocal scenic artistes; Fred Keeton, comedian; Will Farrell, comedian; and the Royal Victorian Trio, smart dancers, who have won many prizes and valuable medals.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—The principal engagement here this week consists of Tom Herman's naval and military spectacle *For King and Country*, in which fifty Liverpool boys and girls take part. The sketch is well produced, and received with loud applause. Leighton and Mora provide a smart turn with their laughable item, *The Tramp and the Soubrette*; the Black Apollo gives a capital entertainment with his playing on ten different musical instruments; Harry Barclay, a popular comedian, renders, among several good songs, his "Fighting for Freedom;" Kier and Allen, comedy artistes, create laughter with their "terrible tale of the sea;" and others on the programme are Bella Leaburn, a pleasing singer; Akbar, a performer on rings; and Tom Hayes, juvenile comedian and mimic.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—Mr A. Clifton Aldersons' company, in *A Soldier and a Man*, was here the first three nights of the week, and did well. Mr Alderson in the part of Harold Sinclair was most successful. Miss B. Doyle as Rose Melbury, the heroine, was also very clever and charming. Mr Frank Powell as Hubert Walgrove and Mr Henry F. Wright as Jim Farron were exceptionally good, as was also Miss Daisy England as Nora and Miss Nettie Schrier as "Sergeant" Jane. For the remainder of the week Mr John T. Kershaw's Cremona Choir and Picture Show are here.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. S. Howard.—Messrs Campbell and Fulton's company, with *A Bid for Fortune*, is here. The interesting play is well supported by Messrs Oswald Douglas as Kent Rickett, C Brereton Borer as Sir Philip Templemore, Geoffrey Fulton as Desmond Netherley, Dick Thomas as Cobbe Cuttle (with songs); Mesdames Olive Fulton as Agnes Netherley and Mary Ainslie as Barbara.

LUTON.

GRAND.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham Falcon; Assistant Manager, Mr Louis J. Beard.—The Bedford Amateur Dramatic and Operatic Society presented Mr G. R. Sims's comedy *Mother-in-Law* for the first three nights this week in aid of the Children's Convalescent Home. The comedy was preceded by *The Area Belle*. On Wednesday evening his Worship the Mayor, Mr Geo. Ordish, and other local notabilities were present. On Thursday and Friday *East Lynne* was played by Mr Ben Greet's company.

MACCLESFIELD.

ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr W. K. Gatley.—The boards here are occupied this week by Messrs Marston and Buckstone and company in *The Streets of London*. Mr H. Glenny is successful in the dual parts of Captain Fairweather and Paul Fairweather; Mr Syd Bazley is amusing as Mr Puffy; Mr Fred A. Marston creates a good impression as Badger; Mr Cliff Allan makes an acceptable Mark Livingstone; Mr W. A. Buckstone portrays the part of Gideon Bloodgood with credit; Miss Ada D. Hinder as Lucy Fairweather and Miss C. Glenny as Alida Bloodgood ably fill their respective parts; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily filled.

HIPPODROME. — Lessees, Messrs Bendon and Larder.—Ada Marjutti, "From Demon to Fairyland," is proving a great attraction here. Marti and Julietta present a very clever act; Syd Hermann receives applause for a very smart turn; Queenie Palmer, balladist, is a capital artiste; the Tooles are a delightful turn; Miss Ethel Yorke, serio, sings some good songs; Frank Tyrell, comedian, is a most amusing turn; whilst Spanglettie's circus is an attractive item.

MAIDENHEAD.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Edgar Dereve and F. L. Schmitz.—Miss Lena Stanton an old favourite at Maidenhead, is here for a week playing *The Belle of Bangalore* and *The Bashful Beauty*. The first-named piece has been revised and brought well up to date, the new songs—especially those referring to local affairs and current topics of the day—being heartily applauded and redemanded. Miss Lena Stanton and Mr Harry Jay are as entertaining as ever as Princess Ko-Ko and Pat Murphy; Miss Marie Gerrard is lively and entertaining as Small Sing; and a bevy of fair ladies sing and dance well as attendants on the Rajah, who is capitally represented by Mr Bruce Green. Little Keeno's every appearance is greeted with roars of laughter, and there is not a dull moment while he is in sight. Dancing is gracefully supplied by the Cecil Troupe; Rynfeld does an astonishingly clever turn as acrobat; and Eugene Mart contributes some wonderful feats as a strong man.

PAVILION.—Proprietor, Mr George Gude.—Gus Daniels takes well, particularly in "Here's to the colours red and blue;" George Trusty, on a return visit, is applauded for "Heroes of England;" and other comedians appearing are Jack Coleman, Geo. Ransford, Dick Gutherd, and Dave Hall. Iona contributes a pleasing turn as instrumentalist, vocalist, and dancer; Miss Ethel May is a dainty speciality dancer; and Miss Ruby De Guar's songs are given in good style.

MANCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr Edmondstone Shirra.—Mr F. R. Benson's welcome in Manchester is always assured by that section of the public, and it is a large one, who have had already innumerable proofs of the sincerity and thoroughness with which he invariably presents his choice répertoire of Shakespearian and other old English plays. His company, moreover, including Mrs Benson and himself, is always of the highest available quality, strong in reserves for the various changes of the week, and fitting each important part to its most suitable exponent. On Monday *Othello* was presented by an excellent cast, Mr F. R. Benson appearing with his usual success in the title-rôle, and Mrs Benson presenting a very pure and womanly idea of Desdemona. Mr Arthur Whitby's Iago was distinguished by a somewhat humorous tone, hardly suited, perhaps, to the unmitigated villainy of the character, but, at the same time, bold and effective; while notable successes were gained by Miss Gertrude Scott as Emilia, Mr B. A. Pittar as Brabantio, Mr Cyril Keightley as Cassio, Mr Percy D. Owen as Roderigo, and Mr H. O. Nicholson as the Duke of Venice. On Tuesday *As You Like It* and on Wednesday *Macbeth* were produced with similar success, Mr George R. Weir figuring admirably as Touchstone in the first-named play, and the central parts in each receiving excellent interpretation from Mr and Mrs Benson. The remainder of the programme is made up of *The Taming of the Shrew*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Henry the Fifth*, and *Hamlet*. All the plays are admirably staged.

PRINCE'S THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr George Lee.—Charity is the motif of the current week's performance at this theatre, the Ryder Boys Old English comedy company giving a répertoire of plays in aid of the N.S.P.C.C. and the Manchester and Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases. The company is an amateur one, but proved itself quite equal on Monday to an adequate and entertaining production of Louis N. Parker's play, *The Mayflower*, in which Mr Ryder Boys, Miss Lilly E. Hughes, and Messrs Charles Kenyon, W. Henry Williams, and Henry Worrall especially distinguished themselves. On Tuesday Robert Buchanan's comedy, *Sophia*, was given, the programme including also a matinée of *Garrick*, by special desire.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Mr Lingford Carson's *Drama of Life* is presented here this week by a capable company, under the direction of Messrs Carson and Granville. The play is of strong sensational and domestic interest, and pleased a large audience on Monday night. The prominent parts are in the hands of Messrs Jerrold Ord, John J. Hooker, Owen Remonde, and Misses Cissie Bellamy, Muriel Inglis, Nelly Daly, and Marie Murray. The drama is well staged and entirely effective.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—Messrs W. T. M'Lellan and H. Rousby's *Laughter Land*, music by Frank Corrie, is a musical pantomimical absurdity designed to fit the particular business—and it is very good business—of the Marvellous Craggs, who are well described as the premier gentlemen acrobats of the world, and who are assisted by a number of capable comedians and clever ladies. Three of the latter dance in expert style as the "Sisters Belgrave," otherwise Miss Cissie Dawes, Miss Kitty Lingard, and Miss Maisie Ryder; a fourth, Miss Agatha Rose, being seen to great advantage as Clothilda. Messrs Henry B. Lewis, Harry Rousby, Victor Raymond, and Arthur E. Behan are also prominent in the fun.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—Among many turns in this week's programme here are those of Budd and Budd (Fred and Florence), who give a most amusing sketch, *The Hump Shifters*; George White's Night Arabs, in songs and dramatic sketches; and Vincent, a clever and sensational table tumbler. Other good business is supplied by the various efforts of Mephisto and Marie, in a speciality act; Reuben Hill, vocal comedian; the Daniels, song illustrators; Little Rene, juvenile mimic; Charles Rose, comedian and dancer; the Sisters Desmond, character duettists; Nellie Graham, comedienne and dancer; and Fred Weston, comedian.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr M. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Potasch.—This theatre was reopened on Monday by Mr Flanagan, of the Queen's Theatre, after a lengthy period of closed doors. A big audience attended, manifesting lively interest in the brilliant renovation of the house, which is probably brighter and more attractive than it has even been before. It would seem to have entered also upon a new and higher phase of entertainment, for the stage was occupied by Mrs Lewis Waller and her company in *Zaza*, a powerful play, rendered in their usual successful style. Mrs Waller's répertoire for the week includes two performances of *Vilma*, a play recently produced in Manchester, and two performances of a new comedy, entitled *Miss Talk*, the initial production being arranged for Wednesday night. A notice of this piece appears elsewhere.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—*Defending His Honour* is a well-tried attraction at local theatres, and this week it has served to draw good audiences here. The piece is particularly strong in emotional and sensational crises, and it receives a very able interpretation at the hands of Messrs. Carson and Granville's company. Mr John Davidson and Miss F. Melrose-Millet are seen in the heroic parts, considerable assistance being rendered by Mr Clifton Boyne, Mr John Hignett, Mr Willie Black, Mr Kenneth Black, jun., and Mrs Edmond Lyons.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's pantomime of *The Forty Thieves* was produced here on Monday. A notice appears elsewhere.

HIPPODROME.—Manager Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead. — The principal attractions here this week are the Three Romas in some clever and novel feats of strength, and John Tiller's Eight Mascottes, whose pretty and graceful dancing and tuneful singing is well received. Pete and Juno, coloured comedians, provide a good turn, their songs, patter, and excellent sand dancing being much appreciated. Wallace Whitney, an eccentric character comedian, is successful in songs and patter; George Edney, character comedian, makes a hit with "Welcome Home;" and Texas Hattie is a remarkably clever tight-rope artiste. H. K. Bradshaw possesses a fine tenor voice, and sings with effect; Fred and Lila Lorrison are amusing comedy artistes; the Wheelers are decidedly clever trick cyclists; Cavern and Cave appear in a laughable comedietta, *An Early Morning Dip*; and Emmie White dances nicely. The animated pictures depict a pathetic series, "Driven from Home."

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The wonderfully clever dogs of Lieut. Chard are here this week, and delight and interest the audience by their amusing gambols and their daring leaps; Charles Serra gives a neat acrobatic performance on the top of a high column; Michel and Polo present a pleasing exhibition of strength and agility; Herr Schuyler plays several wind instruments very ably; the Three Sisters Kilner sing and dance well; and Cordite shows her ability in throwing the lasso. Humour is supplied by an excellent pair of "patter purveyors, Walker and Lake; by Fred Casburn, comedian; by Cribb and Cribb, burlesque artistes, in *After the Ball*; and by Tom E. Hughes, comedian, who sings "One of the Upper Ten" and other songs. The series of animated pictures shown are interesting and up-to-date.

TIVOLI. — Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Tom Costello appears here this week with his usual success, his latest songs being great appreciated. Tom and Marie Motramo are vastly entertaining in their musical comedy act, causing endless amusement; and Wyotti is well termed the "jocular juggling genius." Fred Cary, comedian, sings two capital songs, and meets with a good reception; Mina Marie is a pleasing comedienne and graceful dancer; and enjoyable items are contributed by Lil Esplin, comedienne; Kitty White, comedienne; Beaty and Blanche, comediennes; and Fanny Errie, comedienne. The Cranks, trick cyclists, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Collins.—One of the most remarkable of Risley acrobatic performances is to be seen here this week in that of the Kremo family, whose feats are at once startling, perfect, and, in a large degree, original. This extraordinary turn is supplemented by the smart comedy act of Burke and M'Voy; a really clever farce by Mr and Mrs Harold Finden; a fine performance on the trapeze by the Sisters Geretti; an amusing sketch by the Arthur Lloyd Trio; and the various entertaining items of Preston and Mayne, song illustrators; Paul Mill, character comedian; Charles Bayman, Negro comedian; Will Newman, comedian; and Fred H. Leslie's cleverly trained troupe of leaping dogs.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—Charles Morritt, the well-known magician, is here this week in an elaborate series of new and startling illusions, and successfully mystifies an interested audience. Considerable laughter is caused by the Waldrons, whose business is highly amusing; Jack Hylton, eccentric comedian, is very popular; and Charles Best, the "supple" comedian, appeals with much success in an original comedy act, *M'Bunker the Mountebank*. Other good turns are Kardoc, the handcuff king; the Wonderful Blind Man, in marvellous feats of memory and calculation; Henri, boy juggler; Katie Eplett, comedienne; Will Letters, speciality comedian; and an interesting series of animated pictures.

PALACE. — Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—The sensation of the week here is the performance of Harry Houdini, handcuff king and jail-breaker, whose remarkable manipulation of locks and fetters in freeing himself from bondage more than fills the seating accommodation of the house at every show. The programme is full of good things besides, namely, Staig's cycle and motor sensation round a bottomless track; Ross and Grayson, in their funny sketch, *The Professor and the Pupil*; the eccentric comedy business of Tom Leamore; Keen and Waller's amusing acrobatic act; the fine singing and dancing of Nelson's Newsboys Quintet; and the entertaining contributions of Vendome and Chase, duettists and dancers; Marco, the boy magician; Mainwaring and Anderson, sketch artistes; and the Haywards, in a dancing speciality. The Palace pictures are especially interesting this week, and the orchestral selection is quite up to its usual high standard of merit.

MELTON MOWBRAY.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Under Mr J. W. Warner's experienced bâton, and well augmented by professionals, the local choral society gave a largely and fashionably attended concert. The chief item was Cowen's "Rose Maiden," the rendering of which reflected much credit upon the society, and was well received. In the second miscellaneous part Miss Christine Warner was heard to advantage in an impressive rendering of "The spring has come;" while Mr H. Ripley Evans delighted his audience with "Nirvana." Miss Dora Hunt's contralto voice was pleasing; and Mr Sidney Stoddard was popular as leading baritone.

PUBLIC HALL.—Catlin's Pierrots pay a welcome return visit here, and play to enthusiastic audiences.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson; Assistant Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—Messrs Preston and Doherty's company opened on Monday in *The Rich and Poor of London*. Mr Andrew Money gave a capital impersonation of Mark Stanley, and Mr Robert Hall did well as Dr. Morton. Mr Sidney Cranston admirably filled the rôle of Gussy Lamb, and Mr Sidney Dench was a capable representative of Spider Jack. The part of May Braithwaite was well sustained by Miss Dora Dench; Miss Mary Ramsey was effective as the adventuress, Ruby Redgrave; Miss Lillie Wood was good as Auntie Scrimp; and Miss Sybil Viney was well suited as Polly Philpot.

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Mr Charles H. Phelps's company is this week playing *One Woman's Wickedness*. Mr L. Brien gives a manly embodiment of Philip Beaufort; the Paul Rowne of Mr H. Humphreys is a capable effort; in the rôle of Jem Craggs Mr C. H. Phelps plays with rare dramatic power; Mr A. Ferris is a first-class comedian, and is very funny as Limpy Larry; Mr Geo. Byrne is amusing as Lord Fitznoodle; Miss Amy Dalby presents a pathetic portraiture of Lilian Craggs; the heartlessnes of the scheming usurper, Janet Raymond, is cleverly depicted by Miss Florence Lloyd; Miss Ethel Asbury is vivacious as Jenny Jiggles.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—Mr Frank E. Burdett's company in the military play, *The Indian Mutiny*, occupies the boards here. Mr H. Ryeland Leigh appears as Lieutenant Manley, and gives a capital representation; and Miss Agnes Kingston is seen to great advantage as Kate Ingleby, and Mr Reginald Fox makes the most of his opportunities as Lieutenant Manley's brother. Mr John Hignett represents Terry O'Brien. Mr Villiers Stanley is excellent as Nebu Singh; Mr J. S. Sheddon, Mr Ernest Keand, Mr D. Matthew, Mr A. Saumy, Mr J. Peters are good in their respective rôles. Miss Maud Digby appears with much success as Ghuznah, and the same may be said of Miss Dora Moorhouse's Roma Goosh.

OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee, Mr T. Hopcutt.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company in *A Woman's Pluck*, under the personal direction of Mr James Willard, is here this week. Mr Willard and Miss East-Robertson take the principal parts, and give a most powerful delineation, which receives hearty plaudits. Mr Charles P. Wentworth is all that can be desired as Sir Noel Fordyce, and Mr J. P. Dryden is an excellent Mark Scanlan. Mr Cecil Raymond pleases as Sir John Daredevil. Mr Harry Emmerson, Roger Pippin; Miss Agnese D'Aragon, Ophelia Pippin; and Miss Tina Shaw, Bertie Daredevil, are responsible for the humorous parts, and highly please the audience.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—The Six Brothers Luck, in the sketch *The Hermit*, heads the bill here, and creates much laughter. Sable Fern sings some

PORT ARTHUR.

The Proprietors of FUO shipped to this now historic town a large quantity of their Mouth-Wash, just previous to the outbreak of hostilities. A cynic has suggested that this may have something to do with the tenacity with which the Russians are holding on to the town and its contents, and also the determination of the Japs to obtain control of the Port.

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S.H.B.

good songs, which are heartily received. Virginia and her piccaninnies are great favourites, whilst Harry Anderson is as successful to please as on his previous visits. The Edgar Forrest comedy sketch company, in *My Friend, the Enemy*, provides a capital turn. Baker and Balfe, xylophone turn, is well received, and Winnie Derson, comedienne, pleases everyone. Teddy Denham, comedian, and the Bio complete the programme.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr W. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—A good all-round programme is provided here this week, the principal attraction being the well-known Andos Troupe of Japanese. They do some remarkable feats as acrobats, jugglers, and wire-walkers. The Ross Clyde combination, in a sketch *I Must Have It*, creates much amusement. Signor and Madame Louie, who describe themselves as the world's greatest thought-readers and clairvoyants, well deserve that title, whilst E. J. Wilkes and his dog Woof provide a good turn. The Percys are pretty dancers and singers. Fredk. Clifford sings some good songs, and Rose Morn, vocalist, pleases. Joe Hudson, comedian; Tate and Tate, acrobats; and the Bio complete the bill.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—The Garside, Knowles, and Ludlow company is appearing this week in *The London Fireman*. Mr J. F. Knowles makes a capital Hal Curtis; Mr Arthur Fleming portrays the part of Viscount Fleming with effect; Mr Edward L. Garside is capable as Ratty; the part of Ida Curtis is well suited to Miss Mona Gray; Miss Adeline Raby is clever as Grace Curtis; and Miss Violet Temple shows histrionic ability as the Countess Fleming. The comic element is left in the capable hands of Mr Chas. Preece and Miss Nellie Garside.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

TYNE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe.—A successful season is here brought to a close with the performance of Captain Robert Marshall's comedy, *The Duke of Killierankie*, which is presented by Messrs Charles Frohman and Arthur Chudleigh's company, the members of which generally acquit themselves admirably, and special mention is due to Mr Langhorne Burton, Mr Arthur Grenville, Miss Doris Templeton, and Miss Aida Jenoure for their clever impersonations. Each evening Jerome's one-act piece, *Barbara*, has also been given with much acceptance.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Thos. W. Rowe.—*In the Shadow of Night* is being performed here to the admiration of Palace audiences by Mr James Willard's company.

ELSWICK THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Chas. M. Daly.—Mr Fred Harcourt, supported by a variety company, is in possession here for a second week. Mr Harcourt presents his vivisection act with success, and the performance of the mysterious Lilith creates something like a sensation. The Dillons may always be depended upon to give a smart acrobatic and gymnastic performance, and there are also appearing Lilian Warren, with her vocal pictures; the Two Arnolds; the Itrams, acrobats; Baby Lloyd, coon dancer; Percy Farrimond, the Lancashire collier; and Fred Griffiths, comedian.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited; Resident Director, Mr Richard Thornton; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—The principal attraction here is provided by Hagedorn's wonderful grotto, a most beautiful and novel entertainment. G. W. Hunter still maintains his popularity as a comedian; a charming young lady is Miss Amber Austa, who shows exceptional merit as a coon singer and dancer; and Griff, comedy juggler, has on this visit the aid of an assistant, and their combined efforts are favourably received. "Blue-Bell," the forthcoming pantomime song, is rendered by the Three Sisters Jonghmanns, who make it popular; Eugen Mander's fire dancing horse has evidently been marvellously trained; Great Alexander, as a trick cyclist, is clever and original; and another capital turn is provided by the Four Milons, equilibrists. Driscoll and Beattie's company, in a sketch; the Three Georges, comic acrobats; and Will Haines, vocalist, are all decidedly clever in their respective acts.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr E. W. Bacon.—Although the company this week does not boast of any great star, yet the artistes are all capable ones, and the programme is most acceptable. The top turn is that of the Max Trevelly Harley Troupe, who give an excellent acrobatic performance. Percy Vere and Edith Royal are a very clever couple of comedy artistes, their patter and singing being first-class, the lady being the fortunate possessor of a first-rate voice; Pattie Varley and Beatrice Sinclair sing an excellent duet, which is heartily encored; J. P. Carroll, an ex-soldier, gives a smart performance as a military tambourinist; Florence Bray is a burlesque actress with plenty of style and with a very good voice; Brady and Johnson's company give an exceedingly smart matrimonial sketch *Turning the Tables*, which convulses the audience; and another sketch entitled *The Hot Member* is acceptably played by Billy Ross and company. Other turns are George Tustin, dancer; Will Ellerslie, comedian; and Harry Zetter, comedian and dancer.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—Mr Coleman Davies and company, who just recently appeared at the theatre in the Elswick district of this city, have transferred themselves to this place of entertainment, where they are engaged in giving representations of the drama *No Escape*.

PAVILION.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr W. H. Boardman.—The clever Japanese wrestler, Yukio Tani, is the leading attraction at this popular theatre this week, and has been exhibiting his prowess to crowds of admirers. He offers to forfeit twenty-one guineas to any wrestler whom he fails to defeat in fifteen minutes, and local amateurs at the sport are also encouraged to do their best against the Jap for suitable rewards. Vesta Victoria has scored another great success at this hall with her amusing songs, and has to respond to numerous encores. F. F. Reynard introduces his mechanical figures with much acceptance. He is a ventriloquist of above the ordinary, and his contributions to the programme are much enjoyed. Messrs Monks and Wood appear in a musical duologue, *Mr Nobody*, in which they do much that is clever and entertaining; Clive Watts is a dancer of ability; and Stanley and Greenor, banjoists, earn repeated recalls and are warm favourites. The Seddons, comedy jugglers, are very prominent with their eccentricities, and others who appear are Catherine Dahl, prima donna soprano; and Michelle and Landre, acrobatic equilibrists, together with the up-to-date animated pictures. During the week a march written by Mr F. Pickard, leader of the orchestra, entitled "Pavilion," has been played by the band. It is a spirited production, and has been warmly received.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—Messrs Ediscope and Barnum's electric animated pictures and variety company form the attraction here this week. The first item on the variety programme is Clown Ohmy, who gives a clever performance with his dog "Toby." Le Brun and Irene are clever jugglers; Loder Lyons contributes a diverting ventriloquial entertainment; Mons. Edgar performs some marvellous feats on the trapeze. Will Ivor, high stilt performer; W. H. Kay, miniature vaudeville entertainer; W. Bell, mimic; Vera Snowdon, comedienne and dancer; and Jessie Harper, the Singing Lancashire Mill Hand, are all well received.

Continued on Page 16.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—Mr Nat C. Goodwin began his annual engagement in this city at the Knickerbocker Theatre last Monday, appearing with success in the character of John Maddox in a four-act play, by I. N. Morris, entitled *The Usurper*, which was well received by a large audience. Maddox is a wealthy American, who, beginning as a cowboy in the West, has acquired a large fortune, and leased a fine estate in England. During his cowboy days he has met and fallen in love with a beautiful English girl named Beatrice Clive. Later he finds her residing on the property that he has leased in England, and learns that she is being wooed by a scamp named Sir George Trenery. This titled rake has misled a poor girl, and her father, thinking to avenge her, has killed an innocent man, and has been put in prison, from which he escapes, taking refuge in a haunted tower on the estate of John Maddox. Beatrice consents to elope with Sir George Trenery, but Maddox contrives to upset this plan, and to cause Beatrice to be detained with him all night in the tower. The villainous conduct and character of Trenery are exposed—the truth being learned from the escaped convict—and Maddox and Beatrice are happily mated. Perhaps a few quotations from the dialogue may be interesting:—

"Romance in America! Oh! The men spring off a trolley car and ask you to marry them, and you say 'Yes' and 'No' quick—because they've got to catch the next car."

"What! Twenty-two and don't understand women? Why, you ought to know them by heart. It's only when you get along towards the forties that they begin to puzzle you."

"I know that a woman can more easily forgive a strong man who is wrong than a weak one who is right."

"Don't worry; the ghost of Lady Jane will be our chaperon." "She's a mere empty form." "All chaperons are."

MR LOUIS MANN, who has made all New York laugh in German dialect rôles, has a semi-serious part to play in Gordon Blake's comedy *The Second Fiddle*, which was recently produced at the Criterion Theatre. It is that of Leopold, Baron Von Walden, whose foster-sister, Paula, a Viennese singer, goes to Paris to seek her fortune, but almost starves to death in a garret while she writes brave letters to Leopold telling of her success. Leopold, who has lost his fortune and is now second fiddle in a Vienna orchestra, composes operas which are always rejected, and writes similarly of success that exists only in his imagination. Then he goes to Paris, expecting to find Paula on the topmost round of the ladder of fame. They meet and learn the truth about each other. Paula is penniless, and is about to be turned out of her lodgings. She has an admirer in the Count De Gardinet, supposed to be the composer of a new opera which is about to be produced, and he offers Paula the principal part if she will promise to marry him. Paula consents and makes a success, and the Count claims his bride. But it turns out that the score of the opera was stolen from Leopold, so the Count makes his exit, and Paula and Leopold share a success at last that is not imaginary. In Mr Mann's impersonation of Leopold, humour and pathos are effectively blended and his cleverness has made a success of the play.

"A CHINA DOLL," a comic opera in two acts, has proved successful at the Majestic Theatre, although it was "damned with faint praise" by the critics. The book is by Harry B. and Robert B. Smith, and the music by Alfred F. Aarons. The scenes are laid in Hong Kong, and this locale is represented in two artistic and effective stage pictures, the first showing a public square in Hong Kong, and the second the interior of the porcelain palace of the Mandarin Wing Lee. In this piece CORINNE has made her reappearance after a long absence, and renewed her popularity as Hi See, the pert son of Sing Lo, the Hong Kong chief of police. Pee Chee San (Miss Helen Royton), daughter of Wing Lee, loves Hi See, but she has lost her automatic doll, and until it is found she refuses to marry him. The search for the doll is the burden of the play. Messrs Albert Hart and George C. Boniface, jun., are funny as the two jugglers Hoochee and Hanki respectively. Mr W. H. M'Donald, formerly of the Bostonians, appears with success as Wing Lee, and Mr Arthur Cunningham gives a droll impersonation of Sing Lo. Miss Adele Rafter as Cerise, a Parisian milliner, sings a French song cleverly. One of the best numbers in the piece is called "How to be happy though married."

"THE BARONESS FIDDLESTICKS," billed as a musical satire on society, by George De Long and Emil Bruguière, has won a favourable verdict at that exceptionally fortunate theatre the Casino. A failure at this house would be, indeed, a novelty. The plot may be briefly outlined as follows:—Patrina, a London music hall favourite, is invited by Mashaway, a parvenu, to visit him at his country place. Fearing that his daughters will discover the identity of the visitor, Mashaway calls her the Baroness Fiddlesticks, not knowing that there is such a person in real life. Mashaway's daughters wire the news to a London paper, and the Duchess of Realborough, who knows Mashaway and the real Baroness, comes to investigate. Trouble begins immediately, but Mashaway manages to "square" himself, of course, before the curtain falls. Miss Anna Fitzhugh, as Patrina, is graceful and pretty, and her songs are well rendered. Mr John Henshaw is amusing as Mashaway. Miss Toby Claude has made an emphatic hit in her song, "At a fancy costume ball," and Miss Nella Bergen's fine voice is heard to advantage in several pleasing numbers. The score is melodious, and the piece in its entirety is an attractive entertainment.

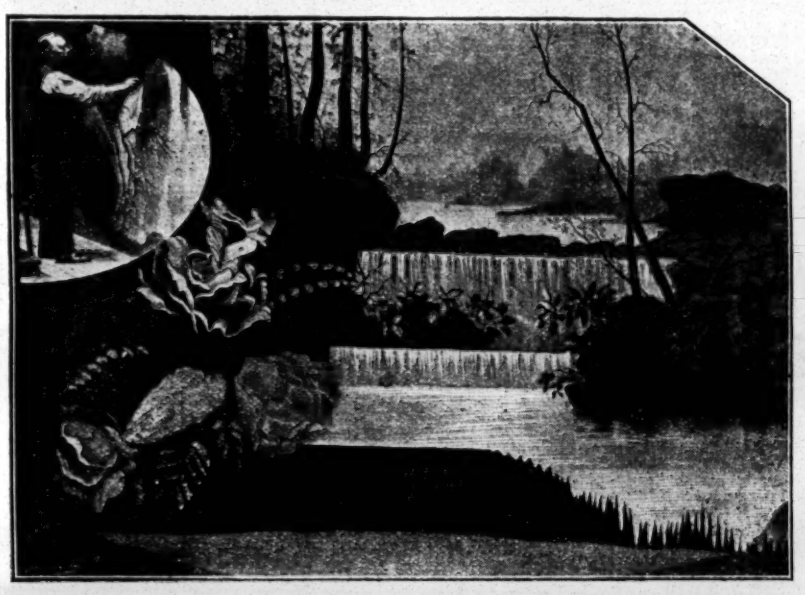
MISS FRITZI SCHEFF has scored a decided success at the Broadway Theatre in a comic opera, by Stanislaus Stange and Ludwig Englander, called *The Two Roses*, the book of which is founded on Goldsmith's comedy, *She Stoops to Conquer*. Mr Englander has provided a merry, tuneful score, and Mr Stange's book is bright and witty.

"WOODLAND," the current attraction at the New York Theatre, is described as a "musical fantasy of the forest." The book and lyrics are by Frank Pixley and the music by Gustav Luders. The author of the book has contrived a fresh and ingenious conceit, and the costumier has carried out the idea with tasteful fancy. All of the characters are birds or creatures of the forest, and they are prettily distinguished by appropriate head-dresses and costumes. The scene of the first act is King Eagle's Royal Court, and the time is just before sunrise. The birds assemble and Judge Owl lectures some of them for being late. King Eagle has sent for his son, Prince Eagle, to come home and marry Lady Hawk. But the Prince is in love with Miss Nightingale, and refuses to marry Lady Hawk. So he is banished. King Eagle is killed shortly afterwards, and the Electors, the Owl, the Raven, the Rooster, and the Jaybird, meet to choose a successor. The Jaybird votes for himself and is chosen king, but before long a revolution is started by the Robin, who has sent the Dove to bring back Prince Eagle. As Lady Peacock Miss Emma Carus makes a hit in her song "Will you be my little bride?" and as a leader of society wins much applause by her rendering of a satirical effusion in which society is defined as "a number of accidents entirely surrounded by money." Miss Helen Hale, as Jenny Wren, and Mr Harry Bulger, as Blue Jay, have an eccentric song and dance, "Bye-bye, baby," which proves popular, and Miss Hale scores again in a solo, "If you love me, Lindy," with a chorus of blackbirds. The eccentric dancing of Miss Mattie Nichols and Mr John Donahue, representing "a cold bottle and a hot bird," is heartily applauded. The scenic effects are superb and the music is delightful. *Woodland* was produced by Mr Henry W. Savage.

FAMOUS SCENIC ARTISTS.

MR. GEORGE TWEDDELL.

Mr George Tweddell was born in Yorkshire in 1845. His father was a well-known local writer and author of a book long out of print called "Shakespeare, his Times and Contemporaries," which gained him the friendship of all the leading Shakespearian scholars of that time. One of those, being a very old friend of William Beverly, gave George, his son, an introduction to that gentleman, and in 1869 Mr Tweddell entered the painting-room at Drury-lane, having previous to this been a student at the South Kensington School of Art. After leaving Mr Beverly Mr Tweddell had various engagements in the provinces and at the Royal Alfred in Edgware-road, where he painted the scenery for his first pantomime in 1872. He afterwards worked at the Prince's and Royal, Manchester, and did the pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Sheffield, and the new stock of scenery for the theatre then building at Huddersfield. Mr Tweddell's next engagement was to paint the scenery for Mr R Younge at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle, including a very elaborate transformation scene. The late John Coleman, seeing Mr Tweddell's work, asked him to paint some scenery for a play he was producing at the old Olympic, and while engaged there Mr C. Holt asked him if he would accept an engagement with Mr J. R. Newcombe, Theatre Royal, Plymouth. Mr Tweddell readily agreed, and looks back to the eight years with Mr Newcombe with much pleasure. Mr Newcombe was very fond of scenic art, and was in the habit of spending a good deal of time in the painting room with his pipe, and, being then one of the oldest managers alive, was full of very interesting reminiscences of the great actors whom he had known well, such as Edmund Kean, Macready, and others. He was fond of sport, and was never absent from a meet even when it was raining; he rode to hounds when eighty, and was a very remarkable old English gentleman. Mr Newcombe used to produce some very elaborate pantomimes, and gave the artist a good chance, for he used to have the scene-painting, &c., commenced in the early part of the year. Mr Tweddell remained with Mr Newcombe until his death in 1887, and on leaving Plymouth a benefit was given to him at the Theatre Royal. He was next engaged by Mr Melville at the Standard, Shoreditch, and remained there for a long period, producing the scenery for many new plays. Mr Tweddell has painted the scenery for over thirty pantomimes, and has had very excellent notices of his work in the press, as well as many compliments from the managers he worked for and the public.



A WATERFALL SCENE FROM THE BRUSH OF MR. G. TWEDDELL.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Dec. 10. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding (captain), goal; J. Lewis and A. Cox, backs; S. Carter, A. Mattock, and W. Miller, half-backs; H. Edwards, E. Bowman, E. Belding, J. Aubrey, and H. Clements, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; J. Stuart and F. Airy, backs; T. Neagle (captain), J. Lacey, and W. Hinder, half backs; W. Meadows, B. Cullen, P. Reardon, F. Hansford, and H. C. Douglas, forwards.

Referee, J. Tyley, (of Music Halls A.F.C.) Linesmen, T. Smith and F. Gillam. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, nil; Music Halls A.F.C., nil. Messrs H. Belding and F. B. Nicholls played splendidly in goal.

HOCKEY.

MISS CECILIA FOWLER'S LADIES ATHLETIC TEAM v. COTHAM AND REDLAND LADIES ATHLETIC CLUB.

Played near Clifton Downs on Dec. 10. The first-named team were without Misses E. Bowman, goalkeeper, and L. Belding owing to illness. The following were the teams:—

Miss Cecilia Fowler's Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss C. Fowler (captain), goal; Miss I. Bowman and Miss E. Francis, backs; Miss N. Bailey, Miss M. Stuart, and Miss G. Thomas, half-backs; Miss G. Leonard, Miss B. Godfrey, Miss M. Leonard, Miss A. Bernard, and Miss T. Maynard, forwards.

Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Team.—Miss M. Fisher, goal; Miss M. Hamilton and Miss A. Gibbs, backs; Miss E. Lawrence, Miss L. Coles, and Miss L. Norris, half-backs; Miss K. Montgomery, Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss A. Mitchell Miss F. Hooper, and Miss M. Burgess, forwards.

Referee, Miss L. Tyler (of Weston-super-Mare). Result:—Miss C. Fowler's Ladies Team, two goals; Cotham and Redland Ladies Athletic Team, one goal. Misses M. Leonard, G. Thomas, and L. Norris scored for their respective sides. Miss C. Fowler playing splendidly in goal.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

"THE FORTY THIEVES" AT GLASGOW.

Eastern luxury and magnificence are the predominant features of the seventeenth pantomime produced by Messrs Howard and Wyndham at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, on the 8th inst. Year by year Mr F. W. Wyndham and his able coadjutors have the task set before them of eclipsing their own records, and, if possible, establishing a new one. And again they have risen to the occasion, and for beauty of dressing and elaboration of scenery and mounting *The Forty Thieves* will take premier rank in their long list of successes, and its popularity will rest chiefly on spectacle. Four scenes in particular stand out as triumphs of stagecraft, viz:—The Market Place of Bagdad, a picturesque set, with all the animation of an Eastern market place in the foreground, and the grim and mysterious heights of the city, rising Lhassa-like, on the hills behind. The next is a set of totally different kind, showing a rocky gorge with a mountain road down which the robbers defile to their cave at the foot. This scene conveys a sense of distance and reality, and the effect is striking. In the scene representing the interior of the cave the artist has given free scope to his imagination and the air of luxury which pervades the scene shows the forty thieves to have been possessed of æsthetic tastes which more than half atoned for the disagreeable aspects of their sordid calling. The fourth scene of particular merit is Ali Baba's Gold Palace, a handsome interior, with here and there a touch of humour indicating Ali's new-rich proprietes. All four scenes are from the brush of Mr T. F. Dunn, resident scenic artist at the Royal, and are quite the best he has yet given us. Three clever scenes are contributed by Mr Stanley Schuter, The Interior of Cassim's House, The Bazaar, and The Exterior of Ali's Palace. Mr T. E. Ryan is represented by the opening scene, The Abode of Sesame. Mr Ernest Glover contributes two scenes, The Road to the City and The Message on the Wires, a cleverly designed cloth with eight choristers as swallows perched upon telegraph wires, introduced as a setting to Miss Annie Purcell's song, "The Airship and the Swallow." The other scenes, three in number, are by Mr T. F. Dunn. In the selection of principals for the pantomime Mr F. W. Wyndham has made some specially happy engagements. Miss Annie Purcell as Ganem is as dainty a principal boy as has been seen here, and her vocal abilities are of the highest order. In *San Toy* and other of the George Edwardes productions Miss Purcell has already endeared herself to Glasgow playgoers and a pantomime engagement is sure to further enhance her popularity. All her songs were received with acclamation, and for "The Airship and the Swallow," which she had previously popularised in Glasgow, she was accorded several hearty recalls. In "Navaho," "The Troubadour," and "The Big Umbrella" she imparts much piquant humour to the songs. Miss Pearl Lyndon, the Morgiana of the cast, has also made her name in *San Toy*, and is a plump and pleasing person, with a sprightly humour of her own. She acts with grace and vivacity, and sings her various songs, "Mister Moon," "Good-bye, little girl," &c., with excellent effect, while she is also a dancer of much ability. In the comedians, Mr Tom E. Murray and Mr George Lashwood are hosts in themselves. Mr Murray as Ali Baba is on in every scene, and while he is on the fun is continuous. His humour in the concerted business is always entertaining, but as a patterer on his own he is simply irresistible. He lays no claim to be an operatic vocalist, but his various ditties are all the funnier from the quaint, dry humour he infuses into them. Mr George Lashwood as Abdallah takes what has so long been a "swagger boy's" part, and in style and appearance no one is better suited to it. He has been equipped with a number of strikingly handsome costumes, and makes a debonair Captain of the Forty. He introduces several smart songs, notably his first, "Twenty Girls," and another, "If I were King,' in which the eccentricities of smart society are scathingly criticised. "Angelina Hawk" and "She cost me Seven-and-six" are also likely to be popular. Mr Fred Griffiths, who impersonates the donkey, Ibrahim, made one of the most decided hits of the pantomime and as a clever bit of dumb-show acting was entitled to the enthusiastic applause with which the audience rewarded him. Miss Annie Braddan as the Fairy Sesame sang several fine songs with much taste and expression, the American ballad "Anona" (altered to Morgiana in this case) catching on at once; while a unanimous encore was given to a duet "Love and Hate" sung by Miss Braddan and Mr Henry Claff, the fierce and forbidding lieutenant of the Forty, and a dramatic vocalist of more than average ability, as he has already proved here. Mr Claff's song "Come, my lad, and be a Soldier," was also given with first-rate effect. Mr Percy Clifton as Cassim Babe, and Mr William Benson as his angular wife Cogia, are invaluable in the fun-making, and both prove themselves comedians of considerable resource. Miss Marcelle Chevalier as La Vicomtesse, a French lady, is happily suited in a part which could be extended with advantage to the production. Mr C. St. John Medley gives a clever rendering of the character of an unscrupulous old slave dealer, Shacabac. Mr G. Bruin, in a venerable get-up as Melchisedec, the magician, acts with due impressiveness. The Diamond Troupe of dancers, in some strikingly beautiful costumes, enliven a number of the scenes with neat and graceful dances. The chorus is strong, and vocally and physically attractive, and the musical items receive sympathetic attention from them and the largely augmented orchestra, under Mr Alfred Carpenter, musical director for Messrs Howard and Wyndham in Glasgow, and this gentleman has also shown considerable skill in the selection and arrangement of the elaborate incidental music. The book is, as in previous years, by Mr J. Hickory Wood, and is in that clever author's best vein. Additional lyrics have been contributed by Mr George Arthurs. The beautiful costumes which, as previously mentioned, are on quite an exceptional scale of grandeur, have been executed by Alias, of London, from designs by M. Comelli. The striking electrical effects are by Mr William Morton, machinery by Mr Charles Penman, and properties by Mr George Sutherland and Mr Duncan Wright, all of the Royal staff. The pantomime was received on the opening night with hearty enthusiasm, and Mr F. W. Wyndham and Mr T. F. Dunn were called in front several times, as also was Mr Lynn Norgate, who is again stage-manager for the pantomime, and whose excellent taste and judgment in *ensemble* are invaluable. At the close Mr Wyndham, in response to calls for a speech, thanked the audience for their hearty welcome to his seventeenth annual, and casually mentioned that his next year's pantomime would be *Aladdin*, with a cast that includes Mr Harry Lauder, an announcement which elicited loud and prolonged applause. A jocular little speech from Mr Tom E. Murray, a few remarks from Mr George Lashwood, and a graceful word or two of thanks from Miss Annie Purcell finally brought down the curtain. The pantomime went without a hitch from first to last, a fact which reflects infinite credit on all concerned, and the front of the house was looked after with admirable tact by the able manager at the Royal, Mr Percy Humphrys.

"GOOSY GANDER" AT GLASGOW.

On Saturday Mr Rich Waldon produced the twenty-fifth Royal Princess's pantomime, and it was received with great enthusiasm by an audience which filled all parts of the house to overflowing. Adhering to their traditions, extending to a quarter of a century, the management have made a feature of the fact that the pantomime is entirely new and original, and invented and written expressly for the theatre by that popular pantomime writer, Mr Fred Locke, author of all the previous annuals at the Princess's, a record unequalled, we are certain, in the annals of British theatricals. In selecting a subject like *Goosy Gander*, Mr Locke has had a free hand in the working out of the story, the meagre details given in the old-time nursery rhyme being hardly sufficient to satisfy the requirements of an up-to-date pantomime audience. The story, however, as evolved by the author, includes all the essentials of a Christmas production. We get the unscrupulous Baron Ganderdubbs, and his silly son, Goosey Gander, living in grand style on the estates that by right belong to the village beauty, Rosey Posey. This young lady has been brought up since childhood by the local postmistress and storekeeper, by name Jenny Awthings; and Rosey is courted by a dashing young man, Fred Fearless, in reality a Prince in disguise, seeking a bride who will wed him for love alone, and in this case rewarded with pantomimic liberality, in that he secures youth, beauty, wealth, and happiness in the object of his choice. The story is further assisted in its development by a designing lawyer, a Scotch serving-man of the Baron, and two retainers of the Prince Sunny Jim and Cloudy Tim. Fairy Harmony and Demon Discord likewise lend a hand, the one to help and the other to hinder the course of true love. The book is smartly written, and has many neat hits at the fads and foibles of our local notabilia. It provides a plethora of smart lines for the comedians and all concerned, and, happy augury, is followed with reasonable fidelity by the members of the company. In engaging his artistes this year Mr Rich Waldon has evidently gone on the principle of securing those whose previous successes in this theatre have endeared them to the Princess's patrons. Thus as principal boy we have Miss Lily Morris, Miss Daisy Dormer as principal girl, Mr Dawson Dewick as Dame, Messrs Regan and Ryan as knockabouts, after two years' absence, and Mr John E. Coyle, comedian, for his fourth pantomime season here. All these artistes were accorded enthusiastic greetings, and a kindly welcome was extended to new-comers. Miss Lily Morris as Fred Fearless makes a dashing principal boy, with plenty of aplomb and that happy knack of getting at once on good terms with her audience. Her lines are given with telling effect, and all her songs were encored repeatedly, the audience joining heartily in the choruses of "Blue-Bell" (which is worked up with some beautiful effects in electrically-lit blue-bell lamps), "Navaho," and "Good-bye, little girl, good-bye." Miss Daisy Dormer, who plays Rosey Posey, made a decided hit when she last appeared here, and has distinctly improved in the interval. Her acting is marked by much vivacity and animation, while her dancing is again making her "the darling of the gods." Mr John E. Coyle as Goosy Gander is extremely clever as the soft son of the Baron, and his amusing by-play and facial eccentricities keep the audience in roars of laughter. He is indefatigable at the devising of new business, and in a seaside lodgings scene he was particularly good. Of his songs, the one entitled "As a friend" was specially well rendered. Mr Dawson Dewick is a good dame as Jenny Awthings, and both in dress and action avoids any trace of exaggeration or vulgarity. In all the fun of the pantomime he works well with the other comedians, and sings several clever ditties. Mr Arthur Poole imparts a smart touch of burlesque to the part of the designing Baron Ganderdubbs, and in his various interviews with his son, Goosy, the laughs come fast and furious. Another clever couple are the Prestons (John and George), who appear respectively as Peter Paterson and Simpson Sly. The former has a good Scotch tongue in his "heid," and gives the lines of broad doric throughout his part with excellent effect, and ably sustains the reputation of the Princess's for the cleverness of the exponents of Scotch character in past pantomimes. He contributes a number of songs, and made a happy hit with Miss Daisy Dormer in a burlesque operatic ballad. Mr George Preston as the lawyer, Sly, is the traditional nimble and eccentric lawyer of pantomime. Messrs Regan and Ryan as knockabout comedians have long been favourites with the Glasgow public, and they bring a lot of clever, clean business and smart patter and songs to aid them in their speciality scenes. They were accorded hearty and enthusiastic recalls for all their items. Miss Lottie and Miss Florrie Cora are smart and graceful singers and dancers, and as Ralph the Rattler and Mamie Woodbine prove an attractive couple. Their various coon songs and rag-time dances were given with unfailing spirit, and they soon ingratiated themselves with the first night audience. In modern pantomimes the fairy element grows fine by degrees and beautifully less, but Miss Lulu Bonney as the good genius of the piece, Fairy Harmony, and Miss Leslie Wallace as Discord, the corresponding evil element, are well equipped, in appearance and vocal ability, to make the parts stand out prominently. Misses Vi Stockelle, Lillian Leslie, Vera Thompson Minnie Marshall, Gladys Lester, and Daisy Pavor make an attractive group of village swells and belles, and the last-named young lady contributes a clever solo dance in the Palace scene. The pantomime is in two parts, with five scenes in each, and all the scenery is from the brush of the clever resident artist here, Mr J. C. Bontor. Scene one, the Village of Ganderdubbs, is a charming set, with a pleasant seascape in the distance. Scene three, the Village Store, is a shop interior, with a profusion of display in eatables and 'wearables" that might make Whiteley or Harrod look to their laurels. Scene five, On the Continent, shows a foreign watering-place of gay and animated appearance. Scene six, Ayr Racecourse, is cleverly arranged to give the idea of an attractively designed course, with huge crowds occupying the grand stands, &c. In this scene a neat dance of jockeys is given, which has been arranged by Madame Cavalazzi-Mapleson. Scene seven, My Lady's Chamber, is a pretty interior; Scene eight, Seaside Lodgings, is chiefly notable for the many humorous notices which adorn the walls; and Scene ten, The Prince's Pavilion, is the most ambitious effort of the artist, and makes a Palace scene worthy of the occasion. In this and the Continental scene a special feature has been made of the electrical effects, which are on a most elaborate and costly scale. In both scenes, clever suspended designs are lowered into view, one representing a true lover's knot, and the other the star and decoration of the "Order of the Thistle." Both are specially well carried out, and the theatre's electrician, Mr D. Barbour, deserves the heartiest commendation for his ingenious work. The other scenes in the pantomime include a picturesque cloth

representing Burns' Monument at Alloway, the Dame's Cottage, and a view of the district south of Glasgow taken from the heights of the Queen's Park. For all these scenic successes Mr Bontor was given hearty calls on Saturday night. The music, as in former years, has been well looked after by the Princess's *chef d'orchestre*, Mr Henri Vollmer, who has arranged some striking finales and composed the incidental music to the various scenes. The production was ably stage-managed by W. Mowbray Harle. The handsome dresses, which mark an advance on anything yet seen here, have been supplied by Madame Despréz, of the Boulevard Haussman, Paris; M. Allas, of London; and Miss Binnie, costumier to the Princess's Theatre. The wigs are by Fyans, of Liverpool. Mr Wm. H. G. Hatch and Mr Wm. Stewart, of the resident staff, deserve every credit, the first for the intricate mechanical changes, and the latter for the properties and appointments. Mr Paul Valentine's Eight Heather Belles contribute a number of clever dances, and a large and attractive chorus complete the ensemble. Mr Rich Waldon and Mr Fred Locke, joint supervisors of the production, received an ovation when they appeared in response to an imperative call at the conclusion, and after the enthusiasm had somewhat abated Mr Waldon in a few words thanked the audience for their glorious reception of the Princess's twenty-fifth pantomime. Mr Hugh Murdoch ably looked after the arduous task of finding places for as many of the Princess's patrons as could be accommodated on the opening night. From the first scene onwards the success of *Goosey Gander* was never in doubt, and the first act terminated amidst unbounded enthusiasm, which brought Mr Waldon on twice to bow acknowledgment. The second act finished to vociferous cheering by an upstanding audience.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT ABERDEEN.

The Babes in the Wood, which was produced by Mr Milton Bode on Monday, is the brightest, cheeriest, and most lavishly equipped pantomime that has ever been put on the local stage. In spite of the boisterous weather on the opening night, the house was filled in every part, and the hearty applause that frequently rang out showed how heartily the programme was appreciated. The book is by Mr J. Hickory Wood; it is clever and well sustained, and the company do the rest. In the opening scene Miss Veronica Brady, the principal girl, gives a delightful rendering of the pretty song "Good-bye, little girl, good-bye." Miss Ernestine Desborough, who plays the principal boy, early ingratiates herself with the audience by her skilful rendering of the quaint ballad, "Rain came pitter-patter," which received an enthusiastic encore, and was even more successful with the well known ditty, "Bluebell." In her second effort, "Ill be your dewdrop," Miss Brady again made a most decided hit. The Sisters Morgan, who represent the second boy and girl, put in some excellent work. The vigorous rendering of the duet entitled "Society," with the spirited and extremely clever dancing, was admirably received. The two pretty and clever little girls, Miss Ruby Forbes and Miss Minnie Mace, also had a very gratifying reception. They lilt prettily and dance gracefully. Mr Ernest Sefton, who plays the Baron, is a thoroughly good comedian; and Mr Frank Couch is highly amusing as Buttons. Messrs Woodhouse and Wells go through a lot of very funny business, the duel in the wood, in particular, making the audience rock with laughter. Mr W. P. Sheen's restrained style of acting in the part of the Widow Slapp is thoroughly appreciated. Miss Mabel Murray as the good fairy and Miss Molly Seymour as the bad one play their parts with much good taste. Mention must be made of the amusing "Cock-a-doodle" duet, and the excellent singing of the Albion Glee Quartet. The scenery throughout is most effective, reflecting the utmost credit on Messrs Davies and Storey, and in regard to the dresses it can with truth be said that they show superior artistic taste. Mr H. Wellings, the musical conductor, has his orchestra well in hand, and altogether Mr Bode and his able manager, Mr Hugh Nolan, are to be congratulated on the success of the production. As usual, Mr Henry C. Cavanah, C.A., the popular manager, is indefatigable in looking after the "front of the house."

"FORTY THIEVES" AT MANCHESTER.

This season's first production of pantomime in England is to be recorded of Messrs Dottridge and Longden's *The Forty Thieves*, which was staged at the Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, Dec. 12. The subject is one which lends itself to picturesque and gorgeous treatment, and it is equally rich in opportunities for the low comedian, without whom, of course, pantomime would be of no potency at all. It is pleasant to be able to say at once that this production (which, by-the-way, is destined to the road) combines the needful splendour with a plenitude of comic business, and that its run is sure to be successful and satisfactory to the management, the artists, and the public. The action is divided over nine scenes, the first of which is The Market Square of Bagdad. In this the principal characters are introduced, with an outline of the situation between Ali Baba and his brother Cassim, who seeks repayment of Ali's debt. Ali Baba is portrayed with virile humour by Mr James Danvers, who goes forward in the best of spirits to the opportunities of his part, while Mr Forsyth Bruce as Cassim has a style and make-up already indicative of the dramatic effort he is to be asked for in the Cave scene. Messrs Lewis and Robert Oetzman are also in evidence as a pair of policemen who are very much knocked about, and who cause considerable laughter. Mr Cliff Dover's Cogia is on old-fashioned lines, and might be improved by a more extravagant make-up; it is, nevertheless, presented in lively style and with a clear delivery. Hassarac (or, as he is designated on the programme, Lieut. George Augustus Fitz-Hassarac) is perhaps the most notable personage on the scene. The part is played by Mr Ernie Myers, who already crowds so much comic business into his lines, and with such spontaneous gusto and invention, that he looks like developing into the big success of the piece. The part has been written with a scope that takes in almost every incident of the show, and this clever comedian proved vastly amusing in it. Hassarac's courting of Morgiana in the first scene is part of the initial fun. Add to all this the antics of Ali Baba's donkey, Moketta, who conceals the very clever personality of Mr James Dubois, and it will be seen that, in regard to sheer humour, the pantomime makes an exceedingly good start. Of Ganem it must be said that Miss Dolly Elsworthy makes a gracious, vivacious, pleasing, and obviously an experienced principal boy; while Morgiana is presented daintily by Miss Lily Lonsdale, who is the fortunate possessor of a good soprano singing voice. In the scene outside the Robbers' Cave a considerable amount of humour is exploited round a further incident of Hassarac's courting of Morgiana, which the jealous Ganem chances to observe, and which he proposes to requite by means of boxing-gloves, which he invites Hassarac to put on. Ali and his donkey having arrived, the former acts amusingly as one of the seconds, while the latter perches himself on an eminence, beating his hoof upon a clock to signify "time." This boxing act is very funny, thanks to the comic inspiration of Hassarac and Ganem's clever use of the gloves. Not improbably it will make up into one of the most successful interludes of the pantomime. It is followed in due course by a highly effective ensemble of the forty thieves, and the incident of Ali and Ganem's robbery of the cave. The over-loading of the donkey is well managed, the ultimate collapse of the animal over an embankment closing a really capital and satisfactory scene. The subsequent set of the Interior of the Cave is very well put on, and is a good background for a fine display of the dresses and accoutrements of the forty thieves and their fearsome captain, Abdallah. The latter is impersonated by Miss Cissie Kingsley, who is distinguished by a sounding contralto voice, which she employs to good effect. Mr Forsyth Bruce's dramatic effort as Cassim in this scene is worthy of high praise, and was watched with some excitement by the audience.

This quality of performance all round by the company is kept up through the various subsequent scenes, in one of which, The Valley of Blue Bells, Mr James Dubois gives an exceptionally lifelike impersonation of a monkey, for which on Monday he was deservedly recalled. In the same scene we have a speciality sketch, *En Voyage*, by the Reed Oetzman Troupe of acrobatic comedians, who add largely to the entertainment. In the final grand scene of Ali Baba's Palace of Flowers, moreover, one of the most novel and sensational of variety turns is introduced—namely, the Ichmed Ibrahim Troupe of Bedouin Arabs, who are well described as the greatest bounding marvels of the age, and whose leaping acrobatic fantasia is surely the most spirited and wonderful performance of its kind to be seen on the stage. This speciality is well placed for an admirable wind-up to a pantomime sufficiently full of life and colour to realise the expectations of its producer. Innumerable comic passages are interspersed, and many songs are sung, the most notable of the latter being Ganem's "Good-bye, little girl, good-bye;" a duet, "There's no one in the world like you," by Ganem and Morgiana; Ganem's song and dance, "Girlie;" Morgiana's exceptionally well-rendered "Just Idle Dreams" and a selection from Italian opera; Abdallah's "Shadows on the Blind;" and Hassarac's chant-like ditty about the ills of married life—all by arrangement with well-known London publishers. Our notice would be incomplete without reference to the minor successes of Mr Phil Leonard as Mustapha, Miss May Fallowfield as Zorilda, and Miss Ada Beaumont as Fizzel, one of the lieutenants of the "forty." Mr Joseph L. Barry is responsible for the book; the incidental music has been composed and arranged by Mr Herbert Barnes; Mr John Cunningham takes credit for the painting of the scenery; and the whole is produced by Mr Ernest Dottridge.

WEST KENT AMATEURS.

The West Kent Amateur Comedy Company gave an entertainment at the Parish Church Hall, Ladywell-road, Lewisham, on Wednesday, in aid of the funds of the St. John's Hospital, Morden-hill, Lewisham. The entertainment began at 8 0 o'clock pompt with the overture, after which the curtain was raised on the first item of the triple bill, *Daisy's Escape*. The piece was well rendered on the whole, the chief honours falling to Miss Grace Aucutt, who made a charming Daisy White, and played with much intelligence. Miss Frieda A Murzetti was also good as Mollie, but Mr Walter L Roberts left much to be desired in the part of Caddel, and would have done better had he been more acquainted with the text. Mr W. Freeland White did fairly well as Tom Rossitter; Mr Alfred G. Garside was capital as Major Mullett; and the small part of Bullamore was safe in the hands of Mr Arthur Cook. In the farce *My Lord in Livery* first mention should be made of the Spiggott of Mr J. Farries Moss, who caused roars of laughter by his fine performance of this nervous old butler. Mr Alfred Garside did very well as Hopkins, but when he plays this part again it would be well if he did not put himself into so many different attitudes. Mr Robt. F. Bean was a fairly good Lord Thirlmere, but would have improved the character if he had made it a little more breezy. Master Wilfred Aucutt was very good as the page, and spoke his lines well. In Miss Lily Nesbitt we have a clever amateur lady, and she delighted everbody with her charming performance of Sybil, her dancing in the minuet with Mr Robt. F. Bean being much admired. Miss Mary Aucutt and Miss Mildred Forrester gave much assistance to the piece by their good acting of the parts of Laura and Rose. The well-known play of *Bubbles*, which followed, was finely rendered all round, the parts being evenly played, Mr Walter L. Roberts as Christopher Hogg and Miss Mildred Forrester as Polly appearing to great advantage, while Mr Clarence Brown as Sir Thyngummy Talboy and Mr J. Farries Moss as Bob were also good. Miss Grace Cowell and Miss H. Northfield Brownlee as respectively Adele and Mrs Hogg were very effective. During the evening the company's fine orchestra, under the bâton of Mr Percy Leeds, played a capital selection of music, their rendering of the Grand March from *Tannhäuser* being much applauded. The stage-management of Mr Geo. Seymour Snowden, under whose direction the plays were produced, was excellent.

A MANAGER'S CLAIM.

In the Westminster County Court on Wednesday, Mr Frank Hayter, late manager of *The Cherry Girl* touring company, sued Mr C. Lubbock, describing himself as a financial agent, and running several touring companies, for £50, including salary, &c.

Plaintiff stated that he was employed by the defendant as manager of *The Cherry Girl* company at £4 a-week. Previously he was manager of *The Flood Tide* at £2 10s. per week. For July, August, and September he received £4 a-week, and on Oct. 3 he was summarily dismissed. The claim he had put in was for three weeks' salary, booking fees at 10s. each, amounting to £20, and £17 0s. 4d., money spent on behalf of the defendant.

Cross-examined, witness denied that he was employed by the Westminster Exploitation Company; they were known as C. Lubbock's companies.

Defendant stated that the plaintiff was dismissed by order of the directors of the Westminster Exploitation Company because they could not get the accounts sent in regularly and to time. There was, he said, £238 11s. 11d. which had not been accounted for. Defendant said the plaintiff knew that he was only acting for the company, and all the business of *The Cherry Girl* was conducted at the offices of the company in Queen Victoria-street, and the plaintiff was a shareholder of that company. Witness asked for an adjournment to prove his case.

Upon a guarantee that the defendant would pay £30 into court within seven days, Judge Woodfall adjourned the case. Failing the payment in, he should give the plaintiff judgment for the amount claimed, with costs.

Against the same defendant Miss Greta Ravensburg brought a claim, but this was not disputed, and judgment was entered for the plaintiff.

MR H. P. OWEN, who has been business-manager this autumn with Mr Norman M'Owan's *Monsieur Beaucaire* company, was, at the conclusion of the tour last Saturday evening, presented by Mr F. Stewart Willson, on behalf of the members of the company, with a handsome case of pipes—one for each day of the week. Mr Owen is re-engaged for the spring tour to stage-manage and play Major Molyneux.

MR EDWARD S. MICHEL, the energetic lessee of the Assembly Rooms, Bath, has arranged for a beauty show and promenade concert to be held on Boxing Day.

AN IDEAL XMAS GIFT.—BELLIS' TURTLE OIL SOAP.—Ladies who have not used Bellis' Turtle Oil Soap have no conception what a luxury it is or its wonderful properties. Leaves the skin soft and velvety. Lasts twice as long as any other. Truth says:—Turtle Oil Soap is the nicest I have ever used. I have been recommending it to everybody. Price 2s. 6d. per tablet. On sale at all high-class chemists and stores, or T. K. Bellis Turtle Co., 15, Bury-street, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"RABELAIS."

Comedy, in Three Acts, in Verse, by M. A. Du Bois, Produced at Bouffes-Parisiens, Dec. 12.

François Rabelais	M. ARMAND BOUR
Angelo Pignon	M. HENRY KRAUSS
Le Chanoine	M. FRANCIS
Le Comte d'Entraves	M. PRADALY
La Comtesse	Madame FERIEL
Dolly	Mdlle. LEBLANC
Dame Rose	Mdlle. PERROT

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, THURSDAY, Dec. 15.—In these three capitally-written acts the author shows us Rabelais in altogether a new light—a Rabelais different from the gay, ironical poet such as he is generally portrayed. The story is very simple. The old priest in Meudon having died, Rabelais and Angelo Pignon have come forward as candidates for the post. But the Comtesse D'Entraves, rich and powerful, has sworn that the cure will belong to him who will have prevented her son from marrying Dolly, a young English girl, to whom he has lost his heart. The pedantic Pignon thereupon tries his luck with Dolly by advising her to enter a convent, and threatening her with the worst punishments hereafter. Poor Dolly! Half dead with fright, she is glad when Rabelais comes upon the scene, and in admirable language discourses on Nature and the blessings she bestows upon us. Rabelais is victorious. Better still, Dolly is quite fascinated by the man who speaks so delightfully. Pignon then resorts to trickery. He shows Dolly the manuscript of "Pantagruel," and, of course, points out to her the worst passages therein, and the girl becomes indignant with her hero. Fortunately, Rabelais is able to explain matters to her. In fact, he shows her his inner man. He tells her that under this laughing mask he has vented his rage on all hypocrites, on fools and snobs, on all who exploit the ignorance and weakness of their fellow-creatures. He has performed a work of justice by trying to kill these birds of prey, and he no longer laughs, he cries. This scene is very fine indeed. Dolly has heard enough. She has done for ever with the Count D'Entraves. She loves Rabelais. She swears she will never leave him; and the latter promises to watch over her. And as it is Rabelais who has prevented the Comte D'Entraves' marriage he is appointed to the cure of Meudon. The difficult rôle of Pignon was excellently interpreted by M. Krauss. M. Bour imparted great charm to the sympathetic figure of Rabelais; Mdlle. B. Leblanc was a fascinating Dolly; and Mdlle. Irena Perrot an amusing type of a priest's servant.

"SAINTE-ROULOTTE"

Play, in Four Acts,

by M.M. Jean Lorrain and Gustave Coquot, Produced at the Théâtre Molière, Dec. 10.

General Dourateff	M. CASTELLI
Docteur Rabastens	M. RAMBERT
Terke	M. RENE CRESTE
Comte Sternos	M. HOWEY
Jacques Ménard	M. REGNIER
Mirka Cirbey	Mdlle. LAPARCERIE
Meryenis	Mdlle. RITTER
Princesse Alexiateff	Madame LERICHE

It is very rare that a melodrama comes our way possessing so many good qualities as *Sainte-Roulotte*. The plot can be briefly told. At Monte Carlo General Douratieff has been attacked in his villa by a mysterious burglar, who, after having stunned him, has robbed him of 80,000f. Mourline, the General's adopted son, has committed the deed, and has not only robbed his benefactor of his money, but has also taken away Mirka, the latter's mistress. On the point of being denounced Mourline commits suicide. But Mirka and her accomplices know that the General has still a large sum of money in his possession, and plot a fresh crime. Having discovered a man who bears a close resemblance to the deceased Mourline, they take him with them, and enter the General's apartment. When the General sees before him the man who already robbed him once and who died since, the shock is too great for him. He falls down and dies whilst the four thieves quietly lay their hands on the rest of the money. The work met with first-class interpretation.

"LE BERCAIL,"

Comedy, in Three Acts, by M. Henry Bernstein, Produced at the Gymnase, Dec. 13.

Etienne Landry	M. TARRIDE
Jacques Foucher	M. GRAND
Voisinot	M. NUMES
Angel	M. MAURICE LUGUET
Boequet	M. ANDRE-HALL
Julien	M. FELIX RICHE
Eveline	Madame SIMONE LE BARGY
Julie	Mdlle. HENRIOT
Rosa	Mdlle. BELLANGER
Louli	Mdl'e. MARIE BURTY
Madame Lormoy	Mdlle. GILBERTE SERGY

Our playwrights have served us up of late so many ladies leaving their homes to follow their lovers that we felt sorry M. Henry Bernstein deemed it necessary to harp upon the same theme. Eveline Landry, the heroine, is a kind of Madame Bovary, less the charm. In fact, Eveline is so exasperating that we consider her husband ought to feel pleased when she informs him that she intends to leave him. But the husband does not at all share our feelings. He loves the woman, and her departure makes him wretched. Eveline belongs to that terrible category of women who believe they are "misunderstood." Etienne, her husband, many years older than his wife, is a bluff, good-natured, even-tempered man, with whom every sensible woman would have been happy. Unfortunately, Etienne lacks poetry. He cannot "spout sentiments," and when Eveline comes across Jacques Foucher, a young poet, she feels she is no longer an *incomprise*—she has found the man who will understand her. And, having told Etienne that nothing will keep her away from her beloved Jacques, she walks out of the house. In the second tableau, four years have elapsed. Etienne has divorced his wife, who is living with Jacques. The latter has introduced her into what is supposed to be a literary and artistic milieu; and Eveline is sick with her entourage. For the first time we are in sympathy with her, and we begin to wonder where the author has picked up such an experience of the literary and artistic world. It is more like an artistic half-world. We meet there one of Jacques' friends, who offers Eveline a magnificent pearl necklace in the name of a well-known millionaire. A newspaper proprietor introduces a music hall star, who displays more lace flouncings than manners. An elderly lady, having had a dispute with her lover, is severely taken to task by her young married daughter for treating this lover so unkindly. Altogether, a beautiful crowd! Eveline possibly never realised that her husband, although not possessed of a "temperament," had the instincts of a gentleman; but it certainly dawns upon her that below Jacques' poetic nature lurks the cad. After a stormy conversation she leaves him, and tries her luck on the stage, and, in the course of her wanderings, comes to Lyons, where her ex-husband is living. And then—somewhat late in the day—the wayworn creature remembers her child, the little boy, whom she gave little or no thought when she left her home. The boy's old nurse smuggles Eveline into the house late at night, and the pathetic scene is interrupted by Etienne entering and finding his divorced wife kissing little Georges. The explanation between Etienne and Eveline is also of a rather stormy nature. The woman prays for forgiveness, and good old Etienne, who has never ceased to love her, finally consents to take her back. The crushing weight of the piece rests on the shoulders of Madame Le Bargy, who gives us not a sympathetic but a highly interesting Eveline. She acted the part superbly. In M. Tarride the rôle of the husband gained much in importance. With infinite tact this clever artist portrayed this good-natured man, carefully avoiding ever becoming grotesque. M. Grand made the most of the ungrateful rôle of Jacquer, and Mdlle. Bellanger, Mdlle. Henriot, and Mdlle. Marie Burty completed an excellent cast.

MISS BATEMAN'S PUPILS.

The parish of St. Cuthbert, Earl's-court, is indeed fortunate in having Miss Bateman (Mrs Crowe) as a parishioner. Two most successful performances were given by her and her pupils on the afternoon and evening of Dec. 5, which must have materially lessened the debt on the hall, for which object they were given. Miss Bateman's special gifts for training pupils for the stage are too well known to need further comment here, but one may be at least allowed to congratulate her on her successful method. The chief item of the afternoon was several scenes from *Romeo and Juliet*, a performance of really remarkable achievement. Miss Gladys Vanderzee, by kind permission of Mr Tree, was a most romantic and convincing Romeo, while Miss Rita Jolivet, by kind permission of Messrs Harrison and Maude, was not only young and beautiful enough for the part, but showed really remarkable dramatic power and feeling in her interpretation of Juliet's precocious Italian temperament. When we say that Mrs Crowe herself played the Nurse, we have said that it was played to perfection. The Friar Laurence of Mr Basil Watt was very dignified, and his elocution was beautiful. The other characters were adequately filled, Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter being a rather youthful Peter. Two very clever sisters, Miss Muriel Gough (soprano) and Miss Helen Gough (violin) provided a delightfully artistic musical interlude, and the performance concluded with a scene from Mrs Gaskell's *Crauford*, a card party, which gave an opportunity to several of Miss Bateman's pupils to distinguish themselves, which Miss Gertie Lloyd and Miss Hilda Scholes noticeably did, the Peggie of Miss Kathleen Harrison being delightfully fresh and rural. The evening performance was even better than that which preceded it. "King Cophetua and the Beggar Maid"—a romantic poem by an unknown author—gave an opportunity to Miss Gertie Lloyd of which she took ample advantage. She played the little maid with a charming simplicity and reality which won other hearts than King Cophetua's. Miss Vanderzee's King Cophetua was all that it should have been—brave, noble, and, above all, a lover; while Miss Viola Holland as Gaspar completed a very pretty picture. The Misses Gough again provided the musical interlude, and delighted their audience by their beautiful singing and playing. The feature of the evening was, perhaps, a scene from *King John*, played excellently by Mr Basil Watt, Mr Gray, and Miss Leah Bateman-Hunter. This little granddaughter of Mrs Crowe has inherited much of her family's great gifts, and it would be hard to find a more appealing or truly dramatic Arthur than was represented by the juvenile. Her performance went straight to the hearts of those who heard her. The entertainment ended with an amusing little play by Miss Cameron called *The Kleptomaniac*, which amused the audience considerably and gave another opportunity to the various young ladies who acted in it to do their best in their various parts. Altogether Miss Bateman is to be much congratulated on two remarkably good performances.

MR. CHARLES J. ARCHER'S BENEFIT.

On Saturday a matinée was given at the Theatre Royal, Croydon, for the benefit of Mr Charles J. Archer, formerley lessee of that house, who through severe illness and advanced age is unable to follow his profession. The entertainment was a dramatic and variety one, and was under the patronage of his worship the Mayor of Croydon, Alderman Allen, Alderman Sir Frederick Edridge, Alderman N. Page, and many other influential gentlemen. As the theatre was generously lent for the occasion by Mr Samuel James, and the entertainment was provided free of charge, the whole of the receipts go to Mr Archer. We were pleased to see Mr Willie Cousins, so long associated with Mr Archer as acting-manager, taking an active part in the benefit arrangements.

The variety items on the programme were a song, Miss Isa Bellingham; American recitation, Mr Austin Melford; descriptive song, Mr Herbert Shelley; recitation, Mr Henry Bedford; burlesque lecture, Mr Harry Paulton; recitation, Mr Thomas Kingston; and turns by Walton and Lester, comedians; Sadie Simpson, serio and dancer; Harry Phillips, comedian; Cliff Ryland, comedian; Lilie Mackney, violin solo; Ethel Ryland, comedienne and dancer; and Mrs H. E. Rickett and Miss Winnie Love, ballad vocalists.

The third act of the drama, *The Sins of Her Childhood*, was well received, and Mr and Mrs Blake Adams appeared with considerable success in a dramatic episode entitled *The Last Pitch*. Another interesting item was a cleverly written drametta, by Albert Ward, entitled

"A NOBLE REVENGE."

Richard Tremayne	Mr ALBERT WARD
Beatrice	Miss FRANCES ALLEYNE

The story tells of an author who, after struggling for years for fame, has a play accepted at last, when he is almost dying. The plot of his piece contains his own history, including his desertion by his wife. The actress who undertakes the part of the wife in the drama is the author's wife in reality. He meets her at rehearsal, and they are reconciled, the author afterwards dying from his privations. Mr Albert Ward and Miss Alleyne sustained the two characters in the play most expressively. Another novelty was a one-act piece, by Arthur Shirley, entitled

"BEN."

Jasper	Mr ALFRED HOLLES
Ben	Mr BERNARD COPPING
Doctor	Mr W. KYBURN DELLAR
Phil	Mr C. WINDERMERE
Minnie	Miss ISA BELLINGTON

Ben is a faithful old servant who, finding his master's fortune has been lost by the breaking of a bank, places his own savings in his master's safe. The latter is too ill to be told of his misfortune, and Ben is rewarded by a handsome and unexpected legacy. Mr W. Kyburn Dellar and Miss Isa Bellington acted excellently as the Doctor and Minnie, the daughter of the invalid; and Mr C. Windermere was genuinely droll as Phil; Mr Bernard Copping and Mr Alfred Holles deserving credit as Ben and Jasper respectively.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

The orchestral concert at the Royal College of Music on Tuesday last introduced a novelty in the shape of a composition by Fritz Volback, called "Raffael," suggested by the three famous Madonnas of the great painter—"The Madonna di Foligno," "The Madonna del Granduca," and "The Madonna di San Sisto." As a matter of fact, it was "programme music" carried to its utmost limits, but it was decidedly interesting and artistic, and made such a good impression that the composer was recalled no less than five times after conducting his own work with great skill. We are not strong advocates of "programme music" as a rule, but in this instance we cannot withhold a tribute of praise to a gifted musician. Other items were included, making the concert unusually attractive. Beethoven's magnificent overture "Prometheus" was splendidly played by the band, and taken correctly as to tempo by Sir Charles Stanford, and the fine Serenade for orchestra by Brahms was given in admirable style, tone, and execution being alike worthy of commendation. Mr Isidore Epstein played the "Polish Fantasia" of Paderewski with much brilliancy, but the music is too fragmentary to make the effect probably intended by the composer.

MR ARTHUR CARLTON will, on Boxing Day, produce at the Ealing Theatre, with the aid of his energetic manager, Mr Fred S. Jennings, his first Christmas pantomime of *Aladdin*, with a company of 150 artists.

PRESENTATION TO FRED MORGAN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On Tuesday morning the public testimonial to Mr Fred Morgan, the manager of the Theatre Royal, Norwich, took place. It was presented to him by the Mayor, Mr H. L. T. FLOWERS, J.P., at the Maid's Head Hotel. It consisted of a handsome silver cup weighing 50oz., an illuminated address, and a purse of gold. The cup bore the following inscription:—Presented to Fred Morgan on retiring from the management of the Norwich Grand Opera House by the mayor (Mr H. L. T. Flowers), the sheriff (Mr H. L. Clarke), and leading citizens of Norwich." The address is in a handsome oak frame; and to is appended a list of subscribers. The border is brightened with the City Arms, a view of the Opera House, and Mr Morgan's monogram worked in colours. Among those present were the Mayor and Sheriff, Mr F. O. Taylor, J.P., D.L., Mr Bosworth Harcourt, Councillor F. W. Fitt, Mr E. Burgess (hon. secretary), Mr Fred G. Shields (hon. treasurer), Mr G. Baxter, Mr A. S Wild, Mr E. S. Parker, Mr Louis Morgan, Mr W. L. Burgess, and several others. The Mayor occupied the chair, and was supported by the Sheriff, who most hospitably entertained the company.

The MAYOR, in opening the proceedings, said it was a great source of pleasure to him to join in a movement which had been set on foot to show public appreciation of the life-long work of Mr Fred Morgan in furtherance of the histrionic art. Continuing his Worship said:—There are really few good theatrical managers in the provinces, and even where you find them, as in the case of Mr Morgan, good as a caterer, and good as a man and a citizen, they have a difficult task to perform in maintaining the success of the drama. Mr Morgan has given us the best of his services for the past quarter of a century, and has worthily upheld the dramatic art in the city of Norwich. There are hundreds and thousands of citizens who can scarcely be called playgoers at the present time, who yet have pleasant recollections of the old house in Theatre-street. I trust that in the congenial atmosphere of the old home at the Theatre Royal Mr Morgan will have greater success. Not only do I wish him this as an individual, but I recognise it would be a loss to the city and neighbourhood if we failed to maintain the drama in our midst. I have been asked by the subscribers to hand Mr Morgan a slight testimonial of their appreciation as an acknowledgment of his devoted work in the past, and as an earnest of their good wishes for the future. The testimonial consists of a silver cup, an illuminated address, and a purse of gold, and I have the honour, my good friend Mr Morgan, to ask your acceptance of these gifts, not only for their intrinsic worth, but more especially for the friendly feeling they represent, and from the bottom of my heart I wish you good health and good luck.

Mr FRED MORGAN, who spoke under the influence of evident emotion, said he hardly knew how to express his thanks for the kindness which was expressed in this testimonial. He had prepared a speech intended to convey his thanks, but it had all disappeared. He could only say that he was deeply grateful to Mr Edward Burgess, Mr F. G. Shields, and the Editor of the *Eastern Daily Press*, and also to the Press in general, for the kindness it had shown him throughout many years. He was deeply conscious that a great kindness was being shown him; and he could only assure the subscribers that after the curtain had fallen on his life the presents he had received would be deeply treasured by his family.

Mr BOSWORTH HARCOURT gave some interesting details of the "New" Theatre Royal, which was opened on Easter Monday, 1826, taking the place of an older one on the same or adjoining ground. Mr George Smith was the manager, in whose hands and those of his family the management remained for many years. The Smiths were very highly esteemed in the city and county, and conducted the theatre in every way to the satisfaction of their patrons. Each year bespeaks from the Mayor, the Sheriffs—there were two Sheriffs then—the High Sheriff, the Colonel and officers of the garrison, the wine clubs, the Board of Guardians, and private individuals of standing went to make up a "season" of theatrical amusements and instruction; for the old plays and players did educate as well as amuse. Nearly twenty years after this opening a Smith still reigned—George Smith, the younger, but very shortly. Mr W. J. Abington for a time took the reins. He was an M.A. of Cambridge, and, like the Smiths, was an occasional actor, but he only had the house one season, and Mr Davenport took it over. He had come from another circuit, and exploited his talented daughter; and he (Mr Harcourt) thought she must have been the first actress he had ever seen. Davenport was said to be, on the authority of John Forster, the original (of course burlesque) of Dickens' immortal Crummles. It was interesting to mention that in this year he found the benefit of Miss Hartley and Mr Gilbert. This Miss Hartley was the Mrs Gilbert whose death in America, at the age of eighty-four, was announced but a week or so since. In 1848 that splendid actor Charles Dillon, for a season—a disastrous one—took the theatre. Joseph Clarance during the previous year had been the low comedian in Davenport's company, and he continued on with Dillon, and eventually, on Oct 7, 1850, became the actual manager. He was the Clarance Holt of later days, and after some years of successful management yielded the reins to William Sidney, who also was a resident here, where his children were born and educated. That brilliant actor, dear old John F. Young, leased and governed for three or four years, and after the temporary government of the theatre by Mr Chaplin, and at times others, Mr Fred Morgan—first acting for William Sidney—eventually bloomed out as the responsible and only manager of the old house. The stock company system gradually faded and died. Christmas pantomimes also glided from the scene, and the travelling one-piece company system became the vogue. Norwich was an early, though not the earliest, convert to the new scheme—now the accepted and only method throughout the country. Amongst those who had trod the old boards in Theatre-street since the opening of the house in 1826 were Macready, Charles Kemble, Edmund Kean, Miss Foote, Miss Paton, Mesdames Vestris and Celeste, Charles Mathews, Tyrone Power, Ellen Tree, Charles Kean, and many others. For a long series of years the Norwich boards—the boards of the dear old house standing that day, and to which Mr Morgan returned, with the very best wishes of his friends—had echoed to the tread of almost every actor and actress of repute from the London stage. They all wished Mr Morgan well and had great hopes of his future. His career was not ended, but only making a fresh start—laden with experience dearly bought, and always the more valuable. As disinterested friends they joined in this heart-felt testimonial to his services in the past, feeling sure that in the experiences of that past he would read the lessons that taught them all, and accept the good wishes and the candid expressions of the feelings of his friends.

Mr F. O. TAYLOR in an eloquent speech wished Mr Morgan in the future a continuance of the success which he had long enjoyed at the old Theatre Royal.

Mr GEORGE BAXTER and the Sheriff of NORWICH having added a few cordial good wishes for Mr Morgan's future,

Mr FRED FITT said that he also, as well as his partner (Mr Bostock), desired the welfare of Mr Morgan on his return to the Theatre Royal.

Some further speeches followed, in all of which the most cordial feeling towards Mr Morgan was displayed, and the proceedings ended with a vote of thanks to the Mayor for presiding, and to the Sheriff for his hospitality, proposed by Mr Edward Burgess and seconded by Mr F. G. Shields.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

THE GRAND.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Drama in Five Acts, entitled
"THE WORLD."

For the concluding weeks of the dramatic season Mr George Davey has secured an excellent attraction in Mr John Asche's company, presenting the above drama. Mr Asche has spared no expense in mounting the play, as a result we get several very elaborate scenic effects, which thoroughly deserved and secured appreciative applause from the audience. He has got together, too, a very hardworking and capable company, who are whole-hearted in their endeavours to secure a general success for the production. Mr Stuart Lomath, who appears as Sir Clement Huntingford, gives a vigorous and thoroughly satisfactory performance, his interpretation of the rôle finding great favour with the audience. Mr Francis Hawley in his original part of Harry Huntingford plays the heavy rôle with distinction and finish, and is altogether to be commended. Mr Bernard J. Lieli as Moss Jewell portrays a Hebrew diamond merchant in a humorous vein, and causes amusement. Mr Jackson Hayes as Martin Bashford submits one of the best performances of the evening; intense and particularly effective, his acting in the last scene of the second act is particularly good. Mr Angus Alexander as Langley is admirable; Mr Edward Beecham as Owen scores in a small part; and Mr Craige as Blackford is efficient. Miss Georgette Thierry as Mabel Huntingford is quite excellent in the rôle, and deserves congratulations on a successful embodiment. Miss Beatrice Fay acts with sound judgment, and deserves commendation for a good performance. Miss Ellen Owen as Miss M'Tabb presents an amusing study of an elderly lady of vivacious temperament. The remaining members of the company are adequate. It is worthy of mention that two scenes in the play were excellently worked, the first being The Destruction of the Ship, and the second being The Raft on the Seas. Miss Ida Irving dances an acceptable *pas seul* in the last act.

THE PAVILION.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Drama, in Five Acts, by Sutton Vane, entitled
"IN SIGHT OF ST. PAUL'S."

For the last week of the dramatic season the management of the Pavilion have put forward a revival of Mr Sutton Vane's stirring play *In Sight of St. Paul's*, which on Monday evening was received with every sign of satisfaction by an audience who followed the five acts of this exciting story with breathless interest. Mr Ashley Page thoroughly maintained his reputation by his vigorous and convincing exposition of Tom Chichester, and Mr James C. Aubrey is powerfully effective as the scheming Captain Gridstone. Mr Edwin Palmer—well made up—gave a clever impersonation of Mr Chichester, and Mr Fred Withers as Gillie Fletcher supplied a fund of quiet humour which was much appreciated. Mr Frank Lister, who made his first appearance this season, gave an excellent character study of Fretley Burnside. That the Pavilion audience do not forget their favourites was evidenced by the loud applause with which Mr Lister was received on making his first entrance. Mr Dudman Bromwich was a very efficient Harry Chichester, and Robert Treacher had adequate treatment at the hands of Mr Alfred Ibberson. Mr Harry Barford was in his most genial and humorous vein and revelled in the opportunities afforded him in the part of Jim Palfrey, while Mr Harry Bristow did good work as Dennis Sheridan. Mr Fred Bousted was distinctly successful as Inspector Clarkson, and Mr Roland Ryley a creditable Prescott. Miss Marion Denvil was natural and sympathetic as Aileen Millar, and her acting won for her the warm interest of the house. Cynthia Dell, known as "the Panther," was portrayed with expression, directness, and vigour by Miss Valerie Crespin, and a charming rendering of Grace Chichester was given by Miss Daisy Scudamore, while Miss Tina Mavro was entertaining as Becky Vetch. Miss Kitty Cardigan was dainty and attractive as Rose, and Miss Evelyn Maxwell was fairly spirited as Beatrice Moreland. The drama is admirably stage-managed, and the scenic arrangements are all that can be desired. With the close of the stock season, special commendation must be given to Mr Fred Bousted for the excellent way in which he has stage-managed, being ably assisted by Mr Harry Bristow, and to Mr Charles Aves, the talented musical director, for the high state of efficiency of the orchestra. Thanks are due to Mr Fred Brown for his uniform courtesy and kindness, and the many departments are skilfully supervised by the vigilant managing director Mr Isaac Cohen. The theatre re-opens on Boxing Day with *Dick Whittington*.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Drama, in Four Acts, by the late F. A. Scudamore, entitled
"THE BEAUTIFUL AVENGER."

Every success attended the visit of Messrs Scudamore and Richmond's company to the Royal West London Theatre this week. Each of the four acts of this sensational play abound with original and thrilling realism That talented actor Mr Algernon Syms imbued the part of Cyrus Telford with those quiet and effective methods only developed by actors of Mr Syms' ability. Mr Lionel Gillet portrayed the oily old scoundrel Zadox Foxbane with faithful clearness, and Mr William Diamond as his son Herman distinguished himself well. As Jim Jahms Mr Arthur Richmond, in a capital make-up, worked with unflagging energy and zeal, whilst Mr William Ames as Peregrine Patch was full of life and go, pleasing his audience greatly. In the dual-rôle of Vashti Volta and Victor Stanhope Miss Nannie Meade was most effective, playing with that touch of artistic skill that is always so welcome. Delightfully frank and boyish was Miss Cissy Podmore as Baldie Mansfield, and Miss Lilian Hawkins was decidedly amusing as Arabella Binks. Miss Mabel Scudamore quite deserves the warmest of praises for her Edna Volta by reason of the marked graceful pathos with which she endowed this very trying part. All the minor characters were carefully played, and the scenery and effects were most elaborate.

THE BRITANNIA.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Drama, in a Prologue and Four Acts, by J. A. Campbell, entitled
"THE SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD."

A year ago this drama was produced at the Theatre Royal, Accrington, and since then it has been toured in the provinces with successful results. The story is one likely to appeal to the average playgoer and to arouse his interest as the plot develops. The leading female character is Mary Haysel, the daughter of a farmer, who has married twice. His second wife is a drunkard. Through his neglect, her little girl, Nancy, sustains an injury. By medical advice the farmer decides to send the child abroad as the best method of restoring her health; but in order to meet the extra expense he has to take his son, Stephen, away from college. The young man resents this, and induces his little sister, Mary, to place poison in a basin of gruel prepared for Nancy. Mary is detected and is sent to a reformatory, where she undergoes punishment for "the sin of her childhood." Here she meets the Rev. Alan Grey, who proves to be a friend in need, and eventually asks her to become his wife. The drama has been excellently played by the members of the Britannia stock company. Miss Rose Ralph succeeds in giving a telling embodiment of Mary Haysel, deeply repentant of her early sin and eager to atone. Her acting in the emotional scenes is particularly effective. Miss Mara Collings deserves warm praise for her careful and wholly artistic study of Maria Haysel. Mr Chas. A. East does good work as Farmer Haysel, whose son Stephen has a thoroughly capable exponent in Mr Frank Harding. Mr Arthur Burne depicts the Rev. Alan Grey, the vicar of Northfield, in a manner that gives complete satisfaction; and Mr W. S. Hartford finds scope for his ability in the rôle of Captain John Thornton. Mr Tom Wallis is an amusing representative of Barney O'Reilly, a rollicking, good-natured Irishman, and Miss Maria Wright does well as Eliza Muggins, Barney's sweetheart. Miss Nellie Baker scores as Hannah Spry, the street arab, who proves a staunch friend to the repentant heroine. Miss Marjorie Villis appears as Little Mary in the prologue and as Little Eric Dugdale in the play, acting both parts in an intelligent and engaging fashion. Mr Chas. Groves embodies a police-sergeant, and other parts are entrusted to Messrs C. Roberts, Fred Groves, John Bury, and Arthur Green. The varieties this week include Mr Lester King, the popular baritone, who sings popular songs which are pictorially illustrated. Miss Agnes Molteno, vocalist, gives a pleasing rendering of "Killarney," and Mr Charles Ridgwell, eccentric comedian, makes a hit with his ditty, "The Peckham Fat Boy." The programme concludes with the laughable sketch *What? Another?* in which Mr Chas. A. East takes the leading part. Active preparations are in progress for the Christmas pantomime, which will be produced on Boxing Day.

THE CORONET.

On Monday, Dec. 12,
"THE BREED OF THE TRESHAMS."

Mr Martin Harvey and company are appearing this week in John Rutherford's exciting drama *The Breed of the Treshams*. This play, if not a great one or a startlingly original one, is a splendid vehicle for the exhibition of Mr Martin Harvey's wonderful talent and power in a part of the Sydney Carton type, where unflinching heroism and unfaltering loyalty towards a woman are required of one whose name has become a by-word of reproach and contumely. The period of the Civil War is a favourite one with dramatists, as it lends itself so admirably to picturesque treatment and the weaving of pretty romances. John Rutherford's play, however, is more of a grim tragedy, lit by sardonic flashes of humour and eked out with a very ordinary little love story, the roses of romance being very sparingly distributed. Yet it affords Mr Martin Harvey the opportunity for presenting a most poetical, engrossing, and admirable study of character as the staunch scoundrel and valorous traitor, Lieutenant Reresby, "the Rat." He first gives us a taste of his quality as a swashbuckling, hard-swearing, stick-at-nothing renegade. Then, with a glimpse of pure womanhood and a pretty face, the heart of gold in him is resurrected, and he is faithful even unto death in his self-imposed martyrdom. In his blustering, bullying manner, as in his tenderer moments, Mr Martin Harvey is entirely admirable, and they must be stony hearts and inartistic minds indeed which are not moved by his pathos. Miss N. De Silva excels in the small part of Batty, "the Rat's" faithful retainer, and contrives to invest the part with much charm and realism. Mr Charles Glenny has seldom had a more thankless part than that of the craven cur and cowardly poltroon, Colonel the Hon. Clement Hungerford, a man as despicable and sans-redeeming feature as we remember to have met in the higher walks of stageland. It speaks volumes for his ability that his handling of the part can evoke nothing but praise. Mr Percy Anstey, on the contrary, has a most agreeable and congenial part as the brave and steadfast Colonel Sir Henry Curwen, and he shows to great advantage in the part. Mr Milton Rosmer is good as Cornet the Hon. Francis Tresham, a part which is not very prominent, but pleasant throughout. Miss Coleridge makes a very sweet and gentle Margaret Hungerford; Miss Edith Coleman is an attractive and elegant Mrs Bagshaw; and Miss Bessie Elder is a satisfactory Helena Pierrepoint. Mr Albert E. Raynor, made up like an inquisitorial Don, is appropriately unbending and relentless as Viscount Dorsington; and in small parts Messrs Gilbert Yorke, Reeve Denbigh, P. Alexander, and C. J. Cameron, among others, call for special mention. The piece was received with intense enthusiasm, and in response to reiterated cries of "A speech, a speech," Mr Martin Harvey at length said, "I thank you for the enthusiasm with which you have received my play. There is no audience like a London audience, and we are all glad to be among you once again."

THE CAMDEN.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Play, by A. W. Pinero, entitled
"LETTY."

Mr Charles Frohman's company in *Letty* is the attraction here for the last week of the autumn dramatic season. Mr H. B. Irving and Miss Irene Vanbrugh are appearing in their original characters, a fact which lends additional interest. Mr Pinero's play has been thoroughly discussed many times since it was first produced, and whatever faults it may have it will ever remain one of the finest examples of his work that he has given us. Mr Pinero is generally lucky in the choice of exponents of his plays, and there is no doubt that no finer Nevill Letchmere could be wished for than Mr H. B. Irving, who handles the part in a truly admirable and artistic manner. His acting in the fourth act of the piece was superb, and to say that he reminded one of his distinguished father at times is, perhaps, the greatest compliment one can pay him. It is a remarkably fine study throughout. Miss Irene Vanbrugh is none the less deserving of praise for her clever handling of Letty. Miss Vanbrugh has a fine grip of the character, and her rendering has greatly improved since she was seen in it in the West-end. She has added many little touches here and there which go to make the finished picture. Bernard Mandeville is well played by Mr Scott Craven. Mr Leslie Victor is delightful as the photographer, Perry; while Neale and Ordish are capitally acted by Messrs Charles Troode and Tom Heslewood. Miss Eleanor Souray deserves high praise for her delineation of Hilda Gunning. It is a decidedly clever character study. Miss Beatrice Forbes-Robertson is likewise to be congratulated on her capital rendering of Marion Allardyce, a somewhat difficult part to play. Miss May Blaney makes a fascinating Mrs Crosbie. Mr T. S. M'Causland Stewart is seen to advantage as Ivor Crosbie, and Mr Vernon Steel is an acceptable Coppinger Drake.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec 12, the Sensational Drama, by William Hibbert, entitled,
"WHEN WOMAN HATES."

Miss Nettie Ware and the members of her company who are appearing this week at the Dalston Theatre in the drama entitled *When Woman Hates*, work hard to ensure an amount of success, which in the end, speaking generally of the performance is attained. Miss Nettie Ware appears in the principal character, that of Cora Daintry, an adventuress, who is known in the story of the play as "the fiend with the angel face." The part is effectively sustained. This revengeful lady has several victims, some of whom meet with actual death at her hands, being either enemies or "in her way;" others have trouble heaped upon them. Among the latter is Lieutenant Fred Rokeby, R.N. He has once been loved by Cora, but falling to succumb to her charms, the woman hates both him and his wife Marie, and persecutes them in a dastardly manner. Mr J. Petley plays Lieutenant Rokeby, and Miss Jennie Hughes is his faithful and patient wife. Miss Ivy Henigan gives a most intelligent rendering of Nellie, the little daughter of the young couple. Mr William Yates is General Sir Henry Rokeby, who is murdered by Cora Daintry in the first act. Miss Louise Brandon does all that is required in the part of Edith Rokeby, who follows wrong paths and tries hard to make amends. Mr Oscar Adye as Godfrey Lawton, an accomplice of Cora's, who is eventually stabbed by her, acts with care and effect. Mr George Leaver as Col. Hiram R. Vancutson, an American millionaire, is a popular character. The serious side of the drama is relieved by some good comedy work by Miss Grace Cannon as Mrs Sally Potts, Miss Ida Cunard as her daughter, Miss Sybil Newman as "Thirsty Meg," Mr Will Percy as P.C. Patrick O'Brien (a really amusing part), Mr R. N. Stephenson as Alphonse Picolot, and Mr Eric Campbell as Bill Smasher—the latter being in every sense a striking character. The cast also includes Mr James Hannam, Mr Richard Hodden, Mr C. Watson, Miss Agnes Bertram, Miss May Jameson, Mr H. Brown, and Mr R. Seaton.

THE KING'S, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Dec 12, the Romantic Play, by Robert Neilson Stevens and Lyall Swete, entitled
"MISS ELIZABETH'S PRISONER."

As a fitting close to a very popular dramatic season, Mr Mulholland has produced the latest success from the Imperial Theatre, in which Mr Lewis Waller lately made such a strong impression. The company engaged for the representation is quite equal to its task. Mr Thomas Kingston, an actor of experience and ability, gives a breezy and dashing impersonation of Captain Henry Peyton. An excellent rendering of the mean-spirited and craven-hearted John Colden is supplied by Mr Elliot Ball. Mr George Mallett makes a capital Mr Valentine, and Mr Tom Taylor is a very capable Black Sam. Major Murphy and Lieut. Bland are exceedingly well played by Mr J. Harold Carson and Mr Roland Daniel. Mr Keith Fraser is a soldierly Captain Massey. Miss Eily Malyon, with whom it is delightful to renew an acquaintance, gives a charming depiction of the loving but wilful Miss Elizabeth Philipse. Mistress Sarah Williams has a decidedly attractive representative in Miss Alys Rees, and Miss Edith Elton is a bright Molly Edwards. The small part of Brenda is well sustained by Miss Marguerite Cellier. The scenery, costumes, and effects are very creditable.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, N.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by Brandon Thomas, entitled
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."

Increasing years seem in no way to detract from the vigour or vitality of *Charley's Aunt*. Mr Brandon Thomas's phenomenally successful farce made a welcome reappearance at the Alexandra Theatre on Monday, where it was played to a full house and an incessant accompaniment of laughter. The rôle of Lord Fancourt Babberley is, in the present case, entrusted to Mr George Desmond, and he does not fail to avail himself to the full of the many opportunities of scoring with which the part abounds. An exceedingly bright and breezy embodiment of Jack Chesney comes from Mr C. B. Keston, who proves himself a clever and alert light comedian, and Mr Wylie Thompson appears as Charlie Wykeham. A very finished and artistic portrait of Sir Francis Chesney is drawn by Mr F. Lumsden Hare; and the Stephen Spettigue of Mr Guy Lane, if a little too genial in appearance, is sufficiently repulsive in manner. Mr Henry W. Brame contributes a clever and characteristic sketch of the college scout Brassett; Mrs Leslie Oswell is a dignified and imposing Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez; and the trio of young ladies, Kitty Verdun, Amy Spettigue, and Ela Delahay, have charming and capable representatives in Misses Frances Ruttledge, Iris Banfield, and Marion Fitzgerald. The longer piece is preceded by Mr Brandon Thomas's one-act play *Fourchette and Company*, in which the author himself appears, supported by Mr Henry Adnes and Miss Ruth Suffield.

THE MARLBOROUGH.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Play, by David Belasco, entitled
"THE DARLING OF THE GODS."

For the closing item of the season, prior to the house being closed for the final rehearsals of Mr Purcell's second Marlborough pantomime, an important engagement is being filled by Mr Tree's Company. It is almost needless to say the company is an excellent one, and the result is an entirely satisfactory and effective performance. The scenery, too, contributes much to the success, and, considering the elaborate nature of all the settings, Mr Hubert Druce, stage-manager, and his able assistant, Mr Victor H. Leslie, did themselves credit. Miss Francis Dillon as Yo-San has excellent opportunities of distinguishing herself, and, despite a very bad cold, achieves a very great success. The strikingly effective change from the light and gay girl of the first part of the play to the intensely emotional woman of the later portion of the play imprints upon her impersonation the stamp of an actress of real ability. Mr Robert Pateman, whom we saw here last as Uncle Cesaire in *Sapho*, displays his customary power in the rôle of Zakkuri, the scheming, torturing, murderous Minister of State. It is a masterly performance. A corresponding success is achieved by Mr Douglas Gerrard, who enacts the rôle of Prince Kara. He delivers his lines with eloquence, his impersonation being impressive and picturesque. Mr Ivan F. Simpson is sufficiently austere as Saigon; and Mr Arthur Vezin touches lightly the part of Tonda Tanji. In addition to his onerous duties as stage-manager, Mr Hubert Druce essays the rôle of Kato, the fisherman, and his portrayal is a notable feature of the performance. Mr Douglas Payne contributes largely to the success by his impersonation of Yo-San's dumb servant, and Mr Kenneth Black brings thoughtful care to bear on his part as Banza, the Priest of Samurai. Miss Eve Muriel shows much talent and histrionic ability in her delineation of Rosey Sky; Miss Edith Deverill as Yo San's maid, Setsu, renders her part in a pleasing manner; Miss Alice Gordon acquits herself creditably as Kaede; and Miss Maud Ruthven does well in the small part of Noji Onna. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr Percy F. Fletcher.

OPERA HOUSE, CROUCH-END.

On Monday, Dec 12, the Musical Comedy
"FLORODORA."

Mr Tom B. Davis's company made a successful appearance in this popular piece, and notwithstanding the near approach of the Christmas holidays, played to a good and appreciative audience. Cyrus W. Gilfain was an effective and excellent impersonation by Mr Charles J. Barber. Frank Abercoed in the competent hands of Mr Cyril Dane met with characteristic treatment. Mr Derick Knowles cleverly sustained the part of Captain Arthur Donegal. The character of the overseer, Leandro, was well portrayed by Mr Lionel Williams, whilst Anthony Tweedlepunch was ably embodied by that quaint comedian Mr Albert Bruno. Miss Violet Bronson did full justice to the part of Dolores. Miss Florrie Cadman made a bright and sparkling Valleda. Miss Daisy Byford displayed plenty of verve and go in her interpretation of Angela Gilfain. Lady Holyrood gave opportunities for the vivacity of that dainty young comedienne Miss Rene Steadman. The dresser, mounting, and general stage effects were items well looked after, and the augmented orchestra and full chorus redounded to the credit of their leader. Mr J H. Hutchinson.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Play, in Five Acts, by Theo. Kremer, entitled
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

The Fatal Wedding is a play of great heart interest dealing with New York life, and it was very favourably received by a keenly appreciative audience. The adventures of the luckless heroine, Mabel Wilson, ably portrayed by Miss Helen Russell, were followed with breathless interest from start to finish. The fond, but easily fooled husband, Howard Wilson, was played in a polished manner by Mr Ernest Owtrim, who gave much satisfaction by his rendering of a somewhat difficult character. Miss Doris Gilham as the adventuress, Cora Williams, made a fascinating siren, and her companion-in-arms, Robert Curtis, was admirably represented by Mr Oliver Rogers. Miss Marjorie Lawrence as the little girl, Jessie, was bright and refreshing, and cleverly acted the part. Her song given in the third act was a great success. Mr W. E. Chowd as Toto, a French butler, and Miss Maud Lockyer as a cook created much amusement by their diversions.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Drama, in Five Acts, entitled
"THE LIFE THAT KILLS."

This sensational drama, so excellently interpreted by Messrs Moule and Nicholls' capable company, is doing good business this week at the Terriss. A very strong contribution to the success of the venture is the impersonation, by the author, of the villain, Kendal Croat, and the intense interest he arouses is apparent from the storms of hisses which from time to time greet him. A fine performance is given by Miss Marie Menzies, who as the heroine, Laurie Linden, acts with a sincerity which cannot fail to impress. Mr Hugh Metcalfe is responsible for a bold and manly rendering of Hector Rodney, and the applause he receives is well merited. The weak and vacillating Valentine Telford is an effective portrayal by Mr Morris Maud; Mr E. D. Nicholls aptly presents the character of Lord Kelmarch; Mr A. G. Smith-Nelil displays marked ability as Captain Montagu; Miss Kathleen Cavanagh proves herself a capable exponent of histrionic villainy as Brenda Croat; a good rendition of Johanna Dicks is supplied by Miss Lucy Murray, who also appears as Tom Dicks; and the comedy element finds a remarkably efficient representative in Mr A. Hall Menzies, his ready wit never failing to raise a laugh. The scenery carried by the company is especially elaborate.

SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM-JUNCTION.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Pantomimical Farce entitled
"HIS MAJESTY'S GUESTS."

In Mr Fred Karno's entertainment, "manufactured expressly for laughing purposes," the fun from start to finish is fast and furious, the company selected being well adapted to its work, the artistes responsible for the knockabout "pantomimical business" doing many dextrous acrobatic feats, and the trick properties being very ingenious, especially a collapsing balcony, which causes great laughter and applause. Mr Harry Roxbury as Sergeant Lightning from Scotland-yard is a host in himself, and is ably assisted by Miss Lenora Castelle, who makes a pretty Lady Maud, and shows considerable histrionic ability. Mr Frank Morton sings "A king am I" and "The Fireman's Wedding" very acceptably. Mr Char. Usher is good as Mr Miffin, and Mr Harry Studt is a very funny parson. Miss Blanche La Rose gives a clever sketch as a New Woman. Mr A. E. Johnson is satisfactory as Fritz. Miss Edith Ager sings and acts sweetly as Dolly. Mr L Sterling as Harry, Mr Fred Whittaker as Bunker, and Mr Harry Howe as Selina are responsible for much acrobatic and other fun. The other parts are all in capable hands, and the united efforts of the company result in complete success.

COUNTY THEATRE, KINGSTON.

On Monday, Dec. 12, the Musical Play, in Three Acts, entitled
"MY SWEETHEART."

As fresh and attractive as ever, this tuneful play, which Mr Orton Tewson's company brought to Kingston on a return visit after several years, found a numerous audience awaiting its production at the Royal County Theatre on Monday night. The play has been considerably improved since Kingstonians last had an opportunity of witnessing it, and it was again received with marked favour in all parts of the house. Mr Broughton Black took the part of the German lad Tony, and sang the various songs allotted to him with success. Miss Grace Armstrong made a graceful appearance as Tina, in which she gave evidence of the possession of a pleasing soprano voice. Mr Harry A. Gribben as the schemer and Miss May Daniel as the adventuress both did well, and Mr Charles A. Stephenson played the part of the dude, Dudley Harcourt, satisfactorily. Mr Tewson himself in the part of the old sport acquitted himself well, and Mr Allan Cleaver appeared as Dr. Oliver. Other parts in the play, which was well mounted, were ably sustained.

THE GERMAN THEATRE.

It would appear from the highly interesting fare provided by the German Theatre on Monday that one-act plays occupy a far more important position in Germany than in this country. Suderman and Schnitzler have, perhaps, achieved their most notable triumphs with one-act plays, *Fritzchen* and *Der Gruene Kakadu*, and the practice of filling a bill with three or four one-act plays by the same author, widely different in subject and treatment, yet all connected by one central idea, is by no means uncommon on the German stage. The three plays by Otto Erich Hartleben, collectively called *Die Befreiten*, are splendid examples of *multum in parvo* art. *Die Lore* is a satire, dealing with the pedantry of a would-be "viveur;" *Abschied vom Regiment*, a very powerful and grim tragedy, reminiscent of *Fritzchen* and *Pagliacci*; and *Die Sittliche Forderung*, a wholly delightful documentation of the irresistible fascination of *Das Ewig Weibliche*. All three plays are distinguished by literary charm and wit of dialogue, masterly characterisation, and intense dramatic grip. They require the subtlest and most realistic acting, and these are just the qualities which we admire most in German acting. The chief honours were carried off by Fräulein Dalberg and Grawz; Herren Andresen, Stock, and Pabst. We must give Fräulein Dalberg credit for the restrained force and intellectual acting which she exhibited in both plays. Fräulein Rosie Grawz, on the other hand, might attach a little more importance to her get-up. Apart from this external shortcoming, however, she proved herself a brilliant artist. Herr Andresen furnished yet another example of his sympathetic and convincing style. Herr Stock, who may justly be regarded as a valuable acquisition to the small but fine ensemble at the Queen-street Theatre, was the pedant to the life, and Herr Pabst was once more a very "nice and fresh boy." The trialogy was followed by the ever-welcome military one-act farce, *Militarfromm*, one of the brightest examples of Moser's and Trotha's joint labour. The German-American lady who is by-and-bye to recognise the advantage, and even fascination, of Prussian discipline was portrayed with much charm by Fräulein Dalberg, who was no less at home in English than in her very quaint "Amurrican" pronunciation of German. Sound work was also done by Herren Leyrer, Pabst, Wiburger (a very useful and talented young actor), Walther (who is always at his best in such frankly humorous part), and Fräuleins Welss and Langfried.

THE Guildhall School of Music Lodge of Freemasonry 2,454, was consecrated at the beginning of the year 1893. It originated with the Guildhall School of Music, which has now for its principal Dr. W. H. Cummings, Past Grand Organist, a P.M. of the lodge, and for its secretary Mr George Frederick Smith, another Past Grand Organist, who is secretary of the lodge. It held its installation meeting last Monday night at the Holborn Restaurant, when Mr Albert E. Howarth, W. M., presided, and when in addition to the Grand Officers already named there were present Mr J. H. Matthews, the President of the Board of Benevolence, and a number of Past Masters, lay members of the lodge, and visitors. Mr Howarth ably installed Mr George Henry Dawson as W.M., and took his position as Immediate Past Master. Later he was the recipient of a P.M. jewel. The W.M.'s officers for the year were Mr A. L Simmons, Mr M. Borwell, Mr Walter Morrow, P.M., Mr George F. Smith, P.G.O., P.M., Mr H. Hinchliff, Mr A. A. Lines, Mr R. Thacker, Mr David Beardwell, Mr W. J. Barton, Mr G. K. Lang, Mr H. Sowerbutts, and Mr Charles Patrick, P.M. A fine programme of music followed the banquet.

"THE SCILLY GIRL."

A New and Original Musical Comedy, in Two Acts, Book and Lyrics by Athol Mayhew, Music by Wm. Neale, Produced at the Grand Theatre and Opera House, Woolwich, on Monday, Dec. 12.

Cecil Trevelyan	Mr CHARLES CAUTLEY
Hon. Adolphus Delaware	Mr H. E. GARDEN
Bertie Carruthers	Mr J. W. DAVIS
Hughie Fallowfield	Mr T. NICHOLS
Captain Johnnie Walker	Mr H. LEWIS
Duke of Ayrshire	Mr ROBERT RIVERS
Hiero	Mr ALFRED DONOHOE
Muriel	Miss BESSIE PELLISSIER
Patty Pepperjoy	Miss DOROTHY VERNON
Duchess of Ayrshire	Miss SUSIE OAK
Lady Spooner	Miss DUNCAN
Hon. Mrs Wormum	Miss DOT DANBY
Twixie Martingale	Miss KITTY WYNDHAM
Mrs Jack Bridge	Miss POPE
Madame Endora	Miss ELLA KITSON
Miss Katharine Wheeler	Miss BLONDIN

A very noticeable feature in several of the recent examples of musical comedy has been the tendency to make the plot really strong and dramatic, with the result that the chief interest has centred in the fortunes and misfortunes of the characters, the songs and music forming rather an added charm than the principal source of entertainment. This policy has, however, not been followed in *The Scilly Girl*, produced last Monday at the Grand, Woolwich, Here we have a return to the old style of a meagre story running through and holding together any number of disconnected turns—musical and otherwise—which are strung upon the thin strand of plot like beads upon a necklace, liable to be scattered in almost hopeless confusion by the momentarily threatening severance of the cord of dramatic interest. After all, however, the author has probably been wise in his choice, for the provincial theatre-going public is nothing if not conservative, and will probably follow the example of the audience at Woolwich, which was heartily pleased with and cordially applauded *The Scilly Girl* from start to finish.

As has been hinted, the story is not of vital importance, and a slight sketch of the plot, which was worked out somewhat on the following lines, will suffice. After an absence of many years in Uganda, Cecil Trevelyan returns to London, and, at a charity bazaar held at the Duchess of Ayrshire's house, meets Muriel, the girl whom he has loved since childhood. They immediately rush into each other's arms, but their prospects of happiness are blighted by the appearance on the scene of Endora, a society fortune-teller, who, for her own ends, attempts by several devices to part the lovers. What these ends are it is somewhat difficult to discover, but presumably Endora is acting in furtherance of the plans of her associate, Hiero, a "mystic manipulator" and imposer in various shady ways on a credulous public. One of this scoundrel's precious schemes is a "matrimonial agency," and it is apparently with the idea of getting one or both of the lovers into its clutches that their marriage is to be prevented. As a last resort Endora declares herself to be Muriel's mother, and this plan is for the moment successful, for the story is believed, and in the forcible abduction of Muriel by her supposed mother a dramatic curtain is found for the first act.

In the second act the whole of the characters have been transported to the Scilly Isles—the birthplace of the hero, the heroine, and, indeed, apparently, of most of the other *dramatis personæ*. Hither Silas Warner, Muriel's guardian, has returned home, and is soon joined by Cecil Trevelyan, who brings with him Muriel herself, just rescued from the clutches of her self-appointed mother, Endora. The latter soon follows, and with the help of Hiero again plots to prevent the marriage, but is foiled by Silas Warner, and all ends as happily as could be wished for all concerned.

Such in brief is the story told by Mr Athol Mayhew in crisp and pointed dialogue. The music, written entirely by Mr William Neale, is quite adequate and sufficiently original; for if it is occasionally reminiscent of the work of others, it must be borne in mind that the composer's field is so strictly circumscribed and the ground has been gone over and over so often that absolute originality has become a thing impossible. One of Mr Neale's happiest efforts is the peculiarly haunting music accompanying the snake-charmer's first song and dance, while the spirited finale to the first act also deserves special mention. The music for some of the lyrics—these, by-the-way, also the work of Mr Athol Mayhew—is singularly appropriate. The composer himself conducted on the night of the production.

Miss Bessie Pellissier was charmingly easy and natural as Muriel, acting this ingénue part with a winsome gaiety, and singing with an expressive simplicity which made her portrayal of the character one of the successes of the evening. Her best songs were, perhaps, "Kiss your mammy dear good-night," with chorus off, and a couple of pretty love duets, with Mr Charles Cantley as Trevelyan. Mr Cautley played the last-mentioned character in straightforward, manly fashion, looking the beau-ideal of the "clean-limbed" young Englishman. He has a rich strong voice, which he has perfectly under control, and with which, besides being heard to effect in the above-mentioned duets, he fairly brought down the house with a spirited patriotic song entitled "The Pioneer," one of the most stirring numbers in the play. Miss Dorothy Vernon was delightfully vivacious as Patty Pepperjoy, acting in the highest of high spirits, and dancing and singing as if determined that the piece should be a success through her efforts alone. Her dancing especially was much appreciated, and her song and dance, "I'm so giddy," was loudly encored. A very successful impersonation of Madame Endora came from Miss Ella Kitson, whose dignified movements and rhythmic dancing were admirably in keeping with the character, while her forceful acting in the more dramatic scenes showed her possessed of considerable power. Mr Alfred Donohoe was genuinely amusing as Hiero, and will be more so when he has had time to work the part up a little. He has some very funny patter and business as it is, which were received with roars of laughter. His scarecrow song with Miss Vernon and his song, "Then the figure works," with full chorus, were a couple of the cleverest numbers of the evening. As the Hon. Adolphus Delaware Mr H. E. Garden has, at present, not a great deal to do except look fatuous and make inane remarks, but he did this with an inimitably comic air which was irresistible. He was also very successful with a clever song, "Things have altered." Miss Blondin will be funnier as Miss Katharine Wheeler when her dialogue has been polished up a bit, for at present she has to rely on the not very comical device of stuttering, transposing her words, &c. Miss Susie Oak was a dignified and capable Duchess of Ayrshire, and made the most of her rather slender opportunities. The name of the actor who played Silas Warner was not discoverable from the programme, but he was responsible for an excellent interpretation of the part, and sang a topical song, "That's what the people say," to such good effect that he was twice encored.

AT the Brixton Theatre Mr E Stevens has arranged for the production of a grand spectacular pantomime of *Aladdin* on Boxing Day, with new and magnificent dresses and scenery. An exceptionally strong company has been engaged, and an entertainment of unusual brilliance is promised.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

"THE GARRICK CLUB."

It is a luxury to possess this beautifully illustrated volume, which has just been published by Elliot Stock. Mr Percy Fitzgerald, a veteran *littérateur* and clubbist, was the "very man" to compile an account of the historic "Garrick." He has done his work admirably. "*Parlons-nous de lui, grand' mère!*" cried the French lads and lasses in Bérenger's ballad; and there will always be to the rising generation an irresistible charm in cosy chat about celebrities of the past. "The Garrick Club" is so full of good things that we are only troubled with an *embarras de richesses* in our task of selection. We have to pass over a great deal of most interesting literary reminiscence and come to the chapter on "Managers," in which Mr Fitzgerald remarks, à propos of a member of the club, "Sam Arnold":—

"The Arnolds—like the Harrises—were a regular family of managers, father succeeding son. One was lessee of the English Opera House, later the Lyceum, and a shrewd man of business. Mrs Mathews had left a sad account of his treatment of her husband, who, she insists, was decoyed into an agreement, the purport of which he did not understand, and the result of which was to make him for a number of years a sort of bond-slave, when he had to coin money, as it is called, for his task-maker, on a pittance. This is a serious charge, but I have gone carefully into the whole question, and can say, conscientiously, that there is little foundation for it. No doubt, the profits were much greater than Mathews dreamed of, but it was a fair agreement, and he understood perfectly what he was to receive. The sort of 'Corney Grain' entertainment that Mathews was to supply was an experiment, and might not have answered at all, and in that case Arnold would have been bound to Mathews. It was, in fact, the common case in the profession, of the performer at a fixed salary unexpectedly bringing large gains to the managerial treasury, a situation which always gives rise to grumbling and discontent. The judicious manager will, if he be prudent, revise the terms. As it happened, Arnold eventually released Mathews. The present Mr Arnold, so long Sir Henry Irving's landlord, is of this family, and the actor has often taken occasion to acknowledge the liberal treatment he has received from him. On the other hand, there have been few such improving tenants, and the great success and vogue of the performances must have doubled the value of the property."

Here and there we come upon bits of information which touch strangely on "up-to-date' history. That enterprising author-manager, Mr George Dance, will be interested to read—

"Another theatrical limner was George Dance. The Dances were in truth an extraordinary family for talent. There was George, the architect, who built the Mansion House; his son, who built Newgate; George, an actor; Nathaniel, a distinguished naval officer; and Charles, a prolific dramatist, collaborator with Planché, and a familiar member of the Garrick Club, where he was long recollected. He wrote innumerable farces and burlesques, most of which enjoyed considerable success. There is nowadays a dramatic writer of this name, no doubt one of the family. Another of the family was Holland Dance, afterwards knighted. He was born in 1735, and lived till the year 1811. He was said to have conceived a romantic, but unrequited, attachment for the fascinating Angelica Kauffman. It is not common to find a painter a Member of Parliament, as he was. His talents in this way were more than respectable, but he is best known by the engraving from his picture of Garrick in *Richard III.*, depicted as starting from his couch when exclaiming, 'My horse! My horse!' according to the Cibberian version. As I have stated, a copy of this picture is here, done by Morland the elder. The work is valuable as showing Garrick's method. Horror and terror are well expressed, and the attitude is a striking one."

Alluding to Fechter, Mr Fitzgerald says:—"'Boz' took a violent fancy to the interesting Frenchman, and I recall his bringing me with him to the Lyceum one night when *Edgar of Ravenswood* was being played to a thin house. He had a private key which admitted us to the stage, and we stood at the wing watching the actor's love agonies addressed to one of the interesting Leclercqs. Fechter—who, as 'Boz' explained to me, always desired to be styled 'Feshter'—later, suffered from a strange affection, his chest and stomach swelling violently under strong emotions. 'Boz' assured me that he has been near him on the stage when the buttons on his jerkin would fly off into the pit under the tension! The well-known Gads-hill Chalet, now in Lord Darnley's Park, was his gift—a costly present. He was then flush of cash, but in his later days, 'he hung like the rusted mail, quite out of fashion' and forgotten. He went to America, and had ill success there; was unfortunate in his wedded life; and died, I believe, in disease and distress. Such was the fate of the gay, gallant Fechter, the original hero of the *Dame aux Camélias*, and once the lion of Paris and London! The bust here is a very excellent likeness, both showy and pleasing. It is by a well-known French sculptor Carrier, and is one of the life-like works full of spirit and expression. Not distasteful is the smooth ivory or yellow tone imparted to the surface, and which has a better effect than the common chilling white plaster."

As for the way in which the book is printed, bound, and illustrated, we can only say that it is "delightful." The portraits are reproduced in first-rate style, their variety, both in spirit and technical execution, being echoed in adroit interpretation by means of engraving and process. Mr Eliot Stock is to be congratulated on having turned out such a "treat" in the way of chatty books; and Mr Fitzgerald is fortunate in having the work of his pen assisted so artistically and so sumptuously by his publisher.

MR JOHN DENTON'S company is appearing this week at the Elephant and Castle Theatre, in *Wealth, Women, and Wickedness*. The drama was fully noticed in our last issue. The author takes a leading character in the play, and in the part of Elkanah Pearce develops a strong trait of unctuous humour. Mr Denton is ably assisted in his efforts by the clever acting of Miss Ada Palmer, who depicts Miss Agatha Pearce in quite an artistic manner. Mr Harry Browne acts the part of Mr James Rivers in a natural fashion, and as Inspector Goodheart Mr Louie Hector is a dignified member of the police force. Mr Willie Scott and Miss Dolly Harcourt act the respective parts of Tommy Hopkins and Polly Hopkins, and the warm approval of the house is quickly bestowed upon the twain for their cheering representations of the characters. As Jack Vavasour Mr Frank Beresford is eminently suited, and Mr Percy Rhodes, who delineates Captain Melbourne, is as polished a scoundrel as one could possibly meet. Mr Harry M'Clelland is effective as Captain Melbourne's factotum, Bennett, and Moucher is capably played by Mr Fred Bell. Miss Violet King looks charming as Claire Rivers, and her acting is skilful throughout, and Miss Kate Walbran does full justice to the part of Elsie Melbourne. The numerous minor characters are all carefully treated, and the general ensemble of the drama reflects great credit upon the producer, whilst the scenery is in every way excellent.

COUNCILLOR TAYLOR organised a splendid entertainment, and lent the Lyceum Theatre, Crewe, entirely without charge on Tuesday night, to aid the fund organised by the Mayor and Mayoress of Crewe for providing poor children with meals and clothing during the cold winter months. There was an overflowing house, and a handsome sum was realised. Mr Taylor being publicly thanked by his Worship for this substantial addition to the fund.

THE O.P. CLUB.

The annual ladies' dinner of the O.P. Club was given on Sunday night at the Criterion Restaurant. Miss Lily Brayton occupied the chair, and among those present were Mr Algernon L. Collins, Mr and Mrs J. M. Freshwater, Sir J. Linton, Mr and Mrs Cecil Raleigh, Miss Dorothea Baird, Mr Oscar Asche, Mr A. F. Robbins, Miss Pamela Gaythorne, Mr H. B. Irving, Mr Walter Hampden, Mr Carl Hentschel, Mr Clement Shorter, Captain Tomalin, Mr J. Bannister Howard, Miss E. Wynne Matthison, Sir W. Quayle Jones, General Hale Wortham, and Mr Jerome K. Jerome. The usual loyal toasts having been drunk,

MR A. L. COLLINS, the president of the Club, in proposing "Our Guests (the Ladies)," said that they extended a very hearty and cordial welcome to the members of the fair sex who were present that evening. He associated with the toast the name of the lady who presided over that gathering. Miss Lily Brayton came to them from a company of actors which, he ventured to think, was a real school of acting, and which had given them some of the best exponents of the later day. From the moment she appeared in the Metropolis her genius was recognised. She had appeared in *Twelfth Night*, *Richard II.*, *The Resurrection*, and *The Prayer of the Sword*. Her part in *The Taming of the Shrew* he thought to be one of the best artistic impersonations seen in modern times, and they looked with confidence to a still more distinguished future for her in her art. He then, on behalf of the O.P. Club, presented Miss Brayton with a white ostrich feather fan, with an inscription, as a reminder of that evening, and as a token of the admiration and regard in which she was held.

MR OSCAR ASCHE, replying on behalf of his wife, said that if he could exercise the same power over her that he did on the boards of the Adelphi, he would not allow her a morsel of food at that dinner until she had done her duty—afterwards she might have what she liked, bread and milk for preference—and thanked them for the hospitality which had been accorded her that evening. Unfortunately, his influence over her evaporated at the stage-door. He was sure that she would cherish always the souvenir of a pleasant and memorable evening in her career, and that the appreciation of so representative a body of playgoers would encourage her to try and do better in the future. Somebody had accused him of lacking humour, but it was evident that, if he had any sense of humour, he would not be in his present position; but he could only thank them, on behalf of his wife, for the hospitality to them that evening.

The evening concluded with a musical entertainment of varied excellence.

MR. RICHARD TEMPLE'S RECITALS.

On Saturday, the 10th, Mr Richard Temple gave the last of his present series of recitals at Steinway Hall, a very large audience being attracted. The recent experiment of this popular reciter in reading the 94th and 137th Psalm again caused no little surprise, and we may add admiration, for Mr Temple's idea of reading these grand and impressive examples of the majestic poetry of the Scriptures is something so different from the ordinary droning and intoning of the average curate as to be almost startling. The stately, poetic phrases came to many ears with a new significance, given as they were in the reciter's masterly and musical tones. As to the feeling of irreverence which certain provincial critics have brought against Mr Temple, owing to his bold and novel experiment, it is simply absurd, and we can honestly advise any clergyman, no matter of what denomination, to take Mr Temple as his model without delay. We should possibly hesitate to recommend the practice of reading from the Scriptures to every reciter, for few would display the same earnest and dignified spirit that is so marked a feature in Mr Temple's recital. A striking contrast was afforded in the "Chant-Pagan" of Rudyard Kipling, which, written in the most brilliant style of the author, is supposed to chronicle the regrets of "Tommy Atkins" when he compares the humdrum tasks allotted him in the old country with his heroic doings in past days, for, spite of his homely barrack-room language, the true British warrior can be detected throughout, and Mr Temple has absolutely mastered the manner and matter of the British fighter who has faced the foe in many a stubborn encounter. The delight of the audience at the truth and humour of the recital found expression in plaudits loud and long. A sketch, *Things in General*, written by Mr Temple, was warmly appreciated, and the song "Nothing new" met with great favour. "The Ballad of Oriana," by Tennyson, one of the earlier poems of the great Victorian bard, was recited so as to do the fullest justice to this weird composition. Nor must we overlook the tragic power imparted by the reciter to a scene from the second act of *King Lear*. In a less striking school may be named "Gone with a handsomer man," by Will Carlton, and "Nell," by Gerald Hayward, given for the first time in public. After Christmas Mr Temple will resume his recitals, and will introduce some graphic studies of character from *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Pinafore*, &c. Other new and interesting features will add to the attractiveness of these deservedly popular recitals. Miss Grace Philippa played with the utmost grace and fluency solos of Chopin, Nicodé, and Barnett on the pianoforte.

MR GEORGE ALEXANDER has engaged Miss Frances Wetherall to play the part of Linda, Lady Hudspeth, in *A Decree Nisi*, when Miss Madge M'Intosh leaves for America on the 24th.—Mr Alfred Martin has again been engaged by Mr Edward Compton as advance manager for the forthcoming tour of the Compton comedy company. Mr Martin concludes to-day as business-manager for Messrs Polini and Melford's *Silver King* company, it being the termination of the North company tour.—The services of Mr Charles H. Bowmaker, the late popular manager at the Surrey Theatre, have been secured by Mr Ernest E. Norris to assist in the front of the house during the run of the forthcoming pantomime, *Puss-in-Boots*, at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

MR F. B. WOULFE, who has been so successful as Marcus Superbus in Mr William Greet's *Sign of the Cross* company, concludes to-night his fifth tour with the piece. By arrangement with Messrs Preston and Doherty Mr Woulfe has been touring a répertoire of Max Goldberg's plays since last Whit week. On Monday at the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth, Mr Woulfe adds himself to an already strong cast, which includes Miss Grace Lester, Miss Marcella Hudson (the late Wilson Barrett's last Stephanus), and Mr Dan F. Roe. Mr Woulfe contemplates adding to the répertoire several of the most popular Shakespearian plays and a modern drama from his own pen.

A COPYRIGHT performance of a romantic drama, in one act, entitled *The King's Mantle*, written by Miss Edith Halford-Thompson, was given on the 8th inst., at the Opera House, Torquay.

THE directors of the Great Eastern Railway have appointed Mr R. P. Ellis superintendent of the line from Jan. 1, in succession to Mr H. G. Drury, who retires from the company's service.

PRESENTATION.—Miss Violet St. Clair has, unfortunately, had to leave Messrs Polini and Melford's *Silver King* company, in which she has successfully and ably rendered the rôle of Cissy Denver during the last six months, owing to her mother, Miss Sinna St. Clair having previously been engaged for this year's pantomime. To express the friendly admiration which the company had for the little actress, they presented her with a gold bracelet before she bade them farewell.

NEW ENGLISH & FOREIGN PLAYS.

In order to assist managers and others in the selection of pieces for production and adaptation, we shall publish from time to time synopses of likely English and Continental plays, so that dramatic speculators may judge for themselves of the suitability of the plots for their purposes. Authors wishing for this publicity should forward synopses to "Playrights," care of *The Era*, from whom further particulars can be obtained.

"COLLEGE CRAMPTON."

Komödie, in Five Akten, von Gerhart Hauptmann.

ACT I.

Scene: Crampton's Studio in the Academy of a middle-size Silesian town. Crampton is an artist of commanding talent, but his position is not equal to that which his gifts would entitle him to hold, for he is far too free-thinking, unconventional and easy-going, to put up with the somewhat narrow rules of the Academy, and both his health and his financial position have been hopelessly undermined by his excessive drinking habits. So badly of late has the craving for intoxicating stimulants got hold of him that in order to make both ends meet and to save his wife and children from starvation he has to do work far beneath his dignity, and to borrow money of Loeffler, his factotum. At one of their nightly excursions Crampton has met Max Straehler, a young man of independent means, which he does his best to squander in Bohemian feast giving. Straehler has come to acquaint the Professor with the fact that he has been dismissed from the Academy, and to hear whether Crampton thinks him sufficiently talented to continue in his artistic career. Crampton, who at once takes a fancy to the open-hearted and open-minded boy, encourages him to remain faithful to his profession, but to study henceforth in one of the art-centres where there is more scope for an original artist. But his bitterness on the pettifogging of his colleagues quickly gives way to abundant joy when he hears that some Duke, once his friend and a man renowned for patronage of art, is about to pay a visit to the Academy. Crampton thinks that the visit is really meant for himself, and he hopes that the Duke will not only buy some of his pictures, but will distinguish him before his students and the Director, whom he hates like poison. So great is his optimism that Straehler and Gertrude, his lovable and loving daughter, are inflamed by his own joy. Gertrude confides to Max her constant fear about her father, and fervently entreats him to dissuade the Professor from continuing his ruinous mode of living.

ACT II.

Adolf Straehler has come to thank Crampton for the encouragement he has given to his brother. Max Crampton, however, is far too nervous, on account of the impending visit of the Duke, to take much notice of him. So excited is he, indeed, that he insults a man who comes to inspect the poster which the professor had painted for him, and who ventures to criticise it. He then leaves the room in order to make preparations for the reception of the distinguished visitor, and during his absence Gertrude discloses to Max that a letter has just been delivered at their house calling on Crampton to resign his position as Professor at the Academy. She is in utter despair and does not know how to break the news to her father. Shortly afterwards Crampton enters, and with him the attendant. The latter announces that the Duke, after a visit to the studio of one of Crampton's colleagues, has left the academy. Crampton, whose hopes are thus rudely shattered and whose pride has received a deadly blow, is in despair. Max and Gertrude's attempts to console him are futile. Crampton is so exhausted by his rage against those whom he thinks to be responsible for the slight that the news of his dismissal leaves him at first unmoved, but it gradually dawns upon him that he and his family are now left penniless, and that his weakness for intoxicants is solely responsible for their misfortune. He also realises that there is no hope for him, and that only drink can now afford him any temporary relief. He therefore begs Gertrude to leave him, and to follow her mother and sisters, who have already joined some well-to-do relatives. He also makes Max promise to see to the fulfilment of his wish. Gertrude's passionate entreaties to be allowed to stand by her father are of no avail; so deeply he has not yet fallen as to drag his darling into the sordid atmosphere which he feels he must henceforth live in.

ACT III.

Scene: The sitting-room in Adolf Straehler's house. Adolf and Max, for whom their sister Agnes is keeping house, have succeeded in getting Gertrude to stay with them, anyway till her father's whereabouts have been traced. Gertrude confides to Agnes—like herself a most sweet-natured woman—that she will not live with her mother, whose want of kindliness and affection she asserts to be greatly responsible for her father's fall. She is, of course, full of anxiety, all endeavours to find Crampton ever since they parted having been unsuccessful. Adolf cheers her, but cannot conceal his own uneasiness when Loeffler is announced. He elicits from Loeffler that Crampton has not, as they feared, committed suicide, but that he is living a dog's life, and will not in any circumstances allow his faithful companion to betray to Gertrude his present sojourn. Adolf arranges, however, an appointment with Loeffler, and makes him then promise to let him know the professor's address. Loeffler leaves just before Max returns from his fruitless errand to discover Crampton's whereabouts. Adolf blames Max for spending vast amounts on buying up Crampton's property, and tries to disillusion Max in his hope to save the doctor, for Max has bought the furniture and the statues solely because he knows that they will be an inducement to Crampton to reside with him. Max, on the other hand, feels sanguine that if only he can find Crampton he will be successful in his work of salvation. He cannot, however, deny that he is not solely prompted by charitable motives, but that love for the professor's daughter has something to do with his generous plans. His joy on hearing that Adolf has practically discovered where Crampton is living is unbounded and full of youthfull exuberance.

ACT IV.

Scene: Crampton's room in a low-class lodging-house. Crampton receives the visit of some of his former colleagues. He has his "beau jour," and impresses them by his sound judgment on various artistic and literary questions. After they have left some artisans from the adjoining "saloon bar" enter, asking him to give them the honour of his company. He treats them very haughtily, but does not refuse to do some hall decorations for one of them at a paltry price. Whilst he is drinking with the plebeians Max enters. Loeffler had acquainted his brother with their new address, and now tells Max that Crampton, whom he still looks up to no less than he pities him, is as proud and stubborn as ever. Crampton now comes back, none the better for the hospitable courtesy extended to him, and does not at first recognise Max. He, however, severely reprimands the latter on hearing his daughter's name, for "her very name is too spotless to be spoken of in this filthy abode." He cannot hide his profound anxiety for her, and is deeply touched on hearing how desirous she is of seeing and living again with her father. He does not, however, know that she is now in the town, and not seeing through Max's scheme, is greatly delighted and highly flattered when Max proposes to him to come to his flat in order to paint a portrait of his sister. Max had previously given to Loeffler sufficient money to pay the landlord, and the trio thus leave the dingy hole without experiencing any difficulty from that quarter.

ACT V.

Max has preceded the Professor in order to prepare Gertrude, to whom in spite of his youth he has become engaged. A most charming love scene between the brave little girl and the good-hearted and high-spirited boy ensues. Gertrude is delighted that her fiancée should have bought all Crampton's furniture, which had been put up to auction, but Crampton on entering does not at all appreciate this thoughtful action. On the contrary, he thinks the "snobs" had bought and exhibited his old possessions here to mock and humiliate him. However his rage gives way to ill-concealed satisfaction when Adolf tells him that they hoped this might induce him to share the studio with Max, naturally—he adds, knowing how touchy Crampton is—on adequate payment. Gertrude now enters, and neither of them can conceal their deep emotion at a meeting which was quite unexpected on his part. So happy is Crampton on learning that his darling is engaged to Max, to whom he is deeply attached, that in order to repress the outburst of his heartfelt gratitude he cannot but utter the words "what a stupid boy he is."

DRAMATIC PUPILS MATINEE.

The little theatre of the School of Musical and Dramatic Art, 77, New Oxford-street, was uncomfortably crowded on Thursday, when a pupils' matinée was given. The principals of this new school of acting are Mr Cairns James and Mr Ernest D'Auban; and already a number of their pupils have been successful in obtaining engagements with well-known companies and at leading theatres. The programme opened with the first act of H. V. Esmond's play *One Summer's Day*, in which good work was done by Mr Fred Leighton as Major Dick Rudyard, Mr Howard Trentham as Phil Marsden, Mr R. N. Adams as Theodore Bendyshe, and Mr James R. Sinclair as Robert Hoddesden and Seth, and Mr Vincent Erne as Tom. Miss Dorothea Clarke, a very charming girl, who has won the George Edwardes Scholarship, was bright and piquant as Maysie, and Miss Esther Zicklin was a dainty Irene. Miss Alice Ellis scored as the irrepressible Urchin, Miss Juana Hudson was a fascinating gipsy, and Miss Gertrude Pitt as Mrs Theodore Bendyshe and Miss Hilda Gerald-Poel as Bess completed the cast. Next came some varieties. Miss Nancie Wood sang Ada Reeve's ditty, "Woman;" Miss Daphne Wheeler as Lady Bessie Montague and Miss Violet Vaughan as Gladys Frere distinguished themselves in the amusing duologue entitled, *A Secret;* Miss Burrell sang "The Garden of Love" in excellent style; and Miss Hobson recited "A Royal Princess" with admirable effect. Mrs Hugh Bell's duologue, *Last Words*, was well done by Miss Brockman (Pamela) and Miss C. Brockman (Laura), and Miss Welsh gave a graceful pas seul. The programme concluded with the second act of *Veronique*, a performance which reflected the highest credit both upon the teachers and the pupils, some of whom, it should be added, have already made their appearance upon the boards. Miss Molly M'Intyre as Hélène De Solanges played the part with much charm of manner, and Mr F. Aubrey Millward proved to be a thoroughly capable exponent of Florestan. Both possess good voices, and the Swing duet was most artistically rendered. The comedy business, in the hands of Mr R. N. Adams as Mons. Coquenard, Mr Fred Leighton as Mons. Loustot, and Mr Vincent Erne as Seraphin, was briskly sustained, Miss Irene Carrington doing well as the Countess, and Miss Daphne Wheeler as Madame Coquenard, and Miss Nancie Wood as Aunt Benoit being decidedly creditable. Miss Winsome Etherington was good as Denise, and able assistance was given by Mr J. R. Sinclair and Mr Howard Trentham. The chorus deserves a word of praise. Mr Cairns James, in thanking the audience for their attendance, mentioned that this was the first public performance given by the students of the school. They had all worked very hard, and the list of pupils fulfilling engagements showed what degree of success had been attained.

TRINITY COLLEGE CONCERT.

An important concert was given at the Portman Rooms on Wednesday evening, reflecting equal credit on the students and professors. In particular we may commend the singing of the choir conducted by Dr. Pringner. The voices were well balanced, and the tone sweet and expressive in Dr. Elgar's "My love dwelt in a northern land" and Dr. Parry's "Come, pretty wag." In Wilby's madrigal, "Sweet Honey-sucking Bees," the vocalists were not quite so steady, but the effect was satisfactory as a whole. The part-songs were brightly sung. Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 23, for piano and violin was played with no little grace by Miss Evelyn Withycombe and Miss Annie Godfrey. The Hindoo song of Bamberg taxed Miss Ethel Jackson's resources severely, but she met the difficulties bravely, and Miss Lilian Marshall played the obbligato for the violin with good effect. Rossini's duet, "Dunque io son," is more fitted for the opera, where accompanied by appropriate action, but Miss Large and Mr Robert Dawson acquitted themselves well. Miss Eve Trudell sang "Ombra mai fu" in excellent style, and Miss Marshall was loudly applauded in Hubay's violin solo, "Hejre Kati." Miss Winifred Palfreman displayed talent in "Charmant Oiseau," by David. A little more finish in the execution of the florid passages would have increased the effect. Miss Edith Withycombe would have been wise to select a less hackneyed song than "My heart is weary," which, however, she sang fairly well. Several other students took part in the concert, some of them choosing pieces and songs rather too difficult—for example, "L'Extase de la Vierge," by Massenet, set down for Miss Coffyn, a vocal study only fitted for an experienced artiste. Generally the concert gave great pleasure, and the professors and accompanists performed their duties most admirably.

OLD OPERAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Notwithstanding the vast number of letters that have appeared in the various theatrical journals in reference to the non-success of English opera in this city, I venture to ask you to kindly ventilate my opinion and suggestions.

I am inclined to think that the managers of English opera companies credit the general London public with a taste and knowledge of high-class music to which it has not yet attained. Many go to hear Wagner's operas, not that they are really entertained, but that it is the fashion; for I think it must be admitted that melody in most cases is somewhat obscure. Nothing more clearly demonstrates this than the continued popularity of *Maritana* and *The Bohemian Girl*. This being the case, why not produce in English the following:—*Les Huguenots*, *Robert le Diable*, *La Juive*, and *Lucrezia Borgia?* These operas are full of melody, and, depend upon it, melody is what is wanted by the general London public.

I have witnessed all these operas in English in the fifties at Drury-lane (manager, A. Bunn); also at the Surrey (manageress and prima donna, Emma Romer, who, for some years produced them there during the summer months, Herr Meyer Lutz being her conductor). Italian opera was afterwards tried at the Surrey by Mr Willet Beale (Alfred Mellon being conductor), but it was a failure, for you may rely that the public like to hear the music rendered in a language they know, even if they only catch a word here and there.

I shall feel obliged if you can find space for this in your next issue, and beg to subscribe myself,

Yours faithfully, L. F. CHAPUY.

Guildhall School of Music, Dec. 15.

"MISS JACK."

A Comedy, in Three Acts,
Produced, for the First Time on any Stage,
at the St. James's Theatre, Manchester,
on Wednesday, Dec. 14.

Capt. Ralph Alderson	MR ERIC MAYNE
Duke of St. Aubyn	MR GOMER MAY
Gerald Tenby	MR T. EDMUNDS
Lord Leighton	MR J. HENESSEY
Mr Smithson	MR FREDERIC JACQUES
Rev. Silas Yapp	MR E. STRICKLAND
Fisher	MR PERCY HAVERSTOCK
Countess of Desborough	MISS ROSEMARY REES
Duchess of St. Aubyn	MISS ETHEL WARWICK
Mrs Yapp	MISS MINNIE RAYNER
Craven	MISS ETHEL RAINSFORTH
Clarisse	MISS MADGE BERESFORD
Madame Chabot	MISS ALICE LANGLEY
Jacqueline Fitzmaurice	MRS LEWIS WALLER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The only information about the origin of *Miss Jack* to be gathered from the programme is that the piece is produced by arrangement with the Smart Set Publishing Company, Limited. This is the second venture of Mrs Lewis Waller within the space of a few weeks' time. *Miss Jack* is, in fact, quite different in aim and texture from any other play in which Mrs Waller has been seen for some time, and Wednesday's audience as a whole seemed vastly pleased to see her in a rôle which afforded her such opportunities for an entirely light and charming exercise of her gifts.

Miss Jack can hardly be described as a comedy of manners, unless the term be meant to imply ill manners, for at least one prominent and representative character, no less than a duchess, is made to descend to quite low levels of vituperation, and the rest are not peculiarly distinguished in their style of deportment and address; it may rather be regarded as a sentimental story, the sentiment of which is subordinated to the lesser interests, entertaining in themselves, of a society environment. This repression of the sentimental does not depreciate the play; it is rather strong, in fact, by virtue of a certain depth of suggestion, which as a rule is preferable to expression in this kind. It serves also to create a secondary interest round Miss Jack—the heroine of the story—who is loved in this temperate style by a man who watches what, for the audience as well as for the other personages of the play, is the development of her character from an original motive of revenge to a pleasing issue. In fine, the character and fortunes of Miss Jack are the pith and pivot of the piece.

This young lady, Jacqueline Fitzmaurice, arrives in London from Colorado. She has lived there with one Colonel Ralston, her guardian, on whose death she finds herself in possession of a bundle of love letters from a great English lady, who had wrecked his life. Being in possession of some thousands of dollars of her own, she resolves to foist herself, armed with the letters, on the lady in question for the pleasures of a London season in the best society. On the vessel which brings her to England she encounters the Duke and Duchess of St. Aubyn and young Gerald Tenby, between whom and the youthful Duchess, who has married the grey old Duke for his money, a tender feeling exists. The antipathy of the Duchess for Miss Jack begins with the preference of Gerald Tenby for the charms of the adventurous American girl, whose quarry in London, the Countess of Desborough, is a friend of this interesting trio. Miss Jack's first visit to the Countess, the opening scene of the play, is exceedingly well managed. Two arguments are employed to force the Countess to accept the situation—there are the letters, which must not be otherwise manœuvred, and almost equally potent is the unwelcome visitor's offer to add her four thousand pounds to the very slender resources of the Countess. Already Miss Jack has taken upon herself to secure a Press announcement of her arrival as "the copper princess," an American lady of fabulous wealth, whom the Countess of Desborough is to chaperone; and, of course, visits occur to the house, including those of the Duke and Duchess of St. Aubyn, Gerald Tenby, and a fatuous Lord Leighton, the subsequent refusal of whom by Miss Jack induces in him a posture of bitter and foolish contempt. Tenby also she listens to but lightly; she is more tolerant of Captain Ralph Alderson, who has ventured about the world, and knows Colorado—can even tell tales of daring and heroism in Colorado which stir her blood. He tells her one story of a young girl who has saved men's lives; he has her photo. in his pocket—she is the girl he will marry some day. It is obvious that the heroine of his thoughts is identical with the heroine of the play. But what he brings home to her most pointedly is his contempt for any person who could hold a threat over another person's head; no heroism is in that. On his departure Miss Jack hands to the Countess of Desborough her bundle of love-letters. The latter does not thrust the girl forth, however; she is so pleased with her impulse and her personality that she begs her to stay.

The persistency of Gerald Tenby in his proposals of marriage to Miss Jack; the sneering hostility of the Duchess of St. Aubyn toward the woman who has unwittingly diverted from her the love of Tenby, the man she ought to have married five years ago, but for her ambition; the growing affection between the Countess of Desborough and her protégée; and the good-humoured reserve of Captain Alderson in the furtherance of his friendship with Miss Jack—these are the staple threads of interest until the incident of the breaking of Stringer's bank occurs. "Jack's" money is involved; and, in spite of her pretence of untold millions in America, she feels that an ignominious end of her adventure is here. The Duchess of St. Aubyn finds a half-written confession of Miss Jack to Captain Alderson, and the story of the American girl's imposture immediately goes round London. Alderson, however, comes to the rescue in clever style. At his dictation, Miss Jack completes a second epistle in terms which qualify the confession into a triumphant reinstatement; and upon this confounding of her enemies he is enabled to arrive at the consummation of his suit. With all her faults, Alderson is glad to win the young American for the sake of her beauty, her generosity, and her past heroism. A sense of the improbabilities of the plot is now and then overcome by excellences of dialogue and situation. An incident especially worthy of note is the Duke of St. Aubyn's discovery of his wife and Gerald Tenby in a compromising situation—an incident which is made curiously convincing by tactful dialogue, added to the fact that the infatuated old Duke is in a state of senile decay. The extremely light and engaging style in which Mrs Lewis Waller plays the part of "Jack" Fitzmaurice is, however, chiefly responsible for the agreeable effect of the whole. Her lines are smart, and she has a ready instinct for the innumerable trifling details of by-play which go to make up the perfect exposition of a part. Above all, the play contains nothing offensive. Wednesday's audience certainly found it entertaining, and Mrs Waller had reason to congratulate herself upon at least a personal success.

Mr Eric Mayne's depiction of Captain Alderson, if rather languid, was marked by a pleasing delicacy and reserve. As the Countess of Desborough Miss Rosemary Rees acted with capital tact and grace, and Miss Ethel Warwick gave a bold and successful rendering of the ill-natured and disappointed Duchess of St. Aubyn. Mr Gomer May's Duke of St. Aubyn was a really good impersonation, and the moody Gerald Tenby was well portrayed by Mr T. Edmunds. Other parts of note were satisfactorily rendered by Miss Madge Beresford, Mr J. Henessey, Miss Minnie Rayner, and Mr Percy Baverstock.

A novel and pleasing innovation at this theatre, under the new management, is the permanent installation of an orchestra of ladies in Russo-Turkish costume.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

THE new theatre in Tottenham-street and Charlotte-street—the principal entrance being in the latter thoroughfare—is due to the enterprise of the Chevalier E. Distin-Maddick, the distinguished surgeon. It is to be called La Scala, and it takes the place of the old Prince of Wales's, brought into prominence by the ever-memorable reign of the Bancrofts. It would be difficult to imagine a lovelier interior than that planned by Mr Frank Verity, the architect, from the ideas submitted to him by Dr. Maddick. It is entirely of marble, and a beautiful feature of the auditorium is to be found in two fine boxes—one on each side of the house. These are built square, with marble columns, and harmonise admirably with the architectural details of the proscenium. There are two magnificent staircases, and the visitor upon entering the theatre cannot fail to be at once impressed with the complete departure, both in architecture and decoration, that has been made from the methods hitherto pursued in theatre building.

THE La Scala has been a long-cherished idea of the Doctor's, and amongst those friends he took into his confidence he became an object of wonder. One rallied him on his rashness in dreaming of the resuscitation of the "Queen's Dust Hole," as the ancient theatre once used to be called, which had even been tried and abandoned by the Salvation Army. He was not to be deterred from his project, however. His ideal theatre is now an accomplished fact, and its beauties will be revealed on Monday to invited guests, who will be received by Lady Bancroft after that distinguished actress has let herself into the house with a golden key. Sir Squire Bancroft will then say a few words about the future plans of London's latest theatre proprietor. The small colonnade that formed the chief entrance to the old Prince of Wales's Theatre is for sentimental reasons retained, and through it we now reach the stage-door of the new house.

SIGNOR LEONCAVALLO'S new opera *Der Roland von Berlin* was produced at Berlin on Tuesday evening. The "book" deals with the struggle between the Elector Frederick and the rival towns of Berlin and Koellin. The picture of life in Berlin in the fifteenth century given in the first act was very striking, the crowds being admirably drilled, and the stage-pictures being full of life and colour. In the scenes in which Berlin is captured by the Elector the military note predominated, and the handsome figures of the Elector and his knights on horseback in the centre of the stage, surrounded by a crowd of men-at-arms and archers, made a most effective picture. The music is melodious and effective. The Emperor was delighted with the opera. He decorated Signor Leoncavallo with the Order of the Crown of the Second Class, and gave Signora Leoncavallo a magnificent necklace. Fräulein Destinn, who played the principal part, received a bracelet with the Emperor's initials in sapphires, and Dr. Muck, the conductor, obtained the Order of the Red Eagle. The principal male singers were given rings and scarfpins by the Emperor, each bearing his monogram.

MR BEERBOHM TREE'S recent benefit performances at His Majesty's Theatre resulted in £262 4s. being handed over to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and £432 0s. 6d. to Mrs Edmund Phelps.

MR AND MRS KENDAL concluded their autumn tour on Saturday night at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, with a performance of their latest success, *The Housekeeper*. Their next spring tour will commence on Feb. 6 at Leamington.

MR LAWIS WALLER, who sent the Actors' Benevolent Fund £6 on the 26th of last October, has again sent to the secretary the sum of £4 15s. 3d., both these amounts having been collected by the sale of his autographs. The secretary informs us that Sir Henry Irving, Mr Tree, Mr Alexander, Mr Welch, and several others are daily sending him postal orders for the Fund.

MR FRITZ ZOBN, who has written the new farcical comedy *The Designers*, to be produced at the Brixton Theatre on Feb. 13, is a well-known man on 'Change. He has several works to his credit, the most popular, perhaps, being his holiday novel, "Bunce, the Bobby, and the Broads," which has run into several editions. Another well-known figure on 'Change, Mr W. F. Downing, has written a special one-act piece to be put on in front of *The Designers*, and has named it *The Happiest Day of His Life*. Mr Downing will be remembered as the author of *Hearts and Coronets*, produced at the Grand, Fulham, in May last, and *Lady Tetley's Divorce*, which was brought out by Mrs Patrick Campbell. This play was translated and introduced into the répertoire of the German Stage Society.

THE dramatised version of Ian MacLaren's famous Scottish story, *Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush*, has had considerable success in the United States and Canada, having kept the stage for five years on the other side of the Atlantic. The entire rights of production in Great Britain and Ireland have, we hear, been acquired by Mr Durward Lely, the famous Scottish tenor, and Mr William Mollison, his coadjutor in many Scottish dramatic productions. It is intended to put the piece on the stage next spring, when a specially organised company will open its tour in Liverpool in April.

MR EDWARD COMPTON, who has just returned from the Mediterranean cruise quite well and strong, will start for a six months' tour on Boxing Night. Provincial audiences will warmly welcome back the popular manager, who has given them so much pleasure in the past.

MR EDWARD TERRY left Southampton on Saturday last in the American Line mail steamer St. Paul for New York, where he will make his first appearance in the United States, beginning a tour with his company at the Princess Theatre in that city on Christmas Eve. Accompanying Mr Terry were Mrs Terry, his daughter Miss Beatrice Terry, Mrs Charles Terry, and twelve members of his company. A large number of friends gave the party hearty "send-offs" from Waterloo Station and Southampton.

MR JOHN LE HAY, the popular comedian and ventriloquist, has taken up the part of Coquenard in Messager's opera *Véronique*, still running with uninterrupted success at the Apollo. Mr Graves, the original representative of the part, has had to leave London in order to fill his engagement as principal comedian at the Shakespeare, Liverpool. Mr Le Hay was also engaged for pantomime at Glasgow, but was kindly released by Mr Wyndham.

A JUVENILE poster-designer is somewhat of a novelty. The artist to whom is due the credit for the design for a pictorial advertisement of Mr J. M. Barrie's forthcoming Christmas play is Master Ben Nicholson. He is only ten years of age, and is the son of Mr William Nicholson, who has designed the dresses for the production. The drawing from which the poster has been made was done by Master Nicholson when seven years of age.

THE directors' report of the Gaiety Theatre Company, Limited, for the year ended June 30 states that the profit amounts to £13,811. This, with the amount brought forward, makes a total of £14,053, out of which an interim dividend has already been paid. It is now proposed to pay a further dividend of 3s. per share, free of income-tax, making a total distribution of 20 per cent. for the year, and leaving £2,053 to be carried forward

THE matinée on behalf of the Fresh Air Fund, which will be given at the St. James's Theatre, on Jan. 10, has certainly a full programme. The opening piece will be a fairy play, written by Miss Netta Syrett. Miss Sybil Keymer, the little violin pupil of M. Wilhelmj; Miss Myra Hess, a thirteen-year-old pianist from the Royal Academy of Music (who has been given special permission to appear by Sir A. C. Mackenzie); and Miss Dorothy Neville, whose success at the Æolian Hall was a feature of the past season, will give a concert; and Miss Barbara Tate, a child reciter, will deliver a characteristic monologue in French, called "La Visite." Twenty-four boys from Mr James Bates's College for Choristers will sing, and a variety entertainment will be provided by children, two of whom will join in Mr Paul Rubens' quaint "gollywog" duet from *The Cingalee*; another juvenile contributing Miss Gertie Millar's new song in *The Orchid*, "The Little Sweep;" twenty young dancers from Mrs Wordsworth's dancing academy will take part in a set of Mr Wakeling Dry's charming action songs; and Mr Richard Speaight is arranging some interesting tableaux of child life. Mr Webster, who puzzled everyone with "Phroso," will substitute his small son for his doll, and Mr Tree has given permission for some of the children in the company at His Majesty's to enact scenes from *The Tempest*, and has also undertaken to supervise this part of the programme and to allow his little daughter Felicité to make her first public appearance on the stage and to sing. He has also given permission for a company of children from the training school attached to His Majesty's to perform a sketch, entitled *A Christmas Party*, under the direction of Mr Alfred Bellew and Mr Cecil Stock. The St. James's Theatre has been kindly lent for the occasion by Mr George Alexander.

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" seems to have taken a new lease of life. The advance booking at the Comedy promises well, and the audiences take the good points of the play as freshly every evening as if "Donna Lucia" and "the place where the nuts come from" had never been heard of before. Mr Stanley Cooke formerly played Babs on tour 1,460 times—a record that exactly tallied with the number of performances given in London—and he has returned to his old part with all his old enthusiasm. It is seven years since he gave it up. Seven and five, by the way, are his lucky numbers. He was born on the 15th of the month, married on a 15th, and his only daughter was born on a 5th. She has always been called the pretty little pet-name "Babs," in honour of *Charley's Aunt*, and Mr Cooke's son, who is only ten weeks old, is named Cyril, after the clever comedian's favourite part, Lord Cyril Garston, in *The New Clown*.

MISS MARIE STUDHOLME, who is always working in the interests of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, has just forwarded to the secretary a further sum of £5, which she has collected by making a small charge for her autograph.

THE collaboration of Captain Basil Hood and Mr Leslie Stuart as librettist and composer is a union of very happy augury, and a most promising combination of wit and melody. This "joining of forces" is not merely for the moment, and we look forward to the result with great interest. Captain Hood is the son of the late Sir Charles Hood, and was educated at Wellington College and at the Military College, Sandhurst. Mr Leslie Stuart became organist to St. John's Cathedral, Salford, at the age of fifteen, and was organist for seven years to the Church of the Holy Name, Manchester.

ANTIPHOLUS OF SYRACUSE, in *The Comedy of Errors*, produced by the Elizabethan Stage Society at Terry's Theatre, is played by Mr Hubert Carter, who is a Yorkshireman, and Antipholus of Ephesus is in the hands of Mr John M. Troughton, who comes from Westmoreland. They make up so effectively that it is almost impossible to distinguish them from one another, but off the stage the resemblance is only to be found in height and build, their faces and colouring being very dissimilar. Mr Troughton is one of the many actors who could, if he chose, make his way in the world as an artist. He passed his boyhood at Kendal, in his native county, and was apprenticed at fourteen to a firm of carpet designers, little expecting that he would ultimately take to the boards instead.

HE afterwards studied at South Kensington, and gained his teacher's certificate, but finally relinquished the possibilities of art work for the possibilities of the stage about five years ago. Mr Troughton has had his share of small tours in fit-up towns, but even at the beginning of his comparatively short theatrical career he was fortunate enough to play good parts in several sterling melodramas, including *Two Little Vagabonds* and *Sporting Life*. When *The Merry Wives of Windsor* was revived at Manchester some time back he was cast for the part of John Rugby. His other Shakespearian experiences have been in the rarely acted plays, *Timon of Athens* and *The Comedy of Errors*. Mr Troughton has been a member of the Elizabethans for the last seven weeks.

MR JOHN COATES returns home from Germany on Sunday. The popular tenor has been meeting with great success on the Continent, singing in oratorio and grand opera. He was presented with a silver laurel wreath by some of the prominent citizens at Mainz. Mr Coates is engaged to sing at the London Ballad Concerts in February.

THE return match between a team of actors, representing the George Edwardes Golfing Society, and a team of cricketers, captained by Mr G. L. Jessop, was to have taken place on Wednesday on the links of the Manor Golf Club, at Ashford (Middlesex). The actors won the first match at Northwood a few weeks ago by one point, and another interesting day's golf was expected on Wednesday. Unfortunately, however, the weather proved very wet, and, although all the couples started, the match was not completed. In the matches which were finished the play was fairly close. For the actors, Mr Herbert Ross, playing level, beat Mr G. W. Beldam by 2 holes up and 1 to play; Mr Lawrence Rea, receiving 3 strokes, beat Mr George Brann by 2 and 1; Mr Lawrence Grossmith beat Mr Mornington Cannon on the home green; and Mr Arthur Hatherton defeated Mr R. P. Hamilton. For the cricketers, Mr H. H. Hilton, giving a third, beat Mr Rutland Barrington by 4 and 3; and Mr S. Drysdale beat Mr H. Thorley. Several of the other cricketers were in winning positions when, owing to the rain, their matches were by mutual arrangement abandoned. Foursomes were to have been decided in the afternoon, but, although a few friendly matches took place, there was no play in the inter-team contest, which was abandoned as unfinished.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT has achieved a triumph by her performance of *L'Aiglon* at Athens. The French actress paid a visit on Tuesday to the grave of her husband, the late M. Damala, and placed flowers upon it. She then visited the Akropolis, which excited her intense admiration.

THE Queen has graciously accepted a copy of the important work on historic gloves and shoes which Mr W. B. Redfern has been engaged upon for some time. The full title of the book is "Royal and Historic Gloves and Ancient Shoes." It is profusely illustrated by large plate reproductions of photographs and water-colour drawings, taken from the actual existing articles, lent by the various owners or by the curators of the museums in which they are treasured. The letterpress matter is ample and descriptive. The work will be published early in the new year.

IN the Court of Chancery, on Saturday, before Mr Justice Farwell, Mr Angus Robert Grant asked his lordship to say that the Gaiety Bars and Restaurant Company, Limited, and certain shareholders in the Company were liable to him to the extent of £1,000. Mr Jenkins said that the Gaiety Bars and Restaurant Company were the owners of the old Gaiety Restaurant. There were only eight shareholders in the company. As trustee for a Mr Layton, the plaintiff held 1,000 shares. In 1899 the site of the Restaurant was taken over by the London County Council for the Strand improvement. Another restaurant and hotel were to be erected, close to the old Gaiety, and worked by a new company. Further capital being required for the new company, the shareholders were asked to subscribe. Plaintiff declined to do so, and some of the other shareholders, calling themselves the Syndicate, took over plaintiff's 1,000 shares, agreeing to pay him £1,000 out of the first available assets of the company, after certain prior claims had been paid. What was contemplated by the parties was that the scheme should be carried out, the old company ultimately wound up, and the surplus assets distributed. When the plaintiff asked for his money, he was told that trade debts had to be paid off. Nevertheless, he believed money had been distributed among the shareholders. He was offered 1,000 shares in the new company, but declined to take them. Plaintiff also asked for an injunction on the ground that the defendants were dealing with the assets without regard to his claim. The hearing was adjourned till Monday, when a declaration was made in favour of the plaintiff against all the defendants, except a Mr Bloomfield.

THE professional musicians of Sydney recently organised themselves into a trades union, and, as such, are affiliated to the Trades and Labour Council of that city. At the last meeting of this Council, which is the central supervising body of delegates from all the affiliated unions, the professional musicians submitted a grievance. They protested against other unions "springing" on them requests for gratuitous services at "smoking socials and concerts." It seems to be a case of out of the frying-pan into the fire with the Sydney professional musicians. They thought they would improve their position and maintain a living wage by becoming trade unionists, but they find themselves called upon to give their services without payment to brother unionists.

THE cast of *Peggy Machree*, the new play with music, by Patrick Bidwell, which will be produced by Charles E. Hamilton at Wyndham's Theatre on the evening of Boxing Day, will include Miss Marie Dainton, Miss Dorothy Drake, Mrs E. H. Brooke, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Nancy Malone, Miss Kathleen Dawn, Miss Bertha Seaton, Miss Nessie Walker, Mr E. H. Kelly, Mr Stanley Pringle, Mr J. Græme Campbell, Mr Shiel Barry, Mr Chris Walker, Mr William Wilson, Mr A. S. Barber, Mr Ernest Bryant, Mr John Morley, and Mr Denis O'Sullivan.

MR WILLIAM MACLAREN, who will take over *Claudian*, with all the magnificent costumes and scenery used by the late Mr Wilson Barrett in his last revival of that play, has been steadily making a reputation in the part of Pierre Lorance, in *Proof*, which he is now touring for the fifth consecutive year. He will be supported, in *Claudian*, by Miss Lily C. Bandmann and a strong cast, and will commence his tour with the drama in August next. Mr Maclaren will wear the same costumes which Mr Barrett wore in the last revival of the play.

MR BEERBOHM TREE has received an offer from Mr Oscar Asche to contribute to Mr Tree's Shakespearian festival in April. It can scarcely be doubted that the proposal will be accepted with eagerness.

MR BENSON'S Shakespearian Theatrical Company will leave England in the Imperial Direct West India steamer Port Kingston for Jamaica on the 31st inst., the Elder, Dempster Company taking them out free in order to assist in popularising the island as a pleasure resort.

THE King and Queen and suite visited the Criterion Theatre on Saturday evening, and witnessed the performance of *The Freedom of Suzanne*; the Prince and Princess of Wales were present at the performance of *Beauty and the Barge*, at the New Theatre; and the Duke and Duchess of Fife witnessed Mrs Brown-Potter's production of the two "music-dramas," *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, at the Savoy.

A GRAND special matinée is billed for to-day at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, for the benefit of Mr W. H. Westwood, when the programme will be contributed to by ladies and gentlemen from all the principal theatres and music halls of Birmingham and district.

A READING of *King Henry VIII.*, under the auspices of the British Empire Shakespeare Society, will be given in the hall of the Passmore Edwards Institute to-morrow evening. The following ladies and gentlemen have kindly consented to read:—Miss Maud Milton, Miss Hazel Thompson, Miss Kelly; and Messrs Acton Bond, Lyn Harding, Ernest Leicester, A. E. Drinkwater, John Macfarlane, Clive Currie, and Spencer Geach.

DURING a temporary indisposition of Miss Laura Walker, the part of Cigarette, in *Under Two Flags*, was recently played for three nights by Miss Bertha Kingston. So pleased was Mr Mark Blow with her performance that he offered her the part for his spring tour. Having, however, been engaged as far back as last summer by Messrs Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod to play the leading rôle in their tour of *The Sledge-Hammer*, Miss Kingston was unable to accept Mr Blow's offer.

MR FRED R. HAMLIN, of the firm of Hamlin, Mitchell, and Fields, died suddenly at his home in New York on the 27th ult. He was the son of John A. Hamlin, well known in Chicago theatrical circles as the manager of the Grand Opera House, and a brother of Harry A. Hamlin, also connected with theatrical business. Mr Hamlin leaves a widow. His theatrical career began about five years ago with the production of *Arizona*. Recently he produced *The Wizard of Oz* and *Babes in Toyland*.

MR LESTER COLLINGWOOD, who has now entered on the third year of his reign at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, held his second anniversary on Friday, Dec. 9, when he appeared as Captain Rodney Haynes, in *When London Sleeps*. The occasion afforded his numerous friends and the members of his company, as well as the general public, an opportunity of displaying their admiration; and a diamond stud and an illuminated address were given to Mr Collingwood, on behalf of the subscribers, by Mr A. W. Matcham, and an illuminated address was presented on behalf of the *When London Sleeps* company by Mr Fred Bernardo. Mr Collingwood responded with sincerity and taste, the audience acclaiming the presentations with ardour.

AT the Theatre Royal, Chatham, to-night, Mr Henry Swinerd's company, in *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, will terminate an unbroken tour of seventy-two weeks. There will be one week's vacation, during which time all the scenery will be repainted by Charles G. Cooke and assistants. The next tour opens at the Victoria Theatre, Broughton, on Boxing Day, being a return visit in eight months. The piece has bookings as far ahead as May 14, 1906, is still under the direction of J. W. Cordiner, and will soon enter on its sixth year of tour.

MR ARTHUR BOUSCHIER will produce on Wednesday afternoon, at the Garrick Theatre, his annual children's entertainment. *Lady Jane's Christmas Party*, an old-fashioned episode, in one act, by Tom Gallon, will be played by a cast including Mr Charles Goodhart, Mr Webb Darleigh, Mr Edward Rigby, Miss Kate Bishop, and Miss Nellie Bowman. This will be followed by a musical medley, entitled *Little Black Sambo and Little White Barbara*, adapted by Rutland Barrington from the "Dumpy Books," with music by Wilfred Bendall and Frederick Rosse. In the cast of this will be Miss Nellie Bowman, Mr Frank Lawton, Mr Edward Rigby, Mr John Crooke, Mr Fred Neeri, Mr D. Imbert, Miss Iris Hawkins, and Miss Kate Bishop.

THE Playgoers' Club's Ladies' Christmas dinner, with Miss Ellis Jeffreys in the chair, will take place to-morrow in the Grand Hall of the Hotel Cecil.

MR GEORGE EDWARDES'S cast for the production of *Lady Madcap* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre this evening includes Mr Maurice Farkoa, Mr Aubrey Fitzgerald, Mr Fred Emney, Mr Leedham Bantock, Mr Dennis Eadie, Mr J. Edward Fraser, Mr Spencer Trevor, Mr Herbert Sparling, Mr George Carroll, Mr R. St. George, Mr Richard Kavanagh, Mr G. P. Huntley, Miss Delia Mason, Miss Eva Sandford, Miss Nellie Massey, and Miss Adrienne Augarde.

MR TREE wishes it to be distinctly understood that there will be no evening performances of *The Tempest* next week. Only three matinées—on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday—will be given, after which the theatre will be closed till Boxing Night, when *The Tempest* will begin its final three weeks before it gives place to *Much Ado About Nothing*, in which Miss Winifred Emery and Miss Tree will play Beatrice and Hero and Mr Tree Benedick.

THE news that Mr Robert Brough is returning to Australia with a new comedy company, of which Mr G. S. Titheradge is to be a leading member, is a theme of congratulatory comment in the Melbourne and Sydney papers brought by this week's mail. In these two chief cities of the Commonwealth both Mr Brough and Mr Titheradge were exceedingly popular with playgoers in bygone years, and the prospect of a renewal of the old acquaintance is evidently regarded with the liveliest satisfaction. Mr Brough was for a long time in partnership with Mr Dion Boucicault as lessees and managers of the Melbourne Bijou Theatre, when Mr Titheradge was playing under the management of Messrs Williamson and Musgrove.

MISS KATE VOLLAIRE, daughter of the late John Vollaire, has been seriously ill, but has now happily recovered, and is ready for work again.

THE book of Mr Robert Arthur's seventh operatic pantomime, *Aladdin*, which he will produce at his Kennington Theatre on Christmas Eve, will be by Mr Frank Dix, and the music by Mr Julian H. Wilson. The ballets will be arranged by Miss Dolly Bell, and the scenery will be by Messrs J. Fowler Hogg and Charles Helmsley. The superb costumes will be designed by Comelli. The cast will include Miss Rachel Lowe, Miss Georgina Middleton, Mr Andre Caine, Mr Joseph Wilson, Mr Lyndon Wyatt, the Brothers Redmond, Miss Woolgar Mellon, Miss Dorie Deane, Miss Natalie Grant, and Mr Harry Brayne. The Celeste Troupe of dancers and the trained chorus and ballet is also engaged, and the able stage-manager will be Mr Walter M'Ewan.

THE programme of the German company at the Great Queen-street Theatre next week will be as follows:—Monday and Tuesday, *Die Goldene Spinne*, a favourite farce by Franz V. Schoenthan, author of *Im Bunten Rock*; and Wednesday and Thursday, two performances of *Traumulus*. On Boxing Day a special performance will be given of *Alt Heidelberg*, the original of Mr George Alexander's *Old Heidelberg*.

THE Sainton-Dolby prize (contraltos) at the Royal Academy of Music, has been awarded to Esther Jane Hill, a native of Cheddleton, and the Rutson memorial prize (sopranos) to Caroline Hatchard, a native of Portsmouth.

MR F. R. BENSON, during his Shakespearian season at the Coronet Theatre, from Feb. 20 to March 18, will present a varied repertory, including seven plays of Shakespeare, two Old English comedies, and the Orestean Trilogy of Æschylus, *Agamemnon*, *The Libation Bearers*, and *The Furies*, an English version of which, by E. D. A. Morshead, will be produced during the season.

MR CLARENCE SOUNES will produce on Christmas Eve, at the Woolwich Grand Theatre, his fifth annual Christmas pantomime, entitled *Beauty and the Beast*. The book is by Mr J. Hickory Wood, and the music is composed and arranged by Messrs J. Rogers, Herr Blomé, and others. The fine scenery is by Messrs Tritschler, Dodson, Dunn, M'Cleery, Glover, and Harker, and the production will be stage-managed by Mr Chas. E. Paton, the ballets being arranged by Mr J. A. Collins. The parts of principal boy and principal girl will be in the able hands of Miss Maude Danks and Miss Gladys Huxley respectively, and the comedians of the cast include Mr Tom Conway and Mr Edwin Adeler as dame and baron. The demon king will be Mr C. Hinchliff. Other artistes engaged are Misses Lilian Stanley, Mavis Hope, Audrey Stafford, Connie Glenabyn, Florence May, Emily Taylor, Elsie Griffiss, and Nora Layton; Messrs C. Darrell, J. Wilkinson, Alf Maynall, R. Lomas, and the Brothers Harrison. The Stella Troupe of Dancers will appear, and specialities will be supplied by the Sisters Edwardes, Brothers Harrison, Wilkinson and Layton, Lomas, the Collins Troupe of Dancers, and the Orpheus Glee Singers. Among the principal scenes may be mentioned the Enchanted Garden, the Fairy Rose Bower, the Beast's Palace, and a grand Tableau of the Seasons. A great feature of the Rose Bower scene will be the electric lighting, with thousands of crystal lamps, a fairy fountain, and myriads of roses, and the lavish effect will be further enhanced by the collection of dresses and stage jewels recently purchased by Mr and Mrs Sounes at the Anglesey sale. The pantomime will be produced by Mr Clarence Sounes, assisted by Mr Chas. E. Paton.

THE "William Archer" prize for "the most beautiful speaking of a piece of blank verse" by a pupil of the Academy of Dramatic Art, has been won by Mr Basil Watt, Mr Joseph Goggin, and Miss Agnes Bartholomew being honourably mentioned. The examiners, Lady Bancroft, Mr H. B. Irving, and Mr Norman Forbes, state that the recitations they had heard reflected the highest credit on the school.

MR REGINALD DANCE AND MISS MARY ALLESTREE will play *Jerry and a Sunbeam* in aid of the Bolingbroke Hospital at the Shakespeare Theatre, on Monday.—Mr J. Henry Twyford, who has been playing at the Royalty Theatre in the six weeks' season of old English plays, has been re-engaged by Mr Philip Carr to sustain his original part of Humphrey in the revival of *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*.—Messrs Trevor Lowe, Leonard Pagden, and Lewis Gilbert's tour with *Alice in Wonderland* is fully booked, and starts at Hastings Dec. 26. Messrs Pagden and Gilbert will, in February, commence their tour with *A Woman of Impulse*, which is already consecutively booked up to June.

MISS MAY HENDERSON will leave Dover to-morrow night for Vienna, opening at the Apollo Theatre there on the following Sunday.

REHEARSALS of the children's pantomime *The White Cat*, by J. Hickory Wood and Arthur Collins, with music by J. M. Glover, due at Drury-lane Theatre at Christmas, are proceeding daily on the new stage. The principal parts in the Christmas annual will be taken by Harry Randall, Fred Eastman, Hugh J. Ward, Tom Hearn, Johnny Danvers, Tom Woottwell, and James Welch; Marie George, Jeannie Macdonald, May Gurney, and Queenie Leighton. Then there are those old favourites the Grigolatis, Queen and Le Brun as funny quadrupeds, and Whimsical Walker as clown.

THE cast of Mr J. M. Barrie's new three-act play for children, which is shortly to be produced at the Duke of York's Theatre, under the title of *Peter Pan; or, The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*, includes Miss Nina Boucicault, Mr Gerald Du Maurier, Miss Dorothea Baird, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Master George Hersee, Miss Winifred Geoghegan, Mr Arthur Lupino, Miss Jane Wren, Miss Joan Burnett, Miss Christine Silver, Mr A. W. Baskcomb, Miss Alice Dubarry, Miss Pauline Chase, Miss Phyllis Beadon, Mr Gerald Du Maurier, Mr George Shelton, Mr Sidney Harcourt, Mr Charles Trevor, Mr F. Annerley, Mr Hubert Willis, Mr J. English, Mr John Kelt, Mr Philip Darwin, Miss Miriam Nesbitt, and Miss Ella Q. May.

MISS LAURA BURT, who has been a member of Sir Henry Irving's company for some time, sailed for America a month ago, having been specially engaged as leading lady in the stock company of the Odéon Theatre, St. Louis. She opened on Dec. 6, playing Miss Viola Allen's part in *The Palace of the King*. Miss Burt, who will be remembered as Helen of Swabia, in *Dante*, is very popular in the United States.

THE sixth annual benefit in aid of the funds of the Bolingbroke Hospital, Wandsworth Common, will be held on Monday evening at the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham. Miss Mabel Love, Little Miss Marie Louise, Mr Lionel Brough, Mr G. Chirgwin, and Mr Gus Elen are among the many artists to appear. Messrs J. W. Hemming and Gaston G. Johnson will act as joint stage-managers.

AT the conclusion of the Christmas term of the Royal College of Music on Wednesday, Dec. 14, the following awards were made by the director and Board of Professors:—Council Exhibitions:—Composition, Geoffrey M. Palmer, £12; organ, Henry Gibson, £8; singing, Christian I. Keay, £9; violin, Adina J. Newton, £6, Janet C. Macfie, £6; violoncello, Maude Scruby, £9. The annual amount bequeathed by the late Edwin S. Dove (£13) for pupils who have distinguished themselves was awarded to Nannie Tout (singing).

WHEN M. Auguste Van Biene takes his *Broken Melody* to Australia in January his business-manager, Mr Edward Van Biene, will remain in England, but will continue to represent Mr Van Biene and transact all business during his absence.

MISS MARIE AUCKLAND (Mrs Charles Herrick) concludes to-night twelve months' starring tour in her original part in *The Triumph of Truth*.—Mr Cecil Clayton, who returned from South Africa early this year after a long engagement with Mr Leonard Rayne, has been engaged by Mr Arthur Carlton for the part of Wishee-Washee in the Ealing pantomime of *Aladdin*.—Mr Gordon Bailey has been re-engaged by Mr Lewis Waller to play the parts in *Henry V.* which he—Mr Bailey—sustained when *Henry V.* was produced by Mr Lewis Waller and Mr William Mollison at the Lyceum.

THE Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein and suite visited the Avenue Theatre on Thursday night to see the comic opera *Ladyland*.—Prince and Princess Christian witnessed the performance of *The Walls of Jericho* at the Garrick Theatre on Thursday evening.

AT the Royal Court Theatre, Liverpool, on Christmas Eve Mr Robert Arthur will produce *Dick Whittington*. Mr Frank Dix has written the "book," and the music is by Messrs J. O. Shepherd (leader of the orchestra of the theatre) and Jullien H. Wilson. Included in the company are Horace Mills, Walter Groves, Edward Lewis, E. W. Avery, Millar Anderson, Fred Storey, and Alexandre and Hughes; Hetty King, Fanny Dango, Amy Height, and Mabel Wainwaring

SIR PHILIP BURNE-JONES AND MR W. B. SPONG were appointed the sub committee to undertake the preliminary arrangements for the first public dinner of the Association, to be held on Sunday evening, Feb. 19. It was arranged to hold a special committee meeting for the election of new members at 8 0 on Wednesday week, the 28th inst. The annual general meeting was fixed for Monday, Jan. 9, 1905, at the Caledonian Hotel, Robert-street, and the secretary was instructed to provide a smoking concert to follow the business of the evening. Owners of sketches or paintings by Absolom, Bolena, W. E. Beverley, Bough Chambers, David Cox, Sidney Cooper, R A, Calcott, Gates, Grieves, Hunt, Leitch, Loutherbourg, Marinare, Mulready, R.A., Marshall, Naesmith, David Roberts, Clarkson-Stanfield, W. Telbin, sen., or other deceased scenic painters, and managers of theatres possessing models of their auditoriums or stages, or other articles of scenic or theatrical interest willing to lend them to the Scenic Artists' Association for their exhibition at the Grafton Galleries in April next are invited to communicate with the secretary, Mr H. Lawrence Harris, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. Messrs George Edwardes, Fred Harrison, Cyril Maude, George Alexander, Martin Harvey, Forbes Robertson, and H. Beerbohm Tree have already signified their willingness to lend models, sketches, &c., and have graciously given permission to the artistes under their respective managements to volunteer their services to entertain at the exhibition.

THE Committee of the Scenic Artists' Association met for the fourteenth time at their offices, 5, Robert-street, on Monday evening last, the 12th inst., under the presidentship of Mr Walter Hann. There were present Messrs Edmund G. Banks, J. J. Markwell Davis, Richard Douglass, Wm. Harford, W. T. Hemsley, W. H. Owen, Harry Potts, W. H. Robinson, W. B. Spong, and George Tweddell, Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., and Mr H. Lawrence Harris, secretary. The following new members were elected—viz., Messrs T. Clark-Lockett, of the New Court Theatre, Bacup; Ernest Howard, of the Opera House, Northampton, and Chas. J. Sayer, of Croydon. A letter was read from Mr Dion Boucicault on behalf of Mr Chas. Frohman, of the Duke of York's Theatre offering the loan of photographs to the forthcoming Exhibition. Sir James D. Linton, R.I., was elected an honorary member of the Association on the nomination of Mr Harry Potts, seconded by Mr W. B. Spong. Sir Philip Burne-Jones reported that he would ask Mr E. A. Abbey, R.A., to be the third member of the Hanging Committee of the Association's Exhibition. The Secretary reported that he had received additional promises to the Guarantee Fund, including ten guineas from Mr Hawes Craven. Mr Richard Douglass and Mr Harry Potts having presented a report of their visits to the West-end galleries under offer, it was unanimously resolved that Mr Walter Hann and Mr Harry Potts be authorised to negotiate for the rental of the Grafton Galleries, Grafton-street, Bond-street, for the exhibition of the association for the week of April 10 to 15, and to make all other necessary arrangements for the holding of the exhibition, and we are informed that since the meeting the galleries have been duly taken for that week.

THE NEW LA SCALA.

The Chevalier E. Distin-Maddick's new theatre on the site of the old Prince of Wales's is one of the most beautiful in London. From the gallery, distinctly the finest in any theatre, one has a free view of the whole stage from every seat.

The balcony—equivalent to the dress circle of most theatres—accommodates 250 people. Here the passage room between the rows of seats allows of complete freedom in moving about. At the back of this balcony is the magnificent saloon reserved for the balcony alone. The balcony is just above the street level, and all its doors lead at once into the street through broad passages. On the street level is a fine feature of the theatre, viz., the staircase. This, with a gentle decline, breaks away on either side into a magnificent flight of ivory-veined marble steps, leading to the orchestra stalls. Passing down the one side of the staircase we find a smoking saloon and lounge for gentlemen, and upon the other side a reception room for ladies. The foyer is clearly visible from the auditorium, and, moreover, each foyer affords another direct means of exit to the street. Upon the main staircase are arranged eight rows of armchairs spaced three feet apart. The staircase forms a fine architectural addition to the building, and unites the stalls with the street level. It makes a pleasant lounge and promenade, and adds another important means of exit from the theatre. The orchestra has been architecturally designed in unison with the rest of the house, and is sunk after the fashion of that in the Wagner theatre. The pit is entered direct from the street. It has a magnificent saloon, a grand reception hall, and a cloakroom The seating of the house is divided into stalls, staircase stalls, balcony, pit, and gallery.

Every seat in the house is numbered, and each seat booked or paid for will belong to the owner for the performance for which it is numbered. A book for each day and each performance, plainly described on the face of each ticket, will be issued.

If a person calls on Monday, let us say, requesting two pit seats, or two gallery seats for the following Friday, the box-office keeper will extract from his pit or gallery book, dated for that Friday, the first two tickets from the book. The same rule will apply to those paying at the doors at night, or at the time of a performance. The first come will be the first served.

The dressing-rooms, all light and airy, look on to the street, and are numerous and commodious, being supplied with hot and cold water and every requisite for the comfort and convenience of the company. There is a delightful and airy green room immediately off the stage for the use of the principal artists, and also a secondary one for the use of minor artists. The stage is adaptable to any kind of drama, opera, pantomime, or comedy. It has exits direct into streets on either side.

The old Prince of Wales's was first named the West London, then the Regency, afterwards the West London, and with the accession of William the Fourth, the Queen's, in compliment to Queen Adelaide. On a subsequent change of management it was called the Fitzroy, then again the Queen's. Lastly it was christened by Miss Marie Wilton (now Lady Bancroft) the Prince of Wales' Royal Theatre.

The old house came into existence 144 years ago, when, in 1760, it was erected on a portion of this site by Signor Pasquali. It was comparatively a band-box, and even in the flourishing days of the Bancrofts its money capacity was £150; to-day it is £350.

By the courtesy of the London County Council the proprietor has been allowed to retain the old porch, once the main entrance of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, under which men distinguished as statesmen and in almost every branch of science, art, and literature have passed. This porch will henceforth be the stage entrance. Messrs Allen and Son are the builders of the La Scala Theatre.

The timber used in the construction of the stage and gridiron is hard wood, which has been dressed by the fire-resisting process. There is an iron bridge connecting the two flies on the back wall, and the outlet from either gridiron or flies is easy, with exits on either side direct to the street. The execution of this work was placed in the hands of Mr E. A. Taylor, for twenty-one years at Drury-lane Theatre, for eleven of which he was master carpenter, and was responsible for many alterations at old Drury. Mr Taylor occupied a position as carpenter during the lesseeship of Mr James in the pre-Bancroft days, when the old house was known as the "Queen's."

The finest feature in the new building is the staircase. The most renowned theatre in Italy is "La Scala;" translated into English "La Scala" means the "staircase," hence the name chosen for the new house. There has been no attempt at beautifying the exterior of the house, but as far as the interior is concerned the most artistic and scholarly taste has been displayed, and the comfort of every class of playgoer has been studied and provided for.

"SERGEANT BRUE" is "going strong" at the Strand Theatre. When Miss Madge Lessing resigns the rôle of Aurora in order to take up her engagement at the Coliseum, that part will be played by Miss Alice Hollander, a young Australian who has successfully appeared on London concert platforms.

AT the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, on Christmas Eve the pantomime of *Aladdin* will be presented. The authors are Messrs A. M. Thompson and R. Courtneidge. Mr Charles H. Taylor is responsible for the lyrics; Messrs Alfred and Herbert E. Haines the music; and Messrs Conrad Tritschler, R. M'Cleary, and Thomas Holmes the scenery. The artistes engaged include Carrie Moore, Billie Burke, Katie Vesey, Rosie Begarnie, Maggie Moore, George Graves, Fred Allandale, Arthur Reynolds, and Frank Danby.

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN and suite were present at the performances of *The Decree Nisi* and *Lady Windermere's Fan* at the St. James's Theatre on the 9th inst.; and on the same evening Princess Louise, Duchess of Fife, and the Duke of Fife attended the performance of Miss Eleanor Robson, in *Merely Mary Ann*, at the Duke of York's Theatre and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught visited the Gaiety Theatre and saw the performance of *The Orchid*.

MR WATKIN MILLS, the popular basso, is coming "home" by the incoming Australian mail steamer. He has had a highly successful tour through the Australian Commonwealth and New Zealand. In a farewell interview at Fremantle, Western Australia, he said he hoped to organise a complete concert company and return to Australia next year

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THE usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association was held on Tuesday last. The hon. solicitors reported progress in several matters. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. The secretary reported receipt of particulars in a case of alleged bogus management, and he was instructed to file same for future reference, and to advise the complainer to place the matter in the hands of the police.

A COMPLIMENTARY benefit has been organised for the benefit of Mr W. E. Barnett, business-manager of the County Theatre, Reading, and will take place on Monday. All who have had the opportunity of meeting Mr Barnett are agreed as to his sterling qualities as a business man and a manager. During his reign at the County Theatre he has made many friends. An attractive programme has been arranged.

"LADYLAND."

A New and Original Comic Opera,
in Two Acts and Three Scenes,
Written by Eustace Ponsonby, Music by Frank Lambert,
Produced at the Avenue Theatre, on Monday, Dec. 12.

Professor Puddle ..... Mr AUSTIN MELFORD
Harry Sartorys..... Mr RICHARD GREEN
Sir Geo. Pembroke, Bart. . Mr JOHN TRESAHAR
Peter ..... Mr ALFRED MAYFIELD
Max Moggins..... Mr WINDHAM GUISE
Roy ..... Mr GEORGE GIDDENS
Geraldine ..... Miss ALINE MAY
Jane Jingle ..... Miss GERALDINE ULMAR
Charity ..... Miss GURNEY DELAPORTE
Nina Weasel ..... Miss NANCY GIRLING
Susan ..... Miss MARGARET COOPER
Sally ..... Miss KITTY LINDLEY
Junona ..... Miss NONIE TREFUSIS
Alma Molyneux ..... Miss ETHEL IRVING

The dominant note of the production of *Ladyland* at the Avenue Theatre on Monday evening was one of pathos. It was sad to see so much liberal expenditure, hard work, and ability entirely wasted. The book of the piece is "simply impossible." There is an elaboration of dulness in it which only aggravates its inanity. It is absolutely deficient in humour; and some of it is completely incomprehensible. "Ladyland" is a colony where females "rule the roast," and men are of secondary importance. It is governed by a "great lady" named Geraldine. In order to preserve her sovereignty, she must marry one of the men of the colony; and she selects Roy, the oafish son of a miller. Alma Molyneaux, Geraldine's rival, is determined that the latter shall not wed the young miller, who is secretly betrothed to Charity Jingle, a village lass. At the suggestion of Alma, Roy disguises himself as a female gipsy; and Professor Puddle, one of a trio of aëronauts who have descended on the soil of "Ladyland," is dressed up in Roy's clothes and presented to Geraldine as her future husband. In the second act the story becomes still more inconsequent and bewildering. There is a conspirators' chorus, a surprise, and a quick change from black coats to dancing dress. A female detective, with a camera that goes off like a saloon pistol, startles people by taking "snaps" of them. Alma plans to blow up the palace in which the second scene of the act is laid, and is thwarted by Roy, who blacks his face, appears in the character of a nigger footman, is told by Alma to be ready to blow a trumpet as a signal to fire the mine, and refuses, at the critical moment, to do so. In the end, Geraldine and Alma pair off with the two younger aëronauts, and Roy gets his Charity Jingle. We defy the most sleuth-hound-like analyst of scenarios to unravel the mysteries of Mr Eustace Ponsonby's plot. The audience was mirthful but merciful, and contented itself with gently "guying" the more absurd details of the entertainment.

This leniency was greatly owing to the fact that there were so many favourite artistes in the cast. It was not their fault that the piece was not a success; for each and all worked most bravely and loyally to the last. Mr Austin Melford was especially active and alert as Professor Puddle. He looked extremely quaint and eccentric, and acted with his usual acuteness, individuality, and dry humour. That admirable vocalist Mr Richard Green sang two rather pleasing ballads with his wonted skill and accomplishment; Mr John Tresahar played an easy-going aristocrat unimpeachably, and Mr George Giddens gave a "truly rural" rendering of the "hopeless" rôle of the miller's son, Roy Moggins. Miss Aline May was a dainty and agreeable exponent of the character of Geraldine; and Miss Geraldine Ulmar depicted an irritable ex-nurse effectively, Miss Gurney Delaporte being a light and artless Charity. Miss Nancy Girling did what was possible with the part of Nina Weasel; and that charming comedienne, Miss Ethel Irving, though utterly thrown away as Alma Molyneux, nevertheless "saw the thing through" to the end, and introduced into her hopeless part some pretty, mock-masculine "airs and graces." The music was reminiscent and commonplace, but lively, smooth, and pleasant. The stage-management was excellent, and the mounting very tasteful and effective, the dresses, designed by Mr Robert Crafter, being equally artistic and sumptuous. The chorus was capital, both in appearance and ability. Mr W. Harford and Mr Bruce Smith deserved great credit for the three pretty sets they had painted; and Mr E. Dagnall must be praised for his work of "production." The audience called all the principal artists at the close, and endeavoured to induce the author of the "book" to put in an appearance, but he did not do so.

"A LITTLE BROWN BRANCH."

Comedy, in Three Acts, by Berte Thomas,
Produced at a Matinée at the Court Theatre,
on Wednesday, Dec. 14.

Simon Harwood ..... Mr BERTE THOMAS
John Brown ..... Mr GRAHAM BROWNE
Mr Farquharson ..... Mr SLAINE MILLS
Rev. Noel Sylvester..... Mr CHARLES ALLAN
Mr Peppercorn ..... Mr W. FARREN, Jun.
Mrs Peppercorn..... Miss AGNES THOMAS
Mrs Sylvester..... Miss BESSIE PAGE
Mrs Levy..... Miss KATE MILLS
Mrs Bell ..... Miss MARY STUART
Priscilla Farquharson.... Miss WINIFRED FRASER
Margaret Granger ..... Miss FRANCES IVOR

A Little Brown Branch is a simple, sentimental, and unimportant piece, the chief merit of which is the unaffected sincerity of the author's treatment of a well-worn and familiar theme. Margaret Granger, finding it impossible to live with her stepmother, has run away from home, and has "gone wrong." After many years—this is the point at which Mr Berte Thomas's play begins—she is found living in a country cottage, the proprietress of a kind of moral sanatorium, where people with bad nerves or imperfect tempers are "cured" by the process of making them perform manual labour. Her manager, Simon Harwood, is a handsome, middle-aged man, and she falls in love with him. He proposes to her, and she accepts his offer of marriage. All might yet be well, in spite of Margaret's "past," did not her father turn up at the cottage, bringing with him her younger sister Priscilla, whom he leaves with Margaret to be taken care of for a time. Priscilla is unaware of Margaret's relationship to herself, but they become very fond of each other. Harwood is fascinated by Priscilla, and makes love to her passionately, confessing that he is engaged to another woman. Priscilla tells him to sacrifice himself to his duty and to marry this other woman, and he acquiesces in her decision. But Margaret discovers that Harwood has ceased to care for her, and loves Priscilla; so she (Margaret) releases him from his engagement to her. She is, however, somewhat consoled by the affection which she has inspired in a young man named John Brown, who presses his suit so perseveringly that, in the end, he gets Margaret to consent to their being bethrothed.

The action of *A Little Brown Branch* is hardly enough to carry its three acts of duologue, but the piece was nicely played, and gave at the Court Theatre on Wednesday afternoon last a mild and temperate satisfaction. Mr Berte Thomas acted with tact, discretion, and firmness as Simon Harwood, and Mr Graham Browne played John Brown with a delicacy of touch and a quiet humour which were very commendable. Miss Winifred Fraser was agreeably sweet and simple as Priscilla Farquharson. The patients at the sanatorium were amusingly embodied by Mr Charles Allan as the Rev. Noel Sylvester, Mr W. Farren, jun., as an irritable Mr Peppercorn, Miss Agnes Thomas as Mrs Peppercorn, Miss Bessie Page as Mrs Sylvester, Miss Kate Mills as Mrs Levy, and Miss Mary Stuart as Mrs Bell. We are obliged to bracket these artists, as they had little opportunity of individual distinction, and in most cases their tasks were far beneath their abilities; but they each and all worked carefully and conscientiously. Mr Slaine Mills was stern but subdued as Margaret's father, Mr Farquharson. *A Little Brown Branch* is a pretty piece, but is quite outside the range of the practical politics of the playhouse.

"THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND."
"HOW TO HELP IT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have read the letters from Mr Willard and Mr Mouillot in your issue of the 12th inst., and I must certainly protest against their system of taxing the smaller-salaried members of our profession one night's salary in the year—even for the A.B.F. Do either of these gentlemen realise what that would mean to the man earning £3 a week, to say nothing of those at 25*s.* and a guinea?

The average annual salary of the £3-a-week actor is not more than £70 to £80 a year after he has paid for his wardrobe, wigs, &c., and at times fares to join his company and agents' commissions. Out of that £70 or £80 some have ties and calls upon their purses that are thicker than water.

No, if you must tax, tax the salary of £5 and upwards, and urge the others to *give* all they can. Do not tax on a stated day in the year, as that might and would hit hard those who were playing a special week or a fortnight, but out of each and every fifteenth week's salary (all salaries to be full weeks' and no breaks in the engagements except Holy Week and the week before Christmas) tax one half-a-night's salary. I never knew the A.B.F. made any calls except at its annual dinner, the kindly matinée, and Actors' Saturday. I think if the workings of the Fund could be made a little more known, the number of people assisted monthly, and the amount, it would stir actors to greater energy.

I have taxed myself one sixth of my best English salary, which I am mailing to Mr Coltson.

I have thought of another scheme which I do not think would be felt as a hardship by those earning the smallest salary: tax *all* actors one penny in the pound at each treasury. This would mean that the actor working forty weeks in the year would pay a tax of one full night's salary; if only ten weeks, one quarter of a night. This tax could be borne by the smallest salaried man, and the income to the A.B.F., would, I feel sure, be as great as taxing on one special night in the year. To collect this tax, I would suggest the Fund issuing books of stamps or tickets as the Actors' Home in America does for it tax on free admissions to the theatres.

Yours faithfully, Q. M'PHERSON.
Empire Theatre, New York, U.S.A., Dec. 2.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I approve of Mr Cecil Raleigh's scheme, and am willing to support it.

Yours faithfully, IRENE VANBRUGH.
29B, Wimpole-street, W., Dec. 9.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I should like to reply to Mr Frank Liston's letter of last week and his rather rude allusion to me, but as this is a discussion on the "Actors' Benevolent Fund, and How to help it," I pass his remarks by with the silence they deserve. Mr Cecil Raleigh's scheme seems the one most favoured, and I hope to see it carried through.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES BOULT.
Rosslyn, Waldegrave-road, Teddington, Dec. 12.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I sincerely think the penny-a-week tax from actors and actresses, to be collected by the acting-manager, the most feasible suggestion. Hundreds of our profession could not afford one night's salary, especially if they had been out of an engagement for some weeks or months previously. The modest copper per week would not be missed.

Yours faithfully, C. P. AMALIA.
The Baltic, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight, Dec. 12.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Miss E. Wynne Matthison, in her letter regarding the Actors' Benevolent Fund, seems to think because it is a charitable institution that the clergy may help, but the clergy have already enough poor to see after and enough sins to answer for without mixing themselves up in the affairs of broken-down actors, who ought to know the risks they are taking when they enter into the theatrical profession. Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully, THOMAS P. ASHBY.
2, The Crescent, King-street, Leicester.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—May I add a few lines to the correspondence in your columns headed "The Actors' Benevolent Fund, and How to Help It," and say that I am most heartily in accord with Mr Cecil Raleigh's suggestions? I have not heard or read of any suggestion that is so likely to embrace the assistance of the majority of the members of the theatrical profession and at the same time enable them to contribute, through their services, to the funds of this most admirable institution. I was on the committee of this Fund for many years, and it amazes me to find there are still people who write and speak of "not believing in the Actors' Benevolent Fund." As I have said with regard to other institutions connected with our profession, "any stick is good enought to beat a dog with," and those who do not wish to subscribe—and, indeed, my experience is they are those who never subscribe to anything in the world—when asked to subscribe to this Fund say "they do not believe in the Actors' Benevolent Fund," not because they know anything about it, or have tried to know anything about it, but because it is an excuse which no one can refute. I have never met any of them giving any reasons, because, of course, they have no reasons to give, never having endeavoured to find out anything about the wonderful work this institution does, and, further, in my experience as a committeeman I would like to say that of those who are relieved I feel sure I am right in saying that 90 per cent. have never subscribed one shilling towards the Fund in their lives. There is another reason why the Actors' Benevolent Fund should be supported, and that is its cost of administration is so small compared with the amount of work and the amount of money it deals with. I remember Mr Burdett Coutts, who presided at one of our annual dinners, said that before consenting to preside he had made every inquiry and gone into the matters connected with the Fund, and he, believing that he knew as much as anybody in this city with regard to the administration of charitable funds, fearlessly said that he believed the Actors' Benevolent Fund to be one of the most economically conducted of all; therefore, seeing the great good it does to my certain knowledge, despite those who do not believe in it; seeing its great needs to meet the great calls it has upon its funds; and knowing full well that apart from those who won't give, there are many who from the exigencies of this precarious profession cannot give, or feel more justified honestly that their charity shall begin at home, it seems that Mr Cecil Raleigh's scheme of a performance, more especially a matinée, on a given day throughout the kingdom, cheerfully given by the actors, is the one way to set this and other funds on their feet, and to avoid going to the public and begging for our charities, which I agree with Mr Raleigh is derogatory to the theatrical profession and to the esprit de corps of the members composing it. There are, of course, great difficulties in concreting such a scheme, but I should think that some of the willing workers who have organising abilities—and I should think here some of our business managers might be asked to co-operate—and certainly embracing Mr Raleigh's ideas that individual contributions from companies should not be public, I shall hope to hear in the near future that this scheme has had such support that it is likely to become an accomplished fact.

Yours faithfully, W. LESTOCQ.
34, Norfolk-street, W.C., Dec 16.

"MARGOT" AT THE COURT.

Play, in Three Acts, adapted by May Pardoe,
from *La Menteuse* of Alphonse Daudet.

Georges De Beaumont .. Mr W. GRAHAM BROWNE
Colonel Bourget ..... Mr F. PERCIVAL STEVENS
Paul Chartran ..... Mr ROBERT FARQUHARSON
Doctor..... Mr ERIC SCOTT
Jacques Sylvestre ..... Mr NORMAN M'KINNEL
Servant ..... Mr CARLTON BROUGH
Comtesse De Beaumont.. Miss MARY RORKE
Marie Bourget ..... Miss GERTRUDE BURNETT
Celestine..... Miss ADA MELLON
Margot Le Gros ..... Miss DARRAGH

M. Alphonse Daudet to the present generation of English playgoers is well known by his *Sapho*, in which character Miss Olga Nethersole has gained a high reputation. *Margot*, another play from his pen, without being quite as powerful or as interesting, is just as morbid. The heroine is mean and degraded. She has an ugly past—a past beyond redemption. She is still tied legally to the husband she has basely deceived, when by lies, cajolery, and a bewitching manner she becomes the fiancée of Georges De Beaumont, the scion of a noble family. Georges' mother, the Countess, will not countenance the *mésalliance*, and in an angry interview drives the young couple from her door. Georges' hand is thus forced, and, his romantic infatuation being allied to honourable intention, he marries Margot. By the irony of fate, she herself falls passionately in love with the man she has deceived, and in the second act the pair in their simple ménage momentarily rejoice in the good fortune that has brought them together. Their prospects are brightened, too, by the forgiveness of the mother. Nemesis, however, is near. Georges receives a letter from Jacques Sylvestre, the former husband, announcing his intention of calling. On hearing this, Margot has a violent fit of hysteria, and the dreaded exposure is postponed by Georges hastily putting his visitor off. But Margot's deceptions are so continuous—she is such a persistant and unblushing liar—that there can be no way of escape for her from the inevitable catastrophe. Pitiful heart searchings, useless longings, and utter despair are her lot, and she ends it all by taking poison. She does not die, however, before the man she has so cruelly and basely deceived curses her. The play, which is mostly a duologue—in the last act it is little more than a monologue—once more shows how pitiless fate is to the seductive adulteress—a theme that has been treated so powerfully by many French dramatists—notably by the younger Dumas. It is a phase of human nature that will be as keenly alive a century hence as it is to-day, and Daudet has handled the subject with artistic restraint and dramatic skill. The character of the Phryne whose heart pulsates to the dictates of pure affection must always be a favourite one with actresses, and on Monday afternoon it was satisfactory to find that Miss Darragh, who played Margot, brought to her heavy task power, sensibility, and delicacy of perception. We are asked by the dramatist to sympathise with a woman who is a mass of deceit, and the actress quite won all hearts by Margot's pathetic communings with herself. In the second act the sudden and passionate grief made a deep impression upon the house, and the remorse and ever-haunting fear of the last act were very real and convincing. Miss Darragh, we should add, is no stranger to the part, as she played it on the production of *Margot* at the Metropole, Camberwell, on May 25, 1903. On that occasion Mr Graham Browne was seen in the rôle of the young priest. On Monday he played Georges de Beaumont, and the performance throughout gave much pleasure to the crowded and critical house. The by-play in the second act was strong and expressive, and the love and tenderness of the young husband were admirably depicted. One was hardly prepared, perhaps, for the power and restraint for which Mr Browne was responsible in the last act. It would be difficult to discover among our younger actors one who could have played the part with such a sure touch. He certainly shared the honours of the matinée with Miss Darragh. Miss Mary Rorke as the Comtesse De Beaumont gave one of her charming embodiments of affectionate and distinguished motherhood; Miss Gertrude Burnett, the original representative of Maria Bourget, repeated her success in a sweet and maidenly impersonation; and Miss Ada Mellon was a bonnie and light-hearted Célestine. Mr Robert Farquharson did extremely well as Paul Chartran, the young priest; and other characters were adequately played by Mr Eric Scott, Mr Norman M'Kinnel, and Mr Carlton Brough. The play was produced under the direction of Mr A. E. George, and Mr Arthur Bowyer stage managed.

"THE COMEDIE OF ERRORS."

Revival of Shakespeare's Farce at Terry's Theatre,
by the Elizabethan Society,
on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 10.

The faithful few that follow with such interest the proceedings and performances of the Elizabethan Stage Society assembled on Saturday afternoon at Terry's Theatre to witness a representation of *The Comedie of Errors*. The stage was made as much as possible to resemble that of the historic Fortune Theatre, though the first production of the piece was "by the players" at Gray's Inn in 1594. It is therefore no violent hypothesis that Shakespeare could and did read the *Menæchmi* of Plautus, from which he borrowed the plot, in the original Latin, as we have no record of any translation of the comedy until 1595. The piece has not been produced at a London theatre for many years. It had a sort of popularity forty years ago, when the Brothers Webb gave very realistic studies of the Dromios. We remember these parts being played by the late Mr John S. Clarke and Mr Harry Paulton, who, if they did not resemble each other, were responsible for exceedingly droll embodiments. The Dromios of Saturday afternoon were Mr Arthur Curtis and Mr Norman Page. Their likeness to each other was really capital, and the crude humour of the situations gained largely by this happy chance. The fun is rudimentary, but it was none the less appreciated on that account, and both actors in expression, gesture, and business were so diverting that the scenes went to a continual accompaniment of laughter. As Antipholus of Syracuse Mr Hubert Carter acted with great liveliness and *brio*, putting a rare amount of amusing expressiveness into the predicaments in which "Syracuse" finds himself, and giving the text with admirable clearness. Mr John M. Troughton as the Antipholus of Ephesus, who has a much less rollicking time than his twin brother, took a more serious view of his responsibilities and gave valuable help, his declamation being excellent. Miss Ernita Lascelles distinguished herself by her portraiture of Adriana, whose distress of mind at the absence of her lord she depicted very naturally. The Luciana of Miss Cora Busch was another impersonation of considerable cleverness; and the courtesan of Miss Hilda Fletcher had plenty of sprightliness and vitality, her treatment of the part being bold. Mr Nugent Monck cut a grotesque figure as Pinch; the part of Angelo was effectively handled by Mr H. Cellier, jun., and the merchant was presented with tact and discretion by Mr E. Stidwell. The comedy was played continuously, without division into acts, except for a short interval at the end of the third act. Mr Arnold Dolmetsch's orchestra of ancient instruments played a selection of early English music as an overture to the play, which was followed by six of the players speaking most impressively, "The Queen's Prayer" from *Ralph Roister Doister*. *The Comedie of Errors* was repeated on the afternoons of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*, given on Saturday evening, has been presented every evening during the week.

MRS LANGTRY has decided to commence her season at Terry's Theatre on Jan. 18 with *Mrs Dering's Divorce*.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

At a meeting of the Playgoers' Club last Sunday, in the Victoria Hall of the Hotel Cecil,

The Rev. FORBES PHILLIPS, Vicar of Gorleston, the author of *For Church and Stage*, the play recently produced by Mrs Brown Potter at the Savoy Theatre, read a paper on "Church and Stage." He discussed the question from two standpoints—was a closer union between Church and stage possible, and was it desirable? There were, he said, a number of people who described the doors of a theatre as the gates of hell, and they declared that there was an inherent antagonism between the stage and religion. God, however, never meant life to be one monotonous round of work and prayer, but rather that piety should control all other influences. There was something wrong in life if man did not get his due share of the lighter side of things. The world, he was sorry to admit, was governed more by prejudice than principle. He reminded his hearers that plays had their earlier origin in the churches at Christmas and Easter. The Church at that age had a true hint of a great truth—that laughter was as much at the heart of things as tears. They wanted the Church and the religious sects to make up their minds on the subject of amusement. They asked, "What is your warrant for thinking there is sin in amusement when it takes the form of a visit to the theatre?" That was not the Christ view of life. Talking to an eminent bishop, Sir Henry Irving asked, "Why is it, with your knowledge of the drama of life and your wise sympathy with all that is noble, that you never go to the theatre?" "Well," said the bishop, "I am afraid of the *Rock* and the *Record*." The bishop was a particularly nervous man. The Church, however, did not hold itself as such a censor of the stage as the Dissenters, and it would be a bad day for England if people took Nonconformists too seriously. The stage must be more aggressive. They must go out into the open and defend themselves. Why not have stage lectures? Life was made miserable by narrow, jaundiced theology. Man must have vent for his feelings, instincts, and passions. Let the stage speak. It had a good cause, and let it make its standard the philosophy of thought. With regard to the question of closer union, he said emphatically "Yes." The Church and the stage were the two great schools of the people—each a tremendous factor, educationally, socially, and morally. The theatre supplied the social wants of man, and from his experience as a clergyman he maintained that it had an influence for good. It was not marvellous to him that more men did not attend church when they considered the dulness of the one and the sensationalism of the dissenting rostrum. This reminded him of a dissenting advertisement he once saw. It ran thus:—"On Sunday morning the discourse will be 'Should girls giggle?' and the evening 'Tea-cups, brandy-cups, and hiccoughs—which?'" The great body of men who did not go to church found their lessons of morality, beauty, and honourable conduct in the theatre. He spoke of what he knew. The hearts of those men were naturally generous and susceptible, and their appreciation of the drama was shown by the way in which they hissed the vice and applauded the virtue. Here the stage got hold of the heart which the minister could not reach, and anything which touched the heart was a victory for good. It was for the Church to realise that the stage was educating the soul like the Church, art, music, science, and all the nobler arts. Each had need of the other. At present the Church went too much to the study and the stage to the streets for the experience of life. The result was that they were both often too inhuman. Christ taught the human problems of life and surrounded them with dramatic interest. As to whether closer union was possible, he adjured the clergy to treat men more as men. They should show a little extra courtesy to the profession, and the bishops should be taken in hand. They were not really so stiff and starchy as they were made out to be. There was a good heart beneath—their gaiters he was going to say. They were nervous, but of late curates had been known to joke with bishops, and they had not been confounded. He thought managers might with advantage sometimes put a box at their disposal. They had many subjects discussed at the Church Congress. Why not have a paper read on the drama? There were thousands of Church-going old ladies in the land who would rush to the theatre if they received their information from the Church Congress, and their lonely lives would be cheered by one touch of nature at least. In conclusion the rev. gentleman maintained that there was a close bond of union between the Church and stage which was only waiting development.

There was only a short discussion, and the Rev. Forbes Phillips was warmly thanked for his address.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

H. Beerbohm Tree, actor—Saturday, Dec. 17.
A. B. Walkley, dramatic critic—Dec. 17.
Helen Graeme—Saturday, Dec. 17.
John Paley, actor—Saturday, Dec. 17.
Hubert Montague—Saturday, Dec. 17.
Stewart D. Wright—Saturday, Dec. 17.
G. V. Thomas—Saturday, Dec. 17.
Annie Floradora, music hall artiste—Dec. 17.
Jack Edgar, music hall manager—Dec. 18.
H. A. Saintsbury, actor—Sunday, Dec. 18.
William Rignold, actor—Sunday, Dec. 18.
Charles Freeman Sunday, Dec 18.
E. S Vincent, actor—Sunday, Dec. 18.
Harry Anderson, music hall artist—Dec. 18.
C. J. M'Carthy—Sunday, Dec. 18.
Georgina Hamilton—Monday, Dec 19.
Winifred Johnson, music hall artiste—Dec. 19
Lilian Dundas—Monday, Dec. 19.
Doris Kelvey—Monday, Dec. 19.
E C. Lilley—Monday, Dec. 19.
Sophie Reece—Tuesday, Dec. 20.
A. Balfour Mackay—Tuesday, Dec. 20.
Letty Lind, actress—Wednesday, Dec. 21.
Laurence Irving, actor—Wednesday, Dec. 21.
Thomas E. Marshall—Wednesday, Dec. 21.
J. Wright Aitken—Wednesday, Dec. 21.
Claire Romaine, music hall artiste—Dec. 21.
Fanny Robins, music hall artiste—Dec. 22.

MR PURCELL for the second annual pantomime at the Marlborough Theatre has chosen the popular story of "Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp." The book has been prepared by Mr J. Hickory Wood, and the cast includes Mr Harry Tate, Mr George Brooks, Messrs Rich and Rich, Miss Nancy Langtyre, Miss Elsie Roby, and Miss Simeta Marsden. Specialities by Charlene and Charlene. The pantomime will be produced on Boxing Day.

MR ARTHUR BOURCHIER has let the African rights of *The Walls of Jericho* to Messrs B. and F. Wheeler.

"GREIFENSTEIN; OR, UNDER THE BLACK SHADOW," a new drama, in four acts, by Reginald H. Curtis, was produced for copyright purposes on Wednesday, at the Theatre Royal, Leicester.

MISS KEITH LYTTON has been engaged by Mrs Langtry for her season at Terry's Theatre.—Mr Frank Weatherby will be Mrs Langtry's stage director for her forthcoming season at Terry's Theatre.—Mr George Dudley has been engaged by Miss Julia Neilson and Mr Fred Terry for their forthcoming production at the New Theatre in January.—Mr G. Moreton-Williams, who concluded on Saturday last a seventeen weeks' tour with *The Convict's Daughter*, playing the heavy lead, has been re-engaged by Mr Eugene Bertram for the spring tour of the same piece.

OPENING OF THE NEW PALACE THEATRE, GRIMSBY.

More favourable auguries for the success of a new venture could not be desired by the most exacting than was experienced in connection with the opening of the New Palace Theatre at Grimsby. Both at the reception, held on Saturday evening last, and at the public opening on Monday there was every cause for gratification on the part of the management.

The new theatre, which is built on the site of the old Theatre Royal, was fully described in last week's *Era*. It has been erected by a syndicate of local gentlemen, who have been fortunate in securing the co-operation of Mr Frank Macnaghten, the well-known vaudeville theatre manager. Under this arrangement the bookings for the Palace will be made in connection with the Macnaghten circuit. The popular system of giving two performances each evening has been adopted.

At the reception, admission to which was by invitation, the assemblage was representative of the most influential and fashionable circles of the locality. The greater part of the evening was taken up by a high-class musical programme, but during an interval opportunity was taken to perform the interesting ceremony of cutting the Palace birthday cake. These proceedings were presided over by Mr Joseph Chapman, one of the directors, he being supported by the Mayor and Mayoress of Grimsby (Councillor and Mrs Joseph Hewson), Sir George Doughty (member of Parliament for Grimsby), Colonel Bannister (Deputy Mayor), the Misses Hewson, Mrs Sutcliffe, Councillor F. Moss (chairman of Grimsby Public Buildings Inspection Committee), Mr Ward (the architect), and Mr Frank Macnaghten.

Mr Chapman introduced Mr Macnaghten to the gathering, remarking that the theatre had been established to provide a high-class variety entertainment in the town.

Mr Macnaghten, in a happily phrased speech, defined the distinction between the old music hall and the modern vaudeville theatre. The latter he described as a place where ladies and children might frequent, which could not be said of the music hall of a few years ago. He promised his audience he should take care that clean, wholesome, and healthy entertainments would invariably be seen at the Palace. Said he, "I make you this promise—That you shall not at any time see anything here to offend the eye or ear of the most fastidious." He added it was always his custom to provide a birthday cake when opening a new theatre, and he asked the Mayoress to cut the huge Palace birthday cake.

This Mrs Hewson gracefully accomplished, being presented with a handsome knife by Mr Joseph Chapman. Pieces of the cake were afterwards handed to the guests.

Sir George Doughty, in seconding a vote of thanks to the Mayoress, spoke very highly of the acoustic properties of the buildings, of which, being a prominent political orator, he is certainly a judge.

The Mayor of Grimsby and the architect (Mr Ward) also addressed the gathering, the latter remarking that there was not a blind seat in the house.

The musical arrangements were in the hands of Mr T. Murgatroyed, musical director of the Palace. A most enjoyable programme was gone through, including songs by Miss Sybil Montague, Miss Dorothy L. Clark, and Mr Ian Colquhoun; a cornet solo by Miss Alice Raymond, a xylophone solo by Mr Murgatroyd, a humorous interlude by Paddy-whiski (Mr Will H. Fox), and selections by the orchestra.

Two large audiences assembled on Monday evening, when the first public performances were given. To Frank Sylvo a comedy juggler, fell the distinction of being the first artist to amuse the public in the new building, though Mr Ian Colquhoun was really the first to tread the stage in a professional capacity, he having sung the National Anthem at the commencement of the private function on the Saturday evening. Frank Sylvo's turn combined some really smart juggling with a good deal of humorous business. An acrobatic performance of a truly classic character was that given by the Four Skandias. They are a quartet of gymnasts who exhibit great strength, besides neatness of accomplishment, in their various feats, the whole of which are performed on trapezes and other apparati supported by a lady member of the troupe. The Sisters Caselli are two charming ladies who told the audience, in song, that it is entirely unnecessary to visit the "Continong" to see good dancing, and proceed to prove their declaration by going through a series of graceful and pretty dances. Mr Ian Colquhoun, a robust baritone vocalist, displayed his magnificent voice to full advantage in singing "A True Born Englishman" and "Off to Philadelphia." Sam Redfern, Negro comedian, greatly amused the audience with his musical description of Saturday night, whilst his daringly original philosophy, particularly that portion relating to matrimony, was also entertaining. Ella Shields, a lady vocalist with a remarkably deep voice, pleased the audience with her songs. Roars of laughter were caused by Mr Harry Tate's company in the comedy sketch *Motoring*. In this the enthusiastic motorist's troubles with a refractory engine, an erratic "sparking plug," an absent-minded chauffeur, the inevitable and inquisitive small boy, and finally the police were cleverly burlesqued. The Caledonian Boys' Orchestral and Concert Combination provided a most popular turn. Their playing of Suppé's beautiful overture to *Poet and Peasant* was excellent, the 'cello solo at the commencement being especially worthy of notice. Capital piccolo and vocal solos were also introduced by various members of the combination. The turn which occasioned most interest and which occupied pride of place in the programme was the marvellous performance of Captain Woodward's educated seals and sea-lions. Until one has actually seen what the latter can accomplish a detailed account of their feats would seem incredible.

Altogether the programme submitted this week at the Palace has been of a most attractive nature, and visitors have expressed complete satisfaction with the opening performances.

The World's Fair, under the management of Messrs T. and T. E. Read, will open at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Christmas Eve with a wonderful programme of popular amusements. The following are some of its leading features:—The grand free circus, including the famous troupe of Bedouin Arabs, who have been re-engaged owing to their great success last year; Menotti, on the high telephone wire (his first appearance here) twice daily over the grand Continental menagerie, including White Wings, the long-mane and long-tail horse; and the ever-popular and amusing monkey house; and the Herbert Troupe of six aerial gymnasts. Also the latest American novelty, "Slipping the Slip." Intending visitors should take note that the noise caused by the barrel organs will be further reduced, and during the circus and other performances entirely stopped.

Miss Gladys Archbutt, who made her first appearance this week at the Oxford, is a pretty girl, who will not celebrate her sixteenth birthday until next June. She is a pupil of Miss Crompton, dances neatly, and sings a song called "Now, go away, Mr Crocodile," in a self-possessed manner. Young as she is, Miss Archbutt has already figured, at Bristol and Kennington, as the youthful hero and heroine of *The Babes in the Wood*. Last Christmas she was at the Vaudeville. Another little comedienne who is well received is Miss Katie Marsh, sister of the Harvey Boys, who gives imitations of a serio, an operatic soprano, a coon dancer, and an old-fashioned heroine of melodrama. She wears a pretty turquoise blue satin coat over a simple little white silk frock, with chiffon flounces.

STROLLING PLAYERS ORCHESTRA.

Singularly interesting was the concert of the Strolling Players at Queen's Hall on Thursday night, for it was the hundredth concert given by the society, the members having reasonable grounds for pride in a fact so creditable to amateur performers. It is absurd for foreigners to speak of "unmusical England" when we have a body of amateurs like these interpreting the works of great musicians in a style few professional orchestras could surpass. The first item was the brilliant Overture to *Masaniello*, performed at the first concert, Dec. 13, 1882, and it was played on this occasion with all the dash and vigour required. The suite, "Casse Noisette" also displayed to the greatest advantage the executive skill of the players. The dance of the "Sugar Plum Fairy" and the quaint march could hardly have had a better rendering and a selection from Sullivan's opera, *Patience*, showed the appreciation of our native composer. A march, called "Welcome," by Mr Norfolk Megone, was included in the programme, and we may mention that Mr Megone had a greeting of the most enthusiastic character. Owing to indisposition, Mr Dalton Baker was unable to appear, his place being taken by Mr George Ridgwell, who sang Tito Mattei's "Love is Life" and "A Fond Kiss," by Scott Gatty. Miss Carmen Hill was very successful in a song of Tschaikowsky and "The Butterfly and the Rose," by Garnet Cox. The same young artist sang melodies by Lambert and Del Riego with much grace. A great success may be chronicled by Mr Tom Clare, who treated the now familiar "Bill Bailey" in a manner that convulsed the audience, who demanded a repetition in the most vehement way. Mr Clare came forward with a placard on which was inscribed "No encores allowed," and the singer adhered to his text. Mr Clare is certainly one of the most genuine humourists of the day, and his reception could not have been more flattering. He recalls in no slight degree the late Corney Grain. The members who took part in the original performance of the "Ave Maria" of Gounod and Bach at the first concert again played this item. The presence of Miss Fanny Davies, who performed the Concerto of Liszt in E flat, added not a little to the attraction of the concert, and gave the orchestra another opportunity of winning distinction. The services of Mr William Shakespeare as conductor deserve acknowledgment, and Mr Harold Garstin was an efficient accompanist.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Almero.—Dec. 13, Laura Blanchard wife of W. Almero, gymnast, of a daughter (still-born). Mother doing well. 278, Cornwall-road, Nottinghill, W.

Anderson.—Dec. 8, at 6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton, the wife of S. Anderson (née Amelia Swallow), of a daughter. Mother and child doing well.

MARRIAGES.

Powell—Allen.—By special licence, at Registrar's Office, Rochdale, John Powell, known as R. C. Note, to Daisy Allen, better known as Daisy Davenport.

DEATHS.

Albert.—Dec. 11, after a short illness, the dearly beloved father of Lottie Albert, in his seventy-fifth year. Deeply mourned. God rest his dear soul.

Bonehill.—Dec. 14, at Alexandra-road, Landport Mrs Bonehill, mother of the late Bessie Bonehill.

Bostock.—Dec 14, at Norwich, Mrs Bostock, née Wombwell, aged seventy years, the beloved mother of James W., Edward H., Frank C., and Fanny W. "The Lord's will be done."

Cazaly.—Dec. 14, James Cazaly, aged forty-eight.

Clarence.—Dec. 11, at Liverpool, George D. Clarence, actor, aged sixty.

Gallagher.—Dec. 10, at Askern, Risca-road, Newport, Mary, for forty-three years the beloved wife of Major John Gallagher, acting-manager, the Empire, Newport, aged seventy-one.

In Memoriam.

Brown.—In loving memory of my dear mother, Mrs Edwin Brown (Kate Kelly), who died Dec. 13, 1899, ever fondly remembered by her daughter Catherine Alexandre.

Brown.—In loving memory of Mrs Edwin Brown (Kate Kelly), who died Dec. 13, 1899. Never forgotten by her loving husband and affectionate daughters, Beattie Laurel, Ada Lotto, and Ada Alexandre R.I.P.

Caban.—In loving memory of Rose Caban, née Meers, daughter of Hubert and Adele Meers, who passed away Dec. 31, 1902

Never forgotten.
R.I.P.

O'Grady.—In loving and affectionate remembrance of my dear husband, Hubert O'Grady, who died Dec. 19. 1899, and who is ever present in my thoughts. Mrs Hubert O'Grady, Rhyl, N. Wales.

The friends of Mr and Mrs Will Johnson will be grieved to hear that they have lost their little baby, who died on Dec. 9, aged three years nine months. She was buried on Thursday at Forest-hill. Mr Will Johnson, by the way, is in no way connected with the person of the same name who brought an action for assault last week.

At the Marylebone Police-court, on Thursday, Mr Philip Rutland, solicitor, attended before Mr Curtis Bennett with reference to the prosecution by the Theatrical Managers' Association against the Metropolitan and Mr Henri Gros, its managing-director, on Oct. 28, when the company was fined £180 and Mr Gros was bound over to come up if called upon, in regard to the production of the stage play *The Fighting Parson*. The decision against the company, he said, was being appealed against, and the appeal was fixed for Jan. 6. It was, however, with respect to the proceedings against Mr Gros that he wished to make an application. Mr Gros took a very strong personal view of the matter, and was exceedingly desirous that the summons should be restored to the list and disposed of. Mr Curtis-Bennett said he should not do that until the appeal had been decided. He might possibly impose a fine if the matter was pressed very much. Mr Rutland replied that in that event Mr Gros would pay. Mr Curtis-Bennett declined, however, declined to deal with the summons until the appeal had been heard.

Mr Willie Freear, who has been so successful in his three tours round the world with his three hours' monologue entertainment "Freear's Frivolities," and has appeared before so many crowned heads, including King Edward, the King of Siam, the Sultan of Turkey, &c, has been engaged by Mr Frank Curzon to play the part of Sergeant Brue on tour.

Mr Hyram Travers, whose "Pearly King" has found many loyal subjects on the Rand, returns to England in time for his birthday party on Boxing Day, loaded with good wishes and presents from his South African admirers.

Miss Margaret Radcliffe, who has just finished a tour of the Moss Empires, where she has met with most flattering receptions, goes to play Eric, a special second boy's part in *Mother Goose*, at the Royal, Manchester.

Mr Robert Arthur has secured the M'Kays' "Magic Kettle" for pantomime.—Carl and Carr, comedians, are specially engaged to play the Chinese policemen, in Arthur Carlton's *Aladdin* pantomime at Ealing Theatre.—Clyo and Rochelle, now on a five weeks' provincial tour, return to town on Jan. 16 to the South London.

ON THE ROAD, DEC. 19.

As Midnight Chimes.—O. H., Perth.
Beautiful Fiend.—Theatre Royal, W. Bromwich.
Bells of Haslemere.—Albert T., Brighouse.
Best Must Win.—Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge.
Bid for Fortune.—Theatre Royal, Worcester.
Bound to Win.—Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Bulmer, Mr.—Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.
Conscript.—Royalty Theatre, Barrow.
Christian.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Dishonoured.—P. O. W. T., Southampton.
Duke of Killicrankie (Lovel).—Hastings.
Duke of Killicrankie (Frohman).—G. T., Hull.
Fatal Crown.—Opera House, Leicester.
Fatal Fortune.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Frivolity —Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.
Gipsy Jack and Mafeking.—Greenwich.
Girl's Cross Roads — Theatre Royal, Castleford.
Grip of Iron.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Harvest of Sin.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
Her One Great Sin.—P. O. W. T., Salford.
It's Never Too Late to Mend.—Stockport.
La Comédie Anglaise.—Charing.
Ladder of Life.—Osborne T., Manchester.
Lady of Ostend.—Theatre Royal, Stockton.
Laughter-Land —Prince's Theatre, Preston.
Lightning's Flash.—Star Theatre, Swansea.
London Firman.—Gaiety Theatre, Clydebank.
Lucky Durham.—Lyceum Theatre Sheffield.
Man to Man.—Queen's Theatre, Leeds.
Moody-Manners (A).—T. R., Dublin.
Moody-Manners (B).—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Moody-Manners (C).—Alyth.
Napoleon the Great.—Bishop Auckland.
New Mephisto.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Norman V. Norman.—T. R., Bournemouth.
Plucky Nipper —Opera House, Cork.
Private Secretary.—Opera House, Londonderry.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Pontypool.
Revenge.—Court Theatre, Wigan.
Royal Revenge (Clyndes) —Merthyr.
Sapho (Annie Bell).—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Sherlock Holmes.—Opera House, Southport.
Sin of Her Childhood.—T. R., Jarrow.
Still Alarm.—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
Traitor.—Colosseum Theatre, Oldham.
Traitor Prince.—Theatre Royal, Chatham.
Trip to Chinatown.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
Two Little Sailor Boys —N. T., Cambridge.
Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harrington).—Farnworth.
World's Desire.—Bedford.
10·30 Down Express.—Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

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STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

The series of accidents that have occurred at the Coliseum are, fortunately, not so serious as was supposed. Two of the stage hands and four "supers" have been injured. Mr Frank Ballard is master carpenter, Mr Warwick Buckland the property master, Mr H. Pemberton the chief engineer, and Mr Flanagan the foreman of the limelight department in this establishment.

Mr C. Squires is now master carpenter at the Comedy Theatre with the *Charley's Aunt* company.

There will be a meeting of the Society of Theatrical Carpenters in the Salisbury Hotel on Sunday evening, at 8·30, for the purpose of electing the officers for the ensuing year and the consideration of other business.

At the general meeting of the Theatrical Operatives Sick and Benevolent Society, held on Sunday last, the officers for the ensuing year were elected. Mr A. E. Wood, who has held office during the past ten years, resigned the position of secretary, and Mr Kenyon, of the electric department, Royalty Theatre, was elected to that office. Mr George Montgomary, of the Alhambra Theatre, was elected treasurer in place of Mr W. Kessell, jun. The other office bearers were re-elected.

Voting papers have been issued to the members of the National Union Theatrical Stage Employees with reference to alterations of rules and other matters. Any member who has not received a voting paper is requested to apply to the secretary, Mr Wm. Johnson, who would also be glad if Mr Harry Couzens, whose arrival from Australia was announced in this column last week, would call on him at 29, Wellington-street, Strand.

Notices and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

The Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, where preparations are being rapidly pushed forward by a large number of men for the opening on Monday next, was the scene of a serious accident on Tuesday evening. Between six and seven o'clock, while many men were engaged at work on the stage, a large piece of scenery fell over, from some unexplained cause, and four men who failed to get out of the way in time were pinned beneath it. With all possible dispatch the scenery was lifted, and the men released. Ambulances were sent for, and the men were removed to Charing-cross Hospital, where they were detained. The four men were employed as scene-shifters. Two of them—Frederick Long, of 429A, King's-road, Chelsea, and John Blake, of 22, Bedfordbury—were only slightly injured, and, after remaining in the hospital about an hour, were sent home. Another man, Henry Hazell, of 106, Laburnum-street, Kingsland-road, had his leg broken. The fourth man, who refused to give his name, is suffering from a slight concussion.

Mr Eric Graham, composer and comedian, has been confined to bed with acute gastritis. One great consolation to his friends is that the greatest possible care of him is being taken by Mr Alf Wallis, an old school chum, at the Grapes Hotel, Kirkdale, Liverpool. We sincerely wish Mr Graham a speedy recovery.

Little Clarisse Henry is now singing at all her engagements that pretty love song "Baby Mine," by Leo Freidman, which recently delighted the patrons of the Granville, Walham-green. Mr Eustace Jay has engaged Clarisse to appear at the Palace, Croydon, for one week, commencing Monday, Dec. 19. Her very pretty coon dress, by Mr Willie Clarkson, is greatly admired.

Mr Frank Hilbert, who originally appeared at the Royal Standard, Pimlico, under the management of Mr T. S. Dickie, has been a success at the Empires, Leeds, Newcastle, South Shields, and Palace, Hull. He is rebooked by Mr Frank Allen. On Monday he opened at the Canterbury, and was immediately secured by Mr Geo. Adney Payne for the Oxford. He admits that his success is due to the efforts of his agent, Mr H. Burrows Smith.

The flowing tide of success which Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter are experiencing was again exemplified on Thursday night at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, no fewer than seven gigantic hits occurring in the sixth pantomime of the year. They are "Bluebell," "Navaho," "Under a Panama." "Stop your tickling, Jock," "If I had a girl as nice as you," "A B C D," and "Walking home with Angeline."

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 10)

NEWPORT.

Lyceum. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Mr John Tully's company in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* is occupying the boards here. Mr W. H. Cecil Pierpont cleverly impersonates Phineas Fletcher; Kora Deanrajah sustains the part of Uncle Tom with pathos; and Aunt Chloe is admirably portrayed by Miss Lilian Danty, Miss Kitty Wood making an inimitable Topsy. Miss Ada Lewis represents Emeline creditably, and Miss Marie Lyndon as Aunt Ophelia is prim and exact. The comedy element is sustained by Mr S. Vincent Beechy as Mark, the lawyer. George Harris and his wife are well represented by Mr Chas. Macdonald and Miss Florence Vennimore respectively.

Empire.—Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—Crowded houses welcome Carl Hertz, who, with the assistance of Mdlle. D'Alton, performs some extraordinary illusions. The Berowsky Trio in a gymnastic scena, *In the Woods*, give an excellent display; the Troubadour Quartette keeps the house in roars with their comedy, *Who's Got that Thing?* the Sisters Trentanovi are graceful trapezists; Leonard and François, e ccentric acrobats, introduce a burlesque that causes much merriment; and the Passparts dance very gracefully. Kitty Bell sings in good style; Childie Stuart, comedienne, is popular; and the American Bioscope shows some interesting pictures.

NORWICH.

Theatre Royal —Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—An excellent company is here this week with *A Fatal Crown*. Mr Ian Maclaren as Lord Guilford Dudley is most successful; Mr J. M. Rome is equally so as the Earl of Northumberland; Mr Ernest Godge does well as Herne; and Mr Henry Howard is good as Simon Reynard. Mr Miller Wilson is remarkable as Xit, and Mr S. C. Hill, who is 6ft. 10in., and Mr C. O. Scott, 7ft. 2in., appear as Goz, Tower giant, and Magog, Tower priest. Mr Johnny Fisher is very capable as Izzod Clay; Miss Augusta Tullock acts charmingly as Lady Jane Grey; Miss Maude Anderson gives a capital representation of Mary Tudor; Miss Kythe Mackenzie deserves praise as Dorcas Dossitt; and Miss Dorothy Mackenzie scores as Barbara.

Hippodrome.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Captain Selby.—The Mannings' entertainers are very funny in their convulsing carnival *A Turkish Bath Rubber;* Will Lytton is a clever comedian; the Du Gros Trio are clever gymnasts; Mdlle. Yvette, the lady clown, and her miniature hippodrome of trained ponies and performing dogs are very interesting; Bert Oakley and Polly James are great favourites in their singing, dancing, and juggling; Downes and Langford are amusing in their patter and dancing; whilst Belle Davis and her three piccaninnies are quite an attraction, and Maud Courtney deserves praise for her song and story.

NORTHAMPTON.

Opera House —Proprietors, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—Mr Albert E. Cross is appearing here this week as Pete, in *The Manxman*, a part that he plays carefully and consistently. He is well supported by Miss Minnie Watersford as Kate Cregeen and Mr Richard Vane as Philip Christian. Miss Lesley Adair as Miss Christian, Miss Kitty Livesey as Bella Kelly, and Miss Rosie Kearns as Nancy are good. Mr Henry Heller is highly effective as Cæsar Cregeen; Mr Edward M'Lean is a capital Ross Christian; Mr Erskholme E Clive gives a clever character sketch of Professor Mawley; Mr Ed. Cartell ably renders the part of Monty Missitt; and Mr John Allen as Tom, the postman; Mr W. Horgan as John, the constable; and Mr H. E. Morton as Jonique Jelly give effective support.

Palace of Varieties.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—Heading the programme is Claude Ginnett's equestrian sketch entitled *Rejected Remounts*, which is full of clever fun and merriment. Jessie Reed gives a couple of songs in a highly refined style; George Globe is a quaint comedian; Kate Lynd is pleasing; Charley Dixon possesses ability; the Morrison Girls entertain with song and dance; and Charles Rooney is versatile.

NORTH SHIELDS.

Theatre Royal. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Mr Wentworth Croke's company is here with *The Christian*, and proving a great attraction. As Glory Quayle Miss Grace Chalmers is responsible for a satisfactory portrayal of the character, and Mr Hilliard Vox scores a decided success as the Hon. John Storm. Mr Charles B. Bedells is a capable Lord Robert Ure, and Mr Jackson Wilcox gives a capital interpretation of Horatio Drake. Mr Stanley Radcliffe as Father Lamplugh plays with conspicuous ability; Mr Charles Hill makes the most of Parson Quayle; Mr Oswald Marshall gives a good rendering of Mr Lorimer; and Miss Clara Nichols is a pleasing Mrs Callander.

New Central Palace.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—Topping the bill here is Mr Billy Farrell, comedian, who has been accorded a hearty reception; Selbo, club manipulator, remains from last week, and is again meeting with much success; Kennie's Fantoches give an interesting entertainment; Mr Charles Danton, character comedian, is well received; and Miss Lue Lord, serio-comic; Messrs Duncan and Morton, comedy artistes; and the Bio-Photoscope are also received with favour.

NOTTINGHAM.

Theatre Royal.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr Howard Finney.—*The Never-Never Land*, which makes a welcome return visit here, is being played by Messrs John Hart and Harold Armitage's company. The part of Nat Rudder is now exploited by Mr Edward Rochelle, whose drunken desperado is not without the saving grace of humour. Mr Edmund F. Kennedy gives a manly portrayal of Jack Mowbray; Jack Landale has a pleasant exponent in Mr Geo. Mackenzie; Mr Eric Longley plays the Chinese servant with care; and Mr Benson North shows the villainy of Wolff with consummate skill. Mr Cecil Elgar is convincing as Lord Thurland; Mr Simon D. Ord aptly assumes the Poet; Miss Margaret Parker essays the part of Smudgee with success; Miss Marion Fawcett gives the requisite touch of dignity to the part of Lady Walgrove; and Miss Julie Kennard offers a carefully drawn picture of Sal Berker. Misses Caroline and Kathleen Barrett look and act charmingly as Sybil and Lorna.

Grand Theatre. — Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—An amateur operatic society occupies the boards this week in *Les Cloches de Corneville*, in aid of local charities. Excellent performances have been given, especially that of Gaspard by Mr Harry Middleton. The help and advice of Mr Charles P. Cooke, the manager of the theatre, have been invaluable to all concerned in the production.

King's Theatre.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull.—*The Mysteries of the Thames*, which contains the full complement of sensation, is being played here by Mr F. Brooke Warren's company. Mr Roy Fortescue realises his opportunities in the character of the unfortunate Richard Brandon. Mr Warren was unable to fill the rôle of the rascally Captain James Denbigh owing to indisposition, but his place was capably taken by Mr Gilbert Hall. Mr Elton Morgan adds to the interest of the representation as Bill Bosco; Miss Gwynne Warren shows excellent capabilities in the dual-rôle of Helen and Grace Rochdale, depicting the two dissimilar characters with skill and care; Miss Lallah Shelton embodies Kate Brandon is a sympathetic manner; and the lighter vein is capitally shown by Miss Clare O'Sullivan as Bertie Fitzgerald and Mr Dan Hardie as Peter Wiggles.

Empire Theatre of Varieties.—Managing Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—Joe Elvin and company are presenting *Over the Sticks* here to the running accompaniment of uproarious laughter. Mr Elvin is well suited in the character of a jockey, finding abundant opportunities for his resourceful humour, and the production is elaborately staged and dressed. Miss Vinona Winter gives a delightful entertainment, being assisted by Mr W. H. Banks, their singing patter, and ventriloquism gaining an enthusiastic reception; the Trapnell Family demonstrate their skill in acrobatic feats; and Les Burnellys offer a gymnastic act that is at once novel and clever; a musical item by Werner and Reider is received with every indication of pleasure; and Post Mason appears as an Arab, singing with gusto the song "Son of the Desert am I." Jennie Belmore contributes a bright song with animation; and the efforts of Harry Lawson and Victor Travers, comedians, are thoroughly appreciated.

OLDHAM.

Empire, Limited.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr Hulme.—Mr William Greet's principal company is occupying the boards here with that popular play, *The Sign of the Cross*. As Mercia Miss Evelyn D'Alroy presents an artistic rendering, and receives the hearty approval of a crowded audience. Mr F. B. Woulfe is powerful as Marcus Superbus, and Mr A. Bernhardt Turner does well as Nero.

Royal, Limited.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—An attractive programme submitted here this week includes the American Comedy Four, eccentric vocalists. The Sakers are successful comedy artistes; A. C. Revell is well received for a unique electric juggling performance; G. H. Elliott, the chocolate coloured coon, receives a hearty approval; as comedy acrobats Lantes and Montes are duly appreciated for some clever work; Little Uno is a clever comedian; the Three Sisters Macarte receive a hearty welcome; and the Bioscope is a successful item.

Gaiety (Limited).—Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The programme submitted here this week includes Oswald, the marvellous hand balancer and pyramidist. Victor Newman is successful in Shakespearian sketches. Duncan, club juggler, is well received. A capital turn is submitted by Will Hall with his animal imitations. Bob Vokes is a favourite here. Miss Molly Doon, comedienne; Will Bell, comedian and dancer; the Bransbys, and the Bioscope add greatly to the success of the entertainment. Mr Bull, the first violinist, has succeeded Mr Beaumont as conductor of the orchestra.

OXFORD.

New Theatre.—Managing Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—Miss Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company is here this week giving an excellent representation of *The Ticket-of-Leave Man*, with that veteran artist Mr Henry Neville in his original character of Bob Brierley. Mr Neville gives a fine performance, and receives admirable support from Mr W. Devereux as James Dalton, Mr L. Cory-Thomas as Hawkshaw, Mr Thurstans as Moss, and Mr Mallalieu as Mr Gibson. Miss Adie Boyne is a bright and natural Sam Willoughby; Miss Emma Victor a thoroughly satisfactory Mrs Willoughby; and Miss Emily Weeden gives a powerful and sympathetic rendering of May Edwardes

Empire Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells Miss Maggie Stanton and Mr T. Gilbert Perry's company is here with *The Sporting Girl*. Mr T. Gilbert Perry gives a vigorous portrayal of Mr Penton Hook; Mr Chas. Saunders is robust as Jack Gosling; and Mr Marcus Grey is decidedly good as Marco Castellino. Mr Horace Moseley makes a humorous Rev. John Bonyan, whilst Mr James Sterling is restrained as George Drewett. Miss Maggie Stanton is versatile as Kitty Fitzroy; Miss Marjorie Tennant scores as Mrs Owen; and Miss Clara Knowles is effective as Amy Beddoe.

Town Hall.—Managers, Messrs Sydney Acott Harris, and Co.—On Thursday and Friday last week the Elizabethan Stage Society, under the direction of Mr William Poel, gave very interesting performances of *The Tragical History of Dr. Faustus* and *The Comedie of Errors*, which had a very sympathetic reception from evidently appreciative houses.

PAISLEY.

Paisley Theatre.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile.—Mr Alexander Loftus's company is occupying the boards here this week in *The New Barmaid*. Mr Joseph B. Montague is irresistibly funny as Bertie White, and keeps the house in continual merriment; as William White Mr Alexander Loftus scores a success, being lively, amusing, and agile; Mr Leslie Austin is efficient in his interpretation of Captain Lovebury, and sing well; Mr Arthur Rodney admirably portrays Colonel Claymore; Mr Frank Melroyd is responsible for much merriment in depicting Mons. Bonsor; and clever assumptions are the Gussie of Mr Norman Bower and the Inspector of Mr George Roslyn. Miss Violet Osmund makes a vivacious Dora Heather, and dances well; Miss Jean Gilmour is dignified as Lady Moulton; Brenda Louth is admirably sustained by Miss Hilda Blanche; Miss O'Neil pleasingly acts Ethel Joy; and Miss Ethel Kenyon is smart and bright as Braddy.

Empire.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—Here this week are the following, who all submit excellent turns:—The Three Martinettes, in their knockabout absurdity *The Trainer and Two Tramps;* Flo Chevalier, refined burlesque artiste; Alf Walker, Negro comedian, banjoist, and dancer; Tom Hulme, eccentric comedian; France and Francis, knockabouts and grotesque acrobats; and W. E. Hilton, ventriloquist.

PENTRE.

Lyceum Theatre.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Miss Winnifold Chalmers' company was here the first portion of the week, in *A Woman's Revenge*. The piece is full of interesting situations, which were admirably portrayed by a strong cast. On Thursday and Friday the Moody-Manners company paid its annual visit to this theatre, the répertoire including *Faust*, *Lohengrin*, and *Carmen*.

PLYMOUTH.

Theatre Royal.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—The return visit this week of *The Marriage of Kitty* is achieving another success. That clever actress Miss Vera Fordyce provides a finished study of Miss Katherine Silverton, whilst Miss Kate Harwood's acting as the young widow is remarkably good. Owing to the illness of Mr Sidney Orton, the character of Sir Reginald Belsize was entrusted to Mr Leslie Tyler, who sustains the part in a very capable manner. Mr Frank Wilson, Mr J. F. Leighton, and Miss Elsie Saville are also deserving of commendation.

Grand Theatre.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—Miss Lilian Dundas and company are appearing here in *East Lynne*, which is capitally mounted. As an emotional actress Miss Dundas adds to her laurels in the part of Lady Isabel Carlyle. Mr Henry Dundas essays the difficult rôle of Archibald Carlyle in a powerful manner, and no less to the fore is Mr M. Cole as Captain Francis Levison. A decided hit is scored by Miss Mabel Evelyn as Barbara Hare, and a very humorous impersonation is provided by Miss Kathleen O'Connor, who appears as Miss Corney Carlyle. Mr Henry J. Barrett represents Justice Hare. Mr Sidney Young and Mr C. Klein as Lawyer Dill and Richard Hare respectively acquit themselves creditably.

Palace of Varieties. — Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore; Manager, Mr J. Field.—This week

Mr and Mrs Litchfield top the bill with their funny sketch, *Down at Brook Farm*, which evokes hearty laughter. The Vivians provide a smart and entertaining turn in, *Life's Reverie*. Funny songs are forthcoming from James Kurry, and topical songs from Walter Stockwell. Devere and Kenwick are smart dancers and mirth-provokers, and a slack-wire exhibition by Celeste is a feature of the show. *The Little Charwoman*, a musical mélange by Nannie Goldman and Willie Holles and company, is a very acceptable item, and *The Call Boy*, by Kisbey, is a unique speciality. Animated pictures conclude an attractive programme.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton.—*The Seal of Silence* is being played here by Miss M. B. Buckstone and Mr J. Th. Cox's company. Mr George Langdon impersonates the hero in clever fashion, and Mr C. Arrol-Alderayde is equally successful as the villain. Mr Reginald Payne, Miss Lucy Coventry, Miss M. B. Buckstone, Miss D. Cook, Miss G. Hunt, and others distinguish themselves in minor parts.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Miss Olga Nethersole and her able company are presenting *Sapho* here this week. Miss Nethersole in the name-part presents a fine, emotional, and well-sustained impersonation, and is warmly applauded. The Jean of Mr Arthur Royston is also a capable and masterly piece of work. Mr A. T. Hendon is amusing as Uncle Césaire. Déchélette by Mr George Norman Burt and Caoudal of Mr John Barnum are well acted. Miss Winifred Pearson is a pleasing Divonne, and Miss Jessie Melville is a successful Madame Hettema.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—The powerful and interesting play *East Lynne* is being produced here for the week by Mr Ernest R. Abbott and company, Mr Abbott playing the part of Archibald Carlyle in a manly style that is greatly appreciated by all parts of the house. Miss Ada Abbott's portrayal of the unfortunate Lady Isabel is a capable and successful piece of acting. Mr W. T. Garbois scores as the villain, Francis Levison, and Mr William T. Riley as Lord Mountsevern is good. Mr Edwin Keene as P.-C Mutton is most amusing. Barbara is convincingly played by Miss Linda Riley, and Little Willie Carlyle is intelligently played Miss Elsie Jones.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—This popular resort is being well patronised this week. Miss Katie Lawrence, star comedienne, is well received, her piquant style being much appreciated. Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes, are highly diverting in their novel turn; George Penn, quaint raconteur and eccentric musician, is smart; Charles Lilburn, vocal comedian, is very quaint; Frank and Free, comedy artistes and specialty dancers (a turn in lieu of George D'Albert, who is indisposed), contribute a clever act; and the Rozells, in their comedy bar act, are well received. The programme also includes Marie Santoi, soubrette; Jubal and Joyce, eccentric comedians; George Bernard, actor-vocalist; and Alf Levarni, wire walker.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—As a pleasant change a variety entertainment holds away here for two weeks, the artists including the Testo Brothers, a couple of skilful musical acrobats; Miss Winnie Scott, a good comedienne and dancer; Harry Sutton, a well-known Lancashire humorist; Marie Winsome, male impersonator; Allen and White, hand-balancers and knockabouts; the Brothers Lander, knockabout comedians; Albert Ventor, a quaint comedian; and the Bowery Boys.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—Mr Joseph Poole's well-known Myriorama is being exhibited to good audiences here this week. The pictures, which are quite up to date, prove very attractive. Capital variety turns are sandwiched into the show. They include Mdlle Orbasany, with her educated cockatoos; Miss May Finch, vocalist; Felix Somers, facial wonder; and the Veronas, lady dancers.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—Miss Cissie Moxon's company is this week paying us a second return visit with *A Trip to Rum-Fum*. Miss Moxon gives as good an interpretation as ever of Flossie Kixle, and Miss Lilly Mayfield makes a graceful and charming Peggy O'Hooligar, whilst Miss Rosie Stewart's impersonation of Angelina Toft is good. Mr Fred Alberto and Mr W. S. Hutchinson as Larry O'Hooligan and Biddy O'Hooligan respectively do excellent work. Mr Dick Tubb and Mr C. Russell as Van Swanck and Cecil Toft are also responsible for smart business.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—Mr and Mrs Fred Benton's company is here this week with *A Marriage of Vengeance*. Miss A. Harrison Tate is specially engaged for her original part of Stella Burgon, which she plays in powerful style; and all the other characters are well sustained.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*Otto the Outcast* is in possession of the boards here this week. Mr Harry Starr again appears in the title-rôle with his usual success; Mr Richard Harris cleverly depicts the various disguises assumed by Roderique D'Estalier; Mr Wm. Miller justifies his selection in the part of Daddy Bruneau; Mr Conrad Clerke is effective in his portrayal of the Marquis De Laporte; and Mr J. Turner creates much amusement as Augustine Carrotte, being ably assisted by Miss Edma Lester as Susette. Miss Rita Rosslyn enacts with skill the part of Corinne Jarbeau, and Miss Queenie Fraser-Brunner makes a favourable impression as Lara.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—Will Onda's company in *A Quiet Night* and *Servants Wanted* creates roars of laughter; Fred Bendella is a clever contortionist and hand balancer; Dave Hallie is an amusing comic singer; Gillin submits a capital exhibition of ventriloquism; the Bioscope shows capital pictures, introducing "A Soldier's Romance;" and Bob Stephenson, Irish comedian and dancer; Mdlle. Alencon, mystifier and magician; and Eva Reed, comedienne and dancer, complete the list.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—One of the best companies of variety artistes we have seen is here this week. The demon kettle introduced by Mr Fred Carlton and Prof. Lundi astonishes the audience. Mons. Slippere and Miss Ramsay gave a refined turn of piano-playing and vocalism; Wieland, juggler, convulses the house with laughter with his comic yet clever feats; and R. C. Note, character comedian; Harry Wenburn, comedian; Sisters Huls, vocalists and expert dancers; and the Empire Bioscope, with a series of animated pictures, are amongst the other attractions.

RUNCORN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr H. W. Caddick.—Another variety combination holds the boards this week, and includes Mr C. Bostock, who has a host of risible topical songs; Will Percival, the eminent clog dancer; Miss Nellie Elliene, a taking vocalist; Mr Fred Charles, laughing comedian; Wayne and Wallace, comedians and statue dancers; Dunville, in a musical act; M'Gowan, vocalist; and last, but not least, the Four Arizonas, acrobats and jugglers.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Mr William A. Armour and company are here this week in the musical drama *What a Woman Did*. Mr Will Simpson is seen to advantage as Fritz Von Hœgitheim, and Mr W. A. Armour is a manly Conrad De L'Orme. Mr Percy E. Wright as Raffaelle Duroe is a typical villain, and is ably seconded by Mr Owen Edwin as Pitou. Mr Cyril Dundas is very humorous as Perfect Peter Pippin and Mr J. H. Stewart is worthy of mention as Audre Lafonte. Miss Violette Vivienne is smart as Marie Brisson and Miss Lcuie Lonora is chic as Fanchon. Miss Amy Maitland is a sprightly Nanette and Miss Alice Raymer gives a careful portrayal of the part of La Papillon. Miss Dora Price as Elsie De L'Orme gives a pleasing and sympathetic rendering of a difficult rôle.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr E. Parker Royston.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company is here this week with *The Heart of a Hero*. Mr Fred W. Goddard as Jem Resdale is excellent, and has the approval of the audience throughout. Mr A. B. Mackay is good as Mark Marl, and as Wilfred Marl Mr Chas. E. Johnson gives a performance full of merit. Mr Allan Carruthers as Timothy Helghno is amusing, and Miss Ida Mackay as Susie Slack is also very successful in her rendering. Mr Eric Forth as Dave Pritchard is good, and Mr J. Harold as Henry Barker is worthy of commendation. In the very opposite rôles of Mrs Barker, Mrs Ryder, and May Ryder Miss Beatrice Hudson achieves conspicuous success, and as Nell Resdale Miss Cissy St. Elmo gives an excellent interpretation.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Mr and Mrs William Giffard and company are cleverly presenting the remarkable play *The World's Desire* before good houses. The piece is excellently staged. Mr Wm. Giffard's portrayal of the scoundrel known as the Hon Ellis Tridley is masterly; Miss Giffard is no less successful as Dora Mutley; Nathaniel Mutley is well placed in the hands of Mr George Child; Miss Ella Seton as Helen Berkshaw and Little Miss Alberte as Ragged Jack are charming; Miss Frances Bruce as Justerina Hook causes roars with her clever business; Mr C. Rean effectively represents the twin brothers, Robert and Kenry Selkirk; and Mr H. Light as Godstone Clair and Mr Charles Roge,s as Washington Dobbs also give good support.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—The Freydos, two clever athletes and hand balancers, head a very attractive bill this week. Edward and Netie Masse give an amusing juggling act entitled "Frolics in a Dining-room;" the Eight Lancashire Lads, expert clog dancers, gain much applause; Martin Conway, comedian, keeps the house in roars; and other good turns include Patty O'Brien, comedienne; Bros. Wedburn, amusing comedians; Brown and Wally, acrobatic and strong teeth performers; Reilly and Taylor, American Dutch comedians; the Wallonells, in a triple bar act; Harry Meir, amusing juggler; and the Two Gems, comediennes.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead.—A diverting entertainment is given here this week. Auto-Atlas is seen in some extraordinary feats of strength; Abadaroffs, prehistoric acrobats, are good; trick and comedy cycling is done by Cyclo; Nancy Renshaw's song and bone performance is well received; Les Belles Americaines are expert dancers; and Mike Cary, comedy juggler, and his acrobatic dog; Harry Taft, whistling comedian; the Lyons Trio of pantomimists; the Wallys, comedy jugglers; and Nellie Amphill, comedienne, also give good turns.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—*The Stolen Birthright* is here, the play being presented by Messrs Chas. Draycott and H. B. Peppin's company. Marco is depicted in admirable style by Mr Draycott; a powerful portrayal of Andrea is given by Mr Robert Watson; Prince Antonio finds a careful exponent in Mr Pippin; as Stefano Mr Henry Mont acts with realistic effect; Miranda is artistically embodied by Miss Lilian Watson Loyde; Miss Maud Hetherington is a sprightly Nita; and Miss Alma Henson is good as Zudelia. *East Lynne* was staged on Wednesday.

SHEFFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr F. W. Purcell; Acting-Manager, Mr T. S. Carter.—A new musical comedy called *Miss Mischief* was played on Monday by Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's company. As Private Harris Mr T. E. Conover had a fine chance of showing his abilities as a comedian, and he provided abundant excuses for hearty laughter. Mr J. C. Bland did well as a typical stage Yankee, and the fun was kept going by Mr Harold Stanley, Mr Cecil Curtiss, Mr G. H. Llot, and Mr H. Ellesmere. Miss Evelyn Hughes was a graceful and vivacious representative of Kitty Malone. Miss Chrissie Frances was a captivating maid, and Miss Eileen Guilbert was dignified as Lady Orrery.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—There was a well-filled house on Monday, when *The Lady's Maid* was performed for the first time in Sheffield by Mr Gore Ouseley's company. That old local favourite, Mr Harry Fischer, received a cordial greeting, and his Josiah Biffin proved a capital bit of comic portraiture. That dainty and popular artist Miss Isa Bowman was a pretty and lively Mary Jane; Mr Tom Morton revelled in the opportunities for laugh manufacture provided by the congenial part of Spriggins; and amusing impersonations were the landlord of Mr H. Askam, the detective of Mr Frank Randall, the Petro Conti of Mr Joseph Wilson, and the Charlie Marchmont of Mr Dennis Drew. The feminine interest was well maintained by the Misses Geraldine Bruce, Pauline Hague, Amelia Rosemary, Freda Vaughan, Mollie Bailey, Vera Gordon, Iris St. Clare, and other pretty and talented ladies.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager, Mr C. W. Ramsay.—That big Alexandra favourite Mr Sam Livesey opened on Monday in the interesting domestic drama *The Village Blacksmith*. Mr Livesey physically realised the character of the manly hero of the piece, and acted with power and virile force. Mr Joseph Carter was well suited with the rôle of the villain, Captain Leo; and Miss Ethel Kay was excellent as Kate.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The following performers are here this week:—Morris and Morris, American acrobatic grotesques; the Sisters Neilson, duettists and dancers; Brown and Robinson, musical comedians; Rastus and Banks, comic duettists; the Three Donals, Continental aerial performers; Geoffrey and Benson in a funny interlude; Mdlle. Emmy with her pets; Ford and Hanson, "the American musical millionaires;" the Tourbillon Troupe in a wonderful display of cycling acrobatism; and Julius Seeth's forest-bred lions.

MONTGOMERY HALL.—The successful season of the Maskelyne and Cooke entertainment comes to a finish to-night. Mr David Devant's extraordinary conjuring, the marvellous second-sight of Mdlle. Adela, the "Mystic Kettle" and the mystical sketch, *Will, the Witch, and the Watchman*, have been loudly applauded at every performance.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten. A good company is engaged here and business is excellent.

Continued on Page 19

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. M.—*The Fulham Grand was opened Aug. 23, 1897, with a performance of* The Geisha, *by Mr George Edwardes's company.*

L. F. T.—*Edmund Kean died May 15, 1833.*

INQUIRER.—*Some thirty years ago the late Mr Robert Buchanan gave a series of "readings" in the Hanover-square Rooms, consisting of selections from his own poetry.*

NEMO.—*(1) Write to the manager of the theatre mentioned (2) About fifteen years ago*

JACK.—*At the Lyceum Theatre.*

A. DE F.—*You had better make known your wants in our advertising columns*

WILLIAM ADAMS.—*Baritone.*

A. B. T.—*Burnand's burlesque of* Cupid and Psyche *was produced at the Olympic, Dec 26, 1864. The character of Bacchus was played by the late Miss Nellie Farren*

F. C.—*Blondin, the famous rope-walker, died Feb. 22, 1897.*

B. B.—*The late Miss Kate Vaughan succeeded Miss Connie Gilchrist (now Countess of Orkney) as Maid Marian, in* Little Robin Hood, *at the Gaiety very soon after the production on Sept. 15, 1882.*

SID LAWRENCE.—*He never fulfilled an engagement there though he may possibly have appeared on some special occasion.*

W. D.—*You had better see the solicitor who acted for the owner in the sale to the other people*

CURIOSITY.—*(1) Old Heidelberg was produced at the St James's Theatre on March 19, 1903, and ran until the following July 17. (2) We have no knowledge.*

L. K.—*John Liston, the comedian, was born in the parish of St. Anne's, Soho, about 1776. His first appearance at Weymouth as Lord Duberley, in* The Heir-at-Law, *was a complete failure As "Liston from Newcastle" he was advertised, and appeared at the Haymarket Theatre on June 10, 1805, as Sheepface in* The Village Lawyer *He made a great hit as Apollo Belvi, a dancing-master, in* Killing no Murder, *by Theodore Hook His most popular creation was Paul Pry in 1825 From 1831 to 1837 he remained at the Olympic under Madame Vestris, and received one hundred pounds a week. Liston died on March 22 1846, and was buried in Kensal-green.*

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Aldersyde, Mr Charlie
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Asche, Mr J. F.
Ashwell, Miss Lena
Augarde, Miss A.
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Balmain, Mr Rollo
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Bedwell, Mr Stanley
Benson, Mr Wilfred
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Carrick, Mr T.
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Cinquevalli, Mr Paul
Claires, Les
Cliffe, Little
Clifford, Mr Nat
Cody, Young
Conners, Mrs Nellie
Conway, Mr Martin
Cooke, Mr Edgar
Cordwell, Mr John
Craig, Miss Elsa
Crawford, Miss A.
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Cunningham, Mr James
Curzon, Miss Alma
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Daventry, Mr George
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Dent, Mr Harry
Digby, Mr Everard
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Donnells, The
Douglas, Mr John
Dunville, Musical
Duval, Miss Jessie
Eastman, Mr Fred
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Elton, Mr George
Eplett, Miss Katie
Esden, Miss Alice
Every, Mr J.
Ferrari, Mrs
Ferris, Mr Arthur
Finneys, The Three
Fitz-Hugh, Miss Beatrice
Flemming, Mr Herbert
Ford, Mr Alex.
Forde, Mr T.
Franklin, Miss Jennie
Fulton, Miss Violet
Gardner, Mr J. Rufus
Gerard, Captain A.
Goery, Mr Alfred
Goodrich, Miss Edna
Grovini, Mr James
Hall, Mr Albert
Hall, Mr C. Aubrey
Handel, Mr George
Hare, Mr Arthur
Haslam, Miss Kitty
Hatton, Mr Russell
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Lingard, Mr H.
Livermore's Minstrels
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Lowe, Mr Trevor
Luba De Sarema, Mdlle.
Luck, Mr E.
Magrath, Mr Chas.
Mapleson, Col. Henry
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Marsden, Miss S.
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Maskell, Miss Ada
Mason, Mr Post
May, Miss Edna
May, Mr Sid
Mayne, Miss Hope
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Medwin, Mr Charles
Mersano, Mrs
Milner, Mr Chas.
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Weekley, Mr Alfred
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Woodward, Mr G. E.
Wright, Mr L.
Wyatt, Mr Alfred
Zalvar, Mr Charles

MR JOSEPH LEWIS, the popular manager of the Public Hall, Woking, offered a special attraction last week in the shape of Mr Albert Chevalier, whose undiminished popularity was testified to by a large and highly appreciative audience. Mr Chevalier gave some nine items, perhaps the best of which was "The Workhouse Man." Other specially popular items were "Wot fur do 'ee luv 'oi," "The Veteran," "Hemmer," "Our Bazaar," "My Country Cousin," and "Mafekin' Night." Miss Tresilian Davy, a highly finished soprano; Miss Flossie Behrens, a siffleuse of no mean order; and Mr Alfred H. West at the piano completed a most enjoyable programme.

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BY
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Chapter II.
PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III.
INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV.
MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V.
INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

Mr A. A. Strong has published a book on "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" which should be in the hands of everyone who is obliged to know about this perplexing subject. Dramatic copyright in England is in a particularly unsatisfactory state, and it is much to be hoped that ere long some more rational method of securing protection for a play may be devised than the slovenly and sometimes costly "production for copyright purposes" which is at present required.—St. James's Gazette, Aug. 2d, 1901

Those who are interested in "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" will derive much valuable intelligence by reading Mr Albert Strong's book bearing the title above, published at "The Era" Office.—Pelican, 901 Aug. 3d, 1

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

DRURY-LANE THEATRE ROYAL.—
Manag'ng-Director, ARTHUR COLLINS.
The Children's Pantomime.
THE WHITE CAT, on Boxing Night.
Harry Randall, Fred Eastman, Hugh J. Ward, Tom Hearn, Johnny Dalvers, Tom Woottwell, and James Welch; Marie George, Ruth Lyttor, Jeannie Macdonald, May Gurney, M. Lane-Joynt, the Grigolatis, and Queenie Leighton.
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Shakespeare's Comedy,
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Special Matinées Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday next, at 2·15. No Evening Performances on those days.
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Mr Sydney Brough, Mr Leslie Faber, Mr A. Vane Tempest,
Miss Marion Terry,
Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Fanny Coleman.
At 8·15, THE DECREE NISI, by Joshua Bates.
Matinée (both Plays), Wednesdays and Saturdays (except Saturday next, Dec. 24), 2·15

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Every Evening, at 8·30, in
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The Cast also includes Mr Sydney Valentine, Mr O. B. Clarence, Mr H. Nye Chart, Miss Kate Serjeantson, Miss Muriel Beaumont, Miss Elfrida Clement.
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ADELPHI.—
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Every Evening,
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Monday and Tuesday, at 8·30, DIE GOLDENE SPINNE.
Wednesday and Thursday, at 8·30, TRAUMULUS.
There will be no Performances on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 23 and 24.
On Boxing Day, Dec. 26 at 8·30,
ALT-HEIDELBERG.
The Theatre will be closed from Dec. 27 until Jan. 2, 1905, when it will reopen with the Play "Alt Heidelberg."

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Lessee and Manager, Mr ERNEST STEVENS.
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" 28.—Committee (Election of new members) at 8·0 p.m.
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" 9.—Smoking Concert at Caledonian Hotel at 9·0 p.m.
Feb. 20.—First Annual Dinner in Aid of the Benevolent Fund at 8·0 p.m.
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"IF I HAD A GIRL AS NICE AS YOU,' THEATRE ROYAL, EDINBURGH.
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THE ERA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1904.

SHAKESPEARE AND THE "SHREW."

The Taming of the Shrew is a most interesting study to the practical playwright. Here we have SHAKESPEARE not selecting an old story or legend and moulding it into a drama, but taking an existent piece bodily, and "writing it up" into a work of literary merit. The question of divided authorship has always been a difficult one; and how many people "tinkered" at the "notion" of *The Taming of the Shrew* before it appeared in its Shakespearian shape is immaterial. No one knows who was the author of *The pleasant conceited history of the taming of a shrew*, which was published in 1594. As the late Mr F. A. MARSHALL observed, "nothing can be more weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable than the old play which SHAKESPEARE so ingeniously adapted. One cannot help asking oneself, after reading carefully *The Taming of a Shrew*, and then reading with equal care *The Taming of the Shrew*, whether the creative power shown by SHAKESPEARE in such an adaptation is not almost greater than that which in many cases belongs to originality in the accepted sense of the term. The dramatist who could take *The Taming of a Shrew*, with its commonplace dialogue, its shallow characters, and its ill-managed story, and could produce from such poor material the lively and lifelike comedy before us, need not be ashamed of acknowledging that he was indebted to something else than his own observation and invention."

The present production of *The Taming of the Shrew* at the Adelphi Theatre is a "revival" indeed. It was wittily remarked of certain recent performances of CONGREVE that his well-meaning exponents had not "revived" but "exhumed" him; but this cannot be said of Mr OSCAR ASCHE'S production. Since PLANCHE'S revival of the play in 1846, there has, we believe, been no adequate interpretation of it. We have usually seen it played in GARRICK'S version, "full of noise and fury, and signifying"—little. About thirty years since, *The Taming of the Shrew* used to be put on as a "front piece" or a concluding item at provincial theatres. Not only was the comic business exaggerated till it became exasperating; the humour and literary excellence which exist in the piece, in company with a liberal amount of "practical fun," were subordinated, neglected, and undeveloped. It was played, indeed, as a farce and nothing more.

The Taming of the Shrew is a comedy in the best sense of the word, and requires a certain subtlety of treatment only to be found in the best casts. All SHAKESPEARE'S characters will bear analysis. They are real and possible; they are flesh and blood; and they have souls, too—they are not mere pasteboard effigies. Katharine is, apparently, the victim of temperament and circumstances, combined with immense possibilities in the way of energy and feeling; with her fine physique, overstrung activity, and passionate nature, she is "cabined, cribbed," and "confined" in the monotonous life of a Paduan maiden. It is a common saying amongst horsemen that the colt who gives the most trouble to break in makes the best horse in the end. Katharine, in her father's household, is "matter out of place." She rebels against her condition of life, and the result is nervous irritability. Like Mr Eccles, she suffers from want of "scope." But, whatever she is, she is not really "shrewish," i.e., malevolent, mean, and spiteful. She is a fine exuberant sample of female humanity; and Petruchio, with keen penetration, discerns her excellence, just as Benedict discerned the excellence of Beatrice. Petruchio's character has its intricacies, too. He is an intellectual humourist, a natural philosopher. He regards the prospect of "taming" the handsome shrew with the agreeable anticipation with which a roughrider prepares to break some splendid thoroughbred mare to the saddle. "What a beauty!" he says to himself; "how she snorts and lashes out, and lays back her ears, and shows the whites of her eyes! What a task to wear her down by handling, by punishment, and by sheer superiority, till she bends her proud neck, and mouths the bit, and lets herself be turned hither and thither, obedient and yet not cowed; subservient but not servile!" It would seem hardly necessary to mention—if we had not so often had proofs to the contrary—that Petruchio is *not* a bully or a "swashbuckler." There is, however, a little bit of the "born actor" in him. He enjoys a masquerade. He is acute, but inexperienced; and he knows it. His cynical brag in the first act about being willing to marry any woman for money is the exaggeration of a novice half ashamed of his honesty. He learns, however, from Hortensio that Katharine is "young and beauteous," and that her "only fault" is her temper. One cannot help fancying that Petruchio felt himself just a trifle provincial, if not *parvenu*, on his arrival in Padua. His house is "in the country." He wants to show these fine town gentlemen what a countryman can do, and he undertakes a task from which they all shrink appalled. "Having thrust myself into this maze," he says, referring to Padua, "I am come abroad to see the world." In representing Petruchio, the actor has to show us "a play within a play"—to hint, aside, that Petruchio's "bounce" and bluster are only put on for the purpose of "outfacing" Katharine, and that at bottom he is a very kind and gallant gentleman. We owe a very deep debt of gratitude to Mr OSCAR ASCHE and Miss LILY BRAYTON for showing us all this so plainly in their admirable performances at the Adelphi, and for redeeming one of the most excellent comedies that SHAKESPEARE ever wrote from its undeserved reputation as a "noisy farce." The Adelphi revival is not emasculated. Katharine's violence is not watered down, nor is Petruchio's "swasherbucklering" extravagance underdone. And we get SHAKESPEARE'S text, SHAKESPEARE'S spirit, and SHAKESPEARE'S characters. We are not put off with a mangled "version," and the whole production is instinct with appreciation, with discernment, and with reverent admiration for the author. This, indeed, is the actor's and the manager's noblest work; to see further than purblind, parrot-like opinion, and go deeper than superficial, "slap-dash" estimate; and to hang a work of genius in a "good light."

MR HAYDEN COFFIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Referring to our letter to you on behalf of Mr Hayden Coffin complaining of your having published the untrue statement that after studying his part in *Veronique* he had decided not to play, and to our second complaint that, instead of correcting your own error you expected an explanation to come from him, we must say that we regard your paragraph of 10th inst. as an aggravation of the position, for it infers that a request on our side was received by you, whereas no such request has ever been made.

It seems to be assumed that a newspaper can publish any unfounded and detrimental paragraph at pleasure until the person assailed explains. Nobody, of course, has any right to publish what is untrue, and although you shield yourself behind the journalistic practice of not disclosing an author, it is the editor's business, we submit, to voluntarily acknowledge an error and express regret for its publication, especially as other papers have reproduced the report.

The least we can ask is that you will publish this letter in next Saturday's issue in as prominent a place as the untrue matter appeared.

Your obedient servants,
MUNTON and MORRIS,
Solicitors.

Dec. 15.

The following are all the paragraphs complained of that have appeared in this paper:—

Mr Hayden Coffin is about to leave his position in *The Cingalee* at Daly's Theatre, where he now has been appearing for seven years. He will take up Mr Lawrence Rea's part in *Veronique* at the Apollo, and will be a very valuable addition to the cast of that dainty "opera comique."—*The Era*, Nov. 12.

Mr Hayden Coffin is an excellent judge of what suits him and what does not; and, after carefully studying the part of Florestan De Valiancourt, in *Veronique*, he has decided not to take Mr Lawrence Rea's place in the cast of that opera after all.—*The Era*, Nov. 19.

Mr Hayden Coffin wishes us to mention that there is not the slightest truth in the statement that he will not go to the Apollo Theatre and play the part of Florestan De Valiancourt, in *Véronique*, at present sustained by Mr Lawrence Rea.—*The Era*, Nov. 26.

Mr Hayden Coffin desires us to correct a paragraph which appeared in our issue of Nov. 19 stating that he would not appear at the Apollo Theatre. This was not correct, as Mr Coffin always intended to appear at the Apollo, and will do so very shortly.—*The Era*, Dec. 10.

FROM Drury-lane Theatre has been issued a neat little book for children, which tells the story of "The White Cat," the subject of this year's pantomime. On the cover is a picture of the hero of the legend caressing a pretty white cat wearing a large bow, and underneath is a portrait of Mr Arthur Collins. The booklet is illustrated by Mr T. Mackenzie, and the tale of the white cat, which is unknown to most children, is duly set forth in these pages. We learn that as a pantomime it has not been done at Drury-lane for five and twenty years; and as a fairy tale it originally came into being 220 years ago. Even in those remote times the Countess D'Aunoy, who included it in her fairy stories, was accused of having taken it from a fable that in many forms was as old as the hills. Little boys and little girls should not omit to write to Mr Arthur Collins for one of these interesting little booklets.

MUSIC HALL SICK FUND.

A special performance in aid of this Fund—the oldest provident society connected with the music hall profession—was given at Collins's on the evening of the 9th inst. The society was founded in 1867; its main object being to promote thrift amongst the members of the profession. By the payment of a small monthly subscription each member is entitled, while disabled by sickness, to a substantial grant in proportion to the sum subscribed, and at death the widow or widower receives a grant of £10. For upwards of thirty years the late Mr G. W. Hunt, the well-known song writer, held the position of secretary to the Fund; and the late much-esteemed Mr Herbert Campbell was the president. The membership has always been small; rendering it necessary that some special effort should be made to provide the expenses of management. In past years cricket matches and sports were the means by which these expenses were met, but more recently the necessary amount was raised by an annual performance at Collins's Music Hall. Friday night's programme was contributed to by a number of clever artistes. Amongst the early arrivals was Mr Gus Elen, who gave his new "Cabman" song, another of his admirable character sketches. Mr Edwin Boyde scored with "She's my old woman;" and Mr Tom Carney sang in good style "Somebody's Sailor Boy." Messrs Brown and Williams did well with their highly amusing patter and dance. Another comical couple were Jordan and Harvey, who, representing two Jewish gentlemen, caused abundant laughter and applause. Mr Fred Russell with his Coster Joe was in excellent form, and Mr George Mozart delighted the audience with his racecourse sketch, and the comic business which hinges upon a front door and a knocker. The Two Bees appeared in their latest version of "Hiawatha," and made a big hit; Mr Arthur Stacey introduced a clever step dance; and Mr Pat Carey had a big reception for his ditty in praise of the Irish and the neat dance which followed. Miss Lily Langtry sang with her usual spirit and dash concerning a Bank Holiday at Hampstead Heath; Mr R. H. Douglass, arrayed in barrister's wig and gown, gave his amusing address on behalf of the lady suing for damages for breach of promise; and Mr Dan Thomas contributed a dame song with capital results. The acrobatic feats performed by Messrs Hector and Paulus were much appreciated, and Mr Pat Doherty as the "Irish M.P." had a most enthusiastic reception. His dancing was as brisk as ever. Others who contributed included:—Joe Barry, Harry King-Lloyd, Sisters Clements, Francis and Francis, the Four Herberts in an acrobat sketch, Will Driscoll, Ernest Rees, Miss Howell, Mr Sinclair, Herbert Madden, Ruth Lytton, Arthur Reece, Gracie Taylor, and George Bastow. The pictures shown by Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, which were of an interesting character, brought the performance to a conclusion.

In the course of the evening Mr Pat Carey (president), accompanied by the hon. treasurer (Mr Frank Heath), the secretary (Mr R. T. Baines), and members of the committee (Messrs Tom Carney, W. Wainratta, Arthur Stacey and Williams), appeared upon the stage and addressed the audience. Mr CAREY said that, having succeeded their late much-esteemed friend, Mr Herbert Campbell, as president of the Music Hall Sick Fund, he had to thank them most sincerely for their generous support and their presence that night. The expenses of management of the society, according to Act of Parliament, could only be defrayed by a special fund, and it was to provide for those expenses that the entertainment that night was given. The subscriptions of members could only be applied to their relief at times of sickness and the grant made to the widow or widower on the death of a member. He had to thank the proprietors of Collins's—Messrs Richards, Burney, and Co.—for so kindly granting the use of the hall, and Mr Chas. Hector, the manager, for his valuable assistance; also the artists who had given their services, the orchestra, and staff. Mr Carey mentioned that the members of the Canonbury Club had responded most generously to the invitation of a fellow member, the secretary of the Fund, Mr R. T. Baines, and had taken the first two rows of stalls. Their hearty thanks were due to them, also to the Terriers' Association, who had sent along a deputation and a guinea, and to Mr Leopold De Rothschild, who had, with his usual generosity in a good cause, forwarded a cheque for £5. Mr Carey said in conclusion that the late Mr Herbert Campbell was the president of the society for many years, and that they missed his genial presence very much indeed.

Messrs Will Oliver and George Lawrence were the stage managers; and Messrs Harry Lyons and Mills, acting managers, gave much appreciated assistance in front of the house, the whole being under the able superintendence of Mr Chas. Hector. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr G. S. Thomas, did excellent work. A souvenir of the late Mr Herbert Campbell, containing his portrait and an account of his career, was given with every programme.

"MY JERSEY LILY," the charming number recently published by Messrs Hopwood and Crew, Limited, and sung by Miss Maud Esmond, is being much sought after by principal boys and others for forthcoming pantomimes. Artistes in search of assured successes should lose no time in securing this pretty song. The words and music are by Messrs Alf. J. Lawrance and Harry Gifford.

MISS DAISY MORELL has just produced two clever songs entitled "She had a reason," by George Arthurs and Maurice Scott, and "The lady and the packet of pins," by Albert Hall. Miss Morell, in spite of tempting offers, is not playing in pantomime this year.

MR ROWLAND HILL, the curious comedian, is engaged by Mr H. A Jordison to play dame in his pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, which will be produced Boxing Day at the Osborne Theatre, Manchester, afterwards going on tour for twelve weeks.

MADAME ELLA and her lions usually provide an exciting turn, but an added interest was given to it on Friday evening, the 9th, at the Eastbourne Hippodrome, when two local gentlemen, Mr E. A. Foster and Mr E. T. Cook, entered the lion's den in company with Madame Ella and the lions. Mr Cook in the coolest manner opened a bottle of champagne and drank the health of the lady tamer and of the audience. The gentlemen were enthusiastically applauded on making their safe exit from the den of lions.

MR G. H. ELLIOTT, the chocolate-coloured coon, is producing shortly at the Tivoli a new and original song-scena by Messrs Lawrance and Gifford, entitled, "De Only One Without a Gal." The same authors are responsible for his already popular songs, "Havana Queen" and "Lazy Masie," published by Francis and Day.

MR FRANK COYLE has quite recovered from his very severe illness. After undergoing a very serious operation at the hands of Dr. Browne, the clever physician from the General Hospital, Leeds, he was for seven weeks in the nursing home at 22, Clarendon-road, Leeds, but is now convalescent. He will most probably resume business on Jan. 2 at the syndicate halls.

THE Dunedin Troupe of cyclists are a great success at the Casino Theatre of Varieties, Buenos Aires, and Mr Jas. E. Donegan, their manager, teacher, and trainer, has a book full of return dates to reappear in South America. The troupe open in London next February, and in Paris on March 1 for ten weeks.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 17.)

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr Sydney Paxton.—The farcical comedy, *Jones's Jaunt*, is being played here by Mr Lilford Arthur's company, the principal interest centring around Mr Charles Collette's impersonation of the title-rôle. This favourite comedian achieves a great success, and is deserving of the highest praise for the energy and resource with which he undertakes what is undeniably an arduous task. Both Mr J. R. Crauford (Catesby Duff) and Mr D. Sellar (Tom Breeze) are admirably cast and responsible for sound work. A capital character sketch is given by Mr Ernest Wintour as Smith, Jones's valet; and Miss Ruby Chester and Miss Rosamund Bury both look charming and act well as Dolly and Kate respectively. Capable support is also afforded by the Misses Irene Ross and Mabel Luxmore and Mr Edmond Beresford, all of whom act with notable finish. Seymour Hicks's *Lady Wrangler* makes a delightful curtain-raiser.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs J. W. Gordon.—Miss Grace Hawthorne and her répertoire company are appearing here in a capital selection of plays. On Monday and Tuesday *Camille* was presented with success, Miss Hawthorne acting admirably and proving herself to be an actress of great power. She received excellent support from Mr Cecil Wynne and Mr Harry Hillier. On Wednesday and Thursday *Sapho* was given, and *Frou-Frou* was booked for Friday.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr Chas. Marte.—A capital musical turn is given by Messrs Norman and Leonard, who win tumultuous applause. Guy Rider is a clever youthful artiste, and Robert Gilbert's troupe of dogs and cats go through a wonderful performance. Maggie Rimmer and Nora Emerald are a couple of dainty comediennes; and the Donaldson Bros. and Ardel's Zoological sketch evokes continuous laughter and uproarious applause. Others entertainers are Jack Lane, the Yorkshire rustic, and Chas. Craston, comedian.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow, sen.; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—This week's attraction is the ever-popular play *Called Back*, presented by Mr Harry Marlow and supported by a powerful company. Mr Harry Marlow gives an excellent and realistic impersonation of Gilbert Vaughan; the three Italian patriots, Poolo Macari, Dr. Ceneri, and Petroff, are well taken by Messrs Leslie K. Manton, Richard Morton, and Tom Macfarlane respectively; Anthony March finds a capital exponent in Mr Harry Newman; Mr David G. Noble is exceedingly good as Captain Kenyon; Miss Grace Heywood gives a capital portrayal of Pauline March; Ellen Vaughan is gracefully characterised by Miss Nellie Lucas; and Miss May Mulvey is a winsome Priscilla.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—*The Mikado* was presented on Monday by the D'Oyly Carte opera company. With such well-known and accomplished artistes as Mr C. H. Workman, Mr Fred Billington, Mr Albert Kavanagh, Miss Nora Maguire, and Miss Theresa Rassam in the cast it goes without saying that the representation was excellent. The répertoire for the week includes *Iolanthe*, *The Gondoliers*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Trial by Jury*, and *The Yeomen of the Guard*.

HIPPODROME, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs Murray King and Clark; General Manager, Mr A. Cuthbert.—Through the enterprise of the lessees this popular place of entertainment, which has been refitted and beautified, was reopened on Monday under the patronage and presence of the Mayor and Mayoress. A large and representative audience witnessed the initial performance, a capital all-round programme being submitted. The turns included popular and national airs by the ladies' orchestra (conductress, Miss Zette Handel); Musical Stidder, the pierrot instrumentalist; the Jansons, pot-pourri novelty act; Babette, with her white stallion and black pony; Richard Lomas, the man-monkey; Alfred Barker, assisted by Miss Roylska, with their comic equestrian dogs, monkeys, donkey, and pony; Kellino and Pope, tumbling and patter clowns; Gus Barra, the comic musical motorist; Max Gruber, in his Indian sporting act with elephant and horse; and Ulric, in an excellent balancing act. A pleasing feature of the the opening performance was the presentation to the Mayoress of a handsome bouquet by the pretty young daughter of the genial manager of the Winter Gardens and Opera House, Mr Alfred Hemming.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Mrs Henry Mayhew and Mr Charles Herrick's capable company is presenting the melodrama, *The Triumph of Truth*. Miss Marie Auckland secures first honours by her capable portrayal of the Twin Sisters, Violet and Lilian Anstruthers respectively; Miss Rosabel Dodd submits a telling representation of Blanche De Croix; Miss Lilian Ramsdale is a charming Coralie; Miss Lily Rogers also possesses charm as Katie Bright; and an artistic little character sketch of Little Lena is presented by Little Nellie Kenneth. Messrs Johnny Clegg (Tommy) and Frank Radcliffe (Pierre Choppard) submit sketches of character in the lighter vein; Mr C. W. Standing is a striking and manly Capt. Jack Eversleigh; and Mr T. Renaud Lockwood is a sinister Count Raoul D'Orville.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen.—The clever Karno Troupe is staying here another week with *The Mumming Birds*. The sketch, which is screamingly funny, is loudly applauded. Alex. Gay, the bricklayer conjuror, introduces a box trick, which succeeds completely in mystifying the audience. Mr Gay is local, and the box is entirely his own invention and manufacture. Emma Don and company, in a vocal scena, are favourably received; Rosie Archer submits some capital imitations of well-known music hall artistes; and amusement is caused by Professor Vox, ventriloquist. Others appearing are Fred Lincoln, versatile comedian; Marie Joyce, comedienne; J. D. Pedley, comedian; and Rosie Cass, vocalist.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—An excellent programme here is headed by Mr Dennis J. M'Carthy, whose reception is extremely flattering in his speciality sketch entitled *The Coastguard*. The Danbys provides a laughter-provoking trifle, and Grace Merton, billed as "the original street-singer," is popular. Miss Lena Page, vocalist, has many admirers, and the remaining good turns are furnished by Sam Dalton, Lilian Travellie, Thos. Johnstone, and Minnie Moran.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr M'Leod Loader.—The melodrama *A Noble Brother* is the attraction here this week, supplied by Mr Charles Carte's excellent company. Mr Carte undertakes the rôle of Jerry, the Tramp, and is supported by Miss Doris Brooks, Miss N. Faithful, Miss Gertrude Holmes, and Messrs Kenneth Smith, Howard Thorne, R. Bosco, and J. Ansdell Wilson. Mr C. Carte scores well in his song, "The Follies of the Day," and Miss N. Faithful is a vocalist of no mean merit.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs T. Barrasford, Will Sley, and F. Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—The bill-of-fare for the week is again very strong, the artists including the Belmont Troupe of track and motor cyclists; the Electrones, trick cyclists; Elias B. Seener's troupe of Russian singers and dancers; Miss Alma Obrey, a clever comedienne; Carney Brothers, who, as locals, create a favourable impression; Moretta and Alice give a clever and unique equilibrist act; the Sisters Dorrell are deservedly applauded as duettists and dancers; and the New Macs keep the house in roars of laughter with their knockabout business, clever dancing, and boxing scene.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—*Lucky Durham* is being played here by Mr William Greet's company. The impersonation of John Durham by Mr Wm. F. Grant was admirable, and Mr Henry De Solla acted ably as Lord Mountfallon; Mr Daniel M'Carthy was acceptable as Richard Vallerton, and Mr Paul Belmore exceedingly clever and amusing as the Hon. Reginald Steighton. Miss Phyllis Relph acted with delightful charm as Helen Vallerton, and the part of Mrs Durham was pleasingly filled by Miss Nellie Bonsor. Miss Mary Relph displayed merit as Lady Mountfallon, and Miss Jessie Winter acted with ability as the Hon. Margaret Steighton.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Mr Lawrence Brough and company in *The Lady of Ostend* are here. Mr Brough as Le Baron De Longueville gives a refined, laughable impersonation of his rôle; Mr Percy Marshall is clever as Joseph Carbury; Mr Harry Hampson does admirably as Dick Whortles, and causes much fun; Toby Krockitt by Mr Edmund Gurney is one of the successes of the piece; Miss Eleanor Gilbart's Matilda Carbury is full of realistic humour; Miss Doris Vane's Millie Grace is ably done; and Miss Kate Milford's Dorothy Whortles is played with great refinement and charm. On Thursday night *The Saucy Sally*, by the same author, was played. *Margaret's Stratagem* by the curtain-raiser.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—Plenty of variety is given in this week's bill, which is topped by the Scottish Meisters, whose singing is nicely balanced and sweet. Mons. Francis, "the cannon ball king;" Harry Nelson, dialect comic, who is a great favourite; Lu'aine Darrell Troupe, on the Roman rings; Cheevers and Kennedy, in clever speciality songs; Harry Attwood, comic; new Biograph pictures, and Payne's Little Vagabonds contribute to a very entertaining show.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—The premier position in the bill is held by Bert Clark and Venie Hamilton, who contribute a really clever turn, the piano playing, the patter, singing, and dancing all being excellent. Denby and Dent are seen in an exceptionally funny sketch, which meets with much appreciation; Max Merlin is a contortionist with but very few rivals; Cora Gray, ballad vocalist, is excellent; Ida Heath dances in her usual clever manner, which is deservedly applauded; Harry Brett is most entertaining in his items; Nita and Paul are seen in a clever trapeze performance; Marie Sinnett is a comedienne of merit; and the animated pictures are, as usual, excellent.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—An attractive engagement is being fulfilled by Mr J. K. Reynolds and company. On the opening night three pieces were presented, the most effective being *Conscience*. Messrs J. K. Reynolds, Max Coutts, and Miss Adele Rhead were the principal performers, and too much praise cannot be bestowed upon them for a powerful and realistic rendition of their various parts. In addition Messrs Frank Aylmer, the Two Frissoes, and Belle Dinmont provide special turns, which are much enjoyed.

SUNDERLAND.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Business-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company, in the romantic drama *Napoleon the Great*, occupies the boards here this week. Mr Hugh Montgomery in the title-rôle gives an excellent interpretation of the part. He is well supported by Miss Chrissie Dunbar, who gives a capital portrayal of Marie Walewska. Mr J. G. Maine's Laczinska is a fine study. Mr Phil Harper as Colonel Mouron and Miss Maud Russell as his sweetheart are equally good in their respective parts. Mr L. Esmonde as M. Fouché; Mr H. Earlsmere as Colonel Laverennes; Messrs C. W. Spencer and F. M. Thorne, and the Misses Marie Harcourt and Florence Thorne are all worthy of mention.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—Abrensmeyer, who is described as the 'cow-boy hypnotist," is the great attraction this week. The Miles-Stavordale Quintet give with musical instruments clever imitations of human voices. Spry and Monti, up-to-date variety entertainers, are a capital turn. Florence Cecil; Chas. Paver, comedian; Lee and Arden, dialogue artists; Cecil Blanchard, comedian; and Vernon's animated pictures complete the bill.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons; Lessees, Mr Fred Mocillot; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Bellian.—The attraction at this house during the week has been Charles Windermere's farcical comedy *The New Housemaid*, presented by Mr E. Oswald Brooke's No. 1 company. Mr Ralph Roberts (Hon. Bertie Rashleigh) is an excellent comedian, and won much hearty applause; Mr Charles L. Calvert (Rev. Stephen Stingles) was also very amusing; Mr Theodore Jones (Peter Pinkerton, J.P.), Mr Howard Brenan (Arthur), Mr Pan E. Draco (Marmsbury Doom), and Mr Campbell Goldsmid (Rosebery) were all good, and added much to the success. Miss Ada Mansfield did extremely well as Caroline, and caused much laughter; and Miss Ethel L. Caryllon (Dulcie), Miss Pattie Elliott (Agnes), Miss Mabel Vere (Nellie Haddock), and Miss Ella Burney (Lettice) gave valuable support. *Buffo; the Story of a Broken Heart*—a one-act play—was the curtain-raiser. Mr Walter Bellian, the present acting-manager, was given a farewell complimentary benefit on Friday night.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—The well-known drama *Driven from Home* has been the attraction here, played by Messrs J. K. Murray and J. M. Dawson's company, including Miss Lydia Donovan. On Thursday a complimentary benefit was given Mr J. K. Murray, who, for this night, appeared as Mathias, in *The Sleigh Bells*.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—An excellent programme here this week includes Geo. Gray and company, in the dramatic sketch *The Fighting Parson*; Little Nelusco, an exceedingly clever little conjuror; the Bostons, novelty showmen, with their imitation bull fight; Miss Alice Maydue, a pleasing character comedienne; L. B. Athol, a good comedian; the Labakans, a smart pair of acrobatic grotesques, with their cleverly trained little dog, Folly; and Harry Champion, popular vocal comedian, very quaint, who was loudly applauded.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. W. Grantham.—The engagements at this house for the current week are as follows:—Gilbert Gerard, mimic; Louis Leamore, character comedian; Mabel Kessler, soprano vocalist; Brothers Teviotdales, Scottish athletes, in an equilibristic act; Harry Howe, comedian and dancer; Clarke and Gold, banjo duettists and wooden shoe dancers; Irene Meldon, comedienne and dancer; Payne's Palace pictures; and the Wyffs (George and May), in the farcical absurdity *The Parson's Mishap in a London Flat*.

(Continued on Page 23.)

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

A MEETING of directors of the Moss Empires, Limited, was held in London on Wednesday, at which a letter was read from Mr H. E. Moss, who, since the formation of the company five years ago, has acted as its chairman and one of its managing directors. Mr Moss states that he has been medically advised to spend at least a portion of each winter in a milder climate, and that accordingly he desires, while retaining his seat on the board and his position as chairman, to give up the position of managing director, continuing to take an active interest in the affairs of the company.

THE directors have accepted this intimation with regret, and have, at the same time, with Mr Moss's approval, unanimously resolved to appoint Mr Oswald Stoll, heretofore Mr Moss' colleague as manager-director, to be sole managing-director. In this capacity Mr Stoll will have the assistance of Mr Frank Allen as assistant-director and chief of the staff, which is being reorganised on a system of district and departmental management to meet the requirements of the additional properties of the company in course of erection.

INTO Mr Oswald Stoll's hands, therefore, comes the direction of the largest music hall combine in the world, with a capital of nearly two millions. Of course, he has a marvellous head for business, and his ideas of the scope of the variety entertainment are unlimited. His early career was associated with the Parthenon, Liverpool, a people's music hall run by his father Mr J. C. Stoll in the early eighties, and by that gentleman's widow later on. The Empire, Cardiff, was established in 1889, under the direction of Stoll and Sons, and in 1899 Mr Oswald Stoll became managing-director.

HE speedily established a Welsh circuit by adding the Swansea and Newport Empires, and afterwards turned his attention to the London suburbs, where the Empires at New-cross, Holloway, Stratford, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush stand as monuments of his enterprise. When the Moss Empires Company was formed in 1899 Mr Oswald Stoll became a director of the company of which he will now be the head, in succession to Mr Horace Edward Moss. Mr Stoll is a teetotaller and non-smoker; is never seen at public dinners, and the greater part of his life is spent at his office or in watching performers at his music halls. Yet in the midst of his enormous responsibilities and immense labours he has found time to write a book on the immortality of the soul.

BEFORE completing the scheme of the London Coliseum Mr Stoll and Mr Frank Matcham paid a visit to the United States to ascertain whether any ideas could be gleaned from the largest buildings in the greatest cities on the "other side." Neither in New York, however, nor in Chicago, nor in Boston, "the hub of the universe," did they discover anything which, in their own words, "came up to their idea of what London's latest place of entertainment ought to be." From the Coliseum, indeed, our cousins from across the water may gleam many novel ideas, and we may expect some up-to-date American caterer to establish a similar colossal enterprise in New York.

ALL who visited the new Coliseum in St. Martin's-lane before the private view on Thursday must have noticed, the large, over-arched recesses on each side of the stage. At the private view the rows of seats at the foot of these were tenanted by male and female choristers, dressed in white, who sang most melodiously at intervals during the afternoon. While the ears of the visitors were solaced by the performances of the fine orchestra a number of thoroughbreds ridden by jockeys galloped round a circle of grass carpet on the stage, the "cloth" at the back representing the grand stand and booths at Epsom on Derby Day.

THE majority of the seats in the Coliseum have been installed by the celebrated firm of Messrs H. Lazarus and Son, of 21, Great Eastern-street, London, E.C. In the balcony 500 independent seats with arms and curved backs have been provided, upholstered in bright red velvet with a gold embroidered number worked in each back. On the grand tier there are 543 tip-up seats, the standards being faced with wood, so that the iron is not seen, and the backs in Sheraton style of inlaid mahogany. These seats are upholstered in red-striped satin, and have Messrs Lazarus's new patent automatic action (approved by the L.C.C.). The seats do not spring flat back when released, but project sufficiently to be pressed down by the sitter, thus avoiding accidents which may be caused by the would-be sitter's forgetfulness were the seats to rise completely. All seats are numbered and lettered, so that they can be booked. The balcony has the finest sixpenny seats in the world.

"THE DANCING DOLL" is the name of the new divertissement that Mr George Edwardes will produce at the Empire at Christmas, and we hasten to assure the reader that no imitation of Mr Pinero's "comedy in disguise" at Wyndham's has been attempted. The new production, indeed, has been freely adapted from *Puppenfee*, which has been very popular in Vienna. Madame Katti Lanner has arranged the dances rendered necessary by the new scenario, thought out by Wilhelm, and Mr Cuthbert Clarke has also rearranged Herr Bayer's music and written in special numbers. Mr Harker is responsible for the capital toy-shop scene. Mdlle. Adelina Genée, of course, plays the chief part—that of Bébé, a mechanical doll, which is the pride of its inventor, Professor Marvel. In the character of the doll, the incomparable prima-donna assoluta will assume the garb of different types of puppets with characteristic dances.

THE doll's mainspring is unfortunately broken, but repaired by Noeline, a Christmas fairy, who has the power every Christmas Eve of animating the denizens of doll-land for that one night. This idea was illustrated in one of Mr and Mrs German Reed's productions at St. George's Hall some fifteen years since. There will be dolls of various nationalities. Madame Zanfretta will represent Mariquita, from Spain; M. Paul Sundberg, who will be remembered as Pan, in *High Jinks*, will be a Polichinelle; and Fred Vokes and Miss Clere will have a comic interlude as two Dutch dolls in a motor car.

LETTERS of administration have been granted of the estate of Mr George Wild Galvin, better known as Dan Leno, who died intestate at his residence, Springfield, Atkins-road, Clapham-park, on Oct. 31. His estate has been returned as of the gross value of £10,994, of which the net personalty has been sworn at £10,738 by his widow, Mrs Sarah Lydia Galvin.

THE Islington Empire was opened during the Cattle Show from 11·0 a.m. to 6·0 p.m., during which time a series of pictures was shown by the Bioscope. Some thousands of visitors enjoyed the exhibitions, which included about sixty of the very latest subjects. The experiment was first tried by Mr Walter Gibbons in December, 1903, and it proved so successful that it will be continued in future years.

MR FRED W. MILLIS will be leaving England for the land of the Southern Cross on Friday next, and his departure will be much regretted by the large number of friends he has made in this country. Australia and New Zealand both hold many of the chums that the artistic ventriloquist made in the early years of his stage career when he was a member of a troupe playing Gilbert and Sullivan's operas. Mr Millis will be heartily welcomed down under. Coo-ee

MRS BONEHILL, mother of the late Miss Bessie Bonehill, passed away on Wednesday morning at her residence, Alexandra-road, Landport.

THE Roscommon Music Hall, in Roscommon-street, Liverpool, is being considerably altered and improved. On Boxing Day it will commence a new lease of life under the title of "The King's," the manager being Mr A. H. Waterhouse.

MR T. HADYN REANO, who has been Mr Frank Macnaghten's conductor at the Palace, Bath, during the autumn season, finishes there to-night to take up a similar position at Nottingham under the same management for pantomime, the musical numbers of which Mr Reano has written and arranged.

MR THOMAS BARRASFORD lent the use of the Hippodrome, Liverpool, on Saturday last, for the holding of a matinée in aid of the Hot-Pot Fund, an important feature of the extensive charitable work carried on in the Mersey city. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress were present, and the vast programme, sustained by many leading artistes from local theatres, was thoroughly enjoyed. As a result of the effort the sum of £240 was sent to the fund.

CLOG DANCING may not be considered the most fashionable or entertaining form of the terpsichorean art in London, but it is always a welcome feature of any variety programme in Lancashire, and the keenest interest was evinced last week in a competition for the championship of Lancashire, held at the Olympic Circus of Varieties, Bury. The chief prize was a beautiful solid silver belt designed and supplied by Mr F. A. Smith, of Manchester.

THE decisions rested with such competent judges as J. G. Burns, retired champion clog-dancer of the world; George M'Intosh, present holder of the world's championship and belt; and Arthur Thatcher, for many years with Sam Hague's Minstrels. It is worthy of mention that their decisions were in every case endorsed by the crowded audience each evening. So much excellence was shown by the various competitors that the judges must have had quite an anxious time. Their final verdict was as follows:—1, T. W. Royol, Manchester, championship and belt; 2, Jack Keene, Rochdale, gold medal; 3, F. J. Sterling, Liverpool, gold centre medal; 4, J. Jones, Salford, special prize. Consolation prizes were given to Jack Grice, Stockport (cup presented by Mr Will Lannon); J. Ward, Salford (pair of dancing clogs, presented by Mr J. Moffat, Glasgow); Young Igo, Bolton (silver medal); — Rawlinson, special medal given by Mr J. G. Burns; and J. Allen Price, Horwich (special medal given by Mr G. MacIntosh).

THE management of the Newcastle Empire is arranging a sacred concert on a gigantic scale for Christmas night, to benefit the relatives of the Newbiggin fishermen, who recently lost their lives while gallantly attempting a rescue at sea, and also in support of the fund for providing poor local children with breakfasts. The popular resident-manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy, is working up the affair, and under his able and energetic direction the concert is sure to prove a great success. Already Lord Ridley has kindly extended his patronage and support to the undertaking.

MR W. C. BURNS, the hustling pilot for Bostock and Wombwell's Royal No. 1 aggregation, is busy booming "the show" for its opening in the Grass-market, Edinburgh, upon Christmas Eve. Mr Burns will be remembered in the music hall world in connection with his plucky management of the Grand, Sheffield, which, by the way, he quitted to return to his present situation at the end of August last. Mr Burns during his stay made many friends in the cutlery city. He will pilot Bostock and Wombwell's show (which, by the way, is 100 years old next February) up as far as Thurso and back again into England during the ensuing season. This is Mr Burns's third engagement with Mr Bostock.

MR GEORGE OSCAR STARR presided at the annual meeting of Barnum and Bailey, Limited, on Monday. The gross profits amounted to £322,780, which showed a reduction in takings of £78,827. This considerable decrease, the chairman said, was very largely met by the decrease in general expenses which, under the usual adjustment of provisions for wintering expenses, amounted to £262,820, or a net decrease of £64,113 on last year. The net profit was £76,247. The season in Great Britain, so far as weather was concerned, was admirable. Not a single performance was lost during the season.

IN speaking of "The Barnum and Bailey's Greatest Show on Earth" in America, Mr Starr stated that during the tour several entertainments were lost through bad weather and other causes. The most severe storm was at Iowa city, Iowa, where, with hardly a minute's warning, a cyclone struck the great canvas city. Fortunately, the doors had not been opened for the evening's entertainment, and not an animal or person was injured. In spite of this catastrophe, the entertainment was given as usual the following day in a city many miles distant. In conclusion, he moved the adoption of the report and accounts, and the payment of a dividend of 6 per cent. on the ordinary shares. In reply to a shareholder, the Chairman stated that, considering the state of affairs in England, he did not think it would be advisable to bring the show over to this country.

THE proprietors of the Regent Theatre of Varieties, Salford, on Wednesday last were defendants in a case of some importance at the Salford County Court. The plaintiff had occupied a seat in the dress circle, when her coat and fur were damaged by fire, as was alleged through a light falling from the gallery, where persons were smoking, and the contention was that the proprietors made themselves liable by permitting smoking at the performance and not taking proper precautions for the plaintiff's protection. Mr C. Shayler, the secretary and manager, proved that every possible precaution had been taken, and the judge held that the defendants had taken every reasonable precaution by putting up the wire-netting in front of the gallery, and that if a person wilfully put a lighted cigarette through the net he, and not the company, was liable for any damage which might result. He (the judge) gave judgment in favour of the defendants.

MR HERBERT NICHOLLS, the popular manager of the Empire, Wrexham, had his second annual complimentary benefit on Friday, the 9th inst. There were two crowded houses, and, in addition to the artistes engaged at the Hall (including Joe Hastings, the champion jumper; Giacomo, eccentric chapeaugraphist; and the Two Gems, comediennes and dancers), there was quite a galaxy of local talent, the most prominent being Mr Walter Roberts, comedian; and Mr Hugh Gillespie, elocutionist. The beneficiaire had a great reception, and was loudly cheered at the conclusion of each of his contributions to a lengthy and interesting programme.

MESSRS CHARLES SOLOMON AND CO., upholsterers, were summoned by the Town Council of Chatham on Monday for causing an obstruction in the High-street. The defendants exhibited in their windows Phroso, who was giving demonstrations as a mechanical doll at a local music hall, and who caused such an immense crowd to assemble that the street was rendered impassable. The defendants, who pleaded that the exhibition was simply a novel advertisement, were ordered to pay a fine.

THE Metropolitan anniversary, the seventh of the series, on Thursday evening attracted the customary large attendance, and there was an excellent programme. The birthday celebration lost something of its brightness in the regrettable absence through illness of Mr Henri Gros, who, we were given to understand, had intended making a speech on the vexed question of sketches in the halls. Mr Gros has been connected with the Metropolitan as an enterprise since 1892, when he took the old hall from Mr Lake. With its reconstruction by a company Mr Gros became managing-director, and has been a popular figure in music hall circles ever since.

THERE were many capital entertainers in a programme of inordinate length. Mr Arthur Roberts and Miss Ruby Celeste appeared by permission of the Palace directors in the amusing trifle, *Packing Up;* the M'Connell Trio played cleverly in the sketch, *The Music Lesson;* Mr Charles Coborn aroused the house to enthusiasm in "The Coster's Friendly Lead;" Miss Marie Lloyd was heard at her very best in two of her daintiest songs; Mr John Lawson and company chilled the marrow with the blood-thirsty and lamp-throwing quarrel in *Humanity;* Henry A. Moore gave us a reminiscence of the lamented Herbert Campbell, in the song "No show to-night;" Mr Gus Elen philosophised as a "cabby," and other turns included Hal Chapter, Kittie Neville, George Cazman, the Bohemians, Edie King, Fred Poplar, Kitty Wager, Amy Clevere, Queenie May, Dolly M'Callab, Kittie Rayburn, Nina Martino, Leo Dryden, Mdlle. Martha, Albert Christian, the Brothers Horne, the Bohemian Twins, Harriet Vernon, Lulu Evans, Sid Bandon, Victoria Monks, Joe Archer, Marguerite Broadfoote, and Jake Friedman.

MR TONY PASTOR, the great variety manager of America, writes:—"I enclose postal order for renewal of my subscriptions to *The Era*, which has grown to be a necessity to my comfort and a factor to my enjoyment." We hope that every American variety manager and every artiste in the world attaches the same importance to his copy of *The Era*.

MR TONY PASTOR also sends the following message of goodwill across the Atlantic:—"Once more we are at the season when custom and inclination prompt us to send greeting throughout the world to our friends. I have so many in England—commencing with *The Era* and running through all branches of the amusement profession—I must ask you to be my spokesman, and say to all my friends in England, and to my fellow American artistes, that I wish to stretch forth the hand of fellowship, and wish them all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. I am pleased to say that everything in the music hall line in this country is prosperous. Vaudeville is growing into greater popularity every day, and the English and European artistes over here are all doing well.

THE Duke and Duchess of Connaught were present at the Alhambra on Monday night to see the *Entente Cordiale* and the same programme as that which the Queen, the Duke and Duchess of Fife, and the King of Portugal have within the last fortnight witnessed.

MISS CISSIE FARRELL, who has given the transpontine folk so many enjoyable performances as heroine both of Surrey melodrama or pantomime, will play on Monday at that house the title-rôle in a new sketch of a highly-emotional character, entitled *Jim's Wife*, written by Victor C. Rolfe. The popular actress will be supported by a powerful company, and will no doubt meet with the heartiest of Surrey welcomes.

PROFESSOR HOBART, the latest exponent of the healing art, comes from America, and he has just concluded a successful tour of that continent, having also visited Australia and South Africa, where his applications of electricity as a therapeutic agency and his scientific exhibitions have packed the largest buildings. The professor takes the phenomenal charge of 5,000 volts through the body, and he is responsible for a unique performance which has excited both wonder and speculation among the medical profession, by whom he has been complimented.

MR CHARLES COBORN, who has returned from his trip to Canada, opened at the Oxford on Monday, and repeated the success that he scored on its boards when he sang "The man who broke the bank at Monte Carlo." His ability as an actor of character was displayed to the greatest advantage in his excellent song, "The Friendly Lead," a sketch that he endows with life, colour, and humour.

A GRAND matinée concert will be given at the Chelsea Palace to-day, by the permission of the directors, in aid of the Victoria Hospital for Children, under the distinguished patronage of the Earl and Countess of Cadogan. The following artistes are kindly giving their services:—Madame Belle Cole, Mr Richard Temple, Mr Arthur Helmore, Miss Marion Iceton, Miss Louise Zeitlin, Miss Florence Barber, Miss Margaret Layton, Miss Julia Leslie, Miss Sidney Keith, Madame Berta Foresta, Herr Josef Claus, Mr Ernest Pike, Master Farquharson, Mr Julien Henry, Mr Percy French, and others.

THE 385th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Joe O'Gorman, chairman of the committee, presiding. The secretary reported that thirty-two new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement 10,926. The names were submitted and confirmed by the committee. The hon. treasurer's financial statement for November was submitted and passed as read. The sums of £10 10s. respectively were sent as Christmas gifts to the Railway Benevolent Institution, the Railway Servants' Orphanage, the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and the Music Hall Home Fund.

MR DAN CRAWLEY'S quaint methods and lively style are fast placing him in the very first ranks of music hall comedians. At the Tivoli on Tuesday last he was an object of interest to one of the greatest theatrical managers of the time, and there, as at the other four halls at which he has appeared during the week, his songs "I know how to settle it" and "Now you're married I wish you joy," caused some of the heartiest laughter of each evening. He has been secured by Mr Charles Hector till 1910.

"THE AIRSHIP AND THE SWALLOW," published by Messrs Charles Sheard and Co., of 196, Shaftesbury-avenue, is the song that is making a tremendous hit in *The Forty Thieves* pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow. It is being sung by Miss Annie Purcell, the fascinating Ganem, whose excellent vocal abilities do the pretty number complete justice, which has a specially arranged scene devoted to it. The scene and the song are most enthusiastically received.

MR HARRY WRIGHT, MISS NELLIE GANNON, and their daughter, MISS PEGGIE FAME, were the unfortunate victims of a collision that happened at Doncaster on Sunday. Mr Wright unhappily was severely hurt in the head and back, Miss Gannon is also suffering from bruises and contusions on her neck and back, and Miss Peggy, with a bruised instep, is prostrated by the shock. Mr George Bohee and Mr Charles Vincent witnessed the collision, and were very kind in at once administering to the wants of the injured.

THE Lyceum, it is now definitely announced, will open on the now popular two-houses-a-night plan on Boxing Day, under the direction of Mr Tom Barrasford, who at present is the only Englishman running an English music hall entertainment in Paris, where his enterprise at the Alhambra—late the Château d'Eau—has made his Parisian confrères sit up. Mr Barrasford believes in large buildings and cheap prices, and he has an ideal house in the transformed Lyceum, which is the largest variety theatre in London.

THE Christmas attraction at the Oxford will be Joe Elvin in his latest, *Fares, Please!* A special tramcar is in course of construction, and Mr Elvin will, it is needless to say, be seen as the conductor. Mr George Womack, the energetic young stage-manager, first took up his duties at the Oxford on the night of the production of *'Appy 'Ampstead*, and since that time, nearly three years ago, he has successfully superintended the appearance and stage setting of all sorts and conditions of turns, from performing elephants to wrestling matches. He himself was formerly an actor, having toured with Miss Kate Tyndal in *Two Little Vagabonds*, afterwards being promoted by Mr Glenister to assistant stage-management at the Oxford.

THE management of the Alhambra has made an engagement of exceptional interest, by which on Monday, Jan. 2, a company of Chunchuses will be seen for the first time in this country. These remarkable people, who were formerly active members of a fighting band hailing from Liao-yang, have in later years perfected themselves in the peaceful art of jugglery. Six in number, they have been "showing" in the Russian camps and along the Sha-ho lines. Their passport for safe conduct to Europe is signed by General Kuropatkin, who permitted the "Tchin-Man" company of Chunchuses to proceed from Mukden to Austria, Germany, and England.

MR H. H. WELLS, one of the directors of the Oxford, who is working very hard for the poor in the St. George's-in-the-East district, will give a grand matinée performance on Thursday, Jan. 12, at the Paragon, Mile-end-road, when many of the best-known artistes have promised to appear. Application for tickets should be made early, and can be had of Mr Fred Miller at the Canterbury, or of Mr Charles Beecham at the Paragon.

MISS LOUIE FREEAR is by way of returning to the variety stage at Christmas, having been secured by the Tivoli for the festive season. Miss Freear is about the quaintest little actress we possess, and her amusing oddities of manner were never better displayed than when she first delighted London playgoers at the Duke of York's with "Mary Jane's top note," in the character of the slavey, Ruth, in *The Gay Parisienne*. The part was a small one, but Miss Freear gave it the cachet of a comedy manner so genuinely droll that Ruth's opportunities expanded each evening until she became the principal personage of the piece. Another of her most excellent impersonations was the working man's wife, condemned by her husband to wear the costume of Mercia, in *The Sign of the Cross*, because he had been to see Wilson Barrett in that play. This was once given at the Lyceum, and was watched from the wings by the late actor-manager and Miss Maud Jeffries with great amusement.

THE Britannia pantomime, which will be produced by Mr John M. East, will be entitled *The Goblin of the Sea*, and will be founded on the story of "Sinbad." The cast will include Mr George Lupino, who has been a favourite with Hoxtonians for a number of years; Miss Daisy James, Mr Alf. Passmore, Miss Gracie Taylor, the Two Graces, Mr Charles Jerome, Mr Tom Wallace, Mr Leonard Russell, Miss Inez Clough, Miss Rosie Humphries, Mr Charles Jerome, and the Three Phydoras.

MISS DECIMA MOORE, whose Irish scena *Barney* is one of the features of the Coliseum programme, is the youngest member of a singularly gifted family. One of her sisters, Madame Bertha Moore, has recently made a success with a series of song-lectures, perhaps the best being her sketch of the life of Sir Arthur Sullivan, illustrated with selections from the works of the famous "melody maker." Miss Jessie Moore was formerly a Savoyard, and is the wife of Mr Cairns James. She takes an active interest in the School of Dramatic Art opened some months ago by her husband and Mr Ernest D'Auban. Miss Eva Moore's stage career is too well known to need describing. Miss Decima made her début in *The Gondoliers* at the Savoy, and was last seen in London in *My Lady Molly* at Terry's. She and her sisters are not related to Miss Mary Moore.

MR R. A. ROBERTS, another of the Coliseum attractions, was born in Liverpool, and made his first appearance at the old Theatre Royal when he was a boy of fourteen His first protean sketch, called *Lucinda's Elopement*, was produced at the Palace Theatre, and ran for over 300 nights. About three years ago he turned his attention to the study of Dick Turpin and other "gentlemen of the road," poring over old books and prints in the British Museum, and racking his brains to solve the apparently insurmountable difficulties, for a quick-change artiste, of high boots and tight-fitting clothes. His longest change of costume is made in exactly four seconds, and his shortest in literally the snap of a finger. Dick Turpin's entrance alone took him nine months to perfect. A few people, including the Maharajah of Mysore, have watched Mr Roberts's turn from the back of the stage, but not one of them has been able to describe in detail how it is done. The distinguished Indian expressed his opinion that R. A. Roberts must be the devil!

MISS EDITH COURTNEY, who commences on Boxing night her fourteenth return engagement at the Palace Theatre, is one of the many young "old Savoyards" to be found doing good work in London. She made her stage début in the late Mr D'Oyly Carte's American company, playing Lady Sophie in *Utopia, Limited*, having previously appeared as a child singer. She has toured in Australia and South Africa, and met with the most exciting experience of her professional life last winter in Johannesburg. There was a great fire at the Empire, where she was engaged, the whole of the stage being burnt. It happened at night, after the performance, and the news was taken to Miss Courtney at her hotel. All her private baggage and stage costumes were at the theatre, but she heard that everything was gone with calm and cheerful resignation. Hurrying to the spot she discovered, however, that the first report was greatly exaggerated, for many of the artistes' possessions had been saved, and her own trunks were untouched by fire or water.

MISS COURTNEY has often received letters from unknown admirers in front of the house. A couple of weeks ago a note was left at the stage door of a suburban hall, with instructions that it should be delivered directly after her turn. Miss Courtney found that it contained the usual compliments, and half a sovereign. The evident sincerity of the writer, added to her own amusement and curiosity, induced her to see him for a minute before she went away. He raved about her charming songs—"But why the half sovereign?" she asked. "I really can't give a reason for sending it," was the answer. "It was done on the spur of the minute. I felt that I must send you something for the sake of 'Eileen Alannah.'" As this impulsive admirer was positively hurt at the idea of her returning his gift, Miss Courtney has had it hung on one of her bracelets.

MISS VESTA TILLEY was unable, in consequence of a bad cold, to appear at the Hackney Empire last Friday and Saturday, her place being taken by Fred Keeton, eccentric character comedian, who proved himself a great favourite with the audience. Miss Tilley will be at the Tivoli on Boxing Day.

AS a recipe for driving dull care away go to the Collseum, take the nimble sixpence, book in advance the right to occupy one of Lazarus' luxurious armchairs in the balcony of Mr Oswald Stoll's magnificent temple of amusement, and there, gazing upon an excellent entertainment, puffing the soothing weed, and listening to the strains of ravishing music performed by a splendid orchestra, you will come to the conclusion that life, after all, is worth living.

DR. WALFORD BODIE who has just crossed the Border after a phenomenal run in Scotland, opened last week at the Metropole, Gateshead-on-Tyne. Owing to his huge success Mr Sidney Bacon arranged for a special matinée at he Olympia, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Doctor introduced his latest sensation, Mystic Marie, the Real Trilby. The performance was under the patronage of the Sheriff of Newcastle, the doctors, and clergy. Mystic Marie's performance created quite a furore, and owing to her enormous success she was presented publicly on the stage with a costly gold medallion by the Sheriff of Newcastle, who, in a neat speech, complimented Miss Marie and the Doctor.

AHRENSMEYER created a sensation at Sunderland on Monday by his wonderful blindfolded drive through the streets of the town. Every day the Palace has been besieged by the curious to watch the trance lady in the lobby of the theatre, and naturally enough crowded houses at night have been the result.

MRS ALLAN M'ASKELL, after an illness extending to eighty-nine days, was conveyed to her home in West Hartlepool last Tuesday, Mr M'Askell's sister travelling specially from Sunderland to Scarborough for that purpose. The doctors regard her recovery as little short of a miracle.

MISS ELLA KELLEWEY, an Australian, will shortly appear at the halls in a novel entertainment. This young lady has been connected with the Royal Australian opera company, and has toured through the New Republic, Tasmania, New Zealand, and South Africa. She possesses an extraordinary voice, in the compass of a dramatic soprano, embracing three octaves, and has just arrived in England.

MR REMBGES, who is so well known to visitors of the Middlesex, was the recipient on Thursday evening, the 8th inst., of two very handsome presentations in the shape of a valuable gold watch and chain, a heavy silver-plated salver, and a handsome tea and coffee service as wedding gifts. The first was a present from professional and private friends, and the last from the habitués of the hall. Mr J. L. Graydon, who made the presentations in a few felicitous sentences, referred to the amiability and geniality of Mr Rembges, and congratulated him. The staff of the Middlesex presented Mr Rembges with a tantalus spirit stand.

MR CHARLES CONWAY is busily engaged in preparing a new pot-pourri entertainment of an entirely original nature. In this new act Miss Nita Clavering will play the leading part, and have ample opportunity therein of displaying her great versatility.

MISS VICTORIA MONKS opens at the Palace Theatre on Monday. She will introduce two new numbers to the Palace patrons, one a tuneful ditty, entitled "There's a girl inside," and a new rag-time coon song, "I ain't gwine to leave home in the rain." Both songs are from the prolific pen of William Hargreaves, and have been acquired for publication by Charles Sheard and Co.

MR DAN ROLYAT, who has been playing Sergeant Lightning in *His Majesty's Guests*, is making a hit in the Grand Theatre pantomime, Glasgow, with a song called "Odds and Ends," specially written for him by William Hargreaves. Mr Rolyat is taking five and six encores every evening for this number, and has commissioned the author to write extra verses to meet the demand.

MESSRS JOHN P. HARRINGTON AND GEORGE LE BRUNN have, during the past week, been specially commissioned to write and compose original numbers for the forthcoming Christmas pantomime at the Crown Theatre, Peckham; and Mr Isaac Cohen has expressed his approval of a new duet for Miss Alice Lloyd and Mr Arthur Lawrence, entitled "Poor Cinderella," also of a humorous trio, "Dumble dum, derry; dumble dum, day," both of which are from the pens of this busy firm.

MISS KITTY WAGER'S powerful song, "Marching with the unemployed," which has caused something like a furore nightly at the Metropolitan and the London, is from the pen of Mark Lorne.

MISS MAUD ROSS, who has been appearing during the week at the Holloway Empire, relates with pride how she acquired the beautiful earrings she wears, and which were a present from the late Miss Bessie Bonehill. The great artist, delighted with Miss Ross's talent, promised her a gift on one occasion, and gave her the ornaments referred to the very next time they met. The point of the story is that eleven years elapsed before the two ladies again set eyes on each other, but Miss Bonehill had not forgotten her promise, and triumphantly produced the earrings.

MRS A. J. MILLS presented her husband on Friday in last week with a daughter, and now the popular author and composer is merrily chanting his own song, "Have you seen my girl?" instead of the other famous ditty for which he also was partly responsible, "There's a girl wanted there!" A comic song, "They all walked into the shop," by Mills and Castling, has been secured by over a dozen leading pantomime theatres in town and country.

SOME time since it was reported in the newspaper press, and vouched for, that a gentleman, through dreaming he was lying in a field beneath a blazing sun, woke up actually sunburnt and with the skin of his face peeling off through the effects of his vision. This was seized upon by Fred Leigh as the basis of the song, "When I woke up in the morning," now being sung by Mr Sam Mayo, who promptly secured it, and the numerous verses, each embodying a curious dream and a disastrous awakening, have provoked yells of laughter, and the report of its success has spread like wildfire among the pantomime folk. It will be issued immediately, Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter having secured it.

AT the Crystal Palace, as usual during the Christmas holidays, there will be a daily round of amusements, and the chief attractions will again be a pantomime and a circus, the arrangements being entrusted to Mr Humphrey E. Brammall. The story of the pantomime will be "The Babes in the Wood," which will be treated from the modern standpoint of farcical development and spectacular beauty. The leading comedian will be Mr Will Poluski, jun., who will be supported by Miss Connie Leor, Miss Kathleen Grey, Miss Mignon Tremaine, the Kimberley Boys, Master Cruwys, the boy vocalist; Mr T. Walford, and Miss Wee Mona. The circus, which will be fixed up in the centre transept, will have no fewer than three separate stages, each of which will be independently illuminated and decorated, and this arrangement will render possible many novel features which it would otherwise not be able to properly present.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE TIVOLI.

The music halls may be said to be marking time in preparation for the Christmas festival, and, therefore, business generally is not at its best. Messrs James Howell and Arthur Yates, however, are presenting a very attractive list of entertainers, and though the ranks of comedians are considerably depleted by the Yuletide demand for their services, there is consolation for the laughter-lover in such turns as Little Tich, Dan Crawley, and Ryder Slone, the last-mentioned a gentleman who has made a name in the provinces, and who is likely to be seen a good deal in London. Mr Slone is heard to very great advantage in a burglar impersonation, in which he asks the question "Are you asleep?" Little Tich is particularly happy in his selection, "The Idol of London Town," which is set to the popular tune of "Whistling Rufus," and his big boot dance, as usual, brings down the house. Mr Dan Crawley was being watched one evening during the week with critical interest by an eminent theatrical manager, who duly marked and inwardly digested his method of promoting fun in his songs, "Now you're married I wish you joy" and "There you are." An interlude of a very lively character is the duologue presented by Miss Gracie Whiteford and Mr Fred Sinclair. It relates to the ever interesting subject of matrimonial squabbles, which originated, so we are told by a monkish playwright, in the Ark. Harold, one of the ordinary sort of husbands, returns home a little bit the worse for liquor, and Mary, in none too amiable a mood, rouses his dander. One word leads to another, and the demon jealousy is unloosed. In the course of a scheme of mild revenge Harold impersonates a certain Arabella, and Mary retaliates by appearing as Mr Fitznoodle. Of course, it is only a storm in a teacup, after all, and when the audience has been thoroughly amused the curtain is rung down on reconciliation and rehabilitation. Miss Whiteford, who has so often delighted us at the theatre, returns to her old love, the music hall, in the character of Mary, which she plays with real spirit and vivacity; and Mr Sinclair is responsible for many mirthful moments in the part of Harold. The sketch is an agreeable change from song and dance, though one would not willingly miss the pleasant terpsichorean exercises of Miss Edie King, who trips it daintily in the limelight, and sings with much vim. Mr Edgar Romaine chants of "Pennies" in a number that has a swinging refrain; and Mr W. H. Clemart, a smart ventriloquist, makes his lady figure warble 'The lover and the bird," an ancient ballad of the drawing-room pattern. Mr Clemart's best effort, however, is his imitation of a baby in distress, the crying being most naturally reproduced. The Eight Biseras are particularly attractive girl instrumentalists, who play selections on brass instruments, from which they produce a sweet tone. They choose such popular melodies as "Hiawatha," "There's a girl wanted there," &c., and are received with genuine heartiness. Miss Lily Langtry gives some of her experiences during a visit to the Zoo, and the account is most entertaining. She catches the comedy of a Cockney crowd exceedingly well, and is evidently a keen observer of the ways of the people during a Bank Holiday. Starr and Leslie present a very pretty show of club juggling, in which the lady, an excellent vocalist, joins. The ever-changing light of the street lamp, which is an important feature of the act, causes much speculation as to how it is done. Kopski, who calls himself a classical pianist, plays selections that are difficult, though never dry. Classics in pianoforte music are not necessarily dull, and Kopski is making the public aware of this by his artistic work on the keyboard. The Mayvilles wind up an excellent bill as Liliputian artistes, their Irish and other duets being quite to the taste of the house. Other turns in the scheme of amusement are Miss Rosie Lloyd, the Borghetti Troupe of acrobats, Miss Eileen Douglas, and Mr Dutch Daly.

GATTI'S (ROAD).

Knowledge of the needs of the neighbourhood has enabled Mr Tom Tinsley to secure an enduring prosperity for the "family resort" in the Westminster-bridge-road, where the certainty of finding a generous provision for their entertainment is the chief cause of attraction to variety lovers who dwell within sight of "Big Ben." Excellent specimens of talent figure in the current bill, which is rich in variety, and mingles with song and dance the exploits of the practised athlete. A very fair exponent of muscular training is found in Luis Hardt, who boasts a chest measurement of 45in., and who, standing on a pedestal under a powerful light, gives a display of physical culture similar to that of a celebrated professor of the art, the biceps of the arm and the muscles of the back and chest being abnormally developed. Descending from his perch, he gives specimens of strength of finger and limb, raising a half-dozen cues together with two fingers, thereby claiming a world's record. Gigantic barbells are held up, occasionally with the addition of several persons on his chest, as he reclines on the stage, the combined weight at one time being a quarter of a ton. It is a breathless moment for the audience when Hardt essays to raise a 171lb. barbell aloft at arm's length, a roar of applause denoting its successful accomplishment. A thrilling display of strength is also given by the Leopolds, whose somersaults and top-mounting attain the height of acrobatic skill, and evoke appreciative cheers. The ladies of the troupe are especially expert, the somersault from the top of the living column on to the shoulders of the performer at the base being a marvel of feminine intrepidity. The house is roused to hearty merriment by the quaint eccentricities of Athas and Collins, whose business with a scarecrow gains roar upon roar of laughter. Miss Collins becomes very fascinating in her songs and dances, while her partner supplies a running accompaniment of fun that wins a hearty recall, an odd and novel dance being given in response. The Sisters Clive sing the praises of an English maid, and also indulge in a couple of love duets. One dresses as a naval officer, and woos a maiden who looks comely enough in the flowing robe of a bygone period. Their three duets are well received, and the dance with which they conclude reveals a skill and grace which are very acceptable. Recollections of the lion comique arise at the appearance of Mr Leslie Race, who is nevertheless well up to date with his effusions, which he renders in good style. His song "Girls are not wanted there" contains some scathing references to the fair sex, though he is immediately afterwards found advocating "A honeymoon every year," while in his ditty of "Down below" he deals with the depths of the ocean and the nymphs that abound therein. Rossi and Vaughan enact a comic scene between a countryman and a London lass, who is given to singing "On the banks of the Ohio" and "The girl in the panama hat," their impersonation of a Japanese couple, with a characteristic dance, forming a well-applauded item of their contribution. Miss Daisy Silcott sings effectively of a lad's devotion to father and mother—a sentiment which is sure of appreciation—and later has some mordant satire to bestow on "What men call love," which, however, has a verse at the last which saves the sterner sex from utter despair. With a pleasing lack of preference, Miss Silcott also sends some well-aimed shafts at "Woman," a fine vein of satire running through the song, of which the fair vocalist makes the utmost. Mr Mark Leslie as a coon comedian puts in some excellent step-dancing; the Mutograph affords a view of passing events of serious and comic interest; Mr Johnny Holland and company are seen in their amusing sketch, *A Comfortable Couple*; Mr Chris Richards, Canadian comedian, sings a "tumbling" song, suiting the action to the word with exceedingly comical results; and others who help in the scheme of amusement are the San Remo Girls, comediennes and dancers; Norah Noble, comedienne; and Mr Charles Rutland, comedian. Mr I. W. Baker keeps his musical forces in a creditable state of efficiency, and Mr Cattaneo exercises a courteous control at the front of the house.

HACKNEY EMPIRE

On Monday, Dec. 12, a New Sketch, by Charles Cunningham, entitled "THE KING'S HAT."

Sir Reginald Delauney, Bart.	Mr CHAS. CUNNINGHAM
King Charles II.	Mr C. E. BROOKES
Colonel Digby	Mr H. STEWART
Captain Meers	Mr W. FRANCE
Ferrier	Mr H. FITZGERALD
Lady Delauney	Mrs CHAS. CUNNINGHAM

There is much merit in this new production, which is distinctly superior to the average music hall sketch. The events are supposed to happen—for the author is careful to guard himself against being held responsible for the historical accuracy of the episode—just previous to the Restoration, a period which lends itself to picturesque treatment. Then, too, the romantic adventures of Charles Stuart have always formed a tempting subject for the dramatist in search of an effective plot, and Mr Cunningham has done well to revert to so interesting an era in the history of England. The scene is the ancient hall at Thursby Manor, the residence of Sir Reginald Delauney. This gallant cavalier has a weakness for gambling, and this has led to a crisis in his affairs. He has been entertaining Colonel Digby and Captain Meers, and the night has been spent in playing cards for high stakes. These two men are no better than common card-sharpers, and foolish Sir Reginald, ignorant of their true character, has no chance against them. He recklessly stakes the family estates and loses. There is still the famous necklace of emeralds, but, alas, this valuable heirloom follows in the wake of the family estates. Digby and Meers discover in the house a plumed hat, which they recognise as belonging to King Charles, and they rightly surmising that the monarch is not far away, resolve to give him up to his enemies at the first favourable opportunity. Ferrier, an old family retainer, has his suspicions aroused and communicates them to his mistress, Lady Delauney. King Charles, who is concealed in the mansion, is made their confident, and he resolves to watch, secreting himself behind a screen. The card-sharpers are detected and denounced. The sound of horses galloping at full-speed is heard, and a party of Royalists make their appearance. They bring the glad tidings that the King's cause has triumphed. Charles rewards Sir Reginald with a peerage and accuses Digby and Meers of being traitors to their King. Mr Charles Cunningham as Sir Reginald Delauney succeeded in presenting a very natural and wholly effective portrayal of a gay cavalier of the period. Success also attended Mr C. E. Brookes in his admirable delineation of King Charles. Mr H. Stewart was well placed as Colonel Digby, and Mr W. France was equally satisfactory as Captain Meers. Mr H. Fitzgerald deserves every credit for his capital sketch of the faithful old butler. Mrs Charles Cunningham proved a charming representative of Lady Delauney. Mention should be made of the massive oak set, with its fine ceiling and parquet floor, which was specially built and painted by Mr Francis H. Bull. The new sketch was received with such demonstrative approval as to leave no doubt whatever as to its success. The other portion of the Empire programme this week is exceedingly attractive, the artistes including the Five Delevines, in their musical mélange "Flirtation;" Clown Zertho and his dogs; Alexandra Dagmar, in the burlesque scena *Duchess of Dantzic*; Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, trick cyclists; Syd May, in a burlesque on the great Hackenschmidt; Cabby and Shirker, in their eccentric bar act; Ike Scott and Son, comedians; Ada Cerito, comedienne; and the Three Sisters Kloe, athletic wonders.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE.

A special feature of the programme at the Islington Empire is an overture appropriately entitled "Islingtonia," specially composed and arranged by Mr Alfred Petersen, the musical director. Into this many of the popular melodies of the day are introduced, at one point the players of the brass instruments standing up and facing the audience. The new piece, which was publicly played for the first time on Monday, was greeted with loud applause at both houses, and Mr Petersen bowed his acknowledgments. In consequence of the illness of Miss Hetty Chattell her place in the bill has been taken by Miss Daisy James, who is a great favourite in Islington. She gives an admirable embodiment of the "Gibson girl." Probably an Islington audience may have had only an extremely vague knowledge of this young lady, but Miss James has introduced her to them in the guise of a very lively damsel who wears a charming costume, has a peculiar walk of her own, and sports a "Gibson" feather. Miss James next appears in the character of a very different type, that of the maid who has fallen in love with the man who carries the red flag in front of the steam roller. Both ditties are sung with much spirit, and are received with manifest favour. The Black and White Zouaves go through their lightning drill with remarkable precision under the command of their leader, performing a series of complicated exercises in a manner that affords conclusive evidence of the strict training they have received. They conclude with a realistic wall-scaling exhibition entitled "Attacking the Forts." Those who first reach the summit of the wall assist their less active comrades by catching hold of their hands and pulling them up. The top gained, the attackers, uttering warlike cries, disappear on the other side; and eventually the forts are seized. The whole performance is one of much merit, and reflects great credit upon the leader of the troupe. Mr Charles Williams, known as the "handcuff king," has been performing some remarkable feats here this week, freeing himself from handcuffs and heavy chains in a marvellous manner. The genuineness of the achievements is testified to by a number of people who accept an invitation to go upon the stage. Mr Alix Lukos is successful in "How a song should be sung," giving imitations of the comic singer, the bass, and others. He also contributes a topical ditty most effectively. Mr Will Driscoll, an Islingtonian, who has only recently joined the ranks of music hall comedians, has a good style, and is likely to make headway in the profession. Mr Rex Fox's wire act is well worth watching. He can walk the wire while smoking and also on stilts, his achievements eliciting warm applause. My Fancy as a speciality dancer has few rivals, and she appears in a special illuminated scena from the brush of the late lamented Dan Leno. Bonnie Goodwin and her Apollo piccaninnies are responsible for a smart performance, one of the youngsters particularly distinguishing himself. Mr Hal Chapter, comedian, does well with "Keep your opinion to yourself." The pictures depicting the "Capture of the Yegg Bank Robbers" are highly interesting. The first reveals the robbers' encampment. Then they are seen entering the bank and at work on the safe. They are surprised by the watchman, who, however, is killed, and the robbers escape. They are pursued and take to the river, and then to the woods. After various adventures they are trapped and shot. Mr Will Spearman, the manager, is active and alert in front of the house, and Mr Walter Gibbons occasionally looks in to see that all is going well.

ROYAL ALBERT.

Constant care is exercised by Mr Charles Relf that the entertainments at Canning-town, while presented at prices that do not unduly tax the monetary resources of a humble community, shall be invariably excellent, and as a consequence loyal patronage is always accorded him. Large audiences have this week been attracted by a bill-of-fare of a specially interesting character, a favourite item being the sketch played by Mr Fred Southern and company entitled *The Private Hotel*, a trifle of an extremely farcical nature. The head of the combination excites the wildest merriment by his funny impersonation of a burglar who breaks into what he supposes is an hotel, but which is in reality a private lunatic asylum. Caught in the act of purloining the silver and other valuables, he is persuaded by the proprietor at the point of a revolver to accept a situation, his principal duties being to prevent the four or five lunatics from escaping. His encounters with these eccentric individuals are the principal cause of the mirth, and all who take part in the playlet work hard and with complete success. Early in the programme Mr Frank Jester arouses some hilarity with a couple of comic ditties, "They all run round the table" and "I fancy I can manage that myself;" and he has a greatly appreciated ditty in "I'm as happy as the king," a number in which he impersonates a humble toiler who declares that an honest British working man whose castle is his little cottage is quite as much to be envied as any bloated aristocrat. Miss Lily Pender gives a refined and amusing little interlude wherein she impersonates different performers she encountered at an impromptu concert given on board an Atlantic liner. Her imitation of a child is very realistic, and her Nigger, Irish, and German songs are all acceptable renderings. She also gives a humorous song quite out of the beaten track descriptive of the first visit of an elderly Irish couple to the theatre, and her entertaining turn is completely successful. Mr Bob Pearson's song, wherein he portrays the mannerisms of a porter and a showman, is an enjoyable item, and a clever laughing ditty and a well-rendered coon song and dance are also included in his enjoyable turn. Miss Daisy Meadows' first number, "Isn't it nice, boys?" greatly pleases her auditors, and her two other songs, "Why should a girl say 'No'?" and "Molly," also enable her to display her talents as a comedienne, a pleasing appearance and some pretty costumes also aiding in her success. One of the most amusing items in the bill is that for which Fyne and Hurley are responsible. One of them gives a ludicrous impersonation of a dude, and his companion takes the part of a burly coster with some humorous repartee that is quite refreshing. Very laughable is their description of a journey to the Derby, and their boxing bout evokes screams of merriment, the ludicrous appearance of the "masher" being of itself enough to make the most solemn smile audibly. The Sisters Edwards, a couple of exceptionally agile and enthusiastic duettists and dancers, are received with as much approval at Canning-town as they have recently encountered at halls further West, their dainty appearance, tuneful songs, and smart dancing combining to make a most attractive and interesting turn; and Mr Harry Gold works a novel and appreciated idea in his song, "Gold, Gold, Gold," in which six or eight local children impersonate some animated sovereigns, their vocalism being loudly cheered. Mr Gold also secures applause with "Bold Robert Emmett" and another number. The Two Bees (Harry and Flora Blake) are giving with all their usual success their popular and beautiful scena "Hiawatha;" and Nash and Noel, comedians and dancers, also figure in the long and entertaining programme, which includes some interesting and amusing films shown by Walter Payne's Bio-Photoscope. Mention must be made of the admirable work done by Mr Walter Leaver, the courteous and tactful chairman.

DR. BODIE AT RICHMOND.

Dr. Walford Bodie, "The Great Healer," to give him only one of his numerous titles, is amazing the theatre-goers of Richmond this week. Dr. Bodie, assisted by a charming medium or subject, Miss Marie Walford, first gives a remarkable performance of hypnotism pure and simple, and the control he exercises over the actions of Miss Walford is little short of marvellous. This portion of Dr. Bodie's programme, extraordinary as it is, is followed by a performance, if it can justly be so called, which arouses the keenest interest. The doctor announces that he will cure persons suffering from paralysis, and proves as good as his word. On Monday night a little boy aged ten years, living in Richmond, and personally known to a large proportion of the audience, was the first patient to be treated. The lad had been paralysed since birth in his left arm and leg, and was treated in full view of the audience. After placing him under hypnotic influence, the doctor of bloodless surgery, as he called it, gave liberty and action to the patient's left hand and foot, and then treated him with powerful electric currents. Removing the electric wires, the doctor brought the patient back to his senses, and handed him a three-pound weight, which he proceeded to hold and lift above his head by means of the arm and hand that for ten years had been worse than useless to him. Afterwards the lad walked easily about the stage waving his cured arm to his friends in the gallery, who roared with delight. Following this patient came a girl aged seventeen years, announced to be the daughter of a porter at the Chelsea Hospital. This unfortunate girl had been paralysed in both legs for several years, but after treatment by the wonderful doctor got up and walked about the stage and finished by walking away with the fearsome-looking leg-irons she had up to that evening been obliged to wear—one iron in each hand. Both these cases were genuine beyond a doubt, and it was stated that both had been to our best London hospitals, and had been discharged as incurable.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—A memorial to the late Mr Herbert Campbell in the shape of a bust, either in marble or bronze, is to be obtained, and placed, if possible, in the vestibule of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, the scene of so many of his triumphs. Mr Harry Randall has kindly consented to act as president and Mr Edward Ledger, of *The Era*, as treasurer to the fund.

It is the intention of the committee to engage an artist of repute to execute this work to the memory of the above-mentioned generous and genial comedian. The committee will esteem it a great favour if his old friends and admirers will assist in making this memorial a success. All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

Yours faithfully, FRANK HEATH, (Secretary).

Committee Rooms, Hummums Hotel, Covent-garden, W.C., Nov. 2.

Sums received

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
A. Magnus	10	10	0	Thos. Cracknell	1	1	0
Henry Joyner	5	5	0	Arthur W. Bray	1	1	0
Joe Elvin	3	3	0	Lydia M. Roberts	1	1	0
G. W., J. B., and F. H. Fortescue	3	3	0	Thomas Mason	1	1	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0	C. Chuck	1	1	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0	Mrs M. A. Hearn	1	0	0
J. Hickory Wood	1	1	0	S. A. Graddage	1	1	0
H. Comfort	1	1	0	W. Clarkson	0	10	6
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0	A. Lazarus	0	10	6
Jesse Sparrow	1	1	0	Mrs C. L. Lawson	0	10	6
Pat Doherty	1	1	0	Mrs White	0	10	6
G. A. E. Hussey	1	1	0	Richard Box	0	10	6
Gus Elen	1	1	0	A. May	0	5	0
				M. M. M'Neill	0	2	6

Per Harry Randall:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Harry Randall	5	5	0	Eccentric Club	2	2	0
Eugene Stratton	2	2	0	J. Bernard Dickson	1	1	0
Little Tich	2	2	0	Charles Hector	0	10	0

THE PALACE ANNIVERSARY.

The Palace anniversary is always considered one of the pleasantest functions of the year and Mr Alfred Butt was evidently determined that in the twelfth celebration should be preserved the brilliant traditions of past annuals. The fine programme submitted on Tuesday evening contained the names of celebrities of both stages, and whatever the Theatrical Managers' Association may think or do, they cannot in any way disturb the *entente cordiale* that has always existed—and will continue to exist—between entertainers from the legitimate and variety theatres. The chief novelty of the special programme was the unnamed wordless tragedy by Hugh J. Ward, music by Julian Jones, in which the author and Mr Harry B. Warner appeared. These gentlemen have the reputation of being excellent fencers, and the piece had been invented for the purpose of giving both of them an opportunity of showing their skill with foils. The scene is a club-room. In strolls Mr Hugh Ward. He has apparently been to a performance of *Rigoletto*. The air sung by the Duke, "La donna è Mobile," haunts him. He must whistle it, and, to give him his due, he does so quite correctly—even after a whiskey and soda, supplied by a waiter. Mr H. B. Warner, who also comes to the club, has likewise returned from the opera, and is just as much struck with the melody, which he persists in whistling in the minor. The two men are soon in dispute, and Mr Ward strikes Mr Warner with his glove, which, as we are supposed to be in Paris, means a duel. The foils are handy, and it is soon discovered that the affair is serious, the combatants being *corps à corps* continually. At length Mr Ward's weapon reaches his opponent's lungs, but even then he can still whistle faintly the melody that has been his undoing. The playlet finishes with Mr Warner's death, Mr Ward strolling away in a mood of complete indifference as to the unfortunate end of his musical rival. As the curtain falls Mr Ward celebrates his triumph by still whistling his favourite air in the orthodox key. The fencing was exceedingly good, and both Mr Warner and Mr Ward were heartily applauded for their clever display and their excellent acting. This was the only tragedy that disturbed the imperious reign of comedy during the evening. Some fun was caused in the first hour of the carnival by Professor Cross examining the bumps of Mr Arthur Roberts and other gentlemen. From Mr Cross's felicitous remarks we learnt that Arthur would live to a good old age, but that it would be a mistake for him to retire from "business." Arthur was duly grateful, and felt in his pocket for coin, but the precise reward given by him to the phrenologist was kept a profound secret. Later in the evening the comedian joined the Follies, and sang with Mr H. G. Pélissier a topical duet, "That will be a very nice change," by the latter gentleman and Mr Wimperis. This caused considerable diversion, as Arthur, dressed in the pierrot costume of his companion, was evidently amused to see the latter garbed in a huge red dress coat, and when Pélissier mimicked Roberts the latter retorted with an excellent skit of his imitator, which caused roars of laughter. It was excellent fooling. Mr Charles Warner was one of the extra turns, and his elocution in the "Queen Mab" speech of Mercutio made an excellent impression. Miss Ada Reeve, looking very charming in a white gown, came specially to sing 'Born, not made," adding "Only a Penny" as an encore; Marguerite Cornille, another Palace favourite, sang "Te souviens tu?" Mr R. Michaelis, choosing the melody, "Eyes of blue and eyes of brown," put much artistic expression into a refrain beloved of the masses; Miss Adelina Genée enchanted everyone with her dancing; and Mdlle. Zizi Papillon's toe dancing was admired. Mr Gus Elen must have been delighted with the hearty reception given to him in his cabby number, which he followed with his "ale" ditty; Mr Esmond and Miss Evelyn brought out the comedy of a little duologue after the pattern of *Uncle's Will*, the gentleman singing charmingly to his own pianoforte accompaniment; Mr Morris Harvey mimicked Mr Tree, Mr Alexander, and Sir Charles Wyndham with success; Mr Nelson Jackson was responsible for some unusual imitations at the piano; Miss Camille Clifford made an agreeable impression as the "Gibson girl;" and Miss Winifred Hare sang very artistically one of her favourite solos. A pretty novelty that took the fancy of the audience was discovered in the A Ba-Be Picture Postcards, which disclosed a number of artistic reproductions of domestic scenes and heroines of nursery lore, such as Red Riding Hood and Cinderella. The most artistic card was, perhaps, the blind girl in a prettily painted confield listening to the song of the skylark. Little Tich, who came late, had a rousing reception in his song and big-boot dance; Miss Ruth Lincoln sang "April Morn;" Miss Alice Pierce gave her impressions of favourite actresses; the Palace girls danced in dainty style; Mr G. H. Chirgwin entertained in his own original way—which is just the way Palace audiences most highly appreciate; and other turns included the Ameen-Aboun-Hamed Arab acrobatic troupe in some wonderful pyramids; Yamamoto and Koyoshi, in their great Japanese balancing act; De Gracia's baby elephants; Miss Daisy Jerome, comedienne; Miss Nina Martine, vocalist; the Bioscope; and Alf Arnesen, equilibrist. Mr Herman Finck's excellent orchestra played with fine effect the overture from *William Tell*; Mr F. R. Kinkee was at the piano; and Mr Alfred Butt received capital assistance in the front of the house from Mr Fitzroy Gardiner and Mr Thomas Miller. Mr Frank Damer stage-managed.

A SEQUEL TO "HIAWATHA."

The Two Bees have been busy at the London Music Hall this week with a new chapter in the history of Longfellow's Indian hero, who has been perpetuated in two hemispheres by the jingling tune to which his love ballad has been fitted. In the new version the melody has been dispensed with, but the romance of the story has been preserved, the one scene showing the forest home of Hiawatha and the wigwam where he dwells with Minnehaha. The birds sing melodiously on all sides, and the distant canoe speeds it way along the Mississippi. It is twilight, and beneath the changing rays of the setting sun Minnehaha sings her babe to sleep. Scarce has the last note died away when the crack of a rifle is heard, followed by a warwhoop, and Hiawatha bounds on with the spoils of the chase, which he lays at the feet of his dusky bride. Minnehaha is timid of the white man, and warns her spouse that he may be punished for stealing, whereupon Hiawatha breaks out into a fierce invective against the pale-face, who had robbed him of his ancestral home, declaring that the fruits of the earth were meant not for the few, but for all. The lines are poetic, dignified, and in complete agreement with the views of a popular audience, whose sympathy with the economic principle so forcibly expounded is complete. Mr Harry Blake makes a noble red man, and delivers the recitation impressively and with such vehemence as to win frequent cheers, and Miss Fiora Blake sings with tender feeling as the Indian squaw in the pretty lullaby with which the piece opens, her voice also blending admirably with that of her partner in a short duet at the conclusion.

In the notice of the opening performance at the Eastbourne Hippodrome last week, the smart dancing turn given by the Sisters Le Graham was inadvertently omitted.

Mr Percy Honri concludes to-night a most successful seven weeks' engagement at the London Pavilion. After a short provincial tour he will return to the Stoll Empires on Feb. 6.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Our lengthy account of the beauties and luxury of the London Coliseum had scarcely prepared our readers for the revelation of architectural magnificence that was seen by a large invited crowd at the private view on Thursday afternoon of Mr Oswald Stoll's latest and most important enterprise. The house is practically complete. The theatre has a frontage of over 100ft. to St. Martin's-lane, the style adopted is Italian Renaissance, and at one end the façade is carried up terminating with a warm-coloured tiled roof, with a cupola over; from here dark granite columns and arches form three openings, one containing windows lighting the typist room, the other exits from the salon, and the other being the royal entry. Over these openings are rows of windows lighting the managerial offices, and over these again are semi-headed openings, divided by columns, and having balconies between with casement windows opening out to same. These form the front of the large refreshment room or roof garden, containing a domed roof formed of glass and iron, and constitute quite a unique feature, and one that will be greatly patronised.

In the centre of the block, which contains the principal entrances, arises a large square tower, most artistically designed, and of noble proportions. It is carried up over the bold archway containing the entrances in square, rusticated work, with a heavy, bold cornice, which forms a base for the more elaborate treatment over. This consists of heavy column pilasters, with bold carved figures at the corners, representing Art, Music, Science, and Architecture. From here the tower assumes different outlines, formed by trusses and niches, and the introduction of sculptured lions; the whole is carried up, getting less in diameter as the top is approached, when eight figures in the shape of cupids support a large iron revolving globe about 12ft. in diameter, to which is attached large electric letters spelling the word "Coliseum." The globe is made to revolve, and this artistic advertisement can be seen for many miles. A further novelty in advertising this building is the electric device along the front, which gives the nature of the performance taking place at the time during the evening. A verandah covers the pavement in front of the principal entrance, formed of glass and iron, a feature being the way in which the glass is curved in shapes, and the handsome panelled glass in the fascia, the whole, when lighted up by electricity, forming a very attractive feature in St. Martin's-lane.

The comfort of the public has been considered in every way. The Coliseum provides what no other theatre in Europe supplies—lifts to take the audience to the upper parts of the building. From the grand salon ascend and descend two lifts or elevators, which will convey the visitor to the smoking lounge in the basement and to the foyers on the first and second floors, and to the roof garden over, also enabling the audience to ascend to the different levels of their seats. These lifts are identical with those supplied for the use of H.M. the King at Epsom and Doncaster. Each holds eleven people, is electric, and possesses six independent safety services. An attractive feature off the salon is the ladies' sitting-room. This is approached through two draped archways, and is fitted up in the most recherché style, with couches, writing tables, pedestals with ferns and flowers, mirrors, electric reading lamps and shades, &c. The floor is richly carpeted, and the walls panelled and filled with red brocade. The whole of this room will be exposed to the salon, and will be a decidedly useful feature of the theatre. From it a corridor leads to the ladies' cloak-rooms, lavatories, &c., all fitted up and furnished in the most comfortable style, with every convenience and luxury.

From the salon two wide corridors lead to a long, wide foyer, running the whole width of the building, and serve as a lounge for the patrons of the stalls and boxes. It has a domed ceiling divided with ribs, and a bold cornice is carried by pilasters dividing the wall space, which in some cases are decorated in panelled work, and others containing recesses and fitted with counters from which confectionery, American drinks, ices, coffee, tea, and other refreshments can be obtained. All the boxes are approached from the foyer through quaintly designed doors, fitted partly with plush velvet and copper nailing. Large handsomely draped openings divide the grand salon from the grand staircase, which is undoubtedly a feature in this vast establishment. This staircase is of great width and easy ascent, the steps being wide, and the balustrading, ceiling, and walls are all covered or built of different coloured Italian marbles, alabaster, &c. Iron handrails and pillars are introduced, terminating with flambeaus; marble columns and arches divide the staircase from the foyers on the first and second floors. The staircase is completed at the top with a carved ceiling, containing an ornamental glass roof, which gives light and completes the whole scheme.

From the ground floor, or entrance level, the marble staircase is continued down to a large baronial smoking-hall, for the use of all parts of the house. It is most quaint in its arrangement, being carried out in heavy oak timbering, the walls being covered with tapestry and the floors laid with thick rugs on polished wood block flooring. The room is furnished with settees, tables, and lounges, the whole being specially designed to carry out the baronial style adopted.

Large cloak-rooms are provided at the most convenient positions, fitted with racks for the careful removal of hats and cloaks, with attendants to take care of them, and there will be no fees. The roof tea and refreshment room, which will be reached by elevators, is an apartment that occupies the whole frontage of St. Martin's-lane, being 100ft. long. It is furnished with oak green-stained tables and chairs, and with writing-tables in convenient places. Here the visitor can easily spend the hour between the two performances, if so desired, listening to the orchestra, which is accommodated at a cave and rockery at one end of the building, surrounded with nooks and corners containing palms and ferns.

AN OLD COMIC SINGER

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In a recent issue of a contemporary I came across an allusion to the once-popular singer John Read, who is in great distress. I have known Mr John Read for about thirty years, and am, therefore, in a position to recommend his case to your readers. He must have been well-known to the vast majority of the music hall artists who fulfilled engagements at Collins's Music Hall in the seventies, eighties, and nineties, and I venture to hope that his pitiful case has only to be prominently brought to the notice of an ever-generous profession through the medium of your valuable columns in order to find him some monetary help to avoid what I know would be to him a most odious final result, viz., seeking parochial assistance. I should not venture to trouble you on this subject did I not know from nearly forty years' experience that your columns are ever open to assist the truly needy, especially when that need is coupled with a deserving past. Mr John Read in his time has written several very popular songs for such artists as Herbert Campbell, G. H. Macdermott, George Leybourne, Fred Coyne, Harry Rickards, with other ditties, which, in the hands of Nellie Farren, Edward Terry, and Teddy Royce, have helped to brighten many a Gaiety burlesque.

Yours faithfully, C. H. SHEARD.

196, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C., Dec. 14.

Miss Ruby Bijou, after successfully touring the provinces for five months, returns to town, and will rest for a week. On her resumption of business at Christmas she will introduce some new dances.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

CONCERNING the Elliott children, for whose benefit a handsome sum was raised a year ago, the vicar of Nether Stowey, Bridgwater, writes:—"One of the two children left orphans by the late E. Elliott, who with his wife was killed by the storm over a year ago, the girl Emily, aged about twelve years, died suddenly last week at her uncle's home on Rye-common, Hertfordshire." The Rev. R. Hasland, the gentleman sending us the news, is vicar where the calamity occurred, and interested himself a good deal in raising a local fund to benefit the children.

AT Holloway's New Empire Theatre, Astwood Bank, a new play by a local gentleman, entitled, *The Needlemakers*, has been produced, and a variety entertainment has been given by the Astwood Bank black-and-white minstrels.

MESSRS BARKER AND THURSTON opened at the Agricultural Hall, Norwich, on Thursday, for the Christmas fair, and will remain there till after the holidays. Their popular gondolas and other attractive amusements have been extensively patronised. The hall has rarely been closed, the circus having occupied it since its opening in 1882, but this year is an exception.

THE interesting letter from Lion we gladly insert this week. Any historic reminiscences of lions not embodied in Frost's, Van Hare's, George Sanger's, and Wallett's books and pamphlets would be welcomed by our readers. The Rev. T. Horne remembers Whittington's Wild Beast well. It was "John Whittington," not "Richard Whittington." Johnny Whittington was—and may yet be—a live fact. Mr Horne saw him some ten years ago with coker sheets at Rotherham Statutes Fair.

Bostock and Wombwell's mammoth show paid a visit to Blyth on the 9th inst. exhibiting on the market-square afternoon and evening to large audiences.

HANCOCK'S WINTER GARDENS, Plymouth, this week retain the services of Miss Ray Maig, a popular and clever coon vocalist and dancer. Miss Ada Fossett sings serio-comic songs with ability Will Beecham appears with much success in sketch, and up-to-date animated pictures are presented.

CHRISTMAS and New Year fairs and carnivals are a most interesting development of the travelling show business. Within the memory of the writer of these notes they were almost unknown, yet such is their rapid and phenomenal rise and progress that this coming Christmas it is true to say that no centres of life within the United Kingdom are without their well-organised and successful Christmas and New Year fairs and carnival.

LOOK at the large array of centres of show life this coming Christmas. The list we give is only the ascertained list—there will be a score or more other places where a few outside entertainers gather to winter, and to refil for the coming year; and they open and do a little business whenever the rigour of our climte permits.

IN London, in addition to the Christmas carnival par excellence, "the World's Fair at Islington," under the management of Messrs Read, there are fairs under Messrs P. Collins Limited, Fulham way, Biddall, Woolwich way; Mrs Wetherhead, at Deptford; Davies, at Dorking, and probably one under the management of Andrew Purchase in one of the industrial or residential suburbs.

IN Manchester show settlements will open for the holiday fortnight and Saturdays, at Ordsal-lane, Trafford-road, Ardwick (Hyde-road), Hillkirk-street), Beswick, Trinity Market, Salford, and Banock-street, Hulme. At Liverpool Christmas Fairs, at Scotland-road, the North Haymarket and pitches, under the Wallis and Berry management. The Birkenhead grounds must be divided into two pitches—John Collins and Chas. Farrell's. At Birmingham, two grounds, under the banner of P. Collins, Limited; at Leeds and Bradford, two or three grounds; at Sheffield, with which we link Attercliffe, will be a big crowd of shows; Oldham, two pitches; Bolton, two; Farnworth, one; Rochdale, Preston, Southport, Lancaster, Nantwich, Leek, Wolverhampton, Southampton, Bristol, Portsmouth, Ryde I.O.W., and Northampton.

IN the north fairs for the Christmas holidays at Newcastle and Gateshead, the Hartlepools, North and South Shields, and Sunderland, with a half-dozen small places not yet tabulated. In Scotland Glasgow, three grounds; Edinburgh, two; Greenock, Paisley, Govan, Leith, Motherwell, and Renfrew. In Wales Cardiff, Swansea, Barry Dock, Merthyr Tydvil, Newport, Carnarvon, Carmarther, Dowlais, Morriston, Pontypridd, Ton-y-Pandy, and two or three other and smaller pitches. In Ireland, we know of two only—Dublin and Belfast.

WE ask showmen who find that the above list does not include their winter pitch to write to "Showman World" Editor, *The Era*, and send particulars, and we gladly add to or correct the above list.

WITH reference to the lists of fixtures we publish for the showmen month by month, we should like to repeat that we should welcome corrections either by addition or by crossing off the lists in the future, fixtures of no use and trade value. The writer of these notes has spent years of patient toil and investigation in the endeavour to issue for the use of showmen really accurate fair lists. He is convinced that it is for the benefit of the whole body of itinerant showfolk that all fixtures should be known, and that our fairs should have greater attraction in the public eye by a more frequent change of show novelties. The same big show and the same big roundabout in the same position year after year is not conducive to the real interests of the business of the fair. "The dog-in-the-manger" policy of keeping the good things and the good places in a few hands is a wrong one, and ought to be done away with.

WHAT we set out to do last week has been accomplished. The discussion we desired to provoke has been engaged in by such well-known showmen as Mr T. Hurst, the well-known roundabout proprietor, inventor, and patentee of merry-go-round novelties, fair ground lessee, and—besides the activities—the hon. secretary (its greatest and its best) of the Showmen's Guild, and organising secretary and agent of the now successfully floated British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union. This man of many pursuits and boundless energies writes to "The Showman World" editor as follows:—"Dear Sir,—Re the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union and the Parliamentary Defence Fund, I write as secretary to above society, and in its name most decidedly object to the tone of your remarks in last Saturday's issue of *The Era*. I think that our union has a perfect right to spend its funds as we think fit and wise.

"OUR members have already subscribed this year between £70 and £80, and we have a substantial balance yet to come in. If the much-belauded North of England Society of Stall-Holders and Showmen will do as much as our society has done for the Van-Dwellers' Association, followed up by the other societies of stall-holders and amusement caterers, I think you would not have occasion again to write in the strain of last week's lucubration. I write strongly, because I feel that the observations and reflections you made were uncalled for; that is, as far as this Union is concerned."

OUR reply is that H. M. Horne's remarks were admitted into *The Era*, just as we gladly give Mr Hurst a place this week. We desire, above all things, to have a clear understanding, and to rally such support to the Parliamentary Defence Fund as shall make it effective and strong for its necessary purpose. Now, we accepted in good faith H. M. Horne's communication. Mr Hurst knows as well as we do that last year's balance-sheet disclosed a serious deficit in the funds of the old society. Mr Hurst knows why the Parliamentary Defence Work Expenses Fund was started. In fact, he was one of its promoters. He knows that at least £200 a-year is needed in order to be ready for every emergency—on this one count alone of Parliamentary agency, scrutiny, petition, and Parliamentary counsel and solicitor's accounts—that is the minimum amount. His society (we repeat it) might and ought to have met the situation in full by a sufficient grant in aid from its funds. Don't let it be forgotten—this Parliamentary defence is the society's defence work first, as lessees and proprietors, and the stall holders next come in proportion to each man's interest and stake in the business.

NOW, Mr Hurst is too clear-headed a man of business to have any doubts about this. He stands to lose, and every proprietor and lessee stands to lose, much more than the rank and file. In the words of common-sense, we say "Each man to his corner." At the King's Lynn committee meeting of the Union the Rev. T. Horne made an explanatory appeal, and a handsome response was the result. The same thing happened at Treorchy, in Wales. But both at Lynn and Treorchy it was two big subscriptions rather than many moderate ones that made the sum collected a handsome one. We still hold that the situation demands a substantial grant in aid to the expenses of Parliamentary defence. We still adhere to our view of last week, that if the funds of the other societies are tied up the sooner they are set free and used the better. We are confident that Mr Hurst will be amongst the first to recognise the supreme importance of facing the enemy ready for the fight. He knows that the big purse is a good thing in every battle. It is supplies to the front that determines the victory, and we say now that leaving the Parliamentary Defence Fund to go begging subscriptions is a sign of weakness that the enemy will inevitably notice. Even on Mr Hurst's own showing, £80, or even £180, will not meet the position, and the humiliating thing is that whilst the fund is waiting for the substantial balance to come people who have done their work months ago cannot get their accounts settled for lack of funds.

NOW we turn to a matter in which we are in full agreement with Mr Hurst. He further writes and we agree:—"There is another matter to which I would draw your attention. I refer to the annual showmen ball at the close of the season of the World's Fair at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington. Could it not be utilised as a means of helping the fund for Parliamentary defence? For the past two years this has been successfully done at Bolton New Year Fair. Last year over £18 was the profit handed over to the Guild treasury. Why should not London emulate, or at least imitate, a first-rate Lancashire town? I have again secured the hearty co-operation of the market superintendent, Pike (a host in himself), and the goodwill and support of the market tenants of the borough. The ball is fixed for Jan. 4, 1905, and will be held on the evening of the day I have called a meeting of my society. I was on the London committee of the ball, but was not able to ascertain why no profits were handed over to the Guild. I trust now that Mr Horne is settled in London that he will inquire into this matter and see what can be done by London along the lines of helping the work of defence as is done at Bolton. Surely London showmen will remember that most of the money spent on Parliamentary work was spent directly for their benefit. East Ham and Acton are notable examples of this. We men of the north give you a good lead—follow."

TO all of which we say "Hear, hear." Good business, Mr Secretary Hurst. What has Mr Alf Reeves to say to this? Now we have also satisfaction and pleasure in giving Mr Thos. Hartshorn, of the Northern "Amalgamation," a fair field and no favour. Mr Hurst says that "the Amalgamation" is a "much-belauded society." Well, we give our honest opinion, and are not thin-skinned enough to object to a hard knock or two in return. *The Era* endeavours, and we are proud enough to say it succeeds, in fairly representing all sides of a question. That, we know, is quite taken for granted. So now, please, with these remarks, hear Mr Hartshorn, whose life story we told last week:—"Mr Editor.—Dear Sir," he writes, "please allow me space in your valuable paper to express my view on the subject of most vital moment to every showman, roundabout proprietor, stallholder, market trader, and amusement caterer, whether they live in movable dwellings or are fixed, immovable in towns—viz., the financial position of the Showmen's Guild and its Parliamentary Defence Work Fund. I have read with great interest the informing paragraphs in recent issues of *The Era* week by week. I gather from last week's letter by H. M. Horne that a certain society shelved the direct appeal, and relegated the matter of support back to its members in their individual capacity, recommending a minimum subscription of two guineas each. This, I take it, was because the rules did not allow a lump sum being granted for that purpose. With other secretaries, I have been asked my opinion. First, then, I claim (as a member of the Guild) that I have voiced its claims from a score of platforms."

"YET—I suppose not for want of will, but from want of knowledge—"the support I longed for was not given. Why is it? Well, you must never forget that show life is a busy one. Our people have little time for reading or quiet study of intricate problems. Now, Parliamentary work is a technical business all through, and the ordinary man, busy at the fair, can have but little time to master its intricacies. Hence from ignorance of these technical details (not at all culpable ignorance) the man of the busy fair ground knows not how serious the matter stands. Now, we who do know must stand for those who have not time to master the subject. Now, to be practical, why not summon at a convenient centre (say Derby) a conference of delegates from all the known societies to discuss ways and means of maintaining in the highest possible efficiency Parliamentary defence work? What says Mr Hurst to this?

"THERE is also Mr Wm. Gibson, of the Lancashire and Cheshire stallholders; Messrs. Thomas and Burgin, of the Yorkshire Society; and Mr Burns, of the Society in the Birmingham and Midland district. Why not these experts meet and discuss the whole Parliamentary business? It would be a step in the right direction. A conference, beginning with a common object about which we are all agreed, would lead on to other meetings to deal with other questions from time to time. A Mr W. M. A. wrote last week suggesting possible pressure being brought on non-subscribing tenants by lesseer. I doubt not that W. M. A. has the highest interests of the Guild at heart, but I fear that coercion in any form or shape would defeat its own purpose. Besides, there is the practical difficulty: proprietors and lessees of ground have no time to go round and to see about a matter that would need both time and great tact. The fair-ground business is too full of work that must be done to give any spare time to such important work. I look forward with great hopes, now that your columns are more fully thrown open to our business than before, and our page is a feature of *The Era*, like the other great branches of the greater world of shows, theatrical and musical. In conclusion, sir, these fugitive remarks are not official—although our treasurer and one of our founders, Mr Geo. Gray, with one or two others, have already talked it out with me."

WE only comment on the above excellent letter to say with both hands down we accept Mr Hartshorn's proposal for a conference of accredited delegates. It is the way to really interest and to bring together people at present meeting but seldom in friendly council. Yet another correspondent—this one from Scotland—sends in a curious letter, a comment on W. M. A.'s letter. He says, amongst other things. "That hobby horse men ought to send, when letting ground, a price list of their fixtures for publication in *The Era*. There is another interesting point in the letter—it is signed J. B., K.C.—about correcting inaccuracies in the Scotch fairs lists as we publish them every month. Yes, J. B., send us a correct list, and we will publish it in *The Era* month by month. Will J. B. send us his home address? He writes from a Rechabite Lodge, District 35, Edinburgh.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—With reference to Mr Child's letter re our missing the good old shows, such as Wombwell's No. 1 Menagerie, with its famous band; Edmond's Windsor Castle Menagerie, Sanger's, I would remind your readers that we have still with us Bostock and Wombwell's No. 1 Menagerie with its famous band as of yore. Then we have Bostock and Wombwell's No. 2 Windsor Castle Menagerie. The last named has certainly been touring the Continent for some years, but so recently as September last returned to old England, and will, I understand, be at the Agricultural Hall, London, for Christmas and New Year, and for six weeks, while No. 1 will be in Scotland's capital, Edinburgh, for a like period. Then we have George Sanger touring the country every year, also John Sanger and Sons, Ginnett, Fossett, and many other smaller ones, without taking into consideration the Yankee innovation Barnum and Bailey, and Buffalo Bill's periodical visits.

During almost sixty years there have only occurred five deaths from animal performances in this country, notwithstanding the many blood-curdling stories which have been told. The first, quite fifty years ago, was that of Helen Blight; then came M'Carthy, a white man with one arm, at Bolton, New Year, 1871; afterwards Deller, a coloured man, killed by a bear; fourth, Tom Bridgeman, professional name, Captain Cardownie, a white man; and fifth and last, Beaumont, a coloured man—not a great percentage of risk, considering the number of performances taking place every year.

Yours faithfully, LION.

Fulham-road, N.W., Dec. 12.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Re the proposal for a special grant from the roundabouts and showmen's combine to the Guild funds, may I suggest the following solution of the difficulty:—That each member of the combine shall subscribe a certain fixed sum for each and every show or riding machine which he may be proprietor of, or be a responsible manager of? Should he be a lessee of fairgrounds he shall pay, in addition, a small fixed sum for every ground he shall lease and let as a fairground. By this means those who have the greatest amount of interest at stake will be justly called upon to subscribe according to the amount of interest protected by the Guild. May I also suggest that lessees should see that all their tenants possess a receipt for their subscription to the Guild for the year 1905? For it is nothing less than dishonesty to enjoy the protection of the Guild without subscribing one's mite towards its maintenance. May I ask you to accept and publish signatures to this proposal or amendments thereto?

Yours faithfully, NOBODY.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

SHOWMEN SOCIETIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am deeply grieved to read the remarks of the Rev. T. Horne with reference to the decline and decay of the parent society of showmen, viz., the U.K. Van-Dwellers' Association. It is a thousand pities that after the good work it certainly has achieved the present-day showmen should allow it to pass into oblivion. If the interests of showmen, Parliamentary, protective, or otherwise, are not watched and safeguarded where will showmen drift to?

Showmen, one and all! It is perfectly obvious that you are in peril of being pushed out from the centres of cities and towns, and driven from pillar to post. Conversation like this has been frequently heard on a fair-ground, one showman speaking to another:—"Oh, the Association has not done me any good, it does not affect me, and besides, I'm all right." It has been suggested in an article that appeared some time ago in the columns of *The Era* that the decline of the U.K. Vandwellers' Association was due to the coming into existence of new societies. I attribute it solely to the neglect of self-interest amongst showmen.

Cannot a day be given or fixed for a general voluntary collection run on similar lines to a "Hospital Saturday," when each showman can give not a fixed sum, but what he can afford? Taking the showmen census as computed at 70,000, what a splendid result would ensue if every showman gave sixpence each! The Stallholders and Roundabout Proprietors' Society have done a great deal of good. A better understanding has been arrived at between lessee and tenant, and rents to first party landlords have been reduced, other rents being reduced to tenants thereby. The days of "tober sharping" are numbered. To meet the requirements of this ever-changing world of ours we must move with the times and be progressive, and I hope the time is not far distant when the bonds of unity will be drawn still closer between the various societies.

Yours faithfully,
UNA VIAGGIATORE FRATELLO.

A SPECIAL committee meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel on Wednesday next at 2 0 o'clock, when a financial statement respecting the benefit performance at Collins's Music Hall will be submitted.

MDLLE. ROZA, with her canine hippodrome, finishes this week a provincial tour, and opens at the Foresters' on Monday. The show has also been secured for the Christmas week at the New Surrey Varieties. There has been a large addition lately to the troupe, and the electric scene over the garden walls has been greatly enlarged and made more effective, so much so that the last item is finished by the light given from this scene alone.

"TALES OF THE RAIL," published on behalf of the Railway Benevolent Institution, is still on sale at the railway bookstalls throughout the country. At this season of the year hardly anything of the kind would be found more enjoyable as a travelling companion than this entertaining shilling booklet, which, it is gratifying to know, has scored a first-rate success. Readers investing in a copy would secure for themselves a volume of excellent light reading, while they would at the same time have the satisfaction of knowing that they were benefiting a deserving charity.

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

The orchestral concert given at the City of London School on Wednesday last had some interesting features, and the orchestra, conducted with great care and efficiency by Dr. Cummings, did excellent work, particularly in Grieg's "Peer Gynt" suite, the last movement awakening the enthusiasm of the audience owing to the spirit and brilliancy of the performance. In accompanying the solos the band, in one or two instances, showed that a little more rehearsal would have been well bestowed. But we are too familiar with the difficulties of the task to lay much stress on slight shortcomings, nor should we refer to the matter save in justice to the gifted student, Miss Alice Dyer, who needed a little more support in Weber's Concerto. The second and most difficult pianoforte concerto of Weber, who used to play it frequently on his artistic tours when in the full maturity of his genius, was a bold venture for a student, but Miss Alice M. Dyer came out of the ordeal with infinite credit to herself, and played the lovely adagio like an artiste. The final movement, one of the most brilliant Weber has written, received ample justice also from the clever performer. The concerto is in E flat, Op 32, and was first published in 1812 at Berlin by Schlesinger. It is rarely heard in these days, although many portions are exquisite examples of Weber's genius. Miss M. Willby somewhat overtaxed her physical resources in Mendelssohn's scena "Infelice," a vocal piece requiring great dramatic force and passionate expression. We do not say that Miss Willby failed. Her natural ability was quite sufficient to overcome the chief difficulties of Mendelssohn's exacting scena. Miss Veronica L. Webb, who recited Savile Clarke's "Siege of Lucknow," has decided gifts as a reciter, but the large and lofty hall was not altogether favourable to her task, demanding, as it did, no slight physical power. Tennyson's poem on the same subject would have proved more effective. The Russian Suite, by Wüerst, which concluded the concert, was for string orchestra, with Miss Dorothy Brill, violin obbligato, and was well rendered. The young ladies on the platform were attended by Mrs Charles P. Smith with her usual care.

"THE POWER OF PRAYER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Some years ago I was engaging artists for my husband, who was agent in advance with a circus abroad, and I had also to take out some lions and wardrobe. I had a code to telegraph for more money if I required it for expenses, and finding I was short of £150 I wired that a remittance was urgent, as there was only a week or two for the steamer. Finding no reply came to the message, I became very anxious. I was then lodging in Alfred-place, Bedford-square, with my sister, my baby, and nurse. On going to bed one Saturday night, I prayed earnestly that I might have the money sent in time; and that night I dreamed that a telegram was waiting for me at Paravicini's Agency, 49, Duke-street, St. James's, and distinctly saw the red lettering and form of telegram used by the company for cable, and read plainly, "You will find £200 at the bank of India and China; also bring me a pair of shoes;" and drawn at the bottom of the telegram was an outline of the size. On Sunday morning I felt quite convinced by that dream that God had answered my prayer. On Monday morning I went to the office. It was closed, so I knocked at the side door; and the housekeeper came to it and exclaimed, "Oh, madame, I am so glad you have come. There is a telegram that has been here for you nearly a whole week! Mr Paravicini's clerk has gone away on his honeymoon, and Mr Paravicini is on the Continent; and I did not know where to find you." I told her my dream, and took the telegram. It was as I had expected.

Yours faithfully, NELLIE REID.

[The above letter emphasises the importance of artists always keeping their addresses in our advertisement columns. It is much safer to trust to this than to lucky dreams, which cannot be relied upon.—ED. OF THE ERA.]

AT this time of the year a mouth wash which is also a prompt remedy for coughs and colds will be warmly welcomed by everyone, and Barnägen's Vademecum "Fuo," the British depôt of which is at 12, Little Britain, is certain to prove a friend in need to all who use it. This valuable preparation is primarily an antiseptic, immediately destroying any germs or bacteria collected about the teeth or in the mucous membranes of the mouth and throat. It is also an excellent anæsthetic, allaying pain and checking inflammation. "Fuo," therefore, while the best of mouth-washes and dentifrices, is also a powerful aid to health, and may be used to advantage in many ways. A drop undiluted will relieve an aching tooth; while in diphtheria its early use will often destroy the undeveloped germs in the throat, which are the foundation of the disease. The powerful concentration of "Fuo" is demonstrated in the fact that it produces a good effect by inhalation. For coughs, colds, and hoarseness, it is often sufficient to pour a few drops on a handkerchief and inhale often from it. It is, however, more desirable to use an inhaling apparatus, if available, using about one part of "Fuo" to forty parts of water, inhaling through the mouth and passing through the nose. In an atomizer, "Fuo" also proves an excellent sick room disinfectant; in fact, its uses are as many as they are beneficial.

THE World's Fair entertainment opens at the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Christmas Eve, with a huge programme of popular amusements, including a free circus, a fine menagerie, gymnastic performances by the Herbert Troupe, Menotti, the Stockholm Wonder; and other "turns." The noise caused by the barrel-organs, the management intimates, has now been greatly modified.

MR AND MRS RONALD BAYNE (Miss Evelyn Hope) are just concluding a twenty-one months' engagement with Mr Charles March's *Priest of the Temple* company, and will shortly produce an historical dramatic scena in the London halls.

A LIST of the hon. medical officers in London and the provinces who have kindly consented to give free medical advice to members of the M.H.A.R.A. will be forwarded to any member sending stamped addressed envelope to the secretary.

AT the Empire, Wrexham, Mr J. J. Scott, the proprietor, has submitted the following attractions:—Mr Marcus Boyle, character comedian; Newcombe and Sullivan, comedians and dancers; Miss Ada Whitton, refined male impersonator; the Bros. Jean, the original handymen, in their boxing act; and the Royal Bioscope.

MAIER AND MORA open at the Paris Alhambra for Mr Barrasford next month, and at the Lyceum, London, for the month of February.—The Rozells (Alf and Tom) dissolve partnership (by mutual consent) on Jan. 14, 1905. Mr Alf Rozell will continue the same two acts with a new partner.—The competition at Sadler's Wells for the best impersonation of Mr Dan Thomas in his various successes there was won by a promising youth named W. Daniels.—The Kyasyas, the well known bantam athletes, are specially engaged for next week by Mr Dan Godfrey, Esq., for his concerts at Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

ADVERTISERS and SUBSCRIBERS who are moving about, and who have their Copy of "THE ERA" sent direct from this Office, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, are requested to forward the Addresses for their Papers [not later] than the Tuesday in each Week.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

(COPYRIGHT.)

By the REV. T. HORNE
(Hon. Chaplain, Showmen's Guild.)

"JUST LIKE LIFE."

Many years ago Jackson's waxworks were well-known, and always welcomed in the great provincial towns. The Jacksons had great success and stayed for long seasons, sometimes stretching into years, in towns like Manchester, in the old Bazaar Assembly Rooms, Smithydoor Market; or in large shop buildings in the "Bull Ring," Birmingham; Bold-street, Liverpool, and St. Mary-street, Cardiff.

Although a travelling waxwork exhibition it always had a tendency to fix itself down and become a permanency.

The story of risk and danger (to a nephew of Mr Jackson's) I am now relating has reference to an important time in the political history of our country. The show was located in Rochdale-road, Manchester, in a commodious block of buildings built for a big drapery concern, which somehow did not succeed, and so the shop came into the market.

Jackson's waxworks did capital business, for all England was in a firment over the anticipated Fenian rising. I speak of the years 1866 8.

The Jacksons were Roman Catholics, and always made a strong point of their Irish national character in the show, and especially attractive were the capital models of the Pope—Pio Nono—and Cardinal Wiseman. The appeal to Nationalist sentiment was particularly shown in the crêpe hangings, and in the "in memoriam" cards of the Manchester "Martyrs," Allen, Larkin, and Gould.

The great attraction of the moment was a fine portrait model of Stephens, the Fenian No. 1, or head-centre. This was heightened by the contrast right and left of capital figures of Robert Emmett, Dan O'Connell, Shamus O'Brien, and the then Irish leader in the House of Commons, Mr Butt, member for Cork.

It is universally conceded that young blood is hot and youth is rash, and besides all these commonplaces, youth loves adventure, and the smack of adventure or mystery is like wine to a young and romantic man largely endowed with the poetic and artistic temerament.

So it was with Bernard Boyle, Jackson's nephew and the artist in wax attached to the show. We need not linger on the why and wherefore. The fact material to our story is that Boyle had become entangled with the Fenian conspiracy. He was initiated in a young men's club which flourished in the neighbourhood of the show. Thus much to introduce our principal character.

The hue and cry was ringing through the land. Stephens, the Fenian head-centre, was still at large; the secret police had evidence more than sufficient to hang him; but they could not catch him. The search for Stephens was the one absorbing topic of daily talk and anxiety; the failure of the police to capture him got on the nerve of the nation. Every stranger, however innocent, was a "suspect," and blunder after blunder on the part of the authorities only served to feed the national wrath and to swell the popular clamour for the head-centre's arrest.

One day he would be heard of as being in Dublin; the day after Stephens had been traced to Glasgow, would be the story; and so on until there grew up a weird legend of a being so "protean" in his disguises that no skill of man could hope to unmask him. Of course we know now that all the time the police were tracking him down and drawing the cordon closer around him, until, like a hunted animal, his one thought was to find a means of escape.

We have said that Bernard Boyle was a Fenian, but even in his wildest moments of excess as a conspirator he never guessed at the all-important part he would be called upon to play in the stirring life drama of Stephens' escape.

Late one Saturday night three men lingered in the show until all the other visitors had gone. Young Bernard was covering up the figures and turning out the lights in the Irish Senate House, as the room was called, where the Nationalist group was shown. One of the three lingering visitors spoke a few excited words to the artist, and oh! the change that came over him—he trembled with excess of fear.

"What am I to do?" "You will be told yourself by No. 1," was the terse answer. "Good Heavens, man, is he here?" "Judge," was the reply, and going under the barrier, he quickly took his stand by the side of the wax model of the Fenian hero, and throwing off hat, wig, and beard, stood revealed the original of the capital wax model Bernard had made.

"Just like life" was the surprised and involuntary comment of the astonished modeller.

"Well, not exactly so," was Stephens' reply; the humour of the situation causing him to smile, even in that critical moment. "What you have to do is to make me like the figure, rather than make the figure a copy of me, see!"

Now the two companions of Stephens had been equally and quite as dramatically busy. Old Mr Jackson thought at first that the men meant plunder, and intended "holding him up" for the day's takings (no mean sum), and it took a few minutes for the real aspect of affairs to sink down in his mind, though in nosense dull of comprehension.

Whilst the "head-centre" Stephens was unfolding his carefully thought-out plan of escape, his brother conspirators were showing old Jackson the dangers of his position.

"Here you are, sir, in the centre of an Irish population. Your nephew is a known member of the 'Irish National Brotherhood,' pledged on forfeit of his life to venture all for the cause, if need arise. The need has arisen; so urgent is it that to save him you must help us."

"What do you mean?" the old showman, in rising anger, demanded. "I mean that a friend of the Irish is now in hiding from the police, and that his friends have concocted a plan whereby you may help him to clear out of this country, where he is being hunted down like a wild beast."

"You ask me to assist in the escape of a criminal?" "No, no," the man replied, with fine scorn, "Not a criminal, but a patriot fighting the enemies of his country." "I can't do it, I will not do it." The reply was a staggerer.

"If you won't do it, say good-bye for ever to your nephew, Bernard Boyle. Your nephew is a ——." Here the man of decision and mystery whispered a word in old Jackson's ear. "The young fool," was the showman's reply; then, after a moment's hurried thought, Jackson said, "I shall not join in your plot; I don't want to know anything about it; it's enough for me that Bernard stands in a dangerous position. Straight away now I will clear out. My eldest daughter is settled here in Manchester, I'll vamp up some story to blind her. Tell Bernard I want him." The second man brought the modeller and he stood shame-faced before his uncle. No rebuke was given; the matter, the old showman realised, was too big and serious for words. The uncle, after a searching look into his nephew's guilt-marked face, shook his head in sadness, and said loud enough for the three Fenian conspirators to hear:—

"Bernard, my lad, I promised Harriet to stay a week with them at their place at Rusholme. I'll get a cab and go straight there."

"You? to-night?" gasped Bernard. "Yes I may not be back for a week. You know what to do in my absence. Then, turning to the three visitors, he said "My nephew, Mr Bernard Boyle has full authority in all matters until I return. With a hearty hand grasp he parted with his nephew, got his cab, and was taken to his son-in-law's house right away at the other end of the city, and was soon in the peace of home with his own people.

Jackson's waxworks announced on Monday the last fortnight of its stay. Large posters said: "Positively the last two weeks." The Irish Senate Group with its portrait models (it was further announced) could be seen six days longer only, Barnum (so it was billed) having purchased the entire Nationalist group for his museum at New York. "Saturday next positively the last day of the Senate of Irish Statesmen and National Heroes."

This sudden determination to leave the town caused a flutter of excitement in the most immediate neighbourhood.

But the decision to go was not made a moment too soon. Chief Inspector Costigan, of the Detective Department, had received from the Secret Service Bureau of Scotland-yard a note of suspicion concerning the Waxworks and Fenians.

The information was that the young showman, Bernard Boyle, had been seen at patriotic and political clubs, and was even thought to belong to the Fenian Brotherhood. Costigan got his information within six hours of the final closing of the "side show" rooms (an extra charge), the Irish Senate House.

The detective thought he was smart, and that his get-up was a great success, but the Fenians were much smarter, and Costigan was recognised before he had crossed over from Shudehill to Rochdale-road. The signal was passed along, and sped from spy to spy, until it reached the bodyguard of Stephens at the show. Hurried counsel was taken, and when the detective arrived they were ready for the emergency.

Deeply interested in the show, yet keenly alert, Costigan got his chance with Bernard, the modeller.

Only a few visitors were in the Senate House Room. The modeller was apparently occupied in a series of "touching up" experiments. When the detective's opportunity came to begin "pumping" Bernard it was when the artist was engaged in "faking up" with fresh pigments the face of the notorious Fenian, "head centre" Stephens.

Costigan began by saying, "What a capital model. Just like life. Who modelled it?"

"Well," replied Bernard, "I'm the guilty party; most of the figures here are from my studio, and I hold a contract with Mr Jackson to keep the figures in thorough repair and order."

"Oh, indeed! So you are the artist, eh! You must feel flattered that the great showman Barnum has bought the entire group."

"Yes, yes, it is a big thing for me;" while he was speaking he was dexterously placing his body between the detective and the model as much as possible.

Costigan gave Bernard a startler when he said "let me have a good long stare at Stephens. I have his photo. here, but your model has something about it uncanny. I feel a sort of second sense about it that the whole Chamber of Horrors in the next room fails to give me."

Bernard was glad of a well-timed diversion; the brother-conspirator, whose interview with Jackson we have already chronicled, sauntered in, and, pretending to be in the noisy first stage of intoxication, began a voluble talk with Bernard, who, of course, played into his hands, and so the situation, intensely critical, was saved.

The detective said to himself as he went downstairs, "It is a capital model, what a pity a young fellow with his talents should get entangled with Fenian conspirators, I'll come again and give him a bit of friendly advice."

"Phew," said the model of Stephens, when the signal was sent up to the room by the third man below, "Phew, I sweat with fear. I should have managed all right, Boyle, but your touching up brush tickled my nose so I nearly screamed with the irritation of it."

"Begorra," said No. 2, dropping into the brogue, "It was a narrow squeak for the 'tec.;' my fingers itched as I clutched me shooter in me hip pocket; it was nearly farewell 'me bould melisha man' for Costigan. Not a moment was he out of my sight, and when Bernard began to feel alarmed I just came in and played the goat."

"Melee Murther, me honey, Costigan was nearly being another Manchester martyr." "Thank Heaven!" sighed Stephens, "it's all over and clear sailing now. How soon, Boyle, can we be sailing for America?" The irrepressible No 2 here gave a decent step or two by way of an Irish gig, and sang

Och, me true love, Dan,
Is an Irishman,
And he sails for Ameriky.

Whereat the nervous strain of the other two was broken, and the humour of the situation came full upon them, the three men bursting into peals of laughter.

"Just like life, true for you, O, Costigan the wise! Costigan, the 'cute tec' of the world!"

"How near to the live truth he was, eh! my boys?" said Stephens between the shouts of laughter. "Yes, yes," answered No. 2, "as wise as the blind old bat in 'Mother Mulligan's Meal House,' who always looked at you with a face that said as plain as a bald sixpence, 'Ten shillings fine, or seven days to get wisdom in. Next case sergeant.'"

With many a joke the three Fenians worked like navvies in packing up the wax effigies of Irish statesmen past and present, Irish patriots, ancient and modern. The big Barnum order was, of course, a "flam," and the end of this strange eventful story is that though every port and railway station were watched night and day for No. 1, Stephens, the head centre, was cribbed, cabined, and confined à la "Box Brown" inside the heroic papier maché figure of Dan O'Connell.

Mr Bernard Boyle, with two assistants, passed the barrier at Liverpool, and after a speedy journey, Stephens was at last liberated and safe on American soil.

That was the end of Jackson's waxworks. Old Jackson secured a handsome cheque from the New York committee of Irish American sympathisers with the I. N. B. Feeling sure that his nephew would not risk any return to England, he determined to retire. This he did, spending the rest of his days in the peaceful harbourage of his daughter's home in Manchester.

NOT GOOD ENOUGH.

A young lady vocalist was sued by Mr Cook, musical instructor, at the Westminster County Court on Wednesday, for the balance of a £20 fee for singing lessons.

Plaintiff said the lady signed a contract for taking singing lessons. Part of the contract provided that she should have operatic and concert singing engagements. Through the witness she secured an engagement in pantomime at Glasgow.

Defendant—Yes, in a chorus at £2 a-week, and I had to pay my railway expenses and your 12½ per cent. commission out of it. You have never done my voice any good.

Plaintiff—But you had offers for pantomime choruses.

Defendant—My voice is too heavy. I've been taken in. To my mind you have swindled me.

Plaintiff—My experience is that you have swindled me.

Defendant—You ought to have more experience than to let a girl just come to London swindle you.

His Honour—Why didn't you accept the engagements offered?

Plaintiff—Because they were not good enough.

Judge Woodfall gave the plaintiff judgment, and remarked that, reading the contract, he did not think she could turn up her nose at pantomime.

A LETTER is lying at this office for Mr W. Alcock.

THE Oxford University Dramatic Society will produce the *Clouds* of Aristophanes on March 1 and following evenings. The music for the revival has been composed by Sir Hubert Parry.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

Continued from Page 19.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr F. H. Lucas.—Miss Lole Esmond's company has occupied this house during the week, opening on Monday with the sensational drama *The Anarchist Terror* to a very good house. The piece is adequately staged under the direction of Mr Edward Neville, who must be highly commended for his clever and powerful embodiment of Ravagoon. Another meritorious performance was Mr Gus Bowerman's Ishmael. Mr C. T. E. O'Connor achieved a distinct success as Lieut. Armstrong, and Mr J. Nelson-Turner must be awarded every credit for his Silas W. Goldstraw. The comedy element was safely entrusted to Mr Will White as Mickey Doolan and Miss Lole Esmond as Kitty Malone. The part of Columbia Goldstraw was pleasingly sustained by Miss Violet Hammersley; Miss Annie Brunette submitted an effective study of Marita; and Miss Kate Parr and Miss Cicele Bryne did well in their respective parts. The drama was repeated on Tuesday. On Wednesday and two following nights *The Sorrows of Satan* was presented, with Mr Edward Neville as Prince Lucio Rimanez.

TON-Y-PANDY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; General Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Connsell.—The Moody-Manners opera company is this week paying a return visit. On Monday *Tannhäuser* was produced. Mr Edward Arthur, in the title-rôle, sang with pleasing effect, and was warmly applauded. Mr Charles Tilbury as Hermann charmed the audience with his really fine voice; Mr David Fuller was successful as Biterolf; and Mr Walter Barrett, who took the part of Wolfram, sang with taste. Miss M. Wilcocks was good as a young Shepherd; Miss Grace Nicoll as Venus sang with power and a nice comprehension of the requirements of the part; and the Elizabeth of Miss Enriqueta Crichton was a delightful study. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr Harrison Frewin, was excellent. On Tuesday night *Carmen* was produced, and on Wednesday *Il Trovatore*.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs W. T. Elworthy and J. Buckley's company are here this week in the play, *Liberty Hall*. Mr W. T. Elworthy gives an excellent rendering of William Todman, Mr F. Crogan ably undertakes the rôle of Mr Owen; Mr Harold Standing is efficient as Mr Gerald Harringay; Miss Beth Elliott gives a charming portrayal as Blanche Chilworth; Miss Kathleen Maitland is pleasing as Amy Chilworth; Miss F. Winn deserves mention as Crafer, the servant. Other characters are well filled by Mr T. Narray, Mr C. Weldon, and Miss P. Davies.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome Company, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—The Judges perform some clever acrobatic feats; Bliss and Bliss are amusing comedians; Handel, boy instrumentalist, is a talented musician; Lord, Murray, and Lord, boxing artistes, win applause. Other items are the Great Counteer, duettists; George Antil, comedian; and Miss Lilian Lovell, male impersonator.

WALSALL.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr T. Arthur Jones and company occupy the boards here this week with *Life's Sweetest Sins*. Captain Harold Marston is taken by Mr T. A. Jones in capital style; Mr A. Bartlett Garth does well as Dr. Colbrooke; as Ernie Woodstone Mr Charles Sewell is very successful; and Miss Madge Morley gives a charming portrayal of Doreen Rivers.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—If any picturesque melodrama of modern times deserves to lay claim to the distinction of being a classic surely the right may be accorded to *The Two Orphans*. This stirring play is the attraction here this week, and, capitally played by Mr Arthur St. John and the Britannia Dramatic company, fully merits its nightly reception. Mr St. John himself gives a vigorous and effective picture of the bullying braggart Jacques. Mr Edwin Furgusson presents a fine contrast as the poor, crippled Pierre, his sonorous voice making the pathetic speeches with which the part is studded tell with astonishing force. A powerful rendering of La Frochard is supplied by Mr Marmaduke Langdale, who, if he does not efface memories of Mrs Huntley and George Conquest, succeeds in making the repulsive hag an impressive picture. The two orphans are both capitally played, Miss Patey Trounsell being dignified and courageous as Henriette, and Miss Ida St. John very pathetic as the blind Louise. The Marquis De Presles is capably played by Mr A. Ferne, and Mr W. Foster is a good Chevalier De Vaudry. The other parts are all played admirably by Messrs C. Brand, Archie Grant, A. Dobell, James Dunlop, E. Leigh, and J. Valentine; Miss Lilian Burns and Miss E. Heathcote.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slatter.—In point of popularity the appearance of Mr Will Evans may be described as the leading feature of the programme this week, and the whimsical comedian, with his irresistibly funny face, receives a tremendous welcome on his appearance. Mr Harry Pleon and the Collinson Combination, in *A Club Raid*, repeat a striking sketch, which is no stranger in Walthamstow, and is received with much favour. Mr Pleon gives a telling delineation of Monty Trevor, who comes out so heroically in the end. Mr Jack Collinson is a strong representative of Fergus Didget. Mr Charles Wragg is a capital Arthur Playfair. The knuckle-fight between these two is highly exciting. Miss Selina Seaforth makes a striking figure as Madame Judas, and the other parts are all in good keeping. Loud laughter rewards the comicalities of Mr James Stewart, who, as a tramp at the piano, is equally successful at the instrument and with his tongue and his toes. Miss Myra Stansfield is a charming comedienne; Kelly and Gillette, in "Fun on a Billiard Table," are, to say the least, vigorous, their jumping feats on the table being truly astonishing. Miss Jessica Grace sings with great dash and spirit, besides looking superb. Tray and Rich, black and white-faced comedy team, are possessed of more drollery than many of the artistes in the same line, and their dancing is extremely neat. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr H. Petersen, renders Suppé's overture, "Banditenstreiche" with fine effect.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Mr F. R. Benson's Shakespearian company is here in a round of famous plays. On Monday night *The Taming of the Shrew* was staged. As Petruchio Mr Henry Herbert scored a big success. Mr F. O. Chambers was well pleased as Baptista, Mr B. Limpus acted naturally the part of Lucentio, and Mr Arthur Fayne as Gremio and Mr G. Wallace Johnston as Hortensio gave careful readings of their respective rôles. Messrs A. A. Harris and B. Forsyth as Tranio and Biondello, the servants of Lucentio, were good, and Mr Arthur Phillips scored well in the humorous part of Grumio. Miss Dorothy Green as Katharine soon established himself a favourite, and a characteristic study of the part was given. Miss Christie Laus was a graceful Bianca, and Miss Maud Garth an acceptable widow. On Tuesday evening Romeo and Juliet drew an appreciative audience. Mr B. Limpus was an ideal Romeo, whilst there was a tenderness and gracefulness associated with Miss Dorothy Green's rendering of Juliet which won for this talented actress high encomiums. For the remaining nights *The Merry Wives of Widsor, As You Like It, School for Scandal, The Merchant of Venice*, and *Hamlet* were billed.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Increased business is being done here this week. The Moxons head the bill and provide an excellent turn as foot equilibrists. Barrett and Knowles are clever comedians, and Professor M'Cann's performing dogs maintain their popularity. Chris. Masters and George Prince are smart comedians, and Vera Mayne is a refined burlesque actress. Satsuma is a wonderful conjuror, and the Royal Bioscope shows a series of interesting pictures.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—This week Colonel Cody with his up-to-date Biograph, giving a full description of the life of Buffalo Bill and his rough riders, is creating great interest here. In between the pictures some excellent artists appear, and add greatly to the success of the show. A change of programme is provided each evening.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—*The Fatal Wedding* is being played to appreciative audiences this week by Mr Bert Coote's company. Mr Wilfred Payne gives a capable interpretation of Howard Wilson; Miss Marie Housley as the wronged wife, Mabel Wilson, enlists the sympathy of her audience; the adventuress, Cora Williams, has an admirable exponent in Miss Gertrude Harrison; Miss Gladys Rose-Jones as Jessie, the little mother, is highly intelligent; Miss Harriet Clifton is a typical Irish lady cook, and in conjunction with Mr Charles Kenny as Toto, the French butler, provokes much merriment. Other characters having able exponents are Robert Curtis, by Mr Wallace Stranack; Peter Schwartz, by Mr Victor Widdicombe; and Rev. Dr. Lanceford by Mr Arthur Law Raynor.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—A much-appreciated scheme of amusement is being given here. Charlene and Charlene exhibit skill and dexterity in juggling, a special feature of their performance being the wonderful manipulation of the xylophone by the lady. Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte provoke unbounded laughter with their sketch *Saucy Maud*; the graceful dancing of the Four Trees has a most gratifying reception; Henry F. Wilson gives a pleasing rendering of favourite ballads; the instrumental performance of Orpheus, and the banjo playing by Edwards and Espinosa create something like a sensation; the electrical and gasometer performance of the Marconis is followed with the keenest of interest; and a film of exceptional length and clearness, "Whirling the World," is also an attraction.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

GRAND PIER PAVILION.—The Æolian Opera Singers are paying a return visit here this week. Miss Florence Ray sang "The Twilight Hour" with much expression; Miss Jennie Johns was well received for her singing of "On the Pier;" and Miss Rose Alderman gave a delightful rendering of Pether's "For Ever." Mr Vivian Munro was successful in his song and dance "My English Maid;" Mr Charles Parker was loudly applauded for his artistic singing of "A Jovial Monk," and that extremely clever comedian, Mr J. P. Ling, provoked loud laughter with his humorous sketch.

KNIGHTSTONE PAVILION AND OPERA HOUSE.—An entirely new series of pictures of Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders is being shown here this week on the Biograph. To vary the entertainment Gilroy, ventriloquist, gives a decidedly clever turn, and Mr Somerville Ellis gains approbation for his sketches and humorous songs.

WHITEHAVEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Clark.—Mr Johnny Hargreaves' variety company is appearing here this week, and includes Fanshaw and Vaughan, comedians; Tom Hall's Nippers, Frank Ellis, vocalist; William Woodhead, musical marvel; Happy Armstrong, comedian; and Miss Rose Winstanley, contralto.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—This theatre during the week has been in the possession of the Wigan and Districts Amateur Operatic Society, the members of which have given a very capable representation of Messrs Hood and German's opera, *Merrie England*. The performances are in aid of local charities.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—The Ergotti and King Luis Troupe gives a very fine risley act, and the performance is vociferously applauded each evening; the Wigan pantomime favourites, the Sisters Phillips and the Brothers Lorenz, excel in the very amusing absurdity entitled *In a Terrible Storm*; George Formby, the popular entertainer, is a great attraction this week; Marie Weston, vocalist, banjoist, and dancer; Henderson, the clever blind musician; and Dezmonti and More, in a triple bar performance, are highly appreciated. Clyo and Rochelle, the St. Johns, in a musical act and speciality dance; Ada Seale, the Lancashire singing mill girl; and Young Igo, the boy dancer and comedian, complete a lengthy list of first-rate artistes.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—Shawlene, the popular mimic and whistler; Mr James Bowman, comedian and dancer; and Van Gelder, humorous musician, are very entertaining. Miss Lillie Hustler, dainty serio and dancer; Mr Harry Tomlinson, vocal comedian; Miss Maud Barney, comedienne; and the Brothers Kingsley, comedians and capital clog dancers, also give acceptable performances.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant Manager, Mr Le Warde.—*Nell Gwynne* is the attraction here this week, Miss Grace Lester giving a capital impersonation of this notable character of the Restoration period. She is well supported by Mr J. F. Preston's company.

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—A variety entertainment, a new departure, is the attraction here this week. Sid Stanto, comedian and big boot dancer, is well received; Miss E. Rozel is a successful descriptive vocalist; the Two Balzens, Japanese jugglers, give a highly diverting turn; Miss May Geraldine sings and dances well; the Daintons in their comedy act are pleasing; the Swift Trio introduce a clever trick cyclist show; the original Kyoto causes laughter in his excellent comedy act, "The Mysterious Japanese Box;" Rex Carvell deserves praise for his ventriloquial turn; Edie Cameron sings and dances well; Arthur Gilmore and Messrs Denton and Dale also contribute to a good programme, the whole concluding with the Walturdaw animated pictures.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—Amateurs are occupying this theatre, appearing with success in *Haddon Hall*.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Sidney Brooke.—Lady Mansell and her clever juveniles are the principal attraction, and are well received. Boswell's ponies and dogs and donkeys give a clever show, and the Sisters Russell, E. J. Sheldon, Ted Cowan, Wirson, Lea and Lovell, the Freans and Harry Bent complete the company.

COLONIAL THEATRES.

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Will Reopen at Christmas with Pantomime. Only vacant Spring Date, May 29, 1905. For Dates for Autumn, 1905, and onward, address, Mr TOM B. DAVIS, Lyric Theatre, London.

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The Largest Theatre in Birmingham.

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A theatre among the most beautiful in England.—Sunday Times.
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JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE. GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S. Out Season Population 100,000. No opposition. G. W. Train leaves Saturday Night Bath, 11 27 p.m.; Swindon, 11 28; Bristol, 11 0 p.m. Companies return following Saturday. July and August Boat leaves Southampton 12 30 midnight. For Dates apply, C. ROBERT PERKINS, Jersey.

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WALSALL.—HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, W. H. Westwood.—Holds £180. Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. First Vacant Dates, April 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, June 5 and 12.

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1905—THE ERA ANNUAL—1905

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Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 27, March 6, April 24, May 1, on.
Pantomime preferred for Jan. 30.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 6 March 20, 27, April 3, 17, 24 May 8 (Race Week), 15, 22, 29, June 5.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
March 20, 27, April 17, May 8, 15, 29, June 5, 12.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, May 8, June 5, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 22, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
April 17, 24, May 22, 29, June 5, 12, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant,
Jan. 16 (Six Nights), Jan. 23 (Three Nights), Feb. 20 (Six Nights), March 9 (Three Nights), March 13, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 4, 15, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
Leamington, Jan. 16 (Six Nights),
Jan 23 (Three Nights).
Musical preferred.
Apply, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

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WANTED, Important Attractions, for
STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant Spring, 1905.
TERRISS THEATRE.
Jan. 16, Feb. 20.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Big Attraction for Feb. 6, 20, and onwards.
Address, Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Feb. 13, on.
OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Jan. 16, Feb 20, on.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
April 17, May 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Feb. 13, on.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead.
Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for
COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, Three Nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant, Jan 30, Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 13, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant March 2, 9, 30, April 6, onwards.
Address, E. Graham-Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas.

WANTED, Good Drama, Feb. 13 20, through transferring. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Electric Plant (three Colours) installed. Address, Herbert Vere.

WANTED, Companies for New Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall. Vacant Jan. 9 and 16, Feb. 27, and Onward, with Exceptions. J. Potter, R. C. T., Warrington.

QUEEN'S THEATRE,
KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.

WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions,
March 13 and 20,
and
April 3.

PRINCE'S THEATRE, BLACKBURN.

WANTED, First-class Dramatic Companies,
Jan. 9, 16.
E. H. Page.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 1, 8, 15, and 29; also June 12 (Whit Week).
Now rapidly Booking Autumn Season.
Address all communications, T. Allan Edwardes.

WORTHING, THEATRE ROYAL. Under entire New Management. Altered and brought up to date. Splendid Orchestra and Staff kept. Bookings include all the Latest London Attractions.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Three Nights and One Matinée. First Vacant Date, Jan. 16, 1905. Herr C. Adolf Seebold, Worthing Theatre Royal.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.

WANTED, First-class Musical Attraction to open the above Theatre on Boxing Day, Dec. 26, for One or Two Weeks' run.
Wire, Carlton, Ealing Theatre, W.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Feb. 6, 20, 27, and onwards. Address, F. P. Goulden.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE. Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Macknight. Business-Manager, Chas. E. Hardy.

WANTED, Companies, Jan. 9, 30, and onwards, with exceptions.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.

WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 23 and Feb. 6.
Address, Gerald Harding.

WANTED, Companies, Dramas, Pantos, &c., for Theatre, Pictures, Variety, "Is it you?" Minstrels, for Hippodrome, also Artistes. Lynn, Hippodrome, Llandudno.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, Musical preferred, Jan. 9, 1905.
Wire, Horner, Burnley.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Feb. 27, on, with exceptions, Chorley; also Feb. 13, on, with exceptions, Radcliffe. Address, Sante, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 2 (Six Nights), Jan. 23 (Three Nights), 30th, and on.
James Elphinstone, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.

WANTED, Good Dramatic Attraction for Feb. 20. Vacant through obliging. Also Good Attractions for March 20, April 3, 10, and 24. Musical.
Address, Frank King.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.

WANTED, Company, for One Night, Christmas Eve.
Reasonable certainty or share.
Wire, Carson.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
March 13, April 24, May 1, 8, 29, June 5.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 16 (Three Nights only), Feb. 6.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
March 13, April 17, May 1 (Three Nights only).

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Jan. 9, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 6.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
Feb. 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Jan. 9, 23, 30 (Three Nights only), Feb. 9 (Three Nights only).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Jan. 2, 12 (Three Nights only), 16, 30, Feb. 6.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE,
Vacant,
Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 9, 30, Feb. 6, March 20.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 9 (Three Nights only).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Jan 2, Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights only), 24.

METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
METROPOLE THEATRE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Jan. 23, Feb. 6 (Three Nights only).

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

Note Change of Address.
All communications,
Arthur Carlton,
Manor House, Hayes, Middlesex.
Telegrams, "Carlton, Hayes, Middlesex."

GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Jan. 2, 1905,
First-class Company
(not Drama).
Address, G. H. Gaze, Manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLACKBURN.

WANTED, High-Class Attractions only, Jan. 23, February and March onwards, with Exceptions. Silence polite negative, pro. tem.
Address, Harry Yorke, Pleasington, Blackburn.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
Lessee and Manager, Mr Stanley Rogers.

WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Preferred, Jan. 5 (Three Nights), Feb. 16 (Three Nights), March 6, April 3, on, with exceptions. Address, Stanley Rogers, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Weeks of Jan. 9 and 16.
Wire, to-day, Kelly, Borough Theatre, Stratford, E.; next week, "Hustler," Birkenhead.

NEW THEATRE, KING'S LYNN.

WANTED, Good Companies.
For List of Bookings see Theatre Advertisement.
J. Bannister Howard, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Jan. 23 and 30, at Dalston.
Apply, Milton Bode, County Theatre, Reading.

THEATRE ROYAL, BATLEY.

WANTED, Company, Dec. 22, Three Nights.
J. Edward Whitty,
22, Berners-street, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 23 and 30, Dundee and Aberdeen.
Apply, Mr Robert Arthur, 24A, Regent-street, S.W.

THEATRE ROYAL, DOVER.
Proprietors, The Dover Theatres, Limited.
Managing-Director, Mr F. C. Dew.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for Jan. 16 and 23.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.

WANTED, Big Attractions, Jan. 30, Feb 13 (?), 20, March 13. Musical Comedy preferred.
Fred L. Conyngham.

NEW PAVILION, EASTBOURNE PIER.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 16, Feb. 6, and Various Dates onwards.
Pantomime Required.
Apply, G. Hayes, Manager, Pier, Eastbourne.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, Jan. 16, Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, May 29, June 5, 19, 26.
Silence polite negative.
H. W. Rowland, Manager.

WANTED, a Few First-class Companies, Dramatic or Operatic, for the Winter Season 1905-6.
Apply,
The Secretary,
Shakespeare Memorial, Stratford-upon-Avon.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. Cotton.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, Proprietor, Whitland.

COMPANIES WANTED.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan.
Positively the Finest Run of Theatres under any one Management
Capital, £155,000.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies,
KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK.
Feb. 23, 27.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.
The Kingdom's Success.
GRAND THEATRE, FALKIRK.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE CLYDEBANK
March 6, 13.
NEW CENTURY, MOTHERWELL.
NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH.
Feb. 13.

Important.—Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred. The Tivoli, rechristened "The Grand" is in Stockbridge.

Address all communications to
R. C. Buchanan,
General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Manager
Mr Fade Montefiore.
Wire,
"Montefiore, Edinburgh."
Tele., 2,000.

WANTED, Spring Attractions.
Opened on Saturday last with Own Pantomime,
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
Final Return, £142 11s. 9d.
Pantomime Enormous Success.
Theatre thronged Nightly.
Magnificently Advertised.
Being visited by all Classes.
Orchestra of Twenty-two.
Taken Immediate Place as the Popular-priced Playhouse of the City.
Vacant
Feb. 27, March 6, 20.
Wire,
Montefiore,
Edinburgh.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions
FARNWORTH.
March 13, 27, April 24, May 1, 8, 15.
SWANSEA.
Feb. 13, March 6, 20, April 10.
BRIGHOUSE.
Jan. 16, Feb. 20, March 20.
Morton Powell, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
Lessees, Messrs W. Payne Seddon and Gordon Starkey.

WANTED, Companies, March 27, April 3, and on. Last Three Days of each Week only Booked.
NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs W. Payne Seddon and Geo. Robertson.
From Easter to Whit Week this Theatre will only be opened the Last Three Days of each Week.
Vacant, May 1 and on.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Proprietor, W. Payne Seddon.
Vacant for Good Pantomime or Musical Show, Feb. 13 and 27.
Certainties given to any Well-known Attraction.
Following Mr Edward Terry, whose receipts were over £100 per Day, "A Chinese Honeymoon" did the Record Week of their Tour. Now Booking Autumn.
W. Payne Seddon, Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, First-class Companies,
GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE,
Jan. 9, 23, Feb. 2 (Three Nights), Feb. 6.
GRAND THEATRE, BOSCOMBE,
Jan. 9.
Apply, Frdk. Mouillot,
4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C.
Wire, "Lutanist, London."

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Booked in conjunction with the NEW GRAND THEATRE, ABERAVON.
Three Nights each. Short journey.

WANTED, Strong Attractions.
Address,
John Tully, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

WANTED, Big Attraction for Gwyn Hall, Neath, Christmas, Three Nights. Unexpectedly Vacant. Good Business certain. J. W. Robinson, Underwood, Mumbles.

LYCEUM THEATRE, ECCLES.
Lessees, Messrs Potasch and Warble.

WANTED, Known, all Communications re Contract to be addressed to Mr P. Potasch or Mr R. Flanagan. Note.—Queen's and St. James's Theatre can be Booked in Conjunction.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 20, March 13
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 14, Sept. 4.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 13, May 1, 8.
Walter Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH."
Fredk. Melville's New Production.

WANTED, Feb. 27, April 3.
Frdk. Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 13, March 20.
Frdk. Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

WANTED, Feb. 13, 20, near London.
Frdk. Melville, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

WANTED, Important Theatres, April 10, 17. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects. Bookings include:—Grand, Islington; Shakespeare, Clapham: Terriss Theatre; Alexandra, Hull; Liverpool, Jarrow, Brixton Theatre, Elephant, West London, Middlesbrough, Aston, Plymouth, Sunderland; Metropole, Birmingham; Junction and Osborne Theatres, Manchester; Broadway, Deptford; Newcastle, Chatham. Note.—The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville. Address Douglas Bruce, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction,
First-class Theatres for Weeks of March 6 and 13.
Wire, To-day, Kelly, Borough Theatre, E.
Next week, "Hustler," Birkenhead.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"

WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 9, 1905, onwards, with exceptions.
Charles R. Stone,
Wire, To-day, Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton; next week, Muncastle Theatre, Bootle.

THEATRES WANTED

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including the

Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, Jan. 2,
Jan. 16,
Jan. 23,
Three Nights (South),
Jan. 30,
March 20, 27.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield;
W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq., Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Mrs Gordon, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Southampton;
F. Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford;
J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth;
J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington;
Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston (Holiday Week).

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

Address,
Geo. Kirk,
Theatre Royal, Stratford.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

WANTED, Theatres, April 24, May 29, June 12, on, with exceptions.
Charles Harrington, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR, "THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
No Vacant Dates until Nov. 13, 1905.

WANTED, Big Theatres only, then and on.
Ashdale,
Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire.

MR NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.

WANTED, Theatres for the following:—
Jan. 30 (North),
Jan. 30 (North),
Jan. 30 (North),
Feb. 13 (North),
April 10 and 24 (South)
(See Companies' Columns)
Address,
Theatre Royal, Bournemouth.

"A WOMAN'S REDEMPTION,"
from Pavilion Theatre, London.
Entire Scenery carried for this Production.
A Drama of Intense Human Interest, interspersed with Original Comedy and Up-to-Date Musical Numbers.
The above will be Toured in First-class Style by
ELIZABETH RUGGLES and GLADYS REES.

WANTED, March 20 (follow Hastings),
March 30, Three Nights (to follow Worth'ng),
April 3 (precede Exeter), and various onwards
All comp., John A. Stimson, Queen's T., Fleetwood.

WANTED, Jan. 30, for Mrs. Lewis Waller, in "Zizi" and Répertoire. Wire, Haldane Crichton, St. James's T., Manchester; next, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

"A WRECKER OF MEN" No. 1 COMPANY.

WANTED, for this Emphatic Success, Jan. 2, 9, and 30. C. Watson Mill, Dalston Theatre, N.

WANTED, Theatres, Christmas and New Year, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Soudamore. Miss Frances Delaval's Splendid Co. Vacant Christmas and Jan. 2. Wire, to-day, Queen's, Farnworth, near Bolton; next, 24, Oxford-road, Ealing.

WANTED, Christmas Week,
"THE SEAL OF SILENCE,"
also Jan. 2 and 9.
Bookings for 1905 include:—
T. R., Leeds (Return); Alexandra, Birmingham; Grand, Nottingham (Return); Rotherham (Return), Edinburgh, Chesterfield (Return), Queen's, Liverpool; Prince's, Bradford (Return).
H. G. Wynne, To-day, M., Devonport; next, K., Gainsborough.

WANTED, Jan. 16, "Why Men Love Women." Paumier,
To-day, Chesterfield; next, P.O.W., Grimsby.

"BETRAYED; or, What Men call Love."

WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15.
Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq. Cecil Du Gue, this, Borough, Stratford; next, Queen's, Manchester.

"A WRECKER OF MEN," NO. 1 COMPANY.

WANTED, Managers in the Neighbourhood to witness this Magnificent Production, Dec. 19, Dalston T., N.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, Big Theatres,
Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 20 and 27, to follow Nottingham;
Dec. 11, to follow Star, Liverpool (Third Visit).
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."

WANTED, Jan. 16, 23, 30.
J. H. Clyndes, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

"A WRECKER OF MEN," No 1 Company.

WANTED, Managers, to Witness this Production. Dec. 19, D T., Dalston, London, N.

"THE GUILTY MAN."

WANTED, April 3, 10, and 17, May 8, 15, June 12, 19, 26, on, with exceptions. A Magnificent Production. James Hare, Star T., Liverpool.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates, for "HONOUR THY FATHER,"
Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6.
Finest Cast Touring.

"GREED OF GOLD,"
Jan. 9, Feb. 20, March 6, 13, 20.

"WOMAN'S DEVOTION,"
a Sterling Drama.
Great Scenic Production.
Strong Cast.
Feb. 20, 27, March 20, 27,
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES.
"BOUND TO WIN."

WANTED, Dec. 26, Dec. 26, Dec. 26,
Jan. 9, Jan. 9, Jan. 9,
for this Great Attraction. A Sure Draw.
An Ideal Christmas Attraction.
Seven Sets Scenery Carried. Powerful Company and One of the Finest Plants of Printing on the Road. Racehorses and Jockeys Toured. Parade Daily of Horses and Jockeys in Colours. Wire, F. G. KIMBERLEY, Royal, Huddersfield; next, Royal, Chesterfield.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN,"
by Wilson Barrett and Hall Caine.

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 26,
Feb. 6, 13, and 27.
Fast Booking Autumn.
Wire, Opera House, Northampton.
Letters, 21, Handforth-road, Stockwell, S.W.

"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

WANTED, Jan. 16, Three Nights
(Midlands or S. Wales),

Jan. 16 (North),

Jan. 26, Three Nights (Midlands),

Jan. 30 (Midlands or North),

Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27 (Midlands).

Address, BERT COOTE, 150, Oxford-street, London, W.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."

WANTED, Jan. 30, March 6, 20.
"£1,000 Reward,"
March 6, onwards.
"The Race for Wealth,"
May 22, onwards.
Each Production Perfect.
BEAUDYN and LIVESEY,
Theatre Royal, Chatham.

Mr WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Sixteenth Month of continuous Successful Tour.
Company, Scenery, and Printing all of the best.
Refer to any Manager visited.

WANTED, Dec. 29 (Three Nights,
Jan. 2, 9, Feb. 13, 20,
March 6, and onwards, with Exceptions,
including Easter and Whit.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
To-day, T. R., Rotherham; next, Alexandra, Widnes.

THE EDINBURGH GRAND "CINDERELLA."

WANTED, Feb. 6, 13, 20,
for the Huge Success,
"Cinderella"
Opened on Saturday last
to
£142 11s. 9d.,
and the Theatre is now thronged nightly.
Wire, MONTEFIORE, Edinburgh.

"SAPHO."

WANTED, Jan. 9, 30.
Admitted by Press and Public to be
the Most Popular Version on the Stage.

Wire,
JAMES BELL,
Washington Hotel, Liverpool.

JOHN TULLY'S
"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
Now in Fourth Year of Continuous Tour.

WANTED, Jan. 2 and 9, for this
Truly Remarkable Revival.
Address, JOHN TULLY, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

"A VICTIM OF VILLAINY."

WANTED, Jan. 9 and 30, Feb. 13.
WALTER HOWE,
St. James's Theatre, Manchester.

"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."

WANTED, Big Theatres,
Jan. 2, 9, and 16.
To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, King's Theatre, Kilmarnock.
Dec. 19, King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy.

WANTED, for "Life that Kills,"
Feb. 13, March 6;
"Grip of the Law," April 17, and on through Summer;
"Bigamy," March 6, and few Spring.
FRED MOULE,
Metropole Theatre, Manchester.

CHARLES DRAYCOTT and H. B. PEPPIN'S COS
"THE BEST MUST WIN," by Myles Wallerton and Francis Gilbert; and "A STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT."

WANTED, Theatres for Jan. 16, 23, 30, on.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, Stourbridge.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."

WANTED, May 1, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

"A WRECKER OF MEN" No. 1 COMPANY

WANTED, Jan 2, Jan. 2, 9, and 30, for
the above success. WATSON MILL, Dalston T., N.

WANTED, Feb 27, March 13 (?), for the
Great Drama, "Her Fatal Past." Acknowledged a worthy successor to "East Lynne." WARD, G. T., Luton.

WANTED, for "The Lightning's Flash,"
Jan. 2 and 16, precede and follow Walsall.
LESLIE VYNER, Star, Swansea.

WANTED, Feb. 6, 20, and March 6
"The Conscript."
MITCHELL and BELTON, Royalty, Barrow-in-Furness.

"THE CRIMSON CLUB."

WANTED, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 20, North,
April 24, Precede A., Sheffield; and various Autumn.
GUS E. LIVESEY, Royal, Gainsborough.

"TRIP TO CHINATOWN,"

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 16 and 23.
Chorus and Troupe of Dancers and First-class Cast, added to a Magnificent Production.
LESLIE NORMAN, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

WANTED, Good Dates for "A Little
Brown Branch," by Bertie Thomas. Produced Court Theatre, London. Apply, MANAGER, care of Miss FRANCES IVOR, 3, Boundary-road, London, N.W.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, 23 (between
Manchester and London), for "Circumstantial Evidence; or, At Twelve Midnight." Can Book Two Weeks. C. CLIFFORD, T. R., Blyth.

"THE TRAITOR." Messrs MITCHELSON and FINEBERG'S MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION.

WANTED, Christmas Week (Wire), March
20, 27. E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Court Theatre, Wigan.

WANTED, Christmas Week for Thomas
Thorne and Company, "Our Boys" or Repertory.
Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, 10, King-street, London, W.C.

"THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH."
Grand Christmas Production.
Full Chorus and Ballet.
The Entire Production carried.

WANTED, Good Theatre, Jan. 23.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE, 16, Oldbury-place, Baker-st., W.

WANTED, for "Why Men Love Women,"
Written by Walter Howard, Jan 16, Feb. 13, 27.
ALFRED PAUMIER, P. O. W., Grimsby.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER," by Wilson Barrett.

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, March 6,
Sept. 4. W. V. GARROD, West London Theatre, W.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 6 and 13.
Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, Theatres, Dec. 19, Jan. 30,
Feb. 6 and 27.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and
20, and March 13.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 9, 16, and 23,
March 20 and 27,
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"THE SCILLY GIRL,"
a Tale of the Scilly Isles,
Book by Athol Mayhew; Music, William Neale.
A New and Original
Musical Comedy.
A First-class Company of Artists,
Chorus, and Dancers.
Entirely New Costumes and
Two New Sets.
Everything carried.
Produced with great success at
THE GRAND THEATRE, WOOLWICH.
London Daily Telegraph, Dec. 13, says:—
Hitherto, as a rule, the suburban theatres in their competition with those that are more central, and claim to be more fashionable, have been content to imitate. But now the ambition to create has been aroused, and had its development last night, at the Grand Theatre, Woolwich, of a new musical comedy. And there is no reason to believe that after the five performances to be given there this week of "The Scilly Girl" it will be heard of no more except in the provinces, and it may be that, by way of gratitude, the suburbs may give to London one such play in return for the scores which have gone forth from London to the suburbs in a performance which was received with great favour.

WANTED, Jan. 16, 23, and on, with
Exceptions.
Wire, FRANK NELSON, 9, Claverton-street, London, S.W.

"MISS MISCHIEF."

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16th, and
Various Early Spring Dates,
On,
for the New and Original
Musical Comedy,
"MISS MISCHIEF."
Book and Lyrics by Mr Reginald Bacchus.
Music by Dr. Osmond Carr,
Composer of
"Morocco Bound," "In Town,"
"His Excellency," &c.
Unanimously acknowledged a great success.
A Most Artistic Production.
Beautifully Dressed
and Elaborately Staged.
Everything Carried.
All communications,
GODFREY LAMPLUGH,
to-day and next week,
Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

"THE ANARCHIST TERROR."

WANTED, Jan. 2, and April 3;
also "THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
Either or both plays.
Send R.P. wire to A. MANNERS, Esq., re show.
Wire, To-day, LOIE EsMOND, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
Dec. 19, Theatre Royal, Ilkeston (Return).

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER" COMPANY.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 9, 9, through misunder-
standing. South Wales preferred. Jan. 16, 30, Easter, vacant. EDWARD SURREY, this, Queen's, Dublin; next, Opera House, Cork.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."

WANTED, for this Unique Pantomime
Attraction,
Important Theatre (London or near),
for Week of Jan. 16.

C. and F. RENAD, 17, Loat's-road, Clapham-park, S.W.

"LIFE'S SWEETEST SINS."

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Dec. 26
T. ARTHUR JONES, Ashton-under-Lyne.

"A WRECKER OF MEN," NO. 1 COMPANY.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and 30, Feb. 13.
C. WATSON MILL, Dalston Theatre, London, N.

WANTED, Jan. 9 16 and 23, for Shirley
and Landeck's Powerful Play, "A Great Sensation." ISAACSON, Gloucester-villa, Peckham-park-road.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
Buffalo
Bill's
Wild West
and
Congress
of
Rough
Riders
on
the
Biograph,
with
a
High-
class
Variety
Company,
Theatres,
Halls,
Circuses
that can
Hold Money.
These Pictures
are
now Showing
to
Enormous Business.
No Building Large enough for this
Attraction.
Dates Vacant:—
Dec. 26 (wire),
Jan. 2 (Scotland), on, with exception;
Jan. 30 (Ireland), on, with exception.
E. V. BERTRAM,
Manager.
Wires,
"Biegen, London."
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18, Great Windmill-street;
or,
JOHN HALPIN
Booking Agent,
20, Bedford-street,
Covent-garden.
Wires,
"Hustledom, London."

WANTED, Well-known Manager to Book
Good Theatres for New Drama with First-class Cast. Terms, particulars, B. M., 64, St. John's-villas, Holloway.

WANTED.—New Year's Week Vacant in
Large Town near Glasgow. Company with own Special Scenery and Répertoire of Pieces. Wire, RUSSELL ROSSE, 10, King-street, London, W.C.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, for Spring Tour of above, Good
Heavy Gentleman, Young Juvenile Gent,
Good Character Man to Double (must be tall),
Character Comedian, Responsible Gent, and First-class Carpenter, to combine Baggage and play Small Parts. Address, with lowest terms, latest references, age, correct height and measurements, photos. (in all cases), &c.,
CHAS. M. JUDIAN, R. T., Morecambe.
All letters must be marked "Tour."

PRODUCTIONS, METROPOLE, GLASGOW.

WANTED, Two Responsible Gents. (to
double small but important parts), for Three Weeks, Jan. 2, Rehearse Dec. 26; also Comedy Old Woman and Lady for Boy's Part (Waif), One Week, Jan. 16, Rehearse Jan. 9. Enclose photo., stating age, height, recent references, and lowest inclusive terms.
ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

Amateurs.

WANTED, Immediately, for Small Parts,
Several Ladies and Gentlemen of Good Address to Appear in High-class Sketch, West-end Theatre of Varieties. Open Christmas. Rehearsal at once. Splendid Opportunity for Amateurs willing to give Services for Introduction. Address, in first instance, to WM. PEARCE, 26, Homestead-rd., Walham-green, W., for Appointment.

WANTED, for New Year's week, near
Glasgow, Ladies and Gentlemen to complete Cast for Dramatic Repertory. Those in the vicinity preferred. Apply, with lowest terms and all particulars,
E. HESKETH, 7, Carmalt-gardens, Putney, London.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, for Stock
Season at Wingate, Jan. 2. Full particulars to R. NORMANTON, 10, Upper Hill-st, Liverpool. Pianist write.

WANTED, Exceptionally Smart Chorus
Ladies who can play Small Parts if required, for Spring and Summer Tours. Apply, by letter only, stating particulars of past Engagements, to
AUGUSTUS BINGHAM, 3, Air-street, Piccadilly-circus, W.

WANTED, for New Musical Comedy,
Ladies and Gentlemen of Refinement and Ability. Thorough Tuition. Salaried Engagement. Premium.
Care of Mr TALBOT,
46, Wardo-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Tall Juvenile Lady, Rehearse
St. Albans, Dec. 22 Also Tall Second Juvenile Gent., Rehearse 19th, Salisbury.
Terms, photos, &c., Miss MAGGIE MORTON, Twickenham.

WANTED, Lady for First-class Juvenile
Heavy Part, Two Weeks, Dublin. Open Dec. 26, Rehearse Immediately. Lowest inclusive terms imperative, and all particulars, K. MILLER, Queen's T., Dublin.

WANTED, Gentlemanly Heavy, Chamber-
maid (joint preferred), in Sketch, for Week. Open Monday, Sheerness. Rehearse Saturday Night. Wire, ROBINS, P.O., Sheerness.

WANTED, Good Robust Character Come-
dians. Apply by letter or call. Theatre Royal, Stratford, Monday, 12·0 o'clock. GEORGE KIRK.

WANTED, Eccentric Low Comedian
(Young), Juvenile Lady, strong pathetic part; Carpenter, play small part; Child, look ten or less WALTER HOWE, 106, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Short Character-Comedian,
for Screw, "World's Verdict" and Jenkins (Second Comedy), "Orphan Heiress." Two weeks, Met., Glasgow, commencing Jan. 2. Rehearsals, Dec. 26. Inclusive terms, recent refs., with character photo., if possible, ARTHUR JEFFERSON, Ayton House, North Shields.

WANTED, a Good Responsible Man to
Double and Assist in Stage Management.
BEATRICE ISAACSON, Gloucester-villa, Peckham-park-road.

WANTED, a Gentleman for Responsible
Parts. Must be Tall. Photos., terms, refs. (which will be investigated), N. V. NORMAN, T. R., Bournemouth.

WANTED, for Tour of Musical Play,
Young, Experienced Acrobatic Dancer, to form One of Trio. State age, height, tricks, and lowest terms to HARE, 3, North-road, Porth, South Wales.
Can Join at once.

WANTED, Lady Assistant. Must be
First-class Ballad Vocalist. Good Home, and Salary when Working. Particulars, VERNON, 117, Islington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Teeth Whistler, Rehearse imme-
diately. Apply, to-day, 3 0 till 5 0, or write, DELMAR, 110, Edith-road, W. Kensington, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experi-
ence difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Baritone Disengaged
Concerts, At Homes, &c. Large Répertoire of Classical and Popular Songs. MILTON, 174, Stepney-green

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for Panto-
mimes, for probable Vacancies; also Chorus and Dancers. A. E. SMITH, Theatre Royal, York.

WANTED, Panto. Artistes, Chorus and
Ballet Ladies, Acrobatic Dancers. Photos in Tights. Variety Artistes write. G. Yates, 29, Newington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Good Principal Boy, to Play
Robin Hood, with Own Dresses. Rehearse at once. Address, Madame WILLOUGHBY, 24, Jackson-street, Coalville, Leicester.

WANTED, Rehearse Immediate, Two Lady
Dancers or Pair Sisters, also Chorus Ladies, Violinist. Panto. Tour. G. E. BURNETT, Theatre, Barnstaple.

WANTED, Male Chorus,
Arthur Carlton's Pantomime "Aladdin."
Apply, by letter or personally,
Saturday, from 2·0 to 3 0,
HARRY LORRAINO,
Ealing Theatre.

WANTED, Chorus Ladies and Male
Quartette of Glee Singers. Age, height, refs., &c. Ladies' photos, F. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, for Pantomime, Youth, for Cat
(Comic Tricks), and Lady Dancer,
to Complete Quartette.
FRED MAY, Theatre Royal, Edmonton.

WANTED, Panto. Artistes, last week,
Great Offer. Band Parts, Twelve for 8s. Panto. Music Written. COLLINI, 147, Victoria-road, Kilburn.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, G. Yates supplies all
Lines. Panto. Artistes. Fairy Queens, Understudies, and Chorus. 29, Newington, Liverpool.

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty
for Principal Boy. Quick Study. Wire or write, 27, St. Lawrence-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty, Alma
Obrey, Principal Boy. Many Thanks for Offers. Address, BOB BAXTER (Dame Crusoe), T. R., Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Florence Wood,
at Liberty for Pantomime,
Boy or Girl.
Hippodrome, Blackpool;
Monday, Grand, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Daisy Morell
thanks Messrs H. A. Jordison, Walter Sumers, Austin and Company, H. Blackmore, G. Brooks, and others for Offers of Pantomime. Vacant Dec 19, 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23. Address, Palace, Lancaster; after Saturday, 83, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Stella West at Lib.
Principal Boy. Can open at once. Fine Appearance. Sing, Dance, and Act. Quick Study. 53, Spencer-street, Chesterfield.

WANTED, Pantomime by Sam Mitchello,
Comedian and Dancer, Dame, Page, or Ugly Sister. Address, 10, Naylor-road, Peckham, S.E.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Frank Gee unexpectedly Vacant, Dame, Sister, or Other Part. Last year, Dame, in "Goody Two Shoes" (Dottridge and Longden). Conclude To-night, Palace, Camberwell. Permanent, 40, Newington-crescent, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Panto., by the Mitchellos,
Comedians and Dancers. Parts and Two Specialties, including the Latest Novelty, "The Trampoline Table with Twenty Somersaults." Suit Palace or Kitchen. D.C. Lithos. 14, Mead-road, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Pantomime, Turle and Turle,
Rattling, Rollicking, Comic Speciality, on the Flying Loops. Knockabout Trapeze Burlesque, Perch, &c. Parts and Harlequinade. Played Principal Theatres. Sure Draw. Address, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, Huntley and Palmer,
Comedians, with Wonderful Wrestling Donkey. Also Acrobatic and Leaping Goat. Big Act for Panto., Circus or Stage. 42, Milbourne-st., Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, at Liberty for
Pantomime, Three Camels, One Elephant.
Apply, J. DUBOIS, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Good Artist for Three Weeks.
Address, with lowest terms and full particulars,
H. S. HOWARD, Theatre, Longton.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of every
Description Painted to Order. Large Stock of New and Secondhand Cloths, Flats, &c., on hand. New Cloths 18ft. by 24ft. from £4. High-class Work guaranteed. Sykes's Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery for Pantos.,
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WANTED, Everyone to Send for Estimates
to the Reliable London Scenic Artist, F. E. PODEN. 18, Newport-street, Lambeth-walk. Falconbridge, write, urgent.

WANTED, Engagement by E. Bussell,
Scenic Artist, Dioramic and Mechanical Effects, Papier-Mache.
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MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, a Respectable, Reliable, Sober,
Willing Circus Property Man.
Salary, to begin, 20s. per week.
Apply, JOHN HENRY COOKE,
Royal Circus, Edinburgh.

W. HAMILTON'S EXCURSIONS.

WANTED, to Join, Monday, Dec. 26, at
South Shields, Gasman, must be young, absolutely steady, good appearance, wear uniform, and willing to make himself generally useful. References and salary, letters only, HAMILTON, 178, Ferndale-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Experienced Gasman with
knowledge of Electric Light. Must be total abstainer. Apply, with references, ACTING-MANAGER, H.M. Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, a Good Business Manager, with
bankers' references and understands all the working of First-class Theatres. Add., DEROY, Grand, Nelson.

WANTED, a Thoroughly Competent Bill
Inspector for Suburban Music Halls. Must be experienced, energetic, sober, and reliable. Reply, stating references and lowest wages, to Box 8,897, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Bill-Poster, able to Work
Props, write Posters, and canvass Advertisements. Allen write. JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Theatre, Stafford.

WANTED, Known, F. Morley, A.-S.M.
or Carpenter. Abstainer. Can join at once.
Address, Theatre Royal, Gloucester.

WANTED, by Smart Young Gentleman,
with Six Years' Experience with First-class Music Hall Agents, a Situation as Clerk, or would accept a Position as Acting-Manager in a Music Hall, or act as London Representative for Provincial Agent. Box 8,896, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Known, Gentleman, for Twelve
Years Secretary and Manager of a well-known London Hall, Free. Highest References for Ability and Integrity. Box 8,908, "The Era."

WANTED, by tall, smart Young Man,
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WANTED, by Competent Electrical
Engineer, Situation as Resident Electrician, &c. Fullest Theatre Experience. Capable of Stage-Managing Music Hall. Box 8,902, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Bill-Inspector and
expert Poster-Writer, desires Situation. Extensive experience as Advance-Agent. Excellent references. Aged Thirty-two. DAVE MUNDELL, 26, Hutcheson-sq, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Young Man (Twenty-
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WANTED, by Respectable Young Man,
Situation as Check-taker and Billing. Unquestionable references. London preferred. H., 56, Tournay-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement as Assistant or
Wardrobe Mistress, in Town. Can cut, fit, and make. Young, good worker. Five years' experience.
Box 8,898, care of "The Era" Office.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

"OTTO THE OUTCAST" COMPANY.

WANTED, First-class Musical Conductor
(Pianist). Age, reference, and full particulars to HARRY STARR, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.

WANTED, Leader (Flute and Piccolo),
First Violin, and 'Cello, for Alexandra Palace Pantomime, Three Weeks, commencing Dec. 26. Apply, BANDMASTER, 103, Pembroke-road, Colney Hatch-lane, N.

WANTED, Violinist (Conductor), to Supply
Band of Seven or Eight, Double-handed, used to Circus and Variety, to open Dec. 24, One Month, Drill Hall, Bolton. Address, E. A. WARD, 1, Upper Duke-street, Manchester.

OPERA HOUSE, PORTH, S. WALES,

WANTED, a First Violin; also a Good
Orchestral Pianist, who must be competent on Other Instruments. Terms and References, POOLE.

WANTED, for Small, Select Ladies'
Orchestra, Lady to play Second Violin and Sing. Must be good, trained Vocalist. Long Engagement. STREBELLE, 59, Alexandra-road, Wimbledon.

WANTED, First Violin, Cornet, Bass
Trombone, Clarionet, and Double Drums. Open immediately. ROBERTS, St. James's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, Second Violinist, Cornet, Double
Bass, First-class Fit-up Tour, open Dec 26. Terms, references, RUSHBURY, Dunoon.

WANTED, First Violin, to Lead, Pianist,
Drums, Cornet, and Double Bass, commence Dec. 26. SMALLEY, Hippodrome, Castleford.

WANTED, Cornet, Double Bass, Trombone,
and Flute, through disappointment, to join at once. VAN HAMBURGH, Minstrels, Town Hall, Louth, Lincs.

WANTED, Cornet Player, to Travel.
Must be Young, Single, Sober, and Reliable. Permanent Engagement to Suitable Man, if able to Play another Instrument Preferred. Letters, with references, terms, photo., to W. W., G.P.O., Carlisle.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, for Circus Busi-
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MUSICIANS WANTED.

W. Hamilton's Excursions.

WANTED, First-class Trombone, to join
Saturday, Dec. 31, at Dundee. Must be young, wear Evening Dress, steady and reliable. Half fare paid if travelling from England. Address, J. W. ECCLESTON, 236, Newhall-lane, Preston.

WANTED, Trombone Must be Used to
the Dramatic Business.
Address, by letter only, to
SIDNEY BACON, Gateshead.

WINTER GARDENS, BLACKPOOL.

WANTED, First-class Viola and Flute and
Piccolo, to open Dec. 24. Permanency if suitable. None but Experienced Musicians need apply. Applications with references, to JNO. R. HUDDLESTONE, General Manager, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, 'Cello Player (Young), must
be Great Artist and Soloist, for Music Hall Speciality. Letters only, 12, Franchise-street, Rochdale.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to commence Dec. 26.
Reply,
SHERWOOD and Co., Opera House, Wakefield.

WANTED, Oboe, Viola, and First Violin.
Apply, V. TURNER,
Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, Oboe, to Open Monday, Dec. 26.
Evening Dress. References and lowest terms to T. ALLEN EDWARDS, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, Young Gent (or Lady),
Harpist, who can Sing, to accompany Music Hall Instrumentalist. All music easy. C. S. J., 187, The Grove, Goldhawk-road, London, W. Miss Martini write again.

ORIGINAL CALEDONIAN BOYS' BAND.

WANTED, Boy Pianist, also Violinist, to
Read at Sight. Twelve months' Engagement, without a break. Good Salary (Board and Lodging on Tour). Most Comfortable Engagement, and this the Finest Boys' Band in the World, is Booked at the London Coliseum, and all the Principal Places of Entertainment in the United Kingdom. Under the Musical Direction of Professor Gustave Stephan, G.S.M., London, and the Conductorship of Professor Karl Hejel.
Apply, Blackmore's Agency,
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London, W.C.

WANTED, Pianist, First Violin,
and Clarionet,
for the R. M. S. Ortona,
Leaving Dec. 30 for Australia.
Apply to F. C. CANN,
28, Nelson-street, High-street South, East Ham, Essex.

WANTED, for Dooner's Bioscope and
Variety Exhibition, First-class Pianist. Must read at sight. State previous experience and lowest salary in first letter,
Saturday and Monday,
Tylorstown.

WANTED, a Pianist for Empire, Middles-
brough. Must be well up in Variety Business. To open Monday, Jan. 2, 1905. Apply, GREENFIELD, Musical Director.

WANTED, First-class Pianist, to Combine
Second Violin or Viola. Permanency to Suitable Man. Open Dec. 26. Lowest Terms and References. Apply, SIDNEY COOPER, Lyceum Theatre, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Pianist (First-class), Musical
Director. Must be thoroughly Competent and Reliable, and able to arrange. Address, with all Particulars and Terms, J. W. POOLE, Poole's Myriorama, The Studio, Malmesbury, Wilts.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, a Good Drummer with all
Effects, to open Dec. 26. Comfortable Engagement for the right Man. Address, C. ALGIE.

WANTED, Musicians to Augment Orches-
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WANTED, Lady Musicians, Wind and
String, for immediate Engagements. Address, Madame H. E. ANGLESS, 78, Norwood-road, Herne-hill, S.E.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists to
Augment Miss Watson's Ladies' Bands. Londoners Preferred. Apply, 11, Sebert-road, Forest-gate.

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WANTED, Bandsmen for Ocean Steamers,
All String and Wind should apply.
Also Good Pianists, and Organists, and Buglers.
Need not have had Sea Experience.
Hetherington's 'Bandmasters' Help" Office,
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WANTED, Entertainers à la Grossmith
(High Class). Will G. E. Cornell-Pescod and Miss Cliff write? Victor and Bonny, 57, Queen Victoria-st., E.C.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National
Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuss, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489, Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

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MUSICIANS' WANTS

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ment, London preferred.
Disengaged through closing of Theatre.
Apply,
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WANTED, by Conductor (Violin), Engage-
ment (Music Hall or Theatre). Late of Moss and Thornton's and Stoll's Empires.
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WANTED, by Musical Director (Piano),
Arranger and Composer (Pantomime or Musical Comedy), Engagement.
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WANTED, by Musical Director, Violinist
(First-class), Engagement. London or Suburbs. Good permanency only. Box 8,894, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Conductor, Violin or Piano,
Engagement, Theatrical or Hotel Work. Late Student at R.A.M. Address, 11, St. Stephen's-road, Bayswater.

WANTED, Known, First-class Musical
Director at Liberty Any Business. Undeniable references. Address, Box 8,909, "The Era."

WANTED, by Violin, First or Second,
Combine good Orchestral Pianist, Engagement. Letters to K. H., 7, Orange-street, Red Lion-square, London, W.C.

WANTED, by Violin, Engagement or
Deputising, London or Suburbs. At Liberty Dec. 18. E. SHERIDAN, 23, Laitwood-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, by Violinist (Age Twenty-three),
Engagement, Variety or other Biz. Good refs. Address, BERT M. STONE, 8, Twickenham-street, Belfast.

WANTED, by Violin, Engagement,
Theatre or Variety. Age Twenty-seven. H. PHIPPS, care of Mrs BURTON, 30, Front Garden-street, Wakefield.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Any
Business. Steady and Reliable. London preferred.
E. ROGERS, 19, Belmont-street, Kentish-town.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement,
Any business.
WM. FLETCHER, 95, Hornby-street, Bury, Lancashire.

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WANTED, by Cornet (First or Second), Engagement, through Season Closing. Good references. London preferred. A. BIANCOLI, 111, Sydney-st, Chelsea.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. Apply, F. BURDOCK, 1, West-street-cottages, Bridlington.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. References. MALCOLM, 22, Darlan-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Theatre or Hotel. Permanency preferred. Also Violin and Clarionet. Any business, London. Box 8,910, "The Era," Office.

WANTED, by Solo Cornet Player (Good), Engagement. First-class London Experience and References. ESQUIRE, 271, New North-road, Islington, N.

WANTED, by Clarionet, an Engagement. F. W. ATHERTON, 1, Rosemont, Market-street, Torquay.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement. Any business. Can Open at Once. CLARIONET, 24, Chertsey-road, Leytonstone.

WANTED, by Clarionet, any Business. Abstainer. Good reference. A. PARKER, 98, Warwick-road, Kensington.

WANTED, by Good Soloist or First Clarionet, Engt. Three Diplomas and other references. DEL PERUGIA, 314, Chester-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Double Bass, an Engagement after Dec. 23. "Maud Jones," Town Hall, Stourbridge.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Re-engagement. Thoroughly experienced. First-class references, LYND, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by Bassoon, Engagement. J. AMOS, Principal Bassoon (late 2nd Life Guards) Dis. after 17th. Address, 41, Emu-st., Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, by Bassoonist, Engagement Thoroughly Experienced. Highest References. I. CHAPMAN, 6, St Philip's-terrace, Cheltenham.

WANTED, by Trombone Player (thoroughly competent), Engagement, Theatre or Concert Hall. Address, TROMBONE, 15, Holland-road, Aston, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Trombone, Pantomime or Permanency. Any Business. Excellent references W. S. BILL, 117, Douglas-street, New-cross, S.E.

WANTED, by Solo Trombone (Combine Double Bass), Engagement. Liberty Jan. 14. HARRY SHARPE, Municipal Band, Weymouth.

WANTED, by Second French Horn Player (Good), Engt. Exper. Opera and Symphony. KARL HEBER, 39, Sedelscombe-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Lady 'Celliste, Engagement, two or three weeks. Would Deputise. Experienced, Variety and Theatrical. Combine piano. Apply, Box 8,885, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by 'Cello Player (First-class), Engagement. Any business. A. ROBBERS Pier Pavilion, Southport.

WANTED, by Solo 'Cellist, Engagement, in First-class Orchestra. Nine Years' Experience. Disengaged shortly. Address, 'CELLIST, Box 8,903, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl on 'Cello. Mr CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Viola, Engagement (Permanent), Professional Player. Well Experienced in Theatre and Variety Business. Good references. Steady and reliable. Address, Box 8,886, "The Era."

WANTED, by Viola or Second Violin, Engagement. Best London references. Steady and reliable. A. NISBET, 7, Bellew-terrace, Lower Tooting, S.W.

WANTED, by Violoncellist (Good), Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced in all Lines. First-class refs. 'CELLO, 11, Northgate, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

WANTED, by Oboe, Engagement, Dec. 23 to Jan. 14. Would deputise. 427, Oldham-road, Manchester.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist.—Miss Ada Brandon, having just finished Tour, can accept Engagements for Concerts, Entertainments, At Homes. Writtle, Chelmsford.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17) Engagement. July 4 to Oct. 2, Yarmouth, and Hotel Cecil. MAUD GRUNDY, 49, Haverstock-hill, N.W.

WANTED, Pianist-Vocalist (Gent), to Assist in the Management of a Small Music Hall. Good Steady Man can have Comfortable, Permanent Situation. Must Read at Sight and be used to Professionals. State age, experience. Box 8,893, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Engagement as Pianist or Musical-Director, through Misunderstanding. Any Biz Experienced Variety, Drama. Steady, Reliable. Good refs. N. ROBINSON, 25, Victoria-ter, Wallsend-on-Tyne.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class), Permanent Engagement, Concert Party or Orchestra. O. L. BURROWS, Worthing Pier, Sussex.

WANTED, by Solo Pianiste, Vocalist with Humorous Songs and Sketches at Piano, Engagement. Miss GABRIELLE HOPE, 25, High-road, Streatham.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Variety Engagement Good references. Liberty Dec. 26. Apply, G. F. BAILEY, 134, Pitt-street, Glodwick, Oldham.

WANTED, by Double Drums and Tymps, used to Theatre or Music Hall, Engagements, in or near London. MUSICIAN, 19, Ernest-road Forest-gate.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Band of Six, Engagement for One Week, commencing Dec. 26 (Together or Separate), Violin, Bass, Piano, Clarionet, Corner, Viola or Drums. SAWYER, 56, London-street, Southport.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
" 49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
" Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
" Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
" Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
" Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
" Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, MARKET-PLACE, BOLTON.

WANTED, the Talent of the Earth, for Christmas Week, New Year Week, and Future Dates. Nothing too Big. Money no object for the Best Novelties. Also Useful Circus Artistes, in all Lines, to Commence the Happy New Year in this Successful Circus. Address, King OHMY, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, Really Good Numbers for Dec. 26, Acrobats, Dancers, Vocalists, and Specialities of every description. Lowest terms, BESCO, Circus, Belfast.

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED

BELFAST.—IMPERIAL HIPPODROME.

WANTED, the Best of Talent, all Lines, Good Clowns write in; also useful people for 'Siberia." Two Ladies required for Talking Parts. To open at once. Lowest terms. Full particulars in first letter, Bosco, Circus, Belfast.

DRILL HALL, BOLTON.
Exhibition, Carnival, and World's Fair.
Lessee, JOHN GREEN; Manager, E. A. WARD.

WANTED, during January, Special Extra Attractions for above. Price no object for Drawing Cards. Must be Novel.
Note.—All Artistes Engaged please attend Drill Hall, not later than 10 0 a.m., 24th inst. No excuses.
Ring Groom write in.
WARD, 1, Upper Duke-street, Manchester.

WANTED, for the New Circus and Hippodrome, Southport, Good Animal Number for Dec. 26; also Acts of All Kinds suitable for the Ring, Pad Acts, &c. Letters marked "Circus," Harry Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, through Disappointment, Good Three Bars, Skaters, Jugulers, Bicyclists. Open Monday, 19th, and on. Wire or write, lowest terms, STOTT, Iona-street Carnival, Edinburgh.

WANTED, a Good Tumbler and a Good Top Mount. Apply, Box 8 837, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, for First-class Troupe, a Lad aged Sixteen to Twenty-one. Must be Smart Tumbler. State Tricks, Height, &c. Box 8,834, "The Era."

WANTED, at once, Youth, about Eighteen or Twenty, to join Cycle Troupe. Good tumbler. One to do a few tricks preferred. Address, Box 8,905, care of "The Era"

WANTED, Circus Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London W.C.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, the Claude Randall Family of Lady and Gentlemen Bareback Equestrians (four in number) have made the Greatest Success ever known for Equestrians with their great Up-to-date Numbers at the following Circuses:—
Ten Months Cirque Medrano, Paris.
Eight Months Circus Busch, Berlin.
Four Months Circus Busch, Hamburg.
Now the Talk of Brussels.
With Circus Wulff until further notice.

JOHN SCOTT'S ROYAL BRITISH CIRCUS.
General Manager, G. SCOTT.

WANTED, Known, the Renowned John Scott Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c., Liberty Jan. 30. At present address all communications, Seven Stars Hotel, St. John's street, Wolverhampton. On and after Dec. 23, the New Hippodrome. George Freeman write immediate. Very important.

WANTED, Known, W. Tudor's Performing Ponies, Riding Dog, and Goat Return to Gilbert's Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth. Shortly at Liberty. Thanks for Offers. Address, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Known, Mrs. Dudley Smith and Leaping Mare, Dainty Lass, Liberty Christmas, on. 118, Warwick-road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Sylvia Martin (La Belle Equestrienne), Expert Rider and Driver, Rough Rider, &c, Free. Address, St. Mary Abbott's-place, Kensington.

WANTED, Known, John H. Swallow, Bareback Equestrian, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Bolton. Permanent address, 6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Educated Lion Show, best and cleanest in the Profession, just concluding her 105th Week's Engagement here in England (without a week's vacancy) at Ohmy's Circus, Bolton. Surely a record to be proud of. Still a Few Weeks open 1905. Fast Booking for 1906. Thanks to Proprietors and Agents for kind offers. No Vacancies before Feb. 27, '05; also Easter and Whit Week. For Dates and terms, apply, L. JELSEN, Proprietor, Ella's Lions.
Dec. 19 New Court Theatre, Bacup, Lancs.;
Dec. 26, Empire, Greenock.

WANTED, Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with Good Comic Entrées. Vacant Dec. 26 for Winter Season. Wire or write, Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Jan. 2. 9, by Alec Aubrey, Herculean Gymnast. Finest Act in this Line in England. Monday, Metropole, Gateshead.

WANTED, Known, Eleonora, Lady Gymnast, La Belle Tosca Charming Wire Expert; also Mdlle. Vanda, in her Great Juggling Specialty. Three Distinct Specialities. For Dates and terms, address, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 14, Mayeno Trio, England's All-round Champions (two Ladies, One Gent.), Gymnasts, Acrobats, Wire-walkers, Stilt Tumblers, Tub Posturers, Knockabout Clown, Up-to-Date Entrées. If you want anything done on earth or in air address for One Month, Ions-street Carnival, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Flora Steckel, Graceful Gymnast and Wire Expert, Two Distinct Turns, Vacant Christmas and New Year. 12, Seymour-st., Belfast

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, Sensational Lady Gymnast, Stage or Aerial, Liberty Monday next, Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2 Wire, Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gent. Gymnastic Acts Free Monday. Wire, Theatre, Consett; after Saturday, Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, The Maros, Three Bar Comedians, Britannia, Glasgow, Free, 19th, 26th. Wire for Monday. After Saturday, 126, Porter-st., Hull.

WANTED, Known, the Two Colma-Leonards, Comedy Gymnastic Bar Performers, Knockabout, Talking, Singing, and Jumping Clowns, with a number of First-class Comical Entrées, now at Liberty. Wire, 7, Melville-terrace, Carrington-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Wanted, Known the Leopolds at Liberty Dec. 26, 1904, and Three Following Weeks, through postponement! Wire or write to the LEOPOLDS, Leopold Villa, Cranmer-road, Brixton, London.

WANTED, Jan. 2, by Day and Moore, Comedy Acrobats, also Savaro, Bird Imitator. Offers invited, to SAVARO, Algie's Hippodrome, Carlisle.

WANTED, Known, Zarinella, Contortionist, Electrically Illuminated Speciality, Lib. for Panto. Specially Engaged His Majesty's Theatre, London. Fourteenth week.

WANTED, Jan. 9 and 16, by Delamere Trio, the Original Comedy Equilibrists. Address, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance. Always Vacancies for Star Turns. ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Variety Artists, in All Lines, Jan. 2 and 9. Specialities, Funny Acts. Hall Small. Twice Nightly. ARTHUR TURLE, 51, Trafalgar-road, Moseley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, all Lines, for Royal Albert Hall of Varieties, Jarrow, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and 9. Lowest terms to H. LAW.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for Hancock's Circus, Plymouth, Dec. 12, 1904, and onwards, Variety Artistes in all Lines. Good Specialities. Andrew Whelan, Equestrian, wire what he will arrive in Plymouth Monday, Dec. 19; also Wanted for January, 1905, a couple of good Wrestlers that can throw out challenges to local men; and all Artistes engaged for Christmas kindly send bill matter at once.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, Specialities, Jan. 2, onwards. Terms, Lithos, &c. Former Applicants write again. Walter Brown's Agency, 150, Old-st, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WANTED, Variety Artiste, for One Night, Saturday, Dec. 24, for Pardoe's T., Middleton. Letter, with fullest particulars, to W. PARDOE

THE COLISEUM, SHEERNESS.—Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLING; General Manager, CHAS MELVIN.

WANTED, Dec. 26, onwards, Variety Artistes of all Descriptions, Animal Acts, Speciality Numbers, Comedians, Gymnasts, Acrobats, &c. Any price paid for good value. Send lowest terms, sample lithos (if any), addressed to GENERAL MANAGER.

WANTED, for Dec. 26, onwards, Variety Artistes, Serios, and Specialities, all Lines, West and Wales. T. Gannon, West-grove, Bristol.

WAKEFIELD HIPPODROME COMPANY, Limited.

WANTED, Artistes of every Description, Nothing too big, Money no object. Artistes holding Contracts for Week commencing Monday, Dec. 26, 1904, please note that Rehearsal is at 11·0 o'clock sharp. No excuse. Matinée at 2·30. Call for Monday, Dec. 19, 1904:— Waldrons, Lillie Lassah, Testo Bros, Fred Terry, Thelma, Souplessi, Major Moss and Son. Rehearsal, 2 0 o'clock sharp. Manager, D G. MOONEY; Secretary, W. EMMETT.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Dec. 26, onwards, for Liverpool, Ashton, St. Helens, and Warrington. F. WILLMOT, Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artistes to Note, all Dates for this Year are filled, First Vacant Dates, Feb. 13, 27. Double and Single Turns write in. Can Book Freak at once. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME, ROCHDALE.

WANTED, Artistes, January, on. Rehearsal, Monday next, 2·0 o'clock, for Four Skandias Troupe, Herbert Macen, Victoria Dagmar and Clown, Two Wiltons, Doris Dene, Electrograph, Bob Hartley, Edgar Forrest and Company. Letters, S. L. LEE

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, All Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties, Serios, Sisters, Comedians, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, onwards. State lowest terms. All Artistes Disengaged Christmas and New Year's Weeks write immediately. Terms, bookings, lithos, &c., Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Stebbing, Manchester."

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, from now, on. Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

VICTORIA THEATRE, WEST STANLEY.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Jan. 2 onwards. Good Bioscope write in. D. WILLIAMS.

WANTED, Artistes, Dec. 19, and Turns with Two Acts. Rehearsal at 2 0, for all engaged. QUINTON GIBSON, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Artistes all Lines, open Monday. Wire, immediately, lowest; Hall small; no best offers. KENDALL, Empire, Winchester.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, Dec. 26 and Jan 2 REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Artistes all Lines, Dec. 26 and on. QUINTON GIBSON, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Star Artistes for Dec. 26 and onwards, for London and the Provinces. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 16, Shaftesbury-av., W.

WANTED, Artists, Dec. 26, on. Doubles doing Singles, Sisters. Hall small, State terms. Pianist write. REED, Bridge-street Hall, Reading.

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA PIER and PAVILION.

WANTED, Applications from Good Artistes Competent to Form and Lead a First-class Company of Pierrots or Minstrels for next Season, commencing at Easter. Applications, with terms and references, to MANAGER, The Pier, St. Annes-on-Sea.

WANTED, Known, Samuel's Exhibition Palace, Henry-street, Dublin, open all the year round. All dated full until February, 1905. Write in for March onwards. Artists kindly forward Photos. for Picture Gallery. Please state lowest terms to MANAGER.

WANTED, Artistes, Dec. 26, and on. All communications, H. BENDON, Business Manager, Hippo., Macclesfield. Lessees, H. BENDON and J. LARDER.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Dec. 26, onwards. W. BIRCHALL, Empire, Wigan.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES, BURY.

WANTED, Star Artistes and Novelties for Top and Bottom, Jan. 9 and 16. OTTO U. CULLING, Theatre Royal, Bury.

BARNARD and DESTRICH,
Continental Hustlers,
7, Clayton-square,
Liverpool.

WANTED, Star Artists in Every Line, to Communicate.

WANTED, Artistes, of Every Description, Dec. 19, 26, and Jan 2, onwards. State lowest terms, bookings, &c. I can place you. Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool, Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal. Representative, Jesse Burton, Esq. Fred Terry and the Breton Troupe communicate quick.

HIPPODROME, CASTLEFORD.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines, Dec. 26. Big Top write, Share or Certainty. S. SMALLEY, Hippo. Agency, 11, Kennington-mans., Lambeth, S.E

WANTED, Artistes, Walcot's London Farewell, January, Brock's Benefit. Special Articles, "Leno," "New Actress," "Lawson," "Knowles." 7, Whitefriars, London.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Big Specialities, &c., for Eastbourne, Jan. 2, onward. Harry Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Dec. 19 and on. Fred Durham's Agency, 'Phone 2,477 Hop. 151, Dorset-road, Clapham-road, London, S.W.

ACCRINGTON HIPPODROME.

WANTED, the Best, Christmas and New Year. Please note.—Barred by Blackburn. Call at 10 p.m.—Mysterious Kettle, Prince Soto, Robins and Collier, G. Layne, Sadie Dana, J. Heffron, Pictures, Le Warner, Harry Benet, Bros. Bastow, Vandy's Agency, Hippo., Accrington, till Tuesday; afterwards, P. Vandy, Barnes, London, S.W.

WILDMAN'S WINTER CARNIVAL, PAVILION, CARNARVON.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Onward, Big Specialities, Good Flying Trapeze Artistes, anything with Drawing Powers, Knockabouts, Duettists, Cake Walkers, Comedy Acts of every Description for Christmas. WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin, All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.

Acts New in Dublin for the above, the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.

Direct or through Agents.

All communications to Will Sley, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.

Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."

Telephone, 09,144.

THE GLASGOW SYNDICATE HALLS.
TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S VARIETY THEATRES, GLASGOW.
General Manager, Mr S. KING ALEXANDER.

All Artists work both Halls on same system as in London, with Broughams between. One performance nightly at both houses.

WANTED, Brilliant Stars and Talent of all Kinds for Immediate and Future Dates. Now booking up to 1909. Artists invited to keep us posted with vacancies every week. Always openings for Star Comedians and Top-line Novelties. No price too high. No turn too big. Bookings may be made direct or through Agents. Address all communications, S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager, Head Office, Tivoli Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

WANTED, for the above, Jan. 2, 1905, and onwards, Stars, Specialities, Big Animal Acts, and any Novelty with Drawing Powers, also Artists in every Branch of the Variety Profession. Address all communications to D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd. Rehearsals for the following Artistes, Monday, Dec. 26, at 11·30 a.m.; Day Performance at 2 30 No excuses:— Bud Snyder, Three Dorells, Stylo, the Jeteys, Beatrice Bonnie, Bros. Lloyd, Souplessi, the Butts, Carlo Barello, Geo Laplace, Three Etherdos, Moxon Family, Aerial and Astarte, Little Albini, Harry Dale, Sam Anderson, Hairpin, Fasetto, Bruce and Base, the Lynchs, Two Comos, Alexandra's Circus Company, and the Four Francois. Will all Artistes kindly send next week's addresses?

WANTED, Stars all Lines, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 16, for the Best Variety Theatres. "Lord" Geo. Aytoun's Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E. Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone 1,949, Hop.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, 16, especially Christmas Week, especially Christmas Week, Stars in All Lines. Stars in All Lines. Full up for Smaller Items. State Towns at Liberty for. Can fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks. Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WANTED Wanted, Wanted, for Dec. 19, 26, Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, and all Dates through Summer of 1905, Star Turns, Tops of Bills, all the Finest and Biggest Acts Required, Price no object, for Manchester, Salford Ashton, Bury, Preston, Liverpool, Oldham, Rochdale, Blackpool, Morecambe, Barrow, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen Belfast, Dublin, Newcastle, Hull, Leeds, Brighton, Bristol, Birmingham, Bolton, Middlesbrough, &c. New and Novel Acts can have Six Months' Solid Engagements. Send immediately. Terms, Photos, Lithos., &c, to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester. Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester." Telephone, 09,144 Manchester.

CHESTER'S AGENCY.
Dramatic and Variety Agents,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Amusements."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Turns, all kinds, for Cork and other Irish Towns. Must be Refined.

WANTED, Star Turns of Every Description, Comedians, Specialities, Double Turns, Sisters, Serios that can Dance, or anything that will Draw, for January, February, March, and April. State absolute lowest terms in First Letter, with Full Bookings. Turns that are not known to him, say where they can be seen. No Fancy Prices will be given.

Apply, Tom Claxton, 7, New Coventry-street, W.C.

WANTED, a Star Turn for Top of Bill at the Public Hall, Carlisle, Dec. 26. Must be new to Carlisle. Wire, HUGH DEMPSEY, Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy Acts, Dec. 26, onwards; also Artistes in all Lines. Send full list of dates, lithos, terms, and full particulars to Harry Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Telephone, 6,915 Gerrard. Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London." No connection with any other Firm.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK.
General Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 9, and onward, Big Specialities, Comedians, Serios, Sisters, Musical Acts. Must be Refined, or useless. Call, Monday, Dec. 19 Unita and Paul, Baker and Rose, Cissy Cutler, Brothers Babusiau, Kate Le Blanche, J. W. O'Brien, La Belle Sylvia, J. P. Dane.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, for Dec. 26, Jan. 2, and on, Specialities of every description, Good Funny Turns, Comedians, &c., Address, C. ALGIE.

P.S. Good Drummer, with all effects, write at once.

WANTED, Specialities, Pair of Sisters Doing Singles, Comedians, &c., for Monday next, Onward. Absolute lowest. Hall Small. GALINO, Empire, Bridgwater.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Christmas Week, Jan. 2, Jan. 9, Feb. 6. Feb. 13. Feb. 27. and all Dates onward, all Kinds of Acts; also Artists doing Two or Three Acts for One Day, Jan. 2. Write, with full particulars, to Dalton's Agency, Dalton's Agency, 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester. 5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

O'Brien Brothers, Grey and Welford, wire addresses.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GREENOCK.
Lessee and Manager, H. I. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Big Star Comedy Musical Acts for Dec. 26, Jan. 2, 23, and 30, on.

COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Sole Proprietor, Mr PATRICK COLLINS.

WANTED, the Biggest and Best of Talent of Every possible Description, for Immediate and Future Dates, Jan. 2 and onwards.

Price is absolutely no object. Any item up to £300 a-week will be paid, as it has been paid.

Special Notice to the Profession. All the Leading Stars in Every Branch are positively Engaged here, from Vesta Tilley and Eugene Stratton on. Fact, not Fiction. Contradiction Difficult.

Terms, dates, lithos., and all particulars must be addressed direct to FRANK EGERTON, Manager, Collins' Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, the Finest Talent Obtainable (North), Jan 2 and 9.

Artists booked, Victoria, Broughton, com. immediately.

G. and F. Peel, Granville House, Arundel-st., Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Variety Talent of all kinds, open Dec. 23 and Jan. 2, Magic Kettle, Gymnasts, Conjurors, Vents Must have Good Display. R. CARR, Palace of Varieties, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Christmas and New Year's Weeks, Onwards. The Leading Provincial Firm, James Fioni's Agency, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1,686 Royal.

ARMSTRONG'S AGENCY.

WANTED, First-class Numbers, All Kinds, to send Dates and terms immediately. Special Notice.—As I have retired from the Management of the Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, I wish it to be understood that all Contracts made by me for Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited, will stand good. Artistes please send bill matter fourteen days previous to opening, addressed Manager, Tivoli Theatre. Signed, BARNEY ARMSTRONG. Another Important Notice. Armstrong's Agency will in future be under the Management of Bernard Armstrong (Nephew to Barney). Artistes Booked in North having any Odd Weeks Vacant, wire or write to Bernard Armstrong, 353, Bath-street, Glasgow.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN-ON-TYNE.
Lessee and Manager, W. A. JACKSON.

WANTED, Big Top and Artistes in all Lines, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, on. Pair Good Knockabouts, week. Nothing too big. Special Note.—Artistes on Tyneside, being Vacant, write in for Special Show, Saturday, Dec 24 (One Night only), with absolute lowest terms. If success, can take away Two Weeks' Contracts.

WANTED, Immediately, Pair of Clever Juvenile Artistes, Sing and Dance. Only Clever Juvenile Performers Entertained. References, photos, &c., for Tour to TALBOT CLIFFORD, Miners' Hall, Hetton-le-Hole, Durham. Also Shavo. Juggler, write.

WANTED, Comedienne, for Bolton, Dec. 26; Jan. 2, Woolwich. Harry Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand.

WANTED, Young Man to Play Animal Part, to Join at Once. Height not over 5ft. 4in. State Lowest Terms and Experience, DONALDSON BROS. and ARDEL, Ardwick Empire, Manchester.

WANTED, Cinématograph, Serio and Dancer, Gentlemen Vocalists, Men Billers, Specialities, Agent. Join at once. VAN HAMBURG, Town Hall, Louth.

WANTED, Good Bioscope Operator, for Permanency, Immediately. Good Wager. Wire to-day. Start, to-morrow, near London. HUGHES, 37, Cedars-avenue, Walthamstow.

WANTED, Operator for Bioscope, Immediately, to open Monday, Dec. 19, for Two Weeks. Apply by wire, with terms, to C. GASCOIGNE, Best Brand, Broad-street, Bristol.

WANTED, First-class Operator, open immediately; also Good Lecturer. Apply, ROBERTS, St. James's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Palmer, Vocalist, Lib. Dec 19, 26. Hipp., Macclesfield; after Sat., 11, Birches-terrace, Old Basford, Nottingham.

WANTED, by Queenie Till, Comedienne and Descriptive Vocalist, Dec. 19, and on. This Week, A., Sandgate. Perm., 3, Crafton-street, Leicester. Agent Required.

WANTED, Known, Flo Atkins, World's Champion Concertinist and Expert Mandolinist, Dec. 19, Grand, Halifax; Dec 26, Shrewsbury. Wire or write for Jan. 2. 40, Chadwick-st, W. Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Miss Daisy Morell, Star Vocalist and Burlesque Actress, Vacant Dec. 19, 26, Jan. 2 9, 16 23 Address, Palace, Lancaster; after Saturday, 88, Boston-street, Hulme, Manchester.

See Pantomime Artistes' Wants.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Lall, Atlee, Chic Comedienne and Balladist, Great Success, Greenwich and Star. 19th, Bedford, Camden-town; 26th, New Hippodrome, Eastbourne. First-class Agents please communicate care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Parez (Three) Sisters, Lady Handbell-ringers, Lady Bagpipers. Refined Musical Act. P., Northampton, Dec. 26. Free Jan. 2. K., Liverpool, Jan. 9. Free Jan. 16, 23. H., Dewsbury, Jan. 30. 32, Mill-lane, Warrington.

THE GREAT MACCANN.
WANTED, 1905, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, by the Famous Concertina King, on his Patent Instrument, value £500. Dec. 19, Hippodrome, Wigan.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, by Warton, Eccentric Comedy Magician. New Act. Finish To-night, Metropole, Gateshead. Monday, Grand, Doncaster. Wire.

WANTED, Known, Gilbert Serony, Comedian and Burlesque Conjuror (Two Acts), Aquarium, Scarborough. Vacant Dec. 26 Wire, wire.

WANTED, Known, W. Horsley, Song and Dance Artist, England's Champion Clog Dancer. At Liberty Jan. 2, onwards. Thanks to Mr Clifford, inquiring terms. 14, Bedford-street, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Monday next, by Carl Verdi, the Premier Instrumentalist; also Jan. 9 and 16 Wire, Alhambra, Belfast.

WANTED, by Tom Hulme, Comedian, Dec. 26, "Dream of Glory," Empire Paisley; next, Empire, Greenock. Liberty for Panto. Thanks for offers.

WANTED, Known, a Comedian you can hear and understand, Joe Mayo, Up-to-Date Stump Orator and Negro Comedian, at Liberty in his Great Original Copyright Song and Character Sketch, "The Collier Lads of Lancashire" Fast Booking. Principal Halls only. Permanent address, MAYO, Carmen-street, Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, by Frank Whiteley, Monday next, Dec. 19, one week only. Please wire, JOHNSON, Theatre, Tredegar, S. Wales.

WANTED, Known, Happy Armstrong, Lightning Pyramid Drummer and Instrumentalist, Comic Orator. Vac. Christmas, New Year. This, T. R.; next week, T. R., Workington.

WANTED, Known, Rem Lang, American Society Entertainer. Original Comedy Act. Hippodrome, Bury.

WANTED, Picitt, the Muscular Master of Manacles, Handcuff King, without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes. The Originator of the only Handcuff Act that has not been Copied or Exposed. Booked for Nine Weeks by George Walker, Esq., of the Imperial Picture Company, directly he saw my Act. Only few dates, 1905-1906, Booked. This week, Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh; next, Hippodrome, Carlisle. Wire for Feb. 27. Lithos.

WANTED, Known, Kardoc, Handcuff King and Gaol Breaker, Free Jan. 2, 9, on. Startling Lithos. £5, £25, and £100 Challenge. My Act is not a Copy. Different to Others. A Reliable Act Refer to Management of the Grand, Manchester. Conclude to-night. Monday, Tivoli, Kidderminster. Lyceum, Stafford, to follow Wire.

WANTED, Known, Martino, the Man-Frog, Free Monday next. Wire, Olympia Circus, Bury.

WANTED, Dec. 26, by Star Knight's Spectacular Mystery Act. Elaborate Dresses, Properties, Sparkling Music &c. 93, Camden-street; or, Agent, Papa Brown.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 1904, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 1905, by the Great Kyoto, Comedy Japanese Mysterious Box, Contortionist, Comedy Juggler, Conjurer, &c., commands laughter and applause; also May Geraldine, Comedienne and Dancer. Wire, Theatre Royal, Worthing; after Sat., 25, Devonshire-house, Bather., London, S.F.

WANTED, Known, De Ora, Speciality Gymnast, and Rosie Rickards, Comedienne and Low Comedy Artist, Vacant Dec. 19. One or both. Wire, 15, Wyndham-street, Bury.

WANTED, by N. C. Bostock and Nellie Eliene, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Terrific success in Runcorn. House crammed last Monday. Cheered to the echo. Wire, T., Runcorn, Saturday; after, T., Workington.

WANTED, Monday Next, also Dec. 26, by the Percys (Harry and Lillie), Duettists, Dancers, &c. Wire, Oxford Music Hall, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Monday next, Blake Cohen and Elsie Page, Eccentric Society Entertainers, Double and Single Turns, Ten to Twenty mins. Wire, Hippo., Scarborough.

WANTED, Monday Next, One or Both, Arthur Richards, Character Comedian; Renee Walon, Comedienne and Dancer. Palace, Cork.

WANTED, Known, that The Daintons, Comedy Duo, are at liberty Dec. 26, and Jan. 2 and 9 Address, Monday next, Metropole Theatre, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by Engist and Orea, Continental Musical Comedians, Immediate Dates. Address, 17, Berwick-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday Next, Stanert and Yondi, American Musical Comedy Act; also Jan. 16. Wire, 40, Victoria-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, by Keir and Allen, the Great Eccentric Knockabout Comedians, Dec 26 and Jan. 2. Offers, Palace, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Norman and Francois, Musical Sketch Artistes, at Liberty Monday, 26th. Next week, Queen's-park Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Dec 19 and 26, by Denton and Dale, Eccentric Vocal and Patter Comedians. Good Lithos. Wire, Theatre Royal, Worthing.

WANTED, 19th Only, by Gravelta and Parr, Clay Modellers, Impersonators, Sand and Rag Pictures, Vento., Pot-Pourri Act. Alhambra T., Dudley

WANTED, Known, the Three Martinettes, Musical Knockabouts, success, Empire, Paisley. Monday, Empire, Greenock. Liberty Dec. 26. Great Acts for Pantomime.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan 2, Sardou's Illusionists, Marvellous Mystifiers; also Marie Riviers, Balladist. Palace, Northampton. Wire.

WANTED, Dec. 26, for Comical Walker's Local, Nippers, and Reklaw, Rolling Globe Expert Two Distinct Turns. Wire, Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Seltina Troupe, Acrobats, after Jan. 23, will be known as the Seven Wulfunas, in Sketch, entitled "A Waiter's Troubles."

WANTED, Known, Eltenos, Triple Bars; Togo, Juggler, Finish To-night, Carnival, Carnarvon. Monday, Empire, Hull. Lib. Christmas Week and February, onward. Two Distinct Acts.

WANTED.—Les Frères Baptiste, les Deux Chefs, in their Refined Comedy Juggling Pot-Pourri Act, "Troubles in the Kitchen." Vacant Dec. 19 and Jan. 2. 18, Oakden-street, Kennington, London, S.E.

WANTED, Known, the Albano Troupe, Refined Musical Speciality, having made such a terrific success at the Pavilion, Carnarvon, Three Encores, Four Recalls, that they have been engaged another week. The great Musical Critics pronounce the Act as one of the greatest ever seen in Carnarvon. Second week. Pavilion, Carnarvon.

WANTED, Known, Karl Birvell, F O S., Novelty Ventriloquist and Mimic Big Show. Liberty for Tour. 14, New Port-street, Walsall, Staffs.

WANTED, Monday next, 19th; also Jan. 2, 9, 16, by Grieve, Practical Ventriloquist. Wire offers, 2, Bishop-street, Eastwood, Notts.

WANTED, Monday next and 26th by Rex Carvell, Novel Ventriloquist, in Original Ventriloquial Act, entitled "Strange Apartments." Theatre Royal, Worthing. Wire.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Dec. 19, through Disappointment, Joe Cookson, World's Novelty Ventriloquist. Big Speciality Act. Sure draw. Huge Success. Wire, Victoria-street, Cradley, Cradley Heath, Staffs.

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."
WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Patriotic Juvenile Naval, Military Spectacle. Always a Success. Concluding, Park Palace, Liverpool. Next Week, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 2 and 9, by the Ross-Clyde Comedy Co., in their Screamer "I Must have It!" Care of SMYTHSON 11, Searle's-road, Paragon, London, S.E.

WANTED, Dec. 19, 26, Coleman Davies Comedy Sketch Company (Trio), or big Dramatic Sketch, "No Escape." Wire, DAVIES, Olympia, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, Alfrano Tatters Troupe at Liberty, in their new Novel Funny Comic Military Sketch, "The Bear and Sentinel," for any Travelling Entertainment. Two Turns. Russian Costumes. 161, Pershore-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, New Year's Week, and Later, Share or Salary, for the Royal Entertainers. Mr HARRY LISTON, Egyptian Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, the "Flying Lady" Vacant Monday; also Christmas. Now causing a Sensation at the Plymouth Winter Gardens. D. DARRELL, 6, Athenæum-place, Plymouth.

WANTED.—Glennie's Marionettes. Usual Success. Liberty Monday. Wire, Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Known, Max Gruber's Great Indian Sporting Act. the Only and Best Trained Elephant and Horse Ever Performed on a Stage. Every Trick Original. Big Success Everywhere. Vacant Jan. 2, 9. Wire or write, Empire, Hippodrome, Ashton.

WANTED, Known, Spangeletti's Stage Circus, something to make the People laugh, something New and Funny, Free Jan. 2 and 16. This, Hippodrome, Macclesfield; next week, Court T., Bacup.

WANTED, Known, Alice Fountainbleau and her Great Troupe of Trick and Leaping Dogs, also Rolling Globe Act, at Liberty. Good Speciality for Panto. Permanent, Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

WANTED, Permanent Engagement by Harry Steele, Expert Operator, Electric or Lime. Wire or write, New Century Pictures, Picton Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagements for Up-to-Date Pictures. Biggest Show Going. THE WALTURDAW COMPANY, LIMITED, 3, Dean-street, Holborn, London.

WANTED, Known, Jasper Fedfern's World-renowned Animated Pictures, First in 1895, Foremost ever since. Terms, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

WANTED, Monday, onwards, for Bioscope, Troupe of Dogs, Vent., Illusionist, Four Turns or Company. LE WIST and LE CLAIR, Theatre, Morpeth.

WANTED, Engagements for High-class Cinématograph Turn. Everything Up to Date. KENNETT, Pier, Llandudno.

WANTED, by Young Man, Situation with Troupe or Myriorama. Has no objection to going abroad. Permanency required. Will study employer. Open Jan. 9 C., care of BERMAN, Bookseller, Bath.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Showmen's Guild.—Annual Audit of the Accounts.
WANTED.—All Committee Men are Requested to Send in Monies received by them, and all Outstanding Advertisement Accounts in the Year Book must be Paid at once. The Books must Close Dec. 26. H. M. HORNE, General and Financial Secretary, West Didsbury, Manchester.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Handsellers to know Simons is the Man for Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery. Send £5 for Special Parcel.

117, Houndsditch, London

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom. For particulars apply to F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others to Know Simons is the Cheapest Place for Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, and Cheap Jewellery. Best-class French Paste Stocked for the Profession. 117, Houndsditch.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermilionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c. Write for price list or call, Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

Chiappa and Sons, Limited, of 6, Little Bath-street, Clerkenwell, London, and 17, Milton-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

Sole Representatives of Messrs Gavioli and Cie, of Paris.

WANTED, all Showmen to Know that every kind of repairs at reasonable prices and best workmanship, guaranteed to give satisfaction, are now undertaken at both the above addresses. Every description of Organ Playing by Cardboard Music Sold at reduced prices, and all kinds of Cardboard Music supplied at once. A large stock of Second-Hand Organs, all newly done-up, with purchaser's own tunes, for Sale from £15; also large size Organs with Drums, thoroughly renovated, from £60.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities. SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON, 66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

WANTED, Showmen and others to Note that Mr Aire Higgins, Roundabout Horse Decorator, of Bristol, has made Contracts to decorate Messrs Biddall Brothers' Exhibitions for the Winter, and will not be at Liberty to accept other Engagements until May, 1905 Signed, A. S. HIGGINS, Artist.

To Wire Workers and others
WANTED, Known, that F. Bill, King of Wire Kings, having Purchased the R. G. Cr. Wire Drawing Plant can supply his favourite Knot Ring from 6s. per gross. Send twelve stamps for samples of rings. Money returned if not satisfied. Thousands being sold. Send at once and get this new line. 57, Northampton-street, Hockley, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known to Wireworkers, Gold Filled Wire Marquise Rings, 3s. 6d.; Baby and Initial Rings, 2s. 6d.; Samples, 9d. CROWE, 12, Warwick-road, Blackpool.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Bazaars, Fancy Fairs, &c., we have splendid Bargains in Penny Slot Machines, Weighing (Iron), £7; Cackling Hens (Lay Eggs), 35s.; Sweetmeat, four division, 30s.; Electric Shock, cost £13, price 40s.; Lung Testers, 30s.; Card Delivery Machines, all kinds. MASON, 17, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, Showmen, Fair Keepers, &c., to see our Latest Novelty for Showing Games. "The Bombardment of Port Arthur." Sure to be a great hit. Call and see it, or send for particulars. Orders executed in rotation. STACEY, Showman Stores, Settles-street, London, E.

WANTED, for World's Fair, Side Shows and Novelties; also Space to Let. OWEN BAGAN, Proprietor, 66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED, Novelties, Willing Workers, Six Weeks' Engagement, Shop Business. Open at once. PHILLIPS, 7, Dunraven-street, Ton-y-pandy, South Wales.

WANTED, for Monday, over Christmas, Good Novelties, with Paintings or Posters. Waxworks at Liberty for Christmas wire, FLETCHER, Exhibition, Dowlais.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, Jan. 2, onwards. Salary sure, Best Position, Three Towns. Holt's Royal Waxworks, Plymouth. Thanks Friend for Good Recommendation.

WANTED, Quick-showing Freaks and Novelties, open Monday next and on. Shares or Certainty. FRANK MORDAUNT, 79, Overgate, Dundee.

WANTED, Illusions, Freaks, Novelties, for New Shop. Splendid Position. Crowded thoroughfare. Only Good Class Attractions. Vacancy for Doorsman. DYER 85, Wingrove-gardens, Newcastle

WANTED, Auctioneers, used to Auction Vans. State Salary first letter. Also several Vans for Hire, one a Grand Medicine Carriage. Apply, HENRY WHITE, Bassant House, Herne Bay.

WANTED, Sticky Backs, on Sharing Terms, in Good Positions Bradford and Manchester. Applicants must be able to provide everything except Room and Gas. Room for other Novs. on same terms. PIKE, 83, Stretford-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Young Lady, Sing, Dance, Play Piano. Respectability and steadiness essential. Amateur might suit. Lowest terms. Box 8,887, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

WANTED, Engagement, Monday next, also Dec. 26, by Barker and Bell's Marionettes. Shop or Exhibition. Share or Salary. Splendid Window Flashes. 30, Pentonville-road, London.

WANTED, Known, owing to the unprecedented success of Dolly Vigor, Armless Lady, Re-engaged One Week longer. Humber's Waxworks, 112, George-street, Aberdeen. Liberty Dec. 26.

WANTED, Known, Marie De Vere, American Sword Swallower and Electric-light Swallowing. Lib. Jan. 2, 1905. Per. add., 17, Gratton-rd., West Kensington.

WANTED, Known, to Showmen, Stallholders, &c., Requiring Ground for Christmas and New Year, P. COLLINS, LIMITED, have Positions to Let for First-class Cinématograph Show or Parading Show, Side-shows, Novelties, Stalls, Cokernut-sheets, Swings, Shooting Saloons, &c., Wolverhampton Market-place, opening Christmas Eve, over Christmas and New Year Holidays. London. A New Ground. Grand Position. Opening Dec 14, over the Christmas and New Year. Birmingham. Two Grand Positions. Best Christmas and New Year in the Midlands. Opening Dec. 14. Birkenhead. New Ground, Central Position, Well Sheltered, Good Dry Bottom. Christmas and New Year. Opening Dec. 19.

Parties Booking on these grounds will have the Preference of Booking with us for our February and March Round.

First-class and Well-conducted Concern Quoted Reasonable Rents. All applications address, P. COLLINS, LIMITED, Gondola Works, Walsall. Telephone, 80, Walsall. Telegraphic address, "Gondola, Walsall."

WANTED, KNOWN, to Travellers, Hillkirk-street, Berwick, Manchester, Hillkirk-street, Beswick, Manchester, to Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, Stallholders, &c. Wanted, Known, Wanted, Known, that I am Opening Hillkirk-street for a Grand Christmas and New Year's Carnival. Same as Last Year. Ground Rent Reasonable. Ground Rent Reasonable. This Fair Ground is acknowledged to be one of the best in Manchester for Business. All applications for Space to be made to THOS. HURST, Sole Lessee.

WANTED, Known, to Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Stall Owners, that I have Ground to Let at Ordsall-lane for Christmas and New Year Fair; also Brewery-street Yard, in Good Position for the Winter Season. Ground Rent Reasonable. All applications for Ground, Apply, Mr J. WHITING, The Anchorage, Urmston, Manchester.

WANTED, Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, Stallholders, and Travellers in general to know we are holding a Great Christmas and New Year's Carnival and World's Fair in the North Haymarket, Liverpool. All Under Cover. Commencing Saturday, Dec. 24 at 2·0 p.m. This will be the Largest and Best Carnival ever held in the Provinces. The Decorations are being carried out by Messrs Hitchen and Squire, Liverpool. No expense whatever will be spared to make this a huge success. Everything dry, clean, and warm. Special Engagements of High Wire Walkers, High Divers, Circus Performers, and a host of other Novelties too numerous to mention. This is expected to be a bumper. All applications for Spaces for Side Shows, Stalls, Bazaars, Rings, and, in fact, everything connected with the Carnivals to Let. Rents most reasonable. Gate admission, 2d. Messrs COLLINS and WALLIS, World's Fair, Scotland-road, Liverpool. P.S.—Also Wanted to Hire, a Circus Tent.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Switchback or Large Show. Cheap Rents. Apply, BURGIN, Market-place, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, to Roundabout Proprietors, Showmen, and Stallowners, Hyde-road, Manchester, Christmas and New Year Fair. The Best Christmas Fair in Manchester. Having taken the whole of the above Ground for Christmas and New Year from Mr John Collins, I am now prepared to Let Spaces. Reasonable Rent. JAMES HIBBERT, Bloom-street, Stockport.

WANTED, Known, to Showman and others, Ground to Let suitable for anything. Splendid Position. Population 50,000. The only Recognised Position. PROPRIETOR, Black Lion, Brymbo, N. Wales.

GLASGOW NEW YEAR FAIR.
WANTED, to Let, Ground at Vinegar Hill, for Roundabouts, Swings, Stalls, &c. Bottom Ground, 4s. per foot; Top Ground, 2s. per foot; also to Let, One Side Show, 30ft by 40ft., Share or Rental. Apply, G. GREEN, The Carnival, Glasgow.

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SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

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WANTED, Wanted, Known, Sale by Tender. The Executors of Ellis Woolley Newton, Deceased, formerly of Warwick-road, Birmingham, and late of Aberdare, Auctioneer, Offer for Sale, by Tender, the Effects of the Deceased, consisting of Stock, Furniture, Living and Stock Vans, Waggons, Large Mechanical Organ a New Show Front, comprising Two Living Vans and Show Front Complete, with One Dome, Stage Steps, Inside Gallery, Cinématograph Box, Twelve Rows of Seating; Booth, 34ft. by 67ft. 6in.; Shutters, and everything Complete, except Tilt. For Tender Forms, Conditions of Sale, and further particulars, apply to Mr C. F. WHITEHOUSE, 10A, Temple-row, Birmingham, Solicitor to the Executors.

WANTED, to Sell, the Following Articles, to be Sacrificed at Unheard of Prices, having no room to Store them, my Stores being Full; if not Sold in Two Weeks, they will be Burnt:—Eight Switchback Cars (without Wheels and Axles), Panelled and Gold-scrolled, Fitted with Massive Brass Handles; One Set of Fix-top Rounding Boards (Eighteen in Number), 3ft. wide, Carved and Gilded; Eighteen Droppers for same, 2ft. 6in., wide, Carved in Front and Gold Scrolled at Back; also Eighteen Carved and Gilded Pillars for same, and One Set of Outside Switchback Shutters, One Cinématograph Shuttered Booth, 54ft. by 30ft., Complete, with Pit and Gallery, almost New; also Good Back Waggon for same, only Built Last Year, this Lot only Requires Front and Tilt. No Reasonable Offer will be Refused. First come First Served for the above Bargains.

Apply immediately to the owner JACOB STUDT, the Up-to-date Amusement Caterer, World's Fair, Southampton.

WANTED, Known, to be Sold by Auction, Jan. 5, 1905, on the Wholesale Market, Bolton, at 11·0 o'clock a.m. prompt, through death, Wright's Elaborate Fine Art Exhibition. Two Road Living Wagons, Two Powerful Horses, Two Sets Harness, Throwing Games, Tilts, Stalls, and other useful Lots. On View Christmas and New Year's Week. THOS. CROMPTON and SONS, Auctioneers. Tel. 48z.

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WANTED, to Sell, One Set of Steam Yachts, comprising Two Big Boats, Engine (Robey-Lincoln), Gavioli Paper Organ, Brass Lamps, and Trucks to carry same. All in Extra Good Condition. Also Living Carriage (Rail) fitted up with Mahogany and newly decorated. Length, 17ft. 3in. Breadth, 17ft. 3in.

Full particulars to intending Purchasers by applying to Mrs HOLDEN, Scaitcliffe, Accrington, Lancs.

WANTED, to Sell, a Novelty, to Stall Attendants at Exhibitions, Carnivals, Worlds Fairs, &c., under cover. New Year and Visiting Cards, &c., written while you wait. It is an easy money-earner and easy to write. For a sample card and prices, or cards and ink, send stamped envelope, Rose's Automatics, 97, Graham-road, London, N.E.

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WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines of all kinds. Best and Cheapest in the Trade. WORMALD, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W.

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WANTED, to Sell, Cheap, Grand Working Model, Colliery and Colliery Village. Finest ever seen. Lighted by Electricity, driven by Steam. Send for Photo. and Catalogues (free). Can be seen working Address, CHARLES BOOTH, 95, High-street, Birmingham.

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WANTED, to Sell, First-class Marionette Show, Elaborate Fit-up, Scenery, &c. Low price for Cash. BONHEUR, P.O., Abergavenny, Mon.

WANTED, to Sell, Small Booth, in good condition. Cheap for cash. No reasonable offer refused. Apply, Box 8,904, care of "The Era," London.

WANTED.—To Proprietors of Pleasure Gardens, Seaside Resorts, and other Suitable Places for the Erection of Camera Obscura and Magic Mirror of Life.—Will rent or share. Address, Professor CHARLES, Manufacturer, 64, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, Known, Silva Vigor ("Dolly") wishes to Thank Mr and Mrs Humber for Present of Travelling Rug and Pad for Pram.

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WANTED, to Buy, Two Second-hand Turnstiler. One to Register. State particulars and lowest price, HAGUE, Spa, Bridlington.

WANTED, to Buy, any Good Illusion or Magical Apparatus for Stage. Quote Price for Cash. Box 8,890, "The Era."

WANTED, to Purchase, a Quantity of Flags, Banners, and Decorations. Second Hand. Must be Cheap. JONES, 59, Alexandra-road, Wimbledon.

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NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS,
BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.

HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.

ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.

Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
London Representative, Mr STUART CONOVER.

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EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Cole De Losse Duo, Ella Retford, Austin and Cowan, Florrie Gallimore, Arthur Melrose, Nellie Wallace, Tourbillon Troupe, Five Olracs, Maxwell and Francis, Tom Leamore.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
New Gothams, Hugh Stanton and Co., in "For Reform;"
Charles Russell, Mdlle. Emmy, Aurora Troupe,
Alexandre and Bertie,
Collins and Rice, Lieut. Travis, Baldwin Bros.,
Johnny Dwyer, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Leona Dare, Vasco.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Hagedorn's Fairy Grotto, Edie Veno, Arthur Lennard,
Three Mascotte Sisters, Hugh Stanton and Co in
"Twenty Years from Now,' Lizzie Fletcher,
Brown and Robinson, Lily Burnand,
Cavallinis, Jackson Family.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
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Charles Adams, Tschernoff's Dogs and Ponies, Little Uno,
Lukushima Troupe, Bioscope, Morris and Morris,
F. Maxwell and Co., in "Lord Harkaway."

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Diane De Fontenoy, in "An Artist's Model,"
Charles Stevens, Four Milons, Mueller and Coyne,
Ohmy's Animals, Wartenburg Brothers, Rastus and Banks,
Neilson Sisters, Nello, Keno Welch and Montrose.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Julius Seeth's Lions, Bros. Damm, Diamond and Beatrice,
Chas Cardow, Joko and Koko, Mabel Hind, Ambrose Thorne,
Vasilescu Troupe, Vesper, Alexander, Tom Edwards.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Resident Director, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Fred Karno's Company, in "Early Birds;"
Charles Vincent, the Rales, Les Vicentinas.
Loro Quartette, Rose Archer, Fiske and M'Donough,
Frank Harwood, Vox, Three Donals, Emelia Sisters.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for
The Kokins, Lillian Warren, Prof. Harcourt,
Sisters Jonghmanns, Swan and Bambard, Geo. Newburn,
Eugene Marrder, Margaret Ashton, Griff,
Sarnthaler Sextette, Driscoll and Beattie Co.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Tilly Bebe's Lions, Byron and Langdon, Hardeen,
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Wilson Hallett, Kitty Bell.

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Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
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Alice Maydue, Harry Champion,
the Labakans, Two Bostoos,
L. B. Athol, Charles Bayman, Little Nelusco.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Lisi's Bears, the Lumars, Devona Sisters,
Bioscope, the Howards, Phillips and Terry,
Charles Gardiner,
Dome, Nellie Coleman.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for
Carl Hertz, Troubadour Four, Barowsky Trio,
Trentanovi Sisters, Bioscope,
Passparts, Leonard and Francois, Ross and Lewis,
Princess Pauline, Chilcie Stuart.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
J. Peterman and Company in
"The Belle of the Orient," Florrie Robins,
Peppo's Monkeys, Robertus and Wilfredo,
Lyane and Geks, Professor Bernar.

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Sisters Klos, Alexandra Dagmar,
Syd May, Zertho's Dogs, Five Delevines,
Cabby and Shirker, Ada Cerito, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto,
Scott and Son.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Harry Lauder, Wille Bros., Newhouse and Ward,
Morcaschani, Duncan's Dogs, The M'Gregors, Lily Lena,
Tolle D'Araignee, Maud Ross, Will Mitcham.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Mark Melford, Burke, Moller, and Teller, The Levinos,
Burke, Andrus, and Frisco, The Alaskas,
Szarvasi Ferencz Troupe, John Alexander and Co.,
Clown Ferreros, Bioscope, The Pioquays.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Fanny Fields, Harriet Vernon, O'Gust,
Laurie's Kindergarten, Alfonso Trio, Ronay Sisters,
Burke and M'Voy,
the Bohemians, Ethel Ra Leslie, Charles Deane.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Horace Goldin, Grais' Baboons, Rafayette's Dogs,
Max Welton Four, Albertus and Bartrum, the Jees,
Bioscope, Bros. Pueblo, the Llewellyns, Milner Verren.

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for
Joe Elvin and Co., in "Over the Sticks;"
Winter and Banks, Trapnell Family, Spot, Les Burnellys,
Werner and Reider, Harry Lawson, Post Mason,
Jennie Belmore.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Jan Rudenyi, Johnny Gilmore, Keene and Adams,
Fanny Robins, Coloured Meisters, Jimmy Shields,
Horace White, Lillian Lowe,
Bros. De Wynne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for
Hermann Melot, Cline and Clark, Walter Munroe,
Pia Carozzi, Gallagher and Hill, Sybil St. Elmo,
Tom Stuart, Bijou Russell,
Doody and Wright.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for
Ahrensmeyer, Beattie Bloom, Geo. Bohee, Wisper,
Ashington Pit Boy, Three Victorias, Amber Austa,
Will Haines, G. W. Hunter.

EMPIRE THEATRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for
Little Tich, Ginnett's "Rejected Remounts," Bros. Pantzer, Verno and Voyce, Donaldson Bros. and Ardel,
James's Strolling Players, Laila Selbini, Three Sisters Slater, Reddick Anderson.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr FRANK ALLEN, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.
Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope.
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THERE'S ALWAYS ONE.
I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU TOOK ME IN.
THE WAITER LAUGHED.
THEN THE CORONER SAID "OH!"
I FEEL SO SLEEPY.
QUEER LITTLE OSTRICH.
M'CORMICK.
MY GOLDEN BELLE.
DOWN IN SOMALILAND.
MY WHITEWASH MAN.
COME, BE MY HONEY.
IT'S LOVELY TO LOVE A LOVELY GIRL.
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Chas. Cunningham and Co.,
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Chas. Coborn, New York Nippers,
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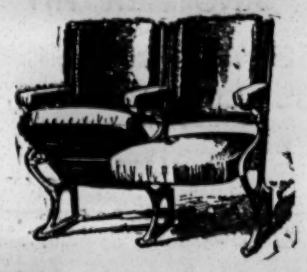

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The SCOTSMAN, reviewing the Pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, says:—

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The GLASGOW EVENING NEWS says:—

Among the ladies, first place is taken, naturally, by Miss Annie Purcell, as "Ganem." A very attractive and spirited "Ganem" she is, and her songs, particularly "THE SWALLOW AND THE AIRSHIP," were vociferously applauded, and chorussed by last night's audience.

The GLASGOW DAILY RECORD says:—

One cannot but admire the discretion of Mr. Wyndham in his choice of Miss Annie Purcell as the principal boy. Her charming presence heightens the enjoyment of her excellent singing and graceful acting. One of her songs, "THE AIRSHIP AND THE SWALLOW," has the distinction of having a specially-arranged scene devoted to it. The scene and the song were most enthusiastically received.

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Yours faithfully,
H. GOLDSMITH-WHITTON,
Late Manager, West's "Our Navy," &c.

London, May 19, 1904.

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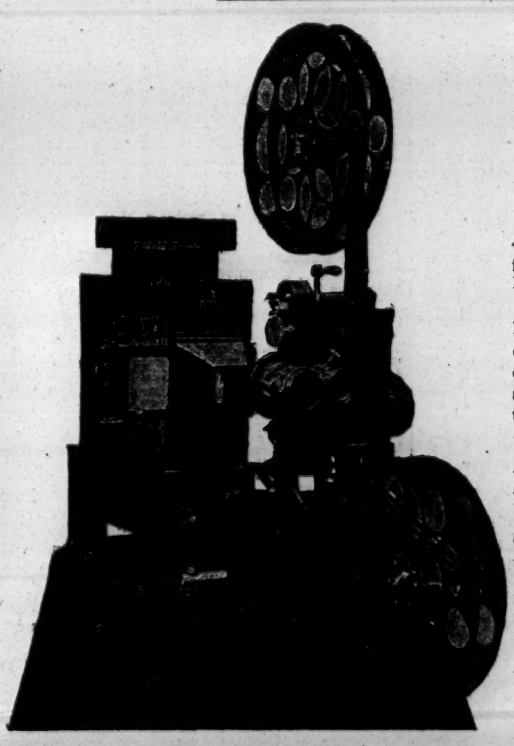

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ALLEN, MISS ARABELLA. "The Dickens Girl." 26, Brackley-road, Chiswick, London, W.

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ARA, ZEBRA, and VORA, Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow.

ARCHBUTT, GLADYS, Comedienne and Dancer. The Oxford Nightly. "Go away, Mr Crocodile," by C. W. Murphy and Dan Lipton.

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ATLAS and the Beautiful MISS VULCANA, the Society Athletes, World's Greatest Artistes, 19th, Empire, Portsmouth. Vacant Jan. 2.

ATTILLA, BROS., Refined Gladiatorial Act, Livermore Tour, Palace, Bristol.

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AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

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BARRETT and KNOWLES, Panto. Rehearsals, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. Agents, Tom Shaw and Co.

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BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjuror, Usual Success this, Varieties, Leeds. Next, Hipp., Eastbourne. Great Show. Ask Barrett and Knowles.

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BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M'Bunker, "The Mountebank," Palace, Lancaster.

BETTS, MR. HERBERT, Albert Hall, Sheffield. Next, Theatre of Varieties, Oldham.

BIANCHI, CARLO, Foot Equilibrist, Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2 Pavilion, Carnarvon. Monday, 17, Cheltenham-street, Manchester, C.-on-M.

BICKLEY, HARRY, Rehearsing, Royalty Theatre, Chester. Dame, Milton Bode, Esq.'s. "Puss-in-Boots."

BLISS and BLISS, Pantomime Rehearsals, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

BLYTHE, MARIE, the Successful Contralto. Dec. 19, Royal, Canning-town. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Ltd.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Musical and Comedy Artists. This, Metropolitan; next, Empire, Hackney. G. Foster, 4, Garrick-street.

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BONANZAS, THREE, Great Success, Pier Pavilion, Southport. Dec. 26, Bolton. Agent, Mr C. Parker.

BONHEUR'S ANIMATOGRAPH, Specially Engaged, next week, Abergavenny, Stafford, Lichfield, Gloucester. Town Hall, Abergavenny.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Dec. 19, Empire, Islington, and Hoxton. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, in his Musical Séance, Introducing his Wonderful "Bosanquephone." Great Success, Casino, Rotterdam.

BOSWELL, A. P., still scoring big hit at Broughton and Lancaster. Monday, Empress, Hartlepool. Vacant Dec. 26. Wire, Wire, Wire.

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, Emperor and Nisey-Pisey and Specialities, Pier Pavilion, Hastings.

BOWERY BOYS, THE, Rehearsing Pantomime, Metropole, Birkenhead. Thank Arthur Gibbon, Esq., for offer of re-engagement.

BOYCE, FRANK, Vocal Comedian. Monday, Empire, Southampton. Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Tivoli Theatre, Dublin.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE), conclude Gaiety, Oldham. Dec. 19, Victoria Theatre, Stanley, Durham.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Expert Dancers. Great Success, Hippodrome, Dewsbury; next Week, Panto., Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

BRETT, HARRY, the Genial Comedian, concludes Successfully Collins's, Stoke-on-Trent. Vac. 19th. Requires London. 342, Acton-lane, Acton, W.

BREWSTERS, This Week, New Hippo., Brompton; Next, County T., Reading, Rehearsals, "Sinbad." Miss KITTY BREWSTER, Principal Girl.

BRIGHTON GIRLS, THE New, South American Tour. All letters, care of "The Era." Return to England, March, 1905.

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CALVERTO'S ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, GLASGOW. Shall be pleased to hear from First-class Artistes or Companies coming North.

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey. Monday, Theatre Royal, Wednesbury. Vacant, Jan. 23, One Week.

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CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, Starring Macnaghten Tour, Topping Bill Palace, Bath. Monday, P., Leicester, "Obliging a Lady."

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CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), the Vocal Comedy Stars, in "Their First Quarrel." Palace, Bristol. Four Weeks Vacant, 1906.

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CONLEY, JOE, Big Success at Aberdeen and Dundee. Monday, 19th, Empire, Paisley. Aytoun.

CONLIN, HARRY, and ROSIE COLEMAN Address, 18, Walcot-gardens, Kennington, S.E.

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CORNISH, WILL, Unique Musical Bell Act This week, the London and Star; next, Collins's and Palace, Camberwell.

COVERDALE, the Droll Comedian. Dec. 19, Palace, Bath. Christmas, Dec. 26, the London Pavilion (8·30 p.m.). Paul Vandy's Booking.

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CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG. A Novelty with Drawing Powers. Cooke's Circus, Edinburgh.

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CRUIKSHANK. Nothing Succeeds Like Success. London, Nightly.

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DALE and D'ARGAN wish all Friends a Merry Christmas. Opera House, Weymouth.

DALE and VALE, Specialité Dancers Extraordinary. This Week, Tivoli, Leeds; Next Week, Regent, Salford.

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DANIEL, FRANCIS, own Sketch Company, "A Father's Vengeance." Permanent address, Brunswick-street, South Shields.

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DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE of Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. This, Hippo., Ashton-under-Lyne; next, A., Birkenhead.

DAVIS, ALF., Comedian and Actor-Vocalist, this week, Paddington Palace, Liverpool. Dec. 19, Grand, Doncaster.

DAVIS, RYDER and EVA WARD, Finish To-night Grand, Doncaster. Monday, Hippo., Scarborough. Vacant Jan. 2, 9

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DENBY and DENT, Pantomime Rehearsals, Frederick Mouillot, Esq. Theatre Royal, Worcester.

DENHAM, MISS MILLIE, Burlesque Actress. Panto. Rehearsals, Second Boy, Grand T., Derby. Perm., Bridge House, High-street, Stratford.

DENHAM, TEDDY, Empire, Middlesbrough; Monday, Rehearsals, Panto., Dame, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield. Panto. booked by Mr R. Cass.

DENNO, DR., the Modern Magician, and his World-Wide Wonders, at Liberty. Turn or Two Hours. Patronised by Royalty. Earswick, York.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, Principal Boy, Malicio. Rehearsing, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

DE VERE, SISTERS (NORA and LILY), Comediennes and Dancers. Barnard's, Greenwich, 26th. Agent, Mr Sam Hart. Perm., 72, Ryliston-rd., Fulham.

DE VOY, HURST, and FREDERICKS. Usual success, Palace, Atterclifte. Monday, Dec. 19, Hippodrome, Grimsby. Disengaged January, 1905.

DEVOYE, JIMMY, and BILLY, the Educated Pony, great success, Berlin and Paris. Dec. 19, Palace, Halifax.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. Thank Messrs Mould, Durham, Scott, Verne, for offers. Dec. 19, 69, Roan-street, Greenwich.

DORITO and BUXTON, Speciality Duettists, Rehearsing, County T., Reading, Emperor and Princess.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, Novelty Entertainer, Concluding, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, the Original Singing Boxmakers, Starring, Hippo., Dewsbury. Next, E., Wolverhampton. Merry Xmas. to all.

DOME, the Comedy Clay Man, Empire, Swansea.

DON, EMMA, and her Black and White Quartette of Vocalists. Tremendous success Moss Tour. Dec. 19, E., Birmingham.

DONNA, AMY, This week, Westminster, Liverpool. Communications, 309, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Dec. 19, Empire, Belfast.

DORETTA, LITTLE, Chic Juvenile, Acrobatic Song and Dance Artist. Touring with C. W. Poole's Royal Myriorama.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Big Success, Navaho, "The Gambling Man," &c. Principal Girl, Princess's, Glasgow.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Booked Moss's Empires till 1907.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL, Principal Girl, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, in Pantomime, "Forty Thieves," Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Charming Young Vocalist and Graceful Dancer, indisposed. All communications, 11, Arnold-st., Liverpool.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Comedy Artiste. Monday, Grand Theatre, Bisker, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Happy Christmas to all. Cards to the above.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler; OSWALD, Staircase Performer, Hand Jumper, &c. Monday, Hippodrome, Bury.

DUNCAN and MORTON. Refined Comedy Artistes, big success, Central Palace, North Shields Re-engaged for second week. Communications, above.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness. This, Aldershot. The man with the peculiar style.

DUNNING and KAHN and KAHN London Pavilion and London, Shoreditch. Shortly, London Coliseum, Shortly.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. New address, Dec. 24, on, 1A, Loughborough road, Brixton, London, S.W.

EARLE and MELVILLE, Patter Comedians and Dancers, Vacant Dec. 26, onwards. All coms., Empress, Hartlepool. Required, Agent.

EDNEY, GEORGE, Comedian. Acknowledged to be the best in my line! Hippodrome Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, (Sisters), Musical Dancing Dots. Communications, Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

EIRL, MARCELLE, Burlesque Artiste. Big Production, by Harry Carmen, in Preparation.

ELCOCK, AMY, and FLORRIE ST. ROY, Great success as Peckoe and Cheekie Compliamented by everybody, New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. For Dates and terms, address, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

ELLAS, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Dec. 19, New Court Theatre, Bacup.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, FLORRIE BRAY, Thank Will Sley for Contracts. This, G., Newcastle. Next, Hippo, Scarbrough. Rehearsing Panto. Sketches

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. "Bluebell" Parody, Sung by Ernie Mayne and Ben Albert. Panto. Rights, £1 1s. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, Grand Theatre, Doncaster.

ELMO, NINA, Comedienne. Barrasford Tour, Alhambra, Hull. Agents, Day's Agency.

ELSWORTHY, DOLLY, Principal Boy, Dottridge and Longden, Queen's T., Manchester. Thanks all for telegrams Opening Night.

ELVIRA, AMY, Comedienne. Thanks for Offers. Monday, Barrasford's, Glasgow. Permanent address, 67, Swinton-street, London, W.C.

ELVY, ARTHUR, Vocal Comedian, Usual Success, Standard, Pimlico. Monday, Granville, Walham-green, S.W. Booked by Mr Henri Cazman.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer, Grand T., Islington, Last and Speciality, Christmas. Add., 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand-Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Dec. 19, Palace, Camberwell, London.

ESDALE BROS., Comedians, Vacant Jan. 9 and 16. This Week, Hippodrome, Dewsbury; Monday, Hippo., St. Helens. London shortly, Stoll's Halls.

EVANS, WILL, Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond.

FALLAN, TOM. Good Offers invited. Address, Post-office, Wolverhampton. "The Lights of My Father's Home."

FAMF, PEGGY, the New Low Comedy Contraption. New Songs. 19th, Empire, Hull. London, Christmas. Coms., Day, Effingham House.

FAWN, ADA, Monday next, Palace, Blackburn. Big success. "No Other Girl," by Will Letters. Pantomime Rights, £2 2s.

FERRARIS, THE, Modern and Cosmopolitan Dancers. Grand Cirque Nouveau, Belgium.

FIELDING, ANNIE, and BERT HULL, "An Officer's Flirtation." Dec. 19, Hippodrome, Liverpool.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Parkkeepers. Keepers of Novelty in the Park of Originality. Big Success, Grand T., Doncaster. Coms. to Verno.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

FLORADORA GIRLS, Enormous Success, "Rival Sweethearts," Palace, Lancaster. Monday, T. R., Exeter, Pantomime.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Empire, Dudley.

FORMBY, MR. GEORGE, an Odd Fellow, Queen's, Glasgow.

FORREST'S, EDGAR, COMEDY CO. Next Week, Circus, Rochdale. Dec. 26, Alhambra, Belfast. First Vacancy, Feb. 6. Wire as above.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE, Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FRANCE and FRANCIS, Comedians and Acrobatic Grotesques, Empire, Paisley. Dec. 19, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

FRANCISCO, Juggler, and MAY MOODIE, Piccolo Soloist. Next week, Hippo., Grimsby. Dec. 26, P., Derby. London to follow. Pacey and Reeves.

FRASETTIS, LES, South African and Australian Tour. Address, 9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREANS, THE, the Irish Squires, Comedians and Dancers. Next week, Queen's Park, Manchester.

FREDRICKS, CARL, and YA PYN KETO FAMILY, Baron and Specialities, "Cinderella," Opera House, Torquay.

FREELAND, MR. FRANK, Song and Sketch-writer. "Got to have it." Town Hall, Pontefract.

FREIRE TROUPE, THE, Acrobats, Tumblers, Double Risley, Living Carrousel (Original). Eden Theatre, Clermont, Ferrand, France.

FRENCH, MARIE, the Irish Gem. Good Original Irish Character (Low Comedy) Songs Required. Address, Prosper Benn, Palace, Grimsby.

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue, Queen's-park, London, W.

FRIDKINS, BORIS, THE Great, Cossack Troupe. Next Week, Tivoli, Dublin, Ireland.

GANNON, NELLIE. Not Dead yet. Near thing last Sunday. HARRY WRIGHT, ditto. Both Empire, Hull, Dec. 19 London, Christmas.

GARLAND and ANDERSON, Vent. and Conjuror, Requires Monday. Great Success this week, Grand, Chorley. Wire.

GEE, FRANK, Poor Fellow. 40, Newington-crescent, Kennington, S.E.

GELDER, VAN, Humorous Magician, LILLIE HUSTLER, Dainty Soubrette and Dancer. Going Great Guns this week Empire, Wigan. Lib. Jan 2

GEMS, THE TWO (FLO and CISSIE), Conclude To-night, Regent, Salford. Monday, Gaiety, Oldham.

GERALDOS, THE THREE Juggling, Topping the Bill, Empress, Hartlepool. Next Week, Starring Return, E., Burnley.

GERONDS, THREE, Refined Lady Vocalists and Dancers, Palace Pier, Brighton. Rehearsing for Panto. Coms., 2, Carr-pl., Leeds.

GILBERT'S Dogs and Cats conclude, Palace, Southampton. Note change permanent address to 74, Boyson-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.

GILLIN, Unique Ventriloquial Humourist. Circus, Rochdale. Monday, Opera House, Radcliffe.

GLADSTONE, IDA, Principal Boy, Grand, Nottingham. Agent, Harry Day.

GOLD, HARRY, Versatile Comedian. "Gold." Animated Song and Chorus. "Gold." 47, Hooper-road, Custom House, E.

GOLIATH, the Strongest Youth in the World. J. A. Thompson, Pantomime, Opera House, Weymouth.

GORNAN, LIL, the Vocalist, the Dancer, Enormous success, Alhambra, Belfast. Next, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Booked by Stebbings.

GRAHAM, ERIC, Undisposed (Fourth Week). Grapes Hotel, 19, Sellar-street, Liverpool.

GRAHAM, IVY, Comedienne, big success, Circus, Rochdale. Dec. 19, Argyle, Birkenhead.

GRANADAS, LOS, Electrifying Bounders. Monday, Grand Opera House, Harrogate.

GRAPHO and JACKSON, Comedians, Rehearsing Pantomime, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

GWYNNE, FLORENCE, "The Stage-Struck Servant." Usual success, Palace, Bow. Palace, Lincoln, Dec. 19. Agent, Syd Hyman.

HADDON and CLYDE, Acrobatic Comedy Two, finish To-night, Reading. Vacant Dec. 19, 26. Globe Hotel, Bridge-street, Reading.

HAIG and NOVEL, on Seven Months' Tour. Return Dates everywhere. Back to Town April, the Palace and Paragon.

HALL'S, TOM, Burlesque Acrobatic NIPPERS, Dog, and Monkey, big success, this, T., Whitehaven. Free Christmas. Wire; or, Geo. Aytoun.

HARRIS, ALF, Comedian and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HARRISON, FRED, Comedian and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HARRY, MR. ARTHUR, Comedian and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HARTLEY, MISS MAY, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HARVEY, MISS MAY, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HASTINGS, MISS ADA, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HAWTHORNE, MISS ADA, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HAYDEN, MISS ADA, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HAYDEN, MISS MAY, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

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HENDERSON, MISS ADA, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

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HENRY, MISS MAY, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HENRY, MISS VIOLET, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HERBERT, MISS ADA, Comedienne and Dancer. Vacant Dec. 19, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Empire, Hackney. Agents, Fortune and Granville

MR. JAMES SKEA, late "Captain Kettle" and "The Flood Tide" Tour. Dis. Spring. Care of Bennett, 1, North Claremont-street. Glasgow.

MR. A. GIFFORD STACEY at Liberty Early in March. Address, Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MR. HARRY A. STAFFORD Disengaged for Acting or Advance Management. Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. T. S. M'CAUSLAND STEWART. Address, 1, Farquhar-road, S.E. Resigned Membership Actors' Association.

MR. GEORGE STONE, Resident-Manager (Eleventh Year), Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. FRANC STONEY. Address, The Downs, Delgany, Co. Wicklow.

MR. WALLACE STRANACK, General Manager, "The Fatal Wedding" (North) Co. Dec. 26, Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness.

MR. CHARLES E. SUTTON, Bus. and Acting-Management, Char., Light Comedy, Aristocratic Old Men. Dis. 75, Walker-road, Harrogate.

MR. AUGUSTIN SYMONDS (and Miss KATE PARRY), Business-Manager, Milton Bode's "Whittington," Theatre Royal, Cardiff.

MR. ALGERNON SYMS Disengaged now, end of Tour. Disengaged. Permanent address, 3, Springdale-road, London, N

MR. TAPPING Disengaged. Parts and Stage-management. 28, Leyland-road, Lee, S.E.

MR. HODGSON TAYLOR. Address, Actors' Association, 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. and MRS. J. MILNE TAYLOR, "The Golden Ladder" Company. Address, Prince's Theatre, Accrington.

MR. FRED TERRISS Disengaged. Drama or Pantomime. 15, Thirsk-road, Clapham-junction, S.W.

MR. ALLEN THOMAS, Settled Christmas. Offers invited for March. Address, 74, Marlborough-flats, Walton-street, South Kensington.

MR. E. W. THOMAS, Returned from South Africa. At Liberty. 138, Elmhurst-mansions, Clapham; or, A.A.

MR. WALTER THORNTON, Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's Co. Dec. 26, Theatre Royal, Lincoln.

MR. FRANK TILSLEY. Arrangements Complete. Nelson House, Nelson-road, Chatham.

MR. GEORGE TRAILL Disengaged. Character Bus, Comedy, or Old Men. Address, 17, Manchester-street, Gray's-inn-road, W.C.

MR. J. HENRY TWYFORD, Christmas Season, Royalty Theatre, W., Every Evening.

MR. A. W. TYRER at Liberty. Letters, care of "The Era" Office.

MR. GEORGE UNWIN, Re-engaged by Tom H. Taylor, Esq., Dec. 26, Gaiety, Burnley.

MR. and MRS. EDWARD VAN BIENE (Miss Kate Hallam), Business-Manager and Mabel, "Broken Melody" Co. Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

MR. RICHARD VANE Concluded Sixteen Months, Philip Christian, "Manxman," Dis. Lead, Heavy. 1, High-street, Musselburgh, N.B.

MR. and MRS. CHAS. B. VAUGHAN (Miss M. Lewes) at Liberty. Mr Vaughan, "Sunday" Company, Theatre Royal, Blackburn.

MR. E. ST. CLAIRE VAYNE, Re-engaged by Mr Wm. Maclaren, Juvenile Lead. This, Pontypool.

MR. ALBERT VERNON Musical Director, C. St. John Denton's Hanley Pantomime.

MR. PERCY H. VERNON Disengaged. Character, Old Men, &c. Eversleigh, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

MR. FREDERICK VICTOR, Napoleon, "A Royal Divorce." Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

MR. and MRS. DOUGLAS VIGORS (Miss Lucy Beaumont). Address, 8, Bridge-avenue, Hammersmith.

MR. HAROLD E. WADELY Disengaged, Light Comedy, Boys, S.M., &c. 64, Alderney-street, S.W.

MR. ARTHUR WALCOTT Disengaged. Address, Alhambra Theatre, W.C.

MR. and MRS. CHRIS WALKER, Heartiest Christmas Greetings to All. Wyndham's Theatre, Special Five Weeks, "Peggy Machree."

MR. G. CARLTON WALLACE, General Management, Leading Business, at Liberty. Theatre Royal, Hull.

MR. HARRY WALSH, Mickey O'Dowd, Mr Arthur Hart's Co., "My Lady Molly." Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

MR. PERCY CARNE WARAM. Address, 24, Oxford-road, Ealing, W.

MR. ALBERT WARD, Lead, Specially Engaged for Christmas Production, Standard Theatre.

MR. W. LEMMON WARDE Disengaged. 47, Algiers-road, Ladywell, S.E.

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MR. ALFRED WAREING Disengaged. 10, King-street, Covent-garden, W.C.

MR. FRANK WEATHERSBY, Stage Director, Mrs Langtry's Season, Terry's Theatre. Letters, 22, Little Britain, City; or, "The Era."

MR. WYN WEAVER, Own Company at Crystal Palace Theatre. Disengaged Spring.

MR. C. A. WHITE Disengaged. Comedy, Character, or Pantomime. Address, Park House, Harewood-road, Merton, S.W.

MR. WILL WHITE, F.O.S., General Manager, Little and Darcy's "Forty Thieves," Grand, Falkirk.

MR. EDWIN WILDE Disengaged. Principal Character Parts, &c. Address, 78, Saltoun-road, Brixton, S.W.

MR. ALLAN WILKIE. Address, 28, Oxford-gardens, W.

MR. HERBERT WILLIAMS, Comedian, at Liberty. 30, Romberg-road, Upper Tooting, London.

MR. LEONARD WILLIAMS, Juvenile Lead. En route; or, the Blorenge, Taunton.

MR. BREMBER WILLS at Liberty. 37, Vardenz-road, St. John's-hill, S.W.; or, A.A.

MR. MILLAR WILSON, Xit (Comedy), "Fatal Crown." Termination of Tour, O. H., Leicester. Perm. address, Marsh-street, Lancaster.

MR. CHARLES WINDERMERE. Address, Occold, Eye, Suffolk.

MR. FRED WITHERS Disengaged. Character and Comedy. 13, Renmuir-street, Tooting, S.W.

MR. FRANK WITHERS Disengaged. Business-Management or Part. Address, A.A., 10, King-street, W.C.

MR. A. WOOD Address, 59, St. Mary's-road, Peckham, S.E.

MR. and MRS. GRAHAM WOODS (Miss Marie Robson). Leads. Good Offers invited. Address, 3A, Kender-street, New-cross, S.E.

MR. F. B. WOULFE as Charles II., Gloster, and Tom o' Coventry. Garrick Theatre, Hereford.

MR. EDWIN H. WYNNE, Comedy, Character-Singing Parts. Disengaged. 48, Portland-road, Holland-park, W.

MR. H. A. YOUNG. Address, A.A. (to be forwarded).

MISCELLANEOUS.

LITTLE MARIE AIDA DOWSING concluded Tour as Phyllis, "An Actor's Romance." Dis. C o.W. R. Brown, 10, Clarendon-gdns., Maida-vale, W.

MASTER CYRIL SMITH, as Geoffrey, in "Becket," with Sir Henry Irving. Address, 75, Strand, W.C.

P. P. P. (Theatrical Anecdotes.) All comms., Mr Pope Pax, 18, Trinity-road, Birmingham.

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NEVILLE'S PRIVATE DRAMATIC STUDIO, 524, OXFORD-STREET, W.—Patrons:—Sir Charles Wyndham, H. Beerbohm Tree, Esq.; E. S. Willard, Esq.; Cyril Maude, Esq.; F. Harrison, Esq., &c. Established by, and under the Personal Supervision of Mr HENRY NEVILLE. Thorough Practical Instruction for the Stage, Voice Production, Elocution, Gesture, and Performances. Lessons in Studio Theatre. Efficient Pupils Guaranteed Start in Profession. Address, the Principal, Mr G. R. Foss. Established 1878.

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STERLING MACKINLAY, M.A. of Savoy, Lyric Theatres (Pupil of Manuel Garcia), Trains Voices for Stage (Singing and Speaking). Pupils at Leading London Theatres. 153, CAMBRIDGE-ST., S.W.

MADAME SISMONDI (late of Denton's, 34, Maiden-lane), now Gives LESSONS in all Kinds of DANCING and STAGE DEPORTMENT, at 9, GREAT NEWPORT-ST., W.C. Private or Class Lessons and Speciality Dances arranged. Terms on application.

STAGE DANCING.—MISS LIZZIE MAYNARD—Established Ten Years—Teaches every description. Speciality, Cake-walk and Eccentric Dances. Ballets arranged. Pupils Trained for the Lyric and Variety Stage. Flat 2, OXFORD HOUSE, 87, GT. TITCHFIELD-STREET, OXFORD-STREET, W.

COUNTY COUNCIL AND AMUSEMENTS.

(SPECIALLY REPORTED FOR THE ERA.)

The usual weekly meeting of the London County Council was held on Tuesday at the County Hall, Spring-gardens.

LONDON COLISEUM.

The Theatres and Music Halls Committee reported that the Council on July 14, 1903, approved plans of the London Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, and on Nov. 25, 1904, granted a provisional licence for music and dancing in respect of the premises. The building was rapidly approaching completion and the committee had been informed that it was desired to open it on Dec. 19. They recommended "(a) That a certificate, under section 12 of the Metropolis Management and Building Acts Amendment Act, 1878, be sealed in respect of the London Coliseum, and that it be issued to the owner of the premises as soon as the chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee is satisfied that the work has been satisfactorily completed. (b) That the provisional licence for music and dancing in respect of the London Coliseum be confirmed."

In reply to Sir A. WEST, Mr GREENWOOD said the certificate for the Coliseum would be ready for the opening of that building on Saturday. The delay which had taken place was not due to the Council, but to other matters connected with the scenery. Mr Stoll had endeavoured to meet the wishes of the Council in every way.

LYCEUM THEATRE.

The Council on March 29, 1904, approved plans showing the reconstruction of the Lyceum Theatre, Wellington-street, Strand, and on Nov. 25 granted a provisional licence for music and dancing in respect of the premises. The work was now approaching completion, and the committee had been informed that it was desired to open the premises on Dec 26. They recommended "(a) That a certificate in respect of the Lyceum Theatre be sealed, and that it be issued to the owner of the premises as soon as the chairman of the Theatres and Music Halls Committee is satisfied that the work has been satisfactorily completed. (b) That the provisional licence for music and dancing in respect of the Lyceum Theatre be confirmed."

NEW THEATRE, SHAFTESBURY-AVENUE.

The committee reported that they had considered plans, submitted by Mr W. G. R Sprague, of a theatre proposed to be erected at the junction of Shaftesbury-avenue and Rupert-street. The site does not strictly comply with the regulations, as only one-tenth abuts on to a street of 40ft. in width instead of one-sixth as required, but in other respects the site is a good one. The proposed building is shown to have seating accommodation for 1,144 persons, and the exit accommodation is sufficient according to the present regulations of the Council for a certain number of persons to stand. The committee had, however, under consideration, at the present time, the question of standing in places of public entertainment, and they thought that for the present the number of persons which this theatre should be regarded as accommodating should be the number for which seats have been provided. The committee recommended "That Mr W. G. R. Sprague be informed that, provided the work shown on the eleven plans, dated Nov. 30, submitted by him with regard to a building to be erected at the junction of Shaftesbury-avenue and Rupert-street is commenced within six months, the Council will be prepared to grant a certificate under section 12 of 41 and 42 Vict., cap. 32, to the owner of such building, on being satisfied that the premises have been completed in accordance with the plans referred to and the regulations of the Council, and that the following conditions have been complied with:—That the ventilation be so arranged that in case of fire on the stage the products of combustion would be drawn away from the audience. That a 2in. pipe connected to the hydrants, shown on both sides of the stage, be carried up into the flies to hydrants provided with 1½in. outlets and all necessary hose and fittings. That all hydrants with the exception of those in the flies be fitted with bib-cocks for filling buckets. That a drawing showing the construction and gearing of the fire curtain be submitted for the Council's approval. That all check boxes be recessed. That the Council's regulations with regard to notices, door fastenings, gas fittings, lighting, heating, &c., be complied with."

OLYMPIA.

The Council on July 12, 1904, approved plans of the arrangements proposed for an exhibition of motor cars to be held at Olympia, Hammersmith, in February, 1905. The committee had since considered plans submitted by Mr F. H. Payne, and a letter, dated Dec. 7, 1904, from Mr T. F. Woodfine, secretary of the society promoting the exhibition, showing certain alterations proposed to be made in the arrangements. They recommended "That Mr F. H. Payne be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two plans, dated Nov. 15, 1904, submitted by him as amended by the proposals contained in the letter, dated Dec. 7, 1904, from Mr T. F. Woodfine, with regard to the proposed alterations to the stands in connection with the motor exhibition to be held at Olympia, provided the conditions attached to the approval of the plans on July 12, 1904, be carried out.

ROYAL MUSIC HALL.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Messrs F. Matcham and Co., showing alterations proposed to be made at the Royal Music Hall, Holborn, in order to give effect to the Council's suggestions for the improvement of the premises. The plans show almost an entire replanning and reconstruction of the premises. The arrangements appeared to be satisfactory, and the committee recommended "That Messrs F. Matcham and Co., be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the six plans, dated Oct. 25, 1904, as amended by the plan, dated Dec. 5, 1904, submitted by them with regard to the proposed alterations at the Royal Music Hall, provided the following conditions be complied with:—(1) That a suitable exhaust cowl be provided in connection with the ventilation of the stage. (2) That the proposed means of escape from the flies, which are unsatisfactory, be altered to the satisfaction of the Council."

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

The committee had considered plans, submitted by Mr C. T. Helmsley, showing the conversion of the stalls lavatory at St. James Theatre into a refreshment bar, and recommended "That Mr C. T. Helmsley be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on the two plans, dated Nov. 25th, 1904, submitted by him with regard to the proposed alteration, provided the door to the lavatory in question be rehung on the exit side of the passage, be made to close with the outgoing stream of traffic, and be made self-closing."

TERRY'S THEATRE.

The committee had considered plans submitted by Messrs Fladgate and Co., showing how it is proposed to give effect to the Council's suggestions for the improvement of Terry's Theatre, Strand, and recommended "That Messrs Fladgate and Co. be informed that the Council has no objection to the arrangements shown on three plans, dated Oct. 26, 1904, submitted by them with regard to the proposed alterations, provided the Council's regulations with regard to heating and electric lighting be complied with."

All the above recommendations were agreed to.

The Council at its rising adjourned for the Christmas recess.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS v. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Dec. 17. Harry Hare was still unable to assist his club through illness. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding, goal; A. Hamlin (captain) and A. Cox, backs; S. Carter, S. Richards, and W. Miller, half-backs; J. Aubrey, H. Clements, E. Belding, H. Edwards, and E. Bowman, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; G. Robbins and J. Tyley, backs; T. Neagle (captain), J. Lacey, and W. Hinder, half-backs; G. Anstey, P. Reardon, A. Osborne, B. Cullen, and F. Hansford, forwards.

Referee, T. Austin (Bristol X.L.C.R. 2nd A.F.C.). Linesmen, A. E. Bailey and W. Meadows. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Music Halls Athletic Clubs, one goal; Music Halls A.F.C., three goals. S. Carter, J. Lacey, P. Reardon, and G. Anstey scored the goals for their respective sides.

IN the Court of Appeal, on Tuesday, the plaintiff in the case Hickman v. Seal and Hoffman appealed from a decision of the Lord Chief Justice. The facts were, shortly, that the defendant Hoffman entered into an agreement with the Brighton Marine Palace and Pier Company to take the theatre at the end of the pier for one year. In that venture he was financed by the defendant Seal. The season proved unsuccessful, and as the rent for the second half of the year was not forthcoming, the Company entered and took possession of the theatre. The Company alleged that under the agreement the defendant Hoffman was liable to them to pay for extra electric light, gas, and water, which had been used over and above a standard quantity in the theatre, which they said amounted to £46 11s., and while the question of Hoffman's liability to pay this was being discussed, the theatre was re-let to the plaintiff Hickman, and, for reasons not here material, it was agreed that Hickman should discharge the debt owed by Hoffman to the Pier Company, and should take an assignment of it from them. This was done, and the plaintiff gave notice of the assignment both to Hoffman and to Seal, who declined to recognise their liability. The action was then brought against both defendants, it being alleged that they were partners in the venture. To the claim Seal denied that there was any partnership between himself and Hoffman, and it was further contended that, as in the document purporting to be an assignment the debt was described as being due from Hoffman without reference to Seal, the plaintiff's right to recover was against Hoffman only. In the court below the Lord Chief Justice held that the assignment was invalid as failing to meet the requirements of Section 97 of the Companies Clauses Act 1845. He, therefore, entered judgment for the defendants. The Court held that the action was not maintainable on the assignment, and they dismissed the appeal with costs.

"FROM THE LAND OF SILENCE."

A Spiritualistic Play, in Four Acts, by Lloyd Clarance and Dugald Moore, for the First Time on any Stage, at the New Theatre, Consett, on Monday, Dec. 19.

Squire Burton	Mr J. T. SYMINGTON
Dr. Smalley	Mr H. M'NAIR
Jack Hillaby	Mr J. B. ROBSON
Selwyn Towers	Mr JAMES DAVIS
Dr. Julius Marx	Dr. DUGALD MOORE
Peter Popple	Mr JOHN HESLINGTON
Timothy Trout	Mr TOM BELL
Polly	Mrs LLOYD CLARANCE
Grace Burton	Miss ADA COULTHARD
Blanche Herriott	Miss MELENE DARE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Land of Silence, produced on Monday night on the occasion of the eighth annual benefit of Mr and Mrs Lloyd Clarance, is a drama of intense interest. The plot hinges on a solemn compact entered into by two firm friends, Lieut. Hillaby and Selwyn Towers. "We promise that whichever of us two be called from earth into that unknown Land of Silence shall, if it be within his power, listen for the call of his comrade in great peril, and aid him in his hour of need." These two friends have each withheld one secret from the other, and that is their love for Grace Burton, the daughter of Squire Burton. The squire is dangerously ill, and is being attended by Dr. Marx, who is also a professed hypnotist and spiritualist, and when Hillaby tells Selwyn that he is going to ask Grace to become his wife, Selwyn's honour to his friend makes him resolve that Hillaby shall never know that he also loved her. Dr. Marx has gained a thorough power over Squire Burton by his hypnotic influence, and is also hastening his death by means of a deadly poison in his medicine, his intention being to compel the squire to consent to his marriage with Grace, and then by the squire's death gain command over his wealth. Grace, however, really loves Selwyn Towers, but, as he does not speak—to save herself from a union with Dr. Marx—she consents to marry Lieut. Hillaby. Dr. Marx now tries to incite the jealousy of Hillaby against Selwyn and Grace, but without success. The doctor's spiritualistic medium, Miss Blanche Herriott, with the assistance of Peter, a page in service of the doctor, substitutes a harmless decoction for the poisoned medicine, and, to the surprise of Dr. Marx, the squire speedily recovers. Lieut. Hillaby meets with a severe accident whilst hunting. Dr. Marx informs Grace there is only one way of saving his life—by hypnotic means—and that, owing to the lieutenant's weak state, can only be conveyed through a medium. It must be tried immediately, or it will be too late. The doctor persuades Grace to consent to act as the medium, and hypnotises her, although he feels his power over her is not thoroughly complete. He then gives her a bottle of poison, the contents of which she pours into a glass at his request, and is about to give it to Lieut. Hillaby, when she is startled by the loud ringing of a bell. She partially recovers herself, puts the poison on the table, and hastily leaves the room. The doctor, however, immediately gives Hillaby the poison, and retires behind the curtains of the French windows as Selwyn Towers enters. He has noticed the strange, dazed appearance of Grace, who has just left the room. He goes to speak to Hillaby, but to his horror finds him dead. Towers discovers the poison bottle on the table, and hastily puts it in his pocket as Dr. Marx enters from behind the curtains. A scene of most absorbing interest follows, in which the doctor manages to weave a chain of circumstantial evidence around Selwyn Towers, whom he accuses of the murder of Lieut. Hillaby. In this predicament Selwyn Towers remembers his compact with his friend, and calls on him for its fulfillment, and in a breathless silence, which could almost be felt, the vision of Lieut. Hillaby appears, and points out Dr. Marx as his murderer.

As Dr. Marx Dr. Dugald Moore gave a masterly interpretation of the part, which is an especially strong character study; Mr Jas. Davis as Selwyn Towers was also most excellent; Squire Burton was capably presented by Mr J. T. Symington; Mr J. B. Robson as Lieut. Hillaby played with admirable taste and skill; and Mr M'Nair was also most successful as Dr Smalley. As Grace Burton Miss Ada Coulthard displayed great histrionic ability, playing with much charm. Miss Melene Dare as the spiritualistic medium, Blanche Herriott, was responsible for a clever and forcible delineation. There is plenty of comedy in the play. Mrs Lloyd Clarance proved herself thoroughly at home in the part of Polly, and succeeded, in conjunction with Timothy (Mr Tom Bell) and Peter (Mr John Heslington), in evoking much laughter. The piece was finely staged, Mr John Preston providing the capital new scenery and the spectral effects were admirably carried out. The play was produced by Mr Lloyd Clarance. Mr Conrad Klee wrote the incidental music.

SCENIC ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the council management of the Scenic Artists' Association has been convened for Wednesday evening next, the 28th inst., at eight o'clock, at the offices, 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, for the purposes of considering:—

(a) The offer of the American scene painters to contribute to the Scenic Artists' Association's Exhibition at the Grafton Galleries in April next, and also an offer to transfer the London exhibition to New York at a later date.

(b) For the election as honorary members of London theatrical managers who have promised to support the exhibition by loans of models, sketches, and photographs of scenes, and have graciously given their permission to artistes under their management to appear at the exhibition.

(c) For the election of new ordinary members.

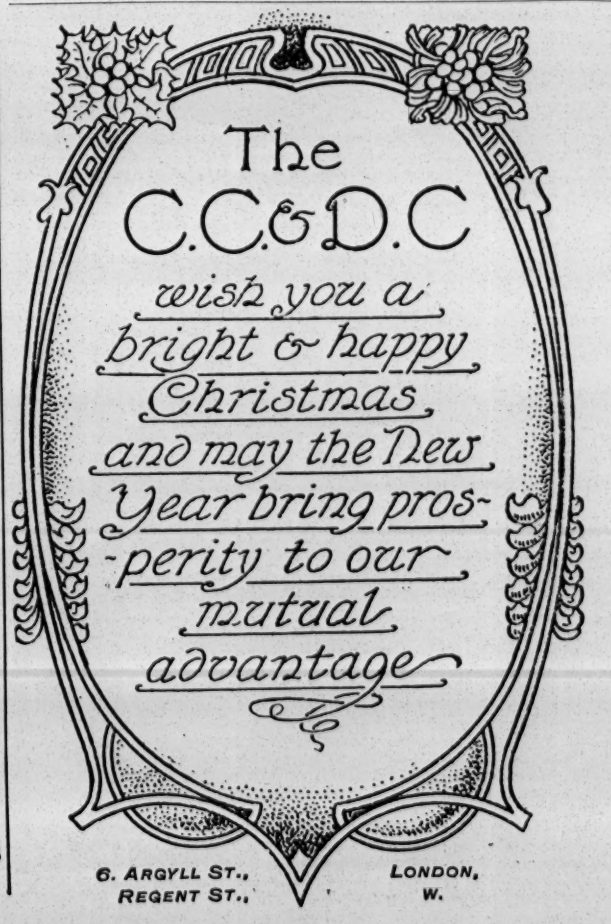
(d) To consider the report of Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., the honorary secretary to the Benevolent Fund Dinner, as regards the arrangements made for holding the same and the advertising thereof, &c.

(e) To consider the question of opening the exhibition on the evenings of April 10 to 15, and also of taking the Grafton Galleries for a longer period than at present arranged.

The annual general meeting of the members of the association will take place at the Caledonian Hotel, Robert-street, Adelphi, at 8·0 o'clock on Monday, Jan. 9, and the meeting will be followed by a smoking concert, under the direction of Mr Denham Harrison, and the following well-known artistes have already promised to appear, viz:—Kopski, the celebrated classical pianist, now at the Tivoli Music Hall; Mr Lewis Blackburn, the vocalist; Mr Joe Willis, in character songs; Mr Vernon Cowper, baritone; Mr Geo. R. Hemsley, Mr J. H. Bentham, raconteur; and Miss Adelene Votieri, in a sketch at the pianoforte, and Miss Daphne De Roban, mandoline solos. Mr J. Athel Collings has been engaged as accompanist.

The first annual dinner of the association in aid of the Benevolent Fund will be held at the Imperial Restaurant, Regent-street, at 8·0 o'clock on Sunday evening, Feb. 19, 1905, when the chair will be taken by Sir Lawrence Alma Tadema, R.A. In compliance with the request of the Dinner Sub-Committee Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., has kindly consented to act as honorary secretary to the Benevolent Fund dinner, and he is securing a long list of gentlemen well known in artistic and theatrical circles to act as stewards on this occasion.

We are asked to state that a limited number of season tickets for the association's exhibition at the Grafton Galleries, Bond-street, April 10 to 15, 1905, will be issued at 5s. each, to include admission to the private Press view, the opening ceremony and daily thereafter, and can now be obtained from the secretary of the association, Mr H. Lawrence Harris, at 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.



PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

NOTICE.—Our Correspondents are requested to note that Next Week their Reports must reach this Office AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. *Plots of Pantomimes must be kept short.*

ABERDEEN.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; Acting-Manager, Mr H. C. Cavanah.—Mr Milton Bode's pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*, has now successfully entered on its second week. All the rough corners have been smoothed away, and the performance runs with dispatch from start to finish. A good deal of new and attractive "business" has been introduced by the principal players. Miss Ernestine Desborough sings with much charm a Japanese song, "Little Yo-San," which possesses a very pretty chorus. Miss Veronica Brady continues a prime favourite with the audiences, her acting and singing alike being most artistic and enjoyable. Mr Ernest Sefton (the Baron) has a new song, "Seven and sixpence," which is exceedingly amusing, and Mr Frank Couch (Buttons) and Mr W. P. Sheen (the Dame) score with a clever topical duet. Messrs Woodhouse and Wells (Gentle George and Cheerful Charles) show themselves to be comedians of infinite resource, and Mr Harry Douglas's Village Beadle is an exceptionally humorous presentation. The dancing of the Sisters Morgan continues to be a main attraction of the pantomime, and it should be added that Miss Mabel Murray sings most pleasantly in the part of the Good Fairy. All the members of the company work hard to make the performance a success, and that they do so is testified by the crowded houses. Mr Wellings skilfully conducts the orchestra, with Mr Loseby as leader. Mr Hugh Nolan, for Mr Milton Bode, and Mr Cavanagh are the courteous and capable "men on the spot."

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Ernest Sheldon.—The Dayton Family make a great sensation with their feet and hand-balancing turn, and Mdlle. Magna appears in a number of striking classical statuary poses. Messrs Vasey and Ramsey contribute some very good dancing, in particular a very cleverly performed duo-cake-walk on a sand-mat; and the Laurets provide an exceptionally smart exhibition of acrobatic feats. Allis and Cassatti, as usual, appear with unqualified success, and Clarke's clever nippers are as popular as on former appearances. The other artists, who are all appreciated by the large audiences, are Mr Leslie, descriptive vocalist; Vendome and Chase, dancers and duettists; and Roden, trick cyclist. The popular Bioscope exhibition of pictures winds up the programme.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—*The Priest of the Temple* is the attraction here. Mr Charlet March, the author, is effective in the part of Valerius. An excellent performance is that of Mr Ronald Byne as Decus Fronto; Appius Herdonius is a clever impersonation by Mr Henry Moxon; Mr Whit Rogerson as Alertious is full of humour; the Polita of Miss Evelyn Hope is a clever performance; and Miss North, an old favourite here, gives a scholarly reading of Præstantia.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Clarence Sounes; Resident-Manager, Mr George E. Williams.—Joseph Poole's Myriorama is the attraction here this week, the performance having been brought up to date with new pictures of recent events, Mr Nat Abbatt being lecturer. There are many special attractions, too, in the side-show line, one of the foremost being the clever expert cycle riding of the Westwoods. Mdlle. Orbasany's performing cockatoos are also wonderfully good, and their work reflects high praise on the trainer. Others who help materially are the Veronas, lady dancers; Mr Felix Somers, facial king; and Miss May Finch, vocalist. A series of animated picture, is also shown. Joseph Poole's band, under Mr Hilton, performs a good selection of music.

ALTRINCHAM.

NEW PAVILION OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Budd, Howe, and Taylor; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Gilman.—The bill of this week is headed by Mdlle. Sarti, in her statue act. Fred and Florence Budd, the vaudeville artists, receive a popular welcome after a lengthy absence. The other turns are the Toy Trio, comedy sketch artistes, with dog Rover; Godfrey Pariss, Frank Zara, Eddie Howe, comedians; Katie Kemp, comedienne and dancer; and Clair Ingham, comedienne.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Chas. Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Fairbairn.—Mr T. Arthur Jones and a cleverly selected company of dramatic artistes are filling in the final week before the revels of the Christmas pantomime are introduced. The drama being presented is entitled *Life's Sweetest Sins*, by W. A. Brabner. Mr T. Arthur Jones's Captain Marston is an excellent study, courageous and finished to a high degree; Mr A. Bartlett Garth as Dr. Colbrooke is the cunning, self-contained, and bold man of the world; Messrs Geo. R. J. Austin and C. Vernon Proctor are well cast as the minor villains. Miss Madge Morley sustains the part of the heiress, Doreen Rivers, with much charm; Miss Amy Rudd as the doctor's daughter plays the part of a guardian angel with rare sweetness and admirable spirit; and the undercurrent of humour is supplied by Mr Fred Russell and Miss Sara Dudley.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Charles Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr L. Campkin.—This week's bill is headed by the world-renowned handcuff king and jail breaker, Hanco, the modern Jack Sheppard. He astounds his audience by the facility with which he escapes from the policeman's wrist-fetters. Another turn of exceptional merit is that of the Belmont Troupe of champion trick and motor cyclists racing round an eleven feet track, a wonderful and daring feat. Other notable engagements for the week are Fred Melton, the droll comedian and expert dancer; Sandy and Carl, acrobatic knockabouts and burlesque boxers; Guy Rider, the boy whistler; the Jetneys, the dainty coloured comedians and dancers, in eccentric Negro melodies; the Elktrones, comedy cyclists; Lottie Siegenburg, a vocalist of skill; and Baker Belphor, the favourite baritone, in descriptive songs. Some up-to-date pictures are shown on the canvas by the Bioscope.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr W. Leech.—The new Empire, a brilliantly lighted and cosily cushioned hall, continues to be an attraction to pleasure seekers. This week's programme includes the astounding feats of Brinn, which he terms "Pastimes on a Battleship." One of his startling feats of strength is balancing on his chin a complete carriage and gun while firing. Special scenery and effects are used in the performance of Brinn. This nerve-tingling performance is followed by other clever feats by Valosky, in his acrobatic skating act, a remarkable expert and nimble wheeler. The Herslebs are wonder-working aerial comedians; Amy Anderson and Company appeal to lovers of serio-comic ditties, accompanied and illustrated by character sketch impersonations; Louis Murray takes the crowd with patter and songs; George Edney is a good character comedian; Otto and Olga perform cleverly in a novel musical act; Percy Farrimond challenges attention as the Lancashire singing collier; Max Gruber with his trained elephant and horse gives a good animal exhibition of sports in the Indian fashion; and Mdlle. Florence, the Queen of the Globe, shows her expert footing of the rolling ball. The pictures of animated nature conclude the entertainment.

ATTERCLIFFE.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr W. Massey Baker.—The appointment of Mr J. Lacy Lyne as manager here is, by reason of his long and varied experience, a sufficient guarantee that the patrons of this popular house will be well catered for and their comfort studied in every way. An excellent array of talent is provided this week. The Seltina Troupe of lady and gentlemen acrobats go through a very pleasing show; Lilian Travellie is an acceptable ballad vocalist; Bessie Travis, lady ventriloquist, manipulates several figures with skill; the Livettes are a couple of smart chair vaulters and tumblers; the Two Countees (Charlie and Marion), humorous duettists, receive well-merited applause for their singing; Sam Dalton causes much laughter by his quaint character songs; Cribb and Cribb introduce amusing patter, singing and dancing in their burlesque, *After the Ball*. The programme is completed by the Sylvester Brothers, who do some clever work as hand-balaacers and equilibrists.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Messrs Little and Darcy opened their pantomime season here on Saturday evening with *The Forty Thieves*, written by Mr Frank Ayrton, music composed and arranged by Mr Geo. D. Fox. The entire pantomime was produced by Mr Fred J. Little, and when it is said that the opening performance went without a hitch, we give no mean praise to Mr Little. There are several very clever people in the pantomime, and they enter into the spirit of the thing with great gusto, and so long as that spirit is kept up the pantomime is bound to succeed. Abdallah, the captain of the "Forty," has a gallant and shapely representative in Miss Minnie Silcott, while her sisters, Violet and Marie, take the parts of Ganem, Ali Baba's son, and Morgiana, Ali's slave, respectively, and to this gifted trio is due a great measure of the success of the pantomime. Their singing was much appreciated and vigorously encored. Ali Baba had a nimble exponent in Mr Dan Edgar, who extracted a good deal of fun out of the part, but the palm was carried off by Mr James Ferguson as Ali's wife Cogia, who was particularly happy in the character, and danced and sang with great vim. Mr Ted Wootton as Cassim acted well, but sang a deal better, for he possesses a fine and carefully-trained voice, which was heard to advantage in his cave song. The fun and frolics of Hasarac and Hasadric, Ali's lieutenants, were excellent, and caused no end of amusement; while Bossi, the donkey of Mr Ernest Brown, was most appropriately ludicrous. The dancing of the Tivoli Quartet; and the burlesque acrobatic act by the Three Woodbee Wonders were very clever and provocative of much merriment. The dresses were pretty, and reflect nothing but credit on Miss M. Bramley and Miss Ada M'Donald; while the scenery from the brush of Mr Alfred Wyatt was admirable.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—There is an excellent combination of variety talent here this week. Miss Ella heads the list with her performing lions, and gives an exciting performance. Rice and Rudge, trick cyclists, do some amusing and skilful feats. Messrs Dwight and Son are responsible for some expert dancing. Miss Sivado proves herself a clever gymnast. Miss Florrie Claribell gives a good exhibition as a top-boot dancer. Spangeletti's circus of trained dogs and ponies meets with a favourable reception, and some good pictures are given on the New Court Bioscope.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—This week Messrs Dottridre and Longden's company in *A Woman's Pluck* occupies the boards here. Mr James Willard plays with effect as Dick Darrell; Sir Noel Fordyce is well presented by Mr Charles P. Wentworth; Mr J. P. Dryden acquits himself with distinction in the double rôle of Mark Scanlan and Jim Daremont; Matthew Pope is a capital impersonation by Mr William Hayward; Mr Cecil Raymond is a clever Sir John Daredevil; and Winston Dale is made the most of by Mr Edward E. Ashby. Miss East Robertson gives a powerful impersonation of Grace Daremont; Jessie Pope is excellently portrayed by Miss Jessie Yatman; and minor parts are well taken by Mr Harry Emmerson, Miss Tina Shaw, Miss Agnese D'Aragon, and Miss Sarah Smith.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—The Mitchell and Belton company in *The Conscript* is here this week. The rôle of Karl Truevitch is admirably presented by Mr George Mitchell, who plays with great dramatic effect. Mr Howell Travis makes a capital Ivan Manloff. Mr John Belton puts some quaint humour into the part of Dor Doggervitch. Mr Harry Tilbury is good as Tretch Torloff, and Miss Mary Dawson scores as Nadia Truevitch.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Stage-Manager, Mr Tom Whiting.—Signor Pepi, who is here this week, is always well received, and his performances are applauded to the echo. Serra is something quite new as an equilibrist. Casselli and James, the banjoists, give a successful turn, and receive a well merited encore. The Lorrisons have some exceedingly funny patter. Hannah and Jones give a very good show as foot equilibrists. Mr George Hartshorn has made a great hit with his topical songs. Four Jolly Boys, clog dancers, give promise of a very successful future. The Baron Comedy Four are well received.

BATH.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—An important item in the current programme is the latest Biograph film, "Whirling the Worlds." Madame Collard's highly trained boarhounds, made up to represent lions and tigers, present a clever act. Chas. Coverdale, a really sound comedian, scores his usual success, his new songs and gags proving quite as good as anything he has previously done. Frank Sylvo, the quaint comedy juggler, remains as mirth-provoking and smart as ever. The Wynford Brothers jump in and out of barrels with surprising skill, their efforts meeting with loud applause. R. W. Russell, in his impersonation of Dickens's characters, commands attention. Billy Hubbard, comedian, rattles off some new and jokes. Mr Fred Leslie again occupies his old position as conductor in succession to Mr Reano, and pilots the band through a couple of lively selections with good results.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—This week the boards are occupied by Mr and Mrs William Giffard's company in *The World's Desire*, by Barry Williams. Mr William Giffard as the Hon. Ellis Tridley undertook his difficult rôle in a clever manner; Mrs William Giffard is well suited to the part of Dora Mutley; Mr Clifford Rean displays histrionic ability in the dual rôle of the twin brothers; Mr George Child submits a clever impersonation of the solicitor, Nathaniel Mutley; Mr Herbert Light realistically portrays the character of Godstone Clair; Mr Charles Rogers and Miss Frances Bruce are responsible for the humour in the representations of Washington Dobbs and Justerina Hook respectively; a sweet portrayal of Helen Buckshaw is given by Miss Ella Seton; and Miss Alberte impersonates Ragged Jack with due understanding.

BELFAST.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—Mr Paul Martinetti's American pantomime company repeat their immense success of last week with *A Terrible Night*. Paul as Benjamin Roque keeps the audience in roars of laughter with his irresistibly humorous impersonation, and a character sketch which is certainly very clever is that of Michel, the waiter, by Mr John Heard. Other rôles are finely sustained, and the piece has been a great draw. The wire-walking display of Hector is remarkably smart, and his unique hoop manipulation is loudly and deservedly applauded. Grant and Grant, the "American Octoroons," sing and dance in the best possible style, and their reception has been extremely flattering. Grant and Allen are an accomplished comedy duo, and the new Palace Pictures are a great attraction. Mr Walter Black, comedian, completes the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—Mr Herman Melot is the star here this week, and his clever conjuring feats have been enthusiastically received. The comedy act supplied by Gallagher and Hild, which is always entertaining, has met with a deserved reception, and prolonged applause greets the dancing display of Miss Bijou Russell. Mr Tom Stuart is a character actor of exceptional ability, his impersonations being splendidly realised. A warm greeting has been extended to Mr Walter Munroe, the favourite Irish comedian, whose songs and witticisms are always up to date. Mr Munroe is in his best form. The harp solos of Pia Caroxzi command success, and the sweet ballad vocalism of that gifted songstress Miss Sybil St. Elmo delights all. Also appearing are Sid Doody and Miss Edie Wright, comedians, who made a big hit on Monday; and Cline and Clark, the favourite comedy duo, whose dancing is very smart.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—Barton and Ashley are paying a return visit here, and this exceedingly humorous and versatile duo are accorded a warm reception nightly. Mr Barney Stuart is wonderfully clever in his various realistic impersonations. The comedy cycling act by the Walter Arleys is one of the features of the bill, and the surprisingly realistic impersonations of stars by Mr Harry Bent gain him deserved encores. A capital ventriloquial act is furnished by Mr Bert Williams, and the talented eccentric comedians and dancers, Hart and Rudd, take immensely. Miss Ethel Yorke is a good comedienne, and an attractive act has been supplied by Claron Brothers, comedians and dancers.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS.—Proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco; General Manager, Mr Irving Bosco; Assistant-Manager, Mr Geo. Dobler.—Another fine bill is here, and the praise bestowed on Messrs Bosco and Dobler for their capital programmes is in every sense deserved. A leading attraction is provided by the Schaffers, whose wonderful acrobatic feats have created quite a sensation. Mr Alf Berg's weight-lifting is a prominent feature, his remarkable performance being loudly cheered nightly. A splendid exhibition of dancing has been contributed by the Hennessy troupe, and the feats of acrobatism displayed by the Moxon Family are positively startling. The Sloan Family of equestrians continue their eminently satisfactory engagement here, and the act provided Mr C. E. Stelling is decidedly good. The Animated Pictures exhibited are quite a feature, and other items include Casselly, in his pot-pourri act; Funny Burgess, and Princess Annie, the graceful and accomplished comedienne.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—The New Century Company's animated pictures have been transferred from the Royal, and attract large audiences.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke.—The Kremo Troupe of acrobats in their Risley act worthily head the company, and give a performance of surprising excellence. The Nelson Newsboys' Quintet are deservedly great favourites, and the Daunton-Shaw Troupe of trick cyclists furnish an attractive turn. Miss Sable Fern, comedienne, is on a welcome return visit. Captain Slingsby, an expert ventriloquist, is cordially received, and Dezmonti and Mora, on the horizontal bar; Mr Fred Land, comedian; Mr Ted Cowan, comedian; Miss Ivy Graham, comedienne; and Mr Harry Glynn's sketch company complete the programme.

BIRMINGHAM.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*The Sporting Girl*, introduced by Messrs Perry and Stanton's company, proves a happy blend of comedy, opera, and drama. The plot contains many amusing situations, and the artistes are most capable. Mr T. Gilbert Perry as Mr Penton Hook of Chicago is a leading spirit in the success, and Miss Maggie Stanton as the music hall artiste, Kitty Fitzroy, "a sporting girl, acts and sings in a piquant manner. Mr Charles Sanders as Jack Garling, and Miss Elvira Stuart as Amy Beddoe gains a meed of success, and Messrs H. Bolton, Marcus Grey, Jas. H. Sterling, and the Misses Marjorie Tennant, Gladys St. Ledger, Jennie Hackett, and Betsy Brownlie win the highest encomiums.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*The Grip of Iron* is once more the attraction here. Mr Fred Powell still lends his aid by appearing in his weird and powerful impersonation of the man monster, Jagon; and Miss Georgie De Lara shines with her accustomed success as Cora. Miss Nelly Navarro plays Sophie Blanchard with much charm. Mr Geo. Denham as the finally exonerated Paul is much admired; Mr Harry Agar-Lyons is successful as the detective; Mr J. Wilton Richards acts well as the infamous Lorentz De Ribas; Miss Hilda Baynton gains sympathy as Marie Guerin; and Mr Charles Conway is popular as "the Smiler."

BRADFORD.

EMPIRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited.—Charles R. Sweet, the "musical burglar," in his original, clever, and very diverting entertainment has had a fine reception here this week; and Tschernoff's cleverly trained animals are extending their stay, and again delighting the audience; the comedy turn by the Sakers is much enjoyed; and M'Phee and Hill contribute a capital triple horizontal-bar performance. Turns by Charles Adams, comedian; and Little Uno, boy comedian, are very acceptable. The Lukushima Troupe of Japanese equilibrists give a most effective, clever, and original performance; Morris and Morris are very amusing acrobatic grotesques. A new sketch, viz., *Lord Harkaway*, presented by Mr F. Maxwell and a full company, which includes Mr Roy Cochrane, contains, amongst many exciting incidents, a realistic "Glove Fight to a Finish;" and there are some fine pictures shown by the Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. E. Berry.—Harry Tate and his company are here again with their amusing skit on the motoring craze, and Clarke and Argyle, pipers and dancers, submit a good turn. J. H. M'Cann's roller-skating and comedy are acceptable items; juggling and conjuring by the Javalans is original in its way and very clever; Charles Bowker, "the singing cobbler," has a musical voice; Mons. Reklaw (assisted by Mdlle. Minetta) on the rolling globe gives an expert performance; Comical Walker, with his amateur acrobats, provides a lot of fun; George Foyle is good in character vocalism; and Permane's educated Siberian bears, in a sensational performance, are a wonderful example of animal training.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—This week *The New Mephisto* is paying a farewell visit. Mr Albert Weston appears in a number of characters, and is the life and soul of the piece; Mr Willie H. Vernon gives a clever representation of Dick Pilgrim; Mr Herbert St. John is sufficiently inane as Lord Hummingtop; Mr Clarence Lindon as Captain Meredith and Mr Arthur Randal as Major Bantem are both good. Miss Nellie Burdette as Dolly sings and dances in a delightful manner, and the three widows are played by Miss Dorothy Cecil, Miss Leah Howard, and Miss Lilian Gregory. The Thalian Glee Singers also appear.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—This week *In the Shadow of Night* is being played by Mr James Willard's company, with Mr Hamilton Deane in the principal part.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Macnaghten; Business-Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—The bill this week includes "Dida;" the Wiltons, comedy bar performers; Usk, magician; Ada Fawn, burlesque artiste; the Marconis, in their electrical exhibition; Ian Colquhoun, baritone vocalist; the Langdons, song illustrators; Miss Raffin's monkey troupe; and Friscari, hat manipulator.

BLACKPOOL.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—A strong bill is presented here this week. G. H. Elliott, the chocolate-coloured coon, wins great popularity. The Eight Lancashire Lads, vocalists and dancers, are also well received. Other turns are given by Dolly Harmer, comedienne; Phil Herman, character comedian; George Prince, "the crazy comic;" the Carlyles, Spanish and acrobatic waltz dancers; Herbert La Martine, bâton manipulator; Alice Maple, comedienne; and Zeta Grey and company appear in a sketch.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Signor Pepi and Co.—Tennison and Wallis, a couple of excellent comedians, are warmly welcomed here this week. Weiland, the juggler, gives some clever tricks, that are both amazing and amusing. Other contributors are Vands, on the rolling globe; Lily Currie, vocalist; Julian Mack, comedian; La Belle Tosca, in a graceful wire performance; Senorita Eleonora, an expert gymnast; and the Sisters Lytton, duettists.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Hermann.—Mr Leslie Norman's company is appearing here this week in the musical comedy *A Trip to Chinatown*. Miss Bertha Cadman makes a sprightly Mrs Guyer, and Miss Daisy Revett is pert as Flirt, Mrs Guyer's maid. Mr Charles Seguin is humorous as Mr Welland Strong, and Mr Jerrold Manville and Mr Leslie Norman are clever as Ben Gay and Rashleigh Gay. Miss Harriet Fawn and Mr Charles Seguin appear in act three in the scene "Tramps in Trampland," and the Three Canadian Belles are seen in their latest success.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Kenyon.—The members of the Bolton Amateur Operatic Society are this week giving their eleventh annual performances in aid of local charities, the Chinese musical comedy *San Toy* being produced, by the kind permission of Mr George Edwardes. The gorgeous dresses have been supplied by the firm of B. J. Simmons and Co., London, at a cost of £500. The augmented orchestra is under the conductorship of Mr H. F. Pacey. The chorus is an excellent one. Miss Mary Brown in the title-rôle wins hearty plaudits by her charming and clever acting and artistic singing; Miss May Morris as Dudley acts cleverly, and is warmly applauded for her rendering of "Rhoda and her Pagoda;" Miss Annie Brown has a pleasing stage presence and sings sweetly as Poppy; Miss Annie Worsley sings well as Yung Shi; and Miss Florence Dummer as Trixie gracefully dances a *pas seul* in act two. Mr J. Broughton as the wily Chinaman Li convulses the house by his admirable drollery all the time he is on the stage, and Mr L. H. Johnson is no less humorous as Yen How. Mr J. H. Rhodes acts and sings well as Fo Hop; Mr Geo. Farrant is quaint and dignified as Sing Hi; Mr A. J. Dearden gives a good impersonation of Sir Bingo Preston; Mr G. A. Makinson makes a capital Capt. Bobbie Preston; and Mr N. B. Haughton is an excellent Lieut. Harvey Tucker.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Miss Julia Neilson, Mr Fred Terry, and company are here this week with *Sunday*. Miss Julia Neilson gives a charming representation of Sunday, and Mr Fred Terry achieves great success as Colonel Brinthorpe. Mr J. D. Beveridge as Tom Oxley and Mr Horace Hodges as Lively merit very warm praise for their artistic impersonations. Mr J. Carter-Edwards' Davy and Mr Malcolm Cherry's Arthur Brinthorpe are admirably played. Miss Bella Pateman is a capital Nrs Naresby, and able support is given by Miss Kathleen Doyle, Mr Alfred Kendrick, and Mr Rothbury Evans.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr W. F. Crowe.—This theatre reopened on Thursday evening with a performance of the Christmas pantomime *Little Red Riding Hood*.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Bernhardt; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry De Groot.—Vocal and instrumental concerts are sustained here this week by Miss A. E. Over and Mr Douglas Lott, vocalists; Mr Ernest Leggett, solo violin; and the augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr J. W. Slatter.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—Clarke and Hamilton, America's musical team; James Stewart, the tramp at the piano; Ada Parker, coon artist; Cliff Ryland, comedian, vocalist, and story teller; the Norman and Leonard Trio, in *The Itinerant*; Akimoto's Royal Deddo Japanese troupe of equilibrists and jugglers; Burnetti, character musician; Sam Redfern, the black philosopher; Violet Mills, comedienne and dancer; Conway and Leland, the merry monopedes; and the Alhambra pictures. On Wednesday a matinée performance of *Brother Officers* was given by well-known local amateurs in aid of the Sussex County Hospital.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—The Brothers Permane, in their eccentric acrobatic act; Henri Abdy's canine hippodrome; Nancy St. John, comedienne and dancer; Hurman, juggler and hoop manipulator; Alix Lukos, in his scena, "Pictures in the Fire;" Mdlle. Marvelle, with her cockatoos and macaws; Stewart and Morgan, the Irish emigrants; the Hilgert Arkas Combination, in *Scenes in a Restaurant*; the Wedburns, comedians; George Penn, raconteur and eccentric musician; Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes, in *A Matrimonial Substitute*; and animated pictures.

COLISEUM.—Licensee and Director of Entertainments, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes.—The following are here this week:—The Original Royal Welsh Singers (No. 1 company); Charles Windermere and Clare Manifield, in their duologue, *Clause No. 6*; Ethel Resford and Gerald Hunt, in *The Widow and the Duke*; the Evalos, comic jugglers and gymnasts; Maimie Brickwell, comedienne; Onda and Artell, gymnasts; Schack Seebold, Swiss instrumentalist; Robert Gilbert, assisted by Mdlle. Blanche, with his performing dogs and cats; and the Coliseum pictures, representing "The Most Daring Robbery of the Yepp Bank."

BOOTLE.

ROYAL MUNCASTER THEATRE.—Miss Renee Glendower's company is here this week. Mr Roy Milton gives a manly and earnest rendering of the much-injured Dave Gordon, and Mr C. R. Matthews is excellent as the villainous Fergus Gordon. Miss Stephanie Baring stands out among the others with a powerful reading of Olga Sobinski, and Miss Flora Leslie is a sweet and sympathetic Meg Merrilees. The Three Feros are smart acrobats, and the scene in which they rescue Olga from under the steam hammer is one of the hits of the play. Mr F. Morton Wright as Sergeant M'Dougal and Miss Hilda Young as Mary Jane Jolliboy are the cause of much merriment.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Macready Chute.—There was an amateur performance here last Saturday evening, the proceeds being for the benefit of the United Kingdom Commercial Travellers' Association.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr Ernest Carpenter.—There was also an amateur performance here on Tuesday evening last, this being in aid of the funds of the local Jewish Board of Guardians.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr Welchman.—This week the leading attraction is the amusing sketch *Down at Brook Farm* by Mr and Mrs Neil Litchfield, comedy artistes. Mrs Litchfield introduces a violin solo; she plays with much taste and produces an excellent tone. The Abadaroffs, described as "prehistoric mountebanks," do a smart acrobatic turn; Brothers Attilla present a fine performance as strong men, prizes being offered to competitors; Miss Maud Stanley is a pleasing comedienne; Carr and Rose have a good comedy act, *Their First Quarrel*; Miss Grace Merton, described as a "street singer," has a fine soprano voice, of which she avails herself in an artistic and pleasing manner; Devere and Kenwick do a comedy act, and introduce some burlesque pictures on a screen; the Haldyne Duo have a smart and amusing comedy act, *The Curate's Dilemma*; V. L. Granville is successful in a series of costume impersonations of characters from famous plays; Herbert Cyril, comedian, has some amusing songs; and the performance concludes with a fine series of animated pictures, "Whirling the Worlds." The Thursday matinées continue to be well attended.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The Manhattan Comedy Four present a smart vocal and comedy turn, the voices harmonising well; Imro Fox is very successful in conjuring and sleight-of-hand feats; John Lloyd, described as the "Original Singing Collier," has an exceptionally good tenor voice, and he sings with much expression; Percy Honri's concertina playing obtains appreciation; the Bennecelli Troupe do a pleasing and excellent turn as novelty gymnasts; Miss Kate Gourlay is a smart coon singer and buck dancer; George Rennie presents a clever ventriloquial act; Harry Leybourne, comedian, obtains appreciation; and some interesting animated pictures conclude the entertainment. There are well-attended matinées every Wednesday, and the show is run on the two-houses-a-night system.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA.—Proprietors, the Broughton Theatres Syndicate, Ltd.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—After witnessing the amusing farce, *Margaret's Stratagem*, on Monday evening, a large audience was treated to more serious fare in the dramatic fantasy, *Sleigh Bells; or, the Voice of Conscience*, in which Mr Ellerslie Pyne gave a very clever and impressive portrayal of the character of Mathias. Mr Weedon Ross as Father Walther, Mr F. Erskine as Hans, and Mr E. Langhorne as Christian gave good studies of their various rôles. The ladies, Miss Wentworth as Catherine, Miss S. Rutter as Annette, and Miss R. Regan as Adrienne, gave charming support. Mr L. Barkley as the Judge was excellent.

BURY (LANCS).

OLYMPIA CIRCUS OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—The bill here includes Maggie Walsh, the singing mill girl; Four Estrellas, acrobats; Hartley Wonders, jumpers; Ormonde Penstone, illusionist; the St. Johns, comedy artistes; the Clayton Twins, in a funny sketch; and Johnny Renson and Rosie Waite, a comedy couple.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead.—Harry Taft, whistling comedian, heads the bill; and others who assist are Arthur Hall, mimic; Amstel and Luie, comedians; Mildred Sims, society entertainer; Duncan, juggler and club manipulator; and Oswald, equilibrist.

CARDIFF.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; General Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—Mr John Tully's company in *The Octoroon* has been playing here this week. The piece is excellently staged and the various characters are sustained by a capital company. Mr Fred G. Kay as the villainous Jacob M'Closky succeeds in giving a good character study. Mr E. Kellen Taylor submits a creditable delineation of George Peyton; Salem Scudder has a smart exponent in Mr Silas Jefferson; and Mr St. Vincent Beechey as Captain Rotts is excellent. Miss Florrie Vennimore scores as Zoe, while Miss Kittie Wood is equally successful as Dora Sunnyside. Comedy is well in evidence, Mr Harry Danby as Pete providing plenty of fun ably assisted by a coloured chorus.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—The excellent programme given here is provided by the following artists:—Tilly Bebe, with her troupe of twelve performing lions; Morton and Elliott, harmonica players and vocalists; Miss Lily Marney, comedienne; Theo Hardeen, expert handcuff and trunk manipulator; Wilson Hallett, in song and story; Miss Kitty Bell, vocalist and speciality dancer; the Selbinis, in their acrobatic, bicycle, and musical act; Auto and Mobil, comedy motorists; Virto, with his daughter Irene, in his drawing-room musical act; and George W. Leslie and company, in the American play, *Chums*.

CHELTENHAM.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managering-Directors, Lieut.-Col. Croker-King, Col. Rogers, J.P., and A. J. Shinner.—On Wednesday the general manager (Mr H. Oswald Redford), took his fourth annual benefit, and if largely increased success is any criterion, Mr Redford is still gaining in popularity. Mr Barrie's early success *Walker, London*, was the fare provided, played by an extra strong cast of distinguished amateurs. Two performances were given, each preceded by the most amusing farce *My Turn Next*. In the latter piece, Col. Rogers, one of the directors, added to the laurels he had previously gained in the part of Taraxicum Twitters. The performances attracted much attention in the district; and the borough member (Mr J. T. Agg-Gardner) travelled down from town expressly to give his personal support.

CHESTERFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr Holbery Hardy.—Mr and Mrs F. G. Kimberley's company is appearing here in the sporting drama, *Bound to Win*. Mr F. G. Kimberley represents the hero, Lyndon; and Miss Nina Blake Adams plays the rôle of the heroine, Marion, being well supported by Mr James Hont as Ned Oakley, Mr Edgar Morgan as Buffet, Mr Horace Custins as Wilkins, Miss Edie Macklin as Winnie Oakley, Mr D. Strickland as Philip Ayre, Mr Fred Tenaur as Blake, and Miss Kathleen Eckhart as Gladys Orme. A special feature of the piece is the introduction of a couple of thoroughbred horses.

CASTLEFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Licensee, Mr Chas. Gadsby; Business-Manager, Councillor Hy. Masterman.—*A Girl's Cross Roads* was performed here on Monday by Mr Douglas Bruce's company. Mr W. E. Griffiths gives an excellent portrayal of John Meadows, a farmer. Mr Will Corrie is very amusing as Toby Turner, and the same remark applies to Miss Gladys Newcombe as Tilly Vane. Jack Livingstone is in the capable hands of Mr George Gaisford. Mr William Fraser Brunner ably depicts the villainous Cuthbert Lumley. Mr John Rogers proves a satisfactory Luke Ramsden. The Barbara Wade of Miss Lilly Hammersley is a well-studied piece of acting, and this clever lady is to be congratulated on the success of her interpretation. Miss Kate Walford gives a vigorous and spirited representation of the scheming and heartless Nellie Meadows. A consistently artistic portrayal of Constance Cornell is submitted by Miss Ethel Bracewell. Dr. Weston has an able exponent in Mr E. Eardley Howard, while the stage-manager, Mr Frederick Carr, is distinctly good as Crofts, a pickpocket.

CLYDEBANK.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—These boards are occupied this week by Messrs Garside, Knowles, and Ludlow's company with the drama, *The London Fireman*. The part of the hero, Hal Curtis, is admirably acted by Mr J. F. Knowles, the villainous Viscount Fleming is well played by Mr Arthur Fleming; Miss Mona Gray makes a charming Ida Curtis; Miss Violet Temple cleverly portrays Countess Fleming. The outstanding feature, however, is the powerful acting of Mr Edward L. Garside as Ratty. The comic relief is safe in the hands of Mr Charles Preece and Miss Nelly Garside.

CONSETT.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr Lloyd Clarance.—Mr Lloyd Clarance, the esteemed manager of the above theatre, and his wife had their annual benefit this week, when there was produced a play entitled *From the Land of Silence*, an account of which appears in another column. On Monday and Tuesday nights the performances were under the presence and patronage of the officers and men of the K and L Companies of the 2nd V.B. Durham Light Infantry, and on Wednesday night the officers and members of the Clarence Lodge, No. 794, of the R.A.O.B., attended in full regalia in order to show the high respect with which Mr Clarance is held by them all. It was a most creditable performance, and is a well-written play. The scenery, which is entirely new, has been painted by Mr John Preston, the resident scenic artist, and reflects great credit upon him.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Miss Bonwin Carlton's company is here in *The Plucky Nipper*, by Edward Surrey. Miss Bonwin Carlton appears in the title-part, and wins great applause by her portrayal. As Ina Fenwick Miss Lilian Radburn is capital. As Daisy Paget Miss Esther Lamonte is excellent. Mr Edward Surrey as Bill Burgess is satisfactory.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble.—Unita and Paul appear in a novel act. With the aid of a trapeze and a large steel ring they perform a number of clever feats. Katie Le Blanche, serio and dancer, is applauded. Baker and Rose are good character comedians, whose song and dialogue win the appreciation of the audience. La Belle Sylvia is altogether pleasing in her coon song and dance. Carl Verdi gives a very good musical act, and plays on a number of wind and string instruments with effect. The Brothers Babusiau, who introduce a staircase performance, are well-trained acrobats. Miss Cissy Cutler possesses a cultivated voice, J. P. Dane is a capital comedian, and J. W. O'Brian contributes some first-class vocalism and dances well.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—Messrs Carson and Granville's company has been paying a visit here with the drama entitled *The Heart of a Hero*, in which Mr C. E. Johnson shines to advantage as Wilfred Marl. Mr F. W. Goddard acts the part of Jem Resdale in a vigorous and manly fashion. Miss Cissie St. Elmo undertakes the difficult part of Nell Resdale with true histrionic ability. The part of May Ryder is well portrayed by Miss Lily Langley. Miss Ida Mackay is suitably placed as Susie Slack, and the same may be said of Miss Beatrice Hudson as Mrs Ryder.

CROYDON.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The weekly list of amusements at this popular hall is a good one. Little Clarisse Heney, comedienne and dancer, is received with marks of approval; Percival is a pianist of considerable ability; Rossi Ashton causes a sensation in his novelty song sketching; the Palace pictures are above the average; the Donnells (Kate and James) are hard-working vocalists and dancers; George Turner, comedian, is well received; Dardan and Iris are applauded in their speciality act, toe dancing and comedy; the Three Sisters Ernest, vocalists and dancers, are interesting; Wright and Elton are capital in a humorous act; the Wyffs are great in *The Parson's Mishaps in a London Flat*; Paul Mill, character comedian, is always a welcome addition to a programme; Lady Mansel and her clever juveniles are entertaining in their speciality, *A Concert Rehearsal*; Alma Bignell is a smart comedienne; and Albert Wyndham and company are well up to the mark in the dramatic sketch, *Prince Arthur; or the Days of King John*. The anniversary performance was given on Thursday evening, when the place was crowded. A gigantic bill was submitted with many well-known artists, including the popular comedienne, Miss Marie Lloyd. Lady visitors were presented with artistic satin programmes as souvenirs.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and General Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; Assistant-Manager, Mr Chas. Denley.—With the exception of Monday night, the theatre is closed this week for rehearsals of the pantomime of *Little Red Riding Hood*, which will be presented on Boxing Day by Mr Geo. Brydon-Phillips, with Miss Florrie Forde as the Prince. On Monday Mr Chas. Denley, the indefatigable assistant manager, by permission of the proprietor, took a richly deserved benefit. The programme was of an exceedingly varied and entertaining character, and in addition to a large amount of local talent, included Buckstone's famous one-act play, *A Rough Diamond*, in which the characters were as follows:—Lord Plato, Mr Cecil Ravenswood; Sir William Evergreen, Mr Chas. Denley; Captain Augustus Blenheim, Mr Kenneth Smith; Cousin Joe, Mr H. Lloyd; Lady Plato, Miss Ethel Pagett; and Margery, Miss Florence Trevior. Mr Denley's impersonation of Sir William Evergreen was a thoroughly finished performance. The weather on the occasion was most inclement, but it is satisfactory to know that there was a large and appreciative audience.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Allan Edwardes.—The Imperial Russian Troupe of singers and dancers head the bill here this week and are awarded a hearty reception, their dancing being particularly novel and clever. The Bros. Zampah, one-legged jumpers, give a turn deserving of high praise; H. O. Wills, a clever comedian, provokes much merriment; H. K. Bradshaw proves himself an acceptable tenor vocalist; Martin Henderson, a blind musician, is exceedingly clever, and on Monday was accorded an encore. The Woollhafs are amusing patterers and dancers; Annie Laurie, pleasing comedienne and dancer, is well worthy of mention; while the pictures submitted by the Bioscope are also very interesting.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—The boards here this week are occupied by the Ediscope animated pictures, which are exceptionally good and much appreciated. In addition there is a capable variety company. The Lancashire Mill-hand (Miss Jessie Harper) is well received; Clown Ohmy gives a good turn assisted by his dog Toby; Le Brun and Irene are good in their juggling act; Loder Lyons gives great satisfaction as a ventriloquist; W. A. Kay is very clever in his miniature entertainment; Mons. Edgar executes some difficult feats on the trapeze; and Walton Bell (mimic), Will Ivor (stilt performer), and Vera Snowdon (coon vocalist and dancer) also appear with success.

CENTRAL HALL.—Ward's Anglo-American variety company opened here on Monday for fourteen days. A much admired turn is given by the New York Choir Girl, who contributed some capital illustrated songs. Miss Sadie proved a good male impersonator; Little Marion, described as the youngest ventriloquist on earth, was successful; and the programme concludes with some fine animated pictures.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr J. E. Asquith.—Mr T. E. Worth completed here on Saturday evening last a capital week's business with *The Rose of the Ring*. Mr Worth was the life and soul of comedy with his quaint pranks as Timothy, and Mr J. C. Harvard as Benson gave a sound performance. Mr St. C. Forbes as Captain Vereker was sufficiently powerful, and Miss Grace Chesterfield as Dora Venimore was equal to her trying rôle. Miss Maudie Vincent as Rose Meredith had a taking style, and Mr E. Edwards as Lord Desborough sang well.

HIPPODROME AND VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr George Weldon.—An excellent turn here is that of Bert Lytton, society comique; Frank Hartley, juvenile juggler, deserves much praise; the Delamere Trio, equilibrists, appear in a sterling balancing act; Lil Gorman, comedienne, has a very taking style; Baby Lloyd is warmly applauded for her efforts; while other turns to be commended are Oakley and James, sketch artistes; Nellie Vann, dancer; Paddy; and the Harriscope.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. W. Chapman.—A good variety entertainment is being given here this week. The Seven Savonas are a very fine combination of instrumentalists, and will long be gratefully remembered. Wirson, equilibrist and hand-balancer, is clever, and Alf Davis, comedian, takes high rank. Marion Francis, burlesque actress, is attractive; Wilton Warton is a clever and expert conjuror; and Capita, the living marionette, is exceedingly popular. Gracie Logan is an accomplished danseuse, and the Six Elliotts, cycling wonders, create a furore. John Peverilli, the Doncaster vocalist, is much applauded.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The Dover Comedy Club (president Sir Henry Irving) gave admirable performances of *Cousin Joe*, *Mouse and Man*, and the laughable farce *Chiselling*, on Monday, in aid of the Holy Trinity Schools. The three plays were excellently staged, and were produced under the direction of Mr F. C. Dew.

DUBLIN.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. Whitbread; General Manager, Mr Kennedy Miller.—*The Shaughraun* is being played here this week by Mr Kennedy Miller's company. Mr James O'Brien in the title-rôle meets with the usual success, and Harvey Duff has an able exponent in Mr Isn Ireland. The part of Corry Kinchela is ably played by Mr Albert Sinclair; Miss Annie Hylton makes an effective Clare Ffolliot; the rôle of Father Dolan is in the capable hands of Mr Dane Clarke; and Miss Helene Forrest is particularly good as Arte O'Neal; Mr Robert Faulkiner is capital as Captain Molyneaux, and Miss Monica Kelly is all that can be desired as Moya. Mr James Daly makes an excellent Robert Ffolliot, and Miss Ada Arnott is amusing as Mrs O'Kelly.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—The principal feature here this week is Jan Rudeny, Hungarian violinist, whose selections are deservedly applauded. The coloured Meister Quartet of vocalists score a success, as do also the Bros. De Wynne, refined athletes. Horace White in his ventriloquial entertainment is well received; Fanny Robina is an engaging burlesque artiste; Johnny Gilmore, a humorous comedian, and Billy Keene and Jessie Adams are acceptable duettists and dancers. Jimmy Shields, one-legged dancer, is as popular as ever; and Lillian Lowe is a pleasing vocalist. Fred M'Arthur is a capital dialect comedian, and the Empire pictures are interesting.

TIVOLI.—General Manager, Mr Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—The talent engaged here this week includes the Three Meers, in their wire-walking act. Jean Seul, "The Indian Mystery," makes a decided hit; Marcus Boyle is a clever character comedian; Ada Whitton, a capital male impersonator; and Tate and Tate are a pair of smart comedy artistes. Arthur Albert is a successful actor-vocalist; the Mczondos are excellent speciality artistes; Hyam Long is an interesting musical comedian; and Max Stirling, illusionist, and the Bioscope pictures are up to date.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Sandon Perkins.—The Dundee Light Opera Company produced *Dorothy* on Monday evening. Mrs W. H. Baker, in the rôle of Dorothy, proved herself a cultured vocalist. Miss Mary Forbes as Lydia Hawthorne also sang sweetly. Miss B. Stewart made a capital Phyllis, and the Misses M. R. M'Lean and A. Emslie, in the parts of Mrs Privett and Lady Betty, lent good support. Mr D. C. Strachan as Geoffrey Wilder was somewhat stiff, but sang very well. Mr Charles A. M'Kenzie and Mr P. Emslie as Harry Sherwood and Sheriff's Officer did very well indeed. Mr H. B. Harley made a capital Squire Bantam, and credit is due to Mr W. H. Baker for his conducting.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Ross.—Dartigan is giving his "Looping the Loop" sensation. Vulcaris has a really clever trick piano entertainment. Coram again moves the audience to laughter by his ventriloquism. Dan Noble proves himself an artistic comedian, and a smart juggling entertainment is given by Angeline. The Hamiltons supply a capital comedy sketch, and entertaining items are contributed by Hill, Barry, and Lang, Agnes and Arthur Lynch, song illustrators, and Marie Yorke, serio.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Will Percival.—Mr A. W. B. Kingston and company are great favourites here, in *Old Edinburgh*, the initial production. Mr Kingston again showed brilliant histrionic talent in the character of Burke. Mr Harry Egan as Daft Jamie created roars of laughter, and Miss Dora Hamilton made a good Mary Paterson.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Dobell Lyle.—*Aladdin* runs merrily on here, and is still attracting a great amount of attention. Much new business has been introduced since the initial production, and everything goes with irresistible swing. Miss Gladys Silvester, the principal boy, is a great favourite. Miss Marion Edwards as the Princess sings "Bluebell" with much *vim*. Miss Amy Elcock is a very excellent dancer. Mr Stephens as the dame is well to the fore, and Mr Bermingham as the Dougall M'Tootie is exceedingly quaint. Ho-Kie and Po-Kie are first-rate acrobats. Mr Williams as Abanazar, and Mr Mike Johnson as the Emperor work hard for success.

DUMFRIES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. E. Potts.—This week we were favoured for the first three nights by a visit of Mr Robert Ayrton and Adria Hill's company. On Monday evening *The Shadow of the Cross* was played. Mr Robert Ayrton gave a good portrayal of the King of Mercia; Edgar was in the capable hands of Mr B. Wilson, and Mr Edward Sheedy was very good as Egbert. Miss Flo Leighton and Miss Edith Tempest as Alfred and Rufu, the King's sons, were a decided success; Miss Adria Hill played the double part of the twin sisters, Werebode, a courtesan, and Edelgitha, Edgar's wife, in a most successful manner. Miss Harriet Loydall as Ethelindo, the Queen, was responsible for an interesting impersonation.

EASTBOURNE.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Mr Percy Standing and company are appearing here in *His Excellency the Governor*. In an easy and genial manner Mr Percy D. Standing keeps the house in good humour in the title-rôle. Mr Dallas Welford treats the part of John Baverstock in his own humorous way, and Mr C. W. Standing does capable work as Captain Carew. Mr Robert J. Danson is a capital Henry Carlton, and Mr Charles Brandon and Mr A. Fitzmaurice do well all that is necessary as Captain Rivers and Major Kildare. Miss Violet Barton-Astor is a bright and charming Ethel Carlton; Miss Miriam Leigh has all the gaiety necessary as Stella De Gex, and a highly satisfactory performance is contributed by Miss Isabel Grey as Mrs Wentworth Bolingroke.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—Very satisfactory business is being done here with a good variety bill. Ben-Hur, wonderfully developed, gives an exhibition of muscle moving and weight lifting; Mr Gus Barra is an original and versatile comedian and musician; Mr H. Hoffman and company have a strong dramatic sketch in *The Sorrows of Satan*; Vandinoff is an artist who paints in oils with lightning-like rapidity; Mr Henri Bekker, assisted by Miss Maie, is a past-master in the art of palming and conjuring; Rita and Roma contribute a bright turn; Miss Nina Elmo pleases with her ballads; Mr Fred Walker is a good comic singer; and Hippodrome pictures complete the entertainment.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—*Jack and the Beanstalk*, a special notice of which appears in another column, has made many friends since the date of production, and goes merrily and successfully every evening. There was a great house on Monday, a feature being the presence of many young children in the audience, and it certainly was a pleasure to witness their delighted enjoyment of the numerous good things in this pantomime, which was received from overture to finale with rapturous applause.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Mr Eugen Marder, the well-known Continental horsebreaker and rider, gave an interesting equestrian display at this house on Monday, assisted by a highly trained horse and a couple of clever dogs. Rider and steed were richly dressed and caparisoned in cloth-of-gold, and when the darkened stage was lit up with various-coloured lights some strikingly novel effects were obtained. The Sarnthaler Troupe of singers and dancers made a welcome appearance and charmed everybody with their finely harmonised ditties and characteristic dancing. Mr George Newburn is quite an adept at mimicking leading comedians, and after a successful series finished up with a very creditable imitation of the popular Mr Harry Lauder. Professor Harcourt gave a first-class exposition of the magician's art, and having achieved a *tour de force* with multitudinous ribbons, bouquets, and flags, this esteemed performer retired amid enthusiastic applause. Miss Margaret Ashton sang smartly, and the Kokins appeared to advantage in a sketch which included a remarkable display of juggling. Driscoll and Beattie appeared in *Major M'Fee, M.P.*, and the vocal selections of the Sisters Jonghmanns were warmly received, "Blue Bell," in which all three ladies had special opportunities, fairly bringing down the house. Miss Lilian Warren's illustrated songs are as popular as ever with her Edinburgh admirers, Griff and Swan and Bambard being first and last turns respectively.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—At this house *Cinderella*, which has had some rigorous revising and pulling together since the opening performance, is now running with gratifying smoothness and has been witnessed by nearly sixteen thousand persons during the first seven nights of its career. The members of the company have now got thoroughly settled into their parts, and their spirited efforts are on the whole well received. Miss Millie Engler makes an agreeable appearance as Prince Rupert, and Miss Fanny Wright, who plays Dandini with so much vivacity, is already very popular, and scores nightly in the coon song "Navaho." Miss May Marton as Cinderella gives one of the most charming performances of the evening, and, making the most of her opportunities, carries the audience with her from first to last. A special feature is the beautiful singing of Miss Vera Schlesinger as the Fairy Godmother, who also takes part in duets with Mr Traverner with great success. Little Zola revels in the fun associated with Buttons, and Mr A. G. Spry has already made vast strides in the rôle of Baron De Guile, which has great possibilities. The knockabout fun and gags of Conan and Doyle go well, and the solo singing of Mr George Traverner as the Demon King is quite a treat. Mention should be made of the picturesque dancing of the Six Lancashire Lassies and the Four American Idols, whose performances are applauded to the echo nightly. Mr E. T. De Banzie is giving great satisfaction as musical director, and R. S. Cowley-Polhill officiates ably as acting-manager.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—Mr Ellis, like his brother managers, is at all times imbued with the spirit of enterprise, and on Monday a version of the famous Du Maurier drama *Trilby* was staged here by Mr Roy Jackson and acted by his clever company. Mr Jackson's own appearance as Svengali was picturesque in the extreme, and as a character study it takes high rank. Billie, Taffy, and Sandy were excellent in the hands of Messrs Sandy, Lambton, and Howard; and Mr Victor Vernon was highly amusing as the Rev. T. Bagot. Miss Kittie Douglas gave a delightful rendering of Trilby, and, like the other principal characters, was cordially received.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr John Henry Cooke.—The Christmas attraction here is playing to enormous business, and so large have been the audiences that extra matinée performances have been given. *Aqua-Wreck* is a fine combination of sensation and amusement, and as such is sure to hold its own for many weeks to come. The preliminary programme on Monday included several new appearances and gave much satisfaction. The veteran M. Ameson introduced the horse Cleveland, an adept in finding hidden articles; and by request Miss Ernestine Rosa Cooke exhibited her skill as an equestrienne. Craig, Rose, and Craig performed some daring gymnastic feats, and the comedy juggling of May and Myles was heartily received. Miss Marie Winsome, an excellent singer, pleased with her male impersonations; and Miss Winnie Scott was warmly applauded for her dancing. Talberto and Douglas appeared in a burlesque jockey act, and also performed the famous kettle trick.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—Mr Charles Majilton and company in *Round the Clock* occupied the boards at this theatre for the first three nights of the week. Mr Charles Majilton fills the part of Gabriel Gadforth with all his accustomed skill, and Mr Herbert Ashmore as Old Gewgaw, Mr Fred Wilson as David Denby, and Mr Jim Bond as Bartle Burke all prove themselves capable comedians. Miss Maddie Majilton is successful as Mdlle. Salprunelle, and Miss Nellie Clare does well as Mrs Gadforth.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr Greaves.—Last week we had Mr Frank Macnaghten's company, in *The King's Pardon*, for three nights. Mr Chas. Whitlock as Clifford Yorke, Mr Charles Stirling as Noel Blake, and Mr Chas. Leicester as Spence Broughton, the highwayman, gave good renderings of their respective parts. Mr Harry Belford as Major Dobbs and Miss Pollie Denville as Phyllis were amusing, and the rest of the characters were in capable hands. This week we have Buckstone and Cox's company, in *The Seal of Silence*.

GLASGOW.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—Mr Fred Karno's company is paying a return visit here in that amusing farce *His Majesty's Guests*, and the laughter is continuous throughout every performance. Mr Dick Kitchen as the eccentric Sergeant Lightning is the prime instigator of the fun, and his business is intensely amusing. Mr Charles F. Howard acts the part of Lord Essem with much dramatic effect, and his singing is excellent. Miss Jessamine Newcombe as Lady Maude is well suited, her handsome presence enabling her to assume the aristocratic manner to perfection. She made a hit in the song "Because I'm in society," and in the clever "Doctors" duo with Mr Dick Kitchin. Mr Wellesley Smith made a dignified Mr Miffin, and ably stage-managed the production. A smart part, but admirably played, was the German doorkeeper of Mr Charles Cardon. Mr Jack Fortescue as Mr Minks, Miss Florence Moore as Miss Manloy, and Miss Mabel Ross as Dolly all ably assisted in the general success. Some clever knockabout fun was contributed by Mr James Ross as Selins, Mr L. Sterling as Harry, and Mr H. Taylor as Banker. The chorus of policemen and burglars sang and danced well, as also did an attractive chorus of young ladies.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—Mr Herbert Fuller's company is appearing here this week in *A Triple Vengeance*. The part of the heroine, Rita Lingham, is touchingly represented by Miss Agnes Collier, while the contrasting character, Clarissa Betinger, is suitably played by Miss Gertrude Mitchell. Mr Deane King gives a manly impersonation of Harry Gilbert, and as the miser Grindstone, Mr Francis Everard presents a study of considerable merit, the acting of Mr H. C. Gibbon in the part of Darkley being also worthy of commendation. The comic lovers, Charlie and Teresa, are portrayed by Mr William Gardener and Miss Edith Leslie, who provide some amusing comedy scenes, enhanced by several songs and dances. Mr Harry Royal gives character to the part of Bill Smith; the Daddy Lingham of Mr T. P. Henderson is likewise good. A smart detective study falls to the credit of Mr Louis Du Cane, and as the boy Reggie, Little Lilly Fuller acts with intelligence.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss's, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Aldin.—The most imposing turn this week is Seeth's lions, which Mr George Thielbur puts through their facings in an astonishing manner; Joko and Koko give a pleasing circus act in a miniature ring; Tom Edwards's ventriloquial act is amusing and clever; Diamond and Beatrice give expressive renderings of instrumental music; Mabel Hind is a lively singer and dancer; the Vasilescu Troupe give wonderful exhibitions of agility on the horizontal bars; Vosper, facial mimic, presents life-like imitations of statesmen and other public men; Charles Cardow, comedian; Alexander, trick cyclist; and Bros. Damm, acrobats, complete an interesting programme.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr S. King Alexander; Acting-Managers, Messrs T. J. Colquhoun and Fred R. Ewing.—The special attraction here this week is George Formby, a favourite comedian, who has had a most flattering reception. Jack Horsley, ball puncher, is clever in his line of business, while the singing and dancing of Patty Yole, comedienne, are all that could be desired. Musical Silvo, contributes selections of all the popular songs on his wonderful "tumblers," and the Indian sports and pastimes of Ara, Zebra, and Vora are much appreciated. The other members of the company fully maintain their reputations, and include Gus Hindell, comedian; Mdlle. Yetta, wire walker; Lily Turner, vocalist; the Comos, musical lunatics; Vernando, ventriloquist; Three Sisters Adrienne, burlesque artistes; George Bandon, the white coon; the Fitzroys, society gymnasts; Bendon's Bioscope, in new pictures; and the Brothers Lloyd, in their wire act.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harry M'Kelvie.—A particularly bright programme is provided here this week. Barney Armstrong, comedian, makes a great hit, his reappearance on the boards being fully appreciated. The Seddons, comedy jugglers, are very amusing. and Keir and Allen, comedians, appear in an acceptable turn. The Elysian Troupe, a company of coloured artists, contribute an agreeable musical entertainment, and Browning and Wally excel in their acrobatic and strong act. A remarkable illusion trick, entitled "Kweery," is given with great success and the Cattaneos, eccentric acrobats, put in some smart work. A series of amusing animated pictures are also shown. The programme is brought to a close by the Six Brothers Luck's pantomime company, with their little melodramatic pantomime *The Hermit*.

BRITANNIA.—Lessee, Mr Jas. Anderson; Manager, Mr Geo. Saphrini; Assistant Manager, Mr Harry Hemphrey.—Mr Joe Wesley's Scottish Minstrels open the programme here with a very entertaining "ring turn," in which songs predominate, concluding with the usual chorus of plantation melodies. There are several clever performers, and the general verdict is favourable. *Red, White, and Blue* is the title of the comedy sketch in which Mr Maurice Love's company appear to advantage, while more fun is contributed by Robbins and Crewso, in *The Professor and the Deaf Boy*. A statue dance by the Big Four is well received, as dancing is always popular at the "Brit." The popular Joe Edmonds in banjo selections is, as usual, heartily applauded, and Musical Miller in a mélange of instrumental selections on various instruments, notably on the Irish harp, pleases many patrons. The outstanding turn is certainly A. J. Gambles, in Scotch comic songs, four or five in number. He is a clever grotesque dancer and patters capitally, and deserves all his success. The Summerstons (Will and Maggie) complete a varied programme.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr Wm. Biggam.—A well-diversified programme is given here, including Tom W. Royal, champion clog dancer; "Count" Whiteford, eccentric Scotch comedian; Eck. Ray's Schoolboys, in their amusing turn; Fred Smart, a good descriptive vocalist; Hubner's Animatograph, with a lot of clever films; Brindall and Cooper, smart comedians and dancers; Letty Linbourne and A. Alexander, vocalists; and the D. Macdonald troupe of dancers.

GOOLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr John E. Tomlinson.—A capital variety company is appearing here this week. The Canadian Trio, in the musical absurdity *Unripe Fruit*, give a clever and highly amusing performance. Mr Dan Rylton, comedian; Mr Fred Gilbert, descriptive vocalist; the Ashlins, duettists and dancers; Alice Adeson, burlesque artiste; Clown Pepino; Miss Marie Lorne, serio; Messrs Layton and Lister, burlesque boxers, all contribute successfully to the programme. A dramatic sketch entitled *Cruel Russia*, is also included in the programme.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Limited; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—The most interesting item in a strong variety bill here is Mdlle. Luba De Sarema, with sports of the Far East, in which a number of animals provide an exceptionally interesting turn. The Four Jumels are responsible for an entertaining musical act. Percy Vere and Edith Royal also submit a good turn of singing and dancing. J. P. Carroll, military tambourinist, is worthy of special mention, as also is Cyril Demane, with his enchanted kettle. Other good turns are provided by Varley and Sinclair, operatic duettists and soloists; Billy Ross and company, in their act, *The Hot Member*; and Alec Aubrey, gymnast.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—Miss Grace Hawthorne and company this week are presenting *Camille* and *Sapho*. The former was given on Monday, Miss Grace Hawthorne sustaining the part of Camille in an accomplished manner. Armand Duval was admirably played by Mr Cecil Wynne, and Mons. Duval was capitally portrayed by Mr Arthur T. Lennard. Count De Varville had a clever exponent in Mr Harry Hillier; Mr Fred Carroll was adequate as Gaston Rieux; and Mr George Mortimer was good as Gustave. Miss Florence Tench was a charming Nichette, and as Nanine Miss Marion Jay was highly meritorious. Madame Prudence was successfully played by Miss Adelaide Ross, as was Olympe by Miss Rachael Donne.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr E. Hoggan-Armadale's company is here this week with *The Sleigh Bells*, *The Vicar of Wakefield*, and *Trilby*. On Monday evening a performance of *The Sleigh Bells* was given. Mr Hoggan-Armadale gave a striking and vivid portrayal of the difficult part of Mathias; Mr F. Booth Conway distinguished himself as Mons. Bussey; Mr Fred Emery did well; Mr W. F. Clitherow was a satisfactory Father Hermann; Mr Henry Osman was good as Fritz; and the same may be said of Mr James Fox as Kaspar. The Mesmerist found a capable representative in Mr Chas. Langton; Mr Hartley embodied Dr. Franz with success; the part of the Judge was well played by Mr William Adam; and Mr A. L. Baron made an excellent Jew. Miss Marie Florence made the most of her opportunities as Madame Mathias; Miss Violet Wilson gave a sympathetic rendering of Annette; and Miss C. Evelyn in the part of Lucille was successful.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—The Royal Zerbinis head the bill here, and are seen in an acceptable musical act entitled *In Fairyland*. Fred Smart is an agreeable character vocalist; Fred Lloyd and company are seen in a laughable act, *The Blind Spinster*; the Itrams give an interesting perch and pot-pourri act; the Three Martinettes are amusing comedians; and George and Edwards, patter comedians, are applauded. Hemlot and Sauvion, burlesque conjurors, give an amusing turn, and the Sisters Terry, duettists and mimics, are applauded.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr J. H. Curry; Assistant Manager, Mr Sidney Tolfree.—The popular drama *Why Men Love Women* has paid its first visit to Grimsby this week. Miss Annie Saker has created a very favourable impression with her impersonation of Violet Livingstone, and, together with Mr Alfred Paumier, who appears as Gerald Fielding, is responsible for the most interesting scenes in the play. Mr S. Herbert Humber makes the most of the character of Serge Stanloff, a scheming Russian. Miss Beatrice Sinclair makes an excellent Muriel Zoluski. The parts of Tommy Fitzherbert and the Maharajah of Bolore are satisfactorily played by Mr W. S. Hardy and Mr Edwin Lever respectively. Amusing comedy scenes are provided by Mr Harwood Roberts and Miss Marie Glynne as Orlando and Matilda Figgins.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; General Manager, Mr H. F. Millar; Assistant-Manager, Mr H. H. Watson.—The amusing equestrian burlesque *Rejected Remounts*, presented by Mr Claude Ginnett, jun., has caused roars of laughter. The antics of the horses introduced proved highly mirth-provoking. A new version of the popular Negro sketch *Black Justice* has also been included in the programme, in which De Voy, Hurst, and Fredericks have caused much amusement. Fred Curran, a favourite comedian in Grimsby, has pleased the audience with a number of new and entertaining songs. May Moody has displayed considerable skill as a piccolo soloist; smart juggling has been performed by Francisco; Rozel has accomplished some daring aerial gymnastic feats; and other turns have been given by Mark Anthony, mimic and comedian, and Professor Bennett, ventriloquist.

NEW PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—The well-known coster impersonator, Alec Hurley, has appeared here this week with his piccaninnies in a most entertaining musical sketch. The large audiences at the Palace have been greatly delighted with the performance, the speciality *The Lambeth Walk* being particularly appreciated. An amusing comedy sketch, *Over the Garden Wall*, has been produced by the Four Burnells, whilst the Glenroy Troupe have secured unstinted approval for their representations of various styles of dancing. Selbo has performed clever juggling feats with a great variety of novel articles. The Brothers Durant have given a laughable airship burlesque. Pretty pictures have been composed by Wilma with the aid of sand and smoke, whilst an interesting speciality, "From Pavement to Stage," has been contributed by Signor and Madame Prosper Benn. A musical and dancing turn by Edwards and Espinosa completed the programme.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Acting-Manager, Mr Norman Robinson.—A prettily stage and well-costumed sketch is played here by Mr Charles Cunningham's company, and another of the pantomimic and acrobatic order, entitled *Nicodemus*, is very funny. The slack wire performance of James Jee is very clever; Flo Atkins pleases with her musical performance; Les Rubens, duettists, sing excellently; and Harry Sheldon, vocalist, and Arthur Osmond, comedian, are well appreciated.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—An exciting turn here is called "Whirling the Wheel." It is performed by Tom Grave, a daring cyclist. Jimmy Devoy's pony is clever; the Great Northern Troupe of dancers are up to their work; Wilfrid, contortionist, ranks high in his line; the Walonells do a comedy bar act which is amusing; Graham and Harrington in a little episode are distinctly smart; and the Ballingers provide good entertainment.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Craggs; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—The Brothers Lang have had a good reception for their knockabout comedy business; the jokes of A. P. Boswell, "the black-face performer," are irresistibly droll and his balancing feats clever; Mike Gray, assisted by a remarkably intelligent terrier, are responsible for some amusing comedy juggling; the Trio Alaskarro troupe of Risley acrobats are neat and expert at their business; A. Aldridge displays talent in the tenor vocalist line; and other turns in the programme which prove entertaining are Flo Cecil, comedienne; Thomas Johnstone, vocalist and mimic; the Redferns, skilful banjoists; and some amusing films.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Smith.—A good all-round variety entertainment has been provided here this week, including Los Granadas, gymnastic eccentrics; and Mdlle. Roseltha, international and coon skipping-rope dancer; and another clever turn was Stylo, the hoop-manipulator. Edward Ind is a successful comedian, and great merriment is caused by Matt Wilkinson and company in their clever sketch, *The Registry Office*. Henriette, Violet, Beatrice, Harry Morris, Lee and Arden, and Jerry and Joey, and Signor and Madame Loule make up a capital programme.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—Mr Leigh Lovel and company appeared here on Monday in the farcical romance *The Duke of Killicrankie*. Mr Herbert J. Bentley, who was cast for the title-rôle, has a good stage presence, and acted the part well; Lady Henrietta was pleasingly impersonated by Miss Octavia Kenmore; the strong-minded Mrs Mulholland had a good exponent in Miss Naomi Neilson; the fortune-hunting Mr Pitt-Welby was whimsically played by Mr Leigh Lovel; able assistance was rendered by Miss M'Aimee Murray as the Countess of Pangbourne and Miss Helen Tytler and Mr H. Douglas Cottell as the caretakers at Crag o' North. The piece was excellently staged under the management of Mr F. Danvers-Yates.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Master, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—A variety entertainment occupies the boards here this week, previous to Mr J. D. Hunter's pantomime *Aladdin*. A series of illusions and modern magic is exemplified by a clever lady conjuror, Madame Emmeline Nicolo. Mr Barry Sheil, a young elocutionist, gives us some "Voices from the past." Mr Nelson Hardy makes his reappearance here with his skilful impersonations (by means of ventriloquial figures) of popular music hall artistes, and the programme concludes with some novelties in animated photography.

ST. LEONARDS KURSAAL.—Pier Master, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Under the conductorship of Mr Val Marriott the Winter Orchestra continues to attract good audiences. Various classical pieces and selections are performed in a masterly manner, and the instrumentalists receive great applause. A pleasing addition to the concerts is the contralto singing of Miss Molly Deane, who clearly demonstrates the possession of a remarkably good voice, and her delightful rendering of either French or English songs is equally appreciated.

HASTINGS HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—The programme this week is new and original. Miss Sadie Norman is an attractive comedienne and dancer. A good turn is furnished by Mr Peter Kelly, eccentric comedian. A laughable comedy sketch is introduced by Rano and Mason. The memory exhibited by Datas is marvellous; he is justly named a living encyclopædia. An interesting turn is Miss Bella Bashall, comedienne and dancer. Hadj Abdullah's troupe of Arabs are smart tumblers and acrobats. Mr Gus Dallon, comedian, is well applauded. Lennie and Hast are highly amusing in their fantasy *The Heirloom*. Some excellent up-to-date pictures are shown on the new Bioscope.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—Messrs Glenville and Osmond's company is here with *The Still Alarm*. Mr M. H. Glenville supplies a crisp impersonation of Jack Manley; Mr Paul Lovett is cool and incisive as Bird; Mr Fred Osmond makes good use of his opportunities as Wilbur; Mr Tom Beasley is smart as Willie Manley, and has an admirable colleague in Miss Hettie Zillwood as Carrie Wilbur; Miss Mary Lovett is an attractive Elinore Fordham; and Miss Mabel Verlton is very happy as Mrs Manley.

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Resident-Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—Captain Marshall's charming play, *The Duke of Killicrankie*, pays its first visit to Hull this week. The Mrs Mulholland of Miss Aida Jenoure reveals many delightful touches. Nothing could be happier than Miss Doris Templeton's Lady Henrietta Addison, which is marked by many pleasant points. Mr Langhorne Burton is an admirable Duke, hitting off the wealthy and impetuous young nobleman very successfully. The Henry Pitt-Welby, M.P., finds a praiseworthy representative in Mr Arthur Grenville. Jerome's *Barbara* is the curtain-raiser.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Local Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—A romantic play, with a strong and striking military interest, *The King's Pardon*, is the attraction this week; and, despite the fact that the holidays are so near at hand, good business has been done. Mr Chas. A. Leicester makes a most dashing highwayman.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr A. Graham.—A capital crowd are filling the houses this week. Possibly the premier attraction is Mlle. Diane De Fontenoy.

EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Jno. Sylvester Sage.—The Imperial Sketch company is appearing in *The Banker's Crime*. Harry Wright unfortunately was unable to appear on Monday through an accident, and Charles Milner successfully deputised for him. Togo is a smart juggler and conjuror, and other turns include Nelly Gannon, Peggy Fayme, and the Eltenoe.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr L. F. A. Rogers; Musical Director, Mr C. Keith Smith.—Mr Edward Neville and his company are this week presenting *The Anarchist Terror* and *The Sorrows of Satan* here. Miss Violet Hammersley plays with force and feeling as Columbia Goldstraw, and Mr C. T. E. O'Connor is effective as Lieut. Armstrong. Mr J. Nelson Turner is excellent as Silas Washington, and Mr Gus Bowerman as Ishmael is deserving of high praise. Miss Annie Brunette shows histrionic ability as Marita. Mr Will White as Mickey Doolan, and Miss Lole Esmond as Kitty Malone supply the requisite comic relief, and Mr Edward Neville, in a five-fold rôle, plays with great versatility.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Joe Richards.—The Starellas, musical eccentrics, head the bill, and are well supported by Frank Archer, quick-change artist; Jennie Hall, serio; Triko, comic juggler; and Joe Wright, basso and violinist.

IPSWICH.

HIPPODROME.—An attractive programme has been provided for the current week at the Woodbridge-road place of entertainment, and included Augustine and Hartley, acrobatic barrel-jumpers, who displayed much agility; Muir and Bartlett, with an amusing sketch called *A Clerical Complication*; the Sisters Gilbert, clever dancers; Williams and Brown, cross-talk comedians; Tom Carney, Irish comedian; and Beattie Lyndon, G. W. Foster, and Rose Waller, variety artistes.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—Mr J. A. Campbell's company is here with a first-class drama entitled *The Sin of Her Childhood*. Mr A. Milroy is an admirable Stephen Haysel, and Miss Jennie Hicks is excellent as Maria Haysel. Mr H. Hargreaves scores as the Rev. Alan Grey; Mr J. A. Campbell is quite at home in the character of Captain John Thornton; Mr Fred Elvin gives a life-like rendering of Barney O'Reilly; and Miss Nellie Freeland is good as Eliza Muggins. Miss Mary Fulton as Mary Haysel deserves praise. Eric Dugdale is capably embodied by Little Edith.

KIDDERMINSTER.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, Messrs Lester Reekie and Howard Stephens.—Kardoc, the handcuff king, is here astounding his audience with his clever tricks. Flo Everette's dogs amuse greatly. Lieut. Harper, ventriloquist; Frank Aylmer, Daisy Turner, and the Two Friscoes also appear, and all do exceedingly well.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Hales.—Mr Harding Thomas and a powerful company are presenting *East Lynne* here this week. Miss Elaine Verner scores a great success as Lady Isabel; Mr Harding Thomas as Francis Levison is excellent; while Mr Erskine Ellis as Archibald Carlyle and Mr Frank Cathcart as Justice Hare both do good work. Little Miss Barker deserves special praise for her lifelike portrayal of the part of Willie Carlyle.

LEEDS.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Bush.—We are having a visit here of Mr Fred Karno's company with the diverting musical farce, *Saturday to Monday*. Mr Fred Kitchen is the leading figure, and this popular comedian allows no dull moment from start to finish. Miss Aggie Morris is decidedly clever as the bride; Mr Frank Haylett's Tom Freeman is noticeable for good vocal work; Miss Ada Maskell depicts with success the vagaries of Aunt Skinner; and Miss Gladys White is thoroughly successful in the rôle of Violet Blake. The eccentricities of Jagg's offspring, as enacted by Mr Dick Harcourt and Mr Lepo are most amusing. The Camille Dancing Girls are a notable feature of the cast.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—An interesting feature of this week's programme is the exhibition of Hagedorn's Grotto, a transformation scene of wondrous beauty. A fine musical turn by the Jackson Family is much appreciated; Lily Burnand, the clever comedienne, is doing exceedingly well; and another artiste of considerable ability, Arthur Lennard, enjoys great success. Brown and Robinson are vocalists of more than average ability; the Cavallinis score in a mirth-provoking burlesque entertainment; Hugh Stanton's prophetic absurdity "Twenty Years from Now" is capitally presented; a gymnastic turn by the Three Mascotte Sisters elicits considerable applause; and Edie Veno and Lizzie Fletcher, comediennes, are thoroughly successful.

TIVOLI.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Charles Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—A novel entertainment is supplied here by Minni Letta's sporting girl, whose racing feats on a moving track are attracting considerable attention. Chas. Steward and company do well in a farcical sketch, *The Water Cure*; Keen and Waller provide an expert eccentric acrobatic turn; Kitty Glover and company are seen to advantage in a clever comedy farce; Harry Meier again finds favour with well rendered vocal items; Miss Nellie Ganthony, an accomplished actress, vastly pleases her audience in a versatile turn; and Agnes Hanson, comedienne and dancer; Emma and Victor, vocalists; and J. W. Bray, comedian, are successful.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones.—The chief turn here is Ando's Happy Little Japs, an expert troupe of acrobats and jugglers. Comedy artistes include such popular entertainers as Spry and Monti, Goggin and Davis, and Frank and Violet Payte. The Lannons, speciality dancers, present an expert turn; Walter Curtis, comedian—an old Leeds favourite—is awarded a big reception; E. W. Selman is also a comedian of merit; and the acrobatic feats of Almond arouse great interest.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr C. D. Leigh.—Mr Ian Maclaren and company are here this week with the spectacular historical drama *A Fatal Crown*, which should prove particularly interesting to local playgoers on account of Lady Jane Grey's connection with Bradgate-park, on the confines of Leicester, from which place she departed to assume her short career as Queen. Mr Ian Maclaren is responsible for a clever embodiment of Lord Guilford Dudley, and Miss Augusta Tullock is to be highly complimented on her excellent interpretation of the rôle of the ill-fated Lady Jane Grey. Mr J. M. Rome as the Earl of Northumberland and Mr Ernest Lodge as Herne the Wizard are both good. Mr Henry Howard is capital as Simon Reynard. Mr Johnny Fisher as Issod Clay and Mr M. Miller Wilson as Xit do well. Miss Maud Naderson is suitably placed as Mary Tudor, and Miss Dorothy Mackenzie as Barbara and Miss Kythe Mackenzie as Dorcas Dossitt are also to be singled out for portrayals of merit.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; General Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—Messrs Preston and Doherty's company, under the direction of Sidney C. Cranston and Sidney Dench, holds the boards here this week, and is presenting the realistic drama *The Rich and Poor of London*. Miss Dora Dench as May Braithwaite plays with conspicuous success; Miss Marie Ramez is good as the adventuress, Ruby Redgrave; Miss Lillie Woods is successful as Auntie Scrimp; and Miss Mollie Hackett as Polly Philpot is capital. Mr Andrew Money gives a good account of himself as Mark Stanley, and the part of Dr. Leonard Morton is in the safe hands of Mr Robert Hall. Mr G. W. Ellis does well as Dan'l Drake. Both Mr Sidney C. Cranston as Gussey Lamb and Mr Sidney Dench as Spider Jack are most successful, and sing several songs to the delight of the audience. Master Bert Dench impersonates a waif with conspicuous merit.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—At the head of an excellent programme here this week are Joe Elvin and his clever combination, who are presenting with the greatest success for the first time in Leicester the sporting sketch *Over the Sticks*, which has the merit of being admirably staged and dressed. As Plodder Pilks Joe Elvin has a part which fits him like the proverbial glove, and he keeps the audience in a continual roar of laughter. Others who also render excellent service are Miss Florence Harcourt as Jessie, Mr Harry Lowe as Arthur Pilks, Miss Amy Ellis as Rebecca, and Mr Henry Gregory as Old Tom Ricketts. A number of racehorses are introduced, and the auxiliaries total one hundred. Miss Winona Winter, who is assisted by the singing comedian Mr William H. Banks, are presenting with success their delightful comedy playlet *When I Help Ma Do the Washing*. The Trapnell Family give a remarkably clever acrobatic display; Les Burnellys are smart in their original gymnastic novelty act; Werner and Reider, in scenes from the Tyrolean mountains, give a popular turn; Harry Lawson, eccentric comedian, is good. Spot, the enchanting coon, in "The Cake Walk Craze;" Post Mason, the American baritone, in a song scena; and Jennie Belmore, burlesque actress, also give turns that meet with due appreciation.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—The following artistes constitute the entertaining programme here this week:—Henry Carlton, the popular comedian, as Billy Wilks, supported by his comedy team, in a new military absurdity, *Obliging a Lady;* the Franko Brothers, midget conjurors; Edith Sylvesto, in her unique speciality act; the Two Jagos, comedy artists, vocalists, and dancers; Steve Roberts, descriptive vocalist; Mart Marvin, the musical curio; Kit Keen, coon artist; and Nellie Elder, comedienne.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—In consequence of the success attending the visit of Mr Walter Jeffs's "New Century Pictures" last week they remained here till Thursday. Miss Kathleen M'Cabe's songs have been greatly appreciated.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—Mr Penfold Field's company is appearing here this week with the drama, *When Rogues Fall Out*. Mr Raymond Thomas is a powerful Stephen Ralston; Mr Gordon M'Leod is capital as Jack Lorrimore; Mr Dalton J. Bosher scores as Bill Jenkins; Mr Harry Tresham is well suited as Sir Henry Lorrimore; Hetty Stanton is ably represented by Miss Rosa Lehmann; Miss Shirley Dalton is natural and sympathetic as Madge Lorrimore; Miss Muriel Deane wins much approval as Dick; Mr Percy Boucher as Billy Faggles is responsible for some genuine comedy; and is greatly assisted by Miss Florrie Hall as Polly Peach.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—*Greed of Gold* is paying a happy return visit, Mr T. Morton Powell's company being again responsible. Mr Carthage Caldcleugh is a powerful Harry Hood, making up and acting well as the pseudo-mendicant; Mr Charles Coleman is a manly Arthur Errol; Mr Walter Cameron an excellent character actor as Cully Snig; and Mr Tom G. Warry is well suited as Mr Brightson. A rich Irish comedy delineation comes from Mr Harry Creemer, and Mr B. Fox makes a great impression in the part of the dumb man. Miss Daisy Halling is very artistic as Dora; Miss Grace St. John does well as Mrs Maxwell; while Miss Winnie Donovan is a lively Patty, and Miss Florrie Woods is charming as little Cecil.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur; Assistant-Manager, Mr Brandon Blake.—Chung Ling Soo, the marvellous Chinese magician, is attracting large audiences, and presents a lengthy and extraordinary entertainment of legerdemain, including several new and sensational tricks, one necessitating the introduction of a huge cannon—an imposing property—which he fires deliberately into the auditorium, with startling results. Carne Curre, with banjo, dog, and story; the Athlones, magnificent athletes; Florence Gwynne, in a musical scene; Will Bacchus, actor-vocalist; and Charles Pond, raconteur, also contribute with success.

LIVERPOOL.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—Vesta Victoria, very popular in Liverpool, heads the bill here this week, her amusing and artistic rendering of her songs being loudly applauded. "Hiawatha," by the Two Bees, is well received, the scene being very effective; Steel and Laing are laughable and clever acrobats; J. H. Scotland renders his songs in a finished and artistic manner; M'Cann's performing dogs are watched with interest; T. W. Barrett causes roars of laughter with his songs and patter; Satsuma, the Japanese wonder worker, mystifies everyone; and Jenny Erris is good.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—*A Woman's Redemption; or, The Love That Lasts*, has been the attraction here this week. Mr James Hare's company includes several artistes of ability, and the scenic effects are good. Mr J. Hare was a very capable villain, acting with reserve and marked effect; Miss Irene Clifford as the duped gipsy woman showed great strength; an earnest parson was well portrayed by Mr Herbert M. King; Miss Agatha Halford charmingly represented the farmer's daughter; Mr R. Duncan Bell submitted a fine type of an honest gipsy; Mr Tom Arkinstall as a retired actor was humorous; and Mr Bert Atherton and Miss J. Hallworth created great laughter.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville; Business Manager, Mr F. L. Arthur.—The second and concluding week of the pantomime, *Cinderella*, has drawn good audiences to this popular theatre.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—The programme here this week is diversified and full of good things. Vasco, the mad musician, exhibits wonderful powers with musical instruments, and has a hearty reception; the Gothams present a laughable musical absurdity, *Miss Green;* and the comedy, *For Reform*, given by Hugh Stanton and company, is also humorous. Mdlle. Emmy has a pack of clever dogs; and a graceful aerial act is gone through by Alexandra and Bertie. Burg, Haud, and Wise have a smart acrobatic act, "Ye Brown Cow;" the Aurora Troupe of acrobatic cyclists give a capital exhibition of skill; and others in the company are Leona Dare, trapeze artist; Lieut. Travis, ventriloquist; and Johnny Dwyer, comedian.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Harry Ford, a comedian of ability, is here this week, and has been accorded a good reception. Staig's troupe of cyclists provide a clever show on the aerial circle; the Five Parroscoppis are wonderful jugglers; Monks and Wood give a neat musical duologue; an amusing trifle is *A Matrimonial Agency*, by Hayman and Franklin, American speciality artists; A-Ba-Be poses prettily to represent picture-postcards; and others engaged are Stanley and Vandyke, comedians; Fielding and Hull, vocalists; and Will M'Ivor, tenor.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—Heading the bill here this week is Mr Charles Carte with his good all-round company in *A Noble Brother*. The one-man band, Bandon!, does a musical turn; Mint and Mart are humorous sketch artists and paper manipulators; the Bradleys provide a smart comic trick cycling act; and Elgar and Gaskell evoke laughter by their musical sketch, *The Bobby's Temptation*.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—Ernesto, a clever juggler and musical equilibrist, is at the head of the programme, and meets with a cordial reception. Weston and May, a couple of capable comedy artistes, present *Married Life*; the popular Billy Richardson, of minstrel fame, is still to the fore; Bob Stephenson shows himself to advantage as a comedian and eccentric dancer; the Hannaway Bros. are expert cross-talkers and dancers; and dainty Mollie Doon is a burlesque actress and vocalist of ability.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kernan.—Prince Henrick, described as the smallest man in the world, aged nineteen years; height, 34in.; weight, 25lb., is here this week, and is inspected with interest. The Three Sisters Wartana are clever jugglers; the Black Apollo shows himself to be a smart performer on ten different musical instruments; and the remainder of the programme includes Walter Jerome, actor-vocalist; Clare and King, duettists and comedians; Reg. Templeton, character comedian; Chas. Clear, mimic; Lieut. Le-Hurst, ventriloquist; Flo Viller, burlesque actress and vocalist; and Stella May, comedienne and coon artist. On Friday the staff and band took a benefit.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery.—An interesting programme is being submitted here this week. Mr Charles R. Whittle, versatile comedian, has been given a hearty reception on his welcome return visit; the Violas provide a mystifying exhibition of mental telegraphy; Professor Cardo does some clever sleight-of hand tricks; clever juggling is contributed by Essman; J. H. Fernley is a pantomimist of ability; Hughes and Elliott are agile buck and sand dancers; as a mimic and trick instrumentalist Will Peplow is acceptable; and Millie Wallis sings several pleasant songs.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—Mr. H. C. Le Fre and a company of clever artistes present the scena *A Sham Hero* here. Ranji Singa shows himself to be an illusionist with smart resources; Evelyn Taylor is a male impersonator of ability; O'Connor and Traynor are excellent comedians, dancers, and humorous burlesque boxers; Joseph P. Kennedy and company present a laughable item, *The Jealous Wife;* the Rameses provide several pretty tableaux vivantes; Carlo Borrello is a clever juggler; and Juliet Capron, a singer of sweet songs.

LLANELLY.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Tully.—Mr John A. Morton's clever company in *The Rajah of Ranjapore* is here this week. The part of Primrose is this time taken by Miss Nell Ascot, a very clever actress and vocalist. Mr Chas. E. Linney is still the Ernest Travers of the piece, and he does remarkably well. As Horatio Chicks Mr Alvin Savage is very good, and so is Mr Harry Cornwall as Mr Stubbs. Miss Minnie Blackmore looks and acts well as Edith, and Mr Bert Harrow as Thistles is very funny. Miss Marion Walker is good as Eliza, and Mr Gus Hall as Ted Perkins works well. The ladies and the Rajah Troupe of dancers are all very charming and clever.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—Mr Eugene C. Stafford's company has played *The Private Secretary* here this week. As Rev. Robert Spalding Mr Geoffrey Gulse embodied the part very cleverly. Mr Cattermole had a smart impersonator in Mr W. Hargraves. Henry Marsland and Douglas Cattermole were capably impersonated by Mr Vivian Gilbert and Mr Austen Leigh and Mr Wilfrid Compton represented Sydney Gibson capitally. As Miss Ashford Mrs Alfred Davis was very good, and the parts of Eva Webster and Edith Marsland could scarcely have been better filled than they were by Miss Mary Deverell and Miss Dora Grey.

MANCHESTER.

ROYAL OSBORNE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A very good performance of the military drama *The Ladder of Life*, by the late Charles Rogers, was given here on Monday by a company under the direction of Miss Renee Glendower. Miss Glendower is herself a powerful actress, well placed in the rôle of Mother Flint, a baby farmer, and she is supported by a cast uniformly strong, the most conspicuously successful being Mr F. Morton Wright, Mr C. H. Matthews, Mr Tyrone Power, Mr Roy F. Gascoigne, Mr Roy Milton, Miss Hilda Young, Miss Flora Leslie, Miss Stephanie Baring, and Little Winnie De Lacey. Among the sensations of the piece the Feros, a trio of expert acrobats, are employed to form a human ladder. Good scenery and dresses add to the total effect.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A reversion to drama distinguishes this week's programme here. The piece presented is Fred Moule's *The Life that Kills*, and Messrs Moule and Nicholls' company are thoroughly equal to the task imposed on them. Mr Fred Moule's depiction of Kendal Croat, the bookmaker, is one of the outstanding features of interest. As Brenda Croat Miss Cathleen Cavanagh is also conspicuously good. Miss Marie Menzies, Mr E. G. Fare, and Mr M. Maud contribute much to the success, and in a dual-rôle Miss L. Murray is seen to considerable advantage. Others who do well are Mr Wilton Drury, Mr Hall-Menzies, Mr Francis Searel, Mr William Fielding, and Mr George Clarke.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Potasch.—The attraction here this week is the Moody-Manners opera company, who are giving a répertoire, including *Tannhauser*. *Carmen*, *Faust*, *Pagliacci*, and *Cavalleria Rusticana*. Needless to say, the performances are exceedingly successful from a vocal, instrumental, and scenic point of view, a company of no fewer than seventy being employed, including a chorus of thirty-five voices, and a supplementary orchestra of fifteen first-class musicians. Mr Edward Arthur and Miss Enriqueta Crichton share the chief honours in Monday's performance of *Tannhauser*, excellent singing being contributed also by Miss Grace Nicoll as Venus, Mr Charles Tilbury as the Landgrave, Mr Walter Barrett as Wolfram, and Mr R. Brookes as Walther. Other important members of the company, Mr Charles Carter, Mr T. H. Wood, Miss Telfy Davie, and Miss Nedda Morrison, have their opportunities in the other operas mentioned; and the week's audiences have every reason to be well pleased by the fare provided by the new management of this popular theatre.

HIPPODROME.—Manager Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The performance here this week of Lieutenant Chard's dogs is highly interesting, the animals being wonderfully well trained. The Stoll Brothers are clever horizontal bar artistes, and much amusement is caused by their eccentric business. The equilibristic speciality act of the Brothers Donar is particularly smart, and Phil Herman's Ladies' Comedy Four, in humorous and pleasing medleys, sing with good effect. Chris Masters, comedian, has some good songs, which he renders in capital style, and H. Tomlinson, vocal comedian, also sings well. Enjoyable items are contributed by Cyclo, trick cyclist; Andrews and Thompson, in an American singing comedy act; Mahatma, in second-sight marvels; Mephisto and Marie, in clever speciality act; and the animated pictures.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—The well-trained Judge's cockatoos are here this week, and meet with well-deserved applause. The Four Royal Welshmen sing agreeably; Vincent gives an exhibition of high jumping and tumbling that is very clever; Victor Newman received much applause for his impersonations of Shakespearian and other characters; and the Pinaros provoke considerable laughter by their funny American comedy act. Texas Hattie is a pleasing young tight-rope performer, and Master George, boy soprano, is another juvenile of merit. There are also contributions by Ray and Les, comedy gymnasts; Norman and Francois, musical sketch artists; Richard Bellony, in a Continental speciality act; and the Franz, who give some racy Irish songs and patter, and do some dancing. A series of animated pictures complete.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—A Christmas fantasia by the musical director, Mr Frank J. Smith, entitled "Tivoli Greetings," is excellently rendered here this week by the orchestra. Dandy George and his remarkably clever dog Rosie head the bill, and meet with a good reception. Katie Butler, comedienne, sings her songs in capital style, and is loudly applauded, and some really clever dancing is done by the Figaros in their smart "Ten Minutes on the Continent" act. Wal Pink and company provoke much laughter in their sketch *Uncle's Wife;* the M'Aubers go through an exceptionally clever and funny performance on the triple bar; and excellent are the contributions of Leo Stormont, actor-vocalist, and Frank Cass, vocal comedian. Pleasing items are also provided by Olive Vane, male impersonator, and Madge Roberts, comedienne.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Collins.—The programme here, as usual, is very strong, the chief attraction being the great Little Tich, one of the quaintest comedians on the boards. His songs, patter, boot-dancing, and his general eccentric business, including his effective smile, won loud and enthusiastic applause. Another well-received turn of a highly meritorious character is that of the Brothers Pantzer, whose performance is marked from beginning to end with a finish which is almost unique. A word of praise should be accorded their page-boy assistant, who is smartly amusing. Continual roars of laughter follow the efforts of the Donaldson Brothers and Ardel and company in their well-known and effective pantomime, *A Zoological Comedy*, and of the Ginnetts in their mirth-provoking sketch *The Rejected Remounts*. The charming Laila Selbina is a highly accomplished trick cyclist, and, assisted by the amusing midget Harry, provides a most delightful turn. The Sydney James' Strolling Players are most entertaining, their songs, dances, ventriloquism, part-singing, and other business being deservedly well received. Verno and Voyce appear in their latest success *Capital and Labour*, and prove very popular; Clarice Letta, vocalist, possesses a good voice; and the Three Sisters Slater are pleasing banjoists, vocalists, and dancers.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—M. Gintaro, the wonderful Japanese equilibrist, is here this week, his marvellous feats of balancing and top-spinning being enthusiastically received. Woolford's animal circus provide a capital turn, the revolving table, with attempts of boys from the audience to keep their equilibrium, causing roars of laughter. Achilles exhibits his splendid muscular development, and lifts various heavy weights to demonstrate his great strength; Wal Croft is very amusing in his Scotch songs and patter; Miss Woodruff sings a pleasing song with a good chorus; and Francis and Melii present a comical musical novelty act, entitled *Brigands*. Jenny Love, international vocalist, and Dan Kennedy, comedian, also contribute to the entertainment, which concludes with a specially good series of pictures. The Neveters, who figure on the programme, did not appear on the occasion of our visit.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—Carl Reinsch, in his high-class sporting act; Alice Simmons, operatic vocalist; Viviana, the dancing girl; and the Palace pictures are to be seen here this week, in addition to a pantomime noticed in another column.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—*The Black Vampire* is being played here this week. The company is headed by Mr Henry L. Osmond, who cleverly sustains the part of Harry Royce, the detective, supported by Miss Winifred Chalmers, who plays with ability as Mona Drayton. Others prominent are Mr W. Carriden as Armand Dubois, Mr Arthur D. Owens as Henry Dubois, Mr Herbert Woodin as Sammy Dobbs, Mr Dunlop Stewart as Ritzs, Mr A. P. Harold as Chief of Police, Miss Maud Yorke as Mdlle. Latour, Miss Madge Palmer as Estelle, and Little Elsie Videau as Gervaise Dubois.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—The Harmony Four are the great attraction here this week. They are an extremely humorous turn, and receive hearty plaudits. The Brothers Doran are clever gymnasts, their antics creating roars of laughter. Russell and Roper, as "The Opera Singer and the Sandwich-Man," are a capital turn, and Miss Belle Davis and her pick chicks are great favourites. Frazer and Mac, in "The Modern School of Acting," are good, and Regal, the impossible juggler, pleases. Frank Seeley sings some amusing songs, and Celeste is a smart wire performer. The Bio completes a good programme.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr Wm. Ainsworth.—The Scottish Meisters, who head the bill here, sing with fine effect; Zarmo is a clever juggler; and the Five Bon-Bons in a sketch, *Hot Time for One*, please. Wallace Whitney sings good songs, and Master Henri is a young juggler of great promise; Mdlle. Haydee's electric mannikin theatre provides a capital turn; and Beatie Foster, vocalist; Jack Pleasants, comedian; and the Bio complete the programme.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy.—This week we have Mr C. Finch Hatton's *When London Sleeps*. Mr Tom Ronald is clever and active as David Engleheart; Mr R. Graydon is very good as Signor Bob Jones; and as the Hon. Bertie, who is seeing life, Mr Charles Digby could not be excelled. Mr David Kelway is amusing as Sammy Blyth, and Miss Grace Barington is well appreciated as Hilda Carrode. Mr Vivian is well suited as Mr Furnaby Fuller, and a clever exposition of the part of the heroic Queenie Carruthers is given by Miss Mabel Cluer. The scenic effects are good.

NELSON.

NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs T. G. Croft; Business Manager, George E. Mudd.—The New Grand was crowded to its utmost limits on Tuesday evening, when, by kind permission of Mrs T. G. Croft, Mr George E. Mudd took a well-earned benefit. A mammoth programme had been arranged for the occasion, including contributions from members of Miss Daisy De Roy's pantomime company, which is rehearsing at Nelson, and also from many local artists. Miss Daisy De Roy herself contributed two songs, which were greatly appreciated; whilst Mr A. Wilkinson's animated pictures, "A Trip to the Moon," were heartily enjoyed. To describe all the excellent turns at length would be wearying, but, suffice it to say, all the following rendered yeoman service in their united efforts to make the benefit a "bumper":—Mr Tom Oliver, Jack Radcliffe, Mdlle. Lucretia, Harry Briggs, J. K. Bond, the Sisters Nelson, Jack Bland and Miss P. Lytton, Jack Clarke, Ted Farrar, Rae and Rae, the Barrasford Boys, W. A. Blakey, Tom Smith, Paul Courtney, and Miss Georgie Hall. The proceedings throughout were of a most enjoyable nature, and Mr Mudd must have been highly gratified at the success of the benefit. During the evening Miss Daisy De Roy, on behalf of the "front of the house" staff and the stage staff respectively, presented to Mr Mudd a handsome gold-mounted ebony walking-stick and a beautiful meerschaum pipe as a token of the esteem in which he is held by the staff generally. Mr Mudd suitably acknowledged.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—*The Drama of Life* is being enacted here by Messrs Carson and Granville's company. Mr Jerrold Ord portrays with force and earnestness Harry Beech. There is also much to admire in Mr John J. Hooker's impersonation of Walter Beech. Mr Bulwer Pitt gives a grimly humorous embodiment of Jack Lawton and Dave Crane has a vigorous representative in Mr L. Thackeray. Sir Dobson Wilde has an amusing exponent in Mr Owen Remonde, and Lady Wilde is capitally portrayed by Miss M. Inglis. Miss Cissie Bellamy speaks her lines with excellent effect as Sylvia Beech, and acts with sympathy and power. Mr Walter Steele contributes a good performance as Richard Brenton.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Fred Karno's company is here in *Early Birds*. Rose Archer supplies some clever mimicry of well-known music hall singers; Fiske and M'Donough do some good acting; the Emelia Sisters display proficiency in their musical entertainment, a juvenile member of the party being a finished performer on the violin; and in a somewhat similar line of business the Loro Quartet also distinguish themselves. A roller-skating act of excellence is contributed by the Vicentinas, and Barney Vox entertains greatly as a ventriloquist. Well-developed athletes are the Three Donals, and in their gymnastic act their physical powers are fully

demonstrated. Frank Harwood, descriptive vocalist, has a good style and manner, and Chas. Vincent, comedian, creates amusement. The Kales are neat dancers.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr E. W. Bacon.—The Crown Trio of vocalists are the success of the week here. The Brothers Laure, a couple of clever acrobats, do a droll and smart turn, which is much appreciated. Andy Burn gives a capital entertainment, including some wonderful dancing. Will Candlish, Black Emperor, is extremely funny, and has a capital musical display. Grey and Welford, smart boxers, are extremely clever in their sketch, "I'll give you duck." The Mackays, in a bright sketch, are well received, as are the Lulaine Darrell Troupe of gymnasts. Other artistes engaged are Lydia Dudley, a smart comedienne, and Fred Casburn.

PAVILION.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr W. H. Boardman.—Al Lawrence, mimetic comedian, is appearing here this week. His stories are amusing. Messrs Gardner, Griffin, and Gardner appear in an absurdity, entitled *The Rat-catcher*, in which they introduce solos on various musical instruments. Stella Stanley, comedienne, contributes some pleasing songs; and Sam Mayo is very successful with his nursery rhymes. Lind is again giving his impersonations of lady dancers, his contributions to the programme being much appreciated. Michael Nolan manages to retain all his popularity; a clever entertainment is provided by Miss Fredrica's terriers and Dot, a cake-walk pony, who exhibit unusual intelligence and do credit to their trainer; Messrs Starr and Jerome, are coon vocalists and buck and sand dancers of ability, and are the recipients of recalls; Ida Ross contributes a Tyrolean song; and Heloisa Titcomb, a South American singer, is a pleasing vocalist with a handsome presence and beautiful dresses. The animated pictures still prove a source of much attraction to Pavilion patrons.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—Mr Frank Bateman's company opened a week's engagement here with *At War with Woman*. Miss Lizzie Montague sustains the part of Auriel Romanoff very ably, and Mr E. B. Lewis as Alexander Romanoff is capital. Good work is done by Mr Clinton Baddeley as Antolski, Mr Fred Vaughan's General Malakoff, Mr Louie's Lieut. Alexis, Miss Marion Warren's Frida Malakoff, Miss L. Cavanagh's Tolska, and Miss A. Thomas's Katinka. In the last act Mr W. C. Bland and Miss Annie Thomas contribute songs, for which they are deservedly applauded.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—Mr Geo. Gray and company are producing *The Fighting Parson* here. Mr L. B. Athol sings a popular song well. Little Nelusco gives a display of conjuring that is decidedly clever; and Charles Bayman, eccentric negro comedian, sings and dances admirably. The Labakans, with their wonderfully-trained dog Folly, are popular; Miss Alice Maydue, a clever actress, shows skill; Harry Champion pours forth his latest ditty with lightning speed; and the Bostons, novelty showmen, do an amusing turn.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—Through the kindness of Mr Milton Bode the Northampton Comedy Company on the first three nights of the week played with great success H. J. Byron's comedy *Our Boys* for the benefit of local charities.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Robert Barton.—The items in this week's programme include the happy effusions of Arthur Gill, the yokel comedian; Harry Walker, patter comedian; the comedy duologue of Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte, which is very amusing; the Jansons, in an acrobatic turn; Mimi Dare, comedienne and dancer; Sardou, illusionist, assisted by Madame Sardou; Will Farrell, express comedian; Blanche Newman, a dainty comedienne and dancer; and Miss Marie Riviers, ballad and comic vocalist.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Mr John H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Choir is located here this week. The Lizzette Troupe of acrobats introduce a clever act, for which they are loudly applauded, and the Musical Keiths also come in for a hearty reception. Mr Fred M'Lean, eccentric comedian, meets with much favour, and Mr Maurice DUDD, tenor vocalist; Miss Ada Lorne, dancer; Miss Elsie Rubina, princess of equipoise; Miss Pattie Burton, vocalist; and other artistes all contribute successfully.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—The bill here is headed by the De Veres, comedy acrobats, who give a smart performance. Mr Fred Burnaby, vocalist, renders his songs in capital style, and Mr Tom Andrews, eccentric comedian, has made a hit. Miss Marie Roland, comedienne, is well received. Mr John E. West, Scotch comedian, is funny; the Percys, duettists, are very pleasing; Payne's Bio-Photoscope is as popular as ever; and Jimson's comedy animals are loudly applauded.

NORWICH.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby.—Dr. Edmond Taylor with the Mystic Kettle and other wonderful exhibitions is extremely entertaining, and meets with much appreciation. Martin Chapender proves himself a great illusionist and mystifier; the Original Tom White's Arabs, with Pimple, have a cordial reception; Rice, Rose, Davis, and the Half create immense laughter with their sketches; Rose Clyde's comedy company are also amusing in their sketch, *I Must Have It*; Ralston and Frances are pleasing in a musical nautical scena; Frank Hope is good as a sensational trick cyclist; the Brothers Zenary give a clever acrobatic act entitled "A Meeting at the Club;" Martini and Son take well as American song illustrators; whilst Capt. Selby's band is much appreciated.

NOTTINGHAM.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr A. W. Bull. — *Between the Lights* pays yet another visit, and receives a warm welcome on Monday. Mr George Lyttleton, jun., acts commendably as the troubled Gerald Warren. The knavery of Stanley Crofton is shown with full force by Mr Herbert Pearson, and Mr Chas. H. Fenton capably doubles the parts of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley, the latter rôle being especially good. Mr Alfred D. Adams makes a fine figure as Captain Hinton. Miss Hester Sandford gives a pathetic rendering of Violet Warren, and Miss Kate Froude impersonates Madge Armley in a strong and vigorous manner. There is a large element of humour introduced by Miss Florence Barnes (Kitty) and Messrs H. G. Brandon, Weedon Rose, and H. Lockwood.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—Carl Hertz, the marvellous illusionist, assisted by Mdlle. D'Alton, is drawing crowded houses this week, who watch, applaud, and wonder at the mysterious entertainment offered them. Miss Bonnie Goodwin and her clever piccaninnies are adepts in the cake-walk, and they receive a veritable ovation. The Sisters Trentanovi display their dexterity and smartness in a trapeze act. The Barowski Trio introduce amusing oddities in a gymnastic scena. Leonard and François are also seen in some expert acrobatic feats, in which their burlesque bullfight figures largely. The versatility of Ross and Lewis is demonstrated in singing and dancing, and the Passports neatly execute some fancy dancing. Miss Childie Stuart is an excellent comedienne, and Princess Pauline submits a song effectively. The American Bioscope adds to the enjoyment by a series of new films.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr George Knowles.—An excellent programme is being submitted here. The principal artiste is Harry Freeman, the popular comedian. A remarkable performance of comedy acrobatism is given by the Max Trevally-Harley Troupe; Tom and Marie Motramo are well received in their up-to-date musical comedy act, *Do You Reverse?* David Poole is heartily appreciated for a clever ventriloquial performance; and Madge Grey, dialect comedienne; Herbert Betts, versatile comedian; Sheila Deans, comedienne; Beatty and Blanche, duettists; and Linton, acrobatic tight-rope artiste, complete an excellent entertainment.

GAIETY, LIMITED.—Manager, Mr E. J. Dexter.—The exceptional programme submitted here this week includes Rappo, Continental equilibrist, ably assisted by Mdlle. Ella; a very amusing burlesque scene, *Opera Gone Mad*, is ably rendered by the Sevronis; the Two Gems (Flo and Cissie) are encored for their clever duets; Stave, electric comedy artiste, is successful in a novelty entertainment; Charles Paver, popular comedian, is well received; Miss Leah Arden obtains due appreciation for her clever ballad singing; and the Bioscope concludes an excellent entertainment.

OXFORD.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Mr Julian Baimbridge's company is here with *The Man from ——?* Mr W. Tyrer gains considerable favour as the hero, Lieut. Jack Hartley, while Mr J. Gordon Snell gives an adequate portrayal of Sir Richard Templeton. Mr Julian Baimbridge shows histrionic power as the villain, Philip Gordon, and is ably assisted by Mr Henry Kennedy as Anstey Fowler. Mr R. Nelme-Grasswell has a good grip of Dick Ferrett, and Mr J. Leighton-Leigh is excellent as Peter Miggles. Mrs Julian Baimbridge is a sympathetic Mary Templeton; Miss Amy Ryper is convincing as Kate Meadows; Miss Vasti Wynne makes the most of Jenny Perkins; and Miss Cicele Rene is a decided success as Nipper Ferrett.

PAISLEY.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—The management has this week an excellent company appearing, which includes Jack Henri, versatile comedian; Lil Hartley, refined vocalist; E. J. Wilkes, comedian; Charles F. Braidie, Irish character entertainer and expert reel and jig dancer; Joe Conley, eccentric comedian and dancer; Shavo, expert and comedy juggler; and Les Prinellas, in their sketch, *A Country Flirtation*, included in which appears Joe Gill, a funny comedian. The animated pictures (a complete new series) are applauded.

PERTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr J. H. Savile; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Aldridge.—Mr Edward Marris's company is here this week in the sensational domestic drama *As Midnight Chimes*. Mr Melville Bickford as Luke Dezzard enacts his heavy part with force and daring; Mr Frank E. Petley distinguishes himself as Dave Stannard; as also does Mr Walter Wilby as old Ezra Gamble. Mr Percy Maitland is seen to advantage as the unfortunate Nat Wilson; Mr James Salter is the cause of a very agreeable diversion as Tat Spaving, and is aided considerably by Miss Nita Imeson in a delightful impersonation of Suzette. Miss Iris M. Ward is quite a success as Zamora; Miss Minnie Ethel shows decided ability in the part of Little Davy; and Miss Gertrude Price proves herself quite equal to the trying and onerous rôle of Mary Stannard.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Langdon Lee.—There was a feast of fun provided here this week on the occasion of a complimentary benefit to Mr Percy Williams, son of the popular lessee and acting-manager of the Grand Theatre. Artists engaged for the forthcoming pantomime, together with "stars" from the Palace of Varieties, appeared with much success, and during the evening the beneficiaire was the recipient of a handsome testimonial, subscribed for by many townsmen.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—Mr T. Morton Powell's company is appearing here this week in a new drama entitled *A Woman's Devotion*. Mrs Morton Powell as the Parisienne displays considerable power, and Mr Edward Mervyn acquits himself with credit. Miss Maude S. Drewry makes a fascinating heroine, and other parts are well taken by Miss Dot Selby, Miss Alwynne Ermon, Messrs G. Davis, F. R. Robertson, and W. B. Somerville.

PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Directors Messrs Livermore Brothers; Manager, Mr J. Field.—The Hindoo lady Nadji is the principal "star" turn here this week, and her acrobatic and contortionist feats elicit hearty plaudits. Another smart performer is James Bard, who indulges in evolutions on a suspended wire. As a juggler Miss Agnes Krembser is accomplished. The Michalinis are comic equilibrists, whilst the Sisters Pine are versatile comediennes. In the sketch *Mischief* the Revell Troupe score well, and good vocalism is forthcoming from Sinclair and Parr. Duets and dances by the Leonards and animated photographs complete an enjoyable programme.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. Carlton.—The attraction this week is *Parson Thorn*, a play full of strong points, and very well acted by Mr Ormonde G. Smethurst's company. The company manager himself appears in the title-rôle, playing intelligently and skilfully. Mr Sydney Elton, who impersonates the villain, is a capable actor. Miss Clara Knowles and Miss Jessie Chandler undertake difficult parts with much success.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE. — Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—Mr Henry Hare's company is here in the musical farcical comedy entitled *The Girl from Chicago*. Mr Buckstone Clair is decidedly good as "Judge" Ananias Hussell, a Yankee lawyer; Billy M'Guffin has a most amusing representative in Mr Edwin Dodds; Mr Douglas Vigors deserves mention as Percy Montmorency; Brother Obadiah Caccles is successfully played by Mr Clarence Ibbotson; Miss Ida Kessanly is a charming Flora Boomer; Mr Henry Hare capably plays the part of General Boomer; Miss Nellie Vivot creates roars of laughter as Lucretia Flatfoot; and Miss Cissie Hilton gives a praiseworthy impersonation of Mrs Sweetlove. The dances contributed by the Daffodils are much appreciated.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—On Monday and Tuesday an entertaining comedy entitled *The Bookmaker*, written by the popular manager, was presented here for his benefit. Mr Pritt, the author, successfully played the title-part, and the play was accorded a hearty reception.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—Messrs Craggs are occupying the above theatre in their musical pantomimical absurdity *Laughter-Land*. The rôle of Professor Sylvanus Wood is humorously filled by Mr Henry B. Lewis; Dick Marlow is ably impersonated by Mr J. Hitchens; Mr Victor T. Raymond plays Archie Trentham exceedingly well; Mr Arthur E. Behan as Squire Topsam is very quaint; Mr Arthur Cragg, Mr James Cragg, Mr Alfred Cragg, Mr Edward Cragg, Mr J. W. Cragg, and Mr Cremorne Cragg (Billy) as the Stewards cause great amusement, and are marvellously clever acrobats; and Miss Amy Hastings as Clarice and Miss Louise Millward as Clothida render efficient aid.

PONTYPOOL.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Messrs C. and J. Poole; Resident Manager, Mr J. H. Stephens.—During the past fortnight extensive alterations have been carried out at this popular playhouse. A new stage has been erected. The proscenium has been widened and enlarged, and a new act-drop by Mr Alfred Glendenning, of London, has been fitted. The whole of the interior has been beautified by fine landscape paintings on the walls, and the electric light has been installed throughout.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—Mr W. S. Gilbert's pantomime, *The Fairy's Dilemma*, is being presented here by Mr Arthur Bourchier's company, under the management of Messrs Silvanus Dauncey and M. V. Leveaux, this week. Mr H. Asheton Tonge made a capital Col. Sir Trever Manleverer, and as clown was legitimately funny and amusing. The Rev. Aloysius Parfitt, M.A., was ably represented by Mr Frank Stanmore, his harlequin also deserves mention. Mr Frank Collins's Mr Justice Whortle was another capital piece of work, and he also made an excellent pantaloon. Miss Ada Homer in the part of Lady Angela Wealdstone was good, and the same may be said of Miss Gertrude Hope as Clarissa. The parts of the Demon Alcohol and the Fairy Rosebud were well placed in the hands of Mr C. Herbert Hewetson and Miss Estella Winwood. The mounting was exceedingly good and the scenery first-rate.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr T. E. Agate.—Mr John F. Preston's company, under the direction of Mr F. B. Woulfe, is paying a visit, presenting *Lady Godiva* to highly pleased audiences. The title-part is attractively played by Miss Grace Lester; that of Lady Aldyth being very pleasingly undertaken by Miss Marcella Hudson. Miss Madge Boulton makes a very amusing Elfrida; Mr F. B. Woulfe well and powerfully impersonates Tom o' Coventry; Mr W. Howard Barlow is effective and impressive as Algar; Mr James Duncan as Leofric is successful, and Mr Dan F. Roe as Robin Shaklebolt is very diverting.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—Atlas and Vulcana head the bill here with their refined classical athletic act, which gains great applause. Harry Leybourne, comedian, had a warm welcome, his songs going well; Terres Brothers, in the acrobatic pot-pourri, "Pastimes on the Promenade," are skilful and sure; Sterling and Cashen, Terpsichorean experts and cake-walk dancers, are highly diverting; and also appearing are Minnie D'Aubyn, soubrette and danseuse; Sidden and Hayward, vaudeville entertainers; Fox and Melville, American song illustrators; and Joe Humphreys, eccentric comedian.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—This theatre has been closed this week for pantomime preparations except on Monday evening, when a successful complimentary benefit was given to Mr W. E. Barnett, the popular and courteous business-manager of the theatre. A very attractive programme was submitted and the bénéficiaire was rewarded with a "bumping" house. The programme included Messrs George Grossmith and Arthur Law's delightful operetta *Uncle Samuel*, in which Mr G. E. Rayment, Miss Mary Anderson, Mrs Butler, and Mr Percy Waugh appeared; musical items by members of Mr F. J. Little's *Sinbad the Sailor* company; songs by Mr Ben Lawes, the well-known comedian, and Mr W. H. Moore; a ventriloquial performance by Besonl; a duologue by Mrs Milton Bode and Mr Reginald Taylor, and a host of local talent. At the conclusion of the performance Mr Barnett expressed his thanks to the audience, and also to Mr Bode for the use of the theatre and the artistes who had given their services. Mr Carl Von Benyon assisted Mr R. Taylor in the stage-management.

ROCHDALE.

CIRCUS AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Smith and Lee; Business-Manager, Mr S. L. Lee.—A crowded house on Monday enjoyed an excellent programme. Bob Hartley, the startler, deserves his title for his novel and amusing turn; Dagmar and Clown, on the horizontal bar, submit a clever and laughable exhibition of bar performing; and the Four Skandias, Swedish gymnasts, arouse enthusiasm with their wonderful feats of strength and agility. Miss Doris Dene, quaint comedienne; Herbert Maden, vocal comedian; the Forrest Sketch company, Two Weltons, expert dancers; and the Electrograph add to the list.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—A capital programme is submitted here. Jumbo's Ostoroons sing and dance with skill and effect; Gerald Mount, mimic, gives a refined and acceptable turn; Alfred Leslie sings some good songs in capital style; Clarke's American Banjo Duo arouse enthusiasm by their manipulation of banjos; Aga, the suspended maiden, mystifies the audience completely; and the Bros. Harlem, speciality artistes; and the Empire Bioscope, with the latest animated pictures, complete the bill-of-fare.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—Mr Herbert Fuller's company is here this week with *Fiends of London*. Miss Agnes Collier is pleasing as Laura Christie, and Mr Francis Everard scores as Captain Crawley. They are ably supported by the rest of the company.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—The late Wilson Barrett's fine play *The Never-Never Land* was again acted here on Monday by a powerful company under the direction of Mr John Hart.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The company here includes Nellie Wallace, the clever low comedienne and dancer; Florrie Gallimore, a great and deserved Sheffield favourite; Tom Maxwell and Virginia Francis, speciality artistes and dancers; Arthur Melrose, whistling expert; the Three Olracs, acrobats; the Tourbillon Troupe of acrobatic cyclists; Ella Redford, comedienne; Austin and Cowan, vocal entertainers; Cole et Lorse, comedians; and the popular and mirth-provoking comic vocalist Mr Tom Leamore, in new songs and old favourite impersonations.

SMETHWICK.

ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—Mr Arthur Rose's company is paying a return visit here in the domestic drama *The Follies of Youth*. This play has been entirely revised and is scarcely recognisable. Being of a military nature, it is bright and cheerful, and there is no lack of humour, while a number of specialities add to its attractiveness. The company presenting the drama is excellent all round. Miss Violet Macaree as the chief figure, Gwendoline, stands out prominently for notice, and she holds, by her excellent acting, the attention of the audience throughout. Mr Arthur Rose as the companion villain, Ralph Murdock, is a capable supporter. Miss Laura A. Pardy is well placed as Dorothy Dornton, and makes the most of her opportunities. Mr Walter Bently as Captain Ronald Druce, plays a difficult rôle with ability. Miss Bertha Hanbury, a clever child actress, as Little Ruth captures the hearts of the audience with her well-spoken lines. Mr David Beattie as Nat Thistle, and Mr Bert Wallace as Matthew Merryweather create much merriment, and receive able support at the hands of Miss Ena Russel as Kitty Hawthorne, a sprightly and vivacious maid. The business management is in the capable hands of Mr P. George Beresford.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—Miss Blanche St. Albans and Mr J. Leicester Jackson's company opened here this week, in *Her One Great Sin*. A talented rendering of the character of Grace Warhurst is given by Miss Blanche St. Albans. The parts of Reuben Warhurst and Arnold Thornhill are capably sustained by Mr Sam Arthur and Mr J. L. Jackson. Mr F. Hodson is very funny as Jerry Jumble, and with Miss Nelly Lambert as Nancy keeps the audience in excellent humour. Little Gracie has a clever exponent in Miss Maudie Lambert. Mr Harold B. Ford is a capital Jack Hundle. The parts of Dan and Bet Hundle are in the capable hands of Mr Charles E. Lambert and Miss Louie Walton. Miss Phyllis Damian as Charlie gives a clever portrayal. Adequate support is given by the other members of the company, and the piece is well staged.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—The Canadian cyclist Banker makes a sensational descent of a steep incline here and turns a somersault over a horizontal bar with his cycle. B. Troba is a phenomenal juggler; and a smart equilibrist exhibition is given by Alphonso Sylvano. Lowell and Lowell, eccentric comedians and acrobats; Nellie and Nora, clever society musical entertainers; Dale and Vale, comedians and dancers; Algie and Reggie, comic eccentric musicians; and Nina Elmer, comedienne, are all well received.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Manager, Mr J. B. Taylor.—This week's bill here is headed by the Three Romas, gladiatorial marvels, who give a good performance. Cordite, a lady lassoo-thrower, rope-spinner, and lariat manipulator; George White's Night Arabs, in song and story; Little Dando, eccentric and humorous comedian; Mabel Kessler, cornet soloist; the Sisters Desmond, character duettists; Evelyn Carmen, contralto vocalists; Hoppit, Tony, and Terry, in a circus comedy act; Dan Thomas, tenor vocalist; Emmie White, refined comedienne and dancer; Kessanley's dogs; and Reg. Bromlo, boy vocalist, also do successful turns.

SCARBOROUGH.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr Walter Kitchingman.—The entertainment here still consists chiefly of variety business. Amongst those appearing are Professor Dickinson and Miss Johnson, ornamental swimmers in silver tank; Gilbert Serony, comedian; Oakdene, ventriloquist; Miss Irene Herbert, contralto vocalist; Gus Balsiger, trick instrumentalist; Mozzetto, boy juggler; Vasco, burlesque conjuror; and a capital series of pictures. "Whirling the Worlds" on the Bioscope completes a capital programme.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Quinton Gibson.—Here we have appearing with much success the Vyponds (Fred and Maud), who give a capital turn; Sidney Conke, descriptive vocalist; Rider Davis, actor vocalist; France and Francis, acrobatic comedians; Eva Ward, comedienne; T. C. Smith, sporting comedian; and Alf Shaw, comedian. One of the novelties is a football kicking competition, the competitors endeavouring to put the ball through a square hole in a board on the stage. "A Father's Vengeance," in a series of films, is shown on the Hippograph.

SHEERNESS.

COLISEUM.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. C. Dorling; Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—Excellent programmes still continue the rule here. Mr Chas. Bignell, comedian, heads this week's bill, and is capitally received. Miss Dot Robins and company, in the sketch *The Necklace of Death*, are eminently successful. A capital performance by Mdlle. Devens, transformation club juggler, is much admired; the Eckersleys, in the musical farce *A Simple Country Maid*, are very amusing, and a similar compliment is also due to Sleath and Aldis, musical sketch artistes. Other meritorious items include Mr William Kingsley, hand-bell expert; Harry Lynx, comedian; Miss Gracie Drew, burlesque actress; and Miss Helena Slater, soprano.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr P. Raymond.—A capital bill here includes Frank Purcell's combination in the farcical sketch *The Cyclist*, which creates roars of laughter. Amongst other prominent turns are Miss Bella Bright, comedienne and dancer; Mr Will Munday, comedian and reciter; H. J. Harcourt, comedian; Miss Pattie Power, comedienne; Fred Wynford, eccentric comedian; and Miss Fanny Newnes and company, in the comedy sketch *Retaliation*. The genial proprietor generously announces a benefit performance on behalf of an aged widow whose only son, her sole means of support, had recently died.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—*Sherlock Holmes* was presented here on Monday for the first time to a fairly large audience, by Mr Charles Frohman's company. Mr H. A. Saintsbury portrayed the clever detective with telling effect, and was well supported by Mr L. Leyton as Dr. Watson, Mr W. F. Stirling as Professor Moirarity, and the Misses Vera Longden and Clarice Doncaster in the parts of Alice Faulkner and Mrs Faulkner respectively.

HIPPODROME, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs Murray King and Clark; General Manager, Mr A. Cuthbert.—An attractive programme is furnished here this week. The principal turn is supplied by Daines's Circus. Other items include Babette, equestrian; Rozella, high trapeze act; the Musical Gale; Prince Kuroki, juggler; Great Scott, acrobat and balancer; Allesora, silver ring performance; and Alber and Amber, clowns.

ST. HELENS.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Foremost we have here this week Houdini, aptly described as the handcuff king of the world, who executes many marvels in his special line, causing considerable consternation at every performance. He is well supported by Mr James Brady, eccentric vocal joker; Mayon and Marle, comedy duologue artists; Onda and Leon, neat and clever bar performers; Len Lever, coffee-coloured coon; Brothers Esdale, refined comedians; and Mr Welsker's Bioscope, showing the latest picture, "Whirling the Worlds; or, the Invasion of the Sun."

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr Wm. Revill.—The familiar drama *It's Never Too Late to Mend* has been presented here by Mr John Wainwright and company to appreciative audiences, the popular actor appearing in his old character of Tom Robinson with marked success. As George Fielding Mr Alfred E. Calver acts effectively; whilst the Rev. Francis Eden has a capable representative in Mr Hornby Warburton. Mr Harold Webb fills the part of Mr Meadows with ability; and Mr Henry Lee is clever and amusing as Peter Crawley. Mr Fred Owen is very pleasing as Jackey. Miss Kitty Carew is charming as Susan Merton; and Miss Millie Wilton acts with sympathetic effect as Josephs, the waif.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton.—We are this week receiving a return visit from Messrs Charles Draycott and H. B. Peppin's company with *The Stolen Birthright*. A capital interpretation was given on Monday. Mr Charles Draycott as Count Marco achieved success; Mr Henry Monti's Stephano was highly creditable; and Mr Robert Watson played in a manly, convincing manner as Andrea. Miss Lilian Watson Loyde as Miranda acted in a pleasing and refined manner.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—Miss Maud May and company, supported by Mr Stephen T. Ewart, are submitting a clever interpretation of *A White Passion Flower*. Miss May, in the part of Freda Harling, stood out prominently, her handsome presence and histrionic ability being the chief features in her success. Mr S. T. Ewart admirably suited the character of Paul Cary; Mr W. Turnbull worked hard as Cyril Greaves; and Messrs N. C. Anthony and Harold Quack rendered a good account of themselves in the parts of Father Rowland Clarke and Major Teveral. The Mrs Vane Lacey of Miss Marion Marshall was also praiseworthy.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—A great deal of interest is being aroused here by Ahrensmeyer, the cowboy hyptonist. His versatile entertainment calls forth laughter and amazement. G. W. Hunter tells funny stories; Amber Austa submits a coon song and dance with freshness and chic; Wisper is a juggler with droll talk and still droller antics; Geo. Bohee is an old standard banjoist and vocalist; the Three Victorias are charming dancers; and Master Warren Doyle is a good clog dancer. Will Haines, vocal comedian, and Beattie Bloom, comedienne, also contribute.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—Excellent houses are appreciating the Hebrew delineator Gus Harris, the principal turn for this week. The Sisters Russell are exponents of low comedy; Hetty Devine is an attractive soprano; and a novelty singing competition is a strong feature. Little Auguste, a decidedly smart dancer, is loudly applauded. Rich and Laurel, Flemine, and Sisters Ely are also appearing.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; Resident-Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—A good reception was accorded Miss Olga André, Travis Green, and Arthur Hinton's company, in *When a Man Hates*. Mr Arthur Hinton's realistic rendering of Pietro Danelly savoured greatly of villainy. Miss Leila Zillwood's portrayal of Olga Gwynne is powerful and pathetic. Miss Marion Forester ably portrays Letty, and Miss Marie E. Robertson greatly enhances the comedy by her sprightly rendering of Dolly Dimple. Mr Mark Wynton is characteristic as Lawrence Hastings, and Mr A. Beresford is all that can be desired as Detective Smart. Mr Tom Taylor is very humorous as Peter Pimple, and as Paul Mr Travis Green scores heavily.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—The famous Negro musical comedy *In Dahomey* is here this week, with its quaint melodies and nimble dancer. Mr Dan Avery as Bareback Pinkerton is extremely funny; Mr Charles Hart's Shylock Homestead is a very unique character, full of broad humour which the audience thoroughly relishes; as Mose Lightfoot Mr. Pete Washington is successful; and other good work is done by Mr Pete Hampton (Hamilton Lightfoot), Mr Leon Williams (George Reader), Mr Fred Douglass (Dr. Straight), and Mr Walter Dixon (Hustling Charlie). Miss Laura Bowman's Cecilia is well done and her singing is of a high order; Miss Stella Hart's Mrs Stringer is good, and Miss Fanny Wise's Pansy is also a creditable part.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—The week's bill includes Astley's Circus of performing ponies, &c.; Ted Waite, comic; Ernest Montifiore and Co. in a pathetic sketch, *The Little Colonel*; Primavesi, a smart juggler; the Three Seabornes, acrobats, in their speciality, "The Human Pillar;" Bert Holmes, vocalist; Fred Clifford, baritone; and new films by Payne's Bioscope.

SUNDERLAND.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. E. Machin; Business-Manager, Mr Percival Craig.—*The* 10 30 *Down Express* is here this week. Mr H. T. Wood gives an excellent portrayal of Jack O'Malley. Mr Scott Leighton acquits himself admirably as James Inderwick. The comedy parts are ably sustained by Miss Kate Kilpack and Mr Horace Stanley. Miss E. M. Walton as Letitia, Mr Fred C. Roper as Seth Coombes, and Mr Harry Day as Huntley Mason all act ably.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Acting-Manager, Mr George V. Wybrow; Treasurer, Mr Alfred Browne.—The programme here for this week is a very attractive one. The Carcassi Duo appear in a musical specialty, and the Excelsior Glee Singers; Harry Anderson, a favourite singing comedian; Winnie Derson, comedienne; the Three Sisters Hayden; Charles Faning, comedian; Mr Frank Gerald and company, in sketch *Nothing to Nurse*; and the Wilsons all provide capital entertainments.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.

NEW KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Sutton Theatre Syndicate; Managing Director, Captain Clayton.—Mr T. E. Worth's No. 1 company, in *The Rose of the Ring*, are playing here this week, and are attracting good houses each evening. Miss Maudie Vincent as Rose Meredith gives a spirited interpretation of the title-part; Mr T. E. Worth is eminently fitted for that of the Circus Clown; and Miss Nellie Stuart as Lavinda Lovejoy is humorous. Captain Vereker has a very able exponent in Mr E. St. Clair Forbes; and Mr E. Edwards as Lord Desborough gains much appreciation.

SWANSEA.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—Mr Shirley's melodrama *The Lightning's Flash* is here on a week's visit, and is played by Mr Leslie Vyner's company.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell. — A good programme has been arranged here for the week as follows:—Richard List's performing and wrestling bears; the Howards (Ralph and Nellie), capital cornettists; the American Bioscope, with a series of very interesting pictures; Miss Nellie Coleman, an amusing and clever lady comedian; the Sisters Devona, a charming pair, in their electrical lyre aerial act; Charles Gardiner, a capital eccentric comedian; Phillips and Terry, in a clever little sketch, *Revolt of Man; or, a Hundred Years Hence*; Dome, the original comedy clay modeller; and the Lumars, in their novel acrobatic act, aided by electricity.

PALACE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr T. W. Grantham.—The engagements at this house include Dinah Morris, in "A Lost Coon," assisted by Miss Bessie Morris, dancer; Smiler Lee, comedian; Ada Kingsley, burlesque artiste; the Blind Collier, instrumentalist; the Palace Pictures; Leighton and Mona, pianists; Harry Calvo, vocalist; and the Conway Comedy Duo, in the laughable playlet, *Joining the Company*.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr Fred H. Lucas.—For the week preceding Christmas the management has secured a strong attraction in a return visit of *The Christian*. The play was staged by Mr Wentworth Croke's company, under the business direction of Mr Frank Brandon. Chief interest was centred in the admirable embodiment of John Storm by that popular actor, Mr Hilliard

Father Lamplugh. Mr Jackson Wilcox was well suited to the part of Mr Drake, and Mr Charles B. Bedells was most effective as Lord Robert Ure, the small part of Mrs Callender being safely entrusted to Miss Clara Nicholls.

FOUR highly creditable and dainty performances of a pretty little musical piece entitled *O Nana San*, book by Walter Forder, music by Geoffrey Hart, have been given by the Swindon Operatic Society, in the Mechanics' Institute, Swindon. Each performance was thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience, encores being numerous, and local charities should greatly benefit by the efforts of the talented amateurs. The piece was capitally staged, and the orchestra and chorus, under the bâton of Mr W. Salter, rendered valuable assistance.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Miss Winifred Maude's company opened here on Monday in *The Sins of a City*. Mr Horace Herbert gives an able impersonation as Sandy M'Donald; Mr J. W. Baxter is successful in the dual rôle of Joe Woodleigh and Jasper Woodleigh; Mr Ivan Gore does well as Donald M'Ivor; and Mr Victor Du Cane is an excellent Isaac Leir. Mr Leslie Beaufort acts well as Mr Blackwater, K.C.; Miss Winifred Maude plays with taste and ability as Seaweed; Miss Alice Granville is good as Mrs Miggs; and Miss Marie Lyons appears with success as Lesbia. Miss Jenny Hackett is well placed as Midge, a servant.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—The Waldrons head the bill this week, and contribute an amusing comedy turn which wins applause. The Festos, musical acrobats, meet with appreciation; Miss Lily Lassah, coon songstress, dances in excellent style; Mons. Souplessi, contortionist, performs some clever feats; Fred Terry, comedian, is well received; Major Moss and Son, vocal scenic artistes, sing well; and Thelma is a graceful dancer.

WALTHAMSTOW.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr G. Adney Payne; Manager, Mr Arthur J. Barclay; Acting-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Slatter.—An interesting programme is presented here this week, and the audiences are at once put into good humour by a delightful rendering of the overture to Rossini's *Italiana Algieri*, by the orchestra under the direction of Mr H. Petersen. Miss Ethel May is a pleasing singer and a brisk dancer; the Venola Brothers, comedy gymnasts, do some clever work; Mr Bert Brantford, an amusing comedian, sings his songs to a running accompaniment of laughter; the Avrignys perform surprising feats of jugglery smartly. One of the most popular items of the evening is Professor Thornbury, who distinguishes himself greatly in his dual capacity as lightning artist and ventriloquist. Blake and Granby manage to extract a large amount of fun from their duologue, *An American Millionaire*, in which a lady mistakes a comic broker's-man for an expected man of dollars. Both artistes play with plenty of "go." The fine, resonant voice of Mr W. H. Downs, the coloured Australian ballad vocalist, is heard to great advantage in a couple of songs. Rex Fox, whose stage wire act is rightly described as "daring," stands on the wire on one foot, and balances a tall, lighted lamp on the toes of the other, at the same time playing the mandolin. Loud and prolonged applause greet the performer when he finally descends to the stage. The concluding attraction of the programme is Mr W. Selkirk's juvenile spectacle *The Handy Man*, performed by a hundred children. The evolutions of the youngsters tells its tale of expert drilling, while the precision with which they go through their work reflects great credit on their individual and collective cleverness. The uniforms are pretty, and the whole production most pleasing.

KING'S THEATRE.—Probably as a solemn preparation for the frivolities of the forthcoming pantomime, we have here a careful production of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Mr Watson Hulme makes the most of his opportunities as the rascally Simon Legree. Mr Herbert Fox is an unctuous Uncle Tom. Miss M. Marshall looks well and plays with much spirit and pathos as Eliza. Topsy has a lively representative in Miss Amy Rogerson. The other parts are all carefully played, and the piece is most creditably put on the stage.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Fred Karno's troupe of comedians is here again this week with the popular farce *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr Harry Roxbury as Sergeant Lightning proves a worthy successor to Mr Fred Kitchen, and has rare scope for displaying his versatility.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Another capital programme is here this week, and Lava, who heads the bill, is a really clever equilibrist. Other excellent turns are Will Percival, clog dancer; the Ashers, sketch artists; Cullen and Carthy, comedians; Four Arizonas, acrobats; Shawlene, tramp whistler; and the Royal Bioscope.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—Mr Joe Hastings, the champion jumper, in a series of marvellous leaping feats, is proving a big attraction here:—The up-to-date ventriloquist, Milne, gives an interesting performance; Miss Millie Legrand, the pretty soubrette and dancer, is warmly applauded; Mr Charles Bradford, character comedian, does excellent work; the man monkey, Cambo, in his musical mimicking act, creates roars of laughter; Brenda Leslie, in American song illustrations, is well worthy of special mention; Gibbons' Bio-Tableaux are very good; the Radium Girls present a good entertainment; and Mr Fred Ward, laughable comedian, is highly commendable.

WEST BROMWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr P. Moore.—*The Beautiful Fiend* is the title of this week's play at this theatre. It is admirably presented by Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company. The piece all through is full of incident and excitement, and the staging is all that can be desired. Mr Montague Beaudyn in the rôle of Ivan Paulovitch is exceptionally clever; Miss Sidney Crowe gives a fine representation of the character of Wanda Lubinoff, the beautiful fiend; and Mr Herbert Skardon does well as Count Fedor Karatoff.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux.—*The World*, as presented by Mr John L. Asche's company, is all that could be desired both in regard to acting and scenic effects. Mr Stuart Lomath gives a powerfully realistic impersonation of Sir Clement Huntingford, and Harry Huntingford has a capital representative in Mr Francis Hawley. The rôle of Moss Jewel is ably discharged by Mr Bernard J. Llell. Mr Jackson Hayes makes the most of his part as Martin Bashford. Langley, Dr Hawkins and Dr. Wyndham are in the able hands of Mr Adam Alexander, Mr Valentine J. Cooke, and Mr T. Brown Elliott, and the short, but important part of Owen, is well played by Mr Edward Beecham. Miss Beatrice Fay as Mary Blyth elicits the sympathy of her audience. Ned is played in pleasing manner by Miss Maud Scott, and Miss Octavia Noel discharges the rôle of Mabel with fine dramatic effect.

PALACE.—Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—The entertainment of the Dandies embraces some bright and sparkling songs and quartets, which are rendered in a style that wins considerable applause. Brady and Johnson score in a comedy sketch; Jennie Reeve, serio, is well received; Tom Parker, comedian, is amusing in his songs; Gilroy and Gross, are favourably received in a dancing turn; and Read and Write, comedy duettists and top boot dancers, complete the list.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson and company have presented this week the romantic modern play *Revenge*. Mr Hill-Mitchelson in the rôle of Prince Orloff is very effective, and Mr Wellesley Draper as Captain Vanessa plays the part ably. Mr Theo Balfour as the King and Mr Arthur M'Cullock as Count Mussant also give intelligent representations of their respective characters. Miss Alice Barber as Cora Brook and Miss Violet Carlyle as the Queen act with feeling and expression, and Miss Frances White as Draga Vanessa gives an intensely emotional and passionate rendering of an interesting part.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—Charles Matthews gives an exceedingly clever jumping exhibition, and the Sisters Macarte are responsible for a novel and particularly smart performance upon the wire. Florence Lambeth, vocalist; the Robertsons, in a comedy sketch, *A Pair of Lunatics*; and Harry Barker, comedian, also give popular turns. The remainder of a good programme is filled by the Wagmars, lightning acrobats; the Sisters Bartholomew, duettists and dancers; Nelson and Thomas, in an absurdity; and Fred Horsfall, a mimic with a double voice. Charlene and Charlene give a drawing room entertainment, in which the former shows considerable skill as a juggler, and Professor M'Cann plays several excellent selections upon the English concertina.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—Sivane and Fieldon, in a comedy sketch, and Warner and Wilson, also in comedy, are well received at the Empire this week. Miss Irene Santley, vocalist, is paying a return visit, and Mr Harry Manchester, comedian and eccentric dancer, is also popular. France and Francis, knockabout comedians; Miss Brenton, descriptive vocalist; and Fred Burton, comedian, win much applause.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—Monday night was set apart for the third annual benefit of the genial and popular manager, Mr Percival, and a crowded and enthusiastic house bore testimony to his popularity. The entertainment was of a varied character, and included Dibdin's *The Waterman*, in which Mr Percival appeared as Tom Tug and Mr Arthur Sedgley as Bundle. The latter was seen to great advantage, but Mr Percival was unable to do himself justice in consequence of a severe cold. Other parts were well filled by Miss Maggie Phillips, Miss Agnes Beaufoy, and Mr A. W. Bentley. Another great attraction was the appearance of Madame Dews, whose rendering of Cowen's "Promise of Life" was one of the best features of the entertainment. Amongst other contributors to an excellent programme were Mr Harry Lawton, Mr Ted Eccleston, and the Elysian Pierrots; while Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, vocalists; Marco, a boy conjuror; and the Four Watsons, from the Empire Palace, Wolverhampton; and Miss Elsie Perrin, Mits Florence Burns, and Mr Will Letters from the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, also appeared. Some interesting presentations to Mr Percival were reserved for a private function on Thursday.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—This is the only place of amusement open here all the week. The engagements include Radford and Valentine, very clever jugglers; Marco, a boy conjuror; the Two Romers, vocalists; Maisie Pelham, dancer and comedienne; the Watson Family, musical entertainers; Kid Johnstone, ball puncher; the Du Gros Trio, gymnasts; and Dolly, Agnes, and Maud, vocalists and cardboard box makers. A capital show is also given by Ruffel's Imperial Bioscope.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant Manager, Mr Le Warde.—A costume drama of the Georgian period entitled *A Bid for Fortune* occupies the stage this week, Messrs Campbell and Fulton's company giving a capital representation. Miss Olive Fulton submits a natural and graceful rendering of Agnes Netherby. Miss Mary Ainslie is very good as Barbara Templemore; Miss Jenny Bostock plays well as the widow, Nicholls; and the child's part, Eric, is capitally embodied by little Miss Edmonds, whose singing is admirable. Other notable characters are efficiently impersonated by Mr C. Brereton Borer (Sir Philip Templemore), Mr Oswald Douglas Kent Hickett), Mr Herbert Clifton (Sir Michael Netherby), Mr Dick Thomas (Cobb Cuttle), Mr J. Lea Hair (Nat Goadberry), and Mr Arthur Trail (Matthew Mullard).

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—A variety entertainment is the attraction here again this week. Turle and Turle give a clever turn on the aerial double trapeze. Queenie Till, who possesses an excellent voice and fine presence, delights the audience. Arthur Stacey proves himself to be an excellent comedian and highly capable dancer. The Three Bolleros are highly successful in their great comedy triple bar act. The Ashwells are clever female impersonators. Johnnie Worman causes roars of laughter with his quaint humour. The Rozaire Troupe deserve special commendation for a really astounding acrobatic display. Rollo and Rando, gymnastic comedians; Jim, the original fisherman musician; and the Walturdaw animated pictures also aid in a really excellent show.

WREXHAM.

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Proprietor, Mr J. J. Scott; Manager, Mr Herbert Nicholls.—This week the following artistes have appeared here:—The Schallers, in their comedy act, *Billy's Blunders*; the Valmores, in *A Restaurant Up to Date*; the Incemores, comedy artistes; Miss Dolly Vince, comedienne; Speeks and Thorne, comedians and dancers; and Stratton Hill, quaint comedian.

YORK.

EMPIRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke.—The following excellent company is appearing here:—Mabel Comely, the Olympian Quartet, Martin Conway, J. A. Cassels, Mons. Slippere, Miss Omega, Fred Roden, the Lyons Trio, and the Onatis Troupe.

FESTIVAL CONCERT HALL.—Maskelyne and Cooke's entertainment, headed by David Devant, is the attraction here.

NOTICE.—Our Correspondents are requested to note that Next Week their Reports must reach this Office AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. *Plots of Pantomimes must be kept short.*

WE regret to record the death of Mr James Cazaly, which took place on the 14th inst. The deceased was a useful member in the profession. He afforded Madame Katti Lanner much aid in the National Training School for Dancing; and the production of ballets, &c., by the pupils in the provinces, America, and the Continent, brought him to the front. He appeared in succession at Her Majesty's and the Carl Rosa Opera at Drury-lane, under Sir Augustus Harris and Mr Chatterton, and at the Lyceum under Sir Henry Irving. He "made" several amusing and characteristic parts in conjunction with the late John Ridley in the Empire ballets. Latterly he took to the "desk," and his loss, at the age of forty-eight, will be much felt by numerous friends. The funeral took place on Monday afternoon at Abney-park Cemetery.

FAMOUS SCENIC ARTISTS.

MR. W. B. SPONG.

Mr W. B. Spong says that the request for a sketch of his professional career has sent his mind travelling over the memories of the past, and he confesses to finding some difficulty in selecting among the incidents of a life that has seen so many changes, such phases of it as would be of interest to our readers in the condensed form in which it must necessarily appear. He started at a time when the theatre and all that appertains to it was so different from those of the present day that he is tempted to tell the young generation of what he saw, heard, and knew, when a limelight was a luxury, a stage cloth but rarely used, and when flats run on in grooves to join, or not to join, in the middle. A typical theatre of the period that first unfolded its mysteries of the unknown world of "Behind the Scenes" to his curious eyes was Sadler's Wells, shortly after Greenwood and Phelps had relinquished its management.

He says: "Those that saw the last act of *Trelawney of the Wells* depicted with such marvellous fidelity by Mr Walter Hann can realise how it looked, solemn and sombre, with Cathedral-like effects of grey mist pierced by a shaft of light coming slanting across from a stray sunbeam that had found its way through some chink or half-covered, dust-begrimed window. A 'tee piece' flickering in front of an empty orchestra, wing ladders at the side, a thunder sheet, a miserable little rickety table patched in its legs for the stage-manager and prompter's use. It was all there, that background with its make-believe removed. The human comedy, sometimes tragedy, was there also, but it was not to concern me. I was taken there one chill October day by my father to be introduced to my future master, C. J. James, to learn the art of scene-painting. The name of Charles Stanfield James is now forgotten by the many, but at that time he was first amongst the coming men of an age when giants of scenic art lived. William Beverley was in his zenith, the elder Telbin, whose influence is still so strongly felt at the present day, Grieve, Danson, Gates, and Brew's names were household words, whilst Hawes Craven, whose fame was to overshadow them all, was working away in Dublin with probably but little thought of his proud position as acknowledged head of the profession in the future. During my pupilship it was my good fortune to meet most of the celebrities of the day connected with the theatrical world, Phelps, Andrew Halliday, Westland Marston, Arthur Sketchley, Kean—but there, the list is almost endless.

"When my apprenticeship was completed a situation was found for me as second painter at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, where I was welcomed by one that became my greatest friend through life, and who at that time held the post there of principal painter. I refer to George Gordon, that excellent artist, whose untimely death some two years ago in Australia caused many besides myself to

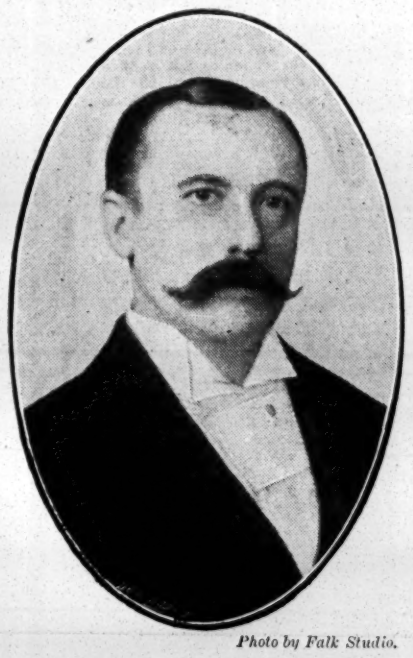


Photo by Falk Studio.

MR. W. B. SPONG.

grieve. Shortly after my arrival Mr Chute commenced building the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, and on its completion Gordon was shifted there and I was left in charge of the old theatre to produce the pantomime. Unfortunately Bristol was not ripe for two theatres, so the old was closed and I returned to join Mr Beverley's staff at Drury-lane for the season. Then I was engaged by Fred Younge, the pioneer of travelling companies in England. He had the Tom Robertson plays, and being the only company on the road made much money and social recognition. I was sent two or three weeks in advance and painted the scenery afresh in each town, he providing the artist and the local manager the materials. Presently it was found advisable to carry a small quantity of scenery for the smaller towns where his stay was limited to a week or less, and that, I believe, was the start of the present system, now carried to such perfection by Mr George Edwardes and others that there is little difference between the provincial and the London productions.

"This engagement gave me an opportunity to see my own country from north to south and east to west, and fostered that taste for travel that has since taken me to the four quarters of the globe. After two years, having visited all the principal cities in the kingdom, I resigned, and returned to Mr Beverley, but my stay with him this time was but a short one, as I was offered the position of scenic artist at the Theatre Royal, Newcastle, and by his advice accepted it. It would tire your patience to tell of the different country theatres I worked for, so I will come to the next important step in my career, viz, my engagement by D'Oyly Carte to produce the scenery for *Giroflé Girofla* at the Opera Comique, followed by *The Broken Branch*. Shortly after Selina Dolaro opened the Royalty with *La Perichole*, for which I did the scenery, and also for *Trial by Jury*, which formed the commencement of the celebrated Gilbert and Sullivan series. An act drop painted for the Metropolitan Music Hall brought my work under the notice of a Portuguese manager, and gave me the opportunity of a visit to Lisbon.

"The next four years were spent at Manchester painting for the Royal and the Prince's Theatres, then back to London, where in connection with my partners, William Perkins and E. Banks, I worked for nearly every theatre in the West of London at different times. A great change was now to come in my life. My health having become impaired by hard and incessant work, a long rest and a residence in a warm climate became a necessity, and it so happened that my old friend Robert Brough was on the look out for an artist to join him in Australia, and so it came that for eleven years England saw me no more. I engaged for twelve months, and the twelve months spread themselves into seven years, spent amongst the most congenial surroundings that it was ever the good luck of a scene-painter to know. During the last four years of my stay at the Antipodes I became my own manager, taking a company through the two islands of New Zealand, and running a season at the Criterion, Sydney, principally with Shakespearian productions, in which my daughter, Hilda Spong, gained such great commendation that I felt Australia was too limited a field for her, and decided to return to London, where the scope was greater. Her appearance at Drury-lane in *The Duchess of Coolgardie*, and her subsequent successful career belongs to another history.

"The scenic work I have done since my home-coming is too recent to need recapitulation, but a few concluding words on my efforts in the kindred art of picture painting may, perhaps, be permissible.

"In 1881 I exhibited in the Royal Academy a water colour drawing of a Spanish cathedral, which, being well hung, secured a purchaser, and encouraged me to fresh efforts, and succeeding years generally found a modest contribution from my brush honoured with a place on its walls; frequently, also at the Institute of Water-Colour Painters. In Australia I found so good a market that no necessity arose to send to Europe. I was elected there a member of the council of both the Melbourne and Sydney Art Societies. In the latter colony I acted as one of the judges for the Government to award the art scholarships. The New South Wales Government did me the honour of purchasing one of my pictures for its National Gallery. Since my return, out of five pictures exhibited at the Royal Academy it has been my good fortune to have had three hung on the line."

AMUSEMENTS IN PITTSBURGH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PITTSBURGH, PA., DEC. 12.—*Mother Goose* enjoyed an equally large patronage during the second week of her visit at the Nixon as in the preceding one. The pantomime, which is a complete copy in every respect of the production given at Drury-lane, London, pleases for its clever jokes, gorgeous scenery, pretty girls, and beautiful ballets, and affords Pittsburghers an opportunity of seeing how things are done on the other side of the herring pond.

GEORGE BROADHURST'S latest farce-comedy entitled *A Fool and His Money*, which was presented by the Harry Davis stock company at the Aboin last week, does not differ much from the author's former creations, *The Wrong Mr Wright*, *Why Smith Left Home*, &c. The dialogue is witty and bright; the plot, which describes the doings of a disinherited millionaire's son and his faithful friend, an artist who cannot find customers for his pictures, clever; and the dénouement satisfactory. The millionaire's son, Percy Merrill, was ably portrayed by Mr William Courtenay, while Miss Jane Kennark was, as usual, equal to the occasion in her rôle of Eleanor Ashton. Mr Wilson Melrose's Sandy M'Pherson was a clever bit of character acting. Esmeralda, the slavey, received excellent treatment at Miss Emma Dunn's hands.

THE attraction at the Gayety was Hall Caine's *The Eternal City*. Mr Edward J. Morgan, a rising young actor, made a very favourable impression as David Rossi, and was ably seconded by Miss Janet Waldorf as Donna Roma Volonna. Miss Waldorf had come all the way from Bombay to fulfil her engagement here, and her reception was all the greater for the reason that she is a Pittsburgh girl.

THE popular Theodore Kremer production, *The Fatal Wedding*, occupied the boards of the Bijou, and was done ample justice to by a company organised by Messrs Sullivan, Harris, and Woods. A special feature of the performance was the introduction of Miss Gertrude Haynes and her celestial choir in act four.

IN this connection an incident that occurred during the production of the above-mentioned melodrama will bear repetition. It seems that a disagreement arose between Miss Gertrude Haynes and the Union stage hands about the shifting of the scenery. As no arrangement could be come to and time was pressing, the lady in question lost her patience and ordered her chorus girls to put a shoulder to the "uprights." In a moment the work that it took trained men to do was done by these tender hands. The curtain went up "to time," and the audience had no idea that the girls who did the singing had accomplished a task requiring both strength and agility.

"HAPPY HOOLIGAN," the musical comedy presented at the Duquesne, was suggested to Frank Dumont by Fred Opper's clever caricatures in the illustrated comic weeklies, and is decidedly funny. Mr George D. Melville played in the title-rôle, to everybody's delight. Among the many clever songs which abound in the play may be mentioned "Military Life in Georgia," performed by the Electric Comedy Four, while "All for You," rendered by Blanche Stella and chorus, was much enjoyed. Another special feature was the much-talked-of "Radium" ballet, which is all the rage of Paris now.

THE Empire was occupied by Gotthold's gigantic novelty show vaudeville company, containing some clever numbers. Fuji-Ko and company presented a romantic Japanese playlet entitled *Yu-Me-Mo-Yo* (the design of a dream), founded on the Japanese superstition that the spirits of dead soldiers visit their homes once a year at midnight and disappear at dawn, when the "honourable bugle calls them home." The Rappo Sisters, from the Imperial Opera House at Irkontsk, Siberia, gave a very interesting exhibition of Russian, Siberian, and Cossack dancing.

RICE AND BARTON'S company, in *A Night at Manhattan Beach*, which appeared at Harry Williams's Academy, enjoyed a good run throughout the week.

ROBERT HILLIARD headed the bill at the Grand Opera House with his one-act play *No. 973*, a scene in the life of an ex-convict. The rest of the programme was of a good average quality.

AMUSEMENTS AT GIBRALTAR.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE new distribution of the Navy, which gives Gibraltar as the headquarters of the Atlantic Fleet, has been received with great rejoicing here. The Empire Theatre, which specially caters for the Navy, has hitherto counted upon but two or three visits annually from the Channel Fleet and one from the Mediterranean. Now our second most important fleet is to be based on Gibraltar, and all the repairs are to be carried out in the Gibraltar dockyard. As the Under-Secretary of State for the Admiralty said in the House some eighteen months ago when asking for a vote for a theatre at Malta, "it is of enormous importance that the men should be provided with some rational amusement when ashore." The Empire Theatre at Gibraltar holds 1,500 people, and if sufficient variety and as good répertoire companies come out as during the first year it was opened it should do capital business. A good energetic manager is required who will push the business, and no doubt one will be shortly found. A great Gibraltar favourite is now appearing at the Salford Hippodrome, in a scene from *Dante*—the fascinating Ana Lopetigue, supported by the baritone, Blanchart; the scenery arranged by the manager, Mr Taylor—which makes a most effective "turn."

The King is to visit Gibraltar in the early spring to open a new dock, when a specially arranged "variety show" from home will be provided, and it is hoped that popular artiste Miss Isa Bowman may again be persuaded to visit the "Rock." The climate is lovely at this time of year, and artistes are only too glad to get away from the cold and fogs of home to the sunny shore of the Mediterranean.

A NEW one-act play, *Aurora's Captive*, by Mr Tom Gallon, was duly copyrighted at the Ladbroke Hall on Dec. 13.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER ROLAND VON BERLIN."
Opera, in Four Acts, by R. Leoncavallo,
Produced at the Royal Opera, Dec. 13.

Kurfürst Friedrich	Herr KNUPFER
Rathenow	Herr HOFFMANN
Elsbeth	Fräulein DESTINN
Gertrud	Frau POHL
Henning Moller	Herr GRUNNING
Wintz	Herr BERGER
Schumm	Herr WITTEKOPF
Eva	Fräulein PARBS
Melchior	Herr JORRN
Ryke	Herr MORDLINGER
Bergholz	Herr ALMA
Blankenfelde	Herr NEBE
Makensprung	Herr KRASA
Baruch	Herr LIBBAN
Von Knipprode	Herr BACHMANN
Ferbirt	Herr NEBE
Ausrufer	Herr FRANK
Matthäus	Herr GRUN
Hanswurst	Herr PHILIPP

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, Dec. 22.—The first performance of this long-anticipated work was, outwardly at least, a great and unqualified success. Whether this success will continue remains to be proved, and is, in my opinion, extremely improbable. Disregarding the bitterness of many of the German critics, who feel a slight to their countrymen in the fact of a foreign composer having been entrusted with a so essentially German theme, the impartial hearer must admit that—to make use of a homely adage—there has been much cry about little wool. The Emperor's keen personal interest in the opera, and the magnificent *mise en scène*, the like of which has seldom been witnessed, even at the Royal Opera, cannot make the music anything more than a mediocre production, and the opera under less brilliant conditions would make but very little impression. With a few melodious exceptions, such as, for instance, a song of Elsbeth's in the second act, the music falls into one of two extremes; it is either trivial or the orchestration is overwhelmingly noisy, while the most casual listener is constantly reminded of Leoncavallo's *Bajazzi*, many passages being almost identical. Other numbers are distinct imitations of Wagner; notably the sword *motif* is unquestionably present. The book is drawn from Willibald Alexis's well-known novel, which was translated into Italian for the benefit of the composer when he began his stupendous work ten years ago. Signor Leoncavallo has altered the original to suit himself, and that is not a fault, but the theme is—in any form—not particularly interesting. In the fifteenth century—at which period the action passes—there were two towns where Berlin now stands, Berlin and Poelln, the citizens of which were not mutually amicable. The hero of the opera is Henning Moller, the son of a *zeeder* who had done much for the sister towns, and had once saved the life of Rathenow, the burgomeister of Berlin. The corporation of Coelln-Berlin had bound themselves for these services to pay Henning the sum of 20,000 groschen; but the debt had never been paid, and the people of Berlin look upon this as contempt of their rights. They take up Henning's cause on every possible occasion, and during the carnival festivities of the opening act we see Rathenow in trouble. The people show him a document demanding payment of the long-standing debt. The burgomeister tears it in two, but declares the money shall be paid if needs be out of his own pocket. The mob, however, are excited, and did not Henning come to the rescue by cleverly drawing their attention another way and thus enabling Rathenow to escape, it would have gone hard with the burgomeister. The Elector is in the crowd incognito and admires Henning's pluck and ready wit. In the second act we see Rathenow oppressed by the weight of the debt he has taken upon himself. Henning, who loves the burgomeister's daughter Elsbeth, comes to visit him, finds him in prayer, and conceals himself behind a curtain. Here the young man hears sorry news—that the betrothal of Elsbeth with Melchior Stumm (son of a civic magnate of Coelln) is about to take place with much ceremony. Rathenow is anxious for the marriage, believing it will help to unite the sister-towns. When Henning is left alone with Elsbeth he tells her of his love, and after some hesitation the girl declares she loves him too. Circumstances appear to turn in Henning's favour after a time, and at the fête which should witness Elsbeth's betrothal to Melchior a series of events lead up to a demonstration between the citizens of Coelln and Berlin. Henning proposes formally for Elsbeth's hand, but Rathenow declares he shall not wed his daughter ere the Roland statue shall descends from its pedestal. While he speaks, however, the Elector with his army is before the gates of Berlin, and Henning, who perceives the advantage of Hohenzollern rule, opens the gates, with the citizens' consent. The Sovereign himself wishes to join the lovers' hands, but Henning has been fatally wounded in the fray (this is an entirely different ending from the novel), and Elsbeth falls in agony across his dead body. The cast was a very fine one, Fräulein Destinn carrying off the chief laurels. The scenery and costumes were new, and highly effective. Signor Leoncavallo was called and recalled before the curtain, finally appearing hand-in-hand with Dr. Muck, to whose excellent conducting so much of the evening's success was due.

AN interesting three-act play *Die Stillen Stuben*, by Sven Lange, is being given successfully at the Neues, with an all-round excellent cast. The *motif* is not new; we have seen it in Shaw's *Candida*, in a lighter vein in Sardou's *Cyprienne*, in a more tragic form in Ibsen's *Frau vom Meere*. But the first two acts particularly are very finely and skilfully conceived, the characters being most lifelike, so that the piece fascinates more than many others that can claim greater originality. The following is the plot: Helga Theysen is a married woman of four-and-twenty, whose husband—a schoolmaster—is of a reserved and apparently cold nature. She loves and respects her husband, but feels chilled by his want of reciprocity, and gradually comes very near to loving someone else. The other man—a lawyer named Carsten—is young and in possession of more powers of attraction than Theysen. Helga knows he loves her, and the knowledge is not displeasing to her. The more she thinks of her husband's coldness the more she pities herself, and ends by longing to taste all the sweets of love's passion. It is not in reality love to Carsten that is filling her heart, though she fancies it is, but ungratified love for her husband, and when the lawyer confesses his passion for her Helga makes a clean breast of it to Theysen. Her husband is something of a philosopher; he will not stand in the way of his wife's happiness, and is prepared with stoical calmness to renounce his claims in favour of the more fortunate man. Something in his face, however, tells Helga the truth, and she learns that her husband loves her as deeply, as passionately as she desires; he has only been too shy to show his feelings, and so all ends well. The part of the play relating to these events is very well written, but in the third act there is a good deal about Helga's parents that is superfluous, and the piece would gain by cutting. A very cordial reception was accorded to it, and Frau Eysoldt's acting in the rôle of Helga was the best thing she has done for some time, not even excepting the masterly renderings of Salome and Elektra.

A CAPITAL performance of Meyerbeer's *Prophet* was given at the Theatre des Westens on Friday. The title-rôle was sung by Herr Rothmühl, whose voice is still very fine.

HERR KAINZ, the famous tragedian, formerly of Berlin, and now a member of the Imperial Burg Theatre company, will give a season at the Berliner early in the coming year.

CAMBRIDGE NEW THEATRE.

The annual dinner of the large staff employed at the Cambridge New Theatre took place at Ye Olde Castel Hotel on Monday evening. The managing-director, Mr W. B. REDFERN, J.P., D.L., presided over a company numbering upwards of fifty, which included Messrs W. F. Taylor, A. G. Swannell, H. Hall, and H. Slater, secretaries; L. Mansfield, stage carpenter; A. G. Turner and Edwards, box-office; A. Hastead, manager of the refreshment department; W. Andrews-Baxter, R. Dent, P. R. S. Piggott, Williams, and Talbot, St. Catherine's College.

The loyal toasts, given from the chair, having been honoured,

Mr. W. F. TAYLOR proposed "Prosperity to the New Theatre, Cambridge." He commented upon the admirable manner in which the staff had carried out their duties, and said that much as he respected Mr Redfern and appreciated the work he did in the interests of the drama in Cambridge, he felt—and Mr Redfern must feel too—that a great deal of the success which had been achieved was due to the splendid way in which they backed up the efforts of the managing-director.

Mr W. B. REDFERN, in reply, tendered thanks to Mr Taylor for the kind way in which he had proposed the toast, and to the staff and visitors for the magnificent way in which they had received it. Not only did he thank the staff for the way they had received the toast, but for their loyal support during the past twelve months. He was, as Mr Taylor had said, not only proud of the "house," but of the staff. They stuck to him most loyally. During the past twelve months they had gone through a most trying ordeal. They had had difficulties to contend with in the way of powerful companies with an enormous amount of scenery, and they had gone through with every one of the performances without a hitch. That excellent state of things was due entirely to the staff. They had had large audiences on those occasions, and the staff in the front of the house had done their work as admirably as the staff on the stage. Mr Taylor had kindly alluded to the possibility of his coming forward again as a public servant outside the theatre. Well, he thought he had served his time. He had served his apprenticeship and his time fully as a public servant, and was always pleased to find that his friends were asking him to go back to public life, as, perhaps, it showed he did not disgrace the position he had held. There was one little incident which occurred early in his public career, during the time he held the highest office the Borough had to bestow, and at the commencement of the theatrical work in Cambridge. Before the present theatre was built, and during the time he was Mayor, some of his friends dared him to appear upon the stage and to play a part. They said that as Mayor of the Borough he could not do such a thing. He replied that he did not see why he could not be an actor as well as a mayor. He was proud of belonging to the theatrical profession, and appeared as Richelieu upon two or three occasions. His straitlaced friends who thought the Mayor ought not to appear on the stage in character were very much surprised, but he was happy to say he got through it without any trouble from those who at that time, when the theatre was scarcely established in the town, did not approve of the drama. They had had recently a very depressing time throughout the country in the way of theatrical success. He knew that in some of the very large towns—Manchester for one—they had been playing to very much smaller sums of money per night than at Cambridge. As little as £15 had been taken, when the expenses of the house would probably be £40 to £50, let alone what the touring manager would have to find for his share. That showed that the depression had affected the theatrical world. In Cambridge, he was happy to say, they had not suffered to the extent of some of the provincial towns. He was looking forward to a revival of trade, and he believed if the pessimists would die out and let the people with brighter hopes come to the front, they would do very much better business. He was strongly of opinion that a great deal of the depression was caused by what he might call "financial funk." People had become frightened, and debarred themselves of luxuries, and the greatest of all, the theatre. There was one thing from which the country had suffered. Latterly there had been a wonderful importation of the alien. The alien had come in shoals from Russia and from all parts, and was taking away the trade of the British working man. He was sure that presently there must be such an influx of Germans, Russians, and so on, that the present staff at the theatre would be ousted, and that he would have a foreign staff at work. He was sure he would have a Russian who could not speak a word of English taking the place of Mr Mansfield, a German financier taking the place of Mr Hall, and probably an Italian itinerant musician taking the place of Mr Briggs. That was really what was happening throughout the country. The foreigner came in and took work at very much less than the British labourer worked for, and the result was that the British workman was ousted. That was one of the reasons of the depression, and he hoped strongly that all parties in Parliament—he was not speaking politics—would see the necessity of stopping this immigration of the foreigner. The British working man would then have his rights again, and the pit and the gallery of theatres would once more be full. There was one little bright spot in this town. He was told there were four or five rather important building operations about to be commenced, and they would find some work for the bricklayer and labourer generally. Looking at it from a selfish point of view, the theatre would be one of the first to benefit by it. He had had great difficulty in securing proper companies for the Cambridge Theatre. He still had some important gaps in his date book, which he had had to fill at short notice. It was a matter of very great anxiety, but he hoped that with the help of some friendly managers in London he would be able to fill up next term with as good companies as in the previous terms. He sincerely thanked the staff for the gallant way in which at every moment they had helped him through his difficulties. They all knew how smoothly their house ran. He rarely had to find fault, and when such a rare occurrence happened he turned on his "bulldog," Mr Hall. His brother directors had spoken most kindly of the way the staff had worked. Mr Clark and Mr Swannell had expressed their delight at the kind of performances they had had, and the way in which the staff carried out their duties. He had to express their regret for not being present. Mr Clark was away from home, and Mr Swannell had sent his son to represent him, and, therefore, he needed no apology.

Mr A. G. SWANNELL proposed "The Staff."

Mr MANSFIELD returned thanks for the stage staff, and said they were all pleased to work under a managing-director whom they knew to be the best that could be found in the world.

Mr HALL replied on behalf of the staff in the front of the house.

Mr JACKSON gave "The Visitors," coupling with the toast the names of Messrs Taylor, Swannell, Piggott, and Baxter, for whom Mr W. F. TAYLOR replied.

The concluding toast was "The Committee," coupled with the names of Messrs Turner, Hastead, and Mansfield.

AN IDEAL XMAS GIFT.—BELLIS' TURTLE OIL SOAP.—Ladies who have not used Bellis' Turtle Oil Soap have no conception what a luxury it is or its wonderful properties. Leaves the skin soft and velvety. Lasts twice as long as any other. Truth says:—Turtle Oil Soap is the nicest I have ever used. I have been recommending it to everybody. Price 2s. 6d. per tablet. On sale at all high-class chemists and stores, or T. K. Bellis Turtle Co., 16, Bury-street, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

"CAILLETTE, JESTER."

A New and Original Play, in One Act,
by Miss Edith Halford-Thompson.
Produced for the First Time at the
Theatre Royal, Exeter, on Friday Dec 16.

François I. ..... Mr HENRY CROCKER
Caillette ..... Mr WILLIAM E. ASHCROFT
Triboulet ..... Mr MICHAEL SHERBROOKE
Attendant ..... Mr CHRIS WALKER
Diane De Poitiers..... Miss E. HALFORD-THOMPSON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Exeter was fittingly chosen for the production of *Caillette, Jester*, a new and original play, by Miss Edith Halford Thompson, the members of whose family have been so long associated with the city. The plot is based upon the love of a jester for a lady of high degree, at the Court of François I., of France, and the character of Caillette is legendary rather than historical—little or nothing is known of him, for in the Court journals of the time he is seldom mentioned, and then only in such a vague manner that but serves to draw still closer the veil of mystery which surrounds his name. Caillette, the Court fool, is so only in name, in mind and soul he is a poet, in beauty of face and grace of form he rivals the King himself, yet withal he is a man, for in his veins there runs the fiery blood of the Bourbons, and deep in his soul there dwells a smouldering fire ever ready to leap into flame. Such is the being who by a cruel fate is doomed to accept the honours and degradations of a Court fool. He is the supposed son of old Caillette, the hideous and deformed Court Jester. By order of the King's cousin, Charles De Bourbon, Grand Constable of France, he is suddenly removed from the kitchens of the palace, where he had spent his childhood among the baser servants of the court, and is, at his request, placed in the household of Monsieur De St. Vallier, and educated in companionship with his beautiful daughter, Diane. Together these two fair children grow to man and woman's estate, when suddenly there comes a change. Old Caillette dies and the King with deep design, but what, to all who know him, seems but a cruel whim, commands that Caillette takes up the office and the title left vacant by his reputed father. Caillette's entreaties, Diane's tears, are all in vain, even the protests of Monsieur De St. Vallier, to whom Caillette is almost as a son, are of no avail. "Le Roi commandait; il fallait obéir." Caillette has been but a few weeks in his new office, when Diane is betrothed to the old and deformed Count De Breze, and the play opens on the eve of the marriage, when a great banquet is being held in her honour. Outshone by the brilliance of his rival, Triboulet is in temporary disgrace, for Caillette has this night surpassed himself. With aching heart and frenzied brain he has striven to hide the tumult of his misery under a flow of wit that calls forth the surprise and admiration of all but Triboulet, who listens in an outer hall to the plaudits bestowed upon his hated rival. Later in the evening Caillette learns from Triboulet, who, in the office of Purveyor of Pleasure to the King, is acquainted with all the King's secret affairs, the knowledge that François has sent De Brézé to the Spanish frontier on a fool's errand, and that the honour of the fair and innocent Diane is at stake. Crossing the hall in the darkness, to the passage leading to Diane's chambers, François is suddenly confronted by Caillette with a drawn sword. François first laughs, then threatens to call the guard and have Caillette arrested, Caillette retorts he will do neither, "for it would look but ill for the whole court to know the meaning of De Brézé's sudden departure." Stung to fury, the King calls to Caillette to stand aside, or he will run him through. Caillette bids the King defend himself, as he will pass that threshold only over Caillette's dead body. François, with a mocking laugh, declines to cross swords with the Court fool. Flinging his fool's cap at the King's feet and breaking his wooden sword, the symbol of his office, across his knee, Caillette cries that he is a jester no longer, but De Bourbon only. Then from the King's own lips he learns the secret of his birth—the reason for his cruel bondage. He is no son of old Caillette—but the base-born son of Charles De Bourbon, idol of the people, and yet traitor to France. They fight and Caillette falls. His last thoughts are for Diane, his dying breath a prayer to heaven to save the soul of the sweet child-bride, for whom, on the altar of his silent unconfessed love, he now lays down his shattered life.

The piece had been excellently rehearsed, and went without a hitch of any sort. The staging and effects were exceedingly good, the play proving from first to last eminently successful. In *Caillette, Jester*, Miss Halford-Thompson affords evidence of being a dramatist of great promise, her subject has been treated with dramatic power and lacks nothing in interest throughout. Miss Halford Thompson herself gave a tasteful and finished rendering of Diane De Poitiers, and at the fall of the curtain was presented with three handsome bouquets. Mr William E. Ashcroft is to be congratulated on his impersonation of Callette, his conception, though full of tragic intensity being characterised by true artistic restraint. Mr Henry Crocker did well as François I., while Mr Michael Sherbrooke ably portrayed Triboulet.

THE LONDON DIRECTORY.

One of the annual events which precedes the Christmas season is the publication of the Post Office London Directory. The hundred and sixth issue covers the whole of the County of London, and thus for the first time includes those areas which have been previously looked upon as beyond the scope of the Directory itself. The complete volume contains in its two divisions 4,600 pages (exclusive of advertisements), but by the use of a finer paper, and the resetting of a portion of the County Suburbs section, the bulk of the combined directories in one volume is not greatly in excess of the London Directory alone in its usual form. This publication has gradually expanded from a volume of very moderate size in 1800 to its present massive proportions. It has grown with the growth of London, and every year this wonderful book of reference becomes more indispensable to the inhabitants of the metropolis, and those who have business transactions with them. By the system adopted, corrections are able to be made in some of the divisions down to a few days preceding publication. For instance, the Earl of Hardwick, who died Nov. 29, no longer appears as Under Secretary for India, and the Earl of Essex, whose election as representative for East Marylebone on the London County Council in succession to Mr C. Bridgeman took place on Dec. 5, is included in the list of members of the Council given in the City and municipal division.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per Box.—[ADVT.]

A POPULAR THEATRICAL PROPRIETOR.

MR. HARRIS FINEBERG.

The subject of this sketch was born in the profession, if the fact of his ancestor being connected with the stage at the time of his birth be allowed as evidence of that statement. When "Harris," as he is familiarly called, first saw the light of day in the early sixties, the old Colosseum Theatre, in Paradise-street, Liverpool, was directly opposite to the paternal home. Then, there was no reason to believe that the new arrival would, nearly forty years later, become the sole proprietor of the popular Star Theatre, which is but a stone's throw distant from his place of birth.

At the period mentioned his father, the late Isaac Fineberg, in conjunction with David Lazarus and William Ambrose, conducted the Star, that and Day's, of Birmingham being then regarded as the principal variety theatres out of London. In fact, any artist engaged at either of the two mentioned places considered it to be a great stepping-stone towards success. Many of the old Liverpool playgoers will recall the pleasant times they spent in the old "Star" a quarter of a century or more ago. For a long period that music hall was far and away above other places of its character. And it had a very small beginning. Starting some sixty years ago as a public house with a singing licence, it was about forty years back reconstructed and brought up to date, the rear portion of the building being considerably enlarged, and a gallery and boxes added. Here, with the well-known Dan Saunders as manager, splendid business was done by Messrs Fineberg, Lazarus, and Ambrose, for nearly a generation, all the great artistes of the kingdom being among the bookings. Included in these may be mentioned George Leybourne, Jenny Hill; Ashcroft, "the solid man;" Sisters Leamar, Frank Coyne, Jolly Nash, Charles Godfrey, Bessie Bonehill, Bessie Bellwood, Dan Leno, Original Two Macs, the M'Connell Family, &c. About ten years ago the original proprietors disposed of the place to a limited liability company, who ran it for a short time with but poor result. The appearance of the great music hall trusts, which to-day own all the principal leading variety artistes, gradually told upon the position of the "Star," and the place, which was formerly regarded as a gold-mine, fell upon evil days.

Mr Harris Fineberg, having completed his education at the Liverpool Institute—a school from which many men now occupying good positions have emanated—naturally drifted into his father's profession, and became connected with a theatrical agency, which he afterwards conducted for some years. Eventually he made a bold plunge, and entered managerial life, taking the New Muncaster Theatre, Bootle, under his control. Whilst there he decided to try his luck with the Star, whose good fortune was rapidly on the decline. A few months of the variety business convinced him that it was useless to fight against the big syndicates which were then rapidly absorbing all the first-class talent, and accordingly he decided to adopt good melodrama at popular prices. Many friends expressed their doubts as to the wisdom of the change, but Mr Fineberg seemed absolutely convinced that the step he had taken was the right one. The present day result is evidence of the correctness of his view. After a few months' uncertainty, the tide gradually turned, and for five years the Star, now known as the Home of Melodrama, has enjoyed a success that may well be envied. Cosy, prettily upholstered in crimson, well conducted, with a bright orchestra, and at popular prices, the little place in Williamson-square has drawn to it many hundreds of persons who are regular weekly visitors. Summer and winter alike the patronage of the "Star" is great, no vacation being observed, and nearly every week the capacity of the house is taxed to its utmost. From time to time Mr Fineberg puts on the finest of melodramas, when it is common to find the theatre filled almost by means of the early doors. Only last week, when *The Female Swindler* was being performed, several regular habitués, who were refused admission owing to the packed condition of the house, asked "why Mr Fineberg could not have the walls made of indiarubber." For the coming year he has accepted several important contracts, among these being a new drama, to be presented at an early date, that has been specially written by a Liverpool author, and which deals with a local episode that has never been dramatised before.

In social life Mr Fineberg is extremely popular. He is a past master of the Liverpool Dramatic Lodge, 1,609, and has hosts of friends both inside and outside the craft. Last November he sought municipal honours, and fought Sandhills Ward in the Conservative interest, against great odds. The locality is a hot-bed of Liberalism and Irish Nationalism; nevertheless Mr Fineberg made a gallant and honest fight, and, though defeated, he maintained the figures of previous Tory candidates. Non-success to a man of indomitable spirit like Mr Fineberg merely acts as an incentive to go on, and he will again be found in the political arena when opportunity serves. The theatrical profession of Liverpool sorely needs a representative in high places, and to occupy such a trust it would be difficult to find a stronger or more determined men than the popular "Harris."

A fairly reliable test of a man's true character is to be found in the manner in which he treats his servants. This test applied to Mr Fineberg reflects credit upon him. All his employees work under the best possible conditions. Their wages are as high as any paid in the profession, and old hands who were connected with the Star when the present proprietor was very young are retained. Mr Bayman, the conductor of the orchestra, who is one of Mr Fineberg's most esteemed employees, has served the theatre faithfully for twenty-four years; Mr Simmons, the acting-manager, and his deputy, Mr W. M'Taggart, have been with Mr Fineberg for a long period, and even the old carpenter who, in the forgotten past, arranged the stage machinery for the famous Lulu is still on the pension list. It is a delicate matter to allude to a living man's philanthropy, but the private kindnesses done by Mr Fineberg are known only to a select few in the city. Even now he is arranging with the Liverpool Food and Betterment Association, which feeds thousands of ragged children each week, to supply meals to large numbers of poor men during the present industrial distress. Besides the valuable Star Mr Fineberg is concerned with other theatrical enterprises, all of which have enjoyed a fair measure of success. This record would not be complete unless reference was made to Mrs Fineberg. That charming lady who presides at the ville, which is situated on the banks of the Mersey, at Birkdale, near Southport, is frequently seen in her motor car. Mrs Fineberg, like her husband, evinces a deep interest in charitable movements, and is always ready to lend every assistance to a good cause.

MR. HARRIS FINEBERG.

THE ROYALTY THEATRE CASE.

In the Court of Chancery, on the 16th inst., before Mr Justice Farwell, was heard the action Theatres, Limited, v. Stevens and others. In November, 1895, the defendant Miss Kate Santley, who was then the lessee, sublet the Royalty Theatre to the plaintiffs for a term of years expiring in 1905, and in February, 1896, she granted a further underlease for a term ending in 1926. In February, 1896, the plaintiffs mortgaged the theatre for the respective residues of the two underleases to the defendant George Stevens, for £3,000 at 6 per cent. interest. In 1897 the plaintiffs were in financial difficulties, and Miss Santley re-entered and took possession of the premises, claiming to be entitled by forfeiture to determine the underlease of November, 1895. In September, 1897, the defendant Stevens brought an action against Miss Santley claiming to be relieved as mortgagee upon terms against the forfeiture of the said underlease. On Nov. 26, 1897, the defendant Stevens obtained a foreclosure order nisi in an action against Theatres, Limited. On Feb. 23, 1898, Mr Adolf Drucker, who was then a member of Parliament and a man of means, took an assignment from the defendant Stevens, under the latter's power of sale, of his mortgage on the premises for the sum of £2,785, and was subsequently substituted for Stevens as plaintiff in the action for relief against Miss Santley. In December, 1898, this action was compromised upon terms for the surrender of the underleases and the granting of a new lease, the management of the theatre and the division of the profits to be made between Miss Santley and Mr Drucker; and this arrangement was carried out by various deeds. Mr Adolf Drucker was adjudicated a bankrupt in August, 1901, and the defendant Basden is his trustee. In March, 1902, the defendant Basden agreed to sell all Mr Drucker's interest in the premises to Miss Santley for £2,500, and the premises were assigned, by direction of Miss Santley, to the defendant Lockhart M. H. Kennedy. The plaintiffs alleged that Miss Santley had been acting in collusion with Mr Drucker in order to deprive them of their property, and that the defendant Stevens had sold for an undervalue. They claimed that the various agreements and indentures involved should be set aside and an account rendered.

Mr Gore-Browne and Mr George Wallace appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr Upjohn, K.C., and Mr A. B. Terrell for Miss Santley and Kennedy; Mr Jenkins, K.C., Mr Lowe, K.C., and Mr Ward Coldridge for Stevens; and Mr H. E. Wright for the trustee in bankruptcy.

After hearing the evidence and the speeches of counsel, Mr Justice Farwell said that the plaintiffs' claim was an unreasonable one. Drucker had purchased with full knowledge and assent of the company, and there was no collusion between Drucker and Miss Santley. The former had bought a doubtful property which he wished to utilise to the best advantage, and he naturally came to terms with Miss Santley. All this time the company made no sign, and in 1902 it went into liquidation. It was not now open to the company after all these years to come forward and ask that everything be set aside. Then it was said that Stevens sold at an undervalue. The evidence showed that that was not the case. The action entirely failed, and must be dismissed with costs.

MR. HERBERT WARING.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, on Tuesday, before Mr Registrar Linklater, an application for discharge was made by Mr Herbert Waring Rutty, known as Herbert Waring, of O.d Bond-street, who was adjudged bankrupt on Oct. 13 last. The liabilities were estimated at £2,725 6s. 1d., and the assets at £15 17s. 8d. The bankrupt had stated that in July, 1901, he formed and registered a public company named Play (Limited) with the object of producing a piece entitled *A Man of His Word*, in which he was engaged to take the principal part. The bankrupt entered into an agreement with Mrs Lillie De Bathe, the petitioning creditor, for a tenancy of the Imperial Theatre, Westminster, at a weekly rent of £160, and on July 24, 1901, he assigned the agreement to Play (Limited). The play was produced at the Imperial Theatre in August, 1901, but proved a failure, and was withdrawn after a run of five weeks. In November, 1901, the bankrupt was sued by the petitioning creditor for rent of the Imperial Theatre. The action was successfully defended by the bankrupt in the court of first instance, but the petitioning creditor was successful on appeal. The bankrupt attributed his insolvency to the judgment obtained against him in that action, and to the excess of his household and personal expenditure, which was about £1,500 a-year, over his income, which amounted to about £1,000.

The Official Receiver reported that he had received since the bankruptcy sums amounting to £43 6s. 8d. out of the bankrupt's earnings, and that the bankrupt was willing to set aside during the ensuing two years a portion of his earnings for the benefit of the creditors.

The bankrupt consented to judgment for the full amount of his debts, to be satisfied by his paying to the Official Receiver one quarter of any salary received by the bankrupt during the next two years, such quarter to be increased to one-third part if the bankrupt obtained an engagement of three months or longer at a salary of £40 a-week or more, and the Registrar granted the discharge upon the terms proposed.

AT Clerkenwell Police-court, on Saturday, Mr Lealie Hughes applied to the magistrate on behalf of the proprietors of the Camden Theatre, for the customary consent to engage twenty children for the pantomime. It was stated that they were to perform in a flying ballet. Mr D'Eyncourt—Are these children regularly doing this sort of thing? Inspector Dyball—No, sir. This is the first time they have been engaged. They are all attending the Camden-street elementary school. All the children were present in court, accompanied by their mothers. Mr D'Eyncourt said the little girls appeared healthy enough, and he had no objection to giving his consent.

"THE SLEDGE-HAMMER."

A Revised Version of the Domestic Drama, in Four Acts,
Adapted from the Flemish of Nestor Le Thiers,
by the late Wilson Barrett, and
Produced at the West London Theatre on Monday, Dec. 19.

Mathew Derrick ..... Mr CHARLES HERBERTE
Everard Derrick ..... Mr ALFRED NORTHWAY
Jacob Derrick ..... Mr W. V. GARROD
Simon Derrick ..... Mr CHARLES HALLING
Cornelius Derrick..... Mr MAXWELL DAVIDSON
Tom Walker ..... Mr FRANK LITCHFIELD
Sammy Shaws, 14 D .... Mr FRANK DALLAS
John Merlo..... Mr LAURENCE KONRAD
Dr. Clarke ..... Mr LEO ST. CLAIR
Ezra Walker ..... Mr WALTER VINCENT
Jack O'Sans ..... Mr CHARLES GRANT
Martha Derrick..... Miss FANNY THORNE
Catherine Hennis ..... Miss IVY ELLALINE THORNE
Rose Maywell ..... Miss BERTHA KINGSTON

To the customary situations in provincial melodrama, with its carpentered scenes, we find a complete contrast in *The Sledge-Hammer*—a drama which the late Mr Wilson Barrett adapted from the Flemish some eight years since. It is a piece that has sharply defined contrasts of character, and the elemental passions of love, hate, and revenge are brought into relief by natural means and with the powerful touch of an experienced playwright. More than all, the piece is human; the characters are not mere puppets, but are in sympathy with their environment; and there is an absence of that crudity in the comic situations which so often makes the judicious grieve. The piece grips the attention from the first, and the story is told in a succession of scenes that never fail to be vivid and interesting. The plot runs as follows:—Mathew Derrick, an old farmer and master blacksmith, has married twice, and the fruit of his second union is Everard, a young man of refined tastes, who is greatly disliked by the two sons of the first marriage, Jacob and Simon, hulking, brutal fellows. Mrs Derrick number two accepted Mathew for mercenary reasons, really loving John Merlo, a veterinary surgeon. When the action of the play opens Mathew is seriously ill and not expected to live. The love of Everard for Rose Maywell, the adopted daughter of Mathew, excites the jealousy of Jacob and Simon, and the disputes which follow agitate the old blacksmith so much that he dies in a fit.

The second act takes place in the house, now the property of the widow. She announces to the family assembled her intended union with Merlo, to which Jacob and Simon seemingly assent, Everard only objecting. The two brothers, who have been moved by the savage reproaches of the late Derrick's brother Cornelius to murder the widow, resolve to act upon his suggestions. Jacob procures a knife belonging to Everard, and enters his step-mother's bedroom and stabs her, he and Simon then making their escape. Everard appears, raises an alarm, and is immediately accused of the crime and arrested. In act three the inquest takes place, and chiefly on Jacob's evidence Everard is sent for trial for murder, refusing a false alibi, offered by his distracted sweetheart. In the last act, however, Rose succeeds in proving her lover's innocence. By coquetting with the twin brothers, she sets one against the other. They fight with hammers, and after a conflict which excites audiences to the highest pitch Simon is slain, the survivor being forced to make a confession by the timely appearance of Everard, who has contrived to escape from his place of incarceration. Rose and Everard are thus reunited, and all ends happily.

The representation of the attractive piece is in the hands of Messrs Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod. The former appears as Everard Derrick, and the latter plays Jacob Derrick, the villain. Mr Northway has a bright, earnest style, and his expressive gesture play adds much to the interest of the scene at the inquest. In the more active discharge of his duties—in the scene of the murder especially—he strikes the note of chivalry and high resolve in a way that makes him an immense favourite. Mr Garrod's villain, with his rough animalism, his grim ferocity, and his determination, is most interesting. His rugged-looking features, his sinister glances, and his scornful contempt of his weaker companion are all means to an end, and that is to convince the audience in front of him that Jacob is a bold, unscrupulous villain, without a scintilla of remorse or repentance. Mr Garrod does not handle the part with kid gloves, and there is every evidence that the actor makes a deep impression. Mr Charles Herberte's Mathew Derrick is a capital study of bucolic age; and there is much to praise in Mr Charles Halling's Simon Derrick, the lesser villain, who suffers from conscience. The fight is a genuinely realistic struggle, and both Mr Garrod and Mr Halling exhibit a ferocity in their attacks on each other that is at times absolutely appalling. The humour of the piece is supplied principally by Mr Frank Dallas, who resumes his original part of Sammy Shaws, 14 D, a rural constable. Sammy is not among the bravest, but he has a deep respect for the majesty of the law. His remarks are invariably accompanied by laughter. One of the most amusing colloquies in the piece is that between Sammy and Tom Walker, the foreman blacksmith and the friend of the hero. Tom in the person of Mr Frank Litchfield has an excellent command of the vernacular of the Ridings, and may be said to bowl over the "force" by regular Yorkers. He is vastly amusing is Mr Litchfield, and great credit is due to him for so ably filling the breach suddenly caused by the absence of the gentleman originally engaged to play the part. Mr Laurence Konrad is an effective John Merlo; Mr Leo St. Clair is well placed as Dr. Clarke; and Mr Walter Vincent is satisfactory as Ezra Walker, a benevolent gaoler. Miss Bertha Kingston is an attractive and sympathetic heroine, and her coquetting with the rough, uncouth Jacob stamps her as an actress of considerable ability. Rose determines that dovelike simplicity and maidenly reserve shall be temporarily sacrificed for the man she loves, and she carries out her scheme of inveiglement with rare spirit and tact. The scene, indeed, is excellently played. Miss Fanny Thorne, who as Martha Derrick disappears early from the scene, makes the distressful scene of Martha's murder sufficiently harrowing; and the unblushing verbosity—clack is, perhaps, the better word—of Catherine Hennis enables Miss Ivy Ellaline Thorne to give us many amusing moments. The play is mounted excellently, the Forge scene being quite admirable and worthy of the practical Mr William Bailey, who never fails to do his utmost for the pieces that are put on at the popular Church-street house. *The Sledge-Hammer* is going on tour, and there should be success for a drama so interesting and so well played.

ON Tuesday and Wednesday evenings this week Planquette's romantic comic opera, in three acts, entitled *Rip Van Winkle*, was performed by the North London Operatic Society at the Opera House, Crouch-end, under the surpervision of Mr Lynn Royd.

AT Clerkenwell Police-court on Tuesday Mr Oswald Brand applied to Mr Bros for licence to employ about twenty little girls at the Grand Theatre in connection with the forthcoming pantomime, *Babes in the Wood*. Mr Bros asked whether the police were satisfied with the arrangements made for the children at the theatre. Sub-divisional Inspector Coles said everything was satisfactory. Mr Oswald Brand said a separate room was provided at the theatre for the children, they were provided with refreshments, and were under the direct charge of two matrons. Mr Bros asked if the children were healthy. A chorus of mothers replied in the affirmative. Mr Bros gave the necessary permission for the children to perform.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT EDINBURGH.

Messrs Howard and Wyndham's pantomime *Jack and the Beanstalk* was presented in sumptuous style at the Theatre Royal for the first time on Thursday evening, the 15th inst., to an audience that crowded the building in every part. The performance was received with continuous applause, and proved an undoubted success. For an initial representation it went with remarkable smoothness, and with repeated encores played for nearly four and a half hours. Of course, some compression will be necessary, and with so much that is good to deal with it will be somewhat of a problem to know where to begin. However, Mr F. W. Wyndham secured an artistic triumph from the very first; the traditions of pantomime associated with the honoured name of Wyndham were worthily upheld, and everyone present was charmed with the elegance, freshness, and wholesome humour of the entertainment. The libretto by Mr William Wade tells the story intelligently and effectively, and is crowded with smart local and semi-political allusions, the principal comedians having been well cared for. The scenery, always a notable attraction here, is again a leading feature, and is deserving of our warmest praise, while the dresses, all of which show fanciful design and a marvellous display of colour, are indeed lovely. The music is melodious, and at the same time catchy, and many popular airs were quickly caught up and chorussed with ardour on the opening night. In the spirited overture, the fine incidental music, and in the accompaniments Mr Geo. Burnley secured an excellent rendering from the large and well-balanced orchestra he so ably controls. The curtain rises on The Village of Tweedle-dee, a scene replete with light and colour, where the lads and lasses are gaily disporting themselves in honour of the local cattle show, at which it is expected Dame Trot's cow, Wilhelmina, will carry off first prize The Giant Blunderbore has been oppressing the country with taxation, and when the villagers hope to defy him Snap and Snorum, his emissaries, appear and threaten to evict all who fail to pay. The pair, who are also scheming the ruin of Jack, the Dame's son, who is in love with Phœbe, the village beauty, intend to seize the girl and carry her off to the Giant's Castle. The cow, Wilhelmina, proves a comical animal. Other characters, Ronald M'Pherson, the Dame's cousin, and Captain Gottem, an aeronaut, arrive in an air-ship, and after lively encounters all round, a sprightly concerted number closes the scene. The next, The Entrance to the Cattle Show, affords the principals opportunity for more amusing business, and a plot for the disqualification of Dame Trot's cow advances. Later on, Jack is persuaded to sell the animal to Snap for thirty pounds, the buyer artfully substituting a bag of beans for the gold. Following this we are introduced to the Widow's Cottage, where, after that lady has descanted learnedly on Fiscal matters, and a pre-eminently graceful dance been given by the Eight Tiller Girls, the coming of Jack is anxiously waited. When he does come, however, the expected gold is found to be only beans, which his angry mother throws out of the door. Seeing he has been tricked, Jack vows vengeance against Snap and Snorum, who, it seems, have already got away with Phœbe and Margery, another village maiden, by the new beanstalk, which is rapidly growing up to the skies. Jack thanks the fairies for their aid, and rushes off to climb the magic tree in pursuit of his sweetheart and her friend. At the top we reach Cloudland, where Jack meets Luna, and receives a golden axe to help him in his coming encounter with the Giant. Ronald, Gottem, and the Dame appear in an air-ship, and are afterwards overwhelmed in a terrific rain storm worked by photographic agency, the various effects of which are greeted with loud applause. This leads to scene five, the Home of the Stars, a fanciful arrangement by Mr R. C. Oldham, who is also responsible for the four preceding scenes, all admirable examples of the scene painter's art. At first, when pervaded with soft tones of colour, some very enchanting effects are produced, and afterwards, illuminated by a flood of quivering light, it presented a scene of surpassing loveliness. Here companies of superbly apparelled figures assemble, and, marching in stately measure, fill the stage in ever increasing numbers, forming in the end a pageant of dazzling grandeur. The second part of the pantomime opens in the Giant's Kitchen, where Blunderbore himself appears with his comical cooks, who have to mount ladders in setting the table. Snap and Snorum bring in their fair prisoners, who greatly delight the Giant, while Jack appearing soon bravely defies the monster. Ronald, Gottem, and the Dame make a ludicrous entrance down the chimney, and much good business and various specialities bring this capital scene to a close. In the seventh, A Ravine in Giantland, we witness the escape of Jack and his friends; and when Blunderbore follows, our hero, using his trusty axe with effect at the Base of the Beanstalk, cuts down the tree, and the long-dreaded ogre is killed. Later on, in A Quiet Corner, a pictorial chef d'œuvre from the brush of Mr T. E. Ryan, the Giant's pocket-book reveals the fact that Jack is the rightful heir to the estates of Tweedledee, so, all his troubles over, he resolves to marry Phœbe. This event leads the characters to The Battlements of Jack's Palace, a striking design by Mr T. F. Dunn, where a review of the soldiers of all nations takes place, a choral processional spectacle that forms a bright and effective conclusion to the evening's entertainment. The culminating glories of this splendid tableau caused immense cheering, and calls for Mr F. W. Wyndham, who duly appeared; Mr John J. Lloyd, the stage-manager; Mr F. F. Dunn, scenic artist; and Mr George Burnley, musical director, also sharing in the ovation. The *Beanstalk* would be nothing without Jack, and the most fetching and bewitching exponent of the rôle has been found in Miss Lily Harold, whose perfect figure, rose-sweet face, and fascinating manner make her the beau ideal of a principal boy. In all scenes she was grace personified, and her singing of "The rain came pitter patter down" was as charming as it was artistic. "Blue Bell" had a true note of pathos, and "Under a Panama Hat," with the Tiller Girls assisting, was a huge success. Like all the house we were quite in love with Miss Daisy Le Hay, who was a bonnie Phœbe, and moved like a shaft of light through the scenes of the story. This young actress possesses unusual talent as a comedienne, and when we saw her as Nan, in *A Country Girl*, recently, we were astonished and delighted with her performance. Miss Violet Englefield was radiant with brightness and vivacity as Major Hortitoff, the Giant's Major Domo, and had some good songs, "If I had a girl as nice as you" going splendidly. Miss Lillian Grahame made an attractive appearance as Margery, the village coquette, and Miss Cecilia Wilman as Queen of the Stars secured a big reception for her song "Navaho," which was finely sung. The Tiller Troupe of dancers provided quite a carnival of grace to delight all lovers of the mazy art, and their successive appearances imparted a fairy brightness and lightness to the entertainment, and reflected the highest credit on their famous trainer. Of course, the comedians are the chief motive power of a good pantomime, and the latest Royal fun-feast can boast of a lively and hard-working trio. Mr Malcolm Scott, who plays the Dame, is the quintessence of quaintness and originality, and made an instantaneous hit. Rejoicing in a real comic personality and a simple but irrepressible style, which will be remembered by pantomime patrons for many a long day, Mr Scott's Dame Trot was a humorous revelation, and assuredly no more amusing patter, both in conception and delivery, has been heard here for some time. Not only as actor and singer, but as dancer Mr Scott shone, his Terpsichorean vagaries after his song, "You never know your luck," causing the heartiest laughter and applause. Another comedian who exerted a strong personal appeal was that experienced and versatile actor Mr Ambrose Manning, whose Captain Gottem was a memorable creation in drollery and tomfoolery. He kept the house constantly amused by his "Johnnified" jests and jocularities, and his catch-remark, "Not at all," promises to become one of the phrases of the season. The Ronald M'Pherson of Mr J. T. Macmillan was "the real Mackay," the genuine article, racy of the soil. His "braid Scots" was music in the ears of pit and gallery, and his typically Doric brand of humour pleased all parts of the house. His song, "Stop your tickling," was cleverly rendered. Mr Harry Lupino, the celebrated animal impersonator, caused shouts of laughter by his realistic antics as the cow Wilhelmina, and afterwards, assisted by his clever young son, filled in a capital scene when they appeared and frisked about nimbly as a couple of poodles. Master Lupino here also scored as the young Squire, his song and dance, delightfully backed by the Tiller girls, receiving a triple encore. Snap and Snorum were cleverly played by Mr Arthur Ricketts and Mr Arthur Dandoe, and Smiler and Smirk, the cooks, had droll representatives in Messrs Griffin and Marks, whose knockabout acrobatic turn was particularly good, securing lavish applause. The giant Blunderbore himself was a tremendous piece of work in the clever hands of Mr Geo. Lake Grange, who presented a figure a dozen feet high, and soon made himself popular with old and young. The pantomime went well all through under the energetic and unflagging supervision of Mr John J. Lloyd, the properties being by Mr George Sutherland, the electric light effects by Messrs James Whitehead and D. Torrance, the machinery and mechanical effects by Mr W. J. M'Dougall, and the costumes by Alias, Harrison, and Co., Limited, Elkan Brothers, and Mrs Smyth. In front of the house the comfort of visitors was well looked after by Mr Walter Hollister, who filled his accustomed post with all the courtesy and business thoroughness which have made him officially indispensable and personally one of the most popular of acting-managers.

"THE BABES IN THE WOOD" AT BIRMINGHAM.

Mr Tom B. Davis's first Birmingham pantomime, entitled *The Babes in the Wood*, was produced at the Theatre Royal on Monday. *Imprimis*, it may be said that Birmingham has been brought up on pantomime, from the "good old-fashioned" annual of our fathers, to the time when, in 1872, Macdermott first planted the banner of the music halls on the historic boards of the old Theatre Royal; and so on, down to the present time. Therefore, Mr Davis may all the more congratulate himself in that he has at once gained the favourable verdict of an audience which is notoriously critical by nature and wise by experience. Indeed, so favourable was this verdict that it appeared that the "house" was predisposed to that end, for the artists could do no wrong, and the mounting gave the most obvious satisfaction, Mr Davis at the conclusion having to respond in person, and with a speech to the laudatory and vociferous comments of the house. Of course, with a new working staff, working on a new plane, one naturally expects a hitch or two, but here there were none, so well had the "producer," Mr J. Paul Callan, marshalled his forces and resources; but that the humour of the situations will need to be strengthened is not to be doubted. In this direction Mr Bert Gilbert works like a true artiste, and to him the hit of the pantomime may be fairly ascribed. His catch phrase, "How did I get this medal?" will become the by-word of the streets, and his songs, "All the girls are loverly-overly," with its clever "business," and "Rip Van Winkle," are already familiar in the mouths of our urchins. Mr Gilbert is by no means a ferocious baron, his impersonation warranting smiles from folk of all ages. Miss Lily Iris is our principal boy, Robin Hood, and being a new claimant for Birmingham favours, was the cynosure of all eyes. Fair and slight of height, her sprightly movements attracted attention, whatsoever direction they took, while her pretty renderings of "Little Yo-San," "Blue Bell," and "My English Maid" were hall-marked with real ability and success. Miss Gladys Ward stamped the part of Marion with a comely appearance, and every other qualification that a pantomime heroine need possess, her songs, "The Sweetest Girl in Dixie" in particular, being delivered with much sweetness of expression. The "Babes" are very important characters as played by Miss Maidie Andrews as Cissie, and Miss Phyllis Dare as Charley, and are already the pets of the pantomime. Their nurse, the "weak woman," Flossie Woffle, was represented by Mr J. F. M'Ardle with all the fripperies and humours of a clever pantomime dame, and his encounters with Mr Bert Gilbert's Baron were richly enjoyed. The two robbers, Hangdog and Quiver, engage the talents of Messrs Henry Wright and Daley Cooper respectively, and Towser, the faithful canine attendant to the Babes, was mimicked by Mr Fred Farren with remarkable fidelity. One of the successes indubitably was the Toy Soldier, played by Mr Fred Walton, whose every entree in this quaint and smart impersonation brought him a round of applause. The Eight of Hearts (Mr Hartley Milburn's clever troupe) participate successfully, and Miss Mabel Lait is distinguishable for her clear delivery as Will Scarlet; Miss Dollie Neville as Allan-a-Dale, Miss Alice Davies as Little John, Miss Monica Sayer as Dorothy, Miss Louis Mavis as Dorcas, Miss Mildred Clair as Phyllis, Miss Nina Glyn as Winifred, and Miss Jeannie Christoe as Margaret making palpable hits. Miss Connie Loxton acted well as the Household Fairy, who spirits the Babes to the realms of Toy Country, and this brings us to the scenic appointments, which richly suffice. Scene One, Nottingham Market-place, is a picture calculated to prepossess an audience at once, presenting as it did on Saturday last a vision of varied and delicious colour, together with a moving "coruscation of beauty and talent." This bore the mark of prodigal display, refined with perfect harmony. Here the characters live their lives, for the nonce, and we are at once brought into touch with the Babes, their uncle (the sometime bold but always humorous Baron Blobber), the Nurse, Maid Marion, and Robin Hood, with a numerous and gorgeous crowd, and events shape themselves speedily. Now enters Maid Marion, with her little charges, the Babes. Marion has an appointment, so we learn from the Babes, with "a pretty gentleman with a bow and arrow," who proves to be none other than Robin Hood. They are joined by the nurse, who has come into "a little bit of property," whereon the mercenary disposition of the Baron is exposed instanter. He proceeds to woo the nurse, who receives his welcome attentions after the manner of all good pantomime dames, till rival suitors in the guise of the Duke of Poopendyke and Lord Fitzgig arrive. These are the robbers in disguise, nevertheless the Baron has the mortification of seeing *le grande dame* carried away in triumph under his very nose. He has, however, the satisfaction of ordering the arrest of Robin Hood, who aspires to his daughter Marion's hand. Robin escapes, and we are taken Towards Home, which is the title of the second scene, and which, albeit only a front cloth, is quite as creditable in its way as the preceding set. Here the Babes, attended by the faithful and diverting Towser, indulge the audience with harmony, their efforts resolving in a prettily rendered duet, "Oob," with dance. The Baron, failing his designs on Nurse's property, is now intent on the "slaughter of the innocents," meaning the Babes, one of whom, Cissie, already complains of a pain in her "tummy," the result of eating sweets, which the Baron, knowing them to contain arsenic, had paid for. Scene three discloses the Archery Tournament, another resplendent set, and next, the Nursery, paves the way to the Town of Toyland, a quaint idea, quaintly carried out. In this the Toy Soldier plays an effective part in the marshalling of the toys, which comprise a truly wonderful and gigantic collection, and cannot fail to delight children of all growths. In this scene the clever and popular octet take part again, winning applause of a most lavish kind for their smart and elegant dancing; and this animated picture marks the conclusion of the first act of the pantomime. Part two discloses The Baron's Shop, the Baron, it may be presumed, having "gone into trade" to repair his shattered fortunes, with Hangdog and Quiver (the Two Robbers) as his assistants. However, there is more fun than trade in the establishment, and the fate of the Babes becomes imminent, the Robbers undertaking to destroy them at "trade union" terms, with "five per cent. taken off for cash." The Fringe of the Wood shows the chase for the Babes, and later, in The Heart of the Forest, the search party effect a rescue. A diverting Restaurant scene follows, in which Mr Bert Gilbert introduces his version of the "Magic Kettle" with much mirth-provoking results, and the Toy Soldier is also and again in good evidence. Scene the fifth, and last, takes us to Robin Hood's Palace, where Robin Hood is wedded to Maid Marion, and a most brilliant finale is reached, coincident with the rising into view of a replica of a wedding cake of the most enormous dimensions and tasteful design. The "book" has engaged the united efforts of Messrs A. M. Thompson (Dangle) and Robert Courtneige, who have provided the cast with excellent opportunities; and the lyrics by Mr Chas. H. Taylor, and the music by Mr Herbert E. Haines made a pleasant impression. Mr Guy Jones, the resident musical director, has contributed and selected additional numbers, and his quota towards the success of the pantomime cannot be overestimated, while the members of the orchestra at his command, which numbers twenty-eight executants, acquitted themselves admirably. The scenery, which is magnificent and most artistic, is the work of Messrs T. Holmes, R. C. M'Cleery, E. H. Ryan, Philip Howden, and Stafford Hall. The lovely and tasteful costumes, which have been specially designed for this production by Wilhelm, are by Mons. Llandolf, of Paris, and Morris Angel and Sons, London. The chorus excited the utmost admiration with their well-drilled and buoyant motions, while the singing was admirable. Here every face was animate with expression, and, of a truth, Mr Davis's young ladies feel a pleasure and an interest in their work. The smart "Jack-in-the-box" dance by Mr Fred Farren in the capital of Toyland must not pass unrecognised, and on last Saturday's performance alone, and the reception thereof, to say nothing of the many improvements which have since appeared, Mr Davis is warranted in writing down his first Birmingham pantomime a truly popular success.

"LITTLE BO-PEEP" AT MANCHESTER.

Monday's event at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, was the production of *Little Bo-Peep* by Mr J. Gar Kiddie. The story is told in more or less orthodox fashion by Mr George Burton, whose argument includes the time-honoured Demon scene for an opening, in which the Demon Wolf decides that Bo-Peep shall be his quarry. The events of the pantomime are centred in the happy village of Hay-down-Derry, a very effective set, in which all the principal actors are introduced. We have the Baron Hardup (Mr E. H. Bertram) whose designs, of course, are inimical to the interest of those whom the good fairy Moonbeam has already decided to assist; we have also his flunkeys, Weary William and Tired Thomas (Messrs J. Myers and H. Selby), a pair of comic fellows who have much mischief to do, and who do it in the well-known humorous style of pantomime villains. Then comes Granny Brown (Mr J. W. Groves), who keeps a school apparently for the purpose of proving how funny she can be behind the desk; and in addition to our old friends Johnnie Stout and Jimmy Green (Messrs J. Blarney and Will Kennard), who keep up the reputation of innumerable forerunners so named, something like a novelty is seen in the person of one Tommy Long, a baby 6ft. high, whose development through various stages from babyhood to a sophisticated manhood is phenomenally quick and entertaining. Mr J. Gar Kiddie's proportions and comic gifts fit him admirably for this part, and he carries out the idea with due regard to the especial peculiarities of childhood and youth, very much to the amusement of the audience. Miss Lizzie Payne is Bo Peep, and the least that can be said of her is that she is pretty, graceful, and can trip a measure in charming style. She has the further interest of being accompanied by real sheep, who get lost apparently in the search for real herbage among the delusive scenery. Boy Blue is, of course, bonnie and gallant in the person of Miss Flo Warner, who has the vivacious and emphatic style associated with all successful principal boys. The subsidiary rôles of the Lord De Rhino and Margery Daw are neatly rendered by Miss Grace Compton and Miss Bessie Frank. Midway, in a silver glade of Fairydom, the excellent business of this fine combination of entertainers is brought to a pause by the interpolation of some remarkable specialities, namely, the Solon Trio in a statuary act following a ballet of living White China, the Milstead Quartet in coon song and dance, and the Hammersley Ballet Troupe of lady dancers. Subsequently, one of the most pleasing sets of the whole production is seen, that of the fairy glen in which the Wolf appears to Bo-Peep. This scene is notable also as that of Bo-Peep's song of "The Sweep," the chorus of which is sung by four men dressed as chimney-sweepers. The harmonisation of this chorus is out of the ordinary, and the song was deservedly encored on Monday night. Other songs of a catchy and popular nature are introduced throughout the story, which ends with the discomfiture of the Baron and his myrmidons and the elevation of Bo-peep and Boy Blue to a state of happiness. The supernatural influences of the Wolf and the Fairy are vested in Mr W. H. Gatty and Miss Nora Beverley. The pantomime concludes with a grand transformation scene followed by a harlequinade. The scenery has been designed and painted by Mr J. Greenhalgh. All concerned may be complimented on a most amusing production, which is sure to be successful on the road.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT MANCHESTER.

Mr Edward Marris's pantomime of *Dick Whittington* at the Grand Junction Theatre has been written by Messrs Stanley Rogers, Harry Lowther, and Edward Marris, and it embraces the whole time-honoured story of the poor London apprentice, from a fanciful pre-convention of spirits in the belfry of Bow Church to the triumphant installation of Whittington as Lord Mayor of London. The comprehensive and elaborate nature of the book is worthily illustrated by a series of eleven brilliant scenes, including an effective mechanical change from a flowery Old Cheapside to the inside of Fitzwarren's Shop, and another from the Deck of the Saucy Sally to the Wreck. Highgate Hill, the Garden of the Emperor's Palace, and the Grand Guildhall are also magnificent displays of scenic art. That the company engaged to interpret and embellish the book should be excellent also is the least one could expect upon such preparations, and there is certainly no room for anything but satisfaction on this score. Miss Joey Preston is a model Dick Whittington, and Miss Mena Eckerman makes a delightful Alice. Mr Fred Acton's Alderman Fitzwarren is emphatically good, and as Idle Jack Mr Harry Russell contributes a considerable amount of fun. This part is supplemented by two subsidiary ones of junior apprentices, which are comically filled by the well-known music hall artistes, Messrs Rezene and Robini. Polly Perkins also is in evidence, in the person of Miss Florence Allen, while Miss Hulo Hodgson fills the rôle of Betsy, the cook, Miss Topsy Holden is seen as Miladi Loo, the Emperor's second intended; Mr Ben Rowe figures successfully as the Emperor; and Miss Fanny Williams has a suitable part as Flirtina, the Emperor's daughter. The supernatural parts are satisfactorily played by Miss Agnes Clarges as the Spirit of the Bells; Mr Will Kashma as Thomas, the Cat; and Mr Lennox Chandler as King Rat. A remarkable feature of this enjoyable pantomime is the inclusion of quite a large number of specialities, first and foremost being that of Rezene and Robini, in their screaming trapeze act. The Sisters Roma also introduce their club juggling performance, in a sketch *American Swells at Practice*; other items being Madame Roma's twelve lady aerial wrestlers (a novelty); the Brothers Kashma, expert equilibrists; Miss Georgina Nicol, child mimic; the Marion Quartet of acrobatic dancers; and Mr Ben Rowe and Miss Topsy Holden in a cake-walk act. There can be no doubt that this will prove one of the most successful pantomimes on the road.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT MANCHESTER.

On Monday took place the production of *The Babes in the Wood* by the Six Brothers Luck at the Manchester Palace of Varieties. This being a music hall run on the two houses a-night system, the pantomime has been designed to cover one hour and a-half of the time allotted for each performance nightly. The book has been written by Mr Charles Willmott, and includes the story of Robin Hood, or at least so much of the story as is necessary to bring that heroic outlaw in touch with the rescue of the babes, and to involve his subsequent pardon by King Richard I. for pantomime purposes. Maid Marian is here as daughter of the wicked and impecunious uncle, to whom the babes are left by their father's will. Miss Mabel Thorne plays Robin in the approved heroic style, and the Maid Marian of Miss Hylda Dugdale is really pretty and charming. Mr Oscar Luck figures as the uncle—Baron Bunkum by name—and his satellites are two terrible, but by no means invincible, villains called Hackensmasher and Madriley, impersonated by Mr Fred Luck and Mr Chas. Dillon. Before realising that his fortune lies in the removal of the babes, the Baron has an inclination to woo the village schoolmistress, Miss Tabitha, a lady whose eccentricities are set forth by Mr Herbert Rule; and an amusing courtship goes on between these two at intervals. The Babes, however, are not the helpless babes of sentimental pantomime. They are a well-grown pair, who, on occasions, are quite able to take care of themselves. Messrs Ernest and Philip Luck make capital out of their opportunities as this interesting couple. Incidentally Mr Adolf Luck makes his appearance as a Tramp, with a cornet, and Mr Henry Luck is seen as Richard I. Also we have a charming Dolly Dimple, who is made important as an incidental mover in affairs by the very clever way in which Miss Ray Hartley establishes herself in the good graces of the audience as a coon song and dance artiste. This lady's coon dancing in particular is well worth seeing. The five scenes through which this excellent company push forward the story of the Babes and Robin Hood are distinguished by a picturesque amplitude of staging especially remarkable in three of them, namely, The Village Green, Robin's Roost, and the final one of the Rose Garden. Nothing more effective than these could be desired for the most elaborate of productions. The harmless, necessary fight between Hackensmasher and Madriley takes place in Robin's Roost, the while the babes indifferently play at "hop-scotch." In the last scene one of the most resplendent of floral ballets is put on, comprising lilies, roses, forget-me-nots, laburnums, pansies, fuchsias, and carnations; and from a spectacular point of view the parade and grouping of the various flowers could hardly be surpassed for sheer beauty. By way of speciality, the Four Milano Girls introduce a Parisian dance in this scene, which includes also the happy consummation of the story. The pantomime remains at least a month, and seems likely to prove highly successful.

PRESENTATION TO H. B. BEAUMONT.

An interesting gathering took place at the Gaiety Theatre, Oldham, on Saturday evening, the 10th inst., on the occasion of the departure of Mr H. B. Beaumont, who has filled the conductor's chair for the long period of seventeen years. Mr Beaumont, although he leaves the house with which he has so long been honourably associated, does not sever his connection with Oldham, for he has been appointed conductor of the Theatre Royal orchestra in succession to the late Mr A. Langstaffe. It was to mark the sense of their appreciation and esteem that the staff assembled on the stage after the performance, where, displayed on a table, were a handsome illuminated address and elaborate smoker's cabinet.

Mr E. J. DEXTER, the general manager, presided, and in the course of a well-chosen speech paid a tribute to the ability and capability of Mr Beaumont. He was leaving them that night, but they trusted that he would have health and strength, and that he would be spared for many years to enjoy his well-merited success. It afforded him extreme pleasure to hand to Mr Beaumont the tributes on the table before them as a mark of the affection subsisting between the recipient and those with whom he had been associated.

Mr BEAUMONT, taken unawares, was visibly confused. He jocularly reminded those present that public speaking was not one of his strong points; he preferred the "front." None the less, he heartily appreciated the recognition which had been paid to him, and it was not without regret that he was leaving.

The following is a copy of the address:—

The Gaiety Theatre, Oldham.
Dec. 10, 1904.

TO H. B. BEAUMONT, ESQ.

We, the undersigned members of Orchestra and Staff, desire to present to you a little token of our esteem and regard on the occasion of your vacating the duties of conductor, after a long and valuable service of some seventeen years. As an artist your exceptional abilities have placed you on one of the highest pedestals of the profession, and we all feel proud of our association with you. Your genial and kindly disposition has been the means of creating friendships which we are happy to say time has cemented, and in taking leave of you, it is with the regret that is always experienced at the parting from a dear friend. We hope you will be spared for many years to enjoy your well-merited promotion, and we unite in asking you to accept our little tribute with every good wish.

(Signed)

E. J. DEXTER, General Manager.
GEO. STRINGER, Stage Manager.

Orchestra: W. CHEETHAM, J. F. RHODES, H. MAKIN, E. WARD, L. BARLOW, HAMLET LEES, Jr., F. BULL, J. W. RADCLIFFE, T. HAWKINS, T. DONELLAN, J. HAMER.

On taking his seat at the Theatre Royal on the succeeding Monday night Mr Beaumont was most cordially welcomed by the habitués at both performances.

THESPIDS CRICKET CLUB.

A general meeting of the members of the Thespids Cricket Club was held on Monday afternoon in the Council Chamber of the Actors' Association, King-street, Covent-garden. Mr C. Aubrey Smith (captain) presided, and there were also present Messrs H. Nye Chart (secretary), Charles Fulton (treasurer), B. Egerton, A. S. Homewood, Talbot Homewood, P. F. Knox, Ernest Cameron, and Sydenham Dixon.

Mr C. FULTON made a statement regarding the financial condition of the club. The receipts for the year 1902 were £110 13s. 6d., and the expenditure amounted to £98 8s. 3d. The receipts for 1903 were £72 3s., and the expenses came to £60 15s. 6d. The receipts for the present year, however, showed a sorry tale, they were only £70 7s. 9d., against an expenditure of £77 16d. 7d., leaving a deficit of £7 8s. 10. Excluding the balance in hand and a sum of £3 15s., received for subscriptions due last year, the actual receipts only amounted to £52 17s., the cricketer members paying £24 odd, and the balance being made up by donations from people interested in the game. This, however, could not be depended upon as a source of revenue in the future.

Mr NYE CHART read the minutes of a committee meeting held at the Green Room Club on Sept. 14, at which gathering certain recommendations to the general meeting of members were agreed to. The first was that the Thespids become a wandering club, and that the Grange cricket ground be given up.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that by adopting this recommendation they would save £42 per annum, this sum including the rent of the ground and the ground man's salary. The expenses would by this means be reduced to £35 a-year.

On the motion of Mr A. S. HOMEWOOD, seconded by Mr KNOX, the recommendation was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN said that the next recommendation was that the committee be empowered to elect lay members. He was sorry that the members of the profession had not shown themselves sufficient sportsmen to run a cricket club without outside aid. For some of the matches—particularly the Sunday ones—it had been found impossible to get teams entirely composed of actors. He did not think that the inclusion of lay members would injure the club in the least, but he would suggest that the number be strictly limited. Some discussion followed, Mr A. S. HOMEWOOD being opposed to the recommendation, and Mr EGERTON suggesting that lay members should only be permitted to play in the Sunday matches.

Eventually Mr S. DIXON proposed that lay men be elegible for membership, but that the number elected be restricted to fifteen.

Mr KNOX seconded the proposition, which was carried with one dissentient (Mr A. S. Homewood). It was then agreed that before electing a member the nomination be sent by post to the members of the committee for approval, that the annual subscription remain as at present, and that the vice-captains be abolished. The offer of a cricket pitch near the Combe and Malden railway station for Sunday cricket was also discussed.

The next business was the election of officers for the years 1905. It was resolved that Sir Henry Irving be asked to remain president. The vice-presidents were re-elected, and it was agreed that Mr Arthur Bourchier be asked to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr Wilson Barrett. Mr C. Aubrey Smith was re-elected captain, Mr Charles Fulton treasurer, and Mr H. Nye Chart secretary. Six vacancies on the committee were also filled up.

Mr NYE CHART reported that up to that date twenty matches (ten Sunday and ten week-day) for next season had been booked, and the meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to Mr Charles Cruikshanks (secretary of the Actors' Association) for the use of the Council Chamber.

AT SHAKESPEARE'S SHRINE.

London: ELLIOT STOCK, 62, Paternoster-row, E.C.

As we are reminded in the preface to this volume, several poetical anthologies in praise of Shakespeare have already appeared, but Mr Chas. F. Forshaw, the editor, claims that the publication under notice is, "though far from complete, the most exhaustive work of its kind yet produced." It contains a representative selection of poetic tributes from all ages down to the present, and yet, according to Mr Forshaw, "it would be a comparatively easy task to compile a dozen similar volumes, and then only have touched the fringe of the mantle which clothes the memory of the greatest poet the world has ever known—the divine, the gentle, the immortal Shakespeare." Mr A. Brodie Fraser in a "Foreword" has something to say on the value of literary criticism or judgment. He has rarely found two critics agree in the value of any book, and he takes it that literary judgment is determined, not by fixed laws, but by the mental condition of the critic when he passes the work under his review. But he points out, "This volume shows clearly this fact, that while men of genius have passed what, on the very face of it, has been rash and unsound judgment on Shakespeare, the poets, in their moments of inspiration, have paid such tribute to the Master as is to-day universally accepted as at once sincere and sound."

The volume also includes the extremely interesting lecture on "Plays partly written by Shakespeare," delivered at a meeting of the London Shakespeare Society last April by Mr Richard Garnett. The list of authors quoted who have "paid tribute at Shakespeare's Shrine" contains many well-known names, as well as a goodly number of unknown, or comparatively unknown, writers. The actors may be said to be represented by David Garrick, from whose verses three extracts are given, the first of which is as follows:

That demigod!
Who Avon's flowery margin trod,
While sportive Fancy round him flew;
When Nature led him by the hand,
Instructed him in all she knew,
And gave him absolute command.

Lord Byron on one occasion wrote, "Shakespeare and Milton have had this rise, and they will have this decline," a statement which is hardly consistent with the lines he wrote on the reopening after destruction by fire of the National Theatre:—

Say—shall his new, nor less aspiring pile,
Rear'd where once rose the mightiest in our isle,
Know the same favour which the former knew,
A shrine for Shakespeare—worthy him and you?
Yes—it shall be—the magic of that name
Defies the scythe of Time, the torch of flame;
On the same spot still consecrates the scene,
And bids the drama *be* where she hath *been*;
This fabric's birth attests the potent spell—
Indulge our honest pride and say, *How well!*

"A NOBLE REVENGE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Will you allow me to correct your correspondent in his notice of my little play, *A Noble Revenge*, produced at the "Archer" benefit at the Theatre Royal, Croydon, on the 10th inst? He says, "The *two* characters were sustained, &c." Will you allow me to point out that there are *three* characters, and that the part omitted in your notice was sustained by Mr Stanley Bedwell? I shall be pleased if you will make this announcement in justice to Mr Bedwell, as he most readily came forward, at some inconvenience to himself, to assist the good cause.

Yours faithfully, ALBERT WARD.
Standard Theatre, Bishopsgate, Dec. 17.

MRS GILBERT had no relatives in America, and lived alone, except for the companionship of a faithful maid, for a long time. Her husband and son, both of whom died many years ago, rest by her side in Greenwood Cemetery.

"THE POWER OF DARKNESS."

Play, in Five Acts, by Leo Tolstoy,
Translated by Louise and Aylmer Maude,
Produced for the Incorporated Stage Society by
Max Behrend, at the Royalty Theatre,
on Monday Afternoon, Dec. 19.

Peter	Mr CALEB PORTER
Akoulina	Miss EILY MALYON
Anisya	Miss ITALIA CONTI
Nan	Miss DOROTHY MINTO
Nikita	Mr W. LYALL SWETE
Matryona	Miss DOLORES DRUMMOND
Akim	Mr H. R. HIGNETT
Marina	Miss CALLISTA MARVIN
First Neighbour	Miss SYBIL RUSKIN
Martha	Miss MARIE MAURICE
Mitritch	Mr O. B. CLARENCE
Second Neighbour	Miss BERTHA VAN RAALTE
Bridegroom	Mr V. WIBURGH
Ivan	Mr JULIUS J. HAGEN
First Girl	Miss BERTHA VAN RAALTE
Second Girl	Miss MARIE MAURICE
Simon	Mr REGINALD WALTER
Police Officer	Mr F. ROBERTS

Count Leo Tolstoy is not noted for cheerful studies of human nature in his novels; and loathsome animalism is associated with heartless cruelty, low cunning, and sordid greed in *The Power of Darkness*, which was produced at the Royalty Theatre on Monday afternoon. Power of a kind there is, of course, in the play, but it is the power that depresses not elevates. The degradation of the characters is more than human, and the picture drawn of the peasantry of his native Russia by the distinguished socialist is gruesome and horrible in the extreme. They live a mean and debased life, without ideals, without religion, without morality—do these Slav peasants, and one is tempted to ask "What hope is there for a country in which the lower classes exist under such pitiful conditions?" Patriotism must be dead; the love of liberty extinguished; the sanctity of family life ignored. It is so, at any rate, in the above piece, which has been translated by Louise and Aylmer Maude. *The Power of Darkness* opens in the hut of Peter, who, according to the standard of comfort obtaining in the village, is in fairly good circumstances, keeping a servant one Nikita, who repays the confidence reposed in him by becoming the lover of Anisya, Peter's wife. He is quite a peasant Lothario is Peter, for he has also designs upon Akoulina, his master's daughter by a former marriage, and is likewise carrying out an intrigue with Marina, an orphan girl. Affection has nothing to do with any of these *affaires*, and we soon discover the motive of Nikita's liaison with Anisya, when his wretched mother, who knows all about it and quite approves of it, comes upon the scene. If Peter were out of the way the guilty pair could marry; and Matryona (the old hag) is quite prepared to assist the culpable wife by providing the poison necessary for the disposal of the inconvenient husband. The accomplishment of the deed is quite easy, and Peter speedily shuffles off this mortal coil. The widow Anisya soon marries her paramour Nikita; but that degraded wretch does not allow the union to interfere in any way with his intrigue with Akoulina, who has a child by him. This is a highly inconvenient accident, and to save scandal and expense Anisya and Matryona suggest that the infant should be put out of the way. Nikita kills it and buries it in the cellar—afterwards, in a fit of remorse, he describes how he sat on it, and smothered it, and heard its little bones crunch. One result is that Anisya becomes more than ever hateful to him, so does Akoulina, and his thoughts return, when not too dazed with vodka, to Marina, now fairly well married and moderately content. At length, overcome by remorse, he makes a full confession of his crime and his treachery at the wedding of Akoulina, who, strange to say, has found a husband. The scene of the greatest anguish is in the fourth act, where Nan, the daughter of Peter and Anisya, hears the wailing of the dying infant, followed by the strange sound of digging in the cellar beneath her bed, and vaguely suspects the horrible truth.

But perhaps we have told sufficient of the horrors of the piece. It is a pleasanter task to turn to the acting The part of Nikita was handled with a wonderfully sure touch by Mr Lyall Swete, whose keenness of perception, high intelligence, and cultured elocution always serve him so well in his invariably excellent work. His study of the part was clear and distinct. There were no blurred lines. The most tedious person in the play is Akim, the father of Nikita, an ancient and virtuous peasant without memory. Mr H. R. Hignett played the old man with discretion and tact; and a very fine study of the old labourer, Mitritch, was presented by Mr O. B. Clarence. It is Miss Dolores Desmond's fate apparently to play wicked old women on the stage, and she certainly did not fail to invest the part of Matryona with all the evil attributes of an avaricious and cruel hag. Miss Eily Malyon was responsible for a capable embodiment of the impious Akoulina; Miss Italia Conti, who took the part in consequence of the indisposition of Miss May Harvey, attacked the difficulties of the rôle of Anisya with considerable success, making an excellent impression; Miss Dorothy Minto as Nan was expressive and plaintive; and Miss Callista Marvin gave colour and life to the character of Marina. Miss Marie Maurice, Miss Bertha Van Raalte, and Mr Reginald Walter also distinguished themselves.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 19,
the Melodrama, by C. Watson Mill, entitled
"A WRECKER OF MEN."

There is plenty to amuse and to interest in the melodrama entitled *A Wrecker of Men*, which is being played at the Dalston Theatre this week. Mr C. Watson Mill sustains a leading part, that of Jim Murley, known as "the slogger," who is also a burglar. In one way or the other Jim has a good deal to do, but he is one of those personages who, in a rough-and-ready way, is always interesting, and as he is closely mixed up with the story he is indispensable to the representation. Represented by Mr Watson Mill, a good all-round actor, he meets with a thoroughly hearty reception. Mr George Harvey impressively acts the part of Railton, the silent servant. Two quaintly played rôles are those of Mr Charles Yorke as Pharosophus, an Egyptian wanderer, and Mr Alfred Maurice as Guise Strange, a nameless man. Mr Mac J. Cumming gives a typical character sketch of a swell as the Hon. Reggie Verrincourt. A remarkable character to present is that of Karnaphus—a somewhat active mummy—who thirsts for present-day revenge for wrongs done in ages past. This part, strange as it is, is most creditably sustained by Mr Henry Rutland, who appears in the first act as Ezekiel Isaacs. Mr Gibson Brooke as Eric Melville, whose life is wrecked, acts with a good deal of effect; Mr Henry Elton as Detective-Inspector Bramsmere is typical of a smart class of officer; Miss Victoria May proves herself a capable actress as Doris Melville; and Miss Kitty Melville is amusing as Slopper, a nondescript. Risca Mallinson, "a woman with a past," finds a very capable representative in Miss Rosalind Tate, who acts with care.

MR W. H. ARMSTRONG, the well-known solicitor, is in practice at 1, Renfrew-road, Lambeth, where he has been for many years, and is also to be found at his new office at 80, Rochester-row, Westminster.

MAKES THE SKIN AS SOFT AS VELVET.—Beetham's "LAROLA" preserves the Skin from the effects of the sun, wind, frost, and hard water. Removes and prevents all roughness, redness, chaps, irritation, tan, &c., and KEEPS the SKIN SOFT, SMOOTH, and WHITE at all Seasons. INVALUABLE for the COMPLEXION. DELIGHTFULLY SOOTHING and REFRESHING after dancing, cycling, motoring, &c. Bottles, 1s., 1s. 9d., and 2s. 6d. each, of all Chemists and Stores, or Post-free in the United Kingdom from M. Beetham and Son, Cheltenham.—[ADVT.]

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MRS. W. AUBREY.

MRS W. AUBREY, whose full name is Mrs W. Aubrey Chandler, first appeared on the stage rather late in life. She was in great request in amateur clubs—the Halbrake, the Norwood Anomalies, the Strolling Players, the Kensington, &c. She made her first tour in a fit-up with Lawrence Smythe. She played the Nurse, Emilia, Player Queen, Jessica, Audrey, Nurse, in *Called Back*, Joyce and Suzanne, in *East Lynne*. She had two tours with Rebecca Deering, playing Nurse Margot, in *Woman's Vengeance*; Cornelia Carlyle, in *East Lynne*; and Madame Prudence, in *Camille*. While her husband was playing in a stock season at the Theatre Royal, Margate, Miss Thorne invited her to The Towers. The Nurse was mentioned, Miss Thorne gave her the cues, which were taken up without hesitation. An engagement was offered her for the part of Pert, in *London Assurance*, &c. Miss Thorne expressed herself well satisfied with Pert, and cast Mrs Aubrey for a long comedy old woman's part in Haddon Chambers's farcical comedy, *One of Them*. Soon afterwards she was specially engaged for Mrs Blogg, in Miss Constance Abbott's tour, with *The Wages of Sin*. She was specially engaged for the same part in Miss Inez Howard's tour, also as Miss Dove, in *Man to Man*, and the Widow Melnotte, in *The Lady of Lyons*, with various companies. She then toured with a company of her own in farcical comedy. After a short interval she experimented in Shakespearian productions, and, though she gained experience, the pecuniary results were disastrous. Subsequently she had to be content with engagements at the music halls, being five months with one sketch company, three months with another, and in London and the provinces, in eccentric characters, &c. Mrs Aubrey played Mrs Hatzell for five weeks in John Francis Lamb's Scotch tour. She left him and joined her husband and niece, Miss Jessie Chandler, at the Leith Theatre, for stock season. She is unfortunate in having had only two London engagements at the Novelty Theatre, playing various parts in farce and drama, and a small part in *In Chancery* with Mr Edward Terry at the Olympic Theatre, while he was awaiting the completion of his own theatre. Owing to domestic trouble and bereavements Mrs Aubrey has not acted for three years, but she has not lost her love of acting.

MR HARRY HILLER.

MR HARRY HILLER entered the profession a little over nine years ago, and, always being eager for work, he has sought engagements as much as possible in répertoire and stock companies, thoroughly realising the value of a frequent change of part to a young actor anxious to gain a thorough knowledge and experience in his work. Up to the present he has played over 150 parts. In September, 1895, after two or three engagements in minor companies, Mr Hiller joined Mr Thomas Sidney's comedy répertoire company, and remained with him over the Christmas, playing Tom Lyons, in *On 'Change*; Walter Wynford, *Queen's Evidence*; Captain M'Manus, *Betsy*; Mr Horton, *Dr. Bill*; Captain Rattlefish, *Imprudence*; and many other parts. This was followed by a spring tour in *Proof*, as the Duke D'Aubeterre, and understudying and occasionally playing Pierre Lorance. On its termination he returned to Mr Sidney for Ralph Ormerod, in *The Arabian Nights*. Then came an engagement with Mr Otho Stuart in his tour of *For the Crown* (in which piece Mr Hiller played five different parts at various times) extending to June, 1897, with a break at the Christmas for a short season—again with Mr Sidney—for Horace Bream, in *Sweet Lavender*, and a repetition of old parts. He returned again to him in the August, and played Jefferson Tomkins, in *Niobe*; Batty Todd, *The Middleman*; and old parts. Then, after two or three odd engagements, once more with Mr Sidney, for Harry Winters, in *Tom, Dick, and Harry*, and various other parts, new and old. He was then engaged by Messrs Pease and Nettlefold for their production of *For the King*, playing Dr. Grey, and understudying and sometimes playing the heavy part, Colonel Wenlock. He then joined Mr Ernest Abbott in *The Mariners of England*, remaining with him ten months, and playing the exacting double of Admiral Talbot and Captain Hardy. This was followed by Dick Lovell, in Miss Eva Dare's production and tour of *Oh! Miss!* Then a short tour as Captain Macdonnel, in *The English Rose*. He was then engaged for a tour as Lord George Twyford, in Mr Max O'Rell's company in *On the Continong*. Autumn, 1901, found him with Mr Norman V. Norman for heavies, playing among others, Lord Dellans, in *Nell Gwyn*, and Beauscant, *Lady of Lyons*. Leaving him, he joined Miss Lilian Herries' répertoire company for Jos. Sedley, *Becky Sharp*; Lord Dangars, *The Profligate*, &c. He was then engaged by Miss Violet Ellicott for her production of *The Power of the Eye*, and in addition to creating the lead, Dick Lester, in that piece played Ray Trafford, *Under the Gaslight*, and Robert Ffolliott, *The Shaughraun*. He was then engaged by Mr Henry Dundas for Harold Vincent, in *The Price of Peace*. Then followed a short summer suburban tour as Dick Lorrimore, in *A Lion's Heart*, returning to Mr Dundas in the autumn for Basil Gillespie, in *Hearts are Trumps*. Spring, 1903, he was engaged by Miss Yvonne Orchardson to play General Sergius Troubetzkoi, in her production of *A Broken Barrier*, and subsequently went on tour in that part, and as her stage-manager. Since then he has been out to South Africa on business of a private nature, but has managed to fulfil a few odd engagements there just to keep from getting rusty. He is now looking forward to an early reappearance in England.

MR. GORDON BAILEY.

MR GORDON BAILEY'S first engagement was in a stock season in Birmingham, in 1894. Then followed a year with Mr Hermann Vezin on tour, Mr Bailey playing many small parts in Shakespeare and old English comedy. He then joined Mrs Bandmann-Palmer, and for another year played more small parts in Shakespeare, old English comedy, and *East Lynne*. Then followed six months with Mrs Walter Bentley, playing juvenile lead in a number of plays which that lady then toured, among them being *The Indian Mutiny*, *Jane Shore*, *Lady of Lyons*, &c. He then joined Mrs Bandmann-Palmer for Charles Surface,

Photo by Kaye.

MRS. W. AUBREY.

MR. HARRY HILLER.

MR GORDON BAILEY.

tours as Julian Belford, with Mr Henry C. Arnold's *Prodigal Daughter* company, Then another tour with Mr Vezin, in which Mr Bailey played Cassio, Bassanio, Laertes, &c., and understudied Mr Vezin. He was the Hamo Goring in Miss Florence Warden's production of *The Guinea Pigs* at Kennington, and it was while playing in this that Mr Eade Montifiore engaged him for a sixteen weeks' tour for Armand Duval, to support Miss Lucy Wilson as Camille. Then followed many special engagements, including Colonel Percy Kirk, in *A Sheep in Wolf's Clothing*, Shylock, and in a matinée given by Mr Henry J. Leigh of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Mr Bailey played Egeus. He then played Archibald Carlyle for a tour with Mr J. Pitt Hardacre's company. Then came more Shakespeare and old English comedy with Mr William Haviland, Mr Bailey playing Claudio, Laertes, Bassanio, Cassio, Tybalt, &c. Another engagement under Mr Mollison's management followed. This was at the Lyceum in *For Auld Lang Syne* During the run Mr W. L. Abingdon left in order to play elsewhere, and Mr Bailey undertook his part, Captain Carey. He was then engaged by Messrs Lewis Waller and William Mollison to play in *The Three Musketeers* and Lord Scroop, in *Henry V.*, at the Lyceum. Then came a long tour in Australia, Mr Bailey playing Sir Roger Fairfax, in *Sweet Nell of Old Drury* and many other parts, including Correze, in *Moths*, the Vere being his wife, Miss Lucy Wilson. Mr Bailey and Miss Lucy Wilson then went to America with Mr Chas. Warner, Mr Bailey playing Lantier, in *Drink*; next appearing as Dunstan Renshaw, in *The Profligate*, and Cayley Drummle, in *The Second Mrs Tanqueray*, on tour.

MR. WILLIE ATOM.

Like many another in the profession, Mr Willie Atom was not originally intended to follow a theatrical career, and for some years worked as a clerk. Finding the confinement bad for his health, he sought a more congenial occupation, one which had always had a certain amount of attraction for him; he was also a decided success as an amateur actor He first wrote to Mr George Edwardes, giving him full particulars as to his size, &c., and acting on his instructions he saw one of Mr Edwardes' principal managers. He will never forget going on to what appeared to him to be a large stage to sing (there were many others there for the same purpose), and his astonishment and mortification when he found that he could hardly hear his own voice in such a big space. He felt very much disheartened. However, he was told that if he learnt to sing and dance his diminutive size would be of considerable advantage, provided he had the ability. He did as directed, and then tried for five months to get an engagement, at last obtaining a minor part in a pantomime. Since then Mr Atom has never regretted his change of occupation, and his theatrical career, though not long, has been very successful. The part in which he thinks he has scored most was the creation of the Eton boy (age eleven years), Bertie Daredevil, in a drama by Mr James Willard, produced under the name of *The Crimson Horseshoe* at the Crown Theatre, Peckham, in June last year (the title has since been changed to *A Woman's Pluck*). Mr Atom played Humpty Dumpty in *Alice through the Looking Glass* at the New Theatre, but being practically encased in paper maché he found it impossible to do anything with the part, it being difficult even to speak from the case. In the part of Bertie, above referred to, what with his make-up and the boyish figure he possesses, the audience were never quite certain whether he was really a boy or a man (Mr Atom is twenty-nine years of age). "My boyish appearance" he says, "is responsible for many amusing incidents of which I will give a couple of instances. One night during a suburban tour in which I was playing Bertie, after the performance, I received a message from the resident manager requesting my presence in the circle bar, when dressed. On arrival, he asked me to have a drink, and I, not thinking, ordered a Scotch-and-soda, much to the astonishment of several gentlemen who would not believe that I was other than a boy. The Scotch-and-soda convinced them, and settled the argument between themselves and the manager. The other incident to which I will refer took place outside the stage door of the Strand Theatre. I was waiting to see a gentleman, and walking up and down smoking a cigar, when I was accosted by two remarkably tall policemen (who were regarding me as a terrible example of the depravity of the rising generation), with the remark from one, 'You'll be sick if you smoke that;' from the other, 'You deserve a good thrashing;' and they seemed disappointed that I showed no signs of fright. It was with some difficulty that I refrained from laughing outright, but instead I told them very seriously that had they been only ordinary people I should not have been so surprised at their mistake, but such an error to be made by two vast intellectual beings like themselves was altogether beyond my comprehension. They then apologised, and we parted very good friends." Mr Atom has played parts varying in age from a boy of eleven to an old gentleman of sixty odd with grey hair and side whiskers, and he has found the sound musical education he received when young of great use to him, it having enabled him to write more than one of his own songs. Of all parts he prefers that of a precocious boy, and being absolutely perfectly proportioned for his height, 4ft. 4in., he can look the part as few others can. His latest engagement was to play Xit, in *A Fatal Crown*, under the management of Mr Ian Maclaren.

Photo by Vanderbilt

MR. WILLIE ATOM.

Bassanio, Horatio, and many more juvenile leading parts. Geoffrey Tempest was his next part. This was with the No. 1 *Sorrows of Satan* company from the Shaftesbury Theatre. After all this serious work came a change with Mr John Leopold's No. 1 *Frivolity* company, of which Mr Bailey was the stage-manager, and he also played a light comedy part. But he was not to be parted from classic work for long, as Mr William Mollison engaged him for Rosf, in the Manchester production of *Macbeth*. A tour with *The Two Little Vagabonds*, as Captain Darville, came next. Then more Shakespeare with Messrs Morell and Moullot's company, with Mr Hermann Vezin heading the company. During this season Mr Bailey played the Ghost, in *Hamlet*; Antonio, in *The Merchant of Venice*, &c. Next followed two

"THE ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND."

"HOW TO HELP IT."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have only just seen the discussion in *The Era* with regard to the Actors' Benevolent Fund. I think that taxing free admissions, charging from 1s. to 2s. 6d. for autographs, and charging 10 per cent. on gross receipts of the *many* performances given by actors for other charities all excellent ideas; but the compulsory taxing of an actor strikes me as most arbitrary. Many actors may have only fifteen or twenty weeks' work in a whole year. Is it fair to take a night's salary in that case? I agree with Mr Maude that the charity dinner is degrading; but I do not see why the London managers should not give an extra performance of a popular play running at their theatres, and hand over two-thirds of the entire receipts to the fund, the remaining third to pay dressers, scene shifters, attendants, musicians, and lighting, and the small extra advertisements. This arrangement would not interfere with the weekly salary, and would not be felt in consequence. The only other alternative is to tax the gross receipts of every theatre, as in France; but, of course, the managers and syndicates would not agree to this compulsory tax, although they are willing to tax the actors and actresses.

Yours faithfully, SYBIL CARLISLE.
The Admirable Crichton Company.
Philadelphia, Dec. 7.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have read with considerable interest the somewhat lengthy correspondence which has appeared in your columns re "The Actors' Benevolent Fund and How to Help It," and I have come to the conclusion that the scheme suggested by Mr Cecil Raleigh, and supported by Mr W. Lestocq, is the most commendable, and would lead, if carried out, to the happiest results. Other writers have, no doubt, given the matter their most earnest consideration, but they all fail in propounding a practical method which would, if tried, I venture to think, prove as successful as well-wishers could desire.

Mr Lestocq, speaking of Mr Cecil Raleigh's proposition, says there are great difficulties in concreting such a scheme. Well, there may be, but what of that? Great difficulties have existed in connection with many things associated with our calling and those great difficulties have been overcome, and you may rely upon it they are not insuperable in this instance.

Roughly, I suggest a plan for consideration. Presuming that managers and artists are agreed that an annual matinée should be given on a fixed day throughout the kingdom—and I have never heard anyone object—then the course is clear. The Actors' Association has the organizing ability, and the temporary employment of a requisite staff would be a trifling detail.

On a given day, say, for the sake of illustration, the first Friday in September in every year, every company performing throughout the kingdom should produce a matinée of their evening bill, the artists give their services, the manager loan his theatre, and the author forego his fees, and after deduction of working expenses—i.e. advertisements, money and ticket-takers, stage hands, orchestra, &c., the balance, together with the programme of the day, to be sent by the acting-manager of the company to the secretary of the Actors' Association.

The money received to be paid into a separate banking account.

The name of every person who renders services on the actors' matinée day—i.e. the author, the local manager, the local and travelling acting-manager, the artistes, &c.—to be registered; for this reason, every subscriber for the year to the A.B.F. has a right to recommend cases for the consideration of the committee. In the event of being unfortunately obliged to appeal to that committee on his or her own behalf, he or she needs no recommendation. Being a subscriber, he or she practically, by his or her application, recommends himself or herself. Every person assisting on the actors' matinée day whose name appears on the programme would rank as a subscriber. The necessity for such a register is obvious. The money and ticket-takers, stage hands, and orchestra should not be asked to *give* their services, inasmuch as they would not be eligible for relief from the funds. A council of three of the most prominent members of our calling (to be elected for the purpose at the annual general meeting of the A.A. by the votes of those present whose subscriptions to the A.A. for the current year be paid) to decide how and in what proportion the fund raised by the actors' matinées should be distributed between the Actors' Benevolent Fund and the Actors' Orphanage Fund; an actuary of eminence to assist as financial adviser to such council. The Actors' Association to receive from such funds the repayment of the expenses of promotion, administration, and distribution. I think both the charities should be included, because the actor or actress giving his or her services might well say, "I prefer to work for the Actors' Orphanage Fund." Now, if both the charities were considered by the council of three that ground of objective argument would be removed. I am well aware there would be others.

At the meeting of the council of the Actors' Association held yesterday, I received an authorisation to send this letter to you, and apologising for troubling you at such length.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
CHAS. CRUIKSHANKS,
Secretary of the Actors' Association and Member of the Committee of the Actors' Benevolent Fund.
Dec. 21, 1904.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Kindly allow me a little space to reply to Mr Thomas P. Ashby's letter in your last issue. What does he mean by "broken-down actors"? Is he referring to human beings? If so, I think he might substitute a more human and sensible epithet. Are we in his and the clergy's eyes on a par with cattle? I've frequently heard of a broken-down cab-horse

For the last twenty years I've many a time and oft indirectly obliged the clergy by assisting at their entertainments, to gain funds for their church. I've taken journeys and spent time and money in the cause of charity to benefit the clergy and the parish they belong to. Result, a lot of stage-struck damsels and pale-faced young men who would faint at the idea of a Theatre Royal, but think in their own tin-pot way they are Ellen Terrys and Henry Irvings while strutting their hour upon the stage of the village schoolroom. Half these entertainments are arranged for vanity's sake, not charity. I don't think we require the help of the clergy, as, poor souls! many of them find it a struggle to help themselves.

Yours faithfully, C. P. AMALIA.
The Baltic, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight, Dec. 19.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I am surprised at the unchristian tone of your correspondent Mr Thomas P. Ashby's letter. He assumes that Miss Matthison appeals to the clergy to help the Actors' Benevolent Fund, and states that they have enough poor to help, and enough sins to answer for. The latter statement I do not doubt, although I fail to see the relevancy of it. As to the risks in entering the theatrical profession—where is the profession or calling without them? "The race is not always to the swift nor the battle to the strong," and some must fall by the way. It is a law of Nature, and for those who fall we must remember that the greatest of all virtues is—Charity.

Yours faithfully, GEORGE LAMBTON.
Pavilion Theatre, Edinburgh, Dec. 22, 1904.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

SIR SQUIRE BANCROFT, with his usual modesty and taste, objected to Dr. Maddick's kind proposal to make a bronze medallion of Sir Squire part of the proscenium decoration at the new La Scala Theatre, Sir Squire suggesting that room should be found for the proposed medallion in the foyer of the house. The objection was a fortunate one, if we may judge from the medallions which have been placed on the walls of one of the corridors. The well-known features of Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft have not been faithfully reproduced; and their "counterfeit-presentments" certainly do not do them justice.

MR BRANDON THOMAS, who has just recovered from a severe attack of influenza, and is not playing in *Charley's Aunt* at the Comedy Theatre, has decided to strengthen the cast of the play considerably. Several characters have already been reallotted, and other alterations are pending.

MADAME PATTI had an enthusiastic reception at St. Petersburg on Wednesday evening, when she sang in the Salle de la Noblesse there in aid of the sick and suffering soldiers. Bouquets and wreaths filled the stage, and on Madame Patti's entrance the whole audience rose, cheering and waving handkerchiefs. At the conclusion of her third song, Arditi's melodious "Il Bacio," Madame Patti was called into the salon at the back of the Imperial box, where she was received by the Empress Marie. The two ladies fell into each other's arms and "had a good cry." The tickets fetched very high prices, and 25 rouble seats were easily sold for 250 roubles.

MME PATTI sang three songs, "L'Air des Bijoux," "Voi Che Sapete," and the above-mentioned "Il Bacio." Each was received with immense applause, and at the conclusion of the third selection Count Grabbe, aide-de-camp to the Grand Duke Vladimir, presented the vocalist with a crown of gold on a blue velvet cushion, the gift of the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess Vladimir. Then came deputations from the Imperial theatres, with crowns of laurel, bouquets, and wreaths. In the evening a large supper-party was given in honour of Mme. Patti at the Vladimir Palace, on the banks of the Neva.

MISS ROSINA BRANDRAM, in consequence of a breakdown in her health, has, we are sorry to hear, been obliged to relinquish her part in *Veronique* at the Apollo Theatre.

MR JAMES WELCH, whose appearance at Drury-lane is so eagerly anticipated, is a Liverpool man, and celebrated his thirty-ninth birthday last month. He is brother-in-law to Mr Richard Le Gallienne, the well-known writer. Mr Welch made his London début at the Globe Theatre, under Mr Wilson Barrett's management, in 1887. The first comic line with which he made a hit on the stage was in the character of a pastrycook—in his very early days—when he succeeded in getting a laugh with these words: "That there is a pie, mum, is that there pie!"

MR HENRY CRISP, the blind actor, has been granted a pension of £5 by a society on behalf of the blind. The matter came about through an old schoolfellow of Mr Cyril Maude at the Charterhouse seeing the letter in *The Era* relating to Mr Crisp's sad condition, and at once interesting himself in the case.

PLAYGOING during the fog on Wednesday and Thursday was carried on under difficulties. Those who came in carriages were generally late, and only made their way to the entrances by the aid of volunteer torch-bearers and linkmen carrying boxes containing tallow candles. After the performances on Wednesday there was a great want of cabs, and people were seen in great distress, not knowing whether to walk home or go to a hotel for the night.

AN interesting meeting at the opening of the new La Scala Theatre on Monday was that between Miss Florence St. John and Mr W. S. Gilbert. Miss St. John looked more bright and attractive than ever, and Mr Gilbert, hale and hearty, was the very ideal of an English country gentleman.

THE late Mr William Rignold was fond of telling an amusing anecdote in reference to his violin playing. On one occasion when he was acting at the Gaiety Theatre, in *The Cherry Inn*, just after the King's (then the Prince of Wales) recovery from a dangerous illness, the late Dion Boucicault asked Rignold to give the audience "God save the Prince of Wales." At the first notes of the well-known air the house rose and continued cheering vociferously till the player ceased. After the outburst was over the late Herr Lutz came up to the actor and said: "Rignold, do you know why they applauded your playing?" "No," was the answer. "Well," said Lutz grimly, "It was because they made such a noise that they couldn't hear it."

SIR CHARLES WYNDHAM and MISS MARY MOORE appeared for the first time in New York in *Mrs Gorringe's Necklace*, at the New Lyceum Theatre, on the 7th inst., the first three weeks of their engagement having been devoted to *David Garrick*. Owing to the London success of the first-mentioned play, there had been many pleasant expectations regarding it, and these were abundantly realised. The piece proved very interesting and amusing, and it was exceedingly well acted. A numerous and brilliant assemblage showed the warmest appreciation of Sir Charles Wyndham's finished and natural portrayal of the self-sacrificing Captain Mowbray and of Miss Mary Moore's clever impersonation of the shallow and loquacious Mrs Gorringe. Mr Alfred Bishop's Colonel Jardin was a delightful embodiment of a fussy, irresolute, and self-opinionated old gentleman. Miss Vane Featherston's Mrs Jardin was an admirable representation of a conventional and hypocritical hostess. Mr Charles Quartermaine was earnest and convincing as the weak-minded David Cairn, and Mr T. W. Rawson played Jernigan, the detective, in a lifelike manner. Frequent laughter and applause showed that the play and the players had made a big hit.

MISS GERALDINE ULMAR has lost a blue enamel brooch with a bar of music "Forget me not, forget me not," written underneath, surrounded by diamonds. We trust that the accomplished actress and vocalist will have it returned to her at the Avenue Theatre.

IN connection with the production of *The White Cat* at Drury-lane by Mr Arthur Collins, it is interesting to be reminded that Miss Ellen Terry when about the age of nine played the part of the Fairy Golden Star in Charles Kean's pantomime on the same subject at the Princess's. This was on Boxing Day in 1857. In the following year, 1858, she was seen as the Genius of the Jewels, in *The King of the Castle*. Of her appearances in these pantomimes, with which at Christmas time Charles Kean found it necessary to supplement his elaborate performances, we can only imagine that she was a very fascinating little fairy, and it seems equally certain that when she was called upon to appear in two lengthy entertainments on the same night she must often have been a very tired little fairy.

MR H. BEERBOHM TREE has, with the sanction of His Majesty the King, been enrolled an Honorary Associate of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England in recognition of his valuable services in connection with the entertainment in July last at His Majesty's Theatre in aid of the funds of the British Ophthalmic Hospital at Jerusalem belonging to the Order.

THE annual meeting of the Gaiety Theatre Company, Limited, was held on the stage of the Gaiety Theatre on Monday last. Mr George Edwardes presided, and in moving the adoption of the report referred at the outset to the death of Mr Walter Pallant. Mr Wilfred B. Purefoy had taken the vacant seat on the board. The delay in calling the meeting was, he explained, owing to the fact that they had waited in the hope that the question between themselves and the London County Council would have been settled. Then they could have reported the result to the meeting. The question with the L.C.C. as to the amount the latter should pay towards the cost of the theatre was quite a friendly one. The balance-sheet and report spoke for themselves. Their liabilities were simply £75,000, and their assets were £118,000. He did not think the company had ever been in a stronger position. They had been doing very well lately, *The Orchid* was doing well, and the interim dividend would be paid next month. The report was adopted unanimously, and Mr George Edwardes was re-elected a director.

KALGOORLIE, the leading goldfield of Western Australia, has been providing a number of theatrical incidents of late. By this week's mail we are informed of yet another. On Nov. 17 Mr Graham Goldsburgh appeared before the Kalgoorlie magistrates to answer the charge of having opened His Excellency's Theatre without legal authority and in defiance of the Local Board of Health. He pleaded guilty, and was fined £20, with £11 3s. 5d. costs, in default two months' imprisonment. "His Excellency's" is a rather novel, if not unique, title for a theatre, but it is perfectly appropriate in a British colony. There the representative of the King is styled "His Excellency the Governor"—the title, by the way, of one of Captain Marshall's entertaining plays.

MR O. E. LENNON, who has left Mr Arthur Roberts's company at the Palace to play in pantomime at the Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield, is one of the few really good animal actors, going straight to nature for his cat and dog character studies, and combining great agility with rare humour. This year, however, he is playing the part of Washy, the Chinese servant, in *Aladdin*. Mr Lennon has been on the stage for sixteen years, having devoted the last ten or eleven to playing Mr Edmund Payne's and Mr Huntley Wright's parts on tour. He can carpenter, paint, and use a workman's tools cleverly. He goes in for chess and cricket, and is an expert swimmer, cyclist, and runner.

MR LENNON has many good stories to tell of his varied experiences behind the footlights. The first is against himself, and it shows both his good intentions and the limited amount of his knowledge at the beginning of his career. Seeing an advertisement for a man to play the Spider in *The Silver King*, young Lennon wrote to the manager offering his services. Of course, he had heard of the popular melodrama; but having no idea of the character of Captain Skinner, he explained that he had just made a success as a cat in pantomime, and felt "perfectly sure he could act a spider to everybody's satisfaction." It is needless to add that he did not "settle" with *The Silver King* manager. Apropos of cats at Christmas, Mr Lennon has a vivid recollection of introducing a most realistic and painful—from his own point of view—piece of acting into *Dick Whittington*, at the old Adelphi, some years ago. One of the comedians had to carry a tub of hot water on to the stage. The property man, determined that there should be plenty of steam, heated it to boiling point. The comedian, believing it to be only comfortably warm, purposely tipped half-a-pint over the cat as he ran past. The children in the audience shrieked with laughter, and when the poor puss, severely scalded, executed a frenzied dance round the stage, all the grown-up people joined in. Mr Lennon was the only person who could not see the joke.

THIS clever and versatile actor won the Royal Humane Society's medal a few years ago for gallantly saving the life of a drowning lady. He was acting in Ireland, and, walking by the sea one morning, he perceived a bather, out of her depth, evidently struggling in great distress. There was no time to be lost, one attempt to rescue the unfortunate lady having already failed; so Mr Lennon stripped off his coat and dashed into the water. He knew that it was useless to go too close, for she would be certain to clutch him in her desperation, so he stretched his left arm towards her, and the grip with which it was seized told him of the wisdom of his action. He managed to get ashore, swimming with his right arm, and was rewarded, some time afterwards, with the decoration for bravery of which he is so justly proud.

MR FRED EASTMAN, who is to play a prominent part in *The White Cat*, is a comedian of many years' experience, and is able to tell more than the usual number of amusing yarns of his one-town-five-parts-a-night days. On one occasion he acted, on sharing terms, in a country booth. His duties were to act, dance, and paint the scenery, and his "receipts" at the end of the first performance amounted to 10½. His partner, however, generously threw in a couple of hot potatoes.

MRS G. H. GILBERT, the veteran actress, who died suddenly at an hotel in Chicago on the 2nd inst., was interred in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, four days later. The funeral service was held at the Bloomingdale Reformed Church, in New York City, in the presence of 3,000 people, every theatrical company in the city being represented. Sir Charles Wyndham and Messrs Daniel Frohman, Nat C. Goodwin, Clyde Fitch, John Drew, and Francis Wilson were among the pall-bearers. Miss Annie Russell, for many years a close friend of Mrs Gilbert, and the members of the company that had been appearing in the play *Granny* with Mrs Gilbert were in attendance. The Rev. Dr. Stinson, pastor of the church, conducted the service.

MR FREDK. MOUILLOT'S *A Runaway Girl* will commence a fresh tour on Boxing Day at the Grand Theatre, Boscombe. To emphasise the occasion, several numbers of a novel description have been interpolated, and the piece embellished with elaborate new dresses and scenery, the latter from the studio of Mr R. Egerton. Prominent in a strong cast are Messrs Henry Latimer, Archie Croft, Clifton Yates, and Howard Cridland; Misses Marie Shields, Kate Vivian, Amy Edmonds, and Ethel Netherton, who has sustained the title-rôle for over two years. Mr Gordon Stamford is the musical director; Mr Hugh Fleming, manager; Mr Postlewaite, acting-manager; and Mr F. Leslie Moreton, the general manager of the company.

MISS EDNA MAY, after a three months' run in *The Schoolgirl*, at Daly's Theatre, New York, moved to the Herald-square Theatre. On Boxing night Miss May will, owing to other arrangements having been made, return to Daly's, New York, and continue the run of the piece until May, so that it will be impossible for Mr Frohman to produce *La Poupée* with her in the cast in America. In the middle of May, Miss Edna May and the entire *Schoolgirl* company will be seen in London for a limited period.

MR CHARLES J. CAMERON, who has just made his first attempt at the legitimate, playing Corporal Saxton, in *The Breed of the Treshams*, with Mr Martin Harvey, will be the Dame in Mr Mouillot's pantomime at Southampton this Christmas, playing the same part as he appeared in at the Theatre Royal, Exeter, last year. Mr Cameron will rejoin Mr Martin Harvey for his spring tour, having been re-engaged to play Viscount Dorsington, in *The Breed of the Treshams*.

MR CHARLES FROHMAN'S plan of presenting a popular entertainer as a "curtain-raiser," instead of the usual one-act play, has met with considerable success. Last Saturday Mr Frank Lincoln, at the Criterion Theatre, gave his humorous monologue before their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, who came early especially to hear him. On Tuesday he was also honoured by the presence of their Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Fife.

MISS JULIA NEILSON AND MR FRED TERRY have settled on Thursday, Jan. 5, for the production of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, by Orczy Barstow, at the New Theatre.

MADAME FRANCESCA JANAUSCHEK, who died recently at a private hospital on Long Island, U.S.A., was a Bohemian by birth, having been born in Prague in 1830. In 1867 she went to the United States, first performing in German, but after a thorough study of the English language, she appeared in such characters as Deborah, Mary Stuart, Queen Elizabeth, Lady Macbeth, Meg Merrilees, and Bianca. One of her latest and best-remembered impersonations was that of Mother Mandelbaum, in *The Great Diamond Robbery*. Madame Janauschek was stricken with paralysis four years ago. At a benefit performance given in her behalf at Wallack's Theatre in 1901, the sum of $5 000 was realised. Last year she was compelled to part with her costumes and jewels, and other valued possessions, and since then she had been cared for by the officers of the Actors' Fund, and in their plot Madame Janauschek was buried on Dec. 2 in Evergreen Cemetery.

MR J. BANNISTER HOWARD has taken over the entire rights of *The Darling of the Gods* and *The Eternal City*, with productions, from Mr Tree. Mr Howard's *Darling of the Gods* company will open at Chatham on Monday, and *The Belle of New York* will commence its tour at Manchester on the same day. Besides these Mr Howard is sending out *La Poupée*, *Florodora*, and *The Eternal City* this spring.

THE Scenic Artists' Association are anxious to obtain for their Exhibition at Grafton Galleries, Bond-street, April 10 to April 15, 1905, specimens of the works of Absolom, Bolena, Beverley, Bough, Chambers, Cox, Cooper, Calcott, Gates, Grieve, Hunt, Leitch, Loutherbourge, Marinave, Mulready, Marshall, Nasmith, Roberts, Clarkson Stanfield, W. Telbin, and other deceased scene painters, and the secretary, Mr H. Lawrence Harris, is inviting owners to communicate with him at 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, R.A., who was recently elected an honorary member of the Scenic Artists' Association, has kindly promised to lend his model and sketches for *Coriolanus* to the exhibition, and with Sir E. J. Poynter, P.R.A., and Mr E. A. Abbey, R.A., will form the hanging committee.

MR MATHESON LANG has entered into a short engagement with Mr F. R. Benson to play a round of leading parts in the company which Mr Benson is sending out to the West Indies. The répertoire being sent out is a large one. Mr Lang's parts will include Hamlet, Petruchio, David Garrick, Paolo (*Paolo and Francesca*), Joseph Surface, Shylock, Richard III., &c. Mr Lang is an old Bensonian. He was for about four years a member of Mr Benson's company, playing in that time a great number of parts, finally arriving at the seconds and juveniles. About two years ago he toured through the States with Mrs Langtry, playing leading juvenile parts with her, and has just concluded a long engagement as leading man with Miss Ellen Terry—an engagement lasting through part of her London season and three tours in the provinces—playing Benedick, in *Much Ado About Nothing*; Bassanio, in *The Merchant of Venice*; the Baron Gego, in *The Mistress of the Robes*; and the part of Geert, in Miss Terry's production of *The Good Hope*, Hejermann's powerful play, adapted from the Dutch by Christopher St. John, which lately aroused so much interest. The trip to the West Indies will last about fourteen weeks in all, commencing in Kingston, Jamaica, early in January. The company will be back in England again early in April.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE" terminated its most successful tour at the Court Theatre, Wigan, on Dec. 12. Messrs Melville are at present making elaborate preparations for its production at the Standard Theatre on Boxing Day. Mr Clarence Hague, who was originally engaged for the heavy leading part of Charles Devereux, has been re-engaged for this occasion. The cast will also include Mr Albert Ward and Miss Emily Hughes in the leading parts of George Madison and the Lady Superior.

IN aid of the great charitable movement for the feeding of poor Liverpool school children, which has been conducted by the Food and Betterment Association for some years, Mr Fred Granville allowed on Wednesday the free use of the Queen's Theatre, Liverpool, for a matinée. In addition the officials of this popular place offered their services gratuitously. There was a good audience, and the result of the performance of the pantomime *Cinderella* will mean that a substantial sum will be handed over. The arrangements of the matinés were in the hands of Mr F. L. Arthur, the business-manager, and the programme was added to by services rendered by many of the principal artistes engaged at the local music halls.

MISS BEATRICE FERRAR, who recently returned from a holiday abroad, has been engaged by Mrs Langtry to play in her forthcoming production of *Mrs Dering's Divorce*, at Terry's Theatre early in January.—Mr Cecil Brooking, who, after two tours as Professor Tofield in *Joseph Entangled*, has been playing Tito in *Pagliacci* at the Savoy, has to leave on Dec. 31 to rehearse for the Prince of Verona in *Romeo and Juliet* at Manchester.

THE latest instalment of the Australian theatrical reminiscences of "Autolycus" is chiefly concerned with Lady Don, the actress who married the actor-baronet, Sir William Don. In the early 'sixties Sir William and Lady Don visited Australia, and became very popular in Melbourne and Sydney, but their Antipodean tour came to a tragic termination in Hobart, the capital of Tasmania, with the sudden death of Sir William. After two years of widowhood in England, Lady Don revisited Australia, and experienced a most cordial welcome. "Autolycus" narrates a pathetic incident in connection with her reappearance. She was singing "Ever of thee" to a crowded audience in the Melbourne Haymarket Theatre—the scene of her former triumphs—when, by an electric flash of memory, she was reminded that when she last sang that ballad on that stage her husband was standing close by. Her voice quivered, her articulation broke, she covered her face with her hands, and rushed off the stage sobbing.

WHAT Autolycus describes as "a strange and awesome silence" filled the thronged theatre until the manager, Mr William Hoskins (Sir Henry Irving's first tutor at Sadler's Wells, and the man who procured his first engagement for our leading actor of to-day) advanced to the footlights and explained the affecting circumstances. Having recovered control of her nerves and feelings, Lady Don returned and completed the song amid a tumult of sympathetic applause. Autolycus awards high praise to Lady Don's all-round ability and versatility, specially mentioning her Josephine, in *The Child of the Regiment*, her Lady Audley, her Nan (*Good for Nothing*), and her Ali Baba, in the pantomime of *The Forty Thieves*.

AT the Royalty Theatre this Christmas for four weeks from Boxing Night will be given Beaumont and Fletcher's travesty *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*, recently performed by the Mermaid Society at the same house. Mrs Theodore Wright will appear once more as the citizen's wife and Mr James Hearn will play the part of the grocer's apprentice. Every afternoon for four weeks also will be presented the children's fairy play, *Snowdrop and the Seven Little Men*, adapted from Grimm's fairy story by Mr Philip Carr, with music composed by Mr Charles W. Smith. The principal parts in the piece, which, it will be remembered, was given at the Court Theatre last year, will be sustained by Mr Thomas Holding, Miss Irene Rooke, and Miss Grace Arundale. It will be preceded by an adaptation by Mrs Hugh Bell of Grimm's fairy story, *Rumpelstiltzkin*.

MR OTHO STUART is anxious to correct a statement which has been recently made by one or two of the papers to the effect that *The Taming of the Shrew* will be given at His Majesty's next April by his company from the Adelphi. There is absolutely no truth in the report, which may have originated in the fact that Mr Stuart has given permission for Mr Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton to appear in some of their original parts with Mr Tree.

MISS MARIE GEORGE, who is playing at the Lane this year, is of German descent, and was brought up in New York. On entering the profession she changed her name from Georg to George, and played her first part in *The Lady Slavey*. Her first successes in London were in *The Casino Girl* and *The Belle of Bohemia*. She has also tried her luck on the music hall stage.

MR RICHARD MANSFIELD, during his recent engagement in Boston, U.S.A., made a fine revival of *Richard III.*, following the model of his representation of that tragedy at the Globe Theatre, when he had the counsel of several competent authorities. Mr Mansfield is making *Richard III.* and *The Merchant of Venice* the leading features of his répertoire for this season. It is seven years since he last appeared in either of these plays.

MISS STELLA GASTELLE, whose performances in *La Poupee* and *Arnorelle* are so well known, has sent a particularly pretty form of Christmas greeting this year to her many friends and admirers. It is a set of six of her best photographs on a screen mount of deep red.

AT the Theatre Royal, Stratford, this week Mr George Kirk's company, in *Judy*, has been proving a strong attraction. Mr George Kirk plays Grip, the three-fingered detective, with a subdued force and finesse which is most effective, his utterances always carrying conviction. Mr Richard Ferris enacts the rascally Duburg on well-defined lines, and Mr William Vane does exceedingly well as Sterling. Mr Will Casey is amusing as Jim, and Mr Fred May contributes an excellent sketch of Giddles. Miss Mary Neil exhibits versatility in her delineation of Alice and Polly, astonishing the audience by her celerity in "changing." Miss Violet Langley well portrays the malevolent nature of Blake, and Miss Annie Mitchell makes a smart and vivacious Becky. Much interest centres round Miss Florrie Groves's performance as Judy, and the clever young actress is as successful as ever in the part. Minor characters are in competent hands, and the piece is very appropriately staged.

MESSRS BENNETT AND BENNETT, the proprietors of the Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham-junction, announce that on Boxing afternoon they will produce their ninth annual children's Christmas fairy pantomime entitled *Dick Whittington*. Mr Humphrey E. Brammall's company includes Miss Lily Shaw, Miss Ruby Verdi, Mr Austin Rudd, Mr Ben Albert, Mr Will Johnstone, Mr G. W. Hurst, Miss Gwennie Harcourt, Mr Alf Hales, Les Four Papillons, Messrs Condon and Preston, the New York Comedy Four, Miss Bessie Evans, Mr Harry Gifford, and Miss Dorothy Grasdorff.

MISS STELLA BERRETON'S pupil, Miss Maude Lacy, made a most successful first appearance as Lady Hamilton, in Mr H. F. Wiber Wood's play of *Lady Hamilton; or, The Last Signal*, produced at the Grand Theatre for a matinée on the 22nd ult., winning golden opinions from Press and public. So finished a performance is seldom given by so young an artist, and Mrs Douglass is to be highly congratulated on the result of her able instruction.

AT the Theatre Royal, Middlesbrough, *Dick Whittington* is to be produced by Mr J. F. Elliston. Miss Ethel Newman will appear in the title-rôle, and will be supported by the Misses Dare, Lytton, Percy, Reed, May Russel, and Nellie Shannon; Messrs Tom Foy, the Yorkshire lad, Will Musgrove, Bert Byrne, and Fred Mulvey.

THE Hine Prize for composition at the Royal Academy of Music has been awarded to Marjorie Slaughter. The adjudicators were Mr Julian Marshall and Miss Ethel M. Boyce. The Westmorland Scholarship for male vocalists has been awarded to Emile D'Otsly, Philip Simmons being very highly commended. The examiners were Messrs Walter Mackway, Arthur Thompson, and Madame Larkcom. The Potter Exhibition for female pianists has been awarded to Margaret Bennett, Gladys Law being highly commended. The examiners were Messrs S. Blakiston, A. E. Izard, C. F. Pollard, C. F. Reddie, and Oscar Beringer (chairman). The Bonamy Dobree Prize for violoncellists has been awarded to Gwendoline Griffiths. The adjudicators were Messrs Alfred Earnshaw, B. Patterson Parker, and J. Edwd. Hambleton (chairman).

WE regret to record the death of Mrs David Collins, professionally known as Miss Florence Gray, at one time a well-known actress in London. The deceased had been an invalid and sufferer for some years. She was engaged for four seasons at the old Marylebone Theatre (now the West London) when under Messrs Carl and West's management. She also appeared at various times at the Globe, the Olympic, and Imperial Theatres, and fulfilled engagements with Mr Walter Reynolds' and Mr Robert Arthur's companies.

MR ROBERT BROUGH and MR HERBERT FLEMMING have entered into partnership in theatrical enterprises in Australia. Their first comedy company will leave early in March, and its repertory will include *The Walls of Jericho*, *Beauty and the Barge*, *Quality Street*, and *Little Mary*.

FIFTY boys and girls who are to appear on the stage of Drury-lane Theatre on Boxing Night were in attendance at Bow-street Police-court on Thursday, to obtain the necessary licences, which were readily granted.

MR F. R. BENSON'S company, on its West Indian tour, will visit in succession Kingston, Jamaica, where it will open on Jan. 14; Port of Spain, Trinidad; Bridgetown, Barbadoes, and Georgetown, Demerara, returning to Kingston on March 17, and being back in England in April.

MR RICHARD FIELDING, who was lately playing in *The Chevalier* at the Garrick, is now enacting Captain Bob Fletcher in *Fourchette and Co.*, and the Colonel in *Charley's Aunt*, in the place of Mr Brandon Thomas, who is indisposed.

THE friends of Miss Nellie Fletcher, daughter of the late Edward Fletcher, who was for many years lessee and manager of the Theatre Royal, Cardiff, will be sorry to hear that she is lying seriously ill with rheumatic fever at 41, Barcombe-avenue, Streatham-hill.

NO one who witnessed Mr Austin Melford's highly amusing creation of the Professor, in *Ladyland*, at the Avenue on Monday night, could have realised that he took up the part at four days' notice, and that, in fact, he was appearing as the Silver King at the Shakespeare, Clapham, during the course of these scant rehearsals.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT, who is touring through Europe, has been allowed to appear at Constantinople in *Frou-Frou*, *Sapho* and *La Dame aux Camélias*, but the Turkish Censorship has declined to permit *La Tosca*, *Phèdre*, or *L'Aiglon*. All plays in which kings or princes are represented are forbidden in Turkey; but in *L'Aiglon*, in which Madame Bernhardt impersonates a male rôle, the Turkish officials discover a direct breach of the laws of the Koran, and decline most emphatically to discuss the question. At an afternoon tea-party given by M. Pierre Loti on board the French guardship Le Vautour, Madame Bernhardt said, "My relations with the Sultan cannot be described as 'excellent.' I believe he hates me. Coquelin *aîné* is the only dramatic artist who finds grace in his eyes."

MR GEORGE EDWARDES'S *Duchess of Dantzic* company will open at the King's Theatre, Glasgow, on the 26th inst., and will remain there for a month, followed by a month at the Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh, with all the "big cities" to follow. Miss Amy Aygarde is the Sans-Gêne and Mr Matthew Brodie the Napoleon. Mr J. B. Gordon stage-manages.

MR SAM FREDERICKS, the manager of the Theatre Royal, Stratford, was unostentatiously married on Wednesday at Christchurch, Wanstead, to Miss Marion Herring, second daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Herring, of Chigwell. Only near relatives and a few intimate friends were invited to the ceremony, although the popularity of the bridegroom in the district had attracted a goodly sprinkling of sightseers. The fair bride was given away by her father, and the bridegroom was accompanied by his brother, Mr Fred Fredericks, straight from the throes of pantomime producing, who acted as best man. The wedding déjeuner was held at the Abercorn Rooms, Great Eastern Hotel, and a party numbering about twenty-five, including Mrs Ellis Fredericks, proprietress of the Stratford Theatre, sister of the bridegroom; Mr and Mrs A. E. Abrahams, sister and brother-in-law of the bridegroom; Mr Walter Fredericks; the parents, three sisters, and brother of the bride; Mr Bert Ashton, Mr A. Clinch, and Mr T. Anderson sat down at the floral-bedecked tables fully prepared to banish all thoughts of the fog and inclemency prevailing without, and give themselves entirely to festivity and gaiety. After a recherché repast had been done justice to, "The health and happiness of the bride and bridegroom" was enthusiastically drunk, followed by other toasts, speeches being felicitously made by Mr A. E. Abrahams, Mr Bert Ashton, Mr A. Clinch, Mr Fred Fredericks, and Mr Herring, a few concluding happy words being spoken by the bridegroom. Subsequently the guests betook themselves to the Shrubbery, Wanstead, the residence of Mrs Ellis Fredericks, where they were regaled by the charming hostess until the "wee sma' hours." The happy couple were the recipients of numerous costly and useful presents.

IN the Court of King's Bench, on the 16th inst., before Mr Justice Wills and a special jury, Mr John Pitt Hardacre and Mrs F. M. Gumley sued Messrs F. W. Purcell, H. Armitage, and Miss Haidee Wright, for an injunction, damages, and penalties for an alleged infringement of the plaintiffs' sole right of the representation of a play called *East Lynne*, "Bullock version." The defendants denied that the plaintiffs possessed the right of representation claimed, and also that they had played any play in which the plaintiffs had a right, and pleaded that for the play performed by them they had acquired rights from the late Mr. Wilson Barrett. Evidence having been heard at length on the 16th inst., and on Monday last, the further hearing of the case was adjourned till Jan. 11.

MISS MARGARET ASHTON, whose health has considerably improved after the complete rest and change of air she recently enjoyed at Folkestone, has resumed her provincial tour in Scotland, and is everywhere meeting with unqualified success. She has this week been singing to a crowded house in Edinburgh; and the sustained applause that greets the popular American soprano clearly shows that her fine voice has lost none of its old strength and brilliancy.

MISS ALICE HOLLANDER on Saturday last successfully took up the rôle of Aurora, in *Sergeant Brue*, at the Strand Theatre, which had been vacated by Miss Madge Lessing. The newcomer, who is well known on the concert platform, quickly sang herself into favour, her rendering of "Never mind the weather," a new number in Liza Lehmann's happiest vein, being much appreciated. Another new number, a prison trio entitled "Put me in my little cell," also met with much applause.

MRS FRANK HARVEY, after a long rest, will reopen at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, August Bank Holiday, 1905, playing her original parts in a repertory of five plays a-week. This company was founded by the late Mdlle. Beatrice in 1870. It is believed to be the oldest touring company now on tour, and was carried on for over twenty years by the late Frank Harvey. It will now be conducted by Dallas Welford and T. A. Braidon, who will tour this company all the year round.

CINEMATOGRAPHIC effects are not easily reproduced with stage properties. The Cinématograph presents with decidedly realistic effect a train coming from a distance towards the audience until it seems about to thunder over the footlights into the auditorium. During the recent revival of *London after Dark* in Sydney an attempt was made to reproduce this thrilling effect in the well-known sensation scene on the Underground Railway. Instead of the train rushing across the stage, as usual, it was run down from the back towards the footlights, but the innovation did not yield results equal to anticipation. In short it was generally voted a failure. When stage hands can travel as fast as the Cinématograph machine the "thrill" may be secured.

THE German company will give on Boxing night a special performance at the Great Queen-street Theatre of *Alt Heidelberg*, the original of the play which had such a long and successful run at the St. James's Theatre with Mr George Alexander as Karl Heinrich. This rôle will be played in German by Mr Heinz Pabst, and the part of Kathie will be rendered by Fräulein Rosie Grawz, who made such a hit in *Das Thal des Lebens*. After Boxing night the theatre will be closed until Jan. 2.

MISS IDA MOLESWORTH AND MR MARK BLOW will open on Boxing Day with *Under Two Flags* at Lincoln. They will produce two new plays this spring—*At Cripple Creek*, a play of Western American mining life, which has been a great success in America, being toured by three companies over there, and has a very fine plant of American printing, and *In the King's Name*, a romantic costume play by the late Charles Rogers, author of *The Ladder of Life*. Both plays will be seen at the leading suburban and provincial theatres this spring. The same company will enact all three plays, and in most of the towns visited the bill will be changed during the week.

MR HUGH METCALFE, who has relinquished his engagement with Messrs Moule and Nicholls as lead in *The Life that Kills*, is the son of Metcalf, the composer and musician, who wrote the famous old hunting song "Do you ken John Peel."

"LADY MADCAP."

Musical Play, by Paul Rubens and N. Newnham Davis; Music by Paul Rubens; Lyrics by Paul Rubens and Percy Greenbank; Produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, on Saturday, Dec 17.

Count de St. Hubert	Mr MAURICE FARKOA
Bill Stratford	Mr AUBREY FITZGERALD
Posh Jenkins.....	Mr FRED EMNEY
Colonel Layton.....	Mr LEEDHAM BANTOCK
Major Blatherswaite	Mr DENNIS EADIE
Captain Harrington	Mr J. EDWARD FRASER
Lieut. Somerset	Mr SPENCER TREVOR
Lord Framlingham	Mr HERBERT SPARLING
Corporal Ham	Mr GEORGE CARROLL
Palmer	Mr R. ST. GEORGE
Old Huntsman	Mr RICHARD KAVANAGH
Trooper Smith	Mr G. P. HUNTLEY
Gwenny Holden	Miss DELIA MASON
Susan	Miss EVA SANDFORD
Mrs Layton	Miss BLANCHE MASSEY
Lady Betty Clarridge....	Miss ADRIENNE AUGARDE

Why is it that a musical play must always have the progress of its story arrested in the second act, in order to allow of the interpolation of a "sing-song"? Is it a remnant of the times when no librettist was found capable of holding the attention of the audience during the whole evening, so that he had to be "helped out with a variety entertainment? The adherence to conventional rule was peculiarly unnecessary in the case of *Lady Madcap*, which was produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Saturday night last, for Messrs Paul Rubens and N. Newham Davis have produced a book which is intelligible, coherent, and amusing throughout. The principal character is one Brown, a young millionaire, who, in response to certain suggestions, has enlisted as a trooper in a hussar regiment, in order to "rough it." Brown has a quaint individuality. Without being excessively intelligent, he is sufficiently shrewd; but his judgment of his fellow-men is obscured by his abundant good-nature. For instance, he cannot believe that Bill Stratford, a member of the "swell mob," who has endeavoured to cheat him at cards at Ostend, is anything but honest; indeed, Brown has serious intentions of paying Stratford a gambling debt of £1,000. Lady Betty Clarridge, the "madcap" daughter of Lord Framlingham, has been struck by the prowess of the supposed trooper on the cricket-field; and, in order to meet him again, has invited the whole regiment to lunch at Lord Framlingham's castle. He is enraged at Lady Betty's prank, and confines her to her room, where she escapes by a ladder, gets both her father and his trusty chief domestic out of the way by means of delusive telegrams, and dresses up Brown as the butler. She then proceeds to exchange identities with her maid, Susan, Lady Betty's friend, Gwenny Holden, impersonating her ladyship. Bill Stratford arrives on the scene in answer to an advertisement for a millionaire husband, which Lady Betty has inserted in the papers, and audaciously presents himself as Brown. With all this masquerading, fun and frolic are abundantly evolved. Brown creates much astonishment by his free-and-easy manners as the butler; and, in that capacity, is taken into the confidence of Stratford, who wants the butler to "stand in" with him in a sharping swindle. Eventually, Brown proposes to Lady Betty in the character of Susan and is accepted; and Stratford's roguery being exposed, he is thrust out by the servants, Lord Framlingham having returned home in time to learn of his daughter's engagement to the real millionaire.

The piece, which plays till half-past eleven, might well be shortened by the omission of some of the songs in the second act, which is at present overloaded with musical numbers. There are certain items, however, which must necessarily be retained—amongst them being a comic duet for Stratford and his henchman, Posh Jenkins, with a refrain "Good morning, if you please;" a neat little semi-spoken song for Susan called "Nerves," the lines of which are very smart; a capital chanson for the inevitable Frenchman, the Count De St. Hubert "I love you in velvet," most tactfully "worded" and composed; a droll ditty about Moses when the light went out, the effect of which is much assisted by a pretty bit of stage-management, the chorus coming on with candles which they blow out simultaneously on the concluding chord; and a clever song and dance for Susan. "The Missis." A song for St. Hubert, recounting an amorous adventure with much whispering and mystery, might be sacrificed without damage to the piece. There are the usual accompaniments of pretty dresses, for the designs of which Mr Percy Anderson is responsible, and of brightly imagined details which have been well carried out under the excellent stage-direction of Mr J. A. E Malone and the presiding eye of Mr Willie Warde; and there are two lovely "sets," a rose-embowered exterior by Mr Hawes Craven, and a pillared hall cleverly carried out by Mr J. Harker in a scheme of orange and gold.

A most bewitching Lady Betty Clarridge is Miss Adrienne Augarde, whose winning ways and roguish refinement prove absolutely irresistible. Miss Augarde makes all her points quite naturally, and without any apparent effort; and a great charm of her acting is it freshness and unconsciousness. With all her freedoms, Lady Betty is always the daughter of Lord Framlingham. Miss Augarde has not been over supplied with musical opportunities, but she renders her "little dog" ditty in the second act so daintily that she ensures for it an encore. Miss Blanche Massey as Mrs Layton has little to do, but does it so nicely that she can be imagined holding her own in more important comedy work. Miss Eva Sandford as Susan gets every ounce of meaning out of her songs, dances delightfully, and acts with just the required amount of emphasis and animation; and Miss Delia Mason as the gentle, modest Gwenny Holden gives a charming picture of a type of English girl which is steadily becoming extinct. Mr G. P. Huntley as Trooper Smith elaborates the author's character-sketch with an ease and originality which are invaluable. His performance is a genuine piece of comedy acting, and the artistic tone is maintained amidst all temptations to farce, a remarkable sense of reality being created by the apparent spontaneousness of Mr Huntley's embodiment. Another creation of decidedly superior quality is Mr Aubrey Fitzgerald's Bill Stratford. Mr Fitzgerald not only has an agreeable singing voice, but uses it with great judgment, and his impersonation of the modern Macaire is decidedly effective and amusing. Mr Fred Emney's always-diverting methods are well employed in the realisation of the Jacques Strop of the pair, Posh Jenkins; and Mr Leedham Bantock's sleek, fat, sleepy Colonel is in that able artist's best style. A performance which must not go unpraised is Mr George Carrol's Corporal Ham, played with exactly the seriousness necessary to develop the humour of the situations. The officers of the East Anglian Hussars are competently represented by Messrs Dennis Eadie, J. Edward Fraser, and Spencer Trevor; and the irascible Lord Framlingham has an energetic exponent in Mr Herbert Sparling. Mr Maurice Farkoa has so many admirers, and his peculiar style is so famous, that we need only mention that he is in his very best form in *Lady Madcap*, and has opportunities equal, if not superior, to any in previous pieces in which he has appeared. Messrs Paul Rubens and N. Newnham Davis may be congratulated upon the result of their collaboration, which is likely to prove extremely popular.

AT Marlborough-street Police-court on Wednesday Mr Richard Maynard, manager of the Royalty Theatre, applied to Mr Denman, for licences to permit twenty-eight children to perform in the matinées of *Snowdrop*, which is to be produced this afternoon. Sub-divisional inspector M'Kay having informed the magistrate that the children were in good health the licences were granted for twenty-seven of them, one being under age.

THE NEW "LA SCALA."

Our elaborate descriptive account last week of the new La Scala Theatre on the site of the Old Prince of Wales's, in Charlotte-street, Tottenham-court-road, renders it needless for us to repeat our information. To the non-architectural eye, the main points in the interior of the new building are:—The simplicity of the proscenium "frame," which is a plane of creamy-white, only relieved by the gilded figure of St. George at the top of the arch; the absence of side-boxes, with the exception of four, which are contained in large porch-like erections at either side of the house; the small amount of ornament and the superior artistic merit of what is employed, notably the gilded wrought iron work in front of the boxes; the staircases with gilded rails leading from the balcony to the stalls; and the use throughout the house of marble and creamy-coloured stone. The whiteness of these reflects the electric illumination powerfully, and will give the new La Scala one of the best lighted auditoriums in London.

The formal opening of the house took place on Monday afternoon. From three o'clock onwards guests continued to arrive, amongst those who accepted invitations being Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr W. S. Gilbert, Mr Harry Nicholls, Miss Florence St. John, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Lily Hanbury, Miss Kitty Loftus, Mr Martin Harvey, Mr F. Dicksee, R.A., Miss Constance Collier, Mr Herman Vezin, Mr John Hare, Mr Tito Mattei, Mrs George Alexander, Mr Herbert Waring, Mr Wilfred Bendall, Miss Lena Ashwell, Mr and Mrs Weedon Grossmith, Mr and Mrs Forbes Robertson, Sir Algernon West, Miss Olga Nethersole, and Mr and Mrs Lionel Monckton.

The National Anthem was sung at 4·30, and the curtain was raised, disclosing Lady Bancroft, who said:—Dr. Distin Maddick has long determined that I should be the first to tread these boards. It is a matter of sentiment to him, and, as a matter of sentiment, I am sure you will all think it appropriate that I should do so, for on this very ground stood the dear old Prince of Wales's Theatre. When I had the honour to unlock the door to-day to welcome you to this beautiful house, it was, believe me, with feelings of very deep emotion. My thoughts went back through a long vista of years, and I remember the opening night of the dear little theatre over which I used to preside. I saw myself, as it were, a few minutes before the doors opened on the inaugural night nervously busy in a private box, perched on a small ladder, nailing up the last lace curtain. It was a simple little theatre, although lofty hopes were centred in it, and, being young, I was not afraid. Lucky for me it was that I possessed so much courage, for until the last moment my friends warned me that the West-end folk would never come so far out of their way. Time told a different tale. Indeed an old apple-woman, who used in former days to stand outside the theatre, waited, and waited, and waited until the performance was over, and when the audience had quite departed, and the last carriage turned the corner, she gave vent to her feelings in these words: "Well, if these be your haristocrats, give me your roughs. I've only took fourpence, got a 'orrid cold, and all for nothing." The old lady disappeared and was never seen again.

But, seriously, it must ever be a proud thought both for me and my husband that we numbered as members of our company in that little theatre which once stood here such dear friends, some, alas! now dead, as Mr John Hare, Miss Ellen Terry, Mr and Mrs Kendal, Mrs John Wood, Miss Carlotta Addison, the original Bells, in *School*, Mr George Honey, Mr John Clayton, Mr Arthur Cecil, Mr Forbes Robertson, and many distinguished servants of the public. To-day I have compared the modest little house with the grandeur of this beautiful building, but just as very humble parents have often given to the world a genius, so from the ashes of that tiny theatre has risen this noble building. I warmly congratulate Dr. Maddick, and I also cordially congratulate his architect, Mr Frank Verity, upon the splendid result of what has been all along, I know, a labour of love. What the aim and scheme of this theatre is to be I do not yet know, but, were it mine, I should work very hard to make it a national theatre, where a play of Shakespeare should be acted at least once a week. That, I think, would be a worthy memorial and a fitting tribute to the memory of the world's greatest dramatist. I heartily compliment Dr. Maddick on the kindly regard he has shown for the dear old theatre, and with all my heart I wish this new one the success and honour which were so freely bestowed upon its predecessor.

At the conclusion, in answer to repeated demands, Lady Bancroft led on Dr. Maddick, who was warmly applauded. Afternoon tea was then served on the stage.

THE Copyright Bill recently passed by the American House of Representatives gives the author or the proprietor of a book published in a foreign language, belonging to a nation extending similar privileges to the United States, the right of copyright in an English translation or dramatisation made within twelve months after the first publication of the book in the foreign country. The Bill has yet to pass the Senate.

AT the usual weekly meeting of the council of the Actors' Association, held last Tuesday, the applications of eighteen ladies and gentlemen for membership were before the meeting, and their records having proved satisfactory they will be elected in January next. The honorary solicitors reported progress in several matters. The report of the Finance and General Purposes Committee was received. It was agreed, in view of the Christmas holidays, that the offices should be closed on Boxing Day and the next meeting of the Council be held on Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1905, at 2·30 p.m.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM RIGNOLD.

Mr William Rignold passed away peacefully in his sleep early on Thursday morning at his residence, Blaxland House, Hornsey. He had been ailing for some time, but his relatives and friends did not suspect that the end was so near. Mr William Rignold was born at Leicester on Dec. 18, 1836, but the traditions of his family settle around Birmingham. In the old church of King's Norton there lie generations of Rignolds. Here is buried Mrs Rignold, the mother of the deceased and of Mr George Rignold and Miss Susan Rignold.

Mr Rignold's career extended over more than half a century, for he made his début at the mature age of four. His mother was "starring" at the Redditch Theatre during the vacation at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, and little William danced a sailor's hornpipe. During his boyhood Mr Rignold constantly appeared on the stage as a dancer and in pantomime, and when at Newcastle, in 1846, Miss Charlotte Cushman was seen in her famous character of Meg Merrilies, Mr Rignold, then ten years of age, represented Franco. But music was selected for the lad's career, and he took lessons on the violin from Mr Coppin. In 1850 Mr Rignold became a member of the orchestra at the Theatre Royal, Hull, and in 1855 he was repetiteur at the New Theatre, Sheffield, then under the management of Mr Char. Dillon. A year later he happened to be sent to Limerick by Henry Webb to lead the band in *Rob Roy*, Sir Wm. Don playing the Bailie. The "heavy gentleman" lost the train, and Mr Rignold acted Rashleigh and led the orchestra as well, without the subterfuge being noticed by the large audience. The performance was such a success that all his friends persuaded him to take to the stage, so he left his much-loved violin, and in 1857 opened at the Amphitheatre, Liverpool, under Mr Copeland, as "general utility." At the end of three years he had played the entire round of "heavy business." He had the good fortune, in many of Mr Webster's parts, to please Celeste, who offered to get him an opening in London. During the ten years between 1860 and 1870 he was leading the hard, but useful, life of a provincial actor, mostly in stock companies. In 1860 Mr Rignold was engaged at the Bath and Bristol Theatres Royal in various capacities, culminating in "entire lead." In 1865 he transferred his services to the Theatre Royal, Dublin, and appeared there as leading actor during four seasons.

Photo by Window and Grove.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM RIGNOLD.

On Feb. 15, 1869, Mr William Rignold made his début on the London stage at the Princess's Theatre as Count De Fersen in Palgrave Simpson's *Marie Antoinette*. Mr Rignold afterwards appeared at most of the leading London theatres and in many notable productions. When *Drink* was produced at the Princess's Theatre Mr Rignold was the Gouget, and his performance was so excellent that it won a special word of praise from M. Francesque Sarcey when the eminent French critic came over to see the English version of *L'Assommoir*. An even more remarkable success was the actor's impersonation of Jacques, in *The Two Orphans*. In the original production, in revival after revival, on tour and in town, Mr Rignold played this part thousands of times. When the late Sir Augustus Harris started the series of melodramas that made his management an unique and interesting chapter in the history of the Stage, Mr Wm. Rignold was one of his company, playing Clement Huntingford, in *The World*. A tour in America in 1881-2 was his next noteworthy experience, where, under the management of Mr Imre Kiralfy, he appeared as Michael Strogoff, the Courtier of the Czar, in the leading cities of the United States.

A promising engagement with Madame Ristori on his return to England, to support the great tragedienne in *Macbeth* at Drury-lane, was cut short in a most unpleasant way. Mr Rignold, in the ardour of a stage fight, was actually stabbed, and was confined to his room for a considerable time. He assisted in Charles Reade's production of *Rachel the Reaper* at the Adelphi in 1883. He supported Miss Mary Anderson on tour, and at the Lyceum during 1884, playing Leucippe to her Galatea. In a dramatic version of *Adam Bede* he played the hero, and also a violin solo, during 1885 and 1886. He appeared in *A Run of Luck* at Drury-lane; in *Held by the Enemy* at the Princess's; and in *Joseph's Sweetheart* at the Vaudeville. The last English production of note in which Mr Rignold took part was *Nowadays*, in which he played Mr Barrett's part, John Saxton. The character of the bluff Yorkshireman was popular with Mr Rignold, and also with the public. He sailed for Australia in January, 1880, where he toured for two years with *Nowadays*.

Mr Rignold became totally blind in 1902, and in September of that year Mr Edward Ledger started in *The Era* a testimonial to the unfortunate actor, Sir Henry Irving heading the list with the sum of £21. Mr Rignold bore his terrible affliction with admirable resignation and cheerfulness, though it was a sad sight to see the one-time representative of so many bold and manly characters reduced to the slow and cautious movements of the blind.

A benefit performance in aid of Mr Rignold took place at the Lyric Theatre on the afternoon of Dec. 5, 1902, when a large number of well-known artistes appeared. The net proceeds amounted to £575, and *The Era* subscription list reached a total of £912, so that the veteran actor, deprived of his means of livelihood by the terrible affliction of loss of sight, was able to end his days in peace and comfort. The funeral will probably take place on Tuesday next.

THE PLAYS OF DUMAS THE ELDER.

For the drama of state intrigue we opine that Alexandre Dumas the elder has always been *facile princeps*, and it is only a few years since London playgoers showed a great interest in one of his most romantic stories, which was adapted by all sorts and conditions of playwrights. The present generation, we are afraid, is profoundly indifferent to the interesting Frenchman; but to those who wish to learn something of the nature and excellence of his stage work we commend them to Mr Harry A. Spurr, who knows more about the subject than any man living. In his latest book, "Stories from the plays of Alexandre Dumas," he has chosen three of the most notable of his fifty or sixty dramatic productions, viz., *Henri III and His Court*, *Antony*, and *Mdlle. De Belle-Isle*. In explanation of the scope of his work Mr Spurr in his preface says:—

"If we had told these stories in condensed form (the method adopted in at least one famous precedent) they would have been spoilt for our purposes. We have therefore contented ourselves with translating the dialogue of the plays practically as it stands, filling in the backgrounds in narrative form, and so supplying as best we could the missing movements, gestures, and expressions of the actors, the scenery, and all the other stage effects. In any case this could not be done so as adequately to compensate the reader; but the present form may convey to him some idea of how the plays would appear when acted. We were led to adopt this mode of reproduction because Dumas's dialogue omits little that needs to be explained, and contains little or nothing that needs to be omitted, for almost every word is necessary to the action and to the effects designed by the playwright. The three French plays here told in English narrative were carefully chosen, *Henri Trois*, because it was typical of its author's 'historical romance' plays, *Antony*, because it was the first and best of his 'social dramas,' and *Mdlle. De Belle-Isle*, because it was, perhaps, the first great comedy-drama."

Dumas himself has given a full account of the origin of *Henri III. and His Court* in his "Mémoires." At the time of writing it he was twenty-five, and held the position of a clerk in the bureau of the Duc D'Orléans. One day while searching for some copying paper in another of the rooms he happened to glance at an open volume of Anquetil's "History of France," lying on a desk, and his eye fell upon a passage telling of a cruel jest played upon the Duchesse of Guise by her husband. One day the Duke—who was profoundly jealous of the friendship of St. Mégrin for the Duchesse—entered his wife's room and threatening her with death by dagger forced her to swallow what she believed to be a deadly potion. After keeping her in horrible suspense for an hour, the Duke told her that the cup had contained nothing more poisonous than jelly-broth. "This strange incident," says Mr Spurr, "excited Dumas's curiosity, and he wished to read more on the subject. He found in the 'Mémoires De l'Estoile' an account of St. Mégrin's assassination by the Duc De Guise, and a similar incident relating to the murder of Bussy D'Amboise (which he used again to such excellent purpose in *La Dame De Monsoreau.*)"

Henri III. and His Court was conceived with originality and developed with skill. As a play it was in bright contrast to the long, dreary classic tragedy, written in stilted rhetoric with passion set forth in alexandrines, lifeless, and unconvincing. Realism and romance were here in contradistinction to pedantry and classicism; and the drama brought the author instant fame. *Antony* created an even greater furore than *Henri Trois*, for its daring and its passion. During the next fifteen years Dumas was best known to France as the author of *Antony*. It was the problem play of the period. The hero is a foundling, the mystery of whose birth debars him from a place in society to which his talents entitle him. Thus cast out, this modern Ishmael takes a terrible revenge. The play, except for the two *denouements*, is taken from the author's own life. *Mademoiselle De Belle-Isle* still remains, and is likely to remain, in the répertoire of the Comédie Française. It has been "adapted" for English audiences as *The Silver Key*. The story is founded on a true incident of the reign of Louis XV.

The work is illustrated with an excellent portrait, by Fabre, dated 1847, which has never been reproduced in England; and the vignette, representing the final scene in "Antony," is from an old drawing of the period. The publisher of the volume, which is well got up, is J. R. Tutin, of Cottingham, near Hull, and the price is 2s. 6d. nett.

"LITTLE BLACK SAMBO" AND "LITTLE WHITE BARBARA."

A Musical Medley, in Two Acts, Adapted from the Two Popular Dumpy Books by Rutland Barrington, and Composed by Wilfrid Bendall and Frederick Rosse, with Extra Numbers by Milton Wellings, Mary Watson, Jeanne and Ian Malcolm.
Produced at the Garrick Theatre on Wednesday Afternoon, Dec. 21.

Little Black Sambo	Miss NELLIE BOWMAN
Pompey	Mr FRANK LAWTON
Plantagenet	Mr WEBB DARLEIGH
Black Jumbo.....	Mr EDWARD RIGBY
Doctor Funnyman	Mr LEONARD CALVERT
Jake.....	Mr FRANK LACEY
Shere Khan	Mr JOHN CROOKE
Shere Khant	Mr FRED NERRI
Khant Shere	Mr D. IMBERT
Shere Shant	Master THOMAS LIPTON
Bruin	Mr A. B. ALLEN
P.C. White	Mr D. STEWART
Liza	Miss MADGE TITHERADGE
Little White Barbara	Miss IRIS HAWKINS
Mammy Mumbo	Miss KATE BISHOP
Aunt Dosy	Miss LENA HALIDAY
Aunt Posy	Miss CAROLINE EWELL
Topsy	Miss IDA VALLI
Ching-a-Ling.....	Miss PAT COLLINGE

The Dumpy Books are a "great institution" in the nursery, and the juveniles who go to see the new musical medley at the Garrick Theatre will recognise here and there in the story extracts from those quaint and favourite tales. The theme, which is very slight, deals with the indisposition of one Little White Barbara, for whom a certain Doctor Funnyman prescribes unlimited amusement. This supplies excuse for a sort of "darkie" variety entertainment, most of which is given outside Black Jumbo's cabin at the edge of a certain jungle. An incident introduced is the artful dodgery of Sambo, who, attacked by four tigers, persuades each of them that he is the finest animal in the jungle, and makes them all so jealous that they take to fighting with one another around a tree. The piece ends with the doctor's recommendation to the audience to come and see the "show" as a cure for all complaints.

The chief contributor to what is practically a variety entertainment is Mr Frank Lawton, whose marvellous whistling and extraordinary bone playing create immense enthusiasm. He also sings an "Echo" song with delicate expressiveness. Mr Lawton is a pillar of strength in the piece. Miss Nellie Bowman as Little Black Sambo acts, sings, and dances with admirable animation, energy, and spirit, and keeps matters moving merrily all the time that she is upon the stage. Her liveliness is very exhilarating, and she does her work with a quick confidence that carries the audience with her entirely. Mr Webb Darleigh is an imposing and stately Plantagenet, and Mr Edward Rigby gives a characteristic and comic impersonation of Black Jumbo, Mr Leonard Calvert being entirely efficient as Dr. Funnyman, and Mr Frank Lacey being bright and merry as Jake. Miss Madge Titheradge is delightfully spontaneous and artlessly impulsive as 'Liza, and dances with a vast amount of activity and abandon; and Miss Iris Hawkins is a pretty and dainty Little White Barbara. Miss Kate Bishop is broadly comic as Mammy Mumbo, and the two Aunts are ably impersonated by Miss Lena Halliday and Miss Caroline Ewell, Miss Ida Valli acting and singing capitally as Topsy. Messrs Bendall and Frederick Rosse's music is tuneful and spirited, and is scored and harmonised in musicianly style. All the songs and choruses go well, and many are deservedly encored. Mr Frederick Farren has arranged the dances ably, and Mr W. Harford's scenery is quite up to the mark. The "medley" is preceded by an old-fashioned episode, in one act, by Tom Gallon played for the first time, and entitled

"LADY JANE'S CHRISTMAS-PARTY."

Sir James Brandon	Mr CHARLES GOODHART
Charlie.....	Master HUGH WAKEFIELD
Nathaniel Doffey	Mr WEBB DARLEIGH
Jacob Flatters	Mr EDWARD RIGBY
Toby.....	By HIMSELF
Mrs Doffey	Miss KATE BISHOP
Jane	Miss NELLIE BOWMAN

This little piece has an appropriate "Christmasy" spirit, and is pleasantly written. Charlie, the son of Sir James Brandon, is left at Miss Cropper's select establishment for the sons of gentlemen on the evening of Christmas Day, awaiting the arrival of his father, who is to take him home. He fraternises in the kitchen with a servant of the "Marchioness" type, called Jane. Their conversation is interrupted by the arrival of a party of "Punch and Judy" people, including an acrobat, a clown, and the acrobat's wife. They are very hungry; and Charlie and Jane supply them with food. Eventually Sir James comes to take his son away, is induced to engage Jane as a domestic at the "Hall," and gives the "Punch and Judy" people two guineas to redeem their show, which is in pawn. The piece was played very competently, Miss Nellie Bowman enacting Jane with delicacy, taste, and naturalness; and Master Hugh Wakefield showing refinement and intelligence as Charlie. Mr Webb Darleigh was effective as the acrobat, Mr Edward Rigby was grimly droll as Jacob Flatters, and Miss Kate Bishop was excellent as Mrs Doffey.

MR. W. S. GILBERT ON THE BENCH.

Mr W. S. Gilbert presided over the Bench of Magistrates at Edgware on Wednesday and heard a summons against a Hendon tradesman for disorderly conduct. The police stated that some boys were dancing to a tune on a tin whistle outside the defendant's shop, and when asked to move away the defendant shouted for them to go on to his premises, and that this was a free country. Of the four witnesses for the defence, one said it was a lady singing, another said it was a banjo, another that it was a violin, mandolin, and a lady. The defendant said if an Italian with an organ came up there would be a crowd.

Mr Gilbert—Good gracious, we have got an organ and an Italian dragged in now. I wonder what next.

The solicitor for the defence said he should call it music.

Mr Gilbert—By all means you can if you like.

To the constable who made the report the defendant said, "If I didn't have respect for the cloth you'd have to go through it."

Solicitor (to witness)—That was to indicate respect for the cloth?—Yes.

Mr Gilbert—Did he evince it by telling the cloth to go to a certain place.

Solicitor—I expect so.

Mr Gilbert—I only wanted to know.

The same defendant was summoned for betting on three separate days. "You are pretty well acquainted with the procedure of this court, and know how to go on," Mr Gilbert said, when the defendant commenced a short speech. "I will not hear you, and if you are not quiet you will go out of court."

For each day the defendant was fined £5 and costs.

NEW EALING THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 19, the Comedy by Brandon Thomas, in Three Acts, entitled "CHARLEY'S AUNT."

The return visit of this laughable piece has been received here this week by good houses. Mr Guy Lane as Stephen Spettigue created much amusement by the solicitor's infatuation for the monied aunt; Mr Lumsden Hare is a dashing Colonel Sir Francis Chesney. Mr Arthur Soames as Jack Cheney is a capable exponent of the part, being ably supported by Mr Wylie A. Thompson as Charley Wykeham. Mr Geo. Desmond in the part of Lord Fancourt Babberley shows ability and cleverness in his acting. Mrs Lewis Oswald as Donna Lucia is bright and engaging; Miss Marion Fitzgerald makes a charming Ela Delahay; and Miss Violet Cooper does good work as Amy Spettigue, and Miss Francis Ruthbridge is a winsome Kitty Verdun.

MUSIC HALL BENEVOLENT FUND.

A general meeting in furtherance of the objects of this Fund was held at the Trocadero on Thursday afternoon. Mr Joseph Lyons (the president) occupied the chair, and those present included Messrs Richard Warner, Frank Allen, Hugh Astley, C. Beecham, Frank Weeks, J. Harrison, Tom Pacey, Douglas Stuart, H. De Frece, Arthur Combes, E. Granville, J. O'Gorman, M. De Frece, J. De Frece, Fortune, and others.

The Chairman said he was sorry to see such a small attendance. In the first place he might tell them that he had not inquired into the working of the Fund in regard to the distribution of its monies to those in need of assistance. He had seen no report, and had interviewed neither the auditors nor the trustees, but he promised that at the earliest opportunity he would meet those gentlemen, and ascertain whether the Fund had, in his opinion, been properly administered, and whether the expenses incurred in the administration of its affairs had been small or large. It became more difficult every year to obtain for the Fund contributions from the general public, and it was therefore necessary that the profession should support it to a reasonable extent, so that there would be no longer any necessity to go round with the hat. The money paid in salaries to members of the variety profession amounted to hundreds of thousands of pounds yearly, and whereas engineers, architects, and members of the legal and other professions had their own charities, the variety profession did not seem to attach the same importance to the support of a benevolent society, which would help in case of need. He thought that some practical scheme might be evolved which would place the Fund upon a sound financial basis. Many proposals had been brought forward. One was that a percentage of the salaries of artistes should be collected by the managers of music halls. The various schemes had been discussed upon their merits, and he confessed that he was at a disadvantage, as he was not the proprietor or manager of a place of entertainment, but he felt convinced that if they did not reorganise the Fund upon a business basis it would within the next two or three years dwindle to nothing; therefore it became necessary to arrive at some practicable solution of the difficulty. They should endeavour to agree to a plan which would be satisfactory both to the artistes and the proprietors of the various places of entertainment. A scheme had been proposed by Mr Richard Warner, and he would call upon that gentleman to address the meeting.

Mr Warner said:—Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,—Having given much consideration to a scheme for providing a permanent income for the Music Hall Benevolent Fuud, and being much impressed with the words which our president made in his appeal that charity should come from the richer portion of the profession to benefit the poorer, I beg to lay before you a proposal which I shall submit in the shape of a resolution. I felt justified in coming to that conclusion when I saw the magnificent effort one of the managers of not one of the largest music halls in London had made for the Fund, he having collected nearly £50 in the year. I feel quite assured if this matter was thoroughly taken in hand by the managers, proprietors, and directors that it would result in a very large sum of money being collected. There have been various plans suggested, such as charging a penny in the pound on each pound the artiste earned. Of course, if this could be done the Fund would need no further revenue from any other source, but it seems to me that the difficulties one would have to meet in this case are too great to make it a practical scheme—at all events at present, as people refuse to be absolutely compelled to give to charity. The question of giving matinées by proprietors is not always practical, as there are many halls in London which are not adapted for matinées. The proposal to allot one night's salary of the artiste to the Benevolent Fund would meet with much opposition on various grounds, which are too lengthy to state. I will now read you the resolution I propose. It is:—Firstly, that proprietors, managers, and directors should be requested urgently to instruct their managers to do the best in his power, and on each treasury day place a collecting-box before the artiste, at the same time giving him a small book, writing his name in the book, and receipting the sum placed in the box. As soon as the artiste can show the receipt of one guinea in that book it shall entitle him to be a member of the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and make him eligible to vote for any man on the committee. If the sum reaches two guineas, he shall have the power to recommend any case to the committee for consideration; and also he himself shall be entitled, if deserving, to receive benefits. I need hardly point out that it has the advantage that you are giving a consideration for receiving something, and it places the donor in the position of being a kind of patron. The pennies and shillings can be easily spared, and the signatures of the various managers will form a receipt. We can see at the end of the year which manager has been most energetic, and irrespective of the prize that is given this year by our generous chairman, two prizes should be awarded to the second and third successful manager. I myself am willing to give this year the second prize. This probably will act as a little extra incentive to the managers, and I now ask the chairman to be good enough to put my resolution before the meeting.

The Chairman said he was sure that some such scheme as this was worth trying. All artistes receiving a salary of £5 might pay at the rate of a halfpenny in the £1, and in time these contributions would become a matter of custom.

Mr Hugh Astley objected to make artistes pay by compulsion. He did not regard a contribution given under compulsion in the light of charity at all, and it would be placing on the shoulders of proprietors and managers an unpleasant duty. He should like to give the artistes another chance, though he confessed it seemed rather hopeless. He suggested that the artistes' agents should urge the claims of the Fund when the contracts were signed.

Mr O'Gorman was of opinion that artistes would object to the scheme proposed by Mr Warner.

Mr Jack Harrison proposed that a day should be set apart once a year for a collection to be made at the halls throughout the country. The commercial travellers had adopted this plan and obtained an enormous sum of money. He should himself be pleased to give a guinea when a day was fixed.

Mr O'Gorman seconded the proposal.

The Chairman—I think it is a very practical suggestion.

Mr Warner—Yes, it is a very fine suggestion in theory. We have tried a collect on at Christmas time, and what was the result? Surely, if one manager can collect £50 we ought to raise £700 or £800 from the halls throughout the country.

Mr H. De Frece—I doubt whether the managers would take the trouble to put the boxes before the artistes.

The Chairman said that a politely worded circular might be addressed to the managers asking them to do their utmost for the Fund, and he was sure they would have one of the biggest collections ever known.

Mr Frank Allen said his instructions to managers at Moss's Empires were to hand the collecting-boxes to artistes and to use their utmost endeavours to get them to contribute.

Mr O'Gorman called attention to the fact that there were at the present time many calls upon artistes, and he thought that an appeal once a-year would be sufficient.

The Chairman put to the meeting the proposal made by Mr Warner, and it was lost, five voting for it and seven against. Mr Harrison's proposition was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr Warner then submitted a second proposal, which affected the proprietors of music halls. He said there were over fifty music halls in London. Of course, all the fifty halls could not give a gala performance for the Music Hall Benevolent Fund each year, therefore his proposal was to limit it to twelve music halls, which should be selected, each year, and a gala performance given in the evening—that was, where a matinée was not practicable. Extra charges should be made suitable to the locality of the hall, and a programme be provided, for which the artistes should be required to give their services. The proceeds of such gala performance could be divided between the proprietors and the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, or in some cases, as the circumstances permitted, one-third could go to the Music Hall Fund and two-thirds to the proprietors, or in cases where it warranted double charges one half to each.

Mr Tom Pacey seconded the motion, which was carried.

A sub-committee was then formed to carry out the proposals which had been passed.

The meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE BEDFORD.

The week before the Christmas carnival is not one that is noted for good business, and King Fog having most unmistakably asserted his power during the week, places of entertainment generally have suffered. The Bedford, where Mr B. P. Lucas is the genial managing director, is fortunate, however, in having a clientèle of its own, and, all things considered, attendances have been very fair. The sketch is an excellent condensed drama by Brien M'Cullough, who knows the tastes of the Bedfordians to a nicety, and supplies all the necessary sensation and humour in *Beneath Big Ben*, a piece in which the life of the masses in our great city is set forth in a number of telling scenes. There is a convincing picture of the Thames Embankment, with the great clock tower of the title in the distance. Tragedy and farce jostle each other in the production, which affords the company all the requisite chances for impressive acting. Mr M'Cullough, a great favourite with Camden-town audiences, is seen to very great advantage in a part which exactly suits his individuality of style, and he scores all along the line. There is much to be said in favour of Mr Will Driscoll, a comedian who has no cause to complain of the reception accorded to a couple of songs, entitled "Where is that dicky bird?" and "What is my greatest wish?" There is a happy sense of the obvious in both compositions, and the comic method of the vocalist touches the risible faculties of his hearers, who have installed him a favourite. Mr Sid Bandon, another of the younger brigade of comic singers, "gets home" with a really interesting number, "Sez I to myself, sez I"—a philosophical title surely, and one that lends itself to unlimited opportunities, Mr Bandon's light-hearted style is very acceptable. Sentimental vocalism has a most acceptable exponent in Miss Ivy Dawn, and though this prepossessing young lady chooses such a well-worn number as "The Holy City," the applause that becomes so enthusiastic at its conclusion quite justifies her selection. Miss Gladys Mavius makes coon songs a speciality, and her numbers have invariably a swinging refrain, which appeals to the tuneful melodists seated in every part of the house. Miss Mavius is also an excellent dancer. Performances of skill are always popular, and the feats of Mr Charles Ulrick, whose wonderful barrel-twirling shows a command of pedal dexterity that is really astounding, bring down the house. Mr Ulrick makes light of difficulties, which are piled one upon the other, and he thoroughly deserves the enthusiastic reception so generously accorded him. The Sisters Petram fill out a most interesting interlude with their clever marionette and miniature circus; Onda and Artell are exceedingly smart gymnasts, whose feats are characterised by grace and skill; and Miss Lal Atlee's contributions to the bill are applauded. Animated pictures are always a popular feature of entertainments at the Bedford, and the films presented by the Imperial Bioscope are always watched with much intentness by the Camden-town folk. Mr A. Moss also occupies a place in the bill. The small orchestra is ably directed by Mr Frank Thomas. Mr A. F. Lovesy, the manager, is both courteous and assiduous.

DUCHESS, BALHAM.

The strength and variety of the bill at the Duchess, Balham, have been sufficient to counteract the influence of the dull week before the holidays, and the elegant auditorium has presented a well-filled appearance at each performance. Mr H. Cambridge Newman, the new manager, has brought the benefit of an extensive experience in the fulfilment of his duties, and during the short period he has been at his post has already won the esteem of all. Mr Bransby Williams, who occupies a leading position in the programme, long since won fame in the rising suburb, and his welcome on Monday night was quite equal to his renown. In his popular impersonations from the works of Charles Dickens the gifted young actor chose three such entirely different characters as Wilkins Micawber, from *David Copperfield*; the old clerk, Bob Cratchett, from *The Christmas Carol*; and the despicable Uriah Heap, also from *David Copperfield*, the last-named portrait being an especially fine study, the cleverness of which was warmly recognised by the audience. Another interesting turn in Mr Walter Gibbons's alluring programme is the Imperial Boys' Orchestra, a troupe of youthful instrumentalists who have had the honour of appearing before the King and Queen. The combined band give a splendid rendering of a descriptive piece, "A Voyage in a Troopship;" one of the boys executes a clever sword dance; another sings an amusing laughing song; and a couple of the well-trained and smart youngsters are heard with pleasure in a finely rendered cornet duet, the concluding item of the combination being an admirable rendering of one of Sousa's popular marches. The boys and their conductor are loudly applauded at the conclusion for their most enjoyable performance. That amusing comedy pianist, Will H. Fox ("Paddywhisk"), shows how easily it is for a skilful pianist to play "Hiawatha" blindfolded and with the keys covered; and he also contrives to pick out the melody of "Bluebell" with his nasal organ. Besides other clever trick playing Mr Fox proves himself an expert pianist, and his running accompaniment of humorous remarks largely helps along the success of a turn which long since won the entire approbation of music hall habitués. Miss Lily Langtry, whose untiring vivacity and evident enthusiasm for her work are in pleasing contrast to the lackadaisical style adopted by so many comediennes, amuses her audiences greatly with her description of a Bank Holiday on Hampstead Heath; and her recital of the various adventures to a party of trippers in a cheap excursion train also creates hilarity, the lively and clever little lady being loudly applauded at the conclusion of her turn. Boyd and Gilfain submit a varied and entertaining little interlude of vocalism and humour, the lady of the duo contributing a smart dialect song, telling of her experiences as a barmaid in different countries; the versatile couple also scoring heavily in their mock melodrama and operatic selection. Continuous laughter is evoked by the quaint soldier impersonation of Mr J. W. Rickaby, a really funny comedian; and the farcical absurdity, *Jail Birds*, given by Fred Karno's celebrated troupe of pantomimists and acrobats, excites the wildest hilarity, the eccentric behaviour of the amorous curate, and the ludicrous antics indulged in by the convicts at Portland being especially mirth-provoking. The programme also includes Ida Brophy, soubrette; and the New York Nippers, in their novel and amusing act, *Bedtime*. Mr T. A. Hannavy controls an excellent orchestra.

ON THE ROAD, DEC. 26.

Amorelle (London).—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
Amorelle (N.).—King's Theatre, Kirkcaldy.
As Midnight Chimes.—P.O.W. T., Grimsby.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs.—Lancaster.
Beautiful Fiend.—Theatre Royal, Ilkeston.
Belle of New York.—Manchester.
Bells of Haslemere.—Albert T., Brighouse.
Benson, Mr F. R. (A).—H. M. T., Dundee.
Benson, Mr F. R. (B).—Court Theatre, Galway.
Best Must Win.—A. T., Tipton.
Bid for Fortune.—Lyceum T., Long Eaton.
Bulmer, Mr.—Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.
Chinese Honeymoon (M.).—Greenock.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona)(N.).—Whitch'e'n.
Chinese Honeymoon (Macdona).—Shrewsbury.
Christian.—Theatre Royal, Smethwick.
Cingalee.—Croydon.
Compton Comedy Co.—T. R., Leamington.
Conscript.—Theatre Royal, Bury.
Country Girl (M.).—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
Country Girl (N).—Workington.
Country Girl (S)—Loughborough.
Country Mouse.—Worthing.
Cousin Kate.—Eastbourne.
Crimson Club.—Gainsborough.
Dare-Devil Dorothy.—Victoria T., Broughton.
Darling of the Gods.—Chatham.
Dishonoured.—Maidstone.
D'Oyly Carte.—Lyceum T., Newport.
Duchess of Dantzic.—Eastbourne.
Duke of Killicrankie (Lovel).—Scarborough.
Earl and the Girl.—G. T., Manchester.
Fatal Wedding.—T. R., Ryde.
Female Swindler.—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
Fight for Millions.—T. R., Peterborough.
Florodora.—Hereford.
Forty Thieves (Little and Darcy).—Falkirk.
Frivolity.—Lyceum Theatre, Eccles.
Gay Parisienne.—Falmouth.
Girl from Kay's (N.).—Portsmouth.
Girl's Cross Roads.—T. R., West Bromwich.
Golden Ladder.—Prince's Theatre, Accrington.
Go-Won-Go-Mohawk.—Darlington.
Grip of Iron.—Court Theatre, Bacup.
Harvest of Sin.—Opera House, Perth.
Her One Great Sin.—T. R., Macclesfield.
Indian Mutiny.—Theatre Royal, Jarrow.
It's Never Too Late to Mend.—Rochdale.
La Comédie Anglaise.—Redhill.
La Poupée.—Kettering.
Ladder of Life.—Walsall.
Lady of Ostend.—Colosseum, Oldham.
Laughter-Land.—Theatre Royal, Leigh.
Lightning's Flash.—Grand Theatre, Aberavon.
London Fireman.—Gaiety Theatre, Leith.
Man to Man.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
Marriage of Kitty.—Ilfracombe.
Mockery of Marriage—Mountain Ash.
Moody-Manners (A).—T. R., Dublin.
Moody-Manners (B).—Grand Theatre, Swansea.
Moody-Manners (C).—Crieff.
Napoleon the Great.—P. T., Blackburn.
New Mephisto.—Queen's Theatre, Longton.
Orchid.—Hull.
Proof.—Theatre Royal, Pontypool.
Revenge.—Queen's Theatre, Swindon.
Royal Divorce.—Queen's Theatre, Manchester.
Royal Revenge (Clyndes).—Merthyr.
Sapho (Annie Bell).—Alexandra T., Widnes.
Saturday to Monday—Margate.
School Girl (Macdona).—Southport.
Sherlock Holmes.—Theatre Royal, Darwen.
Sin of Her Childhood.—New T., Consett.
Sledge-Hammer—Alhambra T., Stourbridge.
Still Alarm.—P. O. W. Theatre, Salford.
Sunday.—Theatre Royal, Blackburn.
Swiss Express.—Opera House, Leicester.
Three Little Maids (Macdona) (S).—Colchester.
Traitor.—Theatre Royal, Pon-y-Pandy.
Traitor Prince.—Canterbury.
Trip to Chinatown.—Irving Theatre, Seacombe.
Two Little Sailor Boys.—Cambridge.
Veronique.—Brighton.
Village Blacksmith.—T. R, Sunderland.
Warner, Grace.—Elswick Theatre, Newcastle.
World's Desire.—Star T., Liverpool.
10 30 Down Express.—Blyth.

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STAGE STAFF GOSSIP.

(SPECIAL TO THE ERA.)

The members of the St. James's Theatre staff have each received a turkey and a bottle of whisky from Mr George Alexander. The theatre was closed on Wednesday evening, to reopen on Monday. The seasonable presents were distributed after the performance.

The staff at the Coliseum have been called upon to make unprecedented exertions. So exhausting and continuous have their efforts been that some of the men have dropped asleep at their task. An application has been made to some of the principal daymen at several West-end houses for help.

Mr C. Bennett, who was employed at His Majesty's Theatre as a scene-shifter, met with a serious accident on Saturday last. He was helping to "set" when he fell from a high rostrum to the stage, some 18ft., becoming entirely unconscious.

Mr W. Mather, who was formerly master carpenter at the Gaiety Theatre, is fixing the tableau curtains for Messrs Waring at the Lyceum Music Hall. At this house the work has been proceeding day and night.

It is said there is a stage dayman in a Glasgow theatre who, on being asked to bring a long "tumbler" to the paint-room, took in a large glass!

Mr Hinton, a son of Mr John Hinton, the master carpenter at the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, committed suicide on Monday night at his home in Clapham. No reason is known for the fatal act, except that he had recently been in ill health.

Notices and reports of meetings, &c., are invited from the various societies with which stage employees are connected.

At the Clerkenwell Police-court on the 16th inst., Charles William Howell, of John-street-road, Clerkenwell, appeared in answer to an adjourned summons for "unlawfully applying a false trade description," viz., the word Melba, to a sound-producing disc machine. Mr Sinclair was counsel for the prosecution, and Mr R. Colam for the defence. This was a prosecution under the Merchandise Marks Act by the Gramophone and Typewriter Company, Limited, and Madame Melba. The Company and Madame Melba have an agreement under which the lady sings into the gramophone exclusively, she having a royalty on the sale of the Melba records. It was complained that the defendant had placed on the market a talking machine "sound box" bearing the name of Melba. For the defence it was argued that it could not be said that Madame Melba was carrying on a business, and that her name was a "trade description." No one would think that a "Melba" sound-box was the production of Madame Melba. The name was used as one might use the word "Nightingale." Mr D'Eyncourt found against the defendant, being of opinion that the sound-box and the record were so connected in the mind of the purchaser that the defendants might obtain advantage at the expense of the prosecutors. Mr Colam said he should appeal or take a case. Mr D'Eyncourt imposed a fine of £20, with 10 guineas costs, and directed that the defendant's sound-boxes should be deposited with the court pending appeal, and that no further "Melba" sound-boxes should be produced meanwhile.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Terry.—Dec. 11, at 22, Cavendish-mansions, West Hampstead, to Mr and Mrs Herbert E. Terry, a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Note—Davonport.—Dec. 14, at Registrar's Office, Rochdale, by special licence, R. C. Note, comedian, to Miss Dasly Devonport, of 138, Islington, Liverpool.

Pearce—Hanley.—Saturday, Dec. 17, at Hull, W. Kingsford Pearce, of Redhill, Surrey, to Winifred Attwood Hanley, of Seaforth.

Rohda—Florence.—Dec. 17, at the Northcote-road Baptist Church, Battersea, London, Miss Florence, the well-known mimic, daughter of Professor J. Thornbury, to Mr Harry Rohda (Rohda Brothers). Many thanks to Mr Felice Napoli, Mr Frank Macnaghten, Mr Frank Elliott, and all kind friends for telegrams, &c.

Tasker—Pike.—Dec. 30, at St. Hilda's Parish Church, Old Trafford, Manchester, Sidney William Tasker (Sydney Lee) to Miss Mabel Pike, of Manchester.

Wilson—Marsh.—Dec. 14, at St. Mary's Bayswater, George Louis, eldest son of James Wilson, of Barr, N.B., to Evelyn (Cor Roo), eldest daughter of the late Joseph Tertius and Clara Marsh, of Ryde, I.O.W.

DEATHS.

Chappell.—Dec. 21, at 45, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, S. Arthur Chappell, in his seventy-ninth year.

Elphinstone.—Dec. 19, Mrs Chas. Elphinstone, wife of Chas. G. Elphinstone, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

Gething.—Dec. 18, at his residence, 46, Bowman-street, Carlisle, William Henry Gething, aged forty-five, musical director of Algie's Hippodrome, Carlisle.

Gray.—Dec. 22, at her residence, 52, St. George's-road, Southwark, S.E., Florence, the beloved wife of David Collins (late manager, Prince's Theatre, Bradford, &c.). R.I.P.

Hickley.—Dec. 16, at Liverpool, of consumption, Richard Barkley Hickley, beloved brother of Vera Mayne. Gone, but never forgotten.

Huline.—Dec. 8, John Alfred Huline, aged thirty-five, of the Marion Arms, Lansdowne-road, Dalston. Also, on Dec. 18, his elder brother, James Huline, aged fifty-four, at 23, Graham-road, Dalston (the original Huline Brothers).

Layton.—Dec. 17, at the Old Queen's Head, Stockwell-road, Brixton, Albert Layton, aged fifty-three, of Bright's disease. The beloved husband of Amelia Layton and brother-in-law to Miss Nellie Wilson. Rest in peace. Deeply mourned by his sorrowing wife and children.

Prince.—Dec. 14, Mrs Arthur Prince. Funeral, Monday next, at 12 0 o'clock. Tooting Cemetery.

Rignold.—Dec. 22, at Blaxland House, Hornsey, William Rignold, actor, aged sixty-eight.

In Memoriam.

Albano.—In loving memory of Lilian Albano, who died Dec. 21, 1903.

God called her home, it was His will,
But in our hearts she liveth still,
Her memory is as dear to-day
As in the hour she passed away.

Never forgotten by her father, mother, and sisters.

Burton.—In loving memory of Bertha Burton, actress, who passed away Christmas Day, 1903.

Crockett.—In loving memory of my dear mother, Mrs Sarah Crockett, who passed away Dec. 23 1901. Gone but not forgotten. Mrs Rule.

Pettitt.—In loving memory of Henry Pettitt, who died Dec. 24, 1893, at the Chestnuts, Goldhawk-road, Hammersmith. Greatly missed and deeply mourned by his widow and three children.

Robson.—In loving memory of Mat Robson, who died Dec. 22, 1899.

Snow.—In loving memory of Ted Snow, who died Christmas Day, 1903, aged seventy-six years. Not forgotten by his loving widow and children.

Toy.—Dec. 24, 1899, at Haldon View, Exeter, Agnes, widow of the late James Toy, solicitor, of Exeter, and dearly loved mother of Beatrice Toy. Never forgotten. R.I.P.

Volp.—In loving memory of my dear sister Sophia, who died Dec. 20, 1902.—Tina Volp.

Walton.—In tender memory of our darling son, Leslie Cyril, the only child of Maude and Walter Walton (of Walton and Lester), who died Christmas Day, 1903. Never to be forgotten by his mamma and dada. Those tiny feet, on the golden street, will never go astray.

For Sympathy.

Johnson.—Mr and Mrs Will Johnson beg to thank numerous friends for their kind letters of sympathy on the loss of their infant daughter.

The Grand Theatre, Swansea, has passed into the hands of Messrs E. Oswald Brooks and J. W. Woodbridge, who have taken it on lease from Mr Fredk. Moullot. Mr Brooks will personally manage the theatre as resident partner, at the same time conducting his many touring companies from the same address. A magnificent list of bookings is shown, commencing on Boxing Day with the Moody-Manners opera company for a three weeks' season.

Mr Alfred Martin has again been engaged by Mr Edward Compton for the advance management of the Compton Comedy company, which opens at Leamington on Boxing Day. This will be Mr Martin's second engagement with the Compton company.—Mr and Mrs T. Edward Ward will resume tour on Boxing Day at the Grand Theatre, Luton, with their new and successful venture *Her Fatal Past*, by Nita Rae.

Mr Ardene Linden has been re-engaged by Mr Humphrey E. Brammall for the rôle of Eliza, the cook, in *Dick Whittington*, at the Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.—Mr C. J. M'Carthy concluded fifteen years' engagement as acting-manager for Mr W. W. Kelly on Saturday last, and has been appointed by Mr Fred Karno as acting-manager of his *Saturday to Monday* company.

J. H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy company gave, on Sunday last, a sacred concert at the Miners' Theatre, Ashington, for the Relief Fund for the Newbiggin disaster, when the sum of £60 was handed over to the fund, being the full amount taken at the doors.

The rights of *The New Housemaid* have reverted to the author, Charles Windermere.—Miss Violet M. Harley has been re-engaged by Mr Percy Hutchison for Christmas for the part of Angela in *A Country Mouse*.—Mr Richard Vane, after concluding sixteen months' tour as Philip Christian in *The Manxman*, is spending Christmas in Scotland prior to recommencing work at the beginning of the year.

"Slaves of Passion," which was produced at the Elephant and Castle Theatre last July and which had such a successful preliminary tour in the autumn, starts on its spring tour, Feb. 27, at the Theatre Royal, Aldershot, under the personal direction of Mr Vivian Grantham.

The statutory meeting of the Variety Theatres Consolidated, Limited, will be held at the Freemason's Tavern, on Thursday afternoon next, at half-past two o'clock.

Mr Mike S. Whallen has married Miss Frances M'Nulty, of the Sisters M'Nulty, a popular duo. The happy bridegroom is appearing as the Captain, in *Robinson Crusoe*, at the Grand Theatre, Leeds.

THE GERMAN THEATRE.

On Thursday, the 15th inst.,
at the Great Queen-street Theatre,
the Comedy, in Three Acts, by Schoenthan, entitled
"DIE GOLDENE SPINNE."

The above play, which was performed on the 15th inst. at the Great Queen-street Theatre, is an amusing comedy. It is most surprising that it should not have been performed in English yet, but we have no doubt that this will be done ere long.

The scene of act one is a sitting-room at Haenfling's, a lovable old man with boundless optimism and kind-heartedness, but a very limited banking-account. Gustav Kolmar, a young doctor, occupies two of the rooms; knowing that Haenfling is far better at drawing than at domestic finance he often helps him secretly by supplying additions in many departments were a shortage would otherwise occur. Haenfling is far too great a dreamer to notice whence the help comes, merely taking it for another proof of his theory that "all men are honest and kind and deserving of all the happiness that is showered upon everybody in this faultlessly beautiful world." Enter Heinrich Klingenberg; he is a cheerful youth, supposed to be able to make designs for wall-papers for his father's manufacturing business; the work is, however, really done by Jenny Haenfling, a delightfully bright and highly talented young lady, whom he is secretly engaged to. He and Kolmar discuss the latter's latest patent, an electric muscle-massage apparatus. Heinrich suggests Haspe, a poor but honest barber, as an experimental subject. He leaves, and Francisca Haenfling comes in and gives vent to her surprise at the frequent anonymous gifts of which her father is the recipient. Kolmar accidentally betrays himself, and unguardedly confesses his sincere love for Francisca. The latter heartily reciprocates his affection, and greatly cheers her father by acquainting him with her engagement with Kolmar; the latter has found particular favour with Haenfling, because his means too are scanty, and because he too is far from being a materialist. Käthe now announces Woerlitz, Haenfling's brother-in-law, and an old grumbler and hypochondriac; he is furious upon perceiving that the engagement and Jenny's imminent arrival upset their customary card party. Haenfling asks for his overcoat, to go to meet Jenny; he discovers that it is not his overcoat at all, but one which he has apparently taken by mistake at the Café. Woerlitz remarks that the overcoat corresponds exactly with one about which there are particulars in all the papers and police reports, the owner attaching special importance to its recovery on account of a golden spider which was in one of the pockets, wrapped up in a piece of poetry. The poetry is there, but the spider is missing. Woerlitz foreshadows the imprisonment of Haenfling should the police find the overcoat without the golden spider in the latter's possession. After talking the matter over with Kolmar, they agree that the true explanation might indeed sound suspicious. Kolmar suggests sending the coat with an anonymous letter to the real owner of the overcoat, and offers to call on him at the time that the parcel and letter arrive, to see if he seems inclined to accept the true story of the exchange of garments. This course is decided upon, and the act ends merrily with Jenny's arrival.

The scene of act two is laid in Klingenberg's private office. He and Mannsfeld, a private detective, are discovered discussing various methods of recovering the lost brooch. Klingenberg confides to Mannsfeld that he distrusts his son Heinrich in trifling matters, without connecting him for a moment with the loss of the gold spider, and he tells him how he has entrapped his son into various small misstatements. Mannsfeld suggests a detective; Klingenberg, always sceptical and distrustful, suggests two, one to watch his son and the other to watch the first detective. Hermine enters. Klingenberg tells her of his nocturnal excursions into dubious haunts, especially of one low tavern where he has rubbed shoulders with a fine specimen of depravity, whose services he has enlisted in the search for the gold spider. Heinrich now comes in, followed by Jenny, who is calling on Klingenberg in search of a post as artistic designer in the factory. Jenny and Heinrich, although secretly engaged, pretend at first that they are strangers; later in the scene that they detest each other. As throughout the whole play, the dialogue in this scene is delightfully crisp and bright. Jenny obtains the post, in spite of Heinrich's assumed energetic opposition. Exit Klingenberg. Left alone, Jenny and Keinrich "make up for lost time," but resume their "animosity" on Klingenberg's re-entry. Klingenberg tells Jenny that she will work at a desk in Heinrich's office or at an easel in his studio. Both pretend to be disgusted, but embrace furiously while Klingenberg turns away for a moment to soliloquise upon the attractiveness of Jenny's appearance. Meyer enters, announcing Dr. Kolmar as a stranger desirous of an interview. Kolmar enters, but discovers, to his utter dismay that the overcoat and letter have not arrived yet. In order to fill up the time he embarks upon an absurdly comical conversation regarding his finances, eliciting the most sarcastic replies from Klingenberg. At last Meyer comes in with the overcoat and letter, explaining that the maid "bolted" after delivering the parcel. Klingenberg, distrustful, gives him the parcel to open, Meyer obeys, and displays the missing overcoat; but were is the golden spider? Klingenberg accuses Meyer of taking it, and reads the letter, while Kolmer can hardly conceal his anxiety. Klingenberg laughs sarcastically; he doesn't believe the account in the letter. He announces his intention of communicating at once with the police. Kolmar rushes off in great consternation. Haspe enters, he is the pseudo-villain whom Klingenberg "discovered" on one of his "slumming" and detective excursions, as related to Hermine, and for whose supper he had paid, when he asked him to assist in recovering the gold spider. Other amusing incidents follow, and the rest of the piece is of a diverting character.

The comedy was acted with admirable abandon, and in a wholly natural and artistic manner. The chief honours in the acting were carried off by Herr Leyrer, who appeared to great advantage. Herr Wieburger showed decided talent, and Herr Stock, one of the most versatile and gifted members of this fine company, did well. Herr Behrend excelled in a grotesque part, and Fräulein Grawz made a charming ingénue.

Mr H. H. Barrington, who was engaged to play the part of Tom Walker, in *The Sledge Hammer*, met with an accident, and was unable to appear on Monday at the West London Theatre. He has now recovered, and is quite fit for work again.

The International Copyright Bureau, Limited, have removed their offices to 34, Norfolk-street, and have been appointed sole agents for Great Britain and the Colonies of Messrs Felix Bloch Erben (proprietor, Adolf Silwinski), the leading dramatic and musical intermediaries and publishers in Germany. The firm is in a position to offer English plays and musical works and translations or synopses of many of the best French, German, Austrian, Dutch, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Belgian, and Scandinavian dramatic and musical works, many synopses of which have already appeared in our pages.

Advertisers and Subscribers who are moving about, and who have their Copy of "The Era" sent direct from this Office, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, are requested to forward the Addresses for their Papers not later than the Tuesday in each Week.

AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, DEC. 14.—Miss Annie Russell began an engagement at the Garrick Theatre on the 5th inst., appearing in a new play, entitled *Brother Jacques*, a comedy in four acts, by Henry Bernstein and Pierre Veber, produced recently in Pittsburg and then described. It is a study of feminine nature, with a picture of contemporary French society for a background. A capricious young woman makes the belated discovery that she is wedded to a profligate fool, who has married her under parental compulsion. She counsels him to return to his former way of living, obtains a divorce from him, and reverts to a worthy lover, Jacques Jouvenin, who has long adored her. The fate of the play seemed to be in doubt during the first and second acts, but the climax of the third act was a delightful comedy scene, which showed Miss Russell to greater advantage than anything in which she had appeared for a long time; and as she received invaluable assistance from Mr Joseph Wheelock, jun., at this point, the result was that the verdict on the whole was distinctly favourable. At the close of this scene the applause was spontaneous and hearty, and it gave Miss Russell new spirit and confidence, helping the performance considerably. Miss Russell played the heroine, Geneviève, with her usual daintiness and charm of manner. Mr Wheelock was capital as Jean, the young son of the Marquis De Chantalard, the latter rôle being well sustained by Mr Grant Stewart. Mr Oswald Yorke as Jacques Jouvenin and Mrs Charles Walcot as the stern aunt, Madame Morange, did exceedingly well.

"JUDITH OF BETHULIA," a tragedy in blank verse, by the distinguished American poet, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, was performed for the first time in New York at Daly's Theatre on the 5th inst., with Miss Nance O'Neil in the title-rôle. In Boston last October the play drew crowded houses, and Miss O'Neil scored an unmistakeable success. In New York her performance has been made the subject of a good deal of analytical criticism, not wholly unfavourable by any means. Mr Charles Dalton appeared as Holofernes. The play may be described as an elaboration of Mr Aldrich's poem of "Judith," which is founded upon the story of the siege of Bethulia as told in the Apochrypha. In the opening scene the fact is conveyed that the Assyrians at the gates have sent word that in five days' time the beleagured city must surrender. The populace is starving, and, to add to the horror of the situation, plague has broken out, and it is discovered that the enemy has poisened a well, the only available water supply. Judith, inspired by a vision, decides to seek out Holofernes, and, amid the mourning of her people, goes forth to the enemy's camp. Holofernes is attracted by her beauty, and eventually falls a prey to his susceptibility. Judith wins the friendship of the monarch's slave, and from him obtains a herb with which to drug the monarch's drink. She has been attracted by the manly beauty of Holofernes, and for a moment she wavers; but, sinking to her knees, she utters a fervent prayer for strength to carry her resolve. Then, with a sudden cry, "Each sinew turns to steel; this is for thee, O Israel, my people," she rises, passes from view, and returns a moment later bearing a blood-stained weapon, having slain the Assyrian with his own falchion. Then she returns to her own people. The finding of the body causes a panic, and the Assyrians flee from the camp on the very night that the doomed city is ready to surrender.

MR JAMES K. HACKETT is maintaining his popularity as an actor of romantic rôles and an expert swordsman at the Lyric Theatre in a new play entitled *The Fortunes of the King*, written for him by Mrs C. A. Doremus and Mr L. Westeville. It deals with the adventures of King Charles II., some of which are historical and some imaginary, after his defeat at Worcester in 1651, following the course of his flight through England on the way to France. Miss Jane Lane, who was mainly instrumental in saving the King's life, is the heroine of the drama, figuring in an interesting and pretty but fabulous love story. The King drags her out of a brook into which she has fallen, and she in turn saves his life, and they become enamoured of each other. The final tableau shows Charles in the act of embarking for France, his sweetheart accompanying him. Miss Charlotte Walker is charming as Jane Lane, and shares the chief honours with Mr Hackett. Mr William Courtleigh gives an excellent representation of Captain Mark Davereaux, one of the followers of Cromwell.

The Lew Fields Theatre, in West Forty-second-street, was opened on the 5th inst., with a musical play entitled *It Happened in Nordland* as the initial attraction. This theatre is the property of Mr. Oscar Hammerstein, and is leased by the firm of Hamlin, Mitchell, and Fields. Mr Hamlin died on the eve of the opening. The new playhouse is cosy, thoroughly fireproof, and handsomely appointed. *It Happened in Nordland* is by Glen M'Donough and Victor Herbert. To the mythical kingdom named in the title is sent an American Ambassadress, Katherine Peepfogle (Miss Marie Cahill), who finds her long-lost brother there, the latter being none other than Mr Lew Fields who, in a wonderfully juvenile make-up, impersonates a German youth, who has difficulties with the English language. The company include Miss May Robson, Miss Bessie Clayton, and Messrs Harry Davenport, Joseph Herbert, Harry Fisher, Joseph Carroll, and Julius Steger. Mr Herbert's music, the comicalities of Messrs Fields and Fisher, and the gorgeously costumed and well trained chorus combine to make the piece a very attractive entertainment.

MR ROBERT B. MANTELL gave a fine embodiment of Gloster in a revival of *Richard III.*, at the Princess's Theatre last week, this being his first appearance on Broadway for a number of years. Mr Mantell is a sterling actor, and his excellent delivery of Shakespeare's lines evoked frequent expressions of approval. Miss Marie Booth Russell, who appeared as Lady Anne, has an imposing stage presence, and her interpretation was highly satisfactory.

MR THEODORE KREMER has written a melodrama entitled *The Great Automobile Mystery*, and it is being played this week at the New Star Theatre. One of the characters is an Englishman named Lord Cecil Brocklehurst. The play has all the effects and hair-raising climaxes that characterise the works of this author.

MR CHARLES FROHMAN, in announcing his plans for the next few months, says that this is a very prosperous season, and that satisfactory reports have reached him from all parts of the country. He will produce *A Wife Without a Smile* at the Criterion Theatre on the 26th inst., with Mr Frank Worthing and Miss Margaret Illington in the leading rôles. This will be followed by the appearance, under Mr Frohman's management, of Mr Francis Wilson in a new play by Clyde Fitch, called *Cousin Billy*. The Empire Theatre will have Miss Maude Adams, in a revival of *The Little Minister*, as the Christmas attraction. During her engagement at the Empire Miss Adams will be seen in a Shakespearian play as well as in *'Op o' My Thumb*. When the long run of *Mrs Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* ends at the Savoy Theatre Mr Frohman will produce a new farcical play by Augustus Thomas. Three new pieces that will be launched during the season are a farce called *The Mountain Climbers*, a comedy entitled *The Blind Passenger*, and a drama named *Friquet*. Mr Sam Bernard will continue in *The Girl from Kay's*, until the spring, when he will appear in a musical play by Sydney Rosenfeld. Miss Hattie Williams will "star" in a musical version of the successful farce, *Jane*. Mr William Gillette and Mr William Collier are booked for London next year. Mr Richard Harding Davis is writing a new play for the latter to be called *The War Correspondent*.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. A.—*You can get the necessary information from the local police-courts.*

A. W. F.—*Mrs Centlivre's best-known plays are* The Gamester *and* The Busybody. *Her first effort,* The Perjured Husband, *a tragic-comedy, was produced anonymously. In 1706 she appeared as an actress at the New Theatre Bath, in her own comedy,* Love at a Venture; *and afterwards played in various provincial towns. It was while appearing as Alexander the Great in the tragedy of that name that she captivated and married Joseph Centlivre, principal cook to Queen Anne and George I. She died at her house in Buckingham-court on Dec. 1, 1723, when about fifty six years of age.*

METROPOLE.—The Noble Art *was produced at Terry's, May 28, 1892; Alone in the World, Princess's, April 22, 1893.*

BEATRICE MARSDENE.—*As far as we know the title has not been used.*

KENNINGTON.—*Henry James Byron died April 11, 1884, aged forty-nine.*

K. T. W.—*When Miss Mary Anderson revived* Pygmalion and Galatea *at the Lyceum in December, 1883 the Pygmalion was Mr J. H. Barnes. Mr F. H. Macklin played Pygmalion to Miss Anderson's Galatea at a matinée in March, 1888.*

W. E. S.—The Fool's Revenge *was produced at Sadler's Wells in October, 1859*

OLD PRO.—Romeo and Juliet, *act four, scene one*

E. N. TYLER.—*Write to French, Limited, theatrical publishers, 26, Southampton-street, Strand.*

SURREYITE.—*When* The Gay Parisienne *was brought to the Duke of York's on April 4, 1896, the principal parts were played by Messrs Lionel Rignold, W. H. Denny, Hubert Willis, Herbert Stevens, Akerman May, and Frank Wheeler and Misses Lillie Belmore, Violet Robinson, Marion Dolby, Violet Ellicott, Ada Reeve, and Louie Freear.*

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MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your notice of the Opera House, York, last week, you mentioned Mr Harry Bent. It should have been yours faithfully, HARRY BENET. Hippodrome, Accrington.

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INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer, by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright," is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

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Mr C. Aubrey Smith, Mr Ben Webster, Mr Sydney Brough, Mr Leslie Faber, Mr A. Vane Tempest, Miss Marion Terry, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss Fanny Coleman.
At 8 15, THE DEGREE NISI, by Joshua Bates.
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Manager, Mr GEORGE EDWARDES.
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SIXTH GERMAN SEASON.
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John Lawson and Company in the Episode of Domestic Martyrdom, "A Bride for a Living." Sam Mayo, Austin Rudd, Sisters Geretti, the Strolling Players, Athas and Collins, Percival Ergotti and King Luis Troupe, Harvey Boys, Virginia Piccaninnies, Harry Leybourne, "Hiawatha Wed," by the Two Bees; Martine and Son, Sisters Clive, Outlaw Trio, Con and Conrad, Will Farrell, Tony and Flo Vernon, Howard and Collins on the Edisonograph, Talberto and Douglas, and Lovely Lively Lily Burnand.
Commence 7 30.
Prices from 4d.
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Important Notice.—The particular attention of Artistes and Agents is called to Clause 5 (the Barring Clause) in all Contracts, which will be strictly enforced.

PALACE THEATRE, CROYDON.—
Directors, Messrs F. WILLIAMS, T. G. HALES, and JOHN PARKER. Boxing Day, Dec. 26, at 7 30. Arthur Saxon Trio, Dora Clifford, Jack Thornbury, Dora Martini, Ada Victor, Mark Leslie. Excelsior Duettists, Chris. Wren, Clorinda Thurtell, Dora Lyric, J. P Lloyd, R. W. Bentley, Blanche Holt, Lulaine Darrell Troupe, Brown and Kelly Combination, in "The Lay Figure."
Manager, Eustace H. Jay.

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Manager, Mr Tom Tinsley.

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Twice Nightly, at 6 10 and 9 10.
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All Artistes are notified that they must send their full bill matter in two clear weeks before opening. Rehearsal, 1 0 o'clock, Mondays. All Artistes engaged must attend. Artistes not complying with the above rules are subject to having their contracts cancelled at the option of the Management.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE—
Proprietor, Mr J. C. COE. Monday, Dec. 26, 1904, Boxing Day Matinée, and Every Evening during the Week. Grand Holiday Programme—Will Evans, who, by special request of several Hammersmithians, will attempt to play a Pantomime, entitled "Robinson Crusoe;" Sable Fern, Joe Archer, Kisbey, the Call Boy; Arthur Prince, Lily Langtry, Lee and Bentley, Athas and Collins, Lord, Murray, and Lord, Olga and Ivan, Caledonian Boys, Winnie Derson, the Gladenbecks, Pat Rafferty, the Edisonograph, Jack Pleasants, the Osranis, Flo Cecil, Arthur Elvy, J. W. Ellison, Vesta Victoria. Reduced Prices to all parts. At the Boxing Day Matinée doors open 1 45, commence 2 0 o'clock. Full Programme of Stars as in the Evening. Doors open 6 30. Commence 7 10. Tele., 106, Hammersmith. Acting-Manager, Lewis Vincent.

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Grand Wrestling Match,
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and
Full Company.
Prices, £1 1s., 7s. 6d, 5s, 3s., and 1s.

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Manager, Joe Haynes.
Full Band Rehearsal every Monday, 1 0 o'clock.
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1905.
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" 9.—Smoking Concert at Caledonian Hotel at 9 0 p.m.
Feb. 20.—First Annual Dinner in Aid of the Benevolent Fund at 8 0 p.m.
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* "CURATE AND THE MAIDEN,"
Written by F. C. Smale. Music by G. H. Stone.
(Very Original and Humorous.)
REFRAIN:—
And she looked so neat on her little oak seat,
So though the curate when
He carefully blessed her, with all the rest,
And the little maid sighed "Amen,"
* "IN DE CORNFIELDS,"
A Coon Ballad, by Ernest Newton.
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(Valse Song), by Felix Desgranges.
Latest Parisian Success!
English Version by Clifton Bingham.
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* "GIVE ME ONE THOUGHT"
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Written by Arthur Anderson. Music by John Neat.
Give me one thought whene'er the way seems lonely,
When dark clouds gather, gather round the sun,
What time you need one true companion only,
Contented I to be that one.
‡ "HANDS ACROSS THE SEA"
(a Song of Greater England),
by Byron Webber and Florian Pascal.
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A Beautiful Sentimental Ballad,
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† "DANCING"
(Character Song, Valse Refrain).
By Adrian Ross and Florian Pascal.
REFRAIN
Oh, heigh oh! for thus and thus we go,
An ankle revealing half way to the ceiling,
And so, and so, and so!
Oh, heigh ho! for thus and thus we go,
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	Sung by
"A B C D" (James Hargreaves)	Wilkie Bard
"All the harm I wish you" (R. P. Weston)	Harry Anderson
"All the little Ja-panny faces" (Harry Castling)	Mark Sheridan
"All the Girls are Lov-er-ly-over-ly" (Harrington and Thurban)	R. G. Knowles
"Anywhere there will do" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Seeley
"A Warning to Single Men" (Bateman and Pether)	Arthur Reece
"Blue-Bell" (Madden and Morse)	Hamilton Hill
[Above also sung by Miss Mabel La Blanche, Miss Dorothy L. Clark, Miss Florence Esdaile, the Sisters Jonghmanns, Miss Nellie Stratton, Miss Maud Esmond, Miss Nita Clavering, Miss Margaret Radcliffe, and the Langdons.]	
"Britannia's Babes" (Carter and Weston)	George Leyton
"'Come in!' said Widdy Malone" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Michael Nolan
"Daisy" (Cecil Lidden)	G. H. Elliott
"My Little Black Pearl" (Leslie Stuart)	Eugene Stratton
"Delusions" (Phil Ray)	Phil Ray
"Doan'Cry, Little Coloured Coon" (S. F. Harrison and Neat)	Miss Harriet Vernon
"Don't Stand There——!" (Lawrance and Gifford)	Walter Stanley
"Farewell, my little Yo San" (Mills and B. Scott)	Tom Costello
"Frozen Meat" (T. W. Connor)	Alf Gibson
"Have you seen my girl?" (Mills and Scott)	Walter Munroe
"He Kissed I Once" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Loftus
"I did enjoy myself last night" (Lawrence and M. Scott)	Will Johnson
"I don't mind if it amuses you!" (Leigh and Pether)	Ben Albert
"If all the stars were mine" (Smith and Stromberg)	Miss Lilian Doreen
"I'm a girl of Tennessee" (Eden and Byng)	Miss Lil Hawthorne
"I'm coming home to you" (Herbert Darnley)	Miss Dorothy L. Clark
"I'm going to sea (see)" (Leamore and Collins)	Tom Leamore
"I'm round there to-night!" (Wincott and Leighton)	Dan Crawley
"Isn't that like a Man?" (Paul Mill)	Paul Mill
"It's all right in the summer time" (Murray and Everard)	Miss Vesta Victoria
"It's the Poor that help the Poor" (Mills and Castling)	Miss Florrie Gallimore
"When I Woke Up in the Morning" (F. W. Leigh)	Sam Mayo
"I Wouldn't Grumble Any More" (Harry Castling)	Harry Bedford
"I've been a Naughty Boy all Day" (Carter and Weston)	Miss Georgina Leonard
"Jolly Jarge" (Mills and Arthurs)	George Bastow
"Julia" (Robson and Hyde)	Miss Gladys Mavius
"Just a Girl" (Elton and Harrison)	Miss Minnie Cunningham
"Little Jap Horner" (F. V. St. Clair)	F. V. St. Clair
"Ma Dusky Rose" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Florrie Robina
"Maude! Maude!" (Barnes and Collins)	Miss Lottie Lennox
"My Fiddle is My Sweetheart" (Harry Hunter)	G. H. Chirgwin
"My Japanesy Girl" (Delmar and Parry)	Hal Forde
"My Lily of the Valley" (Frank Leo)	Miss Sable Fern
"Oh, Nancy Lee" (T. W. Connor)	Miss Millie Hylton
"One Little Cottage all Our Own" (J. F. Lambe)	Miss Dolly Harmer
"Revenges" (Dunlop and Pether) [Above also sung by Whit Cunliffe].	Wallis Arthur
"She must have known!" (David and Scott)	J. E. Coyle
"She said, 'Baa! Baa! Baa!'" (Harrington and H. Allen)	Miss Florrie Forde
"Sit on 'em and keep 'em warm" (Wincott and Leighton)	Harry Champion
"That's him! That's him! That's him!" (Mills and Scott)	Harry Freeman
"The Angel of My Dreams" (Leigh and Pether)	Miss Millie Lindon
"The Coster's Christening" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Lloyd
"The Gambling Man" (Jerome and Schwartz)	Miss Carlotta Levey
"The Garden Filled with Gold" (Bateman and Murphy)	Miss Marie Kendall
"The New Insurance" (Arthurs and Lyle)	Ernest Shand
"The New Perjurma 'At" (T. W. Connor)	Gus Elen
"The Playground in the Sky" (Bateman and Pether)	Milner Verren
"The Saftest o' the Family" (Lauder and Beaton)	Harry Lauder
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THE ERA
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1904.

CHRISTMAS GREETING.

Another year is coming to an end, and *The Era* will soon add another twelve month to the long-life which commenced in 1837. It is curious to turn to the first "file" of our paper, and to note from what small beginnings it has grown to its present position. In those days *The Era* was somewhat pessimistic in its predictions. In an article on "The Drama," in the issue for Sept. 30, 1838, a writer remarked, somewhat quaintly, "It is a curious fact that, as the drama itself is said to decline, the number of its temples has greatly increased. We are ourselves very much inclined to think that the increase of theatres has itself tended as much as anything to the decline of the drama." So that, even in 1838, the poor old drama was "declining;" and, according to certain statements recently made, it is declining still. It must be admitted that, like Charles II., it has been "an unconscionable time dying." Still more gloomy was *The Era's* view, in 1838, of the financial side of dramatic enterprise. Speaking of MACREADY'S opening of Covent-garden Theatre with *Coriolanus*, the critic gloomily observed, "The pit and gallery were crowded to excess; and the waving of heads in the one and the noise of the other recalled the early days of our theatrical reminiscences, when fortune, instead of ruin, followed in the wake of dramatic speculation." At the beginning of our career Mrs NESBITT was delighting everyone at the Olympic with a comedy by CHARLES DANCE; quadrilles were a "new foreign importation;" and people still believed in the "British Constitution."

From that small germ, *The Era* has grown, slowly but steadily, to its present size and importance. It began as a paper of twelve pages of four columns each; it now frequently contains forty pages of five columns each—an increase in columns from *forty-eight* to *two hundred*. What is most gratifying is that the prosperity of the paper has been *progressive*. There has been "no looking back." To err is human; and it is possible that, in our long career, we have made mistakes. But the profession, with characteristic generosity, has always been ready to "forget and forgive" in consideration of the fact that *The Era* has always been the faithful friend of the class which it represents.

It has always been our aim and endeavour to elevate the profession. We believe that, on the whole, the English playgoing public is healthy-minded and has cleanly tastes, and we have always tried to prevent an honourable calling from being ranked with those which are dirty and degraded. Of course, we have had to pay for our zeal. We have denounced the imposture of announcing a prostitutes' gathering as an "actresses' ball;" we have spoken out plainly in reprobation of plays and performances which we believed to be indecent and demoralising; and we have attacked bogus management. In each case we have been obliged to endure the worry and expense of actions at law, or threats of the same, scarcely less harassing, and altogether we have lost many thousands; but secure in the goodness of our "case" we have cheerfully "borne the brunt." One of the witnesses, on our side, on a certain occasion—he is a leading London critic—was asked in the witness-box why he would not have spoken out as plainly as we had? "I think," he replied very honestly, "it was because I should have been afraid." Whether we have been right or wrong, there has never been any mistake about what we meant, or of our having the "courage of our opinions."

It is not, however, of these necessary but disagreeable incidents that we desire to think at this kindly Christmas season. We prefer not to remember the evil that men have done to us; but we have the keenest pleasure in recollecting the good which, by the generous aid of the profession, we have been able to do to them. We like to think of poor ROSE NORREYS kindly and carefully tended in her sad state, and though insane not unhappy; of the NYE CHART bed, in which the actor, recovering from a serious illness, may rest and recuperate; of the late poor, blind WILLIAM RIGNOLD, whose declining years were made cheerful and comfortable by the combined efforts of *The Era* and his fellow actors and actresses; and, above all, of the intense interest which the recent discussion in our columns is stimulating in that excellent and admirable institution the Actors' Benevolent Fund. It would be an interesting though laborious task to go backwards through the columns of *The Era* since its foundation, and to make an account of the thousands of pounds which have passed to the profession through the conductor of this paper. In nearly every case, in addition to a personal contribution, the duties of a treasurer—often onerous and generally unthankful—have been cheerfully performed by him.

These are pleasant reflections, and well befit the "season of the year." Whatever gratitude may be due to us from the profession, our debt to them is far greater. It is they who, by their continued support, have placed our financial position so high as to make all carping criticism of our methods empty and absurd. The well-known epitaph on the famous architect which told the visitor if he wanted a monument to look at the cathedral which he stood in will apply here. The long array of volumes which we call our "files" stand in serried rows attesting the gradual but steady and unceasing success of the paper. In this age of eager competition, when an enterprise has but to be prosperous to attract shoals of imitators, *The Era* has "stood the test of time." But this is owing, in the first and foremost place, to the loyalty of our supporters, to each and all of whom we wish once again—

A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

COVENT-GARDEN BALL.

The fancy dress ball given at Covent-garden on the evening of the 16th inst. attracted a huge crowd, numbering over a thousand. The dresses were varied and beautiful, and among those which took the eye of the early comer were "Lovely Venice," representing a mandoline player hailing from that romantic city. This costume came from Mr W. Clarkson, and gained a ladies' first prize. He was also awarded prizes for "Missions of Mercy," with its emblems of Faith, Hope, and Charity; "Treasures of the Deep," a white satin dress trimmed with coral, seaweed, and pearls; "Henry VII.," &c. One lady appeared as "The Beautiful White Devil," while another dress represented "Bird's-Eye Views of Brighton." "Autumn Tints" and "'Midst Snow and Ice," were not, perhaps, typical of the time of year, but they were extremely effective dresses. There were two first prizes, one for the most artistic costume and one for the dress expressing the greatest originality. These were awarded about two o'clock in the morning, when the grand march past took place. The orchestra was, as usual, conducted by Mr Dan Godfrey.

THE Wyndham A.D.C. presented on Tuesday evening an excellent performance of Mr H. Arthur Jones's *The Case of Rebellious Susan* to an appreciative and crowded audience in the Town Hall, Epsom. Miss Kate Harris gave a quite intelligent rendering of Lady Susan, and Mr Squire acted creditably as Sir Richard Kato, K.C. The Admiral Sir Joseph Darby of Mr Tom Godfrey was a neat performance. The other parts were very well filled. The lighting of the stage left something to be desired, but the music and management were fairly good. The proceeds will be handed to the local cricket club.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"MADAME L'ORDONNANCE,"
Vaudeville, in Three Acts, by M. Jules Chancel, Produced at the Folies-Dramatiques, Dec. 20.

Colonel Craquelet	M. MATRAT
Victorin	M. MILO
Lieutenant Chantenay	M. ROUVIERE
Coffiard	M. BOUCHARD
Le Père Dupont	M. MODOT
Le Facteur	M. DUVAL
Pepita D'Olivarès	Madame A. LERICHE
Mercedès	Mdlle. CLAIRVILLE
Madame Perrotin	Madame AEL
Mdlle. Craquelet	Mdlle. ETY
Rosalie	Mdlle. DELMAY
Madame Du Val-André	Mdlle. JANE NORIS
Madame Boudart	Madame L. MAUDE

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT).

PARIS, THURSDAY, Dec. 22.—The 20th of December, the première at the Folies-Dramatiques of *Madame L'Ordonnance*, will be memorable in the annals of the dramatic world, for it was on that date the Folies-Dramatiques' Treaty with the Authors' Society expired—and was not renewed. The society ignores M. Richemond, the manager of that playhouse, who returns the compliment, and, for the first time in the memory of men, the society did not send an employee to collect the royalties, like they do every night at the other playhouses in France. M. Chancel, the author of the new vaudeville, will therefore receive direct from M. Richemond the 12 per cent. to which he is entitled. The society over which M. Georges Ohnet presides never thought that M. Richemond would defy them so openly, and they are somewhat taken aback at the attitude he has taken up. Altogether, it is rather a curious state of things; and fresh developments are anxiously watched in the theatrical world.

The name of M. Chancel is known to English playgoers as M. Xanrof's collaborator in *His Highness My Husband*. His new venture is funny, but very coarse—especially in the last act—even for the case-hardened frequenters of M. Richemond's theatre. Chantenay, a young lieutenant in garrison at Tarascon, has married the daughter of Madame Pepita D'Olivarès, a handsome widow with a volcanic disposition. Pepita admires daring men, and has lost her heart to Victorin, the lieutenant's servant, who, at a bull-fight at Tarascon, killed with his bayonet a bull which had jumped over the enclosure. The inflammable Pepita not only tells her hero that she loves him, but gives him the strongest proofs of her affection. For all that, Pepita has principles. Although belonging to the noble family of Olivarès, she makes Victorin her lawful husband, keeping the marriage secret from her daughter, and especially from the lieutenant, who would be anything but flattered if he knew that his servant had become his father-in-law. And then the unforeseen happens. Craquelet, the colonel of the regiment, admires the buxom Pepita. He commissions the lieutenant to ask her to become his wife, and the lady is compelled to tell her son-in-law everything. In the second act we see Pepita and her husband in their home, and a queer home it is. Victorin's relations, the Duponts, funny-looking peasants, have come to pay Victorin a visit. They are a numerous party, and have even brought their cow with them, and tied her to the door-knocker. The cow, tired of waiting, breaks loose and shows fight, whereupon Pepita calls upon her husband to kill the animal in true toreador fashion. But Victorin is frightened, and it is the colonel who performs the heroic deed. The third act cannot be described. Sufficient to say that Pepita, disgusted with her husband, divorces him and marries the colonel, to the intense delight of the lieutenant, who need no longer be ashamed of his father in-law. To interpret the rôle of Pepita without exaggeration was no easy task, and this Madame Augustine Leriche performed with wonderful skill and tact. The same, unfortunately, cannot be said of M. Milo, whose Victorin was more grotesque than necessary. M. Matrat portrayed the amorous colonel to perfection, and in M. Rouvière the lieutenant found an able exponent. The remaining rôles were well sustained by the other members of the company.

AT the Theatre Trianon, in *Le Divorce Impérial*, Madame Pauline Savari shows us a Napoleon still very much in love with his wife, Josephine De Beauharnais, but sacrificing his love to his ambition. M. Philippe Garnier supplied an interesting sketch of Napoleon; M. Alexandre, fils, gave a good account of the rôle of Fouché; and Mdlle. Renée Cogé was very pathetic as the unfortunate Josephine.

I AM sorry to have to record the death of M. Talbot, ex-Sociétaire of the Comédie-Française, where for a great many years he played important rôles. After his retirement from the stage he devoted himself to teaching; and among his numerous pupils is Madame Réjane, of whom he was always very proud. M. Talbot had just completed his eightieth year.

I HAVE on several occasions referred to the great injustice on the part of the Comedie-Française Committee in persistently refusing to raise M. Henri Mayer to the dignity of Sociétaire. M. Mayer, an author of great talent, joined the House many years ago, and, although he appeared during that time in numerous plays—always ready to replace an absent brother-artist—he, for some mysterious reason, was kept in the background. At last he has received a tardy recognition of his services, for on the list of those promoted to the rank of Sociétaire I see with pleasure the name of Henri Mayer. The other two who share with him this distinction are Mdlle. Marthe Pierat and M. Delaunay. The former is only twenty, and, therefore, the youngest member of the company. She makes up, however, in talent what she lacks in years. M. Delaunay, son of the famous actor, is less brilliant than his father, but he is painstaking, and renders valuable services to the House.

M. SAINT-SAENS'S new opera, *Hélène*, is in full rehearsal at the Opéra-Comique. In fact, the artists know their parts thoroughly, and the date of the première will soon be fixed. The rehearsals have been several times interrupted owing to the great musician's frequent absences from Paris. There is no more restless man than M. Camille Saint-Saëns. If he is more than a month in one place he gets melancholy, and pitches his tent elsewhere. He has now left for Toulouse with his friend M. Gailhard, director of the Opéra, to attend the first performance at the Théâtre du Capitole of *Les Barbarrs*.

I AM authorised to contradict the rumour that Madame Céline Chaumont intends to return to the stage and will make her appearance at the Gaîté as Dorine, in *Tartuffe*. Madame Chaumont has no intention whatever of resuming her old profession.

No little amusement has been created here in artistic circles by the splendid reproduction in a London illustrated paper of the famous poster of "La Boîte-à-Fursy," showing M. Loubet, Mr Joseph Chamberlain, Colonel Marchand, and other celebrities applauding Fursy's performance. *Vive l'Entente!*

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT has returned to Paris, and will reappear on Sunday next in *La Sorcière*. It is also mysteriously whispered that she intends producing a French adaptation of a "sensational" English comedy. The name of the piece was even mentioned to me, but it seems too strange to be true.

MR WILLIAM GREET'S Western company of *The Earl and the Girl*, under the direction of Mr W. A. M'Neill, provides the Christmas entertainment at the Grand Theatre, Plymouth. They travel by special train to-morrow from Paddington sixty strong, and the management is providing a Christmas dinner in the train. The northern company will be similarly catered for on their journey, by London and North-Western, from Glasgow to Manchester, where they will supply the Christmas entertainment at the Gaiety Theatre.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—It may perhaps interest you to know that, in addition to the letters that have been officially addressed to you, I have personally received a number of communications from ladies and gentlemen in the profession who are in favour of the matinée scheme, amongst others from Mrs John Wood, Mr H. B. Irving, and Mr R. C. Carton.

Some of these letters raise questions that may possibly be discussed elsewhere, and I therefore should be glad if you would allow me to deal briefly with them.

Nobody seems to doubt that there would be very few difficulties in the way of organising the scheme in London. That seems to me more than half the battle, as the metropolitan matinées would naturally realise the largest amounts.

It is said, however, that in the provinces some resident managers might object to the scheme. Personally, I cannot see why we should assume that provincial resident managers are less charitable than other people. A resident manager has to pay rent for his theatre whether it is being used for a matinée or not. But it is urged, however, that in any week an extra matinée would affect the business of that week. I venture to suggest that the business for that week would have to be very poor before it could be so affected, but even if we grant that it would be affected, surely the effect would be a very small one, and not such a one as any manager would shrink from in the cause of charity. Moreover, the bars would be open for eight shows instead of for seven shows, which would be to the managerial profit and advantage. Human nature may have its weaknesses, and business sometimes may be bad, but I personally do not believe that the resident-manager exists who would demand rent for his theatre on the occasion of a charity matinée if the scheme of universal matinées were generally adopted.

I believe that pretty much the same argument would apply to the resident staff. Actors, actresses, and managers are always in sympathy with the staff and its little troubles when it wants help and its little pleasures when it wants an annual outing. I believe that the staff would undoubtedly volunteer to assist in a charity performance without remuneration. In a few cases they might demand half salaries, but I believe that the cases would be very few.

As a matinée would only be an extra performance of the play running at the time, very little extra printing would be required, and knowing the purposes for which that extra printing would be used, I am sure that local printers, if properly appealed to, would never charge more than the bare cost price for it.

Similarly with regard to press announcements and press advertisements. The press is invariably more than generous where charity is concerned.

I believe that in eight cases out of ten the matinées I suggest could be given without any greater expense being incurred than that which was necessary to defray the cost of consumable properties and lighting. Everybody engaged would give their services. The author would permit his play to be performed without fee, the manager would grant the use of his theatre—universal effort on a universal day.

The incentive to this effort, I am sure, would be increased by the knowledge that we were doing the whole of our work at one time, that we all were benefiting more than one institution by our endeavours. That is why I suggested federation. I would not for one single moment interfere with the organisation and administration of our charities as they stand, but instead of letting them each collect money separately and apart, I propose that money should be collected for them in one lump and divided between them according to their requirements, but I do not believe in the multiplication of boards and committees. In my humble opinion the proper body to organise the universal matinée, to collect the sums derived from it, and to distribute those sums, is the Actors' Association. It is in close touch with the charities already, because many of the members of the Actors' Association Committee are members of the Actors' Benevolent Committee and members of the Actors' Orphanage Committee. Eventually, I should hope to see the charities and the Association housed under one roof, thereby effecting a saving in rent and insuring an increased efficiency and economy of administration.

Some expenses would be attached to the organisation of the matinée scheme, especially in its earlier stages; but this out-of-pocket expense the Actors' Association would naturally charge against the receipts of the universal matinée. The Actors' Association exists for the benefit of the actors' calling. Charity is organised for the benefit of the poorer members of that calling. If the Actors' Association succeeds in organising the charity scheme that seems most acceptable to the profession the Association also should have its reward. I, therefore, should suggest that, in addition to actual out-of-pocket expenses, the Association should be permitted to retain for its own purposes five per cent. of the sum total derived from the benefit performances.

I make this suggestion because the Actors' Association has never yet been supported as generally and as generously as it deserves. The curse of the actors' calling is its lack of organisation. I am not asserting for one moment that the Actors' Association is at present a perfect organisation, but it is the only one that we have got, and it already contains within itself all the best elements of theatrical unity. Yours faithfully, CECIL RALEIGH.
2, Brunswick-place, Regent's-park, N.W.
Dec. 22.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Chrissie Dunbar—Saturday, Dec. 24.
Cissie Dawes—Saturday, Dec. 24
Marion Turner—Saturday, Dec. 24.
Lilian Earle—Saturday, Dec. 24.
Brandon Thomas, author and actor—Dec. 25.
Carlotta Anson, actress—Sunday, Dec. 25.
Ivy Millais, actress—Sunday, Dec. 25
Marie Lyons, actress—Sunday, Dec. 25.
Georgie Whyte, actress—Sunday, Dec. 25
Clarisse Heney, music hall artiste—Dec. 25
Alice Caselli, music hall artiste—Sunday, Dec 25
Mrs M. Lucette Ryley, dramatist—Dec. 26
Adelina A. Levey, music hall artiste—Dec. 26.
Frank Harwood, actor—Monday, Dec. 26
Bob Hutt, music hall artiste—Tuesday, Dec 27.
Horace Stanley—Tuesday, Dec. 27.
Edward E. Ashby, actor—Tuesday, Dec. 27
Isabel Bateman, actress—Wednesday, Dec 28
Albert Gilmer, music hall manager—Dec. 28
Alvina Mining, actress—Wednesday, Dec. 28.
Miss Burgoyne, Thursday, Dec. 29.

AT the Gaiety Theatre, Birmingham, this week, Will Evans, comedian, has caused hearty laughter; and Marie Kendall is loudly applauded; and artistic operatic duets are rendered by Les Voces. The Four Maisanos give an amusing musical show. Some smart dancing is contributed by the Sisters Casselli, and other popular turns are those of J. A. Wilson, "the black oracle"; the Sisters Geretti; Alec Fisher, comedian; and Leo Tell.

THE sudden death of Mr S. Arthur Chappell took place at 45, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, on Wednesday night. He was in his seventy-ninth year, and for some time past had been in indifferent health. There will be a memorial service at St. Andrews, Well-street, at 11·0 a.m. to-day, and the funeral will take place at West End-lane Cemetery Hampstead, at 12·15.

PLAYGOERS' CLUB DINNER.

The annual ladies' Christmas dinner was given by the Playgoers' Club on Sunday night at the Hotel Cecil. Miss ELLIS JEFFREYS was in the chair, and amongst those present were Mr Lionel Monckton, Mr J. Bannister Howard, Miss Gertie Millar, Mr Louis Bradfield, Mr B. W. Findon, Mr Herbert Sleath, Mr Bransby Williams, Mr Van Biene, Miss Isabel Jay, Mr and Mrs Douglas Story, Mr and Mrs Passmore Edwards, Mr E. N. Durlacher, and Misses Grace and Sybil Arundale.

Mr KENNETH HAVERS, the vice president, in proposing "The Ladies," said Mr Zangwill, the president of the club, had written him from America expressing fervent admiration for Miss Ellis Jeffreys, as "one of the most charming and gifted actresses in English"—an actress who, Mr Zangwill hoped, "might be spared to grace a piece of his own." After enumerating some of the parts in which Miss Jeffreys has appeared in recent years, Mr Havers presented her with a handsome mirror, framed in filigree silver, as a testimony of the good wishes entertained towards her by the members of the club.

Miss ELLIS JEFFREYS, in responding said,—First of all let me thank you for that round of applause—as an actress I am not above longing to "get a hand," and on this occasion it is doubly welcome, as I am not sure if you will be kind enough to repeat it when I have finished my speech! I need scarcely say how much I value the too kind and flattering remarks that have been made about me, and how much I appreciate the great compliment you have paid me in asking me to be your guest here to-night. *Cela va sans dire*—if you will allow me to take refuge in French—a language, by the way, I take an increased interest in now after having studied your menu, which in itself is a thing of beauty, and something to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest! When I claim your indulgence to-night, I'm afraid I cannot take refuge in the time-honoured excuse, that I am unaccustomed to public speaking; my friends Mr Cyril Maude and Mr Frederick Harrison would give me away at once. I have made speeches in their theatre, and although I fear I repeated myself a good deal, my remarks were often most kindly received, but please do not blame me for this—I was instigated, nay worse, I was secretly paid to say these things, by men whom I do not hesitate to denounce to you as accomplices and accessories before the fact. It is with malicious pleasure that I drag from their obscurity the names of Mr Pinero, Mr Henry Arthur Jones, Mr Sidney Grundy, and Captain Robert Marshall. I bear them no animosity, and would not have mentioned their names but for the fact, that to-night, above all nights, they have basely deserted me, and, like Mr Chamberlain, I believe in retaliation. So, please ladies and gentlemen, deal hardly with my accomplices if you will, but treat me to-night as a first offender. Whatever my faults may be, you have invited me this evening, dear Playgoers, to be your guest at one of your banquets — those "Noctes Cœnæque Deorum," to quote the words of Horace—who (as we archæologists know) was president of the ancient Roman branch of the Playgoers' Club about the year 12 B.C.—that remarkable organisation which did so much for the theatrical life of the time, and has made the Coliseum what it is to-day. I do not allude to the great revival in St. Martin's-lane. In the comparatively few years of your existence, how much have you accomplished? You have set the seal of your approval on the triumph of virtue, and the punishment of villainy and vice; you have curbed the crudities of the comic man, and have all but abolished the demon king; you have espoused the cause of the suffering heroine; you have rescued her from the snowstorm, the friendless garret, and the slow starvation of the property loaf; you have dressed her at Paquin's, and invited her to dinner. But you have done more than this; you have shown the adventuress how wrong she is; you have weaned her from the lurid crimson frock, the desperate *décolletage*, the crime-laden jewels, and the sinful sabler, and you have taken her, humbled and penitent, to your generous heart. And the villains, those men revelling in every crime that is known to the calender, and a few that are not, what have you not done for them? You have taken those poor criminal brothers by the hand, and, discarding all such antiquated and brutal methods as the egg, the cabbage, the brickbat, and the "boo"—you have by the mere power of moral suasion shown them how to lead a better life. This is a noble work! This is a *métier* to be proud of, though you, with your natural modesty, will not admit it. But there is an additional reason to-night why we should abate our modesty and indulge in self-glorification. You, dear Playgoers, I understand, are about to enter into your twenty-first year, and I will let you into a little secret—so am I! Do not express amazement; it is true, I assure you. Yes, in a very short time we shall have attained our legal majority, we shall be no longer infants, we must take our places, not only as authors, artists, and playgoers, but as ratepayers and citizens. We can sue and be sued, without the intervention of a "best friend" to advise us not! And we shall be in a position to receive legacies, may they, to speak frankly, be fat and frequent; may we receive them with dignity, and spend them with discretion; and last, but not least, we can make our wills. What a blessed thought! My wish is that we may live long to enjoy them, and add year by year some little trifle, some little codicil, which may make a poor brother or sister happier some day. Now that the hour has come, I say say to you, solemnly and seriously, let us be men—at least as many of us as can be, the rest must be content to remain mere women—much as we may regret it. It is time for me to thank you for your courtesy and your patience. If I have trespassed too much on them listen to the confession of a weak woman, and forgive me. Here, and in the presence of witnesses, and in defiance of my husband, I avow I love you one and all individually, wrong as it may seem to confess it. But, dear Playgoers, I have feared, nay do fear, you collectively. Your compliment this evening has caused me sleepless nights and anxious days. All through dinner I have been suffering the agonies of a new malady, with symptoms similar to stage fright, only much more acute, and accompanied by a total loss of appetite, which my doctor tells me is none other than a form of the dreaded "Tetanus Theatricalis," or "Playgoers' Paralysis." But, after all, whatever my physical symptoms may be, I know in my heart this—that there is no lack of sympathy between you, dear Playgoers, on one side, and we artists on the other; and that there is, and I hope always will be, an *entente cordiale* between us, that no footlights, fireproof curtains, nor even orchestras can do much to divide.

Following the toast of "The Playgoers' Club," proposed by Miss ELLIS JEFFREYS, came a concert.

ONE of the most notable characters in the musical life of North Wales has passed away in the person of Madame Douglas Adams, of Mold, known throughout the Principality as "Perores Gwalia," or the chief singer of Wales. The lamented death of Madame Douglas Adams rings down the curtain upon a strenuous and eventful life. The daughter of a former operatic artiste and stage-manager, she was trained for grand opera under Sainton Dolby, was prima donna in several operatic productions, and was for some time a member of the Carl Rosa combination. During her twenty-six years' residence in Mold the deceased built up an extensive connection as teacher of music, and, in addition to her private practice, she was music teacher at various educational establishments. She accomplished great things by way of fostering a love of grand opera in the surrounding districts of Mold and Chester, and in recent years produced in their entirety, and with distinct success, *Faust*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *Maritana*, and *Martha*.

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

THE Coliseum, in spite of all efforts, could not be opened on Wednesday. The scenery, which had to be very specially adjusted to the machinery which works it, was hardly running smoothly enough, and Mr Stoll, therefore, in view of the four performances a day that he intends to give—with only one hour interval between them—determined to postpone the opening till to-day. The first performance will begin, as advertised, at twelve o'clock.

AT the meeting of the London County Council on Tuesday, in reply to a question by Sir Algernon West, Mr Greenwood said he was pleased to say that the owners of the Coliseum had endeavoured to meet the wishes of the Council in every respect, and there was no reason to doubt but that all their requirements would be met, so that the building would be ready for opening on Saturday.

MR HORACE EDWARD MOSS, who is retiring from the managing directorship of the Moss's Empires, gained his early knowledge of the world of entertainment in association with his father, Mr James Moss, who belonged to an old Lancashire family, and was, practically speaking, brought up in the profession. When his father toured with a concert party young Moss was the accompanist, and sang a humorous song at the piano. Subsequently the elder Mr Moss became the proprietor of the Lorne Music Hall, Greenock, where his son was the manager. When he reached twenty-three Mr Moss acquired his first music hall. It was the Gaiety, in Edinburgh, which had never enjoyed a good reputation. Mr Moss determined on a revolution. He made one pluckly attempt after another to attract the people with a purified entertainment, but in vain. The climax of his misfortunes came when he organised a great New Year's entertainment in 1878. He spent huge sums in advertising, but the result was a dire disappointment. Success, however, eventually came, and he has never looked back since.

MR OSWALD STOLL, the man of the hour, who now controls the fortunes of no less than twenty-nine variety theatres, is always eloquent concerning the excellent business precepts his mother taught him. He did not begin life with the proverbial silver spoon in his mouth, and leaving school at fourteen, he began his commercial career. After some years' residence in Liverpool he went to Cardiff, and was one of the first to recognise the value of two performances each evening to the working classes, and he first tried the experiment at the Empire, Cardiff.

HE follows out an interesting practice in regard to his many enterprises. His mother, who has taken the keenest interest in every detail of her son's career, invariably receives the first money paid for bookings at the many establishments with which he has been associated. Mr Stoll was the first person to book a box at the Coliseum for the opening performance, and immediately the money which he paid for the box was sent to his mother.

THE Alhambra Co., Limited, notify that the six months' interest on the remaining £22,100 of Five per Cent. Debenture Bonds, Coupon No. 42, falling due on Jan. 1 next, will be payable on and after that date at the company's bankers, Messrs Barclay and Co., Limited, 1, Pall-mall East.

AN amusing incident occurred at the Holloway Empire on Thursday, while Mr Syd May, the well-known mimic, was doing his turn. Mr May, after giving his imitations of various celebrated music-hall comedians, without any make-up, wound up his turn by appearing in the familiar garb of Mr George Robey. He had no sooner started one of the popular footballer's well-known songs, when loud cries of "Daddy!" from a child in the gallery were heard. The incident set the whole house laughing, but it somewhat disconcerted the singer, who said, "I'm not your dad!" The cries, however, became more persistent, and Mr May added, "I have been attacked by infantry." Perhaps Mr Robey will explain.

MR JOE ELVIN will have a particularly busy Boxing Night. He will produce at the Oxford *Fares, Please!* and *The Brown Bear* at the Paragon. As a feature of the former sketch a special tramcar has been constructed, and Mr Elvin will find in the part of the conductor an excellent vehicle for his humour. The author is Mr Wal Pink, who knows exactly how to fit the popular cockney comedian, for whom he has written so many successes. The music is by Mr George Le Brunn, who is also responsible for the incidental accompaniments in *The Brown Bear*, in the writing of which Mr Wal Pink has collaborated with Mr J. P. Ross. The special scenery is by Mr F. Bull.

"THE DANCING DOLL" will be presented at 10·0 o'clock, on Wednesday next, at the Empire. We have already described the scheme of the new divertissement, in which the adorable Adelina Genée will have a part suitable to her great abilities.

FRED SINCLAIR AND GRACIE WHITEFORD have met with a most flattering reception at the Tivoli this last two weeks, and Mr Adney Payne has offered them a three years' contract for all his halls. *Getting Even* is considered by press and public one of the cleanest and smartest acts that has visited London for a long time.

MISS LOUISA PEACH, who is at present starring as Henriette, in *Lost in Paris*, with Mr Henry Furnival's company, was booked to appear at the Chelsea Palace with one of her sketches on Jan. 2, but owing to Mr Furnival's tour going through Christmas Mr Henri Gros has very kindly postponed her engagement.

THE fog prevented Miss Nellie Wilson from performing her duties at the Middlesex on Wednesday night last. So dark and thick was it on that night at Brixton that all traffic was stopped.

MDLLE. MARTHA, the refined and graceful gymnast, at present at the Metropolitan, sails for America on Jan. 7, per the New York liner, from Southampton. She is specially engaged for the Keith tour, and she opens in New York on Jan. 23.

MR ALBERT BRASQUE AND MISS CORA DUNCAN will shortly produce a new and interesting sketch which has been specially written for them by Harry Pleon. The songs and incidental music will be written by well-known authors and composers. The sketch bears the title of *A Dressing-room Romance*.

MR CHARLES COVERDALE, the droll comedian, is opening at the London Pavilion on Boxing Night in his comedy imitations.

MR SYDNEY LEE, who is one of the cleverest of our young magicians, is about to be united, in Manchester, to a young lady residing in the latter town. The bride is not connected with the profession. The happy event takes place on the 30th inst.

THERE will be no meeting of the committee of the M.H.A.R.A. next week. The offices of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association will be closed on Monday and Tuesday, but will reopen on Wednesday. The 386th meeting of the Executive Committee of the M.H.A.R.A. was held on Tuesday afternoon, Mr Joe O'Gorman, chairman of the committee, presiding. The secretary reported that sixty new members had joined during the past week, making the total number enrolled since the commencement of 10,986.

ON Sunday last there was a large gathering at the Jewish Cemetery in Green-lane, Liverpool, when a handsome granite monument was consecrated to the memory of Mr Isaac Fineberg, who for about forty years was proprietor of the Star Music Hall in that city.

MR M. MONTGOMERY, JUN., the acting-manager of the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, had a benefit on Tuesday night, when artistes from all the local places of amusement put in an appearance. The occasion was a great success. Subsequently Mr Montgomery treated all his employés and friends to a charming supper, which was served on the stage. There were about a hundred guests.

MR JAMES CHAPPELL, who now enjoys fairly good health, has recently been banqueted by a few friends in Yarmouth. The date chosen was Dec. 13, the seventy-fifth anniversary of his birth, and the pleasant reunion took place at the Queen's Hotel, where Mr J. W. Nightingale, the purveyor, put on an excellent menu. Mr Chappell has long since passed his jubilee on the stage, as he commenced his professional career at eight, making his last bow before the public as clown at Her Majesty's, when that house was under the management of the late W. Harrison. He was at one time manager of the Cambridge, and was for seven years managing director of the Queen's, Poplar. He also had the Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, before Mr Morris Abrahams took it over in 1882. He still takes a great interest in the Music Hall Benevolent Fund, and his summer variety campaign at "Bloaterville" still shows that he has not lost the art of catering for the masses.

AN interesting ceremony took place at Algie's Hippodrome, Carlisle, on Friday, Dec. 16, during the performance of the Five Royal Zerbinis, who topped the bill. The diminutive comedian and conductor of the troupe, Master Cyril, was publicly presented by Mrs Veitch and Mr C. Algie, with a gold-mounted bâton, in the presence of the Mayor, Lady Mayoress, and Town Councillors, and a packed house, as a mark of esteem, and in consequence of the great success of the troupe during the week. The gift was accompanied by a neat speech from the manager, Mr Albino.

AT the Leicester Palace Theatre on Sunday last a large labour demonstration was held, at which Mr Keir Hardie, M.P., in acknowledging the kindness of Mr Oswald Stoll for the permission afforded to use the building for the purposes of the demonstration of the day, said such kindness was greatly appreciated. Music halls, the hon. gentleman added, were not much in his line, but he had occasionally been to them, and he recognised the large place they occupied in the recreations and amusements of the people. Further, he believed the establishment of the Empire Palaces had tended to raise the tone of music halls, which was a matter at which all could rejoice.

BARNEY ARMSTRONG made his reappearance before the public as a comedian at the Palace, Glasgow, on Monday, and made an instantaneous success. He had a very warm reception, and it was some time before he was allowed to proceed with his first song, the audience cheering again and again. He is engaged to appear at the Pavilion, Glasgow, Christmas week, and opens in town shortly.

MR JAS. ANDERSON, proprietor of the Britannia, Glasgow, has just published a Scotch song entitled "Scotland my ain," the words of which are from the pen of a Canadian Scot, and the melody by Robert Duncan, with an arrangement for the piano by Mr William Milne, conductor of the Britannia orchestra. The song gained the prize in a competition instituted by Mr Anderson when he recently took over the hall, and bids fair to have some measure of popularity, as already several thousand copies have been disposed of.

THE Miles-Stavordale Quintet left Liverpool on Wednesday for New York and the States, on board the White Star Liner Cedric, and open at Proctor's on Jan. 2. This is their third trip across to the land of the dollar. It is almost a record for a purely English turn to make three trips, especially a banjo act; but Americans are ever ready to recognise artistic work, and the quintet play the national instrument in a way not easily excelled even by the Yankee virtuosi.

A MATINÉE, organised by the members of the "Rags Club," which took place on the 16th inst. at the Palace Theatre, Manchester, resulted in the handsome sum of £170 14s. 5d being handed over to the *Chronicle* Fund for the relief of the unemployed. This is extremely gratifying, and the thanks of the organisers are tendered to the many artistes who so generously helped to make the entertainment so successful, and to the directors and staff of the Palace, who gave their services so willingly.

MR E. C. SWANN, the new manager of the Empire Theatre, Bradford, died on Monday night last at his residence in Great Horton-road, after a short illness. Mr Swann, who was only thirty-one years of age, was for some time in the service of a Leeds accountant, and he received his appointment in Bradford last August on the removal of Mr P. A. Lennon to Richmond, Surrey. Mr Swann had become very popular with the patrons of the theatre and with the proprietors, who recognised in him a very energetic and hard-working manager. It was very largely through his efforts that the recent performance in aid of the funds of the Lifeboat Institution realised such a handsome amount. Mr Swann was not of a very robust constitution, and he contracted a chill which developed into a serious illness. He was apparently making good progress towards recovery, however, and had so far improved that he was down stairs on Sunday, and was looking forward to being at his post on Monday, but his illness took an unexpected turn, and the end came with painful suddenness. Mr Swann has left a widow and one child.

MR AND MRS TERENCE RAMSDALE gave their farewell performance at the Assembly Rooms, Gibraltar, on the 17th inst., under the patronage of the Governor, his Excellency Sir George White, and Lady White. Melody, humour, and dramatic interest were the constituent elements of a refined entertainment, which included classic dances and comic sketches.

THE old Alexandra Hall, Hope-street, Birmingham, has been taken over by a private company, and after being renovated it will open on Monday next as a first-class variety house on the now popular system of two houses nightly under the management of Arthur Turle.

MISS MAGGIE RIMMER, a dainty and chic comedienne and dancer, has proved herself a real Cinderella. She succeeded in getting on the glass slipper exhibited at a Southampton bootmaker's shop, and thus stands a chance of winning a share of the £500 prize offered by a local newspaper. She did the fitting without the aid of the fairy godmother.

MR P. J. DURNEY, better known to the patrons of the Dewsbury Hippodrome as "Paddy," has accepted an offer of an excellent tour through South Africa and the colonies. Mr Durney, by his versatile efforts, has become a warm favourite at this house, and the benefit accorded him on Friday evening was a bumper in all respects.

THE FRASETTIS went on Nov. 14 to the Tivoli, Sydney, where they opened with Mr Harry Rickards. They came on to the Antipodes from the Tivoli, Cape Town, after a most successful engagement with the Hyman management.

MR THOMAS BARRASFORD, the gentleman who has had the courage to transform the Lyceum into a music hall, made his fame as a variety entrepreneur in the provinces before he came to London, and is now connected with a number of enterprises in England, Scotland, and France. He has not yet touched Erin's Isle. He controls the Hippodromes at Brighton, Birmingham, Liverpool, and Glasgow; the Pavilion, Glasgow; the Palace, Glasgow; the Regent, Salford; the Pavilion, Newcastle; the Alhambra, Hull; the Empire, Bristol; the Tivoli, Leeds; the Palace, Manchester; the Grand, Manchester; and the Alhambra, Paris; the last-mentioned Palace being the old Château D'Eau Theatre. Other enterprises are developing, and the Barrasford circuit becomes larger every year.

MR BARRASFORD has arranged his double "two hours'" bill upon varied lines, and there is a strong Continental flavour about it. His company will comprise Mdlle. Van Parys, soprano, from the Grand Opera, Paris, and M. Ansaldi, a tenor; Mdlle. Dasty, a contralto from the Théâtre la Monnaie, Brussels; M. Rey, baritone from the Grand Opera, Nice; La Wilma, a lady artist in sand and smoke; Heloise Titcomb, a South American singer; Phil Ray; Carl Reinsch, in a sporting horse-and-dog act; the Harmony Quartette; Taylor's elephants; the Freydos, athletes and hand-balancers; the Five Purrocopis, jugglers; Permane Brothers, in an acrobatic act; Canadian Banker, in a somersault "loop" act; some animated pictures; and Mr George Leyton, a spirited representative of a recent Lyceum hero, Henry V., in a dramatic sketch, called *Enoch Arden*. Here is a good blend of novelties and of favourites.

THERE was really a Lyceum Theatre of Varieties as far back as 1841, though the house was not known as such, for soon after Balfe failed in the management of the house in that year came the lion-tamer Carter, who established a wild-beast show in Wellington-street, and he was succeeded by one—Signor Nano, the Gnome Fly—who professed to walk up the walls of the house and march head downwards on the ceiling. These variety entertainments, however, were unable to change the fortunes of the house, as, in 1844, the change in the licensing law brought about by the Theatres Act of 1843, was taken advantage of by the proprietors, who opened the building as the Theatre Royal, Lyceum.

SOON afterwards came the Keeley régime, the only survivor of the company being Mrs Alfred Mellon (then Miss Woolgar). Then Madame Vestris and Charles Mathews ruled the house for a time. In 1856 Charles Dillon made a brilliant reputation and introduced Marie Wilton (Lady Bancroft) to the London public as Henri, in *Belphegor*. Edmund Falconer and Madame Celeste both had the house in turn before Fechter commenced his management in 1863; and in 1867 Mr E. T. Smith entered into rivalry with the other dramatic houses by putting on *Life for Life*, with Adelaide Neilson as his principal star. Messrs Mansfield tried opera bouffe in 1870, and Mr H. L. Bateman in 1871 appeared at the head of affairs. In 1872 Henry Irving magnetised the town as Mathias, and the old house had a remarkable career of prosperity, and became the leading theatre in London. We need not recapitulate its recent history; but wish success to its future.

MR JOHN READ will be remembered as an excellent singer of motto and other songs in his day, and for many years held the position of chairman at Collins's. He is advanced in years, and is feeling the pinch of poverty. In a letter to us he says:—"I find it impossible to live, and though I am loth to accept charity, my circumstances compel me to appeal to my brother artistes at this most critical and unfortunate period of my career." Mr Charles Sheard, in a letter in our columns last week, spoke of John Read's case as "pitiful," and immediate monetary assistance is required. John Read in his time wrote several popular songs for the stars of his day, but they have all joined the majority. As a professional he was always highly respected, and his uprightness and sturdy independence made him a favourite with all. His address is 18, Cranleigh-road, South Tottenham. Mr C. H. Sheard, of 196, Shaftesbury-avenue, will be pleased to receive any sums sent on Mr Read's behalf.

AT the council of the Metropolitan Radical Federation meeting at the Shoreditch Liberal and Radical Club on Saturday evening it was unanimously resolved—"That this council is in full agreement with the Rev. Stewart D. Headlam as to the dangerous and mischievous tendency towards Puritanism of the progressive members of the London County Council; that we welcome, and will accord our support, to any effort to infuse a wider and more liberal spirit in the administration of our music halls, theatres, parks, and open spaces."

MR HEADLAM, who made a speech at the meeting, urged that licences should be granted to the music halls which had sprung up in recent years on the ground that by preventing audiences from enjoying reasonable refreshments people were driven to places where only intoxicants were supplied. As showing that people attending variety entertainments did not devote themselves to consuming drink while in the halls he mentioned that a return which he had obtained from the Metropolitan—one of the the old places from which the licence could not be withdrawn—showed that during a fixed period the consumption of intoxicants during a four hours' entertainment was only to the extent of 2¾d. per head.

MISS VESTA TILLEY has just accepted, and will shortly produce, most probably at the Tivoli, an expressly written Brazilian scena of romantic interest, tentatively entitled "Bonita," in which she will enact the rôle of a young English planter in love with a sweet Brazilian belle. Mr John P. Harrington is responsible for the words, and Mr George Le Brun for the music of this forthcoming production, which is a distinct departure from Miss Tilley's usual type of male impersonations.

MR ALFRED BUTT presented his Christmas programme at the Palace on Thursday evening, and among the novelties we find a full-blown pantomime which bears the title *Bill Bailey*. Yes, we say it with satisfaction that though the wanderer has not returned to his own roof-tree as yet, he has found in Shaftesbury-avenue a temporary resting-place, and is heartily welcome. He is presented by the Follies, six clever people, headed by Mr H. G. Pelissier, who, we suspect, is largely responsible for the genially written pantomime skit. The familiar friends of our childhood, Cinderella, Robinson Crusoe, Dick Whittington, are presented. We have also the traditional baron, the conventional fairy queen, and the gifted cat. Each is amusingly parodied, and an excellent bit of fooling is the grand procession of nations. The artistes include, besides Mr Pelissier, Mr Lewis Sydney, Mr Dan Everard, Miss Gwennie Mars, Miss Ethel Allandale, and Miss Marjorie Napier, who work most energetically and successfully.

ANOTHER fresh item in the Palace bill is a sketch called *Jack*, which has been written for Mr Arthur Roberts by Mr Chris Davis, the author of *The Fighting Parson*. The novelty serves as an excellent vehicle for the comedian to display his mimicry in the character of a young man about town, a fashionable physician, and a society lady. The patter is already very amusing, and, of course, it will be added to as occasion serves. Miss Eva Westcott, whose name appears for the first time on the Palace bill, is a young actress who played the part of the boy Jimmy, in *The Prince of Pilsen* at the Shaftesbury Theatre. She presents *An Episode of Modern Life*, and displays considerable ability in the monologue.

THE production of *Butterflies in Fairyland* at the Hippodrome has been postponed by Mr Moss until Tuesday evening next.

THE COUNTESS OF CLANCARTY, who was known to our readers as the beautiful Belle Bilton, has undergone a series of operations for cancer in Paris, and is now being treated by Dr. Doyen's method, from which she has derived immense benefit. It is hoped, indeed, that the distinguished invalid is permanently cured.

THE wishing of "Compliments of the Season" at Christmas and at the New Year by way of special advertisements in *The Era* is a happy practice on the part of variety agents, and tends to preserve *l'entente cordiale* between client and agent. It also shows to the managers of variety Empires throughout the whole world the extent of the agents' prosperous businesses, and displays the names of the important artists for whom they act.

THE Royal is to be reconstructed from plans that have been submitted to the Council by Messrs Frank Matcham and Co., and with certain alterations suggested by the Council's architect the structural changes proposed have been accepted. When the old Royal was enlarged in 1887 by Captain Purkiss there was much room cut to waste and valuable space was sacrificed without any compensating advantage in design or comfort.

MISS LILY BURNAND, after a long successful engagement on the Moss tour, has returned to town, and is specially engaged for Christmas week for the following halls:—The Standard, Granville, and Camberwell. After delighting the patrons of these establishments, she will start for the complete tour of the Stoll halls.

CHING LING FOO, the famous Chinese juggler and entertainer, is to appear at the Empire on Jan. 2, at a salary of £250 a-week. Accompanied by ten assistants, he arrived in London on Wednesday. Although he is forty-nine years of age he has never experienced so terrible a meteorological calamity as a London fog, and he is emphatic in his expression of disgust at it.

SO great has been the applications for copies of "Teasing," the song which Mr David Day brought back with him from the United States of America, that the printing of the number has been expedited, and it is now on the market. It is by Cecil Mack and Albert Von Tilzer, and is dedicated to Miss Ellaline Terriss.

MR HARRY TATE'S character of Abanazar, in the Marlborough pantomime of *Aladdin*, will necessitate him adopting many disguises, and will thus enable him to appear in the impersonations of well-known variety "stars" that helped to make him famous. The ballet music at this house will be from the graceful pen of G. W. Byng, of the Alhambra.

"THE SHAUGHRAUN" is not new to the variety boards, as a version of it was played at the South London under Miss Poole's management in 1890, when the late Jenny Hill appeared in the title-rôle with songs and dances, being supported by, among others, the late Fred Mason. More recently the Boucicault drama in condensed form was seen at the Middlesex, with Mr J. H. Cave as the rollicking Irishman.

MR J. L. SHINE has compressed the play so that it comes well within the limits of a sketch. But there is no injury to the continuity and interest of the story—not an essential character or incident is omitted. Mr Shine calls this playlet *Conn*, and it is hardly necessary to say that he plays the title-rôle as if to the manner born. Equipped with elaborate and picturesque scenery and proper costumes, *Conn* will be the Chistmas attraction at the Lyric Theatre, Liverpool, thereafter proceeding on tour. Mr Shine has worked up a thrilling fight with his would-be assassins in the scene following the wake.

MISS ANNIE ABBOTT, the "Georgia Magnet," will again be entertaining a London audience on Boxing Day, having been secured for the Chelsea Palace for a six nights' engagement. Miss Abbott's exhibitions of scientific force at the Alhambra seven years since created a great sensation, and there was much controversy in the papers concerning the wonderful little lady's feats.

MISS BELLA FOTHERGILL, professionally known as Bella, of Bella and Bijou, was married at Brixton on Tuesday to Mr William Kellino, of the celebrated troupe of acrobats. The best man was Mr F. W. Wood, proprietor of the City Varieties, Leeds. Miss Bella's dark Irish beauty was well set off by a charming gown of ivory white satin, and she was attended by three bridesmaids—her niece and two sisters of the bridegroom. They wore costumes of a pretty shade of grey, with picture hats to match. The church was filled with friends of the happy couple, who received during the afternoon many telegrams of congratulation. A reception, followed by a déjeuner was held at the Stanley Restaurant, and during the afternoon Mr and Mrs W. Kellino started for Paris, where they are staying at the Hotel du President. Their absence from town will be a short one, as both have to return to fulfil engagements on Monday.

THE bride is the daughter of the late Mr Edwin Frederick Fothergill, who died in January, 1903. She was in her early years associated with her sisters as members of the Fothergill family, who became famous in spectacular scenas. When her sister became the wife of Bijou, who was a member of the same combination, Miss Bella joined him in vocal sketches, and as a duo they are among the most successful artists on the variety stage.

THE Sisters De Vere, two bright comediennes, will appear at Barnard's Greenwich, next week in a dainty song and dance entertainment.

MR HAMILTON HILL has expressed his thanks in a graceful fashion to Mr Tom Costello for granting permission to sing the latter's great success, by Mills and Scott, "Farewell my Little Yo-San."

MESSRS ROSEN AND BLISS, variety agents, have changed their address to 56, Whitcomb-street, Leicester-square, W.C.

AFTER the Christmas holidays Master Trundley, the "Peckham Fat Boy,' will, it is stated, settle down to the quiet life of a pupil at a London County Council school at Peckham. He will sit on a particularly strong seat in front of a specially constructed desk.

MISS VICTORIA MONKS, the popular singer of "Bill Bailey," is introducing two new songs, "There's a Girl Inside" and "I ain't gwine to leave home in the rain," by William Hargreaves. She will not be seen in pantomime this year, owing to her engagements at the Alhambra, Paris, and an impending visit to America.

MADAME NADJI, the mother of Nadji, has been lying seriously ill for two weeks, at her residence, 51, Burton-crescent, W.C., and has been attended by two doctors and a specialist. As soon as she is convalescent, she will be taken to the seaside and then to a hospital or home to undergo an operation.

MR SAM MAYO, who has just finished a five months' tour, is about to attempt a record. He will try to do eight turns next week—namely, at the Bedford and Chelsea Palaces (twice each), Gatti's (Road), Camberwell Palace, Middlesex, and Metropolitan. He has worked six turns on seven occasions, and during one evening only he worked seven.

DR. WALFORD BODIE commenced a short London season at the Empress, Brixton, and Empire, Islington, last Monday, and, as predicted, he has again scored heavily, both places being packed nightly. His wonderful electric experiments and marvellous cures of the paralysed have again caused quite a sensation. He returns on Monday next to the Canterbury and Balham Varieties, where he will introduce several startling experiments in bloodless surgery, for which he has now become quite famous.

THE great Rubie is the latest sensation. This lady claims to be the only lady mesmerist and electrician in the world. She will introduce several new electric and hypnotic novelties, and will make her first appearance at one of the West-end halls. No lady mesmerist has been seen on the boards for years, not since Madame Julie Card, who caused quite a sensation in her time.

THE SALAMBOS, during their recent visit to Perth, Western Australia, gave their entertainment before Governor Bedford, Lady Bedford, Admiral Fenshaw, and their party, who visited the Theatre Royal especially to see them In the course of the evening the Mayor of Perth (Mr Harry Brown) acted as special assistant to the Salambos in their electric novelty, accompanied by Mr Sam Grimwood, Perth's veteran, and the most popular sportsman in Western Australia. The Salambos have played at Melbourne, Perth, Fremantle, and Adelaide. They are now at the Tivoli Theatre, Sydney.

M. WITMARK AND SONS have made an arrangement with Mr C. E. Hamilton, proprietor of the musical piece, *Peggy M'Chree*, by which the songs, "By the Old Oak Tree" and "Honeymoon Hall" will be exclusively reserved for this production. The latter number will be used in certain pantomimes by permission of Mr Hamilton.

THE clever M'Connell Trio, who have long been great London and provincial favourites, will be among the attractions at the opening of the Manchester Hippodrome. They are making a feature of the song "Good-night, beloved, good-night," in which they will be assisted by a magnificent choir of trained voices, the choir being called "the Hippodrome Choristers."

MISS VERONICA BRADY has made a pronounced hit with two of Witmark's popular songs, "Good bye, little girl, good-bye" and "I'll be your dew-drop, Rosy," at His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen. The local Press are unanimous in stating that these are the genuine hits of the pantomime.

MISS RACHEL LOWE will introduce her latest song, "The naughty little mouse," as Aladdin at the Kennington Theatre. As a singer of novelty songs Miss Lowe has no equal, and her new number promises to be on a par with her other pronounced successes.

THE Albert and Edmunds Troupe will be seen this year in pantomime at the West London Theatre, where they will play principal parts in the Messrs Bailey's production of *Babes in the Wood*. Miss Nita Clavering will be Maid Marian and Miss Maude Nelson Robin Hood. The pantomime has been written by W. Scott Phipp.

MR WORLAND S. WHEELER, who is the secretary and treasurer of the Paragon, was married on Saturday to Miss Godden, a young lady very well known to the habitués of the East-end hall. Mr Wheeler, who was at one time a journalist, wisely relinquished that profession for his present post some four years since.

THE funeral of the late Mr Albert Layton, proprietor of the Old Queen's Head, Stockwell-road, S.W., took place on Dec. 21 at Bow Cemetery. Mr Layton, who had been a silent sufferer for many weeks, passed away in a spirit of perfect resignation, the immediate cause of death being Bright's disease. The old stagers in the profession will feel the loss of the "old time comic" more keenly than the younger generation. Some of the artistes with whom Mr Layton had appeared were Harry Randall, Slade Murray, and George Chirgwin.

THE floral emblems of regard were many, and included a large number of professional names. Amongst these were wreaths from Mrs Layton and family, Nellie Wilson (Mrs Layton's sister) and Harry Phillips. Millie Tempest, Dorothy Royal. Mr and Mrs Newton, Mr and Mrs Warwick, Mr and Mrs Simpson Charwood, and Mr Isaacs. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, many attended the final rites.

MR HAROLD ARNOLD has been appointed advertising manager of the Lyceum.

NEARLY 400 workmen are engaged in finishing the Lyceum, which will be opened as a music-hall on Monday. This week its two great tiers have been tested, 800 men from the ranks of the unemployed being marshalled on the lower steps of each of the tiers. For the few minutes' employment each man received a shilling.

HERBERT CAMPBELL MEMORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—A memorial to the late Mr Herbert Campbell in the shape of a bust, either in marble or bronze, is to be obtained, and placed, if possible, in the vestibule of the Theatre Royal, Drury-lane, the scene of so many of his triumphs. Mr Harry Randall has kindly consented to act as president and Mr Edward Ledger, of *The Era*, as treasurer to the fund.

It is the intention of the committee to engage an artist of repute to execute this work to the memory of the above-mentioned generous and genial comedian. The committee will esteem it a great favour if his old friends and admirers will assist in making this memorial a success. All subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in *The Era*.

Yours faithfully, FRANK HEATH, (Secretary).

Committee Rooms, Hummums Hotel, Covent-garden, W.C., Nov. 2.

Sums received

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
A. Magnus	10	10	0	Thos. Cracknell	1	1	0
Henry Joyner	5	5	0	Arthur W. Bray	1	1	0
Mr William Harris	5	5	0	Lydia M. Roberts	1	1	0
Joe Elvin	3	3	0	Thomas Mason	1	1	0
G. W., J. R., and F. H. Fortescue	3	3	0	O. Chuck	1	1	0
Herbert Lawford	2	2	0	S. A. Graddage	1	1	0
Marie Lloyd	1	1	0	G. H. Chirgwin	1	1	0
J. Hickory Wood	1	1	0	Mrs M. A. Hearn	1	0	0
H. Comfort	1	1	0	W. Clarkson	0	10	6
Weedon Grossmith	1	1	0	A. Lazarus	0	10	6
Jesse Sparrow	1	1	0	Mrs C. L. Lawson	0	10	6
Pat Doherty	1	1	0	Mrs White	0	10	6
G. A. E. Hussey	1	1	0	Richard Box	0	10	6
Gus Elen	1	1	0	A. May	0	5	0
				M. M. M'Neill	0	2	6

Per Harry Randall:—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Harry Randall	5	5	0	Eccentric Club	2	2	0
Eugene Stratton	2	2	0	J. Bernard Dickson	1	1	0
Little Tich	2	2	0	Charles Hector	0	10	0

AT the Empire Palace, Birmingham, the programme this week is of the usual high standard. The Rossow Midgets in their athletic display are well to the fore, and the Two Butterflies and the Three Georges are decidedly clever. Daisy Mayer is encored for her smart songs. The Four Schutzenlieserl'ns render their vocal selections with effect. Emma Don and company, in their scena; Geoffreys and Benson; Harry Hayton and J. H. Milburn, comedians; and Joly, with his cornet selection, complete the bill.

THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE EMPIRE.

One of the most popular turns at the Empire just now is undoubtedly that of Herbert Lloyd. In its sheer unadulterated absurdity it is irresistible, and description can give but a poor idea of its eccentric extravagance. Lloyd comes in on a "travestie" of a motor-car, elaborately constructed, and sending out real steam from behind. Some of his fooleries are so simple in idea that it is only the innate drollery of the artist that makes them so comical. Laughter loud and hearty is, however, certainly created by Lloyd's tricks, which are genuinely funny. Perhaps the most ridiculous item of his entertainment is his caricature of a facial mimic. His "impersonations" are, of course, intentionally inadequate, and when he finds one of them does not "take" he falls back, frantically, on an embodiment of Napoleon. Lloyd wears a great number of shirt-fronts of various colours and patterns; and he tears them out savagely and casts them on the boards in heaps. This "mimicry of a mimic" sends the gravest in the audience into helpless cachinnations. Corty, Robinson, and Little John are a trio of ring and trapeze artists, the lady extending herself horizontally between two rings, while her taller companion stands upon her body. At intervals, Little John, a merry dwarf, takes part in the proceedings. A most melodious turn is done by the Australian Lady Quartet of vocalists, whose medley of English airs is most enjoyable. The Three Braggs are acrobats of enterprise and originality, who do some feats which, if not unique, are quite uncommon; and their exploits must be seen to be appreciated, as there is no phraseology by which achievements of such a startling sort can be described to the "lay" reader. Whistling Tom Browne repeats the tuneful performance which has made him so popular; and the Yullan Family do some neat "shoulder to shoulder" business. The Luken Brothers, four male gymnasts of real merit, are seen to great advantage on the high trapeze; and Mr Charles Aldrich gives his well-known entertainment of quick changes, absurd "business," and Chinese juggling, his chase and final capture of the erratic necktie being as screamingly absurd as ever, and still "going" extremely well. Mr Aldrich's passages from one dramatic character to another are done in the time it takes to raise and lower the lights, and are wonderfully smart and neat. He has introduced some minor novelties into his mock conjuring business, which is decidedly improved. Ludwig Amann, a master of the art of facial mimicry, has added a few up-to-date impersonations to his list, including those of Russian and Japanese commanders. His other reproductions of celebrities are as excellent as ever. *The Milliner Duchess* continues to attract.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

Powers of attraction of an abnormal kind are possessed by Dr. Walford Bodie, and wherever he goes houses overflow. He created a sensation in a neighbouring borough a few months back, and from his welcome at Brixton on Monday it was evident that old admirers as well as new were present in force to witness his marvellous demonstrations of hypnotism allied with electricity, and to applaud his labours in the cure of a dreadful affliction. Three cases were presented to the Doctor on Monday, one being that of a girl aged seventeen, who had been paralysed three and a-half years, having been discharged from three hospitals as hopeless and incurable. As in most cases, the hospital authorities had advised that the tendons connecting the foot be cut, but Dr. Bodie by a simple process which he calls "bloodless surgery" severed with a twist the adhesions which kept the foot rigid, and after applying the electric current the use of both arm and leg was restored. The two subsequent cases were children, both of whom had been given up by three hospitals. They surrendered themselves cheerfully to the famous healer, and soon the withered limbs, which a few moments before had been hanging limp and useless, were freely employed in walking off the stage and in carrying the irons which had for so long encumbered them. Dr. Bodie bears the honours which are showered upon him modestly. He might, he said, take up a practice in the West-end, where he could make a fortune by the exercise of his art, but he had no desire to accumulate vast wealth; his chief reward was found in alleviating the ills of suffering humanity and in bringing happiness to many a home. Dr. Bodie was strong in his denunciation of those who, in a base endeavour to copy his methods, had brought on the stage manufactured cases, but a more audacious or more heinous imposition he could not conceive. That the cases which he treated were all genuine could be proved by the vast accumulation of leg-irons and surgical instruments which numerous patients had presented to him, and for which, through the exercise of his power, they had no further use. Frequent and hearty cheers accompanied Dr. Bodie's demonstrations, at the end of which a little boy whom the Doctor had cured on his last visit to London stepped forward to certify to his healing powers, a testimony which the Doctor declared gave him more pleasure than a cheque for £1,000. At the close of the séance, the Doctor turned his attention to his comic subjects, who never fail in their duty of putting the audience into uncontrollable fits of mirth. The ordinary programme contains the name of Mr George D'Albert, but he was an absentee on Monday, Miss Peggy Pryde supplying a welcome substitute. By means of her insidious drollery in "It wants a bit of doing" she awakens the comic perceptions of the dullest among the audience, and in her song of "Gay Paree" her cockney "French" is inexpressibly funny, adding much to the sum total of laughter which this talented comedienne has created. Messrs Tray and Rich, who are representatives of both black and white comedy have some choice lies to tell in the course of their entertainment, and competition in "tall stories" becomes very keen, some smart singing and dancing being also much relished. A refined and dainty style greatly aids Miss Eileen Douglas in her songs, "Maudie went no farther" and "She taught him a thing or two, too," the words of which are delivered so distinctly and with such point as to gain every effect, while a skirt dance forms a pleasing addition to a graceful turn. Mr Harry Bancroft sings with powerful voice and hearty sentiment of two faithful comrades in "Side by Side," a subsequent song affording an opportunity for his comic abilities, of which he makes the most. Miss Queenie Lawrence graces the boards in her lilt of "Sweet Janet from Dundee," being equally captivating in "Have you seen my girl?" and Miss Alexandra Edwin finds many appreciative listeners for her ballads, of which "The Star of Bethlehem" forms a seasonable item. A warm welcome is in store for Mr Tom Costello, who sings with all his wonted dramatic feeling "Good-bye, my little Yo San," the members of the audience coming loyally to his aid in the chorus, while the popular comedian's appearance as a lady with up-to-date notions of dress, and many confidences on the aids to beauty, begets merriment unceasing. Other contributors to the bill, ably overseered by Mr Nelson Francis, are Miss Ethel Loftus, Mr Paul Mill, and Mr J. C. Crawley, the evening terminating with an interesting series of pictures on Ruffell's Bioscope.

At the Hippodrome, Birmingham, this week, Charles Morritt, magician, is paying a return visit and doing some marvellous tricks. That quaint comedian Alf Gibson is very amusing. Flora Lumiere in her act, "The Human Butterfly," is effective. George Martinengo has a fine baritone voice, and is decidedly clever on the 'cello. Addie Dorina in her character impersonations; the Greggsons in a comedy sketch; Mountford and Walsh, Lew Wells, and Edward and Nettie Masse contribute to an excellent programme.

THE LYCEUM THEATRE.

Visitors to the old Lyceum Theatre will certainly be surprised when they enter the new building which has been designed upon the same site by Mr Bertie Crewe, the eminent theatrical architect. Although in the former erection the auditorium was comparatively small, the extent of the site was very large, containing as it did some 28,000 sq. ft., or about three-quarters of an acre. Mr Crewe's newly-designed Lyceum is of such a size that, according to the strictest requirements of the London County Council, there are no less than nineteen exit staircases from the auditorium, representing 4,750 persons, and it would be easily possible to accommodate an audience of 5,000.

The old elevation and portico in Wellington-street, such a well-known landmark in the West-end, has been retained, and has been treated in cream, and gold which throws up the massive columns and elaborate pediment. The whole of this has been outlined in electric glow lamps some 1,000 in number, which, with the brilliant flame arcs, will make a most important feature in the Strand.

From Wellington-street one enters the spacious vestibule with marble mosaic floor, and richly decorated and pannelled walls, and ceiling. From this the foyer is reached by a magnificient solid inlaid marble mosaic stair 22ft. wide, divided by massive brass handrails, and beaten brass panels. A special feature of the entrance hall is the double box-office, on each side of the stair, of which one office will be reserved for stalls and boxes and the other for circle, thus avoiding any crush or confusion in the booking, and ensuring the quickness necessary in a house where two performances are given nightly. The entrance doors and doors throughout the building are probably the most elaborate specimens of carved mahogany ever put into a place of amusement. They, together with all barriers, orchestra rail, bar counters, and cabinets, have been designed by Mr Crewe strictly in Louis XV. style, which is the style adopted throughout the building.

The foyer is another magnificent apartment 42ft. in length, treated in a similar manner to the entrance hall, and from thence easy corridors and broad staircases lead to the stalls and circle. At the back of the circle is a superb lounge some 50ft. in length, which, fitted up with couches, arm-chairs, and occasional tables, will form a most agreeable retreat.

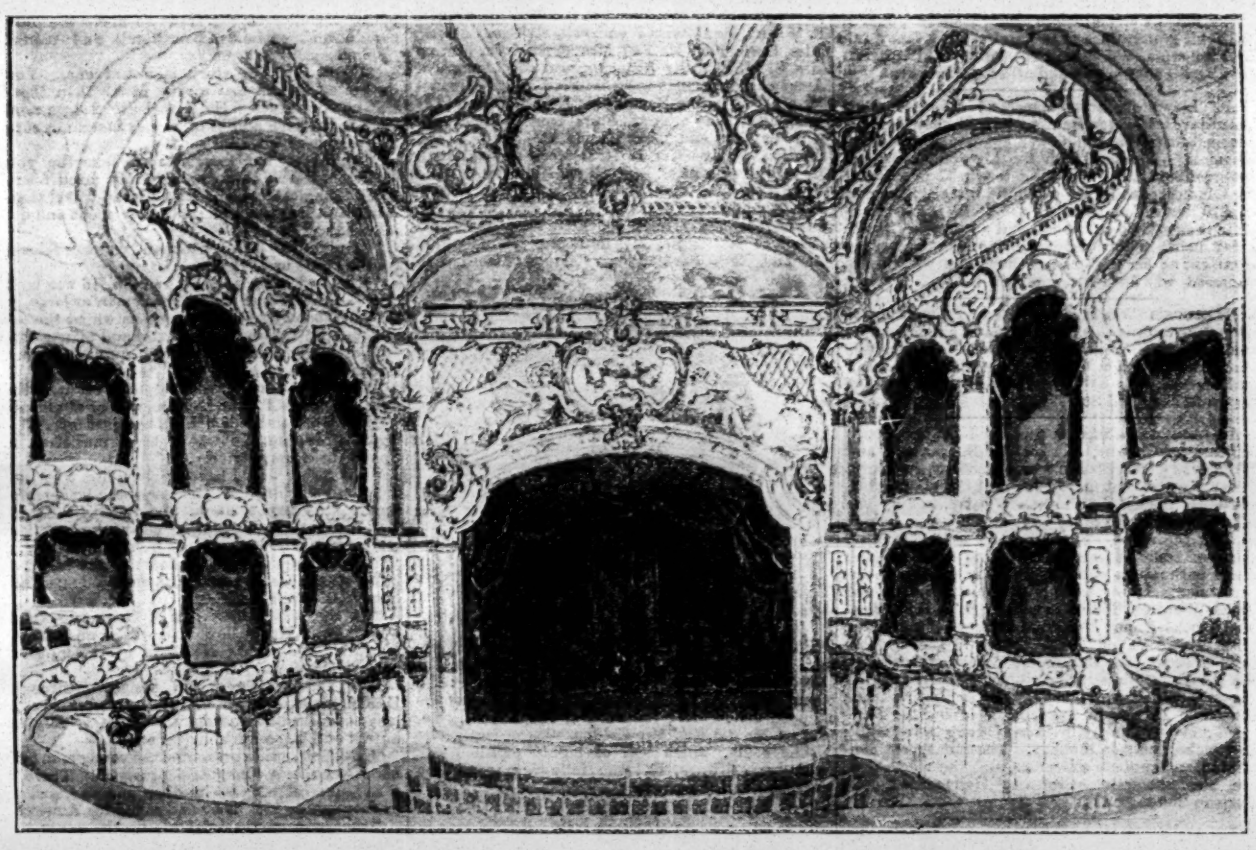
The auditorium is one of the largest ever designed, being 100ft. in depth from curtain line to back wall, with a clear width of 92ft. The two circles are carried without any columns whatever, except one flies is over 50ft. Special contrivances have been designed for working the scenery with a minimum of hand labour, and the most extensive and weighty sets can be dealt with in the least possible space of time.

The comfort of the artists have been specially studied, as besides about thirty spacious dressing-rooms a billiard room has been provided for the gentlemen, and a lounge fitted with writing tables, arm chairs, &c., for the ladies, thus giving both sexes a pleasant retreat between the two performances.

The entire building has been carried out according to the strictest regulations of the London County Council, and everything that skill and long experience can teach for the absolute safety of the public and the performers has been introduced. Everything in the building is fire-resisting, even the framework of the gallery seats being in mahogany. The lavatory accommodation is ample, and the sanitary arrangements of the most modern description.

There will be two performances nightly at the Lyceum, one at 6 30 and one at 9 0, and Mr Barrasford, the able managing director, has provided a most novel and remarkable programme for the opening, which will take place on Boxing Day, Dec. 26. The prices are extraordinarily low for such a beautiful place of entertainment, being 3s. in the stalls, 2s. in the circle, 1s. in the pit, and 6d. in the gallery. It only remains to say that in holding capacity the Lyceum is easily the first in London and probably in the kingdom, and with Mr Barrasford at the head of affairs its success should be assured.

It may be interesting on such a large and well-known building to publish the names of the contractors who have been engaged on the work, and it is certainly a great feather in all their respective caps that the whole of this gigantic undertaking has been carried out in six months. The general contractors and cabinet work has been done by Messrs J. P. Parkinson and Sons, of Blackpool and Newcastle, whose representative, Mr William Parkinson, has been in residence on the works. The constructional steel work by Messrs Heenan and Froude, of Manchester; plumbing, Messrs W. Hendry and Sons, of Glasgow; fibrous plaster decorations, seating, draperies, and carpets by Messrs S. J. Waring and Sons, Oxford-street; electric lighting by the National Electric Construction Company, London, and the fittings by the General Electric Company, London. Mosaic staircases and paving by Messrs Diespeker, Limited, London; Plenum heating and ventilation by Messrs R. Dawson and Co., of Stalybridge; fireproof curtain and hydrants by Messrs E. Oldroyd and Co., Leeds; steel stage



THE NEW LYCEUM THEATRE, LONDON.

MANAGING-DIRECTOR, MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD. ARCHITECT, MR. BERTIE CREWE.

5ft. from each wall, which do not interfere with the view from any seat in the house. The ground floor is divided into stalls and pit, there being fourteen rows of the former and sixteen rows of the latter. There are ten private boxes, approached by separate staircases, each box being no less than 12ft. in width, a distinct improvement on the small and cramped private boxes at so many other places of amusement. The circle and gallery are certainly the largest ever erected. In the circle there are no less than fourteen rows of seats, with spacious promenades at the back and sides finished with alabaster balustradings. At the back of the circle is the cinématograph chamber of fire-proof construction, which has been incorporated in the building and forms part of the decoration. There are seventeen rows of seats in the gallery, and the size of the auditorium can be computed from the fact that this part of the house alone can accommodate 1,500.

As before stated, the decorations have been carried out in Louis XV. style. The circle fronts are decorated in cream and pink enriched with gold. Beautifully modelled cupids rest upon it holding electric lamps in their hands. The box façades are specially rich, and over them is a decorated frieze from which springs a series of semi-vaultings which in turn carry the coved ceiling, the whole being completed by the movable roof; the recesses in the vaultings and spaces in the coves are filled with oil paintings of beautiful design and execution. The proscenium frame has alabaster columns and an elaborate segmental head, above which are two female figures of heroic size supporting a most elaborate shield.

The electric fittings have been specially designed in strict accordance with the style of the building, and are of brass water-gilt. The stalls and circle are carpeted in Wilton velvet pile, and fitted with luxurious velvet tip-up fauteuils, and even in the gallery the seats are comfortably upholstered. The seats, draperies, and hangings are all in bright red, and the carpets in harmonious shades of green.

The building is heated on the newest Plenum system, the warm air being driven in at the back of every part of the house and extracted on the stage, thus ensuring freedom from draught. It is so arranged that an even temperature can be kept in winter and summer, either heaters or coolers being used to treat the air according to circumstances.

The stage is one of the largest and most complete in the kingdom, being about 60ft. deep by 100ft. in width. The floor of the stage is all in teak, and the framework and provisions for traps, bridges, and cuts all being in steel. The grid is some 60ft. above the stage, and the width between the steel by Messrs R. Moreland and Sons, London; ornamental tiling by Messrs Craven, Dunhill, and Co.; painted glass by Messrs Chas. Evans and Co.; sanitary fittings by Messrs Twyfords, Limited; ornamental brass handrailing, &c., by Messrs Bolton and Fane; and the panic bolts have been supplied by Messrs Tom Jones, Lock, and Co. The whole work has been carried out under Mr Crewe by his able and experienced clerk of the works, Mr Geo. Sheen.

AT the Opera House, Middlesbrough, will be produced on Monday next the pantomime, *Cinderella*, by Mr Humphrey E Brammell. The company includes Miss Marie Loftus as Prince Peerless. It is three or four years since Miss Loftus was last in Middlesbrough, and her appearance at the Opera will, no doubt, be a great attraction. She will be supported by Miss Alice Digby, Messrs Lawrence Barclay, Tom Bass, Victor Travers, and George Hestor.

Miss Edith Finlay and company, warm favourites at the QUEEN'S, POPLAR, will be seen in *Holly Leaves; or, The Crime of a Christmas Eve.* The Morgante Troupe, Three Sisters Ernest, Lady Mansell's Juveniles, Ida Brophy, Two Whites, Ben Nevis, Edie King, De Vere and Kenwick, the Holland Comedy company, J. H. Crew, Ruffell's Bioscope, Musical Koones, the Lannons, and Tom Leamore will supply the incidentals.

The EMPRESS, BRIXTON, presents a most seasonable attraction in Fred Karno's company in *Mumming Birds*, and a capital entertainment will be submitted by Harry Lauder, Chas. Mildare, Alec Kennedy, Joe O'Gorman, Dolly Harmer, Emma Don and company, Sisters Wingrove, Stella Stanley, Boswell's Circus, the Bob Hanlon Troupe, the Selkirks, and Julian Ross.

The ROYAL ALBERT MUSIC HALL, conducted with spirit and enterprise by Mr Charles Relf, still acknowledges the genial sway of the chairman; and Mr Walter Leaver, with his hammer in his hand, will announce on Boxing Night the following attraction:—Brien M'Cullough and company, in *Two Runaway Girls;* Miss Flo Penley, E. J. Sheldon, Peggy Fame, Harry Wright, Nellie Gannon, F. W. Wilkinson, Lily Hope, Will Burton, and De Voy, Hurst, and Fredericks.

ADVERTISERS and SUBSCRIBERS who are moving about, and who have their Copy of "THE ERA sent direct from this Office, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, are requested to forward the Addresses for their Papers not later than the Tuesday in each Week.

CHRISTMAS AT THE MUSIC HALLS.

Music hall entertainments grow in grace and in the knowledge of the public appreciation of the upward trend that is observable in them; and if this Yuletide brings in its train greater responsibilities than ever we note everywhere that variety caterers have their finger on the public pulse, and are striving to give in their entertainments the real recreation and genuine amusement demanded by the millions of London's workers. For the first time in the annals of our metropolitan amusements we have a most important palace in the West-end appealing to its patrons on the two houses a-night plan. This is the Lyceum Theatre of Varieties, which may be said to put the corner stone to Mr Tom Barrasford's enterprise by providing him with a London house for his circuit, which extends as far as Paris, where he has been running the Alhambra so successfully. A new departure of even greater moment is the Coliseum, Mr Oswald Stoll's magnificent house in St. Martin's-lane, which opens to-day, after a couple of postponement. For the rest it will be found that the managers of the central and suburban houses fully realise the necessity for special efforts at Christmastide, and from Bloomsbury to Battersea, from Chelsea to Camberwell, in spite of the depletion of the ranks of variety for the insistent demands of pantomime, there will be fun and frolic on every side. A glance at the appended list will give some slight idea of the excellent preparations that have been made for the Yuletide festival.

We have already given a summary of the Coliseum attractions, and Mr Alfred Butt presented his Christmas bill on Thursday evening to a very appreciative audience at the PALACE. The novelties at the ALHAMBRA and EMPIRE will come later. Both present the attractive ballets that have drawn appreciative audiences for some time past. The older Leicester-square house has a capital divertissement in *All the Year Round*, and international goodwill is reflected in the joyousness of *The Entente Cordiale*. *The Milliner Duchess* is a ballet that has by no means exhausted its attractiveness at the variety house, of which Mr George Edwardes is the presiding genius. To the new ballet that is promised shortly, viz., *The Dancing Doll*, we have already drawn attention, and the variety company has many excellent turns, among them being Charles T. Aldrich.

At the OXFORD Miss Louie Freear heads the list, and Vesta Tilley will also appear in a new scena calculated to display her great histrionic abilities. Joe Elvin, who always comes to the Oxford at Yuletide, will be seen in a new sketch, *Fares, Please.* Bransby Williams, Gus Elen, Vesta Victoria, Joe O'Gorman, Norman French, Ray Wallace, Amy Clevere, Tom Leamore, Fanny Wentworth, Jack Camp, Will H. Fox, Lily Langtry, the Five Whiteleys, Lottie Lennox, Talberto and Douglas, and the Max Trevally-Harley Troupe complete a fine holiday company.

Miss Vesta Tilley, Miss Louie Freear, Miss Vesta Victoria, Mr Bransby Williams, Mr Tom Leamore, and Miss Ray Wallace also grace the TIVOLI bill. Other attractions are Mr Will Evans, Clarke and Hamilton, Dolly Harmer, Whit Cunliffe, Miss Radie Furman, the Royal Six, George and Gusti Edler, the Julians, and the Harvey Boys.

The LYCEUM company includes Mdlle. Van Parys, soprano, from the Grand Opera, Paris; M. Ansaldi, tenor, from the Grand Opera, Paris; Mdlle. Dasty, contralto, from the Théâtre La Monnaie, Brussels; M. Rey, baritone, from the Grand Opera, Nice; La Wilma, the lady artist in sand and smoke; Phil Ray, comic; George Leyton, in *Enoch Arden*, a new scena by Harrington and Scott; Heloise Titcomb, vocalist; Carl Reinsch, sporting act with horses and dogs; the Harmony Four; Taylor's Elephants; the Freydos, athletes and hand-balancers; the Five Parrocopis, jugglers; Permane Bros., in their eccentric acrobatic act; Canadian Banker, aerial somersault loop on bicycle; and animated pictures. There are to be two performances nightly at 6·30 and 9 0

At the LONDON PAVILION Scotland will be represented by Harry Lauder, England by Phil Ray, and America by Will English. The comic element will also have capital exponents in Chas. Pastor, Chris. Richards, Chas. Coverdale, and Nat Travers. Miss Edith Housley and company will be seen in an original incident entitled *Her Chance;* and other turns will include Arthur Prince, Nina Martino, Sisters Wingrove, Bertha Pertina, Alice Pierce, Alma Gray, Marie Wilton, Alethea, Patty Frank Troupe, Ergotti and King Luis, Massona, and Bros. Artois.

Mr Joe Elvin and Co., in *Paying the Bill*, will be one of the chief attractions at the METROPOLITAN, where Mr Jack Edgar has secured an excellent holiday crowd, which includes the twin-formed Bohemian Sisters (Rosa and Josepha), Sam Mayo, Percival, Alma Gray, Belle Davies and Piccaninnies, Phil Ray, Will English, Sisters Desmond, Tom White's Arabs, Dutch Daly, Lillie Langtry, Lily Lassah, The Carlisles, The Smythons, in *The Lie Alarm* Harry Anderson, and Athas and Collins.

At the ROYAL, HOLBORN, Mr H. Ketteman relies on the following strong list:—F. Eustace and company, in *Our Curate*; Fred Keston, G. W. Foster, Sibb and Sibb, Black and White Zouaves, Hector and Paulus, Will Driscoll, Ruffell's Bioscope, Les Sprays, Sadie Seymour, the Wedburns, and Bonnie Goodwin and Piccaninnies.

The MIDDLESEX will present John Lawson and company in *A Bride for a Living*. Arthur Reece, Eight Lancashire Lads, Silent Tait, the Wyffs, Sisters Hall, Sam Mayo, Marie Pownall, the New Bioscope, Wal Pink and company in *The Prize Baby*, Stella Stanley, the Two Bees, Howard and Collinson, Walker and Lake, Lily Foy, Claxton and Fenn, Rosie Royce, Menva, Violet Mills, Harry Luck, Frank Bernard and company in *Hello!*

At the BEDFORD Mr B. P. Lucas relies on the following list:—Arthur Reece, Frank Coyne, Reed and Glenney, Frank Hardie and company, the Ashers, Amy Sullivan, Sam Mayo, George Foyle, Belle and Pearl, Mignon Tremaine, and Ara, Zebra, and Vera.

The EUSTON appeals to a wide constituency with Fred Karno and company, in *Mumming Birds;* James Fawn, the Royal Six, Ella Lane, Dan Conroy, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, Eileen Douglas, Nelson's Newsboys, Leo Tell, and Fyne and Hurley.

At the CHELSEA PALACE audiences will find Will Evans's building of a chicken house no mere carpenter's scene; and wonderment will be created by Annie Abbott, the little Georgia magnet. Other attractions are Victoria Monks, Alma Gray, the Smythsons company, in *The Lie Alarm*, Peggy Pryde, George D'Albert, Gus Barra, Sam Mayo, and J. W. Hall.

Mr T. S Dickie's Christmas holiday company at the STANDARD will include Mr George Marriott, in *Ye Chiming Bells;* Lily Burnand, Marie Collins, the Gladenbecks, Signor and Madame Borelli, Lady Mansell's Juveniles, Judge's parrots, Will Cornish, Ryder Slone, Primavesi, Three Sisters Chester, Smiler Lee, Arthur Verne, Harry Luck, and Cissy Heath.

At the GRANVILLE, WALHAM-GREEN, Mr Jesse Sparrow has engaged the following artistes:—Prof. Inman Hockinge, the American hypnotist; Norman French, Nina Martino, the Borellis, Edie Gray and coons, Captain Slingsby, Maggie Rimmer, Silent Tait, *My Landlord* (sketch), Harry Andersen, G. H. Elliott, Martine and Son, the Edisonograph, Brothers Artois, Bert Weston, Francis, Harry Leybourne, and Lily Burnand.

At the HAMMERSMITH PALACE Mr Coe will have Will Evans in an "attempt" to play a pantomime, Sable Fern, Kisbey, Arthur Prince, Lily Langtry, Lee and Bentley, Athas and Collins, Lord, Murray, Lord, Olga and Ivan, Caledonian Boys, Winnie Derson, the Gladenbecks, the Edisonograph, Jack Pleasants, the Osranis, and Vesta Victoria. There will be reduced prices to all parts at Boxing Day matinée.

The Christmas entertainment at the CANTERBURY will include, amongst its contributors, the interesting Dr. Walford Bodie, Ray Wallace, Whit Cunliffe, Bransby Williams, Terry and Lambert, Arthur Lloyd and company, the Caledonian Boys, Radie Firman, Leo Tell, Lottie Lennox, Conway and Leland, Signor and Madame Borelli, and Victoria Monks.

At the PARAGON a new and original musical concoction, *The Brown Bear*, will be enacted by Joe Elvin, and Ethel Arden and George Abel will be seen once more in *Three of a Kind*. The variety turns will comprise the Caledonian Boys, Tom Leamore, Clark and Hamilton, Five Juliens, Will H. Fox, Ian Colquhoun, Will Evans, Jules Keller, Fanny Wentworth, Walter Stanley, and Maggie Walsh.

Mr Frank Weeks' SOUTH LONDON Christmas bill will have a pantomime played by Harry Pleon, and Steely and Dowton, J. H. Kavanagh, Ryan and Hall, Valoni (juggler), Mezzetti and Mora, Edie King, Ara, Zebra, and Vora, Connie Williams, Two Errolls, Tom White's Arabs, and Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope will be among the attractions.

Mr Lennox Barry's first Yuletide bill at the BATTERSEA EMPIRE contains the following list:—The Eugene Family, Ivy Lorene, Clivette, Marion Hood, Walter Stockwell, Phil Sinclair, Maizie Stewart, Lavers and Lake, exhibition of photos., and Edie Gray and coons.

There is a strong corps of old favourites at GATTI'S (ROAD), and those crowding the "family resort" will be happy in the entertainment supplied by Tom Costello, Katie Lawrence, Wal Pink and company, May Evans, the Three Missouris, Sisters Caselli, Sam Mayo, Paul Hesse Trio, Three Sisters Chester, Ida Brophy, the Lannons, Annie Laurie, Dan Elmer, and the Mutograph.

John Lawson and company, in *A Bride for a Living*, will be seen at the CAMBERWELL PALACE. The variety will be supplied by Sam Mayo, Austin Rudd, Sisters Geretti, the Strolling Players, Athas and Collins, Percival, Ergotti and King Luis Troupe, Harvey Boys, Virginia Piccaninnies, Harry Leybourne; *Hiawatha Wed*, by the Two Bees; Martin and Son, Sisters Clive, Outlaw Trio, Con and Conrad, Will Farrell, Tony and Flo Vernon, Howard and Collinson, the Edisonograph, Talberto and Douglas, and Lily Burnand.

At the STRATFORD EMPIRE there will be the one and only Marie Lloyd at the head of the programme, which includes the Brothers Wille, Newhouse and Ward, Morcashani, M'Gregors, Duncan's Scotch Collies. There will be a morning performance on Boxing Day.

The HOLLOWAY EMPIRE attractions are Happy Fanny Fields, the Bros. Horne, O'Gust, Laurie's Kindergarten, Alfonso Trio, Harriett Vernon, Hall Earle, the Bohemians, Chas. Deane, and Ethel Ra-Leslie.

The NEW CROSS EMPIRE presents Bella and Bijou, Sisters Klos, Clown Zerthos, Five Delevines, Alexandra Dagmar, Cabby and Shirker, Syd May, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Ike Scott and Son, and Ada Cerito.

The HACKNEY EMPIRE will have a sketch from A. C. Lilly and company, and the turns include Starr and Leslie, Walter Bellonini, Fred Karno Troupe, Fred Poplar, Harry Bedford, Prof. Dunning, Kahn and Kahn, and Kitty Wager.

Audiences at the SHEPHERD'S-BUSH EMPIRE will have much to laugh at in a sketch by Mark Melford and company, and there will be plenty of entertainment to be derived from the efforts of Burke, Moller, and Teller, Burke, Andras, and Frisco, Lizzie B. Raymond, the Levinos, John Alexander and company, Szarvasi-Ferencz Troupe, the Alaskas, Crown Ferreros, and the Picquays.

Mr Harry Bawn's scheme of amusement at the GRAND, CLAPHAM, has for its principal attractions Harry Lauder, Sable Fern, Violet Choice, Austin Rudd, Dandy George and his Dog Rosie, Mdlle. Jenny Mills, Ruffell's Bioscope, Harry Freeman, Arden and Abel.

Mr W. Spearman, at the ISLINGTON EMPIRE, will fill the holiday-makers with delight on the presentation of the following turns:—Lew Lake and company, in *The Bloomsbury Burglars*; Baker and Balfe, Tom Dunmore, Cliff Ryland, Stavordale Quintet, Bob Hanlon Troupe, Jack Camp, Jessie Albini, Maggie Walsh, and Belle Davis.

The DUCHESS PALACE, BALHAM, will have a very wonderful attraction in Dr. Walford Bodie, a demonstrator of bloodless surgery. Other turns include Ethel Loftus, Harry Bancroft, Five Bandurrias, the Katos, A. B. Houghton, Fred Callane Trio, and Tom Costello.

At the WALTHAMSTOW PALACE Mr Arthur J. Barclay will present twice nightly the fairy pantomime *Cinderella*. The variety turns listed are Ginnett's *Remounts*, the Mayvilles, the Escaladors, British Quartet, Orpheus, and Gladys Mavius.

Mr Eustace Jay at the PALACE THEATRE, CROYDON, will be served by the Arthur Saxon Trio, Dora Clifford, Jack Thornbury, Dora Martini, Ada Victor, Mark Leslie, Excelsior Duettists, Chris Wren, Clorinda Thurtell, Dora Lyric, J. P. Lloyd, R. W. Bentley, Blanche Holt, the Lulaine Darrell Troupe, and the Brown and Kelly Combination.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

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(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

FIRST of all, "A Merry Christmas to all ye Merrie, Merrie Men of ye World of Shows!" There are those in this sad-eyed old world of ours who whisper suspicion and doubt about the rightness of fun and merriment—good people all, no doubt; but somehow they fear merriment, and sigh and say "Alas! and alack! sorrow must needs come. Don't," say they, "be gay or lighte-me-minded, or the shock when sorrow comes will be so great that you won't be able to bear it." Now, this is a queer philosophy, and "I hae me doots about it." Happiness is for all God's creatures. To be merry and gay is the normal mood and mode; to be sad and "dour" is the abnormal. So again we say to all "A Merry, Jolly, Bright, Christmas."

THE Rev. T. Horne, the honorary organiser of the Showmen's Guild, writes to say:—"I am glad to bear a message of glad tidings this Christmas—to cheer and encourage the whole showman world. The committee, in accordance with the established custom, deputed to me the honour and duty of asking our esteemed President, Lord George Sanger, to continue his most important work as President of the Guild."

THE worthy president sent the following generous and highly characteristic reply to the Rev. T. Horne:—

My Dear Chaplain,—Many thanks for your very kind and interesting letter. I am very much pleased to hear of your new appointment. I am sure it must be gratifying to all who know you and your work; and I hope it will be advantageous to yourself in every way. I shall endeavour to attend the meeting at the Royal Agricultural Hall, when we hold our annual gathering, and with my usual donation. With the season's compliments.

I remain respectfully yours,
GEORGE SANGER, President.

Park Farm, East Finchley, N.W., Dec. 18, 1904.

THE "usual donation" is Lord George's modest way of intimating that for the fifth year in succession he has come to the help of his weaker and poorer brethren of the road with the munificent donation of £100, an admirable way of encouraging the members of the Guild to follow his most excellent lead.

WILL all committee men send in their members' money at once? See urgent advertisement.

PLEASE make a note that until the committee provide otherwise, the address of the office of the Guild will be Herbert-street, Hoxton, London, N.; or, Guild Secretary, care of *The Era* Offices, Wellington-street, London, W.C. Send to *London* after this notice, and *not* to Manchester. This will obviate delay in reply. All communications respecting business—Parliamentary, press, or public propaganda work—should be addressed to the office, 48, Herbert-street, Hoxton, N.

OUR American cousins very justly pride themselves on being "smart and spry." They call it "hustling the work along." The Motherland is held in cheap but kindly esteem as being "too slow for anything." Yet we can still demonstrate that the Old Country is as smart and as spry when need arises as her much-too-much-praised daughter, the U.S.A. Talking to that ever-young organiser of the World's Fair, Mr T. Read, in grave, matter-of-fact tones he told us: "Not quite a week ago this vast hall was crowded with all kinds of animal life—the great Cattle Show. A chaos of impedimenta, living and dead, had to be moved away. Yet we did it; and, as you see, now we are really waiting for our big opening day." Of course, like all great organisers, Mr Read has the gift of inspiring others, and gathering about him the best assistant managers and co-workers. First amongst these must come Mr Read, jun., who is, of course, his father's right-hand man. Then we have Mr Forster, the able and courteous lieutenant and secretary of the Read management—a valuable auxiliary.

AS we passed down the right-hand side of the immense area we noted in our rapid first survey the excellent shows of Messrs Taylor, Chittock, Cottrell, John Hastings, two ground booths, and a side show of mystery, "The Lost Duchess." At the extreme end of the open space (we entered at the Liverpool-road entrance) were the concerns of Harry Hughes, Frank Turner's shooter, and Wm. Storey's fine art.

ON the other side of the building, were shows by Simpson, Mrs Chas. Bailey, and three entresol shows, illusions of an up-to-date character, under Frank Turner's banner. We found concerns of Frank Turner in almost every corner of the fair—Frank Turner, the man of many enterprises, and an artist to his finger tips. Turner's artistry is seen all over the place—electric fishponds, jungles, automatic machines, and, as aforesaid, shows of modern mystery.

AT the great entrance the outside show has been thoroughly renovated. Thousands of coloured lights give a brilliant effect to the exclusive arcade entrance. Illustrated by special cartoon posters of the endless chain of novelties, variety turns, and show exhibits, it is a genuine all-day show, with a constant round of novelties.

THE principal object in the Grand Arcade Promenade to the fair is the Christmas tree, huge in dimension, and all gloriously decked with toys and gifts enough to turn even old Father Christmas green with jealousy. Messrs T. and T. E. Read are veritable Sancti Clausi. Again, the ubiquitous Frank Turner has novelties right and left—automatic machines, electric fish ponds, &c.

THE overhead galleries constitute an almost separate and distinct fair ground. Here are side shows, throwing games, novelty stalls, coker shies, *et hoc genus*. Here, too, is Louis Kalisch in control of the Empress Ball-room, a dream of beauty, fair woman and gallant squires of dames. Here may the votaries of Terpsichore "trip it, trip it, on the light fantastic toe." Here, from the heights above, we looked down upon the great central open space. In its accustomed place of honour, the exact centre, is Messrs Robert Fossett and Son's circus arena.

THE name of Fossett is a synonym for excellence. Horsemanship, clowning, and feats of expert skill and derring do will be the delight of countless thousands. A special turn will be the great troupe of Bedouin Arabs, the Risleys of the desert. High above the arena, and constituting a special free sight, Menotti will perform on the "taut wire." All the well-known special features of the Menotti répertoire will be exhibited daily at 3 45 and 9 45 (free). Also the aerial sextet, the Herbert Troupe will still further enterprise with unique acts of skill in mid-air.

A GREAT novelty is provided by the lessees for their patrons—the Canadian slope; or, "slipping the slips," the only one in the British Isles, a highly diverting mechanical contrivance, whereon you may experience marvellous sensations of motion, combining the features of a skyward switchback and the juvenile audacity of sliding down the bannister. We predict that all London will crowd to enjoy the very latest mechanical novelty, "Slipping the Slip." Amongst the new side shows is the marvellous optical illusion, "The Topsy-Turvy Swing Coach," introduced by Mr Claude Lowe. Bailey's switchback gondolas and big wheel, with Messrs Read's Channel tunnel railway are amongst the big items.

WOMBWELL'S MENAGERIE had not arrived, but would be on their pitch at the week end, and ready for the grand opening performance to-day, Christmas Eve.

WE do not doubt that Messrs Read, their capital staff, and the various entertainers under their banner will reap a satisfactory return for the excellent work they essay every year for the delight and recreation of the people of London.

WE are glad to dissipate any doubt as to the profits arising from the annual ball for showpeople, which marks the yearly pilgrimage of the provincial showman and his wife to London at the end of the season. There is no margin of profit at all; the 3s. 6d. charged for the supper and ball is the net cost absolutely. The committee constitutes a guarantee to make up losses—not a rare event, but there is no balance to allocate. Hence London is not on the same lines as Bolton.

MR ROBT. PIKE, market superintendent, Bolton, writes to say that the ball is fixed for Wednesday, Jan. 4, under distinguished local patronage. Tickets for dinner and ball, 5s., may be obtained at *The Era* office, or direct from Mr Pike. All profits to the Guild Fund, as in previous years.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to Guild Funds.—Isaac Richards, 10s. 6d.

FOSSETT'S Hippodrome has opened at Rugby for a short season, and is doing excellent business. The entertainment is good all round, and special mention must be made of Mdlle. Fossett, in her act, who shows herself to be a most daring and accomplished equestrienne, and Mr Thomas Fossett is also most successful in his express jockey act, being one of the fastest trick riders known. Other items on the programme are Mr Charles Beckett on the horizontal bars; Mdlle. Emmie in a graceful and dashing performance; Leonzy, who ties himself into an almost impossible knot; Topsy, the performing elephant, who displays remarkable intelligence; and the two well-trained midget ponies. Mons. Otto, hand-balancer, is very good, and the Brothers Smarte as the clowns cause much amusement.

MR P. COLLINS opened his annual Christmas fair in Monument-road, Birmingham, on the 16th inst., with his gondolas and superb living picture show and numerous other attractions.

P. COLLINS, LIMITED, opened last week on the market-place, Bilston. In addition to his splendid machines there were Johnstone's show and the usual Emmas, cocoanut sheets, shooting galleries, and ring boards.

MR HARRY STRICKLAND opens Saturday, Jan. 1, with his grand Christmas carnival and fancy fair on Pitcheroft, Worcester, consisting of H. Strickland's galloping horses and other attractions.

AT Llandilo (Carmarthenshire) Police-court on Saturday last George Danter, the well-known caterer for amusements at fairs, was charged with using a locomotive improperly on the highway. A superintendent explained that the defendant had a licence for Glamorganshire, for which he had paid the sum of £10, but before he could use it in Carmarthenshire it should be endorsed, and a charge of 2s. 6d. a day paid. The defendant, who said it was an oversight on his part not to have got the licence endorsed, was fined 10s. and costs 8s.

HANCOCK'S WINTER GARDENS, Plymouth, are attracting crowds this week, a capital entertainment comprising living pictures, a circus (in which the star turn is Andrew Wheeler, a skilful horseman), and contributions by Funny Sammy, Louise Fawcett, and Moig and St. Cleer.

ACCORDING to reports contained in the South African newspapers, Messrs E. H. Bostock and Wombwell's travelling mammoth circus company, under the excellent management of Captain Taylor, are doing immense business, and patronised by the military, civic, and other influential bodies, crowds visiting the show. The parade is quite a feature, the performances continually being changed, and much enthusiasm expressed at the efforts of the performers. They include Diavolo, Hinton and Frank Wootton, football cyclists; Miss Rose Montero, equestrienne; the Frantz Troupe of acrobats; Miss Leo Clare and Mons. Ernest, in their double equestrian act; the Lukauhima Troupe of acrobats; the Paster Brothers, musical entertainers; Signor Bertani, ladderite; Tom Verr, in his skating turn; the Three Zaraes, in a sketch, *Mashing the Barmaid*; Happy Jackies, with banjo song and entrées; and Jacko, the man monkey. The menagerie, containing an immense collection, and the side shows are also attractive, Professor Hohenardell, the German lion tamer, being a great attraction.

AT Algie's Hippodrome, Carlisle, exceptionally good programmes are the rule. Mdlle. Fillis, whose feats on a globe are wonderful, and Mr Frank Hope, an exceptionally expert trick cyclist, have been appearing lately. The Zerbinis have given a pretty and tuneful musical act. Mr Rowland Hill is a really humorous "turn," and the burlesque conjurors, Henriot and Sanvion, the acrobatic clog dancer Esme, the Ver Vains Troupe of whistlers and dancers, and Osmond, an acrobatic "table and chair expert," are responsible for interesting contributions. Mr Algie has been helping most materially the fund for providing the poor with Christmas dinners at their own homes.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—In reference to your "Showman" column in *The Era* this week, I beg to say that the only shows in the Isle of Wight are Mr Geo. Baker's Hippodrome at Newport and my World's Fair and Carnival at Ryde. I am the sole proprietor of the World's Fair and Carnival at Queen-street, Portsmouth, which opened last Saturday for four weeks. My Christmas fair and bazaar in High-street, Ryde, is a great success.

Yours faithfully, TOM NORMAN.

World's Fair and Carnival,
33, Queen-street, Portsmouth, Dec. 19.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I think that all showmen should join with me in wishing "Long life and success" to the Rev. Mr Horne, for the able manner in which he has stood by us, and has worked night and day for the Guild. I think it is a shame and disgrace to the community of showpeople that this gentleman should have to plead, and beg—if I may so term it—for money to keep such a union as the Guild afloat. I should like to meet at any place, and any time, with delegates from the three or four societies of stall-holders, to try to work out some plan to supply money for Parliamentary and other Guild work. Yours faithfully, T. BURGIN.

INFORMATION relating to Shows and Fairs, suitable for this column, should be addressed to THE EDITOR, "The Showman World."

MR ARTHUR CARLTON'S pantomime *Aladdin*, with 150 female artists and new and expensive dresses, is being looked forward to with great expectation in Ealing, and will open on Boxing Day afternoon.

AT the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, this week *The Belle of the Orient* is being presented by Mr Joe Peterman's burlesque company. The piece is well acted throughout, and the scenery and dresses are above the average. Peppo's Monkeys are very amusing, as also are Bernar's Marionettes. Robertus and Wilfredo are experts with the ball; Florrie Robina has a good coon song; and Lyane and Gehs are clever contortionists.

THE LATE MRS. BOSTOCK.

On Wednesday, the 14th inst., there passed out of the ranks of the famous Wombwell family one who was held in high esteem among her friends and others with whom she had come in contact during a memorable career, namely, Mrs Emma Bostock (née Wombwell), who died at the residence—Rose-lane, Norwich—of her only daughter, Mrs Fannie Wombwell Fitt, the esteemed wife of Mr F. W. Fitt, part proprietor of the Norwich Hippodrome, and a councillor of the city of Norwich. The deceased lady had suffered for some time past with a painful malady, and died after a slight operation had been performed at the age of seventy. As many will remember, she was a direct descendant of the famous Wombwell family, whose head, Mr George Wombwell, established his celebrated menagerie in the year 1805. She was the daughter of the late Mr Wombwell, and inherited the menagerie, which she carried on so successfully for many years, retiring about seventeen years since with an ample fortune, and then settled in London. About ten years since she came to Norwich, where her daughter, Mrs Fannie W. Fitt, resided, and since then the deceased has formed many friends and acquaintances, who deeply regret her death. On her retirement she distributed the greater part of her fortune among her four children—Mr James W. Bostock, who is at present travelling in America; Mr Edward H. Bostock, the other of the proprietors of the Norwich Hippodrome, as also the owner of a large establishment in South Africa, rivalling Messrs Barnum and Bailey's show, and of the Wombwell's Menageries Nos. 1 and 2, now touring in this country; Mr Frank C. Bostock, now the proprietor of the Hipprodrome, Paris, and also a "Carnival Midway" in America and Color Island, and Mrs Fannie W. Fitt, and, to her delight be it said, they are all doing well. The deceased, it has been observed, bore a remarkable resemblance to her late Majesty Queen Victoria. Twice during her travels she received commands from her late Majesty to appear with the collection, the one now known as the Royal Menagerie No. 1, in the Quadrangle at Windsor Castle, to which the deceased responded, and after the inspection by the Royal party, the young lion cubs were introduced to the Royal Family in the drawing-room. Needless to add, Her Majesty afterwards sumptuously entertained Mrs Bostock and the whole staff.

The funeral obsequies, which were of a quiet nature, took place on Friday, the 17th inst., at St. Mark's, Lakenham, Norwich, in the presence of a large number of friends and neighbours. The first part of the ceremony was conducted inside the church, which is of fine architectural beauty, by the Rev. John Huxley, M.A., who impressively read the service. The mourners were Mr and Mrs E. H. Bostock, Mr and Mrs Frank C. Bostock, Mr and Mrs F. W. Fitt, Mr Charles Wombwell, Mr Geo. Bostock, Miss Doris Fitt, Mr and Mrs F. Bostock, Mr and Mrs S. W. Fitt, Mr Arbuckle, and Mr Thompson. Among those present were Mr Fred Morgan, manager of the Theatre Royal; Mr J. W. Browne (*The Era*), and many others. Floral contributions were sent by Mr and Mrs James C. Bostock and children, Mr and Mrs E. H. Bostock and children, Mr and Mrs Frank C. Bostock and children, Mr and Mrs F. W. Fitt, Miss Doris Fitt, Mr Chas. Wombwell, Mr and Mrs F. Bostock, Mr and Mrs J. W. Bowles, Mr and Mrs S. W. Fitt, Miss Boyes, Mr and Mrs W. Cross, Mr and Mrs N. C. Fitt, Mr and Mrs Parkington, Harriet, Jessie, and

THE LATE EMMA BOSTOCK.

Nurse; the staff of Mr F. W. Fitt; the artistes and staff of the Hippodrome, Norwich; the staff of Mr E. H. Bostock's No. 1 Royal Menagerie; the same from No. 2 Menagerie; the controllers of the Hippodrome, Paris; the staff of the Hippodrome, Paris; Mr Rei, and Mrs Collins.

The coffin, which was of highly polished oak with brass fittings, had the following inscription engraved on the plate:—

EMMA BOSTOCK,
Born July 23, 1834.
Died, Dec. 14, 1904.

Mr J. F. Smith, the undertaker, carried out his duties in an admirable manner, the hearse and carriages being supplied by Messrs Wigg and Son.

The churchyard of St. Marks has long been closed, but the privilege of interment of the deceased was granted in deference to her expressed wish, and her grave is within sight of her former residence. We tender our sympathies to the bereaved relatives.

A FEW MEMORIES OF THE PAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—My good friend, "Lion," who refers to a previous letter of mine on the subject of missing the "good old shows," sends a welcome contribution relative to circuses and menageries past and present in your last issue.

Going over some old ground, it may interest some of your readers to know Hengler's used to tent and so did Cooke's. I remember, "in the days of my youth," being much frightened by the firing of blank cartridge and other noises at the latter's representation of the Battle of the Alma.

I remember Howe's and Cushing's big tent well. The wallings were flags of all nations, and the draw was a representation of a Spanish bull fight. Then again James Myers travelled with a big show. His method of shifting from town to town was by a powerful traction engine, called Robert the Devil, but it was not a success, sticking in the mud at one time and breaking down on its own account at another. He had the Madigans (his wife, Mrs Rose Myers, was of that ilk), the celebrated John Cooper, the lion tamer (I hope still alive), and others. Myers got out of his depth at North Woolwich Gardens, and disposed of his plant and went in a smaller way on the continent. It was said at the time the four splendid carriage horses and state carriage that brought and fetched the artists from the arena were presented to him by the French Emperor (Louis Napoleon.) Myer's band chariot was very large, with Dragon-like appearance and glass mirrors, and most handsome. Another old show was Powell, Foottit and Clarke's great allied circus. I must not forget Crockett, of Sanger's, a man with a big beard for a performer, originally a cornet player in the band. Then there was Hutchinson and Tayleure's Circus; the second member of the firm was also a musician before he was part or whole proprietor. I saw the show at Woodbridge, Suffolk, many years ago, where I think the then Mr Tayleure, a tall gentleman, hailed from. Although not strictly circus artistes, Tom Sayers, pugilist, ran a circus for a short time; so did Jem Mace, another fistic champion; and, I may add, one more celebrity, John C. Heenan, after his fight with Sayers, gave an exhibition of boxing with Howes and Cushing's, on tour.

Yours faithfully, CHARLES J. CHILDS.
Ashleigh, Churchill-road, Guildford.

STORIES OF SHOWMAN LIFE.

(COPYRIGHT.)

By the REV. T. HORNE
(Hon. Chaplain Showmen's Guild).

GEORGE WOMBWELL, JUN.
TOLD BY THE AGENT.

"Showfolk, my dear sir, are just ordinary human beings.

"It is true that ours is an extraordinary craft, that we draw our best showmen from all ranks and conditions of life; we have had our gentlemen showmen, gentlemen by birth and education, yet showmen by choice or the pressure of circumstance.

"The greatest of poets in the ancient days was Homer, who travelled from town to town peddling or reciting his wares of verse. The greatest poet of all Christendom was the travelling 'mummer,' Will Shakespeare, who might have been a merchant of its ancient liberty, but chose to strut and swagger for a while with strolling players, until the great London town settled and established him in his true vocation.

"However extraordinary our trade and vocation may seem to be to the layman, to us, the initiate, life's much the same as it is with our patrons and friends, the lovers of shows and fairs. Shakespeare aptly philosophises on life thus—

There's a divinity that shapes our ends,
Rough hew them as we will.

"Story after story could be told of show life to prove this true.

"There's hardly a family of any moment, take the best of them, sir, that does not illustrate my point. I often sum up it in this way, sir—'there's a lot of human nature in man.'

So study human nature as well as creeds and books,
Find your sermon writ in stone or rippled out in brooks.

"To illustrate my contention, sir, I'll tell you a very sad Christmas story, 'The Vanishing of young George Wombwell.'

"'The only son of his father, born with the proverbial silver spoon in his mouth; bred and reared in plenty and in luxury; educated to be a gentleman, with the world of shows for his kingdom by right of birth; yet he was a failure, and, sad to say, no one knows the real end of young George Wombwell.

"'At twenty-two years of age his father sent him forth with the finest wild beast show of its day—the 'No. 16 Concern,' so called from the number of its waggons. The Nos. 1 and 2 shows, old Wombwell's, and the concern of Wombwell's niece (afterwards Mrs Edmonds) only had the approved number of waggon loads of beasts—thirteen—six on either side and the elephant waggon at the back. There were, of course, in addition two waggons joined together at the front to make the outside parade and entrance, bandstand, and paintings display.

"'Well, sir, the story is a sad one. Young George spent and lost money faster than the old man could make it. No. 1 and No. 2 were coining money, but even a mint of money could not supply the leakage of No. 16.

"'Repeatedly old George had to take the young man's show out of pawn, and held back for rent was a bigger calamity in days of road-travel than it is now in these times of rapid movement and quick release.

"'Only fit to be a gentleman' was the reluctant verdict of his best friends.

"The end came at last, and No. 16 was broken up. Young George was a gentleman at large, just hanging about his father's concern whilst the older man did all the work of control and management, and many and bitter were the quarrels between father and son.

"'Besides the open and palpable failures, there were other sins of commission as well as of omission.

"'George Wombwell, junior, had just one redeeming qualification, he was a born musician, and played the cornet divinely.

"'His father would have forgiven him a lot, even if he had stuck to that and taken the leadership of the band. But, no, he was too much of the gentleman for that, and besides, it meant real work and real perseverance, two things he much disliked.

"'To come quickly to the heart of my story.

"'Old man George died, at a good old age, full of honour and well-to-do.

"'In the will the wisdom of George Wombwell was shown. No. 1 show was willed absolutely to 'Mother' Wombwell, No. 2 to his niece, soon to become Mrs Barney Edmonds.

"'To young George was assigned, through a London firm of solicitors, one pound a-week, so long as he kept away from the show, or only came near it on his mother's invitation.

"'Well, sir, pride prevented the young man taking his wise father's thoughtful provision. There was a sad quarrel between mother and son, and with her consent he took £500 and sailed for America.

"'Stories came back of his death, never really confirmed, yet accepted as the end of a broken failure of life. But, sir, it was not the end. I was the last to see and hear of George Wombwell the younger, and thirty odd years after "Mother" Wombwell's death.

"'It was the first year of holding a Christmas fair at the Royal Agricultural Hall. I was running my dog and monkey circus there as a side show.

"'I was off the hooks a bit owing to a touch of gout, and hearing of a famous medico who could cure it, I went to his consulting-rooms, near Islington Town Hall.

"'It was Christmas Eve, and all Upper-street was alive with people shopping or enjoying the sights, when slowly, but surely, I felt myself in mind working back to the grand old days of boyhood, when as a lad I played the drum in the Wombwell band.

"'But, why—why had this unbidden train of thought carried me away from the palpable present to the dim and misty past?

"'Then came the answer, and I gazed around me in amazement for the cause of so weird an effect. I was under the spell of plaintive music, memory-rousing, memory-penetrating music.

"'Following the sound, I found the musician, a poor, miserably-clad kerbstone minstrel, with battered old cornopean; but, oh, the divine music he sounded from it.

"'The melody was 'Ben Bolt.'

"'Only one man in the world could play that tune so perfectly, so full of the poetry of it, as well as its haunting melody; and that man was George Wombwell the younger.

"'I was so sure of this that I was not a bit surprised to see in the person of the broken-down player upon the cornopean in very fact and misery George Wombwell, jun.

"'I went up to him and said, 'George.'

"'The player paled visibly, and said, bitterly, 'How know you my name?'

"'Could I forget it? We were boys together. You remember Bob Chitters, son of the head horsekeeper of the old show?'

"'Do I remember? Good God! man, can I ever forget it? Isn't memory my curse? Go! go! leave me to forget. Leave me to my well-deserved fate. I don't know you. I don't want to know you. So go away and let me earn a bite and sup for Christmas.'

"'Dumbfounded, I did as he wished, and went away full of sad thoughts. Then it flashed upon me—Why not, for his own good, play the spy and follow him to his lodgings? then help him against his will if force were necessary.

"'I returned, but he was gone, and no trace could I obtain; he went away as soon as my back was turned, and where he went, without a clue, I could not trace.

"'He passed out into the shadows of that Christmas Eve, and never again did I hear of or see young George Wombwell."

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"Ring-up," 4,747, Central.

COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E.
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 27, March 6, April 24, May 1, on.
Pantomime preferred for Jan. 30.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING.
March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Feb. 6 March 20, 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 8 (Race Week), 15, 22, 29, June 5.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON.
March 20, 27, April 17, May 8, 15.
CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD.
Vacant, May 8, June 5, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD.
April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 22, 29, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON.
Vacant,
Feb. 6, April 17, 24, May 22, 29, June 5, 12, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON.
Vacant,
Jan. 16 (Six Nights), Jan. 23 (Three Nights), Feb. 20 (Six Nights), March 9 (Three Nights), March 13, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 4, 15, on.
Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Leamington, Jan. 16 (Six Nights), Jan 23 (three Nights). Musical preferred. Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Jan. 23 and 30, at Dalston. Apply, MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading.

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.
WANTED, Important Attractions, for STANDARD THEATRE,
Vacant Spring, 1905.
TERRISS THEATRE.
Jan. 23, Feb. 20.
METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM,
Big Attractions for Jan. 27, Feb. 20, March 6.
Address, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Feb. 20, March 6, on.
OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE,
Jan 16, Feb 6 on.
GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL,
May 8, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON,
Feb. 27, on.
Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for Weeks of Jan. 9 and 16.
Pantomime or Musical Comedy preferred.
Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead."

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR.
Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.
WANTED, Good Drama, March 6.
The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Electric Plant (three Colours) installed. Address, HERBERT VERE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER.
WANTED, High-class Dramas for Jan. 16 and 23 next, through transfer of Dates. Apply to the Manager, JOHN H. CLARKE, as above.

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY.
Vacant.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, March 20, April 3, and May 8.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.
WANTED, First-class Companies for Feb. 6, through disappointment; Feb. 20, Five Nights. Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKPORT.
THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic or Musical Attractions, for the following Dates:—March 6, 20, 27, April 10, 17, 24 Only No 1 Companies Entertained. Address, CHARLES REVILL, Stockport.

CAMBRIDGE.—NEW THEATRE.
WANTED, First-class Companies (not Dramas), for Full Term Time, Feb. 16, 23, 27, March 16 and 20. For Vacation Dates (Dramas, &c.), April 3 and 10. W. B. REDFERN. Silence a polite negative.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, May 1, 8, 15, and 29; also June 12 (Whit Week). Now rapidly Booking Autumn Season. Address all communications, T. ALLAN EDWARDES.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.
WANTED, High-class Companies, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, 13 and on, with exceptions. Address, W. E. POTTS.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

WANTED, Jan. 12, 13, 14, at New Theatre, Oxford; Feb. 19, 20, 21, at New Theatre, Cambridge, through cancellation of a Spring Tour. Apply to the respective Managements, or to E. OSWALD BROOKS, Co-Lessee and Manager, Grand Theatre, Swansea.

WANTED, Big Attraction, Feb 27 and Easter. WILL SMITHSON, Theatre Royal, Merthyr.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY, DURHAM.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, for Jan. 2, onwards, with exceptions. Address, DAVID WILLIAMS

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, HARROGATE.
WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 2, 3, 4, Three Nights; 5, 6, 7, Three Nights. Apply, WILLIAM PEACOCK.

WANTED, Musical Comedies, Big Attractions, Feb. 27, on, with exceptions, Chorley; Jan. 23, Feb. 20, on, with exceptions, Radcliffe. Address, SANTE, Theatre, Radcliffe.

WANTED, First-class Company for Feb. 6, Pontypridd. Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, for Criterion Theatre, Worksop, Big Attractions, January, February (Three or Six Nights) G. EGERTON BURNETT.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W.
Vacant,
Feb. 27, March 13, April 24, May 1, 8.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY.
Vacant,
Jan. 19 (Three Nights only), Feb. 6, 13, March 6.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER.
Vacant,
March 6, 13, April 17, May 1 (Three Nights only).

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM.
Vacant,
Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 27, March 6, 13, 20.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT.
Vacant,
June 19, July 31, Aug. 7, 14, 21, Sept. 4.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE.
Vacant,
April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 29.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant,
Jan. 12 (Three Nights only), 23, 30 (Three Nights only).

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD.
Vacant,
Jan. 2, 12 (Three Nights only), 30, Feb. 6.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE.
Vacant,
Jan 9, 30, Feb. 6, March 20, 27, April 3 (Three only).

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE.
Vacant,
Jan. 9, Feb. 9 (Three Nights only), 13, March 12.

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY.
Vacant,
Jan 2, Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights only), April 24.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY.
Vacant,
Jan. 23, Feb. 6 (Three Nights only), 13, 27.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
All communications, ARTHUR CARLTON, Manor House, Hayes, Uxbridge.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD,
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
Only booked in conjunction, three Nights each.
On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by Musical Comedy Companies.
Vacant Jan 30, Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 13 20, onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Vacant March 2, 9, 30, April 6, onwards.
Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH.
Proprietors, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GEO. ROBERTSON.
This Handsome New Theatre will be opened in January with "Monsieur Beaucaire."
WANTED, for May 1 and on.
Now booking Autumn.
OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY.
Vacant for Good Pantomime or Musical Show, Feb. 13 and 27.
Certainties given to any Well-known Attraction.
Now Booking Autumn.
NEW THEATRE, HAWICK.
March 27, April 3, and on.
Last Three Days of each Week only Booked.
All communications re Dates, W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

ROYALTY THEATRE, LLANELLY.
Booked in conjunction with the NEW GRAND THEATRE, ABERAVON.
Three Nights each. Short journey.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 2, 16, Onwards.
Address, JOHN TULLY, Royalty Theatre, Llanelly.

THEATRE ROYAL, BLYTH.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Feb. 20 (Pay Week), Big Pantomime or Musical Attraction. GEORGE E. GOOD, Blyth.

OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
Jan. 12, 13, 14, Three Nights.
WANTED, First-class Company, Comedy, Drama, or Musical Comedy, to replace "The Fatal Wedding." Booking transferred by courtesy of Captain Welton Dale.
Letters to Captain WELTON DALE, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells; or, BERT COOTE, Princess's Theatre, London, W.

WANTED, First-class Company, GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE, Jan. 23. Apply, FRED. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C. Wire, "Lutanist, London."

FRANK MACNAGHTEN'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Dramatic Attractions for Theatre Royal, Attercliffe, Jan. 9 and 16. Wire, immediately, MACNAGHTEN, Lincoln.

WANTED, for Poole's Theatre Royal, Pontypool, the Best Companies on Tour. The T. R. has just been Redecorated and Lighted Electrically, a New Stage Sixteen Inches Higher than the old one erected, a New Act-drop, Increased Band and Staff, and will now be run on good lines. Vacant Jan. 19, 20, and 21, Jan. 30, Feb. 27. Apply, POOLE, Wotton-lawn, Gloster.

IPSWICH.—LYCEUM THEATRE,
WANTED, Company for Jan. 16. Unexpectedly Vacant. First-class Attractions only. W. G. FISK, Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, SEAHAM HARBOUR.
WANTED, First-class Pantomime or Musical Show, Jan. 16, 23, onward, with exceptions. A. C. HARRISON.

WANTED, a Big First-class Pantomime for Large Theatre, Jan. 16 or Later (Two Weeks). GENERAL MANAGER, Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh.
Telephone, 2,000.
WANTED, Spring Attractions. Feb. 27, March 6, Must be Strong and Important. Also March 27, April 17.

To those in doubt, please note that the Gross Receipts for First Week of Pantomime were £473. That in the First Eleven Performances over 20,000 have paid for Admission. That the Press and Public have accepted the Grand as the Popular Priced Playhouse of the City. That the Grand has the most Ornate and Comfortable Lounges and Smoking-rooms in Scotland. Run on Absolutely First class Lines at Second-class Prices.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Minstrels, Panoramas, Choirs, Circuses, or Variety, The Circus, Hull, January and onwards Liberal Sharing Terms or Salary. Silence polite negative. EDWARD EMERSON, General Manager.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY.
Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

WANTED, for the Royal Hall, Gainsborough, First-class Attractions, Jan. 5, 12, 19. Three Nights each. R. KIRK, 46, Bridge-street.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."
WANTED, Feb. 20, March 6. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."
WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 14, Sept. 4. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."
WANTED, Important Theatres, Feb 13, May 1, 8. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."
WANTED, Feb. 13, April 10, May 29. FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."
WANTED, March 20, 27. FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH." Frederick Melville's New Production.
WANTED, April 24 and On. FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, March 13, May 1, 22, and Whit Week. TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."
WANTED, Important Theatres, April 10, May 1, 22, 29. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects Bookings include:—Grand, Islington; Shakespeare, Clapham; Terriss Theatre; Alexandra, Hull; Liverpool, Jarrow, Brixton Theatre, Elephant, West London, Middlesbrough, Aston, Plymouth, Sunderland; Metropole, Birmingham; Junction and Osborne Theatres, Manchester; Broadway, Deptford; Newcastle, Chatham. Note.—The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville. Address DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Weeks of Feb. 6, March 6 and 13 Wire, "Hustler, Birkenhead"

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres, April 24 May 29, June 12, on, with exceptions. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Victoria Hall, Cheltenham.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS RACKET?"
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 9, 1905, onwards, with exceptions. CHARLES B. STONE, Wire, To-day, Muncaster Theatre, Bootle; next Week, Theatre Royal, Yeadon.

ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD,
ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD,
ALFRED PAUMIER and WALTER HOWARD,
"WHY MEN LOVE WOMEN," by Walter Howard.
No 1 Company, including ANNIE SAKER.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Feb. 13, 27, April 3 on. PAUMIER, Opera House, Wakefield.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS"
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Jan. 9, Jan. 9, Jan 9 (Follow Olympia, Newcastle). Jan. 16. Jan. 16. Jan. 16. To-day, King's, Nottingham; Next Week, Metropole, Glasgow Wire or write, READ.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR, "THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
No Vacant Dates until Nov. 20, 1905.
WANTED, Big Theatres only, then and on. Theatre Royal, Workington, Dec. 26, Six Nights.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, May 1, on, with exceptions. FRED BULMER, Grand Theatre, Stalybridge.

"BETRAYED; or, What Men call Love."
WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq CECIL DU GUE, Queen's Theatre, Manchester.

"HOME, SWEET HOME." Third Year of Tour.
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 23, Feb. 6 and 13, for this Great Attraction. Now Booking Autumn. Address, FRANK LINDO, 101, Sutherland-avenue, Maida-vale, W.

"THE GUILTY MAN."
A Magnificent and Costly Production. Gorgeous New Scenery and Effects. Enormous Plant of Pictorials.
WANTED, April 3, 10, and 17, May 15 and 22, on, with exceptions. JAMES HARE, L. T., Crewe.

"A ROYAL REVENGE."
"A ROYAL REVENGE."
WANTED, Jan. 16, 23, 30, for this Really Remarkable and Sterling Attraction. Jan. 16, 23, 30, and onwards, with exceptions. J. H. CLYNDES, Temperance Hall, Merthyr.

WANTED, for Most Successful Musical Comedy, "The Girl from Bond-street," Jan. 5 (Three), between Worthing and Hastings; Jan. 16, Feb. 6. Apply, Proprietor, E. OSWALD BROOKS, Co-Lessee and Manager, Grand Theatre, Swansea.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN" or "OCTOROON."
Full Chorus of Negroes and Specialities.
WANTED, Jan. 2 Week for either of these Great Productions. Wire, JOHN TULLY, To-day, King's, Cardiff; after, Llanelly.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
WANTED, Jan. 23 (Big Theatre) Wire, LEICESTER JACKSON, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Jan. 2, for "A Noble Brother." Charles Carte as Jerry, the Tramp. Wire, PAYNE-REYNOLDS, 80, Queen's-road, Everton, Liverpool.

THEATRES WANTED

Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
Mr GEORGE KIRK
and
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S
Miss MARY NEIL'S

"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"
"JUDY,"

including the

Wonderful Child Actress,

Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,
Miss FLORRIE GROVES,

in her great creation,

JUDY,
JUDY
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,
JUDY,

as played by her over 700 nights in London.

WANTED, Jan. 2,

Jan. 23,
Three Nights
(South),

Jan. 30,

Feb 27.

Mr Kirk begs to thank the following gentlemen for Return Dates:—
W. D. Forsdike, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield;
W. Morton, Esq., Alexandra Theatre, Hull;
Charles Elphinstone, Esq, Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Mrs Gordon, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Southampton;
F. Laidler, Esq., Prince's, Bradford;
J. W. Boughton, Esq., Prince's, Portsmouth;
J. B. Ormerod, Esq., Prince's, Accrington;
Messrs Sawyer and Woodruffe, Prince's, Preston;
J. F. Elliston, Esq, for offer Christmas Week, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

Bookings and Rebookings:—
Standard, London;
West London;
Surrey;
Terriss, Rotherhithe;
Royal, Stratford;
Brixton,
Queen's, Manchester;
Osborne, Manchester;
Junction, Manchester;
Rotunda, Liverpool;
Theatre Royal, Hanley;
Opera House, St. Helens;
Prince's, Preston;
Royal Court, Wigan;
Prince of Wales's, Southampton
Prince's, Bradford;
Theatre Royal, Leeds;
Queen's, Leeds;
Palace, Newcastle;
Grand, Blackpool;
Metropole, Glasgow;
Victoria, Burnley;
Metropole, Birmingham;
Royal, Barnsley;
Prince's, Portsmouth;
Prince's Theatre, Accrington;
Opera House, Wakefield;
Prince of Wales's, Grimsby;
Alexandra, Hull;
Alexandra, Sheffield.

Address,

GEO. KIRK,

Theatre Royal, Margate.

"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

WANTED, Jan. 16 (North),

Jan. 26, Three Nights (Midlands),

Jan. 30 (Midlands or North),

Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27 (Midlands).

Address, BERT COOTE, 150, Oxford-street, London, W.

"MISS MISCHIEF."

WANTED, Jan. 16, 30, and

Various Early Spring Dates,
On,
for the New and Original
Musical Comedy,
"MISS MISCHIEF."
Book and Lyrics by Mr Reginald Bacchus.
Music by Dr. Osmond Carr,
Composer of
"Morocco Bound," "In Town,"
"His Excellency," &c.
Unanimously acknowledged a great success.
A Most Artistic Production.
Beautifully Dressed
and Elaborately Staged.
Everything Carried.
All communications,
GODFREY LAMPLUGH,
to-day and next week,
Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.

MR NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.

WANTED, Theatres for the following:—
Jan. 30 (North),
Jan. 30 (North),
Jan. 30 (North),
Feb. 13 (North),
April 10 and 24 (South).
(See Companies' Columns.)

Address,
18, Melford-street, Barry, Cardiff.

BEAUDYN AND LIVESEY'S PLAYS.
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
A New Oriental Play by G. A. De Gray.

WANTED, Jan. 30, March 6, 20.
27, Whit. "£1,000 Reward," a Grand Revival on an Elaborate Scale, Wanted, March 6, on. "The Race for Wealth," a Powerful Modern Play, by H. Lonsdale, Wanted, May 22, on. "A Beautiful Fiend,' an Acknowledged Success, Wanted June 12, on. "The Days of Cromwell," by Chas. Rogers and E. Carter Livesey, Wanted, January, on, 1905. Can arrange for Four Weeks, July, 1905. Address, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.

"SAPHO."

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 9,
Jan. 9.
Admitted by Press and Public to be the Most Popular Version on the Stage.
Wire, for Jan. 9, wire.
(Saturday), JAMES BELL, Washington Hotel, Liverpool.
(Monday), Alexandra Theatre, Widnes.

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, March 6, and Sept. 4, for Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's Successful Revival of Wilson Barrett's Great Domestic Play, "The Sledge Hammer.
Address, W. V. GARROD, Alhambra, Stourbridge.

Mr WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY,
"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
Sixteenth Month of continuous Successful Tour. First-class Company, including Miss Dora Price as The Woman.

WANTED, Dec. 29 (Three Nights),
Jan. 2 and 9,
Feb. 13, March 6, and onwards, with Exceptions, including Easter and Whit.
WILLIAM A. ARMOUR,
To-day, A., Widnes; next, Exchange T., Wellingborough.

"THE TRAITOR." Messrs MITCHELSON and FINEBERG'S MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION.

WANTED, March 20, 27,
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Queen's Theatre, Swindon.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, March 20. Wire, C. CLIFFORD, Victoria, Wingate, Durham.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HEART OF A HERO."

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 6 and 13.

Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 30, Feb. 27.

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 6, 20, and 27, March 13.

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."

WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 16 and 23, March 13 and 20.

LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

MR LAWRENCE BROUGH'S COMPANY,
in
"THE LADY OF OSTEND."
"THE SAUCY SALLY."
"IN SUNNY CEYLON."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Jan. 16
Jan. 16
Jan. 16
and
Jan. 30.
Jan. 30.
Jan. 30.
Address,
Coliseum Theatre, Oldham.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
"THE MANXMAN."
By Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.

WANTED, Theatres. Only Vacant Spring Dates:—Feb 6 and 13 (Midlands), Feb. 27, April 10, and May 8. Autumn Rapidly Booking. Best Theatres Only. Address, 52, Alton-st., Blackburn, till Tuesday; then, O. H., Northampton.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."
"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 9,
Jan. 9,
Jan. 9,
to follow Olympia, Newcastle.
Wire or write, READ, King's Theatre, Nottingham.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."

WANTED, Big Theatres,
Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 20, to follow Nottingham;
March 27, to precede Chesterfield and Rotunda, Liverpool;
Dec. 11, to follow Star, Liverpool (Third Visit).
Only Vacant Dates in 1905.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN,
Royalty Theatre, Morecambe.

CHARLES DRAYCOTT and H. B. PEPPIN'S COS.
"THE BEST MUST WIN," by Myles Wallerton and Francis Gilbert; and "A STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT."

WANTED, Theatres for Jan. 16, 23, 30, on.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, Tipton.

WANTED, for "Life that Kills,"
Feb. 13, March 6;
"Grip of the Law," April 17, and on through Summer;
"Bigamy," March 6, and few Spring.
FRED MOULE,
Carlton Theatre, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
Owing to obliging a Manager who is changing the character of his entertainment, Mr Frank Macnaghten is prepared to negotiate with a good Theatre for the production of his well-known Magnificent Pantomime production
"ALADDIN,"
for the following weeks, Feb. 13, 20, 27.
This is the same Pantomime which was produced with such enormous success at the Prince's, Bradford, for the season last year.
For particulars as to takings, &c.,
refer to Francis Laidler, Esq.
It is being made the Christmas Feature at Mr Frank Macnaghten's magnificent Palace at Blackburn.
Those Managers who are in want of a Successful High-class Pantomime Attraction are invited to submit terms to Mr BRANDON BLAKE,
Assistant Manager to the Macnaghten Vaudeville Circuit, Palace-chambers, Lincoln. First-class Theatres and equitable terms only will be considered.

WANTED, Theatres, Miss Frances Delaval's Company, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore, New Year, Jan. 16, 23, April 24, Aug. 7. Wire or write, 24, Oxford-road, Ealing, W.

WANTED, for "Her Fatal Past," Theatre, Feb. 27, South. The great "Woman" Drama. Good Dramatic Theatre only. Coms., WARD, G. T., Luton.

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence" (Songs encored, Comedy received with yells), Jan. 9, 16, March 20, 27. CHARLES CLIFFORD, Victoria Theatre, Wingate.

WANTED, First-class Theatre or Hall, Christmas and Onwards for refined brilliantly successful Variety Entertainment. Tremendous success throughout United Kingdom and Australia. Share or Rental. Write, PENNINGTON, 3, Hanover-cres., Brighton.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, for New Musical Comedy, Ladies and Gentlemen of Refinement and Ability. Thorough Tuition. Salaried Engagement. Premium. Care of Mr TALBOT,
46, Wardo-avenue, Fulham, S.W.

"THE ARABIAN NIGHTS."

WANTED, for Special Fortnight, Lady for Rosa Columbier. F. J. BITHELL, 20, Walham-grove, Fulham.

WANTED, for "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," Juvenile, Robust Character Gentlemen, also useful Man to look after Scenery, &c., and play Small Comedy Part. Two last References indispensable. MISS DELAVAL, 24, Oxford-road, Ealing.

"BETWEEN THE LIGHTS."

WANTED, a Gentleman for Juvenile Lead; also Comedian, capable of Playing straight. Rehearse immediately, Glasgow. Letters only, with particulars and terms, READ, Metropole Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Juvenile Gent to Play Boy's Part (Lazarillo). Open Dec. 26. Terms, photos., letters, FRANK GARDIE, Homer House, Brixton-oval, S.W.

WANTED, Gentleman for Juvenile Lead (Rehearse Dec. 26, Glasgow); Comedian, capable of playing straight (Rehearse Immediately). Wire or write, stating full particulars, READ, King's, Nottingham.

WANTED, Gentleman to Play Good Responsibles and Character Parts; also Wardrobe Mistress, able to Cut-out and Make. NORMAN V. NORMAN, 18, Welford-street, Barry, Cardiff.

WANTED, a Juvenile Light Comedian. Photo, age, height, terms, references, CHARLES HARRINGTON, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Victorial Hall, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Good Low Comedian, Heavy Man, Juvenile Lady, Music Hall Turn. Open Saturday, 24th. Terms, HUGHES, Theatre, Uxbridge (Portable).

WANTED, Gentlemanly Amateur, Tall, Two Months Free, then Small Salary.
Apply, Box 8,919, care of "The Era."

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, in the New Year, Choristers for London. It is absolutely essential to be Young, of Good Appearance, and Good Voice. Write full particulars to KELSON TRUEMAN, Regent House, 233A, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by Pianiste, Solo, Brilliant, Vocalist, Humorous Songs, Sketches at Piano, Engagement. Write, Miss GABRIELLE HOPE, 25, High-road, Streatham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Specialities for Pantomime, the Weeks of Jan. 9 and 16. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Two Lady Dancers, Chorus Ladies, Good Violinist. Panto. Tour. Join immediate. Lowest. BURNETT, Theatre, Barnstaple, Devon.

WANTED, Immediately, Quartette of Lady Vocalists, Dancers.
Good and Thoroughly Experienced or useless.
Wire, Geo. Aytoun,
22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, London. S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." Telephone, 1,949 Hop.

WANTED, Quartette of Dancers,
Open Immediately,
Opera House, Northampton.
Wire lowest terms to
FRED J. LITTLE,
County Theatre, Reading.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES' WANTS

WANTED, Known, Ada Twibell at Liberty for Principal Boy. Quick Study. Wire or write, 27, St. Lawrence-road, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Known, if any disappointments, Raye and Ransford, the Knockabouts, are still at Liberty for Pantomime or Dates. Thanks for offers of Mouillot, Brammall, and Howard Hinton. Write Box 8,915, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Known, Frank Gee is unexpectedly Vacant, Dame, sister, anything. Last year, Dame, in "Goody Two-Shoes," Dottridge and Longden. If disappointment wire. 40, Newington-crescent, Kennington-park.

WANTED, Known, Can Open Immediately for Pantomime, any Part, Refer Milton Ray, Esq. DAN MAXFORD, 102, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Panto., the Mitchellos, Knockabout Gymnastic Comedians and Dancers, Parts and Two Specialities. D.C. Lithos. 10, Naylor-road, Peckham, S.E.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of every Description Painted to Order. Large Stock of New and Secondhand Cloths, Flats, &c., on hand. New Cloths 18ft. by 24ft. from £4. High-class Work guaranteed. Sykes's Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, Scenery for Pantos., "Cinderella," "Aladdin," &c 18 by 24. Also Wardrobe, Music, Script, and Props. GUSTAVE, 88, Broad-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Everyone to Send for Estimates, to F. E. Boden, the Reliable London Scenic Artist, 18, Newport-street, Lambeth-walk. Falconbridge write, urgent.

WANTED, Known, William Wells, R.B.A., Scenic Studio, Theatre Royal, Preston. Cloths and Act Drops, Speciality.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, by the Town Council of the Burgh of Dunoon, a Manager to organise and conduct the Entertainments in the Castle Gardens for the Season, 1905.

Applications, stating experience and qualifications, to be lodged with the Subscriber not later than Jan. 5, 1905.

J. VALROSE CLERY,
Town Clerk.

Town Clerk's Office,
Dunoon, Dec. 23, 1904.

WANTED, a Competent Manager, for the Palace, New Brighton. Must be used to the Management of Riding Machines, &c.
Apply, Mrs COLLINS, Monument-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, an Opportunity occurs for a Gentleman to Learn the Duties of Acting-Management and play Part in a First-class Dramatic Co. Premium required; Salary given. Apply, F. D., 31, Tufnell-park-rd., N.

WANTED, a Smart Young Gentleman as Secretary. Must be expert Shorthand Writer and Typist. Recent refs. and lowest terms to HUGH ROBERTSON, T. R., Jarrow

WANTED, Property Man, to include Billing. Lowest terms and references to LLOYD CLARANCE, New Theatre, Consett.

WANTED, Wardrobe Mistress, to Open at Once; also Chorus Ladies, Height 5ft 6in. Fullest particulars, The PARDOES, Theatre, Rawtenstall.

WANTED, Known, a General Manager and Secretary of Gardens and Theatre Company (now holding Responsible Position) is open for Re-engagement in First-class Undertaking. Experienced in Theatrical, Variety, Fêtes, Glass, &c, and General Organisation Experienced Accountant. Society's guarantee. ENERGETIC, 15, St. Michael's-road, The Hamlet, Liverpool.

WANTED, Engagement as Advance Agent. Appearance, Reliability, and Experience. CLIFFORD, 75, Milson-road, West Kensington-park.

WANTED, Known, Young Man wishes Situation as Baggage Man or any other capacity. Not afraid of work. ROBERTSON, Post-office, Hexham.

WANTED, by Lady, an Engagement to assist Lady or Gentleman on Stage. No experience. Willing to find small capital.
Apply, W. M., 89, Eade-road, Finsbury-park, London, N.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

HOWARD and WYNDHAM, Limited.

WANTED, First Violin, Oboe, and Flute.
Open Monday. Rehearsal, 11·0 a.m.
Competent, Reliable Men only. Wire terms,
GEORGE BURNLEY, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

WANTED, a Repetiteur, accustomed to the Variety Business.
Apply, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, First Violin, Good, Used to Variety. Lowest terms and Refs to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Empire, Dublin.

WANTED, First-class Violin and Double Drums, Foot Cymbal. Apply at once to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Crown Theatre, Peckham.

WANTED, Second Violin, Flute, and Drums with Effects, to Augment Orchestra, Monday. wire lowest, JAMES ELPHINSTONE, Lyceum T, Stafford.

WANTED, Good Double Bass, to open Jan. 2. Apply, with terms and references, to CHAS. ELPHINSTONE, Theatre Royal, Hanley.

WANTED, Trombone, 'Cello, Double Bass. Open Monday. Used to Variety, Evening Dress. Wire lowest terms, BATESON, Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for Porth New Hippodrome, Open Monday, 26th, Trombone and Drums. Wire terms, Alexandra's Hippo., Porth, South Wales.

WANTED, Flute Player (First-class), for Permanent Café Engagement. Must be steady. State age, experience, and references, Box 8,913, care of "The Era."

WANTED, Pianist (Good), immediately, for Christmas Week, to commence Monday, for Dancing. Own Music, also Band Parts. Terms, £3 10s. Wire. Should like to hear from Mr Manley. MOUR, Bandmaster, Llandudno.

WANTED, Wanted, Musicians, for Lyric Theatre, Bromley.
Apply,
ARTHUR CARLTON,
Ealing Theatre.

WANTED, Pianist (Lady or Youth) to Open at once. Wire, lowest terms, DILLON, Mechanics' Hall, Haltwhistle, Northumberland.

WANTED, Double Drummer, with own Tymps. Must be smart at Variety Business. Age and reference to F. BRAHAM, M.D., Regent T., Salford.

County of London.

WANTED, Wanted, Tenders.
To Bandmasters.—The London County Council Invites Tenders from Military and Brass Bands Prepared to Play at Parks and Open Spaces in London during the Band Season of 1905, which will extend from May to September inclusive.
The Conductor and Bandsmen of every Band must Wear Complete and Suitable Uniform. Military Bands must consist of Fifteen, Twenty-four, or Thirty Bandsmen, and Brass Bands of Twenty-four Bandsmen, exclusive in each instance of the Conductor. Every Band will be Required to pass the Test Examination to be held by the Council's Musical Adviser.
Forms of Tender, which contain all particulars, can be obtained upon application, either personally or by letter, to the Chief Officer, Parks Department, 11, Regent-street, S.W. All Tenders must be made upon this form, which must be properly filled up and delivered not later than Jan. 18th, 1905, in accordance with the printed instructions. Failure to comply with these instructions may result in the rejection of any Tender.
The Council does not bind itself to accept any tender.
G. L. GOMME,
Clerk of the London County Council.
County Hall,
Spring-gardens,
Dec. 19, 1904.

WANTED, Instrumentalists, Two Violins and One 'Cello Player, Double-handed if possible, to join a very fine Infantry Regiment Band; must be under Twenty-eight and Smart Men. A good opportunity for Smart Men wishing to further their Musical Education. There is extra Band pay and other privileges.
Apply to H. S., care of HAWKES and SON,
Denman-street, Piccadilly, London, W.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489, Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by Leader (First-class), Engagement, London preferred.
Disengaged through closing of Theatre.
Apply,
E. KNOULTON, 43, Prince's-road, Richmond, S.W.

WANTED, by Pianist Conductor, shortly at Liberty, Pantomime, Opera, or any Business. Composer and Arranger. Certificated. HARCOURT, 28, Lower Gloucester-street, Dublin.

WANTED, by Musical Director, Violinist (First-class), Engagement. London or Suburbs. Good permanency only. Box 8,894, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by First Violin or Second Clarionet, Engagement. Any business. Good reference. H. SMITH, 14, Prince's-square, Kennington-park, S.E.

WANTED, by Violinist (C. Wareham), Engagement. Late Leader, the Granville, Walham-green. Address, 47, Black Lion-lane, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, by First or Second Violin, Engagement. Terms very moderate. Young, Steady. References. F. D., 43, Marshall-street, London-road, Southwark, London, S.E.

WANTED, by Violin, First or Second, Combine good Orchestral Pianist, Engagement. Letters to K. H., 7, Orange-street, Red Lion-square, W.C.

WANTED, by Violin, Conductor, Engagement, in Music Hall or Theatre, late of Moss Empires. Refs. CONDUCTOR, 17, Edna-st., Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. References. MALCOLM, 22, Darlan-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Clarionettist (Thoroughly Competent), Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall preferred. References CLARIONETTIST, 13, Co-op-street, Ton-Pentre, Ystrad, Glamorganshire.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, through Closing. Any Business. Also Full Orchestra at Liberty Jan. 2. A. MILLER, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement.
F. W. ATHERTON,
1, Rosemont, Market-street, Torquay.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement.
Miss M. JONES,
permanent address, 44, Cranmer-road, N. Brixton.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall, after Dec. 31.
TOM PLANT, 49, Caroline-street, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, by Solo Trombone (Combine Double Bass), Engagement. Liberty Jan. 14.
HARRY SHARPE, Municipal Band, Weymouth.

WANTED, by Trombone, Engagement. Young and Reliable.
TROMBONE, 11, Como-road, Forest-hill, S.E.

WANTED, by Second French Horn Player (Good), Engt. Exper. Opera and Symphony.
KARL HEBER, 39, Sedelscombe-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by French Horn Player, Engagement. Good Reference.
J. T., 268, Commercial-road, London, E.

WANTED, by 'Cellist, Engagement, Theatre or Variety Hall. Thoroughly Experienced in Dramatic Business. INKPEN, Grand Palace, Clapham-junction, London.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl on 'Cello.
Mr CASSELLS, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age 17) Engagement. July 4 to Oct. 2, Yarmouth, and Hotel Cecil. MAUD GRUNDY, 49, Haverstock-hill, N.W.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist, Engagements for Concerts, Entertainments, At Homes.
Miss ADA BRANDON, Writtle, Chelmsford.

WANTED, Pianist-Vocalist (Gent), to Assist in the Management of a Small Music Hall. Good Steady Man can have Comfortable, Permanent Situation. Must Read at Sight and be used to Professionals. State age, experience Send photo., CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, by Pianist (First-class), Permanent Engagement, Concert Party or Orchestra.
C. I. BURROWS, Worthing Pier, Sussex.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, by Lady Pianist, Engagement, Jan. 2. Any Business. Good Reader. Madame RIDGWAY, care of CARRIE, 63, Titchfield-st., Kilmarnock.

WANTED, by Pianist or Second Violin, Engagement. Can undertake First Violin. Well up in Variety Business. LEWIS, 103, Acre-la., Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement (Theatre or Music Hall). Thoroughly Experienced. Good references; also abstainer.
J. E. CLEGG, 24, Bayham-street, Camden-town, N.W.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and Tympanist, Engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. Highest Refs. DRUMS, 7, Arthur-street, Chelsea, S.W.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
"49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS, MARKET-PLACE, BOLTON.

WANTED, a Happy Christmas for Everybody, also Artistes in all Lines and Big Star Turns to write at once for Early and Future Dates.
Nothing too Big
Address, with Season's Greetings,
King OHMY,
Ohmy's Grand Circus, Bolton.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Equestrians, Clowns, Specialities, and Refined Variety Turns, for Jan. 23d.
Work Ring or Stage.
C. ALGIE.
Call for Monday.
Rehearsal 11·0 o'clock sharp. All attend. No excuse.
Day Show, 2·0 o'clock.

WANTED, for Fitzgerald Brothers' Grand Combined Shows of Australia, now Touring India, &c., Novelties and Aerial Acts suitable for Circus Ring, Good Lady Artistes, or Families. No Fancy Salaries. Twelve Months' Engagement. Passage paid out.
Write at once,
giving full particulars, stating if Disengaged, and Salary required, to
Mr F. C. MILNES,
care of "The Era" Office,
49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

WANTED, for Tenting Season, 1905, Equestrians (Male and Female), Good Troupe of Arabs, First-class Troupe of Trick and Comic Cyclists, Lady Gymnaste, and any First-class Novelty that can be done in a Tent, Lampman, and Wardrobe Lady. PINDER, Chateau des Templiers, Lavilledieu du Temple, France.

WANTED, Good Three-Bar Show, Jugglers, and Skaters, to Open 28th and Jan. 2. Lowest terms to STOTT, Manager, Iona-street Carnival, Edinburgh. Other Shows write.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
One or Two Good Tumblers.
Also Two Young Girls (Must be over Sixteen) that have a Little Idea of Acrobating.
Apply, with all particulars, to E.K.,
Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, a Good Tumbler and a Good Top Mount.
Apply, Box 8,837, "The Era" Office.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, W. Tudor's Performing Ponies, Riding Dog, and Goat, Return to Mr Gilbert. Shortly at Liberty.
Address, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, Feb. 6, by Wynema, Coloured Lady, with her Pack of Siberian Wolves. Portable Den. Agent Wanted. 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Known, the Renowned John Scott's Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c. (Four in Number), Lib. Jan. 30. Address, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton. George Freeman wire address.

WANTED.—Clown and Talking Donkey, Domino, not a common donkey; he does it on the nod, that is as good as a wink, but being clever never makes an ass of himself.

Retained for Holidays and New Year (Fourth Week), John Henry Cooke's Circus Royal, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known Comical Walker, First-class Talking Clown, with Good Comic Entrées. Vacant Jan. 2. Wire or write, Hippodrome, Southport.

WANTED.—Neddy Vokes, the World-known Musical Clown, Talking Knockabout Clown, Liberty. Wire, 16, Moreton-st., Strangeways, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Bros. Austin, Comic Pyramid of Chairs, Double and Single Talking Tumbling Clowns, and Foot Equilibrists, now appearing, Fossett's Circus, Agricultural Hall. A Merry Christmas to All.

WANTED, Known, Mayeno Trio (Two Ladies One Gent.), Gymnasts, Acrobats, Wire Walkers, Knockabout Clown, Up-to-Date Entrées, appearing for One Month, and delighting an audience of Twenty Thousand Spectators Every Evening. Liberty Jan. 9 and Tenting. Carnival, Iona-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, Known, Eleonora, Lady Gymnast, La Belle Tosca, Charming Wire Expert; also Mdlle. Vanda, in her Great Juggling Speciality.
Three Distinct Specialities.
Vacant Jan. 23 (North).
Address, Zalva's Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED.—De Ora Vacant Dec. 26, Jan. 2. Speciality Gymnastic Act. Circus, Halls, Carnivals, or Exhibitions Communications, Empire, Wigan.

WANTED, Known, the Maros, the Funniest of all Three Bar Performers, Liberty 2nd, 9th. Address, 126, Porter-street, Hull.

WANTED, Known, Eltenos, Comedy Triple Bars; Togo, Juggler. Free Jan. 9, 16, 30. Dec. 26, Hippodrome, Macclesfield. Two Distinct Acts.

WANTED, Known, Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Lady and Gentleman Ariel Stage Gymnastic and Pot-Pourri Acts. Free 26th, Jan. 2, 9. Wire,
Pottery House, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bros. Lloddge, Silver Chain Acrobats. Wire, Pavilion, Carnarvon. After Saturday, 55, King-cross-street, Halifax.

WANTED, Immediate and Future Dates for High Mast Performance. Over 70ft. in the Air. Exciting Show. Write at once, Box 8,914, "The Era" Office

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Jan. 2, on, South and West, Variety Artistes, Dec. 26. Graph and Serio required. Gannon, Victoria Hall, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, all Lines, all Open here Dec. 26. Big Top to share Cycle Sensation, Bioscope, Sisters, Comedians, Good Novelties, &c. Wire for Monday, Dr. LAURIE, Avenue Theatre, Morpeth.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, for present and future Dates,
First-class Artistes of every Description in the Variety Profession.
Big Tops able to follow
Marie Lloyd, Marie Loftus, Nellie Wallace, and other Star Turns.
Nothing too Big.
Money a Secondary Consideration.
We are now Booking for the New Coliseum.

Call for Coventry Hippodrome, Dec. 26, at 11·0 a.m.
Nellie Wallace, Royal Victoria Troupe, Robins and Collier, Unda and Leon, Mike Mooney, Leopold Legiere Troupe, Belmont Troupe, Natt Raymond, Ada Villiers, and the Donalds.
All must attend. No excuse. Matinée at 2·0 o'clock.
Communications, T. M. SYLVESTER, Coventry.

Wanted, for the Olympia, Coventry, and Four Other Towns, the names of which will be announced in these columns in due course, the
Very Cream of the Variety and Equestrian Profession,
Big Novelties, Specialities, Spectacles, and Useful People,
for
Aquatic Pantomimes.
Can arrange for "Siberia."
Will the Builders who erected Wolff's Circus, Dublin, please Communicate at once; or a firm of Builders capable of erecting, at quick notice, a Large Iron Structure to hold about 6,000 people?

Address all letters to
T. M. SYLVESTER,
Hippodrome, Coventry.
N.B.—All Artistes holding Contracts for above-named Hippodrome are respectfully requested to communicate at once. Important.

WANTED, Star Artistes, Serios, Comedians, Immediate and onwards.

Big Top, Jan. 2.

Burns's Agency, London, Hartlepool, and Manchester.

Telephone, 0,231.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
Communicate at once.
Head Office, Empress Theatre, Hartlepool.

WEST-END PIER, MORECAMBE.
WANTED, Artistes, for 1905.
State full particulars.
Address,
The DIRECTORS.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Jan. 2, and on, Artists in all Lines. Terms must be low.
Address particulars, DAY, 3, Carter-street, Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, from now, on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artists, All Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties, Serios, Sisters, Comedians, Jan. 2, onwards. State lowest terms. Sensational Acts for Galas, Whit Week, onwards.
Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lowest Terms,
R. CARR, Palace of Varieties, Whitehaven.

WANTED, Artistes to Note, all Dates for this Year are filled, First Vacant Dates, Feb. 13, 27. Double and Single Turns write in. Can Book Freak at once. CHAS. A. JAMES,
Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

Wilder's Fêtes, 1905.
WANTED, First-class Artistes, Performances, and Latest Novelties, for Various Dates during Summer.
Send lithos., picture posters, dates, and terms to
W. and J. Wilder,
29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, Jan. 2 and 9.
REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Jan. 2, onwards, for
Liverpool, Ashton, St. Helens, and Warrington.
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines, Singles doing Doubles, Jan. 2, on. Send lowest terms to SHARPE, 21, Mealcheapen-street, Worcester.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Dec. 26 and on. Fred Durham's Agency, 'Phone 2,477 Hop. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Artistes of Every Description, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, onwards.
State Lowest Terms, Bookings, &c.
I can Place You.
Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2 076 Royal.
Representative, Mr Jesse Burton.
Inman Hocking, please communicate quick.

WANTED, Star Artistes, Comedians, Novelties, Animal Acts. Nothing too Big. Only Best of Acts Represented. Send full particulars, lithos., list of Bookings, terms, permanent address, Yate's Agency, 3, Oxford-grove, Manchester, S.E. Note New Address.

THEATRE ROYAL, HEBBURN-ON-TYNE.
Lessee and Manager, W. O. JACKSON.
WANTED, Artistes in All Lines, Jan. 2, onwards. Nothing too Big.

WANTED, Artistes, Variety, Sisters doing Singles, also Ladies and Comedians. Wire lowest, DILLON, Mechanics' Hall, Haltwhistle, Northumberland.

WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, Stars, and Novelties, all Lines. State lowest terms, bookings, lithos, &c. Have a few Immediate Dates to offer Comedy Acts (North). Hugh Wigglesworth's Agency, Morecambe, Late Manager, Blackpool, Morecambe, &c.
Telegrams, "Value, Morecambe."

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.
Owners, Messrs CARLTON and DUCKWORTH.
Lessee, ADA ALEXANDRA.
WANTED, for the above, January, onwards, Artistes of every Description; also the biggest Acts in the Business, and any novelty with Drawing Powers. D. TAYLOR, Tyvica House, Pontypridd.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, GREENOCK.
Lessee and Manager, H. I. SKIVINGTON.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Star Comedy Musical Acts for Jan. 2, 23, and 30, on.

WANTED, the Best, for the Hippodrome, Accrington, for Jan. 2 and 9.
Barred by Blackburn.
Call at 12·0 o'clock, Boxing Day. Matinée at 2·0 o'clock.
Good Combinations New to Accrington can be Entertained for Jan. 30 and later.
Apply, Dates, &c., Vandy's Agency, Barnes, London, S.W.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.
WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.

Acts New in Dublin
for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.

Direct
or through Agents.

All communications
to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.

Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."

Telephone, 09,144.

THE NEW COLISEUM, SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, Mr T. C. DORLING.
Manager, Mr C. MELVIN.
WANTED, the Greatest Stars in the Variety Profession.
Money no object for the right people.
Write in for Jan. 2, onwards.

Also Wanted, Bioscope, to open Sunday Concert, Jan. 1. Only persons who can keep their Contracts are required. Shufflers don't waste stamps or telegraph forms. Sample Lithos., if any, and Bill matter.
Address, GENERAL MANAGER, Coliseum, Sheerness.

Call for Monday, 26th, Rehearsal 10·0 o'clock, Matinée 2 30:—The Melvernes, Newland Major, Rag and Rag, Sleath and Aldin, Alma Bignel, Johnny Hanson and Company, Merrit, Edgar Granville, Dora Cameron, Wirson, Helen and Cozens.
Rehearsals 10·0 o'clock, Matinée 2·30.
No Excuses

THE GLASGOW SYNDICATE HALLS.
TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S VARIETY THEATRES, GLASGOW.
All Artists work both Halls on same system as in London, with Broughams between, which we provide. One performance nightly at both houses.
WANTED, Brilliant Stars and Talent of all Kinds for Immediate and Future Dates. Now booking up to 1909. Artists invited to keep us posted with vacancies every week.
Always openings for Star Comedians and Top-line Novelties.
No price too high. No turn too big.
Bookings may be made direct or through Agents.
Address all communications,
S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager,
Head Office, Tivoli Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Dec. 26 and onwards to send terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, 16, Stars in All Lines.
Stars in All Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

WAKEFIELD HIPPODROME COMPANY, LIMITED.
WANTED, Big Specialities, Troupes of Acrobats, Juggiers, Comedians.
Good Magic Kettle Act, &c.

Call for Monday, Dec. 26, for
Miss Maggie Duggan, George Barron, Sisters Le Graham, Frances Haskell, Gracie Logan, Zanfretta and Napio, and the Schaffers.
Artistes please note that Rehearsal is at 11·0 o'clock sharp, and Matinée on Boxing Day at 2 30.
No excuse.

Manager, D. G. MOONEY.
Secretary, WALTER EMMETT.

PALACE THEATRE, CORK
General Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.
WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, and onwards, Big Specialities,
Comedians,
Musical Acts,
Sisters,
Serios,
Dancers,
Novelties.

Must be Refined, or useless.

Call, Monday, Dec. 26, Matinée, 2 30,
Cee-Mee Troupe, Marie Winsome, Harry Calvo, Warton, Winnie Scott, David O' Leary, Grant and Allen, Brothers Les Bois, Tate and Tate.

WANTED, Jan. 2, Specialities, Trapeze Artistes, and any Big Sensational Numbers, Knockabouts, Duettists, &c. Rehearsal Monday, Dec. 26, at 11 30 a.m.:—Aerian and Ostara, Sterling and Cashen, Codman's Bioscope, the Janvons, Three Boleros, Bert Jackson. WILL GREGORY, General Manager.

EMPRESS THEATRE OF VARIETIES, HARTLEPOOL.
Proprietors, Councillor EVERTON and CRAGG.
General Manager, HARRY BURNS.

All communications must be addressed to Burns's Agency only,
London, Hartlepool, and Manchester.

Telephone, 0,231.
Telegrams, "Burns, Empress."
WANTED, Known, Call Monday, Dec. 26, at 12·0 noon prompt.
Note.—Monday Matinée 2·30 prompt.
La Roland, Bros. Beelong, Ailsa Douglas, Wills Tremaine, Barry Coates, Mdlle. Florence, Sandy and Carl, and Burns Bioscope.

Signed H. BURNS,
General Manager.

WANTED, for Christmas and New Year's Weeks,
Talent, all Lines.
Wire for Christmas.

James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.

Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1,686 Royal.

MORECAMBE.—WEST-END PIER.
WANTED, Talent, for Season, 1905.
Musical and otherwise.
Apply,
CHAIRMAN, West-end Pier, Morecambe.

WANTED, Top Liners, Big Specialities for Immediate and Future Dates.
Full particulars,
Day's Variety Agency,
116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Really Good Sisters, or Double doing Singles; also Comedian and Serio and Dancer, Monday next. Wire immediate, absolute lowest. Small Hall. GALINO, Empire, Bridgwater.

CHESTER'S AGENCY.
Dramatic
and
Variety Agents,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams
"Amusements."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Turns, all kinds, for Cork and other Irish Towns. Must be Refined.

ARMSTRONG'S AGENCY.
WANTED, First-class Turns to send Dates and terms to Bernard Armstrong, 353, Bath-street, Glasgow. Special Notice. — Barney Armstrong having retired from the Management of the Tivoli and Queen's, Glasgow, all Contracts made by him for Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited, will stand good.
Signed, BARNEY ARMSTRONG.
Armstrong's Agency, now under the Management of Bernard Armstrong, 353, Bath-street, Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, for Dec. 26,
Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30,
and all Dates through Summer of 1905,
Star Turns,
Tops of Bills,
all the
Finest and Biggest
Acts
Required,
Price no object,
for
Manchester,
Salford
Ashton,
Bury,
Preston,
Liverpool,
Oldham,
Rochdale,
Blackpool,
Morecambe,
Barrow,
Glasgow,
Dundee,
Aberdeen
Belfast,
Dublin,
Newcastle,
Hull,
Leeds,
Brighton,
Bristol,
Birmingham,
Bolton,
Middlesbrough, &c.
New and Novel Acts can have Six Months' Solid Engagements. Send immediately. Terms, Photos, Lithos., &c., to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144 Manchester.

COLLINS' HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
Sole Proprietor, Mr PATRICK COLLINS.
WANTED, the Biggest and Best of Talent of Every possible Description, for Immediate and Future Dates, Jan. 2 and onwards.

Price is absolutely no object.
Any item up to £300 a-week will be paid, as it has been paid.

Special Notice to the Profession.
All the Leading Stars in Every Branch are positively Engaged here.
Artistes Booked at the Grand, Hanley, must not sign for here until they have fulfilled their prior Contract, or they will be held responsible for any Litigation incurred.

Terms, dates, lithos., and all particulars must be addressed direct to
FRANK EGERTON,
Manager,
Collins' Hippodrome,
Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Top-Line Comic Singers for Scotland, also Best of Specialities, also Musical Clown and Niggers for Northampton, Aug. 7, Three Days. M'Askell, 18, Joy-street, Belfast.

WANTED, Comedienne, for Music Hall Sketch, must be a good Actress.

Photos. (returnable), terms, past engagements, &c., to CHARLES CONWAY,
18, Parkhurst-road,
Holloway, London, N.

WANTED, Four Bioscope Operators, to Start Jan. 2. Year's Engagement. 50s. weekly to steady, men. HUGHES, 37, Cedar-av., Walthamstow.

WANTED, a Good and Cheap Cinématograph for Dec. 31 and Jan. 2 and 3. Send full particulars to FENTON CROSS, Bolton.

WANTED, an Assistant, age about Eighteen. Must be well Educated. State lowest terms to GUSTAVE FASOLA, Illusionist, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME.
Proprietors, COVENTRY HIPPODROME COMPANY, Limited.
WANTED, Agents and Artistes to please Note that, from this Date, no Contract will be Recognised unless Signed by the Manager and the Secretary.
T. M. SYLVESTER, Manager.
G. E. WRIGHT, Secretary.
Dec. 24, 1904.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Flo Atkins, World's Champion Concertinist and Expert Mandolinist, Dec. 26, Town Hall, Shrewsbury; Jan. 2, Grand Manchester. Write for Jan. 9 to 40, Chadwick-street, W. Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, Rita Resdan, London's Favourite Male Impersonator, Playing Aladdin, T. R., York. Proprietors and Managers invited.

WANTED, Known, Queenie Palmer, Vocalist, Successful everywhere. Liberty Dec 26, onwards. Wire, 11, Birches-terrace, Old Basford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Known, Rosie Rickards, Clever Burlesque and Low Comedy Artiste, Concludes to-night, Immense Success, Empire, Wigan Vacant Monday next.

WANTED, Known, Mdlle. Kloët, the Original Artist Model, Latest Creation, "Christianity." Only Vacancy, Jan 2. Granville, Walhamgreen, London. Monday, Empire, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Known.—Vacant Monday next, Marion Francis, Smart Comedienne and Descriptive Vocalist. Wire, QUICK, Grand Theatre; or, 48, Cartwright street, Doncaster.

WANTED, by "Del" Levey. Songs a Hit, Dresses a Hit. Success Enormous. Vacant Jan. 2, 9, and 16. Wire, Tivoli, Kidderminster

THE GREAT MACCANN.
WANTED, 1905, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, by the Famous Concertina King,
on his Patent Instrument, value £500.
Dec. 26, 16, Dunkeld-street, Liverpool.
Telephone, 0,500 Anfield.

WANTED, by W. Horsley, Song and Dance Artist, Champion Clog Dancer of England. Opens on Dec. 26 Central Palace, North Shields. Liberty Jan. 2, on.

WANTED, Known, Charles Woodward, Character Comedian, is Vacant Jan. 2 and 16. Terrific success of "The Last Touch." Address, Metropole, Camberwell, London.

WANTED, by Sidney Dolf, Jan. 2, onwards. "The One Man Show." Vocalist, Conjuror, and Juggler. Christmas Week, Market Hall, Aberystwith.

WANTED, by Alf. Davis, Comedian, Monday, Dec. 26; also Jan. 2. Wire, Grand, Doncaster; after, 1, Cleveland-street, Mile-end, London.

WANTED, by Harry Slade, Comedian and Vocalist, Monday next, also Jan. 2.
Wire early, Empire Palace, Wigan. Distance no object.

WANTED, Happy Armstrong, Lightning Pyramid Drummer, Comic Orator, Instrumentalist. Vacant 2nd, 9th. Next week, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan 2, 9, and 16, by Otto Ethardo, Quaint Juggler, and Mdlle. Pardoc, Speciality Dancer. Wire, 15, William Edward-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Dec. 26, Jan. 9, 23, and 30, by Rosetti, Transparent Painter, and Steb, Clay Modeller. Two Good Acts. Open for Good Tour in March. Wire, quick, for Monday, ROSETTI, County T., Reading.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED.—Picitt, the Muscular Master of Manacles, Handcuff King, without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes. Originator of the only Handcuff Act that has not been Copied or Exposed. First Vacant Date, April 10; also few other Dates, 1905. No Vacancies 1906. Concludes To-night, Hippodrome, Carlisle. Commences Nine Weeks' Scotch Tour on Monday with the Imperial Picture Company.
Address Trades Hall, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Kardoc, Handcuff King & Gaol Breaker. Startling Lithos. Packing the House, Hundreds unable to obtain admission. At 1·30 on Wednesday I paid a visit to the Kidderminster Town Hall. My clothes were taken from me, I was Handcuffed, Chained and Double Locked in the Strongest Cell, which once held the Kidderminster Murderer, Joe Mundy. Even the Trap was Bolted. I escaped from everything. Greeted by huge crowds with cheers on making my appearance in the Street. Next week, Lyceum, Stafford. Free Jan. 8.

WANTED, by Carl Hershal, Conjuror and Bioscope Operator, Jan. 2 and on.
This week and next, Market Hall, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, Jan. 2 and 9, by Warton, Comedy Magician. Middling bill.
Grand, Doncaster. Monday, Palace, Cork.

WANTED, Monday Next, by W. H. Merritt, Negro Comedian and Musical Glass Expert. Wire, 40, Bickerstaffe-street, St. Helens, Lancs

WANTED, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, the Great Kyoto, Originator of his Novel Act, the Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box. A laughting and applauding Hit can't be beaten Costumes and Fit-up absolutely unique. Also Miss May Geraldine, Chic Comedienne and Dancer. Monday, Dec. 26, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd. Notice.—The above immediate Dates are vacant owing to not coming to terms for pantomime. Wire or write, Monday, Dec. 26, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, next Week, also Jan. 9 and 16, by Frank Aylmer, Vocal Comedian and Patterer; and Daisy Turner, Comedienne and Dancer. Hit of the Company this week at Tivoli, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Monday, 26th, by N. C. Bostock and Nellie Eilene. We thank King Alexander for offers for Glasgow. Wire, Theatre, Workington.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, by Lily Pender, Great Comedienne, and Bob Pearson, Vocal Comedy Act. Wire, 9, Scouler-street, Poplar, London.

WANTED, Monday next by Walter Bannell, Funny Comedian, and Jenny Joy, Burlesque Artiste. Wire, One or Both, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent

WANTED, by the St. Johns, Comedy Musicians and Dancers, Dec. 26, Jan. 2, onward. Stoll and Moss Tours Booked. 49, Oxford-st., Liverpool.

WANTED, Les Freres Baptiste, Les Duex Chefs, in their Refined Comedy Juggling Act.
Dec. 26, Bridge-street Hall, Reading. Vacant Jan. 2.

WANTED, Known, Raymond and Raymond, Eccentric Comedians, Coon Emulators, Dancers, &c. Vacant Monday next and Jan. 2. Wire or write to 40, David-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester

WANTED, Monday next, Turle and Turle, Gymnastic Comedians, Two Acts; also Panto., Speciality Parts, and Harlequinade. Sure Draw. Address, Theatre, Worthing.

WANTED, Known, the Kimberley Boys, Principal Comedians, Robbers,
Great Success at Crystal Palace.

WANTED, Jan. 2, by Colvil and Tate (Jack and Annie), Comedy Artistes and Dancers. A sound, reliable turn.
Write care of MURRAY, 62, Waddell-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Jan. 2, 9, Adee and Agurin, Talented Comedy Act, "Antics of a Road Repairer." Fully Protected, Distinctly Novel, Original. This Act Stands Alone. Big Success, Barnard's, Chatham. Agents, &c. Palace Varieties, Greenwich, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Mayon and Marle, "Elizabeth and the Baby."
Thanks to W. Sley and H. Burns for Contracts.

WANTED, Known, Mayon and Marle, Premier Vaudeville Artistes, in Musical Comedy Sketches, at Liberty Monday. For a success, wire, H., St. Helens.

WANTED, Monday, Tom Hall's Acrobatic Nippers, Dog, and Monkey. One or Two Acts. Thanks for Offers. Wire, Theatre Royal, Workington.

WANTED, Known, Seltina Troupe, Lady and Gentlemen Acrobats (Seven in Number); also Bros. Levett, Vaulting Act. Terrific success, Palace, Attercliffe. Liberty Jan. 16 and 23, North preferred. Monday, Hippo., Grimsby.

WANTED, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, by the Eckersleys, Speciality Sketch Artistes, One Negro. Wire, Coliseum, Sheerness.

WANTED, by Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist, Monday, also Jan. 2. New Funny Act. North Preferred. Wire, 21, Cope-street, Bradford.

WANTED, Known, Grieve, Ventriloquist. Dec. 26, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, and Oddfellows' Hall. Liberty Jan. 2, Three Weeks. Offers invited.

WANTED, Known, Karl Birvell, F.O.S., Novelty Ventriloquist and Mimic. Liberty through misunderstanding. Wire, 14, Newport-st., Walsall, Staffs.

WANTED, Known, Les Prinellas, Liberty Monday next, in their Beautiful Vocal, Funny Musical Scene, "A Country Flirtation." Enormous Success Everywhere. Wire, Empire, Paisley. Wire.

WANTED, Jan. 2, by the Ross-Clyde Comedy Company, in their Screamer, "I Must Have It!"
Care of SMYTHSON, 11, Searle's-road, Paragon, London, S.E.

WANTED, Monday next, by the Kendalls, First-class Comedy Sketch "Masquerade Ball," or Duets. Splendid Wardrobe. Hippo., Newport, I.O.W.

WANTED, Monday next and Jan. 2 for Miss Dot Robins' Great, Weird, and Sensational Sketch, "The Necklace of Death." Five Scenes, Seven Characters. Wire, Coliseum, Sheerness.

WANTED, Known, the Royal Entertainers, Mr Harry Liston, Miss Lord Lumley, &c., will Tour any District on salary or share with Responsible Managers. Address, Egyptian Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Max Gruber's Great Indian Sporting Act.
The Only
and Best Trained
Elephant
and
Horse
Ever Performed on a Stage.
No Bluff.
Every Trick Original.
Big Success Everywhere.
Vacant Jan. 23, 30.

Wire or write,
Stoll's Hippodrome,
Manchester.

WANTED, Engagements, Magic Kettle Outfit. Open for Immediate and Future Dates. Splendid Sure Draw. Terms and dates write or wire,
HARRY DUNNE, 14, County-arcade, Leeds.

WANTED, Engagement, by Reliable, Experienced Cinématograph Operator. Also Limelight. C. G. STEER, 18, Winstonian-rd., Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

WANTED, Known, Jasper Redfern's World-renowned Animated Pictures, First in 1895, Foremost ever since. Terms, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE UNITED KINGDOM SHOWMEN AND VAN-DWELLERS' PROTECTION ASSOCIATION. (THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.) President, LORD GEORGE SANGER.
Change of Office.
WANTED, Known, the Entire Business of the above Society is Now Removed to Temporary London Premises, 48, Herbert-street, Hoxton, N. A Penny Tram from The Angel, Islington, down the City-road. Subject to the Confirmation of this Move by the Committee at the Annual Meetings, 48, Herbert-street, Hoxton, N., will be the Official Residence of the Guild Secretary. All Branches of the Guild's Multiform Enterprise will be Conducted at the London Office—Financial, Parliamentary, Press, and General Propaganda Work will all Correspondents Make a Note of this Change, and Send to London in future, and not to Manchester.
Address all communications to the Guild Secretary,
48, Herbert-street, Hoxton, N.
N.B.—Reports of Fairs and Press Matter of a General Character, should be sent to the Showman World Editor, "The Era" Offices, Wellington-street, W.C.
LORD GEORGE SANGER, President.
Rev. T. HORNE, Hon. Organiser.
T. HURST, Hon. Secretary.
H. M. HORNE, Guild Secretary,
48, Herbert-street, Hoxton, London, N.

The Bolton
Market Tenants
and Van Dwellers.
WANTED, Known, a Grand Ball in the Empress Ballroom,
Mealhouse-lane, Bolton,
Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1905.
President, Lord George Sanger.
And under the Patronage of the Chairman of the Markets Committee (Alderman Samuel Dickinson) and Superintendent R. Pike.
Tickets, 5s. each, including Dinner.
To Commence at 8 0. Carriages at 4 0.
Proceeds in Aid of the Van Dwellers' Association.
Tickets to be obtained from Robt. Pike, Esq.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Handsellers to know Simons is the Man for
Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery.
Send £5 for Special Parcel.

117, Houndsditch, London

Chiappa and Sons, Limited, of 6, Little Bath-street, Clerkenwell, London, and 17, Milton-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

Sole Representatives of Messrs Gavioli and Cie, of Paris.

WANTED, all Showmen to Know that every kind of repairs at reasonable prices and best workmanship, guaranteed to give satisfaction, are now undertaken at both the above addresses. Every description of Organ Playing by Cardboard Music sold at reduced prices, and all kinds of Cardboard Music supplied at once. A large stock of Second-Hand Organs, all newly done-up, with purchaser's own tunes, for Sale from £15; also large size Organs with Drums, thoroughly renovated, from £60.

WANTED, Showmen to Please Note that H. Burman, the Original Show Builder, Carver, and Decorator, will be pleased to Estimate for Show Front Waggons, Parade Carriages, &c. I have Large Premises, and Good Plant of Machinery, &c. Established Thirty Years. 19, Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, E.C. Close to Farringdon-street Metropolitan Railway.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire,
on Tour or otherwise,
anywhere in the United Kingdom.
For particulars apply to
F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others to Know
Simons is the Cheapest Place for
Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, and Cheap Jewellery.
Best-class French Paste Stocked for the Profession.
117, Houndsditch.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermilionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c.
Write for price list or call,
Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities. SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON,
66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds,
Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

WANTED, for World's Fair, Side Shows and Novelties; also Space to Let. OWEN BAGAN, Proprietor, 66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

Arts and Loan Exhibition.
WANTED, Known, Applications for Side Shows can now be entertained.
Last Week in February.

SECRETARY, Exhibition, Lichfield.

WANTED, Novelties, Freaks of Every Description, Jan. 2, on. Must have Window Show. Shares. FRISCO, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Novelties for the Best Shop in Chatham. Next door to Gaiety.
R. J. LOVEGROVE, 51, High-street.

WANTED, Good Living Novelty, to Open Christmas Eve. Shares.
Wire, BARRON, 101, Bishopsgate-street Without, E.C.

WANTED, Novelty, to Open Sunderland Monday. Wire. Own Show, Liberty Jan. 9. Good Flash Paintings. MITCHELL, Exhibition, High-st., Gateshead.

WANTED, to Open Monday, for Portsmouth and Ryde, Good Novelties. Can have Four Weeks. Wire, 8, Bank-gardens, Ryde (Wight).

WANTED, for Belfast and Worcester, High-class Novelties Freaks, and Specialities, Jan. 2, on. SHARPE, 21, Mealcheapen-street, Worcester.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, with Oil Paintings. Good shows Good Money. Sure Best Position, Three Towns. Jan. 9, on. HOLT, Waxworks, Plymouth.

WANTED, Known, that Boxing Shows, Strong Men, Fat Ladies, or other good Novelties not settled Christmas can have Four Weeks (good Salary or Sharing), under cover at Tom Norman's Carnival, Queen-street, Portsmouth. Marvellous Business to Soldiers, Sailors, and thousands of Civilians. Wire, 8, Bank-gardens, Ryde, Wight.

WANTED, for Tom Norman's World's Fair and Carnival, Queen's-street, Portsmouth, under cover for Four Weeks, commencing Monday, Boxing Show. Terrific business can be done here, or will arrange with experienced man to work up a boxing entertainment. Wire, 8, Bank-gardens, Ryde, I.O.W.

WANTED, a First-class Palmist, Lady. A Special Novelty, such as a Gipsy or Something of the kind. Full particulars to
OSBORNE, 13, Upper Liffey-street, Dublin.

WANTED, Palmist, and other Good Novelties, to open at once. One of the best positions in Belfast. F. SHARP, 49, High-street.

WANTED, Planksman; Preference given to one Playing the Piano. Salary, 30s per week. Open at once. WEST BROS., Auction Mart, Brook-street, Nelson, Lancashire.

WANTED, Jan. 9, by the Collenas, the Premier Rifle Experts. Every Proprietor says so. No Bluff necessary with this Act. Also Miss Zona Bell, Coloured Lady Snake Charmer; Madame St. Claire, Female Gaol Breaker. Booked together or separate.
Crouch's Waxworks, Argyle-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

CAMBRIDGE HALL, SOUTHPORT. Jan. 17 to 27, 1905.
Trades and Domestic Advertising Exhibition Syndicate.
Admission Free.
WANTED, to Let, Spaces, High-class Side Show required for Large Stage or Room. WILLIAMS, Exhibition Office, 8, Wesley-street, Southport.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED, Ground for Side Show, after New Year, in Exhibition or Carnival, for Giant Bullock; or will Sell after New Year, with Booth and Painting. This week, Collins's Grand Carnival, North Haymarket, Liverpool. Particulars, apply, THOMAS MATSON, Westmorland-place, Harrogate.

WANTED, Known, to be Sold by Auction, Jan. 5, 1905, on the Wholesale Market, Bolton, at 11 o'clock a.m. prompt, through death, Wright's Elaborate Fine Art Exhibition. Two Road Living Wagons, Two Powerful Horses, Two Sets Harness, Throwing Games, Tilts, Stalls, and other useful Lots.
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NEW YORK DRAMATIC NEWS, BROADWAY THEATRE BUILDINGS. NEW YORK. U.S.A.

THE NEW YORK DRAMATIC MIRROR.
HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.
ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.
Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
London Representative, Mr STUART CONOVER.
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ALBERT J. BORIE, General Manager.
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Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Staley's Transformation, Lily Tiso, Maxwell and Frances, Johnny Dwyer, Austin and Cowan, Flo Burris, Baldwin Bros., Barton Howard, Sinclair and Parr, Chas. R. Sweet.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Frank Hilbert, Charles Stevens, Daisy Ray, Two Butterflies, Katie Butler, Fiske and M'Donough, Nello, Four Milons, Three Sisters Slater, Daisy Mayer.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Fred Karno's Company, in "Saturday to Monday;" Lilian Lowe, Horace White, Lyane and Geks, Peppo's Monkeys, Johnny Glimore, M'Phee and Hill, Jan Rudenyi.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Keno, Welch, and Montrose, Little Uno, Rastus and Banks, Barney Vox, Florrie Gallimore, Loro Quartette, Geoffreys and Benson, Sakers, Vasilescue Troupe, Hagedorn's Fairy Grotto.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.
Two Performances Nightly, at 6·50 and 9·0. Rehearsal, at 11·0 o'clock, for Jackson Family, Knick Knacks, Cavallinis, Florrie Robina, Aurora Troupe, Three Georgis, Brown and Robinson, Chas. Lilburn, Tambo and Tambo, Chas. Coborn.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Two Performances Nightly. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Fred Maxwell and Co. in "Lord Harkaway," Lizzie Fletcher, Four Schultzenlieserl'n, Bros. Damm, Arthur Lennard, Bioscope, Carl and Mary Ohm, Ella Retford, Three Mascottes, Leo Stormont.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Union Gatling Guards, Cline and Clark, Sisters Jonghmanns, Griff, Tom Edwards, Joko and Koko, Sarathaler Sextette, Vosper, Keene and Adams, Driscoll and Beattie.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
Resident Director, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for Fred Karno's Co., in "Mumming Birds;" Diamond and Beatrice, Charles Adams, Edie Veno, Prince Kokin, George Bohee, Alex. Gray, Three Sisters Hayden, Alice Simmons, Swan and Bambard.

EMPIRE PALACE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal, at 1·30 o'clock, for Diane De Fontenoy, in "An Artist's Model;" Three Victorias, Frank Harwood, Amber Austa, Eugene Marrder, Lilian Warren, Will Haines, Rose Archer, Alexander, Lucy Weston, G. W. Hunter.

EMPIRE THEATRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Herr Grais's Baboons, Max Welson Troupe, Alburtus and Bartram, the Jees, Bioscope, Resus Trio, the Llewellyns, Milner Verren, Alice Maydue, Pueblo Brothers.

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Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Rd. Lista Bears, Harry Lamore, the Lumare, Devona Sisters, Nellie Coleman, the Howards, Dome, Phillips and Terry, Chas. Gardiner.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Tilly Bebe's Lions, Byron and Langdon, Auto and Mobil, Hardeen, Morton and Elliott, Lily Marney, Selbini Troup, Virto and Irene, Wilson Hallett.

EMPIRE THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM
Rehearsal, at 3·0 o'clock, for Loie Fuller, Carl Hertz, Two Bostons, Otto Schumann, Labakans, Little Nelusco, Harry Champion, Warden, Reed, and Co., L. B. Athol, Kitty Bell.

NEW PALACE THEATRE, BORDESLEY.
Rehearsal, at 12·30 o'clock, for Mendel, Leona Dare, Morris and Morris, Beattie Bloom, Tourbillon Troupe, Sisters Neilson, Burg, Haud, and Wise, Wisper, Harry Zytter, C. Cunningham and Co., in "V.C."

EMPIRE, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·50 o'clock. Artistes please note. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Fanny Fields, Bros. Horne Troupe, O'Gust, Laurie's Kindergarten, Alfonse Trio, Harriett Vernon, Hall Earle, The Bohemians, Chas. Deane, Ethel Ra-Leslie.

EMPIRE, NEW-CROSS, LONDON, S.E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·40 o'clock. Artistes please note. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Bella and Bijou, Sisters Klos, Clown Zerthos, Five Delevines, Alexandra Dagmar, Cabby and Shirker, Syd May, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Ike Scott and Son, Ada Cerito.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD, LONDON, E.
Curtain rises Nightly at 6·45 o'clock. Artistes please note. Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Marie Lloyd, Wille Bros., Newhouse and Ward, Duncan's Dogs, Three Ronays, Morcashani, Lily Lena, Teile D'Araignees, The M'Gregors, Will Mitcham, Maud Rose.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BOOKED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ABOVE:—

EMPIRE PALACE, HACKNEY.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for A. C. Lilly and Co., Starr and Leslie, Walter Bellonini, Ted Karno Troupe, Fred Poplar, Harry Bedford, Prof. Dunning, Kahn and Kahn, Kitty Wager.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE, SHEPHERD'S-BUSH.
Managing-Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Mark Melford and Co., Burke, Moller, and Teller, Burke, Andrus, & Frisco, Lizzie B. Raymond, the Levinos, John Alexander and Co., Szarvasi-Ferencz Troupe, the Alaskas, Clown Ferreros, the Picquays,

PALACE THEATRE, LEICESTER.
Managing Director, OSWALD STOLL.
Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for George Gray and Co., in "Fighting Parson;" Barowsky Trio, Troubadour Four, Alf Gibson, Leonard and Francois, Trentanovi Sisters, the Passparts, Cnildie Stuart.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal, at 12·0 o'clock, for Hermann Melot, Florry Cooper, Walter Munroe, Fanny Robina, Gallagher and Hild, Pia Carozzi, Bijou Russell, Doody and Wright, Hugh Stanton and Co., in "For Reform."

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 11·0 a.m. o'clock, for Vasco, Mabel Hind, Tom Stuart, Chas. Cardow, Collins and Rice, Sybil St. Elmo, Alexandre and Bertie, Jimmy Shields Coloured Meisters.

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS.
Proprietor, Mr R. THORNTON.
Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for J. Peterman's Co., in "The Belle of the Orient;" Charles Vincent, Mueller and Coyne, the Rales, George Newburn, Bioscope, Margaret Ashton.

EMPIRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for Horace Goldin, Trapnell Family, Werner and Reiter, Professor Finney and Sister, Princess Pauline, Frazer and Mac, Cape Girls, Harry Lawson, Oakley and James, Jennie Belmore.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME, OXFORD-STREET.
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Rehearsal, at 10·0 a.m. o'clock, for Seech's Lions, Leah, Les Vicentinas, Robertus and Wilfredo, Three Donals, Seddons, Tscherneff's Dogs, Cole De Losse, Lukushima Troupe, Apollo, Rossow's Midgets, Leolya, Gus Hart, Mrs Burns' Working Ants, O. W. Yorke, Mdlle Octavia, Prince Samoula, Mdlle. Lucie, Mysterious Kettle, Professor Harcourt's Illusions, the Howards, Lieut. H. G. Amer's Military Band, and all Side-Shows, Stall-Holders, Doormen, Staff, &c., Engaged.

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Artists must have Band Parts for at least Twelve different Instruments for the Orchestras. Matter for Bill, Blocks, and specimens of Pictorials for Leicester, Cardiff, Swansea, Newport, Nottingham, Holloway, Stratford, New-cross, Hackney, and Shepherd's-bush must be sent to Mr OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff; and for the other Theatres to Mr FRANK ALLEN, the London Hippodrome, London, W.C., Two Weeks before Opening, or Artists will run the risk of having their Engagements cancelled.

IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.

Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

N.B.—Silence in every case a Polite Negative. Artists are requested not to enclose stamped envelope. Telegraphic address, "Twigsome, London." National Telephone, 5,526 Gerrard.

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CALL, for Monday next, Dec. 26, 1904.
Royal Imperial Boys' Orchestra, Tom Halee, Millie Howell, Angelina, Wake and Dean, Collins' Animated Pictures, Baousiau Brothers, Augustin and Hartley, Peterman's "Factory Girl" Company.
Rehearsal at 12 0 o'clock prompt.
Matinée, 2·0 o'clock.

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CALL, Monday, Dec 26, 1904.
The Watson Family. Colin and Croft, the Weimars, Fred Balham, Will Bell, Juan and M'Que, Tom Herman's "For King and Country;" Bioscope. Rehearse at 12·0 o'clock. All must attend. No Excuse. Special Matinée at 2·0.

CALL.—CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD, Dec. 26.—Proprietor, MILTON BODE, Esq. Matinée, 2 30, for Dates, Gracie Floyd, Lade Henderson, May Geraldine, Kyoto, Michel and Polo, Kitty West, and Howe and Ardie. Pacey and Reeves, 76, Waterloo-rd., S.E.

HIPPODROME, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
CALL.—The Following Artists to Attend Rehearsal 11·30 a.m., Dec. 26, and Note there is a Day Performance on that Date at 2 30 p.m.:—Woolford's Circus, Miss Vanda, Bros. Testo, Rappo and Ella, Martino, Dezmonti and Mora, Unity Vezzey, Eleonora Doodles, Glenroy Troup, Mr E. Round, Orchestra and Staff. No excuses. By Order, GEO ZALVA.

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TESSIE.

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The Original Singer of
MY BLUSHING ROSIE
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MAH MOONLIGHT LOU,
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Sung in
"SERGEANT BRUE,"

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MY QUEEN DIVINE.
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WILLIE, YOU HAVE CAUGHT MY EYE.
LOOK OUT FOR HER.
SHE'S A VERY DEAR FRIEND OF MINE.
THERE'S ALWAYS ONE.
I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU TOOK ME IN.
THE WAITER LAUGHED.
THEN THE CORONER SAID "OH!"
I FEEL SO SLEEPY.
QUEER LITTLE OSTRICH.
M'CORMICK.
MY GOLDEN BELLE.
DOWN IN SOMALILAND.
MY WHITEWASH MAN.
COME, BE MY HONEY.
IT'S LOVELY TO LOVE A LOVELY GIRL.
FOLLOW THE CROWD ON A SUNDAY.
THAT'S WHAT THE ROSES WILL TELL YOU.
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THE OXFORD,
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Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·30 o'clock.
Louie Freear, Norman French, Ray Wallace, Amy Clevere, Tom Leamore, Joe Elvin, in "Fares, Please!" Nelson's Newsboys Quintette, Maggie Walsh, Eileen Douglas, Bransby Williams, Gus Elen, Fanny Wentworth, Jack Camp, Will H. Fox, Lily Langtry, Vesta Victoria, Joe G'Jorman, the Five Whiteleys, Lottie Lennox, Talbot to and Douglas, the Max Trevally-Harley Troupe, Vesta Tilley.
Matinée, Boxing Day and Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 2·15.
Manager, ALBERT GILMER.

THE TIVOLI,
STRAND, W.C.
Rehearsal on Monday, at 11·0 a.m.
Vesta Tilley, Ian Colquhoun, Will Evans, Tom Leamore, G. H. Elliott, Bransby Williams, Vesta Victoria, Clark and Hamilton, Dolly Harmer, Dandy George and Dog, Radie Furman, Whit Cunliffe, Ray Wallace, Royal Six, George and Gusti Edler, the Julians, Harvey Boys, and Louie Freear.
Matinée, Boxing Day.
Joint Acting-Managers: JAMES HOWELL, ARTHUR YATES.

THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
Dr. Walford Bodie, Ray Wallace, Leo Tell, Radie Furman, Bransby Williams, Arthur Lloyd and Co., Jules Keller, The Original Caledonian Boys, Conway and Leland, Signor and Madame Soremi, Terry and Lambert, Whit Cunliffe, Victoria Monks.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
Joe Elvin and his Popular Comedy Company, in "The Brown Bear;" Caledonian Boys, Pat Rafferty, Tom Leamore, Clark and Hamilton, Five Juliens, Will H. Fox, Ian Colquhoun, Will Evans, Jules Keller, Walter Stanley, Fanny Wentworth, Harry Anderson, Maggie Walsh, Miss Ethel Arden, Mr Geo. Abel, and Talented Company, in "Three of a Kind."
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EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Fred Karno and Co., "Mumming Birds;" James Fawn, The Royal Six, Ella Lane, Dan Conroy, Ruffell's Imperial Bioscope, Eileen Douglas, Nelson's Newsboys, Leo Tell, Fyne and Hurley.
A Matinée will be held on Boxing Day, Monday Dec. 26, at 2·0 o'clock. All Artistes Engaged must appear.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

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Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
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HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
The Six Yiulians, Reddick Anderson, Cass Bona, Sandor Trio, Miss Nellie Ganthony, the Densmores, R. Judge's Acrobats and Trick Leapers, John Lloyd, Pictures, Charles Baron.
Special Matinée on Dec. 26 Rehearsal at 11·30.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
Staig's Motor, Nancy St. John, Harry Leybourne, The Falcons, Reilly and Taylor, Sulima Matrapa, Mr Alix Lukos, J. H. Scotland, Carina Sisters, Pictures, Bennecelli Troupe.
Special Matinée on Dec. 26. Rehearsal at 11 30.

REGENT, SALFORD.
Hayman and Franklin, Amy Elvira, Bock Pyladis, Fielding and Hull, Charles Steuart, Brothers Ashley, Emma and Victor, Kitty Clover's Comedy Co., Pictures, Keen and Waller.
Special Matinée on Dec. 26. Rehearsal at 11 30.

HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
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Harry Ford, A. Aldridge, Lilly Seville, Andreasen Bros., Ricardo Benedetto Trio, Walton and Miss Ella, Bros. Forrest, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Pictures, Young American Quintette.
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ALHAMBRA, HULL.
The Cattaneos, Ida Ross, Starr and Jerome, Alfonso Silvano, Nellie and Nora Lennie and Dodr, Pictures, The Arleys.
Special Matinée on Dec. 26. Rehearsal at 11·30.

EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
George M. Schilling, Lily Flexmore, Mdlle Marvelle, Addie Dorina, Ed. and Nette Mass, Leo Dryden, Laares Troupe, Henri Ashby, Lew Wells, Pictures, Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes
Special Matinée on Dec. 26 Rehearsal at 11 30.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Ed F. Reynard, Ethel Yorke, Mdlle. Flora Lumiere, Dusty Rhodes, Blind Man, Michele and Sandro, the Fat Boys, Miss Raffin's Monkeys.
Gus Harris, George Penn, Pictures, Charles Morritt.
Special Matinée on Dec. 26. Rehearsal at 11 30.

PALACE, GLASGOW.
Al. Lawrence, the O'Learys, Sutcliffe Family, Alfred Barker, Mons. Brian, Pictures, Hilgart Arkas, and others.

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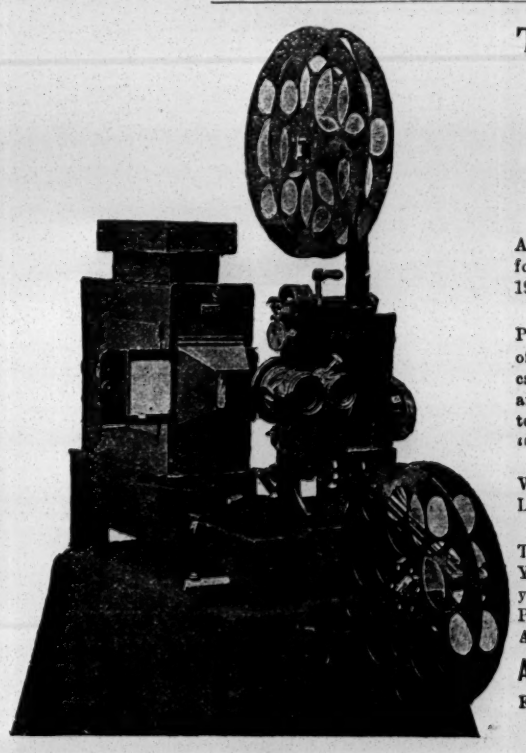

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BARRETT and KNOWLES, Pantomime, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. Produce Boxing Night. Tom Shaw and Co.

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BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY). The Ideal Boy and Girl. Hippodrome, Wigan. Dec 26, Hippodrome, Manchester.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE, Principal Girl, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE). New Indian Scena by Albert Voyce, Esq. Dec. 26, Middlesex and Camberwell.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjuror. Big success. This, Hippo., Eastbourne; next, Hippo., St. Helens. Merry Christmas to all my Friends.

BELL, HARRIS L., and LILLY PEARL COMPANY, THE, present the Comedy Vaudeville "A Bit of String," Tottenham and the Bedford.

BELLA, LA PETITE, the Yankee Millionaire's Daughter, huge success in London. Canterbury and Collins's, Nightly.

BELROSE, GEO., and MAUDE DE VELIN, Pantomime, Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

BENET, HARRY, Hip., Accrington, Monday, Palace, Dundee. Artistes engaged by B. and M., 26th, Rehearse 12-0, P.H., Redditch.

BENHAM, GEORGE, Band-box Clown, Prince of Wales, Prince's-square, Kennington-cross. Wines and Spirits, Finest Quality.

BENN, SIGNOR and MADAME PROSPER, in their Novel Instrumental Sketch. Managhten Tour. Merry Christmas. Next, P., Hartlepool.

BENSON, ALLY M., Buttons, in Mr John Walters's "Cinderella." Terrific success, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

BENT, HARRY, the Novel Mimic; also CARLOTTA LUNN. Tremendous hit, Alhambra, Belfast Monday, Tivoli, Dublin. Fortune and Granville.

BENTLEY, DANTE, and ELTON, Comedians. New Act. New Act, "Fun in a Street." Vacant Jan 2; also March. Wire, Hippodrome, Stoke.

BENTLEY'S AGENCY, 109, Stamford-street, S.E. Manager, Horace Sheldon. 'Phone, 12,706, Central.

BERNARD, GEO., Modern Vocal Actor, extends Salutation and Greeting to thee and thine. Forward Presents, &c., Central Palace, North Shields

BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M'Bunker, "The Mountebank," Empire, Burnley.

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. Grand Theatre, Nottingham. Merry Christmas to All.

BLYTHE, MARIE, taking a well-earned rest at home, 16, Herbert-road, Stockwell, S.W. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Limited.

BODIE, ALBERT EDWARD WALFORD. Address, Bohemia House, Bodie's-buildings, Macduff, N.B.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), Musicians. This, Empire, Hackney; next, Empire, Holloway. Foster, 4, Garrack-st. Merry Christmas to All.

BON BONS, FIVE. Harry Bon Bon's Comedy Five.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Dec. 26, Canterbury, Granville, and Standard. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, in his Musical Séance, Introducing his Wonderful "Bosanquephone." Returned to England. Address, Rhyl.

BOSWELL, A. P., Big Hit, Empress, Hartlepool. Returns Monday, Tivoli, Shields, at an increase. Merry Christmas to All.

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, Pavilion, Hastings.

BOWMAN, J. H., Anglo-American Humourist, Vocalist, Closes To-night, Circus, Bury. 26th, Hippo., Norwich. Vacant Feb. 6, onward.

BOYD and GILFAIN Wish All Kind Friends A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Alhambra, Belfast.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE), conclude Victoria Theatre, Stanley. Dec. 26, Grand, Stockton

BREWSTERS, Theatre Royal, Reading, Messrs Little and D'Arcy's "Sinbad." Parts and Specialities. Miss KITTY BREWSTER, Principal Girl.

BRIGHTON GIRLS, THE, Lance and Sword Experts, Acrobatic and Speciality Dancers, "Swiss Express" Company.

BRITTON, LITTLE, Eccentric Comedian and Comedy Dancer, Mr J. Tiller's "Ohio". Opens at Alhambra, Paris, Jan. 1 (Five Weeks).

BROGDEN, ARTHUR, Proprietor of the Swiss Choir. Registered Title 1882.

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Second Boy and Girl, "Babes in the Wood" Panto. Osborne Theatre, Manchester.

BROOKS, BROS; SISTERS BRAND, Open To-night, Pantomime, "Aladdin." Empire Theatre Oldham

BROOKS, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent. 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BROWN and ROBINSON, Harmony Builders. Dec. 26, Empire, Bradford.

BRUCE and ROSS, Australian Comedy Artists, Monday, Hippo., Porth. Vacant Jan. 9, 16, to follow Ton-y-Pandy. Offers invited.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Palace, Bordesley.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Andrew's Hall, Cardiff

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, 344, Bury New-road, Manchester. Manager, L. Hochschild. And at Hartlepool and London.

BURNS'S, HARRY, AGENCY, Empress Varieties, Hartlepool. Manager, C. Ferrier. 'Phone, 023'. Telegrams, "Burns, Empress." And at Manchester.

BURTON'S Variety, Concert, and Advertising Agency. Manager, Arthur D. Burton. "Life's great opportunities are never labelled."

BUTT MARVELS, THE, the World's Greatest Barrel Jumpers and Tumblers. Dec. 26, Hippo., Porth. Vacant Jan 2, 9. Agent, Fiori.

CALVERTO'S ENTERTAINMENT BUREAU, GLASGOW. Shall be pleased to hear from First-class Artistes or Companies coming North.

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey. Great Novelty Act Monday, Paddington Palace, Liverpool. Vacant shortly.

CARL and CARR, Refined Comedians, Rehearsing, Chinese Policemen, "Aladdin." Open Boxing Day, Ealing Theatre, W. Merry Christmas to all

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, Topping Bill on Macnaghten Tour, Pavilion, Leicester. Monday, P., Grimsby, "Obliging a Lady."

CARMEN, HARRY, DAISY LANE, Polyglot Comedian; Chic Comedienne, Palace, Swansea.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA), the Stars of Vocal Comedy, in "Their First Quarrel." Barnard's, Chatham. Compliments of Season to All.

CAZMAN'S, HENRI, Musical, Dramatic, Circus, and Variety Agency. 36, Park-mansions, Battersea-park, London, S.W. Telephone, 335 Battersea.

CECIL, TOM, Comedian, Concertising in Scotland. Serpentello's Agency, 28, Wellington-street, London.

CEDRICS, THE (MARCEL and EDOUARD). Equilibristic Comedy Artistes Britannia, Glasgow. Talent is always successful.

CEE-MEE Troupe On Tour. Permanent Address, care of "The Era."

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS, Free Jan. 16. See other Advt. This week, Hippodrome, Manchester.

CHARIONS, THE, in their Mystic Séances, Thought-Reading Extraordinary, from the Illuminated Coffin. 187, Rolerthall-street, Manchester.

CHARMAN, JACK, the Premier Boy Vocalist. This Week, Canterbury and London, Shoreditch; Next Week, Collins's.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS Baton Manipulators, Duettists, and Dancers. Grand, Sheffield. Monday, Tivoli, Manchester.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Samuel's Exhibition Palace, Dublin.

CHESTER'S AGENCY. Dramatic and Variety Agents. 13, Oxford-street, Manchester.

CHEVALIER, FLO, Vocalist and Comedienne. Monday, Theatre, Perth. Compliments of the season to all friends.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Hippodrome, Paris.

CHIRGWIN, The Palace, Two Weeks only, and other Halls.

CLARENCE and BELL, Immense Hit as the Bailiffs, &c., "Cinderella." Dec. 26, Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall.

CLARKES, THE, America's Sensational Banjo Duo. A Few Vacancies in 1906. Monday, Palace, Grimsby.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, Principal Girl, Jill, in "Mother Goose." Theatre Royal, Manchester.

CLEVELANDS, THE, C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Andrew's Hall, Cardiff.

CLIFF and ETHEL wish you all a Merry Christmas. Monday next, at Home, London.

CLIFFE, TOM E., Rehearsing Title-rôle, Milton Bode, Esq.'s, "Puss in Boots," Royalty Theatre, Chester. A Merry Christmas to All.

CLVO, HARRY, and ROSE ROCHELLE, Wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All. Hippodrome, Carlisle. Monday, Palace, Plymouth.

COATES, ALICE, Comedienne. The Gaiety, Chatham Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

COBORN, CHARLES, Empire, Bradford. Good Funny Songs always welcome.

COLLARD, MADAME, with her Highly-trained Boarhounds, impersonating Lions and Tigers. Jan. 1, T., Manchester.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE, at Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 368, Camden-road, N.

COLLINS, GEO. F., Quaint Star Comedian Vacant Dec. 26, through misunderstanding. Wire, Zoo, Glasgow; Monday, 67, Mersey-rd., Walthamstow, E.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COLVIL and TATE (JACK and ANNIE), Eccentric Comedy Artistes and Dancers, Liberty Jan. 2 Care of Murray, 62, Waddell-street, Glasgow.

COMELY, MABEL, Comedienne. This week, Opera House, York. Dec. 26, Hippodrome, Accrington.

CONLEY, JOE, Comedian. Happy Christmas to All. Free Monday. Wire, Empire, Paisley. Aytoun.

CONWAY, CHARLES, continued success of Quick-change Sketch "Joining the Company." On Tour. 13, Parkhurst-road, Holloway, London, N.

COOKE, STEVE, Cook, in "Dick Whittington," Metropole, Birkenhead. What a success at Rehearsals.

CORNISH, WILL, Unique Musical Bell Act This week, Collins's; next, Standard, Pimlico, 9·10.

COVENTRY, LUCY, Philadelphia Star Serio and Acrobatic Dancer, Casino Kursaal, Lyon, France.

COVERDALE, CHARLES, the Droll Comedian, Enormous Success at Palace, Bath (7·45 and 9·45). Dec. 26 the London Pavilion (8·30 p.m.).

COWPER, VERNON, Descriptive and Humorous Vocalist, Blueskin, in "Jack Sheppard." Dec. 26 Palace, Blackpool.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Lyric, Liverpool.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, and Dog Dooley, this week, Empress, Hartlepool; next week, Variety Theatre, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Company Empire, Birmingham.

CREW, J. H., and "The Original" MAUD MARLOW. Not a "New Recruit" to the Music Halls. London Halls Oliver and Holmer.

CRIS, finish To-night Special Engagement, Palace, Lancaster. Monday, Gaiety, Oldham, Twenty-ninth Time. Come., Forth House, Tyldesley.

CROWSON, WILL, CISSIE CONYERS, Friday, Fairy Queen, Opera House, Northampton; County Theatre, Reading.

CULLANE, FRED, TRIO, furore Nightly, Empire, Islington

CURRY, PERCY, Pantomime, Grand, Edinburgh. Ugly Sister. Agent, Fiori.

DALE, MR HARRY, Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena. General Manager and Ringmaster, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

DALE and D'ARGAN, Look out for Big Triple Pot-Pourri Act. Pantomime, Opera House, Weymouth

DALE and VALE, Specialité Dancers Extraordinary. This Week, Regent, Salford; Next Week, Sadler's Wells T., London.

DANIELS, THE TWO, most Refined Negro Act for inside or out. Vacant March 20 32, Gloucester-place; or, C. H., Cheltenham.

DANTON, CHARLES, Comedian. Hippodrome, Eastbourne.

DANVILS, THE (GEORGE and MAY), Illustrated Songs and Vocal Scenes. Dec. 26, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

DARRELL, THE Original LULAINE TROUPE, including the Athletic Lady Chorister. This, Grand, Newcastle; next, Palace, Croydon.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE of Australian Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. New Show. This, A., Birkenhead; next, T., Falkirk.

DAVIES, LILLIAN, Bareback Equestrienne. New Hippodrome, Wolverhampton.

DAVIES, ROBERT, Equestrian, at Liberty Jan. 2 till April. Address, 105, New Lodge-road, Belfast.

DAVIS, ALF., Comedian and Acter-Vocalist, Grand, Doncaster. Vacant Monday, 26th. Wire, wire, wire.

DAVIS, RYDER and EVA WARD, Finish To-night Hippo., Scarborough. Monday, Hippo., Newport, I.O.W. Compliments of the Season to all.

DAY'S, HARRY, VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAY'S VARIETY AGENCY, 116, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W. Always Vacancies for Stars and Specialities.

DAYTON FAMILY. Dec. 26, Palace, Aberdeen, Second Week.

DE DIO, THE PEERLESS, Wintergarten, Berlin, until further notice.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Hippodrome, Ashton-under-Lyne.

DELAMERE TRIO, Dec. 26, Park Palace, Liverpool. A Joyous Yuletide to All.

DELEVINES, FIVE, "Flirtation." Empire, New-cross

DELLER and OXFORD. Palace, Derby. Merry Christmas to All.

DEMI and SEMI, Musical Act. This, Middlesex; next, Cambridge. Liberty for Pantomime.

DENBY and DENT, Captain and Mate. F. Mouillot's Panto. Co., Theatre Royal, Worcester.

DENHAM, TEDDY, commences To-night as Widow Twankey, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

DENMARK TROUPE, Skaters, Scientific, Comic, Acrobatic, and Knockabouts, at Liberty. Care of Dover Castle, Westminster, London.

DE ROSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, Principal Boy, Malicio. J. Kiddle's "Cinderella," Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

DEVOYE, JIMMY, and BILLY, the Educated Pony, great success, Berlin and Paris. Dec. 26, Palace, Lincoln.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND, Rather Successful, Hippodrome, Coventry. Monday, Westminster, Liverpool.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, Versatile Vocal Entertainer, Vacant Jan. 2. Address, Market Hall, Aberystwith

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, Singing Boxmakers, Starring, E., Wolverhampton. Mon., P., Northampton. Merry Christmas to all Friends

DOM E, the Comedy Clay Man, Empire, Newport.

DONNA, AMY, Refined Comedienne, Argyle, Birkenhead; or, 309, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Dec 26, Empire, Dublin.

DORETTA, LITTLE, a Dainty Little Acrobatic Song and Dance Artist. Touring with C. W. Poole's Royal Myriorama.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Principal Girl, Pantomime, "Goosy Gander." Princess's Theatre, Glasgow.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Booked Moss's Empires till 1907.

DOVE, ETHEL, Principal Girl, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

DOVER, CLIFFE, Finishes To-night, Queen's Theatre. Monday, Theatre Royal Stockport. Dame, Dottridge and Longden's "Forty Thieves."

DRISCOLL, WILL, Bedford, London. Next, Met., Camberwell. "Where is that dicky-bird," "What is your greatest wish,' Chas. Raymond.

DROLL and DRYAN, Funny Comedians, great success, Victoria, Neath. Wire for Monday.

DRYDEN, CISSIE, Vocal Character Actress. Communications to Fred Higham, York-road, London.

DUBOIS, JAMES, Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Monday, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Charming Young Vocalist and Graceful Dancer, Indisposed. All communications, 11, Arnold-st., Liverpool.

DUDLEY, LYDIA, Comedy Artist, usual success, Grand, Byker. Monday, Tivoli, High Shields.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness Roars of Laughter. This, B, Chatham; next, Empire, Islington. A Merry Christmas to All.

DUNNING and KAHN and KAHN, Empire, Hackney. London Coliseum, shortly.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 2 477 Hop. 1A, Loughborough road, Brixton, London, S.W.

EILEEN and MAYNIE, Musical Dancing Dots. A Happy Christmas to All. Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ELCOCK, AMY and FLORRIE ST. ROY, Great success as Peckoe and Cheekie. Complimented by the Directors, New Gaiety Theatre, Dundee.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. For Dates and terms, address, Zulva's Hippo., Barrow-in-Furness.

ELLA'S, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Dec. 26, Empire Theatre, Greenock.

ELLERSLIE, WILL, FLORRIE BRAY, own Pantomime Sketch "Sinbad," Hippodrome, Scarborough

ELLERTON, ALF, Songs, &c. "Bluebell" Parody, Sung by Ernie Mayne and Ben Albert. Panto. Rights, £1 1s. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

ELSWORTHY, MISS DOLLY, Principal Boy, Dottridge and Longden's "Forty Thieves" Co. Third Year. Next Week, T. R., Stockport.

ELVIRA, AMY, Comedienne. This, Pavilion, Glasgow; next, Regent, Salford. Permanent address, 67, Swinton-street, London, W.C.

ELVY, ARTHUR, Vocal Comedian, this week, Granville, Walham-green; next, Palace, Hammersmith. A Merry Christmas to all Friends.

ENIE, LES CARRES, Success Great, Paddington, Liverpool.

EPLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, and Speciality Dancer, Christmas, Grand T., Islington. Part and Speciality. 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton.

ESCALADERS, THREE, Hand-Balancers and Double Ladder Experts. Dec. 26, Palace, Walthamstow, London.

ESDALE BROS., Comedians, Vacant Jan. 9 This week Hippodrome, St. Helens; next week Hippodrome, Ashton.

ETHERDOS, THREE (Two Ladies, One Gent.), Rocking Ladder Experts. Dec. 26, Hippodrome, Porth. Hippodpome, Pandy, to follow.

EVANS, WILL, Business-Manager, Harry Poole. Tel., 165, Richmond.

FAME, PEGGY, the New Low Comedy Contraption. Début in London, Dec. 26, Albert, Canning-town. Proprietors invited. Agent, H. Day.

FAWN, ADA, Monday next, Dec. 26, P., Halifax. Big success. "No Other Girl," by Will Letters. Pantomime Rights, £2 2s.

FERRARIS, THE, Modern and Cosmopolitan Dancers. Grand Cirque Nouveau, Belgium.

FIELDING, ANNIE, and BERT HULL,
"An Officer's Flirtation."
Fourth Week of Basrasford Tour. See Calls for Address

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Park-keepers. The Laughter-makers. Monday, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester. A Merry Christmas to All.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS.,
Latest Success, "A Mare's Nest."
Grand, Hanley. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY,
21, Norton-street, Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

FITZROYS,
Society Gymnasts,
Theatre Royal, Oldham.

FLORADORA GIRLS
open Monday, F. Mouillot's Pan'o. "Robinson Crusoe," Theatre Royal, Exeter. A merry Christmas to all.

FONTAINBLEAU, ALICE, Champion
Troupe of Trick and Leaping Dogs and Great Rolling Globe Act. Per., Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

FORD, MISS CARRIE.
This week, Scotch Concerts;
next, Whitevale Theatre.

FORD, RAY,
Comedienne, Monday next, Gaiety, Oldham.
"Dolly has eyes of blue," by Will Letters.

FORD and HANSON,
the American Musical Millionaires.
Hippodrome, Accrington.

FORMBY, MR. GEORGE,
an Odd Fellow,
Queen's, Glasgow.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE.
Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C.
Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FRANCE and FRANCIS,
Comedians and Acrobatic Grotesques, Hippo., Scarborough. Dec. 26, Lyceum, Stafford. Merry Xmas. to All.

FRANCISCO, Juggler, and MAY
MOODIE, Piccolo Soloist, Hippo., Grimsby. Next, Palace, Derby. London to follow. Pacey and Reeves.

FRANKLIN TROUPE, the Original,
of Russian Vocalist and Expert Dancers.
Next week, Imperial Hippodrome and Circus, Belfast.

FRASETTIS, LES,
Address, Tivoli, Sydney, N.S.W.; or,
9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREDRICKS, CARL, and CORDELIA,
Baron and Specialities, "Cinderella," Opera House, Torquay. A Merry Christmas to All.

FREELAND, MR. FRANK,
Song and Sketch-Writer.
"Got to have it." Exhibition Hall, York.

FREIRE TROUPE, THE, Acrobats,
Tumblers, Double Risley, Living Carrousel (Original) Tour in France.

FRENCH, MARIE, the Irish Gem.
Merry Christmas to Miss Alexandra Dagmar, the Best Friend a Woman ever had.

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and
the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue, Queen's-park, London, W.

FRIDKINS, BORIS, THE Great,
Cossack Troupe.
Opera House, York.

GANNON, NELLIE, Monday, 26th,
Albert, Canning-town. Thanks for inquiries Got over Railway Accident all right. Merry Christmas to All.

GARRICK, MR. GUS,
Monday, Broadhead's Hippodrome, Manchester.
Merry Christmas to all.

GEE, FRANK,
the Light that Failed.
40, Newington-crescent, Kennington-park, S.E.

GEMS, THE TWO (FLO and CISS),
Conclude To-night, Gaiety, Oldham.
Monday, Paddington Palace, Liverpool.

GERALDOS, THE THREE Juggling
A Merry Christmas to All.
Empire, Burnley. Monday, Hippodrome, St. Helens.

GERONDS, THREE, Refined Lady Vocalists
and Dancers, Pantomime, Palace Pier, Brighton. Miss Blanche Gerond Second Boy. 2, Carr-place, Leeds.

GIBB, HORACE, Comedian, and NITA
MAYEU (the Vocal Spark). Settled, Hotel Armada, Broadmead, Bristol. Professionals always Welcome.

GILBERT'S Dogs and Cats conclude
Twenty-eight Weeks' Provincial Tour. Merry Christmas to All. 74, Boyson-road, Camberwell, London.

GILLIN,
Unique Ventriloquial Humourist.
O. H., Radcliffe. Mon., G. T. Chorley. "Me Hat's Off."

GILMORE, ROBB,
the Great Funny Little Man, thanks Milton Bode for Panto. Offer. Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

GOLD, HARRY, Versatile Comedian
"Gold." Animated Song and Chorus. "Gold."
Temple of Varieties, Hounslow.

GOLIATH, the Strongest Youth in the
World. Managers and Agents, look out for Big Triple Pot-Pourri Act. Opera House, Weymouth.

GRAHAM, ERIC,
MILLIE HARRIS. Season's Compliment to All.
Dec. 26, Hippodrome, Bury.

GRAHAM, IVY, Comedienne,
usual success, Argyle, Birkenhead.
Monday next, King's Palace, Liverpool.

GRANADAS, LOS,
Electrifying Bounders.
Monday, Agricultural Hall, Islington, London.

GRAPHO and JACKSON,
"Aladdin," Pantomime, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.
Merry Christmas to All Friends.

GREY and WELFORD,
Boxing Comedians. This week, Grand, Newcastle; next, Metropole, Gateshead.

GWYNNE, FLORENCE. "The Stage-Struck Servant." Palace, Lincoln. Big Success. Dec. 26, Palace, Bath. Agent, Sydney M. Hyman.

HALL'S, TOM, Burlesque Acrobatic
NIPPERS, Dog, and Monkey. Thanks for offers. Still at Liberty for Monday. Wire, T. R., Workington.

HAMPSON, BROTHERS, the Premier
Gentlemen Patter Vocalists. Terrific Success, E., Burnley; next, E., Paisley. Tivoli, Glasgow, to follow.

HANCO, the Jail Breaker. Three Escapes
in Three Weeks. Ashton, Seacombe, and Runcorn. This, Hippo., Ashton. Next, Royal, Warrington.

HANDEL, PERCY. Instrumentalist
Address, Will Sley, Manchester; or,
55, Victoria-street, Bradford.

HANVARR and ANNA LEE,
"The Golfer and the Maid."
Hansa Theatre, Hamburg, until Dec. 31.

HARCOURT, FRED,
Dec. 26,
Waverley Carnival, Edinburgh.

HARDEEN,
Stoll Tour.
Dec. 26, Empire, Swansea.

HARDY, the American Blondin,
"King of the High Rope."
Address, Niagara Villa, Doggett-road, Catford, London.

HARRIGAN and HOLT.
Empire, Wolverhampton.
Compliments of the Season.

HARRIS and WORTH,
Rehearsing "Robinson Crusoe," "Syphon gag over."
Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.

HARROW, BERT. "That's Me."
Wishes old Friends a Merry Christmas.
Next, New Theatre, Aberdare.

HART and CO.,
Dramatic and Variety Agents, 7, Lancaster-house, Ardville-road, Brixton, S.W. 'Phone, 116, Brixton.

HARTLEY WONDERS, Original;
and MAGGIE WALSH.
Dec. 26, Oxford, Canterbury, and Islington.

HARVEY BOYS,
the unrivalled Boxing Comedians.
Tivoli and Camberwell. "The Fighting Dummy."

HASTINGS, G. W., KITTY GOWER,
Descriptive Vocalist and Lightning Change Artiste. Montgomery H., Sheffield. Vacant Jan. 23 Offers invited.

HAYTON, HARRY, Comedian, usual
success, Empire, Birmingham; next week, Hippodrome, St. Helens. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HEATON, PROF. TED,
World's Greatest Diver and Swimmer, and the Beautiful SACHA, in New Original Tank Act. Monday, T., Dublin.

HENDERSON, FAMOUS, Blind Musical
Genius and Concertina Soloist, usual Success, Palace, Derby. Monday, T. R., Hebburn.

HENDERSON and STANLEY
QUARTETTE, in their Marvellous Pot-Pourri Act, at Lib. Jan. 9, and on Mon. next, T. R., Hebburn-on-Tyne.

HENRIETTE, the Beautiful Young Musician. This, Opera House, Harrogate; next, P. P., Liverpool. Agent, Verno, Liverpool

HERBERT, FRED,
Premier Topical Vocalist. Concludes Middlesex and Cambridge. Next week, Palace, Swansea. R. Warner.

HERMAN, SYD, Hebrew Comedian,
"The Shadow of Beaconsfield," by Nat Mayer. Hippo., Macclesfield. Monday, Tivoli, Kidderminster.

HILL, BARRY, and LANG, Knockabout
Comedians, tremendous success, Palace, Dundee. Monday, Aberdeen. A Merry Christmas to All.

HILL, ROWLAND,
as Ye Dame, in "Babes in the Wood."
Osborne Theatre, Manchester. A Merry Christmas to All.

HILL and LANE,
Home for Christmas.
Address, 176, Penton-place, Walworth, S.E.

HILTON, FLORENCE, Special Boy,
"Dick Whittington" Panto., Prince's T., Portsmouth. Produce Boxing Day. Merry Christmas to All.

HILTON and HILTON,
Comedy Bar Comedians.
Dec. 26, Opera House, Harrogate. Vacant Jan. 16.

HOLLOWAY TRIO,
World's Greatest Wire Artist.
Apollo Theatre, Berlin.

HOOK, WALTER W.
1,388th Consecutive Show, New Century Pictures. Three Weeks, Festival Concert Room, York.

HOPE, FRANK,
Sensational Trick Cyclist. This, H., Norwich; next, O., Harrogate. Vacant Jan. 23.

HOWARDS, THE
(RALPH and NELLIE),
Empire, Newport.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and DE LIL,
Illusionist. Two First-class Acts. Vacant Jan. 9 and 16. Letters, 5, Union-road, Macclesfield.

HUNTER, G. W.,
Comedian and Raconteur.
Dec. 26, Empire, Edinburgh.

HURST, W. G.,
the Wonderful Cat,
Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, London, S.W.

HYAM, GEORGE, and NELLIE ROSE,
Scoot and Princess, Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall.
Happy Christmas to All.

HERALD COMEDY FOUR,
Communications,
110, Kennington-road, London, S.E.

IRIS, MISS LILY, Thanks many Friends
for Numerous Telegrams received last Saturday. Compliments of the Season. Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

IRVIN, JOHN, Foot Equilibrist, Fossett's
Hippodrome for Five Weeks; BROS. ARTOIS, Touring Agency. Address, "The Era" Office, London.

JAPS, MUSICAL, just a little busy with
Pantomime Rehearsals. Compliments of the season to everybody. Address, Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.

JETNEYS, THE. Why are we like
gipsies? Vacant Jan. 2.
Next week, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy, S. Wales.

JOHNSTON, JOHNNY,
London's Star, the Musical Dandy.
Exclusive Agent, George Barclay, 221, Brixton-hill, S.W.

JUAN and M'QUE, Comedians,
Empire, Dudley. Monday, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Vacant Jan. 2. Compliments of the Season to All.

JUDGE, SISTERS, with their Marvellous
Performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws.
Dec. 26, Royal Standard, Pimlico.

JULIAN,
Demon Contortionist, "Dick Whittington" Panto. Cat and Speciality, Theatre Royal, Barnstable.

KATHRENA, IDA,
Fairy Queen and Principal Dancer,
Theatre Royal, Croydon.

KATOS, THE,
Komikal Kidgets.
Grand, Clapham-junction.

KAVADOS, Juggler; FLO MELVILLE,
Comedienne, Big Success, New Brompton. Mon., K., Hippo., New Brompton; F. M., Alhambra, Brighton.

KEENE, BILLY, and JESSIE ADAMS,
Society Duettists, Mimics, and Dancers.
Empire Theatre, Glasgow. Didcott.

KEITHS, THE Original Musical
(CARLINA and CHARLIE), on Tour.
Permanent address, 38, Sportsbank-street, Catford.

KELSOS, THE TWO (BILL and TOM).
Comedians, &c. Cross-questions and Crooked Answers. James Kidd e's "Aladdin," Rotunda, Liverpool.

KENDAL, MISS BEATRICE,
Dashing Characteristic Artiste.
Metropole, Manchester, for Dec. 24.

KIMBERLEY BOYS, THE,
Principal Comedians, the Robbers,
"Babes in the Wood," Crystal Palace.

KING and DELANE (GEO. and TOM),
Refined Comedy Act. Song and Patter.
"At the Club." Hippodrome, Macclesfield.

KIRKLAND, GEORGE, the Only Blind
Conjuror in the World, at Liberty February Onward. Address, care of Robertson, 76, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

KLOOF and RAMSAY. Compliments of
Season to All. Kloof, the Great Hase, "Forty Thieves," Theatre Royal, Dover (Produced To-night).

KNICK-KNACKS, THE
(Miss MATTIE CRONIN and HARRY OXBERRY).
Empire, Bradford, Dec. 26.

KNIGHT. STAR, Mysterious Man in
Red. New Inimitable Spectacular Dumb Mystery Act. Elaborate Dresses, Properties. 93, Camden-street, N.W.

KORRIES.
Miss Nellie at work again,
after presenting Mr Kisbey with a little Call Boy.

KYASYAS, LES,
Great Novelty. See other Advertisement. Few intermediate vacs Wire, Winter Gardens, Bournemouth.

KYDD and KYDD,
Comedians, Bailiffs, "Jack and Beanstalk,"
St. Helens. Vacant March.

KYOTO, the Original Comedy Jap; also
MAY GERALDINE, Comedienne, Dancer. Monday, Dec. 26, C. T., Pontypridd. See Kyoto's Wanted Advert.

LA BLANCHE, MABEL,
E., Burnley; Monday, return, H., St. Helens. No vacancies. A Merry Christmas to All.

LA MARA, CHUMMIE,
Pantomime "Cinderella."
Royal Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.

LAND, FRED,
Comedian. This Week, Argyle, Birkenhead.
Next Week, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

LANG, GENTLE BROTHERS,
137, Drakefell-road, Brockley.
Franks address.

LANG, REM, the Eccentric Wizard. Fast
Booking 1905. Thanks to W. B. Broadhead, Esq., for Contracts. Address, Hippodrome, Accrington.

LAROLA and ROSE CABANI,
Monday, Hippodrome, Glasgow, Two Weeks.
Agents, George Barclay and Co.

LASSAH, LILLIE
Dec. 26,
Metropolitan.

LAVELLE BROS.,
Quaint Comedy Acrobats.
Dec. 26, County Theatre, Reading.

LAYNE, GEORGE,
Singing Comedian with a Big Voice. Hippo., Accrington. All coms., 11, Cunliffe-street, Pendleton, Lancs.

LEANDER, HARRY,
Uncle Neb. "Love-making," a Big Song.
Dec. 26, Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

LE BRETON, LILLIE, Graceful Lady
Gymnast, great success, this, G., Gravesend. Next, G., Chatham. Thanks Harry Day for Contracts.

LE CLERQ, GUS,
as Gertie, Ugly Sister, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle.
Merry Christmas to All.

LEE and ARDEN,
This week, Opera House, Harrogate;
next, Oxford Palace, Middlesbrough.

LEE, THE Original THREE SISTERS,
Acrobats. Always a Success.
Next Week, Grand, Sheffield. Merry Christmas to All.

LE FRE, ALBERT,
Prince's Theatre,
Bristol

LE GRAHAM, THREE SISTERS,
thanks for numerous offers for Pantomime.
Monday, Hippodrome, Wakefield.

LEIGH, THREE SISTERS,
Refined Entertainers. Monday, Barnard's, Chatham.
A Merry Christmas to Friends.

LEIGHTON and MONA,
the Smartest of all Piano Acts. This, Palace, Swansea. Dec. 26, Hippodrome, Lowestoft.

LENNOL, MR. JACK, Pantomime
Rehearsals, Dandini, "Cinderella." Prince, Miss Marie Loftus. Letters, care of "The Era."

LEONARDS, TWO COLMA, Comedy Bar
Show, Double Knockabout. Talking, Singing, and Jumping Clowns. Lib. Wire, 7, Melville-st., Nottingham.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI,
Great Success, Pav., Carnarvon. Monday, King's P. of V., Liverpool. Also MELITA. Merry Xmas to all.

LESLIE BROTHERS,
Australia's Representative Musical Team, Enormous Success, London Hippodrome. R. Warner and Co.

LESLIE, MARK, the Original and Only
Swell Coon, this, Surrey and Standard; next, Croydon. All coms., Walter Bentley, 169, Stamford-st.

LESTER'S, LEO, Pantomime Sketch.
Wishes all a jolly Christmas and many happy days in the New Year. Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich.

LEWARREN, Ventriloquist, with his Merry
Mascots; also SADIE DANA, Coon Vocalist, concluding A., Accrington. H., Bury. Merry Christmas to All.

LEWIS, LARRY, an Original Comedian.
Dec. 26, Chatham.
No Vacant Dates. Agent, Harry Day.

LEYBOURNE, GEORGE,
General Manager, Alhambra, Sandgate.
Artistes communicate, Fred Durham's Agency.

LITTLE and GOODE (ADA and LUCY),
the Funny Pair, in their Side-splitting Burlesque, "Wanted, a Deputy." Monday, Hippo., Castleford.

LIZZETTE, THE FOUR SISTERS,
Lady Acrobats; ELSIE RUBINA, Wire Dancer, on Tour. Parr Hall, Warrington.

LODDGE, BROS., Silver Chain Acrobats,
Liberty Monday. Wire, P., Carnarvon; after Saturday, 55, King-cross-street, Halifax. Agent, Fioni.

LLOYD, BABY, Star Artiste, and NELLIE
VANN, big success, Hippodrome, Dewsbury. Mon., Dec. 26, P., Sunderland. Liberty Jan. 16, 23, on.

LLOYD, FRED, AND COMPANY,
Comedy Sketch, "The Blind Spinster," Empire, Greenock. Dec. 26, Hippodrome, Salford.

LOGAN, DAINTY GRACIE. Finishes
To-night, G. T., Doncaster. Monday, H., Wakefield. Merry Christmas to All. 48, Cartwright-st., Doncaster.

LORRISONS, THE (FRED and LILA),
Eccentrics,
Dec. 26, the London, Shoreditch. Day's Agency.

LOTTO, LILO, and OTTO,
Trick Cyclists.
2, Lambeth Palace-road, S.E.

LOUIE, SIGNOR and MADAME,
Illusionists, Starring, Grand Opera House, Harrogate. Communications, Palace, Sunderland.

LUCAS, MR. and MRS. EDWARD H.,
in "Scenes from Dickens." Permanent address, Ivybank, Brougham-st., Birmingham. Resting Two Weeks.

LUMIERE'S, MDLLE., Electrical Fairy
Grotto. This, Hippo., Birmingham; next, Return, Hippo., Liverpool. Compliments of the Season to All.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR,
American Song Illustrators.
Palace, Dundee. Monday, Palace, Aberdeen.

LYONS, HARRY,
Singing Auctioneer.
Auction Mart, Castlebar, Ireland.

LYONS TRIO,
Dec. 26, Royal, Oldham.
Enormous success of New Act. Special Scenery, &c.

LYTTON, WILL, Will Atkins, in Mac-
naghten's Panto., Chesterfield. I'll turn Dame Crusoe from her home; her goods and gags I'll pinch. Exit.

MACK, JULIAN,
finishes To-night, Hippodrome, Blackpool.
The Coming Man with his Doomsday Book.

MACS, THE NEW,
Comedians.
Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MALONE and CONLEY, Hasarac and
Hasaric. F. J. Little's "Forty Thieves." Gaiety, Ayr; next, Grand, Falkirk. "Soo Toon. Don't do it, Freddy."

MARCONIS, THE Great Electric
Wonders. Merry Christmas to All. This week, Palace, Blackburn; next, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

MARJUTTI, ADA, the Flexible Venus;
MARTI and JULIETTA,
H. Barrs' Panto., "Aladdin," Amphitheatre, Ramsgate.

MARNEY, LILY,
Empire,
Swansea.

MAROS, THE,
Three-Bar Comedians, Free Jan. 2, 9.
Comp., 126, Porter-street, Hull. A Merry Christmas to all.

MARTIN, MISS HELEN,
Indisposed.
8, Cambridge-road, Southampton.

MARTINO, the Frog,
Vacant Jan. 2, 9.
Monday next, Zalva's Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness.

M'ASKELL, Comic Conjuror. This
Saturday afternoon, Town Hall, Greenock. To-night, Port Glasgow. Monday, return, Palace T., Belfast.

M'AUBERS, THE, Funniest of Triple Bar
Comedians. Dec. 26, Alex. P. Vacant Jan. 2, 9
Communications, 54, Aliwal-road, Clapham-junction.

MAXFORD, DAN,
Vacant Jan. 2. Also Pantomime, any Part.
102, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

MAXWELL and FRANCES.
TOM and (his Daughter) VIRGINIA.
Dec. 26, Empire Palace, Birmingham.

MAYNE, ALICIA,
Australian Dramatic Songstress, with Beautifully Coloured Photo-Illustrations. 12, Dover-mans., Brixton.

MAYON and MARLE.
Terrific Hit this week, Hippodrome, St. Helens.
Monday, Grand, Manchester. Coms., Sley.

M'CANN'S Famous Performing Irish
Terriers and Champion Leaping Dogs. Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30. Address, Haymarket Varieties, Liverpool.

MEIER and MORA,
Jan. 1, Alhambra, Paris. Address,
6, Devonshire-house, Bath-terrace, London, S.E.

MEPHISTO, the Ideal Contortionist,
This, Hippodrome, Manchester.
Dec. 26, Westminster, Liverpool. Free Jan. 9.

MERRIE, CECIL
"Mirth and Matrimony," Hammersmith.
Roars of laughter. 71, Kennington-road, S.E.

MERRY, MISS FLO, big success
as Baroness, in "Cinderella." Specially Engaged. Merry Christmas to All. H. M. Theatre, Walsall.

MESSER, G. F.,
The Enterprise, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell, S.E.
H. O. C. Meetings Every Sunday. 8 30.

MILES-STAVORDALE QUINTETTE
(the Original Act). Touring in U.S.A. Address, "Clipper," Office, New York. Agents, Anger and Bauer.

MILSTED, MISS EMMIE,
Saucee, Special Coloured Part, in "Aladdin."
Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MILTON'S MARIONETTES.
Address, Arthur Milton, the Marionette King,
Post-office, Portsmouth.

M'KAYS, THE.
Dry Comedy, Wet Paint, and a Magic Kettle
Success, G., Newcastle. Monday, Metropole, Gateshead.

MONTAGUE, LEO,
Lifting Laughter in Malta
with the Imperial Bioscope and Variety Company.

MONTGOMERY, ALFRED,
Up-to-date Entertainment Provider,
51, Cornwallis-road, Upper Holloway, London, N.

MORRIS, HARRY,
Humorous Mimic, &c., Big Success, Harrogate.
Monday, Hippo., Manchester. Merry Christmas to All.

MORRIS, J. C.,
Quaint Comedian and Patterer. Big Hit, Standard Pimlico. Dec. 26, Palace, Greenwich.

MORTIMER, MAUDE,
Originality.
Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

MOZZETTO, Prince of Boy Jugglers
A., Scarborough; Dec. 26, Pavilion, Altrincham. Compliments of the Season to Dale and D'Argan and others

MUELLER and COYNE,
Dec. 26, Empire, South Shields.
A Merry Christmas to All.

MUIR and BARTLETT, in "A
Clerical Complication." Just as cleverly played as it is cleverly constructed.—Ipswich Herald. P., Lancaster.

MURRAY, LESLIE H.,
Magician and Card Manipulator.
Palace, Lancaster; Next, Grand, Sheffield.

MURRAY, LOUIS
"The Cabman's Story."
Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne. Next, Hippodrome, Burr.

MYERS, CLEM,
Ugly Sister, Stage-Manager, "Cinderella."
County Theatre, Bedford.

MYERS, ERNIE, and LILY LONSDALE,
Panto. "Forty Thieves." Thanks friends for beautiful flowers and presents. T. R., Stockport.

NELSON and THOMAS,
"On the Ra-Ta." Thanks to W. Peacock, Esq., for Contracts. Town Hall, Shrewsbury.

NEVIS, BEN, wishes Everybody a Merry
Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.
Dec 26, Queen's, Poplar.

NEWHAM and LATIMAR,
in their Own New Répertoire,
on Tour. Address, "The Era" Office.

NEW YORK QUARTETTE, THE Original.
Dec. 19, Opera House, Burton-on-Trent, Parts and Principal Dancers in "The Girl from Bond-street" Co.

NOBLE, DAN, Comedian; MARIE
YORKE, Comedienne. Another terrific hit, Palace, Dundee. Next, Palace, Aberdeen. Merry Christmas to all.

NOVELLS, THE THREE, Society Acro-
bats, next week, P., West Hartlepool. Free Jan. 30 and later Dates. Merry Christmas to All.

OAKDENE, Novelty Ventriloquist
"Fun in a Studio." Novel Effects. Big Hit, Aquarium, Scarborough; next, Drill Hall, Rotherham.

OBO, BROTHERS, Laughing Comedians,
Mr John Walters' Panto., "Robinson Crusoe," Fifth Season. Coms., O. H., Cheltenham, until further notice.

O'CONNOR and BRADY.
Simp'e Simon and Johnny Stout,
with G. Brydon Phillips, Esq., Grand Theatre, Derby.

ONDA and ARTELL,
Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Act, Coliseum, Brighton.
Dec. 26, Hippodrome Winter Gardens, Southport.

ONDA and LEON,
Conversational Gymnasts,
Dec. 16, Hippodrome, Coventry.

OSBORNE, CHARLIE,
the Author, Composer, and Light Comedian.
54, Fortess-road, London, N.W.

PACEY and REEVES' AGENCY,
76, Waterloo-road, S.E.
'Phone, 894, Hop. Telegrams, "Parthenon, London."

PACKER, TOM,
75in. of Clean Comedy. Big Success, Sadler's Wells.
Monday, Empire, Dudley. F. Higham.

PALMERS, MUSICAL.
Monday next, Tivoli, Dublin.
Also Miss DAISY PALMER, Serio and Specialities.

PARR and GRAVETTA in their Great
Pot-pourri Act, entitled "There's Going to be a Show." Hamilton's Excursions, South Shields.

PAYNE'S, WALTER, Bio-Photoscopes,
with all the Latest Pictures.
Address all communications to Music Hall, Shrewsbury.

PEAKE, FRED. S., and Company, in
"The Hypocrite."
All Scenery, Costumes, &c For address, see other Advert.

PEARCE and WARD, Comedy Couple,
Theatre, Bilston and Wednesbury.
Monday, Short Return, Lyceum, Stafford. Offers Invited.

PENDER, LILY, BOB PEARSON.
Christmas Week, Royal Victoria Hall, London. Free Jan. 2 and 9. Address, 9, Scouler-street, Poplar.

PENROSE, CHARLES,
Peter Piper, "Sleeping Beauty,"
Pantomime, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

PERMANE, W.
Siberian Educated and Equestrian Bears.
Palace, Halifax.

PERRYS, THE Happy
(GRACIE and JOE), in their Sparkling Act.
Theatre Royal, Barnstaple.

PHILLIPS and TERRY,
Empire, Swansea.
Dec. 26, Empire, Newport.

PING-PONG, the Circus Little Tich, Opens
Crystal Palace, Saturday, 24th. Vacant March for Tenting. Address, Ping-Pong, Crystal Palace.

POOLE, DAVID, Ventriloquist, Wishes
Everybody a Merry Christmas. Monday, Home for One Week, Cradley-heath, Staffs.

PRIMAVESI,
Unique Juggler.
Monday, Standard, Pimlico.

PRINELLAS, LES,
"A Country Flirtation." A Merry Christmas to All, Look out for my New Act.

PRY, PAUL, and MARIE ST. JOHN,
The Page. Second Girl.
"Cinderella," Opera House, Torquay.

RADIUM GIRLS (NANCY and AMY),
Dec. 26,
Tivoli, Mansfield.

RAFFIN'S, MDLLE.,
Incomparable Troupe of Monkeys,
Hippodrome, Liverpool.

RALSTON BROTHERS, Retained another
Week, Tottenham Palace. Jan. 2, Portsmouth. Of "Blind Leading Blind" Fame. Bentley's Agency.

RANDALL, MISS NELLIE,
Principal Girl, Opera House, Crouch-end.
"Dearest One" and "Never Say No," by Walter Montague.

RAPPO and ELLA, Continental Equi-
libristes. Last week the Talk of Yarmouth.
Gaiety, Oldham, big success. Monday, Hippo., Barrow.

RAY, HARRY, and LILLIE CALDEN,
Dec. 26, Metropole Theatre, Camberwell,
8 0 and 10 30. Direct.

RAYMOND TRIO, THE, Brilliant
Instrumentalists and Speciality Dancers. Dec. 26, Metropole, Camberwell. Agents, Nathan and Somers.

REDFERN'S, JASPER, World-renowned
Animated Pictures. First in 1895, Foremost ever since. Terms, Jasper Redfern, Surrey-street, Sheffield.

REDFERNS, THE,
Empire, East Hartlepool Monday, Hippodrome, St. Helens. Merry Christmas to all Friends. What d'ye mean?

REED, MISS EVA, Comedy Comedienne,
Grotesque and Top-Boot Dancer, at Liberty Jan. 2. Wire, Circus, Rochdale. A Good Agent Required.

REGAN and RYAN.
A greater success than ever.
Princess's Theatre, Glasgow. See Other Advert.

RENNIE, Ventriloquist. Big success,
Hippo., Bristol. Next, Oh, where? tell me where. "Who stole Rennie's soap?" Answer next week.

RESDAN, RITA. Concluded Twenty
Weeks' Glorious hit in London. Rebooked all Principal London Halls. Playing Aladdin, T. R., York.

RESFORD and HUNT,
"The Widow and the Duke."
Dec. 26, Empire, Portsmouth (Third Return).

REX and FORD, Eccentric Comedians and
Musical Speciality. New Act. London shortly.
Address, 1, Sharsted-street, Kennington-park, London.

RICH and RICH,
Pantomime, Produce Boxing Day,
Marlborough Theatre, N. Agent, Barclay.

RICHARDS, ARTHUR, Wishes All a
Merry Christmas and Happy Return Dates. Monday, Palace, Atterclife; also RENEE WALON.

RITTER, VICTOR.
Refined Grotesque Musical Entertainer.
Communications, care of "The Era" Office.

ROBINA, FANNY; FLORRY COOPER,
and BILLIE BINT. Goodwill to all Men and Women and a Happy Christmas to All. Empire, Dublin.

ROBY, ELSIE,
Cheekee, "Aladdin" Pantomime.
Marlborough Theatre, N. Agent, Barclay.

ROSE, ELLA, Vocalist; HARRY
HARCOURT, Comedian.
Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton.

ROSS-CLYDE COMEDY CO.,
This, Hippodrome, Norwich. Vacant Jan 2.
Care of Smythson, 11, Searle's-road, Paragon, London, S.E.

ROWLEY, MR. J. W.,
Panto. Season, T. R., Bradford. Letters, 37, Salem-st.
Also for Miss ELLA DEAN.

ROZE and CALVERT,
Theatre Royal, Bradford. Cinders,
Page, and Second Boy.

ROZEL,
Le Roi de L'Air,
Hippo., Grimsby. Next week, Empire, Hull.

RUSSELL, CHAS.,
in his Great Monologue, "A Dream of '51."
Empire, Middlesbrough.

SABINO, the Man of Many Instruments,
concludes To-night, Paddington Palace, Liverpool. Monday, Montgomery Hall, Sheffield. At Liberty Jan. 9.

SAKER, ALFRED.
Secretary, Leon Victor.
17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

SALAMBOS, THE,
Touring the World, Enormous success
Letters, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney, N.S. Wales, Australia.

SALAMONSKY'S FIRE HORSE.
Address, Eugene Marrder,
Dec. 26, Empire, Edinburgh.

SALMON, W., Trick and Musical Cyclist,
A Pleasing Novelty Act. Next week, Hippodrome, Carlisle. Requires Jan. 9, North.

SANDY and CARL,
Comedians, &c., big success, Ashton.
Monday, Empress, West Hartlepool. "To be course."

SAN, SIMOSA, Dainty Little Jap,
Smartest Lady Juggler of the Day. Vacant Jan. 2 and 9. Address, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton.

SANFORD and LYONS,
Pantomime,
Grand Theatre, Brighton. Agent, Tom Shaw.

SANSOM, TOM, Author, Composer, and
Original Singer of "How Do You Do?" Tom's original, others copy. Millbrook, Stalybridge.

SANTOI and her Merry Japs
Still at Liberty New Year Week.
Wire, Queen's, Poplar.

SCOTT, GREAT, the Ladder King.
Hippo., Southport; next, Grand, Bolton. A few Vacs in '05 Agent, Foster, 4, Garrick-st., London, W.C.

SCOTT, MISS WINNIE.
Usual success, Circus, Edinburgh.
Monday next, Palace Theatre, Cork.

SEABORNES, THREE, Great Sensational
New Act. Grand, Stockton, Starring. Dec. 26, Metropole, Gateshead Agents Pacey and Reeves

SEEBOLD, SCHACK, Clever Instru-
mental Artist, Finish To-night Coliseum, Brighton. Monday, Palace, Portsmouth, for Two Weeks.

SERPENTELLO'S DRAMATIC and
VARIETY AGENCY, 28, Wellington-st., Strand, W.C. Tele. add., "Serpentelo London" 'Phone, 12,605 Central.

SHAWLENE,
the Famous Mimic and Sifflleur.
All letters, care of "The Era" Office.

SHIELDS, JIMMY,
Moss's Empire, Third Week.
Happy Christmas to All. Empire, Belfast.

SHIPLEY, SAM, and BEATIE WORTH.
Monday, Grand, Halifax. Liberty Jan. 2, 9.
Merry Christmas to All. Peel's Agency.

SILBON'S Vaudeville Circus,
Pantomime, "Cinderella,"
Opera House, York, Two Weeks.

SILCOTT, THREE SISTERS,
Grand Theatre,
Falkirk.

SILL and SILLCOTT,
Pantomimists. By gum, tha art a rough chap.
Mon., Hip., Carlisle. Vacant Jan. 2, through obliging.

SILVO, Gymnast; LOUIE DUVAL,
Comedienne and Dancer. Liberty Monday.
Wire, 88, Sunderland-street, Harpurhey, Manchester.

SILVO, MUSICAL,
Inventor of the Silvochimes and Bamboo Bells.
Tivoli Theatre, Glasgow.

SIMPSON, SADIE.
"I've brought you my Soldier Boys," published by Francis and Day. Duchess, Balham.

SINCLAIR, GEORGE, Variety Agent and Writer and Composer of Smart Up-to-Date Songs.
Call, 12, Walcot-gardens, Kennington-road, S.E.

SIVANE and FIELDON, Comedy Park-keepers, "Keep off the Grass." This, Empire, Wigan. Next, Metropole, Manchester.

SIVRONIS, THE,
Burlesque Artistes.
Dec. 26, Palace, Halifax.

SLONE, MR. RYDER,
Tivoli, Metropolitan, Canterbury.
Dec. 26, Standard, Grand, Clapham.

SMARTE, BROTHERS,
Acrobatic and Legmania Grotesques, Big Success, Fossett's New Hippodrome, Rugby.

SMITH and JOHNSON, Success Haymarket, Liverpool. Dec. 26, Paddington, Liverpool.
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All. "Na-va-ho."

SMYTHSONS, THE,
This, Canterbury and Camberwell.
Next (Dec. 26), Metropolitan and Chelsea.

SNOW and FARRON, in Negro-osities.
Tremendous success. Giving entire entertainment on H.M. ships. Panto., Dalston Theatre, London.

SOFTLEY, HARRY,
Clincher, in Geo. Gray's "Fighting Parson."
Dec. 26, Palace, Leicester.

SOLO and MAYO,
Robert Arthur's Panto. Co., "Robinson Crusoe,"
Theatre Royal, Nottingham. Address, F. S., re Dates.

SOMERS, FELIX,
Facial King, "People We Know."
Town Hall, Reading.

SPENCER, C. G., and SONS, Balloon Manufacturers, 56A, Highbury-grove, London, N.
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." Tele., 1,893 Dalston.

STACEY, ARTHUR, Eccentric Comedian and Top-boot Dancer, Theatre Royal, Worthing.
Jan. 26, Gaiety, Chatham. Agent, Tom Claxton.

STAVORDALE QUINTETTE,
Absolutely Unique, Free March 13.
Empire, Islington.

ST. CLARE, C., "Mysterioso." Great.
Colston Hall, Bristol, for Seven Weeks, with Royal Comedy Four. Merry Christmas to all.

STEPHENSON, BOB,
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TELL and TELL
Acrobatic Eccentrics.
Monday, Theatre, Tredegar, Wales. See other Advert.

TERRY, VINNIE, Dainty Comedienne and Dancer. Monday Next, Corn Exchange, Chelmsford.
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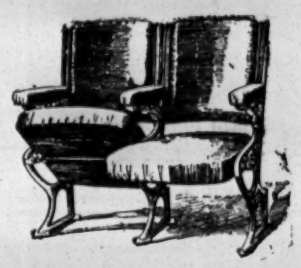

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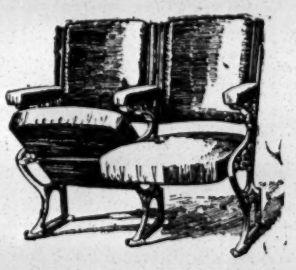

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"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK" AT ST. HELENS.

Messrs Haddon and Loader produced their first pantomime at the Theatre Royal, St. Helens, on Saturday evening. The subject is that of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and from the first scene to the last the success of the production was never for one moment in doubt, the reception given to it by the audience being wildly enthusiastic. From every point of view it is an improvement on any pantomime ever seen at this theatre, and this is saying a good deal. It is full of fun, full of beauty, full of colour, and devoid of the smallest vestige of vulgarity. Messrs Haddon and Loader have wisely introduced an aerial ballet (Mr Vaughan Neale's patent), which adds to the success. The book is from the pen of Mr M'Leod Loader, and is a lucid, easily followed story, which proves of entrancing interest to the juvenile portion of the audience. The incidental music has been composed by Mr George Burton, and does that gentleman the greatest credit. Much eulogy must also be accorded to the experienced and capable conductor, Mr Arthur Meredyth, who is responsible for the overture and special numbers. Of the scenery it is impossible to speak in too high terms of praise. Scene one, The Village of Mirthville, is from the brush of Mr George Harris. This is a splendid set, showing a wide extent of country. The next two scenes are Happy Valley and On the Road to the Market, and are the works of Mr William Charles. Scene four, The Market, by Mr Harris, is a very pretty set. Scene five is Dame Trotter's Cottage, and changing to grand tableaux, The Magic Beanstalk, brings the first part to a conclusion. The second part opens in Giantsland Poppy Field, where is introduced Mr Vaughan Neale's Aerial Ballet. Scene seven is Entrance to Castle Grim; scene eight, The Giant's Kitchen. In this scene Mr George Harrie gives a marvellous star trap performance. Scene nine is The Foot of the Beanstalk; then comes Jack's Palatial Home. This is the work of Mr George Harris, and is a triumph of scenic art. Scene eleven is a cloth, The Armoury, and gives place to the final scene, The Hall of Crystal Light (William Charles), forming a worthy setting for the brilliant ensemble with which the performance closes. The company engaged is a strong one. Miss Bessie Shelley as Jack makes a bright and energetic principal boy, full of life and go, and sings and dances through every scene with untiring effect. Her songs are given with good effect, the most popular being "Little White Girl," in which she is assisted by a remarkably pretty little girl, Miss Essie Platt; "Bluebell," sung in armour costume, with a chorus of about twenty ladies in armour dress, and the Cameron glee singers as standard bearers; and "Bull and Bush." As principal girl we have Miss Pattie Bella, a great favourite here, and a sprightly little Dora she is, with a roguish smile and a taking manner, a clever singer and a neat dancer. Her principal songs are "Anona," "In the Navy," and "The Country Girl." Mr Jay Laurier as Silly Billy is a host in himself. He gets hold of the audience on his first entrance, and causes screams of laughter all the time he is on the stage. Mr Reg. Bolton as Squire Musty works with a will all through. He is possessed of a good telling voice, gives his dialogue with full appreciation of the points therein, and sings several catchy ditties. Mr Harry Harrop makes up particularly well as Dame Trotter, and has plenty of opportunities to evoke laughter. Messrs Kydd and Kydd as Dip and Dap, the squire's flunkeys, are successful in their comic methods, and gain plenty of applause in their speciality turns. Miss Sybil Viney makes a bold and handsome Charlie Bright, and Nancy Smart is presented with vivaciousness and charm by Miss Cissy Trent. In her speciality dancing she is enthusiastically applauded. Miss Evelyn Robson's shapely figure and fine presence fit her admirably for the rôle of Discordia. The Giant has a capital representative in Mr W. S. Stevenson; the Cameron Glee Singers are heartily encored for their singing, and the Continental Trio of dancers (Misses Belshaw, Carmichael, and Verin), win loud applause. Miss Minnie Walsh makes an attractive Fairy Queen, and others well placed are Miss Alice Hammond, herald; Miss Dolly Douglas, usher; and Mr George Harrie as the cow. The chorus is comely and shapely, and well up to their work. The beautiful costumes and armour are by Messrs Hugo Baruch, August et Cie, and Madame Freear; mechanical effects by Mr John Bradley, properties by Mr Larkey, and electrical effects by Mr Knowles. Mr M'Leod Loader has been ably assisted in the production by Mr W. S. Stevenson, who will stage-manage the pantomime on tour. The front of the house is looked after in a courteous and business-like manner by Mr Jack Haddon.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT CARDIFF.

There was a packed Bank Holiday audience at the Theatre Royal on Monday afternoon, when Mr Robert Redford's pantomime season commenced. *Dick Whittington* is the subject chosen for this year, and is, as usual, produced by Mr Milton Bode. Mr Bode's reputation for pantomime production has been firmly established in Cardiff for years, and he has this year equalled, if not surpassed his previous efforts to place before Cardiffians a really elaborate and entertaining performance. We have several old favourites with us again, Mr Arthur E. Godfrey and Miss Minnie Duncan being two clever artistes who are always received with delight by patrons of the Royal. The pantomime is rich in smart comedians and clever artistes. Miss Madeline Rees, a fine dashing principal boy, possesses a handsome stage appearance, which, together with her exceptional ability and pleasing voice, will undoubtedly make her an immense favourite. Miss Minnie Duncan is a captivating Alice. A great share of the work falls upon Miss Duncan, and right well does she acquit herself. One of her songs, "Mary had a little lamb," is very tastefully rendered, and will probably become extremely popular. Two very pleasing impersonations are given by Miss Florence A. White and Miss Janet H. Reynolds, who as Tommy Trott and May respectively gain unstinted applause from the audience. Mr Bob Hutt as Alderman Fitzwarren is, without doubt, a valuable acquisition to the production. To say that his antics are really funny is sufficient praise in itself, while his song "Why?" is one of the best of the pantomime. No less successful in providing abundance of mirth is Mr Arthur E. Godfrey, who, as Idle Jack, seems already at home in the character. He causes the audience to fairly collapse with laughter. With Mr Fred Dark in his really amusing delineation of Matilda, the inevitable dame of the piece, and Messrs Alfred Lester and Clifford Morgan as Captain Scupper and Bill Oakum of the good ship Saucy Sarah, it is needless to add that—from the mirth-providing point of view—the success of the production is assured. In the Fairy Queen a new departure has been taken, a pretty and clever little actress of tender years appearing in the rôle. Dainty Lillian Graham is the little lady in question, and she gives a capital portrayal, her wonderful toe-dancing being a considerable attraction. Miss Nelly Lauraine makes an exceptionally good Empress Fatima. Mouser, Dick's cat, is safely entrusted to Mr Tom Gilmore. No expense has evidently been spared in the mounting, the Palace and Highgate-hill scenes being very elaborately and magnificently designed. The costumes also have been executed with extreme lavishness, the dresses of the chorus in scene five being dazzling. Mr J. Hickory Wood is, as usual, the author, and Mr Frank Seddon is responsible for the catchy music. The entire pantomime has been produced under the stage-management of Mr E. R. Beamont, personally supervised by Mr Milton Bode.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

ABERDARE.

NEW THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Z. Andrews.—The attraction at this theatre this week is Mr J. H. Morton's company in *The Rajah of Ranjanpore*. Mr Alvin Sawyer is very amusing as Horatio Chicks; the same remark applies to Miss Marion Walker as Eliza; Mr Harry Cornwall is good as Mr Stubbs; Mr Arthur Reed makes the most of his opportunities as Captain Hertage; and the hero, Ernest Travers is admirably acted by Mr Charles E. Sinny. Mr Gus Hall is good as Ted Perkins; Mr Bert Harrow keeps the house in good humour as Thistles; and Miss Nell Ascott is charming as Primrose.

ACCRINGTON.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. B. Ormerod; Acting-Manager, Mr J. E. Barnes.—*The Golden Ladder* is the attraction here. The Rev. Frank Thornhill is a careful study by Mr Harry Cullenford. Sam Peckaby is well played by Mr F. Hill. Mr J. Milne Taylor must be complimented on his performance of Michael Severn. Jim Dixon is cleverly depicted by Mr E. Christopher. Miss Conyers Radcliffe submits an excellent rendering of Lilliant Grant. Miss Nellie Graham is good as Mrs Peckaby. Miss Fanny Morse is happily placed as Mrs Dixon.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr J. Mill; Manager, Mr T. Moyes.—The American millionaires, Ford and Hanson; Rem Lang, society entertainer; Charlie Cowen, eccentric comedian; Miss Lillian Hodgkinson, the singing mill girl; H. E. H. High, comedian and speciality artiste; Linn, the original singing newsboy; Miss Mabel Comely, serio; Will Percival, clog dancer; and the Four Arizonas complete a very attractive bill.

ALTRINCHAM.

NEW PAVILION OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs Budd, Howe, and Taylor; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Gilman.—The holiday-makers have been well catered for, the bill this week including Mozzelto, a clever boy juggler; Percy Farrimond, a collier singer; Vardon, ventriloquist; the Bradleys, trick cyclists; Joe Phillips, comedian; and Miss Barwick and Charlie Cass, comedians. Friday evening was set apart for the benefit of Mr Harry Taylor, an extra array of talent appearing.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

HIPPODROME. — Sole Proprietor, Mr Charles Revill; Director of Entertainments, Mr F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr L. Campkin.—For the Christmas week another good list of artistes has been secured. Heading the bill is De Henau, who paints pictures with his toes. He manipulates the pencil with wonderful dexterity. A name which looms large on the bills, too, is the gentleman equilibrist, Lava. His daring and dexterous balancing are astonishing, and he holds his spectators spellbound. Something novel is shown by Adelina with her troupe of performing cockatoos. Julian Mack is a capital comedian, and the Bros. Esdale in refined humour win admiration. J. A. Wilson is a versatile negro comedian and dancer. The Sisters Marion sing some songs in high-class style; and Steel and Lang may be classed as really comical eccentrics and dancers. Some amusing pictures are shown by the Bioscope.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, W. H. Broadhead and Sons; Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr W. Leech.—The star performers here include the Scottish Meisters, who are a real treat. Another big draw is Carl Mysto, the monarch of manacles. Ada Seale, who recently worked in the mill of Messrs Howarth at Salford, is a vocal wonder. Rice, Rose and Davis have an amusing comedy act in *Ferguson's Dog*. Victor Newman, in his dramatic monologue, gives some clever character sketches from Chas. Dickens, being assisted by Mr Arthur Henry. His dramatic impersonation "Peter the Miser" is very realistic. The Aeronauts in their grotesque speciality are highly humorous and diverting. Other clever artistes, in their varied specialities, are Amatel and Lule, comedians; Rivington and Gordon, in high-class comedy duologues; the Three Romas, as gladiatorial marvels; and Emmie White, refined comedienne and dancer. Cinématographic pictures are still a prime feature.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Resident Manager, Mr Claude Seaton.—After being closed for one week for the installation of heating apparatus, this place of amusement reopened on Boxing Day with Messrs Preston and Doherty's company with *The Rich and Poor of London*. The company, under the direction of Mr Sidney C. Cranston and Mr Sidney Dench, is a strong and capable one. Mr Andrew Money as Mark Stanley is a distinct success; Mr Robert Hall could not be better placed as Dr. Leonard Morton; Dan'l Drake finds an able exponent in Mr Tom Bowman; Mr Sidney C. Cranston as Gussy Lamb and Mr Sidney Dench as Spider Jack are most acceptable in their respective parts, their humour and songs being much appreciated; Miss Dora Dench is good as May Braithwaite; so also is Miss Marie Ramey as Ruby Redgrave. Miss Dora Pass renders good service as Polly Philpot; Miss Lilly Woods and Miss A. M'Farlane act well the respective parts of Auntie Scrimp and Seadrift; and Dixie, a street waif, with songs, is well impersonated by Master Bert Dench.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwards; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Lacy Lyne; Assistant-Manager, Mr W. Massey Baker.—An excellent combination of variety and talent marks the holiday bill-of-fare at this popular house, and, judging by the packed houses nightly, it is heartily appreciated. Topping the bill are the Five Bon-Bons, who in their pantomime trap scene *A Hot Time for One* cause roars of laughter by their comic business. Mdlle. Pollo Jerome gives a clever and smart performance on the trapeze. The Garden Troupe receive hearty and well-deserved applause for their international dances. Miss Renee Walon, comedienne and dancer; Walter Lester, comedian, Weston and May (Fred and Julie), in a musical comedy act; Arthur Richards, actor-vocalist; and the Brothers Dance, comedy instrumentalists, all contribute excellent turns.

AYR.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry W. Day.—Messrs George Edwardes and Chas. Frohman's company is appearing here this week in the comedy *Are You a Mason?* The Amos Bloodgood of Mr Harry Ashford was excellent, and the same may be said of the Frank Perry of Mr Arthur Claremont. Mr Anthony Fawcett appeared to great advantage in the dual-rôle of George Fisher and the Frenchwoman, Fanchon Armytage. His impersonation of the latter character was most amusing. Mr Frank Ridley's Hamilton Travers, the broken-down actor, was a capital character sketch; Mr Valentine O'Connor played the part of Ernest Morrison with appropriate earnestness; Miss Harriet Trench was admirable in the part of Mrs Bloodgood; and the Mrs Eva Perry of Miss Violet Graham could not have been better. The other ladies in the comedy—Annie, Lulu, Mrs Hilton, Lottie, and Fanchon Armytage were excellently played by Miss Beagle, Miss Isla Glynn, Miss Mabel Younge, Miss Edith Fife, and Miss Gertrude Spencer respectively. *Are You a Mason?* was preceded by a smart little comedietta, *Hushed Up*.

BACUP.

NEW COURT THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Denman-Wood; Acting-Manager, Mr Richard Nightingale.—Messrs E. H. Knight and George Denham's company is appearing here this week with *The Grip of Iron*. Mr Fred Powell assumes the principal rôle as Jagon, alias Simmonet the Strangler, and puts a wonderful amount of dramatic force into his interpretation of the part. Mr J. Wilton-Richards puts all the necessary callousness into his rendition of Lorentz De Ribas; Paul Blanchard is ably sustained by Mr George Denham; Mr Harry Agar Lyons cleverly depicts the business-like detective, Alphonse De Coucou; whilst Mr John Brittain acts Dodot, a detective of the old school, in a decidedly humorous manner. As the lawyer, Robert De Belfort, Mr J. E. Stevenson takes advantage of every opportunity afforded him; and M. De Beaudin is fittingly portrayed by Mr John Coghlan. Mr Charles Conway contributes a droll rendering of Loustalot, the Smiler. Miss Nellie Navarro gives evidence of her ability as Sophie Blanchard; Miss Georgie De Lara gives a successful embodiment of Cora; and Marie Guerin is cleverly represented by Miss Hilda Baynton.

BARNSLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. C. Mitchell.—Messrs Griffen and Drake's pantomime of *Dick Whittington and His Cat* opened here on Bank Holiday for two weeks. It proved a great success on the first night. The company engaged is a very strong one. Miss Lily Jackson is a model Dick; Mr Jack Simpson is the active necessary feline; Alice is pleasingly played by Miss Emmie Hands; Mr Mark Lane makes a great hit as Martha Muggins; Alderman Fitzwarren is admirably depicted by Mr Ben Ford; and Mr Will Dennis is of great assistance as Idle Jack. The latest songs are excellently sung by the principals, and the specialities deserve special mention. Mdlle. Luba De Sarema submits a sensational act with a mountain bull, two ponies, eight dogs, and a bucking donkey. The Yorkshire Mill Lasses, the Sisters Brenton, the Sisters Grosvenor, and Messrs Jason and White also do well. The thirty local children engaged are to be congratulated on their cleverness in the different scenes.

BARNSTAPLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Harry Ashton.—*Dick Whittington* is the pantomime here this year, and on Monday and the two following nights Miss Kitty Irving's company played before large audiences. Miss Marie Liston, who possesses a very sweet voice, created a favourable impression as Dick Whittington. Miss Gracie Perry made a bewitching Alice, rendering her songs with delightful effect. Admirable support came from Messrs Bernard Lauri and F. E. Ellis as Idle Jack and Susan Sopps respectively, who caused immense fun with their drollery, Mr Freddy Ellis emphasised the overbearing proclivities of the Captain, and Alderman Fitzwarren found an able exponent in pomposity in Mr Joe Perry. Those contributing turns were Lauri and Ellis, chapeaugraphists of no mean ability; Mons. Jullan, a clever contortionist; the Sisters Cousins, who executed some really smart dances; the Happy Perrys, in their novel musical mélange; and Hellis and Liston, Transatlantic comedy drolls. The piece is under the direction of Mr S. J. Liddicoat.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr Lewis A. Long. —After a lapse of a couple of seasons the management has wisely returned to pantomime, the choice of subject being the good old-fashioned story of *Goody Two Shoes*, which has not in our recollection been treated before locally. The production is under the direction of Mr Peter Davey, of the Royal County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, who deserves cordial recognition for the bright and refined manner in which the "annual" is put on. The book, from the pen of Mr Hugh P. Pinnock, is certainly entertaining; the music, comprising many of the most popular airs of the day, is selected and arranged by Mr Corelli Windeatt and Mr J. H. Russell—the former gentleman conducting the orchestra during the run; and the pleasing and elaborate scenery from the brush of Mr George Miller is much admired. The costumes, in many instances very beautiful, are designed by Mr Herbert Norris and Mrs Peter Davey, and carried out by Messrs L. and H. Nathan. The stage-management is entrusted to Mr Harry Turner jun., whose heavy labours were duly recognised and rewarded by the smoothness at the performances on Boxing Day. Heading the comedians is that great local favourite Mr Harry Buss, who fairly revels in the character of Dame Durden, and keeps the house alive. Quite another method of fun-making is the quiet, crisp comedy of Mr F. G. Thurstans as Earl Godiva, a creation full of good points. His "Letter" song is sure to go, as it allows of up-to-date verses being added at will. Mr Will Gane assists in keeping the ball rolling as Peeping Tom, and is a comedian of no little ability. Mr Arthur Learto is capable as Marcodison, his interlude with his trained terrier being one of the hits of the show. The principal boy is Miss Nell Richardson as Crispin, who has a pleasing presence and acts with becoming restraint. She has a good voice, and renders her songs with excellent results, gaining a well-merited encore for "The scent of the clover," a most tuneful and effective contribution. A charming Goody is found in Miss Jessica Deane, who is the fortunate possessor of a melodious and cultivated voice, which is heard to particular advantage in the taking waltz-retrain ballad composed by Mr Corelli Windeatt. Miss May Hart is well to the front as the Chevalier, delivering her lines and rendering her songs with plenty of animation and go, her biggest success being the popular "Yo San," which quickly caught the ear and fancy of the audience. A chic actress and dancer is Miss Eva Bevington as Margot, her coon song and dance meeting with great success. The chorus is capital; they have plenty to do, and carry their task through with energy and excellent precision, nor must the orchestra be forgotten for the way they perform the instrumental accompaniments. The general manager for Mr Peter Davey is Mr Victor Erskine.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr W. Trussell.—Huge holiday crowds are twice nightly attracted here to enjoy the good turns submitted. In the forefront come Mr J. G. Grahame, jun., and Miss Zerlina Harrington, assisted by Mr A. Bradshaw, in their new dramatic episode *A Daughter of Pleasure*, which they enact with true histrionic talent and complete success. The Sisters Maginel-Mullini return to give their smart musical act of cornet, saxophone, bugle, and drum playing. One of the most popular artistes is Will Crackles, comedian, dancer, and patterer, who has not been seen locally for many years. The Franks Brothers, midget conjurors, are most entertaining; the Two Jagos, speciality artistes, are warmly welcomed; Percy Hannan is a young baritone vocalist who gains many admirers; Florence Gwynne, in her musical scena, *The Stage-Struck Servant*, is well received; and Will Bacchus, actor-vocalist, wins hearty applause.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr George Stone.—*The Fatal Wedding* occupies the boards here this week. Mr F. S. Humber gives a clever delineation of Howard Wilson; Robert Curtis is ably represented by Mr Oliver Rodgers; as Toto, the French butler, and O'Reilly, the policeman, Messrs Chas. Kenny and Victor Widdicomb keep the audience in roars of laughter; Miss Gertrude Harrison is excellent as Cora Williams; Miss Nora Hoffe as Mabel Wilson imparts much pathos to her acting; Miss Harriett Clifton is amusing as Bridgit; and Miss Marjorie Lawrence contributes to the success as Jessie.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi.—The star turn here is supplied by Chas. Matthews, whose wonderful jumping was greatly admired. Williams and Brown, favourite comedians, have some most amusing patter. Mons. Slippere is a blind vocalist and pianist of exceptional merit; the Ackbars are a pair of clever gymnasts; Francis and Melli are very successful in their musical novelty act; and Marie Gibson is a pleasing singer.

ZALVA'S HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Geo. Zalva.—The ever-popular Doodles gives some new comicalities here; Woolford's Circus of dogs and ponies is very entertaining; the Testo Bros. are expert acrobats; Miss Vander, the lady juggler, is exceedingly clever; Verity Vezzy has some excellent trained dog violinists; Rappo and Ella give a fine equilibristic turn; and the Glenroy Troupe of Scottish dancers are responsible for a most enjoyable performance.

BEDFORD.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. Graham-Falcon; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter R. Wilson.—On Monday night Mr John Restall's company occupied the boards here in the pantomime *Cinderella*, by J. L. Barry. Mr Harry Lyston's deep bass voice was well suited to the part of the evil genius, Talicio. Miss Madaline Stone-Humphries submitted a satisfactory rendering of Sunshine, the fairy godmother. A good interpretation of Prince Charming was submitted by Miss Annie Craig. Miss M. Macdonald made a vivacious Dandini. Miss Ada Lindlay possessed a sweet voice which was heard to advantage in the title-rôle. Cinderella's twin sisters were humorously represented by Mr Clem Myers and Mr Dan Idle. Mr C. Clark caused great amusement as the page, Billy Burton. Excruciatingly funny were Messrs Stern and Stern in their clever impersonations of Sloshem and Biffem respectively.

BELFAST.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Managing Director, Mr Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr John P. Beardmore.—Mr Warden has provided a capital bill for the holidays at this beautiful theatre, the chief attraction being provided by Paul Martinetti and his clever company, who produce their celebrated play without words entitled *A Duel in the Snow*, which has been enormously successful. The Five Sisters Amelia appear to great advantage in their smart musical act. M'Askell is aptly described as a comic talking conjuror; and Kopski, the classical pianist, creates immense enthusiasm by his performance. Miss Kate Cutler is the happy possessor of a nice soprano voice, which she knows how to use; and others appearing are Miss Clarice Netta, vocalist; and Mr Fred Roden, comedian and dancer.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Brock.—The programme here is of the most varied description, headed by Vasco, "The Mad Musician," whose manipulation of nearly a score of musical instruments has been enthusiastically received. The Coloured Meisters make a big hit with their tuneful rendering of glees, and Mr Jimmy Shields, the one-legged comedian and an old favourite here, gains great approval for his comic songs. Collins and Rice are an entertaining duo, and Mr Tom Stuart's mimicry is certainly wonderfully realistic, his character sketches being marvellous. Mr Charles Cardow is a first-class comedian, and a good reception has been deservedly extended to Alexandra and Bertie in their novel aerial act "Apres les Bal." Miss Mabel Hind, comedienne, and Miss Sybil St. Elmo, balladist, are also on the programme.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Henry T. Downs.—The holiday bill here is certainly a good one, and the chief attraction is provided by the Edgar Forrest comedy company, who create much laughter with their most amusing sketch entitled *Cupid's Ingenuity*. Ben Hur upholds his reputation as an athlete, his feats of strength being nothing short of marvellous. The comedy acrobatism of the Three Henriques is decidedly clever, and the clog dancing of Mr Geo. Mackintosh is exceedingly smart. A novel act has been provided by Penstone who is assisted by Mdlle. De Vernet, and that really droll comedian, Mr Marcus Boyle, has taken even better than ever. Unita and Paul surprise all by their startling aerial act, and others on the programme are Miss Ada Whitton, a male impersonator par excellence, and Miss Jenny Love, national vocalist, who takes well.

IMPERIAL HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS. — Proprietors, Messrs Carter and Bosco; General Manager, Mr Irving Bosco; Assistant-Manager, Mr Geo. Dobler.—The chief attraction at this popular place of amusement is the aquatic equestrian production entitled *Siberia*, in which nearly one hundred performers take part. This exciting spectacle, consisting of diving feats of horses and dash-for-life scene, has created a tremendous sensation. During the course of this unique production, in scene one, Messrs Chivers and De Monti, skaters, appear and furnish a performance of striking ability, while in scene two the celebrated Russian dancers and singers evoke the loudest enthusiasm with their turn. *Siberia*, which is in five scenes, is certainly one of the greatest novelties ever presented by Messrs Carter and Bosco, and to ensure success a capital company take part, including Mr Stelling, Mr H. Sloan, Mr H. Metcalfe, Mr Casselo, Mr W. Hutton, Mr B. Borrillo, Mr Burgess, Mr H. Chivers, Mr C. Cooke, Mr Irving Bosco, Mr S. Steckles, Miss Sturgess, Miss H. Pilling, Miss Sloan, &c. To enhance the programme other turns are provided by the Dorian Trio, gymnastic ring performers; Princess Annie, the dashing and accomplished equestrienne; Bros. Dixon, musical eccentrics; Clown Burgess, in a new act; and the celebrated Sloan Family of equestrians. Undoubtedly Messrs Carter, Bosco, and Dobler may be congratulated on the immense success of the equestrian spectacle *Siberia*, which is likely to enjoy a good run.

ULSTER HALL.—Proprietors, Belfast Corporation.—Our Army and Navy Animated Photo. company opened here on Monday with a fine selection of living pictures relative to scenes in the Far East, local pictures of much interest, &c., the entire exhibition being vastly entertaining. The variety programme is contributed to by the following:—Mystery Gauze, Indian female impersonator; Brothers Wilson, musical grotesques; Madame West, soprano; Carlotti, the clever juggler, &c. Captain Wilson acts efficiently as lecturer, and Mr W. Bamton is the courteous manager.

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE METROPOLE.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell.—On Christmas Eve Mr Howard Hinton's company inaugurated a fortnight's engagement with *Dick Whittington*, a production which reflects great credit upon all concerned. Miss Kitty Phelps is a sprightly and vivacious Dick, and a handsome stage presence assists in making the impersonation a most successful one. She receives capital support from Miss Daisy Clements, a bewitching Alice, and the two work in unionism with telling effect. The company is rich in comedians, including as it does Mr Harry Rennior as Idle Jack, Mr Mount Stephens as the Alderman, Mr Steve Cook as Betsy Mary Ann, and Mr Tom R. Seymour as Captain Bunting. Mr Harry Cardoe is a good representative of the Cat; Miss Leonard is deserving of all praise as Sir Rowland; and the Sisters Bronson are also well to the fore. The specialities also include the Bowery Boys. The Fairy Godmother is cleverly enacted by Miss Grace Clements, and the scenic effects by Mr James Cooke are elaborate.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Pell. — Mr Will Hebden and an efficient combination are here with *A Day in Paddy's Market*, which appears to be hugely enjoyed by the popular parts of the house, the numerous touches of low comedy being hailed with enthusiasm. Mr Hebden is ably assisted by Miss May Martin, Mr L. Maitland, Mr Charles Lyndon, Mr Charles Locke, &c.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr D. J. Clarke. — Mr Clarke has secured the services of an excellent company, the premier position being filled by Mr Fred Karno's comedians, who are repeating previous successes here in *His Majesty's Guests*. Barton and Franklin, Scottish vocal entertainers, are deservedly favourites, and the Langdons, song illustrators; Mr Frank Seeley, character comedian; Miss Amy Donna, comedienne; Mr Gus Hindell, descriptive and character vocalist; and an excellent display of animated pictures by the Bioscope go to make up a very attractive entertainment.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing Director, Mr Tom B. Davis; Acting-Manager, Mr Philip Rodway.—Crowded houses have crowned the managerial efforts at every performance, and praise for the new building runs high. Praise also for the pantomime continues to pour in from all quarters, and there is every indication that *The Babes in the Wood* has come to stay for a considerable time. Spectacle and humour, beauty and talent, have wrought their spell, whereat all are to be congratulated, including Messrs Bert Gilbert, J. F. M'Yardley, Fred Walton, Fred Farren, Henry Wright, Daley Cooper, and Mesdames Lily Iris, Gladys Ward, Maidie Andrews, Phyllis Dare, and Mabel Lait, together with the Eight of Hearts.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Rodgers, Limited; Manager, Mr J. F. Graham; Acting-Manager, Mr Henry Johnson.—*The Forty Thieves*, produced on Christmas Eve, is dealt with in another column.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr J. W. Turner; Manager, Mr Victor Turner.—Mr J. W. Turner, eschewing pantomime for the time being, is delighting his patrons with selections from his extensive and famous répertoire. Boxing Day was ushered in with *The Bohemian Girl* (matinée), while in the evening Mr J. W. Turner himself appeared as Don Cæsar, in *Maritana*. This lifelong study was received with loud cheering, and Miss Alice Boaden's singing as Maritana awakened considerable enthusiasm. Mr John Ridding as Don José, Mr Sidney Clifford as Charles II., Mr Richard Cummings as the Marquis, Miss Maud Esdale as the Marchioness, and Miss Jessie Dennis as Lazarillo added to the charm of the performance. *The Daughter of the Regiment* served well at a matinée on Tuesday, and in the evening *The Bohemian Girl* was repeated, with Mr F. J. Hargrave as Thaddeus. In this Miss Constance Bellamy was successful as Arline, while Miss Beatrice Hill as the Gipsy Queen, Miss Maude Esdale as Buda, Mr Sydney Clifford as Devilshoof, and Mr Tom Griffiths as the Count were all excellent. *The Lily of Killarney*, *The Rose of Castile*, *Faust*, and *Satanella* have also engaged Mr Turner's forces.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Lester Collingwood.—*Dick Whittington*, produced on Boxing Day, is fully noticed in another column.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr Walter Melville; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Hindle Taylor.—*The Ugliest Woman on Earth*, and the title thereof, had stimulated curiosity to a nice point, and large audiences have attended the play in consequence. Miss Beatrice Homer acts the title-rôle in the best possible taste, and Mr Stanley Bedwell combines all the virtues as Jack Merriman. Mr Leyton Cancellor as Hubert Gold wins the execrations of the "gods." Miss Beatrice Bevan fills the rôle of Rose Courteney in an able manner. Mr Stuart Roberts acts cleverly as Antonio Luchessi, and Mr Geo. Henry shines as Tom Redvers. Mr Tubby Edlin as Jasper Herrick, Mr Fred De Vere as Raggles, Miss Nellie Jackson as Aggie Brown, and Miss Margaret Watson as Morita also do good work.

CARLTON THEATRE, SALTLEY.—Owner and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Resident-Manager, Mr Ben Sydney.—*The Life that Kills*, played by Messrs Fred Moule and E. D. Nicholls's company, has enthralled the audiences here, Mr Fred Moule essaying the villain's rôle, Kendal Croat, with much distinction. The villainess, Brenda Croat, is well represented by Miss Cathleen Cavanagh, and Miss Marie Menzies gains sympathy and admiration as Laurie Linden, the dressmaker-heroine. Mr A. G. Smith-Neil as Capt. Montague, Mr. Francis Serle in his clever personation of the rector, and Mr Morris Maud in his well-drawn character of Valentine Telford gain due recognition; and the comic characters of Miss Lucy Murray and Messrs A. Hall Menzies and Wilton Drury are appreciated to the full.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASTON.—Lessee, Mr Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr Dan Barnard.—*The Voice of the People; or, Work Girls of Birmingham*, which has been tried here this week with unbounded success, has a strong local flavour which proves irresistible. The Town Hall, Aston Cross, and their environs are among the scenic attractions, and a sweater's den is also represented. Mr J. F. Preston has a fine part in Barry Phelps, the "cosmopolite," which he plays to the utmost advantage. Mr Ernest R. Allen as the Rev. Walter Meredith earns hearty good will; Miss Hilda Shirley is applauded for her excellent portrayal of the heroine; Mr W. Atherstone as Steve Morris and Mr Arthur Hartley as the sweater also act in fine spirit; and Mr Syd Sylvester, Mr C. H. Pullen, and Miss Gertrude Godart do excellent justice to their parts.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr A. W. Matcham.—An excellent Christmas programme is submitted this week. The most prominent item is Staley's Novelty Transformation Company, who give a neat and artistic entertainment. Charles R. Sweet is highly appreciated for his musical abilities. The long programme also includes Sinclair and Parr, Austin and Cowan, Lily Tiso, Maxwell and Francis, Johnny Dwyer, Barton Howard, and the Baldwin Brothers.

GAIETY THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Albert Bushell.—The Hadji Abdullah Troupe are some of the finest Arab tumblers we have seen, their display being most skilful. The Mountebanks have a good pot-pourri act. The Brothers Philipi are decidedly amusing in their sketch *Shunting*; the Leonards as vocalists and dancers are versatile; Charles Vandyke's Troupe, in their sketch *Sensations*; and the Brothers Kroney, comedians, cause plenty of laughter. Florence Hill, Walter Emerson, Walter Gurney, and the Sisters Pine are also in the bill.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—Sensational motoring is attracting packed houses this week. Staig's motor cycles are racing in mid-air looping the aerial circle, causing intense excitement, while an expert gymnastic act is given by the Bennecelli Troupe. Harry Leybourne, the Falcons, and Reilly and Taylor provide many opportunities for laughter. Some daring balancing feats are introduced by Sulima Matrapa. Nancy St. John, comedienne; the Sisters Carina, in their refined musical act; Alix Lukos, and J. H. Scotland meet with success.

BORDESLEY PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr Edward Foster.—Mendel, the blind pianist, is causing quite a furore here, his compositions being rendered in a marvellous manner. Burg, Haud, and Wise are most eccentric acrobatic comedians. Morris and Morris cause continual laughter by their songs and patter. Some smart juggling is presented by Wisper, who also has some amusing sayings. The dramatic episode *V.C.* is watched with intensity, as is also the trick cycling of the Tourbillons. Other prominent turns are the Sisters Neilson, Harry Zetter, Leona Dare, and Beattie Bloom.

CURZON HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Stirling.—The Harry H. Hamilton's Excursions are paying their annual visit here, and opened to packed houses. In addition to their renowned picture show the following artistes add largely to the success of the programme:—Kessanley's Troupe of terriers; Hoppitt, Tony, and Terry, with their coster circus; Walter Thompson and Helen Andrews, in their speciality; while Chas. E. White is a capable cicerone.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General Manager, Mr J. R. Huddlestone.—*Dick Whittington* is the title of a very meritorious production here this week by a company under the management of Mr John Tiller. Miss Grace Graham appears in the title-rôle, and her singing and dancing give the utmost delight. Alice has a really charming exponent in Miss Fanny Harris. A very popular and clever comedian, Mr Dan Thomas, plays Eliza, the cook, and scores a big success. Another clever comedian is Mr Bob Selvidge, who as Jack Idle assists very materially in the fun making, and Mr Harry D. Lyndon is well placed as Alderman Fitzwarren. Mr Barrie Gilmore as the cat, Miss Edna Morgan as the Emperor of Morocco, Miss Gracie Woodleigh as Princess Kulekah, Mr Will Mackay as Sammy, and Mr J. G. Aitken as Horatio are also good. Specialities are introduced by the Diamond Quartet of Dancers, the Excelsior Troupe, and Tiller's Pony Ballet Troupe. The staging and dresses do not discredit the Tiller reputation.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr T. Sergenson.—Miss Daisy Le Roy's *Sinbad the Sailor* company has possession here this week, and is successful in courting public favour. Sinbad is in the hands of Miss Edna Cragge, and Winbad the Whaler has a very smart exponent in Miss Dorothy Whyatt, who contributes a very taking coon song. Miss Marie Weston, who plays Fitnah, is notable for her clever pedestal dancing; whilst Miss Hilda De Grey, who appears as the Good Fairy, wins approbation for her singing. Mr K. Wallace, a clever ventriloquist and chapeauist, assumes the rôle of Captain O'Smith, the smuggler and wrecker, his coadjutors being in the capable hands of Messrs George Welch and Frank Daleno. Mr George Asat is a comical Mrs Sinbad. Mr Bert Brookes as Tinbad supplies plenty of fun. Mr George Bendo, the Old Man of the Sea, shines as a contortionist. The Geisha Quartet of dancers give a special turn.

PALACE.—General Manager, Mr G. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Waller.—A very strong bill is provided here this week. Carl Hertz's "Demon Kettle," exhibited by Dr. Irve Haymar, is a very attractive item. Then comes Harry Edson, with his wonderful dog, Doc; Ada Colley, the gifted Australian vocalist; Will M'Ivor, the South African tenor; Albert Voyce's company, in the vocal scena, *Jack Sheppard*; the Four Skadias, Swedish gymnasts; Violi, musical specialist; Gilbert Gerard, a very able animal and instrumental mimic; Mary Ray and Frank Hatter, in the amusing American comedy act, "The Quack Doctor;" and Atroy, juggler and hoop manipulator. Vernon's Imperial Bioscope rounds off a splendid evening's programme.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr Harry Yorke; Business-Manager, Mr Reginald Yorke.—Mr Louis Calvert's company, in the interesting play *Sunday*, is the Christmas attraction here. Miss Jean Stirling Mackinlay plays the title-rôle in a charming manner. Mr J. Edward Pearce is a manly Colonel Brinthorpe. The four members of the camp, Towzer, Davy, Lively, and Jacky, are successfully impersonated by Messrs Fred Powell, John H. Manley, T. Norman Walter, and Whitford Kane respectively. Mr Charles B. Vaughan appears as Arthur Brinthorpe, and Mr Ernest A. Douglas as Tom Oxley. The part of a nun is played by Miss Olive Adair, and that of Mrs Naresby by Miss Elisabeth Watson.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr E. H. Page.—This week *Napoleon the Great* is being played by Mr Frank M. Thorne's company. As Napoleon Mr Hugh Montgomery is highly successful. Mr Frank M. Thorne is humorous in the part of Pierre Pomponnet. Miss Chrissie Dunbar is excellent as Marie Walesha, and Miss Maud Russell as Leonie Marbœuf and Miss Marie Harcourt as Marcelle Choupin are both good.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr F. Macnaghten; Genral Manager, Mr Will Murray; Acting-Manager, Mr Harry Drury.—Mr Macnaghten produced his annual pantomime, entitled *Aladdin*, on Boxing Day, when it met with instant success. The book has been written by Mr J. H. Wolfe, and the plot adheres closely to the traditional liner. Miss Meg Hamilton makes a sprightly Aladdin. Plenty of fun is provided by Mr Fred Lawrence as the Widow Twankay, Mr Walter Purvis as Abanazar, Mr Frank Lilliput as Bill Bailey, and Messrs Ritchie and Hewett as Ping and Pong. Miss Polly Prim is pleasing as the Princess. Miss Lily Brammar is attractive as Pekoe. Mr Gilbert Rogers appears as the Emperor of China, and is well supported by Mr Jack Heath as Gin Sling, the Grand Vizier. The music is very bright and well-arranged by Mr Chas. Hamlin. The incidental dances are arranged by Miss Ivy Lane. The scenery has been well-designed and painted, and the stage-management is in the capable hands of Mr Harry Drury. The pantomime has been produced by Mr Frederick Baugh.

BOSCOMBE.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr F. Mouillot; Manager, Mr Rowland Stewart.—Mr Mouillot's company commenced a new tour of *A Runaway Girl* here on Monday. Several new numbers have been interpolated in the piece, and the production, with its new dresses and scenery, is a credit to all concerned. The rôle of Brother Tamarind is a great success in the hands of Mr Henry Latimer. Mr Archie Croft is very good as Guy Stanley, and Mr Clifton Yates makes an eminently effective Leonello. Mr Alec Shinney impersonates Lord Coodle and Mr Jake Fern Mr Creel. Mr Howard Cridland's rendering of Flipper proves a great hit, and causes roars of laughter. Miss Amy Edmonds is excellent as Alice, the maid, as also is Miss Kate Vivian as Lady Coodle, and Miss Marie Shields is admirable as Carmenita, while Miss Ethel Netherton is as charming as ever in her old rôle of Winifred Grey.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA.—Proprietors, the Broughton Theatres Syndicate, Ltd.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr James W. Haworth; Manager and Secretary, Mr James M. Hardie, jun.—Mr Henry Swinerd's company is drawing full houses this week with *Dare-Devil Dorothy*, under the direction of Mr J. W. Cordiner. Miss Marjorie Cecil is successful in her charming acting of the title-rôle. Captain Geo. Fielding and Captain Edward Dudley are respectively well played by Mr Cecil W. Parke and Mr Henry C. Ward. Mr Arthur Verne is very good as Silas Crump and Featherstone Haugh is well presented by Mr Wilfred Carr. Miss Nellie Harcourt as Judith, Miss Lillie Blake as Rosy Anne, Miss Mabel Blake as Polly, and Miss Kathleen Garnon as Ruth Montrose give good support. The fourth act lends itself to the introduction of variety business, and entertaining specialities are given. Miss Nellie Harcourt and Mr Arthur Verne introduce a cake-walk with about a dozen children; and the Sisters Blake and Miss Kathleen Garnon give acceptable turns. The scenery and staging are very good.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

NEW THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Bennett; Acting-Manager, Mr John Waller. —Mr E. Oswald Brooks's company is here for the week with the musical comedy *A Girl from Bond-street*. In the title-rôle Miss Marie Vere acquits herself with distinction, Miss Doris Regan is well placed as Lottie Harvey, and Miss Ethel Russell is natural as Lady Fielding. Miss Maud Beard as Mrs Harvey, in conjunction with Mr Edward De Vere as Mickey Mulvarney, is responsible for much genuine fun. Mr Campbell Goldsmid (the Earl of Seacombe), Mr George Watts (Sir George Fielding), and Mr F. R. Heaton (

BRADFORD.

EMPIRE. — Moss' Empires, Limited; Manager, Mr J. J. Kelly. — On last Saturday, Mr Peter Eland produced his pantomime *Little Red Riding Hood*, a cleverly localised version of the legend of the nursery, and the book, of which he is the author, is an excellent example of Mr Eland's characteristic wit and humour. The story, in more or less orthodox fashion, is closely followed, and Mr Eland has unquestionably succeeded in providing a bright and wholesome entertainment, the main element in which is fun. There are local hits of a humorous character in abundance, capital songs and music of the catchy order; the scenic effects are excellent, particularly the view of the late exhibition, and there some very pretty and effective costumes. The initial performance passed off admirably, and Miss Dollie Hook, the principal boy, who is the Robin Oak Apple of the story, scored a success with a bright and animated effort. For a lot of the genuine fun Mr Flockton Foster is responsible as Sir Seely Chump. There is much excellent comedy in Master Lennie Ankers' assumption of the part of Policeman A. K. 9. Bluebell is charmingly played by Miss Rita Vincent, who possesses a fine voice, and she is capital in a coon song; Miss Mabel Manley makes a winsome heroine of the story; Mr Charles Howarth plays John William with a Simple Simon sort of humour which is diverting; Miss Annie Swires is a pretty Fairy; in the rôle of the Widow Bailey Mr George Royal is entertaining; Mr W. Raynor as the Wolf contributes some good baritone songs. There is an efficient chorus, and the remaining parts in the cast are acceptably filled. On Monday an excellent programme was provided for the holidays. The Jackson Family of clever musicians are paying a welcome return visit with their enjoyable entertainment; and the Knick Knacks in excellent comedy and dancing, and Charles Lilburn, comedian, are contributing good turns; the Cavillinis with their amusing "Bull Fight" burlesque and smart parodies are very entertaining; and Florrie Robins, comedienne, gives an attractive turn. A very clever peformance is that of the Aurora Troupe of Acrobatic Cyclists; and the Three Georgis are amusing comic acrobats. Brown and Robinson contribute good vocalism; Tambo and Tambo are very clever in manipulating tambourines; and Charles Coborn reappears with all his old success as a comedian of the old school.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr J. W. Berry. —In a capital programme here this week Dinah Morris and her Piccanninies submit an attractive turn in well varied songs and dances; and the Paragon Trio contribute good vocalism; the Athlones give a fine exhibition of physical culture, which commands admiration; the top-boot dancing and duets by Read and Write are good; as "surprise artists and Continental novelty performers," Martinetti and Grossi submit a capital entertainment; mimicry and vocalism by Lily Sharplin are excellent features; specialities in music and dancing by Edwards and Espinoso are cleverly introduced; the triple-bar act by the Walonells is clever and amusing; and the Four Burnells contribute a lot of fun with their farcical comedy *Over the Garden Wall*.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Cecil Beryl; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harcourt M. Beryl.—Mr George Dance's company opened a fortnight's engagement here on Monday with *Veronique*, and have been doing splendid business. The comic opera was superbly dressed and staged and its performances have evoked enthusiastic applause. Miss Ruth Lincoln sang and acted with charming style as Hélène de Solanges; Mr Scott Russell achieved distinct success as Florestan De Valiancourt; Mr Leslie Holland was very amusing as Coquenard; Mr Ivan Berlyn made a humorous Loustot; Mr Tom Shelford was highly successful as Seraphin; and Miss Maud Boyd acquitted herself admirably as Madame Coquenard. The remaining characters were ably sustained.

AQUARIUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. Bernhardt; Acting-Manager, Mr H. De Groot.—The Christmas fairy play, *The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe, and a Spelling Bee*, was produced here last Saturday evening by Mr Arthur St. George. The play has been specially written by Meta Fanny Bowman, with lyrics by Holman Quin; the special music is by Miss Jessie Franklin, while the incidental music has been composed, orchestrated, and arranged by Mr J. W. Slatter. The dresses are by Benjamin and Co., London; the wigs by Gustave, and the scenery by Sidney Baker. The opening scene shows the Old Woman in her shoe, surrounded by her many children. The little ones, with bowls of broth in their hands, sing a song entitled "Broth," and also contribute some pleasing choruses. In the scene the King's Palace the King's daughter is in a trance and under the spell of the witch Thunderlass. To break the spell the magic word "Rojestvensky"—the name of the Russian commander—must be correctly spelt. The Court Jester dislocates his jaw in trying to master the spelling, and all attempts by the courtiers end in failure. Little Bee, the old woman's favourite child, has also been bewitched by Thunderlass, but Fairy Godsend comes to the rescue of the little one. She turns her into a Spelling Bee, who not only spells the hard word, but releases the Princess from the influence of the old witch. In the closing scene, early in the morning, Father Christmas pays his customary visit, and loads the children with presents. The part of the heroine, Beatrice (Little Bee), is charmingly undertaken by Miss Decima Brooke, whose neat dancing and pleasing singing make her a great favourite. Mr Arthur St. George gives an amusing representation of Mistress Shoe (the old woman); and Mr J. G. Forde makes a capital Sir Balfy Goff. Miss Jennie Franklin as the Queen, and Miss Nora Villiers as the Princess merit praise; and Miss Kitty Wren as Fairy Godsend and Miss Vera Villiers as Thunderlass are very effective. Mr Darby's King, Mr Fred Beck's Jester, Mr Louis Charles' Father Christmas are able impersonations; and the remaining characters are satisfactorily sustained. Mr Arthur Hill, who has been specially engaged, appears in the Palace scene in a series of clever sketches as the Living Liliputian. The duties of musical director are in the hands of Mr J. W. Slatter. Mr H. Bernhardt may be cordially congratulated upon the success of his Christmas fairy play.

ALHAMBRA.—Managing-Director, Mr J. L. Graydon; General Manager, Mr Ernest Lepard.—The following are here this week:—The Vivians, in a musical travesty; Mabel La Blanche, burlesque artiste; Willie Benn, eccentric pianist; Flo Melville, burlesque artiste; Percy Honri, in song, story, and concertina solos; Preston and Balmain, in illustrated songs and duets; the Brothers Doran, American comedy gymnasts; Park's Eton Boys, vocalists; Booker and Narbie, in their scene, *The Interviewer*; Albert Wyndham and company, in the Shakespearian episode, *Prince Arthur; or, the Days of King John*; and the Alhambra pictures.

HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford and Smith; Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—The following are here this week:—The Six Yiulians, Risley acrobats; Josephine Casaboni, in a series of graceful dances; the Sandor Trio, herculean gymnasts; Miss Nellie Ganthony, in musical and emotional sketches; R. Judge's eccentric acrobats and trick leapers; Charles Baron and his burlesque menagerie; the Brothers Permane, comedy acrobats; the Densmores, in the pantomimic sketch, *Early Morning in the Kitchen*; Reddick Anderson, tenor vocalist; John Lloyd, singing collier; and animated pictures.

WEST PIER. — Secretary and Entertainment Manager, Mr A. D. Norman.—By arrangement with Messrs Murray King and Clark, A. and S. Gatti, and Charles Frohman, *Bluebell in Fairyland*, which had a long run at the Vaudeville Theatre, London, is placed on the boards here as the Christmas bill-of-fare. The opening performance, last Saturday afternoon, proved very enjoyable, and the charming piece will, no doubt, have a long and prosperous run. The dances have been arranged by Walter Cranch; the costumes, designed by Mr Wilhelm, have been executed by Madame Murray, Miss Fisher, Mrs Arthur Patrick, Mr Clarkson, Morris Angel and Sons, and Mr H. M. Rayne; the properties are by Mr Elliott and Mr Skelly; the wigs by Mr W. Clarkson; and the electrical effects by Mr G. Sheppard. The augmented orchestra is under the direction of Mr I. S. Dunlop. The piece was produced under the direction of Mr Trevor Lowe, the duties of assistant stage-manager being in the hands of Mr Joseph Hart. Mr Seymour Hicks's fascinating extravaganza and Mr Walter Slaughter's exquisite music were warmly appreciated. Miss Rosalie Jacobi made a winsome Bluebell, and delighted the audience with her dancing, refined acting and tasteful vocalisation. Mr Walter Cranch achieved great success in his impersonations of Dickey, the London crossing-sweeper, and the Sleepy King; Mr H. Langdon Bruce and Mr Grahame Herington, as the two schoolboys, Blib and Blob, were very droll and entertaining; Mr Lionel Glenister as Wm. Joplin, and also as the Reigning King, showed able work; Mr Alfred Glyde as Peter (the Cat), was very satisfactory; Miss Dorothy Green danced delightfully as the Will-o'-the-Wisp; Mr Joseph Hart was a capital Yellow Dwarf; Miss Jean Verner as the Reigning Queen and the Water Lily was seen to advantage; and Miss Madge Langton's Bluebell's Good Fairy also deserves commendation. The minor characters were ably sustained, the choruses were prettily sung, and the dances were well rendered.

COLISEUM.—Licensee and Director of Entertainments, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr C. Smith-Wilkes.—The following are here this week:—Vera Patey, comedienne and burlesque artiste; Philip Sefton, actor-vocalist; the Two Balzens, Japanese jugglers, balancers, and top-spinners; Charles Pond, in his "Glimpses of Life;" Maude Courtney, the American girl, in song and story; Ambrose Thorne, light comedian; and Coliseum Pictures. A Christmas flavour is given to the programme by the introduction of Fred W. Newman's good old-fashioned harlequinade, which is admirably sustained by Mr Fred W. Newman (clown), Harry Sparks (pantaloon), Charles Vernon (harlequin), Frank Thomas (policeman), James Pattison (swell), and Fanny Finley (columbine). The clown's visit to Shadowland is also entertaining. On the termination of each performance the stage is occupied by the Coliseum monster illuminated Christmas-tree, from which each child in the audience receives a toy.

BRISTOL.

PALACE.—Managing Directors, Messrs Livermore Bros.; Resident Manager, Mr Horace Livermore; Secretary, Mr F. J. V. Welchman.—There were two performances here on Boxing Day, the leading attraction for the week being Ahrensmeyer, described as "the cowboy hypnotist." His performance and experiments create considerable interest. Nadji, dancer, contortionist, and handbalancer, presents a clever and pleasing turn; Charles Collette, comedian, is always popular at Bristol; Miss Lilith Leyton and Mr J. J. Bentham have a funny sketch, *The Order of the Bath*; Spry and Monti do a smart humorous turn; the Michalinis appear in a good equilibristic and juggling act; Cliff and Kean, comedy artistes and speciality dancers, are clever in their line; Guy Ryder, vocalist and whistler, pleases; and Kit Keer, a copper-coloured comedian, is successful. The performance concludes with some good animated pictures.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—George M. Schilling, American athlete, who is walking round the world for a wager, is appearing here, and gives an interesting description of various adventures en route. Mr and Mrs 'Gene Hughes have an amusing sketch, *A Matrimonial Substitute*; Leo Dryden obtains applause for his songs; Mdlle. Marvelle's performing birds are well trained; Miss Addie Douna appears in a humorous sketch, *How She Did It*; Henry Abdy's troupe of animals do some clever feats; the Laares Troupe contribute some smart tumbling, &c.; Lew Wells has a novel musical act; Miss Lily Flexmore, comedienne and legmania dancer, is much appreciated; and Edward and Nettie Masse are responsible for some good comedy juggling. Animated pictures conclude the entertainment.

COLSTON HALL.—Mr Charles W. Poole's Myriorama is here for a short season. The up-to date attraction is a series of panoramic views, illustrating "Modern Warfare on Land and Sea"—from St. Petersburg to Mukden with the Russians, and from Tokio to Liao-yang with the Japanese. There are numerous other panoramic pictures, excellent animated pictures of various subjects, a good variety entertainment, and a fine band under the direction of Lieut. G. Howard.

BRIDLINGTON.

SPA THEATRE.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr Henry Hague.—A variety and pantomime company opened here on Monday evening in the bijou pantomime *Little Red Riding Hood*, in which Miss Doris Mydleton took the title-role. Mr Cecil Webb was the Baron, and his humorous songs and those of Mr Jack Blades as Little Flossie and Mr Harry Brady as the Beadle went well. Miss Dolly Bell was a capital Prince, and her dancing was excellent. Miss Maitland as the Fairy and Miss Lillie Webb as Miss Muffitt were also in the cast, and Mr Harry Raymond and Mr Sydney Forth were Simple Simon and the Wolf.

BURY (LANCS).

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE LIMITED. —General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Messrs G. Mitchells and J. Belton's company is presenting *The Conscript* here this week. The drama is illustrative of life in Russia. Mr George Mitchell as Karl, the Conscript, gives a remarkably clever portrayal, and is well assisted by Miss Mary Dawson as Nadia. The scenery is good.

OLYMPIA CIRCUS OF VARIETIES. — General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—The good programme provided here includes the Ross Clyde comedy company, in a funny sketch entitled *I Must Have It*; T. W. Royal, the winner of the Lancashire Clog Dancing Championship; Lanos and Montes, comedy acrobats; Les Uniques, gymnasts; the Blamphins, in a Nigger act; and Mdau Clifton and Fred Horsfall, vocalists.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs W. H. Broadhead; Manager, Mr W. Broadhead.—A good bill is again being presented here, and grand business is being done at the reduced prices. Madge Gray, dialect comedienne; Britma, juggler; Louis A. Murray, vocalist; Millie Harris, vocalist; Jack and Evelyn, sand dancers; Sadie Dane, a coloured lady, in coon songs; Eric Graham, comedian; Le Warren, ventriloquist; the Goldinis, expert carpet spinners; and Freans, comedians and dancers, all contribute.

CAMBRIDGE

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Mr W. H. Hallatt and company opened on Monday with *Two Little Sailor Boys*. Miss Blanche Steel as the adventuress, Lola Grey, gave a capital study of the part; Miss Mabel Soudamore as Lucy Wilson was also successful; Miss Dorothy Lennox as Mary Primrose made a sprightly maid; Miss May Day and Miss Ethel Francis were particularly effective as the two boys, Cyril Grey and Tom Yorke; Mr William Sams was a good Commander Noel Tregarthen; Mr Leonard Booker was satisfactory as Lieut. Richard Redstone; as were Mr W. H. Hallatt, Capt. Tom Yorke; Mr Tom E. Sinclair, and Mr Oscar Power.

GUILDHALL. — Dr. Seaton's animated photographs and concert party are giving a capital entertainment here. In addition to the photographs, which are well worth witnessing, the programme contains the following well-known artists, viz:—Miss Marian Williams, Professor Carton, Mr William Kingsley; while a number of tricks are performed by Dr. Seaton.

CARDIFF.

KING'S THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr Frank Bateman; Business-Manager, Mr Robert Sawin.—*At War with Women* is the piece occupying the boards this week. The play, which is by the lessee, is presented by his company. All the artists render substantial help, and are individually responsible for first-rate impersonations. Miss Lizzie Montague's delineation of Auriel Romanoff stands out as the work of an accomplished actress, and Miss Montague deserves exceptional praise for a portrayal which in no small degree makes the piece such a success. The staging is a distinct feature, and the costumes are much above the average.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Lea.—A programme which the management has rightly conjectured will compete with the irresistible attraction of the pantomime has been given here this week. At the head of the bill is a grand Christmas production entitled "The Mistletoe Bough," shown with other interesting subjects on the American Bioscope. Grais' baboon prodigies give a good turn, in which a daring young baboon cycles the loop. The Jees present their ever-acceptable *Musical Smithy*; Alburtus and Bartram give a clever club-juggling performance; and the Resuas Trio display their ability as acrobats and equilibrists. Other excellent turns are the Max Welson Quartet of famous European rope-performers; the Brothers Pueblo, cake-walkers and sand dancers; Alice Maydue, character comedienne; the Llewelyns, Australian operatic vocalists; and Milner Verren, tenor vocalist.

CARLISLE.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Mrs P. E. Veitch; Manager, Mr C. Algie.—Miss Frederica's wonderful performing terriers and pony are again here. A smart acrobatic display by Tom, Dick, and Harry is well received; and the Itrams, gymnasts, jugglers, and equilibrists, do some wonderful business. A popular turn is contributed by the Sisters Adrienne, who quickly dance, sing, and whistle their way into favour. Salmon, the well-known trick cyclist, is still right at the top of his form. Sill and Silcott, in an amusing extravaganza, *Left Luggage*; Mr C. E. Ernest, double-voiced vocalist; and Rick and Laurel, smart comedians and agile dancers, contribute turns which add to the success of an all-round excellent entertainment.

NEW PUBLIC HALL.—Mr Hugh Dempsey's "Stars of the Night" company opened here on Monday. A capital programme was submitted, including the Five Woodbines, musical eccentrics and acrobats; Proctorie, the king of irons; Mdlle. Walla Sanger, in illustrated songs and serpentine dance; Mdlle. Zara, thought-reader; Professor Rudolph, in the comic sketch *The Academy*; Sisters Ely, duettists; Leo Selwyn, illusionist; Dock Watson, coloured comedian; Miss Annie Revande, descriptive vocalist; and Mr Hugh Dempsey, who scored a complete triumph with his Irish comedy songs and Hungarian top-boot dance.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr Lionel Barnard; Secretary, Mr Geo. G. Ridley.—Capital audiences are assembling here to witness the first local production of *The Darling of the Gods*, the company being toured by Mr J. Bannister Howard. The leading characters of Zakkuri, Kara, Yo-San, and Rosy Sky are admirably interpreted by Mr D Lewin Mannering, Mr Alfred Goddard, Miss Inez Bensusan, and Miss Edith Anton Laing respectively, each being heartily recalled during the evening. The general staging of the play is excellent.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor, Mr L. B. Barnard.—Mr Barnard's holiday bill-of-fare includes Leonard Mortimer and popular company, in *The Britishers*; Fred Elton, comedian; Lacey's Erascope, with animated pictures; Myra Stansfield, a smart comedienne; the Three Sisters Leigh, vocalists and dancers; Larry Lewis, eccentric comedian; Carr and Lewis, comedy artistes; and the Andreassen Brothers in the scena, *The Naval Officers' Sports on Board*.

GAIETY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Captain H. E. Davis; Manager, Mr Frank E Donne.—Spot, coon artiste, tops the bill here, and with his party of cake-walkers causes roars of laughter in his travesty "The Cake-walk Craze;" unbounded applause is gained by the clever dancer who styles herself My Fancy; the Borghetti Troupe are undoubtedly smart acrobats; the Edisonograph has a fine picture entitled "Whirling the Worlds;" Harry Nation pleases with comic ditties, and others appearing are Lillie Le Breton, gymnast; Alice Coates, comedienne; and Arthur Stacey, comedian and dancer.

CHORLEY (LANCS.).

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr G. T. Sante; Secretary, Mr J. Clay.—An excellent programme is being submitted here this week. Mr Will Onda's sketch company heads the bill, and is responsible for two really funny pantomime sketches; Madame Alençon displays considerable talent in a mystic entertainment; Gillon presents a clever ventriloquial sketch; R. C. Note is responsible for good work as the swell comedian; Bendella is an admirable contortionist; Dave Hallie as a humourist is appreciated; and Eva Reed is a decidedly smart top-boot dancer. The Bioscope concludes an enjoyable entertainment.

CLYDEBANK.

NEW GAIETY THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Wilson.—The attraction here this week is the drama *The Convent Bell*, presented by Mr Howell Webb's company. The hero, Philip Vautier, is successfully delineated by Mr Stanley Carlton, the heavy part of Henri Cassella is acted in a manner that calls for special mention by Oliver Birrell. Miss Trissie Humphrys as the much-wronged Christine Valgrave, gives a careful reading, and is worthy of high praise. Miss Ruby Maude is a delightful Marguerite Courier. Mr Howell Webb makes much out of Pickle Podds, a sailor. Jean, a page, is smartly played by Mr Teddy Miles, and Miss Florrie Manderville is a vivacious Susette.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Mary Watson; Manager, Mr C. B. Fountaine.—On Monday evening Mr Fountaine, the popular manager, who has now been here for close upon seven years, took his second benefit. Mr Chas. Majilton and company supplied the attraction with *The Plumber*. The following artistes also provided specialities:—The Sisters Brownie; Miss Maddie Majilton, in her favourite "Annie Laurie's my sweetheart's name;" Mr Adam White, the local strong man and physical culturist; Mr Tom Gibson, Scotch comedian; Mr J. Sydney Marley, elocutionist and humourist; Miss Kate Fallon, soprano vocalist; the Two Harringtons, handkerchief and flag mystifiers; and Mr John Watson, versatile comedian.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr Wm. Bennett.—An attractive holiday programme is provided here this week in a visit of Mr Gore Ouseley's company in the musical comedy *The Lady's Maid*. Miss Geraldine Bruce proves very successful as Miss Zaza Marmosette; Mr Carr Shirley plays Joseph Biffin with great credit; Mr Stenson Liddard is capable as Lieutenant Charlie Marchmont, the same remark applying to Mr Harold Eden as Hon. Augustus Puphpayst. Mr W. Pringle is happily placed as Samuel Spriggs, and Miss Maggie Bowman is amusing as Jane Taylor. Miss Pauline Hague acquits herself creditably as Miss Alison Grey, as heiress. The musical numbers are numerous and well rendered.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Chas. Macdona; Resident-Manager, Mr F. Graham Macdona.—An immense success was scored by Mr Charles Macdona's company in *Three Little Maids* on Boxing Night. The singing, especially in the case of the ladies, was exceptionally good. Miss Vera Vallis, Miss Nellie Groves, and Miss Mabel Lavelle were delightful as the three maids, and Madame Lena Norina was a stately Lady St. Mallory. Storms of applause greeted the dancing and contortions of Mr Gus Oxley as Cupid, and he was ably seconded by Miss Laura Wright's thoroughly characteristic Gretchen, the Dutch tea girl. M. Jules Charmettes played the part of a French attaché with considerable force, and also contributed a clever 'cello solo. The Lord Cheyne of Mr Arthur Longley was admirable.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr John Horgan.—Messrs Addison Bright and Walter Maxwell's company opened here on Monday in *The Little Minister*. Miss Nita Faydon as Lady Babbie acted with much grace and humour. Miss Elspeth Dudgeon as Narmy Webster filled the part capitally; Mr Lewis Edgard as Rev. Gavin Dishart was very successful; Mr George A Brandram as the Earl of Rintoul made a dignified, yet firm, father; Mr A. Kightley as Captain Halliwell filled the part admirably; Mr John Nesbitt, Mr Harry L. Carle, Mr Walter Maxwell, and Mr Herbert Chown were the Elders, and made a capital quartet; Mr Ean M'Donald as Rob Dow gave an excellent portrayal. *Quality Street*, by the same author, was produced here for the first time on Thursday evening, Miss Florence Jackson taking the part of Phœbe Throssell.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Henry Kemble. —Among the best turns here is Cee-Mee Troupe of aerial gymnasts; Minnie Scott is a comedienne and dancer who pleases; Harry Calvo also scores in his songs; Brothers Les Bois are a clever pair; Mary Winsome, male impersonator; David O'Leary, dancer; Grant and Allen, comedians, are much applauded; and Tate and Tate are good comedy acrobats.

CREWE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry Taylor.—The Christmas attraction here this week is provided by Mr James Hare's company in the melo-farce called *The Golden Chance*, and also the domestic drama entitled *Woman's Redemption*. The first was presented on Monday to a packed house. Mr J. Hare in the character of Hubert Zac played with great intelligence. Mr H. M. King gave a satisfactory rendering of Stephen Clinton. The comic element was entrusted to Mr Bert Atherton, who in the character of Sam Brown was humorous, being well supported by Miss Jenny Hallworth as Susan. Miss Agatha Halford made a pathetic Lydia Hastings. Miss Irene Clifford in the part of Mother Hawk and Vira Zac showed to advantage. Tuesday night was devoted to *Woman's Redemption*, and there was again a good house.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Wallace Davidson, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr Wallace Davidson.—As a special holiday attraction Miss Olga Audre and Messrs Travis Green and Arthur Hinton's company opened here on Boxing night with the stirring drama *When a Man Hates*. As Pietro Danelli Mr Arthur Hinton is remarkably good, and Miss Leila Lillwood gives a realistic performance as the adventuress, Olga Gwynne. Mr Marcus Wynton submits a manly delineation of Lawrence Hastings, and Miss Marion Forrester is a sweet and pathetic Letty. The character of Sir Rupert Treharne is in the able hands of Mr Ploens Gains, Mr Travis Green is a clever Paul. Mr Tom Taylor (Peter) and Miss Marie E. Robertson (Dolly) are very funny.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Lawson Lambert; Acting-Manager, Mr Reginald Lawrence.—Mr George Dance's company opened here on Christmas Eve in *The Cingalee*. There is a full chorus of fine voices, beautiful costumes, pretty scenery, and an augmented orchestra, under the direction of Mr Edward H. Whitehall. Miss Madge Temple has a pleasing voice, and gives an artistic performance as Lady Patricia Vane. Miss Mabel Sealby is an enchanting Peggy Sabine, and her dancing is applauded; Miss Ethel Negretti is bewitching and bright as Nonoya, and sings her numbers sweetly; Miss Trissie March is an agreeable Angy Loftus; Misses Poppy Wilkinson, Kate Leicester, Iris Grosvenor, and Minnie Muir are charming little tea girls; and Miss Gladys Grey (Miss Pinkerton), Miss Ada Borne (Fräulein Weiner), Miss Vera Bolset (Mdlle. Chic), and Miss Mordaunt (Signorina Tasso) all look nice. Mr Francis Ludlow is sincere and attentive in the rôle of Harry Vereker; Mr F. W. Pattrick provokes hilarity with his well-thought-out portrayal of Boobhamba; Mr F. W. Ford is great as Sir Peter Loftus; Mr Vincent Erne introduces excellent business as Myamgah; Mr George Mudie, jun., submits an acceptable impersonation of Bobby Warren; and Mr Lauri De Frece gives a lively and comical rendering of Chambhuddy Ram which causes many a hearty laugh. Adequate assistance is also given by Messrs Walter F. Bates, Stanley Nix, Morn Taylor, and E. V. Carter as Willy Wilson, Freddy Lowther, Dick Bosanquet, and Jack Clinton.

PALACE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Resident General Manager, Mr Eustace H. Jay.—The holiday programme at this cosy house is a gigantic one, and includes:—The Arthur Saxon Trio, in their feats of strength; Miss Dora Clifford, comedienne and dancer; Mr Jack Thornbury, ventriloquist; Miss Dora Martini, lady gymnast; Miss Ada Victor, comedienne; Mr Mark Leslie, coon impersonator; the Excelsior duettists and vocalists; Miss Dora Lyric, vocalist; Mr Chris Wren, comedian; Miss Clorinda Thurtell, the Spanish Princess; Mr J. P. Lloyd, vocalist; Mr R. W. Bentley, comedian; Miss Blanche Holt, burlesque actress; the Lulaine Darrell Troupe, in an interesting act; the Brown and Kelly combination in sketch, *The Lay Figure; or, Why Jones Left Home*; and Mr Fred S. Partridge's orchestra.

DONCASTER.

NEW GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr J. W. Chapman.—Variety entertainments continue to exercise a potent infatuation, the one this week being a triumph of the series. Juno Salmo, the golden Mephisto, is a study, and a good impression is created by Mollie Doon, comedienne and dancer, while Herbert Madden, vocal comedian, furnishes a liberal turn. Mr and Mrs Clifford Bronte, in their comedy sketch, *Saucy Maud*, evoke unstinted humour and applause, and a clever and unique exhibition comes from Oswald, equilibrist and staircase performer. Miss Gertrude Wesley, who was recognised as Miss Meacock, a local artiste, is a valuable adjunct to the combination, pathos, warmth, and fine technique characterising her harp solos. Edie Endon is distinctly smart as a danseuse, and withal entertaining in her vocal contributions. Mr A. Dodds, also a local musician, appears with a selection of the latest gramaphone records. One of the best appreciated items is Prince Ishmael's illusionist and necromancy display.

DUBLIN.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Director, Mr Mouillot; Resident Manager, Mr Arthur Armstrong. —The Moody-Manners Opera Company (Limited), with a powerful combination, commenced its annual Christmas season here on Boxing Day, the opening performance at the matinee being the popular *Il Trovatore*. Madame De Vere gave a charming and artistic rendition of Leonora. Mr John Child, who was in grand form, appeared in his popular rôle of Manrico, and gave a very fine performance. As the Count Di Luna Mr F. H. Erle distinguished himself; and Miss Toni Selter's portrayal of Azucena was excellent. Miss D. M'Carthy gave every satisfaction as Inez, and the Ferrando of Mr G. Renshaw was particularly good. In the evening *The Lith of Killarney* was presented. Madame Fanny Moody as Eily O'Connor was most heartily welcomed, her brilliant voice being heard with great effect in the several numbers. Mr Joseph O'Mara also had a flattering reception on his appearance as Myles-na-Coppaleen. He was in capital voice, and sang his music in artistic style. Mr William Dever was most successful as Danny Mann, and the part of Hardress Cregan was creditably taken by Mr Wilson Pembroke. Both operas were admirably conducted by Herr Richard Eckhold. *Carmen*, *Mignon*, *La Traviata*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Faust*, and *The Bohemian Girl* are also in the répertoire.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. S. Figgis.—The principal feature here this week is Herman Melot, the famous conjuror. Gallagher and Hild are capital comedy artists, and Florry Cooper is a clever juvenile vocalist. Hugh Stanton and company in their sketch *For Reform* make a decided hit; Walter Munroe, comedian, is as popular as ever; Doody and Wright, Australian comiques, are exceedingly good; and Bijou Russell has a host of admirers. Fanny Robina, who remains from last week, is very popular; Pia Carczzi, harp virtuoso, is well received; and the Empire pictures are up to date.

TIVOLI.—General Manager, Mr Charles M. Jones; Secretary, Mr H. A. Murphy.—Barton and Ashley, who top the bill here this week, are highly amusing in their sketch *Canal Boat Sal*; Adrim and Oram are good as eccentric comedians, and Daisy Alymer is a chic comedienne and dancer; Hart and Rudd, comedians, score a success; as do also the Four M.P.'s in their musical mélange. Ted Heaton and Sacha are much appreciated for their swimming act; Harry Bent is a smart comedian; Carlotta Lunn is a pleasing comedienne, and Billy Moran a capital comic. The Bioscope pictures are also interesting.

PORT ARTHUR.

The Proprietors of FUO shipped to this now historic town a large quantity of their Mouth-Wash, just previous to the outbreak of hostilities. A cynic has suggested that this may have something to do with the tenacity with which the Russians are holding on to the town and its contents, and also the determination of the Japs to obtain control of the Port.

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S.H.B.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manageress, Mrs T. W. S. Jennings.—The attraction here this week is the drama *Wep-Ton-No-Mah*, by the company of the Indian actress Miss Go-Won-Go-Mohawk, who herself plays the title-rôle in a manner which catches on at once. The part of Colonel Stockton is finely embodied by Mr C. W. Charles; as Spanish Joe Mr Richard Thorne does well; as Nellie, the colonel's daughter, Miss Minnie Goepel is seen to advantage; the comic element is in the capable hands of Miss J. Hart as Matilda, Mr Guy D. Hackney as Sam, and Mr Dan Ryan as Garry, a humorous Irishman. A special feature is the appearance of two fine Indian ponies.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr E. L. Ormsby. — Mr Charles Frohman's company is appearing here this week in *Sherlock Holmes*. The title-rôle is in the capable hands of Mr H. A. Saintsbury, who gives a very fine impersonation. Dr. Watson is cleverly enacted by Mr Lawrence Leyton; and the callous Professor Moriarty is portrayed with telling effect by Mr W. F. Stirling. The part of James Larrabee is capitally embodied by Mr Leslie Carter; Mr Pelham Rayner is very good as Sidney Prince, as is also Mr Marc M'Dermott as John Forman. Miss Vera Longden assumes the rôle of Alice Faulkner in an admirable manner; and Miss Maud Linden makes the most of her opportunities as Madge Larrabee. Miss Rosalie Notrelle as Terese and Mr Gissing Walters as the Count Von Stahlberg also deserve mention.

DOVER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—A large and enthusiastic audience welcomed the production of Mr E. Graham Falcon's pantomime, *The Forty Thieves*. The play is mounted and staged magnificently, the dresses are lovely, and the whole performance goes with verve and swing, which reflects the highest credit both on the stage-manager and the producer. Mr W. Cyrus contributes a large amount of fun with his highly amusing impersonation of Ali Baba. Miss Frances Manners as Abdallah has all the vivacity and dash associated with successful principal boys, and renders her songs in capital style. Miss Amy Randolph is equally good, and in the part of Ganem finds ample opportunities for the display of her undoubted talent. Miss Cissie Harcourt is pleasing as Morgiana, making the most of a somewhat ineffective part. Hassarac, as played by Mr Willie Kloof, is a most mirth-provoking character, and he is ably seconded by Mr B. Albert as Mustapha. Mr George Dix is clever as the donkey. Mr Hyam Good as Cassim Baba plays with excellent effect, and Mr Arthur B. Carlton as Cogia Baba comes in for a good share of applause. Miss Rosa Charles is a graceful Zobedie, and her coon song brought down the house. The principal characters are supplemented by a strong chorus, and some clever specialities are introduced, the most prominent being the Raynor Trio of acrobats, Cyrus and Maude, musical experts; and Hyam Good, in his burlesque drama.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. Maurice Clement; Acting-Manager, Mr J. W. Tilley.—Mr A. E. Smith's pantomime *The Babes in the Wood* met with an enthusiastic reception on Monday from a packed house. Miss Lily Coleman made a graceful Fairy, and sang in capital voice; Mr J. H. Mathews, with a good baritone voice, was seen and heard to advantage as the Demon King. Miss Edith Wallis as Robin Hood was singularly successful, especially with her topical song "It takes a lot of washing out." Miss Beatie Howard was dainty and demure as Maid Marian; Mr Arthur Slater was thoroughly at home as the Bad Baron, being a whistler and mimic of the highest order; Mr Charles Gladwell worked very hard as the Dame, and caused roars of laughter; the Babes were prettily embodied by the Misses Lily White and Cora Pleon, and these sang together sweetly; and Mr Bod Padley and Mr F. Wheatcroft as Weary Willie and Tired Tim kept the audience in a continual roar. The Edna Trio of speciality dancers are exceptionally clever, and received well-merited applause, another good speciality turn being the Colleys, contortionists, table and staircase performers. The pantomime was well staged.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Tom Prichard.—A Christmas programme is provided this week, and on Monday night both houses overflowed. The bill includes Terras Bros., in acrobatic pastime; Forrest and King, in an acrobatic dancing speciality act; "Mr E." with up-to-date jokes; the Evalos, in a new comic juggling and gymnastic mélange; Alexandra Edwin, soprano vocalist; Slade Murray, actor vocalist; Tom Packer, comedian; and Daisy Morrell, burlesque artiste. Thursday and Friday in last week were set apart for the benefit of Miss Violet Friend, who annually gives the whole of the proceeds to the Empire Christmas dinner fund for the poor of the district, and the result of these benefits is highly gratifying to Miss Friend, and also of great assistance to the many poor families in the neighbourhood.

DUNDEE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Robert Arthur; General Manager, Mr Sandon Perkins.—Mr F. R. Benson and company are located here. *Hamlet* was produced on Monday, and Mr Benson as the Prince of Denmark gave a most excellent portrayal of the many-sided character. Mrs Benson as Ophelia submitted a very creditable performance; in the mad scene her acting was superb. Mr Cyril Keighley scored as Laertes; Mr Clarence Derwent made a delightful Horatio; Mr Geo. R. Weir was admirable as the grave-digger; and Mr Arthur Whitby was a most impressive ghost.

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Will Parker; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr Alf Rose.—The Three Laurels submit a clever acrobatic act "on the ping-pong table;" Mr Phil Herman scores a decided success with his clever songs; Gilroy and Gloss are capital sand dancers; Roden does some clever tricks on a cycle; and Mdlle. Magna appears in a beautiful statuary act; the Lady Comedy Quartet sing well; and a funny act is given by George and Edwards. Will Harvey and Harry Bennet complete the bill.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Will Percival.—A novelty is presented here this week in the appearance of Buffalo Bill's *Wild West*, reproduced on the cinématograph. Victor Ritter, musical clown; and Professor Montague, ventriloquist, add to the success of the programme.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Dobell Lyle.—The pantomime, *Aladdin*, continues in its course of success. Much new business is still being added, and with all the artists familiar with their parts, the whole show goes with a delightful swing.

EBBW VALE.

KING'S.—Lessees, Messrs Arthur Carlton and Sam Duckworth; Manager, Mr Arthur Knight.—After an interval of a fortnight, during which time the theatre has been closed for certain alterations, Mr Clifton Alderson's company opened with the popular military play *A Soldier and a Man*. Mr Alderson was particularly successful in the part of Harold Sinclair, and Mr F. K. Aylliff did well as Jake Harding. The scenery was effective.

EDINBURGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Hollister.—The delightful pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, is making grand headway here, the volume of business since the opening fully confirming our chronicle of success. There were two overflowing houses on Monday morning and evening, and anything better than the attendance for the remainder of the week no manager could desire.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Howard and Wyndham, Limited; General Manager, Mr G. T. Minshull.—Mr George Edwardes provides the Christmas fare at this theatre as heretofore, and, in presenting *The Cingalee*, has given us an entertainment ently suited to the season. As a pronounced London success the play had a hearty welcome on Monday from a brilliant and crowded audience, and illustrated with beautifully painted scenery, costly and charming dresses, and supported by a numerically strong company, it should draw many thousands to this favourite resort during the holidays. The book, which is well designed, fulfils its purpose admirably, the sparkling music of Mr Lionel Monkton captures the ear, and extra numbers of a particularly attractive character result in prolonged applause and many well-merited encores. At the same time the splendour of the production was quickly recognised by Mr Edwardes' patrons; it is being talked about on all sides, and the painstaking care and high artistic taste expended on the mounting will no doubt have its due reward. The principal character is assigned to Miss Octavia Barry, a lady already high in favour here, and her spirited acting and tuneful singing as Nanoya certainly added much to her popularity. Lady Patricia Vereker was played with charming piquancy and rare refinement by Miss Lily Elsie, whose high vocal gifts made her singing a pleasure to listen to. Miss Maudie Marsland secured a notable success as Peggy Sabine, and enlivened the evening with some capital songs and dancing, receiving a plentiful share of the encores. The four native teagirls who take prominent part in the action were brightly rendered by Misses Claire Marsden, Claire Predelle, Kathleen Severn, and Doris Lester, while Miss May Gould danced with bewitching grace as Miss Pinkerton. Other attendant ladies were satisfactorily represented by Misses Mabel Hirst, Evelyn Fortescue, Mabel Allen, and Rhoda Gordon. Mr Leonard Mackay was admirably suited as Harry Vereker, and scored all along the line as hero, singer, and actor. His "Pearl of Sweet Ceylon" and "My dear little Cingalee" were absolute gems of vocalisation. Mr Colin Coop, another first-rate singer, provided plenty of amusement as Boobhamba, and that well-equipped and doubly droll comedian Mr W. J. Manning appeared as Sir Peter Loftus, a humorous creation that in his hands was irresistibly funny. Mr E. Statham Staples introduced something both novel and original in eccentric comedy as Chambuddy Ram, and carried through a heavy and exacting part with an ability and success that were apparent and complete. Mr Harold Thorley made a forcible impression and sang nicely as Bobby Warren, and Mr Willie Warde, jun., made a clever appearance as Myamgah. There was a dance carnival in the second act, in which the corps de ballet greatly distinguished themselves, the Rubies making a sensation in the Devil dance.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss.—Mr G. W. Hunter, one of the stars of the old Gaiety in the early days of Mr Moss's management, had a hearty welcome at this house on Monday, when his diverting songs and still more diverting stories caused genuine amusement among visitors who have been particularly numerous all the week. Mdlle. Diane De Fontenoy introduced her attractive speciality, "An Artist's Model" with renewed success, and again skilfully delineated the various historical personages represented. The staging and appointments were of a costly and luxurious character. Alexander performed a number of cycling tricks that created quite a furore; and Mr Frank Harwood's descriptive songs, which were effectively delivered, went well. Miss Lucy Weston, who looked a dream in her exquisite costumes, rendered two smart songs in dainty fashion, and the imitation of prominent music hall artistes given by Miss Rose Archer, who accompanied herself on the piano, were all neatly and effectively done. Lilian Warren's illustrated songs were very enjoyable, and Miss Amber Austa's quaint coon songs and remarkably clever step dancing were received with enthusiastic applause. M. Eugene Marrder, the gold cavalier, remains with his wonderful horse and dogs, and Mr Will Haines, vocal comedian, and the Victorias, vocalists and dancers, complete the company.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Eade Montefiore.—*Cinderella* is playing here to crowded houses, the production now going capitally from start to finish. On Monday two performances were given, one thousand two hundred children attending the matinée on invitation of the manager, a pleasant incident of the occasion being the presentation of a beautiful basket of flowers to Miss May Marton, the charming Cinderella of the pantomime, from the boys and girls of St. Giles's Cathedral Schools.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Tom Ellis.—Holiday fare at this house consists of a series of well-known dramas, given under the direction of Mr Auguste W. B. Kingston, whose répertoire company appeared on Monday in the Irish play *Rollicking Barney*. The principal characters were effectively sustained by Messrs Kingston, Donaldson, and Egan, the latter a comedian of droll powers, while Miss Madge F. Young made a fine appearance as the heroine. On Tuesday *Jack Sheppard* was given, on Wednesday *Poor Jo*, on Friday *Lured to Ruin*, and on Saturday *Maria Martin*, a lurid melodrama that is seldom played now-a-days.

COOKE'S ROYAL CIRCUS.—Proprietor, Mr John Henry Cooke.—"Aqua-Wreck" is carrying all before it here, and so great has been the demand for seats that two performances daily have had to be given all the week. The equestrian and variety programme is first-class, and forms an interesting introduction to the entertainment.

WAVERLEY MARKET.—Mr Moss's character for modesty and diffidence is well known all the world over, and it seems he will be showing a more retiring disposition than ever as the present year closes. However, his career as an amusement provider on a gigantic scale is in no wise affected by this, and in presenting his twentieth Edinburgh Carnival he has certainly put his best foot forward. The vast building has been transformed into a veritable fairyland, and a round of amusements is provided that would satisfy the most critical. The decorations by Messrs Evanston and Elliott, Limited, are in the best possible taste, and reflect highly on the enterprise of this well-known firm, while the electric lighting by Messrs King and Co., and the gas illuminations by Messrs Barton and Sons, are as brilliant and effective as ever. The big line on the bill is provided by Herr Julius Seeth's cage of twenty-three forest-bred lions, introduced on this occasion by M. George Thielbar, who gives a wonderful performance. Another fine show is that of the Lukushima troupe of equilibrists, which includes Otora San Lukushima, Japan's premier lady artist, while the grand display by Apollo, the famous Scottish athlete and writer on kindred subjects, is hailed with enthusiastic cheering by his admirers. Ivan Tschesnoff's ponies, dogs, and pigeons show remarkable training, and the clever skating act of Les Vicentinas, who possess a skating dog, is skilfully executed. The Rossow Midgets are well-known Lilliputian acrobats, boxers, and comedians; and the Three Donals, gymnasts, and the Seddons, jugglers, each give enjoyable turns. A very interesting show is that of Robertus and Alfredo, who manipulate small indiarubber balls with astonishing dexterity; and the Cole de Losse, comedians, also provide some capital fun. This stage performance, which takes over three hours (with slight intervals) to accomplish, goes with praiseworthy smoothness, under the able management of Mr Hyram Travers, jun.; while Lieut. H. G. Amer's splendid military band, after an overture and selection, discourses some very pleasant music during the various performances. Prof. Fred Harcourt is the star of the side showmen, with an amusing mystery; while the sensational kettle draws immense crowds of visitors. Mdlle. Lucie, the heaviest girl in the world; Octavia, the beautiful snake-charmer; the Mysterious Countess X., the two-headed lady; the Marvellous Howards, and Gus Hart's Submarine are some of the many extra attractions of this wonderful carnival.

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PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

"DICK WHITTINGTON" AT LIVERPOOL.

That Mr Robert Arthur's ninth annual pantomime at the Royal Court will prove a great success there is no reason to doubt. The book is fresh, the music delightful, the dresses and accessories just from the hands of the makers, and the business clean and smart. In addition there is elaborate scenery, the beautiful colours of which are enhanced by the skilful manipulation of lights, and by a chorus of over a hundred. The pantomime consists of two acts, comprising eleven scenes. To the accompaniment of sprightly music the rise of the curtain discloses the Belfrey of Bow Church, with a party of smocked-men ringing the bells and singing a swinging chorus. Here the Demon Rat announces his intention of injuring Alice, daughter of Alderman Fitzwarren, a universal provider and a director of the Anti-rat Crusade, but, as is customary, the Spirit and Fairies of the Chimes appear in time to intervene. We are soon taken to Covent-garden Market, a magnificent set. The fun is started by Fitzwarren's apprentice (the Hon. Johnnie Pennicake), son of a reduced duke, and his cook, who create uproarious laughter. The inevitable motor car is used, and a vegetable ballet, well arranged and well managed, is introduced. Whittington and his Cat, with the Princess of Morocco, take part in the hilarity, and the merriment is fast and furious. Eventually Whittington is disgraced and driven out of the place, a fine ensemble and chorus closing the scene. Hampstead Heath, with a distant view of London, is next shown, and here the break of dawn is heralded by a flying ballet of fairies. The picture is a delightful one. Merriment is again uppermost in the Hotel Mogadore, and the first act concludes with a view of Wapping Old Stairs, where a vessel bound for the East is awaiting to take away all the principal persons concerned. Act two introduces a gorgeous "set," The Emperor of Morocco's Palace, the background, cunningly devised, showing a lovely starlit blue sky and waving palms—a clever piece of stage craft. A quick change finds the darkened palace swarming with the rats, the uncouth-looking creatures, with their blinking electric-lighted eyes, moving about to the accompaniment of an effective chorus. The pantomime concludes with a transformation and musical mélange, the scene being Whitehall Gardens. Miss Hetty King as Dick Whittington speedily found favour with her audience. Vivacious and sprightly, she quite suited her part, her sand-dancing earning for her encores, and her singing of "When a fellow is twenty-one" and "Bluebell" being warmly applauded. As her companion, Miss Fanny Dango was a neat Alice, with a captivating manner and a musical voice, the latter being heard to advantage in the coon song "The Queen of Dixie Land." Miss Amy Height had the rôle of the Princess of Morocco, and played with her accustomed tact and spirit; and Mr George Gicardo moved very gracefully as the Cat. Mr Walter Groves had many opportunities for displaying his powers, and used them on every available occasion. Attired as Mrs Dessicated-Edwards he provoked merriment each time he appeared on the stage. There was scarcely a single "gag" thrown out by him which could be charged with staleness. His sayings were reeled off in strings, and the laughter that followed was incessant. Mr Horace Mills may claim to have provided much of the fun with his part of the Apprentice, The Alderman could scarcely be in better hands than those of Mr Edward Lewis, his attempts to escape from "Bill Bailey's home," which followed him even to Morocco, being very diverting. His song, "What do you want to talk about it for?" was exceedingly comic. Those two excellent comedians Alexandre and Hughes were the Emperor and Vizier, and raised much laughter. Mr Fred Storey, as usual, proved admirable in the rôle of the Demon Rat, and other principals were Miss Peggy Primrose as the housemaid; Mr E. W. Avery, Captain of the Margarine; Mr Philip Howley as Farmer Hayseed; Mr Miller Anderson, the Merry Monarch; and Miss Mabel Mainwaring, the Spirit of the Chimes. The Belle Troupe were the principal dancers.

All concerned in the production are to be congratulated upon the success of this year's effort. Mr Frank Dix wrote the book; the music was provided by Messrs J. O. Shepherd and Julien A. Wilson; Messrs Stafford Hall, W. P. Warren, and J. F. Hogg painted the scenery; the costumes were after the designs of Comelli; the ballets were arranged by Miss Madge Martin; and the lyrics written by Mr Frank Dix. The production was under the personal direction of Mr Robert Arthur, assisted by his able manager, Mr Arthur Lawrence.

"ALADDIN" AT LIVERPOOL.

From a spectacular point of view *Aladdin* at the Liverpool Shakespeare ranks high. In several instances, indeed, it would be difficult to improve upon the lovely pictures that are unfolded, and to a critic's sharp eye there is every evidence that the most careful attention has been paid to those minor details which go to make a harmonious whole. The management may be assured that the gorgeous work they have brought to Liverpool will be fully appreciated. Indications of this fact were shown on Christmas Eve when a vast audience filled the handsome theatre, which, by the way, was delightfully decorated with seasonable plants, &c., while on Boxing Night and the evenings following the capacity of the building was tested to its utmost. Of story there is little, the old lines in respect to the wonderful lamp being followed closely, yet they are so utilised as to allow of the introduction of some excellent effects. Demon's Caverns, gloomy and filled with strange forms and startling sounds, sun-lighted Chinese streets and towns, goods stores, where fun prevails, imposing and brilliantly-adorned Oriental palaces—all follow in succession, being neatly interwoven so as to afford the most striking contrasts. The accessories and dresses can only be described as superb, and are practically beyond improvement, while the army of young ladies engaged in the several ballets and tableaux is bewildering in the matter of numbers. The ensemble they present on the vast stage of the Shakespeare is certainly very fine. Then, again, the incidental music provided by an augmented and large orchestra is especially good, while many popular songs are introduced. Notwithstanding the preponderance of rich pictures and elaborate sets, which occupy some time in showing in all their beauty, some considerable portion of the evening is devoted to fun of a rollicking kind. This is especially so in the opening of the second act where Widow Twankey's shop is visited by foreign customers. The incidents that take place therein are the most humorous in the pantomime, and a good half-hour's continuous laughter is provided. Included in the best-known songs are "You can't stop the sun from shining," "Oh, the Irish," "So Did Eve," "Bluebell," and "She's a white little girl." A capital all-round company of principals have been engaged. Foremost is Miss Carrie Moore, whose Aladdin is a sweet and vivacious impersonation; while possessed of an excellent voice, she renders several songs that earn for her cordial recognition. To Miss Maggie Moore falls a lot of responsibility, which she meets in a most satisfactory manner. Her Biddy is a delightful sample of an aggressive Irishwoman, and her every appearance on the stage is the signal for uproarious laughter. Miss Billie Burke proves a dainty Princess, and plays with taste and reserve, while Miss Rosie Begarnie as Ah Sing renders coon songs and dances with grace and effect. Of the comedians Mr George Graves makes up well as the Widow Twankey, and pours out his innumerable "gags" with a quiet dryness that never fails to arouse uncontrollable merriment. As a capital companion Mr Frank Danby's Abanazar is full of comicality, and together the pair provide the majority of the evening's fun. The Emperor of China, undertaken by Mr Arthur Reynolds, is exceedingly smart, and when opportunity serves that able comedian contributes largely to the lighter side of things. Others worthy of mention are Mr Fred Allandale as Pekoe, possessed of a capital voice; Miss Katie Vesey as Yu-bu-tee, Miss Muriel George as Nicee, and Mr Gordon Brookes, the Grand Vizier. To all those who by their onerous labours have brought about such an excellent production a word of praise is due. The "book" comes from the able pens of Mr A. M. Thompson, a well-known journalist, and Mr Robert Courtneidge, whose name is popular in Manchester and the north of England generally; the latter gentleman was also responsible for the production of the work. Mr Charles H. Taylor, of *School Girl* fame, provided the lyrics; the music came from Messrs Alfred and Herbert E. Haines, and was arranged by Mr George M. Saker; Mrs Campbell Browne, of London, superintended the making of the costumes; the ballets and processions were arranged by Miss Rose Tyrrell; the mechanical effects constructed by Mr Edgar Marston; and the properties by Mr Bateman. Thanks are also due to Mr Wilhelm for designing the costumes and accessories. High praise should be bestowed on the artists, Messrs Tritschler, T. Holmes, M'Cleery, and Gordon, who painted lovely scenery.

"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD" AT LIVERPOOL.

The management of the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Liverpool, has this year taken a new departure and catered for the little ones. While the majority of the other theatres in the city are providing the customary adult pantomime here, we have presented a juvenile version of *Little Red Riding Hood*, well written and well put on. On Saturday last parents and children were present in strong force, and the latter appeared to thoroughly enjoy the old nursery story, which is told so simply as to be readily followed by those for whom it is intended. The company of juvenile artistes engaged is a numerous one, and show a large amount of careful training, while there are many very pretty scenic sets. Again the music is lively, the costumes exceedingly handsome, and a large amount of humour easily appreciated by the younger portion of the audience, is introduced. In addition to the principal figure in the pantomime there are also Tommy Tucker, Boy Blue, Little Miss Muffet, Marjorie Daw, Dame Trott, Sunny Jim, and, of course, the Wolf. Included among the elder members of the company are Miss Molly Rafferty, a winsome Red Riding Hood, who sings and dances with considerable ability for her age; Master Paddy Mills, who as Sunny Jim, creates endless laughter; Master Charles Elbon and Master Norman Barnard as Slavoraski and Hunwag, a comical pair; and Master Dan Dougherty, a humorous Dame Trott. The "book" is written by H. B. Levy, the music is from the pen of Mr Carl Sherrington, and the pantomime is produced by Mr and Mrs H. B. Levy and Mr J. Walters. The work is deserving of success.

"LITTLE ALADDIN" AT LIVERPOOL.

Melodrama at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, has been laid aside for a season, and on Monday Mr James Kiddie provided the patrons of that popular north-end place of amusement with a merry pantomime entitled *Little Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp*. The work has earned much public approval. It is brightly written, up to date with its songs and business, and staged and dressed in an elaborate manner. Chief among the principal artistes are Witty Wattie Walton, who presents a very funny Widow Twankey; Mr Arthur Alston, the Abanazar; Mr Ralph Roberts, who makes a humorous Chinese laundry-boy; Mr Henry Parratt as the Slave of the Ring; Mr Fred Buxton, Mr Walter Aubrey, Mr James Greenhey, the Two Kelsos, Miss Mina Marie as Prince Pekoe; Miss Marie Beresford, a charming Aladdin; Miss Maude Clarke, an accomplished principal dancer; and the Caenville Troupe of lady dancers. The work, which is in fourteen scenes and has been specially written, is from the prolific pen of Mr Joseph L. Barry, and the chorus and orchestra is ably conducted by Mr John Gill.

"MOTHER GOOSE" AT MANCHESTER.

Not unworthily designated "the home of pantomime," the Theatre Royal, Manchester, has kept up to its traditions of excellence in the current production of *Mother Goose*, the first performance of which took place on Christmas Eve. Mr John Hart, who has nothing to learn in this department of theatrical enterprise, is responsible for the production, which, it must be admitted, takes rank with the very best that have been seen here for many years. The book is by Mr J. Hickory Wood, whose name is a hall mark of excellence, and lyrics pertinent to the theme have been supplied by Mr William Wade, a talented local writer of repute in this sphere of work. The author's version of the story is distinguished by interesting variations which lend a touch of novelty here and there as it develops, and interest is maintained by the inclusion of sundry characters who, if not to be found in the nursery version, are continually playing upon and developing the incidents of the tale. Mother Goose is in danger of being sold up by the local mayor for rent, but suddenly realises vast wealth in the possession of a large goose which lays golden eggs of enormous size. This being a fairy arrangement her continued possession of the goose depends on her preserving a feeling of contentment with wealth and its material advantages; otherwise, the goose must depart from her into the indefinite upper regions of Gooseland, to be seen no more. Such, however, is the aversion with which her physiognomy is regarded that the misguided old woman begins to wish for the beauty of youth, so that she may ensure to herself the love of one or other of the various eccentric gentlemen who desire her for her wealth alone, but cannot endure her features; and on being tempted by the demon, Malignon, she confesses that for a beautiful face she would give even her magic goose. She gets her wish, and is so changed that her own son does not recognise her; but the goose has gone, and she is poor again, so that her beauty avails her nothing. In her repentance the good fairy Heartsease appears to her and grants her wish to be old once more; but the goose cannot be brought back unless the gallant young Colin, lover of Mother Goose's pretty daughter, ventures for it into Gooseland, bearing a magic feather from the gracious hand of the fairy, to ensure the delivery of the precious bird to him by the inhabitants of the upper regions. Therefore, Colin departs on his mission. Mother Goose and her son Jack follow in an airship, and are taken prisoners by the community of geese, who condemn them to be dealt with as mortals deal with geese on earth at Christmas time. But, of course, Colin appears to the rescue, and, presenting the magic feather, is allowed repossession of the goose that lays golden eggs; after which nothing but happiness remains. This story works itself out over ten scenes, all more or less remarkable for beauty of colouring and elaborate arrangement. Seven of them are by Mr R. C. Oldham, and three by Mr D. G. Hall. They are divided into two sections, the most remarkable sets in the first portion being a landscape including Mother Goose's Cottage, and a woodland scene in which a meet of huntsmen occurs. The second half includes a very fine imaginative picture of the Magic Pool, over which Mother Goose is found recovering her beauty, and in which a splendid ballet of water nymphs takes place; the pastoral scene of the Wishing Gate; and the final scene of Gooseland, in which occurs the grand ensemble, including a Congress of Geese. As for the artists, congratulation is due to the management upon its selection of so choice a company. At the head of them all is Mr George Robey, whose impersonation of Mother Goose is brimful of the unctuous expressional humour which characterises him among comedians, and animated from first to last by a restless resource to small means of fun which become extremely large in his hands. It is not too much to say, even at this early stage, that our premier eccentric comedian has never had a part more prolific of chances to show himself at his best. Added to his lines, he has several good songs, notably "Solid, substantial, and thick" and "I said 'Oh!'" both of which are highly successful. Mr George Bastow as Mother Goose's son, Jack, adds considerably to the amusement by a clever and humorous characterisation, his vocal efforts being "What d'ye want to talk about it for?" and a share in a duet, "The Old Bull and Bush," with their Dutch servant, Gretchen, a part which somewhat limits the exceptional abilities of Miss Daisy Jerome—a fact to be regretted—though her interpretation, including her song, "The Gibson Girl," is admirably done. Of the remaining comedians, the most notable is Little Ganty, who makes the most of his opportunities in the part of a perky little Scotchman; while Mr Laurence Caird and Mr E. W. Royce as the Laird of Borderland and the Mayor of Moortown respectively are seen to advantage in their mercenary quest of Mother Goose's hand in marriage. The Brothers Valdo should also be commended for their performance as a couple of eccentric donkeys. Of the ladies, Miss Hilda Jacobsen figures most prominently as the principal boy Colin, a rôle which she is sure to develop advantageously to herself as time goes on. Her singing of "Bluebell" is, of course, excellent, and she shines also in a duet with Jill, "My Little White Girl," Jill being impersonated nicely by Miss Venie Clements. Miss Clements has two other vocal opportunities worthy of mention, "Farewell, My Little Yo-San," illustrated by a Japanese group, and "The Land of Snow," supplemented by a chorus in Laplander tents. Among the various parades and ballets a series of dances by children should be mentioned as a popular feature. A striking acrobatic speciality by the Two Cabiacs is also introduced midway. The music is by Signor Romilli and Messrs T. C. Poyser and Arthur Poyser, the former of whom is musical director. Add to all this that the dresses and electrical effects are superb, and it will be seen that the pantomime is destined to a long and successful run.

"CINDERELLA" AT MANCHESTER.

As was to be expected, Mr Oscar Barrett's production of *Cinderella* at the Prince's Theatre on Christmas Eve was distinguished by every splendid appurtenance of pantomime on the grand scale which has been customary here for many years. Novelty also is discernible in the arrangement of the story, which is described as a fairy extravaganza in three acts, and which, while utilising time-honoured material, presents the circumstances of the old tale in something of a new light. Mr J. Hickory Wood is the author of the book, to which lyrics relevant to the action have been added by Mr Henry Edlin. The old-fashioned incongruity of two exceedingly ugly sisters of a charming and dainty Cinderella is done away with by the author's device of making the former pair the daughters of the Baron's second wife, who is brought home to the village while the heroine, Cinderella, is still at a finishing school, ignorant of her father's design to marry again. Congruity is further served by the fact that the new Baroness is herself no beauty. But at the opening of the action the Baron is ignorant of the existence of stepdaughters, and he is so overpowered by the Amazonian Baroness that he is in fear of letting Cinderella know what he has done. Two pages are in attendance, one in charge of the sisters, the other awaiting the arrival of Cinderella, and these two add materially to the bustle and humour of a pleasing and brilliant opening scene. Mr Norman Hall is active and amusing as the Baron, surnamed De Boots, and the Baroness of Miss Florence Smithers is grim and full of acerbity, though she is by no means overwhelming in proportions. Of the sisters, Mr William H. Powell plays Cassandra in the style of a genuine comedian, his ready movement, incisive utterance, and comic resource stamping his performance as one of the successes of the cast. The other sister, Chloe, a part filled by Mr Oliver J. Round, is an exceedingly grim specimen of elderly maidenhood, leavened by occasional girlish antics and uncanny gleams of humour. The usual little jealousies subsist between these two, each being anxious to get married before the other. The Baroness's page, Trim, played by Mr Fred M'Naughton, is the champion of the sisters, while Trott, the Baron's factotum, made very much alive by the personality of Mr Tom M'Naughton, is the particular advocate of Cinderella's interests. Needless to say, these two work admirably, together or apart, and are responsible for a large proportion of the fun, the more credit being due to them for their unflagging good spirits and busy comicalities in that they depend for no part of their success on an eccentric make-up, which in each case is conspicuous by its absence. Cinderella's return home in the second scene is the signal for further humorous complications in the Baron's household, and she is one of the daintiest and most charming of Cinderellas. Miss Ida Rene is simply perfect in the part. She is pretty, graceful, and so admirably schooled in simple freshness of expression as to seem quite artlessly girlish. Her success was instantaneous on Saturday, and it is certain that her presence and her gifts must be one of the most potent factors in the prosperity of the pantomime. That she should have a Prince for a lover seems in the natural order of things, and Prince Jasper, tired of the empty ceremonies of Court life, is just the person to choose her as an object of adoration. Miss Millie Lindon makes a very pleasing and dignified Prince, and she could not but feel highly gratified by the quality of her reception on the opening night, many of the audience being already familiar with the welcome and artistic refinement of her style. Attendant upon the Prince is Miss Maud Venn as the vain Dandini; Miss Gwen Howard as Lady Dainty, mistress of the frocks and frills; and Miss Gladys Harvey as Lord Chamberlain. Of these, Miss Maud Venn, a sterling comedienne, has the most distinguished opportunities, which she may be trusted to make the most of as time goes on. Perhaps the most noteworthy scene in the first part of the story is a Glade in the Royal Park, a very fine woodland set revealing glimpses of distance between groups of natural-looking tree-trunks. In this scene Miss Maud Venn sang an effective "Snowflake" song, assisted by Miss Gwen Howard. Miss Millie Lindon also produced here a song called "The Angel of My Dreams," a finely conceived ballad admirably suited by the author to her rather pensive style. Miss Ida Rene figured as the objective in this highly successful scene, which, in fact, proved one of the most noteworthy vocal items of the night. The opening scene of the second act, The Boudoir Gymnastique, furnishes an opportunity for some excellent fun with the gloves and foils by the Messrs M'Naughton, the Baron and the Baroness. The second scene also introduces speciality in the shape of a juggling performance by Freake, a palace attendant; and when it is stated that Freake is no other than Mr W. C. Fields, it will be understood that the performance is both clever and diverting. The Grand Hall, a really splendid set, is the scene of Miss Ida Rene's fine song, "The Rake's Progress," in which she followed up emphatically the success of a lighter theme—*Marriage à la Mode*. Here also she figures with Mr Tom M'Naughton in an amusing dissertation on "Kisses," illustrated. A beautiful Cloudland scene—the Fairy Forge—completes the second part. The third part comprises three scenes, of which

the final one—the Throne Room—is absolutely magnificent. Many other songs might be mentioned as contributing incidentally to the interest and gaiety of the show, among them being "The rain came pitter patter down" and "The Fat Old Cat," by Miss Millie Lindon; "The Clothes Line," by Miss Maud Venn; "Short Stories," by Mr Wm H. Powell; and Miss Gwen Howard's "Navaho." It remains only to be added that the dresses and effects are unsurpassable; that the music has been cleverly composed and arranged by Mr Herbert E. Haines; that the magnificent scenery is by Messrs Conrad Tritschler and George Dodson; and that Mr Oscar Barrett may be congratulated on a potential success of the first class.

"THE BABES IN THE WOOD" AT MANCHESTER.

The Royal Osborne Theatre, Manchester, was the scene of exceptional animation on Monday, the occasion being Mr H. A. Jordison's elaborate production of the pantomime of *The Babes in the Wood*. True to the necessities of a pantomime projected for the delectation of many and various audiences on the road, Mr Jordison has worked upon a book supplying, firstly, an infinitude of comic opportunities, a book for which Mr Theodore Adye is responsible. Due consideration has, however, been given also to the setting, which is so far from being stinted that no fewer than twelve scenes are employed, many of them being of a very elaborate and gorgeous nature, while the dresses and effects are on a correspondingly scale of brilliance. The story follows the well-known lines, from a scene in Cloudland, which initiates the supernatural influence on the story, to a glorious and triumphant ensemble of the fortunates in the Hall of the Palace. The various important characters are meanwhile introduced in the village of Bramblebee, over which the wicked uncle, Baron Toodle (Mr Edward Avon) exercises a pernicious and designing influence in the approved style of an impecunious pantomime villain. Here also lives Dame Peggy, the mistress of Bramblebee Board School, whose eccentricities in the person of Mr Rowland Hill are all the while vigorous and amusing. A dual rôle of the Baron's secretary and orator and Chief Constable of Bramblebee is played in lively fashion by Little Cluley, and much entertaining knockabout fun is added by Beery Bill and Sloppy Dick, the two desperadoes who subsequently attempt the fell work of their paymaster the Baron. This precious pair are impersonated by Messrs Cullen and Carthy in a style productive of real amusement, much of the success of the show on the comic side being due to their humorous handling of their parts. Of the babes, Little Dolly Cullen and Little Elsie Jordison, it is pleasant to be able to say that these are two exceedingly clever and engaging children, who supply just that touch of reality which must make the pantomime appeal strongly to the youthful among the audience, and at the same time inspire their elders with a homely and admiring interest. Real ability distinguishes both, not only in their movements and the delivery of their lines, but also in their remarkably pleasing duet and dance, executed skilfully and daintily in a later scene of The Forest. Interwoven with the fortunes of the babes are some relative adventures of bold Robin Hood, impersonated in gallant style by Miss Madge Daley. This graceful young lady has all the qualifications necessary to the successful principal boy, including a capital singing voice, as was evidenced by her version of the inevitable "Bluebell" and her delivery of a very nice sentimental song entitled "Molly, I love you," which met with considerable success. Robin Hood's vis-à vis, of course, is Maid Marian, the Baron's governess, who moves in these affairs quite charmingly in the person of Miss Ada Martine. Beside all these we have a trio of Foresters attendant on Robin Hood—Misses Ethel Brookland, Gabrielle Harvey, and Beattie Scots—Miss Bella Brookland as Phyllis, Miss Kitty Caffrey as Marjorie, and Miss Nancy Thornton as Dorcas, a typewriter, all with intelligible business to do; while Miss Edie Dunsker as the Fairy Venus and Mr W. Francis Greene as Herne the Hunter discharge their supernatural duties quite acceptably. Incidentally, Mr Rowland Hill's School scene, in the Baron's Study, is well worthy of remark; also his singing of the Dame song, "Jilted;" while Messrs Cullen and Carthy, who score, by the way, with their parody, "Who Killed Bill Bailey?" contribute a really funny fight in the Forest scene. Specialities also are introduced from time to time, namely, Georg Chanti, Continental quick-change character artiste—a very clever performance; Jordison's Empire Quartet of skipping-rope dancers; and a contortionist act by Avon and Crest. Some special lyrics, by Mr H. A. Jordison, are included in the libretto, and the overture and incidental music have been arranged by Mr Wilfrid Knowles. Altogether it is a capital show.

"JACK AND JILL" AT GLASGOW.

After an interval of twenty-one years the boards of the Royalty, Glasgow, are again occupied by pantomime, as produced by Mr John Tiller. The result is a bright and animated entertainment, the subject of which is the old favourite nursery rhyme, *Jack and Jill*, necessarily somewhat extended to suit the requirements of modern pantomime audiences. As a result an attractive story has been evolved with the loves of Prince Fearless and Princess Bountiful and the fortunes of Jack and Jill, who ultimately turn out to be the children of the late king and heirs to the throne. Of the ordinary mortals in the story, Dame Durden, the foster mother of Jack and Jill, as impersonated by Mr Harry Conlin, makes an instantaneous hit with the audience. His quaint appearance, clever songs and patter, neat dancing make him popular, and his success is emphatic. His smart ditty "Mary," and the duet with the Baron, "Happy Land," with its local and topical hits, went well. As the Baron Jolleboy Deadbroke Mr Leslie Stiles shows himself a comedian of much humour and resource. His acting is clever and to the point, and he makes a special success in the ingenious automata song and business in conjunction with the Price Brothers Troupe of pantomimists. A French song with a "rum-tum" chorus also went well. Mr Freddy French as Ginger is another extremely smart young comedian with a quiet, unobtrusive style which is, nevertheless, very telling. His humorous and varied make-ups and disguises are all clever, and he shared the honours in a taking duet with Prince Fearless, "I have a song to sing—oh!" (new version), and in the song and dance, "Different styles of dancing," with Jack and Jill. As the Prince Miss Frances Earle has an attractive manner, and caught the fancy of the audience at once. She made much of the catchy song "Under a Panama," also in "The girls here just suit me" and the pretty trio "Fairyland," sung with Jack and Jill. The latter parts were played with great charm by two clever young ladies, Miss May Merry as the boy and Miss Mabel Higson as the girl. Both are smart dancers and sweet singers, and their "Japanese Girl," their coon song and dance, with chorus of young coons, and their other contributions were smartly done and welcomed with enthusiasm. Miss Florence Burdett is an attractive Princess Bountiful, and both in appearance and ability is happily suited. Her song with the Baron, "If I were Queen" is well rendered, and another clever effort is the "Ole man moon" coon song. Miss Jessie Templeton as Trim unites a happy style and attractive personality, and the corresponding part of Fantine is given with much humour by Miss May Sharples. Some clever fooling is given by Messrs Barney Dixon, Harry Nelson, and Walter Watson as the soldiers of the Prince Regent. Miss Millie Warde makes a handsome exponent of the part of Truth, and the hunchback Carl is played with much effect by Mr Frank Woodville. An attractive chorus ably assist, and dancing is made a strong feature throughout. The Price Bros. Troupe of pantomimists, the Twelve Manchester Mites, the Sixteen Lady Cadets, the Riviera Male Voice Quartet, &c., all render effective aid in the various scenes. Two clever finales are worked up at the end of each half of the pantomime, the first being "The Tartan Review"—a very pretty idea, certainly—where the ballet in the garb of eight of the old Highland clans go through some intricate evolutions; and the second, the concluding scene of the pantomime, in which a procession representing characters from Offenbach's most famous operettas is given. The book has been written and the entire production organised by Mr John Tiller. The music is by Mr Herman Finck, with additional lyrics by Mr Arthur Sturgess. The eleven scenes have been painted by Messrs Leolyn Hart, A. Vaughan Williams, and Mr R. Rousir, of Paris. The pretty costumes are by Messrs Alias and Co.; Harrison and Co., London; and Landolf, Paris. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr J. Weaver, the stage-management is well looked after by Mr Claude Agnew, and Mr Tiller's interests in front are under the eye of Mr H. F. Austin. Mr Wm M. Downie, the courteous acting manager at the Royalty, ably fulfils his arduous duties.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" AT BIRMINGHAM.

Of the number of Mr J. F. Graham's Birmingham productions it might be said "we are seven," *The Forty Thieves* making the seventh annual pantomime that Mr Graham has produced in the hardware centre. In this he has achieved the well-nigh impossible. He has eclipsed himself again, though it would be rash to conclude that Mr Graham has impoverished his energies and resources in attaining this goal. Rather does he always give the impression of a clever showman who has "something up his sleeve in readiness and reserve." The audience at the first performance on Christmas Eve proved particularly partial to the pantomime, and at the onset applauded Mr William Southworth's overture with vigour. This concluded, the Market Place of Ispahan appears in view. This is an extremely fine set by Conrad Tritschler, graced by a shapely, good-looking, and melodious chorus, supported by a strong male contingent urging the "villagers" to "buy, buy, buy." At this early point enters Abdallah, disguised as a "government official," and played with distinction by Miss Alice Oppitz. This lady delivers her lines with commanding emphasis, asserting herself as Captain of the Forty Thieves, and awing the comical and aspiring lieutenant, Hassarac, with ease. Hassarac is a diverting character in the hands of Mr Phil Smith. Next comes Mr John Brabourne in the rôle of Cogia, which marks a decided improvement on this artiste's earlier essay. Mr Brabourne has learnt to soften the asperities of the pantomime dame into a truly humorous strain, and his success was unequivocal. Then comes Selim in the diverting person of Mr George Le Clerq, who with his comical aspirate and other irresistible drolleries fairly convulsed the house with laughter. This Selim is a precocious snip of a "youth," who is joined by his companion, Hassan, another "youth" of startling stature, and every time the pair meet mirth runs riot. Of course, it is Mr Ben Brown in infant guise, and the possibilities of their chances to score are incalculable. The next big entrée was made by Mr Wilkie Bard as Ali Baba, and a great reception was accorded the oft-promised and now-arrived star, who at once plunged into his metier with much success, while yet reserving his best efforts. Ganem next appeared in the faultless and dainty guise of Miss Marie Campbell, who at once established herself in the hearts of her beholders with her pretty, winsome appearance, and successful rendering of "Have you seen my girl?" Ganem, it appears, is heartwhole, but speedily succumbs to the charms of Morgiana, when that lady is produced "for sale" by Shacabac, a slave-dealer. So much, indeed, that he invests the money entrusted him by his father, Ali Baba, to pay the rent, in her purchase, with the result that Ali's effects are sold up by his irate landlord and unnatural brother Cassim, a part that is played to the full by Mr Ainslie Burton, especially in the Cave scene, where his acting reached a great dramatic height. The donkey Ibrayhim, excellently embodied by Mr Harry Zietz, is also destrained upon, but is subsequently "got back" disguised as "Mrs Hee-Haw." This occurs in scene two, a well-finished Interior of Cassim's House by Mr George Dodson. Morgiana is also included among the "effects," and here we have the advantage of Miss Minnie Hunt's pure, sympathetic voice, which is heard with much pleasure in "Dreamland." Miss Hunt is a lady of most graceful mien and charming taste, and she was instantly installed among the favourites. Anon the part-song "Who Killed Bill Bailey," to the strains of "Cock Robin," tickled the house hugely, and the characters repair to scene three, the Mountain Gorge, where Messrs Brown and Le Clerq again convulse the audience, this time by killing "Injuns." This scene is the work of Conrad Tritschler, and called forth hearty applause. Later enter the Forty Thieves, richly caparisoned and, it seemed, well laden with booty. These thieves are nevertheless patriotic men, and join with fervour and sweetness in the chorus of "Bluebell," which is rendered in a popular manner by their captain, Miss Oppitz. The thieves having "placed" their booty, depart on another expedition rejoicing, and Ali Baba and Ganem, who have discovered their retreat in hiding, use the magic word, "Sesame," and proceed to load the donkey with treasure, insomuch that the faithful animal "goes to pieces" beneath the weight. Scene four, the Bazaar of Ispahan, another success by George Dodson, gives Mr Bard a chance for his comic singing abilities, which are cheered vociferously, and there is no doubt that the popular Wilkie is going to be a big success. Ali now shows signs of his newly acquired wealth, and the hitherto cold Cassim evinces a novel partiality for his brother. This Cassim is represented at times with a welcome Tom E. Murray chuckle, and now sings with much success "As a friend." The disclosure of the secret of the magic word to Cassim is attended by the sudden appearance of Abdallah, which is made in a highly dramatic manner, the Captain, with flashing eye, remarking the disclosure. However, he betrays not his identity, and is invited to Ali's housewarming. The next scene, The Cave—again by Conrad Tritschler—is the scene of the avaricious Cassim's ill-doing and undoing, which is wrought in a highly dramatic fashion, and concluded the first part to tremendous acclamations, to which Mr Graham had to bow his acknowledgments. The second part, scene one, shows the robbers on Ali's track, but how a "great magician" restores life to Cassim, whose severed parts have been recovered, how the vengeance of the thieves is averted, and how Abdallah owes his life to the poor girl, Zoe, a pretty character which is exquisitely acted by Miss Nellie Stratton, need not be recounted. The action proceeds meanwhile in Ali Baba's Banquetting Hall, Miss Campbell having previously sung "A wise old Owl," besides joining with Miss Hunt (whose songs include "The Airship," capitally sung) in "Arizona," which is given with charming and ingenious effect. Mr Phil Smith having given us his idea of an oratorio—a droll conceit on the words, "Johnny Law, lend me your saw"—Mr Bard sings "O, Capital O," which sends his auditors into an ecstasy of delight; and a billiard match, with Mr Brown as a negotiator of champion breaks, and Mr Le Clerq as the most comical marker imaginable, delights the audience. A pleasant game of cards, in which Mr Bard "revokes," ends "in disorder," the police, who are eventually "squared" to the strains of "The Bull and Bush," raiding the place as a common gaming house. A speciality in clay-modelling by Mr Byron Bicknelle causes a pleasant sensation, and Messrs Brown and Le Clerq enter on a diverting filibustering excursion of their own to rob Ali's house. The final scene was another triumph for Conrad Tritschler, entitled The Orange Blossom Grove in Ali Baba's Garden, in which the full strength of the company and chorus formed a great complement to the ornate surroundings. This moved the house to a great outburst of enthusiasm, and the pantomime concluded amid a feast of light, humour, colour, and melody. There need be no misgivings as to the success here. Every artiste is a success, and the production is perfect, and was pronounced so by the audience, Mr Graham again having to appear, this time with a speech. The Rosie Rice Quartet do well in their several graceful dances, and Mr Thomas Barry's stage management is palpable. Mr William Southworth has again done his work well in composing, selecting, and orchestrating, in which latter he turns lead into gold positively. The elaborate costumes and accessories by Wilhelm, the capital "book" and lyrics by J. Hickory Wood, the ballets, marches, and processions arranged by J. M Jones, and the satins, brocades, and laces from the Paris Bon Marche are all obvious and pleasing to the eye, and the general effect is perfection.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" at BIRMINGHAM.

The production of *Dick Whittington* on Boxing Night before a densely crowded house was attended by an extraordinary show of favour, the like of which had never been seen in Birmingham before the advent of Mr Lester Collingwood, and which would certainly require to be witnessed to be believed. The explanation is found in the fact that Mr Collingwood's clientèle have taken him to their hearts, and make a personal matter of, and take a personal pleasure and interest in, his Christmas productions. Thus the fame of his first production, *Aladdin*, has scarcely faded ere it is superseded by this second one, *Whittington*, and so marked was its success that at the conclusion, and after cheering the various artistes, the audience rose and summoned Mr Collingwood to the front, requiring of him a speech, winding up by singing "For he's a jolly good fellow," than which popularity can surely go no farther. *Dick Whittington* commences its course at the Weather Office, where Vespertilio, the demon bat, expects a visitor, Rodento, the king of rats. Rodento appears, suffering from a crowd of misfortunes, his chief grievance being a cat, owned by one Dick Whittington, now homeless. Concordia, the fairy of the bells, next appears, and in her we find a friend for Dick. Cheapside, in the merry old times, is next revealed to view, and the busy smiling throng are doing their best in what must be their Sunday clothes to sustain the prestige of those good old days. In the midst of the revelry comes Dick, who immediately finds his affinity in Alice, the daughter of Alderman Fitzwarren, the silk mercer and hosier. Dick instantly and despite his forlorn condition joins voice with his fair clamer, Alice, in a duet which brought down enthusiastic applause. Dick is next taken into the service of Fitzwarren, to the chagrin of Idle Jack, who, aided and abetted by Amelia Florence, the Alderman's cook, causes Dick to be thrust forth on a charge of theft. Dick's expulsion is followed by his journey to Highgate-hill, an effective scene with St. Paul's looming in the distance. Dick, guarded by the faithful feline, falls asleep, worn and exhausted from his travail. Bow Bells now ring out their encouraging chimes, and, with "Turn again, Whittington, Lord Mayor of London," ringing in his ears, Dick awakens and retraces his steps. The London Docks next engage attention, and some clever, good-humoured, and humorous badinage ensues, in which all the characters take part. The next scene, On Board the Orange Box, whereon Dick, Alice (as a boy), Fitzwarren, Jack, Amelia Florence, Silly Billy, and Lazy Larky appear to be suffering from the effects of mal de mer, sent the audience into shrieks of merriment, and then we find ourselves on the rocky coast of Morocco. Here Dick's cat accomplishes his mission, and the party return to England with the Emperor and his Princess, plus illimitable riches, the price of the rats' extermination. Whittington is with much pomp and ceremony, installed as Lord Mayor of London, and claims Alice as his bride. This scene, the Guildhall, proved a brilliant climax, the lady principals wearing a variety of rich dresses, the male members also coming out in strong colours, while the chorus lent a fitting and a gay finish to the setting. Miss Florence Burns as Whittington can be gay, sympathetic, and all else that the character requires, while her vocalism is of a most successful order, particularly in the higher register. Of her songs, "The Bull and Bush" may be mentioned, but it is a lyric, the motif of which is "Home, Sweet Home," that shows this artist to best advantage. Miss Nellie Valentine acts in a delightful manner as Alice, and sings the music allotted her with the utmost charm and finish; Miss Gertie Douglas makes a dashing Skipper, and contributes several successful songs; Miss Hattie Lind as the dusky Princess scored with "The Ugly Duckling;" and the Misses Hilda Corelli, Norah Wylton, Vida Yorke, Florence Steventor, Hilda Greville, and Katie Cullen are charming and melodious in their rôles, singing many of the popular songs of the day. The humorous parts—and the Alexandra production is essentially a comic pantomime—could not be in more popular hands. Mr Will Letters takes the rôle of Alderman Fitzwarren in good style, while his songs, which include "Eva," bring him tumultuous encores. The same measure of success attended Messrs Barrett and Knowles, whose amusing cross-talk as Silly Billy and Lazy Larky provoke the wildest hilarity and uproarious applause. Mr Albert Darnley figures successfully and most humorously as Idle Jack, his vocal efforts also securing great applause. Mr O. L. Ludlow scores as Amelia Florence, and his song, "Mashing the Militia," with "mechanical" effects, is very diverting and successful. Mr S. Lockridge as the dusky Emperor acts in the manner of a civilised savage, and sings his numbers excellently, and Mr Samuel Locke as Rodento also shines as a vocalist. The Cat is cleverly impersonated by Mr Alfred Clegg, and Miss Essie Perrin adds a clever Nautch dance to the attractions of the Emperor's Palace. The Edingale Trio support the production with their smart coon and acrobatic dances, and Mr Arthur W. Parry, who conducts the orchestra with exemplary skill and care, has contributed and selected a variety of music. The attractive scenery is by Messrs W. Maughan and Son.

"ALADDIN" AT OLDHAM.

In *Aladdin* Mr Dottridge has beaten all previous records. The scenery, always an attraction here, is again a leading feature, and on this occasion is deserving of our warmest praise, the colouring and designs being of a most artistic character, and in this connection warm praise may be accorded to Mr John Cunningham and Mr Harry Crane. The beautiful dresses are due to Mrs Howarth. The curtain rises on The Market Place of Pekin, a warm and glowing picture. Here one meets Aladdin and the Princess, who discuss their future plans. The Cave scene is full of beauty, and a comic contrast is found in The Widow's Washhouse, scene six, the dwelling of Mrs Twankey, who takes in washing and other people. Scene seven is a fine mechanical change to Aladdin's Palace, and in the eighth scene, The Baths, is seen the most humorous part of the pantomime. Here, too, we have the wonders of the magic kettle. The well-known incidents of the loss of Aladdin's lamp and the abduction of the Princess, with the temporary triumph of Abanezar, follow. The story ends, however, in the good old-fashioned way. The most bewitching exponent of the rôle of Aladdin has been found in Miss Mimi Fisher, whose smart figure and fascinating manner make her the beau ideal of a principal boy. Her clever singing of "Down at the old Bull and Bush" is "catchy," and has made her a favourite. The Princess was impersonated by Miss Harriet Fawn, a handsome and graceful "bit of china." Miss Cassie Walmer as the favourite of the Princess has a voice of much power, and dances with grace and agility. Mr Fred Carey, the Abanezar, has a fund of excellent humour, its chief quality being its spontaneity. Mr Carey is already a great favourite, and his co-operation is a great factor of the success. As Widow Twankey Mr Fred Graham brings out all the drollery of that character, and there is no lack of mirth while he is on the stage. Young Codge gives a good turn of whistling; and the specialities of Les Belles Americaines, a marvellous dancing quartet, are full of grace and neatness. Keith and Merton are a pair of funny knockabouts; and the Brothers Brooke give a clever gymnastic turn.

"CINDERELLA" AT NEWCASTLE.

In presenting *Cinderella* before a crowded and admiring audience at the Tyne Theatre on the 24th inst., Mr F. W. Wyndham achieved the distinction of producing his twenty-second Newcastle pantomime, a record of successful consecutive Christmas productions which few managers in England can exceed. Mr Wyndham seems likely to score heavily again with his latest pantomime, if the very favourable impressions created by the first performance are any criterion. One of the most popular of all subjects for the purpose of entertainment in the winter months, it is also regarded as a mascot in the managerial mind, and thus there is a sound foundation to start with. Beautiful scenery and charming costumes are always in evidence, while the groupings of the chorus, the various ballets and marches are all pleasing to the eye, and so arranged as to secure the most artistic effect. The pantomime has had the great advantage of being produced under the personal direction of Mr Wyndham, and this in itself almost commands success, while he has been ably assisted by Mr George Rowlands. As in former years, Mr J. Hickory Wood has written the very necessary "book," which deals with the familiar fairy tale in approved style. There are two acts, consisting of five scenes in each. When the curtain rises we find ourselves in a Forest Glade, an excellently painted scene by Mr T. F. Dunn, and discover a hunting party who have apparently been engaged in doing more or less damage to the game in the neighbourhood. Dandini (Miss Lina Verdi) is one of the first characters to appear, and is soon followed by his master, Prince Caramel (Miss Bessie Featherstone), who has the impression that he is loved not for himself, but because he is the possessor of a title. To test the matter he exchanges clothes and positions with his valet, and quickly encounters Cinderella (Miss Alice Russon), who shows her preference for him, even in his valet's attire. Meantime the impecunious Baron Blarer (Mr Mark Sheridan) has made his appearance; also his unlovely daughters, Lily (Mr Josh Dixon) and Gertrude (Mr Gus Le Clerq), the two latter explaining in amusing style their novel methods of playing golf. In the Baron's Library (Mr Stanley Schuter) much enjoyable fooling is indulged in by the funny characters, headed by the Baron, whose lack of wealth apparently does not stand in his way of being a whole-hearted instigator of mirth in others. Scene three, The Baron's Backyard (Mr T. F. Dunn), is utilised by the broker's men, Bill Hob and Walter Nob (the Brothers Egbert) for some lively and amusing business, mainly of the knockabout order, and which is entirely to the tastes of the audience. Here the Prince, attired in a neat costume, and with a chorus, gives an enjoyable rendering of the tuneful "Under a Panama." Then to The Baron's Kitchen (Mr T. F. Dunn), where Cinderella is disconsolate as she sees her sisters leave for the ball. She consoles herself and the audience by singing a pretty song "The rain came pitter patter down," after which the fairy godmother, Crystal (Miss Lily Cole), comes to her aid, and she is soon transported to the Pumpkin Grove where she is shown a glimpse of her fairy carriage and ponies, and thence to the Fairy Boudoir itself. This latter is a fanciful scene of extreme beauty, and is the work of Mr T. F. Dunn. It is remarkable alike for its fairy-like delicacy and its artistic colouring. Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers here distinguish themselves in a series of cleverly-executed dances, which are mingled with admirably-arranged marches and processions. In this scene it is a perfect pleasure to listen to the music, specially composed by Mr George Burnley. With the departure of Cinderella in a superb fairy carriage, the curtain falls for the interval on a scene full of splendour. Mr T. F. Dunn has also painted the opening scene of the second act, The Prince's Ballroom, a stately apartment. Here we have an opportunity of listening to the strains of "Navaho," which is given by the Prince, assisted by a full chorus bearing palms and the manner in which the song is worked is very effective indeed. A Lonely Road (Mr T. F. Dunn) is then put before us, and the appearance of the Baron with his motor-car, which breaks down, is one of the funniest episodes of the evening, occasioning much mirth. Humour is also well to the fore in the succeeding scene, which represents On the Road Home (Mr Ernest Glover). A solidly constructed omnibus, with passengers inside and outside, and the Baron as conductor, occupies the stage, and by means of a panoramic scene in the background and a revolving track in front the effect of a rapidly moving 'bus is realistically obtained. On the revolving stage would-be passengers make frantic efforts to board the 'bus, and more frequently than not they find themselves on their backs and are shot out of sight. This scene provides unlimited fun, and goes with a yell of laughter from beginning to end. At The Exterior of the Baron's House (Mr Stanley Schuter) Cinderella makes good her claim to the found slipper, and straight away becomes engaged to the Prince, a gay and joyous scene in connection with the betrothal festivities bringing the pantomime to a brilliant conclusion. Mr Wyndham has exercised his usual discrimination in selecting the company, all the members of which work with zeal and harmony for the success of the pantomime. As Prince Caramel Miss Bessie Featherstone at once captures her audience and scores a signal success as principal boy. She is the fortunate possessor of a voice of fine quality, and employs it to the best purpose in the several songs with which she favours us, while her comely appearance, of course, is always in her favour. In addition to her enjoyable efforts as a vocalist, Miss Featherstone enacts her part in a style which is always pleasant and agreeable. Laudatory terms may also be bestowed on Miss Alice Russon's performance as Cinderella, a rôle which she portrays in approved fashion and with a dainty charm of manner. There is grace in her movements, and she renders her songs with admirable taste and artistic expression. Miss Lena Verdi is a smart representative of Dandini, endowing the part with the requisite air of pertness. She scores immensely in her imitations of well-known singers—notably Vesta Tilley, Marie Lloyd, Vesta Victoria, and Harry Lauder, and her voice and manner in each instance are wonderfully alike unto those of the originals. Miss Lily Cole makes a stately Good Fairy, and she possesses a deep-toned voice, which is well displayed in a ballad. Attractive appearances are made by Misses Nellie Hanlon, Ada Holt, Evelyn Arnold, and Maude Verney as courtiers. At the head of the comedians, of course, is Mr Mark Sheridan, whose previous successes here in this class of entertainment are still well remembered. As Baron Blarer he is a host in himself, and, indeed, one would have to go far to find a better all-round pantomime comedian. There is scarcely a scene which is not enlivened by his mercurial methods, and his mirthful sallies and sparkling humour are constantly punctuated with hearty laughter from the audience. He makes his first entrance to the lively strains of the "Bull and Bush," which ditty he gives with the best effect, the gallery boys assisting him in the chorus, while the motor-car scene already alluded to finds him in his best form. Mr Josh Dixon contributes a very successful performance as Lily, one of the ugly sisters. He has a quaintly funny manner, which is well exemplified in his acting and singing, and throughout the pantomime he proves himself a serviceable and amusing comedian. Gertie, the other sister, is safely entrusted to Mr Gus Le Clerq, who also aids in the fun making to the best purpose, acting and singing with much acceptance. As a dancer, too, he figures prominently, a display of his in this line being remarkably neat and smart. The Egbert Brothers as the Broker's men introduce much business of a very amusing description, and their efforts throughout are thoroughly well appreciated. They are clever knockabouts, and throw themselves about with an apparently reckless disregard for life and limb. Mr Harry Courtin makes an appearance in the Ball-room scene as Chucker-out, and his massive proportions are certainly suited for the rôle. To Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers we have already referred, and their skilful exhibitions are much admired, while as vocalists they render good service. The music throughout is tuneful and pleas-

Obtainable at every Hostel in the Land

"Miles away from Everywhere"
Yet
you'll get
'Dewar's'
even there!

ing, comprising most of the latest popular songs, and this department has again been well attended to by the musical director, Mr E. J. Rogers, who met with his customary reception on the opening night. To follow a big pantomime success with another is a somewhat rare occurrence, but Mr Wyndham looks like bringing off the double event with *Cinderella*, a production in which is blended uproarious fun with pretty sentiment and pleasing music, while scenery and costumes are all that could be desired. The holiday business, which so far has reached high water mark, has been successfully dealt with by Mr Fred C. Sutcliffe, who looks after affairs in front with his usual urbanity.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT NEWCASTLE.

For the past few years at this season Mr Robert Arthur's speciality at the Theatre Royal has consisted of extravaganzas based on somewhat novel subjects, and differing in many essentials from the popular idea of pantomime. From an artistic point of view no finer production could be desired, but Novocastrians apparently hardly seemed to appreciate to the full the many merits of the enterprising manager's experiments. The result is that this year Mr Arthur has reverted to the old order of things, and in his eighth Newcastle pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, which was successfully presented to a crowded house on Christmas Eve, he has provided an entertainment which is calculated to please all and sundry. Fun is the object aimed at, and to attain this end the comedians would seem to be given a free hand, and right well do they avail themselves of their opportunities. From a spectacular point of view, too, the pantomime maintains the best traditions of the Royal, the costumes being remarkable for their elegance and beauty, while the scenery, which is the work of Stafford Hall and J. Fowler Hogg, boasts of some especially fine and elaborate sets. Mr Frank Dix is responsible for the book, and additional numbers and local allusions have been added by Mr Edward Tebbutt, a local journalist, and the special music is the work of Mr Jullien H. Wilson. Following a lively overture by the orchestra, directed by Herr Meyer, the curtain rises on the farmyard of Mrs Mangold Worzell, an ideal country scene by Stafford Hall. The Hon. Mrs Worzell (Mr R. H. Douglas) quickly makes her appearance, as also does the Baron of Bottlebank (Mr T. E. Dunville), and a pair of amusing rascals in Bonny Beaucaire and Sunny Jim (Sam and Will Poluski.) Here also come the other leading characters, including Robin Hood (Miss Maud Prenton), Maid Marion (Miss Elsie Cooke), Colin Trew (Miss Lottie Govell), Mavis Hope (Winnie Govell), the Babes (Miss Hanid Alexander and Mr Will Atom), and Cunnin Toil, a detective (Mr Sam Dark). Mr Stafford Hall is also the painter of the succeeding scene, The Old Boar's Head, a pleasing picture of the exterior of an old-fashioned wayside inn. In the development of the well-known story the Baron employs Beaucaire and Sunny Jim to carry out his murderous intents on the harmless Babes, and in the Bedroom (J. Fowler Hogg) the latter irrepressible pair make their appearance as burglars. In this guise they do not do much damage, but their comic efforts occasion excessive laughter in the audience, and the trick scenery which is employed here aids them in their congenial purpose. A scene full of animation is The Fair, which is next disclosed to view. It is a particularly bright and cleverly constructed set, representing a country fair with shows and booths all around, and does the young artist, Mr J. Fowler Hogg, infinite credit. A capital ballet in which the occupants of the booths participate then takes place. The showmen themselves, clowns, pierrots, jugglers, French poodles, and all manner of bizarre characters, mingle in a joyous dance which brings the first half of the pantomime to an exhilarating conclusion. The Lodge Gates of Bottlebank Hall which opens the second act is also the work of Mr J. Fowler Hogg, and is a very pretty scene. Here appear a company of toy soldiers, whose appearance and manœuvres are very droll. Lovers'-lane (Stafford Hall) again introduces us to the Baron, who is beguiling the children to the woods for his foul purpose, and soon we find ourselves in what is unquestionably the finest and most artistic scene in the pantomime. This is a scenic representation by Stafford Hall of a beautiful sylvan retreat in the immediate neighbourhood known as Jesmond Dene, and the talented artist has seldom exercised his brush to better purpose. The scene in itself will assuredly be a great attraction. To this lovely spot the Babes are decoyed, and Bonny Beaucaire and Sunny Jim are about to commit the happy despatch when the latter's courage fails him, and in the midst of the quarrel which ensues the two children escape. An interesting feature here is the appearance of one of the most remarkably constructed demon heads we have ever seen. The glowing eyeballs roll in their sockets, flames flash from the ears and skull, and it devours loaves of bread and fowls with wonderful grimaces. This clever property is worked by Mr Chas. Parkins, who met with a hearty recall. Following the Corridor in the Castle (J. Fowler Hogg), where are introduced songs and dances, we are taken to the Grand Ballroom, Bottlebank Hall, a truly gorgeous scene by Stafford Hall, and here we have another brilliant ballet, wherein the dresses worn are as rich and handsome and varied as the most fastidious could desire, and the final tableau is surpassingly beautiful. The leading characters appear, and all ends merrily and in orthodox fashion. Mr Arthur's company is especially strong in comedians. Mr T. E. Dunville's incursion into the domains of pantomime has been attended with excellent results, and his performance as the bold, bad Baron entitles him to warm praise. Full scope is given to his powers as a vocal comedian, and he treats us to three or four mirthful ditties, all of which are given in his usual staccato manner with a wealth of funny facial expression and odd gestures, while his clever eccentric dancing is also much enjoyed. Mr Sam Poluski and Mr Will Poluski are fairly in their element as Bonnie Beaucaire and Sunny Jim respectively. They perform a vast amount of work in the most entertaining manner, and their comic business, of which they apparently possess an unlimited store, invariably evokes the heartest possible demonstrations of pleasure. Throughout the performance they keep the fun going at high pressure, and perhaps their most successful effort is the amusing episode of the fight in the woods. They first of all spar with boxing gloves not exactly after approved style, and then swords and daggers are utilised for their excruciatingly droll burlesque scene. Finally one of them disappears through a trap door, only to reappear the next instant at another, and both march off amicably. The Poluskis may be warmly congratulated on having achieved a big success. An exceptionally smart and lively comedian is Mr R. H. Douglass, who appears as the Baron's sister, and wears the petticoats with commendable good taste and discretion. Possessed of a pretty wit and a keen sense of what is likely to "go," his jokes and clever business are always appreciated to the full, and his remarks and generous advice to the ladies, whom he confidentially addresses, are received with peals of laughter. As a mimic he also scores considerably. Mr Sam Dark, who appears as Cunnin' Toil, a detective, contributes a dance in good style. Heading the ladies is Miss Maud Prenton, whose fine appearance and dashing style are all factors in her success as Robin Hood. She also sings admirably, and earns a hearty encore for her rendering of the popular "Blue Bell," in which she is assisted in the chorus by Master Ralph Moore, while she has a further opportunity in "My Little Hong Kong Baby," which she gives to the enjoyment of all. An attractive and charming representative of Maid Marion is found in Miss Elsie Cooke, whose qualifications as a vocalist are also unmistakably and pleasantly made manifest in several coon songs which fall to her lot, and in her rendering of which she imparts the requisite essentials of liveliness and spirit. The Sisters Govell work hard and unflaggingly throughout as Colin Trew and Mavis Hope, characters which they represent in vivacious style, and in several songs and dances they are seen to advantage. Miss Hanid Alexander, who appears as one of the Babes, is a wonderful juvenile pianiste, and in a suitable scene we have an opportunity of admiring her great skill in this direction. She also sings and dances charmingly. As the other Babe Mr Will Atom assumes an appearance of juvenility with complete success, and it is only his voice which induces us to think he is not so young as he looks. The American Comedy Four as vocalists and comedians exercise their talents to the undoubted gratification of the audience. The stage manager is Mr Harry Fischer, whose long and varied experience in pantomime is well known, and the smooth working in all departments which characterised the opening performance was no doubt the result of his careful and arduous labours. Mr Robert Arthur and all concerned are to be warmly congratulated on the success which has attended the production of his latest "Royal" pantomime, and the popular acting-manager, Mr F. Teale Lingham, may confidently look forward to a particularly busy season in the weeks to come.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT SHEFFIELD.

The Theatre Royal, Sheffield, for many years has been a great pantomime house, and there is only one Christmas on record when the popular form of Yuletide entertainment did not hold the boards, and that departure from established custom proved such a dreary failure that it has never been repeated. Under the spirited management of Mr F. W. Purcell, the glories of the grand old historic playhouse in Tudor-street have been revived with extra brilliance, and in a vastly improved theatre where, surrounded with modern comforts and refined luxury, and aided by the latest electrical appliances and scientific mechanism, King Pantomime now holds his annual court with a regal pomp and circumstance never dreamt of by the playgoer of the good old "palmy days." For the first time for over forty years the story of *Goody Two Shoes* forms the basis of the Royal annual, the well-known manager, Mr Ernest Dottridge, being responsible for the production, which is on a scale in keeping with the high standard hitherto maintained by Mr F. W. Purcell. The "book" of *Goody Two Shoes* is by that experienced inventor of pantomime libretti Mr Fred Locke, and, as usual, his lines are witty and suitable. Contrary to the author's general custom, there is no preliminary debate between the good and wicked spirits, and the piece opens with a fine set, The Village Green, with a gathering of happy rustics, pages, and retainers, who sing a jolly chorus in the approved opera-bouffe style. The pretty scenery, the bright dresses, and the smiling faces of the chorus make a gay and animated picture of idyllic rural life, and puts the audience into a happy condition to thoroughly enjoy the long feast of healthy fun and scenic splendour which is to follow. Here the principal characters come on, and we find that the over-bearing Baron Grabb has unlawfully possessed himself of the estates rightly belonging to Goody Two Shoes. Acting in the Baron's interest, Mephisto lures the dainty heroine on to accept a pair of enchanted shoes, thus placing herself in his power. A gallant youth called Roland loves Goody, and with the help of one, Benevolentia, a good fairy, he finally routs the villain, and all ends happily in the old melodramatic fashion. After the village comes a regular good old-fashioned interlude of practical fun in the Interior of the Dame's Cottage, and after an artistically painted front cloth, Endcliffe Wood in Autumn, in which several up-to-date ditties prove acceptable, one of the big scenes is reached, the Carnival Gardens. This is a perfect gem of scenic art, and it is one of the most effective representations of sylvan beauty ever seen on the Royal stage. The lighting, too, is good, and the dim greeny suggestiveness of it all serves admirably to show up the resplendant costumes of a crowd of revellers, who indulge in an exhilarating dance. The dramatic appearance of Mephisto, high up on a bridge crossing a rock ravine at the back, makes a dramatic picture and interrupts the festivities, which are, however, resumed on the demon disappearing at the behest of Benevolenta. A charming and memory-haunting tableau brings the first act to a fitting conclusion. The story is resumed in scene six, Sheffield Fair. This is a very elaborate set, and it is evident no expense has been spared to make everything as bright and realistic as possible. There are shows, shooting galleries, Aunt Sallies; in fact, it would require the genial pen of the Rev. T. Horne to do justice to the subject. Since *Trebizonde* set the fashion, many fair scenes have been seen on the local stage, but not one has been so full of detail as this. A burlesque wrestling bout takes place here, and the spectators on Boxing Night laughed all the way home, and they are probably laughing yet. But the scene is so crammed with seasonable and healthy humour that it is a little pantomime in itself. After a slight return to the plot in the Baron's Room in the Turret there is a lull in the carnival of music, mirth, and dance, and the house settles down to gaze with rapt attention at the enchanting and ever-changing glories of the wonderful Fairy Grotto, invented and produced by Mr Hagedorn On the opening night round upon round of applause greeted this artistic, beautiful, and impressive transformation scene, which alone will draw crowds to the Royal this season. The next grand spectacular triumph is the Palace of Cards, a magnificent example of the scene-painter's skill and executive ability. The whole of the depth of the large stage is utilised, and when the parterre and balconies are filled with the richly dressed guests the ensemble is one of those scenes of durbar-like glitter that live long in the memory. A very smart company of dramatic and music hall artistes has been engaged, and on the first night all went merrily. That old Sheffield favourite of many years, dainty, graceful, refined, and pretty as ever, Miss Minnie Cunningham, made a perfectly ideal Goody Two Shoes. She looked a picture of naïve rusticity in her Dolly Varden-like dresses, and a beautiful vision of womanly beauty in her costly ball dress. Miss Cunningham sang several songs with great success, and she danced with her well-known agility and cleverness. Miss Georgina Leonard proved successful as the comely and tuneful Roland. Her songs were all enthusiastically applauded, a special favourite being "Good-bye, my lady love, good-bye!" Miss Molly Wostenholm was a tall and handsome Benevolentia, and she gave a splendid rendering of "Il Bacio." Miss Nelly Hayes was a winsome little Rosie Primrose, and she did a clever solo dance. Miss Rose Tilley as Peter Piper and Miss Rita Rhylle as Dolly Dimple were an attractive couple. Miss Amy French spoke her lines dramatically, and looked well as the demon, Mephisto. Miss Sheela Redgrave was a chic Frisky, and Miss Hilda Stewart was a good-looking Pansy Blossom. The chief laughter purveyors of the pantomime were undoubtedly Messrs Downes and Langford, who are far removed from the "knockabouts" who, a few years ago, were considered perfectly indispensable. Downes and Langford are comedians, and the audience never ceased smiling at their screamingly funny and always clean patter and novel gags. Their American business in the catchy song "Angeline," was encored again and again. Downes and Langford made a hit at this house five years ago, but they have very much improved since then. Another artiste who "knocked 'em" on Boxing Day was Mr Fred Lincoln, whose Dame Fanny Freckles was pronounced a regular masterpiece as a sketch of a droll and inoffensive type of feminine eccentricity. Mr Lincoln will be a great local favourite by the time these lines are printed. Mr Harry M'Clelland acted the part of Baron Grabbe on sound burlesque lines, and kept the piece together dramatically speaking. He also sang a couple of good songs. Mr Harry Rousbey did well in the rather curious part of Sandy. Mr George French caused great laughter by his comical make-up, patter, and antics as the Baron's simple son, Simon. There was a large, good-looking, and well-trained chorus, and the ladies of the ballet looked fascinating and danced with ease and elegance. The whole of the new scenery has been designed and painted at the atelier of Mr John Cunningham. The melodious music has been composed and arranged by the talented Mr Aynsley Fox; the costly and chaste costumes are by Mrs Howarth; the elaborate electrical effects are under the supervision of Mr T. Hough; Mr Jeffries has made the properties; and the entire annual has been produced personally by Mr Ernest Dottridge, with the help of Mr Harwood, his trusty local representative. With such a strong attraction there is no doubt Messrs Purcell and Dottridge will secure a large pecuniary reward for their enterprise, hard work, and lavish outlay.

"ALADDIN" AT SHEFFIELD.

Aladdin has always brought fame and fortune to this house, two very notable productions being the annuals of 1875 and 1884 respectively, in the former of which appeared the popular Sisters Lindon as Aladdin and Badroulbadour, and in the latter Miss Bessie Bonehil', who made one of her biggest hits as the lively young hero. The book is by Mr J. H. Wolfe, who has wisely kept to the straightforward narrative, and started the tale in the good old-fashioned manner so beloved of the youngsters in a picturesque scene called The Realms of Necromancy. The Wagner-inspired orchestral introduction arrests the attention at once, and, after the usual demon chorus, the Slave of the Lamp is visited by Abanazar, who plots against the happiness of Aladdin. The arrival of the fascinating Genie of the Ring, with a threat to thwart his schemes, ends the brief but dramatic prologue. And hey, presto! from sombre gloom we are transported to the Market square of Pekin, glowing under dazzling sunshine and decorated for the annual Feast of Lanterns. This is a splendid set. A big crowd of brilliantly attired holiday-makers imparts the necessary animation to the scene, and after a lively chorus and Eastern dance the action of the piece begins in earnest, and the story goes along with a liberal accompaniment of song, dance, and gag. A big mechanical change reveals the big scene of the first act, the Interior of the Cave. This has been broadly treated, and in conception and execution the talented artist, Mr James England, has followed the best traditions of the Telbin-Beverley school of scenic art. There is a glittering ballet of jewels, the cave is flooded with white light, and the act-drop falls on a bewildering vision of shapely forms, pretty faces, scintillating gems, and gorgeous dresses. In the second act the fun gets fast and furious, for in The Widow's 'Umble 'Ome the low comedians begin to get their fine work in. More comic business takes place in scene seven, The Widow's Back Garden, where, after a lively concerted finale, we are privileged to behold the exterior of Aladdin's Grand Palace. This is an effective and well-painted set, full of characteristically Oriental display and brilliant colouring. By the help of the Slave of the Lamp the palace takes a magical flight, and spectators find themselves at the St. Louis Exhibition, where many novel items amply atone for this daring departure from the original narrative. The action proper is resumed in the luxurious Boudoir of the Princess, and in scene twelve, The Grand Hall of the Palace, the designing Abanazar receives his final defeat with a calm smile, and the interrupted wedding festivities of the hero and his beautiful bride are resumed. This scene is lovely in the extreme, the refulgent dazzle of various electrical devices accentuating the rich colours and gleaming jewels. There is a bridal procession and chorus, after various specialities are introduced, and at last the curtain falls on the magnificent tableau. But beautiful scenery and dresses alone will not make a long run. An experienced director like Mr Humphrey Brammall is quite alive to this fact; and as Mr Forsdike entirely understands the requirements of his regular clientèle, a smart working crowd has been engaged, without any ornamental figure heads. First of all credit must be given to that old Sheffield favourite of long standing, Mr George Delaforce, whose skill and experience have largely conduced to the success of the annual. In addition to his heavy duties as stage-manager, Mr Delaforce on Christmas Eve acted the rôle of the Emperor in his accustomed funny and unctuous manner. The important part of Abanazar was acted on firm burlesque lines by that clever and resourceful comedian Mr Charles Austin. His impersonation of the Demagogue type of Hyde-park orator was full of inoffensive satire, and he undoubtedly scored a big success. Mr O. E. Lennon, a favourite here in musical comedy, made a droll and amusing Wishee Washee, and the quaint mannerisms of Mr Teddy Denham made a very diverting personage of the Widow Twankey. Mr J. W. Cawdery was an agile Demon of the Lamp. Mr Bert Atherton as the Vizier acted with characteristic Celestial dignity. Messrs Royston and Royce were active and intelligent representatives of the Chinese "bobbies," and those well-known drolls August and September caused roars of laughter as the lively bath attendants. The ladies have been carefully selected, and in Miss Cissy Paris the first-nighters were quick to recognise a lady whose personal graces, tuneful voice, and abundant sense of humour would make her Aladdin a very popular youth with all classes. Miss Esta Stella made a charming and altogether ideal Eastern Princess as Badroulbadour, and her excellent voice gave much pleasure. Miss Maude Esmond was a pretty and elegant Prince Pekoe, and her vocal efforts were loudly applauded. Miss Winnie Moore was a sprightly Bercour, and Miss Ida Worsley sang and acted vivaciously as Caramel. The smart dancing and coon songs of the Four Magnets brought down the house; and the duets of Conway and Bolton were well received. The special business introduced by August and September proved quite to the taste of the audience; and Royston and Royce did some good variety business. The scenery has all been painted by Mr James England; the dresses are by Worth, Allan, and Maunsell and Shultz; the music has been composed and arranged by Mr Ernest Leigh; and the pantomime has been produced by Mr Humphrey E. Brammall under the personal superintendence of Mr W. D. Forsdike.

"RED RIDING HOOD" AT BRIGHTON.

Mr Ernest Carpenter may be warmly and deservedly congratulated upon the great success which marked the production of his first pantomime in Brighton at the Grand Theatre on Thursday evening, Dec. 22. The subject of the pantomime—written, invented, and arranged by Mr Ernest Carpenter—is *Little Red Riding Hood*. In his admirably written "book" Mr Carpenter presents the main features of the old nursery story, but wisely makes his plot simple. Profiting by his long experience, he gives his audience that light, bright, merry and entertaining fare which rarely, if ever, fails to please. The production is replete with charming singing, graceful and nimble dancing, and also fun and humour unmarred by a single shade of vulgarity. Mr Ernest Carpenter, who made a brief speech during the evening, expressed the hope that his first pantomime season in Brighton would prove a success, and, judging by the enthusiastic manner in which his remarks were received, and from the frequent outbursts of rapturous applause during the performance his hopes will be realised. Indeed, the pantomime promised to be one of the best ever produced in the town. The new and elaborate scenery is painted by David Young and William M'Cullough; the overture and sparkling music are selected and arranged by Signor G. D. La Camera, the popular airs being introduced by arrangement with Francis and Day, Frank Dean, Charles Sheard, Witmark and Co., Ascherberg and Co., and Hopwood and Crew; the children have been trained and the ballets arranged by Madame Jessie St. Clair; the costumes, designed by Miss Ada Clarence, have been executed under her personal direction; the Palace scene costumes were designed and executed by Hugo Barusch (Berlin and London); while the mechanical effects by Mr G. Buckley and the electric effects by Mr Arthur Hart also merit notice. In this production Mr Ernest Carpenter has been assisted by Mr J. H. Booth. While the pantomime is marked by an abundance of refined humour and amusing incidents, and also artistic impersonations of the various characters, spectacular effects occupy a prominent place. The Ribbon ballet merits unstinted praise, and another delightful display is the change of the Forest Glade, in which the dancing takes place, from bright summer to snowy winter, with the return of the dancers clothed in pure white. The whole scene is picturesque and charming. The Prince's Palace is a superbly beautiful set; but praise must also be accorded to the scenes descriptive of The Corridor in the Baron's Castle, The Baronial Hall (with the evolutions of the well-trained ballet ladies), and The Palace Gates. The dressing of the pantomime is beautifully rich and harmonious in colouring, and the music bright and tuneful. The opening performance was given with surprising precision and accuracy, not a single hitch occurred, and the pantomime seems destined to experience a long and prosperous career. Miss Blanche Vincent makes a handsome Prince Peerless, and sings with pleasing tone and artistic expression; Miss Madge Campbell is bright and winsome as Miss Muffit, the Prince's rustic sweetheart; and Little Rosie Campbell sings and acts charmingly as Red Riding Hood. Mr Dave O'Toole gives a very amusing representation of Dame Trott, while Messrs Sandford and Lyons, excellent dancers, are very entertaining as Johnny Stout and Jimmy Green. Mr Charles Russell is well suited as Baron Barebones; Miss Louie Lunelle as Tommy Tucker and Miss Nellie Lunelle as Margery Daw are a vivacious pair and prove themselves accomplished dancers; Miss Irene Rose as Fairy Sunshine acts prettily and sings with much taste; Mr J. H. Booth makes the most of his opportunities as the Wolf; and praise is also due to Miss Stella Liell (Jack Horner) and Miss Nora Arthur (the Herald). Conspicuous among the fun-makers are the Tally-Ho Trio (W. Doust, Eric Farr, and E. Chester), who take the parts of Georgie Porgie, Simple Simon, and Peter Piper. They render glees with humour and also artistic skill; they are energetic and genuinely droll, and while they are on the stage there is not a dull moment. The choruses are well sung.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" AT BRIGHTON.

Mr Henry Eglington's Christmas pantomime, *The Babes in the Wood*, was produced at the New Palace Pier Theatre on Saturday afternoon with great success. The book is written by Henry Eglington, with lyrics by Jack Valoyne, and the music has been composed and arranged by Herbert Wellings and Clement Locknayne, while the costumes are by Mons. Alias and Miss Beatrice Cutting. The main features of the old, well-known story are preserved, and the pantomime is not only rich with innocent fun and frolic, but presents several charming spectacular displays. The scenery, by W. T. Hemsley and E. Egerton, merits warm praise, the sets depicting The Village of Sherwood, The Heart of Sherwood Forest, The Woodman's Hut, and The Cottage Inn being especially picturesque and effective. Mr Henry Eglington, who has selected an excellent company to assist him in representing his admirable work, undertakes the part of Dame Tabitha Durden. His dry humour and smart patter prove very diverting, and his drolleries as the village schoolmistress evoke roars of laughter. Miss Tilly Stewart makes a bright and dashing Robin Hood, and displays excellent singing. Miss Florence Brandon is a graceful and captivating Maid Marian, and her vocalisation possesses distinct charm. High vocal honours are also achieved by Mdlle. Ella Rose, who figures with pleasing effect as the Fairy Glowworm. The part of the wicked uncle, Baron Graball, has an able exponent in Mr Harry Harcourt; Miss Blanche Gerond is well suited as Will Scarlett; Miss Marjorie May is a dainty Phyllis; Mr Harold Perry is duly aggressive as Jack o' Lantern, the gnome of the woods; and Mr Will Ambro is a lively Hannibal Fitzsparkle. Mr Harry A'Ban and Mr Angie A'Ban as Dusty Rhodes and Casual Warde respectively afford much fun, and the Babes are satisfactorily impersonated by Miss Cissie Williams and Miss Eileen Leoville. Miss Hettie Norma as Little John and Mr Reuben Kitchen as Pompey, the poodle, also render able support. Specialities are introduced by the Three Geronds, lady vocalists and clever dancers; Ambro, the Duckville coon; Reuben Kitchen, animal impersonator; and the Brothers A'Ban. A gorgeous transformation scene, entitled Baby's Dream of Fairyland, is followed by a comic harlequinade, which delights the little ones among the audience, the characters being sustained by Mr Harry A'Ban, clown; Mr Angie A'Ban, pantaloon; Mr Reuben Kitchen, harlequin; Mr F. J. Stone, policeman; Mr J. Morris, Lord Awfultoff; and Miss Bertha Hall, columbine. The merry pantomime should enjoy a long and prosperous career. The duties of conductor were in the hands of Mr Louis Finch.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT LEEDS.

Friday evening, the 23rd inst., saw the opening of Mr John Hart's annual, *The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*, at the Grand, and the makings of a real good pantomime were disclosed. The dressing and stage display is, as usual, elegant, gorgeous, and artistic throughout, whilst the company presenting it may at once be classed amongst the very finest combinations that have ever appeared at this premier theatre. The book is from the prolific pen of Mr J. Hickory Wood, with clever topical allusions by Mr William Wade, and is in their very best strain. As to the scenery, every one of the numerous sets show the master hand, the highest triumph, perhaps, being achieved by The Island of Orchids, a rich and varied glow of colour, by Mr R. C. Oldham, whilst Mr Conrad Tritschler is also represented by numerous effective conceptions, notably The Court of Neptune and The Grand Masque, the latter being the scene of the concluding pageant and grand procession with which the show closes. Though well up to its predecessors in the way of spectacular display, it is largely through the efforts of the principal performers that this pantomime will go down to history as a pronounced success, for everyone stepped on to the stage well up to their work and confident. Miss Georgina Delmar, a recruit from grand opera, is in the principal part of Crusoe, and, as may be supposed, her vocal powers are well utilised in many popular numbers to the great delight of the audience. The principal girl is Miss Daisy Wallace, and her conception of the part is distinctly pleasing, for added to a charming personality are a vivacious style and good vocal ability. Miss Beryl Somerset will be a prime favourite before the piece has run long, for her part of First Mate is well acted and she sings ear-haunting melodies in taking style. Fine vocal power characterises the efforts of Miss Alma Jones as the Good Fairy. To turn to the fun-providers we may commence with Mr Lionel Rignold in the rôle of pantomime dame, for his quaint and quiet humour is most effective. Mr J. Robert Hale has a big part, and his Bill Bailey Atkins is an excellent vehicle for a continual run of sparkling wit and humour, his encounters with Sunny Jim Crusoe being specially enjoyed. This latter part is cleverly played by Mr Harry Dent, who might with advantage be allowed more generous opportunities. One of the hits of the night was made by Mr Mike S. Whallen, a raconteur of considerable ability, who finds great opportunities in the rôle of Captain Yarns, and keeps his audience in a state of continual merriment with his amusing patter. Mr Victor Stevens has but restricted opportunities as the Cannibal King, but gets all that is possible out of them. Mr Alan Dale finds great favour with accomplished vocal work in his portrayal of Davy Jones. The magnificent production on this occasion is under the unflagging and energetic supervision of Mr James Richardson (for Mr John Hart).

"RED RIDING HOOD" AT WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

On Monday a packed audience assembled at the Knightstone Pavilion to witness the first performance of *Red Riding Hood*. Mr J. A. Thomson's motto is *Labor omnia vincit*, and, thanks to this indefatigable gentleman, the pantomime went from start to finish without the slightest hitch. Beside being stage-manager and producer, Mr Thomson has written a book replete with wit and humour. The scenery throughout deserves the highest praise, the Palace and Transformation being perfect works of art. They reflect great credit on the painter and inventor, Mr Jas. Cook. A grand patriotic tableau, entitled "The Flag of England," which concludes the Palace Scene, was received with deafening applause. The gorgeous and handsome dresses are better than anything seen here in pantomime before. The ballets, specially arranged by Madame Verona, and executed by the Verona troupe of lady dancers, merit the highest eulogy. The cast is an exceptionally strong one. Miss Ella Willmer, in the title-rôle, is an artist to the fingertips. She is undoubtedly pretty, possesses a sweet voice, and her dancing is graceful. Miss Blanche Bayley is a handsome and debonair Prince Allfair, and her song, "Bluebell," proved a decided success. As Queen Flora Miss Madge Corri is very successful, her fine voice being heard to great advantage in "Egypt." Boy Blue finds a dashing exponent in Miss Jessie Corri, her singing of "When a fellow is twenty-one" being highly appreciated. Miss Esse Prenton is an artist of promise, and as Rose, the Baron's daughter, she scores in a decisive manner. Miss Annie Rose (Marjory Daw) and Miss Ethel Ashleigh (Johnny Horner) are both attractive and sprightly exponents of their parts. Mr John A. Thomson has become so great a favourite locally that as soon as he stepped on the stage his success was assured. He was greeted with prolonged applause, and his Dame Trot is indubitably the best work this clever comedian has done; he was repeatedly encored for his topical song, "I'll stick to my opinion." Mr Fred Anderson (Tommy Green) and Mr W. Lovell Rowlands (Simple Simon) are quaint and whimsical comedians. As the Baron Mr Charles W. Colman is responsible for a lot of original business, and Mr Albert Victor's Wolferino is an excellent impersonation, his lines being given with rare intelligence. The chorus is a powerful one and well trained, and Mr Arthur Sheldrake has composed and arranged some delightful and catchy music. Mr Evelyn O'Dell most courteously looks after the front of the house.

"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY" AT DUBLIN.

On St. Stephen's Day the management of the Gaiety produced for their Christmas attraction the pantomime of *The Sleeping Beauty*, which has been exceedingly well written by Mr T. F. Doyle. The curtain ascended punctually to time on the Stalactite Cavern, where, after a very tuneful chorus by the witches, the Fairy Spiteful unfolds her intention to wreak her vengeance on Beauty, the child of King Henpeckt and Queen Elfrida Ann. At the Hall of the Palace (scene two), amidst a blaze of light and brilliant surroundings, we make the acquaintance of the Monarch (Mr Picton Roxborough) and his consort (Mr Fred Russell), both personages of very eccentric manners, also Lord High Everything (Mr Horace Wheatley) and Mary Ellen Coughdrop (Mr Arthur Rigley). Scene three is illustrative of the flight of time, and here eighteen years are supposed to elapse ere we are again at the Rose Garden (scene four), where we meet the Fairy Queen attended by a bevy of fairies. A notable character is Tom Noddy (Mr Harry Maxam), who is in search of his master, Bellamour, a wandering minstrel (Miss Dorothy L. Clark). We next behold Beauty (Miss Lucie Caine), attended by coryphees attired in shamrock costumes. Bellamour, who is the rightful heir, is smitten with the charms of Beauty, and to be near her gets an appointment as Court minstrel, and the scene ends with a grand ensemble. In the opening of scene six, The Throne Room, there is a grand procession of retainers, guests, &c., and in the midst of these festivities Beauty is brought in on a couch, and, after Fairy Spiteful states that she has now had her revenge, Bellamour is spirited away by her myrmidons. The following scene, Dreamland, is a purely spectacular one, wherein Beauty, the King and Queen, and several others are in their long sleep. The scenery opens up and discloses a very brilliant vista, and with this the first portion of the story ends. The concluding part of the pantomime opens with The Tangled Wood, a most weird scene, in which, by the assistance of Fairy Spiteful, Humpty Dumpty (Mr Sam Walsh) makes his début from the well-known egg. He is, however, not the traditional personage we know, but a very effusive and audacious party of the bounder type, and he makes a bid for the hand of Beauty. Beauty has a rough experience at his hands, and is finally carried away by him and his attendants to the Haunted Castle. The search for Beauty is carried on by Bellamour and his faithful henchman, and she is rescued from the Castle which forms the subject of the final scene, a most brilliant and artistic picture. Mr Picton Roxburgh as King Henpeckt has a very commanding appearance, and can sing an excellent song. Mr Fred Russell is capital as Queen Elfrida Ann, and his ventriloquial efforts with two figures were quite a success. Miss Lucie Caine played the part of Beauty in a most charming and pleasing style, and met with a most encouraging reception. The personation of Mary Ellen Coughdrop is given without the slightest vulgarity by Mr Arthur Rigby, who makes it stand out prominently. Mr Horace Wheatley is exceedingly well suited in the part of Lord High Everything, and his song, "Finnegan," is sure to be one of the most popular in the pantomime. Miss Adeline Yohle as Bonne Bouche fills the part in a clever manner. Miss Lilian La Touche as Tricksie infuses plenty of go into her portrayal, being an expert danseuse. The part of principal boy could hardly have fallen into better hands than those of Miss Dorothy L. Clark, who has a splendid appearance and plays the part with grace and refinement. Mr Harry Maxam is well to the fore, and is already a great favourite in the part of Tom-noddy. Miss Cissie De La Rue is good as the King of Hearts; Miss Jessie Bridge plays well as the Queen of Hearts; and Mr Robert A. Innes is well suited as Jack of Hearts. Miss Louie Collier, who personifies the Fairy Benevolentia, acts well, and gives a very fine rendering of the well-known song, "Il Bacio," which is enthusiastically received. Mr Ernest Spalding, who enacts the part of Fairy Spiteful, is a very clever and consistent actor. Mr Sam Walsh, a very capable artist, fills the part of Prince Humpty-Dumpty with success. The woodcutters, Log and Lump, are exceedingly well acted by the Brothers Anarton, whose musical mélange is duly appreciated; and Madame Louie is to be congratulated upon her successful arrangement of the several dances and processions, the evolutions of the Koh-i-Noor Troupe of dancers doing her great credit. Messrs D. C. Hall and Mr George A. Jackson, who are responsible for the scenery, have given us some very artistic pictures. The original songs written by Mr C. W. Chambers are very good. The designs of the dresses are by Mr Robert Crafter and Mr A. Commelli, and they have been

cleverly executed by Mrs Whelan and Mrs Thornton and their assistants. The properties are by Mr W. Clarke; the electrical effects by Mr Kerlie Dever; the mechanical effects by Mr George Armstrong; and the wigs by Messrs Clarkson, Harper, and Lucas. The production reflects great credit on Mr George M. Slater, who is responsible for the staging.

"PUSS IN BOOTS" AT BELFAST.

Mr Fred W. Warden on the 24th inst. presented his annual pantomime at the Theatre Royal with a completeness that left nothing to be desired. *Puss in Boots* is the title, and the book has been cleverly written by Mr J. Hickory Wood, with the result that the familiar story is told in a perfectly clear and comprehensive manner. The local allusions by "Mac" are brilliant, and reflect much credit on this gentleman, whose genius is so striking, and unquestionably *Puss in Boots* must be pronounced as one of the greatest successes ever produced. Mr Fred W. Warden has, indeed, every reason to feel proud of the triumph his efforts have unquestionably achieved. For weeks Mr Warden has been working indefatigably to provide his innumerable patrons with a pantomime superior to any of its predecessors, and it certainly looks as if he has succeeded. The cast is a powerful one, and includes such well-known favourites as Miss Minnie Jeffs, Miss Florence Esdaile, Miss Dorothy Sefton, and Miss Edith Adeson, and Messrs Martin Adeson, Cinquevalli, the wonderful juggler, J. W. Henson, &c. The music has been composed, selected, and arranged by the talented resident musical conductor, Mr Samuel P. Swanton, and many of the songs introduced, including some of the most catchy numbers of the day, were uproariously received. The costumes are lovely and in the most exquisite taste, and were designed by Mr J. Howard Russell, and executed by Baruch and Alias, London, and Mrs Nerney, Belfast. The scenery is simply gorgeous and most elaborate, and much praise is due the talented artistes, Messrs K. J. M'Lennan, Ernest Howard, and G. Jansen for their artistic taste and clever work. The scenes represented are as follows:—The Witching Hour of Night, the Old Mill, Interior of the Cyclists' Rest, Corridor in the Palace, the King's Palace—a magnificent set, the King's Garden Party and Picnic, At the Ogre's Gate, the Ogre's Ante-room, the Ogre's Dining room, On the Way Back, and the Hall of Games. Special mention must be made of the Procession of Silver Warriors, which is so strikingly beautiful, the limelight effects producing a scene of splendour seldom, if ever, witnessed here, and Mr Warden, who had all the trouble of arranging and directing this brilliant spectacle, was compelled to appear and bow his acknowledgments—a deserved compliment indeed, as this unique procession will be the talk of the city. The ballets have been arranged by Mr John Tiller, and are exceedingly graceful. Regarding the cast, Mr Warden has been fortunate in securing the valuable services of the world-renowned Paul Cinquevalli, and his appearance as Fritz, the waiter, was remarkably successful. In scene three Cinquevalli exhibited his unrivalled skill with tables, chairs, &c., and again delights all with his adroitness in scene six. But in the last scene Cinquevalli achieved a triumph of which he may well feel justly proud, performing some of the most remarkable juggling feats with such dexterity and skill that the audience was completely amazed. Undoubtedly Cinquevalli will be a tremendous draw during the run of the pantomime. Of the principals, Miss Minnie Jeffs, who appears as Colin, the miller's youngest son, was decidedly charming, her handsome figure enhancing her delightful impersonation. She acts gracefully and sings her songs with much effect. Her rendering of "Blue Bell" and "A Wise Old Owl" was decidedly captivating, and, being encored for the latter, she was on responding presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers. It would, indeed, be difficult to excel the vocal efforts of Miss Florence Esdaile, who sustains the part of the Princess Ivy with such infinite grace. Miss Esdaile sang 'Navaho," with its wonderfully catchy chorus, and this song promises to be one of the most popular in the pantomime. Miss Esdaile is assisted in the song by a little juvenile, whose smart dancing created quite a furore. Later Miss Esdaile rendered "Will you be my butterfly," to which her beautiful voice gave great expression, and she deservedly shared the honours with Miss Jeffs. Regarding the comedians. Mr Martin Adeson is a host in himself, being irresistibly funny as King Grabbus. His comical appearance and dry humour was responsible for the heartiest of laughter, and he sang several songs with telling effect, notably "Spoiled" and "Soldier's Life," while in the topical duet "For Ever and Ever" with the dame, Mr Adeson was encored again and again. There have in past years been many creations of the dame in various local pantomimes, but it is doubtful if any have been more successful than Mr Fred Lyne. This we understand is Mr Lyne's first pantomime engagement, and we predict for him ever greater fame. In the present rôle of Dame Shortly he acts naturally, and creates the heartiest laughter with his unforced humour. His patter is also very original, and in his song "You can't beat the old time girls," with its catchy chorus, made a big hit on which he must be congratulated. Messrs J. W. Henson and Marriott Edgar were quaintly amusing as Baron Rumphiz and Muggles, the latter being loudly applauded for his droll rendering of "On the Sands." Miss Dorothy Sephton was a dashing Prince Rudolph, and is allotted one of the song hits, "You are a white little girl," with its ear-haunting refrain, to which she does every justice. Miss Edith Adeson is a sweet and ingenuous Phyllis, gaining much approval for her clever rendering of "Run, run, you little one," while her exquisite dancing is the very poetry of motion. A splendid impersonation of Slyboots, the King's Cat, was submitted by Mr Bert Lloyd, and his dancing evoked considerable enthusiasm. Other song hits rendered by the company are "There goes my soldier boy" and "Zulu-Lu." Miss Josephine Colona appears as Felina, the Fairy Queen of Sports, and the rôles of First and Second Fairies were gracefully sustained by Misses Phyllis Stuart and Suzanne Graham. Among the specialities the Cecilian Glee Singers render in capital style "Come where my love lies dreaming," and for an encore sustituted "The Swanee River," their tuneful voices harmonising very melodiously. Tiller's Superba Troupe of dancers furnish a splendid exhibition of the Terpsichorean art, and their efforts are justly rewarded with loud applause. Another unique feature is the tableaux representing games of every description—cards, chess, draughts, backgammon, dominoes, lawn-tennis, battledore and shuttlecock, roulette, &c. Messrs J. W. Henson and Mr Allan Davenport are responsible for the stage-management, and fulfilled their arduous duties well. During the interval Mr Fred W. Warden—who was enthusiastically received—appeared on the stage and announced the result of the "Adding" competition. He said that no less than 23,000 letters had been dealt with, containing various attempts at solving the mathematical puzzle set the public. The successful competitor was Mr Thomas Wetherall, and he would be provided with a season ticket for the pantomime. In *Puss in Boots* Mr Warden has produced a pantomime the equal of any of its predecessors, and, perhaps, superior to many; and there can be little doubt that a prosperous run is safely assured. The reception accorded the initial production (which went with faultless precision and without a hitch) augurs well, and Mr Warden deserves to be heartily congratulated.

"THE SLEEPING BEAUTY" AT BRISTOL

There was a very large attendance at the Prince's Theatre on Saturday evening in all parts of the house on the production of *The Sle ping Beauty*. The pantomime is written by Mr J. Hickory Wood, local allusions and lyrics are by Mr Dudley Smith, and suitable music has been arranged, selected, and composed by Mr G. R. Chapman. The story is perhaps more interesting than the general run of pantomimes, and it is skilfully worked out in twelve scenes. The plot may be shortly described as follows:—On the birth of Princess Beauty numerous invitations are sent out by the King and Queen for the christening ceremony, but by an oversight the King omits to post the invitation card intended for Maligna, the evil genius of the piece. Maligna, however, is present, but declines to accept the apology of the King and Queen, and he predicts that on the Princess attaining eighteen years of age "she shall for ever quit this earthly scene." The fairy godmother, Claribel, the Queen of the Butterflies, however, hints at long life and happiness. Father Time, by the aid of his hour-glass, bridges over the eighteen years, and suitors for the hand of the Princess make their appearance. Amongst others are Prince Florizel and his page Alphonso, who appear on the scene disguised as wandering minstrels. The Queen, however, mistakes Alphonso for the Prince, the latter not undeceiving her, as he is desirous that the Princess shall love him for himself, and not as a Prince. Subsequently the Prince obtains an interview with Beauty, when, after she has admitted that she loves him, though only a page, he declares his identity, and all appears to be likely to go on smoothly and end happily. Beauty has a touch of curiosity in her composition, and visits a mysterious old tower, where she meets with Maligna, and is induced to try her skill at a magic spinning wheel; she pricks her hand, and falls into a sleep, which is to last one hundred years. In the midst of the betrothal festivities at the castle the Princess is found to be missing, search is made, and she is brought in on a couch apparently dead. Great consternation is the result, but the Fairy Claribel makes the assertion that the Princess is not dead but in a sleep which must last a century, and that all present, except the Prince, herself, and Father Time, would also sleep for the same period, and on waking up still be of the same age; that the Prince in the meantime should visit other lands, still keeping young, and on the expiration of the hundred years he should awaken the Princess with a magic kiss. Father Time again makes use of his hour glass, sleep overcomes all but the Fairy, Father Time, and the Prince, the latter in a dramatic finale declaring that "though centuries may pass I will still be true to my bridal vow." Part two commences with the awakening of Beauty by the magic kiss of the Prince, the King and Queen and Court all wake up, and all is again likely to end happily. Maligna, however, manages to put a magic potion into the Prince's wine. This upsets everything, for the Prince declares Beauty to be ugly and her old nurse beautiful, and he throws the former over for the latter. Ultimately the nurse declines to marry the Prince and the spell is broken, the pantomime closing with the grand wedding procession of the Prince and Beauty. Miss Lil Hawthorne makes a splendid Prince Florizel, acting the part really well and singing several songs in excellent style. Miss Zena Dare acts gracefully as Princess Beauty, and is successful in song and dance, Miss Maud Darling is sufficiently vivacious as Trixie, maid to the Princess, obtaining applause for her singing and dancing. Miss Anita Penrose is a graceful exponent of Claribel, and is successful with her song. Mr W. H. Rawlins makes a capital part of the Queen; he has several songs, and all go well. Mr Lionel Victor is excellently placed as the King; he acts well, and the contrast in style and stature between the King and Queen makes both the parts very amusing. Mr George Miller, a stranger here, though a Bristolian, presents a quaint and very effective character study of the Nurse; his style is unusually unobtrusive, and he plays throughout in a dryly humorous manner. Mr Albert Le Fre acts well as Alphonso, and he is a clever dancer. Messrs Drew and Alders as Ping and Pong make their parts amusing, and do a good knockabout acrobatic turn. Mr Fred Conquest is decidedly funny both as the cat and the animated tree. Mr David Miller is sufficiently impressive as Maligna, Mr Charles Arnold is stately as Father Time; and Master Le Fre is smart and speaks well as Jimmy Green. The smaller parts of Viola, Rudolph, Myra, Rupert, Mildred, Oswald, Editha, and Clarence are nicely taken by the Misses Dora Poole, Gladys Munro, Ruby Dale, Maud Odell, Wynifred Morice, Nellie Danvers, Molly Moore, and Freda Vaughan. Some taking dances are introduced by Tiller's "Superba" Troupe of dancers. A large party of well-trained dancers present ballets and pretty incidental dances arranged by Miss Millie Williams, and there is an imposing contingent of extra ladies, all magnificently dressed and well drilled. Popular opinion appears to be that Mr Chute has once again beaten his own record for finely staged pantomimes. The scenery is very grand, several heavy sets being exceptionally good examples of what Messrs George Jackson, Ernest Howard, and E. H. Ryan can do. The costumes are superb, those used in the last scene, The Butterflies' Ball, being wonderfully realistic and perfect in harmony of colour. The designs for the costumes are by Mr J. Howell Russell and Signor A. Comelli, and they were executed in the theatre by Mrs Shapcott, Mrs Bristowe, and assistants, and by Baruch, London, and Alias, London and Paris. There is a good display of appropriate wigs by Gustave, London, and H. J. Webb, Bristol; machinery and mechanical effects are by Mr Henry Owen; elaborate properties are provided by Mr F. C. Lebhart, London, and Mr H. Momber; and the electric lighting and dioramic effects are by Mr Arthur Bawn. The pantomime went very smoothly on the opening night under the stage-management of Mr Henry Turner, assisted by Mr David Miller, and the whole was produced under the personal supervision of Mr Jas. Macready Chute. When near the close of the last scene on Saturday night, Mr Chute was loudly called for. As usual, he had a very hearty reception, and, as a speech was evidently wanted, he said:—"Ladies and gentlemen, I can only tender you my sincere thanks for the very kind manner in which you have received our latest production. I hope I may ask you 'yes' or 'no.' Is it a success? (Loud shouts of 'Yes' from all parts.) I have also to thank the ladies and gentlemen of the company for working so hard."

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT BRISTOL.

Robinson Crusoe was produced at the Theatre Royal on Saturday evening. The "book" is by Mr and Mrs Ernest Carpenter, and it effectually carries out the story as usually accepted, with a few variations which considerably add to the interest. The pantomime opens with a pretty view of the Port of Hull, from which Robinson embarks in the good ship Saucy Sal, and the plot is worked out in the various scenes, representing 'Tween Decks, The Wreck, The Golden Valley, Crusoe's Hut, Another Part of the Island, The Seashore, The Palace Gates, and The Sultan's Palace. The scenery is nicely painted throughout by Mr David Young and Mr William M'Cullough, The Sultan's Palace being a very fine and effective set scene. Miss Ethel Campbell is an excellent Robinson Crusoe. She is sufficiently vivacious for the part, and she sings pleasingly. Miss Margery Moore (Polly Perkins) acts with grace, and she both sings and dances well. Miss Florence Melville is an imposing and dashing Captain Mayne Brace. The Misses Sadie Warner and Lulu Warner are good exponents of Billee Taylor and Nancy Lee, and they successfully introduce their specialities of song and dance. Miss Minnie Love is pleasing as Princess Carina, and she has a pretty speciality of song and dance, "Jack-in-the-Box." Miss Ivy Templet does well as Jujuba, attendant to the Princess. Mr Bob King makes a capital Mrs Crusoe; he acts in amusing style and has some good songs. Mr Walter Kooney scores a success as Will Atkins; and the same may be said of Mr Harry Karr as his confederate, Dick Deadeye. Mr Ernest Laws acts with quiet dignity as the Sultan; he has a good baritone voice, which is heard to advantage in several songs. Mr Edgar Budden causes much amusement as Friday, he is an expert dancer on roller skates, and has lots of funny business. The Brothers Risto (Tom and Will) work hard throughout the pantomime; they play Tom Bowling, Ben Bolt the Monkey, and the Dog, and introduce several clever acrobatic and contortionist specialities. There are a number of elegantly costumed extra ladies, a number of children who sing and dance as savages, &c.; numerous specialities of song, dance and acrobatics, excellent songs by all the principals, and several pretty set dances by the corps de ballet. Taken as a whole, the pantomime is interesting, bright and amusing, and on the opening night, the whole of the company very effectively proved their efficiency. The costumes which are both rich and tasteful, are designed by Miss Clarence, and executed under her personal direction. There are also special costumes designed and executed by Hugo Barusch and Co., Berlin and London, and Elkan Brothers, London. The medley overture and incidental music have been successfully arranged and composed by Mr Edwin Jacobs. The mechanical effects are by Mr Harry Blake and the properties are by Mr W. Sullivan, and Miss Kirby has been very successful in training the children. The entire pantomime is produced by Mr Edward Carpenter, assisted by Mr Trueman Towers. At the close of the Golden Valley scene on Saturday evening, Mr Ernest Carpenter was called on the stage and had a hearty reception. In a short speech Mr Carpenter said: "Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have tried to put before you something better than you have ever seen in the old house before, and from the way you have received it I hope I have succeeded, and I believe from the way we have started to-night that we shall have a record run at the old theatre. At all events, nothing shall be wanting on my part, and I know I have a company of good workers around me who will do all in their power to make the pantomime one of the most pleasant and enjoyable you have seen here." There was much cheering on Mr Carpenter leaving the stage.

"SINBAD THE SAILOR" AT CROYDON.

Christmas Eve saw the first performance at the Theatre Royal of Mr Samuel James's second pantomime, the title of which is *Sinbad the Sailor*, and there could be no question of its instant popularity. The book is not at all a bad one, and the various stages of the story are cleverly depicted. The subject being one which has not been seen in Croydon for very many years it is all the more acceptable. Mr John Reillie's masterly hand can be recognised in the melodious and catchy music, and certainly this year he has surpassed himself, and given to *Sinbad* a brightness and fascination which does him infinite credit. The scenery, too, from the brush of Mr W. R. Coleman, was much admired, and is well in keeping with the many picturesque and rich dresses by Mrs Waite. There has been a lavish expenditure in this direction. The chorus is much above the average, and the electrical and mechanical effects by Mr Arthur Bryan and Mr J. Yates respectively are worthy of special mention. The company is a strong one, and simply swarms with clever comedians and handsome ladies, who work well together. Miss Daisy Silcott is the principal boy, Sinbad, and her selection for the part could hardly have been improved upon. She plays the rôle throughout with verve, charm, and distinction, and that she can sing an excellent song is proved by her effective renderings of "Bravo, Plucky Japan," and "Woman." We have a favourite from last year's pantomime in Miss Ethel Dove, whose Zoradee does her much credit. Miss Dove has a neat style, and her efforts are always in the right direction, whilst a charming presence and graceful movements stand her in good stead. Miss Ida Katrina is a pretty little lady who can sing and dance to perfection. She makes a big hit with "The Carnival of Toys," and is a dainty mermaid queen, Coraline. Miss Ruby Norton is a dashing Prince Azan, and her principal song is warmly redemanded, and Miss Ethel Maries is a bewitching Princess Irza. Messrs Dale and O'Malley are a host in themselves as Wiffles and Woffles, and with their quaint efforts they create unstinted laughter. Their catch-phrase, "Don't call me Ginger," has caught on, and will soon be heard all over Croydon. They are as funny a pair as anyone could wish to see. Mr Dan O'Connor is another artist possessed of the spirit of comedy, and his droll business and sayings make the part of Tinbad a quaint personage. Visitors evidently think they cannot see too much of him. Mr Jack M'Kenzie simply glories in the rôle of Cogia Ali; he is ready witted and arouses almost continuous merriment. There is always a chuckle of delight every time he enters with his "Got another Hat," and he is a right welcome member of the company. Nimble Mr Sid Morton is all there, as usual, as Shiraze Ali, and is exceedingly popular. His work shows care and attention, and in his hands the character is whimsical and animated. Mr Dick M'Kay as the Old Man of the Sea and Mr Con. Silo as Davey Jones are well to the fore, and their trap-door business is smartly carried out and wins for them cordial applause. Mr Charles Sands and Mr Bob Graham make a lot out of small opportunities as Captain Coddle and the Sultan of Rumphiz; and Miss Mildred Blair and Miss Rose Hersey complete the cast as Bombonz and Irene. The first performance was as near perfection as possible, thanks to the untiring energy of Mr Samuel James, who appears to fairly revel in hard work. We can compliment him, without reserve, upon the success of his labours; whilst a word of praise is also due to his stage-manager, Mr Sid Morton. Mr James did a good stroke of business in securing Mr Newman Maurice (from the Terriss Theatre) as his acting-manager. Mr Maurice is always courteous and attentive to those in front, and under his able care the Royal should have a renewal of its prosperity.

"CINDERS" AT BRADFORD.

On Friday evening, the 23d, Mr John Hart presented at the Theatre Royal here his pantomimic extravaganza *Cinders*, which is another name for the immortal fairy legend of "Cinderella." The production contains all the elements of modern up-to-date musical comedy, and presents a striking contrast to the pantomime of our father's time. The story is told in more or less orthodox fashion, and it is localised. The Baron de Baildon, who is hoary and hard up, takes unto himself a second wife, Anna Maria Hogg, and his charming daughter, Cinders, becomes the slave of the new wife's ugly offsprings of her first marriage, Gingeretta and Blondinetta. Prince Peerless Paragon meets Cinders and falls in love with her, and in order to test her real affection he changes places with his foster brother, Dandini, and the latter in the hope of succession, plots with the spirit, Mischief, for the Prince's overthrow, but Fairy Gracious intervenes, and Dandini is foiled. The main features of the story are not omitted, for we have the transformation from the kitchen to the Ballroom, and the gorgeous coach and ponies, and the incident of the lost slipper. Mr D. G. Hall's scenery is lovely and Mr Stafford Hall and Mr R. C. Oldham have also produced some gems of scenic art. The Wood in winter and summer is charming, and there are some fine effects in Glassland, The Kitchen, and The Hall of Ambassadors in the Palace. The electrical effects are magnificent, and Mr Hart's taste is again noticeable in the lovely costumes worn by the ballet, which Madame J. Phillipini has cleverly trained. There is much originality and good taste in the music which Mr W. C. Chambers has arranged, and under the nom de plume of Quill we recognise the wit and humour of Mr T. F. Doyle, the author of the book, who has produced the pantomime under Mr Hart's supervision. The initial performance passed off with but few of the customary hitches, and all concerned are to be very heartily congratulated on the production, which is bound to rank amongst the many successes Mr Hart has achieved in the way of pantomime. Our old friend, Mr J. W. Rowley, is with us again as the Baron, quaint as ever with his dialect patter; and Mr J. E. Nightingale as the Baroness is immensely funny both in his make-up and his acting. Katie May is charming and very dainty as Cinders, and is already an established favourite. Miss Marie Daltra makes up excellently as the ugly sister Gingeretta, and is decidedly humorous too. Miss Irene Verona as her Sister Blondinetta also fills the part well. Mr Frank Calvert is very droll as the Baron's Retainer, Chump. Winsome Dolly Daisy has sprightly Miss Eida Burman for a representative. Miss Leonora Grieve, with a charming presence, makes a dashing and attractive Prince. The Dandini of Mr Fred Fowler is bright, clever, and full of resource, and Miss Ivy Rose is an attractive Periwiggi. Carlton is excruciatingly funny as Septimus Spoof, somebody's uncle, and he does some wonderful card tricks. Harry Grell and Fred Grey make a pair of smart Flunkeys, and give a clever acrobatic display. Mr Dennis Drew, a fine baritone, effectively fills the character of the evil spirit, Mischief, and Miss Maud Holland very prettily and with grace fills the part of the good spirit, Graciosa. The chorus is a strong one; the Transylvanian Troupe of Dancers give a clever display; the fairy electric carriage of Cinders is strikingly effective; and "The Deputation of All Nations" is a notable feature amongst the many fine tableaux in the production.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT BRADFORD.

Mr Francis Laidler's characteristic enterprise is noticeable in a marked degree in his pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*, which was produced on Friday evening, the 22nd. As hitherto, Mr Frank Macnaghten is responsible for the production, and Mr Arthur W. Field, who is the author of the book, may be congratulated on having so successfully localised the story. Briefly, the Village of Hawksworth is Robinson's home, where his mother, Dame Crusoe, gets a living by selling refreshments. Polly Perkins from the Hall falls in love with the hero, but her guardian, Will Atkins, who wants the girl himself, vows vengeance. The scene changes to the Hull Docks, and Robinson and the principal characters embark on board the Bowling Belle, which is wrecked by Davy Jones. Robinson is seen on a Raft, everybody is saved, and all the chief characters find themselves on an Island amongst Somalis, who were lately on exhibition in Bradford. The next scene is Crusoe's Hut, where Friday, who has been rescued by Robinson, is much in evidence. A change is made to Bradford, and in the spectacle The Grand Parade of the late Exhibition all ends happily. The main aim of the production is humour, and it reigns prolific. There are ten scenes, excellent examples of art and stagecraft, and the variety element is strong. Miss Ivy Lane's Vaudeville Dancers are a strong feature of the production. The May Day Revels and Naval Brigade Drill by local children are excellent items. There is a stirring Flag Ballet, and a very brilliant electrical conception, The Greatest of These is Charity. The initial performance went merrily, and with but few hitches, and all that is wanted is full scope for the resourceful company, together with a little judicious pruning, to guarantee success. Miss Adele Roze as Crusoe is bright and full of energy, and she scores with "Good-bye, little girl," and other songs. Miss Lily Black is very charming and dainty as Polly Perkins; the Will Atkins of Mr Harry A. Gribben is a bit of capital burlesque acting. Mr Tom Fancourt is responsible for much hearty laughter as Dame Crusoe, and Mr Oliver Conroy as Sammy Sackless and Mr Billy Elliott as Dick Drymaath also help considerably in keeping the fun going. Mr Ernest Stevens gives a clever performance of Friday, being well aided by Master Jack Bamford as Saturday. Mr Andy Kerr plays the Rajah Ramwell. Mr Geo. Belrose as Davy Jones and Miss Maud De Velin, the Fairy Coral, score well vocally. Amongst others who help the success are Miss Rosa Robey as Hurricane, Miss Ethel Beverley as Tornada, Miss Jennie Ruble as Midshipman Merry, Miss Lily West as the Princess, Miss O'Nolan as Cissie Crusoe, and the Mesdames Beattie Renee, Violet Gunnell, and a bevy of charming ladies who sustain subordinate parts. Praise is due to Mr Carl Hamlin for his excellent selection and arrangement of the music, and to Mr Robert Sainton, who conducts the augmented orchestra.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" AT NOTTINGHAM

Robinson Crusoe, Mr Arthur's eighth production in Nottingham, was launched on Christmas Eve at the Theatre Royal. Mr Frank Dix is again responsible for the "book," and the music has been composed and arranged by Messrs J. H. Wilson and Mr John Armstrong, the score being bright and effective; the scenic arrangements leave nothing to be desired, and we hope we are not giving away a secret by saying that the popular manager of the theatre, Mr Howard Finney, has found time among his multifarious duties to "wield the brush" in the painting-room. The customary Port of Hull forms the starting-point of the story. A large number of girls and sailors are seen making merry to a lively chorus, and the various characters are introduced in quick succession. The comedians come first in order, and make every use of their opportunities. The entry of Mrs Crusoe (Mr Bob Baxter) is signalised by a smart and humorous ditty, entitled 'I thought they were talking to me," which is sure to have a warm welcome each night. Mr Baxter is also very successful in another song, "Good-bye, little girl." A charming duet, "My coal-black coon," by Robinson Crusoe (Miss Madeline Du Val) and Polly Pansy (Miss Mabel Osborne), is rendered daintily. The Captain's order, "All aboard," is obeyed to a spirited concerted number. In the second scene, the Docks, a mirth-provoking glee is given by the comedians, and Miss Mabel Osborne sings with captivating sweetness a merry song, "Honeymoon Hall." A fine effect is here made by Mr Bob Baxter, who, surrounded by a group of Japanese children, sings the plaintive melody, "Farewell, my little Yo-San." In scene five, Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea, Coraline (Miss Phyllis Castleton) is condemned by King Neptune to be chained to a rock for daring to love a mortal. The scene naturally lends itself to beautiful effects, and the artists have done it full justice, a touch of realism being added by the presence of real fish. Here a ballet of fish makes a charming spectacle, and there is a spirited finale, "Britannia, Empress of the Sea." Act two opens with a gorgeously painted view of Lone Island, which brings to notice the Cannibal King (Mr Fred Solo), Friday (Mr Wally Scott), and Topsy (Miss Nellie Christie). Mr Solo scores with a vigorously rendered song, "I'm a cannibal that thirts for human gore," and Miss Christie evokes the utmost enthusiasm in a song, "Real Susie Tusie," the scene finishing with a stirring cake-walk by the whole of the company. The finding of the treasure in Crusoe's hut, and an attack on the hut by the King and his followers provides an excellent acrobatic performance, and we are led onwards to the King's Palace. To the strains of a capital march the usual procession takes place, and the Brothers Austin bring the pantomime to a close by a smart exhibition of comic juggling. The whole performance reflects the greatest credit on the energetic stage-manager, Mr Herbert Cottesmore. The rôle of Crusoe is undertaken by Miss Madeline Du Val, a young lady of prepossessing appearance, who uses a nice voice with skill. Miss Mabel Osborne makes a winsome Polly Pansy, singing and dancing spiritedly. The Sisters James as Tommy Truelove and Nelly Bly contribute much to the enjoyment by their versatility, and Miss Nellie Christie as Topsy enters into the spirit of her part with the keenest zest. The character of Mrs Crusoe is played by Mr Bob Baxter in a genuinely funny manner, yet always in good taste, and his drollery is rewarded by peals of responsive merriment. Will Atkins is essayed by Mr Harry Crane, and his amusing absurdities as the comic villain are exceedingly entertaining. The Two Austins, as Captain Spanker and Bo'sun, are a lively pair, and their work deserves high commendation. Mr Fred Solo is a quaint exponent of King Cockalorum, in which part he introduces some clever legmania feats, and Mr Wally Scott is thoroughly capable as Friday. The Coraline of Miss Phyllis Castleton is noteworthy for artistic singing, and Miss Madge Melbourne earns high encomiums as Little Dina. Mr Herbert Stanton, King Neptune; Mr Algernon Newark, Horatio; and Mr G. E. Carney, Hooley, fill their respective parts with credit. The Utopia Troupe of dancers submit a dexterous performance.

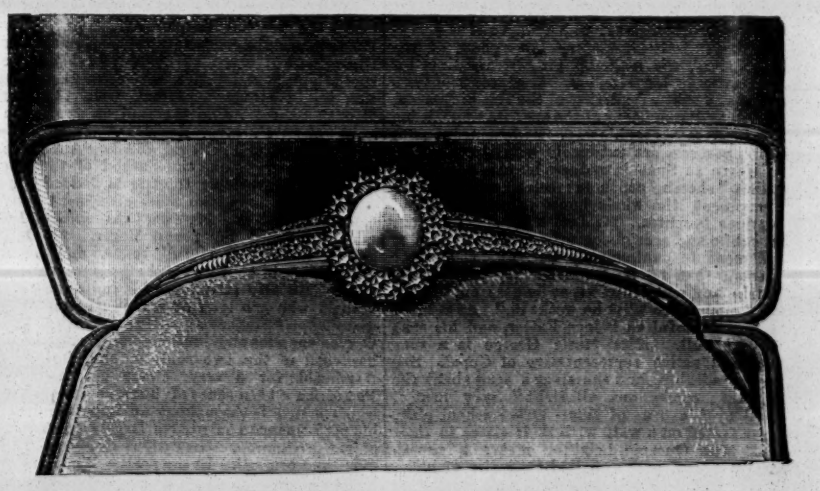
"BO-PEEP" AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

Mr Charles Revill produced his Christmas annual at the Theatre Royal on Boxing Day, having entrusted the staging thereof to the popular Milton-Rays, who have organised an efficient company for the humorous interpretation of the popular nursery story, "Little Bo-Peep." Mr Revill's annual is as good as anything we have had in past years at this house. It will, of course, improve as the performers find themselves familiar with the characters they are personating, but its success is already assured. Mr Percy Milton and Mr Milton Roemer originally were responsible for this version of the fable. The roars of laughter the comedians provoked testified to the capabilities of some of the leading performers in the domain of parody. The cast reveals the usual characters for the narration of the story of Little Bo-Peep, who has for a lover and defender Boy Blue, and has as enemies Lawyer Graball, the Gipsy King, and numerous satellites. After various adventures the lovers are finally reunited after separation, and a grand reception concludes the pantomime. The story opens at a village fair, and we have all the paraphernalia of a market square, with the shows and other exhibitions which attract the crowd on these fête occasions. This is an animated and lively scene from the beginning, and the whole of the characters, which are numerous, appear and reappear, attracting attention by song, dance, absurd antic, ludicrous speech, and witty parody; but attention is chiefly directed to the movements of four tall, shapely females (the Sisters Tree), who manœuvre, march, sing, and otherwise conduct themselves as alert and intelligent officers of the law, and who are smartly dressed in the regulation blue uniform. The fun of the fair is also kept on the swing by the absurd conduct of Binks the Bounder (Mr Harry Elliston), the Baron (Mr Jack Hylton), Simple Simon and Johnny Stout (the Two Eltons), Dame Trot (Mr W. G. Wesley), Lawyer Graball (Mr H. V. Morgan), and others. The specialities of the comedians, which all tend to burlesque, fun, and frolic, keep matters throughout very lively and entertaining. The old woman of the pantomime, Dame Trot (Mr W. G. Wesley), raises many laughs at the stereotyped predicaments in which old ladies of pantomime usually find themselves. Misses Ada and Lily Wright as principal girl and boy, Bo-Peep and Boy Blue, are sprightly and vivacious. Miss Grace Heywood must be complimented on her interpretation of Ferdinand the Fearless; and Misses Ethel Patrick, Maude St. John, Marie Beck, Josie Beltram, Emmie Crosby, and Messrs Hill, Reid, Holland, and Hemmingway in minor parts will doubtless develop out of mere sketches business which will add to the success a few evenings hence. The pantomime has been produced by Mr H. T. Batler, under the superintendence of Mr Arthur Milton. The music of the pantomime includes some tuneful strains, and Mr Peter Flitcroft as the musical director must be congratulated on his arrangement. The Four Trees, already alluded to, please immensely as society entertainers, vocalists, and dancers; the Two Eltons give a most diverting horizontal bar act in the Palace scene; and the Marblesque Trio in statuary are much admired.

FOR THE PRETTIEST ACTRESS.

£50 DIAMOND AND PINK PEARL BRACELET.

The beautiful Diamond and Pink Pearl Bracelet shown below—now on exhibition at Ollivant and Botsford's, jewellers, St. Ann-street, Manchester—will be presented by the *Manchester Weekly Times* to the PRETTIEST ACTRESS appearing on the Stage during January and February. No Entrance Fee. Full particulars in the *Manchester Weekly Times*, Dec. 30.



CHRISTMAS PRODUCTIONS.

"THE WHITE CAT" at DRURY-LANE.

Pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood and Arthur Collins, Produced on Dec. 26.

Fairy Asbestos	Mr HARRY RANDALL
Prince Plump	Mr FRED EASTMAN
King Ivory	Mr JOHNNY DANVERS
Populo	Mr TOM WOOTTWELL
Simeon	Mr HUGH J. WARD
Snale	Mr TOM HEARN
Prince Patter	Mr JAMES WELCH
Cupid	Miss MARIE GEORGE
Princess Aurora	Miss JEANNIE MACDONALD
Aristo	Miss RUTH LYTTON
Delicia	Miss MAY GURNEY
Hecate	Mrs LANE-JOYNT
Bucephalus	QUEEN and LE BRUN
Prince Peerless	Miss QUEENIE LEIGHTON
Cairo	Mr HARRY KIRK
A Regisseur	Mr WILLIAM MORGAN
Migonnet	GASCO
Minister of State	Mr ALEC DAVIDSON

'Once upon a time," says Madame D'Aulnoy, in her fairy tale of "The White Cat," 'there was a king who had three brave and handsome sons." This monarch, in the slang parlance of our day, "knew something." "He feared they might be seized with the desire of reigning before his death. The King was old, but as vigorous in mind as ever, and had no desire to yield up his position. He thought, therefore, the best way of living in peace was to divert his sons by promises which he could always escape fulfilling." So he sent them out on what may be called wild-goose chases after the most beautiful dog, piece of linen, and lady in the world. How the youngest wandered about till he found a mysterious palace wherein dwelt a magical white cat; how she enabled him to comply with the first two of the paternal requisitions, and to meet the third by cutting off her head, on which operation she turned into the loveliest girl imaginable, is told in somewhat rambling and deliberate fashion in Madame D'Aulnoy's story. Messrs Hickory Wood and Arthur Collins have had no easy task in constructing from the materials of the tale a libretto fit to be the framework of a Drury-lane pantomime. But all is possible to skill and experience; and *The White Cat* is one of the most beautiful, amusing, and artistic annuals yet produced at this theatre. The dog and the linen details have been exchanged for the discovery of a certain golden net; and, in search of this, two of the sons visit Ollapod Market, where the members of the varied callings in a German town mix and mingle to the sound of a *kermesse* chorus. There are soldiers, fishermen, peasant maidens, and many others too numerous to mention. Princess Aurora is confined in a magic garden, where Cupid hits her with one of his arrows. She is sought in marriage by the hideous son of the bad fairy, Hecate; and on her refusal is, despite the efforts of the beneficent immortal Asbestos, turned into a White Cat. Asbestos is in the decline of her power, and the effect of her love philtres only lasts for a short time. In the end the young Prince Peerless, who is, like his brothers, in search of the golden net, meets the Princess, and they fall in love, the story then concluding much in the D'Aulnoy manner.

One advantage of an entertainment which is, when first produced, too long to be performed within the usual limits of an evening's entertainment is that its less "happy" items can be eliminated in the process of reduction. Before these lines are in print the blue pencil will have been vigorously employed on the book of *The White Cat*. We need not, therefore, deal with every detail of an entertainment from which must necessarily be removed so much superfluous matter. The larger landmarks will, of course, remain; and they are exquisite in their artistic beauty. 'Artistic" is, indeed, the word appropriate. It is not by dazzling and strident hues or by overpowering magnificence that the great scene of The Fairy Orchard at the end of the first part of the pantomime "tells." It is a dream of natural brightness and beauty. The whole stage is radiant with sunshine, with the delicate tints of apple and cherry blossom, and the warmer hues of the orange and the lemon and the grape. Cupids attired in delicately shaded tints, and the Grigolatis, in graceful poses, surround the heart of pale blue which forms the centre of this delicious stage picture. Mr Henry Emden has given us a spectacle instinct with the very spirit of Spring. Equally important in another style is The Triumph of Hymen. Here the effect is created by bevies of fair women clad in costumes of all European nations. Signor Comelli has surpassed himself in the way in which he has designed the dresses. In the final scene, The King's Banqueting Hall, all the guests sit down in rows upon an immense flight of steps; and instantly hundreds of little tables, all supplied with clean white cloths and bearing dainty repasts, stand before them.

We attribute the triumph of *The White Cat* at Drury-lane, on Monday evening, to the fact that more reliance has been placed on personality than on spectacle. The "big scenes" are exquisitely beautiful, but never heavily elaborated, and the human element in the pantomime is immensely strong. Much of the success of the entertainment must be attributed to the remarkable drollery of Mr Harry Randall as Fairy Asbestos. Mr Randall, in parts of the "skinny matron" sort, is simply irresistible. He depicts—with graphic exaggeration, of course—a distinct Cockney type. He is the British female—care-worn, ironically cynical, but innately good-natured—who may be found by dozens in any of our "mean streets." When with this is "doubled" the absurd idea of an elderly fairy whose spells are growing stale, and whose fatal beauty has ceased to charm and fascinate, the result is most diverting. Of course, Mr Randall introduces a good deal of his famous "patter," and it sends the audience into ecstacies. To see him as the struggling ex-fairy, reduced to taking in a "nurse child" and lodgers, undressing a property baby with a ludicrous assumption of propriety and washing it down with a scrubbing-brush, is to laugh till one's sides ache; and then there is his topical song about "Happy England," which might easily be encored a dozen times, so eager are the audience for additional verses. Mr Randall's fun is so "clear cut"—if we may use the expression—his methods are so decided, and he is such a master of his work that he creates a first-rate impression without any effort or exaggeration. Mr Fred Eastman is quaint and original as Prince Plump, and sustains the part with a quiet ease that is very effective; and Mr Johnny Danvers' King Ivory is an excellent embodiment of the odd and "original" monarch. Mr Tom Woottwell plays Populo quite in the tone and spirit of the sketches of low life which have made his name and fame at the halls. In his song, "'Old yer row," he gives us a glimpse of the lawless, grimy, dryly humorous atmosphere of the London slum, his make-up greatly assisting his interpretation. Mr Hugh J. Ward contributes a realistic and subtle rendering of the rôle of Simeon, the gradual development of the ape into a man being shown in the most graphic way. His dancing is quaint and his gestures are extremely well studied. Mr Tom Hearn as Snale introduces his celebrated lazy "athlete" sketch, which is received with screams of merriment, the whole house going into fits of uproarious laughter. Mr James Welch, one of our most subtle and refined comedians, is a little out of his element in pantomime; but, like the clever craftsman that he is, he makes the best of the situation, and will doubtless, as he goes on, become more "subdued to what he works in." As it is, he is quite successful as Prince Patter, and his song goes very well. Miss Marie George is a very dainty and active representative of Cupid. She dances admirably, and she sings a song about the 'sum that comes out all right" very neatly, assisted by a chorus of short-skirted school girls, who are seated on a wall with their slates in their hands. Miss Queenie Leighton makes a superb Prince Peerless, and a ballad in praise of olden days is delivered by her with all possible distinctness and emphasis. She acts with debonair ease and spirit, and is altogether a very handsome and gallant lover. Miss Jeanie Macdonald's Princess Aurora has an ingenuous freshness and a bright, wholesome charm which are completely winsome and captivating; and Miss Ruth Lytton is excellent in every way as Aristo, Miss May Gurney making a very commendable and agreeable Delicia. Mrs Lane-Joynt is a magnificent and authoritative Hecate; and Messrs Queen and Le Brun as Bucephalus send the house into roars of laughter by their extraordinary evolutions. Minor rôles were ably interpreted by Mr Harry Kirk as Cairo, Mr William Morgan as a regisseur, and Gasco as Migonnet; and Mr Alec Davidson appears with credit as a Minister of State, the Grigolatis, as usual, doing their pretty aerial flights, and charming all by their daring, beauty, and grace.

Mr Ernest D'Auban's smart stage-management deserves notice and praise; and the arrangement of the ballets by Carlo Coppi and John D'Auban is admirable, the splendid dresses by Allas in scenes fifth and tenth being marvellously well made. The Tiller Troupe are a most prepossessing party of schoolgirls, and sing and dance well; and everyone concerned works his or her hardest to make this Drury-lane pantomime what it is—a stupendous success

"BABES IN THE WOOD" at the GRAND.

Pantomime, by Geoffrey Thorn, Produced on Boxing Day.

Robin Hood	Miss JULIA KENT
Little John	Miss RAY ROSENTHAL
Peter	Mr GEORGE MOZART
Roger	Mr TOM CRAVEN
Friar Tuck	Mr HAL COLLIER
Coppem and Cuffem	The Brothers CONQUEST
Pattoaby	Mr GEORGE ELLISTON
Bertie	Master DICK
Bella	Miss DOROTHY
Baron Badastheymakem	Mr JACK COLLINSON
The Baroness	Miss SELINA SEAFORTH
Dolly Day Dream	Miss MARGARET WILSON
Maid Marian	Miss TOTS DAVIS
Allan-a-Dale	Mr TOM PAYNE
Will Scarlet	Miss MAY HOWARD
Mat-o'-the-Mill	Miss K. FRIEDMAN
Ralph-o'-the-Pond	Miss M. TAYLOR
Jack-o'-the-Stocks	Miss R. WENTWORTH
Nat-o'-Halloden	Miss L. WARD
Queen of the Birds	Miss IVY DAWN
A Vivandiere	Miss JESSIE FLEET
Grasshopper	Miss LIGHTFOOT
Frog	Master GREEN
Rabbit	Miss FLEET
The Bull	Mr HORN
The Donkey	Mr BEAUWELL
Nobody	Mr GEORGE CONQUEST, Jun.
A Gipsy	Miss N. VIVIAN
A Dairymaid	Miss C. M. DULLEY
Cock Robin	Miss LYONS
Sparrow	Miss MERRY

In the preparation of the Christmas annual Mr George Davey has this season engaged the assistance of Mr Geoffrey Thorn, who, as the author of fifteen Islington pantomimes, should be able to supply the right article if anybody can. Having thus secured one of the essentials of success, a good book, Mr Davey has been lavish in the provision of scenery and dresses, and to crown all has obtained the services of a capital all-round company. The Islington house has always been famous for its pantomimes, and Mr Davey can honestly be congratulated on having so worthily upheld the traditions of the past. *The Babes in the Wood* is a Christmas piece full of fun and frolic that is bound to attract many thousands of North London theatregoers, and the laughable business so liberally introduced may be regarded as a certain cure for the depression which damp and foggy days, to say nothing of bad trade, are apt to cause. With the story of *The Babes in the Wood* is dexterously interwoven the legends of "Old Cock Robin and young Robin Hood." The curtain rises upon the Nottingham Hiring Fair, where crowds of serving men and maids come for hire, including a charming nursery governess, Maid Marian, with whom Robin Hood, attending the fair to spy upon his traitor and foe, the Sheriff of Nottingham, falls in love. The Sheriff, Baron Badastheymakem, who is the wicked guardian of the Babes, having by unwelcome advances to Marian provoked Robin, the latter defies him, and is not at all frightened of the two ruffians, Peter and Roger, the "Terrible Tikes," who arrive from a wrestling booth, but show anything but the prowess expected from gladiators. The Babes having wandered to the fair are about to be ill-treated by the Baron, when Robin, aided by Little John and Friar Tuck, protects them. The Baron orders the arrest of the outlaws, but they resist, and in a general melée escape, Maid Marian accepting service with the Baroness to protect the orphans. In scene two, The Baron's Nursery, the ruffians agree to abduct and murder the children, but they are prevented by the intervention of Coppem and Cuffem, two agile policemen whose leaps and flights recall the days of the Grecian Theatre, and the name they own. Next comes a very fine scene of Sherwood Forest, where Robin Hood and his "merrie men" in brilliant costumes, as well as a crowd of Zingari, indulge in pastimes, dances, and songs, and, later, waylay the wicked Sheriff, who is proceeding to London with the King's taxes. Badastheymakem having promised to pay ransom, and restore Robin to his rank as Earl of Huntingdon, is released, but when he reaches Nottingham immediately seizes Robin's ambassadors, and tries them in The Baron's Court House, an uproarious scene in which recent judicial blunders are not forgotten. Robin, warned of the Baron's treachery, releases the prisoners, and plots fresh vengeance against the Baron. The babes are abducted, and we find them in the Goblin Wood, asking mercy at the hands of the wrestlers, who, disagreeing on the subject of infanticide, decide the question in a single combat on startling principles, while the babes escape to wander aimlessly until they are seen by some humane Dicky Birds. The Home of the Dicky Birds is a brilliant scene, in which occurs a ballet of birds of brightest plumage. Meanwhile the Babes, after sleeping under the leaves, awake to find a fairy repast and a rescue party headed by Robin Hood and Nurse Marian. The bold outlaw plans an attack on the Baron's Castle, and we are introduced to the Baron's Bedchamber, an uproarious scene in which the Sheriff, having been out to a "teetotal banquet," has bad dreams. Henceforth, the Babes become the charge of Marian and Robin, whose nuptials are celebrated in a glittering scene of cut glass and electric lights with a procession illustrating "The Sports and Pastimes of Old England." Specialities are imported into this scene, and the costumes by Clarkson are very striking. Then comes the gorgeous transformation scene, where Mr Elliston as clown leads a capital harlequinade troupe through two scenes of hearty laughable fooling, specially prepared under Mr George Davey's direction for his juvenile patrons. In the Comical County School Scene the ruffians appear in the guise of "Pushive Resisters," and plenty of topical, local, and political allusions are introduced by the answers to questions asked of the scholars. The task of providing the fun is divided amongst several comedians, the most prominent being Mr George Mozart and Mr Tom Craven as the Baron's family ruffians, Peter and Roger. Mr Mozart's quaint humour finds full scope, and he works unceasingly in his successful efforts to evoke merriment. He also introduces his imitations of individuals who are seen at a race meeting, and his amusing performance is greatly appreciated. Mr Tom Craven supplies an admirable contrast as the more hardened of the two ruffians, and, indeed, he is responsible for a very clever character sketch. Possessing a keen sense of humour his part in the comic scenes is throughout an important one, and his performance contributes largely to the success of the production. His various disguises are ingenious and comical. In the pretty Woodland scene the burlesque fight between the villains who have fallen out concerning the fate of the babes is cleverly managed and causes a great deal of laughter, appealing particularly to the juvenile portion of the audience. Mr George Elliston as Potbaby portrays this rôle with broadly humorous effects, and Mr Jack Collinson as the Wicked Baron is also very amusing. The Brothers Conquest are seen to advantage as Coppem and Cuffem, special constables. Their trapdoor business is applauded, and their activity and alertness are conspicuous. Miss Julia Kent as Robin Hood displays all the spirit and vivacity which the part of the hero of the story demands. Her singing and dancing are quite up to the mark; and without being unduly obtrusive, she is always in the picture. Another praiseworthy performance is the Maid Marian of Miss Tots Davis, who quickly finds favour with the audience. Miss Maggie Stewart as Dolly, a sad flirt, looks very nice, and plays the part with appropriate coquettishness. Master Dick and Miss Dorothy as the Babes act with refinement and care, and the young lady sings in good style. Miss Selina Seaforth scores as the Baroness, and Miss Ivy Dawn as Queen of the Birds sings "Eyes of Blue" with charming effect. Good work is done by Mr Hal Collier as Friar Tuck, Mr Tom Payne as Allan-a-Dale, Miss Ray Rosenthal as Little John, and Miss May Howard as Will Scarlet. In the Grand Hall scene Mr Pat Doherty, "The Irish M.P.," gives a song and dance with much success, and other specialities are contributed by Devereux and his intelligent dogs, Miss Pauline Rivers, Miss Jessie Eplett, the St. Remo Girls, and the Elgin part-singers. Mr W. T. Gliddon has composed the music, which is bright and lively; and every credit is due to Mr Oswald Brand, who is responsible for the production of the pantomime.

"RED RIDING HOOD" at the CORONET.

Pantomime, Produced on Christmas Eve.

Squire Whiffin	Mr JOHNNY SCHOFIELD
Dame Hubbard	Mr J. J. DALLAS
Simple Simon	Mr MAITLAND MARLER
Peter Piper	Mr HARRY PHYDORA
Rupert of Hentzau	Little CLIFF
Lupus the Wolf	Mr ALBERT CHAPMAN
Gibby the Dog	Mr FRED ZEITZ
Boy Blue	Miss MADGE VINCENT
Miss Muffit	Miss VALLI VALLI
Jack	Miss LILIAN POLLARD
Jill	Miss DOT HARVEY
Fairy Glowworm	Miss ADA FRASER
Mdlle. Susanne	Miss HELEN ROSE
The Golliwogs	Sisters CRISP
Little Red Riding Hood	Little DORA FRASER

Mr Robert Arthur's first Coronet pantomime was presented on Christmas Eve with every symptom of success. It is on the popular subject of Red Riding Hood, and follows the old familiar lines pretty closely, though we learn that Mother Hubbard is Red Riding Hood's grandmother, and that she kept a school till hard times forced her to become a charwoman at the Hall. When it has run a short time and acquired the spontaneity and cohesion only acquired by practise and familiarity with their parts by the artistes concerned, it will make a bold bid for popularity with the best of 'em. No trouble or expense has been spared to make the pantomime a success, and while the children are well catered for with a coherent fairy story and lots of pretty ballets and idyllic scenes, the adults among the audience are well cared for in the shape of songs and dances and topical "wheezes" galore. The scene opens in the village of Poppyland, with a merry chorus and a maypole dance and the advent of Squire Whiffin, the bull bad villain of the piece. The village schoolhouse, with some typical fun and specialities, and a charming set entitled Poppyland Glen, bring us to the second act. This will doubtless be "cut" somewhat, as the five scenes therein set forth cause the pantomime to take somewhat more than its allotted span of time. These scenes consist of Tiffin Hall and Grounds, the Outside and Inside of Dame Hubbard's Cottage, a Country Lane, and the Grand Hall in Tiffin Manor. Squire Whiffin plots with Simple Simon and Peter Piper to abduct Little Red Riding Hood, who is the real heir to the estate which he has misappropriated to his own use, and the wolf, out of sheer wickedness of heart, is willing to assist his plan; but they are thwarted in their fell designs by the good fairy Glowworm. The pair of lovers, Boy Blue and Miss Muffit, and Jack and Jill and Dame Hubbard, fill in their customary places in the plot of the pantomime. The tasteful and elaborate scenery is by W. F. Robson and F. Lyneham, the grand transformation and Winter ballet at the end of act one being particularly pretty and Christmassy, and the Review of Nations is a grand and fitting finale. The music, which is melodiously composed of popular songs and tunes and original themes, arranged with skill and artistic perception, is by Jullien H. Wilson, and Mr H. A. Harrison, the musical director, does good service in the conductor's chair. The electrical effects are by David Marshall and the mechanical effects by C. Sharp, while Miss Maud O'Neil is the ballet mistress. Miss Madge Vincent as Boy Blue is a delightful principal boy, full of ease, spontaneity, grace, and refinement, and immensely popular withal. Her rendering of the inevitable "Bluebell" song evokes loud and sustained applause. "Sweet Marigold" is another pretty song that she sings, and in all her songs, duets, and "business" she proves herself smart, capable, and alert, as well as agreeable to the vision. Miss Valli Valli is a capital principal girl, and her song, "I've lost my Sammy," a clever "take off" on the perennial "Sammy" song, and her imitations of well-known vocalists—of which the best is undoubtedly her copy of Miss Connie Edise—are exceedingly well received, and evoke irresistible encores. Mr Johnny Schofield is always a host in himself, and, though suffering from a severe cold, he is in as humorous a vein as ever, and as Squire Wiffin he is seen quite at his best. His pantomimic action in the song about the unlucky "Jonah" man, "I went round the following morning," is excruciatingly funny, and his recitation, "Woman—the Contradiction," and the song and dance which follow are capitally rendered and delightfully droll. Mr J. J. Dallas is a dear old Dame as Mother Hubbard, and his naturally quaint manner and appearance in the part keep the house in a chronic state of merriment and good humour. His songs, "In his mind" and "However I survive it I don't know," are about the best of the interpolated comic songs, and are admirably rendered by Mr Dallas. Mr Harry Phydora as Peter Piper has two good songs, "The Battersea Brigade" and "The Latest London Betting," and acts with spirit and comic ability throughout, and he is ably assisted by Mr Maitland Marler as Simple Simon. Miss Lilian Pollard as Jack and Miss Dot Harvey as Jill enact their parts to the entire satisfaction of the audience, and sing and dance well; and Miss Helen Rose as Mdlle. Susanne has a chic café chantant ditty, "I'm not such a fool as zat." The Sisters Crisp as the Golliwogs create quite a sensation with their marvellous precocity and ability as exponents of calisthenic exercises. Little Cliff as Rupert of Hentzau scores throughout, and his song "The Drum-Major" and the clever dance which follows is one of the most successful items in the piece. Mr Albert Chapman is most imposing as Lupus, the wolf, and his song "The Wolf" is remarkably well sung. Miss Dora Fraser is a winsome and dainty little Red Riding Hood, and her song and dance, "Go away, Mr Crocodile," is pretty and effective. Mr Fred Zeitz is exceedingly good as the dog, though his make-up is not too realistic, and Miss Ada Fraser with a prettily rendered song, is all that could be desired as the Fairy Glowworm. Miss Dolly Bell and the Eight Rustic Dancers deserve special mention. The skipping-rope dance and the dance of Quakeresses are very pretty and well executed. Portraits of all the principals, and of Mr Robert Arthur, Mr J. D. Newton (the stage-manager), Mr Edward Lytton (the genial and popular manager), and Mr R. Kinney (the treasurer) appear in the book of words. *Red Riding Hood* is likely to collect a crowd, as Simple Simon would say, at the Coronet for some time to come.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE" at the CAMDEN.

Pantomime, Produced on Dec. 24.

Will Atkins	Mr ERNEST SHAND
Mrs Crusoe	Mr HERBERT DARNLEY
Cannibal King	Mr G. H. SNAZELLE
Friday	Mr BILLIE M'CLAIN
Captain and Mate	Messrs NASH and NOEL
Wee M'Gregor	Mr J. O. STEWART
Robinson Crusoe	Miss NELLIE COZENS
Polly Pansy	Miss GIPSY WOOLF
Thomas Truelove, Nelly Bly, Princess Viola	THREE SISTERS SPRIGHTLY
Microbe	Mr FRED LE FRANC
Monkey	Mr SANDY NELSON
Bedella	Miss VERA VALLI
Little Yellow Bird	Miss EVELINE VALLI

Mr Robert Arthur produced his first pantomime at this fine theatre on Christmas Eve, and scored a great success with it. The production is on a magnificent scale, there is a fine company of artistes engaged, and it is safe to predict that no merrier or brighter show will be found in the metropolis this season. *Robinson Crusoe* is the theme that is chosen this year, and the book is from the pen of Mr Frank Dix, who follows pretty closely the usual lines of the story. In the first scene we find ourselves at the Port of Hull, a very charming scene, and here we make the acquaintance of Robinson and Polly Pansy; also Will Atkins who is a company promoter, and who seeks to extract from Polly a chart of an island on which there is hidden treasure. We next find ourselves on board the Camden Belle. The scene is laid in the saloon, and then we are transported to the Waste of Waters—a very fine set. Mrs Crusoe and Will Atkins are washed up on a raft, which is fitted with a pillar-box and telephone and also a kitchen stove, all of which are productive of untold merriment. Our next move is to a spot on the coast, where we meet with the Cannibal King, who is passing judgment on Friday. Friday is given one hour's start, and, if he gets clear away, he is to be free, otherwise death is to be the penalty. In the next scene, which is laid on the Island of the Golden Palms, we witness Robinson Crusoe's meeting with Friday. Here we have a fine ballet introduced, in which the Royal Amazon Troupe of dancers give a clever display of their art. A distinctly charming feature of this scene is the Flying Ballet, with which the first part is brought to a conclusion, the electric effects being exceedingly pretty. The opening scene of the second part is laid outside Crusoe's Hut, and after much fun and several songs we see Crusoe attacked by the cannibals. Friday is at hand, and by singing the inevitable "Bill Bailey" he causes the foe to capitulate. The Interior of the Hut is the next scene of importance, and here Crusoe himself finds the hidden treasure. He purchases the island from the King, and builds himself a magnificent palace, which we see pictured in the final scene. In this scene is introduced another ballet, which proves to be a veritable feast of colour. The chief honours undoubtedly fall to Mr Ernest Shand, who is already well known here, and is a prime favourite. As Will Atkins he is admirable, and his endless flow of gags and topical references is most effective. His song, "The Waiter," with all its business, caught on immediately, while his skit on "Palmistry," in which he appears as Professor Beiro, caused shouts of laughter. In fact, whenever Mr Shand was on the stage the house was in fine spirits, for his unflagging energy is quite invigorating. Another good comedian is found in Mr Herbert Darnley, who makes a capital Mrs Crusoe, and takes full advantage of every opportunity to amuse. He joins Mr Shand in several comical bits of business, notably that of the Cigar Shop. It is intensely humorous, and is certainly one of the hits of the pantomime. A dashing and vivacious Crusoe is found in Miss Nellie Cozens, who is admirably suited to the part. Miss Cozens has some excellent numbers, notably "Bluebell," which she scores heavily with early in the performance. "Farewell, my Little Yo-San," is another song which soon caught the fancy of the audience, while "Down at the Old Bull and Bush" was taken up by the "gods," and was a great hit. Crusoe's ladylove, Polly Pansy, is charmingly embodied by Miss Gipsy Woolf, a most attractive young lady, who made a hit with her various songs, and she has a good many of them. Her ditty, "Arizona," with its chorus and cinématographic effects, was loudly applauded. Another pretty song is "Oowana," and it is bound to catch on here. Miss Woolf wears some of the prettiest dresses conceivable, the one worn in the last scene being especially dainty. The Three Sisters Sprightly appear as Tommy Truelove, Nellie Bly, and Princess Viola, and they introduce their screamingly funny skit, "The Drama Out of Date," which causes roars of laughter. Two of these talented young ladies also have a very pretty song and dance, "Don't come running after me." It is a decidedly fetching number. As the Captain and the Mate Messrs Nash and Noel work hard to amuse, and are entirely successful in their efforts. Their catch-phrase, "Have you seen Sarah?" will, undoubtedly, soon be heard all over North London. That well-known comedian and raconteur, Mr G. H. Snazelle, is capital as the Cannibal King. Mr J. O. Stewart appears as the Wee M'Gregor, and is the cause of much hilarity. Messrs F. Le Franc and Sandy Nelson amuse the youngsters very much by their impersonations of the dog and the monkey. It is a pity that they have not more to do, for their performance is decidedly clever. Mr Billy M'Clain scores heavily as Friday; while the Misses Vera and Eveline Valli contribute neatly executed banjo solos and dance well. The augmented orchestra deserve every praise for their meritorious work, and under Mr G. F. Ford's direction they play admirably. The music has been arranged by Messrs J. H. Wilson and Clarence Corri. Mr Herbert Darnley is to be highly complimented on the whole production, which he stage-manages with such skill. The chorus, too, work with great zeal throughout, and their efforts call for the highest praise. Mr Robert Arthur has supervised the production, and he has every reason to be proud of his efforts, for this pantomime is and will be a great success, and Mr Leslie Hughes, the indefatigable and ever-courteous business-manager here, should be busy for many weeks to come endeavouring to find room for all the would-be patrons.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" at the PAVILION.

Pantomime, Produced on Boxing Day.

Alderman Fitzwarren	Mr JULES JORDAN
Alice	Miss ELLA SHIELDS
Dick Whittington	Mdlle. DU ROCHE
Idle Jack	Mr W. HARVEY
Sunny Jim, Bill Bailey	The Brothers LORENZO
Bedella	Mr GEORGE FREY
Thomas, the Cat	Mr A. BRETON
Captain Kettle	Mr FREDERICK MONTI
Saucy Sam	Miss KITTY CARDIGAN
Sultan of Morocco	Miss FLORENCE ST. OMER
Trixie	Miss FLORRIE AUSTIN
Jojo and Jujube	Sisters BELROSE
Lieutenant Bowline, Polly	Sisters PHILLIPS
Lord Dawdler	Miss MAY HACKNEY
Marquis of Fandanglesey	Miss MAUD LAVERNE
Fairy Queen	Miss SYBIL MONTAGUE
Gossamer	Miss ETHEL LA ROSE
King Rat	Mr LUKE DAWES

The purpose of pantomime is happily fulfilled at the Pavilion, where the Bank Holiday audience had such a surfeit of fun that before the evening had well ended the shouts of merriment languished from sheer fatigue. Scenic display is nevertheless by no means neglected in the pantomime presented by Mr Frank Macnaghten, and features of novel interest occur in every set. Convention has been thrown to the winds in the case of Alderman Fitzwarren, who, however depraved, has in all ages been regarded as a native of the soil; but he now figures as a Jewish merchant, with a stock of Yiddish colloquialisms, which he exchanges with his compatriot Idle Jack. His emporium in Cheapside is the scene of the most hilarious fun, in which most of the characters participate. It is here that Dick Whittington's love for Alice, the Alderman's daughter—begun in the first scene, Old London en fête—is artfully revealed by the Cook, who furthermore places stolen gold in the lad's pocket, with the result that he is discharged with ignominy. Full opportunity is taken of the scene of Highgate Hill—a fine set—for a maypole dance and a chorus of waggoners, and for the introduction of a beautiful Bell chorus while Dick is asleep with the faithful cat by his side. Obeying the behest of the bells, Jack returns to London, where he is engaged by Captain Kettle for the Saucy Frying Pan, which is about to take a voyage. Upon the deck of this vessel the fun travels apace, for the Alderman and the rest of the characters are on various pretexts on board, a mock bombardment and a fearsome sea-serpent figuring in the comic display. The ship is wrecked, and Jack and his cat are subsequently discovered off the coast of Morocco, on a raft—a fine piece of scenic construction and painting. A quick change is made to The Palm Grove of the Sultan's Palace, wherein an Oriental dance is given by Lottie Stone's troupe of dancers, while in the "A-Ba-Be" Picture Postcards a series of tableaux vivants is presented within a realistic framework. The figures are excellently posed, and the colouring of the background is exquisite. Here also a fight takes place between the Cat and King Rat, some clever trap work being executed. King Rat is eventually disposed of, and Dick, loaded with riches, returns to his native land with Alice, the concluding scene of Whittington's Garden Party being selected for the revels. The pantomime is conducted smartly along by a party of efficient performers, who each in their degree are responsible for its success. A Dick Whittington gallant and bold is found in Mdlle. Du Roche, who has a pleasingly modulated voice and acts and sings with equal facility. As Alice Miss Ella Shields is the personification of dainty grace in her acting, while her deep contralto voice gives effect to many pretty songs, of which "By the light of the moon" is an excellent example. The rôle of Alderman Fitzwarren as played by Mr Jules Jordan is responsible for the major portion of the merriment. His jests in Yiddish may be a little beyond the conception of the Philistine, but they were evidently quite appreciable by the residents of a district in which the Jewish race is well represented. Hearty laughter results from the stolid demeanour with which he utters the grossest malformations of the King's English, and the opening of his mouth is in itself sufficient to cause a roar. Scarcely second in effect is the Idle Jack of Mr W. Harvey, who enters thoroughly into the humour of the part, the fun made by the pair out of the reading of a letter and their eccentric dancing being wildly cheered. The Brothers Lorenzo as Sunny Jim and Bill Bailey do equal service in the cause of fun, and as Bedella, the cook, Mr George Spry is irresistibly comic. The Fairy Queen has a handsome exponent in Miss Sybil Montague, who tastefully sings "Somebody's waiting for me;" and a regal Sultan of Morocco is made by Miss Florence St. Omer. The Sisters Phillips are suitably placed as Lieutenant Bowline and Polly; Miss Florrie Austin has a congenial part in that of Trixie; and the Sisters Belrose indulge in a lively song and dance as the Sultan's attendants. A mainstay of the performance is the Cat, who in the hands as well as the feet of Mr A. Breton becomes a marvel of feline drollery. Mr Luke Dawes is also to be commended as King Rat; and the part of Captain Kettle is rendered with due fire and fervency by Mr Frederick Monti, who sang a topical song with such spirit and feeling as to win many recalls. A merry conclusion is assured by the harlequinade, in which the Clown is Mr Arthur Breton; Pantaloon, Mr George Wayne; Policeman, Mr Arthur Haines; Columbine, Miss Lovett; Harlequin, Mr Luke Dawes; Masher, Mr James Russell; and Landlady, Miss Trixie Cottrell. The pantomime, which is produced by Mr Frederick Baugh, is brimful of fun and variety, and is one of the best the Pavilion stage has seen.

"BABES IN THE WOOD" at the KING'S, HAMMERSMITH

Pantomime, by J. B. Mulholland, Produced on Boxing Day.

Boy Blue	Miss ISA BOWMAN
Red Riding Hood	Miss EMPSIE BOWMAN
The Baron	Mr ARTHUR LACEBY
Friar Tuck	Mr JOSEPH ROWLAND
Johnny Stout	Mr BENNETT
Johnny Green	Mr MARTELL
Dame Durden	Mr RUSSELL WALLETT
Silly Billy Bailey	Mr ARTHUR BOYNE
Wehr Wolf	Mr FRED LEOVILLE
Witch of the Wood	Mr TOM WARREN
Jack	Miss ELEANOR VALE
Jill	Miss CHUM NICOL
Maid Marion	Miss HILDA ANTONY
Robin Hood	Miss GWLADYS ELVEY
Tommy Tucker	Miss J. BERNARD
Margery Daw	Miss POOLE
The Village Blacksmith	Mr PAUL RUSSELL
A Gipsy	Miss ENID ERROL
Little Yo San	Miss GLADYS MARIAN
The Old Dun Cow	Mr JACQUES MORAND
The Landlady	Miss CONSTANCE STEPHEN
Little John	Miss MAUD DUVAL
Will Scarlett	Miss INA ALSTON

Mr Mulholland has that larger sympathy with boys and girls that must always be such a valuable quality in the composition of a Christmas entertainment. The softer sex of the nursery have always loved Red Riding Hood, and to the "human boy," as Mr Chadband has been pleased to call him, no hero of romance appeals with greater force than Robin Hood. The freedom from restraint, the superiority to all rule, the merry life, the glorious forest fare — to put it into one phrase, the socialism of the thicket — all appeal to the love of chivalry and hatred of tyranny that are implanted in every youthful breast. It was, therefore, a happy thought of Mr Mulholland's to discover that the bold outlaw of Sherwood Forest, the Locksley of "Ivanhoe," is the brother of the little lady of the red cloak. By doing this the necessary variety is introduced into a story that is rather circumscribed in plot; and it is observable that no disturbance of the matrimonial tradition that gives Maid Marian to the irresistible protagonist of the glade has been allowed, for Robin is accompanied by Maid Marian, and Boy Blue's proposal for the hand of Red Riding Hood makes the second pair of lovers—a traditional necessity for pantomime. The wicked baron, whose enormities are readily forgiven, casts the eye of a connoisseur over Maid Marian and tries to force her to wed him. To do this he metaphorically "draws the long bow," a practice that serves him but ill at the conclusion, because Robin, with blunt precision, goes straight to the mark. He also breathes out threatenings and slaughter against Red Riding Hood, and calls to his aid the witch of the wood. Dame Durden is a very artful old girl who actually inveigles the wicked peer into a proposal. In the village of Sleepy Dale in the first act we are introduced to the principal characters. It is a pretty glade this bit of woodland, and quite worthy of its place in a pantomime that is characterised by good taste, chaste dressing, and hearty fun. Boisterous fooling commences early in a droll picnic, which is shared by Dame Durden, Johnny Stout, Johnny Green, and others in the cast; and though there is momentary trepidation at the fate of Red Riding Hood, who is captured by the witch and carried off, there is much consolation for the little ones when they find that her new dwelling place is an enchanted castle in Toyland—a veritable realm of delight, and one that will be a source of

continual joy to the children of Hammersmith and Kensington for weeks to come. The darling of the hood is discovered among a number of dolls, and the assemblage naturally gives way to the irresistible impulse to dance, and an excellent ballet results. Little boys are transformed into soldiers and little girls into dancing dolls. Fairy butterflies too flit about the scene, which is one of considerable animation and beauty. In Dame Durden's school there is more excellent fooling, and the story ends up in quite the legitimate way. But we must not forget the glorious spectacle of the Palace, which is a pendant that sets one wondering at the inventive fancy of the scene-painter, so elaborately brilliant is it in colouring and design. Miss Empsie Bowman is an ideal representative of Red Riding Hood, and is as dainty a sprite as ever was seen in a Christmas piece. Her acting, too, is always bright and cheery, and there is just a pretty touch of pathos in her delineation which is very welcome. Miss Isa Bowman, whose favouritism in Hammersmith is founded on her excellent work as Aladdin in last year's annual, makes an ideal hero of Boy Blue, and has plenty of opportunities for displaying her ability. Miss Isa is far too conscientious an actress to slur over the lines of her libretto; but what is more surprising than her excellent acting is her capital dancing and singing. She has a most melodious number in "The Cherokee Girl," which should become one of the hits of the annual, and she joins her sister in a pretty dust, "Stars are beaming." A generous meed of praise must be accorded to Messrs Bennett and Martell for their eccentricities in the parts of Johnny Stout and Johnny Green. The pair are among the best of our English acrobats; but they are something more than this. They have a fine imagination for comic business, and are always alive to the necessity of procuring laughter; and it is due to them to say that they do this without the slightest taint of vulgarity. Miss Hilda Antony, is a fascinating Maid Marian, and a personable and finely set-up representative of Robin Hood is found in Miss Gwladys Elvey, who sings Miss Millie Lindon's song, "Daughters of Eve," with much spirit and entrain. Mr Russell Wallett makes an emphatic hit by his expressive comedy as Dame Durden, and his success is thoroughly deserved, as his gags are never vulgar and have a spontaneity about them that is a passport to the favour of the audience. Mr Wallett's best testimonial is the laughter of the boys and girls, which is continuous whenever he occupies the stage. His song, "Oh, what a happy land is England!" one of the best of the numbers, is enthusiastically encored. Mr Arthur Laceby is quietly amusing as the Baron—a parlous rogue with a genial countenance; Mr Arthur Boyne's buoyant style as Silly Billy Bailey is of considerable service in the school-room scene. Mr Tom Warren is active in his malevolence as the witch of the wood; and Mr Joseph Rowland is an unctuous and genial Friar Tuck. Miss Enid Errol is agreeably prominent as a dancer, and shares the success of a *ballet d'action*, The Language of Flowers, with the Misses Isa and Empsie Bowman; and the Imperial Troupe show to advantage in the ballets and dances arranged by Miss Ina Alston, who also plays the part of Will Scarlet, in which she makes the most of her slight opportunities. The scenery, to which we have already referred, is from the artistic brush of Mr F. L. Schmitz; the dresses are by Alias and Co. and Mrs Whittaker and assistants; and the music has been composed, selected, and arranged by Messrs Edmond Rickett, C. E. Pritchard, and Fritz B. Hart. The last named gentleman conducts the orchestra, and does wonders in putting life into the concerted numbers. We should mention that Mr C. E. Pritchard has written the special music for the *ballet d'action* to which we have referred. In the harlequinade, which was not presented on the afternoon of our visit, we find the names of Mr Fred Leoville as clown, Mr Fisher as pantaloon, Miss F. Fly as harlequina. Miss Eleanor Vale as columbine dances delightfully, besides doubling the rôle cleverly with that of Jack. The singing of the Royal Welsh Singers is most acceptable in glees. Mr J. B. Mulholland has given his patrons a pantomime which entertains the children, which is the real *raison d'être* of such entertainments.

"THE BABES IN THE WOOD" at the ROYAL WEST LONDON.

Pantomime, produced on Boxing Day.

Robin Hood	Miss MAUDE NELSON
Maid Marian	Miss NITA CLAVERING
Will Scarlet	Miss VIOLET POOLE
Molly Mayflower	Miss VINNIE EDMUNDS
Dottie Hubbard	Miss POLLIE ALBERT
Amelia	Miss MARIE AULT
Daisy Dimple	Miss JENNIE LUCAS
Portia	Miss CECILE CLARE
Arthur	Miss BLANCHE ALBERT
Grand Duke Fishinrodan-lineski	Mr ROY BYFORD
Dame Hubbard	Mr LEO MAIN
Dandy Dick	Mr HORACE SADE
P.C. Al	Mr EUGENE COBRA
William Foster	Mr WM. WRIGHT
Horatio	Mr HARRY BARFORD
Augustus Dab	Mr JAMES ALBERT
Sammy Smut	Mr EDMUND EDMUNDS

It has been many years since such hearty laughter has been heard between the historic walls of this Marylebone playhouse. In Mr W. Scott Phippa's version of the eminently suitable pantomime story "The Babes in the Wood" Mr William Bailey has indeed secured a book of the old-fashioned sort. It is smartly written, brimming over with quips and cranks, and crammed with popular songs and lively dances. The pantomime is written in two acts, with four scenes in the first and five in the last, followed by a grand transformation scene entitled The Dazzling Realms of Refulgent Light. In scene one the curtain rises on the Village of Blankton, in which a certain Russian nobleman, the Grand Duke Fishinrodanlineski, is appointed to act as guardian to his brothers' two children, Portia and Arthur. Being in an impecunious state, the Squire, of course, plots to remove the two innocent babes who stand between him and wealth. Dame Hubbard is sent by the Squire to fetch the children. At this point enter the two ruffians, Augustus Dab and Sammy Smut. Then the fun becomes fast and furious, and Will Scarlet, Maid Marion, and Robin Hood arrive in time to overhear the scheme hatched by the Squire and the two villains to kidnap the babes. In this scene also appear Horatio, the page; Amelia, the slavey; and Molly Mayflower. Scene three is the Village Schoolroom. Augustus Dab, disguised as an examiner, and Sammy Smut, as a scholar, seize the babes at the first opportunity and hastily depart, much to the chagrin of Robin Hood, who arrives too late to save them. In scene four, The Squire's Castle, much amusement is caused by the two robbers arriving on a motor-car that breaks down. The children are given into the charge of one of the Squire's servants and taken away. Robin Hood, who is accompanied by his merry men, demands their instant release and that of Maid Marion, who is also a prisoner. On the Squire refusing, a battle royal is waged between the two opposing forces, and the castle is eventually stormed and Maid Marion rescued, but the two children cannot be found. After the interval the curtain rises on scene one of the second act, Dame Hubbard's Cottage. A comic love scene between Horatio and Amelia causes much hearty laughter. Then enter the two villains, who abduct Molly Mayflower in mistake for Maid Marion. Scene two, By the River, introduces us to the Babes, who have lost their way, after escaping from the clutches of their wicked uncle. The two ruffians find them, and promise to take them home. Scene three, A Glade in Sherwood Forest, is an extremely pretty set. The robbers enter with the Babes, and Sammy repents. During a most realistic quarrel the children manage to escape, only to fall asleep and be found later on by Robin Hood and Maid Marion. In scene four, The Squire's Picture Gallery, opportunity is found to introduce the "Haunted Scene" act by the Albert and Edmunds Troupe. Then follows scene five, The Squire's Grand Ball-room, where the story is brought to a happy conclusion. Two harder workers than Mr James Albert and Mr Edmund Edmunds it would be impossible to find. Their vitality and energy never flag, and in their Elopement scene and in the fight in the forest they gave the Maryleboners of their very best, and triumphed accordingly. Mr Roy Byford scored as the Wicked Uncle, and Mr Leo Main may be complimented on the absence of the slightest touch of vulgarity in his amusing impersonation of the dame. Very droll was Mr Horace Sade as Dandy Dick; Mr William Wright was genuinely funny as William Foster; and Mr Eugene Cobra displayed energy as the Policeman. Mr Harry Barford fairly revelled in his part, and he greatly enhanced his already marked popularity at this house. Miss Maude Nelson is one of the best principal boys seen here for years. Full of life and go, she became first favourite with the boys in no time by reason of her archness and air of abandon. All her songs were sung in expressive style, and "The Bull and Bush" ditty proved a great hit. Winsome Miss Nita Clavering is as dainty a Maid Marion as anyone could wish to see, and her graceful appearance and excellent singing secured her many enthusiastic admirers. Miss Violet Poole looked bonny and gallant as Will Scarlet, and played with a dashing air. Miss Vinnie Edmunds was delightfully natural as Molly. Miss Jennie Lucas was a pretty and graceful Daisy Dimple. Miss Pollie Albert as Dottie Hubband deserves every praise; and Miss Marie Ault as Amelia was eccentricity itself, both in manner and make-up. Those important characters the Babes were in good hands, Miss Cecile Clare being a supplicating, pathetic little Portia, and Miss Blanche Albert a bold, manly Arthur. In the harlequinade Mr Leo Main was clown, Mr E. Cobra pantaloon, Mr Horace Sade harlequin, and Miss Maggie Kelsey the light-footed Columbine. Sinclair's Excelsior Eight Dancers tripped several lively measures; and the orchestra, under the able direction of Mr Percy Kurutz, worked hard.

"CINDERELLA" at the ALEXANDRA.

Pantomime, by Walter Summers,
Produced on Boxing Day.

Prince Alexis	Miss WINIFRED HARE
Dandini	Miss LILIAN LEA
The Duke of Taxes	Miss AMY LORISSON
Amorella	Mr FRED WINN
Arabella	Mr AUSTIN LENTON
Sally Whittle	Miss MURIEL PALMER
Pepper	Mr WILLIAM GOURLAY
Reginald the Fearless / Bill the Bounder	Messrs FLETCH and PALMER
James Henry	Mr FRED WHITTAKER
Sarah Jenkins	Master WALTERS
Baron M'Tavish	Mr NEIL KENYON
Dolly	Little MAUDIE FRANCIS
Molly	Little JENNIE HARTLEY
The Witch	Mr ROBERT K. WOODVILLE
Flora	Miss RUBY POND
Terpsichore	Miss ALMA MARY
Santa Claus	Mr ARTHUR DAMER
Bob	Mr HERBERT RAVENSBURG
Mr M'Moses	Mr LAWRENCE TURNEY
Lady Molly	Miss RITA RAVENSBURG
Master of the Hunt	Miss KATE LEWIS
Mark	Mr HARRY POMERS
Master of Ceremonies	Mr HELIER LE MAISTRE
Cinderella	Miss GODWYNNE EARLE

Mr F. W. Purcell, in placing his eighth annual pantomime before the patrons of that handsome home of entertainment, the Alexandra Theatre, Stoke Newington, has followed the safe and commendable principle that has has guided him from the first. He had provided an entertainment containing a wealth of genuine and hearty fun. Mr Purcell has always taken care that the Christmas entertainment here should be acceptable to all tastes, while not in the least degree lacking in merriment, and thereby catering for the more than ever varied nature of an audience at a period when, for the sake of renewing a reaquaintance with King Pantomime, very many visit a theatre who do not do so at any other time of the year. The pantomime of *Cinderella* as presented here by arrangement with Mr Fred Karno is written and produced by Mr Walter Summers. A good deal of sprightly music has been composed and arranged by Mr Clement Locknane, musical director. Music is a feature of the production. Those who take part in the ballet join in the singing, so that altogether the chorus numbers some 200 voices, which have evidently been well trained. The old story of "Cinderella" is sufficiently redressed to make it fit in with present-day notions, and it is no exaggeration to say that the audience follow the adventures of the various characters with evident interest. The first scene is the exterior of Harding Up Hall, the residence of the impecunious Baron M'Tavish. The Baron, we learn, is away from home. It is a fine hunting morning. The sun is shining brilliantly, and the bright light imparts the necessary glow and glitter to the costumes of the swell company, who, assembled for the chase, are singing a rousing chorus as the curtain rises. Sally, the Baron's general, enters from the hall, and her businesslike appearance with bucket and brush is so little appreciated by the gay crowd that they prepare to depart. By this time a strange object has been carried in. Attired in ragged black trousers and frock coat and crowned with a battered felt hat it looks what it is supposed to be—a veritable scarecrow, but, after much mysterious business it is found to be alive, and subsequently takes a prominent part in the story as Pepper—an individual who informs the company that he was once known as "handsome Pepper, the hottest thing in town." Poor Pepper, when Cinderella appears on the scene, is retained until the Baron arrives, when, having been treated to a wash and brush-up at the hands of the ladies, he is duly installed as a man-servant, and, prompted by love, remains Cinderella's faithful protector to the end. He has no chance of winning "Cinders," as she is familiarly called, for it is a case of love at first sight between her and Prince Alexis, who arrives with certain attendants. According to old reading of the story the Prince does not let his newly found love know at once the real dignity of his station, arranging that his valet shall play the royal part. The Baron arriving on the scene is invited, together with his family, to attend the Prince's ball. There is the customary bickering with the elder sisters and their determination that Cinderella shall not be present at the festivity. Good fortune, however, in the shape of a witch, who arrives during a subsequent scene, favours Cinderella, for a crowd of thoughtless young people wishing to throw the old woman into a pond, Cinderella and Pepper succeed in rescuing her, with the satisfactory result that when, afterwards, while Cinderella is regretting, in the solitude of the kitchen, her inability to accompany her father and sisters to the ball, the witch, according to tradition, provides her with all the necessary equipment. Arrived at the Palace, Cinderella, in due course, having to run away on the stroke of twelve, leaves one of her crystal slippers behind, and being subsequently able to fit it on, the Prince fulfils his promise to make her his bride, and her prospects are then at their zenith. There is much in the production that is pleasing to the eye. The scenery by Messrs Hart, Ryan, Lee, and Hall must be specially mentioned, and also the beautiful costumes, designed by Howell Russell and Mons. Edell, and executed by Alias and Miss Marie Cawdery; while, of course, the dances, as arranged by Miss Dollie Bell, add to the general fascination. Then there is George Kirby's wonderful flying ballet, during which two of the ladies float gracefully from the stage far above the heads of occupants of stalls and pit and return to their places, "settling down" as lightly as birds upon the wing. This feat is performed more than once, to the intense interest and delight of the onlookers. There is also something of the flying ballet element about the angel that visits Cinderella and the two little girls in the Baron's Kitchen, and leaves toys and other joys for the little creatures who have been overlooked by Santa Claus. Some incidental fun is provided by the Canadian Comedy Four, who appear as Ye Olde Christmas Waites. Some graceful dancing of a special character by Miss Alma Mary and the Olive Trio is thoroughly to the taste of the audience. All possible praise is due to individual members of the large company appearing in the pantomime, for they seem to vie with each other to impart the necessary amount of go to the performance. Miss Winifred Hare as Prince Alexis succeeds in getting on the best of terms with the audience, and her singing is certainly most pleasing. She has a clear voice and knows how to use it. Miss Lilian Lea as Dandini, the Prince's valet, is pleasantly perky, and she sings "The smartest boy in town" in a vivacious style which quite takes the fancy. Miss Ruby Pond as Flora, the goddess of flowers, also sings with taste. Miss Godwynne Earle in the title-rôle of Cinderella is remarkably well-suited to the part. She looks pretty even in her kitchen garb and handsome in the costly dresses worn at other times. She dances neatly, and her presence generally is pleasing. Mr Fred Winn and Mr Austin Lenton as the Baron's eldest daughters introduce a good deal of byplay which is funny, and their song, in reference to their matrimonial prospects, "It's going to come off in the morning" takes well. Miss Muriel Palmer is the very soul of mirth and activity as the Baron's domestic, Sally Whittle. Maudie Francis sings a song about a lost doll, which greatly interests the juveniles and secures the admiration of the adults. Mr Neil Kenyon is a decided success as Baron M'Tavish. His sentences are full of big words, which he rolls off his tongue with an ease creditable alike to his memory and fluency of language, and his little anecdotes, mainly in support of his constant assertion that he is real Scotch, seem to tickle the fancy of the male adults. A feature of the performance is the excellent representation of the part of Pepper by Mr William Gourlay. Entering first as a scarecrow, his final appearance is in the gorgeous garb of a glorified flunkey, and his versatility of style is in keeping with his fluctuating attire, while throughout he is an almost ceaseless source of amusement. His topical song, in which he refers to the unemployed, the aliens, and the war, is well received. An amusing couple are Messrs Fletch and Palmer as Reginald Fearless and Bill the Bounder, the broker's men in possession at Harding Up Hall. As a specimen of strong contrasts they are striking characters. Mr Fred Whittaker as the Baron's Cat secures a large share of well-deserved applause. Mr Tom Blacklock is stage-manager, and Mr H. Ravensburg is his assistant.

"ALADDIN" at the MARLBOROUGH.

Pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood.
Produced on Boxing Day.

Aladdin	Miss SIMETA MARSDEN
Princess Badroulbador	Miss NANCY LANGTREE
Cheekee	Miss ELSIE ROBY
Pekoe	Miss VERA MARSHALL
Nicee	Miss LIZZIE DANIELS
Genii of the Ring	Miss MAISIE CRICHTON
Genii of the Lamp	Miss AUBREY ASHTON
Mrs Twankey	Mr GEORGE BROOKS
Chew Chew / Chop Chop	Messrs RICH and RICH
Abanazar	Mr HARRY TATE
Lip Tung Tee	Mr W. FULLBROOK
Emperor of China	Mr J. W. WILKINSON
Abdallah	Miss NELLIE TOWNSEND
Ali	Miss MAUD TURESKI
Tung Tee	Miss ANNIE BARLETT
Oongou	Miss G. CASTLETON
Souchong	Miss J. FORD
Hafix	Miss FLORRIE NORTHMORE
Toofa	Miss MINNIE ST. LEDGER
Salini	Miss LILLIE LINDSAY
Kop-drop	Miss LUCILLE THOMAS
Hyson	Miss GRACE SUMMERS
Long Tung Tee	Miss KATE GRENFELL
Omacio	Miss DOROTHY FOSTER

The pantomime at the Marlborough Theatre this year is a model of all that an "annual" should be. What pleased us most at the performance on Boxing Day was the admirable manner in which *Aladdin* had been rehearsed. From the smoothness and completeness of the presentation, one might have imagined that it had been played for weeks. Every artist had his or her lines "letter-perfect," every bit of business was done with the confidence and accuracy which are the result of practice, and all the mechanical effects worked wonderfully well. In each department *Aladdin* is excellent. Mr Hickory Wood's book is just what is required—bright, smart, and not over-loaded with dialogue; the mounting is pretty without being burdensome; and the stage is frequently filled by very pretty choristers in the daintiest dresses.

Little chance for entire novelty of treatment is given to the librettist of a pantomime. There must needs be the same story, the telling of which is divided into a number of scenes, most of which are "traditional." The modern Christmas annual resolves itself chiefly into a question of artists and general arrangement, and in these two particulars *Aladdin* at the Marlborough is "immense." The comedians are capital. Mr Harry Tate, one of our most artistic humourists, has a great deal to do and does it all extremely well. The astute Abanazar is supposed to assume a series of disguises—a fact which finds excuse for Mr Tate's appearance as Mr R. G. Knowles, Mr Harry Lauder, and other shining lights of the variety world. To see Mr Tate playing a game of hookey, assisted (?) by a stolid and unsympathetic "caddie," is to be irresistibly moved to laughter; and his "motor-car" business is as comically absurd as of old. What we particularly admire in this is his assumption of the aristocratic tone and manner, and the absolute unconsciousness of his acting—for acting it is, and of a high comedy class. Mr Tate's imitation of Mr Harry Lauder singing "Stop yer ticklin', Jock!" is most artistic, and his mimicry of Mr R. G. Knowles, applied to the character of the Grand Vizier, is productive of the most diverting results. Screams of laughter are evoked by the "funniments" of Rich and Rich, who as the two Policemen introduce a plentiful amount of practical drollery and quaint "quips and cranks," their topical duet taking extremely well; and Mr W. Fullbrook as Lip Tung Tee has his full share of merriment-creating episodes. Mr J. W. Wilkinson does well as the Emperor of China, and Mr George Brooks's Widow Twankey is "screamingly" funny. He plays the part in a demure and natural manner, and his appearance in a low-necked evening-dress is exquisite. He dances in first-rate style, and altogether scores one of the successes of the production. Miss Simeta Marsden is a handsome and dashing Aladdin. She has a good voice and style, and sings "Blue-Bell" in a manner which brings down the house. Miss Nancy Langtyre is a charming Princess Badrouldbadour, and Miss Vera Marshall makes a pleasing Pekoe. Miss Lizzie Daniels being clever and bright as Nicee and singing agreeably. Miss Maisie Crichton is a delightful representative of the Genii of the Ring, and the part of the Genii of the Lamp has an agreeable exponent in Miss Aubrey Ashton. The general production, under the direction of Mr J. F. Elliston, can hardly be over-praised. Messrs T. F. Dunn, T. E. Ryan, Stanley Schuler, and James A. Hicks have painted some artistic and appropriate "sets;" and the very becoming costumes have been cleverly designed by Messrs Howell Russell and Robert Crafter. An important item is a scene in a restaurant in the second part of the pantomime. In this, Messrs Rich and Rich, Mr Brooks, and Mr Tate have full scope for their respective gifts, and take liberal advantage of their "chances." The scene is received with uproarious laughter; and, after it, Charlene and Charlene appear. The gentleman juggles adroitly, especially with a hat, a fiddle, and a bow, and the lady wields the xylophone hammers with a fury and facility which bring down the house in wild excitement. Miss Lottie Stone has arranged the dances with her usual skill; and Mr Ian Lloyd-Mackenzie's stage-management is as excellent as is Mr William Closs's composition and arrangement of the music. *Aladdin* has been received with rapturous plaudits; indeed, we have seldom seen a brighter, smarter, or better rehearsed "annual." It should certainly have a very prosperous run at Mr F. W. Purcell's pretty playhouse.

"PUSS IN BOOTS" at the ELEPHANT.

Pantomime, by Ernest Norris,
Produced on Christmas Eve.

Marmaduke the Twentieth	Mr HARKER NICHOLLS
Caroline	Mr ARTHUR ROYCE
Princess Pansy	Miss AGNES PAULTON
The Lord Chamberlain	Miss GABRIELLE ROMERO
Gilbert	Miss KITTY TIMS
Blinky Bill	Mr JO MONKHOUSE
Jaunty Joe	Mr HARRY PAULTON, Jun.
Baron Blackfriars	Mdlle. DORA
Little Mary	Miss CONSTANCE CALVERT
The Ogre	Mr WILLIAM STEVENS
Slyboots	Mr ARTHUR WHITE
Demon Lawyer	Mr DUDLEY HAYES
Cupid	Miss GLADYS WITTON
Lubin	Miss CASSIE STEWART
Dorcas	Miss MADGE MARLOW
Sir William of Walworth	Miss MAUD REYNOLDS
Ld. Bertie of Bermondsey	Miss LILLIE WHITE
Lord Peter of Peckham	Miss GERTRUDE HOLIDAY
Sir Colin of Camberwell	Miss ALICE ROUSE
Marquis of Lambeth	Miss ROSE WESTON
Hon. Montmorency Newcut	Miss MAY EVANS
Earl of Rotherhithe	Miss LILLIE THOMPSON
Duke of De Borough	Miss ISABEL LEWIS

An appreciative audience was gathered together on Christmas Eve to witness Mr Ernest E. Norris's first pantomime at this popular suburban theatre, and, judging by the warm welcome bestowed upon all concerned in the production, *Puss in Boots* is destined to remain in possession of the stage for many weeks to come. The story of the faithful cat donning the magic boots is fashioned upon traditional lines, and opens with the "Home of the Demon Lawyer," where we see a member of a respectable profession scheming and plotting in order to gain wealth and revenge, and in a sequence of brilliant scenes the story is gradually unfolded. Special mention must be made of scene four—"The Butterflies' Bower"—where electrical devices obtain a magnificent effect never before seen at this theatre. In scene six, Toyland, the hearts of the little folk throbbingly palpitate with excitement and delight at witnessing the procession of animated toys and games crowding the stage until it becomes one mass of life and colour, nor should praise be omitted for the last scene, Interior of the Palace, where a beautiful spectacular effect is produced by the intricate evolutions of the silver knights, which evoke prolonged applause. Specialities are introduced into the latter scene by the Comrades Quartette, who are responsible for some really delightful part-singing; Mdlle. Dora gives a skilfully rendered solo on the Cor-Anglais; the Three Sisters Dagmar contribute a cleverly executed song and dance; and Mr Harker Nicholls plays a musical solo on jam-pots. One of the funny hits of the pantomime assuredly is the sextet sung by the comedians, "Through the window," in which they are assisted by several eccentric musical instruments. Mr Norris has engaged a clever company for the pantomime, and all work together with a unanimity that augurs well for success. As Princess Pansy, the daughter of the King and Queen of Upper Tooting, Miss Agnes Paulton contributes a most successful performance. Possessed of a charming presence and a natural vivacious manner, Miss Paulton is an ideal Princess, and thoroughly deserved the applause that greeted her efforts. Her singing of "Honeymoon Hall" is in every way excellent, and the audience would not be satisfied until an encore verse had been given. Miss Kitty Tims makes a handsome and heroic Gilbert, and sings and dances in a happy way that is delightful to the audience. Mr Harry Paulton, jun., and Mr Monkhouse seem to positively revel in the respective parts of Jaunty Joe and Blinky Bill, and their impersonations are intensely humorous. Not for one moment does the fun flag while these two artists occupy the stage, and they are responsible for much genuine and hearty laughter. Mr Harker Nicholls as Marmaduke the Twentieth and Mr Arthur Royce as Queen Caroline do not spare themselves in their efforts to amuse, and add their quota of song and dance and comical business. Little Miss Gladys Witton (a great favourite in the pantomime here last year) acts delightfully in the part of Cupid, and in scene six uses her pleasing voice to great advantage in the song "Who would be a Soldier." The Demon Lawyer is fiendishly portrayed by Mr Dudley Hayes, and a word of praise is due to Mr William Stevens for his impersonation of the ferocious Ogre. Mr Arthur White as the Cat displays an agility that is most typical, and his feline-like antics prove very amusing to old and young. Baron Blackfriars is capably presented by Mdlle. Dora, and Little Mary receives a pleasing interpretation at the hands of Miss Constance Calvert. Miss Cassie Stewart is responsible for Lubin and Miss Madge Marlow is effective as Dorcas. The Central Quartet of dancers trip some measures in a charming style. We certainly must not omit to offer our hearty congratulations to Mr Norris for an artistic production. Not only has he organised an admirable company of principals, but he has judiciously selected a pleasing chorus, whose work is thoroughly well done, and whose presence upon the stage makes a handsome picture. Special scenery has been painted by Messrs Jackson, Emden, Hall, and Soames, and sumptuous costumes have been designed by Mr Robert Crafter and executed by Mrs Whelan, Mrs Thornton, and Madame Orleans. The ballet is under the direction of Madame Scott, and Mr L. Tarran is responsible for the beautiful electrical effects. Mr J. Nurnberger has composed and arranged the music for the pantomime, and he deserves every credit for this arduous part of the production. The harlequinade was "cut" on Christmas Eve, but we hope to notice it in detail later. Mr Norris may certainly set down his initial pantomime at the Elephant and Castle Theatre as an unqualified success.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" at FULHAM.

Pantomime, Produced on Christmas Eve.

Abdallah	Miss M. SEYMOUR HODGES
Hamdallah	Mr HARRY HERBERT
Cazvini	Mr WILL SPRAY
Morgiana	Miss BEATRICE WILLEY
Cogia	Mr EARDLEY TURNER
Ganem	Miss NELLIE EMERALD
Cassim Baba	Mr GEORGE COCKBURN
Mustapha	Mr R. HOWARD
Abbas	Mr A. FELINO
Smokey	Little GRATA
Ali Hassan	Mr T. APTOMMAS
Bluah of the Moon	Miss BEATRICE SAUNDERS
Perfume of Violets	Miss AMY DUDLEY
Dawn of the Morn	Miss ENID WILDE
Heart of the Rose	Miss FRANCIS OAKLEY
Scent of the Lily	Miss NELLIE HARCOURT
Voice of the Iris	Miss NELLIE ELGEN
Lily of the Waters	Miss MAUD EVERARD
Ali Baba	Mr LEONARD BARRY

Mr Robert Arthur's first Fulham pantomime must be voted a great success. The story of "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" lends itself admirably to picturesque treatment and scenic effect, and moreover, possesses the added attraction of an interesting and coherent story. Mr Robert Arthur has fully availed himself of the chances for scenic beauty and gorgeous costumes, and the production is most elaborate and effective. The story is closely followed, with the usual spectacular embellishments and the harmless, necessary fun of pantomime, as well as several interpolated popular songs. The Cave of the Forty Thieves, with its vista of untold wealth and the grand spectacular scene of the temptation and death of Cassim, is a thing of beauty and a wonder to all pantomime-goers. The Courtyard of the Seraglio, with distant palm-trees waving over a moonlit lake, is a sweetly pretty scene, and the white terrace of the Seraphs, with the Statue ballet and Dance of Flowers, is a triumph of scenic effect. Messrs Stafford Hall and J. Fowler Hogg, who are the scenic artists, are to be congratulated on the thoroughness and artistic perception displayed in their work. The costumes are a credit to Comelli, who designed them, and to Baruch and Co., Elkan Brothers, and Miss Hole, who executed them. The music, which is spirited, tuneful, and appropriate, is by J. O. Shepherd and Jullien H. Wilson, and Mr Harry L. Whittaker ably wields the bâton in the conductor's chair. Mr H. Young deserves favourable mention as the stage manager, and Mr F. Merer is back in his old place as acting-manager. The properties are by G. Corney, and the mechanical effects by A. Whiteley; and Miss Flo Martin is the ballet mistress. No doubt the words "There is nothing on you, Abbas," will often be heard in Fulham this winter, and will always pleasantly remind the hearer of the remarkably clever performance of the donkey, Abbas by name, so wonderfully well presented by Mr A. Felino. Every antic of this ridiculous ass, with its shaggy hair and unkempt appearance, the movement of its eyes, tail, and ears, and its extraordinary nimbleness and exaggerated movements are eagerly watched by the audience, who are convulsed with laughter by its droll gambols. Altogether Mr Felino's presentment of the donkey is quite a feature of the entertainment. Though we have thus singled out this performer, that is not to say that the others are not excellent. Never was seen a smarter Ganem than Miss Nellie Emerald, a more engaging Morgiana than Miss Beatrice Willey, a more handsome, commanding Abdullah than Miss Muriel Seymour Hodges or a droller Ali Baba than Mr Leonard Barry, and all these are ably backed up by the other principals as we shall indicate. Miss Nellie Emerald might well be termed Prince Charming, so delightful a boy does she make as Ganem, and her songs, "Love's like sunshine after rain" and the inevitable "Bluebell," are delightfully rendered in a rich contralto voice of considerable compass. As Morgiana Miss Beatrice Willey looks pretty as a picture and fascinating as a houri, and in her duets and dances she does all that is required of her. Her song, "The Hong-Kong lads," is prettily rendered. Miss Muriel Seymour Hodges is quite awe-inspiring by reason of her inches as Abdallah, Captain of the band of Forty Thieves, were it not for her attractive appearance and winsome smile. As Ali Baba Mr Leonard Barry's easy manner and natural method are invaluable in the comic scenes, and some of his "business" with Mr A. Felino as the egregious ass Abbas supplies many of the funniest incidents in the piece. Mr Will Spray (Cazvini), is an exceedingly droll little comedian, and he keeps the ball of fun rolling right merrily with song and dance and jest, and Mr Harry Herbert as Hamdallah ably seconds his efforts. Their parody on "Bluebell" is apt and amusing, and their "business" throughout well within the bounds of becoming mirth. Mr Eardley Turner as Cogia (Ali Baba's better half), is well in the picture, and he sings "Billy's very good to me" for all it is worth. Mr George Cockburn is most dramatic in the scene of temptation and death in the Robbers' Cave, and Mr R. Howard as Mustapha, a cobbler, is quite satisfactory. Misses Beatrice Saunders, Amy Dudley, Enid Wilde, Frances Oakley, Nellie Harcourt, Maud Everard, and others, form a bevy of beauty as Ali Baba's wives. The Steinway Quartet contribute some capital part-singing, and the Royal Peri Troupe of Oriental dancers do good work. It is noteworthy that there is no good fairy (with song) or second principal girl in this production. Altogether, Mr Robert Arthur has made a propitious start, and deserves every success with his first Fulham pantomime, *The Forty Thieves*.

"ALADDIN" at KENNINGTON.

Pantomime, Produced on Christmas Eve.

Abanazar	Mr ANDIE CAINE
Emperor Pi-Krust	Mr JOSEPH WILSON
Mrs Twankey	Mr HARRY BRAYNE
Grand Vizier	Mr LYNDEN WYATT
Wi-li / Ber-Ti	The BROTHERS REDMOND
Aladdin	Miss RACHAEL LOWE
Princess So-Shi	Miss GEORGINA MIDDLETON
Pekoe	Miss IRIS BANFIELD
Cheeki	Miss MABEL KERRIDGE
Melinda	Miss WOOLGAR MELLON
Genii of the Lamp	Miss DORIS DEANE
Slave of the Ring	Miss NATALIE GRANT

Amongst the many pantomimes for which Mr Robert Arthur is responsible this Christmas at the numerous theatres under his control, it is pretty certain that none will be more popular than *Aladdin*, produced on Saturday evening at his beautiful Kennington playhouse. The author of this version of the old story is not given on the programme, but he has concocted an amusing and in some respects original "book," containing an abundance of funny situations and lines, and when the first half of the pantomime, and especially the first scene, has been considerably "cut," there is no doubt *Aladdin* will prove as successful as its predecessors. After the usual opening chorus we are soon introduced to a prominent fun-maker in the person of Mrs Twankey who is naturally highly indignant with the Grand Vizier for refusing to pay his paltry washing bill, and even threatens to take him before a celebrated Marylebone magistrate, whose fame has evidently travelled as far as Pekin, where the first scene is enacted. She is also naturally proud of her son Aladdin, a smart youth who certainly does his fond parent credit, and who falls in love at first sight with the charming Princess So Shi, the dainty daughter of the Emperor Pi-Krust. For such an offence there is no pardon in Pekin, and it is proclaimed that Aladdin shall be beheaded, but with the aid of his uncle Abanazar, who first appears on the scene in the character of a Jewish cheap Jack, he is allowed to escape in a motor-car. He soon returns, however, in the hope of catching another glance of his princess, and he is not disappointed, but the police are quickly on his track again, and he bids a fond farewell to his doting mother and tearful sweetheart, and makes his exit through the parlour window. Accompanied by his uncle, he reaches the mouth of the cave, and eventually finds himself inside, quickly discovering the magic lamp. Abanazar is, of course, anxious to annex this, and on Aladdin refusing to part with it gives forth a most amusing mock curse. The first part of the pantomime concludes here with a gorgeous Barbaric ballet, the principal dancer executing a graceful and attractive solo. One of the hits of the pantomime should be the ballet which opens the second act, a particularly effective and ingeniously arranged item. A number of Chinese washerwomen are seen at their apparently steaming tubs, from which soon emerge a dozen or so daintily-attired laundry-maids, who merrily trip it till disturbed by their wrathful mistress. The success of the production on Saturday was largely contributed to by Miss Rachel Lowe, a clever and smart little comedienne, who worked exceedingly hard on the opening night, and always with effect, and who made an exceedingly trim, alert, and intelligent hero. Although suffering from a cold, she scored unmistakably in her vocal numbers, her initial song "The Lucky Duck" specially pleasing the audience. Hoppy, the bird in question, did its "quacking" accompaniment with its usual accuracy, and waddled off the stage at the conclusion of the song evidently well pleased with the reception accorded its fair mistress. "What's the use of that, huh?" a humorous ditty, which Miss Lowe sings with much point, and her well-known "Any Rags?" were also amongst her singing successes, and at the finish of the last-named number she was handed across the footlights a lovely white floral cushion, with the title of this original number picked out in violets. She also shared in the success of, perhaps, the prettiest duet of the pantomime, "Honeymoon Hall," a melodious and taking number delightfully rendered by her in association with Miss Georgina Middleton, an engaging and refined representative of Princess So-Shi. The popular "Farewell, my little Yo-san," was also admirably rendered by Miss Middleton, a capable and comely young actress, who is sure to soon become a favourite at Kennington.

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In the part of Melinda, a Louie Freear-like "slavey" in the employ of Mrs Twankey, Miss Woolgar Mellon contrived to be funny in a not very humorous part, and sang "Mother's Cooking" with considerable success; Miss Mabel Kerridge as Chee-Ki won loud applause for her pleasing song and dance. "Arizona;" Miss Iris Banfield was quite equal to her responsibilities as Pekoe; and Miss Doris Deane (the Genii of the Lamp) is entitled to commendation for her well-executed *pas seul*. The principal fun-maker of the evening was Mr Harry Brayne, his many funny lines and ludicrous business in the character of Mrs Twankey making him a general favourite with the audience. His song, "Fancy my being a lady," was a humorous number, and his impersonation throughout was exceedingly droll. As Abanazar, the Hebrew uncle of Aladdin, Mr Andie Caine worked hard also in the cause of mirth, his mock curse being very funny, and his singing of a well-written number, "The Latest London Betting," being loudly applauded. Mr Joseph Wilson had little chance to display his abilities in the poor part of the Emperor Pi-Krust; and Mr Lindon Wyatt managed to provoke some hilarity as the Grand Vizier. As a couple of Chinese Policemen, Wi-Li and Ber-ti, the Brothers Redmond scored considerably with cross-talk, amusing business, and dance, their "Willie, come here," interlude especially pleasing. The costumes were effective and tasteful, and the numerous stage pictures were all excellent examples of brush-work.

"GOBLIN OF THE SEA" at the BRITANNIA.

Pantomime, by Brian Daly and John M. East,
Produced on Boxing Day.

The Goblin of the Sea	Mr GEORGE LUPINO
The Fairy Mermaid	Miss INEZ CLOUGH
Spirit of the Sea	Miss LOTTIE BELL
The Demon Fleeterino	Mr LEONARD RUSSELL
Noureddin	Miss GRACIE TAYLOR
Mrs Gasbag	Mr ALF PASSMORE
Hasfiz, Zolida	The Two GRACES
Rosee	Miss DAISY JAMES
Bungus, Biffus, Blue Bell	The Three PHYDORAS
Captain Bargee	Mr TOM WALLACE
King Golliwog	Mr CHARLES JEROME
The Boodle Bird	Mr MELLOWBIRD
King Neptune	Mr GROVES

A crowded house on Boxing afternoon testified its approval of this year's joyous annual at this popular home of pantomime. The story of *The Goblin of the Sea* starts in the Fine old Crusted Port of Pootoseo, where a very good Hornpipe Ballet is given, followed by the usual introduction of the principal characters, and finishing up with a grand finale, followed by the Interior of the Good Ship Bottom Upwards, wherein the grand comic scene, "In the Bunks," is given, evidently affording great amusement to the audience. In scene three is given an idea of fun—"On Deck"—and a fine Ballet Divertissement, "Little Emigrants," is executed by a well-trained troupe of dancers, the scene finishing with a realistic picture of the storm. Scene four is laid Under the Sea, and scene five reveals Neptune's Realm and Haunt of the Goblin of the Sea—a very effective picture. Here a grand Ballet of Fish proves acceptable, and "Fun out of a Submarine and in a Motor Car" also furnishes an attraction. The first part ends with the Capture of the Goblin of the Sea. The Bathing Place at Mixo-on-Sand, the first scene of the second part is followed by a glittering set, the Jewelled Valley in the Land of Periwinkle, with the descent of the Boodle Bird and a grand finale. The Harem of the Palace immediately precedes the Palace of a Thousand Joys, where, appropriately enough, is given a grand speciality entertainment. The transformation, entitled The Months, a very pretty and well-mounted scene, brings a good entertainment to a satisfactory conclusion. In the comic harlequinade Mr George Lupino (clown), Mr Paul Luping (harlequin), Mr James Brown (pantaloon), Miss Rosie Humphries (columbine) are well placed, and the fun fast and furious runs through two scenes. The cast of the opening includes Mr George Lupino in the title-rôle. His grasp of the character is excellent and his dancing very clever. Miss Daisy James is very successful as Rosee, her acting, vocalisation, and dancing meriting the highest eulogy. She will certainly establish herself a prime favourite here. The Fairy Mermaid finds a capital representative in Miss Inez Clough; and little Miss Lottie Bell does well as the Spirit of the Sea, the child fairy. The Demon Fleeterino gives Mr Leonard Russell many chances for displaying his voice to advantage, and his acting is praiseworthy. Miss Gracie Taylor is quite at home in the part of Noureddin. The Three Phydoras meet with much appreciation in their unique speciality musical turn; the two Messrs Phydora as Bungus and Biffus giving most valuable assistance, and playing their parts in an irresistibly droll manner. Miss Madge Phydora, who was cast for Blue Bell could not, unfortunately, take up her part on the opening day owing to the temporary loss of her voice. As Mrs Gasbag Mr Alf. Passmore creates great hilarity by his clever impersonation; the Two Graces as Hasfig and Zorilda contribute some very artistic and graceful dancing, their dresses being very handsome; Capt. Bargee is made a very important personage by Mr Tom Wallace, who does much to promote the success. The Black King Golliwog is embodied by Mr Charles Jerome in excellent fashion; Mr Mellowbird as the Boodle Bird and Mr Groves as King Neptune are both efficient; and the chorus is good. The specialities by the Arosa Troupe of Dancers gain applause. The dresses are appropriate, and the magnificent scenery by Mr Day Massey, the lyrics by Mr Brian Daly and the properties by Mr Charles Dutton are alike commendable. The whole production is under the direction of that experienced manager, Mr John M. East, who has the advantage of working in conjunction with the enterprising managing-director, Mr Sydney Hyman.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" at CLAPHAM.

Pantomime, by James H. Wolfe,
Produced on Boxing Day.

Alderman Fitzwarren	Mr AUSTIN RUDD
Alice	Miss RUBY VERDI
Dick Whittington	Miss LILY SHAW
Idle Jack	Mr BEN ALBERT
Snipper, Snapper, Flipper, Flapper	The New York Comedy Quartet
Sarah	Mr WILL JOHNSON
Thomas, the Cat	Mr G. W. HURST
Bedella	Miss GWENNIE HARCOURT
Captain Barnacle	Mr ALF HALES
First Mate, Second Mate	CONDON and PRESTON
Sultan of Morocco	Mr RUDOLPH KLOSS
Vizier	Mr HARRY GIFFORD
Princess of Morocco	Miss MAY VERNON
Prince France	Miss IDA MERVYN
Dolly	Miss POLLY JACKSON
Polly	Miss MARY JONES
Lord Dawdler	Mr GEORGE DOWD
Lord Lounger	Mr GUS ELLIS
Fairy King Rat	Miss C. LEDEBOOR
Queen of the Chimes	Miss DOLLY TIMIT
Gossamer	Miss C. READ
Sunbeam	Miss N. FRASER

Those who were present at the first performance of the Shakespeare's ninth annual children's fairy pantomime on Monday afternoon certainly could not complain as to either the quality or quantity of the entertainment presented by Mr Humphrey E. Brammall, which ran for over four hours on its initial presentation. Its chief fault, indeed, was its length, which was mainly due to the many specialities introduced, some of which, and also one or two of the vocal numbers, could well be spared. When it has been vigorously cut and some of the principals know their lines better *Dick Whittington*, always a favourite subject with the "kiddies"—who must have wondered once or twice on Monday what had become of the fortunate apprentice and his feline friend—should prove quite as attractive as its predecessors at Messrs Bennett and Bennett's popular playhouse. When the story is not interrupted by "extras" it follows pretty closely the familiar tale, the author, Mr Wolfe, having, however, introduced at least one new character, Bedella, an unprepossessing but amusing domestic in the household of the Cheapside universal provider, Alderman Fitzwarren. Mr Humphrey E. Brammall, who is responsible for the entire production, has selected an excellent company for its presentation, the part of the hero, Dick, being admirably played by Miss Lily Shaw, a lady with a fine appearance and voice. Amongst her many vocal successes we may mention "Yam-Sam, my little sailor man," "When the band begins to play," and "Have you seen my girl?" and her acting throughout was entirely praiseworthy. A dainty and intelligent interpretation of Alice Fitzwarren was supplied by Miss Ruby Verdi, a clever little vocalist and dancer, who scored heavily in the popular song "Navaho," her accompanying dance being loudly applauded. Miss Gwennie Harcourt made a humorous Bedelia, her many quaint antics and utterances in conjunction with Idle Jack, and also her scene with the Sultan of Morocco, creating hearty laughter; and the numerous other female parts were all satisfactorily undertaken. The comedians of the company all worked hard in the cause of merriment, and the important character of the idle apprentice was quite safe in the hands of Mr Ben Albert, a funny man who gains most of his laughter with little apparent effort. His scene with the Cook, where they study with most unsatisfactory results a Bradshaw, was provocative of the loudest laughter, and his speech on the Fiscal question and his songs "What do you want to talk about it for?" and "My Diary," were really humorous numbers. Mr Will Johnson made a most energetic and entertaining Cook, the comedian having a quaint manner and voice that largely add to the ludicrousness of this frolicsome female. "In a thousand years to come" and "I've had a good day to-day" were ditties that found many admirers in the audience as given by this untiring fun-maker, who thoroughly deserved all the approbation bestowed on his excellent impersonation. Mr Austin Rudd, a popular artiste on the variety stage, apparently had little chance of being funny in the part of Alderman Fitzwarren, but will doubtless work up his part considerably in a day or two. His song "I did, did, did," was one of the most humorous of the pantomime, and he also succeeded in arousing laughter in the scene in his emporium. Mr G. W. Hurst as the Cat imitated with much fidelity and cleverness the actions of "pussy," being a great favourite with the youngsters, and also gave a display of his abilities as a trick cyclist; and the New York Quartet and Condon and Preston also aided largely in the success of the pantomime by their humorous impersonations. Amongst the specialities, nothing gained more favour than the harmonised vocalism of the New York Quartet, who were loudly acclaimed for their many tuneful numbers; and the smart appearance, dainty costumes, and agile and graceful dancing of the Four Papillons won for them loudly expressed approbation. Many pretty and realistic stage pictures were shown, notably Highgate-hill, The Road to Highgate, The Interior of the World's Emporium, and the Sultan's Gardens and Palace, and the costumes of the numerous auxiliaries were exceedingly tasteful.

"ALADDIN" at BRIXTON.

Pantomime, Produced on Boxing Day.

Kasrac	Mr FRED FLEXMORE
Electra	Miss MARION MACDONALD
Ruby	Miss A. LEWIS
Opal	Miss JESSIE CLARKE
Diamond	Miss MARIE WELLDON
Garnet	Miss FLO BERNARD
Sapphire	Miss MURIEL JOHNSON
Turquoise	Miss JESSIE BENNETT
Emerald	Miss EMMIE MONTAGUE
Onyx	Miss TILLIE VAUGHAN
Amethyst	Miss MILLIE ROBSON
Aladdin	Miss EMMELINE ORFORD
Widow Twankey	Mr TED YOUNG
Abanazar	Mr EDWIN BRETT
Ski Hi	Mr NAT LEWIS
So Long	Mr SOMERS BELLAMY
Pekoe	Miss MADGE HAINES
Bo Bi, Bo Ko	Messrs WALTON and LESTER
Wishee Washee	Mr H. O. CLAREY
Princess Badroulbadour	Miss CONSTANCE HAMILTON
So Shi	Miss KITTY HAROLD
Petti Sing	Miss DORIS DEW
Hi Toff	Miss MAY KENT
Chin Chin	Miss BLANCHE D'ELROY
Liti Tose	Miss EVA SAYHURST
Chow Chow	Mr ALF PHILLIPS
Ali Likee	Mr HARRY PHILLIPS
Wistlee	Mr ART BOWDEN

Congratulation must be given to Messrs Ernest Stevens and J Murray Heriot for the production of their first pantomime, *Aladdin*, at the Brixton Theatre. The book is written by the experienced Mr Stanley Rogers, who has produced so many successful pantomimes, and he has followed the story very carefully. After the rather mysterious opening we are conducted to the Market-place of Pekin, in which convenient spot the personages attending upon the destinies of the wonderful lamp have been discovered. Here we meet with the most eccentric monarch who ever sat upon the throne of China, also Widow Twankey, the mother of the dashing boy Aladdin. There are also the two comic policemen of the Chinese force, who are responsible for a great deal of fun during the performance, and the wicked, and yet mirth-provoking, magician, Abanazar. The pretty Princess Badroulbadour is not allowed to gaze upon the face of man, but, of course, immediately falls in love with Aladdin as soon as she sees him. There is no need to give a further detail of the story, as it is familiar to everyone. Of the principals, Miss Emmeline Orford makes a sprightly and charming Aladdin, who sings and dances well to the satisfaction of her audience. The Princess is represented by Miss Constance Hamilton, who plays the part very prettily and receives many encores for her songs and dances. Miss Madge Haines as Pekoe is well placed, and sings a pretty coon song, "I'se a-waiting for yer, Josie." There is a capital crowd of comedians. Messrs Walton and Lester command first place with their funny performance of the Chinese Policemen, and their speciality act of the "Mad Sick Kettle" creates much laughter. Mr Edwin Brett runs them very close in the matter of laugh-making, and causes the audience to thoroughly enjoy themselves in his endeavour to obtain possession of the Magic Lamp, and his catch phraze, "What Excitement!" will no doubt be heard all over Brixton in a few days. The same remarks apply to Mr Ted Young in his quaint performance of Aladdin's widowed mother, Mrs Twankey. Mr H. O. Clarey comes out well with his impersonation of Wishee Washee, and so does Mr Somers Bellamy in the part of the Grand Vizier. Of the other leading characters Mr Nat Lewis is very prominent as the Chinese Emperor; his portly appearance stands him in good stead, and he receives hearty applause for his well-rendered song, "Laugh and the world laugh with you." The scenery is by the capable brush of Walter Hann and F. L. Schmitz, who have painted some very pretty and effective sets. The Enchanted Cave is particularly striking, and The Flying Palace, The Rose Gardens of Pekin, and Aladdin's Egyptian Palace are also notable. From start to finish the pantomime goes well, and the audience is kept in the best of good humour to the fall of the curtain. Of course, there is abundance of songs and dances, and the ever-popular "Bluebell" is prettily sung by Miss Emmeline Orford. The Princess also gives us a couple of good coon songs and dances. Mr Ted Young has a capital song in "Mashing the Policeman." There is also a good topical song, "The Talk of the Town." The book if full of local references and topical allusions, which met with much favour at the hands of a crowded house. The music, which has been specially written for the piece by Mr Frank Bradsell, is well rendered by an augmented orchestra, under the capable direction of the composer. Owing to the length of the pantomime there was no time to give the old-fashioned harlequinade at the first performance; but no doubt this will be done in the course of the week, and when the blue pencil has been judiciously used and the comedians have worked up their individual parts *Aladdin* will rank with the most successful pantomimes ever produced in Brixton. The chorus, which is both pretty and strong, do their share of the work very well, and Mr R. W. Allum, the courteous assistant manager, studies the comfort of his audience in every respect.

"CINDERELLA" at the CROWN.

Pantomime, by Fred Bowyer,
Produced on Christmas Eve.

IMMORTALS.

Fairy Godmother	Miss ZILLAH PRICE
Chrystollis	Miss GLADYS HARVEY
Snagfang	Mr ARTHUR LAWRENCE

MORTALS.

Baron Buckshot	Mr JAKE FRIEDMAN
Peter	Mr W. T. THOMPSON
Charlotte	Mr DAN CRAWLEY
Jane	Mr CHARLES SLOMAN
Ginger, Stoney	The Brothers ETHAIRIEN
Dandini	Miss ROSE HAMILTON
Cinderella	Miss ALICE LLOYD
Prince	Miss MAY MARS
Beauty	Mr EDWARD SILLWARD
Lord Gadfly	Miss KATIE BELL
Lady Mildred	Miss FLOSSIE BELL
Beaujolais	Miss MAUDE CHAMPION
Caramel	Miss J. WILLIAMS
Sir Percy Loosecash	Miss JESSIE BEAUMONT
Landlord	Mr BRISTOW
Cabman	Mr FENWICKE

The proprietors of this popular place of amusement are to be complimented upon a most successful inaugural performance of their pantomime—a very fine production in all respects. The familiar story of Cinderella's many vicissitudes has been cleverly adapted by the author of the "book," and whilst there are some modifications of the story as one remembers it, they are in no wise detrimental to the main theme. The pantomime is divided into two parts. Part one opens with a very animated scene, the Fairy Abode of the Crystal Shoe, and here we are shown how the crystal slipper was restored. Scene two represents an English Village in the Olden Time, and here takes place the arrival of the coach with the baron and his daughter. The third scene takes place in a Room in the Prince's Palace, where the guests meet during Leap year and witness its results, but too many candidates spoil the situation, but they find vocal relief. Scene four is laid in the Woods, wherein is depicted the meeting of Cinderella and the gallant Prince. The fifth scene reveals the Exterior of the Castle. Scene six, the Baron's Kitchen, indicates some troublesome times, and Stoney and Ginger, the broker's men, afford amusement. A Royal invitation sets the Baron and his two ugly daughters aglow with excitement, but poor little Cinderella is left out. Peter declares his plebeian passion for her, and she is cheered by a welcome visit from the Fairy Godmother, and Cinderella, the despised drudge, goes to the ball in a magnificent carriage, drawn by four horses. Part two begins with the eighth scene, the Exterior of the Castle again, and scene nine shows the magnificently appointed Ballroom. Amongst the guests are the Baron's daughters, Charlotte and Jane, full of hope of a conquest of the Prince, who mourns the absence of his unknown love (Cinderella). Cinderella, however, arrives in time for the dance, and takes part in the gavotte. The story proceeds in the old sweet way, until scene ten, the Tradesmen's Entrance to the Baron's Mansion, where Peter receives poor Cinderella, now in her rags again. In scene twelve, the Grand Hall in the Prince's Palace, the Prince receives his unknown bride, thanks to the aid given by the watchful Fairy Godmother, and Cinderella's identity being established by the missing shoe, the Prince and his sweetheart are happily united. The Ugly Sisters also find consolation. The pantomime finishes with a grand finale. There is no transformation scene or harlequinade, but, taken as a whole, a most excellent entertainment will be found, one which is certain to attract large and appreciative audiences for many weeks to come. The combination of first-class artists, the costly mounting, costumes, and properties, ballets and splendid scenery combine to make this year's Peckham annual one of the best Christmas productions put forward here since the opening of the theatre seven years ago. The title-rôle is most bewitchingly played by Miss Alice Lloyd, a bright, clever actress, who is heard to great advantage in the songs "Pennies," "Poor Cinderella," and (with Peter) the duet "Here we are, two dolls for sale," with a fine representation of the boy and girl dolls, and a marionette dance. The love duet with the Prince, "Sing me to Sleep," was also acceptably rendered. Miss Lloyd proves herself a captivating and dainty dancer, and is a most natural exponent of the heroine of the hearth. As the Prince, Miss May Mars well deserves unstinted praise. Endowed with a fine appearance, voice and ability, this lady must become another favourite with Peckhamites. Her songs were well received, especially "Barney come home once more," rendered with true Irish vivacity. The song "Good-bye little girl good-bye," was delightful, and will become popular. Miss Mars is also a graceful dancer. As Baron Buckshot, Mr Jake Friedman displayed talent in a remarkable degree in facial expression as well as "grasp" of the requirements of the character entrusted to him. A cleverly conceived portrayal of Beauty (the ape) by Mr Edward Sillward gained much applause. Miss Rose Hamilton merits eulogy for her dashing impersonation of Dandini, and she worked hard to make the Prince's "tiger" stand out prominently in a crowd of gifted artistes in this capital pantomime. Success crowned her efforts as vocalist and dancer, her topical song "The Smartest Boy on Earth" being given with great gusto. The sprite, Snagfang, was excellently depicted by Mr Arthur Lawrence, and his baritone voice was used with gratifying results, particularly in "The Wonders of the Deep." Miss Zillah Price, a handsome lady of commanding presence, as the Fairy Godmother delivered her lines well. As the Custodian of the Silver Slipper (Chrystollis) Miss Gladys Harvey was well chosen. Peter, the Baron's page, gives many chances to Mr W. T. Thompson to make a series of "Hits," and his cleverness in song, dance, and comedy was evident whenever he appeared. Mr Dan Crawley as Charlotte did particularly well, scoring heavily with his songs. As Jane, the other ugly sister, Mr Charles Sloman met with great success. The Brothers Ethairien made much of the characters of Ginger and Stoney. Miss Katie Bell looked smart and proved equal to the rôle of Lord Gadfly. The like remark applies to Miss Flossie Bell as Lady Mildred, and Miss Maude Champion's attractive personality as Beaujolais, a gentleman of fashion, gained her many admirers. Useful help was contributed by the Misses J. Williams as Caramel, Jessie Beaumont as Sir Percy Loosecash; Mr Harry Bristow, Landlord (and assistant stage-manager); and Mr Fenwicke, who represented a Cabman in a capable manner. Amongst the many special attractions the gifted Doreen Girls merit commendation, and the Lyric Quartet are worthy of the highest praise. The music, composed, arranged, and selected by Mr Henry Sprake, quite sustained his reputation, and the orchestra, under his direction, did full justice to it. Mr Grimani is responsible for the elaborate scenery. The mechanical effects were provided by Mr Edward Wade, the properties by Mr Fred Chappell, and the limelight and electrical effects by Mr Paul Sheridan. The ballets arranged by Paul Valentine reflect great credit upon him, and the coryphées are far above the average as regards attractive appearance and ability. The whole of the tasteful costumes set off a first-class production. Mr Fred Boustead, the stage-manager, discharged his heavy responsibilities most efficiently. Mr Cecil Paget, the resident-manager, was busy as usual looking after the house in his well-known capable and courteous manner, being loyally supported by his assistant acting-manager, Mr H. J. Brett.

"DICK WHITTINGTON" at NEW-CROSS.

Pantomime, by William Wade,
Produced on Boxing Day.

Dick Whittington	Miss CARLOTTA LEVEY
The Cat	Mr JOHNNY FULLER
Alderman Fitzwarren	Mr HARRY KILBURN
Alice Fitzwarren	Miss MAUDE NOEL
Jack Idle	Mr HARRY ROGERSON
Martha Mixit	Mr ERNEST REES
Captain Taffrail, Ben Bobstay	Messrs FOREMAN and FANNAN
Tommy Turner	Miss NORA MOORE
The Carrier	Mr C. THORNLEY STEWART
The Emperor of Morocco	Mr J. HARBER
The Princess	Miss JENNY EDGAR
The Vizier	Mr MARIUS GIRARD
King Cat	Miss WINNIE CHANNING
Hafiz	Miss RUTH GROSVENOR
Abdul	Miss MAUDE DAVIS

Produced under the able direction of Messrs Frederick Mouillot and Frederick Stanhope, the pantomime of *Dick Whittington* is as bright and merry a Christmas piece as one could wish to see. The familiar story of the young apprentice is faithfully illustrated in twelve scenes, and the youthful critic is not confused by those complications which arise when two or three nursery tales are blended together. The youngest playgoer can without difficulty follow the adventures of Dick, from the time that he makes his appearance in Old Cheapside until he attains the height of his ambition and becomes Lord Mayor of London. We renew acquaintance with the leading features of a story that has always been one of the most popular in the juvenile library. The cruel accusation of robbing his employer, Alderman Fitzwarren, with whose pretty daughter he is in love; his departure from London by way of Highgate-hill, accompanied by his faithful feline friend; his falling asleep and being aroused by the sound of Bow bells, while the elfs and fairies, bedecked with evergreens, dance merrily in the moonlight—all these incidents are faithfully depicted, and later we get a glance of Morocco, where Dick makes his fortune by ridding, by means of his cat, the Emperor's palace of the terrible plague of rats. Once more in England, we find ourselves present at Lord Mayor Whittington's fête at the Guildhall, a spectacle of great brilliance, with its wonderful procession of nations in typical dress. This concluding scene evokes loud applause, as well it may, for it is a fitting finish to a series of striking stage pictures. A truly excellent pantomime company has been engaged to represent the several personages who figure in the old story. The hero himself has a remarkably handsome representative in Miss Carlotta Levey. Tall and commanding, this young fellow not only looks quite capable of making his way in the world, but he has such a pleasant manner and charming smile that he is likely to make good friends everywhere. Miss Levey scores both as actress and vocalist. She opens with "Don't judge a man by the coat he wears," and she puts plenty of spirit into her rendering of "The Gambling Man." Later this accomplished comedienne does ample justice to the popular "Bluebell" ditty, without which no pantomime would be considered complete, the audience taking up the chorus with much heartiness. Miss Maude Noel is a very dainty and graceful exponent of Alice Fitzwarren, singing and dancing with much charm. Miss Jenny Edgar is an attractive Princess, and Miss Ruth Grosvenor is a smart and clever Hafiz. Mr Johnny Fuller is one of the successes of the evening as the Cat. Mr Harry Kilburn is very amusing as Fitzwarren, and sings "Stop your tickling, Jock," in good style. Mr Harry Rogerson makes a decided hit as Idle Jack; his impersonation of Sousa is very funny, while his singing of "The Monstrosity" and eccentric dance are loudly applauded. Mr Ernest Rees is a warm favourite as Martha Mixit, and sings "Robinson Crusoe" and "On a cold and frosty night" with capital effect. Messrs Foreman and Fannan as Taffrail and Bobstay contribute a bright little entertainment of their own. Their patter is funny without being vulgar, and they cause much laughter by their antics with a mechanical horse which suddenly collapses and throws the rider off. Tiller's Troupe of dancers do their work exceedingly well, and meet with well-deserved success. They are the principals in the pretty ballet which takes place on Highgate-hill. Kelly and Gillette are remarkably clever in the speciality which they introduce in the tenth scene. The management deserves to be heartily congratulated on another unqualified success.

"THE FORTY THIEVES" at STRATFORD.

Pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood,
Produced on Boxing Day.

Ganem	Miss CLAIRE ROMAINE
Ali Baba	Mr NAT CLIFFORD
Cassim	Mr DAN PAULTON
Abdallah	Miss VERE GERALD
Hassarac	Mr KENNEDY ALLEN
Cogia	Mr ALLAN WYE
Street Boy	Master HARRY AVERY
Morgiana	Miss ROSIE SYLVESTER
Ibrayhim, Melchisidec	The SAKER-HARLOWS
Zoe	Miss MURIEL VOX
Hassan	Miss VIOLET RENDEL
Giafur	Miss NORA O'CONNOR
Mustapha	Miss EMILY TELFORD
Selim	Miss FLOSSIE TELFORD
Fatima	Miss DAISY WEBB
Badoora	Miss MAUD RUSSELL
Saladin	Miss ETHEL HARRY-NASH
Lallah	Miss MAY HARRY-NASH
Principal Dancer	Miss ETHEL ASHTON

IMMORTALS.

Spirit of Avarice	Mr FRED FENTON
Fairy Sesame	Miss ALYS EDEN

The ninth annual pantomime at the Stratford Borough Theatre was produced on Boxing Day at a matinée performance, and was received with the utmost enthusiasm by a packed house. *The Forty Thieves* is a subject which easily lends itself to gorgeous treatment in the way of dresses and mounting, and as expense has apparently been a secondary object in Mr Fred Fredericks's latest Christmas production, he is entitled to every congratulation on the happy results attained. The "book" adheres quite closely to the familiar fairy tale, the story opening in the Market-place of Rampur. The very elaborate scenery was warmly eulogised at the opening performance, the scenes calling for special commendation being the Mountain Gorge, the Cave, a weird and wonderfully effective set with its peculiar lighting effects, and Ali Baba's gorgeous Palace, all of these scenes being by Mr George Dodson. Although the pantomime contains no speciality acts, lovers of the spectacular will find a most efficient substitute in the brilliant succession of marches and concerted numbers. The juveniles, as well as their elders, will have plenty to exercise their risible faculties in the abundance of genuine comedy business which pervades the pantomime. In once again securing the services of Miss Claire Romaine as principal boy the management are to be congratulated. In her hands Ganem is the central figure of the story, her bright, buoyant style and charming personality carrying all before them. Her songs, of which "Pennies" is perhaps the most popular, go wonderfully well, and she also shares the success of a burlesque duet, "Prophets," with Mr Nat Clifford. It is one of the "tit-bits" of the performance. Mr Nat Clifford has become quite an established favourite with Stratfordians, and his popularity is not likely to wane at present. As Ali Baba he comes in for the lion's share of the work, and his volatile humour, ready resource, his odd methods and eccentric dancing, gain him terrific applause. He has a most amusing style of singing "Just like the ivy," the first line of one of last pantomime's popular airs, at most incongruous moments. This always provokes laughter, and his conversation with an imaginary "Lizzie" in the gallery creates plenty of mirth. Mr Dan Paulton plays Cassim with an unctuous humour which is highly suitable, and he has some capital songs. Mr Kennedy Allen is a very nimble and alert Hassarac, making the part quite an outstanding feature, and his song, "Born with a silver spoon," wins some of the heartiest applause heard, besides which he is an exceedingly good dancer, his saltatory efforts being keenly enjoyed. Mr Allan Wye, who makes a stalwart and sturdy dame, proves himself a most capable comedian, and his song, "Canoodling," is decidedly good. Quite a prominent part is taken by the donkey "Ibrayhim," and a funnier assinine performance than that contributed by Mr R. Saker-Harlow could not be desired, the droll donkey's extremely funny antics simply convulsing the audience. Miss Rosie Sylvester is a very sweet and lovable Morgiana. She sings, too, delightfully, the invitation expressed in her song, "Who'll be Johnny number two?" being eagerly responded to; and she is also associated with Miss Claire Romaine in a very charming love duet, which does not fail to win encore verses. Miss Vere Gerald's fine stage appearance fits her admirably for the part of Abdallah, and she sings a patriotic song with telling effect. Miss Muriel Vox plays charmingly as Zoe, and renders a coon song very acceptably. Miss Daisy Webb contributes a pleasing performance as Fatima, and her coquettish rendering of "Sammy," with the help of a confederate in one of the boxes, fairly brings down the house. Miss Ethel Ashton, the principal dancer, gives an expert display of her prowess, her graceful, agile, and supple movements being greatly admired, and in conjunction with Mr Kennedy Allen contributes a quaint novelty duet, which evokes vociferous applause. The four lieutenants have smart and dashing representatives in Miss Violet Rendel, Miss Nora O'Connor, Miss Emily Telford, and Miss Flossie Telford. Saladin and Lallah have graceful exponents in Miss May Harry-Nash and Miss Ethel Harry-Nash; Miss Maud Russell is a charming Badoura; the Spirit of Avarice is well played by Mr Fred Fenton; and Miss Alys Eden is exceedingly good as the Fairy Sesame. The melodious and very appropriate music is composed, selected, and arranged by Mr Ben Barrow. For the fourth year in succession Mr Arthur Linforth stage manages, and that the initial performance went off without a hitch of any kind is striking tribute to his ability. With the urbane and experienced Mr Frank Rothsay "in front" nothing is left undone to conduce to the comfort of the audience; and they by their energetic calls for Mr Fred Fredericks, who "produced," testify to their appreciation of his efforts to cater for their delectation.

"ALADDIN" at EALING.

Pantomime, by J. Cromo, produced on Boxing Day.

Aladdin	Miss JENNIE RICHARDS
Princess Badroulbadour	Miss HETTIE GALE
Emperor of China	Mr ALLEN THOMAS
Abanazar	Mr FRANK BERTRAM
Widow Twankey	Mr JACK ORCMO
The Grand Vizier	Mr CHARLES ROSS
Wishee Washee	Mr CECIL CLAYTON
Pekoe	Miss LALLAH DAVIS
Kopah, Peelah	Messrs CARL and CARR
Ny Cee	Miss AMY BELLWOOD
Hyson	Miss V. VARCOE
Nicee	Miss TRIXIE KEAN
Cee Mee	Miss GRACE HUNTLEY
Ting-a-Ling	Miss ROSE SIDNEY
Young Sing	Miss MARIE ARNOLD
Sou Chong	Miss ELSIE SARGENT
Electra	Miss IDA HERON
Hymen	Miss RITA CARLISLE

Aladdin, which has been the first choice amongst all the leading suburban theatres, was produced here on Monday by Mr Harry Lorreano, under the personal supervision of Mr Arthur Carlton, the courteous and genial proprietor of this very up-to-date theatre. Mr Carlton has had the able assistance of his energetic manager, Mr Fred S. Jennings, while Mr Stephen F. Blythe has written some excellent lyrics and music for the pantomime. The plot runs, of course, on the old lines. The scenery is the work of Mr Charles Phillips, the spectacular effects are admirable, and no effort has been spared to render the whole show as effective as possible. Some of the lighting effects are singularly striking. Miss Jennie Richards is a fascinating and pleasing Aladdin, acting with grace and vivacity, and possessing also a charming voice, which she uses with effect. Miss Hettie Gale is a winsome Princess Badroulbadour. Mr Allen Thomas appears as the Emperor of China, and Mr Frank Bertram as Abanazar is intensely funny, being a comedian of infinite resource. The scene in which a programme boy in the pit continually interrupts him while telling a story is extremely amusing. Mr Jack Cromo as the Widow Twankey is very good. Mr Cecil Clayton as Wishee Washee puts in some smart business, which is thoroughly appreciated, dancing, singing, and acting with remarable zest. Miss Lallah Davis is charming as Pekoe, and is applauded for her excellent singing. The Misses Elsie Sargent and Ida Heron also deserve praise. Miss Amy Bellwood in the part of Ny Cee wins well-merited applause for a charmingly rendered song, and Miss V. Varcoe makes a rollicking second boy as Hyson. Great credit is due to Mr Harry Lorreano, the stage-manager, for the assiduous manner in which he has worked. Mr Arthur Carlton has produced his first pantomime in Ealing, and the popular verdict is "Excellent."

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" at WOOLWICH.

Pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood,
Produced on Christmas Eve.

Samuel Steele	Mr EDWIN ADELER
Martha	Mr TOM W. CONWAY
Johnny	Mr J. WILKINSON
Jimmy	Mr CHARLES DARRELL
Billy	Mr ALF MAYNALL
Wiggle, Waggle	The Brothers HARRISON
Rancorous	Mr C. HINCHLIFF
The Beast	Mr B. LOMAS
Rupert	Miss MAUDE DANKS
Smart	Miss LILIAN STANLEY
Beauty	Miss GLADYS HUXLEY
Trixie	Miss MAVIS HOPE
Prosperita	Miss AUDREY STAFFORD
Bertie	Miss NELLIE HARVEY
Gertie	Miss NORA LAYTON
Rose	Miss EMILY TAYLOR
Hilda	Miss ETHEL HOPE
Dot	Miss KITTY CONNELLEY
Edna	Miss GEORGIE WALLIS
Doris	Miss ETHEL RAINFORTH
Iris	Miss ELLA DOUGLAS
Lucia and Clara	The SISTERS EDWARDES
Robin	Miss CONNIE GLENABYN
Hugh	Miss FLORENCE MAY
Vernon	Miss ETHEL LAND
Ellis	Miss ELSIE GRIFFIES
Phil	Miss ADA GILBRIDE
Eric	Miss LILIAN ALLCHURCH

Christmas Eve saw the presentation of Mr Clarence Sounes's fifth annual pantomime, which, produced under the personal direction of Mr Sounes, with the able assistance of Mr C. E. Paton, certainly reaches, and indeed surpasses, the high standard of excellence attained by former productions at this theatre. The book, by Mr J. Hickory Wood, is written partly in neat, crisp prose, and partly in the familiar rhymed couplet, while the plot is of quite dramatic interest. In scene one, The Garden of Sleep, a really beautiful front cloth from the brush of Mr J. D. Dodson, we are introduced to the Sleeping Beauty, who is presently wakened at the instigation of the fairy Prosperita and much to the disgust of Rancorous, a demon, by Prince Rupert. The demon swears revenge, and the plot is fairly under weigh. The second scene is the Village of Puddlebridge, the rustic charm of which, with its delightful view of the valley and clever suggestion of distance in the back-cloth, as depicted by Mr Conrad Tritschler, is quite sufficient warranty for the arrival there of all the chief characters in the story. Here is the home of Beauty's father

and mother, to whom she is restored by Prince Rupert, her return being the signal for great rejoicings among the whole population of the village, evinced chiefly by animated song and dance. Two charming woodland scenes by Mr R. M'Cleary show the Demon reasserting his power by changing the Prince into a Beast, and bring us to a set called The Rose Garden, which is certainly one of the most brilliant scenes ever put on at this theatre. Beauty eventually gives the Prince the magic kiss, which restores him to his right shape, and all ends as happily as could possibly be hoped for by the youngest member of the audience. Prince Rupert is played by Miss Maude Danks, than whom it would be hard to find anyone more eminently suited to the part, for her fine figure and admirable stage presence, combined with a melodious mezzo-soprano voice, bring her as near as may be to the ideal principal boy. Miss Danks made a great hit with her song "Arizona," and also gave an excellent rendering of the well-known "May Morning." Miss Gladys Huxley as Beauty is one of the sweetest principal girls we have seen for a long while; she has a personal charm of manner and an air of demure roguishness which endear her to all hearts, while her bright singing and sprightly delivery of the lines entrusted to her complete a portrayal as delightful as it is fresh. Miss Huxley's rendering of the "Dove" song was given with true tenderness of expression, while she fairly brought down the house with her song, "Baby Dreams." The rôle of Smart, the Prince's valet, was entrusted to Miss Lilian Stanley, whose dashing and piquant style of acting was admirably in keeping with the part. She is the fortunate possessor of a well-trained voice, which was heard to advantage in a really feeling rendering of "Bluebell," while the spirit and go with which she sang "When the band begins to play" made this one of the most successful numbers of the evening. Trixie, the maid, found a vivacious exponent in Miss Mavis Hope, who played with a most pleasing air of animation and whole-heartedness; her singing of "Navaho" was an instantaneous success, while her duet and dance, "Lulu," with Miss Lilian Stanley was loudly encored. The Fairy Prosperita was impersonated with dignity and grace by Miss Audrey Stafford, whose song, "The Sweetest Girl in Dixie," went well. Mr Edwin Adeler was suitably cast as Samuel Steele, the merchant; he has a fund of dry humour at his command and an inimitably comical way of delivering his lines, while his songs, "Who killed Bill Bailey?" and "Up in Scotland," were received with much laughter. Mr Tom W. Conway was responsible for a richly humorous portrayal of the merchant's wife Martha; he made a great hit with his song, "Oh! yes you did." A droll impersonation of Johnny came from Mr J. Wilkinson, whose unctuous humour and diverting mannerisms had full play, while his singing was really funny. Another much appreciated number was a burlesque Welsh glee song by Messrs Adeler, Conway, and Wilkinson. Mr Charles Darrell as Jimmy and Mr Alf Maynall, who is also partly responsible for the stage-management, as Billy make the most of their lines. Some excellent knockabout turns were supplied by the Brothers Harrison, who, for their general verve and go, their cheerful alacrity, and clever playing up to one another, soon became fast favourites with the house. Mr C. Hinchliff played Rancorous in true demoniacal style, his good voice being heard to considerable advantage in "When love steals out of sight." A notable performance was that of the Beast by Mr R. Lomas, for not only did he do some extremely clever and dangerous-looking acrobatic tricks, but he played in dumb show with an ability indicative of true histrionic power. Miss Emily Taylor gave a tasteful rendering of a pretty song entitled "Go away, Mr Crocodile," and a song and dance, "Daisy," by the Sisters Edwardes was much enjoyed. One of the features of the performance was a serpentine dance by Miss Nellie Harper. Another item which was very successful was the vigorous but dainty dancing of the Stella Troupe of dancers. The chorus was tuneful, hardworking, and intelligent, and the orchestra, under the skilful direction of Herr A. Blome, who was responsible for the arrangement of the music, acquitted itself well. The front of the house was, as usual, in charge of Mr J. Gladwin. Mr Sounes's popular acting-manager also had a considerable hand in the preparation of the pantomime.

"PUSS IN BOOTS" at KINGSTON.

Pantomime, Produced on Boxing Day.

King Komilfo	Mr CHARLES S. KITTS
Princess Carita	Miss RHODA WINDRUM
Lola	Miss LILY GULLICK
The Donna Dolores	Mr LEONARD THIEL
Sancho	Mr J. HAROLD CASSON
Pancho	Mr ARTHUR SOMERS
Juan	Miss NELLIE WELLING
Bilbalio	Mr ERNEST NOBLE
Perdita	Miss IDA LAWRENCE
Katrina	Miss ETHEL THORNE
Carmen	Miss BLANCHE HOUNSELL
Sylvia	Miss FLORENCE HOUNSELL
Rita	Miss BIJOU DRISO
Violetta	Miss EDITH WELLS
Zelosa	Miss CLAIRE FARRINGTON
Lucila	Miss MARIE MANTON
Leonora	Miss NANCY GERAUD
Francisca	Miss MILLIE GREY
Luis	Miss ELLA DERWENT
Ruy	Miss BELLE DICKENS
Lopez	Miss MADELINE EDWARDS
Michael	Miss JESSIE HOPE
Ambroeio	Miss MABEL ROBERTSON
Alysius	Miss JESSICA THORNE
Brovilio	Messrs EUGENE and WILLIE
Grimalkin	Mr GEORGE DANVERS, Jun.

Mr Peter Davey, the enterprising manager of the Kingston Theatre, produced his eighth Christmas pantomime at that cosy little playhouse on Boxing Night, and may be congratulated upon having achieved a decided success artistically, and one that promises to be a financial success also, judging from the crowded state of the house at each of the performances during the week. The pantomime is full of life and colour, and rattles along through its seven scenes with a fine swing, thanks to very careful preliminary rehearsals, so that there is scarcely a dull moment during the three hours it claims attention. In the first scene we are introduced to a characteristic Spanish picture of The City or Pandalusia, with a bodega, kept by a young lady named Lola. Donna Dolores finds her way here, and so do her three sons, Sancho, Pancho, and Juan, the latter a very popular youth in the city, especially amongst the female portion of the population. Juan's only heritage is a pussy cat, which accompanies him wherever he goes. King Komilfo is another personage who does not disdain to patronise the humble bodega; but Komilfo is a King without an exchequer, though he has a lovely daughter, the Princess Carita, upon whom rests his hopes of future solvency. Carita and Juan, meeting each other, fall in love, but a marriage between them is, of course, impossible under existing circumstances, so that when his impecunious Majesty offers his daughter's hand in marriage to the gallant who shall rid the country of a wicked ogre who is the terror of the neighbourhood, the prospect tempts the valiant Juan to embark on the dangerous enterprise. The Cat, however, soon sees a way of helping his master, for he meets the fairy Perdita, who promises that if he will only become possessed of a certain pair of leathern boots all things will become easy to him. In Bond-street, Pandalusia, which is the second scene of the pantomime, there is a good deal of fun with the Widow Dolores, who has started a pawnshop to help to keep the wolf from the door. One of her possessions is a pair of top boots, for which his faithful Cat evinces a strange fancy, and buying them for the animal it puts them on, and then discovers that they confer the power of human speech. In the third scene we are introduced to the home of the fairy Perdita, the Silent Pool. Eventually the Cat manfully attacks the Ogre, and succeeds in throwing him over the ramparts on to the rocks below. Juan witnesses the fight, and when the web is cleared away discovers the Ogre's hidden treasure, which the Good Fairy announces is his to make whatever use of he likes. At the Palace of Pandalusia, where his Majesty is found capable of keeping up great state, notwithstanding his depleted coffers, Juan himself arrives, with the fair Princess, now wedded to him, leaning on his arm. The pantomime ends with "The Dream of Louis Wain"—a scene composed of cats' heads—and the reunion of Perdita and Puss in Boots. Many songs, dances, duets, and innumerable jokes are interspersed with this interesting story. Mr Chas. S. Kitts was a capital King Komilfo, and worked like a Trojan to make the show a success. Miss Rhoda Windrum was a charming Princess, and received deserved applause for her singing and dancing. The part of Lola was filled by Miss Lily Gullick with a piquancy that made her a great favourite with all parts of the house. Mr Leonard Thiel was the life and soul of the production as Donna Dolores, his dancing especially causing no end of amusement. Mr J. H. Carson as Sancho, one of the Donna's sons, was successful in adding considerably to the humour of the pantomime, and in this he was ably assisted by Mr Arthur Somers, who played Pancho. Miss Nellie Willing was an engaging Juan, singing and dancing with much acceptance, and Miss Ida Lawrence made an attractive Perdita, whilst Miss Ethel Thorne won encomiums for her graceful dancing. Mr. Geo. Danvers, jun., was a great success as the Cat, and a black bull that figured largely in the pantomime was represented by Messrs Eugene and Willie, who also gave an exhibition of acrobatic fiddling in the final scene that was very clever. The chorus were admirably trained. The pantomime was devised and arranged by Mr Peter Davey, and was produced by him with the valued assistance of Mr. Chas. S. Kitts. Mrs Peter Davey again had the superintendence of the wardrobe, and deserves congratulation upon the beauty and effect of the costumes, which were gorgeous. Mr R. Entwistle acted as stage-manager. The lines, lyrics, and concerted pieces were written by Mr H. B. Pinnock; the music was selected with skill by Mr J. H. Russell, the popular *chef d'orchestre*—that which was new was composed by Mr Corelli Windeatt and Mr L. Hillier; the scenery was painted at the theatre by Mr Geo. Miller, the resident artist, and Mr R. Burriss, assistance being given by Mr R. Springett; and Mr G. C. Nash was the perruquier.

"CINDERELLA at the PRINCE OF WALES'S, RICHMOND.

Pantomime, by George Dance, Produced on Boxing Day.

Baron Broadacres	Mr VINCENT BOWYER
Bedella	Mr GEO H. LIST
Edna	Mr SAMUEL LYSONS
Buttons	Mr E. W. COLMAN
Jeames	Mr HORACE EDWARDS
Prince Florizel	Miss JACQUELINE BLANEY
Dandini	Miss FLORENCE PLUNKET
Arthur	Miss ROSE DALE
Reggie	Miss MABEL MAARTENS
Percy	Miss BARBARA EVANGELINE
Algy	Miss CONSTANCE CARRE
Claude	Miss IRENE VIVIAN
Harold	Miss MAY CAREW
Fairy Goodheart	Miss FRANCES JOSEPHS
Weary Willie	Mr ARTHUR BALLARD
Tired Tim	Mr C. STEADMAN
Sunny Jim	Mr GEORGE HEYS
Alphonse	Mr EDWARD JOY
Cinderella	Miss GLADYS GUY

Mr George Dance has provided a Christmas entertainment that is greatly to the taste of Richmond playgoers, if the crowded audiences attending the theatre this week are any criterion. The first half of the programme is made up of a variety show of much excellence, and the last half comprises a dainty little pantomime with Cinderella as the heroine. An innovation made by Mr Dance is that each performance lasts just two hours, two performances being given each night. The first to appear is Mdlle. Emmy with her well-trained pet dogs. Their performance is greeted with applause. The skilfully-executed acrobatic doings by the Five Olracs deserve notice. The admirable pictures by the Vernon Bioscope and the smart singing and dancing of Miss Fifi Gordon complete the first part. In the pantomime performance Mr Vincent Bowyer scores as the wicked Baron, and Mr E. W. Colman as Buttons is alert and never misses an opportunity of adding to the fun. Mr G. H. List and Mr Samuel Lysons as the Ugly Sisters do good work. Miss Jacqueline Blaney as Prince Florizel is well placed, and Miss Gladys Guy is a fascinating Cinderella, also making a hit in a burlesque opera scene, in which she is assisted by Mr E. W. Colman. Miss Florence Plunket is good as Dandini.

DALSTON THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 26, the Musical Play, by James T. Tanner, Music by Lionel Monckton, entitled "A COUNTRY GIRL."

At the Dalston Theatre audiences are quite in love with the pretty Devonshire landscape forming the "set" for the first act of *A Country Girl*, which is being so efficiently played by the members of Mr George Dance's company. The entire performance is certainly most effective and enjoyable; and the warmth and glow of the second scene, the Interior of the Ministry of Fine Arts, where so much fun occurs, is as much appreciated as the first. Miss Maud Harvey in the title-rôle is, as she should be, quite a favourite; and Miss May Glen as Nan—more of a typical rustic lass than Marjory—is another lady who touches the heart of the audience. Miss Beatrice Glynn is a dignified Lady Anchester, and Miss Nina Carlton is a success as Princess Melaneh. Closely associated with her in the course of the story is Mr Raikes (the Rajah of Bhong), a character admirably sustained by Mr St. John Hamund. His rendering of the Rajah's celebrated song proves that that quaint composition is as popular as ever. Mr Cyril Thompson is a dashing Geoffrey Chaloner; Mr H. C. Morton a precise Sir Joseph Verity; and Mr J. Osborne is, in the matter of fun, a veritable host in himself as Barry.

TERRISS THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 26, the Drama, by Walter Melville, in Four Acts, entitled "THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

This interesting drama has been well received by crowded houses. As the Rev. Robert Everton Mr Edwin J. Collins gave a masterly embodiment of the part, and Mr Wingold Lawrence as Jack England was excellent. George Purvis, a countryman, was capably presented by Mr John Wilson. As Molly Vernon Miss Ada Marius was responsible for a clever and forcible delineation. Miss Elaine Vanbrugh played with great charm as Rose Seymour, James Sutton's ward. A highly satisfactory performance was contributed by Miss Marie M'Aulay as Marian Franklyn. There is plenty of comedy in the play. Miss Nellie Brunton proved herself thoroughly at home in the part of Lucy Vere, and succeeded in conjunction with Dick Punch (Mr G. Hammond Asquin) in evoking much laughter. Mr Frank Adair's realistic rendering of Captain Geoffrey Caversham proved most effective. Mr George Ferrers was all that could be desired as Detective Weatherby, and minor parts were all well played.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—Will you permit me to correct errors that appeared in your paper of the 24th inst.? Mrs Centlivre did not write *The Gamester*, but Edward Moore. *The Fool's Revenge* was produced on Oct. 18, 1859, not 1889.—Yours faithfully, WILLIAM HOMER. 90, Lower Thames-street, E.C., Dec. 27, 1904.

TOURING IN THE WEST INDIES.

The Shakespearian répertoire and old English comedy company, organised by Mr F. R. Benson, sailed from Bristol on Friday on a three months' tour of the West Indies, playing for a week or more at Kingston, Jamaica, both on the outward and return journey, at Port of Spain, Trinidad, at Bridgetown, Barbados, and at Georgetown, Demerara. Exceptional interest is being taken at all these places in this really remarkable experiment, and in all cases the governors, chief officials, and leading residents have come forward and promised their patronage. The programme is an extensive one. In no case will any play be repeated in the same theatre, and consequently the task put upon the players is no light one, as the list of plays to be given will show. These are *Hamlet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night*, *As You Like It*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Richard III.*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The School for Scandal*, *The Rivals*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *Garrick*.

The cast is headed by Mr Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton, who both graduated in the Benson company, and lately have won golden opinions as the leading supporters of Miss Ellen Terry, both at the Imperial Theatre and in the provinces. Of the rest of the company Miss Dorothy Green is considered one of Mr Benson's latest fortunate "finds." The "leading ladies'" parts will be divided between Miss Britton and Miss Green. The position which Mr Weir occupies in Mr Benson's chief company is not an easy one to fill. For the parts of Falstaff, Touchstone, and Tony Lumpkin the services of Mr Nigel Playfair have been secured. Mr George Fitzgerald will be an invaluable help, for he has played useful parts in the chief Benson company for many years. Miss Olive Noble will sustain the principal ingénue parts. She was in the first Benson company a few years ago, and since then has been in Australia. Miss May De Launey has shown aptitude for such rôles as those of Mrs Malaprop and the Nurse in *Romeo and Juliet*, though she is successful in younger characters. Mr Stanley Drewitt has had much experience in Mr Ben Greet's companies here and in America. Mr Bernard Limpus and Mr Forsyth won their spurs in the O. U. D. S. at Oxford. The general manager of the company is Mr Cuthbert Ricketts, working under the direction of Mr A. Smyth-Pigott, the general manager of all the Benson companies. Mr Ricketts visited the West Indies in the summer to make all preliminary arrangements. Mr Chas. La Trobe, who has lately been in a similar position in Miss Ellen Terry's company, will be the stage-manager, and elaborate scenery and costumes will be carried. The whole company will number some thirty-five or more. It will be readily imagined that a tour of such magnitude and importance has never been arranged in this part of the world, or for that matter anywhere out of England, America, and Australia, and it could not be carried through with any prospect of success without the cordial co-operation of the Elder-Dempster Company, whose chairman, Sir Alfred Jones, a keen Shakespearian, is taking great personal interest in the whole undertaking. The members of the company will be put to no expense during their stay in the various ports of call, but will be put up at all the best hotels, which are under the control of the steamship company. Should the tour be as successful as it promises to be, other Colonies are likely to follow the example of the West Indies, and really first-class companies will be engaged to make known what is best in British drama throughout the British Empire.

Photo by Ellis and Walery.

MR. F. R. BENSON.

"LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD" AT WINDSOR.

Miss Rose Moncrieff opened the Theatre Royal, Windsor, on Boxing Day with *Little Red Riding Hood*, in which she has previously played the titular rôle some three hundred times. For this tour the old, familiar, and always popular story has been rewritten by Mr Newman Maurice and Mr William Muskerry, and while it, of course, retains the main features of the original play, the new version bristles with up-to-date incidents, "quips and cranks," and topical allusions, accompanied and brightened by tuneful melodies, catchy songs, and lively dances. Miss Moncrieff is an old favourite in the Royal borough, and on the opening night the theatre was filled to excess by an audience who well appreciated and cordially applauded the performance all through. Appropriate scenery, gorgeous dresses, and excellent staging all round contributed materially to the success of the production, while the orchestra, under the bâton of Mr A. C. Loder, rendered the music in highly efficient manner. For the effective placing of the "show" on the boards distinct credit is due to Mr J. Hammond, acting-manager for Miss Rose Moncrieff; Mr George Tearle, stage-manager; and Mr Chris Dashwood, stage carpenter. Miss Moncrieff's Red Riding Hood is a remarkably charming and natural representation, pretty, dainty, and properly childlike. Mr W. F. Matthews as Granny is very humorous; Miss Jessie De Grey makes a delightful and handsome Prince Truelove; while Miss Nellie Montague is a bewitching Fairy Bluebell. Mons. E. Levano's Wicked Wolf is horribly realistic and therefore clever; the Coopers (Larry and Roger) are diverting and successful as Village Hooligans; and other members of the cast are equally capable and accomplished, viz., Miss Sadie Hart, Miss Nellie Culver, Miss Marie Lynch, Mr Harry Willatt, Mr George Tearle, Mr J. Hammond, Miss Eleanor S. Simmonds, Miss Hetty Avery, and Miss Maggie Abdy, the last three as pretty rustic maidens. An exceedingly pleasing incident in the play is a grand snow ballet dance, and exceptionally clever specialities are provided by Mons. E. Levano, the great Arabian whirlwind acrobat; Miss Jessie De Grey, impersonator of stars; and the Diamond Quartet of lady dancers.

"PRUNELLA; OR, LOVE IN A DUTCH GARDEN."

Play, in Three Acts, by Laurence Housman and Granville Barker, with Music by Joseph Moorat, Produced at the Court Theatre on Friday, Dec. 23.

Pierrot	Mr GRANVILLE BARKER
Scaramel	Mr HARRY DODD
Kennel	Mr REGINALD RIVINGTON
Callow	Mr JOHN W. DEVEREL
Mouth	Mr ORLANDO BARNETT
Hawk	Mr GEORGE TROLLOPE
Tawdry	Miss HELEN GRENVILLE
Doll	Miss MARGARET SUSSE
Romp	Miss FLORENCE REDFERN
Coquette	Miss HAZEL THOMPSON
Prim	Miss VIOLET VAUGHAN
Privacy	Miss NORA GREENLAW
Prude	Miss AGNES HILL
Quaser	Miss EMILY GROVE
Quaint	Miss ALICE ARDEN
First Gardener (Jeremy)	Mr TOM PAULTON
Second Gardener (Samuel)	Mr T. HESLEWOOD
Third Gardener (Abram)	Mr F CREMLIN
Fourth Gardener (Peter)	Mr F. GROVE
Boy	Mr NORMAN PAGE
Statue of Love	Mr LEWIS CASSON
Prunella	Miss THYRZA NORMAN

Artistic effort is busy at the Court Theatre in the production of an idyllic play "for grown-up children," in which poetic beauties are to be discerned, and in which a story simple but engrossing is set to music in consonance with the theme. Prunella is a maiden over whom a trio of aunts exercise a rigid supervision. Their youngest sister had years before been sacrificed on the altar of love, and in order to shield the daughter from all temptation she is cloistered in their quaint old house. A troupe of mummers pass that way, and Pierrot gains an entry, leaves his heart with Prunella, and carries away a kiss. At nightfall he returns, and with honeyed words wakes the maiden from her sleep and induces her, as in a dream, to descend a ladder and join him and his merry companions assembled in the garden. Counselled by a statue of Cupid, which becomes animate for the occasion, Prunella, who yearns for the outside world, departs with Pierrot. All goes well for awhile, till Pierrot's fickle heart tires of his Pierrette, and with faltering footsteps she returns to the Dutch Garden, where poverty threatens the only surviving aunt. Memories of his old love cling to Pierrot, and he returns to be reconciled to his Pierrette and to preserve her old home. The charming simplicity of Prunella was well affected by Miss Thyrza Norman, whose expressive features lent themselves admirably to the varying emotions of the part, while her enunciation was admirably distinct—a virtue that attaches to all the members of the cast. Mr Granville Barker entered heartily into the lightsome frivolity of the chief actor, his varied inflexion of voice also aiding the effect of a well-studied impersonation. Humour, more or less subtle, is plentifully besprinkled in the play, and its chief exponents are a quartet of gardeners, whose remarks are characteristic of the class, and were rendered with all possible oddity by Mr Tom Paulton, excellent in make-up and delivery as Jeremy; by Mr T. Heslewood, no less droll in appearance as Samuel; and by Mr F. Cremlin and Mr F. Grove. A yokel bird-scarer was whimsically played by Mr Norman Page, sufficient of whose voice was heard in a chant of warning to the birds as to create a desire to hear more of it. The three old maids were duly eccentric and severe in the hands of Misses Violet Vaughan, Nora Greenlaw, and Agnes Hill; Mr Lewis Casson as the Statue of Love was dignified in speech and bearing; and the troupe of players, including Scaramel, who received skilful interpretation at the hands of Mr Harry Dodd, were made interesting with their capers and jesting by their various exponents. The play was tastefully dressed and mounted, and the music, under the direction of Mr S. P. Waddington was effectively rendered.

THE LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH.

On Monday, Dec. 26, the Comedy Melodrama, by Fred Moule, entitled "THE GRIP OF THE LAW.'

In lieu of the customary pantomime at this period of the year, which he has postponed until later on, Mr Samuel James has relied on the staple fare for the Christmas holidays, and in *The Grip of the Law* he has presented a melodrama which contains the most attractive elements for the enjoyment of his numerous patrons, who have crowded the theatre nightly to the very doors, and received the piece with the utmost enthusiasm. There is an abundance of thrilling excitement about the play, having two murders in the first act, the villain thrown into a steaming cauldron—amidst vociferous cheers, be it said—in another, and an execution only stayed at the last moment, in the final act. In addition to these, there is plenty of screaming comedy—funnier than any pantomime could possibly be. Messrs Moule and Nicholls's company has evidently been well rehearsed, for the play goes very smoothly and without the slightest hitch. The character of Dave Arkwright is very graphically rendered by Mr Henry Beauforte. The villain, Sergeant Frank Paul, is most powerfully undertaken by Mr William Matthews, who succeeds admirably in impressing the audience with the notion that he is an out-and-out scoundrel. Mr E. D. Nicholls impersonates Zeph Sorrell, a detective with a stutter, which decidedly catches on, and causes uproarious laughter, his comedy being excellent throughout. Jacob Hockaday finds a capable representative in Mr Courtenay Robinson, and a genuine success is made by Mr Sam Roberts as Andy Blunt. The mysterious Noel of the Night is well and passionately acted by Mr Herbert Evelyn, to whom much praise is due. Marion Arkwright is sympathetically played by Miss Ada Lucelle, who, in the later portion of the drama, represents Mrs Babbicombe with grace. Miss May Pratt is a charming and attractive Rose Hockaday. A bright and amusing Beulah Bliss is Miss Ada Frank. The scenery and effects are thoroughly characteristic of life in the Australian bush.

THE remains of the late Mr William Rignold, who passed peacefully away in his sleep on the morning of the 22nd, were interred in New Southgate Cemetery on Tuesday last. The funeral was of quite a private character, and no public intimation of place or time had been given. As a consequence, the attendance was limited to members of the family, Mr Rignold's medical attendant, and a few personal friends. The mournful cortége started from the late residence of the deceased at 11·0 o'clock, reaching the cemetery an hour later. The bereaved family were represented by the three daughters—the Misses Marie, Dora, and Patience Rignold. There were already present Dr. Pearman, Dr. French, Mr Thomas Holding, and Mr Monty Poncione.

MR STANDIN TRIGGS, managing-director of the Devonshire Park Theatre, Eastbourne, made a happy selection in the choice of Mr George Dance's *The Duchess of Dantzic* company as his Christmas holiday attraction, the audience throughout the week being exceptionally large and appreciative. On Monday patrons of the Dalston Theatre will have an opportunity of witnessing this delightfully interesting romantic light opera, and following upon the enormous success achieved by *A Country Girl* company during the past week, Mr George Dance may rest assured that the association of his name with such an attraction as *The Duchess of Dantzic* will be quite sufficient to draw all classes to witness another of his exceptionally fine companies.

AN IDEAL NEW YEAR'S GIFT.—BELLIS' TURTLE OIL SOAP.—Ladies who have not used Bellis' Turtle Oil Soap have no conception what a luxury it is or its wonderful properties. Leaves the skin soft and velvety. Lasts twice as long as any other. Truth says:—Turtle Oil Soap is the nicest I have ever used. I have been recommending it to everybody. Price 2s. 6d. per tablet. On sale at all high-class chemists and stores, or T. K. Bellis Turtle Co., 15, Bury-street, London, E.C.—[ADVT.]

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"SO ICH DIR!"

Play, in Four Acts, by Paul Lindau, Produced at the Berliner Theatre, Dec. 23.

Fredrichs	Herr KUHNERT
Von Schleppenhausen	Herr PITTSCHAU
Hans	Herr STARNBURG
Hopstorff	Herr WILHELM
Küpper	Herr MISCHKE
Frau Bremer	Fräulein HERDA
Klara	Fräulein ROLAND
Frau Preetzen	Frau WENCK
Alfred	Herr WRIGHT
Charlotte	Fräulein CHRIGIOLI
Elia	Fräulein FÖTTICHER
Wilhelm	Herr PRAHL
Franz	Herr L'ALLEMAND
Luise	Fräulein LEVERMANN
Fritz	Herr SCHINDLER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, THURSDAY, DEC. 29.—We are always sure to be interested in anything by Dr. Lindau, and the popular author-manager's new play met with an exceedingly cordial reception, so that he was compelled to appear repeatedly before the curtain. It is a serious play, the title being the half of a German saying: "Wie Du mir, so ich Dir" (as you to me, so I to you), meaning tit for tat—in other words, revenge. The following is the plot:—Consul Fredrichs is a wealthy bachelor, young, an officer of the Reserve, and with the usual tastes of a successful man of the world. His private secretary, Gottlieb Küpper, is his protegé; Küpper's parents lost their lives in a fire in the factory belonging to Fredrich's father. Gottlieb himself was injured, and has remained lame and feeble ever since. His infirmity makes him morose and envious; he has but one passion, and that is his love for Klara, the girl who is engaged to him. Not that the girl returns his love; on the contrary, she is tired of his gloomy manner, and is determined to give him up. Fredrichs makes Klara's acquaintance at the house of a friend of hers—a pretty chorus singer and demi-mondaine, Lola Preetzen. He invites her to supper—together with Lola and a number of other similar companions—and tells his secretary (all unconscious that Küpper is engaged to Klara) to take a letter and flowers to the young lady. Küpper goes, and implores Klara to be faithful to him, but the girl repudiates him. The wretched man then goes to the restaurant where the supper party is to take place. He tells Fredrichs the truth, and begs him to withdraw his invitation to Klara, but Fredrichs is afraid of exposing himself to ridicule, and declines. There has been a good deal of talk beforehand about a certain officer, who, having received a blow in the face, has been so degraded that he has been compelled to take his life, and Küpper determines upon his revenge. When the party is assembled and all is going merrily he rushes in, and crying "Wie Du mir, so ich Dir," strikes Fredrichs in the face. The cause of all the mischief, Klara Bremer, faints then and there; the insulted man takes his hat and goes—we conclude to make an end of himself, for his officer's pride is wounded to the quick, and he knows he will never hold up his head in society again. A strange enough theory, it appears to the even-minded onlooker. The characters are all well drawn and natural, the dialogue is pointed and frequently witty, and the interpretation of the play was an admirable all-round one. Frau Wenck—the chorus girl's mother—was, with her genuine Berlin dialect and good heart under a rough exterior, exceedingly amusing.

"DER GRAF VON CHAROLAIS," five-act tragedy, by Richard Beer-Hofmann, met with much applause and a modicum of opposition on its production at the Neues last week. Herr Beer-Hofmann is a talented and successful dramatist of the new Viennese school, to which also Herr von Hofmannsthal belongs. He writes thoughtfully, even poetically, and he appears to have, like Hofmannsthal, a taste for ancient motifs. The play is drawn from *The Fatal Lowry*, by Philip Massinger and Nathanial Field, which was performed in England for the first time in 1632. There are virtually two distinct dramas in one, the first being the more appreciated by the average spectator. The Count's father died in debt, and his body has been seized by the creditors. It is condemned to decay—according to the custom of the period—without burial. The son entreats to be allowed to take the place of the corpse, so that the famous General may not be so dishonoured after death. This touching proof of affection moves the president of the council, and he pays the dead man's debts himself. Count Charolais now marries the president's daughter, the fair Desirée, and lives three years in happy wedded life. Then the tragedy begins. Desirée's cousin Philip follows her to her room in the Count's absence and overwhelms her with protestations of love. She is devoted to her husband and child, and repulses Philip with indignation until he burns his hand at the fire grate and she binds up the wound. A change takes place—why is extremely obscure—in Desirée's feelings. She allows herself to be led to a house of ill fame, and is discovered by her husband later on in Philip's embrace. Charolais kills the betrayer, and the woman commits suicide. The piece is too drawn-out, and the action fails to convince, but it was acted in a masterly manner, and evidently pleased many.

ONE of the most charming fairy-plays ever put before a juvenile audience is running at the Lustspiel-Haus three afternoons a week. It is a three-act piece by the well-known authoress, Fräulein Gabrielle Reuter; the incidental music by Max Marschalk. The production added another to the clever writer's long list of triumphs. She was "called" repeatedly and applauded enthusiastically. And it was not only the children who appreciated the delightful play; its refined and delicate humour, the poetic vein running through all the scenes—which, though full of the true spirit of fairydom, never become banal—captivated the "grown-ups" of the audience equally, and *Die böse Prinzessin* would certainly be successful on any stage. It is a somewhat similar story to our "Beauty and the Beast." The haughty, naughty, but beautiful Princess Jorinde gradually becomes good, finally sacrificing the dearest thing she possesses—her golden crown—to save the ugly Joringel from the clutches of a terrible baboon. As soon as this act of self-denial is performed the bewitched Prince—for Joringel is, of course, a Prince—regains his natural face and form, both alike beautiful. The dreaded forest, full of evil things, turns into a veritable fairy-wood, and the once naughty Princesschen is folded again in her loving parents' arms. The music is pretty and appropriate, the scenery and stage arrangements everything that can be desired, and the cast—with Frau Mallinger in the name-part—a capital one.

THE Trianon Theatre has made a decided hit with *Die Glückliche Gilberte*, three-act comedy by MM. Hennequin and Bilhaud, German translation and adaptation for the German stage by Max Schoenau. Fräulein Helene Fehdmer as the much-married heroine was particularly fascinating. The part of Achille was satisfactorily sustained by Herr Sachs, while Herr Junkermann as Antonin and Fräulein Winkler in the rôle of Odette gave excellent renderings.

At the Central on Christmas night a new operetta was produced—*Die Negerlein*, by Waldemar Wendland, words by Franz Arnold. It was not particularly pleasing, even to a mirthfully-disposed audience, and after several good-humoured attempts at laughter and applause, the majority of the hearers relapsed into hisses instead. The most astounding "situations" are introduced, chief among them being the taking of the consul, Tsching-Bum—an Asiatic magnate—for Consul, the famous ape, which is being exhibited at a circus. The title-rôle, Topsy, was capitally given by Fräulein Tuschkau, a new acquisition with an excellent voice and graceful action.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

THE scene of "The Fairy Orchard" in *The White Cat* at Drury-lane Theatre is one of the most exquisitely artistic stage pictures ever presented to the public. Our scenic artists are abandoning the old conventions which separated theatrical from other art; and Mr Henry Emden excelled himself in this lovely work, in which the tints of the apple-blossom join with the warmer hues of oranges, cherries, and other fruit with the most delightful harmony and effectiveness.

MR BEERBOHM TREE has received an offer to take over his company from His Majesty's Theatre to Berlin, and give a Shakespearian season there next autumn. Mr Tree is one of the few English actors whose familiarity with the German language is sufficient to enable him to play a part in German as well as in English; but if he goes to Berlin he will use the latter "medium of expression."

MR DENIS O'SULLIVAN, the actor and singer, who played Barry Trevor on Wednesday in *Peggy Machree* at Wyndham's Theatre, is the son of a native of Skibbereen, County Cork, who went out to the United States when a lad, and made his way to California. In San Francisco he rose to wealth and influence, and Mr Denis O'Sullivan was born in that city. For several years he has gone down to Skibbereen annually to give a concert for the benefit of the local poor.

MR GEORGE EDWARDES is very fond of children; and for the little ones who will visit Daly's Theatre this afternoon, he has prepared a very pretty Christmas tree. On its branches, besides other tempting articles, hang many "golly wogs," and each child in the audience will be allowed to take one of these away on leaving the house after the performance.

HIS MAJESTY has sent Mr James Fernandez a beautiful ruby pin as a souvenir of his recent visit to Windsor Castle, when he appeared as Raymond De Noirville in Mr Beerbohm Tree's special production of *A Man's Shadow*. Mr Fernandez will celebrate the jubilee of his début in London as Stephen Darville, in *Micheal Erle*, next year at the Old Queen's Theatre, Long-acre.

FURTHER particulars are to hand respecting the production of *A Wife Without a Smile* at the Criterion Theatre, New York, on the 19th inst. Mr Charles Frohman, it appears, had announced that the dancing doll would be "cut out," but there was a rumour, nevertheless, that this much-discussed feature would not be entirely omitted, but would be merely "toned down." Consequently, when Rippingill climbed the ladder and tied the doll to the string there was a flutter of expectation all over the house. But Mr Pinero's play had been "expurgated" after all, for the doll didn't move, and disappointment was written on every face in the audience. The suggestion of impropriety was provided, but the actual exhibition of it was withheld. One had to know all about the play beforehand in order to understand why the doll was introduced at all. Without this knowledge it seemed merely a pointless absurdity. In short, the comic situations were ruined, and the play fell flat. Mr J. H. Barnes gave a richly humorous impersonation of the eccentric promoter, John Pullinger. Mr Frank Worthing as Webbmarsh and Mr Ernest Lawford as Rippingill did excellent work. Miss Margaret Illington as Mrs Rippingill and Miss Elsie De Wolfe as Mrs Lovette played their parts well.

GERHART HAUPTMANN'S *Weavers*, which will be performed by the German company at the Great Queen-street Theatre on Thursday, contains no less than forty-three speaking parts. It is the most terrible picture of industrial distress ever presented on a stage, the pathos of the famished German weavers, grateful for a bit of dog's flesh, being almost agonising in its intensity.

MRS BROWN-POTTER has been presented by the King and Queen with a handsome gold pin, mounted with seventeen pearls, and bearing the initials "E. and A.," as a souvenir of her recent visit to Windsor in Mr Tree's company, *A Man's Shadow*.

DR. PAUL LINDAU'S new drama, *So Ich Dir*—"So I to You"—which was produced at the Berliner Theater, Berlin, on the 23rd ult., has an extraordinary theme. According to the law of German military honour, an officer who has been struck by a person who is incapable of giving him "satisfaction" must resign his military rank. A wealthy young officer has a sickly secretary, who is in love with a pretty girl. The officer wins the girl's affection, and the secretary, madly jealous, strikes him on the face in public, so that he will "never hold up his head in society again." The German code of "honour" is a little difficult for Englishmen to understand.

SIGNOR MICHELE ESPOSITO, the composer of the incidental music to *Peggy Machree*, which was produced on Wednesday at Wyndham's Theatre, submitted his first work to a London audience in 1898, when his cantata, "Deirdre," which won the composition prize in the Irish Feis Ceoil of 1897, was produced at Queen's Hall. Signor Esposito was born in 1855 at Castellamare di Stabia, in the Bay of Naples. Twenty-two years ago he became professor of the pianoforte at the Royal Irish Academy of Music, Dublin, and still retains the post.

AMONGST those present in the audience at Drury-lane Theatre on Monday were Mr and Mrs Pinero, Miss Mabel Love, Mr W. L. Abingdon, Mrs Cecil Raleigh, Mr Weedon Grossmith, Miss Beatrice Ferrar, Mr George Dance, Mr Alfred Moul, Mr James Davis, Miss Fanny Ward, and Mr W. S. Gilbert.

THE story of Gabriele D'Annunzio's new tragedy, *The Ship*, has just been published. The scene is laid in the Venetian lagoons in the fifth century. The inhabitants of the mainland have fled for refuge to one of the islands. Amongst the fugitives are the followers of the Gratici and the partisans of the Faletri. Marco Gratico aspires to be chief of the community, and Valerio, his brother, wishes to be its bishop. The Faletri invoke the aid of the Byzantine Emperor, and send, as an emissary, Basiliola, the beautiful daughter of Orso Faletro. She fascinates Marco, but he cannot save her from his people, and she is blinded by them with a red-hot piece of metal.

"COUSIN KATE," adapted by Mrs B. Pogson for the German stage, has been played for the first time in Germany, at the Thalia Theatre, Hamburg, and has made a decided success. Mr Bernard Shaw's comedy, *Arms and the Man*, was performed on Tuesday at the Josephstädter Theater, and also had a very favourable reception.

MR JAMES WELCH is as kind as he is clever. One day last week there was an exceptionally long rehearsal of *The White Cat* at Drury-lane. The chorus girls were at the theatre many hours, and few of them had brought anything to eat. Mr Welch and another of the principal artistes went out and sent the ladies in a big basket of sandwiches and several bottles of claret, which acted as excellent restoratives.

MR FORBES ROBERTSON and his company left Southampton on Saturday last in the American Line steamer Philadelphia, on their way to the United States and Canada.

MR OTHO STUART, owing to the great demand for seats at the matinées of *The Taming of the Shrew* at the Adelphi, has decided to give a special matinée there on Thursday.

MR FRANK RENDLE writes to modify a printed statement that whatever the results to the San Carlo Opera Company may have been, a considerable profit was made by him on the recent grand opera season. Mr Rendle, it appears, charged no rent at all for the theatre. He stipulated in his agreement with the San Carlo Company that a certain sum should be paid to him weekly in consideration of his paying for the stage hands and firemen, the printing, the lighting, the advertising, and the officials in the front of the house. The sums he thus received fell a little short of his actual disbursements. In order to recoup himself for the rent payable by him to the Grand Opera Syndicate for the use of the theatre, and the scenery, dresses, and properties, Mr Rendle stipulated that he should receive 25 per cent. of the receipts in excess of an agreed sum. This 25 per cent. worked out at less than one-half of the actual rent paid by him during the seven weeks that the San Carlo Company were in occupation of the house. But for the increased prices charged on the nights when Caruso sang, and for the special performance in honour of the King of Portugal, Mr Rendle would have received a merely nominal sum. The San Carlo Company made a favourable agreement with him, as they practically paid as rent for Covent-garden Theatre and the use of its large stock of scenery, dresses, and properties, only £95 per week.

IN consequence of the disastrous fire which occurred on Christmas Eve at the Opera House, Crouch-end, the pantomime *Sinbad* was partly played at the National Hall, Hornsey, on Boxing Night. In connection with the fire Mr Edgar J. Coyne, the stage-manager of the company, was instrumental in saving not only the properties of all the artists, excepting his own—a proof of his disinterestedness—but was also largely responsible for saving the auditorium from total destruction by stopping up certain passages with wooden blocks, which were partly burnt through, but delayed the progress of the flames. Mr Duncan Young, the lessee, with praiseworthy promptness, lost no time on Sunday morning in making arrangements for the performance of as much as was possible of the pantomime to take place, minus scenery, at the Bijou Theatre in the National Hall, Hornsey. He, in conjunction with Mr Geo. Brydon Phillips, allowed the principal artists to have the whole proceeds to help to console them for their loss of salaries. Mr Phillips, with his usual generosity, paid the whole of the chorus a week's salary, at the same time giving up his right, with Mr Young, to the bookings in aid of the fund if the public would accept in return the minor display offered. The announcement of this arrangement from the stage was followed by the singing of "He's a jolly good fellow," with band accompaniment.

THE performance naturally somewhat resembled a variety entertainment, but an idea was gleaned as to the success that would have been achieved by the production from the favourable, flattering, and sympathetic manner in which each representative was received, dressed in their respective pantomime costumes. Mr Leslie Digby, the Captain Scuttle, was the first to appear, followed by Miss Cecilia Maude, the Crystal, whose charming voice was heard to great advantage in the rendering of "Bluebell." Miss Clare Farron as the Princess Naggles and Mr Geo. F. Snow as King Tibbles kept the merriment at its height with their Negro comicalities; and Miss Rene did an admirable turn. Mr Walter King, the representative of Mrs Sinbad, was quite successful with his characteristic monologue entertainment, and his patter was very diverting. The Osmonds and Verona worked hard, and with wonderful alacrity, in their business, difficultly done owing to want of space. Miss Julia Preston, the Sinbad, with her chorus of ladies, all in costume, gained hearty applause. She was most vociferously encored, and she delivered an impromptu and touching speech.

MISS NELLIE RANDALL, who was cast for the part of Badoura, is an animated and charming comedienne, her catchy rendering of "Barney" evoking spontaneous plaudits. The Maples made their mark in song and dance. Mr Charles Pastor was happily inspired when he journeyed from the London Pavilion to Hornsey to aid with his services as an extra turn. The harlequinade, under great difficulties, was gone through, and the famous North London clown, Mr Harry Gardner, created very hearty laughter. The Athenæum at Muswell-hill is to be requisitioned for the *Sinbad* company next week, when it is to be hoped the local inhabitants will generously support the burnt-out artists.

MADAME CELINE CHAUMONT, having officially contradicted the rumour that she would reappear on the stage, now announces officially that she has accepted M. Hertz's flattering offer, and will play Dorine in *Tartuffe*, with M. Coquelin in the title-rôle. The piece will be given at the Paris Gaîté on the 5th and 12th of next month. It is many years since Madame Chaumont left the stage. In fact, the present generation only know her by name; and the appearance of this once-popular actress in classical comedy will be something out of the common. Madame Chaumont is the wife of M. Mussay, former lessee and manager of the Palais Royal.

MR EDWARD TERRY opened at the Princess Theatre, New York, on Boxing Day, in *The House of Burnside*, with immense success. He had fifteen calls before the curtain after the second act, and the local press is enthusiastic in its praise.

SIR LAWRENCE ALMA-TADEMA, R.A., who was recently elected an honorary member of the Scenic Artists' Association, has, as already stated, kindly promised to lend his model and sketches for "Coriolanus" to the Exhibition, and with Sir E. J. Poynter, P.R.A., and Mr E. A. Abbey, R.A., will form the Hanging Committee, and Messrs H. Beerbohm Tree, George Alexander, George Edwardes, Forbes Robertson, J. Martin Harvey, John Hare, Frederick Harrison, Cyril Maude, and other London managers have kindly volunteered to lend articles of theatrical interest, and have graciously given permission to artists under their respective managements to appear in the concert room of the Exhibition.

A CONTRIBUTION on "Christmas Customs and Games" to the current *Notes and Queries* contains a very ancient theatrical reference. In 1479, at Bristol, the mayor, the sheriff, and their brethren received "Seynt Kateryne's players" at their doors on St. Katherine's Eve, and gave them drink and rewards. It is added that special ordinances were made for keeping the peace during the "Christmas mumming time."

IMPROVEMENT quickly follows improvement at the Theatre Royal, Gloucester. The popular proprietor, Councillor C. W. Poole, has added a fine new lounge bar for the convenience of his upper and dress circle patrons. The bar is handsomely fitted with red plush seats, the walls being decorated with picture panels and mirrors. It was thrown open for the first time on Boxing night.

AT the Standard Theatre, Bishopsgate, has been hung a new front curtain, upon which are painted the various principal female characters appearing in some of the successful plays by Messrs Walter and Fredk. Melville.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that the late Miss Susan Rignold was not a sister but a cousin of Mr William Rignold. She was not a daughter of the late Mrs Patience Rignold, and her parents were not connected with the profession.

MR WILLIAM GREET will, by arrangement with Mr Tom B. Davis, produce, at the Lyric Theatre, on Wednesday, a new two-act musical play, entitled *The Talk of the Town*, written by Mr Seymour Hicks, and composed by Mr Herbert E. Haines, with lyrics by Mr Charles Taylor. The cast will include Mr H. A. Lytton, Mr Robert Evett, Mr Powis Pinder, Mr Charles Childerstone, Mr Tom Graves, Mr A. Harrold, Mr Walter Passmore, Mr Akerman May, Mr Reg. Crompton, Mr M. R. Morand, Mr Stanley Brett, Mr A. Boielle, Mr Elliston, Mr E. Torrence, Mr Rudolph Lewis, Miss Agnes Fraser, Miss Annie Esmond, Miss Gertrude Thornton, Miss Lydia West, Miss Maudi Darrell, and Miss Olive Morrell.

MR AND MRS CARL HENTSCHEL, the president and lady president of the recently formed Strand district of the League of Mercy, superintended on Thursday a children's fancy dress ball, organised by Miss Irene Hentschel and Miss Doris Joel, the two youngest vice-presidents of the League, held at the Hotel Cecil. Countess Grosvenor, Dora Countess of Chesterfield, Lady Evelyn Ewart, and the Dowager Lady Lamington gave their patronage to the ball, which was attended by about 200 children in fancy dress. Prizes were given for the best dresses, the judges being Sir James Linton, Mr Hal Hurst, R.I., Mr S. B. Joel, Mr Jerome K. Jerome, and Miss Olga Hentschel. All the seasons were represented, and amongst the characters were Sir Walter Raleigh, Boy-blue, Faust, Bo-Peep, a Rajah, Napoleon, the Empress Josephine, a Japanese lady, Cupid, geishas, flower-girls, and fortune-tellers. Miss Irene Hentschel and Miss Doris Joel, who acted as hostesses, were attired in League of Mercy costumes. Mr Alfred De Rothschild had generously offered the use of his orchestra, which led the dancing under the direction of Mr Carl Heubert. An entertainment was provided between the dances, which included displays of fancy dancing arranged by Mrs Wordsworth. At 9·0 o'clock the children marched past the judges in procession, and subsequently the prizes were presented by Miss Hentschel and Miss Joel. Supper was served at the conclusion. Miss Hentschel's dancing was greatly admired, and Miss Doris Joel did a fancy dance which pleased the audience immensely. Special attention was given to the excellent make-up and dresses of Master Woolf Joel and Master Stanhope Joel, a very pretty Cupid.

MR EADE MONTEFIORE, who is the son of a clergyman, invited the choirs and Sunday school scholars of the Scottish churches, Episcopal churches, and the Roman Catholics to the matinée of *Cinderilla* on Monday at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh. The invitations were cordially accepted by the Rev. Dr. Cameron Lees, of St. Giles's Cathedral; the Rev. Father Superior Bader, of the Holy Convent of Mercy; the Rev. Canon Stuart, the Orphan Hospital; and many others. A very pleasant incident of the afternoon was the handing up to the Cinderella (Miss May Marton) a very beautiful basket of flowers from "The boys and girls of the St. Giles's Cathedral Schools;" another in Mr Maurice Isaacs, J.P., bringing the whole of the Hebrew School as a tribute to Mr Eade Montefiore, who bears a name famous among the Jews.

MR HUGH MOSS, the well-known "producer," who for the past five years has been the stage-manager for the opera at the Guildhall School of Music, has been appointed by Mr F. R. Benson as the vice-principal of the School of Drama and Acting which he has inaugurated at the Hampstead Conservatoire.

NOT many things can be safely predicted about a municipal theatre; but one thing is absolutely certain—that there will, in every case, be a large protesting minority of ratepayers, and, consequently, perennial controversy. The discussion evoked by the publication of the balance-sheet of the first year's working of Australia's only municipal theatre—Her Majesty's, in the town of Geelong—is still proceeding merrily. A rather nice and novel point has been raised. The Corporation included the rents of certain shops in the front part of the building as a portion of the revenue derived from the theatre. The protesters argue that this was an improper proceeding, as the shops have no direct connection with the theatre. On the other hand, the Corporation retorts that there would be no shops without the theatre. Will some legal light of the O.P. or Playgoers' Club say which is the right contention?

MR GEORGE DANCE'S production of *Veronique* at Brighton on Monday met with decided success. It is effectively elaborate, and the Brighton press is unanimous in describing it as one of the most artistic ever seen at the Theatre Royal. Mr Dance has endeavoured to send into the country an exact "replica" of the rendering of the opera at the Apollo, and the piece no doubt will carry everything before it in the country. His enterprises are numerous and popular. *The Cingalee* opened on Boxing Night at Croydon to a record house, and *Cinderella*, on the two-house-a-night system at the Richmond Theatre, has "caught on" capitally.

MR LAWRENCE GRANT AND MR MALCOLM BARRINGTON have secured all provincial rights of the successful comedy *Joseph Entangled* from Messrs Dauncey and Leveaux, and will shortly take it on tour. They have engaged Mrs Mouillot to play the part of Lady Verona Mayne, originally sustained at the Haymarket by Miss Ellis Jeffreys. Sir Joseph Lacey will be performed by Mr Grant.

THE fifteenth meeting of the committee of the Scenic Artists' Association was held at the offices on Wednesday evening. There were present Mr Joseph Harker, vice-president, and Messrs Walter Hann (in the chair), Edmund G. Banks, Richard Douglass, W. T. Hemsley, H. W. Owen, Harry Potts, W. Raphael, Geo. Tweddell, and Mr H. Lawrence Harris, secretary. Letters were read from Messrs W. Harford and H. W. Robinson, with apologies for inability to attend the committee meeting; from Mr J. J. Markwell-Davis, resigning his membership of the Association; from Sir Philip Burne-Jones, Bart., enclosing cheque for seven guineas from Mr S. Goldmann as a donation to the Benevolent Fund of the Association; and from Sir James Linton, acknowledging his recent election as an honorary member of the Association. Mr W. R. Buist (of Cardiff), Mr R. Caney (of Balham), Mr G. J. Dodson (of Manchester), Mr R. C. M'Cleary (of Drury-lane Theatre), and Mr Wm. Pike (of the Savage Club) were duly elected members.

THE secretary reported that since the last committee meeting he had received £30 1s. 6d. on account of subscriptions promised to the Exhibition Guarantee Fund, including cheque of two guineas from Mr R. Caney. The questions of opening the exhibition in the evenings and also of extending the dates (April 10 to 15) at present arranged were adjourned for consideration at the annual general meeting of the Association, to be held on the 9th prox. It was resolved that the secretary should arrange high-class entertainments at the Grafton Galleries on the afternoons of April 10 to 15; and he was instructed to write to Mr Edmund Gerson, of New York, and to express the regret of the committee at their inability to include in their exhibition works other than those of members of the Association and of deceased British scenic painters, and also to thank him for his offer to re-exhibit in New York, which they feared would be impracticable. It was decided to hold a special meeting of the committee at the offices at 8 0 o'clock on Friday next, the 6th prox., to arrange the agenda for the general meeting, and to receive the secretary's report respecting the details of the smoking concert.

MR TREE will produce *Much Ado About Nothing* on the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 24. *The Tempest* will be performed up to Jan. 19, instead of being withdrawn on Jan. 14 as announced. There will be no performance at His Majesty's Theatre on Jan. 20, 21, and 23, the stage being required for the final rehearsals of *Much Ado About Nothing*. In the revival of that comedy the masked ball will take place, not in the hall of Leonato's house, but in an orange grove adjoining it. The scenes of humorous trickery will also be given in this grove; and an intermezzo, composed by Mr Raymond Roze, will be played by the orchestra. In the Cathedral scene a cleverly contrived change will be made from the interior to the exterior of the building.

AT the St. James's Theatre on the afternoon of Jan. 18, by permission of Mr George Alexander, a musical and dramatic entertainment, given entirely by children, will take place in aid of the Fresh Air Fund. The first item will be the fairy play in one act, *White Magic*, by Netta Syrett, with music by Dalhousie Young, and dances arranged by Mr H. Louis D'Egville. Miss Sybil Keymer will give violin selections, and Miss Myra Hess will be the pianist. They will be accompanied by the London Symphony Orchestra. Others who will appear are Miss Dorothy Neville, Miss Felicité Tree, Miss Phyllis Yorke, Miss Phyllis Monckton, and Miss Nancy Buckland. Tableaux vivants representing famous masterpieces of art in child portraiture will be arranged by Mr Richard Speight. Two scenes from *The Tempest* will be played by the juveniles appearing at His Majesty's Theatre. A pageant of children representing a fancy dress ball will conclude the entertainment.

MADAME SARAH BERNHARDT, when recently appearing at Bucharest, paid a visit to Princess Marie of Roumania. As she was driving away from the palace she heard the report of a pistol. Princess Marie's little boy had determined to get a sight of the celebrated actress, and had fired a blank cartridge out of a window to make her look up—which she certainly did.

THE distress in Liverpool from various causes has, during the present season, been exceedingly keen, and many families are in actual want. Consequently, any assistance that is forthcoming is urgently needed and well applied. Amongst the earliest to lend a helping hand is Mr Harris Fineberg, proprietor of the Star Theatre, in Williamson-square. Having been in the city all his life he is well acquainted with all its phases of poverty, and has resolved to afford some gratification to the many who, without employment, find little pleasure. He has arranged with the Liverpool Food and Betterment Association to provide satisfying meals to large numbers of the respectable men who are unable to obtain work, and on Wednesday some 200 of these were seated in a building attached to the theatre, where an unstinted supply of appetising hotpot and bread was served. The poor fellows had a most enjoyable time. On Friday 200 children of the slums were treated to a meal, and further happy gatherings have been arranged during January. On Wednesday the sight of the poor fellows regaling themselves with a substantial warm meal was a source of great pleasure to all who were present.

A. M. BEAULIEU is going to start a free conservatoire in Paris, to be called "L'Ecole Dramatique Indépendante." The students of this new dramatic college who pass the necessary examinations will be engaged by M. Beaulieu for his People's Theatre, and will be allowed shares in the profits of the house.

AT a special sitting of magistrates at Birmingham on Wednesday, on an application by Mr Tom Davis for the licensing of children for the Theatre Royal pantomime, Mr Howard Lloyd was present as chairman of the Attendance Committee of the Education Committee. Mr A. M. Chance, the chairman of the Licensing Bench, explained that the original application was made early in December, but the Bench greatly desired to hear what the Education Committee had to say upon the matter. The Bench, therefore, granted a provisional licence until Jan. 7, on the strict understanding that the further consideration of the licences would take place in Christmas week. In the interval the Education Committee had been approached, and they had decided that they would not offer any opposition to the application. Mr Davis had been treated with great consideration by the Education Committee. He might say that they always desired as magistrates to work in harmony with other city authorities who had a voice in these matters, and they were now prepared to renew the licence for the children in question till the conclusion of the pantomime. A magistrate said he had been to the pantomime, and had had an opportunity of seeing the children. They were very well cared for, and every provision was made for their comfort. Medical evidence as to the healthy condition of the children having been given, the licence was granted.

MISS JULIA KENT, who is the principal boy (Robin Hood) at the Grand Theatre, Islington, always designs her own costumes, some of them this year being quite unique and a feature of the pantomime.

MR ARTHUR BERTRAM will produce at the Grand Theatre, Birmingham, on Feb. 20, for the first time in this country, a drama entitled *Hearts Adrift*, which has already been performed in America. On Feb. 27 the play will be seen at the Grand Theatre, Fulham.

MR WYN WEAVER, we are sorry to hear, fractured his ankle at Clapham-junction on Monday, and is now lying in St. Bartholomew's Hospital. He was, when he met with his unfortunate accident, in the third week of his engagement at the Crystal Palace Theatre.

"THE GIRL FROM BOND STREET" at the Opera House, Burton-on-Trent, has evidently "caught on," as a letter to a local paper proves. The writer says:—"Dear Sir,—I went to the theatre, and was one of the first six at the door. Soon the crush became so intense that one could not move half an inch any way. Just as the door was about to be opened a burly youth placed his hand on my shoulder with the evident intention of using me as a lever to get through the door. Time after time the door was blocked with three people abreast, and when they were a little over the average size it was only by one inside pulling the middle one through that an accident was averted." The eagerness to "see the show" must indeed have been intense.

MISS DOROTHY THOMAS on the afternoon of the 21st inst., owing to Miss Nora Kerlin's indisposition, played Miranda, in *The Tempest*, at His Majesty's Theatre at very short notice, giving entire satisfaction. Miss Thomas has been at His Majesty's for two years, and was specially engaged by Mr Tree to understudy Miranda.—Mr Blake Adams has had to put his successful dramatic episode, *The Last Pitch*, on one side for the present, having been engaged by Mr Cyril Maude to play his part, Captain James Barley, in *Beauty and the Barge*, on its first tour, starting on Jan. 16.

AT the opening performance of *Siegfried* at the Teatro Fenice, Venice, on Monday, the house presented a brilliant spectacle, all the boxes being filled with the Venetian nobility. The display of jewels and flowers was magnificent.

MISS JULIA NEILSON AND MR FRED TERRY will open their season at the New Theatre on Thursday with the four-act romantic comedy *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, by Orczy-Barstow. The cast will include Mr Rudge Harding, Mr Fred Terry, Mr Alfred Kendrick, Mr Malcolm Cherry, Mr Sydney Stirling, Mr Horace Hodges, Mr C. A. Doran, Mr Leon M. Lion, Mr L Race Dunrobin, Mr D. J. Williams, Mr Walter Edwin, Mr Ernest Imeson, Mr J. Carter-Edwards, Mr Hermann Griffiths, Miss Julia Neilson, Mrs Walter Edwin, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss Stuart Innes, Miss Kathleen Doyle, and Miss Marion Sterling.

MR J. E. VEDRENNE'S future arrangements at the Court Theatre include a revival of *John Bull's Other Island*, and production of *The Cradle*, an adaptation of Brieux's *Le Berceau; The Thieves' Comedy*, a version of Hauptmann's *Der Biberpelz*; and Mr Gilbert Murray's translation of *The Trojan Women*, of Euripides.

THE Scenic Artists' Association are anxious to obtain for their exhibition at Grafton Galleries, Bond-street, W., April 10 to April 15, 1905, specimens of the works of Absolom, Bolena, Beverley, Bough, Chambers, Cox, Cooper, Calcott, Gates, Grieve, Hunt, Leitch, Loutherbourge, Marinare, Mulready, Marshall, Nasmith, Roberts, Clarkson, Stanfield, W. Telbin, and other deceased scene painters, and the secretary, Mr H. Lawrence Harris, is inviting owners to communicate with him at 5, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

PADEREWSKI arrived in San Francisco recently from his Australian trip on the steamship Ventura. He was accompanied by his wife, formerly Madame Gorski. His tour of Australia, New Zealand, and the Antipodes has been more than successful, over forty recitals having been given since his advent in that country. At the opening of the sale of tickets for his three recitals over $4,000 was taken. On conclusion of his season in San Francisco, Paderewski was to leave for Los Angeles and Mexico, to be followed by a long tour in the Southern States of the United States.

WHEN Mr Tree's revival of *The Tempest* at His Majesty's Theatre is withdrawn on the 19th of next month it will have reached its 141st performance, and during its run it will have attracted close upon a quarter of a million of spectators.

MR FRED VINCENT, who has been general manager at the Leeds Grand Theatre ever since Mr John Hart accepted the control some eight or ten years ago, died at eleven o'clock on Tuesday night in Manchester. For the past few days Mr Vincent had been suffering from asthma somewhat acutely, and the end was hastened by heart failure. He had come to Manchester to undertake the stage direction of Mr Hart's pantomime, *Mother Goose*, at the Theatre Royal, but was taken ill on Thursday, and was unable to supervise the first performance on Saturday night. Mr Vincent was the practical designer of several eminently successful pantomimes at the Leeds Grand Theatre, and he had a happy knack of arranging ballets and dances and stage processions. He had been associated with Mr Hart for many years at Bradford and Hull before going to Leeds. Mr Vincent was about fifty-five years of age, and a widower. He leaves no family.

WE regret to learn that Madame Emma Agar, the talented composer and pianist, is lying very seriously ill at her Herefordshire home with bronchial pneumonia, pleurisy, and internal rheumatism. Music lovers will wish Madame Agar a speedy recovery.

HERR OSCAR VON CHELIUS, military attaché at the German Embassy, Vienna, has composed a new opera entitled *Die Vermarrte Prinzess*, which will be produced at the Court Theatre, at Schwerin, the second week in January. Von Chelius's first opera *Haschisch* met with considerable success at the Royal Opera, Berlin, some years ago.

MR W. A. J. A. MONTEITH-WINSTANLEY, son of Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. and Mrs Winstanley, sole proprietor of the Royal Opera House, and sole lessee of the Theatre Royal, Leicester, has successfully passed in class three, part one, the general examination for the ordinary B.A. degree.

ACCORDING to one of the Antipodean Society papers, Lord Plunket, the new Governor of New Zealand, is an ardent devotee of amateur theatricals. He has fitted up a theatre in Government House, Wellington, and regularly invites the leading society people to performances of plays in which he not only acts himself but assumes the onerous duties of stage-manager. Lord Plunket was officially connected with the Vice-Regal Court in Dublin for some years, and there no doubt he acquired his Thespian tastes and sympathies.

THE Mayor of Stratford-on-Avon has presented to the Mayor of Southwark a mulberry, supposed to be a sapling from Shakespeare's tree. The tree now at Stratford can, however, hardly be the original tree of Shakespeare, for this was cut down shortly after 1762. According to Chalmers's "Life of Shakespeare," in that year New Place, Shakespeare's home, was sold to Mr Gastrell, who, objecting to the assessment on it, shortly afterwards pulled it down, sold the materials, and left the town. He had some time before this cut down Shakespeare's mulberry tree. A correspondent of the "Annual Register," in 1760, wrote as follows:—"As the curiosity of this house and tree brought much fame, and more company and profit to the town, a certain man, on some disgust, has pulled the house down, so as not to leave one stone upon another, and cut down the tree, and piled it as a stack of firewood, to the great vexation, loss, and disappointment of the inhabitants. However, an honest silversmith bought the whole stack of wood, and makes many odd things out of this wood for the curious."

MR HENRY LUDLOW, who is at present touring *The London Fireman*, leaves early next year for Australia in order to support M. Auguste Van Biene. This will be Mr Ludlow's second visit to the Antipodes, having starred throughout Australia with Miss Jennie Maynard in the year 1900.

AT a recent benefit for the Charity Fund of the Associated Theatrical Managers of San Francisco, at the Orpheum Theatre there, the profits over and above all expenses were $3,500, which was applied to the relief of worthy members of the profession in the city and in foreign parts.

A COMPLETE set of pantomime pictorial postcards has been issued by Messrs Valentine depicting scenes at the Grand Theatre, Edinburgh, where *Cinderella* is playing to record business. The postcards are printed in seven colours, and the portraits and poses of Miss May Marton, Miss Fanny Wright, Miss Millie Engler, Little Zola, and the Six Lancashire Lasses have been so successful that editions of 40,000 are in circulation in Edinburgh and district.

JOSEPH HILLAM, a street hawker, living at Hoxton, was summoned at Lambeth Police-court on Thursday to show cause why certain copies of copyright music should not be forfeited or destroyed. The defendant did not answer the summons nor was he represented. The proceedings were instituted by an agent of the Music Publishers' Association. The music was seized from the defendant on Dec. 20, when he was vending it in Camberwell. In all he had with him 111 copies of various songs, all of which were infringements of copyright works. Mr Hopkins made an order for the destruction of the copies, and directed the defendant to pay 25s. by way of costs.

"PEGGY MACHREE."

Play, with Music and Lyrics by Mr Patrick Bidwell,
Incidental Music by Signor Michele Esposito,
and Additional Numbers by Mr Clarence Lucas,
Produced at Wyndham's Theatre on Wednesday, Dec. 28.

Lady Margaret O'Driscoll	Miss MARIE DAINTON
Hon. Emily Prior	Miss DOROTHY DRAKE
Madame De La Cour	Mrs E. H. BROOKE
Moira	Miss AGNES THOMAS
Molly M'Mahon	Miss NANCY MALONE
Nora	Miss KATHLEEN DAWN
Kathleen	Miss BERTHA SEATON
Eileen	Miss NESSIE WALKER
Sir Lawrence Borthwick	Mr E H KELLY
Captain De La Cour	Mr STANLEY PRINGLE
Alexander M'Dougall	Mr J. GRAEME CAMPBELL
Michael	Mr SHIEL BARRY
Rainey	Mr CHRIS WALKER
Larry	Mr WILLIAM WILSON
Patsy	Mr A. S. BARBER
Sergeant Bampton	Mr JOHN MOSLEY
Barry Trevor	Mr DENIS O'SULLIVAN

Peggy Machree, which was produced at the Prince of Wales's, Grimsby, early in last month, is a return—to some of us a welcome return—to the dramatic and well-written libretto. It is a comedy-drama embellished with songs—what used to be called a "ballad opera." The field of selection in the way of Irish airs is so large that it was not always easy to know whether the tunes selected by Mr Denis O'Sullivan and arranged by Signor Michele Esposito were original or ancient. The audience at Wyndham's Theatre, however, appeared perfectly indifferent to the origin of their enjoyment, and to heartily relish the melodious result which was attained. With good acting, capital vocalism, and a hearty and earnest spirit evident in all concerned in the production, *Peggy Machree* went with a swing from beginning to end, and was undeniably successful on its "first night" in London.

The story is sufficient for the purpose, and is neatly and crisply told. Lady Margaret O'Driscoll, a mad-cap young Irish lady, appears at a fair in the disguise of a ballad-singer. Here she is met by a "happy-go-lucky" young man, Barry Trevor, who is intended by his family to marry Lady Margaret's rich cousin, the Honourable Emily Pryor. He is attracted by the disguised "Peggy," and, in a spirit of hilarity, agrees to go through a mock marriage with her, the priest to be represented by Trevor's friend, Sir Lawrence Borthwick. By accident, a real priest performs the ceremony, and Peggy reproaches Trevor bitterly for his supposed trickery. In despair and disgust, he enlists in the army, and so the first act ends.

After five years of wars and wanderings, Trevor comes to Castle O'Driscoll in the character of a travelling fiddler, and discovers a plot on the part of Peggy's ruined relative, Captain De La Cour, to carry her off by force. Trevor and Peggy do not recognise each other at first, but in his endeavours to obstruct De La Cour's plans Barry's identity is disclosed, and in the last act Lady Margaret, after playing upon his feeling a little, enters in the ballad singer's costume, and falls into his arms.

The dialogue is brightly and naturally written, and Mr Bidwell's lines had the advantage of excellent delivery by the members of Mr Charles E. Hamilton's excellent company. Miss Marie Dainton played Lady Margaret Driscoll with admirable lightness of touch, and with an airy grace and roguish humour that were entirely effective. With the aid of clearly-distinct enunciation, she made the most both of her spoken lines and her songs, each of the latter being applauded most enthusiastically. Mr Denis O'Sullivan put an immense amount of fervour into his performance of the part of Barry Trevor, acting and singing with a heartiness which had its reward in uproarious and long-continued plaudits. The dash and vigour of his embodiment were keenly appreciated; and he carried the audience with him completely. Miss Dorothy Drake keenly suggests the ladylike gentleness of the Honorable Emily Pryor; and Mrs E. H. Brooke enacted Madame De La Cour with all the necessary polish and authority. Miss Agnes Thomas, with a correct brogue—an "excellent thing" in an Irish impersonation—made a most amusing Moira; and Miss Nancy Malone, though evidently nervous, was a pleasing Molly M'Mahon. An entirely satisfactory and judiciously restrained impersonation of the self-satisfied Sir Lawrence Borthwick was supplied by Mr E. H. Kelly; and Mr Stanley Pringle acted with commendable energy and ability as Captain De La Cour. Mr J. Graeme Campbell made a superb Scotchman, his depiction of the "dour" conceit of the major-domo being thoroughly good; and Mr Shiel Barry gave a truly Hibernian reading of the rôle of Michael. Mr H. Potts's scenery was pretty, and the furniture and decorations by Oetzmann used in the last act were most artistic. *Peggy Machree* was received with every symptom of success; and, though the author did not appear, there was plenty of applause at the end of the performance.

THE STANDARD.

On Boxing Day, Dec. 26, the Drama, in Five Acts,
by Frederick Melville, entitled
"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

In spite of the numerous counter attractions being presented in the vicinity of this theatre, the Standard is still able to hold its own, and is being packed nightly with large and enthusiastic audiences. The production of Mr Fredk. Melville's play, *Her Forbidden Marriage*, as the holiday attraction, shows sound judgment and decided wisdom on the part of the managers of this house, for the drama is one which is full of interest, with plenty of movement and exciting incidents, and at the same time has a continuous supply of genuine comic element carefully worked in at the right moment. Mr Albert Ward displays considerable ability, and submits a fine study of the hero, George Madison. Mr Clarence Hague capably portrays the villainous Charles Devereux, and plays with considerable force and skill, whilst Mr Horace Hunter does good work as Geoffrey Broughton. Mr Chas. Willoughby is a satisfactory John Williams, and Mr Gilbert Heron is eminently successful as the Rev. Mr Dean. A capital piece of character acting is supplied by Mr Edgar L. Hocking as Joe Lambkin. Mr Andrew Emm does full justice to the part of Timothy Tuttutt, and he is answerable for the many hearty bursts of laughter during the evening. He is assisted in a businesslike manner by Miss Marie Kildare, who is a bright and captivating Pattie Lovejoy. Mr Edward A. Warburton is dignified and impressive as Sir George Lancaster, and gives sound evidence of his ability in this character. Miss Isla Vayne plays charmingly as Lucy, and capitally sustains the rôle allotted to her. Miss Georgette Thierry carefully depicts the malicious nature of Lady Lucretia Lancaster, and the child Lucy, is sweetly played by Little Alice. A fine embodiment of the Mother Superior is supplied by Miss Emily Hughes, to whom a word of praise is due for her capable delineation of the character. The scenery and effects are good, and the staging of the piece is excellent in every detail.

MR G. AUBREY HALL wishes us to state that all the parts have now been filled in Mr Fritz Zorn's new farcical comedy *The Designers*.

MR BEN GREET seems to have a genius for discovering genius in others, if one can judge by the American papers. His first Everyman (Miss Wynne Matthison) made a great hit in the East, and now Miss Constance Crawley is taking the West by storm. The following is an extract from the *New York Musical Courier*:—Constance Crawley in her character of Everyman is magnificent. Her acting of a most exhausting part is a mosaic of pure art. One whose judgment in such matters is taken for law and gospel here asserts that Miss Crawley is one of the greatest actresses on the stage of the whole theatrical world, an assertion that one having seen her cannot doubt.

"PETER PAN;
or, THE BOY WHO WOULDN'T GROW UP."

Play, in Three Acts, by J. M. Barrie,
Produced for the First Time at the Duke of York's Theatre, on Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Peter Pan	Miss NINA BOUCICAULT
Mr Darling	Mr GERALD DU MAURIER
Mrs Darling	Miss DOROTHEA BAIRD
Wendy Moira Angela Darling	Miss HILDA TREVELYAN
John Napoleon Darling	Master GEORGE HERSEE
Michael Nicholas Darling	Miss WINIFRED GEOGHEGAN
Nana	Mr ARTHUR LUPINO
Tinker Bell	Miss JANE WREN
Tootles	Miss JOAN BURNETT
Nibs	Miss CHRISTINE SILVER
Slightly	Mr A. W. BASKCOMB
Curly	Miss ALICE DE'BARRY
First Twin	Miss PAULINE CHASE
Second Twin	Miss PHYLLIS BEADON
Jas. Hook	Mr GERALD DU MAURIER
Smee	Mr GEORGE SHELTON
Gentleman Starkey	Mr SYDNEY HARCOURT
Cookson	Mr CHARLES TREVOR
Cecco	Mr FREDERICK ANNERLEY
Mullins	Mr HUBERT WILLIS
Jukes	Mr JAMES ENGLISH
Noodler	Mr JOHN KELT
Great Big Little Panther	Mr PHILIP DARWIN
Tiger Lily	Miss MIRIAM NESBITT
Liza	Miss ELA Q. MAY

Happy hours are in store for the juveniles who visit the Duke of York's Theatre during the career of *Peter Pan*, for Mr Barrie has entered fully into the joys and delights of childhood days, and has peopled his newest fantasy with the choicest personages from the pages of Marryat or Cooper, side by side with the heroes of our youth, who interpret incidents which only the most elastic imagination could conceive. The whole is impregnated by the nimble wit and facile fancy which the eminent dramatist has at command, and the blend of humour and pretty sentiment constitutes a piece that no one, old or young, could resist. The play is built upon the fairy story of "The Little White Bird," by Mr Barrie. His fancy takes a bold flight at the opening scene, which lays bare the happy home of the Darlings, where a big Newfoundland called Nana discharges the duties of nurse to the children, preparing their bath, turning on the lights, and even giving the signal for bed. He is the guardian of the children, Wendy, the eldest girl, and John and Michael, and the parents know they can go out to dinner and leave their little ones in safety. Mrs Darling, however, is troubled by the appearance at the window of a face which bodes evil. It had appeared before, but had narrowly escaped, leaving behind nothing but its shadow, which gives no clue to its identity. Nana offends his master, and is banished to the backyard and chained up, so that after Mr and Mrs Darling have gone out, the interloper has his opportunity. It is Peter Pan, the owner of the shadow, who cannot rest till he finds it. By the aid of his guardian fairy, Tinker Bell, who to mortal eyes, is a flitting light, Peter finds his shadow and is putting it on when Wendy awakes. Peter says he is a boy, who, hearing his parents deciding as to his future, determined never to grow up, and ran away on the very day of his birth to a distant land, where he and other lost boys have founded a colony, of which he is captain. Peter so gains the esteem of Wendy that both she and her brothers decide to return with him to his country. To do this it is necessary that they should be able to fly, and after a few lessons they succeed with the aid of Tinker Bell, and the whole party soar away through the open window. A happy colony is that in Never, Never, Never Land, Peter's adopted country, the only regret being that there is no mother, and it is to Wendy that that important position is assigned. But Peter has an enemy—an implacable, deadly foe—in Jas. Hook, King of the Pirates, whose lair is in the neighbourhood. He has sworn to have revenge on Peter, as it was he who cut off the pirate's arm and threw it to the crocodile, with the result that the animal follows him about in order to get the rest of him, Hook's only chance lying in the fact that the reptile has swallowed a clock, the ticking of which warns his victim of his approach. The boys have allied themselves with the Redskins, whose leader, Tiger Lily, falls in love with Peter, and does not hesitate to tell him so. In the depths of the earth Peter's family circle is modelled on the most up-to-date lines, and Wendy is called upon for a tale when the boys retire. She relates the story of her flight from home, adding a happy ending, in which they all return and are welcomed with open arms. With Peter, however, it was quite different, for he had been home again to find his place occupied by another. For fear a like fate may overtake them Wendy and her brothers determine to make for home without delay, the boys, with the exception of Peter, volunteering to accompany them. They soon find themselves in the clutches of the pirates, who hasten on board with their prisoners. Hook is about to make them "walk the plank" when the tick-tick of a clock is heard, and the Captain, with the horror of the crocodile upon him, crouches in a corner in terror. It is only Peter Pan, who has swum to the ship, and, with a time-piece between his teeth, boards the vessel and drives the enemy overboard. The return home of Wendy, John, and Michael is at length accomplished, a warm welcome awaiting them from mother and father, who out of remorse has changed places with Nana, and occupies the kennel.

No one could more befit the title-rôle than Miss Nina Boucicault, who, with all a boy's animation, preserved the spirit of the part throughout its arduous length. She was chivalrous as leader of the boyish band, yet there was an ingenuousness and a gaiety that made the droll lines of the part sharp and clear. Mr Gerald Du Maurier played with his accustomed lightness of style as Mr Darling, but he was not wanting in the part of the heavy villain, for it was to him that the rôle of the pirate chief fell. It was his lot to give several clever imitations of leading actors, and through all he did and said he was accompanied by the instant appreciation, the quick perception, and the constant laughter of the audience. Miss Dorothea Baird was a perfect embodiment of womanly grace and maternal feeling as Mrs Darling. The sincerity of her solicitude for her offspring and the singing of a little lullaby were as infinitely sweet as her passionate joy at the recovery of her lost ones was touching. A high position in favour was taken up by Miss Hilda Trevelyan as Wendy Darling. She portrayed with marvellous truth the dawn of her girlish love for Peter, and the tenderness and grace of the whole assumption was agreeably evident throughout. The brothers John and Michael Darling were made natural and appropriate and often droll by Master George Hersee and Miss Winifred Geoghegan; Miss Joan Burnett gave to the part of the boy Tootles a pleasing prominence that said much for her skill; and as the Twins Miss Pauline Chase and Miss Phyllis Beadon revealed an aptitude for dancing. Smee, the Irish pirate, was acted with grim reality by Mr George Shelton, who was droll to the last degree; and Mr Sydney Harcourt as Gentleman Starkey played a brother buccaneer with ready humour. The character of Tiger Lily, the Indian maiden, was a distinct achievement by Miss Miriam Nesbitt, whose liquid tones and graceful bearing fitted the part to a nicety; and a hit was likewise made by Miss Ela Q. May, who, as an odd and plump little slavey, spoke her lines and smiled a smile in a way that aroused roars of mirth. Mr Arthur Lupino did a marvellous piece of work as Nana, the dog, his facial expression and natural movements being a masterpiece of animal impersonation, and the crocodile also did much for the piece. The various scenes by Mr W. Harford and Mr W. Hann, who painted the first set from the design of Mr W. Nicholson, were finished examples of brush-work; and the play, produced under the direction of Mr Dion Boucicault, never wavered in its progress to success.

DEATH OF FRANK CELLI.

Mr Frank Celli, the handsome and popular baritone vocalist, died in the Robertson Ward of Charing-cross Hospital on Tuesday last. The poor fellow was suffering from a large carbuncle in the back. On Monday he was very cheerful, and joined in a little concert which the sisters of the ward had organised. He had a very bad night, however, and at 10·0 a.m. on Tuesday passed away. Recently he had been appointed a singing professor at the Guildhall School of Music, at which institution he was much liked and respected.

The following is the last letter Celli wrote:—

17, Robertson Ward, Charing-cross Hospital.
Saturday, Dec 23, 1904.

My Dear Old Friend,—It was my intention to have remained in my present state of hazy coma, but the thought struck me that I should like to speak to you a few words before buttoning my eyelids to sleep through the dear old years' retrospects. Crash away, fiddles; flood the house with lights; and ring up the curtain—whilst I sleep. Come in and see me when you can—to-day if possible.

Yours, for ever and aye,
FRANK H. CELLI.

At 10·0 a.m. on the following Tuesday the curtain had rung up, and poor Celli sleeps on!

Mr Frank Celli had many years of varied experience both in serious and comic opera. His long association with the old Her Majesty's Theatre and the Carl Rosa opera company is well remembered for the achievements and successes he made in such parts in particular as Don Giovanni and Mephistopheles, in *Faust*—indeed, Mr Celli might almost have been credited with having made the latter part his own. Mr Celli had acted and sung in almost every opera of note in the whole English and Italian répertoire, and in most of the great ballad operas which are very dear to the heart of the music-loving public. Some years ago, it is interesting to note, long before *The Musketeers* boom of a few seasons back, it was seriously contemplated by William T. Carleton, Herbert Standing, and Frank Celli—the three tall and handsome brothers—to appear together in an opera founded on Dumas' masterpiece at a West-end theatre, or at the Casino Theatre, New York, but somehow the affair fell through, and the idea was unfortunately abandoned. A Quaker by descent, Frank Celli was educated for the Civil Service, but when in his teens he took to the study of music, and resolved to do his best to get on the stage. He was about twenty when, with a very limited acquaintance with either the back or the front of the playhouse, he made his first appearance on the boards as Mat o' the Mint, in *The Beggars' Opera*, at the old Marylebone Theatre. Previously he had sung at one or two concerts, and those early experiences gained him some stage engagements. He sang at the Covent-garden promenade concerts after undergoing a fair course of training, and then secured an engagement with Mr Chute, of Bristol, to take the place of Sims Reeves as Francis Osbaldiston in a revival of the musical drama of *Rob Roy*. He played after that on the regular

Photo by London and County Photo Co.

THE LATE MR. FRANK CELLI.

stage, and served a fair apprenticeship to the art His next appearance was in town at the Princess's Theatre as Lorenzo, in *The Merchant of Venice*, in which he sang the incidental songs. From this he went to Madame Rudersdorf for oratorio, and later was with Madame Carlotta Patti, with innumerable concert parties and tours to follow. Thence he drifted into Italian opera, under Mr Mapleson and Mr Gye. With Mr Mapleson Mr Celli played some of the most important characters of his early career, including the title-rôle in *Don Giovanni*; Papageno, in *Il Flauto Magico*; and in *Lucretia Borgia* and many others. His best chances came, perhaps, under the banner of the late Carl Rosa, when he travelled more or less everywhere with him.

Mr Celli at one period received high praise as a tenor singer, and then he developed into a baritone. In comic opera Mr Celli appeared in *The Mousquetaires* at the Globe, in *Naval Cadets*, *Les Cloches de Corneville* (as the Marquis), *La Belle Normandie*, *Claude Duval*, *The Diva*, and *The Bric-à-Brac Will* at the Lyric in October, 1895. At one time in his career Mr Celli, having saved money, and having had money left him, retired from the stage for a time, and went in for different speculations, all of which did not turn out profitable. So he went an the stage again. Truly can it be said of this actor-author-vocalist that he met with many adventures both by flood and field.

Mr Celli had a turn at almost everything in his time, and had some long and pleasant engagements in the halls. Some years ago he sang "Rorke's Drift," "Ordered Abroad," and other songs. In 1899 he went in for reciting, and gave "The Stowaway" on the occasion of the Carl Rosa Testimonial Fund performance in Dublin. Five years later he presented at the Palace Theatre a series of living pictures, called "Heroes of the Empire," the matter being written by Mr Cayley Calvert, and composed by Mr W. G. Eaton. He was some six years ago a member of the late Augustin Daly's company in New York, and later appeared at the Albambra in *The Handy Man*. Mr Celli was the author of several songs and plays, *Stirring Times*, in conjunction with Brian Daly, being one of the most notable. He also wrote *Happy-Go-Lucky* and *The Opera Singer*, which contained many incidents from Mr Celli's own life and experiences. We regret to say that four children have been left totally unprovided for. The funeral will take place at Highgate Cemetery at 1·30 on Tuesday next.

ON Tuesday was produced at the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, for the first time in England, for copyright purposes, a drama, in four acts, by Hal Reid, entitled *At Cripple Creek; or, The Silver Shaft*.

PRESENTATION.—After the initial performance of the Kennington Theatre pantomime *Aladdin* on Saturday last, the staff presented their manager, Mr Harold Entwistle, with a brilliant diamond stud and breast-pin combined, as a mark of their esteem and goodwill.

'SARSFIELD:
A STORY OF THE SIEGE OF LIMERICK."

A New Historical Irish Drama in Four Acts,
by Mr J. W. Whitbread,
Produced for the First Time on Any Stage at the Queen's Royal Theatre, Dublin, on Monday, Dec. 26.

General Sarsfield	Mr ROBERT FAULKNER
General De Genkle	Mr DANE CLARKE
Duke of Wurtemberg	Mr ALBERT SINCLAIR
Prince of Nassau	Mr A. C. OVERTON
General Talmash	Mr ION IRELAND
General Sir John Lanier	Mr C. DURANT
Colonel Kirke	Mr ABEL WILLIAMS
Colonel Parker	Mr H. CALMONT
Colonel Villiers	Mr T. FORMAN
Colonel De Rapin	Mr M. N. WELDON
Lord Justice Porter	Mr A. ROBERTS
Lord Justice Coningsby	Mr CHARLES WILLS
Lord Sydney	Mr THOS. L. ROONEY
Hans Oosterdam	Mr HARRY RICHARDSON
Terry Hogan	Mr JAMES O'BRIEN
Parrah Ruadh	Mr T. A. DALY
Olney Rafferty	Mr W. H. FIELDEN
Lady Honor De Burgho	Miss ANNIE HYLTON
Lady Rose	Miss MAUD TREMAYNE
Molly the Pishogue	Miss ARNOTT
Elily Blake	Miss MONICA KELLY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

This play, which is the latest from the prolific pen of Mr J. W. Whitbread, is founded on the stirring and historical events connected with the Williamite wars in Ireland. In dealing with the subject the author has made the piece pure and simple melodrama, and the excellent style in which it was rendered by Mr Kennedy Miller's company made it a complete success. The drama opens with De Genkle, the Commander of King William's army, and several officers of his staff, discussing, in view of Limerick, the siege just raised, and Sarsfield's gallant defence of the city from William's desperate assaults. As they move away an old woman, Molly the Pishogue, appears with her pretty daughter Elily, who, on account of her good looks, becomes at once the recipient of offensive attentions from the Duke of Wurtemberg, but is saved from further insult by the opportune arrival of Sarsfield. The latter is immediately attacked by the enraged German Duke, the attack, however, quickly terminating by the sudden appearance of Lady Honor De Burgho and her cousin, Lady Rose Sydney. Lady Honor, of whom the duke is deeply enamoured, learning the cause of the fracas, is greatly incensed thereat, her dislike for him becoming the more pronounced, while her admiration for Sarsfield, whom she had not heretofore seen, though long her hero in secret, quickly develops into a tenderer feeling. Lady Rose, also smitten with the personal charms of the chivalrous Irish general, and already grown jealous of the attention he has shown her cousin, schemes with the Duke to have her captured by some of "Kirke's Lambs," and by their brutality terrorised into giving her consent to marry him—the Duke. The attempt is frustrated by Sarsfield, who has received timely warning from his faithful henchman, "Gallopin' Hogan," a bold rapparee.

In the next act matters have progressed so far that Sarsfield is the acknowledged suitor of Lady Honor. She is expecting his return from one of his numerous hurried visits to Athlone and Galway in performance of his arduous duties. It is All Hallows Eve, and, imbued with the superstition associated with this eventful night, she has hung from her window her glove in the hope that her gallant lover will obtain it, thus doubly, in accordance with the ancient legend, securing him to herself. Lady Rose, however, in her jealous spite, has changed it for her own, having arranged with the Duke to bring in her cousin's glove, while hers will be left for Sarsfield; but Molly the Pishogue, having observed the proceedings, changes the gloves again, and Sarsfield arrives, gladdening the heart of his lady love with the sight of the gage of affection in his possession, leaving Lady Rose chagrined and disappointed at the failure of her ruse. The scene between the lovers is, at her instigation, rudely broken in upon by the Williamites; Sarsfield is taken prisoner, but, with the aid of Hogan, is freed from his bonds, and though surrounded by foes, openly defies them to attack him. Escaping, he makes his way to the trysting tree, where Lady Honor had promised to meet him. The assignation, however, is known to Lady Rose, who at once skilfully sows the seeds of distrust in the hearts of the pair. She accuses each of falseness to the other, ingeniously gives them apparently ocular proof of the truth of her statement, but her schemes, though near success, are rendered abortive by the watchful solicitude and care of their two faithful servitors.

In the following act Sarsfield and Lady Honor are married. Owing to the exigencies of his military duties and his enforced presence in Limerick during its second siege by the Williamites, husband and wife are practically separated. Taking advantage of this Lady Rose, who is more terribly embittered against Lady Honor than ever, intercepts a note written by Sarsfield to his wife. This, under equivocal circumstances, she intentionally allows Lady Honor to discover. The latter, in face of the evidence she possesses, at once suspects her husband of an intrigue with Lady Rose. She watches him, sees him arrive, and climb the ivy to Lady Rose's chamber. Fully persuaded of his infidelity, she bursts into the room, only to have her suspicions confirmed by finding Lady Rose in his arms. Convinced of his faithlessness, she, despite his protestations of innocence, spurns him from her side, calling upon the Duke, who also has climbed into the chamber, to avenge the insult to her heart and honour. He assaults Sarsfield, but is quickly disarmed, and the Williamite officers appearing, Sarsfield, with doubts as to his own wife's fidelity, created by the inuendos and carefully arranged plans of Lady Rose, hastens from the scene. Subsequently, Lady Honor, learning of the trap she has fallen into, determines on crossing at all costs to Limerick to make her peace with her husband. She narrowly escapes abduction by the Duke, but with the assistance of the faithful Hogan eventually reaches St. John's Castle, only to find, however, that her cousin has preceded her, and to hear herself accused of having voluntarily fled with the Duke. She exposes the treachery aimed at her life and happiness, but the Duke appearing and corroborating Lady Rose's statement, she appeals to her husband to believe in her innocence. He does so, is at once attacked by the Duke, but is run through the body by Sarsfield. Under the impression that he is a dying man, the Duke confesses the truth. Lady Rose, enraged at his perfidy and cowardice, is about to stab him; frustrated, she turns her rage on Sarsfield, who only escapes death by an accident, the knife of the Duke's servant, intended for him, being buried in her own bosom. Following quickly on this, we have the capitulation of the city, the signing of the celebrated treaty, and the departure of Sarsfield with the Irish army for France.

The title-rôle was in the capable hands of Mr Robert Faulkner, who gave a most energetic and spirited rendering. Mr Dane Clarke was responsible for a capital impersonation of the exacting character of General De Genkle; as the Duke of Wurtemberg Mr Albert Sinclair played with great judgment; and Mr Ion Ireland's assumption of the part of General Talmash was excellent. As Hans Oosterman Mr Harry Richardson has a part to which he did full justice; and Mr James O'Brien as Terry Hogan, better known as Gallopin' Hogan, has a part that affords him ample scope for the display of his humorous abilities. Miss Maud Tremayne as Lady Rose displays much ability; as Lady Honor De Burgho Miss Annie Hylton is sympathetic; Miss Arnott, as Molly the Pishogue, is responsible for a capital delineation and Miss Monica Kelly makes a pert Elily Blake. The incidental music has been carefully selected and arranged by Mr P. M. Levenston.

"LEAH KLESCHNER."

A Drama, in Five Acts, by C. M. S. M'Lellan,
Produced at the Manhattan Theatre, New York, Dec. 12.
(FROM OUR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT).

Mrs Fiske has scored a great success in the title-rôle of this play, which was written by the author of *The Belle of New York*, and has received most favourable consideration in the newspapers. Leah Kleschner is the daughter of a burglar, who, when the play begins, is known as Mons. Garnier. The girl has been trained in crime, and is herself a housebreaker. Raoul Berton, the dissolute son of General Berton, wants Leah to become his mistress, and Kleschner acquiesces, even trying to persuade his daughter to do what Berton asks. But Leah has treasured the recollection of a man whom she once met under peculiar circumstances. She and another thief named Schram were passengers by the steamship Marseilles, which was wrecked and lost in the Mediterranean Sea. The passengers embarked in a lifeboat. The storm was fierce, and the captain was swept overboard and drowned. One of the imperilled passengers seized the boat's helm and took command, pacifying his panic-stricken companions in danger and effecting a safe landing. The hero of this adventure was Paul Sylvaine, a member of the French Assembly. The action of the play begins a year later in Paris. Kleschner and Schram attempt to rob Sylvaine of his family jewels, sending Leah into his house at dead of night to commit the crime, but they are baffled by Sylvaine's discovery of the thief, and by Leah's simultaneous recognition of Sylvaine as the hero of the shipwreck, whom she has since secretly worshipped. Sylvaine has ideas of his own regarding criminals. He pities them, believing that none are beyond redemption. And so, instead of calling the police, Sylvaine talks to Leah, appeals to her moral nature, tells her she is really good at heart, and sends her away weeping and repentant. Before she leaves, however, Raoul Berton, who is on a midnight spree, enters in a drunken condition by the window, and, finding Leah there, accuses Sylvaine of immorality. Leah tells Berton why she is there, and for the first time he learns that she is a thief and the daughter of a thief. The revelation sobers him. Sylvaine goes with Leah to the door, and during his absence from the room Berton pockets the jewels that Leah came to steal and takes his departure. Sylvaine shortly discovers the loss, and suspects Berton, but as he is engaged to marry Berton's sister he is placed in a difficult position. But he stands by Leah, refuses to give her up to the police, and offends the Bertons so that they break the engagement. Young Berton, pursued by the police, nearly involves the Kleschner gang in ruin by coming to their rooms to beg for shelter. Leah declares her intention to quit the life of crime, and meets with strong opposition from her father, who threatens to keep her a prisoner, but finally has to let her go in order to save himself. By her coolness and ready wit she deceives a detective who is waiting below, and enables her father and associates to escape. Then she returns to the little place in Austria where she was born and brought up and works in the lettuce fields. Three years later Sylvaine seeks her out, and she consents to become his wife.

The play is admirably acted. Mr Charles Cartwright, who came over from London to appear in this play, gave a powerful and vivid portrayal of the professional thief, Kleschner, and held the attention of the audience from the outset. Mr George Arliss as young Berton, a clean-shaver, mean-looking Frenchman, exhibited another clever make-up and added a superb characterisation to his répertoire. Mr John Mason was at his best as Paul Sylvaine, and played the part with fine dignity and distinction. Mr William B. Mack was an excellent Schram. The final scene, showing the lettuce fields bathed in sunlight, is a stage picture of surpassing beauty.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Most heartily we wish many, many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Little Tony, music hall artist—Saturday, Dec. 31.
Harry Walsh—Saturday, Dec. 31.
Miss Minnie Ferry, actress—Sunday, Jan. 1
Mrs Edward Compton, actress—Sunday, Jan. 1.
Vivian Hamilton—Sunday, Jan. 1.
Russell Wallett—Sunday, Jan. 1.
Theodore Jones, actor—Sunday, Jan. 1.
George Groves, actor—Sunday, Jan. 1.
Clifford Rean—Monday, Jan 2.
Edwin Forth—Monday, Jan. 2.
Fuller Mellish, actor—Tuesday, Jan. 3.
Mrs J. Billington, actress—Tuesday, Jan. 3.
Mabel Marston—Tuesday, Jan. 3.
Jenny Valmore, m. h. artist—Tuesday, Jan. 3.
Wingold Lawrence, actor—Tuesday, Jan. 3.
Fred M. Wright, actor—Tuesday, Jan. 3.
Alice Venley, music hall artist—Tuesday, Jan. 3.
George Newham, m. h. artist—Tuesday, Jan. 3.
Maud Darling—Wednesday, Jan. 4.
Tom E. Cliffe—Thursday, Jan. 5.
Albert C. Duncan, bus-manager—Friday, Jan. 6.

GREENWICH THEATRE.

On Monday, Dec. 26, the Drama, entitled
"A GREAT SENSATION."

Miss Beatrice Isaacson's company is the attraction here this week in the above drama. It is remarkably well acted throughout, especially by Miss Beatrice Isaacson, who is most successful as Eva Dale, and Miss Edith Wallis, whose performance of Sidonie is both powerful and attractive. Miss Marian Mayne is clever; Miss Vic Raymond is good as the waif; and Miss Ruby Carlton is a bright and pleasing Hortense. Among the gentlemen Mr Sydney Hallows comes first with an earnest and manly rendering of the part of Jack Damer; Mr Alexander Isaacson presents a clever portrait of Bunko Bates, the millionaire; Mr H. Clayton is a dignified Stephen Damer; Henry Esmonde is well acted by Mr Tom V. Mustoe; Mr Frank Venn is excellent as Robin Dale; Mr William Ames gives a good rendering of Wiley Jones; and Mr Cecil Morand plays Peter satisfactorily. Mr George Collinson does all that is possible with the part of Bruce. The remaining characters are in competent hands, and the drama is well mounted.

AT the Theatre Royal, Aldershot, *My Lady Molly* has been played for the first three nights of the week by Mr Arthur Hart's company. Miss Agnes Tandy gives a fine enactment of Lady Molly, and her winsome manner and marked ability cause Miss Maude Thorne's Alice to stand out prominently. Miss Sybil Thorne's Hester is well played, and a good portrayal of Harry Romney is contributed by Mr Edmund Sherras, who is vocally successful. Mr Frederick Hobbs gives a capital personation of Sir Miles, and Mr Stuart Alexander as Lionel Brand does well. Mr Arthur Powell keeps the house in a merry mood by his irresistibly funny Micky O'Dowd, and Messrs Thos. R. Norbury (Reubin) and Mr Chas. Burney (Judge Romney) are successful in every way. Misses Sophie Grundy, Maude Mandlek, Maud Lucy, and Messrs Alf Grant and Donald Logam are in minor rôles, and a number in the chorus add a share in the musical portion and evolutions.

WILLIAM HENRY TANNER died on Dec. 23 at the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, Old Kent-road, aged seventy-three years, and was interred in his private grave at Brompton Cemetery on Thursday. He was at one time co-lessee, with Mr Parkes, of the Elephant and Castle Theatre, and also had the Montpelier at Walworth for a considerable period. Mr Tanner was well-known in the profession also as an old-time performer and trainer of dogs. The funeral arrangements were entrusted to Mr P. Dunkley, of the Obelisk.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

(COPYRIGHT.)

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Market-yard, West Hartlepool, which is generally admitted to be one of the best all-round pitches, is busy for the festive season. W. Murphy's gondolas are in full swing. Blakey's wrestling booth introduces Purvis and Luni, W. Davies' colliery exhibition is a draw, and in addition to these are Kitson's shots, kokers, and darts, and R. Smith's footballers and boxers; and in Lynn-street Randall Williams's pictures attract crowds, who thoroughly enjoy the steady pictures and the magnificent organ.

MR HENRY JOHNSON, who has just attained his ninety-eighth birthday, and is living in retirement at Grantham, is a gymnast who has performed before three Sovereigns of England. At the age of fourteen he became associated with Sanger's Circus, and afterwards entered into partnership with the Chinese juggler Mullaba. About the year 1830 they performed before Baron Rothschild, at Aylesbury, and while in that town received a communication from King William IV. commanding them to appear before him and his Court at Buckingham Palace. His Majesty rewarded them with £50 each, and granted them a royal licence to play in any market place, town, or hotel. Subsequently they gave an exhibition before the late Queen Victoria, then a girl, and the Duchess of Kent at the Royal Hotel, Tunbridge Wells. Mr Johnson has also appeared before King Edward VII., when Prince of Wales, at Sandringham.

AT the Wonderland in Mealcheapin-street, Worcester, Messrs Barker and Bell opened on Monday with their premier marionettes and numerous attractions, and are doing good business.

AT Samuels' Exhibition Palace, Dublin, the Imperial French marionettes (Messrs Chester and Lee) are announced, and are a great success. At the World's Fair, Dublin, Mr C. A. James is presenting Messrs Pettigrove and Sons' marionettes in a version of *The Babes in the Wood*; George Harcourt, descriptive vocalist; and Eugenie. At 9, Mary-street, Captain Eagle Davis and his lady knife throwers are showing to crowded houses

PRESTON Christmas Pleasure Fair was held on the market ground, when the following travellers attended:—Mr George Green, switchback horses; Mr Jno. Green, switchback gondolas and gallopers; Mr Wm. Clark, jun, Cinématograph and Phantoscope; the veteran Jas. Norman, electric pictures; Mr Tom Harrison, turnover boats; and Mr Jno. Green, park swings. A large variety of games, &c., were presented by Messrs Garlicks, J. Wilson, Jas. Dewhurst, Tom Taylor, W. H. Taylor, J. Richmond, F. Harrison, Jas. Taylor, and others. A very successful fair.

THERE are two fairs or carnivals only, recognised by authority, in Norwich, one at Easter, the other at Christmas. The Easter fair opens on Maunday Thursday, continuing on the Saturday and Easter Monday and Tuesday. This fair was originated by Charter, dating many hundreds of years ago, and is called or known by the name of "Tombland fair." It is especially interesting to the county of Norfolk, and is held at the same time as the sheep and horse fairs. The other fair is held at Christmas, and opens on Boxing Day and continues two days afterwards, except when Sunday intervenes, when it is continued on the Monday and Tuesday. This is the Citizens' Fair, and its origin is unknown. It has existed, however, for a considerable period, and the orthodox rule is, every citizen and his family should visit the fair on Boxing Day. This year it is most successful owing, no doubt, to the energy and efforts of Mr Barker, the esteemed vice-president of the Van-Dwellers' Association. Mr Barker, with Mr C. Thurston, Mr J. Crichton, and others, really make the "pleasure" of the fair. Among the principal shows are those of Mr J. Crichton, Mr C. Thurston, and Messrs Barker and Thurston's Royal Cinématograph entertainment. Messrs Barker and Thurston have also three magnificent gondolas, whilst Mr Crichton and Mr Stocks have horses and gallopers. There are smaller machines by Mr Cheeseman, Mr Hurn, and Mr John Holmes. Mr C. Semmence and Mr C. Wheatley respectively have boxing saloons, Mdlle. Levita gives a snake-charming exhibition, and the shooting saloons belong to Messrs E. Osborne, H. Westrop, H. Parkins, and John and R. Holmes are attractions in themselves. Mr Ingram's dog and monkey circus and other muscular stands make up a good fair, which has been well patronised all round. Messrs Barker and Thurston continue to occupy the Agricultural Hall (there being no circus there this year), and will continue after the fair is over. It is satisfactory to say they are all doing well. Many expressions of regret were heard among the fair people at Norwich at the death of Mrs Emma Bostock (née Wombwell), whose death we recorded last week, and sympathy generally is felt for the bereaved relations.

LIEUTENANT R. H STAINES, the lion tamer, was married to Miss Curtis at St. John's Church, East London, South Africa, on Nov. 9. After the ceremony all concerned adjourned to Fillis's Circus, where a photograph was taken, the bride and bridegroom remaining in the lion's den, where speeches were given.

MR. WM. BIDDALL and the Editor of *The Era* will be pleased if Mr John Barker will communicate with them "in care of *The Era* Office" concerning the Elliott children.

FAVOURED with fine weather, the Garrison Field Carnival at Sunderland has passed its twenty-second year of existence under the partnership of Messrs Murphy and Cooper, the pioneers of showland in the north of England. The Garrison Carnival has an ideal fair ground, centrally situated, well sheltered, ashed, and dry. Amongst the shows and showmen present we noticed Mr William Murphy's Golden Venice, Baker's twin yachts, Hamilton's horses and ostriches, Wingate's cycle track, and Kaye's miniature horses and swings. Along the exhibition circle we noticed the new theatre of Messrs Mackney Brothers as popular as ever, Cooper's well-known Bioscope, Sahib Leo's exhibition, with wonders from the land of the Pharaohs; Mrs Birch's combined midget and swimming exhibition, and Prof. Moore's male and female athletes. In the boxiar-terrace we noticed the fair-ground games of Messrs J. T. Cooper, Sheerans, Bliss, Smith, Mitchison, Wilson, Hancock, and Veti. Messrs Malton's Empire photographic studio occupied a prominent position at the entrance.

AT Hillkirk-street, Beswick, Manchester, are Sedgwick's No. 1 menagerie, Dennis's circus, and various novelty ground booths. The machines on the ground were the famous farmyard set of T. Hurst, the lessee and manager of the fair; Holden's steam yachts, Geoghan's hurdle leapers and range of park swings, with the usual coker, emmas, and other throwing games.

THE Hyde-road, Ardwick, ground, under the management of Hibbert, had the following exhibits:—Hague's fine arts, Professor Carl Hartley's show, and Gal Hague's school of boxers, black and white. The Hibbert aggregation included the Newmarket riding school, the African ostrich farm, and the skyscrapers. The White Family exhibited various novelties; Ingham Brothers with novelty stalls; and varieties in abundance by the Harringtons, the Jennings, the Mitchells, and Messrs Smith, Beckett, Wright, Whiting, Fenton, Mulhearne, Foster and a host of others.

THE principal concerns on the Trafford-road grounnd were Chippendale's menagerie, Layland's marionettes, Proctor's circus, Weston's athletes, Relph's novelty booths, and others.

THE machine list included the well-known concerns of Messrs Holmes, Hodder, Humphrey, Richards, and Hurst's No. 2, with the usual attendant throng of the providers of minor novelties.

AT Ordsall-lane are Whiting's gondolas, Biddall's circus, Kirley's park swings, with the usual array of minor novelties, to the full capacity of this excellent small ground, which was, as usual, under the management of John Whiting, lessee.

AT Rochdale for the Christmas holidays were Ralph Leyland's marionettes and the No. 2 Cinématograph, Hancock's fine art academy, and the roundabout concerns of Messrs W. Mitchell, Thomas Mitchell, John Geoghan, J. Sharp, and Sam Robinshaw, Winchester ranges and rifle saloons by Messrs Sharp, Jewell, Henshaw, Wilson, and Hancock; other varieties by Messrs Thomas, Dearden, Langton, Ingham, Henshaw, Hoadleys, Leyland, and Wilson.

AT Lillie-road, Fulham, under Mr Bedford's management, are Curley's varieties, Warwick's fine art and Renton's novelty booth, Wilson's four-abreast galloping horses, Parr's big boat, and Edwards' swings and Winchester range; the minor novelties, all the fun of the fair, were by the Pickards, Mr Coates, Miss Clark, and others.

THE subscriptions to the Guild funds we acknowledge this week are from Mr George Green, of the Glasgow carnival, £2 2s.; Messrs J. Bibbey and Co., 10s. 6d.; and Mr Fred Bibby, 10s. 6d. Will other subscribers send in their money to the Guild secretary, 48, Herbert-street, Hoxton, N., at once? The slowness with which the outstanding subscriptions are coming in prevent the books being sent to the auditor.

LET committeemen also make a note of this, and facilitate the audit by prompt dispatch of the members' money they hold in hand.

WE reiterate that we do not write history, or pretend to chronicle actual facts in the series of tales now appearing in *The Era*, under the general title "Stories of Showman Life." We take it as a compliment that people think they are true. That is the glory of good fiction, that it reads like the truth.

AT Worcester Christmas Carnival we have Mr H. Strickland's Grand National steeplechasers, park swings, shooting saloons, bottle shooters, &c.; also Mr T. Scott's steam roundabouts, park swings, egg and globe shooters, cokernut sheets, and other numerous attractions.

AT Astwood Bank Mr Holloway's New Empire Theatre is still drawing large houses. This week we have had hot-pudding eating for a purse of silver; also one evening the oldest lady visiting the theatre was presented with a Christmas present of a fowl, and the oldest gentleman with a quarter-pound of tabacco and pipe. A very successful season is now drawing to a close.

MR HOLLOWAY'S New Empire Theatre, Astwood Bank, has had a very successful season of ten weeks. Mr Holloway applied for a licence for another month a week or two ago, but the authorities would only grant a week. Mr Holloway was very generous during his visit—£10 to the Hospital Society and £3 to the Children's Christmas Party.

IN South Wales amusements are many and varied. At Pontypridd Messrs Wadbrook's fine Electrograph, with Mazzoni, the handcuff king, and Sydney Stewart, a clever pianist, are appearing. In the same town are Messrs Danter and Wright. At Ton-y-Pandy the Hippodrome and Crecraft's Bioscope and lion show are the chief attractions. At Aberdare Mr Haggar's Biograph is paying its usual Christmas visit. Mr S. White's aerial flights and tunnel railway are at Landore. Messrs Hy. Studt's amusements in Swansea are always welcomed by young and old. Madame D'Arc's waxworks, now in Cardiff, have many improvements. Mr Stoll's Panopticon is quite up to date. Mrs Harry Scard, just recovered from a serious illness, has rejoined the concern. Wadbrook's Cinématograph and variety theatre at Pontypridd. Mrs Scard feels unable to answer the great number of friends whose kind inquiries have cheered her in her illness.

WE record with deep regret the death of a well-known London showman, John Brock. We also are sorry to know that, owing to his long and serious illness, the family are in poor circumstances, and we trust that his fellow travellers in the London district will send help. He passed away on Monday, the 26th, at 22, Shipton-street, Hackney-road.

HOCKEY.

MISS WINIFRED BRADLEY'S (LADIES) ELEVEN v. JACK LEONARD'S (GENTS.) ELEVEN.

Played near Clifton Downs on Saturday, Dec. 17. Miss E. Bowman, although far from well, played a very plucky game in goal for the ladies' team. The following were the players:—

Miss Winifred Bradley's (Ladies) team—Miss E. Bowman, goal; Miss E. Francis and Miss M. Hamilton, back; Miss L. Norris, Miss C. Fowler, and Miss L. Coles, half-backs; Miss B. Godfrey, Miss W. Bradley (captain), Miss K. Montgomery, Miss F. Hooper, and Miss N. Lawrence, forwards.

Jack Leonard's (Gents.) Eleven. M. Leonard, goal; F. Hodges and B. Green backs; J. Leonard (captain), F. Thorne, and J. Lewis, half-backs; E. Hutchings, H. Webber, H. Slade, A. Mattock, and A. Foley, forwards.

Referee, Miss E. Lewis (of Cheltenham). Result:—Miss Winifred Bradley's (Ladies) Team, two goals; Jack Leonard's (Gents.) Eleven, five goals; Misses L. Norris, B. Godfrey, Messrs B. Green, H. Webber, J. Leonard, and H. Slade (two), scored the goals.

AT West Ham Police-court, on Saturday, George Williamson, a coster, was charged with breaking and entering the Theatre Royal, Salway-road, Stratford, with intent to steal. Early on Saturday morning Constable Pauline, 305 K, was in Angel-lane, Stratford, when he heard a crashing of glass. The noise emanated from the Theatre Royal, so the officer went to the cashier's house close by, and that man accompanied Pauline to the theatre, and they entered, the cashier opening the door with his key. On arriving at the manager's office, the constable saw the prisoner in the room and asked what he was doing. He replied, "You do very funny things when you are drunk." An examination of the place showed that nothing was missing, and it was found that an entry had been effected by breaking a window and then climbing through it. The prisoner was remanded.

PRESENTATION.—Mr Henry Tweedie, Miss Olga Nethersole's business-manager, was on Christmas morning the recipient from her of a massive silver cigar box, inscribed "Henry Tweedie, from Olga Nethersole." This memento of Miss Nethersole's second company of *Sapho*, of which Mr Henry Tweedie was in charge, will prove a precious souvenir of a very happy tour.

ON THE ROAD, JAN. 2.

ACTOR'S ROMANCE,—Clydebank.
AMORELLE (LONDON).—Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.
AMORELLE (N.).—Century Theatre, Motherwell.
AS MIDNIGHT CHIMES.—P. T., Blackburn.
BANDMANN-PALMER, MRS.—St. George's T., Kendal.
BENSON, MR F. R. (A).—H. M. T., Aberdeen.
BENSON, MR F. R. (B)—Theatre R., Limerick.
BEST MUST WIN.—Theatre Royal, Darwen.
BID FOR FORTUNE.—Theatre R., Peterborough.
BULMER, MR.—Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (M.).—Greenock.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA) (N.).—Hawick.
CHINESE HONEYMOON (MACDONA) (S).—Llangollen.
CINGALEE.—Croydon.
COMPTON COMEDY CO.—G. T., Wolverhampton.
CONSCRIPT.—King's Theatre, Nottingham.
COUNTRY GIRL (M.).—Coventry.
COUNTRY GIRL (N.).—Galashiels.
COUNTRY GIRL (S.)—Grantham.
COUNTRY MOUSE.—Bromley.
COUSIN KATE.—Eastbourne.
CRIMSON CLUB.—Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.
DARE-DEVIL DOROTHY.—Lyceum Theatre, Crewe.
D'OYLY CARTE.—Lyceum, Newport.
DUCHESS OF DANTZIC.—Dalston Theatre, N.E.
DUKE OF KILLICRANKIE (LOVEL).—Scarborough.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—Grand Theatre, Plymouth.
EARL AND THE GIRL.—Gaiety T., Manchester.
FATAL WEDDING (N.).—Opera House, Radcliffe.
FATAL WEDDING (M.).—Theatre Royal, Leicester.
FATAL WEDDING (S.).—I.O.W.T., Southampton.
FEMALE SWINDLER.—Queen's Theatre, Keighley.
FIGHT FOR MILLIONS.—T. R., Rotherham.
FRIVOLITY.—Kilmarnock.
GAY PARISIENNE.—Camborne.
GIRL FROM BOND STREET.—Worthing.
GIRL FROM KAY'S (N.).—Portsmouth.
GOLDEN LADDER.—Theatre Royal, Dewsbury.
GO WON-GO-MOHAWK.—Kidderminster.
GRIP OF IRON.—C. T., Bacup.
HARVEST OF SIN.—T. R., Neath.
HER ONE GREAT SIN.—Macclesfield.
INDIAN MUTINY.—New Theatre, Consett.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Hartley.
LADDER OF LIFE.—Theatre Royal, Lincoln.
LADY OF OSTEND.—P.O.W.T., Nuneaton.
LAUGHTER-LAND.—Wigan.
LIGHTNING'S FLASH.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
LITTLE MARY.—Opera House, Cork.
LONDON FIREMAN.—Town Hall Theatre, Falkirk.
MAN TO MAN.—Theatre Royal, Stratford.
MAN FROM —— ?—A. T., Kettering.
MANXMAN.—Lyceum Theatre, Long Eaton.
MARRIAGE OF KITTY.—Opera House, Burton.
MIDNIGHT MAIL.—Theatre Royal, Merthyr.
MOCKERY OF MARRIAGE—K. T., Cardiff.
MOODY-MANNERS (A).—Theatre Royal, Dublin.
NAPOLEON THE GREAT.—O. H., Wakefield.
NEW MEPHISTO.—Theatre Royal, Bolton.
ORCHID.—Hull.
PRINCE OF ROGUES.—Ilkeston.
PROOF.—Maesteg.
ROYAL DIVORCE.—Barnsley.
ROYAL REVENGE (CLYNDES).—R. T., Llanelly.
SAPHO (ANNIE BELL).—P. T., Newcastle.
SCHOOL GIRL (MACDONA).—West Hartlepool.
SIN OF HER CHILDHOOD.—Ashington.
SLEDGE-HAMMER—Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.
STILL ALARM.—Osborne Theatre, Manchester.
SUNDAY.—Theatre Royal, Huddersfield.
SWISS EXPRESS.—Opera House, Leicester.
THREE LITTLE MAIDS (MACDONA) (S.).—Ipswich.
TRAITOR.—Star Theatre, Liverpool.
TRAITOR PRINCE.—T. R., Sunderland.
TRIP TO CHINATOWN.—Grand Theatre, Nelson.
TWO LITTLE SAILOR BOYS.—T. R., Colchester.
UNDER TWO FLAGS.—T. R., Dover.
VICTIM OF VILLAINY.—Grand Theatre, Walsall.
VERONIQUE.—Brighton.
VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.—T. R., Stanley.
WAY OF THE WORLD.—A. T., Stourbridge.
WORLD,—Grand Theatre, Blackpool.

A COPY OF "THE ERA" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

ARLEY.—Dec. 20, Ethel Arley, wife of Walter Arley (of the Arleys, cyclists), of a fine boy. Both doing well. 78, Brook-street, S.E.

BLARNEY.—Dec. 23, at 7, Moor-place, Liverpool, the wife of Frank Blarney (Blarney and Rennard) of a daughter. Both doing well.

CELEST.—Dec. 23, 1904, 68, Pentney-road, London. Mrs Charles Celest, of a boy. Mother and son doing well. "God has presented us with a jewel money cannot buy as a Christmas gift."

MARRIAGES.

KELLINO—FOTHERGILL.—Dec. 20, at the Church of Corpus Christi, Brixton-hill, Miss Blanche Lilian Fothergill ("Bella") (Bella and Bijou), daughter of the late Fred Fothergill, to William Philip Kellino, second son of the late James Kellino.

DEATHS.

CELLI.—Dec. 27, in Charing-cross Hospital, Frank H. Celli, operatic baritone vocalist, aged sixty-three.

GIBBONS.—Dec. 30, at 97, Ridgmount-gardens, W.C., the infant daughter, aged one year and eight months, of Mr and Mrs Walter Gibbons.

HAYTER.—Christmas Eve, 1904, at Cravenholme, Bowdon, Cheshire, William Hayter, beloved father of Frank Haytor (the Haytors), aged sixty-seven.

STEELE.—Nov. 18, at the Liverpool Benevolent Asylum, Sydney, Australia, of cancer, John B. Steele, actor.

TERRY.—Dec. 26, at Charing-cross Hospital, Marian Terry, aged sixty-three years, beloved mother of John Terry (of Terry and Lambert). Burial took place at Kensal-green Cemetery, Thursday, Dec. 29. American papers please copy.

VINCENT.—Dec. 27, in Manchester, from asthma, Fred Vincent, general manager of the Grand Theatre, Leeds, in his fifty-fifth year.

IN MEMORIAM.

ADAMS.—In ever-loving memory of our darling mother, Sarah Ann Adams (Cicely Nott), widow of the late Saml. Adams, Esq., who fell asleep Jan. 3, 1900. Ever deeply mourned by her devoted children, Ada Blanche, Edith Tully, Rosie Courtneidge, and Addie Peacock.

We lov'd her all. No tongue can tell
How much we lov'd her, and how well.
God lov'd her too. He thought it best
To take her home with Him to rest.

ANDERSON.—In loving memory of dear Auntie Robina Anderson, who passed away Jan. 6, 1900. Never forgotten by Fanny Robina. R.I.P.

ASHBEE.—In loving memory of Ashton Ashbee, died Jan. 2, 1898. R.I.P.

BASHALL.—In fondly cherished remembrance of my beloved mother, who died Jan. 1, 1898. Always in the thoughts of her devoted "Bella." "Until we meet again," mother dear.

CLARE.—In loving memory of dear Ada, who died Dec 31, 1903. Never forgotten by Gladys.

CROCKETT.—In loving memory of my dear mother, Mrs Sarah Crockett, who passed away Dec. 23, 1901. Gone, but not forgotten.—Mrs Rule.

CULLING.—In fondest remembrance of my darling wife (Ada Clare), who was taken so suddenly from me on Dec. 31, 1903.—Otto C. Culling, Clare House, Bury.

MORRISON.—In loving memory of John Morrison, circus clown, who died Dec. 27, 1903. Gone, but not forgotten by his loving daughter, Mrs Eugeno, mother of the Sisters Eugeno.

SAUL.—In dear memory of Simondson De Wilfred Saul, who died on Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1899. Ever remembered by his wife and family.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(Continued from Page 8.)

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr A. Standen Triggs.—Mr George Dance's company is appearing here in *The Duchess of Dantzic*. As is usual with Mr Dance's ventures, the company is of the highest class and the dresses and scenery of the very best. First mention must be made of Miss Rita Presano, whose fine voice and skilful acting make a fine performance, which ranges from broad comedy to deep passion. Miss Alice Coverick is a pretty, graceful, and girlish Renee, Miss Amy Burton is a bright and lively Lisette, and the Misses Edith Carlyle and May Harris are sufficiently imperious as the sisters of Napoleon. Mr Frederick Moyes is an impressive and dignified Napoleon. Mr Mackeasay Cullen works hard as Lefebvre. Mr Colin Mackay is a quaint and hardworking Papillon, whose singing and dancing are excellent. Mr Thomas C. Maxwell, in addition to capable acting, uses a fine voice in a most artistic manner, and he is an unqualified success both as Phillipe and Adhemar. Space does not permit of the mention individually of the remaining members of the very long cast, but all the help is well given. The large chorus and augmented orchestra are under the direction of Mr B. J. Patterson.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr George Hayes.—Mr Hayes has supplied the patrons here with a very delightful and seasonable entertainment in *The Fairy's Dilemma*. The company is that of Mr Silvanus Dauncey and Mr M. V. Leveaux, and the excellent work of the members together with the cleverness and refinement, comprise an admirable performance. Miss Estelle Winwood is a most attractive Fairy Rosebud, whose pretty face, voice, and manner are capitally used. Miss Gertrude Hope is a prepossessing and pleasing factor as Clarissa, and Miss Ada Homer does capital work as Lady Angela, while Miss Frances Wood and Miss Florence Adale do all that is necessary as Mrs Crumble and Nursemaid. Mr C. H. Hewetson is a most expressive and effective Demon Alcohol; Mr Frank Stanmore invests the part of the Rev. Parfitt with a great deal of humour; Mr Frank Collins as the judicial wit Justice Whortle provides many hearty laughs; and Mr Asheton Tonge is an excellent Colonel Sir Trevor. The pretty transformation scene is a source of wonder and delight to the juveniles. *The Conversion of Nat Sturge* precedes. In this Mr A. Tonge is a most amiable Bishop; Mr Frank Collins a realistic Burglar; and Miss Eva Turnour an appropriate Julia.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Samuel Lloyd.—The capital holiday programme here is attracting very large audiences, and crowded houses have been the rule. Miss Rosie Lloyd charms and amuses with her extensive powers as a comedienne; Mr Cyrus Dare provides one of the most popular turns of the evening, and his very clever child studies quite capture the audience; Miss Lottie Siegenberg is extremely smart in her quick-change act, and she dances well; Messrs Burke and M'Voy supply an expert tumbling and acrobatic performance; Mr Max Sterling is a clever illusionist with novel methods; Mr Charles Danton is equally good as a successful comedian and an accomplished dancer; Mr Maurice Hoffman and a lady appear in a very amusing sketch, *The Mad Inventor*; the Hippodrome Pictures provide a pantomime in film; and Caban's Ponies complete the programme.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Secretary and Manager, Mr Fred Pollard; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy M. Dunsford. *Robinson Crusoe* is the annual for this season, and is produced by Mr Mouillot's company under the direction of Mr Guyton Heath. The author, Mr F. Leslie Moreton, tells the story very much on the same lines as Defoe, but introduces several dramatic scenes in order to bring it up to date. The production has been well rehearsed and went excellently. Local topics occupy a prominent place, while other matters of interest are frequently introduced. The company is a good one, and there are plenty of capital songs with swinging choruses. The title-rôle is filled by Miss Rose Helene, who is sure to establish herself a prime favourite. Man Friday is capably filled by Mr Bert Barry. Mr Mat Melrose makes an excellent dame. The principal girl (Miss Mary Conroy) as Crusoe's sweetheart has a bewitching manner. Mr Percy Cahill (Will Atkins) and Mr Charles Stephenson (Robin's brother) combine well with Man Friday and the dame in keeping the funny business up to date, their patter being very clever. Miss Rene Phillips and Mr Eric Phillips impersonate Britannia and Neptune well. Of the specialities the Almonte Troupe gave a smart sketch, and the dancing of the Florodora Girls is very graceful. The music, composed and arranged by Mr W. J. Damant, is attractive and quite up to date. The chorus is a good one and the ballets are effective. The scenery and dresses are smart.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr Horace W. Ebbutt.—The pantomime season was opened in Falkirk on Monday, when Messrs Little and Darcy's company put before a packed house the good old story of *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves*. The company was large and competent. The chorus, numerically strong, sang very nicely. The dresses were pretty, the scenery gorgeous, the ladies charming, the music and singing catchy and sparkling, and the dancing vivacious. Mr Dan Agar appears as Ali Baba, and he, along with Mr James Ferguson as Ali's wife, provide much of the merriment. Miss Minnie Silcott as Abdallah, the captain of the thieves, makes a captivating chief. Miss Violet Silcott and Miss Marie Silcott fill the respective characters of Ganem and Morgiana very cleverly. Other notables are Mr Ted Wootton, Mr Malone, Mr Conley, Mr Louis Scott, and Mr Ernest Brown. In the course of the pantomime there are a number of variety turns. No better or more accomplished trick cyclists can there be than the Daunton-Shaw Troupe (five in number), who, in picturesque Australian garb, perform daring and marvellous feats on the wheel. Then the Three Woodbee Wonders as acrobats would be difficult to eclipse. Their performances are not only clever, but entertaining. The Tivoli Quartet of dancers also charm, and the contributions of the Sisters Silcott are much appreciated.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. W. Rowland.—Mr Frank Curzon's company, with *Sergeant Brue*, is the holiday attraction. Mr Willie Freear is humorous as Sergeant Brue; Mr Percy Rogers acts and sings well as Michael Brue; Miss Constance Lait is charming as Aurora; Miss Eliza Earle is very funny as Sarah; Mr Arthur Stroud does remarkably well as Gerald Treherne; Mr Cecil Burt as Mr Crank deserves praise; Mr George Barratt is exceedingly clever and amusing as Crookie Scrubbs; and Miss Violet Dene fills the part of Lady Bickenhall with ability.

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Limited; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr J. Straughan.—An attractive variety programme has had the effect of drawing crowded audiences during the present week. The bill is headed by Auto Atlas, strong man, and the Three Seabornes provide a wonderful equilibristic act. Gerald Mount, vocalist and mimic, is responsible for a good turn, as also is Ernesto, juggler and musical equilibrist. The M'Kays provide an amusing turn, and the Albano Troupe give an interesting musical speciality act. Other good turns are provided by Andy Burn, comedian and dancer; the Crown Trio; Fred Casburn, quaint comedian; and Grey and Welford, comedians.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton; Acting-Manager, Mr E. Greaves.—Mr Arnold Bell and company opened on Boxing Night in *Ben-My-Chree*. Mr Bell repeated his powerful rendering of Dan Mylres, and Miss Francis Campbell was a charming exponent of Mona. Mr Dan Farrough was an impressive Bishop. Mr Barlow as the Deemster and Mr C. Imrie as Harcourt, the governor, were good; and Mr W. Reid was excellent as Davy, the fisher lad. The other characters were all capably played. The latter part of the week was occupied by *The Fatal Wedding* company.

ROYAL HALL.—Manager, Mr Robert Kirk.—Mr Gus Livesey's company appeared here on Christmas Eve in the drama entitled *The Crimson Club*. The principal characters in the hands of Mr Livesey, Mr Lionel Thompson, Mr Herbert Belmore, Mr J. E. Reed, Miss May Wynlard, and Miss Francis Waring were excellently played. Mr Percy Shaw introduced a clever whistling turn.

GILLINGHAM.

TRANSFIELD'S HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Transfield.—The Frances Harrold sketch company is here, including Mr W. J. Mackay, their contributions to the entertainment being *A Christmas Eve* and *Happy and Comfortable*. Other turns are Charles Bignell, comedian; Harry Lynx, comedian; the Sisters Transfield, instrumentalists and dancers; Grace Drew, comedienne; Jean Smedley with illustrated songs; and pictures by the Bio-Tableaux.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—The pantomimes are all running merrily, but *The Forty Thieves* takes pride of place for spectacular effect, and could scarcely be surpassed for refinement of taste in scenes, dresses, and grouping. The word magnificent may truly be applied to this pantomime, and the management is reaping a fitting reward.

GRAND.—*Cinderella* continues her successful career here, and Mr Dan Rolyat has installed himself first favourite. The pantomime, which is charmingly staged, goes with a merry swing.

KING'S, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. W. Wyndham; Business-Manager, Mr H. Macfarlane.—Mr George Edwardes's company in *The Duchess of Dantzic* opened here on Monday. The company is under the direction of an old Glasgow favourite, Mr J. B. Gordon. It is the first visit of the opera to Glasgow, and, judging from the number and enthusiasm of the audience, a most successful run is assured. Miss Amy Augarde appears in the title-rôle, and both vocally and histrionically renders the part of Sans Gene in first-class style. The appearance and manner of the great Napoleon are strikingly realised by Mr Matthew Brodie, and another admirable performance is the Lefebvre of Mr Herbert Clayton. Mr Reginald Kenneth doubles the parts of Phillipe and Adhemar very cleverly, and Mr T. W. Volt extracts a deal of fun from the part of Papillon, while in the characters of Captain Reginer and D'Alegre Mr Morgan Williams bears himself well. Miss Lillian Digges sings and acts charmingly as Renee, as also does Miss Luna Love as Lisette. Miss Mabel Lorrell gives distinction to the part of Josephine, and Napoleon's sisters are played with sufficient haughtiness by Misses Kate Traill and Doris La Tour. The parts of Flageot and Gildon are well filled by Messrs F. W. Bowes and Jocelyn Hope, and Mr Alex. Brask makes a good Montmorenci. The chorus and orchestra are well up to Mr Edwardes's standard, and are under the direction of Mr P. W. Hatton.

PRINCESS'S.—*Goosey Gander* has fairly caught on here. Fun of a wholesome kind is the predominating feature, but at the same time the costumes are very rich, and the entire production most pleasing in its general effect. Ten rows of stalls having proved inadequate, several rows more have been added to meet the demand.

METROPOLE, LIMITED.—Managing Director, Mr Arthur Jefferson; Acting-Manager, Mr John Dunbar.—*Between the Lights* is this week ably interpreted by a company under the direction of Mr Arthur Read. Mr Alfred Adams as Captain Robert Hinton, the hero, plays excellently, and Miss Nesta Sandford as Violet Warren acts charmingly. Mr Hubert Pearson presents a much-detested villain; Mr Charles H. Fenton undertakes the dual-rôle of Oswald Warren and Ben Armley with marked success; Miss Kate Froude gets a good deal out of a strong part; Mr George Lyttleton, jun., plays Gerald Warren carefully. Much amusement is supplied by the efforts in the comedy parts of Mr Weedon Ross as Jimmy Tickle, Mr H. G. Brandon as Charley Stott, and Miss Florence Barnes as Kitty.

LYCEUM.—Proprietor, Mr Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr J. H. Oakden.—Mr Alexander Loftus and his company are here with *The New Barmaid*, in which Mr Loftus successfully sustains the part of William White. Mr Joseph B. Montague as Bertie White is responsible for much of the fun; Miss Nance O'Neil is charming as the New Barmaid; and Miss Violet Osmund makes a very engaging Dora Heather. Mr Frank Melroyd as Monsr. Bonsor adds his quota to the fun, and his eccentric dancing is much enjoyed. Mr Arthur Rodney as Colonel Claymore acts with military dignity, and Miss Jean Gilmour is a very aristocratic Lady Moulton. Mr Leslie Austin as Captain Lovebury gives entire satisfaction, and the other parts are all well filled.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss's, Limited; Acting-Manager, Mr Arthur Aldin.—The programme for the holiday week opens acceptably with a selection from *The Orchid*, after which follows a clever turn by Toko and Koko, in which novelty in equitation is well illustrated. Vosper is a clever mimic in the facial sense; National songs and dances are well illustrated by the Sarnthalers; Cline and Clarke have had a warm greeting; Tom Edwards, ventriloquist, is at once original, quaint, and clever; the Sisters Jonghmans' concerted singing is a veritable treat; the Driscoll and Beattie Troupe in a very enjoyable sketch add to their reputation, while Keene and Adams ingratiate themselves into popularity by tuneful singing and better dancing; Griff is funny as usual. The performance closes with a thrilling gatling gun parade, the drill, discretion, and military precision of which are notable features.

TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S.—Lessees, Messrs Colquhoun and Armstrong, Limited; General Manager, Mr S. King Alexander; Acting-Managers, Mr T. J. Colquhoun and Mr R. Ewing.—A first-class company this week includes the Four Garganis, acrobats; Geo. Formby, comedian; a capital sketch by Verno and Voyce; Bob Nicol, mimic; Regal, juggler; George Bendon, the White Coon; Musical Silvo; W. B. Wheelan, dancer; Two Manzanares, balancing act; Lily Turner, comedienne; Chas. Rose, comedian; Lil Hartley, vocalist; Ralston and Francis, musical scena; and Benson's Bioscope.

PALACE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Rich Waldon and Thos. Barrasford; Assistant-Manager, Mr Harry M'Kelvie.—That peculiar comedian Alf Lawrence is again in Glasgow and gives a varied turn. Mons. Brinn's strong turn, *Pastimes on a Battleship*, includes some marvellous feats. The O'Learys give their smart Oriental acrobatic turn. The Sutcliffe Troupe of pipers, dancers and acrobats contribute a varied display. The Hilgart Argas Combination are smart acrobats and balancers. Bros. Teviotdale, athletes; Alfred Barker and his circus turn; George Rennie, ventriloquist; Johnny Morgan, comedian; and the animated pictures complete a good programme.

BRITANNIA.—Lessee, Mr Jas. Anderson; Manager, Mr Geo. Saphrini; Assistant Manager, Mr Harry Hemfrey.—A first-rate holiday company are at the "Brit." this week. Bob Sloan demonstrates his popularity as a Scotch comedian. The Sisters Terry make a good impression; and two other ladies who share nightly in a generous measure of applause are Miss Jessie Fraser, who has a telling

soprano voice, and Miss Olive Poole, a clever burlesque artiste and a capable dancer Tony Freedman remains a favourite with Glasgow audiences as a versatile comedian. Eccentric business of the burlesque order is furnished by Steve Clemont. A film shown by the Bioscope evokes great interest. The Cedrics and Fred Smart, comedian and dancer, complete the bill.

HARMONIC CONCERTS.—Musical Secretary, Mr Wm. Biggam.—Jim Harte's sketch company in *Black Justice;* the Scouller Family in their clever musical selections; Bendon's Bioscope with new films; Bessie Walters and J. H. Gibson in sentimental ballads; and comedy items by Jack Lorimer, Bob Sloan, Ned Dorans, Jack Mills, and the Merlin Four make up an interesting programme here.

GLOUCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Owners, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; Manager, Mr W. H. Weller.—On Boxing night for the first time in this district was presented the late Wilson Barrett's play, *The Never Never Land*, by Messrs John Hart and H. Armitage's company. Mr Edward Rochelle makes a capital Nat Rudder; Mr Edmund F. Kennedy gives a fine embodiment of Jack Mowbray; Jack Landale is excellently impersonated by Mr George M'Kenzie; and Tom Hewley has an able representative in Mr Arthur Bolton. Miss Caroline Barrett is charming as Sybil; Miss Lilian Mason plays in artistic style as Lady Walgrove; Miss Kathleen Barrett acts with grace as Lorna Mannerley; Mr Selby Burrell is capable as Dan Murphy; as is Mr Benson North as Raphael Moses Wolff; Miss Julie Kennard acts skilfully as Sol Berker; Mr Cecil Elgar looks well as Lord Thorland; Caerwon Moody and Wong are well enacted by Messrs Simon D. Ord and Eric Longley respectively.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. W. Nightingale.—Messrs Forge and Dalton's fairy pantomime *Cinderella* was successfully produced on Monday, and is attracting full houses each evening. In the title-rôle Miss Lizzie Primmer acts delightfully, sings effectively, and dances prettily, and Miss Chummie La Mara is a dashing Prince Paragon, and uses her fine voice to the best advantage, securing innumerable encores Dandini is charmingly represented by Miss Julie Alexander, whose songs are capitally sung; Miss Louie Dennison makes a pretty Fairy; Baron Bunker finds a resourceful representative in Mr Johnny Chippendale; Mr Chal. T. Chaloner is irresistibly comic as Peter Pickles, and sings and dances well; the Ugly Sisters are amusingly portrayed by Mr Fred C. Brooks and Little Tony; Nabber and Nailem are humorously enacted by Mr John Forge and Mr Ted Lemiere; and specialities are supplied by Gertrella, the Quartano Troupe of dancers; Mr Geo. Bright, speciality dancer; Gipsy Blackett; the Swift Trio of bicyclists; Messrs Forge and Lemiere; and the Musical Japs. The scenery is elaborate and effective, the dresses bright and pretty, and the electric lighting effects brilliant.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr Geo. Gilbert.—An exceedingly liberal programme is provided, and much applause greets the various items. Mdlle. Eloina gives an exceedingly clever performance on the high trapeze; the Musical Savonas show themselves accomplished musicians, and a tremendous ovation awards their efforts; the Four Andys provide a smart acrobatic act; six performing bears and a troupe of monkeys give a fine demonstration of what animal training can accomplish; the Six Cycling Elliotts contribute a capital turn; and the Brothers Laure excel as comedy acrobats. Fun is supplied by Bob Anderson and Little Rabbit, the latter of whom also supplies a clever riding act as Senorita La Castania. The pantomime of *Santa Claus* in colours on the Bioscope is much admired.

GREENOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, the Executors of the late Mr Alex. Wright; Managers, Messrs A. B. Wright and J. J. Wright.—Mr George Dance's company opened a fortnight's engagement at this theatre on Monday with *A Chinese Honeymoon*. The play is excellently presented by a first-class all-round company, and is drawing crowded audiences. Mr Philip Haydn distinguishes himself in the part of the Emperor, Hang Chow, and uses a fine voice with telling effect; Mr P. Allerton Turner makes an amusing Lord Chancellor; Mr Fred Payne as Hi Lung is quaintly humorous; Mr Percy Yorke is a dashing Tom Hatherton, his singing being much appreciated; Mr Foster Courtenay keeps the audience in a constant ripple of merriment by his amusing antics as Mr Pineapple; Miss Jose Collins makes a captivating Mrs Pineapple, and is a charming dancer; Miss Alice Drummond gives a capital impersonation of Mrs Brown; Miss Nellie Wigley is a sweet and attractive Soo-Soo, singing delightfully; and Miss Vera Vere as Fi-Fi carries off the honours of the evening by her delightful breeziness and genuine humour. The chorus is strong and well balanced and the singing is particularly good.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr H. L. Skivington.—Miss Ella heads the bill here and puts a number of trained lions through their paces in an astonishing manner; Bandoni, the one-man band, performs tunefully on several instruments; Chorley and Connor are breezy comedians and dancers; the Great Linton gives a marvellous bounding turn on the slack wire; Bolano is a clever club juggler; and Mr and Mrs Paul Knox prove a most acceptable turn with new songs.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Managing Director, Mr J. H. Curry; Assistant Manager, Mr S. Tolfree.—The melodrama *As Midnight Chimes* proved a popular Bank Holiday attraction at this theatre. It is the work of Mr Edward Marris, and is played by the author's own company. Prominent amongst the latter is Mr Melville Bickford, who finds plenty of scope to exercise his abilities as a character actor in the part of Luke Dezzard. Mr Frank E. Petley gives a manly interpretation of Dave Stannard, whilst Ezra Gamble, the old smuggler, is picturesquely played by Mr Walter Wilby. Miss Gertrude Price is good as Mary Stannard, whilst commendation is due to Miss Iris M. Ward as Zamorah and Miss Nita Imeson as Suzette. Mr James Salter has caused much merriment as Tat Spavin, a facetious railway porter.

NEW PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Steuart Cecil.—The thrilling cycle sensation "Whirling the Whirl" has been presented here this week by Tom Grave. Crowded audiences have been drawn to witness this daring performance, which has occasioned much interest. The amusing, and at the same time skilful, exhibition of Zarmo, described as a juggling comedian, has proved a highly popular item of the programme. The Dandies, a quintette of musical artists, have given an entertainment that is as remarkable for its excellence as its refined character. Harry Carlton's company has caused much laughter with their absurdity, *Obliging a Lady*. Charles Bowker, the singing cobbler; the Clarkes, banjo duettists; Fatmah Diard, operatic artist; and Carne Curre, with his educated dog, have completed an excellent programme.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietor, Mr T. Allan Edwardes; General Manager, Mr H. F. Millar; Assistant-Manager, Mr H. H. Watson.—Much wonder and interest have been caused by the experiments of that marvellous modern discovery, liquid air, which have been made at the Hippodrome this week. The "Magic Kettle" was especially appreciated. Herr Fritz has also caused much mystification with his illusions. His horse and jockey trick was particularly remarkable. A laughable sketch, *That French Woman*, has been given by Matt Wilkinson's company. A display of chair vaulting and tumbling was given by the Bros. Levette, whilst the Seltina Troupe were responsible for another capital gymnastic performance. Other turns have included Caselli and James, banjoists; Charles Somers, comedian; and Cribb and Cribb, in a burlesque.

HALIFAX.

GRAND THEATRE. — Managing Director, Mr William Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling.—Crowded houses rule this week. A great attraction is Bud Snyder, trick cyclist. The company also includes Tom Eno, mimic; Beattie Worth, comedienne; Bastow Brothers, gymnasts; Sam Shipley, comedian; Leah Arden, ballad vocalist; Barry Stave, with a novel electric musical speciality; and Simms and Simms, musical grotesques.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—A mystifying illusion, *Dida*, is the prominent feature in this week's performance, which also includes some capable work by Ada Fawn, burlesque artiste; Stanley and Greenop, banjoists; W. H. Clemart, ventriloquist; Wyotti, juggler; Sivronis, burlesque artistes; W. Permane and his wonderful bears; and Valvere, with his rapid painting and mechanical effects.

VICTORIA HALL.—Manager, Mr. H. Drake.—The Carl Rosa opera company is paying its annual visit, and is meeting with gratifying success. The répertoire for the week includes *Faust*, *Bohemian Girl*, *Lohengrin*, *Don Giovanni*, *Tannhäuser*, *Rigoletto*, *Carmen*, and *Maritana*.

HANLEY.

ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Elphinstone.—The annual pantomime was presented on Monday afternoon to a capital house. *Cinderella* is the subject chosen. The book is by Mr Hickory Wood, and the special music is the work of Mr Albert Vernon. Miss Eily Helene in the title-rôle is excellent, and her rendering of the song "Bluebell" caused her to be the recipient of unstinted applause. The principal boy is Miss Hilda Guiver, and her success is beyond dispute. She is a brilliant vocalist and renders her songs admirably, her first song, "Navaho," meeting with great applause, and the duet between Cinderella and the Prince. "I will be true," being one of the most enjoyable items in the entertainment. Mr Morny Cash is seen to advantage in pantomime, his stories, singing, and dancing all being really humorous, his song "Who Killed Cock Robin?" making quite a hit. Miss Rose Snell is the Fairy Godmother, and the outcome is a performance of much excellence. Miss Nora Emerald as Dandini is well placed, her singing and dancing adding to the general success of the pantomime. Miss Madoline Rossiter deserves much praise for her clever dances, which are greeted with much applause. Mr Robert Whyte, jun., as the Baron is quite a host in himself, and the two Ugly Sisters (Messrs Harris and Russell) cause roars of laughter. The New Macs are a great feature in the performance. The Donaldson Brothers introduce their menagerie and make a huge success, the whole of their performance being exceptionally clever. Such items as "You can't do Mac," "Bluebell," "I Always will be True," "Down at the Old Bull and Bush," "Good-bye, Little Girl, Good-bye," are sure to be popular. Mr J. Richardson is the general manager and Mr Lindsay-Edwards is the assistant-manager. Much praise is due to Mr Horace Corbyn for such an excellent production, and he is ably assisted by Mr G. Martinengo.

GRAND, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr C. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr James Wynes.—The premier position is held by Charles Prinz in his wonderful trained lion show. George Gilbey makes his appearance and achieves a huge success. Gracie Morton is a capital ballad vocalist. Little Ino, a juvenile comedian, meets with much success. Mr and Mrs Harold Findon are seen in a good farce, *A Desperate Remedy*. Imro Fox, a conjuror of much excellence, does remarkably well. Arthur Gill, comedian, is highly successful. The Three Rickards are gymnasts of extraordinary ability, and the Grand pictures are, as usual, excellent.

HARTLEPOOL.

EMPRESS.—Proprietors, Councillor Everton and J. W. Craggs; Manager, Mr Harry Burns.—"The Mysterious Grotto" and fire dances by La Roland is a weirdly pretty show. The hand-balancing by the Brothers Belong is smart and decidedly original. A persistent encore is well earned by Sandy and Carl for their tumbling act. Mdlle. Florence's performance on the rolling globe is one of the hits of the evening; a favourable impression is made by Copeland and Son, clog dancers; and acceptable turns are contributed by Geo. Edney, Allea Douglas, and Burns's Bioscope.

HULL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Lessee, Mr W. Morton; Resident-Director, Mr W. F. Morton.—An instantaneous success has been achieved by Mr Morton with the pantomime *The Sleeping Beauty*, produced under the direction of Mr J. F. Elliston. There is much to commend; it is pretty, and clean in dress, dialogue, and action. It has some charming scenes and a clever colour scheme in costumes, and the ballets are pretty. Messrs W. J. Churchill, Alf Bishop, and Jas. Chippendale are comedians of the right sort, and Miss Esme Gordon is an admirable pantomime Prince. Miss Daisy Stratton is as dainty as a Princess should be, and to Mr Lonnen Meadows, the stage-manager, much praise should be accorded.

GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; Local Manager, Mr Wynn Miller.—With a firm faith in musical comedy Mr Hart has chosen *The Orchid* as his Christmas attraction, and if the full house afternoon and evening of Boxing Day be any criterion, then he will have full cause to be satisfied with his choice. Especially meritorious is Mr Charles R. Walenn, whom we welcome back to Hull as a comedian above the average merit. Noteworthy, too, is the Caroline of Miss Madge Lucas, whose songs have just the right swing. The dresses are gorgeous, the scenery artistic.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Sole Owner, Mr W. Morton; Manager, Mr Geo. Morton.—*A Woman's Pluck* is a play that has all the features necessary in it to make a successful holiday attraction. Miss East-Robertson is an artist who fills her rôle with considerable distinction, whilst Mr Jas. Willard displays talent as Dick Darrell.

PALACE THEATRE.—Moss' Empires, Limited; Local Manager, Mr A. Graham.—The scena *The Great Glove Fight* is a most realistic episode. Leo Stormont is gifted with a capital voice and sings his song with style and finish. Four charming vocalists are the Schutzenlieserl'n.

SYLVESTER'S EMPIRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Sylvester Sage.—Rezel tops the bill here in a sensational aerial performance; the Two Ashtons gain much applause in a singing and dancing act; Corney Card is a very smart comedian; Loudoun Cameron, conjuror, performs some neat tricks; the Valmores are responsible for much laughter in a comedy act, entitled *A Restaurant Up to Date;* Blake, Cohen, and Elsie Page keep their audience interested; and Miss Dolly Vince and Miss Alice Adeson complete a good company.

Continued on Page 21

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

BERLAW.—*The Crystal Palace Pantomime of 1888 was Cinderella: in 1889,* **Aladdin**; *in 1890,* **Whittington**; *in 1891,* **The Forty Thieves.** *In 1888 the principals were Edward Righton, John and Emma Dauban, Clarence Hague, Susie Vaughan, Amy Liddon, and Edith Bruce. In 1889 the Daubans and Misses Bruce and Vaughan appeared. These ladies also appeared in 1890, with J. J. Dallas, Mat Robson, and Alice Bruce In 1891 the principals were Edith and Alice Bruce Kitty Loftus, Kate Chard, Sam Wilkinson, and William Hogarth.*

E. J. B.—*The play, under the title of* Gold, *was originally produced at Drury-lane in 1853. Subsequently Charles Reade turned it into a novel and called his work "It's Never Too Late to Mend." The first adaptation of the novel produced in London was by George Conquest at the Grecian in the summer of 1865. There was a version by J. B. Johnstone at the Surrey soon after Reade's own version, which had had a trial trip at Leeds in the previous year, was produced at the Princess's, Oct. 4, 1865.*

CHRIS.—*(1) An English version by H. J. Byron called* The Pretty Perfumeress, *was produced at the Alhambra May 18, 1874. (2) An adaptation of* Le Voyage dans la Lune, *by H. S. Leigh, was produced at the Alhambra April 15, 1876.*

S. P. G.—*He did not take up the part until the play was transferred to the Garrick.*

OLD STAGER.—*The benefit performance was given at the City of London Theatre, and the programme included* A New Way to Pay Old Debts. *Brooke played Sir Giles Overreach, and Mr W. Searle was the Marrall*

"THE ERA" LETTER-BOX.

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THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT FOR ACTOR AND COMPOSER,

BY ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (Lond.).

Chapter I. COPYRIGHT AS OPPOSED TO PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter II. PERFORMING RIGHT.
Chapter III. INFRINGEMENT AND REMEDIES.
Chapter IV. MUSICAL COPYRIGHT.
Chapter V. INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL COPYRIGHT.

"The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer," by Albert A. Strong, LL.B., solicitor, author of "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" office), seems to be the one compendious and indispensable authority on the subject, as vexed as "the Bermoothes" and as tortuous as a Chancery suit, that has long been wanted. It is in every essential a text book for the perplexed layman, and no solicitor or barrister worth his salt ought to think of taking or appearing in "proceedings" without consulting its pages. It must suffice, after what has been said, to state little more than that the contents include five chapters respectively named "Copyright as Opposed to Performing Right," "Performing Right," "Infringement and Remedies," "Musical Copyright," and "International and Colonial Copyright." The work, for all its precise authority, is not dry reading. The statutes, with the elucidatory notes, necessarily impose a task on the reader which takes some tackling, but they had to be there. The cases adduced, however, are full of interest. Certain of them might fitly find a place in the romance of copyright. There was the fight of Charles Reade with George Conquest over "It's Never Too Late to Mend," for instance, and the equally interesting conflict of Mr J. A. Cave with Chatterton over "The Wandering Jew." The latter was a famous battle. Chatterton took it to the House of Lords, and was finally beaten, to the unspeakable relief of Mr Cave, who is never weary of relating the story. Had the result been otherwise it would have meant his ruin. I well remember meeting him on the day of his victory and "crashing a cup with him" in honour of the same. "The Law of Copyright" is dedicated to Mr A. W. Pinero.—Sportsman, July 31st, 1901

Copyright confusion is, like the poor, always with us, and as it seems likely to remain so until at least the crack of doom, it were well for all concerned, or likely to be concerned, to take immediate steps to secure a copy of Mr Albert A. Strong's new work entitled "The Law of Copyright." Mr Strong is already favourably known to the profession for his text-book on "Dramatic and Musical Law," which, like his latest production, is published at "The Era" Office. "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" essays to make clear to the non-legal mind what is—or, in some cases, what probably is—the law as to musical and dramatic copyright. The chapters on the Berne Convention and on the Chase Act, passed by the United States Congress last March, are full of interest.—Referee, July 28th, 1901

Those who are interested in "The Law of Copyright for Actor and Composer" will derive much valuable intelligence by reading Mr Albert Strong's book bearing the above title, published at "The Era" Office.—Pelican, Aug. 3d, 1901.

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Jan. 2, and during the Week, Kate Carney and Co., in New Musical Episode, "Our Laundry;" James Fawn, Princess Nouma, Hawa, Singing and Dancing Midget, Athas and Collins, Ethel Loftus, Edgar Romaine, the Bandurrias Maud Stanley, Ovieto and Bray, Gus Ryder, Miss Florence, Prof. Thornbury, Conway and Leland, Private Clarke, the Five Ashleys, Tom Lloyd, Frank Cass, Ryder Slone, the Forrest Comedy Sketch Co. Grand Extra Night, Friday, Jan. 6, Kate Carney's Singing-Competition. Telephone, 206, Kensington.
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John Lawson and Company in "Humanity;" Tom Costello, Maudie Ford, Arthur Prince, the Great Ventriloquist; Vivians, Leo Stormont, the Mozondas, Cliff Ryland, Two Tees, Charles Pastor, Dandy George and Dog, Mystery Gauze, Rosie and Vaughan, Veno, the Great Bale Troupe, Whit Cunliffe, the Edisonograph, Monks and Wood, and Vesta Victoria.
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Proprietor, Mr J. C. COE.
Monday, Jan. 2, Harry Lauder, Dolly Golden, Shawlene, Pat Rafferty, Walter Ellerson, Tiny Reiff, James Fawn, Poppy Williams, Raffallo Trio, Belle Davis and Piccaninnies, Massona, Tom E. Hughes, "Hiawatha Wed," by the Two Bees, Burns and Bentley, Tom Dunmore, Brady and Johnson Comedy Co., Harry May Hemsley, the Edisonograph, the Black and White Zouaves. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7·35. Tele., 106, Hammersmith. Acting-Manager, Lewis Vincent.

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Mr E. E. Giles will take his Grand Farewell Complimentary Benefit on Jan. 11.
All Principal Stars will appear.
Notice to all Artistes holding Contracts for Battersea Empire.—Special attention is drawn to Clause 14, which must be strictly adhered to.

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With Johnnies and Tommies, and breaches of promise,
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"A B C D" (James Hargreaves)	Wilkie Bard
"All the harm I wish you" (R. P. Weston)	Harry Anderson
"All the little Ja-panesy faces" (Harry Castling)	Mark Sheridan
"All the Girls are Lov-er-ly-over-ly" (Harrington and Thurban)	R. G. Knowles
"Anywhere there will do" (Murray and Everard)	Frank Seeley
"A Warning to Single Men" (Bateman and Pether)	Arthur Reece
"Blue-Bell" (Madden and Morse)	Hamilton Hill
[Above also sung by Miss Mabel La Blanche, Miss Dorothy L. Clark, Miss Florence Esdaile, the Sisters Jonghmanns, Miss Nellie Stratton, Miss Maud Kamond, Miss Nita Clavering, Miss Margaret Radcliffe, the Langdons, &c.]	
"Britannia's Babes" (Carter and Weston)	George Leyton
"'Come in!' said Widdy Malone" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Michael Nolan
"Delusions" (Phil Ray)	Phil Ray
"Doan' Cry, Little Coloured Coon" (S. F. Harrison and Neat)	Miss Harriet Verno
"Don't Stand There —— !" (Lawrance and Gifford)	Walter Stanley
"Farewell, my little Yo San" (Mills and E. Scott)	Tom Costello
"Frozen Meat" (T. W. Connor)	Alf Gibson
"Have you seen my girl?" (Mills and Scott)	Walter Munroe
"He Kissed I Once" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Loftus
"I did enjoy myself last night" (Lawrence and M. Scott)	Will Johnson
"I don't mind if it amuses you!" (Leigh and Pether)	Ben Albert
"If all the stars were mine" (Smith and Stromberg)	Miss Lilian Doreen
"I'm a girl of Tennessee" (Eden and Byng)	Miss Lil Hawthorne
"I'm coming home to you" (Herbert Darnley)	Miss D. L. Clark
"I'm going to sea (see) (Leamore and Collins)	Tom Leamore
"I'm round there to-night!" (Wincott and Leighton)	Dan Crawley
"Isn't that like a Man?" (Paul Mill)	Paul Mill
"It's all right in the summer time" (Murray and Everard)	Miss Vesta Victoria
"It's the Poor that help the Poor" (Mills and Castling)	Miss Florrie Gallimore
"I Wouldn't Grumble Any More" (Harry Castling)	Harry Bedford
"I've been a Naughty Boy all Day" (Carter and Weston)	Miss Georgina Leonard
"Jolly Jarge" (Mills and Arthurs)	George Bastow
"Julia" (Robson and Hyde)	Miss Gladys Mavius
"Just a Girl" (Elton and Harrison)	Miss Minnie Cunningham
"Little Jap Horner" (F. V. St. Clair)	F. V. St. Clair
"Ma Dusky Rose" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Florrie Robina
"Ma Havannah Queen" (Gifford and Lawrence)	G. H. Elliott
"Maude! Maude!" (Barnes and Collins)	Miss Lottie Lennox
"My Fiddle is My Sweetheart" (Harry Hunter)	G. H. Chirgwin
"My Japanesy Girl" (Delmar and Parry)	Hal Forde
"My Little Black Pearl" (Leslie Stuart)	Eugene Stratton
"My Lily of the Valley" (Frank Leo)	Miss Sable Fern
"Oh, Nancy Lee" (T. W. Connor)	Miss Millie Hylton
"One Little Cottage all Our Own" (J. F. Lambe)	Miss Dolly Harmer
"Please, Mister Man in the Moon" (Stevens and Wells)	Miss Gracie Grahame
"Revenges" (Dunlop and Pether)	Wallis Arthur
[Above also sung by Whit Cunliffe].	
"She must have known!" (David and Scott)	J. E. Coyle
"She said, 'Baa! Baa! Baa!'" (Harrington and H. Allen)	Miss Florrie Forde
"Sit on 'em and keep 'em warm" (Wincott and Leighton)	Harry Champion
"That's him! That's him! That's him!" (Mills and Scott)	Harry Freeman
"The Angel of My Dreams" (Leigh and Pether)	Miss Millie Lindon
"The Coster's Christening" (Harrington and Le Brunn)	Miss Marie Lloyd
"The Gambling Man" (Jerome and Schwartz)	Miss Carlotta Levey
"The Garden Filled with Gold" (Bateman and Murphy)	Miss Marie Kendall

TO THE READERS OF "THE ERA."

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

Having conducted "The Era" for over forty years, I have, after a very serious illness, been advised by my medical men to retire from the management of this journal. I have, therefore, disposed of it to Mr. William Arthur Hamar Bass, of 145, Piccadilly, and Byrkley Lodge, Burton-on-Trent, who will retain the present staff.

In saying farewell to the readers of "The Era," I wish to offer them my most hearty and grateful thanks for their generous support. During the long period I have conducted the paper, I have endeavoured to assist every deserving case of distress in connection with the Dramatic and Musical World, and have given all my energy to advancing the interest of the Profession.

My only wish is that the paper and the Profession may continue to prosper in the future as they have in the past.

EDWARD LEDGER.

THE ERA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1904.

THE DRAMATIC YEAR.

Looking backward over the year that has just passed away, one is struck with the absence of sensational productions, and with the general excellence of most of the "output." The great dramatic event of the year has undoubtedly been Mr BEERBOHM TREE'S revival of *The Tempest* at His Majesty's Theatre, and his "re-creation" of the character of Caliban. We have already dealt pretty thoroughly with this remarkable performance, so immensely creditable to Mr TREE'S enterprise and artistic sense. Next in importance is Mr OTHO STUART'S production of *The Taming of the Shrew* at the Adelphi. It is, indeed, an encouraging "sign of the times" that such a really loving and intelligent rendering of SHAKESPEARE'S work could have been given by a company chiefly composed of our younger and rising dramatic artists. Two Shakespearian revivals of such excellence are no bad record to begin with. Unfortunately, there is no "halfway house" in our estimate, unless we consider Mr JAMES BERNARD FAGAN'S *Prayer of the Sword*, produced at the Adelphi in September, to stand between SHAKESPEARE and the "musical glasses"—i.e., the large number of excellent comedies and comedy dramas which have seen the light in the past year. The most successful of these was, undoubtedly, *The Duke of Killicrankie*, which had such a long run at the Criterion. While we may congratulate ourselves on the favour with which so bright and clean a work was received, it is not entirely satisfactory that one of the "hits" of the year should have been made by so light and frivolous an "entertainment of the stage." However, if the class of the work presented in 1904 has not been particularly high, the quality has been first-rate. Playgoing during the past year has been extremely interesting. Runs, as a rule, were short; and the number of agreeable and acceptable experiments was consequently great. A characteristic of several of the clever comedies presented was the "free-and-easy" treatment of the divorce question; but there was nothing unsavoury in the handling of matter which might easily have been made offensive. In *The Freedom of Suzanne*, the heroine was hair-brained, but honest; and the "tendency" of most of the plays provided in the past year has been irreproachable. But the word "interesting" is truly descriptive of the great character of the past dramatic twelvemonth. What a "chapter for the curious" was the production at the Garrick in February last of *The Arm of the Law*—a translation of one of M. EUGENE BRIEUX'S philosophic criticisms of French life! It shows the enterprise and scope of the English actor-manager that such a piece could have been played—and very well played, too—at a house chiefly devoted to comedy. But Mr ARTHUR BOURCHIER has the courage of his opinions in a very marked degree; and his audacious presentation of the satire on the "smart set" called *The Walls of Jericho* proved this to the hilt. How eclectic is the Garrick policy was exampled by the performance there of *The Fairy's Dilemma*, a characteristically "Gilbertian" piece of drollery.

It is not very cheering to notice that, while there do not seem to be any "coming men" to exactly take the places once occupied by Mr A. W. PINERO and Mr H. A. JONES, those two gentlemen have not done themselves justice of late. Mr PINERO'S regrettable descent in *A Wife Without a Smile*, with its "doll" detail and the controversy which followed it, are not pleasant things to remember; and Mr H. A. JONES'S *Chevaleer* and *Joseph Entangled* did not add many leaves to the author's laurels. The parties which have raised their records most this year are those of the "eccentrics" and the "antiquarians." If it may truly be said that Mr. BERNARD SHAW'S *John Bull's Island* was formless and uneven, there can be no denial of the fact that parts of it were delightfully and originally funny. Then there was the revival of *The Way of the World* at the Court in April, and that of VANBRUGH'S *Confederacy* at the Royalty in November. As for importations from Germany, they have been supplied with a liberal hand by the German Theatre company at the Royalty and Great Queen-street Theatres.

The musical play market has been brisk and bright. *The Earl and the Girl* at the Adelphi and *The Cingalee* at Daly's were both "well spoken of;" and that the taste of the British public in such matters cannot be very far wrong was proved by the success of MESSAGER'S delicate and artistic *Veronique* at the Apollo.

We must not, however, allow the dazzling vogue of this popular class of entertainment to blind us to the amount of good work done in other directions. "THOMAS RACEWARD'S" play of *Sunday*, done at the Comedy in April, was strong and effective, if conventional in design; Mr ISRAEL ZANGWILL'S *Merely Mary Ann*, at the Duke of York's in September, was worthy of warm praise; Mr ROBERT NEILSON STEPHENS'S excellent romantic comedy *Miss Elizabeth's Prisoner*, which was seen at the Imperial in April, deserved its success; and Messrs W. W. JACOBS and LOUIS N. PARKER'S *Beauty and the Barge* opened a fresh field at the New Theatre in August. It is not, however, altogether satisfactory that the most promising presentment at the St. James's this year was the recent revival of *Lady Windermere's Fan*. Our rising dramatists do not appear to have reached the GEORGE ALEXANDER standard; and he has had to go to Germany of late for his originals. What with pieces in German at two playhouses and *Rosenmontag* and *Alt Heidelberg* translated for the St. James's, the outlook in certain directions is rather depressing. Farcical comedy has not been much in evidence in 1904, Mr GEORGE ROLLIT'S *Moneymakers* standing out prominently by reason of its genuine excellence in this department. A "new departure" in the theatrical world was the assumption by the German Theatre, for the moment, of the part which has traditionally been allotted to the Paris Palais-Royal. The recent production of *Das Thal des Lebens* at the Great Queen-street Theatre certainly altered all our preconceived ideas of the "proprieties" as observed in the "Fatherland."

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.

When it was announced a few weeks ago that Mr Arthur J. Barclay had successfully applied for a dramatic licence for the Palace the general opinion was that he had done so not so much with a view to the production of stage plays, but to protect himself against the somewhat irritating laws pertaining to "sketches." Everyone looked for a production at Christmas time, and nobody was disappointed. It has taken the form of a pantomime on the popular lines of *Cinderella*, which was performed on the afternoon of Boxing Day, and played three times in the course of a few hours. This has been looked after by Mr Espinosa's company, and right well they have done their work. We have seen many Cinderellas, from Kate Vaughan at the "Lane" to Miss Ellaline Terriss at the Lyceum, but have never beheld a prettier exponent of the part than Miss Eva Kelland. Unfortunately, on the occasion of our visit, at the initial performance, nervousness deprived the lady of her voice, but her acting throughout was distinguished by many graces. The author of the present version has certainly not made the part a strong one, but the charming young actress made the most of her limited opportunities. The same remark applies to the Prince Amorel of Miss Kate Brandon, who is reduced to a mere show character. As the ugly sisters, Messrs Benson Cleeve as Iris and Billy Farrell as Selina did their best to make bricks without straw. Perhaps the most artistic triumph was achieved by Miss C. Stroud Wilson as the Fairy Godmother, her singing being of the highest order. Dandini had a delightful exponent in Miss Dora Harrison, who thoroughly entered into the fun of the part and took her share of the music most artistically. Mr Arthur Medwin made a distinct hit as the page, Peter. In the course of the performance Ginnett's Rejected Remounts appeared to the delight of the audience. The Escaladors performed nimbly on their ladders, and Orpheus played delightfully on various instruments, of which the oboe was, if possible, the most popular. The pantomime opening was followed by a short but lively harlequinade, in which the harlequin was Mr Rob Desplaces, the columbine Mdlle. Estella, the pantaloon Mr Paul Peters, and the clown the Great Little Evardo. The music has been selected and arranged by Mr H. Petersen, who has displayed his well-known ability. The manager for the Espinosa Troupe is Mr Guy Hughes.

AT St. Julian's Hall, Guernsey, on Bank Holiday Messrs Carlton and Armitage's company appeared in *In the Ranks*. Mr Edward Lloyd is highly satisfactory as Ned Drayton. Mr Arthur Byron as Joe is responsible for the comic element, being ably assisted by Miss Harriett Russell (Mrs Buzzard). Miss Edith Blair Staples is successful and attractive as Ruth Herrick; Miss Daisy Norman is effective and impressive as Barbara; Mr Herbert Cecil scores as Gideon Blake; Messrs Arthur Palling and A. W. Chappel as Colonel Wynter and Captain Holcroft are both meritorious performances; while the dissolute Richard Bellon is capably acted by Mr Walter Wilson.

AT Highgate Police-court on Monday, Charles Haranda, fifty, an independent gentleman, of Ferme-park-road, was charged with obstructing Police-constable Haldane, 137 Y, whilst in the execution of his duty. When the fire at the Crouch-end Opera House broke out on Christmas Eve between forty and fifty policemen were placed on duty in the neighbourhood, under Sub-Divisional Inspector Thomas. Fire-engines were at work at the front and rear of the theatre, and it was necessary to run the hose through Elder-avenue, a short thoroughfare connecting two main streets. Policemen were told off to prevent the public from going through the avenue. When the fire was at its height defendant attempted to go into the avenue in order to get a view of the fire, and was stopped by Haldane. As he persisted in his attempts and would not go away he was arrested. A fine of 5s. and 10s. costs was inflicted.

THE three artistic wooden bedsteads of fumigated oak, in which recline the charming children in *Peter Pan the Boy who Wouldn't Grow Up*, at the Duke of York's Theatre, must have been noticed and admired by all visitors to Mr J. M. Barrie's play. The quaint nursery will supply a pleasant memory to many mothers who take their little people to see the pretty play. It is furnished by Messrs Oetzmann and Co., who have shown their customary good taste. Doubtless, many parents will wish to have their nurseries similarly adorned and embellished.

PRESENTATION.—At the conclusion of Miss Olga Nethersole's *Sapho* tour, Mr Hodgson Taylor, stage-manager, was presented with a silver card-case and a pair of gold sleeve-links.

AFTER a short Christmas vacation Mr Lilford Arthur will resume his tour with *Jones's Jaunt* and Mr Charles Collette, opening on Monday at the Grand Theatre, Margate.

PRESENTATION.—Mr G. H. Beagle, general manager of the Grand, Sheffield, had a pleasant surprise on Saturday night, when the staff of the house presented him with a cigar-holder and a box of cigars.

THE MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.

Those who were fortunate enough to be present at the private view on the 23d inst. of Manchester's latest place of amusement were quite willing to believe that for beauty of design, unique arrangement, and luxurious furnishing, the Manchester Hippodrome is equal to any thing of the kind in the kingdom. Mr Stoll, the managing-director, has already given the public a taste of his catering for their comfort and amusement by the erection of a palatial music hall at Ardwick, but for novelty of design and luxury this has been surpassed at the New Hippodrome in Oxford-street. The architects are Messrs Frank Matcham and Co., of London, who designed the London Hippodrome and the Coliseum, and the site selected is an exceptionally good one, being in the centre of Manchester. The front faces Oxford-street and the side Great Bridgewater-street, and the back of the building abuts on the canal, which has been covered in, and thus forms an additional roadway for exits. The block includes, in addition to the Hippodrome, a handsome restaurant at one corner, the building of which is designed on up-to-date lines, and is fitted up with every luxury. The whole of the fittings are of polished mahogany, and brilliant cut-glass makes for a rich appearance. On the other side of the Hippodrome front is a large shop, with offices over, the elevation corresponding with that of the restaurant. The shop is being fitted up as a booking-office, as it is intended that everyone, even to the occupants of the gallery (or balcony, as it is here called) shall have the privilege of booking their seats, and as the office is to be opened early in the morning, a workman or business man can call and book his seat on the way to his daily occupation, and thus go to the Hippodrome in comfort, and without waiting, in the evening, to enjoy the performance.

The three buildings have been designed to form one large block. The Hippodrome in the centre, although not carried so high as the others, is treated with such boldness and dignity that it stands out well in importance. Wide rusticated piers are carried up with a bold arch over, the corners terminating with equestrian statuary; and in the centre is about to be erected an iron structure, consisting of a bold column with circular wings or sides, the whole terminating with a large globe to which will be attached electric letters forming the word "Hippodrome," and which, when revolving at night, will form a very effective advertisement. Over the front is a wide colonnade, and the sides over are curved back, giving an effective outline to a very artistic design. The two ends of the building are flanked with bold façades, carried up with piers containing windows between, and terminating with a bold moulded cornice and pediments, with flag poles on the apex. The elevation to Bridgewater-street is similar in design, but more plainly treated. The walls are faced with a dark red brick with buff terra-cotta mouldings, piers, and ornamentations, and the whole is well worthy to rank with any of the architectural buildings of Manchester. The three frontages are lighted up with electric arc lamps, which are very attractive at night.

The principal entrance is through the front colonnade, which is approached by marble steps and white and black marble pavements. The walls are covered to a height with coloured Italian marbles, having a rich frieze over. A wide marble staircase, flanked with marble ballustrading and columns supporting richly carved Arabesque arches, leads to the foyer, which is in the shape of a half-circle. These entrances contain ornamental and panelled ceilings, mosaic floors, and electric fittings, all in Arabesque design, and beautiful decorations in oriental colours and gold give quite an Eastern effect. On either side of this staircase oriental figures representing music and dancing are surrounded with flowers and palms. Settees of quaint design furnish these rooms, whilst the foyer is covered with a rich Turkey carpet. From each side of this foyer polished doors open into wide handsome lounges, the walls being panelled and filled in with oriental silk tapestry, the ceiling being coned and richly ornamented; the floors are covered with velvet pile carpet, and doors covered with velvet and fancy copper nailing open into the private boxes. From the lounge a wide staircase leads to a large balcony overlooking the foyer; this is a very happy idea, the effect being particularly artistic. The decorations and furnishing are continued into this part. From the balcony is approached a large smoking lounge, richly decorated and furnished with divans, tables, and curtains, and all in Eastern style. This room overlooks Oxford-street, and is a very attractive apartment.

The stall seating radiates from the curve of the ring fence, and contains fourteen rows. At the back of these are eight handsomely upholstered and draped private boxes, four on each side, with wide, airy lobbies at each end. In the centre is the grand orchestra, to accommodate twenty-five performers, and under this is the central approach to the ring, two others being at the sides. The grand tier contains eleven rows of tip-up seats, and these are divided into different blocks by wide gangways giving direct access to these seats. At the rear is a wide promenade, and in the centre a raised balcony is formed, from whence access to the smoke room is obtained. The ceilings are panelled out, and are rich in decorations; the walls are covered with an eastern raised design of leather paper. The balcony contains ten rows of velvet seats, with cushioned backs and arms, and these are divided into blocks with wide gangways. The ceiling is lofty and artistically decorated, and in the roof are two large ceiling lights, giving ample light and ventilation.

It might here be mentioned that the ring is *not* placed entirely in front of the proscenium, as it is at the London Hippodrome, but that only a little more than half projects into the auditorium, the remainder occupying a portion of the stage space; and this enables the management to lower the curtain and set the scene similar to that in a theatre, and not in sight of the audience, as is usual in circuses. The mat, also, which covers the arena is not the usual one, but is of coarse fibre and stained green, giving the effect of grass. No description of the building would be complete without reference to the mechanical stage and arena. The latter is 42ft. in diameter, and contains below the arena floor level 70,000 gallons of water. The arena floor is lowered and raised by a hydraulic ram, and by a special device varying depths of water, from 1ft. to 6ft. 6in., can be obtained. The water is warmed to a temperature of 70 degrees. Special arrangements have been provided for fountain displays, eight being of telescopic form, which enables them to rise automatically from the bottom of the tank through 6ft. of water, until the nozzles show above the surface, when powerful jets of water are then thrown towards the ceiling. On the arena floor, and slightly submerged, are five triple sets of concentric fountains, by which marvellous combinations of colour effects are obtainable by the aid of electric light, which is projected on to the columns of water. The stage is entirely unique, being the only one of its kind in existence. The rear portion is hydraulically lifted, whilst the front portion is run from under and over the tank by electricity, thus enabling a full size of stage to be obtained, which can either wholly or partially be worked in conjunction with the arena or water display. Another feature is the mechanical manipulation of the arena mat, which weighs upwards of some four tons, and is 42ft. wide and 50ft. long. It is drawn on and off the arena table by electric machinery, thus doing away with the employment of manual labour. In some cases no less than thirty men were required for this operation. The whole of the seating has been supplied by Messrs H. Lazarus and Son, London.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

Continued from Page 19.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Geo. H. Gaze.—The special company organised by Mr Trevor Lowe to perform *Alice in Wonderland* opened its tour here on Monday, and gave two performances to well-pleased houses. The company is personally directed by Messrs Leonard Pagden and Lewis Gilbert, with Mr Louis Beaufort as musical director, and stage-managed by Mr Thomas Pauncefort. Alice was very prettily played by Miss Rosie Dane, who proved an accomplished little actress. Miss Minnie Luker, who gave much pleasure by her dancing, appeared as the Lobster, and Miss Lina Nazeby as the Spirit of the Play recited her lines in the two prologues with much ability. Mr Lewis Gilbert proved the possessor of a good voice, and appeared as the White King. A good performance was contributed by Mr Joseph W. Worley as Executioner and Walrus; Mr Frank Lincoln as the Mad Hatter was amusing; and Messrs Pauncefort and Worley as Tweedles Dum and Dee created much merriment. Master Leslie Gordon as the Cheshire Cat deserved recognition, as did also Mr Jas. P. E. Hussey for his Knave of Hearts. Mr E. H. Paterson as the Hare proved a good comedian; Miss Maude May Murray was well received in the second act for her dance illuminés; and the children's gavotte in the first act was a pretty performance, and creditable to Nolan's London Training School, which supplied the troupe. The scenery is by Mr John Leonard.

HASTINGS PIER PAVILION.—Pier Manager, Mr R. Turner; Entertainment Manager, Mr J. D. Hunter.—Mr J. D. Hunter's twenty-sixth annual Christmas pantomime, *Aladdin*, may rank with any of the previous seasons' successes. The nursery legend has been turned to the best account. Excellent acting and singing, clever dancing, bright dialogue, and pretty scenery are its prevailing characteristics. The story has been admirably preserved throughout. The popularity of the manager is testified by the hearty reception he is accorded, and as the Widow Twankey Mr J. D. Hunter's natural humour asserts itself and finds abundant opportunity for provoking laughter. Miss M. Sadie in the title-rôle is a bright and attractive heroine; her singing and dancing are delightful. A most attractive Princess is found in Miss Elsa Brull, whose soprano voice is listened to with great pleasure. Variety turns are introduced, of course, some of them being exceptionally clever. Mdlle. Bartenelli is a skilful and novel contortionist, Mr Fred Boulton an able banjoist, the Verona Jap Quartet do well as dancers, and the Four Sisters M'Queen, operatic vocalists, have pleasing voices. The pantomime is of the best, the charming story is faithfully told, and there being plenty of drolleries and whimsicalities, there is never a dull moment.

ST. LEONARDS KURSAAL.—Pier Master, Mr Elvey Thomas; Entertainment Manager, Mr Drew Mackintosh.—Miss Gertrude Maxted is the vocalist engaged this week. Her pleasing manner and charming soprano voice are delightful additions to Mr Val Marriott's orchestra, and the pavilion is well filled at each performance. Alternately during the week Mr Owen Clark, the well-known society entertainer, and the Gordon Boy Pipers also appear.

HASTINGS HIPPODROME THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—General Manager, Mr Harold Penny.—An excellent holiday programme is furnished here, and is opened by Miss Lal Cliff, an attractive dancer and comedienne. Mr Harry Mier gives a decidedly amusing turn. The Three Sisters Gilbert are exceedingly pleasing and graceful dancers. Quite a novel feature is given to the acrobatism of the Harlem Brothers. A marvellous exhibition of strength is shown by Mr John Grun Marx. Miss Dot Hardy is very successful as character comedienne. Mr Walter Wallis, comedian, is much applauded. The comicalities of Messrs Cavern and Cave in their comedietta are thoroughly enjoyed.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr N. A. Jackson; Acting-Manager, Mr Thomas Robson.—The reopening of this theatre with a first-class variety company was on Monday night attended by a large and enthusiastic audience. At the top of the bill is Mike Gray, comedy juggler, who, along with his dog, is warmly appreciated; Martin Henderson, the blind musician, is a fine concertina player; the Henderson-Stanley Quartette make a welcome return visit; Thos. Johnstone is a good actor-vocalist; Belford and Mars are effective as comedy vocalists; and J. H. M'Cann, roller skate dancer; J. Heffron, expert dancer; Akbar, ring performer; Giglo, illusionist; Bella Leaburn, comedienne; and Eileene Moore, singer of illustrated songs, are also in the programme.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy G. Arthur.—In place of pantomime we are having as a holiday attraction a return visit of *Florodora*, played by Mr Tom B. Davis's company. A house packed to discomfort assembled on Monday evening to renew acquaintance with the merry piece, the leading parts being sustained by Miss May Desmond as Dolores, Mr Albert Bruno as Tweedlepunch, Mr T. Ellis Buxton as Gilfain, Mr Cyril Dane as Abercoed, Mr Derick Knowles as Arthur Donegal, Miss Daisy Byford as Angela, Miss Rene Steadman as Lady Holyrood, and Mr Lionel Williams as Leandro. The chorus is smart looking, and a section received a well-earned encore for the number, "Tell me, pretty maiden."

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr Joseph W. Maloney.—"The finest pantomime ever seen in Hyde" was the unanimous verdict on the initial performance of *The Babes in the Wood*, given on Christmas Eve by Mr Peter Thompson's company, and packed houses on Monday afternoon and evening expressed the same opinion. The book has been specially written by Peter O. Dicks, and contains many local "hits." The scenery is charming and elaborate, the dresses pretty, the humour of the piece is irresistible, the dances smart and effective, and the numerous vocal and instrumental items tuneful and popular. To Miss Maude Beaumont is entrusted the rôle of Robin Hood, and she plays with dash and spirit, and sings with artistic effect, her rendering of "Bluebell" and "It's the truth or a lie" being nightly encored. Miss Molly Hackett invests the part of Maid Marion with charm and grace, and in solos and duets with Robin proves herself a gifted cantatrice. A vivacious and capable exponent of Will Scarlet is Miss Fanny Humber, and Miss Minnie Moran is a dainty Dorothy Dimple. Bertie and Cissie, the two babes, are cleverly impersonated by the Sisters Graham, and Polly Primrose has a charming representative in Miss Rose Walmsley, whose artistic dancing is a feature of the production. Praise is also due to Miss Kate Lever, who looks attractive and sings with sweetness and expression as the fairy, Bluebell, and Miss Nellie Hilton, who makes a smart Little John. The Baron is played with distinct originality by Mr J. Templar Ellis. Uproarious merriment is created by Mr Fred Danvers as Evalean; the Danbys are extremely funny as Tim Tired and Willie Wearied, and Mr Willie Barrett extracts many a laugh by the humorous interpretation he gives to his lines as Simple Pimple. Mr Tom Carter's make-up as Friar Tuck is admirable. The chorus is thoroughly up to the standard. The speciality turns include N. T. Kioto, a clever and sensational Japanese equilibrist; the Yankee Quartet, who give a dexterous exposition of dancing; Miss Rose Walmsley, skipping rope and acrobatic dancer; Little Renee, male impersonator; the Danbys, Hungarian dancers; and Miss Fanny Humber, musical specialty.

HORWICH.

NEW PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Holyoake.—Mr Charles Carte is paying a return visit this week in *A Noble Brother*. The piece is again excellently staged, and the company is a good all-round one. Mr Carte in his impersonation of Jerry the Tramp is irresistible, the audience apparently thoroughly enjoying his efforts. Nana Leigh is most artistically rendered by Miss Doris Brookes; Jack Elsworth is capitally presented by Mr J. A. Wilson.

HOYLAND.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Owner, Mr Arthur Carlton; Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr Geo. S. King.—*Dan, the Rake*, is being well played here by Mr J. Rice Cassidy and company. Mr Rice Cassidy causes much amusement in the title-rôle; Mr Frank Copeland is in every way suited to the part of Lieutenant Charles Kavanagh; Mr F. Orchard does good work in the part of Colonel Flamer; Mr F. Biron acts with dramatic force in the rôle of Tom Cooper; and Miss Ada Roscoe is deserving of praise in the character of Mrs Donelly; and Miss Lillian Clare is an amusing Madge.

ILKESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr L. F. A. Rogers.—For the holiday week *A Beautiful Fiend* has been chosen, and it lacks nothing in the hands of Messrs Beaudyn and Livesey's company. Mr Beaudyn himself plays in capital style as Ivan, whilst Miss Irene Munroe secures admiration as Nadine. Miss Sidney Crowe makes an impression in the title-rôle, and Mr A. G. Polson Turner provides all that is necessary as Count Fedor. The other artists do their work with equal success.

QUEEN'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr Joe Richards.—Gaertner and Weston, comedy artists; Frank Archer, impersonator of leading celebrities; Mona May, ballad vocalist, &c., are the acceptable turns engaged for the week.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Manager, Mr G. W. Fisk.—*Goody Two Shoes* is the title of this year's pantomime, produced by Mr Peter Davey on Boxing Day. Miss Lingard in the title-rôle was charming and graceful, and Miss Maude Nichols as the principal boy was satisfactory. Mr J. G. Taylor as the Wicked Earl was very droll, and others rendering effective assistance to the piece were Messrs Harry Calden, T. C. Haverly, Graham Morrison, and Miss Ethel Beech.

HIPPODROME.—In the programme here are Four Herberts, clever acrobats; Fred Land, comic; the Autos; Frank and Violet Payte, in a sketch called *Also Ran*; Carle and Carmanelli, in a novelty termed the electric moulding mill; Miss Rosie Newport, juvenile vocalist; and other interesting turns.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Hugh Robertson.—Mr Frank E. Burdett's company is here this week with *The Indian Mutiny*. Mr H. Ryeland Leigh gives a good account of Lieut. Manley; Mr Reginald Fox is quite at home as Capt. Manley; Major Ingleby is cleverly taken by Mr W. S. Tindall; Mr John Hignett gives a droll rendering of Terry O'Brien; Miss Kate Bruce is a capital Mrs Major Ingleby; Miss Agnes Kingston is winsome as Kate Ingleby; Mr Villiers Stanley makes a powerful Nebu Singh; Mr J. S. Shedden is well placed as Abul Khan, and as Ra Goonga Mr Ernest Keand proves himself a most capable actor; and Miss Maude Digby gives a striking portrayal of the part of Ghuznah.

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. Robert Perkins.—Mr Mouillot's company is here in *A Message from Mars*. The part of Minnie Templar was prettily played by Miss May Saker, and Miss Flora Hastings made the most of her opportunities as Miss Parker. Mr Bruce Lindley displayed ability in depicting the Tramp. Mr William H. Brougham represented the Messenger from Mars with telling effect, and Mr Rawson Buckley was a convincing Horace Parker. Mr W. Maxwell was cast for the part of a policeman, and Mr Frank G. Dunn for Arthur Dicey. The remaining characters were in safe hands.

KEIGHLEY.

QUEEN'S THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Barnes.—A return engagement of Messrs Carson and Granville's company in *The Heart of a Hero* has given the liveliest satisfaction to Keighley playgoers. Mr Fred W. Goddard gives a forcible and manly rendering of the hero, Jem Rosdale. The rôle of Wilfred Marl is ably embodied by Mr Chas. E. Johnson, who makes Marl a callous scoundrel. Mr A. B. Mackay is an earnest and impressive Mark Marl. Mr Brady, an excellent comedian, fairly revels in the character of Timothy Heighno. Mr Harry Dunning scores as Jack Collinson, and Mr Eric Forth deserves praise as Detective Pritchard. The part of the Miser is realistically acted by Mr Harry Scotchard, and additional interest is lent to the character, Mr Scotchard being a native of the town. Miss Cissie St. Elmo makes a welcome reappearance as Nell Rosdale, and worthily sustains her reputation. Miss Lilly Langley and Miss Ida Mackay complete an excellent cast.

KENDAL.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr R. F. Chorley; Manager, Mr J. W. Butler.—Miss Lillie Mowbray's pantomime *Robinson Crusoe* is having bumping houses this week. The pantomime is arranged and produced under the direction of Mr Arthur Lee Todd, and the mounting and dressing are highly creditable. Miss Lillie Mowbray as the hero fills the part in a graceful manner, and is highly successful in her songs. Miss Alice Campbell is a dainty Polly Hopkins, and Miss Lily Harris as the Fairy has a nice voice, which she uses to good effect. Mr Claude Morton capably fills the part of Dame Crusoe, and Mr J. C. Chant works hard as Will Atkins. Specialities are provided by the Eight Sunbeams, speciality dancers; Chump and Chant, comedy artists; Martell and Ward, contortionists; and Vic Verney, the marvellous whistler.

KETTERING.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Payne.—Mr Ernest Abbott and company are here this week with the comedy drama, *A Wife's Triumph*. This was originally produced at the Pavilion Theatre as *The Betting Book*. Mr Geo. Doughty gives an admirable rendering of Frank Wilton; Mr Abbott is responsible for a fine piece of character-acting as Squire Dewhurst; the villainous Ellis Jordan is powerfully portrayed by Mr W. H. Garbois; and Miss Ada Abbott claims the sympathies of the audience by her fine acting as Jessie. The comedy parts are in the capable hands of Mr Edwin Keene and Miss Constance Medwyn.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Manager, Mr H. Fowkes.—The Christmas attraction here is Mr Ben Greet's company in *La Poupée*. Mr Bert Danson keeps the audience in roars of laughter by his clever impersonation of Hilarius, and Mr Algernon Lee as Launcelot is a decided success. Mr Stanley White as Chanterelle and Mr Harry Bishop as Loremois add very considerably to the fun. Miss Cissie Wade is an excellent Alesia and Miss Alice M'Farlane scores in the character of Madame Hilarius. A word of praise is due to Mr Joseph Brull for his singing as Father Maxime.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan; Acting-Manager, Mr A. Hales.—This week we have a visit of Mr Fred Karno's company in *His Majesty's Guests*. Mr R. H. Kitchen is a great success as Sergeant Lightning; Mr Charles F. Howard gives a lifelike impersonation of Lord Easem; and Mr Wellesley Smith makes a typical Mr Miffin. Miss Jessamine Newcombe is very good as Lady Maude Easem, and Miss Jennie Housley makes a sweet and natural Dolly Miffin.

(Continued on Page 24.)

MUSIC HALL GOSSIP.

MR THOMAS BARRASFORD'S largest variety house—the Lyceum—will open this afternoon at 2·30, and a glance at its interior, which has already been illustrated and described in these columns, will at once convince the visitor that it is one of the finest and best-appointed people's theatres in the United Kingdom. It will be an important addition to the Barrasford circuit, which includes Paris, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester, Brighton, Leeds, Hull, Newcastle, and other towns. By its establishment Mr Barrasford has introduced the now popular two-houses-a-night plan into the Strand. At 6·30 and 9·0 o'clock every evening the public will be admitted to enjoy a continuous programme of twelve turns, giving a varied entertainment of unvarying excellence.

Among the chief attractions of the new place will be the Lyceum operatic company, including the following artistes of high reputation:—M. Ansaldi, tenor, from the Grand Opera, Paris; M. Rey, baritone, from the Grand Opera, Nice; Mdlle. Van Parys, soprano, from the Grand Opera, Paris; and Mdlle. Dasty, contralto, from the Théâtre La Monnaie, Brussels. We remember Charles Santley's voice ringing out clear and mellow and strong in the old house in the music of Vanderdecken in a production of Wagner's *Flying Dutchman*, but the public may be assured that the very best operatic traditions will be sustained by this admirable quartet in a selection from *Rigoletto*, which will include the famous dramatic quatuor, "Un di si ben," one of the finest pieces of concerted music ever written by Verdi.

IN another great attraction of the opening performance to-day the author, Mr J. P. Harrington, has gone for his inspiration to the late Lord Tennyson, and has written a new musical sketch round the pathetic story of "Enoch Arden." The title-rôle will be played by Mr George Leyton, the well-known actor-vocalist, who hitherto has mostly been associated in his stage work with the impersonation of naval and military heroes. The production will be in three scenes—the first a seascape, with Arden's cottage in the foreground. A fisherman's song, "Hauling in the Nets," is heard as Enoch Arden enters, and he proclaims his devotion in a solo, "Angel of my home." Selling his boat, the hero departs to win fortune, and is next seen as a ragged and bearded castaway on a tropical island. In a vision he witnesses the marriage of his supposed widow with Philip Ray. The last scene is in front of Philip Ray's house at Christmas time, and the original ending of the story has been preserved. The music is by Mr Bennett Scott.

THE musical director of the new Lyceum is Mr Louis De Reeder, who will have an orchestra of forty under his bâton. He intends to make high-class musical selections a feature of the programmes, and the band will be one of the best in London. Mr De Reeder was musical director at the Shaftesbury Theatre for six years, and conducted the original performances of *The Belle of New York* at that house. The manager is Mr Alfred Selwyn, from the Hippodrome, Glasgow, and the stage director, Mr H. Crocker, from the Hippodrome, Liverpool. Both the houses mentioned are important units in the Barrasford circuit. Mr Barrasford will institute matinées on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 2·30 o'clock.

THE Coliseum's method of advertising its numerous attractions on the front of the fine façade in St. Martin's-lane has been watched by thousands of people during the week. The names of each performer and of each incident, episode, or spectacle are seen in rapid succession, the brilliant incandescence of electricity shining out in most effective fashion, even in broad daylight. Nothing more effective in the way of advertising a show could be possible.

THE new Coliseum reminds us of the old, which was known as the Royal Colosseum, Regent's-park. It was situated in Albany-street, and about fifty years ago was one of the sights of London, with its weird imitation stalactite caverns and its representations of "London by Day" and "London by Night." It had some famous theatrical memories, for on its stage was first brought out the drawing-room entertainment—illustrative and musical—of *Distant Relations* and *Home for the Holidays*, in which the chief parts were sustained by the Sisters Kate and Ellen Terry. This was in 1860. The little company included the father and mother, Mr and Mrs Ben Terry, and the quintet was completed by Mr Sydney Naylor, the pianist and conductor, who afterwards became famous as the accompanist of Sims Reeves. The entertainment ran for thirty consecutive nights, during which more than thirty thousand people paid for admission. It was afterwards toured.

FOR many years, down to a quite recent period, a variety house has flourished in Melbourne under the style and title of the Royal Colosseum. It was a popular resort of lucky diggers at one time, and gave them spicy forms of entertainment that would not be tolerated nowadays. Its last proprietor died a couple of years ago, leaving a considerable fortune for distribution amongst churches and charities. He left a special bequest for a memorial stained-glass window in his parish church.

MR ARTHUR ROBERTS and his little company played a flying matinée at Bournemouth on Wednesday. It is the seventh visit the popular comedian has paid to the town this year. He was greeted with a crowded house, and appeared in Captain Basil Hood's Arthurian romance, *Brummagen Jem*, and Mr Harry Grattan's rattling farce, *Packing Up*. The fall of the curtain is mentioned in "the tag" of the former piece, but as there was no curtain at the Winter Gardens two members of the company entered with screens at the finish, and drew them round the table where Mr Roberts and Miss Celeste were seated—a happy thought that was highly appreciated by the audience.

THERE is more scope for pretty dresses in *Jack*, produced by Arthur Roberts at the Palace last week, than is usually the case with sketches in the halls. Miss Ruby Celeste looks very charming in a girlish pink silk frock, with a full skirt, gauged for several inches below the waist, with a soft folded belt and wide lace collar and yoke. Her hat is a mingling of velvet and chiffon, trimmed with roses and tied in a fluffy bow on the left side of the face. Miss Lucy Webling wears a spotted muslin with a wide fichu, and knots of brown silk ribbon, and a white felt hat, adorned with black velvet and white satin ribbon, with a narrow steel buckle. Miss Aynsley Cook, as the severe maiden aunt, appears in pale blue satin, with a white lace yoke and pink coral ornaments.

MR JAMES TAIT, brother of Mr Charles Tait, the manager of the great Melbourne music publishing house of Allen and Company, is spending a few weeks in London, Messrs Francis, Day, and Hunter's establishment being his headquarters. The gentleman is on the look out for first-class concert artists, and is empowered to offer lucrative terms to leading performers desirous of visiting the Antipodes.

"THE WAITER" has before been chosen as the subject of a song, and the name of the late Mr Dan Leno immediately rises to the lips in that character. Mr Ernest Shand has an excellent song with the same title, which he is singing at the Camden Theatre, in the pantomime *Robinson Crusoe*. Mr Shand is appearing as Will Atkins, and his success in this new number, which is by Mr Mark Lorne, is very marked.

MR W. F. FRAME, the Scotch comedian, who is a Glasgow man, will occupy the chair at the dinner of the Pencil and Pen Club in St. Mungo City on Wednesday, Jan. 11. Hooch aye!

THE Grand Theatre, Boscombe (owned by Mr Moullot), one of the finest theatres in the provinces, is to be turned into a first-class hippodrome, and will shortly be opened as such with a well-known music hall manager directing affairs.

MISS VIOLET FRIEND took her annual benefit on Thursday and Friday, the 22d and 23d inst., at the New Empire, Dudley. The proceeds were generously given to the poor of the town. Many of her friends will be sorry to hear that the popular lady's health has been very indifferent of late, and she has been ordered by her medical adviser a trip to Australia.

THE Manchester Hippodrome, the magnificent house opened on Monday by Mr Oswald Stoll, has been seated throughout with the patent chairs of Lazarus, the famous expert. No less than 2,000 have been supplied in the stalls, dress-circle, grand tier, and balcony. They are upholstered in light gold velvet, and the Hippodrome patron will be able to loll in luxury in the balcony for the modest sum of sixpence.

THE new house is designed by Mr F. Matcham on the lines of the first building of this description that he erected in Leicester-square, and contains the usual arena for circus performances, the water show, and the spiral fountains. A great feature of the management of the entertainment is the mechanical manipulation of the arena mat, which weighs upwards of four tons, being 42ft. wide and 50ft. long. It is drawn on and off the arena table by electric machinery, thus doing away with manual labour. In the centre of the front portion of the ceiling is a large oval opening nearly 30ft. long, and round this is a gallery with open balustrading, whence different coloured lights are manipulated and projected into the arena or on to the stage. The value of this arrangement for spectacles will be incalculable.

THE proscenium, which comes nearly over the centre of the ring, is 48ft. wide, the sides being of Scagliola marble, as are also the columns flanking the side private boxes and chorus galleries. These galleries will, of course, be occupied by choristers—as at the Coliseum, London—who will join with the orchestra in the descriptive music of the scenes to be portrayed. The arena is 42ft. in diameter, and below its floor, which is lowered and raised by a hydraulic ram, is stored 70,000 gallons of water. By a special device varying depths of water, from 1ft. to 6ft. 6in., can be arranged.

THERE were three performances on Monday, the opening day, and it is calculated that at least 10,000 people attended these. *Tally Ho!* the hunting sketch that was so popular at the London Hippodrome, was the principal attraction. The variety turns included Max Gruber, with his horse and elephant; the M'Connell Trio of musical sketch artists; the Noisetts, on the whirling table; Manning's entertainers; Post Mason, the American baritone; Elsie Clare; and Werner and Banks. Features were also made of Bioscope pictures and the Hippodrome choir. The acting-manager is Mr E. P. Morgan; Mr Albert Haines directs the fine orchestra; the assistant-acting-manager is Mr H. Hall; and the experience Mr Harold Hilliard is the stage-manager.

THE King's Theatre of Varieties, Roscommon-street, Liverpool, opened on Monday with a matinée and two houses in the evening, the house being packed to overflowing at each performance. The management received innumerable telegrams of congratulation on the opening, which they desire to acknowledge in these columns.

CONCERNING the Star Theatre, Liverpool, Mr Spence Lees writes: "Mr William Ambrose was the founder of the New Star Music Hall, and about thirty-five years ago Mr Noah Lees became the re-founder, and through his indomitable perseverance and ability made the concern what it undoubtedly was, a financial success. About ten years ago the sole proprietors, Messrs Isaac Fineberg and Noah Lees, sold out to a syndicate for £62,500. They retired from the scene and had no further interest, with the exception that they were joint mortgagees to the extent of £20,000—a portion of the purchase money. The syndicate then floated the concern into a limited liability company with a capital of £70,000. Unfortunately they entirely altered the building, which remained closed for a long time, and when reopened it had lost caste. It was a failure, and eventually the property came back into the hands of the joint mortgagees, Isaac Fineberg and Noah Lees. Mr Harris Fineberg then obtained a lease and converted the place into a dramatic house."

A SYNDICATE of local gentlemen is running the Hippodrome, Castleford, of which the general manager is Mr Charles Moore. The opening on Monday saw a packed house, and there seems to be every prospect of a successful season. Mr J. Arnold, dramatic and variety agent, Rochdale, has taken up the position of entertainment-director, and his wide experience will enable him to set a high standard of entertainment.

AN alarming fire occurred at the Ulster Hall, Belfast, on Monday evening. Our Army and Navy No. 1 Animated Photo. Company, consisting of a capital display of living pictures, commenced a week's engagement at this hall on Monday, and during the progress of the entertainment one of the films of the cinématograph, which was placed in the front balcony, took fire, and in a few minutes the box containing all the films was ablaze. Some one in the large audience thoughtlessly shouted "fire," and immediately a rush was made for the doors; but, fortunately, with the exception of a few bruises, the audience escaped without injury. The caretaker, police, and volunteers made prompt use of the hand-pumps, &c., pending the arrival of the fire brigade, and the fire was almost extinguished when the steamers, hose, carriage, &c., reached the hall in charge of Mr Geo. Smith, superintendent, and W. Stafford, assistant superintendent. A jet of water was speedily laid on from the main, and in a short time the outbreak was extinguished.

MR RICHARD HOGAN, the Cinématograph operator, in his attempts to put out the flames, sustained severe burns to the hands and face; and a lad named Hugh Rolston is also suffering from burns. Both were admitted to the local hospitals—Mr Hogan to Royal Victoria Hospital and the boy Rolston to Mater Infirmorum Hospital. Some of the windows in the hall were smashed, and a number of chairs were broken; but the only damage to the building is the blackening of the ceiling immediately over the fire, and the scorching of the paint on some of the woodwork.

THE popular Dunedin Cyclist Troupe were the principal attraction at the Casino, Monte Video, in November and the early part of this month, and they took their benefit and farewell on Wednesday, Dec. 7, when they were presented with gold medals from the Impressarios.

MR JAMES E. DONEGAN, the paternal manager and trainer of the troupe, has made many friends during his stay here, but, unfortunately, has to cancel several of his London contracts in consequence of illness. The doctors say it will be some time before he will be able to cross the ocean, and the troupe will not leave without their dad.

MR H. E. MOSS, who will be released from the harass of directorial cares of the vast aggregation known as Moss Empires after Jan. 1, will early in the new year take a trip to Egypt.

WE regret to have to announce the death, after a long and painful illness, of the little daughter of Mr and Mrs Walter Gibbons, aged one year and ten months. The little one passed away at 8·30 a.m. on Friday. We are sure the whole profession will sympathise with the bereaved parents in the loss of their only child.

MR FRANK CELLI, whose death is announced in another column, came to the music halls about twelve years ago. He accepted an engagement at the Oxford that was offered him by the late Chas. Brighten, and he soon became a favourite, his broad phrasing and robust style admirably suiting the heroic stanzas that he mostly affected. He appeared at the Alhambra in the vocal ballet *Jack Ashore*, in the character of the hero. He sang with much success a number by Mr G. W. Byng, entitled "Jack's the Man." He made his last appearance on the stage at the Tivoli, Manchester. He belonged to a famous stage family, one of his brothers being Mr Herbert Standing and another Mr Carlton, who was for many years a popular opera singer in the States.

MISS LOUIE FREEAR met with a warm reception at the Oxford on Boxing Night, and sang her three songs—the inimitable "Twiddly Bits," from *A Chinese Honeymoon*, going, perhaps, the best—with all her customary humour and skill. She has been taking a six weeks' holiday, and looks much better for the rest and quietude of country life. Miss Freear does not make up in the least, and her stage costumes are never made to order. She picks them up in all sorts of odd places, and this is undoubtedly the reason why they look so characteristic. The big old boots that she wears for "Twiddly Bits" are only equalled by the black bonnet, with one crushed red flower, and shabby little jacket, in which she sings of the sobriety of "John James Perkins," and for her final ditty, concerning the actress "who just walks on and just walks off," Miss Freear appears in her most popular character, that of the over-worked little servant, with a tiny cap and a huge apron.

MR JAMES HOWELL, of the Tivoli, has been absent from his post during the week in consequence of an attack of influenza. He has been confined to his bedroom, but is rapidly mending, and will return to business on Monday.

LONDON is a city of wonders, and in no phase of its multi-coloured life is this more apparent than in the entertainment world, the recently erected buildings rivalling each other in the magnificence of their proportions and the sumptuousness of their appointments. A case in point is the vast and beautiful new Coliseum in St. Martin's-lane, a veritable palace among metropolitan places of entertainment. Nor is the artistic note confined to the building. The items in the programme are presented in the most charming fashion. In Mr R. A. Roberts's clever sketch *Dick Turpin* there is an interior scene at the famous old Spaniards Tavern at Hampstead, rich and picturesque in antique carved oak, and in another scene there is shown a very handsome Louis Seize suite of furniture. Both of these excellent stage pictures are supplied by the well known house of Oetzmann and Co., of Hampstead-road, W., and are thoroughly artistic and attractive.

MR FRANK WEEKS is busy making arrangements for his third annual free treat to the poor children of Southwark at the South London Palace on Friday next. The hall is situated among a dense population of toilers, many of whom are unemployed, and the action of the popular manager will afford a few hours' real enjoyment to a number of kiddies, many of whose lives are overshadowed by penury.

MR WORLAND S. WHEELER, the secretary of the Paragon, who was married to Miss Godden on the 17th inst., has been presented by the staff of the house with a handsome timepiece with bronze ornaments and an assortment of cutlery. Mr Charles Beecham made the presentation. The happy couple have also received many other well-chosen gifts from friends.

THE shareholders of the Coliseum, Limited, were informed by the chairman, at a private meeting on Thursday, that the advance bookings for the Christmas week had been of an exceptional nature, and that the performances had gone on well. The report submitted was agreed to.

THE Alhambra management on Monday next will present the Tachin-Maa Troupe of Chunchasses, conjurors and jugglers, who are alleged to come direct from the Russian lines on the Shaho and Mukden, who will make their first appearance in England. The Boganny Troupe of Hungarian vocalists in their military displays and national songs and dances will also make their début in London. An entirely new series of Urban pictures is another attraction.

MR REMBGES, who has recently married, has received a very handsome cheque from the London Entertainments' Protection Association, through Mr Henri Gros, its president. This pleasant surprise is a deserved recognition of Mr Rembges' work as assistant secretary to the Association.

SAM MAYO is called the immobile comedian, but he has made himself responsible for a "moving" record by fulfilling a larger number of turns in different parts of London in the space of four hours than has ever been known. On Monday, travelling in a motor-car, he was able to appear at the Chelsea Palace at 6·50; at the Bedford at 7·25; at Camberwell, 8·5; at Gatti's, 8·30; again at Chelsea, 9·15; at the Metropolitan, 9·40; at the Middlesex, 10·20; finishing up at the Bedford at 10·50.

THE Alhambra management intend giving daily matinées of a novel character from Jan. 9. The entertainment, entitled *Urbanora*, which will last from three to five o'clock, will be almost exclusively of a bioscopic character, and will include pictures of scientific, geographical, and educational interest, blended with others in lighter vein. The programme will be divided into two parts by vocal or instrumental music, or a specially selected "turn." No smoking will be allowed in the auditorium, and afternoon tea will be served. Half-price will be charged to all parts of the house, except the gallery, which will be closed.

MANY of our older readers will hear with regret of the death of Mr William Tanner, who was some years ago a partner with Mr Parkes in the proprietorship of the Elephant and Castle Theatre. For some time past the deceased gentleman had been an inmate of the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum. He was interred on Thursday at Brompton Cemetery.

MISS DAISY DORMER, "the coon impersonator," is playing principal girl this year at the Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, where she was such a favourite two Christmases ago as Goody Two Shoes. She has three excellent numbers in "Navaho" (which bids fair to outrival her popular "I'll be your Butterfly") "The gambling man," accompanied by one of those dances which has made her so popular on the halls, and a pretty little love song, "If I had a girl as nice as you." Miss Dormer's dresses are the talk of Glasgow, and "Navaho" is being sung all over the town. All the three numbers are published by Messrs Francis and Day.

MDLLE. ADELINE GENEE has been commanded to Chatsworth to appear before their Majesties the King and Queen, therefore the production at the Empire of the new fairy divertissement, *The Dancing Doll*, has been unavoidably postponed to Tuesday next. The chic Genée is a countrywoman of her Majesty's, and is the first solo dancer who has been commanded to appear before her.

BODIE may say with the great Cæsar, "*Veni, vidi, vici!*" The crowds which have besieged the entrances of the Duchess, Balham, and the Canterbury have testified to the doctor's powers of attraction. "Standing room only" has been the notice put outside these halls soon after the doors have been opened. Next week, in addition to evening performances at two halls, this wonder-worker has been engaged to give matinées at the Royal each day at 2·30.

IN *Peggy Machree*, at Wyndham's, a character called Sergeant Bampton, according to the bills, is played by "Mr John Morley." And the "Sisters Asquith" have been performing in the music halls. We shall soon be having the "Chamberlain Family" in an astounding quick-change act.

SUMMONSES were granted at Southwark police court on the 23rd inst. against the proprietors of the South London in respect to the performance of sketches which were alleged to be stage plays. Mr Paul Taylor remarked that one of the pieces—*Big Ben*—seemed very trivial, and he did not think it would occupy more than a quarter of a hour in its performance.

THERE are better known names in the music hall world than Whit Cunliffe, but he added greatly to his reputation on Boxing Night at the Tivoli. He gave no less than three songs, and, owing to the insistent demands for encores of his last number, he sang no less than eighteen verses. If this is not a music hall record, it will be interesting to learn the name of the comedian who has beaten it.

MR HYRAM TRAVERS finished up his three months successful South African tour at the Tivoli, Cape Town, where he was presented with an 18-carat gold repeater and a pair of gold Kruger coin cuff links, with an affectionate inscription, from the Boys of Cape Town. Hyram is now enjoying a couple of weeks' steeplechasing as a holiday.

MR ARTHUR LENNARD has been unable to appear at Hull this week owing to the dangerous illness of Mrs Lennard, who is in Bradford. Mr Frank Allen at once kindly released Mr Lennard to enable him to stay with the sufferer, who has now taken a decided turn for the better.

THE members of that excellent fraternity the Terriers' Association will hold their annual dinner at the headquarters, the Dover Castle Hotel, on Sunday, when the treasurer, Mr Douglas White, will be in the chair.

MISS SADIE MAX, who won first prize in a recent singing competition at the Cambridge, has decided to adopt the profession. Recently she deputised at the Paragon—on the first occasion for My Fancy, and on the second for Booker and Narbis—and was complimented by Mr Charles Beecham on her performance.

SNOW AND FARRON gave a concert at Camberwell on the 17th inst. for the benefit of the unemployed. They are members of the *Sinbad* company which should have been playing at the Opera House, Crouch End, and their disinterested action has prompted the following letter from the Rev. H. G. Veazey, vicar of St. Mark's, Camberwell:—"Christmas Day.—To Snow and Farron.—Dear Sir and Madame,—Grateful thanks for your splendid effort for the unemployed. The result is forty families are having a Christmas dinner in their homes."

MISS REBA KAUFMAN has no reason to regret having remained in London when *The Prince of Pilsen* company returned to American, as her engagement at the Alhambra has been extended for another three months. A former contract will, however, oblige the little toe dancer to leave London next week, but during a fortnight's absence her place is to be filled by her sister, Miss Inez Kaufman, whose short experience includes a Shakesperian engagement with Mr Nat Goodwin, when she played Mustard Seed in his revival of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

MISS FLORENCE YAYMAN has returned to the Alhambra for two weeks. A clever eccentric comedienne, she gives perhaps the best coon song and dance in London, and appears in a striking costume. It is made of velvet and chiffon of an unusual shade of rose red, with very fluffy, short skirts, a band of full-blown flowers round the top of the flounces, a big crescent of sparkling jewels at the back of the waist, and sleeves consisting of a band of velvet just above the elbow and a frill of chiffon. Her picture hat is trimmed with pale pink roses, a big cluster also being worn in the bodice of the dress. A pair of long black gloves gives the finishing touch. Miss Yayman resembles Yvette Gilbert in her fondness for long black gloves, for she always wears them. Not the least surprising part of her turn is the shrill, loud cry that she suddenly gives during her dance. It is a strange, uncanny sound—Miss Yayman herself calls it "a cultivated screech"—that comes from the throat, and is as difficult to describe as it is to copy.

"LITTLE FLOSSIE," as Miss Florence Yayman was called at the beginning of her career, was born in Trenton, New Jersey, and was discovered by a couple of friends, before she was five years old, giving imitations of the well-known American artistes, Miss Maggie Cline and Miss Georgie Parker, with herself in the looking-glass for audience. Mr Tony Pastor was her stage godfather, and before he obtained permission to "bill" so very young a performer she used to be announced every evening as a "special extra turn." Little Flossie came to England in 1888, and gave a trial show at the Grand Theatre, Liverpool, followed by a month's engagement. Since that time she has figured in leading parts in more than one pantomime, toured the English provinces, paid a couple of return visits to the United States, and played a season in South Africa. Miss Yayman has a gift for designing and making stage dresses, but the idea of doing so occurred to her mind in quite an accidental manner. She was engaged for second boy in a suburban pantomime, and the dresses provided were so very unbecoming that she determined to try her hand at remaking them with new materials after a pattern of her own.

IT rarely happens that a child actress takes a part seriously enough to forget her lines, for real "infant phenomenons" are the most practical and business-like little people in the profession. When Miss Yayman was a very little girl she succeeded in turning the death of Eva, in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, into a screaming farce by emphatically refusing to die at the right minute. She has a clear recollection of taking the gravity of her fellow actors very ill, and when Uncle Tom burst into tears and exclaimed, "Hush! little missy is dying!" she suddenly sat up in her bed and answered, "Oh, I can't bear this! I'm too young, and I want all you folks to understand I won't die!" Miss Yayman is the wife of Mr Henri Cazman, to whom she was married in Boston some years before she left her teens behind. Her husband is equally well known as agent and artiste. They have three clever children. Mr and Mrs Cazman have just taken possession of a pretty house in Denmark-hill.

"A BRIDE FOR A LIVING."

An Episode of Domestic Martyrdom, by John Lawson, Produced at the Middlesex on Monday, Dec. 26.

Louie Faber ..... Miss CISSIE LAWSON
Josephus Faber..... Mr BAILEY COHEN
Lucas Poulten ..... Mr E. S. VINCENT
David Faber ..... Mr JOHN LAWSON

The principal novelty of Mr J. L. Graydon's Yuletide programme at the Middlesex is Mr John Lawson's sketch, *A Bride for a Living*. Any production with which Mr Lawson's name is associated is sure to be of a startling nature, and his "episode of domestic martyrdom," as his latest playlet is billed, is certainly no exception to the rule. The scene is the living-room in an humble abode in the Hackney-road, and the time 8·30 on the morning of the Derby. David Faber, a young mechanic, comes in apparently too late to have any breakfast, but not too late to make and take up to his wife Louie a cup of tea. He also manages to find time to call his brother Josephus, a lazy, sneaking cur, who makes up the other member of the household. When he has gone Joe lounges in, and after a few unimportant remarks lounges back—to bed. Then the wife comes on the scene, a slatternly, pale-faced female, with draggling skirt, unkempt hair, and blouse unfastened. It is a ring at the bell that has brought her down, and she imagines it to be the milkman, but her visitor is Lucas Poulten, a "universal provider," otherwise a flash "tally-man," with whom she is obviously on very familiar terms. She owes him money, and he in return is allowed to make her presents and dishonourable proposals, kissing and caressing her, and even offering to give her a pair of garters—and put them on. David's precious brother is a witness of most of these proceedings, and not only countenances, but encourages, the disgraceful conduct of his sister-in-law. She would like to go to the races, but her wardrobe is apparently not smart enough, so Poulten produces a new costume, intimating that the payment will do any time. She goes to her apartment to change, and after a brief interval Poulten too makes his exit—by the same door. David returns unexpectedly just as his wife has come on the scene in her new apparel, and she immediately disappears, and when she again confronts her husband it is as her old untidy self. David has good news. The firm where he is employed have recognised the value of his invention, and he is offered a partnership. He has brought home clothes for their little one, their only child, whom Louie is too lazy to tend, and who is put out to nurse for 3s. a-week. The prospect of a brighter and more affluent future which David holds out to his wife has, however, no charm for her. She is sick of being "a bride for a living" and of the continual drudgery of housework—a remark which is certainly not justified by appearances. Her doting husband does all he can to conciliate her, his only protest—a very mild one—being that she might try and clear up the washing, which has been lying about all the week, and look after the child. It is evident that any affection she might have had for David has entirely disappeared, and her only ambition is the pursuit of pleasure. After she has gone to an adjoining apartment, Poulten emerges from the bedroom, but David does not see him till he gets to the street door, and then imagines that he has just called. The "universal provider" endeavours, vainly for a time, to get David to purchase clothes on the instalment system, and the pair eventually disappear. Joe presently comes in with the news that David is drinking at a neighbouring "pub" with Poulten, and the wife writes a note to her paramour, of which Joe is the bearer, that he (Poulten) is to make her husband drunk or poison him. She also concocts a horrible scheme for getting David completely out of the way. She will kill him when he returns intoxicated. No one will suspect murder, and the unspeakable Joe, who calmly falls in with the idea, will share in the insurance money! David and Poulten return decidedly inebriated, and after a time David half promises to buy clothes from Poulten, who induces David to try on his coat to see if it suits him. Poulten also changes into the mechanic's smock, and presently falls on the bed in a drunken sleep, David disappearing in the other's apparel. At a signal from Joe Louie enters, and eventually places a sheet over the body she imagines is her husband. A screen in front of the bed partly obscures all her doings, but it is evident that she attaches a rope hanging from the ceiling round the neck of the prostrate figure. She then fixes one end to a mangle, and slowly turns the handle, and the lifeless body is gradually raised to view. When she has completed her work, David returns sobered. He has found her letter in Poulten's coat, and accuses her of being his mistress. He also sees the body and cuts it down, bringing it to the front of the stage. The sight of the body and her husband's ravings finally prove too much for Louie, and she falls lifeless to the ground—there had been a hint at heart trouble previously—David going out presumably to find his child. Mr Lawson's embodiment of the patient and sorely tried young Jew was marked by much sincerity and conviction, and the part of the slovenly wife was admirably played by Miss Cissie Lawson, the discontent and utter indifference of the heartless woman being very cleverly indicated. The unthankful rôle of the apostate brother, Josephus, was adequately portrayed by Mr Bailey Cohen; and that excellent actor Mr E. S. Vincent was entirely satisfactory as Lucas Poulten. Like all sketches with which Mr Lawson is concerned, *A Bride for a Living* was most completely and carefully put on, every little detail having been apparently well thought out and executed; and that the gloomy and gruesome episode impressed the audience was evident from the start, the hitherto rather noisy galleryites subsiding into silence after the first line or two, and enthusiastically applauding at the conclusion.

THE variety stage in the near future—when a sane act for the regulation of places of entertainment has been passed—should be able to command the best of writers. Even in its present restricted conditions it has been able to secure the services of that clever playwright Captain Basil Hood, who gave to the Palace stage *Brummagem Jem*. Possibly one day we may see a revival on the same stage of Captain Hood's earliest work *Gipsies*, which was produced at the Lyric more than a decade since.

MR RUTLAND BARRINGTON, too, who has very much advanced his reputation of late, does not disdain to write for the variety stage, and his pretty little piece, called *Her Chance*, was produced at the London Pavilion on Boxing Day with undoubted success. It is introduced by Miss Edith Houseley, who plays the principal part—that of an ambitious little actress, who has to languish as an understudy, until one day she gets her opportunity and replaces the principal. It is an agreeable trifle, delicately and cleverly played.

MR HENRY JOHNSON, an acrobat, is able to boast that he appeared before King William the Fourth, the Sailor King, in 1830. The hale old gentleman has just celebrated his ninety-eighth birthday. May he score a century!

MR BANDURRIA desires to publicly thank Mr Frank Macnaghten for his kindness in paying full salary at the Palace, Bradford, to him during Mr Bandurria's late bereavement

MR CHAS. COVERDALE, who made his first appearance at the London Pavilion on Boxing Night, scored so great a success in his original stories and burlesque imitations that he was immediately secured for three further weeks by Mr Frank Glenister until Jan. 21, 1905, and also for future dates

THE COLISEUM.

The opening of the Coliseum on Saturday, after being twice unavoidably postponed, was a notable event in the history of London's popular places of amusement. This new and magnificent pleasure resort will become, one may with confidence prophesy, one of those sights of the city which every visitor to the metropolis must on no account miss. And from whatever part of the world he may come he will return with reports of the wonderful size and the marvellous beauty of the new palace of pleasure. Of its appearance we have already given a full account, and there only remains to be noticed the programme of amusements. The first entertainment started at twelve o'clock, the audience rising as the orchestra struck up "God Save the King." The singing was led by the two contingents of chorus, consisting of about fifty men, women, and boys arrayed in white who occupied the marble alcoves on either side of the stage. The orchestra having given an admirable rendering of "The Entry of the Gladiators," the curtain rose on a pretty scene, representing "The Banks of the Ganges." Here Indian maidens sang a love-song, "Oowana," the refrain being taken up by a number of youths and girls in the background, who also joined in the accompanying dance. The Princess and her lover were ably represented by the Sisters Meredith. This was followed by the American-Indian song, "Laughing Water;" and then came a charming picture of a Mediterranean watering-place, before the Casino of which the Debreans gave a neat display of Japanese juggling, and an amusing exhibition of sicography. The next item was an Irish scena, "Barney in Connemara," written by Roland Carse, with music arranged by W. Slaughter; and the audience saw for the first time the revolving stage. The machinery worked with perfect smoothness, and the quick change of scene was greeted with a burst of applause. Miss Decima Moore was a charming Irish colleen, and sang and danced with much spirit. She received valuable support from Mr Keino Johnston, Mr Allan Morriss, and others. The Reiff Brothers were recalled for their smart step dancing, and next was presented a musical scena, words by Preston Hope, music by N. Lambelet, entitled *The Pickle Girl*. The scene was among the pickle jars at Brosse and Clackwell's. Mdlle. S. Sablanc in the character of Miss Chutney sang a ditty, other pickles being represented by Mesdames Nellie Beryl, Bessie Ruth, Marjorie Skelly, Amy Long, K. Martin, Stevenson, Jenkins, and Nainby. No. 7 in the list was a musical scena by Arthur Sturgess entitled *The Last Load*, an episode descriptive of rural life in the early Victorian era. For this Mr N. Lambelet had composed the music. Very animated was the picture with its carriage and pair, its mounted riders, and crowd of gamekeepers, farmers, dairymaids, shepherds, and gleaners all engaged in celebrating the ingathering of the harvest. Mr J. C. Piddock as the squire on horseback sang an appropriate ballad, and Miss S. Sablanc was a comely squire's daughter. The Boissets next appeared in their well-known pantomime comedy act, *The Bricklayers*, and again showed how labour and fun could be mingled in the most eccentric fashion. The Troubadours having given a proof of their ability as vocalists, the comedy sketch *A Bachelor's Dream* was brightly played by Miss May Edouin and Mr W. Edwards. The popular song "Bluebell" was sung by Mr Allan Morris and the auditorium choir, with illustrations thrown on the fireproof curtain. The last item on the programme was the musical spectacle "Port Arthur," but in place of this was given "The Derby." In this representation the full extent of the enormous stage was for the first time shown. The curtain rises revealing a "bit" of Epsom Downs as it appears just before the historic race is run. A throng of people of all sorts and conditions—from the bookmaker and the three-card-trick expert to the youthful "plunger," and the costermonger on pleasure bent—are seen parading about the ground, when suddenly the bell rings and mounted policeman enter to clear the course and incidentally to save a "welsher" from the fury of his victims. Then the scenery begins to move across the stage, and a great shout proclaims that "they are off." Immediately one hears the roar of the crowd and the thud thud of the gallop of the approaching field. The stage, which is covered with a carpet made in the likeness of turf, is now revolving rapidly, and presently, making difficult headway against the revolutions of the stage, the racers and their jockeys are seen through a gap in the front cloth, which soon disappears to give a view of the grand stand. The horses are evidently moving at their best pace, and the spectacle undoubtedly begins to be thrilling as the jockeys struggle for leadership. But the proper climax was never reached at the noon performance on Saturday, owing to a mishap natural to a first representation. The imitation turf managed somehow to ruck up, so as to form an obstacle in what should have been a flat race. It was an untoward incident, but, thanks to the promptitude of the stage-manager, the presence of mind of the jockeys and stage hands, and the high-training of the horses, the serious accident that seemed imminent was avoided.

The second programme opened with *The River Girl* a summer idyll. Miss Berthe Palisser appeared in the title-rôle, and Mr J. C. Piddock as a gondolier; and the singing of these artists was much appreciated. The scene painted by Mr Julian Hicks represented The Thames Near Marlow. Cooke and Miss Rothert gave an eccentric performance, which was well received. This was followed by the appearance of Miss Millie Hylton as "Dairy Mary," supported by a chorus of dairymaids. In a scene at Monte Carlo Miss Hylton scored as the leader of the Belles' Parade. The charming and tasteful costumes of the ladies were greatly admired. Miss Madge Lessing gave a spirited military ditty, "Good-bye, little girl, good-bye," in which the singer had the able support of the pipers and drummers of the Caledonian Boys' Band and a detachment of Highland soldiers. This she followed up with a novel scene named "The Witches," of which the action is supposed to take place in the Catskill Mountains. Mr Eugene Stratton gave Mr Leslie Stuart's latest composition, "My Little Black Pearl," supported by Miss Bessie Butt and the sixteen special dancers of the Coliseum stock company. The pleasing ballad, "The Missouri River," pictorially illustrated by the magic lantern, and well sung by Miss Berthe Palliser was loudly applauded, and so, too, was the highly trained horse and troupe of performing dogs introduced earlier in the afternoon by Miss Tina Clementa. Time did not permit of Mr R. A. Roberts's sketch, *Dick Turpin*, or the acrobatic feats of the Three Bounding Pattisons being given. The afternoon performance, like that of the morning, concluded with the Derby spectacle, from which, however, some of the preliminaries were omitted, as the appointed hour for the beginning of the third performance had been overpassed.

THE International Copyright Bureau, Limited, have removed their offices to Oswaldestre House, 34 and 35, Norfolk-street, Strand, W.C., and have been appointed sole agents for Great Britain and the Colonies of Messrs Felix Bloch Erben, the leading German dramatic and musical intermediaries and publishers. All inquiries regarding the English rights in any German plays, or applications for the production of any plays which this firm controls, or for the production of any English plays and operas abroad should in future be directed as above.

PROFESSOR TED HEATON has secured Sacha, the champion lady swimmer, for his electric tank act, and they opened successfully on Monday at the Tivoli, Dublin.—The Lorrisons, who deputised on Monday at the Paragon for Clark and Hamilton, were kept in the bill for the week.

THE EUSTON ANNIVERSARY.

Dull and drear was the Euston-road and its vicinity before Mr George Adney Payne and a few enterprising gentlemen raised up the elegant temple of varieties opposite the King's-cross station. It has proved a boon to those whose avocations lie in the work of the great railway termini, while the other residents of the district have availed themselves eagerly of the opportunities afforded them of taking their pleasure cheaply, amid luxury undreamed of by variety lovers in the past. To Mr Fred M'Avoy, who has from the first borne the responsibilities of general manager, has been due in no small degree the secure position which the hall has attained, and his cordiality and business acumen have won him a great popularity. The house was rendered still more attractive on the 23 inst., the occasion of the fourth anniversary, when the outside was made gay by pretty illuminations, while the boxes and balconies within were decorated with flowers and plants in a way that reflected excellent taste. Mr H. E. Davis alone represented the directors, Mr Henri Gros being unfortunately indisposed and Mr Adney Payne being out of town. The entertainment went merrily at both houses, and was supplied by performers well up in the public regard. Mr Austin Rudd took an early opportunity of stimulating mirth with a parody on "Pansy Faces," the funny points of which never failed. A rousing reception awaited Mr Leo Dryden when he emerged from the wings after singing a verse of the ever-green "Miner's Dream of Home," and nobly did the audience respond in the rendering of the popular refrain. Mr Dryden's voice has stood the test of a remarkable career, and the notes of his fine baritone ring as full and clear as ever. Miss Lily Langtry kept the house in high glee from the moment she tripped on to tell of the delights of "Hampstead Heath" and to astonish with her vitality and her drollery. Brief but pithy and piquant burlesques on the drama and opera were given by Boyd and Gilfain, who gave way to the enthusiastic applause, and presented a travesty of a Scotch lad and lassie which was highly relished. Terry and Lambert cleverly presented in "Mamie Maclone" the American prototypes of the Cockney coster and his "Donah;" Miss Dora Lyric sang expressively a pathetic ballad; the sentiment of Mr Edgar Romaine's lay of "Pennies" was appreciated; and the Sisters Wingrove proved a source of rare delight in a song with a peculiar chorus, which by some inscrutable means the audience laid hold of sufficiently well for the captivating ladies to dance to it. Kopski claimed that he is the first pianist to leave the concert platform to play classical pieces on the music hall stage, and his confidence in the improved taste of the public was justified by the attention and applause which they devoted to the "Grand March" from *Tannhäuser*. Miss 'Del Levey in the carnival costume of the coon sang of a prospective bride whose qualifications were to be extraordinary. Mr Alf Chester pleased everyone with a favourite effusion; the sensational elements of *Sally in Our Alley* were brought out vividly by Mr John Lawson and company; and the programme was made up by the Sisters Oswald, Nina Martino, Garnet Chandler, Fanny Wentworth, Hamilton Hill, Fred Herbert, Alf Chester, Amy Clevere, the Allisons, Three Sisters Chester, the Harvey Boys, Edith Courtney, Starr and Leslie, Gladys Archbutt, Joe Archer, and Dolly M'Calla. The Original Vivians played their pretty sketch *Life's Reverie*, in which a burlesque of "The Bard" is carried out in a humorous way, and Hamlet and Romeo feint vigorously in a sword combat while Ophelia and Juliet faint interestingly at hand. The stage was smartly managed by Mr A. Jackson; Mr Charles Wellman bore his added duties cheerily as acting manager; and the band was kept well in hand by Mr Victor Opferman.

THE ELLIOTTS AND SAVONAS

ARE RECEIVED WITH THUNDERS OF APPLAUSE AT THE HIPPODROME, YARMOUTH.

The trend of a large number of holiday-makers yesterday afternoon and evening was Hippodromewards, where a well-lighted and well-warmed house, together with a liberal programme, attracted as big an afternoon audience as we remember to have seen since the building was opened, while in the evening there was a full house. The great turn for the present week is that provided by the clever Musical Savonas. These artistes (eight in number) give a performance of extraordinary magnificence. One side of the building is entirely occupied by their orchestrion, which combines a triple clarion-organ and other effective musical appliances. The principal piece performed was a grand scene from *William Tell*, in which silver trumpets, trombones, saxophones, giant xylophones, and numerous other instruments were brought into use. The great storm scene was a splendidly worked-out tone-picture, and was received with thunderous applause. This was followed by a further performance of a humorous character, the party finishing up with a new and sensational bell driving act. The Savonas are accomplished musicians, and their act, which lasts for over half an hour, is one of the finest of its class to be seen anywhere. Hundreds of electric lamps brilliantly illuminated their special staging, and heightened the effect of their lovely white satin 18th century Court costumes. At the conclusion of their performance the audience awarded them deafening applause. The six cycling Elliotts gave another brilliant turn, and did some extraordinary feats, one of the troupe descending a high staircase on a single wheel. Mdlle. Eloina, a lady gymnast, gave a fine performance on the high trapeze, and vastly pleased her audience. The fine 30 horse-power motor now to be seen in the town is owned by the Elliotts and Savonas, who made the journey from Darlington to Yarmouth (a distance of about 200 miles) in this splendid carriage to carry out their Hippodrome engagement.—*Eastern Daily Express*, Norwich, Tuesday, Dec. 27, 1904

The motor-car was specially built for them (at a cost of £1,100, by Messrs Waddington and Hall, Middlesbrough) for their third tour round the world, and is fitted with all the latest and best-known improvements.

AT the Palace, Derby, this week the star turn is provided by the Mannon Troupe of American pantomimists. Their production, *Uncle Yank*, is highly diverting, and some very elaborate trick scenery is used. The lady artist dances very effectively. Another very praiseworthy item is supplied by the Wartemberg Brothers, double-foot experts, who are particularly clever and entertaining. May Moody, piccolo soloist, performs in acceptable fashion, and Della and Orford are truly labelled, an "inimitable duo." The Sylvesters, hand balancers, &c., are thoroughly deserving, and Charles Paver is a patter comedian of ability. Francisco, a smart novelty juggler, and Tom F. O'Neil, a droll comedian, complete the bill.

MR JOHN TERRY (Terry and Lambert) is mourning the loss of his mother, who died in Charing-cross Hospital on Boxing Day, and was buried in Kensal-green Cemetery on Thursday.

THE usual monthly committee meeting of the Music Hall Sick Fund will be held at the York Hotel on Wednesday next at 2·0 p.m.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—In your notice of the pantomime of *Robinson Crusoe* here, you speak in terms of praise of the song-scena "The Waiter." Will you kindly mention the fact that it was specially written for me by Mr Mark Lorne, and is only "introduced" into the pantomime. It is, therefore, my property, and the rights are fully protected.—Yours faithfully, ERNEST SHAND. Camden Theatre, N.W.

"THE ERA" SHILLING FUND FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

MR. THOMAS BARRASFORD APPEALS.

The words Music Hall Home bring to the minds of our readers the necessities of the aged members of the profession who did their work on the variety stage in its early days long before the era of prosperous empires and palaces. These were the times of hard work and small salaries; when, indeed, the remuneration of stars rarely reached double figures. The benefits of the Home are well known to the variety entertainers, by whose exertions it was established; but its work is unobtrusive, and at this season of charity, when the blessed message "peace and goodwill" wings its flight through the world, it is our privilege as well as our duty to once again emphasise the usefulness of a refuge for the aged and the real need of help to its exchequer. We appealed to the profession three years ago with a success that encourages us to repeat the experiment, and we have the warm approval of Mr Thomas Barrasford, the excellent president of the fund, in opening our columns for another appeal for shillings. We have before us a letter from Mr J. J. Fruin, in which he states that there are now six inmates in the Home, which is at 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E. "Two of them are cripples, and the others very old, the majority being over seventy, and quite unable to work!" What a pathetic record! Imagine, if you can, the hopelessness of the performer, once a favourite of the footlights, stricken with age and infirmity, and then think of the blessing of his being able to spend his declining days in comfort, supported by an institution that is financed by his brother and sister artistes. No one was more alive to the need of such a charity than the late Mr Dan Leno, who had in his early days one of the hardest struggles that ever fell to the lot of an entertainer. We can never forget the eloquence of his appeal for the Fund, to which he was a constant contributor. It is gratifying to think that other staunch friends have been stirred by his fine example, and to their noble exertions the report of the annual meeting which appeared in our issue of Sept. 17 bears witness. Mr Thomas Barrasford, the president, has shown, too, a great interest in the Home. In every one of his halls he has had collecting boxes placed, and on two occasions, when damages have been awarded to him in actions at law, he has arranged for the amounts to be paid to the Fund, and in this way no less than £35 has found its way into the exchequer. A pleasant experience for the committee was the visit paid to the Home on Christmas Day at the dinner hour. The inmates were enjoying roast goose, which was followed by the traditional pudding; and beer and spirits were

Photo by Langfier.

MISS LILY BURNAND,

AN ENTHUSIASTIC WORKER FOR THE MUSIC HALL HOME.

also provided. The hearts of the old folk were cheered, too, by a bit of bacca, given to them by a veritable little fairy godmother, Miss Nelman, daughter of Mr Fred Nelman, the well-known ventriloquist, and each of the smokers was endowed with a brand new briar pipe. We have said sufficient, we think, to bring the claims of the charity to the attention of our readers. The institution is in great need; and we ask the thousands of our readers to send their shillings to us, and to remember that "he gives twice who gives quickly." There is no greater pleasure in life than giving, and each contributor will have the satisfaction of knowing that every penny will be wisely spent. Collecting cards may be obtained from Mr J. Fruin at the Home, 31, Wilson-road, Camberwell, or that gentleman will be pleased to forward them to applicants. We may add that parcels of cast-off clothing are very acceptable. In our charitable crusade we have great faith in the influence of the ladies of the profession, for a reference to the annual report shows that they are capable of excellent work, and in this connection we may mention Miss Lily Burnand, who again shows her kindly interest in the Home by sending along forty-two shillings. Subscriptions may be forwarded to the Editor, *The Era*. They will be duly acknowledged in these columns.

At Thames Police-court, on Monday, the manager of the Queen's, Poplar, applied to Mr Mead for a licence enabling three little girls to perform there for a week. In answer to the magistrate, it was stated that the children would appear in a school scene for about ten minutes each night. The children came from Brixton, and Lady Mansell was their guardian. They had been under that lady's care for some years. Mr Mead—Lady Mansell has a very large family of that sort, has she not? It was explained that the lady had adopted six children, and they lived with her at 15, Albert-square, Clapham-road. A private omnibus was engaged to take them home each night. The children's education was well looked after. Sub-Divisional-Inspector Cuff said that there was no objection on the part of the Commissioners of Police. The children, who looked remarkably well, were called forward, and, in answer to the magistrate, smilingly said they liked going to a theatre better than stopping away. Mr Mead granted the application.

ASHTON'S ROYAL AGENCY has secured contracts for Les Ados, Nelson Jackson, Les Basques, and Max Langslow.—Meier and Mora have been specially engaged by Mr Thomas Barrasford for the Alhambra, Paris, next month, with the Lyceum, London, to follow.—Little Zola, who has suffered considerable anxiety concerning the health of his little girl, who was lying seriously ill in St. Thomas's Hospital, now rejoices in her complete convalescence.

HARRY RANDALL,

AS

FAIRY ASBESTOS,

IN

DRURY-LANE PANTOMIME.

OPINIONS OF

THE TWO

LEADING LONDON DAILIES.

THE TIMES says:—

"THE VERY MAN FOR DRURY-LANE."

For the great Drury-lane pageant is this year as wonderful as ever, its fooling as lively as ever, and its duration longer than ever. Its new hero is Mr Harry Randall, an indefatigable worker, and the very quintessence of drollery. He is the Fairy Asbestos, guardian of the Princess Aurora, who is the sweetheart of the gallant Prince Peerless. But Mr Randall is not content with being a fairy, all spangles and pirouettes; he is also a barmaid, a much-admired barmaid, who is wooed by Prince Peerless's brothers, Patter and Plump, and, indeed, by several other gentlemen; and when Mr Randall has had enough of being a barmaid he becomes a landlady of the classic type—we mean the type that is classic in "the Halls"—the landlady who has "gentlemen lodgers," and is an expert in tariffs, domestic cookery, and local scandal. To see Mr Randall washing the baby—or rather scrubbing and polishing the baby—should be a liberal education for young wives and mothers. But we have not yet done with Mr Randall. He is at his very best when he frankly abandons his character and comes down to the footlights to sing a "topical" song ("Oh, what a happy land is England!"), or to burlesque a "coon" ballad, or to let loose a torrent of humorous "patter." We would say of him as of another famous character, that his face is his fortune—a variegated face, an indiarubber face, a whole Mercator's Projection of a face—if it were not for his agreeably (or at any rate, not disagreeably) strident voice and his extremely eloquent, versatile, and vivacious legs. In a word, Mr Randall is the very man for Drury-lane, all over the stage at once, and heard all over the house. Humour at Drury-lane must be laid on with a lavish hand; and Mr Randall is gloriously prodigal of it.

THE TELEGRAPH PAYS A TRIBUTE TO THE ROLLICKING HUMOUR OF HARRY RANDALL, AND SAYS:—

This will be the more easily understood when it is added that the Fairy Asbestos was, in reality, that immensely droll comedian, Mr Harry Randall. . . . Mr Harry Randall as Asbestos delivers a most effective parody of the celebrated "Panama" song, to a chorus composed of dustmen. Of the efforts of the principals mention has been made en passant, but tribute must still be paid to the rollicking humour and inexhaustible spirits of Mr Harry Randall.

HARRY RANDALL,

AS

FAIRY ASBESTOS,

IN

DRURY-LANE PANTOMIME.

THE HIPPODROME.

The resources of the Hippodrome arena and stage—mechanical and otherwise—were never more strikingly exemplified than in the latest spectacle, *Butterflies in Fairyland*, which was produced to a crowded audience by Mr Frank Parker, the stage-director, on Tuesday evening. The novelty is in seven events, each of them emphasising the progress of the struggle between good and evil in the insect world. According to Mr Parker, there are misshapen rock demons, who are for ever plotting the destruction of all that is beautiful in nature and the Demon Fly and some adventurous bats give them material help. They find all the necessary opportunity for carrying out their nefarious designs, when Spring awakens, and feathered songsters sing anthems of thankfulness on bough and bush. We see the early scenes of the spectacle projected upon a circular curtain, and after witnessing the play of fountains, whose ever rising columns of water are illuminated with colours of ravishing beauty, we are enchanted with a view of the 'garden of life," fronted by a translucent lake, with statuettes, and backed by a cascade. Here we assist at the advent of the butterflies. The Demon Fly endeavours to frighten away the winged creatures, but he does it in a half-hearted way. He is too bewitched by their beauty to be in real earnest. They flit into space; they peep from bowers of electrically lighted roses, and most fascinatingly assert the buoyancy of spirit that belongs by prescriptive right to the butterfly kingdom. The representatives of the pretty insects are members of Heidenreich's famous flying ballet, from the Opera House, Paris. The gossamer winged 'lepidoptera" form a harmony of pink and orange, and an admirable foil to these hues is found in the dark colours of the dragon flies and beetles. The butterfly queen very gracefully rules the light-hearted festivities in the "garden of life," and her aerial flights form a very attractive feature of the principal scene. The spectacle, lasting about half-an-hour, is very beautiful in its colourings, and the dances, arranged by Edouard Espinosa, are cleverly conceived and executed by a number of fascinating *ballerinc*. The whole production with its kaleidoscopic illumination, its shimmering rainfalls of gold and silver, and its flashing fountains is a dream of magnificence, and its glowing pictures and chaste colour effects should draw all London. At its conclusion on Tuesday evening those principally concerned in its invention and staging were called to the footlights and warmly complimented by an audience enthusiastic in its praise. The vocal and instrumental music is by Mr Clarence Corri, the clever director of the excellent band of the establishment; the scenery is from the brush of Mr Ernest Howard, the costumes by Harrison and Co., and the properties by F. Labhart. The work of the chief engineer, Mr H. W. Hawkins, is also of great importance in such a production. In the direction of the whole spectacle we see the genius of Mr Frank Parker, who has secured another triumph for the Hippodrome.

The well-arranged variety entertainment, which has many excellent numbers contributed by old favourites, is enriched by the doings of the famous Chinese conjuror, Chung Ling Soo, who on Boxing Day made his second appearance here. His latest feat is that of catching bullets fired by a posse of riflemen. The scene is set, and represents a fortification in a garrison town in China. A procession of archers, spearmen, tiger-men, and riflemen, followed by the Mandarin in his chair of state, with his retinue in real state Chinese dress, comes on the stage. Chung Ling Soo as the Mandarin in his gorgeous robes alights, and a committee is invited from the audience to inspect the guns, and the bullets are passed round to the audience to be marked. The committee, after examination, place the bullets in the guns. The riflemen then line up and fire at the Mandarin, who catches the bullets on an ordinary china plate. Another most ingenious trick is the magic orange-tree. A girl places herself on a table under a large cone, which, on being lifted, reveals instead an enormous pot with a large orange-tree planted. The girl immediately comes from the side of the stage, and the fruit is distributed among the audience. The same girl is placed in the muzzle of a gigantic cannon on wheels, and then as an extra charge a large ball is placed in the muzzle. The cannon is then pointed at the audience and fired, but only the ball is seen to leave the cannon. The girl has disappeared, but immediately reappears among the audience. There is another puzzling feat with steel rings, and the show throughout has a smartness about it that is quite European.

A feature of the variety bill is the cleverly trained animals. We have Leon Morris's pretty ponies Banner and Maddison, who wrestle in the most playful spirit with a Negro named John Hedge. They also do an excellent liberty act with several companions. Early in the evening Charles Leb presents what he calls quite appropriately a zoological pot-pourri, shared by monkeys, dogs, and cats. The antics of the simians are very amusing, and their acrobatic tricks are quite interesting. The most marvellous exhibition of mammal intelligence is that of Woodward's seals. These aquatic carnivora form a very happy family, and one of them is quite a Cinquevalli in its way, for, after a game of push-ball with an intelligent companion, he balances on his snout a billiard cue placed on a ball with a tempting raw haddock at the top of it, Keeping his eye fixed on the fish he waddles to his pedestal, throws the cue into the air, and catches the delicious bait in his mouth. The sea-lion band is an amusing piece of cacophany, which is added to by the curious cries of the *phocæ*, which are liberally fed by the tamer, of whom they seem exceptionally fond. It is a unique performance, and just one that will delight the children home for the holidays. Paul Sandor utilises a number of large hounds, made up as diminutive ponies, for a most amusing burlesque circus act, and smaller dogs are dressed up in an ingenious way as humans, and serve the purpose of ventriloquial figures; for Mr Sandor is an excellent polyphonist. The evolutions of his troupe with dummy riders, splendidly costumed, cause much amusement, and he is responsible for a most original act. The Hoopers show no little comicality in their ridiculous juggling, and their hoop-rolling is decidedly smart; their finale, the "Storming of Port Arthur," affording much amusement. The Leslie Brothers are excellent musicians, and one of them is a capital clown as well. Their chief instruments are the cornet and saxhorn, and on these instruments they play a plaintive melody entitled "Nevermore." As a piece of nonsense the tune of "Annie Laurie" is beaten out of metal pots. As musical clowns the Brothers Webb have won a high reputation, which they are ever increasing by their ingenuity, and their droll fooling and capital selections enable them to score most unmistakably. Miss Selma Braatz is quite a female Cinquevalli, if we may judge by the difficulty of her balancing tricks, which include the billiard cue and ball feat, for which the charming artist is much cheered. The Klein Family of musical bicyclists have a show that is always smart and entertaining, and no end of fun is thrown into it by a Nigger lad, who seems to be infected with the joy of living, so full of life and spirits is he. The one-wheel riding of the chief of the troupe is very fine indeed. The Three Nevarros include a girl contortionist who does her graceful bending tricks in skirts. The two men are responsible for some really admirable gymnastic feats, and are perfect artists in their equilibristic business.

PRESENTATION.—Little Auguste, boy comedian and dancer, was presented with a solid gold medal at the Tivoli, South Shields, on Friday, Dec. 23. The presentation was made by the proprietors, Messrs J. K. Hall and Jos. Sweeney, who spoke in high terms of the recipient.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Seldom has the great annual gathering at the Agricultural Hall, under the superintendence of Messrs T. and T. E. Read, assisted by their able lieutenant, Mr H. Fowler, been so advanced in its preparations as this year, and this, curiously enough, in spite of the most serious obstacles. Wombwell's Menagerie had to come up from Barking in a dense fog, with big lanterns on each waggon, but they arrived without damage and scarcely a collision. Very few of the shows were not "ready to begin" on Christmas Eve; and the items were all of genuine excellence.

A "big thing" in the programme in this, as in preceding years, is the circus under the direction of "Sir" R. Fossett. Amongst the numerous and attractive details of this capital entertainment is a carnival by the Merry Men, including Silly Billy, August the Fool, and Little Crackpot; Mr Davies rides and drives four horses at a time, showing splendid skill; Mdlle. Scott executes some agreeable evolutions on the rolling globe; and Lightning Tom, as the American cowboy, gives dashing illustrations of prairie life. The marvellous Grenadas' sensational gymnastic leaps from bar to bar, double forward and backward somersaults, and their comedy act on the trampoline create laughter and astonishment; Master Thomas introduces his highly trained pony Bonny, who runs up and downstairs and jumps over tables; Rabbit and Hairpin give their new and laughable cake-walk; Signorita Frascuelo, an accomplished horsewoman, does some graceful feats; the Two Fitzroys' gymnastic performance is artistic; an interesting descriptive scene act on horseback is supplied by Mr Davies; Madame Lena shows her skill on the tight wire; Alec Cordon does a comic cushion act; Mr Fossett introduces his clever twin midget ponies; Mr Thomas Yelding's daring jockey act is applauded; Miss Ginnett's trick act is both pretty and sensational; the troupe of Arabian acrobats, including Ameer Abou Hamad, the champion pyramid understander of the world, accomplish some marvellous somersaults and hand springs; Miss Emmie, a charming side-saddle rider, is much admired; "The Sentinel and the Bear," a laughable burlesque by the Brothers Austin, is extremely amusing, with Comical Albert as the Sentinel and Funny Charlie as the Bear; Mr Thomas Fossett's jockey act is full of spirit and activity; the exploits of a tamer in a den of forest-bred lions create a sensation; Mr Yelding, with a trained horse, gives a realistic performance entitled "A Life on the Ocean Wave;" Miss Allar, a delightful equestrienne, does a high-class manège act; a laughable shooting entrée is supplied by those droll comedians Tommy and Johnnie; Mr Davies as the Newmarket favourite is warmly applauded; Mons. Austin, foot equilibrist, is an expert in his line; a double acrobatic jockey act is done by Messrs T. Fossett and T. Yelding; and Topsy, a well-trained performing elephant, is entirely successful. A smart trick act by Mr Davies is received with favour; as is a comic chair and tumbling act by Funny Ramsley. Mr Gnidley's impersonations on horseback take extremely well; and M. Luonsea is a surprising contortionist. The Four Arizonas, acrobatic tumblers and staircase hand-balancing performers, are high in favour; and the Brothers Alberto, with their pyramid of chairs, evoke hearty plaudits. "Sir" Robert Fossett exhibits his skill as a horse trainer; and the bucking mule, Barney, defies all attempts to ride him round the ring.

CHITTOCK'S CINEMATOGRAPH will be freely visited at the Agricultural Hall. The films are of the best; and the show well maintains the reputation which it has won by its long-established existence.

SIMPSON'S PERFORMING PIGEONS do their feats without the aid of apparatus. Their tameness and obedience are the result of their proprietor's gift for bird-training; and the result of his labours is convincing as to ability. His show is both pretty and interesting.

LE NEVE AND SULLIVAN'S lady wrestlers supply an attraction of a kind which is very fashionable just now; and, undoubtedly, the skill and strength displayed by the ladies are astonishing.

"THE LOST DUCHESS" illusion is very neatly managed. A lady, attired as the figure in the well-known "Gainsborough" picture, is seen in a frame, around which a sword is passed. A second and very pretty illusion is also offered in this show.

COTTRELL'S SWIMMERS display remarkable ability in the art of natation, and will certainly attract many to enjoy the sight of their graceful evolutions in the liquid element.

BAILEY'S FINE ART EXHIBITION has variety, beauty, and charm, and is likely to be freely patronised by all lovers of the artistic.

FRANK TURNER'S DISTORTING MIRRORS cause laughter in all who see themselves and others "misrepresented" in their silvery depths. A hearty laugh can always be secured here. Mr Turner's Rifle Range is also freely patronised by "sharp" shooters.

THE HAUNTED SWING is a well-contrived delusion. To explain its mystery would be to spoil the pleasure of some of the hundreds who will inspect this quaint and clever show.

HASTING'S MIDGETS, with their pretty little brougham and handsome pony, are a great treat to young and old, who flock to see the clever dwarfs and their droll doings.

TAYLOR'S LIVING PICTURES are both "up-to-date" and artistic. By presenting an admirable entertainment, Mr W. Taylor has ensured the liberal patronage of the public.

H. BAILEY'S SHOOTING SALOON is resorted to both by the "young idea" and by those of riper growth.

WOMBWELL'S MENAGERIE, as usual, is one of the staple attractions of the great Hall. The lions are especially fine; and the elephants and camels are remarkable both for their size, their number, and their splendid condition.

The HERBERT TROUPE of aerial gymnasts give two shows daily. At each they are applauded to the echo, the natural result of their skill and daring.

"WHITE WINGS," the double-maned and long-tailed horse, is admired as he stands in his stall at the further end of the building.

MENOTTI, on the high telephone wire, evokes demonstrative astonishment in those who witness his extraordinary exploits.

HUGHES' ASSAULT-AT-ARMS booth is visited by those to whom the manly and the athletic specially appeal.

The FAT LADY holds court all day, and many are those who come to admire her vast proportions.

BAILEY'S CIRCULAR SWITCHBACK, Venetian Gondoliers, and Galloping Horses are immensely popular.

CLAUDE LOWE'S TOPSY TURVYDOM is a thing of delight to young and old.

STOREY'S COSMORAMA, with its beautiful scenic effects, is a great attraction. The views are interesting and effective, and they are shown in the most expert and scientific manner.

The EXHIBITION OF RELICS FROM NEWGATE in the entry will be examined by all with whom the famous "Calendar" is a favourite. Other items of merit are "Slipping the Slip"—a variation of the switchback—the Flying Lady, the Channel Tunnel Express, and a host of minor enterprises too numerous to describe in detail.

MR EDITOR.—Sir,—Your correspondent, in his last week's notice of the Empire, Bristol, omitted to mention, yours truly, TELL and TELL.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of Brown's Bronchial Troches. People troubled with a hacking cough, a slight cold, or bronchial affections cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious pulmonary and asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government stamp around each box. Sold by Chemists everywhere, 1s. 1½d. per BOX.—[ADVT.]

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS

(Continued from Page 21.)

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Bannister Howard; Business Manager, Mr Herbert Leonard.—The attractions here for Christmas Eve were *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass* by Mr St. Albans and his company. Mr E. St. Albans was a host in himself as the Mad Hatter, and kept the house in roars of laughter. Alice was prettily played by Miss Ida Thompson; and Messrs J. W. Hooper and Sidney Benson caused considerable amusement as Tweedledum and Tweedledee in *Through the Looking Glass*. Mr Bert Coote gave *The Fatal Wedding* on Boxing Night. Mr Ernest Owttrim was successful as Howard Wilson; Miss Helen Russell won entire approval for her sympathetic rendering of Mabel Wilson; Miss Beatrice Whitney played Cora Williams satisfactorily; Mr Cecil Collins was a good representative of Robert Curtis; Mr J. Carl Lyle as Toto, the French butler, was good, being ably supported by Miss Carrie Fenton as Bridget; Mr Shirley Lea was amusing as Peter Schwartz; and Miss Marjorie Lawrence did well as the "Little Mother."

LANCASTER.

ATHENÆUM.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Hy. Wilkinson. — For the holidays Mrs Bandmann Palmer's company is proving a big attraction, opening on Christmas Eve with *East Lynne*. Mrs Bandmann Palmer appeared with success as Lady Isabel, and she was ably supported by Mr F. Skein as Sir Francis Levison. Other plays billed include *Jane Shore*, *Mary, Queen of Scots*, *Sapho*, *Hamlet*, and *Nell Gwynn*.

PALACE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs W. J. Fergusson and John Porter.—Another capital programme is arranged here, being headed by Abel and Welsh, one-legged comedians. Muir and Bartlett, in a duologue, *The Lady and the Lunatic*, is well received, as also is Coram, ventriloquist. Others who contribute successfully are the Zampahs, Miss Minnie Ray, clog dancer, and Mark Tapley, raconteur.

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Manager, Mr Harry Esden. —A great treat is being provided the holiday audiences here in the shape of a visit from Mr Edward Compton, who, with his company, is commencing a provincial tour. The pieces billed for the week are *Davy Garrick*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The School for Scandal*, and Mr Compton's latest success *To-morrow*. Two crowded audiences on Boxing Day witnessed fine performances of *Davy Garrick*. Mr Compton in the title-rôle gave a brilliant histrionic display, while Miss Haidee Gunn proved a worthy colleague as Violet Gresham. Mr Henry Crocker and Mr A. B. Imeson played carefully in their respective parts of Gresham and his bright nephew. Those farcical individuals the Rumbelows, the Sowerberrys, and Simpkins were represented by Messrs C. R. Stone, A. Lucy, and G. Wallace Johnston and Miss M. Hassell and Miss Mackenzie in a manner which left nothing to be desired.

LEEDS.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Messrs Dottridge and Longden; General Manager, Mr C. H. Longden; Acting-Manager, Mr Charles Bush. — Mr James Kiddie's pantomime *Cinderella*, is the Christmas attraction at this pleasant suburban theatre, and record business has been achieved. It is a clever all-round pantomime, with plenty of rollicking fun, in addition to an abundance of pretty vocal numbers and gorgeous spectacular display. Mdlle. De Rose is a striking principal boy with a handsome figure and accomplished vocal powers. The Cinderella, a charming impersonation by Miss Florence Watson, is ably seconded by a bevy of pleasing beauties, of whom Miss S. Bevan, Miss Nellie Stewart, Miss Pollie Kiddie, and Miss Minnie Harvey are particularly successful. Prominent amongst the fun-makers is Mr C. Harvey, who fairly revels in the busy part of Pimples, the Page; Mr Will Saunders in the rôle of the Baron makes a distinct hit in many amusing interludes; and Messrs H. C. Lovell and Fred Denman, who play the Sisters, miss no opportunity of contributing a share of the good things. Miss Rose Pareezer is to the fore with very fine vocal work as the Fairy Godmother, and Mr J. H. Hawtrey and Mr Wm. Verto also merit high praise for their good work. Clever acrobatic specialty business is introduced by Houpla and Heela, and the expert dancing of the Stewart Quartet is also very popular.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr R. Ernest Liston.—Mr Macnaghten's third Leeds pantomime opened here to a crowded house on Christmas Eve. *Cinderella* is the theme treated on orthodox lines by Mr J. H. Wolfe, and the production, dressed and staged in a gorgeous and sumptuous manner, is under the direction of Messrs Fred Baugh and Standley Wade. The company includes many star artistes of well known ability, the part of principal boy being in the hands of Miss Olive Marston, who treats the part in a thoroughly satisfactory manner, her acting being particularly fine and convincing. A pleasing and dainty Cinderella indeed is Miss Lola Patey, who with sympathetic acting and charming vocal work has established herself a prime favourite thus early. Miss Murielle Langley is a handsome and stately Dandini, and the second lady's part of Dorothy is a captivating performance by Miss Edie Rivers, a little lady who knows exactly how to please her audience with song and dance. The piece bubbles over with boisterous yet cleanly fun, and in this direction Mr Deane Tribune and Mr Harry Weldon, who play the two Ugly Sisters, have a considerable share. Mr Herbert Shelley is the penniless Baron, and gets a deal more fun out of it than usual. Mr F. B. Fayme promises to be a big favourite in his clever study of Buttons, the page, his quaint whimsical style making a distinct hit. Mr Tom Weston and Mr Harry Bernard as a pair of broker's men are responsible for many laughter-provoking interludes; Miss Florence Godfrey's fine voice is heard to advantage as the Fairy Godmother; and Miss Flo Schubert and Miss Grace Mackay are also very successful in leading rôles. The speciality dancing of Miss Ivy Lane's troupe is cleverly done. Some decidedly picturesque sets are shown, and the incidental music is arranged and conducted by Mr John Kurkamp. Mr R. Ernest Liston is the courteous local manager.

EMPIRE PALACE. — Moss Empires, Limited; Resident-Manager, Mr T. Gerald Morton.—Excellent holiday crowds are the rule here this week, and a strong programme is submitted for their delectation. A clever and humorous trio of acrobats appear in Keno, Welch, and Montrose, and their efforts are thoroughly enjoyed; Florrie Gallimore, popular as ever, scores a great success in her own inimitable style; Hagedorn's Grotto, a fascinating spectable, remains over from last week, and continues to arouse enthusiasm; those smart sketch artists Geoffrey and Benson again delight their admirers; and a fresh and novel ventriloquial turn by Barney Vox is a popular item. The Sakers are a smart and well-known comedy couple; Rastus and Banks do well in song and dance; and smart work is also done by Little Uno, a juvenile comedian, and the Vasilesen Troupe of comedy acrobats.

TIVOLI. — Proprietor, Mr Thomas Barrasford; General Managers, Messrs Charles Weldon and Edgar O. Waller.—The Six Brothers Luck are leading a fine holiday bill in their diverting pantomime sketch, *The Hermit*: Lind, the novel and mysterious dancer, again arouses great interest; and that popular vocalist and composer, F. V. St. Clair, makes a huge success of new and topical ditties. The rest of the varied and entertaining bill includes Gardner, Griffin, and Gardner, in a musical absurdity; Stanley and Vandyke, expert banjoists; the Donatos, acrobatic marvels; the Elysian Troupe of entertainers; Maud Caswell, specialty dancer; and Monks and Woods, a smart musical turn.

CITY VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr F. W. Wood; General Manager, Mr J. C. Whiteman; Acting-Manager, Mr S. Jones. — This popular hall is enjoying the best of holiday patronage, and a good programme is in evidence, notable success being achieved by the Maningos, acrobats and equilibrists; Fred Curran, eccentric comedian; Vernando, novelty ventriloquist; Lee and Kingston, comedy artists; and Evelyn Taylor, the clever male impersonator.

LEICESTER.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager and Scenic Artist, Mr C. D. Leigh. —No better substitute for a pantomime perhaps could possibly be found than the Messrs C. and F. Renad's company in the musical pantomimical comedy *The Swiss Express*, which inaugurated a fortnight's engagement here on Boxing Day before a crowded house. From start to finish the fun was fast and furious, and laughter reigned supreme throughout the "show," the audience at times giving vent to their appreciation by unstinted applause. As James and John, a couple of eccentric servants, Messrs Charles and Frederick Renad score a genuine success in their congenial parts, which allow these clever pantomimists full scope for the display of their versatility. Mr Wilford Bailey as Dr. Gondimar Gull and Miss Dolly Doyle as Virginia are both to be complimented on excellent embodiments. Others who also acquit themselves with great credit are Mr George Martin as Rob Rollingstone, Mr Alec Wylie as Dudley Green, Mr George Power as Rhino, Miss Nellie Fern as Mrs Septimus Squeeze, Miss Rosie Chandler as Jeanette, Miss May Cornish as Lizette, Miss Dolly Payne as Florette, and Miss Hetty Coventry as Annette. The specialities of the Four Brighton Girls, vocalists, dancers, lance and sword experts, prove an attractive feature. The staging is well done.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Sole Lessee, Lieutenant-Colonel J. A. Winstanley; Acting-Manager, Mr John H. Clarke.—A packed house here on Boxing Day gave an enthusiastic welcome to Messrs Carson and Granville's successful play *Defending His Honour*, which has the merit of being well played and excellently staged. Mr John Davidson as Douglas Bryce, the hero, and Miss F. Melrose-Millett as Ethel Bryce, the heroine, are seen to great advantage. Mr Clifton Boyne as Stephen Gerald, the evil genius, is excellent. Both Mr Kenneth Black, jun., as Dick Verison and Mr J. P. Marsden as Jack Damish are also to be complimented on portrayals of much merit. Miss T. Elton is conspicuously successful as Jack Bryce, the little son of the hero.

PALACE THEATRE, LIMITED. — Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Leonard Vidal.—Crowded holiday audiences are evincing the greatest delight with the first-class programme submitted here, at the head of which is George Gray and his clever combination, in the well-written sketch *The Fighting Parson*. Mr Gray at the termination is rewarded with a reception befitting this clever and versatile artist. Another big favourite is Alf Gibson, whose quaint style keeps the audience in a continual roar. He has to sing four songs before he is allowed to retire. A very popular turn is given by the Barowsky Trio, in a humorous scena entitled "In the Wood," in which they excel as gymnasts, the youngster being especially smart in his work. Leonard and Francois provide much merriment, their burlesque of a bull-fight arousing great laughter. A daring and pretty trapeze act by the Three Sisters Trentanovi is another popular item. Miss Childie Stuart is a dainty comedienne, who scores with her song. A fine exhibition of fancy and parodistic dancing is submitted by the Passports. The overture, "Past and Present," specially arranged by Mr John W. Lowe, the musical director, is full of tuneful and popular melodies, to which full justice is done by the admirable orchestra of the establishment.

PAVILION THEATRE.—Proprietor and Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter Lapworth.—Effie White, in her remarkably pretty kaleidoscopic dances, with electrical effects, is making a huge success here. Madame Collard's highly-trained boarhounds, impersonating lions and tigers in a cleverly-contrived and unique act entitled *Robinson Crusoe among His Favourites*, is on a first successful visit. The Wynford Bros. are unquestionably the best barrel jumpers, &c., that have visited Leicester. Franz A. Crisp is an excellent actor-vocalist. The Rozells cause great laughter in their comedy bar act. Others contributing with success to a varied and good programme are Stanert and Yondi in their comedy and musical act; Alf Levarni, in his wire act, "A Middy's Pleasure;" George Foyle, character vocalist; and Clara Sefton, comedienne and dainty dancer.

LEIGH.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Dewhurst; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Dewhurst.—The management has secured for the Christmas holidays Mr J. W. Cragg and company, who are paying a welcome return visit with *Laughterland*. Mr Henry B. Lewis is capital as Professor Silvanus Moore; Mr John Hitchins is excellent as Dick Marlow; Mr G. Westacott is good as Sir Vincent Marlow; and as Alderman Trentham Mr Craigie Edwards is well placed. It would almost be impossible to find a better exponent of the part of Billy than Mr Cremorne Cragg. Miss Louise Millward is pleasing as Clothilda, and as Clarice Miss Amy Hastings is well suited. The Craggs give a clever and daring acrobatic performance during the second act, for which they are most enthusiastically applauded. The Sisters Belgrave, singers and dancers, contribute some very pretty dances, and their coon songs are well received. On Thursday evening Mr J. W. Cragg took a complimentary benefit, under the patronage of the Mayor and Mayoress of Leigh.

LONDONDERRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr W. Payne Seddon.—Mr Hoggan-Armadale and company are appearing here this week in *The Bells*. Mr Hoggan-Armadale gave a most realistic rendering of the part of Mathias, and held the audience spellbound. Mr Booth Conway and Mr W. F. Clitherow filled the parts of Mons. Bussey and Father Herman very well. Miss Marie Florence played Madame Mathias capably, and Miss Violet Wilson was a dainty Annette. *The Vicar of Wakefield*, *David Garrick*, and *Trilby* are also included in the week's bill.

LONG EATON.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr T. Meakin.—Mr J. A. Campbell and Mr G. Fulton's company in *A Bid for Fortune* had a flattering reception from a bumper house on Monday. The play is of the Georgian era, and centres around the efforts of a tramp to usurp the title and position of Sir Philip Templemore (Mr C. Brereton Borer). Mr Oswald Douglas is the usurper, sticking at nothing to accomplish his purpose. Miss Mary Ainslie and Miss Olive Fulton figure as the devoted wife and the victim of the usurper. Little Marie Edmonds takes the part of Little Eric, who has a warm welcome. Fun is plentiful through the antics of Mr Dick Thomas.

LUTON.

GRAND.—Proprietor, Mr E. Graham Falcon; Acting Manager, Mr Louis J. Beard.—Mr T. Edward Ward's company is filling a week's engagement with *Her Fatal Past*, by Nita Rae. Mr Percy Brown is successful as Mark Desmond; Mr Bernard Dunston, who is responsible for the stage-management, scores as Leonard Fernside; the part of Little Leonard is pleasingly played by Little Ivy Henigan; and in the dual-rôle of Ruth Fernside and Bella De Lara Miss Helen Ingleow does well. Miss Ward contributes an artistic rendering of Honor Symes.

LIMERICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Robert Fogerty. —The Elster-Grime Grand Opera company opened here on Boxing Night in *Fra Diavolo*. The title-rôle was well rendered by Mr Payne Clarke, whilst Mr Michael Kemble and Mr H. Murphy sustained the humorous rôles of Giacomo and Beppo excellently. Mr T. Partridge did well in the rôle of Father Matteo, and as Lorenzo Mr A. Kewley deserves praise. Mr G. King scored in the rôle of Lord Allcash, and Mr Joe Murphy was the Francesco Veroni. Miss Teresa Gilbert was a capital Lady Allcash, her beautiful contralto being heard to advantage, whilst Miss Lizzie Marshall, Miss Esther's understudy, gave a delightful interpretation of Zerlina's rôle. On Tuesday night *The Lily of Killarney* was produced. The orchestra was under the able bâton of Mr Edward Grime.

LINCOLN.

ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Frank King.—*Under Two Flags* is being presented to enthusiastic audiences by Miss Ida Molesworth and Mr Mark Blow's company. Miss Emelie Polini is an extremely vivacious Cigarette, scoring a great success—it was stated that Monday's was her first appearance in the character—and she was accorded a great ovation at the close. Mr Mark Blow is a handsome and manly hero; Mr R. Harley-West does very well as Barkie Cecil; Mr Charles Brooke makes much of his one scene as Lord Royellieu; Mr W. Thornton is very smart as Lord Rockingham; and Mr Will Hook works hard and successfully as the valet Rake, while Mr C. D. Pitts makes an incisive figure of Black Hawk. Miss Hope Mayne as Venetia and Miss Lucy Carr as Lady Beatrice present pleasing portrayals, and Miss D. Carlton is a lively Lavinia. Other characters are well played, and the staging is most effective.

PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; General Manager, Mr Sydney Arthur; Assistant-Manager, Mr Brandon Blake.—Overflowing houses were recorded here on Monday, when a big holiday bill was put on. The Magic Kettle, presented by Samson for the first time before Lincoln audiences, created great astonishment, and is the talk of the town. Jimmy De Voy and his wonderful pony give a clever and amusing turn, and a great effect is made by the Cinématograph film "Whirling the Worlds." Friscarl, a smart juggler, repeats the success of previous visits; Jenny Reeve, comedienne; Edie Sylvesto, contortionist; and Dardan and Iris, dancers, also appear with very great success.

LIVERPOOL.

LYRIC THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Henry C. Arnold; Directors of Entertainments, Messrs T. Barrasford and F. Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Coles.—The chief attraction here for the festive week is Mr J. L. Shine as Conn (the Shaughraun), supported by an able company. Craig, Rose, and Craig are acrobats of no mean order; Professor Maccann, with his concertina, is well received; George Prince and Nellie Adams are also good.

STAR THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr H. Fineberg; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Simmons.—The four-act drama *The World's Desire*, from the pen of Mr Barry Williams, is full of good points, which are accentuated with marked effect by Mr and Mrs Wm. Giffard and their No. 1 company. The part of the solicitor Tridley is undertaken by Mr Giffard, an actor of ability; Mr Clifford Rean shows his dramatic powers in the dual-rôle of the twin brothers; Mr George Child as the drunken solicitor presents a telling character; Mrs Giffard plays with sweetness and sympathy the rôle of the heroine; and Miss Ella Seton gives an acceptable rendering of Helen Berkshaw.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Carson and Granville; Manager, Mr Fred Granville; Business Manager, Mr F. L. Arthur.—Mr Lingford Carson's able work *The Drama of Life* has proved a strong attraction here during the week. Included in the principals were Messrs Jerrold Ord, John J. Hooker, Owen Remonde, Bulwer Pitt, Leonard Thackeray, and the Misses Cissie Bellamy, Muriel Inglis, Nellie Daly, and Marie Murray.

EMPIRE THEATRE, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr H. E. Moss; Acting-Manager, Mr T. A. Cook.—This popular place has had a fair share of the Bank Holiday week patronage, the programme presented being full of good things. At the top we have Fred Karno's company of comedians with their laughable sketch *Saturday to Monday*. The ludicrous antics of Mr Fred Kitchen as John Willie Jaggs kept the audience in a continual state of merriment. Peppo's monkeys go through a smart performance; Mr Horace White provided a good turn with his ventriloquism and piano playing; several acceptable songs are rendered by Miss Lilian Lowe; Messrs M'Phee and Hill give a well-appreciated exhibition on the horizontal bars; much laughter is created by that quaint comedian, Johnny Gilmore; and others in the programme are Lyane and Geks, smart novelty contortionists; and Jan Rudenyi, Hungarian violinist.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford.—In the long bill-of-fare offered here this week Ed. F. Reynard is at the top. His exhibition as a ventriloquist is excellent, the manipulation of a number of figures being skilfully performed. The wonderful feats of memory shown by a blind man introduced by Mr Charles Morritt create considerable attention; Mr Morritt performs some exceedingly clever sleight-of-hand tricks; and Miss Raffin puts her troupe of monkeys through a smart act. A popular comedian is Gus Harris, with his Hebrew impersonation; Dusty Rhodes provokes much laughter with his patter and songs, as does also George Penn. Michele and Sandro are clever acrobatic equilibrists, and some charming serpentine dancing is executed by Mdlle. Flora Lumiere. The bill also includes Miss Ethel Yorke, comedienne, and the Two Fat Boys, athletes and musicians.

ROYAL PALACE OF VARIETIES. — Manager, Mr M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr F. O'Toole.—A special attraction here for the Christmas holidays has been Miss Madeline Clifford's company in the dramatic musical sketch, *Wife and Fortune*, which is full of mirth and pathos. Miss Clifford, who undertook the rôle of Beauty Glitters, also sang with taste. The sketch was loudly applauded. In the general part of the programme were Mr John Stewart, an old favourite comedian in Liverpool; Mr Billy Richardson, the well-known stump speaker; and Mr Percy Boucher, the Cockney comedian.

NEW PARTHENON.—Proprietor, Mr Edwin W. Smith.—Heading the bill here are the O'Malleys, who have been responsible for much laughter; Barney Stuart gives his amusing creation, "Impersonalia;" Little Marie Dane is a graceful vocalist and dancer; Marco, the boy illusionist and magician, provides a clever sleight-of-hand performance; Florence Wood proves herself an able burlesque actress and dancer; and Bert Holmes sings several acceptable songs.

PADDINGTON PALACE, LIMITED.—General Manager, Mr J. Kiernan.—A diversified bill-of-fare is presented here this week. Heading it is Mr George Pitt, the collier strong man and instrumentalist; Gambo, the musical man monkey, is a good turn; Bert Lytton sings several smart songs; Little Beatie for a child sings and dances neatly; Kid Johnson manipulates the clubs with skill; Alec Swann and Elsie Stanley submit a clever entertainment which includes forty impersonations of well-known people and characters; and Lil Gorman is a singer and dancer of merit.

WESTMINSTER.—Proprietor, Mr M. Montgomery. —At the north-end music hall Harry Glynn's comedy sketch team head the programme and provide an excellent turn. Mr Charles R. Whittle, a smart versatile comedian, remains another week; some admirable conjuring is done by Shanghai; a contortionist of remarkable power is Mephisto; and Johnny Dane, the popular local comedian, meets with a cordial reception. Others in the bill are Mons. De Picta, a clever shadowgraphist; Chas. Dixon, comedian and dancer; and Kate Lynn, comedienne.

PARK PALACE.—Director, Mr James Kiernan.—The Gregson Comedy Trio are top here this week with their laughable absurdity *The Dummy*; Smith and Johnson, coloured duettists, pay a return visit with their latest successes; the Delamere Trio of equilibrists give a novel turn; Lilian Travellie has a pleasing voice and some good songs; and the remainder of the programme contains the names of Lily Lever, burlesque actress; Sam Dalton, character comedian; Henriette, vocalist; the Two Gems, comediennes and duettists; and Arthur M'Nab, juvenile vocalist.

MAIDENHEAD.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Edgar Dereve and F. L. Schmitz.—*A Wrecker of Men* was presented by Messrs Maurice and Morgan's company on Boxing night before a crowded house. The central character, Risca Mallison, is one of exceptional power, and is particularly well filled by Miss Ellen Beverley. Miss Alice de Lacey is quiet but effective as Doris Melville, and Miss Kitty Melville is very good as a "slavey" of the Louie Freear type. Mr W. F Travers had, in Jim Murley, a prominent and exacting part, in which he does well. Mr Alfred Maurice is good as Guise Strange; Mr Sydney Fiennes is well adapted for the rôle of Railton; and Mr M. J. Cumming is an acceptable Verrincourt. Mr Milner Noble deserves praise as the Egyptian Pharos, and the double rôle of Ezekiel Isaacs and Karnaphus is a clever piece of acting by Mr Henry Rutland.

NEW PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr G. Gude.—A good entertainment is provided for the holidays. Undoubtedly the cleverest turn is that of James Fay, a smart female impersonator. Fred W. Egan is a good top boot dancer; Tom Cara, George Scott, and Joe Dale appear as character comedians; and Miss Hettie Le Bon does well as a burlesque actress. Leslie Reed is well received in his songs, and is specially applauded for his extempore compositions. A farcical comedy sketch, entitled *Mistaken Identity*, is played by Evered and Vaughan.

MANCHESTER.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Oscar Barrett; Acting-Manager, Mr H. M. Thorburn.—A very potent attraction was established here on Monday for a period extending well over the Christmas season—in fact for so long as may satisfy the eagerness of the public to see a play which rivals the attractions of pantomime. Mr William Greet's company has been engaged to give *The Earl and the Girl* a musical comedy which seems to have been designed purposely to involve a picturesque display of dresses and that eccentricity of plot which makes for humour of the broader kind. There is something in the idea of the dog-trainer' temporary translation to an earldom, set forth as it is by Mr William Stephens in the part of Jim Cheese, which must inevitably draw the laughter-loving public to give this venture of the management the great success it deserves. Mr Stephens is particularly happy in the comic incongruities of the second act, and it is likely he will make himself a welcome favourite with Manchester audiences. As Dick Wargrave Mr Percy Carr also scores an outstanding success, his pleasing voice and lively style imparting marked vigour to a performance which is singularly animated as a whole. This vigour distinguishes also Miss Aimée Grey, who gives a very nice depiction of the American heiress; Mr Will Hindson, whose version of Downham, the Yankee solicitor, is phenomenally smart; Miss Florence Imeson, who plays Daisy Fallowfield in charming style; and Miss Dot Carey, who gives quite a lifelike delineation of Liza, Jim Cheese's sweetheart. Others who contribute notably to the success are Mr Paul Belmore as the Hon. Crewe Boodle, Mr Tom Redmond as the host of the inn, Miss Helen Langton as Virginia Bliss, Miss Gladys Fontaine as Mrs Black, Mr J. C. Graves as Mr Talk, and Mr William Walshe as Bunker Bliss, while the efforts of the remainder, added to those of the chorus, are full of vivacity throughout. The orchestra has been largely augmented by the company's instrumentalists, and the whole combination is under the direction of Mr Evelyn Baker.

METROPOLE THEATRE. — Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead. A capital programme is presented here this week, including remarkable turns by Amy Anderson and company, in a coster scena; Lachie Thompson's Topweights, in an exhibition of athletics; Chard's highly trained troupe of performing dogs; and Herr Venturini's latest illusion, "Age, the Suspended Maiden." Other entertaining items are Alba and Amba, comedy jugglers; Vere and Royal, in a comedy act; Frank Whiteley, comedian and dancer; Master George, boy vocalist; Sivane and Fielding, sketch artists; Jack Horsley, bag puncher; and Beattie Kendal, character vocalist.

GRAND JUNCTION THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead.—A drama embodying strong naval interest, *Why Woman Sins*, by W. P. Sheen and F. S. Jennings, is the attraction here this week. It is the play's first visit to Manchester, and a large and curious audience was decidedly pleased by its interest and sensations on the opening night. Mr Fred S. Jennings and Miss Cora Deane have the control of the company, which is throughout a capable one. Prominent parts are in the hands of Mr Wallace Campbell, Mr Roy Fortescue, Mr E. Harvey-White, Mr Charles Herberter, Miss Gussie Everitt, Miss Effie Bartlett, and Miss May Axon, all of whom acquit themselves with credit. There are many minor parts of interest also, some of which are full of acceptable humour. Very effective scenery is employed.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr M. Potasch.—Mr Ben Greet's principal company, under the direction of Mr J. Bannister Howard, occupy the stage here this week in *The Belle of New York*. The attractions of this piece are sufficiently well known and appreciated to ensure full houses, which are the order of the week. Mr Harry A. Maymott is particularly excellent as Ichabod Bronson; Mr Harold Wardroper is effective as Harry Bronson; and Miss Mora Hersee is pleasingly demure and tuneful as Violet Gray. Mr Walter Emro also does well in the difficult part of the lunatic, and other notable rôles are filled by Messrs Mack Olive, Colin M. Johnston, Walter Uridge, Miss Ada Elliston, Miss Jennie Lynwood, and Miss Florence Hersee.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr R. Flanagan; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Berry.—This week here *A Royal Divorce* occupies the stage, and continues, for all its many visits, a strong attraction. That Mr Frederick Victor and Miss Edith Cole are in the principal parts is an assurance of the exceptional quality of the company, who give a powerful interpretation of the play.

HIPPODROME (HULME).—Manager Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr P. B. Broadhead. —The star turn here this week is supplied by Claude Ginnett and company in that amusing sketch *The Cockney Sportsman*, which is received with roars of laughter. Gus Garrick, a capital vocal comedian, makes a decided hit; and Harry Morris is deservedly well applauded for his excellent mimicry, singing, and amusing patter. As an eccentric musician Eddie Stidder is highly successful; Ray and Lea are smart comedy gymnasts; Field and Acres appear in a laughable act, *The Park Keepers*, and do some good dancing; Herslebs aerial comedians, are particularly good; the Sisters Bartholomew are pleasing vocalists and dancers; Almon is a clever hand balancer; and the Danvils, song illustrators with living tableaux, are well received. The series of animated pictures are very interesting.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—An exceptionally good programme is provided here this week. George White's Night Arabs sing and talk in an exceptional

manner; Cyclo arouses enthusiasm by his clever cycle tricks; Achilles is equally successful with his really surprising feats of strength; and Mahatma astounds the audience by her exhibition of thought transmission. Harry Thurston gives excellent impersonations of leading artists; Len Lever is good as a coon singer and dancer; the Sisters Lytton are well described as "charming vocalists;" and Harland and Rollinson cause much amusement with their drolleries and clever playing of musical instruments. The Four Maisanos give a somewhat similar turn, which has also much merit; and finally the Ettenas show their skill as globe rollers. The animated pictures are quite up to the average.

TIVOLI.—Managing Director, Mr Charles A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr Arthur B. Wilkes.—Fannie Leslie, an old Manchester favourite, is here this week, and sings three capital songs; a remarkable item is supplied by Zaid in his Oriental speciality, introducing some astounding contortions on the rings; the Two D's (Dorothy and Dora) appear in a special scene, and render "Anona" in a most charming and effective manner; Tiny Reiff, a dainty comedienne, sings two pleasing songs; James Brady is a highly amusing comedian; and other enjoyable items are supplied by Percy and Percy, duettists and dancers; the Sisters Charnley, speciality dancers; Peter Kelly, comedian; and Ted Waite, comedian.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Collins.—The star turn here this week is Horace Goldin, the great illusionist, whose performance, assisted by Miss Jean Fransiola and company, is surely the most marvellous of its kind to be seen upon the stage. James and Marie Finney are also here in their exhibition of trick swimming in a tank, while remarkably good turns are given by the Trapnall Family of Continental acrobats; Oakley and James, versatile artistes; Harry Lawson, eccentric comedian; and Fraser and Mac in a comedy creation entitled *The Modern School of Acting*. Other entertaining business is supplied by Werner and Reider, tyrolean "stars"; Jennie Belmore, burlesque actress and soubrette; Princess Pauline, serio; and the Cape Girls, vocalists and dancers.

GRAND.—Lessees, Messrs Thomas Barrasford and Will Sley; Manager, Mr H. C. Arnold, jun.—The following are engaged here this week:—Pichel Troupe in their sensational acrobatic display; Browning and Wally, acrobatic and strong teeth act; David Poole, ventriloquist; Ronald Bayne and Evelyn Hope in their novel and effective scena *An Emperor's Divorce;* Mayon and Marl, comedy duo; Will Dalton, vocalist; Melaine on the "corde elastique"; Mabel Kessler, cornet and post-horn soloist; and Dorothy Payne, burlesque actress. A series of animated pictures are also shown.

PALACE.—Manager and Secretary, Mr P. Watson; Assistant-Manager, Mr J. H. Stringer.—The Six Brothers Luck, in their beautiful pantomime *The Babes in the Wood*, which was fully noticed last week, remains the attraction here, and runs smoothly from beginning to end. On Monday the house was packed at each of the three shows, fully 8,000 people paying for admission. Besides this big item, included in the current programme is Rousby's "In Paris," an electric review in four tableaux, showing the most interesting features of the French capital—a decidedly novel turn. Zeta Gray sings well in an absurdity, entitled *The Lancashire Lass;* the Four Jumels appear in a delightful musical act; and last, but not least, Carl Reinsch remains with his highly trained horses and dogs.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr E. P. Morgan; Assistant Acting-Manager, Mr H. Hall.—Huge crowds amounting to over 10,000 persons, beseiged this latest of local places of entertainment on Monday, the opening day, when three performances (the first preceded by the National Anthem, sung to orchestral accompaniment by a choir in Georgian costume) were given of a performance designed to employ the novel combination—in Manchester—of a music hall stage and an arena, which can be filled with water in the space of a few minutes when desired for the show. This spectacle was, in fact, requisitioned for an elaborate equestrian sketch called *Tally-ho!* which involves four scenes freely equipped with horses, dogs, vehicles, and a variously costumed company of large dimensions, the whole producing an effect remarkably realistic and sensational as the staple attraction of the programme. Current attractions also are Manning's entertainers in their comic scene of *The Turkish Baths;* Max Gruber, with horse, elephant, &c., in a clever parade act; the marvellous Noissets, cyclists on the whirling table; the M'Connell Trio of musical sketch artistes; Lafayette's clever dogs, Winter and Banks, in *The Leading Lady;* Elsie Clare, a pleasing vocalist; Post Mason, baritone, in a popular song; and a series of Bioscope pictures.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr E. Macknight; Business-Manager, Mr C. E. Hardy.—For the amusement of the Christmas holiday patrons of this theatre Mr George Kirk and Miss Mary Neil's company has been playing the sensational drama *Judy; or, the Fatal Hand.* Mr George Kirk enacts the rôle of Grip, the man with three fingers, with an amount of assurance that commands attention. As Duburg Mr Richard Ferris makes a good impression; and Mr William Vane is a decidedly interesting Sterling. Mr Will Casey as Jim, the coster, is full of kindly sentiment; Mr Frank Lyndon is pleasing as Dick; and Mr J. Stoner is particularly good as Mike. Miss Violet Langley is most effective as the scheming woman Blake; Miss Mary Neil plays with success as Alice and Polly, a dual-rôle; and Miss Florrie Groves fairly revels in the part of Judy, the child of the streets, playing with a vigour that is quite refreshing.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Mouillot; Resident-Manager, Mr C. F. Bawtree.—The holiday attraction here has been Miss Emma Hutchison and Mr Percy Hutchison's company in the comedy *Saturday to Monday*. The principal character, Lord Culvert of Alcester, is successfully impersonated by Mr Stuart Champion, who displays considerable skill and ability. As the fascinating widow, Mrs Wendover, Miss Moyra Creegan cleverly sustains the character. Miss Adeline Lester is most effective as Lady Diana Porchester, whose daughter Angela is admirably represented by Miss Kitty Doyle. The acting of Mr Dallas Welford as Stanley Pidding is excellent; and as Probyn Dyke much amusement is caused by Mr Jack Hampton. Mr Edward Ling is good as the Rev. Thomas Toop, and the rôles of Miss Ursula Toop and Miss Skeet are capitally impersonated by Miss Madge Burton and Miss Charlotte Mead respectively. Miss Olive Loftus Leyton does well as Thompson. The comedy has been preceded each evening by the one-act farce, *Judged by Appearances*.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr Will Smithson; Assistant-Manager, Mr Albert J. Lewis.—On Boxing night Mr Van Biene and his excellent company opened in *The Broken Melody*. In the second act Mr Van Biene captivates his hearers with his grand 'cello solos, and his acting as Paul Borinski is characterised by real emotional intensity. Miss Ida Chapman gives a graceful and clever study of Mabel, and as the Duchesse Miss Marie Rignold is highly successful. Mr Arthur Bawtree is particularly good as General Ivanoff, and Mr T. P. Haynes as Dudley Mortimer gives a thoroughly racy rendering of the part.

TEMPERANCE HALL.—The attraction here is provided by Mr J. H. Clyndes's company, in *The Royal Revenge*. Mr J. H. Clyndes gives an artistic performance of Estevan Alvarez, and Mr Geoffrey Broughton is exceedingly good as the King of Spain. Mr Edward Aldworth merits praise for a capital embodiment of Nicholas Vargas, and Mr Charles Jordan ably sustains the part of Manuel Modega. Mr Jack Bigwood is highly amusing as the Innkeeper; Mr Richard Webb does excellent work as Friar Dominic; Miss Bessie Elms's rendering of Inez is natural and sympathetic; Cora Casilda and Paquita Marcela have excellent representatives in Miss Evelyn Shannan and Miss Aimee Grattan.]

MEXBOROUGH.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—Manager, Mr W. H. Melton.—Messrs Marston and Buckstone's pantomime *Goody Two Shoes* was produced here on Saturday. Miss Maud Western is a dashing principal boy as Roland; Miss Marie Santley is no less successful as Goody Two Shoes; Miss Connie Irwin is a charming Fairy; Miss A. D. Hender is successful as the wicked demon; Mr F. A. Marston works well as Baron Graball; and Mr Dan Hardie (Bobbie Bobs), Mr Syd Bazley (Simple Simon), Mr Ted Mac (Dame Durden) are all first-class comedians, and gain hearty approval. Capital specialities are given by York, Mac, and York, with a boxing act; Grant and Kelley, eccentric knockabouts; Varno and Nano, gymnasts; Messrs Phinas and Aida, hand-balancers; and Wilmo, trick cyclist.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Directors, Messrs George and Charles Imeson.—*Dick Whittington* as played by Mr J. F. Elliston's company under the management of Mr Charles Hermann and the stage-management of Mr Fred Mulvey has made a favourable impression. The title-rôle is charmingly sustained by Miss Ethel Newman. Miss Clara Reid is a most acceptable Alice; and as Mary Ann Miss Nellie Dade is amusing. Mr Burt Byrne creates considerable laughter in the character of Gertrude, the cook. Alderman Fitzwarren is made the most of by Mr Charles Goff; and Idle Jack is successfully played by Mr Tom Foy. The dresses and scenery are pretty, and the orchestra under the bâton of Mr W. Sommerland is deserving of praise.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, LIMITED.—Licensee and General Manager, Mr T. Hopcutt.—Mr Humphrey E. Brammall's Christmas pantomime, *Cinderella*, was presented at a matinée on Monday. The principal boy was Miss Marie Loftus, who made the very most of the part of Prince Peerless, and though suffering from a slight cold her singing was much enjoyed, her most marked success being a clever Japanese coon song. Miss Alice Digby was very pleasing in the title-rôle. As Sister Gertrude Mr Lawrence Barclay was funny, as was also Mr Victor Travers as Pickles. The Baron Balderdash of Mr George Hestor created a favourable impression, and fun of the rollicking kind was provided by Mr Tom Bass and Messrs Hoades and Luck. The Eight Stars are capital acrobatic dancers. The dresses are very fine, the properties artistic, the scenery beautiful, and the chorus tuneful and well balanced, whilst the orchestra, under the able guidance of Mr Norman Latham, is deserving of praise. The pantomime is under the management of Mr Horace Cole, and the acting-manager is Mr G. Rhodes Parry.

EMPIRE.—Managing Director, Mr John Brill; Manager, Mr J. W. Thornborrow.—A good holiday programme is provided, Mr G. W. Leslie's company in the prize play, *Chums*, heading the bill. The Four Estrelles give an exceedingly smart acrobatic performance; Charles Fanning, comedian, is a great favourite; and Clarke's Nippers, speciality act, are much in favour. Goggin and Davis are amusing in their acrobatic act, and Edie Gray and her white coons receive hearty plaudits. Charles Russell pleases with his singing, and Mdlle. Viviane is a pretty dancer. Some amusing films are shown.

OXFORD.—Lessee, Mr Wm. Peacock; Manager, Mr W. Ainsworth.—The Cirnocs are the principal attraction here in their handcuff turn. The Royal Zarbinis Troupe in a scena, *In Fairyland*, make a great hit. Ellis and Watts, comedians and dancers, please; Lee and Arden, in *The Lady and the Waterman*, is an amusing turn; and Robert Beevers in "Comicscope," is capital. Lil Esplin sings some good songs; Herniot and Sanvion are clever conjurors; as a vocalist Fred Bronte is much in favour, The Bioscope completes the programme.

MOTHERWELL.

NEW CENTURY THEATRE.—Resident Manager, Mr W. Gillespy; Managing Director, Mr R. C. Buchanan.—Mr Arthur Rose pays a visit this week with his company in *The Follies of Youth*. As Captain Ronald Druce Mr Walter Bentley could scarcely be excelled. Miss Violet Macaree acts with infinite grace as Gwendoline Murdock; Miss Bertha Hanbury is clever as Little Ruth; Mr Arthur Rose is capable as Ralph Murdock; and Nat Thistle finds a good exponent in Mr David Beattie. Mr Fred Haming is smart as Bob Roberts; and Kitty Hawthorne is well played by Miss Ena Russell. Miss Laurie E. Pardy is very good as Dorothy Dornton.

NEATH.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr John Johnson.—Mr Johnson opened his pantomime season here on Boxing Day with *Japan's Aladdin*, the music arranged by Mr G. T. Hutchins. There are several clever people in the pantomime, and they enter into the spirit of the thing with great gusto. Aladdin has a gallant and shapely representative in Miss Carrie Campbell; Abanazar has a nimble exponent in Mr George H. Pitt; Mr Charlas Vernon as the Emperor is good; Miss Rosa Lind as Pekoe is successful; Mr Tommy Gough as Li-Li, Aladdin's mother, is very funny; as is also Mr Johnson as Washee Washee, of the Royal Baths. The cake walk by a dozen local children in Aladdin's palace is successful.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

PALACE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr T. W. Rowe.—Mr Walter Melville's company is paying us a return visit with *A Girl's Cross Roads*. An experienced actress in Miss Hilda Beverley sustains the part of Barbara Wade with much ability, and the support is good.

NEW EMPIRE PALACE.—Resident-Director, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr E. Leslie Conroy.—Holiday audiences are well catered for at this hall, where Fred Karno's company remain for another week, but they are now presenting with success their sketch *Mumming Birds*. The Three Sisters Hayden are well received in their songs, and some smart juggling is exhibited by Prince Kokin. We renew acquaintance with George Bohee, the famous banjoist, and acceptable contributions are also those of Madame Alice Simmons, operatic soprano; Swan and Bambard, acrobatic comedians; Edie Veno, comedienne; Diamond and Beatrice, song and dance artistes; Hugh Stanton, sketch artist; and Warren Doyle, the Ashington dancing pit boy.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs Thornton and Bacon; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Nelson Barry.—Here we are favoured with a visit from Mr Stanley Hope's company in *The Master Criminal*. Mr Albert Guyon in the title part does capitally, and Miss Nellie Thearle as Cecile also appears to advantage.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr Ernest W. Bacon.—For the Christmas and New Year's holidays the management have secured the Negro musical comedy *In Dahomey*, and on Monday night the unusual spectacle was witnessed of hundreds of people being unable to obtain admission to the theatre, which was crowded to the very doors. The play was a huge success, the many excellent musical numbers and dances with which it abounds being received with much applause, whilst encores were numerous. Mr Dan Avery as Rareback Pinkerton and Mr Charles Hart as Shylock Homestead were excellent, and caused endless laughter. There is an extremely strong company supporting these two artistes, and the engagement may be counted a big success.

PAVILION THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Thos. Barrasford; Resident-Manager, Mr Will H. Boardman.—Crowded audiences assemble here, where Harry Ford, who is meeting with the heartiest of receptions, has a capital budget of songs, which he gives in his usual enjoyable style. A novel and amusing sketch entitled *Fun at a Railway Station* is merrily rattled through by Farley, Rennie, and Farley. The Young American Quintet supply some capital singing and dancing. Musical eccentrics in the Brothers Forrest are well to the fore, and there are also appearing successfully A. Aldridge, Walton and Miss Ella, with a clever dog show; Lilly Seville, Miss Florizelle, and the Allsons.

NEWPORT.

LYCEUM.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Sidney Cooper.—The D'Oyly Carte No. 1 opera company opened here on Bank Holiday with two performances of *The Mikado*. As Pooh-Bah Mr Fred Billington, that admirable droll comedian, was seen to advantage; and Mr C. H. Workman in the rôle of Ko-Ko fully sustained that high standard of merit with which his name is identified, while Mr Pacie Ripple, in sympathetic and tuneful voice, was an ideal Nanki-Poo. Miss Norah Maguire was a fascinating Yum-Yum, singing brilliantly, and equally effective in the characters of Pitti-Sing and Peep-Bo were Miss Jessie Rose and Miss Alice Lisle, while Miss Theresa Ransam as Katisha sang and acted admirably. Mr Fred Drawater was an excellent Pish-Tush, and Mr Albert Kavanagh effectively impersonated the Mikado. The melodious gems with which the opera is studded were received with manifest signs of appreciation. Included in this week's bill are *H.M.S. Pinafore, Iolanthe, Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Gondoliers*.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Moss Empires, Limited; Managing-Director, Mr O. Stoll.—A good all-round holiday programme is provided here. The band, under Mr Sam Tute, opened with "Les Deux Magots," following which came Dome, the original clay modeller. Phillips and Terry in *The Revolt of Man* were successful. Charles Gardner, the eccentric comedian, was warmly received, and little Nellie Coleman cleverly impersonated an Irish comedian and comic singer. Richard List's performing bears were interesting; the Howards were warmly applauded for their cornet solos; and the Sisters Devona presented an exceedingly pretty electrical act. The Lumas gave some excellent acrobatic performances, and Harry Lamore on the slack wire received quite an ovation.

NORTHAMPTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Resident-Manager, Mr W. J. Andrews.—The pantomime produced here on Boxing Day is *Robinson Crusoe*, produced by Messrs Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy, and specially written by H. E. Bowes, with music selected and composed by H. Wellings and H. Somerville. Miss Vera Mayne is very nice in the nom-rôle; Miss Nellie Moore is a pretty Polly Hopkins; Miss Daisy Volbecque makes a "killing" Captain Billie Taylor; Miss Rosie Volbecque as Princess Flumera is attractive; Miss Bertha St. Ruth appears with success as Electra, the Good Fairy; Mr Will Freedo presents the Dame, Mrs Sarah Crusoe, in a droll manner; Mr George Rapley is a clever Will Atkins; and the Twins, Billy Crusoe and Jimmy Crusoe, as represented by Messrs Bass and Guiness, are full of fun and merriment. Mr T. Johnson is good as King Kyapoloola, and his dancing is highly appreciated. Mr Will Crowson is very capable as Friday. The French Brothers, unicyclists, and the Three Deveres are the principal specialities. The scenery is by Alfred Whyatt, and the rich and appropriate dresses are by Miss Hetty and Miss Ada M'Donald.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Fred H. Anderson; Acting-Manager, Mr Fred Barton.—The Christmas programme is a highly acceptable one. The Great Northern Troupe of International dancers are very good; the Staffordshire Cardboard Boxmakers, a trio of comely lasses, sing in excellent style; H. C. Wills has a comic effusion that is quaintly rendered; the Parez Trio of lady hand bell-ringers give a good performance; Phil Sinclair, assisted by a partner whose name is not on the programme, is extremely funny in a domestic scena *The Night Walk;* Texas Hattie is a coloured young lady of ability on the tight rope; Clark and Golé, "The Astro-Nomers," with their special business and clever banjo playing, meet with much favour; Barnard's world-famed marionettes are among the most perfect of their kind; and Harry Florence is still popular here.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Arthur Jefferson; General Manager, Mr Horace Lee; Secretary, Mr Gordon Jefferson.—Mr Harry Foxwell's company, with *Shadows of a Great City*, has attracted large holiday audiences here this week. Mr Foxwell as Tom Cooper is responsible for a clever portrayal of the character; Mr Charles Vivian is capital in the rôle of George Benson; Mr Arthur Tomlin is effective as Arkwright; and Mr Beard Randal makes the most of Jim Farren. Miss Sheila Walsh in the dual-rôle of Annie and Nellie Standish merits warm praise.

NEW CENTRAL PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Wm. Mould.—The Zaros, acrobats and tumblers, the principal attraction here, have had a very hearty reception; the Jalvans, coloured Oriental entertainers, introduce a clever act; and Mr George Bernard, actor-vocalist, scores a great success. Little Lady Fauntleroy, ventriloquist, is smart, and Mr W. Horsley, song and dance artiste; Mr James Lowrey, the singing furnaceman; and Payne's Bio-Photoscope also meet with favour.

NORTHWICH.

CENTRAL THEATRE.—Proprietress, Mrs S. Golden; Manager, Mr Percy Webb.—A visit of Madame Willoughby's grand spectacular pantomime company in *Babes in the Wood* is the holiday attraction here, and on Monday night the house was packed to suffocation. The book is well written by Mr Thos. Willoughby; the musical selections by Mr J. Holroyd are bright and tuneful; the dresses, designed by Madame Willoughby, are pretty and tasteful; and the mounting gives entire satisfaction. The company is of all-round excellence, and the show goes right merrily from start to finish. Mr B. Gardner, who is responsible for the production, is a host in himself, and in the dual-part of the Demon King and the Remorseless Uncle works like the true artist he is; Mr G. Williams does well as Bottle Neck; and Publican in the hands of Mr W. H. Chambers leaves nothing to be desired. Messrs Brown and Harker as the two villains find plenty of scope for their humorous treatment of the part, and Mr Alf. Foy causes much merriment in his delineation of the Nurse. The parts of Friar Tuck and the Sleepy Boy are well looked after by Messrs W. F. Ames and F. A. Halma respectively. Miss B. Dudley as Robin Hood plays with real ability and success; Miss Winnie Wentworth is charmingly attractive as Maid Marion; and Miss D'Alberte acts and sings well as the Good Fairy; whilst the Misses Violet and Daisy Mottley as the Two Babes win hosts of admirers with the very able enactment of the characters. The specialities are the Sisters Allen, international dancers; the Two Flowers, in a successful coon song and dance; and Halma, in his special show of juggling. The transformation scene, entitled Lilies of the Valley, is a perfect picture.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr Fred Morgan.—Mr E. St. Alban's company in *Alice in Wonderland* and its sequel, *Through the Looking Glass*, is here this week. Miss Ida Thompson as Alice displays ability, and Mr J. W. Hooper as the Mock Turtle ably assists. Mr Sydney Benson as the Gryphon, Miss J. Rogers as the Cheshire Cat, and Miss Edith Alcoe as the Doormouse render much assistance. Mr St. Alban does well as the Mad Hatter; Mr George Handel and Miss Madge Webster as the King and Queen of Hearts are good; and Mr J. E. Cowell as the Knave of Hearts and Mr L. Sandown as the Executioner create much fun. Mr J. W. Hooper and Mr Sydney Benson as Tweedledum and Tweedledee are energetic. The Cards and Chessmen ballets with the fairy dances are admirably presented by the juveniles from Mr Philip Nolan's training school. The scenery and effects are very good. Mr George Jenkinson ably conducted.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr F. W. Fitt; Musical Director, Captain Selby.—Among the attractions in Norwich this place of amusement is certainly not the least. The Leopold Troupe are acrobats of marvellous ability, and their performance is greeted with much applause. Tom and Marie Montramo are warm favourites, and their musical comedy, *Do You Reverse?* is heartily greeted. Lauri Wylie is an ingenious mimic with his mannikin, and some well-known artists receive faithful representation. The Great Wieland is a very clever juggler. The Royal Welshmen appear, although not billed, and are highly successful. J. H. Bowman is well received. Beatty and Blanche are charming duettists and dancers. The Venola Brothers do well as comedy gymnasts, and Rosa Rosetti deserves every praise for her admirable turn. Extra matinées were given on Monday and Tuesday.

NOTTINGHAM.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr Charles P. Cooke.—Mr Charles Chard's pantomime, *Goody Two Shoes*, was presented here on Christmas Eve. Mr Fred Locke, the author, has dished up some capital fare in his best vein. The story is naturally simple, and deals with the love of Goody and Roland, whom the Good Fairy wishes to assist by giving a magic rose to the former, which will help her in all difficulties. Unfortunately, Goody misplaces the rose, which enables Mephisto to use his powers for ill against her. Eventually the Good Fairy comes to her assistance, the rose is found, and all ends happily. There is ample foundation on which to build an attractive entertainment, and no opportunity is lost by the artists. The scenery is exceptionally good, and special commendation should be accorded the Gardens en Fête and Her Highness's Hall. The music is catchy and tuneful, and Mr A. Stratton is to be congratulated on his stage-managership. Miss Ida Gladstone fills the part of Roland with a vivacious energy that will win her many admirers, and her voice is heard to advantage in the popular song "Dolly Gray," and in the duet, "When I think" with the principal girl. Miss Annie Casey is an attractive Goody, and her singing of "Old Bull and Bush" fetched the audience at once, an encore being demanded. Miss Lily St. Julian (Dolly Dimple) and Miss Gladys St. Julian (Peter Piper) sing and act with versatility, and Miss Isa Steel performs the part of the Good Fairy with natural grace. High praise is also due to Miss Bessy Dears (Pansy Blossom) and Miss F. Spencer (Frisky Friday). Mr Charles Chard undertakes the rôle of Simple Simon, a part in which his powers as a comedian have full scope, and there is not a dull moment when he is on the stage. Mr James Kerry as Sammy Sopps is always entertaining, and his humour finds its reward. Mr Sidney Dean as the voluble Dame Freckles adds to the merriment. Messrs Bliss and Bliss as Phil and Tom keep the audience in good humour by their jokes and antics, and a couple of coloured comedians, Pete and Juno, display their activity in clever dancing and singing. Miss Alice Marsden is sufficiently weird as Mephisto, and specialities are given by the Mikado Troupe of Dancers, the Sisters St. Julian, and Nano, Leo, and Kinko. The performance went capitally throughout, and Mr Charles P. Cooke, the genial manager of the theatre, has earned the thanks of his patrons for the smart pantomime provided for them.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten; Manager, A. W. Bull.—For the festival week Mr Macnaghten has staged *The King's Pardon*, which abounds in sensational incident, being founded on the life of a noted highwayman, which character is played by Mr C. A. Leicester with a gallantry and abandon that make him a huge favourite. Mr Charles Stirling acts carefully as Noel Blake, and the misfortunes of Clifford Yorke are well shown by Mr Charles Whitlock. Miss Georgina V. France embodies Barbara Yorke with tenderness and feeling, and Miss Violet B. Clarke does well as Marjorie Yorke. There is an abundance of humour, in which Mr Harry Belford specially shines as Major Dobbs, being ably seconded by Miss Pollie Denville, a charming waitress; Mr Val W. Gully as Ebenezer, and Mr Will Lawrence as Sergeant Slade.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Hatton Wharton.—The graceful and artistic dancing of Loie Fuller seems the very poetry of motion, and its excellence is enhanced by the beautiful colour effects, the whole forming an attractive spectacle. Carl Hertz and his assistant, Mdlle. D'Alton, remain this week, and must feel gratified by their reception. The Bostons, of the comic bull-fight fame, are also retained. A skilful equestrian act is introduced by Otto Schumann, assisted by Miss Mona Mona. Warden Reed and company submit a farce, *Married or Photographed*, to the accompaniment of hearty laughter. The Labakans and their clever dog go through some comical acrobatic feats with great credit, and the conjuring of Little Nelusco forms an agreeable item. The versatility of Harry Campion is exemplified in songs which gain him recalls, and a fine programme is closed by Miss Kitty Bell, vocalist and dancer, and L. B. Athol, character comedian.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr Walter J. R. Bryan.—After being closed for five nights, Mr Arthur Gibbons opened his tour on Saturday at this pretty temple of the drama with *Beauty and the Beast*. Congratulations are due to Mr Gibbons and to Mr Cross, whose efforts to please have been crowned with success. The pantomime is presented in two acts and ten scenes, all of which are exceedingly pretty. The music is specially written by Mr Percy Kurntz and Mr Mark Strong, the latter ably conducting. Miss Linda Keston gracefully carries out the rôle of Beauty, her songs being well received, especially "Bluebell." A very attractive principal boy is Miss Marie Beaufort, who proves herself an accomplished vocalist. Mr Sydney Vereker fills with success the part of Ko-Hop, his amusing ditties provoking a good share of merriment, and as Maude Hannah Mr Albert E. Mann is quite at home. The twins, Reginald and Sibyl, Mr Will Holland and Tom Banks, work well together, making a decided hit with "Has anybody seen our brother Charlie?" Miss Janet Lawton puts plenty of dash and spirit into the part of Dandy Veller; Miss Margarite Romney is a capital representative of Malicia (Spirit of Strife), and Miss Gertrude Wright proves a favourite as Amoroso (Spirit of Love). The specialities by the Misses Trissy Mills, Rosie Knott, and Sisters Hula are heartily appreciated. Between the acts great excitement is created by the Original Dartigan's wonderful performance of "Looping the Loop." The performance closes with a pretty transformation scene, The Four Seasons.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Thomas Lucas, J.P.; Acting-Manager, Mr C. C. Dorrill.—Mr and Mrs Calvert Routledge opened here on Boxing night for a week's engagement with *The Cricket on the Hearth*. Mr Calvert Routledge gives a highly creditable representation of John Peerybingle. As Caleb Plummer Mr David Curtis is very natural, and Mr Sydney Sarl is most realistic as Mr Tackleton. Mr Alexander Wills is versatile as Edward Plummer; Miss Mary Jocelyn (Mrs Calvert Routledge) charms her audience by a delightful portrayal of Dot; Miss Dora Lewis convulses the house as Tilly Slowboy; Miss Sybil Ruskin makes a good Bertha, and Miss C. Warner is graceful as May Fielding. Of the immortals, who dance in very effective style, Miss Maud Ryder as Fairy Cricket, Miss Maggie Robertson as Fairy Christmas, Miss Marion Ryder as Fairy Queen, and Miss Daisy Jago as Puck are all highly successful.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Albany Ward; Acting-Manager, Mr H. G. P. Wells.—Mr Sanderson Moffat is here with *A Woman Adrift*. As Sir John Ingleby Mr Joseph Millane is most effective, Mr Claud Morton is good as Jibbs, Mr Saunderson Moffat interprets Ferdinand Castro with considerable power and ability; and other male characters are all in capable hands. Miss Phyllis Hamilton proves an attraction with her artistic rendering of Cora Leigh; Little May Tickell is excellent as Rupert Ingleby; Miss Vera Tickell is successful as Nanette, and Miss Patey Trounsell in the dual-rôle of Lady Ingleby and Stella is decidedly good.

PETERBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr A. Darville Vernon.—The American drama, *A Fight for Millions*, is the holiday attraction here, being presented by Mr Robert Perris's company. Mr V. Carlyle is a success as Tom Manley; Mr J. Newton Cowling as Hudson Rivers and Mr Horace Booth as Richard Dudley are both good; Mr Robert Perris is amusing as Willie Neverwork; Mr Karl H. Edwards does well as Solomon Moses; and the Pearl Rivers of Miss Eva Purcell is a creditable performance.

PAISLEY.

EMPIRE.—Lessee, Mr J. H. Savile; Manager, Mr Delno Fritz.—Topping the bill this week is Joe Wesley's Scottish Minstrels, who appear in new and original funny songs and sayings and adroit dancing. The others of the company are Bruce M'Kenzie, in old favourite Scottish songs; the Big Four, in their statue dance, "The Gambler's End;" Robbins and Crewso, in their comic interlude *The Professor and the Boy;* Joe Edmonds, banjoist; and Tom Robbins, dancer.

PENTRE.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sole Owners, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Manager, Mr Sam Duckworth; Resident-Manager, Mr Eugene Hardie.—Mr Hugh Osborne's company is here in *The Sins of the Fathers*. Mr Wallace Eastlake gives a clever impersonation of Geo. Armitage, seconded in a charming style by Miss Dorothy Routh as Edith Harmsworth. Mr B. Dennison as Sebastian Brandt and Miss Amy M'Neil as Camille Leblanc are deserving of high praise. Mr J. Dillon's Mr Harmsworth is exceedingly good.

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr J. Langdon Lee.—The hall-mark of public approval is likely to be stamped on this year's Royal pantomime, judging by the frequency of encores and the unstinted applause which were forthcoming at the initial performance on Christmas Eve. The subject levied under contribution by Mr G. V. Keast is *Dick Whittington*. In a humorous vein is the story told, and there is a wealth of local and topical allusions, many mirth-provoking incidents, and a goodly sprinkling of up-to-date songs. Very pretty indeed is the scenery, the music is bright and lively, and has been well arranged by Mr Charles Victor, whilst that indispensable condition to the complete success of a pantomime—a big bevy of pretty girls—is very much in evidence. Like the scenery, the costumes are very effective, the whole reflecting the highest credit alike on those already mentioned, and last, but not least, Mr George Taylor, the producer and stage-manager. The nine scenes comprise representations of Old Cheapside, Highgate-hill, deck of the Golden Kipper, the Emperor's Palace, and London in the olden time. A new claimant to Plymouth favours, Miss Margaret Ruby, scored well as Dick. Tall, graceful, of prepossessing appearance, and gifted with a nice voice, she is an acquisition, and all were pleased with her performance. Miss May Angus-Young is of attractive appearance, and therefore makes an ideal Alice, especially as she sings, dances, and acts so bewitchingly. In the part of Blue-eyed Susan Miss Georgie Grantley does exceedingly well, and Miss Muriel Juin sings sweetly as the Fairy Queen. A gay and dashing Prince who can sing a good song in great style is Miss Nellie Sheffield. There is quite a galaxy of talent amongst the male artists, who are, of course, responsible for the fun, of which there is a full supply. The life and soul of the piece is Mr Pat Waddock, who is very amusing as Idle Jack, and he is well seconded by Mr Frank Weir as Biddy the cook. Messrs Reed and Lerne are capital comedians, whilst Mr Edmond T. Sayers is an admirable Alderman. Very clever dancing is provided by the Misses Amy and Florrie Lock, Cissy Burgess, and Nellie Loft, the Australian belles, and a tribute must be paid to the chorus work, which is very satisfactory. Artistically and musically a success, the pantomime should also be a financial success.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr C. F. Williams; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Williams.—*The Earl and the Girl* are making their début here this week through the medium of Mr William Greet. There is all-round excellence in the company. Mr Alec Fraser as the hero sings intelligently and pleasingly, and in conjunction with Miss Mary Fraser wins much applause. Mr Reginald Schwitz as Cheese is distinctly funny, and admirable portrayals were forthcoming from Messrs Fred Edwards and Hybert. Mr H. B. Brandreck appears as Bunker Bliss, and Mr Haddon Cave provides a clever impersonation of Crewer Boodles. Miss Cynthia Carey, Miss Maud Adams, and Miss Mary Morrison add to the enjoyment of the piece.

METROPOLE THEATRE (DEVONPORT).—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Arthur Carlton.—Produced here on Boxing Day, *Sinbad the Sailor* is a pantomime which the public will flock to see on account of its many good qualities. Mr Carlton has eclipsed his former effort, and is to be congratulated on this his second production of the kind in the town. The dialogue teems with humorous allusions, and the local "hits" catch on splendidly, as they deserve to. As for the mounting of the piece, some of the scenes are gorgeous, and there is, generally speaking, much beauty and colour. The musical department has been well looked after, with the result that the orchestration, under Mr Stephen Blythe, was all that could be desired, and there is bright and tuneful music all the time. Mr H. F. Housden, the stage-manager, is to be complimented on his achievement; and words of praise are due to Madame Marie Harold, who has arranged the attractive ballets, and to Miss Elsie Jerritt, whose training of the children was so efficient that the performance of the little ones is quite a feature of the pantomime. As the principal boy Miss Rita Leslie is very talented, and pleases the public all the time. Miss Katie Holloway is dainty and vivacious as the sweetheart; and other successes amongst the ladies are the Misses May Rivington, Madge Yates, Kathleen Emmett, and Ruby Toze. Merry-makers include Mr Gilbert Payne, who is funny to a degree; and Mr J. Kerno and Mr H. Ugar, comical seafaring men; Mr S. Atwill and Mr Stanley Howard appear in important parts with great credit.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Directors Messrs Livermore Brothers; Manager, Mr J. Field.—The star turn this week is Dr. Edmond Taylor with his mystic kettle. The Ragamuffins, a quintet of vocalists, are clever; Attilla Brothers, skilled athletes and weight lifters, provide an attractive entertainment; Juma's Octoroons, a combination of young singers and dancers with Miss Amy Tilley as interlocutor, go strong; Haldyne Duo is very amusing in *The Curate's Dilemma;* Clyo and Rochelle appear as acrobats; Herbert Cyril is an eccentric comedian; Miss Maud Stanley has some good songs; and there are animated pictures.

PORTSMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr Armstrong Bell.—The amusement of the holiday folk at this theatre has been entrusted to Mr George Dance's principal company with the musical play of *The Girl from Kay's*, and it is just the sort of light entertainment likely to suit the season. Miss Gladys Desmond played Norah Chalmers with dainty refinement; Miss Maisie North as Ellen was capital; Miss Mabel Champion as the doubting mother-in-law, Mrs Chalmers, played with much ability; the Winnie Harborough of Miss Nancie Hervyn was a very agreeable and natural impersonation. Mr Garnet Wilson was brisk and smart as the much-harassed husband, Harry Gordon; the Hon. Percy Fitzthistle was amusingly played by Mr Leslie Roy Cathie; Mr Arthur Jackson made the best of Theodore Quench, K.C.; Mr H. C. Barry's diverting interpretation of Max Hoggenheimer was largely appreciated by the audience.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Secretary, Mr W. Pratt.—The management here has provided a strong company for the Bank Holiday week. Yvett's Hippodrome, with their equestrian and canine act, affords keen delight; Arthur Albert, comedian, sings his songs well; Jean Seul, the Indian mystery, meets with unqualified approval; Mdlle. Martha is a graceful lady gymnast; Stewart and Morgan score in a vocal speciality "Leaving Ireland;" Kitty Nevill, dainty comedienne, has a good reception; Chas. Ridgwell, eccentric comedian, is in fine form; Mdlle. Kloet appears in her original spectacle "Panneaux Des Art Electriques," produced with great artistic merit and much appreciated; Hunt and Resford, the Australian comedy duo, do well; the Revell Troupe, in their pantomime *Mischief*, create roars of laughter.

PONTYPOOL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs C. W. and J. R. Poole; General Manager, Mr J. H. Stephens.—Mr and Mrs William M'Laren's répertoire company is proving a great holiday attraction here this week with *Proof*. Miss Lily C. Bandmann impersonates the characters of Madeline and Valentine with great success. Mr M'Laren himself makes a hit as Pierre Lorance. On Tuesday night the four-act comedy *David Garrick* was performed before a crowded house. The other plays for the week include *The Lady of Lyons* and *East Lynne*.

PORTH.

POOLE'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr W. Bynorth.—The attraction for the holidays at the above is Mr Henry Furnival's company in *Lost in Paris*. Mr W. J. Butler is very successful as Count De Linière; Mr A. V. Dixon gives a capable rendering of the part of the Chevalier Du Vaudrey; the Marquis De Presles has a capital exponent in Mr H. Charles; Miss Pattie Hastings deserves mention for her excellent impersonation of La Frochard; Jacques and Pierre are successfully played by Mr Edward Valentine and Mr Henry Furnival respectively; Miss Alice Oliver makes a charming Countess De Linière; Mr J. Fulton Miller is an amusing Picard; Mr W. Garrett is well placed as the Doctor; Miss K. Willoughby plays effectively the part of Louise; and Miss Louisa Peach gives an excellent performance of Henriette. The drama is well mounted, the scenery and costumes being very pretty.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietress, Miss Ada Alexandra; General Manager, Mr E. Pryce.—The above place of amusement was reopened on Boxing Day with an excellent programme, contributed to by Les Francois, acrobats; Stylo, hoop manipulator; the Butts, barrel jumpers; Beatrice Bonnie, comedienne; the Moxon Family, feet equilibrists; the Australian Comedy Team, Bruce and Ross, Carlo Barello, the golfer-juggler; the Three Ethardos, on the unsupported ladders; the Musical Dorells, Sam Anderson, a clever horseman; and Hairpin and Rabbit, clowns. An afternoon performance will be given every Monday throughout the season.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Stephen Pritt.—Milton-Rays' company opened here on Christmas Eve to a good house in the pantomime *Beauty and the Beast*. Miss Maidie Scott is seen to great advantage as Silver Button; Beauty is pleasingly impersonated by Miss Nellie Merton; and Prince Greatheart has a bright representative in Miss Maud Jay. Mr Rolando Martin works hard and successfully as Sammy; Mr G. Rydon provides a good share of fun as Sir Mackintosh Mizzletoe; and Mr Edwin Garth is an amusing Wilhelmina. The funny business of Messrs Fyne and Hurley as Spindles and Twitters evokes much laughter. The Hayes Brothers acquit themselves well as Tommy Titmouse and Willy Winkles. Mr Sidney Milton capably depicts Witch Spitfire; and Mr James Sherwin (the Beast) delivers his lines clearly. Special turns are contributed by the El Dorado Quartet of dancers; Hayes Brothers, Australian comedy artistes; Fyne and Hurley, society entertainers; and Wallau, the boy juggler. The pantomime is effectively staged, and the onerous work of producing it has been successfully carried out by Mr Milton Rosmer.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs Sawyer and Woodruff.—On Monday evening the drama *A Modern Adventuress* was presented here for the first time by Messrs Carson and Granville's No. 1 company, and the unfolding of the plot was followed with keen interest by a crowded house. Mr Geo D. Knight gives a capable delineation of William Delby. Mr Royce Carleton cleverly sustains the part of Harry Delby; as Wallace Danton Mr Edward M. Hamilton displays considerable ability; much praise is due to Mr Leonard Aardale for his able embodiment of Pietro Bonelli; Miss Alice Defoe is quite a successful Vivette Delby; and in the title-rôle Miss Beatrice M. Anderson gives a powerful performance. Miss Emily Custance (Sally Hodges) and Mr Evan Roland (John Crompton) create much amusement; and Mr Leonard Montgomery gains appreciation as Steve Meredith. The drama is well staged.

RUGBY.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr A. F. Cross; Acting-Manager, Mr E. Parker Royston.—Miss Marie Dagmar and Mr F. Somerfield's company is here this week with *A Life's Revenge*. As Prince Boris Strogoroff Mr F. Somerfield gives a powerful impersonation; as Paul Starovitch Mr John F. Traynor's rendering is realistic; and Mr T. G. Vane as Maurice Trevor is successful. Mr Walter Roberts as Michael Orloff is good; Mr George C. Hall is worthy of commendation as Clarence Chesterfield; Mr Sidney Ernest makes the most of the part of Nicholas; and Mr Charles E. Warne as Colonel Tumbleoff and Mr Edwin Chectham as General Mikhaloff both act with ability. Miss Marie Dagmar in the rôle of the Princess acts with grace and is to be highly complimented upon her successful interpretation; Miss Amy Elliam as Marcia Vittoria shows herself to be an accomplished actress; and as Daphne Dashaway Miss Maudie Grayson does exceedingly well. Miss Amy Hughes is very good as Acoulina.

FOSSETT'S HIPPODROME.—A remarkably good programme is presented here this week. Mr John Irvin in his marvellous juggling act on barebacked horses displays wonderful dexterity, and as a foot equilibrist he is equally good; Miss Pinder in her clever trotting act introduces with graceful effect her flock of trained pigeons; Miss Marie gives a graceful and effective exhibition of serpentine dancing on the rolling globe; Mdlle. Fossett is responsible for a most graceful exhibition; and Mr Robert Fossett is again successful in winning the appreciation of the audience by his daring and skilful horsemanship. The Brothers Smarte and Comic Charlie are very amusing, and Mr Charles Becket repeats his success of last week. Mons. Otto, hand balancer and Arab tumbler is very good, and the midget performing pony and the bucking mule both display wonderful intelligence,

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Geo. T. Sante; Acting-Manager, Mr Jas. Boothman.—Mr Fred J. Kirke is to be congratulated on the production of *The Naval Detective* here. In the triple rôle of Lieut. Jack Beresford, Rev. Frequent Nipper, and Pat M'Guinness he displays much dramatic ability, and Mr George Anslow gives an adequate representation of Dr. Schreiner. Mr Alec Godfrey as Capt. Hastle dances admirably; Mr Arthur Beaufort as the Hon. Bertie Fairlox also does much good work. Mr Wm. Bird makes up well as Hans Winklepump; Miss E. Claus as Susan Scrubbs is amusing; and Miss V. Russell is well received as Phyllis Leslie and a sailor boy. Miss Florry Hayes plays Lulu in a pleasing manner, and Miss Lily Seymour makes the most of Rebecca Gentle. Miss Lily Gwynne and Miss Kitty Clark are a pair of graceful dancing girls.

RAMSGATE.

AMPHITHEATRE. — Proprietor, Lord George Sanger; General Manager, Mr Henry Bowman.—After having been closed for a short period the Amphitheatre — the interior very effectively redecorated and repainted—reopened on Boxing night with the pantomime *Aladdin*, played in capital fashion by Mr Herbert Barrs's company. The chief rôle, that of Aladdin, is impersonated in fascinating style by Miss Kitty Clayton, while Miss Nellie Dyson has won all hearts by the charm and grace with which she sings and acts as the Princess. Mr Billie Jackson is a distinct success as the Widow Twankey. Contributing greatly to the success of the production are clever speciality turns by Ada Marjutti, appropriately described as the flexible Venus; Marti and Julietta, who give a daring flying spar performance; Bernado, a really comic tramp juggler; Travella, a dexterous wire walker; Grapho and Jackson, comedians; and the smart Empire Troupe of dancers. The harlequinade—designed to give fun to the juniors in the audience—has certainly achieved that object.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Co-Proprietors and Lessees, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Resident Acting-Manager, Mr J. Ellis Miller.—On Saturday Pardoes' combination of high-class artists opened here with *Cinderella* to a large audience. Miss Cissie Kedward makes an excellent Cinderella, and sings and dances in a manner leaving nothing to be desired. As the Prince Charming Miss Lottie Holland is a prime favourite, whilst Scoot is taken by Mr George Hyam, who displays great talent as a humourist. Messrs Harry Hanley and Mike Hastings as the knockabouts keep the house in one perpetual roar. Miss Violet Rivers and Miss Ivey Leafe as the two Sisters are also seen to advantage. Miss Nellie Rose as Princess Rosella, Miss Katie More as Dandini, and Mr Tom Hulme as Baron No Cash greatly help the success. The specialities introduced include the Brothers Pardoes, in their human skipping rope and human bundle turn; Capita, with his living marionette; the Sultan Brothers, herculean equilibrists: the Dome Trio of wonderful dancers; and the Sisters Tyrell, sand and buck dancers.

READING.

ROYAL COUNTY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr W. E. Barnett; Secretary, Mr Reginald Taylor.—Messrs Fred J. Little and Fred Darcy's comic pantomime of *Sinbad the Sailor* was produced here with complete success on Boxing Night, and is having a very successful run.

SMALL TOWN HALL.—Mr Ben Lawes gave a variety show at this hall on Boxing Night before a crowded and most appreciative audience.

LARGE TOWN HALL.—Mr Joseph Poole, who has paid an annual Christmas visit to this town for many years past, has again produced his popular myrioramic and variety entertainment at the above hall. The performance commenced on Boxing Day, and will be continued twice daily. The latest up-to-date tableaux are exhibited, including stirring scenes of the Russo-Japanese War and a series of new animated photographs. Among the other attractions are Mdlle. Orbassany and her troupe of performing cockatoos; Miss May Finch, characteristic vocalist; the Veronas, lady dancers; Felix Somers, the facial king; the Marvellous Westwoods, expert and comedy cyclists; and Mr Nat Abatt, the popular guide and raconteur.

ROCHDALE.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr W. Robinson; General Manager, Mr Otto C. Culling; Resident Manager, Mr Charles Clucas.—*It's Never Too Late to Mend* was presented on Monday evening. Mr John Wainwright again appeared with distinct success as Tom Robinson; Mr Alfred E. Calver made a favourable impression in the part of George Fielding; and Miss Kate Randolph acted with womanly feeling as Susan Merton.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Thomas Hargreaves; Acting-Manager, Mr Frank Hargreaves.—An excellent programme has been submitted here. The Bros. De Wynne are an exceptionally clever pair of athletes whose graceful and refined tricks evoke deserved applause. The Onatis Troupe of jugglers appear in picturesque costume and perform with skill. Will Godwin, in *Repentance;* J. J. Plant, comedian; Miss Omega, "queen of the wire;" Sheila M'Neill, Scotch comedienne; Jack Martin, descriptive vocalist; and the Empire Bioscope add to an enjoyable list.

ROTHERHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL, LIMITED.—Managing-Director, Mr F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr W. Manning.—The special attraction for the holidays here is being provided by *The Bells of Haslemere* company. Mr Leonard Yorke is a manly Frank Beresford; Mr Montague Turner gives a strong portrayal of the part of John Silkstone, being ably seconded by Mr Charles A. Chandler as Captain Vere. Mr Charles Cecil is seen to advantage as Reuben Armstrong; Mr Douglas Hamilton scores as Matthew Brookfield; Mr Charles Clark is a typical Patrick Desmond; and Mr Harry Montague is very amusing as Toby. Miss Harrietta Polini is pleasing and sympathetic as Evelyn Brookfield; Miss Stafford Smith is a sprightly Dorothy Tremble; Miss Mary Hardacre does well as Mary Northcote; and Miss Florence Chandler plays Nora Desmond with fine dramatic effect.

TOWN HALL ASSEMBLY ROOMS.—Mr Goulden Hamilton, the Yorkshire humourist, is providing the entertainment here this week with a specially strong company, including Charles Howarth, Victoria Rich, the lady baritone; Val, conjuror; Handel and Lee, P. Rhodes, the Vyponds, together with the Edison Paul Bioscope, and the Oakdene singing pictures.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr Harold Goulden.—*The Still Alarm* is proving a good holiday attraction here. Messrs Matthew H. Glenville and Fred Osmond's company is responsible for the realistic production. Jack Manley, the hero, is excellently played by Mr Matthew H. Glenville and Miss Mary Lovett is a charming Elinore Fordham. Mr Paul Lovett represents the villainous John Bird; Mr Fred Osmond gives a clever study of Doc Wilber; Miss Connie Meadows, a graceful dancer, is successful as Carrie Wilber, and joins Mr Tom Beasley as Willie Manley in much mirth-provoking business; Mrs Manley is well played by Miss Mabel Veriton; Mr Dan Mining as Joe Jones has a good share in the fun; and the Lyric Comedy Four assist with glees which are well received.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LIMITED.—Director, Mr Thomas Barrasford; Licensee, Mr James M. Hardie; Secretary and Manager, Mr C. Shayler.—The matinee and both evening houses were crowded on Monday by audiences who heartily laughed at the very entertaining sketches, *A Matrimonial Agency*, by Joe Hayman and Mildred Franklin; *The Water Cure*, by Charles Stewart and company; *Next, Please*, by the Bros. Ashley; *Not a Word*, by Kitty Glover and R. Courtney; and *Parson and Sport*, by Keen and Waller. Acceptable turns were given also by Book Pylades, facial artist; Amy Elvira, comedienne; and Fielding and Hull, vocal entertainers.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr W. B. Broadhead; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy B. Broadhead; Resident-Manager, Mr J. B. Taylor.—Crowded houses appeared highly pleased at the matinee and two performances on Monday evening. A laughable sketch entitled *The Blind Spinster*, by Fred Lloyd and company, heads the bill. Other turns are provided by Alma Obrey, comedienne; Otto and Olga, novel comedy and musical act; Chris Masters, character comedian; the Donare, in an acrobatic equilibrist act; Andrew Higginson, vocal comedian; Pinaros, in their funny American comedy act; Vincent, a clever acrobat and Arab tumbler; Kellino and Pope, in their circus comedy act; the Two Wiltons, duettists and expert dancers; and Hurman, juggler and hoop manipulator.

L. AND N. W. PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietress, Mrs S. A. Higham; Manager, Mr Sam Higham.—The holiday attraction here as usual gives satisfaction to the numerous patrons. Among the artistes engaged are Mr Walter Dunn, character comedian; Miss Mary Turner, comedienne; Mr Harry Huntley, baritone and violinist; and Mr Frank Hulme, descriptive vocalist.

BRIDGE HOTEL THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr Tom Bradbury; Musical Director, Mr Cecil Pollitt.—This cosy hall, which recently changed hands, has been thoroughly redecorated and made very pretty. It was reopened on Monday by Mr Tom Bradbury, who is well-known in Salford, and was for some time acting-manager of the Victoria Theatre, Broughton. The company engaged includes Mr Edward Gresty, tenor vocalist; Miss Vera Vester, coon and descriptive vocalist; Mr Leo Trainor, clever humourist; Mr Lester Lyons, baritone; and Mr Will Peplowa, variety artiste, well known in the district.

SCARBOROUGH.

LONDESBOROUGH THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs Waddington and Sons; Acting-Manager, Mr J. T. Carpenter.—Mr Leigh Lovel's company is here playing with much success the farcical comedy, *The Duke of Killiecrankie*. Mr Leigh Lovel is a capable Henry Pitt Welby; Mr Herbert J. Bentley makes an excellent Duke of Killiecrankie; Miss Octavia Kenmore is good as Lady Henrietta Addison, and the same may be said of Miss Naomi Neilson's Mrs Mulholland. The play is well mounted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietress, Mrs Henry Mayhew.—The boards of this theatre are occupied by Miss Mary Austin's company in *The Cotton Spinner*. The principal characters are sustained by Messrs John S. Haydon, E. V. Edmonds, E. C. Edwards, E. F. Tysher; Mesdames Bella Power, Mary Grimshaw, and Miss Mary Austin. The play is preceded each evening by a series of animated pictures on the Bioscope.

PEOPLE'S PALACE AND AQUARIUM.—Managing Director, Mr Wm. Morgan; Secretary and Manager, Mr Walter Kitchingman.—A crowded audience assembled here on Boxing Night to witness Mr Harry Firth's company in the pantomime, *Cinderella*. The pantomime is produced under the direction of Mr Fred Lake; Miss Madge Osmond sings and dances well as Cinderella; Miss Ethel Mohr's voice is heard to advantage as the Princess's valet; Prince Perfect is successfully played by Dora Denmark; Mr E. Wilson is the Baron; the Baron's twin daughters are played by Mr I. Binns and Mr H. James; the Baron's page, Pimple, is safe in the hands of Mr Fred Lake; the Prince's footmen are well presented by Messrs W. Marsh and W. Morris; the Sisters Golfrey are loudly encored for the dances; Miss Rosie Leroni puts in good work as a dancer; and Miss Clarice Mignon performs on a variety of musical instruments.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr Quinton Gibson.—Here again on Boxing Night there was a crowded house. The principal item here is the pantomime sketch *Sinbad the Sailor*, in which thirty local children appear. The other items include Valvo, ventriloquist; Miss Florrie Bray, vocalist and dancer; Ethardo, juggler; Miss Gertrude Moore, step-dancer; M'Neil and Will Ellerslie, comedians; the Vyponds, in their drawing-room entertainment; and Miss Pardoe.

SEACOMBE.

IRVING THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr James Kiernan.—Mr Leslie Norman's company opened here on Boxing Day with the successful musical comedy *A Trip to Chinatown*. Mr Charles Sequin as Welland Strong repeated his former success, as also did Mr Jerrold Manville as Ben Gay. Mr Leslie Norman is a decided success as Rashleigh Gay; Mr Oswald Gray does well as Saxon Blood; Mr Will Smith as Noah Heap and Mr S. Champion as Slavin Payne are all good in their respective rôles. Miss Bertha Codman, although labouring under the great disadvantage of a most severe cold, invests the part of Mrs Guyer with characteristic dash. Miss Daisy Revett is successful as Flirt, and Miss Florrie M'Innes as Tiny Gay, Miss Winifred Davies as Isabel Dane, and Miss Francis Erroll as Willie Grow leave little to be desired.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr A. C. Harrison.—Messrs W. J. Callan and Wentworth Croke's company is here this week with *Florodora*, this being the first visit of the popular musical play to Seaham. A monster holiday audience witnessed the performance on Monday, and the interpretation throughout was of the most successful character. Cyrus W. Gilfain is taken in capital style by Mr C. Young Fixott; Mr William Everard as Abercoed scores heavily; Mr Frank Grant as Captain Donegal shows great ability; Mr Arthur Lenville proves an immensely popular Tweedlepunch; Miss Maud Lake is a thoroughly artistic exponent of Dolores; Angela is charmingly played by Miss May Yates; and Lady Holyrood is pleasingly presented by Miss Cissy Sephton.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

PIER PAVILION.—Sole Lessee, Mr H. E. Angless.—The new management opened on Monday afternoon for a week's engagement with a capital variety programme. Miss Georgie Morris is a clever comedienne; Mr Fred Rowe as a society entertainer wins favour; Mr Tesler James is a good humorist; Miss Adela Sutcliffe gives excellent violin solos; Mr Wilfred Stracey earns praise as a comedian; Miss Bianca Woodford well renders solos on the banjo; some good cornet solos are given by Miss Ida May Angless; Miss Edith Pratt sings well, as also does Miss Gertrude Skinner; and the orchestra, under the direction of Madame H. E. Angless, contributes largely to the success of the programme.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing Director, Mr W. Marlow, sen.; Manager, Mr W. Marlow, jun.—The attraction here this week is the production of the pantomime entitled *The Babes in the Wood*, under the direction of Mr C. St. John Denton, who is supported by a powerful company. The dancing by the Four Olympian Stars is very clever; Steve Selby and his mechanical donkey cause much merriment; Dainez's Circus, with the celebrated donkey Smiler, evokes the heartiest of applause; Miss Ethel Karri as the good fairy, Water Lily, is very winsome, and Miss Rosalind O'Ferral is well suited as Herne; Prince Charming finds a pleasing exponent in Miss Rose Dearing; Miss Eleanor L'Estelle makes a capital Phyllis; Mr Willie Scott gives prominence to the character of Charlotte; Billy Buttons is excellently portrayed by Mr Densley Russell; Mr Laurie Leslie as Baron Bluster is good; Miss Dolly Harcourt well impersonates Lord Johnny Spoof; Master Harry Pleon makes a smart Augustus; and Gagam and Scragem are well portrayed by Messrs Ferris and Farnley. The scenery is very pretty.

SHEERNESS.

COLISEUM.—Sole Proprietor, Mr T. C. Dorling; Manager, Mr Chas. Melvin.—A programme brimful of novelties is provided here for the Christmas holidays, and includes Wirson a clever equilibrist, Wragg and Wragg, military athletes furnish a grand display of swordsmanship; Newland Major, ventriloquist, is responsible for a fund of amusement; Johnny Hanson and company in the sketch, *Captain Bronson*, are capitally received; the Melvernes with their Liliputian wonders are very amusing; and Helm and Cozens, musical sketch artists, also score. Sleath and Aldin, comedy sketch artists; Dora Cameron, illuminated song artist; Miss Alma Bignell, comedienne; Edgar Granville, comedian; and Mark Merritt, comedian, also contribute to a most successful programme.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr P. Raymond.—Amongst the principal attractions submitted to the patrons of this popular place of amusement are the Frank Purcell company of sketch artists, in the amusing farce, *Brown, the Bigamist*. Similar honours are likewise due to Fanny Newnes and company, in the sketch, *The Lady and the Pro*. Mr Frank Wynford, eccentric comedian; and Will Munday, comedian, with others, furnish the remainder of the bill.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr John Hart; General Manager and Treasurer, Mr J. E. B. Beaumont.—On Boxing Day Mr C. P. Levilly's company began a fortnight's engagement with *Amorelle*, which was again cordially received by a large and enthusiastic audience. That popular favourite Mr Eric Thorne fairly let himself go in the funny rôle of Dr. Crow, and he kept the house in roars of laughter. Miss Stella Gastelle, who was warmly welcomed, made a bright and bewitching Amorelle, and her melodious voice was heard to great advantage in Audran's charming music. Mr John Doran acted and sang with care and sympathetic expression, and very successful were Miss Madge Avery, Miss Kitty Cavendish, Mr Newton Ide, Mr Fred Seymour, and Mr Gerald Clifford. The opera was beautifully mounted, and band and chorus, under the direction of Mr H. Rushworth, were up to the standard.

EMPIRE PALACE.—General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr A. W. Young.—The Christmas scheme of amusement here was on a very generous plan, the following clever performers being scheduled:—Frank Hilbert, in a smart exposition of the methods of prison-breaking; Charles Stevens, vocal comedian; Daisy May, coon singer; Katie Butler, serio-comic; Mdlle. Nello, a clever contortionist; the Three Sisters Slater, instrumentalists and dancers; A. T. Fiske and Nelly M'Donnagh, in a comic sketch; the Milons, equilibrists; and Daisy Mayer, a smart American comedienne.

GRAND PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—The artistes engaged for the holiday week were Ashley's Stage Circus, Nelly Elder, Mart Marvin, Harry Cotton, the Three Sisters Lee, Leslie Murray, and Pallister's Royal Cinématograph.

ALBERT HALL.—Messrs Harry and Fred Poole's famous myriorama and variety aggregation opened to a packed house on Boxing Day. The realistic new scenes were much applauded, and the latest films of the Russo-Japanese war excited much interest. The variety company included the marvellous Wortley-Bayer Troupe of gymnasts; the Two Mitsutas, Jap jugglers; the Snow Family, trick and comic skaters; Professor Houston, magician; Takergero and Commie, in a thrilling ladder act; the celebrated French Troupe of cyclists; and Frank Lyndon, musical entertainer.

SHREWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Business Manager, Mr W. C. Dornton.—Mr Chas. Macdona's company opened here on Monday in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr Steane Louch acted and sang well as Hang Chow; Mr Louis Ashmeade was a capable Chippie Chop; Mr Maxwell Stewart was droll and successful as Hi Lung; Mr Arthur Foote was bright and satisfactory as Tom Hatherton; Mr Sidney Burt made an amusing Mr Pineapple; and Mr W. Ross as a coolie was satisfactory. Miss Ettie Cinders was rightly placed as Fi-Fi, and she extracted plenty of fun from this low comedy part; Miss Ethel Dunbar looked well and sang sweetly as Soo-Soo; Miss Haidee Heath was pleasing as Mi-Mi; Miss Love and Miss Jean Templeton were a bright and attractive pair as Sing-Sing and Yen-Yen; Miss Dulcie Garland played with ability the rôle of Mrs Brown; Miss Daisy Dale and Miss Marie Ford were attractive bridesmaids; and Miss Alicia Norton made the most of her opportunities as Mrs Pineapple. A coon song and dance was a feature of the piece.

SMETHWICK.

ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr C. Barnard; Manager, Mr E. Hewitson.—For the Christmas holidays the management has secured a great attraction in a visit of Mr Wentworth Croke's No. 1 company in *The Christian*. Chief interest was centred in the admirable embodiment of John Storm by that popular actor Mr Hilliard Vox and the clever and artistic delineation of Glory Quayle by Miss Grace Chalmers. A special word of praise must be given to Miss Gertrude Homewood for her natural representation of Polly Love. Mr Charles Hill made the most of Parson Quayle. Mr Stanley Radcliffe proved eminently successful as Father Lamplugh. Mr Charles B. Bedells cleverly sustained the rôle of Lord Robert Ure. Mr. Jackson Wilcox gave a capital representation of Horatio Drake. Mr Oswald Marshall submitted a good rendering of Mr Lorimer. Miss Clara Nicholls was a pleasing Mrs Callander. Miss May Weir as Aggie Jones created much merriment.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE, WINTER GARDENS.—General Manager, Mr Alfred Hemming.—For the holiday week Mr Charles Macdona's company is fulfilling an engagement here in the sparkling musical comedy *The School Girl*, which was very ably presented on Monday night. The various prominent characters were all excellently depicted, and the new dresses and scenery added much to the enjoyment of the production.

HIPPODROME, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs Murray King and Clark; General Manager, Mr A. Cuthbert.—A capital programme is provided here for the Christmas week, foremost amongst the artistes engaged being Onda and Artell in their trapeze act; Zasma and Mdlle. De Lorne in an excellent ring act; Mdlle. Fraco, equestrienne; R klaw, rolling globe act; Weld and Wynne, comedy jugglers; Leonard's performing dogs; and Comical Walker's acrobats.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs J. and F. Coulson.—The strong drama entitled *When Woman Hates*, abounding in sensational incidents, is being presented here by Miss Nettie Ware and company. Overflowing audiences have shown great appreciation of Miss Ware's vivid portrayal of the handsome fiend, Dora Daintry. Mr William Yates scores as General Sir Henry Rokeby, Bart. Mr John B. Shinton is in every respect capital as Lieutenant Fred Rokeby, R.N. The part of Godfrey Lawton is safely entrusted to Mr Oscar Ayde. Mr Will Percy cleverly sustains the idiosyncrasies of Patrick O'Brien. Miss Jennie Hughes and Miss Louise Brandon in their respective parts of Marie Rokeby and Edith Rokeby lend excellent support.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietor, Mr Richard Thornton; General Manager, Mr Frank Allen; Resident-Manager, Mr Geo. F. Thompson.—In Mr Joe Peterman's *Belle of the Orient* we have a varied performance which is drawing crowds nightly. Geo. Newburn is well known here, and his clever imitations never fail to attract. Margaret Ashton, American comedienne, secures a host of admirers. Mueller and Coyne are amusing knockabouts. The Raies, dancers; Chas. Vincent, comedian; and the Bioscope successfully complete the bill.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors and Managers, Councillor J. K. Hall and Mr Jos. Sweeney.—The Alskarno Trio constitute the principal turn here. Their acrobatic feats are well received. The Earles, including Miss Fanny Earle, lady banjoist, display ability of a high order. T. W. Barrett, comedian, is clever; Lydia Dudley is a funny low comedy artiste; the Dunvilles appear in a good musical act; and J. P. Carroll, the military tambourine player, and A. P. Boswell, the black furniture shifter, submit turns to the public taste.

ROYAL ASSEMBLY HALL.—Hamilton's Excursions opened to a large audience on Boxing Day. The dioramic effects are beautiful, and the marked approval of the audience is clearly made manifest. Living pictures and a good variety performance are noticeable additions towards the evening's enjoyment.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE. — Lessee, Mr Harding Thomas; General Manager, Mr Herbert Vere.—Mr F. S. Gilbert's opera company is providing a good programme this week. In *Maritana*, on Monday, the title-rôle was excellently taken by Miss Mary D'Alcourt. Mr F. S. Gilbert scored heavily as Don Cæsar; Mr F. Halpin's efforts as the King of Spain were fully appreciated; Miss Clairette Florence's Lazarillo was very effective; Mr Fletcher Sansome and Mr Stuart Bolton were good as Don Jose and Marquis; and other rôles were well handled by Miss Kate White, Mr E. Davies, and Mr E. Fredericks. *Faust*, *The Bohemian Girl*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, and *Satanella* are also in the repertory of the company.

ST. HELENS.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr A. V. Carnell.—Heading the bill here this week are the Three Juggling Geraldos. Mr Herbert La Martine, vocalist and eccentric dancer, is also a good attraction. Others in an excellent company include Mr Andy Fagan; Miss Mabel La Blanche, vocalist; Mr Baker Belphor, Sisters Redfern, Mr Harry Hayton, and Henri Bekker.

STOCKPORT.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr W. Revill.—Pantomime reigns here in Messrs Dottridge and Longden's *Forty Thieves*, which was presented on Monday night, and at once achieved a remarkable success. It is brimful of up-to-date songs and delightful music, whilst the talented combination responsible for the principal characters make it throughout exceedingly merry and amusing. Mr Ernie Myers as Fitz Hassarac stands out prominently among the comedians, his comicalities and funny sayings causing the heartiest laughter. Mr James Danvers is quietly funny as Ali Baba, and Mr Forsyth Bruce is distinctly clever in his impersonation of Cassim. Miss Dolly Elsworthy is a sprightly principal boy, Ganem, and Abdallah, the captain of the "Forty," has a pleasing representative in Miss Cissy Kingsley. Morgiana is charmingly impersonated by Miss Lily Lonsdale, who is a delightful vocalist, her songs being listened to with genuine pleasure and much appreciation. Miss May Fallowfield as Zorilda and Miss Ada Beaumont as Fizzali are both successful. Among the specialities are the Ichmed troupe of Bedouin Arabs, who give a marvellous acrobatic performance; James Dubois, the man-monkey, in his wonderful rope performance, heartily applauded; and the Reed Oetzman Troupe in the comic sketch, *En Voyage*, a source of much boisterous fun.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietress, Mrs Weldon Watts; General Manager, Mr Sidney Bacon; Acting-Manager, Mr R. G. Elder.—Mr John F. Asche and company in the well-known Drury-lane drama, *The World*, are here. As Sir Clement Huntingford Mr Stuart Lomath makes a dashing hero; Mr Francis Hawley's Harry Huntingford is admirably acted; and Mr Jackson Hayes as Martin Bashford is also very meritorious. Longley, the lawyer, finds a clever exponent in Mr Adam Alexander, and Mr Henry Longford does well as Captain Pearson. As Miss Jewel Mr Bernard J. Lieli gives a capital portrayal, and is responsible for a good deal of fun. Miss Beatrice Fay as Mary Blythe plays in a very effective way; Miss Georgette Thierry does full justice to the rôle of Mabel Huntingford; and Miss Maud Scott scores as Ned. A speciality dance is given each evening in act five by Miss Ada Irving.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr J. Batty; Manager, Mr W. Batty.—The chief turn here should have been given by Mr Webster Bruce with his Mysterious Kettle, but owing to the non-arrival of liquid air this act could not be done. However, the Brothers Lang were engaged, and on Tuesday the Orpheus Glee Singers (a local troupe) appeared with great success. Other turns are done by Vasey and Ramsey, clever dancers; the Dalys, operatic vocalists; Bessie Travis, ventriloquist; the Bransbys, duettists; Ross and Lewis, in a smart musical and dancing show; and Payne's Bio with a selection of films.

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr P. Collins; Manager, Mr Frank Egerton.—A fine bill is presented this week by Mr Egerton. At the head are the Royal Imperial Boys' Orchestra (Kilted Kiddies), under the direction of Herr Welhelm Linde. The selections are really excellent, and the sword dancing of Geo. Macfarlane is capital. Augustin and Hartley are seen in a clever barrel jumping exhibition, which is much appreciated; the Babuslau Bros. contribute a smart acrobatic and head-balancing turn; Angelina, a lady juggler, shows extraordinary ability in her line of business; Tom Owen is a smart comedian; Millie Howell sings her songs well; Wake and Dean are a pair of funny duettists; and *The Factory Girl*, a musical scene, is much appreciated. The pictures are, as usual, up to date.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Manageress, Miss Maude Lynton. — The attraction here is *The Sledge-Hammer*, under the direction of Messrs Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod. There are realistic effects and beautiful scenery. Mr Alfred Northway as Everard Derrick deserves warm congratulations on his delineation; Mr W. V. Garrod as Jacob Derrick gives an accomplished performance, receiving able assistance from Mr Charles Halling as Simon Derrick; Mr H. H. Barrington as Tom Walker has much to do with the success of the piece; Mr Frank Dallas makes an excellent Sammy Shaws; and Mr Lawrence Conrad plays effectively as John Merlo. Miss Martha Kingston is a pleasing Rose Maywell.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.

NEW KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Sutton Theatre Syndicate; Managing Director, Captain Clayton; Manager, Mr Edward Grey. — Messrs Armadale and Warren's company is here for the holiday week in *The Face at the Window*. Chief amongst the artistes to be mentioned are Mr Augustine Knight, with a most artistic rendering of the part of Delgado; Mr T. W. Dunscombe as the detective Gouffet; Mr C. Allen Hineson, a droll Peter Pottlebury; and Barbette, played by Miss Gwynne Warren.

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs David Allen and Sons, Limited; Lessees and Managers, Messrs E. Oswald Brooks and J. W. Woodbridge; Resident Partner, Mr E. Oswald Brooks.—The Christmas attra

artistes winning warm applause. Miss Teify Davies was a pleasing Siebel, and Miss M. Moore was very good as Martha. Mephistopheles was ably represented by Mr Charles Tilbury, as was Valentine by Mr Walter Barrett. The chorus is a capital one, and, with the augmented orchestra under the bâton of Mr Harrison Frewin, the performance was very successful and enjoyable. On Monday night *The Bohemian Girl* was performed, and for the rest of the week the operas are *Tannhäuser*, *Carmen*, *The Daughter of the Regiment*, *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, and *Maritana*.

NEW STAR.—Lessee and Manager, Mr T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr William Coutts.—At this house for the Bank Holiday week the lessee's own company is providing the attraction in presenting Mr George A. De Grey's new domestic drama *A Woman's Devotion*. Two performances were given on Boxing Day to crowded houses.

NEW EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr Albert Mitchell.—The strong programme here includes Tilly Bébé, with her troupe of twelve performing lions; Morton and Elliott, harmonica players and vocalists; Lily Marney, comedienne; the American Bioscope, the Selbinis, a clever troupe of acrobats and cyclists; Auto and Mobil, the original comedy motorists; Virto and his daughter, Irene, clever instrumentalists; Wilson Hallett, and Theo Hardeen, expert handcuff and trunk manipulator.

PALACE. — Lessee and Manager, Mr T. W. Grantham.—The programme arranged for this house for the current week includes Miss Geraldine Montrose and company, in their sensational dramatic episode, *The Snake*; Harry Carmen, comedian; Daisy Lane, chic comedienne; Vernon's animated pictures, Laffan B. Jolly, the laughing comedian; Millie Vareoe, Tyrolean singer; Winur, equilibrist and hand balancer; and Mdlle. Thelma, lady clay modeller.

SWINDON.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee and Responsible Manager, Mr Alfred Manners; Musical Director, Mr Fred H. Lucas.—The new season opened on Boxing Day at this house, when a crowded and characteristic holiday audience witnessed the first production in this town of Mr E. Hill-Mitchelson's new drama *The Revenge*. The elaborate staging and the exquisite dresses and costumes form a very strong feature of the piece, which is of a military nature, and goes with a decidedly good swing throughout, under the personal direction of the talented author. It was played by an excellent company, headed by Mr Edward Hill-Mitchelson, who had been paid a large fee to give his admirable impersonation of Prince Orloff during the week. Another part which received excellent treatment was that of Captain Vanessa, the blind soldier, by Mr Wellesley Draper; while Miss Grace Aimers as Lieutenant Maurize was seen to considerable advantage. To Miss Violet Carlyle was entrusted the delineation of the Queen, which was brightly marked with grace and dignity; and Miss Frances White submitted a remarkably strong and clever study of the wicked Draga Vanessa. Miss L. Atheling was pleasing as Tusha, and Miss Ada Douglas (Olga) and Miss Alice Barber (Cora) also did well. Mr T. W. Hurst deserved every credit for his fine Captain Carr, R.N., and his duties as stage-manager. Mr Theo Balfour as the King and Mr Alfred M'Cullough as Count Mussant made the most of their parts; while Mr Fred Yarnold achieved a great success as Jim Jennings, A.B., being the cause of much fun throughout the play.

TON-Y-PANDY.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; General Manager, Mr S. Duckworth; Acting-Manager, Mr H. Counsell.—It would be difficult to secure a more suitable holiday attraction than *The Traitor* as presented by Messrs Hill-Mitchelson and Harris Fineberg's company. The title-rôle is treated powerfully by Mr S. E. Scanlan; Prince Rudolph is safely entrusted to Mr Jno. C. Carlyle; Mr E. Jenner presents Captain Ross, R.N., in a praiseworthy manner; and Jack Boult is well assumed by Mr Frank Sutherland. Miss Ruth Shepherd gives a forcible rendering of Zula, the avenger, and the Countess Zicka of Miss L. Rosselle is meritorious.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs Carlton and Duckworth; Sole Lessee, Miss Alexandra; Managing-Director, Mr Dd. Taylor.—After two seasons as a variety theatre the above house was reopened on Monday under the management of the originators. Prominent in the bill are the Brothers Lloyd, cable artistes, and the Moxon family of acrobats, who each gain rounds of applause for their clever work. The Two Jetneys, coon singers and sand dancers, add to their already great popularity; the Francois troupe of acrobats are very smart; and Souplesse proves her claim to be a boneless wonder. La Place is a prime favourite.

TORQUAY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Licensee and Managing Director, Mr R. Snowdon; Secretary, Mr A. Pearse.—Mr Herbert Barrs produced his fifth annual pantomime on Boxing Day, and in *Cinderella* he has found a charming subject, which he has treated to the best possible advantage. The scenery calls for special comment, and Mr D. S. Bradley, the artist, is to be complimented on the realistic representations of some beautiful views of the river Dart and Torbay. In the name-part Miss Winnie Willett is graceful to a degree, and her successful suitor, Prince Charming, is dashingly represented by Miss Tessie Vandean. These ladies, with Miss Louie Counsell as the beautiful Fairy Godmother, supply the pretty numbers, which include "Blue Bell" and "The Boys' Brigade." A quartet of comics ably provide the fun of the pantomime, Mr Oscar Mills and Mr Walter Langford being the Ugly Sisters, Mr Carl Fredericks the Baron, and Mr Paul Pry, Buttons the Page. There are several pretty ballets, dances, and specialities, and amongst the latter may be mentioned the Ya Pyn Keto Family, the Oriental magicians; the Casino Girl Dancers; Madame Cordelia, the chameleon sylph; John Bull, ventriloquist; and Fred Mason, the marvellous whistler. The pantomime is lavishly mounted, the fairy coach, brilliantly illuminated with electric lights, being drawn by a pair of Dartmoor ponies in silver-mounted harness. Mr Barrs is responsible for the "book," and Mr H. L. Gibson, who conducts, for the music.

VENTNOR (I.O.W.).

GRAND PAVILION.—On Monday and two following nights a variety entertainment was given here. Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show was reproduced on the Biograph; and the following artistes also contributed:—Miss Lilly Carrick, a winsome comedienne and dancer; Mr Gilroy, ventriloquist, with his "naughty boy;" and Mr Tom Carrick, a capital comedian. The entertainment was under the management of Mr Neville, and Mr Somerville Ellis was the pianist.

WAKEFIELD.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, Sherwood and Co.—Messrs Paumier and Howard's company in the stirring drama *Under the Russian Flag* is here this week. The part of Demetrius is ably filled by Mr Walter Howard; Ivan and Mitchell are well portrayed by Mr F. W. Freeman and Mr Geo. Arthur respectively; Miss Ellen Snow is seen to advantage as Lulu Marishla; and Miss Ada Champion acts with ability as Vera Vassiloff.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Wakefield Hippodrome, Limited; Manager, Mr D. G. Mooney.—Miss Maggie Duggan, burlesque artiste, appeared in this city for the first time on Monday, when she received a hearty ovation and sang her songs in her usual smart style. Zanfretta and Napio appear in an amusing musical turn; Miss Francess Haskoll's illustrated songs win applause. The Three Sisters Le Graham, vocalists and acrobatic dancers, provide an enjoyable turn; the Three Schaffers perform clever feats of strength; Mr Geo. Barron, comedian, is well received; and Miss Gracie Logan, comedienne and dancer, wins favour.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Walsall Theatres Company, Limited; General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Mr John Walters's company is here in *Cinderella*. Miss Florence Drew acts, sings, and dances pleasingly. Miss Constance St. Bride makes a vivacious Prince Charming. A dashing Dandini is Miss Billy Linn; Miss Dolly Linn is a capital Flighty Flirt; the Two Ugly Sisters are amusingly represented by Messrs Arthur Hickman and T. H. Solly; Mr Geo. Reeves as the Baron Wheresmecash is very successful. Messrs Clarence and Bell are well received. The pantomime is produced under the stage direction of Mr Bert Albert Mutley.

GRAND THEATRE, LIMITED.—General Manager and Secretary, Mr W. H. Westwood.—Miss Renee Glendower and company is here this week with *The Ladder of Life*. Mr Tyrone Power makes a capital General Gordon; Mr Rolf Gascoigne is an eminently satisfactory Colonel M'Gregor; as Fergus Gordon Mr C. H. Matthews is all that can be desired; Mr Roy Milton is seen to advantage as David Gordon; and Mr J. Cooke Hinton is well placed as Ivan Kirkeritch; Miss Renee Glendower makes a highly successful Mother Flint; the part of Meg Merriles is played in a creditable manner by Miss Flora Leslie; and Miss Stephanie Baring ably sustains that of Dora Sobrinski. Those well-known acrobats the Feros are also well received.

WALTHAMSTOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—It is a long time since the boards of the King's have been occupied by such a good rollicking pantomime as *Little Red Riding Hood*. The company engaged includes a whole host of capable comedians, a fascinating principal boy and girl, and no end of pretty faces. The music, arranged and composed by Mr Sheridan Gordon, goes with great spirit. The scenery and effects are by J. S. Vale, R. William and assistants, the traps, harlequinade, and animals by the Harry Montague Troupe; the costumes by Alias, Madame Mey and Louis Benjamin, and the ballets by the Pansey Troupe. As Sir Goose Green Mr Robert Williams scores all along the line. With an admirable make-up and an inexhaustible flow of spirits, Mr Williams keeps his audience in a constant state of hilarity. He is splendidly seconded by Mr Bob Hall as Master Goosey, than whom no more diverting comedian has been seen here. The Jonathan Wisenut of Mr George Mayes is a very quaint and amusing impersonation. Mr W. Hatheville is capital as Mr Bluepoint Porgan and the Wolf in disguise. Mr J. Gill and Mr L. Delvoy are an amusing pair of ruffians as Tommy Nothing and Tommy Less. The Little Red Riding Hood of Miss Trixie Toole is a charming performance, and the Boy Blue of Miss Ruth Wallace is delightfully arch and spirited. A very pretty rendering of the Spirit of Good Luck is given by a small actress, Miss Hazel Kirke, who sings marvellously well for one of such immature years. One of the best "dames" we have seen is the Dame of Mr Billy Taylor, whose acting never exceeded the bounds of delicacy and yet was extremely funny throughout. Miss Carmen Sylvia and Miss Nellie Charteris also appear with acceptance. The transformation scene is entitled The Birth of the Rising Sun, and is a very fine set. The harlequinade is provided by Mr Harry Montague (clown), and company. Mr Billie Taylor is stage-manager for the production, and Councillor George W. Crump as business-manager of the theatre, looks carefully after the interests of the crowded audiences.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter.—Messrs Dottridge and Longden's company is proving a capital attraction this week in the domestic drama, *The Midnight Mail*. Mr George Harvard scores well as Harry Steyne, and a really clever character sketch of Billy Brewer, the drunken stoker, is submitted by Mr Fred G. Evison. Mr Alec Alves is well placed at Leonard Royle, and Mr Arthur Gilroy makes the most of the Turkish adventurer, Hassan Padisha. Miss Ada Oakley acts naturally the trying rôle of Mary Steyne, and Miss Violet Clayton is a dignified Lady Phyllis Eustace. Miss Mildred Carr infuses plenty of dash into the character of Nancy Brewer. The staging is very effective, and the minor parts are ably sustained.

ROYAL THEATRE OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Messrs W. Johnson and J. Potter; General Manager, Mr J. Potter; Director of Amusements, Mr F. Willmot.—Hanco, the gaol breaker, is the chief attraction here this week. The Sisters Russell are clever exponents of burlesque and low comedy, and Henri is a wonderful juggler. Fox and Melville, song illustrators; Frank Melton, comedian; Brothers Hannaway, vocalists; J. W. Bray, vocalist; and the Royal Bioscope complete a capital programme.

PARR HALL.—Sole Lessee, Mr J. Lyon Whittle.—Mr J. H. Tomkinson's Royal Gipsy Children are here this week, and excellent turns are also given by the Lizzette Troupe of acrobats; Elsie Rubina, wire walker; the Poole Sisters, dancers; Sam Paul, coon artiste; the Musical Keiths; Fred M'Leary, comedian; and the Comedy Trio.

WATERFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr John Collins.—Mr Edmund Tearle's company is here. On Monday *The Three Musketeers* was performed. Messrs Tearle and Benson and Miss Kate Clinton were conspicuous for their ability. On Tuesday *Ingomar* was given. *Virginius*, *Under the Red Robe*, and *Jeannie Deans* are also in the bill.

WEDNESBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Harry Battersby; Acting-Manager, Mr W. J. Cranston.—On Boxing Night Mr Gus Levaine's up-to-date pantomime *Sinbad the Sailor* opened here to a crowded and enthusiastic audience. Miss Kitty Bishop makes a sprightly and bewitching Sinbad; Mr Ernie Clyde as Tinbad the Tailor creates roars of laughter; Old Mother Sinbad is effectively portrayed by Mr Ernie Howard; Mr Edward Haswell gives an ideal rendering of Captain Kettle; and Mr Chas. Arnett as the First Mate, Nothing, is highly commendable. Mr Stuart Charles as Rajah Rhum is excellent; Miss Flo Richardson as Fatima and Miss Lizzie Lind as Dorothy are excellently suited in their respective parts. Miss Elsie Ide makes a charming Prince Izod. The specialities include the Great Zola Troupe of Herculean dancers; Lance and Lane, acrobatic top boot experts; the Bertinis, in their novel musical act; Ashby and Hearne, in their statuette performance; and Mdlle. Alberta, in her telephone wire entertainment.

WEST BROMWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr J. P. Moore.—Douglas Bruce's company, in *A Girl's Cross Roads*, is this week playing to crowded houses here. Mr Geo. Gaisford in the rôle of Jack Livingstone submits a powerful piece of acting. The villainous Cuthbert Lumley is cleverly sustained by Mr W. Fraser-Brunner. The Barbara Wade of Miss Lilly Hammersley is deserving of great praise. Miss Kate Walford gives satisfaction in the character of Nellie Meadows; Mr Will Corrie is good as Toby Turner; Miss Ethel Bracewell as Constance Cornell is most artistic and consistent in the part; and Mr W. E. Griffiths gives a fine portrayal of John Meadows.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

GRAND.—General Manager (for Mrs Weldon Watts), Mr Sidney Bacon; Resident Manager, Mr Fred Conneaux. A house filled to overflowing on Monday testified to their appreciation of the fare provided here for the festive season, when Mr Godfrey Lamplugh's company presented *Miss Mischief*, in which Miss Evelyn Hughes gives a dainty and vivacious rendering of the name-role. Although working at a great disadvantage through suffering from severe hoarseness, Miss Crissie Francias thoroughly ingratiated herself into the favour of her audience with her charming acting as Mary Ann Smith. Miss Eileen Guilbert gives a capital rendering of the rôle of Lady Orrey. Excellent comedy work is done by Mr T. E. Conover as Private Harris. Mr Harold Stanley as Admiral Sir Hannibal Bethune looks and plays the part admirably. Captain Jack Bethune is capitally acted by Mr Cecil Curtiss, and Lord Percy Fitzsherry has a capable exponent in Mr Fred Mantell.

PALACE. — Director-General, Mr Frank Macnaghten.—A strong array of talent for the holiday attraction is headed by the Tom Davis Trio of cyclists, who go through their daring performance on the teacup track amidst breathless excitement. Harry Tate's company, in their irresistibly funny skit on *Motoring*, keep the audience in one continued ripple of merriment. Lovers of music are amply provided for by Prosper Benn in his performance on bells and glasses. Some neat and attractive national dancing is done by Clark and Argyle; a clever acrobatic turn is contributed by the Novels. Cissie Reece, dancer; Marie Joyce, burlesque artiste; and J. D. Pedley, comedian, have gratifying receptions; and an extra turn is done by Emily Allen, a dainty artiste with a sweet voice and taking style.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

VICTORIA HALL.—Manager, Mr E. W. Sully — Mr Cecil Clayton's touring pantomime company appeared here on Monday and Tuesday in *Cinderella*. In the name part Miss Cameron was satisfactory, and Miss Lottie Mellor was a pleasing Prince Charming. As Dandini Miss May did well, and Miss Gertrude Gray deserves special mention as Fairy Sunshine, her singing being decidedly good. Mr Herbert Colley worked very hard as Baron Loweralotte, as did Mr Mark Twain as Pimples. Mr Harry May as Gertie and Mr Ernest Thirlway as Lily caused considerable fun as the ugly daughters. The dresses were pretty, and the scenery was excellent.

WEYMOUTH.

ROYAL VICTORIA JUBILEE HALL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr W. R. Wallis.—A capital pantomime was the verdict of everyone who witnessed the production of Messrs Thomson and Hunter's *Aladdin*. The book in the main follows the well-known lines of the story, but the amusing features introduced by clever artists in all sorts of places and times are equal to the best we have ever seen here. The scenery, too, is exceptionally worthy of the pantomime, especially scene six, The Jewel Grotto. The music by Mr Sparrow Harris is bright and pleasing; and the whole works well under the able stage-management of Mr Chas. Wood, who also plays Abanazar with excellent effect. Aladdin's part is in the hands of Miss Beatrice Varley, who looks and acts the character to perfection; Miss E. Cameron as the Princess Badroulbadour is equally good; Widow Twankey is played by Mr A. Williams, an actor who manages to extract a considerable amount of humour from the part; Miss Edith Isabelle makes an attractive Pekoe; Miss Emay Isabelle is very winsome as Nicey; and the Emperor and his Vizier, in the persons of Mr Will Dale and Mr Will D'Argan provide much amusement. The ballets are well arranged, and the varieties in the Palace scene are much above the average. Goliath well justifies his name, and the turn of Dale and D'Argan is very funny. The Geisha Girls dance prettily.

WHITEHAVEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr J. Clark.—A strong attraction has been secured here for the holidays in the appearance of Mr Chas. Macdona's company, in *A Chinese Honeymoon*. Mr G. P. Ascot appears successfully as Mr Pineapple, his song, "The Happy Land," meeting with the usual encore. Mr H. Welchman makes a manly Tom Hatherton, and Mr Lester Carey is good as the Emperor. Mr Percy Stephens as Chippie-Chop and Mr Tom Birch as Hi-Lung are both capable in their respective characters, and Miss Julie St. George gives a good performance as Mrs Brown. Miss Mabel Florence makes a bewitching Mrs Pineapple, and Miss Mamie Finbow is a charming Princess. The scenery and dresses are elaborate, and the chorus is strong.

WIGAN.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr John Worswick.—The Court Theatre this week is occupied by Mr J. Gar Kiddie's comic pantomime, *Little Bo Peep*, by George Burton. The audiences during the week have been large, and the pantomime has been greatly appreciated.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, the Wigan Entertainments Company; Managing-Director, Mr J. Worswick.—An excellent bill-of-fare is provided this week. The Rushworths, with their picture songs, have attracted large audiences; the Norman and Leonard Trio, in their latest London success, *The Itinerant*, give an acceptable performance; Renson and Waite are excellent variety artistes; and Alice Lorette, with prize dog Ben; Harry Grey, "the Australian Nugget;" Ella Dean, a charming contralto; and King Leo, singing ventriloquist, are capital performers. The Bros. O'Brien are unrivalled triple bar performers, and Haig and Novel in a comedy act, and Carl Howard, the funny and original lazy conjuror, are popular. The Hippodrome pictures include a grand pantomime story in colours entitled "The Sleeping Beauty."

EMPIRE MUSIC HALL.—Manager, Mr W. Birchall.—O'Connor and Traynor, eccentric comedians and burlesque boxers, give an acceptable performance. Les Prinellos have a beautiful cornfield scene for their sketch entitled *A Country Flirtation*; and Alice Townend, vocalist; Charlie Alden, comedian; Rene Allen, comedienne; Fred Burnard, vocal actor; and Harry Corley, comedian, complete a good programme.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Mr E. H. Bull and Mr Milton Bode; Acting-Manager, Mr Percy Percival.—On Boxing Day Mr Milton Bode's pantomime of *Cinderella* was produced here, the book being by Mr Stanley Rogers. The production is full of go, has excellent scenery, and a good company, with bright dresses and pleasing songs. The part of Cinderella is attractively played by Miss Florence Beech, and her vocal efforts are much appreciated. Miss Hebe Bliss makes a capital Prince Brilliant, her songs being very well rendered. As Dandini Miss Marie Reeves is an attraction of no mean order, and her coon song goes with a swing. Miss Blanch Marion as Rosie Romp dances in effective style. As Baron Balmy Mr Leo Sterling is a host in himself, while Mr John Nolan and Mr Percy Dawsone as the step sisters are also well to the fore. Mr George Antill does admirably as Capers, and Messrs Lanton and Lane as Perks and Pinchit create plenty of diversion. Among other special attractions are Miss Maud Dewey, lady whistler; Major Harry Sitherland, rifle and bâton manipulator; and Bert Woodward, coon trick cyclist. A word of praise should also be given to the Fairy Godmother, Miss Addie Love. The pantomime should prove very popular.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. — Lessees, Mr Fred Benton and Mr F. J. Little; Business Manager, Mr Fred Benton.—On Christmas Eve a new departure was made here by the introduction of a hippodrome and circus, together with a variety entertainment. Two performances are given each evening.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr Chas. Barnard; General Manager, Mr W. H. Lennon.—The holiday attractions include Martin Conway, comedienne; Arabella Allen, in character sketches; Charles Serre, equilibrist; Karl Hooper's pose plastiques; Field and Lewis, American burlesque artistes; and Harrigan and Holt, comedians. M. Gintaro, Japanese society juggler; and Great Anthy also appear; while Ruffell's Bioscope shows some amusing films.

WORCESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr Arthur Carlton; Manager, Mr Louis Karpe; Assistant Manager, Mr Le Warde.—The pantomime here is *Sinbad the Sailor*, which was presented on Boxing Day to overflowing audiences by Mr Mouillot's efficient company, and in a most attractive style as regards scenery, costumes, and general mounting. The principal ballet scene, entitled "Nature's Gifts," is generally voted one of the best ever seen in local pantomime, while there are several other pretty scenes, including one in which a dance with scarves or sashes is introduced, and the concluding spectacle, "The Palace of 1,000 Eyes," is gorgeous in its effects. Miss Florence Dillon is Sinbad, and pleases all with her acting and songs, the favourite of which, "Sammy," has a good chorus, and is bound to be popular. As the Princess, Miss Ada Brennan is clever and charming, and her principal song, "For she had such a taking way," is capitally rendered. "Innocence," a song and dance, is also good. Miss Humphries appears as Zorilda, and introduces a pretty feature, a lullaby doll song, in which local children take part. Of the principal male characters that of Mrs Sinbad (Mr S. Fitzgerald) is distinctly well played, and he is well supported by Tinbad (Mr J. R. Val); also Messrs Denby and Dent (Captain Bunker and Mate Shirker). Their business and songs are very amusing, and valuable aid in this department is afforded by Mr A. Murray (the Bashaw) and Mr A. M. Moore (Old Man of the Sea). The author is Mr F. L. Moreton, and Messrs W. Damant and V. Dare are responsible for the arrangement and selection of the music.

WORKINGTON.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr Stanley Rogers.—On Monday night Mr C. Macdona's company appeared in *A Country Girl*. Mr Guy Williams was good as Geoffrey, and equally so Mr J. Parson as the Rajah. Mr W. Champney was excellent as Barry, his rich fund of humour causing hearty laughter. Mr W. Bosco was satisfactory as Sir Joseph; Miss Kathleen Comber in the part of Nan played with vigour, and her singing was greatly admired; Miss Beatrice Rowe was graceful as Marjorie; Miss Gertrude De Lucy was a charming Princess. The chorus was good, and the dresses and mounting excellent.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr Helsby Wright.—Mr and Mrs Chalmers Mackey are paying a successful return visit in *Wearin' o' the Green*. As Barney he was immensely popular; Mrs Mackey's rendition of Norah was delightful; Mr R. Garland was manly as Shamus; Mr J. S. Chamberlain was powerful and convincing as Kenny. The competent cast also included Mr C. Hastings, Mr H. Sainsbury, Mr Henry Danson, Miss L. Stanhope, Miss K. Clare, Miss N. Moore, Miss M. Russell, and Miss A. Liddon.

WORTHING.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Manager, Herr C. Adolf Seebold.—Miss Emma and Mr Percy Hutchison's company was here the first three days of the week, presenting *A Country Mouse*. As the Hon. Archibald Vyse Mr Chas. Howitt was good, as was Mr Evelyn Vernon as the Duke of St. Kitts. Mr Chas. Harley, an old favourite, is still excellent as John Bowlby. Mr John E. Watson scored as Jephcot. The Angela of Miss Violet M. Harley deserves the highest praise. On Thursday *Oh, Susannah*, was presented by Mr and Mrs Drew Mackintosh's company.

YORK.

ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs Waddington; Acting-Manager, Mr T. H. Barrow.—With every prospect of a huge success Mr A. E. Smith produced *Aladdin* on Monday before large and well-pleased audiences. The management in placing the arrangement of the show in the hands of Mr Smith were well advised, for he has presented before the public a thoroughly lively, smart, and up-to-date pantomime, brimful of novelty, and bristling with fun. Miss Teresa Reeden claims first attention. Her conception of the title-rôle is a most happy one. Lively in style and full of go, Miss Reeden must at once be written down a distinct success. She is the bright particular star of the pantomime. Miss Elsie Douglas makes a pretty Princess, and sings tastefully and with good effect, her efforts being highly appreciated. As the Fairy Miss Maud Bettison had ample opportunities of displaying her undoubted vocal talents, and was well received. Miss Fannie Douglas is also entitled to praise for her dainty rendering of Pekoe. Of the gentleman Mr Fred Ramsdale stands out prominently and gives a clever impersonation of Twankey, who, in his hands, is a most amusing personage. Mr J. H. Maxwell puts plenty of life into the rôle of Abanazar, and on the whole is to be credited with giving a clever performance. Mr Teddy Lennon is the Vizier and Mr Fred Arnold the Emperor, whilst the Brothers Taylor as two policemen cause some amusement. Special turns are given by Miss Reeden, Brothers Taylor, Maud Bettison, Arnold, Elsie Douglas, the Four Snowdrops, Teddy Lennon, and Mr J. H. Maxwell.

OPERA HOUSE AND EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr Wm. Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr Sidney Brooke.—Mr J. F. Elliston's company before crowded and enthusiastic audiences presented the Christmas pantomime *Cinderella*, which is full of bright, catchy music and songs and sparkling flashes of wit. Miss Dot Harradine is a pretty and winning Cinderella, and she soon established herself a favourite with the audience. The charming style and splendid figure of Miss Mabel Englehardt makes Prince Rudolph a very pleasing personality. Miss Hettie Zillwood as Dandini and Miss Edith Harmer as Fairy Delight are vocalists of much merit and act in a graceful manner. Mr Ernie Mayne as Buttons and Mr Tatten Hall as Baron Hardup are the principal fun purveyors, and they are heartily applauded for their untiring efforts. Mr Fred Spencer and Mr Tom Owen as the Ugly Sisters are distinctly amusing; whilst never stooping to vulgarity, they stand out prominently, and are comedians of vast resource. The other parts are in capable hands.

EXHIBITION LARGE HALL.—The third annual visit of Mr Joseph Poole's popular Myriorama is again a huge success. The show is thoroughly up-to-date, and includes the following successful turns:—Zelda, a clever musician; Captain Carl Howlet's marionettes; Wal Owen, Sulli and Saroni, comedians.

FOOTBALL.

BRISTOL X.L.C.R. AND HARRY HARE'S ORCHESTRAL BAND ATHLETIC CLUBS V. MUSIC HALLS A.F.C.

Played on Clifton Downs on Dec. 24. Harry Hare was able to assist his club. The following were the teams:—

Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs.—H. Belding, goal; A. Cox and A. Hamlin (captain), backs; W. Miller, H. Slade, and A. E. Bailey, half-backs; H. Clements, J. Aubrey, H. Edwards E. Belding, and L. Hamlin, forwards.

Music Halls A.F.C.—F. B. Nicholls, goal; T. Denton and F. Thorne (of Bristol X.L.C.R. Second A.F.C.), backs; T. Neagle (captain), W. Hinder, and J. Lacey, half-backs; D. O'Connor, F. Hansford, G. Anstey, P. Reardon, and W. Meadows, forwards.

Referee, H. Hare (Bristol X.L.C.R. Athletic Club). Linesmen, S. Carter and J. Stuart. Result:—Bristol X.L.C.R. and Harrry Hare's Orchestral Band Athletic Clubs, one goal; Music Halls A.F.C., two goals. Messrs H. Clements and J. Lacey (two) scored the goals for their respective sides.

A NEW drama entitled *The Vacant Chair*, by Theodore Kremer, author of *The Fatal Wedding*, was produced for copyright purposes at Her Majesty's Theatre, Walsall, on Nov. 4.

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One of the most Up-to-Date and Successful Theatres in Scotland.
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MANAGER

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Vacant Dates, Jan. 16 (?), 23 (?), Feb. 27, and onwards.
Apply to
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DUBLIN.—QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.
Sole Proprietor and Patentee, Mr ELLIS JONES.
Lessee and Manager, Mr J. W. WHITEHEAD.

Address, Mr J. W. WHITEHEAD.

Silence in all cases a respectful negative.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

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FARNWORTH.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre and Music Hall Reports Weekly. Address, "DRAMATICUS," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

GLASGOW.—THE GRAND THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, Limited.—The First Pantomime in the Kingdom, Produced on Thursday, Dec. 1. Playing to Packed Houses Nightly. General Opinion, the best all-round Production ever seen in Glasgow.

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GREENOCK. — THE ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—The New Theatre to be Opened in August, 1905. Now Booking only No. 1 Attractions. All communications re Dates, R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

GRIMSBY.—PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE. Proprietors, PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE CO., GT. GRIMSBY, LIMITED. Managing-Director, JOSEPH H. CURRY. Now Booking 1905. Telegraphic address, "Curry, Grimsby."

HANLEY, THEATRE ROYAL, LTD.—Please note.—The Staffordshire Potteries for all Dramatic Purposes must be considered as one Large Town. The following Attractions are Booked for the Autumn Season of 1904:—Miss Ellen Terry and full Company, Mr E. S. Willard and full London Company, Moody-Manners No. 1 Company, Sir Henry Irving and his Répertoire Company; also the following No. 1 Companies:—"Belle of New York," "Sapho," "Earl and the Girl," "School Girl," "Girl from Kay's," "Duchess of Dantzic," Beerbohm Tree's "Darling of the Gods," "Florodora," and others.

Hanley has undoubtedly the Largest Theatre and Stage in Staffordshire. Lighted by Electricity; accommodation for 3,700 People. Electric Trams and Trains after Performance to ends of the District, Longton, Stoke, Burslem, and Tunstall.

Vacant for First-class Companies only, Feb. 6, 13 (Three Nights), 20, and 27. CHAS. E. ELPHINSTONE, Managing-Director.

HOXTON.—Correspondent Required to Supply Reports Weekly of the Britannia Theatre. Address, "DRAMATICUS," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

HULL.—THE CIRCUS.—General Manager, EDWARD EMERSON. One of the Finest and Largest Halls in the Provinces, Fitted with Large Stage, and Suitable for Circus, Minstrels, Panoramas, Concert and Choir Parties, &c. Rental, Share, or Salary. Only a Few Vacant Dates.

ILKESTON. — THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr L. F. A. ROGERS. Vacant, April 10, onwards, with exceptions. First-class Stock Company required for 1905, June 19 to July 24 inclusive (Six Weeks). Silence a courteous negative.

JARROW.—THEATRE ROYAL. BARROW.—ROYALTY T. AND OPERA HOUSE. CONSETT.—NEW THEATRE. Lessee and Manager, Mr HUGH ROBERTSON. Vacant Dates:—Jarrow, March 6, April 24, and May 1 Barrow, for First-class Musical Attractions, March 20 and various on. The Bookings for this Theatre include the Principal Attractions Touring. Consett, Feb. 20 and 27, April 3 and 17, on, with exceptions. All applications for Dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

JERSEY.—OPERA HOUSE. GUERNSEY.—ST. JULIAN'S. Out Season Population 100,000 No opposition. G. W. Train leaves Saturday Night Bath, 11·27 p.m.; Swindon, 11·28; Bristol, 11 0 p.m. Companies return following Saturday. July and August Boat leaves Southampton 12 30 midnight. For Dates apply, C. ROBERT PERKINS, Jersey.

KIDDERMINSTER.—OPERA HOUSE. A Beautiful Theatre and pronounced success. High-class Companies only entertained. Holding capacity £100. Vacant only, Jan. 23 All communications, J. P MOORE, West Bromwich.

LEICESTER.—ROYAL OPERA HOUSE. Sole Proprietor, Lieut.-Col. J. A. WINSTANLEY. No Vacant Dates Spring, 1905. Re Autumn Dates, 1905, address, GEO. M. SLATER, Royal Opera House, Leicester.

LEYLAND PUBLIC HALL LANCASHIRE.—Stage, 30ft. by 20ft. Proscenium. Seats 800. Balcony. District Population, 8,000. Small Stock Scenery. No Sharing. Vacant Dates for Companies or Entertainers. Apply, MANAGING DIRECTOR, Park House, Leyland.

LLANDUDNO. — NEW GRAND THEATRE.—Seat 1,200. Dates Open, Whit Week, July 6 to 31, Sept. 4, onwards. A. G. PUGH, Llewelyn-Chambers, Llandudno.

MORECAMBE.—ROYALTY THEATRE, Sole Lessee, JULIAN MALVERN. General Manager, CHAS. M. JULIAN. Vacant Easter and on, for First-class Attractions. Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN.

NOTTINGHAM.—GRAND THEATRE. Manager, CHARLES P. COOKE. Vacant Whit Week. First-class Attraction only. Silence a courteous negative.

OLDHAM. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—The Premier Theatre. Holding Capacity £200. Vacant for Musical Comedies, March 20, and all May. Address, ERNEST DOTTRIDGE.

OXFORD.—NEW THEATRE.—Managers of First-class Companies are invited to apply for Dates to Mr THOMAS LUCAS, J.P., Managing-Director. Silence a polite negative.

PLYMOUTH. — GRAND THEATRE. — Centrally situated in the midst of over 200,000 Inhabitants. The Most Popular Theatre in Plymouth. Playing to Record Business, and now in the Flood Tide of Success. First-class Attractions only. For Dates, apply, Mr C. F. WILLIAMS, Grand Theatre, Plymouth.

PORTSMOUTH, NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr J. W. BOUGHTON. Open throughout the Year. First-class Companies. Weekly Matinées.

PORTSMOUTH.—EMPIRE PALACE.—Jan. 2, the Seven Leopolds, Brothers Ralston, D. Lyric, Sisters Hall, Howard and Collinson, M. Howell, T. Parker, Payne's Bioscope, J. Feaviour, Lee and Bentley. Rehearsal, 2 0 p.m. All communications to the SECRETARY.

ROTHERHITHE.—Correspondent Required to Supply Theatre Reports. Address, "DRAMATICUS," 49, Wellington-street, Strand.

SEACOMBE. — IRVING THEATRE. —

Required, First-class Pantomime for Feb. 6.

Also First-class Drama and other Attractions for March 13, 27, April 3, 10. Good Business done here with First-class Companies. Fast Booking for the Fall, 1905. Wire or write to JAS. KIERNAN, Manager.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA. — EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, W. MARLOW. The Prettiest and most Popular Place of Amusement on the South-east Coast. All the principal Attractions Booked. First-class Companies required for Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 13. Managers please address all communications to W. MARLOW, jun., Manager, as above.

PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

SUNDERLAND.—AVENUE OPERA HOUSE and THEATRE ROYAL. Managing-Director, CHAS. E. MACHIN. General Manager, PERCIVAL CRAIG. Only Vacant Dates. AVENUE. May 1, 29, June 5, 12, and Autumn. ROYAL. Feb. 27, April 17, May 8, 29, June and July. Managers please note Seaham Harbour is barred. Apply, C. E. MACHIN, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

WALSALL. — HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, THE WALSALL THEATRES Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, W. H. WESTWOOD.—Holds £180. Circle, 3s.; Stalls, 2s.; Family Circle, 2s.; Pit Stalls, 1s. 6d.; Pit, 1s.; Amphitheatre, 9d.; Gallery, 6d. First Vacant Dates, April 10, 17, May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, June 5 and 12.

WEST BROMWICH, THEATRE ROYAL.—Open All the Year Round. Cosy, Popular, and Prosperous Theatre. Every Date Booked till Autumn, except March 20. All communications to J. P. MOORE, on the Spot.

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WORTHING, THEATRE ROYAL.—Under the Management of Herr C. ADOLF SEEBOLD. Splendid Orchestra and Splendid Staff. Fine Large Stage. Electric Light. Now Booking Summer and Autumn. Three Nights and One Matinée.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.

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The Leading Northern Theatre Tour.

Capital, £155,000.

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW; NEW CENTURY THEATRE, MOTHERWELL; NEW GAIETY THEATRE, AYR; NEW GAIETY THEATRE, LEITH; NEW GAIETY THEATRE, OLYDEBANK; GRAND T. AND O. H., FALKIRK; ALEXANDRA THEATRE, GREENOCK; KING'S THEATRE, KILMARNOCK; KING'S THEATRE, KIRKCALDY.

Important.—Managers doing Business with us at the New Gaiety Theatre, Leith, please note that Stockbridge is barred.

Address all communications to R. C BUCHANAN, General Office, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

Telegraphic Address, "Bookings, Glasgow."

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COMPANIES WANTED.

MILTON BODE'S THEATRES.

WANTED, Companies for DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E. Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 27, March 20, April 24, May 1, 15, on. Pantomime preferred for Jan. 30. COUNTY THEATRE, READING. March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1, on. ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Feb. 6 March 20, 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 8 (Race Week), 15, 22, 29, June 5. GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON. March 20, 27, April 17, May 8, 15. CLARENCE THEATRE, PONTYPRIDD. Vacant, Feb. 6, April 24, May 8, June 5, on. THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD. April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 22, 29, on. OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. Vacant, Feb. 6, April 17, 24, May 22, 29, June 5, 12, on. THEATRE ROYAL, LEAMINGTON. Vacant, Jan. 16 (Six Nights), Feb. 20 (Six Nights), March 9 (Three Nights), March 16 (Three Nights), 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 4, 15, on. Address, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Leamington, Jan. 16 (Six Nights), Musical preferred. Apply, MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Companies, for Jan. 23 and 30, at Dalston. Pontypridd Feb. 6; Leamington, Jan. 16. Apply, MILTON BODE, County Theatre, Reading

MELVILLE'S THEATRES and COMPANIES.

WANTED, Important Attractions, for STANDARD THEATRE, Vacant Spring, 1905. TERRISS THEATRE. Jan. 23, Feb. 20. METROPOLE THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM, Big Attractions for March 13, 20, April 3 and 10. Address, WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

WANTED, First-class Companies. GRAND THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Feb. 20, March 6, on. OLYMPIA THEATRE, NEWCASTLE, Jan. 16, Feb. 6 on. GRAND THEATRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL, May 8, on. THEATRE ROYAL, STOCKTON, Feb. 27, on. Address, SIDNEY BACON, Metropole Theatre, Gateshead. Telegrams, "Bacon, Gateshead."

WANTED, First-class Companies, for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD, GRAND THEATRE, LUTON. Only booked in conjunction, Three Nights each. On several occasions from £500 to £600 has been taken in one week in these two towns by Musical Comedy Companies. Vacant Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 27, March 13, 20, onwards. THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY. Vacant March 2, 9, 30, April 6, onwards. Address, E. GRAHAM-FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Jan. 30, Three Nights, Luton. Address, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, SPENNYMOOR. Lessee, Mr HARDING THOMAS.

WANTED, Good Drama, March 6. The Theatre has just been thoroughly Renovated, a Scene Dock added, and a Full Electric Plant (three Colours) installed. Address, HERBERT VERE.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, DUNFERMLINE.

WANTED, High-class Companies, Jan. 23, Feb. 20, March 6, and on. Address, W. E. POTTS.

THEATRE METROPOLE, BIRKENHEAD.

WANTED, First-class Attraction for Week of Feb. 6. Panto. or Musical Comedy preferred. Wire, KELLY, Queen's, Manchester; next, P. H., Barnsley.

TERRISS THEATRE, S.E.

WANTED, Important Attraction, Jan. 23, Pantomime or Good Dramatic Company. WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

RAMSGATE. SANGER'S AMPHITHEATRE. Sole Proprietor, LORD GEORGE SANGER. Redecorated throughout. Now one of the Prettiest and Most Commodious Theatres in the County.

WANTED, First-class Company, Jan. 30, also various Dates in July, August, and September. Address, HENRY BOWMAN, Manager.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE, GRIMSBY.

WANTED, Good Companies, for March 13 and 20. Only Dates left in the Spring. Copy of day-bill and terms to J. H. CURRY, as above.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, WIDNES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Feb. 6, through disappointment; Feb. 20, Five Nights. Address, THOS. SWINTON.

THEATRE ROYAL, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

WANTED, for Feb. 13, Pantomime, or First-class Musical Attraction. Address, CHARLES REVILL, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Minstrels, Panoramas, Choirs, Circuses, or Variety, The Circus, Hull, January and onwards Liberal Sharing Terms or Salary. Silence polite negative. EDWARD EMERSON, General Manager.

WANTED, Lyceum Theatre, Stafford, Good Companies, Musical or Drama, Jan. 23 (Three Nights), Feb 13, and on. Address, JAMES ELPHINSTONE.

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH.

WANTED Company, Jan. 30, through Termination of "Cherry Girl" Tour. Apply, FRED MORGAN.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions, May 1, 8, 29, and June 12 (Whit Week). Can Negotiate for First-class Pantomime for next Christmas. Enormous success of Geo. Brydon-Phillips's "Red Riding Hood." Record Receipts for Opening Three Nights. An Assured Financial Success. T. A. EDWARDS.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, First-class Companies for Feb. 20, March 6, 13, 20, and intermediates, on. Address, E. B. GOULDEN.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES. ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES. ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies.

EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W. EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W. EALING THEATRE, LONDON, W. Vacant, Feb. 27, March 13, April 24.

LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY. LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY. LYRIC THEATRE, BROMLEY. Vacant, Jan. 16 (Three Nights only), Feb. 6, 13.

THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER. THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER. THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER. Vacant, March 6, 13, April 17.

CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. CARLTON THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM. Vacant, Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 27.

METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT. METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT. METROPOLE THEATRE, DEVONPORT. Vacant, June 19, July 31, Aug. 7.

GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE. GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE. GRAND THEATRE, STALYBRIDGE. Vacant, April 3, 10, 17.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH. KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH. KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH. Vacant, Jan. 12 (Three Nights only), 23.

GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD. GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD. GARRICK THEATRE, HEREFORD. Vacant, Jan. 12 (Three Nights only), 30, Feb. 6.

LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE. LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE. LYCEUM THEATRE, PENTRE. Vacant, Jan 30, Feb. 6, March 20.

KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE. KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE. KING'S THEATRE, EBBW VALE. Vacant, Jan. 9, Feb. 9 (Three Nights only).

THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. THEATRE ROYAL, TON-Y-PANDY. Vacant, Feb. 6, April 6 (Three Nights only), April 24.

THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY. THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY. THEATRE METROPOLE, ABERTILLERY. Vacant, Jan. 23, Feb. 6 (Three Nights only), 13.

HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY. HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY. HIPPODROME, TON-Y-PANDY.

All communications, ARTHUR CARLTON, Manor House, Hayes, Uxbridge.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LOUGHBOROUGH. Proprietors, Messrs W. PAYNE SEDDON and GEO. ROBERTSON. This Handsome New Theatre will be opened in January with "Monsieur Beaucaire."

WANTED, for May 1 and on. Now booking Autumn. OPERA HOUSE, LONDONDERRY. Vacant for Good Pantomime or Musical Show, Feb. 13 and 27. Certainties given to any Well-known Attraction. Now Booking Autumn. NEW THEATRE, HAWICK. March 27, April 3, and on. Last Three Days of each Week only Booked. All communications re Dates, W. PAYNE SEDDON, Opera House, Londonderry.

WANTED, First-class Company, GRAND THEATRE, MARGATE, Jan. 23. Apply, FREDK. MOUILLOT, 4, Broad-court-chambers, Bow-street, W.C. Wire, "Lutanist, London."

QUEEN'S THEATRE, KEIGHLEY. Vacant.

WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, March 20, April 3, and May 8.

QUEEN'S OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON. Lessee and Manager, Mr STANLEY ROGERS.

WANTED, Good Companies, Musical Preferred. Jan. 5 (Three Nights), Feb. 16 (Three Nights), March 6, April 3, on, with exceptions. Address, STANLEY ROGERS, Brixton Theatre, S.W.

FOLKESTONE.—PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.

WANTED, High-class Company, Jan. 23, Three Nights (through disappointment); also Vacant Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, May 1, 8 (Three Nights), May 29, June 5, 19, 26. H. W. ROWLAND, Manager.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, LINCOLN.

WANTED, through Obliging, First-class Attraction for Jan. 16, also Good Attraction for April 3, 10, and 24 (Musical). May 15, and June 5. Address, FRANK KING.

WANTED, First-class Company, for Theatre Royal, Bolton, Jan. 30, Share or Certainty. Must be Big. Address, J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

THEATRE ROYAL, COLNE, LANCS.

WANTED, Good Companies, Jan. 23 and Feb. 6. Address, GERALD HARDING.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Barnstaple Companies, Two Nights. Musical or Comedy preferred. Apply, H. ASHTON, Strand, Barnstaple, N. Devon.

WANTED, for Jan. 9, for T. R., Attercliffe, First-class Dramatic Co. (to oblige C. Finch Hatton). Apply, FRANK MACNAGHTEN, Palace-chambers, Lincoln.

GREENWICH THEATRE, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Jan. 9, 16, Panto. or Good Drama with Attractive Specialities. Wire. Wire. Wire, W. THARP.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Blaydon-on-Tyne, Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Shows, from Jan. 30 and On. GLADYS GILCHRIST.

WANTED, for Poole's Theatre, Pontypool, Really Good Companies for Week Jan. 30 (Three Nights), Feb. 27 and Week March 6 This Theatre has just been thoroughly overhauled, and Fitted with New Stage, Proscenium, Act-drop, Electric Light before and behind, increased Band and Staff, and is now run on Good Lines and doing Good Business. Inquiry solicited. Apply, POOLE, Wotton Lawn, Gloucester.

COMPANIES WANTED.

GRAND THEATRE, EDINBURGH. Telegrams, "Montefiore, Edinburgh."

WANTED, Companies, Feb. 27, March 6, 27, April 3, 24. Pantomime or Musical Comedy preferred. The "Cinderella" Pantomime voted a Great Success. Please note these ante-Holiday Receipts:—

First Saturday	£141
First Week	£473
Second Saturday	£110
Second Week	£408
Third Saturday	£104
Third Monday, Dec. 26	£ 91

Our Holiday is next Week, when we Play Six Matinées.

The Choirs and Sunday School Scholars (Church of Scotland, Episcopal, and Roman Catholic) and the whole of the Hebrew School have been Entertained at a Monday Matinée. 2,800 Children given a Grand Christmas Treat. One out of a dozen Kindly Letters:—

"St. Giles's Cathedral, Edinburgh, "Dec. 27, 1904.

"I cannot let the opportunity pass without writing to thank you for the great pleasure it gave to everyone to be present by your invitation at the Pantomime. Young and old were equally delighted with the performance. One could not help remarking how free the whole performance was from any objectionable element. Right through the play it was high-toned. The children were specially delighted with Little Zola, the Prince, Miss Engler, and Cinders, Miss May Marton. Would you convey our thanks to your company? Thanks especially to yourself for your thoughtfulness."

The Press Complimentary! The Public Enthusiastic! In fact, "Cinderella" has Captivated the City. The Theatre Thronged.

Vacant Feb. 27, March 6, 27, April 3, 24, and certain Autumn.

Mr MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.

WANTED, Powerful Attractions, QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON, March 27, April 24, May 1, 8, 15 on. ALBERT THEATRE, BRIGHOUSE, Feb. 20, March 20, April 17, 24, on, STAR THEATRE, SWANSEA, Feb. 13, March 6, 20, April 10, 24, on. MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

STANLEY, DURHAM, ROYAL, LIMITED.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 6, 13, 20, and April 10, Bookings include "The New Mephisto," "The Sin of Her Childhood," "The Gay Parisienne," "Dare-Devil Dorothy," "The Wearing o' the Green," "In Old Kentucky," "A Beautiful Fiend," "The Life that Kills," "Judy," Mrs Bandmann Palmer, Morton Powell's Companies, "The Secrets," "Tom, Dick, and Harry," the Craggs, "A Traitor Prince," "Dan the Rake," "Proof," "The Manxman," "When London Sleeps," "One of the Family," "Sins of a City," Edmund Tearle, "Bigamy," "The Village Blacksmith," "The Indian Mutiny," "Frivolity," "Her One Great Sin," "A Life's Revenge," "The Still Alarm," "The Showman," "The Sledge-Hammer," "10·30 Down Express," "I Defy the World," &c. Please note the above is an Up-to-date Theatre and holds over £60 at Ordinary Prices. Stage equal to any Production. Address, MARK H. LISDON, as above.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, CANTERBURY. Seats 600. Lighted throughout with Electricity. Electric Current for Cinématograph, 220 volts.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Onwards, with exceptions. Share or Rent. Apply, W. J. COTTON.

TOWN HALL, WHITLAND, SOUTH WALES.

WANTED, Known, Vacant Dates now being Booked for Dramatic and Variety Companies, &c. Good opportunity, and every convenience Situate Junction, Pembroke, Tenby, Milford, and Cardigan Railways. Apply, PROPRIETOR, Whitland.

THEATRES WANTED.

"A GIRL'S CROSS ROADS."

WANTED, Feb. 20, March 6 WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER SECOND TIME ON EARTH."

WANTED, Theatres, Aug. 14, Sept. 4 WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"A DISGRACE TO HER SEX."

WANTED, Important Theatres, Feb. 13, March 13, May 1, 8 WALTER MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"HER FORBIDDEN MARRIAGE."

WANTED, Feb. 13, April 10, May 29. FREDK MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"BETWEEN TWO WOMEN."

WANTED, Feb. 13, March 20, 27. FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E

"THE UGLIEST WOMAN ON EARTH." Frederick Melville's New Production.

WANTED, Feb. 27, April 3, 24. FREDK. MELVILLE, Standard Theatre, E.

"THE GIRL WHO LOST HER CHARACTER."

WANTED, Important Theatres, April 10, May 1, 22, 29. Full No. 1 Company. All the Original Scenery and Effects. Bookings include:—Grand, Islington; Shakespeare, Clapham; Terriss Theatre; Alexandra, Hull; Liverpool, Jarrow, Brixton Theatre, Elephant, West London, Middlesbrough, Aston, Plymouth, Sunderland; Metropole, Birmingham; Junction and Osborne Theatres, Manchester; Broadway, Deptford; Newcastle, Chatham, Note.—The Entire Production will be under the Personal Direction of Walter Melville. Address DOUGLAS BRUCE, Standard Theatre, London, E.

"THE FEMALE SWINDLER."

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, March 13, May 1, 22, and Whit Week. TOM H. TAYLOR, Standard Theatre, E.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE." "A ROYAL DIVORCE." "A ROYAL DIVORCE."

WANTED, for this Powerful Attraction, First-class Theatres for Weeks of Feb. 6, March 6 and 13. Wire, to-day, KELLY, Queen's Theatre, Manchester; next week, Public Hall, Barnsley.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."

WANTED, Theatres, April 24, May 29, June 12, on, with exceptions. CHARLES HARRINGTON, Victoria Hall, Halifax.

MR and MRS CHALMERS MACKEY'S TOUR, "THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN." No Vacant Dates until Nov. 20, 1905.

WANTED, Big Theatres only, then and on. Theatre Royal, Whitehaven, Six Nights, Jan. 2, 1905.

"WHAT BECAME OF MRS HACKET?"

WANTED, Jan. 9, Jan. 9, 1905. Wire for Jan. 9, 16, and 23, STONE, To-day, Theatre Royal, Leamington. Next Week, Theatre Royal, Doncaster.

WILLIAM A. ARMOUR'S COMPANY, "WHAT A WOMAN DID."

WANTED, Jan. 9, Feb. 20 (between Pentre and Hull), March 6, 20, April 10, May 8, 22, and onwards, with exceptions. Wire for Jan. 9. Printing and Agent ready. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, Inwood, Fairfield, Liverpool.

"A ROYAL REVENGE." "A ROYAL REVENGE."

WANTED, Jan. 16, 23, 30, for this Really Remarkable and Completely Equipped Attraction. J. H. CLYNDES, Royalty, Llanelly.

WANTED, Theatres, Miss Frances Delaval's Tour, "The Biggest Scamp on Earth," by F. A. Scudamore, Jan. 23, March 6, 27, April 24, Aug. 7, 24. 24, Oxford-road, Ealing, W.

"BETRAYED; or, What Men call Love."

WANTED, March 20, 27, May 1, June 15. Refer Lester Collingwood, Esq. CECIL DU GUE, Public Hall, Barnsley.

WANTED, for "Lightning's Flash" or "Saved from the Sea," Jan. 16, follow Walsall Wire, LESLIE VINER, Grand Theatre, Walsall.

THEATRES WANTED

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates, for
"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION."
"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION,"
"A WOMAN'S DEVOTION,"
by Geo. A. De Gray.

The most Powerful Play of the Year.
A Strong Drama. Natural Dialogue.
Splendid Situations. Screaming Comedy.
Brimful of Human Interest.

Five Tons of Scenery. Five Tons.
Every Set a Magnificent Stage Picture.
A Production on Drury-lane lines.
The Strongest Dramatic Cast Touring.

The Plymouth Press
Pronounce it a Gigantic Success.
The Swansea Press
unite in saying best Play and Company
seen in the Town for Years.
A Money Magnet for Managers.

Vacant,
Feb. 20, March 20, 27, April 24, on.
Feb. 20, March 20, 27, April 24, on.

MORTON POWELL,
QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH, BOLTON.

MR MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Dates for
"HONOUR THY FATHER."
A Splendid Play.
Powerful Cast. Big Production.
Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 20, 27.

"GREED OF GOLD."
Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6.
MORTON POWELL, Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

MR NORMAN V. NORMAN'S TOURS.
WANTED, Theatres for the following:—
Jan. 30 (North),
Jan. 30 (North),
Jan. 30 (North),
Feb. 13 (North),
April 10 and 24 (South).
(See Companies' Columns.)

Address,
18, Melford-street, Barry, Cardiff.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."
Mr Frank Lindo, Miss Marion Wakeford,
and First-class Company.
WANTED, Good Theatres (Midlands or North) for this Great Attraction.
Vacant, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, 13, and 20.
Easter Vacant and Several Autumn.
Third Year of Tour and Success Greater than ever.
Address,
FRANK LINDO,
101, Sutherland-avenue, W.

"THE FATAL WEDDING."
"THE FATAL WEDDING."

WANTED, Feb. 6, 20, 27 (Midlands).
Address, BERT COOTE,
150, Oxford-street, London, W.

J. F. ELLISTON'S
PANTOMIME
PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, First-class Theatre,
where Big Money can be taken and
Big Productions Staged,
Feb 13 and 20.
Address,
J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

ALFRED B. CROSS'S TOUR.
"THE MANXMAN."
By Hall Caine and Wilson Barrett.
WANTED, Theatres. Only Vacant Spring Dates:—Feb 6 and 13 (Midlands),
Feb. 27, April 10, and May 8. Autumn Rapidly Booking.
Best Theatres Only.
Lyceum Theatre, Long Eaton, Jan. 2.

Enormous Success
Grand Christmas Production
"THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH."
Full Chorus and Ballet
Entire Production Carried.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 23 and 30.
CALVERT ROUTLEDGE,
This, New, Oxford;
next, Opera House, Tunbridge Wells.

WANTED, Good Theatre Jan. 9, for Diorama, "A Trip Round the World," introducing "Is it you?"
A Huge Success Everywhere.
Wire, COLIN, the A.A.B.M. Touring Co.,
Knightstone Pav. and Opera House, Weston-super-Mare.

EDMUND TEARLE'S TOUR.
WANTED, Jan. 16, Six Nights.
Wire,
Theatre Royal, Waterford.

"DISHONOURED."
WANTED, March 27, April 3, follow Sunderland, precede Coatbridge. Greenock.
JACKSON, T. R., Macclesfield.

"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Big Theatres,
Feb. 6, to precede Devonport (Return);
March 20 and 27,
to precede Chesterfield and Rotunda, Liverpool;
Dec. 11, to follow Star, Liverpool (Third Visit).
Only Vacant Dates in 1905.
Address, CHAS. M. JULIAN, Royalty, Morecambe.

CHARLES DRAYCOTT and H. B. PEPPIN'S COS.
"THE BEST MUST WIN," by Myles Wallerton and Francis Gilbert; and "A STOLEN BIRTHRIGHT."
WANTED, Theatres for Jan. 16, 23, 30, on.
Address, Alhambra Theatre, Tipton.

"HER ONE GREAT SIN."
WANTED, Feb 27, March 6, 13.
J. LEICESTER JACKSON, Theatre Royal, Macclesfield.

"SENTENCED FOR LIFE."
WANTED, May 1, on, with exceptions.
FRED BULMER, Clarence Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Feb. 13, 1905 (Lancs or Yorks Preferred).
Messrs Griffin and Drake's Most Successful of Pantomimes,
"Dick Whittington and His Cat."
Now Breaking all Records at T. R., Barnsley.
Tuesday's Receipts within a Few Shillings of Boxing Night
Refer A. C. Mitchell, Esq.,
as to Staging, Electric Ballets, and General Production.
The above Company is a sure Draw, and will fill any Theatre that will hold Money. Only Vac. Date, Feb. 13, 1905.
Wire, E. C. JAZON, T. R., Barnsley.

"HER FATAL PAST." Bigger Success than ever.
WANTED, Possibly Vacant, March 13 (South), to Oblige, Good Theatre only. Refer E. Graham-Falcon. Comns., T. E. WARD, G. T. Luton.

MISS BONWIN CARLTON'S COMPANY,
"THE PLUCKY NIPPER."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 9, 23, on, with exceptions. EDWARD SURREY, this, Theatre, Maesteg; next, Theatre, Pontypool.

"THE TRAITOR." Messrs MITCHELSON and FINEBERG'S MAGNIFICENT PRODUCTION.
WANTED, March 27,
E. HILL-MITCHELSON, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

"SHADOWS OF A GREAT CITY."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 5 (Three Nights) and 23
Printing ready.
To-day, HARRY FOXWELL, Theatre Royal, North Shields.
Jan. 2, Corn Exchange, Berwick-on-Tweed.

"A VICTIM OF VILLAINY."
WANTED, Jan. 30, Feb. 13, 27, to precede and follow Q., Dublin.
March 6, and few Later Dates. Every Scene carried.
125 Sheets Special Printing.
WALTER HOWE, T. R., Batley; next, G., Walsall.

"THE GRIP OF IRON."
WANTED, Feb. 6, 13 (North).
GEORGE DENHAM, this, Court, Bacup; next, Royal, Blyth.

HARRY STARR'S "OTTO THE OUTCAST" TOUR.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 23 (North), March 13 (between Dundee and Glasgow), April 10 (Midlands or North). Wire or write, HARRY STARR, Jan. 2, P. O. W. T., Mexborough.

THEATRES WANTED.

"HEART OF A HERO."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 6 and 13.
Wire, CARSON,
Theatre, Keighley.

"A MODERN ADVENTURESS."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 30, Feb. 20, 27, April 10.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DRAMA OF LIFE."
WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 6, 20, and 27, March 13.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"DEFENDING HIS HONOUR."
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 23, March 13 and 20.
LINGFORD CARSON,
Queen's Theatre, Keighley.

"MISS MISCHIEF."
WANTED, Jan. 23, 30, and Various Early Spring Dates,
On,
for the New and Original
Musical Comedy,
"MISS MISCHIEF."
Book and Lyrics by Mr Reginald Bacchus.
Music by Dr. Osmond Carr,
Composer of
"Morocco Bound," "In Town,"
"His Excellency," &c.
Unanimously acknowledged a great success.
A Most Artistic Production.
Beautifully Dressed
and Elaborately Staged.
Everything Carried.
All communications,
GODFREY LAMPLUGH,
to-day, Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool;
next week, Prince of Wales's Theatre, Grimsby.

GEORGE KIRK and MARY NEIL'S "JUDY" COMPANY.
WANTED, Jan. 23, Three Nights (South),
Jan. 30, and Feb. 27.
GEORGE KIRK,
Prince of Wales's, Southampton.

"SAPHO."
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 9, Jan. 9.
Admitted by Press and Public to be
the Most Popular Version on the Stage.
Wire (Saturday), JAMES BELL,
Theatre, Widnes.
Jan. 2,
Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

BEAUDYN AND LIVESEY'S PLAYS.
"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
A New Oriental Play by G. A. De Gray.
WANTED, Jan. 16, 30, March 6, 20, 27, Whit.
"£1,000 Reward,"
a Grand Revival on an Elaborate Scale,
Wanted, March 6, on.
"The Race for Wealth,"
a Powerful Modern Play, by H. Lonsdale,
Wanted, May 22, on.
"A Beautiful Fiend,"
an Acknowledged Success, Wanted, June 12, on.
"The Days of Cromwell,"
by Chas. Rogers and E. Carter Livesey,
Wanted, January, on, 1906. Can arrange for Four Weeks, July, 1905. Address, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

MR and MRS F. G. KIMBERLEY'S COMPANIES,
"BOUND TO WIN."
WANTED, Jan. 16 and Feb. 6, for this Great Attraction. Seven Full Sets Scenery carried.
Horses, Jockeys, and Exceptionally Powerful Company.
Parade of Horses Daily. F. G. KIMBERLEY, 33, York-road, Erdington, Birmingham; next, T. R., Darwen.

"THE SWISS EXPRESS."
WANTED, for this Unique Pantomimical Attraction,
Jan. 23 and Feb. 6,
London or near
(to oblige Robert Arthur, Esq.).
Address, C. and F. RENAD, Royal Opera House, Leicester.

"OUR BOYS," "CASTE," No. 1 COMPANY.
WANTED, Jan. 16, on, First-class Theatres only.
Mr Charles Otley, Perkin Middlewick.
Played by him with the Greatest Success in all Leading Suburban and Provincial Theatres.
Grand, Fulham (Four Visits); Grand, Croydon (Two Visits); King's, Hammersmith; Gaiety, Dublin, &c.
13, Champion-grove, Denmark-hill, S.E.

"LA POUPEE.
Owing to the Tour starting out earlier.
WANTED, Good Theatres, Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb 6, 13, 20.
N.B.—No other Vacant Dates.
J. BANNISTER HOWARD, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

"IN OLD KENTUCKY."
"IN OLD KENTUCKY."
WANTED, Theatres, through Obliging, Jan. 16 and 23.
Jan. 16 and 23.
The Great American Racing Drama.
Everything carried.
Wire or write,
J. F. ELLISTON, Bolton.

The Melodramatic Masterpiece,
"A FIGHT FOR MILLIONS."
WANTED, Jan. 23, Feb. 6, and Easter.
Clean, Scenery, Dresses, Comedy, &c.
The first Submarine put on the British Stage.
ROBERT FERRIS, Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

WANTED, Theatres, Feb. 27, March 6, and Sept. 4, for Alfred Northway and W. V. Garrod's Successful Revival of Wilson Barrett's Domestic Play, "The Sledge-Hammer."
W. V. GARROD, Gaiety Theatre, Burnley.

MISS EMMA LITCHFIELD'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Jan. 16 and 23, for either or both Successful Dramas.
"A London Actress" and
"The Guiding Star."
Splendid Plant of Printing and Special Scenery for both Plays.
Wire, STUART CLEVELAND, Theatre Royal, Castleford.
Write 263, Albert-road, Aston.

MISS OLGA AUDRE, TRAVIS GREEN, and ARTHUR HINTON'S COMPANY in the Powerful Play "WHEN A MAN HATES?"
WANTED, Theatres, Jan. 16, 23 (precede Junction, Manchester). Managers requiring Good, Sound Attraction wire or write, TRAVIS GREEN, this, Crook; next, Pentre.

ERNEST R. ABBOTT and STAR COMPANY in
"A WIFE'S TRIUMPH."
Sutton Vane's Splendid Domestic Drama, as Produced by Mr Isaac Cohen at the Pavilion Theatre.
WANTED, Jan. 16 and Feb. 6 (North) for this Premier Attraction. Instantaneous success everywhere. Magnificent Scenery and All-round Cast. Wire To-day for Jan. 16 to E. R. ABBOT, Avenue, Kettering; next week, Metropole, Hoyland.

Mr CHAS. A. CHANDLER'S CO. "THE BELLS OF HASLEMERE." The great Adelphi Drama.
WANTED, First-class Theatres. Enormous success Everywhere. Full Cast of London Artistes, All Scenery carried, Peal of Bells, Eighteen kinds of Printing. Thanks Mr Buchanan for Scotch Dates. Refer J. B. Mulholland, Esq., Frank Macnaghten, Esq. Vacant Jan. 16, 30, Feb 6, and a few onwards. Fast Booking 1905. Address, this week, T.R., Rotherham; next, T.R., Attercliffe.

MR FRANK WILSON'S COMPANY,
"THE MARRIAGE OF KITTY."
WANTED, Jan 9. Jan. 9. Jan. 9.
Wire, FRANK WILSON,
Opera House, Burton-on-Trent.

"THE GUILTY MAN." A Magnificent and Costly Production. Enormous Plant of Printing.
WANTED, April 10 and 17, May 15 and 22, onwards, with exceptions. JAMES HARE, Empire T., Dundee. A thoroughly Sound and Reliable Cast.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR LAWRENCE BROUGH'S COMPANY,
"THE LADY OF OSTEND."
"THE SAUCY SALLY."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Jan. 16
and
Jan. 30.
Address,
Prince of Wales's Theatre, Nuneaton.

MR BARRS'S PANTOMIMES, "CINDERELLA,"
A Magnificent Success.
Overflow Tickets issued Monday and Tuesday.
WANTED, First-class Theatre for Next Christmas.
"ALADDIN." A Record Success at Ramsgate.
This, Amphitheatre, Ramsgate;
Next, Theatre Royal, Margate.
"EAST LYNNE."
Miss Dorothy Oswald and Star Company.
Spring Dates Vacant.
HERBERT BARRS,
Opera House, Torquay
(Four Weeks).

WANTED, for "On Circumstantial Evidence," Jan. 9, 16, 23. Rebooked at Dublin, Croydon, Birkenhead, Edinburgh, Dundee, Perth, Liverpool. C. CLIFFORD, Boro', Heywood.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, Easter Week, also May 1, for this Powerful Drama. Just secured by J. W. Boughton for his August Bank Holiday Attraction at the Prince's Theatre, Portsmouth. Autumn Dates fast filling. EUGENE BERTRAM, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

"WHEN THE LIGHTS ARE LOW."
WANTED, Feb. 6, 27, Feb. 6. 27.
J. C. VAUGHAN, 61, Chancery-lane, W.C.

"A TRAITOR PRINCE."
WANTED, Jan. 16, owing to Closure of Theatre. BEAUDYN and LIVESEY, T. R., Sunderland.

"THE MAN FROM——?"
WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 20.
JULIAN BAIMBRIDGE, Jan. 2 Avenue T., Kettering.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 6 and 13,
for Arthur Carlton's Pantomimes,
"Aladdin," the Ealing Production;
"Sinbad," the Devonport Production.
ARTHUR CARLTON, Manor House, Hayes, Uxbridge.

WANTED, Theatres for Feb. 6 and 20,
"The Conscript."
MITCHELL and BELTON, King's Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, for "Life that Kills," Feb. 13, March 6;
"Grip of the Law," April 17, and on through Summer;
"Bigamy," March 6, and few Spring.
FRED MOULE,
Prince of Wales's, Salford.

MR FRANK MACNAGHTEN'S PANTOMIME PRODUCTION, "ROBINSON CRUSOE."
WANTED, First-class Theatre.
Owing to a Rearrangement of Route, Mr Frank Macnaghten has the Week of Feb. 20 Vacant for the above Pantomime. Playing this Week to Magnificent Business at the Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
Managers with First-class Dates are invited to submit terms to the Palace-chambers, Lincoln.

WANTED, Jan. 30, Panto., "Sinbad the Sailor." Enormous success, Grand, Blackpool, where please address, DAISY DE ROY; or, CARL OSIEND.

"GOODY TWO SHOES."
WANTED, Feb. 20, 27, for the above Success. Refer Mexborough.
MARSTON and BUCKSTONE, Theatre, Spennymoor.

WANTED, for Next Year, Large Town to produce "Cinderella." Magnificent Production, everything complete. Can now be seen playing at the Theatre Royal, Hanley. Press say best pantomime ever seen in Hanley. Can be booked with practically the same cast as now played. Any Manager taking the trouble to go and see it is sure to want to book it.
Apply, C. ST. JOHN DENTON, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

THE ORIGINAL HAMILTON'S NEW EXCURSIONS by Bioscope.
WANTED, Jan. 16, 23, 30, First-class Theatres and Halls. Share or Certainty. Midlands preferred (to follow Derby). Finest Picture Show extant. The old-time Panorama Paintings entirely discarded, and Replaced by the best Animated Pictures possible to Produce.
All the Latest Up-to-Date Successes.
Best offers to St. Margaret's Hall, Canterbury.

WANTED, Known, the I.D.K. Minstrels. This Celebrated London Troupe is open for Engagement (three to Twenty Performers). One Night to a Week. Now Booking Piers and Seaside Pavilions or Theatres for Summer Season. Easter Week Vacant (to follow T. R., Aldershot). Terms and Dates apply, MANAGER, 185, Upland-road, East Dulwich.

ARTISTES WANTED

"THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH."
WANTED, First-class Leading Lady, for Kate Strong. Young, Good Appearance, to Rehearse immediately. Age, height, recent photos, where not known, and absolute lowest terms, to SAM LIVESEY, Theatre Royal, Stanley, Durham.

WANTED, Lady, for Strong Part in Drama. State height, lowest terms, references, &c. No photos. Will Miss Lesley Bell write? Box 8,932, care of "The Era" Office.

"THE POOR MUST LIVE" COMPANY.
WANTED, Gent. for Juvenile Lead. Must have good voice. Also Juvenile Lady. Must Dress part well. Rehearse Jan. 16. Particulars, which must be accompanied by Photos., address, GEOFFREY FULTON, 4, Chichester-street, St. George's-square, S.W.

WANTED, a Gentleman for Marks, to combine Musical Turn preferred. References and full particulars to CHARLES HARRINGTON, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Victoria Hall, Halifax

WANTED, Gentleman to Play Good Responsibles and Character Parts; also Wardrobe Mistress, able to Cut-out and Make. NORMAN V. NORMAN, 18, Welford-street, Barry, Cardiff.

"WHAT A WOMAN DID."
WANTED, First-class Comedian (must have Speciality) and capable, responsible Lady (must have good figure, to wear tights, and be able to dance a little). Joint not objected to. WILLIAM A. ARMOUR, Inwood, Fairfield, Liverpool.

"THE CONVICT'S DAUGHTER."
WANTED, for Spring Tour, a Utility Gentleman for Showy Part. State age, height, experience, and enclose photo., to EUGENE BERTRAM, 5, Gilmore-road, Lewisham S.W.

WANTED, Tall Responsible Man, to Double. Rehearse Tuesday, Sunderland. Apply, To-day, E. CARTER LIVESEY, 10, King-street, W.C.; after, Theatre Royal, Sunderland.

WANTED, Two Funny Knockabout Comedians, to Rehearse Immediately for Comedy Sketch (all preferred) Apply, Saturday (between 4·0 and 6·0), or by post, KENDALL, 3, Bernard-house, 42, Bernard-st, W.C.

WANTED, Lady and Gentleman for Two Small Parts in Good Tour of Recent London Success
Two Months Free. Then Small Salary.
No Premium.
Box 8,946, care of "The Era."

"HEARTS ADRIFT."
WANTED, for above Production, Clever Boy, over Fourteen (must be Small), Irish Soubrette, Comedian (for Stuttering Part), Juvenile Lady and Gent., Heavy Lady and Gent. State age, height, lowest salary, and enclose photo. BERTRAM, Killarney, Gilmore-road, Lewisham, S.E.

WANTED, for Special Fortnight, near London, Four Chorus Gentleman, Tenors and Basses. Apply, Monday, to Denton, 34, Maiden-lane, Strand.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, 100 Ballet Dancers for the Continent, Tall and Well-looking Forward photos, Guise, General Agency, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton-hill, Only by Appointment.

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Marion Hemming (High Soprano), at Liberty for Mus., Com., Juveniles, Sketch, or Variety Companies.
Address, Curig House, South-road, Aberystwith.

WANTED, Engagement, through Misunderstanding, as Chambermaid, Sing and Dance, or would Join Good Quartette Acrobatic Dancers. RUBY HAZELWOOD, 71, Oldfield-rd., Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, a Happy New Year to all. Heavies, Juveniles, Baritone.
CHARLES HOMER,
Disengaged. 45, Bristol-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, by Young Man, Twenty, Engagement in Theatrical Company (New Beginner). R. ELLS, 14, Frederick-crescent, Brixton, S.W.

WANTED, Engagements by Lady Vocalist and Reciter. Terms, 10s. 6d. No Tours.
Box 8,931, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Pianiste, Solo, Brilliant, Vocalist, Humorous Songs, Sketches at Piano, Engagement. Write, Miss GABRIELLE HOPE, 25, High-road, Streatham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, a First-class Principal Boy, for Prince, in "Cinderella," and a Good Reliable Comedian for Baron; also a Good Quartette of Dancers and One to Two First-class Specialities for Tour of Good Theatres. Apply, J. WALTERS, 2, Bath-place, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Coloured Gent. (Dark), Sing and Dance, Pantomime. Also Artistes in all Lines. Pavilion, Altrincham. Letters, FRED BUDD, Red Lion Hotel, Altrincham.

WANTED, First-class Knockabout Pantomimists, also Good Animal Impersonator for Monkey Part. All must be Thoroughly Experienced in Dumb Show. Apply by letter only, stating terms and full particulars, JEFF VENDOME, 148, Brixton-road, S.W.

WANTED, Four Smart Chorus Ladies for Long Pantomime Tour. Good voices and appearance. Age, height, photo, MAYS and HUNTLEY, Theatre Royal, Edmonton, London.

WANTED, Artistes for Pantomime near London. Specialities, Comedians, Dancers. Boy for Cat. Letter only, SECRETARY, 164, New King's-road, Fulham.

SCENIC ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Scenery of every Description Painted to Order. Large Stock of New and Secondhand Cloths, Flats, &c., on hand. New Cloths 18ft. by 24ft. from £4. High-class Work guaranteed. Sykes's Scenic Studio, 11, City-road, Hulme, Manchester.

WANTED, Known, William Wells, R.B.A., Scenic Studio, Theatre Royal, Preston.
Cloths and Act Drops, Specialty.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Advance Agent at once. One who has had Long Experience, in Booking and Arranging Tours, knows the Country well, and is thoroughly up in Advertising. Apply, with references, terms, and full particulars, to
CHAS. PRINZ, Empire, Islington, London.

WANTED, a Man to Act as Advance Agent who Knows the Colonies, West India, South America, India, &c., for Three Years' Tour. Only One who Thoroughly Understands the Business, or Good Booking Agent Write, Box 8,935, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Agent, at Once, for Genuine Speciality.
Strong Show.
Ready for Immediate Production.
Address,
H. BERNARD, 54, Blondel-street, Battersea, S.W.

WANTED, Real Smart Live Agent. Lowest terms, last reference, MANAGER, Roberts' Animated Photo. Co., St. James's Hall, Plymouth.

WANTED, a First-class Property Maker, to act as Property Master in a Pantomime twice a night and make Props. Apply by letter to J. LAWRENCE, 55, Ackers-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by Robert Willson, Advance-Agent. Permanent or Tour. Liberty Jan. 2. Terms, 2, Northgate, Hartlepool.

WANTED, Engagement, by Electrician and Bioscope Operator, well up in Stage work; best references. ELECTRIC, 39, Rowallan-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Young Gent, Good Education and Appearance, Shorthand and Typewriter, Engagement on Theatrical Staff Over Three Years in present London Situation. W. T., 125, Pelly-rd., Plaistow.

WANTED, Evening Employment by Smart Young Man. Theatre or Music Hall. Any capacity. Experienced. Box 8,930, care of "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Leader and Cornet (Good), open Monday, Jan. 2, Rehearsal at 1·0 p.m. Competent, Reliable Men only. Wire, lowest terms, T. MURGATROYD, Musical Director, Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, Musical Conductor (Pianist), for Six Weeks' Tour from Jan. 23. Please call any Evening on Mr SCOTT PHIPP, West London Theatre.

WANTED, First-class Leader (Violin).
Apply at once to
HENRY SPRAKE, Crown Theatre, Peckham, S.E.

SCOTLAND'S PROVINCIAL THEATRES.
WANTED, First Violinist (capable); also Bass Player. Lowest terms, references, and age, to R. C. BUCHANAN, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.
Mark envelopes "Musician."

WANTED, a Violinist, to Join at Once. Young Man preferred. A Good Shop to Suitable Man. Money low, but sure. Fare arranged if necessary.
W. H. GRANT,
Bazaar,
Clones, co. Monaghan, Ireland.

WANTED, First Violin, Immediately. Permanency to Suitable Man. Age, references, lowest terms, E. G. FALCON, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Violin and Second or Viola. Circus, Drill Hall, Bolton. Open Monday. Rehearsal 11·0 sharp. Wire lowest. WARD, 48, Lyon-st., Bolton.

HIPPODROME, WIGAN.
WANTED, Violinist (Repetiteur), First-class. Used to Music Hall Business. Permanency for Good Man. Apply, J. WORSWICK, as above.

WANTED, First Violin for Empire, Cardiff. Apply, stating names and addresses for references and Salary required, to
OSWALD STOLL, Empire, Cardiff.

WANTED, First-class Violin, to open at Once.
Apply, MANAGER,
Empire, Stratford.

WANTED, Cornet, Euphonium, and Bombardon Players, Pitching, through disappointment. Terms, Shares; sobriety indispensable. WRIGHT, 39, St. Mary's-road, Hastings.

WANTED, First Cornet, to open Jan. 16. Must be used to Variety business. State age, references, and wages required to EDWARD FOSTER, Manager, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Second Cornet, to open Jan. 16. Must be used to Variety business. State age, references, and wages required to EDWARD FOSTER, Manager, Bordesley Palace, Birmingham.

WANTED, Pianist-Vocalist (Gent), to Assist in the Management of a Small Music Hall. Good Steady Man can have Comfortable, Permanent Situation. Must Read at Sight and be used to Professionals. State age, experience Send photo., CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

WANTED, Pianist and Vocalist (Male or Female). Permanent Engagement. Lowest Terms. No Fancy Prices. SHARPE 21, Mechanic-st., Worcester.

OPERA HOUSE, PORTH, SOUTH WALES.
WANTED, to Open Jan. 2, Good Orchestral Pianist, to combine Second Violin or Viola.
Apply, terms and references, POOLE.

WANTED, Mandolinists, Male and Female. Must be Readers of Music.
Box 8,927, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Musicians of Exceptional Ability Generally, for Orchestras.
References from one of our various conductors essential.
Apply,
R. THORNTON, Empire, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Known, the A.M.U. National Musical Agency, Incorporated with the British Imperial Bands Company, can supply Musicians, Orchestral and Military Bands, on the shortest notice. Write for Booklet to either of the following:—J. B. WILLIAMS, 135, Moss-lane, Manchester; Telegraphic address, "Amuse, Manchester;" Telephone, 5,489, Manchester. C. JESSON, 96, Long-acre, London, W.C.; Telegraph address, "Amusologia, London;" Telephone, 9,827 Central. F. J. LEES, 104, Crompton-road, Handsworth, Birmingham. J. BARTLEY, 9, Seamore-street, Glasgow; Telephone, 208 Y6, Charing-cross.

WANTED, Musicians who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls, or from any Newsagent in the United Kingdom, to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 49, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSICIANS' WANTS

WANTED, by First-class Musical Conductor (Piano) Engagement in Theatre or Good Music Hall. Composer and Arranger. Up-to-Date Library of Music. First-class references.
Address, Box 8,947, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by First Violin or Second Clarinet, Engagement. Any Business. Good refs. H. SMITH, 14, Prince's-square, Kennington-park, S.E.

WANTED, by Violinist (C. Wareham), Engagement Late Leader, the Granville, Walham-green. Address, 47, Black Lion-lane, Hammersmith, W.

WANTED, by Second Cornet, Engagement in Military Band or Orchestra, or Cruise. Total Abstainer. State Best Terms in first letter. Apply H. RUSSELL, Hope Tavern, Court-street, Leamington.

WANTED, by Cornet, Engagement, Theatre or Music Hall. London preferred. References. MALCOLM, 22, Darlan-road, Fulham, S.W.

WANTED, by Clarionet, also Drums, Engagement, through closing. Any business. At Liberty Jan. 2. A. MILLER, Hippodrome, Blackpool.

WANTED, by Clarionet, Engagement, Experienced in Orchestral and Dramatic Business. Also Good Pianist. Box 8,944, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, by Double Bass, Re-engagement. Thoroughly Experienced. First-class references. BASSO, 170, Drakefell-road, Brockley, S.E.

WANTED, by Trombone Player (First-class), Engagement. Now at Liberty. References. Any Business. VUNDUM, 57, Chippenham-road, Paddington, W

WANTED, by Solo Trombone (Combine Double Bass), Engagement. Liberty Jan. 14.
HARRY SHARPE, Municipal Band, Weymouth.

WANTED, by Euphonium (Experienced), Engagement. Any Business. Can Open at once. CHAS. GREGG, 184, Waterloo-road, Norwich.

WANTED, by Oboeist, Engagement, Thoroughly experienced. Highest references. ERNEST J. SIMPKINS, 36, Bailey-street, Newport, Mon.

WANTED, Known, Oboeist at Liberty. Variety or other Business Can open at once. WM. HARRISON, 72, West Worsley-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Orchestral Practice, Suitable for Little Girl on 'Cello.
Mr CASSELLE, 35, Granville-square, King's-cross-road.

WANTED, by Solo Harpist (Age Seventeen). Engagement, 1904, Yarmouth, Three Months; Hotel Cecil, Three Times.
MAUD GRUNDY, Assembly Rooms, Bath.

WANTED, by Accompanist (Experienced), Re-engagement with Singer or Party. London and Suburbs.
Write, Miss RAY, 34 Abingdon-mansions, Kensington.

WANTED, by Pianist (Gentleman), Engagement. Any Business.
BALDWYN LLOYD, 7, Dempsey-street, Stepney.

WANTED, by Pianiste (Experienced), Immediate Engagement. Soloist. Accompanist, Quick Reader MSS. Good refs. KATE THORNTON, 7, Church-street, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, by Pianist and Solo Violinist, Joint Engagement, Competent, Sight-readers; Variety, Drama, Picture, or Panto. 9, Conway-street, Mold, N. Wales.

WANTED, by Double Drummer, Engagement, with all effects. Theatre or Music Hall. F. M'CRAHAM, 31, De Laune-street, Kennington.

WANTED, by Double Drummer and Tympanist, Engagement. Thoroughly experienced through closing of theatre. Highest refs. W. G., 88, Sydney-st, Chelsea, S.W.

To Managers—Hotel, Concert, and Theatrical.
WANTED, by the Estrella Orchestra (Twelve Performers), Conductor, Mr J. S. Howgill; Solo Violinist, Signor Ortori, Engagements after Jan. 15. Concluding Successful Engagement of Eight Months at Weymouth. Excellent Repertoire. Uniform or Evening Dress. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, The Moorings, Weymouth.

WANTED, Known, Miss Queenie Howard's Nell Gwyn Orchestra Open to Accept Engagements. Charming Costumes and Artistic Repertoire. Playing this week St. Leonards, Eastbourne, Kensington, and Bedfordshire. "The Era" Notice—The Nell Gwyn Orchestra played a dainty selection of music in the Great Freemasons' Hall in a charming manner. Address, 1, Bourne-street, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by the Loyal Westminster Band (Thirty-one Professional Musicians), Engagements. Conductor, Mr O. H. CARTER, 32, Tenison-st., London, S.E.

WANTED.—Musicians "Out of Shop" and Bandmasters requiring Instrumentalists will do well to try an Advertisement in the "Wanted" Columns of "The Era." One Shilling expended on Twenty Words is likely to bring successful results, as explained in the following letters from grateful Advertisers:—

FROM A MUSICIAN:—
To the Manager of 'The Era' Advertisement Dept.,
"49, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.
"Re Advertisement
"'WANTED, ENGAGEMENT BY CORNET.'
"Thanks for inserting above in the last number of your paper. I have obtained a comfortable shop. Had seventeen replies. You need not put in the second insertion.
"Yours truly, 'A GRATEFUL MUSICIAN.'"

FROM A BANDMASTER:—
"Re Advertisement 'WANTED, A DRUMMER.
"Please do not insert my advt. for the second insertion, as I am pleased to say I have had twenty replies and secured a Drummer.
"Yours truly, PHILIP GERMANN, Bandmaster,
"Littlehampton."

CIRCUS ARTISTES WANTED.

KING OHMY'S GRAND CIRCUS,
MARKET-PLACE, BOLTON.

WANTED, Great Turns, Startling Sensations, New Novelties; also Useful Circus Artistes all Lines. Nothing too big. Money no object for Good Stars with Drawing Powers for the New Year and Future Dates. A Happy New Year to All. Address, King OHMY, Ohmy's Grand Circus, Bolton.

ALGIE'S HIPPODROME, CARLISLE.

WANTED, Equestrians for Jan. 23 and on, Specialities of Every Description, also Clown and Agouste. Address, C. JALGIE. P.S.—Rehearsal, Jan. 2, at 11 0 o'clock. All Artistes attend. No excuse. Matinée at 2·0.

STEBBINGS'S FETES AND GALAS, 1905.

WANTED, Big Specialities and Novelties, Big Aerial and Ground Acts, Whit Week, onwards. Lithos, Posters, terms, permanent addresses, EDGAR STEBBINGS, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Circus Acts, that do Two or Three Numbers, for immediate and onwards. Lowest first. J. Arnold, Variety Agent, Hippodrome, Castleford.

WANTED, Equestrians in all Lines, for Continent. Great Vacancy. Guise, General Agency, 27, Bonham-road, Brixton-hill.

WANTED, for the New Circus and Hippodrome, Southport, Good Animal Numbers for Jan. 9; also Acts of All Kinds suitable for the Ring, Pad Acts, &c. Letters marked "Circus," Harry Day's Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, for Tenting Season, 1905, Equestrians (Male and Female), Good Troupe of Arabs, First-class Troupe of Trick and Comic Cyclists, Lady Gymnasts, and any First-class Novelty that can be done in a Tent, Lampman, and Wardrobe Lady. PINDER, Château des Templiers, Lavilledieu du Temple, France.

DRILL HALL CARNIVAL, BOLTON.

WANTED, Big Sensational Novelties for next Few Weeks. Price no object. State full particulars, WARD, Manager, as above.

WANTED, a Good Tumbler. Youth about sixteen years. Address, EDWARD DILLON, Agricultural Hall, Islington, London.

WANTED, Two Acrobats, one a Good Top Mount.
Apply, Box 8,837, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, a Tumbler for Comedy Tramposline Act. Light-weight preferred.
COOPER, 14, Mead-road, Kennington, S.E.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Miss Ella's Well-known Educated Lion Show
Wish all Directors
and Agents
with whom I am
or have been
in Business Connection
a Merry Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year.

First Vacancy,
March 6, 1905,
and Four Following Weeks,
also Easter and Whit Week.
London Preferred.

Address,
Jan. 2 and 9,
Two Weeks,
Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, that Professor Dundon's Troupe of Performing Bulls, and Goats, and Sheep will be at Liberty soon. The only Troupe of its kind. Circus-yards, Warrington.

WANTED, Known, W. Tudor, Performing Ponies, Riding Dog and Goat;
also the Best Turpin Mare in the Business, at Lib shortly.
Address, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

WANTED, by Miss Wynema, Coloured Lady, with her Reptiles and Pack of Siberian Wolves (Portable Den), Engagements. C.o. CROUCH'S, 137, Argyle-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, the John Scott Family of Male and Female Equestrians, &c., big success, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton. Packed Houses Nightly. See Press Opinions. Proprietors, Managers, and others specially invited. Vacant Dates uncertain. Compliments of the Season to All.

WANTED, Known, John H. Swallow, Bareback Equestrian, at Liberty Jan. 23.
Address, King Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

WANTED. – Comical Walker, Talking Clown, with Good Entrées. Vacant Jan. 9.
Address, Tivoli Varieties, Glasgow.

WANTED, Neddy Nokes, the World-known Musical Clown, Talking, Knockabout Clown, Re-engaged after First Night. Hippo, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, Known, Little Bishop fairly brought down the house on his appearance at the Hippodrome, Lowestoft, on Monday night, and rounds of applause greet him every evening upon my word.

WANTED, Known, Little Paddy, Australian Clown and Agouste, Concluded Twelve Months' Comfortable Engagement on Saturday last, Hippodrome Dewsbury, with Second Benefit, Record House. Thanks to Local Gentlemen for Presenting me with Gold Medal, also Band and Staff for Presents, also Mr Weldon for Return Engagement next Season. Opened with King Ohmy, Monday, Dec. 26. Liberty Jan. 23d, Four Weeks. King OHMY, Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Eleonora, Lady Gymnast; La Belle Tosca, Charming Wire Expert; also Mdlle. Vanda, in her Great Juggling Speciality. Three Distinct Specialities Concluding a successful and most comfortable week at Zalva's Hippodrome, Barrow. Monday, New Hippodrome, Wolverhampton, where address for dates and terms. Happy New Year to All Friends.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16; also Tenting, Mayeno Trio (Two Ladies and One Gent.), Gymnasts, Acrobats, Wire Walkers, Knockabout Clown, Up-to-Date Entrées. Three Distinct Speciality or Comedy Turns, Combined with Grace, Talent, and Beauty. Carnival, Iona-street, Edinburgh.

WANTED, by Ariel and Astarte, Smartest of all Gymnastic Acts, Jan. 2, 9. Wire, Curzon Hall, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Alf Rozell, of the Rozells, is still running same Two Acts, Bars and Wire, with New Partner, and from Jan. 14 will be known as Rozell and Carl.

WANTED, Known, the Weltons, Triple Bar Act, at Liberty Jan. 8, onwards, with exceptions. Next week, Ohmy's Circus, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Two Leonards, Comedy Bar Show, Double Knockabout, Talking, Singing Clowns, at Liberty. 7, Melville-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, by Savano and Daughter Lillie, Comedy Acrobats; also Single Turn if Required. Address, People's Palace, Portsmouth.

WANTED, Monday, by Arizonas Trio, Acrobatic Tumblers, &c.; Will Percival, Comedian, Dancer. Wire, Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, Ali Ben Hassan, Arabian Juggler and Plate Manipulator. Also Toto, Slack-Wire-Walker. Two Distinct Turns. Finish, To-night, comfortable Engagement, Leslie's World's Fair, Drill Hall, Portsmouth. Monday next, Hippodrome, Newport, Isle of Wight. People's Palace, Portsmouth, to follow.

WANTED, Monday next, by Otto Ethardo, Quaint Juggler, and Mdlle. Pardoe, Speciality Dancer, &c. Wire, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

WANTED, Known, the Tarras, Double Jugglers; also Miss Dahlia, Lady Gymnast. Two Turns. Liberty Monday next. Wire, Post-office, Bolton.

WANTED, Known, Young Man Tumbler, Knockabout, and Buck-dancer would Join Troupe or Pantomime sketch J. M'GOUGH, 17, Errol-st., Glasgow.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

ABERDEEN and DUNDEE
PALACE VARIETY THEATRES.
Booked in Conjunction with
Plymouth, Bristol, and Sunderland.

WANTED, Artistes Engaged to forward Bill Matter Two clear Weeks in advance.
Always Vacancies for Star Turns.
ERNEST SHELDON, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

WANTED, for Tour, First class Variety Artistes, Comedians, Soubrettes, Vocalists, Sketch and Speciality.
Apply, with lowest possible terms, particulars, photo, &c., to
CHAS. PRINZ, Empire, Islington, London.

WANTED, Variety Artists, All Lines, for Two Weeks, March. State lowest terms, Lithos., &c., ALBERT VENTOR, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Variety Artistes in all Lines, Jan. 9, onwards.
WM. B. BROADHEAD, Hippodrome, Manchester.

WANTED, Variety Artistes, all Lines. Open Monday, Good Tour. No Amateurs. Also Lady and Gentleman Cyclists for Tea-cup Track. Must have own Bikes. Wire, LAURIE, Theatre, Morpeth.

WANTED, Variety Artists in All Lines, Jan. 9 and 16. Hall Small, Twice Nightly. Lowest, A. TURLE, Alhambra, Hope-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, for the Coventry Hippodrome, for present and future Dates,
First-class Artistes of every Description
in the Variety Profession.
Big Tops able to follow
Marie Lloyd, Marie Loftus, Nellie Wallace, and other Star Turns.
Nothing too Big.
Money a Secondary Consideration.
We are now Booking for the New Coliseum.

Wanted, for the Olympia, Coventry, and Four Other Towns,
the names of which will be announced in these columns in due course, the
Very Cream of the Variety and Equestrian Profession,
Big Novelties, Specialities, Spectacles, and Useful People,
for
Aquatic Pantomimes.
Can arrange for "Siberia."
Will the Builders who erected Wolff's Circus, Dublin, please Communicate at once; or a firm of Builders capable of erecting, at quick notice, a Large Iron Structure to hold about 6,000 people?

Address all letters to
T. M. SYLVESTER,
Hippodrome, Coventry.
N.B.—All Artistes holding Contracts for above-named Hippodrome are respectfully requested to communicate at once. Important.
Artistes holding Contracts for Coventry must communicate at Once, otherwise Contracts will be Cancelled.
Call Monday, at 1·0 o'clock, for
the Takatana Troupe, Lyons Trio, Rumbo Austin, Davey Thomas, Jennie Belmore, Darwin, Man Monkey; Tom Walker, Rose Wayport, Newham and Latimer, Natt Raymond, and Motoring the Loop.
All Must Attend. No Excuse.
T. M. SYLVESTER.

Wilder's Fêtes, 1905.

WANTED, First-class Artistes, Performances, and Latest Novelties, for Various Dates during Summer.
Send lithos., picture posters, dates, and terms to W. and J. Wilder,
29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes all Lines, Big Specialities, Novelties, Serios, Sisters, Comedians, Jan. 9, onwards. Nothing too big or small, but must be good. State Terms, Bookings, Lithos., to Edgar Stebbings, Agent, 23, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, Artistes, all Lines, Immediate and Future Dates. Lessee and Manager, WM. MOULD, Central Palace, North Shields.

WANTED, Artistes to Note, all Dates for this Year are filled. First Vacant Dates, Feb. 13, 27. Double and Single Turns write in. Can Book Freak at once. CHAS. A. JAMES, Waxworks and Music Hall, Dublin.

J. Anderson and Son, Dramatic and Variety Agents, 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Now Booking for all the Principal Halls in Scotland and Scotch Concerts. Artistes write, with Dates and Terms.

WANTED, Artistes of every Description for Scotland. Send full List of Bookings and actual lowest terms, GEO. SAPHRINI, 77, Saltmarket, Glasgow.

WANTED, Artistes, in all Lines, from now, on.
Apply, Mr SCOTT, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Artistes, Sisters, Serios, Comedians, Small Sketch Companies, Jan 9 and 16. REYMOND, New Palace, Sheerness. Quote lowest, Hall small.

WANTED, Artists in all Lines, Jan. 9, onwards, for
Liverpool, Ashton, St. Helens, and Warrington.
F. WILLMOT,
Haymarket Music Hall, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artists of every Description, for next Summer Season. Write only, Messrs HORACE ROYLE and ARTHUR MERVIN, 72, Regent-street, W.

H. Burrows Smith's Variety Agency,
65, Claverton-street, Pimlico, London, S.W.
Conducted from above address for Ten Consecutive Years.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes. Provincial Performers of repute especially invited to communicate.
Letters first instance.
Interviews by appointment.

WANTED, Star Artistes, every Description, Jan. 9 and onward. State lowest terms, bookings, full particulars, &c., Yates's Agency, 3, Oxford-grove, Manchester, S.E. Note New Address.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, for Immediate and Future Dates. Apply, Barnard and Deetrich, 7, Clayton-square, Liverpool.

WANTED, Artistes in All Lines for Jan. 9, Onwards.
TOM PRICHARD,
Empire,
Dudley.

WANTED, Artistes all lines, and Novelties Jan. 9.
QUINTON GIBSON, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

HIPPODROME AND CIRCUS VARIETIES,
FOUNDRY-STREET, DEWSBURY.
General Manager, GEORGE WELDON.

WANTED, Artistes of Every Description, for Jan. 23, and future dates till Whit Week, then from August Bank Holiday.
Comedians must be Funny without Vulgarity, anything really good that can be Performed in a Ring boarded over.

WANTED, Artistes in all Lines, Jan. 2 and onwards. Fred Durham's Agency, 'Phone, 15, Brixton. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

WANTED, Artistes of Every Description, Jan. 2, 9, 16, and 23 onwards.
State Lowest Terms, Bookings, &c.
I can Place You.
Jess Verno's Agency, 61, West Derby-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Merriment." Telephone, 2,076 Royal. Representative, Mr Jesse Burton.

TIVOLI, KIDDERMINSTER.

WANTED, Artistes, All Lines. Wire for Monday next; write for later Dates. Address, REEKIE and STEPHENS.

WANTED, Stars and Specialities for Jan. 2 and onwards. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, 23,
Stars in All Lines.
Stars in All Lines.
Full up for Smaller Items.
State Towns at Liberty for.
Can fix Big Numbers any Odd Weeks.
Cadle's Agency, 105-6, Strand, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

TIVOLI THEATRE, DUBLIN.

WANTED, for the Tivoli Theatre of Varieties, Dublin,
All the Greatest Stars in the Profession.
Acts New in Dublin
for the above,
the Premier Variety Theatre in Ireland.
Direct
or through Agents.
All communications
to
Will Sley,
41, Oxford-street,
Manchester.
Telegraphic address, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144.

THE COLISEUM,
SHEERNESS.
Sole Proprietor, T. C. DORLING.
General Manager, CHAS. MELVIN.

WANTED, Big Variety Stars, Novelties of all Descriptions,
for
Jan. 9, onwards.

Should be glad to hear from
the Provenals, Chas Steen, and
other good Numbers known to me.

Call for Monday, Jan. 2.
The Four O'V., Estrellas, D. W. Watson, C. Baker, Barnes' Bioscops, Johnny Hanson and Company, Daisy Morrell, the Two Kays, Feo, &c.
Rehearsal 12 0 o'clock, sharp.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, Feb. 6, Stars for the Very Best Variety Theatres and Hippodromes. Specialities for Pantomime.
Aytoun's Agency, 22, Wilson-road, Camberwell, S.E.
Wires, "Antics, London." 'Phone, 1,949, Hop.
Waiting to hear from Mannone, A. Albert, &c.

THE GLASGOW SYNDICATE HALLS.
TIVOLI AND QUEEN'S VARIETY THEATRES,
GLASGOW.
One Performance Nightly at both Halls.

WANTED, Clever Comedy Acts of all Kinds, Comedians with Big Names, Comediennes to Top, and all Kinds of Novel Acts new to Glasgow; also High-class Society Turns and Big Sensational Shows.
Successful Artists can have Return Dates twice every year at their own price.
Agents invited to send their Lists Weekly, and all Artists coming North should send their Vacancies.
Bill Matter Two Weeks in advance is imperative.
S. KING ALEXANDER, General Manager,
Head Office, Tivoli Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Acts of all Kinds, Immediate Dates.
Wanted, immediately, address of Grey and Welford, Relating to Important Contracts.
Please wire, most urgent.
Dalton's Agency,
5, Matlock-avenue, West Didsbury, Manchester.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES,
GREENOCK.
Lessee and Manager, H. L. SKIVINGTON.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Big Star Comedy Musical Acts for
Jan. 23 and 30, on.

AMERICA.
AMERICA.
AMERICA.

WANTED, Big Feature Acts. Lithos., Photos., Terms,
Cadle's Agency, 105, Strand, W.C.

WANTED for Empire, Paisley, Specialities, Novelties, and Variety Artistes of every description for Jan. 2 and 9. Address, DELNO FRITZ.

WANTED, Talent, all Lines, Bioscope, Dramatic Sketches, any length. Can arrange Shares for Drawing Acts. Immediate, onwards. J. Arnold, Variety Agent, Hippodrome, Castleford.

WANTED, Novelties for the New Year.
Papa Brown,
Agent,
30, Streatham-place,
Brixton, S.W.
'Phone, 233 Streatham. Tel. address, "Jibbers."

WANTED, Specialities, for Pantomime, for Jan. 9 and 16. Terms and particulars to Brooks, Agent, 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, for Accrington Hippodrome, all Lines, for Jan 2, 9, and 16.
Barred by Blackburn.
Day Show Monday, Jan. 2, at 2·0 o'clock.
Rehearsal at 12·0 o'clock. All must attend.
Novelties can have Several Weeks at Best Halls, but Must be New.
Clever Artistes who cannot get Engagements write me.
I can still Represent a few more Good Acts for London and Country.
Vandy's Agency, Barnes, London, S.W.

WANTED, for Victoria Rooms, Cheltenham, Good Variety Company, complete in itself, or other Entertainment, Jan. 9, onwards. Silence polite negative.
Address, MANAGER.

WANTED, Variety Combinations for Britannia, Glasgow,
for Jan. 9 16, 23, and 30.
GEO. SAPHRINI, Manager.

WANTED, for First-class Portable Theatre, Good Varieties,
on and from Jan. 2.
Lowest terms and all particulars,
W. HAGGAR, jun.,
Castle Theatre, Terphil, near Tredegar, Wales.

PALACE THEATRE,
CORK.
General Manager, HENRY KEMBLE.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, and onwards,
Sisters,
Serios,
Dancers,
Novelties,
Musical Acts,
Comedians,
Big Specialities.

Must be Refined,
or useless.

Call, Monday, Jan. 2,
Cee-Mee Troupe, Bessie Hamming,
Campkin, Werners, Costello,
Clarice Netta,
Dan Maxford.

WANTED, Pair of Sisters, Doubles, doing Singles, Song and Dance, must be refined; good Comedian; Tour if suitable. Open Monday, Salisbury.
ALEXANDER FAY, Union Club Hall, Waltham Cross.

CHESTER'S AGENCY.
Dramatic
and
Variety Agents,
13, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams
"Amusements."

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
Turns, all kinds, for Cork and other Irish Towns.
Must be Refined.

WANTED, Variety Turns, American Specialities preferred,
January Onward.
CISSY MAY, Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

Armstrong's Agency.

WANTED, First-class Turns, all Kinds, for Immediate Dates. Artists please send full list of bookings, terms, &c. The above Agency now under the Direction of Bernard Armstrong (Nephew to Barney), 353, Bath-street, Glasgow. Special Notice.—All Contracts entered into for Tivoli and Queen's Theatres, Glasgow, and signed by me stand good.
Signed, BARNEY ARMSTRONG.

WANTED, Star Turns and Good Comedy Acts, Jan. 9, onwards; also Artistes in all Lines. Send full list of dates, litho., terms, and full particulars to Harry Day's Variety Agency, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone, 6,915, Gerrard.
Telegrams, "Terpsichore, London."
No connection with any other firm.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
for
Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30,
and all Dates through Summer of 1905,
Star Turns,
Tops of Bills,
all the
Finest and Biggest
Acts
Required,
Price no object,
for
Manchester,
Salford
Ashton,
Bury,
Preston,
Liverpool,
Oldham,
Rochdale,
Blackpool,
Morecambe,
Barrow,
Glasgow,
Dundee,
Aberdeen
Belfast,
Dublin,
Newcastle,
Hull,
Leeds,
Brighton,
Bristol,
Birmingham,
Bolton,
Middlesbrough, &c.
New and Novel Acts can have Six Months' Solid Engagements. Send immediately. Terms, Photos, Lithos., &c., to WILL SLEY, 41, Oxford-street, Manchester.
Telegrams, "Variety, Manchester."
Telephone, 09,144 Manchester.

Gala Season.

WANTED, all Kinds of Suitable Turns and Novelties.
for the
Principal Fêtes and Galas.

Caterer to the York Gala
Two Consecutive Years;
Peel Park, Bradford, Gala,
Two Consecutive Years;
Saltburn Gala;
and all the
Principal Galas
throughout the United Kingdom.

Lithos., photos, and particulars,
James Fioni's Agency,
21, Norton-street,
Liverpool.
Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool."
Telephone, 1,686, Royal.

WANTED, Musical Clown and Nigger Performer, for Three Days, August Bank Holiday, Northampton. Add., M'ASKELL, c.o. CONNELL, Hatter, Ayr.

WANTED, for Summer Season, Pierrots. Artistes known to Holyhead preferred.
Winter Gardens, Blackpool.

WANTED, Vocalists for Illustrated Songs, with own Slides, &c. HAMILTON, St. Margaret's Hall, Canterbury.

WANTED, Magic Kettle Act and Variety Artists for Jan. 9.
Address, H. WARD, 45, Dall-street, Burnley.

WANTED, First-rate Conjuror, to Manipulate Rabbits, &c. Others write or call,
LONDON CONCERT DIRECTION CO.,
506, Birkbeck Bank-chambers, Holborn, W.C.

WANTED, Mandolinists, Male and Female. Must be Readers of Music.
Box 8,927, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Trick Cyclist, must be able to Fall. Letters only, stating experience, age, salary, enclose photo. if possible, BIKE, 106, Wilcox-road, South Lambeth, London.

WANTED, Young Man, 5ft. 7in., Knockabout, Comedy, Play, or knowledge of Music, for Good Troupe.
Apply quick, Box 8,934, "The Era" Office.

WANTED, Good Comedy Legmania Performer, Long Engagement. Height, age, salary, all found, no Amateurs, W. H. SMITH, General Post-office, Liverpool.

WANTED, Gentleman to assist Conjuror and Illusionist.
Must be well educated, steady, and reliable.
Latest reference
and photo., if any.
Long Engagement to the right man.
Box 8,929,
care of "The Era"

WANTED, a Good Operator who understands his business, can open at once.
PRUETT, Dove-lane, Bristol.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the PUBLISHER, 42, Wellington-street, Strand, London, W.C.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Del. Levey, Vacant Jan. 2 and 9, and 16; also April. Catchy Songs a Hit, and Gorgeous Dresses a success.
Wire, Tivoli, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Known, Liberty Monday, Rene Allen, Great Descriptive Vocalist and Smart Dancer. Terrific Success, Nightly, Empire, Wigan, where wire.

WANTED, Known, Flo Atkins, World's Champion Concertinist and Expert Mandolinist, Jan. 2, Grand, Manchester. Vacant Jan. 9. 40, Chadwick-street, West Gorton, Manchester.

WANTED, Oct. 2, 9, by Eva Reed Comedy Comedienne, Grotesque and Top Boo Dancer. Wire, Grand Theatre, Chorley.

WANTED, by Miss Daisy Morell, Star Vocalist and Burlesque Actress, Jan. 2, 9, 16. Wire, Empire, Dudley.

WANTED, Known, Miss Madge Roberts, Characteristic Comedienne, big success, Coliseum, Brighton, and Tivoli, Manchester. Liberty Jan. 2 and 9. Wire, 12, Pickering-street, Breckfield-road, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Sisters Ely, the Favourite Duettists, Monday and 9th, through mistake in date. Wire, Public Hall, Carlisle.

THE GREAT MACCANN.

WANTED, 1905, Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, by the Famous Concertina King,
on his Patent Instrument, value £500.
Jan. 2, 1905, Hippodrome, Accrington, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, W. Horsley, Song and Dance Artist and Champion Clog Dancer of England, is at Liberty Jan 9, 1905. This week, Palace, North Shields; next, Victoria Theatre, West Stanley.

WANTED, Monday Next, Jan. 2, Frank Tyrell, the Successful Comedian. For a Reliable Turn wire Tivoli, Mansfield.

WANTED, by Sidney Dolf, Jan. 9, onwards, "The One Man Show," Vocalist, Conjuror, and Juggler, Jan. 2, Hippodrome, New Brompton.

WANTED, Jan. 16, by Fred Casburn, Quaint Comedian in a Dress Suit.
Metropole, Gateshead; next, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

WANTED, Monday next, Chas. F. Ernest, the Mimic Par Excellence; also the Howards, Premier Song Illustrators Wire, quick, Hippo., Carlisle.

WANTED, by Syd Herman, the Original Hebrew Comedian and Actor-Vocalist, Monday next, also Jan. 30. Wire, Tivoli, Kidderminster.

WANTED, Monday next, Onwards, Whimsical Musical Warner. This week Specially Engaged, Lecture and Musical Act, Ulster Hall, Belfast.

WANTED, by Alf Davis, Favourite Comedian and Actor Vocalist, Monday, Jan. 2 and 9. Write or wire, 1, Cleveland-street, Mile-end, London.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, by Bob Hartley, Comedian and Patterer, big success at Gaiety this week. Wire, sharp, Gaiety Theatre, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Chas. Woodward, Char. Com. and Actor-Vocalist, is Vacant Jan. 16, 23, 30. This week, achieving the greatest success, Met., Camberwell. Encored Nightly. Finish amidst yells of applause. Comp., 150, Lambeth-road, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Gus Balsiger, Negro Vocal Comedian and Trick Musical Artist, Liberty, Monday next. Wire, Empire, Wrexham.

WANTED, Known, Witty Will Pearce, Smart Singing Comedian and Funny Mimic of Animals, &c., Requires Monday next. Wire, 40, Grafton-street, Leeds.

WANTED, Known, Fred Cary, Great Success as Abanazar.
Empire, Oldham.

WANTED, Known, Squire Day, Comedian and Entertainer, at Liberty, after many weeks, Convalescent. Three Distinct Turns, including his Latest Mechanical Doll, Song and Dance Novelty. Letters, care of "The Era" Office.

WANTED.—Picitt, the Muscular Master of Manacles, Handcuff Marvel without Faked Fetters or Trick Boxes. Searched from head to feet. Conjuror's methods impossible. The Originator of the only Handcuff Act that has not been copied or exposed. Picitt does not work a single "gag" worked by any other performer. Full particulars of my big house-packing feats sent to Managers who can and are willing to pay for a Big Original Sensation.
Splendid Lithos.
First Vacant Date, April 10.
Address, Trades Hall, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Known, Kardoc, Handcuff King, Jail-Breaker, Free Jan. 9, 16, on. Just broke out of Jail. I will give £25 to the man who can get out of a cell I have escaped from. This Offer is Genuine. Next week, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton. Sure draw. Startling Lithos, £100 Challenge. Conclude to-night, Lyceum, Stafford. Wire, see Card, wire.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 23, and 30, by Rosetti, Transparent Painter, the only Act, and Steb, Comedy Clay Modeller; next, King's, Liverpool.

WANTED, by Carl Hershal, Conjuror and Bioscope Operator, Jan. 2.
Wire, Market Hall, Aberystwyth.

WANTED, to Join Quartette, or Comedian, Steady, Sing and Dance. Double Show.
A., 44, Shandon-road, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, Jan. 23, 30, March 6, April 3, 10, 17, the Great Kyoto, One and Only Original, Mysterious Comedy Japanese Box. A laughing and applauding Hit, can't be beat. Also Miss May Geraldine, Chic Comedienne, Dancer. Success, Theatre, Pontypridd. Monday, Jan. 2, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, Jan. 2, by N. C. Bostock and Nellie Elliene, through not having secured a Theatre for our Combination. Wire, Theatre, Wallsend.

WANTED, Monday next, by Colvil and Tate (Jack and Annie), Eccentric Comedy Artistes and Dancers. Wire, care of MURRAY, 62, Waddell-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Jan. 9, to break journey North, by Ryder Davis, Actor-Vocalist and Comedian; also Eva Ward, Burlesque Artiste. Monday, E., Bridgwater.

WANTED, Jan. 9-16, by Bob Pearson, the Vocal Comedy Humourist, and Lily Pender, the Great Speciality Comedienne. Two Big Refined Numbers. Wires, Monday, Empire Palace, Dudley.

WANTED, Monday Next, also 9th, Blake Cohen and Evie Page, Eccentric Comedy Entertainers. Double and Single. Wire, Empire, Hull.

WANTED, Monday; also Jan. 9, by Belford and Mars, Vocal Comedy Act, "The Postman and the Slavey." Wire, T. R., Hebburn-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Monday Next (Bristol to follow), by Lee and Arden, in the Screaming Comedy Act, "The Lady and the Watchman." This, O., Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Monday Next, also Jan. 9, by the Carassia Duo, in the Great Musical Speciality. Wire, Palace, Sunderland.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, by the Albyns, Vocal Act, introducing good Singing, Dancing, Comedian, and Comedy Quartette. See Cards. Yates's Agency, Manchester, S.E.

WANTED, by the St. Johns, Comedy, Musical, and Dancing Turn, Jan. 9, onward.
Empire, Burnley.

WANTED, Known, Carl and Carr, Comedians, in Refined Comedy Act, "Workhouse." Terrific success Chinese Policemen, "Aladdin" Panto., Ealing Theatre.

WANTED, Jan. 2 and 9, by Denton and Dale, Eccentric Vocal and Patter Comedians. Good Lithos. Wire, G.P.O., Morpeth.

WANTED, by Warner and Wilson, Smart Cross-talk Comedians, Jan. 2 and 9. This, Empire, Wrexham. Wire, Double and Single.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 16, by France and Francis, Comedians and Acrobatic Grotesques. Jan 9, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

WANTED, Known, Duncan and Morton, Refined Comedians and Dancers, Liberty Monday, Jan. 2; also Fred Burnaby, Baritone Vocalist. Wire, one or both, Hippodrome, Macclesfield.

WANTED, Known, Pearl and Clifford, Ventriloquial Artistes, in their Original Funniosity "Ginger and Jack-in-the-Box." A few Vacant Dates Open. Agent, 75, Milson-road, West Kensington.

WANTED, Known, the Great Marconis, Few Dates Vacant 05 also '06. We play with Five Million volts of electricity, produced by apparatus worth £3,000. A genuine show, not faked; £500 challenge.
Next week, Palace, Bradford.

WANTED, Jan. 2 and 9, by Les Uniques (Two Ladies, Two Gents.), Original Gymnastic Potpourri on two Electrically Illuminated Perpendicular Ladders. 98, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

WANTED, Tom Hall and Own Acrobatic Nippers, Dog, and Monkey. Wire for Monday, Theatre Royal, Wallsend. Dog talk of everywhere.

WANTED, Known, the Rushforths, the only Song Illustrators who Write, Compose, Sing, and Illustrate their own Songs; and King Leo, a Ventriloquist with a voice. Argyle, Birkenhead. Lib. Feb. 13.

WANTED, by the Rushforths and King Leo, Song Illustrators and Ventriloquist, Feb. 13.
Two Acts. Argyle, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Known, Eltenos, Comedy Triple Bar Act; TOGO, Juggler, Liberty Jan. 9, 30. Jan. 2, Sunderland Olympia. Two Distinct Acts.

WANTED, Known, Cara Magda, America's Greatest Lady Gymnast. New, Novel, Sensational. Liberty Jan. 9, 16 Wire, Circus, Southport.

WANTED, Monday, by Arizona Trio, Acrobatic Tumblers, &c; Will Percival, Comedian, Dancer. Wire, Hippodrome, Accrington.

WANTED, Known, the Tarras, Double Jugglers; also Miss Dahlia, Lady Gymnast. Two Turns. Liberty Jan. 9, 16. Circus, Southport.

WANTED, Dates for the Two Clarkes in their Novel Globe Acrobatic Speciality Act. Great Success, Green's Whitevale Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, Jan. 9, 23 30, also Feb. 6, 13, 20, by Grieve, Ventriloquist, above the average. Five Novelty Figures. Original Sketch, worked to perfection, with Patter and Songs of the brightest description. Hit of the programme, Lyceum, Stafford. Jan. 2, Hippo., Porth. Fifth engagement under Mr Taylor. That's proof.

WANTED, by Charles Valvo, Ventriloquist, In New Funny Act, Engagement. Vacant Monday, also Jan. 9. North preferred. Wire, Hippo., Scarborough.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, by the Monckton, in their screamingly funny Duologue, "A Woman's Curiosity," Monday next and onwards. Enormous success at Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester. Also Lillie Monckton, Serio and Descriptive Vocalist. Letters, 31, Booth-street, Manchester. Good songs wanted.

WANTED, Jan. 2, One Week, by Ross-Clyde Comedy Company, in their Screamer, "I Must Have It."
Wire,
ATKINSON, 11, Fearles-road, Paragon, Walworth, London.

WANTED, Jan. 9, for Matt Wilkinson's screaming Comedy Sketch, "The Registry Office." Wire, Hippodrome, Grimsby; next, Circus, Bury.

WANTED, Known, Harry Liston, Miss Lord Lumley, &c., will Tour any District on salary or share with Responsible Managers. Egyptian Hall, London.

WANTED, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 (to follow Wakefield), for new Sketch, "A Dressing-room Romance." BRASQUE and DUNCAN, Met. T, Glasgow.

"FOR KING AND COUNTRY."
WANTED, Known, Tom Herman's Juvenile Patriotic Naval, Military Spectacle. Tremendous success, Hippo., Dewsbury. Engaged another week.

WANTED, Dates for Juvenile Military Spectacle, "Russo and Japan War." Everything First-class. CLARKE, Green's Carnival, Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Spangeletti's Stage Circus, the laughing hit of every Programme we work. Denman Wood, Esq., Proprietor Court Theatre, Bacup, says, Spangeletti, your turn is extra. Manager Nightingale says, Bravo, Spangeletti. Free Jan. 16, 23, and 30, onwards. This week, Lyceum, Stafford; next, Hippodrome, Southport.

WANTED, Jan. 9, on, for Le Clair's Troupe of Dogs. The High-Leaping Dog. This, 69 M'Intyre-street, Jarrow; Next, Post-office, Amble.

WANTED, Bioscope Bookings or Tour for same. Absolutely the most Up-to-Date and Steadiest Machines running, with or without Films. M'KENZIE BROS, 39, Higher Ardwick, Manchester.

WANTED, by Young Gent, Smart, Good Appearance, Engagement as Assistant to Illusionist or Conjuror. Well experienced. Last Engagement with Inventor and Maker of Illusions.
Box 8,933, care of "The Era" Office.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE SHOWMEN'S GUILD.
President, Lord GEORGE SANGER.

WANTED, Known, Annual Meetings at Manchester, in the Memorial Hall, Albert-square, at 4 0 o'clock in the afternoon, Jan. 18, 1905.
At the Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Jan. 25, at 11·0 in the forenoon. The President, Lord George Sanger, will preside. See next week's "Era" for details as to Speakers, Business, &c.
T. HURST, Hon. Sec.; H. M. HORNE, Secretary.

WANTED, Known (Important), that the next Meeting of the British Roundabout Proprietors' and Showmen's Union will be held at the Wheatsheafe Hotel, Bolton, on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1905, at 2·30 p.m., when all Members are Requested to Attend to Discuss Business of the Greatest Importance.
(Signed) T. HURST, Secretary.
P.S.—The Van-dwellers' Ball will be held the same evening, to bring your Wives along and make it a Record.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Handsellers to know Simons is the Man for Cheap Second-hand Watches and Jewellery. Send £5 for Special Parcel.
117, Houndsditch, London

WANTED, Showmen to Please Note that H. Burman, the Original Show Builder, Carver, and Decorator, will be pleased to Estimate for Show Front Waggons, Parade Carriages, &c. I have Large Premises, and Good Plant of Machinery, &c. Established Thirty Years. 19, Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, E.C. Close to Farringdon-street Metropolitan Railway.

Showmen's Fire Insurance.
WANTED, Known, all kinds of Showmen's Property Insured against Fire, on Tour or otherwise, anywhere in the United Kingdom. For particulars apply to F. F. POPE, Abingdon-on-Thames.

WANTED, Auctioneers and Others to Know Simons is the Cheapest Place for Clocks, Bronzes, Field Glasses, and Cheap Jewellery. Best-class French Paste Stocked for the Profession. 117, Houndsditch.

WANTED, Showmen to Know that Leete's Colours and Varnishes are the Best and Cheapest in London. Vermilionettes, Permanent Reds, Carmines, Carriage and Copal Varnishes, Gold Leaf, Brushes, &c., and every Decorator's Requisite for Caravans, Roundabouts, Swings, &c.
Write for price list or call,
Leete's Colour Works, 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E.

WANTED, Known, Electrical Specialities. SIMPKIN, WILKINSON, and GIBSON, 66, Kirkstall-road, Leeds, Manufacture Dynamos, Arc Lamps, Switchboards, &c., Specially for Showmen. Also Stock Cable, Globes, Carbons, Incandescents, and Every Requisite.

WANTED, Known, Everybody Interested in Fairs, Showmen's Supplies, &c., should send for our New List (1905). Have you seen the Bombardment of Port Arthur? STACEY and Co., Showman's Stores, Fettles-street, London, E.

WANTED, for World's Fair, Side Shows and Novelties; also Space to Let. OWEN BAGAN, Proprietor, 66, Gallowgate, Glasgow.

WANTED, for Tom Norman's World's Fair and Carnival (under cover), Portsmouth, Novelties for Side Shows. Also for Christmas Bazaar and Fair at Ryde. Wire, 8, Bank-gardens, Ryde.

WANTED, Good Novelties of Every Description for one of the best positions in Belfast. Apply to F. SHARP, Manager, 49, High-street, Belfast.

WANTED, for Immediate and Future Dates for Shops in Very Best Positions in Portsmouth and Ryde, Up-to-date Novelties, on Salary or Share. Three Weeks certain, must be A1. Apply, 8, Bank-gardens, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

WANTED, Novelties. Six Weeks' Engagement. Open at once. Big Business waiting. Wire, PHILLIPS, 7, Dunravon-st., Ton-y-pandy, S. Wales.

WANTED, Novelties for the Best Shop in Chatham (next to Gaiety Music Hall). 51, High-street, Chatham. Proprietor, R. J. LOVEGROVE.

WANTED, Freaks or Quick-Showing Novelties, must have Window Flash. Good salary and Comfortable Engagement to Good Shows. Wire for Monday, MARFIELD, 9, Mary-st., Dublin. Happy New Year to All.

WANTED, High-class Freaks, Novelties, and Attractions, suitable for Waxwork Exhibition. Nothing too Big; Money no object. Open JAN. 2, onwards; also Phrenologist and Tattooist Write in.
Carter's Waxworks, 10, Castle-place, Belfast.

WANTED, the Best Freaks and Novelties, to open Monday next, onwards. Good window show. FRISCO, 4, Market-place, South Shields.

WANTED, Freaks, Novelties, with Oil Paintings, Jan. 9, onwards. Sure salary. Best Position, Three Towns. No Best Offers. HOLT, Waxworks, Plymouth.

WANTED, Several Auctioneers, Used to Auction Vans. State salary first letter. No telling the Tale entertained, because I know you all. Apply, HENRY WHITE, Bassant House, Herne Bay.

WANTED, First-class Planksman, Comedian, used to Tents. Open at once. MARSHALL and WEST, Mart, Tyldesley, Lancs.

WANTED, Known, Carl Harmon's Royal Punch and Judy and Marionettes, also Bioscope, open for Engagements. 101A, Penwith-rd., Earlsfield, S.W.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED, Known, Bailey's Punch and Judy, Crystal Palace, London, Daily, Third Week. Prospercus New Year to All. Chair Up.

WANTED, Known, Vacant, Jan. 2 and Onwards, Alf Martino's Great Levitation Act, Nits, the Hypnotised Lady, that has caused the Greatest Sensation during the last Four Weeks at Mr Symond's World's Fair, Stanhope-road, Portsmouth. Vacant Monday next and Onwards. Wire or reply, MARTIN, World's Fair, Stanhope-road, Portsmouth. Also at Liberty the Clever Brothers Costello, the Great Funambulist and Legmania Artists.

WANTED, Jan. 9, by Miss Zona-Bell, Coloured Lady Snake-Charmer; Carl, Fremier Rifle Shot. Everything necessary to take Money with. The Female Gaol-Breaker, Madame St. Claire. Now very busy at Crouch's Wonderland and Waxworks, Argyle-st., Glasgow.

WANTED, Known, Marie De Vere, American Sword Swallower, Electric Light Swallowing, Liberty Jan. 16, 1905. Perm. address, 17, Gratton-road, West Kensington.

WANTED, Known, Instantaneous Success of Eagle Davis's Knife-Throwers. Most sensational performance travelling. Handsome Flash. Splendid Paintings, Posters, Photos. Still lead. Some follow—at least they think so. Still getting Booked, hence the jealousy. 9, Mary-st., Dublin. Happy New Year to All.

WANTED, Known, First-class Lady Palmist, open for Engagement. Address, MADAME, 10, Gloucester-street, Brunswick-square, Bristol.

BOROUGH HALL, STAFFORD, Jan. 2 to 14, 1905.
"Japan." Grand Scenic Trades and Novelties Exhibition. Admission Free.

WANTED, Known, One or Two Spaces to Let. Open to arrange Sharing Terms. Distorting Mirrors for Northern Tour. Address, MANAGER, as above.

WANTED, to Let, Good Space for Side Show; Rent Low. JAMES BAYFIELD, Stewart's Exhibition, 108, Upper-street, Islington.

WANTED, to Let, Ground for Roundabout or Large Show. Cheap Ground Rent.
Apply, T. BURGON, Market-place, Castleford.

WANTED, Known, to Riding Machine Proprietors, Showmen, and Others, Ground to Let in Market Position. SEARS, 69, Ernest-street, Mile-end.

WANTED, Known, that Sedgwick Carnival, Oldham, will open Saturday, Jan. 7, for Ten Weeks.
All applications for Ground to be made to Mr SEDGWICK, care of MELLOR, Owl Lamp Works, Oldham, Lancs.

WANTED, to Let, Large Premises in Longrow, Nottingham, for Two Months, from Jan. 9 Apply to JAMES PATTISON, Prize Model Exhibition, Nottingham.

Exceptional Bargains.
WANTED, all Showmen to Know that we have for Sale Several Second-Hand Gavioliphones (Eighty-seven Keys), Playing by Paper Music; in Good Condition;
also a Quantity of
Brass Trumpet Organs, with or without Drums;
and, having to make room for New Stock,
we have decided to Sell these Organs at an
Enormous Reduction,
and no Reasonable Offer Refused.
CHIAPPA and SONS, Limited, 6, Little Bath-street, Clerkenwell, London;
also at
17, Milton-street, Lower Broughton, Manchester.

WANTED, to Sell, a Complete Waxwork Exhibition, consisting of Fifty-one Figures, and divided into Nine Tableaux. Directly imported from the famous Musee Grevin, Paris, for exhibition at Earl's-court. Some of the tableaux may be separated. All communications, by letter, to SORG, care of STRAKER and Co, 190, Edgware-road, W.

WANTED, to Sell, 8-h.p. Burrell Compound Showman's Engine, with Dynamo and Electric Plant Complete; also One Seven Figure Organ, One Two Figure Organ, and One Trumpet Organ. No one has been to see Engine or Organs.
WALKER, Roundabout Maker, Tewkesbury.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, Love-letter, Husbands, Babies, Black List, Marriage and Liars' Licences, &c. MEURICE, 20, Bidborough-st., W.C.

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Rehearsal, at 2·30 o'clock, for Horace Goldin, Lisl's Bears, The Lobakans, Harry Champion, The Bostons, Little Nelusco, L. B. Athol, Kitty Bell, Charlie Baymar.

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Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Vasco, Mabel Hind, Alexandre and Bertie, Charles Cardew, Collins and Rice, Barton Howard, Lyane and Geks, Sybil St. Elmo, Five Olracs.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal, at 1·0 o'clock, for Tom Edwards, Jimmy Shields, Griff, Fanny Robina, Sarnthalers, Tom O'Neill, Vesper, Florry Cooper, H. Stanton's "For Reform."

EMPIRE PALACE, SOUTH SHIELDS
Proprietor, Mr R. THORNTON. Rehearsal, at 2·0 o'clock, for The Dandies, Three Sisters Hayden, Charles Adams, May Geraldine, Kyoto, Edie Venc, Bioscope, H. Stanton's "Twenty Years from Now," Three Sisters Emelia.

EMPIRE, ARDWICK-GREEN, MANCHESTER.
Rehearsal at 2·0 o'clock for Gatling Guards, The Finneys, Doherty Sisters, The Passparts, Warden Reed and Co., Bioscope Lennie and Hast, sisters Pine, W. H. Clemart, The Leonards.

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IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the Stage-Manager of each Theatre One Week previous to Opening, and Assignments for same must be produced at Rehearsal.
Artists will clearly understand that their Business must be Free from all Vulgarity.

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BY THE OLD OAK-TREE
and
HONEYMOON HALL,
the First Night Hits in
"PEGGY MACHREE"
at WYNDHAM'S THEATRE.
Sung by
MISS MARIE DAINTON.

Daily Telegraph, Dec. 29, 1904.
The chief lyrical success of the evening was won by "The Old Oak Tree," a ditty of the Letty Lind type, which suggested American, rather than Irish, authorship. The song in question was very daintily sung by Miss Marie Dainton.

Pall Mall Gazette, Dec. 29, 1904.
One song, "Honeymoon Hall," beautifully sung by Miss Marie Dainton, arrested our attention at once, not only by its essential prettiness, but also by the ingenuity with which from a humorous point it was treated. . . . In this act occurs a charming little melody entitled "By the old oak tree."

St. James's Gazette, Dec. 29, 1904.
"Honeymoon Hall" is stated to be an interpolated number. It is likely to be immensely popular.

Evening News, Dec. 29, 1904.
"Honeymoon Hall," charmingly sung and acted by Miss Marie Dainton, made a great hit.

Enormous Success of
MISS MADGE LESSING,
in
GOOD-BYE, LITTLE GIRL, GOOD-BYE.
LONDON COLISEUM.
Absolutely the Finest Stage Setting ever given to a Single Song.
Instantaneous Hit at the
PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRISTOL,
of
TESSIE,
as Sung by
MISS LIL HAWTHORNE.

Bristol News, Dec 26, 1904.
There are at least two such which she now introduces, and it will be surprising if they are not soon being whistled by the man in the street, to say nothing of the small boy. "Tessie" is a decided novelty, for after the second verse the refrain is taken up by a male voice "off," the said male voice being reproduced by means of a powerful and clear-toned gramaphone. The third verse gives the band an opportunity to raise laughter, and they make the most of it.

Bristol Times, Dec. 26, 1904.
"Tessie," as sung by Miss Lil Hawthorne, is sure to establish itself as a favourite, and the village band chorus is one of the funniest items of the evening.

The Singer of Novelty Songs,
MISS RACHEL LOWE,
Scores at
KENNINGTON THEATRE
with
ANY RAGS?
WHAT'S THE USE OF THAT, HUH?
and
MY LUCKY DUCK.

St. James's Gazette, Dec. 27, says:—
Miss Rachel Lowe is Aladdin, and her singing captured the crowded house last night with a quacking refrain by a live pet duck. Her song "My Lucky Duck" is one of the most novel things in Panto. Land.

The North Quickly Responds to
MISS VERONICA BRADY,
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, ABERDEEN,
when she is singing
GOOD-BYE, LITTLE GIRL, GOOD-BYE
and
I'LL BE YOUR DEW-DROP ROSY.

Catholic Herald says:—
Miss Brady made a hit with her first song, "Good-bye, Little Girl, Good-bye," and the large audience quickly caught up the chorus.

People's Journal, Aberdeen, says:—
"Good-bye, Little Girl, Good-bye," and "I'll be Your Dew-drop Rosy" are the most fetching ditties in the pantomime.

Bon Accord, Dec. 13, 1904, says:—
Miss Veronica Brady, one of the pleasantest of principal girls, soon won, and kept, the attention of the house. Her first song, indeed, "Good-bye, Little Girl, Good-bye," had to be repeated, and, on its repetition, the stalls had learned the chorus. By the time the Christmas number of the "Bon-Accord" appears this song, no doubt, will have passed the hardest test of popularity. Almost everyone will be whistling the tune.

MISS MAY MARS
Captured her Audience at the
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and
TIZAN.

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Scores with
PENNIES,
CROWN THEATRE, PECKHAM.

MISS NELLIE STRATTON
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THE CANTERBURY,
WESTMINSTER-BRIDGE-ROAD, S.E.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 11·0 o'clock.
Dr. Walford Bodie, M.D., D.D.'s (U.S.A.), F.S.Sc. (Lond.), Arden and Abel, in "Three of a Kind;" Elsa Joel, Radie Furman, Bransby Williams, W. H. Fox, The Royal Six, Five Juliennes, Harry Anderson, Ray Wallace, Terry and Lambert, Whit Cunliffe, Victoria Monks.
Manager, FRED MILLER.

PARAGON,
MILE-END-ROAD, E.
Artistes are particularly requested to attend Band Rehearsals, Monday, 3·0 o'clock.
Dr. Walford Bodie, "The Brown Bear," enacted by Joe Elvin and Popular Comedy Company; Pat Rafferty, Tom Lesmore, Clark and Hamilton, Ian Colquhoun, Will Evans, Walter Stanley, Maggie Walsh.
Manager, CHARLES BEECHAM.

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Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Saxon Trio, Bob Hanlon Troupe, Harry Nation, Sable Fern, Flo Penley, The Wedburns, Capt. Slingsby, Ruffell's Bioscope, Major Moss and Son, J. H. Keith, Bert Brantford.
Manager, FRANK WEEKS.

EUSTON,
EUSTON-ROAD, N.W.
Two Performances Nightly.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 12·0 o'clock.
Fred Karno and Co., in "Jail Birds;" Joe O'Gorman, Maude Courtney, Orpheus, Harry Lauder, Lieut. Travis, Barnard's Marionettes, Arthur Lloyd and Co., Alexandra Edwin, Norman and Leonard Trio.
Manager, FRED M'AVOY.

THE EMPRESS,
BRIXTON-ROAD, S.W.
Rehearsals on Monday, at 1·0 o'clock.
Will Evans, The Borellis, Arthur Reece, Ergotti and King Luis, Fred Karno's "Early Birds," Orpheus, Frank Seeley, Ruby Bijou, W. H. Downs, Ara, Zebra, and Vora, Stave, Maudie Courtney, Amy Sullivan, Dora Martin, Goggin and Davis, Connie Williams, Geo. Martin.
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Rehearsals on Monday, at 2·0 o'clock.
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HOLBORN.
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Harry Pleon and Co., The Ashers, Harry Walker, Clive Watts, Dixie Combination, Amy Anderson and Co., Swan and Stanley, Ivy Adelaide, Maggie Rimmer, Charles Craston, Three Sisters Ernest, Ruffell's Pictures, Dr. Walford Bodie.
Matinée Every Day in the Week. Dr. Bodie appears only at the Matinées, and Harry Pleon and Co., in "The Burman's Holiday," only at the Evening Performances.
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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1905.

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Four Clittons, Alice Ormonde, the Arleys, Melaine, Fred Curran, Kweery, Fred Earle, Will M'Ivor, Pictures, Pichel Troupe.
There will be a Special Matinée on Jan. 2 and every Day during the Week. Rehearsal at 11 30.

HIPPODROME, BRIGHTON.
Alexander, Lily Flexmore, the Falcons, Ed. and Nettie Masse, Bennecelli Troupe, Nellie Wallace, Lew Wells, Addie Dorina, Browning and Wally, Pictures, Nelson Downs.

HIPPODROME, BIRMINGHAM.
The Yiulians, Geo. Collins, Nellie and Nora, Mdlle. Marvelle, Henri Abdy, Leo Dryden, Mr and Mrs Gene Hughes, Stanley and Vandyke, Pictures, Ed. F. Reynard.

REGENT, SALFORD.
Staig's Motor, Dan Llewelyn, Gus Harris, Miss Raffin's Monkeys, Farley, Rennie, and Farley, Lind, Marquis Lion, Amiel, Pictures, Geo. Rennie.
Special Matinée Jan. 2. Rehearsal 12 30.

HIPPODROME, GLASGOW.
Al. Lawrence, Will Onda and Co., Lillian, Bob Hamilton, the Donatos, Mdlle. Flora Lumiere, Mountford and Walsh, Laares Troupe, Frances Letty, Pictures, Clarus Brothers, Alf Barker and Dogs.
Jan. 2, 3, and 4 there will be Four Shows Daily, at 12·0, 3 0, 6·0, and 8·0 o'clock,
Jan. 5, 6, and 7 there will be Three Shows Daily, at 2 30, 6·30, and 9·0 o'clock. Rehearsal at 10 30,

ALHAMBRA, PARIS.
Les Heureux Pierrots, Mons. D'Musto, Les Ohio Girls, Mdlle. Clotilde, Meir et Mora, Harry Allister, Abd'del Kader Trio, Grant et Grant, Les Krags, Frères Walton, S. T. L. Krueger, Bioscope, Wills et August.

PAVILION, NEWCASTLE.
Six Bros. Luck, Sid Bandon, Maud Caswell, the Toreadors, the O'Learys, Brinn, Adolph Ernest, the Densmores, Pictures, Paxton Trio.
There will be a Special Matinée on Jan. 2, 3, and 4, at 2.30.
Rehearsal at 11 30.

ALHAMBRA, HULL.
Bros. Forrest, Lily Saville, A. Aldridge, Gardner, Griffen, and Gardner, Akimotos, Pictures, Hayman and Franklin.

EMPIRE, BRISTOL.
Miss Lizzie B. Raymond, Carina Sisters, Reddick Anderson, Sandro Trio, Bros. Ashley, Schut Zenliesen'n, Alfonso Silvano, Pictures, Charles Baron, Charles Whittle.

HIPPODROME, LIVERPOOL.
Walton and Miss Ella, Nancy St. John, Harry Leybourne, Alix Lukos, Vaudeville Trio, Miss Nellie Ganthony, Dusty Rhodes, Hilgart Arkas, Bros. Tiviotdale, Pictures, Keen and Waller.

PALACE, GLASGOW.
Harry Ford, Ethel Yorke, Harry Drew, the Allisons, Emma and Victor, Larola, Rose Cabani, Pictures, Toch and Tard, Rosela.
There will be a Special Matinée on Jan. 2 and every Day during the Week. Rehearsal at 11·30.

TIVOLI, LEEDS.
Charles Morritt, Florence Hill, Michels and Sandro, Blind Man, Fielding and Hull, Young American Quintet Chas. Vandyke, Sulima Matrapa, Starr and Jerome, Ica Rose, Pictures, the Cattaneos.

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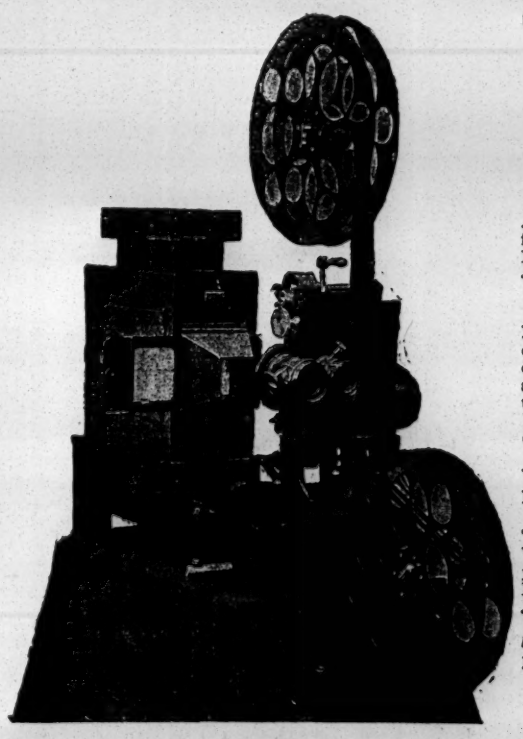

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Atom, Mr Willie.....	December 24, 1904.
Aubrey, Mrs W.	December 24, 1904.
Bailey, Mr Gordon.....	December 24, 1904.
Bandmann-Palmer, Mrs	May 7, 1904.
Bard, Mr Wilkie.....	September 10, 1904.
Barrett, the Late Mr Wilson.	July 23, 1904.
Barrington, Mr H. H.	November 12, 1904.
Barth, Mr Cecil	June 11, 1904.
Bartlett, Mr J. J.	July 2, 1904.
Barton, Miss Adah.....	April 16, 1904.
Bertram, Miss Celestine	July 2, 1904.
Billington, the Late Mr John	September 10, 1904.
Bint, Mr Billie	September 3, 1904.
Blande, Miss Edith	June 25, 1904.
Bodie, Dr. Walford, M.D. ..	April 9, 1904.
Booth, Mr J. H.	August 6, 1904.
Bostock, the Late Emma....	December 24, 1904.
Bracewell, Mr Joe.....	May 14, 1904.
Brayne, Mr Harry	July 16, 1904.
Brough, Mr Lionel.....	November 5, 1904.
Browning, Mr Charles	May 21, 1904.
Butt, Mr Alfred	July 30, 1904.
Cabourn, Mr John.....	August 13, 1904.
Campbell, the Late Mr Herbt.	July 23, 1904.
Campbell, Miss Audrey	October 8, 1904.
Carne, Mr Joseph	May 7, 1904.
Cathie, Mr Leslie Roy	May 21, 1904.
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Cheevers, Mr J. E.	October 1, 1904.
Chippendale, Mr James	September 17, 1904.
Clarence, Miss Nellie	November 12, 1904.
Clark, Mr Cuthbert	October 15, 1904.
Clavering, Miss Marie	October 8, 1904.
Clyde, Miss Hilda	May 21, 1904.
Coleman, the Late Mr John..	April 23, 1904.
Colona, the Late Don Edgardo	August 20, 1904
Corri, Mr Clarence C.	November 5, 1904.
Craven, Mr Hawes.....	October 8, 1904.
Danbury, Miss Ethel.....	September 17, 1904
Davis, Miss Flora	September 10, 1904
Day, Mr David	October 8, 1904.
Dent, Mr Bert.....	April 16, 1904.
Deverell, Mr John W.	May 21, 1904.
Doherty, Mr Pat	April 9, 1904.
Dowsett, the Late Mr Vernon	April 9, 1904.
Draco, Mr Kay	June 4, 1904.
Dryden Mr Leo	July 16, 1904.
Dunrobin, Mr L. Race	July 9, 1904.
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Farrington, Miss Helen	April 9, 1904.
Felber, Mr H. H.	August 13, 1904
Fineberg, Mr Harris	December 24 1904.
Firmin, Miss Dorothy	November 19, 1904.
Franks, Mr Wilfred	May 7, 1904.
Freebar, Mr Sydney	July 30, 1904.
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Garrod, Mr W. V.	July 16, 1904.
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Godfrey, Mr Dan	May 14, 1904.
Grahame, Mr J. Lynward ..	April 9, 1904.
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Hiller, Mr Harry	December 24, 1904.
Hodgson, Miss Hulo	December 3, 1904.
Hollingshead, the Late Mr J.	October 15, 1904.
Howells, Mr C. E.	August 27, 1904.
Howitt, Mr Charles	August 13, 1904.
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Kane, Mr Whitford	December 3, 1904.
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Knight, Mr Arthur	October 8, 1904.
Kremer, Mr Theo.....	July 9, 1904.
Lang, Mr Matheson	August 27, 1904.
Leno, the Late Mr Dan	November 5, 1904.
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Ling, Mr Edwin	September 3, 1904.
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HARRISON GREY FISKE, Editor and President.

ESTABLISHED JAN. 4, 1879.

Publication Office: 121, WEST FORTY-SECOND-STREET, NEW YORK CITY.
London Office: TRAFALGAR HOUSE, GREEN-STREET, LEICESTER-SQUARE, W.C.
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ALBINI, LIEUT., Gentleman Showman, Entertainer, Humourist, &c. Miss MARIE GAUTIER, the Mysterious "Lady in Black," T. R., Oldham,

ALETHEA, Contortionist. First Free Date September, 1906. London Pavilion, Dec. 26, Eight Weeks.

ALEXANDER'S, JOHN, Burlesque Company. Empire, Cardiff.

ALLEN, ARABELLA "The Dickens Girl." This week, Empire, Wolverhampton. Next, Hippodrome, Manchester.

ALMON and AIDA, Unique and Unrivalled Hand-Balancing and Jumping Act. This, Hippodrome, Manchester. Jan. 2, Hippodrome, Salford.

AMERICAINES, LES BELLES Big Success, Dottridge and Longden's Pantomime. This week and next, Empire T., Oldham. Agent, H. Day.

ANDERSONS, AUSTRALIAN TWIN. Perfect wonder-workers with the skipping-rope.—Vide Oswald Stoll. Address, care of "The Era."

ANDOS, Japan's Greatest Troupe. Crystal Palace.

ANDYS, FOUR, Smartest of Risley and Double Somersault Artists. Jan. 2, Hippodrome, Lowestoft. Open 16th and 23 l.

ARA, ZEBRA, and VORA, Monday next, Empress, Brixton, and Empire, Battersea, every Evening

ARIZONA TRIO, Acrobatic Tumblers &c.; WILL PERCIVAL, Comedian, Dancer, Require Monday. Wire, Hippodrome, Accrington.

ARLEYS, THE, England's Greatest Knockabout Cyclists. Great success in New Act. Alhambra, Hull. Jan. 2, Pavilion, Glasgow.

ASHERS, THE (AGNES and MIKE), better than ever at the Bedford. Monday, the Royal.

ASHLEY, BROS., Regent, Salford. 23, Empire, Bristol. Prosperous New Year to all Friends.

ATLEF, MISS LALL, Chic Comedienne and Ballad Vocalist, Jan. 2, Barnard's Varieties, Chatham, Jan. 9, Barnard's, Woolwich.

AUSTIN, RUMBO, in his New Budget of Comicalities. Hippodrome, Coventry.

ATKINS and ROBERT, Smart, Refined Comedy, Cross Conversation, Buck Dancers. Open Jan 9. Terms, &c., Will Sley, Manchester.

ATTILLA, BROS., Refined Gladiatorial Act. February Vacant. Next, Cambridge, London.

AVRIGNYS, Great Jap Juggling Number. Most Versatile Act before the Public.

BABUSIAU, BROTHERS, Celebrated Acrobats-Antipodists. This Week, Circus of Varieties, Bury.

BAKER and BALFE, including George M. Baker's Marvellous Dancing. Stoll Tour.

BANDON, SID. Pavilion, Newcastle. "Sez I to myself, sez I," Alf Ellerton.

BANDONI, the Original Concertina King, and One Man Band. Scotch Concerts. Address, Central Agency, 132, West Nile-st., Glasgow.

BARCLAY, GEORGE, and CO., Variety Agents Telephone, 84, Streatham. 221, Brixton-hill, London, S.W.

BARD, GRACIE, Character and Coon Specialty Artist, now working my fifteenth week. This, Parr H., Warrington; next, C., Rochdale. Vac. summer.

BARNARD'S Life-like MARIONETTES, Enormous success at the Palace, Northampton. Monday, Jan 2, Euston.

BARRETT and KNOWLES, Pantomime, Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham. The hit of the evening.—Vide B'ham Mail. Agent, Tom Shaw.

BARTHOLOMEW, SISTERS (VIOLET and DAISY), the Ideal Pair, Hipp., Hulme, Manchester. Jan. 2, Metropole, Manchester.

BARTLETT, MISS ROSIE, Polly Perkins, in "Robinson Crusoe." This, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield; next, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

BAWN'S AGENCY, 10, Victoria-parade, Balham-hill, London, S.W. 'Phone, 178, Balham. Telegrams, "Orderless, London."

BEANLAND, CHARLES, a Natural Comedian. Great Success, Barnard's, Woolwich. Mon., Palace, Greenwich. Exclusive Agent, Harry Day.

BEATRICE, SISTERS, this week, Empire, Dover. At Liberty Monday next. Offers invited. Permanent address. 35, Florence-street, Islington.

BEAUMONT, MISS MAUDE, terrific success as Robin Hood, Theatre Royal, Hyde.

BEES, THE TWO (HARRY and FLORA BLAKE). New Indian Scena by Albert Voyce, Esq. Jan. 2, Middlesex and Hammersmith.

BEKKER, HENRI, Comedy Conjuror, usual success, this, Hippodrome, St. Helens; next, Hipp., Ashton-under-Lyne. Happy New Year to All.

BELL, HARRIS L., and LILLY PEARL COMPANY, THE, present the Comedy Vaudeville "A Bit of String," Broadhead's Hippo., Ashton-u.-Lyne.

BELROSE, GEO., and MAUD DE VELIN, Operatic and Speciality Duettists. Prince's Theatre, Bradford.

BENHAM, GEORGE, Band-box Clown, Prince of Wales, Prince's-square, Kennington-cross. Wines and Spirits, Finest Quality.

BENN, PROSPER and MADAME, Managhten Palace, Halifax. Prosperous New Year to friends and enemies. Agents, Fortune and Granville

BENSON, ALLY M., Comedian and Whistler, terrific success as Buttons, in "Cinderella." Vacant March 6, 1905. H. M. T., Walsall.

BENET, HARRY, Thanks Manager Will Parker, Esq., for offer of Few Weeks Panto. Sorry can't accept. This and next, Palace, Dundee.

BENT, HARRY, the Novel Mimic; also CARLOTTA LUNN. Usual Hit, Tivoli, Dublin Monday, E., Sheffield. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

BERNARD, GEO., Modern Vocal Actor, wishes you Health and Wealth throughout the coming year. Monday, Hippodrome, Wakefield (Return).

BEST, MR. CHARLES F., as M Bunker, "The Mountebank," Parthenon, Liverpool.

BLARNEY and KENNARD, great success with Gar Kiddie's "Bo-Peep" Pantomime, Jimmy Green and Johnny Stout, Court Theatre, Wigan.

BLISS and BLISS, Comedians. Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

BLOUNT, ARTHUR BLOUNT, a Comic Singer of Comic Songs. 51, Dorothy-road, Lavender-hill, S.W.

BLYTHE, MARIE, Jan. 2, Metropole, Camberwell, and Palace, Hammersmith. Agents, S. M. Hyman, Ltd.

BOHEMIANS, THE (WILL and MADGE), this, Empire, Holloway; next, Empire, New-cross. G. Foster, 4, Garrick-street. Happy New Year to All.

BON-BONS, THE FIVE. Harry Bon-Bon's Comedy Five.

BORELLI, SIGNOR and MADAME, Empress, Brixton; Paragon, and Standard. Agents, T. Shaw and Co.

BOSANQUET, in his Musical Séance, Introducing his Wonderful "Bosanquephone." Returned to England. Address, Rhyl.

BOSWELL, A. P., the Furniture Man. Big Hit, Tivoli, South Shields (Second Visit). Rebooked Monday, Empire, Dudley. "I'll give him rent.'

BOULTON and BARTENELLI, Pavilion, Hastings. A Happy New Year to All.

BOWMAN, J. H., Anglo-American Humourist, Vocalist, Dancer, closes Hippo., Norwich. Jan. 2, P., Northampton. Vacant Feb. 6, 27.

BOYCE, FRANK, Vocal Comedian, Usual Success, Tivoli, Barrow, Second Return. Monday, Empire, Middlesbrough, Second Return.

BOYLE, MARCUS, My Bonny Boy. Empire Theatre, Paisley.

BRANSBYS, THE (HARRY and LOUIE) conclude Grand, Stockton. Jan. 2, Theatre Royal, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

BRENTON, SISTERS, Refined Duettists and Dancers. Big Success, "Dick Whittington" Panto., Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

BREWSTERS, Theatre Royal, Reading, Messrs Little and D'Arcy's "Sinbad." Parts and Specialities. Miss KITTY BREWSTER, Principal Girl.

BRITTON, LITTLE, Eccentric Comedian and Comedy Dancer, Mr J. Tiller's "Ohio." Opens at Alhambra, Paris, Jan. 1 (Five Weeks).

BROOKLANDS, THE (ETHEL and BELLA), Enormous Success, Second Boy and Girl, Osborne, Manchester. Jan. 2, Junction, Manchester.

BROOKS, GEORGE H., Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agent. 36, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

BROWN and ROBINSON. A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All. Jan. 2, Palace, Hull.

BRUCE and ROSS, Australian Comedy Artistes. Big success, Hippo., Porth. Monday, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

BURG, HAUD, and WISE. "Ye Brown Cow Inn." Monday, Empire, Hackney.

BURGATILES, THE FOUR, Musical Pantomimists. C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Andrew's Hall, Cardiff.

BURTON'S Agency Wishes Happy and Prosperous New Year to All. "One ploughs, another sows; who will reap, no one knows."

CALDEN, HARRY, Enormous Success as Dame Durden, "Goody Two shoes" Panto, Lyceum, Ipswich; next week, Marina, Lowestoft.

CAMBO, the Musical Monkey, Starring at Paddington Palace. Monday, Park Palace, Liverpool. Vacant Jan. 23.

CAMERONS, THE, Duologue, "The Lady Guide." This week, Top of Bill, Tottenham and Barking. 235, Sayer-st., New Kent-rd.

CARL and CARR, Comedians, terrific success with "Workhouse;" also as Chinese Policemen. Managers, Agents invited to see Turn. Ealing T.

CARLTON, HENRY, the Popular Comedian, supported by his Renowned Comedy Team. Queen's-park Hippodrome, Manchester.

CARMEN, HARRY, and DAISY LANE, Polyglot Comedian; Chic Comedienne, Gatti's Music Hall.

CARR and ROSE (FRED and ADA) the Vocal Comedy Stars, in "Their First Quarrel." Grand, Bolton. Four Weeks Vacant, 1906.

CARY, FRED, Abanazar, Empire, Oldham.

CASSIE, CHARLES, Eccentric Comedian, at Liberty, London only. Address, Staines, Middlesex.

CAZMAN'S, HENRI, Musical, Dramatic, Circus, and Variety Agency. 138, Denmark-hill, S.E. Telephone, 10 Brixton.

CECIL, TOM, Comedian, Concertising in Scotland. Serpentello's Agency, 28, Wellington-street, London.

CEDRICS, THE (MARCEL and EDOUARD), Equilibristic Comedy Artistes Victoria Hall, Hamilton. Talent is always successful.

CHANT and CHANT (JACK and ALICE), Will Atkins and Polly Hopkins, in "Robinson Crusoe." T. R., Dunfermline, N.B.

CHARD'S DOG CIRCUS, See other Advt. Empire, Ashton-under-Lyne.

CHARNLEY, SISTERS (ANNIE and EDIE), Tivoli, Manchester. Monday, return, Albert, Canning-town. 26, Union-road, Borough, London, S.E.

CHESTER and LEE'S MARIONETTES, Samuel's Exhibition Palace, Dublin.

CHESTERS AGENCY. Dramatic and Variety Agents. 13, Oxford-street, Manchester.

CHINKO, the World-famed Young Juggler, Hippodrome, Paris.

CHIRGWIN, Empire, Shepherd's-bush. Friends kindly refrain from Copying.

CHIVERS, and DE MONTI, Siberian Skaters, Knockabouts, and Chair Jumpers. Now in run of "Siberia." Hippo., Belfast. Vacant Feb. 6, on.

CLARENCE and BELL, Yells of laughter as the Baron, &c., "Cinderella," Her Majesty's Theatre, Ireland.

CLARIBELL, FLORRIE, Polean Fong-stress, big success this week, T. Kidderminster. Next week, Hippodrome, Perth.

CLEMENTS, VENIE, big success, Principal Girl, "Mother Goose." Theatre Royal,

CLEMENTS, SISTERS, GRACIE), Principal Girl, "Dick Whittington." Metropole, Birkenhead.

CLEVELAND, C. W. Poole's Myriorama, Andrew's Hall, Cardiff.

CLIFFE, TOM E., making Good, Title-rôle, Milton Bode's "Puss in Boots," Royalty Theatre, Chester. Compliments of the Season to all

CLYO, HARRY, and ROSE ROCHELLE, Wish a Prosperous and Happy New Year to All Palace, Plymouth. Monday, Palace, Bristol.

COATES, ALICE, Comedienne. Thanks Pacey and Reeves for Contracts. This, G., Chatham. Happy new year to everybody.

COBORN, CHARLES, Empire, Birmingham. Good Funny Songs always welcome.

COLEMAN, ROSIE, and HARRY CONLIN, 99, Hill-street, Garnet-hill, Glasgow.

COLLINS, GEO. E., the Quaint Star Comedian. Thanks to the Managers who have offered me Panto. Can arrange for 1905-6. Hippo., Birmingham.

COLLINS, MISS LOTTIE, at Liberty for Pantomime. Address, 368, Camden-road, N.

COLLINS, MISS MARIE. Permanent address, 17, Albermarle-mansions, Holloway N.

COMELY, MABEL, Comedienne. This week, Hippodrome, Accrington. Jan. 2, Theatre Royal, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

COMPTON, GRACEFUL GRACE, big success of "Bull and Bush" and "Magpie and the Parrot," with Mr J. Gar Kiddie's Panto. Court, Wigan.

COOKE, STEVE, Comedian, Dame, in "Dick Whittington," Metropole Theatre, Birkenhead.

CORDELIA, the Chameleon Sylph, Great Sucess Opera House, Torquay.

CORNISH, WILL, Unique Musical Bell Act. This week, Standard, Pimlico; next, P. Pav., Eastbourne.

COVERDALE, CHAS., Re-engaged at the London Pavilion Three Further Weeks on account of his success. Booked by Paul Vandy.

COWPER, VERNON, Descriptive and Humorous Vocalist, Blueskin, in "Jack Sheppard." Jan. 2, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

CRAIG, ROZE, and CRAIG, Trio of the World's Leading Athletes. Theatre Royal, Warrington.

CRAY, LITTLE MIKE, Comedy Juggler, and his Acrobatic Dog Dooley. next week, Metropole, Gateshead. Happy New Year to All.

CRESSER, MISS ADA, Staley's Transformation Company. Empire, Birmingham.

CREW, J. H., and "The Original" MAUD MARLOW. Big hit, Standard, Pimlico, and Queen, Poplar. Oliver and Holmes' Agency.

CRIS, Le Ventriloquist Diabolique, Concludes Gaiety, Oldham. Twenty-ninth Time.

CROWN TRIO (W. Davidson, L. Davidson, E Schofield). Speciality Vocalists. This, M., Gateshead; next, C. V., Leeds.

CROWSON, WILL, and CISSIE CONYERS, Opera House, Northampton; and County Theatre, Reading.

CRUIKSHANK. Nothing succeeds like success. Monday next, Gaiety, Birmingham.

CUMMINGER, the Acknowledged World's Record Sand Dancer, Resting, owing to Halls closed. Agents, Macdermott and Day.

CURRY, PERCY, Pantomime, Grand, Edinburgh. Ugly Sister. Agent, Fioni.

DAINEZ, E. R, Comedy Circus. C. St. John Denton's Pantomime, Southend-on-Sea. Close to Pitsea, Essex.

DALE, JOE, Refined Comedian and Dancer. This week, Pavilion, Maidenhead. Vacant Jan. 23 and 30 Per. add., 7, Studland-st., Hammersmith, London.

DALE, MR. HARRY, Hippodrome Manager, Stage and Arena. General Manager and Ringmaster, Hippodrome, Ton-y-Pandy.

DALE and VALE Specialité Dancers Extraordinary. This week, Sadler's Wells; next week, Foresters'.

DANBYS, THE, usual success, "Babes in the Wood," Theatre Royal, Hyde.

DANDOE, ARTHUR, Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Edinburgh,

DANIELS, THE TWO, in their Black Variety Act, a Show for Inside or Out. Vacant March 20. 32, Glo'ster-place; or, O. H., Cheltenham.

DANTON, CHARLES, Success, Hippodrome, Eastbourne. Letters, 251, Cambridge-road, London, E.

DARRELL, THE Original LULAINE, TROUPE, including the Athletic Lady Chorister. This, Palace, Croydon; next, Algie's, Carlisle.

DAUNTON-SHAW TROUPE, THE, Australian Trick Cyclists, Monarchs of the Wheel. New Act. Character Costumes. G. T., Falkirk, N.B.

DAVIES, CHARLES, Stage-Manager, Disengaged. The Orchards, Burnage, Didsbury, Manchester.

DAVIES, LILLIAN, Bareback Equestrienne, appearing with great success, Hippodrome, Wolverhampton. Shows at Liberty.

DAVIS, RYDER, and EVA Finish To-night Hippo., Newport. Bridgwater. H. O. Wills did it. Vac.

DAY'S, HARRY, VARIETY AGENCY, Effingham House, Arundel-street, Strand, W.C. Tel., 6,915, Ger. Tele., "Terpsichore, London."

DAYTON FAMILY. Jan. 2, Palace, Belfast.

DEANS, SHEILA Empire, Rochdale; next, Empire, Wrexham.

DE DIO, THE PEERLESS, Wintergarten, Berlin, until further notice.

DE HENAU and MDLLE. ALADINA, Extraordinary Rapid Painter, &c., and Wonderful Performing Cockatoos. Aladina, Empire, Rochdale.

DELAMERE TRIO, the Original Comedy Equilibrists, Jan. 2, Paddington Palace, Liverpool.

DELEVINES, FIVE, New Act, "Flirtation." Empire Theatre, Stratford.

DEMI and SEMI, Musical Act. Cambridge, Encored Nightly. Next, Palace, Tottenham. Liberty Jan. 9.

DENBY and DENT, Captain and Mate. F. Mouillot's Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Worcester.

DENHAM, TEDDY, a big success. Widow Twankey, Alexandra Theatre, Sheffield.

DENMARK, DORA, Burlesque Actress. Principal Boy, "Cinderella" Company, Aquarium, Scarborough.

DOSE, MDLLE., and J. H. HAWTREY, Principal Boy, Malicio. J. Kiddie's "Cinderella," Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

DRICK, FRED, Equestrian. Touring America.

DEVOVE, JIMMY, and BILLY, the Educated Pony, great success, Berlin and Paris. Jan. 2, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

DEWARS, THE, Distillers of Fun, in their Screaming Absurdity, "The New Barman." Vac. Jan. 9. Address, 17, Magdala-ter , Shildon, Durham.

DEWICK, DAWSON, Dame, "Goosey Gander" Pantomime, Princess's Theatre, Glasgow Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

DIXON, CHARLEY; KATE LYND. This Week, Westminster, Liverpool, Successful. Monday, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

DOLF, SIDNEY, DOLF, "The One-Man Show." Jan. 2, Transfield's Hippodrome, Jan. 2.

DOLLY, AGNES, and MAUD, Singing Boxmakers, Starring, P., Northampton. Mon., P., Leicester. First Vacancies, April 3, 10, and 17.

DOM E, the Original Comedy Clay Man, Empire, Nottingham.

DOODY and WRIGHT, Australian Comiques, Jan 2, Empire, Liverpool.

DORMER, DAINTY DAISY, Principal Girl, "Goosy Gander" Pantomime. Princess's Theatre, Glasgow, N.B.

DORRETTA, LITTLE, Acrobatic Song and Dance Artiste. A Happy New Year to All. Touring with C. W. Poole's Royal Myriorama.

DORRIS, MISS RUTH, the Dainty Singing Maiden. Full of Vivacity and Animation.

DOVE, MISS ETHEL Big success, Principal Girl, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

DOVER, CLIFFE, Dame. A big hit with Dottridge and Longden's "Forty Thieves." Monday, T. R., Stockport. Good Songs Required.

DRISCOLL, WILL, Royal, Metropole, and Collins's. Permanent, 24, Thornhill-square, Barnsbury, N.

DROLL and DRYAN, Cross-haggle Comedians. Vacant Jan. 9. Wire, Palace, Swansea. Monday, Empire, Bridgwater.

DUBOIS, JAMES, "Forty Thieves," Theatre Royal, Stockport.

DUCKETT, BERTHA, Charming Vocalist and Graceful Dancer All communications, 11, Arnold-street, Liverpool.

DUNCAN, Club Manipulator and Juggler; OSWALD, Staircase Performer, Hand Jumper, &c. Monday, Grand, Manchester.

DUNMORE, TOM, the Essence of Quaintness This Empire Islington, 6 50, 9·30 Also deputising for Leo Tell, Euston. Next, Palace, Hammersmith.

DUNNING and KAHN and KAHN, "Stollseum" Tour. Empire, Holloway. London Coliseum shortly.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency. Telephone, 15, Brixton. 1A, Loughborough-road, Brixton, London, S.W.

DU ROCHE, MDLLE., Principal Boy, "Dick Whittington" Pantomime. Pavilion Theatre, Mile-end, E.

EEN and MAYNIE ed Fifty Weeks' Engagements, 1904, including rns. Town Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

CK, AMY Comedienne, and **FLORRIE** St. Roy, Comedienne and Acrobatic Dancer. Great success as Pekoe and Cheekie New Gaiety T., Dundee.

ELEONORA, Lady Gymnast, also LA BELLE TOSCA, Two or Three Acts. For Dates and terms, address, New Hippodrome, Wolverhampton.

ELLA'S, MISS, best existing Lion Show. Jan. 2, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen.

ELLERSLIE WILL, FLORRIE BRAY great success "Sinbad." Babes in the Wood," Hippo., Scarborough.

ELLERTON, ALF, Latest for Leamore, Dunville, Leonards, &c. Band parts arranged. 19, Pulross-road, Brixton, S.W.

ELLIOTTS and SAVONAS, Musicians, Cyclists, &c. Address, Hippodrome, Yarmouth.

EM O, NINA, Comedienne. Grand, Bolton. Agents, Day's Agency.

AY, MISS DOLLY, Principal Year), Messrs Dottridge and Longden's tomime, Theatre Royal, Stockport.

AMY, Comedienne. ng success, Barrasford Halls, Mon. next, P., Bristol. Permanent address, 67, Swinton-street, London, W.C.

ELVY, ARTHUR, the Retired Bookmaker, usual success, Palace, Hammersmith; next Week, Theatre Royal, Holborn. Booked by Cazman.

ENDON, EDIE, Com., Dancer, this week, , Grand, Doncaster. Next week, Pav., outhport. Vacant 9th and 23d. Verno.

ENIE, LES CARRES, Monday, Palace, Bordesley.

ERLETT, JESSIE, Character Vocalist, Solo Drummer, Specialty Dancer. Great success, Grand T., Islington. Address, 3, Ivy-lane, Hoxton, N.

Comedian. On Tour. Week, First-class Al Fresco. ons., 428, Liverpool-street, Seedley, Manchester.

ERNEST, CHAS. E., Mimic; also, The HOWARDS, Song Illustrators. Hippodrome, Ca Vacant, Monday. Wire.

ADERS, THREE, ntomime Sun. Opera House, Middlesbrough.

BROS., Comedians. Vacant 16. Big Cak ing Hit. This week, Ashton; next week, T. R., Warrington.

and WI LIE, Great Success, Specialty, "Puss in Boots" Pantomime, on. Address all communications.

ANS, WILL, Business-Manager, Harry Poole. 7a1 105 Richmond

FAME, the Low Comedy "Contraption. Communications H. Day, Effingham House. "Funny, ain't it?"

FAWN, ADA Monday next, Palace, Grimsby. Big success. "No Other Girl," by Will Letters. Pantomime Ri No nts, £2 2s.

FERRARIS, THE, Modern and Cosmopolitan Dancers. Grand Cirque Nouveau, Belgium.

FIELDS and ACRES, Comedy Parkkeepers. Monday, Westminster, Liverpool. I think it was Jim Frossity, but ask Ryder Davis.

FINDEN, MR. and MRS., Latest Success, "A Mare's Nest." Grand, Bolton. Agent, Geo. Barclay.

FIONI'S, JAMES, AGENCY, 21, Norton-street, Liverpool. Telegrams, "Fioni, Liverpool." Telephone, 1686 Royal.

FLORADORA GIRLS. This Season, F. Mouillot's Pan'o. Enormous success. Encored Nightly, T. R., Exeter. Happy New Year to All.

FONTAINBLEAU, ALICE, Champion Troupe of Trick and Leaping Dogs; also Speciality Globe Act. Per., Marquis of Granby Hotel, Lincoln.

FORD, RAY, Comedienne, finish To-night, Oldham; Monday, Hippodrome, Accrington. Authors with good classy Songs communicate.

FORD and HANSON, the American Musical Millionaires. Duchess Theatre, Balham.

FORTUNE and GRANVILLE Savoy House, 115, Strand, London, W.C. Telegrams, "Waggishly." Telephone, 1,309, Gerrard.

FOX, ALEX, Great Ventriloquist (Ten Figures), Animals. A Distinct and Novel Performance. 13, Wingfield-crescent, Llanbradach, South Wales

FRANCE and FRANCIS, Comedians and Acrobatic Grotesques. Jan. 2, Return, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

FRANCISCO, Juggler, and MAY MOODIE, Piccolo Soloist, P., Derby. Jan. 2, P., Bow. Sadler's Wells and Foresters' to follow. Pacey & Reeves.

FRANKLIN TROUPE, the Original, of Russian Vocalist and Expert Dancers Next week, Imperial Hippodrome and Circus, Belfast.

FRASETTIS, LES, Address, Tivoli, Sydney, N.S.W.; or, 9, Ardilaun-road, Highbury, N.

FREANS, THE (WILL and PETER), Comedians and Dancers, Hibernian Portrayers. Next week, Hippodrome, Dewsbury.

FREDERICKS, CARL, Baron, YA PYN KETO FAMILY, Oriental Magicians. Recalled Nightly, "Cinderella," Opera House, Torquay.

FREELAND, MR. FRANK, Song and Sketch-Writer. "Got to have it." Town Hall, Greenock, N.B.

FREIRE TROUPE, THE, Acrobats, Tumblers, Double Risley, Living Carrousel (Original). Theatre des Celestins, Lyon, France.

FRENCH'S, GEORGE, TROUPE, and the SNOW FAMILY, on Tour. For Vacant Dates, address, 14, Second-avenue, Queen's-park, London, W.

FRERE, EVA, Charming Characteristic Vocalist. Sensible Songs. This and next week, H., Castleford. Success Re-engaged. Vacant Jan. 9 and 16

FRIDKINS, BORIS, THE Great, Cossack Troupe. Opera House, York.

GANNON, NELLIE, Canning-town. A Success. Monday, Standard, Pimlico. HARRY WRIGHT still indisposed. Happy New Year to All Friends.

GARRICK, MR. GUS, Sole Patentee of the Living Postcard Album. Hippodrome, Salford.

GEE, FRANK, Chelsea Palace. Nathan and Somers.

GEMS, THE TWO (FLO and CISSIE), Conclude To-night, Park Palace. Monday, Paddington Palace, Liverpool.

GERALDOS, THREE Juggling. Topping Bill, Hippodrome, St. Helens. Next week (Starring), Empire, Rochdale.

GERONDS, THREE, Refined Lady Vocalists and Dancers, Pantomime, Palace Pier, Brighton. Miss Blanche Gerond Second Boy. 2, Carr-place, Leeds.

GERTRELLA, Dancer-Gymnast. New Act, "In Cupid's Garden." Panto., Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.

GIBB, HORACE, Comedian, and NITA MAYEU (the Vocal Spark). Perm., Hotel Armada, Broadmead, Bristol. Professionals always Welcome.

GILBERT'S Dogs and Cats, Jan. 2, Return, Middlesex, Drury-lane. Perm. address, 74, Boyson-road, Camberwell, London.

GILLIN, Unique Ventriloquial Humourist. G. T., Chorley. Next Tivoli, S. Shields. "Me Hat's Off."

GILMORE, BARRY, 4ft. 9in. Comedian, Knockabout Artist, and Dancer. Cat, Mr Tiller's "Whittington." Opera House, Blackpool.

GILMORE, ROBB, the Great Funny Little Man, Avenue Theatre, Sunderland.

GOLDBURN, GEORGE, Comedian; ALICE COVENTRY, Comedienne. This, Empire, Wrexham; next, Westminster, Liverpool.

GOLD, HARRY, Versatile Comedian. New Successful Song-Scena, "Cloudland." Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, London.

GRAHAM, ERIC, MILLIE HARRIS. A Happy New Year to All. Jan. 2. Hippodrome, Queen's-park, Manchester.

GRANADAS, LOS, Electrifying Bounders. Agricultural Hall, Islington, London.

GRAPHO and JACKSON. Excruciatingly funny. They are the life of the pantomime. Coms, Theatre Royal, Margate.

GREY and WELFORD, Patter Comedians and Comedy Boxers. Big success, this week, M., Gateshead; Monday, Palace, Aberdeen.

GWYNNE, FLORENCE. "The Stage-Struck Servant." Fifteen Minutes' Mirth and Melody. Jan. 2, Pavilion, Leicester. Sydney M. Hyman.

HAIGH and NOVEL, on Tour. Return to Town April 3, 1905, Palace Theatre and Paragon. Agent, H. J. Didcott.

HALLS, TOM, Burlesque Acrobatic NIPPERS (Five in Number), Dog, and Monkey. Hit of Programme. Wire for Monday. T., Wallsend.

HALSEY and BOWERS, Celebrated Eccentrics. Conclude T. R., Birkenhead. Monday, T. R., Bedford Leigh. Prosperous New Year to all Friends.

HAMILTON'S New EXCURSIONS, by Bioscope. St. Margaret's Hall, Canterbury. Vacant Jan 16.

HANCO, Breaking Jail Weekly. This, Royal, Warrington; next, Fioni Combination. P. H., Runcorn.

HANDEL and LEE, Society's Musical Entertainers. This week, Town Hall, Rotherham. Monday, Hippodrome, Hulme, Manchester.

HANS and LUX, Great Success, Broker's Men, Pantomime, Grand Opera House, Middlesbrough.

HANVARR and ANNA LEE, "The Golfer and the Maid," Hansa Theatre, Hamburg.

HARCOURT, FRED, Dec. 26, Waverley Carnival, Edinburgh.

HARDEEN, Stoll Tour. Jan. 2, Empire, Newport.

HARDY, the American Blondin, "King of the High Rope." Address, Niagara Villa, Doggett-road, Catford, London.

HARLAND and ROLLISON Vacant Feb. 13 and 20. Address, until Jan. 15, 1905, 16, Repton-street, Upper Brook-street, Manchester.

HARRIS and WORTH, the Bailiffs, in Macnaghten's "Robinson Crusoe." Big success, Theatre Royal, South Shields.

HART and CO. Dramatic and Variety Agents, 7, Lancaster-house, Ardville-road, Brixton, S.W. 'Phone, 116, Brixton.

HARVEY BOYS, the unrivalled Boxing Comedians. "The Fighting Dummy." Tivoli, Strand, Nightly.

HASTINGS, WILMOT, great success as Tom White and his Arabs, South London and Metropolitan.

HAYDEE'S, MDLLE., Electric Mannikin Theatre, Hippo., Bury; Jan. 2, Alhambra, Belfast.

HAYTON, HARRY, the Funny Comedian, Terrific Hit, Hippo., St. Helens; next, Lyric, Liverpool. Agents, Fortune and Granville.

HEATH, JACK, Comedian. Big success Macnaghten's Pantomime, "Aladdin." Palace Theatre, Blackburn

HEATON, PROF. TED, World's Greatest Diver and Swimmer, and the Beautiful SACHA, New and Original Tank Act Mon., A., Belfast.

HENDERSON, ...IOUS, Blind Musical Genius and Concertina Soloist, Hit of Programme, T. R., Hebburn. Next week, Metropole, Gateshead.

HENDERSON and STANLEY QUARTETTE, in their Marvellous Pot-Pourri Act, at Lib. Jan. 9, and on Victoria Theatre, West Stanley.

HENRIETTE, the Beautiful Young Musician. This, Park Palace; next, Paddington Palace, Liverpool. Agent, Verno, Liverpool.

HEPWORTH, WILLIAM, Stage and Acting-Manager. Empire Theatre, Cleethorpes. Compliments of the Season to All.

HERALD COMEDY FOUR. Palace, Plymouth. Vacant Jan. 9, through misunderstanding.

HERBERT, FRED, Premier Topical Vocalist. Palace, Swansea. R. Warner.

HERMAN, SYD, Hebrew Comedian and Actor Vocalist. Huge Success, T., Kidderminster. Vacant Monday and Jan. 30 Wire.

HESS and LISBON at Liberty Monday. Wire, Hippodrome, Lowestoft; after Saturday, 64, Sutcliffe-street, Liverpool.

HILL, BARRY, and LANG, Palace, Aberdeen, proved a decided hit. Monday, Britannia, Glasgow.

HILL, ROWLAND, as Ye Dame. Highly Complimented by H. A. Jordison, Esq., on my Successful Performance. Junction T., Manchester.

HILLER, HARRY, Disengaged. 155, Clarence-road, Clapton, N.E.

HILTON, FLORENCE, Male Impersonator. Special Boy, "Dick Whittington" Prince's T., Portsmouth. Happy New Year to All. See Back Page.

HILTON and HILTON, Comedy Bar Comedians. Jan. 2, Empire, Greenock. Vacant Jan. 16.

HOMER, CHARLES, A Happy New Year to All. Disengaged. 45, Bristol-street, Birmingham.

HOOK, WALTER W. 1,400th Consecutive Show, New Century Pictures. Festival Concert Rooms, York.

HOPE, F., Sensational Trick Cyclist. This, O. H., Harrogate; next, Hippodrome, Grimsby. Vacant Jan. 23.

HOWARDS, THE (RALPH and NELLIE), Empire, Nottingham.

HULA, SISTERS, Vocalists and Expert Dancers, Liberty March 6, 13, onwards. Address, Theatre Royal, Rugby. Happy New Year to All.

HULBERT, Ventriloquist, and DE LIL, Illusionist. Two First-class Acts. Vacant Jan. 9 and 16. Address, 5, Union-road, Macclesfield.

HUNTER, G. W., Comedian and Raconteur. Jan. 2, Empire, Glasgow.

HUNTER, THREE BROS., Apollo Theatre, Vienna. Jan. 1 till 15, Tichy's Varieties, Prague, Bohemia.

HUNTLEY and PALMER, with Wonderful Wrestling Donkey and Acrobatic Goat. Monday, Hippo., Southport. Perm., 42, Milbourne-st, Blackpool.

HURST, W. G., the Wonderful Cat, Shakespeare Theatre, Clapham, London, S.W.

IRIS, MISS LILY, Thanks many Friends for Numerous Telegrams received. Theatre Royal, Birmingham.

JACKSON FAMILY, the World-renowned Musicians, Palace, Hull. A Happy and Prosperous New Year to our friends at home and abroad.

JAMES, GEORGE, Comedian, Miss Iena Stanton's "Dick Whittington" Company, scoring as Fitzwarren. Next week, King's Theatre, Gainsborough.

JETNEYS, THE. Last Week's Query solved by Carl Mysto. Compliments of the Season to all. Hippo., Ton-y-Pandy; Monday, Hippo., Carlisle.

JOHNSON, KID, Speciality Artist; MAISIE PELHAM, Comedienne, Speciality Dancer. Two Acts. This, Paddington; 2nd, P., Liverpool Lib. 9th.

JOHNSTON, JOHNNY, London's Star, the Musical Dandy. Gatti's (Road). Exclusive Agent, G. Barclay, 221, Brixton-hill, S.W.

JOHNSTONE, THOS., Actor-Vocalist and Mimic. This week, Theatre Royal. Hebburn-on-Tyne; next week, Jan. 2d, Hippodrome, Ashton.

JUAN and M'QUE, Comedians, Hippodrome, Dewsbury; next, Tivoli, Manchester. Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

JUDGE, SISTERS, with their Marvellous Performing Cockatoos, Parrots, and Macaws. Jan. 2, Foresters'. Booked by R. Cass.

KARDOC, Handcuff King and Jail-breaker, Escaping from a Coffin. To-night, L., Stafford. Mon., Hip., Wolverhampton. See Artists Wants. Wire.

KASHMA, BROTHERS, Novelty Staircase Performers, Cat and Pair, E. Marris's "Dick Whittington" Panto., V. T., Burnley, Two Weeks.

KATHRENA, MISS IDA, Fairy Queen and Principal Dancer, Theatre Royal, Croydon.

KAVADOS, Juggler, Palace, Hull; FLO MELVILLE, Burlesque Artiste, Alhambra, Brighton. F. M., Monday, Palace, Bordesley.

KAY, W. A., America's Foremost Electric Living Lilliputian Show, big success with Ediscope and Barnum's Pictures. Next, Drill Hall, Durham City.

KEIR and ALLEN, the Great Eccentric Comedians, great success, Palace and Pavilion, Glasgow. Mon., Royal, Holborn, &c.

KEITH, G. H., the Popular Vocal Actor. Brilliant success, Grand, Manchester. Jan. 2, South London.

KEITH and MERSON, terrific success as Vizier and Assistant, Dottridge and Longden's "Aladdin." Address, Empire Theatre, Oldham.

KEITHS, THE Original Musical (CARLINA and CHARLIE), Novelty Instrumentalists and Operatic Xylophonists. Mon., C. V., Rochdale.

KERNO, LOUIS, the Neat Coon Vocalist and Dancer, terrific Success as Mate, in "Sinbad," Metropole, Devonport. Communications, as above.

KIMBERLEY BOYS, big success, Principal Comedians, the Robbers, Crystal Palace.

KING and DELANE (GEO. and TOM), Refined Comedy Act. Song and Patter. Hippo., Macclesfield. Mon., Oxford, Middlesbrough. Claxton's.

KLOET, MDLLE., the Original Artist's Model, in her Last Creations Big success, E., Portsmouth. Monday, Palace, Greenwich, London.

KLOOF, W. (Kloof and Ramsay), the Comedy and Popular Hassarac, "Forty Thieves," Great Hit. Next, Theatre Royal, Canterbury.

KNICK-KNACKS, THE (Miss MATTIE CRONIN and HARRY OXBERRY), this, Empire, Bradford; next, Empire, Sheffield.

KNIGHT, STAR, Mysterious Man in Red. New Inimitable Spectacular Dumb Mystery Act. Elaborate Dresses, Properties. 93, Camden-street, N.W.

KORRIES. Empire, Middlesbrough. A Happy New Year to Everybody.

KYDD and KYDD, Comedians, Bailiffs, the Hit of "Jack and Beanstalk," St. Helens. Happy New Year to All.

KYOTO, the Original One. Kyoto; Miss MAY GERALDINE. Jan. 2 Empire, South Shields. See Advertisement Back Page and Wanted.

LA BLANCHE, MABEL Hippo, St. Helens. Next Week, F. Rochdale. No Vacancies. Prosperous New Year to All.

LA MARA, CHUMMIE, Principal Boy, "Cinderella." Royal Aquarium, Great Yarmouth.

LAND, FRED, Comedian, this, Hippo., Ipswich; next Week, Empress, Hartlepool.

LANG, GENTLE BROTHERS, Jan. 2, Grand, Hanley. Happy New Year to all.

LANG, REM, American Society Entertainer. Original Burlesque Act Usual success, Hippodrome, Accrington. Address, Britannia, Glasgow.

LANTON and LANE, Instantaneous Success as Perks and Pinchit, "Cinderella," Theatre, Cambridge.

LAROLA and ROSE CABANI, this week, Hippodrome, Glasgow. Next week, Palace, Glasgow. Agents, George Barclay and Co.

LASSAH, LILLIE This week, Metropolitan; next week, Jan. 2, Metropolitan and Queen's, Poplar.

LAVELLE, BROS., Quaint Comedy Acrobats. Jan. 2, Opera House, Northampton.

LEAFE, IVY, Low Comedy Artiste Terrific success, Ugly Sister, Pardoe's "Cinderella." C. Theatre, Warrington.

LEANDER, HARRY, Comedian, Vocalist, and Instrumentalist, "In Old Kentuckey," Theatre Royal, Norwich.

LE BRETON, LILLIE, Graceful Gymnast. Great Success, Gaiety, Chatham; next, Hippodrome, Southport. Happy New Year to All.

LE CLERQ, GUS, another big success as Gertie, Ugly Sister, Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

LEE, THE Original THREE SISTERS, Acrobats. Big success, Grand, Sheffield. Next Week, Pavilion, Leicester. Happy New Year to All.

LEE and ARDEN, "The Lady and the Watchman." Terrific hit, Oxford, Middlesbrough.

LEFRE, ALBERT, Prince's Theatre, Bristol

LE GRAHAM, THREE SISTERS, Big Success and conclude To-night, Hippodrome, Wakefield. Monday, Hippodrome, Accrington.

LEIGH, THREE SISTERS, Refined Entertainers, this Week, Barnard's, Chatham; Jan. 2, Hippo., Eastbourne. A Happy New Year to All.

LEIGHTON and MONA the Smartest of all Piano Acts. This week, Hippodrome, Lowestoft. Jan. 2, Empire Theatre, Rochdale.

LE-MAY, TOM, the Real Musical Clown, Hamilton's Excursions, Kenniard Hall, Dundee.

LEONS, TWO, and MITZI. Great Success at Opening, King's T., Liverpool. Monday, Algie's Hippo., Carlisle. also MELITA. Happy New Year.

LEO TARDY TRIO, big success, Poole's, Colston Hall, Bristol.

LESLIE BROTHERS, Australia's Representative Musical Team. London Hippodrome until Feb. 4. Immense Success. R. Warner.

LESLIE, RITA, Principal Boy, "Sinbad," Metropole Theatre, Devonport. Enormous success. Coms., as above. Vacant Feb. 20 and 27.

LESTER'S, LEO, Miniature Pantomime Sketch, "Sports," "Goody Two Shoes," Marina Theatre, Lowestoft.

LEVITES' Sketch Co.; also BELLE IDA, the Charming Serio and Dancer. Coms, 103, Acre-lane, Brixton. Liberty for Future Dates.

LEWARREN, Ventriloquist, with his Merry Mascots (Four in Number); also SADIE DANA, Chocolate-coloured Queen. Monday, Victoria, West Stanley.

LEWIS, LARRY, an Original Comedian. Jan. 2, City Varieties, Leeds. No Vacant Dates. Agent, Harry Day.

LEYBOURNE, GEORGE, General Manager, Alhambra, Sandgate. Artistes communicate, Fred Durham's Agency.

LITTLE and GOODE (ADA and LUCY), the Funny Pair, in their Side-splitting Burlesque, "Wanted, a Deputy." Monday, Jan. 2, Palace, Dundee.

LIZZETTE, THE FOUR SISTERS, Lady Acrobats; ELSIE RUBINA, Wire Dancer, on Tour. City of Varieties, Rochdale.

LODDGE, BROS., Silver Chain Acrobats, Success, Tivoli, Barrow. Free Jan. 9. Wire or write, Palace, Blackpool. Agent, James Fioni.

LOGAN, DAINTY GRACIE, finishes To-night Big Success, Hippo., Wakefield. Monday, Hippodrome, Scarborough.

LORD HOMERTON and DAZZLETT. A Real American Juggling Act. A few Vacancies 1905. Something New. Address, c.o. "The Era" Office.

LORRISONS, THE (FRED and LILA), Eccentrics. A great hit, Paragon and the London. Jan. 2, Collins's. Day's Agency.

LOTTO, LILO, and OTTO, Trick Cyclists. 2, Lambeth Palace-road, S.E.

LUCAS, MR. and MRS. EDWARD H., in "Scenes from Dickens." Next Week (Jan. 2), Hippodrome, Norwich.

LYNCH, AGNESE and ARTHUR, American Picture Songs, Re-engaged for another week, Palace Theatre, Aberdeen. See Wanteds.

MACS, THE NEW, Comedians. Theatre Royal, Hanley.

MAGNETS, THE FOUR, Vocalists, Acrobatic, Buck, and Sand Dancers, Big Success, Pantomime, Alexandra, Sheffield.

MALONE and CONLEY, Grand Theatre, Falkirk. Hasarac and Hasaric, F. J. Little's "Forty Thieves," Third Year. Happy New Year to All.

MALVA, J. H., Clever Ventriloquist; HOPPS, Ridiculous Magician, Liberty Jan. 9. Address, Britannia, Glasgow. A Happy New Year.

MARCONIS, THE GREAT, Most Wonderful Electric Act on Earth. Playing with 5,000,000 Volts of Electricity. Next, Palace, Bradford.

MARION, BLANCHE, Burlesque Actress and Dancer, Panto. with Milton Bode. This, G. T., Wolverhampton; next, T. R., Cambridge.

MARNEY, LILY, Empire, Newport.

MAROS, THE, Three-Bar Comedians. Next week, Carnival, Edinburgh. Lib. Jan. 9, 30, North preferred. Address, above.

MARTINO, the Man Frog, Free Monday next. Wire, Zalva's Hippodrome, Barrow-in-Furness.

M'ASKELL. Five Special Concerts. Address till Thursday, care of Connell, Hatter, Ayr; after that, till Saturday, 120, Roker-avenue, Sunderland.

M'ASKELL, MRS. ALLAN, slowly Improving. Present address, 120, Roker-avenue, Sunderland. Compliments of Season to inquiring Friends.

M'AUBERS, THE, Triple Bar Comedians, Vacant Jan. 2, 9, 16. Communications, 54, Allwal-road, Clapham-junction.

MAXFORD, DAN, Unemployed Jan. 2 and onward. Address, 102, Rusholme-road, Manchester.

MAXWELL and FRANCES. TOM and (his Daughter) VIRGINIA. Jan. 2, Royal Standard, Pimlico, 9 30.

MAYNE, ALICIA, Australian Dramatic Songstress, with Beautifully Coloured Photo-Illustrations. 12, Dover-mans., Brixton.

MAYNE, VERA, terrific success as Robinson Crusoe, Opera House, Northampton. Thanks Friends for Wires Opening Night. Happy New Year to All.

MAYON and MARLE. "Elizabeth and the Baby." a Laughing Hit. Grand, Manchester; Monday, Tivoli, Barrow. Agent, Sley.

M'CANN'S Famous Performing Irish Terriers and Champion Leaping Dogs. Vacant Jan 16, 23, 30. Address, Hippodrome, Belfast.

MEIER and MORA, Alhambra, Paris, Month of January; Lyceum, London, Month of February.

M'ELROY, JOHNNY, Good Immediate Offers Invited. Wire or Write, 10, Livesey-street, Chorley.

M'FALL, JOHN E, Gardeners' Arms, 10, Market-street, and 5, Manse-lane, Greenock. Agent, M.H.A.R.A. "The Era" and other papers kept.

MEPHISTO, the Ideal Contortionist, This, Westminster, Liverpool. Jan. 2, Hippodrome, Southport. Free Jan. 9.

MERRY, MISS FLO, big success as Baroness, in "Cinderella." Vacant March 13 for Good Character Part. H. M. Theatre, Walsall.

MESSER, G. F., The Enterprise, Coldharbour-lane, Camberwell, S.E. H. O. C. Meetings Every Sunday. 8 30.

MIGNON, CLARICE, the Banjo Queen, in her Refined Musical Turn, Aquarium, Scarborough.

MILES-STAVORDALE QUINTETTE (the Original Act). Touring in U.S.A. Address, "Clipper," Office, New York. Agents, Anger and Bauer.

MILL LASSES, THE YORKSHIRE (M. and G. WELLS), Fairy Queen and Toy King. Usual Success, Theatre Royal, Barnsley.

MILSTED, MISS EMMIE, Decided Success as Saucee, Special Coloured Part, in "Aladdin," Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool.

MILTON'S MARIONETTES. Address, Arthur Milton, the Marionette King, Post-office, Cambridge.

MILTONS, THE, Trick and Comedy Skaters, Pantomime, Grand Theatre, Southampton.

M'KAYS, THE. Macnaghten Tour.

M'LEAN FRED, Comedian. Next, Circus, Rochdale. Season's compliments to all friends. Good songs required.

MONTAGUE, LEO, huge success, Malta, Ninth Week. Re-engaged till April.

MONTGOMERY, ALFRED, Up-to-date Entertainment Provider, 51, Cornwallis-road, Upper Holloway, London, N.

MORELI, DAISY, This week bottom of Bill, Empire, Dudley. Vacant Jan 2, 9, 16 Wire above. Big new Songs.

MORRIS, HARRY, Humorous Mimic, &c., Big Success, Hippo., Hulme. Monday, Palace, Boardesley. Agent, Tysoe Smith.

MORRIS, J. C., Quaint Comedian and Patterer. Guilty of causing laughter, P., Greenwich. Jan. 2. Albert, Canning-town.

MORTIMER, MAUDE, Originality. Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

MOZZETTO, Prince of Boy Jugglers, Customary Hit, Pavilion, Altrincham. Jan. 2. E., Dudley. No Immediate Vacancies. Success everywhere.

MUELLER and COYNE, Jan. 2, Empire, Newcastle. A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

MUIR and BARTLETT, in "The Lady and the Lunatic," Brill and Graydon Tour. Empire, Hastings (Return).

MURRAY, LESLIE H., Magician and Card Manipulator. Grand, Sheffield; Next, Pavilion, Leicester.

MURRAY, LOUIS. Character Actor-Vocalist. Continued Success of "The Cabman's Story." Hippodrome, Bury. Next, Alhambra, Belfast.

MYERS, CLEM, Ugly Sister, Stage-Manager, "Cinderella." County Theatre, Bedford.

MYERS, ERNIE, and LILY LONSDALE, Comedian and Principal Girl, Dottridge and Longden's "Forty Thieves." Theatre Royal, Stockport.

NELSON and THOMAS, "On the Ra-Ta." Happy New Year to all Friends. Palace, Sunderland.

NEWHAM and LATIMAR, in their Own New Répertoire, on Tour. Address, "The Era" Office.

NEW YORK QUARTETTE, THE Original. Parts and Principal Dancers in "The Girl from Bond-street" Co. Jan. 2, T. R., Worthing.

NOBLE, DAN; MARIE YORKE, Conclude, terrific hit, Palace, Aberdeen. Liberty Jan. 9, 23, and 30. Return Monday, Empress, Hartlepool.

OBO, BROTHERS, Laughing Comedians, enormous success, John Walters' Robinson Crusoe" Company, Opera House, Cheltenham.

O'CONNOR and BRADY, as Simon and Stout. Grand Theatre, Derby

OLIVE TRIO, THE.
Alexandra Theatre,
Stoke Newington.

ONDA and ARTELL,
Gymnastic Pot-Pourri Act, Hippodrome, Southport.
Jan. 2, City Varieties, Leeds.

ONDA and LEON,
Conversational Gymnasts,
Jan. 2, Hippodrome, Ipswich.

O'ROURKE, JOHNNY, Comedian,
Thanks W. Hamilton, R. Pringle, V. M'Ardle,
Long Engagements, 1904. Town Hall, Newcastle.

OSBORNE, CHARLIE,
the Author, Composer, and Light Comedian.
54, Fortess-road, London, N.W.

OSMOND, MADGE, Male Impersonator,
Principal Girl, "Cinderella," Pantomime Tour.
This and next, Aquarium, Scarborough.

OSMUNDE, Merely MAYZY,
as Merry Margery Daw. "Bo-Peep" Pantomime,
Alexandra Palace, N.

OWEN, WAI,
Pantomimist,
Town Hall, Greenock.

PACEY and REEVES' AGENCY,
76, Waterloo-road, S.E.
'Phone, 894, Hop. Telegrams, "Parthenon, London."

PACKER, TOM,
75in. of Clean Comedy.
Big Success, Empire, Dudley. F. Higham.

PALMERS, MUSICAL.
Monday next, Alhambra, Belfast.
Also Miss DAISY ALMER, Serio and Specialities.

PARR and GRAVETTA
wish all Friends a Bright 1905.
Hamilton's Excursions, Dundee.

PAYNE'S, WALTER, Bio-Photoscopes
can always be relied upon, having the Latest Pictures. Monday, address, Empire, Portsmouth.

PEAKE, FRED S,
Own Sketch, "The Hypocrite."
Jan. 2, Barnard's, Woolwich. See other Advert.

PEARCE and WARD, Comedy Couple,
this week, Lyceum, Stafford. Hit of the Programme.
Monday, Alhambra, Birmingham.

PEARSON'S, GEORGE, AGENCY.
Specialities and Novelties Always Required.
All communications to 6, Dunstan-road, Honor-oak, S.E.

PENDER, LILY, PEARSON, BOB,
the Great Comedienne; the Comedy Humorist.
Monday, Empire Palace, Dudley. Free Jan 9, 16.

PENROSE, CHARLES,
Laughing Comedian, Peter Piper, in "Sleeping Beauty," Grand Theatre, Southampton.

PERMANE, W.
Siberian Educated and Equestrian Bears.
Palace, Bow, E.

PERRYS, THE Happy
(GRACIE and JOE), Principal Girl, Fitzwarren, and Speciality, Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Barnstaple.

PHELPS, KITTY,
Ballad Vocalist and Burlesque Artiste. Title-rôle, "Whittington," Metropole, Birkenhead; or, Sley.

PHILLIPS and TERRY.
A Happy New Year to all.
Next week, Empire, Nottingham.

POLLARD BROS. and KITTY GREY,
Second Year, Frederick Mouillot, Esq.
Gigantic Success. Theatre, Bournemouth.

POOLE, DAVID, Novelty Ventriloquist,
Monday, Top Liner. Hippodrome, Accrington, Lancashire. Booking 1907 and 1908.

POOLE, SISTERS
(ADA and LETTA), in our Fifth Tour.
Permanent, 29, King-street, Hull.

PRINELLAS, LES,
in Beautiful Vocal and Musical Scena, "A Country Flirtation." This, E., Wigan; next, Hippo., Accrington.

RADIUM GIRLS (NANCY and AMY),
Jan. 2,
Tivoli, Kidderminster.

RAFFIN'S, MDLLE.,
Incomparable Troupe of Monkeys,
Regent, Salford.

RALSTON BROTHERS, Second Week,
Tottenham Palace. Next week, Empire, Portsmouth
To follow, Gatti's (Road). Bentley's Agency.

RAPPO and ELLA, Continental Equilibrists, in their New and Up-to-Date Speciality.
Big success, H., Barrow. Monday, E., Wolverhampton.

RAY, HARRY, and LILLIE CALDEN,
Gratifying success, Camberwell. Jan. 2, Palace, Dundee. A Happy New Year to All. Coms., direct.

REDFERNS, THE
(RUBIE and ELSIE), Premier Lady Banjoists, &c.,
Hippo., St. Helens Mon., City V., Leeds. Vacant Jan. 9.

REED and LERNE,
big success, Theatre Royal, Plymouth, as the Coppers. Compliments of the Season to All.

REGAN and RYAN,
Princess's Theatre, Glasgow (Second Season).
A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

RESDAN, RITA, Playing Aladdin with
glorious success. Songs Encored. Complimented for Style and Costumes. Monday, Opera House, Dudley.

RESFORD and HUNT,
"The Widow and the Duke."
Jan. 2, Battersea Palace, S.W.

REX and FORD, Eccentric Patter Comedians, also Musical Speciality. Empire, Kilburn.
All coms., 1, Sharsted-street, Kennington-park, S.E.

RICH and RICH,
Marlborough Theatre, Holloway.
London's most Successful Pantomime.

RICHARDS, ARTHUR, with the Good
Healths and thousands wished him this Yuletide, should grow healthy and wealthy. Monday, Staig's Camp.

RICK and LAUREL,
receiving Applause and Contracts, Hippo., Carlisle. Monday, Tivoli, Manchester. Stebbings' Agency.

RILEY, FRED, Vocal Comedian, Liberty
Monday next and onwards.
97, Fitzalan-street, Kennington-road.

RITTER, VICTOR,
Musical Clown.
Communications, care of "The Era" Office.

RIVERS, VIOLET,
Lady Comedian Screaming success, Ugly Sister, Pardoe's "Cinderella" Panto, C. Theatre, Warrington.

ROBY, ELSIE,
Marlborough Theatre, Holloway.
Cheekee, "Aladdio."

ROLYAT, DAN,
Comedian. Top Scorer Every Time.
Pantomime, Grand Theatre, Glasgow.

ROSS, BILLY, and COMPANY, in Great
Comedy Act, "The Hot Member," London Halls.
Vacant Jan. 9 and 16 Wire, 30, Morat-street, Brixton.

ROSS-CLYDE COMEDY CO, THE,
This, Circus, Bury. Vacant One Week Jan 2. Wire, Smythson, 11, Searle's-road, Paragon, Walworth, London.

ROWLEY. MR. J. W.,
Panto. Season, T. R., Bradford. Letters, 37, Salem-st.
Also for Miss ELLA DEAN.

ROZE, L,
Le Roi de L'Air,
This, Empire, Hull; Next Week, Hippodrome, Carlisle.

ROZE, SISTERS (CISSY and ROZA),
Character Vocalists and Pretty Dancers, Vacant
Jan. 16, on. Address, 3, Blutcher-st., Pit-st., Barnsley.

RUSHFORTHS, THE, and KING LEO,
Song Illustrators and Ventriloquist.
Next week, Argyle, Birkenhead. Liberty Feb. 13.

RYDE [and BEEMAN, Flip and Flop,
in Marris and Kirby's Successful Panto., "Dick Whittington." Dates communicate, T., King's Lynn.

RYLAND, CLIFF,
the Motor-car Comedian.
Working London. Working London.

SABINO, Re-engaged after Monday night
for One Week longer at Montgomery Hall.
All letters to 58, Suffolk-road, Sheffield.

SAKER, ALFRED.
Secretary, Leon Victor.
17, Cranworth-gardens, Brixton, S.W.

SALAMBOS, THE,
Touring the World, Enormous success
Letters, Tivoli Theatre, Sydney, N.S. Wales, Australia.

SALAMONSKY'S FIRE HORSE.
Address, Eugene Marrder,
Jan. 2, Empire, Glasgow.

SALMON, W., Trick and Musical Cyclist,
Hippo., Carlisle; next, Adam Smith Hall, Kirkcaldy. N.B.—Booked by Stebbings. Vacant Jan. 9.

SANDY and CARL.
Happy New Year to All Old Pals.
Empress, Hartlepool; next week, Tivoli, Shields.

SANFORD and LYONS,
What a success in Panto. again. Grand Theatre, Brighton. Bigger than ever. Tom Shaw.

SAN REMO GIRLS
(BESSIE, RENIE, and JESSIE),
Speciality Dancers. Grand, Islington.

SANSOM, TOM, Author, Composer, and
Original Singer of "Nothing like this in America."
Millbrook, Stalybridge.

SANTOI and her Merry Japs
thank Edward Cranston, Esq., for Contracts.
Communications, Palace, Bradford.

SCOREYS,
FOUR.
Permanent, 176, Penton-place, Walworth, S.E.

SCOTT, GREAT, the Ladder King.
Great Success, Grand, Bolton. Next, Walham-green.
Letters, 41, Gladstone-street, S.E. Agent, Geo Foster.

SCOTT, MISS WINNIE
enormous success, Palace, Cork.
Monday next, Tivoli, Dublin.

SCOTT, WALLY. Great Success as
Man Friday, Robert Arthur's Panto., Crusoe, Theatre Royal, Nottingham.

SEABORNES, THREE, Great Sensational
New Act, Metropole, Gateshead, Starring. Jan. 2, Oxford, Middlesbrough. Agents, Pacey and Reeves.

SELBY and MYERS,
Jan. 2,
Court Theatre, Wigan.

SELMAN, E. W., Comedian, Hippodrome,
Wakefield; IVY GALLARD, Soubrette, T. R., South Shields. Panto. Compliments of the Season to all friends.

SHAW, ALF, Comedian.
"I am rather good at that," this, P. H., Redditch; next, Alhambra, Hope-street, Birmingham.

SHAWLENE,
in London till March 13, 1905. This week, Metropole, Camberwell. All letters, care of "The Era" Office.

SHIPLEY, SAM, and BEATIE WORTH.
Great success, Grand Theatre, Halifax. Monday, Central Palace North Shields. Liberty Jan. 9, 16

SILBON'S Vaudeville Circus,
Pantomime, "Cinderella,"
Opera House, York, Second Week.

SILCOTT, THREE SISTERS,
Grand Theatre,
Falkirk.

SILL and SILLCOTT,
Pantomimists. He who is deaf can see better. Monday, Victoria T., West Stanley. Happy New Year to All.

SILVO, in his Novel Act; LOUIE
DUVAL, Comedienne and Dancer. Big success, Hippo., Bolton. Monday, Hippo., Dewsbury. Free Jan. 9.

SILVO, MUSICAL,
Inventor of the Silvochimes and Bamboo Bells.
Gaiety, Dundee.

SIMOSA, SAN, Dainty Little Jap,
Smartest of Lady Jugglers. Hippo., Wolverhampton; next week, Hippo, Southport. Vacant Jan 9.

SIMPSON, SADIE.
"I've brought you my Soldier Boys," published by Francis and Day. Woolwich and Canning-town.

SIVANE and FIELDON, Comedy Park-
keepers. Originators of this Act, "Keep off the Grass" This, Met., Manchester; next, Hippo., Macclesfield.

SIVRONIS, THE,
Burlesque Artistes.
Jan. 2, Palace, West Hartlepool.

SLONE, MR. RYDER,
Grand, Clapham; Standard.
Jan. 2, Granville, Standard.

SMARTE, BROTHERS,
Acrobatic and Legmania Grotesques, re-engaged Six Weeks longer. Big Success Fossett's New Hippo., Rugby.

SMITH and JOHNSON,
Success, Park Palace, Liverpool; Jan. 2, Paddington, Liverpool. Happy New Year. Na-va-ho.

SMYTHSONS, THE
the, Chelsea Palace and Metropolitan.
Next (Jan 2), Metropolitan and Duchess, Balham.

SNOW and FARRON, Festing, through
Fire, Crouch End Opera House. Panto. Opens Jan. 9, Dalston Theatre, London, N.

SOMERS, FELIX,
Facial King, "People We Know."
Town Hall, Reading.

SPENCER, C. G., and SONS, Balloon
Manufacturers, 56A, Highbury-grove, London, N
Telegrams, "Aeronaut, London." Tele., 1,893 Dalston.

SPRAYS, LES
(MARIE and MINNIE).
Royal, Holborn. Next week, Tivoli, Manchester.

SPRING and SPRING, ROSIE CARLO,
Champion Barrel Jumpers, at Liberty Jan. 23, 30, North preferred. Letters, Alhambra, London.

STACEY, ARTHUR, Eccentric Comedian
and Speciality Top-boot Dancer, this week, Gaiety, Chatham. Next week, E., Dover Agent, Tom Claxton.

STANLEY, MISS DOT, last week, E.,
Burnley; this week, F., Hartlepool. Monday, Hippodrome, Warrington. Prosperous New Year to all.

STAVORDALE QUINTETTE,
Absolutely Unique, Free Jan. 30.
Jan. 2, Tivoli, Barrow. Tom Shaw.

STEINWAY GLEE SINGERS.
Sing excellently.—Standard.
Grand Theatre, Fulham.

STEPHENSON, BOB,
Comedian and Eccentric Dancer. "Get away, you boys, get away," by J. H. Barton. Mon., P., Northampton.

STERLING and CASHEN, American
Artistes, Terpsichorean Experts, Cake Walkers, &c., at Lib Mon. next, also Jan 9 Wire, Pav., Carnarvon.

STERN and STERN,
Third Week, County Theatre, Bedford.
See other Page. A Happy New Year to All.

ST. JOHNS, THE, Up-to-Date Comedy,
Musical, and Dancing. A success everywhere. At Liberty Jan. 9. Wire, Empire, Burnley.

SUNDERLAND, MISS NELLIE,
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Letters, care of "The Era" Office. "Isn't he nice?"

SUNSHINE and SHADOW,
Up-to-date Clowns, giving a good "Go" at
Hengler's, Glasgow. Liberty for Summer.

SYLVESTO, EDITH, Unique Speciality Act.
This, Palace, Lincoln; next, Grand, Sheffield.
Liberty for March. Home or Abroad Agents, Sley and Cass.

TAIT, "SILENT," great success, Collins's,
Granville, and Middlesex. Third Return this Year.
Monday, Pier Pavilion, Eastbourne. See Back Page.

TAYLOR and WHITE, Comedians,
Patterers, Vocalists, and Expert Dancers. Liberty Jan. 16 and 23. Big success, Imperial Hippo, Belfast.

TELL and TELL,
Hippodrome, Accrington.
Require Feb. 13 and 20 (North). Wire.

TERRY, FRED, the Popular Comedian.
Jan. 2, Alhambra, Brighton.
Hugh J. Dilcott.

TERRY, VINNIE, Dainty Comedienne and
Dancer. Monday, Alhambra Palace, Hope-street, Birmingham Free Jan. 9 onwards. Offers invited.

TOWEROGRAPH ANIMATED
PICTURES and Continental Bioscope, Open for Bookings. O. T., Robinson, 27, Birley-street, Blackpool.

TRAVERS, NAT, and COMPANY.
London Pavilion and
Middlesex.

TRAVERS, VICTOR,
Pickles, the Page, in "Cinderella." Grand,
Middlesbrough. G. Barclay.

TRENT, MISS CISSY,
the Original Dainty Dancing Doll.
Brilliant Success as Nancy and Speciality, O. H., St. Helens

TROUBADOUR FOUR,
America's Famous Quartette.
Coliseum, London, until Jan 14.

TWIBELL, ADA,
at Liberty Monday next, Jan. 2, also 9.
Wire, 27, St Lawrence-road, Brixton, S.W.

UNITA and PAUL, Aerialistic Twirling,
Sensational and Comedy Gymnasts. Great success, Alhambra, Belfast. Monday, Tivoli, Dublin. Vacant 9th.

VALDOS, LES,
Theatre Royal, Manchester.
Theatre Royal, Manchester.

VALVO CHARLES, Ventriloquist,
New Ideas, Always a Success. See Wanteds.
21, Cope-street, Bradford.

VANDEAN, TESSIE. Glorious Success
as Prince, in "Cinderella" "Bluebell," one of the Biggest Hits. Opera House, Torquay, Devon.

VANDYKE'S, CHARLES,
"Sensations" and "Nicodemus."
Tivoli, Leeds.

VELYANTI DUO, Acrobatic Comedy
Jugglers. Great success, Cannibal King, "Robinson Crusoe." Few Weeks Vacant. T. R., Exeter, Devon.

VENTOR, ALBERT,
Comedian, "Robinson Crusoe" Pantomime,
Opera House, Cheltenham.

VERE and ROYAL, Comedy Artistes.
Big Success, Metropole; Monday, Park Hippodrome, Manchester. Thank Sidney Bacon for Returns at Increase.

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Lady Instrumentalist,
Empire, Greenock.

VIVIAN'S VAUDEVILLE COMPANY,
Alhambra, Brighton.
Jan. 2, Empire, Middlesbrough.

VOLBECQUE, SISTERS, big success,
Second Boy and Girl. Few Dates Open 1905. Opera House, Northampton. Happy New Year to All.

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the Master Facial Mimic.
Moss' Empires. Address, Empire, Belfast.

VOX, BARNEY, Ireland's Own Ventriloquist. Monday, Empire, Bradford. A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All.

VULCAN, VICTOR, the Ideal Strong Man.
VULCAN, the Draw. Big success.
Wire for Monday, Circus, Hull.

VYPONDS, THE (FRED and MAUDE),
Society Entertainers. Next, Grand, Hanley.
Original Scena, "The Honeymoon." Terrific hit.

WALKER, COMICAL, Local Nippers.
Mons. REKLAW, Globe Performer. Monday next, Tivoli Varieties, Glasgow. Vacant Jan. 9.

WALLACE, DAVE, MARIE TILLEY,
Big success this week, Gatti's and Collins's.
Monday next, Hippodrome, Norwich. Monday next.

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Terms and Dates, Cooke's Royal Circus, Edinburgh.

WARDEN-REED,
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WARLOCKS, THE.
Pantomime, County Theatre, Reading.
When Happy Attwood says "Stop," we stop.

WARNER and WILSON,
Cross-talk Comedians, terrific hit this week, Empire, Wrexham. See Wanteds.

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Fame, Conclude Provincial Tour. London Nightly for Three Months. Address, 35, Walcot-square, S.E.

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Grand Theatre, Brighton.
Mr Fred Ogden write.

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Sole Agent, Tom Shaw.

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First-class Jockey, Trick, and Par Act, at Liberty Monday. Address, Winter Gardens, Plymouth.

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Original, and most Sensational Jumping Act, Lib. Jan. 9, 23. Wire or write, 7, Tennyson-st., Burnley.

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Comedian, Comedienne,
Monday, Return, Gaiety, Oldham.

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Comedy Sketch Company, "The Registry Office."
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thanks all inquirers. Still improving.
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High-class Duologues, Vacant Jan. 9.
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Tremendous Hit, Palace, Cork.
Monday next, Tivoli, Dublin.

WOELLHAFS, THE, wish all Friends a
Prosperous New Year. An absolute triumph, H., Ipswich. Free Jan. 9. Jan. 2, Hippodrome, Grimsby.

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and Orchestra, also Latest American Illustrated Songs, C. W. Poole's Myriorama. Albert Hall, Swansea.

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Automobiling in Cooke's Pantomime.
Letters, 15, Spittle-street, Edinburgh.

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Electrical Spectacular Scena, "Fairyland." Vacant Jan. 9. Oxford, Middlesbrough; next, Hippo., Wakefield.

ZETTER, HARRY,
Jan. 2, Hippodrome, Grim-by.
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ZOLA, LITTLE.
Comedian, the success as Page in "Cinderella," Grand, Edinburgh. All comps., Edinburgh.

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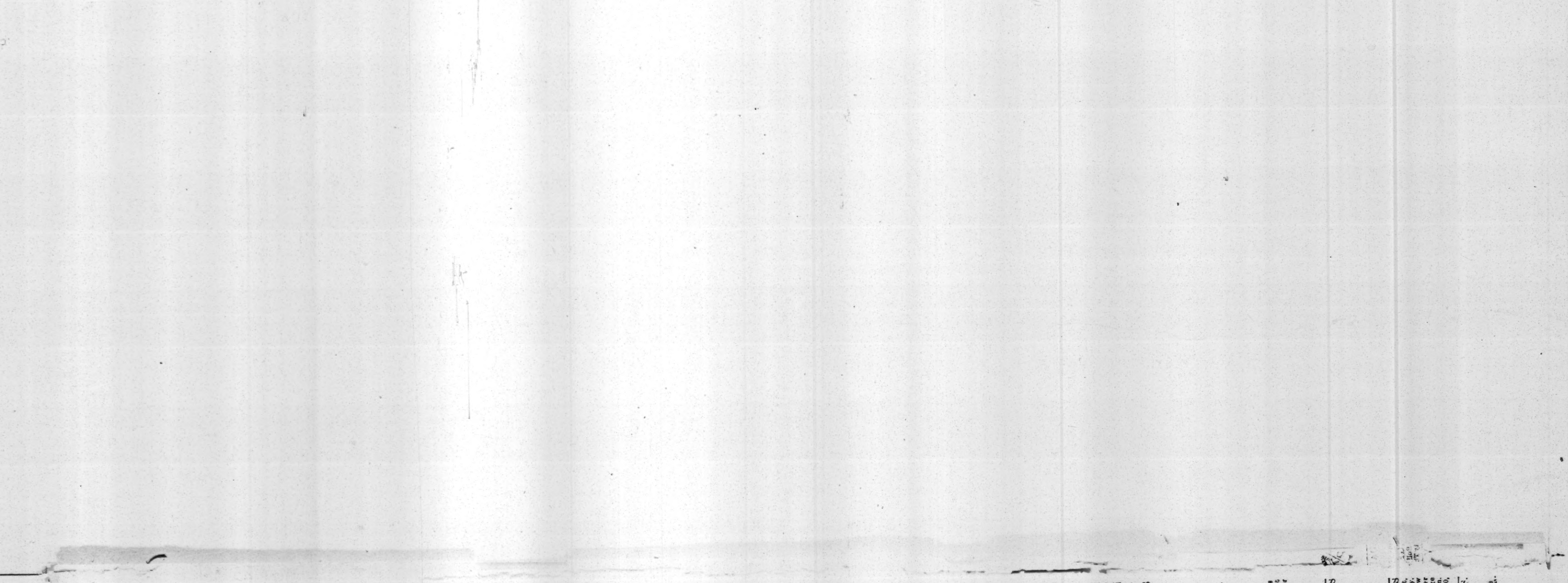
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